

Lake Owen Association



EARLY DETECTION AND RAPID RESPONSE TO AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS)

Definition: Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) are non-native plant and animal species that can out-compete and overtake native species damaging native lake habitat and sometimes creating nuisance conditions. Lake Owen shoreland invasive species present include yellow iris, phragmites (reed grass,) and forget-me-not. Chinese mystery snails are also present in the lake. Additional AIS threaten Lake Owen, and our Lake Managers will monitor for them throughout the lake.

1. Maintain a contingency fund for rapid response to Eurasian water milfoil, zebra mussels, and other aquatic invasive species (LOA Board). In 2020, this contingency fund is \$52,548.
2. Conduct professional monitoring at the public landings and in a monthly meandering survey around the lake. If an AIS is found, inform the LOA Board and DNR (Lake Manager).
3. Lake residents and visitors should contact the AIS Identification (ID) Board Contact(s) or Lake Manager if they see a plant or animal in the lake they suspect might be an AIS. Signs at the public boat landings, web pages, handouts at annual meetings, and newsletter articles will provide photos and descriptions of AIS that have a high likelihood of threatening Lake Owen, contact information, and instructions.
4. If a volunteer locates a likely AIS, instructions will request that the volunteer record the location of suspected AIS using GPS, if available, or mark the location with a small float. Note that cell phone applications are available to identify GPS points.

If a plant:

- a. Take a digital photo of the plant in the setting where it was found (if possible). Then collect five to ten intact specimens. Try to get the root system, and all leaves as well as seed heads and flowers when present. Place in a zip lock bag with no water. Place on ice and transport to refrigerator.
- b. Inform a LOA Board Member or LOA Lake Manager.

LAKE OWEN AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES



Yellow iris



Phragmites (reed grass)



Forget-me-not



Chinese mystery snail

5. If an animal other than a fish:
 - a. Take a digital photo of the animal in the setting where it was found (if possible). Then collect up to five specimens. Place in a jar with water; put on ice and transport to refrigerator. Transfer specimen to a jar filled with rubbing alcohol (except for Jellyfish – leave in water).
6. Inform a LOA AIS ID Board Contact(s) or LOA Lake Manager. The Lake Manager will tentatively confirm identification of plant or animal AIS with WDNR then,

If a plant:

- a. Fill out plant incident form <http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/forms/3200-125-plantincident.pdf>
- b. Contact WDNR staff, then deliver collected plants to the WDNR (810 W. Maple St., Spooner, WI 54801) as soon as possible (or to the location they specify).

If an animal:

- a. Be sure the suspected [invasive species](#) has not been [previously found on the waterbody](#)
 - b. [If a zebra mussel report to WDNR and Bayfield County](#)
 - c. Fill out form [3200-126 – Aquatic Invasive Animal Incident Report](#)
7. If identification is positive, the Lake Managers will:
 - a. Inform the person who reported the AIS and the board, who will then inform Bayfield County, the WDNR, and the US Forest Service.
 - b. Mark the location of AIS with a more permanent marker and GPS points.
 - c. Post a notice at the public landing (DNR has these signs available) and post a news item on the website and on the LOA Facebook page. Notices will inform residents and visitors of the approximate location of AIS and provide appropriate means to avoid its spread .
 8. Determine the extent of the AIS introduction (LOA Lake Manager in cooperation with Bayfield County and WDNR). Divers may be used. If small amounts of AIS are found during this assessment, divers may be directed to identify locations with GPS points and hand pull plants/remove animals found. All plant fragments will be removed from the lake when hand pulling.
 9. Select a control plan in cooperation with the WDNR (LOA Board and Lake Manager) and the US Forest Service (if on or adjacent to Forest Service land). The goal of the rapid response control plan will be eradication of the AIS.

Control methods may include hand pulling, use of divers to manually or mechanically remove the AIS from the lake bottom, application of herbicides, and/or other effective and approved control methods.

10. Implement the selected control plan including applying for the necessary permits. Regardless of the control plan selected, it will be implemented by persons who are qualified and experienced in the technique(s) selected.
11. The LOA will work with the WDNR to apply for an Early Detection and Rapid Response AIS Control Grant.

12. Frequently inspect the area of the AIS to determine the effectiveness of the treatment and whether additional treatment is necessary (Lake Manager, WNDR and/or other agency representatives).
13. Review the procedures and responsibilities of this rapid response plan on an annual basis. Changes may be made with approval of the LOA Board.

EXHIBIT A

LAKE OWEN ASSOCIATION

Board Contacts:

Overall Management	Tom Johnson (715-308-0320) tcatt1953@gmail.com
AIS Identification	Bill Hannaford (612-817-4484) HANNAFWJ@uwec.edu Jodi Pfaff (615 864-2149) jodi.pfaff@gmail.com
Lake Manager (AIS ID and survey)	Steve Schieffer (715-554-1168) ecointegservice@gmail.com
Lake Manager	Cheryl Clemens (715-225-0690) harmonyenv@amerytel.net

BAYFIELD COUNTY LAND AND WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

AIS Coordinator	Andrew Teal: (715- 373-6167) ATeal@bayfieldcounty.org
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WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Permits	Tyler Mesalk (715- 635-4227) tyler.mesalk@wisconsin.gov
Grants, EWM Identification and Notice	Pamela Toshner: (715-635-4073) Pamela.Toshner@Wisconsin.gov

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE, WASHBURN RANGER DISTRICT

District Ecologist	Eric North (715-373-2667 x5240) Eric.north@USDA.gov
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ADDITIONAL REFERENCES

<http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/invasives/GoalsNew.aspx?show=emerging>

<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Invasives/report.html>