



Lake Management Planning



Winnebago Waterways

Steering Committee Meeting

Date: Friday, May 11th 2018

Time: 10:00am to 12:00pm

Location: Coughlin Center, Winnebago County, Volunteer Room

Facilitator: Korin Doering, Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance, korin@fwwa.org, (920) 851-0948

Attendees: Ted Johnson, Dani Santry, Erin Gerred, Paul Tollard, Jessica Schultz, Austin Pethan, Keith Marquardt, Marsha Burzunski, Chad Casper, Kendall Kamke,

Meeting Notes:

10:00am – Introductions

- Those in attendance introduced themselves, their organizations and their reason for participating in the project.
 - Austin Pethan, Project Assistant, austin@fwwa.org, 920-851-4295

10:15am – Project Update

- **Members- at-large**
 - Meeting with Alan Weir is scheduled for 5/14/18 to get him up to speed on the project.
 - Korin will write an article to include in the next WWP e-newsletter for the May edition about the new members. Bob and Mark provided Korin with a photo and description. Alan will send Korin his photo and description in the next few days.
 - New member contact info will be added to the project website.

- **Tech Teams Update**

- Watershed Management (Jessica Schultz)

The Tech Team met on April 23rd.

Meeting goals were:

1. Determine if writing a Lake Management Plan enhanced with the 9 key elements is how we want to proceed.
2. Discuss currently available information that could help ease the burden of data collection to bring us from an LMP with a watershed component to a nine key plan
3. Gauge level of support/expertise that each partner is able to provide to the process.

Meeting results:

The counties and WI DNR are all on board to do what is needed to enhance the LMP with the EPA's 9 key elements. There is a possibility that FDL County will be able to bring some additional resources to make this happen. There will be some additional modeling requirements. The DNR is willing to assist with modeling needs for the 23 HUC12s. The LMP will include a prioritized management action plan for watershed management implementation.

Next steps:

Keith provided all the counties with their Upper Fox Wolf TMDL Ag Surveys. The counties will assess that info to ensure that it is still relevant. The team will then get together as a group for modeling workshops. The plan is to have loadings for each subwatershed and distinguish between sources of loadings.

- Water Quality

The next Tech Team meeting is scheduled for May 30th, 2018 from 1:00pm to 3:30pm at the Coughlin Center in Oshkosh.

Brian Austin (WDNR) will provide a summary of the Tetra Tech report titled “*titled "Winnebago Pool Lakes Nutrient Technical Support"*”. Marcel Dijkstra (UW-Oshkosh) will provide an overview of his research about zebra mussels and how it relates to internal loading. Keith Marquardt (WI DNR) will present ideas for next steps and request input from the team. The team will explore ideas for the next steps and, if time allows, discuss ideas for long-term water quality monitoring program options.

The technical team has been asked to review the final report for the EPA funded WDNR project titled "Winnebago Pool Lakes Nutrient Technical Support." As the Executive Summary indicates, the report "describes the drivers of algal and aquatic macrophyte dynamics along with an assessment of available computer modeling approaches that could be used to simulate changes in management and water quality in the Winnebago Pool Lakes." Although the report does not have actual recommendations to reduce internal loading (that would appear to be the next step - to build upon the model recommendation), it does a nice job summarizing a lot of information from the system which will be helpful for our project and plan writing.

- Aquatic Plant Management

- Aquatic vegetation PI Surveys

The two consulting firms hired to complete the aquatic veg PI surveys this summer met with Ted Johnson (WI DNR), Korin (FWWA), and Austin (FWWA). The conference call was held prior to the sampling season to ensure consistency in monitoring efforts across all four lakes. Sampling will likely begin in July and will be completed before September 1st of 2018. The sampling teams will follow standard DNR protocols for PI surveys, do a visual check for aquatic plants within 6 ft. of the boat, voucher the first finding for each species recorded, record locations of AIS, and record secchi depths on each field day.

The sampling teams will let FWWA (Korin and Austin) know when they plan to be in the field. Korin and Austin will take photos and write up a story to share the work being done with the public. The consultants will also give a presentation (open to the public) once all results have been processed (~early 2019).

Ted would like to make sure there is consistency between the reports from each consultant. FWWA will contact the consultants to request that they use a specific format for reporting to ensure consistency. We will also encourage communication. Ted will check-in the consultants by holding bi-weekly phone calls during the sampling effort.

- Emergent Plant Survey

Start date: let water levels go down before surveying; dates will be scheduled once water levels begin to subside.

Participants: Ted Johnson (WI DNR), Chad Casper and Andy (Winnebago County) will cover the areas in Winnebago and Waushara Counties. Calumet County likely doesn't

need to be surveyed due to the nature of the shoreline. We will plan as we go to cover FDL County.

Equipment needs: Winnebago County needs a bracket for the sonar mite for the sub-meter total station GPS unit. Continuous topo – takes a shot every so many feet (xy).

Method: outlined in the Minnesota Lake Plant Survey Manual (2016):

<https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/lake-habitat/lake-plant-survey-manual.pdf>

Ted submitted and received approval for special project funding from the WDNR – Ted will share the write up for that with the group.

Austin Pethan will take pictures and write article to share with the public when sampling takes place.

- Aquatic Invasive Species

Chris Acy, FWWA Winnebago Waterways AIS Coordinator continues draft recommendations for the plan. The AIS technical team will convene again once Chris has a draft for them to review/comment on.

Chris attended the Eastern WI Phragmites summit on April 27th to ensure the strategic plan is consistent with other efforts taking place in the system.

VHS Outbreak: It's been 11 years since the last large VHS outbreak in the system. The virus is most active when water temps are 37 to 54 degrees Fahrenheit. As water warms up we should see a reduction in mortality due to the virus. Acute and chronic: acute = death; chronic – recover and continue to be a carrier. Virus does not survive the body temps of warm blooded animals.

Austin will write an article about the virus and the outbreak.

- Recreation

Austin is meeting with silent sport enthusiasts and developing a short list of questions for boaters/anglers to help inform the LMP process as we work with the Tech Team to draft recommendations. Korin plans to contact Rob Way with Winnebago County to check-in on his progress with his navigation buoy program.

- Habitat, Fish and Wildlife

Korin and Austin plan to meet with Erin Giese (UW-GB) on 5/29/2018 to learn about the habitat tools she helped develop for the Green Bay AOC.

- **Project Outreach, Engagement, and Communication**

- Exhibited at the Wisconsin Lakes Convention in April; approx. 250 contacts
- April e-newsletter; approx. 885 contacts
- May e-newsletter (May 30th) – article idea list:
 - LMP update
 - Waterway Wonders – Lynn Kuhns
 - FWWA Cleanup results
 - Water Quality – phosphorus
 - Water Quality – TSS
 - VHS – Fish Kill
 - New Hires
 - WLC tribute page

- Social Media
 - Facebook followers: 354
 - Please LIKE and FOLLOW our page: <https://www.facebook.com/WinnebagoWaterways/>
 - Twitter followers: 75
 - Please FOLLOW us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/WinnWaterways>
 - Flickr – photos
 - 6.5K views
 - <https://www.flickr.com/people/winnebagowaterways/>
- Watershed Management Team – urban and ag components
 - NEWSC – semi-annual meeting on Monday. Will be informing representatives in the Winnebago System of the opportunity to participate in the LMP planning process.
 - Unpermitted stormwater communities will be contacted as the project moved forward
 - Starting with ag
- Workshop and Trainings – Project related
 - Korin and Jessica will attend the Lake Leaders Institute – Seminar I; May 16th to 17th
 - <https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/programs/lakeleaders/default.aspx>

11:50am – Public Comment

No public comments.

11:55am – Meeting wrap-up

- Other updates? Events, trainings, workshops?
 - System updates:
 - Chad Casper – Winnebago County: Culverts going in Terrell’s Island in the fall; Poygan Breakwall design is 99% done – going to DU engineer for review
 - Trainings/Workshop Opportunities:
 - FWWA – Chris Acy is now offering CBCW and CLMN trainings. He plans to begin recruitment of volunteers.
 - CBCW Training scheduled for May 22nd (Calumet County)
 - Contact Chris if you have people interested in attending.
 - Additional trainings will be advertised as they are scheduled
 - **Please have interested volunteers contact Chris Acy** (chris@fwwa.org; (920) 460-3674)
 - Aquatic Plant ID Trainings hosted by UW-Extension, June 2018
 - Central Location - Waypost Camp, Mission Lake, Hatley, WI
 - June 19 (8:30 am-5:30 pm) OR June 20 (8:30 am-5:30 pm)
 - Northern Location - Kemp Natural Resources Station Boathouse, Woodruff, WI
 - June 26 (8:30 am-5:30 pm) OR June 27 (8:30 am-5:30 pm)
 - More info: <https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/programs/training/plantID.aspx>
 - Wetland Plant ID Workshop
 - June 28-29, 2018 at Schmeckle Reserve in Stevens Point, WI

- More info: <https://www.uwsp.edu/conted/ConfWrkShp/Pages/Wetland-Plant-ID.aspx>
- Upcoming Steering Committee meetings:
 - **Friday, June 8th from 10am to 12pm – CONFERENCE CALL**
 - Friday, July 13th from 10am to 12pm - in-person

12:00pm – Meeting close

Action Items:

- Korin Doering (FWWA)
 - Add new member contact info to website
 - Write article about new members
 - Contact aquatic plant PI survey consultants to request they use a specific format for their reports.
 - Provide information about upcoming plant ID workshops
- Ted Johnson (WI DNR)
 - Contact the aquatic plant consultants to request bi-weekly phone calls during sampling to encourage communication
 - Share special project funding request for emergent vegetation sampling with the group
- Austin Pethan (FWWA)
 - Take pictures and write an article to share with the public about aquatic vegetation PI survey.
 - Write an article about the VHS outbreak.
- Alan Weir (FVTC; member-at-large)
 - Send Korin a phot and description for the new members-at-large article