LAKE EAU GALLE PUBLIC SURVEY AND APM PLAN PRESENTATION

Survey results and plant management questions.

July 19, 2023

PUBLIC SURVEY RESULTS

- 63 out ≈90 surveys returned (70%)
- 47.3% from the upper half of the lake
- 52.7% from the lower half of the lake
- 88.5% own the residence
  - 43.3% permanent
  - 46.6% seasonal/vacation
  - 6.7% undeveloped
  - 3.3% farm
- Average time at the lake = 20.4 years (1-95 yrs)

LAKE USES/LAKE ISSUES – BASED ON 1,2,3RD RANKINGS

- **Top Uses**
  - Rest/relaxation
  - Pontoon tours
  - Wildlife viewing
  - Canoe/Kayaking
- **Lessor uses**
  - Sailing
  - Jetskis
  - Waterskiing/tubing
  - Speed boating
- **Worst issues**
  - Too much weed growth
  - Green water
  - Too shallow
- **Not issues**
  - Fishing
  - Public use
  - Invasive species
  - Too deep
  - Maintenance of the boat landing

DO THE SURVEY QUESTIONS ACCURATELY REFLECT PEOPLES' OPINION?

- **Time at the lake**
  - 1-10 years, 11-20 years, >20 years
    - No differences really stand out except one
- **Upper half (north, upstream) vs. Lower half (south, downstream)**
  - Too much weed growth (2x greater concern in the upper half)
  - Low water (4x greater concern in the upper half)
  - Water too shallow (almost 2x greater concern in the upper half)
  - Green water, floating vegetation, and watersports (much more concern in the lower half)

WATER QUALITY

- **Changes**
  - Better 1.6%
  - Worse 79.4%
  - Same 12.7%
  - IDK 6.3%
- **Current**
  - Excellent “zero”
  - Good 3.2%
  - Fair 38.1%
  - Poor 33.3%
  - Very poor 22.2%

- **What has been impacted by water quality? (25% or more)**
  - Watersports – sometimes (25.4%)
  - Swimming – sometimes (39.7%) and often (34.9%)
  - Boating – sometimes (28.6%)

AQUATIC PLANT GROWTH

- **Growth**
  - Increased (85.7%)
  - Decreased "zero"
  - Same (7.9%)
  - IDK (6.3%)
- **Abundance**
  - Too little (4.8%)
  - Just right (3.2%)
  - Too much (87.3%)
- **Impacting (>25%)**
  - Fishing – sometimes
  - Swimming – sometimes and often
  - Boating – sometimes
  - Non-motor – sometimes
  - Viewing - sometimes

Algae (green water)

Increased (74.6%) Decreased (1.6%)
Same (9.5%) IDK (11.1%)

AQUATIC PLANT GROWTH

- **Growth**
  - Increased (85.7%)
  - Decr… "zero…
  - Sam…
  - IDK …
- **Abundance**
  - Too little (4.8%)
- **Impacting (>25%)**
  - Fishing – sometimes
  - …ng – …es and …
  - …es
  - Non-motor – sometimes
  - Viewing - sometimes

What do you call a lake with no plants and clear water?

Algae (green water)

Increased (74.6%) Decreased (1.6%)
Same (9.5%) IDK (11.1%)

WHO SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL?

- WDNR – 63.5%
- County – 36.5%
- LEGA – 33.3%
- Property Owners – 25.4%
- Town – 19%
- Nature – 7.9%

Physical Removal by Property Owners?

- Yes – 30.2%
- No – 58.7%

WHO SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL?

Who	>20yrs on lake	11-20yrs on lake	1-10yrs on lake
Gov. (Town, County, DNR)	57.6%	68.7%	84.0%
LEGA	24.2%	18.8%	8.0%
Property Owners	18.2%	12.5%	8.0%
Totals	100%	100%	100%

DEPTH OF THE LAKE

- **Changes**
  - Deeper “zero”
  - Shallower 85.7%
  - Same 6.3%
  - IDK 3.4%
- **What has been impacted by depth?** (25% or more)
  - Boating – sometimes (30.2%)

DEPTH OF THE LAKE

- **Changes**
  - Deeper “zero”
  - Shallower 85.7%
  - Same 6.3%
  - IDK 3.4%
- **What has been impacted by depth?** (25% or more)
  - Boating – sometimes (30.2%)

What do you call a lake without water?

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

- **What have you heard of?**
  - Zebra mussels (82.5%)
  - Carp (84.1%)
  - Eurasian watermilfoil (55.6%)
    Curly-leaf pondweed (34.9%)
  - Purple loosestrife (20.6%)
- **AIS Workshop to learn more?**
  - Yes – 38.1%
  - No – 41.3%









AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (2022)

Curly-leaf pondweed
(Potamogeton crispus)

Point Intercept Survey
Lake Eau Galle
Dunn County
8/18/2022

Eurasian water-milfoil
(Myriophyllum spicatum)

Point Intercept Survey
Lake Eau Galle
Dunn County
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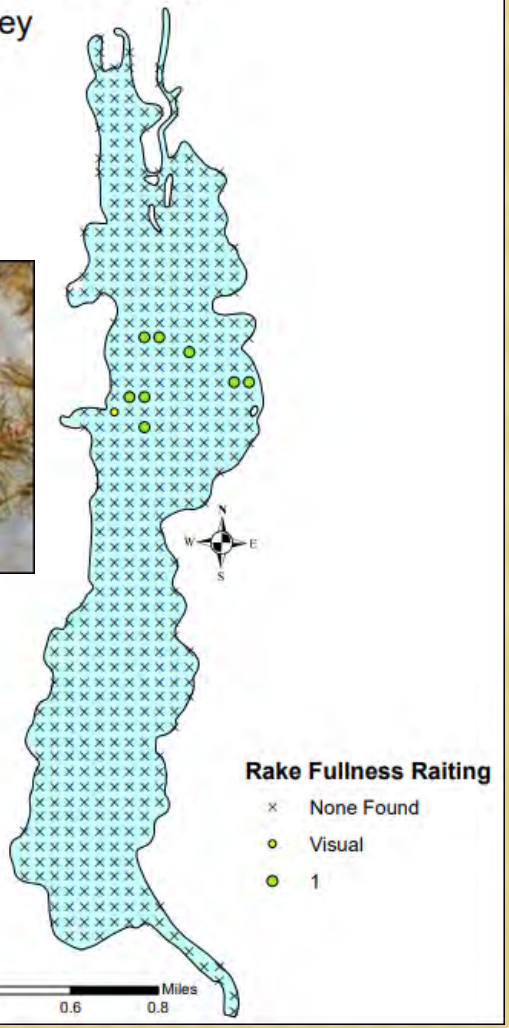


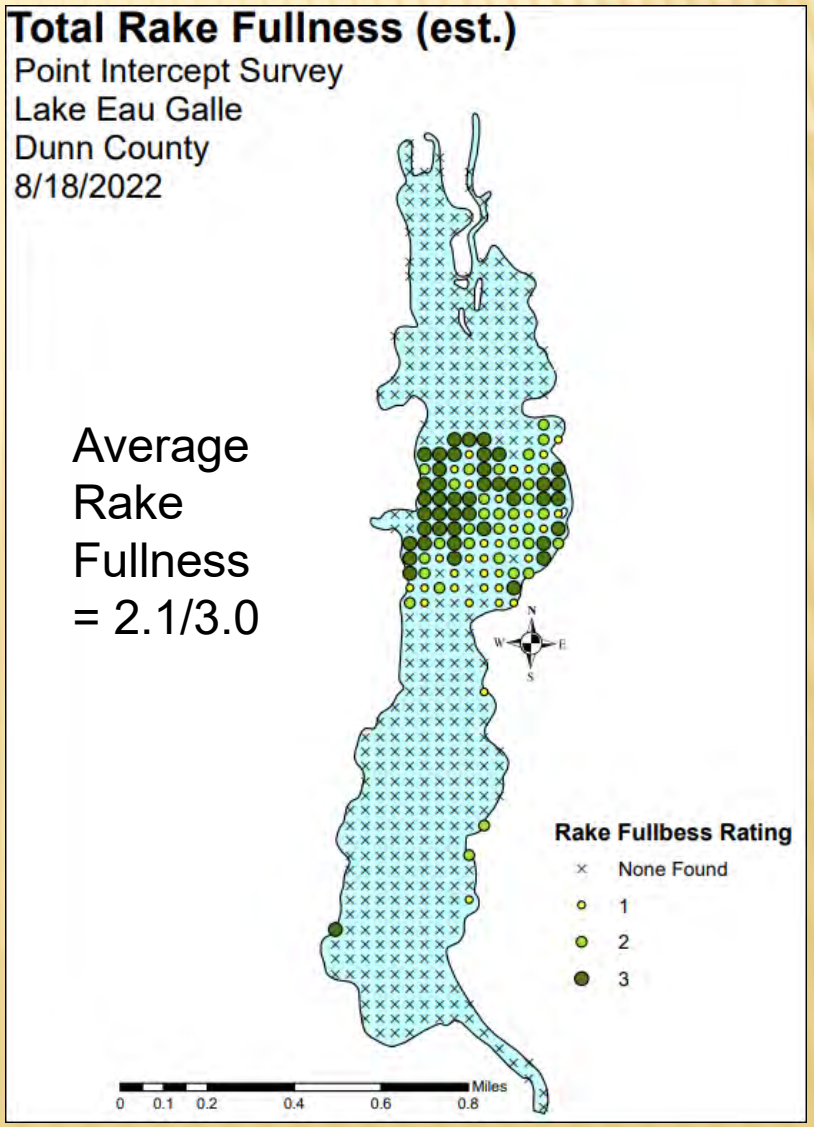
CURRENT STATUS OF THE AQUATIC PLANT COMMUNITY (2022)

- 486 points, 345 points were navigable
- 171 points in the littoral zone (7ft or less)
- 107 points with vegetation
- 11 different species of aquatic plants




NATIVE PLANTS AND TOTAL RAKE FULLNESS

- Coontail (84%)
- Slender waterweed (53%)
- Common watermeal (47%)
- Flat-stem pondweed (14%)
- Curly-leaf pondweed (9%)
- Long-leaf pondweed (8%)
- Eurasian watermilfoil (7%)
- Small duckweed (6%)
- Horned pondweed (3%)
- Sago pondweed (2%)
- Water stargrass (1%)



WHAT NECESSITATES AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT?

- **WI-DNR (general concerns expressed by many)**
  - **Are there demonstrated ecological changes as a result of one or more specific aquatic plants (target plants)?**
    - **Aquatic plant distribution**
      - Has the target plant(s) spread?
    - **Aquatic plant density**
      - Has the target plant(s) gotten more dense?
    - **Aquatic plant diversity**
      - Has the spread and density impacted more desirable aquatic plants (non-target plants)?
  - **Is lake use restricted or obstructed?**
    - **What, When, and Where?**

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES

Action	Support	Oppose	More Info
No management	1.6	77.8	11.1
Physical removal	79.4	6.3	6.3
Snorkel/scuba	60.3	6.3	23.8
DASH	54.0	1.6	33.3
Mech. Harvesting	65.1	11.1	17.5
Herbicides	31.7	25.4	33.3
Bio-control	34.9	6.3	47.6
Bottom barriers	34.9	14.3	39.7
Dredging	84.1	4.8	6.3
Drawdown	47.6	17.5	23.8

Most Supported: Dredging, Mechanical Harvesting, Physical Removal, Drawdown, and Herbicide

***based on 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices**

LAKE EAU GALLE ASSOCIATION (LEGA)

- **95.2% of respondents know of LEGA**
- **59% have been to a meeting**
- **81% are current members**
- Communications
  - Satisfied – 66.7%
  - Dissatisfied – 6.0%
- Meeting Frequency
  - Satisfied – 63.5%
  - Dissatisfied – 1.6%
- Atmosphere
  - Satisfied – 57.1%
  - Dissatisfied – 0.0%
- Getting things done
  - Satisfied – 65.1%
  - Dissatisfied – 0.0%
- Community cooperation
  - Satisfied – 58.8%
  - Dissatisfied – 3.2%
- Financial management
  - Satisfied – 52.4%
  - Dissatisfied – 0.0%
- Addresses concerns of constituency
  - Satisfied – 58.7%
  - Dissatisfied – 0.0%
- The rest either didn't respond or chose IDK.