

Oregon Lakes Association

A Voice for Our Quiet Waters

July, 1992

Citizen Lake Watch Alive and Well

...Larry Caton

Steve Dagget's efforts have paid off. For those of you who don't know Steve, he's the Portland State University student who's coordinating the CLW. Steve has been working hard this spring contacting old volunteers and recruiting new ones. He also prepared a new instruction book and organized a group training session in May. Volunteers are doing more testing too! Many lake watchers are now collecting algae samples, testing dissolved oxygen, and mapping aquatic weeds. Steve works one on one with volunteers to form a work plan. Together, they make a sampling schedule, and figure out which tests the volunteer can do. Steve is also sampling ten coastal lakes in early and late summer...busy...busy...busy.

We now have 26 volunteers at 21 lakes around the state (see table below). We plan to get more volunteers in the Mt. Hood National Forest. And here's a new approach to reach lakes where no one lives -- two volunteers will be "rovers". These folks will combine work with pleasure by sampling lakes during their weekend fishing trips!

Here are the twenty-one lucky lakes:

Coast	Cascades	Willamette	Blue Mountain
Clear	Blue	Blue	Wallowa
Collard	East	Fairview	
Cleawox	Hosmer		
Coffenbury	Lake O'Woods		
Cullaby	Odell		
Garrison	Paulina		
Lytle	Suttle		
Mercer			
Munsel			
Siltecoos			
Woahink			

Dear OLA Members:

...Joe Eilers

The recent months have been filled with turmoil for OLA and lake management issues in Oregon. Within OLA, we have lost the services of three members of our Board of Directors during June. Dave Smith, Lincoln City, is moving out of state and will no longer be able to serve on the Board. Dell Isham, Salem, and Larry Caton, Portland, resigned from the Board because of other commitments, but fortunately will be able to continue their membership in OLA. I thank Dave, Dell, and Larry for their contributions to OLA during its formative period. The vacant board positions will be filled at the annual OLA meeting in September. If you are interested in serving on the OLA Board of Directors, please contact me or any other OLA officer to discuss the specifics of the position.

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Nominations for Directors and President - Elect should be sent to OLA Secretary Anjala Ehelebe, (see back page for address). Nominations need to be received no later than August 4. Ballots will be sent to members in mid-August and the new officer and Directors will be announced at the annual meeting.

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With regard to funding, Oregon was awarded several Clean Lake grants this fiscal year. Included in the lake projects was an award of \$1,500.00 to OLA for support of our annual lake meeting. Other awards were made to David Evans and Associates for the Lake Lytle project (Tillamook Co.), a two-year lake restoration project, E&S Environmental Chemistry, Inc. for continuation of the Lake Notasha project (Klamath Co.), and to the Department of Environmental Quality for the Citizen Lake Watch. These awards represent about 10% of the amount available in EPA's Region X, which includes Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Alaska. We believe that OLA was a positive influence in securing funds for these lake projects through discussions between OLA officers and EPA staff. We are hopeful that in the coming years, Oregon will become more successful in competing with neighboring states for Clean Lakes funds. However, without a strong commitment by the Department of Environmental Quality, Oregon will continue to operate at a major disadvantage in competing for federal support. In particular, the states of Washington and Idaho are making strong investments in lake restoration by employing full-time staff to manage their state programs. In addition, they use state funding to supplement the federal Clean Lakes program. Oregon only employs one part-time lake water quality specialist and provides no financial support for state projects.

I realize that this is a difficult financial period for Oregon and support from state government for lake protection may become even more difficult to obtain. In view of this challenge, the need for a strong volunteer organization such as OLA becomes even more critical. I solicit your ideas regarding how OLA can advance its goal of lake protection in the fiscally difficult period ahead.

Purple Loosestrife Update

...Dave Humphries

Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) is an aquatic plant that grows on wet soils, in shallow standing water, wet meadows, pastures, wetlands, cattail marshes, along stream and river banks, lake shores and non-irrigation ditch banks. Once established, PLS can be very tolerant of dry conditions.

This upright, hardy bushy perennial can grow up to 8 feet tall and is easily recognized in early to mid-summer, when it is in bloom. The purple-magenta colored flowers are

arranged on long spikes. The leaves are attached without stalks to a four-sided stem. PLS is often confused with fire weed. The plant spreads by seeds, by roots, and from broken off plant parts.

The plant was introduced from Europe and has no natural enemies. It is spreading rapidly in North America, aggressively crowding out native plants and other vegetation used by wildlife for food and shelter. The dense stand impedes water movement. PLS produces beautiful flowers and to our knowledge has no other value.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture's Weed Control Program recognizes PLS as a serious threat to wetlands and wildlife. Control measures to date include developing a public awareness program which shall include a brochure and reporting form. A PLT Coordinated Research Management Plan is in place to encourage funding support of research at Oregon State and Cornell Universities on the potential of using insects as biological control agents, and the development and maintenance of a comprehensive data base on populations of PLS throughout the state. The data base is currently at OSU under the direction of Manula Huso. If there are any questions, please contact Manula at 737-5534

EPA Funds Three Oregon Clean Lakes Projects

...Andy Schaedel

Every year, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) gives money to the States to restore publicly owned lakes. The States then "match" a portion of the grant with either cash or "in-kind services". The Federal money comes from the EPA's Clean Lakes Program which was created by Section 314 of the Clean Water Act. The Clean Lakes Program funds three kinds of projects:

1. Lake Water Quality Assessment
2. Phase One Diagnostic and Feasibility Study
3. Phase Two Restoration Project

Lake Water Quality Assessment (LWQA) money is used to take a "snapshot" of water quality at many lakes. The idea is to help the State develop its lake monitoring capability. The Phase One and Two grants are set up to study and restore polluted lakes.

Oregon submitted one LWQA proposal and six Phase 1 projects this year. The total request for Federal money was \$309,345. Unfortunately, the EPA office in Seattle

(Region X) rejected all the projects. But EPA allowed three of the rejects to compete for "over-target money" outside our region. Here we succeeded in getting some cash. We didn't get as much as we had hoped, but here are the awards we got:

1. A Phase 1 Study of Lake Lytle (near Rockaway) was partially funded at \$40,000. DEQ will pass the grant money to the Northwest Oregon Resource Conservation and Development Area. The grant will cover one year of work. We will apply for more money next year to finish the Phase 1 project.
2. A grant to complete a Phase 1 study of Lake Notasha (Winema National Forest, Sky Lakes Wilderness) was awarded at \$19,845. DEQ will continue a contract with E&S Environmental Chemistry, Inc. The project will include a hydrologic study of Lake Notasha, and a fish stocking/bio-diversity study of Lake Notasha and other high quality Cascade lakes.
3. Money to supplement LWQA projects was awarded at \$20,000. Part of this money will be used to support the Citizen Lake Watch, and the rest will be used to support the Citizen Lake Watch, and the rest will be used to continue monitoring mercury contamination. DEQ will pass CLW money to Portland State University, and the mercury monitoring will be done by Oregon State University.

Next year, we hope to do a better job of competing for funds in our region. We may have had trouble this year due to poor communication between DEQ and EPA. Oregon has many high quality lakes where pollution needs to be prevented (it always costs less to prevent water quality problems than it does to clean them up).

DEQ submitted several prevention oriented grant requests, but didn't discuss them much with EPA ahead of time. Unfortunately, the EPA Clean Lakes Program is set up to **restore polluted lakes**. Perhaps a little more explanation and discussion would have helped EPA see the light. Hopefully, we can learn from our experience, and make a better impression next year. More lobbying from OLA will certainly help! In the meantime, thank you EPA for the funding we received.

Frequent Sampling Tells a Story

...Larry Caton

Bob Anderson at Woahink Lake near Florence has been cranking out the data. Bob's March to May Secchi depths were running 13 - 16 feet (pretty average for Woahink) and then in early June he recorded a Secchi depth of over 28 feet -- his deepest measurement ever! This beats the deepest Secchi measurements we know of at Woahink. A DEQ report prepared by Aquatic Analysts, Inc. lists historic Secchi data. The previous high was recorded at 24 feet by limnologist Doug Larson in Nov. '68 and May '69. This year's record-breaking clarity may relate to the lack of rainfall on the coast. It's possible that a lack of nutrients washing into the lake keep the algae from growing. What's really exciting here is that thanks to CLW volunteers, we are getting important lake data. Thank you Bob and all our volunteers! Without your work we would never know!

Lake Watch Training a Success

...Larry Caton

Thank you Willamette Sailing Club for donating a great meeting place!

Many lakes are located on State or Federal land and are "managed" by public agencies. It's hard for Steve (who lives in Portland) to find volunteers at distant lakes -- especially if no one lives there! A "Train the Trainers" workshop was held at the Willamette Sailing Club in Portland on May 21. The idea was to get more State and Federal agencies involved in the CLW so they can help recruit and train volunteers. We are pleased that the Oregon State Parks, Mt. Hood National Forest, and Deschutes National Forest are taking a more active role in recruiting and training.

The workshop was aimed at agency folks, but it was open to the public. Fifteen people attended. Participants included USFS fisheries biologists, water district staff, Ft. Stevens State Park staff, one CLW volunteer, and a group of folks involved in the Lake Lytle Clean Lakes study. Richard Peterson from PSU gave a morning lecture on limnology, and everyone got a chance to try out the CLW equipment after lunch. The new dissolved oxygen test kits (La Motte, Inc.) worked great, as did Larry Caton's home made water samplers.

FYI, Larry Caton (that's me) has "invented" a home made Van Dorn style water sampler that you can make for about \$40. That's about \$200 less than the suggested retail

price! We're using these samplers for the CLW. For more information, call Larry at the DEQ in Portland, tel. 229-5983.

Oregon Lakes Association: 1992 Annual Conference:

Diamond Lake, Oregon, September 26 & 27, 1992

...Ela Whelan

Diamond Lake is the setting for OLA's 1992 Annual Conference on September 26 & 27, 1992. While the primary focus of the conference will be on Cascade Lakes issues, including issues surrounding Diamond Lake, presentations on aerial photography, septic and nutrient controls will be of interest to persons statewide.

Themes addressed at the conference include the protection of high quality lakes, lake management for beneficial uses, and lake restoration techniques. Presentations will include specific studies of Waldo Lake, Crater Lake and Klamath Lake, to name a few.

A variety of accommodations are available at Diamond Lake Lodge. Rooms have been set aside, but will only be held through August 31, 1992. Please call the Lodge at 1-800-733-7593 to make your reservations. A barbecue event is planned for the evening of September 26, with a varied menu. More specific information will be forthcoming in the next newsletter.

Please call Ela Whelan at 650-3474 if you have any questions, or are interested in assisting with the conference.

Sunday Morning Conference Workshops Give Aid to Lake Improvement Associations

...Stan Geiger

There will be two workshops on Sunday morning following the Saturday presentations. The first workshop will provide assistance to Lake Improvement/Protection Associations for getting EPA/DEQ funds for their lakes. We intend to generate a lot of good proposals to compete for EPA Clean Lake dollars that will come into our region for this next fiscal year (FY 1993 begins October, 1992). Stan Geiger of SRI will lead the workshop. EPA and

DEQ grants people have been invited to the session. The other workshop will provide training in lake monitoring. This is a follow up to one of the other articles in this newsletter on the DEQ Lake Watch program.

Preliminary Agenda

8:00 - 8:15	Introduction, Welcome Conference Purpose, Summary
8:15 - 8:40	US Forest Service Diamond Lake
8:40 - 9:00	Management of Diamond Lake
9:00 - 9:20	Crater Lake - Management Issues
9:20 - 9:40	Cascades Lakes Management Issues
9:40 - 10:00	Panel Discussion - Response to Questions
10:00 - 10:30	Break
10:30 - 10:50	Management of Klamath Lake
10:50 - 11:10	Fish Stocking of Cascade Lakes
11:10 - 11:30	Bull Run Watershed
11:30 - 11:50	Panel Discussion - Response to Questions
11:50 - 1:30	Lunch
1:30 - 1:50	Aerial Photography Techniques and Results
1:50 - 2:10	Crater Lake - Water Quality Study
2:10 - 2:30	Panel Discussion - Response to Questions
2:30 - 2:45	Break
2:45 - 3:00	Raffle
3:00 - 3:20	Lake Notasha Study
3:20 - 3:40	Panel Discussion Future of Oregon Lakes Association
3:40 - 4:00	Overview: Water Quality Monitoring on Sunday Overview of Lake Management Workshops on Sunday
4:00	Adjourn

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