

# LAKE LUCERNE ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATION

## LAKE AIS/CBCW AWARENESS PROJECT

### 2011 FINAL REPORT

Supporting  
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not changed  
(same as 2010)  
grant  
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The Lake Lucerne Advancement Association sponsored an AEPP Grant (AEPP-284-11) to increase awareness and educate the greater Lake Lucerne community about aquatic invasive species. This included training and education on Clean Boats/Clean Waters (CBCW), Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) identification and detection, and other activities.

To accomplish this task several steps were taken to implement strategies aimed at creating an awareness of the issues surrounding AIS. They included hiring an AIS Coordinator to assist with training lake residents, help coordinate volunteers at the Lake Lucerne public boat landing (DNR owned) and data collection and entry into the DNR website.

A committee was formed consisting of members of the Lake Lucerne Advancement Association (LLAA) Board of Directors. Members included Jack Kloss, Matt Greely and Larry Sommer. As last year's coordinator, Mr. Todd Veese, informed the Committee that he would be returning in 2011, they did not advertise for a replacement. Mr. Veese attended the Wisconsin Association of Lakes Conference in Green Bay in April (see below) and attended several sessions training on AIS/CBCW identification, Lake Coordinator responsibilities and reviewed the SWIMS program responsibilities. Mr. Veese started the program on schedule and supplied a tremendous amount of enthusiasm to the program.

Two LLAA Board Members (Forest County Association of Lakes representative and Lake Association Secretary Carol Tomasi, and Lake Association Board Member LexAnn Hitchcock) and Lake Coordinator Todd Veese attended the Spring Wisconsin Association of Lakes Annual Conference in Green Bay. Ms. Tomasi's expenses were paid by the Forest County Association of Lakes. They attended courses regarding AIS training and identification, and CBCW training and inspection procedures, in an effort to gain knowledge which would be shared with the remainder of the lake residents at several training sessions.

Several articles were also placed in the newsletter announcing training sessions to be held over the course of the spring, 2011. The training sessions were also announced at the LLAA Spring clean Up Day in May, and at the Association Meetings. The training date was June 11<sup>th</sup> and included Clean Boat/Clean Water and AIS training at the LLAA Clubhouse lead by Carol Tomasi and LexAnn Hitchcock. Mike Pruel also attended the training, as did Lake Coordinator Todd Veese. A total of 39 lake residents attended the combined training session. The presenters provided photos of examples of invasive species, and several real life lake experiences that are currently happening in Northern Wisconsin. Review of the boat landing interview sheets and log-in materials were reviewed and examples shared. In addition, above and beyond the grant requirements, guest speakers were invited to our Association meetings to give presentation on AIS, including Wisconsin DNR Aquatic Invasive Coordinator Chris Hamerla, and Mike

Pruel, Fisheries Biologist with the Sokaogon Chippewa Community (attendees and hours not accounted for, as they are not part of the grant).

Various articles were placed in LLAA Newsletters throughout the year (copies enclosed), and strategic links were provided on the website to continue to educate and call attention to the issue, and keep AIS and CBCW in the forefront of everyone's mind. Links were established on the Lake Lucerne Advancement Association Website ([www.lucernewi.com](http://www.lucernewi.com)) under the "Lake Education" tab for the Clean Boats/Clean Water program, which included additional links to "Aquatic Invasive Species" and "Clean Boat/Clean Water Program", an email contact for the Lake Coordinator, Mr. Todd Veaser, and a link to the schedule for shifts that were needed at the boat landing. These links proved very helpful in not only creating awareness, but allowing lake residents and visitors to learn about the program, and become involved. There was also a link to the 2010 AIS Grant information to share it with the lake community.

This training was put to good use, as lake residents volunteered over 340 hours over 79 days (59 were required by the Grant) to assist with CBCW at the public boat launch. Lake Coordinator Mr. Veaser spent over 160 hours at the public boat landing conducting inspections and working with/training our volunteers. These hours included every Friday, Saturday, Sunday and holidays throughout the season to both conduct inspections and coordinate volunteers. Weekends were the main concentration of the hours. However lake residents also supported the program throughout the week during peak boating season periods. Inspections were conducted from May through September. Due to sturdy volunteers and continued commitment to the program, the boat landing was manned several weeks past the anticipated end date for the program, and included many more hours than required by the Grant. Likewise, AIS inspection continued far beyond the grant period as residents were able to easily reach the water due to low lake levels. According to the final report, 288 boats were inspected, and 769 people were educated through these contacts. Sample Boat Landing reports were shared at the Lake Association meetings to give residents an idea of the challenge we face. Some boaters admitted to not implementing proper CBCW practices, and some did not launch their boats. Pictures were shared of trailers parked at the landing with weeds hanging from their axles (the weeds were determined to be native species), and fishermen transporting live bait from lake to lake. The new state law forbidding the transportation of weeds on trailers was explained. No confrontations resulted from any contacts, and the vast majority of boaters appreciated the effort of the lake community to protect the beautiful waters of Lake Lucerne. All contacts and results were reported using the Watercraft inspection report Form 3200-120, with the data uploaded online by Lake Coordinator Veaser to the Wisconsin DNR Integrated Monitoring Systems (SWIMS) as required.

To assist with AIS education and monitoring, wallet size educational pamphlets were acquired from the WDNR (Chris Hamerla) and distributed to lake volunteers to share with neighbors and visitors to the lake. The grant provided for this cost; however the donation eliminated the need to purchase the brochures. Eventually, 34 residents volunteered over 200 hours (grant allowance was only 200) to educate other residents and visitors about AIS, including many of these hours being spent monitoring shorelines to help identify the presence of AIS, and remove if necessary. Fortunately, the only specimen captured, for the second year in a row, was a suspected rusty crawfish, which was forwarded to the WDNR for analysis and identification and proved to be positive. Throughout the year, there were no other reports of AIS in Lake Lucerne. Residents are concerned with the presence of invasive species in ditches around the lake, but no aquatic species were found.

Zebra mussel monitoring plates were also hung from six (6) docks in strategic locations on the lake to check for the presence of the invasive creatures. With Lake Metonga being less than one mile from Lake Lucerne, and their continuing struggle over the presence of the zebra mussel in their waterway, they shared the design for the detection plates. No zebra mussels were detected when the plates were periodically inspected, or when they were removed at the end of the season.

5,000 AIS placemats were ordered in a joint purchase with the Forest County Association of Lakes. The design was welcomed by the business owners, and seemed to draw interest of the patrons of these restaurants. The design was provided by the FCAL, and it is our understanding that the design was approved by the WDNR. These placemats were distributed at three establishments which serve the lake community; Water's Edge Lodge, Duck's Bar and the Crandon Hotel. In addition, "green" grocery bags were printed and distributed at Schaefer Food Mart in Crandon, and sold at Association events including Association meetings and social events (Fun Days and Meet Your Neighbor). A placemat sample is included with this report.

A informational kiosk (picture included), as designed by the Wisconsin DNR, was donated, constructed and placed at the public boat landing by the Association in 2010. Material was updated and maintained in 2011. The WDNR was very appreciative of the venue for displaying important lake information for lake residents and visitors (bag limits, loon nesting rules, courtesy lake rules, etc). The WDNR prescribed AIS and CBCW posters were posted in the kiosk. This information was also posted at the existing kiosk at Water's Edge Lodge, a restaurant located on the lake which also operates a private boat landing.

As part of the LLAA ongoing efforts to gain partnerships and educate users of the lake who are not necessarily residents, strategic partnerships were developed with several organizations, including:

Town of Lincoln  
Roberts Lake Association  
Forest County Association of Lakes  
Waters Edge Lodge  
Lake Metonga Association  
Schaefer's Grocery  
Forest County Potawatomi

Letters of Support were received from:  
Sokaogon Chippewa Community  
Forest County Land and Water Conservation Department  
C.A.R.S., LLC

The partnership with the Sokaogon Chippewa Community resulted in their assistance in funding our fish stocking program, as they annual exercise their spearing rights in Lake Lucerne.

Upon acceptance of this final Report by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, this report will be shared with the Town of Lincoln, Forest County, Forest County Association of Lakes, and all interested entities. A link on the Association website will also be provided.

# TOWN OF LINCOLN

**Lynne M. Black, Chairperson**  
**Michael Wilson, Supervisor**

**Larry Sommer, Supervisor**  
**Lisa S. Gretzinger, Clerk/Treasurer**

January 31, 2011

Lake Lucerne Advancement Association  
P.O. Box 517  
Crandon, WI 54520

Dear President:

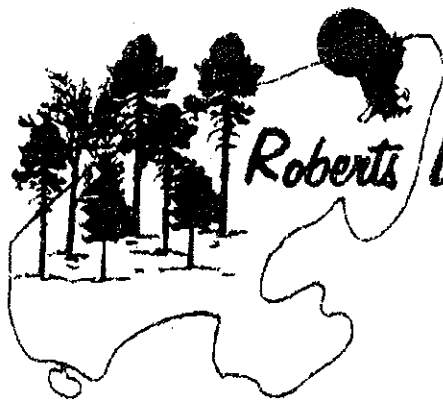
This letter is to acknowledge our recent discussion at our regular Town Board meeting regarding your application for a grant of money from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. We understand the grant money will be used to monitor the boat landing on Lake Lucerne for invasive species.

The Town Board is in full support of your efforts. We wish you much success in protecting Lake Lucerne from being infested by invasive species.

Sincerely,



Lisa S. Gretzinger  
Clerk/Treasurer



*Roberts Lake Association, Inc.*

*Wabeno, Wisconsin*

Mr. Larry Sommers  
Lake Lucerne Association  
3754 County Rd W  
Crandon, WI 54520

1/30/11

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources;

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Lake Lucerne Advancement Association and their President, Larry Sommers. As a longstanding Lake Association in Forest County, WI we share and uphold many of the same interests as Lake Lucerne towards protecting our lake environments. We have worked as local organizations to promote education of our membership and the general public to help protect our natural resources.

As such, the Roberts Lake Association supports Lake Lucerne's efforts to promote the Clean Boat and Clean Water programs and the grant they seek to support these activities. Lake Lucerne is a great model for the positive affect a local lake association can have on our communities and we admire and have always commended them for their efforts in these areas.

Sincerely;

William Brunner  
President – Roberts Lake Association

FOREST COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF LAKES  
6967 HAMILTON DRIVE  
WABENO, WISCONSIN 54566

January 27, 2011

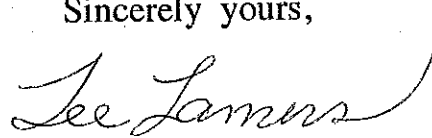
Lake Lucerne Advancement Association  
Box 517  
Crandon, Wisconsin 54520

Dear President Sommer,

The Forest County Association of Lakes gives its complete support to the Lake Lucerne Advancement Association in its effort to secure a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for the purpose of initiating and sustaining a Clean Boats Clean Waters program at Lake Lucerne to monitor its boat landing for aquatic invasive species.

The Forest County Association of Lakes wishes your association success in its effort to avoid infestation by invasive species.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lee Lamers". The signature is written in dark ink and has a long, sweeping flourish at the end.

Lee Lamers  
President

**WATER'S EDGE LODGE**

4140 County Road W  
Crandon, Wisconsin 54520  
Phone: 715-478-1224

January 26, 2011

Lake Lucerne Association  
Box 517  
Crandon, Wisconsin 54520

Dear President:

This letter is to acknowledge our recent discussion regarding the Lake Lucerne Advancement Association's application for a grant of money from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. I understand the money will be used to monitor the boat landing on Lake Lucerne for aquatic invasive species. I am in full support of your efforts.

I wish you much success in protecting our beautiful lake from infestation by invasive species.

Sincerely,



Roger Hillberg

Owner

**LAKE METONGA ASSOCIATION, INC**  
**4884 Strawberry Bluff Lane**  
**Crandon, WI 54520**

January 26, 2011

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
Lake Management Grant Coordinator  
107 Sutliff Avenue  
Rhineland, WI 54501

Re: Lake Lucerne Management Association Grant Request

Dear Grant Coordinator:

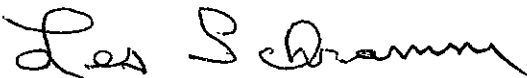
The Clean Boats-Clean Waters boat inspection program is vital to protect our lakes from the invasion of aquatic invasive species. Since Lake Metonga has Eurasian Water Milfoil, Zebra Mussels and Rusty Crayfish, and the public frequents both Lake Metonga and Lake Lucerne, it is imperative that the inspection programs continue at both Lakes.

Please consider approving Lake Lucerne's request for grant funds to finance the Clean Boats-Clean Waters program to protect Lake Lucerne from the invasion of aquatic invasive species.

Boat inspections help to protect not only our lakes but other lakes in our area as well as all water bodies in the State.

Sincerely,

LAKE METONGA ASSOCIATION, INC.



Les Schramm  
Director





January 27, 2011

Lake Lucerne Association  
Box 517  
Crandon, WI 54520

Dear President:

This letter is to acknowledge our recent discussion regarding your application for a grant of money from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. I understand the grant money will be used to monitor the boat landing on Lake Lucerne for invasive species.

I wish you much success in protecting the beautiful lake from being infested by invasive species. I am in full support of your effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Schaefer III". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "S".

Jay Schaefer



**POTAWATOMI**  
(Keeper of the Fire)

*Forest County Potawatomi Community*  
*P.O. Box 340 • Crandon, Wisconsin 54520*

January 27, 2011

Lake Lucerne Association  
Box 517  
Crandon, WI 54520

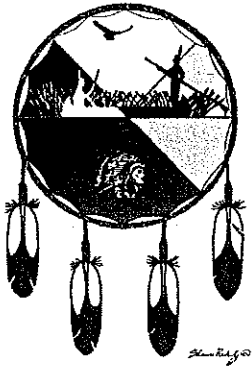
Dear President:

This letter is to acknowledge the recent discussion you had with Matt Steinbach, Water Resources Program Director with the Forest County Potawatomi Community Natural Resources Department, regarding your application for a grant of money from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. We understand that the grant money will be used to monitor the boat landing on Lake Lucerne for invasive species.

We are in full support of your efforts.

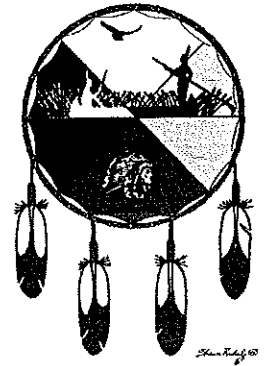
Sincerely,

James A. Crawford  
Vice Chairman  
Forest County Potawatomi Community



# Sokaogon Chippewa Community

3051 Sand Lake Road, Crandon, WI 54520  
Phone: (715) 478-7500 \* Fax: (715) 478-5275



[www.sokaogonchippewa.com](http://www.sokaogonchippewa.com)

January 14, 2011

Kevin Gauthier  
Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources  
107 Sutliff Ave.  
Rhinelander, WI 54501

Dear Kevin:

The Sokaogon Chippewa Community supports the Lake Lucerne Advancement Association continued boat landing monitoring program for AIS on Lake Lucerne. This program is important because of the potential introduction of diseases and aquatic invasive species from the Great Lakes and the presence of species in local lakes, including zebra mussels in Lake Metonga. Furthermore, any invasive species that enter Lake Lucerne could ultimately end up in Swamp Creek. Swamp Creek is an outlet stream to Lake Lucerne and flows through the Sokaogon Chippewa Community Reservation where it enters Rice Lake, a very important wild rice lake to the Tribe.

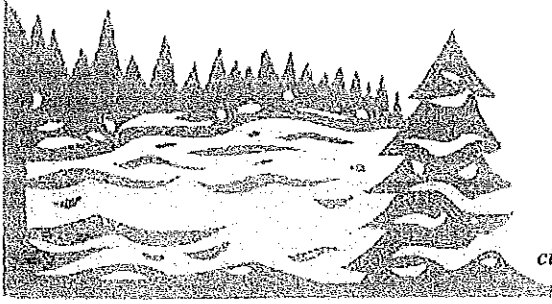
The Tribe has been very involved in fighting aquatic invasive species in Forest County and is appreciative of the efforts of the Lake Lucerne Advancement Association. We will provide any help necessary to make this program a success. We urge the WDNR to provide financial assistance for this project through the WDNR Aquatic Invasive Species Grant Program.

Please contact me with any questions or comments at 715-478-7621.

Sincerely,

Michael Preul  
Fisheries Biologist

**Ga-na-waji Ga-wi-nug Way-ji-mooki-ji-wung Yi-ewe-meing-gun-a-sepii**



**Forest County**  
Land and Water Conservation Department  
Courthouse ~ 200 E. Madison St. ~ Crandon, WI 54520

**Cindy Gretzinger**  
County Conservationist  
[cindy.gretzinger@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:cindy.gretzinger@ces.uwex.edu)  
(715) 478-7796

**Dan Peters**  
Natural Resources Technician  
[dpeters@co.forest.wi.us](mailto:dpeters@co.forest.wi.us)  
(715) 478-3475

January 26, 2011

Larry Sommer  
Town of Lincoln Supervisor  
3754 County Hwy. W  
Crandon WI 54520

RE: DNR Grant Application (Town of Lincoln)

Dear Mr. Sommer:

Be advised that the Forest County Land and Water Conservation Committee is in support of your application for your DNR grant. Please consider this our Letter of Support.

If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact the Land Conservation Department.

Sincerely yours,

*Erhard E. Huettl /cg*

Erhard E. Huettl, Chair  
Forest County Board of Supervisors

Pc: DNR

**C.A.R.S. LLC**  
600 E Pioneer P.O. Box 36  
Crandon, WI 54520  
Phone: (715)-478-5500/ Fax: (715)-478-5501

January 26, 2011

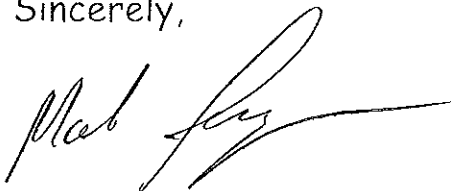
Lake Lucerne Association  
Box 517  
Crandon, WI 54520

Dear President:

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I wish you much success in protecting the beautiful lake from being infested by invasive species.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sprenger", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Sprenger  
Owner