



Burt Lake Watershed Management Plan Advisory Committee Meeting

Tuscarora Township Hall

3546 S Straits Highway, Indian River, MI 49749

June 6, 2018 - 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

DRAFT

MEETING NOTES

I. Attendees:

Kira Davis, Conservation Resource Alliance
Lauren Dey, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians
Greg Walz, MI Trout Unlimited
Ed Davis, Miller Van Winkle Trout Unlimited
Jim Burke, Burt Lake Preservation Association (BLPA)
Darrell Schwalm, Mullett Area Preservation Society (MAPS)
Herm Boatin, MAPS
Lindsey Adams, US Fish and Wildlife Service
Mary Ellen Sheridan, Douglas Lake Improvement Association
Katie Parker, Burt Township and BLPA
Maureen Stine, US Dept. of Agriculture
Nancy Salar, Emmet County
Marty Jones, MAPS

II. PRESENTATION: *Legacy Fisheries*

Kevin Donner, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians
Kevin's enlightening presentation highlighted Tribal Fisheries Restoration and Management. This included Cisco reintroduction in the Great Lakes, work with Walleye populations, and Cheboygan River Lake Sturgeon. They also created a state approved high school curriculum, allowing students to learn and help raise Sturgeon in the classroom.

III. PRESENTATION: *WAVE Program*

Caroline Keson, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council
Caroline spoke about the new program Watershed Action Volunteer Experience, or WAVE. This project funds small projects within Emmett and Charlevoix Counties, to enhance water quality, water conservation, or habitat. WAVE projects have to be done this summer and you do not have to be a formal group to participate; individuals and families are also eligible. Projects do not have to be connected to the Burt Lake Watershed Management Plan. If interested in a team, contact Caroline Keson, Water Resource Specialist, caroline@watershedcouncil.org.

IV. Theme for the year: *Creating Connections*

This year, the committee will explore how to use the Plan to create effective partnerships to implement Plan steps

- Super-abridged version of the plan is being created for committee
- Plan sections will be reviewed at each meeting
- Reminder to let us know if interested in grant proposals

Grenetta Thomassey, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council

V. Watershed Plan Review

- Today we reviewed part of Chapter 1. Reminder that you can access the plan at our website: [watershedcouncil.org/Our Work/Watershed Management Plan/Burt Lake](http://watershedcouncil.org/Our%20Work/Watershed%20Management%20Plan/Burt%20Lake). We have approval from the Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and still waiting for approval from US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA).
- Funding for the plan was from MDEQ and the US EPA, from section 319 of the federal Clean Water Act, which addresses nonpoint source pollution.

Grenetta Thomassey, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council

V. Partner Updates

Around the table...

CRA – Additional work anticipated to begin in Mid-June on the Lake Kathleen dam removal. They are working on how to deal with monkey flower, an endangered species in the area. They are creating a press release to educate the public about progress on this important project.

LTBB – The Hatchery will gladly take volunteers

Michigan Trout Unlimited – Working on a restoration project on Rice Creek, and working to prevent weakening existing law on water withdrawals. They are interested with working with CRA on Lake Kathleen dam.

Miller Van Winkle Trout Unlimited - They completed a habitat survey of Lake Kathleen to the West Branch of the Maple River. Their recommendation is to not do anything right now and wait till the dam comes out and assess the effect of the removal. They will work with an area fisheries biologist and establish several transects in the area below Lake Kathleen. They will have several stations and monitor sediment. They are also having issues finding interns this late in the season. If you have thoughts on where to recruit some help please contact them; he will contact Karie Slavik at UMBS.

BLPA – This year, they started a new Sturgeon Club focused on this indigenous fish population in Burt Lake, and already have 700 members! They are monitoring several areas for Eurasian Milfoil using a drone, and will continue to do so, this year and next year. Once complete they will look at the data to figure out what to do about it.

MAPS- They are doing a boat wash program at the State Park, working with Huron Pines and using their equipment; they are also working on green belt projects.

US Fish and Wildlife - Waiting for work on Lake Kathleen dam removal, and working with MNFI regarding the monkey flower. Hungerford Beetle is also in the region, and they will do a training on where to look, how to look for these beetles.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA) – They continue this program to give assistance to landowners, and help them get information about conservation and natural resource concerns.

Burt Township– the Planning Commission is working on an ordinance that will require septic inspections (Time of Transfer). They are sending out a survey to citizens about septic systems right now.

DLIA – working on fending off a Eurasian water milfoil problem, they continue to inspect boats coming into their watershed. They are concerned about erosion damage from ice this past winter.

TOMWC - Crooked River Eurasian water milfoil issue: the Watershed Council is working with a group of partners, including several local governments, BLPA, and Pickerel-Crooked Lakes Association, to treat Eurasian water milfoil in the Crooked River. Upon completion of the project, we will help to form a new group, Friends of the Crooked River

VI. Adjourn

Next Meetings:

July 25

August 29