



Cocolalla Lake Association
Box 133
Cocolalla, ID 83813

Protecting Cocolalla Lake
Since 1984

NEWSLETTER

FALL/WINTER 2007/2008

COCOLALLA LAKE ASSOCIATION

MISSION: "TO HALT AND REVERSE THE EUTROPHICATION PROCESS IN COCOLALLA LAKE"

WEBSITE

For those lake association members receiving the newsletter by regular mail who would rather review it online please visit the Cocolalla Lake Association (CLA) website at www.cocolallalakeidaho.com. If you prefer to review the newsletter on the website, or to receive it via email, please contact Glen Weatherly at weathgb@msn.com.

FISH CREEK ROAD IMPROVEMENT

The Fish Creek Road Improvement IDEQ 319 Grant is progressing. The Bonner County Soil Conservation District, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, Bonner County Road and Bridge, Bonner County Commissioners and the CLA are working with IDEQ to make it happen. The work involves installing several new culverts and upgrading ditches and banks.

The grant in-kind tasks tentatively assigned to CLA are:

1. Take annual photos for 5 years to record the improvements in the spring runoff conditions after the improvements are implemented.
2. Provide property owner contact information in the grant implementation area to the agencies involved at their request.
3. Consider adding another water quality monitoring location for sediment.
4. Provide community outreach programs: Articles in the newsletter, provide information regarding the grant at public meetings which CLA might hold, involve students at Southside school.

CLA has agreed (if the grant is approved and the work completed), to check culverts and to clean debris and sediment from the culverts twice in the spring and once in the fall.

2007 EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL TREATMENT FINAL REPORT – BY CARY POSTON

The initial herbicide treatment for Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) was conducted on Cocolalla Lake in the summer of 2006. Approximately 90 percent of the EWM was eradicated by the treatment. The pre-treatment survey for the 2007 treatment confirmed that conclusion. The Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) awarded the Cocolalla Lake Association (CLA) EWM Control Program funds of \$69,307.00. An amendment request was submitted by CLA in August for an additional \$2,989.00 so the total funds were \$72,296.00. The CLA cash match was approximately \$8,354.00. CLA members have committed to 1000 in-kind matching hours for the grant. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game contributed \$6,178.00 and Northern Lights contributed the cost of the electrical connection to the Host Site.

Project Summary

1. An aquatic herbicide treatment for infested areas was done on June 11 and 12.
2. The purchase of water/watershed quality education material in the form of books and literature for use by K6 students at Southside Elementary School in Cocolalla, ID.
3. With participation by Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG), construction of a Lake Host Facility at the north end of the lake near the lake's only public boat launch.

WM Treatment

90 acres in Cocolalla Lake and the lake outlet stream were treated with DMA 4 IVM (active ingredient 2,4-D). Additionally, two acres in the lake outlet stream were treated with Reward (active ingredient diquat). A post-treatment survey for EWM was conducted by ISDA on September 19 using the rake-toss method. The post-treatment survey found no EWM and none has been seen during usual inspection by CLA members.



The native aquatic plants are flourishing. The survey found no apparent effects from the treatment.

The Lake Association wishes to thank the volunteers who assisted in posting signs and handing out information brochures related to the treatment activities. This effort was headed by Nancy Cambron. Her volunteers were: Bernie Berg, Cindy Scardina, Scot Lockie, Dave Wallace, Ron Hawthorne, Jan Herman, Mike Scardina and Beth Martin.

Education

At the request of CLA, Ms. Jan Vann, Southside Elementary School sixth grade teacher, assembled a list of water/water-quality related books and literature. The cost of these books was included in CLA's request for grant monies. The monies were used to purchase the books and literature by the Southside Elementary School and are available for use by all students.

Lake Host Facility

CLA worked closely with IDFG in the completion of the Lake Host Facility. IDFG took the lead in developing the specifications and issuing the necessary contracts. The facility is located at the entrance to the public boat launch area. A 20' by 60' concrete slab for a RV with suitable electrical power, water and septic system have been developed for the lake host. There is a vehicle and trailer turnout to accommodate inspection of boats and trailers. It is anticipated that the facility will be operating from Memorial Day through Labor Day. IDFG will maintain the facility and select the Lake Host each season.



The Host Facility at the public boat launch.

Benefits of the Total Project

Based on post-treatment surveys and visual inspection Cocolalla Lake appears free of EWM in all areas treated.

Placing educational materials in the hands of elementary school students will serve to increase the knowledge of these future users of the state's sports and recreational resources.

The presence of a Lake Host will provide an effective check point against the spread of EWM into and out of the lake.

For 2008 And Future

CLA will seek Phase III funds to conduct a thorough survey to look for any EWM and to conduct hand-pulling, diver-dredging, spot herbicide treatments or combinations of these approaches. It is conceivable that EWM can be eradicated from Cocolalla Lake. We need all lake users to understand how to prevent re-infestation of the lake.

ALGAE RESEARCH

A sample from an algae bloom was sent to Clemson University. The sample was tested with three different algaecides to determine which was the most effective against the sample. For the sample they received, Clemson recommended Phycomycin at the maximum amount recommended on the product label. We would need to apply the herbicide each time we had an algae bloom.

The cost for each application would be prohibitive for CLA. In addition, we don't know if one application would stop a bloom. We hope we can find other alternatives. Regardless, we will need to continue our efforts on improving the water shed to stop pollutants from entering the lake.

FISHING REPORT (by Cary Poston)

The fall of 2007, when considered with the past several years, should confirm any claims that Cocolalla Lake is a premier trout fishing venue. The low water level this fall prevented many fishermen from launching boats at the Sportsman Access. As a result, fishing pressure this fall was light. Morning and evenings produced bag limits within an hour for some. Small lures (Triple Teaser, Dick Nite, etc.) were the baits of choice for those most successful. As in the past, trolling was the technique most used. Some still fishermen were observed, and none seemed to have much luck. The trout caught were a mix of rainbow, cutthroat, "cuttbow", brown and brook. Last year there were a lot of brook trout in the 6" to 8" range. This year quite a few were caught in the 10" range. The largest fish were the browns...some as large as 2 pounds. A prediction of a productive ice-fishing season is safe to make. Expect to see these same fish at depths of 6 to 12 ft. Go to the bottom for perch.

CONTROLLING WATER IN THE STATE OF IDAHO

This is a quick review of controlling water in the state of Idaho. This review is not intended to be complete or even entirely correct as these regulations change frequently. It should, however, send you in the right direction and give you some idea of what to expect from the various federal, state and local agencies.

There are basically three levels of control of water rights in the state of Idaho. These are

1. Federal – The Corps of Engineers;
2. State – Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR), Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG);
3. County or local – Bonner County Commissioners and Bonner County Planning and Zoning.

I. The Corps of Engineers: The Corps is concerned with waterways and wetlands. A permit is required from them whenever there is any movement of fill material in quantity, there is any quantity of fill in wetland or waters including ephemeral and intermittent streams, when

constructing a dam regardless of storage capacity and bank stabilization projects when fill will be placed below the ordinary high water mark (OHWM). It is unlikely that the Corps would issue permits to individual lot owners to place sand below the OHWM of Lake Cocolalla to create a beach. Check with the Corps for current requirements and regulations.

II. State Agencies

1. Idaho Department of Water Resources – IDWR: Before the waters of rivers, streams, lakes, springs, ground water or other sources are diverted in the State of Idaho, a water right must be acquired. The IDWR is the only agency that issues new water rights and IDWR administers all water rights in the State of Idaho. Domestic uses diverted from a surface water source (including springs) require an application for a permit. A dam that impounds water is considered a diversion and therefore, a water right is still required.

Any alteration of a stream channel below the mean high water mark of a continuously flowing stream requires a permit under the Stream Protection Act (1971).

Check with IDWR for current requirements and regulations.

2. Idaho Department of Lands (IDL): IDL must provide an encroachment permit prior to the placement of any new structures or changes to existing structures in navigable waters in the State of Idaho. There are size and construction restrictions on these structures which can be provided by IDL.

3. Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDF&G): IDF&G requires a permit anytime fish are to be released in any waterway, public or private. These permits are free but an inspection must be made by IDF&G to ensure that no non-native wildlife is released into public water and lands.

III. County Agencies:

1. Bonner County Department of Planning and Zoning governs all site disturbances above the OHWM. The planning and zoning comprehensive plan is presently under review and is expected to be placed in effect within one year.

2. The Bonner County Commissioners have final authority over the Planning and Zoning recommendations but typically approves them. The comprehensive plan will require a permit from Planning and Zoning for any construction or alteration above the OHWM.

EPA NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) CONSTRUCTION STORMWATER PERMIT

Who needs an EPA NPDES Construction Stormwater Permit?

1. Does your construction project disturb one or more acres of land through the clearing, grading, excavating or stockpiling of fill material? Remember to count the cumulative acreage of the entire project whether in a single or in a multiphase project. This applies even if you are responsible for only a small portion (less than one acre) of the larger project planned over time.
2. Is there any possibility that stormwater could run off your site during construction and into surface waters or conveyance systems leading to surface waters of the state? In almost every case, the answer to this question is yes. However, if the topography and location of your site is such that there is no possibility that rainfall or snowmelt could leave the site or enter a waterway, you do not need permit coverage.

If you answered yes to both of these questions, your construction site needs a permit.

COCOLALLA LAKE ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Chuck Gladish - President
(208) 263-6515*

*Fred Vincent - Board Member at Large
(208) 255-2570*

*Herman Collins – Vice President
(208) 263-7282*

*Cary Poston - Board Member at Large
(208) 263-4157*

*Glen Weatherly – Board Member at Large
(509) 466-7299 (Spokane)
(509) 710-4828 (Lake)*

*Dalmar Vander Meer - Board Member at Large
(509) 534-1288*

*Rose Chaney – Secretary
(208) 263-2940*

*Linda Muskopf - Board Member at Large
(208) 265-0295*

*David Wallace – Treasurer
(208) 935-6333*

*Nancy Cambron - Board Member at Large
(208) 263-7829*

*To join the Cocolalla Lake Association, mail this form and the \$25.00 annual membership fee to:
Cocolalla Lake Association
P. O. Box 133
Cocolalla ID 83813*

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Telephone () _____