

2011 NALMS e-Newsletter



September 2011

President's Message – Bev Clark

The summer is winding down and we are turning our attention to the fall and to our annual Symposium. This year in Spokane we will do what we do each year which is to further our understanding of the many issues that challenge lake managers in a changing environment. This is important because it is not enough in 2012 to understand how water quality affects fish habitat or to understand how eutrophication increases the likelihood of algal blooms. We must now struggle to understand increasingly more complex ecosystem responses to stressors. We must now, for example, consider that climate change can impact the physical limnology of lakes in a way that will exacerbate algal blooms even in cases where nutrient reduction strategies have worked to lower phosphorus concentrations. Increasing algal blooms in water where nutrient concentrations are being lowered? Say it isn't so! Processes are afoot in our ecosystems that are driven by multiple stressors in a way that we are only beginning to understand. To make matters worse there are further reasons why lake management is a tough business these days. Money at all levels of government is scarce such that every dollar spent on mitigation or remediation of water quality or fish habitat problems must be well defended. The solutions themselves are becoming more complex.

I tell people that I learned everything that I know about lake management at NALMS conferences...and I still don't feel like I know enough, so I have to keep attending them. But there is more to these conferences. We meet with old friends and we form new bonds that will make us better people and better lake managers. Conferences are useful and fun and if you haven't registered yet I am encouraging you to find your way to Spokane. The fall air is going to smell really nice out there and there are going to be a ton of good people all in the same place working to protect our lakes and reservoirs. How can you miss out on that?

Bev Clark
President - NALMS

WITHIN NALMS

Membership in Motion – Greg Arenz

In the last newsletter I offered a midterm review our June renewal efforts. After all was said and done we completed the June Renewal Period (5/16-8/15) with a 90% renewal rate! We also saw

almost 5% growth in our membership numbers thanks to 43 new members. Thank you again to all of you who joined or came back on board with NALMS during this past renewal!

August 16th marked the turnover to our next renewal period and we have been busy getting email and paper reminders out to all those whose memberships will be expiring on September 30th, 2011. If your membership is expiring soon don't delay! Renewing now is an opportunity to reaffirm our shared goals of promoting the awareness of lake ecosystems, supporting lake management programs, and facilitating the exchange of information on aspects of managing lakes and watersheds. Besides, I know that you don't want to miss out on any excellent NALMS publications! To renew your membership, [click here to renew online](#). You may also [click here for a printable renewal form](#) that you can mail or fax to the NALMS office.

We are also busy preparing for the upcoming NALMS Symposium and I'd like to take a moment to recognize and thank all of our generous Sponsors. Their contributions go a long way to making the Symposium such a great event so please visit them at the following links and thank them personally for contributing.

- [Hach Hydromet](#)
- [Tennessee Valley Authority](#)
- [Idaho Department of Environmental Quality](#)
- [Washington Department of Ecology - Water Quality Program](#)
- [Golder Associates](#)
- [Spokane River Stewardship Partners](#)
- [Washington Department of Ecology – Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program](#)
- [Freese and Nichols, Inc.](#)
- [Avista Utilities](#)
- [Princeton Hydro](#)
- [HAB Aquatic Solutions](#)
- [Herrera Environmental](#)
- [Smith and Root](#)
- [Spokane County Utilities](#)
- [Spokane Riverkeeper](#)

Finally I'll close this article with a lament. Even though summer is quickly fading into fall here in Madison, I still have not had the chance to get out and enjoy the water very much this past month. And I'm not the only one grumbling. My favorite furry friend – my dog, Joplin, is also looking forward to some more water time soon. Here's a picture of her doing one of her favorite things. And here's hoping you are able to get out there and enjoy the water with one of your favorite friends soon too!



Take care and as always, if you have any questions or concerns about your membership, please contact me at 608-233-2836 or email me at membershipservices@nalms.org.

Greg
Membership Services Coordinator

NALMS Office Notes

This week I've been reminded of both the beauty and power of water. Last weekend my wife and I spent a beautiful Sunday afternoon fishing on Lake Kegonsa among the sandpipers, the osprey and the bald eagles (we saw more birds than fish). Meanwhile, Irene was wreaking havoc in New England. I've been receiving reports from family and NALMS members in the area. Many dealt with power outages due to the winds, but the greatest devastation was caused by the deluge of water. My aunt and uncle live in the small town of Northfield, Vermont. Their home is on high ground, so they only had the inconvenience of being without electricity for the better part of a day. Other Northfield residents were not so fortunate. Many of the homes along the Dog River, a little trout stream that runs through town, are totally destroyed. Roads and bridges are washed out and the schools, which were supposed to start this week, are closed. And the story is the same throughout Vermont. Access to some towns has been cut off by the flood waters, necessitating airlifts of food to stranded residents. The main offices of the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) were badly damaged by the flooding. Labs on the lower levels of the building are an almost total loss. It's hard to wrap your mind around such total destruction. Our hearts certainly go out to everyone who continues to deal with the aftermath of the storm.



Philip Forsberg
Program Manager

UPCOMING CONFERENCES & EVENTS

Register Now for NALMS' 31st International Symposium

Registration is now open for NALMS 2011 in Spokane, Washington October 26 – 28. To register or learn more about this year's symposium, visit the conference website at <http://www.cvent.com/d/1dq6qc>

Friday, September 16, 2011 is the deadline for early registration with a discount for members.



Watershed Management Coming to the Big Screen:

Expedition Chesapeake project to bring watershed issues to IMAX theaters



Dr. Harman (Director - SUNY Oneonta Biological Field Station) and Jeff Corwin

Filming began this summer for *Expedition Chesapeake*, a multi-media project that will produce a 42 minute IMAX feature film, a series of television documentary-type installments, a 4-D travelling museum exhibit, among other products. This summer's activities included a series of kayak paddles along the Susquehanna River to publicize the project and raise awareness of the connection between people, the landscape, and our waterways.

The kayak trip began in Otsego Lake, New York, the source of the Susquehanna River. Additional kayak trips will be held Sept. 8-9 in the Wilkes Barre, PA area, and later in the month in Harrisburg, PA. More information is available on the *Expedition Chesapeake* Facebook page. NALMS members from the SUNY College at Oneonta's Biological Field Station took part in the early promotional events and will be featured in the film for their field trip program for elementary and high school students, that incorporate aquatic ecology and watershed stewardship.

Photo caption: Dr. Bill Harman CLM, of the SUNY Oneonta Biological Field Station with Jeff Corwin, a celebrity biologist from *Animal Planet*.

LAKE NEWS & INFORMATION

Member Announcements

- Dr. Stephen McCord is now President of McCord Environmental, Inc., based in Davis, CA. With over 15 years of experience, Dr. McCord will be providing consulting services to agency, municipal, and non-profit clients throughout California in several aspects of water quality and watershed management. Lake water quality may become a major focus area to address excessive mercury levels in sportfish found at one in five lakes statewide. Website: www.mccenv.com.

Do you have a new job, a project success or other announcement you would like to share with NALMS? Send a short summary to info@nalms.org and we will include it in the next issue of NALMS Notes (150 words maximum).

Call for Papers for 8th National Water Quality Monitoring Council Conference

The National Water Quality Monitoring Council's (NWQMC) 8th National Monitoring Conference – Water: One Resource – Shared Effort – Common Future will be held in Portland, Oregon from April 30 - May 4, 2012.

This conference will focus on the many facets of water quality and quantity monitoring for improved understanding, protection, and restoration of our natural resources and communities. It is a centerpiece forum that generally attracts 500-800 water practitioners from all backgrounds, including federal, state, local, tribal, volunteer, academic, private, and other water stakeholders. Attendees exchange information about water monitoring, assessment, research, protection, restoration, and management; learn about new findings on the quality of the Nation's streams and rivers, groundwater, estuaries, lakes and wetlands; and develop new skills and professional networks. The conference includes presentations, panels, poster sessions, exhibits, hands-on interactive workshops and field trips, as well as time for after-hours meetings and networking. For the first time, this biennial conference and River Network's National River Rally are coordinating an overlap day (May 4th) with mutually developed themes and presentations geared toward fostering improved collaboration between government and nonprofit groups working together for clean water.

For additional conference information or to submit an abstract go to:

<http://acwi.gov/monitoring/conference/2012/index.html>. All abstracts must be received no later than September 23, 2011. Please feel free to distribute this announcement to your colleagues.

Panel Rejects 5 States' Bid to Close Chicago-Area Shipping Locks.

Source: CHICAGOLAND – Chicago Tribune - By [Cynthia Dizikes](#), Tribune reporter

August 25, 2011 - <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/ct-met-asian-carp-ruling-0825-20110825,0,5895831.story>



The O'Brien Locks & Dam are the last solid barrier before Lake Michigan

A federal appeals panel Wednesday rejected the request of five Great Lakes states to close Chicago-area shipping locks. But the panel warned that the issue could be revisited if ongoing efforts to stop the advance of Asian carp stall. The ruling by the three-judge panel of the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals follows a district court decision in December concluding that the invasive species did not appear to be an imminent threat and that closing the locks still might not keep them from reaching Lake Michigan. In July 2010, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin sued the federal government to force a temporary closure of the locks until other carp-control methods could be put in place. Critics, however, alleged that the effort was "politically motivated" and could devastate the regional shipping industry and put residents who live in flood-prone areas at risk.

Trees Strengthen levees in some cases, study finds.

Source: Matt Weiser - Aug 27, 2011 The Sacramento Bee.

<http://www.sacbee.com/2011/08/27/3865128/trees-strengthen-levees-in-some.html#storylink=misearch>

For years, California flood control officials have pleaded with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to reconsider a policy that bans trees on levees, urging the agency to heed years of independent research that found little risk to flood safety.

Now, a new study by the Army Corps itself has found that trees actually strengthen levees in some situations. The conclusion could force the agency to reconsider its policy, which would otherwise eliminate millions of Central Valley trees.

The controversial levee maintenance policy, which emerged in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, allows only grass on levees, on the grounds that trees could damage levees if they fall down or that their roots may promote seepage that would undermine a levee.

The policy applies nationally. But its consequences may be greatest in California's Central Valley, where millions of trees line hundreds of miles of levees. Making up the Valley's last remaining riparian habitat, the trees are considered crucial to migrating salmon, hawks and a variety of other wildlife.

California has long operated under separate rules -- once endorsed by the Corps -- that permitted large vegetation as long as plants are maintained to allow inspections....

Re-watering Nevada's dying Walker Lake

From High County News – By Gordon Gregory – August 8, 2011 http://www.hcn.org/issues/43.13/re-watering-nevadas-dying-walker-lake?utm_source=wcnl&utm_medium=email

Nevada is the nation's driest state, and Mineral County is as parched as any place in it. Past the Sierra Nevada's rain shadow, it is sagebrush, alkali dust and sun-bleached skies that are free of clouds. So as a boy, Glenn Bunch, who grew up in Hawthorne, the county seat, spent as much time as he could at Walker Lake -- the only body of water around. Later on, he took his three kids there to camp, fish and water-ski. But over his 64 years, Bunch has watched Walker Lake become increasingly sick. Today, the lake is on the verge of ecological collapse. More than a century of upriver irrigation has reduced it to just 20 percent of its original volume. The fish, including the threatened Lahontan cutthroat trout, are essentially gone. The shoreline has receded far beyond most of the boat ramps. Once about 27 miles long...

Invasive Species: Should we learn to love them?

From CBC news - By Sharon Oosthoek, Posted Aug 10, 2011 -

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/story/2011/08/09/f-environment-invasive-species.html>

The round goby spawned fearful headlines when it was first spotted in the St. Clair River between Lake Huron and Lake Erie in 1990.

Experts predicted the small Russian fish with a big appetite would swallow the eggs of fish native to the Great Lakes and bully them out of the best nesting sites. Two decades later, it appears instead to have brought some unexpected benefits.

Round gobies, which hitchhiked from the Black Sea in ships' ballast water, are now helping to sustain an economically important fishery in the Great Lakes. Native smallmouth bass, walleye and stocked trout have developed a taste for the invaders, resulting in more stable populations of these



Round gobies, small fish from the Black Sea have brought some unexpected sport fish... benefits to the Great Lakes.

To read NALMS official position statement regarding invasive species, please follow the link below: <http://www.nalms.org/media.acux/6bd1f54f-ce11-4567-9388-b8242ef64a06>

Invasive crayfish in a high desert river: Implications of concurrent invaders and climate change

By Patrick J. Martinez – Published on line Aquatic Invasions (2011) REABIC 18 Aug 2011

Abstract - No crayfish species are native to the Colorado River Basin (CRB), including the portion of the state of Colorado west of the Continental Divide. Virile crayfish [*Orconectes virilis* (Hagen, 1870)], a recent invader in the middle Yampa River in northwestern Colorado, displayed an abrupt increase in abundance in the early 2000s, which coincided with a drought, a severe decline in the abundance of small-bodied and juvenile native fishes, and a dramatic increase in the abundance of nonnative smallmouth bass [*Micropterus dolomieu* (Lacepede, 1802)]...

Website of the Month –

http://www.boatingbasiconline.com/content/general/3_1.php

Boating Basics Online is a good website about boat terminology.

Update Contact information:

Please let the NALMS Office (garenz@nalms.org) know if you have or are planning to change your contact information, so we can make sure you do not miss any of the NALMS monthly news letters, updates, or general NALMS announcements. NALMS appreciates this.

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. }}