

Bass Lake Planning Grant Committee Meeting
Thursday, December 11th, 6-8 p.m.

St. Joseph Town Hall

Attendees: Aleisha Miller – St. Croix Co. LWCD, Buzz Sorge – WI DNR, Marty Engel – WI DNR, Kevin Grabau – St. Croix Co. Planning & Zoning, Mike Reiter – St. Croix Co. Sportsmen’s Alliance, Jackie Engelhart, John Coughlin, Bill Lawson, Regina Ripple, Carol Benish

Minutes:

- Water Quality Information–

Technical difficulties limited what we were able to talk about on water quality. Instead of the in-depth discussion planned, we were able to briefly discuss the watershed of Bass Lake and Aleisha was able to confirm the lower boundary of the watershed with the attendees. The land parcels in this new watershed have been assigned a land use of: agriculture, pasture/grassland, high density residential (parcels <1/8 acre), medium density residential (1/8 to 1 acre) , rural residential (parcels > 1 acres), and woodland. The acres of each land use will be put into a computer model which tells how much phosphorus is entering the lake. This model will also give us results of changes that can be done in the watershed. For example: if a rain garden is put on a parcel would result in “blank” reduction of phosphorus. We will discuss the results of this modeling at the next meeting. This will help us determine what phosphorus we are able to manage and keep out of Bass Lake. We will use this data to set the water quality goals.

- Discussion of draft goals –

We discussed the draft goals that were sent out with the last e-mail. The objectives were reviewed and we decided that most of the objectives were ok. Marty and I will be meeting to discuss these objectives and add more detail: who is responsible for achieving each objective, a time line and funding sources.

Goal: Protect and improve the diverse aquatic life of Bass Lake; including a self sustaining fishery and diverse aquatic plant community. All these objectives were agreed upon. The stocking of walleye objective was changed to “restore the walleye fishery.”

Goal: Protect and restore healthy, stable shoreland habitats. Some attendees have concerns with the objective relating to the shoreland zoning ordinance. This objective will be reviewed. Other objectives were added: work with riparian owners to restore shoreland habitat, educate riparian landowners of the importance of protecting shoreline during low water levels.

Goal: Prevent the expansion and new infestations of invasive species. We did not discuss this goal.

Some objectives will be reworded or reviewed and a few were added. At the next meeting we will discuss these modified objectives.

- Schedule following meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 28th, 6-8p.m. at the St. Joseph Town Hall.