

IMPORTANT NEWS from Otter Tail County Coalition of Lake Associations

E-Newsletter September 2021

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Fall Colors Grace The Landscape Of Minnesota Lakes



Wooton Heads Regional Starry Trek Program

James Wooton, Otter Tail County AIS Task Force Director has completed the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC) Starry Trek event for 2021. This year's event brought in 212 volunteers. A total of 292 Public accesses on 238 water bodies across Minnesota were searched. There

was one report of an unknown population of starry stonewort on Carnelian Lake

[Wooton Starry Trek Report 2020](#)

[MAISRC Starry Trek](#)

[James Wooton](#), OTC Task Force Member / AIS Detector



Low Water Levels Cause Pontoon Loading Problems

Tracy Rendz Eldridge sent Michael Smith, Editor of the West Battle Lake Lake Association (WBLLA) E-Newsletter a revealing image of a pontoon being pulled out of the lower water lake in late August, by a tractor.

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10-Year Trend Analysis

Lake / Site	Year	Phosphorus Ave	Chlorophyll a Ave	Secchi Ft	TSI Ave
Big Pine 56-0130-00 207	2011	32.4	17.6	9.3	53.4
	2012	31.6	14.8	7.6	54.0
	2013	35.2	19.2	7.4	55.4
	2014	31.6	19.0	7.4	53.8
	2015	31.6	10.8	7.6	53.8
	2016	50.8	19.6	8.0	59.6
	2017	37.8	24.8	8.1	55.6
	2018	36.2	16.2	7.6	55.0
	2019	39.6	16.5	9.8	57.0
	2020	29.4	12.3	10.1	52.2
Big Pine 56-0130-00 207 Total		35.6	17.1	8.3	55.0

Understanding Water Quality Analysis Data Results

Water quality monitoring and the resulting data may appear complex to lake property owners. The science is solid but includes many components that are either difficult for people to understand or that may appear to be inconsistent.

Perception of what lake property owners want from lake living is often different for different people. [The Case For Water Quality Monitoring](#) explores “what is a healthy lake”.

The reason for COLA’s summary of the data is to give average persons the opportunity to obtain and understand water quality trends for their lakes; as well as the opportunity to find additional education and detail if they desire to do so.

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[John Kruse](#), OTC COLA Administrative Assistant



Parade Pictures 2021

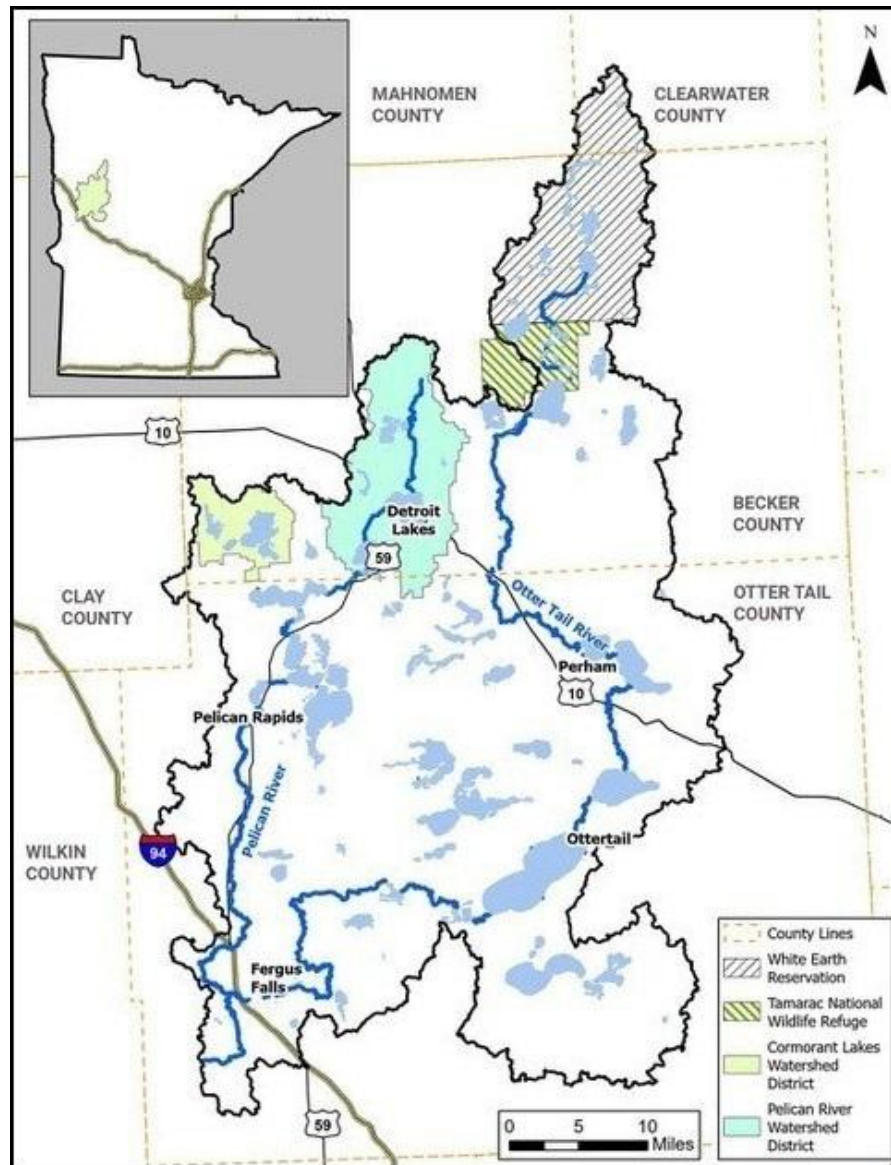


Silver Lake
Lady Liberty- Joanne Krava



Silver Lake





1W1P Open House September 28

SEPT
28

Who: Anyone! We want you to come share and learn with us!

What: A free event for everyone to learn about water resources in the area and provide input on what is most important to you.

Why: To build community and create a shared legacy around the water in our region.

[1W1P September Open House flyer](#)

One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P) is a program sponsored by Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) for locals to write a water plan on a watershed

boundary. Traditionally, these plans have been written based on county boundaries but we are moving away from that model to ones based on watersheds. These are beneficial changes that should help plans be more cohesive and impactful. We'll look at all the issues and protection needs in a watershed and prioritize them. We'll create goals to restore and protect the most important water bodies. Local governments, counties; Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD)s; and watershed districts and will adopt these plans after the BWSR and other state agencies review the plans.

We are starting to work on the 1W1P for the Otter Tail River Watershed. This is a process where we will determine priorities and actions we'll do in the watershed. The first part of this process is to ask citizens and organizations in the watershed for input on what are their priorities for water quality. We've created a survey to facilitate this process.

Please use this link to take the survey: <https://forms.gle/gK9erBtgNf5cPUDSA>
There is a QR code we are using for those that want to do the survey on their phone. I've attached it here, The link is also available on our website here: <https://www.eotswcd.org/one/OT1W1P/>

Ben Underhill

East Otter Tail and Wadena SWCDs
Water Planner/Watershed Coordinator



AIS Task Force Update- September 2021

- OTC Watercraft Inspection concluded for 2021
- 16 Internet Landing Installed Device Sensors (I-LIDS) still in operation
- AIS Train The Teachers Program align with Parkers Prairie High School
- Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC) Showcase
- OTC COLA and AIS Task Force to sponsor a Lake Service Provider event this fall

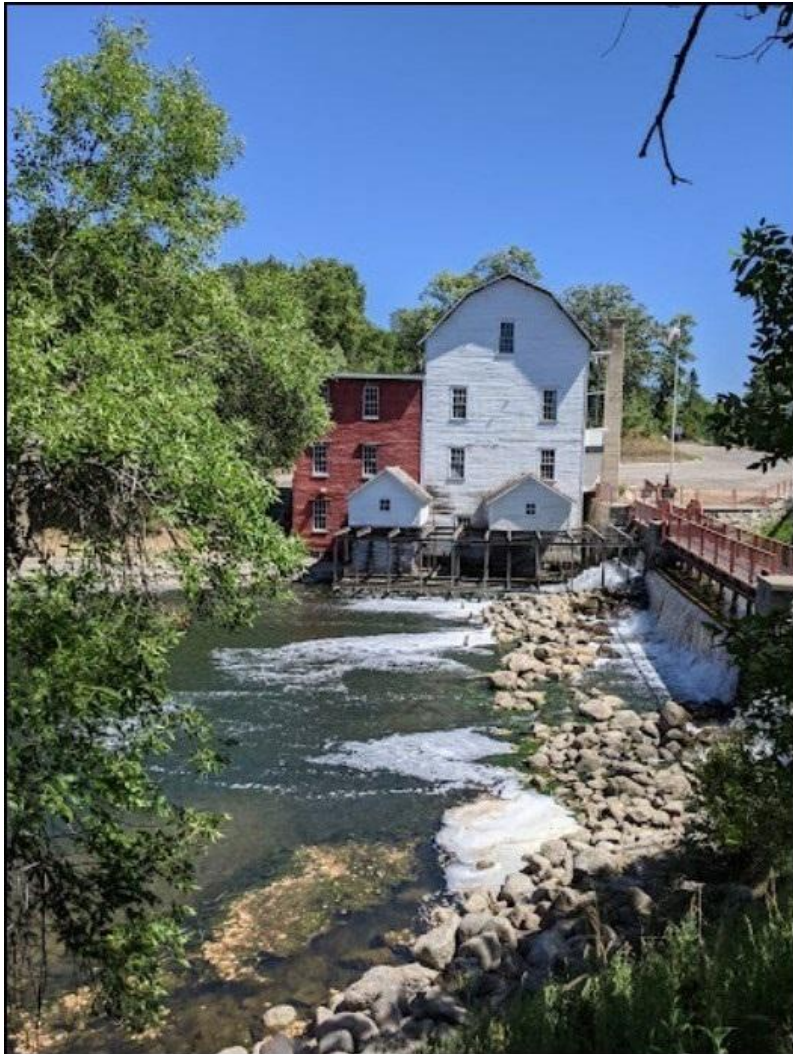
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Spencer McGrew, AIS Specialist

Rain Allows For Easing Of Some Wildfire-Related Restrictions In Minnesota

With cautious optimism, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is adjusting some wildfire-related restrictions in Minnesota due to improved field conditions. While a large portion of the state remains in drought conditions, recent rain events have decreased, though not eliminated, wildfire risk in northern and central Minnesota

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Phelps Mill Fish Passage Project Delayed Until 2022

Author: Pelican Rapids Press

By Tom Hintgen, Otter Tail County, Correspondent

The county board of commissioners, on Aug. 24, agreed to an extension with the Minnesota DNR, into 2022, related to preliminary work on a fish passage at Phelps Mill Park in central Otter Tail County.

The primary purpose of this project is to improve the connectivity of the Otter Tail River by modifying the dam at Phelps Mill and restoring fish passage upstream from the existing structure.

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Rinse Station Helps In Fight Against AIS

Pelican Press: Author: Tom Hintgen

Most anglers know that cleaning boats after leaving area lakes, in order to stop the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS), takes some efforts that are not always easy.

Giving a helping hand to anglers, after some time spent fishing on Little Pine Lake near Perham, is Otter Tail County which has installed a rinse station at the public access in the city-owned Paul Miller Park

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Winners Chosen For Two Stamp Contests

Shakopee artist Mark Thone won the Minnesota trout and salmon stamp contest with an acrylic painting of two pink salmon with one about to take an angler's jig. In the trout and salmon stamp contest, which had six eligible submissions, the runner up was Sherry Johnson of Roosevelt.

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[AIS * Water Quality * Administration * Regulation](#)

Featured Posts - September 2021

- [AIS Harvesting Concerns Raised](#)
- [What Is The Trophic State Index?](#)
- [Why Does Our Lake Continue To Get More Weeds?](#)

www.lakeadmin.org

OTC AIS Task Force Minutes

- [September 13, 2021 Draft](#)
-

OTC Board Of Commissioner Minutes

Instant Access Links

- [Newsletter Article Index](#) - Visually scan article titles from all OTC COLA E-Newsletters from 2018.
- [Water Quality Analysis Reports \(2020 samples\)](#) (includes 2020 samples) - Individual reports for 64 OTC COLA Lakes
- [Water Quality Analysis Reports \(2019 samples\)](#) (includes 2019 samples) - Includes available data for 102 OTC non-COLA Lakes
- [Lake Property Owner Directories \(2018\)](#) - Directories by Street and Name for 100 OTC Lakes
- [OTC COLA Brochure](#) - View and/or download the OTC COLA Brochure
- **We want to hear from you!** - Go [HERE](#) to give OTC COLA your comments and suggestions

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