

# Long Lake Shoreland Property Owners Social Survey Report



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Supported by:  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
Surface Water Planning Grant #LPL184223  
Report Prepared by Northwest Regional Planning Commission

## Introduction

In February 2023, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) granted the Long Lake Preservation Association (LLPA) \$25,000 as part of the Long Lake Comprehensive Lake Management Plan (grant #LPL184223). To capture the interests and concerns of the LLPA membership within the comprehensive lake management plan (CLMP), the LLPA presented its membership with a survey to gauge the perception of the condition of Long Lake.

The survey was designed to follow the Wisconsin Lake Shoreline Property Owner Survey distributed statewide by UW Extension Lakes in 2020 as well as the Long Lake Issues Survey distributed by the LLPA in 2021. This was done to ensure that the survey questions were formatted so that the results would follow a useful format as well as be comparable to the 2021 survey.

The survey was conducted through Google Forms and was distributed using the Constant Contact LLPA mailing list (793 members) which includes approximately current 400 LLPA members from May 25, 2023 to July 10, 2023 (46 days). This time period was selected in order to capture members as they visited the lake between Memorial Day and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. The survey was made available through a Constant Contact email blast and on the LLPA website. Several follow-up email blasts were sent as reminders to take the survey. The survey had 273 responses for a return rate of approximately 34%.

The results of this survey will be used to inform the Long Lake Comprehensive Lake Management Plan and future management discussions and decisions. All results are aggregated to maintain anonymity.

The LLPA thanks all the individuals who took the time to respond to the survey and participate in the comprehensive planning process.

## Survey Conclusions

**A typical Long Lake shoreland property owner.** Over half of shoreland owners (52%) live on the lake year-round or come to the lake on summer weekends. Over half of respondents have owned property on the lake for more than 20 years (56.7%). Survey respondents responding to where they reside on the lake to this survey were comparable to the 2021 Issues Survey.

**Activities.** The top five activities that Long Lake property owners participate in are family gatherings (220), fishing (183), canoeing/kayaking/paddleboarding (174), observing wildlife (161), and skiing/wakeboarding/tubing. Other answers included ice fishing (72), jet skiing (42), boating/pontooning (39), and hunting (15).

**Perceptions of Long Lake.** Respondents largely agreed that facets of Long Lake like water quality and overall health are “good” but have been declining since they arrived on the lake; 58.6% of respondents agree that overall water quality is about the same as when they first came to the lake. Algal blooms and lack of water clarity occur mostly in the North End of the lake. Recreation conflicts largely occur in the North End and the Narrows. Excessive plant growth is an issue in the south basin and the North End. Shoreline erosion concerns are centered on the Narrows and the North End. Respondents agree that the beauty of the lake is very good.

**Lake Stewardship.** The majority of respondents say they are very willing to do or are already doing or are willing to participate in lake stewardship activities. A large portion of respondents indicated that lack of time, lack of support from other lake property owners, and lack of information was at least slightly important as a factor limiting their participation in lake stewardship.

**LLPA.** Almost 90% of respondents are LLPA members, and 93.8% get their information about the lake from the LLPA.

## Recommendations

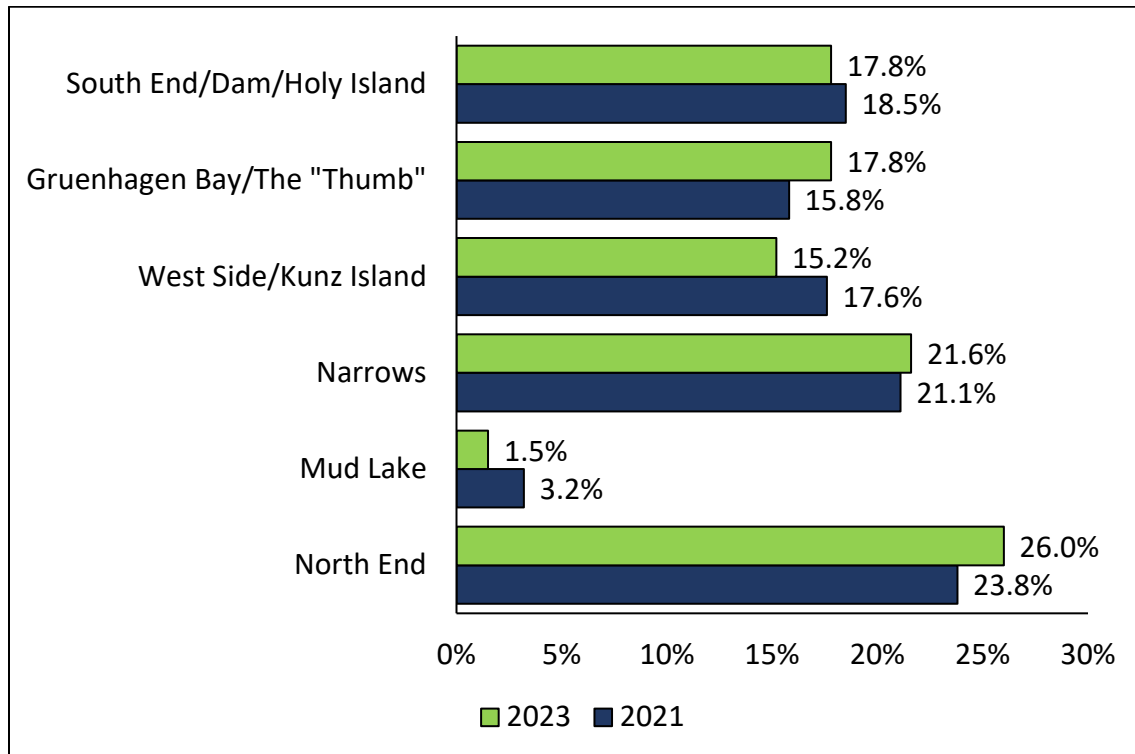
The following management recommendations are a result of this survey and should be incorporated into the Long Lake Comprehensive Lake Management Plan.

- More “Slow No Wake” buoys, education related to safe speeds, shoreline restoration (Healthy Lakes best management practices), etc. should be taken into consideration.
- Continue efforts with Constant Contact, the newsletter, the calendar, and the annual meeting, because these sources successfully reach LLPA members and are effective tools for education.
  - The LLPA should also continue to foster and grow its relationship with Hunt Hill, as many people get information from there.
  - The LLPA should also continue to grow its social media presence to reach a broader audience.
  - The LLPA should promote members to receive *Lake Tides*, an Extension Lakes newsletter that contains information for shoreline property owners and lake groups interested in lake stewardship and capacity building.
- Education related to:
  - Shoreline best management practices (Healthy Lakes native plantings, rock infiltration systems, runoff diversions, rain gardens, and fish sticks)
  - Long Lake’s drawdown
  - Climate change and other large-scale issues
- Shift the culture around Long Lake more towards a stewardship-focused community of shoreline property owners.

## Results

### What area of the lake best describes your residence?

When asked what area of the lake best describes your residence, 269 people responded – 26.0% North End, 1.5% Mud Lake, 21.6% Narrows, 15.2% West Side/Kunz Island, 17.8% Gruenhagen Bay/The “Thumb”, 17.8% South End/Dam/Holy Island (Figure 1). These results are consistent with the 2021 Long Lake Issues Survey – 23.8% North End, 3.2% Mud Lake, 21.1% Narrows, 17.6% West Side/Kunz Island, 15.8% Gruenhagen Bay/The “Thumb”, 18.5% South End/Dam/Holy Island (Figure 1).

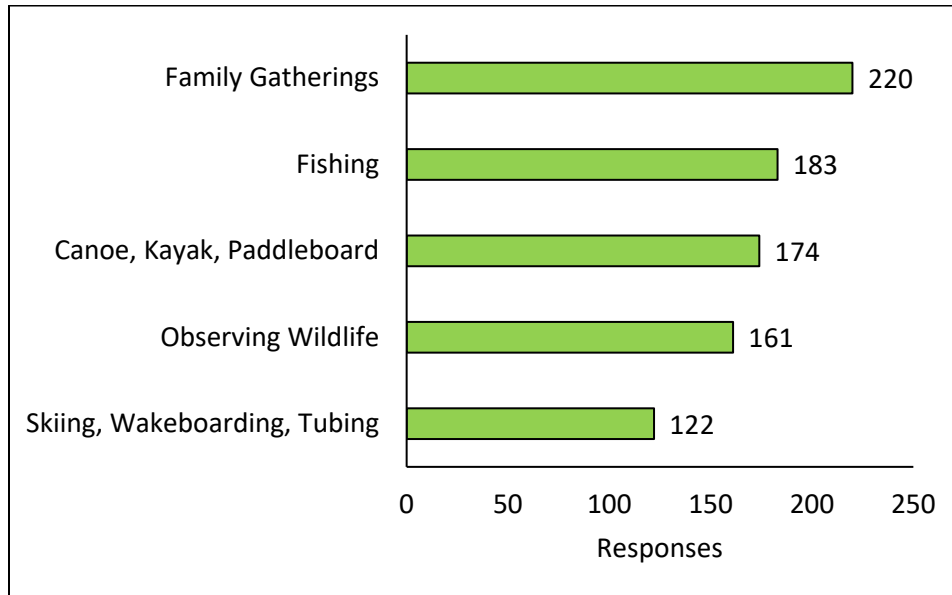


**Figure 1. Comparison of 2021 and 2023 Survey Responses to “Which Area of the Lake Best Describes Your Residence?”**

The consistency between the two surveys makes it reasonable to assume that the results of this survey are representative of the people around the lake.

## How do you spend your time on Long Lake?

When asked how people spend their time on Long Lake, the answers were diverse. The top five responses were family gatherings (220), fishing (183), canoeing/kayaking/paddleboarding (174), observing wildlife (161), and skiing/wakeboarding/tubing (122; Figure 2). Other answers included ice fishing (72), jet skiing (42), boating/pontooning (39), and hunting (15).



**Figure 2. 2023 Top 5 Responses to “How Do You Spend Your Time on Long Lake?”**

These results reflect the diverse forms of recreation enjoyed on Long Lake. These results highlight potential areas of recreation use conflicts – i.e., paddleboarding versus wakeboarding. When considering future management decisions that may impact recreation, these uses and potential conflicts should be taken into consideration.

### How would you assess Long Lake?

Respondents were asked to assess the overall health, water quality, water clarity, wildlife habitat quality, recreation quality, beauty, and fishery from “Don’t know”, “Very Poor”, “Poor”, “Fair”, “Good”, to “Very Good.” The rankings for all categories were generally “Fair” to “Very Good” (Figure 3).

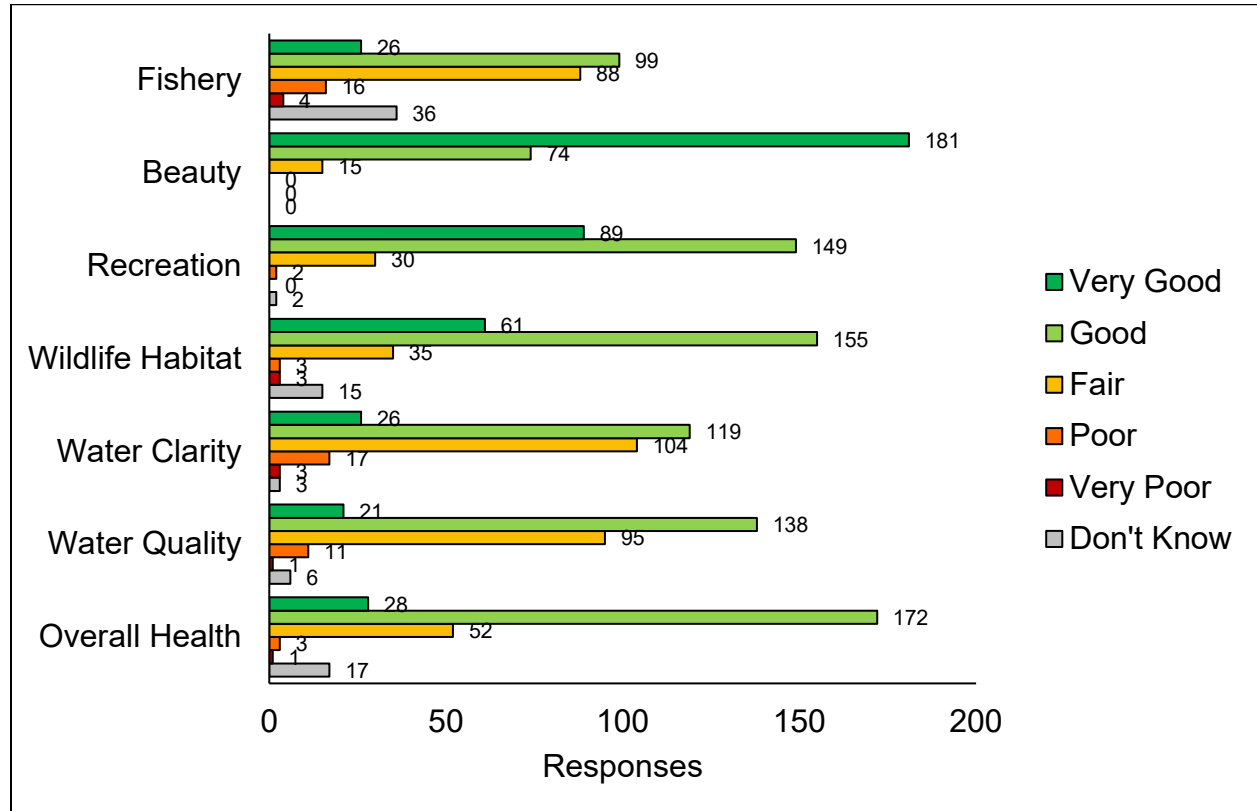


Figure 3. Responses to “How would you assess Long Lake?”

These results indicate that respondents generally feel that Long Lake has a good fishery, is beautiful, is great for various types of recreation, provides high quality wildlife habitat, has good water clarity and quality, and is overall healthy. Public perception is very important when it comes to education and management decisions. There may be a need to provide additional education on Long Lake water quality and the desired goal to improve water quality and why it is necessary. Additionally, respondents indicated the high beauty of Long Lake, in order to maintain the cultural value of Long Lake, it is important to retain its beauty – improved water quality, natural shorelines, wildlife habitat, etc.

### How often are the following currently a problem on Long Lake?

Respondents were asked to assess how often common lake issues occur on Long Lake. Respondents indicated that overall, recreation conflicts occur somewhat infrequently; that shoreline erosion occurs sometimes; fish kills, smell, and fluctuating water levels are of low concern; algal blooms are notable and excessive aquatic plant growth are notable; and lack of water clarity occurs somewhat frequently on Long Lake (Figure 4).

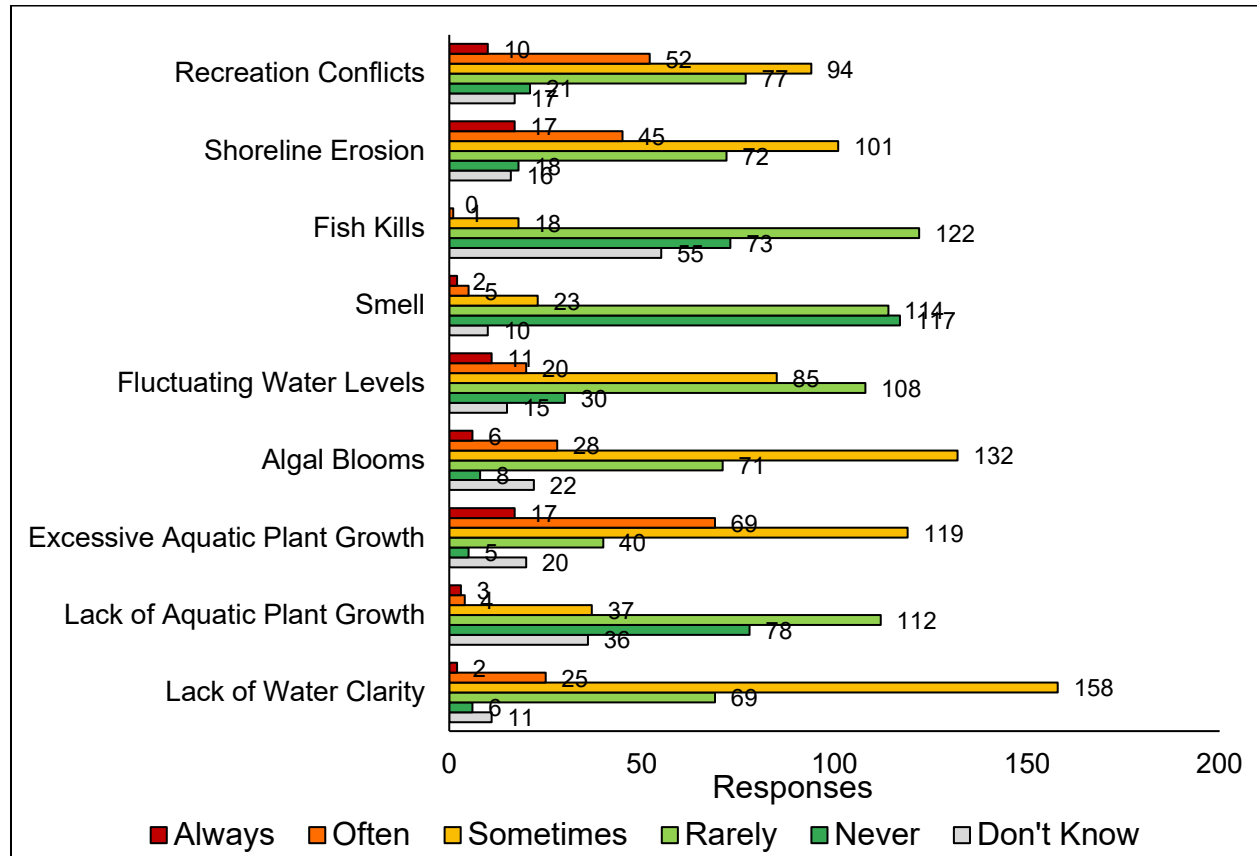
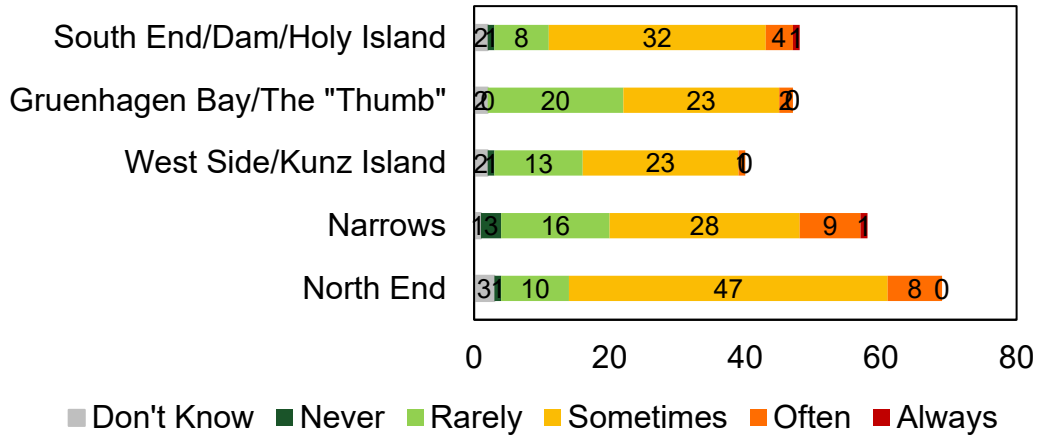


Figure 4. Responses to “How Often are the Following Currently a Problem on Long Lake?”

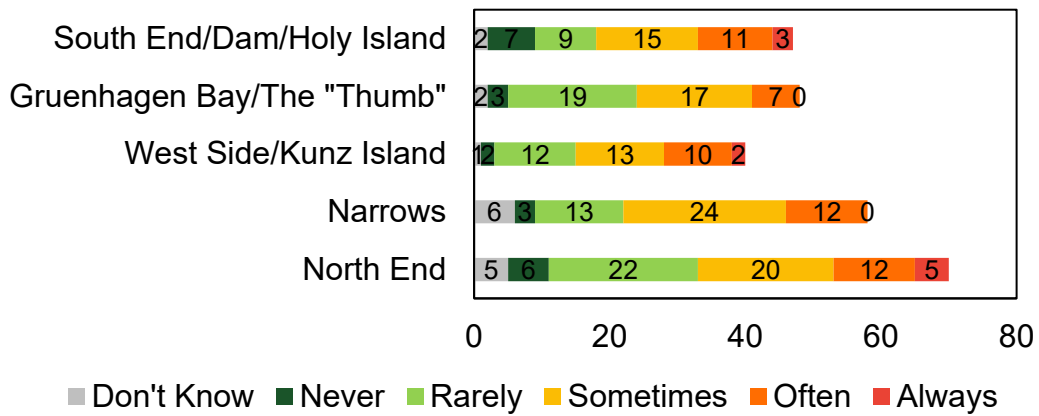
Four responses (“Fish Kills,” “Smell,” “Fluctuating Water Levels,” and Lack of Aquatic Plant Growth”) had more responses indicating that they are “Rarely” or “Never” a problem on Long Lake. The remaining categories (“Lack of Water Clarity,” “Excessive Aquatic Plant Growth,” “Algal Blooms,” “Shoreline Erosion,” and “Recreation Conflicts”) were delineated by respondents’ location on the lake (Figure 5).



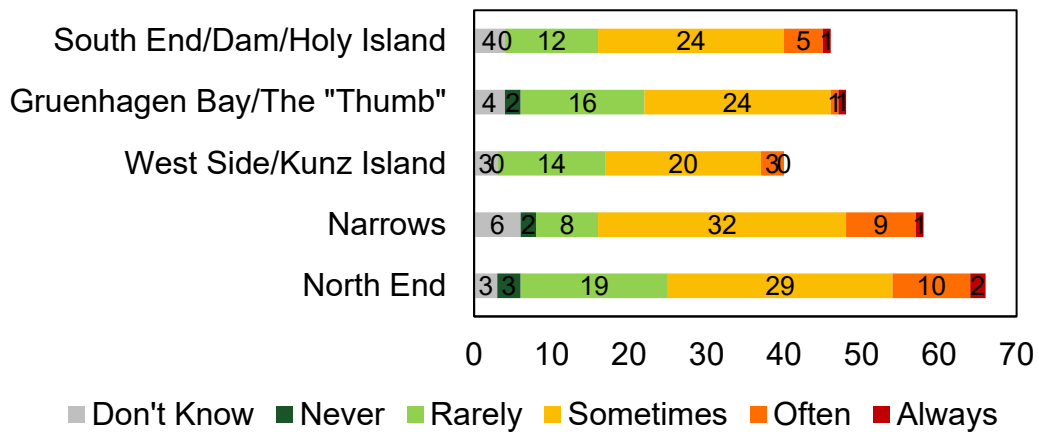
### Lack of Water Clarity

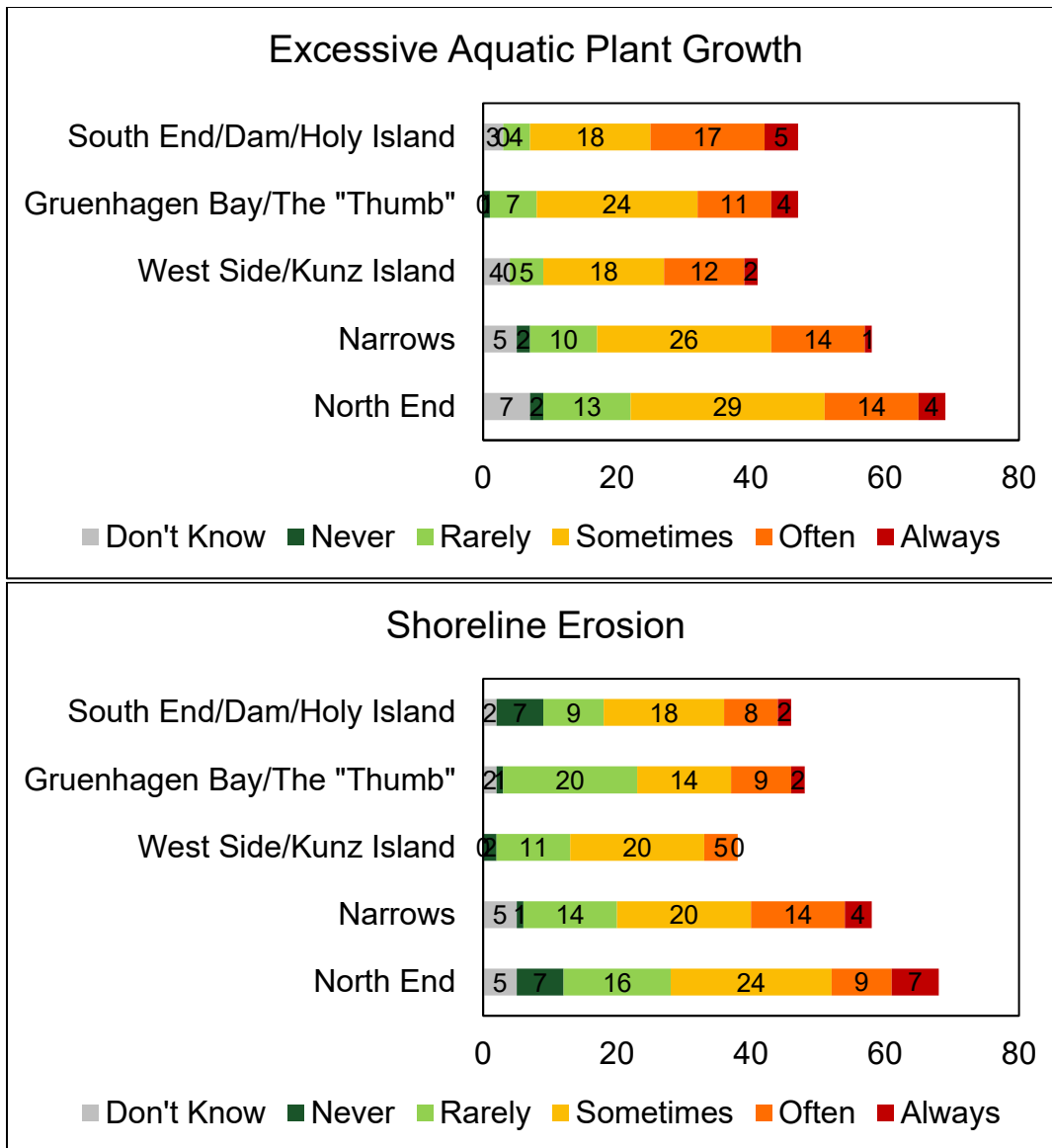


### Recreation Conflicts



### Algal Blooms





**Figure 5. Responses to “How Often are the Following Currently a Problem on Long Lake?” Delineated by Area of Residence on Long Lake**

By delineating the responses based on area of residence on Long Lake and presenting them as a percentage of the total number of responses, it is evident that some lake management issues occur more often in certain areas of the lake.

Because there were only 4 responses from Mud Lake, those results are excluded from the summary below; however, it is noteworthy that both “Algal Blooms” and “Excessive Plant Growth” were noted to occur “Often” or “Always”, respectively (Figure 5).

“Lack of Water Clarity” appears to occur least often near the West Side/Kunz Island portion of the lake (8.8% “Never” + “Rarely”) and most often in the North End (20.1% “Sometimes” + “Often” + “Always”) (Figure 5). Additionally, “Algal Blooms” appear to occur least often near the West Side/Kunz Island portion of the lake (4.7% “Never” + “Rarely”) and most often in the North End (15.0% “Sometimes” +

“Often” + “Always”) (Figure 5). These results are consistent with Citizen Lake Monitoring Network water quality data from Long Lake.

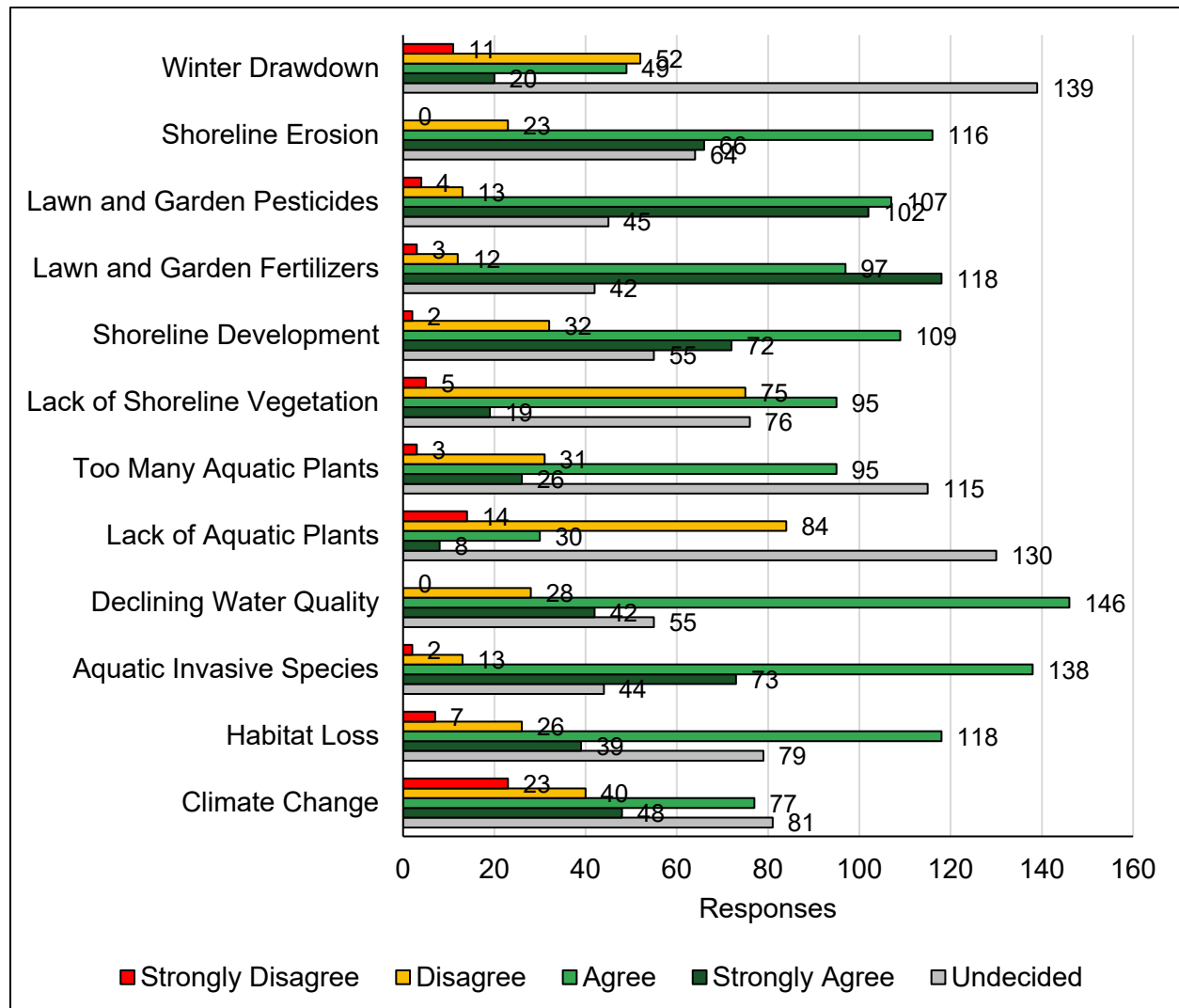
“Recreation Conflicts” appear to occur most frequently in the North End and the Narrows (13.6% and 13.2%, respectively; “Sometimes” + “Often” + “Always”) (Figure 5). These conflicts appear to occur less frequently near the West Side/Kunz Island portion of the lake (5.1% “Never” + “Rarely”). This lake issue appears to have a significant impact on Long Lake, and management recommendations such as more “Slow No Wake” buoys, education related to safe speeds and operating watercraft at distances further from the shoreline to minimize shoreline damage from waves should be taken into consideration. In the optional comment section of this question, “wake boats” were mentioned 31 times in a negative manner with concerns related to recreation conflicts, safety, noise, and shoreline erosion.

“Excessive Aquatic Plant Growth” appears to occur most frequently in the North End of the lake (17.2%; “Sometimes” + “Often” + “Always”) (Figure 5). This issue is somewhat subjective and is subject to change in localized areas. It is recommended that Long Lake’s Aquatic Plant Management Plan should be updated to reflect the varying concerns of shoreline property owners (primarily dense native vegetation that impairs navigation) and the ecological health of the lake.

“Shoreline Erosion” appears to occur fairly consistently across Long Lake with the greatest occurrence based on respondents in the North End and the Narrows (14.7% and 13.9%, respectively; “Sometimes” + “Often” + “Always”) (Figure 5). This lake issue appears to have a significant impact on Long Lake, and management recommendations such as more “Slow No Wake” buoys, education related to safe speeds, shoreline restoration (Healthy Lakes best management practices), etc. should be taken into consideration.

## To what extent do you agree or disagree that the following threaten the health of Long Lake?

Respondents were asked to what extent do various challenges threaten the health of Long Lake. Respondents largely agreed that shoreline erosion, pesticides, fertilizers, shoreline development, declining water quality, and aquatic invasive species threaten Long Lake (Figure 4).



**Figure 6. Responses to “To what extent do you agree or disagree that the following threaten the health of Long Lake?”**

It appears that Long Lake shoreline property owners are largely educated on common issues that can threaten a lake. There may opportunities for education related to localized shoreline best management practices (Healthy Lakes native plantings, rock infiltration systems, runoff diversions, rain gardens, and fish sticks) and Long Lake’s drawdown, as well as global topics like climate change.

### For how many years have you owned property on this lake?

Respondents were asked how long they have owned property on Long Lake. Over half (56.7%) have been on Long Lake for more than 20 years (Figure 7). The shoreline property owners of Long Lake have a long history with Long Lake and are familiar with its trends and health. However, the lack of turnover on Long Lake may be contributing to difficulty in finding volunteers and volunteer burnout because if folks have not volunteered in the past, they may be unlikely to volunteer in the future.

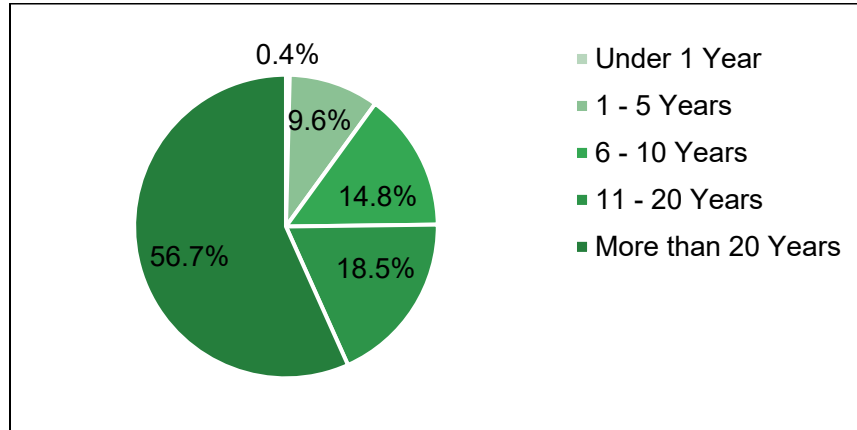


Figure 7. Responses to “For how many years have you owned property on this lake?”

### Compared to when you first bought property on this lake, how is the overall water quality now?

Respondents were asked how the overall water quality of Long Lake has changed since they first obtained property on the lake. Over half of respondents (58.6%) indicated that lake had stayed “About the Same”, but 34.0% indicated that the lake had gotten “Worse”, and 3.4% indicated that it has gotten “Much Worse”. Only 4.1% (“Better” + “Much Better”) responded that water quality has improved (Figure 8).

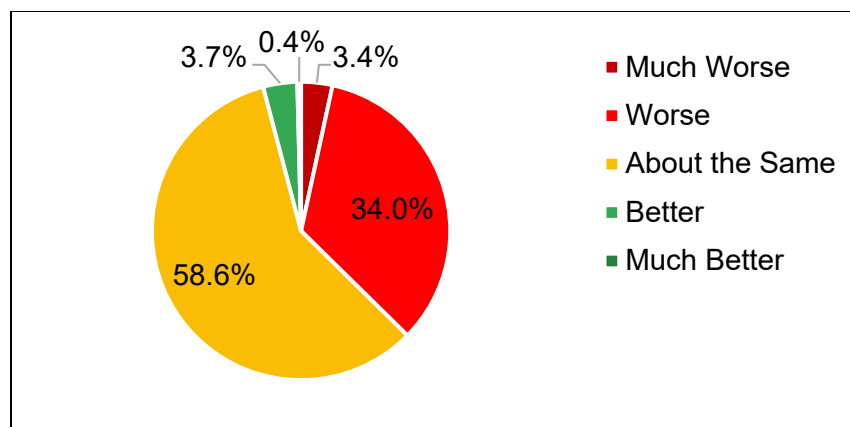
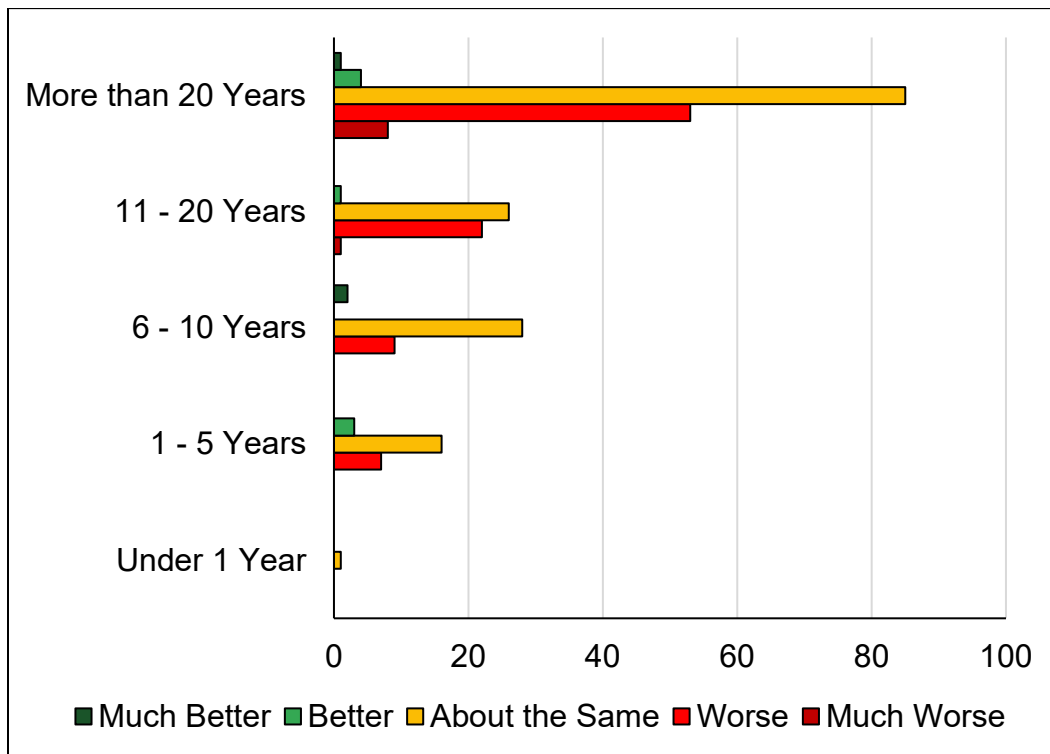


Figure 8. Responses to “Compared to when you first bought property on this lake, how is the overall water quality now?”

Many of the shoreline property owners who responded to this survey have been on Long Lake more than 20 years (58.6%). Of those same people, 85 responded that water quality is “About the Same” as it was when they first came to the lake (Figure 9). However, 53 responded that water quality was worse (“Worse” + “Much Worse”). The long history and familiarity with Long Lake that shoreline property owners have is substantial. It appears that the water quality of Long Lake has stayed relatively the same with potentially some decline – this is consistent with the Citizen Lake Monitoring Network water quality data.



**Figure 9. Comparison of how long respondents have owned property on Long Lake and their opinion of how water quality has changed.**

Gruenhagen Bay and the South End/Dam/Holy Island were the only areas of the lake where more respondents indicated that the water quality has become worse (Figure 10). Based on the responses to this survey, it appears that water quality has been largely consistent throughout time and throughout the lake.

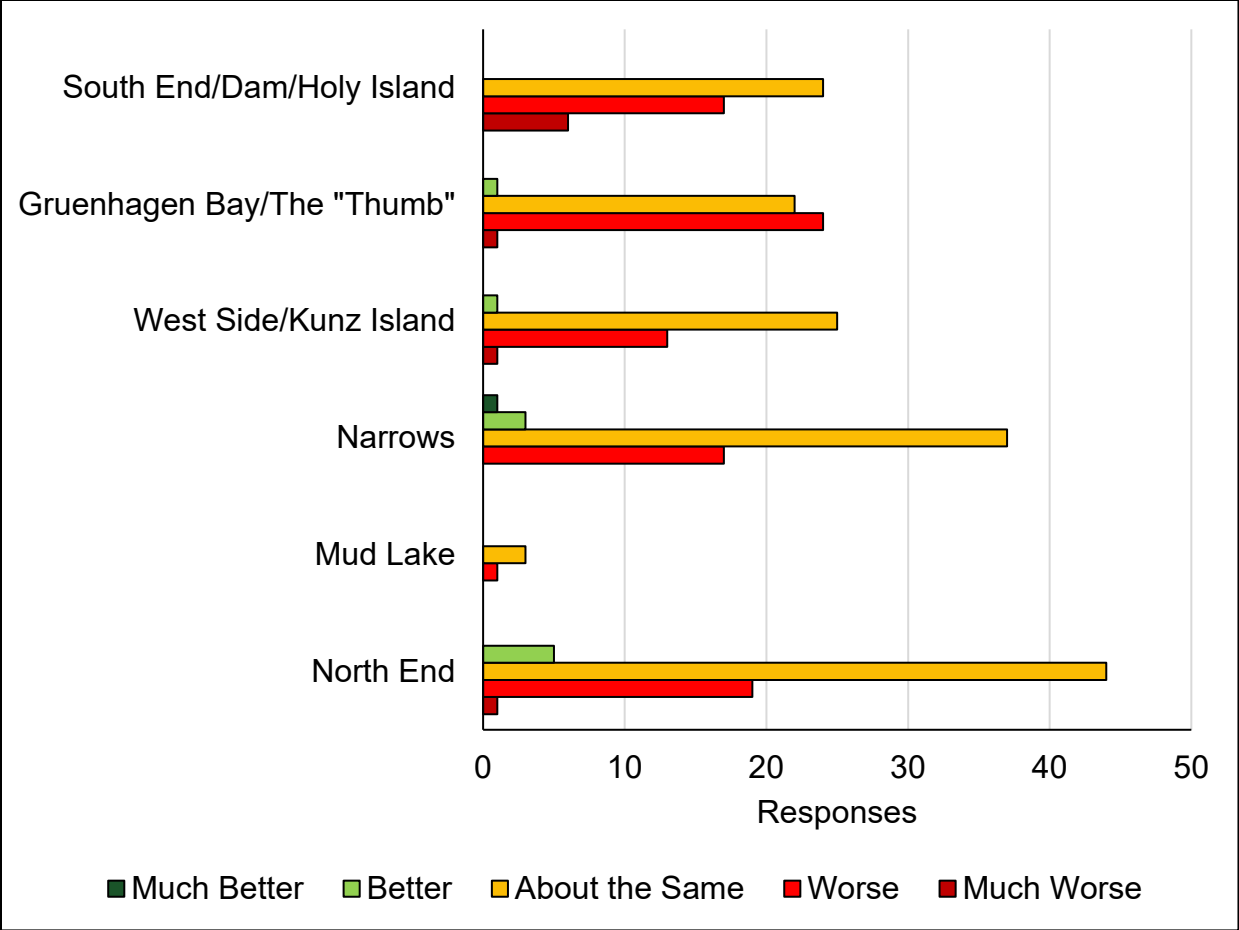


Figure 10. Comparison of where respondents own property on Long Lake and their opinion of how water quality has changed.

### Which of the following stewardship activities are of interest to you?

Respondents were asked to about lake stewardship activities to provide a better understanding of what people may be interested in, opportunities for education, and what LLPA members currently participate in. The stewardship activities can be broadly categorized into Healthy Lakes Related, General Lake Stewardship, and LLPA Related Lake Stewardship.

Many respondents indicated that they would be willing to participate in Healthy Lakes Best Management Practices; 105 (35.8%) are willing to plant native plants along the shoreline, 97 (33.1%) are willing to create a rain garden, 92 (31.4%) are willing to install a water diversion or rock infiltration system, and 121 (41.3%) are willing to install a Fish Sticks project (Figure 11). There may be opportunities to provide education related to Healthy Lakes Best Management Practices to encourage LLPA members to participate in the program.

Participation in General Lake Stewardship activities was generally high. This indicates that Long Lake shoreline property owners are generally educated about lake stewardship and things they can do to help the lake. However, there were many people who indicated that they have “Never done but are willing to do” many activities; therefore, continuing to provide information related to general lake stewardship and best practices should remain a high priority for the LLPA (Figure 11). Additionally, there are opportunities to recognize LLPA members who are good lake stewards who participate in taking care of Long Lake in various ways.

A smaller percentage of respondents indicated that they currently participate in LLPA Related Lake Stewardship activities, but many indicated that they are willing to. There may be an opportunity to increase annual meeting attendance – 97 (33.1%) responded that they never have but would be willing to attend the annual meeting (Figure 11). Likewise, 112 (38.2%) indicated that they may be willing to participate in the LLPA’s neighborhood fundraising meetings (Figure 11). Participation in LLPA committees was less popular, but 78 (26.6%) still responded that they may be willing to volunteer (Figure 11). Willingness to participate in Long Lake studies and the Comprehensive Lake Management Plan process was high; 120 (41.0%) and 99 (33.8%), respectively (Figure 11). Every effort should be taken to include the membership in future studies and in the Long Lake Comprehensive Lake Management Plan process. It is recommended that the LLPA should broadly advertise the public comment period and provide ample opportunities for people to comment on the plan. Public comments should be carefully reviewed and incorporated into the plan where appropriate.



	Stewardship Activities	Not applicable	Never done, no interest	Never done but willing to	Used to but no longer do	Currently do
Healthy Lakes Related	Planting native plants along your shoreline	15	33	<b>105</b>	10	<b>95</b>
	Creating a rain garden on your land	20	86	<b>97</b>	6	<b>44</b>
	Installing a water diversion or infiltration system to reduce runoff	25	78	<b>92</b>	4	<b>55</b>
	Installing a Fish Sticks project	28	78	<b>121</b>	4	<b>17</b>
General Lake Stewardship	Speaking to friends and neighbors about lake protection	14	64	<b>57</b>	7	<b>112</b>
	Washing your boat when leaving a lake or other water body	99	17	<b>25</b>	2	<b>117</b>
	Reducing or eliminating pesticide applications on your lawn & garden	32	23	<b>43</b>	13	<b>146</b>
	Reducing or eliminating fertilizer application on your lawn & garden	31	22	<b>46</b>	12	<b>150</b>
	Using a rain barrel(s)	30	85	<b>96</b>	19	<b>22</b>
	Not mowing your lawn within 30 feet of the shoreline	36	50	<b>32</b>	13	<b>124</b>
	Attending lake conferences/seminars	23	58	<b>107</b>	32	<b>35</b>
	Checking your septic system on a regular basis	19	3	<b>18</b>	11	<b>209</b>
	Keeping leaves and lawn clippings out of the lake	15	0	<b>10</b>	12	<b>224</b>
LLPA Related Lake Stewardship	Attending the LLPA annual meeting	14	19	<b>97</b>	31	<b>98</b>
	Participating in LLPA Neighborhood meetings	20	70	<b>112</b>	18	<b>33</b>
	Participating on one or more LLPA committees	30	110	<b>78</b>	14	<b>21</b>
	Participating in Long Lake studies (shoreline assessment, water quality data, etc.)	25	77	<b>120</b>	17	<b>13</b>
	Participating in the Long Lake Comprehensive Management Plan process	34	94	<b>99</b>	11	<b>14</b>

Figure 11. Responses to “Which of the following stewardship activities are of interest to you?”

As you think about participating in stewardship activities on Long Lake, how important are the following potential limitations?

Respondents were asked what limits them from participating in various lake stewardship activities in order to understand ways that the LLPA can improve interest, participation, and capacity.

A large portion of respondents indicated that lack of time, lack of support from other lake property owners, and lack of information (219, 217, and 217, respectively) was at least “Slightly Important” as a factor limiting their participation in lake stewardship (Figure 12). The LLPA recognizes the difficult balancing act that shoreline property owners have when it comes to managing their time and participation in stewardship, the difficulty of persuading others to participate in stewardship, and the difficulty of finding information. As such, the LLPA should continue education efforts related to stewardship and provide further access to resources for its members. The LLPA should also make a concerted effort to shift the culture around Long Lake more towards a stewardship-focused community of shoreline property owners.

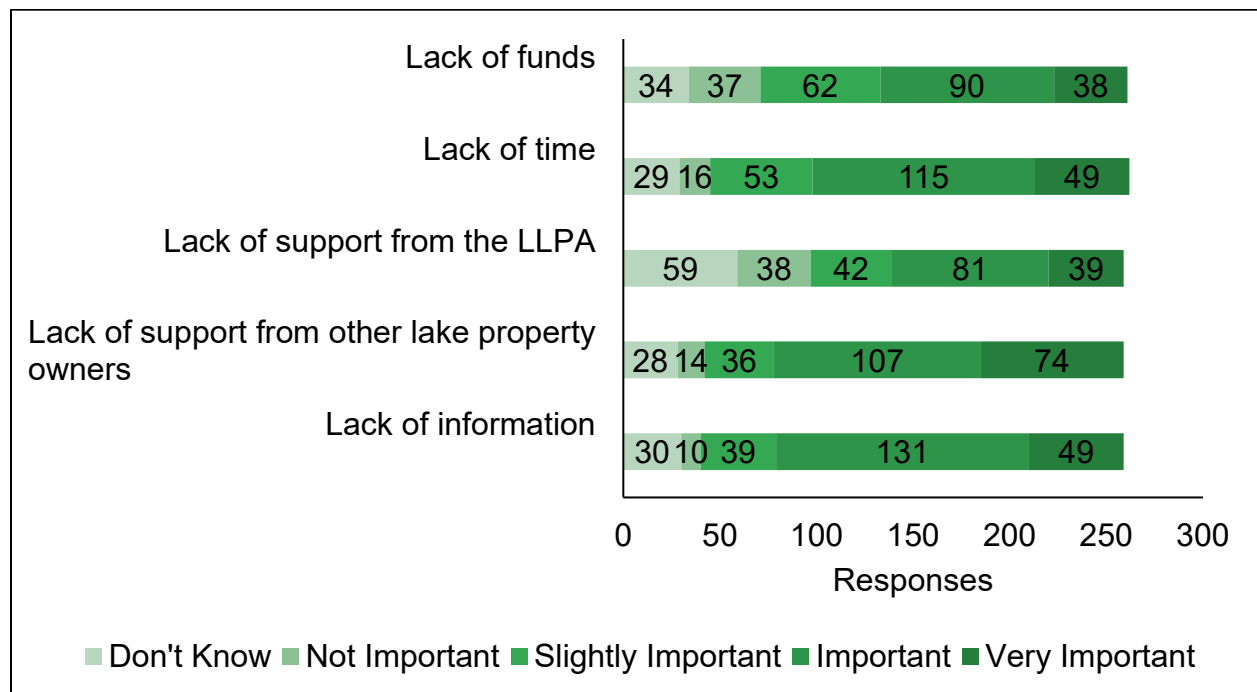


Figure 12. Responses to “As you think about participating in stewardship activities on Long Lake, how important are the following potential limitations?”

### From which of the following do you get information about lakes and lake health?

Respondents were asked to indicate from where they get information about lakes and lake health. The LLPA should use this information to reach as many people as possible with their education and other campaigns. Many people (255, 87.0%) get their information from the LLPA, 129 (44.0%) get their information from Hunt Hill, 100 (34.1%) get their information from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, 94 (32.1%) get their information from the Internet, 54 (18.4%) get their information from social media, 45 (15.4%) get their information from the local newspaper, 28 (9.6%) get their information from UW Extension, 26 (8.9%) get their information from national news media, 15 (5.1%) get their information from non-profit organizations, and 10 (3.4%) don't get information about lakes and lake health (Figure 13).

The LLPA should continue its efforts with Constant Contact, the newsletter, the calendar, and the annual meeting, because these sources successfully reach LLPA members and are effective tools for education. The LLPA should also continue to foster and grow its relationship with Hunt Hill, as many people get information from there. The LLPA should also continue to grow its social media presence to reach a broader audience. The LLPA should leverage this information to further its relationship with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and UW Extension, as these are reliable sources of lake-related information. The LLPA should promote members to receive *Lake Tides*, an Extension Lakes newsletter that contains information for shoreline property owners and lake groups interested in lake stewardship and capacity building.

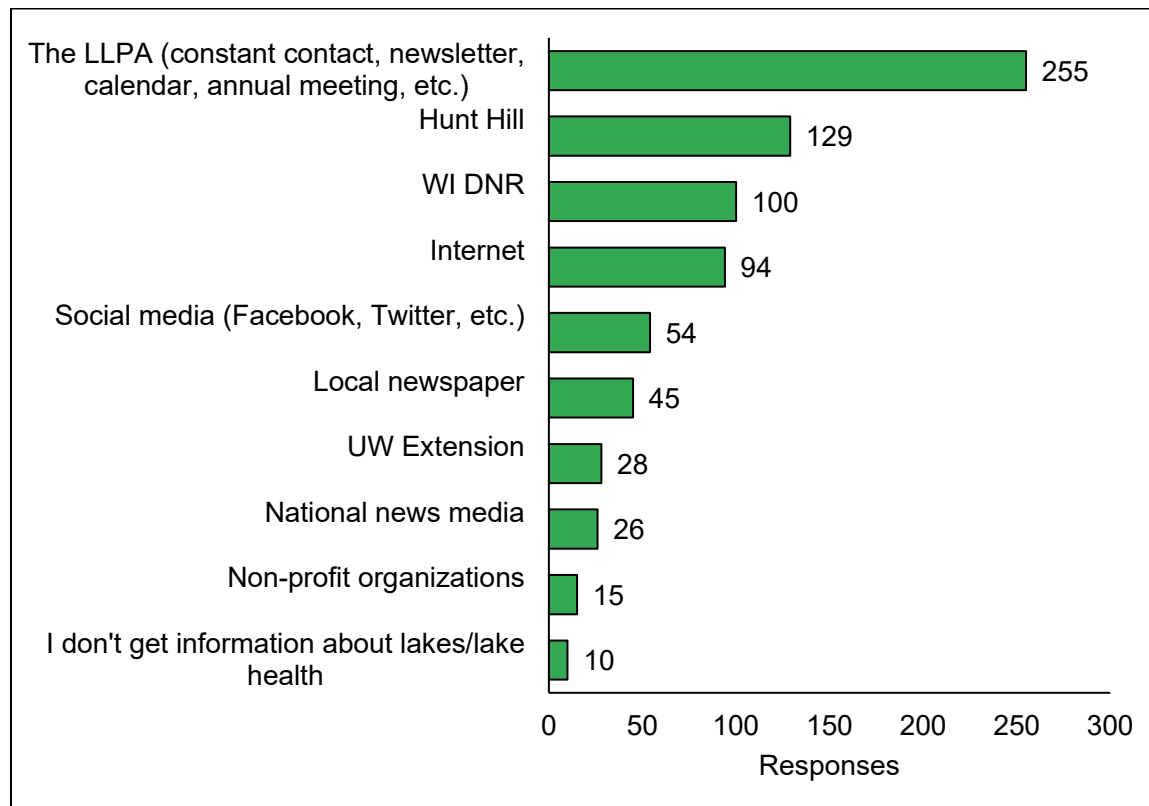


Figure 13. Responses to “From which of the following do you get information about lakes and lake health?”

### When do you typically use your property or visit Long Lake?

In order to understand much availability Long Lake’s shoreline property owners have to participate in stewardship activities and their familiarity with Long Lake’s trends, respondents were asked when they typically use their property or visit Long Lake.

Many respondents indicated that they mostly spend weekends on Long Lake; however, 81 (27.6%) indicated that they are year-round residents (Figure 14). Of those year-round residents, 46 have been on the lake more than 20 years.

Many shoreline property owners may not have a lot of time for lake stewardship but knowing that 153 respondents (56.7%) have owned property on Long Lake for more than 20 years indicates that people are invested in the health and future of Long Lake.

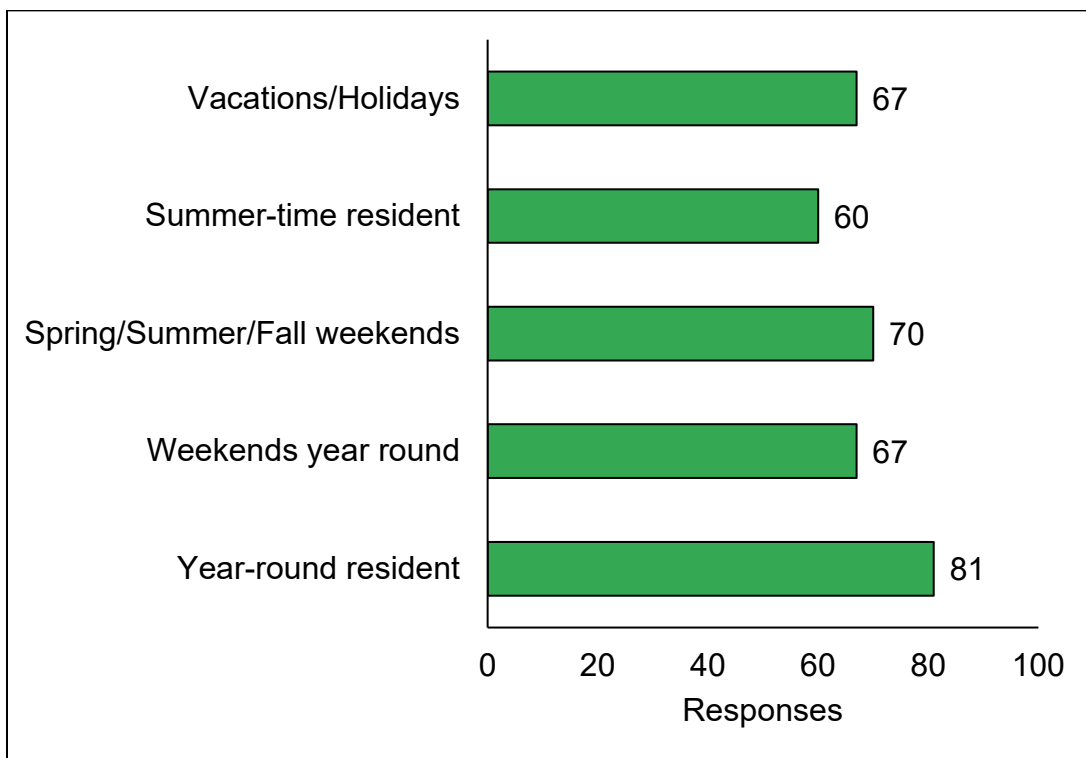


Figure 14. Responses to “When do you typically use your property or visit Long Lake?”

## Background Demographics

### Age

Over half of respondents (51.1%) indicated that they are age 65 or older and zero respondents indicated that they are age 18-24 (Figure 15). The age of Long Lake's shoreline property owners, based on this survey, is skewed towards being greater in age. This may be a limiting factor in stewardship activities.

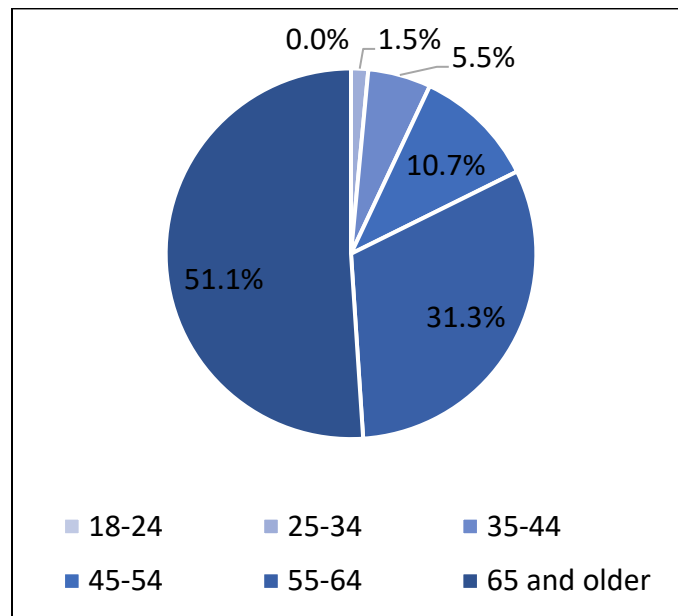


Figure 15. Survey respondent age.

### Gender

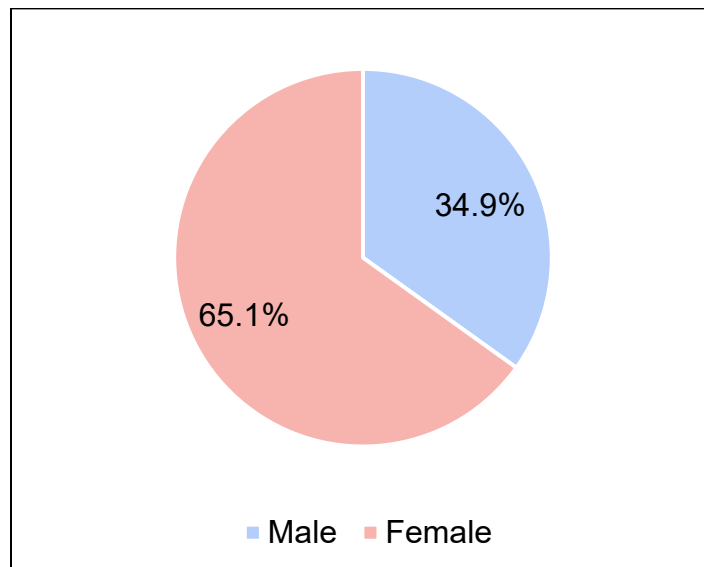


Figure 16. Gender of survey respondents.

## Education

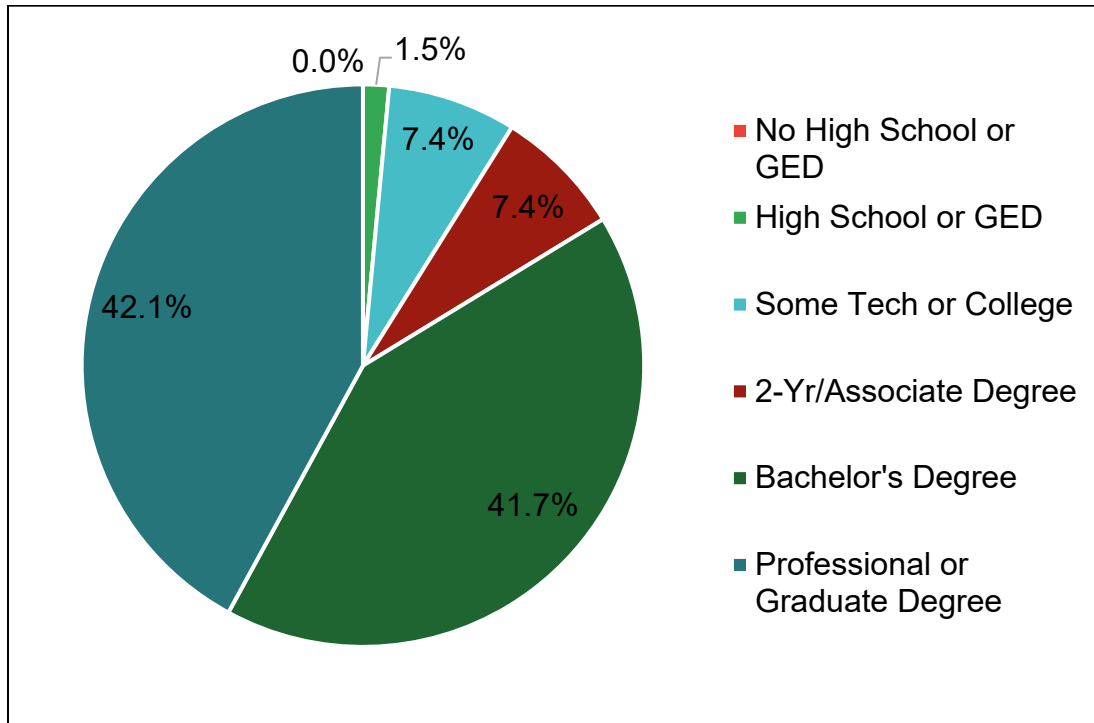


Figure 17. Survey respondent education level.

## Annual Household Income

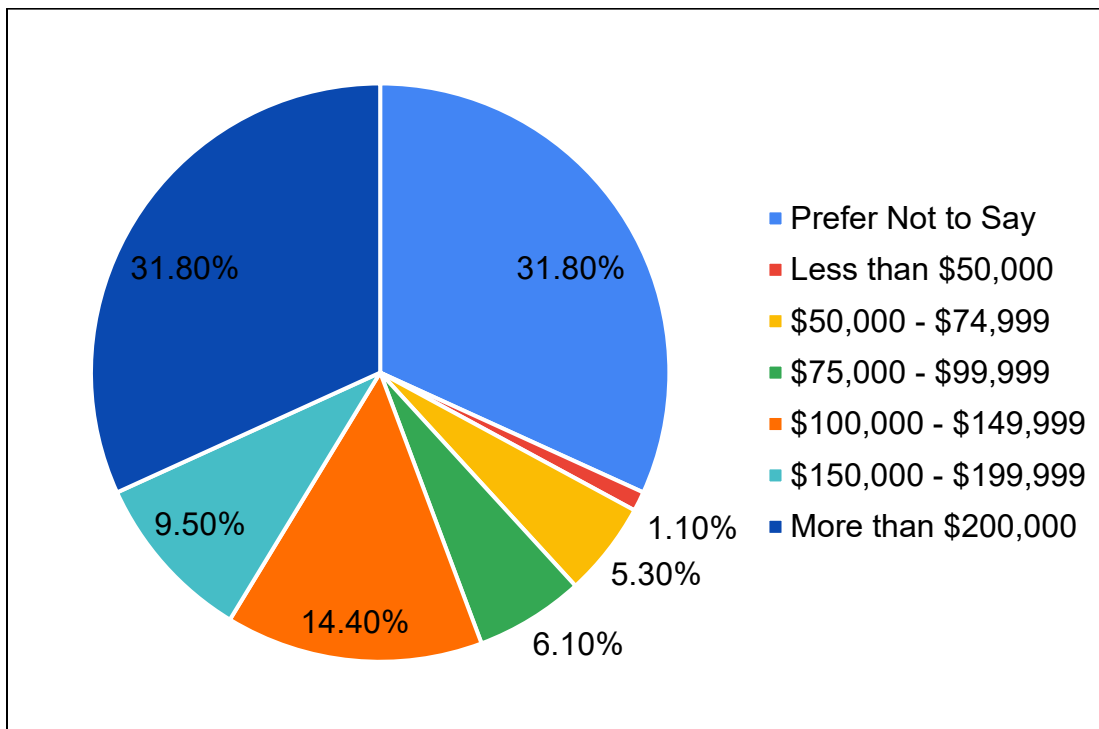


Figure 18. Survey respondent annual household income.

## LLPA Membership

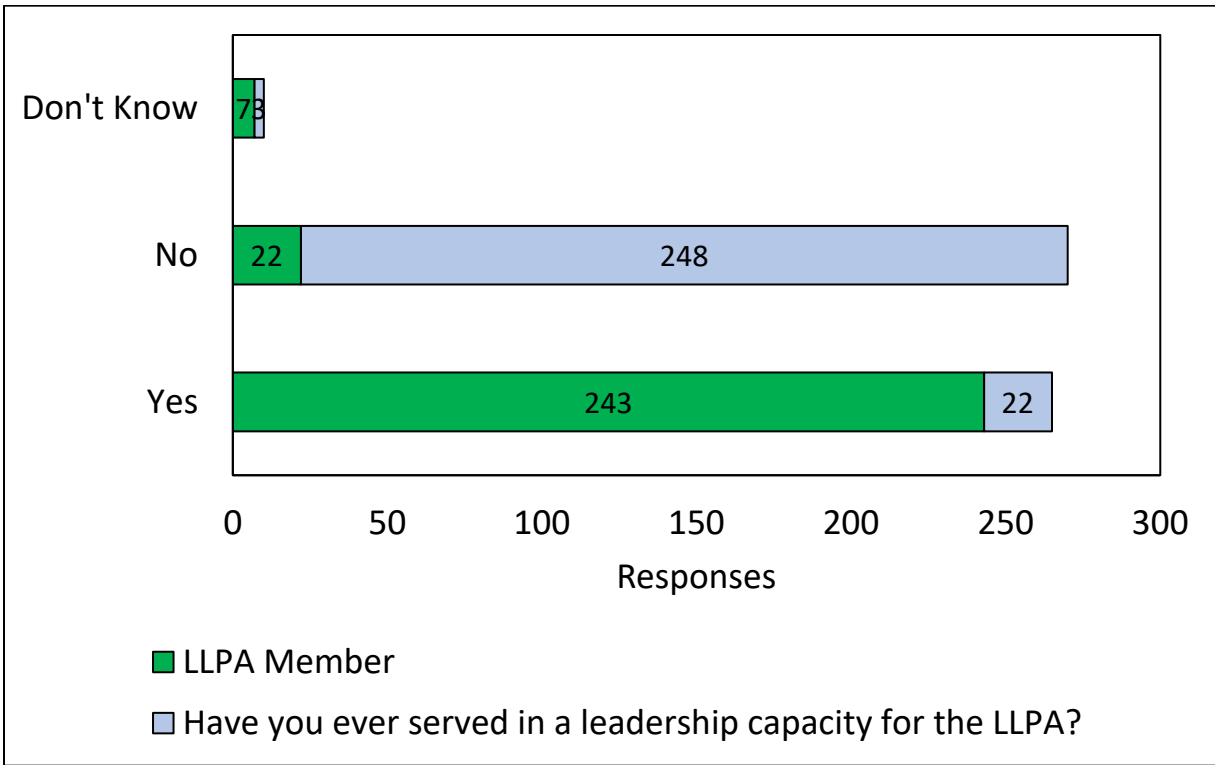


Figure 19. LLPA membership of survey respondents

## Comments from Respondents

Appreciate what the LLPA does for the lake
Are the regular or annual meetings done via Zoom?
As a 10+ year property owner and 25+ year visitor to Long Lake, I appreciate the work of the LLPA. I have been a member in the past. But ever since LLPA moved its Annual Meeting to the weekend immediately after a holiday weekend, I will not support LLPA financially. Whether this is purposefully or not, this shift ensures that most non-resident property owners will not/cannot attend or benefit from the Annual Meeting. Please reconsider the timing of this meeting to include more property owners.
Because my family and I live on the "Narrows" of the lake and there seems to be excessive speed exhibited by many boats on the lake, I would like to see a limit or "No Wake" zone established for the "Narrows".
Built cabin in 1978, the lake has always been in great shape as far as I know.
Certainly appreciate all the volunteers work and effort !!
Concern about wake boat use. Damage to shoreline and danger to other boaters.
Consider silt pumping from contaminated bays (example - Crow's Nest Bay)
Despite my love for this beautiful lake, I sometimes feel it is getting so busy with boat traffic, noise, and inconsiderate people (boaters) that it prompts me to think about selling our property.
Development and protection of aquifer
Do we need a weed cutting machine? Are they effective in controlling the weeds?
Even if we enrolled all property owners, we have many guests on the lake who don't appreciate the impact they have on the lake. An outreach campaign may be useful.
Grateful for the work of LLPA and hopeful about the work related to this survey. Look forward to seeing results and hope tangible progress is made toward a healthier lake.
Great place, I feel the owners are willing to do what it takes to protect an increase the quality of the lake.
Hate to see the Restaurant situation end up the way it has.
Hopeful and excited to have Megan Mader as the newly established Long Lake Preservation Assn. Lake Manager! Also, excited about the newly established Long Lake Endowment Fund :-)
I am glad that this study and review of data pertaining to lake life and quality is proceeding. Thank you for your effort.
I am very concerned with the health and clarity of our lake!!!!
I appreciate the effort you are all. making
I appreciate the LLPA and stewardship but only use the property once a year. Other family much more involved
I appreciate the work and communication from LLPA
i Get angry when I see people doing things to lessen the quality of the lake!
I like the management of the lake. Some people need to follow the guidelines of the lake. Instead of fining violators of the shorelines, the property owners need to restore the area they changed.
I love it! Would love to prevent the lake becoming an "airbnb" lake.
I think the LLPA seems serious but nothing appears to get done to improve lake quality. Are they still stocking the lake?
I wouldn't mind seeing more enforcement on the lake for reckless speeding of large and small boats. I see no sense in driving a boat like a maniac. The lake is to be used for relaxing enjoyment, not a race



track! Sometimes I wonder if they can even see well enough when people are in the water swimming, and they fly by like they do. They must be able to see us, but it certainly can get scary for those in the water.
I've loved this lake since my first visit in the late 1950s. I hate seeing the demise of the quaint summer cabins and the building of McMansions on the small lots and the resulting toll that they take on the lake quality.
interested in discussing bag limit reduction for panfish. 25 per day is too much. 10 per day like Chippewa Flowage will be more reasonable. Modern electronics make fisheries very susceptible to overharvest.
Invasive weeds and murky waters are becoming more of a problem
Is the Scout Reservation subject to development?
It is hard to know if poor care of property around the lake is due to ignorance or just not caring. Maybe a letter could be sent to new property owners explaining the desire to maintain the lake what each owner should do. This at least would provide education
It would be good to notify specific property owners of invasive species growing on their shoreline, both for their education and removal.
It would be nice if we could ensure the frequent bass tournaments are properly supervised to ensure they don't transfer invasive species into Long Lake. It would also be nice if they would (sorry, but we think they're a noisy pain) go bother some other lake.
It's a beautiful lake - still - and we want to work to keep it that way. Have some mobility issues because of a knee, but would like to help in any way that I can.
It's a wonderful lake. We are so fortunate to have the Scout Camp!
Jet skis and wake boarding detract from the serenity, safety (humans and wildlife), and preservation of shore line
Keep it beautiful
Land owners are doing many, many things to their lake frontage that harms the health of this lake. They buy their place on Long Lake because of how lovely it is, and then they do their best to destroy it. These are not "city properties" and lawns do not need to be fertilized and manicured. This is the north woods! Stop mowing to the lake front and leave a proper buffer zone! The lake has gotten so busy and noisy. Weekends and holidays are a zoo. Fishing tournaments should not start before 8:00 a.m. Too many rude people, but no one can do anything about that.
LLPA doesn't have enforcement rights but they have numbers which greatly influence our elected officials. One question that should be asked, should LLPA be a watch agent and report violations to the townships or county. Includes DNR
Long Lake is great. But about the survey question about sex. No such thing as non-binary... there is XX and XY... all mammalian biology confirms this. Yes, mutations can occur but humans are male or female. Just as some unfortunate folks are born without legs, that doesn't mean that humans are not bi-pedal. It's poor thinking to make general conclusions based on extreme or rare situations. I know that question in the survey is meant to be "inclusive" but to promote and affirm a lifestyle that statistically results in 82% of its individuals contemplating suicide and 42% actually attempting it? That's unloving. These folks need our love and care, not our lack of courage to speak truth to them.
Love it
Love it, been coming here my entire life.
Love it, have for the past 50 years although this is our first Long Lake property we've lived nearby in vacation homes. We are at an exciting time to embrace new ways to make a lasting difference.
Love the lake but concerned about people not respecting it!

Love the variety of waterfowl, critters, quiet, pontoon rides, friendly atmosphere, care about the environment, high quality water, clear, woodlands, not a loud, disruptive party lake.
Maintaining fishery , water clarity , and keeping bars and restaurants on the lake
My biggest concerns are the potential for more invasive species due to the high volume of boats being launched on Long Lake to and from area lakes. And the new developments with their fertilized lawns mowed down to the shoreline.
My concern is the unmarked stumps in water and last year--there was a huge tree that showed up on boy scout side of lake, that protruded from the surface and someone hit that with their boat. Although so very "cool" to leave well enough alone, when there are new dangers to the lake and also the trees that fall in the lake (yes, I know, so very important for fish structure) but when there isn't much room to round a corner (narrows and BS camp in narrows) those trees pose a danger to boaters. There are plenty of boaters who run the lake at night--if they are doing this for the first time this season, they may hit something.
My great-grandfather bought Holy Island from the Rice Lake Lumber Company in 1892 for \$64.05. It was stumpage then. I've been coming to Holy Island almost every year since 1940 when I was born. Relative to the late '40s, there is substantially more woodland now and the mix of trees has changed as the forest has matured. There have been some modest lake water changes over the period, but overall water quality is not much different. There are fewer wasps and hornets since garbage pickup began. There are no cows wading in the lake. Most shorelines are less developed. We have NEVER mowed. The only shoreline modifications we've made are to remove remaining stumps--completed in the late 1940s. My landscaping philosophy is to have a Darwinian yard--survival of the fittest. We have at least 500 trillium blooming each May. Holy Island has a property owners association. The catalyst for starting it was to prevent the Town Board from paving Holy Island Road. We are interested in preservation but also not telling others what to do. We have another cabin on a lake 50 miles northwest of the Twin Cities. It also has a voluntary lake association. It's my experience there that residents and other recreational users are generally quite interested in preserving its quality, but they vehemently opposed the creation of a lake district that would have had compulsive regulatory power.
Long Lake wouldn't be here if there hadn't been temporary catastrophic destruction of its late 19th century environment. The same goes for a number of the best northwestern Wisconsin lakes. Without the water depth the dam created, the lake would be a pale pretender to what it is now. The dam wouldn't exist if the area hadn't been logged.
Need to developed a comprehensive management ment plan and implement it.Need to establish consistent funding mechanisms so as to continue and/or implement the lake management plan
None.
Ongoing development and yards changing into over fed lawns are concerning.
Personally I think a water treatment plan in the lake is needed for the Algae instead of creating more rules that most cabin owners will never follow. I understand the need to encourage not using fertilizer, add more plants to shoreline and do some of the things mentioned in this questionnaire, but reality is with how many lake homes we have and people have a wide variety of opinions related to this matter, that I really believe the only thing we can implement that is scalable to solving water quality on the lake is to determine a water treatment option, which I am sure cost money but maybe it's apart of an annual assessment for living on Long Lake.
Another Thing we would love to see is each boat launch have pay stations, for those visiting the lake and leaving their trailers parked for the day. I believe this is lost revenue that could be used towards

things like water treatment. It's just a pay as you use station and maybe once a week or day someone from the LLPA committee drives around and collects the money. maybe \$10/day would be a good start, this would detour non resident lake people or at least create some \$ towards LLPA projects.
Should have been called 'Lake Superior' but that name was already taken. Keep up all your important efforts.
Skiing, wakeboarding hour restrictions
some how limiting surfing, especially in the narrows
Take steps to follow existing development regulations. More rnfocement needed. Regulations are ignored with no consequences.
Thank you for supporting the future of the lake
Thanks for the fishing
Thanks for you efforts to maintain the beauty and health of Long Lake.
The undeveloped Boy Scout property is the key to Long Lake's beauty.
Took 8 years to find a home on Long Lake. The beauty of the lake, it's amenities and cleanliness of the lake was our draw. The changes we have seen in the quality of the lake our fourth year on the lake is concerning.
Very concerned about the erosion of the shoreline due to large waves. Is it possible to institute a curfew on jet ski's?
Very concerned about wake boat usage. They need to be forbidden on lake. Destroy shoreline and wildlife habitat (loons especially) Even using wake boats far from shore are harmful. Many lakes in Minnesota have band them, we should too.
very stunted. Needs to have tiger musky introduced to increase size of fish. This was done on the lake we live by as residents and it became one of the best fishing lakes in the state.
Wake surf boat concerns, jet skis regarding wild life and noise etc, failing septic systems, Scouts selling their land
Want to keep it a clean lake which supports a wide variety of activities
Water quality and weed growth
We are thankful that the LLPA is so active and hope that the momentum continues.
We love it, keep it nice! Limit development where we can and get the short term renters under control. Rice Lake has taken some big steps with Barron County and we could do the same for all of Washburn!
We love Long Lake and are thankful to live here.
We love Long Lake and want to keep it the premier lake that it is. Maintaining good environmental guidlines along with keeping businesses up and running on the lake is important for its long-term success
We love Long Lake, we do not like the Wakeboard boats and the constant deterioration they cause. The DNR does not make it easy to maintain your shoreline, and so the constant beating of the shore that occurs from these big boats makes for a bit of a struggle. I do not know how or what to do about it, but those boats are a problem. Maybe it is more of a social grace/common sense problem than anything, because you would think that these boats might not necessarily want to be pounding the shore in the narrows as compared to utilizing the bigger parts of the lake. I would say the same is true of the jet ski's as well! Emphasis added!!
We need to work together to spread the word that Long Lake requires our energy and our dollars now!
We really love Long Lake and the community... The restaurant issue is something that needs to be dealt with. Such a bummer to lose the Landing.. What can we as a community do so support our local

places besides being a patron? Also we would love more information of native plants we can grow near the shoreline to help with erosion and water quality. Thanks!
We would like to see a \$15/day use pass charged for all trailer parking at boat launches via self registration as seen on the St. Croix River boat launches. We firmly believe in order for all to continue to enjoy the lake, everyone must pay to play. Funds can be used for upkeep at boat launches, etc. I'm sadly shocked at some of the boats/groups I see launching and using our lake for the day. Often it is large groups looking to party on the weekends, leaving behind garbage in the lake and other unwanted items we do not want within our lake. People who do not live on the lake should have to contribute something towards using our resources for their enjoyment.
Wish wake boats were banned.
Would hate to see more development on the lake.
would like to see advisory referendums on skiing/tubing/jet ski hours, restrictions on wake boats (where they can go - ex. NOT in the narrows), changing limits on daily bag limit for crappies from 25 to 10.
Would like to see quiet hours (no wake) hours in the eveings.
Need to do all we can to keep invasive species out of Wisconsin lakes.
Would love to have wave runners / jet skiis banned from the lake. They are proper rude to fishermen and my loons!!
Your hard work is critically important, and I appreciate it very much.

## Survey Questions

Dear Long Lake Enthusiasts,

Whether you live on Long Lake all year or enjoy the lake part time, a connection to Long Lake is what links us all. The survey below is designed to help the Long Lake Preservation Association know what you think about the condition of the lake so that the forthcoming Comprehensive Lake Management Plan can accurately address your concerns.

Your participation in this survey is voluntary but will be greatly appreciated. We expect it will take you no more than 10 minutes to complete the survey. You may discontinue the survey at any time. The Northwest Regional Planning Commission is assisting with this survey and your response will be treated in a confidential manner. The NWRPC will combine all responses and the data will be analyzed and reported in aggregated form only. Your name will not be associated with your responses to survey questions.

Please complete the survey by **July 10, 2023**.

This survey and its corresponding analyses are funded by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Comprehensive Lake Management Planning Grant that was awarded to the LLPA in 2023.

Thank you! Your time and opinions are greatly appreciated!

If you have any questions about the survey, contact Megan Mader using the contact information below.

Megan Mader - Water Resources Specialist  
Northwest Regional Planning Commission  
(715) 635 - 2197  
mmader@nwrpc.com

What is your email address?

Your email will remain private and is only used for response verification. All survey response data will be provided to the LLPA in aggregate.

Would you like to be added to the LLPA's contact list?

Yes

No

What area of the lake best describes your residence?

North End

Mud Lake

Narrows

West Side/Kunz Island

Gruenhagen Bay/ The "Thumb"

South End/Dam/Holy Island

How do you spend your time on Long Lake? (select all that generally apply)

Fishing

Skiing, wakeboarding, tubing

Jet skiing/wave runner

Pontooning

Swimming

Canoe, kayak, paddleboard, etc.

Ice fishing

Family gatherings

Hunting

Observing Wildlife

Camping

Other:

With respect to Long Lake, how would you assess its current:

	Don't know	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good
a. Overall health	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Water quality (e.g. algae, pollution)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Water clarity (ability to see through)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Wildlife habitat quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Recreation quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Beauty	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Fishery	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

How often are the following currently a problem on Long Lake?

	Don't know	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
a. Lack of water clarity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Lack of aquatic plant growth	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Excessive aquatic plant growth	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Algae blooms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Fluctuating water levels	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Smell	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Fish kills	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. Shoreline erosion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
i. Recreation conflicts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
j. Other, please specify: _____ _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

To what extent do you agree or disagree that the following threaten the health of Long Lake?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
a. Climate change	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Habitat loss	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Aquatic invasive species	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Declining water quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Lack of shoreline plants	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Too many aquatic plants	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Shoreline development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. Lawn and garden fertilizers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

- i. Lawn and garden pesticides
- j. Shoreline erosion
- k. Winter drawdown

For how many years have you owned property on this lake?

Under 1 year	1 – 5 years	6 – 10 years	11 – 20 years	More than 20 years
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Compared to when you first bought property on this lake, how is overall water quality now?

Much worse	Worse	About the same	Better	Much better
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Which of the following stewardship activities are of interest to you?:

	Not applicable	Never done, no interest	Never done, willing to	Used to, but no longer do	Currently do
a. Speaking to friends and neighbors about lake protection	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Washing your boat when leaving a lake or other water body	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Planting native plants along your shoreline	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Reducing or eliminating pesticide applications on your lawn & garden	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Reducing or eliminating fertilizer application on your lawn & garden	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Creating a rain garden on your land	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Using a rain barrel(s)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. Installing a Fish Sticks project	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
i. Now mowing your lawn within 30 feet of the water	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
j. Attending the LLPA annual meeting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
k. Attending lake conferences/seminars	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
l. Participating in LLPA Neighborhood meetings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
m. Participating on one or more LLPA committees	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
n. Participating in Long Lake studies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
o. Participating in the Long Lake Comprehensive Plan	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



- p. Checking your septic system on a regular basis
- q. Keeping leaves and lawn clippings out of the lake

As you think about maintaining or improving conditions on Long Lake, how important are the following potential limitations?

	Don't Know	Not Important	Slightly Important	Important	Very Important
a. Lack of information	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Lack of support from other lake property owners	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Lack of support from the LLPA	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Lack of time	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Lack of money	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Other (specify): _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Are you:

	N/A	Yes	No	Don't Know
a. A member of the Long Lake Preservation Association?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Now, or have you ever served in a leadership capacity for your lake association?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

- Year-round resident
- Weekends year round
- Spring/Summer/Fall weekends
- Summertime resident
- Vacations/Holidays
- Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

When do you typically use your property on Long Lake? (select all that apply)

From which of the following do you get information about lakes and lake health? (select all that apply)

- My lake association
- UW Extension
- WI DNR
- Internet
- National news media
- Local newspaper
- I don't get information about lakes/lake health
- Social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)
- Non-profit organizations
- Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

Into which of the following age categories do you fall?

18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and older
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Are you?

Male	Female	Non-binary
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What is the highest level of education you have completed?

No High School or GED	High School or GED	Some Tech or College	2-Yr/ Associate Degree	Bachelor's Degree	Professional or Graduate Degree
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What is your household's annual income range?

Prefer not to say	Less than \$50,000	\$50,000 - \$74,999	\$75,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 - \$149,999	\$150,000 - \$199,999	200,000+
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What other thoughts do you have about Long Lake?