

2023 BLPOA Memorial Day AIS Update

The BLPOA mission is to promote and communicate policies and practices that represent and protect the interests of Berry Lake stakeholders and enhance their ability to maximize enjoyment of the shared resource.

Current Berry Lake AIS Committee - Jim DePrey, Jennifer McDermot, Gina Kozlik, John Holman, Mark DePrey, Carol Asselmeier

LOOKING BACK - What Happened in 2022

Spring 2022

- A \$33K grant was received and used to begin a 22-24 EWM Lake Management process. It is a 75/25 funded grant. The focus is the treatment of EWM in the west basin and monitoring of all invasives in the whole lake. We treated 4 acres of the west bay area with an herbicide called ProcettaCOR. Read the [BerryOconto 2022 Treatment Report](#) on the Berry Lake website for in depth communication.

Note: It was not as successful as hoped due to the “perfect storm” of last spring's weather and the application day winds. (A \$1,000 credit from the application company was negotiated for future treatments, if we choose to go with them.) We will not treat it again in 2023 because it is not good for the lake’s native plants and animals. If we had a HUGE issue in a major navigation area, we might be forced to think differently.

Summer 2022

- Volunteers monitored the initial die back, noticed regrowth of EWM
- Lake residents organized Sunday mornings to pick up floating fragments
- Residents recorded hours picking up EWM
- Limited residents monitored the boat landing
- Onterra mapped the lake

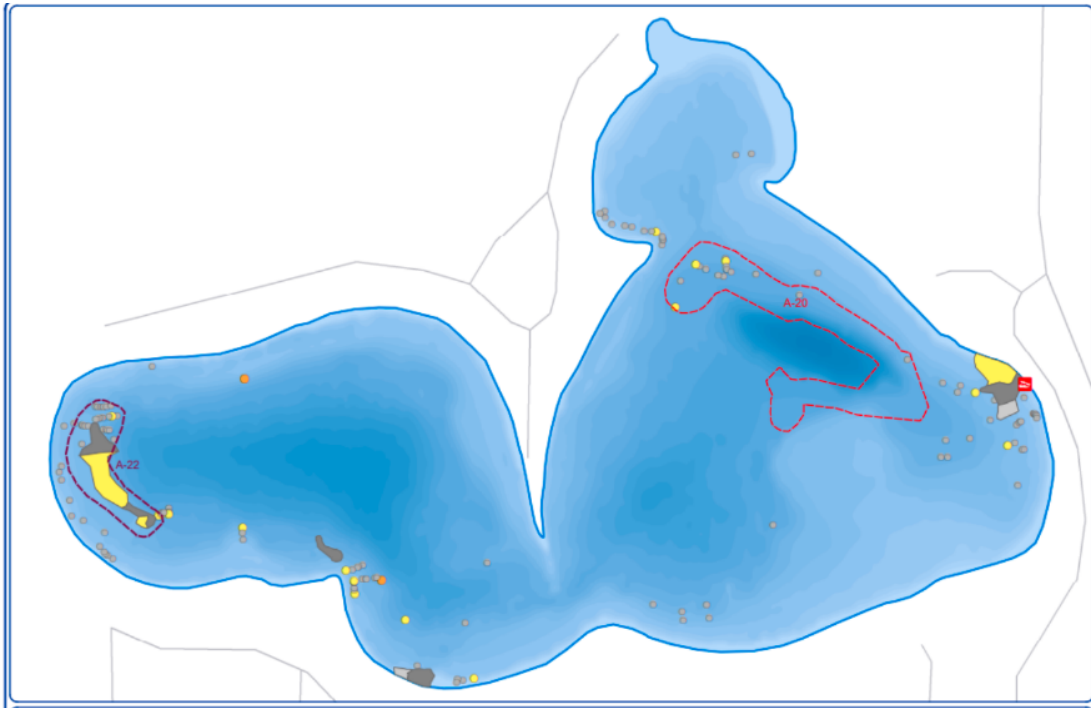
Winter 2022-2023

- Communication with Onterra regarding next steps
- Finalized reporting for 2022
- **CORRECTION!!!** We received a little over \$9,000 reimbursement from our grant to our account and have about \$19K LEFT in the grant to complete our final plans. Kay's Treasurer's report is correct.
- AIS Committee and Onterra developed an Anonymous Stakeholder survey
- Informed BLPOA board and stakeholders of participation importance
- Sent out, received and collected data from a 3rd party survey to stakeholders
- Some current grant funding was reallocated to complete the survey and the new 5 year plan

LOOKING FORWARD - Spring/Summer 2023

- Continue to monitor the west basin
- Applied for a permit for DASH

- **BIG THANKS to Krueger's Farm/Campground for allowing us to dump the EWM/HWM weeds on the property to dry for disposal. We really appreciate their support!!!**
- Develop the new 5 Year Management Plan



We are asking boaters and jetskis to try to not cut into the west bay so deep that you cut through the EWM patches. We can't put markers in the areas because they become a safety hazard. Remember, milfoil will fragment by nature, let's not help it out any more than necessary.

- August is the DASH target month. Late June early July, Onterra will help us make a solid plan of attack based upon current water level, and growth patterns. Currently, A-20 and yellow areas around A-20 will be the TARGET for 2023, plus yellow near the boat landing, if there is a need and time. We will NEED volunteers to help hand harvest EWM in low water areas and around the DASH boat collecting "floaters". We would also consider hand-harvesting efforts in the vicinity of the public boat landing. **Time and date TBD**
- Finally, we will prepare for future lake management goals and a September grant cycle.
- We need more CBCW volunteers at the boat landing early in the morning or later in the day.
 - According to the survey 46.6% said they would help monitor the landing. Please make time to monitor the landing in the morning or late afternoon/evening! Weekdays and weekends

2023 Anonymous Survey Brief Takeaways-NOT FINAL RESULTS

61% of the riparian owners took the survey after 2 reminders and an extra week extension.

- 82% member - 13% former member - 5% never a member
- **52%** have been on the lake over 25 years
- **37%** have been on the lake 10 years or less (0-5yrs 19%) (6-10yrs 18%)

85% of boats stay on the lake all season. In the order of rank; kayak/paddle boards, pontoon, jet ski and are the top watercrafts on the lake.

Relaxing/entertaining was the #1 reason for owning followed by swimming. Fishing is fair - neither better nor worse.

Most people have concerns about the invasives in the lake and do not want other invasives coming in to the lake.

The majority of riparian owners feel well informed, but would like more information via email, facebook and on the website. There is a great concern for boating safety, lack of boats following counter clockwise, boats cutting too close to shore, lack of respect for general courtesy rules. There were many positive comments for Kay, the AIS committee, and the BLPOA for doing a good job.

This is not everything on the survey, a full report is to come. Here is a [more in depth report](#) that I shared at the BLPOA meeting on May 27, 2023. A complete summary will be posted on the BLPOA website later this summer with the lake management plan goals for the next 5 years.

To begin stakeholder education, watch the BLPOA Facebook page for a very short monthly video with Mike and Jennifer as they do water testing on the lake!

May - Secci disc June - New D.O. meter use July - Phosphorus and Chlorophyll testing Aug - DASH

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer McDermot
AIS Chairperson