

FROM: Scott Solberg, 10th & 11th Crow Wing Lakes Association

DATE: Apr 30, 2021

Hubbard Co. Sheriff's Dept. Water Patrol Safety (218) 732-3331
24-hour Tip Hotline for Fishing Poachers: 800-652-9093
Our area DNR Fisheries in Park Rapids (218) 732-4153
Lake Association Webpage: <http://crowwing11.org>

Greetings! Took a day off from work today; well it's kind of a use or lose it kind of year for me as I can no longer accrue vacation from year to year. I guess it means that if I must take off 10 weeks, I must take off 10 weeks 😊 I only wish my family could do the same. Maybe this is a sign I should park my butt in a boat seat more this summer. Or better yet, maybe grab some dock time with a cold beverage and a leech wriggling below a slip bobber.

I sincerely hope your families have been as safe as possible this past year. Our family is $\frac{3}{4}$ vaccinated and just waiting for the chance finish with our 14-year old. I work in a medical device company, so I can somewhat appreciate the medical marvel that occurred with a record setting development/FDA approval of these vaccines. Although I think an in-person Spring meeting is semi-feasible, I think we agreed in the fall we would meet via Zoom again. So, let's stick with that and keep it easy. See below for Zoom link. I will also post the link and meeting notices on our website shown in header above, as well as our Facebook page that Carl Madison maintains.

New members and current members: We meet just twice per year: May and October. Dues are \$25 for the 1st year members, \$20/year thereafter. Dues support numerous projects in and around 10th and 11th Crow Wing lakes, but mainly fund watercraft inspections at each boat ramp. Any extra donations are also greatly appreciated; we will let the collective Association determine the best use of these valuable resources during our meetings.

Spring Meeting

Saturday May 22, 2021

Zoom Virtual Meeting

10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.,

Login to meeting by pasting the link below into your web browser:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72171481269?pwd=b2U3Q2tHS3d2TitxM0UrVWY4UWMxUT09>

Or call in by telephone:

(312) 626-6799

Meeting ID: 721 7148 1269, Passcode: 092971

Zoom Instructions

If you've never attended an online video meeting this is your chance. You really have two options. If you want to see folks on your computer screen, use the weblink that's posted to the left. Just type in that very address into your computer, phone, laptop, or tablet. If your device has a video camera, it should display your video for others to see you. If not, you should still be able to see others. If you prefer to call in for just audio, please dial the telephone number above and use the meeting ID when prompted.

Culvert Replacement/Bridge Update: [Shameless re-post from our website. The main update is that MnDOT shows the culvert replacement for Hwy 64 on their website for

Fall 2021. Please plan accordingly for construction starting late this summer] A few of us met with Jerry Hertaus, who gave us an update on the Hwy 64 culvert replacement project. As most are aware, MnDOT had moved forward with designs to replace the current 16x10' arch-pipe culvert that was placed in the 1950's with a 12x12' inside dimension box culvert. The original presentation was given to the Lake Association in Fall of 2018.

As was reported at the Fall 2020 Lake Association meeting, money was set aside in the Mn Bonding bill for additional funds for a short span bridge to replace the current arch-pipe culvert. The money was not earmarked however, and the official MnDOT course had not changed away from the 12x12 box culvert. Although this sized culvert would allow many more boats to travel under Hwy 64, there are a significant number that still would be too tall to cross underneath (most pontoons and I/O or straight inboard boats with wake towers).

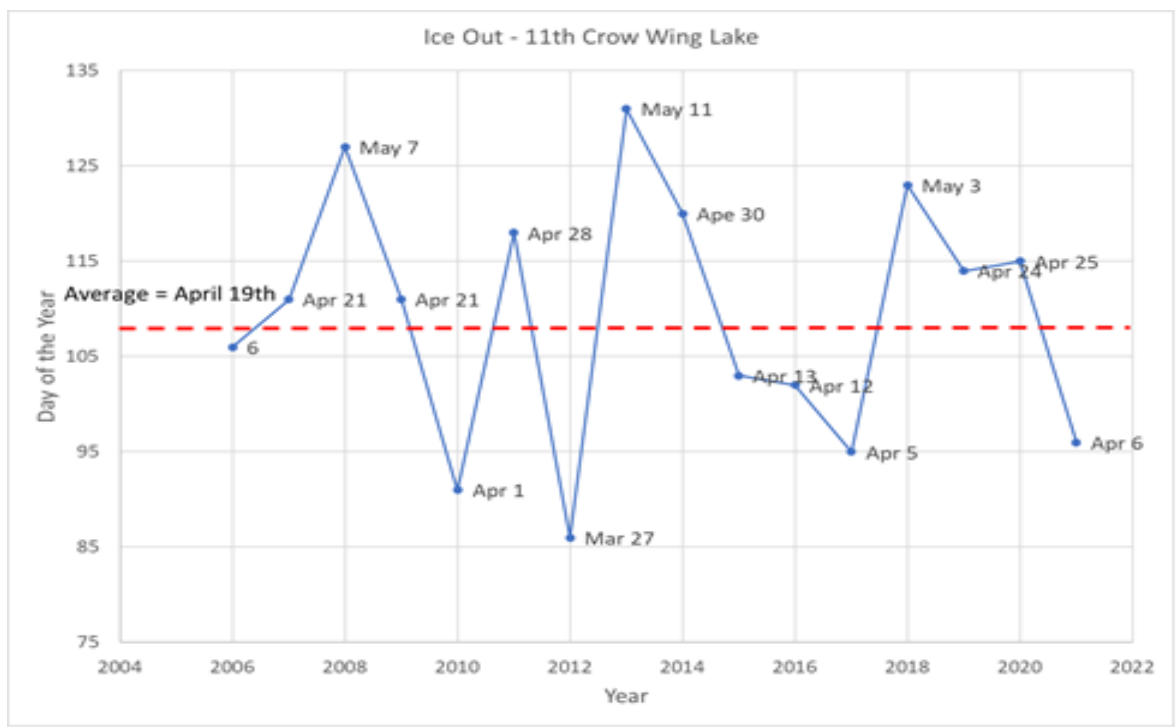
At this point, many of you helped write letters of support of a bridge crossing instead of the 12x12 culvert. 27 of them in fact! These were forwarded along in a long string of official letters from Jerry detailing the history of Eleventh Crow Wing and how

a 12x12 culvert will not sufficiently address boating needs for the future. Pontoons are a very popular type of boat. At least on the East basin where I spend most of my time, many if not most of the new boats have been pontoons. This replacement will be with our residents and 11th Crow Wing lake for generations, so there is a lot at stake.

After a long period of discussions with MnDOT, the best course of action is to upsize the previously proposed 12x12' box culvert to a 14x14' box culvert. The width of the smaller culvert would not normally be an issue, however imagine what happens when a cross wind is blowing across the culvert and your boat is trying to exit. Then the extra 2' of clearance will be very welcome. The main factor has always been the air gap height from water line to the top of the structure. Here are the stats: Current culvert is 4' from water to top center, but that is really only true on the east end. Near the west end exit it drops closer to 38-40" (likely due to settling). And also remember the arch shape makes the usable height less as you move out to the sides of your watercraft. A box culvert won't have this shape limitation. Back to the concrete box culverts, the 12x12' as originally proposed had a 6' interior height. Much better for full windshield boats of all sizes. But only pontoons that sit low in the water with shorter furniture and side rails will fit through. And certainly not comfortably. With a 20' wide short spanned bridge, the height was increased to 6.5-7'. Obviously those extra 6-12" are huge. BUT, here's where it gets good. The 14x14' box culvert with the same invert elevation (bottom of the culvert as current) has a 7.5' waterline height. This should be tall enough for most (if not all?) pontoons to get through the culvert. About the only thing that might not fit are wake board boats with fixed towers. Even some of these might fit through a 14x14' opening.

Costs for a 14x14' box culvert are lower and the design work is significantly less than a short spanned bridge. Just as important is the extra time that would have been required to pursue a bridge option. Unknown how long this process might have taken, but an extra 3-6 years is not out of the question. So...despite the current plans not including a short spanned bridge, we are in a position to have an extra 6-12" in height over the bridge option. The extra 2 feet of width will also make navigation in a cross wind much easier for all craft. The length of the culvert will be extended on both sides per MnDOT's desire to remove the guard rails and keep ATV/UTV traffic off of Hwy 64. The extra width will allow the trail to extend to the west of the highway, as it currently is for all but the Culvert crossing. A huge thanks to Jerry for putting together strong logical arguments that are grounded with an engineering background!

ICE out and ICE in: We're pretty much up to date with ice in and ice out info as posted on our webpage. We have a decent set of data back to 2006 for ice out. We're missing an ice-in date for late 2018. Also, if you happen to have or can find information for previous years we'd love to include it. Just email to Admin on the webpage. As you can see, we have a fairly wide distribution of ice out dates. Guess we had an earlier spring this year that melted almost 20" of ice within a couple of weeks! *[I'm still trying to forget that 2 week stint in February where I had the "opportunity" to climb on top of a 28' roof to clear two frozen sewer vents when it was -19F]*



Water Quality Test Summaries: Here's a summary of 11th Crow Wing water quality data as kept by Hubbard Co COLA. The last column is a Trophic State Index (TSI). Our beautiful lake (ave 39.7) is right on the border line between Oligotrophic (0-40; best water quality and least biological activity (classic example Lake Superior)) and Mesotrophic (40-60; fair water quality, moderate biological activity (classic example Mille Lacs)). Great place to be folks, plenty of plants and fish along with the clear water we love to spend time on. Please consider how your property affects our excellent water resource. Natural vegetation shorelines, regular septic system maintenance, minimizing fertilizer run-off, and minimizing natural lake weed disruption are all factors that can maintain/improve our water quality. Thanks to Rich Wilhaus, Ken Emmeck, and Brad Thompson for volunteering their time in the past and present to provide water samples!

Lake Name	Year	Phosphorus (ave)	Chlorophyll-A Ave	Secchi ft	TSI Ave
Eleventh Crow Wing	2011	11.0	3.5	13.3	39.8
	2013	10.3	3.3	14.0	39.0
	2015	13.6	3.2	14.9	40.0
	2017	14.0	7.1	13.0	44.0
	2018	8.8	2.8	19.0	36.5
	2019	11.6	3.7	15.8	42.0
	2020	13.0	2.7	17.3	39.3
Average		11.6	3.3	15.2	39.7



- **Facebook** Ask to join 10th & 11th CW lakes assoc. page to view and post your own lake photos and links. Great participation here in last 18 months! (Join through FB or Contact Carl: imagery@iuidesigns.com)

First Meeting of Crow Wing Lake Associations: I had the opportunity to meet with the other three Crow Wing Lake Association Presidents from 8th/9th, Middle (5-7th), and Lower (1st - 4th). It was a good meeting to share our experiences, compare memberships, dues, communication styles, and discuss any pertinent issues. Our dues are right in line with others. Our membership rate is lower than the other associations, but we have a larger pool of homeowners so our fund raising was as good or better. We also seem to spend less on printing costs and more on lake issues (like funding additional boat ramp inspections). A couple of those associations are very social and do multiple events together in the warmer months. We agreed to hold meetings every so often to keep lines of communication open, so I think that's a good thing

Aquatic Invasive Species Update: Not a huge update this year, but we will be maintaining status quo this year with boat launch inspections. Thanks to Akeley City, Akeley Township, our Lake Association members, and Hubbard County COLA for all funding this needed activity. Please reference our Lake Association website for a link to Hubbard Counties map of AIS impacted lakes. Zebra mussels are present in Benedict, Garfield, Steamboat, and Long (Park Rapids) lakes in Hubbard County. Just to our east, Zeebs are also present in Leech, Winnibigoshish, and Ten Mile lakes. Please remember to dry out your boats for an extended time or head to a decontamination site (HOT water) if you or your guests are boating in these area lakes. THANKS!!!

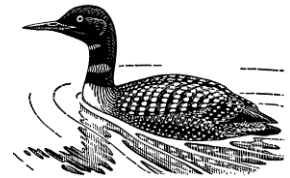
Fish Survey: If my math is correct, the DNR will likely be out sampling for fish populations this spring/summer on 11th. We're usually on a 5-year schedule with last sampling taking place in 2016. If you see someone out with gill or trap nets, it's probably the DNR. 10th Crow Wing was last sampled in 2018 and will be due again in 2023.

Loon Nest: We have a loon nest in need of repair in Solie Bay (far West end) if anyone is interested in a project. If there is no interest at the spring meeting, we will need to dismantle/discard or give it away.

Water Outlet Update: With universal government approval, there were some changes made to the outlet of 11th Crow Wing last summer. Grates to prevent carp migration were seen as ineffective (design flaw) and unnecessary (Carp have not migrated above 4th Crow Wing). If I have remember I'll snap some pics in early May when I dunk our boat in the water, but if anyone has pics to send me I'll show them at the spring meeting and post on website.

Hope to see or hear from you from the online virtual Zoom meeting on Sat May 22nd!
We'll start at 10:00 am and try to end by 12:30 pm

10/11th Crow Wing Lake Association (<http://crowwing11.org>)



Request for Membership

Hello property owners around 10th & 11th Crow Wing lakes! Please consider joining our team and get your voice heard at the semi-annual meetings.

What do your annual dues pay for? Postage and printing of the annual newsletter, lake water clarity testing through COLA (Coalition of Lake Associations in Hubbard County), and various projects that members approve in any given year (loon nests, fees to facilities where meetings take place, etc.) *There are no paid employees in this volunteer driven, non-profit association.*

To become a member, simply pop a check in the mail, along with this page into the enclosed envelope addressed to the Treasurer.

I am a NEW member - enclosed is \$25 for this year's membership
 I am renewing my membership - enclosed is \$20

ADDITIONAL FUNDS OVER AND ABOVE THE ANNUAL DUES -- Please consider supporting the Lake Association with extra funds. This is a good way to support if you are unable to attend meetings or volunteer for other endeavors. WE SINCERELY APPRECIATE THE EXTRA FUNDS FOR PROJECTS!

I would like any additional amount of \$_____ to go towards helping Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) efforts (specifically the Curly Leaf Pondweed Control Project and the Watercraft Inspection Program at public boat ramp on 11th.)

I would like additional amount to go into general funds to support whatever is needed.

Lisa Hanson (Treasurer), clhanson@hotmail.com (Dues can be brought to the meeting or mailed direct to)
29798 Hackberry Dr
Akeley, MN 56433-8113

Please add (OR DOUBLE CHECK THE SPELLING OF) my e-mail address: _____