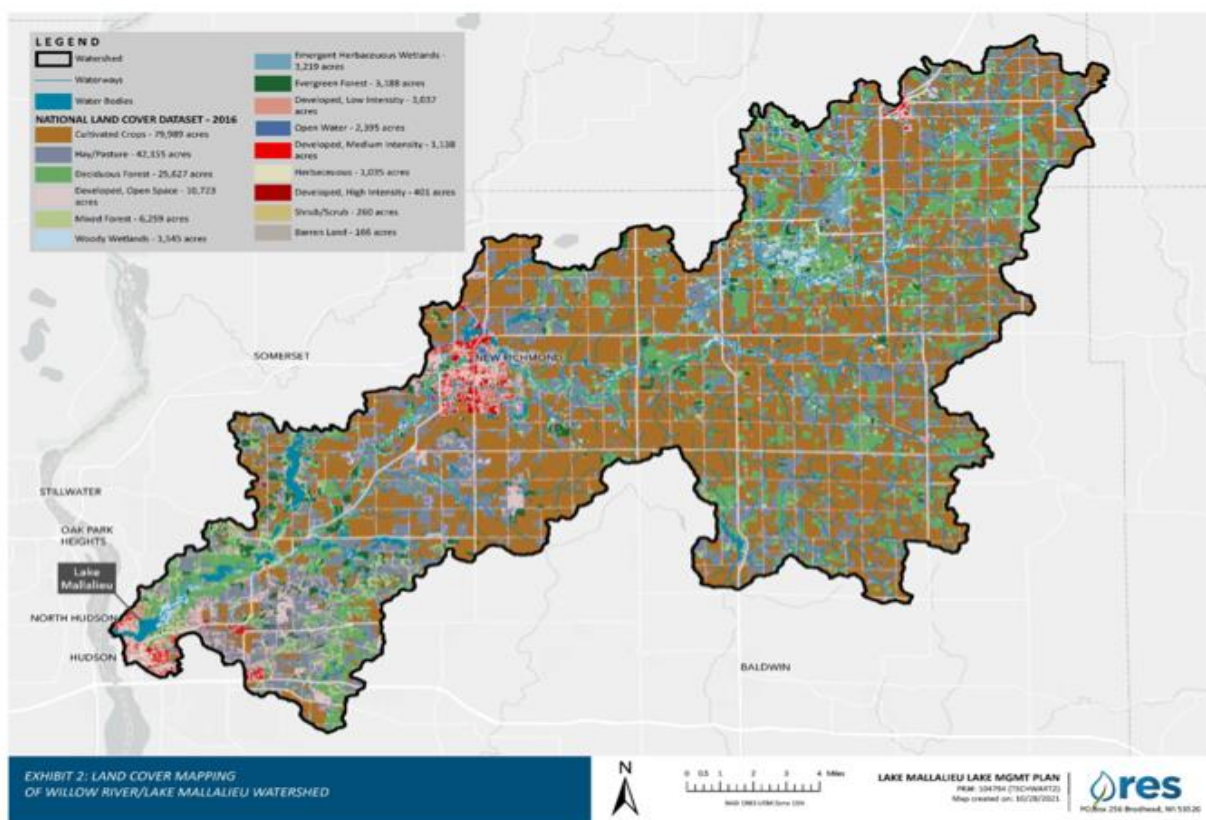


## LAKE MALLALIEU Q&A

<https://lakemallalieudredging.info>

### WHY DOES LAKE MALLALIEU HAVE LOW WATER CLARITY AND ALGAE BLOOMS?

Lake Mallalieu is an impoundment at the end of the about 70-mile-long Willow River, which has an approximately [182,000-acre watershed area](#) dominated by agricultural land uses. The Willow River continuously carries sediments and nutrients in runoff from upstream lands downstream to Lake Mallalieu. Lake Mallalieu's waters are replaced about every three to seven days by the flow of the Willow River, depending on precipitation amounts.



Since 1998, the Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources (WDNR) has listed the Willow River as impaired by excess total phosphorous.

Sediments and excess nutrients—phosphorous and nitrogen—flowing downstream in the Willow River to Lake Mallalieu reduce the impoundment's water clarity and [feed algae blooms](#).

## HOW LONG HAS LAKE MALLALIEU HAD POOR WATER QUALITY?

Lake Mallalieu has had poor water quality, with excess nutrients, low clarity, and algal blooms, for many decades.

[In 1990](#), the City of Hudson received a WDNR grant to assess Lake Mallalieu's water quality and watershed land uses. This 1990 water quality assessment found that Lake Mallalieu had poor water clarity and high levels of nutrients and algae.

[In 1999](#), the Lake Mallalieu Association (LMA) partnered with the WDNR to conduct a water quality study of Lake Mallalieu from May – September. This 1999 water quality study found that Lake Mallalieu's water quality was poor, with elevated phosphorous and nitrogen, low clarity, and algal blooms.

The mean summer (May – September 1999) water quality conditions were: total nitrogen 2,262 ug/L, total phosphorous 111 ug/L, Ortho-P 14ug/L, N:P ratio 20.4, chlorophyll-a 79 ug/L, secchi disc depth .7 meter (2.3 feet), chloride 11,530 ug/L, and total suspended sediment 19,600; filamentous algae occurred in about 25% of the sites sampled (see: "Response of the St. Croix River Pools, Wisconsin and Minnesota, to Various Phosphorous-Loading Scenarios", US Dept. of the Interior, US Geological Survey, Water-Resources Investigations Report 02-4181, at Table 2 and page 9).

Since 2004, the WDNR has listed the Lake Mallalieu impoundment of the Willow River as impaired by excess total phosphorous, with eutrophication, excess algal growth, and elevated pH ([WDNR 2022 Impaired Waters List](#), at page 12).

Lake Mallalieu has been evaluated for phosphorous and algae [every two years between 2012 and 2024](#). Total phosphorous and chlorophyll-a values have continued to be too high, as evidenced by summer algal blooms.

## HOW DO LAND USES AFFECT LAKE MALLALIEU'S WATER QUALITY?

Lake Mallalieu's water quality is largely determined by the effects of upstream land uses within the Willow River watershed, but land uses closer to and along Lake Mallalieu's shorelines also affect its water quality.

Changes in upstream land uses within the Willow River watershed have either [increased or decreased sediment and nutrient loading](#) in runoff to the Willow River, including:

- In 1999, a concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO) began operating, [Emerald Dairy](#) now Emerald Sky Dairy, and this CAFO has had several large [manure spills](#). [Emerald Sky Dairy](#) recently obtained approvals to about double its number of animal units, which will more than double the amount of manure produced by this CAFO.
- Beginning in the mid-2000s, population growth in the western portion of St. Croix County, which encompasses the western portion of the Willow River watershed, grew at among the fastest rates in Wisconsin, and [farmlands were converted to rural residential developments](#).

- Farming operations on some agricultural lands have changed the crops raised, for example from perennial hay coverage to annually cultivated acreage, and have increased fertilizer applications.
- In 2013, the [Dry Run Creek Farmer-Led Watershed Council](#) was established in the eastern portion of the Willow River watershed to promote implementing soil and water conservation practices by farmers.
- In 2017, the Stillwater Bridge/St. Croix River Crossing opened, creating easier access between the Minnesota metro area and the western portion of the Willow River watershed, and spurring [more conversion](#) of farmlands to rural residential developments.
- During the 2015–2019 replacement of the upstream Little Falls dam in Willow River State Park, some amount of sediment flowed downstream to Lake Mallalieu.

Changes in land uses near and along Lake Mallalieu’s shorelines have mostly [increased sediment and nutrient loading in runoff to Lake Mallalieu](#), including:

- Conversions of woodland acreages along Lake Mallalieu to housing developments;
- Infill development of homes on previously vacant lots along or near Lake Mallalieu;
- Intensified redevelopment on lots along or near Lake Mallalieu, with smaller structure footprints and smaller impervious surface areas replaced by larger structure footprints and larger impervious surface areas;
- Removals of native shoreline vegetation;
- Additions of lawns along shorelines;
- Removals of woody debris along shorelines;
- Additions of unvegetated riprap along shorelines; and
- More and larger docks/piers along shorelines.

## **WHAT IS REQUIRED TO RESTORE LAKE MALLALIEU’S WATER QUALITY?**

By 2014, WDNR staff estimated that [a 20% to 30% reduction in phosphorous runoff](#) from land in the Willow River watershed upstream from Lake Mallalieu would be needed to markedly improve Lake Mallalieu’s water quality.

In 2012/13, the Willow River watershed’s total phosphorous loading was calculated to be 75,729 pounds per year (see: “Implementation Plan for Lake St. Croix Nutrient TMDL”, Appendix B County Implementation Plans, [St. Croix County, page 2](#)).

The [St. Croix County Willow River Water Quality Project](#) now has set goals that include reducing phosphorous loading into the Willow River by 2,500 pounds per year, and reducing sediment loading into the Willow River by 11,400 tons per year.

The LMA’s [2022 Lake Mallalieu Lake Management Plan](#) sets three ranked-priority goals for Lake Mallalieu:

1. Improve water quality;
2. Improve aquatic habitat; and
3. Address sediment that has been deposited in the lake.

Accomplishing these goals requires improved watershed-wide water quality, as measured by greater water clarity and reduced algae growth in Lake Mallalieu.

The LMA's [2022 Lake Mallalieu Lake Management Plan](#) discusses effective watershed-level interventions in detail at pages 26 – 32.

The Lake Mallalieu impoundment is highly responsive to deleterious changes in the Willow River watershed, and Lake Mallalieu also may reasonably quickly recover following remedial upstream interventions.

Necessary actions include effective upstream interventions to reduce nutrient-loaded runoff into the Willow River, and effective lakeshore interventions to reduce shoreline erosion and to reduce nutrient-loaded runoff from shoreland yards.

### **WHAT CAN WE EACH DO TO HELP LAKE MALLALIEU?**

Lakeshore residents must protect and restore native shoreland habitats.

First, assess your shoreline and yard. Then make and [implement a plan to control and repair soil erosion and to restore native shoreline buffers](#).

The LMA's [2022 Lake Mallalieu Lake Management Plan](#) identifies "Goals for In-Lake Actions at Lake Mallalieu" on pages 23 – 24; describes "Shoreland/Riparian Management" at page 33; and lists "Lake Mallalieu Shoreline & In-Lake BMPs" at pages 33 – 34:

1. Enhance or re-establish naturalized Lake shorelines where they no longer exist. The buffer zone will preferably extend at least 30 feet inland from the water line and consist of permanent, native vegetation that maintains stable soils and provides diverse habitat for wildlife.
2. Educate Lake residents on measures to improve habitat for native animals, fish, insects, and birds, consistent with St. Croix County's Shoreland Zoning Ordinance (St. Croix County Land Use Ordinance Chapter 17-17.30 Zoning; Subchapter III Shoreland).
3. Advise and assist homeowners on the proper plants, trees, and buffers to establish in lakeshore areas (refer to USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service Technical Note: Shoreland Habitat Standard).
4. Enhance or re-establish native, emergent vegetation, woody debris (i.e., "structure" for fish habitat), and other littoral habitat. WDNR has agreed to work with the LMA and other stakeholders to promote the use of fish cribs as beneficial fish habitat. WDNR will lend expertise to the beneficial types available to residents and help facilitate the necessary permit applications that are required as a condition of placing woody debris within the Lake.
5. Inventory existing rip rap shorelines to identify opportunities for shoreline plantings and restoration. Existing riprap shorelines can be naturalized and enhanced with joint-plantings (i.e., install live stakes of native shoreline shrubs and/or native herbaceous plants (e.g., grasses, sedges, wildflowers) between the rocks.

6. Inventory eroding shorelines to identify opportunities for stabilization. Revegetate these areas with deep-rooted native vegetation (e.g., prairie cordgrass, sedges) to increase stability and habitat value.
7. Establish and publicize demonstration projects of the above practices (e.g., native shoreline buffers, healthy littoral habitat, re-vegetated riprap, and stabilized shorelines).
8. Conduct voluntary shoreline habitat assessments, in cooperation with St. Croix County Resource Management staff. Identify opportunities for protection and restoration.
9. Work with St. Croix County's Resource Management Division to 1) explore available grants, best management practices, and cost-sharing opportunities, and 2) provide seminars and workshops for the community. Workshops may cover rain garden design and installation, lakeshore restoration options, and other surface water runoff control measures.

### **WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE LAKE MALLALIEU ASSOCIATION REGARDING LAKE MALLALIEU, PEOPLE IN THE LAKE COMMUNITY, AND LAKE PROPERTIES?**

The LMA is a “**qualified lake association**” incorporated and organized under Wis. Stat. Ch. 181 and 281.

A qualified lake association such as the LMA is **a voluntary membership group that possesses no legal authority over public waters, or over lake community members, or over lake properties owned by anyone other than the LMA itself.**

While the navigable waters of Lake Mallalieu and the adjacent Willow River channels are public, both the riparian properties abutting these public waters and the impoundment lakebed properties under these public waters may be and are privately owned.

The LMA does not own any riparian and/or lakebed impoundment property. The owners of the riparian and/or impoundment lakebed properties of Lake Mallalieu and the adjacent Willow River channels may be viewed on a [map](#) at St. Croix County Maps, GIS, and Land Information services.

The LMA may initiate [WDNR permitting processes](#) for the proposed dredging project because Wis. Stat. section 30.20(2) does not require an applicant to be the riparian or lakebed impoundment property owner.

The LMA's consultant, Stantec Consulting Services (Stantec), submitted a Preliminary Application to the WDNR in early February 2024 so that WDNR staff could formally determine that sediment sampling would be required. This Preliminary Application will remain [incomplete](#) as WDNR and Stantec staff engage in ongoing communications regarding Stantec's data collection and the proposed dredging project, including: mapping of existing water depths and of existing soft sediment deposits, collecting and analyzing sediment sample cores, and revising the proposed dredging areas and depths. As Stantec gathers further data, the preapplication information will be refined and resubmitted to the WDNR for review and further guidance on sediment sampling requirements.



After the LMA's Application is deemed [complete](#) by the WDNR, and before the WDNR issues its decision on the Application, [WDNR permitting processes](#) require issuing Public Notice of the Application and considering Public Comments on the proposed dredging project, and also may include holding a Public Hearing.

**If the WDNR issues a permit for the LMA's proposed dredging project, the LMA may not commence the dredging project without first obtaining authorizations from the owners of the riparian and/or impoundment lakebed properties within the dredging area, and without also obtaining all other required federal, state, and local approvals and permits.**

As a qualified lake association, the LMA possesses no legal authority to compel any owner of any Lake Mallalieu or Willow River riparian and/or impoundment lakebed property to undertake or to allow the performance of any dredging activities on their properties.

### **HAS LAKE MALLALIEU GOTTEN SHALLOWER?**

The most recent WDNR lake survey map of Lake Mallalieu is dated [May 1970](#). This bathymetric map from fifty-four years ago shows that 60% of the lake was less than 5-feet deep, and almost all lake areas in northeast Lake Mallalieu near where the Willow River flows into the lake had shallow water depths of only 1-foot, 2-feet, 3-feet, or 4-feet.

In early April 2024, Stantec conducted a bathymetric survey in portions of Lake Mallalieu. This water depth data will be used to create an updated lake survey map of those lake areas.

### **IS MORE OF LAKE MALLALIEU'S LAKE BOTTOM MUCK AND SILT?**

The WDNR lake survey map of Lake Mallalieu dated [May 1970](#) identifies almost all lake bottom areas as muck and/or silt, with the exception of a small sand and gravel area where the Willow River flows into the lake.

Later in 2024, Stantec will attempt to identify, measure, and map lake bottom materials in some areas of Lake Mallalieu.

### **HAVE PUBLIC USERS OF LAKE MALLALIEU ASKED FOR DEEPER WATER?**

In mid-2019, following the replacement of the upstream Little Falls Dam, the LMA began surveying people using the public boat ramp on Lake Mallalieu.

As reported in the June 2021 LMA Newsletter, that survey data showed:

- 59% of those completing surveys used non-motorized crafts on the lake (canoes/kayaks/paddleboards);
- 41% came to fish;
- 39% commented on the lake water quality; but

- only 7% complained about sedimentation/lake depth.

Boating by the public users of Lake Mallalieu during the years of and after the upstream Little Falls Dam replacement project does not appear to have been impaired or reduced. People fishing have continued to motor their boats in the same Lake Mallalieu locations; non-motorized boating seems to have increased, with people in canoes or kayaks or on paddle boards frequently floating throughout the lake and continuing up the Willow River channels; and hunters still motor their boats across the lake and up the Willow River channels.

### **DO LAKE MALLALIEU'S SEDIMENTS CONTAIN TOXIC CHEMICALS?**

At a July 1999 LMA meeting, UWRF Professor Roger Swanson, from the Dept. of Plant and Earth Sciences, discussed previous Lake Mallalieu sediment sampling data and explained why varying concentration ranges of heavy metals and toxic chemicals are found within individual lakes: The variability within a lake depends on the sediment sampling location relative to the sources of heavy metals or toxic chemicals, for example: past weed control efforts, storm sewer outlets, or runoff from roads and other land uses.

WDNR records and reports show past chemical treatments for aquatic plant control in northeast Lake Mallalieu have deposited [toxic chemicals in lake sediments](#), including, at least:

- Arsenic (7,240 pounds or 3.62 tons);
- Endothall (3.6 pounds, plus 4 gallons);
- Diquat (14 gallons);
- 2, 4 – D (95 ounces or 1.48 gallons); and
- Silvex (5 pounds).

Arsenic is a broad-spectrum and non-specific herbicide that will kill any aquatic plant.

Arsenic is a toxic chemical that does not break down.

Previous sediment sampling in Lake Mallalieu has found arsenic to still be present. Arsenic remains “safe” only so long as it remains embedded in undisturbed lake sediments.

Stantec submitted a Preliminary Application for proposed dredging to the WDNR in early February 2024 so that WDNR staff could formally determine that sediment sampling would be required. This Preliminary Application will remain [incomplete](#) as WDNR and Stantec staff engage in ongoing communications regarding Stantec's data collection and the proposed dredging project, including: mapping of existing water depths and of existing soft sediment deposits, collecting and analyzing sediment sample cores, and revising the proposed dredging areas and depths. As Stantec gathers further data, the preapplication information will be refined and resubmitted to the WDNR for review and further guidance on sediment sampling requirements.

**IF PERMITTED, AND IF AUTHORIZED BY PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS,  
WHERE IS DREDGING PROPOSED TO BE DONE?**

Most proposed dredging is within the WDNR “Designated Sensitive Areas, Site #1: 83.79 Acres” in northeast Lake Mallalieu and the adjacent Willow River channels.

When Site #1 was designated as a sensitive area, the WDNR “[Recommendations for Area 1](#)” were:

- 1) This site provides excellent wildlife habitat and this quality of habitat needs to be maintained
- 2) Maintain snag and cavity trees along the shore.
- 3) Purple loosestrife has colonized a wetland at this site. Lake association should become involved in the loosestrife beetle release program, raising and releasing loosestrife beetles into the wetlands.
- 4) Maintain current fish habitat. Do not remove fallen trees in the water along the shoreline.
- 5) Do not alter the shallow water area unless for a DNR approved spawning habitat improvement.
- 6) Minimize removal of any shoreline vegetation. Allow removal of a maximum corridor width of 30 feet. Permits required for any vegetation removal.
- 7) Protect emergent vegetation.
- 8) Designate slow no-wake in the upper end.
- 9) If riparian land is developed in the future, existing shoreline must be maintained.
- 10) No permitting for shoreline erosion control needed at this time.
- 11) No bank grading.
- 12) No permit approval for pea gravel beds or sand blankets, except for DNR fishery or wildlife approved projects.
- 13) Nor dredging or lake bed removal or modifications.
- 14) Pier placement by permit only to minimize number of piers and their size and disturbance; require light-penetrating pier material such as metal grating.
- 15) No boat ramp placement.
- 16) Permit required for recreational floating devices.

(See: WDNR "[Designation of Sensitive Areas, Lake Mallalieu, St. Croix County](#)", at pages 5 and 8, March 2006)

The WDNR’s September 2023 field inspection of Site #1 identified a middle section area containing sediments that impair the sensitive area functioning, and that area could be a restoration project; but the WDNR has not changed either its designation of Site #1 as a Sensitive Area or its recommendations against dredging or other lakebed removal or modifications within Site #1.



## **WHAT IS LAKE MALLALIEU'S "DESIGNATED SENSITIVE AREAS, SITE #1: 83.79 ACRES"?**

Sensitive Areas are designated as critical habitat areas in Wisconsin, and these areas are supposed to be protected from the negative impacts of human activities.

[Sensitive Area Site #1](#) includes 70 acres in northeast Lake Mallalieu that extend to the 2-foot depth contour, as well as includes areas around the adjacent Willow River channels that are deep marsh wetlands, sedge meadows, shrub carr, tamarack bog, herbaceous cover, forest growth, or shrub cover.

WDNR recommendations regarding Site #1 when it was identified as a Sensitive Area in 2006 were that there be no dredging or other lakebed removal or modifications within Site #1.

Following the WDNR's September 2023 field inspection of Site #1, the WDNR did not change either its designation of Site #1 as a Sensitive Area or its recommendations against dredging or other lakebed removal or modifications within Site #1.

Sensitive Areas provide critical or unique fish and wildlife habitat, including habitat for seasonal or life stage requirements, and/or provide water quality or erosion control benefits.

Site #1 supports at least twenty-four documented species of aquatic plants. Emergent vegetation protects the shoreline and provides important food sources, cover, and fish spawning habitat. Floating-leaf vegetation dampens wave action and provides fish cover. The diverse submerged plant community provides habitat for fish and wildlife, and food sources for fish and waterfowl.

Site #1 provides critical habitat for many endangered, protected, or of concern species, as well as for a wide variety of other invertebrates, fish, amphibians, waterfowl, and wildlife, including:

- An established annual over-wintering location for a growing population of trumpeter swans, who feed on the abundant aquatic vegetation in the shallow ice-free waters where the Willow River flows into Lake Mallalieu;
- Critical habitat for Blanding's turtles, bald eagles, and ospreys;
- Critical habitat for herons and egrets; many varieties of ducks, including: wood ducks, teal, northern shovelers, mergansers, mallards, golden eyes, and buffalo heads; cormorants; geese; grebes; gulls and terns; kingfishers; owls; pelicans; frogs and toads; turtles; otters and minks; raccoons; and deer; and
- Important fish habitat, including: spring spawning and nursery areas for northern pike and crappie; and spring spawning and nursery areas, feeding areas, and cover for small-mouth bass and large-mouth bass.

While portions of other Designated Sensitive Areas in Lake Mallalieu have been significantly altered since their 2006 designation, Site #1 still retains most of its high-quality natural environment, even though the water now may be shallower in some areas within Site #1.

## **IF PERMITTED, AND IF AUTHORIZED BY PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS, HOW WOULD DREDGING BE DONE?**

Hydraulic dredging is proposed.

Hydraulic dredging requires water depths sufficient to float a dredging barge, as well as equipment storage and laydown yards, construction access routes, hydraulic dredge hose routes, setups for dewatering the projected 220,000 cubic yards of dredge materials, disposal sites for 220,000 cubic yards of dredge materials, and roadways adequate to handle approximately 22,000 roundtrips by large 10-yard dump trucks for transporting 220,000 cubic yards of dredge materials to the disposal sites.

Watch a video overview of a hydraulic dredging project in another Wisconsin impoundment, the [Upper Nemahbin Lake Dredging Project](#).

## **HOW BIG IS THE NOW PROPOSED DREDGE AMOUNT OF UP TO 220,000 CUBIC YARDS?**

The mass of 220,000 cubic yards is equivalent to **a ten-story building covering a regulation size football field**, including the end zones and the sidelines (120-yards long, by 53.3-yards wide, and 103-feet high).

## **WHAT WOULD BE DONE WITH ALL THAT DREDGE MATERIAL?**

First, all dredge materials must be dewatered.

For this proposed dredging project, it's likely that geobags would be used to dewater dredge materials. Geobags likely would be placed on properties along the shorelines of the dredging areas, and would remain in place for as long as required to dewater the dredge materials, which may be into the year following dredging.

View photos and videos of dewatering using geobags for another Wisconsin impoundment dredging project, the [Upper Nemahbin Lake Dredging Project](#).

After dewatering, dredge materials would be transported to disposal sites.

The proposed disposal method and sites are to spread dewatered dredge materials on nearby farm fields.

The farm fields closest to Lake Mallalieu and the adjacent Willow River channels are several miles distant.

Moving 220,000 cubic yards of dredge materials would require 22,000 roundtrips by large 10-yard dump trucks on the roadways from the dewatering sites to the disposal sites.

## **HOW LONG WOULD THE PROPOSED DREDGING PROJECT GO ON? WHAT WOULD IT COST?**

The many variables among dredging projects make the length of time and amount of money required to perform a dredging project in a Wisconsin river impoundment like Lake Mallalieu widely vary, but dredging projects are always lengthy and costly.

The timelines and total dollar costs for other similar dredging projects in Wisconsin strongly suggest that the proposed dredging project in northeast Lake Mallalieu and the adjacent Willow River channels would require much more than one year and \$2million to accomplish.

For example, a dredging project to remove about one-twentieth of the proposed quantity of dredge material from the [Upper Nemahbin Lake and the Middle Bark River](#) took the Upper Nemahbin Lake Management District from 2011 into 2024 to mostly accomplish, and the bids for hydraulic dredging of only about 11,000 cubic yards of sediment ranged from \$632,360 to \$1,312,870.

When evaluating the feasibility of any proposed dredging project, all costs of the proposed dredging project must be calculated and considered—and these costs include not just expenditures of time and money, but also community and environmental impacts.

Community impacts of odors, noise, lighting, traffic, and other issues must be taken into account.

The damage to and loss of valued natural habitats and biodiversity must be taken into account.

## **WHAT COULD THE LMA DO WITH \$2-MILLION FOR LAKE MALLALIEU, OTHER THAN SPEND THE MONEY ON THE PROPOSED DREDGING PROJECT?**

Governor Evers used his line-item veto to strike the word “dredging” from 2023 Senate Bill 70, Section 20.370(4)(jf); hence, the “Environmental Management” budget category in the final 2023 Wisconsin budget included a grant of \$2-million to the LMA for Lake Mallalieu as a continuing appropriation from the general fund (see: [2023 Wisconsin Act 19, Section 78, at page 47](#)).

As a result of Governor Evers [striking the word “dredging”](#), the \$2-million state grant to the LMA for the environmental management of Lake Mallalieu is not restricted to being spent on only a dredging project.

The 2022 Lake Mallalieu Lake Management Plan sets higher priority goals to achieve for the public benefit than pursuing the proposed dredging project in northeast Lake Mallalieu and the adjacent Willow River channels. The three ranked priorities are:

1. Improve water quality;
2. Improve aquatic habitat; and
3. Address sediment that has been deposited in the Lake.

The [2022 Lake Mallalieu Lake Management Plan](#) identifies many interventions that should be made along Lake Mallalieu's shores or upstream in the Willow River watershed to help improve Lake Mallalieu's water quality and aquatic habitat.

Now using all or some portion of the unrestricted \$2-million state grant to implement these interventions would help achieve the two highest priority goals for Lake Mallalieu more quickly and effectively—and at a much lower cost per intervention, as measured in time, money, and negative impacts on our community and natural environment—than now undertaking the proposed dredging project.

There is a significant lost opportunity cost when all or most of the \$2-million state grant is dedicated to pursuing the proposed dredging project.

Concerns about the potential negative impacts and/or feasibility of the proposed dredging project may delay obtaining all permits and approvals required before any proposed dredging may begin, or may even result in denials.

In the meantime, the LMA will be foregoing and delaying support for interventions along Lake Mallalieu's shore and in the upstream Willow River watershed that the 2022 Lake Mallalieu Lake Management Plan identifies as practical and effective steps toward achieving higher priority goals for Lake Mallalieu and for the public good.

**We all must consider whether proposed dredging would do more harm than good. And whether the \$2-million state appropriation to the LMA for environmental management of Lake Mallalieu should be used for other projects that better serve our public interests in our public waters.**