

Lake Owen Association Lake Manager Activities Report Board Update May 25, 2023

Boat Landing AIS Prevention: Decontamination Stations, etc.

Staff for 2023 (still need additional staff, especially weekends at the campground). Schedules set with Zach Desroisiers to begin at North Landing Friday 5/26; remaining staff starting June 7 and June 9.

Staff orientation and training will occur this evening at 6.

Zach Desrosiers – Lead Decontamination Station Operator – returning for 4th year – 2022 pay rate: \$18/hour

Zach Larson – will work North Landing and Campground

Johnnie Loughern – will work North Landing and Campground

2022 pay rates: North Landing: \$17, Campground \$16

Need to get decon (bleach) station and new signage up at the campground. (Staffed beginning June 8.)

Steve installed TrakX system to count landing visits in mid-May. System may take some adjustment to get accurate count. Steve needs specific location for Otter Bay installation.

Shoreland Visits

Cheryl will reach out to Virginia Beach Condos and Lake Owen Villas to see if there is additional assistance the LOA could provide to encourage mitigation of runoff and erosion.

2023 Strategic Plan Tables

Cheryl will work on updating these to reflect current activities, influence of survey results, and grant actions – would appreciate board reviewers.

Lake Owen Science Update

- Steve Schieffer collected first round of water samples, installed thermistor in the lake, and flow meter at the outlet (and cleared debris from drain as it was severely clogged). Lake was high but will likely drop some now that outlet is flowing better.
- Steve will meet with Stephen Klobucar this fall to discuss potential scope of potential fisheries study and invite Nathan Thomas, DNR fisheries biologist. Stephen is a PhD fisheries biologist with family property on Lake Owen. He participated in the focus group sessions. Stephen's expertise is in food web dynamics of cold water fisheries.

There is \$2,000 allocated in the current planning grant to develop a study scope. It will be up to the board whether or not to seek funds and proceed with fishery study in the future.

Wake Boat Information from 2022 Annual Meeting

Emerging Concern: Boat Wakes

Local ordinances regulate wake height and length

- **Elevated Wake Ordinance from Town of Bass Lake, Sawyer County:**

“No person shall operate a motorboat ... on the waters within the Town of Bass Lake, Sawyer County in a manner to enhance an elevated wake for over 50 feet in length closer than 700 feet from any shoreline, dock, pier, raft or other restricted area(s) within the Town of Bass Lake, Sawyer County.

- **Lake Tahkoda:** No elevated wake >50 feet long in excess of 24 inches.

Why be concerned about boat wakes?

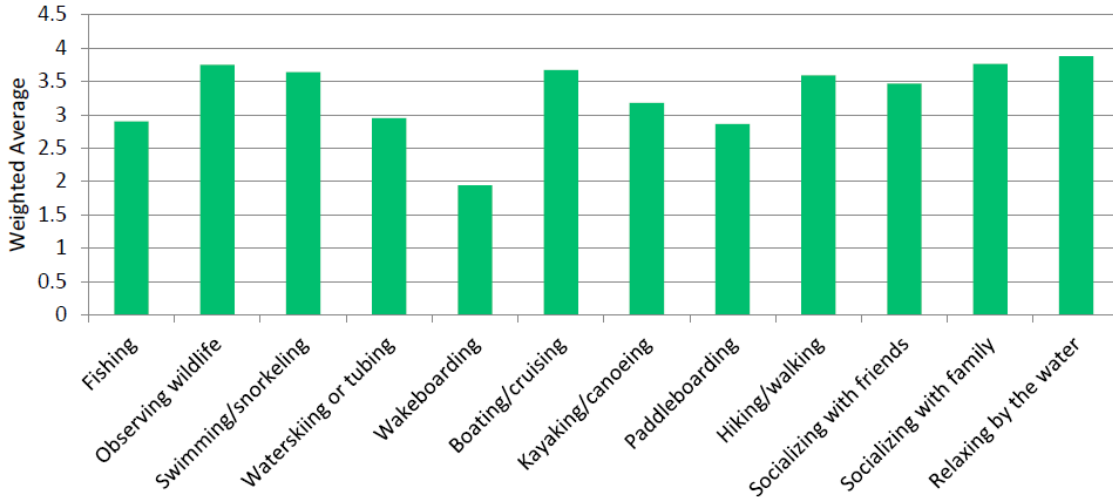
- Shoreline erosion
- Damage to docks/property
- Boater safety
- Sediment resuspension
- Nutrient release
- Impacts to aquatic vegetation
- Disturbance of waterfowl



500 foot setback on Lake Owen

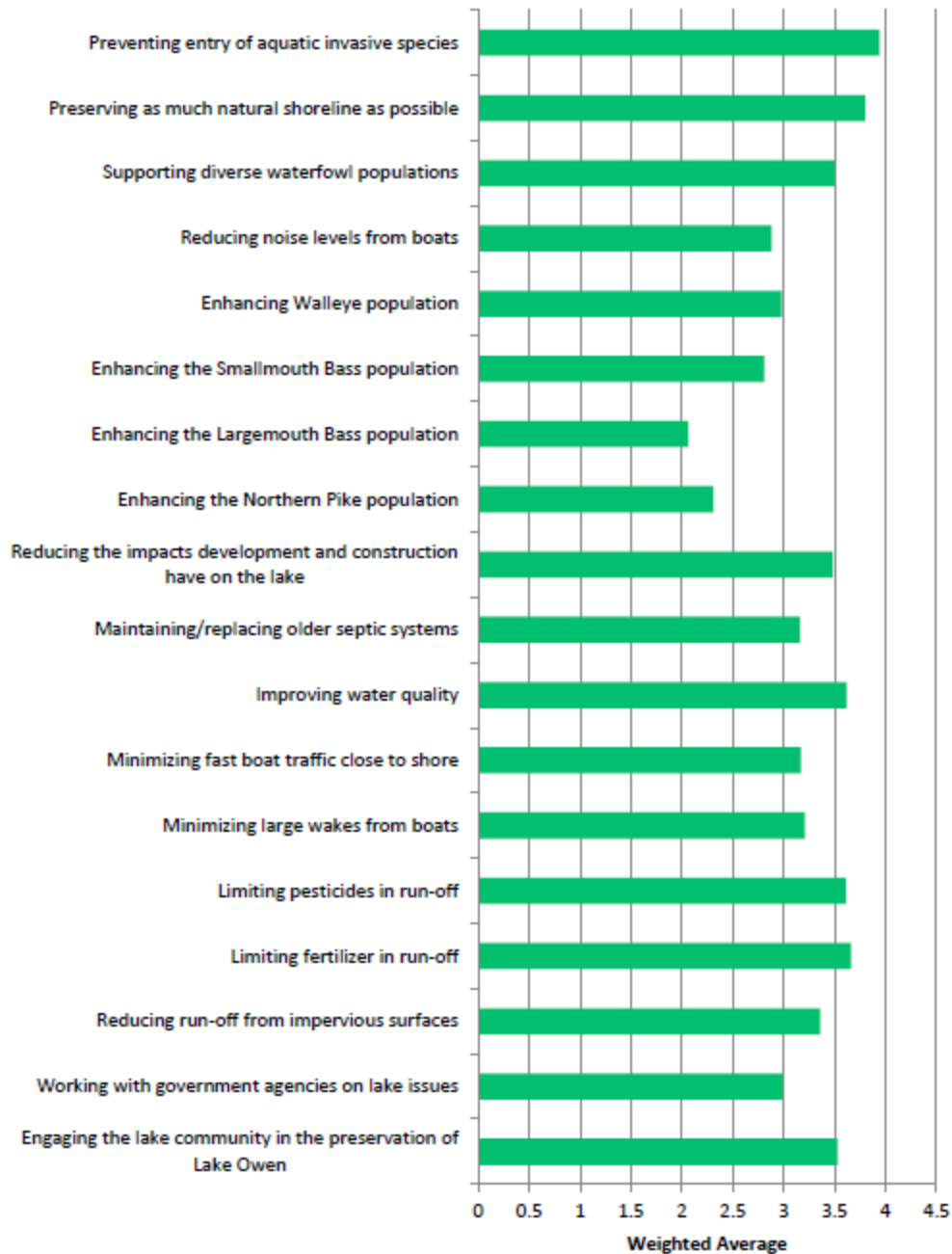
There is a significant collection of information about wake boats and wake surfing on this website of the Last Wilderness Alliance (which is decidedly against it): <https://lastwildernessalliance.org/wakesurfing>

From the Lake Owen Association Property Owner Survey (November 2022)



	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY	RARELY	NEVER	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
▼ Fishing	27.42% 34	43.55% 54	20.97% 26	8.06% 10	124	2.90
▼ Observing wildlife	79.03% 98	17.74% 22	2.42% 3	0.81% 1	124	3.75
▼ Swimming/snorkeling	71.77% 89	22.58% 28	3.23% 4	2.42% 3	124	3.64
▼ Waterskiing or tubing	44.35% 55	24.19% 30	13.71% 17	17.74% 22	124	2.95
▼ Wakeboarding	13.71% 17	18.55% 23	15.32% 19	52.42% 65	124	1.94
▼ Boating/cruising	77.42% 96	15.32% 19	4.03% 5	3.23% 4	124	3.67
▼ Kayaking/canoeing	44.35% 55	37.10% 46	10.48% 13	8.06% 10	124	3.18

Q10 As a Lake Owen resident, how important to you are the following issues? For each item, please pick one choice that describes how you feel.
 (Answered: 123, Skipped: 2)



Q11 For each of the following statements, please indicate how much you agree with each by selecting the appropriate button.
 (Answered: 121, Skipped: 4)

