
AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIONS

1. Goal One: Support and implement aquatic plant management efforts that minimize negative impacts to the native plant communities.
 - a. Objective One: Monitor the distribution of CLP in Lower Turtle Lake annually
 - i. Action 1: CLP bed mapping surveys
 1. Conducted the spring prior to the proposed treatment.
 2. Conducted on an annual basis each spring to determine changes in CLP levels and the efficacy of any management actions.
 - b. Objective Two: Prevent the expansion of CLP in Lower turtle Lake
 - i. Action 1: The LTLMD will implement a 3-yr chemical treatment plan that in areas that meet or exceed the conditions below.
 1. Conditions:
 - a. Areas must be ≥ 1 acre in size
 - b. Areas must have an average rake head density of 3
 - c. The above conditions must persist for two or more consecutive years.
 - d. Areas must be located outside of the outlet area
 - e. Areas surveyed by volunteers that meet conditions above will be re-surveyed by a professional plant surveyor prior to the submission of a chemical application permit.
 - f. Pre- and post-treatment aquatic plant survey work and herbicide concentration/dispersion monitoring will be completed as instructed by the WDNR.
 - c. Objective Three: Maintain or improve current (2018) measurements of native aquatic plant community health in Lower Turtle Lake.
 - i. Action 1: Compare measurements of the health of the native aquatic plant community in Lower Turtle Lake prior to and after a multi-year aquatic plant management project.
 1. The LTLMD will hire a specialist to complete a summer, whole-lake, littoral zone, point-intercept survey in 2023 and compare results to previous whole-lake, point-intercept survey results in 2018, 2014, and 2008.
2. Goal Two: Maintain summer and late season access to open water
 - a. Objective One: Open up navigation and open water access lanes through areas of dense, summer vegetation
 - i. Action One: Harvest up to 3 acres of aquatic vegetation from predetermined navigation and open water access channels totaling no more than 1.25 miles in length.
 1. Assumes that either the LTLMD owns its own mechanical harvester, or contracts with a provider of aquatic plant harvesting
 2. Conditions
 - a. Harvesting areas are identified ahead of time in a WDNR aquatic plant harvesting permit
 - b. Areas to be harvested must have an average rake head density of 3
 - c. Navigation and access lanes will be no wider than 20-ft in any area of the lake
 - d. Harvesting will remove aquatic vegetation from up to 2/3 of the water column in water 3-ft or greater in depth

- ii. Action Two: Aquatic plant harvesting using small-scale cutting equipment that can be mounted to a boat, and requires physical removal of cut vegetation as a separate action.
 - 1. Conditions
 - a. Cutting areas are identified ahead of time in a WDNR aquatic plant harvesting permit
 - b. May be completed in water less than 3-ft deep
 - c. All cut vegetation is removed from the lake immediately after cutting
 - iii. Action Three: LTLMD will encourage physical removal of native aquatic vegetation by land owners
 - 1. Conditions
 - a. Limited by provisions in NR 109
- 3. Goal Three: AIS education and prevention.
 - a. Objective 1: Prevent new AIS from entering and becoming established within Lower Turtle Lake
 - i. Action 1: Implement Clean Boat Clean Waters
 - 1. 200 hours annually with grant funding
 - 2. Volunteer hours only without grant funding
 - b. Objective 2: Support an AIS education and information program for lake property owners and lake users
 - i. Action 1: Develop and distribute at least two newsletters updating AIS and other LTLMD activities
 - ii. Action 2: Host at least one annual meeting and maintain open LTLMD Board meetings
 - iii. Action 3: Host an Annual Lake Fair to promote public involvement in lake activities
 - 1. Can be combined with the Annual Picnic or other planned event, or with another entity
 - iv. Action 4: Maintain a Lower Turtle Lake Association webpage and/or social media page
 - c. Objective 3: Establish and maintain AIS monitoring efforts
 - i. Action 1: Install, maintain, and/or improve AIS signage at both public access points
 - ii. Action 2: Establish and maintain an in-lake and shoreline AIS monitoring program following CLMN guidelines
 - iii. Action 3: Follow established AIS early detection and response plan
 - 1. See AIS Rapid Response Plan (Appendix J)
- 4. Goal Four: Monitor changes in water quality
 - a. Objective One: Maintain or improve measurements of water quality in Lower Turtle Lake including Secchi, temperature, dissolved oxygen, total phosphorus, and chlorophyll a.
 - i. Action 1: The LTLMD will continue to participate in the expanded level of the Citizen Lake Monitoring Network (CLMN).
- 2. Goal Five: Promote and support nearshore, riparian, and watershed best management practices that will improve fish and wildlife habitat, reduce runoff, and minimize nutrient loading into Lower Turtle Lake.
 - a. Objective 1: Adopt State of Wisconsin Healthy Lakes Initiative

- i. Action 1: Officially adopt the Wisconsin Healthy Lakes Initiative during the next annual meeting of the LTLMD.
 - ii. Action 2: Install two Healthy Lakes Best Management Practices each year and 5 fish sticks projects within the next 5 years
 - 1. Apply for Healthy Lakes grant funding to support these projects
- 3. Goal Six: Implement the Lower Turtle Lake Management Plan effectively and efficiently with a focus on community and constituent education, information, and involvement.
 - a. Objective 1: Complete annual project activity and assessment reports
 - i. Action 1: Use reports to make recommendation for annual revisions and updates to the APM Plan
 - b. Objective 2: Complete an End-of-project Summary Report
 - i. Action 1: Overall review of project successes and failures.
 - ii. Action 2: Complete early and mid-season whole-lake point-intercept survey of all plants.
 - iii. Action 3: Revise or rewrite APM Plan as needed.
 - c. Objective 3: Develop partnerships to support management implementation
 - i. Action 1: Communicate with local, county, and state entities; schools and local business; clubs and organizations, etc. to generate support for management actions.
 - ii. Action 2: Share results with partners from Action 1