

Appendix C Stakeholder Engagement

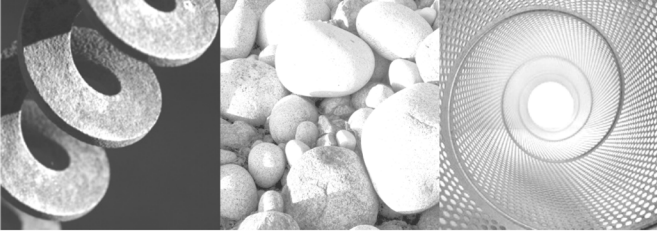
C.1. 2024 Stakeholder Survey Summary Report

C.2. 2024 Public Meeting #1 Summary Memo

C.3. 2025 Public Meeting #2 Summary Memo

C.4. Public Comment Received in 2025

C.1. 2024 Stakeholder Survey Summary Report



Summary Report

2024 Stakeholder Survey Results Comprehensive Planning – Phase 1

Little Lake Butte des Morts, Neenah, Wisconsin

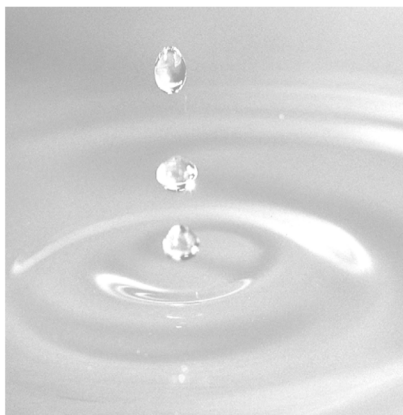
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KD/BM

https://geiconsultant.sharepoint.com/sites/LLBDMCollaboration_Water-LLBDM-GEIInternal/Shared Documents/LLBDM - GEI Internal/3b_Stakeholder Survey/LLBDM Stakeholder Survey_Tech Memo_Final Draft_report style.docx

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AIS	Aquatic invasive species
APM	Aquatic plant management
FWWA	Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance
GEI	GEI Consultants, Inc
GP	General public
LLBDM	Little Lake Butte des Morts
LWCD	Land and Water Conservation Department
QAQC	Quality assurance and quality control

1. Introduction

In July 2024, GEI conducted two stakeholder surveys as part of the Little Lake Butte des Morts (LLBDM) Comprehensive Planning initiative on behalf of the City of Neenah and project partners. The surveys were designed to measure stakeholders' awareness of lake-related issues, enhance our understanding of their perceptions and usage of the lake, and gather feedback on possible support for various management strategies. The surveys addressed several topics such as invasive species, aquatic plant management, lake use and recreation, shoreline property management, and leadership in lake management. The surveys also aimed to identify potential topics for future outreach and education efforts.

Providing valuable insights and diverse perspectives, stakeholder input is critical when developing an aquatic plant management strategy or lake management plan. For LLBDM, stakeholders include shoreline property owners, conservation groups, recreational users, industry, government agencies, and members of the broader community. Incorporating stakeholder feedback results in a balanced approach for addressing the needs and concerns of the community while promoting the ecological health of the lake and supporting recreational and economic interests.

The surveys were directed at two different stakeholder groups. The primary group was shoreline property owners (SPO) and the secondary group, intended to capture a broader audience of lake users, was the general public (GP). Perspectives, perceptions and experiences likely vary across stakeholder groups. To capture these differences, distinct surveys were crafted for each group. This allowed the inclusion of questions tailored specifically for one group while also including questions that were consistent across both surveys. Close-ended questions were included to elicit responses directly relevant to project objectives to collect actionable insightful data from participants. Open ended questions were included to delve deeper into stakeholder perspectives.

The online surveys for the LLBDM project opened on July 18, 2024, and closed on August 21, 2024. This allowed ample time for community members to participate and provide feedback. Physical surveys were available upon request. For the GP survey, 298 submissions were initially received. After QAQC review, 291 survey submissions were included in the data analysis with a 59% completion rate¹. For the SPO survey, 366 properties were mailed survey invitations. In response, 160 survey submissions were received. After QAQC review, 150 survey submissions² were included in the data analysis, resulting in a 41% response rate with a 93% completion rate.

This technical memo summarizes the survey methods, results, discussion and recommendations. The results of the survey will be used to inform the LLBDM Aquatic Plant Management Strategy, City of Neenah Aquatic Plant Harvesting Plan, and Phase 1 Action Plan.

¹ *General Public: 298 initial survey submissions were received; 7 submissions were removed during QAQC; 291 surveys were included in the analysis; 172 participants completed the survey (higher attrition with a significant drop-off after the fishing question).*

² *Shoreline Property Owners: 366 properties were mailed survey invitations; 160 initial survey submissions were received; 10 submissions were removed during QAQC; 150 surveys were included in the analysis; 139 participants completed the survey.*

2. Methodology and data collection

2.1. Survey design

The survey was designed in collaboration with the LLBDM Leadership Team to explore multiple dimensions of stakeholder knowledge, attitudes, and practices related to lake management. The LLBDM Leadership Team included representatives from the Village of Fox Crossing, City of Neenah, and City of Menasha. The Leadership Team was advised by the Support Team which included representatives from the Winnebago County Land and Water Conservation Department (LWCD), Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance (FWWA), GEI Consultants, Inc., and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR).

The two target audiences were shoreline property owners and the general public, including lake users. While both audience groups answered the same core questions, property owners were given the opportunity to answer questions more directly related to living on the lake and lakeshore property maintenance. Specifically, the survey aimed to gather detailed information from property owners regarding their property ownership, residency types, recreational activities, and their familiarity with and implementation of shoreline and stormwater best management practices.

Both shoreline property owners and the general public were asked to share their views on potential collaborative management approaches, such as intergovernmental cooperation and the development of lake associations. The survey also sought to assess both stakeholder groups' knowledge of aquatic invasive species, lake recreation, water quality, and ecosystem management (Table 1).

Table 1. Topics Surveyed Across Stakeholder Groups.

Stakeholder Group	Topics Surveyed
General Public (GP)	Recreation and Lake Use Aquatic Plants Water Quality Aquatic Invasive Species Lake Management Leadership
Shoreline Property Owners (SPO)	Recreation and Lake Use Aquatic Plants Water Quality Aquatic Invasive Species Lake Management Leadership Shoreline Property Management Techniques

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The WDNR was consulted during the survey design process as required by the WDNR grants that helped fund this effort. GEI worked with Lauren Bradshaw from the WDNR Environmental Analysis Services Section for the consultation. Initial feedback on the first draft of the surveys, received on June 2, 2024, recommended using distinct survey links for shoreline property owners and other stakeholders to maintain clear data separation, refining specific question categories for clarity, and enhancing the survey format for ease of response. The mailing process for ballots was discussed on June 13, 2024, and the final draft was submitted on June 17, 2024. Both surveys were approved with minor revisions on June 20, 2024, focusing on formatting and clarifications. Blank versions of the finalized surveys are included in **Appendix A**.

Overall, the surveys were designed to capture nuanced stakeholder perspectives, identify the public's knowledge gaps, understand potential barriers to environmental stewardship, and gauge support for collaborative lake management strategies. By directly incorporating property owner insights and community priorities, the surveys provide critical input for developing an informed and responsive lake management plan.

2.2. Survey distribution

After receiving approval from the LLBDM Leadership Team and the WDNR, GEI finalized survey questions and provided the final versions to the City of Neenah. City of Neenah staff entered the survey questions into an online format using SurveyMonkey and generated direct links to the surveys along with QR codes for easy access via mobile devices.

The online survey for the LLBDM project opened on July 18, 2024, and closed on August 21, 2024. The surveys were first announced during a public meeting on July 18, 2024, marking the kickoff of Phase 1 of the lake management planning process. This meeting was attended by 150 community members. The surveys were also advertised through social media, direct mailing to shoreline property owners, and local media press releases. Both surveys were available only in English and were administered in an online format with a hard copy option available by request.

The direct mailings to shoreline property owners were part of a targeted campaign to encourage shoreline property owner participation and provide each property owner with a unique survey access code. The mailing list was generated using tax parcel data from the Winnebago County website, focusing on properties located within close proximity of the LLBDM shoreline.

A total of 366 mailers were sent out in three rounds to maximize participation. Unique response codes included in each mailer helped to limit responses to one per household. The timing of the mailers was coordinated with the launch of the project webpage, the opening of the online survey portal, and other promotional efforts. The mailers were distributed on July 1, July 26, and August 9, 2024. Examples of the survey mailers are included in **Appendix B**.

Links to both online surveys were posted on the project webpage, which was developed by the Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance. In addition to the webpage, project partners used press releases and social media platforms to further promote the survey and encourage participation from a broad audience.

The project webpage can be accessed at <https://fwwa.org/littlelake>

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2.3. Data collection, processing and analysis

Survey data was collected and saved in SurveyMonkey. After the surveys closed, the City of Neenah exported the data and emailed the raw data files to GEI. GEI reviewed the survey responses to check for completeness. Test responses, duplicate submittals, and shoreline property owner surveys submitted without an invitation code were removed from further evaluation. After the quality review, 291 surveys from members of the general public were included for analysis (7 were removed during QAQC). Additionally, 150 surveys from shoreline property owners were included for analysis (10 were removed during QAQC) out of the 366 addresses that received invitations.

Survey responses received for each question are provided as **Appendix C**.

3. Shoreline Property Owner Specific Survey Results

For the SPO survey, there were 150 respondents with a 93% completion rate³. Among respondents, 95% reported they are year-round residents. The top reasons for owning lakefront property included the views, proximity to the water, beauty of the location, the peaceful and relaxing environment, and opportunities for wildlife viewing. The length of time that property owners have owned their property varied, with 27% of respondents having owned their property for 2 to 5 years, and 26% having owned their property for over 26 years. Most survey respondents (75%) reside in the Village of Fox Crossing, while 19% live in the City of Menasha and 7% live in the City of Neenah.

The lake, including the shoreline, was divided into seven areas (A-G), and shoreline property owners were asked to choose which area of the lake their shoreline property is located within. The map illustrating the seven areas is included as Figure 1. **Error! Not a valid bookmark self-reference.**Area G, located in the northeast portion of the lake, received the highest number of responses (38%), followed by Area F (22%) located along the east central portion of the lake, and Area B with 19% located along the west central part of the lake. The remaining responses were distributed across the four remaining Areas. Figure 1 includes a pie chart that shows the distribution of shoreline property owner respondent locations across the map areas.

Shoreline property owners were asked several questions tailored to owning lakefront property, which included questions about 19 different factors they might consider when deciding to purchase and own their property on LLBDM⁴. The top factors deemed "extremely important" by most respondents include:

1. Proximity to the water (84%)
2. Views of the water (83%)
3. Beauty of the location (66%)
4. Relaxing/ peaceful setting (61%)
5. Boating/ jet skiing (51%)

The results indicate that property owners place a high value on and are motivated by their desire to enjoy the natural beauty and recreational opportunities that the lake offers. They also highlight the lake's role as a hub for water-based activities. The factors deemed "very unimportant" by most respondents include:

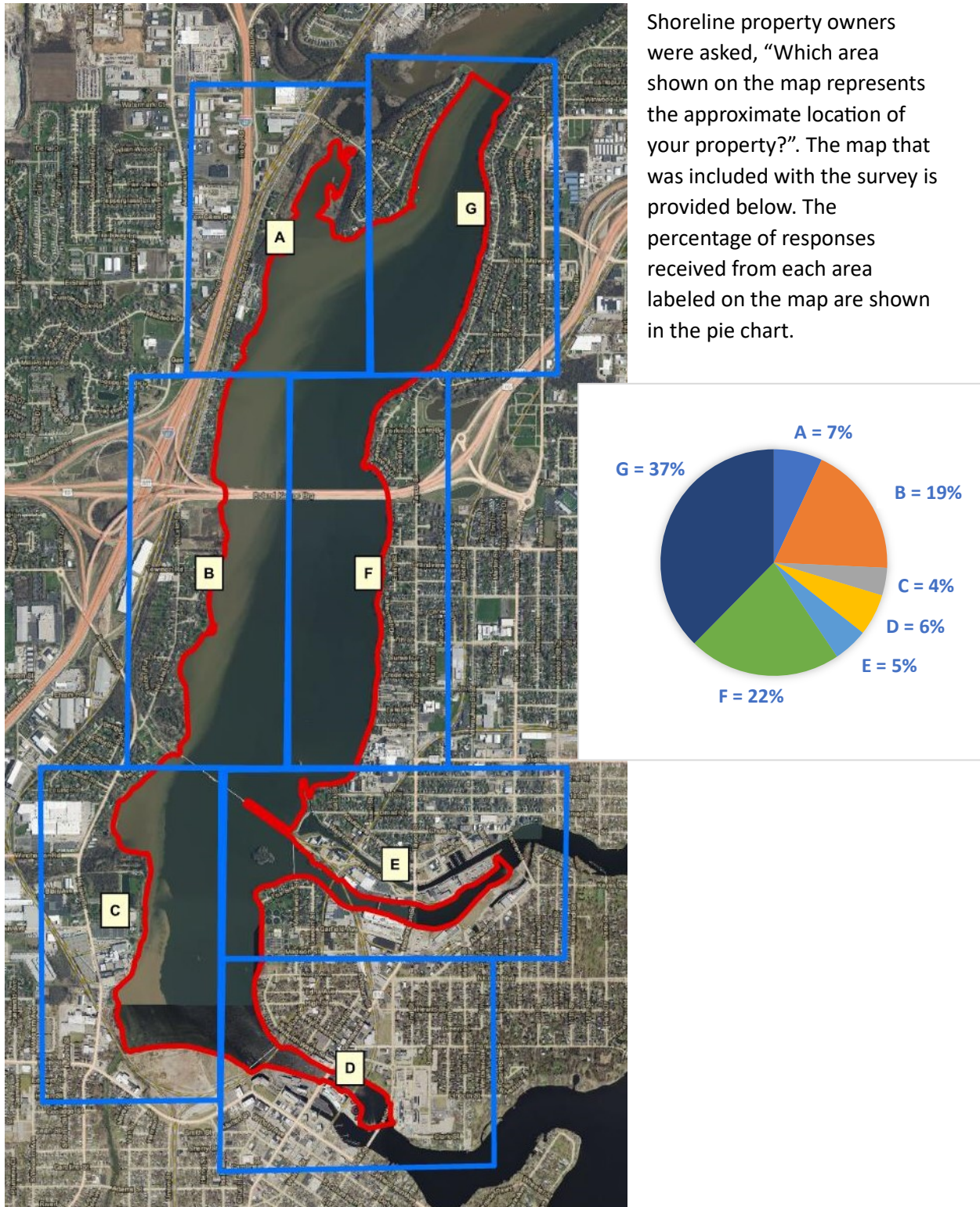
1. Rental income (84%)
2. Snowmobiling (67%)
3. Hunting (64%).

Property owners seem to be less interested in rental income, snowmobiling, and hunting. Rental income may have ranked low because respondents prefer to use their property for personal use and enjoyment rather than commercial purposes.

³ 159 initial responses; 10 removed during QAQC. 47% response rate based on 368 residential addresses.

⁴ Reference QID 10 in Appendix B.

Figure 1. General locations of respondent shoreline properties on LLBDM.



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When asked about property steepness leading to the water⁵, most respondents reported that their property is “flat”, “somewhat flat”, or “not too steep”, with only 30% of property owners reporting their property has a “somewhat steep” or “very steep” slope leading to the water (Figure 2). Additionally, 34% of the SPO group reported some degree of shoreline erosion at their property.

Cross tabulation of results between approximate location of property and steepness indicates that SPOs who reported “somewhat steep” or “very steep” slopes leading to the water were mostly located in map Area G. Steep properties can be more prone to shoreline erosion which is reflected in SPO responses. Those who reported shoreline erosion being present on their property were mostly located within map Area B and Area G.

Nearly all shoreline property owners (99%) reported that they have a conventional lawn on their property, and the vast majority have a dock (84%) and boatlift (62%)⁶ (Figure 3). Only 14% of SPO respondents have a native vegetated shoreline buffer.

Regarding perceptions of conventional lawns⁷, 68% of SPO respondents “strongly agree” or “somewhat agree” that conventional lawns create an “eye-appealing lake property”, and 85% of respondents “strongly agree” or “somewhat agree” that they “value a well-maintained lawn”.

In relation to lawn care and maintenance activities⁸ most property owners handle mowing (89%) and leaf raking (92%) themselves, while a majority hire contractors to apply fertilizers (57%), insecticides (60%), and herbicides (53%).

Regarding fertilizer application and effectiveness⁹, 54% of SPO respondents “strongly agree” or “somewhat agree” that “fertilizing is important for maintaining a healthy lawn”. Additionally, 75% “strongly agree” or “somewhat agree” that using lawn fertilizers containing phosphorus add pollution to the lake. However, 40% SPO respondents are “unsure, need additional information” that “no or low phosphorus fertilizer is readily available”. This indicates that the majority of SPOs value and actively maintain conventional lawns and understand the negative effects that phosphorus fertilizers may have. As phosphorus containing fertilizers have been banned for residential use in Wisconsin since 2010, SPO responses highlight a knowledge gap revolving around the availability of no/ low-phosphorus fertilizers.

Shoreline property owners were asked about best management practices (BMP) that may require more effort or deviate from “landscaping norms”¹⁰. Results indicate that a majority (<50%) of SPO respondents already have or practice several BMPs (Figure 4). This includes using salt sparingly, cleaning up and disposing of pet waste, clearing grass clippings and leaves, re-directing rain downspouts to lawn, and composting grass clippings and yard waste.

⁵ Reference QID 12 in Appendix B.

⁶ Reference QID 14 in Appendix B.

⁷ Reference QID 15 in Appendix B.

⁸ Reference QID 17 in Appendix B.

⁹ Reference QID 16 in Appendix B.

¹⁰ Reference QID 18 in Appendix B.

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Figure 2. Number of SPO responses by reported steepness of their property leading to the water.

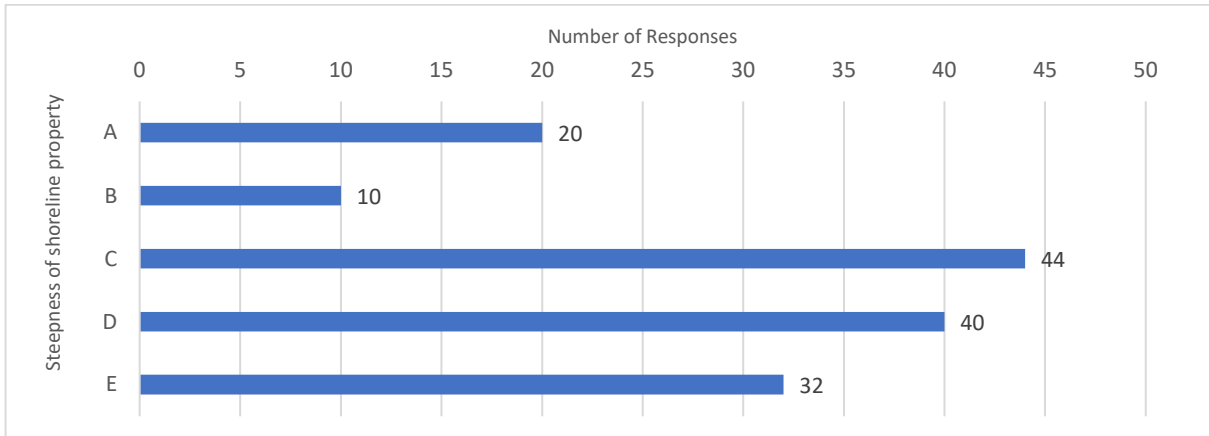


Figure 2 Response Options:

- A Very steep; stairs are needed to access the water
- B Somewhat steep; a winding pathway is needed to access the water
- C Not too steep, not too flat; the water can be accessed by carefully walking straight down the slope
- D Somewhat flat; the water can be easily accessed by walking down the slope
- E Flat; there is little to no slope leading up to the water

Figure 3. Number of SPO respondents that report having the listed landscape features present on their shoreline property.

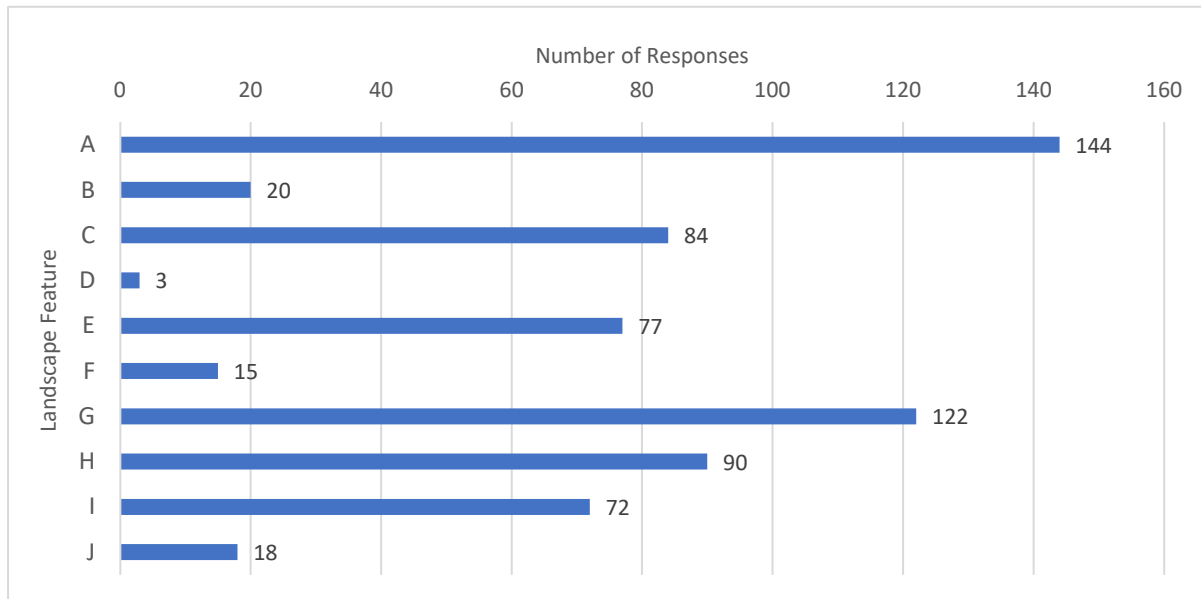


Figure 3 Response Options:

- A Conventional lawn
- B Native vegetated shoreline buffer
- C Rock rip-rap
- D Beach area
- E Concrete or wooden seawall
- F Undeveloped area
- G Dock
- H Boat lift
- I Fire pit
- J Boat house

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The results shown in Figure 5 show that there is some interest in adopting the remaining practices; however, additional information would need to be provided to shoreline property owners on what practices consist of, their benefits, and how to implement them. Increasing knowledge and providing technical guidance may lead to much higher rates of adoption amongst shoreline property owners in the future.

The SPO survey identified several public education opportunities. For example, only 8% of respondents currently test their soil before applying fertilizers, indicating a need to educate property owners on the importance of this practice. A total of 41% of the SPO group reported that they are “unsure or need additional information” regarding whether no/ low-phosphorus fertilizer effectively maintains a healthy lawn, highlighting the need for public education regarding the availability, laws, impacts, and effectiveness of different types of fertilizers.

Only 11% of owners aerate their soil, despite the benefits this can have on root growth, water uptake, and nutrient absorption. Additionally, 40-47% of the SPO group reported that they apply pesticides and insecticides, highlighting an opportunity to raise awareness about the impacts these products can have on pollinators.

Finally, the survey found that most SPO respondents (88%) remove leaves from their lawns, rather than leaving them or mulching, suggesting that educating owners on the advantages of letting leaves decompose in place can be beneficial. By focusing outreach and education efforts on these areas, there is potential to drive more sustainable shoreline property practices, especially lawn and landscaping practices, among shoreline residents.

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Figure 4. Number of SPO responses for each best management practice indicating that they already have or are doing these things on their property.

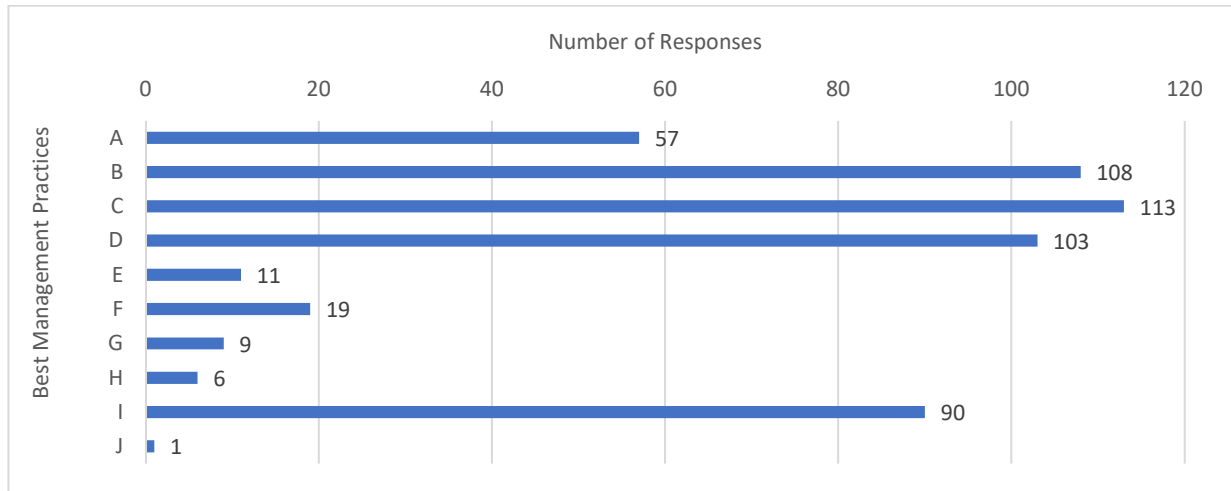


Figure 5. Likelihood of SPO respondents to adopt or install shoreline property BMPs.

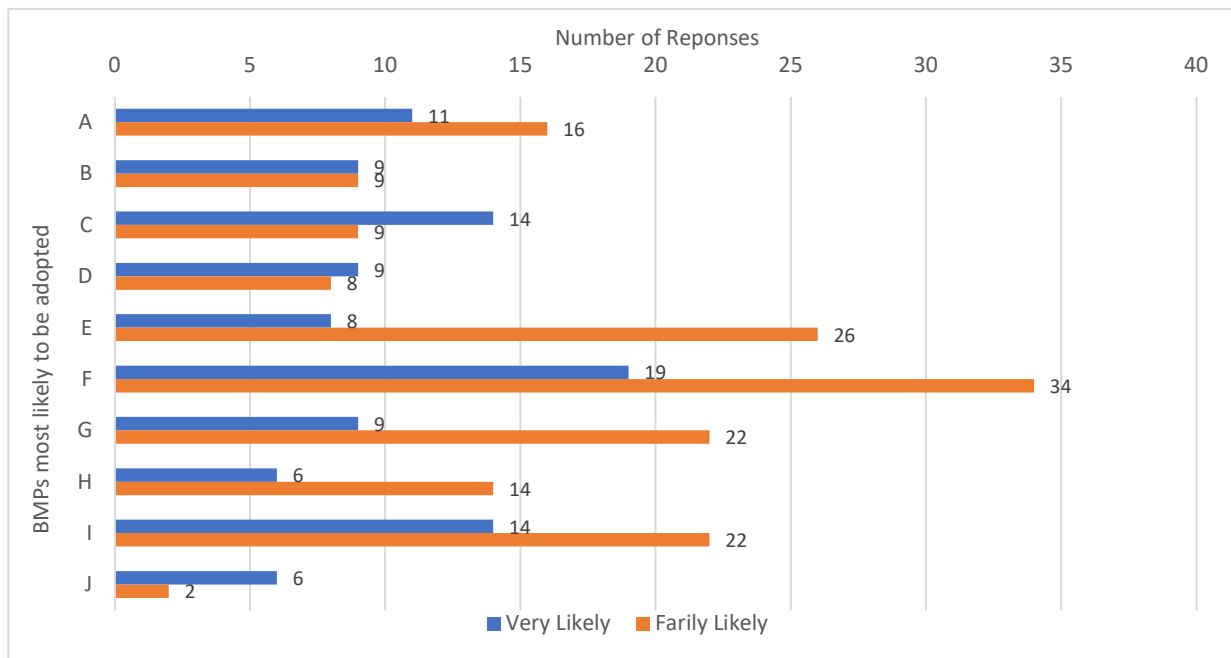


Figure 4 and 5 Response Options:

- A Compost grass clippings & yard waste
- B Re-direct rain downspouts to your lawn rather than your driveway
- C Keep your sidewalks, driveway, and street gutters clear of grass clippings & leaves
- D Clean up and dispose of pet waste (outdoor waste)
- E Install a rain garden to capture water runoff
- F Replace ornamental plants with native plants
- G Use rain barrels to capture roof runoff
- H Install a vegetated shoreline buffer at least 350 sq ft in size
- I Use salt sparingly during the winter and sweep up the salt after a winter storm
- J Install fish sticks

4. General Public Specific Survey Results

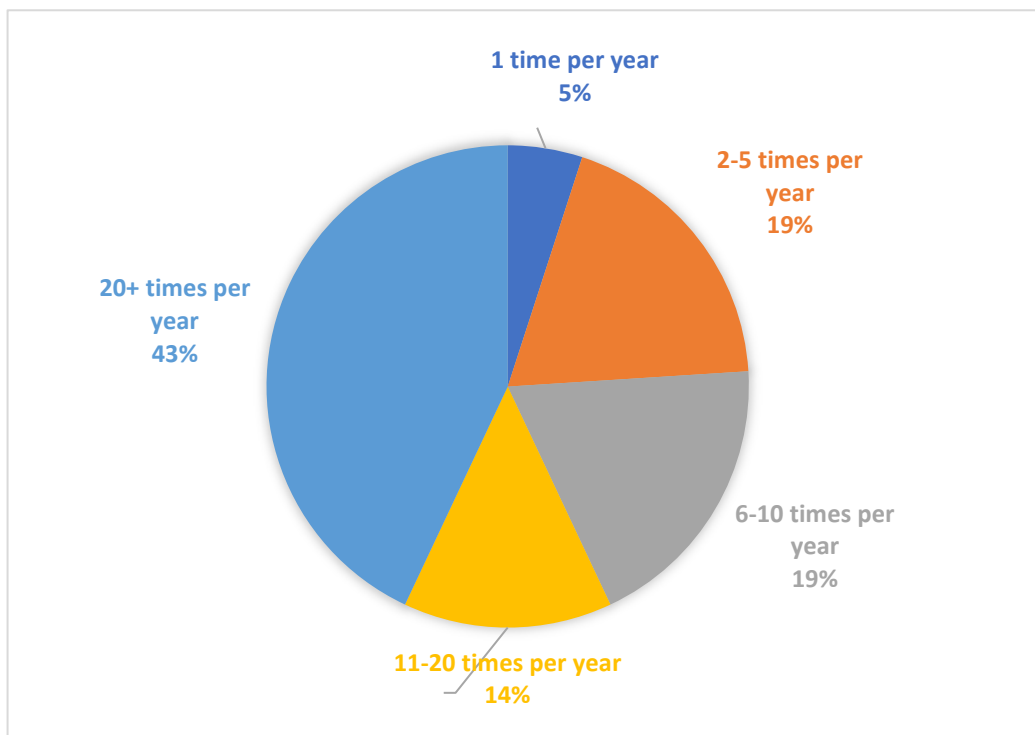
For the GP survey, there were 291 respondents¹¹, with a 59% completion rate¹². The GP survey included several unique questions to better understand lake users' interactions with LLBDM.

Most lake users (75%) reported that they travel ≤ 1 to 5 miles to visit LLBDM, and only 2% travel > 26 miles (including one individual reporting they travel 600 miles) to visit LLBDM¹³. This highlights the lake's role as a convenient and accessible destination for nearby residents.

Most GP respondents visit the lake multiple times per year¹⁴. A total of 43% of respondents reported that they visit LLBDM more than 20 times per year, with 95% visiting at least twice per year (Figure 6). The high frequency of visits underscores the lake's importance as a local recreational and community resource.

The GP group was asked their top three reasons for visiting LLBDM¹⁵. Top responses included using the trail system, enjoying the relaxing and peaceful setting, and engaging in nature viewing (Figure 7). In-water activities, including fishing and watersports, were less of a reason to visit the lake than shoreline activities or nature-based activities. This suggests that the lake is valued for providing access to nature.

Figure 6. Percentage of GP responses by number of times they visit LLBDM per year.



¹¹ 298 initial responses; 7 removed during QAQC.

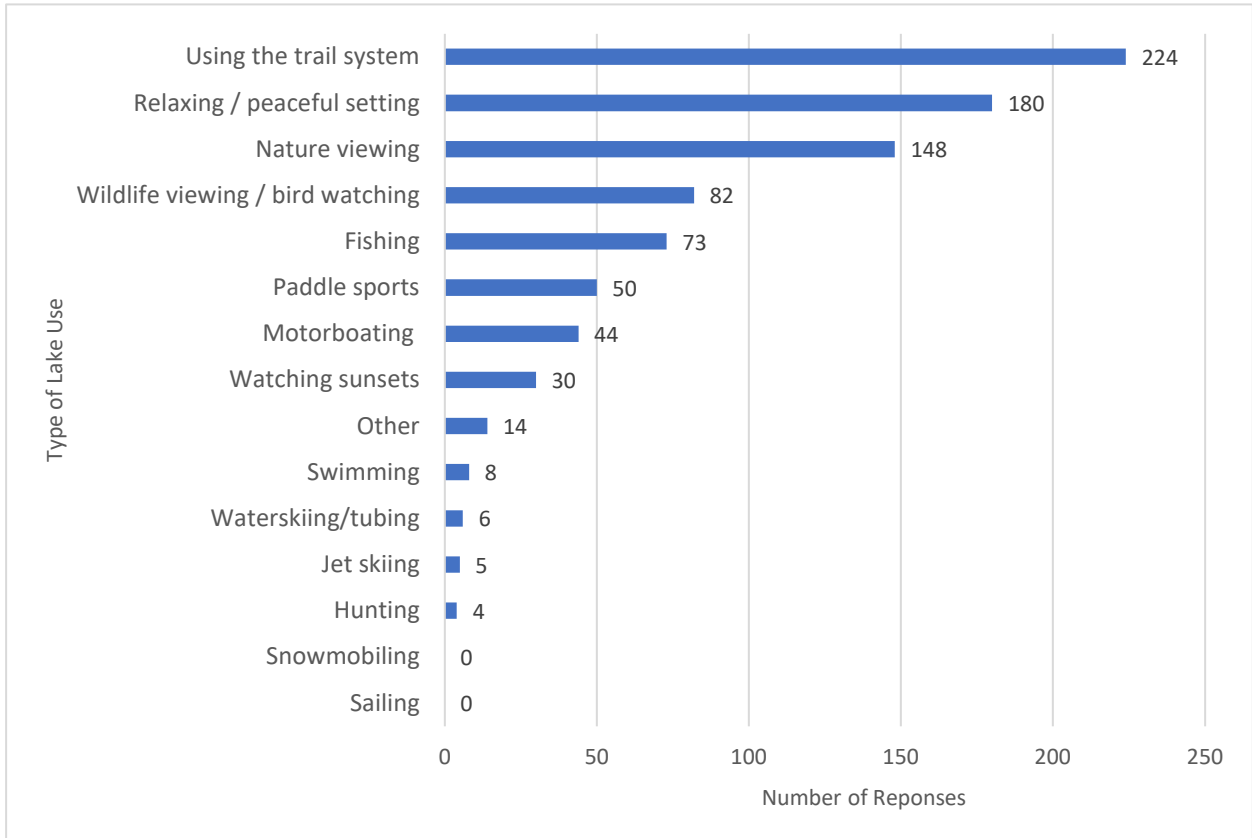
¹² 172 completed surveys (higher attrition with a significant drop-off after the fishing question).

¹³ Reference QID 4 in Appendix B.

¹⁴ Reference QID 2 in Appendix B.

¹⁵ Reference QID 20 in Appendix B.

Figure 7. Top reasons GP participants visit LLBDM.



5. Comparative Analysis

Responses received for questions asked in both the SPO Survey and GP Survey were compared to identify similarities and differences in opinions between the two groups. Results indicate that the stakeholder groups agree on most of the surveyed topics, with a few key differences. The following sections describe the comparative analysis for questions related to overall priorities, recreation and lake use, aquatic plants, aquatic invasive species, water quality, and lake management leadership. These findings will be used to inform topics and targeted audiences for future public engagement and education efforts.

5.1. Overall Priorities

To understand how priorities compare between the SPO and GP groups, all respondents were asked to rank 15 factors from their greatest to least concern regarding LLBDM¹⁶. The top ranked concern across both stakeholder groups was algae blooms. The second and third ranked concerns for SPOs were excessive aquatic plant growth and water level fluctuations, respectively. The second and third ranked concerns for the GP group were poor water quality and excessive aquatic plant growth (Table 2).

Results from both stakeholder groups were combined to identify top concerns across all survey participants. The top five results across combined survey data include algae blooms, excessive aquatic plant growth, poor water quality, shoreline erosion, and water level fluctuations, respectively (Table 2).

Notably, there is significant alignment between the SPO group and the GP group on several key issues, particularly regarding their top concerns. Both groups have the same top concern, and there is strong agreement on other major issues. However, there are also some key differences.

Water level fluctuations rank much higher for the SPO group (3rd) than the GP group (10th). Poor water quality ranks higher for the GP group (2nd) than property owners (4th). Habitat loss appears in the GP group's top five but not in the property owners' top concerns.

Climate change impacts and excessive fishing pressures were ranked the lowest amongst all survey respondents at 14th and 15th respectively. In future surveys, it would be worth asking questions to better gauge stakeholder knowledge about climate change and how changing conditions can exacerbate other issues that were ranked as a higher priority.

Overall, the data suggest that immediate water quality issues (algae, plant growth, poor water quality) are prioritized over longer-term or broader environmental concerns (climate change, fishing pressures). The highest concerns on both lists are issues that are visibly apparent and directly impact water usage and recreational enjoyment.

¹⁶ Reference QID 53 in Appendix B.

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Table 2. LEFT: Top concerns reported by SPOs. RIGHT: Top concerns reported by GPs. BELOW: Top concerns reported by all survey respondents.

Property Owners Top Concerns:	Rank
Algae blooms	1st
Excessive aquatic plant growth	2nd
Water level fluctuations	3rd
Poor water quality	4th
Shoreline erosion	5th
Aquatic invasive species	6th

General Public Top Concerns:	Rank
Algae blooms	1st
Poor water quality	2nd
Excessive aquatic plant growth	3rd
Shoreline erosion	4th
Habitat loss	5th
Aquatic invasive species	6th

Combined	Rank
Algae blooms	1st
Excessive aquatic plant growth	2nd
Poor water quality	3rd
Shoreline erosion	4th
Water level fluctuations	5th
Habitat loss	6th
Aquatic invasive species	7th
Shoreline development	8th
Wastewater and industrial discharges	9th
Polluted runoff (from agriculture, roads, residential property)	10th
Septic system discharges	11th
Excessive watercraft traffic	12th
Unsafe watercraft practices	13th
Impacts from climate change	14th
Excessive fishing pressures	15th

5.2. Recreation and Lake Use

Responses to questions related to recreation and lake use indicate that lake users participate in a diverse range of activities. LLBDM serves as a multifaceted recreational resource, with stakeholders reporting active participation in boating, kayaking, trail activities, wildlife viewing, fishing, and swimming. The Ninth Street Boat Launch emerged as the primary access point for water activities, with several stakeholders expressing interest in the potential reopening of the Menasha Lock to expand access. To understand how lake use compares across the two survey groups, all respondents were asked to indicate how often they participate in eight different recreational activities on LLBDM¹⁷.

The most popular recreational activities reported by the SPO survey group were walking or biking the trails (92%), birdwatching (90%) and spending time in the parks (90%). Of those who birdwatch, 66% reported participating in this activity daily. Other popular recreational activities reported by the SPO group include boating (78%), fishing (69%), and paddle sports (68%). Only 53% reported swimming as a recreational activity with most indicating that they swim a few times a year. Lastly, only 3% of the SPO group hunts on LLBDM once per year or every few years (Figure 8).

¹⁷ Reference QID 21 in Appendix B

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Figure 8. Frequency of SPO participation in LLBDM recreational activities¹⁸.

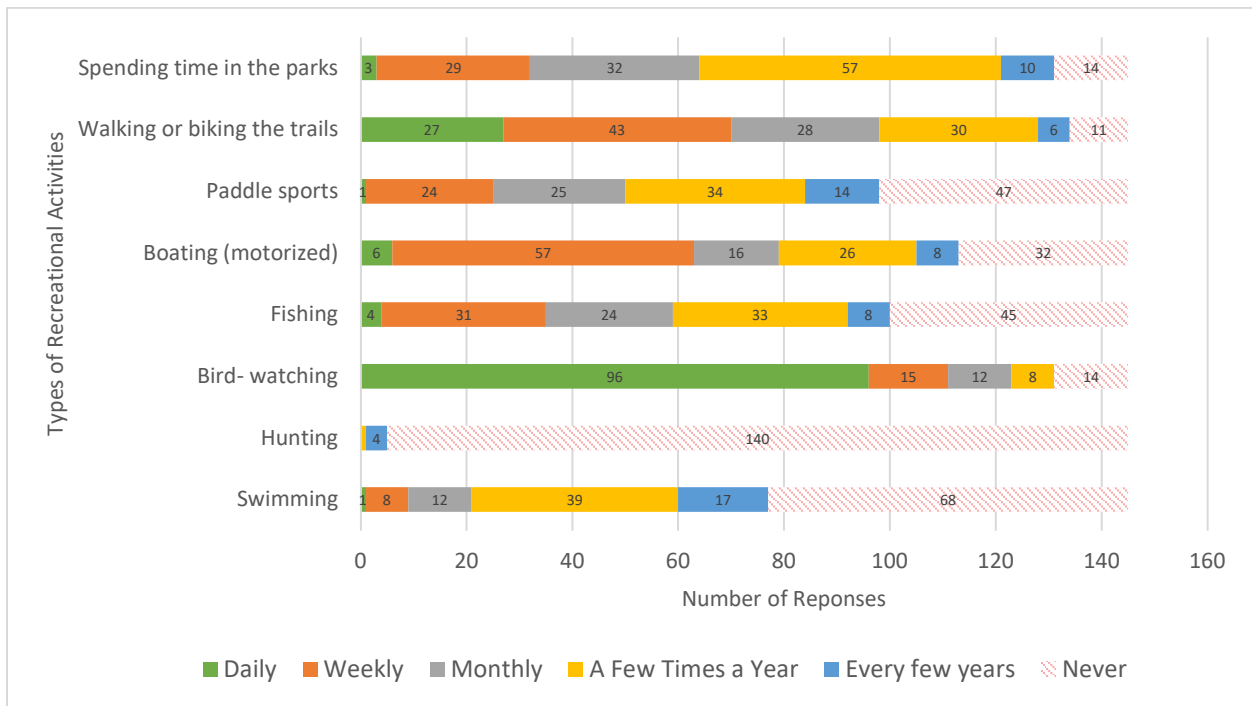
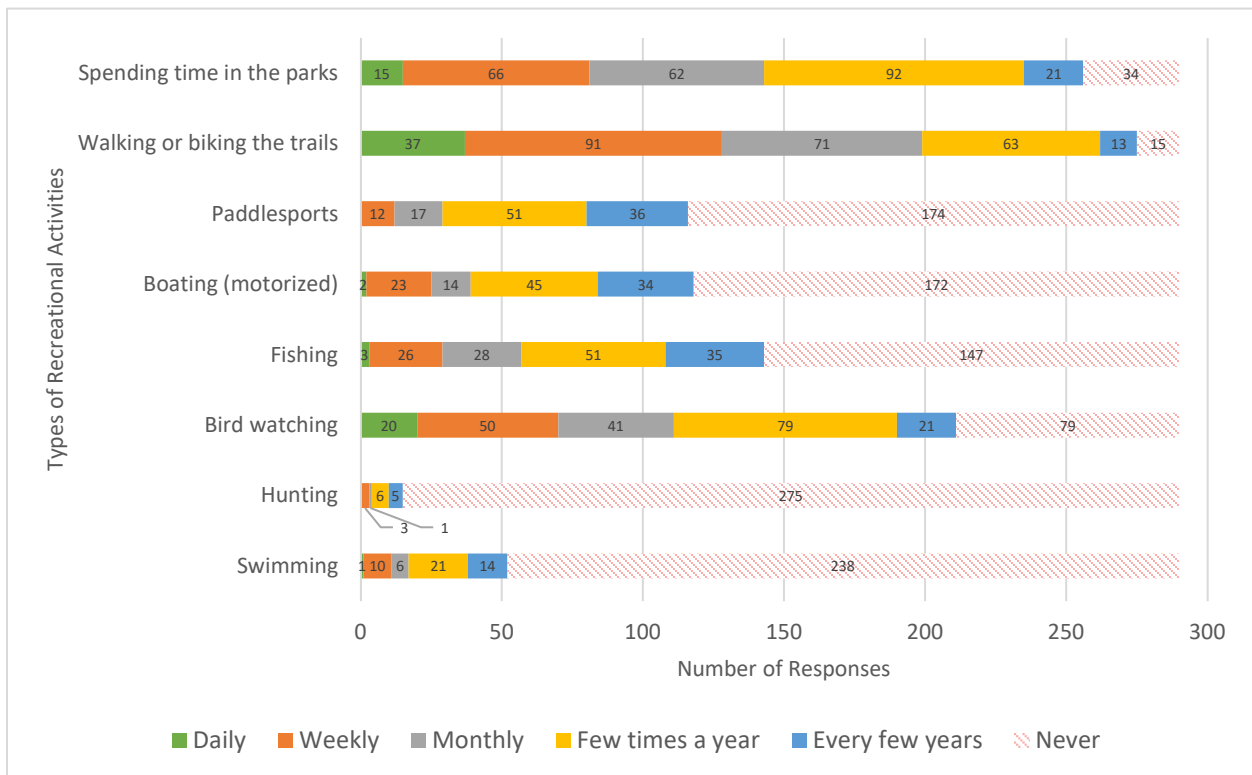


Figure 9. Frequency of GP participation in LLBDM recreational activities¹⁹.



¹⁸ Reference QID 21 in Appendix B.

¹⁹ Reference QID 21 in Appendix B.

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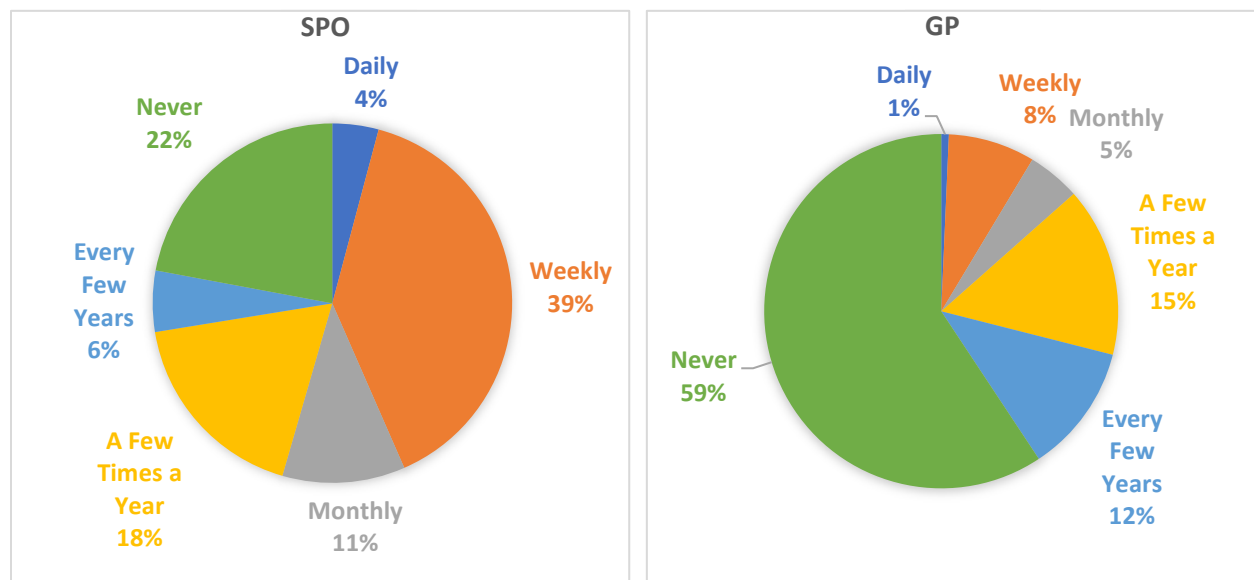
The most popular recreational activity reported by the GP survey group was walking or biking the trails, with 13% of the GP survey group reporting they participate daily and 31% reporting they participate weekly. Other popular recreational activities reported by the GP included spending time in the parks, birdwatching, and fishing (Figure 9).

The biggest difference in lake use across the stakeholder groups was related to boating use. Watercraft usage patterns reveal distinct preferences and behaviors amongst the two groups.

There are significant distinctions in the frequency of reported motorized boat usage between shoreline property owners and the GP group. A total of 43% of SPO respondents and 9% of GP respondents participate in motorized boating either daily or weekly²⁰. On the other hand, a total of 22% of SPO respondents and 59% of GP respondents reported they never participate in motorized boating on LLBDM. This indicates that although shoreline property owners conduct motorized boating on a more frequent basis, not all shoreline property owners partake in motorized boating. A large portion of GP respondents (41%) have participated in motorized boating on LLBDM at some point in time, highlighting that this may be an activity drawing lake users to LLBDM.

Survey results also indicated that 66% of SPO respondents only use their boat on LLBDM, while 78% of the GP group trailer their watercraft to lakes or rivers other than LLBDM²¹. The lock system downstream from the lake sees minimal use across all groups (7% of the SPO group and 6% of the GP group), suggesting limited movement between portions of the lower Fox River. Despite not using the downstream lock system, many individuals commented on the desire to open the Menasha Locks to access Lake Winnebago. These patterns indicate distinct recreational preferences and access patterns between SPOs and the GP, highlighting the need for management strategies that accommodate diverse user needs.

Figure 10. Percentage of SPO (left) and GP (right) responses by frequency of motorized boat use on LLBDM.



²⁰ Reference QID 21 in Appendix B

²¹ Reference QID 29 in Appendix B

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Fishing was reported to be a relatively popular recreational activity in LLBDM, with 78% of SPO and 51% of GP respondents²² reporting that they have fished in LLBDM²² (Figure 11).

Those who do fish from both stakeholder groups have substantial fishing experience in LLBDM, with 38% of SPO and 34% of GP respondents having fished in LLBDM for over 16 years²³. The most common fish species caught in LLBDM across both stakeholder groups included yellow perch, bluegill, and northern pike (Figure 12)²⁴. Round gobies were reported to be caught by 24 SPO and 26 GP respondents.

Figure 11. Percentage of SPO (left) and GP (right) respondents that have fished in LLBDM.

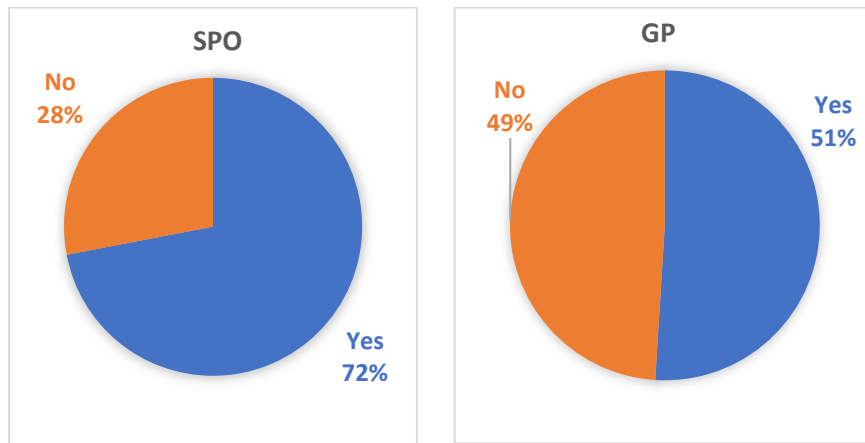
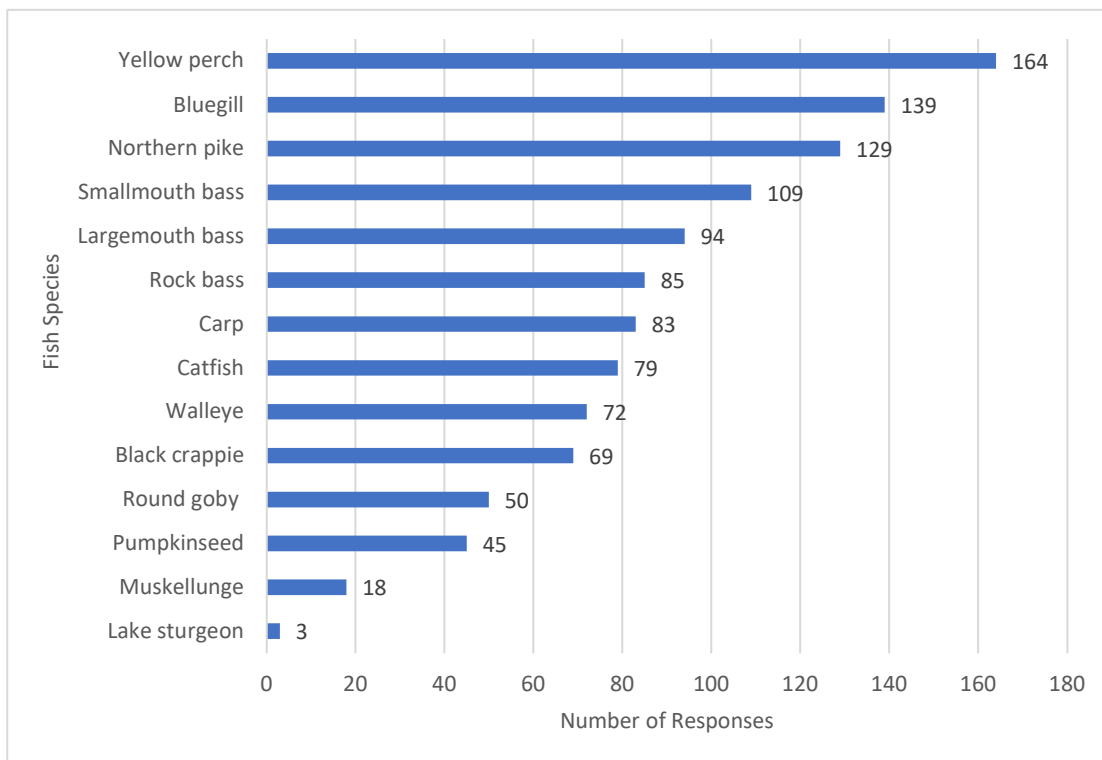


Figure 12. Fish species reported to be caught in LLBDM by SPO and GP.



²² Reference QID 22 in Appendix B

²³ Reference QID 23 in Appendix B

²⁴ Reference QID 25 in Appendix B

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Fishing methods were relatively consistent across stakeholder groups, with fishing from a boat and fishing from shore being the most reported methods²⁵. Ice fishing was reported to occur most frequently “a few times a year” and “every few years”, with 46% of both groups reporting they never engage in this activity. Fishing from the Fox Cities Trestle/Friendship Trail was the lowest reported fishing activity, with 85% of SPO and 51% of GP anglers reporting they have never fished from there.

The perception of the current quality of fishing²⁶ in LLBDM was also relatively consistent between the stakeholder groups, with 80% of SPO and 78% of GP respondents rating it as “good” or “fair”. The majority of both groups reported that the quality of fishing is “somewhat better” or “remained the same” since they started fishing the lake²⁷. Overall, perceptions of fishing in LLBDM appeared consistent across the two groups.

When asked if there is anything else they would like the survey coordinators to know about watercraft or recreation on LLBDM, both survey groups had insightful comments to share. The 48 open-ended responses received from the SPO group revealed a variety of concerns and observations about the lake's conditions and usage, included:

- **Water Quality Issues:** Many respondents noted that water quality has deteriorated, making it unsuitable for swimming and other recreational activities due to algae growth.
- **Weed Problems:** The prevalence of weeds is a significant issue, affecting boating, fishing, and other water activities. Respondents mentioned the need for better weed control.
- **Concerns About Wake Boats:** Wake boats are causing damage to shorelines and docks, and there are calls for better regulation of boat wakes, especially during high water levels.
- **Lock System and Access:** Several respondents expressed frustration over the closure of the Menasha lock, which limits access to Lake Winnebago and affects the overall use of the lake.
- **High Water Levels:** High water levels are a recurring concern, with suggestions for implementing no-wake zones during such periods to prevent shoreline erosion and property damage.
- **Recreational Enjoyment:** Despite the issues, some respondents still enjoy watching boating activities and the general recreational use of the lake.

The 58 open-ended responses from the GP group highlight various concerns and suggestions regarding the lake and its surrounding areas, including:

- **Water Quality Issues:** Many respondents expressed concerns about algae, weeds, and overall water quality, describing the lake as gross and smelly, particularly in the summer.
- **Fishing Concerns:** Fishing is impacted by invasive weeds, fluctuating water levels, and poor fish quality, with some respondents suggesting banning fishing from certain areas.
- **Recreational Activities:** Suggestions to improve recreational activities include better water access, additional kayak launches, and more rental options.

²⁵ Reference QID 24 in Appendix B

²⁶ Reference QID 26 in Appendix B

²⁷ Reference QID 27 in Appendix B

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- **Algae and Weed Control:** There were multiple recommendations for controlling algae and weed growth, including installing water movers and avoiding herbicides.
- **Watercraft and Boating:** Respondents noted pleasant boating experiences but suggested more hazard markings and opening the locks for better access.
- **Pollution and Health Concerns:** Concerns about pollution from past industries and its impact on health were prevalent, with some avoiding water activities due to these worries.
- **Fishing Regulations:** There were calls for better enforcement of fishing regulations, particularly regarding perch bag and possession limits.
- **General Improvements:** General suggestions included more WDNR monitoring, better trail ethics enforcement, and improving overall water quality to encourage more usage.

5.3. Aquatic Plants and Algae

In 2024, a comprehensive field survey using the WDNR point-intercept methodology was conducted by GEI to assess aquatic plant conditions in LLBDM. This same year, the WDNR conducted water quality monitoring which included sampling for chlorophyll-*a* concentrations as an indicator for a type of algae known to produce potentially harmful algal blooms. The data obtained from the field will be integrated with outcomes from public engagement activities, including meetings and results from the stakeholder surveys. The goal is to develop an evidence-based aquatic plant management strategy that addresses priority concerns identified by stakeholders. Merging field data with insights on stakeholder perceptions of aquatic plants and algae, goals and recommendations for management actions are more likely to be supported with a higher likelihood for successful implementation.

5.3.1. Algae

Survey responses regarding algae revealed significant concerns about its impact on lake usage²⁸. When asked how often algae negatively impacts enjoyment of LLBDM, SPO responses were relatively split across the “always (daily)”, “very often (weekly)”, “often (monthly)”, and “sometimes (several times per year)” categories (Figure 13). The largest percentage of the GP group (38.6%) reported that algae negatively impact their enjoyment of LLBDM “sometimes (several times per year)”, followed by 20.8% reporting “rarely (once or twice per year)” (Figure 13).

The majority of SPO and GP respondents reported that algae cause “very negative” or “somewhat negative” impacts on overall enjoyment, aesthetics, property values, habitat, recreation and water quality (Figure 14 and Figure 15). SPO participants were more likely to indicate that algae negatively impact property values versus the GP group.

Most SPOs (45%) responded that the severity of algae blooms has gotten much worse since they first visited LLBDM. GP responses were relatively split across “stayed the same”, “somewhat worse”, and “much worse”. These results indicate discrepancies between those who live on the lake and observe its conditions daily and those who visit the lake on a less frequent basis²⁹.

²⁸ Reference QID 39 in Appendix B

²⁹ Reference QID 40 in Appendix B

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Figure 13. Percentage of SPOs (left) and the GP (right) by how often algae negatively impacts their enjoyment of LLBDM.

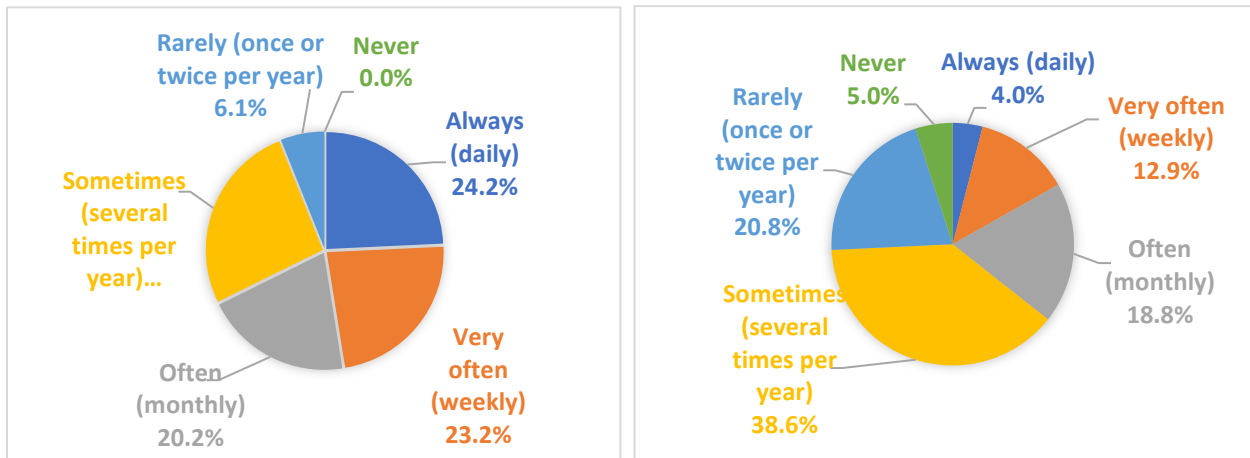


Figure 14. Extent of impacts caused by algae on LLBDM as reported by SPO

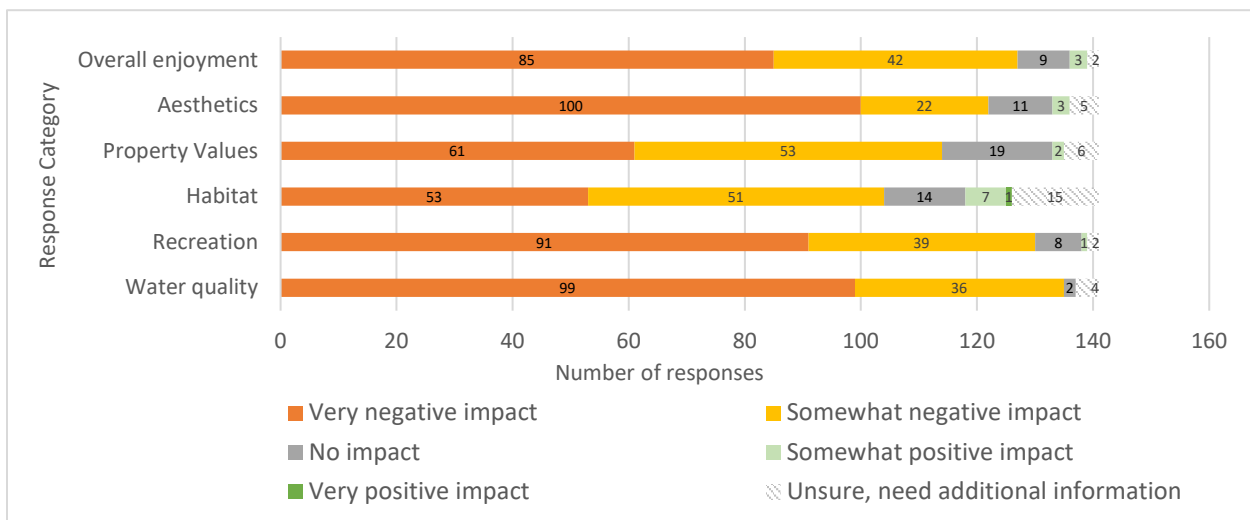
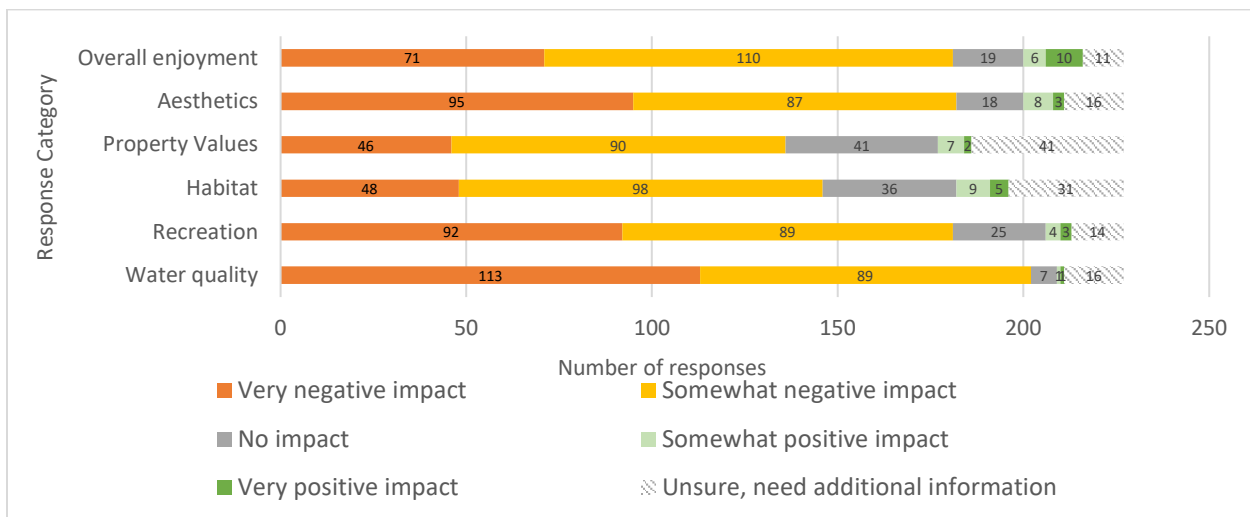


Figure 15. Extent of impacts caused by algae on LLBDM as reported by GP



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5.3.2. Aquatic Plants

Survey responses regarding aquatic plants also revealed significant concerns about their impact on lake usage. Both groups were asked how aquatic plants impact various factors within LLBDM: water quality, recreation, habitat, property values, aesthetics, and overall enjoyment³⁰. Most SPOs (>50%) reported that aquatic plants have a “very negative impact” or “somewhat negative impact” on all categories, with responses split relatively evenly by impact level (Figure 16). Most of the GP respondents reported that aquatic plants have “no impact” on property values and a “somewhat negative impact” on water quality, recreation, habitat, aesthetics, and overall enjoyment (Figure 17).

Figure 16. Extent of impacts caused by aquatic plants or weeds on LLBDM as reported by SPO

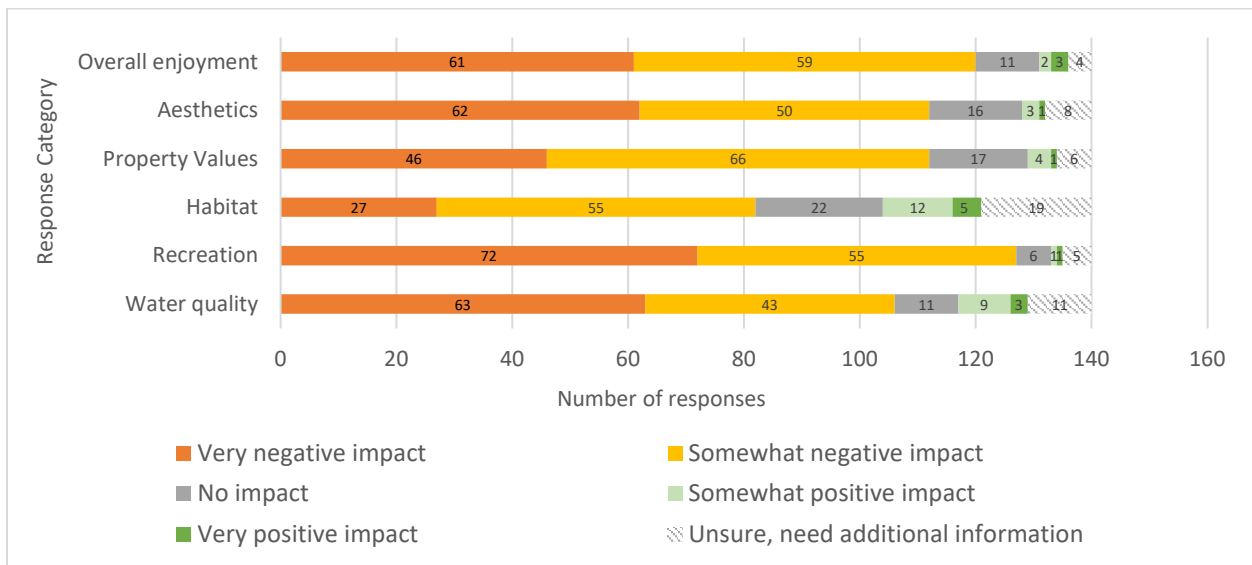
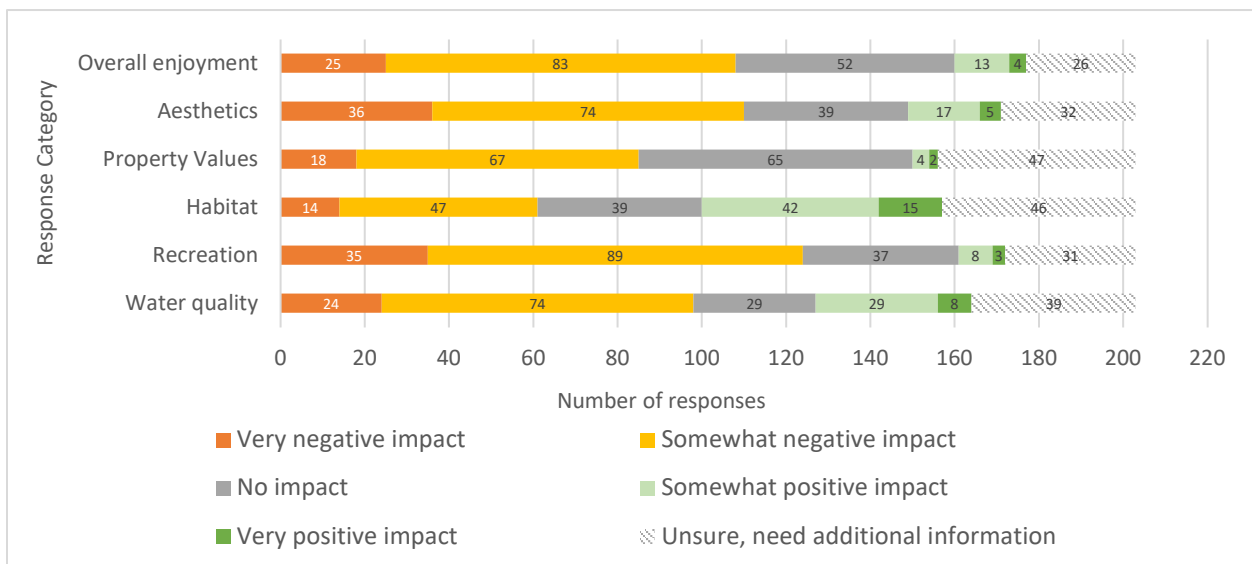


Figure 17. Extent of impacts caused by aquatic plants or weeds on LLBDM as reported by GP



³⁰ Reference QID 43 in Appendix B

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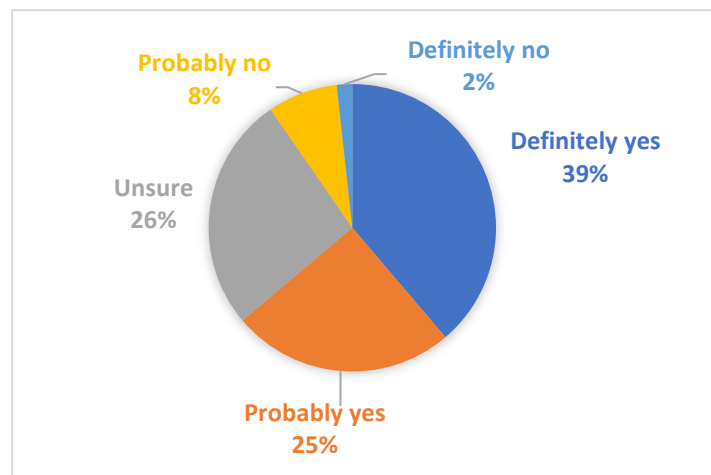
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Most SPOs (55%) reported that the amount of aquatic vegetation has gotten “much worse” since they visited LLBDM; however, GP responses were relatively split across “stayed the same”, “somewhat worse”, and “unsure, need more information”.

Additional questions were asked of all participants related to aquatic plant management (APM). Regarding whether APM is necessary in LLBDM³¹, 60% of the SPO group reported “definitely yes”, followed by 20% reporting “probably yes”. The highest percentage of the GP group (34%) reported “unsure”, followed by 29% “probably yes”. Combined results of both stakeholder groups indicate that 64% of all survey participants reported “definitely yes” or “probably yes” (Figure 18).

Figure 18. Percentage of all survey respondents by whether they believe aquatic plant control is needed within LLBDM.



Related to aquatic plant management techniques³², mechanical harvesting was the most supported option by the SPO group and manual removal by hand or rake by the property owner was the most supported option by the GP group. Doing nothing was the most opposed option by the SPO group and chemical control was the most opposed option by the GP group.

These aquatic plant-related results indicate discrepancies between those who live on the lake and those who visit the lake on a less frequent basis. The SPO group generally reported greater negative impacts resulting from aquatic plants and a greater need for APM compared to the GP group. This also highlights the need for public education on the current aquatic plant conditions throughout LLBDM, specifically aimed towards those who responded “unsure” to any of these questions.

To understand the connection that stakeholders make between aquatic plants and wildlife habitat³³, stakeholders were asked to select how important they feel it is to protect wildlife habitat within LLBDM. A total of 67% of the SPO group and 69% of the GP group reported that it is “extremely important”. This suggests a desire for balanced management approaches that address both recreational access and ecological preservation.

³¹ Reference QID 45 in Appendix B

³² Reference QID 46 in Appendix B

³³ Reference QID 47 in Appendix B

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When asked if there is anything else they would like the survey coordinators to know about aquatic plants and management on LLBDM, 27 SPO and 16 GP survey responses were submitted in an open-response format. In general, responses reveal various concerns about aquatic plant management in LLBDM including:

- **Excessive Weed Growth:** Many respondents are concerned about the excessive growth of aquatic plants, which affects boating, kayaking, and swimming.
- **Impact on Recreation:** Excessive weeds make recreational activities like boating and paddle boarding difficult, as boat motors often get entangled.
- **Debris and Maintenance:** Debris collects in the weeds, making it hard to remove and dispose of, creating unsightly and undesirable conditions.
- **Need for Professional Help:** Some respondents suggest hiring professionals or using weed cutters to manage the aquatic plants.
- **Algae Concerns:** There is a belief that managing weeds could reduce algae problems, which are also a significant concern.
- **Impact on Wildlife:** Respondents mention the increase in wildlife and the need to balance plant control with wildlife preservation.
- **Manual Removal Challenges:** Homeowners find manual removal of aquatic plants challenging and ineffective, often leading to more problems.
- **Environmental and Historical Context:** Some respondents provide historical context about pollution and its impact on the lake, noting improvements and ongoing challenges.

5.4. Aquatic Invasive Species

To evaluate stakeholder understanding and familiarity with aquatic invasive species (AIS), several questions were asked to all survey respondents. When asked whether individuals believe AIS are present within LLBDM³⁴, 69% of the SPO group and 89% of the GP group reported “yes”. Across both stakeholder groups, the most commonly selected AIS believed to be present within LLBDM included Eurasian watermilfoil, zebra mussels, carp, and round goby³⁵. A total of 47 shoreline property owner and 70 GP respondents reported that they are unsure of which species, but believe AIS are present.

Multiple AIS that are present within LLBDM were selected by a low percentage of respondents, including curly-leaf pondweed, purple loosestrife, common reed (phragmites), Chinese mystery snail, hybrid cattail, and rusty crayfish. Additionally, a few respondents selected AIS that have not actually been documented in LLBDM (faucet snail, starry stonewort, and spiny waterflea). These responses identified knowledge gaps across both stakeholder groups and highlight the need for public education regarding the identification and impacts of AIS.

In Wisconsin, certain measures are required under NR 40 to prevent the spread of AIS. These include removing all visible plants and animals and draining water from watercraft and equipment before leaving

³⁴ Reference QID 49 in Appendix B

³⁵ Reference QID 50 in Appendix B

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a lake. Respondents who indicated that they use watercraft on waters other than LLBDM were asked about their AIS prevention practices (42 SPO and 126 GP respondents). Approximately 86% of SPO and 90% of GP respondents who were asked this question reported that they “remove all visible aquatic hitchhikers” before leaving the boat launch. Ten GP and one SPO respondent reported that they do not typically clean their watercraft before leaving the launch or arriving at a different launch. The results show that there is a need for additional AIS prevention outreach and education, although the public is generally following best practices to prevent the spread of AIS.

When asked if there is anything else they would like the survey coordinators to know about AIS on LLBDM, 29 survey responses from the SPO survey and 19 survey responses from the GP survey were received in an open-response format. In general, responses highlight various concerns and opinions, particularly regarding the Menasha Lock and the presence of round goby.

- **Concerns over Menasha Lock Closure:** Many respondents are frustrated with the prolonged closure of the Menasha Lock, which they believe is ineffective in preventing the spread of invasive species and limits their enjoyment of the lake.
- **Presence of Round Goby:** There is significant debate about the presence and impact of round goby in Lake Winnebago, with some individuals claiming to have caught them, questioning the necessity of the lock closure.
- **Impact of Invasive Species:** Respondents also mention other invasive species like zebra mussels and carp, which affect water quality, recreational activities, and the overall ecosystem of the lake.

5.5. Water Quality

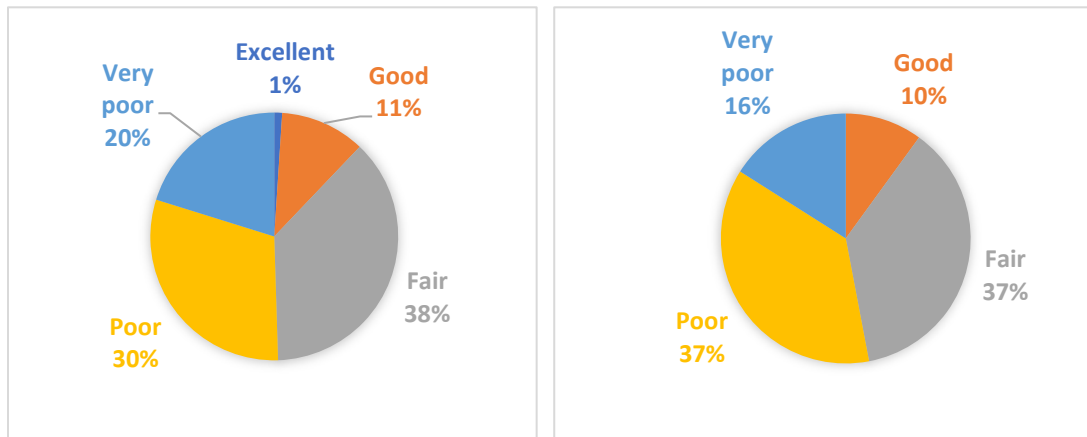
Questions related to water quality indicate that lake users are generally aware of the impaired water quality conditions that exist within LLBDM³⁶. Responses across stakeholder groups were relatively consistent when asked how they would describe the current water quality of LLBDM³⁷. A total of 50% of the SPO group and 53% of the GP group described it as “poor” or “very poor” (Figure 19). Only one individual across all survey responses described it as “excellent”. The majority of the SPO group responses were split across “stayed the same”, “somewhat worse”, and “much worse” when asked how overall water quality has changed since first visiting LLBDM³⁸. Most GP responses were split between “stayed the same” and “somewhat worse”³⁶. It is apparent that a greater percentage of the SPO group believe water quality in LLBDM has significantly declined over time compared to the GP group.

³⁶ Reference QID 35 – QID 42 in Appendix B

³⁷ Reference QID 35 in Appendix B

³⁸ Reference QID 36 in Appendix B

Figure 19. Percentage of SPOs (left) and the GP (right) by perceived current water quality conditions in LLBDM.



Along with understanding the public’s perception of water quality within LLBDM, it is important to document the general understanding of how certain property management or recreation activities influence water quality within LLBDM. Across all survey respondents, one of the most reported property management activities believed to have a “large negative impact” on water quality within LLBDM was failing septic systems³⁹. This highlights a large knowledge gap across the SPO group and the GP group, as there are no septic systems located on property adjacent to LLBDM.

The next most reported property management activities believed to have a “large negative impact”, or “small negative impact” were runoff from impervious surfaces, fertilizer use on residential lots, and herbicide use on residential lots³⁷. On the other hand, a significant amount (> 20%) of all survey respondents reported that shoreline alterations, installation of swimming beaches, and operation of watercrafts at wake speed have “no impact” on water quality within LLBDM³⁷. Additionally, >20% of all survey respondents also reported that shoreline alterations (rip-rap, retaining walls, etc.), installation of swimming beaches, and removal of shoreline vegetation have a positive impact (small or large) on water quality within LLBDM³⁷. Public education on how various property management or recreation activities may influence water quality is necessary to form a more consistent and accurate understanding of these connections amongst stakeholder groups.

When asked about how water level fluctuations, agricultural runoff, stormwater runoff, industrial discharges, wastewater treatment discharges, and geese waste may influence water quality in LLBDM⁴⁰, most stakeholders reported all of those have a negative impact “large or small”. It appears that negative connections between industrial, agriculture, and natural factors and water quality are more understood across both stakeholder groups compared to the connections with property management or recreational activities described above.

³⁹ Reference QID 37 in Appendix B

⁴⁰ Reference QID 38 in Appendix B

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When asked if there is anything else they would like the survey coordinators to know about water quality on LLBDM, 31 SPO and 58 GP survey responses were received in an open-response format. In general, responses highlight significant concerns about water quality, algae blooms, and weed growth in the lake including:

- **Health Concerns:** Respondents expressed worries about the health risks posed by algae blooms, which produce a foul smell and can be toxic to humans and animals.
- **Impact on Recreation:** Many mentioned that the algae and weeds make swimming, boating, and other recreational activities unpleasant or impossible.
- **Environmental Impact:** There are reports of wildlife, such as ducks, dying due to the algae, which is distressing for the community.
- **Water Quality Variability:** Water quality varies throughout the year, with conditions generally worsening in the summer months.
- **Need for Management:** There is a strong call for better management and drastic improvements to address the algae and weed problems.
- **Concerns About Infrastructure:** Some respondents believe that infrastructure changes, like the new bridge and dam, have negatively impacted water flow and contributed to the algae problem.
- **Economic and Social Impact:** The poor water quality and smell are affecting property values, tourism, and the overall enjoyment of the lake.
- **Suggestions for Improvement:** Suggestions include dredging the lake, better weed control, and addressing agricultural runoff to improve water quality.

5.6. Lake Management Leadership

Overall, there is strong support from both stakeholder groups for a more formal collaboration among local municipalities and the formation of a formal lake association for the management of LLBDM (Figure 20)⁴¹. Only 4% of the SPO group and 5% of the GP group reported that they oppose formal collaboration of municipalities for the management of LLBDM. Only 14% of the SPO group and 9% of the GP group reported that they do not support the formation of a LLBDM Lake Association⁴². Additionally, 56% of SPO respondents are interested in being a part of a LLBDM Lake Association⁴³ and, of those, 83% would be willing to pay \geq \$26 annually⁴⁴ with many being willing to pay more than \$100 per year for annual membership dues.

⁴¹ Reference QID 55, QID 56, & QID 57 in Appendix B

⁴² Reference QID 56 & QID 57 in Appendix B

⁴³ Reference QID 56 in Appendix B

⁴⁴ Reference QID 58 in Appendix B

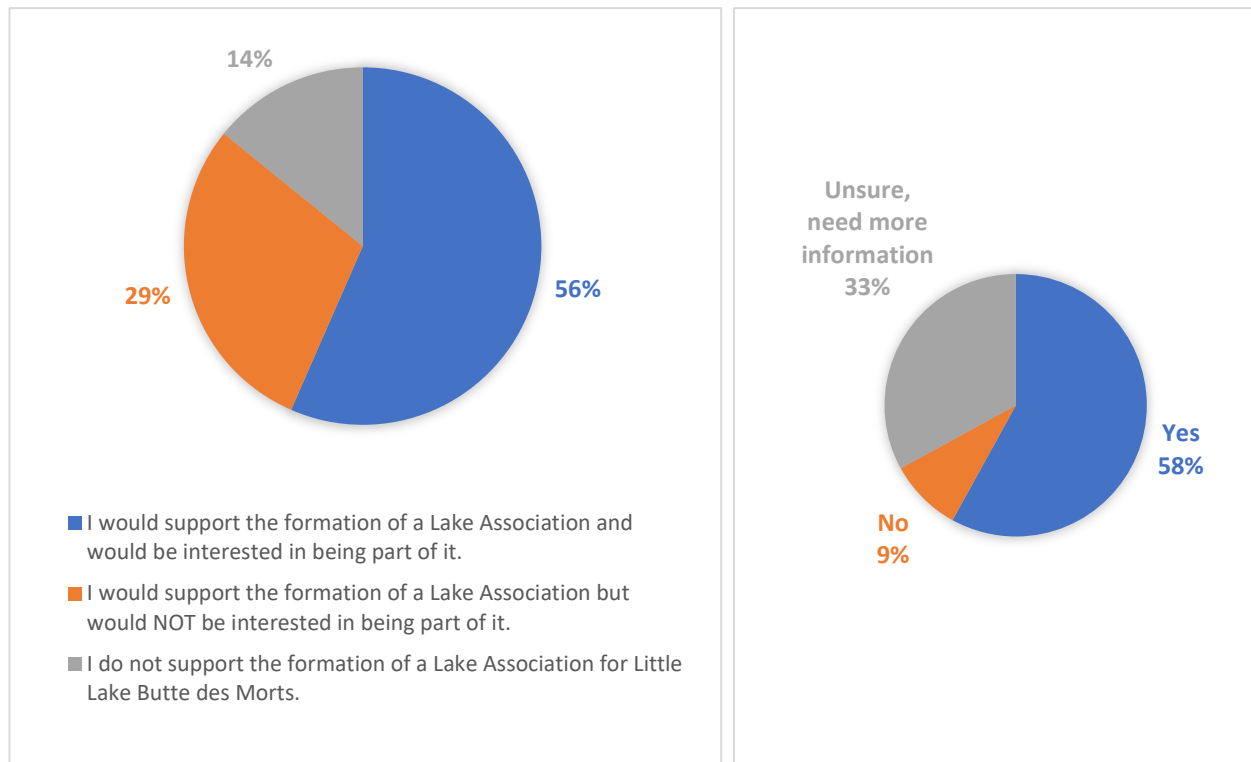
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Figure 20. Percentage of SPOs (left) and the GP (right) by whether they support the formation of a LLBDM Lake Association.



Effective management of LLBDM will require the cooperative efforts of numerous volunteers. The SPO and GP groups were asked to select which volunteer opportunities that they would be willing to take part in⁴⁵. The top three responses received from the SPO group were “water quality monitoring”, “aquatic plant monitoring”, and “wildlife monitoring”, respectively. The top three responses received from the GP group were “I do not wish to volunteer”, “wildlife monitoring”, and “water quality monitoring” respectively. It is important to get the most out of stakeholder willingness to contribute funding and volunteer efforts, as these are both crucial to the successful management of LLBDM.

Regarding management responsibility preferences, there is significant backing for multi-governmental collaboration on aquatic plant management, with state agencies preferred for primary responsibility in many areas⁴⁶. Respondents largely responded that municipalities should oversee managing excessive aquatic plant growth, shoreline development, septic discharges, and enforcing watercraft safety. Additionally, there is a recognized need for more education about water level management, and municipal oversight is preferred for certain local issues.

⁴⁵ Reference QID 59 in Appendix B

⁴⁶ Reference QID 54 in Appendix B

5.7. Favorite Memory

Both stakeholder groups were asked to share their favorite memory or something that they love about LLBDM in an open-ended response format. The 124 survey responses from the SPO survey and 172 survey responses from the GP survey include the following highlights:

- **Calmness and Beauty:** Many respondents appreciate the calmness and beauty of the lake, including its sunsets and scenic views.
- **Family Activities:** Family activities such as boating, fishing, and gatherings are common favorite memories shared by respondents.
- **Wildlife and Nature:** Participants enjoy the wildlife and nature around the lake, including bird watching and observing eagles and pelicans.
- **Recreational Activities:** Recreational activities like kayaking, paddleboarding, and using the Loop the Lake trail are mentioned by many respondents.
- **Fishing Memories:** Fishing is a popular activity, with many respondents recalling fond memories of fishing with family and friends.
- **Historical Significance:** Some participants have long-standing connections to the lake, sharing memories from their childhood and noting changes over the years.
- **Community and Social Events:** The lake serves as a venue for community and social events, such as family gatherings and birthday celebrations.

6. Discussion and Recommendations

6.1. Lessons Learned

- Three rounds of mailers were sent to 366 shoreline property owners adjacent to LLBDM, which included residential, rental, commercial, non-profit, and industrial properties. Of the 366 invited, 160 responses were received and 150 were included in the survey analysis. This resulted in a 41% response rate.
 - The mailers were sent to the mailing addresses of the shoreline property owners, rather than the actual shoreline property address.
 - It is possible that a greater response rate may be obtained in the future if mailers are sent to the street address of each parcel. However, a 41% response rate was considered a success and could likely be attributed to advertisement during the first public meeting and the three rounds of mailers sent to remind shoreline property owners to participate.
- Advertisements to the general public included promotion during the first public meeting, a press release, and social media posts. A total of 291 general public surveys were submitted, which was considered a success. It is possible that additional public participation may be obtained in the future if additional rounds of social media posts are shared and/ or flyers are posted at the boat launches.
- There was a 93% completion rate amongst shoreline property owners and a 59% completion rate amongst the GP group. The Shoreline Property Owners survey was 57 questions, and the General Public survey was 45 questions.
 - Both surveys were lengthy, which could have deterred individuals from either fully completing the survey.
 - Shoreline property owners likely had a higher completion rate as their motivation to complete the survey was higher since their residence is directly adjacent to and impacted by LLBDM.
 - To obtain a greater completion rate, a survey specific to the general public may need to be significantly shortened compared to shoreline property owners.

6.2. Short-term Actions

- Present key findings with the LLBDM Leadership Team.
- Present key findings from the stakeholder surveys during Public Meeting #2.
- Utilize stakeholder survey responses to inform the Aquatic Plant Management Strategy and Phase 1 Action Plan recommendations.

6.3. Long-term Strategies

- Collaborate with municipalities and stakeholder groups to formalize commitments to long-term management, and/ or the formation of a LLBDM Lake Association or District.
 - Conduct future stakeholder engagement activities including:
 - Completion of public education activities or workshops related to the following topics:
 - Lake management organizations
 - Aquatic invasive species
 - Land and property best management practices
 - Water quality
 - Aquatic vegetation and algae
- Collaborate with stakeholders to develop and facilitate volunteer groups for long-term monitoring and maintenance of LLBDM.

7. Conclusion

Two stakeholder surveys were conducted in July 2024 as part of the LLBDM Comprehensive Planning initiative. The surveys aimed to gather insights from shoreline property owners and the general public about their perceptions and usage of the lake, as well as their support for various management strategies. The surveys were designed to measure stakeholders' awareness of lake-related issues, perceptions, and usage of the lake, and gather feedback on potential management strategies.

- A total of 291 general public surveys and 150 shoreline property owner surveys were included in the data analysis.
- The GP survey had a 59% completion rate, while the SPO survey had a 93% completion rate.

Based on the findings from the stakeholder surveys, it is evident that both shoreline property owners and the general public have significant concerns about the health and management of LLBDM. The surveys highlighted key issues, which affect both the aesthetic and recreational value of the lake, including:

- Algae blooms
- Aquatic plant growth
- Water quality
- Shoreline erosion, which affect both the aesthetic and recreational value of the lake.

SPO respondents highly valued proximity to water, views, and the beauty of the location. They reported issues such as shoreline erosion and the impact of conventional lawns on lake health. Many expressed concerns about aquatic plants and algae negatively impacting their property and lake enjoyment.

GP respondents frequently visited LLBDM for activities like walking, biking, and nature viewing. They expressed concerns about water quality, algae, and weed growth, which affected their recreational activities.

Lake users participate in various activities such as boating, fishing, and birdwatching. SPOs reported higher frequencies of motorized boating compared to the GP, who mostly trailered their watercraft to other lakes. Both stakeholder groups identified algae blooms and excessive aquatic plant growth as top concerns. However, SPOs were more concerned about water level fluctuations, while the GP prioritized poor water quality and habitat loss.

Both groups reported significant negative impacts from aquatic plants and algae on lake usage, aesthetics, and property values. Most respondents supported aquatic plant management, with mechanical harvesting and manual removal being the preferred methods.

There was a general awareness of AIS presence in LLBDM, with common species identified including Eurasian watermilfoil and zebra mussels. However, knowledge gaps were evident, highlighting the need for public education on AIS.

Most respondents described LLBDM's water quality as poor or very poor, with many believing it has worsened over time. There were misconceptions about the impact of certain property management activities on water quality, indicating a need for further education.

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There was strong support for formal collaboration among local municipalities and the formation of a LLBDM Lake Association. Many respondents expressed willingness to volunteer for lake management activities and contribute financially to a lake association.

The strong support for lake management initiatives, including the formation of a LLBDM lake association and collaboration among local municipalities, underscores the community's commitment to improving the lake's condition. Additionally, the willingness of respondents to volunteer and contribute financially to these efforts further shows strong support. It is apparent that stakeholders are both aware of the need for and willing to take an active role in the collaborative management of LLBDM. It is important to continue to build off the momentum that this survey has created amongst the public. The short and long-term strategies listed above are crucial next steps towards developing a formal collaborative management approach to managing LLBDM.

Moving forward, it is crucial to address the knowledge gaps identified in the surveys, particularly regarding aquatic invasive species and the impact of property management activities on water quality. Public education and awareness campaigns will be essential in fostering a more informed and engaged community.

In conclusion, these surveys provide valuable insights from stakeholders, which will guide future management strategies. By leveraging community support and addressing the identified concerns, LLBDM can be preserved and enhanced for the enjoyment of current and future generations.

Appendix A Blank Surveys

A.1. Shoreline Property Owners – Blank Survey Form

A.2. General Public – Blank Survey Form

A.1. Shoreline Property Owners – Blank Survey Form

Little Lake Butte des Morts Stakeholder Survey

Property Ownership

This first set of questions asks about your property and how you use it.

1. Please enter the survey number located on your survey invitation. *The code you enter will be kept separate from the rest of your responses during evaluation. The unique codes are only being used to limit participation to one survey per property.*

2. How many years ago did you first visit Little Lake Butte des Morts? *Please write in the number of years. If you first visited less than a year ago, please write 1.*

_____ year(s)

3. How long have you owned your property on Little Lake Butte des Morts? *Please write in the number of years you have owned your property. If less than 1 year, please write 1.*

_____ year(s)

4. How is your property on Little Lake Butte des Morts primarily used? *Select one option.*

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Residential property - Summer use only | <input type="radio"/> Industrial property |
| <input type="radio"/> Residential property- Year-round use | <input type="radio"/> Commercial property |
| <input type="radio"/> Residential property – Weekend use throughout the year | <input type="radio"/> Public land |
| <input type="radio"/> Resort property | <input type="radio"/> Undeveloped land |
| <input type="radio"/> Rental property | <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify):
_____ |

5. Approximately how much water frontage do you own? *Select one option.*

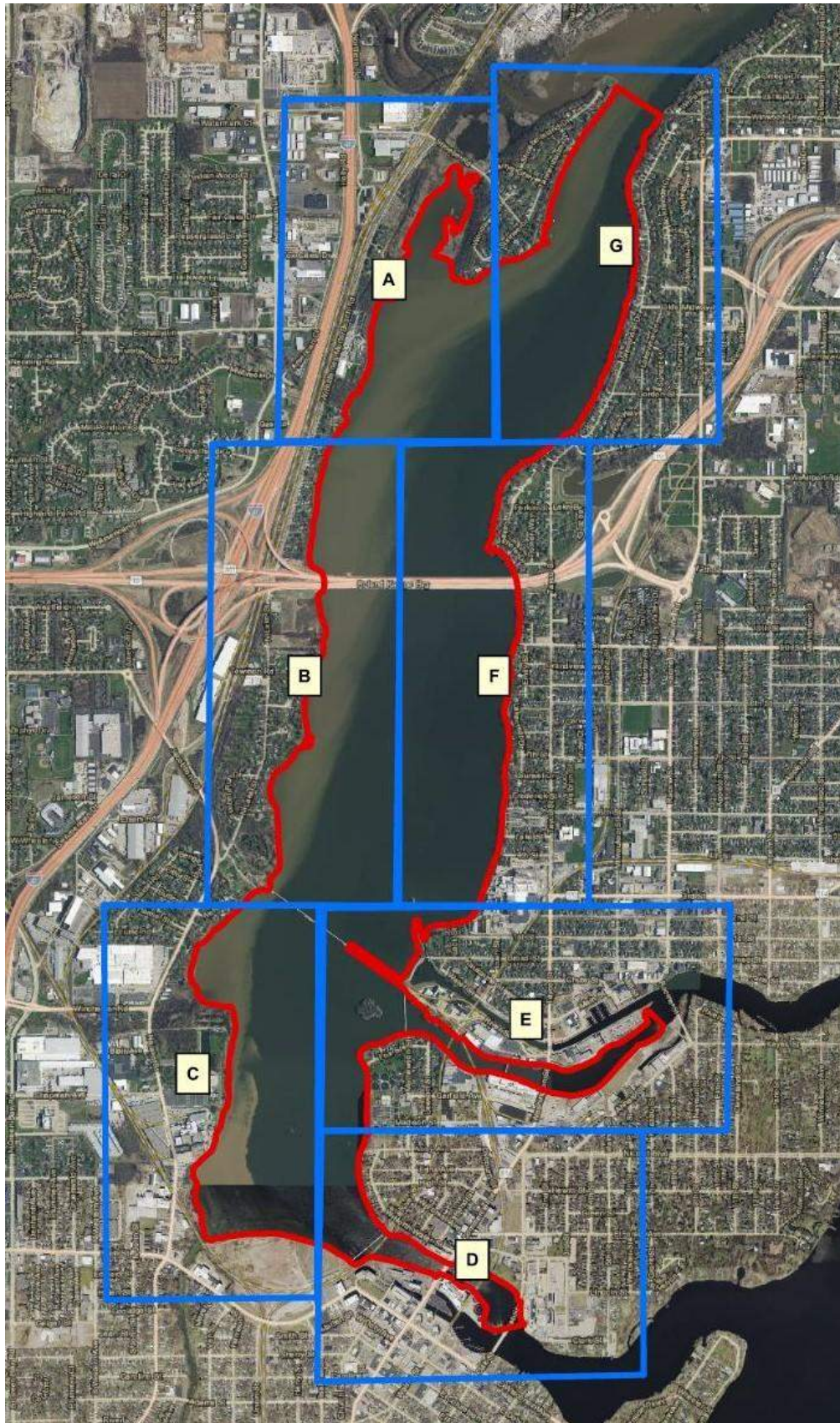
- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Less than 50 feet | <input type="radio"/> 101 – 200 feet |
| <input type="radio"/> 50 – 100 feet | <input type="radio"/> Over 200 feet |

6. Which municipality is your shoreline property located within? *Select one option.*

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> City of Menasha | <input type="radio"/> Village of Fox Crossing |
| <input type="radio"/> City of Neenah | <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify):
_____ |

7. Which area shown on the map to represents the approximate location of your property? *The map is provided on the next page.*

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> E |
| <input type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> F |
| <input type="radio"/> C | <input type="radio"/> G |
| <input type="radio"/> D | |



8. How important were the following factors for purchasing and owning your property on Little Lake Butte des Morts? *Select one option per row.*

	Extremely important	Moderately important	Neutral	Moderately unimportant	Very unimportant
Beauty of the location	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Proximity to the water	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Investment potential	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rental income	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Proximity to family or friends	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Relaxing / peaceful setting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Entertaining guests	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Watching sunsets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Views of the water	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wildlife viewing / bird watching	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Swimming	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Boating/ jet skiing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Waterskiing/ tubing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sailing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fishing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hunting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Snowmobiling	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paddle sports (kayaks, canoes, paddle boards, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify):					

9. Is there anything else you would like us to know about your decision to own property on Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Optional

Property Features and Maintenance

This next set of questions asks about your property and how you maintain it.

10. How steep is your property leading to the water? Select one option.

- Very steep; stairs are needed to access the water
- Somewhat steep; a winding pathway is needed to access the water
- Not too steep, not too flat; the water can be accessed by carefully walking straight down the slope
- Somewhat flat; the water can be easily accessed by walking down the slope
- Flat; there is little to no slope leading up to the water

11. Is any portion of your shoreline currently eroding?

See the text box for examples of erosion.

- Yes
- No
- I'm not sure

Examples of shoreline erosion:

- An area of bare soil on a steep, high shoreline bank.
- A noticeable loss of vegetation or soil along the shoreline
- Leaning or downed trees
- Exposed roots or pipes on the shoreline.
- Sinking earth or undercut banks

12. Do you have any of the following features as part of your landscaping? Select one option per row.

	Yes	No	Unsure, need additional information
Conventional lawn	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Native vegetated shoreline buffer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rock rip-rap	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Beach area	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Concrete or wooden seawall	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Undeveloped area (forest / wetland / grassland)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dock	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Boat lift	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fire pit	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Boat house	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

13. How much do you agree or disagree with these statements about conventional lawns? *Select one option per row.*

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neutral	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
Eye-appealing lake property includes a conventional lawn that is well-maintained up to the shoreline.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I value a well-maintained lawn.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My neighbors value a well-maintained lawn.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A well-maintained lawn increases property value.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

14. How much do you agree or disagree with these statements about fertilizers? *Select one option per row.*

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neutral	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Unsure, need additional information
Fertilizing is important for establishing a healthy lawn.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fertilizing is important for maintaining a healthy lawn.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Using lawn fertilizer with phosphorus adds pollution to the lake.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
No or low-phosphorus fertilizer is readily available.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
No/low-phosphorus fertilizer effectively maintains a healthy lawn	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Testing the soil before applying fertilizer to the lawn is important.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

15. Are any of the following part of your lawncare routine? If so, do you hire a service or do it yourself? *Select one option per row.*

	Yes, I do this myself	Yes, I hire someone to do this	I sometimes do this myself and sometimes hire someone to do it	No, this is not part of my lawncare routine
Mow the lawn	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Apply fertilizer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Apply herbicide (weed killer)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Apply mosquito control chemicals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Apply lawn pest control chemicals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Water the lawn	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rake the leaves	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Aerate the lawn	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Test the soil to determine lawn fertilizer application rates	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify):				

16. How likely, if at all, would you be to adopt or install each of the following practices? Select one option per row.

	I am already doing this	Very Likely	Fairly likely	Not too likely	Not at all likely	Unsure, need additional information
Compost grass clippings & yard waste	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Re-direct rain downspouts to your lawn rather than your driveway	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Keep your sidewalks, driveway, and street gutters clear of grass clippings & leaves	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Clean up and dispose of pet waste (outdoor waste)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Install a rain garden to capture water runoff	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Replace ornamental plants with native plants	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Use rain barrels to capture roof runoff	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Install a vegetated shoreline buffer at least 350 sq ft in size	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Use salt sparingly during the winter and sweep up the salt after a winter storm	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Install fish sticks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify):						

17. Is there anything else you would like us to know about your property’s features and maintenance?

Optional

Recreation

This section asks about your recreational use of Little Lake Butte des Morts including fishing, boating, and more.

18. How often to you participate in the following recreational activities on Little Lake Butte des Morts? *Select one option per row.*

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	A few times a year	Every few years	Never
Swimming	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hunting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bird watching	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fishing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Boating (motorized)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paddle sports	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Walking or biking the trails	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Spending time in the parks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify):						

19. Have you fished in Little Lake Butte des Morts? *Select one option.*

- Yes
 No

If you selected “Yes”, continue to Question 20. If you selected “No”, skip to Question 25.

20. How many years have you fished in Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Please write in the number of years. If you have fished less than 1 year, please write 1.

_____ year(s)

21. How often do you participate in the following fishing activities?

Select one option per row.

	Daily <i>(seasonal dependent)</i>	Weekly <i>(seasonal dependent)</i>	Monthly <i>(seasonal dependent)</i>	A few times a year	Every few years	Never
Ice Fishing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fishing from a boat	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fishing from shore	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fishing from the Fox Cities Trestle/ Friendship Trail	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify):

22. What type of fish have you caught in Little Lake Butte des Morts? *Select all that apply.*

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Yellow Perch | <input type="radio"/> Smallmouth Bass |
| <input type="radio"/> Bluegill | <input type="radio"/> Lake Sturgeon |
| <input type="radio"/> Northern Pike | <input type="radio"/> Muskellunge |
| <input type="radio"/> Walleye | <input type="radio"/> Catfish |
| <input type="radio"/> Black Crappie | <input type="radio"/> Carp |
| <input type="radio"/> Pumpkinseed | <input type="radio"/> Round Goby |
| <input type="radio"/> Rock Bass | <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify): |
| <input type="radio"/> Largemouth Bass | _____ |

23. How would you describe the current quality of fishing in Little Lake Butte des Morts? *Select one option.*

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Excellent | <input type="radio"/> Poor |
| <input type="radio"/> Good | <input type="radio"/> Very Poor |
| <input type="radio"/> Fair | |

24. How has the quality of fishing changed on Little Lake Butte des Morts since you started fishing the lake? *Select one option.*

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Much better | <input type="radio"/> Somewhat worse |
| <input type="radio"/> Somewhat better | <input type="radio"/> Much worse |
| <input type="radio"/> Remained the same | <input type="radio"/> Unsure |

Watercraft

25. What type of watercraft do you use on Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select all that apply.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Canoe/ kayak | <input type="radio"/> Jetboat |
| <input type="radio"/> Standup paddleboard | <input type="radio"/> Jon boat |
| <input type="radio"/> Paddle boat / rowboat | <input type="radio"/> Ski boat |
| <input type="radio"/> Sailboat | <input type="radio"/> Wakeboard boat |
| <input type="radio"/> Pontoon/ tritoon | <input type="radio"/> I do not use watercraft on Little Lake Butte des Morts |
| <input type="radio"/> Jet ski | <input type="radio"/> Other (Please specify):
_____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Fishing boat | |
| <input type="radio"/> Bow rider | |
| <input type="radio"/> Cabin cruiser/ Cuddy | |

If you do not use watercraft on Little Lake Butte des Morts, skip to Question 28.

26. Do you use your watercraft on waters other than Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option.

- Yes, I trailer my watercraft to other lakes or rivers
- Yes, I navigate through the locks to other portions of the Lower Fox River
- No, I only use my watercraft on Little Lake Butte des Morts – Skip to Question 28.

27. Before leaving the boat launch, or upon arriving at a different launch, what is your typical cleaning routine for your watercraft? Select all that apply.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Removing all visible aquatic hitchhikers (plants and animals) | <input type="radio"/> Power wash |
| <input type="radio"/> Drain bilge | <input type="radio"/> Apply bleach |
| <input type="radio"/> Drain motor (if applicable) | <input type="radio"/> Do not typically clean watercraft |
| <input type="radio"/> Drain live well (if applicable) | <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify): -
_____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Rinse with tap water | |

28. How does boat traffic impact your enjoyment of Little Lake Butte des Morts in the summer? Select one option.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Large negative impact | <input type="radio"/> No impact |
| <input type="radio"/> Small negative impact | <input type="radio"/> Small positive impact |
| | <input type="radio"/> Large positive impact |

29. How concerned or unconcerned do you feel about watercraft safety during busy days on Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option.

- Very unconcerned
- Unconcerned
- Neither unconcerned nor concerned
- Concerned
- Very concerned

30. Is there anything else you would like us to know about fishing, watercraft or other recreation on Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Optional

Water Quality

This next set of questions asks about water quality in Little Lake Butte des Morts.

31. How would you describe the current water quality in Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option.

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Very poor

32. How have the following changed since you first visited Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option per row.

	Greatly improved	Somewhat improved	Stayed the same	Somewhat worse	Much worse	Unsure, need additional information
Frequency of algae blooms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Severity of algae blooms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Water clarity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Amount of aquatic vegetation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Aesthetics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Odor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Overall water quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

33. Please indicate how much of an impact you think the following property management or recreation activities have on water quality in Little Lake Butte des Morts. Select one option per row.

	Large negative impact	Small negative impact	No impact	Small positive impact	Large positive impact	Unsure, need additional information
Shoreline alterations (rip-rap, retaining walls, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Shoreline erosion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Installation of swimming beaches	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Removal of shoreline vegetation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Operation of watercraft at wake speeds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Runoff from impervious surfaces (ex. Concrete driveways)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fertilizer use on residential lots	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Herbicide use on residential lots	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pet waste	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Failing septic systems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify):

34. Please indicate how much of an impact you think the following have on water quality in Little Lake Butte des Morts. Select one option per row.

	Large negative impact	Small negative impact	No impact	Small positive impact	Large positive impact	Unsure, need additional information
Water level fluctuations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Agricultural runoff	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Stormwater runoff	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Industrial discharges	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wastewater treatment discharge	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Geese waste	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify):

35. To what extent do you feel algae have impacted the following of Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option per row.

	Very negative impact	Somewhat negative impact	No impact	Somewhat positive impact	Very positive impact	Unsure, need more information
Water quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Recreation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Habitat	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Property values	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Aesthetics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Overall enjoyment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

36. How often does algae negatively impact your enjoyment of Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option.

- Never
- Rarely (once or twice per year)
- Sometimes (several times per year)
- Often (monthly)
- Very often (weekly)
- Always (daily)

37. Prior to receiving this survey, how familiar were you with the following types of algae? – Select one option per row.

	Very familiar	Somewhat familiar	Unfamiliar	Very unfamiliar	Never heard of
Blue-green algae (cyanobacteria)					
Filamentous algae					
Macro algae					

38. Is there anything else you would like us to know about water quality on Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Optional

Aquatic Plants

This next set of questions asks about aquatic plants in Little Lake Butte des Morts.

39. To what extent do you feel aquatic plants or weeds have impacted the following of Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option per row.

	Very negative impact	Somewhat negative impact	No impact	Somewhat positive impact	Very positive impact	Unsure, need more information
Water quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Recreation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Habitat	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Property values	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Aesthetics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Overall enjoyment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

40. How often do aquatic plants (not algae) impact your enjoyment of Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Never | <input type="radio"/> Often (monthly) |
| <input type="radio"/> Rarely (once or twice per year) | <input type="radio"/> Very often (weekly) |
| <input type="radio"/> Sometimes (several times per year) | <input type="radio"/> Always (daily) |

41. Do you believe aquatic plant control is needed in Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Definitely yes | <input type="radio"/> Probably no |
| <input type="radio"/> Probably yes | <input type="radio"/> Definitely no |
| <input type="radio"/> Unsure | |

42. Aquatic plants can be managed using a variety of techniques. What is your level of support for the potential future use of the following management methods in Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option per row.

	Completely support	Moderately support	Neither support nor oppose	Moderately oppose	Completely oppose	Unsure – more info needed
Manual removal by hand or rake by the property owner	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Manual removal by paid service	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Diver assisted suction harvesting (DASH)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mechanical harvesting (ex: weed harvester)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Chemical control (ex: aquatic herbicide)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Biological controls (ex: beetle release)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Do nothing (do not manage aquatic plants)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

43. How important do you feel it is to protect wildlife habitat in Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option.

- Extremely important
- Moderately important
- Neither important nor unimportant
- Moderately unimportant
- Very unimportant

44. Is there anything else you would like us to know about aquatic plants and management in Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Optional

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

This next set of questions asks about aquatic invasive species in Little Lake Butte des Morts.

45. Do you believe aquatic invasive species (AIS) are present in Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option.

- Yes
- No – Skip to Question 48.
- Unsure, need more information

46. Which aquatic invasive species (AIS) do you believe are in Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select all that apply.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Eurasian watermilfoil | <input type="radio"/> Rusty crayfish |
| <input type="radio"/> Curly-leaf pondweed | <input type="radio"/> Carp |
| <input type="radio"/> Giant reed (Phragmites) | <input type="radio"/> Round goby |
| <input type="radio"/> Purple loosestrife | <input type="radio"/> Spiny waterflea |
| <input type="radio"/> Faucet snail | <input type="radio"/> Unsure, but I believe AIS are present |
| <input type="radio"/> Chinese/ banded mystery snail | <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify): |
| <input type="radio"/> Starry stonewort | _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Zebra mussels | |

47. To what extent do you feel aquatic invasive species have impacted the following of Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option per row.

	Very negative impact	Somewhat negative impact	No impact	Somewhat positive impact	Very positive impact	Unsure, need more information
Water quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Recreation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Habitat	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Property values	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Aesthetics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Overall enjoyment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

48. Is there anything else you would like us to know about aquatic invasive species on Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Optional

Lake Management

The next set of questions asks your opinions about various lake management concerns in Little Lake Butte des Morts.

49. From the list below, please rank your top concerns regarding Little Lake Butte des Morts, with 1 being your greatest concern.

Shoreline erosion	Excessive watercraft traffic
Shoreline development	Unsafe watercraft practices
Water level fluctuations	Wastewater and industrial discharges
Excessive aquatic plant growth	Septic system discharges
Habitat loss	Aquatic invasive species
Algae blooms	Impacts from climate change
Poor water quality	Excessive fishing pressures
Polluted runoff (from agriculture, roads, residential property)	Other (please specify):

50. Currently, Little Lake Butte des Morts is managed separately by federal, state, county or local agencies. Who do you think should be in charge of addressing each of the issues listed below? Select all that apply for each row.

	Federal Agency	State Agency	County	Local municipalities	Multi-government Collaboration	Lake Association	Don't Know
Shoreline erosion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Shoreline development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Water level fluctuations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Excessive aquatic plant growth	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Habitat loss	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Poor water quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Aquatic invasive species	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Excessive watercraft traffic	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Unsafe watercraft practices	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wastewater and industrial discharges	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Septic system discharge	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Polluted runoff	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impacts from climate change	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Excessive fishing pressures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify):

51. Would you support or oppose a more formal collaboration among local municipalities for management of Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Strongly support | <input type="radio"/> Somewhat oppose |
| <input type="radio"/> Somewhat support | <input type="radio"/> Strongly oppose |

52. Would you support the formation of and be interested in joining a Little Lake Butte des Morts Lake Association? Select one option.

- I would support the formation of a Lake Association and would be interested in being part of it.
- I would support the formation of a Lake Association but would NOT be interested in being part of it.
- I do not support the formation of a Lake Association for Little Lake Butte des Morts. – Skip to Question 54.

53. Lake associations can operate and support various projects that benefit a water body because of annual dues paid by members. How much would you be willing to pay in annual dues if a lake association were to form? Note that this is not a financial commitment, and you would not be obligated to join a lake association if one formed. This is simply an effort to gauge potential financial support from the community. Select one option.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> \$10 | <input type="radio"/> \$100+ |
| <input type="radio"/> \$11-25 | <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify): |
| <input type="radio"/> \$26-50 | _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> \$51-100 | |

54. The effective management of Little Lake Butte des Morts will require the cooperative efforts of numerous volunteers. Please select the activities you would be willing to participate in to support the future management of Little Lake Butte des Morts. This is not a commitment but simply an effort to gauge potential volunteer support from the community. Select all that apply.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Water quality monitoring | <input type="radio"/> Writing newsletter articles |
| <input type="radio"/> Aquatic plant monitoring | <input type="radio"/> Citizen advisory committee |
| <input type="radio"/> Wildlife monitoring | <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify): |
| <input type="radio"/> Watercraft inspections at boat landings | _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Vegetation management | <input type="radio"/> I do not wish to volunteer |

55. Please share your favorite memory or something you love about Little Lake Butte des Morts.

56. Additional comments – Please use the space below to provide any additional comments that you have about Little Lake Butte des Morts or its management.

57. Would you like to receive project updates? If so, please enter your email address below. *Your email address will be kept separate from the rest of your responses and will only be shared with project partners:*

A.2. General Public – Blank Survey Form

Little Lake Butte des Morts Stakeholder Survey – General Public

Your Little Lake Butte des Morts Experience

This first set of questions asks about your use of the lake.

1. **How many years ago did you first visit Little Lake Butte des Morts?** *Please type in the number of years. If you first visited less than a year ago, please type 1.*

a. _____ year(s)

2. **How often do you visit Little Lake Butte des Morts?**

- a. 1 time per year
- b. 2-5 times per year
- c. 6-10 times per year
- d. 11-20 times per year
- e. 20+ times per year

3. **What is the zip code of your primary residence?**

a. _____

4. **Approximately how many one-way miles do you travel from your primary residence to visit Little Lake Butte des Morts?**

a. _____ miles

5. **What are the top 3 most important reasons for visiting Little Lake Butte des Morts?**

- a. Relaxing / peaceful setting
- b. Nature viewing
- c. Wildlife viewing / bird watching
- d. Swimming
- e. Motor boating
- f. Waterskiing/ tubing
- g. Jet skiing
- h. Sailing
- i. Fishing
- j. Hunting
- k. Snowmobiling
- l. Paddle sports (kayaks, canoes, paddle boards, etc.)
- m. Watching sunsets
- n. Using the trail system
- o. Other (please specify):

Recreation

This section asks about your recreational use of Little Lake Butte des Morts including fishing, boating, and more.

6. How often to you participate in the following recreational activities on Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option per row.

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	A few times a year	Every few years	Never
	5	4	3	2	1	0
Swimming						
Hunting						
Bird watching						
Fishing						
Boating (motorized)						
Paddle sports						
Walking or biking the trails						
Spending time in the parks						
Other (please specify):						

Fishing on Little Lake Butte des Morts

7. Have you fished in Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option.

- a. Yes
- b. No

8. How many years have you fished in Little Lake Butte des Morts? Please type in the number of years. If you have fished less than 1 year, please type 1. If you do not fish in Little Lake Butte des Morts, enter 0 and skip to Question 12.

a. _____ year(s).

9. What type of fish have you caught in Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select all that apply.

- b. Yellow Perch
- c. Bluegill
- d. Northern Pike
- e. Walleye
- f. Black Crappie
- g. Pumpkinseed
- h. Rock Bass
- i. Largemouth Bass
- j. Smallmouth Bass
- k. Lake Sturgeon
- l. Muskellunge (musky)
- m. Catfish
- n. Carp
- o. Round Goby
- p. Other (please specify):

10. How often do you participate in the following fishing activities? Select one option per row.

	Daily <i>(seasonal dependent)</i>	Weekly <i>(seasonal dependent)</i>	Monthly <i>(seasonal dependent)</i>	A few times a year	Every few years	Never
	5	4	3	2	1	0
Ice Fishing						
Fishing from a boat						
Fishing from shore						
Fishing from the Fox Cities Trestle/Friendship Trail						
Other (please specify):						

11. How would you describe the current quality of fishing in Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option.

- a. Excellent
- b. Good
- c. Fair
- d. Poor
- e. Very Poor

12. How has the quality of fishing changed on Little Lake Butte des Morts since you started fishing the lake? Select one option.

- a. Much better
- b. Somewhat better
- c. Remained the same
- d. Somewhat worse
- e. Much worse
- f. Unsure

Watercraft on Little Lake Butte des Morts

13. What type of watercraft, if any, do you use on Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select all that apply.

- a. Canoe/ kayak
- b. Standup paddleboard
- c. Paddle boat / rowboat
- d. Sailboat
- e. Pontoon/ tritoon
- f. Jet ski
- g. Fishing boat
- h. Bow rider
- i. Cabin cruiser/ Cuddy
- j. Jetboat
- k. Jon boat
- l. Ski boat
- m. Wakeboard boat
- n. Other (please specify):

- o. I do not use watercraft on Little Lake Butte des Morts – skip to Question 15.

14. Do you use your watercraft on waters other than Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Select one option.

- a. Yes, I trailer my watercraft to other lakes or rivers
- b. Yes, I navigate through the locks to other portions of the Lower Fox River
- c. No, I only use my watercraft on Little Lake Butte des Morts – *Skip to Question 15.*

15. Before leaving the boat launch, or upon arriving at a different launch, what is your typical cleaning routine for your watercraft? *Select all that apply.*

- a. Removing all visible aquatic hitchhikers (plants and animals)
- b. Drain bilge
- c. Drain motor (if applicable)
- d. Drain live well (if applicable)
- e. Rinse with tap water
- f. Power wash
- g. Apply bleach
- h. Do not typically clean watercraft
- i. Other (please specify): -

16. How does boat traffic impact your enjoyment of Little Lake Butte des Morts in the summer? *Select one option.*

- a. Large negative impact
- b. Small negative impact
- c. No impact
- d. Small positive impact
- e. Large positive impact

17. How concerned or unconcerned do you feel about watercraft safety during busy days on Little Lake Butte des Morts? *Select one option.*

- a. Very unconcerned
- b. Unconcerned
- c. Neither unconcerned nor concerned
- d. Concerned
- e. Very concerned

18. When, if at all, do you think slow-no-wake restrictions would be appropriate within Little Lake Butte des Morts? *Slow-no-wake restrictions limit the speed of watercraft. Select all that apply.*

- a. During high water levels
- b. During low water levels
- c. Within a certain distance of the shoreline

- d. On Sunday – specific hours
- e. On Sunday – all day
- f. None; I don’t believe restrictions are needed
- g. Other (please specify): _____

19. Is there anything else you would like us to know about fishing, watercraft or other recreation on Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Optional

Water Quality

This next set of questions asks about water quality in Little Lake Butte des Morts.

20. How would you describe the current water quality in Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option.

- a. Excellent
- b. Good
- c. Fair
- d. Poor
- e. Very poor

21. How have the following changed since you first visited Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option per row.

	Greatly improved	Somewhat improved	Stayed the same	Somewhat worse	Much worse	Unsure, need additional information
	5	4	3	2	1	0
Frequency of algae blooms						
Severity of algae blooms						
Water clarity						
Amount of aquatic vegetation						
Aesthetics						
Odor						
Overall water quality						

22. Please indicate how much of an impact you think the following property management or recreation activities have on water quality in Little Lake Butte des Morts. Select one option per row.

	Large negative impact	Small negative impact	No impact	Small positive impact	Large positive impact	Unsure, need additional information
	5	4	3	2	1	0
Shoreline alterations (rip-rap, retaining walls, etc.)						
Shoreline erosion						
Installation of swimming beaches						
Removal of shoreline vegetation						
Operation of watercraft at wake speeds						
Runoff from impervious surfaces (ex. Concrete driveways)						
Fertilizer use on residential lots						
Herbicide use on residential lots						
Pet waste						
Failing septic systems						
Other (please specify):						

23. Please indicate how much of an impact you think the following have on water quality in Little Lake Butte des Morts. Select one option per row.

	Large negative impact	Small negative impact	No impact	Small positive impact	Large positive impact	Unsure, need additional information
	5	4	3	2	1	0
Water level fluctuations						
Agricultural runoff						
Stormwater runoff						
Industrial discharges						

Wastewater treatment discharges						
Geese waste						
Other (please specify):						

24. To what extent do you feel algae have impacted the following of Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option per row.

	Very negative impact	Somewhat negative impact	No impact	Somewhat positive impact	Very positive impact	Unsure, need more information
	5	4	3	2	1	0
Water quality						
Recreation						
Habitat						
Property values						
Aesthetics						
Overall enjoyment						

25. How often does algae negatively impact your enjoyment of Little Lake Butte des Morts during the open water season? Select one option.

- a. Never
- b. Rarely (*once or twice per year*)
- c. Sometimes (*several times per year*)
- d. Often (*monthly*)
- e. Very often (*weekly*)
- f. Always (*daily*)

26. Prior to receiving this survey, how familiar were you with the following types of algae? Select one option per row.

	Very familiar	Somewhat familiar	Unfamiliar	Very unfamiliar	Never heard of
	5	4	3	2	1
Blue-green algae (cyanobacteria)					
Filamentous algae					
Macro algae					

27. Is there anything else you would like us to know about water quality on Little Lake Butte des Morts?

<i>Optional</i>

Aquatic Plants

This next set of questions asks about aquatic plants in Little Lake Butte des Morts.

28. To what extent do you feel aquatic plants or weeds have impacted the following of Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option per row.

	Very negative impact	Somewhat negative impact	No impact	Somewhat positive impact	Very positive impact	Unsure, need more information
	5	4	3	2	1	0
Water quality						
Recreation						
Habitat						
Property values						
Aesthetics						
Overall enjoyment						

29. How often do aquatic plants (not algae) impact your enjoyment of Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| a. Never | d. Often (<i>monthly</i>) |
| b. Rarely (<i>once or twice per year</i>) | e. Very often (<i>weekly</i>) |
| c. Sometimes (<i>several times per year</i>) | f. Always (<i>daily</i>) |

30. Do you believe aquatic plant control is needed in Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option.

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| a. Definitely yes | d. Probably no |
| b. Probably yes | e. Definitely no |
| c. Unsure | |

31. Aquatic plants can be managed using a variety of techniques. What is your level of support for the potential future use of the following management methods in Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option per row.

	Completely support	Moderately support	Neither support nor oppose	Moderately oppose	Completely oppose	Unsure – more information needed
	5	4	3	2	1	0
Manual removal by hand or rake by property owner						
Manual removal by paid divers						
Diver assisted suction harvesting (DASH)						
Mechanical harvesting (ex: weed harvester)						
Chemical control (ex: aquatic herbicide)						
Biological controls (ex: beetle release)						
Do nothing (do not manage aquatic plants)						

32. How important do you feel it is to protect wildlife habitat in Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option.

- a. Extremely important
- b. Moderately important
- c. Neither important nor unimportant
- d. Moderately unimportant
- e. Very unimportant

33. Is there anything else you would like us to know about aquatic plants and management in Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Optional

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

This next set of questions asks about aquatic invasive species in Little Lake Butte des Morts.

34. Do you believe aquatic invasive species (AIS) are present in Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option.

- a. Yes
- b. No – Skip to Question 37.

35. Which aquatic invasive species (AIS) do you believe are in Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select all that apply.

- a. Eurasian watermilfoil
- b. Curly-leaf pondweed
- c. Giant reed (Phragmites)
- d. Purple loosestrife
- e. Faucet snail
- f. Chinese/ banded mystery snail
- g. Starry stonewort
- h. Zebra mussels
- i. Rusty crayfish
- j. Carp
- k. Round goby
- l. Spiny waterflea
- m. Unsure, but I believe AIS are present
- n. Other (please specify):

36. To what extent do you feel aquatic invasive species have impacted the following of Little Lake Butte des Morts? Select one option per row.

	Very negative impact	Somewhat negative impact	No impact	Somewhat positive impact	Very positive impact	Unsure, need more information
	5	4	3	2	1	0
Water quality						
Recreation						
Habitat						
Property values						
Aesthetics						
Overall enjoyment						

37. Is there anything else you would like us to know about aquatic invasive species on Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Optional

Lake Management

The next set of questions asks your opinions about various lake management concerns in Little Lake Butte des Morts.

38. From the list below, please rank your top three concerns regarding Little Lake Butte des Morts, with 1 being your greatest concern.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| a. Shoreline erosion | k. Wastewater and industrial discharges |
| b. Shoreline development | l. Septic system discharges |
| c. Water level fluctuations | m. Polluted runoff (from agriculture, roads, residential property) |
| d. Excessive aquatic plant growth | n. Impacts from climate change |
| e. Habitat loss | o. Excessive fishing pressures |
| f. Algae blooms | p. Other (please specify): _____ |
| g. Poor water quality | |
| h. Aquatic invasive species | |
| i. Excessive watercraft traffic | |
| j. Unsafe watercraft practices | |

39. Currently, Little Lake Butte des Morts is managed separately by federal, state, county or local agencies. Who do you think should be in charge of addressing each of the issues listed below? Select all that apply for each row.

	Agencies					Lake Association	Don't Know
	Federal	State	County	Local municipalities	Multi-government Collaboration		
Shoreline erosion							
Shoreline development							
Water level fluctuations							
Excessive aquatic plant growth							
Habitat loss							
Poor water quality							
Aquatic invasive species							
Excessive watercraft traffic							
Unsafe watercraft practices							
Wastewater and industrial discharges							
Septic system discharge							
Polluted runoff							
Impacts from climate change							
Excessive fishing pressures							
Other							

40. Would you support or oppose a more formal collaboration among local municipalities for management of Little Lake Butte des Morts? *Select one option.*

- a. Strongly support
- b. Somewhat support
- c. Somewhat oppose
- d. Strongly oppose

41. Would you support the formation of a Little Lake Butte des Morts Lake Association? *Select one option.*

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Unsure, need more information

42. The effective management of Little Lake Butte des Morts will require the cooperative efforts of numerous volunteers. Please select the activities you would be willing to participate in to support the future management of Little Lake Butte des Morts. This is not a commitment but simply an effort to gauge potential volunteer support from the community. *Select all that apply.*

- a. Water quality monitoring
- b. Aquatic plant monitoring
- c. Wildlife monitoring
- d. Watercraft inspections at boat landings
- e. Vegetation management
- f. Writing newsletter articles
- g. Citizen advisory committee
- h. Other (please specify): _____
- i. I do not wish to volunteer

43. Please share your favorite memory or something you love about Little Lake Butte des Morts:

44. Additional comments – Please use the space below to provide any additional comments that you have about Little Lake Butte des Morts or its management.

45. Would you like to receive project updates? If so, please enter your email address below. *Your email address will be kept separate from the rest of your responses and will only be shared with project partners:*

- a. _____

Appendix B Survey Responses

Little Lake Butte des Morts – Phase 1 Stakeholder Surveys – Response Summaries

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QID 57. Would you support the formation of a Little Lake Butte des Morts Lake Association?¹ 58

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Acronyms:

QID	Question Identification Number
GP	General Public
SPO	Shoreline Property Owner

QID 1. How many years ago did you first visit Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Please type in the number of years. If you first visited less than a year ago, please type 1.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

Question Type: open-ended response	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey	
Survey Question Number:	Question 2		Question 1	
Responses ¹	Count	Percentage of Group Total	Count	Percentage of Group Total
0 to 1 years	4	3%	18	6%
2 to 5 years	22	15%	47	16%
6 to 10 years	15	10%	48	16%
11 to 15 years	15	10%	24	8%
16 to 20 years	9	6%	32	11%
21 to 25 years	8	5%	21	7%
26+ years	77	51%	101	35%
Sum of responses	150		291	-

¹Responses were grouped by category during post-survey data processing (years)

QID 2. How often do you visit Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Select one option.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey	
Survey Question Number:	Not asked		Question 2	
Responses			Count	Percentage of Group Total
1 time per year			14	5%
2-5 times per year			56	19%
6-10 times per year			55	19%
11-20 times per year			42	14%
20+ times per year			124	43%
Sum of responses			291	-

QID 3. What is the zip code of your primary residence?

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

Question Type: open-ended response	Shoreline Property Owners Survey	General Public Survey	
Survey Question Number:	Not asked	Question 3	
Responses ¹		Count	Percentage of Group Total
54956		137	47%
54952		64	22%
54914		14	5%
54915		14	5%
54130		7	2%
54901		7	2%
54911		7	2%
54904		6	2%
54913		6	2%
54942		5	2%
Zip codes with three or less responses		24	8%
Sum of responses		291	-

¹Responses were grouped by category during post-survey data processing

QID 4. Approximately how many one-way miles do you travel from your primary residence to visit Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

Question Type: open-ended response	Shoreline Property Owners Survey	General Public Survey	
Survey Question Number:	Not asked	Question 4	
Responses ¹		Count	Percentage of Group Total
≤ 1 mile		77	27%
2 to 5 miles		138	48%
6 to 10 miles		38	13%
11 to 15 miles		18	6%
16 to 20 miles		8	3%
21 to 25 miles		0	0%
26+ miles		7	2%
Sum of responses		287	-

¹Responses were grouped by category during post-survey data processing

QID 5. How long have you owned your property on Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Please type in the number of years you have owned your property. If you have owned your property for less than 1 year, please type 1.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

Question Type: open-ended response	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey
Survey Question Number:	Question 3		Not asked
Responses ¹	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	
0 to 1 years	8	5%	
2 to 5 years	40	27%	
6 to 10 years	24	16%	
11 to 15 years	21	14%	
16 to 20 years	6	4%	
21 to 25 years	12	8%	
26+ years	39	26%	
Sum of responses	150	-	

¹Responses were grouped by category during post-survey data processing (years)

QID 6. How is your property on Little Lake Butte des Morts primarily used?

Select one option.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey
Survey Question Number:	Question 4		Not asked
Responses	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	
Residential property – summer use only	1	1%	
Residential property – year-round use	143	95%	
Residential property – weekend use throughout the year	3	2%	
Resort property	0	0%	
Rental property	1	1%	
Industrial property	0	0%	
Commercial property	0	0%	
Public Land	0	0%	
Undeveloped land	2	1%	
Other (please specify)	0	0%	
Sum of responses	150	-	

QID 7. Approximately how much water frontage do you own?

Select one option.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey
Survey Question Number:	Question 5		Not asked
Responses	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	
Less than 50 feet	5	3%	
50 – 100 feet	88	59%	
101 – 200 feet	35	23%	
Over 200 feet	22	15%	
Sum of responses	150	-	

QID 8. Which municipality is your shoreline property located within?

Select one option.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey
Survey Question Number:	Question 6		Not asked
Responses	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	
City of Menasha	28	19%	
City of Neenah	10	7%	
Village of Fox Crossing	112	75%	
Other (please specify)	0	0%	
Sum of responses	150	-	

QID 9. Which area shown on the map represents the approximate location of your property?

Select one option from the map provided.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey
Survey Question Number:	Question 7		Not asked
Responses	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	
A	10	7%	
B	28	19%	
C	6	4%	
D	9	6%	
E	7	5%	
F	33	22%	
G	57	38%	
Sum of responses	150	-	



QID 10. How important were the following factors for purchasing and owning your property on Little Lake Butte des Morts?¹

Select one option per row.

Summary of Responses:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey ¹ (Response count by category)					
Survey Question Number:	Question 8					
Response Category	Extremely important	Moderately important	Neutral	Moderately unimportant	Very unimportant	Total Responses
Beauty of the location	99	45	4	1	1	150
Proximity to the water	126	17	5	1	1	150
Investment potential	39	45	38	8	20	150
Rental income	2	2	15	5	126	150
Community	29	79	29	5	8	150
Proximity to family or friends	24	56	29	15	26	150
Relaxing / peaceful setting	91	51	7	0	1	150
Entertaining guests	31	76	27	7	9	150
Watching sunsets	49	56	29	7	9	150
Views of the water	125	22	2	0	1	150
Wildlife viewing / bird watching	59	54	31	3	3	150
Swimming	20	44	43	20	23	150
Boating/ jet skiing	77	37	17	7	12	150
Waterskiing/ tubing	42	31	38	15	24	150
Sailing	6	6	53	17	68	150
Fishing	37	45	34	13	21	150
Hunting	4	5	32	13	96	150
Snowmobiling	1	3	33	13	100	150
Paddle sports (kayaks, canoes, paddle boards, etc.)	32	61	26	11	20	150

¹This question was not asked in the General Public survey

QID 11. Is there anything else you would like us to know about your decision to own property on Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Open ended response – optional

In the 66 responses received for this question, shoreline property owners expressed concerns about the deteriorating condition of Little Lake Butte des Morts, focusing on water quality, weed infestation, and restricted access to Lake Winnebago.

- **Declining Water Quality:** Many residents noted the decline in water quality, citing increased algae, weeds, and garbage, which have diminished the enjoyment of the lake.
- **Weed Infestation:** Residents note that the lake has seen a significant increase in weed growth, making it difficult for boating and other recreational activities.
- **Closure of Menasha Lock:** The closure of the Menasha lock has been a major disappointment, as it has restricted access to Lake Winnebago and affected property values.
- **Impact on Property Values:** Residents are concerned that the decline in water quality and the closure of the lock have negatively impacted property values and the overall enjoyment of their properties.
- **Desire for Lake Maintenance:** There is a strong desire among residents for regular maintenance, including dredging and algae control, to improve the lake's condition.
- **Historical and Emotional Connections:** Some residents have deep historical and emotional ties to the lake, which heightens their disappointment with its current state.
- **Proximity and Convenience:** Despite the issues, the lake's proximity to urban amenities and workplaces remains a positive aspect for some residents.

Shoreline Property Owners Survey
<i>Survey Question Number: Question 9</i>
<i>(This question was not asked in the General Public Survey; The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)</i>
A big pull for us to purchase on this lake was the cleanliness of the lake which has gotten worse over the years unfortunately.
Access through Southern lock to Lake Winnebago Lack of water level control damaging docks and shoreline access to lake winnebago through the lock was very important to me. Now that is gone.
Access to Lake Winnebago.
Access to Winnebago was important
As an employee of a large company in the Fox Valley, Little Lake was the best decision for location.
Beautiful sunrises
Being able to be out in lake Winnebago in go to other locations through the lock
Boating access to Lake Winnebago, upriver, and waterfront restaurant venues
Clean and clear water.
Close proximity to Appleton
Closure of Menasha lock and much increased presence of weeds and algae in the lake have greatly diminished the value and enjoyment of my property.
Entire lake needs dredging for weeds every 10 years
Having open space on at least one side without neighbors.
I bought my property with the intention of using the locks to access Lake Winnebago I am sick and tired of the excuses why it is not open with the state budget 99 Billion dollars I want funding to open the locks we don't need any woke reasons not to
I grew up here so property has a special place in my heart.
I grew up on this lake, and it's sad when the weeds and quality of the water limit how we can use it now.
I thought the water would always be attractive. I didn't know that during the latter summer it would be scummy with algae and about 6" deep. That's been deeply disappointing.

I was unaware of the locks being closed which causes water slime in the summer. That has been disappointing and it smells. It also makes it difficult for boaters to get out on the water and it appears there is becoming more turnover of property which may be affecting our property values.
I wish the water level would not change as much as it does as it comes up on my property. Now it's probably 80 feet up on my grass and always leaves debris behind when it recedes.
I'm disappointed in the upkeep of the lake. No fishing guide maps for depths available, too much algae to swim, the locks still being in place make it not worth it to go boating since you can't access everywhere, little to nothing done to prevent the water rising to the point it effects piers, docks, and boats. I love to swim but don't due to the water conditions. There is always something like lighters, bottle caps, trees, branches, toys coming up to my shoreline.
Initially water very green, full of weeds. Cleared up considerably after dredging
It is such a unique recreational spot right in town and doesn't present the same challenges as Winnebago. Unfortunately a lot of the water system has a very negative image, which is hard to stomach because it is such a focal point of this community.
It was quiet at the time. It was undeveloped. It was "rural" but services/stores were not far.
It's our little piece of heaven but weeds have become a major issue
James Island is right in front of our home. We've seen how beautiful it was. The cormorants have decimated the Island.
Just that we thought it would be cleaner to live near. The stench sometimes does not allow us to open our windows. Very sad.
Location to stores and easy access
Locks were open. I'm very disappointed they are closed.
Long term, retirement home.
My hope would be that I could use the water to swim, but it is not nearly clean enough to consider doing this.
My husband purchased this property and this is where I have lived for 32 years.
near to shopping and entertainment
Noise from train horns and highway traffic is a constant detraction to the relaxing/peaceful setting and property values. Other communities have implemented noise reduction solutions for these sources.
Only a 10 minute drive to my office and fairly close to the airport
Part of the plan was that the menasha lock would open and we would be able to access lake winnebago without trailering.
Please Clean up the algae
Privacy, but that was upended by the trail
Proximity to the airport and interstate are very important. We are disappointed with the lock closure and are looking for property further south on the river so we can enjoy boating again.
Purchased to perform remediation in the lake.
Stroebe Island was purchased by my wife's Great Grandfather Joseph Stroebe back in the 1800's. We are the only Stroebe descendants left on the Island. Lots of memories and history with the family
Sunset's
Swimming--huge disappointment due to dirty water and algae. Relaxation, guests, setting--disappointment due to noisy overpass esp. motor cycles and truck.
The access to Lake Winnebago and downtown Menasha through the Menasha locks.
The use of the water for activities
There is so much garbage that washes up
thought i would be able to get access to winnebago, very dissapointed
Was planning the lock to lake Winnebago would eventually open. Based on recent decision to not open the lock will be looking to move out of the area
We bought there because we were told the lock would be re-opened soon
We bought this property believing that we could boat the entire Winnebago Chain only to have the lock closed and be lied to over and over about it reopening. We are certainly being taxed as if we could freely travel the system but in reality we are now stuck on a lake that has a rapidly growing weed problem due to water levels being manipulated

We bought this property to use the water as much as possible. The closure of the locks and now the weeds have made that much more difficult. You have closed the way to get onto hundreds of more acres of waterways by closing the locks, but taxes keep going up????
We expected that while living on a lake, and paying the taxes that come with that, we would have full-time usage of that lake but this is not the case. We are the 'forgotten' lake...
We have noticed a distinct decline in the water quality and the huge increase in weeds since we purchased our home 5 years ago. We are more than willing to participate in this very positive approach to a more proactive approach to making sure our lake doesn't deteriorate any further. Finally, it would be a dream come true if the Menasha locks were re-opened in a safe and sustainable manner. We could then access the entire Winnebago system! Yeah!
We initially purchased the property knowing no one could build in our backyard.
We purchased because it was a quiet lake and there was not, and is not a lot of continuous boating activity.
We purchased because of proximity to family. If not for that, we would have looked for a cleaner lake better suited for boating, swimming, and other water activities.
We thought we would access to Lake Winnebago...NOT
We wanted to live in a condo on the water and were glad that we found one on Little Lake Butte des Morts
We were considering buying property on a lake between 30 and 60 miles from Fox Crossing as a second home, but decided to look for property on a lake in the Neenah-Menasha area to buy as a primary home.
We were hoping that the locks would be open so we could take our boat to Lake Winnebago or downtown Neenah or Menasha.
We were very much looking forward to all the fun that we thought would come from living on the lake.
We've owned property on Little Lake BDM for 16 years. The weed infestation that is taking place on this lake the past three years needs to be addressed. It's negatively impacting shoreline ownership and recreational value.
When moving to our property, our hope was to use our boat to take advantage of the unique waterway of the area. The closure of the menasha lock for 10 years was a disappointing fact. While it is understandable to maintain healthy native environment, it is not clear why a solution has not been completed. Certainly costs are an issue but that is what outside funding/grants are for and there has not been any progress on that. Also the economic impact of opening would be large. Fishing has not taken a downturn on the lake despite the Gobi
When we purchased the house the weeds were much less prevalent than they are today. The Little Lake Cleanup efforts and zebra mussels have made the lake clearer and promote much earlier and widespread weed growth, making the lake virtually unfit for boating from mid-June through the summer.
Would like less weeds for better boating access
Would like to know the reason for survey

QID 12. How steep is your property leading to the water?

Select one option.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey
Survey Question Number:	Question 10		Not asked
Responses	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	
Very steep; stairs are needed to access the water	20	14%	
Somewhat steep; a winding pathway is needed to access the water	10	7%	
Not too steep, not too flat; the water can be accessed by carefully walking straight down the slope	44	30%	
Somewhat flat; the water can be easily accessed by walking down the slope	40	27%	
Flat; there is little to no slope leading up to the water	32	22%	
Sum of responses	146	-	

QID 13. Is any portion of your shoreline currently eroding?¹

Select one option. See the text box for examples of erosion.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey
Survey Question Number:	Question 11		Not asked
Responses	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	
Yes	50	34%	
No	83	57%	
I'm not sure	13	9%	
Sum of responses	146	-	

¹Survey participants were provided this description of shoreline erosion in the survey:

Examples of shoreline erosion:

- An area of bare soil on a steep, high shoreline bank.
- A noticeable loss of vegetation or soil along the shoreline
- Leaning or downed trees
- Exposed roots or pipes on the shoreline.
- Sinking earth or undercut banks

QID 14. Do you have any of the following features as part of your landscaping?¹

Select one option per row.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey (Response count by category)			
Survey Question Number:	Question 12			
Response Categories	Yes	No	Unsure, need additional information	Total Responses
Conventional lawn	144	1	1	146
Native vegetated shoreline buffer	20	117	9	146
Rock rip-rap	84	50	12	146
Beach area	3	141	2	146
Concrete or wooden seawall	77	65	4	146
Undeveloped area (forest / wetland / grassland)	15	127	4	146
Dock	122	23	1	146
Boat lift	90	55	1	146
Fire pit	72	72	2	146
Boat house	18	125	3	146

¹This question was not asked in the General Public survey

QID 15. How much do you agree or disagree with these statements about conventional lawns?¹

Select one option per row.

Summary of Responses:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey Results (Response count by category)					
Survey Question Number:	Question 13					
Response Categories	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neutral	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Total Responses
Eye-appealing lake property includes a conventional lawn that is well-maintained up to the shoreline.	56	43	30	8	9	146
I value a well-maintained lawn.	75	50	13	4	4	146
My neighbors value a well-maintained lawn.	74	47	19	3	3	146
A well-maintained lawn increases property value.	78	48	15	3	2	146

¹This question was not asked in the General Public survey.

QID 16. How much do you agree or disagree with these statements about fertilizers?¹

Select one option per row.

Summary of Responses:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey Results (Response count by category)						
Survey Question Number:	Question 14						
Response Categories	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neutral	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Unsure, need additional information	Total Responses
Fertilizing is important for establishing a healthy lawn.	20	63	30	18	14	1	146
Fertilizing is important for maintaining a healthy lawn.	22	57	34	15	17	1	146
Using lawn fertilizer with phosphorus adds pollution to the lake.	82	28	14	3	1	18	146
No or low-phosphorus fertilizer is readily available.	20	22	38	6	1	59	146
No/low-phosphorus fertilizer effectively maintains a healthy lawn	17	24	41	2	2	60	146
Testing the soil before applying fertilizer to the lawn is important.	25	25	35	11	2	48	146

¹This question was not asked in the General Public survey.

QID 17. Are any of the following part of your lawncare routine? If so, do you hire a service or do it yourself?¹

Select one option per row.

Summary of Responses:

Shoreline Property Owners Survey Results (Response count by category)					
Survey Question Number:	Question 15				
Response Category	Yes, I do this myself	Yes, I hire someone to do this	I sometimes do this myself and sometimes hire someone to do it	No, this is not part of my lawncare routine	Total Responses
Mow the lawn	99	39	3	5	146
Apply fertilizer	36	57	7	46	146
Apply herbicide (weed killer)	38	44	9	55	146
Apply mosquito control chemicals	11	15	0	120	146
Apply lawn pest control chemicals	11	27	4	104	146
Water the lawn	41	10	7	88	146
Rake the leaves	101	27	5	13	146
Aerate the lawn	10	32	6	98	146
Test the soil to determine lawn fertilizer application rates	2	13	2	129	146
Other (please specify) ²					12

¹This question was not asked in the General Public survey.

² Responses from shoreline property owners who chose "other" are included in the following table:

QID 17 – Responses Submitted Under the "Other" Category (The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)
condo, so someone takes care of our lawn.
Don't know. Lawn care company takes care of the lawn.
I do not know if our hired lawn care company tests the soil at all.
I would like to aerate the lawn but with the soil being mostly clay, I understand that it shouldn't be done.
I'm in a condo so I have no control over this
Mosquito control chemicals and pest control: where are the fireflies? cicada? ants? These insects provide food for purple martins, flickers and other birds. FWWA is too soft on pesticides and insecticides. Fireflies habitats are being destroyed!
My understanding is that though phosphorus is problematic, the main contributor to chemical contamination in the watershed is farming. Additional restrictions on residential property would have little to no effect on water quality.
Unsure. Condo association takes care of this.
We are actively researching alternative lawn scapes using native species as an alternative to traditional lawn.
We don't don't use weed killer and do not fertilize very often
We have Weedman lawn care who I believe tests the soil.
We use no chemicals outside or inside our house.

QID 18. How likely, if at all, would you be to adopt or install each of the following practices?¹

Select one option per row.

Summary of Responses:

Shoreline Property Owners Survey Results							
(Response count by category)							
Survey Question Number:	Question 16						
Response Categories	I am already doing this	Very Likely	Fairly likely	Not too likely	Not at all likely	Unsure, need additional information	Total Responses
Compost grass clippings & yard waste	57	11	16	20	23	19	146
Re-direct rain downspouts to your lawn rather than your driveway	108	9	9	9	6	5	146
Keep your sidewalks, driveway, and street gutters clear of grass clippings & leaves	113	14	9	4	3	3	146
Clean up and dispose of pet waste (outdoor waste)	103	9	8	4	12	10	146
Install a rain garden to capture water runoff	11	8	26	29	37	35	146
Replace ornamental plants with native plants	19	19	34	33	13	28	146
Use rain barrels to capture roof runoff	9	9	22	47	42	17	146
Install a vegetated shoreline buffer at least 350 sq ft in size	6	6	14	33	45	42	146
Use salt sparingly during the winter and sweep up the salt after a winter storm	90	14	22	7	5	8	146
Install fish sticks	1	6	2	18	18	101	146
Other (please specify) ²							15

¹This question was not asked in the General Public survey.

² Responses from shoreline property owners who chose "other" are included in the following table:

QID 18 – Responses Submitted Under the "Other" Category
(The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)
Already use salt sparingly.
Any of this would depend upon the cost. I'm a senior trying to save for retirement, I don't have a lawn fund.
Condo association is in charge of these areas
Do not know what fish sticks are.
Do you mean fish crib?
Fish sticks???
I don't have a pet, if I did the waste would be picked up. Am interested in a rain garden and a shoreline buffer.
I don't use salt

I've not heard of this.
Neighbors blow their lawn and leaf clippings onto the road. How are you going to enforce change? It's illegal now to blow leaf and lawn clippings on the road.
Not sure what fish sticks are.
Sump pumps run to a barrel for watering outside plants, over flow runs to the street, if I run the excess to the yard I get water in the basement
These all sound like great ideas, we would need help with implementing these.
We are a condo association and hire out our lawn care. We are finding it difficult to find a contractor who is experienced or willing to use more environmentally friendly lawn care practices. We are looking into redesigning our lawn with wild flowers and clover, but we need more information.
What are fish sticks??

QID 19. Is there anything else you would like us to know about your property’s features and maintenance?

Open ended response – optional

In the 31 responses received for this question, shoreline property owners report that they are facing various environmental and maintenance issues, expressing a need for more information and assistance.

- **Environmental Concerns:** There are significant problems with aquatic weeds, geese, and invasive plants, which affect the lake's usability.
- **Need for Guidance and Solutions:** Many residents are willing to adopt better practices but require guidance on how to do so, especially in areas like shoreline vegetation and lawn care.
- **Community and Regulatory Issues:** There are frustrations regarding enforcement of regulations, the impact of neighboring properties, and the role of homeowners' associations in implementing environmental practices.

Summary of Responses:

Shoreline Property Owners Survey Survey Question Number: Question 17 <i>(This question was not asked in the General Public Survey; The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)</i>
A lot of items above, we could really use more information on. If we were educated on how these items impact the lake, there would probably be a lot more adoption. There is also a huge issue is cleaning up aquatic weeds that float up to our shorelines. Even an interim solution on capturing/disposal options provides immediate relief.
Entire lake needs dredging for weeds
Geese are very messy and unsanitary. Their numbers are increasing.
How to change from traditional lawn scape to a more natural lawn scape with out compromising our view of the water and wildlife.
I am in a cove area where there is not much flow of water, hence a fair amount of seaweed sprouts early.
I apply weed & feed myself once a year in the Fall. No further chemical lawn maintenance is required.
I only spray weed killer for creeping charlie
I'd definitely be willing to do some of these things, but I would need help in the how. For example, we have an area that is bare from any vegetation by the shoreline. When the water is low, it's just bare and you can see the roots of the large trees. We've tried planting things there. We'd be happy to add dirt and or vegetation, but need guidance.
I'm tired of the owners on the west side of the lake cutting down trees and branches and putting them on the ice or allowing them to float on the water. I'm tired of raking the weeds that the owners on the west side of the lake cut illegally. People don't change unless they are caught and fined. How are you going to enforce change? I think that I am the only neighbor who does not fertilize. I haven't checked the west side yet and it won't make a difference. People believe in perfect green lawns that look good to other people. Fireflies use to be frequent at night years ago. The past two years maybe two.
In a condo so have zero control

Invasive / pervasive vines have crept into my yard from my neighbor's yard/house, which has been abandoned for several years. The vines are a big nuisance in my yard.
It appears that you want to blame a very small amount of home owners for the lake issues. Really? Fertilizer of the few houses on the lake is the problem as opposed to the fact that all of the run off from the entire Lake Winnebago and chain of lakes runs through our yards!
It's a lot to keep up with.
Lake is unusable from shore line as the weeds are from top to bottom making boating, swimming or anything impossible
My biggest waterfront issue is removing floating weeds that wash up. I believe they are milfoil. All of our neighbors are frustrated with that as well.
Next to Public Boat Launch
One downspout exists, and that is directed underground. All mowing is done by mulching. No pets.
Open the locks
Our condo complex has 5 docks and one large pier. The amount of weeds and algae is huge. Any watercraft use is inhibited by the amount. (Kayak, jet ski, pontoon)
Our condo complex hires a lawn service, we would need to discuss with the lawn service if they are able to accommodate these practices in their service.
Property is vacant.
Small homeowners association
Steep hill lot to water with strategically placed plants to disrupt rain runoff; 10' grass barrier between hill and water; 4' wide wooden sea wall with h stone backfill.
The lake has green vegetation growing in it and it makes it smell bad and hard on boat. I wish someone would dredge that lake. Can't really swim in it off the dock.
We are in a condo association and many of these questions are either not considered or would have to be approved by the association.
We do have some native grasses/plants. The bunnies eat them :) so the ones we planted last year have been consumed.
We have a 6 foot stone retaining wall that has constant erosion into the lake that we replace with gravel and soil.
We have dogs and so are very careful with what we use - if anything.
We use no chemicals on our lawn or plants
What can the village do to help us incorporate better practices such as pick up compost separately or subsidize changes to our yards or make the correct fertilizer available.
Wood Seawall will be replaced with rip rap when water levels drop. Ice destroyed wood one.

QID 20. What are the top 3 most important reasons for visiting Little Lake Butte des Morts?¹

Select one option per row.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey	General Public Survey	
Survey Question Number:	Not asked	Question 5	
Responses ¹		Count	Percentage of GP Total
Relaxing / peaceful setting		180	62%
Nature viewing		148	51%
Wildlife viewing / bird watching		82	28%
Swimming		8	3%
Motorboating		44	15%
Waterskiing/tubing		6	2%
Jet skiing		5	2%
Sailing		0	0%
Fishing		73	25%
Hunting		4	1%
Snowmobiling		0	0%
Paddle sports (kayaks, canoes, paddle boards, etc.)		50	17%
Watching sunsets		30	10%
Using the trail system		224	77%
Other ²		14	5%
Sum of responses		291	-

¹This question was not asked in the Shoreline Property Owners survey.

² Responses from the general public who chose "other" are included in the following table:

QID 20 – Responses Submitted Under the "Other" Category <i>(The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)</i>
Bicycle
biking
Biking/exercise
Family
I bike the trails several times each week from April to November
I live on the lower Fox River just outside of LLBD
Kids Playground (Fritse Park)
nearby park
None
Parks
Pike fishing
Playground
Playground
Playground for kids
Visiting son who lives on the lake
Walking the trails
Walking trail
Work
Would love to see live music here one day!

QID 21. How often do you participate in the following recreational activities on Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Select one option per row.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

Shoreline Property Owners Survey (Response count by category)							
Survey Question Number:	Question 18						
Response Categories	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	A few times a year	Every few years	Never	Total Responses
Swimming	1	8	12	39	17	68	145
Hunting	0	0	0	1	4	140	145
Birdwatching	96	15	12	8	0	14	145
Fishing	4	31	24	33	8	45	145
Boating (motorized)	6	57	16	26	8	32	145
Paddlesports	1	24	25	34	14	47	145
Walking or biking the trails	27	43	28	30	6	11	145
Spending time in the parks	3	29	32	57	10	14	145
Other (please specify) ¹							10

¹ Responses from the shoreline property owners who chose "other" are included in the following table:

QID 21 – Shoreline Property Owner Responses Submitted Under the "Other" Category (The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)
Children are now older so no longer play at the park, but fritsy was our favorite. We bike/walk the trail almost daily, weather permitting. We don't really swim anymore, the water is too gross. kayaking is not as fun anymore, it smells so bad in the summer. Boating is a challenge with all the weeds, we got a different boat where to motor doesn't get so plugged up. We had a dock and had to take it out, the water is too shallow and mucky/gross and full of leaches that swimming close to shore is hazardous, It keeps getting worse and worse. and the smell!!! I cant let the dog swim due to the toxic algae, that is also sad.
Daily eating meals on our lakeside porch during the late spring, summer, and early fall
I have been unable to launch our jet ski for the past 2 summers due to the excessive amounts of weeds and algae. So my "monthly" answer to motorized boating is a dream today.
I spend a lot of time outside with my gardens. I do that a lot more than lawn work and consider that more important.
I'm 91 years old. Can't do much, but used to do it all
Sailing
Swimming and paddle sports become prohibitive once the water quality degrades with algae later in the summer.
Swimming is greatly impacted by the current water conditions. We would like to be able to swim off our shoreline as we have with other waterfront properties.
Watching rabbits, ducks, squirrels, pelicans, seagulls, red-winged blackbirds, chickadees, morning doves
We would like to swim and boat more but the quality of the water and lack of beach/sandbar limits how often we can get out in the water. While we don't hunt in this area we are very supportive and believe it is vital to having a healthy ecosystem.

General Public Survey (Response count by category)							
Survey Question Number:	Question 6						
Response Categories	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	A few times a year	Every few years	Never	Total Responses
Swimming	1	10	6	21	14	238	290
Hunting	0	3	1	6	5	275	290
Birdwatching	20	50	41	79	21	79	290
Fishing	3	26	28	51	35	147	290
Boating (motorized)	2	23	14	45	34	172	290
Paddlesports	0	12	17	51	36	174	290
Walking or biking the trails	37	91	71	63	13	15	290
Spending time in the parks	15	66	62	92	21	34	290
Other (please specify) ²							2

² Responses from the shoreline property owners who chose "other" are included in the following table:

QID 21 – General Public Responses Submitted Under the "Other" Category (The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)	
Muskie fishing	
Na	

QID 22. Have you fished in Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Select one option.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

Survey Question Number:	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey	
	Question 19		Question 7	
Responses	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	Count	Percentage of GP Total
Yes	105	72%	148	51%
No ¹	40	28%	142	49%
Sum of responses	145	-	290	-

¹If respondents selected "no" for this question on either survey, they skipped the other questions related to fishing.

QID 23. How many years have you fished in Little Lake Butte des Morts?¹

Please type in the number of years. If you have fished less than 1 year, please type 1.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

Question Type: open-ended response	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey	
	Question 20		Question 8	
Survey Question Number:	Question 20		Question 8	
Responses ²	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	Count	Percentage of GP Total
0 to 1 years	15	15%	21	15%
2 to 5 years	24	23%	33	24%
6 to 10 years	17	17%	27	20%
11 to 15 years	8	8%	10	7%
16+ years	39	38%	47	34%
Sum of responses	103	-	138	-

¹This question was answered only by those who selected "yes" for QID 22.

²Responses were grouped by category during post-survey data processing.

QID 24. How often do you participate in the following fishing activities?¹

Select one option per row.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

Shoreline Property Owners Survey Results (Response count by category)							
Survey Question Number:	Question 21						
Response Categories	Daily (seasonal dependent)	Weekly (seasonal dependent)	Monthly (seasonal dependent)	A few times a year	Every few years	Never	Total
Ice fishing	0	10	10	17	20	48	105
Fishing from a boat	1	18	10	37	13	26	105
Fishing from the shore	5	25	19	30	10	16	105
Fishing from the Fox Cities Trestle / Friendship Trail	0	0	4	4	8	89	105
Other ²							4

¹This question was answered only by those who selected "yes" for QID 22.

² Responses from the shoreline property owners who chose "other" are included in the following table:

QID 24 – Shoreline Property Owner Responses Submitted Under the "Other" Category (The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)
I fish off my own dock most often, sometimes in a boat, but usually just a relaxing thing to do in an afternoon. I enjoy watching other fish and talking with them.
love fishing off my dock. Retired
My family used to fish often over the years. I no longer own a boat so I don't fish any longer.
The flow of water, current, has been altered due to a couple of trees that have fallen into the lake The fish presence is not the same as years before

General Public Survey Results (Response count by category)							
Survey Question Number:	Question 10						
Response Categories	Daily (seasonal dependent)	Weekly (seasonal dependent)	Monthly (seasonal dependent)	A few times a year	Every few years	Never	Total
Ice fishing	2	16	15	30	13	64	140
Fishing from a boat	1	20	23	26	27	43	140
Fishing from the shore	3	19	18	32	30	38	140
Fishing from the Fox Cities Trestle / Friendship Trail	2	9	12	28	18	71	140
Other ³							4

¹This question was answered only by those who selected "yes" for QID 22.

³ Responses from the shoreline property owners who chose "other" are included in the following table:

QID 24 – General Public Responses Submitted Under the "Other" Category (The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)
Have previous fished but no longer do
Only once from trail
Pike and musky need stocking
We try occasionally but don't usually catch anything.

QID 25. What type of fish have you caught in Little Lake Butte des Morts?¹

Select all that apply.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey	General Public Survey
Survey Question Number:	Question 22	Question 9
Responses	Count	Count
Yellow perch	72	92
Bluegill	67	72
Northern pike	64	65
Walleye	35	37
Black crappie	31	38
Pumpkinseed	25	20
Rock bass	41	44
Largemouth bass	48	46
Smallmouth bass	53	56
Lake sturgeon	1	2
Muskellunge	7	11
Catfish	40	39
Carp	44	39
Round goby	24	26
Other ²	14	15

¹This question was answered only by those who selected "yes" for QID 22.

² Responses from the shoreline property owners and the general public who chose "other" are included in the following tables:

QID 25 – Shoreline Property Owner Responses Submitted Under the "Other" Category (The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)
Bowfin,gar
Bullhead, Sheepshead. Garfish, 1, 1 Sunfish
Don't remember
fishing with toddler. didn't catch anything
Never caught a fish on little lake
None
None
None
Not sure. I'm not an avid fisherman
Quillback, bullhead, Buffalo, trout perch, shad, drum, emerald shiner, golden shiner
sheephead
Sheephead, suckers and bullheads
sheephead,bullhead
Sunfish

QID 25 – General Public Responses Submitted Under the "Other" Category (The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)
Been trying to catch a musky out of this lake for 7 years.
Bullhead
Bullhead
don't remember
Freshwater drum

Gar
None
None
None
None
Not sure, my husband is the primary fisher person in the boat
Sauger, garr
Sheephead
Sheepshead
You're supposed to catch fish when fishing

QID 26. How would you describe the current quality of fishing in Little Lake Butte des Morts?¹

Select one option

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey	
Survey Question Number:	Question 23		Question 11	
Responses	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	Count	Percentage of GP Total
Excellent	4	4%	4	3%
Good	52	50%	34	24%
Fair	31	30%	75	54%
Poor	14	13%	16	11%
Very poor	4	4%	11	8%
Sum of responses	105	-	140	-

¹This question was answered only by those who selected "yes" for QID 22.

QID 27. How has the quality of fishing changed on Little Lake Butte des Morts since you started fishing the lake?¹

Select one option

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey	
Survey Question Number:	Question 23		Question 11	
Responses	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	Count	Percentage of GP Total
Much better	8	8%	9	6%
Somewhat better	22	21%	26	19%
Remained the same	22	21%	34	24%
Somewhat worse	18	17%	27	19%
Much worse	12	11%	13	9%
Unsure	23	22%	31	22%
Sum of responses	105	-	140	-

¹This question was answered only by those who selected "yes" for QID 22.

QID 28. What type of watercraft do you use on Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Select all that apply.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey	General Public Survey
Survey Question Number:	Question 25	Question 13
Responses	Count	Count
Canoe/kayak	69	103
Standup paddleboard	19	15
Paddle boat/rowboat	11	4
Sailboat	4	1
Pontoon/tritoon	56	21
Jet ski	31	12
Fishing boat	30	59
Bow rider	12	10
Cabin cruiser/cuddy	1	1
Jetboat	8	2
Jon boat	5	2
Ski boat	8	10
Wakeboard boat	3	3
I do not use watercraft	22	113
Other ¹	6	3

¹ Responses from the shoreline property owners and the general public who chose "other" are included in the following tables:

QID 28 – Shoreline Property Owner Responses Submitted Under the "Other" Category (The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)
12 ft aluminum boat
Deckboat
Due to age, do not boat anymore.
Had a pontoon 1 for 13 years sold it last year and no longer have a boat
Speed boat
we just sold our last motor boat. still have a 1, not used

QID 28 – General Public Responses Submitted Under the "Other" Category (The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)
Deck boat
none
Would like to kayak

QID 29. Do you use your watercraft on waters other than Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Select one option.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey	
Survey Question Number:	Question 26		Question 14	
Responses	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	Count	Percentage of GP Total
Yes, I trailer my watercraft to other lakes or rivers	34	28%	126	78%
Yes, I navigate through the locks to other portions of the Lower Fox River	8	7%	9	6%
No, I only use my watercraft on Little Lake Butte des Morts ¹	81	66%	26	16%
Sum of responses	123	-	161	-

¹If respondents selected "no" for this question on either survey, they skipped to QID 31.

QID 30. Before leaving the boat launch, or upon arriving at a different launch, what is your typical cleaning routine for your watercraft?¹

Select all that apply.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey	
Survey Question Number:	Question 27		Question 15	
Responses	Count		Count	
Removing all visible aquatic hitchhikers (plants and animals)	36		114	
Drain bilge	29		65	
Drain motor (if applicable)	10		27	
Drain livewell (if applicable)	21		43	
Rinse with tap water	15		29	
Power wash	12		22	
Apply bleach	2		2	
Do not typically clean watercraft	1		10	
Other ²	2		13	

¹This question was only asked if respondents selected "yes" for QID 29.

² Responses from the shoreline property owners and the general public who chose "other" are included in the following tables:

QID 30 – Shoreline Property Owner Responses Submitted Under the "Other" Category (The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)	
boats on a lift at my house	
Wash with soap/hose to sewer	

QID 30 – General Public Responses Submitted Under the "Other" Category (The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)	
Also allow to dry 5 days in accordance with WDNR guidance.	
Clean with cleaner	
Does not apply	
Hose down	
I don't own a water craft but I ride with my dad	

I live on the river and clean hitchhikers when I trailer away
I tip the kayak up to drain the water before putting it in my vehicle. When I get home I use water from my rain tank to clean it.
If really dirty I wash it down with a hose
Leave out of water for multiple days
Power wash if available at boat launch
Rinse boat off if option is available or wait til at home
Scrub with sponge or towel while rinsing
SUP and kayak

QID 31. How does boat traffic impact your enjoyment of Little Lake Butte des Morts in the summer?

Select one option.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey	
Survey Question Number:	Question 28		Question 16	
Responses	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	Count	Percentage of GP Total
Large positive impact	11	8%	4	1%
Small positive impact	18	13%	9	3%
Small negative impact	32	22%	42	16%
Large negative impact	3	2%	9	3%
No impact	80	56%	203	76%
Sum of responses	144	-	267	-

QID 32. How concerned or unconcerned do you feel about watercraft safety during busy days on Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Select one option.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey	
Survey Question Number:	Question 29		Question 17	
Responses	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	Count	Percentage of GP Total
Very unconcerned	4	3%	6	2%
Unconcerned	30	21%	31	12%
Neither unconcerned nor concerned	58	40%	143	54%
Concerned	36	25%	70	26%
Very concerned	16	11%	17	6%
Sum of responses	144	-	267	-

QID 33. When, if at all, do you think slow-no-wake restrictions would be appropriate within Little Lake Butte des Morts?¹

Slow-no-wake restrictions limit the speed of watercraft. Select all that apply.

Summary of Responses:

	General Public Survey
<i>Survey Question Number:</i>	<i>Question 18</i>
Responses	Count
During high water levels	130
During low water levels	33
Within a certain distance of the shoreline	159
On Sunday – specific hours	8
On Sunday – all day	13
None; I don't believe restrictions are needed	47
Other ²	16

¹This question was not asked in the Shoreline Property Owner survey.

² Responses from the general public who chose "other" are included in the following table:

QID 33 – General Public Responses Submitted Under the "Other" Category (The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)
Always
Always
By the boat launches & Trestle Bridge perhaps
distance of shorelines and other boats or structures
High traffic aerial, places where boaters need to be cautious, and places where the shore line is used by people alot
In the river channel on the north end of the lake
N/A
Nightly and on weekends
No opinion
No opinion
No opinion
Really the whole lake, as it is narrow and jet skiers, tubers, and the like negatively impact others and shoreline(property owners)
Specific hours everyday.
Too small for large pleasure craft boats
Unsure
within a certain distance of another watercraft

QID 34. Is there anything else you would like us to know about fishing, watercraft or other recreation on Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Open ended response – optional

The 48 survey responses from shoreline property owners reveal a variety of concerns and observations about the lake's conditions and usage.

- **Water Quality Issues:** Many respondents noted that the water quality has deteriorated, making it unsuitable for swimming and other recreational activities due to dirtiness and algae growth.
- **Weed Problems:** The prevalence of weeds is a significant issue, affecting boating, fishing, and other water activities. Respondents mentioned the need for dredging and better weed control.
- **Concerns About Wake Boats:** Wake boats are causing damage to shorelines and docks, and there are calls for better regulation of boat wakes, especially during high water levels.
- **Lock System and Access:** Several respondents expressed frustration over the closure of the Menasha locks, which limits access to Lake Winnebago and affects the overall use of the lake.
- **High Water Levels:** High water levels are a recurring concern, with suggestions for implementing no-wake zones during such periods to prevent shoreline erosion and property damage.
- **Boating and Safety:** There are safety concerns related to high-speed boats and jet skis, especially when they come too close to docks and other boats.
- **Recreational Enjoyment:** Despite the issues, some respondents still enjoy watching boating activities and the general recreational use of the lake.

The 58 general public survey responses highlight various concerns and suggestions regarding the lake and its surrounding areas.

- **Water Quality Issues:** Many respondents expressed concerns about algae, seaweed, and overall water quality, describing the lake as gross and smelly, particularly in the summer.
- **Fishing Concerns:** Fishing is impacted by invasive weeds, fluctuating water levels, and poor fish quality, with some respondents suggesting banning fishing from certain areas.
- **Recreational Activities:** Suggestions to improve recreational activities include better water access, additional kayak launches, and more rental options.
- **Algae and Weed Control:** There were multiple recommendations for controlling algae and weed growth, including installing water movers and avoiding herbicides.
- **Watercraft and Boating:** Respondents noted pleasant boating experiences but suggested more hazard markings and opening the locks for better access.
- **Pollution and Health Concerns:** Concerns about pollution from past industries and its impact on health were prevalent, with some avoiding water activities due to these worries.
- **Fishing Regulations:** There were calls for better enforcement of fishing regulations, particularly regarding perch bag and possession limits.
- **General Improvements:** General suggestions included more DNR monitoring, better trail ethics enforcement, and improving overall water quality to encourage more usage.

Shoreline Property Owners Survey

Survey Question Number: Question 30

(The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)

A lot less shad in the last 14 years

Again, I no longer personally participate. However, for many years we had a boat and used the locks several times a week. The closure of the locks has significantly impacted the kind of boats using the lake and the frequency of use. The Menasha locks need to be utilized.

As a boy I'd go out with my dad in a rowboat to fish and I could see clearly to the bottom of the lake and see the fish. Those days are long gone.

As water levels rise during rainy seasons like we now have - can the river be deemed as a slow no wake waterway so the water doesn't go over existing sea walls?

Better channel marking would help along with signage regarding mindfulness of high current times of the year.

Boating would be very much improved with a usable lock system, especially one that permits access to Lake Winnebago.

Difficult to use the water for swimming or floating due to how dirty it is.

Don't like huge wave action from large and ski boats when water is high. Ruins our docks and shorelines.

During severe flooding very little is done to stop the boating that is causing more damage to shorelines and docks!!!!!!

Entire lake needs dredging for weeds

Have a no wake emergency response on file and posted on all landings when water level reaches a specific level to avoid land erosion and dock damage.

Highway overpass is very noisy reducing enjoyment of the lake. Dirty water and pea green color rule out swimming.

I feel that water quality is not good enough for swimming.

I love to sit on my porch and watch all the boats and fishermen. All the people on speedboats and Jet skis and every other water sport. It is the highlight of my day to watch the fun

I would like to know how the goby have either helped or hurt the fishing on Little lake Butte Des Morts because it seems to me to be better since they were put in here.

jet skis gettin too close to fishing boats

Main concern is boats coming to close to our property or too fast. We have had fishermen have to push their boats away from the dock and boat lift. Fortunately they haven't yet hooked a boat cover.

Not very crowded on the water during peak holiday days

Open the locks

Rules for wakes from boats needs to be added (or policed if already in place) for years with unusually high water. Most of the docks near me are currently underwater and the boats are still making large waves that are into lawns. I am admittedly uneducated if there are already rules on wake boats, but those are also a concern for some areas on regular seasons as well.

Taking way too long to open the lock for access to Lake Winnebago. Going north through the locks is cumbersome.

The algae is awful by us. The lake is unusable by us for the entire summer

The invasive weeds are a huge problem. And recently the water levels have been so high we cannot get our pontoon into the lift as the distance between the water level and the canopy doesn't permit us to get the boat ont the life. And the water has been above the dock which was rebuilt and raised a couple years ago. This has curtailed our boating this year.

the lack of weed control is affecting all aspects of recreational use . weeds are important however if the invasive species are not controlled it will seriously impact all aspects of recreational use. You talk about cleaning our boats but as the boats tear up the weeds and they flow north it further contaminates the water way , also all the weeds washing up leads to the blue green algae

The lake is under-utilized since the lock is closed plus you do not control the lake level appropriately so that it can be used fully.

The large negative from above particularly pertains to wave surfers. The excessively large waves those boats create do so much damage to our docks and to my floating jet ski dock. I had 2 summers use of an "unbreakable" product that became so damaged due to the waves, that I need replacement parts. Also, nighttime highly lit airboats are a nuisance. Very bright in every waterside house window, and super loud at a late hour (often 11pm)

The only issue I have is with the use of wake boats. This body of water is not large enough to accommodate the use of wake boats without negatively impacting the safety and enjoyment of other recreational boaters, and even more so, paddle sports. Wake boats also further erosion of shorelines.

The thick weeds in front of our home are dangerous for water skiing because boats have become caught in the weeds

The weed problem has a big impact on being able to use the jetski (weeds get sucked up and it stalls)

The weeds are getting beyond tolerable!!!!

There are certain people who race around at high speeds as opposed to the folks who slowly troll for fish, or kayak. I consider these people to present a danger to others.

There needs to be aeration pumps along the shore to oxygenate the water

This is a quiet lake and that is what we like
Time restrictions would be great, as there are boats with very bright lights on that point at the shore late at night.
Using a watercraft on Little Lake BDM with the current weed situation is becoming more difficult.
very anxious to be able to access Lake Winnebago via the Menasha lock or get farther up the fox river than Appleton Ave lock.
Wake boats are damaging the shoreline. During recent high water, No wake order from Winnebago county was poorly announced, poorly marked with signs at 9th St boat ramp, & not enforced.
Wake boats have started to take over and seem to utilize the narrow sections of the lake. They make it very difficult to both enjoy boating and maintain waterfront property. The concentration of weeds is also an issue for fishing and pleasure boating.
We don't think wake boats should be allowed because of large wakes cause damage to fish habitats, shoreline, and unsafe conditions for other boaters. Spear fisherman going by late at night with loud generators is a nuisance that wakes us up. Far south end has too many weeds making it difficult to get to the other part of the lake by boat from our property.
We need boat access to lake Winnebago
We need to reopen the Menasha locks
we used to have a bayliner which was very challenging to safely use on the lake, the lake is just to shallow to park it at our dock when we had it and due to the same thing the engine/propellor would get hung up in the weed easily. The LOCK is closed to get to Winnebago and that has been a major obstruction to enjoyment of the lake and boating around this lake.
Weed problem tends to hinder all water activities including boating, jetskiing and swimming.
West end of the lake is choked off with weeds limiting fish from docks or shoreline impossible as with unable to use a boat as the weeds are to thick to motor through
When the water gets high, like it is now, more effort needs to be taken to reduce boat wake so that it doesn't destroy the shoreline and private property.
When the water is occasionally high during spring or after heavy rainfall, it would be nice to have a no wake imposed promptly. Earlier this summer one was put in place after heavy rainfall. Unfortunately, it was put into place AFTER the water had started to recede. Better late than never, I guess.
Without knowing about the Arrowhead Park plans in Neenah, I would be interested in the possibility to access the park via boat, which would require some weed cleanup to get there. Give boat access to downtown Neenah. People will use it and spend money in Neenah. The situation with the Menasha locks is very frustrating. If the concern now is the cost to operate the underwater electric fence, why was money ever invested in the first place. Are there Gobies in Winnebago already? If so, what is preventing the locks from opening. Are they in condition to be used again or would they require maintenance to get back working?
Young kids on jet skis is a real issue. They have no knowledge of rules and regulations when using.

General Public Survey <i>Survey Question Number: Question 19</i> <i>(The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)</i>	
A kayak launch by the downtown area would be awesome!	
Algae could use help	
Algae growth is gross - can't imagine eating fish from that water !!	
Better water access along the banks. The platforms on the trail bridges are too high to fish off of. Longer strips of platforms to fish from.	
Boating on the lake has always been pleasant. I have not experienced any unsafe boating by other boaters.	
Canal between Little Lake and Downtown Menasha needs spillway to reduce algae buildups now that lock is closed	
Clean up the lake so swimming isn't a health hazard	
Closer parking for kayak launches	
Consider placing a water-mover at Fritse boat launch to minimize seaweed & algae accumulation that tends to get trapped & accumulates there. I clean a LOT of that crap off & leave the stinky mess at the landing - which is counter-productive to minimizing "transportibg" invasive spieces to other lakes. The sheer quantity of seaweed & algae is ridiculous & a water mover or two would certainly benefit ALL launch users (powerboat, kayak & ANYONE sitting on the nice bench(s) there.	
Controlling weed growth it's horrible	
Don't do anything to kill aquatic vegetation. Fishing never does well post herbicide application	
Don't eat the fish!	
Enforcement of No Fishing from Tressel main thoroughfare	
Fishing from the trails should be banned. I don't know how many times my dog and I have walked the Loop and got ensnared in fishing line by the people fishing off the bridges.	

Fishing has changed dramatically the last 3 years. The invasive weeds are terrible and the fluctuating water levels seem to be impacting the fishing. I generally fish for perch and bass. The quality small mouth are nowhere to be found.
Fishing on the trestle bridge needs to be banned. It's dangerous to be a pedestrian as the fisherman do not pay attention to when they cast, nor do they stay in the designated bump outs. We've had several close calls to getting snagged by a hook
Green moss is a problem
I don't use the lake in late summer because it smells so bad
I fished years ago on little lake butte des morts and caught plenty of perch. However, most that were caught were covered in black spots which indicates a parasite. Technically they are okay to eat, but it was very unappealing and I had no interest in eating them what so ever. Any perch that were not covered are of poor taste. I also can't imagine that with a lake that is many times covered in foul smelling algae that leaves dead ducks floating on the surface makes for healthy fish either. Needless to say, I have not and will not fish this lake ever again. To me, this lake is disgusting and far from clean. This is also why I choose not to use watercraft or partake in any water recreation here. The only thing good about it is the trestle trail system.
I hesitate to use kayaks on this body of water out of concern for water quality/health.
I think there needs to be more DNR monitoring of perch bag/possession limits. I see the same boats out fishing day after day and there is no way they are not routinely over the daily limit and almost guaranteed to be over the possession limit at home. These issues are even worse in the spring with shore fishers on the south end of the lake. Ice fishing on north end by the treatment plant also likely has the same problem with panfish and northern pike.
Lake is gross in the summer, would like to see efforts focusing on promoting less algae
Lots of fishing on the bridges posted no fishing. Have almost crashed into fisherman abruptly walking across trail while bicycling on numerous occasions.
Love the rental canoes!!
More access would be nice.
Musky and pike stocking. Perch population is stunted and out of control. Walleye pike and musky sticking would mitigate some of this
Needs better hazard marking
New paddle kayak offer to be tried
No
No
No
No
No one swims here due to pollution. I won't paddle board here due to concerns with water quality
OPEN LOCK!
Open locks so friends may access lake Winnebago
Regarding the change to the quality of fishing or canoeing it's the degradation of water quality with an increase of weeds, algae, and the odors which result from these elements.
Seaweed and algae needs to be removed and treated. Swimming is gross in this lake and is underutilized with no access to other water systems like winnebago
Since constructing a new kayak/canoe launch at Fritse park, I strongly believe that the parks/rec/village should implement an additional boat/motorized slip next to the current one. I believe I am not the only outdoor enthusiast who thinks there is too much congestion and traffic with one sole boat launch slip.
Size of keeper pan fish has been steadily going down in both size and numbers
The kayak launch at Fritse is great! We love kayaking on the lake.
The lake gets more and more filthy every year, the run off from paper mills is HORRENDOUS, yet every water survey says "little to no change" then why has the lake gotten so terribly filthy, I sure would NEVER eat fish from that lake, only catch & release. Maybe we should be more concerned with the filth than the speed of a boat on an already tiny lake. Just a thought.
The more watercraft on the water, the less wildlife will be present.
The pike regulations are a great idea and should be implemented on the whole wolf, fox, Winnebago chain
The smallmouth fishing is the best it has been in years! The Goby have played a HUGE role in that. We don't need to be worried about the gobies. The lake is alive and well. I would say if we could do some cutting of weeds that would help during the summer months. No sprays or chemical tablets just cutting.
The water clarity/quality has gotten better over the years
The water level on little lake is usually kept too low
The water quality is disgusting.
There is concern about the quality of the water in regard to chemicals from past industries
Too much algae to do anything

Trail ethics need improvement or enforcement
Water quality needs improvement for me to get anywhere near touching the water
Weed control would improve all three.
Weeds limit my time on the lake.
Why the water is so dirty
will there be access to Lake Winnebago
Would love for the locks to Winnebago to be opened. Would be more likely to visit more and boat/ ski more.
Yes open up the Menasha Lock!!!
You should post this on the "Neenah,wi" Facebook page. The Friends of the Neenah Creek aka Neenah Slough FB page. The Ambassadors of Arrowhead park FB page. The Menasha4U FB page. Citizens of Menasha FB page.

QID 35. How would you describe the current water quality in Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Select one option.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey	
Survey Question Number:	Question 31		Question 20	
Responses	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	Count	Percentage of GP Total
Excellent	1	1%	0	0%
Good	16	11%	23	10%
Fair	53	37%	85	37%
Poor	43	30%	83	37%
Very poor	29	20%	36	16%
Sum of responses	142	-	227	-

QID 36. How have the following changed since you first visited Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Select one option per row.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey (Response count by category)						
Survey Question Number:	Question 32						
Response Categories	Greatly improved	Somewhat improved	Stayed the same	Somewhat worse	Much worse	Unsure, need additional information	Total Responses
Frequency of algae blooms	4	7	28	40	58	5	142
Severity of algae blooms	3	7	25	38	64	5	142
Water clarity	5	18	47	36	32	4	142
Amount of aquatic vegetation	2	5	22	26	78	9	142
Aesthetics	2	16	49	36	31	8	142
Odor	2	8	41	39	47	5	142
Overall water quality	3	21	40	35	38	5	142

	General Public Survey (Response count by category)						
Survey Question Number:	Question 21						
Response Categories	Greatly improved	Somewhat improved	Stayed the same	Somewhat worse	Much worse	Unsure, need additional information	Total Responses
Frequency of algae blooms	3	23	58	63	43	37	227
Severity of algae blooms	3	19	50	63	52	40	227
Water clarity	4	31	70	61	29	32	227
Amount of aquatic vegetation	4	13	56	58	37	59	227
Aesthetics	15	47	70	49	16	30	227
Odor	6	23	82	54	40	22	227
Overall water quality	5	34	59	65	33	31	227

QID 37. Please indicate how much of an impact you think the following property management or recreation activities have on water quality in Little Lake Butte des Morts.

Select one option per row.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

Shoreline Property Owners Survey (Response count by category)							
Survey Question Number:	Question 32						
Response Categories	Large negative impact	Small negative impact	No impact	Small positive impact	Large positive impact	Unsure, need additional information	Total Responses
Shoreline alterations (riprap, retaining walls, etc.)	5	11	45	23	26	31	141
Shoreline erosion	30	51	27	5	4	24	141
Installation of swimming beaches	5	15	47	16	12	46	141
Removal of shoreline vegetation	25	33	20	13	10	40	141
Operation of watercraft at wake speeds	18	42	46	10	1	24	141
Runoff from impervious surfaces (ex. Concrete driveways)	30	65	23	2	2	19	141
Fertilizer use on residential lots	58	48	13	3	1	18	141
Herbicide use on residential lots	57	45	16	3	1	19	141
Pet waste	33	47	37	3	0	21	141
Failing septic systems	78	26	11	0	1	25	141
Other ¹							11

¹ Responses from the shoreline property owners who chose "other" are included in the following table:

QID 37 – Shoreline Property Owner Responses Submitted Under the "Other" Category (The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)
*wake boats are a 5
I hope nobody has a septic tank on this lake
I think a properly sloped and maintained lawn helps capture runoff and improve water quality.
Pet waste wouldn't be an issue with responsible ownership. We have issues with the goose waste I try to clean up but just can't keep up with.
Removal of trees for Arrowhead area has created a wind tunnel on N Water Street
Retaining walls have been in use for at least 70 years on the east side of LLBD. What about the water treatment plants?
Some years are better than others, but otherwise it all averages out. Some years we have alot of weeds and alga blooms. Some years not.
Speed boats very loud at times. This isn't an amusement park it's my residence. Boats with loud music of their choosing is also intrusive.
TOO much goose poop!!!!!!!!!!!!
Wake surfing boats cause bad erosion.
Wakes during high water levels hurt/ erode shorelines

General Public Survey							
GP Survey Question 22; response count by category							
Survey Question Number:	Question 22						
Response Categories	Large negative impact	Small negative impact	No impact	Small positive impact	Large positive impact	Unsure, need additional information	Total Responses
Shoreline alterations (rip-rap, retaining walls, etc.)	9	34	56	50	23	55	227
Shoreline erosion	38	74	43	16	5	51	227
Installation of swimming beaches	8	21	78	24	33	63	227
Removal of shoreline vegetation	33	40	29	33	28	64	227
Operation of watercraft at wake speeds	16	64	54	32	10	51	227
Runoff from impervious surfaces (ex. Concrete driveways)	73	89	18	8	2	37	227
Fertilizer use on residential lots	108	65	13	3	5	33	227
Herbicide use on residential lots	99	72	14	3	5	34	227
Pet waste	48	87	49	3	4	36	227
Failing septic systems	92	62	17	2	4	50	227
Other ²							11

² Responses from the general public who chose "other" are included in the following table:

QID 37 – Shoreline Property Owner Responses Submitted Under the "Other" Category (The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)
I do miss the wild grasses along the loop the lake trail where the Neenah park is. I liked it better before it became so "groomed" it was beautiful and now..... just grass. Such a disappointment. The pier is nice but the landscaping? Yuck. They destroyed the natural beauty.
Industry and farming are the biggest impact on water quality
Many of the things you have listed are not on our lake. I have not seen problems from water runoff, fertilizer pet waste and so on. I wonder where you came up with these issues? Perhaps for other lakes?
Maybe look at the factories who dump directly into the water.
Paper Mills! How is this not on the list? Seriously?
Regarding rip rap, it depends on what is installed. Neenah's choice of broken concrete with rebar sticking out is terrible. The combination of old curbs, concrete culverts, and general broken pieces adds no scenic value and looks like a junk yard. Rebar is dangerous to canoe or kayak hulls. Most awful rip rap I have experienced.
Unless we are scientists and qualified, we should not be answering these questions because of course quiet sports people and alarmists will say it's all getting worse. We all would need qualified proof to say that with the exception of longtime waterfront owners who may have photos or water marks.
Water levels not managed for natural cycles of the watershed
Water quality is the worst I've ever seen it

QID 38. Please indicate how much of an impact you think the following have on water quality in Little Lake Butte des Morts.

Select one option per row.

Summary of Responses:

Shoreline Property Owners Survey (Response count by category)							
Survey Question Number:	Question 34						
Response Categories	Large negative impact	Small negative impact	No impact	Small positive impact	Large positive impact	Unsure, need additional information	Total Responses
Water level fluctuations	68	36	15	4	2	16	141
Agricultural runoff	84	30	6	0	1	20	141
Stormwater runoff	46	58	12	1	2	22	141
Industrial discharges	94	25	4	0	1	17	141
Wastewater treatment discharges	72	35	8	2	3	21	141
Geese waste	50	61	21	1	0	8	141
Other ¹							5

¹ Responses from the shoreline property owners who chose "other" are included in the following table:

QID 38 – Shoreline Property Owner Responses Submitted Under the "Other" Category (The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)
Geese are definitely a problem
I would like more information on this. All I have to go on is what I learned in high school and read on line. As a responsible land owner I should be more educated to make science based decisions.
invasive aquatic plants
water levels fluctuate a lot for us living down from the dam
You cannot stop natural habit such as geese and ducks, etc on the lake. That's where they live.

General Public Survey (Response count by category)							
Survey Question Number:	Question 23						
Response Categories	Large negative impact	Small negative impact	No impact	Small positive impact	Large positive impact	Unsure, need additional information	Total Responses
Water level fluctuations	22	86	43	19	2	55	227
Agricultural runoff	117	53	15	3	3	36	227
Stormwater runoff	64	104	19	5	2	33	227
Industrial discharges	124	56	10	1	4	32	227
Wastewater treatment discharges	85	70	21	6	2	43	227
Geese waste	61	105	28	4	1	28	227
Other ²							3

² Responses from the general public who chose "other" are included in the following table:

QID 38 – General Public Responses Submitted Under the "Other" Category (The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)
Again -- these questions are odd, and I have not seen such issues on our lake.
I'm not sure what causes the poor quality but looking into industrial run off should be first. I know they are claimed to be clean but not a single person would take a drink of their discharge.
The only answers for these should be from DNR experts or long time waterfront owners. Not the general public!

QID 39. To what extent do you feel algae have impacted the following of Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Select one option per row.

Summary of Responses:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey (Response count by category)						
Survey Question Number:	Question 35						
Response Categories	Very negative impact	Somewhat negative impact	No impact	Somewhat positive impact	Very positive impact	Unsure, need additional information	Total Responses
Water quality	99	36	2	0	0	4	141
Recreation	91	39	8	1	0	2	141
Habitat	53	51	14	7	1	15	141
Property Values	61	53	19	2	0	6	141
Aesthetics	100	22	11	3	0	5	141
Overall enjoyment	85	42	9	3	0	2	141

	General Public Survey (Response count by category)						
Survey Question Number:	Question 24						
Response Categories	Very negative impact	Somewhat negative impact	No impact	Somewhat positive impact	Very positive impact	Unsure, need additional information	Total Responses
Water quality	113	89	7	1	1	16	227
Recreation	92	89	25	4	3	14	227
Habitat	48	98	36	9	5	31	227
Property Values	46	90	41	7	2	41	227
Aesthetics	95	87	18	8	3	16	227
Overall enjoyment	71	110	19	6	10	11	227

QID 40. How often does algae negatively impact your enjoyment of Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Select one option.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey	
Survey Question Number:	Question 36		Question 25	
Responses	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	Count	Percentage of GP Total
Always (daily)	34	24%	8	4%
Very often (weekly)	33	23%	30	13%
Often (monthly)	28	20%	42	19%
Sometimes (several times per year)	37	26%	89	39%
Rarely (once or twice per year)	9	6%	47	21%
Never	0	0%	11	5%
Sum of responses	141	-	227	-

QID 41. Prior to receiving this survey, how familiar were you with the following types of algae?

Select one option per row.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

Shoreline Property Owners Survey <i>(Response count by category)</i>							
<i>Survey Question Number:</i>	<i>Question 37</i>						
Response Categories	Very familiar	Somewhat familiar	Unfamiliar	Very unfamiliar	Never heard of	Very familiar	Total Responses
Blue-green algae (cyanobacteria)	70	48	10	6	7	70	141
Filamentous algae	19	43	34	8	37	19	141
Macro algae	10	39	44	9	39	10	141

General Public Survey <i>(Response count by category)</i>							
<i>Survey Question Number:</i>	<i>Question 26</i>						
Response Categories	Very familiar	Somewhat familiar	Unfamiliar	Very unfamiliar	Never heard of	Very familiar	Total Responses
Blue-green algae (cyanobacteria)	83	115	24	0	5	83	227
Filamentous algae	29	66	101	0	31	29	227
Macro algae	29	60	105	0	33	29	227

QID 42. Is there anything else you would like us to know about water quality on Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Open ended response – optional

The 31 survey responses from shoreline property owners and the 58 survey responses from the general public highlight significant concerns about water quality, algae blooms, and weed growth in the lake.

- **Health Concerns:** Respondents expressed worries about the health risks posed by algae blooms, which produce a foul smell and can be toxic to humans and animals.
- **Impact on Recreation:** Many mentioned that the algae and weeds make swimming, boating, and other recreational activities unpleasant or impossible.
- **Environmental Impact:** There are reports of wildlife, such as ducks, dying due to the algae, which is distressing for the community.
- **Water Quality Variability:** Water quality varies throughout the year, with conditions generally worsening in the summer months.
- **Need for Management:** There is a strong call for better management and drastic improvements to address the algae and weed problems.
- **Concerns About Infrastructure:** Some respondents believe that infrastructure changes, like the new bridge and dam, have negatively impacted water flow and contributed to the algae problem.
- **Economic and Social Impact:** The poor water quality and smell are affecting property values, tourism, and the overall enjoyment of the lake.
- **Suggestions for Improvement:** Suggestions include dredging the lake, better weed control, and addressing agricultural runoff to improve water quality.

Shoreline Property Owners Survey Survey Question Number: Question 38 (The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)
Am concerned about the toxins to our health from the algae blooms. In months we could have open windows I need to close them sometimes due to the stench.
As I said previously as a boy in the '50's I'd go out in a row boat and fish with my dad and I could see clearly to the bottom of the lake. I'd see perch, sunfish and bullheads now those days are completely gone. Every spring we now get several feet of water up on my shore causing erosion as the DNR tries to keep the level on Lake Winnebago at an even level. The Little Lake is used as a dumping ground and my east side of the lake floods.
Between the algae blooms and the vegetation, swimming is not pleasant or possible most of the time
Ducks die right on our shores due to the algae. It is very distressing.
Entire lake needs dredging for weeds
How much can changing practices around the perimeter of the lake have an impact vs changes upstream?
I and my dog could not swim in LLBdM due to the blue green algae from July on last year. I could not swim in August of 2022 due to blue green algae. I called the DNR over the past three years in regards to the algae. DNR has responded and visited my property over the years. I called the DNR last summer in regards to the guppies or tiny fish that were suffocating in the thick algae. Last year was horrible. People still fertilize their lawns. The heat was a factor last year, too.
I declined to purchase a different property on LLBdM due to DNR declining to allow a fix to an area with blue green algae.
I feel water quality is not good enough for swimming.
I only drink the water using Zero One or Brita
In times of high water there is little trouble with algae
It is improving, but there is always to go!
It needs drastic improvement and management. It's great to see the fishermen enjoy their bounty. But be respectful of wake and noise.

It would go a long way to understand the challenges to cleaning up the large from a DNR perspective. When the algae is thick and bad we frequently dead fish and other wildlife. I have a hard time believing those water conditions are good for anything. Floating aquatic weeds also seem to be a huge contributor of the algae. We remove the weeds and the algae seems to not grow as frequently.
It's horrible. The smell, the look, the weeds. We would be on board with doing anything we can to positively impact the quality of the water. We'd also be on board to have strict rules to govern those that live on the water to create a clean-lake environment.
Main issue for us is the milfoil. Controlling that reduces algae collection and reduces blue green toxicity potential.
Most days it is a struggle to get a boat off the lift and out to the open water because the weeds and algae are so bad.
Need to fix algae Smell is awful and can't enjoy lake for fishing, swimming etc...
Seems to be worse since the new 441 bridge was installed and peninsula under bridge added, curbing the nature flow of river to nothing. (West side bank)
Something must be done soon. Raising taxes for being on the water and giving us a weed filled lake does not work!
Sometimes it is very clear other times is it cloudy, pea green, and stinky. The weeds on the west side are expanding and are impacting boating and paddle sports. Fishing appears to be increasing in those areas. The weeds are unsightly.
The algae smells real bad during the hot season/times
The smell from the lake is detectable from blocks away and is very strong earlier each year.
The water quality degrades with algae as the summer progresses. Usually, by August the algae has gotten to a point that paddle sports and swimming become unfeasible.
The water quality has never been better in April, May and June. It seems after June the algae blooms have gotten worse over the last few years.
There is a lot of weeds/algae blooms due to poor water movement/ circulation/ shallow water. I believe this part of the river needs to be dredged.
This year (so far) algae hasn't been areal issue as in other years. I feel it's due to the increased flow, lower water temp and water depth vs other years like 2023 when during the drought the river was very low and had almost zero flow. The water just sat, got hot and algae flourished. Increased weed growth also had a significant impact in flow.
Weeds
Weeds and vegetation has gotten worse in the past few years.
Weeds are horrible. Hard to even get boat out
Weeds grow more in cleaner water.

<p>General Public Survey</p> <p><i>Survey Question Number: Question 27</i></p> <p><i>(The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)</i></p>
Algae seems to be directly related to lower water levels and lack of weed control.
Do to living across the street from The lake the stag water and algae can stink at times due to I believe the water doesn't flow very well on some of the east shoreline .
Follow up results of dredging and capping of Superfund sites?
generally trending in a better direction over the history of the waterway.
Getting rid of the algae multiple times a season. Is needed
I do not believe much can be done in light of legacy phosphorus and other nutrients along with continuous ag runoff west and south of Neenah..
I live on the Fox River several houses north of the lake. Milfoil has become a huge problem. Happy to see the "no wake" zone during the recent high water. I consider myself a lake property owner.
I said I was unsure for most of the algae issues because it really seems to vary by year. If it's a cooler summer or we get a decent amount of rain at regular time, it's not as bad. If it's a hot summer, especially hot early, or we don't get any rain at some point it's worse
I would be curious to see what water levels/quality readings are when the pond by the locks are so full of algae that you can smell it a mile away. When it is hot out and especially the end of summer, the smell is so foul that we choose to no longer use the trail system as it has at times literally made us gag. We live near by and you can always tell when the bloom is bad as the smell carries quite a ways away. I also find it super concerning that each year lately, there are many floating/dead ducks in the water that I would think is directly related to the algae or poor water quality. The dead ducks are always outside of the locks area, so not even in the worst of it. All of the above issues have gotten progressively worse in the last 3 years in particular I've noticed. It's very much a shame for the community and residents living near by. It's also frustrating to hear year after year that the locks

remain closed due to round goby's and preventing invasion to the lake, because I personally have caught goby's near fritse park boat launch years ago, so they are and have been already there.
I would love to see the quality of the water improve. I would love to feel like the water was safe. I think it would significantly impact recreation.
I would never eat a fish out of this lake.
If the lake stinks I don't go there.
If they would get the Menasha lock and dam fixed that would help a lot with algae!!!
Make is lake have access to Winnebago. Remove all seaweed and algae. This should be a recreation lake with swimming and boating.
Needs to be cleaned up.
Out of town coworkers walked the loop and couldn't stand the sight and smell of the algae. Said they will never visit the trail again.
Overall, my impression is a stinky, dirty lake
Paper mills. Paper mills, paper mills. #1 cause of the horrendous quality is these paper mills that are as old as my grandfather. How can a business that is nearly 100 years old and has had NO RENOVATIONS of any kind pertaining to environmental, not the #1 cause of poor water quality? Is everyone that oblivious? Or are we just sweeping that under the rug? I'm not sure what water Neenah tested on their quality test but a large part of the city laughed and said that it wasn't accurate. Maybe a 3rd party for testing is needed.
Please clean the bottom of sea weed. Have to remove from boat motor more every visit
Question 25 was difficult to respond to given the choices. Algae negatively impacts the lake enjoyment when it's present in significant amounts. July, August, and into September can be bad. Responding monthly doesn't capture this timing aspect.
Something NEEDS to be done about the agricultural runoff that causes the algae to be so bad. It's only getting worse year after year
Something needs to be done about this. It is concerning when there are signs posted advising people of how often they should consume the fish from the lake...
The best part of walking the trail daily is the wild life and nature. It is one park that never disappoints!
The rotting algea blooms near the Menasha Lock smelled terrible last year. I did not frequent downtown or the Trestle Trail during that time due to smell.
The smell from the algae and weeds/water quality is getting worse every year.
The smell is ungodly. The blue green algae and weeds are getting way worse over the past couple years. The smell is horrible and can be toxic to human and animals.
The smell of the water, and lack of clarity, as well as algae blooms, are reasons I don't like to kayak on this body of water. Frankly I find this body of water disgusting most of the summer.
The water is nice and clear in the spring. You can even see the bottom.
This the most important topic to improve. Poor water is the reason I don't eat the fish, swim in the water and generally only use the lake for recreational ice fishing. IT IS A CESSPOOL THAT NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED!!
too many large floating obstructions, trees, branches
Wastewater effluent vents seem to change the surrounding environment. Temperature pollution? Untreated pollutants?
Water quality on the canal from downtown to the lake needs to be addressed
We have always lived within 3 miles of the lake, but do to the uncleanliness of it I would never go in it. We rarely enjoy the parks around it due to the smells of algae, dead fish, etc
When is the Arrowhead park project going to be completed?
Yes, please don't take anything away. It's great the way it is.

QID 43. To what extent do you feel aquatic plants or weeds have impacted the following of Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Select one option per row.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey Results <i>(Response count by category)</i>						
<i>Survey Question Number:</i>	<i>Question 39</i>						
Response Categories	Very negative impact	Somewhat negative impact	No impact	Somewhat positive impact	Very positive impact	Unsure, need additional information	Total Responses
Water quality	63	43	11	9	3	11	140
Recreation	72	55	6	1	1	5	140
Habitat	27	55	22	12	5	19	140
Property Values	46	66	17	4	1	6	140
Aesthetics	62	50	16	3	1	8	140
Overall enjoyment	61	59	11	2	3	4	140

	General Public Survey Results <i>(Response count by category)</i>						
<i>Survey Question Number:</i>	<i>Question 28</i>						
Response Categories	Very negative impact	Somewhat negative impact	No impact	Somewhat positive impact	Very positive impact	Unsure, need additional information	Total Responses
Water quality	24	74	29	29	8	39	203
Recreation	35	89	37	8	3	31	203
Habitat	14	47	39	42	15	46	203
Property Values	18	67	65	4	2	47	203
Aesthetics	36	74	39	17	5	32	203
Overall enjoyment	25	83	52	13	4	26	203

QID 44. How often does algae negatively impact your enjoyment of Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Select one option.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey	
<i>Survey Question Number:</i>	<i>Question 40</i>		<i>Question 29</i>	
Responses	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	Count	Percentage of GP Total
Always (daily)	28	20%	8	4%
Very often (weekly)	35	25%	12	6%
Often (monthly)	24	17%	22	11%
Sometimes (several times per year)	29	21%	36	18%
Rarely (once or twice per year)	15	11%	56	28%
Never	9	6%	69	34%
Sum of responses	140	-	203	-

QID 45. Do you believe aquatic plant control is needed in Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Select one option.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey	
Survey Question Number:	Question 41		Question 30	
Responses	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	Count	Percentage of GP Total
Definitely yes	84	60%	49	24%
Probably yes	28	20%	58	29%
Unsure	22	16%	69	34%
Probably no	4	3%	23	11%
Definitely no	2	1%	4	2%
Sum of responses	140	-	203	-

QID 46. Aquatic plants can be managed using a variety of techniques. What is your level of support for the potential future use of the following management methods in Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Select one option per row.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey (Response count by category)						
Survey Question Number:	Question 42						
Response Categories	Completely support	Moderately support	Neither support nor oppose	Moderately oppose	Completely oppose	Unsure, need more information	Total Responses
Manual removal by hand or rake by the property owner	49	26	21	14	15	15	140
Manual removal by paid service	55	28	24	4	11	18	140
Diver assisted suction harvesting (DASH)	59	14	21	4	7	35	140
Mechanical harvesting (ex: weed harvester)	84	22	10	1	4	19	140
Chemical control (ex: aquatic herbicide)	40	19	15	14	22	30	140
Biological controls (ex: beetle release)	16	22	22	10	18	52	140
Do nothing (do not manage aquatic plants)	3	6	19	17	79	16	140

	General Public Survey (Response count by category)						
Survey Question Number:	Question 31						
Response Categories	Completely support	Moderately support	Neither support nor oppose	Moderately oppose	Completely oppose	Unsure, need more information	Total Responses
Manual removal by hand or rake by the property owner	71	46	36	10	8	32	203
Manual removal by paid service	41	55	47	14	8	38	203
Diver assisted suction harvesting (DASH)	37	45	46	15	9	51	203
Mechanical harvesting (ex: weed harvester)	54	56	33	20	7	33	203
Chemical control (ex: aquatic herbicide)	16	20	25	49	73	20	203
Biological controls (ex: beetle release)	17	27	30	34	47	48	203
Do nothing (do not manage aquatic plants)	3	23	50	36	50	41	203

QID 47. How important do you feel it is to protect wildlife habitat in Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Select one option.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey	
Survey Question Number:	Question 43		Question 32	
Responses	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	Count	Percentage of GP Total
Extremely important	94	67%	140	69%
Moderately important	35	25%	56	28%
Neither important nor unimportant	7	5%	5	2%
Moderately unimportant	2	1%	0	0%
Very unimportant	2	1%	2	1%
Sum of responses	140	-	203	-

QID 48. Is there anything else you would like us to know about aquatic plants and management in Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Open ended response – optional

The 27 survey responses from the Shoreline Property Owners Survey and the 16 survey responses from the General Public Survey reveal various concerns about aquatic plant management in Little Lake Butte des Morts.

- **Excessive Weed Growth:** Many respondents are concerned about the excessive growth of aquatic plants, which affects boating, kayaking, and swimming.
- **Impact on Recreation:** Excessive weeds make recreational activities like boating and paddle boarding difficult, as boat motors often get entangled.
- **Debris and Maintenance:** Debris collects in the weeds, making it hard to remove and dispose of, and creating unsightly and undesirable conditions.
- **Need for Professional Help:** Some respondents suggest hiring professionals or using weed cutters to manage the aquatic plants.
- **Algae Concerns:** There is a belief that managing weeds could reduce algae problems, which are also a significant concern.
- **Impact on Wildlife:** Respondents mention the increase in wildlife and the need to balance plant control with wildlife preservation.
- **Manual Removal Challenges:** Homeowners find manual removal of aquatic plants challenging and ineffective, often leading to more problems.
- **Environmental and Historical Context:** Some respondents provide historical context about pollution and its impact on the lake, noting improvements and ongoing challenges.

Shoreline Property Owners Survey Survey Question Number: Question 44 <i>(The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)</i>
As a fisherman I do understand the need for weeds however if steps are not taken in regards to the water levels and weed growth it will not be long before LLBDM is a mess
As a property owner I am not happy with the extensive overgrowth of the aquatic plants. Boat motors are constantly entangled in plant matter. We need to clean the water up so people can safely enjoy boating and swimming.
Boating and kayaking can be difficult in areas due to the excess weeds. I have seen boaters struggle to break through areas on the west side of the lake due to motors being completely overrun with the weeds.
Debris collects in the weeds and along the shoreline. It is hard to remove and dispose of. The weeds are unsightly and make recreation directly off-shore undesirable on the west side side.
Entire lake needs dredging for weeds
Far too many geese - so if that is 'wildlife preservation' then no. Harvest and control plants if it helps fishing and overall usage of the lake by boat while maintaining our shoreline. Come visit my lakefront - it is ugly and stinks!
Fix the weed and the algae will be less problematic.
Hard for older people to get rid of weeds when trapped at docks. Never had this issue until a few years ago. Lived here my entire life.
hire professionals to clean it up and or a weed cutter like they do in Clintonville
How we are impacted depends on the year. As stated previously 2024 is a good year for lower algae and weed growth but that is this year. 2023 was horrible. We've had more bad years than good years over the seven years we've lived on LLBDM. Now I go back to the 60's and 70's when the sewage treatment plant was discharging as were the paper mills plus there as a lot of ag runoff. The water quality was REALLY bad however that enhanced the algae to grow but I do not recall invasive weeds had taken hold yet.

I don't mind weeds unless it's very excessive. I'd say weeds are a bit excessive in some areas. A weed harvester would be nice and the weeds can be used as fertilizer for farmers. See White Lake, Weyawega
I have heard on other lakes that harvest or pull the weeds it's like cutting grass and makes them worse.
I was here before the superfund removal of the PCBs in the lake. We have seen a significant increase in the amount of wildlife and bald eagles since that project was completed.
I would like to know how much the fish/turtle/frog population has changed in the past 30 years.
In my opinion, this was the best pick for the first module of the lake management plan. I look forward to participating and being educated on our options for improvement. I think there is a big focus on rooted plants, which is good, but the uprooted floating weeds are an issue that could be addressed immediately with the proper resources. How do home owners capture, transport, dispose of these?
It would greatly improve the water quality
Many homeowners, including myself, have discussed manual removal of aquatic plants by the property owner, but have not found an effective way to do this (eg, rakes, scissors, water movers, etc).
My biggest concern is the algae at this time. Unsure of the 'weediness' of the lake.
The area in front of us is aquatic weed infested, which collects duckweed and blue-green algae.
The problems are here and are not going away
The real question in regards to the weeds is whether or not the weeds are indicative to our lake? What does lawn fertilizer and the waste treatment plants, and the high temperatures effect the growth? What is manual removal? Homeowners are already removing weeds. After homeowners cut the weeds, they do not remove the weeds! The southwest wind brings the weeds to the east shore. This practice is illegal! How do you plan to enforce homeowners to remove their cut weeds? Where are they going to dispose of them? Dream on! I've seen it too many years. The government would have to cut and remove the weeds. We know that there is no money for that scenario. People will continue to cut their weeds and let the east side homeowners push the weeds out to current. I can't even imagine where these weeds end up at the dam in Appleton! Aquatic plant control? Are the plants indicative to Wisconsin lakes? Or are they invasive? That's the real question! If the plants are indicative to Little Lake Butte des Morts, then, let's reinforce this habitat. Also, we have a pair of blue herons that nest a couple of houses down from us. Definitely, protect wild life.
Too many weeds or aquatic plants and too close to the surface.
We are looking forward to solutions and are happy to be part of those, just need more information on the options and how we can help.
We just rake out the weeds by our dock. I would need a lot more research to form an opinion.
Weeds are awful for boating/paddle boarding. Never seen such thick weeds
West side of lake horrible. Weeds are taking over.
When the city of Neenah essentially went Lorax in Arrowhead park and cut every tree on the property, I was completely appalled. There is no way any property owner could have done that without getting a huge fine or prison time. It was horrible what they did.

General Public Survey
<i>Survey Question Number: Question 33</i>
<i>(The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)</i>
Disappointed in the tree removal in Neenah
Asking land owners to go into the water, that is often at dangerous levels of algae is unsafe and unexpected.
Clean this lake up
Humans are partly responsible for the lakes decline. It's our obligation to fix it.
I feel as though there should be a management plan for everything, however that doesn't mean that we need to eliminate the plants
In your eagerness to control the aquatic plants please don't kill off the waterfowl and birds that use the lake for food.
Native aquatic plants or non-native aquatic plants. Invasive??
Need removal.
Perhaps with periodic harvesting the levels can be reduced. Please, no chemicals or biological animals.
The reference to aquatic plants and weeds is confusing. I view aquatic plants as beneficial. I view aquatic weeds (invasives) as bad.
They have been a constant nuisance when fishing over the 65 years I've been doing it. But I'm not qualified to advise the best solution.
Way too many questions that 99% of residents cannot answer because we aren't experts and to choose something without knowing the cost/benefit equation is irresponsible use of tax dollars.

Weeds are the result of what man made bodies of water do. Widen the river bed with dams slows the current, stagnating the water allowing nutrients to feed weed growth. That being said the dams must remain for the benefit of all.

Weeds everywhere

While aquatic plants have always been present, I can tolerate some increase as it provides habitat. But when aquatic plants combine with algae it's much more impactful in a negative way.

Who is responsible for paying for removal?

QID 49. Do you believe aquatic invasive species (AIS) are present in Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Select one option.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey	
Survey Question Number:	Question 45		Question 34	
Responses	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	Count	Percentage of GP Total
Yes	96	69%	179	89%
No ¹	8	6%	23	11%
Unsure, need more information ²	36	26%		
Sum of responses	140	-	202	-

¹If respondents selected “no” for this question on either survey, they skipped to QID 52.

²The response option “unsure, need more information” was inadvertently left off the General Public Survey.

QID 50. Which aquatic invasive species (AIS) do you believe are in Little Lake Butte des Morts?¹

Select all that apply.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey	General Public Survey
Survey Question Number:	Question 46	Question 35
Responses	Count	Count
Eurasian watermilfoil	55	49
Curly-leaf pondweed	20	15
Giant reed (Phragmites)	9	15
Purple loosestrife	15	22
Faucet snail	3	11
Chinese/ banded mystery snail	3	8
Starry stonewart	3	1
Zebra mussels	70	93
Rusty crayfish	7	21
Carp	73	92
Round goby	70	82
Spiny waterflea	7	9
Unsure, but I believe AIS are present	47	70
Other (please specify) ²	10	5

¹This question was only asked if respondents selected “yes” for QID 49.

² Responses from the shoreline property owners and the general public who chose “other” are included in the following tables:

QID 50 – Shoreline Property Owner Responses Submitted Under the “Other” Category (The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)
Eloda, coontail, filamentous algae, duckweed
I believe invasive species are everywhere
I don’t know what the others are.
I don't know what species if any are existing.
I have no clue
I've gotten swimmer's itch in the past two years.
The unchecked items above may be present but I haven't read anything about it being so.
Unsure, need more info

Unsure.
Unsure.

QID 50 – General Public Responses Submitted Under the “Other” Category <i>(The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)</i>
How would we know without test results?
I’ve seen snails, but don’t know the type
Narrow Leaf Cattails
Unsure of plant species.
Water milfoil is getting bad

QID 51. To what extent do you feel aquatic plants or weeds have impacted the following of Little Lake Butte des Morts?¹

Select one option per row.

Summary of Responses:

Shoreline Property Owners Survey <i>(Response count by category)</i>							
<i>Survey Question Number:</i>	<i>Question 47</i>						
Response Categories	Very negative impact	Somewhat negative impact	No impact	Somewhat positive impact	Very positive impact	Unsure, need additional information	Total Responses
Water quality	40	44	14	5	1	28	132
Recreation	52	47	14	2	0	17	132
Habitat	28	57	10	4	0	33	132
Property Values	39	48	25	1	0	19	132
Aesthetics	41	39	26	1	0	25	132
Overall enjoyment	45	50	17	1	0	19	132

¹This question was only asked if respondents selected “yes” for QID 49.

General Public Survey <i>(Response count by category)</i>							
<i>Survey Question Number:</i>	<i>Question 36</i>						
Response Categories	Very negative impact	Somewhat negative impact	No impact	Somewhat positive impact	Very positive impact	Unsure, need additional information	Total Responses
Water quality	22	87	14	4	1	45	173
Recreation	33	76	28	1	1	34	173
Habitat	33	83	10	2	1	44	173
Property Values	16	47	55	1	1	53	173
Aesthetics	17	71	42	0	1	42	173
Overall enjoyment	24	80	28	2	2	37	173

¹This question was only asked if respondents selected “yes” for QID 49.

QID 52. Is there anything else you would like us to know about aquatic invasive species on Little Lake Butte des Mort?

Open ended response – optional

The 29 survey responses from shoreline property owners survey and 19 survey responses from the general public survey about aquatic invasive species on Little Lake Butte des Mort highlight various concerns and opinions, particularly regarding the Menasha Lock and the presence of round goby.

- **Concerns over Menasha Lock Closure:** Many respondents are frustrated with the prolonged closure of the Menasha Lock, which they believe is ineffective in preventing the spread of invasive species and limits their enjoyment of the lake.
- **Presence of Round Goby:** There is significant debate about the presence and impact of round goby in Lake Winnebago, with some individuals claiming to have caught them, questioning the necessity of the lock closure.
- **Impact of Invasive Species:** Respondents also mention other invasive species like zebra mussels and carp, which affect water quality, recreational activities, and the overall ecosystem of the lake.

Shoreline Property Owners Survey <i>Survey Question Number: Question 48</i> <i>(The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)</i>
Closing the locks is doing little to nothing for controlling invasive species.
gobies are good for fishing, open the menasha lock!
Goby are in Lake Winnebago - have personally caught them so using that as your reason to close the lock is a lie.
Hopefully something can be done about the round goby so that the lock can be reopened.
I am concerned for the future of Little Lake BDM. It's being overrun by aquatic invasive species. The communities and residence get to enjoy this natural resource should stand up and protect it.
I think the gobies are all over in all the waterways in these areas. Menasha Lock closed is not good.
I would be curious to know if Gobies are in Lake Winnebago. I know plenty of people that claim to have caught them...
If Sport fish like the smallmouth and rock bass, walleye, yellow, perch, and brown trout are predators of the Gobi, why are they such a threat to Lake Winnebago? They also help remove zebra mussels. The wrong Govee made it through all of the locks north of Appleton, what makes us think that we have kept them out of Lake Winnebago?
If you are asking about the round goby, I would simply say that fishing in the Bay of Green Bay has never been better even with the goby. Keeping the Menasha Lock closed because of the goby is completely unfair and unnecessary.
It is embarrassing that the menasha lock is closed 9 years. There is a solution, but clearly politics are in play
It is my option the locks are closed to limit the invasive species. I'm don't believe that will solve the problem, invasive species will make it into our water ways despite closing the locks. The lock closure severely limits my use and enjoyment of living on the lake.
It's very annoying all that money was spent to fix up the locks only to have them never open for fear of an invasive species. You would think they would have addressed that possibility before spending the millions
Nature will take care of it. Either aquatics will change and adapt or parish. Change is inevitable.
No
no, I'm not familiar with plants.
Round goby fish are also present in Lake Winnebago.
The carp are pretty impressive in the spring, and they die and the smell of dead fish is intense!!! The zebra mussels impacts other species and impact fishing.
The fact that the goby is in LLBDM means more than likely it has made it way into Lake Winnebago which means the Menasha lock being closed is useless at this point.
The menasha lock was closed due to the round Gobi over 10 years ago. However native fish species are still present in the waterway and in Green Bay. Fishing occurs in these areas still. To say that it would negatively impact lake winnebago (and say that no single fish of this kind exists there) is a simplification very concrete thinking.
The round headed goby (RHG) is in LLBDM and Lake Winnebago and it didn't get in the big lake solely because of the lock. The RHG is in the bay of green bay and that is a world class pike and perch fisheree. Both game fish are flourishing in the Bay and the goby is a food source for the pike and perch. To allege the goby will negatively impact Winnebago fishing is preposterous. There is no the Menasha lock 0 is closed

The zebra mussels make entering the lake directly from the shore difficult for swimming. The weeds are unsightly and seem to be spreading. The weeds on the west side seem to be expanding farther out each year. Boating is more difficult on the west side of the lake compared to 20 years ago.
They are a daily nuisance to the beauty and enjoyment of LLBdM
They are in Lake Winnebago as well. Open the Menasha Lock!
To open lock, check status of gobe.
Vacuuming the sludge would help with removing invasive plants and creatures and greatly improve the water quality
We are told that there are round goby however I have yet to see one. The lock has been closed for years due to this alleged concern and it's impact on fishing , find this strange as the Bay of Green Bay is a World class walleye fishery with round goby as a food source , feel that the round goby would have more of a positive impact than negative. But what is truly aggravating is the lies being told to us about barriers being placed in the lock and reopening of the lock.
We wish that the lock would reopen so we could get from Little Lake Baltimore into Lake Winnebago.
We would like the locks open to Lake Winnebago
Would be great if we could use the locks again. Not sure how barges can go through locks???

Shoreline Property Owners Survey <i>Survey Question Number: Question 37</i> <i>(The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)</i>
No
Are there any?
Dead and rotting carp are disgusting to walk by.
How will round golbies be controlled? They are out of controle!
I know of many friends who see and catch them in Lake Winnebago but we have not caught or seen any in Little Lake in many years
I think the zebra mussels have aided in water clarity on the Fox system.
I would be interested in learning more
I would like you to know that no one taking this survey is qualified to answer and to gather this data is irresponsible
I would really like to see Round Gobby eradicate so the lock could be used as designed
I'm actually unsure about this. The only time I think about it is when there is a slight odor in my neighborhood.
Invasive species are everywhere, need to reopen lock
Just the impacts to the Menasha Locks. Is this closure still, only due to round gobies? If so, what happens when it is proven that round gobies are already in Lake Winnebago?
Let's be real, the round goby is in lake winnebago. Open the lock.

QID 53. From the list below, please rank your top concerns regarding Little Lake Butte des Morts, with 1 being your greatest concern.

Property Owners Top Concerns:	Rank
Algae blooms	1st
Excessive aquatic plant growth	2nd
Water level fluctuations	3rd
Poor water quality	4th
Shoreline erosion	5th
Aquatic invasive species	6th

General Public Top Concerns:	Rank
Algae blooms	1st
Poor water quality	2nd
Excessive aquatic plant growth	3rd
Shoreline erosion	4th
Habitat loss	5th
Aquatic invasive species	6th

Combined	Rank
Algae blooms	1st
Excessive aquatic plant growth	2nd
Poor water quality	3rd
Shoreline erosion	4th
Water level fluctuations	5th
Habitat loss	6th
Aquatic invasive species	7th
Shoreline development	8th
Wastewater and industrial discharges	9th
Polluted runoff (from agriculture, roads, residential property)	10th
Septic system discharges	11th
Excessive watercraft traffic	12th
Unsafe watercraft practices	13th
Impacts from climate change	14th
Excessive fishing pressures	15th

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey (Response count per rank by category)														
Survey Question Number:	Question 49														
Ranking Categories	Greatest Concern										Least Concern				
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th
Shoreline erosion	13	10	6	16	13	11	11	16	20	9	6	4	1	2	1
Shoreline development	10	10	4	6	8	10	17	10	16	17	14	6	8	1	2
Water level fluctuations	17	22	28	18	16	7	5	5	5	3	8	3	1	1	0
Excessive aquatic plant growth	35	32	27	18	6	3	3	4	6	1	2	0	0	1	0
Habitat loss	3	0	3	7	19	20	19	12	21	17	11	4	1	1	1
Algae blooms	37	35	24	10	10	15	5	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Poor water quality	8	13	22	26	13	14	25	7	3	4	1	3	0	0	0
Aquatic invasive species	2	7	8	15	19	10	4	33	12	10	12	3	0	2	1
Excessive watercraft traffic	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	2	32	17	18	29	19	13	3
Unsafe watercraft practices	0	2	0	1	0	2	2	8	5	34	14	21	27	15	7
Wastewater and industrial discharges	4	5	5	5	14	17	13	13	9	9	29	10	3	3	0
Septic system discharges	2	3	3	7	9	9	14	10	3	7	11	31	25	5	0
Polluted runoff (from agriculture, roads, residential property)	2	0	8	9	8	17	13	12	5	4	7	9	36	8	1
Impacts from climate change	1	0	0	1	2	1	4	4	1	4	4	8	9	64	26
Excessive fishing pressures	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	2	2	6	9	21	85

	General Public Survey (Response count per rank by category)														
Survey Question Number:	Question 38														
Ranking Categories	Greatest Concern										Least Concern				
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th
Shoreline erosion	10	15	23	13	23	10	13	19	19	13	6	4	3	0	1
Shoreline development	10	17	8	11	11	19	16	13	12	16	14	11	6	4	4
Water level fluctuations	7	5	16	9	14	17	10	13	13	21	12	16	8	6	5
Excessive aquatic plant growth	10	28	14	27	14	15	11	13	10	8	10	6	4	0	2
Habitat loss	17	12	13	11	16	17	26	21	20	5	10	1	0	3	0
Algae blooms	55	28	15	11	12	16	7	9	8	5	2	2	1	1	0
Poor water quality	28	24	17	21	19	17	13	12	11	3	3	3	0	1	0
Aquatic invasive species	10	5	15	12	18	19	18	18	12	16	11	10	2	5	1
Excessive watercraft traffic	0	2	0	1	3	1	4	5	26	15	28	27	31	22	7
Unsafe watercraft practices	1	0	3	2	2	1	5	9	6	27	18	32	31	26	9
Wastewater and industrial discharges	5	18	12	20	9	15	18	10	8	11	30	8	5	2	1
Septic system discharges	2	2	13	10	12	13	10	16	13	12	8	32	19	6	4
Polluted runoff (from agriculture, roads, residential property)	14	12	21	19	16	7	10	7	8	7	9	4	31	4	3
Impacts from climate change	2	3	1	4	2	4	9	6	3	9	5	10	17	59	38
Excessive fishing pressures	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	3	4	6	6	14	33	97

QID 54. Currently, Little Lake Butte des Morts is managed separately by federal, state, county or local agencies. Who do you think should be in charge of addressing each of the issues listed below?

Select all that apply for each row.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey <i>(Response count by category)</i>						
<i>Survey Question Number:</i>	<i>Question 50</i>						
Response Categories	Federal Agency	State Agency	County	Local municipalities	Multi-government Collaboration	Lake association	Don't Know
Shoreline erosion	8	28	28	33	36	19	30
Shoreline development	6	16	26	57	27	19	25
Water level fluctuations	17	33	20	30	40	15	25
Excessive aquatic plant growth	9	26	23	44	41	27	26
Habitat loss	9	39	20	34	29	20	29
Poor water quality	12	41	24	37	36	20	26
Aquatic invasive species	14	44	22	35	34	23	24
Excessive watercraft traffic	3	17	33	60	15	23	31
Unsafe watercraft practices	6	21	39	64	16	19	26
Wastewater and industrial discharges	25	48	30	36	34	11	20
Septic system discharges	11	42	40	51	31	12	20
Polluted runoff	11	45	37	46	34	15	21
Impacts from climate change	40	20	15	22	27	11	49
Excessive fishing pressures	4	42	27	32	14	20	34

	General Public Survey <i>(Response count by category)</i>						
<i>Survey Question Number:</i>	<i>Question 39</i>						
Response Categories	Federal Agency	State Agency	County	Local municipalities	Multi-government Collaboration	Lake association	Don't Know
Shoreline erosion	11	40	45	54	62	21	24
Shoreline development	3	26	45	73	48	27	28
Water level fluctuations	21	57	33	27	39	14	34
Excessive aquatic plant growth	6	57	43	44	52	25	26
Habitat loss	17	63	41	33	53	20	30
Poor water quality	30	75	41	42	59	21	23
Aquatic invasive species	26	76	33	29	51	16	26
Excessive watercraft traffic	2	24	57	66	27	27	25
Unsafe watercraft practices	5	28	64	74	29	21	22
Wastewater and industrial discharges	53	72	37	38	53	14	22
Septic system discharges	24	62	46	57	40	11	24
Polluted runoff	36	69	41	45	52	13	26
Impacts from climate change	34	19	21	47	14	55	6
Excessive fishing pressures	6	69	35	34	28	16	39

Response Categories	Combined Surveys (Response count by category)						
	Federal Agency	State Agency	County	Local municipalities	Multi-government Collaboration	Lake association	Don't Know
Shoreline erosion	19	68	73	87	98	40	54
Shoreline development	9	42	71	130	75	46	53
Water level fluctuations	38	90	53	57	79	29	59
Excessive aquatic plant growth	15	83	66	88	93	52	52
Habitat loss	26	102	61	67	82	40	59
Poor water quality	42	116	65	79	95	41	49
Aquatic invasive species	40	120	55	64	85	39	50
Excessive watercraft traffic	5	41	90	126	42	50	56
Unsafe watercraft practices	11	49	103	138	45	40	48
Wastewater and industrial discharges	78	120	67	74	87	25	42
Septic system discharges	35	104	86	108	71	23	44
Polluted runoff	47	114	78	91	86	28	47
Impacts from climate change	74	39	36	69	41	66	55
Excessive fishing pressures	10	111	62	66	42	36	73

QID 55. Would you support or oppose a more formal collaboration among local municipalities for management of Little Lake Butte des Morts?

Select one option.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

Survey Question Number:	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey	
	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	Count	Percentage of GP Total
Question 51			Question 40	
Responses	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	Count	Percentage of GP Total
Strongly support	97	70%	91	53%
Somewhat support	36	26%	73	42%
Somewhat oppose	4	3%	5	3%
Strongly oppose	2	1%	3	2%
Sum of responses	139	-	172	-

QID 56. Would you support the formation of and be interested in joining a Little Lake Butte des Morts Lake Association?¹

Select one option.

Summary of Responses:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey	
Survey Question Number:	Question 52	
Responses	Count	Percentage of SPO Total
I would support the formation of a Lake Association and would be interested in being part of it.	78	56%
I would support the formation of a Lake Association but would NOT be interested in being part of it.	41	29%
I do not support the formation of a Lake Association for Little Lake Butte des Morts. ²	20	14%
Sum of responses	139	-

¹ Survey question was not asked in the General Public survey.

² If respondents selected "do not support" for this question, they skipped to QID 59.

QID 57. Would you support the formation of a Little Lake Butte des Morts Lake Association?¹

Select one option.

Summary of Responses:

	General Public Survey	
Survey Question Number:	Question 41	
Responses	Count	Percentage of GP Total
Yes	99	58%
No	16	9%
Unsure, need more information	57	33%
Sum of responses	172	-

¹ Survey question was not asked in the Shoreline Property Owner survey.

QID 58. Lake associations can operate and support various projects that benefit a water body because of annual dues paid by members. How much would you be willing to pay in annual dues if a lake association were to form?¹

Note that this is not a financial commitment, and you would not be obligated to join a lake association if one formed. This is simply an effort to gauge potential financial support from the community. Select one option.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey		General Public Survey
Survey Question Number:	Question 53		Not asked
Responses	Count	Percentage of SPO Total	
\$100+	48	40%	
\$51-100	28	23%	
\$26-50	24	20%	
\$11-25	4	3%	
\$10	6	5%	
\$0	7	6%	
Unsure / Other ²	3	3%	
Sum of responses	120	-	

¹This question was only answered by SPO's if they selected "Yes" in QID 56.

² Responses from the shoreline property owners who chose "other" are included in the following table:

QID 58 – Shoreline Property Owner Responses Submitted Under the "Other" Category (The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)
0
0
\$0
\$1
\$100-\$250 annually
\$500.00
?
Depends on what the money is going to, but >\$100. Also, with this being a public access lake how do other users contribute?
Don't want to pay dues
Hard to answer when we do not yet know its capacity, scope, mandates, and authority.
I already over pay in the amount of taxes
I will 1st have to know their charter. N
Our property taxes are higher because of our lake front properties. Some of the extra that we pay should be used for funding the lake association. There are also numerous for profit organizations/ companies that benefit from the lake that should be contributing to the association.

QID 59. The effective management of Little Lake Butte des Morts will require the cooperative efforts of numerous volunteers. Please select the activities you would be willing to participate in to support the future management of Little Lake Butte des Morts.

This is not a commitment but simply an effort to gauge potential volunteer support from the community. Select all that apply.

Summary of Responses by Survey Group:

	Shoreline Property Owners Survey	General Public Survey
Survey Question Number:	Question 54	Question 42
Responses	Count	Count
Water quality monitoring	76	54
Aquatic plant monitoring	55	35
Wildlife monitoring	49	64
Watercraft inspections at boat landings	9	17
Vegetation management	26	26
Writing newsletter articles	9	15
Citizen advisory committee	33	42
I do not wish to volunteer	34	68
Other (please specify) ¹	8	54

¹ Responses from the shoreline property owners and the general public who chose "other" are included in the following tables

QID 59 – Shoreline Property Owner Responses Submitted Under the "Other" Category <i>(The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)</i>
Fluctuating water levels, damaging docks, and shoreline introducing
I wish I could, but circumstances are not conducive to making a commitment at this time.
My age prevents me being a volunteer
My age prevents me from volunteering anymore.
Open
Open the locks
Opening of the Menasha lock
to old to participate

QID 59 –General Public Responses Submitted Under the "Other" Category <i>(The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)</i>
Clean up trash

QID 60. Please share your favorite memory or something you love about Little Lake Butte des Morts.

Open ended response – optional

The 124 survey responses from shoreline property owners survey and 172 survey responses from the general public survey include the following highlights:

- **Calmness and Beauty:** Many respondents appreciate the calmness and beauty of the lake, including its sunsets and scenic views.
- **Family Activities:** Family activities such as boating, fishing, and gatherings are common favorite memories shared by respondents.
- **Wildlife and Nature:** Participants enjoy the wildlife and nature around the lake, including bird watching and observing eagles and pelicans.
- **Recreational Activities:** Recreational activities like kayaking, paddleboarding, and using the Loop the Lake trail are mentioned by many respondents.
- **Fishing Memories:** Fishing is a popular activity, with many respondents recalling fond memories of fishing with family and friends.
- **Historical Significance:** Some participants have long-standing connections to the lake, sharing memories from their childhood and noting changes over the years.
- **Community and Social Events:** The lake serves as a venue for community and social events, such as family gatherings and birthday celebrations.

Shoreline Property Owners Survey <i>Survey Question Number: Question 55</i> <i>(The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)</i>	
How calm it is	
a beautiful spot near our fox cities	
Activities with kids	
After answering all these question I can't think of anything!	
All the beautiful sunsets visible from my back deck.	
Bass fishing	
Beautiful scenes	
Being able to swim near the bridge when we moved here 30+ years ago. The water was clear. I think because of the current. it's been years so I don't know if it's still that way.	
Being able to take my boat from my dock to Fremont and back on a sunny day or just cruise Lake Winnebago.	
Being able to travel to and from it freely in my boat was always a great enjoyment to me and my friends. Those days are gone.	
bird watching	
Birds and the bridge	
Boating and being able to get through the locks	
Boating with family, watching wildlife eagles	
Boating with friends/famiky	
Canoeing	
Family fun	
Family gatherings at the lake	
fishing	
Fishing and hunting on it	
Fishing from a rowboat rented from Fahrenkrug's	
Fishing when I can get the boat off the lift unable to due to weeds this year	
Fishing when I was w child	
Fishing with family	
Fishing with friends	

Fishing with my dad in the summer and ice fishing in the winter. And my sister and I would ice skate all during the Christmas vacation and continue right up 'till the ice started to melt.
Fishing with the boys
Friendly neighbors!
Grandkids fishing. Enjoy going through the lock.
Grandkids learning to ski/tube. Cocktail cruises
great sunset photos eagles waiting for a fish in winter when the river opens up a crack in the ice seeing a fox run across the ice being a member of the Appleton Yacht Club and enjoying a pontoon ride to enjoy the fall colors
Growing up in Neenah, the lake has always been part of my life. It is a reminder that we are lucky enough to live where other people go on vacation.
Growing up on the lake and the beautiful sunsets!
Having a lake, right in the city, to enjoy on a daily basis... come home and watch the sunset over a lake!
How is used to be mostly weed free!
I caught the biggest Musky of my life here! It was well over 50 inches and weighed well over 30 pounds. As a matter of fact, I technically didn't catch her because she broke the handle of the net when I was trying to haul her into the boat.
I enjoy the Loop the Lake bike/recreation trail. I do not feel safe biking on the roadways, so the trail offers an opportunity to bike away from traffic.
I grew up across the street from Little Lake Butte des Morts and enjoyed swimming, skiing, sailing, and fishing as a child. I have many fond memories. When I retired, I moved back and bought a little house on the lake so I could once again enjoy the water activities. This year our neighbor put up a wood duck house on the tree outside our window and we were able to see the baby ducks jump. It was such a heart warming sight watching them swim away with their mother duck. I love this place!
I learned to wateski on little lake as a child
I love that in this somewhat populated residential area, we have this beautiful aquatic ecosystem, teaming with wildlife, that can be enjoyed by so many recreational options.
I love that Little Lake Butte des Morts is a little escape from the busy city around it. And I used to love being able to go to lake Winnebago through the locks.
I love the wildlife be it birds or animals. We had a deer in our yard in March. Maybe my favorite memory is counting 36 bald eagles around James Island in March of 2008
I truly enjoy being able to sit on my deck anytime to enjoy the nature and beauty that is in my back yard.
I used to love that I could go anywhere from here when the locks were all open.
I was married on the shores of little Lake Butte Des Morts and so were all my children. All three of my children grew up on lake and were married on the shores o
Ice skating from Fredrick st to Pages Point and back. In the 70s
It is nice to be able to look at the water. It enhances living in the area. It is a resource for outdoor recreation. My children enjoyed the many activities on the lake as they grew up - swimming, boating, ice skating, and fishing.
It's beautiful and brings us closer to family
I've been boating/swimming/tubing on the lake since high school when a friend's parents had their boat at the Yacht club.
I've grown up in this lake in a property handed down from my father. I've fished, swam, water skied. I look forward to passing on to my daughter and would like to see the body if water in better condition for her than what we have now.
Just having everything we love of a cottage in our primary residence. We love the water as a resource and want to improve it for everyone.
kayaking and paddleboarding on a calm lake at sunrise
Kayaking with my family
Less waves than Lake Winnebago
Living on the lake
Living on waterfront property.
LOOP THE LAKE TRAIL
Love living on the lake.
Love taking the kids out for a sunset cruise on the lake as it's rarely busy.
Love that it never gets too rough. There is amazing wildlife and it never gets too crowded. It's a beautiful body of water.
Love the view!
Many days boating, swimming and enjoying the sunsets and wildlife.
Moon rises looking east from the west shore and the reflections in the water.
My children and now grandchildren fishing in our backyard
My children waking early in the morning just to fish before going to school.

My first time on a kayak was on this lake.
none
Not all of my neighbors agree with me, but I enjoy the surroundings: birds, animals among all of the trees and foliage, views.....
Peaceful lake to enjoy great sunsets with the family.
Peacefulness
Pelicans, Bald Eagles, Blue Herons, Egrets.
Pontoon ride during sunset
Pontooning to the Appleton Yacht Club
Remarkable sunsets and abundant wildlife viewing
Rows of pelicans arriving for the first time in years and watching them fish in unison. Amazing sight!
Sailing
Seeing the number of eagles and pelicans was a pleasant surprise.
Spent much of my youth on the lake learning to ski jump and barefoot on LLBDM. We came to the lake from our homes on the big lake when it was too rough to ski on it. Its a great historic waterway and needs to be preserved. Further, the lock needs to be reopened allowing us to get to Winnebago; there is no need to spend any money to keep the goby out as it's already there but the DNR and/or Walleyes for tomorrow dispute that claim.
Sunrise and watching pelicans
Sunrises during all four seasons; just spectacular (when the sun is out).
Sunset!!!
Sunsets
Sunsets
Sunsets and sitting in the yard
Sunsets, fairly quiet lake, waterskiing, boat cruising, kayaking, personal watercraft activities, fishing
Taking friends and family through the Menasha Lock and enjoying downtown Menasha and Lake Winnebago.
Taking kids out on the boat and teaching them new skills
Taking kids tubing
Taking our nightly ride around the lake enjoying the peace it brings us.
Taking the grandkids out fishing and swimming.
The beauty at night.
The beauty of the lake
The eagles are awesome, we watch them every day. The ducks and all the babies. We used to love boating w the kids, tubing and watching them swim/jump. The water is to icky to do that anymore.
The Menasha Lock and access to Lake Winnebago.
The propensity to be serene and beautiful
The return of Pelicans and Eagles
The sunrises and moonrises.
The sunsets
The sunsets are the best I've ever seen during my life. The wildlife, especially the birds, ducks, geese, pelicans, seagulls that are part of the habitat of Little Lake Butte des Morts.
the trestle trail/bridge is the biggest improvement in the last 25 years.
The variety of wildlife on water and shoreline.
The view from out home and deck
The view.
The views from our hone and patio give me peace and joy each day.
The wildlife. It's the very best part of living here. And the sunsets are pretty good too.
Time spent with family and friends
Tubing and water skiing with all the kids, nephews and nieces. Naming all the wildlife as it comes to our shoreline.
Use to be great when we could use the lock to explore the rest of the system.
View and sunsets if it is also quiet.
Watching my kids catch perch, bluegill, crappie, and pike right in the back yard.
Watching our children grow up using Little Lake BDM.
Watching sunsets on the water.
Watching the bald eagles hatch their families from my living room. Knowing how the population has had such an amazing resurgence with quality management gives me hope we can work together to live in coordination with nature.

Watching the wildlife/pelicans etc and using our boat
Water skiing
Water-skiing with my kids
We have only lived here for 3 years and have been busy building the house, doing landscaping, and getting the dock and watercrafts set up.
We liked the peacefulness before the Loop the lake was put in.
We love seeing all the eagles that call LLB home!
We love the sunsets and watching the bald eagles. We also like kayaking and riding our bikes across the Trestle Trail.
We love the wildlife, especially the eagles. (But the Canadian geese are a health issue as of late. So much poop!)
We love to kayak and we love to go tubing.
When we hosted my Mom's 80th Birthday and all the family were able to enjoy the water and view.
Wood ducks & herons & eagles

General Public Survey <i>Survey Question Number: Question 43</i> <i>(The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)</i>	
0	
-	
.	
.	
.	
All the nature around	
Always seeing the variety of aquatic birds, especially the pelicans and egrets, and the eagle nests.	
As a young child being able to walk to the 9th Street dock and catching numerous perch. Walking back home(about 1 -2 miles). We cleaned the perch and mom would fry them. CAN'T DO THAT NOW. WOULDN'T EAT ANY FISH FROM THE LITTLE LAKE.	
B	
Back in the 70's water was better and not as smelly we would go to the lake and swim you can't now cause of the dead fish along the shore line and the algae bloom	
Beautiful area	
Bike rides around the trail with my son	
bike trails	
Biking the trestle trail/loop the lake is our favorite activity as a family.	
Boating	
Boating	
Boating and fishing	
Boating and tubing with family	
boating in Little Lake Butte des Morts and being able to access Lake Winnebago	
Boating, bike paths	
bringing my children to the park and walking the trails	
Canoeing across the lake from my grandpa's house on Palisades to explore Mud Creek. Seeing the Great Blue Herons and other wildlife in the serenity tucked behind stroebe Island.	
Canoeing across the river at my grandpa's house	
Catching a limit of crappies in 45 minutes ice fishing below the locks one morning about a decade ago.	
Catching fish with my family	
Catching huge smallmouth bass	
Catching smallmouth bass	
Daily walks with my dog through Rydell Conservancy and the trestle trail	
Eagles and all the special birds	
Eagles nesting in the area	
Enjoy sunset's and walking the trails	
Exploring Rydal conservatory Before is became the conservator and biking the trestle with My kids during the early days before is was paved and still was full of wild flowers.	
Family	
First moving to the area and walking along the lake shore with family.	
fish	

Fishing
Fishing
fishing
Fishing
Fishing
Fishing
Fishing when I was a kid
fishing for musky and northern pike with a neighbor in 1982
fishing for smallmouth bass is getting very good in this lake. I love fishing this lake in early to mid april after the ice is out.
Fishing from a small boat with my Grandfather when I was a kid. Now I mostly just use trails and parks but use them often.
Fishing with family
Fishing with my dad and kids.
Fishing with my father.
Fishing with my son
fishing with sons on the dock (on the lake on Stroebe Island and on the Fox)
Ggghh
Good fishing opportunities
Great local residents
Grew up 1960's. Water toxic. 2 headed fish. Now clean. Still would not eat fish.
Growing up fishing and hunting
Growing up on that lake gave me memories of a lifetime. I was even present as a youngster when the crews broke ground for Fritze Park
having this recreational and aesthtic resource in the middle of town.
I can't fill in the "Other" - when you hit Other and then Specify, it won't let you type anything in!
I enjoy going through the locks on longer trips. I remember going from Winneconne all the way to Appleton.
I enjoy looking across the water and seeing the birds and jumping fish. Sunsets are impressive as well.
I enjoy the lakeshore, I love being on the water and enjoying nature
I enjoy the loop bike trail and seeing all the different birds especially the eagles 🦅
I grew up fishing this lake with my grandpa both in his small 14 ft boat and also from shore. I have seen many changes. One of which being the PCB cleanup that occurred years ago. I am now 42 and like to take my kids fishing there as well. I've introduced new people to fishing on this lake as the perch fishing is really good right now.
I just love using the trail system
I learned to drive a boat on this lake
I like to walk the trails and sit enjoying the breeze
I love fishing along the lake in the summer
I love fishing there.
I love seeing native wildlife when it is there.
I love seeing the bald eagles and their nests along the trail.
I love seeing the herons, egrets, and eagles. I enjoy the arrival of the swallows each spring and their departure in the late summer. I love seeing and hearing the occasional sandhill crane that flies over the lake. I love hearing the ospreys.
I love taking early morning walks and seeing the sun rise
I love the loop the little lake trail, biking, walking, and traversing the area from nature corridor to nature corridor.
I love the trail system!
I love the Trestle Trail and loop the lake walk.
I love using the trail system alone or with my dog. The amount of wildlife I see helps me enjoy my walk!
I volunteered for the bald eagle nest watch out of Southern Wisconsin Bird Alliance (formerly Madison Audubon). Nest was located on west shore of the lake and it was a fun experience to watch weekly from February - June.
I was taking/teaching my Granddaughter how to sail & a dozen iridescent green/blue dragon flies landed on our mast down-rigger wire and we both got really excited. The other was my wife caught her 1st Northern & it landed in the bottom of the boat flopping all over & was huge!
Ice fishing as a boy scout 50 yrs ago
Ice fishing back when I was a kid outside the discharge pipe at GCMW sewage treatment facility.
Ice fishing with family
ldk
It is a rare gem.

It's my local lake
Kids Playing in clean water by the bridge
Lakes are an asset to all
Location and having access to a recreational lake right in town. The versatility of the lake to support so many different activities.
Loop the lake
Loop The Lake
Loop the lake is one of our favorite aspects.
Loop the lake trail
Loop the lake trail and variety of wildlife
Loop the Lake!!
Looping the lake and getting my 50 loops!
Looping the lake, eagles, sunsets
Love my morning walks with my dogs! Some of my best memories with them
Love the trail
Love the trails system
Loving looping the lake and counting herons & watching for other birds
My 10 year old son and I walked the loop and we talked all about the history of industry on the fox river
My family uses the trail around the lake almost daily to walk our dog or ride bike. We love seeing all the wildlife, nature, and beauty that surrounds the lake!
My favorite memories on the lake are all the fishing I've done with family, friends, neighbors, etc...
My mother used to take us sledding at Fritse Park as a kid in the 1980s.
n/a
N/a
N/A
n/a
N/a
N/a
Na
NA
Native history
Nature still can thrive in the area when given a chance
Near town
New Years Eve looping the lake
No memory
Not sure
One of my first ice fishing outings was with my dad over 50 years ago. I remember how cool it was that we were in the city, but had a fishing spot right there in town.
Peaceful walks near the water
Pearch fishing
potential
Proximity to my home is great!
Public access and parks. Trestle Trail, Fritzie Park, Wild Center.
Relaxing/walking the Trestle Trail when water quality & poor smell are good.
Riding on a boat
running the fox cities marathon across the trestle bridge
Seeing the trail system completed
Sunsets & tubing
Swimming and fishing when I was a kid
Taking my young children to Fritze Park.
Taking wildlife photos
The abundance of wildlife.
The fishing and wildlife
The fishing was great 4 years ago!
The more natural, the better.
The people, wildlife

The return of the waterfowl after the PCB removal is something I will never forget
The sites while riding the trail
The smallmouth bass fishing
The sunsets
The trail
the trail
The trails
The trails the scenery the opportunity's to fish
The trestle trail is very nice especially its bump outs where you can sit and enjoy the lake views.
The turning of the old railroad track into a walking trail!
The views
The wild life all the babies.
Time on the water with family & friends
Trestle trail
Trestle trail
Trestle trail
Trestle trails
Use to water ski on the lake in the late 60s
Using the Loop the Lake Trail while enjoying the views on the lake like wildlife, birds, and sunrise/sunsets ❤️
Using the trail system to get exercise, be in nature, visit local parks with my kids; we often stop in Neenah for snack/meal before continuing on our activity.
Very accessible with wide range of recreational options.
Very close to home, allowing me to spend lots of quality time on the water with my family.
Very family friendly, love taking my family to enjoy. Glad we live close by!
Walking
Walking the trail
Walking the trails and relaxing with my family. It's so nice to be able to be so close to an area that I can enjoy the scenery, and be able to exercise and spend quality time with my family at the same time.
Walking the trestle trail over the bridge in the evenings
Walks on the Loop the Lake trail while seeing bald eagles, pelicans, and beautiful sunsets.
Walks with my mom to look for wildlife.
Watching my kids ski, swim and play in the lake.
Watching the boats go through the lock from the trestle trail.
Watching the rookery from the bridges
Watching the water fowls on the lake.1
Water skiing with the kids when they were younger. Now I enjoy kayaking and watching the sun set.
We enjoy walking, biking and canoeing on the lake. We have also participated in the locks paddles in years past.
Wildlife and sunsets

QID 61. Additional comments – Please use the space below to provide any additional comments that you have about Little Lake Butte des Morts or its management.

Open ended response – optional

The 54 responses from the shoreline property owner survey and 47 responses from the general public survey highlight various issues and suggestions from shoreline property owners and the general public:

- **Major Concerns:** Respondents identified water fluctuations, massive weed growth, and algae as significant issues affecting the lake's enjoyment and usability.
- **Impact of Menasha Lock Closure:** The closure of the Menasha lock has negatively impacted recreational activities, property values, and navigation.
- **Desire for Improved Water Quality:** Many respondents expressed a desire for clearer water and better water quality, with some mentioning the need for farm runoff control and local water level management.

- **Hunting Concerns:** Several respondents are opposed to hunting on or near the lake, citing safety concerns and negative impacts on wildlife.
- **Noise Issues:** Noise from train whistles, highway traffic, and boat motors were highlighted as detracting from the enjoyment of the lake.
- **Support for Lake Management Initiatives:** There is support for initiatives to manage and improve the lake, with some respondents expressing optimism about the survey's potential impact.
- **Recreational Opportunities:** Suggestions for enhancing recreational opportunities include reopening the lock, developing public beaches, and improving canoe/kayak access.
- **Concerns About Property Development:** Some respondents are concerned about overdevelopment around the lake, which they feel could negatively impact the environment and wildlife.
- **Desire for Community Involvement:** Many respondents expressed a desire for greater community involvement and collaboration among government agencies to address the lake's issues.
- **Long-Term Vision:** Several respondents emphasized the importance of long-term planning and sustained efforts to improve the lake for future generations.

Shoreline Property Owners Survey <i>Survey Question Number: Question 56</i> <i>(The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)</i>	
1 suggest getting Appleton involved.	2 Not optimistic about dealing with the two greatest threats to enjoyment of the lake.
A. water fluctuations.	B. Massive weed growth.
3. Happy to see first attempt to seek improvements in an organized way.	
4. We are in our 80s and do not expect to see much if any improvement in our lifetimes.	
A bold forewarning of the length of this questionnaire would have been helpful because this was not. 5 minute questionnaire.	
Access to Lake Winnebago through the Menasha lock provides a huge recreational and economic opportunity.	
Algalia and weeds increasingly a problem	
All of the measures discussed here will help to improve the lake but the single biggest is farm runoff, followed by weed control. Fix those and the algae will be manageable.	
Biggest frustration by far is the HUGE lake level fluctuations. This must be brought under control. We should not be baring all of the blunt of other lakes making our properties, docks, boats, etc unusable!!!!	
Clarification of the water would be wonderful.	
Closure of the Menasha lock has been a disaster to the Little Lake. FRNSA has been an abject failure to the improvement of navigation to and from the little lake and surrounding waterways.	
Elimination of train whistles and reduction of highway traffic noise would make the lake and surrounding property more enjoyable. Water fluctuations due to Menasha/Neenah dams are controlled and documented. Can the same be done for controls downstream of the lake?	
Frustration regarding slow response to no wake issues....why no signage posted	
I believe that the DNR should be more involved in the management of Little Lake Butte des Morts. The DNR does not receive enough monetary support from the state to monitor many of the state's lakes.	
I feel that a property owner's association is a good idea for input on the lake.	
I grew up going to a beautiful lake in Michigan. I desperately wish this lake could be that. We didn't realize the extent of the issues until living here and it's impacting our decision whether or not to stay. I'd love to help change this for the better.	
I grew up on the lake and was born in 1950. I have lived on the lake for 74 years. In the original house built in 1950 and a new house built in 1989. This is my home even though I lived away to found my businesses we kept the Menasha house in the family.	
I think hunting should not be allowed on Little Lake Butte des Morts. Two years ago there was alot of shotgun hunting and since then we have not had asmany Bald Eagles on the lake. I also found a Great White Heron shot and have photos. I sm not opposed to hunting but it does.not belong in a residential area. It is impossible to safely kayak in hunting season.	
I wish I could safely swim in the lake. I am afraid to get sick from the algae.	
I would love to use rip rap around our shore but there is no close place to get it and we would need around 3 tons.	
I'd like to see large wake boats limited to large areas of the lake only. They come close to shorelines and disrupt it greatly!	
I'm very encouraged that this survey is happening and will hopefully be part of some much needed improvement to this wonderful lake!	

IF the weeds continue to expand across the lake, there will be very little usable water space left which will result in unsafe boat traffic. The weeds need to be controlled in some fashion. The water levels which are controlled by the Corps need to have some input from local municipalities and Lake Winnebago can not be the only gauge for proper water levels.
In my experience, lake associations become a political battle ground and are not effective at addressing lake issues.
In the 62 years of living near the lake it has changed. It is a The water levels have always fluctuated and weeds have come and gone. It is worth preserving.
It would be great to have grants to support the rebuilding of eroded shorelines as well as to provide homeowners who maybe don't have a lot of free flowing capital to maintain their seawalls and waterfront structures.
Let's get a group together to make things better.
Lock needs to be reopened / water levels need to stay higher / weed growth needs to be controlled/ would be nice to see some type of Bar/Restaurant
Millions of dollars have been invested in permanent docks in Little Lake Butte des Morts and up the Fox River to Appleton. They are all built basically at the same level and almost every year they get flooded in the spring and early summer damaging the docks, and reducing their life expectancy. Better local control of the waterflow to Green Bay is necessary.
My only wish is that this becomes a high priority, with collaboration from various government agencies and community support. I think almost anyone that lives on the water would be in support.
need a spill water built into the lock to help keep the canal cleaner
Noisy overpass and roaring boat motors are most negative part of living on the lake.
none
Not a fan of the northern pike slot size In all my life, 69 years, I've caught one northern over 35" and I was 16 years old!
Open the locks
open the locks
Participation is for younger folks but I do hope that there is support to make this little lake all it can be.
Please excuse the language, but why in the hell are people allowed to duck hunt in the fall on this lake that sits in the middle of the metropolitan area? It seems dangerous and from a noise standpoint it is very disruptive. This should not be allowed. Also, the noise from the trains is excessive. We should have then stop blowing their horns in the lake area, just like they have done through the city in Appleton. The train horn sounds carry from one end of the lake to the other.
Pollution in the lake is a problem also
Really want to see the locks open again.
See previous
Thank you for doing this. I hope I am still here when results begin to show.
Thank you for the opportunity to answer the survey.
Thank you for trying to help the LLBDM community.
The closing of the locks has severely impacted our enjoyment of the lake, as well as the property values, and recreational activities.
The hunting on/near/across Little Lake Butte Des Morts is a terrible safety and area of concern on/near Stroebe island. I thought that might be addressed here as it is loud,, makes walking a concern and has made me want to move.
The lake needs help. Property owners deserve the right to be happy with their surroundings. Looking at all the green slime does not make people happy.
The water quality makes it hard to enjoy the lake. Having the locks closed to Winnebago is a really bad situation. Limited access to food, fuel, beverages on the water is a downside.
The water quality/algae bloom has gotten progressively worse over the last few years. The plant growth impacting boat motors has really gotten bad
This is long overdue, but so exciting that it is happening. Now is our chance to influence the future of this resource.
Very opposed to Duck Hunting!!
Way too much development already, including Arrowhead Park and the Kampo Bridge.
We are excited about this survey, and being part of doing something to have a positive impact on our Lake.
We would like to turn our lagoon into a swimming area.
Would like to lock to lake Winnebago open
Would love to see some regulations on the use of wake boats
Would love to see the lock to Lake Winnebago open up.

General Public Survey

Survey Question Number: Question 44

(The responses listed below have not been edited for grammar or spelling)

1. Weed control is by far the number one issue. Algae/water quality is probably a close second but should be improved organically by managing the weeds better. 2. Education is a key piece. People want to do what will improve things, but are probably concerned that a lot of activities might not be approved. 3. Would love to see the development of the south end of the lake to give boat access to Neenah. This would be utilized and bring more money to the downtown.

A public beach would be a great addition.

As I read through questions I realized I have never been swimming in LLBDM, or even considered it an option? Is there public access for this?

Bbhhhj

Canoe/kayak access is very limited, would like to see more launches carefully added. Preserve what undeveloped shoreline and creek areas that are left. Repurpose/ rezone former Clearwater and Kimberly-Clark office suites for public access with parks and trails, perhaps a beach if suitable.

I (we) live n the fox river several houses north of what you designate as the lake. We consider ourselves to be as impacted by the problems as much as what you describe as are property owners.

I am just outside the defined area of Little Lake Butte Des Morts on the lower Fox River but have all the same water and issues...the project should include the lower Fox up to Appleton Lock #1

I am worried with the proximity to major population centers and the impact recreational boating has on this lake. Especially wake boats. These are not anywhere near appropriate or safe to use on this lake. Shoreline properties need to be regulated in the type of fertilizer they use as this lake is small and very susceptible to algae and other impacts. Having industrial settings on the lake also imparts a risk to the health of the lake, wildlife, and the people living on or in l area.

I believe that hunting birds from the shore, islands, or from boats should not be allowed, including from private lands. This has been going on in our neighborhood for several years, and it has driven away duck breeding. Also, fewer eagles have come in the last few years, which may be impacted by hunters shooting. Isn't there a distance between homes and where people are shooting, anyway?

I live near the Trestle trail but not on the lake. Spring time is best when the water is clear. The Menasha side gets pretty funky and foul smelling by later in June. Early July depending on weather.

I live on the Fox River, just down from the end of LLB. 1411 Palisades Drive,

I really like that someone is interested in the upkeep of the area.

I remember when the paper mills used to pollute the lake considerably. Water quality has improved a great deal in the last 30-40 years, but there is always room for l.

I think closing the locks was the worst thing to happen to this lake as it seems that all issues have only increased since then, the locks are often stagnant, foul smelling, and algae filled. It would be great if we could go back to a time that this wasn't an issue.

I think zebra mussels were good. They help filter the water.

I would love to help.

I'd love to see more access along the shore. The old hospital and industrial buildings would allow for great opportunities to expand the natural habitats and provide more access to the lake if redeveloped.

Invasive species, industrial discharge, and runoff are huge concerns for me. I like to fish and I like to keep them to feed my family but I am hugely concerned about the potential harm that will come to my family if we eat the fish and most people I talk to only catch and release and won't eat the fish. I see being able to eat the fish is a means of supporting my family but I'm worried I would be harming my family if I did.

It would be so amazing if a sandy public beach was developed on the lake. We have so many waterways in the Fox Cities but with minimal swimming access. Even having a clean sandy spot to hop on a paddle board then sit out in the sun would be awesome! I usually drive an hour to Neshotah beach to swim. I have swam in Lake Winnebago at High Cliff (not ideal) but never Little Lake Butte Des Morts.

LLBDM has come a long way in 50 years. For better or worse it will get whatever water quality, invasive species, and water levels that are sent it's way. Aquatic plants will get more numerous with better water quality and should be allowed to be controlled locally by property owners.

Lock needs to be reopened

Moving the trail off the road near the old KC building or a police presence to discourage cat calling/harassment of female cyclists/walkers/joggers from motorists on that segment

Na

Na

Na
NA
Need more access points for fishing. Fishing off the bridges is a hazard for 71 eople trying to enjoy the lake loops
None
none
None
None
None
None
None
Open the Menasha locks so people can use the whole lake system the goby issue to me is bogus there here there there there everywhere you can't stop it now .
Please don't change the way we enjoy this body of water
Please don't screw it up any worse than it already is! It's a great aesthetician & recreational attraction for our area!
Someday I would like to go all the way from lake Winnebago to Green Bay and beyond.
The new Neenah Arrowhead Park project reducing wildlife habitat on shoreline
There is still a long way to go before I would consider this body of water something I would want to fish in or swim in. To me it is mainly for looks, and I do not even like to kayak in it due to the poor water quality, smell, bugs, and industrial surroundings.
This survey either needs to be re-written or only answered by the specific entities that are qualified
We love the trail system – it's great to bike/walk. Would love to see more biking infrastructure so we can continue to enjoy the beautiful nature.

QID 62. Would you like to receive project updates? If so, please enter your email address below. Your email address will be kept separate from the rest of your responses and will only be shared with project partners.

Responses to this question are not included in this report to protect participant privacy.

Appendix C Survey Mailer Examples

YOU'RE INVITED!

Learn and share about **Little Lake Butte des Morts**

We also invite
you to take a
survey! Flip
me over to
learn more.

Public Meeting:

Date: July 18, 2024

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: Neenah Public Library
240 E Wisconsin Ave., Neenah, WI 54956

Why Attend?

Learn about current planning efforts.
Share your concerns and ideas.
Collaborate on solutions for
sustainable lake management.

Visit www.fwwa.org/littlelake for more information

This project is being led and funded by multiple community partners, including:



Little Lake Butte des Morts Shoreline Property Owner Survey

The Little Lake Butte des Morts Lake Planning Team invites you to participate in an anonymous online survey.

As a shoreline property owner, your input is essential for shaping the future of the lake.

To complete the survey:

1. Visit the website or scan the QR code.
2. Enter the access code provided.
3. Submit the online survey before

August 21, 2024.

This survey is intended for shoreline property owners. The access code will not be associated with your survey results. Only one survey submission will be accepted per property. A separate online survey is available for other stakeholders on the project website. To request a hard copy of either survey, please contact Korin Doering of GEI Consultants, Inc. at (920) 205-4519.

SCAN ME



fwwa.org/littlelake

Access Code

**Let's work together to enhance and preserve our
lake's ecosystem and recreational value.**

REMINDER

*Little Lake
Butte des Morts*

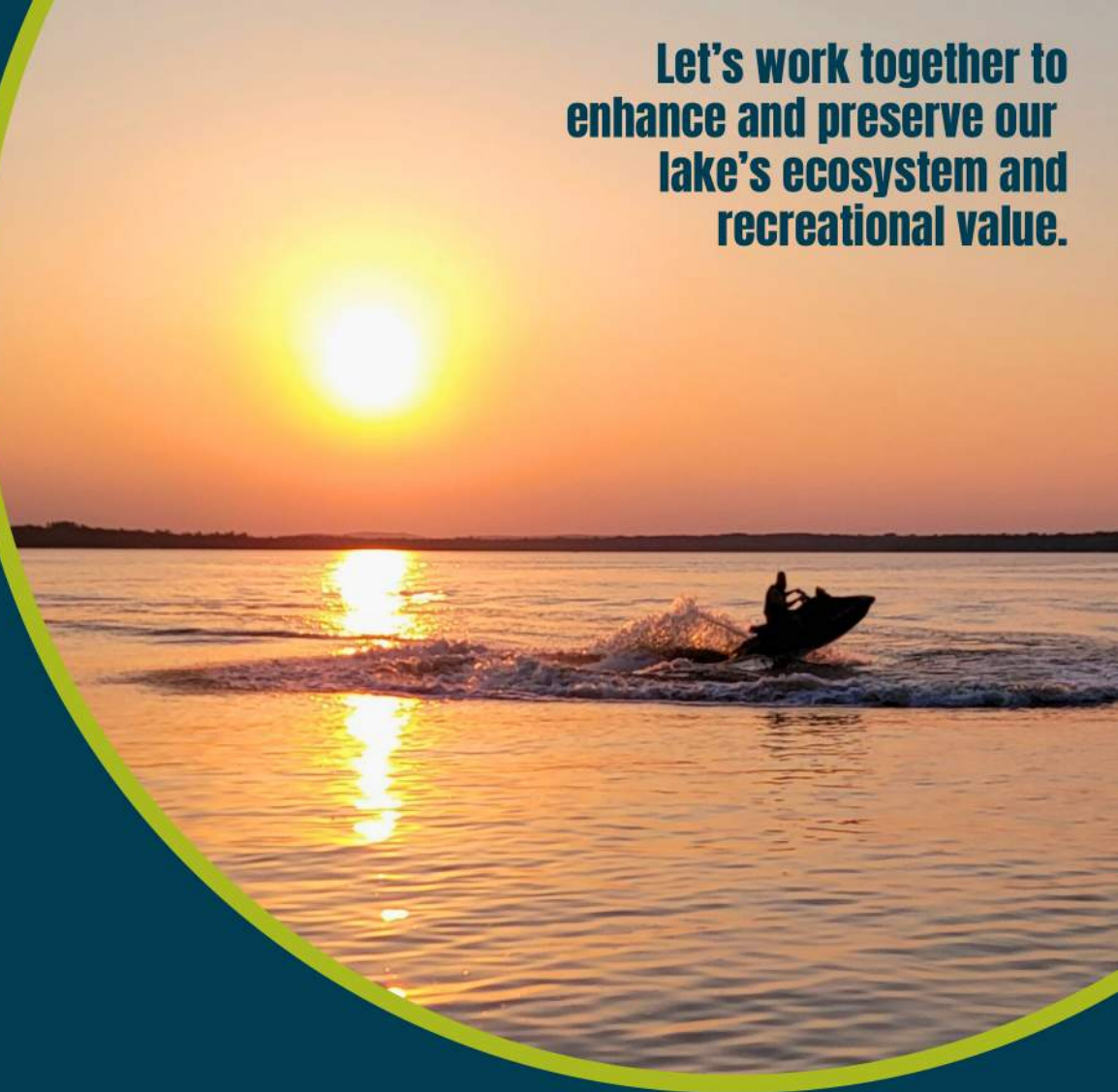
SHORELINE PROPERTY OWNERS

The online survey closes:
August 21, 2024

If you haven't yet completed the survey, please consider doing so soon. Your input is essential for shaping the future of the lake.

Learn more at: www.fwwa.org/littlelake

**Let's work together to
enhance and preserve our
lake's ecosystem and
recreational value.**



Little Lake Butte des Morts Shoreline Property Owner Survey

The Little Lake Butte des Morts Planning Team invites you to participate in an anonymous online survey.

To complete the survey:

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2. Enter the access code provided.
3. Submit the online survey before **August 21, 2024.**

This survey is intended for shoreline property owners. The access code will not be associated with your survey results. Only one survey submission will be accepted per property. A separate online survey is available for other stakeholders on the project website. To request a hard copy of either survey, please contact Korin Doering of GEI Consultants, Inc. at (920) 205-4519.

SCAN ME



fwwa.org/littlelake

Access Code

This project is being led and funded by multiple community partners, including:



FINAL REMINDER

*Little Lake
Butte des Morts*

SHORELINE PROPERTY OWNERS

The online survey closes:
August 21, 2024

If you haven't yet completed the survey, please consider doing so soon. Your input is essential for shaping the future of the lake.

Learn more at: www.fwwa.org/littlelake



**DON'T "SNOOZE"
THROUGH THIS OPPORTUNITY!**

Little Lake Butte des Morts Shoreline Property Owner Survey

SCAN ME



fwwa.org/littlelake



Access Code

The Little Lake Butte des Morts Planning Team invites you to participate in an anonymous online survey.

To complete the survey:

1. Visit the website or scan the QR code.
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3. Submit the online survey before **August 21, 2024.**

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This project is being led and funded by multiple community partners, including:



C.2. 2024 Public Meeting #1 Summary Memo

Technical Memorandum

3159 Voyager Drive • Green Bay, WI 54311 • 920.455.8200

To: Michael T. Kading, City of Neenah
From: Korin Doering and Stephanie Cole
cc: Little Lake Butte des Morts Leadership Team
Date: October 12, 2024
Re: 2024 Public Meeting #1 - Results Summary
Little Lake Butte des Morts Comprehensive Planning – Phase 1
City of Neenah, WI
Project No.: 2403578

1. Introduction

On behalf of the Little Lake Butte des Morts (LLBDM) Leadership Team, GEI Consultants, Inc (GEI) held the first public meeting to kick-off Phase 1 of the LLBDM Comprehensive Planning project on July 18, 2024, at the Neenah Public Library.

Little Lake Butte des Morts (LLBDM) is a 1,200-acre lake that is bordered by three municipalities located in Winnebago County, Wisconsin. The lake provides multiple benefits to the surrounding communities and broader region including recreational opportunities, economic value, scenic beauty, and environmental value. However, the lake has several issues including harmful algal blooms, invasive species, and nuisance level plant growth that hinders recreation.

The LLBDM Leadership Team, which includes representatives from the City of Neenah, Fox Wolf Watershed Alliance (FWWA), the City of Menasha, Village of Fox Crossing, and Winnebago County, assisted with planning and advertising the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to build awareness about the project, provide background information, present on the topic of lake management planning including benefits, limitations, and challenges, and to initiate collection of stakeholder input.

Lake management merges the science of how a lake functions with the social aspects of how a community uses the lake. It is a proactive approach to restoration and stewardship. A lake management plan is a comprehensive document that describes current conditions and outlines strategies and actions for effectively managing and preserving the health of a lake and its surrounding watershed.

During the meeting, stakeholder input was collected during two engagement activities. The first activity was an open forum for attendees to share their thoughts and ask questions related to issues and potential solutions for LLBDM. During the open forum, an impromptu speech was given by Raymond H. Frana, the Fox River Section Chief/Engineering Technician from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to address several comments that arose about water level fluctuations.

The second activity was a mapping exercise to gather information in a spatial context on how meeting participants use the lake and issues they encounter or observe. Participants were provided with a paper map, colored pencils, and a list of questions. They were then asked to answer the questions by drawing on the map and writing in comments using specific colors.

An online public survey was announced during the meeting as an additional opportunity for stakeholders to provide their perspectives on lake use, challenges, and potential solutions.

Meeting notes were recorded by GEI and FWWA staff. Attendees were asked to sign-in as they entered the meeting room. A headcount conducted during the meeting indicated that approximately 150 individuals attended the meeting. Of those in attendance, 102 individuals signed in and 47 individuals completed the stakeholder mapping exercise.

Key takeaways from input collected during the meeting include:

- Aquatic plants along the shoreline and within the lake are collectively an issue for shoreline property owners on both sides of the lake. Aquatic plants, both rooted and dead, and drifting plants inhibit the ability of lake users to swim, boat, and access the lake.
- Aquatic plants are recommended to be preserved in certain areas of the lake to provide fish habitat and fishing opportunities.
- Shoreline property owners are concerned about the impacts of water level fluctuations within LLBDM, and the information provided by Raymond Frana (USACE) was generally well received by meeting attendees. Landowners and recreational users are interested in learning more and becoming a part of the email list to receive advanced warning of when flood gates will be opened.
- Attendees were in support of a planning effort and expressed excitement about the opportunity for collaborative action to address many lake issues.

Results from the public input session and mapping exercise will be used to identify priority areas for aquatic plant management, as well as areas that stakeholders would like to see preserved for fish and wildlife habitat. This information will be incorporated into the LLBDM Aquatic Plant Management Strategy and Phase 1 Action Plan.

This report summarizes meeting planning, agenda, and feedback collected during the meeting. Meeting design and methods, analysis of the input collected, and results are described in the proceeding sections below. Meeting materials, minutes, photos, and maps are provided in the Appendices.

2. Meeting Design and Methods

2.1 Meeting Planning

2.1.1 Planning Team

GEI collaborated with the LLBDM Leadership Team (Team) to plan Public Meeting #1. The Team included representatives from the City of Neenah, Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance (FWWA), the City of Menasha, Village of Fox Crossing, and Winnebago County.

2.1.2 Location Selection

LLBDM crosses into three different municipalities: the City of Neenah, City of Menasha, and Village of Fox Crossing. A total of three public meetings are planned as part of Phase 1. To maximize opportunities for stakeholders from each community to attend a meeting, the Team decided that each municipality should host one of the three public meetings.

For Public Meeting #1, the Team chose the Neenah Public Library as the venue within the City of Neenah. The Neenah Public Library was selected because the facility can accommodate over 100 people, provides a welcoming and public friendly environment located along public transportation routes, and has visual and audio equipment to support digital presentations.

2.1.3 Meeting Agenda Development and Roles

Public Meeting #1 was discussed during monthly Team meetings. Team members shared ideas and suggestions about content and activities. For the agenda, the Team chose to include a simplified education component to inform the public about the project's significance, initiatives, and timeline, an overview of management challenges, and an open session for attendees to share their thoughts. Using the input and ideas from the Team, GEI developed presentation content and the engagement activities.

Roles were assigned by the Team in advance of the meeting. The GEI Project Manager served as the meeting facilitator and presenter. The GEI Project Assistant and FWWA representative provided meeting support and recorded meeting minutes. Municipality representatives welcomed attendees, helped answer questions, and were available to interact with participants.

2.2 Meeting Promotion

Public Meeting #1 was advertised and promoted through multiple different media channels to target shoreline property owners, lake users, and members of the broader community.

GEI designed and worked with the City of Neenah to mail invitations directly to 368 shoreline property owners on July 3, 2024, approximately two weeks before the scheduled meeting date. Mailing addresses were obtained from Winnebago County tax parcel records. The back of the mailer also included an invitation for shoreline property owners to participate in an online survey. An example of the mailer is included as Appendix A.1.

A press release was drafted and distributed to multiple local media outlets by FWWA. A copy of the press release is included as Appendix A.2.

Meeting information was also posted to the project webpage (www.fwwa.org/littlelake) and shared via multiple social media platforms by FWWA. Social media posts were then re-shared by the City of Neenah, City of Menasha, Village of Fox Crossing, and Winnebago County.

2.3 Meeting Material Generation

Prior to the meeting, GEI developed a sign-in sheet, a handout, and PowerPoint presentation to share during the meeting.

2.3.1 Sign-in Sheet

The sign-in sheet form asked for attendee name, email address, zip code, and their stakeholder type (property owner, fisher, boater, and/or other). Attendees were asked to fill out the sign-in sheet upon arrival. Announcements were also made during the meeting that emails included on the sign-in sheet would be incorporated into a mailing list to receive updates about the Project. A blank copy of the sign-in sheet is provided as Appendix B.1.

2.3.2 Online Survey Invitation Handout

Information about the virtual stakeholder engagement survey was provided as a handout to meeting attendees. An announcement was also made during the meeting to encourage attendees to complete the online survey after the meeting. A copy of the handout is provided as Appendix B.2.

2.3.3 Meeting Agenda and Presentation Slides

The meeting agenda was developed by GEI using input from the Team. The agenda was as follows:

1. Presentation
 - a. Why are we here?
 - b. What is a lake management plan?
 - c. What are we currently working on?
 - d. Q&A Session
2. Let's hear from you:
 - a. Activity #1 – Open Discussion
 - b. Activity #2 – Mapping Exercise
3. Invitation to stay involved

The agenda was shared with meeting attendees during the PowerPoint presentation.

GEI developed the PowerPoint slide deck for the meeting. The purpose of the presentation was to share information about the project, describe lake management planning, and provide an overview of the planning process for LLBDM. A copy of the PowerPoint slide deck with speaker notes is included as Appendix B.3.

A 5-minute Q&A session at the end of the PowerPoint presentation provided an opportunity to clarify information that had been covered. The discussion was focused on the presented content. Questions and answers from the Q&A session were documented in the meeting minutes (Appendix C).

2.4 Stakeholder Feedback Opportunities

To engage attendees and collect feedback on the presented information and discussion topics, Public Meeting #1 included two activities: a public input session and a stakeholder mapping exercise. A comment box was also provided as an additional opportunity for attendees to submit their input. Information on each of the activities is included below.

2.4.1 Public Input Session

The public input session was held during the second half of the meeting to hear from attendees about the issues they face on LLBDM and their ideas for potential solutions.

GEI posed the following questions to initiate discussion during the session:

1. What has been your experience on Little Lake Butte des Morts?
2. What do you like about the lake?
3. What problems or issues have you observed?
4. What challenge have you faced?
5. What do you want us to consider or know?
6. What ideas do you have for solutions?

When sharing their ideas, individuals were asked to note their name and affiliation with the lake (landowner, recreational user, etc.). Information and feedback shared during this engagement activity was documented in the meeting minutes (Appendix C).

2.4.2 Mapping Exercise

At the end of the meeting, attendees were asked to take part in a mapping exercise to gather information on how meeting participants use the lake and issues they encounter or observe. Participants were provided a paper map, colored pencils, and a list of questions. They were then asked to answer the questions by drawing on the map and writing in comments using specific colors. An example of the paper map is provided in Appendix B.4.

Prompts included categories such as recreation use areas, preservation areas, and areas where recreation is impacted by aquatic plant growth (Illustration 1). Participants were asked to include their contact information on the worksheet and turn it in before leaving the meeting. Data from the worksheets were digitized and analyzed as described in Section 2.5 and Section 3 below.

2.4.3 Comment Box

To provide an opportunity for attendees to submit their input anonymously, blank paper and a comment box were available at the sign-in table. At the beginning of the meeting, attendees were informed about the box as an alternative way to voice their opinions and share ideas. Three comments or questions were submitted through the comment box.

Illustration 1. Prompts included with the Mapping Exercise

#	Pencil Color	Question
1.	BLUE	<p>Do you boat in Little Lake Butte des Morts?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If so, use BLUE to draw your navigation routes and boat launch location(s).
2.	PURPLE	<p>Do you participate in other types of recreation in or around the lake?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If so, use PURPLE to draw the locations of those activities on the map. Please note the type(s) of recreation. Examples include swimming, kayaking, ice fishing, use of trails or parks, etc.).
3.	ORANGE	<p>Within the past two years, have aquatic plants (weeds) <u>limited</u> your recreational enjoyment of the lake?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If so, use ORANGE to draw those locations on the map. Please note the type(s) of recreation impacted. Examples include swimming, kayaking, ice fishing, use of trails or parks, etc.).
4.	RED	<p>Within the past two years, have aquatic plants (weeds) <u>prevented</u> you from recreating or made any areas inaccessible for navigation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If so, use RED to draw those locations on the map. Please note the type(s) of recreation prevented (boating, swimming, kayaking, etc.).
5.	GREEN	<p>Are there any areas that you would like to see protected or preserved for fish or wildlife habitat?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If so, please use GREEN to draw those locations on the map.
6.	BLACK	<p>Is there anything else you would like us to know about your lake use, lake access, or impacts to recreation or navigation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If so, please use BLACK to draw those locations on the map and make notes.

2.5 Stakeholder Information and Data Entry

Contact information from the sign-in sheets was transcribed from hard copy into an Excel spreadsheet following the meeting. Data trends from the stakeholder mapping exercise were digitized from the hard copy maps into shapefile format using ArcGIS Pro. Details on how data trends were identified and analyzed are described in Section 3 below.

2.5.1 Data Entry Quality Assurance

After the data were transferred from the hard copy sign-in sheets and maps to the electronic format, the GEI Project Manager conducted a quality check by comparing the electronically entered data against the original field datasheets to check for errors or omissions. Errors or omissions identified were corrected before data were used to generate this report. Hard copy sign-in sheets and maps were scanned and saved to the project record for backup documentation.

3. Stakeholder Mapping Exercise Analysis

The GEI Project Assistant reviewed each worksheet to note data trends. After reviewing the results and having general trends in mind, a hard copy of the lake map was marked up during a second review of the maps. It should be noted that every response represented an individual with a unique way of interacting with LLBDM. This was taken into consideration while analyzing the results as only a portion of the responses included data for each category.

Areas that were mapped across greater than approximately 50% of responses were considered very common results. Areas that were mapped across approximately 10-50% of responses were considered common results. Areas that were mapped by a few responses were considered uncommon results. Although uncommon, this feedback was still taken into consideration when digitizing the data.

For the purposes of this exercise, the ‘nearshore area’ encapsulates areas within 0-350 feet into the lake, and the ‘offshore area’ includes areas within 350-800 feet into the lake.

Data from the merged, hard copy map were used to develop polygons illustrating approximate areas where aquatic vegetation limits boat navigation, prevents boat navigation, and limits other types of recreation (such as kayaking and swimming). Polygons were also created to show areas where stakeholders would like to see aquatic vegetation preserved for fish or wildlife habitat.

Data were then used to develop polylines illustrating boat routes and kayak routes throughout the lake. When entering the data, fields that were completed for each polygon or polyline included the data category, degree of commonality, and additional notes.

The stakeholder feedback polygons and polylines were used to create two stakeholder feedback maps (Appendix D). Appendix D.1. shows the mapped aquatic vegetation areas and Appendix D.2. shows recreational routes.

The results of the stakeholder mapping exercise are summarized in Section 4.4 below.

4. Meeting Results

Results obtained during Public Meeting #1 are described below. Photos taken during the meeting are included as Appendix E.

4.1 Sign in Sheet & Email List

A total of 102 individuals signed in at the public meeting. However, an estimated headcount conducted during the meeting indicated that approximately 150 individuals were present. According to the counts, approximately 68% of attendees signed in at the meeting.

The sign-in sheet indicated that of those who signed in, 87 individuals are property owners, 51 individuals are fishers, 68 individuals are boaters, and 33 individuals utilize LLBDM in another way.

Several responses on the sign-in sheets were illegible, and a few individuals did not provide an email address. Therefore, of the 102 responses, only 87 email addresses were added to the LLBDM Project Team email list.

Copies of the completed sign-in sheets were provided to the Team and are part of the permanent project record. However, to protect the personal contact information of attendees, sign-in sheets are not attached to this report.

4.2 Comment Box

Three responses were received in the comment box. Notable topics discussed in the responses include:

- Solutions for aquatic plant removal including rooted and floating (cut, dead, and floating throughout the lake).
- The group (if any) responsible for aquatic plant removal at the public boat launches.
- The desire to re-open the Menasha Lock to boat traffic and support of the electrical barrier project.
- The development of a lake/ river association.
- The inclusion of the lower Fox River (to Appleton Lock #1) within the initiative, which could encompass resources from Appleton and additional property owners.
- The inclusion and invitation of members from the Appleton Yacht Club (~800 members).
- Coordination and involvement that has been received from FRNSA.
- Better coordination (ex. signs) of emergency slow-no-wake orders at all boat ramps in the area (including boat launches on the lower Fox River with access to LLBDM).

4.3 Summary of Open Discussion Topics

Notable topics discussed during the public meeting include:

- How stakeholder recreational priorities, aquatic plant survey data, and other environmental conditions within LLBDM will be comprehensively analyzed to determine where and what species will receive aquatic plant management or preservation recommendations.
- The final management action implementation as a voluntary, non-regulatory recommendation.

- Water levels within LLBDM (more detailed summary of this discussion included in Section 4.3.1 below).
- The LLBDM Leadership Team and potential for group to be expanded to incorporate additional stakeholders in the future.
- Threats, issues, and solutions experienced by landowners on LLBDM. These include:
 - Excessive aquatic plant growth
 - Water level fluctuations
 - Limitations on swimming
 - Landowner management techniques for aquatic plants
 - Algal blooms

Detailed meeting minutes are included as Appendix C.

4.3.1 USACE Water Level Discussion

United States Army Corps of Engineers [USACE] Fox River Section Chief, Raymond Fana, was in attendance of the public meeting. After several comments and questions arose from the audience about water levels, Raymond was offered a chance to address the group regarding USACE's federal requirements and limitations to regulating water levels within Lake Winnebago. Raymond provided the group with background information on how the lake level is controlled in Lake Winnebago and what factors are taken into consideration when opening or closing the gates of the Menasha and Neenah Dams. He proceeded to share his empathy with the group on how significant the impacts are when the flood gates are opened at the Menasha Dam, including how he does everything in his power to minimize negative impacts to those downstream. He encouraged attendees to provide their emails to become part of an email mailing list that will receive advance warning if the gates will be opened. Lastly, Raymond noted his support for the LLBDM Project and how important these efforts are for the area.

The public response to Raymond's insight was positive, with many attendees stopping by to talk further with Raymond after the meeting. This was viewed as a valuable educational opportunity for stakeholders to learn about the logistical challenges of water levels in Lake Winnebago and LLBDM, and how their combined insights could advocate for future changes.

4.4 Mapping Exercise Summary

A total of 47 completed maps for the mapping exercise were submitted during the meeting. This indicates that at least 31% of attendees completed and submitted a mapping exercise worksheet. Many participants attended the meeting with their spouse or partner and couples were observed completing the exercise together. It is likely that more attendees participated in the exercise than the number of maps submitted.

Most of the maps that were submitted were legible and followed the supplied color guidelines. A few responses were not drawn in the correct color and instead noted what each color and line represented

on their maps. This information took additional time to analyze but was incorporated into the correct category as applicable.

Participants reported that aquatic vegetation growth significantly impacts recreational use of LLBDM. Results also indicate a variety of recreational uses of the lake (boating, kayaking, trails, wildlife viewing, fishing, ice fishing, and swimming). Several individuals noted they would like to see the Menasha Lock opened. A more detailed description of aquatic vegetation use areas and recreation routes are provided below.

Results from the mapping exercise will be utilized to identify priority areas for aquatic plant management, as well as areas that stakeholders would like to see preserved for fish and wildlife habitat. This information will be incorporated into the Aquatic Plant Management Plan and Phase 1 Action Plan.

4.4.1 Aquatic Vegetation Areas

Generally, the nearshore area west of Stroebe Island to US-10 (northwest portion LLBDM), the nearshore area from Annex Lane to the Menasha Lock (east side of LLBDM), the southeast nearshore area from Lawson Street to Abby Avenue (southeast portion of LLBDM), and the nearshore area of Arrowhead Park (south side of LLBDM) were noted to have aquatic vegetation growth that prevents boat navigation.

Generally, the nearshore area east of Stroebe Island (northwest portion of LLBDM), the offshore area south of Stroebe Island to US-10 (northwest portion of LLBDM), the nearshore and offshore area from US-10 to Arrowhead Park (west side of LLBDM), the offshore area of Arrowhead Park (south side of LLBDM), and the offshore area from Annex Land to Abby Avenue (east side of LLBDM) were noted to have aquatic vegetation growth that inhibits boat navigation. In this context, inhibits is interpreted as limits.

The northwestern/ northcentral portions of LLBDM, an area near the Menasha Lock, and the southwest portion of LLBDM were noted to have aquatic vegetation growth that inhibits other types of recreation (such as kayaking or swimming).

Areas to the west of Stroebe Island, along the west shore under US-10, along the trestle trail, and the southern portion of LLBDM were noted to be areas that stakeholders want to see preserved for fish and wildlife habitat.

A figure that highlights these areas as reported by meeting attendees during the mapping exercise is provided in Appendix D.1.

4.4.2 Recreation Routes

The most common boat navigation route reported by the mapping activity participants is a loop around the north central portion of LLBDM, ranging from approximately 400-900 feet offshore. A route from the northern portion of LLBDM north to the lower Fox River was also commonly noted.

Uncommonly noted boat routes include a loop around the southcentral portion of LLBDM and the area southwest of Stroebe Island.

The Ninth Street Boat Launch was the most noted access point to the lake. The Fritse Park Public Boat Ramp and access from the Lower Fox River were also commonly noted.

A loop along the northcentral shoreline of LLBDM was noted as a common kayaking route, with a few responses also noting the southwest shoreline as a kayaking route. A loop within the northern portion of LLBDM was noted as an uncommon swimming route, with only a few responses noting this area. Three ice fishing areas were commonly noted on the maps and are located near the northwest, southwest, and east-central shoreline of LLBDM.

A figure that highlights these areas as reported by meeting attendees during the mapping exercise is provided in Appendix D.2.

4.5 Media Coverage

Fox 11 News recorded portions of the meeting and interviewed attendees as well as members of the LLBDM Leadership Team. They shared their coverage of the meeting during a television broadcast segment and published an article on their website. The article, titled, “Neenah residents push for better water quality at Little Lake Butte des Morts meeting,” can be found at the web address provided below:

<https://fox11online.com/news/local/neenah-residents-push-for-better-water-quality-at-little-lake-butte-des-morts-meeting>

The Kaukauna Community news published an article about the meeting, titled “Public input sought on ways to fight algae blooms on Little Lake Butte des Morts.” Their article can be found at the web address provided below:

<https://kaukaunacommunitynews.com/2024/07/17/public-input-sought-on-ways-to-fight-algae-blooms-on-little-lake-butte-des-morts/>

5. Closing Summary

GEI staff facilitated a public meeting for the Little Lake Butte des Morts Comprehensive Planning – Phase 1 Project, in coordination with FWWA, Winnebago County, the City of Neenah, the City of Menasha, and Village of Fox Crossings. GEI presented PowerPoint slides to provide attendees with background information on the project, LLBDM, and the lake management planning process. Three opportunities were provided to attendees to ask questions, share input, and share experiences.

Results indicate that a total of 102 individuals signed in at the public meeting, and 47 stakeholder maps were filled out and turned in. An estimated headcount conducted during the meeting indicated that approximately 150 individuals attended the meeting.

5.1 Key Takeaways

- Aquatic plants along the shoreline and within the lake are collectively an issue for riparian landowners on both sides of the lake. The aquatic plants, both rooted and dead, drifting plants, inhibit the ability of lake users to swim, boat, and access the lake.
- Aquatic plants are recommended to be preserved in certain areas of the lake to provide fish habitat and fishing opportunities.
- Water level fluctuations within LLBDM are a concern of landowners, and the information provided by Raymond Frana (USACE) was generally well received by meeting attendees.
 - Landowners and recreational users are interested in learning more and becoming a part of the email list to receive advanced warning of when flood gates will be opened.
- Attendees were in support of this plan and excited to have collaborative action be taken.

5.2 Lessons Learned

- Not all attendees signed in on the sign in sheet. This could have been due to many individuals attending the meeting with a family member and only one attendee signing in.
- Several responses on the sign in sheet were illegible. This may have caused inaccuracy in the contact information transcribed into the Excel spreadsheet.
- Not all attendees completed the stakeholder mapping exercise. This could have been due to many individuals attending the meeting with a family member and those groups filled out one map together.
- Several responses to the stakeholder mapping exercise were not drawn in the correct color and rather wrote notes for what each color and line represented. This could have been due to the limited amount of colored pencil packs available for attendees to use. As a result, this took additional time to decipher and incorporate into the exercise results.
- Meeting materials were prepared to accommodate 100 individuals. As many individuals attended the meeting with a family member, attendees were asked to share the map exercise worksheet if possible. This may have deterred individuals from completing their own copy.

5.3 Recommendations for The Next Public Meeting

- Additional measures should be taken during the next public meeting to:
 - Obtain an accurate attendance and participation count.
 - Have each individual sign in on the sign-in sheet to record the exact number of attendees.
 - Add “city” to the sign-in sheet to better understand which municipality represents attendees.

- An official headcount should be completed by at least two LLBDM Leadership Team members during the meeting.
- Obtain accurate contact information from attendees.
 - Re-emphasize the importance of providing legible contact information on the sign-in sheet to receive project updates and meeting notices in the future.
 - A LLBDM Leadership Team assisted, digital sign-in option could be used to improve accuracy of the contact information collected.
 - At the next public meeting, ask attendees to confirm whether they received the public meeting #2 email invitation. If not, ask them to provide their email address to be incorporated into the LLBDM Project email mailing list.
- Prepare for a larger turnout that originally anticipated.
 - Prepare materials and supplies for 150-200 individuals so that each attendee can have their own copy of meeting materials or worksheets.

5.4 How Will This Information Be Used?

Results from the public input session and mapping exercise will be used to identify priority areas for aquatic plant management, as well as areas that stakeholders would like to see preserved for fish and wildlife habitat. This information will be incorporated into the Aquatic Plant Management Plan and Phase 1 Action Plan. Stakeholder contact information will be added to the project mailing list to receive email notifications regarding project updates and public meetings.

KMD:SCole/CWolf:amp

B:\Working\NEENAH, CITY OF\2403578 LLBDM Management\06_In_Progress\3a_Public Meetings and Public Comment\Public Meeting #1\TECH MEMO_Public Meeting 1\20241013_LLBDM Public Meeting 1 Report_FINAL draft.docx

Appendices

Appendix A Meeting Promotion Examples

Appendix B Meeting Materials

Appendix C Meeting Minutes

Appendix D Stakeholder Map Exercise Feedback

Appendix E Meeting Photos

Appendix A Meeting Promotion Materials

A.1. Meeting Invitation Mailer

A.2. Meeting Press Release

A.1. Meeting Invitation Mailer

YOU'RE INVITED!

Learn and share about **Little Lake Butte des Morts**

We also invite
you to take a
survey! Flip
me over to
learn more.

Public Meeting:

Date: July 18, 2024

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: Neenah Public Library
240 E Wisconsin Ave., Neenah, WI 54956

Why Attend?

Learn about current planning efforts.
Share your concerns and ideas.
Collaborate on solutions for
sustainable lake management.

Visit www.fwwa.org/littlelake for more information

This project is being led and funded by multiple community partners, including:



Little Lake Butte des Morts Shoreline Property Owner Survey

The Little Lake Butte des Morts Lake Planning Team invites you to participate in an anonymous online survey.

As a shoreline property owner, your input is essential for shaping the future of the lake.

To complete the survey:

1. Visit the website or scan the QR code.
2. Enter the access code provided.
3. Submit the online survey before

August 21, 2024.

This survey is intended for shoreline property owners. The access code will not be associated with your survey results. Only one survey submission will be accepted per property. A separate online survey is available for other stakeholders on the project website. To request a hard copy of either survey, please contact Korin Doering of GEI Consultants, Inc. at (920) 205-4519.

SCAN ME



fwwa.org/littlelake

Access Code

**Let's work together to enhance and preserve our
lake's ecosystem and recreational value.**

A.2. Meeting Press Release

FWWA
PO Box 1861
Appleton, Wisconsin 54912



Website: www.fwwa.org
Phone: 920.858.4246
Email: jessica@fwwa.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: July 16, 2024

CONTACT: Katie Woodrow
Keepers of the Fox Program Director
Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance
(920) 915-5767
Katie@fwwa.org

SEEKING PUBLIC INPUT FOR LITTLE LAKE BUTTE DES MORTS MANAGEMENT
*The first of a series of public meeting to be held in this week in Neenah
with resident and lake user surveys available now*

WINNEBAGO COUNTY, July 16, 2024 – Little Lake Butte des Morts is a popular destination for fishing, boating, and swimming as well as home to the Loop the Little Lake and Friendship State pedestrian and bike trails. While Little Lake Butte des Morts provides great value to residents and visitors alike in its opportunities for recreation, there is opportunity for improvement. After another season plagued by algae blooms in 2023, the City of Neenah led the development of an ad hoc team including the City of Menasha, Village of Fox Crossing, Winnebago County Land & Water Conservation, GEI Consultants, and Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance to develop a plan to improve conditions and recreational access to the lake. With financial support from WDNR Surface Water grants, Fund for Lake Michigan, Community Foundation of the Fox Valley Region, and Future Neenah, partners have adopted a collaborative management approach for the Little Lake Butte des Morts Comprehensive Planning project.

Public input is crucial for shaping the future of the lake. Property owners and members of the public can share their concerns and ideas to improve the lake, learn about current planning efforts, and collaborate on solutions for sustainable lake management by attending the first of a series of Little Lake Butte des Morts public meetings.

Little Lake Butte des Morts Public Meeting
Thursday, July 18, 2024 at 6:00pm
Neenah Public Library Shattuck Room, 240 E Wisconsin Avenue, Neenah

Lake users are also invited to participate in an anonymous, online survey to provide their thoughts and suggestions to inform the development of the Little Lake Butte des Morts Aquatic Plant Management and Comprehensive Lake Management Plans. The survey can be found on the Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance Little Lake Butte des Morts webpage at fwwa.org/littlelake.

About Us

Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance is a non-profit organization that works with partners to protect and restore the water resources of the Fox-Wolf River Basin.

Keepers of the Fox is a program of the Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance. Keepers of the Fox facilitates regional coordination and implementation of restoration and protection efforts for the Lower Fox River and surrounding watersheds.

###

Appendix B Meeting Materials

B.1. Blank Sign in Sheet

B.2. Little Lake Butte des Morts Stakeholder Survey Handout

B.3 PowerPoint Presentation

B.4 Stakeholder Mapping Exercise Worksheet

B.1. Blank Sign-in Sheet

Public Meeting #1 Tech Memo
Little Lake Butte des Morts Comprehensive Planning – Phase 1
October 12, 2024

B.2. Little Lake Butte des Morts Stakeholder Survey Handout

Little Lake Butte des Morts Stakeholder Survey

The Little Lake Butte des Morts Lake Planning Team invites you to participate in an anonymous online survey.

As a stakeholder, your input is essential for shaping the future of the lake.

To complete the survey:

- Visit the website or scan the QR code
- **General Public:**
 - Click the survey titled “General Public Survey”
- **Shoreline Property Owners:**
 - Click the survey titled “Lake Property Owner Survey”
 - Enter the unique access code provided on the mailer sent to your residence
- Submission Deadline: **August 21, 2024**

Please note, the Lake Property Owner Survey is intended for shoreline property owners. The access code will not be associated with survey results. Only one survey submission will be accepted per property. The General Public Survey is available for other stakeholders. To request a hard copy of either survey or for any questions, please contact Korin Doering of GEI Consultants, Inc. at (920) 205-4519.

SCAN ME



fwwa.org/littlelake

This project is being led and funded by multiple community partners, including:



Little Lake Butte des Morts Stakeholder Survey

The Little Lake Butte des Morts Lake Planning Team invites you to participate in an anonymous online survey.

As a stakeholder, your input is essential for shaping the future of the lake.

To complete the survey:

- Visit the website or scan the QR code
- **General Public:**
 - Click the survey titled “General Public Survey”
- **Shoreline Property Owners:**
 - Click the survey titled “Lake Property Owner Survey”
 - Enter the unique access code provided on the mailer sent to your residence
- Submission Deadline: **August 21, 2024**

Please note, the Lake Property Owner Survey is intended for shoreline property owners. The access code will not be associated with survey results. Only one survey submission will be accepted per property. The General Public Survey is available for other stakeholders. To request a hard copy of either survey or for any questions, please contact Korin Doering of GEI Consultants, Inc. at (920) 205-4519.

SCAN ME



fwwa.org/littlelake

This project is being led and funded by multiple community partners, including:



Public Meeting #1 Tech Memo
Little Lake Butte des Morts Comprehensive Planning – Phase 1
October 12, 2024

B.3. PowerPoint Presentation

PUBLIC MEETING #1

LITTLE LAKE BUTTE DES MORTS

MANAGEMENT PLANNING KICK-OFF

JULY 18, 2024



Photo: CEI Consultants

WELCOME



Korin Doering, Project Manager

Stephanie Cole, Ecologist

Thank you all for joining us today.

My name is Korin Doering. I am a project manager with GEI Consultants and am working towards developing a lake management plan on behalf of the municipalities for Little Lake Butte des Morts. Stephanie is here with me to take notes and help answer questions.

**LITTLE LAKE BUTTE DES MORTS
PROJECT PARTNERS**

LEADERSHIP TEAM



SUPPORT TEAM



FUNDERS



I'd like to introduce the project partners.

The project leadership team consists of representatives from the City of Neenah, Village of Fox Crossing and City of Menasha.

GEI, Fox-Wolf, Winnebago County and the DNR provide technical expertise and stakeholder outreach.

The first phase of this project is funded through grants, financial contributions, and in-kind support from multiple partners.

This is a community led project, facilitated by Fox-Wolf and managed by GEI Consultants.

We have representatives from most of these groups here today and I want to highlight that all of these partners have already been doing great work to improve lake conditions. The project we are going to talk about today is an effort to bring the partners and community together to be more strategic and collaborative.

HOUSEKEEPING



We may disagree - BUT
- Let's keep it respectful



Comment Box
We encourage participation tonight, but if you prefer, Questions or comments can be submitted on paper in the comment box.

Some quick housekeeping items:

If you didn't get a chance, please be sure to sign in

It's important that everyone have the opportunity to voice their thoughts.

Bringing different stakeholders together means we are also bringing different interests and perspectives into one space. It's okay if we disagree, but let's do it respectfully.

Listen courteously while others are speaking

Attack the problem, not the person

If you do not get a chance to voice your thoughts tonight or prefer to not speak up, we invite you to submit a comment anonymously by placing your comment in the box. If you would like a response, please include your contact information.

AGENDA

1. Why are we here?
2. What is a lake management plan?
3. What are we currently working on?
4. Let's hear from you:
 - a. *Activity #1 - Open Discussion*
 - b. *Activity #2 - Mapping Exercise*
5. Invitation to stay involved
6. Q&A

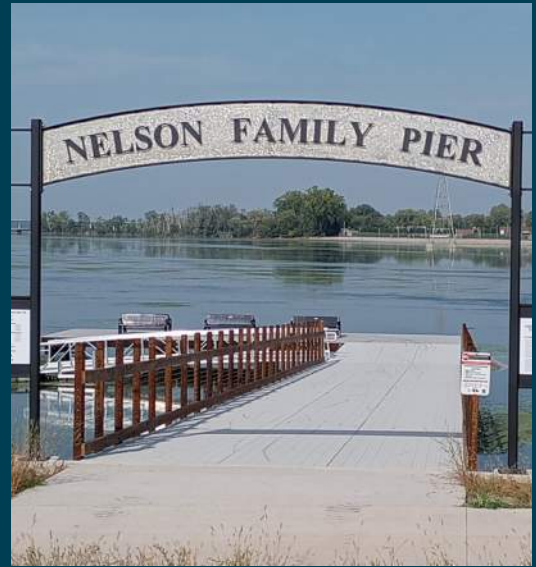


Photo credit: City of Neenah

WHY ARE WE HERE?

MEETING PURPOSE

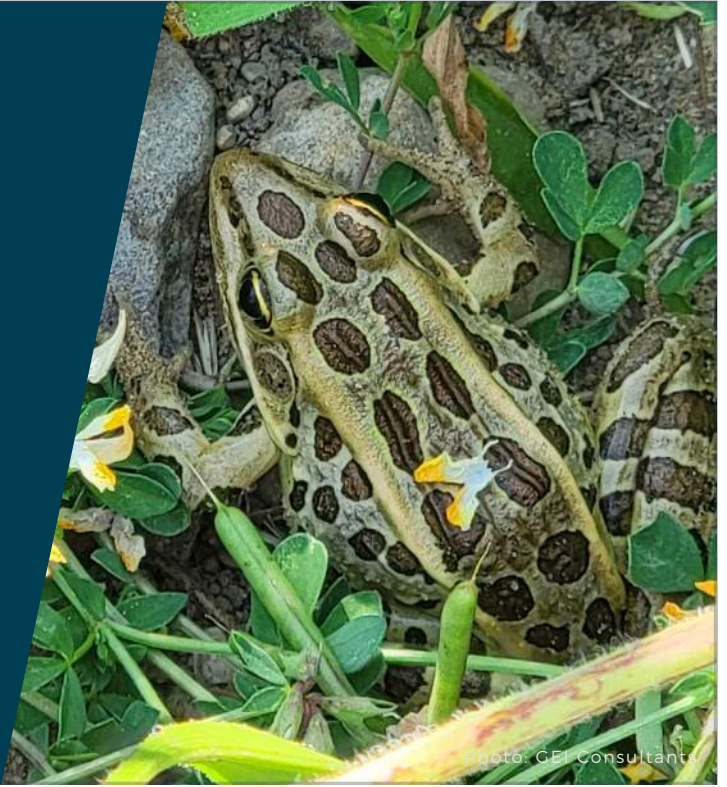


Photo: CEI Consultants



LITTLE LAKE BUTTE DES MORTS

- A shallow, lowland drainage system.
- A wide spot along the mainstem of the Lower Fox River.

18 FT

max depth

1,200

surface acres

2

boat landings

Lake is heavily used for fishing, boating, swimming and other recreational activities

139,411

residents

- City of Neenah
- City of Menasha
- Village of Fox Crossing
- Winnebago County

We are here to talk about Little Lake Butte des Morts which is a 1,200 acre waterbody...

WONDERFUL RESOURCE

Examples of benefits:

- Recreational opportunities
- Tax revenue from waterfront homes
- Scenic beauty
- Environmental Value



The lake is a wonderful resource that provides multiple benefits to the surrounding communities

THREATS & ISSUES

A few of the many...



HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS

Phosphorus pollution
fuels algae growth



INVASIVE SPECIES

Chinese Mystery Snail,
Curly-Leaf Pondweed,
Eurasian Water-Milfoil,
Phragmites, Round Goby,
Rusty Crayfish, Zebra
Mussel



NUISANCE PLANT GROWTH

Aquatic plants grow to
nuisance levels in some
areas which can limit
recreation

And while the lake is a great resource, it has its issues. Here are a few examples...

MEETING PURPOSE

Lake Planning Kick-off

BUILD AWARENESS

COLLABORATE

ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY

SHARE INFORMATION

ESTABLISH TRANSPARENCY

SET EXPECTATIONS

The purpose of this meeting is to kick-off the project and introduce the community to the lake management planning initiative for Little Lake Butte des Morts.

This kick-off is intended to:

Raise awareness about and empower the community to work together to manage the lake's resources sustainably and effectively, Engage stakeholders early in the project, Provide transparency of the planning and decision-making process, Gather input, concerns, and priorities from stakeholders to begin setting goals and priorities, Communicate how stakeholder input will be incorporated into the planning process, Share what we know so far, Outline the timeline, key milestones, next steps, and anticipated outcomes, Provide a clear understanding of what to expect moving forward, including opportunities for continued involvement and feedback.

WHAT IS A LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN?

WHY IS A PLAN IMPORTANT?



LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN

- **Lake management:**
 - Merges the science of lake function with community uses
- **Lake plan:**
 - A dynamic, comprehensive document that identifies goals and actions to achieve and maintain desired conditions over a given period of time
 - Lays the groundwork for partners to collaboratively manage the ecosystem for years to come
 - Guides how time and resources are spent



Photo: Saukelk: YouTube

Lake management merges the science of how a lake functions with the social aspects of how a community uses the lake

A lake management plan is a comprehensive document that describes current conditions and outlines strategies and actions for effectively managing and preserving the health of a lake and its surrounding watershed.

It represents a proactive approach to stewardship and serves as a roadmap for addressing environmental, recreational, and economic challenges, identifies opportunities, and promotes sustainable use and conservation.

For a complex, urban-based lake like Little Lake Butte des Morts, a lake plan also serves as a central point for guiding collaboration

IMPORTANCE OF LAKE MANAGEMENT PLANNING

Science-based and Community Informed:

- Improvement
- Preservation
- Resilience

ECOLOGY

RECREATION

ECONOMY

PROPERTY

COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

Lake management planning is crucial for balancing environmental conservation with economic and recreational interests to benefit both present and future generations.

Planning incorporates scientific research and data analysis to inform decision-making. This approach ensures management strategies are evidence-based and effective in achieving desired outcomes.

Effective lake management planning encourages public participation, stakeholder engagement, and collaboration among government agencies, local communities, and conservation groups. This collective effort strengthens management efforts and enhances outcomes.

IMPROVE AND PRESERVE

and enhance resilience against climate change...

ECOLOGY

Wildlife, fish, habitat, water quality...

RECREATION

Boating, swimming, fishing, enjoying the outdoors...

ECONOMY

Tourism, recreation businesses, industry, property values...

PROPERTY

Shorelines and flood protection...

COMMUNITY

Public health, safety, aesthetics, cultural significance...



Effective management planning helps preserve biodiversity, protect habitats, and maintain ecological balance. This includes addressing water quality issues, managing invasive species, and restoring degraded habitats such as aquatic plants and woody structures.

Lakes are popular destinations for boating, fishing, swimming, and other recreational activities. Planning provides strategies for enhancing recreation while minimizing environmental impacts. This includes lake access, navigation and safety, addressing invasive species and managing nuisance aquatic plant growth.

Healthy lakes contribute to local economies through tourism, recreation-related businesses, supporting industrial uses, and property values. Well-managed lakes attract visitors and residents, supporting jobs and businesses that rely on the lake's resources and contributing to the tax base for local communities.

An important part of lake management planning is developing strategies for shoreline erosion prevention and control to protect property and infrastructure.

Lakes play an important role in flood control by storing excess water that runs off from the land or flows through storm sewers during heavy rains and periods of snow melt. Understanding how the lake fits within the broader landscape and its storage capacity is an important component of sustaining lake health and protecting surrounding communities.

Managing water quality and addressing potential health risks from pollutants, toxins or pathogens

are essential for protecting public health. A plan identifies pollutant sources and actions to improve water quality to meet standards for both humans and aquatic life.

A healthy lake helps to preserve family traditions and provides a community focal point. Lake plans can identify and prescribe strategies for protecting and celebrating important historical and cultural points of interest.

Lakes can be affected by climate change, including altered water levels, increased temperatures, and changes in precipitation patterns. Management planning includes strategies to enhance resilience against climate impacts.

PLANNING PROCESS

General Steps

DATA COLLECTION & ASSESSMENT

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

GOAL SETTING & PRIORITIZATION

MANAGEMENT STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

IMPLEMENTATION & MONITORING PLAN

EVALUATION & ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

Most lake management plans follow a similar process and are typically developed by a consultant hired by a lake association or district.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES

- Lake and watershed size
- Connectivity
- Urban setting
- Diverse lake uses and competing interests
- Numerous issues and threats
- Multiple jurisdictions
- Historical impacts
- Size of undertaking
- Absence of a lake association or district
- Limited resources (staff and \$\$)



Going into the planning process, we know that Little Lake Butte des Morts has significant resource management challenges, some of which are unique to this lake.

This includes:

- Lake and watershed size
- Connectivity
- Urban setting
- Diverse lake uses and competing interests
- Numerous issues and threats
- Multiple jurisdictions
- Historical impacts
- Size of undertaking
- Absence of a lake association
- Limited resources – funding, staff and volunteer time, organizational capacity, etc.

EXAMPLE OF SCALE

Water Runoff

- Over 6,000 square miles of land, lakes, and rivers drain to the lake
- Water runoff is a significant source of nutrient and sediment pollution
- Results in:
 - Low water clarity
 - Harmful blue-green algae blooms
 - Excessive plant growth
 - Periods of high flows and fluctuating water levels
- Necessary to address if the community wants to see significant and lasting improvements to lake health



One quick example of the challenges facing the lake:

Over 6,000 square miles of land, lakes and rivers drain to the lake

Water runoff is a significant source of nutrient and sediment pollution

This results in:

- (a) Low water clarity
- (b) Harmful blue-green algae blooms
- (c) Excessive plant growth
- (d) Periods of high flows and fluctuating water levels

Understanding and addressing just this one topic will take considerable effort and time, but it is necessary if the community wants to see observable and lasting improvements to the lake.

PHASED APPROACH

for Little Lake Butte des Morts Comprehensive Management Planning

PHASE 1

2024 - 2025

- Form Leadership Team
- Build partnerships
- Initiate stakeholder engagement
- Document existing conditions
- Identify issues & challenges
- Develop initial goals & objectives
- Develop aquatic plant management strategy
- Create Phase 1 Action Plan

PHASE 2*

2025 - 2026

- Stakeholder engagement
- Maintain partnerships
- Fill data gaps:
 - Complete habitat inventory
 - Continue WQ monitoring
 - ???
- Identify & quantify threats
- Assess management capacity & options for cooperative management
- Draft additional modules
- Create a Phase 2 Action Plan

PHASE 3*

2026 - 2027

- Stakeholder engagement
- Maintain partnerships
- Bring it all together
 - Finalize goals and targets
 - Finalize recommendations
- Develop implementation plan
- Develop monitoring plan
- Develop evaluation & adaptive management process
- Establish formal leadership
- Finalize comprehensive plan for management of LLBDM

*This is a community and stakeholder driven process. Initiation of Phase 2 and 3 will depend on community support and interest, and funding availability.

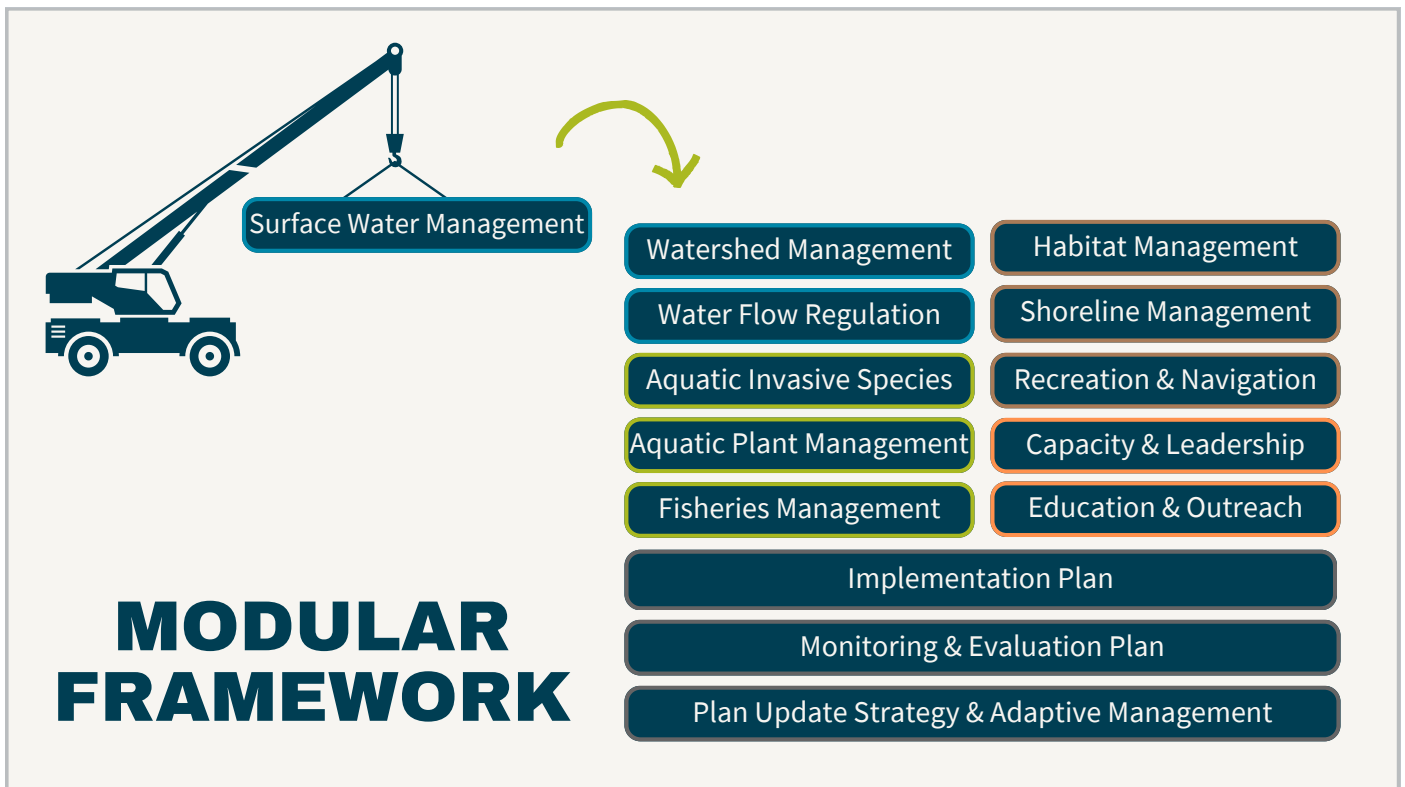
Due to the size and complexity of resource management challenges, planning for Little Lake Butte des Morts has been divided into three phases with each phase informing the next.

Phase 1 is funded and in progress.

We won't know exactly what Phases 2 or 3 will entail until we get further along in Phase 1.

Whether Phase 2 and 3 occur will depend on leadership, community support and interest, and funding availability, – this is a community and stakeholder driven process.

If you think a comprehensive lake management plan would be valuable and is needed, then tell us.



A modular framework offers several benefits for large, complex lake systems.

Modules are like building blocks; each block gets built and then added into the larger structure. Most modules will be topic focused.

This approach allows us to systematically address key aspects of lake management while maintaining flexibility to adapt to new information, changing conditions, and stakeholder input.

Modules can be developed independently during various planning phases.

Completed modules can then begin implementation while others are being developed.

If the planning initiative is supported through Phase 3, we will have a complete and comprehensive lake management plan that integrates scientific research, community input, and regulatory requirements to guide coordinated efforts toward protecting and enhancing the ecological, recreational, and economic values of the lake for current and future generations.

MODULAR FRAMEWORK



Aquatic Plant Management

Baseline Conditions <i>What do we know?</i>	Historical Context / Management
	Baseline Data and Assessments
Stressors and Threats <i>What issues need to be considered?</i>	Identify Impairments
	Identify & Prioritize Stressors & Threats
Goals and Targets <i>What do we want to achieve?</i>	Restoration
	Protection
	Enhancement
	Capacity
Alternatives Analysis <i>What are the opportunities and constraints?</i>	Potential Actions
	Alternatives Analysis
	Decision justification
	Potential adverse effects
Implementation <i>How do we get there?</i>	Broader Impacts / Stakeholder involvement
	Recommended Actions w/ timeline
	Funding opportunities
	Evaluation and adaptive management

For each topic module, we will assess baseline conditions, identify stressors and threats, establish goals and targets, identify and evaluate potential actions, and develop recommendations for implementation.

Aquatic plant management is a good example of this because it is the first module that will be completed as part of Phase 1.

WHAT ARE WE CURRENTLY WORKING ON?

PHASE 1



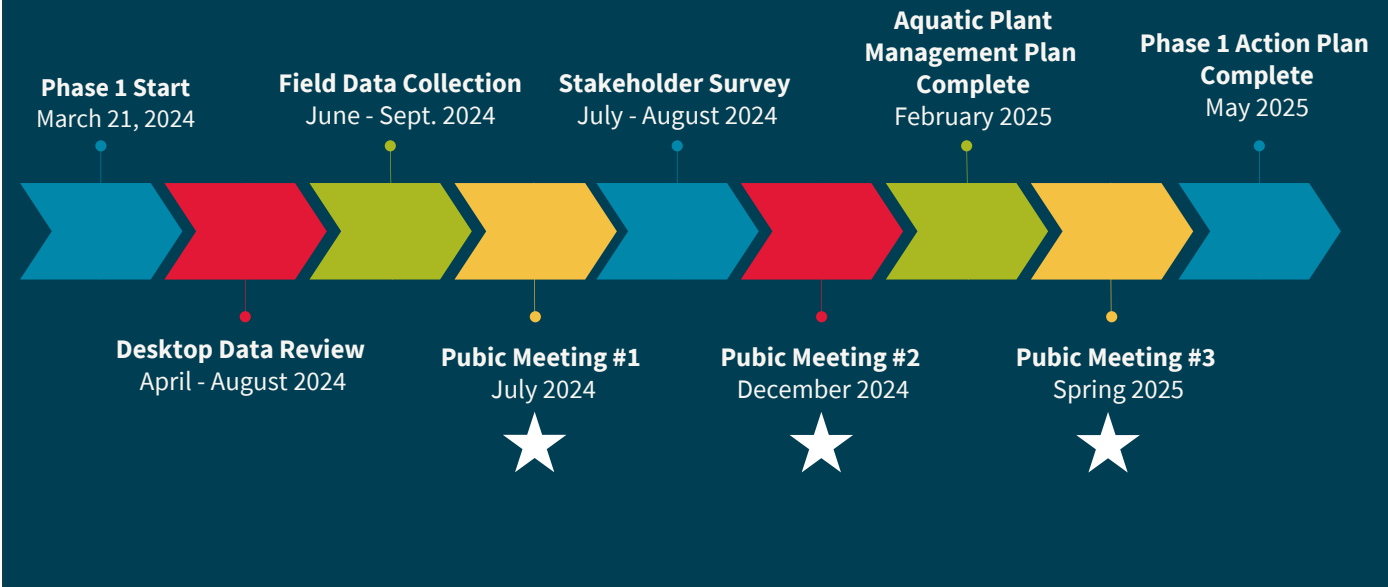
... PHASE 1 ...

- Form Leadership Team
 - Build partnerships
 - Initiate stakeholder engagement
 - Collect & review existing data
 - Conduct field work:
 - *Aquatic plant survey*
 - *Water quality monitoring*
 - *Shoreline erosion inventory*
 - Identify data gaps
 - Identify issues & challenges
 - Develop initial goals & objectives
 - Develop aquatic plant management module
 - Create Phase 1 Action Plan to inform Phase 2
- TBD - Explore funding opportunities for Phase 2*



Aims to protect habitat and address harmful algal blooms, invasive species, erosion, and nuisance plant growth.

PHASE 1 TIMELINE



PUBLIC MEETING #1

BRIEF Q&A

5 MINUTES



PUBLIC MEETING #1

PUBLIC INPUT

Activities:

#1 - Threats & Issues Open Discussion

#2 - Mapping Exercise



THREATS, ISSUES & SOLUTIONS

We want to hear from you!

1. What has been your experience on Little Lake Butte des Morts?
2. What do you like about the lake?
3. What problems or issues have you observed?
4. What challenges have you faced?
5. What do you want us to consider or know?
6. What ideas do you have for solutions?



ACTIVITY #2

MAPPING EXERCISE

- Using the color indicated, answer each question by drawing on the map.
- Press firm enough so that we can interpret your maps later on.
- Add notes to the map.
- Providing details will help us better understand your responses.
- Turn the map in with the instructions page before you leave.

#	Pencil Color	Question
1.	BLUE	<p>Do you boat in Little Lake Butte des Morts?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If so, use BLUE to draw your navigation routes and boat launch location(s).
2.	PURPLE	<p>Do you participate in other types of recreation in or around the lake?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If so, use PURPLE to draw the locations of those activities on the map. • Please note the type(s) of recreation. Examples include swimming, kayaking, ice fishing, use of trails or parks, etc.).
3.	ORANGE	<p>Within the past two years, have aquatic plants (weeds) <u>limited</u> your recreational enjoyment of the lake?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If so, use ORANGE to draw those locations on the map. • Please note the type(s) of recreation impacted. Examples include swimming, kayaking, ice fishing, use of trails or parks, etc.).
4.	RED	<p>Within the past two years, have aquatic plants (weeds) <u>prevented</u> you from recreating or made any areas inaccessible for navigation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If so, use RED to draw those locations on the map. • Please note the type(s) of recreation prevented (boating, swimming, kayaking, etc.).
5.	GREEN	<p>Are there any areas that you would like to see protected or preserved for fish or wildlife habitat?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If so, please use GREEN to draw those locations on the map.
6.	BLACK	<p>Is there anything else you would like us to know about your lake use, lake access, or impacts to recreation or navigation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If so, please use BLACK to draw those locations on the map and make notes.

WE INVITE YOU TO STAY INVOLVED!

Stakeholder Surveys:

SCAN ME



- **Two Versions:**
 - General Public
 - Shoreline property owners (requires code)
- **Access on the website or QR code**
 - www.fwwa.org/littlelake
- **Submission Deadline: August 21, 2024**

Get Updates:

- **Sign up for the project email list**
- **Visit the project website:**
 - www.fwwa.org/littlelake

Public Meetings:

- **Meeting #2**
 - December 5, 2024
 - Fox Crossing
 - Topic: Aquatic Plant Management Plan
- **Meeting #3**
 - Spring 2025
 - Menasha
 - Topic: Phase 1 Action Plan

PUBLIC MEETING #1

LITTLE LAKE BUTTE DES MORTS

QUESTIONS?



PROJECT CONTACTS:



CITY OF NEENAH
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Director of Parks and Recreation
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FOX-WOLF WATERSHED ALLIANCE

Katie Woodrow
Lower Fox River Program Director
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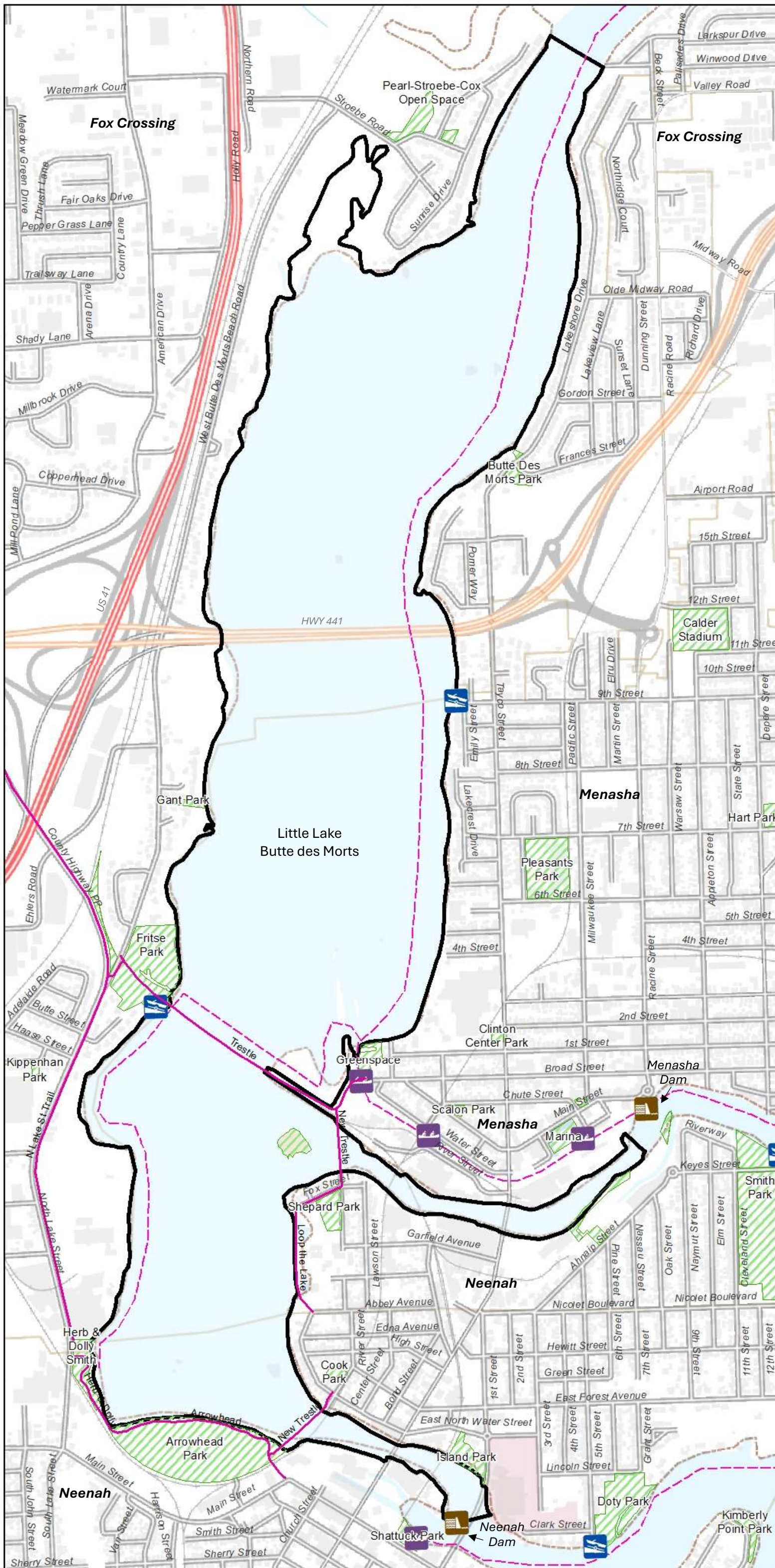
GEI CONSULTANTS
Korin Doering
Project Manager
(920) 205-4519
kdoering@geiconsultants.com

THANK YOU!!



B.4. Stakeholder Mapping Exercise Worksheet

**Little Lake Butte des Morts
Mapping Exercise –
Stakeholder Input**



Legend

- Little Lake Butte des Morts
- Parks
- Boat Launch
- Carry-in
- Dam
- Paved Trails
- Water Trail

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Appendix C Meeting Minutes

LITTLE LAKE BUTTE DES MORTS – PUBLIC MEETING #1 MEETING MINUTES

Project Name: LLBDM Comprehensive Planning, Phase 1 GEI Project No.: 2403578

Project Location: Winnebago County, WI

Meeting Location: Neenah City Hall

Meeting Date: 07/18/2024

Prepared By: S. Cole and K. Woodrow

Meeting Time: 6:00 – 7:00 pm

LLBDM Leadership Team:

- Korin Doering (GEI Consultants, Inc. [GEI]) - Presenter
- Stephanie Cole (GEI) – Note taker
- Katie Woodrow (Fox Wolf Watershed Alliance [FWWA]) – Note taker
- George Dearborn (Village of Fox Crossings)
- Michael Kading (City of Neenah)
- Chad Casper (Winnebago County)
- Austin Hammond (City of Menasha)

Meeting Minutes

PRESENTATION:

- **Project & Team Introductions**

- Welcome!
 - Thank you all for joining us today. My name is Korin Doering. I am a project manager with GEI Consultants and am working towards developing a lake management plan on behalf of the municipalities and partners for Little Lake Butte des Morts. Stephanie is here with me to take notes and help answer questions.
- Introduction of project partners:
 - The project leadership team consists of representatives from the City of Neenah, Village of Fox Crossing and City of Menasha.
 - This is a community and municipal led project, facilitated by Fox-Wolf and managed by GEI Consultants. GEI, Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance, Winnebago County Land and Water Conservation Department and the DNR are providing technical expertise and stakeholder outreach.
 - The first phase of this project is funded through grants, financial contributions, and in-kind support from multiple partners. We have representatives from most of these groups here today.
 - If you represent one of the project partner organizations, can you stand up? I want to highlight that all of these partners have already been doing great work to improve lake conditions.
 - The project we are going to talk about today is an effort to bring the partners and community together to be more strategic and collaborative about lake management. To find ways to take efforts to the next level.
- Housekeeping notes:
 - It's important that everyone have the opportunity to voice their thoughts. Bringing different stakeholders together means we are also bringing different interests and

perspectives into one space. It's okay if we disagree, but let's do it respectfully. Attack the problem, not the person. If you do not get a chance to voice your thoughts tonight or prefer to not speak up, we provided blank paper and a comment box. You are welcome to submit a comment anonymously. If you would like us to respond to a question or comment, please include your contact information. Also, if you didn't get a chance, please be sure to sign in.

- **Agenda Overview**

- Why are we here?
- What is a lake management plan?
- What are we currently working on?
- Let's hear from you:
 - Activity #1 - Open Discussion
 - Activity #2 - Mapping Exercise
- Invitation to stay involved
- Q&A

- **Why Are We Here? Meeting Purpose:**

- We are here to talk about Little Lake Butte des Morts
 - Little Lake Butte des Morts is a 1,200 acre lake that is bordered by three municipalities located in Winnebago County. The lake is shown in the image – the red outline. It is essentially a wide spot along the mainstem of the Lower Fox River.
 - Questions asked to the audience:
 - How many people own property on the lake?
 - ~80% of people raised their hand
 - How many people boat on the lake?
 - ~75% of people raised their hand
 - How many people don't get on the water but enjoy the trails/ views?
 - ~3 people raised their hand
 - How many people are here because they hate the lake?
 - 1 person raised their hand
 - The lake is a wonderful resource. It provides multiple benefits to the surrounding communities and broader region including recreational opportunities, economic value, scenic beauty, and environmental value. However, the lake has its issues. Here are a few examples: harmful algal blooms, invasive species, and sometimes nuisance level plant growth that can hinder recreation.
 - Meeting purpose
 - The purpose of this meeting to kick-off this project and introduce the community to the to the lake management planning initiative for the lake.
 - Tonight, we want to: Raise awareness about and empower the community to work together to manage the lake's resources sustainably and effectively.
 - Engage stakeholders early in the project
 - Provide transparency of the planning and decision-making process
 - Gather input to begin setting goals and priorities
 - Communicate how stakeholder input will be incorporated into the planning process

- Outline the timeline, key milestones, next steps, and anticipated outcomes
 - Provide a clear understanding of what to expect moving forward, including opportunities for continued involvement and feedback.
- **What is Lake Management?**
 - So, What is a lake management plan and why is it important?
 - Lake management merges the science of how a lake functions with the social aspects of how a community uses the lake. A lake management plan is a comprehensive document that describes current conditions and outlines strategies and actions for effectively managing and preserving the health of a lake and its surrounding watershed.
 - It represents a proactive approach to stewardship and serves as a roadmap for addressing environmental, recreational, and economic challenges, identifies opportunities, and promotes sustainable use and conservation.
 - For a complex, urban-based lake like Little Lake Butte des Morts, a lake plan also serves as a central point for guiding collaboration
 - Lake management planning is crucial for balancing environmental conservation with economic and recreational interests to benefit both present and future generations.
 - A science-based and community informed approach provides management strategies that are evidence-based and effective in achieving desired outcomes.
 - Effective lake management planning encourages public participation, stakeholder engagement, and collaboration among governmental agencies, local communities, and conservation groups.
 - This collective effort strengthens management efforts and enhances outcomes.
 - Lake plans set goals and identify feasible actions to improve and preserve the lake.
 - A lake plan includes a variety of topics related to ecology, recreation, economy, property and community.
 - Ecology includes topics such as wildlife, fish, habitat, water quality
 - Effective management planning helps preserve biodiversity, protect habitats, and maintain ecological balance.
 - This includes addressing water quality issues, managing invasive species, and restoring degraded habitats such as aquatic plants and woody structures.
 - When we look at recreation, we are thinking about topics such as boating, swimming, fishing, and enjoying the outdoors among others.
 - Little Lake Butte des Morts is a popular destination for these types of activities.
 - Planning provides strategies for enhancing recreation while minimizing environmental impacts.
 - This includes lake access, navigation and safety, addressing invasive species and managing nuisance aquatic plant growth.
 - When it comes to the economy, we are thinking about tourism, recreation-related business, and property values, just to provide a few examples.
 - Healthy lakes contribute to local economies.

- Well-managed lakes attract visitors and residents, supporting jobs and businesses that rely on the lake's resources and contribute to the tax base for local communities.
- When we talk about property, we are often referring to the shoreline as well as impacts within the surrounding communities
 - An important part of lake management planning is developing strategies for shoreline erosion prevention and control to protect property and infrastructure.
 - And lakes play an important role in flood control by storing excess water that runs off from the land or flows through the storm sewers during heavy rains and periods of snow melt.
 - Understanding how the lake fits within the broader landscape and its storage capacity is an important component of sustaining lake health is and protecting surrounding communities.
- A common theme that you may have already picked up on is Community well-being. Public health and safety, aesthetic value, opportunities for getting together, cultural significance
 - Managing water quality and addressing potential health risks from pollutants, toxins or pathogens are essential for protecting public health.
 - A plan identifies pollutant sources and actions to improve water quality to meet standards for both humans and aquatic life.
 - A healthy lake helps to preserve family traditions and provides a community focal point.
 - Lake plans can also identify and prescribe strategies for protecting and celebrating important historical and cultural points of interest.
- Lastly, Lakes can be affected by climate change, including altered water levels, increased temperatures, and changes in precipitation patterns.
 - Management planning includes strategies to enhance resilience against climate impacts and adapt management practices accordingly.
- **Overview of Planning Process**
 - What is the process of developing a lake plan?
 - In Wisconsin, most lake management plans follow a similar process and are typically developed by a consultant hired by a lake association or district.
 - The consultant collects and assessing data to obtain a baseline and understand impairments.
 - Then there is an element of stakeholder involvement.
 - From there, goals are set and prioritized.
 - Management strategies are identified – these are the actions that, if implemented, work toward meeting the lake plan goals.
 - Typically, a lake plan includes an implementation and Monitoring component and a framework for evaluating progress towards goals. Depending on results from the evaluation, a plan may be revised. That is where adaptive management comes in. Lake plans are living, dynamic documents that grow and change over time.

- However, for Little Lake Butte des Morts, we know going into the planning process, that there are significant resource management challenges, including:
 - Lake and watershed size
 - Connectivity
 - Urban setting
 - Diverse lake uses and competing interests
 - Numerous issues and threats
 - Multiple jurisdictions
 - Historical impacts
 - Size of undertaking
 - Absence of a lake association, district, or other central lead organization.
 - Limited resources – funding, staff and volunteer time, organizational capacity, etc.
- As an example, let’s look at one challenge – water runoff.
 - Over 6,000 square miles of land, lakes and rivers drain to the lake
 - Rain that falls in Crandon or portage eventually makes its way to LLBDM
 - Water runoff is a significant source of nutrient and sediment pollution
 - This pollution causes
 - Low water clarity
 - Harmful blue-green algae blooms
 - Excessive plant growth
 - The high volumes of water also contribute to periods of high flows and fluctuating water levels
 - Understanding and addressing just this one topic will take considerable effort and time, but it is necessary if the community wants to see observable and lasting improvements to the lake.
 - Now, there are efforts taking place in the Winnebago System, in the broader watershed, on other lakes throughout the basin. BUT, LLBDM is not represented in those conversations.
 - By developing a lake plan and working together to strategically address issues, there are significant opportunities to collaborate with those broader efforts to help prioritize the needs of this lake.
- *Audience observations noted during the meeting:*
 - *Overview of resource management challenges; Example of scale – water runoff from adjacent watersheds*
 - *Heard a few people say “wow” when the watershed scale was described and shown on the screen*
- Due to the size and complexity of resource management challenges, planning for little lake butte des morts has been divided into phases with each phase informing the next step.
 - Phase 1 has been funded – this is where we currently are.
 - We will go into more detail about Phase 1 in a few slides.
 - We won’t know exactly what Phases 2 or 3 will entail until we get further along in Phase 1, but we’ve provided an example of what those phases might look like.
 - It is important to note – this is a community and stakeholder driven process. Whether Phase 2 and 3 occur will depend on future funding availability and community interest.

- If you think a comprehensive lake management plan would be valuable, then provide that input during this Phase 1.
 - In addition to a phased approach, we are also developing the plan using a Modular Framework
 - A modular framework offers several benefits for large, complex lake systems.
 - Modules are like building blocks; each block gets built and then added into the larger structure.
 - Most modules will be topic focused and then a few will be overall strategies such as the implementation module.
 - Modules can be developed independently during various planning phases.
 - Completed modules can then begin implementation while others are being developed.
 - This approach allows us to systematically address key aspects of lake management while maintaining flexibility to adapt to new information, changing conditions, and stakeholder input.
 - If the planning initiative is supported through Phase 3, we will have a complete and comprehensive lake management plan that integrates scientific research, community input, and regulatory requirements to guide coordinated efforts toward protecting and enhancing the ecological, recreational, and economic values of the lake for current and future generations.
 - For each topic module, we will assess baseline conditions, identify stressors and threats, establish goals and targets, identify and evaluate potential actions, and develop recommendations for implementation.
 - Aquatic plant management is a good example of this because it is the first module that will be completed as part of Phase 1.
- **Overview of Little Lake Butte Des Morts Comprehensive Planning Phase 1**
 - Phase 1 is about forming a leadership team, building partnerships, and initiating stakeholder involvement to build awareness.
 - To understand the physical, chemical, and biological aspects of the lake, we are collecting and evaluating existing information and data. With help from project partners, we are also conducting field work to establish baselines for aquatic plant density and diversity, water quality, and shoreline erosion.
 - Combining existing data with the results from field work taking place this year, we will identify data gaps. What else do we need to more fully understand the lake?
 - Using the data, and with the help from stakeholder input, we will begin identifying the priority issues and challenges.
 - That will lead to the development of initial goals and objectives for lake improvements and creating a list of potential solutions.
 - The two primary outcomes of Phase 1 will include
 - A completed aquatic plant management module
 - A Phase 1 Action Plan that summarizes what we learned and recommends next steps for Phase 2
 - Let's quickly walk through the timeline for Phase 1:
 - The project began in March of this year.

- Since the project start, the LLBDM Leadership Team was formed, we began collecting data, have worked on stakeholder engagement and began drafting background sections of the aquatic plant management plan.
- Here we are in July – the first of three public meetings. We also kicked off the online stakeholder surveys – I have a slide near the end with more details and we also have a handout with instructions on how to participate in those surveys.
- The draft aquatic plant management plan will be presented at the next public meeting in December. That meeting will kick off a 21-day public comment period. Our goal is to have the final aquatic plant plan approved by the DNR in February of 2025.
- We’ll then finish drafting the phase 1 action plan which will be presented at the third public meeting in spring of 2025.
- Our goal is to finalize the phase 1 action plan in May of next year.
- That wraps up the presentation portion of the evening. Before we start the next part of the meeting, are there any quick questions about what we covered so far?

QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION:

- **Audience Question:** “Regarding aquatic plants, are we going to examine an area to determine how much we would want to eliminate those plants?”
 - Son took a friend fishing north of bridge, caught 38-inch musky
 - ‘No plants, no prey, no musky’
 - Caught pike near weed areas
 - Will this be part of the plan?”
 - **Korin Doering ->** Yes, recreation and annual fluctuations in plant growth will be include in the plan. The aquatic plant management strategy will be a scalable so that property owners can use the strategy as a framework to build from as they work toward a permit application and to guide implementation.
 - It will include elements of protection for habitat and recreational purposes
 - The leadership team will work closely with WDNR fishery staff as management recommendations are considered
 - We want to hear from stakeholders where they’d like to see protection vs. issues with aquatic plant growth
- **Audience Question:** “What does the final action consist of? Municipal regulations? Volunteer based?”
 - **Korin Doering->** Management plan implementation will be on a voluntary basis and will not be regulatory
 - Collectively as communities, we will identify priorities
 - Municipalities will be involved, but not solely responsible for all implementation actions
 - It will identify actions that various groups can tackle
- **Audience Question:** “What does GEI stand for?”
 - **Korin Doering ->** GEI Consultants is an environmental consulting company that has been hired by the City of Neenah to assist with the planning process. The acronym formerly meant geotechnical engineering incorporated; however, our

company has expanded to include the environmental and ecological fields, so now the name is just “GEI”.

- **Audience Question:** “Who does GEI have a contract with? “
 - **Korin Doering** -> GEI helped municipalities write grant funding to be able to implement this project. GEI was hired through the City of Neenah
- **Audience Question:** “How much influence can we have on how the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) influences water level on the lake?”
 - **Korin Doering**-> USACE is limited on how much they are able to control due to the location of the lake
 - Encourage those who are interested in water level management to attend annual USACE meetings
 - Another option is coordinating through the FWWA water level management assessment team
 - They help develop recommendations that are submitted to USACE a couple times per year
 - This plan could be a place to create a unified opinion to bring to the USACE
- **Audience Question:** “Does leadership currently contain property owners?”
 - **Korin Doering**-> It does not currently; however, it may expand in the future to incorporate additional stakeholders
- **Audience Question:** “Are there any plans to incorporate reopening the Menasha lock?”
 - *Multiple people clapped at this question*
 - **Korin Doering** -> This plan is community lead, so if people are interested, we will take these voices into consideration
 - The plan will be science based and community informed
 - Attendee asked: “Actual science or DNR science?”
 - **Korin Doering** -> GEI and Winnebago County will be collecting a lot of the field work for this project

ACTIVITY 1 – THREATS, ISSUES, AND SOLUTIONS:

For this first activity, we are going to open the floor – this is an opportunity to tell us the good, the bad and the ugly.

- **Audience Comment:**
 - Landowner on LLBDM (Brunhilda Courtney), a part of Friends of the Fox
 - Lives in Fox Crossing on the west side north of the bridge
 - Experience has been wonderful, wonderful for families
 - This year has been a major problem for Eurasian watermilfoil
 - Has been picking it out, have hired those to do it
 - Use weed cutter
 - Grows from top all the way down to the bottom
 - This year has been a huge issue rather than “pond scum”
- **Audience Comment:**
 - Landowner on LLBDM (Tom Reyerson)
 - Lives in city of Menasha
 - On east shore
 - When wind blows from the west, gets weeds stuck on dock

- Took trailer full to waste site to get rid of it
 - A couple days later, it is all back
 - Have dog who loves to swim, but isn't able to
 - Isn't sure if high water levels influence the weed problem
 - Seems to be an excess in weeds this year compared to last year
 - Wonders if high water is allowing more plants to grow or if they are breaking up and floating
 - Another problem is the height of Green Bay influencing the height of LLBDM? Is LLBDM being held higher than it has been in the past? (noted it is held 2 feet higher than it has been in the past)
 - **Korin Doering** -> Elevation change from LLBDM to the Green Bay wouldn't allow for water from the bay to back up into LLBDM
- **Audience Comment:**
- Landowner on LLBDM (Todd Hagner)
 - Lives on west shore, north of Fritse park
 - Has same weed problems
 - Inhibits getting boat out
 - See dead fish floating
 - Had pelican caught in the weeds one year
 - Low water levels last year caused really bad smell (near north street?)
 - Not even able to open doors or windows
 - Has done a bit of research on how to manage plants
 - Rake them as they come in
 - Try to keep them out of dock
 - Try to maintain navigation path for boat
 - Has been a challenge for 6 years they have lived there
 - Very excited to hear about this plan and will support it
- **Audience Comment**
- Landowner on LLBDM (Mark Brey)
 - Lives on north side of west shore
 - Lived there for 23 years (I heard 30+)
 - When they first moved in, did not have weed problems
 - There were plants at the time, but not the weeds and algae blooms that are present now, wasn't a nuisance. Problems with algae in the last 6 – 10 years
 - Still was catching musky and pike then
 - Neighbor told stories about weed problems in the 50s
 - Not being able to get boat through weeds
 - Troubled now by invasive species that are taking over the lake
 - Vegetation is a problem
- **Audience Comment**
- Can we find GEI contracts with Neenah online?
 - What if Neenah and Menasha don't go along with this?

- **Michael Kading**-> Stated he can provide contact if needed
 - In planning phase, and can provide more information afterwards
- **Audience Comment**
 - Landowner on LLBDM (Jim Devalis)
 - Lives near Stroebe Island
 - USACE staff came by a couple years ago and asked to take pictures
 - Stated USACE primary concern is managing water level in lake Winnebago
 - Explained that primary goal is to maintain water height in Lake Winnebago and that is why it affects LLBDM the way it does
 - **Raymond Frana** (Fox River Section Chief/Engineering Technician from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)-> Stated the USACE is required by federal marshal order to control lake level of Lake Winnebago
 - Provided overview of lake level control in lake Winnebago including requirement to hold a maximum of 3.45 ft above the Oshkosh dam
 - Strategy includes a band of control within +/- 1.2” and holding levels shallow in spring for plant growth
 - Reported awareness of water level concerns and people’s observation of “stink” in LLBDM when water was drawn down
 - Stated that the reason mud flats were present last year is because ice melted before gates were opened
 - Stated he has every one of these people in his thoughts when he decides to open the gates
 - Was out on the lake last week to see what people are dealing with
 - Landowner sent photos so they can see water level changes
 - Realizes how much havoc opening the needle gates causes downstream
 - One thing to remember is that if you live downstream, you will always get the neighbors water & upstream is a lot of water
 - Encourage everyone to provide emails to provide everyone warning if gates will be opening ahead of time
 - Can’t stop it from happening but will try to provide advance warning
 - Absolutely loves that the city of Neenah has started to do this for LLBDM
 - Start for big change
 - Need a new watershed assessment
 - Changes have occurred since last assessment

ACTIVITY #2 MAP EXERCISE:

- Instructions and blank map handed out to attendees:
 - Using the color indicated, answer each question by drawing on the map.
 - Press firm enough so that we can interpret your maps later on.
 - Add notes to the map.
 - Providing details will help us better understand your responses.
 - Turn the map in with the instructions page before you leave.
- Audience was given time to complete exercise and hand in results once completed

Other Notable Landowner Comments

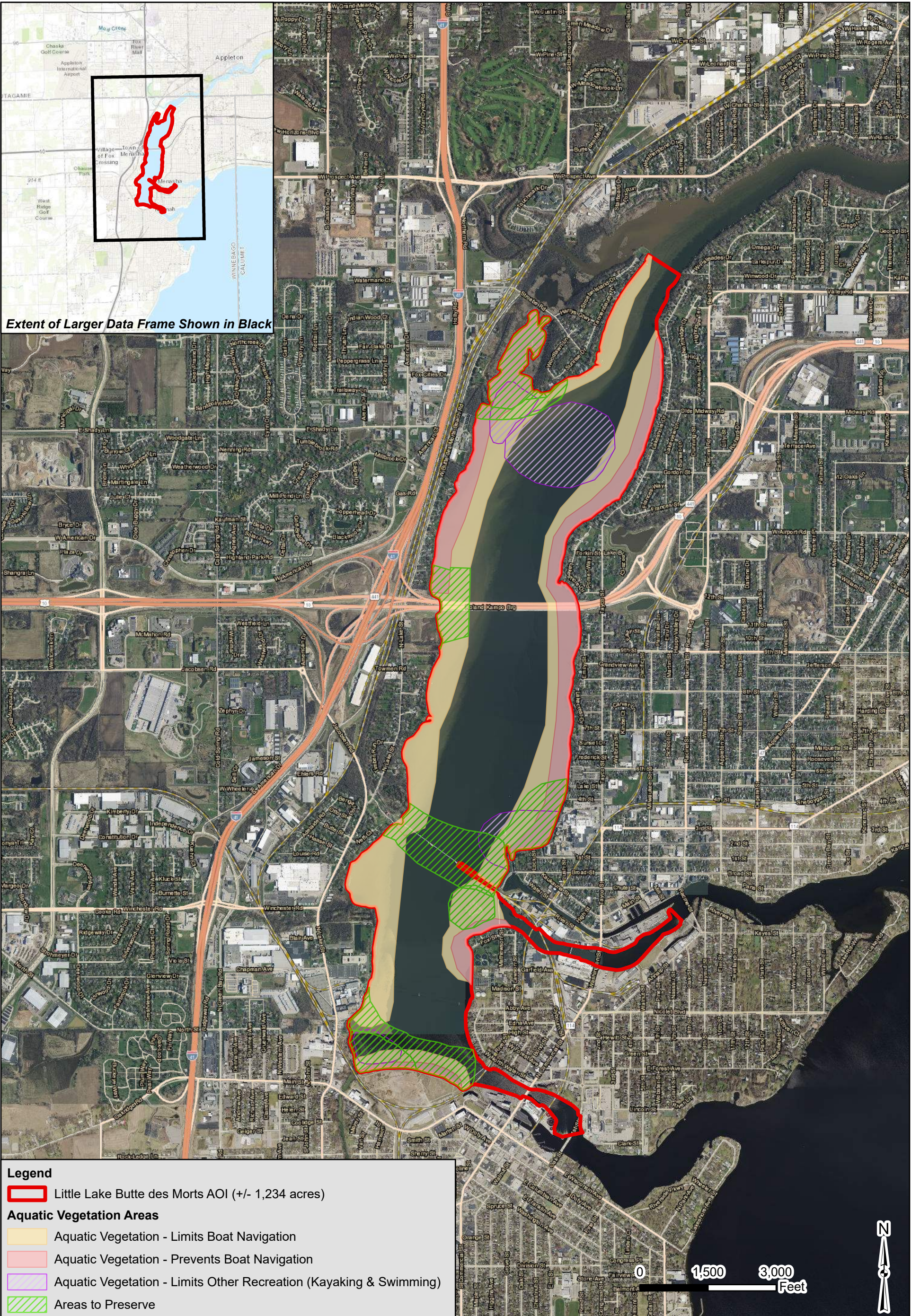
- **Steve Herb**
 - Lives on the lower Fox Fiver
 - Question of whether stakeholder engagement could include further down the river
 - Suggested down to the Appleton dam
 - Understands cut off for funding, but thinks it would be beneficial to include down the river a bit further
 - No information provided to these people unless they are on the emergency no-wake email list
 - Suggested that signs be placed at all the boat launches, so people are all aware, not just landowners or those on mailing list
 - Member of Appleton Yacht Club
 - Stated that yacht club down the river had 600-700 people that could offer ideas, funding, etc.
 - Wondered if there would be a way to include these people in the conversation, advertise meetings, etc.
 - Left comment in the box

Appendix D Stakeholder Map Exercise Feedback

D.1. Aquatic Vegetation Areas

D.2. Recreational Routes

D.1. Aquatic Vegetation Areas



Extent of Larger Data Frame Shown in Black

Legend

- Little Lake Butte des Morts AOI (+/- 1,234 acres)

Aquatic Vegetation Areas

- Aquatic Vegetation - Limits Boat Navigation
- Aquatic Vegetation - Prevents Boat Navigation
- Aquatic Vegetation - Limits Other Recreation (Kayaking & Swimming)
- Areas to Preserve



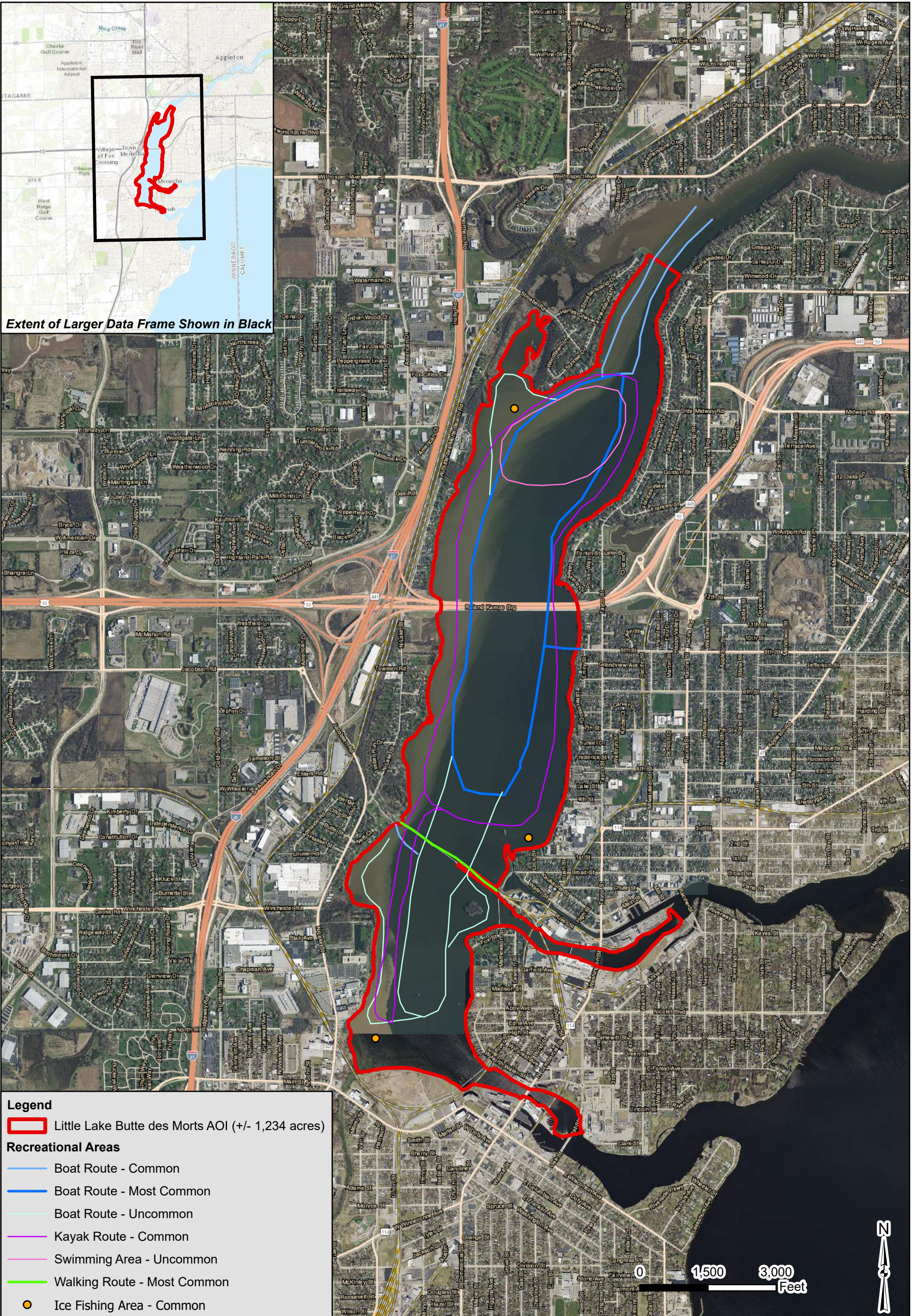
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FIGURE 1
PUBLIC MEETING #1 - STAKEHOLDER MAP EXERCISE FEEDBACK
AQUATIC VEGETATION AREAS

CITY OF NEENAH
LITTLE LAKE BUTTE DES MORTS MANAGEMENT PROJECT
WINNEBAGO COUNTY, WISCONSIN

Drawn: SLC 9/16/2024
Approved: KD 9/16/2024
Scale: AS SHOWN
Project Number: 2403578
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D.2 Recreational Routes



Extent of Larger Data Frame Shown in Black

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FIGURE 2
PUBLIC MEETING #1 - STAKEHOLDER MAP EXERCISE FEEDBACK
RECREATIONAL AREAS

CITY OF NEENAH
 LITTLE LAKE BUTTE DES MORTS MANAGEMENT PROJECT
 WINNEBAGO COUNTY, WISCONSIN

Drawn: SLC 9/16/2024
Approved: KD 9/16/2024
Scale: AS SHOWN
Project Number: 2403578
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Appendix E Meeting Photos



Photo 1. Meeting audience before the meeting started on July 18,2024.

Photo Credit: GEI Consultants, Inc.



Photo 2. Korin Doering, GEI Project Manager, presenting during the meeting on July 18, 2024.

Photo Credit: GEI Consultants, Inc.



Photo 3. Raymond H. Frana, Fox River Section Chief/Engineering Technician from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, speaking to the audience about water level fluctuations on July 18, 2024

Photo Credit: GEI Consultants, Inc.



Photo 4. City of Menasha Mayor, Austin Hammond, and Fox News 11 camera crew observing the presentation during Public Meeting #1 on July 18, 2024.

Photo Credit: GEI Consultants, Inc.

C.3. 2025 Public Meeting #2 Summary Memo

C.4. Public Comments Received in 2025