



PICKEREL/CRANE LAKE P&R DISTRICT

Protection and Rehabilitation District

Newsletter



From the Chairman's Desk...



I don't know about you, but I've had enough winter for this year! With that being said, let's talk about the Lake Management Plan for Pickerel Lake and Crane Lake. If you will recall, or if you missed the last annual meeting, we discussed the Lake Management Plan and indicated how this lengthy and costly plan was now being required by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Without a completed plan, our lake district would no longer be eligible for an aquatic plant harvesting permit or any future State of Wisconsin lake grants effective immediately.

At the 12/10/08 Commissioner's meeting, the board voted to pursue a grant to help find the cost of developing a Lake Management Plan. They also voted in favor of hiring the consulting firm of Onterra, LLC from DePere, WI to submit the application and help

Management Plan. Onterra agreed to only be paid for writing the grant if the project was funded. The grant-writing fee was included in the grant application.

Onterra, LLC has projected the total cost of this project to be \$31,727. If funded, the WDNR grant would cover 75% of the cost leaving the Lake District with an in-kind local match of roughly \$3,739. Please keep in mind that this project will only happen if we are fortunate enough to be awarded the planning grant. As you can expect, there is a lot of competition for these grant dollars. As soon as the state awards the grants, we will let you know if our application has been successful.

You should know that the Lake Management Plan is going to require several meetings and many hours of your commissioner's time as well as including those who own

property in the Lake District as well as other lake users. During the planning process, we will be required to set up several committees which will address certain elements of the plan. In order to ensure success we will need everyone's support and input in this process.

I would like to close by saying that while we know the Lake Management Planning process is a requirement; let's not look at it as just another state mandate but look at this as an opportunity for us to create the best management plan possible for our two lakes. The more we do in planning for the future, the better success we will have in ensuring the health of Pickerel and Crane lakes for future generations to enjoy.

Sincerely,

Chuck Sleeter

Weed Harvesting: Looking for a Few Good Men/Women

Remember spending precious vacation days raking out the weeds on the shoreline so the kids could swim and play? I know I don't miss this horrible task and am grateful to the volunteers who run the harvester making our shorelines free of weeds. To continue this program, we need help! Please come to the Spring Meeting and speak to Jim Huss about volunteering a few hours of your time. Training and instruction will be provided. You may also call Jim Huss at 715-484-3406 for scheduling on Pickerel Lake or Loren King at 715-484-2671 for Crane Lake dates. Be sure to look at the annual weed report on page three to see just how many weeds are removed from our two lakes.

Important Broadband Information!

The Federal Recovery Act has provided federal funds for improving access to high-speed Internet service in rural areas to eligible communities in the form of loans and grants. If you are tired of only having dial-up Internet and would like to have access to broadband, please complete the two-minute survey on www.psc.wi.gov and click on the link for "Broadband Service" and then click the link for "Customer Survey". Non-Residents please remember to use your Pickerel address on the survey.

Aeration News

Yet another winter has passed with dedicated volunteers tirelessly working behind the scenes to ensure that our lakes stay healthy. While we are all at home tucked away in warmth, Jerry Hietpas, Phil Hollmann, Jim Huss, Dave Meloney, and Chuck Sleeter are often outside tending to the maintenance of the aeration machinery. On the 18th of December all of these guys were staking the area to ensure the safety of those on the ice. Christmas week found Phil and Duane thawing out the airline on the lake bottom. Finally the aeration system was shut down and the stakes removed for the season. The residents of Pickerel and Crane Lake would like to send a great big thank you to these faithful volunteers.

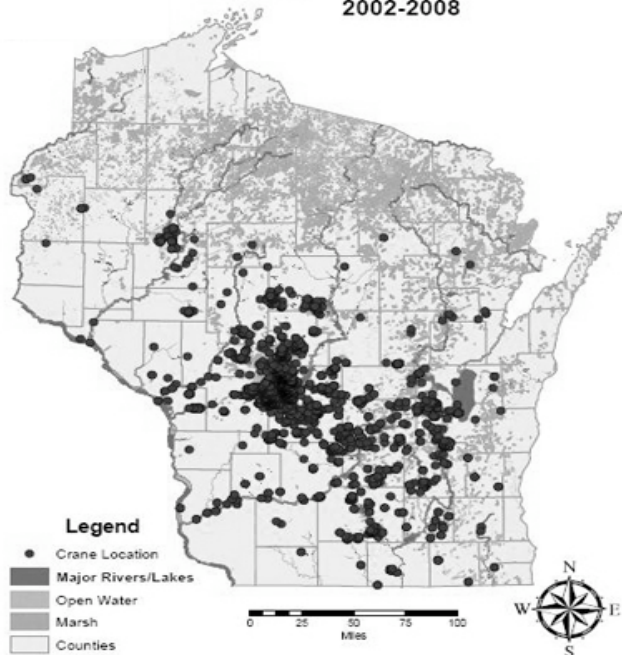


Fish Stocking Update

Mr. Mike Vogelsand, our Forest Country WDNR Fisheries contact, has informed us that fish stocking should begin once again in both Pickerel Lake and Crane Lake in 2009.

In anticipation of having a fresh batch of fish stock Dan Voster's, our DNR Lake Representative, has asked us to remember that no lake is an infinite number of fish. Studies have shown the larger fish inhabit the choice spawning sites. When the larger fish are depleted, the smaller fish move in. Often times, this is a genetically stunted new population that will be unable to produce the quality fish we all dream of catching. This study shows that by letting the healthy, larger sized fish spawn and taking fewer fish produce a fishery of larger and much nicer sized fish. He is asking that when you make that wonderful catch, please be conservative as to what you keep. Take what you can eat, but let a few grow for another day!

Whooping Crane Observed Locations
2002-2008



Did You Know?

Did you know that the DNR has been actively trying to restore a migratory whooping crane population in Wisconsin? Prior to 1999 only one migratory population of whooping cranes existed in the wild. Today, there are 85 whooping cranes in our Eastern Migratory Population with an additional 25-30 birds planned on being introduced by 2020. The goal is to have a self-sustaining migratory population of 100-120 individual birds and 25-30 breeding pairs. If you observe a whooping crane you may report your sighting at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/er/birds/wcrane/wcraneEncounter.htm>. Provide the date, time, exact location, bird behavior, description (including if the bird is banded), and a photo if available.

**Notice of Pickerel/Crane Lake P&R
District Spring Meeting**

May 23, 2008 - 9:30 a.m.

Ainsworth Town Hall

(Corner of T & TT, Pearson)

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Call to Order/Roll Call
3. Reading of the Minutes
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Old Business:
 - a) Aeration Report
 - b) Weed Harvesting Report
 - c) Fish Stocking Report
6. New Business
 - a) Lake Management Planning Grant Application
7. Appoint Nominating Committee
8. Adjourn

Report of Expenses

1/1/08 - 12/31/08

Expenses	Budgeted	Actual YTD
Meetings/Mileage/Tel.	\$500	\$153
Printing	300	285
Postage	1,000	832
Administration Supplies	200	28
Dues	120	90
Boat Landings	1,000	257
Aquatic Invasive Weed Control	10,000	1,565
Aeration	2,500	1,708
Insurance	2,500	2,049
Rent	780	780
Harvester	21,500	18,831
Capitol Purchases	10,000	12,601
Miscellaneous	500	373
Lake Monitoring	500	-0-
Septic Inspection	5,000	-0-
Total	\$56,400	\$39,552

**Pickerel/Crane Lake P&R
District 2008 Treasurer's Report
1/1/08 - 12/31/08**

Opening Balance	\$55,714.36
Receipts	
Donation	1,000.00
Boat Landing Donations	20.00
Interest	495.67
Total	\$1,515
Disbursements	
Harvester - Telephone	36.99
Harvester - Repairs	19.50
Postage - P.O. Box Rental	54.00
Aq. Inv. Weed Control - Consultant Fee	385.90
Aeration - Electric	54.18
Mileage	18.55
Aq. Inv. Weed Control - Harvester Permit	300.00
Aeration - Reflective Tape	247.89
Postage	8.41
Aeration - Vol. Appreciation	12.25
Harvester - Vol. Appreciation	35.75
Aeration - Open Lines	25.00
Total	1,198.42
Closing Balance	
Checking & Savings	23,129.43
CD's	32,902.18
Total on Hand 12/31/08	\$56,031.61

Respectfully submitted,

Peg Hollmann, Treasurer

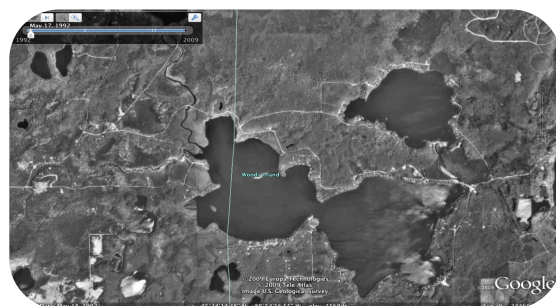
Pickerel/Crane Lake P&R District

Total Weeds Harvested 2008

Aquatic Plants by Species	Weight (lbs.)	# Of Total
Northern Milfoil (Non-Inv. Type)	1,203,600	85%
Coon Tail	42,480	3%
Water Celery	7,080	½ %
Pondweed	56,640	4%
Elodea	28,320	2%
All Other Weeds (Trace)	77,880	5 ½ %
Total	1,416,000	100%

Pickerel/Crane Lake District Commissioners & Representatives

Chuck Sleeter – Chair (715) 484-8166 or (715) 484-4501
Brian King – Vice Chair (715) 484-2807 or (920) 347-0245
Dan Vosters – DNR Rep. (715) 484-3142 or (920) 766-9202
Peg Hollmann – Treasurer (715) 484-7800
Lauren Freston – Secretary (715) 484-2910 or (715) 623-6785
Duane Marshall – Town of Nashville Rep. (715) 484-8198
Jim Stormer – Forest County Liason (715) 484-2022
Dave Solin – Langlade County Liaison (715) 627-4221



Pickerel/Crane Lake

www.earth.google.com

In order for us to keep our mailing list current, please notify us of your new address if you move. It would also be helpful if you would let us know the name and address of the new owners in the event your property is sold, so we can include them in our mailings. Thank you.

PICKEREL/CRANE LAKE P&R DISTRICT

P.O. Box 18
Pickerel, WI 54465

[Recipient]