



Lake Health and Fish Habitat Committee Report
September 14, 2020
Paul McDaniel, Committee Chairman
Pmac9163@gmail.com

Charter: To oversee and monitor lake conditions and create a healthy fish habitat for recreational purposes.

Committee Members: Bob Forsberg as Chairman, Louis Santoriello, Paul Flanagan, Jeff Harbert, Paul McDaniel, Laura Pool, Jessie Logero, Randy Orth, Glenn Christensen, Jess Ellis and Jameson Smith.

Meetings: Held on Sunday, September 13, 2020. In attendance were Laura Pool, Glenn Christensen, Jessie Logero, Paul Flanagan, Bob Forsberg, Randy Orth, and Paul McDaniel.

Project Updates

Fishing and Lake Rules - Meadow Lake was opened for fishing prior to the scheduled Labor Day Weekend and the Catch and Release Rule was waived along with doubling bag limits on Rainbow Lake. This was due to concerns of an additional fish kill in the lakes resulting from warm lake temperatures and poor Dissolved Oxygen (DO) levels. Fortunately the community experienced rain and cooler temperatures prior to Labor Day, along with snow and unseasonably cold temperatures the following week. The recent change in weather is expected to prevent further loss of Trout. As such, the Committee unanimously rescinded the changes made on bag limits September 14th in order to return to the original plan for conserving fish to mitigate BEMA's stocking budget for 2021.

Algae - The Committee has one more BioLynceus treatment for the season which will assist with management of algae blooms. Aquatics Associates performed a site visit and provided some immediate feedback on issues that can be dealt with and can be built in to the Lake Management Plan. A full analysis and report is being worked on and a recommended management plan will soon be provided. The Committee will be active in implementing any plans to keep costs at a minimum but recognize there were several issues this year causing some expenses to rise. Costs have yet to be determined.

Aeration - Progress is being made to improve aeration efforts with additional operational heads before the lakes freeze.

Weed Mowing - No mowing has occurred this season. Aquatics Associates advised BEMA to be in a weed/plant management mode rather than elimination mode. Committee expects information on this issue in the coming report.

Fishing Club - No progress at this time. Due to fish kills and water issues, the Committee believed it was best not to start a program this year. Waiting to build a future clientele and creating a viable revenue stream will be much more promising for BEMA after the challenges that arose this season are resolved.

Activities

Committee agreed to move forward with expanding the use of Willow Well to provide cooler, healthier water to the lakes and equipment by removing detritus from the well house, refurbishing the structure, upgrading electricity and returning the meter to active status.

Lake Readings and Postings

Readings are an ongoing activity as monitoring lake conditions are of the utmost importance. The Committee continues to research the best format for posting readings on the BEMA website with anticipation Aquatic Associates will provide good options.

Team Building with Other Relevant and Inter-Dependent Committees

The Committee is working on better communications with Water Rights, Long Term Planning and other Committees to provide overall community improvement.