

## Section 16

# About Little Crawling Stone Lake

## Introduction

The *Bear River Watershed Comprehensive Lake Management Plan* includes sections for each of the ten lakes in the watershed. The lakes are in the largest watershed in Lac du Flambeau, within the Reservation's boundaries, associated with high use landings, and have complete data sets required for a lake management plan. The purpose of the plan is to establish the current health of the watershed and lakes and to suggest how to maintain or improve their health in the future.

This section includes introductory information about Little Crawling Stone Lake, a summary of how uses of the lake have changed over time, data from the community survey, and an assessment of the lake's health based on data for the lake's biology, chemistry, nutrients, habitat, bacteria, lake levels, and aesthetics. This section also includes an action plan for improving or maintaining the overall health of Little Crawling Stone Lake.

Little Crawling Stone Lake is in the Bear River Watershed (Subwatershed HUC12-070500020201) west of Big Crawling Stone Lake (Figure 16-1).

The lake is approximately 113 acres and has a maximum depth of 44 feet. Little Crawling Stone Lake is classified as a drainage lake, meaning that it is fed by streams, groundwater, precipitation, and run off and is drained by a stream or channel. Its outflow is through two channels connected to Big Crawling Stone Lake.



Figure 16-1. Map of Lakes

Little Crawling Stone Lake stratifies annually with the hypolimnion reaching dissolved oxygen below 5mg/L. With Secchi readings averaging 16.9 feet, the lake's water clarity is considered to be good. Table 16-1 provides a summary of Little Crawling Stone Lake's morphology, vegetation, and water quality.

Based on Secchi, total phosphorus, and Chlorophyll a data, Little Crawling Stone Lake is classified as mesotrophic. Mesotrophic lakes generally have medium levels of nutrients and water clarity when compared to other natural lakes.

The majority of Little Crawling Stone Lake's watershed is assessed with Big Crawling Stone Lake's watershed and includes water (57%), forests (38%), wetlands (3%), and urban (2%).

**Table 16-1. Basic Data for Little Crawling Stone Lake**

<b>Morphology</b>	
Acreage (Acres)	113
Maximum Depth (Feet)	44
Mean Depth (Feet)	18
Retention Time (Years)	NA
Drainage Area (Acres)	See Big Crawling Stone
Drainage Basin/Lake Area Ratio	See Big Crawling Stone
<b>Vegetation</b>	
Survey Data Collected	2009
Number of Native Species	18
Floristic Quality Index	24.5
Simpson's Diversity Index	0.89
Percent Vegetated (%)	62.67
Average Conservatism	6.13
<b>Water Quality</b>	
Trophic State	Mesotrophic
Limiting Nutrient	Phosphorus
Water Acidity (pH)	7.3
Sensitivity of Acid Rain	Low
Watershed to Lake Area Ratio	See Big Crawling Stone
<b>Aquatic Invasive Species</b>	Rainbow Smelt Chinese Mystery Snail Banded Mystery Snail Rusty Crayfish

There are 37 dwellings, mostly residential, within 300 feet of the lake's shoreline. Little Crawling Stone Lake has a public boat landing under the purview of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources which is located at the southwest end of the lake off Silver Beach Drive.

## Brief History of Little Crawling Stone Lake

The history of Little Crawling Stone Lake, including how uses of the lake have changed over time, parallels the history of the other lakes in the Bear River Watershed as described in Section 3. Unless noted otherwise, the information here is footnoted in Section 3.

For hundreds of years Little Crawling Stone Lake was used by indigenous people for subsistence. Virtually every facet of their lives depended on their relationship with the lake and its surrounding habitats for food, medicine, building materials, and transportation.

With the arrival of the Europeans in the early to mid-seventeenth century, Little Crawling Stone Lake and the surrounding habitats took on a new use; to help provide the world with furs. Lac du Flambeau became a transportation center for the fur trade, and Little Crawling Stone Lake became part of the network of canoe routes and portages which linked Lac du Flambeau with trade routes in all directions. Little Crawling Stone Lake, for example, was part of the primary route linking Lac du Flambeau with Lake Tomahawk and the Wisconsin River to the east.<sup>1</sup>

By 1840 the fur-bearing animals were gone and Little Crawling Stone Lake and its surrounding habitats took on another new use; to provide the country with timber and timber products. To facilitate the movement of logs from Little Crawling Stone Lake to the mills on Long Interlaken Lake, a dam was constructed at the confluence of Flambeau Lake and the Bear River. Consequently, the water level of Little Crawling Stone Lake rose as much as three feet.

By 1913, the trees around Little Crawling Stone Lake were gone and most of the surrounding habitats were destroyed. In the early 1900's, however, the logging industry was already being replaced by the service industry, which used Little Crawling Stone Lake and its surrounding habitats to meet the recreational needs and demands of tourists and seasonal residents.

As a result of the Dawes Act (1887), much of the lakefront property on Little Crawling Stone Lake was transferred from the Tribe to non-Tribal residents, opening the door to shoreline development.

By the 1940s, tourists visiting Little Crawling Stone Lake were staying at resorts such as Ida and Bill Schmitz's Resort, Vince's Resort, Stiede's Resort, Snug Harbor Resort, and Luetzow's Resort.<sup>2</sup> In the 1960s, they were staying at Vince's Housekeeping Cottages and Bacon's Silver Beach Resort.<sup>3</sup> Today, tourists can stay at Rexroade's Silver Beach Resort and All Seasons Resort.<sup>4</sup>

Access from Little Crawling Stone Lake to the other lakes on the chain may be made through a channel at its east end connecting it with Big Crawling Stone Lake. The two lakes are also connected by a very narrow, shallow, culvert-covered channel located at Little Crawling Stone Lake's north end which is un-navigable except by small canoe or kayak. Before construction of the culvert, that spot historically was a short portage for travelers canoeing their way southward (Figure 16-2).



**Figure 16-2. Little Crawling Stone, Left; Big Crawling Stone, Right**

Bob and Marian Peterson live on the west end of Little Crawling Stone Lake. Bob probably has the longest continuous connection to the lake. He started coming up north from Chicago at the age of four in 1926. His parents stayed at Yeschek's Crawling Stone Lodge the summer their house was built. Their lake home has expanded over the years but the original 1926 structure still exists. Bob's father, Ivan C. Peterson, was the surveyor for the reservation, and one lot was part of his payment (Figure 16-3).<sup>5</sup>



**Figure 16-3. Bob and Marian Peterson**

## Community Survey<sup>6</sup>

Approximately 3,000 households in Lac du Flambeau were invited to participate in a mail survey during the summer of 2012 to provide information for preparing the *Bear River Watershed Comprehensive Lake Management Plan*. The survey was developed with assistance from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and was approved by the WDNR before it was distributed.

The survey includes questions on topics such as residents' perceptions of the quality of lake water, fishery, and overall environment; residents' familiarity with aquatic invasive species and aquatic plants; residents' perceptions of current and ideal shoreline landscaping; and residents' interests in a variety of workshops. The survey, data tables, and other information related to the survey are in the appendix.

One-third of the questionnaires (996) were returned completed, representing 51 lakes. Of the returned questionnaires, 576 (58%) provide information on the ten lakes in the Bear River watershed and of these, 34 (6%) focus on Little Crawling Stone Lake.

Tables showing results of survey are presented throughout the rest of this section. Care should be taken when interpreting the survey data because in many cases the number of respondents for Little Crawling Stone Lake is very low.

## Assessing Lake Health

Medical doctors assess human health by examining a patient’s blood work, height, weight among numerous other measures (quantitative data) and by considering information like the patient’s answers to questions, comments, even body language (qualitative data). Similarly, lake managers assess lake health by examining the lake’s oxygen, nitrogen, phosphorus, among other measures (quantitative data) and by considering additional information about the lake like the presence of aquatic invasive species, nuisance aquatic plants, or even presence of trash (qualitative data).

## Little Crawling Stone Lake Health Report

Assessing the health of Little Crawling Stone Lake has included examining qualitative and quantitative data pertinent to the lake’s biology, chemistry, nutrients, habitat, bacteria, aesthetics, and fish tissue. These categories are introduced in the next few pages and are addressed at length in the rest of the section.

Table 16-2 shows the categories, their subdivisions (Indicator Assessments), and the ratings that have been applied to them, *Excellent*, *Good*, *Fair*, *Poor*, *Concern* or *Not Assessed* (See Section 10 for details on rating).

The Biology Category reflects an assessment of the number and magnitude of invasive species. Little Crawling Stone Lake has banded mystery snail, Chinese mystery snail, rainbow smelt, and rusty crayfish, but none at nuisance levels. The lake does not have any invasive plants.<sup>7</sup> The floristic quality index<sup>8</sup> is good (FQI 24.50), and Little Crawling Stone Lake’s overall status for the Biology Category is *good*.

Table 16-2. Little Crawling Stone Lake Health Report

Category	Indicator Assessment		Overall Status
Biology	Invasive aquatic plant	Excellent	Good
	Invasive fish	Good	
	Invasive invertebrate	Good	
	Invasive wetland plant	Excellent	
	FQI	Good	
Chemistry	Dis. Oxygen DO	Good	Excellent
	pH pH	Excellent	
	Temperature	Excellent	
	Ionic Strength	Excellent	
	Sus. Solids SS	Excellent	
Nutrients	Phosphorus P	Excellent	Excellent
	Chlorophyll a	Excellent	
Habitat	Plants H	Excellent	Fair
	Riparian Zone	Poor	
	Littoral zone	Poor	
Bacteria	Bacteria	NA	NA
Aesthetics	Oil & Grease	Excellent	Excellent
	Taste & Odor	NA	
	Turb/Color	Excellent	
	Nuisance Plants	Good	
	Trash /Debris	Good	
Tissue	Spec. Chem. Hg	Concern	Concern
Lake Level	Level	NA	NA

The Chemistry Category reflects an assessment<sup>9</sup> of data for dissolved oxygen, pH, temperature, ionic strength, and suspended solids as compared to water quality standards Criteria.<sup>10</sup> Dissolved oxygen for Little Crawling Stone Lake during the summer can reach below 5mg/L, the criteria for cool water fish, so it has a status of *good*. Little Crawling Stone Lake’s overall status for the Chemistry Category is *excellent*.

The Nutrients Category reflects an assessment<sup>11</sup> of data for phosphorus and Chlorophyll a levels as compared to National Lake Survey (NLS) thresholds<sup>12</sup> for the Upper Midwest ecoregion health conditions and for the upper limit compared to Wisconsin’s new water quality standards for a two-story fishery lake.<sup>13</sup> The NLS was a study of Lakes

across the United States, and thresholds for good, fair and poor were developed based on the data collected for each ecoregion. Little Crawling Stone Lake's overall status for the Nutrients Category is *excellent* as average total phosphorus is 9.93µg/L, and Chlorophyll *a* is 2.8µg/L.

The Habitat Category reflects an assessment<sup>14</sup> of Little Crawling Stone Lake's aquatic plants, riparian zone (shoreline), and littoral zone (shallow water along shoreline). Comparisons are made with ecoregional data and National Lake Survey thresholds.<sup>15</sup> Two of the three indicators for Little Crawling Stone Lake have a rating of *poor*, while the third is *excellent*. Little Crawling Stone Lake's overall status for the Habitat Category is *fair*.

The Bacteria Category reflects an assessment<sup>16</sup> of summer *E. coli* measurements that were taken weekly and then compared to Water Quality Standards criteria<sup>17</sup> for human health protection. Little Crawling Stone Lake's overall status for the Bacteria Category was not assessed as there is not a public beach on the Lake.

The Aesthetics Category reflects an assessment of data and information on water quality, color, and turbidity as well as an assessment of reports received by the Tribal Natural Resources Department for Little Crawling Stone Lake on the presence of oil, grease, nuisance aquatic plants, and trash/debris. This information is compared to narrative criteria as described the Water Quality in the Water Quality Standards.<sup>18</sup> Little Crawling Stone Lake's overall status for the Aesthetics Category is *excellent*.

The Tissue Category reflects an assessment of the amount of mercury in the flesh of fish in Little Crawling Stone Lake as compared to the Water Quality Standards.<sup>19</sup> Larger edible fish have more mercury in their flesh than what is protective for human health concerns. Little Crawling Stone Lake's overall status for the Tissue Category is of *concern*.

The Lake levels were assessed for Little Crawling Stone Lake but a condition criteria has not been developed at this time. Information about lake levels is presented at the end of this section.

## Biology Category

Biology is the science of living organisms. The organisms that live together in the lake interact in large part based on their food relationships (Food Web). The food pyramid for lakes (Figure 16-4) shows the proportion of biological production to the yield of large fish. The organisms are in balance after thousands of years of naturally evolving together within these food relationships. Invasive species, however, are organisms that evolved originally in other locations and when they move into a naturally balanced area disrupt the native organisms' relationships.

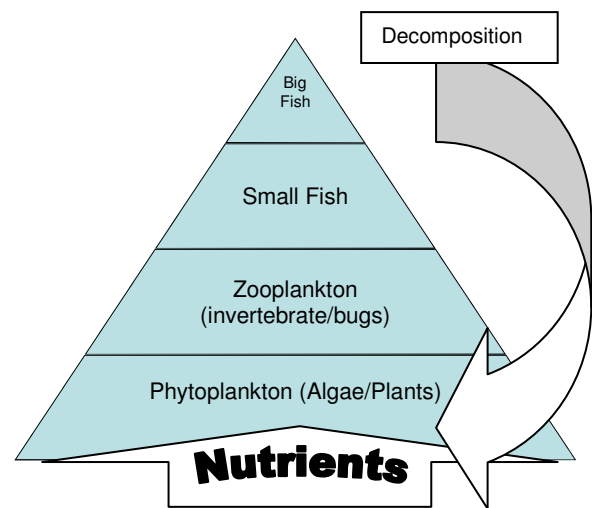


Figure 16-4. Lake Food Pyramid

Invasive species are a great concern. Their introduction can cause changes of native organisms' distribution and abundance and contribute to water quality degradation. The introduction of the invasive aquatic plant, Eurasian water milfoil, can cause the reduction in large game fish as the native insects and small fish have not evolved to eat EWM, causing a loss of food resource for large fish and an overabundance of plant matter.

Little Crawling Stone Lake has Chinese mystery snail, banded mystery snail, rainbow smelt, and rusty crayfish (see Section 7 for specifics). At this time, however, there is no evidence that they are disturbing the abundance or distribution of native organisms or causing economic or ecological harm.

To help determine the extent of residents' familiarity with Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS), the community survey asked residents to answer a few questions about AIS. Their responses to some of the questions follow.

Residents were asked if they had heard of AIS before reading about them in the survey. For Little Crawling Stone Lake, 10 of 34 respondents (29%) indicated they had prior knowledge of AIS as compared to 171 of 576 (30%) for respondents of the ten lakes in the Bear Watershed, and 300 of 996 (30%) for all respondents from Lac du Flambeau.

Residents having prior knowledge of AIS were shown a list of AIS and then asked which, if any, they believe are currently in the lake. Table 16-3 shows the responses of 10 residents for Little Crawling Stone Lake (% Perceived Presence). The table also shows whether the AIS are actually in the lake (Actually Present). For example, 2 of the 10 residents believe that Eurasian water milfoil is in the lake, when in fact it is not. The table shows there is a general disconnection between residents' perceptions of the presence of AIS and the actual presence of AIS.

The same 10 respondents were asked to identify what they believe is threatened by AIS. Table 16-4 summarizes the responses for Little Crawling Stone Lake, the ten lakes in the Bear River Watershed, and the 51 lakes in the survey. The largest percentages of responses for all three groups show that native fish, aquatic plants, and water quality as most threatened. The lowest percentage of responses for all three groups of respondents is for air quality.

**Table 16-3. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Perceived vs Actual Presence of AIS**

AIS	# Respondents	Perceived Presence	Actually Present
Banded Mystery Snail	1 of 10	10%	Yes
Eurasian Water Milfoil	2 of 10	20%	No
Rainbow Smelt	0 of 10	0%	Yes
Chinese Mystery Snail	0 of 10	0%	Yes
Freshwater Jellyfish	0 of 10	0%	No
Rusty Crayfish	5 of 10	50%	Yes
Curly-leaf Pondweed	0 of 10	0%	No
Purple Loosestrife	2 of 10	20%	No
None of Above	2 of 10	20%	

**Table 16-4. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Perceived to be Threatened by Aquatic Invasive Species**

	Little Crawling Stone Lake		Bear River Lakes		All Lakes	
	# Respondents	%	# Respondents	%	# Respondents	%
Native Fish	6 of 10	60%	75 of 171	44%	113 of 302	37%
Air Quality	1 of 10	10%	9 of 171	5%	16 of 302	5%
Aquatic Plants	7 of 10	70%	60 of 171	35%	92 of 302	31%
Wetlands	2 of 10	20%	31 of 171	18%	45 of 302	15%
Shoreline Plants	4 of 10	40%	47 of 171	28%	72 of 302	24%
Amphibians	2 of 10	20%	33 of 171	19%	48 of 302	16%
Water Quality	6 of 10	60%	83 of 171	49%	125 of 302	41%
Crustaceans	2 of 10	20%	32 of 171	19%	42 of 302	14%
Other	1 of 10	10%	5 of 171	3%	8 of 302	3%
None	1 of 10	10%	28 of 171	16%	72 of 302	24%

The same residents were also asked if they are concerned about AIS getting into the lake. Table 16-5 shows that for 9 respondents for Little Crawling Stone Lake, 55% indicate *extremely concerned*, 42% *somewhat concerned*, 0% *not too concerned*, 0% *not concerned at all*, and 3% *unsure*. Data for all three reference groups shows respondents have great concern about AIS getting into the lakes.

Table 16-5. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Concern About AIS Getting into the Lake

Lake	# Respondents	Extremely	Somewhat	Not Too	Not at All	Unsure
Little Crawling Stone Lake	9	55%	42%	0%	0%	3%
Bear River Lakes	170	49%	41%	4%	0%	7%
All Lakes	294	42%	42%	9%	2%	6%

The same residents were asked if they have been taking time to look for AIS in the lake. Table 16-6 shows that for 9 respondents affiliated with Little Crawling Stone Lake, 33% indicate *not at all*, 11% *once a season*, 22% *monthly*, 33% *weekly*, and 0% *daily*. The data for Little Crawling Stone Lake is similar to the data for the other lakes and shows that despite concern for AIS, very few residents indicate they spend time looking for AIS regularly.

Table 16-6. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Time Spent Checking for AIS During Open Water Season

	Little Crawling Stone Lake		Bear River Lakes		All Lakes	
	# Respondents	%	# Respondents	%	# Respondents	%
Not at all	3 of 9	33%	66 of 161	41%	114 of 280	41%
Once a Season	1 of 9	11%	45 of 161	28%	85 of 280	30%
Once a Month	2 of 9	22%	30 of 161	19%	47 of 280	17%
Once a Week	3 of 9	33%	12 of 161	8%	21 of 280	8%
Once a Day	0	0%	8 of 161	5%	13 of 280	5%

## Chemistry Category

Chemistry is the science of matter and its properties and composition with a particular focus on the properties of chemical bonds. Dissolved oxygen, pH, temperature, ionic strength, and suspended solids each have a particular role in chemical bonding and movement of chemicals within the lake.

Seasonal changes and water temperature of the lake have an impact on the amount of dissolved

oxygen in the lake (Figure 16-5), important for fish respiration and viability (see Section 9, *About Understanding Lakes*).

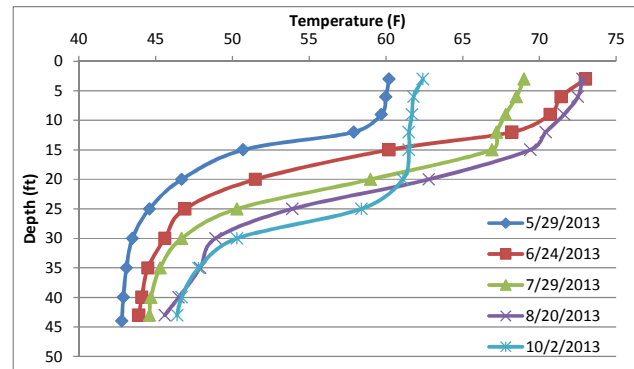


Figure 16-5. Temperature Values for Little Crawling Stone Lake at Various Depths

Dissolved oxygen in Little Crawling Stone Lake during the summer and late winter can reach below 5mg/L, the minimum criteria for cool water fish (Figure 16-6). Lake whitefish (*Coregonus elupeaformis*), for example, is a cool water fish that is very susceptible to temperature and dissolved oxygen.

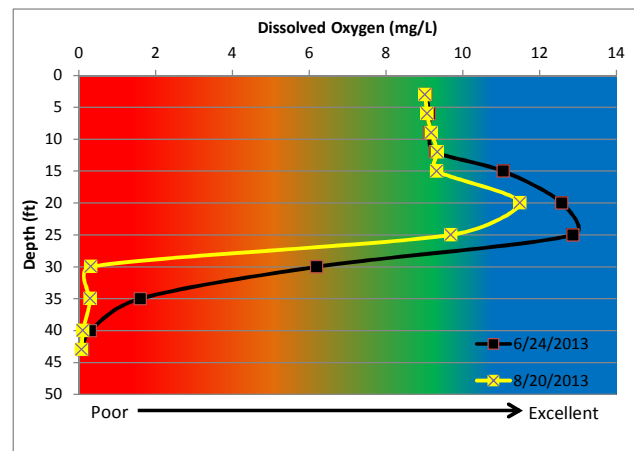


Figure 16-6. Dissolved Oxygen Values for Little Crawling Stone Lake at Various Depths

Calcium for Little Crawling Stone Lake as measured in 1990 was on average 3 mg/L, quite low, meaning Little Crawling Stone may be less susceptible to infestations of zebra mussels.

## Nutrients Category

Based on Secchi, total phosphorus, and chlorophyll data, Little Crawling Stone Lake's trophic state is mesotrophic, meaning it has medium amounts of nutrients to support a productive food web. A productive food web includes a diversity of rooted plants, macro-invertebrates (insects), and healthy fish populations.

Phosphorus and nitrogen are two nutrients that play key roles in limiting the growth of aquatic plants and algae (see Section 9, *About Understanding Lakes*). Of these, phosphorus is most critical to Little Crawling Stone Lake.

Phosphorus originates from sources like human and animal wastes, soil erosion, detergents, septic systems and runoff from lawns. Phosphorus is the limiting nutrient for Little Crawling Stone Lake, meaning that when the amount of phosphorus increases, the probability of algae growth also increases (Figure 16-7). Total phosphorus between 10 and 18ug/L is associated with mesotrophic and medium production of biomass.

As the amount of algae increases, it is likely that the amount of Chlorophyll *a* increases. Chlorophyll *a* is a green pigment present in all plant life and is necessary for photosynthesis. The amount of Chlorophyll *a* is a common measure of water quality (Figure 16-8).

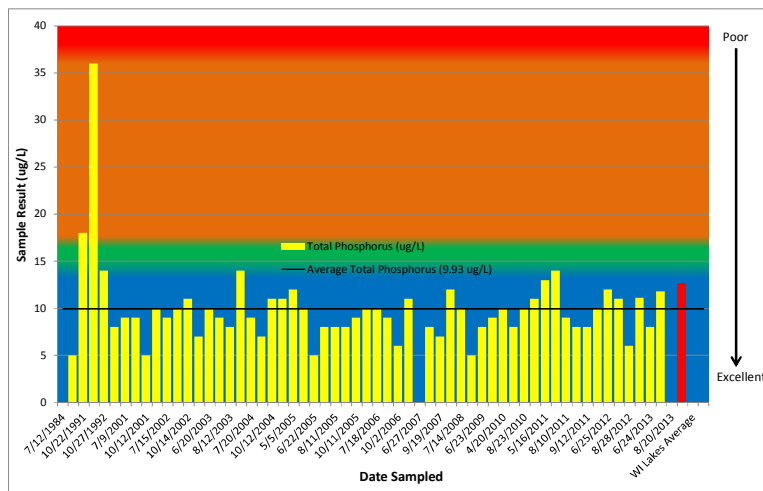


Figure 16-7. Little Crawling Stone Lake Phosphorus Concentrations

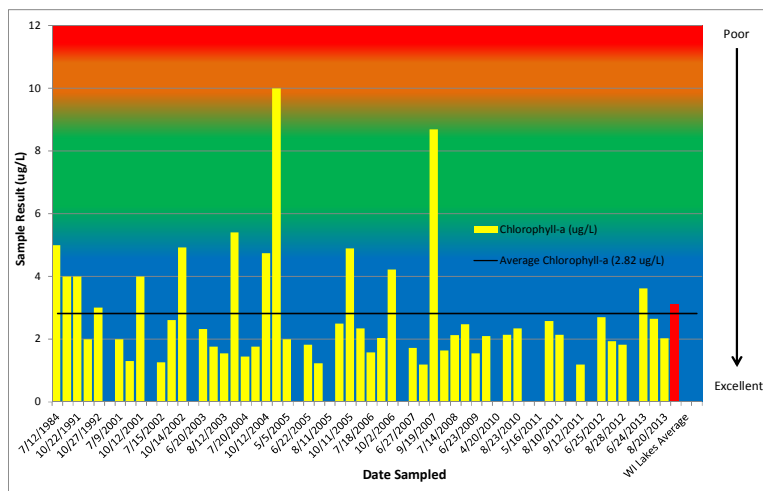
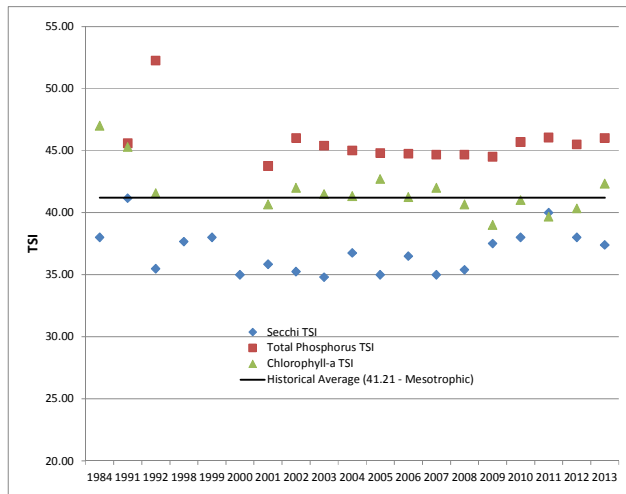


Figure 16-8. Chlorophyll *a* Concentrations in Little Crawling Stone Lake



Figure 16-9 shows Secchi, total phosphorus, and Chlorophyll a for Little Crawling Stone Lake from 1984 until present. No significant change in water quality is noted over this time period.

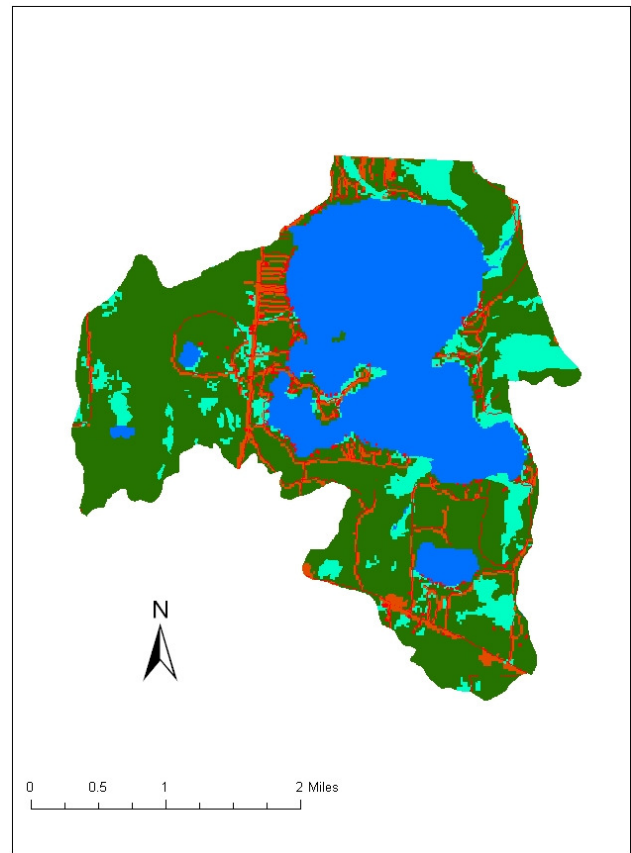


**Figure 16-9. Secchi Depth, Total Phosphorus, and Chlorophyll a Trends for Little Crawling Stone Lake**

Though the lake’s shoreline has been almost completely developed, more growth and development are expected with the arrival of new residents and requisite housing, roads, businesses, and support services.

Future amounts of phosphorus for Little Crawling Stone Lake can be anticipated by using a tool (Wisconsin Lake Modeling Suite - WiLMS) designed to predict phosphorus levels based on changes of land use in the watershed. See Section 12, *About Big Crawling Stone Lake* for details on the modeling as the two lakes were combined.

Use of the WiLMS tool reveals that High and Medium Disturbance areas (Figure 16-10) characterized by the presence of roads, homes, buildings, parking areas, and lawns yield the most total phosphorus per unit area. Forested and wetland areas contribute less total phosphorus as the runoff is slowed and allowed to seep into the ground instead of washing into the lake transporting sediment and phosphorus.



**Figure 16-10. Little Crawling Stone Lake Land Uses (Red – Developed; Blue – Open Water; Light Green – Wetland; Dark Green – Forest)**

## Habitat Category

Habitat refers to a specific place that is inhabited by a particular organism. Habitat includes all that the organism needs to live, including physical factors such as soil, temperature, light; and biotic factors, such as the availability of food and shelter from predators. The Habitat category includes aquatic plants; riparian zone (shoreline); and littoral zone (shallow water along shoreline).

Substrate is the surface on which an organism grows, and rock, sand, and muck are the primary substrates of a lake. Little Crawling Stone Lake’s substrates at the north and east ends is primarily muck, while the middle of the lake is primarily sand and rock. (Figure 16-11). Substrate often indicates the type of plants that will grow in an area. The diversity of Little Crawling Stone Lake’s substrate is important to the health of the lake’s fishery.

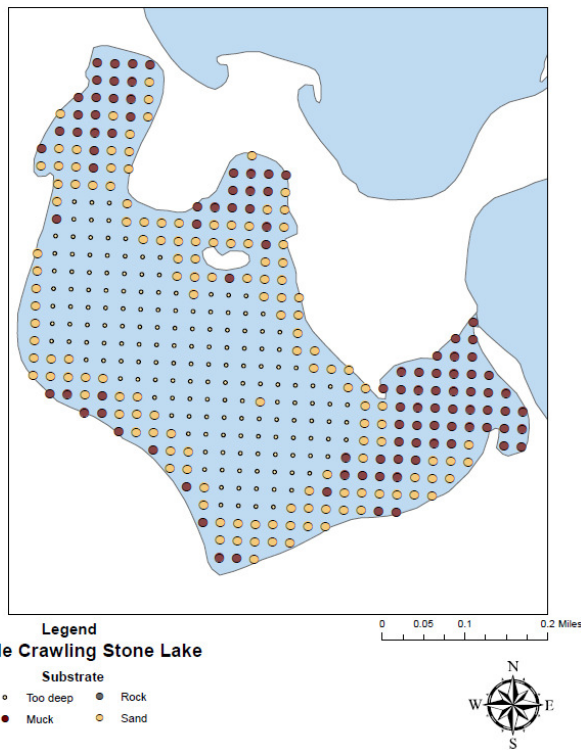


Figure 16-11. Substrate Map of Little Crawling Stone Lake

Aquatic plants (macrophytes) are plants that grow in the water either submerged (all under water), emergent (sticking out of the water), or floating leaf. Little Crawling Stone Lake has small and sparse submerged plants with the most predominant being Fern Pondweed.

The Tribal Natural Resources Department assessed the aquatic plants in Little Crawling Stone Lake in 2010 by following the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Protocol for conducting an aquatic plant point intercept survey (see Section 8).

Table 16-7 presents the statistics associated with the point intercept survey, and Figure 16-12 shows plant locations and additional data. The table shows that of the 235 sites sampled, vegetation was found at 136 sites and 217 sites were shallower than the maximum depth of plants, 21 feet. The total number of plant species found (Taxonomic Richness - Frequency of Occurrence) 18 plants, and the Simpson Diversity Index is 0.89. (See Section 8 for detailed explanations of the terms).

- Frequency of occurrence is an estimate of how often a particular plant species is likely to be found within a lake. The estimate is based on an analysis of the data collected during the point intercept survey.
- Simpson’s Diversity Index is a measure of how diverse a plant community is in the lake. The index is within a range of 0 to 1. The higher the value, the more diverse the plant community is in a particular lake. Plant diversity is an indicator of the lake’s overall resiliency. Generally, a lake with high species diversity is considered to be more stable than a lake with low species diversity because it has a greater ability to withstand environmental fluctuations. A lake with a diverse plant community is better equipped to compete with exotic infestations than is a lake with low diversity.

Table 16-7. 2009 Aquatic Plant Community Statistics, Little Crawling Stone Lake, Vilas County, WI

Aquatic Plant Community Statistics	2009
Total sites sampled	235
Total sites with vegetation	136
Total site shallower than max depth of plants	217
Frequency of occurrence at sites shallower than maximum depth of plants	62.67%
Simpson Diversity Index	0.89
Maximum Depth of Plants (Feet)	21
Taxonomic Richness (Number Taxa)	18*
Average Number of Species per Site (sites less than max depth of plant growth)	1.26
Average Number of Species per Site (sites with vegetation)	2.01

\* - There were two species sampled that were not identified.



Figure 16-12. Little Crawling Stone Lake 2009 Aquatic Point Intercept Survey

Table 16-8 lists the aquatic plants found in Little Crawling Stone Lake and shows the Floristic Quality Index (FQI) for the lake. The FQI is the extent to which a lake's plant community is similar to that of a pristine or undisturbed lake. The higher the floristic quality index, the closer a lake is to an undisturbed system. FQI is used to determine whether a lake's plant community is changing over time. It is also used to determine the extent to which a lake's plant community is similar to other lakes in the same ecoregion. The Floristic Quality Index for Little Crawling Stone Lake was 24.50; meaning most of

the plants can tolerate moderate disturbances. (See Section 8).

### *Littoral Zone Habitat*

The littoral zone extends along the shoreline from the water's edge into the water to a depth of about 21 feet for Little Crawling Stone Lake. This is the area where most of the aquatic plants grow, providing shelter for fish to reproduce and protect their young. The plants also reduce erosion caused by waves, stabilizing the shoreline.

Table 16-8. 2009 Floristic Quality Index, Little Crawling Stone Lake, Vilas County, WI

Genus	Species	Common Name	Coefficient of Conservatism C
<i>Chara</i>	<i>sp.</i>	Muskgrass	7
<i>Elodea</i>	<i>canadensis</i>	Common waterweed	3
<i>Juncus</i>	<i>pelocarpus</i>	Brown-fruited rush	8
<i>Myriophyllum</i>	<i>sibiricum</i>	Northern water-milfoil	6
<i>Myriophyllum</i>	<i>tenellum</i>	Dwarf water-milfoil	10
<i>Najas</i>	<i>flexilis</i>	Slender naiad	6
<i>Nymphaea</i>	<i>odorata</i>	White water lily	6
<i>Potamogeton</i>	<i>amplifolius</i>	Large-leaf pondweed	7
<i>Potamogeton</i>	<i>gramineus</i>	Variable pondweed	7
<i>Potamogeton</i>	<i>richardsonii</i>	Clasping-leaf pondweed	5
<i>Potamogeton</i>	<i>robbinsii</i>	Fern pondweed	8
<i>Potamogeton</i>	<i>zosteriformis</i>	Flat-stem pondweed	6
<i>Sagittaria</i>	<i>latifolia</i>	Common arrowhead	3
<i>Stuckenia</i>	<i>pectinata</i>	Sago pondweed	3
<i>Utricularia</i>	<i>vulgaris</i>	Common bladderwort	7
<i>Vallisneria</i>	<i>americana</i>	Wild celery	6
		Total Species	16
		Mean C	6.13
		<b>Floristic Quality Index (FQI)</b>	<b>24.50</b>

Please note: There is no Coefficient of Conservatism for exotic species such as Eurasian Water-Milfoil or for species not identified to the species level (*Sagittaria sp.*)

**Coefficient of Conservatism C**

- 0-3 taxa found in wide variety of plant communities and very tolerant of disturbance.
- 4-6 taxa typically associated with specific plant communities and tolerate moderate disturbance.
- 7-8 taxa found in narrow range of plant communities and tolerate minor disturbance.
- 9-10 taxa restricted to a narrow range of synecological conditions, with low tolerance of disturbance.

To help determine the extent of residents' perceptions of aquatic plants, the survey asked residents if their enjoyment of the lake was impeded by the presence of aquatic plants in the littoral zone. Table 16-9 shows that 42% of 31 residents from Little Crawling Stone Lake indicated *never*, 39% *rarely*, 13% *sometimes*, 3% *often*, and 3% *always*. When comparing the data for Little Crawling Stone Lake with the data for the other lakes, it appears that aquatic plants are perceived to be having a somewhat lesser negative impact.

**Table 16-9. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Whether Aquatic Plants Impede Enjoyment of the Lake**

Lakes	# Respondents	Always	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
		%	%	%	%	%
Little Crawling Stone Lake	31	3%	3%	13%	39%	42%
Bear River Lakes	556	3%	4%	16%	44%	33%
All Lakes	957	3%	7%	21%	40%	29%

Residents were asked if they or members of their households have tried to control aquatic plant growth by removing plants from the lake. Table 16-10 shows that 83% of 24 respondents for Little Crawling Stone Lake indicated *never*, 4% *some years*, and 13% *yearly*. The respondents for Little Crawling Stone Lake appear to have been removing aquatic plants at a slightly greater rate than respondents for the other lakes in the Bear River Watershed.

**Table 16-10. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Removal of Aquatic Plants from the Lake**

Lakes	# Respondents	Yearly	Some Years	Never
		%	%	%
Little Crawling Stone Lake	24	13%	4%	83%
Bear River Lakes	458	6%	14%	80%
All Lakes	816	8%	18%	74%

Residents were also asked if they or members of their household have removed trees that have fallen into Little Crawling Stone Lake. Table 16-11 shows that 88% of 24 respondents indicate *never*, 13% *some years*, and 0% *every year*. The data for the respondents of Little Crawling Stone Lake are very similar to the data to the other lakes. They rarely remove trees that have fallen into the lakes.

**Table 16-11. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Removal of Fallen Trees from the Lake**

Lakes	# Respondents	Yearly	Some Years	Never
		%	%	%
Little Crawling Stone Lake	24	0%	13%	88%
Bear River Lakes	456	2%	27%	72%
All Lakes	814	1%	24%	75%

Residents were asked whether there is a need to control aquatic plants for Little Crawling Stone Lake. Table 16-12 shows that 4% of 27 respondents indicate *definitely no*, 41% *probably no*, 15% *probably yes*, and 4% *definitely yes*. Thirty-seven percent indicate they are *not sure*.

**Table 16-12. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Whether Aquatic Plant Control is Needed**

	Little Crawling Stone Lake	Bear River Lakes	All Lakes
	27 Respondents	503 Respondents	868 Respondents
Definitely yes	4%	8%	8%
Probably yes	15%	21%	19%
Probably no	41%	27%	29%
Definitely no	4%	9%	12%
Unsure	37%	35%	32%

Residents were asked what should be done if an aquatic invasive plant is found in the lake. Table 16-13 shows that for 10 respondents for Little Crawling Stone Lake, 10% indicate *remove with chemicals*, 10% *remove mechanically*, 40% *remove*

with biological control, 40% remove by hand, 0% do nothing/no treatment, and 40% indicate they need more information. When considering the data for all methods and lakes, it is evident that respondents seem most comfortable with removing aquatic plants by hand, and they want more information on the topic.

**Table 16-13. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Preferences for Treating/Removing Aquatic Invasive Plants**

	Little Crawling Stone Lake	Bear River Lakes	All Lakes
	10 Respondents	171 Respondents	302 Respondents
Apply chemicals	10%	18%	15%
Use machines	10%	21%	19%
Bio-control	40%	25%	24%
No treatment	0%	3%	2%
Pull by hand	40%	49%	51%
Need more info.	40%	41%	41%

### Riparian Zone Habitat

The Riparian zone is the land area along the shoreline from the water’s edge inland. In general this area is the area where most people access the lake via stairs or paths. It sometimes includes boathouses, storage sheds, homes, lawns, and other structures.

The riparian zone contributes the most nutrients from erosion, fertilizers, septic systems, and general runoff. The area is critical in providing woody habitat for fish and leaf material for invertebrates, like the dragon fly which lives a life cycle requiring both water and land. It is also critical in providing habitat to sustain other animals that rely on the lakes, like song birds, eagles, loons, otter, deer, along with a multitude of other creatures. A poor riparian habitat often results in fewer species and excess nutrients, while a good riparian habitat is replete with abundant wildlife and healthy levels of nutrients.

To help determine the extent of residents’ perceptions of the riparian zone, the community survey asked residents to describe the landscape in the 35 foot buffer between the shoreline and their house, and to identify what they believe should be in an ideal landscape for the same area.

Table 16-14 lists several landscape features ordinarily found in riparian zones. Residents were asked to check those features that characterize the current riparian landscape (Current) for their property and then check those features that they believe should be in an ideal riparian landscape (Ideal). The table compares residents’ descriptions of the current landscape with their perceptions of an ideal landscape. For example, 52% of 25 respondents affiliated with Little Crawling Stone Lake identify mowed grass as a feature of the current buffer zone for their property, yet 28% of them identify mowed grass for an ideal landscape.

**Table 16-14. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Current Shoreline Landscaping vs Ideal Shoreline Landscaping**

	Little Crawling Stone Lake		Bear River Lakes		All Lakes	
	25 Respondents		481 Respondents		847 Respondents	
	Current	Ideal	Current	Ideal	Current	Ideal
Mowed grass	52%	28%	45%	30%	41%	28%
Rock terrace	28%	28%	19%	24%	16%	20%
Wild	48%	28%	44%	26%	44%	28%
Native prairie grasses	20%	32%	24%	27%	26%	24%
Wood terrace	0%	4%	4%	9%	5%	9%
Sand beach	44%	48%	25%	31%	26%	33%
Rain garden	0%	4%	2%	6%	2%	4%
Flower gardens	8%	8%	10%	10%	9%	9%
Shrubs	56%	44%	36%	25%	31%	22%
Wild with wood picked up	32%	16%	23%	21%	27%	22%
Trees	84%	56%	70%	50%	66%	47%
Something else	4%	0%	3%	2%	4%	3%
It doesn't matter		0%		7%		7%

The current primary features identified by all three respondent groups include mowed grass, wild, shrubs, and trees. Little Crawling Stone differs somewhat with its emphasis on sand beach. When characterizing the ideal landscape, the same respondents prefer landscapes characterized by less mowed grass and less wild with fewer trees and shrubs, but more sand beach.

Residents were asked if they are interested in learning about landscape designs tailored to help protect the lakes and habitats. Table 16-15 shows that of 22 respondents for Little Crawling Stone Lake, 5% indicate *no interest*, 36% *little interest*, 0% *some interest*, 9% *a lot of interest*, and 50% *don't know*.

**Table 16-15. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Interest in Learning About Landscape Design**

	Little Crawling Stone Lake	Bear River Lakes	All Lakes
	22 Respondents	443 Respondents	787 Respondents
No interest	5%	4%	4%
Little interest	36%	40%	40%
Some interest	0%	5%	6%
A lot of interest	9%	11%	11%
Don't know	50%	40%	39%

## Assessment of Riparian & Littoral Zones

The Habitat Category reflects an assessment of Little Crawling Stone Lake's aquatic plants, riparian zone (shoreline), and littoral zone (shallow water along shoreline). Comparisons are made with ecoregional data, National Lake Survey thresholds and WISCALM (Table 10-4).

Riparian cover includes cover-class estimates of large and small diameter tree cover in the >5m high vegetation layer; woody and non-woody vegetation in the mid-layer (0.5 to 5 m); and woody, non-woody, inundated, and barren classes in the ground cover layer (<0.5 m) of the 10 lakeshore plots. Littoral

cover index excludes submerged aquatic macrophytes, but increases the weighting of floating and emergent macrophytes.

Table 16-16 compares the thresholds developed by WISCALM for Plants and the National Lake Survey for Riparian Zone and Littoral Zone to the index value were calculated based on the assessment of Flambeau lake's habitat.

**Table 16-16. Index Values for Environmental Assessment Perceptions**

Indicator Assessment	Index Value	Water Quality Assessment Thresholds			
		Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Plants	62.67	Below 79.7%	89.7% - 79.8%	89.8% - 94.8%	100% - 94.9%
Riparian Zone	0.25		>0.8074	0.5906-0.8074	<0.5906
Littoral zone	0.35		>0.7001	0.4156-0.7001	<.4156

*Lakeshore habitat is the biggest problem in the nation's lakes; over one-third exhibit poor Shoreline condition. Poor biological health is three times more likely in lakes with poor lakeshore habitat.<sup>20</sup>*

To help learn about residents' perceptions on habitat and environmental change, the community survey asked residents if elements of the habitat have been changing over time. Table 16-17 shows the responses for Little Crawling Stone Lake, the Bear River watershed project lakes, and the other lakes. The data are very similar for all three response groups. The predominant response is *no change*.

Table 16-17. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Perceptions of Environmental Change

	Shorelines	Wetlands	Streams	Air	Forests	Grasslands	All Environment
<b>Little Crawling Stone Lake</b>							
#Respondents	32	30	31	28	30	29	32
Improving	0%	0%	0%	0%	7%	3%	3%
No change	47%	33%	23%	61%	43%	31%	53%
Worsening	38%	20%	7%	4%	17%	0%	19%
Don't know	16%	47%	71%	36%	33%	66%	25%
<b>Bear River Lakes</b>							
#Respondents	534	522	513	522	524	513	526
Improving	5%	3%	1%	3%	4%	2%	5%
No change	52%	51%	42%	68%	52%	48%	54%
Worsening	30%	12%	11%	8%	24%	10%	23%
Don't know	13%	34%	46%	22%	20%	40%	18%
<b>All Lakes</b>							
#Respondents	923	901	873	909	910	882	903
Improving	4%	2%	1%	3%	4%	2%	4%
No change	56%	55%	45%	71%	57%	52%	59%
Worsening	28%	12%	9%	5%	20%	7%	19%
Don't know	13%	31%	45%	21%	19%	40%	18%

## Bacteria Category

Bacteria is assessed based on a measure of the most probable number (MPN) of *E. coli* in 100 milliliters of water. *E. coli* is the abbreviated name of the bacterium in the family *Enterobacteriaceae*, named *Escherichia coli*. The presence of *E. coli* in our intestines is normal. The presence of *E. coli* in swimming areas indicates that other microorganisms (including the ones that could causes illness) that live in the gastrointestinal track could also be present. The water quality criterion to protect human health, 235 MPN, is based on an illness rate of eight per 1,000 swimmers. Bacteria was not assessed for Little Crawling Stone Lake because there is no public beach on the Lake.

Generally, the Tribe is responsible for septic systems on property owned by the Tribe, and Vilas County is responsible for septic systems on property on non-Tribal land. Currently, all septic systems under the jurisdiction of Vilas County are on a three-year pumping/inspection schedule.

Residents were asked how often they have their septic tank inspected. Table 16-18 shows that for 19 respondents of Little Crawling Stone Lake, 0% indicate they *do not own the property*, 68% *at least every three years*, 0% *no septic tank*, 11% *more than every three years*, and 21% *no inspection*.



**Table 16-18. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Septic Tank Inspection**

	Little Crawling Stone Lake	Bear River Lakes	All Lakes
	19 Respondents	360 Respondents	609 Respondents
Do not own property	0%	7%	4%
At least every 3 years	68%	67%	71%
No tank	0%	9%	6%
More than every 3 years	11%	12%	12%
No inspection	21%	6%	7%

## Aesthetics Category

The Aesthetics Category includes data and information on water quality, color, and turbidity. It also reflects an assessment of reports received by the Tribal Natural Resources Department for Little Crawling Stone Lake on the presence of oil, grease, nuisance aquatic plants, trash, and debris.

Reports and concerns submitted by residents to the Tribal Natural Resources Department on the turbidity and color of the lake water are not uncommon.

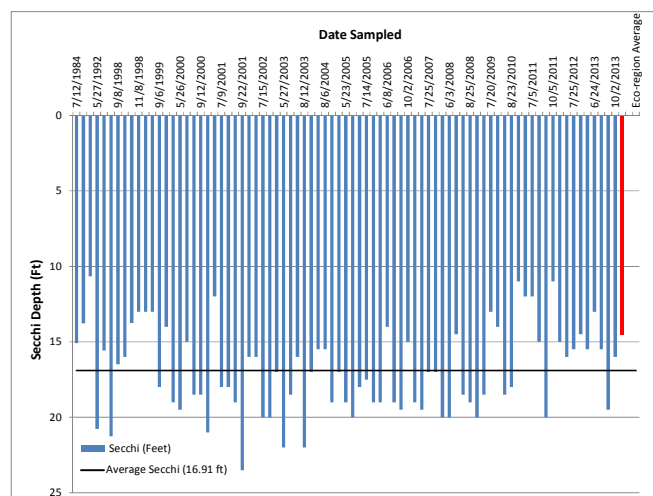
The extent to which lake water appears to be clear or murky is a function of the total amount of solids that are suspended in the water. Generally, the greater the amount of suspended solids in the water, the murkier it appears.

The major source of turbidity in open water away from shore is typically phytoplankton (algae). Closer to shore, suspended matter also comes from sources such as septic systems, sewage treatment plants, storm runoff, shoreline erosion and lake bottom sediments.

The major effect of turbidity noticed by lake property residents might simply be aesthetic—people do not like to look at dirty water. High levels of turbidity can, however, cause major problems by inhibiting the penetration of light, leading to the suffocation of

larvae, damage to fish gills, fish reproduction, and loss of aquatic plants and habitat.

Turbidity or cloudy water can be measured in a variety of ways. A method commonly used in Lac du Flambeau to measure water clarity is to employ a Secchi disk. The 8-inch diameter disk with white and black quadrants is tied to a line and lowered slowly down into the water. The depth at which the white quadrants are no longer visible is taken as a measure of the transparency of the water. This information provides a way to look at changes in water clarity over a long period of time. Secchi data also correlates to total phosphorus and trophic state index data. Figure 16-13 shows that over the past 29 years no significant change in water clarity has occurred for Little Crawling Stone Lake.



**Figure 16-13. Secchi Depths for Little Crawling Stone Lake 1984–2013**

The Secchi disk was created by Father Pietro Angelo Secchi in 1865. He was a priest, astronomer, and professor of physics who taught for a time at Georgetown University in Washington, DC.<sup>21</sup>

The color of lake water reflects the type and amount of dissolved organic chemicals it contains. Transparent water with a low accumulation of dissolved materials appears blue and indicates low productivity. Dissolved organic matter, such as humus, peat or decaying plant matter, can produce a yellow or brown color. Some algae produce a

reddish or deep yellow color. Water rich in phytoplankton and other algae usually appears green.

Volunteers for Little Crawling Stone Lake have been subjectively observing and recording the lake's water color since 1998 as part of the WDNR's Citizen Lake Monitoring Network. Table 16-19 summarizes the observations. The numbers preceding the colors indicate the number of observations per month. Green was recorded 64 times and blue 4 times. The specific dates of the observations are available on the Citizen Lake Monitoring website at <http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/clmn/>. The website also shows the observers reported that, with very few exceptions, the water appeared to be clear.

**Table 16-19. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Lake Water Color**

Year	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct
1998				1 Green	2 Green	1 Green
1999				1 Green	1 Green	1 Green
2000	1 Green		1 Green		1 Green	1 Green
2001	1 Green		1 Green	2 Green	1 Green	1 Green
2002		1 Green	1 Green	1 Green		1 Green
2003	1 Green	1 Green	1 Green			1 Green
2004			1 Green	2 Green		1 Green
2005	1 Green	1 Green	1 Green 1 Blue	1 Green		1 Green
2006		1 Green	1 Green	1 Green		1 Green
2007		1 Green	1 Green		1 Green	1 Green
2008		1 Green	1 Green	2 Green		1 Green
2009		1 Green	1 Green			
2010			1 Green	1 Green		1 Green
2011	1 Green		1 Green	2 Green		
2012	1 Blue		2 Blue	1 Green	1 Green	
2013	1 Green	1 Green	1 Green	1 Green		1 Green

In order to learn about residents' perceptions of the lake water quality, the community survey posed a few questions about water quality. Residents were asked to describe the current water quality of Little

Crawling Stone Lake and whether they believe that quality has been changing. Table 16-20 shows that 29% of 31 respondents for Little Crawling Stone Lake believe that the current water quality of the lake is *excellent*, 65% *good*, 0% *fair*, 3% *poor*, 0% *very poor*, and 3% are *unsure*. Nine of 10 respondents have a very positive perception about the current quality of Little Crawling Stone Lake's water. The data for Little Crawling Stone Lake regarding perceptions of current water quality are reasonably consistent with the data for the other lakes identified in the table.

**Table 16-20. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Perception of Current Water Quality**

Lakes	# Respondents	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Unsure
		%	%	%	%	%	%
Little Crawling Stone Lake	31	29%	65%	0%	3%	0%	3%
Bear River Lakes	554	38%	49%	7%	3%	0.2%	3%
All Lakes	956	34%	53%	7%	3%	0.1%	3%

Table 16-21 shows that 0% of 31 respondents for Little Crawling Stone Lake indicate that water has been *improving*, 58% *no change*, 10% *worsening*, and 32% are *unsure*. Again, the data for Little Crawling Stone Lake are reasonably consistent with the data for the other lakes noted in the table.

**Table 16-21. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Perception of Change in Water Quality**

Lakes	# Respondents	Improving	No Change	Worsening	Unsure
		%	%	%	%
Little Crawling Stone Lake	31	0%	58%	10%	32%
Bear River Lakes	519	1%	60%	17%	22%
All Lakes	719	2%	62%	16%	20%

## Fish Tissue Category & Fishery

The Fish Tissue Category refers to the amount of mercury in fish flesh as compared to Water Quality Standards. Larger edible fish have more mercury in the fish flesh than what is protective for human health concerns. Tribal Water Quality Standards are protective for subsistence fish consumption and the criterion to protect human health is 0.16 PPM.

Anthropogenic (meaning caused by human activity) sources of mercury are mainly from coal fired electric utilities emissions that ultimately enter the lake and watershed via rainwater. The chemistry of Lac du Flambeau Lakes is such that mercury becomes mobilized into the food chain accumulating in larger fish at the top of the food chain. Reductions in mercury emissions on coal fired power plants have helped to reduce mercury in the rain.

Little Crawling Stone Lake’s fishery supports both subsistence and sport fishing. The lake’s fishery includes panfish such as bluegill and black crappie and gamefish like smallmouth and largemouth bass, northern pike, musky, and walleye. The lake also has lake sturgeon.

The Tribal Hatchery has a history of stocking Little Crawling Stone Lake, particularly with walleye. Table 16-22 shows the numbers of fish that were stocked in Little Crawling Stone Lake from 2004–2012.

Table 16-22. Number of Fish Stocked During 2004–2012 in Little Crawling Stone Lake (116 acres)

Year	Walleye		Sturgeon
	Fry	Fingerlings	Fingerlings
2012	500,000	5,141	
2011		10,584	
2010		8,062	
2009	1,000,000	7,956	100
2008		7,956	
2007	1,000,000	15,941	51
2006	1,200,000	32,193	

2005		13,000	57
2004	300,000	25,850	

In order to determine residents’ perceptions on the quality of fishing and whether that quality has been changing, the survey asked residents a few questions about the fishery. Residents were asked if they have fished or speared on Little Crawling Stone Lake within the past ten years. Twenty-six of 34 (77%) respondents for Little Crawling Stone Lake responded affirmatively.

These respondents were then asked to identify the type of fishing they employed. Of those who responded, 96% indicate *open water hook and line fishing*, 54% *ice fishing*, 4% *spearing*, and 0% *netting*.

The residents who have fished or speared within the past ten years were asked to describe the current quality of fishing on the lake, and how, if at all, the quality of fishing on the lake has changed during the past ten years.

Table 16-23 shows that of the 25 Little Crawling Stone Lake residents who responded about the current quality of fishing, 4% indicate *excellent*, 20% *good*, 56% *fair*, 16% *poor*, and 0% *very poor*. Four percent indicate *unsure*. The responses for Little Crawling Stone Lake’s residents are a bit less positive about the quality of fishing compared to the residents of the other lakes.

Table 16-23. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Perceptions of Current Quality of Fishing

	Little Crawling Stone Lake	Bear River Lakes	All Lakes
	25 Respondents	397 Respondents	750 Respondents
Excellent	4%	5%	5%
Good	20%	34%	34%
Fair	56%	42%	44%
Poor	16%	13%	11%
Very Poor	0%	4%	4%
Unsure	4%	3%	2%

Regarding whether the quality of fishing has changed during the past ten years, Table 16-24 shows that of 26 Little Crawling Stone Lake respondents, 8% indicate fishing has *been improving*, 27% *no change*, 39% *worsening*, and 27% *unsure*.

**Table 16-24. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Perceptions of Change in Fishing Quality**

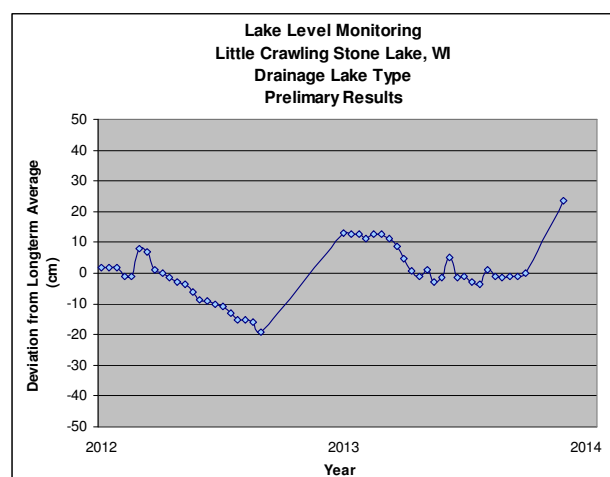
	Little Crawling Stone Lake	Bear River Lakes	All Lakes
	26 Respondents	414 Respondents	750 Respondents
Improving	8%	9%	8%
No Change	27%	28%	31%
Worsening	39%	42%	42%
Unsure	27%	21%	20%

## Lake Water Levels

Lake levels fluctuate naturally due to precipitation and evaporation, both of which can vary widely from season to season and year to year. Low levels may cause stressful conditions for fish and increase the number of nuisance aquatic plants. High water levels can boost the amounts of nutrients from runoff of flooded lakeshore soils. Another consequence of fluctuating water levels is shoreline erosion.

Volunteers from Lac du Flambeau have been subjectively observing and noting lake water levels through the WDNRs Citizen Lake Monitoring Network for many years, while in 2012 the Tribal Natural Resources Department began to collect water level data systematically for selected lakes. With assistance from North Lakeland Discovery Center, Vilas County Association of Lakes, and Town Lakes Committee, monitoring equipment was installed and calibrated on sites at Little Crawling Stone Lake (Figure 16-14), Fence Lake, Flambeau Lake, Ike Walton Lake, and White Sand Lake. The equipment at the Flambeau Lake site is being monitored by the Tribal Resources Department while equipment at the other sites is being monitored by volunteer lakefront property owners. The weekly

measurements recorded for Little Crawling Stone Lake for 2012–2013 are shown in Figure 16-14.



**Figure 16-14. Little Crawling Stone Lake Water Levels for 2012–013**

The number of observations of lake levels noted through the Citizen Lake Monitoring Network are shown in Table 16-25.

**Table 16-25. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Number of Observations of Lake Water Levels**

Year	Low	Normal	High
1998	4		
1999		1	2
2000		3	2
2001	2	2	2
2002		1	3
2003	2	2	1
2004	1	3	
2005	2	2	2
2006	2	2	
2007		5	
2008	1	2	2
2009	1	1	
2010			3
2011		1	3
2012	2	3	
2013		2	3

## Other Survey Results for Little Crawling Stone Lake

Residents affiliated with Little Crawling Stone Lake who responded to the survey shared their perceptions on several topics in addition to those already presented in this section.

### Activities & Watercraft

From a list of activities (fishing excluded), residents were asked to identify those in which they most often choose to participate. The activities most often identified by residents affiliated with Little Crawling Stone Lake include relaxing and enjoying nature (71%), swimming (77%), and motor boating (79%). The activities least often identified include sailing (9%), ricing (0%), and trapping (0%).

From a list of different types of watercraft, residents were asked to identify those which they and members of their household use most often. The watercraft most often identified by residents affiliated with Little Crawling Stone Lake include motorboats with more than 25 hp (77%), pontoon boats (47%), and canoes or kayaks (60%). Watercraft least often identified include row boats (21%) and sailboats (15%). Three percent of the respondents indicate they and members of their household do not use watercraft.

### Issues of Concern

From a list of 16 concerns, residents affiliated with Little Crawling Stone Lake were asked to identify three concerns about the lake that they believe are of most concern. For those who responded, Table 16-26 shows the three issues of greatest concern include *aquatic invasive species* (41%), *boat traffic* (41%), and *degradation of water quality* (38%). The three issues of least concern include *loss of wildlife habitat* (0%), *degradation of native aquatic plants* (9%), *shoreline runoff* (12%), *noise pollution* (12%), and *excessive fishing* (12%). The items on the list are of *no concern* to 9% of the respondents.

Table 16-26. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Lake Issues of Most Concern

	Little Crawling Stone Lake	Bear River Lakes	All Lakes
	34 Respondents	576 Respondents	1074 Respondents
Algae bloom	18%	17%	16%
Light pollution	15%	10%	8%
Shoreline runoff	12%	14%	12%
Aquatic invasive species	41%	42%	35%
Loss of fish habitat	24%	25%	22%
Water quality degradation	38%	27%	23%
Boat traffic	41%	16%	15%
Loss of shoreline	18%	13%	10%
Septic discharge	27%	18%	15%
Degradation of native aquatic plants	9%	11%	9%
Loss of wildlife habitat	0%	10%	10%
Excessive aquatic plant growth	18%	12%	10%
Noise pollution	12%	6%	6%
Shoreline development	18%	13%	11%
Excessive fishing	12%	12%	10%
Shoreline erosion	21%	18%	10%
Not concerned about any of these	9%	17%	19%

### Interest in Attending Workshops

Residents were asked if they have an interest to attend workshops on a variety of topics related to the lakes and habitats. Table 16-27 shows the largest percentages of responses for all three response groups include *identifying AIS* and *identifying aquatic plants*.

**Table 16-27. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Interest in Attending Workshops**

	Little Crawling Stone Lake	Bear River Lakes	All Lakes
	34 Respondents	576 Respondents	1074 Respondents
Preventing AIS	18%	13%	11%
Starting a lake association	3%	5%	14%
Controlling Purple Loosestrife	15%	17%	14%
Identifying AIS	53%	42%	38%
Lake Stewardship	9%	13%	11%
Identifying aquatic plants	47%	38%	36%
Limnology	18%	22%	20%
Other	6%	5%	4%
No interest	18%	28%	28%

### Town Website

Residents were asked how often, if at all, they check the town’s website to get information about the Town Lakes Committee, such as newsletters, meeting agendas, and information on AIS. Table 16-28 shows that of 34 respondents for Little Crawling Stone Lake, 3% indicate *often*, 21% *sometimes*, 21% *rarely*, and 56% *never*.

**Table 16-28. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Accessing the Town’s Website**

	Little Crawling Stone Lake	Bear River Lakes	All Lakes
	34 Respondents	541 Respondents	938 Respondents
Never	56%	60%	63%
Rarely	21%	26%	23%
Sometimes	21%	14%	12%
Often	3%	1%	1%

### Accessing Information

Residents were asked where they would most likely go to get information about environmental issues. Table 16-29 shows that residents are most likely to seek information from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Tribal Natural Resources Department.

**Table 16-29. Little Crawling Stone Lake - Accessing Sources of Information for AIS**

	Little Crawling Stone Lake	Bear River Lakes	All Lakes
	34 Respondents	576 Respondents	1074 Respondents
Tribal Natural Resources Department	38%	37%	31%
Town Lakes Committee	18%	21%	18%
Wisconsin DNR	53%	61%	59%
LdF Town Hall	24%	19%	19%
Tribal Main Office	3%	7%	5%
Other	18%	9%	9%

### Crawling Stone Lakes Association<sup>22</sup>

Volunteer organizations in Wisconsin have long played an important role in protecting the lakes from declining water quality and other human impacts. To address such issues, residents on Lake Geneva established the first lake association in Wisconsin 1898.

A hundred years later, 1999, residents on Little Crawling Stone Lake conducted a survey of lake residents to determine whether to form a lake association. In addition to receiving the go-ahead, residents identified issues that concerned them, such as boating rules (ranked #1), lake water quality (#2), and exotic species (#7). An organizational meeting was held in 2000 when the Little Crawling Stone Lakes Association was officially established.

A major expansion occurred in 2008 when the association welcomed residents of Big Crawling Stone Lake and became the Crawling Stone Lakes

Association (CSLA). The association now includes about 340 property owners, including off-water residents.

Several lake association members have attended various training sessions conducted by the Lac du Flambeau Town Lakes Committee and are now active lake stewards monitoring the public boat landing and shorelines for AIS, and testing for and reporting on water quality, depth, and lake water levels each season.

Several association members assisted in the survey of the aquatic plant life of Little and Big Crawling Stone Lakes in preparation of the *Bear River Comprehensive Lake Management Plan*.

Relying in part on WDNR grant funds, the CSLA hired watercraft inspectors in 2013 and 2014.

In 2010, the CSLA obtained funding from property owners and approval from Federal, State, and Tribal organizations to deepen the channel between Little and Big Crawling Stone Lakes.

Residents from Little and Big Crawling Stone Lakes were instrumental in establishing the Lac du Flambeau Town Lakes Committee. Association members have served on the TLC since its founding in 2005.

## Setting the Pace & Little Crawling Stone Lake

In summary, Little Crawling Stone Lake has a very healthy ecosystem with many strong qualities. The primary challenge is ensure these attributes do not degrade from their current conditions. At the same time, there is room for improvement, particularly with respect to improving the lake's habitat, monitoring the presence of mercury in fish tissue, and guarding against the arrival of aquatic invasive species.

The following tables, *Setting the Pace*, constitute a long-term action plan to maintain or improve the overall health of Little Crawling Stone Lake. The plan includes six goals with supporting objectives and activities. The goals include:

- I. Preserve or Improve Current Water Quality.
- II. Prevent Infestations of Aquatic Invasive Species.
- III. Control or Reduce the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species.
- IV. Broaden Residents' Understanding of Swimmer's Itch.
- V. Reduce User Conflicts.
- VI. Strengthen or Increase Collaborations.

Table 16-30. Setting the Pace - Little Crawling Stone Lake

Goal I - Preserve or Improve Current Lake Water Quality					
Objective A - Provide residents with opportunities to learn about the current lake water quality and how they can help preserve or improve it.					
Potential Activities	Facilitator(s)	Evaluation	Limitations		Timeframe
			Limitations	Cost Estimates	
1. Attend CLMN Workshops	Tribe, TLC, Lake Assoc.	# Attendees	Availability of workshops & support of Tribe, Town, Lake Associations	\$50 per attendee	Annual
2. Attend CBCW Workshops	Tribe, TLC, Lake Assoc.	# Attendees	Availability of workshops & support of Tribe, Town, Lake Associations	\$50 per attendee	Annual
3. Teach at After-School Program	Tribe/TLC	Pre & Post Survey	Support of Tribe & School, availability of volunteers	\$35 per volunteer	Annual Spring Term
4. Host Limnology/Ecology Workshops	Tribe/TLC	# Attendees, workshop evaluation	Availability of presenters, # registrants	\$100 per attendee	Every 2-3 years
5. Host Lake Steward Workshops	TLC/Tribe	# Attendees, workshop evaluation	Availability of presenters, # registrants, support of partnering organizations	\$300 per registrant (based on 50 registrants)	Every 3-4 years
6. Host Landscaping/Shoreline Habitat Workshops	Tribe/TLC	# Attendees, workshop evaluation	Availability of presenters, # registrants, support of Tribe, Town	\$100 per attendee	Every 2-3 years
7. Update Webpages	Tribe, TLC, Lake Assoc.	# Clicks	Support of Tribe, Town, Lake Associations	Variable	Ongoing
8. Host Lakes Fest	Tribe	# of Attendees	Support of Tribe, presenters, attendees	\$7,000 per Event	Annual



Table 16-31. Setting the Pace - Little Crawling Stone Lake

Goal I - Preserve or Improve Current Lake Water Quality					
Objective B - Continue monitoring lake water quality.					
Potential Activities	Facilitator(s)	Evaluation	Limitations		Timeframe
			Limitations	Cost Estimates	
1. Improve or establish standards for assessing aesthetics	Tribe/WDNR	Implementation of improved/new standards Report Card: Aesthetics	Support of Tribe & WDNR	\$30,000 to establish	Ongoing once established
2. Collect data on lake water levels, temperature, chemistry, clarity, nutrients	Tribe/TLC/ Lake Assoc	Data Reports Report Card: Biology, Chemistry, Nutrients	Support of Tribe, WDNR, Volunteers	\$20,000	Annual
3. Expand & implement schedule of Point Intercept Surveys	Tribe	WDNR Verification Report Card: Biology, Habitat	Support of Tribe, WDNR	\$7,000 average per lake	Ongoing
4. Conduct shoreline sweeps	Tribe/TLC/ Lake Assoc	CLMN Data Sheets Report Card: Biology, Habitat, Aesthetics	Support of Tribe, TLC, Volunteers	\$12 per hour, .58 per mile	Annual
5. Conduct individual property sweeps	Tribe/TLC/ Lake Assoc	CLMN Data Sheets Report Card: Biology, Habitat, Aesthetics	Support of Tribe, TLC, Property Owners	\$48 per property	12 per season
6. Collect data on bio-accumulative pollutants (fish tissue)	Tribe	Database Report Card: Tissue	Support of Tribe	\$20,000	Annual
7. Collect & analyze data on stream flow	Tribe/USGS	Report Card: Flow	Support of Tribe & USGS	\$16,000	Annual
8. Expand participation in CLMN	Tribe/TLC/ Lake Assoc.	CLMN Data Sheets Biology, Chemistry, Nutrients	Support of TLC, Lake Associations	\$12 per hour, .58 per mile	Ongoing
9. Collect & analyze data on weather/climate	Tribe/ Volunteers	List of sources	Support of Tribe	\$10,000	Annual
10. Expand taking core samples from the lakes	Tribe	Reports of data Report Card: Biology, Habitat	Support of Tribe	\$50,000-\$100,000 for all lakes	One time lake
11. Identify impact of the operation of motor vehicles and motorboats on the lakes	Tribe	Report of study Report Card: Aesthetics	Support of Tribe	\$10,000-50,000 per study	To be determined
12. Identify impact of forestry clear-cutting practices on the lakes	Tribe	Report of Study Report Card: Habitat, Nutrients	Support of Tribe	\$20,000-70,000	To be determined
13. Consider monitoring species of concern, like frogs, bats, etc.	Tribe/TLC/ Lake Assoc	Document discussions	Support of Tribe, TLC, Lake Associations	\$12 per hour, .58 per mile	To be determined
14. Consider maintaining/expanding propagation of wild rice	Tribe	To be determined	Support of Tribe Availability of resources	To be determined	To be determined
15. Consider monitoring for spiny waterflea	Tribe/TLC/ Lake Assoc	To be determined	Support of Tribe, TLC, Lake Associations	To be determined	To be determined

Table 16-32. Setting the Pace - Little Crawling Stone Lake

Goal I - Preserve or Improve Current Lake Water Quality					
Objective C - Minimize impact from development.					
Potential Activities	Facilitator(s)	Evaluation	Limitations		Timeframe
			Limitations	Cost Estimates	
1. Identify shoreline restoration needs	Tribe	Report of Study Report Card: Habitat, Nutrients	Funding	\$10,000 for five lakes	Ongoing
2. Establish shoreline restoration demonstration project	Tribe	Finished project Report Card: Habitat	Funding, Available shoreline	\$10,000 per 100 feet of shoreline	2015
3. Restore selected shorelines	Tribe	Finished projects Report Card: Habitat	Land ownership, jurisdictions	\$10,000 per 100 feet of shoreline	2015, ongoing
4. Encourage lake home shoreline restorations	Vilas Co/Tribe	Finished projects Report Card: Habitat	Support of Tribe, County, & Landowners	\$10,000 per 100 feet of shoreline	Ongoing
5. Install erosion controls bank stabilization	Tribe/Vilas Co	Finished projects Report Card: Habitat	Support of Tribe, Federal funding	\$3,000 per erosion site	Ongoing
6. Review & suggest best management practices on all land-disturbing projects	Tribe	Report of study Report Card: Habitat	Support of Tribe, Federal funding	\$10,000-\$50,000	Annual
7. Review & comment on all storm water projects	Tribe	Reports/documents Report Card: Habitat, Nutrients, Bacteria	Support of Tribe, Federal funding	\$10,000-\$50,000	Annual
8. Review & comment on all National Pollution Discharge Elimination Permits	Tribe	Reports/documents Report Card: Habitat, Nutrients, Bacteria	Support of Tribe, Federal funding	\$10,000-\$50,000	Annual
11. Work with Planning and Land Department for future low-impact development initiatives	Tribe	Report Report Card: Habitat, Nutrients, Chemistry	Support of Tribe	Variable	To be determined
12. Review & update water quality standards and shoreline codes	Tribe	Revised documents Report Card: All categories	Support of Tribe, Federal funding	\$50,000 per review	Triennial
13. Enforce inspection schedule for all development initiatives	Tribe	Completion reports Report Card: All categories	Support of Tribe, Federal funding	\$20,000	Annual
14. Conducting septic inspections	Tribe/Vilas Co	Report of inspections Report Card: Nutrients Bacteria	Support of Tribe, Vilas County	\$150 per unit	Ongoing
15. Evaluating Dam Permit Applications	Tribe, WDNR, Army Corps of Engineers	# permits evaluated Report card: habitat, lake levels	Jurisdiction, Federal funding	Variable	Ongoing
16. Review & comment on all potential rules or permits regulating mercury emissions	Tribe	Reports/documents Report Card: Fish Tissue	Support of Tribe, Federal funding	\$10,000-\$50,000	Annual

Table 16-33. Setting the Pace - Little Crawling Stone Lake

Goal II - Prevent Infestations of Aquatic Invasive Species					
Objective A - Provide the public with opportunities to learn about Aquatic Invasive Species and how to prevent their introduction.					
Potential Activities	Facilitator(s)	Evaluation	Limitations		Timeframe
			Limitations	Cost Estimates	
1. Coordinate TLC/Tribal planning with lake associations' planning	TLC/Tribe Lake Assoc	Partner feedback	Support of TLC, Tribe & lake associations	Volunteers @ \$12/hour & .58/mile	Annual
2. Encourage volunteers to attend training sessions provided by the Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) program	TLC/Tribe/ Lake Assoc	Identify number of attendees	Availability of workshops, volunteers, & help from lake associations	\$50 per attendee	Annual
3. Periodically offer workshops locally on how to identify and prevent AIS	TLC	Agendas, participant evaluations	Availability of presenters and registrants, & help from lake associations	\$35 per attendee	Annual
4. Encourage volunteers to attend training sessions provided by the Citizen Lake Monitoring Network (CLMN)	TLC/Tribe	Identify number of attendees	Availability of workshops, volunteers, & help from lake associations	\$50 per attendee	Annual
5. Disseminate information via media, including Town, Tribal, and Lake Association websites	TLC/Tribe/ Lake Assoc	Copies of releases	Availability of writer(s)	Variable	Ongoing
6. Highlight AIS and prevention in documents produced locally, such as newsletters, brochures	TLC/Tribe/ Lake Assoc	Copies of documents	Availability of writers	Volunteers @ \$12/hour & .58/mile	Ongoing
7. Highlight AIS prevention at landings through signage & distribution of educational materials	TLC/Tribe Lake Assoc	Periodic review of signage	Availability of new signage & WDNR education materials	Cost of signage, volunteers @ \$12/hour, .58/mile, WDNR materials	Ongoing
8. Identify local Key Communicators who will speak about AIS at community events	TLC/Tribe	List of individuals	Availability of communicators	Volunteers @ \$12/hour, .58/mile	Annual
9. Ask resorts & select businesses to distribute AIS information	TLC/Lake Associations	List of accepting business	Availability of materials, approval of businesses	Volunteers @ \$12/hour, .58/mile, WDNR materials	Annual
10. Continue hosting the Lake Steward Workshop	TLC/Tribe	Participant evaluation	Availability of presenters, # registrants, support of partnering organizations	\$300/registrant (based on 50 registrants)	Every 3-4 years

Table 16-34. Setting the Pace - Little Crawling Stone Lake

Goal II - Prevent Infestations of Aquatic Invasive Species					
Objective B - Provide the public with opportunities to actively and purposefully look for Aquatic Invasive Species.					
Potential Activities	Facilitator(s)	Evaluation	Limitations		Timeframe
			Limitations	Cost Estimates	
1. Coordinate TLC/Tribal planning with lake associations' planning	TLC/Tribe Lake Assoc	Partner feedback	Support of TLC, Tribe & lake associations	Volunteers @ \$12/hour, .58/mile	Annual
2. Organize and support whole-lake shoreline sweeps	Tribe/TLC/Lake Assoc	# sweeps, participant feedback Report Card: Biology	Support of TLC, Tribe & Lake Associations	\$12/hour, .58/mile, supplies @ \$300/lake	Annual
3. Support establishing system of personal property sweeps	TLC/Lake Assoc	# properties, participant feedback Report Card: Biology	Support of TLC & Lake Associations	Volunteers @ \$12/hour, .58/mile	Annual
4. Inspect watercraft at landings	Tribe/TLC/Lake Assoc	# inspectors, # hours inspection Report Card: Biology	Support of TLC, Tribe, Lake Associations, Volunteers, WDNR	\$12/hour, .58/mile, supplies @ \$200/landing	Annual
5. Coordinate SCUBA diving/snorkeling sweeps near landings	TLC/Tribe	Log Report Card: Biology	Support of Tribe & volunteers	\$500/season	Annual
6. Provide convenient drop-off points on each lake for suspected AIS samples	TLC/Lake Assoc	# participants Report Card: Biology	Support of TLC & lake associations	\$100 per lake	Annual
7. Assist Lake Associations with grant applications for hiring watercraft inspectors	TLC	# attendees, workshop evaluation Report Card: Biology	Support of TLC & Lake Associations	\$30 per attendee	Annual

Table 16-35. Setting the Pace - Little Crawling Stone Lake

Goal III - Control or Reduce the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species					
Objective A - Provide the public with opportunities to learn about local infestations of Aquatic Invasive Species and how they can help control or reduce their spread.					
Potential Activities	Facilitator(s)	Evaluation	Limitations		Timeframe
			Limitations	Cost Estimates	
1. Coordinate TLC/Tribal planning with lake associations' planning	TLC/Tribe Lake Assoc	Lake association feedback	Support of TLC & lake associations	Volunteers @ \$12/hour, .58/mile	Annual
2. Encourage volunteers to attend training sessions provided by the Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) program	TLC/Tribe/ Lake Assoc	# of attendees	Availability of workshops, volunteers, & help from lake associations	\$50 per attendee	Annual
3. Offer TLC workshops on how to identify and control or reduce AIS	TLC	Agendas, participant evaluations	Availability of presenters and registrants, & help from lake associations	\$30 per attendee	Annual
4. Encourage volunteers to attend training sessions provided by the Citizen Lake Monitoring Network (CLMN)	TLC/Tribe/ Lake Assoc	# of attendees	Availability of workshops, volunteers, & help from lake associations	\$50 per attendee	Annual
5. Disseminate information via media, including Town, Tribal, and Lake Association websites	TLC/Tribe/ Lake Assoc	Copies of releases	Availability of writer(s)	Volunteers @ \$12/hour, .58/mile	Ongoing
6. Highlight AIS and prevention in documents produced locally, such as newsletters, brochures	TLC/Tribe/ Lake Assoc	Copies of documents	Availability of writers	Volunteers @ \$12/hour, .58/mile, printing	Ongoing
7. Highlight AIS control at landings through signage & distribution of educational materials	TLC/Tribe Lake Assoc	Periodic review of signage	Availability of new signage	Cost of signage, volunteers @ \$12/hour, .58/mile, WDNR materials	Annual
8. Identify local Key Communicators who will speak about AIS at community events	TLC/Tribe/ Lake Assoc	List of individuals	Availability of communicators	Volunteers @ \$12/hour, .58/mile	Annual
9. Ask resorts & select businesses to distribute AIS information	TLC/Tribe/ Lake Assoc	List of accepting businesses	Availability of materials & approval of businesses	Volunteers @ \$12/hour, .58/mile	Annual
10. Continue hosting the Lake Steward Workshop	TLC/Tribe	Participant evaluation	Availability of presenters, # registrants, support of partnering organizations	\$300 per registrant (based on 50 registrants)	Triennial

**Table 16-36. Setting the Pace - Little Crawling Stone Lake**

Goal III - Control or Reduce the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species					
Objective B - Reduce the scope of existing infestations of purple loosestrife and minimize the spread of the infestations to new locations.					
Potential Activities	Facilitator(s)	Evaluation	Limitations		Timeframe
			Limitations	Cost Estimates	
2. Encourage lake association participation	TLC/Lake Assoc	# Lake Associations involved	Support of Lake Associations	\$12/hour, .58/mile	Annual
3. Continue inter-agency relationships on Purple Loosestrife (Tribe, WDNR, Public School)	TLC/Lake Assoc	Survey agencies	Support of agencies	Variable	Annual
4. Raise & distribute beetles	TLC/Lake Assoc	150 plants & 200,000 beetles Report Card: Biology, Habitat	Support from Tribe, WDNR, school, & availability of volunteers, materials, roots & seed beetles	\$3,000-5,000	Annual
5. Host or conduct workshops on Purple Loosestrife	TLC/Lake Assoc	Agendas, participant evaluations	Support of volunteers & other agencies	\$30/attendee	Annual
6. Provide residents with information on bio-control	TLC/Lake Assoc	Documents provided	Support of TLC/Tribe/Lake Associations	\$1000 printing/supplies	Annual
7. Consider restoring tall native wetland plants to infested areas	Tribe/TLC/Lake Assoc	Document discussions	Support of TLC/Tribe/Lake Associations, others	To be determined	To be determined

**Table 16-37. Setting the Pace - Little Crawling Stone Lake**

Goal III - Control or Reduce the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species					
Objective C - Continue monitoring infestations of Rainbow Smelt and Rusty Crayfish.					
Potential Activities	Facilitator(s)	Evaluation	Limitations		Timeframe
			Limitations	Cost Estimates	
1. Publicize history of previous actions to monitor/control infestations	Tribe	Documents	Tribal support	\$12/hour, .58/mile	Ongoing
2. Conduct workshop on the fishery, including monitoring smelt and crayfish	Tribe/TLC	Agenda, participant evaluations	Tribal Support	\$12/hour, .58/mile	Ongoing
3. Continue monitoring Rainbow Smelt & Rusty Crayfish	Tribe/Volunteers	Documents Report Card: Biology	Tribal Support, TLC Support	\$12/hour, .58/mile	Ongoing

Table 16-38. Setting the Pace - Little Crawling Stone Lake

Goal IV - Broaden Residents' Understanding of Swimmer's Itch					
Objective A - Provide residents with a variety of educational experiences and materials on Swimmer's Itch, including alternatives treating it or reducing the probability of contracting it.					
Potential Activities	Facilitator(s)	Evaluation	Limitations		Timeframe
			Limitations	Cost Estimates	
1. Establish Action Plan	Bear River Team	Written Plan	Support of Tribe, Town, Availability of volunteers	\$12/hour, .58/mile	Annual
2. Review current research and literature	Bear River Team	List of items reviewed	Availability of research & literature	\$12/hour, .58/mile	Ongoing
3. Contact appropriate professionals and authorities about Swimmers' Itch	Bear River Team	List of individuals/organizations	Availability of professionals	\$12/hour, .58/mile	Ongoing
4. Host community-wide workshops	Bear River Team	Agenda & evaluation of participants	# registrants, availability of presenters	\$30/attendee	Annual
5. Distribute information in newsletters, bulletins, and PSAs	Bear River Team	Copies of items distributed	Support of partnering agencies	\$12/hour, .58/mile	Annual
6. Identify alternatives for treating it or reducing the probability of contracting it	Bear River Team	Summative report	Availability of alternatives	\$12/hour, .58/mile	To be determined
7. Conduct or participate in a research study of Swimmer's Itch	Bear River Team	Final research report	Support of partnering agencies	\$150,000	To be determined

Table 16-39. Setting the Pace - Little Crawling Stone Lake

Goal V - Reduce User Conflicts					
Objective A - Provide the public with opportunities to learn about user conflicts.					
Potential Activities	Facilitator(s)	Evaluation	Limitations		Timeframe
			Limitations	Cost Estimates	
1. Determine extent of user conflicts	Tribe	Survey	Tribe/TLC/Funding	To be determined	Triennial
2. Develop & distribute education materials on minimizing user conflicts	Tribe, WDNR	Availability of materials, distribution list	Support of Tribe, WDNR, availability of resources	To be determined	Ongoing
3. Host workshop on fishery (size limits, stocking, etc.)	Tribe	# attendees, workshop evaluation	# registrants, support of Tribe, availability of resources	\$100/attendee	Quadrennial
4. Joint review of current enforcement (# wardens, incidents, etc.)	Tribe/Town	Report	Support of Tribe & Town	To be determined	To be determined

Table 16-40. Setting the Pace - Little Crawling Stone Lake

Goal VI - Strengthen or Increase Collaborations					
Objective A - Encourage participation in educational experiences related to partnerships and collaborations.					
Potential Activities	Facilitator(s)	Evaluation	Limitations		Timeframe
			Limitations	Cost Estimates	
2. Encourage attendance at Lake Leaders Institute	TLC/Tribe/ Lake Assoc	# attendees	Availability of volunteers, resources	\$800/attendee	Biennial
3. Encourage attendance at Wisconsin Lakes Conference	TLC/Tribe/ Lake Assoc	# attendees	Availability of volunteers, resources	\$800/attendee	Annual
4. Encourage attendance at Vilas County Lakes Association	TLC/Tribe/ Lake Assoc	# attendees	Availability of volunteers, resources	\$100/attendee	Annual
5. Encourage attendance at Lakes Fest	Tribe/TLC/ Lake Assoc	# attendees	Support of partnering agencies	\$7,000/event	Annual
6. Provide workshop or meeting for lake associations on planning	TLC	# attendees, workshop evaluation	Support of TLC, # registrants	\$30/attendee	Annual
7. Provide a workshop for lake associations on preparing grant applications	TLC	# attendees, workshop evaluation	Availability of grants, support of TLC, # registrants	\$30/attendee	Annual

Table 16-41. Setting the Pace - Little Crawling Stone Lake

Goal VI - Strengthen or Increase Collaborations					
Objective B - Provide a variety of ways to share information about watershed and lake planning.					
Potential Activities	Facilitator(s)	Evaluation	Limitations		Timeframe
			Limitations	Cost Estimates	
1. Host a Lake Association Gathering	TLC/Tribe	# attendees, program evaluation	Support of Tribe/TLC/ Lake Associations	\$50/attendee	Annual
2. Establish an ongoing exchange of newsletters, brochures, etc. between lake associations, the Tribe, and the TLC	TLC	Participant evaluation	Support of partnering agencies	\$100	Annual
3. Disseminate information to lake associations about the Wisconsin Lakes Association, Annual Convention, Leadership Program, & other local, County and State offerings	TLC	Lake association feedback	Support of TLC and lake associations, availability of materials	Volunteers @ \$12/hour, .58/mile	Annual
4. Present information at Local, County, State, & National conferences and meetings	Tribe/TLC	Per host agency	Support of Tribe, Town, availability of presenters	Variable	Per host agency
5. Consider issuing joint TLC/Tribe/Lake Association newsletter	TLC/Tribe/ Lake Assoc	Newsletter distribution	Support of partnering agencies, availability of author	\$7,000/issue	Annual



Table 16-42. Setting the Pace - Little Crawling Stone Lake

Goal VI - Strengthen or Increase Collaborations					
Objective C - Focus on ways to reach out to individuals and organizations.					
Potential Activities	Facilitator(s)	Evaluation	Limitations		Timeframe
			Limitations	Cost Estimates	
1. Establish system for contacting new residents	TLC	# residents contacted	Support of TLC	\$100/visit	Ongoing
2. Encourage the WDNR to establish a protocol for writing watershed and lake management plans.	Bear River Action Team	Development of protocol	Support of WDNR	TBD	To be determined
3. Revise the current <i>Rapid Response Plan</i>	Tribe/TLC	Availability of revised plan	Tribal support	\$1,000-\$5,000	Quinquennial
4. Consider establishing a watershed plan for the other watersheds in Lac du Flambeau	Tribe/TLC	Additional watershed plans	Positive evaluation of Bear River Watershed plan, support of Tribe & TLC, availability of volunteers and resources	\$50,000/watershed	To be determined
5. Evaluate establishing the position of Invasive Species Coordinator for Lac du Flambeau	Tribe/TLC	Report	Support of Tribe, Town, & Lake Associations	TBD	To be determined
6. Develop an indigenous arts and sciences institute	Tribe/Universities	# Participants	Support of Tribe and universities	\$4,000,000	To be determined

## Notes for Section 16

1. James K. Bokern, *History and the Primary Canoe Routes of the Six Bands of Chippewa from the Lac du Flambeau District* (Unpublished Masters Thesis, 1987) Chapter IX. Online at: <http://www.marshfield.k12.wi.us/socsci/discovery/bokern/default.htm>
2. February 21, 2014 recollection by Edith Dobrinski, resident of Little Crawling Stone Lake since the late 1940s.
3. Information from two Chamber of Commerce maps in the 1960s: *Lac du Flambeau Indian Reservation* and *Lac du Flambeau Lake Region*.
4. From Lac du Flambeau Chamber of Commerce website. <http://www.lacduflambeauchamber.com/index.html>.
5. Modified from a selection in the Crawling Stone Lakes Association Newsletter (Ralph Kerler & Sue Wahman, Fall/Winter 2007/2008).
6. The survey data presented throughout the section is from the *Bear River Watershed Comprehensive Lake Management Plan Survey, Lake-by-lake Comparisons*, June 2012. See Appendix.
7. Quality Assurance Protection Plan (QAPP) , Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Aquatic Plant habitat Point Intercept Survey of Lakes for Plants 2010.
8. Results of the WISCALM Botanist Review Panel for Aquatic Macrophyte Impairment.
9. Quality Assurance Protection Plan, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, General Chemistry Assessment of Waters within the Lac du Flambeau Reservation 2012 (QAPP) for General Chemistry.
10. Tribal Water Quality Standards.
11. Quality Assurance Protection Plan, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, General Chemistry Assessment of Waters within the Lac du Flambeau Reservation 2012 (QAPP) for General Chemistry.
12. National Lakes Assessment: Technical Appendix, Data Analysis Approach; Lakes, Ponds, and Reservoirs January 2010 Pg 10-12.
13. Wisconsin 2012 Consolidated Assessment and Listing Methodology (WIS CLAM) for Clean Water Act Section 305(b), 314, and 303(d) Integrated Reporting, April 2012 [http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/surfacewater/documents/FINAL\\_2012\\_WisCALM\\_04-02-12.pdf](http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/surfacewater/documents/FINAL_2012_WisCALM_04-02-12.pdf).
14. Quality Assurance Protection Plan, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, (QAPP) Shoreland Development Habitat 2008.
15. National Lakes Assessment: Technical Appendix, Data Analysis Approach; Lakes, Ponds, and Reservoirs January 2010 Pg 10-12
16. Quality Assurance Protection Plan, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, (QAPP) for Beach Monitoring 2008.
17. Tribal Water Quality Standards.
18. Ibid.
19. Quality Assurance Protection Plan, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, General Chemistry Assessment of Waters within the Lac du Flambeau Reservation 2012 (QAPP) for General Chemistry.
20. National Lake Survey Report.
21. [http://www.manresa-sj.org/stamps/1\\_Secchi.htm](http://www.manresa-sj.org/stamps/1_Secchi.htm).
22. Information in the first paragraph is from *People of the Lakes: A Guide for Wisconsin Lake Organizations*, DNR Publication PUB-FH-821-2006. Information about the Crawling Stone Lakes Association was provided by founding member, Ralph Kerler, 2014.

## Figure Notes for Section 16

- Figure 16-1. Map of Lakes. Provided by Tribal Natural Resources Department.
- Figure 16-2. Photograph of Little & Big Crawling Stone Lakes. Use of photograph approved by Marcia Ford, daughter of Bob and Marian Peterson.
- Figure 16-3. Photograph of Bob and Marian Peterson. Use of photograph approved by Marcia Ford, daughter.

## Table Notes for Section 16

- Table 16-3. Perceived vs Actual Presence of AIS. *Bear River Watershed Comprehensive Lake Management Plan Survey Data from Bear River Watershed Comprehensive Lake Management Plan Survey, Lake-by-lake Comparisons*, June 2012, Question #26. See Appendix.
- Table 16-4. Perceived to be Threatened by AIS. Data from *Bear River Watershed Comprehensive Lake Management Plan Survey, Lake-by-lake Comparisons*, June 2012, Question #27. See Appendix.
- Table 16-5. Concern about AIS Getting into the Lake. Data from *Bear River Watershed Comprehensive Lake Management Plan Survey, Lake-by-lake Comparisons*, June 2012, Question #29. See Appendix.
- Table 16-6. Time Spent Checking for AIS During Open Water Season. Data from *Bear River Watershed Comprehensive Lake Management Plan Survey, Lake-by-lake Comparisons*, June 2012, Question #28. See Appendix.
- Table 16-9. Whether Aquatic Plants Impede Enjoyment of the Lake. Data from *Bear River Watershed Comprehensive Lake Management Plan Survey, Lake-by-lake Comparisons*, June 2012, Question #15. See Appendix.
- Table 16-10. Removal of Aquatic Plants from the Lake. Data from *Bear River Watershed Comprehensive Lake Management Plan Survey, Lake-by-lake Comparisons*, June 2012, Question #18. See Appendix.
- Table 16-11. Removal of Fallen Trees from the Lake. Data from *Bear River Watershed Comprehensive Lake Management Plan Survey, Lake-by-lake Comparisons*, June 2012, Question #19. See Appendix.
- Table 16-12. Whether Aquatic Plant Control is Needed. Data from *Bear River Watershed Comprehensive Lake Management Plan Survey, Lake-by-lake Comparisons*, June 2012, Question #16. See Appendix.

Table 16-13. Preferences for Treating/removing Aquatic Invasive Plants. Data from *Bear River Watershed Comprehensive Lake Management Plan Survey, Lake-by-lake Comparisons*, June 2012, Question #30. See Appendix.

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"A Healthy Lake"  
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