

Appendix A - 2019-24 Red Cedar Lakes Aquatic Plant Management: Goals, Objectives, and Actions

(LEAPS 8/19/2019)

1) Goal 1 – Prevent the expansion of curly-leaf pondweed in the Red Cedar Lakes.

- a) Objective 1 – Document changes in CLP distribution and density in the Red Cedar Lakes.
 - (1) Action – RCLA volunteers will complete CLP bedmapping in mid to late June each year to compare annual changes.
 - (2) Action – The RCLA will hire a specialist to repeat the same turion density survey that was completed in the fall of 2012, in the fall of 2021 and compare results.
 - (3) Action – The RCLA will hire a specialist to complete a cold-water, CLP, point-intercept survey in 2023 and compare to results from 2011 and 2018 surveys.
- b) Objective 2 – Reduce the current (2017) distribution and density of CLP in the Red Cedar Lakes to the point where there are no beds >1 acre in size with a rakehead density of 2 or more.
 - (1) Action – The RCLA will implement a 3-yr chemical treatment plan that includes areas that are ≥ 1 acre with a rakehead density of 2 or more based on prior year CLP bedmapping results.
 - (i) Pre- and post-treatment aquatic plant survey work and herbicide concentration/dispersion monitoring will be completed as instructed by the WDNR.
 - (2) Action – The RCLA and individual property owners will complete small-scale, manual removal of CLP in nearshore areas.

2) Goal 2 – Maintain or improve current (2018) measurements of the health of the native aquatic plant community in the Red Cedar Lakes.

- a) Objective 1 – Compare measurements of the health of the native aquatic plant community in the Red Cedar Lakes prior to and after a multi-year CLP management project.
 - (1) Action – The RCLA will hire a specialist to complete a summer, whole-lake, littoral zone, point-Intercept Survey in 2023 and compare results to previous whole-lake, point-intercept survey results in 2011 and 2018.
 - (2) Action: The RCLA will monitor and map known wild rice populations annually
 - (3) Action: The RCLA will survey the entire shoreline/ littoral areas for wild rice in 2020, 2022, and 2024

3) Goal 3 – Monitor changes in water quality.

- a) Objective 1 – Maintain or improve measurements of water quality in Balsam, Red Cedar, Hemlock, and Bass Lakes including Secchi, temperature, dissolved oxygen, total phosphorus, and chlorophyll a.
 - (1) Action – The RCLA will continue to participate in the expanded level of the Citizen Lake Monitoring Network (CLMN) on Balsam, Red Cedar, and Hemlock lakes.
 - (2) Action – The RCLA will add water quality data collection on Bass Lake as a part of the CLMN.
- b) Objective 2 – Share in-lake and tributary water quality data between lakes in the upper Red Cedar River watershed.
 - (1) Action - Work with/partner with the Big Chetac and Birch Lakes Association to monitor and share water quality data between lakes

4) Goal 4 – Reduce the threat that new aquatic invasive species will be introduced into and go undetected in the Red Cedar Lakes.

- a) Objective 1 – Complete at least 400 total hours of watercraft inspection time annually and maintain applicable AIS signage at multiple landings on the Red Cedar Lakes to educate boaters and other lake users about AIS and how they are transferred from lake to lake.
 - (1) Action – The RCLA will implement a Clean Boats, Clean Waters programs annually.
 - (2) Action – The RCLA will inspect, maintain and/or improve AIS signage at all landings annually.
- b) Objective 2 – Locate and identify any new AIS that may be introduced to the Red Cedar Lakes as early as possible.
 - (1) Action – The RCLA will implement an AIS Monitoring Program annually following guidelines provided by the Citizen Lake Monitoring Network.
 - (2) Action – The RCLA will implement fall dock and boatlift removal survey for zebra mussels annually.
- c) Objective 3 – Increase opportunities for the RCLA constituency, property owners, visitors, and other lake users to be made aware of and learn about AIS.
 - (1) Action – The RCLA will annually distribute AIS education and identification materials to RCLA constituency via newsletters, on the web or Facebook page, at local businesses and during meetings and other events attended by RCLA members.
 - (2) Action – The RCLA will plan and implement at least one event/opportunity annually for the RCLA constituency and other community members to learn how to look for and identify AIS; learn who to report new findings too; and learn how to properly remove what they find from the lake.
- d) Objective 4 – Determine a plan of action to follow if a new AIS is discovered in the Red Cedar Lakes.
 - (1) Action – The RCLA will develop, maintain, and update as necessary, a formal AIS Rapid Response Plan in the first year covered by this plan.

5) Goal 5 – Identify nutrient loading sources to the Red Cedar Lakes.

- a) Objective 1: Solicit appropriate funds from the WDNR to support a lake management planning project to study nutrient inputs to the Red Cedar Lakes and to determine water and nutrient movement between lakes.
 - (1) Action – The RCLA and partners will apply for a WDNR lake management planning grant to help fund a nutrient loading study for the Red Cedar Lakes.
- b) Objective 2 – Promote and support nearshore and riparian projects that will improve fish and wildlife habitat, reduce runoff, and minimize nutrient loading into the Red Cedar Lakes.
 - (1) Action – Apply for at least two Wisconsin Healthy Lakes Initiative Grants over the next five years to support multiple projects that will improve fish and wildlife habitat and reduce runoff into the Red Cedar Lakes in the next five years.

6) Goal 6 – Assess the progress and results of this project annually and report to and involve other stakeholders in planning efforts.

- a) Objective 1 - Build and support new and existing partnerships each year.
 - (1) Action – The RCLA will work with WDNR, Barron-Washburn-Sawyer Counties, Towns of Cedar Lake-Birchwood-Wilson, Villages of Birchwood and Mikana, the Big Chetac and Birch Lakes Association, Red Cedar Watershed Water Quality Partnership, Landmark Conservancy, local businesses, contractors, and other resources to support management actions on the Red Cedar Lakes.
- b) Objective 2 – Complete annual project activity and assessment reports.
 - (1) Action – The RCLA and their Consultant will prepare end-of-year reports summarizing the management actions completed and how they impacted the lake and share/review them with the RCLA constituency, partners, and the WDNR.

- c) Objective 3 – Provide multiple opportunities and venues annually for lake residents, users, and other partners to keep informed about management planning and implementation activities.
 - (1) Action – The RCLA will post management planning and implementation information on the RCLA webpage, Facebook, in newsletters, and at RCLA meetings and events.
- d) Objective 4 – Stay within the budget constraints of the RCLA to establish and prioritize the best management actions to implement annually.
 - (1) Action – The AIS Program Coordinator for the RCLA will work with other members and committees of the RCLA to determine management actions to pursue each year.
 - (2) Action – The RCLA will apply for State of Wisconsin grant funding to support the education, planning, and management actions recommended in this plan.