

Three Lakes Chain Planning Project

Anonymous Stakeholder Survey

Three Lakes Chain Property

The following questions pertain to your property or properties on the Three Lakes Chain. Please read each question carefully and answer it as best you can.

1. **On which lake is your Three Lakes property located? Please circle only one choice.** *Note: If you own properties on different lakes you will be receiving a survey for each lake. Please refer to the lake you circled in this question as you are filling out the survey to be sure you are filling out the remaining questions for that lake property.*

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---|
| a. Whitefish Lake | h. Big Stone Lake | o. Island Lake |
| b. Virgin Lake | i. Laurel Lake | p. Round Lake |
| c. Thoroughfare | j. Spirit/Moccasin Lake | q. Planting Ground Lake |
| d. Big Lake | k. Medicine Lake | r. Rangeline Lake |
| e. Dog Lake | l. Four Mile Lake | s. Townline Lake |
| f. Deer Lake | m. Big Fork Lake | t. I do not live on any of these lakes – Go to Question 5 |
| g. Crystal Lake | n. Little Fork Lake | |

2. **What type of property do you own on or near the Three Lakes Chain?** If you own more than one property on the same lake, please choose the one that you have owned the longest. If all properties were purchased around the same time, please select a single property. **Please refer to this property as you answer the remaining questions in the survey.** Please circle one choice.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| a. A year-round residence | e. Rental property |
| b. Seasonal residence (summer only) | f. Undeveloped |
| c. Weekends throughout the year | g. Other (please specify)_____ |
| d. Resort | |

3. **How long have you owned your property on the Three Lakes Chain?** If less than 1 year please write 1. _____ years

4. **What type of septic system does your property utilize?** Please circle one choice.

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| a. Holding tank | e. Municipal sewer |
| b. Mound | f. Do not know |
| c. Advanced treatment system | g. No septic system |
| d. Conventional system | |

Recreational Use

The following questions pertain to the recreational activities you participate in on the Three Lakes Chain. Reminder: Please answer the following questions about the property that you circled in question 1 and 2 above.

5. **For how many years have you fished your lake?** If this is your first year, please write 1. If you have never fished the lake, please write 0 and then skip to Question 9. _____ year(s)

6. **Have you personally fished on your lake in the past 3 years?** Please circle one answer.

- a. Yes
- b. No – Go to Question 9

7. **How would you describe the current quality of fishing on your lake?** Please circle one number on the scale below.

Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Unsure
1	2	3	4	5	U

8. **How has the quality of fishing changed on your lake since you have started fishing the lake?** Please circle one response on the scale below.

Much worse	Somewhat worse	Remained the same	Somewhat better	Much better	Unsure
1	2	3	4	5	U

9. **What types of watercraft do you (or others that use your property) use on your lake?** Please circle all that apply.

- a. Do not use watercraft
- b. Sailboat
- c. Canoe/kayak
- d. Rowboat
- e. Paddleboat
- f. Boat with 25 hp or less motor
- g. Boat with motor of 26-100 hp
- h. Boat with motor of 101 or more hp
- i. Pontoon
- j. Jet ski (personal water craft)

10. **Please rank up to three activities that are important reasons for owning your property on or near the lake?** Please enter the letters below in order of importance.

1st _____ 2nd _____ 3rd _____

- a. Fishing – open water
- b. Ice fishing
- c. Motor boating
- d. Jet skiing
- e. Relaxing/entertaining
- f. Nature viewing
- g. Hunting
- h. Water skiing/tubing
- i. Sailing
- j. Canoeing/kayaking
- k. Swimming
- l. Snowmobiling/ATV
- m. Other (please specify): _____
- n. None of the activities are important to me

11. What types of recreation would you say have increased on your lake since you have obtained your property? Please circle all that apply.

- a. Fishing – open water
- b. Ice fishing
- c. Motor boating
- d. Jet skiing
- e. Relaxing/entertaining
- f. Nature viewing
- g. Hunting
- h. Water skiing/tubing
- i. Sailing
- j. Canoeing/kayaking
- k. Swimming
- l. Snowmobiling/ATV
- m. Other (please specify): _____

12. What is your opinion of the number of slow-no-wake areas on the entire Three Lakes Chain? Please circle one number on the scale below.

- | | | | |
|----------|------------|---------|--------|
| Too many | Just right | Too few | Unsure |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

13. Do you support or oppose the Wisconsin boating regulation prohibiting boaters from operating their boats at speeds greater than slow-no-wake 100 feet from shore and/or structures? Please circle one number on the scale below.

- | | | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|--------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Strongly support | Moderately support | Unsure | Moderately oppose | Strongly oppose |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

Current and Historic Condition, Health, and Management

The questions in this section are intended to gauge **your perspective** on the current and past health of the Three Lakes Chain and what factors you believe are impacting your lake’s health. Please answer all questions to the best of your knowledge. *Please refer to the lake you circled in question #1 and #2 as you continue the survey.*

14. How would you describe the current water quality of your lake? Please circle one response on the scale below.

- | | | | | | |
|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|--------|
| Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent | Unsure |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | U |

15. How has the water quality changed in your lake since you obtained your property? Please circle one response on the scale below.

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------|
| Severely degraded | Somewhat degraded | Remained the same | Somewhat improved | Greatly improved | Unsure |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | U |

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) are non-native plants and animals that are introduced into our lakes and streams and can potentially upset the natural balance of a lake ecosystem while decreasing recreation opportunities. Examples of AIS include animals such as carp, white perch, zebra mussels, rusty crayfish, round goby, and spiny waterflea; and plants such as Eurasian water milfoil, purple loosestrife, and curly-leaf pondweed.

16. Before you read the statement above, had you ever heard of aquatic invasive species? Please circle one answer.

- a. Yes
- b. No – Go to Question 19

17. Are you aware of aquatic invasive species in your lake? Please circle one answer.

- a. Yes
- b. No – Go to Question 19

18. If you answered yes to Question 17, which aquatic invasive species are you aware of in your lake? Please circle all that apply.

- a. Eurasian water milfoil
- b. Curly-leaf pondweed
- c. Purple loosestrife
- d. Pale yellow iris
- e. Flowering rush
- f. Chinese mystery snail
- g. Zebra mussel
- h. Rusty crayfish
- i. Freshwater jellyfish
- j. Spiny water flea
- k. Heterosporosis (Yellow perch parasite)
- l. Alewife
- m. Round goby
- n. Rainbow smelt
- o. Carp
- p. Other: _____

19. How concerned are you, if at all, about the spread of aquatic invasive species to your lake? Please circle one number on the scale below.

Not at all concerned	Not too concerned	Unsure	Somewhat concerned	Very concerned
1	2	3	4	5

20. Below is a list of possible impacts to Wisconsin Lakes. To what level do you believe each of the following factors may be negatively impacting your lake? Please circle only one number for each impact description.

	*Not Present	**No impact	↔	Moderately negative impact	↔	Great negative impact
a. Water quality degradation	0	1	2	3	4	5
b. Loss of fish habitat	0	1	2	3	4	5
c. Shoreline erosion	0	1	2	3	4	5
d. Loss of shoreline vegetation	0	1	2	3	4	5
e. Aquatic invasive species	0	1	2	3	4	5
f. Boat traffic	0	1	2	3	4	5
g. Shoreland property runoff	0	1	2	3	4	5
h. Degradation of native aquatic plants	0	1	2	3	4	5
i. Loss of wildlife habitat	0	1	2	3	4	5
j. Excessive fishing pressure	0	1	2	3	4	5
k. Lakeshore development	0	1	2	3	4	5
l. Excessive aquatic plant growth	0	1	2	3	4	5
m. Algae blooms	0	1	2	3	4	5
n. Septic system discharge	0	1	2	3	4	5
o. Noise pollution	0	1	2	3	4	5
p. Light pollution	0	1	2	3	4	5
q. Insufficient boating safety	0	1	2	3	4	5
r. Other (please specify): _____	0	1	2	3	4	5

* Not Present means you do not believe the issue exists on the Chain.

** No Impact means that the issue may exist on the Chain but it is not negatively impacting it.

21. From the list below, please rank your top three concerns regarding your lake. Please enter the letters below in order from first to third concern.

1st _____ 2nd _____ 3rd _____

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| a. Water quality degradation | j. Excessive fishing pressure |
| b. Loss of fish habitat | k. Lakeshore development |
| c. Shoreline erosion | l. Excessive aquatic plant growth |
| d. Loss of shoreline vegetation | m. Algae blooms |
| e. Aquatic invasive species | n. Septic system discharge |
| f. Boat traffic | o. Noise pollution |
| g. Shoreland property runoff | p. Light pollution |
| h. Degradation of native aquatic plants | q. Boating safety |
| i. Loss of wildlife habitat | r. Other (please specify): _____ |

22. During open water season, how often does aquatic plant growth, including algae *negatively* impact your enjoyment of the lake? Please circle one number on the scale below.

Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
1	2	3	4	5

23. Considering your answer to the question above, do you believe aquatic plant control is needed on your lake? Please circle one number on the scale below.

Definitely yes	Probably yes	Unsure	Probably no	Definitely No
1	2	3	4	5

24. Aquatic plants can be managed using many techniques. What is your level of support for the *responsible* use of the following techniques on your lake? Please circle one number for each management technique. If you require more information to respond, please circle “U” for Unsure.

	Not supportive	↔	Neutral	↔	Highly supportive	Unsure Need more info.
a. Herbicide (chemical) control	1	2	3	4	5	U
b. Dredging	1	2	3	4	5	U
c. Hand-removal by divers	1	2	3	4	5	U
d. Manual removal by property owners	1	2	3	4	5	U
e. Biological control	1	2	3	4	5	U
f. Mechanical harvesting	1	2	3	4	5	U
g. Water level drawdown	1	2	3	4	5	U
h. Integrated control using many methods	1	2	3	4	5	U
i. Do nothing (do not manage plants)	1	2	3	4	5	U

25. Stakeholder education is an important component of every lake management planning effort. Which of these subjects would you like to learn more about? Please circle all that apply.

- a. Impacts of aquatic invasive species on your lake
- b. Ways that aquatic invasive species are spread between lakes
- c. Human impacts on lakes
- d. Invasive species present in your lake
- e. Methods of controlling aquatic invasive species
- f. Benefits of aquatic invasive species control
- g. Risks of aquatic invasive species control
- h. Not interested in learning more on any of these subjects

Three Lakes Waterfront Association

The Three Lakes Waterfront Association (TLWA) was established in 1967. The TLWA is committed to protecting the quality of our waters, promoting water-related safety practices and regulations, preserving and conserving our lakes for future generations, and keeping our members informed about issues affecting the Three Lakes Chain.

26. Before receiving this mailing, had you ever heard of the Three Lakes Waterfront Association?
Please circle one answer.

- a. Yes b. No – Go to Question 31

27. What is your membership status with the Three Lakes Waterfront Association? Please circle one choice.

- a. Current member b. Former member c. Never been a member

28. How informed has the Three Lakes Waterfront Association kept you regarding issues with your lake and its management? Please circle one number on the scale below.

Not at all informed	Not too informed	Unsure	Fairly well informed	Highly Informed
1	2	3	4	5

29. How informed has the Three Lakes Waterfront Association kept you regarding issues with the rest of the Three Lakes Chain and its management? Please circle one number on the scale below.

Not at all informed	Not too informed	Unsure	Fairly well informed	Highly Informed
1	2	3	4	5

30. How well do you believe the Three Lakes Waterfront Association represents your views for lake management? Please circle one number on the scale below.

Poorly represents my views	Somewhat represents my views	Neutral	Good representation of my views	Excellent representation of my views
1	2	3	4	5

