From: Asplund, Tim - DNR
To: Vennie III, James G - DNR; Filbert, Jennifer M - DNR
Subject: FW: Twin Lakes
Date: Wednesday, December 06, 2006 4:06:53 PM

Hi Jim and Jennifer -

Looks like it is time to resurrect the lake level files! Any suggestions on how to proceed? Maybe a meeting with USGS and some of the county folks in the Central Sands to pilot something that could be expanded statewide. It would be great to get the historical info into an electronic database and then to be able to add to it with current info.

Tim

From: Provost, Scott M - DNR
Sent: Wednesday, December 06, 2006 4:01 PM
To: Kilbey, Patrick - Westfield,WI; Asplund, Tim - DNR; David & Lee Ann Casper
Subject: RE: Twin Lakes

Alright. I read the two sheets Don sent me. They have both Benchmarks (referred to as RM) and reference Points (RP) that are acting as a staff gauge (SG) now. These RP's can be used to monitor water levels in Twin Lake (both basins). Basically a volunteer could measure from the top of each RP to water level until a staff gauge is placed - that can take place anytime with or without an official SG. I don't think S.G's cost that much so obtaining one is not a great big deal. ALL elevations for Twin Lake are NOT referenced to MSL. Not a deal breaker, we're interested in change of elev. anyway. Sometime however linking one to MSL should be completed if modeling is going to be done.

We do have some BM's set around boat landings but they usually consist of RR spikes in a pole or tree, which in some cases they are now GONE. I'll ask Linda for a complete list in Marquette County. I have Waushara Counties that are used by zoning and us.

LCD's, Zoning, volunteers or DNR could do water level checks. Summer readings are great but we can also treat these as a target of opportunity and shoot elevations whenever the opportunity is there. I don't see why we can have a spreadsheet somewhere where we can record levels for all of us to use. The only exclusionary policy may be OHWM determinations, these are typically set by regulatory bodies. Once it is set, I think anyone can record an elevation of lake level. We all know this is a big (huge) topic now so lets get what we can. I think a network of volunteers can easily accomplish this PORVIDED they have gauges that are too a permanent BM. This may be an easy thing for self help monitors - if the agree - to do in addition to there water quality monitoring.

Scott

From: Kilbey, Patrick - Westfield,WI [mailto:patrick.kilbey@wi.nacdnet.net]
Sent: Wednesday, December 06, 2006 3:34 PM
To: Asplund, Tim - DNR; Provost, Scott M - DNR; David & Lee Ann Casper
Subject: RE: Twin Lakes

We recently discussed setting benchmarks at boat landings and taking an annual reading. With some DNR guidance (mainly what time of year to take reading), we could get something underway.

Scott: does DNR have any set BM's by any of the Marquette County Lakes?
Patrick Kilbey

County Conservationist
Marquette County Land & Water Conservation
(608)-296-2815

From: Asplund, Tim - DNR [mailto:Tim.Asplund@Wisconsin.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, December 06, 2006 3:31 PM
To: Provost, Scott M - DNR; Kilbey, Patrick - Westfield,WI; David & Lee Ann Casper
Subject: RE: Twin Lakes

Please clarify if the benchmark was under water, or if it was the staff gauge. The staff gauge measures the lake level - the benchmark is a fixed point, usually above water, that is used to establish the actual elevation of the staff gauge measurements.

I do think it would be a great idea to establish a network of volunteers to monitor lake levels in the area, and to be sure that it is done in a consistent way. I'm open to suggestions on how to get this done - would working with county LCD staff be the most efficient way? I will contact USGS to see what the status of lake level measurement is in the area and get ideas on how to get more lakes monitored.

Tim

From: Provost, Scott M - DNR
Sent: Wednesday, December 06, 2006 1:08 PM
To: Kilbey, Patrick - Westfield,WI; David & Lee Ann Casper
Cc: Asplund, Tim - DNR
Subject: RE: Twin Lakes

If the BM is in a poor location such as under water, even infrequently, then establishing another one above the OHWM would definitely help us. I will be shooting lake elevations around Waushara and Waupaca County on 12/13. Pleasant lake is on the menu so we could get down to Twin real easy that day. Do any of you have the data on the existing BM (location and elevation)? I also have an e-mail to Tim Asplund in Madison to see what we can do for having a volunteer record levels. Might be able to get a staff gauge down there.

From: Kilbey, Patrick - Westfield,WI [mailto:patrick.kilbey@wi.nacdnet.net]
Sent: Wednesday, December 06, 2006 12:56 PM
To: David & Lee Ann Casper; Provost, Scott M - DNR
Subject: RE: Twin Lakes

This is just an idea, let me see what Scott says.

Assuming the USGS gauge is still there, just high & dry. Our office would be willing to move the gauge and "transfer" the elevation with our equipment to the new location (so the two spots are connected via elevation) so records kept by USGS will still mean something. Then, in the future when Twin Lake rises we can go back out and move it again.

Unless there is an easier/more practical way???? We are willing to assist.

Patrick Kilbey
County Conservationist
Marquette County Land & Water Conservation
(608)-296-2815

From: David & Lee Ann Casper [mailto:DLCasper@wildblue.net]
Sent: Wednesday, December 06, 2006 12:21 PM
To: Scott Provost; Kilbey, Patrick - Westfield,WI
Subject: Twin Lakes

Hi Pat & Scott -

We here at Twin Lakes have very little in the way of records regarding depth of the lakes or water table. The USGS stuck a benchmark in the lake when they were here measuring water quality for our grant. The used to be under water but has been high and dry for some time.

We would like to start keeping records, as suggested at the Plainfield meeting but are looking for suggestions and help on how and what to do and also the "tools" to do it.

HELP!!! PLEASE...
Thanks,
David