

**IMPORTANT NEWS** from Otter Tail County Coalition of Lake Associations

# E-Newsletter October 2021



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## **LIDs Provide Opportunities For Minnesota Lakes**

[Pelican Rapids Press](#), Author: Louis Hoglund

Lake Improvement Districts (LID) offer viable opportunities for stewardship of Minnesota lakes.

Jay Elshaug former President of the Pelican Group Of Lakes Improvement District spoke at the Prairie Lake Association Annual Meeting.

Though controversial in some circles because of the taxing authority, Lake Improvement Districts (LID) have gained credibility as a local means to improve water quality and fight invasive aquatic species. Most recently, a LID was approved for the Lake Lida chain—but formal implementation is still pending.

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Wayne Stein, Otter Tail County Auditor- Treasurer's Office, reports that six LIDs are currently on the tax system.

- 900 Pelican Group Of Lakes Improvement District
- 901 Pine Lakes Improvement District
- 902 Little McDonald/Kerbs/Paul Lake Improvement District
- 903 South Turtle Lake Improvement District
- 904 Devils/Little Devils Lake Improvement District
- 905 Big McDonald Lake Improvement District

There are two new LIDs not yet on the tax system.

Eagle Lake Improvement District  
Lida Lakes Improvement District

### [LID OVERVIEW- DNR](#)

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### **Vansteenburgh Named To 1W1P Advisory Committee**

Jeff Vansteenburgh, Environment Director for the Otter Tail County Coalition of Lake Associations (OTC COLA) has been designated to represent OTC COLA on the One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) Advisory Committee. Meetings are scheduled to start in November.

[Jeff Vansteenburgh](#)

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.

### **Ben Underhill**

East Otter Tail and Wadena SWCDs  
Water Planner/Watershed Coordinator

### **1W1P Fact Sheet**

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## **DNR Asks Late-Season Boaters - Play It Safe**

Minnesota's waterways were unusually deadly this year, with 17 people losing their lives in boating-related drownings and crashes—the highest number since 2005. And with weeks of open water left this year, there's a chance that total could climb higher.

### **MORE**

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## **AIS Task Force Update- October 2021**

- 16 Internet Landing Installed Device Sensors (I-LIDS) stored for the season
- Train The Teachers a big success at Parkers Prairie High School
- AIS and OTC COLA hosts appreciation event for Lake Service Providers

### **MORE**

**Spencer McGrew, AIS Specialist**

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## **MLR Executive Director Jeff Forester Honored By MAISRC**

[Pelican Rapids Press](#)

Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates, led by Executive Director Jeff Forester, has been named one of the first ever recipients of the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center's (MAISRC) Research Partnership Award. The award recognizes people, groups, and organizations who have gone above and beyond to contribute to MAISRC's mission of advancing aquatic invasive species knowledge and inspiring action to protect and restore Minnesota's beloved waters.

[MORE](#)

[Jeff Forester](#)  
[Minnesota Lakes And Rivers Advocates](#)

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**Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC)**



## **Starry Trek Scheduled For August 20, 2022**

Starry Trek is a statewide event focused on searching for one of Minnesota's newest aquatic invasive species, starry stonewort (and other invaders). Starry stonewort is an invasive algae that was first found in Lake Koronis in 2015 and has since spread to 14 Minnesota lakes (learn more about starry stonewort and our research). This event is an opportunity for you and to team up with us and hundreds of your fellow Minnesotans to better understand its distribution in Minnesota.

The date for Starry Trek 2022 has been set for August 20, 2022.

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## **James Wooton To Coordinate OTC Starry Trek in 2022**

James Wooton Otter Tail County AIS Task Force Director and MAISRC AIS Detector will again coordinate the Otter Tail County Starry Trek in 2022. The event is scheduled for August 20, 2022.

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## DNR To Continue Search For Invasive Carp

Beginning Monday, Oct. 25, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources will lead a second intensive invasive carp removal effort in Pool 8 of the Mississippi River near La Crosse, Wis. Thirty-four silver carp were captured in Pool 8 during the first interagency carp removal operation in April.

“This is a great move to get invasive carp out of our rivers. These fish continue to threaten Minnesota waterways, including those that flow through two national parks – the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area and the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway,”

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### Yellow Perch: Disappearing Or Getting Smaller?

Yellow perch are more than great table fare. They're an important Minnesota fish species as forage for predators such as walleye and as a targeted sport fish. The DNR has surveyed yellow perch using standard methods for decades, and the data shows a statewide decrease in catch over time.

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

**Featured Posts - October 2021**

- [Lake Improvement Districts \(LID\)- Q&A](#)
- [Lake Property Owner Directory Listings](#)
- [Postcard Campaigns](#)

[www.lakeadmin.org](http://www.lakeadmin.org)

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## OTC Board Of Commissioner Minutes

- [September 14, 2021](#)
  - [September 28, 2021](#)
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## 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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[John Kruse](#), OTC COLA Administrative Assistant