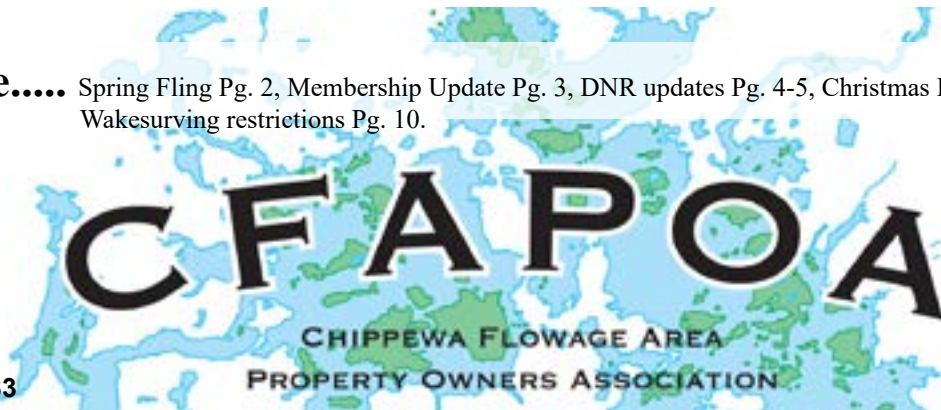


In this Issue..... Spring Fling Pg. 2, Membership Update Pg. 3, DNR updates Pg. 4-5, Christmas Party Pics Pg. 7
Wakesurfing restrictions Pg. 10.



Established 1983

Winter 2025

The Big Chip News

Proceeding with Purpose

by Mike Gardner CFAPOA Chair

The process to update the 2000 Chippewa Flowage Joint Agency Management Plan has begun. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), in partnership with the United States Forest Service (Forest Service) and Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa (LCO) has invited the public to engage in the early stages. The purpose as stated in the 2000 plan is:

PURPOSE OF THE JOINT MANAGEMENT PLAN

“In November 1988, the WDNR, LCO and FS agreed to discuss formulation of a comprehensive management plan for the long-term management of the Chippewa Flowage. Development of the Joint Management Plan, a conceptual agreement, is the result of these discussions.

This unprecedented cooperative venture brings together the combined expertise of staff from all three agencies and the public to build a comprehensive management plan for this unique and important resource. Contained in this plan are specific guidelines for future management of the area, including governmental coordination and public involvement. These guidelines are based on an examination of the resources of the Chippewa Flowage and identification and evaluation of the key resource management issues. This plan will provide uniform management and regulation and help reduce confusion for flowage visitors.

Continued on Page 2



Spring Fling @ Treelands Resort

Sunday, June 8
2:00–4:00 p.m.

See Page 2 for details.



CFAPOA Needs Your Help

With your membership, you can volunteer and help us with our mission to:



Continued from Page 1

This management plan will contribute information and guidelines to the WDNR, LCO and FS as they plan, design, and implement management activities on their properties and other areas within their respective jurisdictions in the flowage management area. This plan does not apply to the activities of private landowners on their own lands. However, the agencies agree that this plan shall guide their regulatory actions within their respective areas of jurisdiction regarding those lands.”

The CFAPOA Board has reviewed the plan and submitted input to the Management Concepts and Policies regarding recreational use and watercraft management. This process will take some time, and we will keep you informed throughout. The 2000 plan is available to view on our website by going to <https://cfapoa.org/about>.



January 1, 2025 is
the start of a new
membership year. You
can renew online at
<https://cfapoa.org/membership>

Spring Fling @ Treelands Resort

Sunday, June 8, 2025 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Appetizers

House Salad, Bruschetta, Queso Dip & Tortilla Chips

Main Course

House Smoked Pulled Pork Sandwiches, Cole Slaw, Waffle Fries

Dessert

Soft Serve in a cake cone or dish
Cost: \$16 inclusive of tax and tip.



Name: _____

Number attending: _____

RSVP by May 29, 2025
Please make checks payable to: CFAPOA.
Mail to: PO Box 555, Hayward, WI 54843

Membership Update

by Patty Swaffield

New Members

Kurtis & Clay Wanta Burton
Tom & Wanda Plachecki

Contributor

Rob & Brenda Anderson
Jerry & Donna Thompson Bechard
Curt & Pat Chaon
Mike & Debra Chernohorsky
Bryan & Julie Christy
David & Patti Conley
Bill & Kathie Decker
Jim & Janet Evenstad
Bob & Carolyn Fritsch
Charles & Anita Halbleib
Al & Delores Hixon
Daryl & Bonnie Hofer
Chip & Holly Kaiser
Charles & Joanne Keyes
Jon, Kevin & Jason Klohs
Steve & Connie Kopecky
Gerald & Erica Mason
Steve & Jeanne Migliacio
Randy & Kris Treland-Neumann
Maurice & Sue Noonan
John & Diane Sanchez, Jr.
Tony & Laurie Schubert
Kevin & Lindsey Schubert
Mike & Cindy Stielow
James & Marcia Suchy
John & Heidi Traxler
Tom & Kathy Turngren
Ronnie & Cheryl Weberg
Walt & Pat Wyczawski

Steward

Bill & Lynn Biederman
Angie & Pat McCain Bowe
David & Michelle Casten
Jim Colbert
Dan & Marcia Hardy
Randy & Diane Hulke
David & Kristin Koehnen Jordheim
Floyd Nelson
Cliff & Janice Podgorski
Rick & SeDell Rehfeldt
Tony & Megan Schubert Jr
Lynn Sennett
Jason & Mary Speros
Pamela & Linda Ellwein Tibbetts
Tom & Gina Toutant
Paul & Dawn Tweed
Terry & Debra Wall
Bill & Sulvia Nasla Whealon
Pat & Gina Wherley
Amanda Wilson
Terry & Debra Wall

Lifetime

Scott & Erin Hartman
Mike & Lynn Muench

Additional Donation

David Carland
John & Shelley Lamoreaux
Mike & Kris Maly

Renew Online Here

<https://cfapoa.org/membership>

Membership Levels

- \$25: Individual/Property
- \$26 to \$124: Contributor – newsletter recognition.
- \$125 to \$999: Steward – newsletter recognition and a gift.
- \$1000 and up: Lifetime Conservationist – newsletter recognition, a gift, and lifetime membership.

Lifetime

Conservationist

Thank you for your Lifetime Conservationist donation. Your support and investment in our organization helps to promote our mission to keep the Chippewa Flowage clean and safe, to protect the environment. Thank you for your generous gift.

David Carland

Tom & Tia Clark

Chris & Jessica Conard

Dean & Kristin Elmer

Joe & Lora Garceau

Scott & Erin Hartman

Chris & Patti Jeffords

Karl & Stephanie Kann

Brad Krizan

Douglas Kurtzweil

John & Shelley Lamoreaux

Mike & Kris Maly

Mike & Lynn Muench

Kyle & Sara Nemetz

Brian, Juliane & Tyler Novak

Brian & Sibley Pauling

Gene & Pat Schubert

Barbara Sealy

Tucker Silberhorn

Michael & Shirley Singer

Barb Schweig

Mike & Jennifer Treptow

Linda Treland

Richard & Lisa Uihlein Jr.

DNR Updates for the Chippewa Flowage

by Roy Kenast, DNR Property Manager – Chippewa Flowage

Hello everyone, here are a few DNR updates that will be seen on the Chippewa Flowage in 2025.

If you haven't met him already, **Nick AL-Moghrabi** is the new DNR warden that will be assisting with law enforcement concerns on the Flowage and Sawyer County. As before, if issues arise or you have questions, please contact the DNR tipline at 1-800-TIP-WDNR.

The DNR Parks and Recreation crew have **a new work boat** this year! It's an older V-hull Alumacraft, but a much-needed vessel for our team.

Hay Creek landing will be closed this fall for renovations.

Please anticipate using a different landing to remove your boat at year's end. An extended ramp is being installed as well as the installation of a vault toilet, improved area for aquatic invasive removal, and new 55-60' dock.

Updated Flowage maps will be available this spring at DNR landings.

Due to changes in State legislature, **DNR Flowage campsites are now reservable and no longer first-come first-served**. Reservations can be made up to 11 months in advance for the Flowage camping season (May 1st - November 30th) through wisconsin.goingtocamp.com or by calling 1-888-WIPARKS. The fees are set at the lowest State of Wisconsin camping fee tier, so \$18 a night – and non-residents add an additional \$15 a night. Weekend reservation fees are \$20 a night (plus non-resident fees if applicable).

Pine Island North DNR campsite has been closed for rehabilitation and has been replaced by Ghost Island. This new designated campsite is located in the Sliver's Point channel.

Have a safe year!

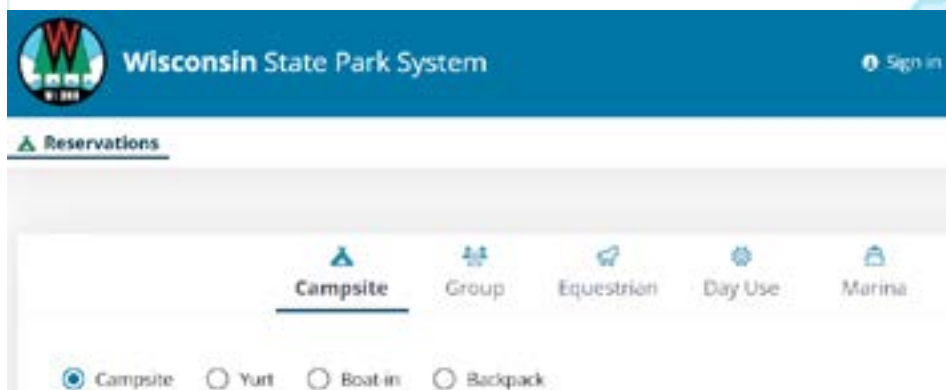


If issues arise, please contact the DNR tipline at 1-800-TIP-WDNR



Make sure you share what is important to you on the Joint Agency Management survey!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CFJAMP>



<https://wisconsin.goingtocamp.com/>

Stay up-to-date on our Chippewa Flowage Fish Management

by Max Wolter, WDNR Senior Fisheries Biologist

It's the beginning of the new year as I'm writing this, a time when a lot of people are setting goals for themselves. Those goals might be to learn a new language, be healthier, or pick up a new hobby. Goal setting is really important in fishery management too, and to reach our goals we have to have a plan.

I am sometimes reluctant to talk or write a lot about our fisheries plans. They are not exciting reads for most people, and everyone would rather hear about things like stocking or new habitat projects. But the plans are important, and here are a few reasons why:

- **Without a plan that has measurable goals and objectives, fish management "success" becomes very subjective.** One angler may love the way things are going, while another is unhappy and thinks our fish management plans are a failure. If we have a measurable target we can be objective about whether the things we are doing are hitting the mark or not.
- **A good plan centers angler and harvester interests and preferences.** Sure, I can sit at my desk and make some fairly educated guesses about what species people value most, whether folks want to harvest Species A or enjoy catch and release for Species B. Or, we can just ask folks and hear it straight from them!
- **A good plan is also a reference document for those that will come after us.** When I want to know about the history of a fishery, including what things have already been shown to work or fail, I look at the management plans written by my predecessors. Anglers and partner groups also benefit from having a detailed plan that includes the lake's history for things like angling regulations, stocking, and more.

The Chippewa Flowage already has a fishery management plan, which was completed in 2007. You can read the document [here](#). This document has served the lake well over the years and has been a cornerstone for some of the most important work that's been done, including restoration of walleye recruitment.

The 2007 plan is also getting a little bit older, at least as far as planning documents go. We've learned

a lot about the flowage fishery in the following years. I expect to have a big report out sometime in 2025 on the fishery and the effects of water level changes. The fishing community may be changing as well as new technology becomes available, species preferences may shift, and anglers respond to new harvest regulations. We're seeing more and more how climate change is impacting fisheries and altering a lot the traditional "rules" about what we should expect from mother nature. Finally, large efforts like the Big Chip Fish Fest and Pike Improvement Project have taught us a lot about what angler-led initiatives can do for the lake.

Given all the change and the time that has passed, it seems prudent to update the Chippewa Flowage Fishery Management Plan. The update will provide us a chance to regroup and pursue the best strategies for the future.

A big component of the update will be fresh information on angler values and preferences. In the original plan this was collected at an in-person meeting with a few dozen people. Now, we have the ability to collect that information online, with potential for thousands of flowage users to provide their input. Here's the link to the angler survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ChipFish25>

If you've already taken the survey, THANK YOU. Please feel free to share the link with family, friends, and guests who fish the lake. If you haven't taken it yet, please consider taking a few minutes to do so. The survey will remain open until at least early summer. This input is important, and it will go directly into the plan and how we manage this incredible public resource.

It is possible we'll build a few in-person meetings into this planning process as well. The online tools are great for collecting a lot of feedback, but there is still a tremendous amount of value in in-person conversations, especially in our increasingly digital world. Regardless, I will be able to share summaries of the feedback we get through this process in this space and other formats in the near future.

Thank you for being a part of the future of the flowage fishery.

Fisheries Report

by Terry Wall

It is almost the middle of January and the flowage is in the mighty grip of old man winter. The ice is thick and seems safe for most winter activities. We are finally getting some much needed snow which will make outdoor winter sports enthusiasts happy. I am not looking forward to the shoveling required after a snowfall but it is all part of living in this beautiful part of the state. The 2025 PIP is off to a good start with the resorts opening for the winter and ice fishermen taking to the ice. The final results for the 2024 PIP have been tabulated and prized awarded to the winners. As reported earlier almost 3000 pike were registered in the contest during the year. I am happy to report that **CFAPOA member Jon Klohs, fishing out of Tiger Musky resort, took first place for the most pike registered**. Congratulations to Jon and all the winners and a big thank you to all participants helping to improve our fishery. I urge all CFAPOA members to keep and register the pike they catch and perhaps they will join the winners this year.



In case you haven't heard about or read the notifications, the WI DNR will be updating the Chippewa Flowage Fishery Management Plan this year. They are conducting an online survey for public input which they will use in the development of the new plan. Some of may have received an e mail pertaining to the survey but the unlikely event you haven't here is the link. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ChipFish25> It only take a few minutes to complete so please take advantage of the opportunity give the DNR your feedback. Spring and open water fishing is a few months away so in the meanwhile stay warm, be safe and enjoy the winter activities.

ICE THICKNESS GUIDELINE

The minimum thickness to access a frozen body of water safely. This is a *estimate, not a rule.
Always proceed with caution and take the appropriate steps to ensure safety.

STAY OFF



Less than 4"

4 Inches

6-8 Inches

9-12 Inches

WALK ON

SNOWMOBILE & ATVS

UTVS & LIGHT VEHICLES

***Based on newly formed, hard / clear ice. Ice thickness does not guarantee safety - proceed at your own risk!**

Christmas Party '24

Thank you,

DOOR
PRIZES!



50/50
RAFFLE

Invasive Species Update

by Dennis Clagett

What effect will this winter's weather have on our lake's aquatic plants come next summer? The combination of higher than the past 4-5 years water levels at freeze-up, and so far, little to no snow cover on the lake, may affect both aquatic native plant growth and invasive plant die back during the winter months. Be it climate change or global warming, our winters are unusual.

These warmer temperatures and early springs lead to shorter ice cover periods disrupting the natural cycles of aquatic plant growth and reproduction. Reduced snow and ice cover can increase light penetration leading to excessive growth of algae, summer algae blooms, and increase nutrient buildup. These changes can have cascading effects on the entire aquatic ecosystem making for challenging work for our Adopt-A-Shoreline volunteers dedicated to controlling the growth and spread of purple loosestrife.

A brief history of invasive species in and on the Chippewa Flowage includes **Eurasian Water-Milfoil**. First detected in the early 2000s, this invasive plant has spread extensively, displacing native species and impacting the local ecosystem.

Purple Loosestrife. Also identified in the early 2000s, purple loosestrife has been a significant concern due to its aggressive growth and ability to out-compete native plants. Curly-leaf pondweed was first documented in North America in the 1840s. It spread throughout the Northeast and Great Lakes regions into the early 1900s. It was first documented in the Chippewa Flowage in 2010 by an Adopt-a-Shoreline volunteer in Hay Creek (close to the boat ramp!) About the same time, was found on the rock bar west of the CC bridge. That area has been monitored and seems to have disappeared for now.

Keep in mind that **Curly-leaf pondweed** is an early spring invasive that later is difficult to identify. The **Chinese mystery snail** has been documented (about 2019) to be in the Chippewa Flowage. Known for its large globular shell and its ability to survive out of water for extended periods, harbor parasites like flatworms that can be transferred to other wildlife.

Lastly is the dreaded **Zebra Mussel**. To date not found in the Chippewa Flowage, but remains a constant threat as it is present in many of our surrounding lakes.

We have two new Adopt-A-Shoreline volunteers for section E1. Welcome Clay Wanta & Kurtis Burton. Section E has been and remains a challenging section. New young blood is much appreciated!



Name	East	West
Dan & Julie Hayden		1, 2
Mike & Lynn Muench	M, P	
Jim & Jan Evenstad		12
Gary & Linda Crank		3, 5
Christine and Jayson Grams		13
LCO Conservation Dept.	H, I, Z	
Brian & Juliane Novak	S	
Alan & Lynda Fish		8, 17
Up for Adoption		18
Greg & Amy Sanders		10, 11
Up for Adoption	U	
Chris & Patti Jeffords		4
Jerry & Nancy Johnson		6, 9
Dave Szymanowski		7, 14
Roger & Kathy Kisch	W	
Rob and Rebecca Nesse	J	
Dave Carland & Family	O	
Chris & Jess Conard	A2	
Rick & Linda Olson	R	
Tony & Laurie Schubert	T, U	
Dave Carland Family and Friends	X	
Brent and Jeanne Drapeau	E1, E2	
Mark and Joni Zich		15, 16
Bruce and Gina Dingman	D	
Mike & Phyllis Gardner	Q	
Dennis Clagett	Y	
Pete and Sarah Ross	Y	
Linda Treland	A1	
Wanta & Kurtis Burton	E1	

Visit our website for a detailed map of East and West locations.

<https://cfapoa.org/invasive-species>

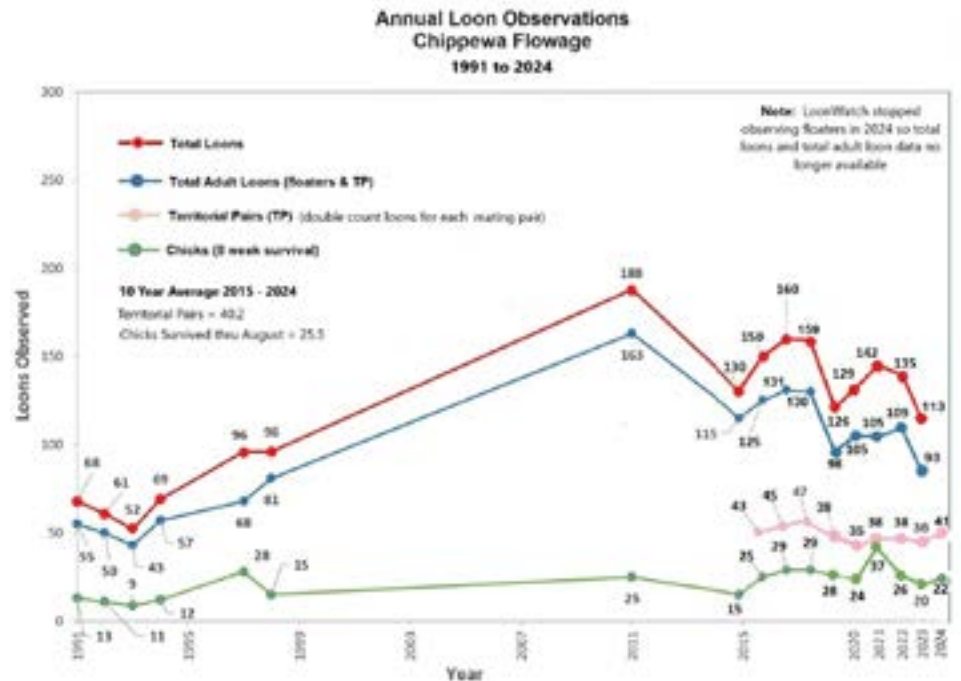
Chippewa Flowage LoonWatch 2024

by March Zich

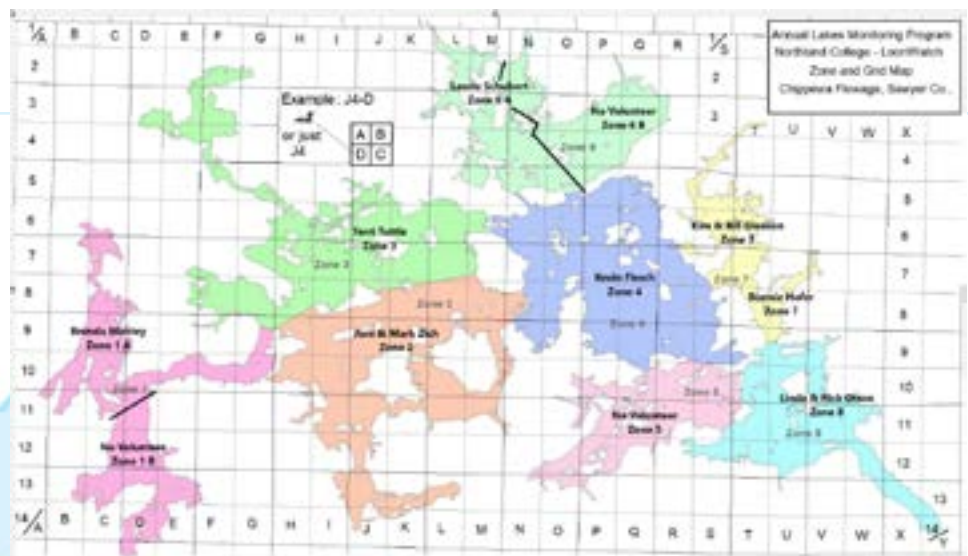
CFAPOA appreciates efforts by all of the volunteers who contributed to LoonWatch's 2024 Annual Lakes Monitoring Program (ALMP) on the Chippewa Flowage. We started out the spring migration with loons returning early with the mild winter and early ice out; however, the low snowpack slowed the refilling of the reservoir. This lower water level made it more difficult for loons that nested near the shoreline to avoid having their nests flooded out by rising water levels in early May. Many observations of flooded nests were recorded by observers. The good news is that loons will often nest a second and possibly a third time, if initial attempts fail. As noted below in the summary table of the 2024 ALMP observations and historic loon counts on the Flowage the 22 chicks surviving through August numbered 3 chicks below the 10-year average of 25 chicks which means the loons were fairly successful at nesting again in 2024. In addition, we have 7 of the original 10 floating artificial loon nesting platforms operational and these are not impacted by rising water levels. We observed a record number of the platforms being used as nest sites this year with 4 of the platforms being used to nest.

Chicks are counted twice in August because biologists have observed that once the chicks survive through August, they will reach maturity and migrate south in late October and November. Research in Northern Minnesota and NE Wisconsin are seeing less chick survival so fortunately we are not yet observing lower chick populations on the flowage.

Year	# Territorial Pairs (Total 82 loons)	# Nests with Incubating Adults (found)	# Nests Not Found but chicks hatched in territory	Total Loon Nests	# Chicks Hatched	# Chicks Post August
2024	41	13	11	24	27	22
Totals	41	13	11	24	27	22



Chippewa Flowage 2024 LoonWatch Volunteers and Zones



<https://cfapoa.org/loon-study-group>

New Wakesurfing Restrictions

by Tony Schubert

There are new wake restrictions on the Chippewa Flowage in 2025. The new restricted areas for wake surfing activities are meant to protect shallow areas of the Chippewa Flowage from vegetation destruction and sediment disruptions. It has been found in many studies, that the propeller wash from operating a boat in wake surf mode will stir up the bottom sediment and release phosphorus and nitrogen back into the water at depths up to 30 feet. Other studies have proven that the propeller wash will destroy vegetation and possibly kill all aquatic plants on the lake bottom. The Town of Hunter has

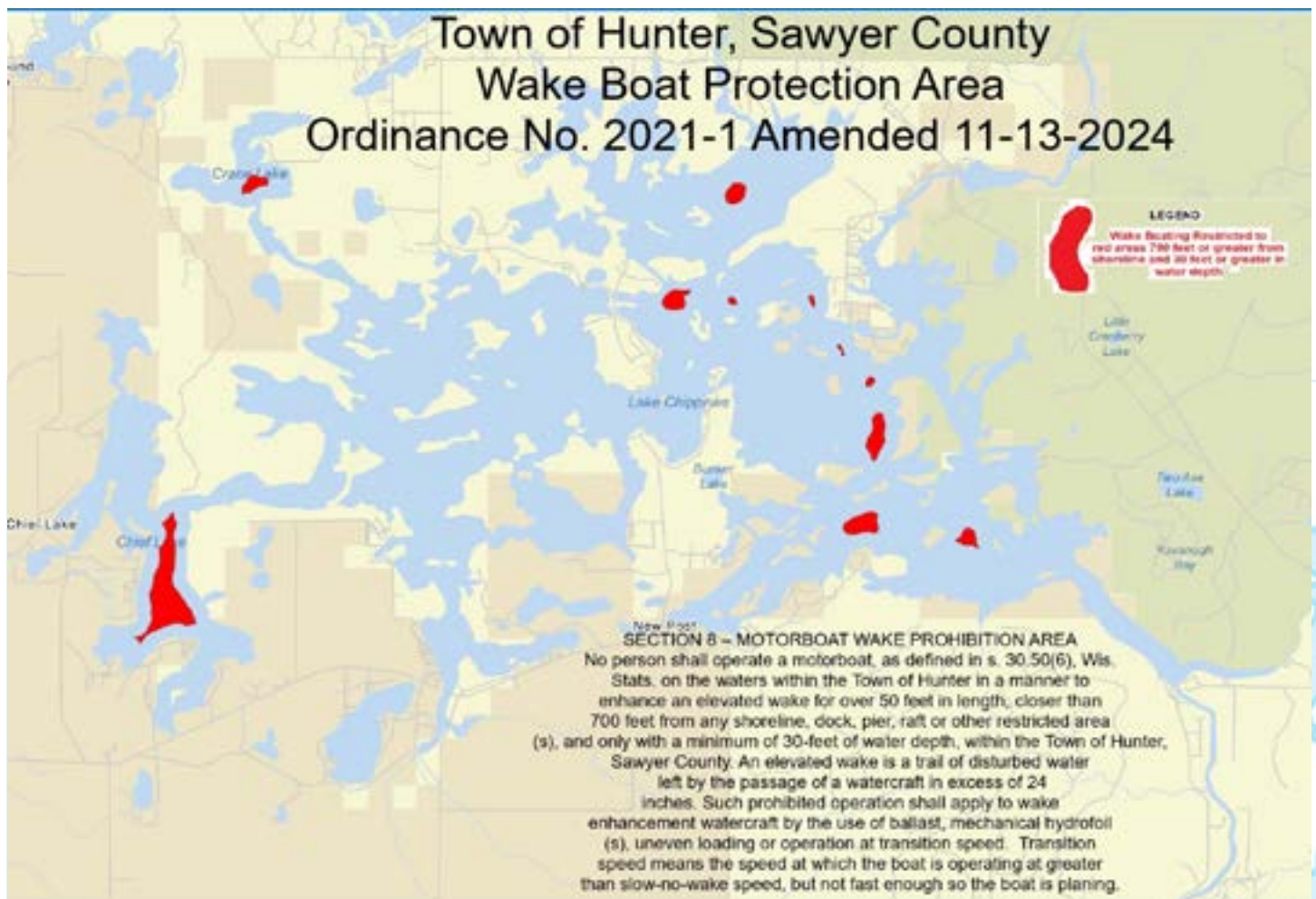
now restricted the areas where these boats can create large wakes to areas that have at least 30 feet of depth. **Now it is legal to make large wakes only in areas that are 700 feet from any shoreline and over 30 feet in depth.** Attached is a map which shows the areas of our lake where the wake surfing can legally be done. It isn't very big. Chief lake has the largest area for wake surfing. The rest of the areas are pretty small. There, it would require the wake surfers to go around in circles to stay within the allowed area.

CFAPOA Board of Directors supports the new ordinance. Feel free to share this map with other



people who use our lake. We encourage all owners and visitors on the Flowage to be educated about the rules here. **We do not recommend any citizen enforcement.** Please review the map shown below to help identify

Continued on Page 11



Wakesurfing....Continued from Page 10

where wake surfing is allowed. Show it to your friends and neighbors. We simply want the public to be informed of the rules here and protect our lake from the damaging effects of this sport.

You may be hearing about the wake surfing legislation brewing in Madison this legislative session. It seems to be a hot topic in 2025. The Wisconsin Lakes Coalition (of which the CFAPOA is a member) has released its policy position with regard to wake-surfing as it prepares for this year's legislative session.

The Coalition's principles include:

- **700 Feet From Shore** – Wake-enhanced boating activities should occur at least 700 feet from any shoreline. (this is already an ordinance with the Town of Hunter and thus already part of the rules on the Chippewa Flowage).
- **30-Foot Depth** - Wake-enhanced boating activities should occur in water depths of no less than 30 feet.
- **Prevent Invasive Species in Ballast Tanks** - Boats moving from lake to lake must have proof of decontaminated ballast tanks before entering lakes.
- **Local Control** - Local municipalities' existing right to enact and maintain local ordinances that are more restrictive than these state minimums shall be preserved.



It can be extremely helpful to the cause if our members let their legislators know that we support the Coalition's principles. The board feels it is important to support the Coalition in response to pending legislation in Madison proposed by the Water Sports Industry Association.

CHIPPEWA FLOWAGE AREA PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 555
HAYWARD, WI 54843-0555

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

CFAPOA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, formed to generally promote, encourage and foster the interests of all property owners. Its major objectives are: to keep the Chippewa Flowage area clean and safe for all people; to protect the environment; to provide a forum for the collection and exchange of ideas; to support acquisition of land for protection and conservation; and to pursue any other lawful objectives that may benefit this pristine lake, its wetlands, wildlife and tributaries.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**BOARD MEETINGS
AND EVENTS**

February 6, 2025
March 6, 2025
April 10, 2025
May 1, 2025
June 5, 2025
June 8, 2025 Spring Fling
August 3, 2025 Annual Picnic

Board meetings are currently held at 6:00 p.m. in person at the Town of Hunter Hall and/or teleconference. Visitors are welcome to join. Contact Mike Gardner at mgardner@northflow.net



CFAPOA Board of Directors

Mike Gardner, Chair	mgardner@northflow.net
Tony Schubert, Vice Chair	tony@contractexchange.net
Randy Hulke, Treasurer	rdhulke@gmail.com
Kevin Flesch, Secretary	fleschlawco@gmail.com
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Mark Zich, Director	markzich@rocketmail.com
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David Koenings, Director	davekoenings@wi.rr.com
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Lindsey Schubert	lindseyeschubert@gmail.com
Paul Tweed, Director	tweedbarn@gmail.com
Jeff Wolf, Director	jeffwolf1021@gmail.com
Julie Thompson-Czub (Newsletter)	juliet@bevcomm.net

CFAPOA Newsletter Editor: Julie Thompson-Czub; Newsletter Advisors: CFAPOA Board Members;
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