



# Lake Management Planning



## Winnebago Waterways

### Steering Committee Meeting

Date: Friday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Time: 10:00am to 12:00pm

Location: Conference Call (see below for call in details)

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

## Conference Call **Notes:**

### Introductions

#### • Attendees

- Dani Santry, Calumet County Land and Water
- Paul Tollard, FDL County Land and Water
- Keith Marquardt, WDNR
- Chad Casper, Winnebago County Land and Water
- Ted Johnson, WDNR
- Alan Weir, Member at Large, LWQIA, FVTC
- Erin Gerred, Director of Administration, FDL County
- Mark Sasing, Member at Large
- Kendall Kamke, WDNR
- Austin Pethan, FWWA

#### • Updates from around the system

- [AIS Snapshot Day](#)
  - Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup>
  - Registration is still open
- [Clean Water Makes Better Beer event](#)
  - Thursday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>
  - Oshkosh, WI @ Fox River Brewing Company
- [Women Caring for the Land workshop](#)
  - August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in Omro
  - Buser Cattle Company
- [Soil Health Field Day along the shores of Lake Poygan](#)
  - Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018
  - 10am to 2pm
- Producer Led Group meeting – FDL
  - August 14<sup>th</sup>
  - Rolling Meadows Restaurant, Fond du Lac
  - Indicated that they are more interested in educational opportunities than cost-share opportunities; potential grant application – idea being kicked around by the group.
  - Open to anyone that is interested in promoting conservation and soil health.

- Interested? Get more info from Paul Tollard.
  - [Second Annual Green Lake Area Conservation Field Day](#)
    - Hosted by Green Lake Association
    - Field Day on August 18<sup>th</sup>
    - Going to be in Green Lake County organized by the Green Lake Association
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> field day
    - FDL LWCD staff are assisting with the field day
    - Geared toward educating non-farmers
    - Get info from Paul
- **Review of notes and action items from the last meeting**
  - Korin Doering (FWWA)
    - IN PROGRESS: update project materials to reflect the changes in the names of management topics and technical teams
      - COMPLETE: Updated project flyer
      - IN PROGRESS: Working on the website
    - COMPLETE: Develop standard format for aquatic plant report and send to consultants
    - COMPLETE: Send link for the project inventory to the SC
    - COMPLETE: Send link for the Upper Fox Wolf TMDL webpage to the SC
    - COMPLETE: Send request for ideas for organizations to send the org questionnaire to
  - Austin Pethan (FWWA)
    - IN PROGRESS: Take pictures and write an article to share with the public about aquatic vegetation PI survey when it takes place.
    - IN PROGRESS: Write and share an article that explains what wetland permits are and the permitting process if someone wants to make a change to a wetland. Include information on how people can get information on wetland permit applications. Describe the benefits of wetlands and the permitting process.
      - Send to Steering Committee for review before publication
  - IN PROGRESS: Include information on our website for people interested in getting info about wetland permits (include link in Winnebago Waterways HUB)
  - IN PROGRESS: Once list of recreation questions is complete, draft and distribute a press release asking people for input on how people use the lakes and what they would like to see improved for recreational lake use.

## Project Updates

- **Management topics/tech team updates:**
  - **Habitat**
    - *Attended the Lake Poygan Habitat Restoration Area Informational Meeting on July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018*
    - *Korin reviewed information collected from the habitat tech team earlier this year and brainstormed on how the information could be used to draft a habitat assessment tool, similar to the tool developed for the GB AOC. A tool of this nature would help us assess current conditions, predict future conditions, and explore desired conditions as well as measure success (or lack thereof) over time.*
      - *Possible roadblocks:*
        - *Lack of baseline data for species/species groups for entire project area*



- *Chad Casper – for the upcoming WWC meeting, be sure to hit on the time savings and efficiency of expanding project area to include 30 HUC12s for 9 key elements. Chad thinks this is a great idea moving forward.*
- **Recreation**
  - *The draft list of questions for recreational boaters is complete (thanks to help from the Recreation Tech Team). We plan to check with Jordan (WDNR) one last time before we begin distributing the questions. The questions will be available both on line and in hard copy and will be distributed electronically and in-person. The purpose of the questions is to learn more about how people use the lakes and what they would like to see improved for recreational lake use. This is not an official ‘survey’. The answers to the questions will simply assist us with the development of recommendations.*
    - *Next steps:*
      - *Send draft list of questions to Jordan for his input and approval.*
      - *Have hard copies available at Mills Fleet Farm Outdoor Show later in August.*
      - *Promote the questions online and at future outreach events.*
- **Shoreline Practices**
  - *We have been working hard on the shoreline property owners survey. The final version was approved by the DNR along with the cover letter that invites people to take the survey. The survey invitation was mailed this morning, on 8/10/2018, to 1000 randomly selected shoreline property owners (500 from Lake Winnebago and 500 from the Upper Pool Lakes). A reminder will be mailed two weeks from the initial mailing date and a final notice will be sent two weeks after that.*
    - *Purpose: to gain a better understanding of what property owners currently do and what they are willing to do along the lakeshore.*
    - *Note: the survey was approved by Jordan Petchenik, WDNR.*
  - *Shoreline inventory:*
    - *Haven’t been able to get a hold of Scott Van Egeren with WDNR*
      - *Ted – that’s because Scott left his position; a better contact would be Katie Hein in Central Office*
      - *Ted will send Korin the contact information*
    - *We have limited resources to complete the inventory*
      - *LWQIA may have volunteers that can help*
        - *Work with Alan and Ellen to request help for the inventory*
    - *How should we proceed?*
      - *What scale – how detailed?*
      - *2014 survey of Calumet, Waushara, and Winnebago Counties:*
        - *Calumet County – did by parcel (was used for zoning purposes as well)*
        - *Winnebago County – tied to the land – goal was to document erosion rate, existing buffers, woody debris, etc...*
          - *150 miles of shoreline (3 to 4 weeks)*
          - *~20 miles of shoreline maybe about a week*
          - *Need three people in the boat to document everything*
      - *Next steps:*
        - *Move forward with Winnebago County methods*
        - *Winnebago County has GPS enabled camera that we can use*

- *Meet with Winnebago County to review method – in person training*
    - *Contact LWQIA to request assistance*
    - *Push off until May/June next year if it gets too late?*
- **Aquatic Plant Management**
  - *Aquatic plant surveys (SAV) kicked off in July. Austin was able to get out on the water with both APM subcontractors. He will be writing an article to summarize their work and why the surveys are being done. Korin recently sent both subcontractors and email to check-in to see how the surveys were going and if the field work was complete. Korin also sent a list of items/maps to the subcontractors that should be included in the final survey report.*
    - *WLPR: Lake Winnebago is complete; working to finish up Butte des Morts now.*
    - *Cason: Lake Poygan and Winneconne have been completed. They are working on data entry.*
  - *Emergent mapping*
    - *WDNR and Winnebago County*
      - *Going out Monday, August 13<sup>th</sup>*
      - *Winnebago County received new GPS equipment*
    - *Mapping beds in the lake*
    - *Ted and Chad will take photos to share with Austin for an article*
- **Water Levels**
  - *Keith: ACOE Meeting – water levels in Pool Lakes*
    - *Dan Rudabeck was there and he laid out environmental concerns of current water level management strategies*
    - *Congressman Gallagher is interested in attending next meeting*
      - *Fall meeting in-person*
      - *Send Keith a heads up*
    - *Hold meeting ahead of time to discuss talking points and to ensure consistency in message*
      - *Have drinking water folks attend*
      - *Municipal facility folks*
      - *Conservation groups?*
      - *Others?*
- **Aquatic Invasive Species**
  - *Chris met with FRNSA CEO Jeremy Cords, President of the Board, to talk about FRNSA's plans and ideas for the future of the locks. He continued work on the AIS Strategic Plan with the goal of having a complete draft by the end of September. He also continued monitoring for AIS in the Winnebago Waterways. He's spent over 50 hours on the waters monitoring so far this year. He's also partnered with Chad Casper from Winnebago County and Calumet County Clean Boats, Clean Waters intern Grace Van Hammond to assist with AIS monitoring. During recent monitoring, Chris and Chad found curly leaf pondweed and Eurasian watermilfoil and were able to send photos to the DNR to verify their occurrence in Pages Slough. CLP had been previously sighted, but never officially verified. Eurasian WM was a new finding in that area.*
- **Community Engagement**
  - *We incorporated suggestions we received from the Steering Committee during the last meeting to draft the second version of the organizational questionnaire. The second*

*draft was sent to Jordan Petchenik with the WDNR to get his thoughts and approval before we move forward. In the meantime, we will be drafting the introduction/cover letter for the questions.*

- **Project Outreach, Engagement, and Communications**

- **Events/meetings upcoming**

- **Clean Water Makes Better Beer**

- Thursday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018
- 4:30pm to 7:00pm
- Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance event (in partnership with Fox River Brewing Company) to promote healthy lands and clean water. We thought it would be a good opportunity to capitalize on a captive audience, so we decided to



add on free boat tours (grant deliverable) to promote the LMP. Each boat (donated by area rental companies) will have one captain and one tour guide.

- Review route – ideas for the tour?
  - Receding wetland complex (just north of 41)
  - Breakwall project – northwest corner (north of Shangri La Point)
    - Contact Chad for details
      - When installed, length, etc.
  - Development of golf course
  - Sunset Bay – one of the best plant communities in the system
    - Native phrag, lotus beds, bulrush,
    - Cane beds are remnant plants – been there since before the dams went in
    - Water clarity increases in the bay
    - Secchi disks to drive the point home about plant importance?
    - Austin – talk with Ted for further details
      - One-page handout?
- Three pontoon boats, capacity: 14, 9, 11 – minus seats for captain, tour guide, and comfort; total of 24 for tours at one time.
  - Scotty's Pontoon and Wolf River Resorts are donating pontoon rentals
  - Austin is going to follow up with a third rental company (Sweetwater performance center) to try to get additional boats.
- Tour guides: Korin, Austin, Emily, Dani, and Chad Casper.
  - Thank you for volunteering!
- Potentially looking for additional captains – any interest?
  - Thank you Mark for volunteering!
- Additional talking point ideas:
  - Possible topics for the tour from Mark: shoreline quality/conditions and why it matters, water turbidity drivers, water level impacts, habitat quality
- Snapshot Day 2018 – August, 18th
  - Chris, Austin and Korin will be training and leading volunteers to look for AIS in the Winnebago System. We will include information about the Lake Management Plan to inform people about the planning effort.

- Women Caring for the Land at Buser Cattle Company on August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- Lakes Partnership Summer Meeting, August 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- Winnebagoland Conservation Alliance meeting on August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- Great Lakes Source Water Initiative Meeting, August 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018
  - Opportunity to be a showcase project for source water protection
- Mills Fleet Farm Outdoors and Sports Show, August 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018
  - We will have a booth at the event to educate people about AIS and inform people about the LMP effort. We will also have the recreation questions available for people who boat on the lakes.
- **Events/meetings attended**
  - Women Caring for the Land at Bouressa Family Farm on July 20, 2018
  - Lake Poygan Habitat Restoration Area Informational Meeting on July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018
  - Grazing Demo on July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018
  - LWQIA members meeting and tour of lakefront, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- **E-newsletter**
  - July edition
    - [Lake Management Planning - July update](#)
    - [Aquatic Invasive Species Snapshot Day 2018](#)
    - Why does the lake look like pea soup and what's being done about it?
    - Check us out at the 2018 Mills Fleet Farm Fall Expo in Green Bay!
    - Fox-Wolf Staff Monitors for AIS Water Hyacinth
    - Soil Health Field Day along the shores of Lake Poygan - Sept. 6th, 2018
    - Upper Fox & Wolf TMDL - Draft Report available for public comment
    - Winnebago Waterway Steering Committee meeting was held on July 13th, 2018
    - Women Caring for the Land workshop - August 14th, 2018 in Omro
  - August edition
    - Lake Management Planning – August update
    - Lake Winneconne Shoreline Stewardship
    - Winnebago Waterway Steering Committee Conference Call: August 10th, 2018
    - Winnebago Waterways attends Grazing Demo at Koro Dairy
    -
- Social Media
 

	1/2/2018	6/4/2018	7/12/2018	8/9/2018
Facebook	253	376	394	400
Instagram	---	30	51	61
Twitter	65	77	80	81
newsletter	863	898	896	796
- Other
  - New project flyer:
    - [http://fwwa.org/new/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/project-booklet\\_07\\_31\\_2018\\_electronic-version\\_final.pdf](http://fwwa.org/new/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/project-booklet_07_31_2018_electronic-version_final.pdf)
- Spam blocker update
  - We switched bulk mail service providers, paid for a service to clean up our email lists, and now seem to be having more success with emails getting through.
  - How many Steering Committee members received the last WWP e-newsletter?
    - FDL, Calumet, and Winnebago are receiving the newsletter

- Not sure if DNR is receiving the newsletter

## Public Comment

No one from the public was present during the conference call.

## Meeting wrap-up

- Upcoming Steering Committee meetings:
  - Friday, September 14<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 12pm (in-person)
    - Coughlin Center in Oshkosh – Room D
  - Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 12pm (conference Call)
- Next Executive Committee meeting
  - September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018
  - 9:30am
  - Fond du Lac City County Government Center

## 11:45am – Meeting close

### **Action Items from 8/10/18 meeting:**

- Korin Doering (FWWA)
  - IN PROGRESS: update project materials to reflect the changes in the names of management topics and technical teams
    - COMPLETE: Updated project flyer
    - IN PROGRESS: Working on the website
  - IN PROGRESS: Set up a meeting with National Heritage Inventory (NHI) staff to help answer
  - Request a meeting with Joe Henry – statewide ecologist
  - Begin writing habitat sections without assessment tool for wetlands and grasslands
  - Schedule a meeting with Marcel from UW-Oshkosh to discuss working together to develop water quality monitoring plan for the lakes
  - Move forward with the shoreline inventory using Winnebago County methods
  - Work with Keith Marquardt to schedule/plan a meeting with people about water levels in preparation for the fall ACOE stakeholders meeting
  - Draft cover letter for the organizational questionnaire
- Jessica Schultz (FWWA)
  - Contact the counties to discuss watershed management project expansion in further detail.
  - Contact Ted to update him on the recommendation to expand the project area for watershed management.
- Austin Pethan (FWWA)
  - IN PROGRESS: Take pictures and write an article to share with the public about aquatic vegetation PI survey when it takes place.
  - IN PROGRESS: Write and share an article that explains what wetland permits are and the permitting process if someone wants to make a change to a wetland. Include information on how people can get information on wetland permit applications. Describe the benefits of wetlands and the permitting process.
    - Send to Steering Committee for review before publication

- IN PROGRESS: Include information on our website for people interested in getting info about wetland permits (include link in Winnebago Waterways HUB)
- IN PROGRESS: Once list of recreation questions is complete, draft and distribute a press release asking people for input on how people use the lakes and what they would like to see improved for recreational lake use.
  - *Send draft list of questions to Jordan for his input and approval.*
  - *Have hard copies available at Mills Fleet Farm Outdoor Show later in August.*
  - *Promote the questions online and at future outreach events.*
- Draft tour guide talking points for the boat tours on August 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Chad Casper and Ted Johnson
  - Complete emergent plant mapping for in-lake emergent plant beds
  - Take photos of emergent mapping efforts and send to Austin
- Entire Steering Committee
  - We hope to see you at the August 23<sup>rd</sup> event with boat tours!