

Update on COLAM activities – December 30, 2004

To date, there have been 3 meetings: 7/28, 9/22, 10/27.

Abridged minutes for meeting on 7/28, 3:00 pm, LGA office, Lake George

Dennis Fagan (participating by phone) gave a detailed report on the milfoil control project at Waneta Lake. Ken Wagner and Bob Johnson were the project managers. DEC's Pass-Fail criteria for the approval of a permit for Lamoka Lake were too high. Strong opposition is coming for BASS Federation and the Sierra Club.

Lake Sunnyside – Used Sonar AS in Fall 2000 with a booster treatment in Spring 2001. The milfoil has returned during the 2004 season.

Brant Lake – Using benthic barriers on dense beds and hand harvesting scattered sites.

Glass Lake – Has some dense beds. Would like to use Sonar. Monitoring management efforts at Crystal and Burden Lakes (neighbor lakes).

Eagle Lake – Overall milfoil situation remaining steady. Considering hand-harvesting.

Crooked Lake – Threatened by milfoil in Glass Lake via a connector.

Loon Lake – Hand pulled around boat launch. A moderate bed has developed upstream from the launch in a popular fishing area. Have looked into matting and weevils.

Kinderhook Lake – Have tried matting but found it to be too difficult to install.

Glen Lake – 3 large dense beds. Allied Biological recommended Sonar AS 16-18 ppb.

Snyders Lake – Used Sonar AS 12-15 ppb with effective control for 4-5 years. A full assemblage of natives returned. Documented by DEC.

There was discussion about goals and possible organizational setups.

Abridged minutes for meeting on 9/22, LGA office, Lake George

Terri Crowley (Hinman Straub PC) has determined that COLAM is still active according to NYS DOS.

There is \$3,500 in the COLAM bank account. A check would be needed to re-activate the account.

The LGA is working to update the COLAM contact list. Jim Hood is trying to get email addresses from NYS FOLA.

Last COLAM meeting was August of 2001. Don Milne, past president, is no longer interested in participating.

There were preliminary questions to be addressed for COLAM to move forward. 1. Should COLAM be re-created, a new organization? 2. What are the short-term goals? 3. What are the long-term goals? 4. What is the strategy?

The first step would be to determine if there is statewide interest in COLAM.

It was suggested that COLAM should pressure the State to create a consistent permitting process and to provide funding, possibly from boat fees.

There was discussion about sending out a letter to determine interest. The concept of dues was also brought up.

Abridged minutes for meeting on 10/27, 3:30 pm, LGA office, Lake George

Special attendees: Willie Janeway (TNC), Dan Spada (APA), Suzanne Maloney (NYS Nursery & Landscaping), Hilary Oles (APIPP), Sharon Henderson (aide to Sen. Little)

Willie Janeway gave a presentation on the activities of the NYS Invasive Species Task Force. At the end of the presentation, ISTF members (Janeway, Spada, Maloney) asked questions to learn more about COLAM. After some discussion, an invitation was given to COLAM to provide a representative for the ISTF's ad hoc committee on aquatics.

COLAM members present accepted the invitation. No official representative(s) was chosen at the meeting. It was agreed that Jim Hood (acting COLAM Secretary) would be the contact person for the ISTF for the time being.

Update on COLAM status and important information:

With the help of Nancy Mueller (NYSFOLA), an email database has been created, which contains 117 contacts at lakes throughout the state. This email list was used to send out the canvas letter and survey, to determine the level of interest. At present, there are 9 lakes represented in COLAM: Brant Lake, Crooked Lake, Eagle Lake, Glass Lake, Glen Lake, Lake George, Lake Sunnyside and Loon Lake. Note: Some lakes have more than one representative. Interest has been shown by 9 more lakes: Babcock Lake (Rensselaer County), Grass Lake (Jefferson/St. Lawrence Counties), Horseshoe Pond/Deer River Flow (Franklin County), Kinderhook Lake (Greene County), Lake Bonaparte (Lewis County), Lake Celeste (Putnam County), Lake Colby (Franklin County), Waneta-Lamoka Lakes (Schuyler County) and Upper Saranac Lake (Franklin County).

The interim chair of the ISTF ad hoc aquatics committee is Ed Mills, professor at Cornell's biological field station at Oneida Lake. The first meeting of the Ad Hoc Aquatic Team will be on January 26, 2005. The meeting will be held at the Cornell Biological Field Station in Bridgeport, NY and will start at 10 am and finish by 3:30 pm. A light lunch will be provided. An agenda, directions to the Field Station, and other items will be sent out early in the New Year. An email soliciting volunteers to attend the meeting went out on Wednesday, December 22nd. Rolf Tiedemann has stated that he is available to attend. A representative for Lake George should also be able to attend.

FYI: For those of you who would be interested, the Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society is having its conference on January 18th and 19th at the Gideon Putnam Hotel in Saratoga Springs. Information can be found on their website: www.neapms.org

***No future meeting dates for COLAM have been scheduled.**

Respectfully submitted by Jim Hood, Acting COLAM Secretary