

	UNAPPROVED MINUTES LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday January 25, 2023 at 1:00 PM HHS Building, Community Room 303 W. Chapel St. Dodgeville, WI 53533 Remote attendance option: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89720528852 Conference call #: 1-312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 89720528852	Iowa County Wisconsin
Mr. Harrington made a motion to designate Sup. Geisking as temporary chair. Sup. Kreul seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting was called to order by Sup. Geisking at 1:10 pm		
Roll Call. Members present: Bob Bunker, Roger Geisking, Tim Harrington, Darrell Kreul, and Peter Vanderloo. Arrived after call to order: Dave Gollon, Don Leix Excused: Kevin Butteris Others present: Katie Abbott, Casey Michek, Mel Masters, Dan Nankee (zoom), Matt Wallrath (zoom)		
Approve the agenda for this January 25, 2023 meeting: Mr. Bunker made a motion to approve this January 25, 2023 agenda. Mr. Vanderloo seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
Approve the minutes of the December 21, 2022 meeting: Mr. Vanderloo made a motion to approve the December 21, 2022 minutes. Mr. Bunker seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
Report from committee members and an opportunity for members of the audience to address the committee. No action will be taken. Mr. Nankee provided an update from the Ag/Extension Committee, including current extension staff and recent programming, and the fisherie at Blackhawk Lake. Mr. Harrington reported that the Farm Service Agency offices may combine leadership, which raises concerns over local decisions on hiring and service to customers. Sup. Kreul asked about any follow-up with last month's Notices of Noncompliance. Mr. Michek reported that he has had conversations with all of them.		
Mr. Geisking returned chair duties to Sup. Gollon		
NRCS update: none provided		
Blackhawk Lake Commission update: Sup. Kreul reported that the Commission discussed 2023 projects, including parking lot resurfacing and replacing the retaining wall at the beach.		
Invasive species activities and grant budget discussion: Mr. Wallrath explained the education and training component of his invasive species budget. Discussion of tasks listed in the DNR grant agreement and reporting frequency.		
Youth poster contest results: Ms. Abbott discussed the poster contest and showed the winning posters.		
Land Conservation Department updates: A) 2022 annual report and 2023 work plan: Ms. Abbott went over highlights of the report and work plan. Discussion of rainfall simulator, tree sales, FPP backlog, and Birch Lake repairs. B) Land and Water Association conference: Ms. Abbott provided the schedule and requested anyone interested in attending let her know within a week.		

Agenda items for future meetings: Birch Lake bid selection, wildlife abatement claims approvals, groundwater program proposal

Motion to set the next meeting and adjourn. The next meeting date was set for Wednesday February 22 at 1:00 PM in the HHS Community Room. Sup. Leix made a motion to adjourn. Sup. Geisking seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:09pm.



TO: Land Conservation Committee
FROM: Katie Abbott, County Conservationist
Date: February 22, 2023
RE: Groundwater funding plan

In the 2023 budget, the County Board designated \$100,000 of the ATC Environmental Impact Fee funding to be used for groundwater projects. After many discussion with coworkers and partners, the Land Conservation Department proposes the following uses of that fund:

1. Well testing program and discount

- Landowners will drop off well samples on the same day and LCD staff will drive them up to the Stevens Point Water and Environmental Analysis Lab
- Testing must include nitrate and bacteria
- We'll offer a \$20 discount per test for the first 250 people to sign up
- We may be able to take tests for elderly/disabled folks (up to 30) or cover additional cost with proof of economic hardship
- We will work with the Health Department and include an educational component
- Estimated cost: \$5,000

2. Cost-share to replace old septic systems

- Maximum of \$5,000 per contract
- Only eligible if replacing a pre-1980 system
- Estimated cost: \$25,000

3. Cost-share to replace wells that connect aquifers

- Identified as a critical risk factor in the SWIGG study, these wells are not only susceptible to contamination, but also allow contamination from the upper aquifer to enter lower aquifer
- Must have well report showing that well is drilled into lower aquifer (sandstone layer) but casing stops above the sandstone layer
- If extending the casing or adding a liner is feasible/effective and less costly, that will also be an option for cost-sharing
- Maximum of \$5,000 per contract or 70% of cost, whichever is less
- Other types of wells that need replacing will be referred to DNR's ARPA Well Compensation Grant if applicable
- Estimated cost: \$25,000

4. Nitrogen management incentives

- Increase Nutrient Management Planning cost-share by \$12/ac (added to \$28/ac provided by DATCP cost-share funds)
- Cost-share \$20/ac for NMPs for new landowners who are ineligible for DATCP funds due to cost-sharing received by previous owners
- Nitrogen Use Efficiency assessment incentive: \$750 for simple assessment, \$1500 for advanced, using Discovery Farms NUE assessment guidelines or LCD-approved N trial
- Estimated cost: \$20,000

5. Increased cost-sharing for well abandonments

- Currently we can pay for 70% with our DATCP cost-share. To encourage people to find and properly close old wells, we will offer an additional 20% cost-share, funded with the ATC Grant, for a total of 90% cost-share
- Participants will have to close their well using a DNR-certified contractor and submit the DNR form documenting the closure.
- Cisterns are included
- Estimated cost: \$5,000

6. Cost-share for sinkhole and mineshaft protection or closure

- Must be located within an ag field or livestock production area (or clearly receive runoff from ag use)
- Would have to follow NRCS standards & be certified by qualified technician, or be designed/certified by WI engineer
- Protection via diversions and fencing will likely be the most feasible, but full closure is an option if costs, timeline, and technical assistance allow (e.g. sinkholes require mapping with ground penetrating radar which has a long wait for assistance)
- Maximum of \$5,000 per contract or 70% of cost, whichever is less
- Estimated cost: \$20,000

General provisions:

- \$5,000 will be reserved for the well testing program; all other funds will be first-come first-served, so the funding will go toward whichever programs have the most demand.
- This program is meant to be flexible; the amount of interest received (or not received) for the various components will provide valuable information about community needs for any future funding proposals or grant applications.
- We may need to adjust some parameters in a few months based on participation or any issues discovered along the way.
- Every project (except well testing) will require a contract that details the practice specifications, life span, and operation and maintenance requirements. Cost-share or incentives will be paid once the project is completed. A contractor's estimate may be needed before contracting some practices.

LMPN Reporting Form
[LMPN Reporting Form for Grant, Green, Iowa, Lafayette, Sauk, and Vernon Counties]
Calendar Year 2022

Designated Agent:
Upper Sugar River Watershed Association - info@uppersugar.org

Staff:
Matt Wallrath, Wade Moder, Hannah Bunting, Heather Hasenstein, Eleanor Laack, Kyle
Hulbert, Tim Babb

DNR contact to receive the report: Shelby Adler

Time period covered by report: 1/1/2022 to 12/31/22

After you share your report with your DNR Grant Coordinator and it is approved, please, upload your report to your SWIMS LMPN Grant page as a document.

A. General Purpose

This reporting tool will be used as a pilot report for 2022 and may be used semi-annually or annually based on the agreed upon reporting schedule by the County or their Designated Agent and their WDNR Grant Coordinator. It is understood that some grantees do not cover each of the items listed below and that which portions you answer will be based on your agreement.

B. Coverage

This report covers the LMPN activities agreed to the Counties for the period noted above. If multiple Counties are being covered in the grant agreement, a single report is allowed. Note any differences in the work agreed to by each County the report covers by adding additional text as necessary.

C. Reporting

During the period covering 1/1/2022 to 10/11/22], the County Staff and contractors provided the following:

1) Statewide Prevention Activities that you coordinated and/or participated in as agreed to:

Y, N, or NA	Activity
Y	The Landing Blitz
Y	Drain Campaign
Y	Waterfowl Hunter Outreach
Y	AIS Snapshot Day
Y	Bait Shop Initiative

Select one:

☒ All related SWIMS data has been entered for this reporting period.

☐ All related SWIMS data will be entered by end of grant period (12/31/22).

2) Trainings for AIS Coordinators attended:

Y, N, or NA	Activity
Y	AIS Monitoring: includes AIS Response Framework, how to verify AIS, Disinfection, etc.
Y	CBCW/CLMN Train the Trainers
Y	Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol Train the Trainer (combined with training for volunteers in 2022)
Y	Project RED Train the Trainer
Y	Snapshot Day Train the Trainer

Additional Trainings attended, if applicable: _____

3) AIS Partnership meetings attended

Y, N or NA	Meeting
Y	Spring
Y	Fall
Y	Special meetings, such as the Feb. 2022 AIS Partners Research Meeting

4) Citizen Lake Monitoring Network (CLMN) in Counties, including water quality and/or AIS components:

#, Y, N, or NA	Activity
3	Number of CLMN training workshops for local groups/volunteers
4	Number of trainees
NA	Managed and distributed lake monitoring equipment, if part of agreement to groups <u>at the following lakes</u> :
NA	Conducted field checks on citizen monitors <u>at the following lakes</u> :

Select one for CLMN:

☒ All related SWIMS data has been entered for this reporting period.

☐ All related SWIMS data will be entered by end of grant period (12/31/22).

5) Clean Boats, Clean Waters (CBCW) watercraft inspection program:

#, Y, N, or NA	Activity
3	Number of CBCW training workshops for local groups/volunteers <u>for the following lakes, rivers, or organizations</u> : Blackhawk Lake, Crawford County, Mirror Lake
8	Number of trainees
	Distributed supplies as needed to local groups and volunteers <u>for the following lakes, rivers, or organizations</u> : Blackhawk Lake, Lake Wisconsin, Beckman Lake, Yellowstone Lake

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Select one for CBCW:

- ☒ All related SWIMS data has been entered for this reporting period.
- ☐ All related SWIMS data will be entered by end of grant period (12/31/22).

6) Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol Program in Counties:

#, Y, N, or NA	Activity
3	Number of training workshops conducted
5	Number of trainees
Y	Coordinated projects for self and/or partners
Y	Collected beetles for partners/self
NA	Primarily used this year to assess purple loosestrife and beetle conditions in the county/counties

Select one for Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol Program:

- ☒ All related SWIMS data has been submitted to coordinator or entered for this reporting period.
- ☐ All related SWIMS data will be entered by end of grant period (12/31/22).

7) Project RED:

#, Y, N, or NA	Activity
3	Number of training workshops conducted
2	Number of trainees
1	Number of paddle events led or participated in

Select one for Project RED:

- ☒ All related SWIMS data has been entered for this reporting period.
- ☐ All related SWIMS data will be entered by end of grant period (12/31/22).

8) If your agreement includes conducting Water Quality efforts:

#, Y, N, or NA	Activity
NA	Number of Lakes/River monitored. Please list names:
NA	Ice off data collected
NA	WQ data collected
NA	Water level data collected

Select one:

- ☒ All related SWIMS data has been entered for this reporting period.
- ☐ All related SWIMS data will be entered by end of grant period (12/31/22).

9) AIS signage at lake/river public access sites:

#, Y, N, or NA	Activity
17	Number of Signage Inspections conducted
10	Signs replaced as needed or new signage installed

Select one for AIS signage:

- ☒ All related SWIMS data has been entered for this reporting period.
- ☐ All related SWIMS data will be entered by end of grant period (12/31/22).

10) Bait Shop Initiative:

#, Y, N, or NA	Activity
5	Number of Shops visited

Select one for Bait Shop Initiative:

- ☒ All related SWIMS data has been entered for this reporting period.
- ☐ All related SWIMS data will be entered by end of grant period (12/31/22).

11) Organisms in Trade: Pets Shops and related education, such as Habitattitude at schools or public events:

#, Y, N, or NA	Activity
3	Number of shops visited
3	Number of educational events, such as Habitattitude education

12) Media: Share newsletters with your DNR Grant Coordinator. In addition, you may upload materials to your LMPN project in SWIMS as documents, including Word documents of the links to electronic forms of media. No need to send to Jeanne Scherer.

# or NA	Activity
1	Number of Newsletter articles completed
30	Number of Social Media posts
2	Number of radio, tv, podcasts, press releases, etc. activities

13) Education and Outreach: Please summarize in 1-3 sentences any additional local Education and Outreach efforts and list the groups receiving it.

Iowa County Youth Education
 Grant County Youth Education
 Green County Youth Education
 Scout Camp Weird Science day (Grant CO)
 NRF Fieldtrip on Invasive Species
 Eddmaps trainings
 Dock providers mailings to the region

14) If any AIS Response Monitoring and related Response activities occurred during this reporting period, please summarize in 1-3 sentences:

Many sites sampled and vouchered for partners. Eddmaps records created. Discovery of prohibited NZMS and corbicula. Knotweed research project. Purple loosestrife monitoring for activity. Johnsongrass discovered. Poison hemlock tracked for Iowa and Green County. Creation of AIS occurrence maps with GIS analyst.

15) Partner activities with CISMAs/CWMAs, if any: Please summarize in 1-2 sentences:

Communication with SCIP council on wetland priorities. Eddmaps education for staff from SCIP. Held 6 meetings with council. Planned education workshop and work days for 2023. Attended The Stewardship Network coordinator summit to advise region, apply for OIT grant.

16) Other agreed to activities not included above-please provide a 1-2 paragraph summary as needed, including educational events held, providing technical assistance for other grantees/applicants (AIS Prevention, response, control, etc.):

- Participation in 2022 Monthly Lakes & Rivers Partnership Zoom
- 2/8/22 Conversation on Conservation webinar: Purple loosestrife bio-control, and you
- 3/2/22 Webinar: Let's use Eddmaps for invasive species reporting
- Retained WDNR certified AIS verifier
- Participation in Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin for the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion community workshops for conservation practitioner over 6 meetings
- Advised coalition on New Zealand mudsnail responses
- Worked with two Eagle Scouts to install 8 boot brush stations in the region
- Worked with WDNR on AIS signage framework
- Attended IPAW annual meeting to represent region
- Coordinated Goat Guardian project in Vernon county to control AIS in riparian corridors
- Shared control history for *Petasites hybridus* with state partners
- Knotweed research project:
 - Presentation at Wisconsin Wetland Association conference
 - Presentation at Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers conference
 - Presentation at UMISC