

14 Mile Watershed Alliance
Held at Lake Sherwood Lodge, Rome, WI, open to the public through a Zoom link
Agenda/Minutes for Monday, June 12, 2023 at 6:00 PM
(Food and networking at 5:30)

- 1. Call to order & confirm Zoom setup:** Dave Trudeau called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. after allowing time for getting food.
- 2. Roll call/confirm quorum:** Members present: Dave Trudeau, Barb Herreid, Phil Rockenbach and Dave Keuler. Also present in person or via Zoom: Jess Trudeau, Scott Bordeau, John Endrizzi, Jeanne Osgood, Scott Provost, Brian Fischer, Kyle Kettner, Shari Stronach, Tom Wright, Pat Oldenburg, Robert Forslund, Mary Pat Wright, Greg Giel and Gus Mancuso.
- 3. Review and approve minutes for May 8, 2023:** *Motion made by Dave Keuler and seconded by Phil Rockenbach to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2023 meeting; motion approved.*
- 4. Announcements:** Kyle Kettner, “Learn About Water Quality in Your Watershed: The 14 Mile Creek!” scheduled for June 15, 6 pm at Ponderosa Pines, Bancroft
- 5. Adams County Report –**
 - Kyle Kettner:** After his presentation at State of Our Lakes, there was lots of interest and many questions. He’s currently working on a crop survey and will continue for a couple more weeks. His data collected will be shared at a Roche-A-Cri Farmers meeting. He gave a quick preview of items he’ll be covering on June 15. Please send any stories of shoreline planting projects to him for the Story Map project.
 - Keifer Sroka:** In his absence, Kyle reported that Keifer had trained 4 individuals to conduct the Clean Boats, Clean Waters program on the Tri-Lakes this summer.
- 6. WI DNR - Scott Provost/Colton Hutchinson - Updates:** Scott shared that he had received an email from EPA with results of their tests and plant survey done on Camelot. Nitrogen levels were high but EPA only covered the Phosphorus levels.
- 7. UW-Madison Extension, Anna James – Updates:** Anna emailed that she is focused on a social indicator survey of producers in the 10 Mile and 14 Mile watersheds; she’s having good conversations with them and feels that there is interest in forming a producers’ group. She also had sent an email concerning the State Budget and that the current version of the budget proposal does not include funding for 3.5 Natural Resources Educators positions and is concerned of the potential impact if they are not included in the final budget.
- 8. Guest speaker – none for June**
- 9. Standing Committees**
 - a. Publicity and Community outreach – Phil:**
 - i. Farmers Market:** Dave K was there on 6/9 - all sales of products at the Visit Rome booth will be donated to the 14 Mile Watershed Alliance. Phil and Barb will cover the 6/16 date.
 - ii. Nekoosa HS Environmental Ed school visit – May 24th Gus Mancuso –** Gus reported on this latest partnership with three classes of science students. Both Carl and Bob from Tri-Lakes also joined them and there will be students manning the CBCW program for Tri-Lakes this summer. All agreed that it’s important that we continue this relationship.
 - iii. Watershed highway signs:** Phil reported that the 4’ x 8’ sign is fully funded (PACRS, WPVGA, WCGA and 14 Mile) and will soon be installed on DNR land near the intersection of County D and 5th Avenue. Another, smaller sign will also be placed near the intersection of D and Hwy 73.
 - iv. State of Our Lakes:** A very successful event was held on Saturday with over 200 attendees – our largest attendance ever. The 3 presentations were very informative and everyone listened closely. Only a few went out to view the rainfall simulator – perhaps we can share a video of it to increase awareness. Kyle had an excellent presentation and Gus made a good MC, especially with his warm-up questions for the audience – their responses were interesting.

b. Watershed Research, stream and lake testing – Phil: no report.

c. Environmental Quality/Grant development – Dave:

i. Surface Water Restoration Grant – Walden Park, met on 5/15: Dave reported that he is finalizing information for a grant application for this project of a native vegetative buffer on a large slope that is being planned in conjunction with a kayak launch that was recently installed by the Town. Fencing was suggested to help the vegetative mats get a good start. There may be some financial support also available through Visit Rome.

Surface Water Restoration Grant – Camelot erosion: More work on this project needs to be done and he'll get Chuck Sibilsky involved. Scott P commented that on such a project, it's important to include a plan to protect plantings from boat damage.

ii. Healthy Lakes status – Camelot Lodge, Glen Cove BC, individuals – Dave was approached on Saturday by 10-12 property owners after his presentation who are interested in projects. Overall, so far, Dave estimated that we've accomplished over 60 projects on approximately 40 properties.

iii. Fertilizer/Clean Water Cooperator: no report

d. Finance – Barb/Phil: no report

e. Partnership Development – All

i. Speakers for July or August: Share any suggestions with Dave; perhaps Jay Michel from EOR.

ii. Networking – PACRS, River Alliance of WI, Lakes and Rivers Conference, WI Cranberry Growers Assoc, WPVGA – Dave thanked both Scott Provost and PACRS for their ongoing support. Scott B reported that the Farmers of the Roche-A-Cri will be meeting on 6/21 at 5:30 at Heartland and that there is a Lodi Conservation Day coming up on 6/23 from 9 to 3.

10. Lake reports: Questions on dead fish on the lakes were answered by Scott P – he will follow-up with a written explanation for us to disperse (included at the end of these minutes).

11. Town, County, Drainage District, Tri-Lakes updates: John Endrizzi shared beaver and flooding issues that the Drainage Board is dealing with. Kyle reported that Carolyn Pralle left the LWD for a job with Green Fire. Chuck S will be returning after his medical leave.

12. Determine next agenda content, date & time. 2nd Monday is 7/10:

13. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Herreid

DNR Feedback on the dead fish recently reported on the Tri-Lakes:

Scott Provost:

- The alum treatment occurred on Sherwood. There's no way that could have an impact on Camelot.
- Its doubtful if the alum treatment cause any mortality to fish in Sherwood or downstream Arrowhead. The pH was monitored during application and there was only minor variation, which would not cause a pH shock to fish.
- Columnaris is a common bacteria in Wisconsin lakes, that can affect spawning sunfish, perch and bullheads.
- Speedy warm ups in water temp that coincides with spawning season, can create good conditions for Columnaris impacts.

Jennifer Bergman, Fish Biologist:

- Columnaris is a common and widespread bacterial disease of freshwater fish caused by the bacteria *Flavobacterium columnare*, which can cause yellow-brown or white lesions on the skin, fins and gills of fish.
- Columnaris outbreaks are a normal occurrence, especially in late spring and early summer when the water is warming up.
- Outbreaks and the intensity of outbreaks varies from year to year depending on the timing and intensity of the spring warm-up.

- Fish species that we have seen die from Columnaris in Adams County waters include bluegills, pumpkinseeds, crappies, bass, catfish and bullheads.
- Die-offs are selective and don't wipe out populations, these fish kills are typically not significant.
- The columnaris bacteria does not infect humans or other animals.
- Since all wild fish can harbor other bacteria and parasites harmful to humans, anglers are always encouraged to thoroughly cook their catch, never consume fish you find dead or dying, and follow the [Center for Disease Control's food safety guidelines](#).
- Lake Camelot, Lake Arrowhead, and Jordan Lake all had reported dead fish within the same week. These dead fish were reported after the hot weather we had with a quick warm-up. Bacteria bloom + aggregated fish stressed from spawning = Columnaris outbreak and fish kill.
- Looking at the past fish kills for Lake Camelot, a fish kill was reported on June 12, 2017 and May 31, 2018; both of those events were from Columnaris. Similar timing with this year's reported dead bluegill.