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APPENDIX A

Lake Puckaway Issues Assessment,
L Stoll Consulting

Lake Puckaway Issues Assessment

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Conducted and Prepared by

Linda Stoll for the

Lake Puckaway Protection and Rehabilitation District

Acknowledgements:

This issues assessment was done as part of a project funded by the Department of Natural Resources Lake Planning Grant Program and the Lake Puckaway Protection and Restoration District to gather scientific data and background information for the development of a management plan for Lake Puckaway in anticipation of the replacement of the dam on the Fox River above the city of Princeton.

Special thanks go to the Lake Puckaway Protection and Restoration District, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and Onterra, LLC for their help and guidance during the assessment process and to the people who were willing to be interviewed for the issue assessment.

Executive Summary

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and the Lake Puckaway Protection and Rehabilitation District (LPLPRD) have been jointly managing the water levels on Lake Puckaway. Current methods include placing boards on the existing dam on the Fox River above the city of Princeton to raise the water levels on Lake Puckaway during the summer months. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between these two entities describes the protocol for this process. Increasing safety concerns has prompted the WDNR to consider replacing the dam. Prior to that being done, they have asked the LPRD to update the Lake Management Plan for Lake Puckaway. This Issues assessment is the first step in the plan update. The assessment was conducted using one-on-one in person interviews with 16 people who are actively involved in the management of Lake Puckaway or directly impacted by the management decisions. The results will be added to information received from a citizen's survey, existing scientific data and new scientific information collected by Onterra, LLC and used to guide the development of the lake management plan.

For many users, the lake is currently in fairly good condition. Fishing is good and there is only a small algae problem. The walleye restocking program is a success. After some challenges in finding a company to continue to remove carp, the current program with the goal of removing 400,000lbs of carp per year seems to be working. While the carp are less of an issue, the previous damage and several high water years have led to erosion on the dredge banks and island. Added stress from cormorants defoliating trees and subsequent loss of the tree root structure has increased the loss of the island. Several interviewees remarked that the pelicans are also having a negative impact though there was no consensus as to what the impact was. Water fowl may be experiencing some stress. At one time, this lake was a premier duck/waterfowl hatchery and stopover site. There was lots of food (wild rice) and vegetation for safety and breeding. Higher water levels have reduced all types of vegetation and increased erosion. The current practice for managing water levels includes adding 16.5 inches of boards to the existing dam when water levels stop topping the dam. There are safety concerns with this practice and the LPRD has asked for another method to raise water levels.

There is however a minority opinion that the lake is in terrible shape and no one is satisfied. The bottom is mucky, the water dirty, the carp have and are currently destroying the lake. There is a loss of fishing and the ability to recreate. "No one would swim in this water." Some did not understand how the lake could be successfully managed for more than one use. It was either a fishing lake, a boating lake or was managed for water quality. The management strategies for each of these goals were not compatible. A new dam was needed only if the lake was going to be solely managed for recreation. Over \$150,000 in grant money has been spent on this lake and these people believed little has been accomplished.

Water quantity is the key issue for everyone that was interviewed. It was believed that in general, recreational boat users and property owners want higher water levels. Others are concerned with flood management and the impact high water has on their property. Downstream communities and property owners want to be assured of a minimum base flow and a more natural decline in water flow.

Erosion control was the second most-mentioned issue of those directly associated with the lake. Interviewees felt that the dredge banks and the east-basin island need to be restored. Supporting and improving the fishery was generally accepted as an important goal. There is a conflicting desire for increased vegetation (erosion control and improved fishery) in the lake while having higher water levels.

Water quality was almost a non-issue with the exception of the professional lake managers and up river property owners. The lack of massive algae blooms - especially blue green algae - and aquatic invasive plants led many to believe that water quality was good. Education on phosphorus issues has occurred but more will need to be done so more people will understand how the lake system works.

A substantial communications program will be essential to the success of this project.

Recommendations

After reviewing all of the comments made in the personal interviews, the following recommendations should be considered as this project moves forward.

1. As soon as possible, a Public Participation/Communications Plan should be developed and implemented so that various components are working effectively prior to the start of dam reconstruction.
2. Decisions need to be based on one set of data whose interpretations have been generally agreed upon. All of this information should be readily available to the public.
3. There needs to be a clear understanding of how decisions will be made and the lake management plan put together. This process should be explained to the public before the start of the planning process. It should include what decisions are already made and not subject to change and what is still open for discussion. People need to know how things will be decided and by whom. Are their opinions just thoughts for consideration by others or will participants actually get to decide? Will a vote be taken or will this be done by consensus? What happens if people can't agree?
4. Citizen education will be critical to the project's success. These following areas were noted in the report. Others may be identified as the project moves forward. Whenever possible, maps, photos, charts and graphs should be created to help people better understand the issues.
 - a. What is the current water quality of this lake and why is it like this? Do we know if septic systems are impacting the lake?
 - b. What is the stability of the pan fishery?
 - c. How does the Upper Fox River system function and what is Lake Puckaway's role in this system? What are reasonable expectations for this lake?
 - d. What is the impact of the current dam and the proposed replacement dam - upstream, downstream and on the lake? (See detailed questions raised in this report)
 - e. Will there be more than one draw-down of the lake? Will these have a long-term impact considering the new dam height?
 - f. How effective will the lock be in managing water levels on the lake?
5. There needs to be a clear understanding of how water levels will be managed and by whom. People need to know that whoever is responsible has the capacity to do this job according to the management objectives of the plan.
6. A complete timeline for this project needs to be readily available to the public.

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Interview Assessment

Introduction

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and the Lake Puckaway Protection and Restoration District (LPPRD) have been jointly managing the water levels on Lake Puckaway. Current methods include placing boards on the existing dam on the Fox River above the city of Princeton to raise the water levels on Lake Puckaway during the summer months. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between these two entities describes the protocol for this process. Increasing safety concerns has prompted the WDNR to consider replacing the dam. Prior to that being done, they have asked the LPPRD to update the Lake Management Plan for Lake Puckaway. This Issues assessment is the first step in the plan update. The results will be added to information received from a citizen's survey, existing scientific data and new scientific information collected by Onterra, LLC and used to guide the development of the lake management plan.

The assessment was conducted using one-on-one in person interviews with 16 people who are actively involved in the management of Lake Puckaway or directly impacted by the management decisions. A list of people interviewed is found in Appendix B of this report. Interviews were conducted over a period of 4 days –July 9-10 and 13-14, 2015 at locations convenient to the person being interviewed. Everyone was asked the same set of questions found in Appendix A. Results were recorded and compiled into this report. The report will be sent to the LPPRD, WDNR and Onterra, LLC and shared with the public.

NOTE: This report was written as a narrative to improve readability. Technically, every sentence should be in quotes as the statement was made by at least one person if not more. This was not done however, because the sentences are summaries and not “word-for-word” statements. When quotes are used, it denotes an actual “word-for-word” quote. No other research information has been included, only what was heard during the interviews. The narrative may suggest that given information is fact. No attempt has been made to check all statements against current research. The purpose of this report is to reflect what people believe to be true, not to be an actual research document.

Findings

Background

According to people interviewed, the lake was in great condition prior to the mid 1960's with lots of vegetation, good fishing and a successful program to remove carp. The rough fish removal program was halted and in 10yrs the only fish remaining were carp and croppies. Vegetation was uprooted and the fish stirred the bottom sediment. Upstream muck farming added to the sediment load. The Lake District was formed to address the declining lake and in the late 1980's the lake was drained and the carp poisoned. Six million pounds of fish were removed. The DNR restocked the lake with fish. It took several years for the lake to recover.

Current Conditions Summary

For many users, the lake is currently in fairly good condition. Fishing is good and there is only a small algae problem. The walleye restocking program is a success. After some challenges in finding a company to continue to remove carp, the current program with the goal of removing 400,000lbs of carp per year seems to be working. While the carp are less of an issue, the previous damage and several high water years have led to erosion on the dredge banks and island. Added stress from cormorants defoliating trees and subsequent loss of the tree root structure has increased the loss of the island.

Several interviewees remarked that the pelicans are also having a negative impact though there was no consensus as to what the impact was. Water fowl may be experiencing some stress. At one time, this lake was a premier duck/waterfowl hatchery and stopover site. There was lots of food (wild rice) and vegetation for safety and breeding. Higher water levels have reduced all types of vegetation and increased erosion. The current practice for managing water levels includes adding 16.5 inches of boards to the existing dam when water levels stop topping the dam. There are safety concerns with this practice and the LPPRD has asked for another method to raise water levels.

There is however a minority opinion that the lake is in terrible shape and no one is satisfied. The bottom is mucky, the water dirty, the carp have and are currently destroying the lake. There is a loss of fishing and the ability to recreate. No one would swim in this water. They did not understand how the lake could be successfully managed for more than one use. It was either a fishing lake, a boating lake or was managed for water quality. A new dam was needed only if the lake was going to be solely managed for recreation. Over \$150,000 in grant money has been spent on this lake and these people believed little has been accomplished.

Fishing

Interviewees who fished felt that the fishing on the lake was excellent and several mentioned that ice fishing last winter was the best it's ever been. The current walleye stocking program is seen as very successful and people agree that it should continue. Northern Pike are naturally reproducing in an acceptable number. The carp removal program has had a very positive impact not only on the fishery but also on plant populations and erosion reduction. Some believe that the carp are responsible for poor water quality yet all of the current reduction in population has not made an impact. People were less sure about the sustainability of the pan fishery. Some thought that they were still benefitting from the drawdown of Buffalo Lake and that this fishery would begin to decline due to loss of habitat in Lake Puckaway and the resulting inability for these fish to reproduce. Other people who fished felt that the pan fish were already declining and blamed this on the loss of vegetation both for spawning and for protection. The lake has lots of predators that impact the sustainability of these fish. More information on the stability of the pan fishery would be helpful for decision-making.

Erosion

Erosion was a concern for everyone interviewed. People reported seeing big chunks of bog float down the lake. The loss of vegetation reduced shoreline protection which in turn resulted in more erosion and declining water quality. Rebuilding the dredge banks and possibly creating a breakwater to protect the island was seen as key to improving the lake. This would reduce erosion and provide habitat on the calm side of these structures. It would also improve habitat for wildlife, in particular for terns. Certain areas may need to be protected with riprap. The floods in 2004 and 2008 caused a lot of erosion upriver from the lake. No-wake zones have been increased to try to prevent new washouts but this is still a problem. Powerful boats and jet skis have a big impact on erosion and loss of vegetation. There is a recommendation for additional "no wake" areas in the current management plan but this was never carried out.

Water quality

Water quality was almost a non-issue with the exception of the professional lake managers and up river property owners. The lack of massive algae blooms - especially blue green algae – and aquatic invasive plants led many to believe that water quality was good. Water skiers and boaters found the water acceptable for their use. The water is colored due to the silt it contains but people felt that this had no impact on fish, waterfowl or people. Many campgrounds and rental units offer a swimming pool on

their property and customers use that instead of swimming in the lake. Several people that had been on the lake for many years commented that it looked good compared to times in the past.

Those that had concerns noted that the spring of 2015 produced one of the worst algae blooms up river and some reported the presence of blue-green algae. Others mentioned high phosphorus readings and the increase in sediment in the water as you traveled through the lake. A demonstration that collected water samples starting with water coming into the lake, included several in the lake along an east-west line and ended with water leaving the lake was very convincing that there actually was a water quality issue. This demonstration however, was not seen by everyone. Others mentioned a change in Secchi disk readings from three feet just before the river widens into the lake to six inches or less when the lake empties into the river. Phosphorous readings show that water coming into the lake meets current standards but water leaving the lake has phosphorous reading three times higher than accepted levels.

Lake Puckaway is part of the water system that empties into Green Bay which has been designated as an "Area of Concern" on the Great Lakes for phosphorus. A Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) has been established for the Fox-Wolf River Basin and phosphorous targets have been set. If improvements can be made in the system, DNR is required to make them. In order for the Upper Fox River to meet its required reductions, Lake Puckaway will also have to reduce its loading to the system. There has been a loss of wetlands around the lake and plant diversity is decreasing. Some suggest that up to 80% of the original plant beds are gone. Emergent and submergent plants will need to be restored in order to reduce the phosphorus loading. In drought years when water levels are lower, lake vegetation increases but this gain is only temporary as plants die back when water level rises.

It was noted that while there has been education on water quality in the past, this was not enough and though many may have heard it, they still don't understand. There were mixed thoughts on the source for the phosphorus. Everyone mentioned internal loading from the existing sediments but others thought that old and failing septic systems and farm runoff were a factor. Information that would confirm or rule out these sources would be helpful in decision-making.

Change

Interviewees had mixed thoughts on what would happen if the current management plan were to continue. (A "make no changes" approach.) Some felt that what was being done was working just fine and would continue on this course. They wondered why the dam needed to be replaced. They were upset that the DNR would spend \$2 million dollars on a dam that wasn't failing. Others suggested that they should stop putting the boards on and let the river run naturally which would save everyone a lot of money and eliminate the current safety issues associated with using the boards. Someone suggested that the dam should be removed altogether so the system could operate with nature instead of against it.

Many believed that if no changes were made, the lake would begin to decline (fishing, wildlife and water quality) and maybe reach a tipping point where it would crash like in the early 1970's. "The system and conditions are always changing so you have to change management strategies too in order to just keep conditions the same." There was concern that the remaining rice beds would disappear resulting in further decline in waterfowl and wildlife. The White River Marsh and the Puckyan Marsh would continue to decline due to the fast drain of the river. "Water level in the marshes never seems to catch up after the boards are put on." There is increasing evidence of bank erosion and fish trapped in the marshes after the water level drops can't adapt, especially in drought conditions.

With the exception of those that didn't want to spend any money on this project, most believed that the lake needed to be managed and could not be left to run itself. There has been so much development and changes that the system could not be returned to its true natural state. It needs to be managed

within the parameters of the current conditions. For some, it was important that the lake be kept at a steady level that people could count on. Downstream users didn't care what was done or not done as long as they were guaranteed some type of flow. Whatever is done, there needs to be a reasonable chance that it will succeed.

No one felt that the lake was so good that improvement wasn't needed or wouldn't be appreciated. The response was mixed as to the urgency. Anything that improved the fishery or reduced erosion placed higher than activities that were described as solely addressing water quality. Given the failure of several past efforts (attempts to add aquatic plants), people were unsure what would work and what wouldn't. It was noted that people's definition of improvement was based on their personal needs and not necessarily on the natural system in general.

Safety issues with installing and removing the boards on the dam and the irregular schedule with which that was done were mentioned by almost everyone, including people living downstream, as something that needed to be addressed. Past accidents have resulted in the need for increased safety procedures that have raised the cost as well as made scheduling difficult.

When the river is drawn down to build the dam, it will be important to have good baseline information in place and a plan to collect data while water levels are low and document changes when water levels return. The lake was drawn down in the past and no documents exist that systematically track the impact of this action. Someone asked how will we know if this new proposed draw down will actually work – especially if the new dam will keep water levels higher?

A number of people remarked that no matter what types of changes are proposed, people can't choose one over the other unless they understand how the river system works. Lake Puckaway cannot be managed in a vacuum.

New Dam and Water Quantity

Water quantity is the key issue for everyone in this system. Comments varied from "I pay higher property taxes as well as district taxes and should be able to have water at boatable levels throughout the summer" to "placing boards on the dam violates state code by actively eliminating navigable water". Others are concerned with flood management and the impact high water has on their property. Someone commented that people may not be happy with the current management of water levels (either too high or too low) but they also may be disappointed in what is achieved after the new dam is built. It is not the "silver bullet" for all of the problems in the system – even for those who only want higher water levels because the dam is not the key, inflow of water from upstream is.

Downstream

The biggest complaint of downstream participants is the total loss of flow. They indicated that they too pay higher taxes for waterfront property and they aren't asking for higher water like people on the lake, they just want to have flowing water at any level. The downstream impact of placing the boards on the dam varies with the amount of rainfall received after the boards are on. In an average year, it takes about a week for the water to top the new dam height. During that time, flow completely stops and water level can drop up to 9 feet in some locations. (recorded at the Berlin gaging station) Others noted a regular 2-3 foot drop. Water that was navigable the day before the boards are put up is nothing but intermittent puddles two days later. Boats that were floating are now sitting on bottom. People wondered if riparian lake owners would be content if the upstream dam at Montello were managed like this and caused Lake Puckaway to "dry up for a week". Why do downstream land owners have to accept this? On paper, water levels are supposed to return once the lake level tops the dam. However, the boards are put up when river flow is slowing. Depending on how soon there is a rain event and how

much water is received, it could be several weeks before there is consistent flow again. In many summers, the river is never again truly navigable until well below Berlin. This has had a negative economic impact on both Princeton and Berlin as well as on people who earn their living from the river. Because the date the boards go in changes every year and downstream cities get at most three to four days' notice, it is impossible to plan civic events that depend on the water. It is felt that requests to consider downstream events have often been met with a deaf ear. Some commented that once the boards come off in the fall, water levels come back up and stay up for the rest of the year.

Downstream users understood that river water levels will change and decline over the summer. It is the sudden total drop that they find unacceptable and is devastating on fish and wildlife. Photos and gage levels at Berlin document this impact. Building structures to increase public access that accommodate this rapid change can be challenging. The rapid water level drop negatively impacts wildlife in the surrounding downstream marshes to the point where populations in some areas are no longer sustainable. Adults cannot move nests and young fast and far enough for them to survive. This especially impacts fur-bearing animals. Turtles and frogs (including some that are endangered) also suffer. The rapid water level drop concentrates the fish and makes them very vulnerable to predators. Occasionally, the water level drop occurs during the walleye run and has a negative impact on this fish population. Vegetation also suffers. Photos show riparian areas that used to be vegetated are now barren or eroded. This is accelerated if a large rain event occurs before plants recover and have grown new roots that stabilize river banks. Someone commented, "What good does it do to increase lake vegetation if you lose an equal amount or more downstream?"

Due to the lack of elevation change in the watershed, water level drop impacts more than just the immediate riparian area. Anecdotal information includes a pond 50 yards from the river drying up as well as a similar loss for sand point wells fifty feet from the river used to water plants. Stagnant water results in algae that further degrades the water and produces bad smells.

Downstream residents had no opinion on the dam height other than being able to be guaranteed some level of water flow. They were concerned that in times of drought and with the new dam height, evaporation and low flow would leave them with no water for even longer periods of time than they currently experience now.

Lake and upstream

Lake Puckaway riparian owners face water level issues as well. The two major lake shorelines respond differently to any action that is taken. The south shore of the lake is steeper which protects the land from floods due to high water levels and continues to allow lake access when water levels are low. The north shore has a very long, low slope. Higher water reaches further inland and leaves long areas of sand with no lake access when it is low. If several large rain events occur after the boards are in place, the north shore as well as both riverbanks above the lake can flood. Dredging water access in low water years is expensive and must be regularly redone due to high wave action and the amount of sediment in the water. Actions that reduce access and the amount of "boatable" lake were not seen as favorable. This included increasing lake vegetation in the deeper western basin of the lake. It was also noted that increasing the height of the dam to the height with the boards in place (an increase of 16.5 inches) resulted in a six inch increase of water height at the west end of the lake. This was again due to the lack of elevation change from west to east. Water flows outward before it rises. The dam may not increase the amount of recreation space. It might improve access for some to the deeper parts of the lake.

Lake Puckaway is a very long east-west running lake and this long fetch produces waves that erode many parts of the shoreline. The erosion puts additional sediment in the water and reduces and/or

eliminates fish and wildlife habitat. Wind and wave action were perceived as a bigger problem than carp. This issue makes some people feel that the lake is balancing on edge and it will not take much for it to degrade to past levels. Someone offered that the lake could be management in two parts – the west basin more for recreation and the east basin for habitat and water cleaning. Many felt that it was imperative that protective structures are put in place in the east basin and around the island so that vegetation is restored. Someone mentioned that increasing the island could have a positive impact on nesting terns and egrets. The current Common Tern project using rafts is a great success and additional nesting areas would certainly improve conditions. Cormorants may try to take over but the LPPRD has a permit to control this. Some would accept a lake drawdown to improve both submergent and emergent vegetation. It was also noted that the county public boat landing on the north shore is unusable in the summer. The landing should be dredged out and protected with a break wall. This could be used for fishing. Additional dredging could be done to improve access for north shore property owners and the material used to restore the island and dredge banks.

Proponents of a fixed height dam at the height of the current dam with the boards in place feel that it would be the easiest to manage. The lock gates could be used to reduce high water levels when necessary and there would be no need for the sudden change in downstream water levels that happens now.

Concern was raised regarding the higher water levels that would result from a higher dam and its impact on lake vegetation. They were told that water level fluctuation was needed to maintain plants, especially lower levels in the summer. What was the point of building a higher dam if you needed to lower the water levels? If you wanted to follow nature, the best thing to do is not put the boards on the existing dam.

Not everyone has kept up with information regarding the proposed dam. They wanted to know who proposed this project, what was the problem they were trying to fix and what guarantees are there that the dam would actually do what they said? It won't raise the lake level any more than we do now. They didn't understand why people felt so strongly about the proposal and wondered if this was just a DNR problem and why should they be the ones to have to fix it.

Some people interviewed wanted information on how big a storm would have to be before the locks were no longer effective and could the locks be counted on to manage spring thaw and the resulting runoff. It was noted that in the last eight years, the boards have not been put on until June or even later. Even at the lower height, parts of the lake and upriver shoreline were underwater in the spring. People wanted to know how many properties would be underwater every spring with the higher dam height. Someone mentioned that it currently takes almost a month for flood waters to fully drain from the system and that there needs to be a buffer zone for spring runoff and flood events. It was noted that given the size of the lake and the size of the locks, the locks could not be used to micro-manage lake levels.

Information needs and other considerations

Several people around the lake and downstream mentioned the success of the tern project. Efforts to advance this project would also help protect the east basin of the lake. People were in favor of continuing these efforts.

It would be good to have other success stories of restoration of water similar to Lake Puckaway to help guide decision-making. However others commented that Lake Puckaway was so unique that comparisons to other systems were not valid. Buffalo Lake was mentioned as an example of what might happen if the proposed changes were made to Lake Puckaway. Interestingly, both people for and against the new dam project cited that lake. Some believe that what was done to Buffalo Lake ruined it

while others saw the increase in vegetation – especially the rice beds – as an example of positive change. The latter noted an increase in waterfowl and clearer water. Yet others believe the higher water levels are resulting in declining emergent vegetation.

Downstream cities and residents would like a downstream impact statement to be included in the decision-making process for the proposed dam and management plan. Downstream businesses that depend on having at least some water in the river are greatly impacted by the current management strategy and are struggling to stay in business. The impact to all businesses needs to be considered in the new plan not just those on Lake Puckaway. Downstream communities need to be part of the plan development.

It was recommended that all the plans and permits to make shoreline and in-lake structure changes need to be approved and in place before the water level is lowered to build the dam. All construction needs to be timed to happen during the time the dam is being built so the lake doesn't need to be lowered again to complete these projects.

There was concern that the land market around the lake is poor especially on the north shore. A number of properties are for sale and they are not moving. Whatever is done should not have a negative impact on property values.

It takes a lot of effort to manage this lake. If you do something once, there is an expectation that this action will continue. Examples: the fish hatchery, buoy placement, managing the carp removal, producing the newsletter. People are critical of everything but disappear when you ask them for help.

Lake Puckaway should not be managed as a stand-alone entity. It should be part of a river system management plan. The plan should be designed as a partnership with nature. The more it has to fight the natural systems, the more expensive management will be and the greater likelihood that it will fail. The plan should include buffering for times of high flow and flood and continuous flow (at lower levels) throughout the system in times of drought.

There were requests for clearer information on the impact for various management decisions. Questions asked included:

- What would the system look like if we kept the original dam and stopped putting the boards on (upstream, downstream and within the lake - spring, summer and fall)? How much control of spring and other flood events can be gained from the locks at the current dam height? How much vegetation regrowth would be gotten? What would be the impact on fish and wildlife? What would be the impact on recreation? What types of mitigation could take place for negative impacts? How much would it cost? How much management would be required for this scenario and what is the estimated cost?
- What would the system look like if we built a dam at the higher level - level of the dam with the boards in place (upstream, downstream and within the lake - spring, summer and fall)? How much control of spring and other flood events can be gained from the locks? What would be the impact on vegetation? What would be the impact on fish and wildlife? What would be the impact on recreation? What types of mitigation could take place for negative impacts? How much would it cost? How much management would be required for this scenario and what is the estimated cost?
- The need for drawdowns is repeatedly mentioned. Does this mean more than just what is needed to build the dam? If so, how many, how often and to what level for how long? How do we know that this will actually gain us anything in the long term? Past efforts to restore

vegetation didn't work. Why can't we just leave the level high? That's why we are building a new dam and it's what people who actually live on the lake want.

- People want a timeline for this project. When will the project begin, how long will it take to lower the lake, how long will the water be down in order to build the dam. After the dam is completed, when will they let the water rise and how long will it take?

A number of people mentioned the loss of the relationship they once had with the DNR. Staff used to attend local meetings and be personally available for conversation and questions. Now their focus seems to be elsewhere. This lack of personal contact has decreased communications and resulted in a loss of trust. This translates into a feeling that things are happening behind peoples' backs. Yes, you can call the DNR office but you usually get a machine and you do not always get a return call. Having to drive to Oshkosh or Wautoma is not convenient so people don't do it. The DNR used to reach out to us not the other way around. There is a concern from some that waterfowl people get preferred treatment and others think that most management is for the fishery. Someone commented that you get these conflicting views because of the loss of regular communication and people having to rely on assumptions and not the facts. Sometimes we receive conflicting information from different people in DNR. Who do we believe?

Actions by Green Lake County are not always communicated to people around the lake. There is concern by some that the Lake District is not doing its job because people pay high taxes and they don't feel they get what they pay for which for many is the right to have high water throughout the summer season.

Communications

An informed public is a happy public. Too much information comes from angry people. There needs to be lots more detail available for people that want it. Not everyone may want all of the scientific data but some do and this should be made available. There needs to be better information on how people will be affected by whatever changes are made. Anything that can be done to stop and/or refute the "rumor mill" will be beneficial. Too many people get information from places like "Lake Link" (a website with public comment about various lakes and fishing conditions in the Midwest) and have no easy place to go to find out if what they are reading is true or false. As a result, if it is found in Lake Link, it must be true.

For some, it was difficult to know what information was really true and what was colored to support someone's personal opinion. There must be a real effort to continually put out information as people need to hear information many times before they understand it. Pictures, maps, charts and graphs often tell the story much better than just words or even oral presentations. Downstream communities want to be kept in the loop and not find out things second hand.

District residents agreed that the best communication was the annual newsletter sent in May prior to the annual meeting in June. All felt that more than that was needed for this project. People acknowledged that mailing was expensive and the letters time-consuming to produce and mail. However, if everyone really needed to have some information, it would be best to mail out a notice.

The annual meeting also provided an opportunity to receive information but that occurs early in the summer and not everyone attends. Additional face-to-face meetings might help but attendance would vary and it was thought that many would not be willing to take more time out of their summer for these meetings. Depending on how they were run, some felt that they would not be worth it.

Several local papers were recommended as good places to place information. The “Green Laker” is a good summertime paper. The Berlin Journal is widely read as well as the Marquette County Tribune. Princeton and Markesan also have weekly newspapers. While not everyone receives a paper and there is no one paper that covers the entire watershed, it is still important to put some information in the press. This information should be facts not colored by opinion.

Several people mentioned the idea of posting information in the kiosks that were put up at boat landings and at community bulletin boards such as the one at the Marquette post office. Bars around the lake would also be good places to post information.

The LPPRD has a good website but there was a sense that few people accessed it on a regular basis. It has been designed so that it is easy to manage. Currently no one pushes out information that brings people back to the website. It would be a good location to make a lot of data continually available to the public.

Social media and email provide another avenue for communication and could be used on a weekly if not even a daily basis. Currently the LPPRD does not use social media for communication. It does occasionally send information through email and has been collecting addresses for a listserv. It was noted that people were OK with a few more email letters but may get overwhelmed if notes started to come daily. People may be more willing to accept daily posts on Facebook. It was noted that not everyone is on Facebook or monitors their email or social media on a regular basis. An effort would need to take place before the project begins to get people in the habit of looking for information in electronic media. Suggestions made included a weekly electronic newsletter that contained photos of family events or good fishing stories as well as regional and lake issues. Short daily posts containing local information to a Lake Facebook page might work. It was noted that the LPPRD does not have the capacity to support these communication suggestions. Several suggested that the LPPRD hire someone who lives on the lake to serve as a summer communications coordinator.

Analysis

Opportunities to work together

There is general agreement that the dredge banks, East Basin Island, and other shoreline and marsh protections are important to rebuild. These benefit the fishery, wildlife and help to improve water quality. The drawdown for dam construction would provide an ideal opportunity to build or rebuild these structures. It would also be a good time to add any shoreline rip rap where needed and build a breakwall at the northshore boat landing to deflect sediment and help keep the landing usable. Adding fishing opportunities on this wall would increase the benefit of the structure. All of these projects would be seen as very positive for the lake.

Using the locks to manage water levels would better enable a minimum downstream flow and eliminate the sudden drop in water level and its negative impacts for the downriver area.

Interviewees liked the idea of better communications about the lake and its management. They would welcome any of the changes suggested in the report. They are dissatisfied with the negative impact of the “rumor mill”. People commented that it was better to have the facts even if you disagree with them than to only have conflicting rumors and assumptions.

Obstacles to reaching an agreement

There is a disconnect between people wanting higher water levels and see the construction of a new higher dam as a guarantee of getting this and the people who want regular lower water levels to

increase plant growth. Several people commented, “Why build a new dam if we can’t keep water levels up?” It is unclear what the timeline for these lower levels would be and what decrease in water level is needed. Until that is made clear, people will be reluctant to accept any proposal.

Higher dam height could also mean higher water levels in the spring on upstream properties and on the north shore of the lake. These areas have flooded now with the lower dam. People are uncertain that the locks can mitigate this problem.

Recommendations

After reviewing all of the comments made in the personal interviews, the following recommendations should be considered as this project moves forward.

1. As soon as possible, a Public Participation/Communications Plan should be developed and implemented so that various components are working effectively prior to the start of dam reconstruction.
2. Decisions need to be based on one set of data whose interpretations have been generally agreed upon. All of this information should be readily available to the public.
3. There needs to be a clear understanding of how decisions will be made and the lake management plan put together. This process should be explained to the public before the start of the planning process. It should include what decisions are already made and not subject to change and what is still open for discussion. People need to know how things will be decided and by whom. Are their opinions just thoughts for consideration by others or will participants actually get to decide? Will a vote be taken or will this be done by consensus? What happens if people can’t agree?
4. Citizen education will be critical to the project’s success. These following areas were noted in the report. Others may be identified as the project moves forward. Whenever possible, maps, photos, charts and graphs should be created to help people better understand the issues.
 - a. What is the current water quality of this lake and why is it like this? Do we know if septic systems are impacting the lake?
 - b. What is the stability of the pan fishery?
 - c. How does the Upper Fox River system function and what is Lake Puckaway’s role in this system? What are reasonable expectations for this lake?
 - d. What is the impact of the current dam and the proposed replacement dam - upstream, downstream and on the lake? (See detailed questions raised in this report)
 - e. Will there be more than one draw-down of the lake? Will this have a long-term impact considering the new dam height?
 - f. How effective will the lock be in managing water levels on the lake?
5. There needs to be a clear understanding of how water levels will be managed and by whom. People need to know that whoever is responsible has the capacity to do this job according to the management objectives of the plan.
6. A complete timeline for this project needs to be readily available to the public.

Appendix A: Personal Interview Questions

1. How would you describe the current condition of Lake Puckaway?
 - a. What is good?
 - b. What needs work?
2. How would you feel if Lake Puckaway were to remain as it is today (no change)?
 - a. If it were to decline?
 - b. If it were to improve?
 - c. How important is it to you that the lake should improve?
3. What are your thoughts on the proposed new dam and changes to water level management?
 - a. There may be others who feel differently about this than you do. Why do you think that they feel that way?
4. Is there anything else we need to keep in mind if any changes are made?
5. Is there any information you feel you need to better understand what is happening with the lake?
6. Communication is always a challenge during a major project. What is the best way for you to receive information? How do you think others in the area might be contacted?
7. Do you have any other comments you would like to share regarding Lake Puckaway or past projects that have occurred on the lake?
8. Who else do I need to talk to?

Appendix B: Participants

1. Dave Bartz Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Fish Management
2. Greg Blaskowski Downstream resident
3. Daryl Christianson Active in Lake Puckaway management
4. Jerry Disterhaf Fox of the River Voyageur Canoe, LLC
5. Paul Gettleman Sec., LPPRD
6. Ted Johnson Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Watershed Management
7. Derek Kavanaugh Green Lake County Land and Water Conservation Department
8. Phil Malasack Pres., LPPRD
9. Mick Masters LPPRD
10. Rob McLennan DNR
11. Mary Lou Neubauer Administrator for the City of Princeton
12. Richard Pergande LPPRD
13. David Richter County Appointee to the Lake Puckaway LPPRD
14. Randy Schmidt Riparian owner
15. Richard Schramer Mayor of the City of Berlin
16. Gene Weber LPPRD

B

APPENDIX B

Stakeholder Participation Materials

Lake Puckaway Management Planning Project

December 2015 Update

Submitted by: Dan Cibulka, Onterra, LLC

With the help of a Lake Management Planning Grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), the Lake Puckaway Protection & Rehabilitation District (LPPRD) is working to update a lake management plan for Lake Puckaway. The lake management plan will contain historic and current data from the lake as well as provide guidance for management by integrating stakeholder perceptions and goals with what is ecologically beneficial and feasible for the ecosystem. With the WDNR replacing the Princeton Dam in 2018, the plan will also examine water level management, which is to be incorporated into the new dam's operating order.

As described further below, numerous field studies were carried out upon the lake during 2015. As much data analysis is still occurring, this update intends to bring the LPPRD and other stakeholders up-to-date on the scientific studies that have occurred, provide some initial observations on the ecology of the lake and project a rough timeline for the remaining portions of this planning project.

2015 Field Studies

In April of 2015, Onterra staff had their first glimpse of the lake with a water quality sampling visit. Water quality was sampled throughout the summer of 2015, during a fall mixing period and will also be examined for under-ice conditions during February of 2016. Lake Puckaway was listed first in 2010 on the State of Wisconsin's Impaired Waters 303(d) list. The 303(d) designation is a list of waterbodies that do not meet water quality standards. In the case of Lake Puckaway, the lake is included on this list due to high total phosphorus levels and water column turbidity. Figure 1 displays the total phosphorus concentrations collected from the past five years (including data collected within this study in 2015) from the western and eastern basin of the lake.

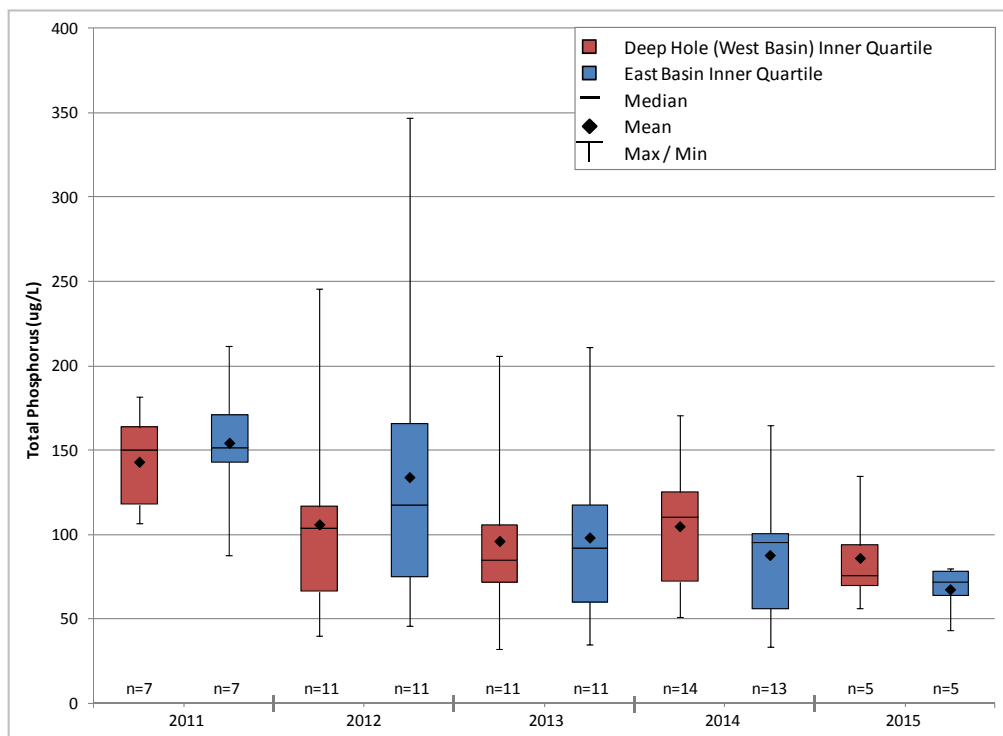


Figure 1. Total phosphorus box-plots, Lake Puckaway, 2011-2015. Data indicate concentrations from the west basin (red) and east basin (blue) from 2011-2015.

The data in Figure 1 indicate much variability in the phosphorus data set; for example, the maximum concentration in 2012 was measured at 347 ug/L in the east basin, while a minimum concentration of 32 ug/L was measured in the west basin that next year (2013). For context, the total phosphorus Recreational Use threshold that the 303(d) methodology utilizes for lakes similar to Lake Puckaway is 40 ug/L. So, it is apparent that the concentrations in the lake often exceed this threshold. Concentrations may change greatly over the course of the summer due to a number of factors, including external sources such as rainfall and river flow conditions, and internal sources such as rough fish dynamics, water chemistry flux and aquatic plant community growth. These variables and their complexity will be discussed thoroughly within the Lake Puckaway Management Plan report.

All aquatic plant surveys were conducted as scheduled, first with a visit to the lake in mid June 2015 to complete the Early Season Aquatic Invasive Species (ESAIS) survey. This survey's purpose is to search the lake for invasive species that reach their peak growth during this time (curly-leaf pondweed and pale yellow iris). On July 20-21, Onterra ecologists visited the lakes to complete the point-intercept survey. This is a grid-based survey designed to sample aquatic plants within the lake. A third aquatic plant survey, the community mapping survey, was completed that next day (July 22). The purpose of this survey is to map the floating-leaf and emergent species that are found within the lake and are typically underestimated in the point intercept survey. Finally, during an August 31 visit, Onterra staff mapped Eurasian water milfoil within the lake.

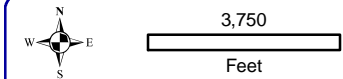
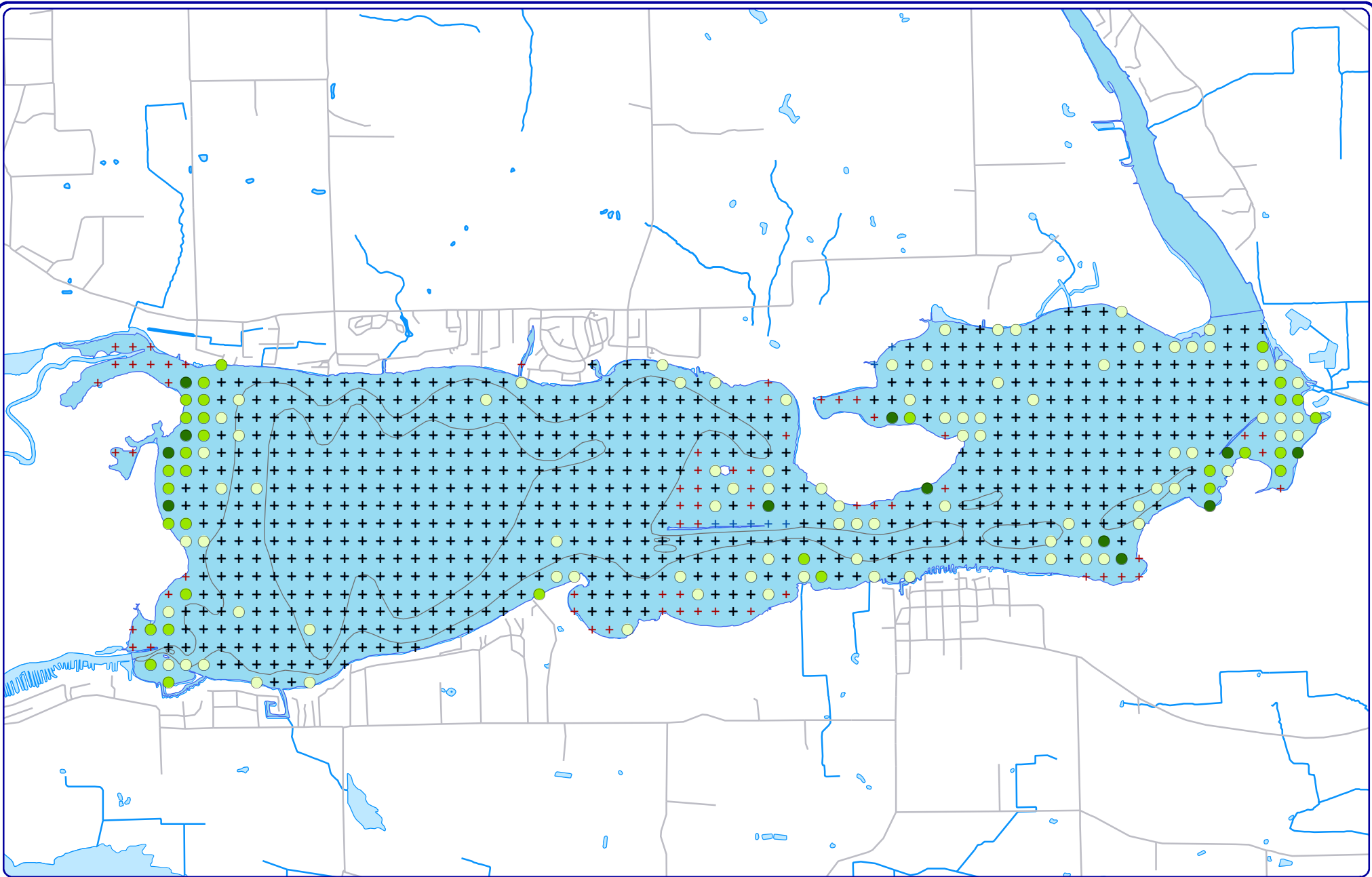
A total of 31 aquatic plants were found in Lake Puckaway, 24 during the point-intercept survey and 7 more species found incidentally. During the point-intercept survey plants were found growing to a depth of 5 ft., however the majority of submergent plant growth was between 1 and 2.5 feet of depth. Map 1 displays the location of aquatic plants amongst point-intercept sampling locations. In all, 19% of the lake's littoral zone (plant growing zone) held aquatic plants.

Remaining steps

In addition to the ecological data collected from Lake Puckaway, sociological data will be collected from the people in the LPPRD. This is currently being approached in the form of a stakeholder survey, which was developed by Onterra staff and the LPPRD Board of Directors. A postcard advertising the survey will be distributed to all property owners, with instructions to navigate to an online survey website or contact a contractor for a paper copy of the survey. Data collected through this survey will be integrated within the management plan to provide an indication of stakeholder knowledge on the lake ecosystem and concerns they have regarding the lakes management.

On December 10, 2015, the LPPRD submitted a Phase II planning grant to the WDNR to fund the remaining portions of the study. This grant would fund completion of the ecological studies, which include 2016 water quality monitoring, an in-lake wave and erosion modeling exercise and integration of fisheries data from WDNR staff. A larger portion of this grant would fund the implementation of a Lake Puckaway Communication Plan. This plan would allow for great transparency during the management planning process through sharing of information on the LPPRD website, news articles, social media updates, etc. The communication would keep all Lake Puckaway stakeholders knowledgeable about the ecological studies, project meetings, and more.

During next summer, several meetings will be held to share the results of the study with the public. Additionally, forums will be held and moderated by a professional facilitator on planning for a water level management plan, which would be incorporated following the construction of the new Princeton Dam. Stakeholder participation will be crucial to the success of the project, so please join us during these 2016 meetings and do not hesitate to ask questions.



Onterra LLC
 Lake Management Planning
 815 Prosper Road
 De Pere, WI 54115
 920.338.8860
 www.onterra-eco.com

Sources:
 Hydro and Roads: WDNR
 Bathymetry: WDNR, digitized by Onterra
 Aquatic Plant Survey: Onterra, 2015
 Map Date: December 10, 2015
 Filename: Puckaway_TRFPI.mxd



Legend

- 2015 Total Rake Fullness**
- + No Vegetation
 - Total Rake Fullness = 1
 - Total Rake Fullness = 2
 - Total Rake Fullness = 3
 - + Too Deep
 - + Non-navigable/Temporary Obstacle

Map 1

Lake Puckaway
 Green Lake County, Wisconsin

**2015 PI Survey:
 Vegetation Distribution**



Lake Puckaway P & R District

**Lake Puckaway
Management Plan Update Project
Kick-off Meeting
June 4, 2016**

Tim Hoyman, CLM
Onterra LLC
Lake Management Planning

**Why create a lake
management plan?**

**A goal without a
plan is just a wish!**

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**Why does Lake Puckaway need an
updated management plan?**

- **Current Comprehensive Plan is from 2004**
 - Many studies completed since then (5 grant-funded projects)
 - 2007 project had minor management recommendations
- **Total Maximum Daily Load Development**
 - Requirements of TMDL will need to be considered in plan update
- **Princeton Dam Reconstruction – 2018**
 - Development of water level management alternatives for lake restoration will be a condition of the reconstruction project
 - If this plan does not include those alternatives, WDNR will be forced to complete EIS, which would very likely call for WLMP

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**Elements of an Effective Lake
Management Planning Project**

Data and Information Gathering
Environmental & Sociological


Planning Process
Brings it all together



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Data and information gathering

- Study Components Completed/Ongoing
 - Water Quality Analysis
 - Watershed Assessment (TMDL Integration)
 - Aquatic Plant Surveys
 - Fetch Modeling
 - Bathymetric Study
 - Fisheries Data Integration
 - Shoreland Assessment
 - MWH Drawdown Study
 - Stakeholder Survey



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Lake Puckaway Planning Process

Five Planning/Information Meetings Scheduled

Monday, June 13, 6:30pm, Mecan Town Hall
Aquatic Plant Community & Aquatic Invasive Species
Derek Kavanaugh, Green Lake County and Onterra

Tuesday, June 28, 6:30pm, Marquette Village Hall
Fisheries & Shoreland
Dave Bartz, WDNR and Onterra

Monday, July 18, 6:30pm, Mecan Town Hall
Water Quality & Watershed
Keith Marquardt, WDNR and Onterra

Monday, Aug 8, 6:30pm, Marquette Village Hall
Summary/Conclusions, Water Level Mgmt Alternatives, & Additional Goals and Actions
Ted Johnson, WDNR & Onterra

Monday, Sept 26, 6:30pm, Marquette Village Hall
Draft Management Plan Meeting
Onterra

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Lake Puckaway Planning Process

- **Planning Committee**
 - Core group of involved individuals
 - Board of Commissioners
 - Active riparians
 - Local experts
 - Act as project focus-group and primary contact
 - Meetings are intended to inform Planning Committee
 - Facilitate their input for development of management plan



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Lake Puckaway Planning Process

- **Public invited to all meetings**
 - Professional facilitator will manage meetings
 - Comments and questions will be accepted
 - Must be written on forms provided at meeting
 - Contact information must be provided
 - If time permits - questions will be answered
 - If time does not permit - contact information will be used to answer question/respond to comment
 - All questions, comments, and responses will be posted to district website (anonymously)
 - Summaries/info will be posted to district website

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Other Important Items

- Press releases to Marquette Tribune & Berlin Journal Newspapers
- Check www.lakepuckaway.com frequently
 - Meeting announcements and summaries
 - Comments, questions, and responses
 - Draft management plan

Thank You

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Lake Management Planning

C

APPENDIX C

Planning-Information Meeting Materials

PRESS RELEASE

Lake Puckaway District to Hold Informational and Planning Meeting about Puckaway Aquatic Plants and Invasive Species

Green Lake & Marquette Counties, WI, May 27, 2016. On Monday, June 13th, the Puckaway Protection and Rehabilitation District will be holding the first in a series of five informational and planning meetings, open to the public, regarding the development of the lake's new management plan. The June 13th meeting will be held at the Town of Mecan town hall (W1561 Evergreen Ln., Montello) and begin at 6:30pm. The meeting will focus on the aquatic plants and aquatic invasive species (AIS) of Lake Puckaway.

Vascular aquatic plants – those with roots, stems, and leaves, are the foundation of an ecosystem and fulfill many functions in a healthy lake. Through photosynthesis, they convert the sun's energy into food for aquatic and terrestrial wildlife. Their roots hold bottom sediments in place within the lake and on its shores. All varieties of aquatic plants, whether they float on the lake's surface, emerge from the lake near shore, or are completely underwater, provide important habitat for fish. Vascular aquatic plants compete with free-floating algae for light and nutrients, which helps to increase water quality and clarity.

Over the course of its life, the plant population in Lake Puckaway has changed drastically and not necessarily for the best. At the June 13th meeting, speakers will present information on how the lake's plant community has changed and how those changes have impacted the lake. Reasons for why these changes have occurred will also be discussed, as well as possible ways to correct them.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 28th and will focus upon the Lake Puckaway fishery.

Aquatic Plant Community and Aquatic Invasive Species

June 13, 2016

Mecan Town Hall

The first of 5 meetings being held for the update to the Lake Puckaway Management Plan was held on June 13, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the Mecan Town Hall. The purpose of this meeting was to present information on the plants in Lake Puckaway from historic times to the most recent survey work. Discussion was held after the presentations to make sure the planning committee clearly understood the data and there was agreement on what the information meant.

Present were the following members of the Planning Committee:

Mick Masters, Jeff Kimbur, Kurt McCulloch, Randy Schmidt, and Paul Gettleman.

In addition, present were the night's speakers Derek Kavanaugh - Green Lake County Conservation Department and Brenton Butterfield - Onterra, Tim Hoyman and Paul Garrison – Onterra, Ted Johnson– DNR, and 11 members of the public. Linda Stoll – L Stoll Consulting served as meeting facilitator.

Derek Kavanaugh began with a presentation on historic plant records for the lake up to more recent studies in the early 2000's. Prior to the construction of the first lock and dam at Princeton in 1860, the area was a riverine marsh with a predominant vegetation of wild rice. Often this was so thick that it was difficult to find the river channel. Reports in the 1940's documented the first die-off of plants with restoration attempts beginning in the early 1950's. Additional plant and water quality issues in the early 1970's led to the formation of the Lake District in 1977 to address them. For a full description of the early restoration efforts, historic plant species and their distribution in the lake, please see the PowerPoint presentation posted on the Lake District website.

Brenton Butterfield followed with a report on the most recent plant study conducted in 2015 in conjunction with this effort to update the lake management plan. He began with information on how plants function as part of the lake ecology and why they are a key piece to management success. See the PowerPoint presentation on the Lake District website for information on location, species and numbers of aquatic plants found. Brenton summed up his report by saying that the lake has a good diversity of native species with only small issues of invasive species. The lake has a good base of plant stock. The difficulty lies with the very low occurrence of plants for the lake as a whole. Currently there are 679 acres of floating leaf and emergent plants. While this seems like a lot, it is less than 19% of the total acreage of the lake which when compared to other lakes is a low percentage. Restoring plant numbers will be key to restoring the lake.

The meeting was then opened for questions and comments from the planning committee. Written questions on plants were taken from the public.

Planning Committee Comments and Questions:

1. A comment was made that the water seemed clearer this spring? Was this due to less snow? No one could confirm this observation. A comment was made that since water coming into the lake was cleaner than water in the lake, it would seem that low spring water would produce the opposite effect.

2. A committee member observed that when a previous plant restoration was made that the number of pan fish increased. In his mind, this highlighted the importance of plants. Someone else commented that they didn't want Puckaway to look like Buffalo Lake where there were so many plants that they had to cut a path for boat travel and you couldn't move around. Brenton commented that these two lakes are very different and will probably be managed for different purposes. People should not assume that what happened at Buffalo will happen here. Much of the plant problems in Buffalo Lake were brought on by exotic species. Before the dam was reconstructed on Buffalo and the water level was drawn down, 83% of the lake had exotic Eurasian water milfoil in it. Following the drawdown, Eurasian water milfoil occupies less than 15%.
3. Another commented that Lake Puckaway is used for more than just fishing and that boats with big motors and personal water craft have changed the lake.
4. It was noted that the current amount of Curly Pond Leaf seems less than in 2002
5. It was noted that the island and cane beds are going away. In the late 70's and early 80's when the barriers were in place, there were a lot more cane beds in the protected areas.
6. It was good to see that the foundation of plants is still present and there is a better chance for plant restoration because of that.
7. A committee member asked what the impact was of the general flow of water through the lake. There is little change in elevation from the inflow to the outflow so stream flow alone does no damage. Water coming into the lake is significantly cleaner than the water leaving the lake so the inflow – even large amounts of inflow is helping the lake.
8. The muck farms had a large negative impact on the lake. Fortunately, they are no longer in existence.
9. The final comment noted the differences between the plant issues in the west and east sections of the lake and the possible need to manage each differently. Others agreed with this observation.

Written Questions:

1. *Wouldn't "no wake" periods help to establish plant growth and reduce turbidity?*

Even in lakes that are much smaller and have a much greater amount of boating on them, we do not see a lack of aquatic vegetation brought on by boating. While boating in very shallow areas through emergent and floating-leaf communities can cause damage, it would take an intense amount of boating to destroy the community entirely. Often points that jut out into open water see a great deal of wear on their plant communities and while those areas can suffer from boat-produced waves, they also see a great deal of pressure from wind-induced waves as well.

Regarding the turbidity – studies completed on Lake Ripley near Cambridge, which is about 30 minutes outside of Madison, indicated that recreational boating can decrease water clarity by resuspending bottom sediments, but the effect is only temporary. Lake Ripley is not a big lake and because of its proximity to Madison, receives a ton of recreational boat use, especially during the weekends. While turbidity, phosphorus concentrations, and water clarity are impacted over the weekend, the researchers found that they returned to pre-weekend levels, when boating is much less, by Monday afternoon.

This is not to say that boating does not have impact on plants and turbidity, because it does, but likely not in a lake the size of Puckaway with the level of boating it sees. Much of Puckaway's turbidity is brought on by wind-induced wave action and algae blooms.

2. *Loss of emergent habitat has been blamed on many factors. I would like to know the main reason for its demise?*

There really is no main reason for the loss of emergent habitat, and other types of vegetation in Lake Puckaway. However, native aquatic plants evolved in natural lakes that have fluctuating water levels, both interannually and seasonally, and as a result, many types of aquatic plants, especially emergent species, rely on those variations as a part of their lifecycle. Some emergent species need exposed sediments occasionally to survive and thrive. As described in Derek Kavanaugh's presentation, dams allow man to bypass those seasonal fluctuations and for the most part actually reverse them. This, along with the dampening of interannual variations and the eradication of occasional exposed sediments, has a significant negative impact on emergent species and other types of aquatic vegetation as well. There are accounts of many lakes seeing drastic reductions in their plant communities after the introduction of carp because they increase turbidity and root up plants during feeding. Further, increased turbidity brought on by nutrient-fueled algae blooms or increased sediment loads from the watershed have also reduced plant populations in lakes. The compounding effect of all of these reasons accounts for the decreased plant population in Lake Puckaway.

3. *With the loss of habitat, we have seen wind action creating havoc to the remaining cane beds and bulrushes. What are the plans to help preserve those critical plants?*

Wind action is likely not the only factor impacting the emergent beds on the lake. See the discussion above regarding other factors impacting emergent habitat. The largest concern with wind action on Puckaway revolves around increased turbidity. Onterra is currently modeling wind effects on Lake Puckaway. The results will be used to determine feasible actions to reduce these impacts and as a result, increase quality habitat.

4. *One extremely successful habitat rehabilitation project that still pays dividends today was the planting of submergent weeds in protected / fenced in areas on the west end of the lake. This took place in the early Nineties. The lake association group planted some 1400 sprouts into the sand bottom of the lake in the bay and shoreline just north of the river mouth. Some of those sprouts are still with us today. Why can't we do additional shoreline restoration projects like that? Will the DNR fund those plants and the lake district association supply the man power? Or at least some type of cost share?*

We know that if the factors that are limiting natural plant reproduction and survival are not addressed, there is little chance that in-lake plantings will survive, or at least thrive and spread, which would be the ultimate goal. If the factors described above are addressed or at least minimized, there will be opportunities to complete in-lake restorations to increase habitat. Also, there would be an expectation that natural reproduction and establishment would occur from the existing seed bank. Studies have shown that aquatic plant seeds can germinate after centuries of being buried in lake sediments. State funds would be available for these activities.



Lake Puckaway P & R District

Lake Puckaway
2015 Aquatic Plant Survey Results
June 13, 2016

Brenton Butterfield
Tim Hoyman
Paul Garrison
Onterra LLC
Lake Management Planning

Shallow Lakes are Special

Clear State **Turbid State**



Aquatic Plants are Incredibly Important
Onterra LLC
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Shallow Lakes are Special

Aquatic Plants

- Stabilize bottom sediments
- Provide zooplankton habitat
- Uptake of nutrients from water (coontail, waterweed)
- Create more diverse fishery

Factors which cause loss of aquatic vegetation cause transition to turbid state

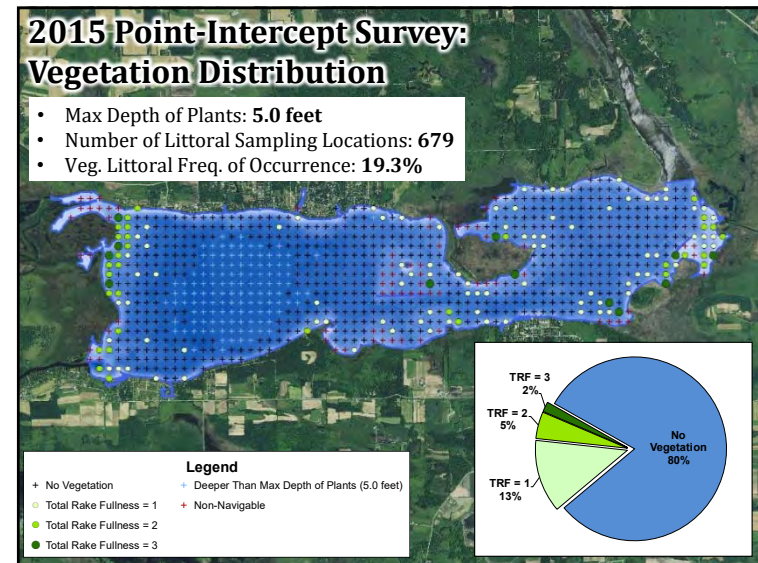
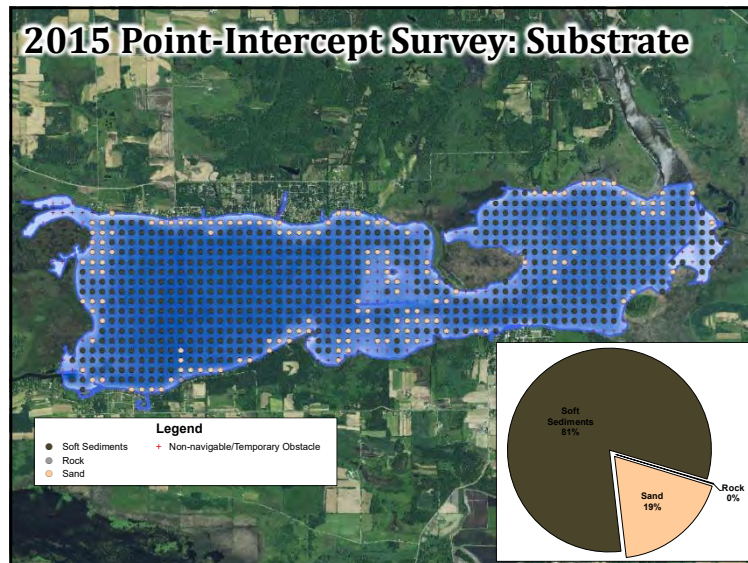
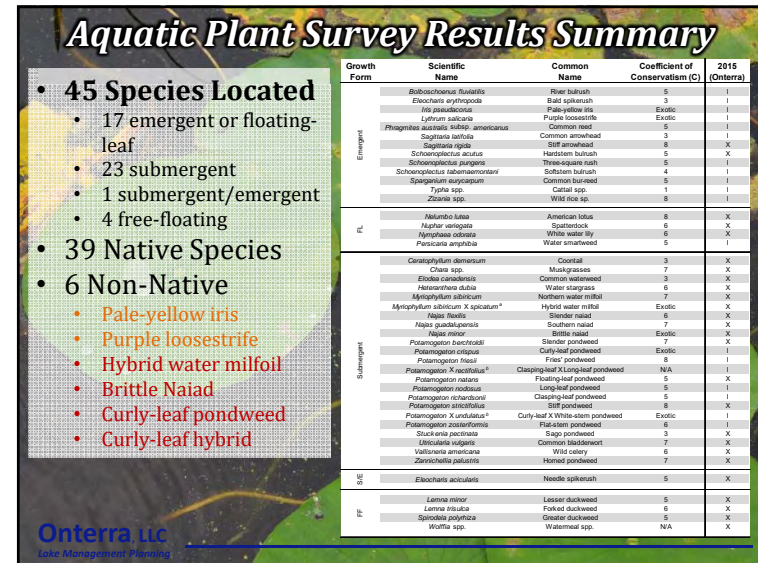
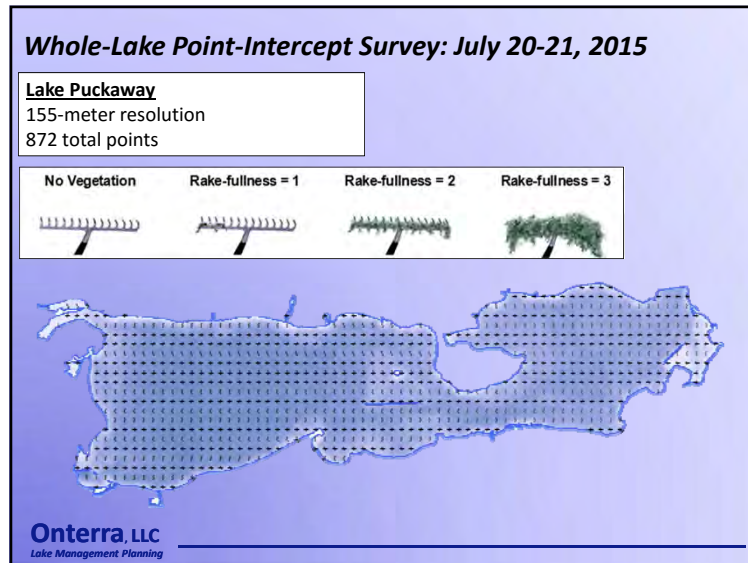
- Excessive nutrient loading
- Water level stabilization
- Benthivorous fish (e.g. common carp)
- Once in a turbid state, very difficult to revert back to clear state

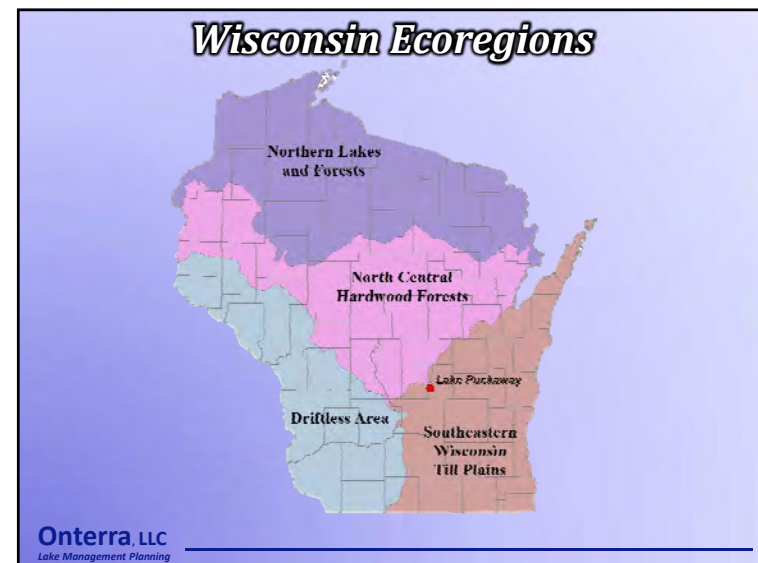
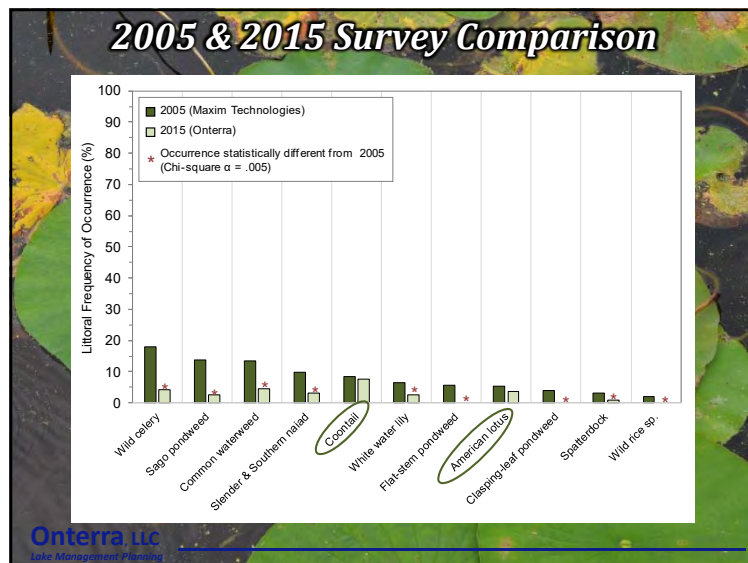
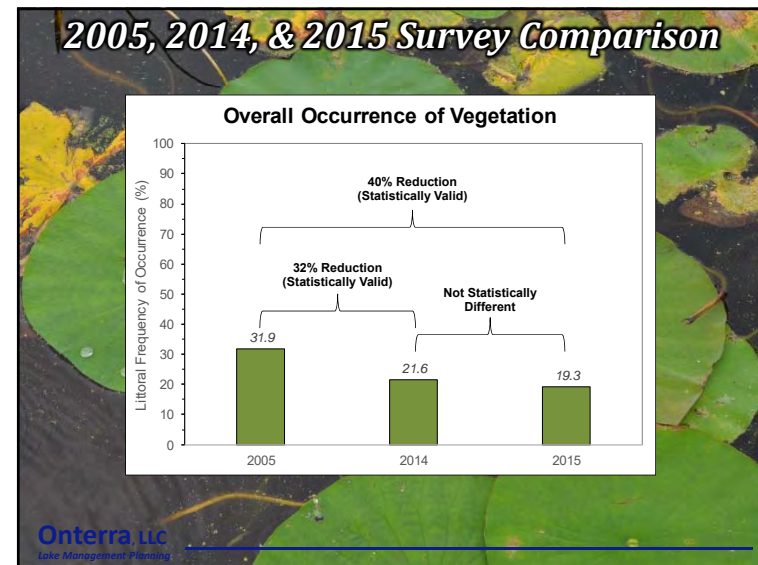
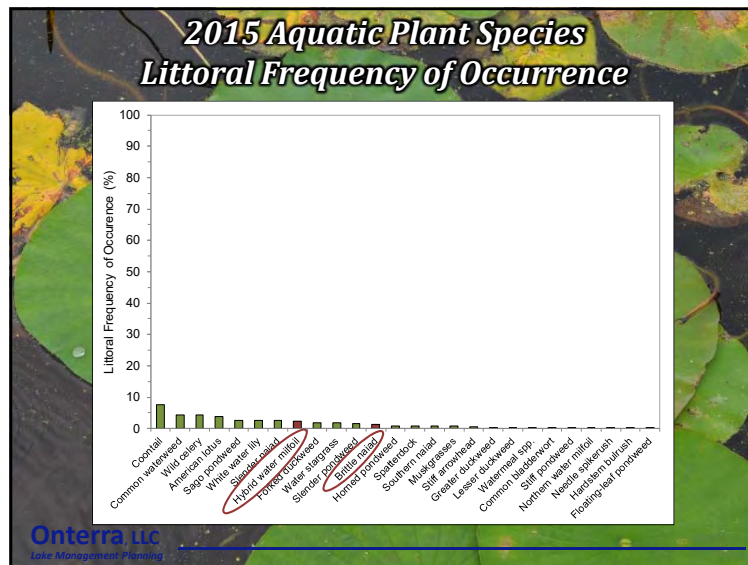
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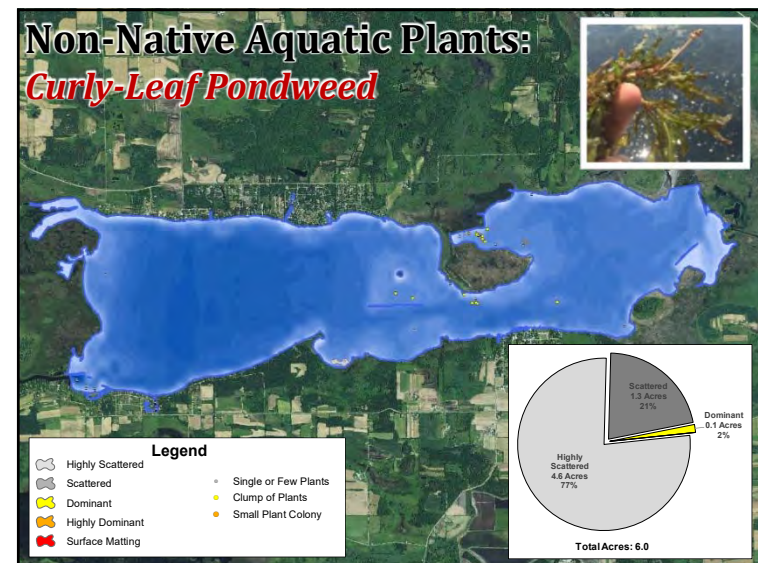
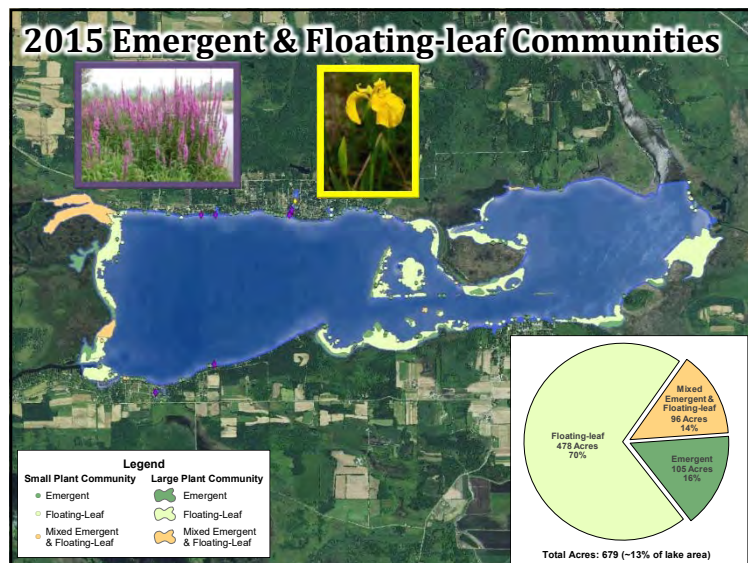
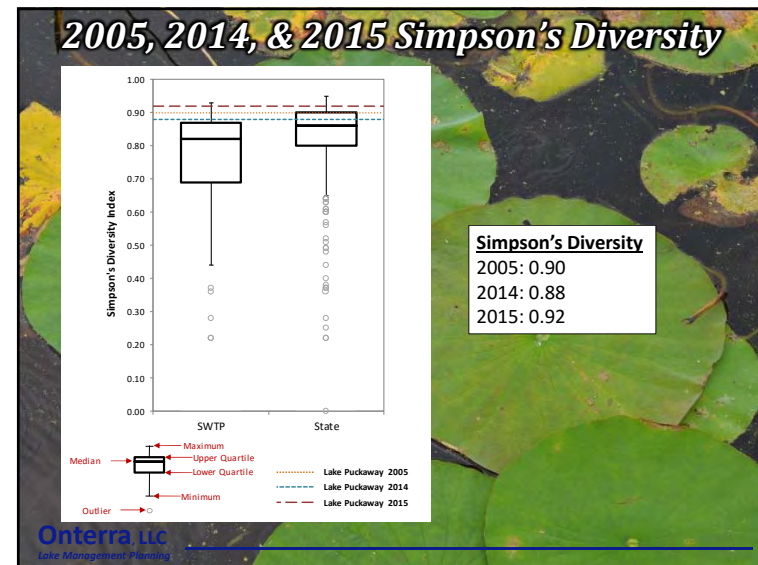
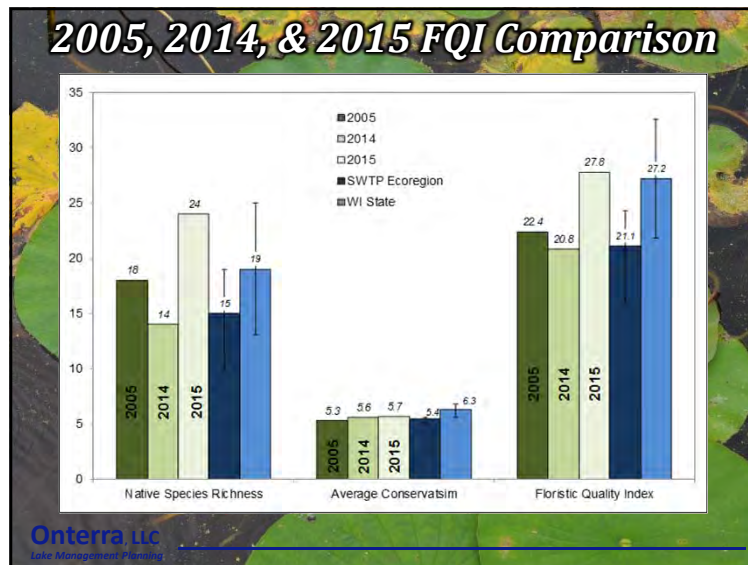
2015 Aquatic Plant Surveys

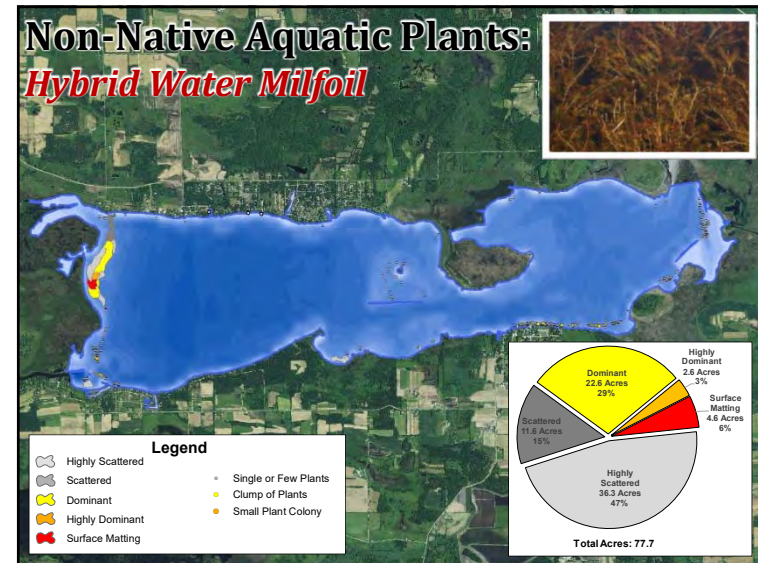
- Assess both non-native & native species
- Four surveys completed in 2015
 - Early-Season AIS Survey
 - Whole-Lake Point-Intercept Survey
 - Emergent/Floating-Leaf Community Mapping Survey
 - Late-Summer EWM Peak-Biomass Survey

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Lake Management Planning









Aquatic Plant Community Conclusions

Native Plant Community

- Species richness, diversity, and average conservatism are high, but...
- Overall occurrence of submersed vegetation is very low
- High-quality native emergent/floating-leaf plant communities present (limited in area)
- Reduced light availability, carp, and unnatural water level regime inhibit growth

Non-Native Plants

- Few occurrences of purple loosestrife & pale-yellow iris
- Occurrence of CLP (& CLP hybrid) & brittle naiad low
- HWM most prevalent non-native plant (~78 acres)

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Thank You

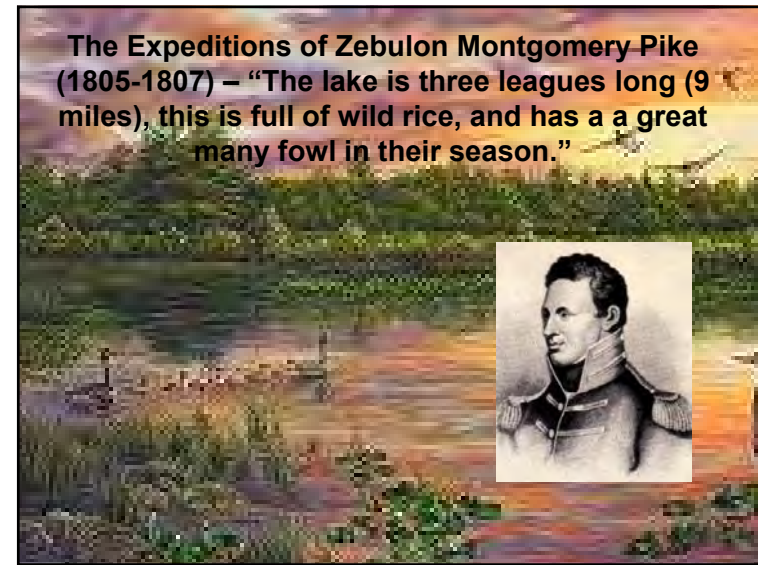
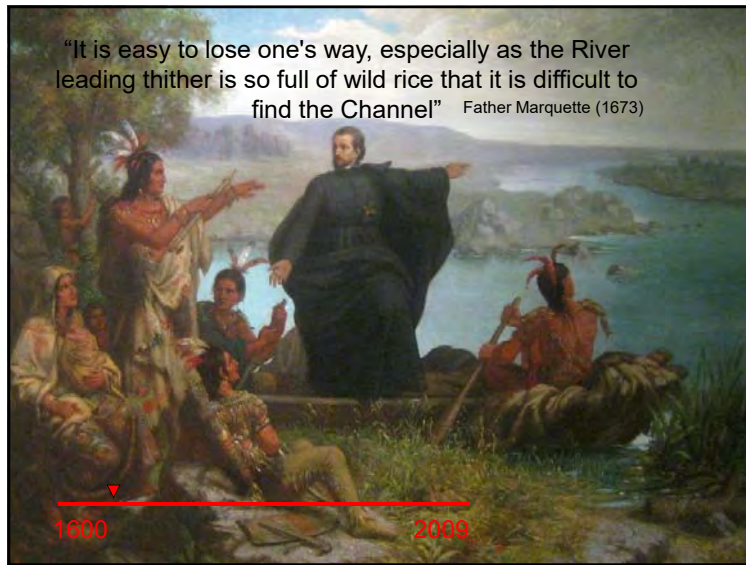
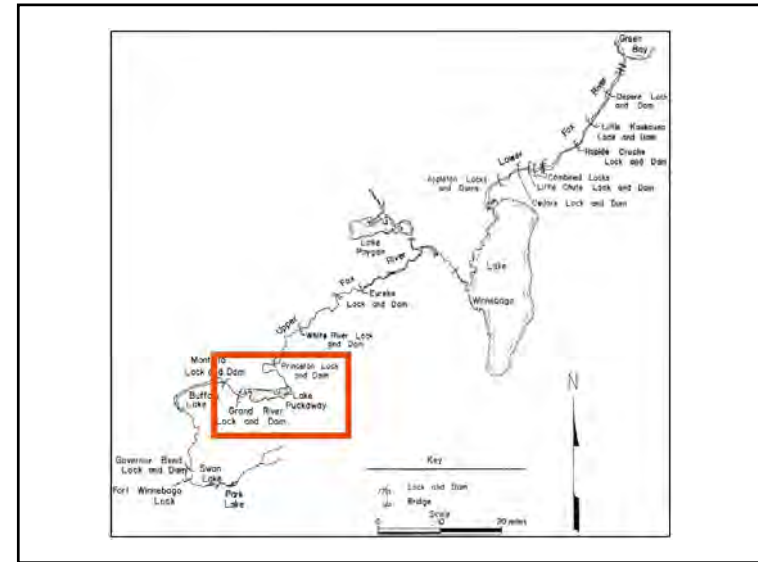
Many of the graphics used in this presentation were supplied by:

 Wisconsin Lakes Partnership

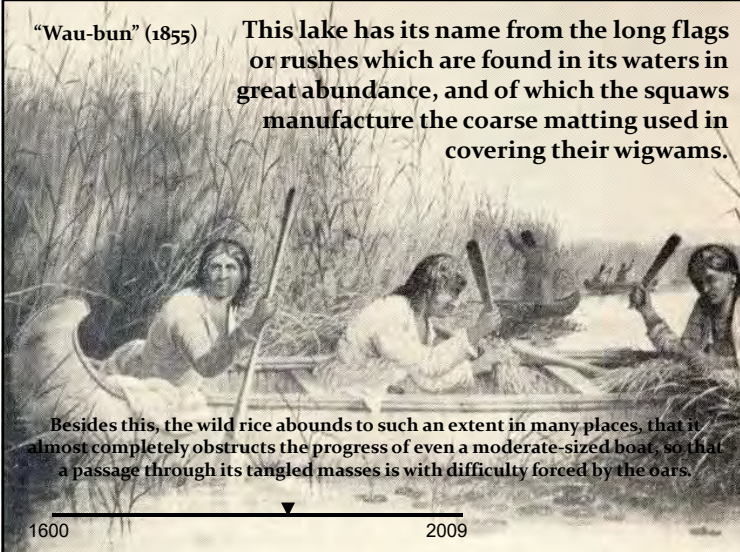
 **SDAP**
Extension

 WISCONSIN
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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“Wau-bun” (1855) This lake has its name from the long flags or rushes which are found in its waters in great abundance, and of which the squaws manufacture the coarse matting used in covering their wigwams.




Besides this, the wild rice abounds to such an extent in many places, that it almost completely obstructs the progress of even a moderate-sized boat, so that a passage through its tangled masses is with difficulty forced by the oars.

1600 2009




Nee Pee Nauk Duck Hunting Club, whose diary tells of members around 1885: “Shooting lousy. We killed only 30 canvasback, 50 bluebill, 21 pintail, and 18 redhead.” “Fishing only fair. We caught 63 smallmouth and 66 pike.”

1600 2009



1869 “The boys were fed up with puddle ducks, and wanted to get into the diving game.” For these reasons the Caw-Caw Club moved to Lake Puckaway, which was found more suitable than Poygan, and most of its history was made on that famous celery lake.



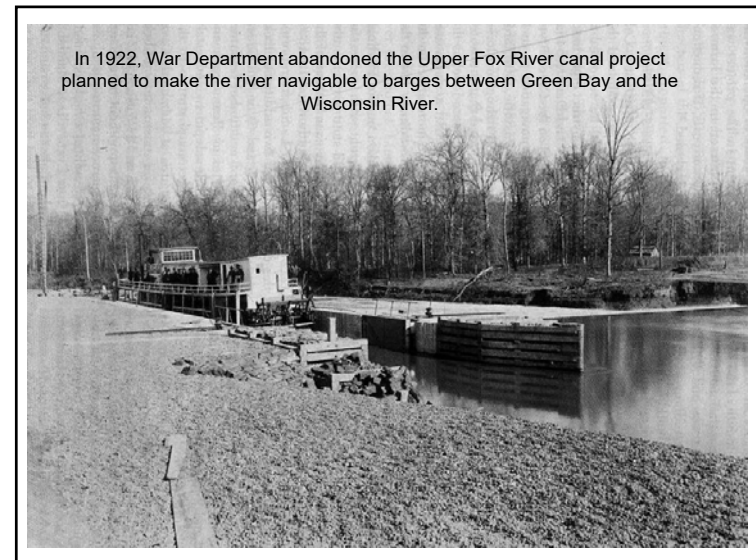
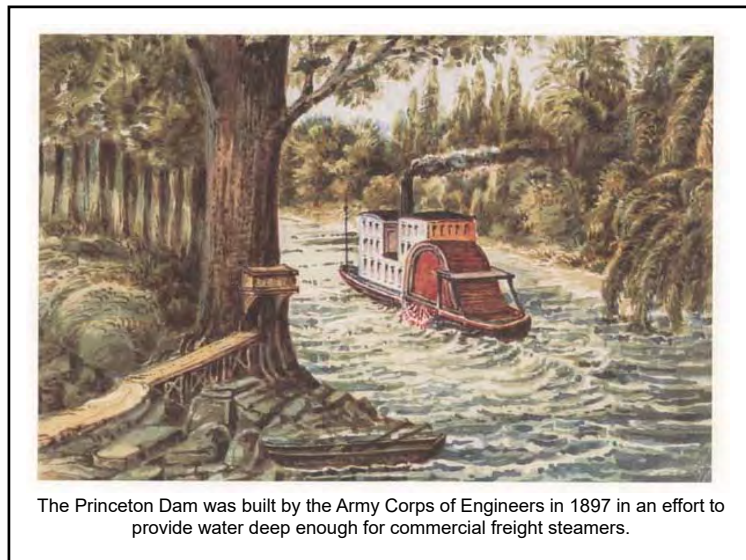
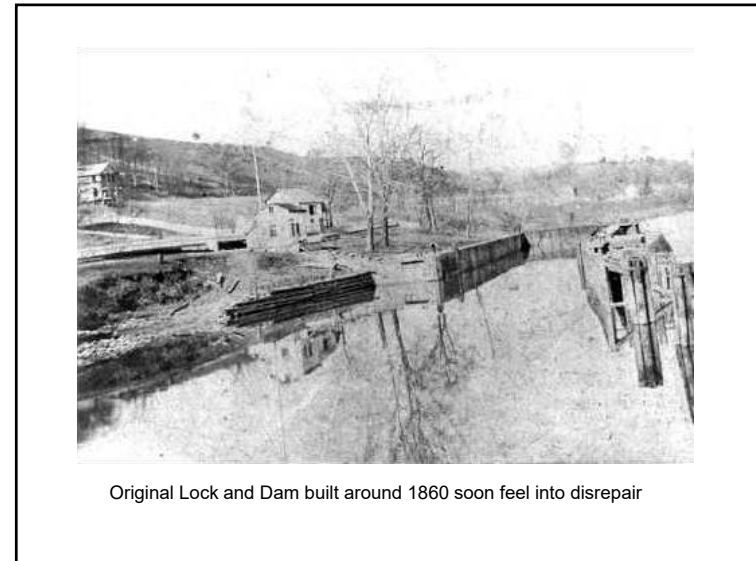
Not far north of Horicon...lies Lake Puckaway, like Koshkonong, this was a famous “wild celery” lake.

“...fantastic bags of game were secured, and sadly it must be confessed that occasionally excess birds, impossible to keep in those pre-refrigeration days were buried under the hillside brush.”

1600 2009



In 1837 and 1839, the Corps examined the waterway's feasibility and recommended a “slack-water” (lock and dam) system. After numerous memorials from the territorial legislature, Congress authorized a land grant for the waterway project in 1846.



Historical Accounts Modern Era




By 1946, local residents noticed a significant decline in aquatic plants, and water quality was reduced

Historical Management

- 1946 – Puckaway Restoration League attempts to improve declining emergent plants by planting hundreds of lbs of wild rice.
- 1949 – Large expanses of open water start to develop.

Historical Management

- 1951: “Only 2550 Acres” of Emergent Plants Remain, Nearly Half of previous decades
- 1950-1951: Water levels are drawn down for 2 consecutive springs to improve plant growth.




“Should the openings continue to expand, the breakup of this marsh (Lake Puckaway) can be expected with conditions similar to Beaver Dam Lake and Lake Koshkonong appearing. Intensive prosecution of the carp and careful regulation of water levels is necessary to avoid such a development...Largely because of high water the carp are able to invade the shallows which had the best stands of wild rice and arrowhead. Both are now scarce in former areas of abundance. To maintain the marsh ecology of Lake Puckaway a decrease in the water level of 6 inches to 1 foot from what it was on August 11, 1952 is justified.” (Thompson 1959)

Historical Accounts

- “Wild rice has “precipitously declined” since 1880, whereas is is no longer a dominant species.” - 1959
- “Once famous fish and waterfowl haven into a dead mud puddle” - 1959

1977

- o Almost no submergent plants were present in the muddy waters.
- o Carp comprised of 76% of the fishery.
- o Secchi disc measurements in August were 6 inches.
- o Lake Puckaway Protection & Rehabilitation District (LPPRD) forms




1600 2009

WI DNR worked with LPPRD and LPIA to develop a management plan.

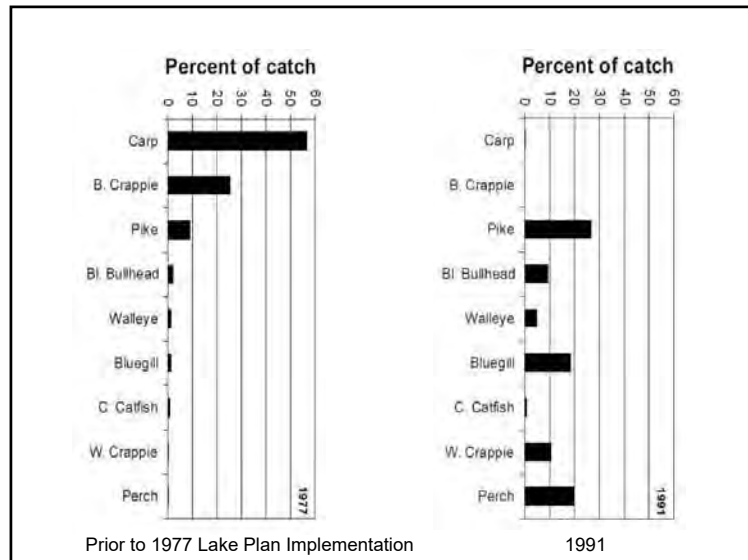
The 1978 Three-phase plan:

- Partial drawdown of the lake
- Mechanical removal of carp
- Restocking of game fish species.

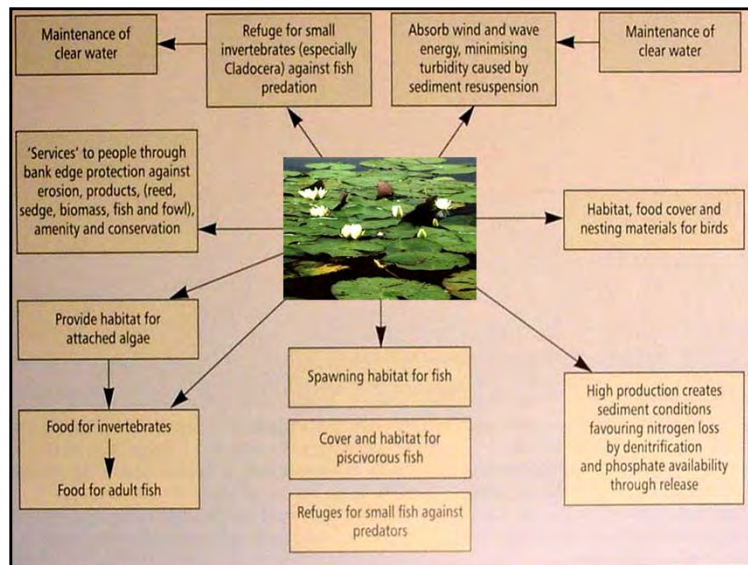


Historical Management

- 1983-1984: Plant restoration project planted wild rice, wild celery, sago pondweed.
- 1991 Fishery Study Shows change in fisheries.



Adaptive Lake Management

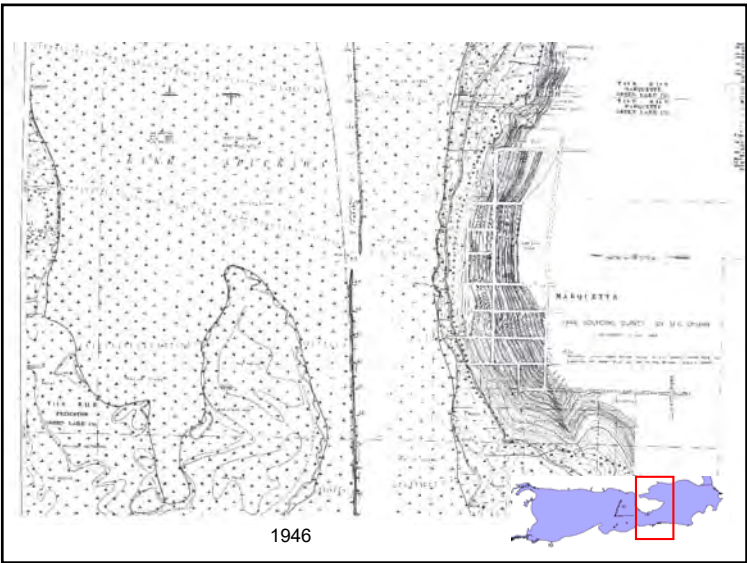


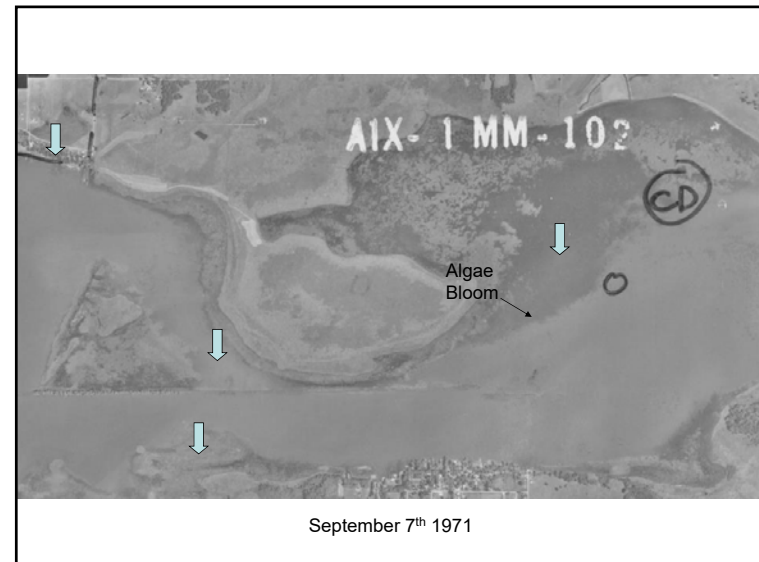
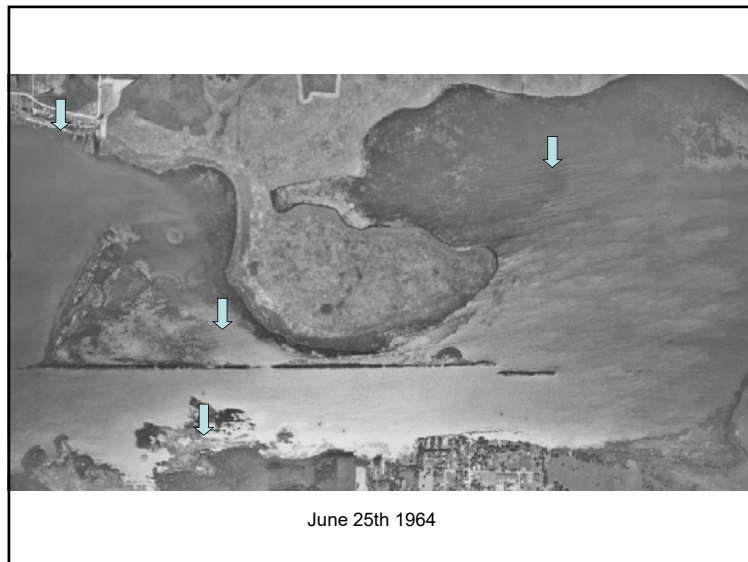
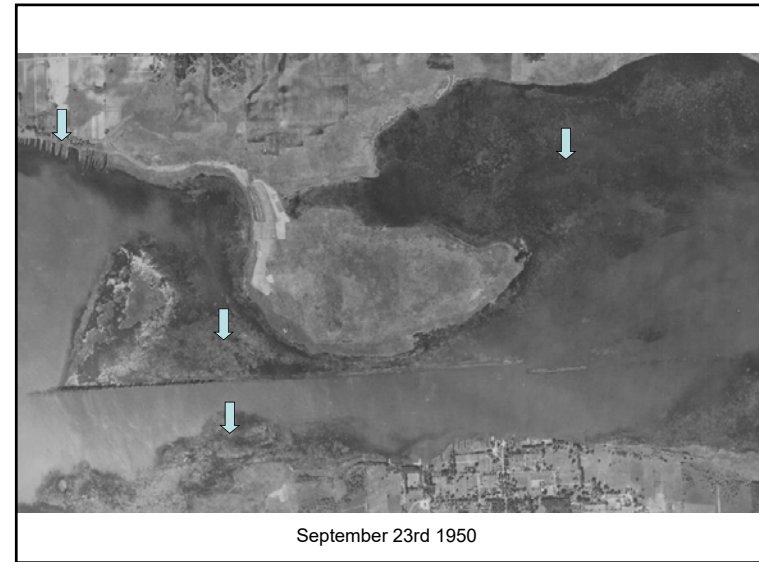
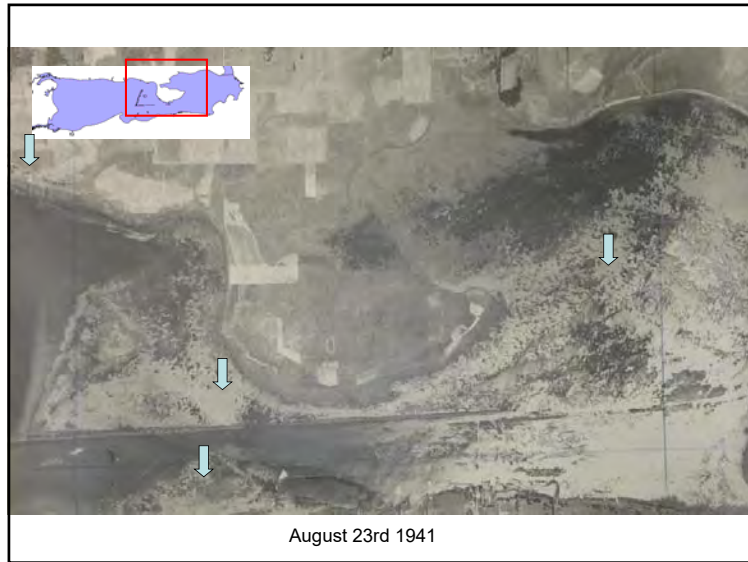
A lake without plants is like a forest without trees.....

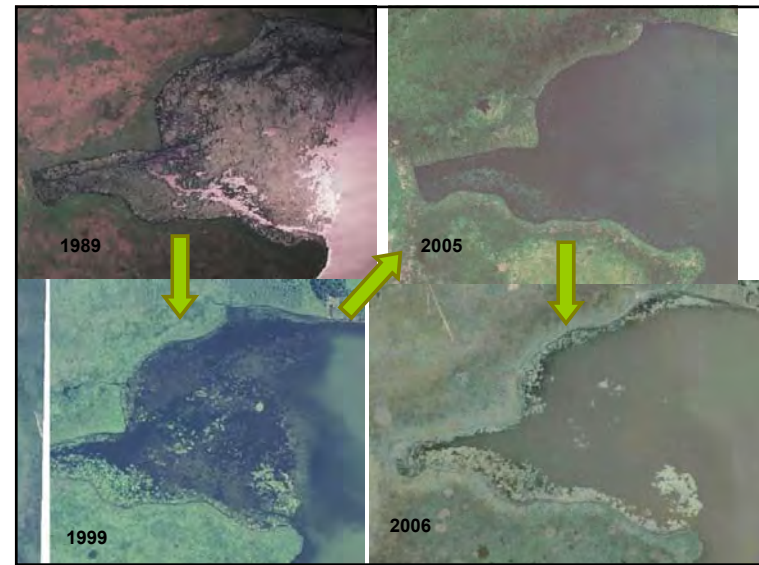
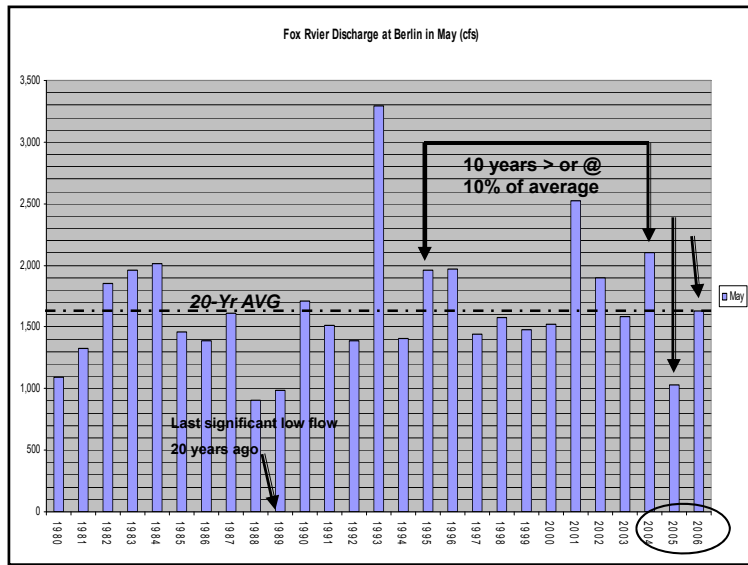
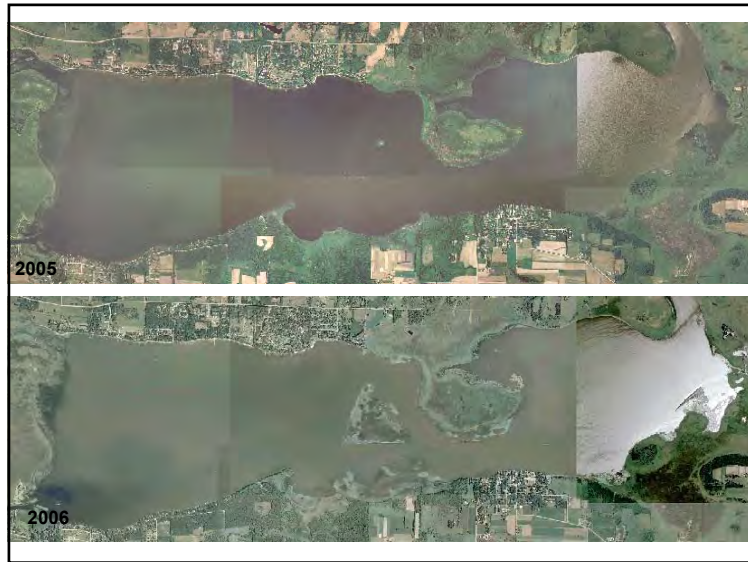


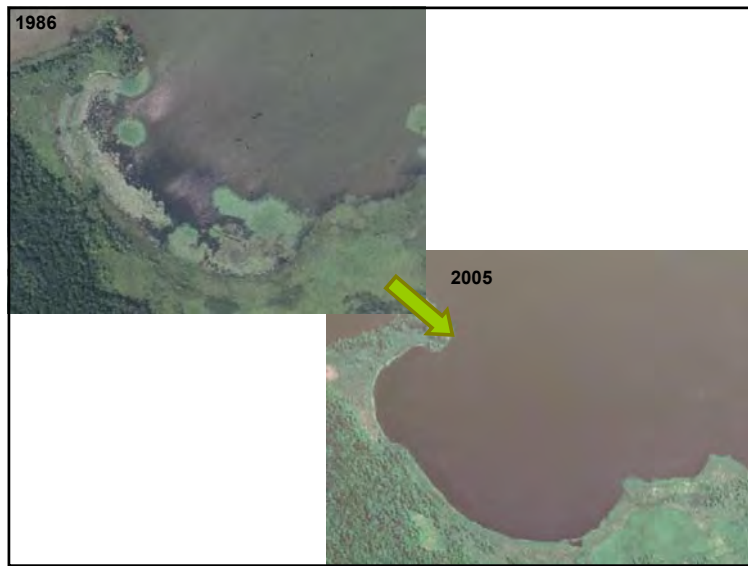
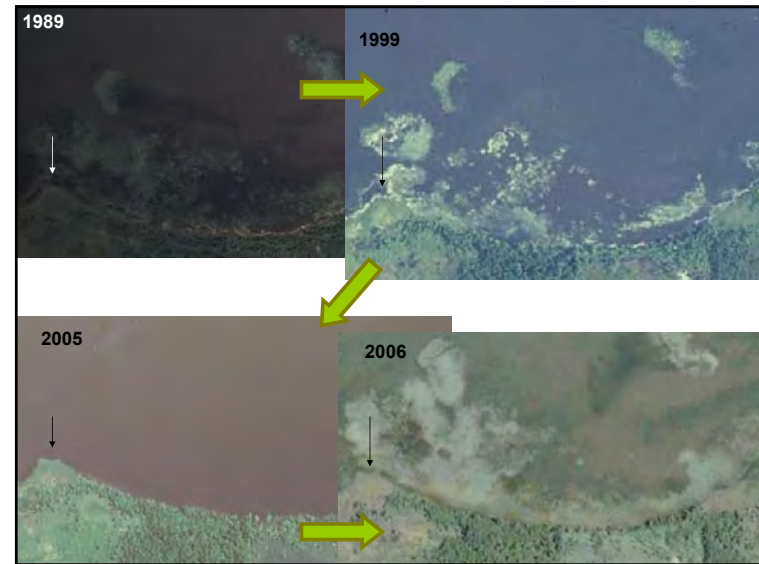
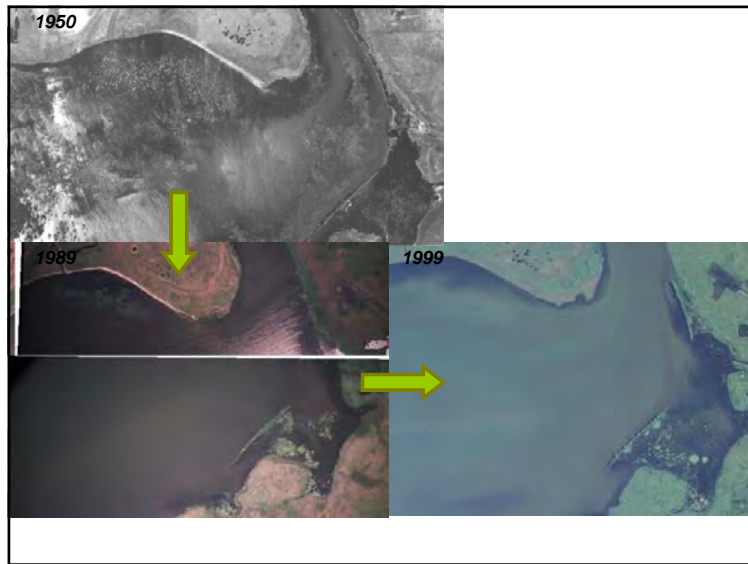


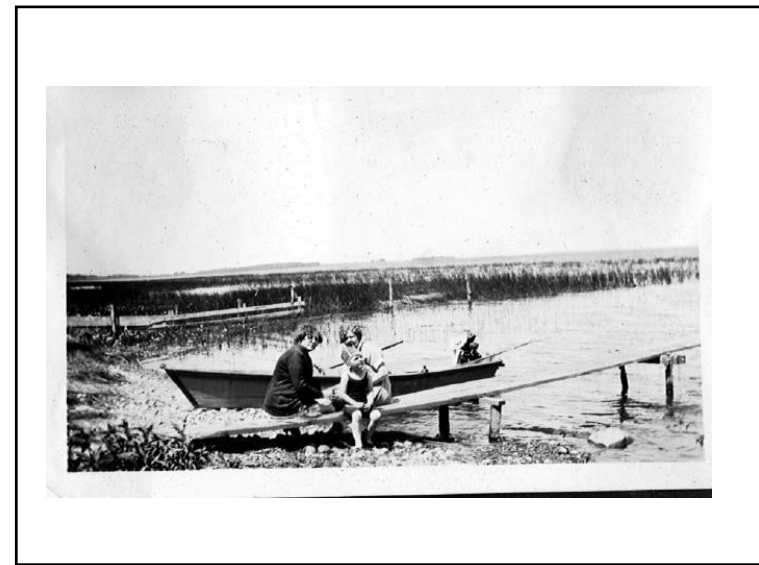
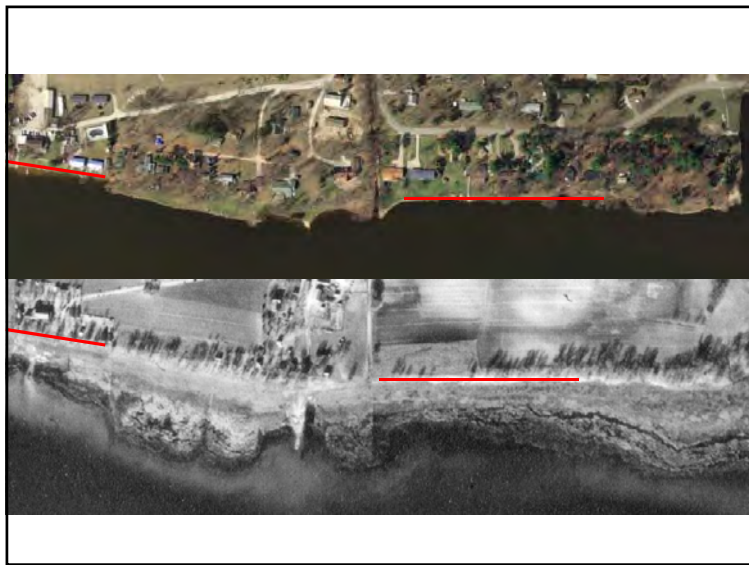
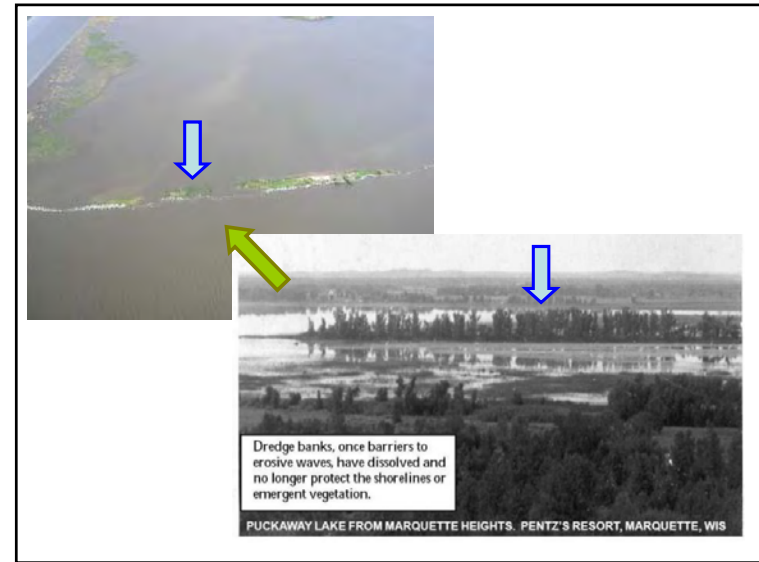
2. How do we measure it?

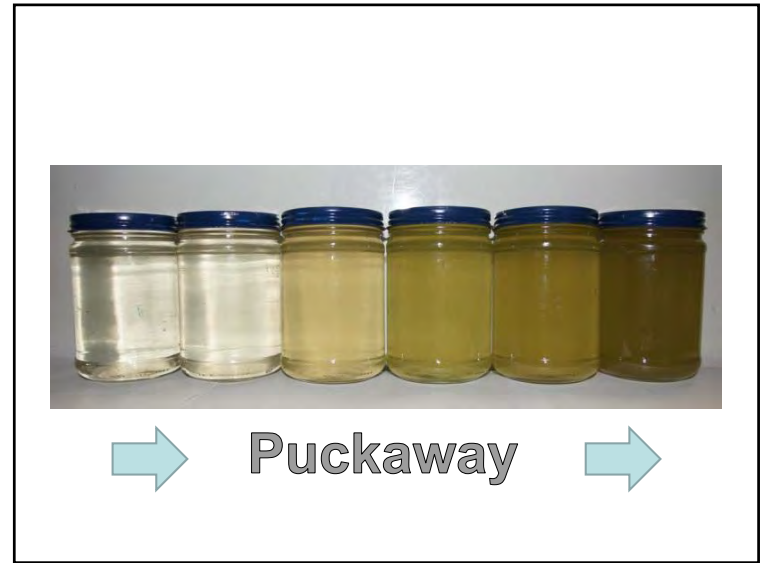
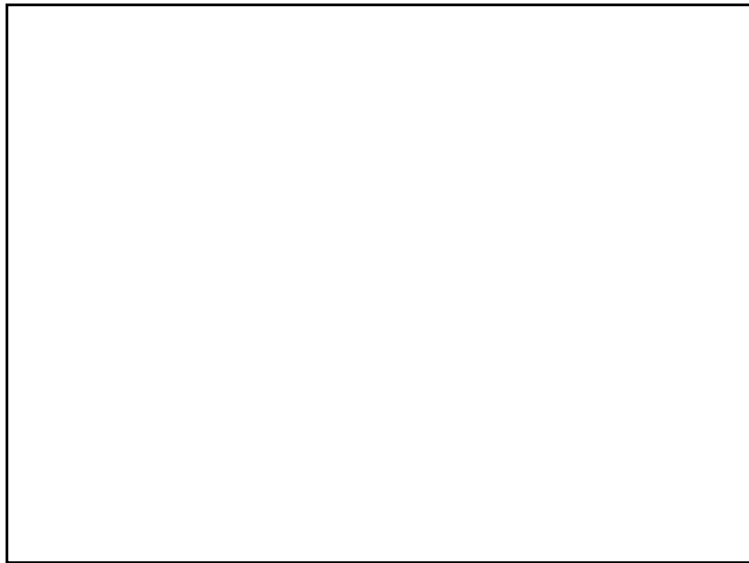
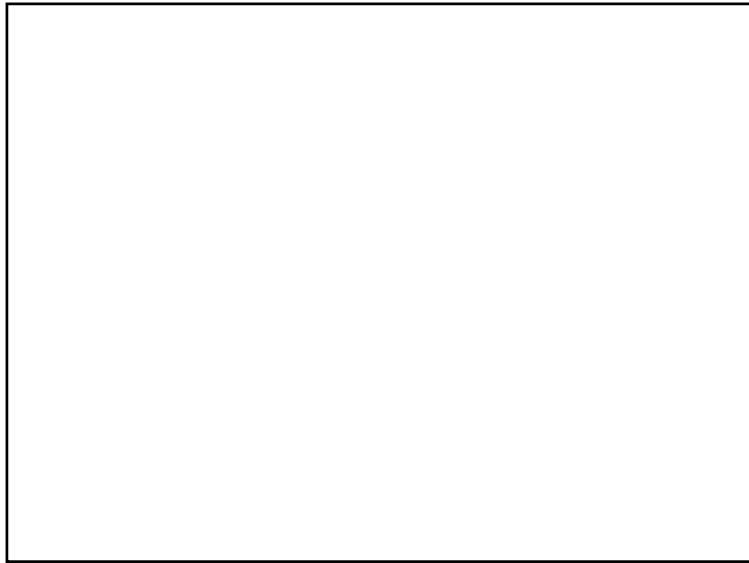


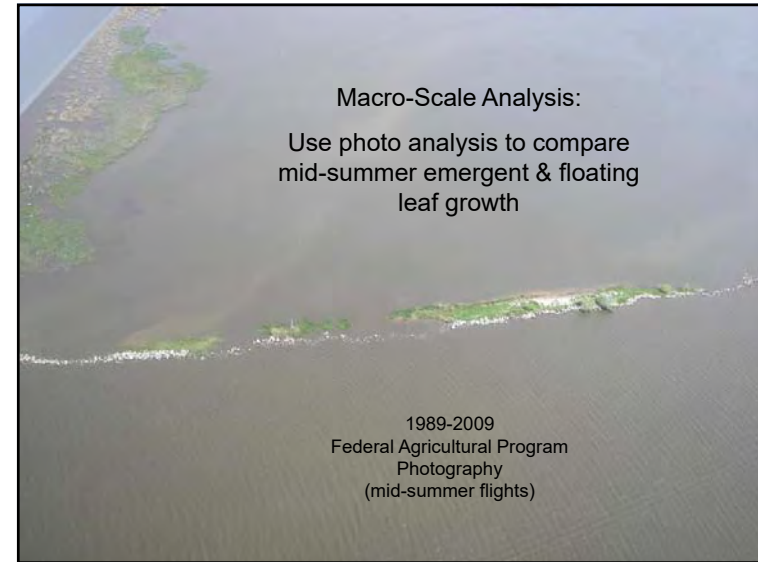








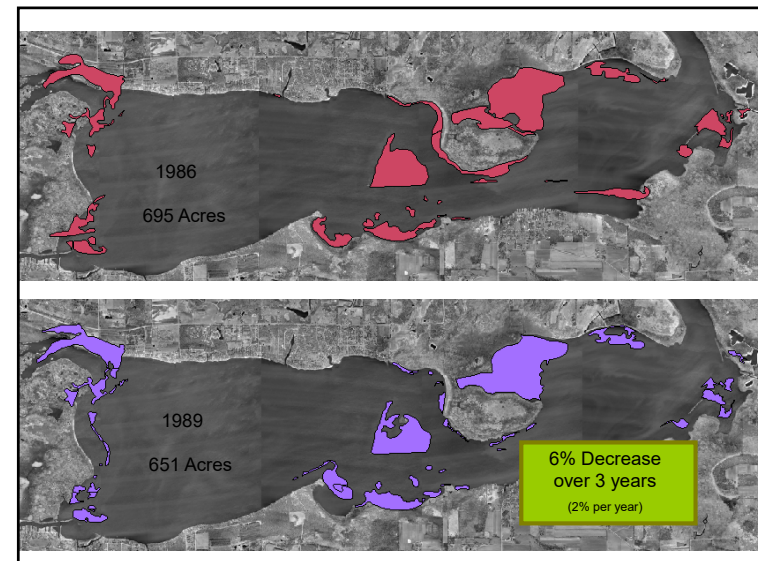


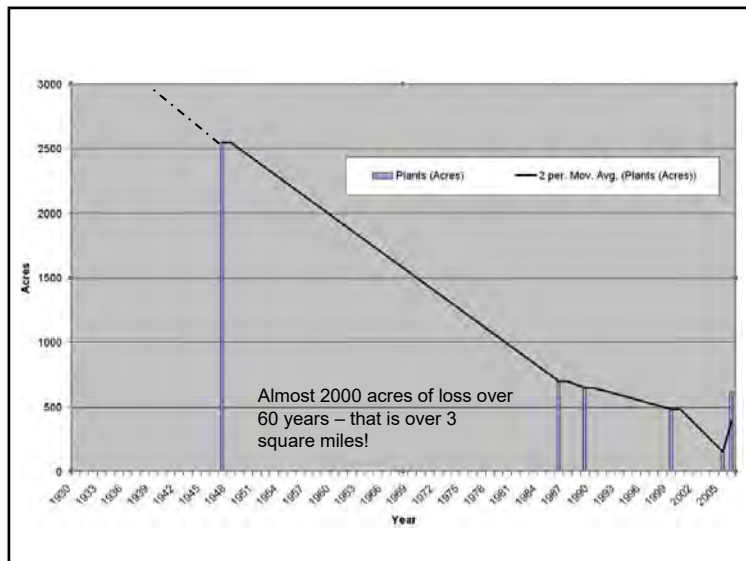
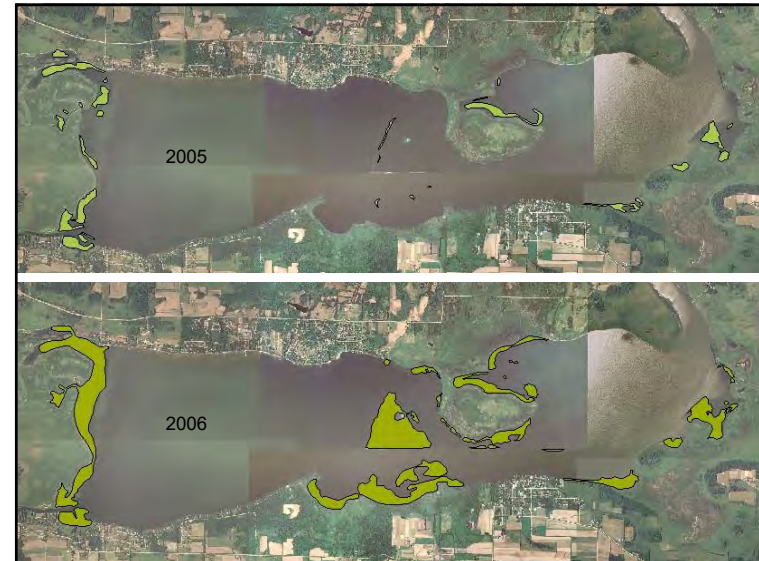
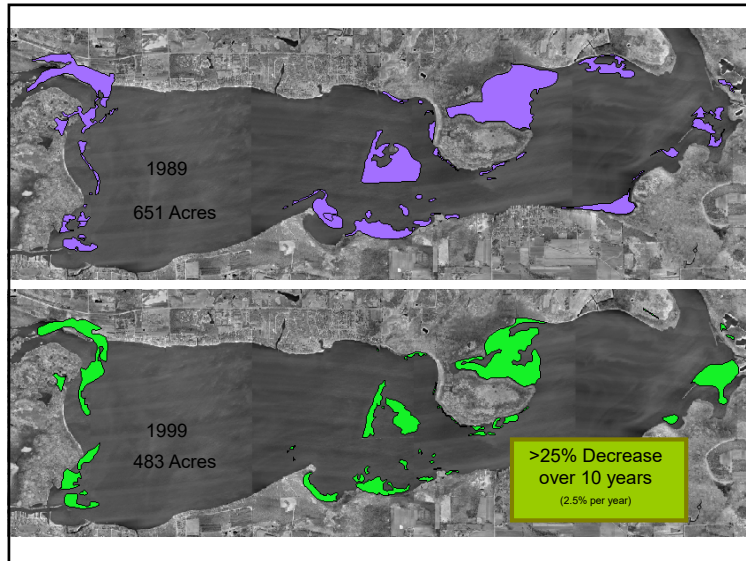


- Scanned and GeoReferenced 7000 Aerial Images
- Created a Composite Image for Each Year
- Used Mapping Software to define each visible plant bed
- Software measures exact acreage of the plant beds

Approx. 651 acres

1989 Photographic Analysis of visible emergent and/or floating leaf aquatic plant beds






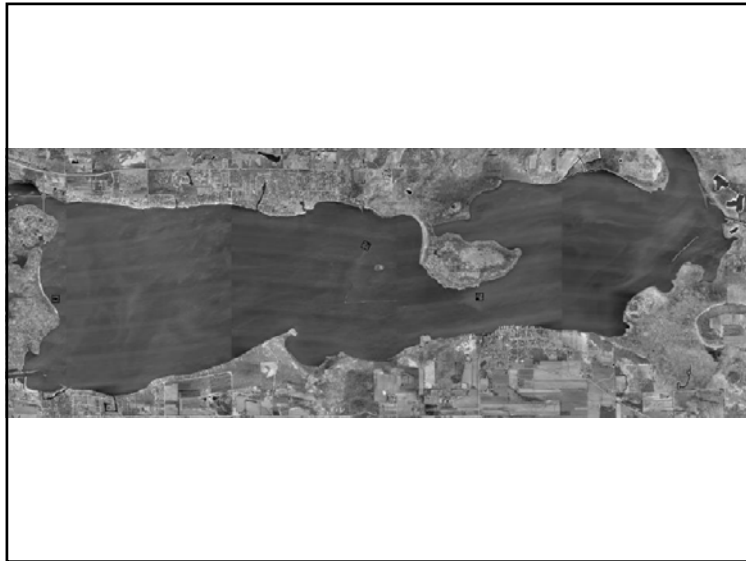
Micro-Scale Analysis:

Establish set sample points throughout the lake and conduct a plant survey annually at the same location.

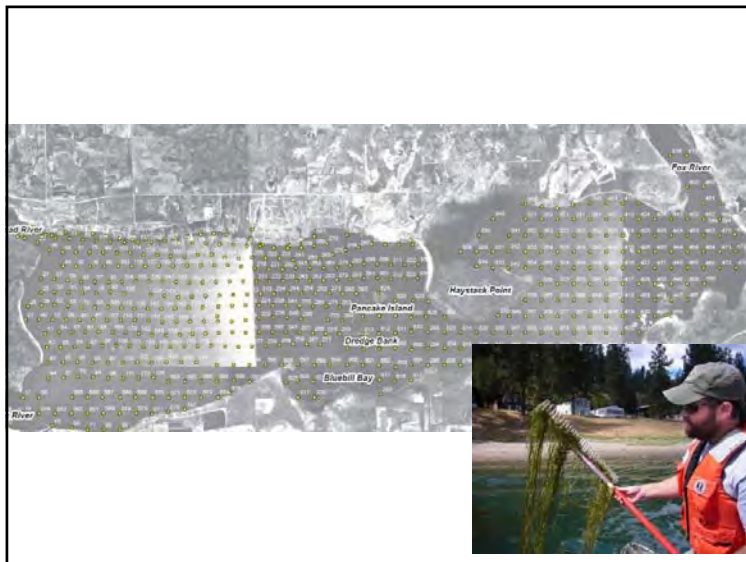
Use GPS to delineate edge of emergent plant beds for comparison over time.

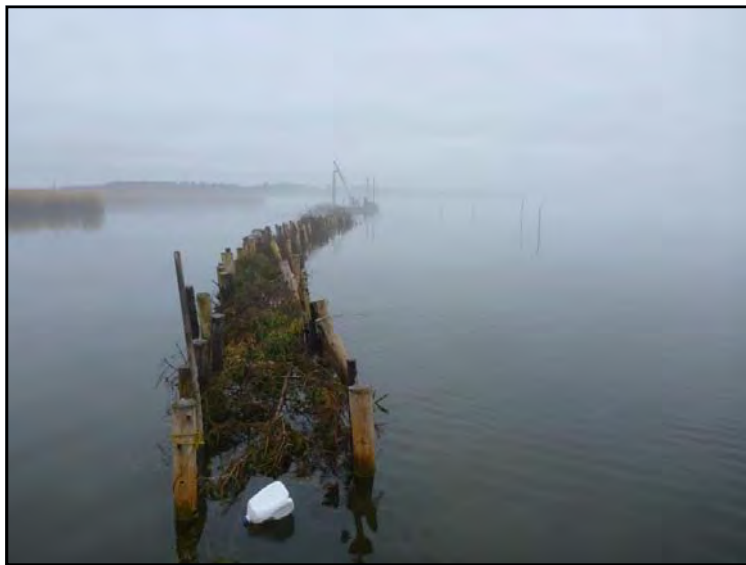
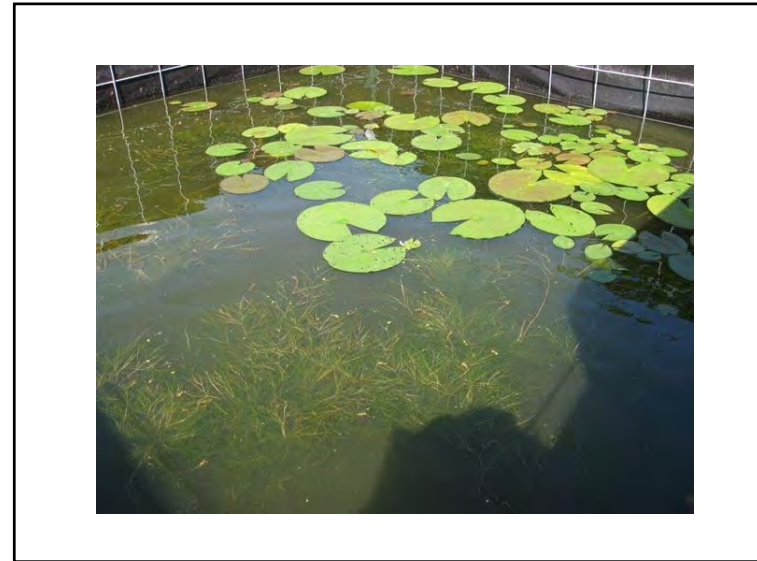
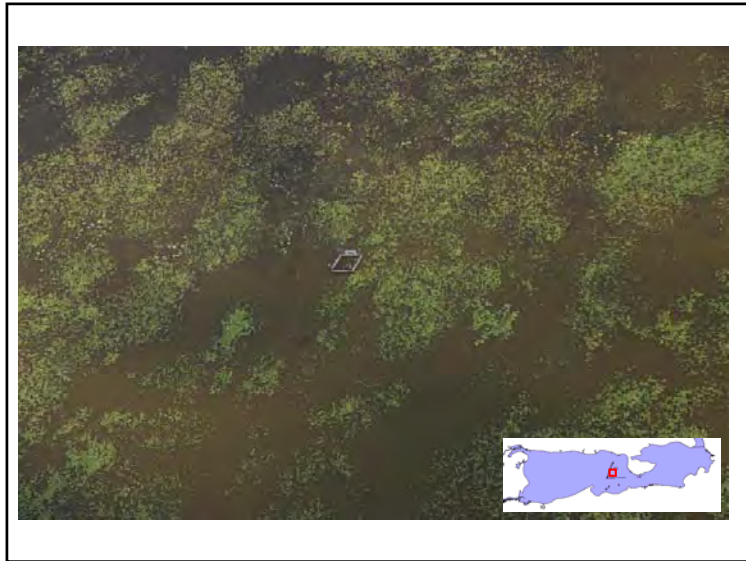
Begin monitoring in 2010.

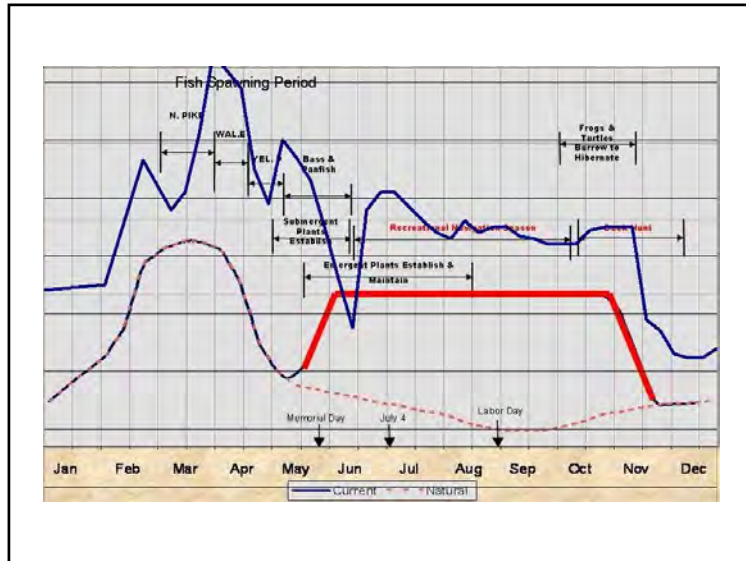




Aquatic Plants Projects



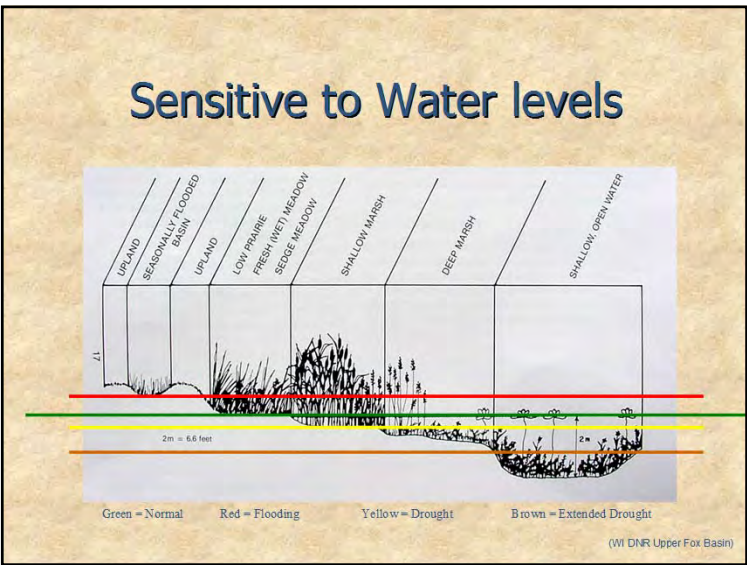


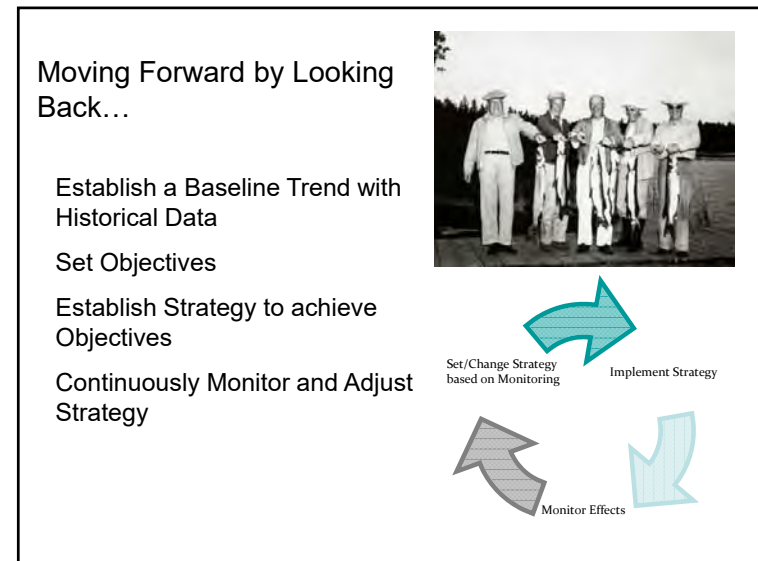
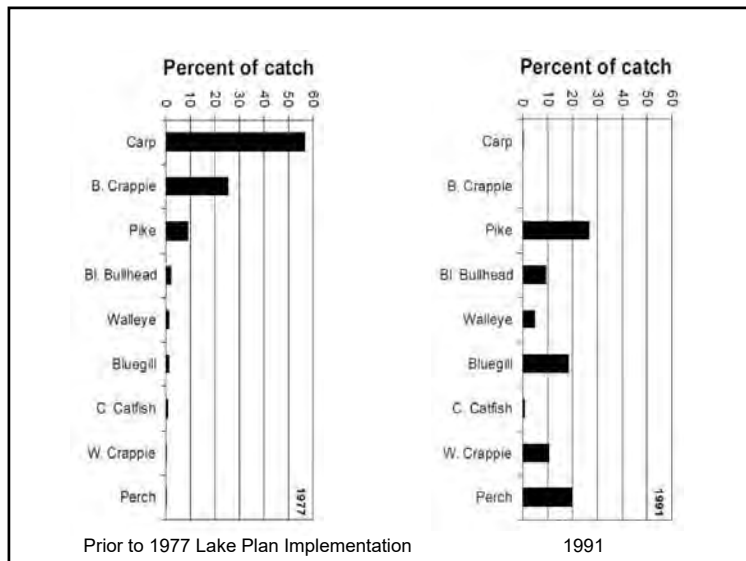
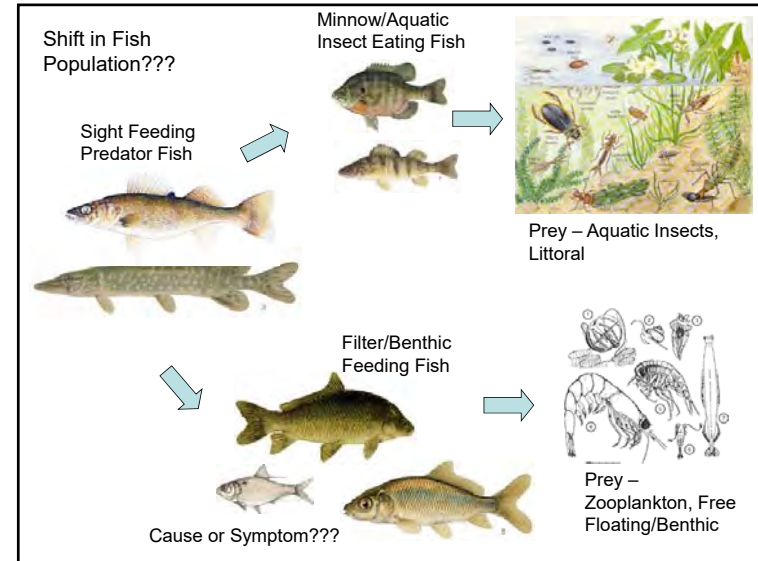
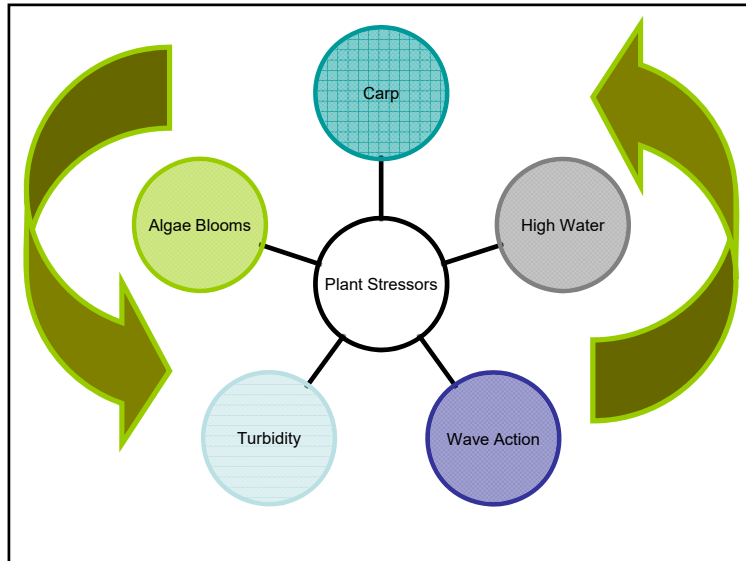


3. What causing the reduction?

•Algae prevents light from reaching bottom.

- Rooted plants utilize phosphorus
- Reduced phosphorus results in less algal blooms
- Reduced algal blooms results in clearer water
- Clearer water allows more sunlight to reach the bottom for rooted plants





**Adaptive Management
approach that incorporates the
results of a new monitoring
program into management
action in order to adapt and
learn over time.**

Management Activities

- Historical Photo Analysis
- Increase carp removal
- Dredgebank Enhancement
- Carp Exclosures monitoring plots
- Aquatic Plant Monitoring
- AIS Monitoring
- Water Level Monitoring
- Shoreland Restoration
- Boater Education (maps, kiosk, etc)
- Cormorant Control
- Water Level Manipulation
- Fisheries Study
- Watershed Management (Runoff Control Projects, NMP, etc)
- Historical Data Collection

Take Home Message....

Modified water levels are a lake
stressor that needs to be
managed.

(i.e. Lakes with artificially manipulated water levels need to be properly managed to meet the needs of the lake to prevent degradation over time.)

Derek Kavanaugh
Land Conservation Department
Green Lake County
dkavanaugh@co.green-lake.wi.us



PRESS RELEASE

Lake Puckaway Fisheries, Shorelands, and Habitat – Past, Present, and Future

Green Lake & Marquette Counties, WI, Date. The Lake Puckaway Protection and Rehabilitation District will be holding an information and planning meeting as a part of the project they are conducting to update Lake Puckaway's management plan. The meeting will be held at the Marquette Village Hall (127 E. 4th St, Marquette, WI) and begin at 6:30pm on Tuesday, June 28th. Presenters will include Ted Johnson, Wisconsin DNR Water Resource Specialist and Dave Bartz, Wisconsin DNR Fisheries Biologists.

Bartz will discuss the historical and present fisheries of Lake Puckaway. "With increases in quality lake habitat, we see increases in fisheries quality as well," said Bartz. "We could see an even better fish population in Lake Puckaway with better habitat and water quality, but it will take work to make the necessary changes.", he continued.

Johnson, who oversees the management of Lake Puckaway is also interested in increasing quality habitat in the lake. Habitat that would benefit the lake's ecology, wildlife, and fish. "The Department of Natural Resources is interested in forming a team made up of Lake Puckaway stakeholders to plan and implement restoration projects utilizing state and federal dollars," Johnson stated. Johnson also said, "Investigating options and applying for those funds can be done in parallel with the current planning project being completed by the Puckaway District."

The Lake Puckaway District developed a management plan in 2004, but many changes have occurred in the lake over the last twelve years. Changes have also occurred in the way lakes are managed in Wisconsin and the rest of the nation. The Lake Puckaway District successfully applied for two state grants in the last two years to help fund the current project slated to produce a draft plan later this fall.

Tim Hoyman, an aquatic ecologist with Onterra, LLC, a lake management planning firm out of De Pere and Madison, met with the district membership at their annual meeting on June 4th. During his presentation, Hoyman said, "Our job is to help the Lake Puckaway District create a management plan that will meet the needs of the folks who use and care for the lake while meeting the needs of the lake itself, as well." "The first step in the planning process is to understand the lake and make sure everyone has realistic expectations," he continued.

Five meetings have been scheduled over the summer to deliver the results of the many studies that have been completed on Lake Puckaway over the past decades. Each meeting has specific topics about Lake Puckaway. Following the June 28th meeting on fisheries and habitat, the district will host a meeting on Monday, July 18th regarding the lake's water quality and watershed.

Fisheries and Habitat Workgroup

June 28, 2016

Marquette Village Hall

The second of 5 meetings being held for the update to the Lake Puckaway Management Plan was held on June 29, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the Marquette Village Hall. The purpose of this meeting was to present information on the fishery in Lake Puckaway from 1970 to the most recent survey work. Discussion was held after the presentations to make sure the planning committee clearly understood the data and there was agreement on what the information meant.

Present were the following members of the Planning Committee:

Mick Masters, Jeff Kimber, Kurt McCulloch, Randy Schmidt, Paul Gettelman, Roger Swanke, and Gene Weber.

In addition, present were the night's speakers Dave Bartz, WDNR Fisheries Biologist and, Ted Johnson– WDNR, Water Resource Management Specialist and 14 members of the public. Linda Stoll – L Stoll Consulting served as meeting facilitator.

Dave Bartz began with a presentation on the fishery in Lake Puckaway. Lake Puckaway covers 5,039 acres with a maximum depth of 5-7ft and an average depth of 3-4ft. It is part of the Upper Fox River system. While the dam and added boards have a slight impact on water levels, rain and snowfall control the system. Dave has fish data beginning in 1970. At that time the lake was turbid with few plants and a large amount of carp. Beginning in 1980, carp removal and a restocking program was put in place. Native to the lake and of interest are Walleye, Northern Pike, Large Mouth Bass, Catfish and Panfish. For a complete list of all fish found, please see the PowerPoint presentation located on the Lake Puckaway website. The lake is successfully used for open water and ice fishing. He noted that this is an open system in that fish are free to swim up and down stream. Dave focused on a graph displaying spawning time and needs of the major fish found in the lake (see PowerPoint presentation). He noted that all need vegetation and clean flowing water. Panfish and bass numbers appear to be declining and this could be due to a lack of sufficient submergent aquatic plants as well as the high number of predator fish. Better habitat could improve spawning as well as offer protection.

Carp on the lake have been a problem since 1930 and various attempts have been made to control them. It wasn't until the recent establishment of a market for them that any real progress has been seen. Dave noted that at times the boards go up on the dam right at carp spawning time and they actually increase the area available for spawning and thus increase the success of carp reproduction. He also presented some new research that is looking at the ability of panfish to control carp as the panfish have been seen to eat the fry. Dave noted that there is still a lot to learn about how to manage the carp population. The timing of board placement on the dam can also impact reproduction of other fish species. Dave gave an example of downstream habitat drying up right at the time catfish were spawning.

Dave closed his presentation with a reminder that plants and clean water were key to a successful fishery and that plants need water level fluctuation to survive. He noted that less plants usually means more algae. It is extremely important that this lake is treated as part of a system – that the

conditions in Puckaway are important but what happens up and down stream impacts Puckaway as well.

Ted Johnson followed with information on the creation of a Lake Puckaway work group whose purpose would be to look at all of the potential on-the-ground projects, prioritize them and develop a plan for implementation. He hoped that this could be completed about the same time that the management plan was adopted so that restoration could be an effective, coordinated effort and that they could take best advantage of multiple funding sources. Ted gave examples of restoration of the dredge banks and cane beds as key to improving Lake Puckaway. He hoped that they could improve on the dredge bank design to increase habitat both above and in the water. It would be important to look at efforts done elsewhere to increase the success of lake projects. He mentioned five major funding sources: US Army Corp of Engineers, US Fish Wildlife, WDNR and local organizations such as Ducks Unlimited and Walleyes for Tomorrow. Having a strategy and workgroup in place would greatly improve the chances of receiving money. Ted would like to put the group together in the near future.

Planning Committee Comments and Questions:

1. Would a fixed crest dam improve spawning of flathead?

Yes, because it would eliminate that chance that there would be a drastic change in the water level downstream right at the time these fish are spawning.

2. Why did we have a big carp kill this spring?

We don't really know. It seemed that most of the fish that died were the same size. It couldn't be determined if this was a virus because no one brought in a fresh sample. It was noted that if it was a virus, you could assume that many more fish would have died and that they would have been of all different sizes. This possibly could have been due to stress on that particular age class.

3. Is it time to rethink the 32" size on Northern?

Yes. DNR is looking at managing Lake Winnebago and the Upper Fox as a system with consistent regulations. This fish is very successful here which could be a reason for the reduction in panfish. It will be important for the public to weigh in on this decision. Dave also discussed how each species of gamefish in Wisconsin has a WDNR Team. The northern pike team had not met for years, but is now starting to meet again, so this may help produce a change at Lake Puckaway.

4. Are panfish numbers really down?

Yes. This could be due to high levels of predation but also to lack of good spawning habitat and habitat that could offer year-round protection. Recent studies have shown that a healthy panfish population can assist in controlling carp, so an improved panfish population would be beneficial to the lake in many ways.

5. Could holding water levels higher over winter improve spawning?

No. Spring water levels are higher than the dam anyway and this is determined by rain and snowfall.

6. *Would slot limits help the walleye fishery?*

Higher slot limits are put in place to protect reproduction which is not an issue here.

7. *There is talk about removing the size limits on Walleye. How would this impact Lake Puckaway?*

It is not sure whether the population could withstand this so it would be questionable whether we would do this here.

8. *In some areas they have changed the number of Walleye you can take from 5 to 3. Is this something we should do? What about people that are “double-dipping”?*

We are monitoring the impact of this decision and so far it has not really had an impact on populations in the lakes where this has been done. Future discussions will be held on this topic and it's going to be really important for the public to weigh in on expanding this to more lakes. Double-dipping is an enforcement issue. So far, the occurrence of this is small and has not had a big impact. However, if people are concerned, they should contact their warden who can address this.

9. *Several general comments were made regarding potential restoration projects.*

It was hoped that when doing the dredge banks and if any islands were created that they be more than a pile of rocks. It was requested that additional habitat be created on top of them as well as improved design under water. The cane bed project should also be designed for maximum benefit. It was noted that using improved modeling programs and reviewing the impact of projects done elsewhere can help improve the overall outcome of these project.

10. *What can be done about the Northshore boat landing?*

The Issue Assessment identified the need to improve the Northshore boat landing to increase the ability to use this site for a longer period of time. There was a request to add a break wall to protect the landing as well as provide additional fishing access. The Lake District is exploring the possibility of initially dredging the landing and then designing something to provide protection. This project would certainly qualify as something that the proposed workgroup could take up and get funding for. It was noted that the design should have the input of an appropriate engineer and be part of the overall plan for the lake.

Written Questions:

1. *Why don't we stock tiger musky in Puckaway? Their number can be controlled and they have been beneficial in other lakes and systems. Why can't we stock more perch in bluegill in Puckaway? Barrier reefs have been built by [power company] and other [?] cement & flyash bank, so why not utilize that source?*

There are currently Great Lake Spotted musky being stocked in the Winnebago system. Some of those fish have shown up in the Fox river as far up as the Berlin area. Over time, these fish may inhabit the entire system? Currently much of our effort has been to stick with species, that in the past, were present in the system and not mix in other genetics. Also, with the density of other gamefish, walleye and northern pike, and the hopes of rebuilding the panfish populations with habitat improvements; I don't believe it is in the best interest of Lake Puckaway to stock another "top" line predator. As far as perch go; over the years we have seen large year classes of perch, but it appears that few recruit to the anglers creel. There are obvious reason why this is and it may be mainly related to predation by gamefish and loss of habitat that stimulates perch survival. Again, I see habitat improvement as the way to improve perch populations. (Answer provided by Dave Bartz, WDNR Fisheries Biologist)

We have not heard of the barriers being constructed of flyash and cement. Civil engineers would be used to design any barrier structures and would provide guidance on proper materials.

- 2. Lake Buffalo residents are upset due to the fact that they 6" of water due to the fish ladder. Is that going to happen on Puckaway? If so, why don't we raise the dam 6 more inches because of the fish ladder?*

As far as the design of the Montello Dam (Buffalo Lake) spillway is concerned, I have not been on site recently to be able to reference this summer's conditions. The previous spillway had a 190' long spillway with a fixed elevation of 768.3 NAVD88. A set of 0.5' flashboards were installed on 130 feet of that length to bring much of the spillway elevation up to 768.8 NAVD88. This configuration was in place for more than 15 years prior to the reconstruction...60 feet at 768.3 and 130 feet at 768.8.

The new configuration was designed to mimic the old spillway over the entire range of flows and maintain a summer pool within the operating range under typical summer flow conditions (drought not included). The total spillway width is 188', 20' within the fish passage set at 768.2NAVD 88 and 168' of fixed crest set at 768.75 NAVD88. This is hydraulically similar to the pre-project condition.

The summer operating range is between 769.0 and 769.5 NAVD88. I have only collected water level data once since completing the project (11/11/14 at 769.34NAVD88) but have utilized the water level on the u/s wing walls (masonry joint at 769 and 770) as an antidotal reference to be able to say that I have not once witnessed the water level near 769.0 much less six inches below it in the two years since the impoundment was refilled. [It has always been over 769].

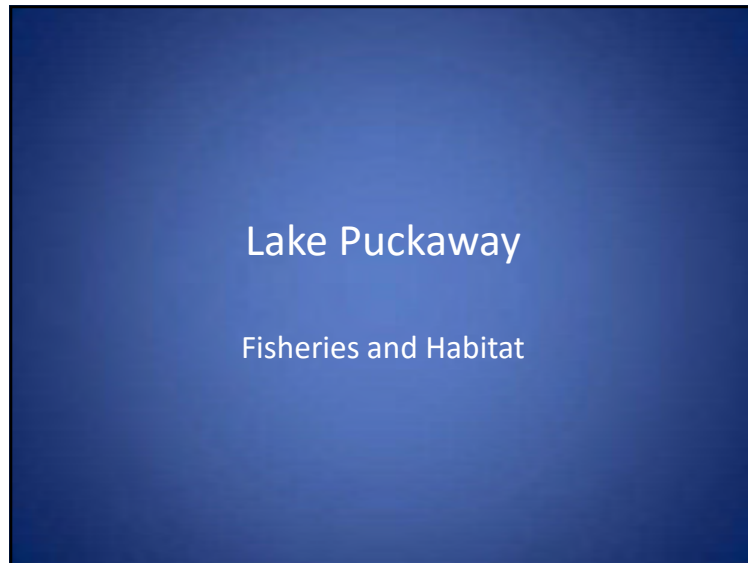
Since there are no impacts from the fish passage at Buffalo there wouldn't be a reason to modify the Montello Dam. Any fish passage at the Princeton Dam would have the same criteria. Raising the lake is not a feasible option as 100% of the affected riparian owners

would have to voluntarily give the State approval by easement for the additional flowed lands and then it would need to pass environmental review. (Answer provided by Brent Binder, WDNR Natural Resource Engineer and Montello Dam Reconstruction Project Manager)

3. *Is the goal to make Puckaway like Buffalo Lake and Montello Lake – shallow and full of weeds?*

Of course not. Buffalo Lake contains two primary weed species, curly-leaf pondweed, and Eurasian water milfoil, which are both aggressive and troublesome exotic species. Following the lake's drawdown for the reconstruction of the Montello Dam, Eurasian water milfoil has declined in occurrence by 83%, native aquatic plant species richness has increased from 11 to 24 species, average conservatism has increased from 5.5 to 5.8, floristic quality has increased from 18.2 to 28.5, and Simpson's diversity has increased from 0.84 to 0.87. All of these indicate a healthier plant population and a healthier Buffalo Lake. We have not worked on Montello Lake, so we are unable to comment on its condition.

At this time, no particular goals have been set for Puckaway Lake as the planning process is still in progress. The overarching goal of the plan will be to help Puckaway to be an overall healthier lake. As the presentations thus far have shown and future presentations will touch on, Puckaway is currently not a healthy system and among other things, exhibits poor water quality that not only impacts the lake itself, but also downstream waterbodies. Lack of vegetation in much of the lake is part of the lake's health issue and impacts its water quality and fishery. Increases in plant abundance will create better water quality and better habitat within the lake, which will make the lake and fishery healthier.



- ### Lake Puckaway
- 5,039 acres
 - 5-7' max depth – 3-4' average
 - Widening of the Fox River
 - Historically part of the Fox River System
 - Slightly impounded by Princeton Dam
 - Variable water levels due to Nature
 - Dam operation has often been controversial



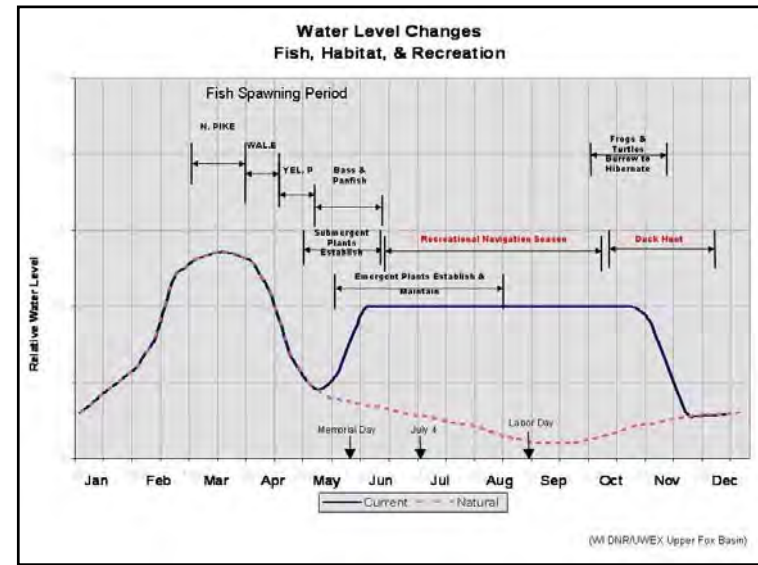
- ### Lake Puckaway
- 1970's
 - Turbid conditions
 - Very few aquatic plants
 - Carp dominated
 - Few desirable species
 - 1980's and 90's
 - Huge restoration efforts
 - Carp removal and treatment
 - Intensive stocking, NP, WE, LMB, MU, BG

Fishery

- Heavily utilized
 - Open water
 - Ice
- Open system
- Native populations
 - Gamefish
 - Panfish
 - Non-game

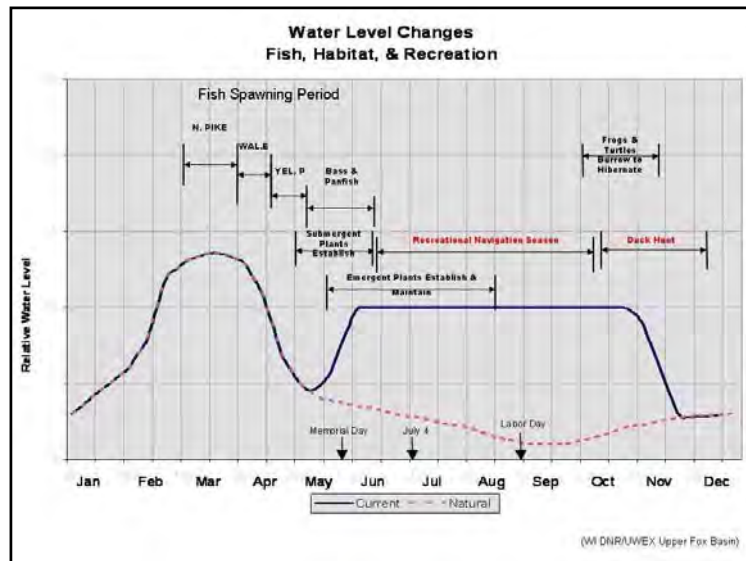
Fishery

- Native populations
 - Walleye
 - Northern Pike
 - Largemouth Bass
 - Catfish, channel and flathead
 - Panfish, including bluegill, crappie and yellow perch
 - Carp
 - Lake Sturgeon, White Bass
 - Numerous minnow and nongame species



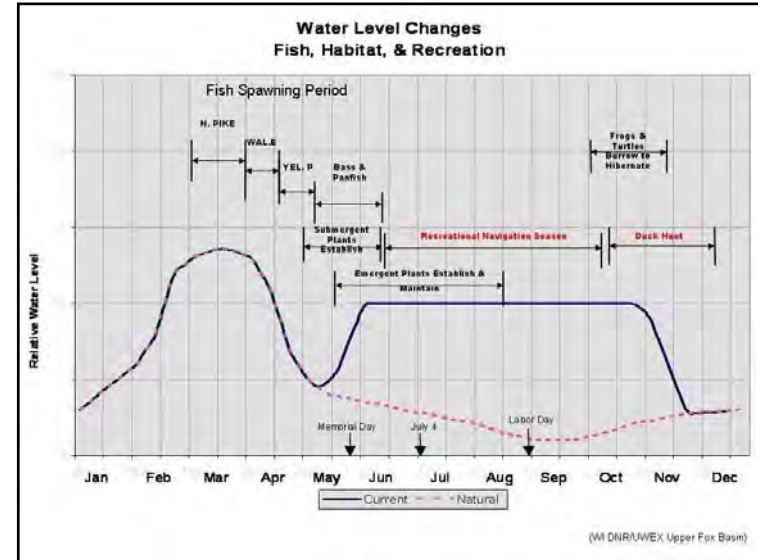
Northern Pike

- Spring spawner, ice out
- Rely on vegetation and good water quality
- High density with good growth
 - Need good food source
 - Prey fish need good habitat



Walleye

- Spring spawner
- Clean rocky shoreline
- Clean flowing water over marsh
- Bulk of population is natural
- Studies indicate contribution from fry stocking
- Benefits greater in low natural years
- Need good food source

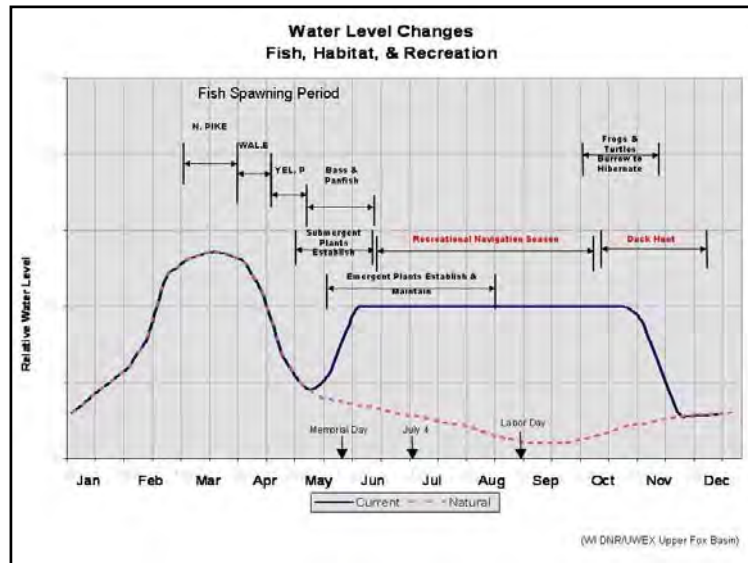


Panfish

- Size structure and growth rates good
- Low catch rates may indicate low densities
 - High gamefish densities
 - Habitat?
- Rely heavily on –
 - Healthy submergent aquatic vegetation
 - Food
 - Cover
 - Aquatic invertebrates and “minnows”
 - Good water quality

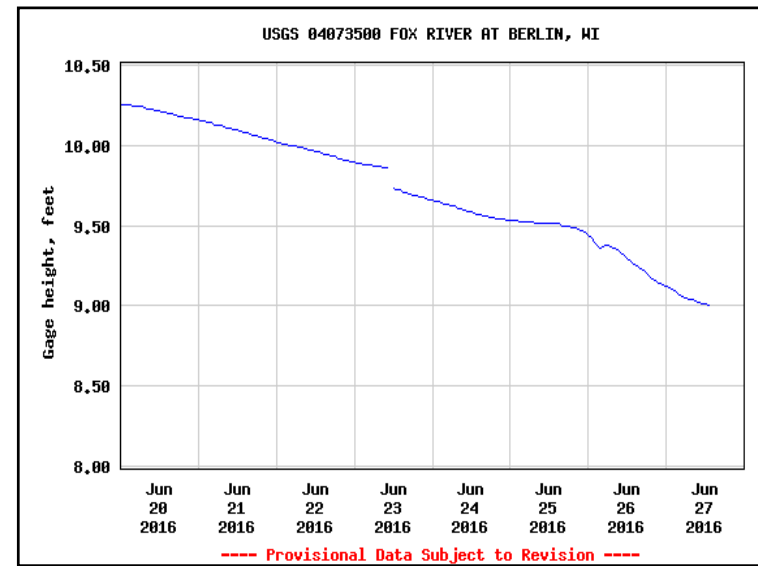
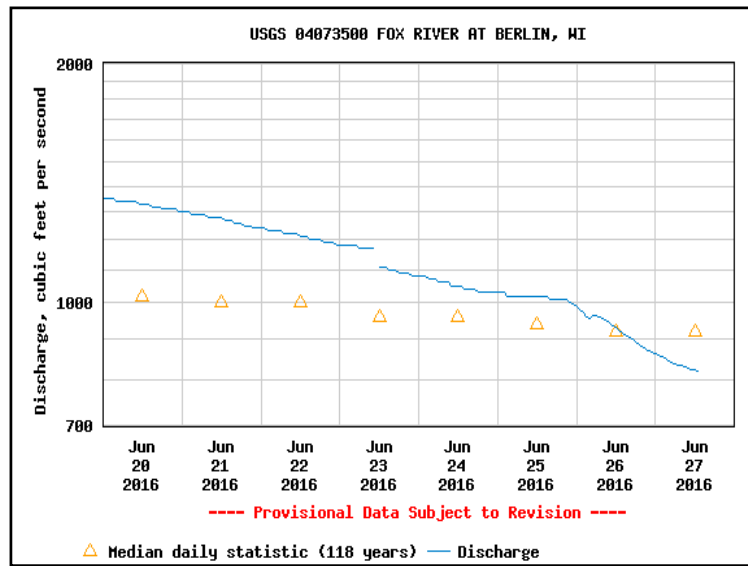
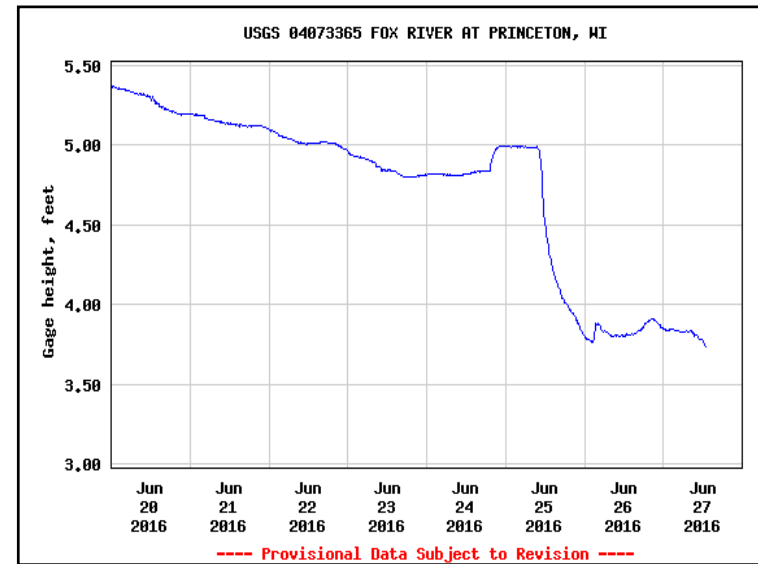
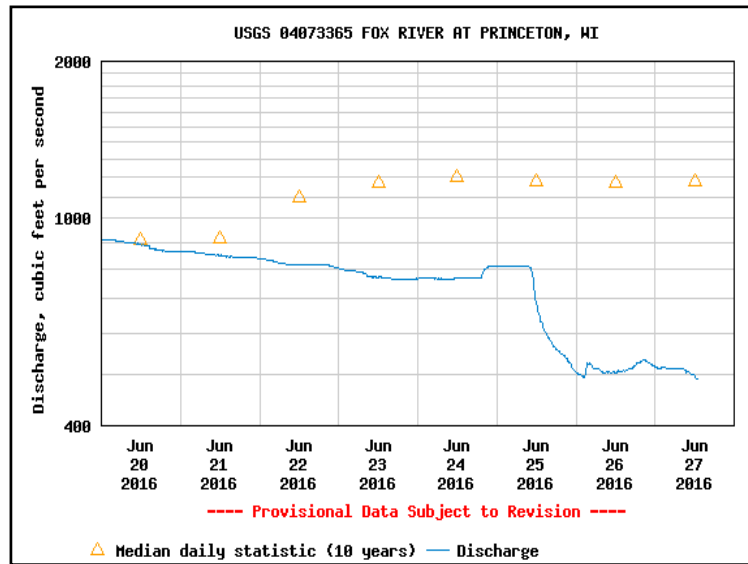
Carp

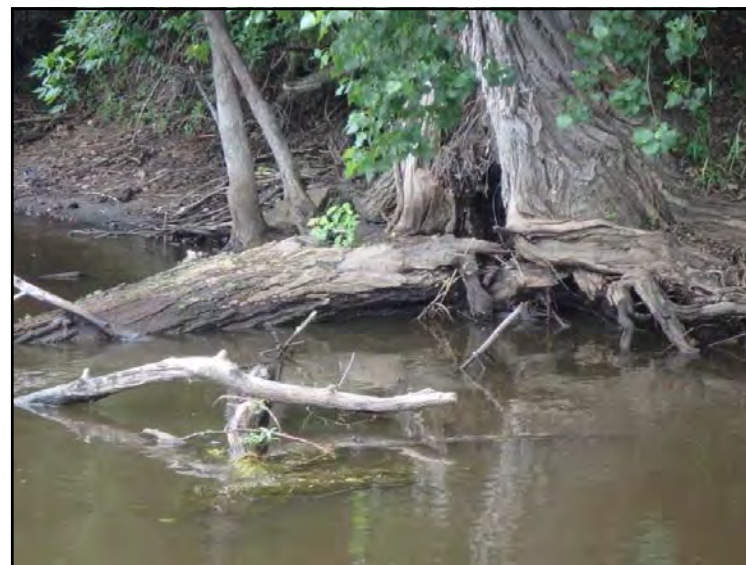
- First planted in the late 1800’s
- Full scale removal efforts by the 1930’s
- Electrical barrier on Princeton Dam
- DNR rough fish crews
- Contract removal
- Millions of pounds removed
- Capable of establishing large year classes



Sturgeon, Catfish and White Bass

- Sturgeon
 - Spring river run from Winnebago
 - Rely on spring flows to access rocky banks
- White Bass
 - Late spring
 - Spring flows
- Catfish
 - Channel
 - Flathead







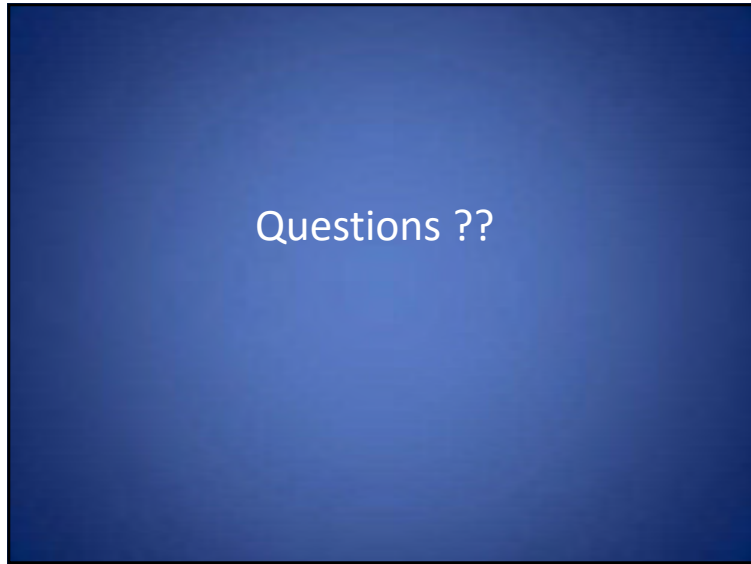
Habitat

- Emergent and submergent plants
 - Relies on fluctuating levels
 - Improves water quality by filtering
 - Inhibits growth of algae by using nutrients
 - Cover for fish, insects, amphibians and other aquatic organisms



Thank You!





Shallow Lake Management Workgroup??

June 28, 2016

Ted M. Johnson
Lake Biologist
DNR - Oshkosh

Concept

Form a multi-discipline workgroup to do the following

1. Convene team & establish clear objectives / expectations
2. Collaborate with Mississippi River Habitat Team
3. Identify potential habitat restoration projects
4. Develop criteria to prioritize and rank potential projects
5. Identify & meet with representatives from potential funding sources
6. Project development
 - Design work
 - Management & monitoring strategies
 - Project funding proposals
7. Implement Projects

Who?

1. Lake Stakeholders (1-4)
 - District board members, fisherman, recreational users, etc
2. DNR (4)
 - Water Resources, Fisheries, Wildlife, Lands
3. County (1-2)
4. Federal agency staff
5. Ad Hoc
 - As needed experts



Reconstruct / Expand Dredge-bank



Cane-bed Restoration / Enhancement



Funding Sources

1. U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
 - Planning Assistance to States (PAS)
 - Section 206: Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration
2. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
 - NRDA Funds
3. DNR
 - Lake Protection Grants
4. Local
 - Ducks Unlimited, Wisconsin Waterfowlers

Interest Level????



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Lake Puckaway Water Quality and Watershed will be the Primary Topics of Discussion at Next Information & Planning Meeting

Green Lake & Marquette Counties, WI, July 11, 2016. The third in a series of informational and planning meetings open to the public regarding Lake Puckaway will be hosted by the Lake Puckaway Protection and Rehabilitation District on Monday, July 18th. The meeting will be held at the Town of Mecan town hall (W1561 Evergreen Ln., Montello) and begin at 6:30pm. The evening's presentations will focus upon Lake Puckaway's water quality and on the lake's watershed. A watershed, also known as a drainage basin, is the area of land that drains to the lake through gravity. Lake Puckaway's drainage basin is enormous and is a key factor in the lake's water quality because it delivers nutrients, sediments, and other pollutants to the lake throughout the year. Of most concern is phosphorus. Phosphorus is the plant nutrient that controls the level of algae and other plant growth in most Wisconsin Lakes. However, meeting attendees will discover that the watershed is not the only source of phosphorus impacting Lake Puckaway. In fact, much of the phosphorus being used by algae in Lake Puckaway comes from the lake itself as a result of internal nutrient cycling.

In 2013, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources began a project with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to determine the maximum amount of phosphorus that can be added to the Upper Fox River and Wolf River drainage basins and still allow the waterbodies within them to remain healthy. The project is actually a part of a nationwide effort to determine Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for all watersheds in the U.S.

"Determining the loads for each waterbody within a watershed the size of the Fox-Wolf Basin is a tremendous undertaking, but we expect to have the final report from the contractor working with the EPA by next summer." said Keith Marquardt, Water Resource Management Specialist with the Wisconsin DNR. "While the analysis is not fully completed, I will be able to share some preliminary results for Lake Puckaway and its watershed during my presentation Monday night." he continued.

Marquardt will explain why the development of TMDLs is important in protecting our waterbodies and how they work to assure we will have clean water in the future. He will also discuss how the state will implement the TMDL for the Fox-Wolf Basin once it is completed.

Paul Garrison, an Aquatic Ecologist with Onterra, LLC, will discuss historical and current water quality data from Lake Puckaway during his presentation Monday evening. "Like all lakes, nutrient levels and algal biomass fluctuate from year-to-year in Lake Puckaway." stated Garrison. "Interestingly, there appears to be a strong relationship between greater amounts of plants in the lake and years with better water quality."

Tim Hoyman, an Aquatic Ecologist with Onterra and the company's owner, notes a trend in what we are learning about Lake Puckaway as the project progresses. "During the first meeting we learned that aquatic plant abundances with Lake Puckaway have fluctuated over the past century, but overall, there has been a great decline in this type of important habitat." Hoyman said. "We learned at the June 28th meeting that a healthier plant population would lead to greater panfish numbers; and in turn, a larger panfish population would help control the carp population." Hoyman continued. "Next Monday we are going to discuss how the current lack of plants in Lake Puckaway impacts the quality and clarity of the lake's water." "It is all linked together with a healthy plant population being the foundation of a healthy lake."

Watershed, Water Quality, TMDL and Shoreland Assessment

July 18, 2016

Mecan Town Hall

The third of 5 meetings scheduled for the update to the Lake Puckaway Management Plan was held on July 18, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the Mecan Town Hall. The purpose of this meeting was to present information on the watershed of Lake Puckaway, the current quality of the water, progress to date on the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for phosphorus in the Fox-Wolf river basin and the results of the shoreland assessment for the lake. Discussion was held after the presentations to make sure the planning committee and those present clearly understood the data and there was agreement on what the information meant.

Present were the following members of the Planning Committee:

Mick Masters, Jeff Kimbur, Kurt McCulloch, Randy Schmidt, Paul Gettleman and Gene Weber.

In addition, present were the night's speakers Tim Hoyman and Paul Garrison - Onterra, LLC, Keith Marquardt – Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Krista Kamke – Golden Sands Resource Conservation and Development Council and 9 members of the public. Linda Stoll – L Stoll Consulting served as meeting facilitator.

Tim Hoyman began with a presentation on the watershed of Lake Puckaway. Photos and charts depicting the watershed can be found in the accompanying PowerPoint presentation on the Lake District website. Tim emphasized that in order to manage Lake Puckaway, it was important to understand the water flowing into the lake, the current conditions in the lake and how the water leaving the lake would impact those downstream. He explained that lakes are classified based on how water reaches the lake, the size of the lake and the depth of the lake. Lakes can also be classified by the state ecosystem in which they are located. It is important when comparing lakes to use lakes of similar classification. Lake Puckaway is classified as a shallow, lowland drainage lake in the Southeastern Wisconsin Till Plains Ecoregion

Landcover in the watershed has a direct impact on water quality. Runoff from development and agriculture can result in pollutants, nutrients and sediment entering the water. Landcover maps can be found in the PowerPoint presentation. Three parameters were focused upon to determine the health of the lake: phosphorus, chlorophyll-a and Secchi disk transparency. Phosphorus is naturally occurring and is essential for all life. It is also the “limiting nutrient” for plant growth in most of the lakes in Wisconsin. In short, this nutrient controls how much plant growth occurs in a lake both beneficial and detrimental. It was noted that human activity often increases phosphorus input to a lake above what is needed for beneficial plant growth. Chlorophyll-a is the plant pigment used in photosynthesis. Its measurement can be used as a surrogate for the amount of algae in water. Secchi disk transparency is a measurement of how clear the water is. It is impacted by the turbidity (sediment and algae) and the natural color of the water. See the PowerPoint presentation for past and current readings.

Keith Marquardt explained the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) program. It is part of a federal regulation that began with the Clean Water Act of 1972. This act set water quality standards for the various types of water bodies with the overall goal of being fishable and swimmable. Water not meeting this goal was listed as “impaired” and a plan was required to

restore the water based on what was causing the problem. The Bay of Green Bay – part of the Great Lakes System - is listed as impaired for excess phosphorus. A TMDL is the determination of how much of a given pollutant, in this case phosphorus, a waterbody can assimilate before it is impaired. The bay is at the mouth of the Fox-Wolf River System and in order to restore the bay, it will be necessary to reduce phosphorus loading in all water in the system. Industrial and municipal point sources (water coming out of a pipe) have already made some reductions and are regulated by the permits they are required to obtain. The next effort will focus on runoff from urban and rural land. Lake Puckaway may have a goal of 40 micrograms of phosphorus per liter of water. Part of the new lake management plan will need to address this issue.

Paul Garrison provided the results of historical and current lake monitoring. See his PowerPoint presentation on the Lake District website for actual findings. On average, phosphorus concentrations exceeded 130 micrograms per liter. It was noted that both this measurement and that of chlorophyll-a are highly variable. Comparison to upstream water flowing into the lake suggests that this variability is due to internal loading not from outside sources. The lake is impacted by wind due to its shallow nature and long east-west stretch of open water. Sediments containing phosphorus are easily resuspended. When water flow is low, water stays in the lake longer and as a result, receives more internal loading. Plants in the lake play a critical role in reducing the amount of internal loading. This is supported by historical lake data that shows that in years with lots of plants present in the lake, the level of phosphorus is lower. In summary, to improve water quality, it will be important to reduce the input of phosphorus external sources, continue to control the presence of carp that increase the resuspension of bottom sediments, and to improve aquatic plant growth.

Krista Kamke displayed the results of the shoreland assessment conducted on Lake Puckaway. This study focused on the land vegetation in the first 35 feet from shore. Data is currently available for 456 parcels of the approximately 500 land parcels around the lake. About 37% of the shoreline has no human influence. The rest has been impacted to varying degrees. Restoration in some areas may help to reduce phosphorus loading to the lake.

Planning Committee Comments and Questions:

1. *When phosphorus is high in Grand Lake, does that influence the reading in Lake Puckaway?*

Grand Lake only makes up a very small amount of the input to Lake Puckaway. Also, the water flowing out of Grand Lake filters through the Grand River Marsh prior to entering the Fox River and Lake Puckaway.

2. *Will changes to our septic systems be mandated by the federal government as a result of the TMDL?*

It is not anticipated that this will happen as loading from this source is very small.

3. *Will the spreading of septic waste on land in the watershed be included in the equation?*

Yes. This will be included when the overall reductions are examined.

4. *How will the shoreline study be used?*

It will help us target areas for increased habitat which is better for the lake as well as help identify areas for further restoration.

5. *What are the TMDL ramifications if we can't meet the goals?*

All point sources will be required to meet their goals in order to obtain the necessary permits to operate. Nonpoint sources are more of a challenge. Municipalities currently have stormwater management requirements. We are still working with agriculture.

6. *Is the management of Lake Puckaway being looked at for what happens downstream?*

Yes – absolutely! The TMDL looks at how upriver sources impact Lake Puckaway water quality and Lake Puckaway is looked at in terms of how it impacts waterbodies down stream from it.

7. *Are there restrictions on farm animals entering or standing in the water?*

No, not at this time.

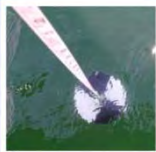
Written Questions:

No written questions were received.

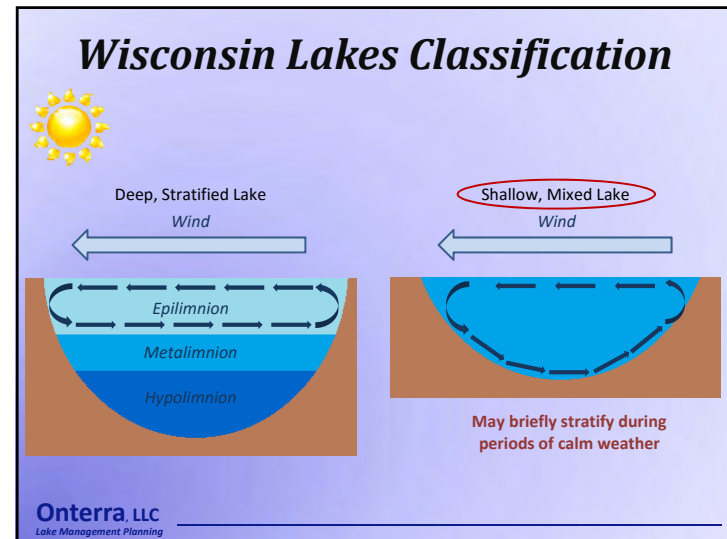
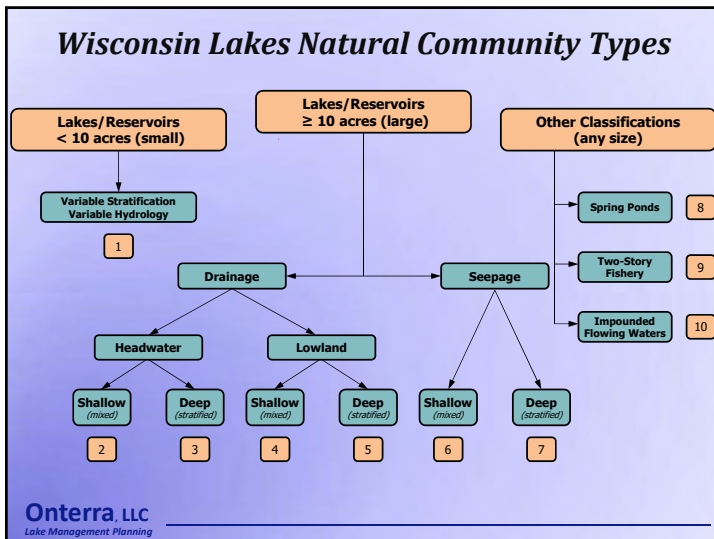


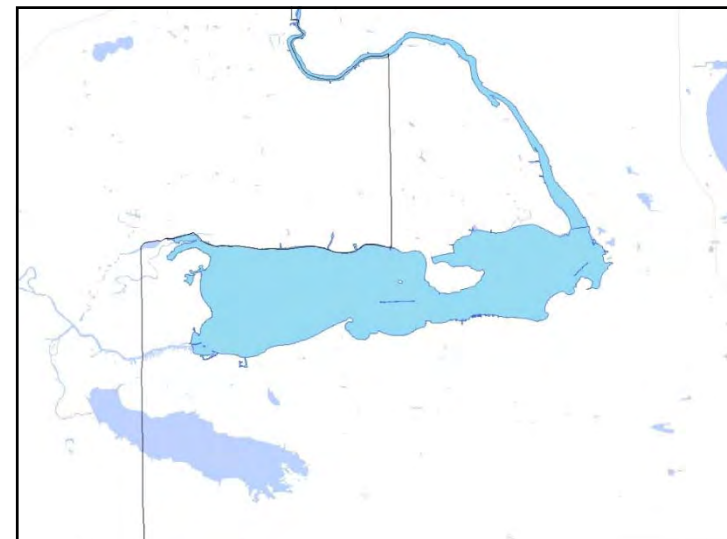
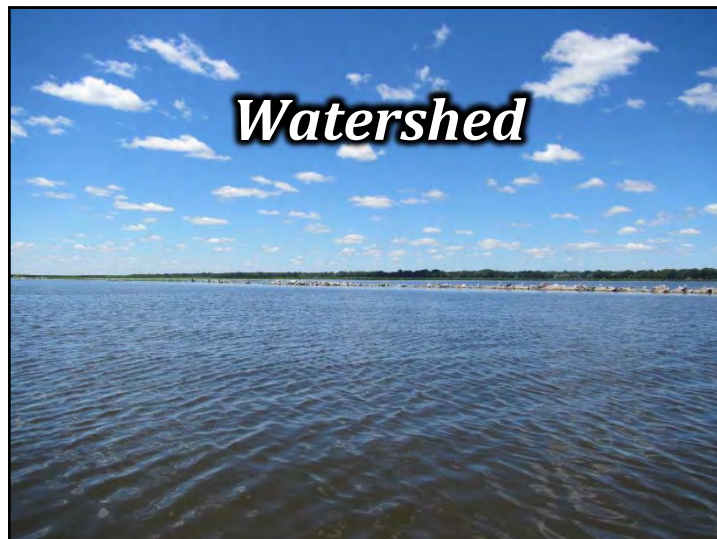
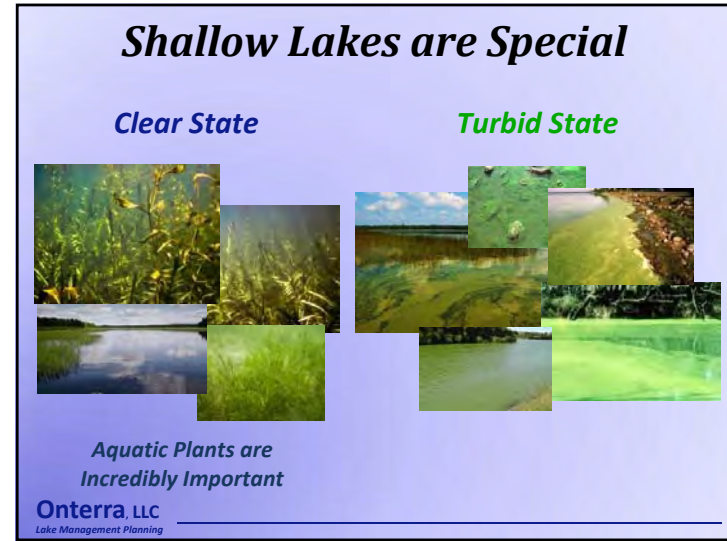
Introduction to Lake Water Quality

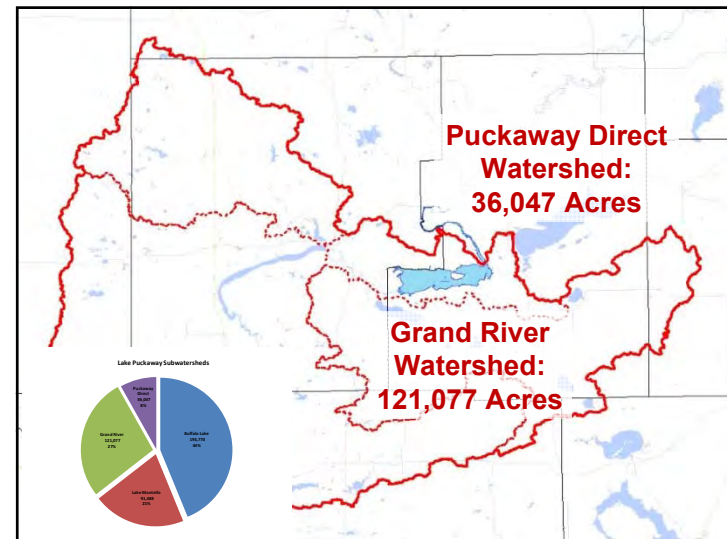
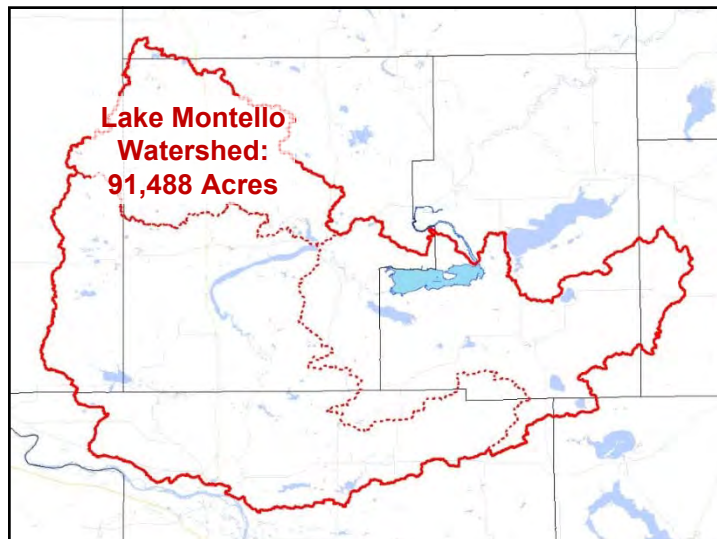
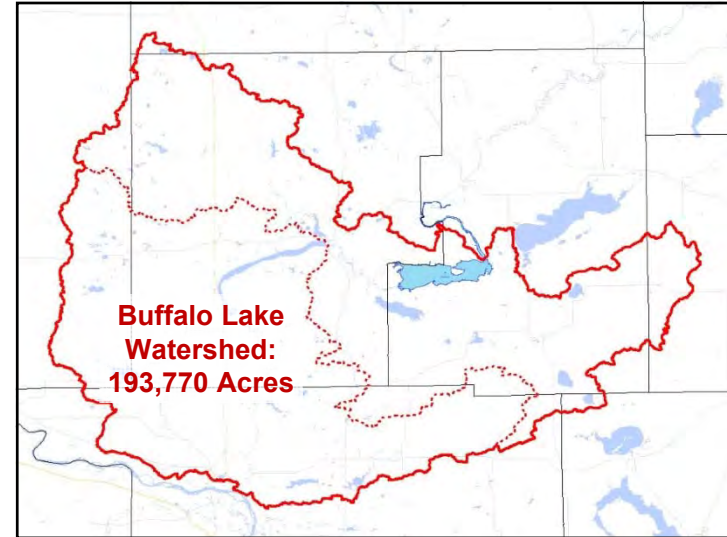
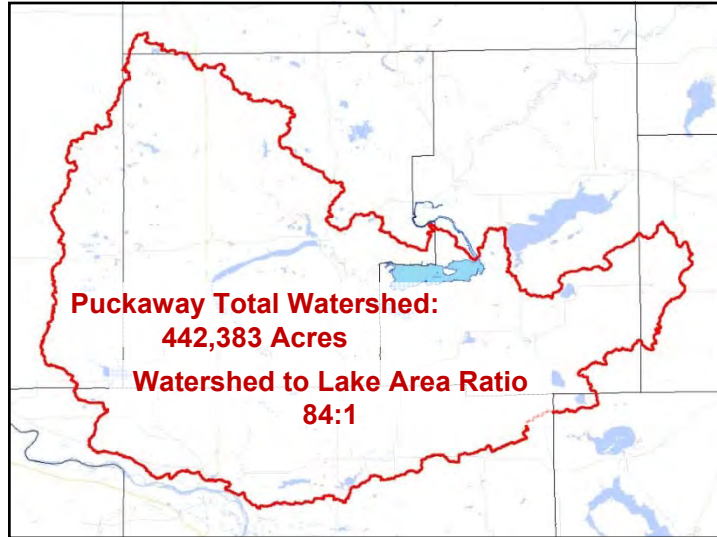
- ↑ Phosphorus**
 Naturally occurring & essential for all life
 Regulates phytoplankton biomass in **most** WI lakes
 Most often 'limiting plant nutrient' (shortest supply)
 Human activity often increases P delivery to lakes
- ↑ Chlorophyll-a**
 Pigment used in photosynthesis
 Used as surrogate for phytoplankton biomass
- ↓ Secchi Disk Transparency**
 Measure of water clarity
 Measured using a Secchi disk

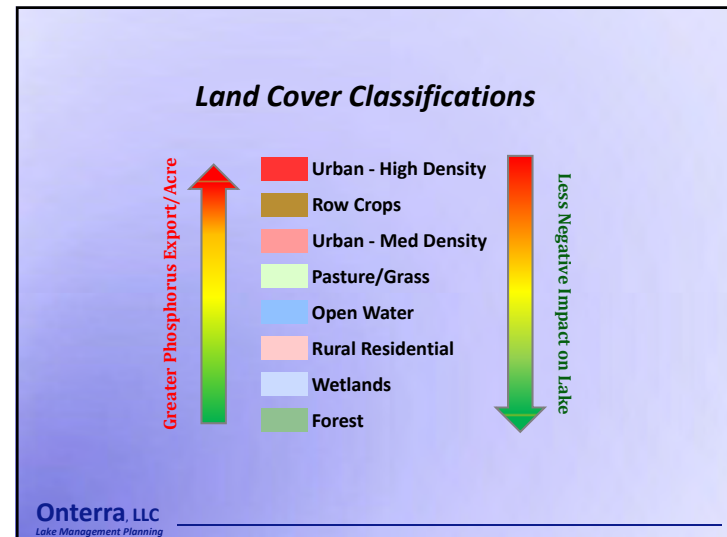
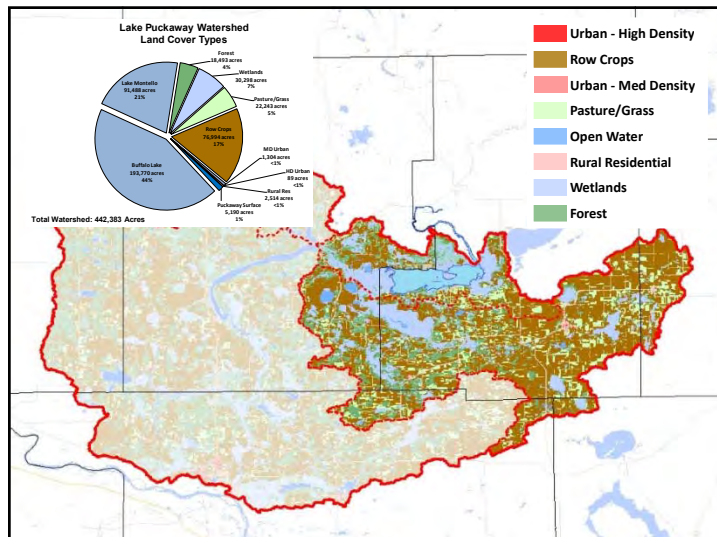
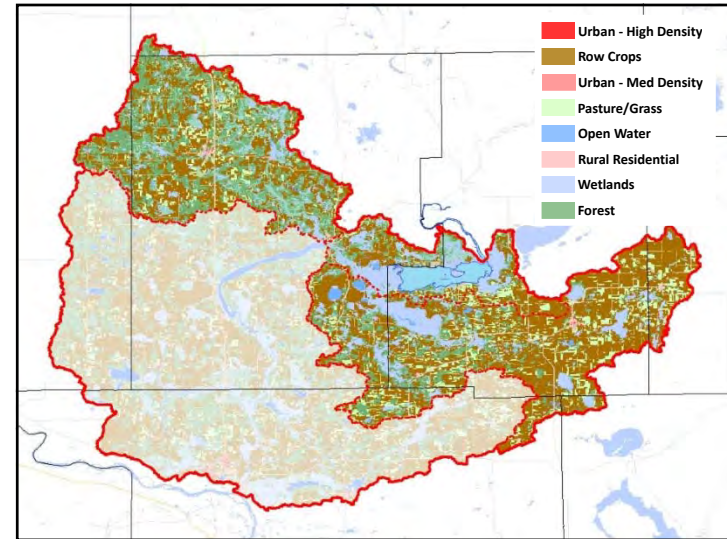
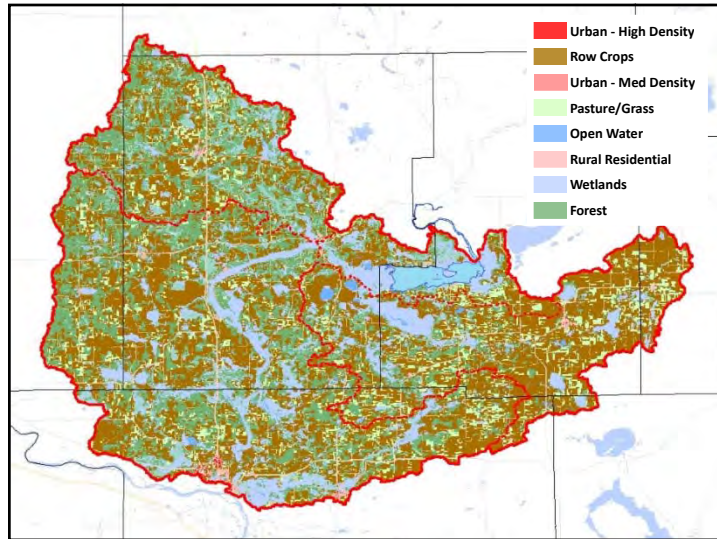


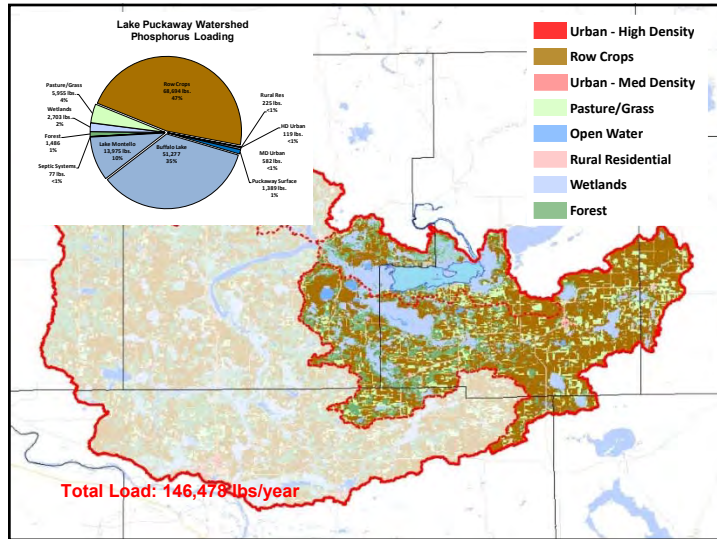
Onterra LLC
Lake Management Planning











Phosphorus Loading to Puckaway

What happens when 146,448 pounds of phosphorus is added to Lake Puckaway?

Predicted Phosphorus Concentration: 101 µg/L Growing Season Mean
 Actual Phosphorus Concentration: 118 µg/L Growing Season Mean
Difference: Internal Nutrient Loading

Onterra, LLC
 Lake Management Planning



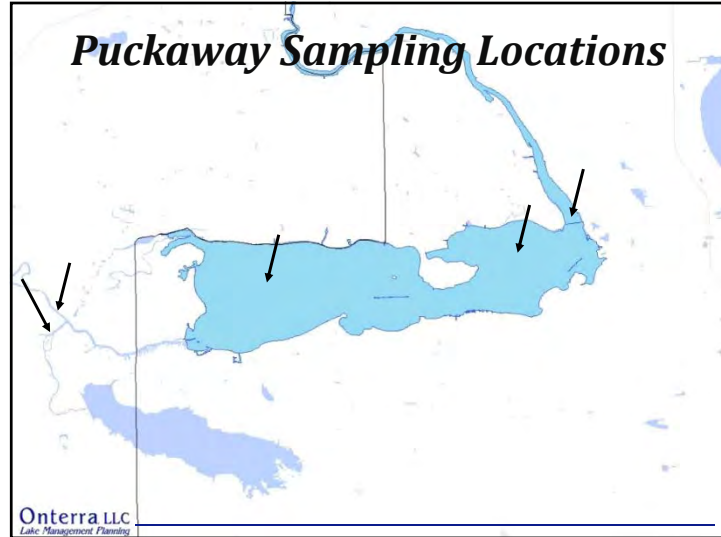
Key Water Quality Conclusions

- Lake Puckaway is a very complex lake ecosystem
- Phosphorus and chlorophyll levels are high and variable from year to year
- Annual variability is largely the result of internal loading
- Plants reduce internal loading.



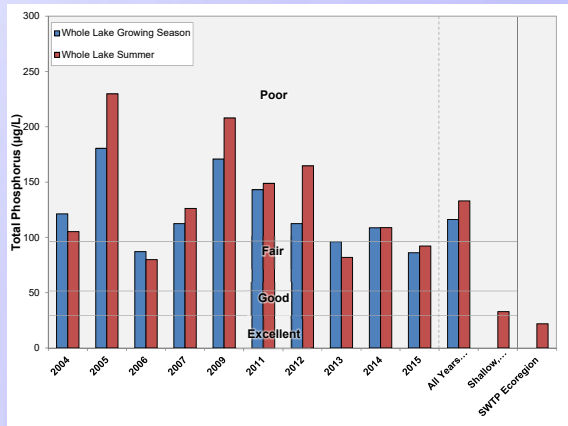
Onterra LLC
Lake Management Planning

Puckaway Sampling Locations



Onterra LLC
Lake Management Planning

TOTAL PHOSPHORUS

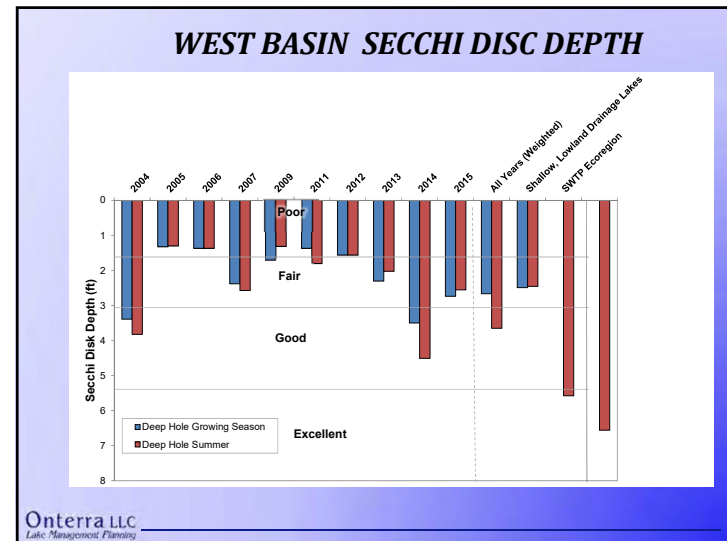
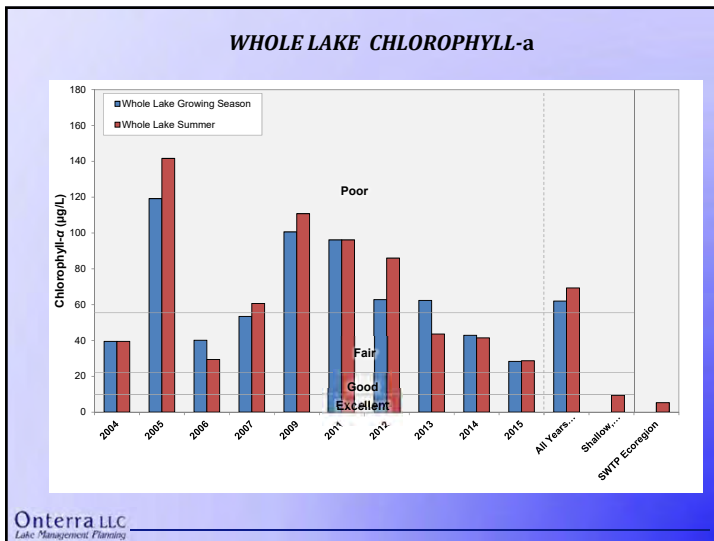
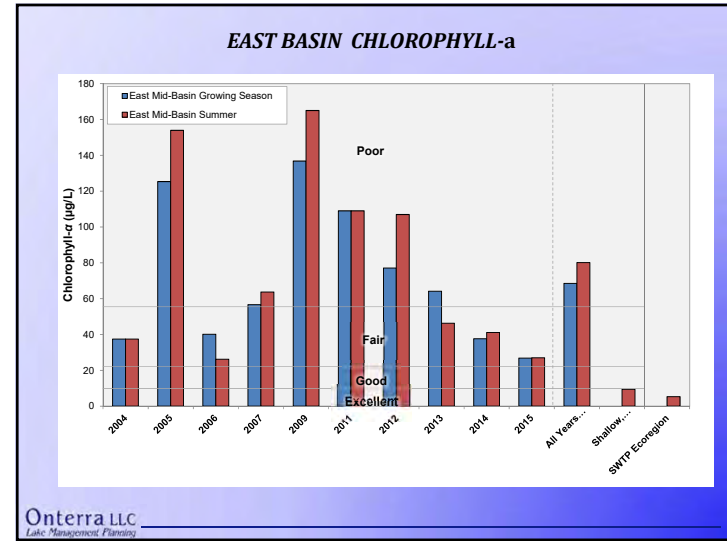
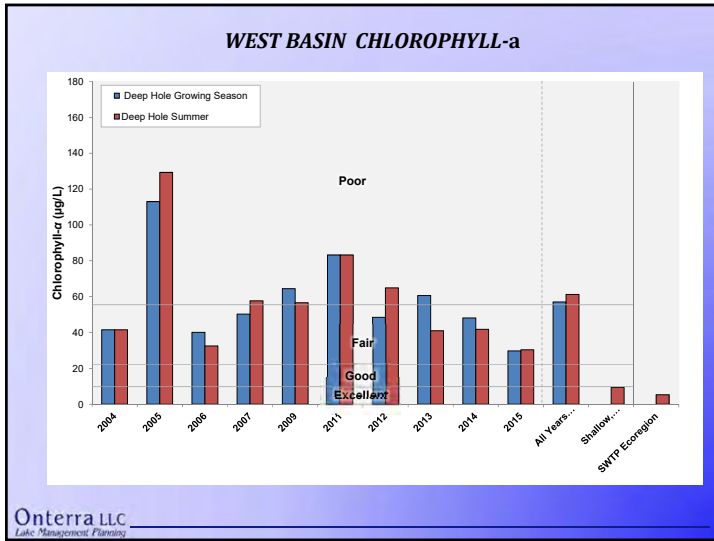


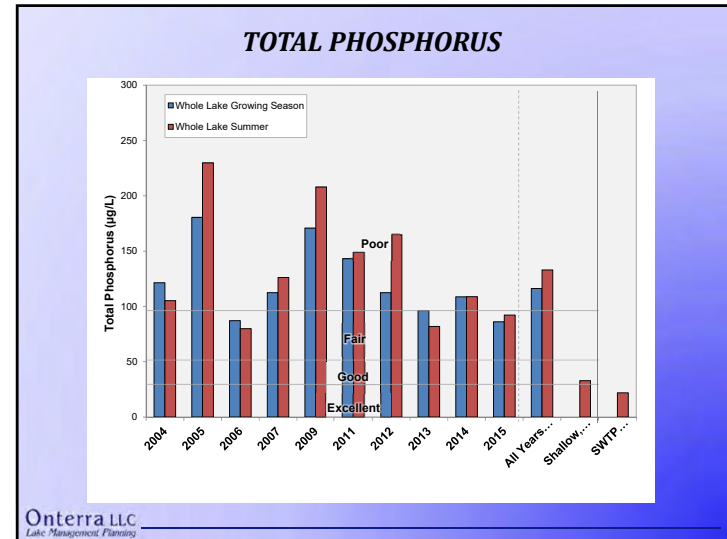
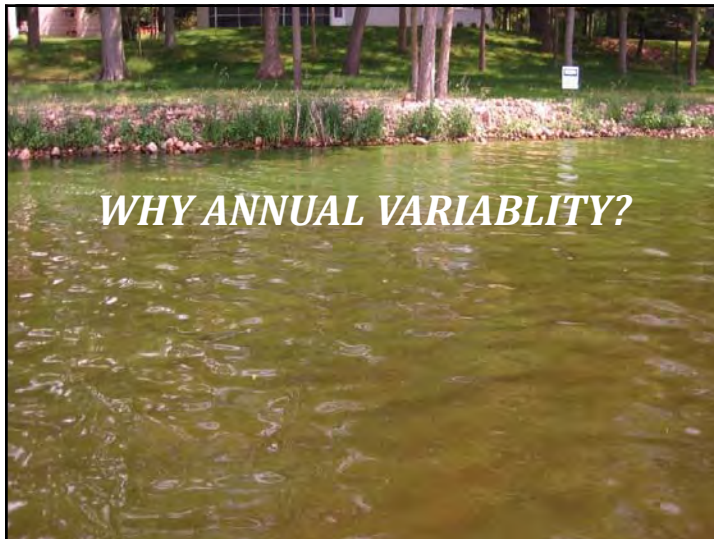
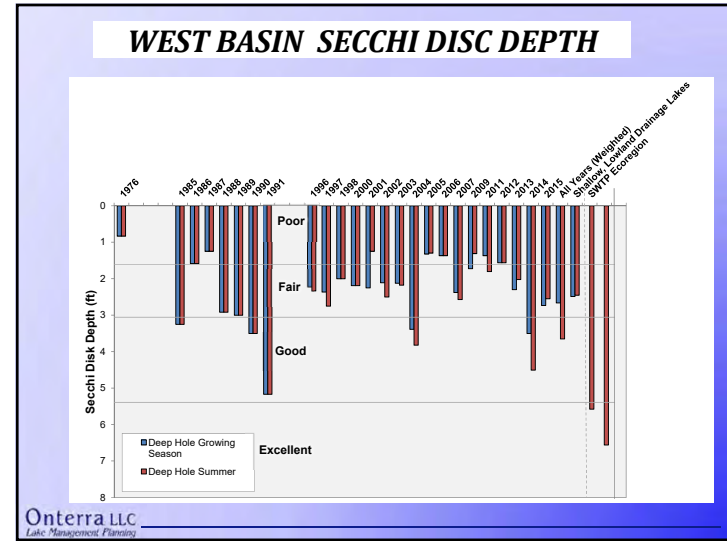
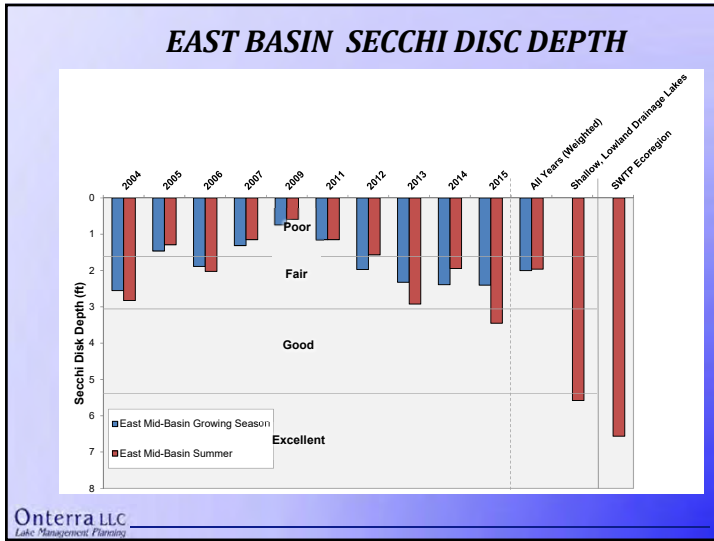
Onterra LLC
Lake Management Planning

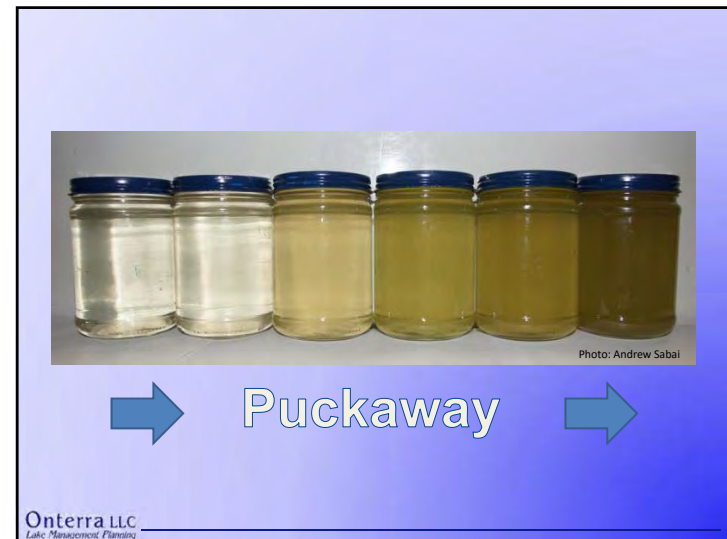
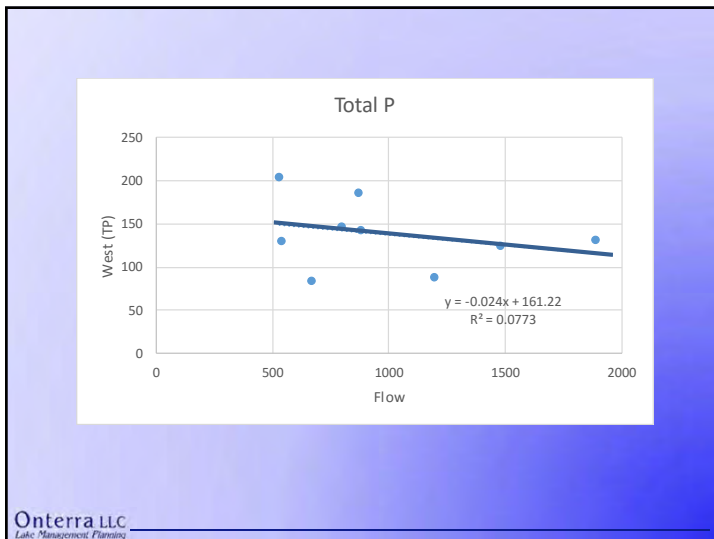
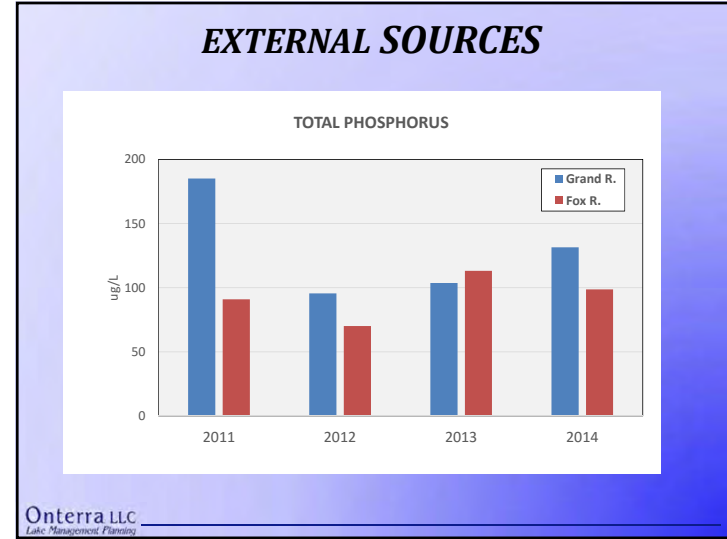
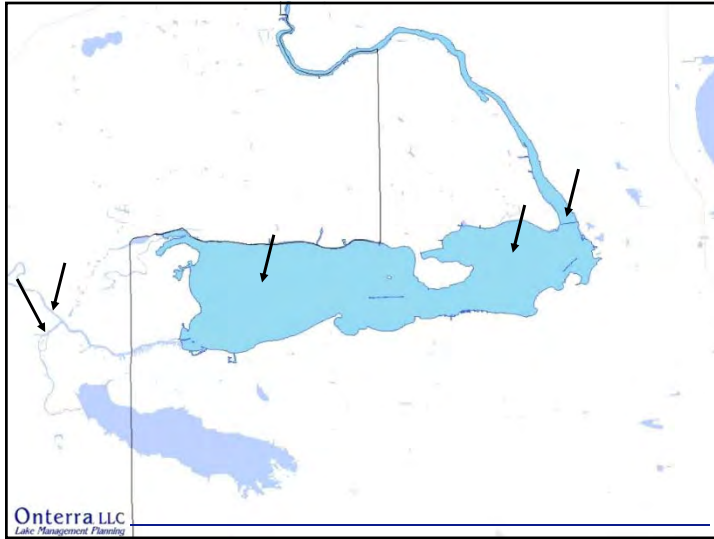
COMPARISON OF MAIN LAKE SITES SUMMER

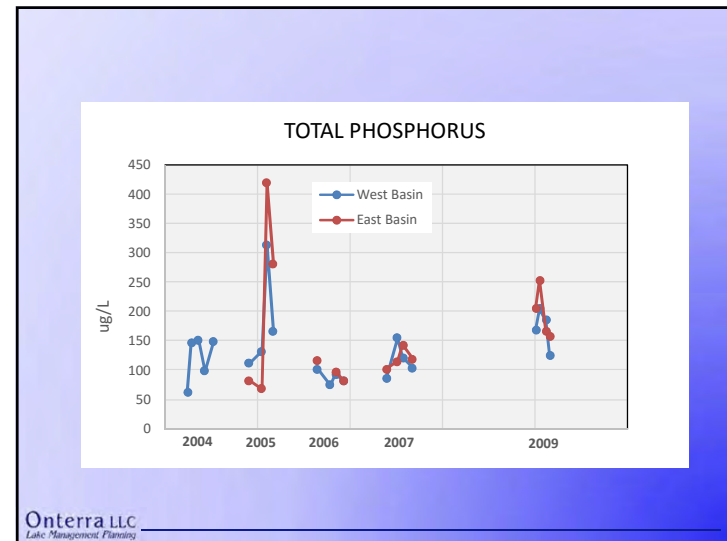
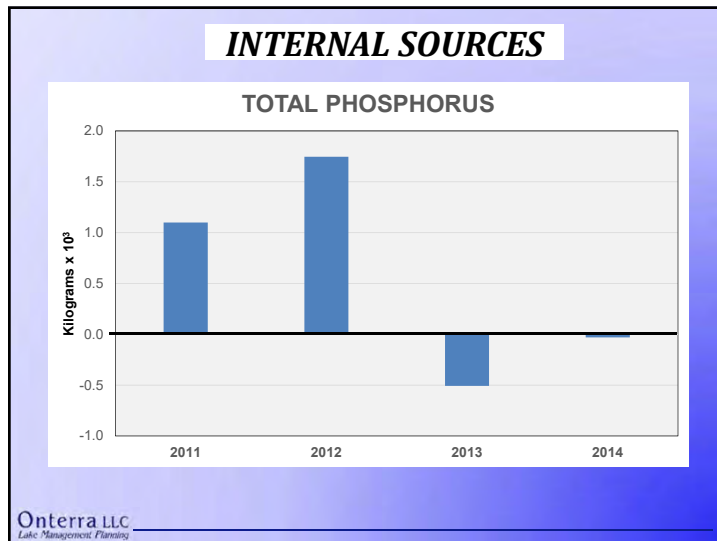
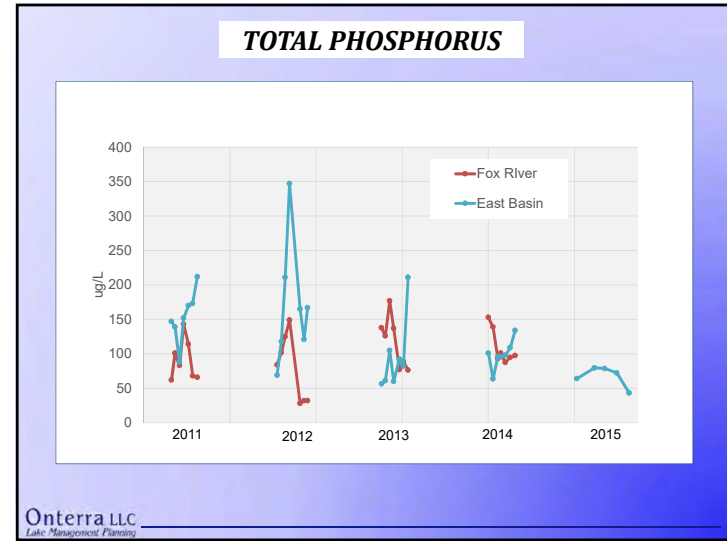
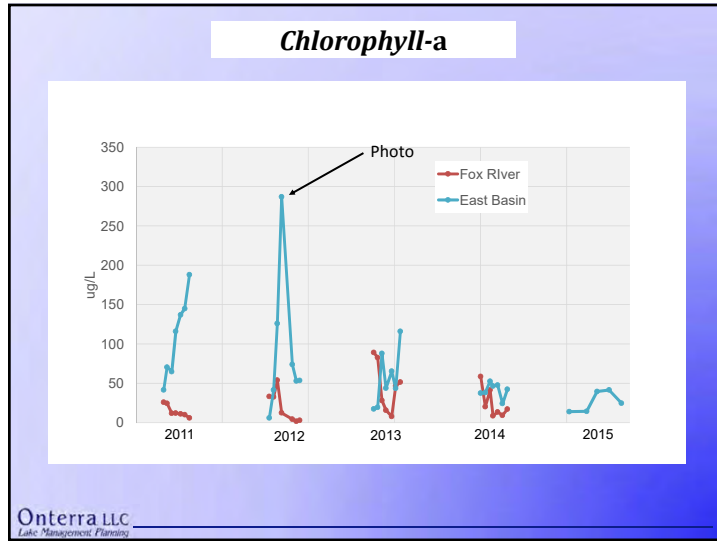
Trophic Parameter	Deep Hole	East Mid-Basin
Total Phosphorus (µg/L)	132	135
Chlorophyll-a (µg/L)	61	80
Secchi Disc Depth (ft)	2.7	2.1

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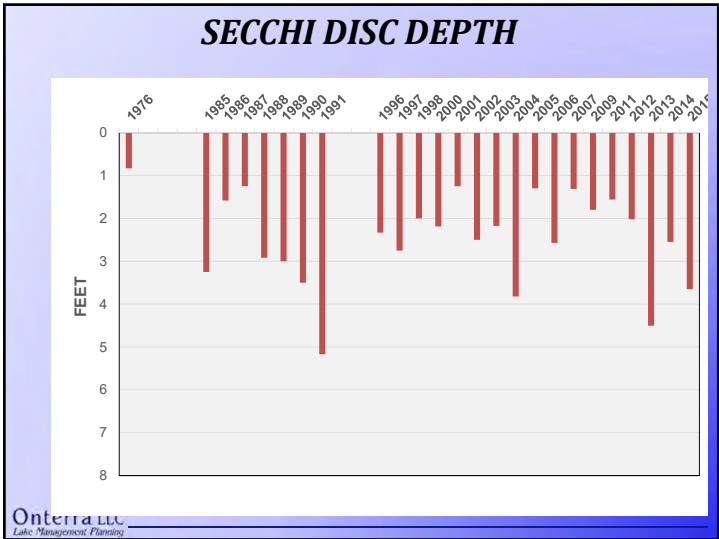
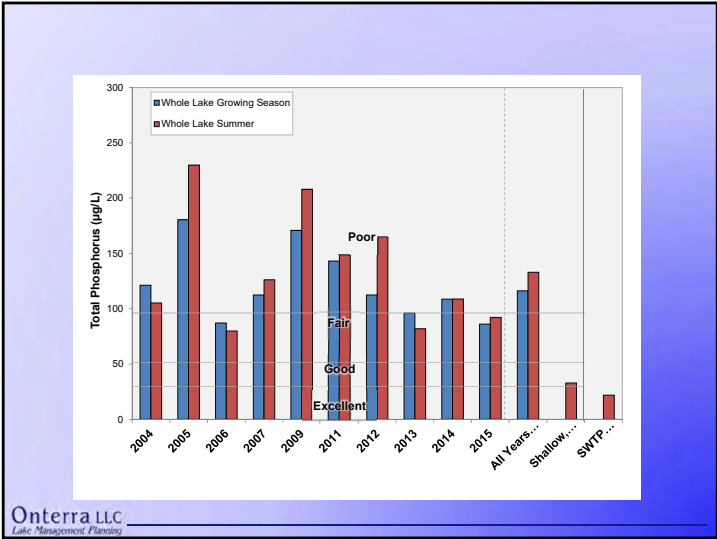




WHY DOES INTERNAL LOADING ONLY OCCUR SOME YEARS?

- Largely dependent upon flow into the lake.
- Less flow means water stays in the lake longer thus allowing phosphorus and algae to build up.
- Higher lake levels results in lower flushing rate and more internal loading.

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Shallow Lakes are Special

Clear State

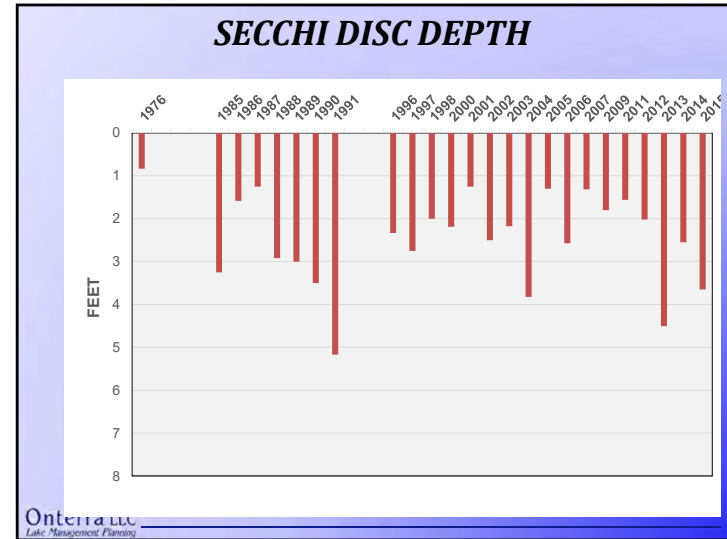
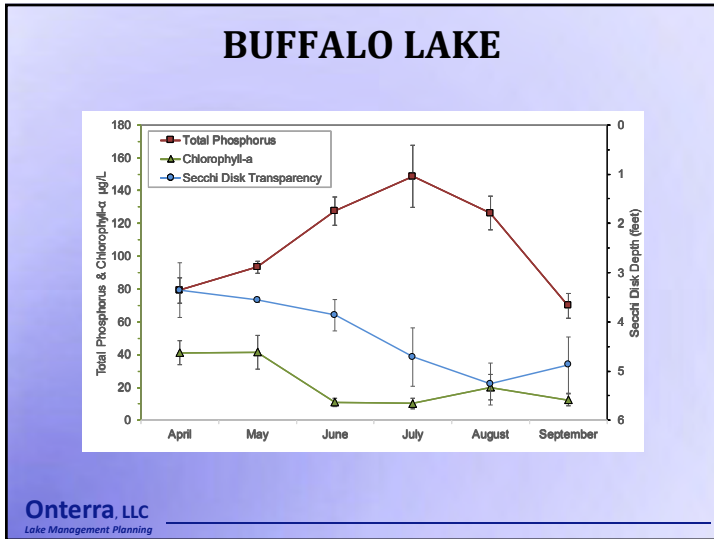
Aquatic Plants are Incredibly Important

Turbid State

Buffalo Lake

Lake Puckaway

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Shallow Lakes are Special

Improving water quality requires:

- Reducing phosphorus input
- Minimizing Benthivorous fish, e.g. CARP
- Facilitating plant growth

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Water Quality Results Summary

- Lake Puckaway is a complex ecosystem because of shallow depth and inflowing river.
- The lake experiences high annual variability for phosphorus and chlorophyll and thus water clarity
- The highest levels of phosphorus are the result of internal loading during years when summer flow is low.
- During years with increased plant growth water clarity is better.

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Lake Management Planning



Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)

Keith Marquardt
WDNR, Water Resources Management Specialist
Bureau of Water Quality


Lake Puckaway Protection and Rehabilitation District

July 18, 2016




Outline

- Background
 - Clean Water Act
 - Impaired waters
 - TMDLs
- TMDL Development in the Upper Fox and Wolf Basins
- Lake Puckaway
- Implementation of TMDLs





Clean Water Act

- Federal Law
 - Established in 1972
 - Amended in 1977
 - Established 303(d) and TMDL in law
- Goal of “fishable, swimmable waters”
- Reliance on NPDES/WPDES process with little early use of TMDL process
- Requires States to identify and list impaired waters



What is an Impaired Water? – 303D List

- Waters that do not meet water quality standards




Water Quality Standards

Designated Uses:

- Fish & Aquatic Life
- Public Health
- Recreation



Water Quality Criteria:

- Numeric: dissolved oxygen, pH, bacteria, toxic substances, phosphorus, etc.
- Narrative: “no objectionable deposits,” “substances in concentrations or combinations shall not be harmful to humans, fish, plants, or other aquatic life.”




Phosphorus Criteria NR 102.06

- Rivers ^{NR 102.06(3)(a)} = 100 µg/L
- Streams = 75 µg/L
 - All unidirectional flowing waters not in NR 102.06(3)(a)
- Reservoirs
 - Stratified = 30 µg/L
 - Not Stratified = 40 µg/L
- Lakes range from 15-30 µg/L
- Lake Michigan = 7 µg/L
- Lake Superior = 5 µg/L
- Exclusions
 - Ephemeral Streams
 - Wetlands
 - Lakes <5 ac

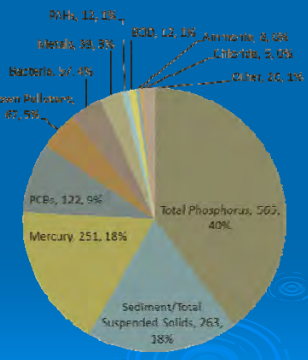



2014 Impaired Waters List




Legend

- 2014 Listed
- 2014 Listed
- 2014 Proposed
- 2014 Proposed



Pollutant	Count	Percentage
Total Phosphorus	567	40%
Sediment/Total Suspended Solids	263	18%
Mercury	251	18%
PCBs	122	9%
Bacteria	87	6%
Other	26	2%
Chloride	2	0%
Ammonia	2	0%
BOD	1	0%
Pb	1	0%
Other	1	0%

*This chart includes a total of 1,422 waterbody / pollutants combinations.



What's the Problem? Phosphorus




What's the Problem?




UWM
toddrexmiller.com/




Question: One (1) pound of phosphorus in a waterbody can produce:

- A. one (1) pound of algae**
- B. 300 to 500 pounds of algae (wet weight)**
- C. 60 to 100 pounds of algae (dry weight)**
- D. 50 to 100 pounds of algae (wet weight)**





Answer: One (1) pound of phosphorus in a waterbody can produce:

- A. one (1) pound of algae**
- B. 300 to 500 pounds of algae (wet weight)**
- C. 60 to 100 pounds of algae (dry weight)**
- D. 50 to 100 pounds of algae (wet weight)**



Sidenote 2 : Phosphorus

- Nonmetal, +15
- DNA, RNA, cell
- Uses: fertilizers,...
- Limited Supplies? Calcium phosphate in rock--
-----fertilizer



What's the Problem? TSS

Sources of TSS & P

What are TMDLs?

Total Maximum Daily Load

The amount of a pollutant a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards

Total Maximum Daily Load =

Load Allocation	+	Waste Load Allocation	+	Margin of Safety

Simple Example:

Atmosphere = 10 lb/day

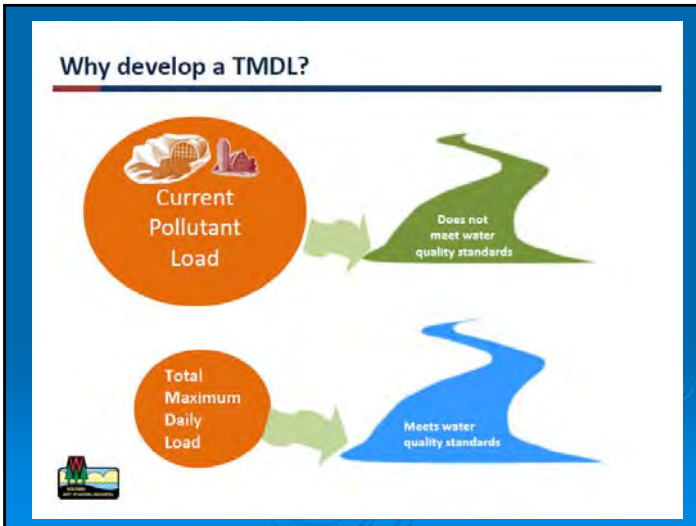
MS4 = 10 lb/day

Agriculture = 40 lb/day

WPCP = 30 lb/day

TMDL = 100 lb/day

(MOS = 10 lb/day)



Fox & Wolf TMDLs

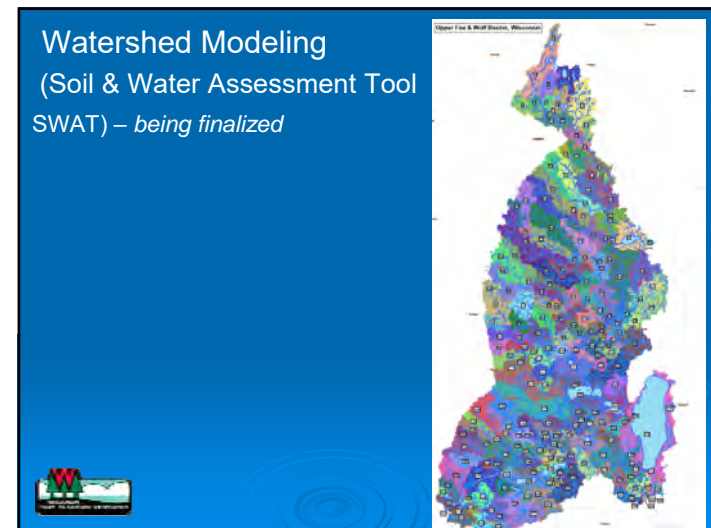
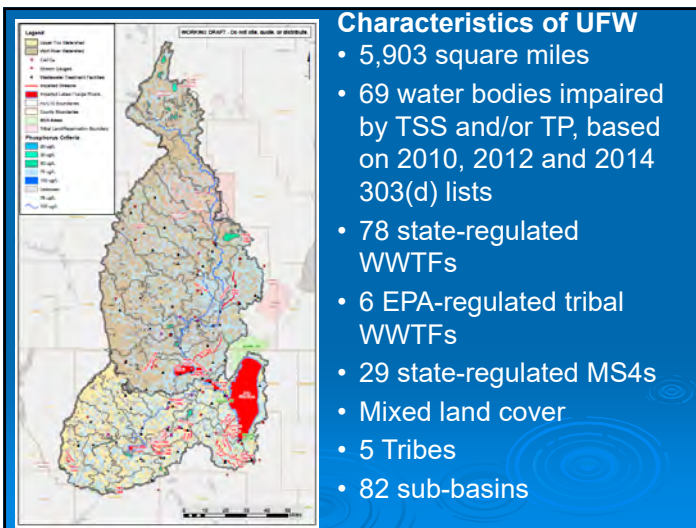
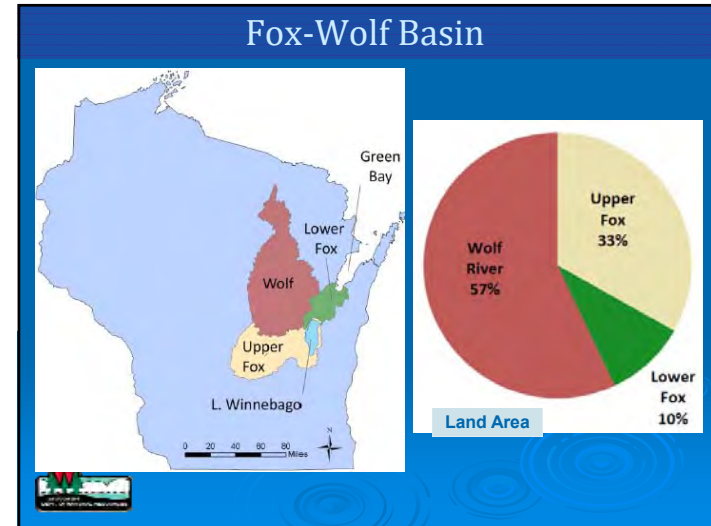
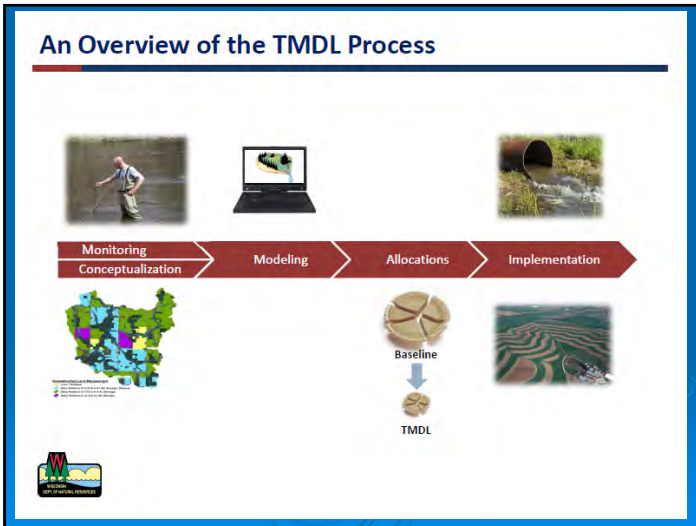
Upper Fox and Wolf River Basins (UFW) TMDL Development

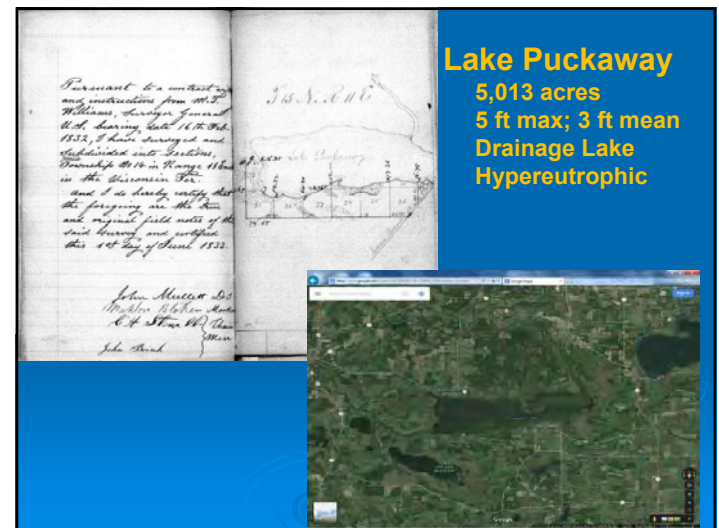
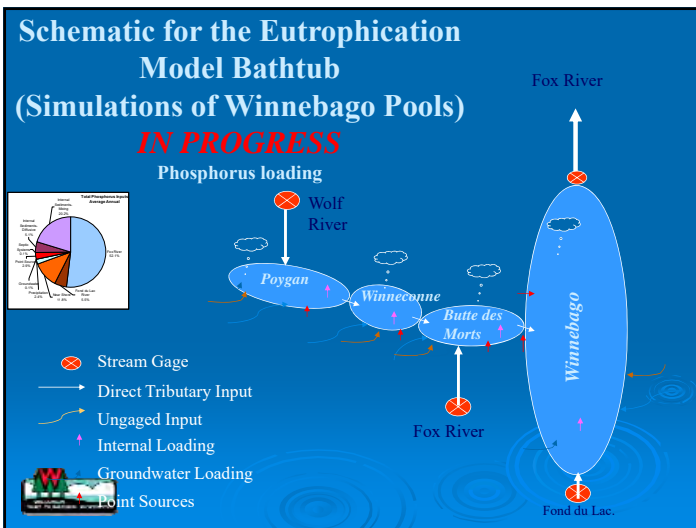
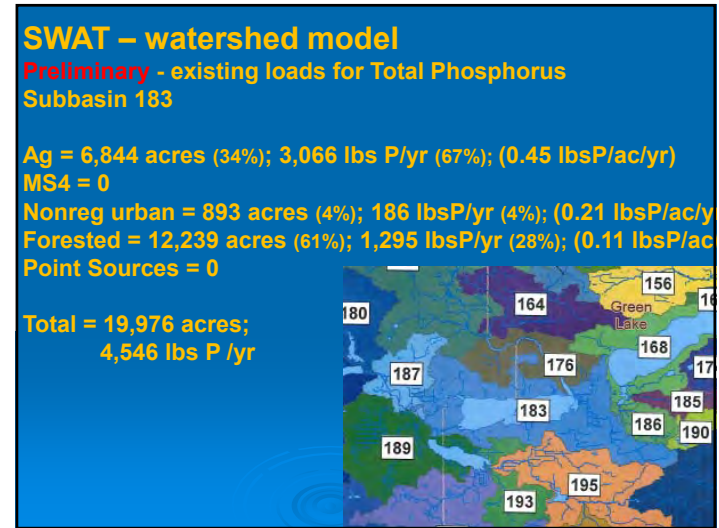
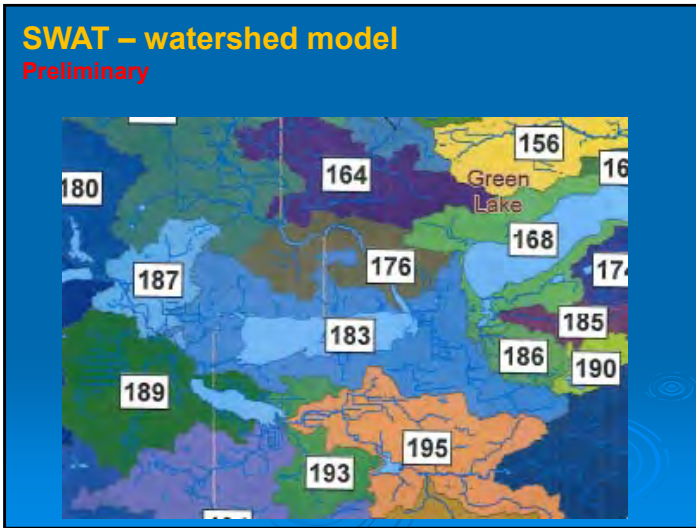
Project Objectives

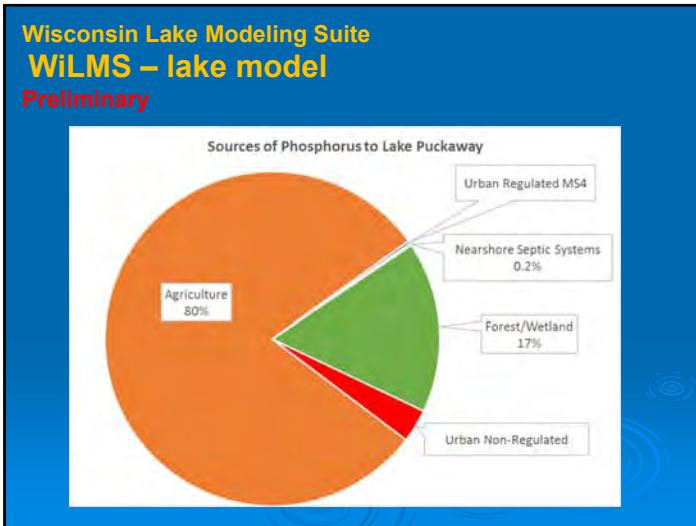
- Address eutrophication, degraded habitat, low DO, and sedimentation impairments within the Upper Fox and Wolf basins (UFWB).
- Develop total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for waters impaired by total phosphorus (TP) or total suspended solids (TSS).
- Develop an implementation plan to facilitate restoration efforts.

Upper Fox – Wolf TMDL

- Funded by EPA through GLRI funding. CADMUS, Inc. contracted by EPA to develop the TMDL. Anticipated completion date of 2017.
- Includes Lake Winnebago and the other “pool” lakes in the system. USGS performing the pool lake modeling. CADMUS the remaining lakes.







WiLMS – lake model
Preliminary

Average growing season TP ~ 130 ug/l (criteria 40 ug/l)

WiLMS predicting a 75% reduction of sources

- Anticipated Project Schedule**
- Watershed Modeling (SWAT) – *being finalized*
 - Lake Modeling – *current*
 - Stakeholder meeting – June 2016
 - Load Allocations - *winter 2016*
 - TMDL Report – *summer 2017*
-

Upper Fox & Wolf Basin TMDL webpage

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/tmdls/foxwolf/>

Update on TMDL Development

- WI has several TMDLs currently under development.
- These TMDLs are addressing phosphorus, TSS, and in one case bacteria.
- TMDL development a combination of 3rd party, DNR led, or EPA funded.

Status of Wisconsin's TMDLs (Phosphorus, Sediment, and Bacteria) April 2013

2013 TMDL Status

- TMDL Development
- TMDL Approval
- 2008 Impaired Water (TP, TSS, Bacteria)
- Flow Network
- County Boundary

Notes:

- The map reflects TMDLs for the phosphorus, total suspended sediment, and bacteria pollutants for 2008-2012.
- Approved TMDLs are shown in green.
- The map reflects TMDLs for the phosphorus, total suspended sediment, and bacteria pollutants for 2013-2012.

Fox and Wolf Basins

IMPLEMENTATION of TMDLs

Lower Fox River Basin

Lower Fox TMDL Development

EPA approved TMDLs in May 2012

- Total Phosphorus
- Total Suspended Solids

Total Maximum Daily Load and Watershed Management Plan for Total Phosphorus and Total Suspended Solids in the Lower Fox River Basin and Lower Green Bay

Brown, Calumet, Outagamie, and Winnebago Counties, Wisconsin

March 2012

Prepared for:

- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- Ojibwa Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Prepared by: CADMUS

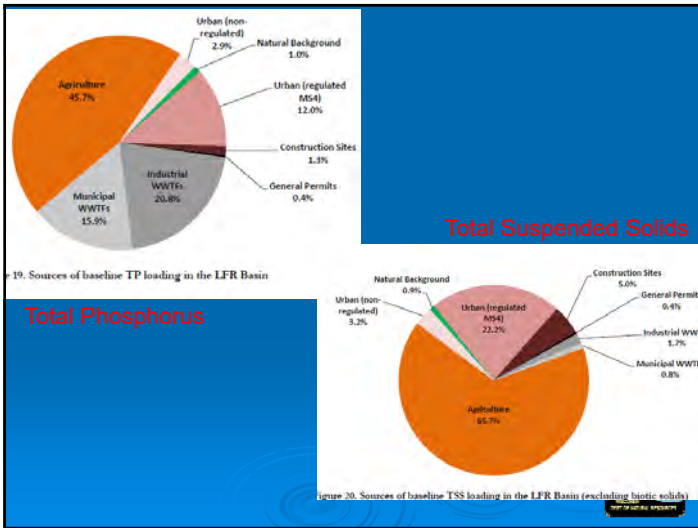
Lower Fox Reduction Goals

Based on Cadmus TMDL Report

TP = 549,700 lbs/yr
 -224,300 lbs/yr =
 325,400 lbs/yr or 59%

TSS = 176,000,000 lbs/yr
 -79,500,000 lbs/yr =
 96,500,000 lbs/yr or 55%

Figure 21. Sub-basins in the Lower Fox River Basin



Point Sources (WLA) – Implementation of TMDLs

WWTFs (Industrial & Municipal) = WPDES permit

MS4s = GP WPDES permit

CAFOs = WPDES permit

Non-Point Sources (LA)

Agriculture

Regulations: NR151 Etc.....

Voluntary Practices

Partners: DATCP, LCDs, Ag Consultants, FSA, NRCS, DNR

Options:

- BMPs - structural and nonstructural
- * Water Quality Trading
- * Adaptive Management

IMPLEMENTATION of TMDLs

TMDL Implementation

PERMIT

Partnership

- County Land Conservation
- Watershed Groups
- Producers
- Point Source Dischargers



Contact Information

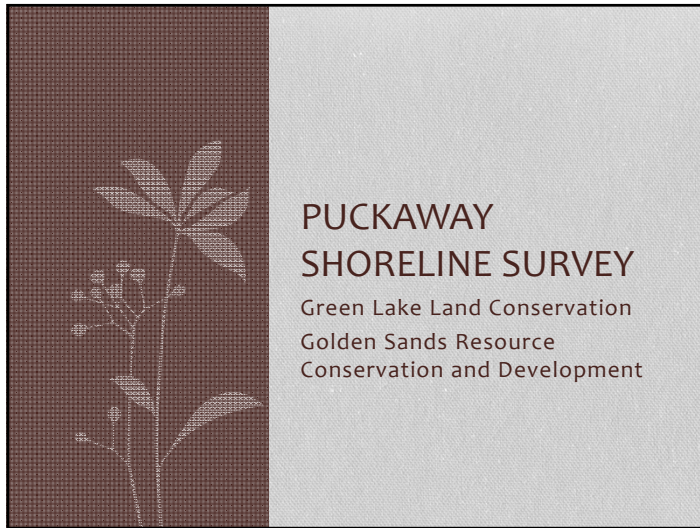
Keith Marquardt
WDNR
625 E. County Road Y, Suite 700
Oshkosh, WI 54901

Phone 920/303-5435
KeithA.Marquardt@Wisconsin.gov



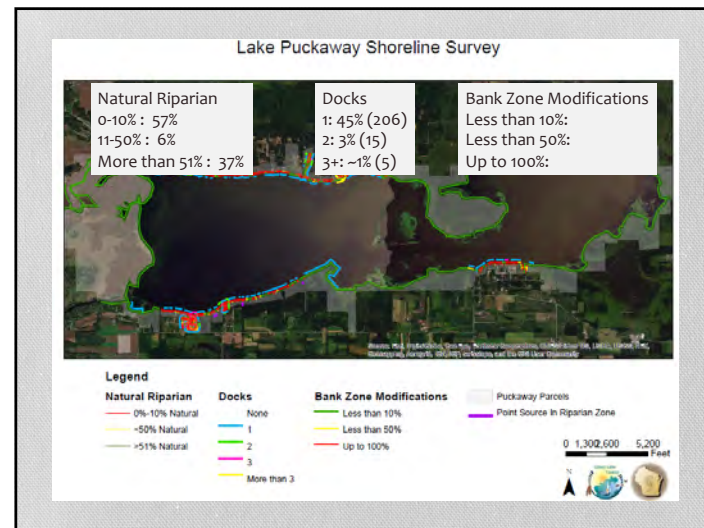
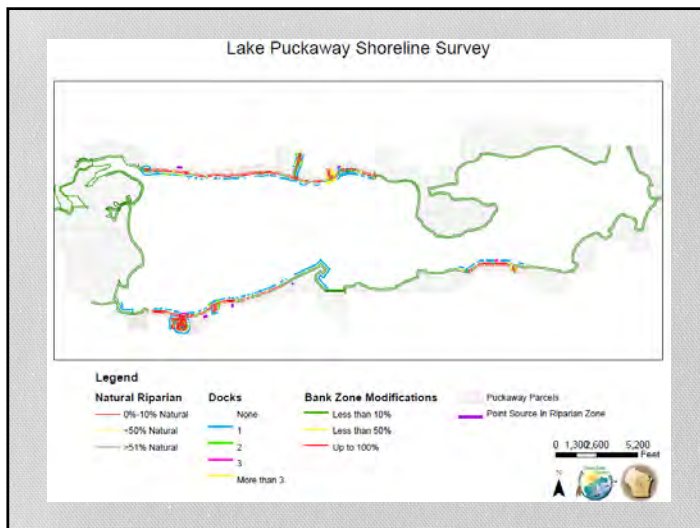
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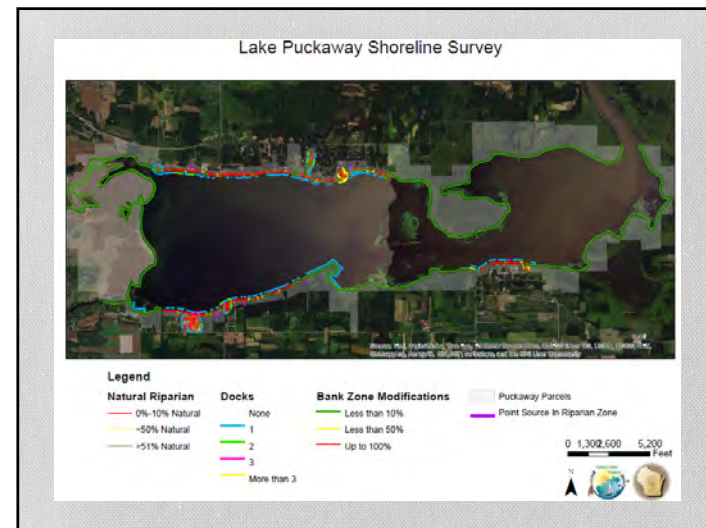
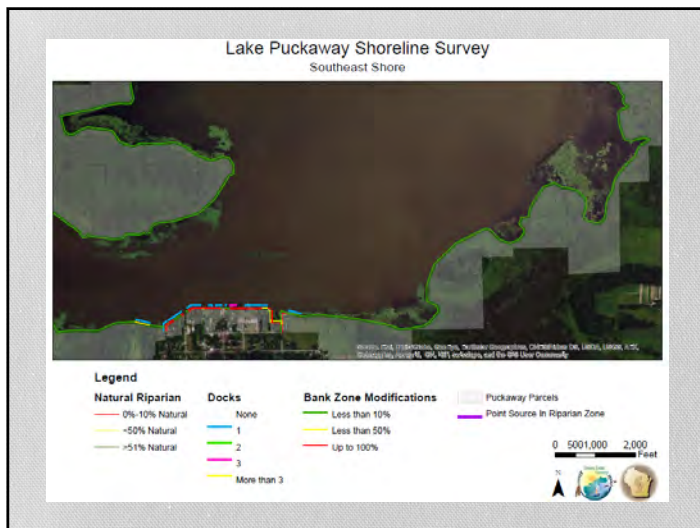
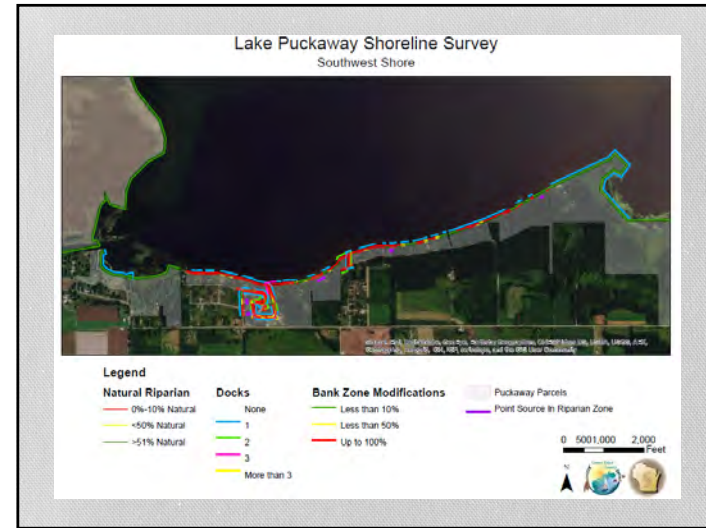
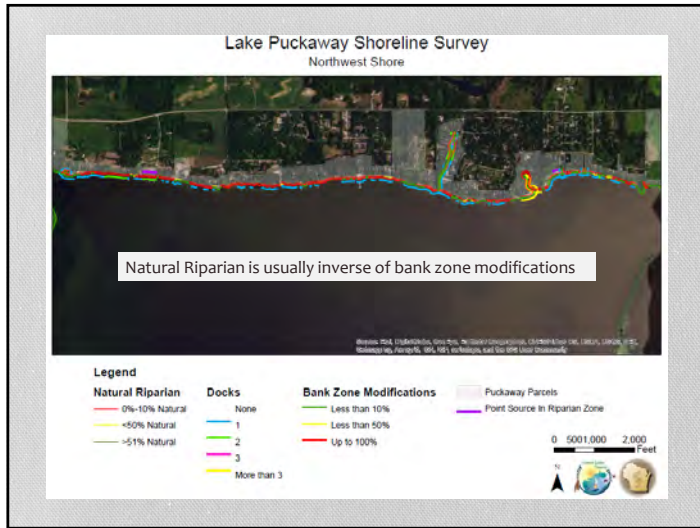


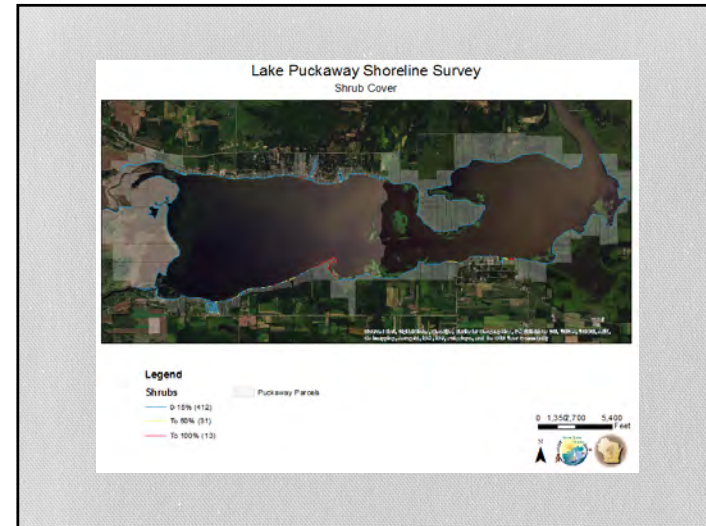
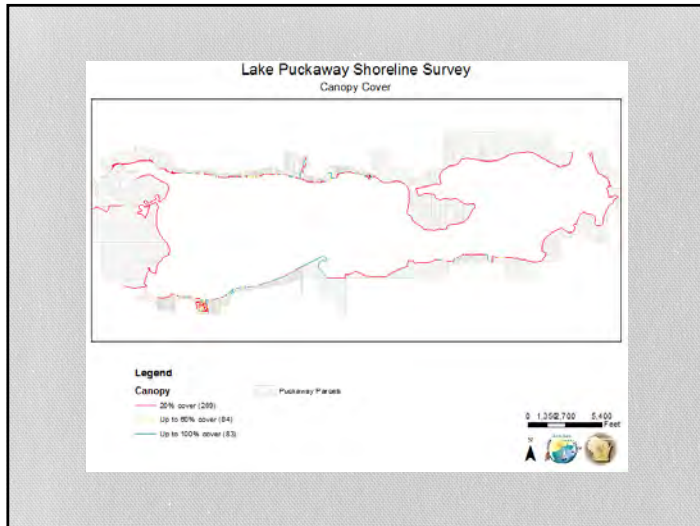


Data Collection – Summer 2015

- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- All lakes in Green Lake County
- 450+ parcels on Puckaway







Main Points

- Of all parcels, 57% have less than 10% natural shoreline in the first 35'
- Plant cover within these human-influenced parcels is sparse
- 37% of the lake has no human-influence on the riparian zone
- Most parcels on the lake do not have a dock at all (230 of 456, or 50%), with another 45% (206 parcels) having just one dock

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Lake Puckaway Holding Final Information Meeting Before Draft Management Plan is Completed for Public Review

Green Lake & Marquette Counties, WI, August 1, 2016. Since the beginning of June, the Lake Puckaway Protection and Rehabilitation District has held five informational and planning meetings regarding the development of Lake Puckaway's updated management plan. Agency experts and scientists from Onterra, LLC, the district's lake management consultant, have presented current and historical data about Lake Puckaway's ecology and condition. The presentation topics have included Puckaway's fishery, its aquatic plant community, the characteristics and quality of the lake's water, the condition of its shorelines, and the impacts of the drainage basin that provides the lake with its water. At each meeting, questions were answered and comments recorded from the Lake Puckaway Planning Committee and the general public.

Tim Hoyman, who is leading the project for Onterra, LLC out of De Pere, WI said, "The intent of the meetings has been to make sure that the Planning Committee and the general public in attendance are using the same information and data to understand the actual condition of Lake Puckaway." "A common theme has come forth in all the information presented – water clarity, the lake's fishery, and habitat value can be all be improved with a better aquatic plant population." "For instance, having more submergent plants within the lake would likely increase the panfish population within the lake." "Panfish have been shown to feed heavily on carp fry, which in turn would reduce the carp population in the lake." he continued.

The final informational and planning meeting before the first draft of the management plan is created, will be held on Monday, August 8th at the Marquette Village Hall (127 E. 4th St, Marquette, WI) starting at 6:30pm. The evening will begin with a presentation summarizing the information delivered during the previous meetings. Management alternative aimed at improving Lake Puckaway's ecological health will also be discussed, including water level management and in-lake habitat restoration.

"Overall, this meeting will tie together the information we have heard at the other meetings and distill it down to how Lake Puckaway can be improved from its water quality to its fishery.", Hoyman said. "We will discuss the challenges the lake faces now and the hurdles that will come about when implementing any kind of a management plan.", he continued. "We know that Lake Puckaway has some complicated issues, so there are no silver bullets that will make the lake better; it is going to take an integrated approach using multiple techniques to make a positive change.", Hoyman finished.

Fetch Modeling & Sediment Resuspension, Summary/Conclusions, Water Level Management

August 8, 2016
Marquette Village Hall

The fifth of six meetings scheduled for the update to the Lake Puckaway Management Plan was held on August 8, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the Marquette Village Hall. The purpose of this meeting was to present information on fetch modeling and sediment resuspension, provide a summary of previous information and explain options for water level management. Discussion was held after the presentations to make sure the planning committee and those present clearly understood the data and there was agreement on what the information meant.

Present were the following members of the Planning Committee:

Mick Masters, Jeff Kimbur, Kurt McCulloch, Randy Schmidt, Paul Gettelman, Brian Zimmerman, and Gene Weber.

In addition, present were the night's speakers Tim Hoyman and Paul Garrison - Onterra, LLC and 34 members of the public. Linda Stoll – L Stoll Consulting served as meeting facilitator.

Fetch Modeling and Sediment Resuspension

Tim Hoyman began with a presentation on fetch modeling and how this is used to better understand sediment resuspension caused by wind-induced wave action. Fetch is the distance wind blows over open water. Greater fetch leads to longer wavelengths with the same wind speed. When a wave moves into water one-half its wavelength or less in depth – resuspension can occur. Tim provided maps showing the impact various wind speeds and wind directions have on the resuspension of sediments in the lake. These can be found in the PowerPoint presentation on the Lake District website. These calculations suggest that at times, 35% of the lake bottom is open to sediment resuspension 1/3 of the time during open water. Tim ran the model using the increased size of the dredge banks found in 1937 and the results indicated a reduction in resuspension to 28% of lake bottom 1/3 of the time. Besides restoring the original banks, further reduction may be achieved by changing the angle of some bank sections to better match predominant wind directions. Now that it is set up, the model can be ran on additional scenarios to determine the best configuration of constructed islands and reconstructed dredge banks to reduce sediment resuspension and provide additional habitat.

Summary

Tim provided a review of all of the information presented to date:

Aquatic Plants – Based on a maximum depth for the lake of approximately 7.5 feet, the entire lake bottom should be available for plant growth. Currently only a small portion supports aquatic plants (13% of the lake area). Puckaway has good native plants and the seedbed seems to be intact however the plants are not plentiful. The lake has the potential for a much healthier plant population. There are two types of shallow lakes – Clear and Turbid. Clear lakes have lots of vascular plants while turbid lakes have few plants and lots of algae. Lake Puckaway is classified as turbid lake. Enhancing the plant population will lead to less algae and clearer water.

Water Quality – Lake Puckaway is considered impaired for sediment/suspended solids and for total phosphorus (an excessive amount of both). Note that phosphorus is the limiting nutrient for

algae growth – increased phosphorus leads to increased algae. The lake experiences high annual variability for phosphorus and chlorophyll (a surrogate measurement for algae) and thus water clarity. The highest levels of phosphorus are the result of internal nutrient loading when phosphorus that is normally bound in the sediments is recycled into the water column and used by algae. During years with increased plant growth, water quality is better. Wind, flow and carp all add to water quality issues. These issues travel downstream to the rest of the river system.

Fisheries – Lake Puckaway has a strong fishery. Pike and walleye are good now, but biologists believe their numbers and size can be greater with habitat improvement. Panfish and bass populations may be on the decline. Increased aquatic habitat would benefit the fishery. Pike and perch use emergent plants as spawning substrate. Increase submergent plants would lead to increased panfish population which would likely lead to less carp. Panfish predation on carp fry has been documented in other systems.

Improving Aquatic Habitat - In order to improve aquatic habitat, water levels would need to more closely mimic natural conditions on the river system. The dam prevents natural fluctuations from occurring. Water level management with occasional reductions in water level during the growing season would establish additional aquatic plant habitat. Reconstruction of dredge banks and creation of additional islands would reduce fetch and add niches for emergent and floating-leaf species. An integrated approach will be required to improve the lake as no single technique would lead to better aquatic habitat on its own.

Water Level Management

Tim began the discussion on water level management with an explanation of how to determine the starting lake level. The most benefit would be gained by having water levels lowered by early to mid-July. Maps were provided that depicted what the lake would look like at various levels of reduction and what could be predicted for plant growth. These can be found in the PowerPoint presentation on the website. The ability to reduce lake levels is dependent on rainfall in the watershed. Multiple studies on Mississippi pool waters have shown that reducing water levels to expose sediments and deeper areas to light penetration for two consecutive growing seasons can lead to aquatic plant establishment that will thrive for up to 7 years. In the first year, annual plants establish and in the second, perennial plants establish.

A suggested DRAFT strategy for Lake Puckaway is as follows:

Year 1 – begin reducing water levels around June 15th by opening lock gates which would remain open through September. A two to three-foot reduction in water levels would be expected.

Year 2 - begin reducing water levels around June 15th by opening lock gates which would remain open through September. A two to three-foot reduction in water levels would be expected.

Reductions would be attempted in two consecutive years. If a suitable reduction is not anticipated to occur in either of those two years, then during the next two years, no reductions would be attempted. A reduction of 1.5 feet or more is considered adequate for a reduction in the following year. As an example, if the discharge at the USGS Princeton Dam station is greater than 1,250 cfs on June 30 of either the first attempt or second attempt year, the attempt would be abandoned.

Construction of the dam will result in low water levels for two years and will act as a test for this strategy. The lake will be evaluated before and after construction to better understand how to go forward. If successful, water level management would likely occur two years in a decade. The most recent information suggests that the dam construction would not begin until 2019 or 2020. The WDNR has the project in their proposed 2017-2019 biennium budget. That budget will be considered by state legislature likely starting this coming fall.

Planning Committee Comments and Questions:

1. *What would be the impact of extending the dredge banks in a north-south direction as well as east-west?*

This could increase the beneficial impact of these structures. The fetch information will be used to determine the best design for the dredge banks. The examples shown in the presentation are just that, examples. The Shallow Lake Management Team being headed by Ted Johnson, WDNR would work to define applicable in-lake changes.

2. *Is it doable to dredge and create islands?*

Yes, we could put dredged materials into sediment bags to create the islands. This has been done elsewhere. It would put to good use materials taken from the lake. We would need to explore the cost for doing this vs other methods. Again, the Shallow Lake Management Team would develop the plans.

3. *How does Puckaway and Buffalo Lakes compare when it comes to phosphorus?*

Buffalo has a strong plant community and is a sink for phosphorus. Water has less phosphorus leaving that lake than coming into it. Puckaway is the opposite – more phosphorus leaves the lake than enters it in many years. The Buffalo Lake drawdown resulted in the replacement of invasive plants with more native plants. Puckaway does not have a serious invasive plant problem but it lacks plants in general, so its management is different than Buffalo Lake’s management.

4. *Would the TMDL require drawdowns?*

It is a tool in the toolbox and could be used to increase plant growth as a means of reducing phosphorus in the system. The proposed fixed-crest dam will have an environmental impact and will need a strategy to reduce any negative impacts.

5. *The current dam is over 150 years old. The water quality appeared to be good for almost 100 years. Was the carp responsible for the decline?*

The carp had an impact but historical information suggests that plants were starting to decline much earlier. It takes a long time to show any impact.

6. *By lowering water levels, don't we expose more area to the impact of resuspension?*

Yes, we do but studies show that the benefits outweigh the impact of this action.

7. *Are the muck farms an issue?*

Yes, they are, but their impact has been included in the watershed modeling completed by Onterra and the modeling completed as a part of the TMDL.

8. *Why did the bulrushes that were in front of my house disappear?*

We do not have enough information to answer that for a specific area on the lake; however, other lakes have seen slow declines in emergent populations with steady-water levels.

9. *Comment: The west side of the lake is not the best for plants. The east side is better. The seed source is still there.*

10. *Does the topography impact the fetch?*

It can if there are hills or mountains. The area around Lake Puckaway is very flat so has little impact.

11. *What if the first set of drawdowns doesn't work, will we keep doing them?*

If real data shows little to no impact, then we will stop and develop a different strategy. Restoring the dredge banks and creating islands should help.

12. *What about phosphorus coming from upstream marshes?*

This has been taken into account in the watershed model.

13. *Comment: The two years of draw down for dam construction will begin the "drawdown" cycle. High water may cause delay in this process.*

14. *Where is most of the phosphorus coming from in the watershed? Is it from agriculture?*

In the Upper Fox River, yes, it is from agriculture. The TMDL will take this into account and provide ideas for reductions.

15. *Where does the phosphorus originally come from?*

Phosphorus occurs naturally but humans accelerate its loading into a water system.

16. *Is the June 15th a set day?*

It is an approximate day and will depend on water flow and fish spawning.

17. *Why spend money on a dam if you are just going to leave the lock gates open?*

The lock gates would only be open for the growing season for 2yrs in every 10. The rest of the time they would function normally.

18. *What is the impact of the drawdown on the fish?*

There will be some impact but the increased habitat will help the recovery. The lake is part of a river system that can feed fish back into the lake so it will not be like a stand-alone lake that would have to be restocked. Also, even during a drawdown, the lake would still have a great deal of water in it. The fish will be monitored as part of the evaluation of the impact of water-level management.

19. *How do we get boats out during drawdown?*

Part of the overall lake plan could include dredging in areas to help with lake access. These materials could be used in the dredge banks and in island construction.

20. *What will happen for lake management while we are waiting for the dam?*

We will continue with the current strategy of boards placement on the dam.

21. What is the economic impact of the drawdown?

We don't know the exact numbers but we know that this is a big thing. The lake is unhealthy and that has an economic impact as well. It's not like nothing has been tried to correct lake issues. It just hasn't been enough. It will take big steps to fix this problem.

22. Will all of these studies still be good if we don't start the dam until 2020?

Yes, the information will still help us. No matter when the dam is started, we will need to continue monitoring – before, during and after.

Written Questions:

No written questions were received.

Next meeting will be September 26 and will consist of the presentation of the draft lake management plan.



Fetch Modeling

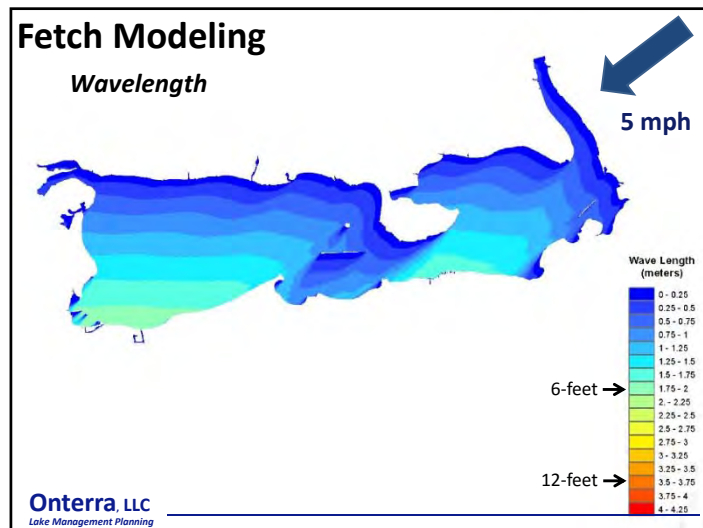
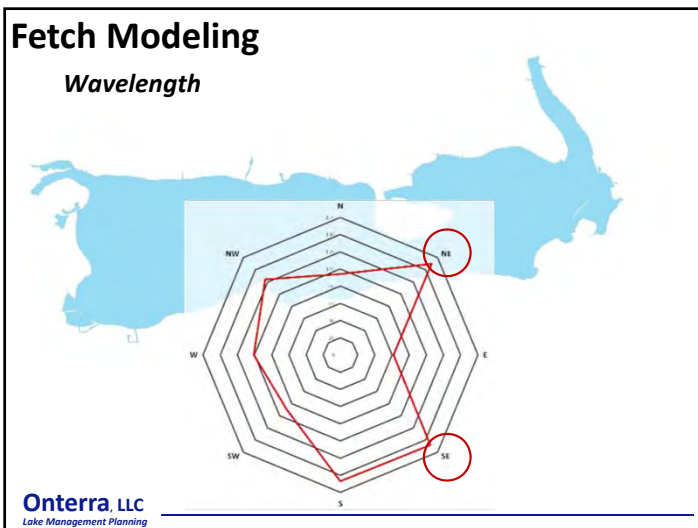
Effective Fetch

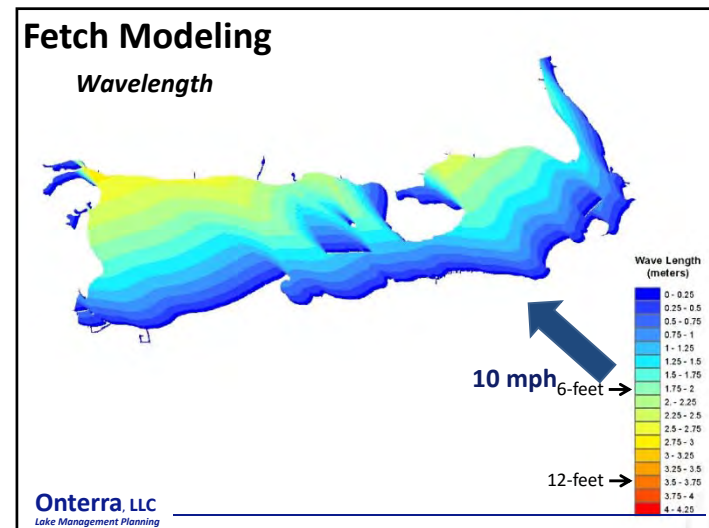
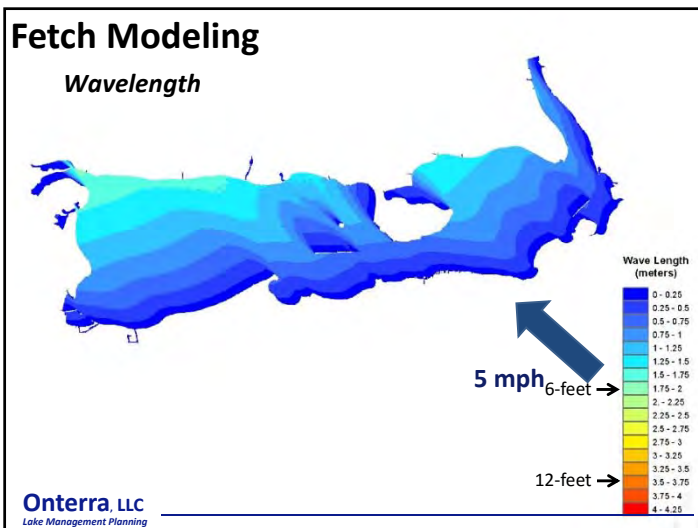
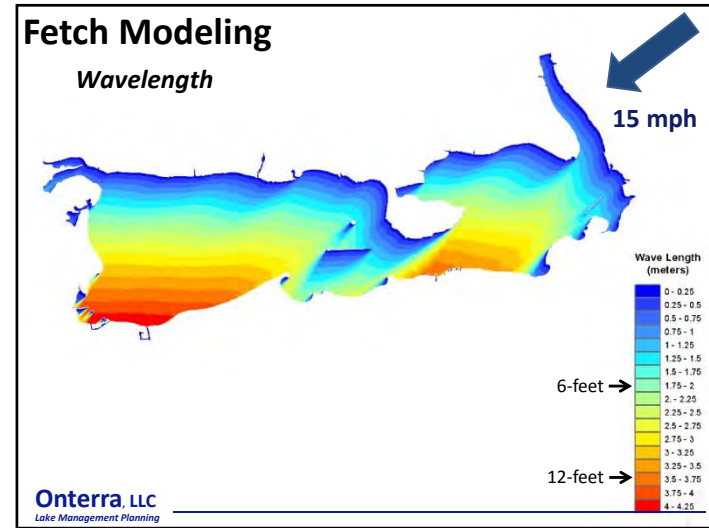
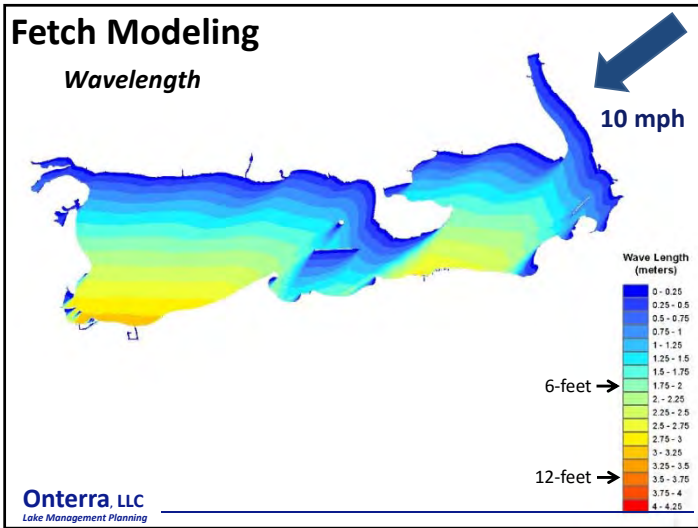
- Distance wind blows over open water
 - Greater fetch leads to longer wavelengths with the same wind speed.

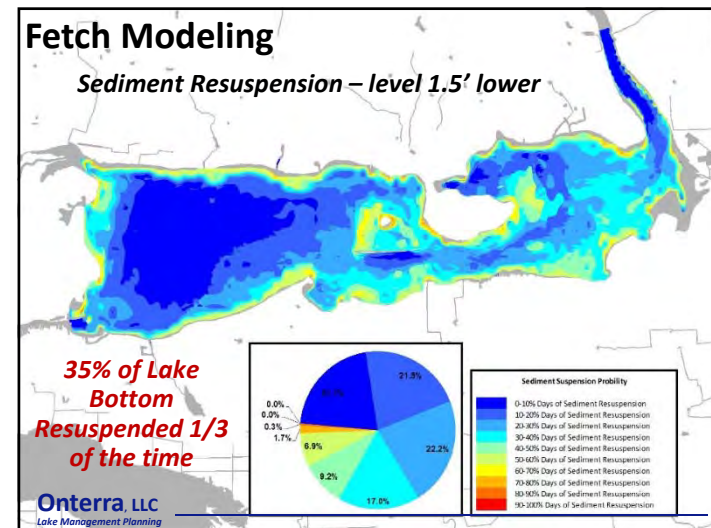
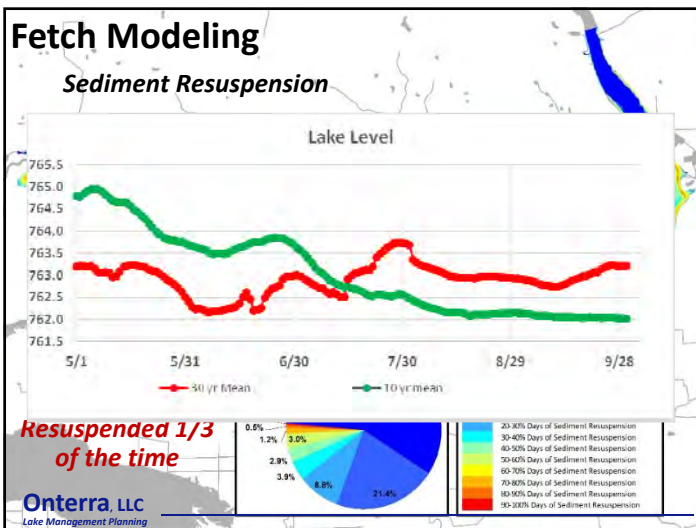
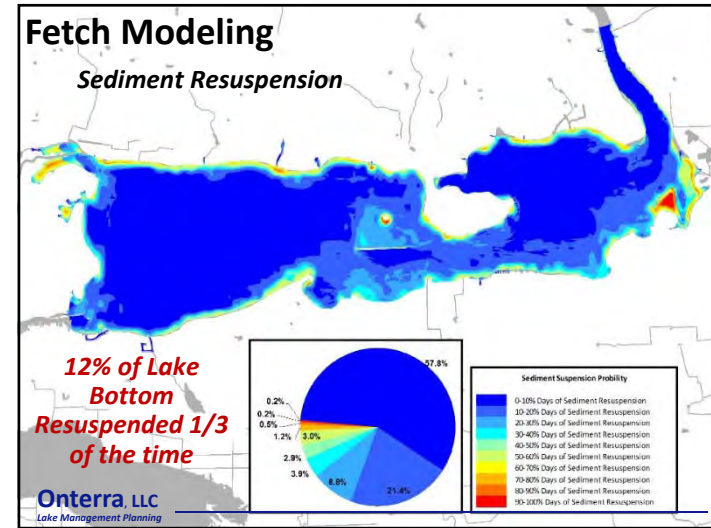
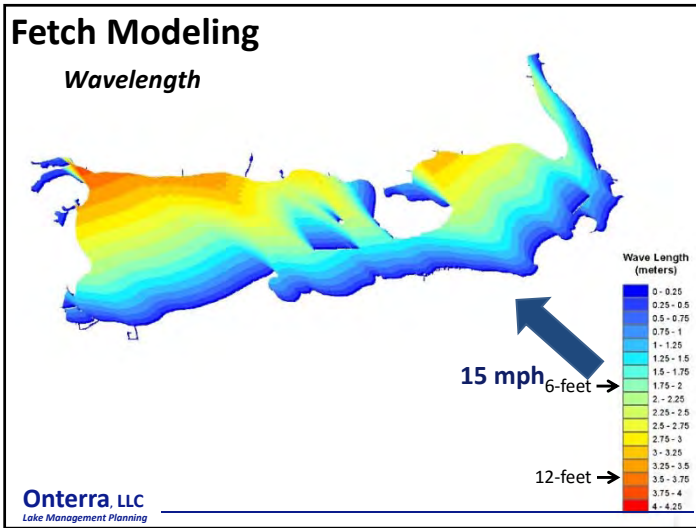
Wavelength

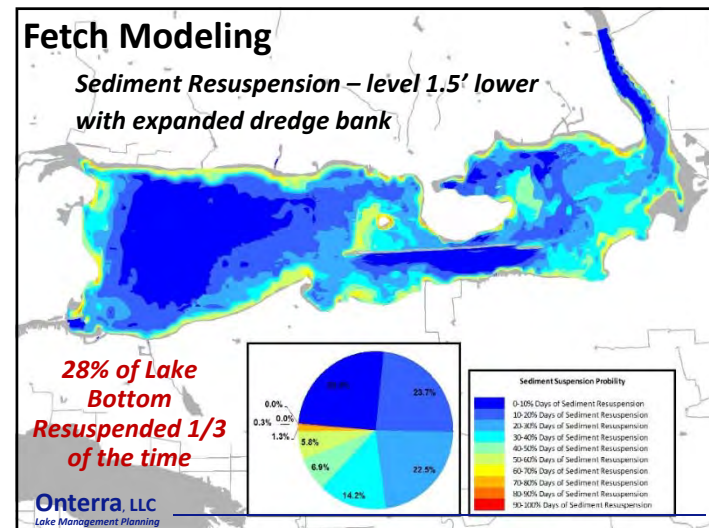
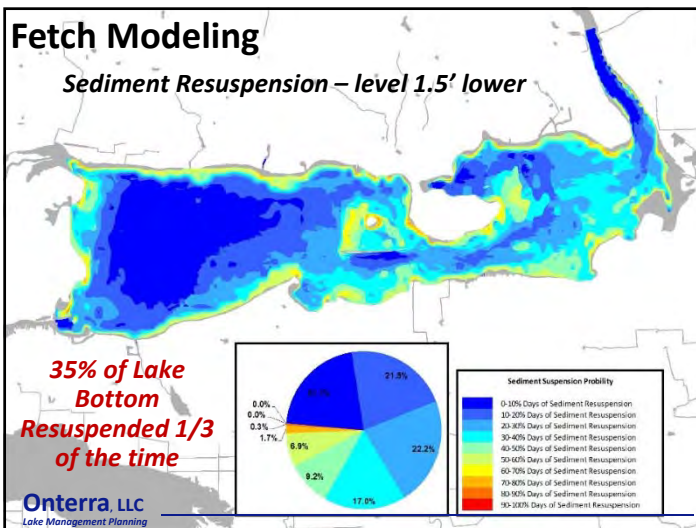
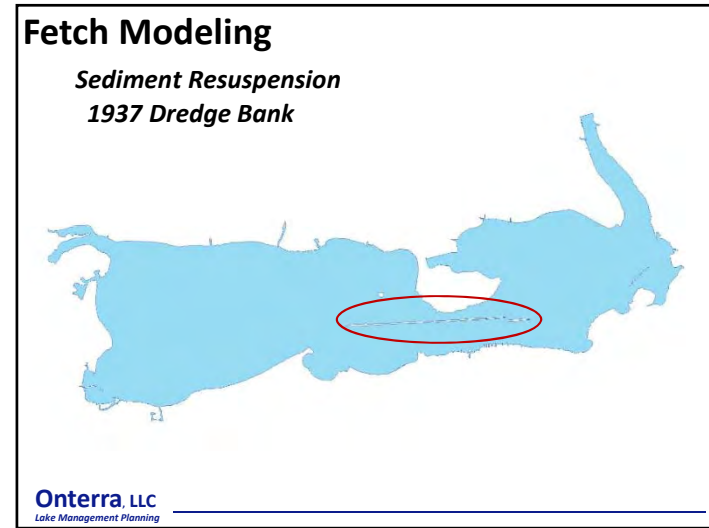
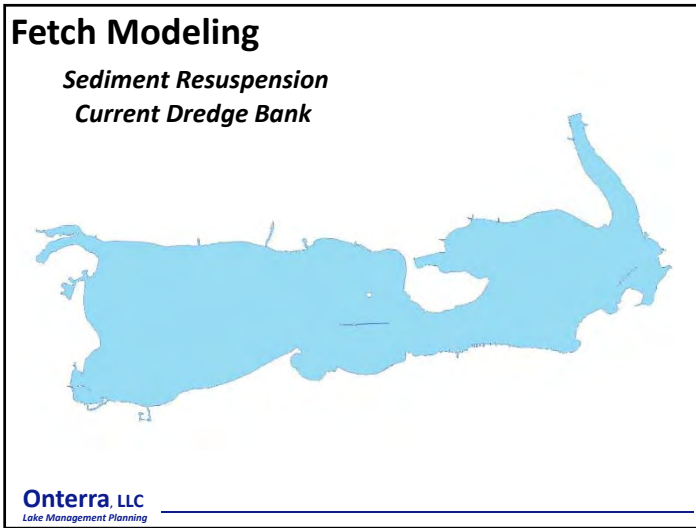
- Distance from crest-to-crest or trough-to-trough
 - When a wave moves into water one-half its wavelength or less in depth – resuspension can occur
 - A wave with a 10-ft length will resuspend sediments in water 5-ft or less deep.

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Summary and Conclusions

Aquatic Plants

- Based upon a maximum depth of roughly 7.5 feet entire lake bottom should be available to plant growth
- Currently, only a small portion supports aquatic plant growth
- Overall, Lake Puckaway could have a much healthier plant population

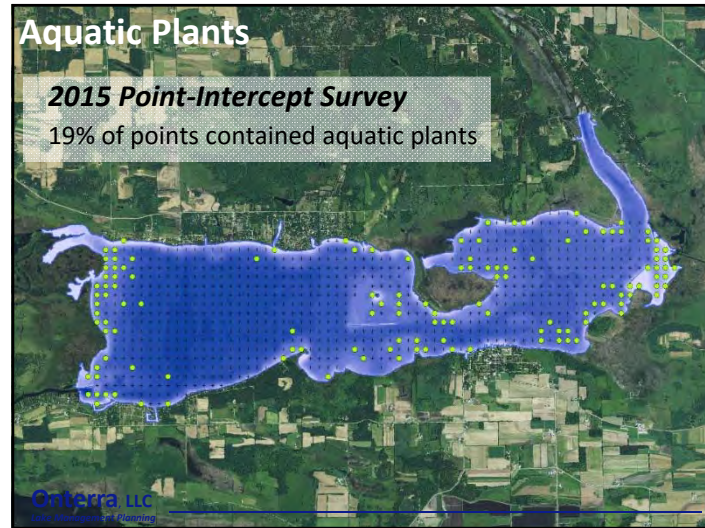


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Aquatic Plants

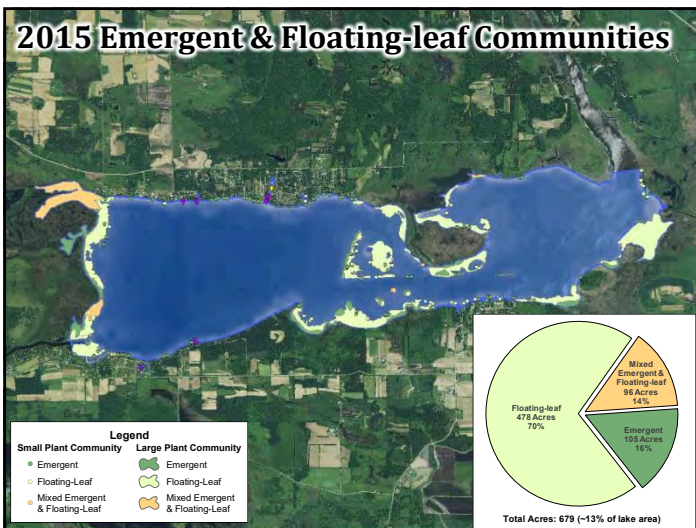
2015 Point-Intercept Survey

19% of points contained aquatic plants



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2015 Emergent & Floating-leaf Communities



Legend

Small Plant Community

- Emergent
- Floating-Leaf
- Mixed Emergent & Floating-Leaf

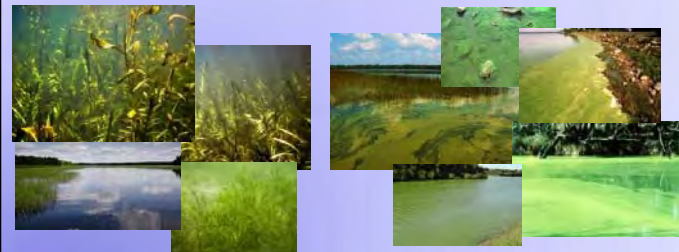
Large Plant Community

- Emergent
- Floating-Leaf
- Mixed Emergent & Floating-Leaf

Shallow Lakes are Special

Clear State

Turbid State



Aquatic Plants are
 Incredibly Important

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Summary and Conclusions

Water Quality

- Lake Puckaway is considered impaired for sediment/suspended solids and for total phosphorus
- Lake Puckaway is a complex ecosystem because of shallow depth and inflowing river
- The lake experiences high annual variability for phosphorus and chlorophyll and thus water clarity
- The highest levels of phosphorus are the result of internal loading during years when summer flow is low
- During years with increased plant growth water quality is better
- Wind, flow, & carp all add to water quality issues
- These issues travel downstream to other lakes



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Summary and Conclusions

Fisheries

- Lake Puckaway has a strong fisheries
 - Pike and walleye populations are good now, but biologists believe their numbers and size can be greater with habitat improvements
 - Panfish and bass populations may be on the decline
- Increased aquatic plant habitat would benefit fisheries
 - Pike and perch use emergent plants as spawning substrate
 - Increased submergent plants would lead to increased panfish population
 - Increased panfish would likely lead to less carp



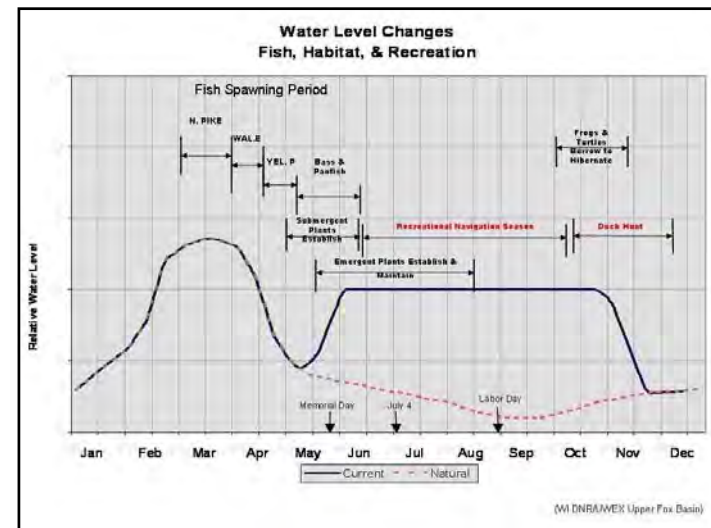
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Summary and Conclusions

Improving Aquatic Plant Habitat

- Fluctuating water levels to more closely mimic natural conditions on system like Puckaway
 - Dam prevents natural fluctuations from occurring

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Summary and Conclusions

Improving Aquatic Habitat

- Fluctuating water levels to more closely mimic natural conditions on system like Puckaway
 - Dam prevents natural fluctuations from occurring
- Water level management plan with occasional reductions in water level would establish additional aquatic plant habitat
- Reconstruction of dredge banks and creation of additional islands would reduce fetch and add niches for emergent and floating-leaf species
 - Ted Johnson's Shallow Lake Management Workgroup
 - Increased habitat for fish and waterfowl
- Many other actions are available to improve Puckaway

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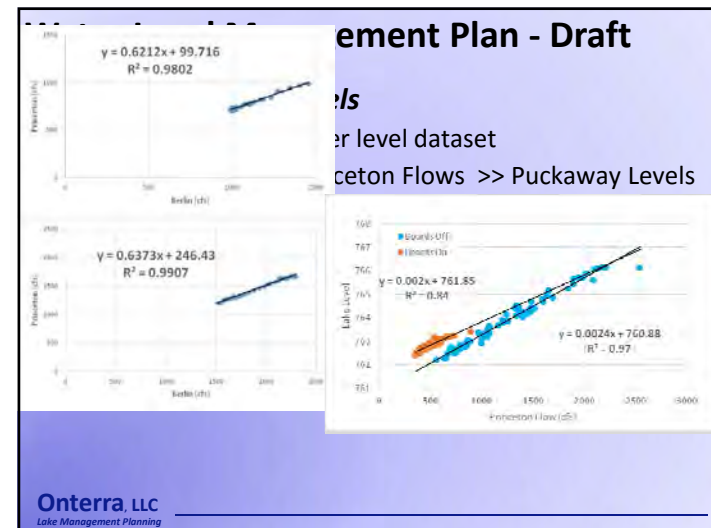


Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Puckaway Water Levels

- Building a 30-year water level dataset
 - Berlin Flows >> Princeton Flows >> Puckaway Levels

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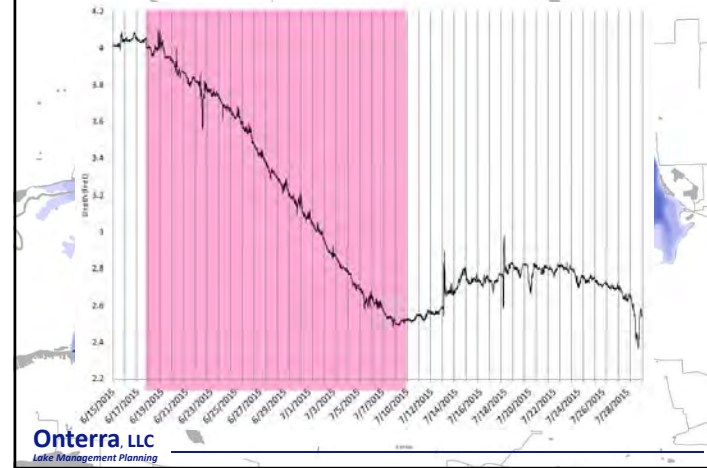
Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Determining a Water Level Starting Point

- Based upon bathymetry data collected in 2015 and aligned with Green Lake County's water level loggers, the starting lake level on June 15 is 764.375' MSL.
- The elevation aligns well with the reference water level used by MWH in their January 2016 Lake Puckaway study of 764.44 for an average summer flow of 571 cfs at the Princeton Dam USGS site.

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Water Level Management Plan - Draft



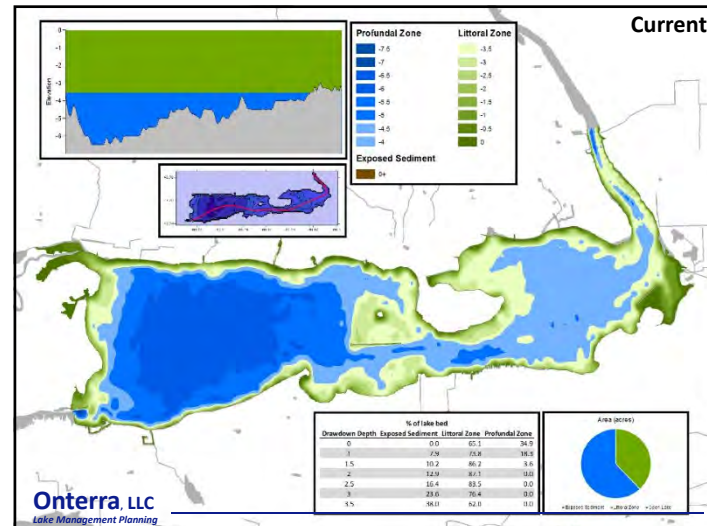
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Water Level Management Plan - Draft

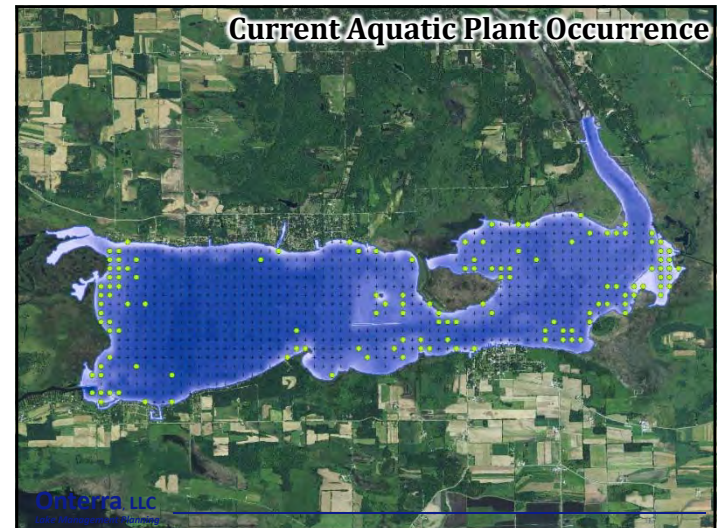
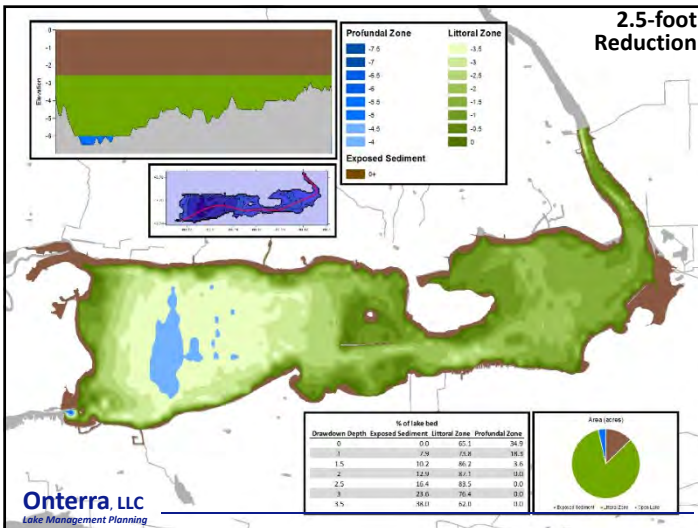
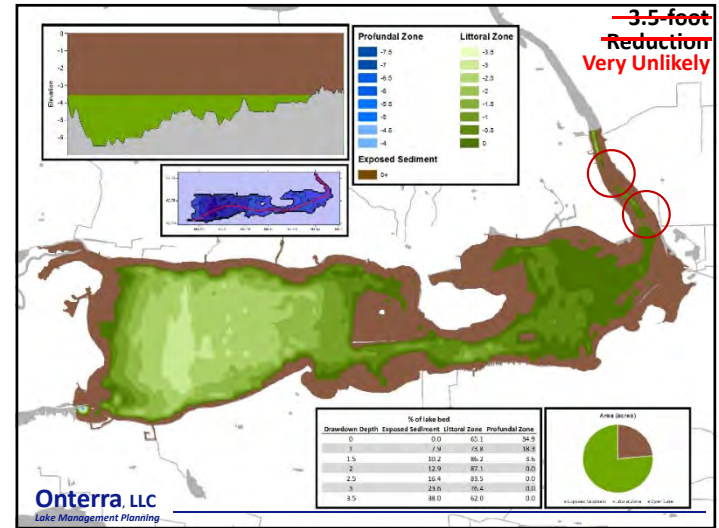
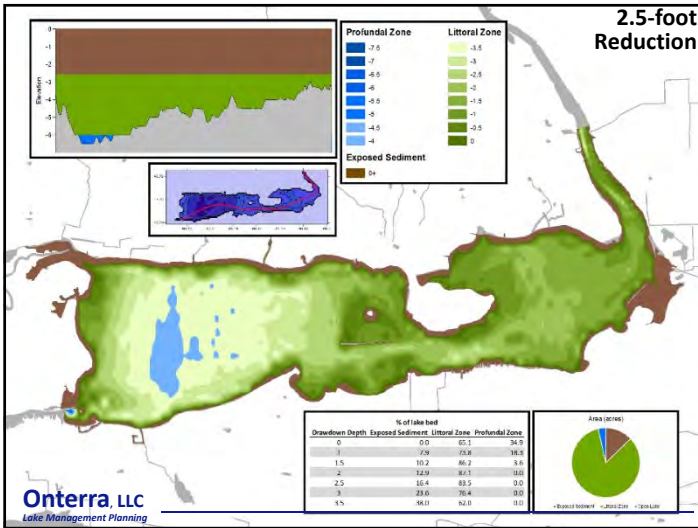
Determining Possibility & Extent of Reductions

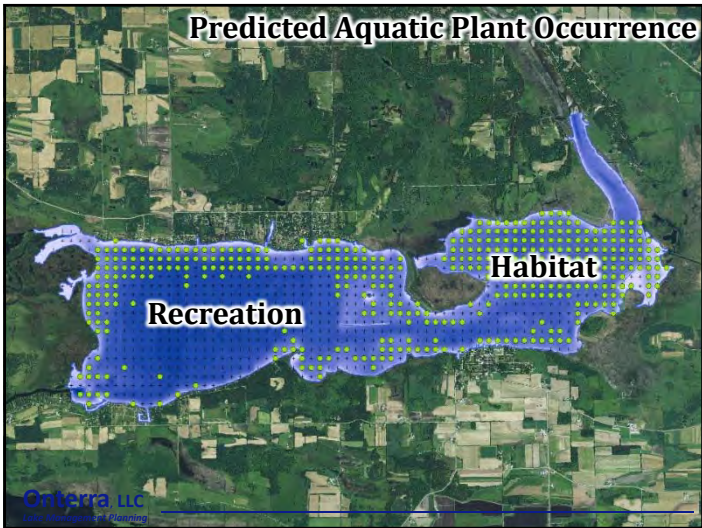
- MWH based the attainable reduction in water levels upon starting flow rate. Most benefit will be gained by having water levels lowered by early to mid-July; therefore, the starting point is June 15.
- The average 30-year flow at Princeton on June 15 is approximately 550 cfs. Based upon MWH study, at that flow, a roughly 3-foot reduction could occur in about 21 days.

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Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Determining Possibility & Extent of Reductions

- MWH based the attainable reduction in water levels upon starting flow rate. Most benefit will be gained by having water levels lowered by early to mid-July; therefore, the starting point is June 15.
- The average 30-year flow at Princeton on June 15 is approximately 550 cfs. Based upon MWH, at that flow, a greater than 3-foot reduction could occur in about 21 days.
- It must be noted that the 10-year average flow on June 15 (excluding 2008) approaches 1,200 cfs at the Princeton Dam, meaning that less than a 2' reduction could be achieved in greater than 24 days.

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Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Water Level Management Rationale

- Multiple studies on Mississippi pool waters have shown that reducing water levels to expose sediments and expose deeper areas to light penetration for two consecutive growing seasons can lead to aquatic plant establishment that will thrive for up to 7 years.
 - First year – annual plants establish
 - Second year – perennial plants establish



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Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Water Level Management Specifics

- Year 1** – begin reducing water levels on June 15th by opening lock gates
Lock gates remain open through September
2-3' reduction in water levels from June 15 level expected
- Year 2** – begin reducing water levels on June 15th by opening lock gates
Lock gates remain open through September
2-3' reduction in water levels from June 15 level expected

Specific Conditions on Attempts at Reductions

Reductions will be attempted in two consecutive years. If a suitable reduction is not anticipated to occur (see abandonment below) in either of those two years, then during the next two years, no reductions would be attempted.

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Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Specific Conditions on Attempts at Reductions

- Reductions will be attempted in two consecutive years. If a suitable reduction is not anticipated to occur (see abandonment below) in either of those two years, than during the next two years, no reductions would be attempted.
- If during either of the two years in which a water level reduction is attempted, a reduction of 1.5 or more achieved, on June 15 of the following year, the lock gates will be opened and remain open through September and the water levels reduced as far as possible.
- **Abandonment** If discharge at the USGS Princeton Dam station is greater than 1,250 cfs on June 30 of either the first attempt or second attempt year, the attempt will be abandoned.

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Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Princeton Dam Reconstruction

- Dam reconstruction to begin summer 2018
- Water levels would be reduced beginning in Fall 2017
- Levels will remain down in 2018 for dam construction and remain down through the winter of 2018/2019
- To facilitate remaining dam construction and habitat construction, water levels will remain down during the summer of 2019.
- Lake levels will be raised during the fall of 2019
- **UPDATE: WDNR does not believe dam construction will be in 2018. Maybe 2020, so plan above would be altered**

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Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Princeton Dam Reconstruction

- Pre-water level reduction data collection
 - 2015/2016 water quality & plant studies would be used
 - Fisheries data should be collected in 2017
- Post dam construction/water level reduction
 - Three years - aquatic plant and water quality surveys
 - 2021 fisheries studies
- The results of these studies would document success or failure of water level management plan and determine future course of actions.
- Likely frequency 2 years in a decade.

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Thank You

Many of the graphics used in this presentation were supplied by:



Onterra, LLC
Lake Management Planning

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Lake Puckaway Draft Management Plan to be Presented on September 26th.

Green Lake & Marquette Counties, WI, September 12, 2016. Since early June of this year, the Lake Puckaway Protection and Rehabilitation District has hosted five meetings in conjunction with the development of the lake's updated management plan. All aspects of the planning project and studies were presented to and discussed with the district's planning committee and the general public during the meetings and included general lake ecology, Fox River and Lake Puckaway water quality, the aquatic plants of the lake, the lake's current and past fishery, the impacts of the lake's drainage basin on the lake's ecology, and how water levels have fluctuated over the last 30 years and the last 10 years. Due to high nutrient levels and algae content, the lake is considered impaired. A key aspect to correcting those impairments is enhancing the plant population within the lake. At this time, Puckaway has very little aquatic plant life, which allows algae blooms to more easily occur and provides very little fish habitat. Increasing the plant population in the lake will lead to reduced algae blooms, increased water clarity, and a stronger panfish population. Increased panfish have shown to have a substantial impact at reducing carp in other lakes due to panfish predation on young carp.

On September 26th, the Lake Puckaway Protection and Rehabilitation District will host its final scheduled meeting of the management planning project. At that meeting, Tim Hoyman, Lead Aquatic Ecologist with Onterra, LLC, will present the draft management plan for Puckaway Lake. "The plan will be based upon management goals and actions to meet those goals," Hoyman stated. The district is creating several management goals that will be included in the draft plan, each of those goals will include one or more management actions that if implemented, will allow the district to meet that goal." he continued.

The meeting will be held at the Marquette Village Hall (127 E. 4th St, Marquette, WI) beginning at 6:30pm.

In October, the draft management plan will be available for download from the district's web site (<http://www.lakepuckaway.com/>) and at the Princeton and Markesan libraries. Written comments will be accepted via email and US Post through the end of the year.

Conclusions Review, Management Goals and Actions

September 26, 2016
Marquette Village Hall

The sixth meeting scheduled for the update to the Lake Puckaway Management Plan was held on September 26, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the Marquette Village Hall. The purpose of this meeting was to review the conclusions presented at the last meeting and to discuss the proposed management goals and actions for the updated Lake Puckaway Management Plan. Discussion was held after the presentation to make sure the planning committee and those present clearly understood the data and there was agreement on what the information meant.

Present were the following members of the Planning Committee: Jeff Kimbur, Kurt McCulloch, Randy Schmidt, Paul Gettelman, Brian Zimmermann and Gene Weber.

In addition, present were the night's speakers Tim Hoyman and Paul Garrison - Onterra, LLC, 19 members of the public, and Ted Johnson, WDNR. Linda Stoll – L Stoll Consulting served as meeting facilitator.

Conclusion Review

Aquatic Plants

Tim Hoyman began with a review of the conclusions of the research and analysis that was conducted for this project. Aquatic plants are a critical component to the health of the lake. Based on the approximate maximum depth of 7.5 feet, the entire lake bottom should be able to support some type of plants. While light penetration is a main factor, it was noted that this is a complex lake and other influences would prevent the entire lake from supporting plants. However, the most recent grid survey only found plants in 19% of the survey points – considerably less than what would be expected in a healthy system.

Shallow lakes are special systems and are typically either in a clear state or turbid state. Lake Puckaway is definitely in a turbid state. Clear lakes have abundant aquatic vegetation that competes for light and nutrients with algae. Turbid lakes are dominated by algae and have frequent blooms. The aquatic plants in clear state lakes also provide refuge for zooplankton. These microscopic animals graze heavily on algae, working to keep the water clear. If the aquatic plants disappear, so do the zooplankton due to easy predation by fish.

Water Quality

Lake Puckaway is consider impaired for sediment/suspended solids and for total phosphorus. The lake is a very complex system because of its shallow depth and the inflowing river. Previous surveys as well as surveys conducted for this project demonstrate that the lake experiences high annual variability for phosphorus and chlorophyll and thus water clarity. It should be noted that the highest levels of phosphorus are due to internal loading during years when summer flow is low. Water coming into the lake is considerable cleaner than the water that is leaving. During years with increased plant growth, the water quality was better. Wind, flow and carp all add to the water quality issues. These issues travel downstream to other lakes.

Fisheries

Lake Puckaway has a strong fishery. The pike and walleye populations are good but biologists believe their numbers and size can be greater with habitat improvement. Panfish and bass may be on the decline. Increased aquatic plant habitat would benefit all of these fish species. Pike and perch use emergent plants as spawning substrate. Increased submergent plants would improve the panfish population. Panfish eat carp fry so increases in panfish population would likely lead to less carp.

Overarching Conclusions

Over the course of greater than a century, Lake Puckaway has degraded. It has slowly, but surely, degraded to the point that its ecology is very ill and it is degrading waterbodies downstream from it. While the lake is meeting the needs of some users, like anglers and boaters, much of the time, it is not its full potential and it is definitely negatively impacting systems that receive its waters. Like all lakes, sick or healthy, Lake Puckaway experiences its good years and its bad years, but there is no doubt that overall the lake is in poor condition. Human actions in Puckaway's watershed and at manipulating its water levels have fostered the degradation of the lake. Dredging a navigation channel, building a lock and dam, draining wetlands and clear-cutting trees for farming, building roads and towns in its watershed, and developing its shorelines are all drastic measures taken by humans that have led to the lake's problems. To counteract some of those problems and produce a positive change in the lake, humans will need to take drastic measures. It will take an integrated approach of managing water levels, creating in-lake habitat, and minimizing impacts from the watershed to see that positive change.

Lake Puckaway Management Plan

The management plan for Lake Puckaway has been designed with three sections. The first consists of all of the reports created to summarize the historical and current data. It includes Water Quality, Wind Fetch Modeling, Aquatic Plants, Watershed Information and Shoreland Conditions. The four previous meetings focused on each one of these sections. The second section summarizes all of the findings and discusses the conclusions that were drawn. The third section is the Implementation Plan. This section contains the management goals and the actions that will be completed by the district to meet those goals. A timeline and facilitator for each action is also listed. It was noted that this plan is still considered a "draft" and not the final product.

Management Goal: Enhance Lake Puckaway Fishery

1. Continue annual harvesting of common carp from Lake Puckaway
 - a. WDNR and the District will work together to complete this action.
2. Continue annual operation of Lake Puckaway walleye hatchery
 - a. The District will continue the operation of the hatchery.

Management Goal: Improve the overall ecological health of Lake Puckaway

1. Initiate volunteer-based annual water quality monitoring of Lake Puckaway through the WDNR Citizen Lake Monitoring Network.
 - a. The District will participate in this program. This is important for tracking long-term changes in water quality.
2. Form the Lake Puckaway Shallow Lake Management Workgroup
 - a. This group would be made up of District members, agency staff and ad-hoc members as needed. The group would help coordinate various lake projects such

as restoring the dredge banks and islands, improving the north shore boat ramp and other projects identified in the citizen survey, issue assessment and previous plans.

3. Implement the Lake Puckaway Water Level Management Plan
 - a. This plan will work with other goals and actions to increase aquatic plants and habitat within Lake Puckaway. The objective is to promote significant plant growth within Lake Puckaway by temporarily extending the littoral zone to allow submergent and floating-leaf plant establishment and to temporarily expose bottom sediments in near-shore areas to allow for the establishment of emergent species.
 - b. Multiple studies on Mississippi River pool waters and other systems have shown that reducing water levels to expose sediments and expose deeper areas to light penetration for two consecutive growing seasons can lead to aquatic plant establishment that will thrive for up to seven years or more. During the first year, annual plants begin establishment and during the second year, perennial plants begin establishment. Having both of these groups of plants establish is important to extending the benefits of the reductions.
 - c. Having low water levels in Lake Puckaway for two consecutive growing seasons will be difficult and inconvenient for riparian property owners and businesses. The water level management plan contains specifications to provide surety of when water levels will be reduced, how frequently they will be reduced, and importantly flow conditions that will lead to abandonment or early start of reductions. This is done with the goal of assuring riparians that reductions will not be attempted year-after-year leading to somewhat low levels that inconvenience lake users, but provide no benefits to the ecology of Lake Puckaway. The detailed information on the justification for the operation strategies, the drawdown cycles, the conditions for modifying or abandoning a cycle, and the monitoring plan to measure success or need for changes can be found in the PowerPoint presentation for this meeting and in the plan itself. Both can be found on the District website.

Management Goal: Improve Dam Operation Safety at the Princeton Dam

1. Urge the State of Wisconsin to reconstruct the Princeton Dam as a fixed-crest dam.
 - a. The reconstruction project is in the WDNR proposed budget request for the 2017-19 biennial state budget. However, it still needs to make it through the Governor, Joint Committee on Finance, the Senate, and the House before it is in the state budget, which means that it is actually funded.
 - b. The District is encouraged to lobby their elected officials in the House and the Senate as well as the Governor on the merits and importance of this project.

Management Goal: Increase the Communication Capacity of the Lake Puckaway Protection and Restoration District

1. Create a Communication and Education Committee
 - a. The District should consider creating multiple newsletters per year to help educate members and keep them informed on the progress of plan implementation.
 - b. The District should use the District website and Facebook page to their full potential
 - c. The District should develop a District-wide email list
 - d. The District should consider the possibility of hiring professionals for some of the tasks

Next Steps

Onterra, LLC will produce a second draft of the Implementation Section of the plan integrating comments from this meeting and the committee. The other two sections of the plan will be finalized. The entire Lake Puckaway Management Plan will be posted for public review and comment by late October. The plan will be posted on the District website and hard copies will be located in the Markesan and Princeton libraries. Written comments from the public, agencies, board and committee will be accepted by email and US Post through February 2017. These comments will be integrated into the plan and a final draft will be created for board and committee review. The District will have an opportunity to approve the plan at its 2017 annual meeting.

Planning Committee Comments and Questions:

1. *Why wait for ten years to pass before doing another drawdown instead of doing it at 7 years as recommended in the research?*

While there is a recommended number in the plan, it will be important to look at the annual monitoring data to base the frequency of reductions on what is actually happening in the lake and adjust the time accordingly. It will be important not to lose all of the benefits of a successful reduction sequence and have to start at the beginning again. This is why continued monitoring will be so important.

2. *Should we be looking at planting more plants? If we did that, would that reduce the frequency of drawdowns?*

Attempting to establish plants by adding them to the lake without first removing or at least reducing the factor that is keeping them from growing there naturally is pointless. Past attempts have met with limited and short-term success, not only on Lake Puckaway, but on many other systems around the state.

3. *What is the impact of recreation – large motors, etc. – on the lake?*

The motors may have some impact on plant growth but the percentage of plants in the lake was lower and dropping before these motors were present.

4. *There was a plant goal in the previous plan. How does this compare?*

On June 6, 2009, the LPPRD Board passed a motion to accept the Emergent Plant Stabilization Program (EPSP) recommended by the District's Adaptive Management Committee (AMC). This program called for leaving the flashboards off the dam for an extra 30 days from May 15th for 3 out of 5 years. The intent was to lower water levels during the late spring and early summer to foster emergent plant growth and allow for the planting of emergent species in select areas of the lake. During those 5 years, flows were high and the flashboards would not have been able to be put on anyways, so water levels were not reduced. The plantings did not establish; however, some remnants may remain. Further, research indicates that water level reductions early in the growing season are not sufficient to foster emergent establishment. In a natural lake, like Puckaway once was, water levels recede throughout the growing season, so native emergent plants have evolved to flourish in those conditions.

5. *Has upstream input of phosphorus been taken into account in this plan?*

Yes, it has and there will need to be reductions made especially as a part of the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) determination. It is important to understand that a great deal of nutrients enter the lake from the watershed, especially from agriculture; however,

that is only part of the problem on Lake Puckaway. In Lake Puckaway, water coming into the lake is often less polluted than the water leaving the lake. Internal loading from the lake adds to the problems in the lake and downstream. All of this is why it is important to do what can be done to have more plants in Lake Puckaway.

6. *How will we know if we should put our docks in if it is a drawdown year?*
Waiting until approximately June 15 will be an imposition but it is important that spawning activity is not upset for the year. Note that residents will know ahead of time if levels will be reduced. The rest of the time, docks can go in when they normally do.
7. *Does the year qualify if we get a late summer flood?*
This is a very unusual year and it will have to be looked at in greater detail. It is possible that given the flat nature of the watershed, that the water will be able to be accommodated. Upstream water level management strategies that could assist us in a drawdown year can also be reviewed.
8. *Comment:* We need to remain flexible and base decisions on good data not a prescribed order. The District will need to look at the data and decide what is best for the lake and the residents.
9. *Where will the fish go?*
First, even during a 2.5-ft water level reduction, there will be over 4,600 acres of open water remaining and water will be moving through the lake at its inlet and outlet. So, fish be able to go either upstream or downstream. With habitat improvements brought on by the reductions, the lake will have a better fishery.
10. *What happens to plants in winter in low water years? Won't they die when it freezes to the bottom?*
Shallow lakes do not "freeze to the bottom". Even in a lake with 2 feet of ice, in an area 1-foot deep, the ice does not extend to the bottom. If this happened, all shallow lakes and wetlands in Wisconsin would have no plants. Further, Lake Puckaway's water levels would begin to rise at the end of September because the lock gates would be closed.
11. *Comment:* We need to ask upstream watersheds to help with water levels in drawdown years.
12. *Where can we find the Mississippi River Studies?*
These and other studies will be referenced within the draft management plan. The biggest gain in knowledge in regards to this practice was in the need for the second year of reduction to allow for the growth of perennial plants.
13. *Will we see a difference in the impact of the drawdown from east to west on the lake?*
The east pool of the lake has a better chance of growing more plants though there will be improvement in the west pool as well. The topography of the area is basically the same – flat – and it will determine the impact.
14. *Has any other lake in Wisconsin done a drawdown sequence like this?*
Reductions have been done on smaller impoundments and they were effective. This is the first attempt on a large lake, so the best data available for comparison is the Mississippi River studies.
15. *Comment:* If the drawdown begins on June 15, you will not see the full affect until at least 21 days.

16. *Comment:* If we don't do anything and just keep on like we have been, conditions on the lake will only get worse and it will be even harder to make things better.
17. *Why are we focusing so much on water levels? Don't other things impact the plants too?* Wind and carp also impact the plants, but not to the degree that the water level does. The District will continue to harvest carp and look at repairing the dredge banks and making improvements to the islands but these by themselves without water level management will not restore the plants.
18. *Comment:* The goals of the TMDL for Green Bay will impact Lake Puckaway. We could wait for someone else to determine what we must do or we can be proactive and address these issues in a way that makes sense for us and includes some or our own goals in the effort.

Written Questions:

No written questions were received.

Lake Puckaway Protection & Rehabilitation District

Lake Puckaway Management Plan Update Project - Meeting VI
September 26, 2016

Tim Hoyman
Paul Garrison
Onterra LLC
Lake Management Planning

Presentation Outline

- Conclusions Review
- Management Goals & Actions
- Comments & Questions

Onterra, LLC
Lake Management Planning

Summary and Conclusions

Aquatic Plants

- Based upon a maximum depth of roughly 7.5 feet entire lake bottom should be available to plant growth
- Currently, only a small portion supports aquatic plant growth

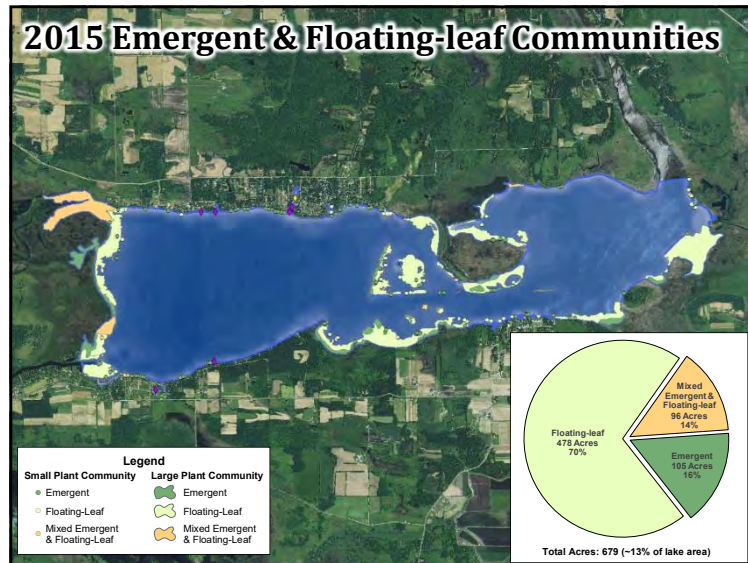
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Aquatic Plants

2015 Point-Intercept Survey

19% of points contained aquatic plants

Onterra, LLC
Lake Management Planning



Shallow Lakes are Special

Clear State

Turbid State

Aquatic Plants are Incredibly Important

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Lake Management Planning

Summary and Conclusions

Aquatic Plants

- Based upon a maximum depth of roughly 7.5 feet entire lake bottom should be available to plant growth
- Currently, only a small portion supports aquatic plant growth
- Overall, Lake Puckaway could have a much healthier plant population

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Summary and Conclusions

Water Quality


- Lake Puckaway is considered impaired for sediment/suspended solids and for total phosphorus
- Lake Puckaway is a complex ecosystem because of shallow depth and inflowing river
- The lake experiences high annual variability for phosphorus and chlorophyll and thus water clarity
- The highest levels of phosphorus are the result of internal loading during years when summer flow is low
- During years with increased plant growth water quality is better
- Wind, flow, & carp all add to water quality issues
- These issues travel downstream to other lakes

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Summary and Conclusions

Fisheries

- Lake Puckaway has a strong fisheries
 - Pike and walleye populations are good now, but biologists believe their numbers and size can be greater with habitat improvements
 - Panfish and bass populations may be on the decline
- Increased aquatic plant habitat would benefit fisheries
 - Pike and perch use emergent plants as spawning substrate
 - Increased submergent plants would lead to increased panfish population
 - Increased panfish would likely lead to less carp



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Lake Management Planning



Lake Puckaway Management Plan

Report Sections

- Water Quality and Fetch Modeling
- Aquatic Plants
- Watershed
- Shoreland Condition

Summary & Conclusions

- Sums it all up

Implementation Plan

- Management Goals
 - Management Actions
 - Timeline
 - Facilitator



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Management Goal:

Enhance Lake Puckaway Fishery

Management Actions

1. **Continue annual harvesting of common carp from Lake Puckaway.**
WDNR and District work together to complete actions.
2. **Continue annual operation of Lake Puckaway Walleye Hatchery.**
Over 9.2 million walleye fry have been released in Lake Puckaway since the start of the hatchery.

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Management Goal:
Improve overall ecological health of Lake Puckaway

Management Actions

1. **Initiate volunteer-based annual water quality monitoring of Lake Puckaway through the WDNR Citizen Lake Monitoring Network.**
Important for tracking long-term changes.
2. **Form Lake Puckaway Shallow Lake Management Workgroup**
Made up of district members, agency staff, & ad-hoc members as needed.
3. **Implement Lake Puckaway Water Level Management Plan**
Will work with other actions to increase aquatic plants and habitat within Lake Puckaway.

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 Lake Management Planning

Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Water Level Management Rationale

- Multiple studies on Mississippi pool waters have shown that reducing water levels to expose sediments and expose deeper areas to light penetration for two consecutive growing seasons can lead to aquatic plant establishment that will thrive for up to 7 years.
 - First year – annual plants establish
 - Second year – perennial plants establish



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 Lake Management Planning

Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Specifications and Definitions


Objective - promote significant plant growth within Lake Puckaway by temporarily extending the littoral zone to allow submergent and floating-leaf plant establishment and to temporarily expose bottom sediments in near-shore areas to allow for the establishment of emergent species.

Starting Lake Level - based upon the bathymetry collected during June and July 2015 and verified with data collected by LPPRD level-loggers at Fish Camp, the starting lake level for the purpose of this WLMP is **764.375** feet MSL.

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 Lake Management Planning

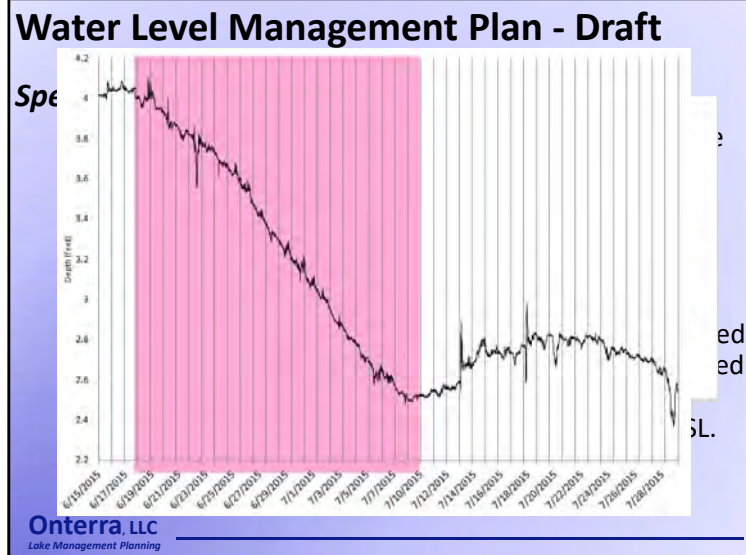
Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Specifications and Definitions



by LPPRD level-loggers at Fish Camp, the starting lake level for the purpose of this WLMP is **764.375** feet MSL.

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 Lake Management Planning

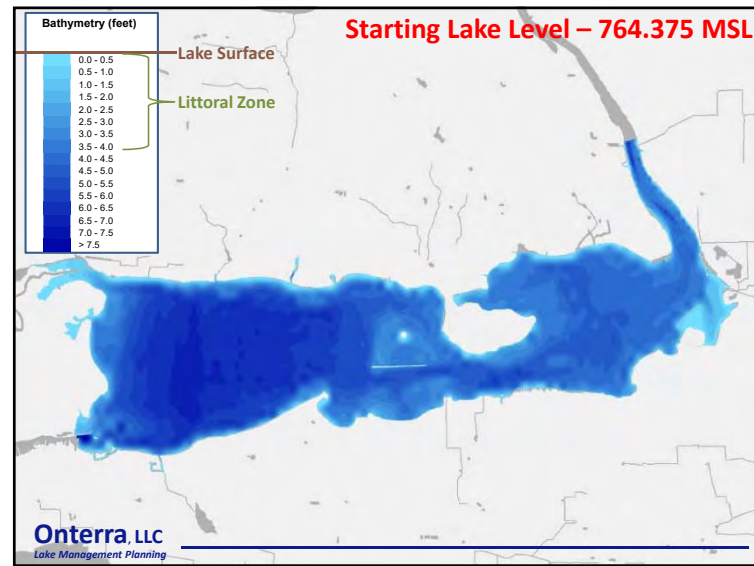
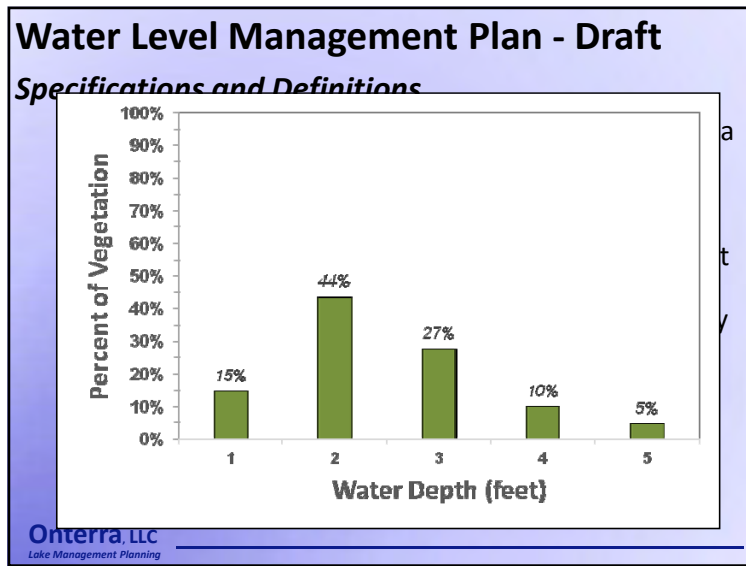


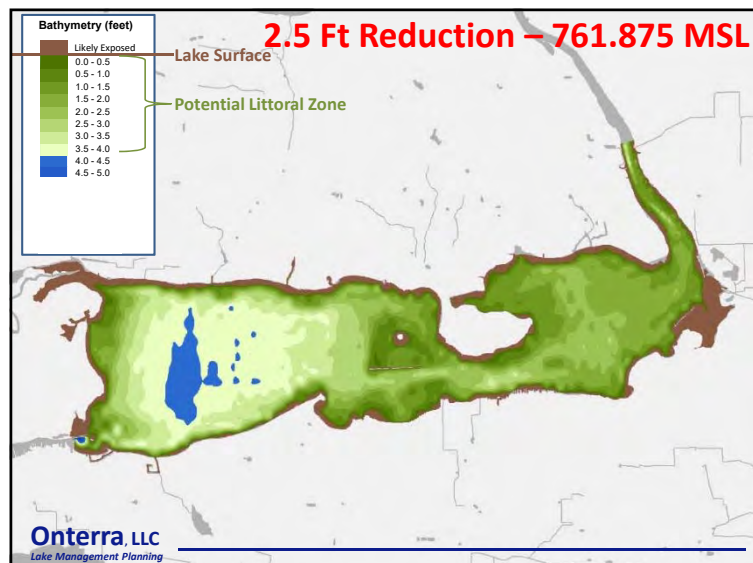
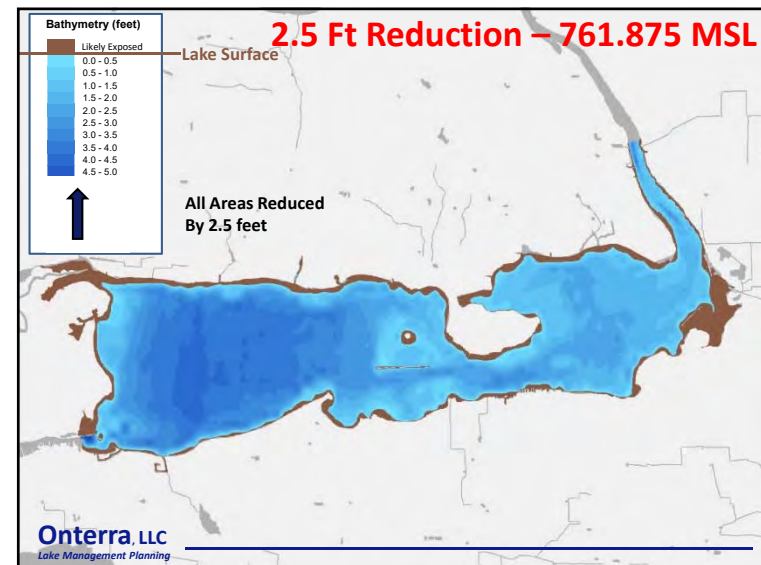
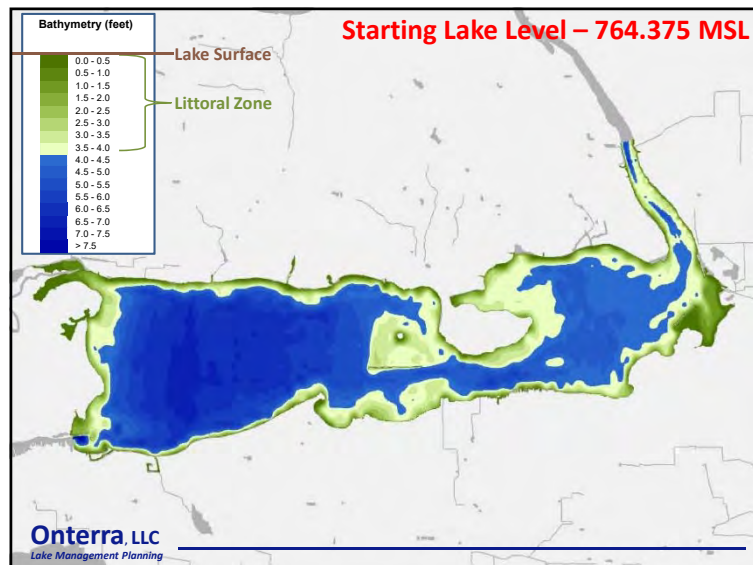
Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Specifications and Definitions

Suitable Water Level Reduction - would expand the area available to plant growth to 75% of the lake area and expose sediments in nearshore areas. To accomplish this, a water level reduction of 2.5 feet (761.875) or greater would be needed; however it is anticipated that the newly encompassed deeper depths would not maintain high occurrences of aquatic plants just as they do not now.

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Lake Management Planning



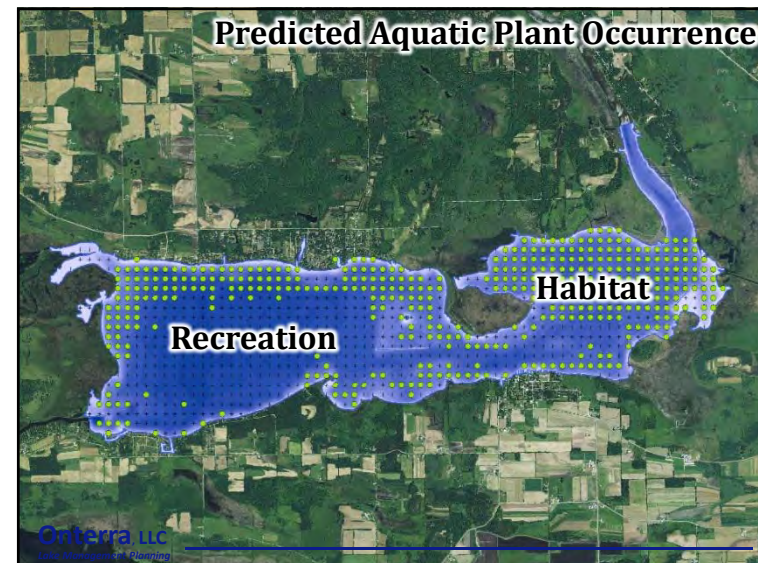
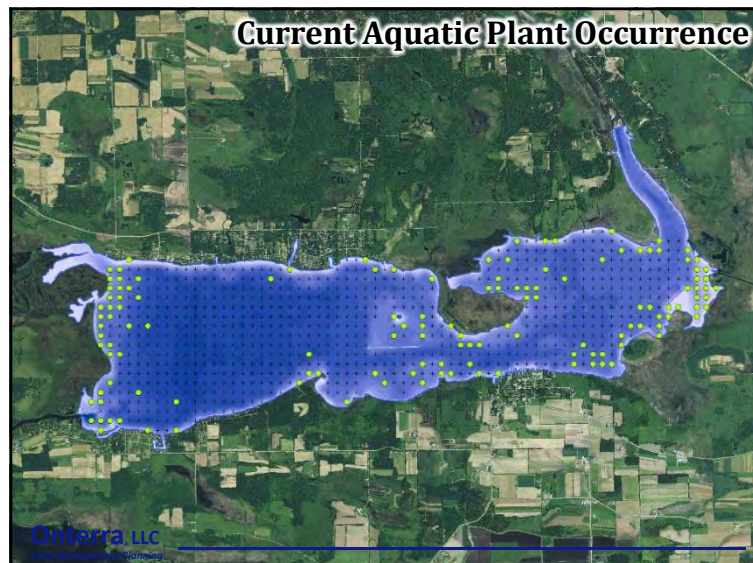


Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Specifications and Definitions

Suitable Water Level Reduction - would expand the area available to plant growth to 75% of the lake area and expose sediments in nearshore areas. To accomplish this, a water level reduction of 2.5 feet (761.875) or greater would be needed; **however it is anticipated that the newly encompassed deeper depths would not maintain high occurrences of aquatic plants just as they do not now.**

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Lake Management Planning



Water Level Management Plan - Draft
Specifications and Definitions

Successful Reduction Sequence - The probability of reducing water levels in Lake Puckaway by 2.5 feet in two consecutive growing seasons is low; however, if the first year does reach a reduction of 2 feet and the second only 1.5, some benefits would likely emerge. Therefore, a successful reduction sequence would include the first year's reduction reaching 2.0 feet or more and the second year's reduction reaching 1.5 feet or more.

Duration of Water Level Reduction - To meet the objective of the WLMP, the water levels would need to be reduced by early to mid-July and remain at the reduced level through September.

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Water Level Management Plan - Draft
Specifications and Definitions

Flow Rates - USGS stream site on the Fox River at Princeton, WI (USGS 04073365).

Lake Puckaway Water Level - staff gauge or water level sensor installed at Fish Camp on the west end of Lake Puckaway at the Fox River inlet.

Fish Camp Staff Gauge: Add 761.21 for Mean Sea Level

Fish Camp Level Sensor: Add 760.275 for Mean Sea Level

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Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Water Level Management Specifics

Year 1 – begin reducing water levels on June 15th by opening lock gates
 Lock gates remain open through September
 2-3' reduction in water levels from June 15 level expected

Year 2 – begin reducing water levels on June 15th by opening lock gates
 Lock gates remain open through September
 2-3' reduction in water levels from June 15 level expected

Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Specific Conditions on Attempts at Reductions

Reduction Attempts - Reductions will be attempted in two consecutive years. If a sufficient water level reduction is not anticipated to occur (see abandonment below) in either of those two years, than during the next two years, no reductions would be attempted. If during either of the two years in which a water level reduction is attempted, a reduction of 2.0 feet or more is achieved, on June 15 of the following year, the lock gates will be opened and remain open through September and the water levels reduced as far as possible.

Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Specific Conditions on Attempts at Reductions

Abandonment - If discharge at the USGS Princeton site is greater than 1,200 cfs on June 15 OR greater than 1,000 cfs on June 30th of either the first attempt or second attempt year, the attempt will be abandoned.

Early Start of Water Level Reduction – During dry springs, water levels on Lake Puckaway may be naturally low causing navigation issues on the lake; therefore, during those low-flow springs that occur during a water level reduction attempt, the lock gates would be opened early to allow for the greatest benefit of reduction. If water flows at the USGS Princeton site are at 600 cfs or less on June 1, the lock gates would be opened immediately.

Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Specific Conditions on Attempts at Reductions

Frequency of Water Level Reductions - If a successful reduction sequence is achieved, a second set of reductions would not be attempted for 10 years. It is important that this specification remain flexible to assure that the ecological benefits gained by completing a successful reduction sequence are not lost. The frequency of reductions should be determined by the results of the studies completed as outlined in the monitoring plan.

Water Level Management Plan - Draft
Specific Conditions on Attempts at Reductions
WLMP Modification or Abandonment - Enhancements to the aquatic plant community will be the foundation and the greatest indicator of improving ecological health of the lake. However, implementing water level reductions, as mentioned above, will have negative impacts on recreation while water levels are low; therefore, if certain predetermined thresholds are not met by a successful reduction sequence, then the WLMP should be modified or abandoned all together.

- Reduction amounts/duration reconsidered
- Incorporations of additional actions
- Creation of entirely new plan

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Water Level Management Plan - Draft
Specific Conditions on Attempts at Reductions
Aquatic Plant Improvement Goals – The following thresholds would represent improvement goals being met:
 Increase of 50% in littoral frequency from 19.3% to 29%
 Increase of 25% acreage of floating-leaf and emergent plant communities from 679 acres (~13%) to 848 acres (~16%)
 These may need to be adjusted if pre-data is collected and significantly different than 2015 results.

Monitoring Plan – Pre-reduction data would be collected within 3 years of first reduction year. Post data collected for 3 years following second reduction year, and 5 years and 8 years after. Water quality would be collected throughout. Fishery surveys to be determined.

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Water Level Management Plan - Draft
Specific Conditions on Attempts at Reductions
Princeton Dam Reconstruction – It is not known when the project will begin (see following Goal/Action).
 Best case scenario: water level reductions over the two-year project meet Successful Reduction Sequence levels.
 If reconstruction water level reductions do not reach suitable reduction levels, then a reduction would not be attempted for 5 years.
 If reconstruction project is not funded in 2017-19 or 2019-21 biennial state budgets, then water level reductions would be attempted utilizing current dam following WLMP.

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Management Goal:
Improve Dam Operation Safety at Princeton Dam

Management Action

1. **Urge State of Wisconsin to reconstruct Princeton Dam as a fixed-crest dam.**

Reconstruction project is in WDNR proposed budget request for 2017-19 biennial budget.
For inclusion in state budget, it must make through:

- 1. WDNR Budget Development
 - a) Management & Budget (M & B)
 - b) Natural Resources Board
- 2. Department of Administration (DOA)
- 3. Governor
- 4. Joint Committee on Finance (JCF)
- 5. House/Senate
- 6. Senate/House
- 7. Governor

Board Resolution
District-wide Petition
Meeting with Legislatures

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Management Goal:
Increase Communication Capacity of LPPRD

Management Action

1. Create LPPRD Communication & Education Committee
Multiple newsletters per year
Use district website and Facebook page to full potential
Develop district-wide email list
Possible hiring of professionals for some of these tasks

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Next Steps

Produce second draft of implementation plan integrating comments from this meeting and committee.

Complete all study reports and other sections of Lake Puckaway Management Plan

Post for public review and comment (mid to late-October)

- District website, Markesan and Princeton Libraries
- Written comments accepted through email and US Post
- Comments accepted February 2017

Integrate comments from public, agencies, board, and committee


Produce second full draft of management plan for board and committee review

Acceptance by district


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Thank You

Many of the graphics used in this presentation were supplied by:



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D

APPENDIX D

Stakeholder Survey Results

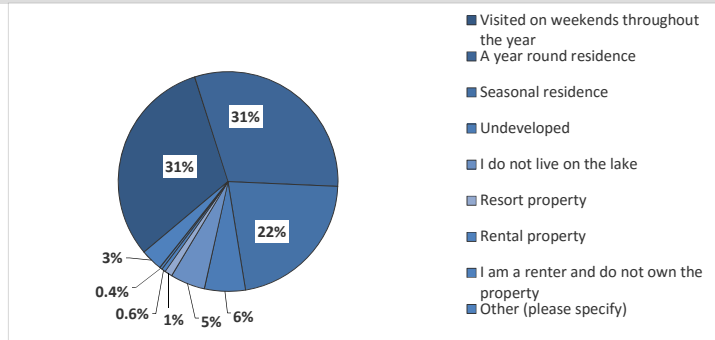
Lake Puckaway - Anonymous Stakeholder Survey

Surveys Distributed: 850
 Surveys Returned: 533
 Response Rate: 63%

Lake Puckaway Property

1. How is your property on or near Lake Puckaway utilized?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Visited on weekends throughout the year	31.2%	165
A year round residence	30.6%	162
Seasonal residence	21.7%	115
Undeveloped	6.0%	32
I do not live on the lake	5.1%	27
Resort property	1.1%	6
Rental property	0.6%	3
I am a renter and do not own the property	0.4%	2
Other (please specify)	3.2%	17
answered question		529
skipped question		4

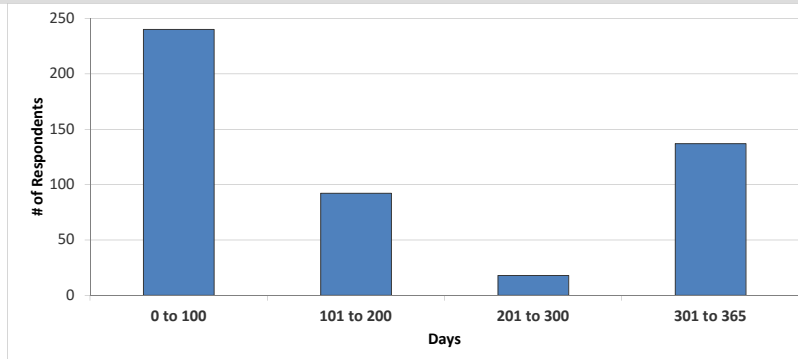


Number	Other (please specify)
1	Weekends plus 2-3 full weeks
2	Seasonal in the Village of Marquette. Boathouse only
3	April thru Nov.
4	visit as often as possible
5	HUNTING ONLY
6	RESTAURANT
7	3 SEASON RESIDENCE
8	spring to fall, when we can to tolerate the campground crowds near our
9	maybe once a month
10	I do not live on the lake have no private access and am forced to pay
11	Don't own lake property and shouldn't be paying a dime as it doesn't
12	utilize residence throughout year; some weekends and some weekdays
13	I have a year around home just off the lake. We have been in this area
14	Year around home with in the District but not on the lake shore. In the
15	Recreation land campsite weekend
16	All summer, all December, all holidays and weekends throughout the
17	Recreation land

2. How many days each year is your property used by you or others?

Answer Options	Response Count
	487
<i>answered question</i>	487
<i>skipped question</i>	46

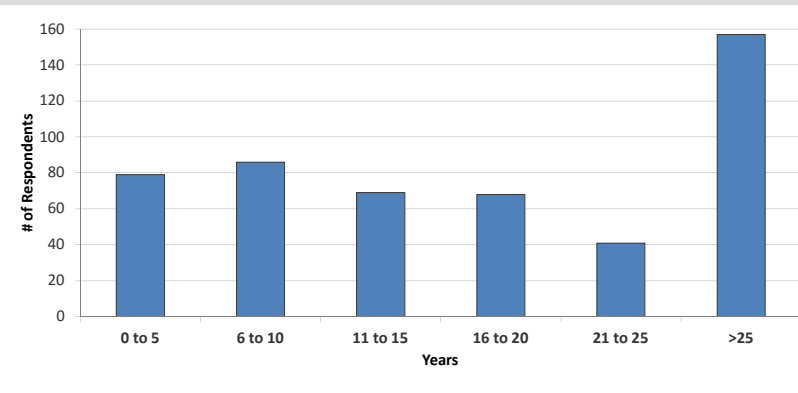
Category (# of days)	Responses	
0 to 100	240	49%
101 to 200	92	19%
201 to 300	18	4%
301 to 365	137	28%



3. How long have you owned or rented your property on Lake Puckaway?

Answer Options	Response Count
	500
<i>answered question</i>	500
<i>skipped question</i>	33

Category (# of years)	Responses	% Response
0 to 5	79	16%
6 to 10	86	17%
11 to 15	69	14%
16 to 20	68	14%
21 to 25	41	8%
>25	157	31%

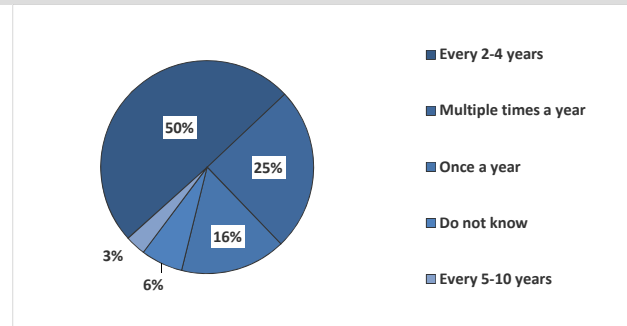


4. What type of septic system does your property utilize?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Holding tank	41.0%	206
Conventional system	30.2%	152
Mound	15.9%	80
No septic system	8.5%	43
Advanced treatment system	2.6%	13
Do not know	1.6%	8
Municipal sewer	0.2%	1
answered question		503
skipped question		30

5. How often is the septic system on your property pumped?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Every 2-4 years	49.7%	226
Multiple times a year	24.8%	113
Once a year	16.0%	73
Do not know	6.4%	29
Every 5-10 years	3.1%	14
answered question		455
skipped question		78

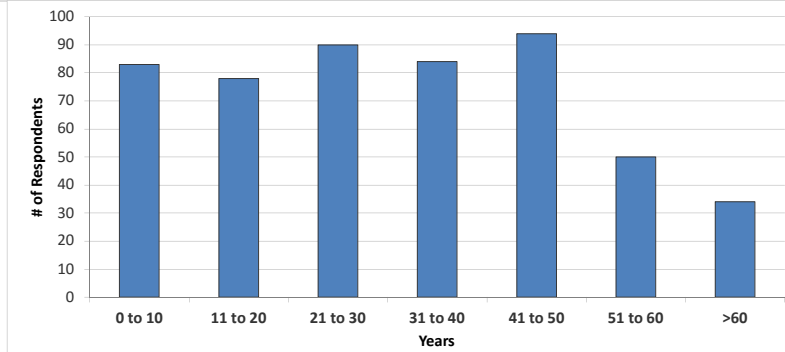


Recreational Activity on Lake Puckaway

6. How many years ago did you first visit Lake Puckaway?

Answer Options	Response Count
	513
<i>answered question</i>	513
<i>skipped question</i>	20

Category (# of days)	Responses	% Response
0 to 10	83	16%
11 to 20	78	15%
21 to 30	90	18%
31 to 40	84	16%
41 to 50	94	18%
51 to 60	50	10%
>60	34	7%



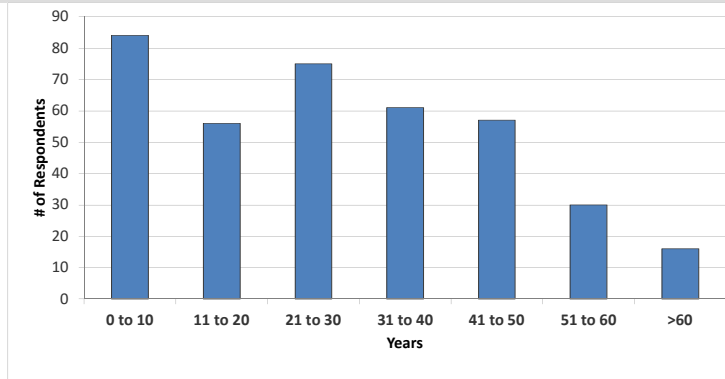
7. Have you personally fished on Lake Puckaway in the past three years?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	73.4%	386
No	26.6%	140
<i>answered question</i>		526
<i>skipped question</i>		7

8. For how many years have you fished Lake Puckaway?

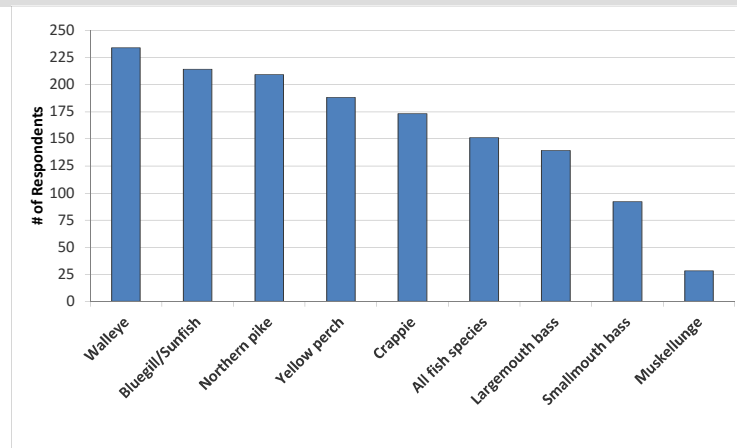
Answer Options	Response Count
	379
<i>answered question</i>	379
<i>skipped question</i>	154

Category (# of years)	Responses	% Response
0 to 10	84	22%
11 to 20	56	15%
21 to 30	75	20%
31 to 40	61	16%
41 to 50	57	15%
51 to 60	30	8%
>60	16	4%



9. What species of fish do you like to catch on Lake Puckaway?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Walleye	60.8%	234
Bluegill/Sunfish	55.6%	214
Northern pike	54.3%	209
Yellow perch	48.8%	188
Crappie	44.9%	173
All fish species	39.2%	151
Largemouth bass	36.1%	139
Smallmouth bass	23.9%	92
Muskellunge	7.3%	28
Other (please specify)	10.1%	39
<i>answered question</i>		385
<i>skipped question</i>		148



Number Other (please specify)

- 1 catfish
- 2 Haven't caught any species
- 3 i like to fish for all but the damn DNR got this lake so screwed up its terrible and the lake district is no better
- 4 walleye northern

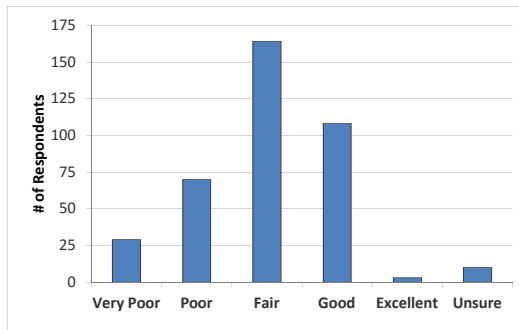
- 5 catfish
- 6 Bullheads, Catfish
- 7 Fish occasionally
- 8 catfish, whitebass
- 9 Catfish
- 10 Catfish
- 11 Catfish
- 12 Catfish
- 13 Catfish
- 14 Catfish, Sheepheads
- 15 Catfish
- 16 Catfish

- 17 Catfish
- 18 Any Fish
- 19 Flat heads
- 20 Catfish
- 21 White Bass
- 22 Cats
- 23 Bullheads many years ago
- 24 Catfish
- 25 Catfish
- 26 CATFISH
- 27 TUNA
- 28 CATFISH

- 29 CATFISH
- 30 CATFISH
- 31 CATFISH
- 32 NOT CARP
- 33 CATFISH
- 34 CATFISH/CARP
- 35 CATFISH
- 36 CATFISH
- 37 CATFISH
- 38 bullheads and catfish
- 39 Catfish, Drum, Dogfish

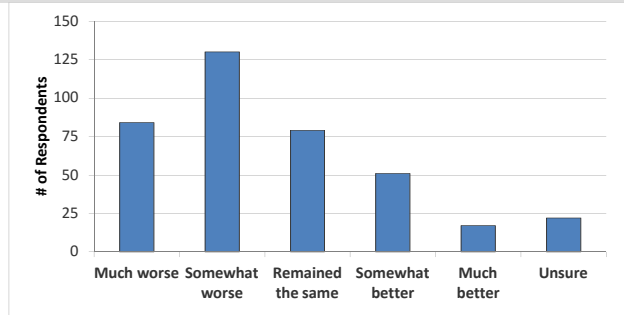
10. How would you describe the current quality of fishing on Lake Puckaway?

Answer Options	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Unsure	Response Count
	29	70	164	108	3	10	384
	<i>answered question</i>						384
	<i>skipped question</i>						149



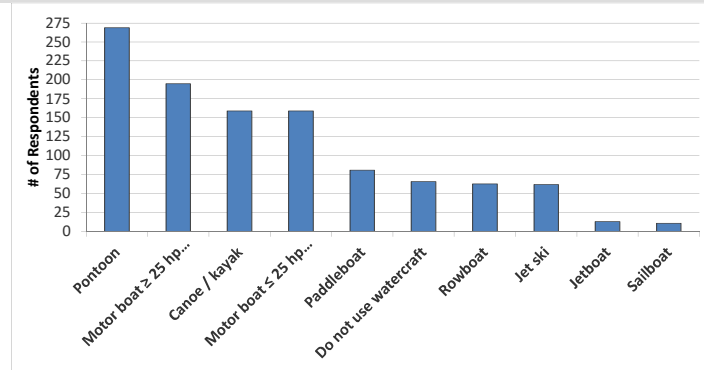
11. How has the quality of fishing changed on Lake Puckaway since you have started fishing the lake?

Answer Options	Much worse	Somewhat worse	Remained the same	Somewhat better	Much better	Unsure	Response Count
	84	130	79	51	17	22	383
	<i>answered question</i>						383
	<i>skipped question</i>						150



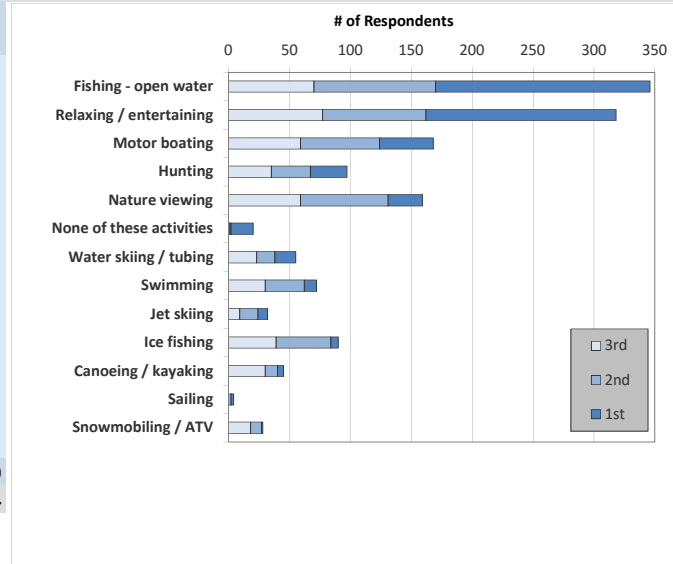
12. What types of watercraft do you currently use on Lake Puckaway?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Pontoon	51.4%	269
Motor boat ≥ 25 hp motor	37.3%	195
Canoe / kayak	30.4%	159
Motor boat ≤ 25 hp motor	30.4%	159
Paddleboat	15.5%	81
Do not use watercraft	12.6%	66
Rowboat	12.0%	63
Jet ski	11.9%	62
Jetboat	2.5%	13
Sailboat	2.1%	11
	<i>answered question</i>	523
	<i>skipped question</i>	10



13. For the list below, rank your top three activities that are important reasons for owning or renting your property on or near Lake Puckaway, with 1 being the most important activity.

Answer Options	1st	2nd	3rd	Rating Average	Response Count
Fishing - open water	176	100	70	1.71	346
Relaxing / entertaining	156	85	77	1.75	318
Motor boating	44	65	59	2.15	168
Hunting	30	32	35	1.96	97
Nature viewing	28	72	59	2.09	159
None of these activities	18	1	1	0.74	20
Water skiing / tubing	17	15	23	2.02	55
Swimming	10	32	30	2.30	72
Jet skiing	8	15	9	2.05	32
Ice fishing	6	45	39	2.41	90
Canoeing / kayaking	5	10	30	2.49	45
Sailing	2	2	0	0.50	4
Snowmobiling / ATV	1	9	18	2.62	28
Other (please specify below)	11	4	9	2.21	24
Please specify "Other" response here					41
answered question					519
skipped question					14



Number "Other" responses

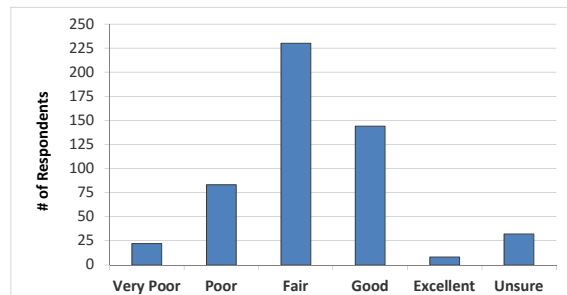
- 1 Duck hunting
- 2 we also fish off our pier, utv on ice, view nature & animals all year, pontooning to entertain & fish & take grandkids tubing
- 3 Kayaking
- 4 Peace & Quite
- 5 County living
- 6 Family
- 7 Family
- 8 Its home
- 9 Cutting Marsh thoy. Stop high horse power boats and go debils. limit areas of activity to encourage plant growth in Puck hunting areas to promote plant growth!!! Boat traffic kills plants!!
- 10 Water skiing/tubing---4th
- 11 Nature Viewing---4th
- 12 Family-- 1st
- 13 Flea Market Princeton--2nd
- 14 Do NOT want anything else built on Marquette Village side that will block my view. Those condos that were built were the worst possible thing ever! Not only are they ugly and don't fit in the atmosphere of our village, but they block the view of the property owners who were there first.
- 15 Shore fishing
- 16 a Fondable -- 1st
- 17 Pasturing Cattle-- 1st
- 18 Pasturing-- 1st
- 19 Put pets

- 20 FAMILY MEMORIES
- 21 PONTOONING
- 22 WILDLIFE HABITAT
- 23 RETIRED HERE
- 24 REGULATED AND CLEAN WATER
- 25 OWN A BUSSINESS
- 26 BIKE RIDING
- 27 FAMILY HOME
- 28 Family Owned Property for Years
- 29 Privacy
- 30 Relaxing, water skiing and tubing with grand kids.
- 31 trapping
- 32 Family summer home
- 33 Pontooning
- 34 water is so low in summer cant even get pontoon off lift
- 35 the key here is I don't own property on or near the lake how ever last i checked every person in the USA owns these lakes not the DNR or the lake district
- 36 disabled
- 37 wildlife habitat
- 38 handicap
- 39 Golf
- 40 waterfowl hunting
- 41 Access & Ability to Boat up River to River's Bend

Lake Puckaway Current and Historic Condition, Health and Management

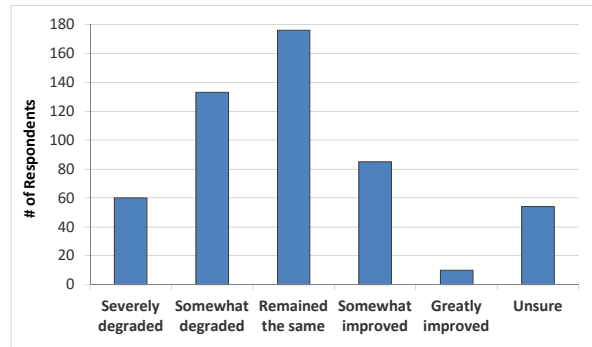
14. How would you describe the current water quality of Lake Puckaway?

Answer Options	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Unsure	Response Count
	22	83	230	144	8	32	519
	<i>answered question</i>						519
	<i>skipped question</i>						14



15. How has the current water quality changed in Lake Puckaway since you first visited the lake?

Answer Options	Severely degraded	Somewhat degraded	Remained the same	Somewhat improved	Greatly improved	Unsure	Response Count
	60	133	176	85	10	54	518
	<i>answered question</i>						518
	<i>skipped question</i>						15



16. Before reading the statement above, had you ever heard of aquatic invasive species?

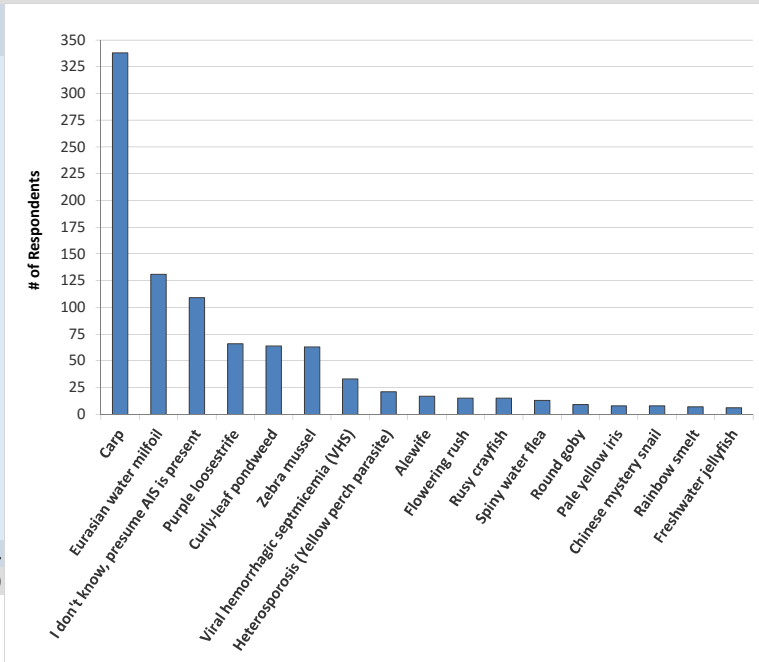
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	90.9%	470
No	9.1%	47
	<i>answered question</i>	
	517	
	<i>skipped question</i>	
	16	

17. Do you believe aquatic invasive species are present within Lake Puckaway?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	87.0%	395
No	13.0%	59
	<i>answered question</i>	
	454	
	<i>skipped question</i>	
	79	

18. Which aquatic invasive species do you believe are in Lake Puckaway?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Carp	83.7%	338
Eurasian water milfoil	32.4%	131
I don't know, presume AIS is present	27.0%	109
Purple loosestrife	16.3%	66
Curly-leaf pondweed	15.8%	64
Zebra mussel	15.6%	63
Viral hemorrhagic septemicemia (VHS)	8.2%	33
Heterosporosis (Yellow perch parasite)	5.2%	21
Alewife	4.2%	17
Flowering rush	3.7%	15
Rusy crayfish	3.7%	15
Spiny water flea	3.2%	13
Round goby	2.2%	9
Pale yellow iris	2.0%	8
Chinese mystery snail	2.0%	8
Rainbow smelt	1.7%	7
Freshwater jellyfish	1.5%	6
Other (please specify)	3.7%	15
answered question		404
skipped question		129



Number "Other" responses

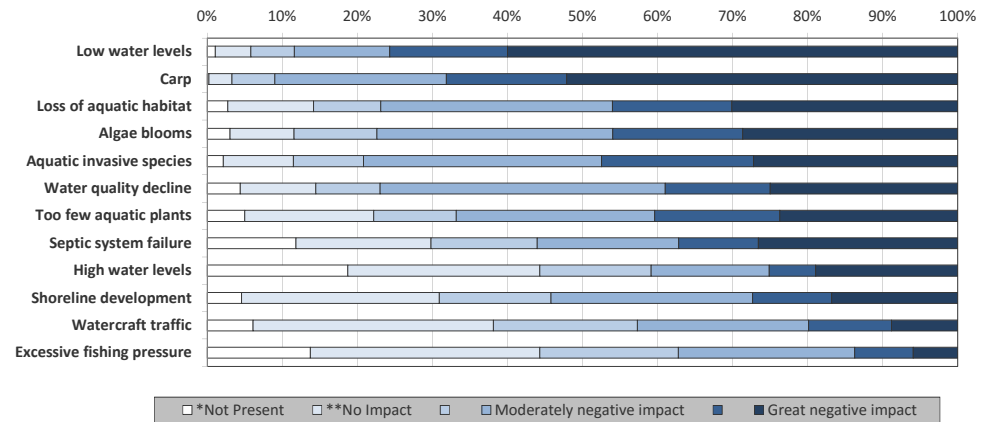
- 1 Overall Pollution
- 2 fishing has gone downhill since they started netting the carp and raised the size limit on the northernns
- 3 I am unsure of the name of the weeds that grow now by the shore
- 4 it muddys the water
- 5 Weeds
- 6 narrow Eurasian cattails
- 7 Very weedy along shore hard to swim.
- 8 Something that make my legs itch
- 9 Do not know plant names
- 10 Sheephead
- 11 NO CONTROL NEED DAM
- 12 WHAT EVER YOU FOLKS PLANT
- 13 NOT SURE
- 14 shad
- 15 dogfish

19. To what level do you believe each of the following factors may currently be negatively impacting Lake Puckaway?

* Not Present means that you believe the issue does not exist on Lake Puckaway.

** No Impact means that the issue may exist on Lake Puckaway but it is not negatively impacting the lake.

Answer Options	*Not Present	**No Impact	Moderately negative impact			Great negative impact	Unsure: Need more information	Rating Average	Response Count	
Low water levels	5	22	27	59	73	279	36	3.02	500	
Carp	1	14	26	104	73	237	43	2.99	498	
Loss of aquatic habitat	11	46	36	124	64	121	77	1.99	479	
Algae blooms	12	34	44	125	69	114	72	2.13	468	
Aquatic invasive species	8	35	35	119	76	102	91	1.95	466	
Water quality decline	18	41	35	155	57	102	79	1.86	487	
Too few aquatic plants	20	69	44	106	67	95	79	1.78	480	
Septic system failure	40	61	48	64	36	90	134	1.35	472	
High water levels	82	112	65	69	27	83	38	1.35	476	
Shoreline development	19	110	62	112	44	70	54	1.40	470	
Watercraft traffic	27	142	85	101	49	39	40	1.26	481	
Excessive fishing pressure	58	129	78	99	33	25	55	0.96	477	
Other (please specify)									60	
									answered question	508
									skipped question	25

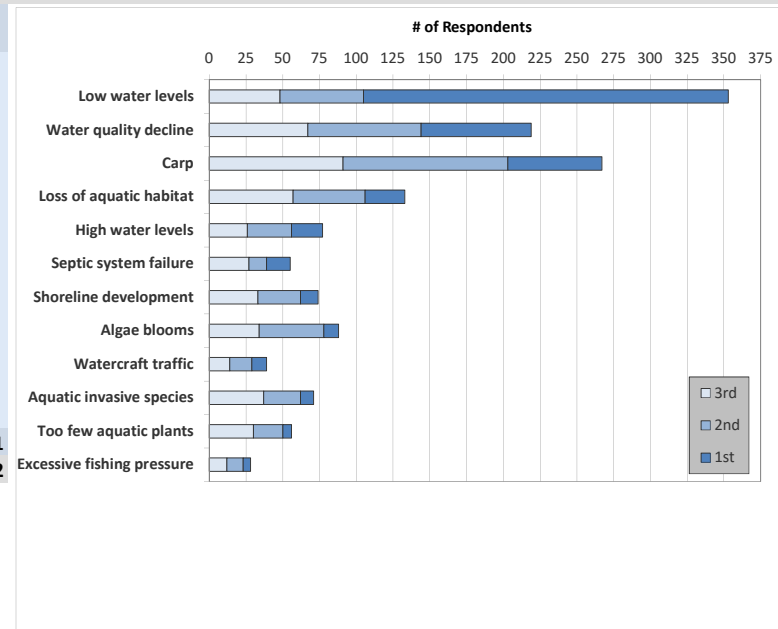


Number	Other (please specify)
1	Longstanding Pollution by Consistent Overuse of a Shallow Lake
2	Concerned about cows grazing on south shore and the activities of Gary Cahoon emptying his septic into the lake.
3	birds eating fish and contributing to water quality decline
4	cormorants, sea gulls and the DNR are destroying the lake
5	draining the ponds and dredging the ditches to drain the run-off into the lake
6	burning & pollution
7	years ago lots of wild rice and bullrushes. allowing large motors on this shallow of a lake is destroying the plant growth
8	keep the water level up year round you wouldn't have a problem
9	wonder about all the grandfather systems of homes and trailer resorts camps etc
10	snowplowing to lake from roads
11	Low water levels is a grave issue on Puckaway this lake could be a gem for the area!! High water levels could bring huge revenue to the area. Montello would benefit greatly, Lake Arrowhead would benefit greatly all areas around the lake would benefit greatly!
12	Grand River Marsh Dam - Great Impact? (Historic)
13	Other Great negative impact: Wildlife disturbance,
14	field run off
15	Shoreline erosion/pier usage
16	the original plan called for removal of the lock and dam not adding to it
17	we need a dam to keep the water level stable and higher
18	Water levels need to be better maintained!!!
19	Shoreline erosion, excessive boat traffic, high horsepower boats, Silt is a major problem with it's issue with loss of aquatic plants, it has 2 feet of silt at the bottom that if removed would dramatically address the health of this body of water. Until silt can be significantly removed, higher water levels are much more effective in terms of improved water quality than the continuous draining. Please get this silt topic added to discussion points as it
20	seems to be a majorly ignored part which is likely the biggest issue with this body of water and it's long term health. Read up on this subject, low impact silt removal should be discussed, silt can possibly be sold as fertilizer
21	Birds that eat all the fish - great negative impact
22	Erosion--- between no impact and moderately negative impact
23	Fertilized farm run off-- between moderately and great negative impact
24	DNR---5
25	Cormorant birds
26	Water is always way low in the Fall and weeds are bad in August
27	inconsistent water level--- great negative impact
28	inconsistent water level--- great negative impact
29	inconsistent water level--- great negative impact
30	inconsistent water level--- great negative impact
31	Water level changes--- great negative impact
32	Too many people that don't respect property owners
33	Farm land runoff-- great negative impact

Number	Other (please specify)
34	No Current through Lake-- Between moderate and great negative impact
35	Resting waterfall in fall need hold over area -- Great negative impact
36	Dredge the channel it is rumored that Gary Cahoon dumps raw sewage from his cabins into the lake during the middle of the night
37	All the sediment from upstream lakes and Grandriver Marsh used to be a sand bottom, its there but you can't find it. (Great Negative Impact)
38	Comorants-- Great Negative Impact
39	Need dam/ control
40	Not respecting no wake zones--- (between moderate and great negative impact)
41	Very poor water level management--- Great negative impact
42	Not respecting no wake zones--- (between moderate and great negative impact)
43	Overpopulation and pollution of small shallow lake--Great Negative Impact
44	Farmers Run Off---Great Negative Impact
45	INCONSISTANT MGT OF WATER LEVELS
46	SILT UP TO 2 FEET HURTING AQUATIC HABITAT
47	FARM RUN OFF DRAINAGE DITCHES INTO LAKE
48	FEW PEOPLE CAN TRULY ANSWER THE ABOVE? RESULTS ARE QUESTIONABLE
49	CHANGING WATER LEVELS
50	FARMING
51	BIRDS
52	MUD BOTTOM
53	NOT INSTALLING DAM BOARDS ON TIME
54	EXTREMELY LARGE MOTORS ON BOATS
55	POOP/WASTE FROM GROWING NUMBER OF CATTLE BROUGHT OVER TO ZACHARY ISLAND FROM NEIGHBORHOOD FARMS
56	FISH MANAGEMENT WDNR 4
57	Open drainage ditches running into the lake with farm run off. This is by far the biggest problem on lake Puckaway
58	control water levels!
59	need the water level to remain steady as it is currently
60	Low water level

20. From the list below, please rank your top three concerns regarding Lake Puckaway, with 1 being your greatest concern.

Answer Options	1st	2nd	3rd	Response Count
Low water levels	248	57	48	353
Water quality decline	75	77	67	219
Carp	64	112	91	267
Loss of aquatic habitat	27	49	57	133
High water levels	21	30	26	77
Septic system failure	16	12	27	55
Shoreline development	12	29	33	74
Algae blooms	10	44	34	88
Watercraft traffic	10	15	14	39
Aquatic invasive species	9	25	37	71
Too few aquatic plants	6	20	30	56
Excessive fishing pressure	5	11	12	28
Other (please specify)	5	5	5	15
Please specify "Other" response here				29
	answered question			511
	skipped question			22



Number "Other" responses

- 1 Too many disrespectful people
- 2 Low Water Levels
- 3 Carp-- 4th
- 4 Too Many Weeds--3rd
- 5 dam needed
- 6 Appears unclean
- 7 Low water level--Big Problem
- 8 CORMORANTS
- 9 TRESPASSING/ENCROACHMENT
- 10 TOO MANY FISHING CONTESTS ALL YEAR--NEED FAR LESS CONTESTS
- 11 no opinion
- 12 Longstanding Pollution by Consistent Overuse of Shallow Lake
- 13 too many birds
- 14 the lake needs a set water level. not up and down.
- 15 cormorants sea gulss DNR
- 16 the agricultural run-off and pond drainage from city has greatly affected all aspects of the lake
- 17 The size limit on Northern is too large
- 18 Spring flooding dangers.
- 19 There is rumor that the lake is going to be drained due to work at the dam. This will be devastating to the lake--there are other ways to get this accomplished without draining the lake.
- 20 Fluctuating Water Levels
- 21 Decline in multiple Fish Species, Not just stocking walleye
- 22 chemical field run off
- 23 water levels not stable septic systems of resorts and homes not code old systems
- 24 weeds

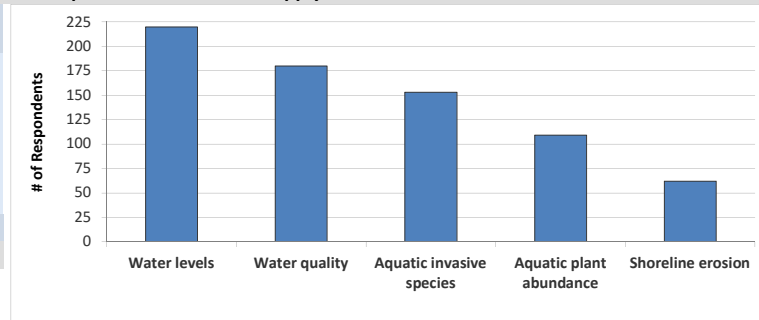
- 25 A problem with the lake is loose sand sediment an wave action look at the depth deviation of early studies compared to current . Forget putting more water in let current residence dig boat channels to the deeper water areas.
- 26 remove silt to improve water quality for long term aquatic improvement
- 27 Drainage ditches farm run off
- 28 Continueing discussion about dam removal
- 29 Dam Control, we need to maintain a higher water level.

21. Do you believe the management of Buffalo Lake impacts various aspects of the Lake Puckaway ecosystem? Please select one answer.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	61.2%	316
No	5.0%	26
Unsure	33.7%	174
answered question		516
skipped question		17

22. If you responded "yes" to Question #21, indicate below what aspects you believe are impacted. Select all that apply.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Water levels	70.1%	220
Water quality	57.3%	180
Aquatic invasive species	48.7%	153
Aquatic plant abundance	34.7%	109
Shoreline erosion	19.7%	62
Other (please specify)	5.1%	16
answered question		314
skipped question		219



Number "Other" responses

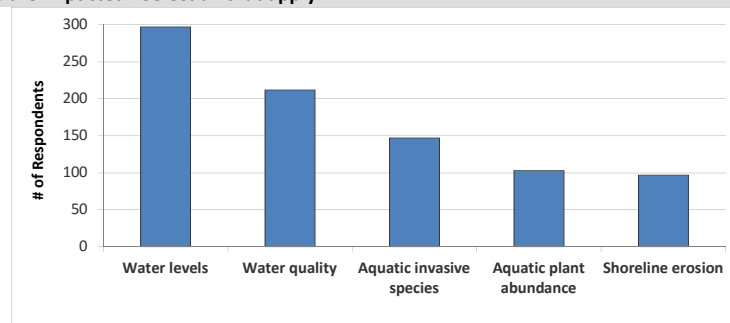
- 1 not entirely sure as B Lake was not in it's normal condition in recent year:
- 2 when they cut weeds they come down the river and end up on our shore and lake for us to clean up.
- 3 DNR removes all the damns ,opens gates to the marsh ,floods where you think all this sediments go
- 4 all waters run together everyone needs to manage
- 5 It provides a source of cleaner water then the direct farm run off and failed septic tanks
- 6 The addition of a Fish ladder to the dam in Montello now allows easy movement of Carp and other Invasive Species between the two lakes. This will allow carp to run freely into buffalo and hide nicely in the weeds where siening is impossible. The negatives of Puckaway are now the negatives for Buffalo and vice versa.
- 7 cut weeds floating
- 8 Cat plants drift into lake
- 9 Fish Ramp to Buffalo lake
- 10 Sediment. Do dredging and you will have a quality lake system once agair
- 11 Fish migration and reproduction
- 12 LOSS OF FISH DUE TO FISH LADDER
- 13 SEPTIC SYSTEM FAILURE
- 14 Water Quality; Aquatic invasive species; water levels
- 15 all of the above
- 16 all of the above

23. Do you believe the management of Lake Puckaway impacts various aspects of the Fox River downstream of Lake Puckaway? Please select one answer.

Answer Options	Response	Response
	Percent	Count
Yes	70.4%	362
Unsure	22.0%	113
No	7.6%	39
answered question		514
skipped question		19

24. If you responded "yes" to Question #21, indicate below what aspects you believe are impacted. Select all that apply.

Answer Options	Response	Response
	Percent	Count
Water levels	81.6%	297
Water quality	58.2%	212
Aquatic invasive species	40.4%	147
Aquatic plant abundance	28.3%	103
Shoreline erosion	26.6%	97
Other (please specify)	3.8%	14
answered question		364
skipped question		169

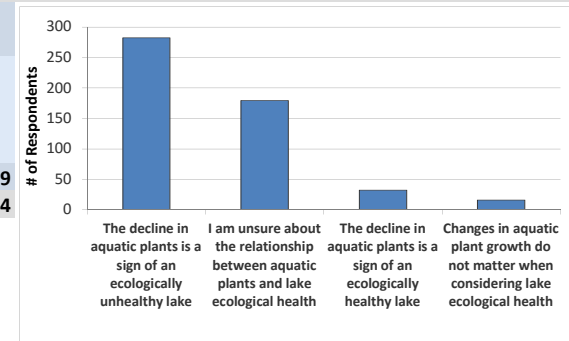


Number "Other" responses

- 1 fewer weeds
- 2 Fish
- 3 once the lake can't handle any more sediment it will head downstream
- 4 Dam control
- 5 THINGS GO DOWN STREAM
- 6 soon puck away will be filled in with all this sediment you will just have a river running through it start dredging
- 7 anything that happens up stream runs down stream
- 8 Anything that runs down hill affects the next system
- 9 Fish Diseases
- 10 may not be a negative impact
- 11 Lake Puckaway's Fish Hatchery spawns fish for downstream lakes and rivers
- 12 water quality; water levels (temporarily)
- 13 all of above and this will not allow more than one answer again
- 14 all of the above

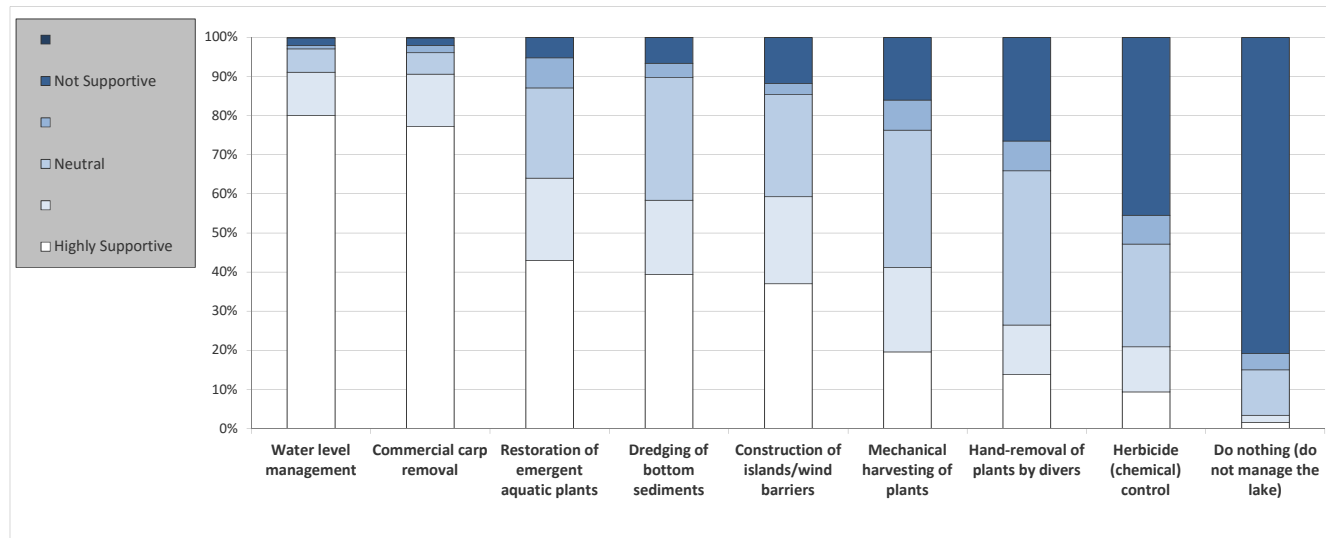
25. Aquatic plants form the foundation of a lake ecosystem and contribute to healthy lakes by reducing erosion and providing habitat for a number of aquatic animals. It has been noted in past lake management reports that Lake Puckaway currently holds fewer aquatic plants than the lake did prior to the 1960's. Do you believe the decline in aquatic plant abundance has had a healthy or unhealthy impact on Lake Puckaway? Please select one response below.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
The decline in aquatic plants is a sign of an ecologically unhealthy lake	55.4%	282
I am unsure about the relationship between aquatic plants and lake ecological health	35.2%	179
The decline in aquatic plants is a sign of an ecologically healthy lake	6.3%	32
Changes in aquatic plant growth do not matter when considering lake ecological health	3.1%	16
answered question		509
skipped question		24



26. There are many techniques that can be used to manage aspects of a lake. Please indicate your level of support for the responsible use of the following techniques to increase the ecological health of Lake Puckaway. Please select one option for each management technique. If you require more information to respond, indicate "U" for Unsure.

Answer Options	Not Supportive	Neutral	Highly Supportive	Unsure: Need more information	Rating Average	Response Count
Water level management	9	4	28	52	3.36	503
Commercial carp removal	9	9	26	64	3.49	502
Restoration of emergent aquatic plants	22	33	99	90	2.29	486
Dredging of bottom sediments	27	15	129	78	2.18	488
Construction of islands/wind barriers	45	11	100	85	1.96	472
Mechanical harvesting of plants	62	30	136	84	1.51	470
Hand-removal of plants by divers	98	28	146	47	1.06	474
Herbicide (chemical) control	185	30	107	47	1.20	481
Do nothing (do not manage the lake)	307	16	44	7	0.92	429
answered question						515
skipped question						18

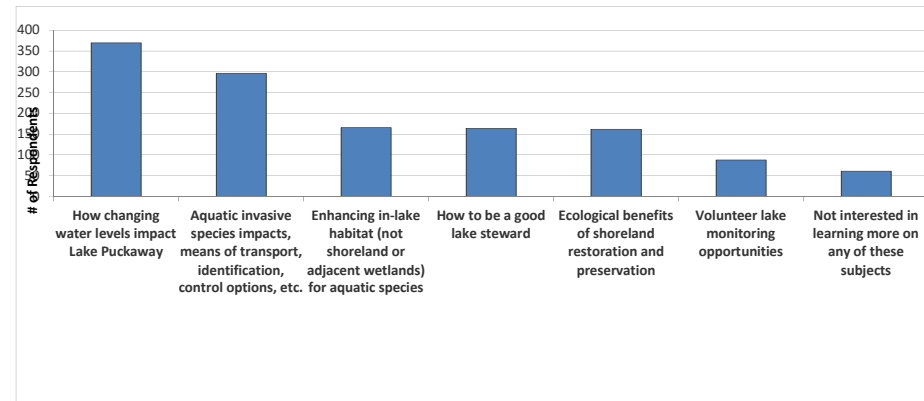


27. Stakeholder education is an important component of every lake management planning effort. Which of these subjects would you like to learn more about? Please select all that apply.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
How changing water levels impact Lake Puckaway	74.6%	370
Aquatic invasive species impacts, means of transport, identification, control options, etc.	59.9%	297
Enhancing in-lake habitat (not shoreland or adjacent wetlands) for aquatic species	33.5%	166
How to be a good lake steward	33.1%	164
Ecological benefits of shoreland restoration and preservation	32.7%	162
Volunteer lake monitoring opportunities	17.7%	88
Not interested in learning more on any of these subjects	12.3%	61
Other (please specify)	5.2%	26
answered question		496
skipped question		37

Number "Other" responses

- 1 The balance between lake home shoreline and non-human habitat of shoreline
- 2 How to stop disrespectful people that have more rights than owners
- 3 Why are we looking at draining the lake for dam repair?
- 4 Just Dredge
- 5 DAM
- 6 "Quit wasting time and get something done"
- 7 STUDY ON SILT REMOVAL FOR LAKE HEALTH
- 8 FILL IN DITCHES THAT RUN INTO PUCKAWAY
- 9 INTEREST-YES-CONSERVED-NOT SO MUCH
- 10 WHY DO DNR OR CTY NEED PERMITS TO PUT ROCKS ON SHRELINE?
- 11 WHEN WILL THE DNR ADMIT THAT WE HAVE MORE WEEDS IN HIGH WATER (DRAW DOWNS DON'T WORK)
- 12 FISH POPULATIONS-PERCH, WALLEYE ECT.
- 13 LAKE HISTORY
- 14 lake level is to low, constantly ruining propellers, landings suck, not enough of them
- 15 How to Stop Pollution casued by overuse that leads to destruction of healty lake
- 16 controlling access due to uncontrolled and unregulated campground and similar situations growth
- 17 Construction of a dam to keep water levels at an acceptable level.
- 18 seems lake has more weeds
- 19 disabled
- 20 #26 - we are not supportive if water level management refers to lowering levels.
- 21 Get rid of comeran
- 22 why cant all of the debri be removed from the river dead tree branches and such
- 23 What is the DNR doing
- 24 HOW TO plant on my shoreline and WHAT TO plant
- 25 How can we maintain a higher lake level
- 26 Cormorant removal!!!! They are eating the fish.



28-1. Princeton Dam Operation and Impact on Lake Puckaway Water Levels

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Ineffective at maintaining adequate water levels in Lake Puckaway	70.1%	356
No knowledge / Unsure of impact on Lake Puckaway water levels	15.6%	79
Effective at maintaining adequate water levels in Lake Puckaway	14.4%	73
answered question		508
skipped question		25

28-2. Princeton Dam Operation and Impact on Lake Puckaway Emergent and Other Aquatic Vegetation

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
No knowledge / Unsure of impact on emergent and other aquatic vegetation	49.4%	251
Ineffective at maintaining emergent and other aquatic vegetation in Lake Puckaway	40.6%	206
Effective at maintaining emergent and other aquatic vegetation in Lake Puckaway	10.0%	51
answered question		508
skipped question		25

28-3. Princeton Dam Operation and Impact on Lake Puckaway Dam Safety

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
No knowledge / Unsure of impact on dam safety	53.5%	272
Has provided unsafe dam conditions for maintenance crews and others	30.3%	154
Has provided safe dam conditions for maintenance crews and others	16.1%	82
answered question		508
skipped question		25

28-4. Princeton Dam Operation and Impact on Downstream Water Levels

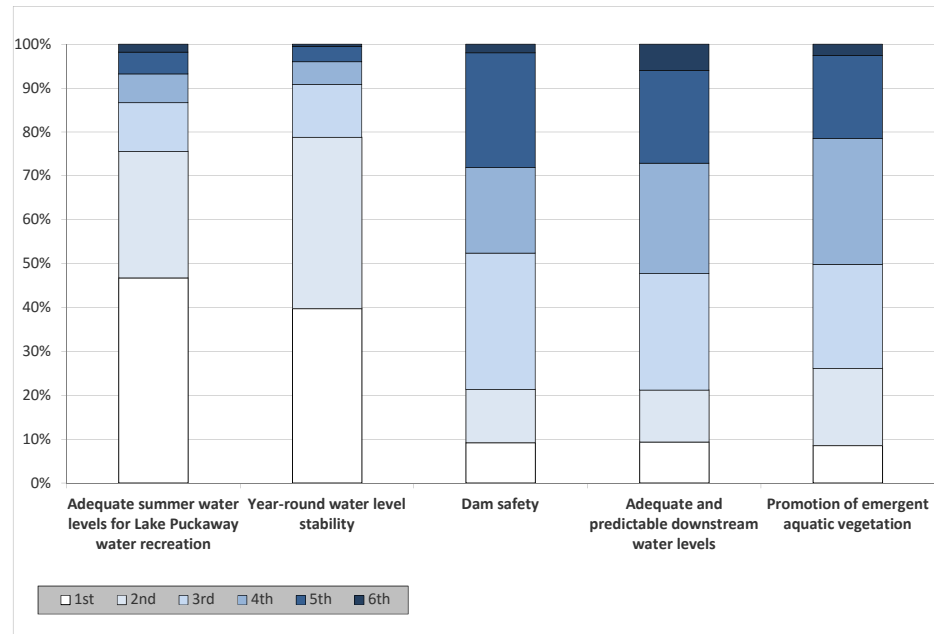
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
No knowledge / Unsure of impact on downstream water levels	48.4%	245
Has provided inadequate and / or unpredictable downstream water levels	39.5%	200
Has provided adequate and / or predictable downstream water levels	12.1%	61
answered question		506
skipped question		27

29. Which of the following factors would you like to see addressed in construction of a new dam in Princeton (downstream from Lake Puckaway)? Please select as many factors as you would like, with "1" being your top factor, "2" being your second rated factor, etc.

Answer Options	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	Response Count
Adequate summer water levels for Lake Puckaway water recreation	207	128	49	29	22	8	443
Year-round water level stability	182	179	55	24	16	2	458
Dam safety	34	45	115	72	97	7	370
Adequate and predictable downstream water levels	33	42	94	89	75	21	354
Promotion of emergent aquatic vegetation	31	64	86	104	69	9	363
Other (please specify)	4	8	7	2	9	21	51
Please specify "Other" response here							40
answered question							496
skipped question							37

Number "Other" responses

- 1 Unsure
- 2 Stop summer water recreation in areas when plant life would return if there is no activity
- 3 Fish
- 4 Maintain the recreational quality of Puckaway during Dam reconstruction
- 5 Good luck
- 6 Water Quality
- 7 a new dam will accelerate the decline water quality
- 8 Constant overpopulation = pollution of small shallow lake!
- 9 Low water level big problem
- 10 PROVIDE FISH ACCESS
- 11 CLOSE DITCHES
- 12 ABILITY TO LOWER WATER LEVELS
- 13 ALLOW LAKE LEVEL CONTROL FOR PURPOSES OF IMPROVING HABITAT
- 14 DAM SAFETY SHOULD NOT BE CONTROLLED BY THE DNR
- 15 HIGHER CONSTANT WATER LEVELS
- 16 CARP REMOVAL
- 17 STABLE FISH POPULATIONS
- 18 FISH LADDER
- 19 SHORE LINE DAMAGE FROM WINTER ICE
- 20 Stop illegal & failing septic systems
- 21 keep vegetation off the lake
- 22 Adequate lake management board, educated and effective. This is currently not so, nor has been for years.
- 23 maintain adequate navigable water level until end of waterfowl season
- 24 set the water level for puckaway and leave it alone
Water level has not been satisfactory due to too late installation of the dam boards. It's my opinion that if you are trying to
- 25 keep something "full" don't let it go "empty" in the first place. A new dam will not help if the same people are calling the shots concerning water levels.
- 26 construct a new dam and maintain that level year round no removing boards



- 27 manage all the floating and submerged tree and crab
- 28 Higher levels equate to more visitors which equates to more revenue!
- 29 The district has been talking about this issue for years. I wish something would be done so we can move forward.
- 30 Ability to effectively lower water levels
- 31 no opinion
- 32 reduce weeds
- 33 Meet the current clean water standards for everyone. Prepare for the cost to the district when the water system fails the future clean water standards and the down stream community hands the lake Puckaway district with the problem.
- 34 Allowing effective water level drawdown
- 35 Lock to go up or down river
- 36 Provide/ maintain water levels on Puckaway during reconstruction by using shoring

- 37 fish passageway
- 38 do not know where hiawatha lake is
- 39 Dam safety must attend any other options
- 40 do the right thing for all

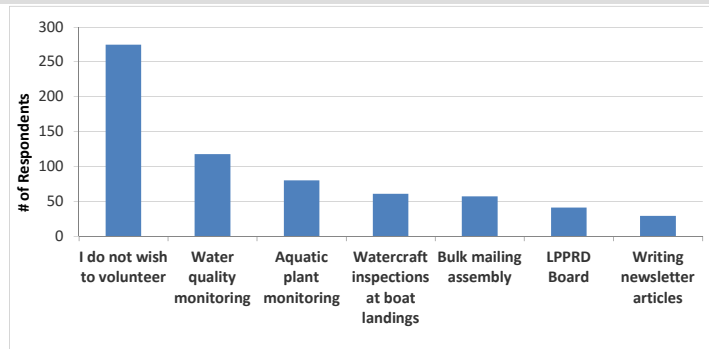
Lake Puckaway Protection and Rehabilitation District (LPPRD)

30. How informed has the LPPRD kept you regarding issues with Lake Puckaway and its management? Please select one choice.

Answer Options	Not at all informed	Not too informed	Unsure	Fairly well informed	Highly informed	Response Count	Response Count
	28	109	93	236	43	2.32	509
	answered question						509
	skipped question						24

31. Please note that because this survey is anonymous, your answer to this question will not be regarded as a commitment to participate, but instead will be used to gauge potential participation of stakeholders in the LPPRD. The effective management of your lake will require the cooperative efforts of numerous volunteers. Please circle the activities you would be willing to participate in if the LPPRD requires additional assistance. Select all that apply.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
I do not wish to volunteer	55.8%	275
Water quality monitoring	23.9%	118
Aquatic plant monitoring	16.2%	80
Watercraft inspections at boat landings	12.4%	61
Bulk mailing assembly	11.6%	57
LPPRD Board	8.3%	41
Writing newsletter articles	5.9%	29
Other (please specify)	8.3%	41
	answered question	493
	skipped question	40



Number "Other" responses

- 1 n/a till retirement
- 2 Can't volunteer because of my age!
- 3 not living there full time.
- 4 why do anything--the DNA runs it their way i dont believe the lpprd has any say
- 5 to old to help
- 6 At this time I would be unable to assist in any of the above activities.
- 7 i wish i could go fishing with my children and not have to through every thing you catch back in because it is not big enough this is not a trophy lake nor do we want it to be
- 8 handicap

9 disabled

10 Help gather signatures in protest over constant low water levels.

11 Anything to maintain and improve the lake water quality

12 Willing to help if i can contribute

13 Health reasons

14 I am too old 88

15 I will be leaving the area in the near future

16 [I do not wish to volunteer] at this time

17 [I do not wish to volunteer] at this time

18 [I do not wish to volunteer] due to age

19 Next year I'll be available [for bulk mailing]. [I do not wish to volunteer] at this time

20 Too old

21 I am considering selling my land because of disrespectful people, i want to be left alone, these people have more rights than I do it. Why should I pay taxes so snowmobiles can use my land for free and whatever I do does not stop them, and disrespectful duck hunters that park on top of us

22 Not at this time

23 Not at this time

24 Any way possible

25 [I do not wish to volunteer] at this time but would like to later on

26 Out of state

27 Weed Removal

28 Anything you would do, the DNR would screw up, seen it way too much here (just dredge)

29 Work days

30 Whatever i am capable of doing

31 Water level management

32 Too old to volunteer

33 DONATIONS

34 HABITATE IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITIES, PLANTING PLANTS; REMOVING INVASIVE; ETC

35 IF IT IS ANONYMOUS HOW DID YOU KNOW WHO TO RESEND THIS TO?

36 DISABLED

37 ANYTHING I CAN DO

38 none

39 tern rafts, walleye hatchery, navigation buoys

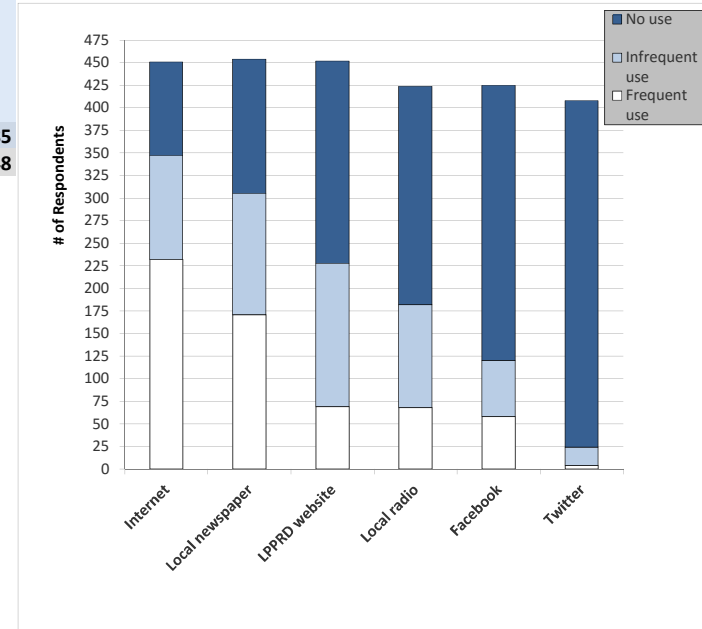
40 not sure what it all entails from the tern rafts to the hatchery etc but i would like to be briefed and attend some meetings to learn. i assume others would also, but we do not know what i needed

41 I can't help at this time

32. Please indicate how frequently you use the following media sources to stay current on local or non-local news, current events, and your interests. Please select one use rating for each media source.

Answer Options	No use	Infrequent use	Frequent use	Response Count	Response Count
Internet	104	115	232	2.37	451
Local newspaper	149	134	171	2.01	454
LPPRD website	224	159	69	1.76	452
Local radio	242	114	68	1.60	424
Facebook	305	62	58	1.47	425
Twitter	384	20	4	1.08	408
Other (please specify)					31
answered question					485
skipped question					48

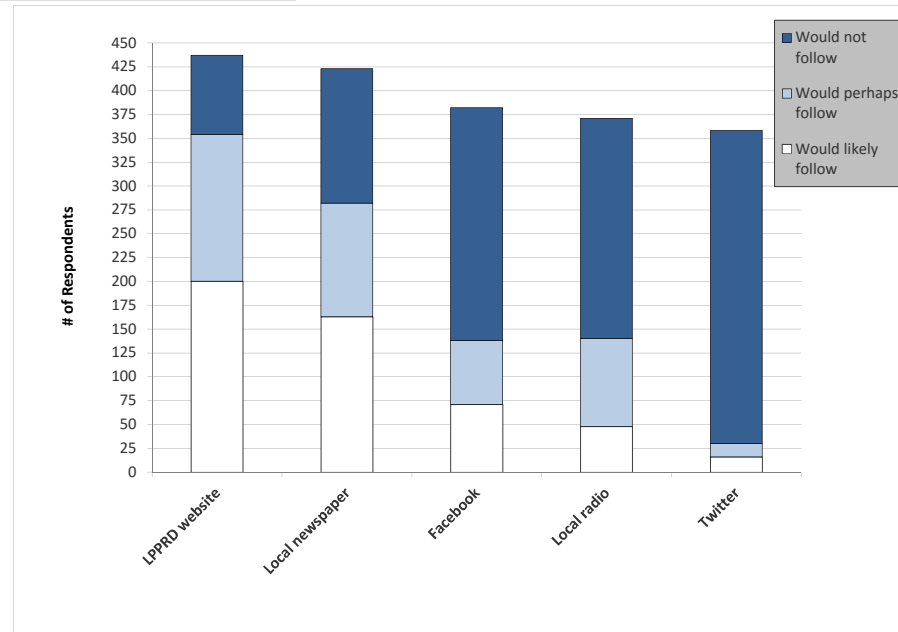
- Number "Other" responses**
- 1 Wisconsin Outdoor News
 - 2 I go on Puckaway Lake-Link daily.
 - 3 TV NEWS
 - 4 green bay tv
 - 5 madison tv
 - 6 Brochure in mail
 - 7 madison TV
 - 8 TV contacting elected officials with questions or talk to neighbors
 - 9 National News, CNN, NYT
 - 10 word of mouth which is usually gossip and wrong
 - 11 (I didn't realize there is a LPPRD website)
 - 12 TV for non local and would prefer email updates or info on a regular basis
 - 13 mailings
 - 14 Mail
 - 15 Neighbors and local people
 - 16 Newsletter
 - 17 TV
 - 18 Television-- Frequent Use
 - 19 Word of mouth
 - 20 Newsletter (frequent use)
 - 21 Newsletter (frequent use)
 - 22 Newsletter (frequent use)
 - 23 WOULD LIKE TO SEE A BLOG ON WEBSITE FOR OPEN COMMUNICATIONS
 - 24 WORD OF MOUTH (NEIGHBORS)
 - 25 RELY ON MAIL
 - 26 OUTDOOR NEWS
 - 27 NEWSLETTER
 - 28 DIDN'T KNOW THEY HAD A WEB PAGE
 - 29 TALKING WITH PEOPLE THAT LIVE ON THE LAKE ALL YEAR--NEIGHBORS
 - 30 none other than annual mtg notice



33. Brief updates on the Lake Puckaway management planning project, aspects of the lake's ecology and lake water level management information could be provided through several media sources. Below, please indicate which sources you would follow in order to receive more information about Lake Puckaway. Please select one rating for each media source.

Answer Options	Would not follow	Would perhaps follow	Would likely follow	Response Count	Response Count
LPPRD website	83	154	200	2.38	437
Local newspaper	141	119	163	1.95	423
Facebook	244	67	71	1.57	382
Local radio	231	92	48	1.43	371
Twitter	328	14	16	1.13	358
Other (please specify)					40
answered question					481
skipped question					52

- Number "Other" responses**
- 1 Mailings-- would likely follow
 - 2 Newsletter (would likely follow)
 - 3 Email-- would likely follow
 - 4 Mailing info paper
 - 5 Newsletter
 - 6 Mail
 - 7 Neighbors and local people-- would likely follow
 - 8 Text to view website when changes addede --- would likely follow
 - 9 Mail-- Would likely follow
 - 10 Markesau/ Berlin Weekly
 - 11 Mail-- Would likely follow
 - 12 Newsletter (would likely follow)
 - 13 I have poor or no internet receptiopn at this residence
 - 14 Newsletter
 - 15 Newsletter (would likely follow)
 - 16 DIRECT MAILING
 - 17 LAKE PUCKAWAY WEB SITE
 - 18 MAILINGS & NEWSLETTER
 - 19 MAILINGS
 - 20 MAILINGS & NEWSLETTER
 - 21 NEWSLETTER
 - 22 LAKE LINK
 - 23 EMAIL UPDATE
 - 24 NEWSLETTER
 - 25 LAKE LINK
 - 26 MAILINGS
 - 27 KIOSK POSTINGS
 - 28 MAILINGS



- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 29 Wisconsin Outdoor News 30 post in local public areas 31 Newsletter 32 Please 33 NEWSLETTER 34 Mailings or newsletters | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 35 tv green bay 36 madison tv 37 Brochure in mail 38 FACE TO FACE MEETINGS 39 TV Madison 40 I am connected buy restoration shore line projects which I am co founding with the Green Lake county |
|---|---|

34. Please feel free to provide written comments concerning Lake Puckaway, its current and/or historic condition and its management.

Answer Options	Response Count
	221
<i>answered question</i>	221
<i>skipped question</i>	312

Number	"Other" responses
1	I don't have a large boat, but I have to drag the boat or paddle out about 100 yards before I can safely start my motor, I am very unhappy about that.
2	Lake Puckaway is beginning to deteriorate at an advanced rate. When the lake was left at a constant level through all seasons it showed great improvement. I feel that the lake draw down is ridiculous and unsafe. We still experience flooding routinely in the spring and that is with boards drawn out. Shoreline erosion is due to the lack of shoreline emergent weeds to protect from wind and waves. We have maintained a buffer belt of natural grasses to assist in deterring erosion and we have a base shoreline that has maintained it's position for over 100 years. Not man on the lake can say that because they have decided back in the late 70's and 80's that pulling bulrushes and natural emergent weeds and then running manicured lawn right down to the lake as being very important. It has come back to hurt those properties and now new owners are in place that are concerned about the disappearing shoreline.
3	You have done a good job,for witch you have had to work with.
4	I'm sure everything here is important 4 lake management, but it is hard 2 answer many of these ?'s when we are seasonal residents. We love the Lake, the area & the people. Please do what is best for the lake & it's users, be they fishermen, boaters, hunters, or plain water recreational users (swimmers). Thanks 4 all u do. The reason we have a decline in healthy aquatic plants is a direct result of longstanding consistent overuse of a shallow lake that was not meant to withstand the stress of overpopulation.
5	Trolling should be banned. No wake periods should be put in place. Too many people look at Lake Puckaway only from a recreational standpoint - they do not care about pollution from overuse or it's long term ecological health. They only want to selfishly use to abuse it for their own personal gain.
6	The LPPRD has done virtually nothing to maintain a consistent and usable water level which is the most important concern.
7	Need to keep the water level up.
8	please increase the lake depth it is annoying for the motor to be stuck in the mud. would like to sail on lake but too shallow for keel.
9	It is clear that the board would like to replace the Princeton dam. It is imperative that this effort be carried out by a temporary dam/water diversion system and not drain down the entire lak as Buffalo was.
10	Don't build anything else n the south shore and watch Gray Cahoon
11	Owner should be allowed to manage their shorelines to protect against erosion without expensive permits
12	Lake is slowly dying for fishing and recreation and is becoming more of a place to do bird watching
13	I love this Lake!
14	Restoring habitat, cover, and food would have a very positive impact on migrating and local waterfowl. Years ago, Puckaway was a major waterfowl lake. The decline of the above has also contributed to the declining waterfowl.
15	The water levels have been a great concern for all users of the lake! This needs to change immediately to keep people coming back to enjoy the lake! DNR needs to monitor the lake more often. Have heard people say that when the walleyes, gills and crappies are biting, they get their limit, take them to shore and go back out to get more
16	limits,
17	You need to get the good weeds to grow . Like 40 yrs ago bull rushes etc. Drain the lake down to promote . Duck hunting is horrible . No VEGETATION
18	fifty years ago this was a great lake for fishing. today it is a terrible lake-32 inch Northerns--stupidthat's why most people I know fish somewhere else
19	maintain better water levels and drop the size limit on the northerns
20	Stop carp netting May -June.way too much interference during prime fishing times.Public launches blocked to unload carp .Net stretched across lake shuts down any fishing on public wate while dragging game Fish all over
21	The lake has really changed the 58 years to the worst.

Number	"Other" responses
22	I think a new Princeton Dam would make a big difference on this lake.
23	Been coming here for the past seven years and we just love the lake and the whole area. The fishing has improved for me but that is a result of learning the system. I hope the lake doesn't have to be drawn down for the dam reconstruction, don't want those forever weeds to form as I am on the north shore.
24	The water level is the worst problem, by August I have to take my boats out of the water! In the last 7 years, it has gotten worse
25	Since we entertain friends and family members via Pontoon, it has been very embarrassing when when bottom out and explain the low water problem. sometimes even having to get off the pontoon....not good publicity for a great area.
26	I would really like to see the building of a new dam and common sense used to maintain an acceptable water level. Letting the lake get so low and then deciding to add the boards or close the dam does not work once the typical dry summer months arrive. Very seldom do we get sufficient rains to recover from the low water levels.
27	I feel the carp removal program has been very successful in recent years and encourage it to continue even if it additional cost to property owners. Carp will never be eliminated do to upstream influence(i.e. Grand River Marsh and Buffalo lake).
28	would like to see a more constant water level maintained if possible and is done with out hurting the lake or the property on and around the lake
29	Lake Puckaway has declined under the current board members. They do not listen and act on the requests of the citizens. They try and evade answering questions presented to them. They have their own agenda. If someone volunteers to help unless they are a friend or good buddy they are turned away. The only time they need you is if they are in a jam. They fail to inform the public and think that an annual meeting is all that's necessary. They seem to think tax dollars are never ending and that its their agenda not the public. I wish the board would disband because very little is being accomplished.
30	I feel that good water stewardship is essential for our survival
31	The biggest problem I see is the water levels to low, not a lot of panfish and a 32 inch size limit on pike.
32	You would only need to visit Lazy Lake Fall River to see what a real dam system should look like. I grew up on this lake 74 years ago. Water control is a joke. Can't remember the last time I caught panfish or bullheads on the lake.
33	This lake has gone down hill for years, all the sediment that has come down from the marsh and removal of dams Buffalo Lake the DNR does absolutely nothing to clean the lake but can come up with excuses, low water levels from the Princeton Dam only hurt the lake. You talk about no vegetation low water levels in the winter ice freezes at that low level and wind and ice flows tear the vegetation from its roots and all this sediment it can't grow, the size limit on the northern is foolish, you caught more and bigger fish when there was no size limit again you can blame the DNR and the individuals who want trophies, fishing is not for kids anymore, all this is how I feel and many others share the same opinion.
34	Keep up the good work. I admit that I am not very knowledgeable regarding the management of the lake, but I have seen newsletters indicating that there are a number of people actively involved with the management of the lake. It is much appreciated.
35	the effort to establish emergent vegetation over the past several years was worthwhile to the extent that we now know that it will not work. The sacrifice on water level during the summer is a high cost to recreational water users as it affects boating, fishing (too warm) and fosters excessive algae blooms in late summer. The new dam should maintain a water level at least 14" higher than the "no boards in" level. 18" higher would be perfect. Lake shore property owners should also be given the opportunity to participate in an emergent vegetation management program adjacent to their shoreline...with plants and instructions (possibly guidance) provided by the LPPRD and/or DNR representative. Let's get people engaged in helping...not just complaining.
36	I have seen the decline of fishing and lake over the years seems like we have more weeds, more floating debris and the cormorants killed off the island and have moved to another location and killing off the trees. Chased the Eagles farther away. People call it the dead sea.
37	lake has rapidly declined over the years. water quality fishing and the growth of algae and weeds
38	Keep up the good work
39	Water quality and clarity is a big issue for trying to swim in late summer. Water levels change too often, making piers, and beach water activities hard at times.
40	We love this lake. It seems to me that ever since the regulation went to the 33 inch slot limit, it has hurt the population of the Northern Pikes. Water levels have impacted our use of the lake which has been disappointing over the years. We just had to replace our septic, which was a financial burden, and welcome any additional info on impact on septic systems. Thank you for taking the time to communicate with stakeholders.
41	See lotus bed restored. Get wild rice back. Get ducks back.
42	Keep water levels at a natural level for this lake. Don't do anything special for recreational uses. Shore line erosion is an issue.
43	Water level stability is a very important issue to me. A boat lift is rendered useless when the water level drops drastically - as it has virtually every year - half-way through the summer.
44	Unhappy at the low water level of the lake in the summer months. We are unable to get our pontoon out on the water when it is so low.

Number	"Other" responses
45	<p>I'm glad to see that the County has done more to clean up the blight areas of the North Shore. It was a great improvement seeing the trash trailers etc removed from the area just to the East of the Good Old Days. Yet there are still some unkept places along the shoreline. The low water levels are the most heard complaints. our lake loses out on vacationers who would rather go elsewhere just because of the levels. There could be so many more advantages getting the levels high and keeping them high. Regarding the work on the dam. Lowering Puckaway would be a disaster and travesty. redirect the water at the dam---but don't drain the lake. If that happens one of the best campgrounds around Lake Arrowhead will suffer the consequences and we wouldn't be able to give our properties away. Let's think about those of us who have had a history here and who love it here....we all pay taxes as well---we should expect a Lake that we can enjoy for swimming, fishing, boating, skiing etc....and should not have to be concerned about how we are going to get our boats in the lake or out---because the levels were lowered. This is the one way you can save our Lake!! raise the levels and keep them raised. generate revenue for the preservation of the Lake by making it the recreational lake that people want to use. I have noticed the duck migration pattern has changed. What is being done to address this if anything? Also, the carp and drum population is out of control and are damaging this lake back to 1970's conditions. Nothing was mentioned about the Grand River Dam in this survey, only Buffalo Lake. Nothing was mentioned about the cormorants unless this was inherent in the invasive</p>
46	<p>species questions. Finally, what can be done to bring back the bull rush population? Take the necessary steps to bring back the lake to life! It is up to all of us to do our part, but it is up to you to lead us. I thank the district for their past and futures efforts.</p>
47	<p>The LPPRD is doing a great job. My only concern is with the proposed Princeton dam construction and the possibility of a draw down, which we need to avoid as much as possible.</p>
48	<p>20 yrs ago the lake was more clearer pan fish were more plentiful, and now at times the water is extremely smelly and dirty. needs to be dredged to promote better plant life</p>
49	<p>We love Lake Puckaway, and we are VERY upset over the current weed conditions...it is almost as bad as Buffalo Lake. We moved from there and don't want to move from Lake Puckaway..Please address the weeds asap</p>
50	<p>The last two or three years we have seen an ever increasing ugly weed increase on the north side of the lake. It is starting to look like Buffalo Lake. This is not why I came to Puckaway to rake weeds off my water surface. I'm very concerned that these weeds are on a rapid increase and no one is doing anything about it. I also can't wait for a permanent solution to the water level with a fixed damn in Princeton will do.</p>
51	<p>I have been using this Lake for over 50 years and with in the last 15 years or so the water level has been dropping downing the summer so low you can not use your water craft,pontoons and boats ,,At this time you are unable to fish . Why do you own land on or around the lake if you can not even use the lake for fishing.. or water sports ... Please address this in a news letter to all the owners</p>
52	<p>Keep water levels HIGH . With dropping the water levels you can not use your water craft and the fishing also hurts downing the summer months. With higher water you are able to fish from your piers along with your pontoons. Limit the fishing Tournaments on the lake</p>
53	<p>Please keep the water levels HIGH,It is very disappointing every year when you put your water craft in in the spring ,,you are unable to use it all year seeing the water levels drop so low you can,t get your boats/ pontoon OFF THE LIFTS. Fishing is much better all around the lake when the levels stay high . We should not have to worrie about An other lake/ I was told Green Lake needs our water . What about the people paying for Lake Puckaway.Please keep monitoring the Carp and removing them as needed . Thank you</p>
54	<p>There is too much focus on summer recreation and not enough on overall lake management. High water does not equal lake health. Part of the District's name is Rehabilitation. Let's rehab this lake to it's historical condition when hunting was great and fishing was record breaking. This lake could be restored to its fishing greatness and break its own northern pike state record. That's when resort business was at its best as well. Take proper care of the lake and the lake will take care of you!</p>
55	<p>It is very important to maintain summer water levels. There is way to much fluctuation</p>
56	<p>VARY CONCERN ABOUT FLOODING AND HIGHWATER LEVELS.</p>
57	<p>Very pleased by the efforts to manage the health of the lake.Interested in information that as a year round south shore "Weekender" what we can do to do our part.</p>
58	<p>Over the years Puckaway has been dying. Fishing of Perch nothing. use to catch 50 per day limit years back in the day ducks were plentiful too</p>
59	<p>Haven't felt anything has really improved since the LPPRD was formed Years people have been asking for stable water levels. Seems too many weeds fishing is very very poor. The lake ha suffered many disasters in the past few years with heat wave, fish dying water levels. No Perch a lot of debri from the high waters</p>
60	<p>The management group has worked very hard anddone a very good job. Applying for dam funds takesa long time.</p>
61	<p>Would like to ease restrictions on creating a more appealing and protective shoreline on owners property. Too restrictive!</p>
62	<p>The low water levels combined with increase in silt levels are of great concern.</p>
63	<p>LAKE PUCKAWAY HAS MANY NICE DESTINATIONS BY BOAT.LOW WATER OFTEN PROHIBITS THERE USE.LAKE IS NOT JUST FOR FISHING</p>
64	<p>We need a dam to keep the water level up at all times</p>
65	<p>Please try to keep water levels up during summer holidays!</p>

Number	"Other" responses
66	The present board has done an excellent job protecting and improving the Lake quality over the years. It is a job that requires dedication and hard work. I am not a board member! I thank all who are and have been board members.
67	More stable water level in the summer
68	It is hard to get off lifts and into lake because of low water and weeds tangle in motors. Lake quality is such that you would not want to swim in it. Stop chasing water levels to pay for someone to purchase a bigger boat. it's about water Quality in the long run. Let rich landowners dig their own boat channel. DNR permit/regulate spoils but tax it as a property improvement \$ c. then Stop putting boards on dam every year. Natural inexpensive solution for water plant and fish improvement. Trade off for the boat channel access program to existing domiciles for low water chance with boards of one in 6 years.
69	The towns and counties are going to need to address the septic issue. The drain fields are saturated with water water during high water periods when the water system floods. They fail. We do not want to get tagged with the responsibility of solving surface water problems for other property tax districts on the Fox river system
70	My biggest concern would be water levels in the open water seasons. Past management of putting boards in/out of dam has been a joke and bunch of poor excuses. This has cast a negative spotlight on the LPPRD board of directors. I know the board does it's best
71	but I don't think a lot of people trust the board members anymore. I hear comments that some board members have their own agendas and that's all that matters to them. Maybe that is why the turn out for the LPPRD meetings is not better. Good luck!
72	The lake is a MESS! I pay a HUGE amount of Taxes to Live on and Enjoy the Lake. Every year the taxes go up and the lake water level goes down!!! If I wanted to sell my property, it would be virtually impossible due the Lakes Condition...I am sick and tired of all the Talk, it's time for some action...If the water level got any lower there would not be any water at all..... A stable water environment has always brought about the best situation for the fish and for the habitat(weed growth). A removal of sediment and recreation of an Island would in turn create
73	a positive response in the lake. By dredging it would actually lower the lake level by increasing the main lakes depth and would then allow the shorelines to grow emergent plants out further in the Lake. One control can benefit much.
74	water level inconsistency and floating weed bogs really a problem I have lived full time on Lake Puckaway for 24 years now. And own two homes on the lake that are full time residences. I have seen this lake go through many changes in my life. Excellent fishing when I was young. The lake died off for many years. (kind of funny the same affect as routine) I have done a study on carp and their control and believe the best control practices is to increase the predators. While the netting of carp is only good public relations. Dose anyone Monitor these netters and what they are doing on a day to day basis!!!!!! Or do they just do what they want. I currently hold a current state of Wisconsin Commercial Aquatic Applicator. I have seen tax payers money wasted for many years on puc. Leaves a bad taste in your mouth. Two districts that could not get along. I do not attend meetings for this reason. It is easy to sit and write this but I should not be able to criticize the district as I do not participate. But you sent the card.
75	
76	You need to get a handle on the water level. Summer levels are very disappointing. The whole area gets a bad name and loses tourist money
77	I support a healthy lake Lake Puckaway conditions are almost worthless. Water is too low, which makes it impossible to get into any boat before walking out 400 ft to run motor. This has caused vacationers to cancel or make this a one-time visit, even with your little 12 ft. boats. No older person wants to do this. Also more could be done to protect the north shore, which washes out at least a foot each year. Thank you for asking.
78	
79	I would like to see the water level management done better.
80	The Lake District must do a better job of informing the public about lake management and activities. Current public information is inadequate. Too many people know too little about decisions made by too few.
81	Over the years, management has done a good job with its limited funding & deaf, slow to respond democratically DNR! Fishing & duck hunting was much better 45 years ago. Let's make Lake Puckaway Great Again! TY Cathy S.
82	Am very concerned about the low water levels and lack of good fishing in this lake. It has steadily declined and continues in a downward direction. There appears that more is being done to attract birds than to improve the lake and its fishing. Would be an economic boon to the area to restore its once great fishing reputation.

Number	"Other" responses
83	The lake level management has been pretty brutal over the last several years. Lowering the lake level has not appeared to help aquatic quality based on what I have seen. The 2' of silt appears to be the biggest issue with this body of water based on 100 years of biological build up on the bottom that is not going anywhere. By removing mass amounts of the silt, it will lower the lake level in the main basin and will certainly help address the issue that the water quality comes into Lake Puckaway fairly clean and leaves dirty. If we really want to address the long term viability of this body of water for both plants and fish species. We have lots of data that has been collected, can we work on trying to get some state/federal grant applications to try and clean up the lake bottom so that it can start to rebuild back to health? It may be good to network with a similar style lake as well for techniques, a similar lake to Puckaway in Michigan is Houghton Lake, I believe it would be very interesting to reach out to their lake management to see what Michigan is doing differently over there or ideas on what has or has not worked for that body of water as another idea as Michigan DNR has been pretty good on lake management over the years over there. Thanks for doing this, it has been nice to be able to communicate out some concerns and ideas, we all want to see Puckaway here as a great family destination for generations to come.
84	A draw down on Puckaway will effect fishing on the Lake for five to seven years. I would hold the lake water level before dam reconstruction. There are a lot of seniors and there families on th lake not very promising for the next five the seven years.
85	Fantastic that LPPRD has the Walleye Hatchery and has released so many fry. Like the work that they are doing with removing of carp, hatchery, aquatic plants, endangered terns, cormoran removal and buoys.
86	Please keep the water levels high - it benefits all the businesses, livelihood of lodging providers and property values of everyone around and upstream from Puckaway. I would like information on how we, as lake-front property owners, could maintain weed and plant-life control along our shoreline so we could swim. I like having plant life further away fo
87	fishing off the piers. We have wonderful sandy beaches which go out as far as waist-high, but plant-life, whether evasive [invasive] or not, is taking over the swimming areas - since I've owned my lake home. It's getting more uncomfortable to swim
88	Spent the winter in Florida that's the reason for delay I know lake link has fishing reports but not really helpful.
89	How about a webcam at Good Ol Days for lake laughs and ice formation. Keep up the good work and thanks.
90	I read all mail
91	Another survey!?! Why the expense? Just review the last 5...nothings changed! Improve/replace the damn dam! Where's the "special" Dam Fund! Dredge silt and create structures with silt!
92	When the Princeton Dam is replaced, you need to find a way to do that without draining the entire lake. Walleyes are coming back. We don't want to lose that momentum. Thank you!
93	In the 9 years since we purchased the property we've seen the lake conditions deteriorate to the point we are selling our property and searching for a cleaner and friendly laka
94	Its current condition is just awful! Its current management stinks!
95	Dam management to keep lake water levels up and consistent. Levels drop over 2 feet between spring and summer. Dredging of North side shoreline and deepening of lake
96	Keep the DNR our of Lake Puckaway. What is the use of the LPPRD when the DNR runs it.
97	Thanks for the survey. FYI your postcard arrived 3 days AFTER on line due date If water levels were stabilized at 12-16 inches higher than recent low levels the past few years, then emergent plants would have a chance to grow along shorelines with proper depth. Bul
98	Bushes and Reeds would also grow. Meanwhile it would meet the satisfaction recreational users. Landowners and others should be given the opportunity to plant and reestablish aquatic plants with LPPRD assistance.
99	It is important to us that the water level is maintained at a useable level for boating and pontooning. When the water level gets too low we can't even get our boats, etc off the lift The lake isn't even pleasurable to look at when the boards are not put in early enough to hold the water in.
100	This lake has gotten worse and soon to be DEAD!!! The drain down will kill it!!
101	great care should be given in preseuy [?] the water level and water quality up the lake to retain property values and if possible revive property value
102	The lake levels are horrible
103	Very nice work! Thank you!
104	Thank you for all your volunteering and work at managing but anonymous - but I received survey?? Really??
105	In our many years problem with consistent water levels is very important. All we ever heard was are the boards on in spring-- answer NO. Water too high. No insurance available. Who is authorized to do this? That question NEVER answered. Some early spring low water level from winter run off. yes no board put on until May.
106	You can tell by the questions that you are trying to increase navigation by controlling water level. The question about vegetation compared to pre 1960 doesn't mention that the lake wa always unusable because of the vegetation at that time
107	Donna Warth died last April. I have not been up there in years. I have family that has.

Number	"Other" responses
108	I believe one of the major decline of vegetation in the lake is due to carp. I have noticed in the last 2 to 3 years we have more vegetation due to the commercial fishermen doing an excellent job. Low water levels in summer with boating activity creates lots of turbulence in the water resulting in less sunlight and which its plant growth
109	I plan on moving next year so I will be more involved at that time My husband and I have spent a good part of our life at Lake Puckaway. Also our four children. First we rented a cottage from Mrs. and Mr. Hopeks. Then we rented a spot for a small trailer from
110	Hank Dopek. and we liked it so much we bought a piece of land from Hank for a bigger trailer. The water was clear for swimming. The fishing was great. The water is not clear anymore. The fishing is not as good anymore. My wish for Lake Puckaway is to have it as we did in our lifetime. Good Luck
111	Keep water level the same year round. In the fall the level is too low
112	The lake was great, as was the fishing until the draw down approximately 20 years ago. Until that time we had vegetation growing in front of our property and I had no problems catching a wide variety of fish. After the drawdown the vegetation disappeared and the quality of the fishing had never been as good.
113	Fix the dam. Keep the carp out. If water levels stay the same the lake will be fine
114	It was a wonderful lake when I was young (40s and 50s). We had a slide and an area to swim. Boating was good.. Fishing and hunting were great. I do not use the lake anymore so I don't keep up with all this. Sorry. Good Luck!! If you get rid of disrespectful people the lake would be better off. Stop the use of GoDeviIs and limit horse power on boats. Stop snowmobiles from trespassing on private property when I put signs up and ribbon they just went around on ran it over. Go Devils will run over wild rice and ruin whatever they want and argue that they are legal. some people will park within 100 yards of my old hunting buddies blind and wont move because they are legal. I call it disrespectful, my buddy has been hunting that corner for over 50 years cant these people leave us some space? There should be a enforceable law on boats parking by blinds!
115	
116	The current management condition is good
117	Water levels are the only real concern. Fishing is always good. It seems every summer the water is drawn down too low for boating etc. Because I had heard that they lower the level of the lake for the duck hunters which I think is causing all the negative
118	things you hear about this lake. Hopefully this fall the lake will not be lowered because that affects the ice fishing. The last two years I have not went ice fishing. Until I see the water levels stay up I will not use this lake at all for any type of fishing.
119	From when we bought our hunting land (used mainly for duck hunting), there has been a drastic down turn in the ducks that stop over on this lake. I don't know the answer but would sure like the vegetation to come back.
120	Clean the river. Take out tree in the river. ones that are in the middle of the river.
121	Every August we have to pull our boats out and take to Madison because they are sitting on the sand! The water levels are horrible! Never consistent in 6 years.
122	walleye wagon is a good thing. Wood hope it would be bigen. Plant more grass islands.
123	We love the area but is embarrassing when entertaining guest in August in the river/lake levels are so low you bottom out on a pontoon ride as you are showing the great features of the lake Some how there must be a way for both using the water as recreational and fishing.
124	What is the DAM construction going to do/ effect the fishing and hunting on Puckaway. What is the restoration process? How long before we have a lake?
125	I am pleased that the condition of the lake is always being addressed. I would like to see more beaches developed along the lake. Thank you
126	35/40 years ago I purchased an undeveloped piece of property with the thought for recreational use. being 190 miles from Puckaway I have only frequented the property perhaps 5 times in that 35/40 year period. As I'm getting older and retired my thought is to perhaps have one of my children find interest and possibly enjoy it as I have not. It will remain within my family.
127	Water levels need to stay higher.
128	fishing has gone down due to water levels being too high or too low
129	The future for this lake is looking better every year. Keep up the good work. Thomas G Zodrger [?]
130	I am in favor of doing whatever is necessary to the Princeton dam that would maintain a decent water level during summer months. The "boards" are usually put in way too late. My theory is if you're trying to keep something full, don't let it go empty in the first place. I can't believe safety is a legitimate excuse for the boards going in so late.
131	I hate fishing just like to relax and enjoy beautiful sunsets and relax.
132	The fishing has greatly deteriorated over the past 50 years. (I used to fish in the late 1960s until present time The water quality is getting worse as well. It is a beautiful lake in a beautiful setting. I would love to see better fishing and cleaner water for wildlife and water sports.

Number	"Other" responses
133	<p>I don't know if this is the proper place to say this but I am very concerned about the raw sewage that I HEAR is dumped into the lake at night by a certain resort owner. Also concerned about the cattle that are able to "poop" right on the water's edge too.</p> <p>I've lived here all my life, seen the lake go through different stages from great to bad mostly all because of DNR decisions, poisoning the fish with helicopters to kill the carp, but instead killin everything to draining of the marsh, removal of dams upstream and all the sediment that is now in this lake, you could find sand bottoms many areas of the lake now its a struggle to get a boat through, plants won't grow in that environment low water levels in the winter helped to have ice freeze down so far that it either killed the vegetation or was ripped out when ice came off with</p>
134	<p>wind. The size limit on northern was also stupid, was better fishing without that size limit 32" and you could keep 5, I'm to the point I really don't care to fish on this lake anymore. I don't fish for trophies I fish to catch a meal of fish to eat.</p> <p>P.S. If there was dredging done on the lake would improve. And I did fill out this form online, it is too bad that website sucks and didn't get it to you.</p> <p>Prohibit motor trolling anywhere on the lake.</p>
135	<p>Change the daily bag limit on walleye to three and change the size limit to only fish from 15" to 20" and one fish may be over 25"</p> <p>Change size limit on northern to one fish over 26"</p>
136	<p>I believe the overall quality and condition of the lake have declined. I believe the allowance of the Cormorants have wiped out the perch. The removal of the locks/ dam/ spillway between Buffalo Lake and Puckaway was not a good move</p>
137	<p>No ComputerM- 90yrsF-87yrs</p>
138	<p>We bought a condo in Marquette on Lake Puckaway mostly as a weekend and summer getaway retreat. My sons and I have always enjoyed fishing and hunting on the lake and would like to be able to continue to participate in those activities</p>
139	<p>I would like to become more involved in 4 years when I live on Puckaway year round...Sorry I'm sending you this so late!!</p>
140	<p>Love the lake but water levels make it hard to get to business on the lake. So its hard to support local business if you can't get your boat to their docks. Not all people are willing to jump in and walk to piers</p>
141	<p>Need good dam/ fish ladder / good water level / boat launch OAH st Junk! Dredge??</p>
142	<p>Overall doing a good job of improving conditions, Changes of this water the time</p>
143	<p>My main concern is the new dam does not make the spring floods linger into late May. We could potentially lose 100's of acres to high water. Late high water could cause thousands of dollar in losses to our operation.</p>
144	<p>Somebody please read "Andrew Sabai's" Final report!!</p>
145	<p>over the years the interest in Lake Puckaway has improved in maintaining/improving the ecosystem. communication regarding different aspects of the ecosystem and the lake district in general have improved as well.</p>
146	<p>We are in our 80's and do not fish the lake like we did so many years ago but would like to see lake Puckaway stay in good fishing condition along with water quality of the lake. we had man' years of been on Lake Puckaway . also lobe to go down and watch all the birds and beautiful sun sets over the lake. "Best of luck"</p>
147	<p>Lake Puckaway used to be a great lake that my grandfather and I fished all year it was fun. Now I own property on it and I don't use it as much as I would like to mainly because of the quality o the lake and its fishing. Make it a great lake again for me and my grandchildren to be able to use. Thanks</p>
148	<p>Appreciate all that your organization has done to oversee the maintenance of the lake for all of us stakeholders. I am unable to do much to help right now as unable to get up to lake property a much as would like to. Sincerely want the lake to be maintained to be a safe and recreational waterway.</p>
149	<p>Fix the dam already!! STOP giving "bonuses" payments to carp removal fisherman! they are ALREADY paid for the job! These "bonuses" are robbing taxpayers of the funds they contribute to the LLPRD. Also, consistent overpopulation of this small shallow lake equals POLLUTION!! too many people abuse this small shallow lake!! Put "no wake" periods in place and STOP TROLLING!! also do not drain the lake as this would be a waste of all the efforts of the fish hatchery, etc. I believe "more restrictions on the use of the lake" would help the water quality and fish and wildlife and plants.</p>
150	<p>Am very happy LPPRD exists and support your efforts</p>
151	<p>Sorry I didn't respond to your previous mailings. I do not have a computer. That is a luxury I cannot afford. If I didn't have to pay 5,000 a year for taxes I could afford a computer. Lake Puckawa should be called Muckaway because that is what it is by the 4th of July. Last year I could not have my great grand kids go into the lake. It was so stinky and full of algae. Sometimes the smell (like a sewer) is so bad we cannot sit outside. People who have been around many years before I bought my cottage tell me how it used to be and how clear and clean it was. Now I'm paying</p>
152	<p>Zoning regulations seem quite strict if you are wishing to build or improve your property.</p>
153	<p>Need the water level to increase more than 2 feet to provide proper boat usage. Sold pontoon boat because of that water level problem. Unable to enjoy the lake because of that problem.</p> <p>Commercial carp removal needs to continue</p>

Number	"Other" responses
154	My family has been on this lake for better than sixty years. In that time water clarity went from excellent to very poor. Also pan fishing went from excellent to almost non-existent. The reasons I feel for the decline of pan-fishing are: nesting program in the Grand River Marsh to re-introduce The Cormorants to this area, flocks of pelicans on the lake, excessive carp population, lack of vegetation, water clarity, making lake Puckaway a trophy lake for marathoners which resulted in too many Northerners that stunted in growth from 26-28 in
155	IN THE 60'S WHEN I WAS LITTLE I WOULD GO TO VISIT MY GRANDPARENTS ON LAKE PUCKAWAY. I REMEMBER CATCHING SO MANY FISH WITH MY GRANDFATHER & UNCLE. THE WATER WAS CLEANER THEN. CERTAIN TIMES OF YEAR I WOULD SEE THE LILY PADS. NOW THE ONLY FISH MY FAMIL CATCHES IS CARP & MAYBE A BASS. HAVEN'T GOTTEN THE CRAPPIES, PERCH, OR BLUEGILL FOR YEARS. I DON'T SEE THE LILY PDS EITHER.
156	THE SIZE LIMIT FOR NORTHERNS IS 32"; IT SHOULD BE BROUGHT DOWN TO 30".
157	THE LAKE NEEDS A CONSISTANT WATER LEVEL WHICH CAN BE MANAGEABLE WITH A MODERN DAM. BASED ON BSUES ON THIS LAKE DRAWDONS HAVE PROVEN INEFFECTIVE. THE BEST REPAIR FOR PUCKAWAY IS MAJOR SILT REMOVAL IN THE ENTIRE WEST BASIN AREA & DREDGE BANK TO REMOVE 100 YEARS OF ORGANIC BUILD UP. 2 FEET OF SILT IS KEEPING PLANTS FROM PROPERLY ROOTING & IS THE MAIN CAUSE FOR DECLINING LAKE HEALTH. LET'S PLEASE APPLY FOR GRANTS FOR MAJOR SILT REMOVAL. THANKS FOR EVERYTHING THAT YOU DO! PS SILT REMOVAL ALSO HELPS IMPROVE LAKE DEPTHS WITHOUT CAUSING MORE EROSION. CORMORANT CONTROL—POOR PAN FISHING
158	EMERGENT PLANTS NURSING AREAS SHOULD BE CLOSED TO WATER CRAFT I WOULD LIKE TO SEE DREDGING IN THE OLD CHANNEL TO PROVIDE BETTER ACCESS TO THE RIVER CHANNELS
159	WE INHERITED 3 LOTS AND ARE CONSIDERING SELLING THEM. NEVER SEEN THE LAKE! WATER LEVEL HAS BEEN EXTREMELY MANAGED POORLY TOO MUCH SILT, MUCK
160	DAM NEEDS WORK NO WILD RICE TO HOLD WATERFOWL POOR MANAGEMENT ON REGULATIONS FOR NORTHERN—LOWER SIZE LIMIT ON PIKE NEED IMPROVED LAUNCH SITES & PARKING
161	NOTIFY US WHEN CARP ARE GOING TO BE REMOVED
162	WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE A MINIMAL LAKE DRAW DOWN DURING THE DAM PROJECT.
163	LAKE PUCKAWAY WILL NEVER BE LIKE IT WAS IN THE 50'S & 60'S. TOO MUCH HOUSING. BIGGEST PROBLEM IS ALL FARM RUN OFF IN THE LAKE. JUST LOOK AT THE MILES OF DITCHES THAT DRAIN FARM FIELDS AND RUN DIRECTLY IN THE LAKE. THIS SHOULD BE STOPPED DITCHES SHOULD BE FILLED IN. LET THE FARM FIELDS ABSORB THE WATER LIKE THEY ONCE DID. THE LAKE WOULD BE SO MUCH CLEANER. HIGHER WATER LEVELS WOULD STOP ALGE BLOOMS. THIS ALL SHOULD BE A NO BRAINER TO YOU AND THE DNR. QUIT PLAYING AROUND AND PUT IN A FIXED CREST DAM LIKE BUFFALO LAKE. THIS HAS BEEN TALKED ABOUT SINCE 1963 THAT I KNOW OF. BEAUTIFUL LAKE--BUT WATER LEVEL VERY INCONSISTENT. CASE IN POINT-DAMAGE OF SHORELINE THIS YEAR ON NORTH SIDE OF LAKE BY ICE. I'VE HEARD THAT IT WAS FAULT OF DAM
164	MANAGEMENT. FORGETTING TO CONTROL DAM. I'VE MY OWNED PROPERTY FOR 30 YEARS NOW AND THEY HAVE BEEN DOING NOTHING BUT TALKING ABOUT THE DAMN DAM. BUT AS FAR AS I CAN SEE THEY HAVE DONE NOTHING.
165	I LOVE LAKE PUCKAWAY AND WOULD LOVE TO DONATE TO FUNDING FOR ITS CARE LAKE PUCKAWAY NEEDS INFORMED, SCIENTIFALLY-BASED MANAGEMENT. TOO MUCH POWER AND DECISIONS IS GIVEN TO A SMALL GROUP OF LOCALS WHO DO NOT BASE DECISIONS SOUNDLY, BIOLOGICAL-BASED INFORMATION. THE MANAGEMENT OF THIS IS FOCUSED ON SUMMER WATERLEVELS FOR RECREATION, NOT FOCUSED ON THE HEALTH OF THE LAKE. A DAM AT PRINCETON HAS IMPACT, BUT IT SHOULD NOT BE THE FOCUS. IN STEAD THE FOCUS SHOULD BE TAKING ON THE TOUGH, BUT NECESSARY, MANAGEMENT STEP NEEDED TO MADE REAL
166	CHANGE FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE LAKE. GET RID OF CARP, RESORE AQUATIC SUBMERSED AND EMERGENT VEGITATION, LOWER LEVELS WHEN THE LONG TERM BENIFIT OUT WEIGHS THE SHORT TERM CHALLANGES, DO ALL THAT IS NECESSARY TO RESTORE WILDLIFE TO HISTORIC LEVELS, LIMIT FISHING AT CRITICAL TIMES FOR CERTIAN SPECIES, TAKE A LOOK AND ACT ON A LONG TERM PLAN TO RESTORE AND PROTECT PUCKAWAY.

Number	"Other" responses
167	<p>I AM DISAPPOINTED BY THE IMPACT THE CURRENT MANAGEMENT LAKE PUCKAWAY HAS HAD. THERE IS TOO MUCH CONCERN ABOUT KEEPING LAKE LEVELS ARTIFICIALLY HIGH. THIS IS A RIVER SYSTEM AND LOW WATER LEVELS ARE NATURAL AND SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO OCCURE IN ORDER TO PROMOTE HABITATE IMPROVEMENT. THERE SEEMS TO BE TOO MUCH CONCERN ABOUT ECONOMIC IMPACT WITH LOW WATER LEVELS. THERE HAS BEEN GOOD SCIENCE TESTED RECOMMENDATIONS MADE THAT DO NOT SEE IMPLEMENTATION. PLEASE ALLOW SCIENCE BASED PROFESSIONALS TO HAVE GREATER CONTROL OVER IMPROVING THE LAKE. THANK YOU THE LAKE NEEDS A LOT OF IMPROVEMENT--CARP, LOSS OF HABITATE, ARTIFICIALLY, HIGH WATER LEVELS, ALL CONTINUE TO HAVE RESETANCE IMPACTS--AS THEY HAVE FOR YEARS</p> <p>WHAT HAPPENED TO ALL THE PLANS THAT WERE PRESENTED AT THE MEETINGS YEARS AGO. I RECALL ATTENDING A MEETING AT PRINCETON WITH VARIOUS EXPERTS THERE--WHAT HAPPENED TO ALL THOSE PLANS?</p> <p>HERE ARE SOME SUGGESTIONS; 1-PUT INDEPENDENT SCIENCE BASED PROFESSIONAL IN CHARGE OF DECISION MAKING WITH THE HEALTH OF THE LAKE. LAKE SIZE BE GUIDEDANCE FOR THEIR DECISION MAKING VS. WATER LEVELS HIGH (DNR) 2-RAISE ASSESSMENTS AS NEEDED TO ALLOW IMPROVEMENTS TO OCCURE MORE RAPIDLY. 3-MANAGE SPECIFICLY OF THE LAKE FOR SPECIFIC OUT COME. EXP; EAST END QUIETWATER; LOW WATER FOR EMERGENT VEGETATION AND WATER FOW USE. EXMP. WEST END MORE RECREATIONAL USE. 4-MOVE FROM STATUS QUO TO AGGRESSIVE. 5- STOP MAKING--KEEPING THE LAKE LEVES UP-THE PRIMARY DRIVER- MAKE HABITATE AND HEALTH OF THE WHATTHE LAKE SHOULD BE THE PRIMARY DRIVER.</p>
168	<p>I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW HOW WE COULD MAINTAIN A HIGHER WATER LEVEL IN SUMMER IF THAT IS POSSIBLE</p>
169	<p>WATER QUALITY SEEMS OK WATER DEPTH NEEDS BETTER CONTROL-TO SHALLOW MOST OF THE TIME-REDICULOUS</p>
170	<p>THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY OF GIVING YOU A REPLY</p>
171	<p>DAM AT PRINCETON IS NECESSARY FOR THE EXISTANCE OF LAKE PUCKAWAY IN SUMMER. THE REMOVAL OF DAM NEAR RIVERS BEND PROMOTES HIGHER WATER LEVELS IN SPRING CAUSING MORE SHORE EROSION.</p>
172	<p>EROSION ISSUES HAVE BEEN VERY COSTLY FOR HOME OWNER. WEEDS IN SHORELINE ARE BAD AND MAKE SWIMMING UNINVITING.</p>
173	<p>DOING A GOOD JOB/DON'T OVER RUN AND MAKE A PROBLEM</p>
174	<p>IN THE LAKES CURRENT CONDITION IT IS FUN TO FISH & BOAT ON. I SOMETIMES BELIEVE WE SHOULD LET NATURE TAKE ITS COURSE.</p>
175	<p>LAKE HAS WENT TO HELL EVER SINCE I WAS A LITTLE BOY. ONE OF THE MAIN REASONS IN MY OPINION IS THE LARGER MOTORS ON A SHALLOW LAKE. THERE SHOULD BE A LIMIT ON MOTOR SIZE OF 25 HP. WATER LEVELS MAY HAVE BEEN MAINTAINED TO HIGH AND SHORELINE IS ERODING ALONG WITH AQUATIC WEEDS.</p>
176	<p>MY NORTH SHORE SHORELINE RECIEVED SEVERE ICE DAMAGE THIS WINTER. WAS TOLD THE FLOODGATES COULD NOT BE OPENED DUE TO DNR RED TAPE?</p>
177	<p>AS A RESORT OWNER W/315' SHORELINE I LOOSE ALL INTEREST IN IMPROVING WHEN EVERYTHING I WANT TO DO HS A PAPER PRICE TAG (PERMIT) JUST TOO MUCH CONTROL BY PEOPLE WHO ARE VERY LACKING IN KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT I HAVE IN MIND.</p>
177	<p>AS A OWNER-LAKE QUALITY & ENJOYMENT IS # 1 FOR OUR CUSTOMERS- GROWING WEEDS IN SWIMMING AREAS & NOT ALLOWING OWNERS TO CONTROL THIS IS NOT A GOOD BUSINESS PRACTICE.</p>
178	<p>I HAVE BEEN HERE FOR 23 YEARS. THE LAST 5 AT OUR SUMMERTIME RECREATION HOME. WATER LEVELS CONCERN ME THE MOST. IT'S TIME FOR A NEW DAM IN PRINCETON AND PROPERLY CONTROL THE WATER LEVEL.</p>
179	<p>IT WOULD BE NICE IF THEY WOULD HARVEST SHEEPHEAD LIKE THEY DO THE CARP. ALSO LOWER THE SIZE LIMIT ON NORTHERNS BACK TO 26"</p>
180	<p>ALL THE DRAW DOWNS FOR WEED GROWTH HAVE NOT WORKED. WHEN THE WEEDS GROW THE LOW WATER LEVEL WASH OUT THE WEEDS WITH THE WAVE ACTION AND THE ICE EITHER SUFFICATES OR PULL THEM OUT AT ICE OUT. HIGHER WATER LEVELS HERE ARE ONLY 3-5 FEET AND THE WEEDS STILL GROW. THE HIGH SPRING WATER THIS SPRING AND THE WEEDS ARE GROWING AS I SEE WHEN I HAVE BEEN OUT FISHING THIS SPRING. NO MORE DRAW DOWNS WE NEED CONSTANT WATER LEVELS</p>
181	<p>I LIKE TO SEE MORE CARP REMOVAL, IT WOULD HELP RESTORE AQUATIC PLANTS. ALSO HELP FISH REPRODUCTION</p>
182	<p>YOUR FAILED SINCE I PREVIOUSLY FILLED OUT THE SURVEY IN A TIMELY MANNER. BUT THIS LETTER CLAIMES YOU DID NOT RECEIVE IT.</p>
183	<p>THE LOW WATER LEVEL IS OUR PRIMARY CONCERN. THANKS FOR ALL THAT YOU DO TO IMPROVE THE LAKE</p> <p>THE SUMMER LEVELS DO NOT ALLOW RECREATIONAL USE TO ITS FULLEST EXTENT. ALSO THE DROP IN WATER LEVELS & HEAT FROM SUMMER HEAT THE LAKE TO UNFAVORABLE</p>
184	<p>CONDITIONS RE: FISH (OXYGEN) & ALLOWS OTHER FACTORS (BACTERIA) IN WATER TO STAY ALIVE. BIRDS AND LARGE ONES CONTINUE TO REDUCE THE FISH & ITS FRY. AS LAKE GOES DOWN IN LEVEL IT ALLOWS FOR WIND TO ERODE THE SHORELINE AS WELL AS ALLOW OTHER WEEDS TO GROW IN SAND WHERE WATER SHOULD BE</p>
185	<p>THE LAKE BOTTOM USED TO BE ALL SAND. WHAT HAPPENED?</p>
186	<p>THE LAKE WILL NEVER REACH THE PLANT LEVELS PRIOR TO THE DAM. AS WE HAVE TOLD THE DNR THE CARP ARE THE BIGGEST PROBLEM ON PUCKAWAY. THE CURRENT PROGRAM IS WORKING. KEEP IT UP. WIND BEARERS WOULD HELP THE PLANT STATUS.</p>
187	<p>THE LAKE HAS BEEN DRAWN DOWN AND POISONED TO CONTROL INVASIVE SPECIES OVER THE YEARS. AFTER THIS THE FISHING HAS STEADILY DECLINED. THE WORST DISASTER HAS BEEN THE ATTEMPT AT KEEPING THE LAKE LEVELS LOW TO WAIT UNTIL LATE JUNE TO INSTALL THE BOARDS WHICH I BELIEVE IS A COMPLETE DISASTER. DRAWING DOWN THE LAKE AFTER ALL THE STOCKING OF FRY OR POISONING THE LAKE IS PROBABLY THE STUPIDEST IDEA SOMEONE EVER CONCEIVED.</p>

Number	"Other" responses
188	THE FISHING HAS GOTTEN WORSE SINCE THE DRAINING THE LAKE AROUND 1972 TO SUPPOSE OF RID OF CARP. WHICH DID NOT HAPPEN. ONLY THING THAT DID WAS RUN OFF THE ABUNDANT OF YELLOW PERCH, WHICH COULD CATCH WAY BACK 20 TO 25 TO A HOME TO ??? NOW RARE TO CATCH MANY PERCH. PLEASE STOCK THE LAKE WITH YELLOW PERCH AGAIN & NOT TAKE FISH OUT TO OTHER LAKES. ENOUGH IS ENOUGH. MAKE LAKE PUCKAWAY A GREAT LAKE AGAIN I DID TAKE THE ON LINE SURVEY
189	I DID ALL OF THIS ON LINE-YOU PEOPLE REALLY NEED SOME HELP! TALK IS CHEAP--FIX THE DAM! I PAY HIGH TAXES TO LIVE ON WATER...THE LAKE HAS BECOME SHIT.
190	PERCH POPULATION--80'S, 90'S, 2000 WAS STABLE NOW CAN'T FIND MANY
191	GET LAKE WATER LEVEL UP IN SUMMER!HIGHWATER LEVEL = SPENDING MONEY AROUND THE LAKE
192	HIGHER WATER EQUAL CLEARER WATER THIS PROMOTES GROWTH OF VEGETATION WHICH FILTERS THE WATER THIS MEANS BETTER FISHING BETTER BOATING AD BETTER WATER QUALITY.
193	WE ARE MOVING TO OUR COTTAGE THIS YEAR AND ARE EXCITED ABOUT OUR COMING YEAR ON LAKE PUCKAWAY AND HOPE TO BE OF ASSISTANCE TO THOSE IN CHARGE OF PROTECTING THE HABITATE & RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES ON THIS LAKE.
194	IN THE PAST WATER LEVELS WERE NEVER AS IMPORTANT AS THEY ARE TODAY. SOMETIMES THE WATER IS SO SHALLOW WE CAN'T EVEN PUT OUR BOAT IN!
195	I AM HAPPY THERE IS A LPPRD! "THANK YOU" FOR THE CARING YOU SHOW FOR LAKE PUCKAWAY. I APPRECIATE YOUR HARD-WORK. YOU ROCK ON THE MOTOR SIZE ON THE LAKE. YEARS AGO A 25 HP MOTOR WAS CONSIDERED LARGE. ON A SHALLOW LAKE ESPECIALLY WITH LOWER SUMMER WATER LEVELS. MY OPINION IS THE
196	PROP WASH BELOW THE SURFACE WOULD HAVE TO BE TEARING OUT VEGETATION ON THE BOTTOM. I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY SOMEONE NEED 200+ HP MOTORS TO GET FROM POINT A TO POINT B.
197	LACK OF INTEREST BY LANDOWNERS ATTENDING YEARLY LAKE MEETING HURTS. unable TO ADJUST WATER LEVELS NOW WITH FLASHBOARDS AS PRECIPATIONINCREASE OR DECREASE FOLLOWING HIGH OR LOW WATER LEVELS. AS PER SUMMER OF 2015, LOW PRECIPATION LED TO LOW LEVELS OF WATER, FOLLOWED BY INCREASED WATER TEMPS AND ALGE BLOOMS. LANDOWNERS UNABLE TO ACCESS LAE FOR FISHING AND RECREATION USE AND VISITORS UNABLE TO LAUNCH AT PUBLIC LANDING POSSSIBLY MEANS VISITORS NOT RETURNING--\$ NOT IN TO LOCAL AREA (LODGING, MEALS, ETC) LAKE DECREASED PROPERTY VALVES--LESS TAXES FOR COUNTY/DISTRICT REDUCE NORTHERN PIE SIZELIMITSFOR LAKE & FOX RIVER.
198	IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER LAKE PUCKAWAY'S RECREATIONAL USE BRINGS LOTS OF MONEY TO OUR COMMINTES. WITH THAT IN MIND, IT MAKE MOST SENSE TO APPEASAE THE GREATER NUMBERS THAT USE IT MOST. I LEAN TOWARDS FISHING BECAOUSE IT IS A YEAR ROUND EVENT.
199	I AM DELIGHTED THAT THE LPPRD EXISTS & IS ACTIVE IN MANAGING OUR IMPORTANT LAKE RESOURCE. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!
200	PANFISH NUMBERS (PERCH & CRAPPIE) PAN FISH NUMBERS HAVE DECLINED AS SHOWN BY DNR LAKE SURVEY--NUMBERS AND SIZE DRASTICLLY DROPOOED. REMOVAL YEARS AGO (70'S) OF BREEDING CRAPPIES TO RESTOCK BEAVER DAM LAKE DEVASTATED BLACK CRAPPIE NUMBERS & FEEDING OF FRY BY BASS, WALLEYE & NORTHERNS & SMALL # OF crappies HAVE NOT ALLOWED FOR SURVIVAL OF NATURAL HATCHING FRY. MONITORING OF CHEMICAL RUN OFF FROM AGRICULTURAL FIELDS SURROUNDING PUCKAWAY WATERSHED IS NEEDS ALONG WITH INCREASING CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR INCREASING FILTER STRIPS & BUFFERS. LEVELS OF HEAVY METALS & AG CHEMICKALS, NITROGEN, PHOS. POTTASIMUM NEED TO BE PUBLISHED. LAKE SEDIMENT SAMPLES FROM VARIOUS SITES PULLED AND ANALIZED & DISCOVER POSSIBLE SOURCES E-COLI; DETERMINED & PUBLISH IF COMING FROM FAILING SEPTIC SYSTEM OR ANIMAL AG-WAST RUNOFF. THIS IMPORTANT FOR SWIMMING & WATER SKIING HAVE OR ARE THESE TESTED FOR BY DNR OR UW STEVENS POINT LAB & RESULTS SHARED
201	LAKE PUCKAWAY IS A GRAT LAKE WHEN WATER LEVELS ARE UP. KEEPING WATER LEVELS AT UABLE LEVELS ARE IMPROTANT TO ECONOMIC IMPACT OF AREA. NOT MARKING HAZZARDS AND LOW WATER ARE RUNING THE REPUTATION OF LAKE PUCKAWAY.
202	HAS NOT DEVELOPED AS ORIGINALLY ANTICIPATED SINCE ORIGINALLY PURCHASED. WOULD LIKE TO SELL OR WOULD BE WILLING TO DONATE IT. ANY IDEAS?
203	Make the size limit on Northern pike 26 as is the river system. This is not the 1950's and never will be again. STOP the drainage ditches from running into the lake. Make the farmers stop the run off and qoit draining the marshes.
204	Only problem as I see it is the water levels. Too much variation, needs control. Too low cant use the lake, too high floods cabins. Years ago was not this type of problem and seemed to havi better fishing etc.
205	Maintain a consistent lake level year round.
206	lake drawdown, my parents owned a home on lake sinissippi and a 1971? drawdown ruined the lake
207	Too many cormorants and pelicans that eat all the panfish and destroyed the dredge bank
208	Would like to see higher water levels in summer but I really do not know the history of the lake if this is possible. This is one of the best lakes in Wisconsin .
209	maintain consistent water level & Princeton damn replacement has been talked about and nothing accomplished for decades. this survey is just 'another dog & pony show' ! The higher the water, the better the quality. The higher the water, the better the fishing. Watching the decline of ice fishing is indicative of the direction this lake is going. The boat landing
210	have also had plenty of parking from May until the carp trucks have them clogged up in Oct/Nov. The carp boats have wrecked every landing they have used. That's a fact. Keep them out of the new landing in Marquette.

Number	"Other" responses
211	We want to know if Lake Puckaway is going to be drained if the Princeton dam is rebuilt in 2018? When are we going to find out?
212	the lake was fine 38+ years ago, until they did a draw down to kill carp. they killed the vegetation and it has not come back. the constant draw downs WILL NOT fix what was once done. put the pier crest on the dam. re-build the dredge bank and the lake will be back to normal
213	We would like to see a deeper lake in the main section of the lake to be about 8ft deep. Next, I'd like to see the lake maintain higher water levels until mid to late October.
214	Fix the Dam so the summer water level is maintained. They have been talking about it for over 35 years! My property value would go up if the lake level was kept higher, and the need to have a pier sticking out 60 feet would no longer be needed.
215	This last summer, we went from the inlet to the middle of the lake and hit a object which cause sever damage to our motor. Who can this be reported to so others won't have to incur an expense like us from low water levels?
216	I appreciate that something is being done and all the effort that you folks put in!
217	Water levels at times make it hard to navigate or dock if levels are too low
218	Growing up fishing was much better, I'd like to see fishing get better. I'd like to see a higher lake level maintained!!
219	Extremely low water levels in July and August hampered use of the lake and caused huge algae blooms. Water levels must be maintained so we can enjoy fishing and swimming.
220	I appreciate all the work you do on our behalf. My primary concern is the low water levels in the summer. Thanks. I would be open to volunteering once I retire in a few years.
221	Lake Puckaway needs to be maintained at adequate levels and to be an all around great experience for all visitors. Board needs to manage whole lake not just vegetation. Seems like all effort are restoring plants. Always have excuses for lake level. I understand if there is no rain but level is never stable

E

APPENDIX E

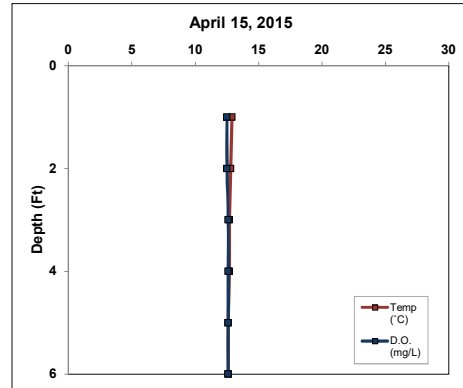
Water Quality Data

Puckaway Lake - Deep Hole

Date: 4/15/2015
Time: 11:15
Weather: 54F, 90% clouds, steady breeze
Entry: EEH

Max Depth: 6.7
PULDHS Depth (ft): 3.0
PULDHB Depth (ft): -
Secchi Depth (ft): 2.8

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	12.9	12.5	9.2	
2	12.8	12.5	9.1	
3	12.7	12.6	9.1	
4	12.7	12.6	9.0	
5	12.6	12.6	9.0	
6	12.6	12.6	9.0	



Parameter	PULDHS	PULDHB
Total P (µg/L)	70.10	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	ND	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	18.10	NA
TKN (µg/L)	1280.00	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	388.00	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	ND	NA
Total N (µg/L)	1668.00	0.00
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	333.00	NA
Lab pH	8.55	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	148.00	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	10.80	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	35.50	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	22.60	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	182.00	NA
Color (SU)	50.00	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA

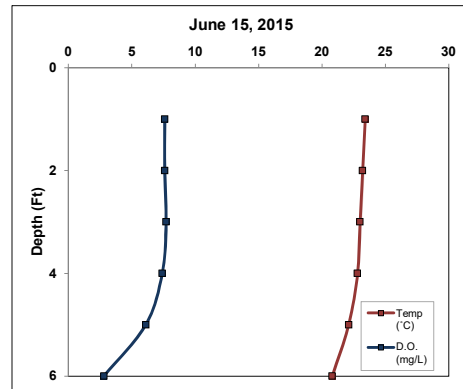
Data collected by BTB and EEH (Onterra)

Puckaway Lake - Deep Hole

Date: 6/15/2015
Time: 14:00
Weather: 80F, 100% clouds
Entry: EEH

Max Depth: 6.8
PULDHS Depth (ft): 3.0
PULDHB Depth (ft): -
Secchi Depth (ft): 5.2

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	23.4	7.6		
2	23.2	7.6		
3	23.0	7.7		
4	22.8	7.4		
5	22.1	6.1		
6	20.8	2.8		



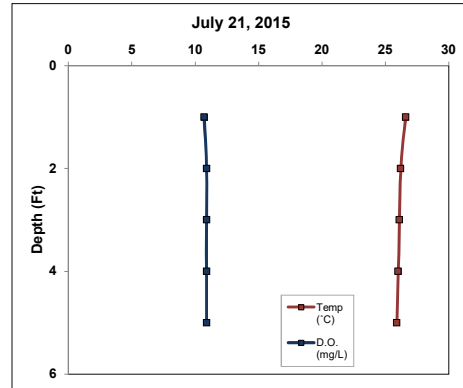
Parameter	PULDHS	PULDHB
Total P (µg/L)	75.70	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	NA	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	16.00	NA
TKN (µg/L)	NA	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Total N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	NA	NA
Lab pH	NA	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	NA	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	NA	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	NA	NA
Color (SU)	NA	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA

Data collected by SDF (Onterra)

Puckaway Lake - Deep Hole

Date: 7/21/2015 Max Depth: 5.5
 Time: 14:45 PULDHS Depth (ft): 3.0
 Weather: Rough, 80F, Windy, 30% clouds PULDHB Depth (ft): -
 Entry: EEH Secchi Depth (ft): 2.1

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	26.6	10.7		
2	26.2	10.9		
3	26.1	10.9		
4	26.0	10.9		
5	25.9	10.9		



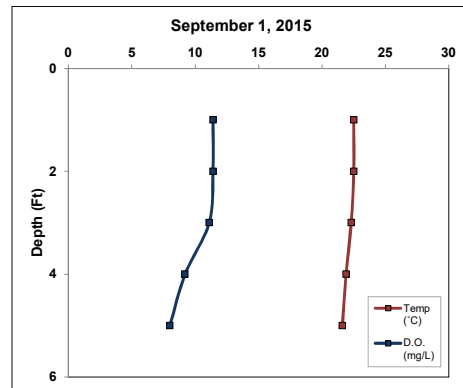
Parameter	PULDHS	PULDHB
Total P (µg/L)	135.00	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	4.80	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	44.80	NA
TKN (µg/L)	1470.00	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	ND	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	ND	NA
Total N (µg/L)	1470.00	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	383.00	NA
Lab pH	8.94	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	185.00	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	28.00	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	41.50	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	27.90	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	218.00	NA
Color (SU)	40.00	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA

Data collected by TAH (Onterra)

Puckaway Lake - Deep Hole

Date: 9/1/2015 Max Depth: 5.0
 Time: 9:15 PULDHS Depth (ft): 3.0
 Weather: 10% clouds, 78F, hazy sun PULDHB Depth (ft): -
 Entry: EEH Secchi Depth (ft): 1.2

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	22.5	11.4		
2	22.5	11.4		
3	22.3	11.1		
4	21.9	9.2		
5	21.6	8.0		



Parameter	PULDHS	PULDHB
Total P (µg/L)	56.30	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	NA	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	34.20	NA
TKN (µg/L)	NA	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Total N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	NA	NA
Lab pH	NA	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	NA	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	NA	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	NA	NA
Color (SU)	NA	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA

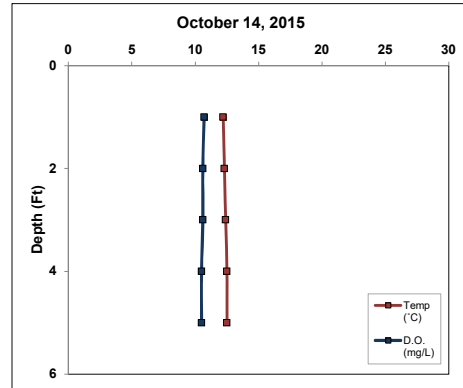
Data collected by TWH and DAC (Onterra)

Puckaway Lake - Deep Hole

Date: 10/14/2015
Time: 11:30
Weather: 100% sun, breezy, 54F
Entry: EEH

Max Depth: 5.4
PULDHS Depth (ft): 3.0
PULDHB Depth (ft): -
Secchi Depth (ft): 2.0

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	12.2	10.7		
2	12.3	10.6		
3	12.4	10.6	9.0	
4	12.5	10.5		
5	12.5	10.5		



Parameter	PULDHS	PULDHB
Total P (µg/L)	93.80	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	NA	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	36.00	NA
TKN (µg/L)	NA	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Total N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	NA	NA
Lab pH	NA	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	NA	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	17.00	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	NA	NA
Color (SU)	NA	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA

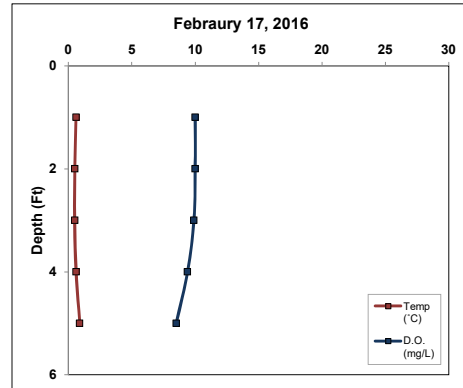
Data collected by TWH (Onterra)

Puckaway Lake - Deep Hole

Date: 2/17/2016
Time: 12:45
Weather: 1% clouds, 25F
Entry: EEH

Max Depth: 5.4
PULDHS Depth (ft): .
PULDHB Depth (ft): -
Secchi Depth (ft): hit bottom

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	0.6	10.0		
2	0.5	10.0		
3	0.5	9.9		
4	0.6	9.4		
5	0.9	8.5		



Parameter	PULDHS	PULDHB
Total P (µg/L)	29.00	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	8.90	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	NA	NA
TKN (µg/L)	669.00	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	2580.00	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	106.00	NA
Total N (µg/L)	3249.00	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	NA	NA
Lab pH	NA	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	NA	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	NA	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	NA	NA
Color (SU)	NA	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA

Data collected by TWH & JLW (Onterra). Ice thickness: 1.4 ft

Water Quality Data

2015-2016 Parameter	Surface		Bottom	
	Count	Mean	Count	Mean
Secchi Depth (feet)	5	2.7	NA	NA
Total P (µg/L)	5	76.7	0	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	2	6.9	0	NA
Chl a (µg/L)	5	ND	0	NA
TKN (µg/L)	2	ND	0	NA
NO3+NO2-N (µg/L)	2	ND	0	NA
NH3-N (µg/L)	2	ND	0	NA
Total N (µg/L)	2	ND	0	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	2	ND	0	NA
Lab pH	2	ND	0	NA
Alkal (mg/l CaCO3)	2	ND	0	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/l)	3	ND	0	NA
Calcium (µg/L)	2	ND	0	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	2	ND	0	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	2	ND	0	NA
Color (SU)	2	ND	0	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	0	NA	0	NA

Trophic State Index (TSI)

Year	TP	Chl-a	Secchi
1996			64.9
1997			62.5
1998			67.1
2000			65.8
2001			73.9
2002			63.9
2003			65.4
2004	74.5	67.2	57.8
2005	80.8	78.3	77.1
2006	68.0	64.8	
2007	74.4	70.4	
2009	79.5	70.2	68.7
2010			
2011	75.7	74.0	70.7
2012	76.2	71.5	67.0
2013	68.7	67.0	55.4
2014	73.7	67.2	63.6
2015	71.3	64.1	58.5
All Years (Weighted)	74.6	71.2	64.0
Shallow, Lowland Drainage Lakes	54.6	52.6	52.4
SWTP Ecoregion	48.7	47.0	50.0

Year	Secchi (feet)				Chlorophyll-a (µg/L)				Total Phosphorus (µg/L)			
	Growing Season		Summer		Growing Season		Summer		Growing Season		Summer	
	Count	Mean	Count	Mean	Count	Mean	Count	Mean	Count	Mean	Count	Mean
1996	8	2.2	6	2.3								
1997	11	2.4	4	2.8								
1998	8	2.0	8	2.0								
2000	8	2.2	4	2.2								
2001	4	2.3	2	1.3								
2002	7	2.1	4	2.5								
2003	8	2.2	6	2.2								
2004	11	3.4	7	3.8	4	41.6	4	41.6	5	121.4	3.0	131.7
2005	7	1.1	4	1.0	6	113.1	5	129.3	4	180.5	3.0	203.7
2006					4	40.1	2	32.6	4	87.3	2.0	83.5
2007					4	50.3	2	57.7	4	112.5	2.0	130.5
2009	3	1.4	1	1.8	4	64.5	2	56.7	4	170.8	2.0	186.5
2010												
2011	7	1.6	7	1.6	7	83.2	7	83.2	7	143.1	7.0	143.1
2012	10	2.3	5	2.0	10	48.5	5	65.0	10	112.5	5.0	147.4
2013	11	3.5	6	4.5	11	60.6	6	41.0	11	96.2	6.0	87.9
2014	12	2.7	6	2.6	13	48.1	6	41.8	13	108.8	6.0	123.9
2015	5	2.7	2	3.7	5	29.8	2	30.4	5	86.2	2.0	105.4
All Years (Weighted)		2.4		2.5		58.4		62.7		117.0		132.3
Shallow, Lowland Drainage Lakes				5.6				9.4				33.0
SWTP Ecoregion				6.6				5.3				22.0

July 2015 N: 1470.0
July 2015 P: 135.0

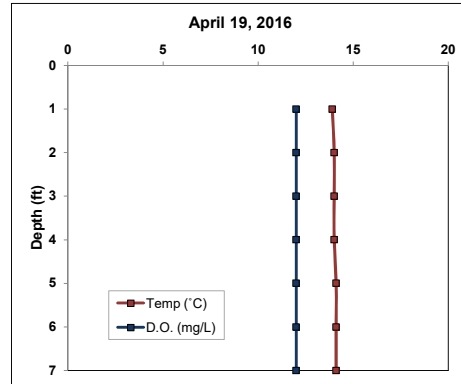
Summer 2015 N:P 11 :1

Puckaway Lake - Deep Hole

Date: 4/19/2016
Time: 14:30
Weather: 100% clouds, 50F
Entry: EEH

Max Depth: 7.8
LS Depth (ft): 3.0
LB Depth (ft):
Secchi Depth (ft): 2.8

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	13.9	12.0		
2	14.0	12.0		
3	14.0	12.0	8.8	
4	14.0	12.0		
5	14.1	12.0		
6	14.1	12.0		
7	14.1	12.0		



Parameter	LS	LB
Total P (µg/L)	61.90	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	3.00	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	21.10	NA
TKN (µg/L)	1330.00	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	1300.00	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	18.60	NA
Total N (µg/L)	2630.00	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	385.00	NA
Lab pH	8.73	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	163.00	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	8.25	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	41.80	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	23.20	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	200.00	NA
Color (SU)	50.00	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA

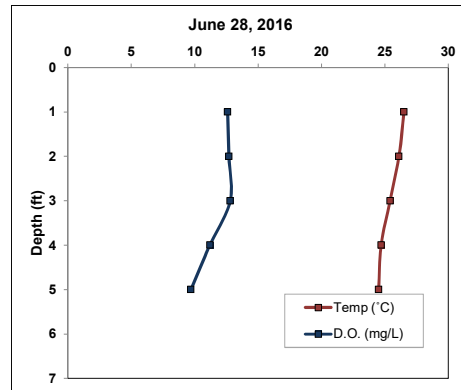
Data collected by TWH (Onterra).

Puckaway Lake - Deep Hole

Date: 6/28/2016
Time: 14:13
Weather: 70F, 10% clouds, light breeze
Entry: EEH

Max Depth: 5.4
LS Depth (ft): 3.0
LB Depth (ft):
Secchi Depth (ft): 2.4

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	26.5	12.6		
2	26.1	12.7		
3	25.4	12.8		
4	24.7	11.2		
5	24.5	9.7		



Parameter	LS	LB
Total P (µg/L)	89.50	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	NA	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	59.50	NA
TKN (µg/L)	NA	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Total N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	NA	NA
Lab pH	NA	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	NA	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	NA	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	NA	NA
Color (SU)	NA	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA

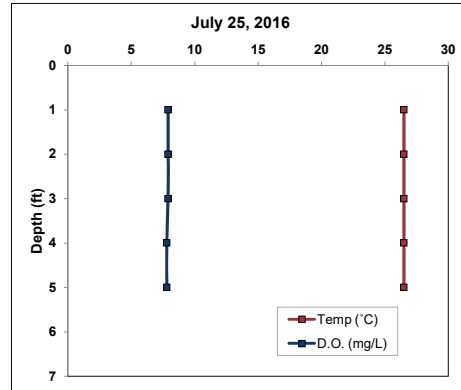
Data collected by TAH (Onterra).

Puckaway Lake - Deep Hole

Date: 7/25/2016
Time: 9:15
Weather: 75F, 0% clouds
Entry: JLW

Max Depth: 5.8
LS Depth (ft): 3.0
LB Depth (ft):
Secchi Depth (ft): 2.1

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	26.5	7.9		
2	26.5	7.9		
3	26.5	7.9	8.7	
4	26.5	7.8		
5	26.5	7.8		



Parameter	LS	LB
Total P (µg/L)	95.40	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	2.50	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	65.50	NA
TKN (µg/L)	1200.00	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	ND	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	17.30	NA
Total N (µg/L)	1200.00	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	345.00	NA
Lab pH	8.44	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	164.00	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	14.40	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	30.40	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	29.40	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	197.00	NA
Color (SU)	40.00	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA

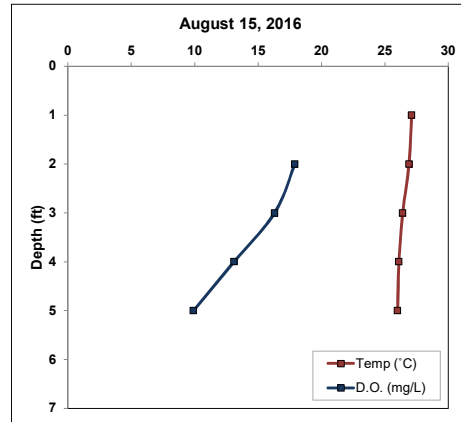
Data collected by BTB & LJS (Onterra)

Puckaway Lake - Deep Hole

Date: 8/15/2016
Time: 12:30
Weather: 75% clouds, 82F
Entry: JMB

Max Depth: 5.5
LS Depth (ft): 3.0
LB Depth (ft):
Secchi Depth (ft): 1.1

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	27.1	17.9		
2	26.9	16.3		
3	26.4	13.1		
4	26.1	9.9		
5	26.0	9.1		



Parameter	LS	LB
Total P (µg/L)	98.10	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	NA	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	119.00	NA
TKN (µg/L)	NA	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Total N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	NA	NA
Lab pH	NA	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	NA	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	NA	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	NA	NA
Color (SU)	NA	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA

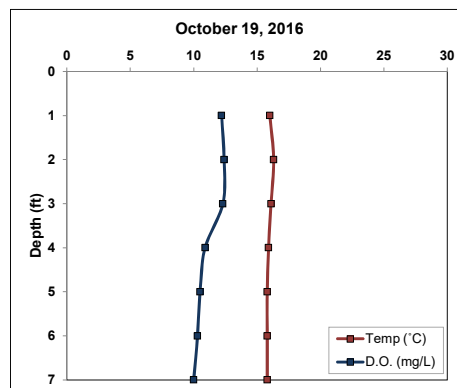
Data collected by TWH and LJS (Onterra).

Puckaway Lake - Deep Hole

Date: 10/19/2016
Time: 11:48
Weather: 75% clouds, 70F, no wind
Entry: JMB

Max Depth: 7.9
LS Depth (ft): 3.0
LB Depth (ft):
Secchi Depth (ft): 2.7

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	16.0	12.2		
2	16.3	12.4		
3	16.1	12.3		
4	15.9	10.9		
5	15.8	10.5		
6	15.8	10.3		
7	15.8	10.0		



Parameter	LS	LB
Total P (µg/L)	96.50	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	NA	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	63.50	NA
TKN (µg/L)	NA	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Total N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	NA	NA
Lab pH	NA	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	NA	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	7.40	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	NA	NA
Color (SU)	NA	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA

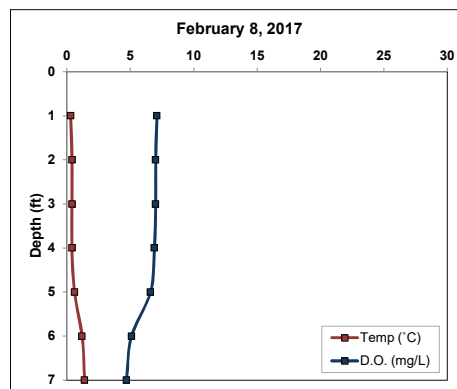
Data collected by JMB and LJS (Onterra).

Puckaway Lake - Deep Hole

Date: 2/8/2017
Time: 13:20
Weather: 18F, 30% clouds, light wind
Entry: EEH

Max Depth: 7.1
LS Depth (ft): 3.0
LB Depth (ft):
Secchi Depth (ft): 5.8

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	0.3	7.1		
2	0.4	7.0		
3	0.4	7.0		
4	0.4	6.9		
5	0.6	6.6		
6	1.2	5.1		
7	1.4	4.7		



Parameter	LS	LB
Total P (µg/L)	68.20	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	25.10	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	NA	NA
TKN (µg/L)	875.00	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	2440.00	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	122.00	NA
Total N (µg/L)	3315.00	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	NA	NA
Lab pH	NA	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	NA	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	NA	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	NA	NA
Color (SU)	NA	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA

Data collected by TWH and LJS (Onterra). Ice depth = 1.4 ft.

Water Quality Data

2016-2017 Parameter	Surface		Bottom	
	Count	Mean	Count	Mean
Secchi Depth (feet)	6	2.8	NA	NA
Total P (µg/L)	6	84.9	0	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	3	10.2	0	NA
Chl a (µg/L)	5	65.7	0	NA
TKN (µg/L)	3	1135.0	0	NA
NO ₃ +NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	3	1870.0	0	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	3	52.6	0	NA
Total N (µg/L)	3	2381.7	0	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	2	365.0	0	NA
Alkal (mg/l CaCO ₃)	2	163.5	0	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/l)	3	10.0	0	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	2	36.1	0	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	2	26.3	0	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	2	198.5	0	NA
Color (SU)	2	45.0	0	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	0	NA	0	NA

Trophic State Index (TSI)

Year	TP	Chl-a	Secchi
1976			79.7
1985			60.1
1986			70.5
1987			73.9
1988			61.7
1989			61.3
1990			59.1
1991			53.5
1996			64.9
1997			62.5
1998			67.1
2000			65.8
2001			73.9
2002			63.9
2003			65.9
2004	74.5	67.2	57.8
2005	80.8	75.9	73.4
2006	68.0	64.8	63.5
2007	74.4	70.4	73.2
2009	79.5	70.2	68.7
2011	75.7	74.0	70.7
2012	76.2	71.5	67.0
2013	68.7	67.0	55.4
2014	73.7	67.2	63.6
2015	71.3	64.1	58.5
2016	69.7	73.7	68.1
All Years (Weighted)	74.3	70.4	64.3
SLDL Median	54.6	52.6	52.4
SWTP Ecoregion Median	48.7	47.0	50.0

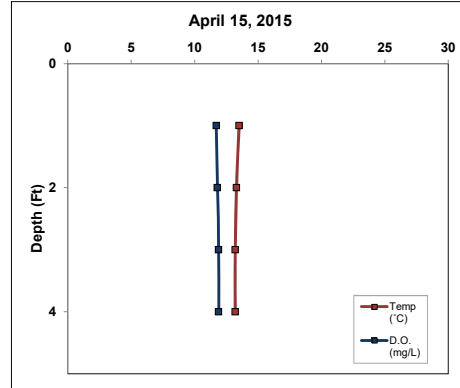
Year	Secchi (feet)				Chlorophyll-a (µg/L)				Total Phosphorus (µg/L)			
	Growing Season		Summer		Growing Season		Summer		Growing Season		Summer	
	Count	Mean	Count	Mean	Count	Mean	Count	Mean	Count	Mean	Count	Mean
1976	1	0.8	1	0.8								
1985	1	3.3	1	3.3								
1986	1	1.6	1	1.6								
1987	1	1.3	1	1.3								
1988	1	2.9	1	2.9								
1989	1	3.0	1	3.0								
1990	1	3.5	1	3.5								
1991	1	5.2	1	5.2	1	0.0	1	0.0				
1996	8	2.2	6	2.3								
1997	11	2.4	4	2.8								
1998	8	2.0	8	2.0								
2000	8	2.2	4	2.2								
2001	4	2.3	2	1.3								
2002	7	2.1	4	2.5								
2003	7	2.1	5	2.2								
2004	11	3.4	7	3.8	4	41.6	4	41.6	5	121.4	3	131.7
2005	11	1.3	7	1.3	4	84.1	3	101.5	4	180.5	3	203.7
2006	4	2.4	3	2.6	4	40.1	2	32.6	4	87.3	2	83.5
2007	4	1.7	2	1.3	4	50.3	2	57.7	4	112.5	2	130.5
2009	3	1.4	1	1.8	4	64.5	2	56.7	4	170.8	2	186.5
2011	7	1.6	7	1.6	7	83.2	7	83.2	7	143.1	7	143.1
2012	10	2.3	5	2.0	10	48.5	5	65.0	10	112.5	5	147.4
2013	11	3.5	6	4.5	11	60.6	6	41.0	11	96.2	6	87.9
2014	12	2.7	6	2.6	13	48.1	6	41.8	13	108.8	6	123.9
2015	5	2.7	2	3.7	5	29.8	2	30.4	5	86.2	2	105.4
2016	5	2.2	3	1.9	5	65.7	3	81.3	5	88.3	3	94.3
All Years (Weighted)		2.4		2.4		55.0		57.5		115.0		129.5
SLDL Median				5.6				9.4				33.0
SWTP Ecoregion				6.6				5.3				22.0

Puckaway Lake - Mid Basin

Date: 4/15/2015
Time: 12:20
Weather: 54F, 90% clouds, steady breeze
Entry: EEH

Max Depth: 5.1
PULMBS Depth (ft): 3.0
PULMBB Depth (ft): -
Secchi Depth (ft): 2.5

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	13.5	11.7	9.2	
2	13.3	11.8	9.2	
3	13.2	11.9	9.2	
4	13.2	11.9	9.2	
5				



Parameter	PULMBS	PULMBB
Total P (µg/L)	64.10	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	2.50	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	14.00	NA
TKN (µg/L)	1170.00	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	ND	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	ND	NA
Total N (µg/L)	1170.00	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	303.00	NA
Lab pH	8.66	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	137.00	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	13.40	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	31.60	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	20.50	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	163.00	NA
Color (SU)	30.00	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA

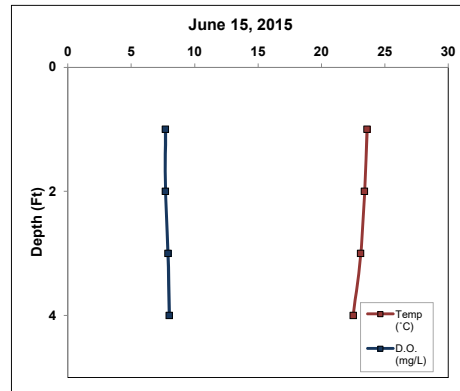
Data collected by EEH and BTB (Onterra).

Puckaway Lake - Mid Basin

Date: 6/15/2015
Time: 12:45
Weather: 80F, 95% clouds
Entry: EEH

Max Depth: 5.0
PULMBS Depth (ft): 3.0
PULMBB Depth (ft): -
Secchi Depth (ft): 5.0

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	23.6	7.7		
2	23.4	7.7		
3	23.1	7.9		
4	22.5	8.0		



Parameter	PULMBS	PULMBB
Total P (µg/L)	79.70	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	NA	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	14.40	NA
TKN (µg/L)	NA	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Total N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	NA	NA
Lab pH	NA	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	NA	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	NA	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	NA	NA
Color (SU)	NA	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA

Data collected by SDF (Onterra)

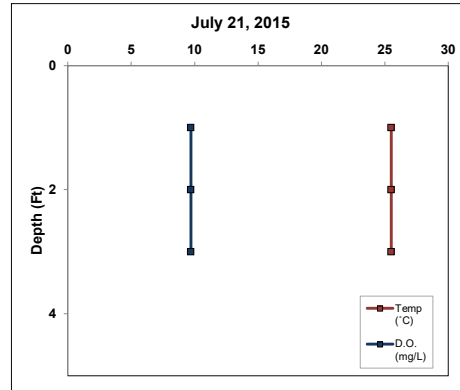
Puckaway Lake - Mid Basin

Date: 7/21/2015
Time: 15:45
Weather: Rough, 80F, Windy, 30% clouds
Entry: EEH

Max Depth: 3.8
PULMBS Depth (ft): 2.0
PULMBS Depth (ft): -
Secchi Depth (ft): 1.9

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	25.5	9.7		
2	25.5	9.7		
3	25.5	9.7		

Parameter	PULMBS	PULMBS
Total P (µg/L)	78.70	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	1.90	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	39.60	NA
TKN (µg/L)	1740.00	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	ND	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	16.50	NA
Total N (µg/L)	1740.00	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	361.00	NA
Lab pH	9.05	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	173.00	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	24.80	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	38.50	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	27.20	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	208.00	NA
Color (SU)	50.00	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA



Data collected by TAH (Onterra)

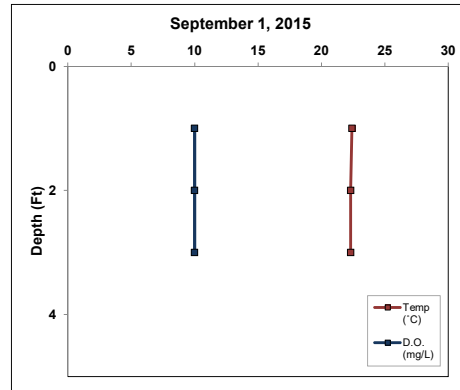
Puckaway Lake - Mid Basin

Date: 9/1/2015
Time: 9:00
Weather: 78F, hazy sun, 0% clouds
Entry: EEH

Max Depth: 3.0
PULMBS Depth (ft): 1.5
PULMBS Depth (ft): -
Secchi Depth (ft): 1.1

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	22.4	10.0		
2	22.3	10.0		
3	22.3	10.0		

Parameter	PULMBS	PULMBS
Total P (µg/L)	72.30	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	NA	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	41.60	NA
TKN (µg/L)	NA	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Total N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	NA	NA
Lab pH	NA	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	NA	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	NA	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	NA	NA
Color (SU)	NA	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA



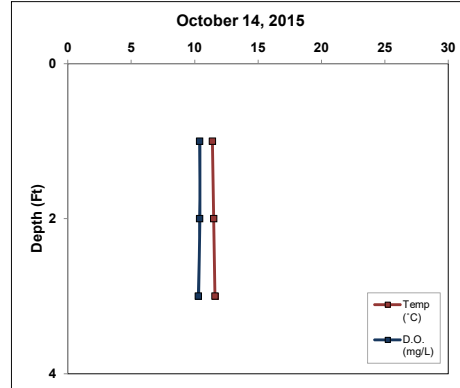
Data collected by TWH and DAC (Onterra)

Puckaway Lake - Mid Basin

Date: 10/14/2015
Time: 11:05
Weather: 54F, light breeze, 100% sun
Entry: EEH

Max Depth: 3.4
PULMBS Depth (ft): 2.0
PULMBB Depth (ft): -
Secchi Depth (ft): 1.5

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	11.4	10.4		
2	11.5	10.4	8.8	
3	11.6	10.3		



Parameter	PULMBS	PULMBB
Total P (µg/L)	43.20	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	NA	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	24.80	NA
TKN (µg/L)	NA	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Total N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	NA	NA
Lab pH	NA	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	NA	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	21.00	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	NA	NA
Color (SU)	NA	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA

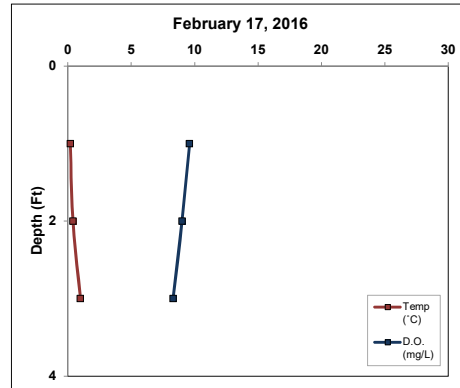
Data collected by TWH (Onterra)

Puckaway Lake - Mid Basin

Date: 2/17/2016
Time: 13:15
Weather: % clouds, 25F
Entry: EEH

Max Depth: 5.4
PULMBS Depth (ft): 3.0
PULMBB Depth (ft): -
Secchi Depth (ft): hit bottom

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	0.2	9.6		
2	0.4	9.0		
3	1.0	8.3		



Parameter	PULMBS	PULMBB
Total P (µg/L)	43.40	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	8.20	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	NA	NA
TKN (µg/L)	744.00	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	2570.00	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	111.00	NA
Total N (µg/L)	3314.00	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	NA	NA
Lab pH	NA	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	NA	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	NA	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	NA	NA
Color (SU)	NA	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA

Data collected by TWH and JLW (Onterra). Ice thickness: 1.3 ft

Water Quality Data

2015-2016 Parameter	Surface		Bottom	
	Count	Mean	Count	Mean
Secchi Depth (feet)	5	2.4	NA	NA
Total P (µg/L)	6	63.6	0	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	3	4.2	0	NA
Chl a (µg/L)	5	26.9	0	NA
TKN (µg/L)	3	1218.0	0	NA
NO3+NO2-N (µg/L)	3	2570.0	0	NA
NH3-N (µg/L)	3	63.8	0	NA
Total N (µg/L)	3	2074.7	0	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	2	332.0	0	NA
Lab pH	2	8.9	0	NA
Alkal (mg/l CaCO3)	2	155.0	0	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/l)	3	19.7	0	NA
Calcium (µg/L)	2	35.1	0	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	2	23.9	0	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	2	185.5	0	NA
Color (SU)	2	40.0	0	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	0	NA	0	NA

Trophic State Index (TSI)

Year	TP	Chl-a	Secchi
2004	67.2	66.2	62.2
2005	84.1	80.0	
2006	66.7	62.7	
2007	73.4	71.4	
2009	82.5	80.7	84.5
2011	76.8	76.6	75.1
2012	79.2	76.4	70.7
2013	66.6	68.2	61.7
2014	69.6	67.1	67.6
2015	67.2	62.9	59.3
All Years (Weighted)	74.9	73.6	66.7
Shallow, Lowland Drainage Lakes	54.6	52.6	52.4
SWTP Ecoregion	48.7	47.0	50.0

Year	Secchi (feet)				Chlorophyll-a (µg/L)				Total Phosphorus (µg/L)			
	Growing Season		Summer		Growing Season		Summer		Growing Season		Summer	
	Count	Mean	Count	Mean	Count	Mean	Count	Mean	Count	Mean	Count	Mean
2004	10	2.6	7	2.8	1	37.5	1	37.5	2	115.5	1.0	79.0
2005					4	125.4	3	154.0	5	185.6	3.0	256.0
2006					4	40.2	2	26.3	4	87.8	2.0	76.5
2007					4	56.7	2	63.8	5	117.2	3.0	122.0
2009	4	0.8	2	0.6	4	136.8	2	165.0	4	195.8	2.0	229.5
2011	7	1.2	7	1.2	7	109.0	7	109.0	7	154.4	7.0	154.4
2012	10	2.0	5	1.6	10	77.1	5	106.9	10	141.4	5.0	182.0
2013	10	2.3	5	2.9	11	64.1	6	46.3	11	98.3	6.0	76.1
2014	13	2.4	6	1.9	12	37.7	6	41.2	13	87.9	6.0	93.9
2015	5	2.4	2	3.5	5	26.9	2	27.0	5	67.6	2.0	79.2
All Years (Weighted)		2.1		2.1		69.3		80.2		120.2		135.0
Shallow, Lowland Drainage Lakes				5.6				9.4				33.0
SWTP Ecoregion				6.6				5.3				22.0

July 2015 N: 1740.0
July 2015 P: 78.7

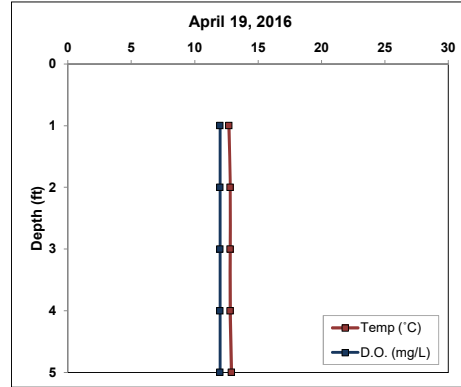
Summer 2015 N:P 22 :1

Puckaway Lake - Mid Basin

Date: 4/19/2016
Time: 14:00
Weather: 100% clouds, 50F
Entry: EEH

Max Depth: 5.7
LS Depth (ft): 3.0
LB Depth (ft):
Secchi Depth (ft): 2.9

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	12.7	12.0		
2	12.8	12.0		
3	12.8	12.0	9.0	
4	12.8	12.0		
5	12.9	12.0		



Parameter	LS	LB
Total P (µg/L)	33.60	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	4.30	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	30.20	NA
TKN (µg/L)	1590.00	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	1300.00	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	ND	NA
Total N (µg/L)	2890.00	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	393.00	NA
Lab pH	8.71	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	166.00	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	6.25	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	41.70	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	22.80	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	198.00	NA
Color (SU)	50.00	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA

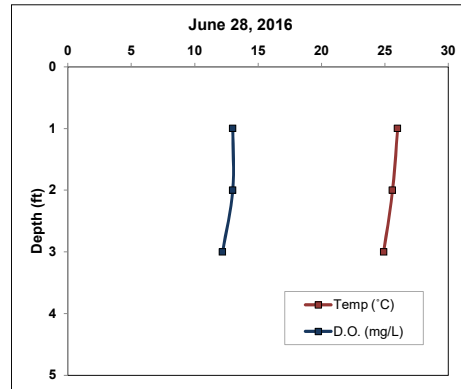
Data collected by TWH (Onterra)

Puckaway Lake - Mid Basin

Date: 6/28/2016
Time: 13:40
Weather: 70F, 10% clouds, light breeze
Entry: EEH

Max Depth: 3.4
LS Depth (ft): 2.0
LB Depth (ft):
Secchi Depth (ft): 1.7

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	26.0	13.0		
2	25.6	13.0		
3	24.9	12.2		



Parameter	LS	LB
Total P (µg/L)	112.00	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	NA	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	103.00	NA
TKN (µg/L)	NA	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Total N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	NA	NA
Lab pH	NA	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	NA	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	NA	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	NA	NA
Color (SU)	NA	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA

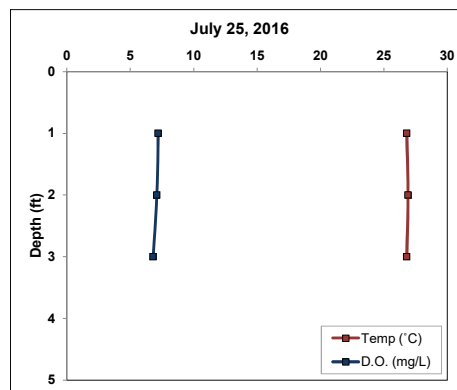
Puckaway Lake - Mid Basin

Date: 7/25/2016
Time: 10:00
Weather: 75F, 0% clouds
Entry: JLW

Max Depth: 3.9
LS Depth (ft): 2.0
LB Depth (ft):
Secchi Depth (ft): 1.2

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	26.8	7.2		
2	26.9	7.1	8.8	
3	26.8	6.8		

Parameter	LS	LB
Total P (µg/L)	127.00	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	3.50	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	89.00	NA
TKN (µg/L)	2020.00	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	ND	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	36.20	NA
Total N (µg/L)	2020.00	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	330.00	NA
Lab pH	8.54	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	160.00	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	42.70	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	31.90	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	29.10	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	199.00	NA
Color (SU)	40.00	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA



Data collected by BTB & LJS (Onterra).

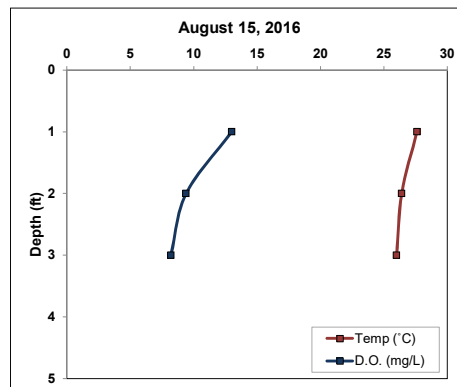
Puckaway Lake - Mid Basin

Date: 8/15/2016
Time: 12:10
Weather: 75% clouds, 82F
Entry: JMB

Max Depth: 3.7
LS Depth (ft): 2.0
LB Depth (ft):
Secchi Depth (ft): 1.0

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	27.6	13.0		
2	26.4	9.4		
3	26.0	8.2		

Parameter	LS	LB
Total P (µg/L)	101.00	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	NA	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	82.40	NA
TKN (µg/L)	NA	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Total N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	NA	NA
Lab pH	NA	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	NA	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	NA	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	NA	NA
Color (SU)	NA	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA



Data collected by TWH and LJS (Onterra). Water is brown, maybe a little low?

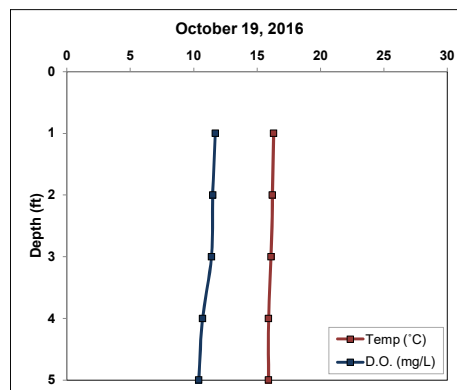
Puckaway Lake - Mid Basin

Date: 10/19/2016
Time: 11:30
Weather: 75% clouds, 70F, no wind
Entry: JMB

Max Depth: 5.8
LS Depth (ft): 3.0
LB Depth (ft):
Secchi Depth (ft): 2.1

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	16.3	11.7		
2	16.2	11.5		
3	16.1	11.4		
4	15.9	10.7		
5	15.9	10.4		

Parameter	LS	LB
Total P (µg/L)	73.70	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	NA	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	61.00	NA
TKN (µg/L)	NA	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Total N (µg/L)	NA	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	NA	NA
Lab pH	NA	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	NA	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	12.80	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	NA	NA
Color (SU)	NA	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA



Data collected by JMB and LJS (Onterra).

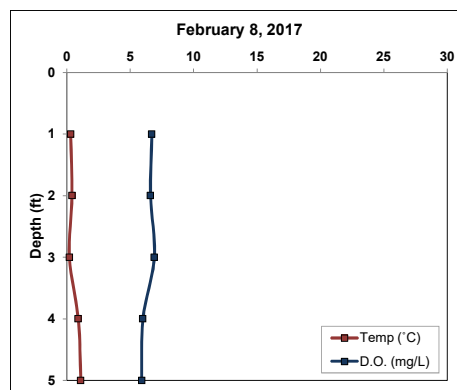
Puckaway Lake - Mid Basin

Date: 2/8/2017
Time: 12:55
Weather: 18F, 30% clouds, light wind
Entry: EEH

Max Depth: 5.5
LS Depth (ft): 3.0
LB Depth (ft):
Secchi Depth (ft): 5.0

Depth (ft)	Temp (°C)	D.O. (mg/L)	pH	Sp. Cond. (µS/cm)
1	0.3	6.7		
2	0.4	6.6		
3	0.2	6.9		
4	0.9	6.0		
5	1.1	5.9		

Parameter	LS	LB
Total P (µg/L)	79.10	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	32.60	NA
Chl-a (µg/L)	NA	NA
TKN (µg/L)	884.00	NA
NO ₃ + NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	2120.00	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	121.00	NA
Total N (µg/L)	3125.00	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	NA	NA
Lab pH	NA	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L CaCO ₃)	NA	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/L)	NA	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	NA	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	NA	NA
Color (SU)	NA	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA



Data collected by TWH and LJS (Onterra). Ice depth = 1.3 feet.

Water Quality Data

2016-2017 Parameter	Surface		Bottom	
	Count	Mean	Count	Mean
Secchi Depth (feet)	6	2.3	NA	NA
Total P (µg/L)	6	87.7	0	NA
Dissolved P (µg/L)	3	13.5	0	NA
Chl a (µg/L)	5	73.1	0	NA
TKN (µg/L)	3	1498.0	0	NA
NO ₃ +NO ₂ -N (µg/L)	3	1710.0	0	NA
NH ₃ -N (µg/L)	3	78.6	0	NA
Total N (µg/L)	3	2678.3	0	NA
Lab Cond. (µS/cm)	2	361.5	0	NA
Alkal (mg/l CaCO ₃)	2	163.0	0	NA
Total Susp. Solids (mg/l)	3	20.6	0	NA
Calcium (mg/L)	2	36.8	0	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	2	26.0	0	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	2	198.5	0	NA
Color (SU)	2	45.0	0	NA
Turbidity (NTU)	0	NA	0	NA

Trophic State Index (TSI)

Year	TP	Chl-a	Secchi
2004			62.2
2005			73.4
2006	66.7	62.7	67.0
2007	73.4	71.4	75.1
2009	82.5	80.7	84.5
2011	76.8	76.6	75.1
2012	79.2	76.4	70.7
2013	66.6	68.2	61.7
2014	69.6	67.1	67.6
2015	67.2	62.9	59.3
2016	72.4	74.9	73.3
All Years (Weighted)	74.7	73.7	67.8
SLDL Median	54.6	52.6	52.4
SWTP Ecoregion Median	48.7	47.0	50.0

Year	Secchi (feet)				Chlorophyll-a (µg/L)				Total Phosphorus (µg/L)			
	Growing Season		Summer		Growing Season		Summer		Growing Season		Summer	
	Count	Mean	Count	Mean	Count	Mean	Count	Mean	Count	Mean	Count	Mean
2004	10	2.6	7	2.8	1	37.5	1	37.5	2	115.5	1.0	79.0
2005	4	1.5	3	1.3	4	125.4	3	154.0	5	185.6	3.0	256.0
2006	4	1.9	3	2.0	4	40.2	2	26.3	4	87.8	2.0	76.5
2007	4	1.3	2	1.1	4	56.7	2	63.8	5	117.2	3.0	122.0
2009	4	0.8	2	0.6	4	136.8	2	165.0	4	195.8	2.0	229.5
2011	7	1.2	7	1.2	7	109.0	7	109.0	7	154.4	7.0	154.4
2012	10	2.0	5	1.6	10	77.1	5	106.9	10	141.4	5.0	182.0
2013	10	2.3	5	2.9	11	64.1	6	46.3	11	98.3	6.0	76.1
2014	13	2.4	6	1.9	12	37.7	6	41.2	13	87.9	6.0	93.9
2015	5	2.4	2	3.5	5	26.9	2	27.0	5	67.6	2.0	79.2
2016	5	1.8	3	1.3	5	73.1	3	91.5	5	89.5	3.0	113.3
All Years (Weighted)		2.0		1.9		69.6		81.0		118.1		133.4
SLDL Median				5.6				9.4				33.0
SWTP Ecoregion				6.6				5.3				22.0

F

APPENDIX F

Watershed Analysis WiLMS Results

Date: 7/15/2016 Lake Puckaway

Lake Id: LakePuckaway
 Watershed Id: 0

Hydrologic and Morphometric Data

Tributary Drainage Area: 151935.0 acre
 Total Unit Runoff: 9.30 in.
 Annual Runoff Volume: 117749.6 acre-ft
 Lake Surface Area <As>: 5190.0 acre
 Lake Volume <V>: 22484.0 acre-ft
 Lake Mean Depth <z>: 4.3 ft
 Precipitation - Evaporation: 3.1 in.
 Hydraulic Loading: 395543.5 acre-ft/year
 Areal Water Load <qs>: 76.2 ft/year
 Lake Flushing Rate <p>: 17.59 1/year
 Water Residence Time: 0.06 year
 Observed spring overturn total phosphorus (SPO): 77.2 mg/m³
 Observed growing season mean phosphorus (GSM): 116.2 mg/m³
 % NPS Change: 0%
 % PS Change: 0%

NON-POINT SOURCE DATA

Land Use	Acre (ac)	Low	Most Likely	High	Loading %	Low	Most Likely	High	
		Loading (kg/ha-year)				Loading (kg/year)			
Row Crop AG	76994.0	0.50	1.00	3.00	46.9	15580	31159	93478	
Mixed AG	0.0	0.30	0.80	1.40	0.0	0	0	0	
Pasture/Grass	22243.0	0.10	0.30	0.50	4.1	900	2701	4501	
HD Urban (1/8 Ac)	89.0	1.00	1.50	2.00	0.1	36	54	72	
MD Urban (1/4 Ac)	1304.0	0.30	0.50	0.80	0.4	158	264	422	
Rural Res (>1 Ac)	2514.0	0.05	0.10	0.25	0.2	51	102	254	
Wetlands	30298.0	0.10	0.10	0.10	1.8	1226	1226	1226	
Forest	18493.0	0.05	0.09	0.18	1.0	374	674	1347	
Lake Surface	5190.0	0.10	0.30	1.00	0.9	210	630	2100	

POINT SOURCE DATA

Point Sources	Water Load (m ³ /year)	Low (kg/year)	Most Likely (kg/year)	High (kg/year)	Loading %
Buffalo Lake	2.5E+008	0.0	23258.9	0.0	35.0
Lake Montello	9.1E+007	0.0	6338.5	0.0	9.5

SEPTIC TANK DATA

Description	Low	Most Likely	High	Loading %
Septic Tank Output (kg/capita-year)	0.30	0.50	0.80	
# capita-years		704.0		
% Phosphorus Retained by Soil	98.0	90.0	80.0	
Septic Tank Loading (kg/year)	4.22	35.20	112.64	0.1

TOTALS DATA

Description	Low	Most Likely	High	Loading %
Total Loading (lb)	40872.7	146478.2	228207.4	100.0
Total Loading (kg)	18539.7	66442.1	103514.2	100.0
Areal Loading (lb/ac-year)	7.88	28.22	43.97	
Areal Loading (mg/m ² -year)	882.71	3163.43	4928.50	
Total PS Loading (lb)	0.0	65250.4	0.0	44.5
Total PS Loading (kg)	0.0	29597.4	0.0	44.5
Total NPS Loading (lb)	40400.4	79761.0	223328.5	55.4
Total NPS Loading (kg)	18325.5	36179.4	101301.2	55.4

Water and Nutrient Outflow Module: Lake Puckaway

Date: 7/15/2016 Scenario: 6
Average Annual Surface Total Phosphorus: 113.24mg/m³
Annual Discharge: 3.96E+005 AF => 4.88E+008 m³
Annual Outflow Loading: 116468.1 LB => 52829.6 kg

Water and Nutrient Outflow Module: Lake Montello

Date: 5/31/2016 Scenario: 4
Average Annual Surface Total Phosphorus: 72.86mg/m³
Annual Discharge: 7.38E+004 AF => 9.10E+007 m³
Annual Outflow Loading: 13973.9 LB => 6338.5 kg

Water and Nutrient Outflow Module: Buffalo Lake

Date: 5/31/2016 Scenario: 5
Average Annual Surface Total Phosphorus: 98.9mg/m³
Annual Discharge: 2.00E+005 AF => 2.46E+008 m³
Annual Outflow Loading: 51276.6 LB => 23258.9 kg

Grand River Marsh Loading : 67129 LB => 30449 KG

Phosphorus Prediction and Uncertainty Analysis Module

Date: 7/15/2016 Scenario: 16

Observed spring overturn total phosphorus (SPO): 77.2 mg/m³

Observed growing season mean phosphorus (GSM): 116.2 mg/m³

Back calculation for SPO total phosphorus: 0.0 mg/m³

Back calculation GSM phosphorus: 0.0 mg/m³

% Confidence Range: 70%

Nuremberg Model Input - Est. Gross Int. Loading: 0 kg

Lake Phosphorus Model	Low Total P (mg/m ³)	Most Likely Total P (mg/m ³)	High Total P (mg/m ³)	Predicted -Observed (mg/m ³)	% Dif.
Walker, 1987 Reservoir	25	88	138	-28	-24
Canfield-Bachmann, 1981 Natural Lake	32	103	152	-13	-11
Canfield-Bachmann, 1981 Artificial Lake	29	83	116	-33	-28
Rechow, 1979 General	22	80	125	-36	-31
Rechow, 1977 Anoxic	33	119	186	3	3
Rechow, 1977 water load<50m/year	26	92	144	-24	-21
Rechow, 1977 water load>50m/year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Walker, 1977 General	31	111	173	34	44
Vollenweider, 1982 Combined OECD	26	73	105	-24	-25
Dillon-Rigler-Kirchner	20	73	114	-4	-5
Vollenweider, 1982 Shallow Lake/Res.	21	64	94	-33	-34
Larsen-Mercier, 1976	31	110	171	33	43
Nurnberg, 1984 Oxidic	24	87	135	-29	-25

Lake Phosphorus Model	Confidence Lower Bound	Confidence Upper Bound	Parameter Fit?	Back Calculation (kg/year)	Model Type
Walker, 1987 Reservoir	42	132	z Tw	0	GSM
Canfield-Bachmann, 1981 Natural Lake	32	297	FIT	1	GSM
Canfield-Bachmann, 1981 Artificial Lake	26	239	FIT	1	GSM
Rechow, 1979 General	37	123	FIT	0	GSM
Rechow, 1977 Anoxic	58	176	FIT	0	GSM
Rechow, 1977 water load<50m/year	43	140	P	0	GSM
Rechow, 1977 water load>50m/year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Walker, 1977 General	45	186	FIT	0	SPO
Vollenweider, 1982 Combined OECD	30	126	FIT	0	ANN
Dillon-Rigler-Kirchner	35	108	P L	0	SPO
Vollenweider, 1982 Shallow Lake/Res.	26	109	FIT	0	ANN
Larsen-Mercier, 1976	55	159	P Pin	0	SPO
Nurnberg, 1984 Oxidic	37	141	P	0	ANN

Date: 5/31/2016 Scenario: Lake Montello Current

Lake Id: LakeMontello

Watershed Id: 0

Hydrologic and Morphometric Data

Tributary Drainage Area: 91147.0 acre

Total Unit Runoff: 9.70 in.

Annual Runoff Volume: 73677.2 acre-ft

Lake Surface Area <As>: 341.0 acre

Lake Volume <V>: 1676 acre-ft

Lake Mean Depth <z>: 4.9 ft

Precipitation - Evaporation: 3.0 in.

Hydraulic Loading: 73762.4 acre-ft/year

Areal Water Load <qs>: 216.3 ft/year

Lake Flushing Rate <p>: 44.01 1/year

Water Residence Time: 0.02 year

Observed spring overturn total phosphorus (SPO): 65.5 mg/m³

Observed growing season mean phosphorus (GSM): 77.2 mg/m³

% NPS Change: 0%

% PS Change: 0%

NON-POINT SOURCE DATA

Land Use	Acre (ac)	Low	Most Likely	High	Loading %	Low	Most Likely	High	
		Loading (kg/ha-year)				Loading (kg/year)			
Row Crop AG	33053.0	0.50	1.00	3.00	80.9	6688	13377	40130	
Mixed AG	0.0	0.30	0.80	1.40	0.0	0	0	0	
Pasture/Grass	10282.0	0.10	0.30	0.50	7.6	416	1248	2081	
HD Urban (1/8 Ac)	36.0	1.00	1.50	2.00	0.1	15	22	29	
MD Urban (1/4 Ac)	184.0	0.30	0.50	0.80	0.2	22	37	60	
Rural Res (>1 Ac)	1327.0	0.05	0.10	0.25	0.3	27	54	134	
Wetlands	15054.0	0.10	0.10	0.10	3.7	609	609	609	
Forest	31211.0	0.05	0.09	0.18	6.9	632	1137	2274	
Lake Surface	341.0	0.10	0.30	1.00	0.3	14	41	138	

POINT SOURCE DATA

Point Sources	Water Load (m ³ /year)	Low (kg/year)	Most Likely (kg/year)	High (kg/year)	Loading %
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SEPTIC TANK DATA

Description	Low	Most Likely	High	Loading %
Septic Tank Output (kg/capita-year)	0.30	0.50	0.80	
# capita-years		0.0		
% Phosphorus Retained by Soil	98.0	90.0	80.0	
Septic Tank Loading (kg/year)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0

TOTALS DATA

Description	Low	Most Likely	High	Loading %
Total Loading (lb)	18568.8	36431.3	100207.9	100.0
Total Loading (kg)	8422.7	16525.1	45454.0	100.0
Areal Loading (lb/ac-year)	54.45	106.84	293.86	
Areal Loading (mg/m ² -year)	6103.53	11974.91	32938.22	
Total PS Loading (lb)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total PS Loading (kg)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total NPS Loading (lb)	18538.3	36340.0	99903.7	100.0
Total NPS Loading (kg)	8408.9	16483.7	45316.0	100.0

Water and Nutrient Outflow Module

Date: 5/31/2016 Scenario: 4

Average Annual Surface Total Phosphorus: 72.86mg/m³

Annual Discharge: 7.38E+004 AF => 9.10E+007 m³

Annual Outflow Loading: 13973.9 LB => 6338.5 kg

Phosphorus Prediction and Uncertainty Analysis Module

Date: 5/31/2016 Scenario: 12

Observed spring overturn total phosphorus (SPO): 65.5 mg/m³

Observed growing season mean phosphorus (GSM): 77.2 mg/m³

Back calculation for SPO total phosphorus: 0.0 mg/m³

Back calculation GSM phosphorus: 0.0 mg/m³

% Confidence Range: 70%

Nurenberg Model Input - Est. Gross Int. Loading: 0 kg

Lake Phosphorus Model	Low	Most Likely	High	Predicted	% Dif.
	Total P (mg/m ³)	Total P (mg/m ³)	Total P (mg/m ³)	-Observed (mg/m ³)	
Walker, 1987 Reservoir	66	129	354	52	67
Canfield-Bachmann, 1981 Natural Lake	79	148	368	71	92
Canfield-Bachmann, 1981 Artificial Lake	69	120	258	43	56
Rechow, 1979 General	67	132	363	55	71
Rechow, 1977 Anoxic	82	160	441	83	108
Rechow, 1977 water load<50m/year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rechow, 1977 water load>50m/year	78	152	419	75	97
Walker, 1977 General	81	158	435	93	142
Vollenweider, 1982 Combined OECD	57	98	226	27	38
Dillon-Rigler-Kirchner	64	126	346	61	93
Vollenweider, 1982 Shallow Lake/Res.	48	88	214	17	24
Larsen-Mercier, 1976	80	158	434	93	142
Nurnberg, 1984 Oxidic	76	149	410	72	93

Lake Phosphorus Model	Confidence	Confidence	Parameter	Back	Model
	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Fit?	Calculation (kg/year)	Type
Walker, 1987 Reservoir	76	274	z Tw	0	GSM
Canfield-Bachmann, 1981 Natural Lake	46	426	L	1	GSM
Canfield-Bachmann, 1981 Artificial Lake	37	346	FIT	1	GSM
Rechow, 1979 General	75	283	FIT	0	GSM
Rechow, 1977 Anoxic	97	339	FIT	0	GSM
Rechow, 1977 water load<50m/year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rechow, 1977 water load>50m/year	107	315	P Pin	0	GSM
Walker, 1977 General	80	350	FIT	0	SPO
Vollenweider, 1982 Combined OECD	49	200	FIT	0	ANN
Dillon-Rigler-Kirchner	75	267	P L	0	SPO
Vollenweider, 1982 Shallow Lake/Res.	44	183	FIT	0	ANN
Larsen-Mercier, 1976	98	332	P Pin p	0	SPO
Nurnberg, 1984 Oxidic	79	326	P L	0	ANN

Date: 7/15/2016 Scenario: 24

Lake Id: Grand River Marsh

Watershed Id: 0

Hydrologic and Morphometric Data

Tributary Drainage Area: 121077.0 acre

Total Unit Runoff: 9.30 in.

Annual Runoff Volume: 93834.7 acre-ft

Lake Surface Area <As>: 0.0 acre

Lake Volume <V>: 0.0 acre-ft

Lake Mean Depth <z>: 0.00 ft

Precipitation - Evaporation: 3.1 in.

Hydraulic Loading: 93834.7 acre-ft/year

Areal Water Load <qs>: 0.00 ft/year

Lake Flushing Rate <p>: 0.00 1/year

Water Residence Time: 0.00 year

Observed spring overturn total phosphorus (SPO): 0.0 mg/m³

Observed growing season mean phosphorus (GSM): 0.0 mg/m³

% NPS Change: 0%

% PS Change: 0%

NON-POINT SOURCE DATA

Land Use	Acre (ac)	Low Loading (kg/ha-year)	Most Likely Loading (kg/ha-year)	High Loading (kg/ha-year)	Loading %	Low Loading (kg/year)	Most Likely Loading (kg/year)	High Loading (kg/year)	Loading %
Row Crop AG	65879.0	0.50	1.00	3.00	87.6	13331	26661	79984	
Mixed AG	0.0	0.30	0.80	1.40	0.0	0	0	0	
Pasture/Grass	19024.0	0.10	0.30	0.50	7.6	770	2310	3850	
HD Urban (1/8 Ac)	65.0	1.00	1.50	2.00	0.1	26	39	53	
MD Urban (1/4 Ac)	209.0	0.30	0.50	0.80	0.1	25	42	68	
Rural Res (>1 Ac)	1947.0	0.05	0.10	0.25	0.3	39	79	197	
Wetlands	20029	0.10	0.10	0.10	2.7	811	811	811	
Forest	13924.0	0.05	0.09	0.18	1.7	282	507	1014	
Lake Surface	0.0	0.10	0.30	1.00	0.0	0	0	0	

POINT SOURCE DATA

Point Sources	Water Load (m ³ /year)	Low Loading (kg/year)	Most Likely Loading (kg/year)	High Loading (kg/year)	Loading %

SEPTIC TANK DATA

Description	Low	Most Likely	High	Loading %
Septic Tank Output (kg/capita-year)	0.30	0.50	0.80	

# capita-years	0.0				
% Phosphorus Retained by Soil		98.0	90.0	80.0	
Septic Tank Loading (kg/year)		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0

TOTALS DATA

Description	Low	Most Likely	High	Loading %
Total Loading (lb)	33694.9	67128.3	189541.2	100.0
Total Loading (kg)	15283.9	30449.2	85975.3	100.0
Areal Loading (lb/ac-year)	23.39	46.69	131.97	
Areal Loading (mg/m ² -year)	2621.85	5233.43	14792.24	
Total PS Loading (lb)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total PS Loading (kg)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total NPS Loading (lb)	33694.9	67128.3	189541.2	100.0
Total NPS Loading (kg)	15283.9	30449.2	85975.3	100.0

Phosphorus Prediction and Uncertainty Analysis Module

Date: 7/15/2016 Scenario: 15
 Observed spring overturn total phosphorus (SPO): 0.0 mg/m³
 Observed growing season mean phosphorus (GSM): 0.0 mg/m³
 Back calculation for SPO total phosphorus: 0.0 mg/m³
 Back calculation GSM phosphorus: 0.0 mg/m³
 % Confidence Range: 70%
 Nurenberg Model Input - Est. Gross Int. Loading: 0 kg

Lake Phosphorus Model	Low	Most Likely	High	Predicted	% Dif.
	Total P	Total P	Total P	-Observed	
	(mg/m ³)	(mg/m ³)	(mg/m ³)	(mg/m ³)	
Walker, 1987 Reservoir					
Canfield-Bachmann, 1981 Natural Lake					
Canfield-Bachmann, 1981 Artificial Lake					
Rechow, 1979 General					
Rechow, 1977 Anoxic					
Rechow, 1977 water load<50m/year					
Rechow, 1977 water load>50m/year					
Walker, 1977 General					
Vollenweider, 1982 Combined OECD					
Dillon-Rigler-Kirchner					
Vollenweider, 1982 Shallow Lake/Res.					
Larsen-Mercier, 1976					
Nurnberg, 1984 Oxidic					

Lake Phosphorus Model	Confidence	Confidence	Parameter	Back	Model
	Lower	Upper	Fit?	Calculation	Type
	Bound	Bound		(kg/year)	
Walker, 1987 Reservoir					GSM
Canfield-Bachmann, 1981 Natural Lake					GSM
Canfield-Bachmann, 1981 Artificial Lake					GSM
Rechow, 1979 General					GSM
Rechow, 1977 Anoxic					GSM
Rechow, 1977 water load<50m/year					GSM
Rechow, 1977 water load>50m/year					GSM
Walker, 1977 General					SPO
Vollenweider, 1982 Combined OECD					ANN
Dillon-Rigler-Kirchner					SPO
Vollenweider, 1982 Shallow Lake/Res.					ANN
Larsen-Mercier, 1976					SPO
Nurnberg, 1984 Oxidic					ANN

G

APPENDIX G

Aquatic Plant Survey Data

H

APPENDIX H

March 2017 Draft
Public & Agency Comments and Responses

Project Contacts (not for publication)

Planning Consultant Contact:

Tim Hoyman
Onterra, LLC
815 Prosper St.
De Pere, WI 54115
Voice: 920.338.8860
Email: thoyman@onterra-eco.com

Lake Group Contact:

Paul Gettelman, Chair Person
Lake Puckaway Protection &
Rehabilitation District
Voice: 608.792.8489
Email: paulgettelman@yahoo.com

Wisconsin DNR Contact:

Ted Johnson
WI. Dept. of Natural Resources
625 E. CTH Y Suite 700
Oshkosh, WI 54901
Voice: 920.424.2104
Email: tedm.johnson@wisconsin.gov

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Lake Puckaway Draft Management Plan Available and Information Meetings Set for May

Green Lake & Marquette Counties, WI, March 20, 2017. The Lake Puckaway Protection and Rehabilitation District is pleased to announce that a draft of the Lake Puckaway Comprehensive Management Plan has been completed and is available on the district website (www.lakepuckaway.com). Additional information can be found at the Lake Puckaway Facebook page as well. Hardcopies of the management plan are also available for viewing at the public libraries located in Markesan, Montello, and Princeton. Each copy, whether electronic or hardcopy, contain specific information regarding the submittal of written comments via email and US Post. Only written comments can be accepted and must be provided on or before April 7, 2017.

“The Lake Puckaway project is one of the most complicated I have worked on in the past decade,” said Tim Hoyman, Lead Aquatic Ecologist at Onterra, LLC, the lake management planning firm hired by the district to assist with the development of the plan. “An Executive Summary is included within the document and does a fine job of hitting the highlights, but to gain the best understanding of the Lake Puckaway ecosystem, the reader should also read over the main document and the implementation plan, he continued. Hoyman finished by saying, “It is a draft document, so written comments are welcomed.”

The Lake Puckaway Protection and Rehabilitation District will host two identical information meetings regarding the draft management plan. Both meetings will be held at the Marquette Village Hall (127 E. 4th St, Marquette, WI) and include time to answer questions and accept comments from the general public. The first meeting will be on Thursday, May 4th, starting at 6:30pm and the second meeting will be held on Saturday, May 6th starting at 10:00am.

Tim,

After taking the time to read and reread your action plan and then reading Randy's comments I will put forth my 2 Cents. First I agree with what Randy all noted. Good points. Now for my thoughts.

I will go through it page by page in comments. **Basis for water Level Management on Lake Puckaway.** In here you *note the pattern of maintaining high water levels late in the growing season over the past decades that brought about the documented decline in aquatic plant abundances.* It should be noted first that the LPPRD wasn't necessarily responsible for the high water during this time along with high water not being the sole culprit to the decline of the aquatic vegetation. The document leans toward high water as being bad, but yet this year with higher than normal water during part of the summer we haven't had the algae blooms as we have had in years past and the water has been the clearest it has been in years.

I intentionally focused on wording that portion of the document so it would not lead the reader to believe that the district was responsible for any of the issues that plague the lake. I believe it reads that way now, but admittedly, I may have missed something because I have read it so many times. If you can direct me to something particular, please do and I will make changes.

I will make sure to reword this section (and other that are being created) to not point only at water levels for the degradation.

Regarding the conditions on the lake this year – like just about every year on Lake Puckaway, it is different than the year before and will likely be different than the next. Still, over the course of time the lake has degraded to where it is now. We cannot focus on one year and use that to make a determination of what is going to happen the following years.

The document refers to the Mississippi River pool waters with lowering water during growing seasons. Yes, this has been effective THERE. We

are talking 2 entirely different water systems. As I am sure you are aware the Mississippi is a large fast flowing river with back waters created by a dam system. Water level can be controlled rather easily in normal water level years (this past week or so isn't one of them). Puckaway on the other hand is a slow flow water system with one dam which we have very little control over through the course of the spring, summer seasons. Our only back water so to speak would be the East Basin of the lake. It should be noted that the LPPRD a few years ago designated the east basin as our aquatic vegetation key impact area that demanded our attention. It was this area that we were keying in on rather than the West basin or the "big Lake". I think this concept should be maintained in this lake management plan and would make it easier for folks to understand and accept. You also note that "Periodic reductions in water levels during the growing season" is the best path for increasing aquatic plants in Lake Puckaway. Is there any documentation of this in any other lake that we can review that is similar to Puckaway. Is water level reduction the only method for increasing aquatic plants in Puckaway???? There must be other tools in the tool box for us to consider and should be noted in the plan.

I believe that the Mississippi backwaters are comparable. The studies we refer to and Ted introduced to your group sometime ago, were not completed in the main channel of the river, they were completed in the massive backwaters of it. We are never going to find a perfect comparison to Lake Puckaway because it is unique, like every other lake in the world is unique. And yes, there are other studies that look at the use of water level management as a good tool for establishing plants in lakes and flowages. In the main portion of the document and in the summary/conclusions section we will be sure to highlight them. We will also expand upon alternatives, like adding plants back to the lake, but as we discussed during our presentations, without removing the factor that has not allowed the plants to establish on their own, we cannot expect plants that we add to the lake to thrive. Also, the management plan does not just call for the water level management plan to be implemented to improve the aquatic plant community, it also points to the work that the Shallow Lake Management

Committee would be facilitating, such as the dredgebank rebuild and work on Pancake Island.

In my August 8 presentation I purposely demonstrated to the group that the bulk of plant (and other habitat) improvements would be found in the east basin and that the west basin would primarily be open. The truth is, we cannot dictate where plants will and will not grow, but based upon the morphology of the lake and past conditions, I suspect that will be the case.

Specifications and Definitions; the plan notes that the *objective of the WLMP is to promote significant plant growth within Lake Puckaway...* As I noted earlier the LPPRD has designated the eastern basin as the area of our main interest in establishing the aquatic vegetation. Again, this would be easier to address and be more acceptable to the public. We realize that by keying on the east basin there still would be positive effects on the west basin (big lake).

Please see above.

Starting Lake Level; The plan addresses the water levels and that the ordinary high water mark has not been established. Have you checked with Green Lake County Zoning? The have the High water level established for when you want to build a home and the set back from the high water level mark.

According to a July 28, 2016 email from Matthew E. Kirkman, Code Enforcement Officer, Land Use Planning & Zoning Department, Green Lake County, "There is no common OHWM for Lake Puckaway."

Specific Conditions on Attempts at Reductions; The plan addresses this but when do the water level reductions begin? Dam Reconstruction? 10 years after that?

In the Princeton Dam Reconstruction section of the Implement Lake Puckaway Water Level Management Plan action, I discuss the best case scenario would be for the reductions associated with the dam reconstruction to meet the successful reduction sequence. I also layout a plan if they do not meet the criteria. Further, I layout what would happen if the dam was not rebuilt during the next two biennial budgets. Does that not answer your question?

Frequency of water level reductions; The plan notes that a 2nd set of reductions would not be attempted for 8-10 years. Not in favor of this. 10 years at the earliest.

Please see my response to Randy.

Goal 3 Enhance Lake Puckaway Fishery

Action Steps

The plan notes that the LPPRD will work closely with Dave Bartz.....This should be written that the LPPRD and WDNR local fisheries will work closely together on the continued aggressive, annual harvesting of common carp by commercial fisherman for Lake Puckaway. It must be a 2 way street not a one way as written.

Got it.

The plan has in it the LPPRD offering incentives to commercial fisherman. This is NOT to be in here. This is a specific budgetary item and we should not be held to this in a Lake Plan. There is no reason for it to be in there.

I am trying to make the plan as complete as possible while keeping it flexible. I would like to discuss this more with the committee as a whole, but will not get into details during my presentation Monday.

Not sure why we need specific info on hatchery budget and why this too would need to be in the lake plan. Addressing the hatchery and its goals fine, but the budget????

Please see response above.

Well, this should get it started. I am sure the more I think on some of this I will have more to say, but for now this is a good start.

Paul

From: Bolha, David A - DNR

Sent: Tuesday, April 04, 2017 1:10 PM

To: Marquardt, Keith A - DNR; Johnson, Ted M - DNR; Bartz, David H - DNR; Bunde, Scott B - DNR; Kamke, Kendall K - DNR; McLennan, Robin - DNR; Bartz, David H - DNR; Holzwart, James C - DNR

Subject: RE: First Draft of Lake Puckaway Management Plan

Thanks Ted,

The summary is well written, providing a great amount of important information. I would add a few comments however.

- The 3rd full paragraph on pg 4 refers to nitrogen/phosphorus limitation in a lake which seems too complicated for the executive summary. The same can be said for the 2nd full paragraph on pg 5 referring to changes in pH and release of phosphorus from the sediments. Perhaps combining the two paragraphs and simplifying can be better read by our non-technical audience.

This has been reworded as best as possible.

- Stick with the term “algae” rather than phytoplankton to avoid confusion.

I have done this in the ES and have added clarity in first use of “phytoplankton”

- In the 4th full paragraph on pg 8, I think it is important to list examples of annual and perennial species for folks to understand the benefits observed in the Mississippi Pools.

Added examples.

- I understand Keith’s questions on pg 9 regarding the EPA expecting water level management to be used to meet our water quality standards/TMDL. Perhaps it is better put as the state recommends water level mgmt. to meet TMDL and water quality standard requirements.

This has been added.

As for the rest of the plan, here are my comments:

- The 1st full paragraph on pg 39 regarding TSS. The Deep Hole highest value in summer was listed as 14.4 mg/L and yet the average Deep Hole concentration was 18.6 mg/L.

This has been corrected.

- How do we explain the difference in flushing rate calculated by WiLMS and the actual data by USGS since 2009?

WiLMS uses average precipitation levels throughout several years based upon county. As discussed within the document, water levels and flows are much higher in the past decade than over the past 30 years, so that brings about the difference.

- Do we agree with the WiLMS assessment of internal loading not being a significant source to the lake on a regular basis? Regardless of a significant impact to the lake, does that preclude an impact to the Fox River downstream in most years?

We did not use WiLMS to calculate the internal loading during 2011 and 2012 – actual flow rates and concentrations entering and leaving Puckaway were utilized. We really only have sufficient data for about 4 years to make these calculations, so we really do not know how often internal loading is an issue that impacts downstream waterbodies. We try to use the term “often” instead of always or mostly.

- In the 1st paragraph under Water Level Drawdown, the plan states “the process will likely need to be repeated every two or three years to keep target species in check”. I think that should be rephrased or it could scare most folks away from the idea of water level management.

That text is in regards to the control of aquatic plants and is part of the primer sections, which is pointed out in the side box near the section’s start. However, a citizen brought this up in their comments as well, so we have made it clear that those words do not pertain to Puckaway.

- Should reconstruction of the dredge banks be listed as a Management Action specifically? Right now, it falls under “Form Puckaway Shallow Lake Management Workgroup” but is not specifically mentioned besides in the Executive Summary. Giving some indication of foreseen projects may be good for public buy-in.

I added text in the implementation plan description for the PSLWG action, but I do not believe that it should be called out as a separate action because we do not know if it is really possible at this time.

- What about an abandonment threshold of 1300 cfs at Princeton on June 15th and 1100 cfs on June 30th? A quick look at the 2010 – 2016 data from Princeton and no two consecutive years met the 1200 and/or 1000cfs thresholds. Only 2012 and 2016 met those thresholds. Is it reasonable to expect two consecutive years meeting those thresholds? 2015 and 2016 were close to meeting the 1300cfs and 1100cfs thresholds. If 1300 cfs on June 15th and 1100 cfs on June 30th thresholds will not meet the WLMP objective (1.5 foot reduction by 7/15?), then is just summer time (June through September) water level reductions going to give us the reductions we are hoping for?

Considering what was found on the Mississippi pool studies concerning having the water levels down by early to mid-July for best results, and the results of the MWH study on Puckaway, those thresholds make sense. You are correct, there is a small chance that two consecutive years would meet those thresholds, actually we calculated it at about 7%, so that is why once we meet the first year’s requirement, the second year is basically take what we can get, but needs to be at least 1.5 ft.

Let me know if you have any questions on my comments. Would you like to forward my comments onto Tim or should I?

Dave

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David Bolha

Phone: (920) 424-7892

david.bolha@wisconsin.gov

From: Johnson, Ted M - DNR [mailto:TedM.Johnson@wisconsin.gov]
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 2:35 PM
To: Tim Hoyman <THoyman@onterra-eco.com>
Cc: McLennan, Robin - DNR <Robin.McLennan@wisconsin.gov>; Bolha, David A - DNR <David.Bolha@wisconsin.gov>; Marquardt, Keith A - DNR <KeithA.Marquardt@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Comments on draft LMP

Hi Tim:

I think that you've done a good job with this plan. My main comment is to simplify the wording and jargon as much as possible, especially in the executive summary (ES). Most people will not read the entire plan but more likely will at least read the ES. Seeing as this is our best chance to educate and inform folks, I would focus on a writing style that is most comprehensible to the lay person. Most of the ES is fine but there are areas that could be improved.

In regards to regulatory requirements for water level management, I'd like to schedule a meeting with you, Dave Bolha, Keith Marquardt and Rob McLennan to discuss the best way to present this information.

1. **Page 4, 4th paragraph:** BGA blooms. You verbiage is not definitive enough. "potential and may be intense". I'd say this as a fact. Have been intense, dangerous to human health, etc.
I added more definitive wording in the second full paragraph of the ES.
2. **Page 6, 2nd paragraph:** I wouldn't mention 8 feet as this exceeds the max depth of the lake unless experiencing a flood. You may lose some credibility with locals if you use 8 feet. Six feet is reasonable.

This has been removed and additional information regarding actual drawdown elevations added verbiage to the Implementation plan to further clarify the actual relative levels.

3. **Page 13, 2nd paragraph:** Increased panfish habitat sentence; replace "but" with and.
That is much better, thank you.
4. **Page 13 3rd paragraph:** unnecessarily technical; "suppression of sediment re-suspension", "hampering water turbulence"; Please simplify.

Done.

5. **Page 13, 3rd paragraph, last sentence:** As opposed not "and opposed"

Done.

6. **Page 15, 3rd paragraph:** You mention a 2.5 foot drawdown goal from June through September. I think that people read 2.5 feet and think that the lake level will be 2.5 feet lower than normal (all summer). This may seem less drastic if contrasted against average historic water level records. For example, in most years lake levels in July and August are already down by 1-1.5 feet naturally (guess on my part to make a point). Let's say 1.2 feet down is the summer average so to achieve 2.5 feet the lake is being brought down an additional 1.3 feet over average natural conditions. In my opinion, this would be more palatable to most lake stakeholders.

I removed the specific numbers for the drawdown from this paragraph, and as mentioned above, added verbiage to the Implementation plan to further clarify the actual relative levels. I also altered the text under "Successful Reduction Sequence" to make it relative to MSL as opposed to feet below the starting level.

7. **Page 15, 3rd paragraph:** Some complicated concepts are described here. I know that it will be difficult but this paragraph is long and may be confusing to the average stakeholder. Maybe split this paragraph into two shorter ones.

I split the paragraph and reworded portions.

Thanks, Ted

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Visit our survey at <http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey> to evaluate how I did.

Ted M. Johnson

Lake Biologist – Bureau of Water Quality – Eastern District

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Phone: (920) 424-2104

Fax: (920) 424-4404

tedm.johnson@wi.gov

Riparian 1:

Hello Mr. Anastasi,

Thank you for taking the time to review the draft plan and provide your obviously well thought through comments. Also, thank you for attending last summer's informational meetings. I have provided answers and comments to the best of my knowledge within the text of your email below.

Best Regards,

Tim

Tim Hoyman, CLM
Lead Aquatic Ecologist
Onterra, LLC

From: "Phil" <philanastasi72@gmail.com>

To: info@lakepuckaway.com

Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 8:00:04 PM

Subject: Comments Lake Puckaway Comprehensive Lake Management Plan

Dear Sirs,

Reviewing the draft of the plan there are several questions that I'd like you to address;

1. When will the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources finish developing its Total Maximum Daily Load for water bodies within the upper Fox River Water shed you make reference to in the report?

As of last summer, the TMDL was to be completed sometime in 2017. I am sorry, but I do not know if that is still accurate.

2. What will the total cost be to enact the plan?

This is unknown because the elements that will actually be taken on, like the work the Shallow Lake Management Workgroup is developing, have not been determined. This is a good question though and for our plans that are more straight forward, like those calling for herbicide treatments of exotic species or those enacting an alum treatment, we would include some rough costs.

3. How do you propose to eliminate the invasive species and undesirable plants that don't help with the removal of pollutants in the lake?

Based upon the results of the 2015 plant studies, the level of exotic plants in the lake does not warrant action to control them.

4. By drawing down the water levels in the lake, won't you be increasing the nitrogen and phosphorus in the lake because there will be very little water flow?

This may be the case temporarily while the drawdowns are being conducted, but the overall gain in water quality and habitat brought on by the gain in plants would be much better for the lake in the long-run.

5. By drawing down the water level two consecutive years and potentially every eight to ten years how can we be reassured that you will not upset and irrevocably damage the eco system significantly and cause more devastation?

The Water Level Management Plan contains a monitoring plan that will provide real data to determine if the actions are making the lake better or worse. Similar actions in other systems have shown improvement in those systems, so there is no reason to believe that damage would be caused, especially permanent damage. However, as discussed in the plan, the purpose of the monitoring is to allow for flexibility and refinement so the lake can be improved as much as possible – that may include never doing a drawdown ever again.

6. By lowering the water level two feet or more won't you create more stress to fish trapped in the lake because of high water temperatures, high nitrogen and phosphorus? This example occurred a few years ago when we had drought conditions and lost more than two thousand Northern Pike. We could lose a lot more fish and the lake would take years if not decades to recover.

Fisheries biologist do not believe this would be the case because the Fox River system is so large. This is not a high concern because the gains brought on by the increased habitat will bring about a better fishery as elaborated upon within the plan.

7. A fish survey should occur at least every three years if a plan is approved to gauge the impact of lower water levels and weed growth.

Agreed. The WDNR is completing a survey this year and will hopefully be prepared to complete the same following any water level manipulation. Unfortunately, our current administration is cutting funding and staff in the WDNR, but hopefully those cuts will not impact important work like we are discussing here.

8. Will the plan presented at the June 2017 annual meeting allow for amendments?

Any changes to the plan would likely occur prior to that meeting and be based upon comments received at the informational meetings being held this week.

Thank you,

Phil Anastasi

W 6766 Hill St.

Markesan, WI 53946

April 4, 2017

Riparian 2:

Hello Mr. and Mrs. Schultz,

Thank you for taking the time to review the draft plan and provide comments. The alternatives that you bring forth below are discussed within the management plan. For instance, the district has worked with the WDNR for many years to have carp removed. While it is difficult to keep carp numbers down in such a big system, the program has worked and in fact, numbers were down this past fall to the point that the contractor cancelled the harvest due to lack of fish. The islands and artificial barriers that you mention are currently being developed by the Shallow Lake Management Committee that has been formed by the district and is discussed in detail within the plan. With our assistance, the district successfully applied for a grant that will partially fund work to be completed by the US Army Corps of Engineers that will determine appropriate placement and methods for these enhancements to the lake. However, these enhancements will not allow the establishment of aquatic plants on their own. In order to establish truly significant amounts of plants in the lake, enough plants to see changes in water quality and improvements in habitat long-term, the water level management plan must be initiated. Since the dam was built over a century ago, water levels have fluctuated from year-to-year, but they have always been consistently higher than what would have occurred without the dam in place. Those consistently higher levels have worked, along with the carp of course, to reduce plant levels in the lake. That is without a doubt. Studies from many lakes, in many states, and in many countries, have shown that maintaining unnatural water levels reduces aquatic plants in lakes, especially emergents like rice, rushes, and reeds – even in lakes where carp do not exist. The district has attempted adding plants to the lake, like many other lake groups have as well in other lakes, but those plants do not last for the same reasons that the plants do not grow naturally in the lake.

Regarding how the watershed impacts Lake Puckaway and how work in the watershed will affect the lake, there is a lot of information in the draft plan. Below, I have included some text that will appear in the district's newsletter that will be sent out in the next couple of days:

While agricultural lands do deliver a large portion of the phosphorus that enters the lake, studies completed as a part of this project indicate that even converting half of the agricultural land to forested land would still result in high phosphorus levels in the lake. High enough that the lake would still be considered overly productive and support high levels of algae. While work in the watershed is important and will be called for as a part of the TMDL for the Fox River Basin, it is not the silver-bullet to solve Lake Puckaway's water quality problems. In fact, during many of the years, phosphorus being recycled in Lake Puckaway is substantial and adds to Puckaway's water quality problems and those of the waterbodies downstream. Increased plant abundances in Lake Puckaway would do much to reduce the internal cycling of phosphorus while competing with algae for the phosphorus that is entering the lake from the watershed.

Regarding being more proactive in the grant process – the Lake Puckaway Protection and Rehabilitation District has worked diligently at obtaining grants for decades. In fact, the group has received so many grants, that when we applied for the grant I mention above, the district needed to obtain a special variance because their past grants had exceeded the \$100,000 cap required by state law. Honestly Mr. and Mrs. Schultz, the district has worked to figure out ways to make Lake Puckaway healthier and over the years the same issues rise to the surface and the same actions, like water level management are brought forth as solutions, but the district members resist. As a result of the last planning effort, the district did attempt to extend the lower winter levels into the spring by holding off on placing the flash

boards until after June 15th. However, high flows during those years kept the water levels high - high enough that the flash boards would not have been placed any earlier.

Everyone that has worked on this plan understands the sacrifice everyone around the lake will have to make by utilizing the water level management plan. However, it is necessary, along with the other actions discussed above and in the draft management, if people are serious about making Lake Puckaway an overall healthier system.

Best Regards,

Tim

Tim Hoyman, CLM
Lead Aquatic Ecologist
Onterra, LLC

From: "Randy Schultz" <randyandmaryschultz@gmail.com>
To: info@lakepuckaway.com
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2017 10:22:49 AM
Subject: Lake drawdown

Some of us that fish this lake consistantly, and also live on it feel there are other alternatives to a lake drawdown that would promote better weed growth in Lake Puckaway. Consistant carp removal certainly helps the cause for better weed growth and more of it. Islands or artificial barriers made of rock, cement, etc. out in the middle of lake would reduce wave action which hurts weed growth and the islands would help with natural spawning for all types of fish. Higher lake levels also promote better weed growth which was proven in the years of real high water 2004, and 2008. Keeping up good water clarity also promotes good weed growth. Controlling the bad runoff into the lake from both the river and lake area also would help. Keeping a better check on boat trailers bringing bad weeds like milfoil into our lake and river system. Planting more of things like wild rice etc. into the system. Applying for more grants that might be out there to fit our needs related to this problem. Again these are both my thoughts and some others who fish and use the lake for recreation on a regular basis. There are many good weeds in our system now so we have a start with those. Again we need to be more proactive on the grant process to get ahead of the game. Having a drastic lake drawdown certainly has no guaranties and may have to be done more than once to work causing a lot of hardship to lake and river users, businesses, and wildlife. Thanks
Randy & Mary Schultz W6190 Lakeview Drive North

Riparian 3:

Hello Mr. and Mrs. Schultz,

Thank you for taking the time to review the draft plan and provide your well thought through comments. There is no denying that Mother Nature, especially in the last 10 years, has brought about great fluctuations in water levels and water quality in Lake Puckaway. However, there is also no denying that in most years since the dam was constructed, not just the last 10, 20, or even 30 years, that it has brought about higher water levels within the Lake Puckaway basin. That was the entire intent of creating the dam – consistently higher water levels to facilitate navigation through the system. Those higher levels over the decades have done more to weaken the plant community in the lake than any other factor. To be clear, I am not saying that carp have not been an issue, and a big one at that, but they are only a portion of the problem and the district is doing what it can to keep their numbers low. Carp are low enough now that the contractor did not fish this past fall.

When we manage a system such as Lake Puckaway, we must look at the overall big picture, not just the past few years. Options to improve the health of Lake Puckaway are few and none of them are easy or silver bullets. It took decades for the lake to degrade to the poor condition it is in now, so significant actions will be required to even partially correct it.

Again, thank you for taking the time to provide your thoughts – I know it is not always easy to do so. Also, thank you to your husband for his work for the district.

Best Regards,

Tim

Tim Hoyman, CLM
Lead Aquatic Ecologist
Onterra, LLC

From: "Dotti Schultz" <rogdot71@hotmail.com>

To: info@lakepuckaway.com

Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 8:14:27 PM

Subject: lake management plan opinion

TO: The Lake Puckaway Protection & Rehabilitation District

FROM: Roger & Dorothy Schultz, Lake Puckaway Landowners

DATE: April 7, 2017

We appreciate the opportunity as Lake Puckaway landowners to give you our point of view on the lake management plan. We have lived on the southwest shore since 1999 and owned our property since 1992.

Roger has volunteered on committees for the last lake management plan and also worked with the Walleyes for Tomorrow trailer. Previous to that, his parents owned land on Beaver Dam Lake. We have watched the results of several lake draw downs and from our observations, there have been no more beneficial weeds to show for the effort. From what we have seen, high carp population, wave action and low winter water levels either pull out or suffocate the weeds. A lake drawdown won't solve any of these problems. We don't believe the percentage of weeds that you hope to gain from a draw down is worth the expense to both the DNR and to the landowners and businesses on the lake.

Because Lake Puckaway is not truly a lake, but a widening of the Fox River, it is subject to constant water level changes that affect water clarity and weed growth. At the present time, that is simply something controlled by Mother Nature and not by man as our current dam has very little effect on maintaining water levels. We have just had two years of higher than normal water levels due to abundant rainfall and also a lower number of carp due to good removal efforts. The weeds appear to be growing and multiplying. Visitors to our home often remark on the water clarity we have as they can see the bottom of the lake. When water levels have been low and carp have been out of control, the number of weeds decreased. Recreational use of the lake was also greatly reduced, something we as Lake Puckaway landowners pay very high taxes to enjoy.

In our opinion, the only good option for Lake Puckaway is to make the dam a workable system that will help stabilize the water levels. This has been the promise to Lake Puckaway landowners for many, many years, but is always delayed for more studies, surveys, funding, etc. The Lake Puckaway landowners and businesses are paying very high lake property taxes without many of the benefits that living on the lake should offer. A lake draw down will significantly lower property values and business income in those years that the draw down is in effect. That should be a concern to all of us. It is our view that until we have a dam that can maintain a more consistent water level, we will not have a lake that works for all of us and, most of all, a lake that has a chance of staying healthy. A lake draw down is not the answer.

Respectfully yours,

Roger & Dorothy Schultz
W6738 Marine Dr
Markesan WI 53946

Riparian 4:

Mr. Edwards,

Thank you for taking the time to review the draft plan and provide comments. The alternatives that you bring forth below are discussed within the management plan draft. For instance, the district has worked with the WDNR for many years to have carp removed. While it is difficult to keep carp numbers down in such a big system, the program has worked and in fact, numbers were down this past fall to the point that the contractor cancelled the harvest due to lack of fish. Since the dam was built over a century ago, water levels have fluctuated from year-to-year, but they have always been consistently higher than what would have occurred without the dam in place. Those consistently higher levels have worked, along with the carp of course, to reduce plant levels in the lake. During those fluctuations in water level, the lake has seen more plants in some years, but even during the best years, the plant levels have not approached what is needed to make a significant improvement in the lake. That is without a doubt. Studies from many lakes, in many states, and in many countries, have shown that maintaining unnatural water levels reduces aquatic plants in lakes, especially emergents like rice, rushes, and reeds – even in lakes where carp do not exist. As you mention, the district has attempted adding plants to the lake, like many other lake groups have as well in other lakes, but those plants do not last for the same reasons that the plants do not grow naturally in the lake.

The water level management plan proposed within the Lake Puckaway Management Plan aims at increasing the lake's aquatic plant population so the lake can see significant changes in water quality and habitat. By meeting that goal, Lake Puckaway will be healthier in the long run and be able to withstand fluctuations in water level brought on by Mother Nature.

Best Regards,

Tim

Tim Hoyman, CLM
Lead Aquatic Ecologist
Onterra, LLC

From: "John Edwards" <jcedwards42@yahoo.com>

To: mickmas@centurytel.net

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 8:50:20 AM

Subject: Re: Management Plan

I completely disagree with this, I have lived on this lake for 45 plus years and have used the lake for everything, I went through the removal of carp, netting, poisoning, planting Celery, wild rice constructing reefs from tires, listening to the dnr about the lake 30 years of building the dam, many many studies of it and the lake, The agenda of the dnr about the weeds,turtles,frogs, lake depth etc, While our association has done much to the good fishing in the lake they need to stop listening to the dnr, they are trying to blackmail the land owners as to the buffer idea, As to the dam I have heard this for 30 years and I still do not believe it will be built, and if it were to be built, Did no one think that while it is being constructed, the lake would naturally be lower, a one year draw down. As to the tax base of the property owners that will not have access for a two year period The taxes should be lowered ,not a chance, I am sure some grant or free money is involved with your plan, The taxes have kept going up in our area every year,

school,town county every utility, As for the lake the water quality was great this year, very clear, go to the southwest end of the lake to see weeds growing bigger every year, go out on the lake and look, All we had to do over the years is control the carp, and that took care of itself, did anyone see the size and number of dead carp out there, The fisherman couldn't find enough, I believe that alone will greatly help our lake. The fishing also will improve as to the massive shad die off that just happened, Keep the lake higher not lower. My opinion!!

Riparian 5:

Hello Mr. Knoepke,

Thank you for taking the time to review the draft plan and provide your obviously well thought through comments. I have provided answers and comments to the best of my knowledge within the text of your email below.

Best Regards,

Tim

Tim Hoyman, CLM
Lead Aquatic Ecologist
Onterra, LLC

From: "Matt Knoepke" <matt.knoepke@apriant.com>
To: info@lakepuckaway.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 10:27:03 PM
Subject: Lake Puckaway assessment feedback

The assessment that you have presented is comprehensive, articulate, and easy to read. The conclusion reached is the same as previous work in the past...

Thank you and you are correct.

1. Phosphorus levels caused by row crops and bottom sediment churn are the enemy.

This is mostly correct, but for the list to be complete, internal nutrient loading, lack of plants caused consistently high water levels brought on by the dam since it was built over a century ago. I would remove sediment churn, either by wind-induced waves or boating as a major issue.

2. We cannot materially affect phosphorus runoff given the massive size of the watershed.

Unfortunately, this is mostly true. Just stopping phosphorus from runoff would not help the lake on its own. Even if we went as far as completing some of the truly unrealistic scenarios described in the plan.

3. Native shorelines are the gold standard. Voluntary land owner restoration of native habitats would go a long way to increasing biodiversity and reestablishing favorable habitats.

This is true for nearly every lake we have ever worked on. I believe you understand this more than most riparian property owners – restoring the shoreline is more about restoring habitat than stopping pollutants from entering the lake. Unless the lake is close to 50% or 75% developed with urban landscapes, shoreland runoff is usually a small portion of the phosphorus load.

4. The most controllable and the most controversial intervention would be to successfully lower water levels to an almost unnavigable point for two consecutive summers.

Yes, I believe this is a fair assessment.

5. The survey results show that carp get a larger portion of the blame as a cause, and that the one factor that will help significantly, lowering water levels during the summer, will be a tough sell.

Yes, most people around the lake believe that carp are the primary cause. Over the long-term, we do not believe this to be the case, but that does not mean that reducing the district's efforts in having carp harvested annually is a good idea. In fact, it would be a very bad idea.

6. Backing the reconstruction of the Princeton Dam would give a one season, built-in excuse for lowering water levels. If we can pull it off for another year, we can take a break for up to ten years.

Yes, if the dam reconstruction methodology calls for the levels to be lowered and the work is completed during spring and summer. As I mention in the plan, this would be the best case scenario.

Some thoughts...

There are a few entrances to the lake from the three or four channels that will landlock boat traffic completely when water levels are lowered. The inclusion of dredged access to allow access to the lake would prevent tens or even hundreds of opposing votes from those unable to simply extend their piers.

This is part of the work being considered by the Shallow Lake Workgroup discussed in the plan.

Perhaps a bit beyond the scope of your assessment, but a section on the economic impact of healthy vs unhealthy lakes on surrounding communities. Fishing and tourism are the lifeblood of the community. The short term boating impact during the two year

drawdown can be offset by the long term health of the lake. This should be quantified and presented to the Lake District.

Yes, determining the economic impact of the water level management is well beyond the scope and need of this project. Recent research completed in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and other areas of the country have shown that lakes with higher water quality and general lake quality, such as habitat, fishing, and aesthetics, produce higher property values than lakes with poor water quality and general lake quality. Improving the health of Lake Puckaway will lead to higher property values and could very well increase business in the area.

What concessions can be made to the plan to make the once every decade drawdown worth the pain? 100' x 10' wide dredging for access? No wake on the Eastern basin? Proposal to add a year to the non-drawdown period for every 200 landowners who adopt the 35' buffer 35' viewing, 35' buffer plan?

This is an interesting concept, but I believe it makes this into more a business plan than a plan to manage a natural resource, and a very unhealthy one at that. Frankly, you and I could discuss this over beers for hours and hours, which is acceptable to me by-the-way, but to keep it short, let me put it this way. If your doctor said that you need to lose 100 lbs or your risk of a heart attack is 90%, it would not be possible to negotiate with him and ask if you could lose only 50 lbs, but promise to cut back on the drinking and smoking. Really, to make yourself healthier and reduce the chance of a heart attack, you should do all those things.

Address the carp issue. This is a passionate belief for many on the lake. It might not amount to a top 3 contributor to lake degradation in reality, but it is a hard belief. Adding a section about carp harvesting and its value will acknowledge its importance in the survey results. The absence of a section on carp will be used as a reason to invalidate these findings.

This is a very good point and we have obtained harvesting data from the WDNR that will be included in the fishery section of the final draft. I am also going to try to include some of this information for the meetings this Thursday and Saturday.

Anecdotally, in years of lower lake levels, the temperature of the lake soars, as our maximum depth falls under 4 feet. Immediately following a hot and dry spell, algae blooms occur like clockwork. In 2013, lake temps exceeded 90 degrees fahrenheit for at least 4 days.

Deeper lake levels, again anecdotally, seem to prevent much of the sediment churn caused by boating traffic. In years of deeper water, e.g. 2016, algae was not much of an issue. Secchi disk readings were the best in years. I'd like to hear about the effect of lower lake levels on lake temps and sediment churn, and hear an argument why, while

temporary, the encouragement of vegetation growth over the ensuing decade would offset a warmer and shallower lake.

As mentioned earlier, I do not believe that boat traffic causes significant issues on Lake Puckaway. Studies have been completed on much smaller lakes with much higher boats/acre usage, and the results indicate that any disturbance is typically short-term. Regarding water clarity, the water was actually clearer in both basins during 2013, 2014, and 2015 compared to 2016. Regardless, your question about lower water levels and lake temps (while temporary), is very good. Basically, in the long-run, having a healthier plant population, meaning significantly increased abundance and diversity over much of the lake, would buffer the lake against the issues brought on by low water years and high water years.

Your assessment came to the same conclusion of those done in the past. That solidifies my belief that your plan states the obvious. It also backs the conclusion with exhaustive background information and cited sources. Well done.

This was one of the most difficult projects we have worked on, so it means a lot to have one of our clients say it was well done – thank you.

Matt Knoepke

Riparian 6:

Hello Mr. and Mrs. Moore,

Thank you for taking the time to review the draft plan and provide comments. I have provided answers to your questions to the best of my knowledge within the text of your two emails below.

Best Regards,

Tim

Tim Hoyman, CLM
Lead Aquatic Ecologist
Onterra, LLC

From: "Kathleen Moore" <ccjskb@yahoo.com>
To: info@lakepuckaway.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 10:23:47 AM
Subject: Revised Lake Report Comments

First of all I think it is very unfair that the Lake residents were told that the draft report would be available in October for our review and comments and it just was recently posted for comments which have to be submitted by April 7th. What was the hold up?

I made an error when I provided the estimate of having the first draft of the plan out by the end of October. At the time, I had forgotten the fact that the project included water quality testing yet in the fall and in the winter. We were also waiting for data to be supplied from agency partners that was provided in January. Our original schedule was to have the draft completed in spring 2017, as it was. The October timeframe was over optimistic and I regret even mentioning it.

Our questions and concerns are the following:

Since water level was one of the top concerns of the residents why is there no discussion of use of the Lake and detailed economic impact on the businesses and property owners other than a very generic statement on page 7.

Determining the economic impact of the water level management is well beyond the scope and need of this project. Recent research completed in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and other areas of the country have shown that lakes with higher water quality and general lake quality, such as habitat, fishing, and aesthetics, produce higher property values than lakes with poor water quality and general lake quality. Improving the health of Lake Puckaway will lead to higher property values and could very well increase business in the area.

Why a 2.5' drawdown when other areas were only drawn down 1-1.5'?

The 2.5' drawdown called for in the Water Level Management Plan (WLMP) is referenced from the average water levels found during mid-June on Lake Puckaway. Due to the morphology of the lake, a

drawdown of that level would produce some exposed sediment for emergent plant development and would decrease depth in the open water portions of the lake to establish submergent plants. If we used July 4th as the reference date, in many years, the drawdown would be about 1.25 or 1.5 feet.

Explain economic hardship on page 15.

When we used the term hardship, we were not necessarily referring to economic hardship. We were using it as a general term meaning “difficulty” as in difficulty accessing the lake or utilizing it as the riparians have in the past. When it comes to the businesses, economic hardship may be implied with the use of the term, but as I mention above, determining that is not a part of a plan like this. And honestly Mr. and Mrs. Moore, I do not believe it is needed to understand that the lake is in very poor shape and needs to be managed differently to make it healthier. Everyone that has worked on this plan understands that reducing water levels will affect how people are able to use Lake Puckaway. But, in the long-run, the lake will be better.

It is still unclear to us whether the drawdown is in coordination with the dam construction or if done before the dam is started?

Within the WLMP, there is a specific section addressing the reconstruction of the dam. Within that section is stated, “The best-case scenario would be to have the reductions associated with the reconstruction project meet the successful reduction requirements discussed above. If that is the case, the post reduction studies would be initiated.” The section also discusses what would happen if the reductions associated with the construction do not meet the needs of the WLMP and what would happen if the dam reconstruction was put off for many years. The WLMP was very difficult to write because there are so many factors to take into account. As we allude to in the WLMP, it would be the best situation if the dam reconstruction project required a drawdown that would be long enough and low enough to produce the results the lake needs to be healthier. Really, that would be the best bang for the buck.

Is this Plan dependent upon approval for the dam?

No, the plan covers many aspects of managing Lake Puckaway beyond the WLMP and the dam reconstruction.

In the discussion on phosphorus and nutrient loading after the Grand River, what is being done to alleviate this problem upstream on the row crops and spreading of manure to eliminate the problem. There is no discussion or proposal in the Plan on this issue.

The total maximum daily load determination project being carried out by the WDNR and EPA will facilitate that work to be completed. The TMDL project is discussed several times in the document and near the end of the watershed section it is stated, “The TMDL being developed for the Upper Fox River Watershed will identify sources of pollutants such as phosphorus and sediments and determine actions to be taken to reduce these pollutants.” In the final draft I will elaborate a bit more on this and discuss why there are no specific watershed actions within this plan. However, it is very important to remember that even with drastic and actually unrealistic changes within the Lake Puckaway watershed, there will still be very high levels of phosphorus being delivered to the lake just because of the watershed's incredible size. Below is a portion of the text I supplied for the district's newsletter that will be going out in the next few days:

While agricultural lands do deliver a large portion of the phosphorus that enters the lake, studies completed as a part of this project indicate that even converting half of the agricultural land to forested land would still result in high phosphorus levels in the lake. High enough that the lake would still be considered overly productive and support high levels of algae. While work in the watershed is important and will be called for as a part of the TMDL for the Fox River Basin, it is not the silver-bullet to solve Lake Puckaway's water quality problems. In fact, during many of the years, phosphorus being recycled in Lake Puckaway is substantial and adds to Puckaway's water quality problems and those of the waterbodies downstream. Increased plant abundances in Lake Puckaway would do much to reduce the internal cycling of phosphorus while competing with algae for the phosphorus that is entering the lake from the watershed.

On page 52 is this the most updated regulations adopted by Green Lake County?

I am not sure, that information is included as general information and based upon state regulations, which are current. This would be a good question for Derek from Green Lake County Land and Water. I will see him at a meeting this week and ask that he look it over.

Why all the discussion on vegetative removal both manually and mechanically? Are we going to have issues like Buffalo Lake which is very costly to the Lake District? What was the intent of this discussion?

The sidebox included at the beginning of that section states that the information is presented to help the reader understand the whole picture and not all of the information is specific or applicable to Lake Puckaway. We include this type of information to round out the understanding of the reader and hopefully help them understand their lake as well as others a bit better. I am sorry if that part was confusing, but we do not expect Lake Puckaway to be like Buffalo Lake. As you likely know, Buffalo recently went through an extended drawdown as a part of their dam reconstruction and studies completed by our company before and after the action indicated that native plant diversity is up significantly while exotic species are down significantly – actually more than we expected. So, the Buffalo Lake reduction worked to make the plant population and the lake healthier.

We are confused on page 62 a drawdown every 2-3 years is discussed and then on page 102 it talks about a drawdown every 10 years. What is the real time limit.

The language in that section, as above, is not applicable to Lake Puckaway as that is discussion the use of winter drawdowns to control exotics. This was brought to our attention as being confusing by a staff member at the WDNR as well. We will make sure to add text to bring about a better understanding to the reader within the final version.

What is the possibility of a fish kill from lower water like a few years ago and what absolute guarantee do the Lake residents have that this will work and all the fish that have gone upstream and downstream will return to Puckaway and in what time frame?

There are no absolute guarantees in anything, especially when dealing with Mother Nature; however, significant fishkills are not expected as a part of the implementing the WLMP due to the large areas upstream and downstream that will provide suitable habitat for the fishery. As far as returning to the lake, that is impossible to predict, but with most drawdown actions, we would expect the fishery to return to normal and surpass it because of the increased in-lake habitat and water quality.

As owners who go south for the winter what is the plan to guarantee we can get our piers and boat lifts out in early October if water is too low. As older residents this whole time line is impossible to be taking equipment in and out with no guarantee of sufficient water.

Again, there can be no guarantees, but water levels would begin to rise at the end of September if the WLMP is initiated. That would be different if the levels were brought down as a part of the dam reconstruction project, of course. In either case, if you are concerned, maybe it would be better not to place your docks and boatlifts during a scheduled drawdown year.

We have many more issues but because of the short time limit for comments we hope all of these questions will be answered at a minimum at the May meetings.

Robert and Kathleen Moore
Marine Drive
Markesan

From: "Robert Moore" <ccjskb@yahoo.com>
To: "Lakepuckaway Info" <info@lakepuckaway.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 5, 2017 7:37:39 AM
Subject: Lake Plan

Additional comments and questions on Lake Plan:

1. The report should contain in detail a fish survey of sizes, amounts and types of fish in Puckaway before the fish ladder on Buffalo, after the fish ladder and prior to any drainage of the lake to establish a benchmark for improvement in the fishing on the lake and then a plan for periodic updating on the fish.

The latest fish survey is occurring this spring, summer, and fall, so these data will not be ready for inclusion within the report; however, as you allude to, they will be important in understanding how water level management has affected the fishery, whether the affect is positive or negative.

2. Total cost of implementation of the Plan including construction, economic impact on businesses, decrease in property values if applicable and impact on total economy in Green Lake and Marquette counties.

This is answered above.

3. All other options should be discussed such as islands etc. And why these are not being tried first.

This is answered above.

4. What is the Plan for agricultural uses in the watersheds to prohibit sedimentation and nutrients from draining into the lake? The plan talks about lakeshore cover and

vegetation but doesn't discuss agricultural buffers, conservation practices and the impact of fertilizer and manure spreading on the lake water quality. Agriculture operations have been given great tax cuts (agricultural preservation tax credits and subsidies) and yet in this Plan the lake property owners are bearing all the burdens.

This is answered above.

4. Who votes and approves the final plan and is the vote binding. Are outsiders non lake owners allowed to vote or just the riparian owners who live on the lake who will bear all the burden of the lowering of the lake.

The district planning committee has been completely involved with the development of the draft management plan from the beginning, including attending all of last summer's meetings, extra board meetings, meetings of the Shallow Lake Management Workgroup, reading and commenting on all the reports, and providing comments on the draft implementation plan from last fall. The planning committee is reading all of the comments provided by folks like you and will be attending the informational meetings. The LPPRD Board of Commissioners will also attend the informational meetings (much of the membership overlaps with the planning committee membership) and listen to comments. Following those meetings, changes may occur to the management plan, but I would not anticipate any of those changes to be significant. As of this draft, the planning committee approves of the plan and will be recommending to the board to accept it. The board will then vote on its approval.

As far as whether or not the vote is binding - I am not sure what you mean.

5. After these May meetings will the Plan be revised and when will we see the final document and how far in advance of the June meeting. When is the Plan in final form.

The final plan will not be completed until the board approves it.

Bob and Kathy Moore
W6710 Marine Dr.
Markesan Wisconsin



APPENDIX I

2017 Public Information Meeting

Project Contacts (not for publication)

Planning Consultant Contact:

Tim Hoyman
Onterra, LLC
815 Prosper St.
De Pere, WI 54115
Voice: 920.338.8860
Email: thoyman@onterra-eco.com

Lake Group Contact:

Paul Gettelman, Chair Person
Lake Puckaway Protection &
Rehabilitation District
Voice: 608.792.8489
Email: paulgettelman@yahoo.com

Wisconsin DNR Contact:

Ted Johnson
WI. Dept. of Natural Resources
625 E. CTH Y Suite 700
Oshkosh, WI 54901
Voice: 920.424.2104
Email: tedm.johnson@wisconsin.gov

PRESS RELEASE

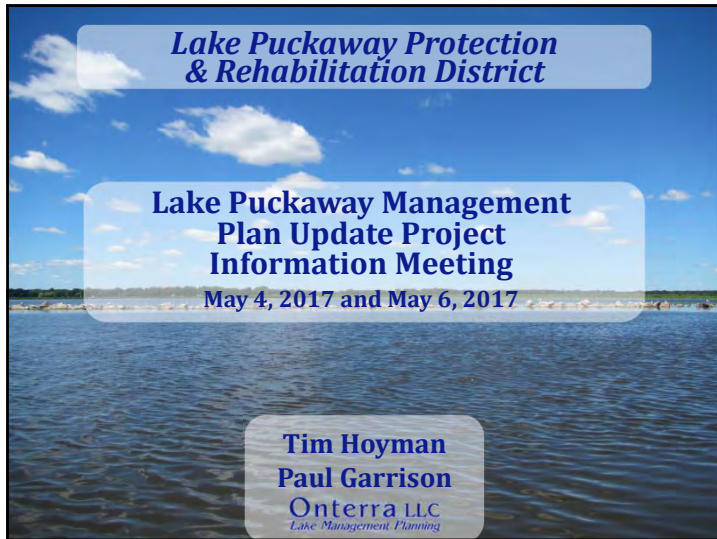
For Immediate Release

Lake Puckaway Draft Management Plan Available and Information Meetings Set for May

Green Lake & Marquette Counties, WI, March 20, 2017. The Lake Puckaway Protection and Rehabilitation District is pleased to announce that a draft of the Lake Puckaway Comprehensive Management Plan has been completed and is available on the district website (www.lakepuckaway.com). Additional information can be found at the Lake Puckaway Facebook page as well. Hardcopies of the management plan are also available for viewing at the public libraries located in Markesan, Montello, and Princeton. Each copy, whether electronic or hardcopy, contain specific information regarding the submittal of written comments via email and US Post. Only written comments can be accepted and must be provided on or before April 7, 2017.

“The Lake Puckaway project is one of the most complicated I have worked on in the past decade,” said Tim Hoyman, Lead Aquatic Ecologist at Onterra, LLC, the lake management planning firm hired by the district to assist with the development of the plan. “An Executive Summary is included within the document and does a fine job of hitting the highlights, but to gain the best understanding of the Lake Puckaway ecosystem, the reader should also read over the main document and the implementation plan, he continued. Hoyman finished by saying, “It is a draft document, so written comments are welcomed.”

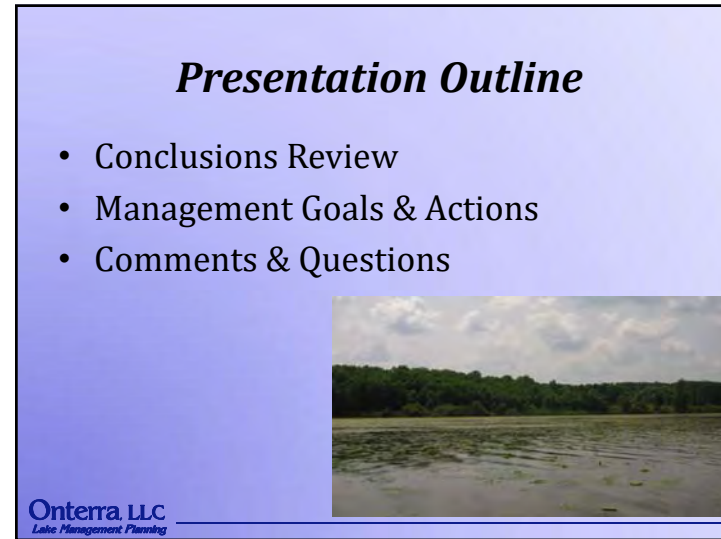
The Lake Puckaway Protection and Rehabilitation District will host two identical information meetings regarding the draft management plan. Both meetings will be held at the Marquette Village Hall (127 E. 4th St, Marquette, WI) and include time to answer questions and accept comments from the general public. The first meeting will be on Thursday, May 4th, starting at 6:30pm and the second meeting will be held on Saturday, May 6th starting at 10:00am.



Lake Puckaway Protection & Rehabilitation District


Lake Puckaway Management Plan Update Project Information Meeting
May 4, 2017 and May 6, 2017

Tim Hoyman
Paul Garrison
Onterra LLC
Lake Management Planning

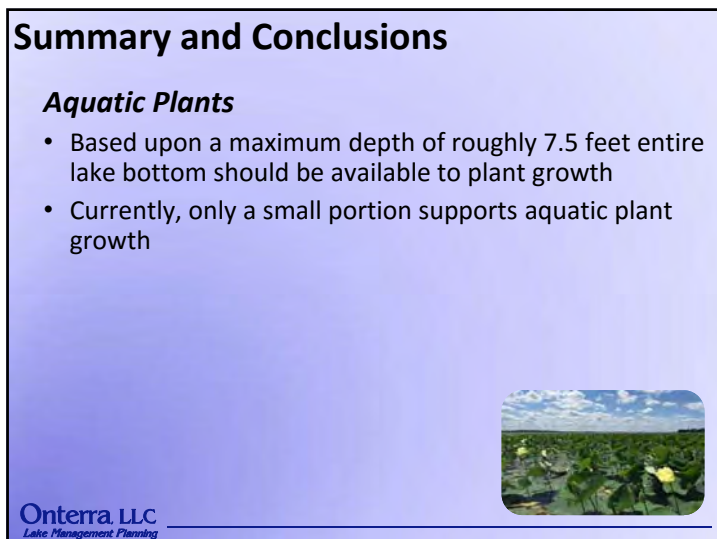


Presentation Outline

- Conclusions Review
- Management Goals & Actions
- Comments & Questions




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Lake Management Planning



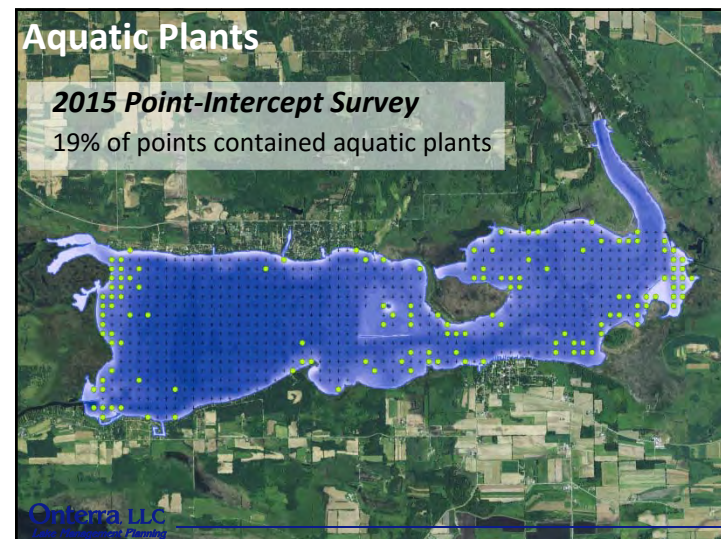
Summary and Conclusions

Aquatic Plants

- Based upon a maximum depth of roughly 7.5 feet entire lake bottom should be available to plant growth
- Currently, only a small portion supports aquatic plant growth

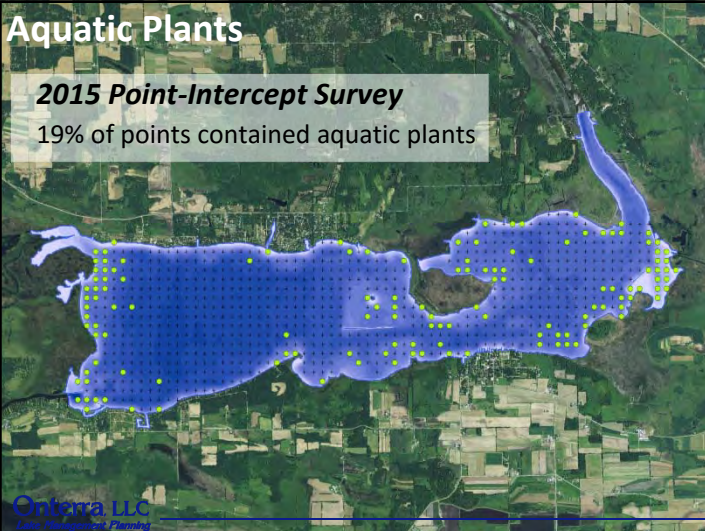


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Lake Management Planning

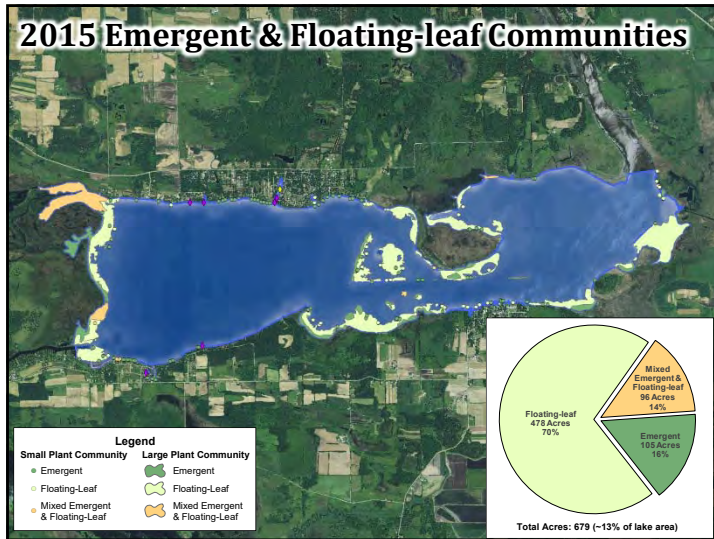


Aquatic Plants

2015 Point-Intercept Survey
19% of points contained aquatic plants



Onterra LLC
Lake Management Planning



Summary and Conclusions

Aquatic Plants

- Based upon a maximum depth of roughly 7.5 feet entire lake bottom should be available to plant growth
- Currently, only a small portion supports aquatic plant growth
- Steady water levels, wave action, water quality, and carp are all responsible for minimal plant population
- Overall, Lake Puckaway could have a much healthier plant population of emergent, submergents, and floating-leaf species

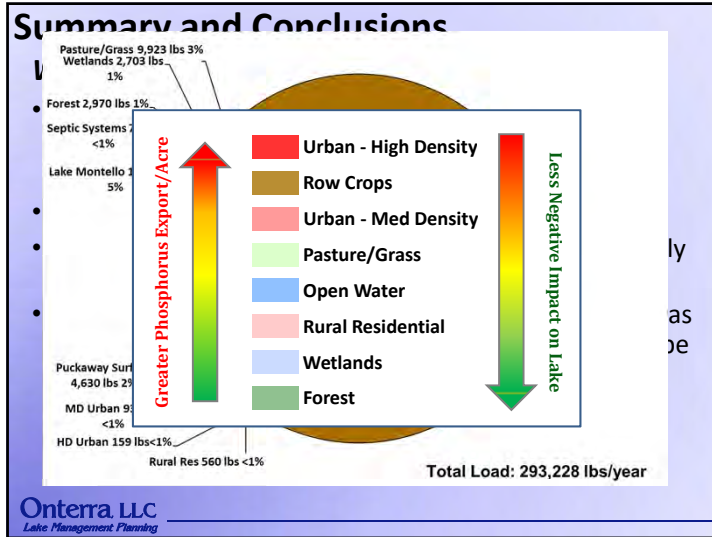
Onterra, LLC
Lake Management, Planning

Summary and Conclusions

Water Quality

- Lake Puckaway is considered impaired for sediment/suspended solids and for total phosphorus
- Lake Puckaway is a complex ecosystem because of shallow depth and inflowing river
- The lake experiences high annual variability for phosphorus and chlorophyll and thus water clarity
- The highest levels of phosphorus are the result of internal loading during years when summer flow is low
- During years with increased plant growth water quality is better (and visa versa)
- Wind, flow, & carp all add to water quality issues
- These issues travel downstream to other lakes

Onterra, LLC
Lake Management, Planning



Summary and Conclusions

Fisheries

- Lake Puckaway has a strong fisheries
 - Pike and walleye populations are good now, but biologists believe their numbers and size can be greater with habitat improvements
 - Panfish and bass populations may be on the decline
- Increased aquatic plant habitat would benefit fisheries
 - Pike and perch use emergent plants as spawning substrate
 - Increased submergent plants would lead to increased panfish population
 - Increased panfish would likely lead to less carp



Onterra, LLC
Lake Management Planning



Management Goal: Enhance Lake Puckaway Fishery

Management Actions

1. Continue annual harvesting of common carp from Lake Puckaway.
WDNR and District work together to complete actions.
2. Continue annual operation of Lake Puckaway Walleye Hatchery.
Over 9.2 million walleye fry have been released in Lake Puckaway since the start of the hatchery.

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Lake Management Planning

Management Goal:
Improve overall ecological health of Lake Puckaway

Management Actions

1. **Initiate volunteer-based annual water quality monitoring of Lake Puckaway through the WDNR Citizen Lake Monitoring Network.**
Important for tracking long-term changes.
2. **Form Lake Puckaway Shallow Lake Management Workgroup**
Made up of district members, agency staff, & ad-hoc members as needed.
3. **Implement Lake Puckaway Water Level Management Plan**
Will work with other actions to increase aquatic plants and habitat within Lake Puckaway.

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Lake Management Planning

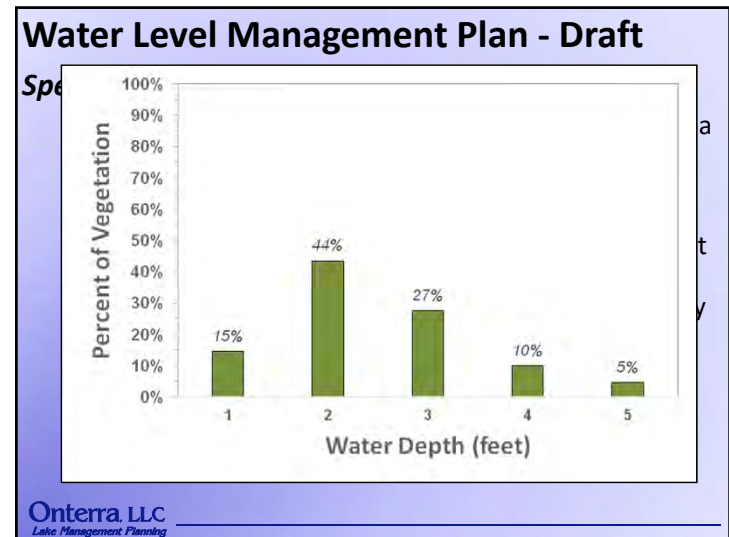
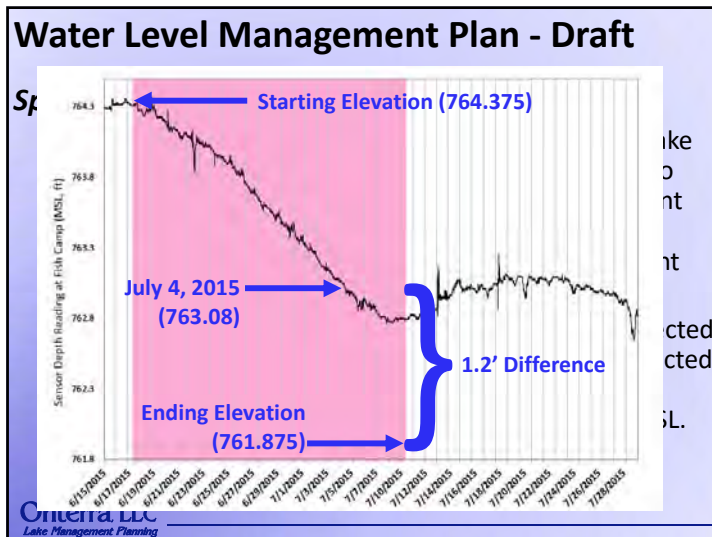
Water Level Management Plan - Draft

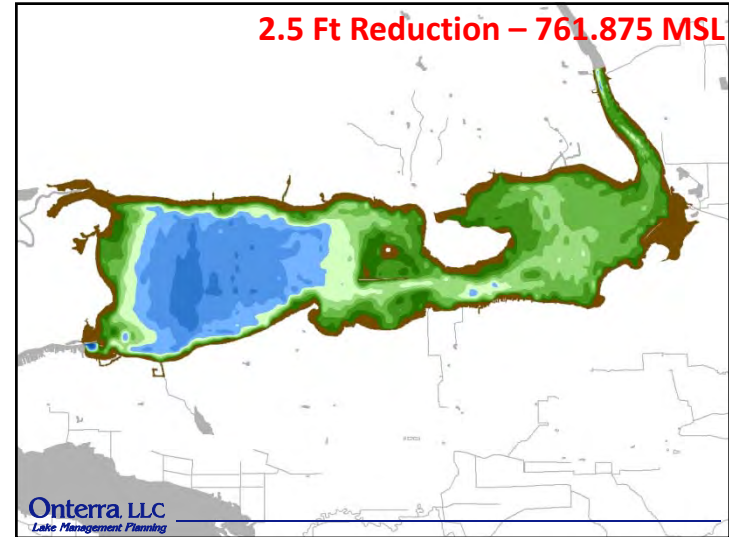
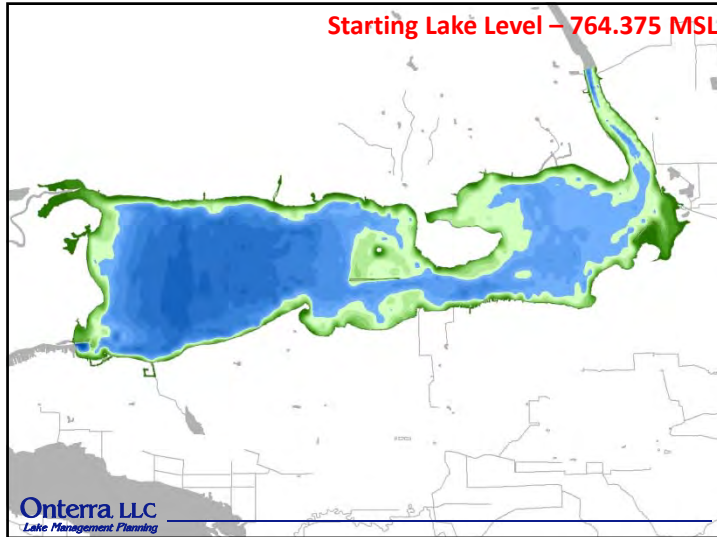
Water Level Management Rationale

- Multiple studies on Mississippi pool waters and other lakes in the US and Europe have shown that reducing water levels to expose sediments and expose deeper areas to light penetration for two consecutive growing seasons can lead to aquatic plant establishment that will thrive for up to 7 years (no additional data collected)
 - First year – annual plants establish
 - Second year – perennial plants establish



Onterra LLC
Lake Management Planning





Water Level Management Plan - Draft
Specifications and Definitions

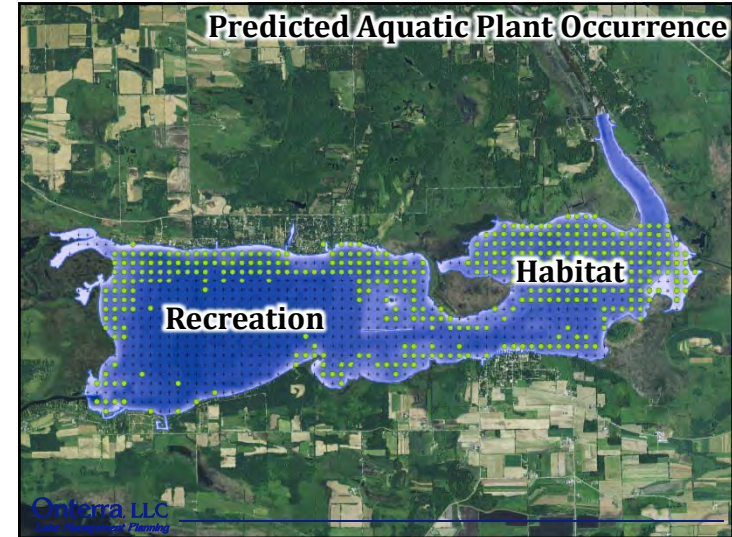
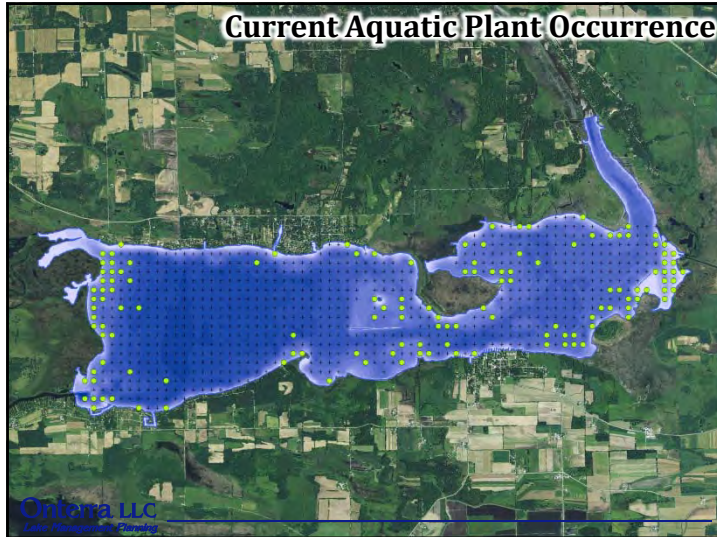
Suitable Water Level Reduction - would expand the area available to plant growth to 75% of the lake area and expose sediments in nearshore areas. To accomplish this, a water level reduction of 2.5 feet (761.875) or greater would be needed; however it is anticipated that the newly encompassed deeper depths would not maintain high occurrences of aquatic plants just as they do not now.

Onterra LLC
Lake Management Planning

Water Level Management Plan - Draft
Specifications and Definitions

Suitable Water Level Reduction - would expand the area available to plant growth to 75% of the lake area and expose sediments in nearshore areas. To accomplish this, a water level reduction of 2.5 feet (761.875) or greater would be needed; **however it is anticipated that the newly encompassed deeper depths would not maintain high occurrences of aquatic plants just as they do not now.**

Onterra LLC
Lake Management Planning



Water Level Management Plan - Draft
Specifications and Definitions

Successful Reduction Sequence - The probability of reducing water levels in Lake Puckaway by 2.5 feet in two consecutive growing seasons is low; however, if the first year does reach a reduction of 2 feet and the second only 1.5, some benefits would likely emerge. Therefore, a successful reduction sequence would include the first year's reduction reaching 2.0 feet or more and the second year's reduction reaching 1.5 feet or more.

Duration of Water Level Reduction - To meet the objective of the WLMP, the water levels would need to be reduced by early to mid-July and remain at the reduced level through September.

Onterra LLC
Lake Management Planning

Water Level Management Plan - Draft
Specifications and Definitions

Flow Rates - USGS stream site on the Fox River at Princeton, WI (USGS 04073365).

Lake Puckaway Water Level - staff gauge or water level sensor installed at Fish Camp on the west end of Lake Puckaway at the Fox River inlet.

Fish Camp Staff Gauge: Add 761.21 for Mean Sea Level

Fish Camp Level Sensor: Add 760.275 for Mean Sea Level

Onterra LLC
Lake Management Planning

Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Water Level Management Specifics

Year 1 – begin reducing water levels on June 15th by opening lock gates
Lock gates remain open through September
2-3' reduction in water levels from June 15 level expected

Year 2 – begin reducing water levels on June 15th by opening lock gates
Lock gates remain open through September
2-3' reduction in water levels from June 15 level expected

Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Specific Conditions on Attempts at Reductions

Reduction Attempts - Reductions will be attempted in two consecutive years. If a sufficient water level reduction is not anticipated to occur (see abandonment below) in either of those two years, than during the next two years, no reductions would be attempted. If during either of the two years in which a water level reduction is attempted, a reduction of 2.0 feet or more is achieved, on June 15 of the following year, the lock gates will be opened and remain open through September and the water levels reduced as far as possible.

Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Specific Conditions on Attempts at Reductions

Abandonment - If discharge at the USGS Princeton site is greater than 1,200 cfs on June 15 OR greater than 1,000 cfs on June 30th of either the first attempt or second attempt year, the attempt will be abandoned.

Early Start of Water Level Reduction – During dry springs, water levels on Lake Puckaway may be naturally low causing navigation issues on the lake; therefore, during those low-flow springs that occur during a water level reduction attempt, the lock gates would be opened early to allow for the greatest benefit of reduction. If water flows at the USGS Princeton site are at 600 cfs or less on June 1, the lock gates would be opened immediately.

Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Specific Conditions on Attempts at Reductions

Frequency of Water Level Reductions - If a successful reduction sequence is achieved, a second set of reductions would not be attempted for 10 years. It is important that this specification remain flexible to assure that the ecological benefits gained by completing a successful reduction sequence are not lost. The frequency of reductions should be determined by the results of the studies completed as outlined in the monitoring plan.

Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Specific Conditions on Attempts at Reductions

WLMP Modification or Abandonment - Enhancements to the aquatic plant community will be the foundation and the greatest indicator of improving ecological health of the lake. However, implementing water level reductions, as mentioned above, will have negative impacts on recreation while water levels are low; therefore, if certain predetermined thresholds are not met by a successful reduction sequence, then the WLMP should be modified or abandoned all together.

- Reduction amounts/duration reconsidered
- Incorporations of additional actions
- Creation of entirely new plan

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Water Level Management Plan - Draft

Specific Conditions on Attempts at Reductions

Aquatic Plant Improvement Goals – The following thresholds would represent improvement goals being met:
Increase of 50% in littoral frequency from 19.3% to 29%
Increase of 25% acreage of floating-leaf and emergent plant communities from 679 acres (~13%) to 848 acres (~16%)
These may need to be adjusted if pre-data is collected and significantly different than 2015 results.

Monitoring Plan – Pre-reduction data would be collected within 3 years of first reduction year. Post data collected for 3 years following second reduction year, and 5 years and 8 years after. Water quality would be collected throughout. Fishery surveys to be determined.

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Specific Conditions on Attempts at Reductions

Princeton Dam Reconstruction – It is not known when the project will begin (see following Goal/Action).

Best case scenario: water level reductions over the two-year project meet Successful Reduction Sequence levels.

If reconstruction water level reductions do not reach suitable reduction levels, then a reduction would not be attempted for 5 years.

If reconstruction project is not funded in 2017-19 or 2019-21 biennial state budgets, then water level reductions would be attempted utilizing current dam following WLMP.

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Management Goal:

Improve Dam Operation Safety at Princeton Dam

Management Action

1. Urge State of Wisconsin to reconstruct Princeton Dam as a fixed-crest dam.

Reconstruction project is in WDNR proposed budget request for 2017-19 biennial budget.

For inclusion in state budget, it must make through:

1. WDNR Budget Development
 - a) Management & Budget (M & B)
 - b) Natural Resources Board
2. Department of Administration (DOA)
3. Governor
4. Joint Committee on Finance (JCF)
5. House/Senate
6. Senate/House
7. Governor

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Management Goal:
Increase Communication Capacity of LPPRD

Management Action

1. Create LPPRD Communication & Education Committee
Multiple newsletters per year
Use district website and Facebook page to full potential
Develop district-wide email list
Possible hiring of professionals for some of these tasks

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