

# JESSIE LAKE WATERSHED ASSOCIATION



# JESSIE JABBER

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VOL.22, NO. 1

SPRING 2019

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## **GREETINGS FROM PRESIDENT HOLLISTER MADSEN**

I hope everyone has enjoyed our traditional Minnesota winter this past season, lots of snow and lots of cold weather! Although some of you may have escaped to warmer climates, I think everyone is looking forward to finally enjoying the upcoming summer on the lake. For those of you, who are new homeowners, welcome to JLWA!

The ice was difficult for fishing this winter, 3 feet thick with slush early in the year in many places that made it tough to get out on the lake until everything froze. The current lake levels are the highest I can remember at this time of the year, something that's a result of all the snow we received in the watershed area. We are all hoping it recedes quickly to minimize any shoreline damage that may occur as the ice breaks up and the wave action takes over.

A topic that is important to all of us is invasive species. As many of you know, several lakes in the area have contracted invasive species, Sand Lake, Winnie, and most recently zebra mussels in North Star Lake last year. According to the DNR, a major source of infestation is from boatlifts and docks that are moved from a lake that has AIS. Please keep this in mind as you are acquiring lake equipment. Verify where it came from and if that lake had invasive species, make sure the equipment has been thoroughly cleaned and dry before putting it in the lake.

With the snow mostly gone, now is the time to start thinking of spring and all the cabin opening activities, yard work, getting boats and docks ready and of course opening fishing on May 11<sup>th</sup>. We have a busy JLWA schedule this year with our first Northern Fishing Tournament in an attempt to improve the Walleye fishing by removing as many Northern as we can. It's the one thing the DNR has indicated that homeowners can do to improve the Walleye population. Craig Johnson is coordinating the event with Will Layland. See the note later in the Jabber for more details as it is for JLWA members only. We have also decided to combine the Northern Fishing contest along with our Summer Picnic.

I'll make sure to send out more info to everyone prior to each of the events. As usual, if anyone has feedback or suggestions, please drop me a note at [hollistermadsen@gmail.com](mailto:hollistermadsen@gmail.com).

I look forward to seeing everyone this summer!

## **JLWA 2019 Calendar of Events**

5/2/19 – JLWA Roadside Cleanup – 6:00PM – Meet at the Madsen's, 45968 County Road 35

6/22/19 – JLWA 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Northern Fishing Tournament – 10AM to 3PM

6/22/19 – JLWA Summer Picnic/Spring Meeting – 4PM – Rhonda Nichols home

7/4/19 – Little Jessie 4<sup>th</sup> of July Boat Parade

7/6/19 – Big Jessie 4<sup>th</sup> of July Boat Parade

TBD – Share the Lake Day – More info to follow

8/31/19 – JLWA Fall meeting

October – JLWA Roadside Cleanup – Date to be announced

## JLWA BOARD MEETING: APRIL 10, 2019

Gin Anderson; Secretary

**Attendees:** Hollister Madsen, Jason&Tina Jorgenson, Craig Johnson and Gin Anderson.

**Membership Dues:** Tina reported that 98 dues mailings were sent out and she has received 53 back so far. She said it looked like the mailing only went to members instead of all lake owners. In the past she reported that the mailings were also sent to non-member lake owners unless they had requested no mail in the past. Gin and Tina will touch base on the mailing and we will try to catch up on those that were missed in the 2nd mailing. Early in May is when we'd most likely do the 2nd notice for dues.

**Finances:** Tina reported that the NIEC grant money has not been returned yet. Not sure where to send this money. This was money for Share the Lake, which did not happen last year. The only check made out so far this year was for the Minnesota Lakes and Rivers membership fee. Hollister reported that Jerry Kaczor trapped 17 beavers last fall and still needs to be paid. The bounty per trapped beaver is \$20 and Tina will send Jerry a check.

**Spring Creek Cleaning:** Jason set April 20th at 10:00 AM as a tentative date for Spring Creek cleaning and we will meet at the bridge. Hollister will send out email to board members.

**Roadside Cleanup:** Don Ojanen suggested April 25th or May 2nd for roadside cleanup. The Board agreed that May 2nd would be the best date. Time was changed from 4:00 PM to 6:00PM to enable people who are still working to participate. After the cleanup the group will go to Riley's for a burger.

**Northern Fishing Contest:** June 8th or 22nd were suggested as possible dates for the contest. Most board members thought the 22nd would be best since there are so many graduations June 8th that might limit how many people can participate. Fishing contest will be for Association members only. Could possibly do flyers to the lake owners and/or email to those lake owners where we have their email addresses. Discussed having kid prizes and adult prizes. Determination needs to be made on what constitutes the winning prize...ie weight or length or most.. We won't do cash prizes since those would need a permit. Craig and others will come up with some ideas for prizes. Need to finalize this soon, so information on it can be put in the Jabber.

**Summer Picnic:** June 22<sup>nd</sup> was selected for the summer picnic. It will be held at Ronda's again. Hollister suggested that it would be nice if the Association provided something for the picnic. Attendees would still bring other potluck items. People should give their ideas to Hollister on what the Association could provide. It could be something we buy or cook there.

**Boat Parade:** Boat parade this year will be July 6<sup>th</sup> for Jessie and July 4<sup>th</sup> for Little Jessie.

**Jabber:** Harold is working on the next issue of the Jabber. If you have information you want in the Jabber, get that to him as soon as possible.

## UPDATE ON AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS)

By Harold Goetzman

**BE SURE TO CHECK YOUR DOCK AND LIFT FOR ZEBRA MUSSELS BEFORE INSTALLING IN OUR LAKES – USE A CERTIFIED FIVESTAR LAKE SERVICE PROVIDER. ALSO CHECK YOUR BOAT AND TRAILER. REMEMBER NO ONE ELSE IS GOING TO PROTECT YOUR LAKE FOR YOU. IT IS UP TO EACH OF US AND TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. THERE IS NO CURE FOR AIS.**

MN law requires keeping docks and lifts out of the water for at least 21 days before putting them into a different body of water. There is also a new program for lake providers to help them know what to do to avoid spreading AIS while putting docks and lifts into different lakes. Make sure anyone you hire to put in a dock or lift has not been to an AIS infested lake prior to a JLW lake unless the equipment has been properly cleaned (Sand Lake, Bowstring, North Star, Winnie).

For the 17 types of AIS, there are now 1380 entries so you can see the magnitude of the invasive threat to our precious resources. A list of the MN infested waters for all types of AIS is given in the

new 2019 Fishing Regulations booklet and on the DNR website so you can check on a lake if you are fishing other lakes. Many of the infested lakes are in Crow Wing County our neighbors to the south. The DNR has listed confirmed zebra mussels in 180 lakes, rivers and wetlands. Another 167 bodies of water are listed because they are closely connected to confirmed lakes. There were 66 new cases of zebra mussels in MN lakes and streams for 2018. This includes the newly confirmed zebra mussels for Itasca County in the Grand Rapids Blandin Reservoir (Sylvan Lake) on the Mississippi River. Further follow-up investigation by the DNR and SWCD staff found mussels downstream for a mile and up stream all the way to the Hwy 6 Bridge on the Mississippi River. Also, zebra mussels were found many miles down stream from Little Winnie on the Mississippi River. Recently, the DNR has listed Jay Gould Lake and Little Jay Gould to the list since they are connected to the Blandin Reservoir.

Another significant finding is in Upper Red Lake in Beltrami County where zebra mussel veligers were found last summer. After further inspection it may be added to the zebra mussel list along with our other big lakes Mille Lacs, Leech and Winnie. After finding veligers (baby mussels) in Winnie in 2012, the first adult zebra mussels were found in 2016 and now in just two years they are found everywhere in the lake. "It is amazing how they have just exploded in a couple years. They are on every smooth substrate down there," said Gerry Albert, of the DNR. It is one of the fastest growing infestations in MN. The mussels filter algae out of the lake and that makes the water clarity increase. For Big Winnie, the water clarity increase has been rapid and astounding—more than doubling from the 6-7 ft before the mussels to more than 14 ft now. "We have seen it up to 22 feet, Albert said, and it has gone from a murky lake to a crystal clear lake overnight." Each of those little mussels can filter one to four liters of water per day. What effect the mussels will have on Winnie's great walleye fishing is unknown yet, but the ecosystem has definitely changed.

The first sighting of starry stonewort in MN was in 2015 and now in 2018 there are 13 lakes including the 3 new lakes infested in 2018. Upper Red Lake is already on the list for starry stonewort, which was found in 2016. This new invasive species also showed up in Lake Winnie in 2016, which is a grass-like algae with a small star-shaped structure called bulbils that are less than ¼ inch in diameter. Since the 2016 discovery, the starry stonewort has been spreading fast in Winnie and a big worry is the frequent travel between Winnie and nearby lakes. It can even displace Eurasian milfoil, which is really scary. No successful treatment to stop the spread has been found. No new infestations were found in Itasca County in 2018, which is good news.

In addition, for 2018 there were 10 new lakes with Eurasian Watermilfoil, 4 new lakes with faucet snails and 4 new lakes with flowering rush added to the DNR's published AIS list.

### **General**

One of the best preventative measures for our lakes is to recommend that our residents try to avoid going to an AIS infested lake. With the number of lakes available we can find good fishing other places. A list of AIS infested lakes is published on the DNR website.

Last summer we established an early detection program for zebra mussels in our JLWA lakes. I have made some simple pipe detectors to give to members to place under their dock during the summer season. Monitoring the pipe occasionally to check for small mussels that have attached to the surface is all that is required. No one having a detector reported anything, which is good. If you are interested in helping with early detection let me know by email ([hgoetzman@yahoo.com](mailto:hgoetzman@yahoo.com)) or call 832-3139.

### **SWCD AIS PROGRAM**

The Itasca County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is a local agency in Grand Rapids, which provides access to conservation and resource management services. In cooperation with federal, state and local agencies, the SWCD provides technical assistance, cost-sharing and natural resource management information and education. The Itasca County AIS program is managed by SWCD AIS Coordinator, Bill Grandges. He can be contacted at 218 328 3095 if you have AIS questions.

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) have become a very real threat to our way of life in the northland. The Itasca County AIS Program was created to meet these threats. We all must do our part to help stop the spread of AIS. Everyone needs to take personal responsibility for not spreading AIS.

### **Prevention Program**

**By Bill Grantges, AIS Program Coordinator, SWCD**

The prevention program includes the watercraft inspection and decontamination at public water accesses. The past year all 59 lakes with AIS and 40 highway AIS locations have received control measures. During the summer months there were 21 inspectors and many volunteers carrying out boat inspections. This activity totaled over 24,000 boat inspections and 250 decontaminations completed at 35 landings on 27 lakes. The County now has 3 decontamination units that were used during the summer by the County to travel to various landings for use during inspections. Contaminated boats are washed with heated water that will kill the zebra mussels. AIS inspectors were also present at 5 major fishing tournaments in Itasca County. The County AIS crew inspected boats at the Jessie Lake landing 16 times last summer and no infested boats or trailers were discovered. Itasca County received \$621,000 in 2018-19 for the AIS program, which was up from \$573,000 received the previous year.

Watercraft decontamination is a free service provided by the Itasca County AIS Program. Anyone who is concerned about the potential of carrying an invasive species on or in their watercraft or any other piece of equipment like a used dock, boat lift or swim platform can request decontamination. It is now known that pontoons, docks and lifts that are purchased from people on infested waters and transported to non-infested lakes are one of the highest causes of Zebra Mussel spread. Adult Zebra Mussels attached inside the pipes or hidden areas are far more likely to get established in new waters than the veligers in residual water of boats and trailers.

A new program called the Resort Ambassador Program will continue through 2019, which is two-year grant for \$420,000 and was awarded by the Initiative Foundation to provide funding for Itasca, Cass and the Lake Vermilion/Burntside Lake regions to develop and expand AIS early detection and inspections at resorts, lodges, campgrounds and marinas. Itasca County will receive about \$225,000 of the funds. The first goal will be to expand AIS boat inspections and early detection activities across the resort, lodge and campground businesses. Communication between the resorts will be established to help determine the best practices for stopping the spread of AIS in our lakes

SWCD and the Deer Lake Association have created a “**FiveStar Lake Service Provider**” program that gives incentives to local dock and lift installation businesses. This will train providers to take all precautions possible to prevent the spread of AIS through their business operations. The emphasis is on not transporting water, plants or mud-on equipment when going from lake to lake as well as allowing used docks and lifts to dry for 21 days before installing in a new body of water. A Lake Service Provider AIS Summit was held April 17<sup>th</sup> to kick-off the forming of the FiveStar program.

### **FiveStar Program Description**

**FiveStar** is our strategy to move property owners away from illegal non-DNR-permitted dock-and-lift installers and toward AIS-savvy providers. **Itasca FiveStar** providers are DNR-certified, have signed a contract agreeing to apply additional specified AIS best-practices and safeguards when moving from one lake or river to another, and are eager to earn new business. Additionally, FiveStar providers agree to allow the Itasca AIS Program to review their operations and make recommendations for improvement.

List of **FiveStar** Lake Service Providers -- <http://bit.ly/FiveStarLSPs>

More about **what property owners can do** to prevent AIS transport – <http://bit.ly/AISItasca>

If you hire a lake service provider to install/remove your dock or lift seasonally, choose an **Itasca FiveStar** lake service provider to help protect your lake.

## **Control and Monitoring Program**

**By Chris Evans, AIS Specialist, SWCD**

Our AIS Control & Monitoring Crew of 8 people performs full detailed surveys on 88 high-priority lakes and 3 major rivers in Itasca County. During the 2018 season, 66 of those lakes and one river were the focus of our AIS control efforts. Full Littoral Zone Surveys in search of all AIS were conducted on Jessie and Little Jessie in 2018 physically inspecting as many rocks, sticks, plants and water related equipment (docks & lifts) as we possibly could for the presence of all AIS, but especially Zebra Mussels No AIS of any type was found. Also, Zebra Mussel Veliger Settlement Samplers (Zebra Mussel Traps or early detection samplers) were placed near the public accesses of Jessie and Little Jessie in May and during removal in the fall no zebra mussels were found.

Our Control and Monitoring Program in 2019 is to continue installing Zebra Mussel Veliger Samplers on approximately 60 of Itasca County's highest AIS risk lakes. Conducting shoreline/littoral zone surveys for the early detection of all invasive plants and animals on approximately 80-100 high-risk lakes and rivers in Itasca County (including Jessie, Little Jessie and Bowstring). Despite all of the recreational traffic and the connectedness to Sand Lake, zebra mussels were still not located in Bowstring Lake in 2018. Also, it would be good if you could ask lakeshore owners, via your newsletter, to periodically inspect their shoreline by examining their docks and equipment as well as rocks and sticks etc. for attached mussels. The more eyes we have out there the better.

New advancements in controlling AIS will be incorporated into the program in 2019. This will include the use of underwater camera surveys with definition pole cameras and a remote controlled drone to search underwater structures. We will also develop the technology for veliger/water testing by towing plankton nets in high-risk areas and analyzing the plankton samples for the detection of Zebra Mussel Veliger's. We have acquired a high quality microscope and are being trained on analyzing plankton samples for the presence of veliger's. The plan is to analyze hundreds of samples at SWCD and possibly offer the service of analyzing plankton samples to lake associations and the public.

## **NEW FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**By David Weitzel, Grand Rapids Area Fisheries Supervisor**

Fisheries Lake Management Plans (LMP) are a summary and evaluation of past management activities (e.g. netting surveys, water quality analysis, stocking, harvest regulations) and are used to guide current and future fisheries management. LMPs identify biological and social factors that may limit a fishery's biological potential or popularity with anglers, and may attempt to overcome these limiting factors by prescribing science based management tools. DNR Fisheries, in partnership with the Jessie Lake Watershed Association, recently completed a revised LMP for Jessie Lake that will be in effect through at least 2021.

The LMP considers which species are most suitable for a lake based on the habitat, species composition, and past management activities. Walleye remain the primary management species in Jessie because they are well suited to provide a popular fishery. Northern Pike and Yellow Perch are also well suited for the lake and are considered secondary management species. Panfish may occasionally provide good angling opportunities as well, but are not as well suited for Jessie Lake.

Goals (expected outcomes) for primary or secondary management species are established from previous catches or size statistics for the individual lake, as well as data from lakes with similar habitats. Goals often change as additional information is collected on a lake. Goals of the 2019 LMP are to maintain angling opportunities for high numbers of harvestable Walleye with a gill net catch rate >8.8/set (a high catch compared to similar lakes). The population should have at least 6 year class present, and no more than 30% of the gill net sampled Walleye from a single year class. Other goals are to maintain a relatively low Northern Pike gill net catch rate of 2.8/set and improve pike size

quality so that >5% of the sampled pike exceed 28 inches. Another goal is to maintain a Yellow Perch gill net catch rate of at least 8 per gill net based on Walleye stocking guidelines.

Stocking is the practice of raising fish in a hatchery and releasing them into a river or lake to supplement existing populations, or to create a population where none exists. Lake management plans may include a science based fish stocking plan based on statewide stocking guidelines to help reach management goals. Walleye are primarily maintained via fry stocking in Jessie Lake. A shift in stocking strategy occurred in 2010. Walleye had previously been stocked two out of four years at a rate of 1,000 fry per surface acre, but this likely contributed to inconsistent year classes and boom and bust angling cycles. Walleye were stocked at a rate of 500 fry per surface acre annually beginning in 2010 in an attempt to stabilize the fishery. This approach resulted in better year class consistency and strong recent recruitment. The 2019 LMP continues this stocking strategy.

Lake management plans also review and identify additional data needs. The primary data needs for Jessie Lake are the continuation of the Walleye stocking strategy review. A targeted survey will be conducted in August of 2021 to determine the status of the Walleye population. The LMP will be reviewed again following this survey.

DNR fisheries staff will be finalizing the 2018 survey and LMP over the next couple of months. Once completed, the 2018 survey report will be available for public viewing on the DNR webpage using the lake finder tool (<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/lakefind/index.html>). The DNR will also be finalizing the Jessie Lake Fisheries Management Plan. This plan is available from the area fisheries office upon request. Contact us at [grandrapids.fisheries@state.mn.us](mailto:grandrapids.fisheries@state.mn.us) or 218-328-8836 for more information about fisheries management in the Grand Rapids area or to request a copy of the plan.

**1<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL JLWA NORTHERN FISHING CONTEST**  
**“NOTHING BUT NORTHERNS” FISHING TOURNAMENT**  
(Nothing counts except Northerns)

**WHEN:** JUNE 22, 2019

**WHERE:** JESSIE LAKE

**TIME:** 10am – 3pm (weigh-in at Layland’s dock located at the north end of Jessie Lake two docks east of Rising Eagle Resort. Tournament Host(s) will not be held liable for any death or injuries incurred). This is a casual tournament. Follow Minnesota DNR fishing regulations for size and limit. Rules also say no wanton waste so all game fish must be cleaned or given away and Northern is a delicious eating game fish.

**WHO:** Open to all JLWA members and their families. No entry fees! No registration! Just go fish!

**PRIZES:** Largest Northern by weight, Smallest Northern by weight, Heaviest stringer (10 fish limit) of Northerns, first Northern registered, last Northern registered. A digital scale that measures in ounces will be used for weighing. **All Northerns count** – even dead ones – as long as they resembled a Northern at one time. Any Northern registered qualifies for door prizes. Also, there will be prizes for kids. Judges decisions are final!

**RSVP:** [craig.johnson11@arvig.net](mailto:craig.johnson11@arvig.net) if you plan on attending.

**NEW NORTHERN PIKE FISHING REGULATIONS**

By Harold Goetzman

This is a reminder of the new regulations for catching and keeping Northern Pike that came into effect last year. Anyone who wants to keep Northern Pike in Minnesota’s inland waters needs to take a close look at these regulations and be prepared to measure the pike they want to keep for the Saturday, May 11, fishing opener. Also, this is a reminder for the Northern fishing contest in June.

The new fishing regulations have three distinct zones to address the different characteristics of pike populations in Minnesota. While not designed to manage for trophy pike, the new regulations are

meant to restore pike populations for better harvest opportunities across the state for sizes that make good table fare, up to around 28 inches or so.

The new pike harvest regulations apply to inland waters of the state.

- North central: Limit of 10 Northern Pike, but not more than two pike longer than 26 inches; all from 22 to 26 inches must be released. (This applies to JLW lakes.)
- Northeast: Two pike allowed and anglers must release all from 30 to 40 inches, with only one over 40 inches allowed in possession.
- South: Two fish allowed with the minimum size of 24 inches.

### JESSIE LAKE WATER QUALITY 2018

By Kim Yankowiak, SWCD

As of 2018, twenty-one consecutive years of water quality data have been collected on Jessie Lake starting in 1998, which provides insight as to the health of Jessie Lake’s aquatic ecosystem. Water quality was worse overall for the summer of 2018 than in 2017 with higher than average readings for phosphorus and chlorophyll-a (algae) while the Secchi (water clarity) was better than average, but lower than recent years. Phosphorus concentrations in 2018 were similar to 2016 during the open water season. However, in 2018 there were higher than normal TP concentrations in the July and August samples for the hypolimnion (bottom of the water column) that contributed to the top level having higher phosphorus later in the summer. This may be attributed to longer anoxic conditions at the bottom of the lake, resulting in sediment release of Phosphorus and more algae blooms in the fall.

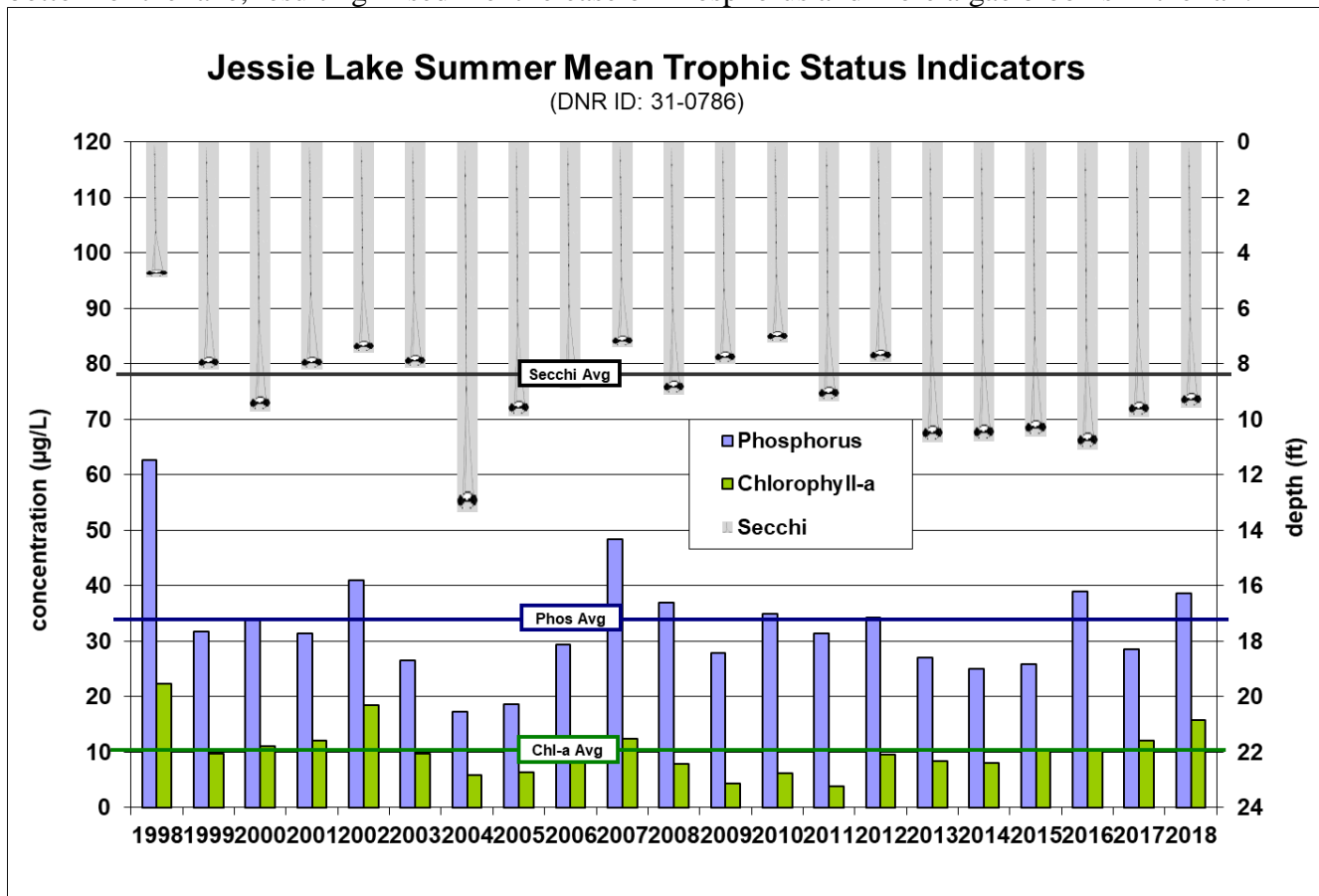


Figure 1 - Recent trends in Jessie Lake including the somewhat anomalous data from 1998

When reviewing data since 1986 and looking for trends in the more recent (1998-2018) continuous data set, it is encouraging that the data shows Jessie Lake’s condition is very stable with no negative



trend in water quality. This means amidst the yearly ups and downs, the lake appears to be remaining mostly stable and even indicating some slight long-term improvement. The data from 1998 with a high phosphorus level appears to be a bit anomalous and does skew the averages when compared to using 1999 as the starting point. This 1998 phosphorus value is the highest seen in 20 years. Figure-1 above shows data and averages from 1998-2018, which shows the trend remaining stable. The year-to-year variability in water quality is often related to the changes in snowfall, rainfall and the lake water levels. The 2018 data show the average Phosphorus concentration (38.6 ppb) was above the long-term average of 33.5 ppb, Chlorophyll-a was also above the average concentration and Secchi disc readings were better than the average expected for Jessie Lake. Itasca SWCD would like to extend our utmost appreciation for the lake Association and volunteer commitment to protect and preserve the health of Jessie Lake for future generations to come. This data is annually reported to the MPCA and becomes part of their database for Minnesota lakes, which is why it is important to continue monitoring the lake.

### **SPRING CREEK CLEANING**

**By Hollister Madsen**



A group of JLWA members spent the morning on April 20, walking Spring Creek at the north end of Jessie Lake to make sure it was clear in preparation for the walleye spawning activity. The water level was the highest we have seen in a number of years, about 2 ½ feet higher than last year at this same time and the water temperature was still very cold at 39 degrees. We saw no major obstructions and encountered no beaver

dams; however, we did see fresh beaver activity on a few trees and actually saw a beaver swimming in the creek. Pictured is the crew, from L to R, Mike Sommer, Jason Jorgenson, Loren Chicoine and Craig Johnson (picture by Hollister Madsen).

### **MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION**

**By Harold Goetzman**

**Let's Go Fishing Itasca County.** The LGF organization in 2018 took 1,018 people out to Itasca County lakes, most of who would not be able to get on the water otherwise. They also reached a milestone in 2018 of serving over 10,000 persons since the beginning in 2007.

**Citizen Lake Monitoring Program.** The CLMP has been a volunteer program in the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) for the past 45 years. In 2018 there were 923 citizen monitors who monitored water quality (Secchi Disk) on 970 lakes in Minnesota. This amounted to 4,615 volunteer service hours that is estimated to be worth \$113,944 to the agency and the MN taxpayers. In addition,



the MPCA has a similar program for monitoring streams that has been in effect for 21 years. This program involved 384 citizen monitors in 2018 at 564 sites and was worth \$56,886 in value to the agency. The JLWA has been reporting our water quality data to the CLMP for 21 consecutive years. This consistent collection of data is the key to water quality improvement and protection.

**Extreme Weather.** The number of billion dollar weather disasters in the United States has more than doubled in recent years according to the National Centers for Environmental Information. Also, in February they announced that 2018 was officially the fourth-warmest year since 1880. The last four years have been the warmest on record and nine of the ten warmest years have been since 2005. The agencies data also showed that 2018 was the wettest in the past 35 years in the US and the third wettest since record keeping started in 1895. Minnesota has warmed 2.9 degrees between 1895 and 2017 and now gets an average of 3.4 more inches of precipitation.

**ICOLA.** The Itasca Coalition of Lake Associations continues to meet five times a year under the direction of a new president and vice-president. The Association works together with other organizations such as SWCD, DNR, Itasca Waters and the County to protect and maintain our lake resources through education and support public outreach activities.

**Quotable.** “Nature is not a place to visit. It is home.” Gary Snyder, American poet

### DID YOU KNOW?

By Harold Goetzman

- MN has 51.1 million acres of which 76% is private, 11% State, 7% Federal and 6% County.
- The 2019 summer fishing limit on Red Lake will be the same as last year with 4 Walleye, however this year one fish can be over 20 inches.
- The 5 largest lakes in MN are Red Lake (288,800 acres), Mille Lacs (132,500 acres), Leech Lake (111,500), Winnie (67,000 acres) and Vermilion (39,300 acres). That means Winnie is about 40 times larger than Jessie with 1700 acres and Mille Lacs is twice the size of Winnie.
- The ice went out April 29<sup>th</sup> on Jessie, which is 4 days later than the average on April 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Our website ([www.minnesotawaters.org/Jessielakewatershed](http://www.minnesotawaters.org/Jessielakewatershed)) is updated regularly by our Webmaster Hollister Madsen with meeting notices and the latest issue of the Jabber.

### MEMBERSHIP

If you have not paid your 2019 dues, please send your \$15 to Tina Jorgenson, 20756 Field Crest Rd, Grand Rapids, MN 55744.

CLIP AND SAVE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

Our JLWA website is ---[www.minnesotawaters.org/Jessielakewatershed](http://www.minnesotawaters.org/Jessielakewatershed)

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