

2009 NALMS Notes



May

President's Message –It's Time to Work Together!

Last month we talked about the importance of affiliate action as a critical part of the approach to promoting management of our lakes and reservoirs. Building on that theme this month I would like to send you a few thoughts on how we further develop our ability to work together for the future of our lakes. This message is made easy in part because we are coming off another outstanding conference in Chicago. Many thanks go to Bob Kirschner for organizing and bringing to us the 22nd Annual National Conference “Enhancing the States’ Lake Management Programs – On the Edge: Enhancing Ecological Integrity of Shorelines.” At this conference many of us had the opportunity to make contact and discuss how and what we need to work together for the future. I invite all of you to build on this conversation at the NALMS 29th International Symposium “Ensuring Our Lakes’ Future” in Hartford CT this October 27 – 31. Here we will have the opportunity to exchange ideas, and I challenge each of you to identify activities that we can share, helping each other achieve our goals relative to lake and reservoir management issues.

We plan to have another affiliates meeting at the Hartford conference. I would really like this meeting to be one where we identify common ground between NALMS and affiliates to help develop a program(s) that will help both of our organizations move forward along the path of improved lake and reservoir management. Please send ideas for discussion to me or Steve Lundt and we will work with you to develop a discussion format for our meeting in October.

This of course is a direct continuation of last month’s theme that we have to promote better and increase communication. Specifically, in order for all of us to overcome the world wide economic slow down that is a direct threat to all our organizations and our missions to promote lake and reservoir understanding and management we must increase our effective communication. It is not the time to allow the economic readjustment to divert our attention for the real environmental issues that have the potential to adversely impact human uses and ecological functions of North America’s water resources because, too much will be lost and the cost to recover maybe too great.

I have consistently promoted that NALMS is ready to move forward with its affiliates and members in reaching out to current and potential partners to enhance the understanding of lakes and reservoirs. I also encourage you to get involved with NALMS and find issues that are of mutual interest to your local organization and NALMS. Please contact me or your regional director and ask how you can get more involved with the many NALMS activities. Go to www.nalms.org to find contact information for NALMS officers, directors, committees.

Thanks,

Harry Gibbons
President, NALMS

WITHIN NALMS

Word from the Executive Director – Susan Urbas

Invasive Species Cards: NALMS has produced four baseball size cards that will help lake users identify and combat the spread of Curly-leaf Pondweed, Eurasian Watermilfoil, Hydrilla, and Zebra Mussels. [Click here to view the front side of the cards on the website.](#) Upon request, these cards are available to NALMS members free of charge. [To request yours, download the order form here.](#)

Free NALMS Trial Membership for Members of NALMS Affiliates: Online registration for the free three-month trial membership in NALMS that is being offered to members of NALMS' affiliate organizations is now available. This is a great opportunity to get your members plugged into important information flows concerning lake management. [Click here to find out more and register.](#)

Also, a reminder that all affiliate organizations need to provide a contact to [Sarah Unz](#) who she can work with to verify the persons signing up for the free trial NALMS membership are members of a NALMS affiliate.

Affiliate Newsletters: Reminder that we now have a special section of the website devoted to affiliate newsletters: go to Resources/NALMS Affiliates/Newsletters. All that is required for affiliate members to get their newsletter posted on the website is to send an electronic copy of the newsletter as a PDF to info@nalms.org with a request that it be posted.

Got A Little Time to Spare for Lakes? Both NALMS in general and the NALMS office are looking for volunteers to lend a hand with pulling the laboring oar through the water. Even just a couple of hours of your time can be a big boost in helping to accomplish the work NALMS does. At this time, opportunities abound to join one of the volunteer committees (link to website About US/Committees) which cover a broad diversity of topics relating to lake management, or, if you are local to the Madison office, to help the staff tackle one of its many projects. (link to volunteer form on website).

Award Renamed

The annual Best Paper Award given by the North American Lake Management Society has been renamed for Dr. James LaBounty, former Editor of Lake and Reservoir Management. Dr. LaBounty retired after nearly 14 years of service to the NALMS journal, but passed away shortly thereafter. Jim's dedication to the quality of the journal, the mentoring of authors, and advancement of lake management stands as an example to us all. The NALMS Board, at its mid-term meeting in Chicago on April 18th, 2009, voted to change the name of the Best Paper Award to the James LaBounty Award for the Best Paper in Lake and Reservoir Management, or simply the LaBounty Award. The award is given annually and the recipient is selected by the Editorial Board of Lake and Reservoir

Management from all papers published over the preceding year. For more information on NALMS or LRM, see www.nalms.org.

NALMS Branding Name Contest Announcement

NALMS is in search of a short “nickname” or “tag line” that it can use to more effectively promote awareness of NALMS and its work to a broad audience.

This sort of promotional device is commonly referred to as a “branding name,” and is separate and apart from the organization’s official name (we will retain the organizational name of North American Lake Management Society and the acronym “NALMS”).

The idea is to communicate in a succinct, relevant and inviting way the essence of who we are and what we do. A branding name can be: a) a shortening of an existing name, such as “Nat Geo” for National Geographic, “Dam Safety” for the Association of State Dam Safety Officials, or “USRowing” for the United States Rowing Association; or b) a short but different name, such as “healthy lakes, healthy lives” for the Healing Our Waters - Great Lakes Restoration Coalition. Capturing the essence of NALMS in a way that creates a compelling connection with people and organizations beyond NALMS’ historical sphere of reference is a challenging task, indeed.

The Board of Directors has decided that there shall be no stone unturned in the search for just the right branding name. Among the many sources that will be consulted for suggestions, is the very talented NALMS membership. And, since the Board wants to ensure that a little fun is had along the way, welcome to the official NALMS BRANDING NAME CONTEST!

To enter the contest, simply send your branding name suggestions, with NALMS BRANDING NAME CONTEST in the subject line, to info@nalms.org by June 15, 2009. All NALMS members are eligible to enter, and there is no limit on the number of suggestions that may be submitted by each member. All aids to brainstorming, including a visit to the site, <http://waterwordsthatwork.com>, are allowed.

Although the branding name ultimately chosen for NALMS by the Board may not be one submitted through the membership contest, we don’t intend to let that get in the way of awarding prizes for the top five suggestions submitted by members.

The top five entries will receive recognition in NALMS Notes and LakeLine as well as prizes that could include NALMS apparel, lake related publications, and collectibles from past NALMS symposia.

So NALMSers, put on those thinking caps! Just don’t forget to not only think those brilliant branding name suggestions, but also submit them to NALMS as part of the NALMS BRANDING NAME CONTEST.

A Sincere Thanks goes out to Robert Thorson

NALMS would like to give thanks to Robert Thorson for his time and generous monetary gift to NALMS. Robert, the 2009 Chicago lakes conference's dinner speaker, graciously agreed to donate

net proceeds from his newest book's sale at the conference. The net total came to \$260.00, and Dr. Thorson requested that the funds be used by NALMS to support student participation at the upcoming NALMS annual symposium in Hartford.

Call for NALMS Nominations

It is time once again to consider NALMS' future leadership. Nominations are being accepted for the following Board positions:

- **President-Elect**
- **Treasurer**
- **Region 2 Director** – New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico
- **Region 6 Director** – Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, all areas outside of the US & Canada
- **Region 10 Director** – Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington
- **Region 12 Director** – Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Saskatchewan, Yukon

The **President-Elect** serves a three-year term including one year as President and one year as Immediate Past-President. The **Treasurer** serves a two-year term. **Regional Directors** serve three-year terms and act and vote in the interests of the Society as a whole, while bringing regional concerns to the attention of the Board.

Complete position requirements may be found on the NALMS web site: www.nalms.org

Any member may submit nominations. Candidates must be nominated by at least two members to be eligible and self-nomination is encouraged if supported by two other NALMS members. Nominations are due no later than July 28, 2009 and must be made in writing (mail, fax or e-mail) and include an address, e-mail address, and phone number for the nominee.

The Nominations Committee will screen nominees to ensure active membership and conformity with criteria for office, including, but not limited to: demonstrated interest and participation in the Society, leadership ability and other qualifications listed in the position requirements, and willingness to accept the duties of office as outlined in the position requirements, including commitment to attend semi-annual board meetings.

Submit nominations (or questions) to Philip S. Forsberg at forsberg@nalms.org.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES & EVENTS

2009 NALMS Annual Symposium in Hartford, CT

On-line Registration Now Open

Registration for the Hartford Symposium is now available online at <http://guest.event.com/i.aspx?4W,M3,f454f302-6a30-44e4-a3f4-942a892fe435>

Call for Papers – Deadline Extended

The May 15th deadline for abstract submittals for the NALMS 2009 Symposium has been extended to **June 10th**. Please take a few minutes to go online and submit an abstract for a technical presentation or poster for this meeting.

Abstracts can be submitted electronically at <https://nalms.conference-services.net/authorlogin.asp?conferenceID=1720&language=en-uk>. Abstracts and bios for *workshops* can be sent directly to the 2009 Program Chair at Amy.Smagula@des.nh.gov.

More information about the conference in general can be found on the NALMS website at <http://www.nalms.org/nalmsnew/nalms.aspx?subcatid=42&Sid=3>.

If you have questions relevant to the program please contact Amy Smagula at Amy.Smagula@des.nh.gov or 603-271-2248.

New Directions '09 in Stormwater Management, Nov. 30 – Dec. 2nd

Call for Papers Deadline is May 15th

Nearly twenty years ago, the MOE published its Interim Water Quality Guidelines, a holistic new way of thinking about stormwater runoff. This spawned a new multi-disciplinary approach to stormwater management across the province. What new directions are emerging? What new best practices are being developed? This call for papers focuses on ideas, scientific findings, education, policies, criteria, land use changes, changes in practice, and new regulation changes. Specific topics and abstract format for submission are at <http://www.swmconference.ca/>.

Recognizing that new concerns and issues have arisen since the 1991 Interim Water Quality Guideline, the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ministry of Natural Resources, Conservation Authorities, and Ryerson University will be hosting a three-day conference in Toronto to identify those needs.

Call for Papers – 2010 Conference in Alaska

The 2010 conference of the Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals (ANREP) will be held in Fairbanks, Alaska June 27 to 30, 2010. The call for abstracts is currently open. Please consider joining us in the “Last Frontier” for this unparalleled opportunity to learn first-hand about how Extension can help communities grapple with some of the tough water issues.

Abstracts can be submitted via the conference Web site, www.anrep.org/conferences/2010/abstracts.

NCLMS Algae Workshop, June 2, 2009

Taxonomy and Ecology of algae workshop will be conducted by Dr. Linda Ehrlich and Dr. JoAnn Burkholder in Winston-Salem, NC on behalf of NCLMS affiliate.

This workshop will provide information on how to recognize algae in their various surface water habitats, understand why they may become nuisances, and select appropriate means of control in the source water. Fee includes a workshop notebook for further reference. This workshop is an excellent opportunity for all participants to get hands-on experience with the species that may be troubling their waters.

There is a new revised registration form for the new \$130 registration fee thanks to the much appreciated sponsorship from Peroxygen Solutions.

Please check out the registration web page at www.nclakemanagement.org to find out more.

AFFILIATE TALK

To foster better communication amongst the diverse group of NALMS Affiliates, this section will feature a monthly topic or question which may be of interest to many affiliates. The goal is to help affiliate groups learn from each other, be more efficient with their time and resources, and better manage our lakes and reservoirs.

Statewide Lawn Fertilizer Law in Wisconsin Thanks to Wisconsin Association of Lakes

Governor Doyle signed the "Clean Lakes" bill into law on April 14th, 2009. Wisconsin now has a statewide law which prohibits the display, sale, and use of lawn fertilizer containing phosphorus, with certain reasonable exceptions. This new law is the culmination of several years of advocacy work by the Wisconsin Association of Lakes (WAL).

The prohibitions against display, sale, and use of phosphorus lawn fertilizer will take effect next year (the bill specified that changes will take effect 12 months after it was signed into law). The delay gives retailers time to order phosphorus free lawn fertilizer for next year; many stores place inventory orders a year in advance.

WAL encourages lake groups and lake enthusiasts to build awareness within their lake communities of the impacts phosphorus lawn fertilizer can have on our lakes and the forthcoming change in the law.

Now that the bill has been signed into law it can be referred to as 2009 Wisconsin Act 9, which is available online at (click "fertilizer" in the subject index in the left hand navigation bar):
<http://nxt.legis.state.wi.us/nxt/gateway.dll?f=templates&fn=default.htm&d=indxacts&jd=top>

Affiliate Websites – Check out this one

A great way to see what other affiliates are doing is to check out their websites and see what they are up to and how fancy their web pages are.

We will start with Michigan. They have a new address and already have their annual fall conference advertised on the home page. Go to: www.mcnalms.org.

LAKE NEWS & INFORMATION

Loon Festival Canceled - Lake is Drying Up

On the windswept desert of northern Nevada, migrating loons have used Walker Lake as a refuge to feed on the resident tui chub as they make their journey north. This migratory tradition has been accompanied by a small town festival to celebrate spring time. Due to lake conditions, the fish are gone and consequently so are the loons and now the festival.



The Hawthorne's Loon Festival, held each year in late April, was canceled this year and was replaced by a day to bring awareness to Walker Lake's ecosystem and the ongoing efforts to save it.

Walker Lake was once considered one of the largest migratory stopovers for loons west of the Mississippi.

The festival used to draw 300-400 people to the small community of less than 3,000, a good turnout for a place so small and isolated, located about 95 miles southeast of Reno. The highlight was chauffeured boat rides, bringing loon watchers within marveling distance of the typically shy birds.

Walker Lake, a remnant of ancient Lake Lahonton, is fed exclusively by the Walker River and melting snow in California's eastern Sierra. It is one of three terminus lakes in North America with fresh water fisheries. The others are Pyramid Lake north of Reno and Summit Lake in extreme northwest Nevada.

Since the early 1880s, Walker Lake's water level has plunged about 145 feet, largely because of upstream agricultural use and also through typical evaporation.

Walker Lake reached an all-time documented elevation low of 3,930 feet above sea level last year. As a consequence, total dissolved solids reached an all-time high of 16,775 mg/L.

So far, larger adult fish, including threatened native Lahontan cutthroat trout that are raised in hatcheries and acclimated slowly to Walker Lake's water conditions, have managed to survive. Not so for eggs or smaller fish that the loons feed on.

But Walker Lake may not be destined to a briny desert sink. In 2002, Congress passed a law sponsored by U.S. Sen. Harry Reid to provide \$200 million to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation "to provide water to at-risk natural desert terminal lakes."

That launched the Desert Terminal Lakes Program. Another \$175 million was appropriated last year.

In 2005, \$70 million was designated for the Walker Basin Project, a comprehensive scientific and economic program to study the river basin and water use. It also set aside money to buy water rights from willing sellers to get more water to the lake. The studies are being coordinated and conducted by the Desert Research Institute and University of Nevada, Reno.

Researchers plan to release details of their studies in June to a stakeholders group that includes agricultural users, the Walker River Paiute Tribe, residents, and various local, state and federal officials.

Book Review by Ken Wagner

Beyond Walden: The Hidden History of America's Kettle Lakes and Ponds, by Robert M. Thorson. Published by Walker and Company.

If you are working with or are part of a lake association that can't seem to get its act together, I recommend this book for all involved. Robert Thorson has written not a textbook for lake science, not a manual on lake management, but a natural history book that manages to explain the fundamental concepts of lake science while making an eloquent plea for us to recognize the problems we are causing for our own lakes. *Beyond Walden* covers geology, chemistry, biology, archaeology, anthropology and even politics of kettle lakes in an entertaining manner that can bring the necessary level of understanding to your group without the tedium of a textbook or endless lectures and meetings. Thor, as he is known to his friends, is a geologist, but he grew up around, on and in kettle ponds and has studied them scientifically. Drawing on this combination of personal and professional experience, he explains aspects of limnology that everyone living on or using lakes should have to be able to protect these wonderful resources.

In 227 pages plus some interesting appendices, Thor takes the reader on a 10,000+ year stroll through the history of these lakes, covering their formation (and the associated myths and misconceptions), their chemistry (without equations!), their biology (from algae through fish), and their meaning to people over several millennia. I hadn't fully appreciated the role kettle lakes

played in the development of the American literary tradition or nineteenth century natural philosophy – beyond Walden Pond. On a technical level, the explanation of the five-way influence of the sun on lakes provides a great framework for understanding how your lake works. The changing uses and conditions of lakes as many progressed from food sources to agricultural assets to recreational havens or dumping grounds makes sense out of the variety of lake conditions we see around us and emphasizes our role in determining those conditions.

Dr. Thorson lays out what he views as three megatrends that are threatening our lakes, and offers clear recommendations for what we should do to battle them. One of these, shoreline development, is the subject of the recent conference on Enhancing the States' Lakes Programs in Chicago in April, where Dr. Thorson was a guest speaker. Another is a personal concern of mine, the separation of our children from nature and a lack of appreciation for the natural world by younger people. These and other topics are treated thoughtfully and with both humor and pathos in *Beyond Walden*.

Because this book covers so many topics, some parts will be more interesting to some readers than others, but it builds logically from geology (the mother of all ecosystems) through human interactions with lakes, with both depressing and uplifting results. The understanding conveyed will be valuable to anyone wanting to learn more about their favorite lake, and to those of us called upon to explain complex topics to diverse groups. It is a book best enjoyed sitting by a lake, but when you are done with it, drop it off at Town Hall for your local officials in charge of land use and water resource management to read.

The book can be purchased over the internet or in chain or independent bookstores and should be available in mid-May.

Wisconsin's Invasive Species Classification Rule (NR 40)

The Natural Resources Board unanimously approved the Invasive Species Classification rule (NR 40). The rule will now move forward to the legislature for approval.

This rule represents significant progress towards comprehensive statewide efforts to prevent and manage invasive species.

The rule, which has been under development for the last four years, classifies invasive species into two categories: prohibited and restricted. The rule also requires several preventative measures to limit spread of invasive species, and includes permit and enforcement provisions.

You can download background information on the rule, a summary of public comments received and Department responses, and a full copy of proposed NR 40 at <http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives/classification/>.

What the prohibited classification means

Species classified as "Prohibited" are not currently present in Wisconsin, or are present only as isolated or pioneer populations, but have the potential to become established and cause significant harm to natural resources or economy. Prohibited species that may be familiar to lake enthusiasts include hydrilla, Asian and common carp, quagga mussels, and spiny water fleas among many

others. The rule prohibits the transportation, possession, transference, or introduction of a prohibited species.

What the restricted classification means

Species classified as “restricted” are already established in the state, or have high potential to become established, and cause significant harm to our natural resources or economy. Examples of familiar aquatic invasive species classified as Restricted include Eurasian watermilfoil, curly-leaf pondweed, rusty crayfish, and zebra mussels. Like species classified as prohibited, restricted species cannot be transported, transferred, or introduced. With the exception of fish and crayfish, restricted species are not subject to a ban on possession.

Requirements for Preventative measures

The rule also require certain preventative measures and limit some common activities that may become pathways for the inadvertent introduction or spread of invasive species, many of which are of interest to water lovers. The rule would require removal of all aquatic plants and animals from equipment and drainage of water from equipment.

The rule also requires citizens to take “reasonable precautions” to prevent the spread of invasive species. AIS prevention steps (such as removing mud and rinsing equipment with hot or pressure water) in established invasive species programs, including “Clean Boats Clean Waters” and the “Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers” campaign, are referenced as best management practices and are included in the definition of “reasonable precautions.”

Featured Lake – Ancient Lakes of the World - Lake Ohrid

Exploring the 18 oldest lakes in the world – We now jump over to Europe’s oldest lake.

Lake Ohrid is the oldest lake in Europe and one of the oldest lakes in the world. Formed tectonically between 4 and 10 million years ago, the lake is situated in karstic, or limestone bedrock.

Lake Ohrid is located in the southwest part of the Republic of Macedonia, on the border between Macedonia and the Republic of Albania. Approximately two-thirds of the lake surface area belongs to Macedonia and one-third belongs to Albania.



Lake Ohrid is probably unique in the world in that its water is supplied mainly through spring water from numerous surface and underwater springs. Surface area is 358,000 square kilometers, mean depth is 164 meters with a maximum depth of 289 meters, and the oligotrophic lake has a hydraulic residence time of 84 years.

The watershed of Lake Ohrid includes steep mountains, as well as both Big and Small Prespa Lakes. Lake Prespa sits about 150 m above Lake Ohrid. Due to the porous limestone bedrock, water from Lake Prespa and its catchment area contributes significantly to the supply of several

springs along the shore of Lake Ohrid. The effective catchment area of Lake Ohrid therefore extends into the catchment area of Lake Prespa and may exceed 2 000 km².

Lake Ohrid has 40 tributaries which are mainly creeks and rivers which flow only temporarily during heavy rains and melting of the snow from the surrounding high mountains. The lake has one outlet, the River Crni Drim (Black Drim), which flows to the Adriatic Sea. This outlet of the lake is human-controlled because of several downstream dams and hydro-electric power stations.

The size of the lake and the quality of the fish fauna give Lake Ohrid an important significance as a fishery in both the Macedonian and Albanian economies. The quality and the economic value of the fish populations of Lake Ohrid are much higher than other Balkan lakes.

According to fishery statistics for the Macedonian part of the lake during the periods 1930 – 1957, the salmonid fishes and an eel species represented 45.6% of the mean annual catch with 43% belonging only to *Salmo letnica*. During this period, the lake was characterized as a typical salmon lake.

Currently, ten species have commercial value greater than the two relic and endemic trout - *Salmo letnica* (Karaman) and *Acantholingua ohridana* (Steind). In 1935, a breeding program was established to artificially spawn and hatch the native trout in order to support the natural recruitment of Lake Ohrid trout. Since then, the lake has been stocked with more than 450 million young trout in different stages of development. A hydrobiological station was established at the same time to complement the hatchery.

Due to the long history of Lake Ohrid's continuous existence and the geographical isolation and permanency of life conditions in the lake, a relatively high number of lake organisms are still speciating. Lake species, including many fish, continue to diversify into new taxonomic categories - subspecies, species and even families. This type of speciation, also known as intralacustrine speciation, is typical in old, deep and large preglacial lakes, such as Lake Baikal. Endemism characterizes the Lake Ohrid's biological world: endoparasitic Infusoria 88%, Rhabdocoela 44%, Tricladida 71%, Gastropoda 90%, and Ostracoda 66% (Spirkovski 1995). Lake Ohrid represents a refuge for numerous freshwater organisms from the Tertiary Period, whose close relatives can be found only as fossil remains; this is the reason the lake is sometimes called a "museum of living fossils." Among them are included the famous Ohrid Trout (*Salmo letnica*) and a freshwater sponge (*Ochridospongia rotunda*).

Website of the Month – www.h2oconserve.com

Now that your tomatoes are in, the lawn is all green, and you are barbecuing dinners more often, it is a great time to see what your water footprint is for your household. It takes just a couple of minutes to see a calculated estimate on how water you use daily compared to the national average.

Open Invitation to Add to the Next E-newsletter

If you are having a conference, have a lake-related question, need advice, looking for similar lake problems/solutions, have an interesting story to share, or just want to be heard throughout NALMS, please send your material to Steve Lundt at slundt@mwr.dst.co.us.

All e-newsletter material is due to Steve Lundt by the first Friday of each month to be considered for inclusion in that month's e-newsletter.