Findley Lake Watershed Foundation:
2023 Water Quality Plans and Status

Status Update for Board Meeting June 17, 2023

1. Participate in CSLAP sample collection and water quality monitoring program.
   1.1. 6/17 Update – Crissy and Mark Craffey and Ben Fergus have been trained.
   1.2. **6/17 Update – We will be sampling both shallow water (1.5 meters deep) and deep water (1.5 meters above bottom) at the deepest point of the lake on 8 occasions for the CSLAP program. Sampling dates are provided below:**

Date	CSLAP Round
June 11	1
June 25	2
July 9	3
July 23	4
Aug 6	5
Aug 20	6
Sept 3	7
Sept 17	8

2. Work to procure equipment for collecting floating aquatic weeds both in the boating lanes and where they collect along the shoreline.
   2.1. Collect info on what other lake associations use and the cost, maintenance needs, effectiveness, and ease of use.
   2.2. Make recommendation to FLWF Board for preliminary approval.
   2.3. Solicit/ obtain funding.
   2.4. Procure equipment.
   2.5. Get training from manufacturer and begin use.
   2.6. 6/17 update: The following info is from the Chautauqua Lake Assoc.:
      2.6.1. Mobitrac – they have had significant maintenance issues with the Mobitrac. Also, they do not have storage on the vehicle so the weeds need to be placed onto another vehicle close by. They are amphibious but are not usable in deep water (for collecting floating weeds in boating lanes).
      2.6.2. They use old weed harvesters (smaller are better) and remove the cutting bar (for safety) to get close to shore, where one or two people get into the water and use rakes to pull/ push floating weeds onto the conveyor. This type of vehicle can also just use the conveyor to collect floating weeds anywhere in the lake.
      A man in Dewittville has an old weed harvester for sale for about $20,000. Ben provided info about the used harvester to the board. Ed will arrange for a visit to check out the condition of the used harvester.

2.6.3. Chautauqua Lake Association has GPS on each of their harvesters. They specify where each is to work each day. They track each harvester. Ed has committed to getting GPS tracking installed on the harvester this summer.

3. Provide input to Weed Harvesting Committee on weed harvesting strategy, monitoring, and planning/ prioritizing areas each week.
   3.1. 6/17 Update: Provided map with designated prioritized areas for harvesting. The Weed Harvesting Cmte decided to prepare an overall weed harvesting plan that can be modified as conditions warrant.
4. Publicize water quality facts related to implementation of a sewer system.
   4.1. **6/17 Update: We are gathering data from other lakes that have implemented sewer projects: Lime Lake and Ballston Lake.**
5. Publicize the desirability of adding native plant buffers along lakefront properties for enhancing lake water quality.
   5.1. 6/17 Update: Carol Markham form the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy is offering services for residents to plan buffer gardens. Her contact info is now available at the FLWF Buffer Garden sign.
   5.2. 6/17 Update: We are preparing article for social media.
6. **6/17 Addition: Investigate recent use and experience of other lakes using herbicide treatment of invasive aquatic weeds.**
   6.1. 6/17 Update: We are in the process of obtaining information from both Lime Lake and Chautauqua Lake. Weed mapping would be a first step for us. We will contact DEC to get a general idea of what might be doable in Findley Lake and report back for the September Meeting.
7. **6/17 Addition: Investigate and prepare recommendation to the board regarding Invasive Species – watercraft inspection stations and/ or stewards.**
   7.1. **6/17 Update: Have gathered input from Chautauqua Lake Association, DEC and SUNY Oneonta. We are gathering examples of signage that may be placed at boat launch locations as a first step and will prepare recommendations for July meeting.**
8. Use results from the Town of Mina's In-Waterbody Controls for Nutrients Report to prepare a Feasibility Study for In-Waterbody Control of Nutrients – to minimize in-lake release of Phosphorus and resultant hazardous algal blooms (HABs). Control systems to eliminate anoxic zones typically include aeration systems (air compressors, piping and submerged diffusers).
9. Work collaboratively with the Town of Mina related to the other two grants to implement recommended improvements to reduce external nutrient loading to Findley Lake from non-point sources transported to the Lake during/ after storm events and from normal runoff.

Submitted 4/29/2023 by Water Quality Co-Chairs Chrissy Craffey and Ben Fergus

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