

LMLID 2016 Survey Summary

Surveys mailed: 522
 Surveys returned by mail: 235
 Surveys completed on Survey Monkey: 11
 Total number of survey responses: 246

FINAL REPORT

Last edit 4/22/16

Data Secured from Survey

- % is based on total number of returned surveys, unless otherwise specified
- % is rounded to nearest single digit

I. Basic Statistics of Residents and Lake Use

Type of Resident	year-round 21%	seasonal 36%	weekend 43%			
Length of Residency (in years)	1 - 5 9%	6 - 10 14%	11 - 15 17%	16 - 20 18%	long time 41%	since 1930 <1%
Use of Lake (The number represents the % of people who indicated they use the lake for this purpose.)	boating 92%	fishing 95%	swimming 34%	harvesting wild rice 3%	watching wildlife 73%	just being here 83%
<p><u>Favorite Lake Activity</u></p> <p>(Many people listed more than one "favorite" and many people did not respond to this question. All preferences are shown by the <i>number of responders</i> who listed each activity as one of their "favorites". Items without a number were just listed by one person.)</p>	<p>(76) fishing (31%) (56) boating (23%) (29) non-specific enjoyment (12%) (20) pontooning/cruising (8%) (16) watching birds/enjoying nature/wildlife (7%) (14) swimming (6%) (8) tubing/water skiing/wake-boarding (3%) (6) hunting (2%) (5) socializing with neighbors (2%) (4) going to Horseshoe or Bann's by water to eat (2%) (4) kayaking/canoeing (2%) (2) campfire (<1%) ice fishing pan fishing watching sky/stars golf snowmobiling boat parade waiting for harvester to come to our end beer-drinking jet skiing</p>					

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II. Lake Information Awareness

	Yes	No	No Response
Awareness of Excessive Phosphorus in Lake	45%	55%	0%
Awareness of Excessive Mercury in Lake	23%	77%	<1%
Familiarity with Aitkin County SWCD	30%	67%	3%
Use of LMLID Website	42%	56%	2%
Type of Info. Sought on LMLID Website	<p>(21) general/all/communication (15) weed information/weed management/harvester (11) LMLID updates/highlights/meeting minutes/actions and times (11) water management/lake quality/clarity/ data/testing and depth of lake conditions (9) shoreline practices/info/management/projects/ideas/protecting ecology (9) fish information/numbers and size/fish stocking/solution to crappie/northern issue (8) events/activities/calendar (ice out, fireworks, photo contest results) (5) LMLID activities with other state agencies like DNR (5) curiosity/nothing in particular/checking it out (3) contact info to order lake flag/map/lake decor (2) historical info and statistics (2) names of residents/lake lot ownership (2) annual report number of contributions to LMA use of public land for personal use mailing area updates prohibition of wave-runners water craft fishing survey membership info PO Box # garage sale info spring and fall clean-up dates</p> <p>(Two people noted that they got their info from emails and Facebook, instead.)</p>		
Usefulness of LMLID Website (of those using site)	81%	19%	1 write-in: "fair"
Use of Other Websites for Lake Information	41%	50%	9%
Other Sites Used	<p>(81) lakeminnewawa.org 1 comment "No, but I will now!" (14) bsalwmp.org (11) DNR (2) DNR Lake Finder</p>		

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III. Participation in/Support of Lake Improvement Efforts

	Yes	No	No Response
Feeling of Opportunity for Decision-Making on Lake Matters	57%	34%	9%
	Comments: "sometimes" "maybe, if contacted"		
Interest in Volunteering to Improve Lake	30%	55%	15%
	Comments: (10) "maybe" (4) "I do" (3) "Not now, but in the future" (3) "Done so already" "After I retire"		
Support for LMA	84%	14%	2%
Continued support for LMLID	82%	10%	8%
	Comments: (3) "It depends."		

IV. Weed/Harvesting/Lake Quality Concerns

Consideration of Lake as "Weedy"	92%	4%	4%
	Comments: (7) Since flood, weeds not a problem/Better this past year/Has become so much better Being kept under control About normal (5) Mid to late summer worse/only August (2) Not if you use oars/canoe Due to clarity of water, more weeds last year Depends on year and boat Depends on location (3) Can't get boat out from dock-can't use lake/can't get boat out once weeds grow (3) Prop bottoming/damaged props (2) Weeds in motor (2) Weeds impacting property Is any wild rice harvesting done on lake? (Needs to be!) Weeds and wild rice overtaking lake Weeds or large rocks Too weedy for jet boat		

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Opinion of Lake Quality over the Years	much better	better	the same	not as good	no response
	15%	19%	32%	28%	6%
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fewer fish• Worse 40 yrs ago/better 20 yrs ago• Weeds same/clarity better• Not as good as 60s• Depends on part of lake					

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V. Other Concerns

	Yes	No	No Response
Knowledge of Garbage Burning	28%	71%	<1%
<p>Other Concerns</p> <p><i>(Number indicates how many responders voiced that concern. If there is no number, it was only voiced by one person.)</i></p>	<p>Positive: Thank you for all you do! Big supporter of LMA & LMLID</p> <p>About survey: Why did you (we) pay to print this in color? Why did you (we) pay for SASE if website was option? How much is this costing me? Not sure how this info helps LMLID. What is the survey trying to accomplish?</p> <p>About LMLID: (2) The \$65 assessment you have/Excess property tax You have too much power I came to one meeting, was shouted down, won't likely return...good job. Levy ruined lake! WHO decides where any work gets done? Why not state what LMLID has done for the lake? Monthly communication from LMLID meetings Harvester made more passes before the tax; less gets done when govt. involved Seems like a lot of money for this LMLID should be dissolved Assessment should be spent on the lake and not on scholarships and giving away toys</p> <p>Activity Concerns: (2) ATVs have become too excessive Limit jet ski access and patrol lake for offenders Water quality suffers because of overuse by waverunners Water skiers too close to shore Too many boats just anchoring in front of properties; there are times we can't sit by the shore and enjoy the lake Fire pits too close to lake Illegal dock owners should pay their share or get dock off of shore</p>		

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Other Concerns (cont.)

	<p>About Harvester/Harvesting:</p> <p>(6) (New) Harvester spreads weeds with roots across lake and they wash up on shore/tons of them to haul away/spreads more the later it's used</p> <p>(2) Nothing seems to help the weeds/Harvester not working on weeds</p> <p>(2) Stop the weed cutter!/It is wrong!</p> <p>(2) Need to explore chemical application</p> <p>(3) Need to oversee harvester operation/not used effectively</p> <p>(2) Harvester doesn't do any good; like cutting grass-doesn't get roots/don't target good weeds, like cabbage</p> <p>Does the weed cutter cut deep enough to kill growth or cut off and cause extra growth?</p> <p>Get good help on harvesting, one who knows how to cut weeds</p> <p>People have offered to help with harvesting but LMA does not seem to want help.</p> <p>It appears operator decides where to harvest; short hours of operation.</p> <p>Is there a policy for what areas get weeds harvested?</p> <p>Cuts my neighbor's close and not mine (south shore at entrance to Sportsman's Bay)</p> <p>Wants the LID to do something to protect rice beds</p> <p>Wants a map of lake and DNR- approved harvest areas available online and mailed to residents</p> <p>Calls for accountability of the LMA; wants above map overlaid, at least weekly, with a GPS representation of where the harvester has been</p> <p>General Lake Concerns:</p> <p>(4) A.I.S.</p> <p>(3) Water quality (clarity)Lake is getting clearer and parts are much better, but others are worse. Water quality better last year</p> <p>(3) Need to improve shoreline by mandating a buffer zone of vegetation between lawns and water/shore erosion (I need help with shore erosion</p> <p>(2) Algae bloom in late summer for last 3 years, not noticed for previous 10 yrs.</p> <p>(2) zebra mussel</p> <p>(2) Contamination from boats brought in from somewhere else /fishing tournaments</p> <p>(2) Fertilizer from lawns washing into lake/ Use ecology to restrict property rights</p>
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Other Concerns (cont.)

	<p>General Lake Concerns (cont.) High levels of mercury and phosphorus Use of calcium Chloride on Floe Rd.; PCA has found the run-off is bad for vegetation. Debris from plants killed by chemicals blown onto my lot costly to remove Septic Issues: Tag old septic systems and move away from lake/Need county septic system Decline in wild rice Lake too dirty to swim</p> <p>Fish Concerns: (8) Where have the walleye gone/why not reproducing? (3) Less fish/No fish (2) Too many little Northern Walleye limit should be 4 per day 14"-17" Northern limit should be 6 per day, 1 over 30" Is there a walleye-stocking plan for the lake? Glad to see some walleye Fewer crappies Need to regulate panfish (slot limit and smaller possession limits) Decreasing bass population. Is this because of all the bass tournaments? Would hate to see change in limit on sunfish Fish killed</p> <p>Other Issues: (11) Lake too shallow [Raise 4 in./management of lake level/Raise dam for higherlevel/fewer weeds; raise dam 1 foot all over lake.] Water level fluctuates; what is the reason? Need depth chart indicating level above/below normal at landings. Would like to see boat launches updated a little North Landing should have entrance grade lengthened Lake needs a gas dock Excess aging of lake Excess Power [cost] (electricity) \$42/month for access Lake is too windy We were treated unfairly after we refused to pay to keep dust from affecting the cabins.</p>
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