

JESSIE LAKE WATERSHED ASSOCIATION



JESSIE JABBER

VOL.16, NO. 1

SPRING 2013

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT Marn Flicker:

Happy Spring 2013 to everyone. Last year at this time I had my dock in the lake. This year there is still 20" of snow and 30" of ice on the lake. The May 11th open water fishing season is very much in doubt of happening. We may go from the earliest ice out on March 28, 2012 to the latest ice out in 2013. The resorts, fishermen, golf courses, greenhouses, bait dealers and others are all getting very uneasy with no temperatures in the 60's in the near future forecasts.

Let me begin with a warm and sincere "Welcome" to new members from Little Jessie and all other new members from Jessie and Peterson lakes as well. I am looking forward to meeting and getting to know as many of you as I can. Our Association is excited about the addition of Little Jessie residents. By joining forces with our neighbors who share the same environmental values and goals of improving the areas water, shore land and forests we can be more effective than by standing alone. Welcome to our team of dedicated property owners who strive to improve our environment through projects and education on issues that affect our lives in countless ways.

The articles in this issue will give you the dates and times of most of this seasons lake association events so please mark your calendars and plan on participating in as many as possible. There is also an article explaining the reasons for "slot limits" on the walleyes in Jessie Lake. Our guest speaker at the May 18th spring meeting is David Weitzel from the DNR Fisheries Department and he will address any questions you have on this proposal. We invite you to share your thoughts on the "slot limit" regulation after this presentation. The DNR has proposed that Jessie, Sand and Bowstring lakes will be slot regulated and would prefer they go together as one unit.

With the discovery of zebra mussels and faucet snails in Winnie, we all need to be more aware of our watercraft movements from infested water. Mille Lacs has very tight slot walleye restrictions this year and I would expect many of those fishermen will come north to our lakes because of these regulations. This will increase our exposure to transferring invasive species. The fine for leaving any infested water without pulling all drain plugs is now \$500.00! Yes, five hundred dollars. Please make a special effort to read all the new fishing regulations on the transfer of bait from one lake to another. Portable bait containers must be drained when leaving all waters.

I read outdoor news magazines weekly and realize that there are many fish and wildlife issues for our DNR to address. Some more recent concerns include Asian carp, wolf hunts, CWD disease, poaching and selling fish, managing over harvested lakes like Upper Red and Mille Lacs , walleye stocking, determine special regulations for lakes as needed, moose mortality study and hundreds more. The more I work with the DNR, the more I understand that their job is often controversial and usually thankless. Let us all support the DNR and their Conservation Officers by using the TIPS 1-800-652-9093 line when we see violations occurring or know of illegal activity in our area. Over harvesting of fish and wildlife is stealing from all of us.

Have a safe and enjoyable open water boating and cabin season.[whenever it does arrive?]
See you at the meeting and on the water!

Remember These Dates:

July 10th - Share the Lake Day July 18th - Summer Association Picnic Aug. 31st - Fall meeting

SPRING MEETING

Hope to see you all at the spring meeting starting at **10:00 a.m. (coffee at 9:00 a.m.) on Saturday May 18th**. Please note the **NEW** meeting place will be at the **Bowstring Township Hall on County Rd 133**. The business meeting will follow the coffee hour starting at 9:00 a.m. with your directors and neighbors. **Our speaker will be Dave Weitzel from the DNR Fisheries who will discuss the future of the Jessie Lake fishery and the potential move to a slot managed lake. Please come and voice your opinion on this important subject (see article on page 4).** Maybe you can share your fish stories and hot-spots with a new member.

JLWA DIRECTOR'S SPRING MEETING

By Rhonda Nichols, Secretary

Thursday, April 18, 2013 @ Rhonda Nichols

Members present: Steve Bowers, Marn Flicker, Harold Goetzman, Harley Steinbrenner, Diane Sievers and Rhonda Nichols. Absent members: David Anderson, Krista Hagen and Ardie Sheplee.

BUSINESS ITEMS

- 1) The minutes from the fall meeting were read. Steve made a motion to accept the minutes, Harley seconded. Motion carried.
- 2) Harold reported on the Little Jessie Lake membership invitation. At this time, 12 members have paid. The Jabber and a notice of the Spring Annual Meeting will be sent to all residents. It will be discussed at the spring meeting if any by-laws need to be changed to accommodate the Little Jessie membership. Neighborhood Watch Program information will be distributed to them.
- 3) The Tillys Creek project was discussed. The bank will be repaired if needed. Blue irises have been ordered and 100 willow spikes will be cut and added on the lower tier of the main bank.
- 4) Slot limits were discussed. This will be discussed more at the Spring Meeting after a presentation by Dave Weitzel from the DNR Fisheries.
- 5) The Jesse Lake Church is not available on 18th so a change will be needed for the Spring Meeting.
- 6) Diane gave the treasurer's report. The current checkbook balance is \$8,278.55.
- 7) Diane is moving in May and has resigned her treasurer position. Rhonda and Marn will temporarily take over the duties. We will try to fill the treasurer position at the Spring Meeting.
- 7) Dates were set for the following events:
 - Spring road clean-up will be 10 a.m. 5/21. Harley will be in charge of this event.
 - Lake clean-up will be late May to early June. Mike Raymond will be in charge of this event.
 - Share the Lake Day will be 7/10. Jim Deconcini will be the chair of this event. Will try to find a co-chair at Spring Meeting to replace Diane Sievers.
 - The JLWA picnic will be at 5p.m. on 7/18 at Rhonda Nichols home.
 - Fall Annual Meeting will be 8/31.
- 8) New 2013 information will be sent to Jim Anderson so he can post the updates on the JLWA web page.

JLWA Proposed 2013 Budget

Expenses:

Postage	\$350.00	Mileage/Edu	\$200.00
Printing	\$300.00	Lab Testing	\$300.00
Share the Lake	\$350.00	Supplies	\$100.00
MN Waters	\$250.00	ICOLA Dues	\$50.00
Meeting Rentals	\$100.00	JLWA Picnic	\$75.00
Total	\$2075.00		

[Possible additional expense is \$300 materials for Tillys Creek bank stabilization.]

JLWA RECOGNIZED FOR CONSERVATION EFFORTS

Grand Rapids Herald Review

The Jessie Lake Watershed Association (JLWA) was recognized in December at the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts convention in Bloomington where it was named the 2012 Itasca County SWCD Cooperator of the Year. This recognition was for two projects facilitated during the summer of 2012 and other conservation efforts made in recent years.

The two 2012 projects included a culvert replacement and a stream bank stabilization/slope re-vegetation project. Both projects are on Tillys Creek less than three quarters of a mile upstream from the mouth to Jessie Lake. These projects will reduce soil transfer to the lake by reducing bank erosion. This is important because soil contains natural nutrients that can degrade water quality, for example, by contributing to algae blooms. The Association secured funding to cover the majority of the costs for the projects via a competitive federal grant and state cost share funding.

Other conservation committees and efforts, which members of the JLWA have been involved with include Clean Water Partnership, Jessie Lake total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study, Tillys Creek restoration study and the TMDL Implementation report. As action items have been developed through these studies, the Association has taken a leadership role in their implementation. Past projects have included shoreland restorations, native buffer installations, riparian zone protection, fish spawning bed restorations, sediment delta removal and most recently the culvert replacement and stream bank restoration projects on Tillys Creek.

SWCD FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR 2013 JESSIE WATERSHED PROJECTS

By Harold Goetzman

The fall issue of the Jabber had an article by Jim Gustafson of SWCD explaining the need for shoreline owners in our watershed to contact him regarding an interest in hosting a project. We still have funds available and would like anyone with a potential project to contact Marn Flicker (326 0811) or Jim (326 0017) to discuss the potential for a project on your land. The type of projects that will be considered for implementation and funding include the installation of native plant buffers along the lakeshore, willow bundle installation to decrease erosion and aid the establishment of native plants, installation of water diversions to reduce erosion and the creation of rain gardens. All of these practices help reduce the nutrient inputs associated with erosion and sediment transport. Any concerns about your shoreline erosion or storm water management can be explored for solutions.

Jim also mentioned SWCD and JLWA will have an educational/volunteer session in May on how to cut and install willow stakes for bank stabilization. We would like to use this time to further enhance the current Tillys Creek bank stabilization project so give Marn a call at 326-0811 if you are available.

FISHERIES UPDATE--JESSIE LAKE SLOT LIMIT?

Dave Weitzel, DNR Area Fisheries

Editors Note-Some months ago I had asked Dave Weitzel of the DNR about the possibility of using a chemical called OTC to mark the walleye fry used to stock Jessie Lake this spring. The following are his comments on that subject and an update regarding test netting plus the potential for a slot limit.

Dave's Comments

I talked to some research folks who have been doing a lot of OTC marking in recent years. They told me that it would take a considerable amount of sampling effort and time to produce meaningful results, and that our capacity to conduct OTC studies remains quite limited, as there are few qualified staff to look at the marks and limited equipment within the state to do the work. There is also a formal study proposal that needs to be submitted and approved prior to fry marking (which is unlikely to be approved prior to this springs stocking). After giving it much consideration, I feel that marking fry for

Jessie Lake would be a low Area Fisheries priority at this time, and that it would not be a very good tool to quantify natural reproduction in Jessie Lake. Given our current stocking strategy, OTC marking may indicate whether any natural reproduction occurs, but would be a poor tool to quantify the extent of natural reproduction. In other words, it would most likely confirm what we already know, that some reproduction occurs, but at too low of a level to maintain a desirable walleye density. Such results are unlikely to change our management strategy.

With that said, we are going to plan a gill net only special assessment in Jessie Lake for late summer 2013. This assessment will provide useful data on the current status of the walleye population, document the fate of the large 2006 year class and give us some idea as to the success of fry stockings in 2010, 2011 and 2012.

We are also going to propose walleye slot limits for Jessie, Sand and Bowstring lakes. All this currently means is that we are going to seek public input to gauge the interest in such regulations on these waters. Any regulation would need documented public support to be implemented. My personal thoughts are that these lakes are biologically good candidates for a regulation, as they provide sporadically strong year classes that draw heavy angling pressure, have populations typically dominated by small, young fish and are productive systems with the potential to produce a lot of walleye biomass. At some point in the near future, I would like to meet with the lake association to discuss the potential of a regulation and share some data with the group.

LITTLE JESSIE LAKE LAND OWNERS INVITED TO JOIN JLWA

By Harold Goetzman

In January a letter was sent to the sixty-eight property owners on Little Jessie Lake to discuss their interest in joining our JLWA. This was discussed at our Annual Meeting last fall and those present voted to extend an invitation to Little Jessie residents since they have no lake association and are our close neighbors. This would be a good fit even though they are not in our watershed since we are already a well-established and successful association of 15 years. After receiving a number of positive responses to the first letter, we have in March invited the Little Jessie owners to join JLWA by paying their 2013 dues. As with Jessie Lake we would expect the early membership interest to double in several years giving them a good representation in the Association and we hope be active participants. One of the goals of our Itasca County Coalition of Lake Associations is to continue to grow the number of lakes and shoreline owners that are in lake associations. Thus, we feel this change will benefit all of us who are concerned about maintaining or improving the quality of our lake resources. Please welcome our new members from Little Jessie Lake and encourage others you know on that lake to join. We need everyone on Jessie, Little Jessie, Peterson, Spring and Little Spring Lake to support the Lake Association mission in our bylaws: **The purpose of the Association is to represent the common interests of its members, relative to maintaining and improving the quality of the total environment in the Jessie Lake Watershed (Area).**

While on the subject of Little Jessie Lake I decided to look up a bit of information on this lake that is available on the DNR and MPCA websites. One of our Association members, Mike Nystrom, from Little Jessie has been monitoring the water clarity for the past 7 years so I knew that data was available as part of the Citizens Lake Monitoring Program. The Secchi disk monitoring for water clarity shows Little Jessie has remained relatively clear over the past 7 years with average values of 12.5 to 17.0 ft. with an average of about 15 feet. Last year the readings ranged from 13.5 to 20.0 ft. with an average of 16.8 ft (Jessie was 8.0 ft. for comparison). The lake was also sampled for water chemistry in 2008 and 2009 as part of the Itasca Water Legacy Partnership (IWLP) grant to study 150 Recreational Development (RD) lakes in Itasca County. The two-year average phosphorus value was 10 parts per billion (ppb), which classifies Little Jessie as a moderately clear Oligotrophic lake with a Trophic State Index (TSI) of 38 (Oligotrophic lakes are in the TSI range 20-40 with 0-12 phos and 13-25 ft SD).

The DNR data reports Little Jessie to have an area of 626 acres (about a third of Jessie) with a maximum depth of 50 feet. Little Jessie has no inlet or outlet stream so the water level is fairly stable being it is controlled by springs and precipitation. The last DNR fishery survey was carried out in 2010 and showed a walleye catch rate of 5.7 fish per net, which is pretty close to the average of 5.3 fish/net. Over the years this number has ranged from 3.3 to 8.8 fish/net. The Little Jessie plan calls for stocking of fingerlings on even years and since 2006 they put in 10,061, 4,313, 7,739 and 10,725 fish so the walleye population should remain fairly stable. The northern population was 2.3 fish/net, which is below the normal average of 5.1 fish/net where the normal range is 2.8 to 9.0 fish/net. Yellow perch were caught at 17.3 fish/net, which is on the low side of the normal range of 7 to 46 fish/net.

PETERSON LAKE

Since I was looking up information on Little Jessie, I also collected the data for Peterson Lake that has been monitored by JLWA member Ardee Sheplee for the past six years. The Secchi disk data for 2012 show biweekly readings of 6.9 to 13.2 ft. with an average of 10.2 ft. while the averages for 2008 to 2011 were 10.9, 9.0, 9.5 and 9.6 feet. The phosphorus level in Peterson Lake was also measured during the IWLP program in 2008 and 2009 with average values of 21ppb and 17ppb (compared to 37 and 28ppb for Jessie). This classifies Peterson Lake as a moderately clear Mesotrophic lake (TSI 47). Peterson Lake is listed by the DNR as having an area of 130 acres with a maximum depth of 55 feet. The last DNR fish survey was done in the year 2000 to assess the population after the 1996 winter kill. To supplement the fishery, adult crappie, bluegill and largemouth bass were stocked in the summer of 1996 after the partial winter kill. The 2000 catch rates for bass and crappie were still below normal levels, but seemed to be recovering as expected. The northern catch rate was 14 fish/net which is much higher than similar lakes, but the size structure was poor with few fish larger than 24 inches. This means many of the northern survived the winter kill. Lake levels in Peterson are often subject to control by beaver dams on the outlet stream.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS OF JLWA

By Harold Goetzman

While writing the recent letters to Little Jessie owners we discussed some of the benefits of belonging to our Association and I thought it would be a good reminder for all of us to reflect on that information. The following are some of the important benefits that Marn and I came up with:

- 1) Awareness and education on important water quality issues such as water chemistry and clarity, shoreline erosion, water levels and septic maintenance. Annual water quality monitoring data.
- 2) Awareness and education on the aquatic invasive species (AIS) issues such as zebra mussels (now found in Lake Winnie), purple loosestrife (in Turtle Lake) and curly pond weed (Dixon).
- 3) Established ability of networking with agencies such as SWCD, USFS, DNR and MPCA.
- 4) An established slate of officers and directors to communicate with regarding issues.
- 5) Strength in numbers when dealing with government policy issues.
- 6) Participation in our lake community improvement events.
- 7) Social gatherings and community events such as picnics, roadside cleaning and share the lake.
- 8) The Neighborhood Watch program and knowing your neighbors.
- 9) Fishing stability goal and interaction with the DNR stocking program.
- 10) All levels of involvement available from contributions to volunteering on committees or Board of Directors and working on projects. No pressure to participate.
- 11) Biannual copies of the Jabber, email alerts and lake maps with directory (will add Little Jessie).
- 12) General goal of taking care of our lakes and guarding these shared assets for our grandchildren.

There are certainly other benefits that could be added to this list and hopefully we can come up with future ideas to expand the list. As with any organization it is **what you make it to be.**

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES – ZEBRA MUSSELS FOUND IN LAKE WINNIE

Taken from the Duluth News Tribune, Feb. 1

Zebra mussel larvae have been found in Lake Winnibigoshish, one of the Northland's most popular fishing lakes was reported by the DNR this winter. The DNR said two larvae of the thumbnail-size mussels were discovered in Lake Winnie water samples that were collected in July, 2012 and examined this winter. The larvae, called veligers, showed up in one of the 15 samples and so far no adult mussels have been found. The discovery is enough for the DNR to consider the lake officially invaded, which is a proactive move to prevent the spread to other area lakes. Officials say it is likely there are adult mussels in Winnie that haven't been noticed yet. They believe they caught the zebra mussels at a very early stage of infestation in the lake.

The discovery has implications far beyond one lake, however, because the big lake is part of the Upper Mississippi River system and it is likely zebra mussels will move downstream to other connected lakes. There is really no way of preventing this downstream movement and any body of water below Winnie will eventually have their own population of mussels. There will be big implications for the tourism business and anglers, but especially for the bait business. Winnie has a huge shiner run and now there are going to be restrictions on harvesting those shiners.

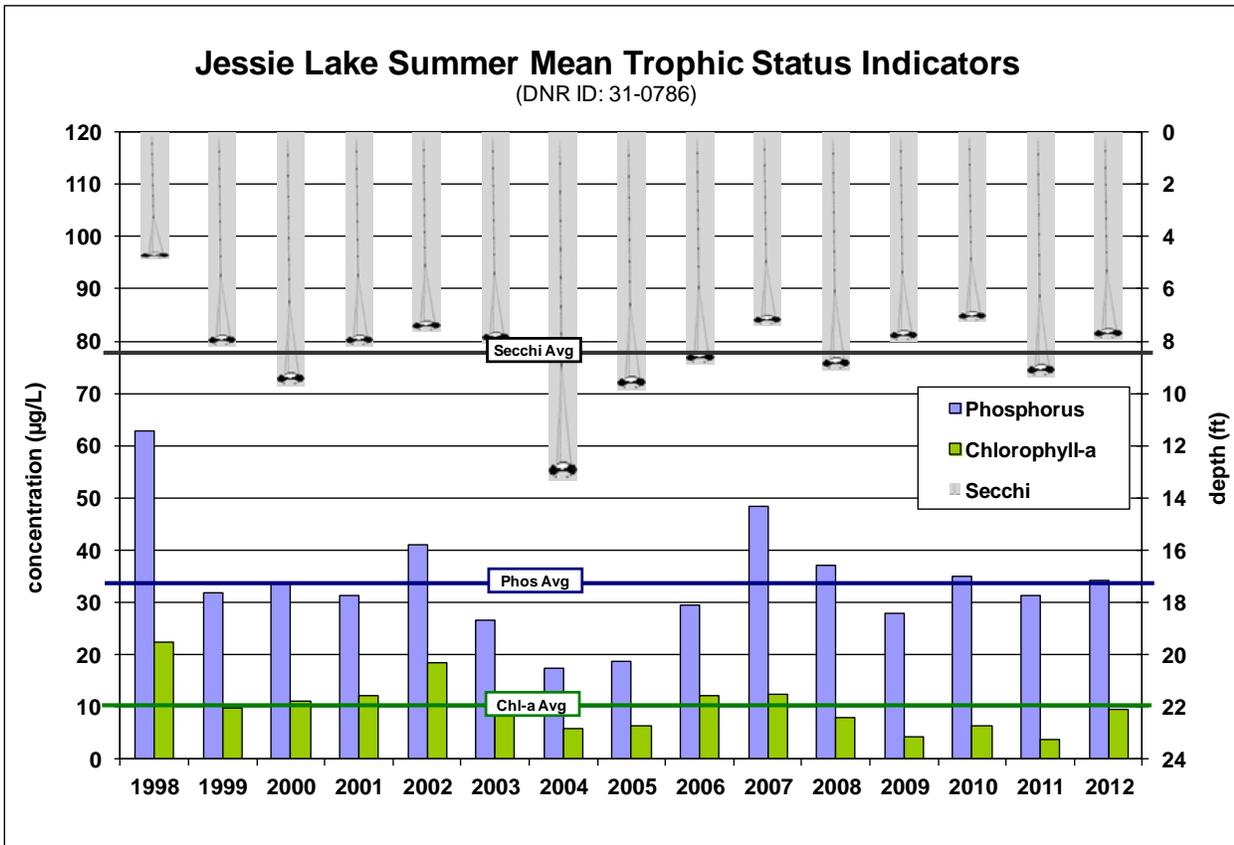
Zebra mussels are native to eastern Europe and moved into the Great Lakes in the ballast of ships in the 1980's. They were first found in the Duluth harbor in 1989 and now have been confirmed in more than 80 lakes and rivers across Minnesota including Mille Lacs Lake. It is not clear how the mussels got into Winnie, except it is clear that people were involved since zebra mussels can't swim. The early detection may help stop the mussels from spreading over land to other waters. Education and information efforts are working as only 12 of the state's infestations have been over land from a disconnected body of water. **WE MUST ALL TAKE ACTION TO AVOID MOVING THESE INVASIVE SPECIES TO OTHER LAKES. RULES THAT ARE IN PLACE REGARDING MOVING A BOAT FROM INFESTED WATERS NEED TO BE FOLLOWED.**

Question: What is being done to contain zebra mussels at Lake Winnie? Answer from Kris Kavanaugh, DNR Area Fisheries – The DNR watercraft inspection program will be spending more hours at the accesses and will have one of the decontamination units on-site for a number of days. The DNR and the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwa are working together to tighten bait harvest rules. DNR Enforcement will be doing more checks at the landings to be sure people are pulling the plug and draining all water. We are working with the USFS at public boat ramps to provide a better area to drain boats. Finally, we will ramp up surveillance using plankton sampling in Winnie, Cut Foot, Little Cut Foot and some of the surrounding lakes.

JESSIE LAKE 2012 MONITORING YEAR END REVIEW

By Noel Griese

Fifteen consecutive years of data have been collected on Jessie Lake since 1998 through the continued efforts and partnership between the Jessie Lake Watershed Association and Itasca County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). We continue to see a consistent summer pattern in Jessie with good water quality and recreational conditions early on and then it significantly declines come August and September due to the lake water mixing/turn-over. May through August water quality was very good this past year with an average phosphorus concentration of 22 ug/l, which was well below the long-term average of 34 ug/l. Then came September and the lake turned over mixing nutrients to the surface (phosphorus reading 79 ug/l), which brought the overall, average back up to 34 ug/l. Chlorophyll (algae) concentrations and secchi (water clarity) also followed phosphorus. Early on levels were very good with a severe decline in September. (Average chl-a 9.6 ug/l and secchi 8.0 ft). Based on monthly sample results, the water quality for 2012 was typical with levels being right at the long-term average.



Jessie Lake is one of the few lakes in the state, which has enough data (minimum 10 years of data) to be able to determine if there are improving, maintaining, or declining trends. Since 1998, data continues to show there is no significant trend in water quality for Jessie Lake, meaning amidst the yearly ups and downs the lake appears to be remaining stable. Data collected on Jessie over the past 15 years is of great value to local resource managers because it lends the ability to make informed decisions as we move forward with future management strategies. Jessie Lake is the only lake in Itasca County to my knowledge to have 15 consecutive years of nutrient data and that outstanding achievement is a result of one man's commitment to protecting Jessie Lake. The Itasca County SWCD would like to commend Harold Goetzman for his constant dedication and commitment over the years to Jessie Lake's monitoring program, which is foundational to protecting its future.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Roadside Clean Up. On May 21st at 10:00 a.m. we will meet at Jessie View Resort to pick up litter on the 3 miles of County Road 35 between Highway 6 and County Road 133. The County provides garbage bags and vests so it is a good JLWA public service event if it fits your schedule. Call Harley Steinbrenner if you plan to help at 832-3175.

Lake Shoreline Clean Up. This year we are planning to do the second annual shoreline clean up on Jessie Lake by canoeing around the lake and collecting visible trash in the shallow water or on shore. The project will again be coordinated by Mike Raymond so let him know if you can help by calling 832-5302. Last year, Mike found it worked best by doing it over a couple weeks in late May to early June rather than setting one day so that will be the plan again. Mike estimated they collected about three garbage bags of stuff last year that was in the water or on shore mostly along public shoreline. We assume that people will pick up stuff along their private land. Last year seven volunteers helped.

ICOLA and AIS. This winter the Itasca Coalition of Lake Associations (ICOLA) with additional funds from the Itasca Water Legacy Partnership has produced 5000 placards and 5000 table-tents to fight AIS. These glossy cardboard 4x6 inch tents have pictures and information regarding the Pull the Plug law when leaving a lake with your boat or receive a \$200 fine. The main points are emphasized to clean the trailer, empty all water from boat (livewells, bilge and bait buckets) and dry equipment prior to entering another lake. The drain plug must be pulled when on a public road (\$200 fine) or a \$500 fine for leaving a designated infested water (Winnie) with drain plug in the boat. ICOLA will be distributing the AIS tents this spring at the home and boat shows in addition to getting them in most resorts, hotels, restaurants and other commercial businesses to raise awareness and educate the public.

2013 DNR Fishing Regulations. REQUIRED ACTIONS—CLEAN visible aquatic plants, zebra mussels and other prohibited invasive species off watercraft, trailers and other equipment before leaving any water access. It is illegal to transport them once you leave the water access. **DRAIN** water from boat, livewell, bilge, motor and other boating equipment before leaving any water access. Drain plugs must be removed from bilges and livewells at the water access. Drain plugs and all other water draining devices must remain open while trailering or transporting boats. Portable bait containers must be drained when leaving all waters. If you want to keep your live bait when leaving a lake or river, you must replace water in the bait containers with tap or bottled water. Dispose of unwanted bait, including minnows, leeches and worms in the trash. It is illegal to release bait into a waterbody, release worms on the ground and to release aquatic animals from one waterbody into another. **RECOMMENDED ACTIONS** – Spray, rinse or dry boats and recreational equipment before transporting to another water body, especially after leaving zebra mussel and spiny waterflea infested waters. Do one or more of these actions: 1) rinse with very hot tap water, 2) spray with high-pressure water or 3) dry for 5 days.

Fishing Opener. Some older anglers will remember that originally the fishing opener in MN was set by the DNR as the second Saturday of May closest to the 15th of May. The second day(Sunday) of the season fell on Mother's Day two out of every seven years. The MN legislature then changed the opener to be two Saturdays before Memorial Day. With that change the fishing opener now falls on Mother's Day weekend five out of seven years as it does this year opening on May 11th.

Turn In Poachers Record. Calls to a toll-free hot line for Minnesotans to report illegal hunting and fishing activity shot up 54 % in 2012 to 2,051 calls. The Turn In Poachers hot line broke the record of 1,866 set in 1981, which was the first year the program started. In 2011 only 1,328 calls were received. The hot line allows anyone to anonymously call in and report poaching. If an arrest results, the caller receives a cash reward and since 1981 nearly \$358,000 has been paid out. The hot line number is 800-652-9093 and now cell phone users can dial #TIP, which has helped shorten the time to report.

Youth Water Summit. On May 23rd the second annual Youth Water Summit will be held at the Itasca County Fairgrounds. This event will be for about 330 5th graders from Grand Rapids, Bigfork and St. Joe's schools. In addition, this year's event will include the Deer River 5th graders. This will be a day-long event with many hands-on water science activities. It is hosted by Itasca Water Legacy Partnership (IWLP) and staffed by environmentalists and volunteer teachers. Harold Goetzman (presenter) and Marn Flicker will represent JLWA. The keynote speaker will be Justin Liles, meteorologist from WDIO TV in Duluth. The goal is to teach youth how important it is to maintain our clean water resources, as these are our future decision makers.

Deer Ticks. This area is listed among the top in the country for tick related incidents so be on the alert for these pests and the danger of tick-borne diseases. The deer tick carries the agents of several diseases; including Lyme disease, human anaplasmosis, babesiosis, Powassan disease and a new form of human ehrlichiosis. The cases of these diseases have been increasing in recent years and now the non-Lyme diseases make up 27% of the total so you can't always rely on the red bulls-eye for Lymes. It is interesting that this winter we traveled to Nepal with a couple from Lyme, Connecticut and she was the first person to have the disease traced to a tick bite. Hence, the name Lyme disease was used.

The Man of La Mancha. In late March the Grand Rapids Players presented the well known musical “The Man of La Mancha” in which our own Mike Raymond (former JLWA Treasurer) starred as Don Quixote. Mike’s performance was just great and his singing ability surprised even the best of us theatrical critics. Congratulations and thanks to Mike for a great job and commitment to a lot of work.

District 2 Commissioner. Terry Snyder was elected this past November as our County Commissioner in District 2 replacing Catherine McLynn. His phone number is 218-327-2847 and his email is terry.snyder@co.itasca.mn.us if you need to contact him.

Quotable. Quote-“In all things of nature, there is something of the marvelous.” – Aristotle

DID YOU KNOW?

By Harold Goetzman

- The year 2012 was the warmest on record. Interesting to note that the last full month in which the average daily temperature did not exceed twentieth-century norms was February of 1985.
- The largest yellow perch caught in MN was 3lb.,4oz in 1945.
- The population of MN moose has declined from 8800 in 2006 to 4230 in 2012. The reason for this decline is unknown at this time, but research is underway to determine why.
- The cost for a fishing license has increased to \$22 this year. The DNR Fish and Game Fund would have been depleted without an increase in the fees for fishing and hunting.
- More than 282 million people visited America’s National Parks in 2012, which was an increase of 3 million over 2011. Great Smoky Mountain was number one on the list with 9.7 million visitors.
- Minnesota is second only to Oregon for its recycling rate. We still throw out every year about 1.3 million tons of material that could be recycled in addition to the 2.5 million tons recycled.
- The ice on Jessie Lake has not gone out as of April 25th. This may be one of the latest ice out dates in history. The latest date recorded in our 70 years of data was May 19th in 1950 and the second latest was May 10th in 2008, which most of you remember. The average ice out date is April 25th.
- Our website (www.minnesotawaters.org/Jessie) is updated regularly by our Webmaster Jim Anderson with meeting notices and the latest issue of the Jabber.

MEMBERSHIP

The JLWA presently has 99 paid members (with Little Jessie). If you have not paid your 2013 dues, please send your \$10 to Rhonda Nichols, 47030 S Tillys Rd, Talmoon, MN 56637.

CLIP AND SAVE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

Our JLWA website is ---www.minnesotawaters.org/Jessie

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