



# Wisconsin Land+Water Conservation Association

131 W. Wilson St. Suite 601 · Madison, Wisconsin 53703-3243

Phone: (608) 441-2677 · Fax: (608) 441-2676 · Web site: [www.wisconsinlandwater.org](http://www.wisconsinlandwater.org)

## Great Lakes Committee

### Annual Summer Meeting Minutes

<b>Date: Thursday, June 23, 2021</b>	
<b>Start Time: 10:09 A.M.</b>	<b>Approximate End Time: 11:17 A.M.</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Zoom meeting after 9:00 a.m. Webinar - <i>Want Freshwater? Then Stop over-salting</i>
	Contact Penny at <a href="mailto:Penny@wisconsinlandwater.org">Penny@wisconsinlandwater.org</a> for Zoom information
<p><b>Committee Members:</b> Greg Coulthurst, Door Co. (Chair); Ashley Vande Voort, Douglas Co.; (Vice-Chair); Davina Bonnets, Kewaunee Co. (Secretary); Heather Palmquist, Iron Co.; Steve Keith, Milwaukee Co.; Scott Frank, Shawano Co.; Andy Holschbach, Ozaukee Co.; Ken Dolata, Oconto Co.; Vacant, Winnebago Co.; MaryJo Gingras, Ashland Co.; Paul Sebo, Washington Co.; Chris Arrowood, Langlade Co.; Sarah Topp, Marinette Co.; Tyler Betry, Sheboygan Co.;</p> <p><b>Non-Voting Advisors:</b> Donalea Dinsmore, Office of Great Waters; Mike Friis &amp; Todd Breiby, DOA WI Coastal Management; Zach Zopp, DATCP</p>	<p><b>In Attendance:</b> Greg Coulthurst, Ashley Vande Voort, Heather Palmquist, Scott Frank, Ken Dolata, MaryJo Gingras, Paul Sebo, Chris Arrowood, Sarah Topp, Zach Stewart, Todd Breiby, Zach Zopp, Penny Pohle</p>
<p><b>WI Land+Water Staff:</b> Penny Pohle, Conservation Training &amp; Membership Services Manager (Treasurer)</p>	<p><b>Absent Committee Members:</b> Davina Bonness, Steve Keith, Andy Holschbach, Tyler Betry</p>
<p><b>Notes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WI Land+Water Meetings are open meetings. Individuals may observe in person or via conference phone if available.</li> <li>• More volunteers are welcome to participate. If interested please join in-person or via the conference call option.</li> <li>• Order and time allowed for agenda items may be changed due to pace of meeting or at the discretion of the committee chair.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Next Meeting Time: October TBD (Fall Budget Meeting)</b></p>	

1. **Call to order:** Chair Greg Coulthurst called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.
2. **Roll Call:** See above.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Ken Dolata and seconded by Ashley Vande Voort to approve the agenda. Committee was unanimous in vote.
4. **Approval of Minutes - April 14, 2021:** Motion by MaryJo Gingras and seconded by Paul Sebo to approve the April 14, 2021, meeting minutes. Committee was unanimous in vote.
5. **Webinar(s)**
  - a. **Want Freshwater? Then Stop over-salting** - Agreed that Allison Madison from Wisconsin Salt Wise gave a great presentation today. Some participants said they may share it with their highway departments. Thanks to Steve Keith for finding this presenter and presentation. There were 31 participants. The recording will be posted on the WI Land+Water website.
  - b. **Future webinars** - Steve Keith has made initial contact with the following two people to possibly co-present a webinar in October. Judy Freed, Alliance for the Great Lakes and Anna Ostermeier, Marshfield Clinic Health System AmeriCorps Member serving as Milwaukee Riverkeeper Sustainability Coordinator and Plastic-Free MKE-Volunteer Coordinator. Sounds like Judy could speak more on larger-scale policy while Anna might speak more about pollution sources. The discussion could focus on a specific aspect, such as how much plastics are getting into the lake and from what source and/or could be about policies to reduce plastics pollution.
6. **Reports:**
  - a. **Advisors** -

Donalea Dinsmore (Office of Great Waters) is on vacation but sent in the following report - Perhaps the most significant thing that I have to report is that the press release went out today about the **RFP for GLRI nutrient management funding** (\$9 million available). I'll be forwarding it to the Great Lakes list shortly.

For the **Great Lakes Sediment and Nutrient Reduction Program grants**, there was one Wisconsin applicant. The work group will meet on June 17 and 18 to recommend which projects to fund.

Zach Zopp (DATCP):

**June is Dairy Month** - Randy Romanski, DATCP Secretary-designee has asked that we join in recognizing the many contributions of Wisconsin dairy to our state's heritage, economy, and future.

**Conservation Engineering** - Funds are still available in the DATCP engineering reserve fund for eligible projects that address farm discharges. If you have a project that addresses a farm discharge and need funds to complete it, please contact your DATCP area engineering staff for more information. Deadline for project consideration is June 30th.

**Land and Water Conservation Board and LWRM Plan Updates** - The next LWCB meeting will be held on August 3, 2021. The meeting will be held virtually using Microsoft Teams. For updates on LWCB meetings and meeting links please subscribe to LWCB govdelivery notices.

**Farmland Preservation Program and Agricultural Enterprise Area** - The 2021 Agricultural Enterprise Area petition period is open. Petitions are due by August 2, 2021. The application, instructions, and examples of successful petitions are available on the Petitioning for AEA Designation website at the following link. Please contact Wednesday Jordan at wednesday.jordan@wisconsin.gov with any questions.

**Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)** - Alec Martin, alec.martin@wisconsin.gov DATCP intern, will be assisting county LCDs with field assessments. These visits are essential for benchmarking the status of the conservation practice and identifying and communicating to landowners any issues on the site prior to them becoming severe.

**2020 Soil and Water Conservation Annual Report Published** - The annual report for 2020 has been published on the DATCP website and is accessible at this link. The report includes information gathered from county land conservation departments about their work in 2020 and features success stories from around the state.

Todd Breiby (DOA WI Coastal Management) -

**Wisconsin Clean Marina Program** (<https://wisconsincleanmarina.org/>)

UW Sea Grant, WI Coastal Management Program and WI Marine Association co-administer the WI Clean Marina Program. Significant effort recently has been directed to designing and installing green infrastructure at coastal marinas. UW Sea Grant and WI Coastal Management, through funding from the Great Lakes Protection Fund, are constructing green infrastructure practices at Barkers Island Marina in Superior. A linear treatment stormwater wetland was created, and additional native plantings are being added to improve water quality, assist with infiltration, and reduce flooding at the marina. Additional tools and resources are being created through this project and more information can be found at <https://www.michiganseagrant.org/cmst/>. And through funding from the Fund for Lake Michigan, project partners will plan, design, and construct green infrastructure practices at marinas along the Lake Michigan coast. Monitoring will also be conducted at marinas and will include metals and microplastics. Multi-year monitoring will assist in determining the effectiveness of the installed practices.

**Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary**

A multi-year effort to establish a national marine sanctuary in a portion of Wisconsin's Lake Michigan waters is nearly complete. The WI Historical Society, WI Coastal Management Program, and Wisconsin DNR co-led the effort with NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and communities in Ozaukee, Sheboygan, Manitowoc, and Kewaunee Counties to nominate and move the proposed sanctuary towards designation. The WSCNMS will be jointly managed by the State of Wisconsin and NOAA. Below are press releases and links to learn more.

Governor Evers announced on June 22 that NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries will publish a final rule for the designation of the Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary. The sanctuary designation will take effect following a review by the governor and Congress over a 45-day period of continuous session of Congress. The rule was published today, June 23. <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIGOV/bulletins/2e4da43>

NOAA press release: [NOAA designates new national marine sanctuary in Wisconsin's Lake Michigan | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration](#)

NOAA's WSCNMS website: [Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary | Office National Marine Sanctuaries \(noaa.gov\)](#)

**Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts** (<https://wicci.wisc.edu/>)

The Working Groups (Agriculture, Climate, Fisheries, Great Lakes, Forestry, Wildlife, etc.) that make up WICCI have been busy developing the next assessment reports. The Working Groups, made up of a diversity of partners and stakeholders like WI DNR, WI Coastal Management and other state, federal, tribal, and local agencies are currently reviewing and finalizing the assessment reports. WICCI will make the final reports available via the website later in 2021. Perhaps a report by WICCI could be a future webinar.

**Coastal Hazards of Superior (CHAOS) Community of Practice**

CHAOS is a coastal hazard Community of Practice sharing knowledge and resources to protect Minnesota and Wisconsin coasts of western Lake Superior. CHAOS is a platform for engaging local community leaders, managers, researchers, and communicators with a shared concern about coastal hazards and their impacts. Attached please find a flyer about this initiative, and how to join if you are interested.

CHAOS holds quarterly webinars on a variety of topics. The upcoming July webinar, date/time TBD, will focus on NOAA's Digital Coast (<https://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/>). The NOAA Digital Coast is a platform for data, training, resources, and tools. We are currently organizing a webinar to explore Digital Coast, how to use this resource and learn more about available tools and training. I'll plan to forward the webinar announcement to the Great Lakes Committee once the details are confirmed in case there is any interest in attending.

WI Coastal Management, UW Sea Grant and the Lake Superior NERR can coordinate with NOAA to conduct Digital Coast trainings (<https://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/training/home.html>) if there is any listed topic of interest.

**WCMP Grant Program**

WI Coastal Management Program will have the next RFP (2022-23) available beginning August 2021 with an application deadline of early November 2021. To find out more about the grant program please go to <https://doa.wi.gov/Pages/LocalGovtsGrants/CoastalGrants.aspx>.

Examples of habitat and water quality projects that are eligible include development or revision of nine key element watershed plans, stream, and habitat restoration projects, updating coastal hydrography geospatial data to assist with nonpoint pollution planning, stormwater management, microbial source tracking at beaches, nonpoint education, green infrastructure, etc.

If interested in the WCMP grant program, or want to discuss potential projects, please contact me at [todd.breiby@wisconsin.gov](mailto:todd.breiby@wisconsin.gov).

- b. Treasurers** - Penny Pohle reported that 17 counties have paid their \$50 dues for the Great Lakes Committee. That is the same number as last year and totals \$850.
  - c. Other** - Penny also presented on the roles of the Professional Improvement Committee (PIC). They are looking for new members.
- 7. Mini Grant Applications:**
  - a. Douglas County** - Zach Stewart, AIS Coordinator with Douglas County, presented on their grant application to design and install AIS cleaning stations. Motion by Scott Frank and seconded by Paul Sebo to approve the grant for 2022. Motion carried with all in favor.
- 8. 2021 Summer Tour cancellation/postponement/ virtual:** Discussed holding it in Ashland. A summer tour would include different projects than a fall tour. Decided to hold it there in the summer of 2022. Heather Palmquist suggested that for 2021 GLC members could put together a three-five minute video showcasing their county projects at the December GLC meeting.
- 9. Recycling Initiative Update:** Meleesa Johnson, Director Marathon County Solid Waste, and Dr. Lorena Rios Mendoza at UW Superior were suggested. Looking for ideas of how to solve, ordinances, reusable containers, compostable containers, etc. One idea is to provide elected officials coffee cups with their names on to reuse.

**10. Next Meeting Date:** Sometime in October.

**11. Adjourn:** Motion by Scott Frank and seconded by Ken Dolata to adjourn at 11:17 a.m. Committee was unanimous to adjourn.