

THE VAN VLIET LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING was held on July 13, 2013, in the Presque Isle Community Center. President Ronie Jacobsen called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM. Those members in attendance were as follows: Nick Andrew, Ed Brodsky, LaVergne Brodsky, Jeff Burke, Jorja Burke, Mike Czarny, Steve Frank, Ronie Jacobsen, Barb Novak, Barbara Olson, Tom Olson, Mark Osberg, Bill Schroeder, Diane Schroeder, Paul Specht, Jim Sprester, Kathy Sprester, and Don Trimble.

MINUTES of the July 5, 2012, Annual Meeting of the Association were approved unanimously following a motion by Jeff Burke and a second by Ed Brodsky.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT was given by Treasurer Jeff Burke. A copy of that report is attached. It shows a current on hand balance of \$8431.35. Paul Specht added that some of that balance would be encumbered for the lake study which has been commissioned by the Association through Onterra. Diane Schroeder moved that the report be accepted. Ed Brodsky seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS was held on the slate of candidates nominated by the Board. Those nominees and their respective nominated positions are as follows:

Ed Brodsky - Vice President

Jeff Burke - Treasurer

Diane Schroeder and Tom Olson - At Large Two Year Terms

The nominees were unanimously approved following a motion by Ed Brodsky and a second by Bill Schroeder. Ronie pointed out that the Lake Association Secretary is still an open position, but can be filled by Board appointment. She said that if anyone is interested, they should see her.

REPORTS were given on the following topics:

CREEL STUDY - Mike Czarny distributed copies of the DNR preliminary report which had come out in the past year. A copy of that report is attached. A final report was to have been placed on the DNR Website by the end of June, but is not available as yet.

Discussions were also held on the apparent lack of reproduction by walleyes, and on motor trolling issue. On the latter issue, it was pointed out that the Association had expressed opposition to that proposal by attending meetings and by writing letters.

HEMLOCKS - Ed Brodsky reported that the Northern Highland American Legion master plan is in the process of being updated to include properties that the DNR has acquired since 2005 which includes the Van Vliet Hemlocks. The proposed amendment may be detrimental since it would allow logging on a portion of the land. It could impact the trails, create logging roads, etc. Ed said that there was going to be an online chat about this on July 23 from 6 to 7PM on the DNR website. There will also be a public open house

on the topic on July 24 from 3 to 7PM at the Presque Isle Town Hall. Ed, Ronie, and Tom Olson all urged people to become actively involved by attending meetings, writing letters, etc. The Association will be actively involved as well. Ed distributed two handouts from the DNR on the issue.

Ronie said that the Association had sponsored a hike in the Hemlocks last year with John Bates that had been very well received, and that we were planning to do that again this fall. Ed mentioned that the Friends of the Van Vliet Hemlocks sponsored a recent 5th and 6th grade field trip to the property and have placed a new sign on the Hemlock Lake trail. The Friends are sponsoring a pontoon or kayak tour by water of the Hemlocks on Aug 25 followed by their annual meeting.

LOON PLATFORM - Ronie reported that the association had sponsored a talk by loon researcher Michael Meyer last summer that was well attended and worthwhile. The association applied for a permit to place a nesting platform which Bill Schroeder built for us. We were hoping to attract a nesting pair to Van Vliet this spring. However, we didn't get any occupants this year, and will hope for next year.

CLEAN BOATS - CLEAN WATERS Ronie reported that the Association had been actively involved in this program since 2009 and is committed to working all of the tournaments. So far this year members have logged 65 hours at the boat landing. There will also be student interns working 50 hours at the landing this summer. Most of this will be paid for by a grant, and the cost to the Association will only be \$162.50.

AQUATIC PLANTS COMMITTEE - Ronie introduced the members of the committee (Ed Brodsky, Jeff Burke, Mike Czarny, Jim Sprester) and gave an overview from an historical perspective of the recurring weed issues.

Mike distributed a flow chart detailing the actions that the committee has worked on during the past year, and the process that it has followed. He also distributed and explained a handout on the White Water Lake Study (which is ongoing through PITLC 's aquatic invasive species effort) and the Onterra study which will begin later this summer. Both the flowchart and handout are attached.

Some discussion followed, with members expressing their thoughts and observations over the years. For now nothing can or will be done until the Onterra Study is completed and we find out what can or cannot be done and how.

Then the committee will report to the Board and communicate with the membership and stakeholders.

Jim reported on his trip to Rolling Stone Lake in Langlade County to view the weed harvesting program which had been operational for 26 years. A handout on that and similar one on Pickerel Lake are attached.

MEMBER CONCERNS OR QUESTIONS

Don Trimble expressed concern about the amount of traffic and all the dust it was causing on East Van Vliet Road as people traveled to and from the Hemlocks parking area. He wondered if there could be another means of access. Tom Olson said that the DNR was sympathetic towards the access issue and that Steve Petersen, NHAL superintendent was aware of the concerns also.

Barb Novak reported that while she had run the boater safety class for a number of years, she felt that it would be nice if someone else could take over the program. Our thanks to Barb for all the years of service on this training.

COMING EVENTS

CBCW Volunteers are needed for the Labor Day Weekend(August 30- Sept.2) and the Muskie Tournament (Sept. 6 - 8).

FALL PICNIC at Mike and Ronie's house - September 21 at 5PM.

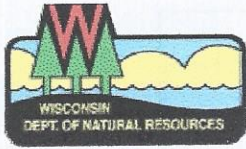
JOHN BATES HIKE in the Hemlocks - October 12 at 9AM.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED at 11:40AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Sprester

Acting Secretary



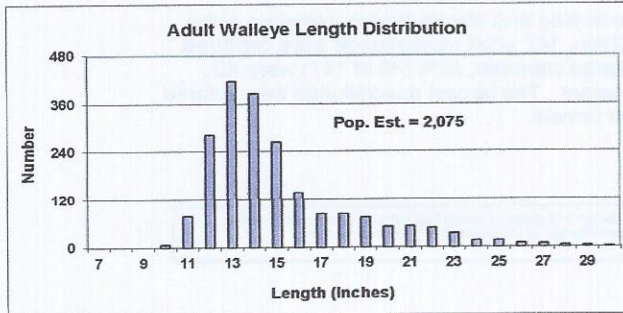
**WISCONSIN DNR
FISHERIES INFORMATION SHEET**

LAKE: PRESQUE ISLE CHAIN

COUNTY: VILAS

YEAR: 2012

The Department of Natural Resources surveyed the Presque Isle Chain of lakes, Vilas County, from March 26 through June 5, 2012, to determine the health of its fishery. The primary objective of the survey was to estimate walleye and muskellunge abundance in the chain. The Presque Isle Chain, composed of Averill, Presque Isle and Van Vliet lakes, is a drainage system with predominantly sand substrate and a low-density walleye population. It has a surface area of 1,571 acres, 15.8 miles of shoreline and a maximum depth of 80 feet.



* Note: Adult walleye are defined as all sexable walleye and walleye of unknown sex \geq 15 inches long.

Walleye

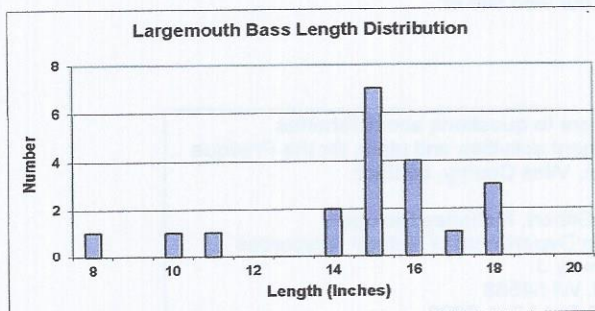
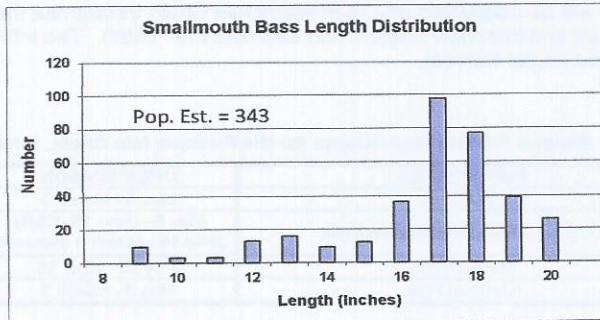


A mark-recapture survey of the Presque Isle Chain adult walleye population was conducted from March 26 through April 17, 2012. During 23 days of fyke netting, 1,033 adult walleye were captured and marked with a fin clip. Three crews sampled the Presque Isle Chain with electro-fishing boats on April 17th and captured 250 adult walleye. During electrofishing 51% (127 of 250) of captured walleye bore the fin clip given during fyke netting. Based on those results, Presque Isle Chain was estimated to contain 2,075 adult walleye (1.3/acre). An estimated 44% (905 of 2,075) of adult walleye were 15 inches long or larger. The largest walleye captured was a 30.1-inch female.

Smallmouth Bass



A mark-recapture survey of the Presque Isle Lake's smallmouth bass population (greater than 8 inches) was conducted from March 26 through June 5, 2012. A total of 120 fish were marked during the sampling period. On June 5, three crews sampled the lake by electrofishing and captured 60 smallmouth bass. Twenty of these bass bore the mark given during earlier sampling. Based on those results, Presque Isle Lake was estimated to contain 343 smallmouth bass greater than 8 inches in length. Within the population an estimated 41% (142 of 343) of the smallmouth bass are greater than 18 inches. The largest fish captured during the survey was 21.4 inches in length.



Largemouth Bass



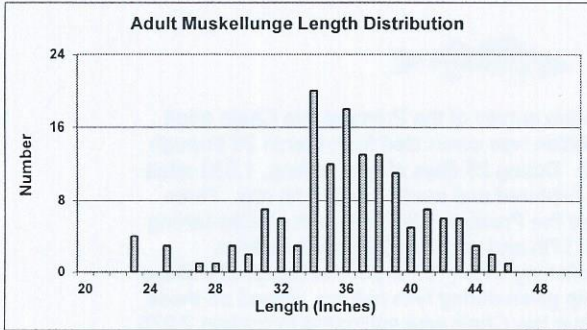
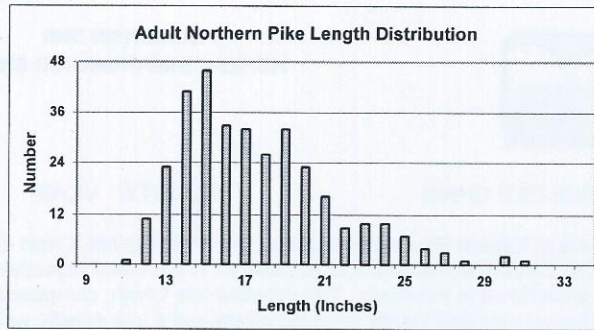
Survey crews were unable to capture and mark a sufficient number of largemouth bass to estimate the population size. During sampling conducted through April 27th, 20 largemouth bass 8 inches or larger were captured. Of those largemouth captured, 15% (3 of 20) were 18 inches long or larger. The largest largemouth captured was 18.4 inches long.

Northern Pike



From March 26 through April 27, 2012, 331 adult northern pike were captured during Presque Isle Chain sampling. Of the adult northern pike captured, 3% (11 of 331) were 26 inches long or larger. The largest northern pike captured was a 31.1-inch female.

* Note: Adult northern pike are defined as all sexable northern pike and northern pike of unknown sex \geq 12 inches long.



Muskellunge



During our fyke netting and electro-fishing sampling of the Presque Isle Chain, 147 adult muskellunge were captured. Of the muskellunge captured, 20% (30 of 147) were 40 inches long or larger. The largest muskellunge we captured was a 46.1-inch female.

* Note: Adult muskellunge are defined using PSD stock size as all sexable muskellunge and muskellunge of unknown sex \geq 20 inches long.

Other Species

In addition to the game fish mentioned above, 12 species of fish were captured during our fyke netting and electro-fishing sampling of the Presque Isle Chain. Bluegill, pumpkinseed and yellow perch were the most common species in our fyke net catches. Also caught were black bullhead, black crappie, burbot, common shiner, creek chub, lake herring (cisco), rock bass, tiger muskellunge and white sucker.

A creel survey will be conducted on the Presque Isle Chain throughout the 2012-2013 fishing season. Creel clerk Marty Kiepkke will count and interview anglers and examine their catch. The information gathered will be used to estimate fishing effort and angler harvest.

Table 1. General Fishing Regulations for the Presque Isle Chain, Vilas County, 2012-13

FISH SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH
Walleye	May 5 - March 3	2	No minimum, only one over 14"
Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass	May 5 - June 15 (C&R) June 16 - March 3 (Harvest)	None 1 in total	18 inches
Muskellunge	May 26 - Nov. 30	1	40 inches
Northern Pike	May 5 - March 3	5	None

A brief summary of selected fishing regulations for the Presque Isle Chain is included above (Table 1). While the regulatory information provided was current at the time the surveys were conducted, it is not comprehensive and should not be used as a substitute for the current fishing regulation pamphlet. You may obtain a copy of current fishing regulations when you purchase your fishing license, or download a copy from our web site at:

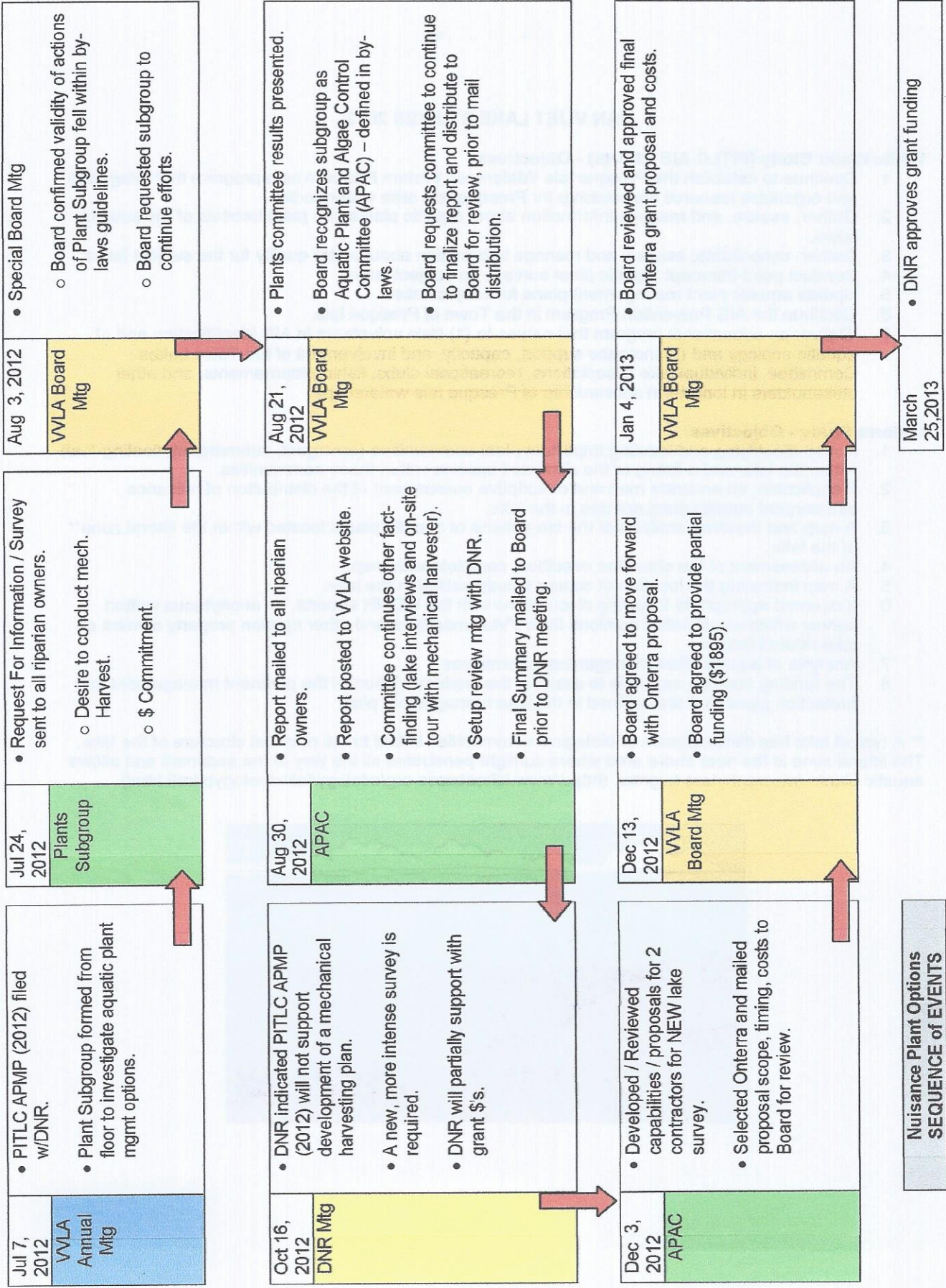
http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/regulations_index.html

This report is interim only; data and findings should not be considered final. Results of creel surveys should be available by June 2013. Watch for survey summaries at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/fish/nor/northern.html> or contact:

Jonathan Pyatskowitz, Treaty Fisheries Biologist
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
8770 Highway J
Woodruff, WI 54568
(715) 356-5211 Ext. 209
Email: Jonathan.Pyatskowitz@Wisconsin.gov

For answers to questions about fisheries management activities and plans for the Presque Isle Chain, Vilas County, contact:

Stephen Gilbert, Fisheries Biologist
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
770 Highway J
Woodruff, WI 54568
(715) 356-5211 Ext. 2229
Email: Stephen.Gilbert@Wisconsin.gov



**Nuisance Plant Options
SEQUENCE of EVENTS**

VAN VLIET LAKE STUDIES 2013

White Water Study (PITLC AIS Efforts) - Objectives

1. Continue to establish the Presque Isle Wilderness Waters Program as a program that integrates and organizes resource stewardship for Presque Isle area water bodies.
2. Gather, assess, and manage information about aquatic plants and plant habitats of the subject lakes.
3. Gather, consolidate, assess, and manage information about water quality for the subject lakes.
4. Conduct point-intercept aquatic plant surveys on subject lakes.
5. Update aquatic plant management plans for subject lakes.
6. Continue the AIS Prevention Program in the Town of Presque Isle.
7. Deliver an educational program that serves to (1) train volunteers in AIS identification and of aquatic ecology and (2) increase support, capacity, and involvement of the Town Lakes Committee, individual lake associations, recreational clubs, fishing tournaments, and other stakeholders in long-term stewardship of Presque Isle waterscape.

Onterra Study - Objectives

1. A map identifying and locating important plant communities (emergent, submergent, floating-leaf) within the lake and a listing of the dominant species within these communities.
2. If applicable, an accurate map and descriptive assessment of the distribution of nuisance submergent aquatic plant species in the lake.
3. A map and resulting analysis of the bio-volume of aquatic plants located within the littoral zone** of the lake.
4. An assessment of the shoreline condition, complete with map.
5. A map indicating the location of coarse woody habitat in the lake.
6. If deemed appropriate following discussions with the WDNR experts, an anonymous written survey which would solicit opinions from WVLA members and other riparian property owners on lake-related issues.
7. Analysis of aquatic plant management alternatives.
8. The funding sources available to assist in the implementation of the pertinent management and protection plans that are outlined in the lake management plan.

** A typical lake has distinct zones of biological communities linked to the physical structure of the lake. The littoral zone is the near shore area where sunlight penetrates all the way to the sediment and allows aquatic plants (macrophytes) to grow. (<http://www.lakeaccess.org/ecology/lakeecologyprim9.html>)

