

**Kawishiwi Water Protection Plan**  
**June 27, 2011**

**July Accomplishments**

July started out with a weekend, holiday and the state government shutdown, which extended slack time until July 21. The CWLA portion of the project was delayed by the shutdown, but the CWP portion of the grant proceeded, allowing voluntary monitoring activities.

SCSU indicated that they wanted to begin their work in July. Even though the contract was signed by Lake County in June, as it was part of the CWLA Grant, SCSU could not begin their work since it incurred expense to the state of Minnesota.

Additionally, the DNR warned WICOLA they had no liability protection for the boat launch AIS inspections. After many emails back and forth, it was determined to NOT have the boat inspections during the state shutdown.

**On-going Support**

Additional resources were investigated to replace those that would typically have been performed by the state agencies. Contacts were made to Sea Grant, USFS, University of Minnesota, Lake County and St. Louis County to see what resources and interest they had in portions of the project.

The USFS was the obvious choice to assist with water quality monitoring since all of the lakes are in the Superior National Forest and they have previously conducted water monitoring. They were approached to assist with calibration and laboratory testing to maintain continuity in sampling in the watershed. (Testing of existing lakes in the White Iron Chain was allowed since the funding came through the CWP Grant, but Birch, Fall, Isabella and Little Gabbro are funded with the Legacy funds.)

We were successful in getting support from the USFS to conduct lab testing on seven sites for two months. These samples would have been taken except for the lack of sample bottles and impending state budget agreement. Once the state was back on line, MPCA indicated the testing at a non-certified lab could not be included in the EQiS data storage Program that has been being developed for all State data. I regrettably explained to the USFS that we could not use their generosity and declined the \$1,800 laboratory testing funding that they had offered.

**Contract Administration**

Biannual Report for Legacy Grant due to MPCA on August 1st

- ✓ Sent draft to Oversight Committee on July 29.
- ✓ Minimal revisions recommended, draft sufficient for final submittal

**Contracts for SSTS and GIS Work**

- ✓ Contracts for GIS and SSTS were approved by Lake County Commissioners on July 26.

**Contract for Paleo Work**

- ✓ Review by Laura Auron found deficiencies. She is reworking contract.
- ✓ County Commissioners are averse to entering into a contract that could make them liable for \$40,000 in cash match that will come from WICOLA Grants and donations.

A renewal rider for each quarter will be placed into the grant. WICOLA will have to prove to the County that they have the ability to meet the contract payments (approx. \$5,000 every 3 months)

**SCSU Contract: On Hold until state budget crisis was resolved**

- ✓ Started work on July 22
- ✓ Need to resolve issue with certified lab testing requirements of MPCA.

**Monitoring**

- ✓ Volunteer Agreement signed with USFS
- ✓ Provides workers comp protection while monitoring in Superior National Forest
- ✓ Covers water sampling
- ✓ Covers Crayfish survey

### **Water Sampling**

- ✓ Conducted sampling on WICOL on 7/6 to fill in June sampling not completed by SCSU due to State Shutdown
- Conducted sampling on all lakes during last week of July after State Government was back.
- ✓ No sulfate/phosphorus testing on Little Gabbro due to lost acid vial.
- ✓ Project Coordinator accompanied testing on WICOL and Birch Lakes.
- ✓ DO Probe from YSI Sonde operating sporadically

### **Data**

- ✓ All RMB samples in Computer
- ✓ CLMP+ sampling in database
- ✓ Some CSMP data in database
- ✓ Excel Spreadsheet broken up into streams, lakes and lab tests.

### **AIS**

- ✓ Spiny Water Flea Poster created for Boy Scouts
- ✓ Reviewed by Sea Grant
- ✓ Boy Scout data form being tested out
- ✓ AIS Monitoring Clinic Coordinated by WICOLA with Minnesota Sea Grant, Minnesota Waters and DNR
- July 22nd, 14 participants learned how to identify Invasive Species and set up an AIS Monitoring Plan

### **Blueberry Fest**

- ✓ AIS awareness raised at Blueberry Fest Booth July 29 -31
- ✓ Assisted by MN Sea Grant
- ✓ 12-15 WICOLA members assisted with the booth

### **Crayfish Survey**

- ✓ Worked with USFS to coordinate a crayfish Survey of the Superior National Forest
- ✓ 152 sites in WICOL and Birch to be done by WICOLA
- ✓ 300 other sites to be completed by USFS
- ✓ USFS to supply traps
- ✓ USFS will assist WICOLA in Crayfish Identification.
- ✓ Survey was conducted August 1-5
- ✓ Derrick & Family will do Birch Lake
- ✓ WICOLA will coordinate White Iron Chain

### **Presentations (attended by Project Coordinator)**

- ✓ Aldo Leopold Documentary
- ✓ Polymet Mining Presentation by Brad Moore

### **August Goals**

- Complete Rusty Crayfish Survey on WICOL and Birch.
- Add on South Farm with assistance from Camp Voyageur representative

- Blueberry Fest: Follow up on contacts made at Blueberry Fest
- SSTS: Follow up with St. Louis County Environmental Services
- SCSU: Resolve testing requirements on water samples
- GIS  
Look at data from Lake County with Community GIS  
Resolve \$65 bill from Lake County for GIS data
- Monitoring  
Clarify lab testing language with MPCA on Existing and Proposed sites.  
Purchase Plankton Nets and Thermometers  
Meet with existing Secchi monitors and review data
- Get NRRRI Contract resolved.
- Submit CWP Biannual Report by Aug. 21
- Have community match (volunteer time) tabulated