

A photograph of a person in a canoe on a lake at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the water. The person is in the foreground, and the background shows a calm lake with some reeds in the distance. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue.

# 2017 NW WISCONSIN LAKES CONFERENCE

## CLAM LAKE: CARP CONTROL AND WILD RICE MANAGEMENT

# PRESENTED BY:

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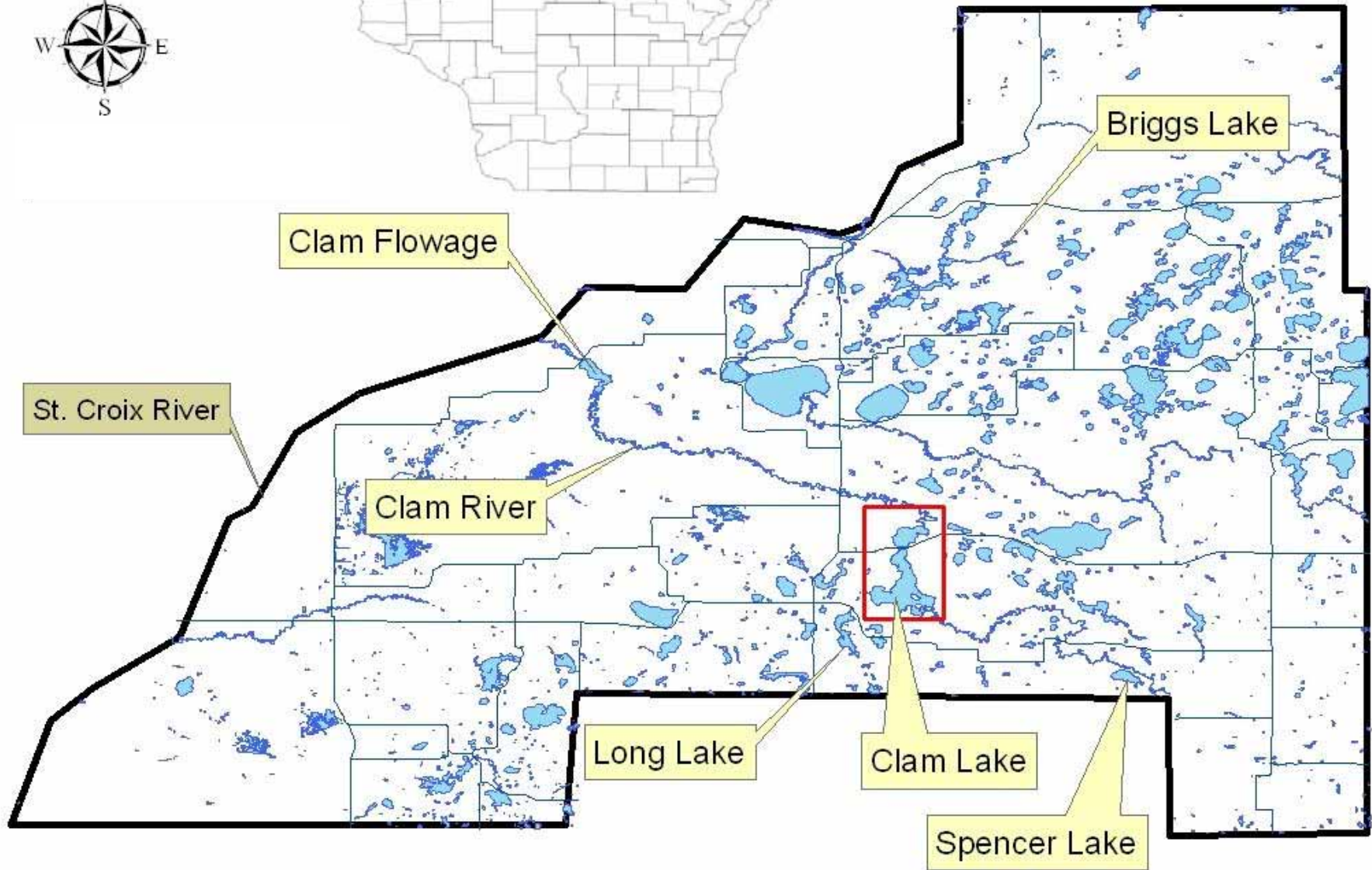


# CLAM LAKE RESTORATION PROJECT

- FUNDED BY
  - ST. CROIX CHIPPEWA INDIANS OF WISCONSIN
  - BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
  - U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
  - CLAM LAKE PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT
- PARTNERS
  - WI DNR
  - GREAT LAKES INDIAN FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION
  - FRESHWATER SCIENTIFIC SERVICES
  - BURNETT COUNTY LAND AND WATER DEPARTMENT
  - UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA- DEPT. OF FISHERIES

# PROJECT OVERVIEW

- DOCUMENT LOSS OF WILD RICE BEDS
- DETERMINE EFFECTS OF COMMON CARP ON WILD RICE
- UNDERSTAND MOVEMENTS OF COMMON CARP WITHIN THE CLAM RIVER SYSTEM AND CLAM LAKE
- QUANTIFY COMMON CARP POPULATION
- MEASURE RESPONSE OF FISHERY, AQUATIC PLANT COMMUNITY, AND WATERFOWL TO MANAGEMENT EFFORTS
- RESTORE WILD RICE AND ECOLOGY OF CLAM LAKE

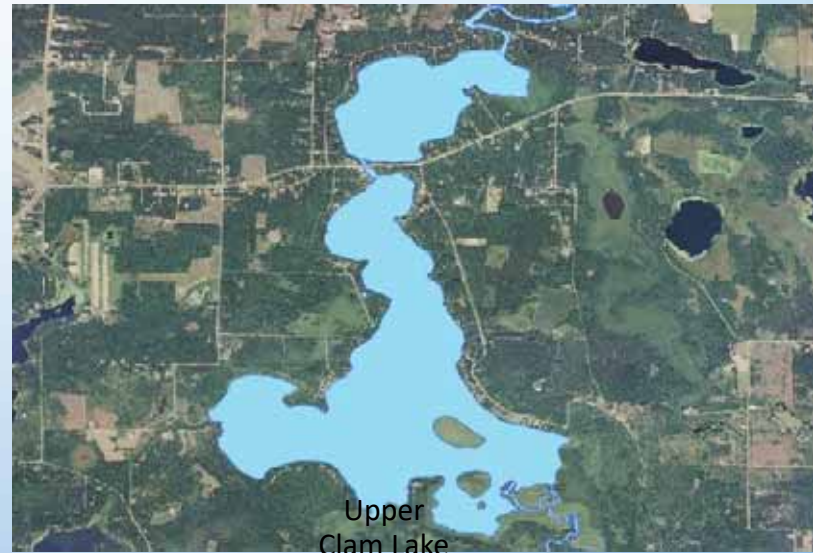




# UPPER CLAM LAKE

- 1,363 ACRES
- MAX DEPTH ~10 FT.
- CONNECTED TO LOWER CLAM LAKE (377 ACRES)
- CLAM RIVER
  - 325-336 FT<sup>3</sup>/S
- SHORELINE DEVELOPMENT
- FISHERY
- WATER QUALITY (TSI)

Lower  
Clam Lake



Upper  
Clam Lake



2006 Lonestar Bay Wild Rice

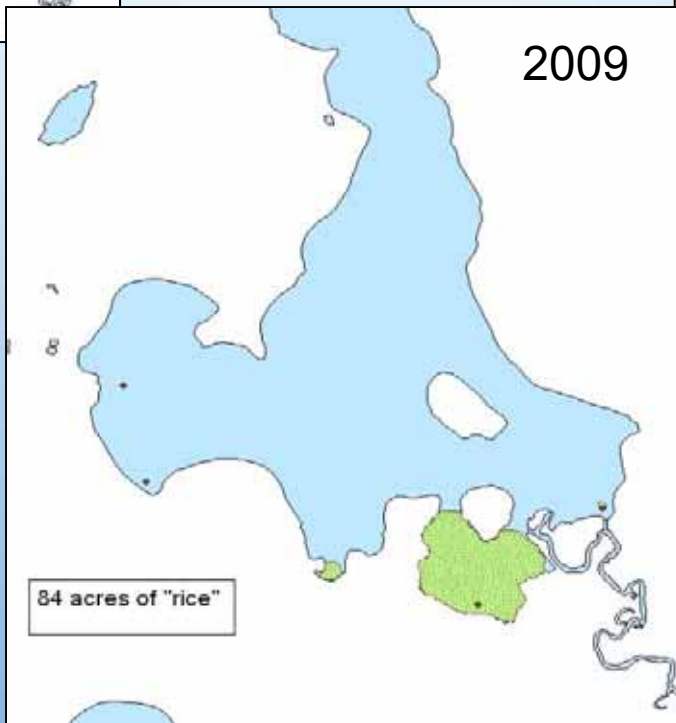
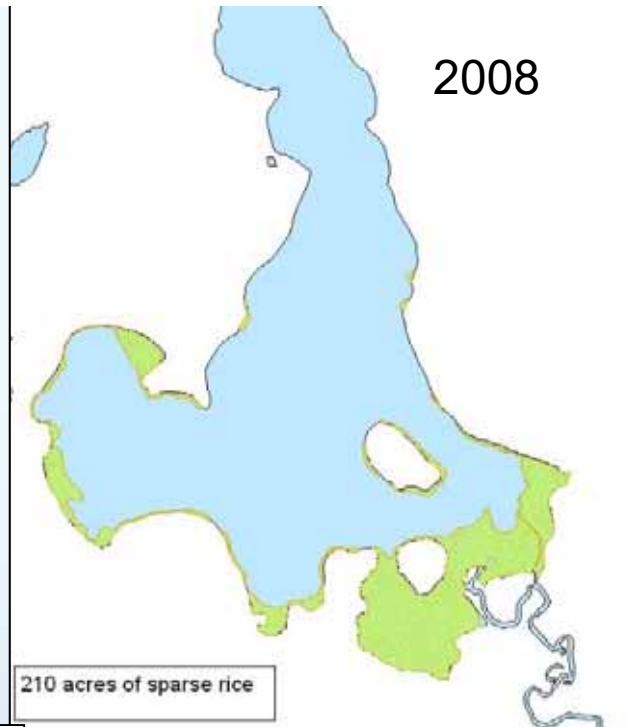
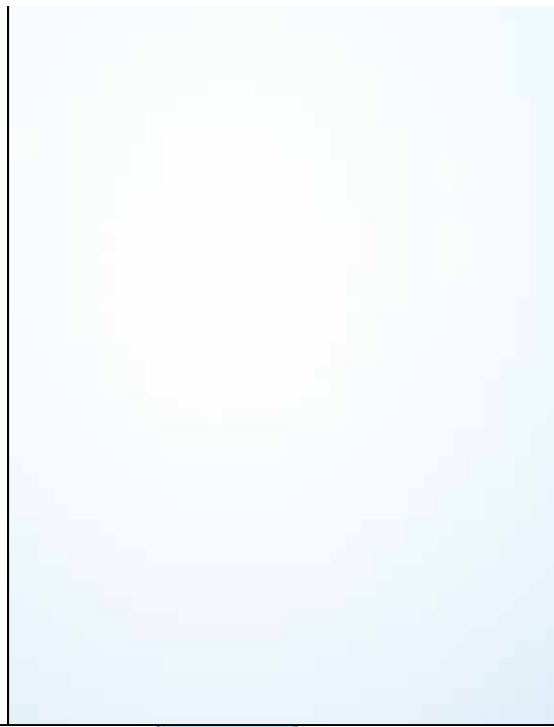
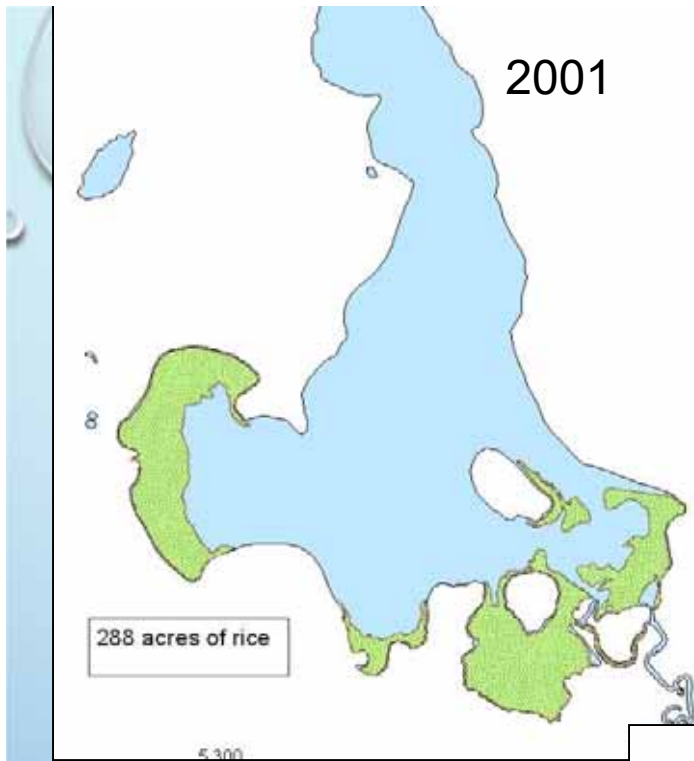




2008 and 2009 Lonestar Bay







# IMPORTANT WILD RICE RESOURCE

- 47,366 LBS HARVESTED AND 1,077 TRIPS 1992-2006
- MAKES UP ~10% OF TOTAL REPORTED HARVEST 1992-2012, WITH NO HARVEST SINCE 2006\*
- RANKS #1 FOR TOTAL REPORTED HARVEST

Data Provided by Peter David (*Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission*)

# EFFECTS OF COMMON CARP ON WILD RICE

- SEED BANK
- EFFECT ON AQUATIC VEGETATION AND WILD RICE ACREAGE
- RESULTS IN INDIRECT EFFECT ON FISHERY AND WATERFOWL

## Measuring Direct Effect on Seed Bank

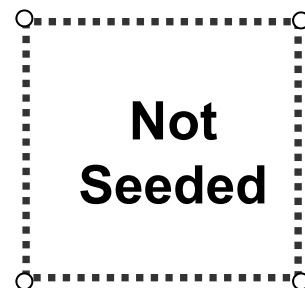
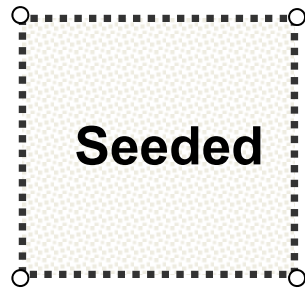
	<b>Samples</b>	<b>Seeds/m<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Empty Hulls/m<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Upper Clam Lake</b>	58	2 ±2	440 ±65
<b>Long Lake</b>	21	240 ±39	540 ±107
<b>Clam River Flowage</b>	10	80 ±27	1080 ±291

*Johnson, J.A. Wild Rice Enumeration Report: 2009-2010*

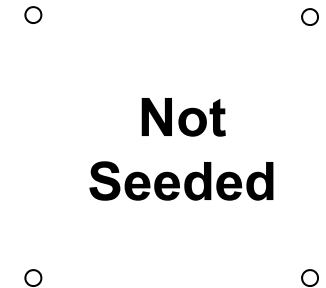
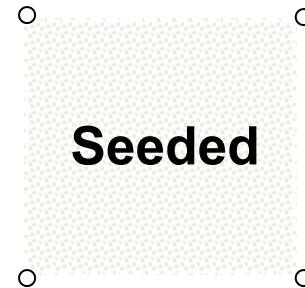


# Measuring Direct Effect on Vegetation

## Fenced Plots



## Open Plots



# July 2010

Fence / Seed

Open / Seed

Fence

Open



# DIRECT EFFECT ON VEGETATION

## 2009 POINT INTERCEPT SURVEY

Summary Statistics:

Upper Clam    Lower Clam

Total number of points sampled	668	350
Total number of sites with vegetation	219 (32%)	70 (20%)
Total number of sites shallower than the maximum depth of plants	661	338

*Berg. Warm Water Point/Intercept Macrophyte Survey Upper and Lower Clam Lakes  
Burnett County, WI. 2009*



## INDIRECT FISHERY IMPACT

- CATCH RATES FOR BLUEGILL > 3 INCHES DECREASED FROM 262 FISH/MILE IN 1995 TO 8 FISH/MILE IN 2011
- CATCH RATES FOR BLUEGILL > 6 INCHES DECREASED FROM 163 FISH/MILE TO 7 FISH/MILE IN THE SAME PERIOD
- CARP CATCH RATES INCREASED FROM 0.9 FISH/NET NIGHT IN 1995 TO 15.3 FISH/NET NIGHT IN 2011

*Wendel, Jamison. WI DNR. Upper and Lower Clam Lake Fishery Survey, 2011.*



# CARP INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT



# IPM APPLIED TO CLAM LAKE

- DATA GATHERING
- PHYSICAL REMOVAL
- BIOLOGICAL CONTROL
- BARRIERS
- REGULAR MONITORING
- EDUCATION

# DATA GATHERING-UNDERSTANDING MOVEMENTS

- DO CARP STAY IN THE BASIN?
- IF SO, WHERE DO THEY GO THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AND WHERE DO THEY AGGREGATE?
- IF NOT, WHERE DO THEY MIGRATE TO?

# DATA GATHERING-UNDERSTANDING MOVEMENTS

- USED SURGICALLY IMPLANTED HIGH FREQUENCY RADIO TRANSMITTERS (ADVANCED TELEMETRY SYSTEMS, INC.)
- TRACKED BY BOAT, FOOT, AND PLANE
- IRREGULAR SCHEDULE (EMPHASIS ON SPAWNING AND WINTER PERIODS)



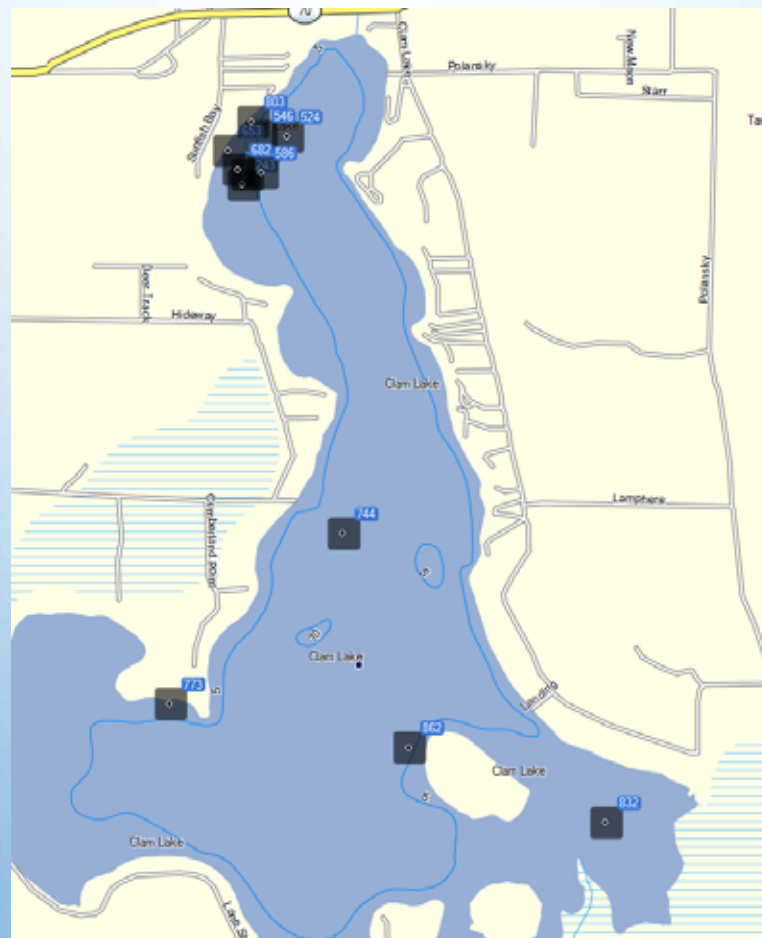


# DATA GATHERING-UNDERSTANDING

## MOVEMENTS



# DATA GATHERING-UNDERSTANDING MOVEMENTS



# RESULTS

- CLAM LAKE CARP STAY IN CLAM LAKE; FOR THE MOST PART
- BEGAN STUDYING ENTIRE SYSTEM; NO MOVEMENT BETWEEN LAKES UNTIL 2014
- DOCUMENTED AGGREGATION AREAS AND PREPPED FOR REMOVAL

# DATA GATHERING- QUANTIFYING THE PROBLEM

- BASED ON WORK DONE BY BAJER AND SORENSON (U OF MN) ON MN AND IL LAKES
- IDENTIFIED THRESHOLD OF ROUGHLY 89 LBS/ACRE AS TIPPING POINT
- USE MARK AND RECAPTURE METHODOLOGY
- RADIO TAGGING TO FIND AGGREGATIONS AND TRACK MOVEMENTS



## DATA GATHERING- QUANTIFYING THE PROBLEM (POPULATION ESTIMATES)

- USED A FIN CLIP FOR EACH YEAR OF STUDY STARTING IN 2011
- INITIAL ADULT POPULATION ESTIMATE OF 79,602 ( $\pm 11,152$ )
- INITIAL AVERAGE WEIGHT WAS  $\sim 8.5$  POUNDS
- RESULTS IN A CARP BIOMASS OF 767,617 POUNDS FOR CLAM LAKE

## DATA GATHERING- QUANTIFYING THE PROBLEM (POPULATION ESTIMATES)

- USING THE BIOMASS THRESHOLD FROM BAJER & SORENSON (89 POUNDS/ACRE) AS A COMPARISON, CLAM LAKE CARP BIOMASS WAS 4 TIMES THE TIPPING POINT VALUE (398 POUNDS/ACRE)

# CARP IPM- BARRIERS

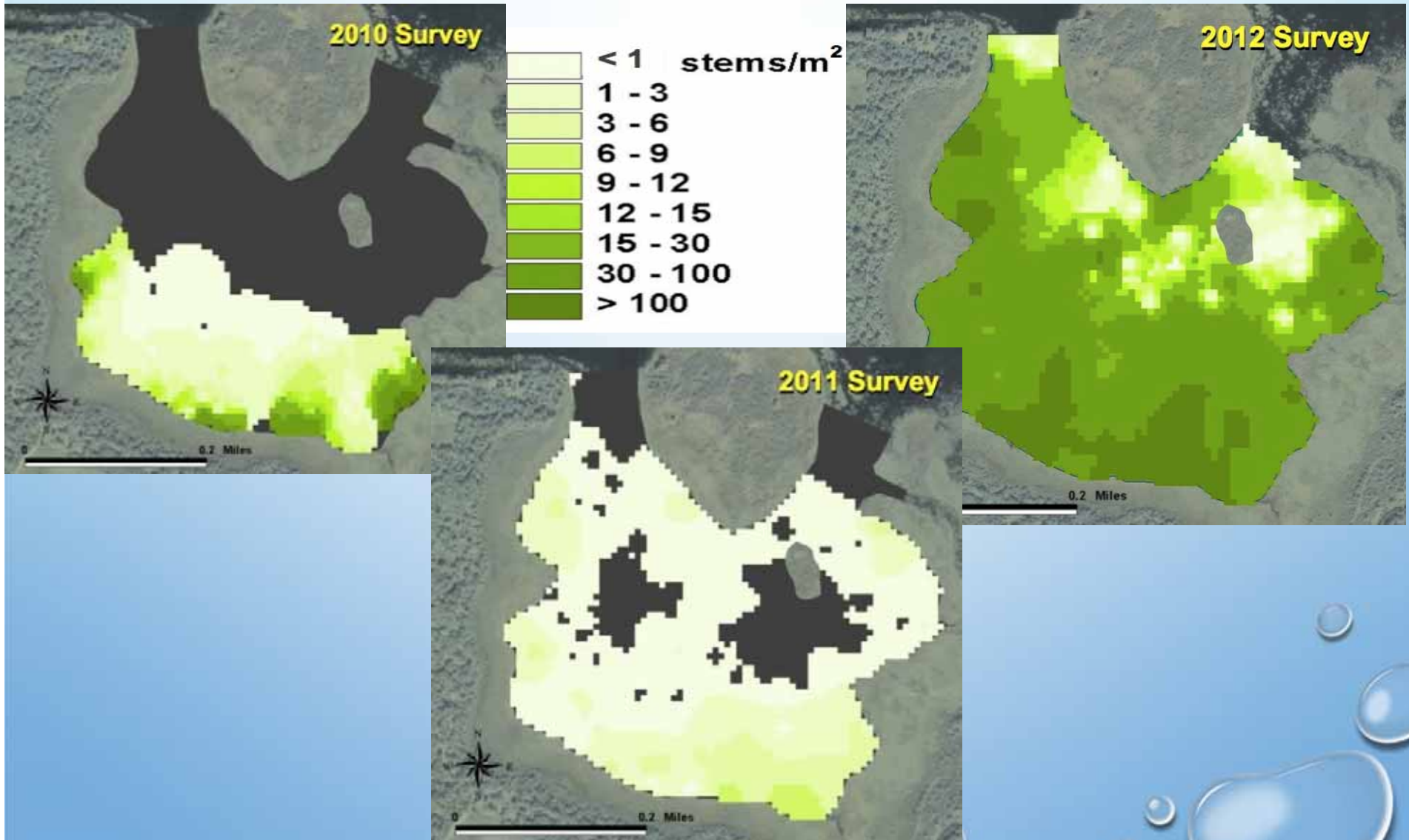


# CARP IPM- BARRIERS





# CARP IPM- BARRIERS SEED SOURCE DEVELOPMENT





# CARP IPM- BARRIERS





September 2013



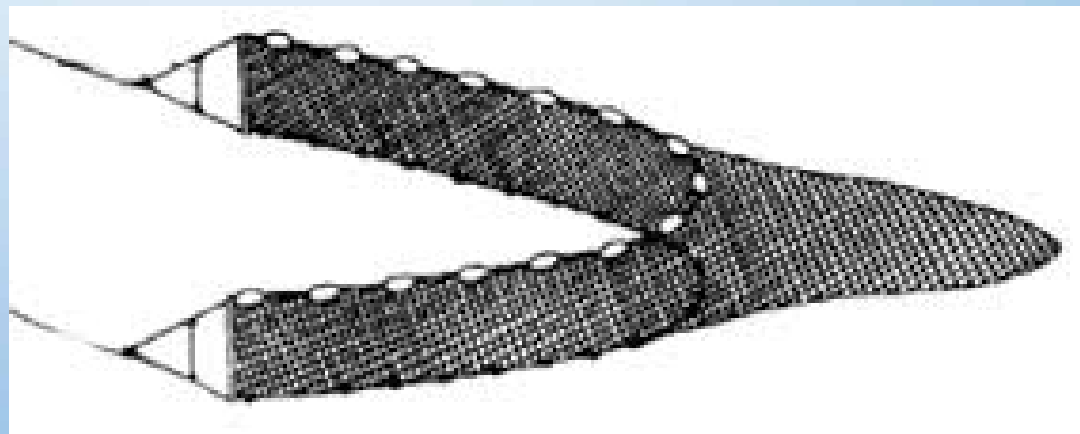
# CARP IPM- REMOVAL

- STARTED REMOVALS IN 2011
- REMOVED CARP USING COMMERCIAL FISHING CREW AND SEINE NETS
- REMOVALS GUIDED BY RADIO TELEMTRY AND SONAR
- LARGEST AMOUNT OF BIOMASS CAPTURED AND REMOVED WHEN CARP WERE AGGREGATED IN WINTER

# CARP IPM-REMOVAL



Seine Net



# CARP IPM-REMOVAL

- [HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=YXEBJHFLR1W](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YXEBJHFLR1W)



# CARP IPM-BIOCONTROL

- BLUEGILL FOUND TO BE THE MAIN PREDATOR OF CARP EGGS AND LARVAE
- INSTALLED COARSE WOODY HABITAT “FISH STICKS”

# CARP IPM - BIOCONTROL



The background of the slide features a light blue to white gradient. It is decorated with several realistic water droplets of various sizes, some with highlights and shadows, scattered across the top and bottom edges.

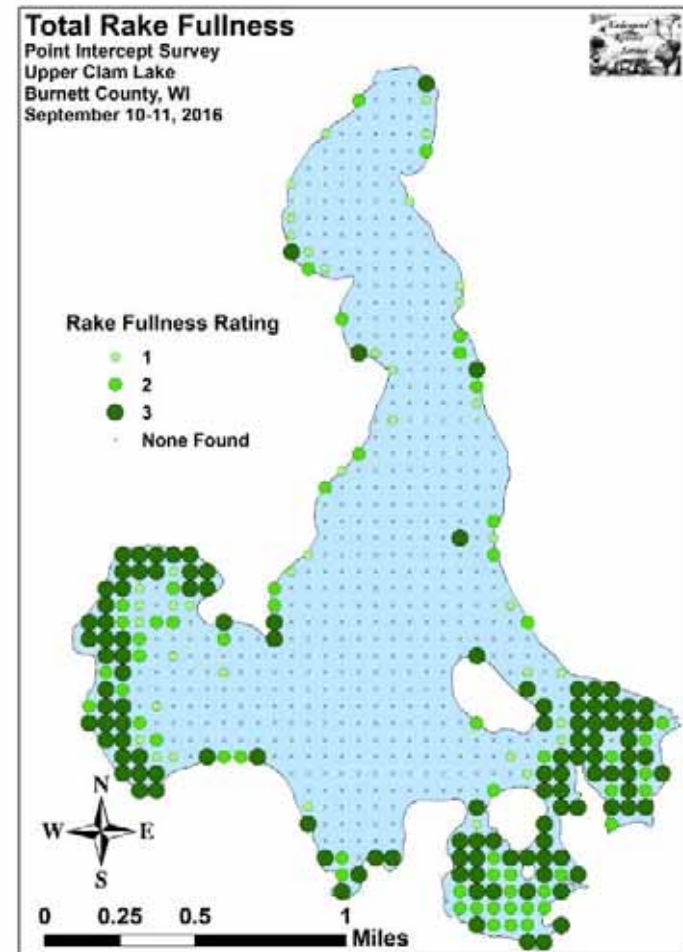
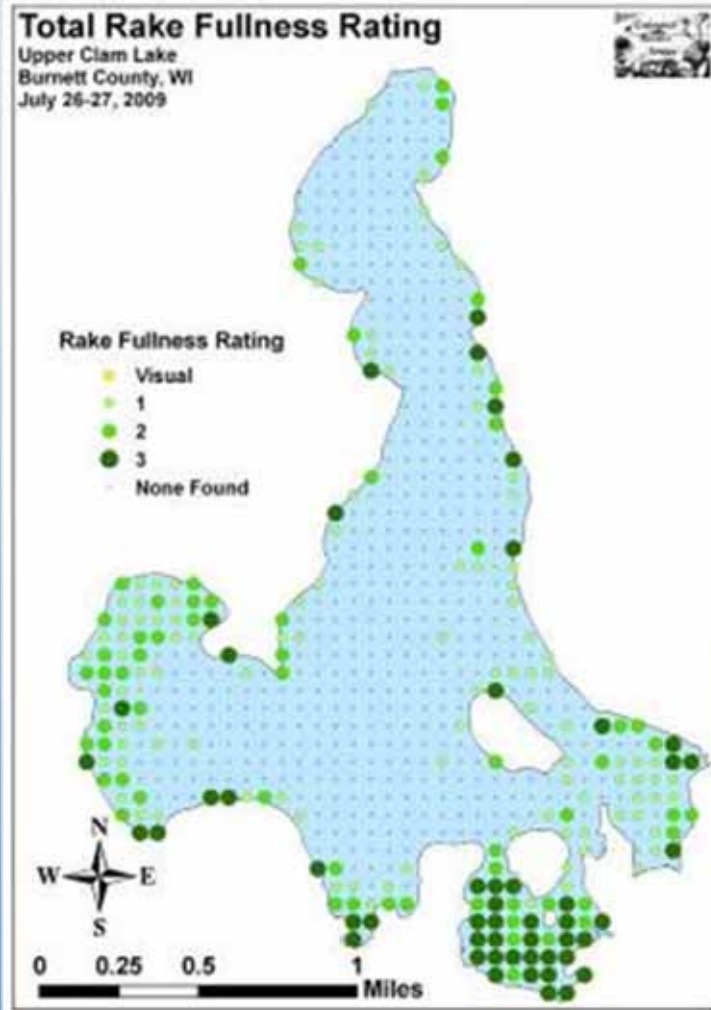
## CLAM LAKE CARP IPM

# RESULTS

# CLAM LAKE CARP IPM RESULTS- AQUATIC VEGETATION

<b>Summary Statistics:</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
Total number of points sampled	668	668	668	668	668
Frequency of occurrence at sites shallower than maximum depth of plants	32.98	30.31	50.16	42.60	40.73
Simpson Diversity Index	0.90	0.91	0.92	0.93	0.92
Average number of all species per site (shallower than max depth)	0.88	0.93	1.28	1.49	1.33
Mean total rake fullness (veg. sites only)	1.76	2.09	1.89	2.34	2.36

# CLAM LAKE CARP IPM RESULTS- AQUATIC VEGETATION

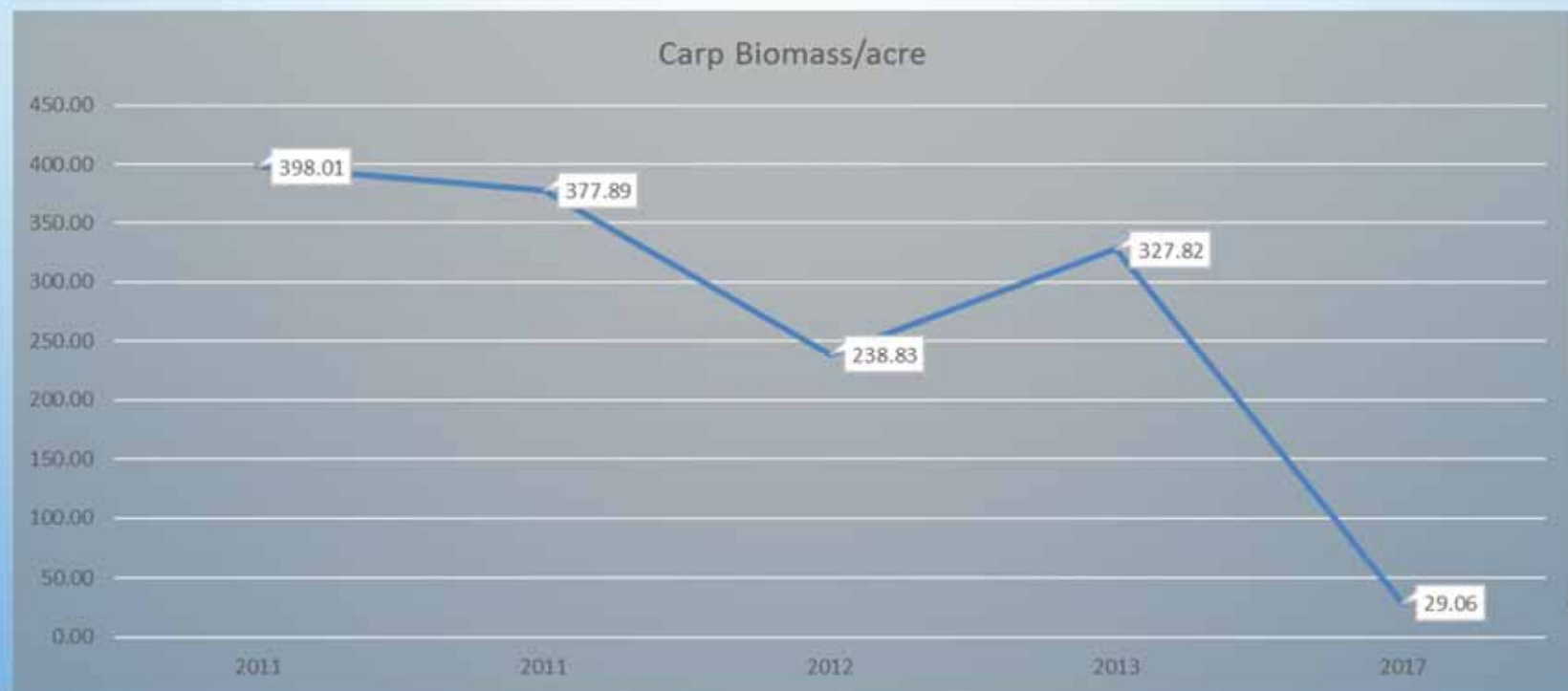




# CLAM LAKE CARP IPM RESULTS-CARP BIOMASS

- ROUGHLY 656,358 POUNDS OF CARP BIOMASS REMOVED SINCE 2011
- ROUGHLY 75,711 INDIVIDUAL CARP REMOVED SINCE 2011
- CARP BIOMASS INITIALLY DECREASED, THEN INCREASED IN RESPONSE TO A HIGHER AVERAGE WEIGHT WITH LESS INDIVIDUALS
- DRAMATIC DECREASE BY 2017 IN CARP BIOMASS DENSITY

# CLAM LAKE CARP IPM RESULTS-CARP BIOMASS



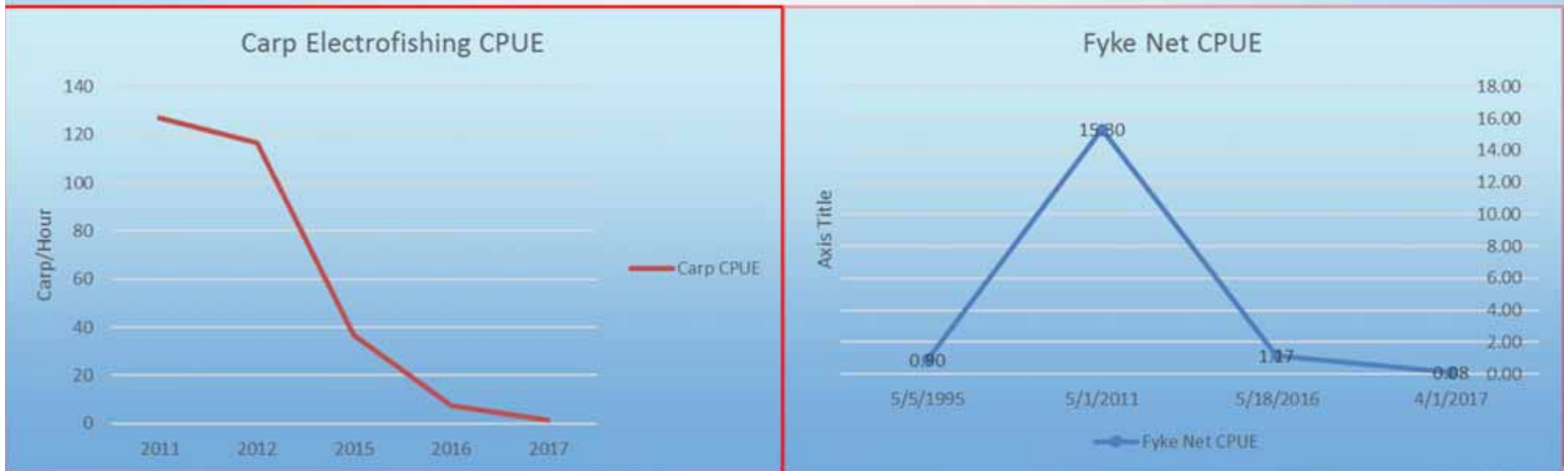
# CLAM LAKE CARP IPM RESULTS-CARP BIOMASS



The  
"Dagger"

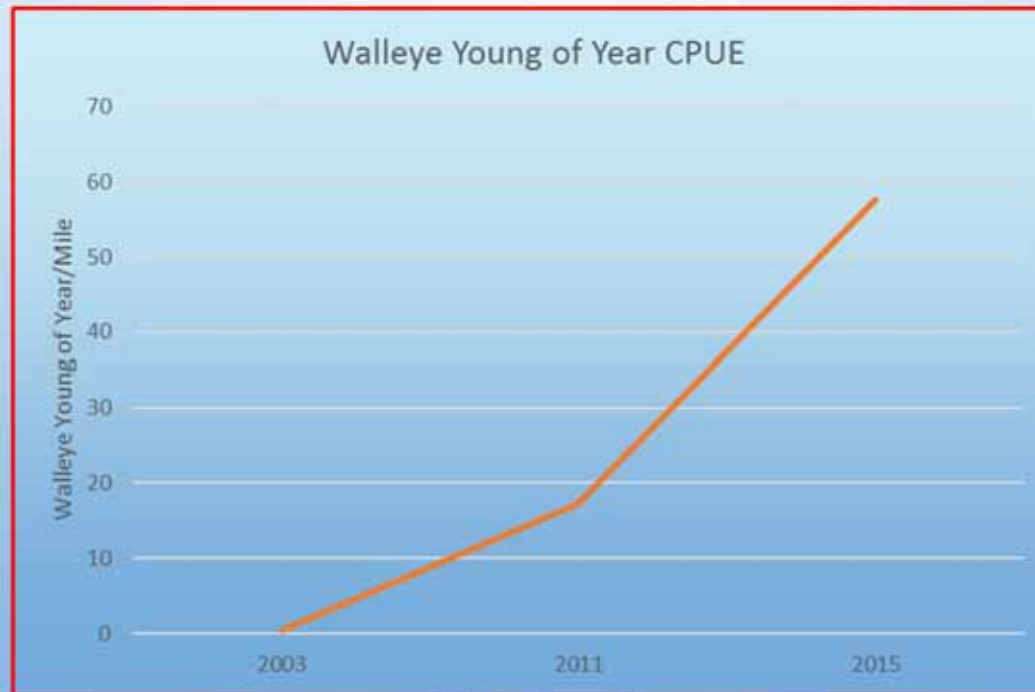
# CLAM LAKE CARP IPM RESULTS-FISHERY

- DRAMATIC DECREASE IN CARP ELECTROFISHING AND NETTING CATCH RATES



# CLAM LAKE CARP IPM RESULTS-FISHERY

- WALLEYE ARE INCREASING IN ABUNDANCE AND ALL AGE CLASSES ARE WELL REPRESENTED





# CLAM LAKE CARP IPM RESULTS-FISHERY

## BLUEGILL

	1995	2011	2017
≥3 in	178	8	137
≥6 in	111	7	26
≥8 in	8	4	1

*ELECTROFISHING CPE DATA. WI DNR-SPOONER OFFICE*

- DATA SHOWS AN INCREASE IN BLG CPE, BUT NOT YET TO PRE-CARP EVENT

# CLAM LAKE CARP IPM RESULTS- FISHERY

	BLACK CRAPPIE	BLUEGILL	COMMON CARP	LARGEMOUTH BASS	YELLOW PERCH
1995	41.0	898.0	0	20.5	83.3
2003	280.4	26.0	0.1	6.9	15.1
2011	32.3	506.2	0	20.3	11.0
2012	57.6	1122.0	0.8	8.8	1.2
2014	13.7	0.5	0	1.3	641.2
2015	14.0	1641.8	3.2	1.8	23.0
2017	19.5	39.8	33.2	9.3	0.3

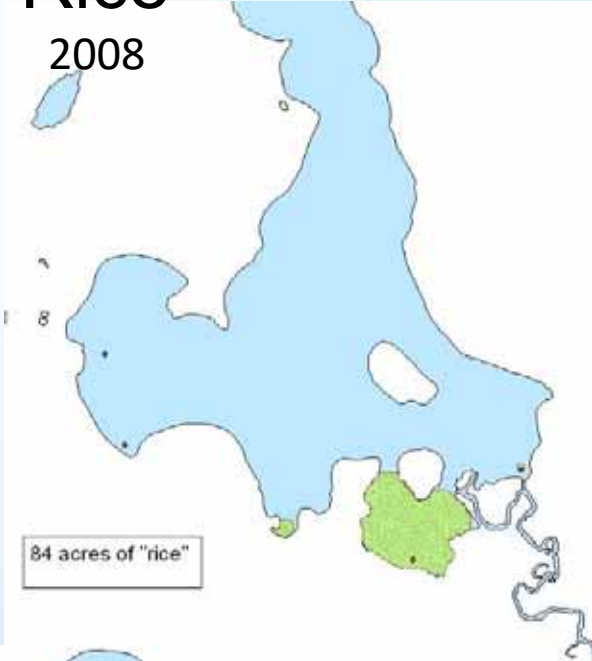
Additional minifyke data collected in summer 2017 indicates by St Croix Tribal Environmental Department indicates juvenile carp CPE value of 129.3/net.

# Clam Lake Carp IPM Results-Wild Rice

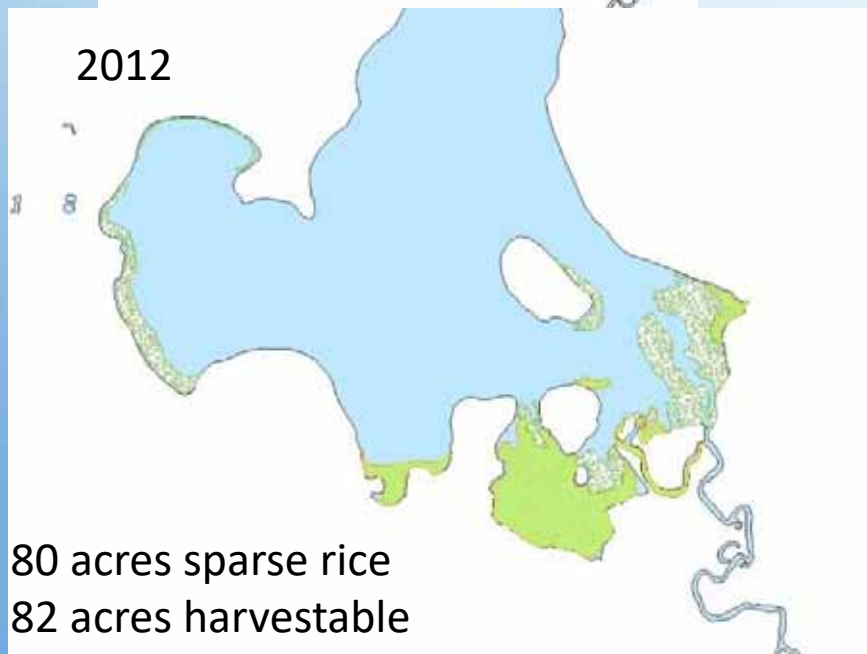
2001



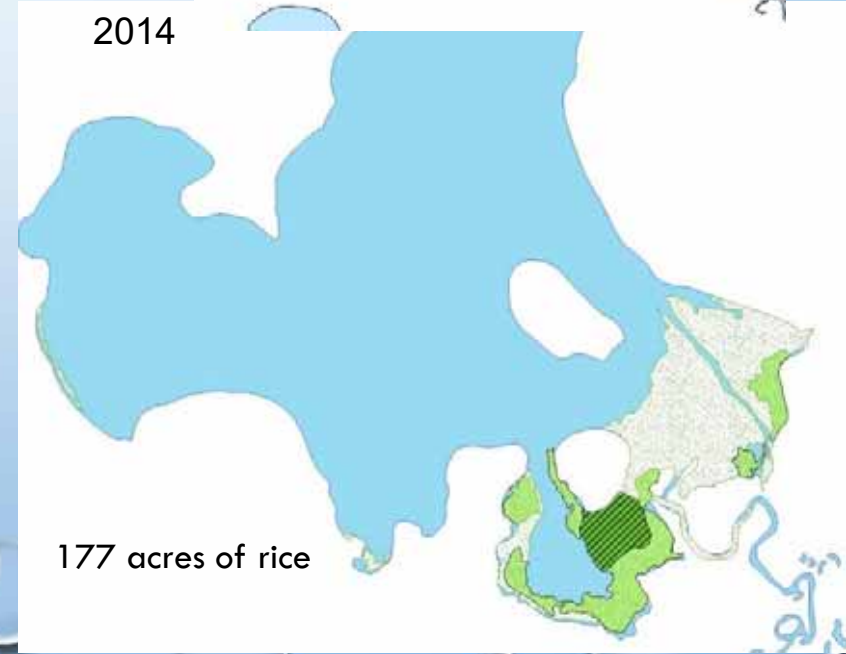
2008



2012



2014



# CLAM LAKE CARP IPM RESULTS- WILD RICE

2016-  
155 Acres  
of Rice



2017-  
177 Acres  
of Rice

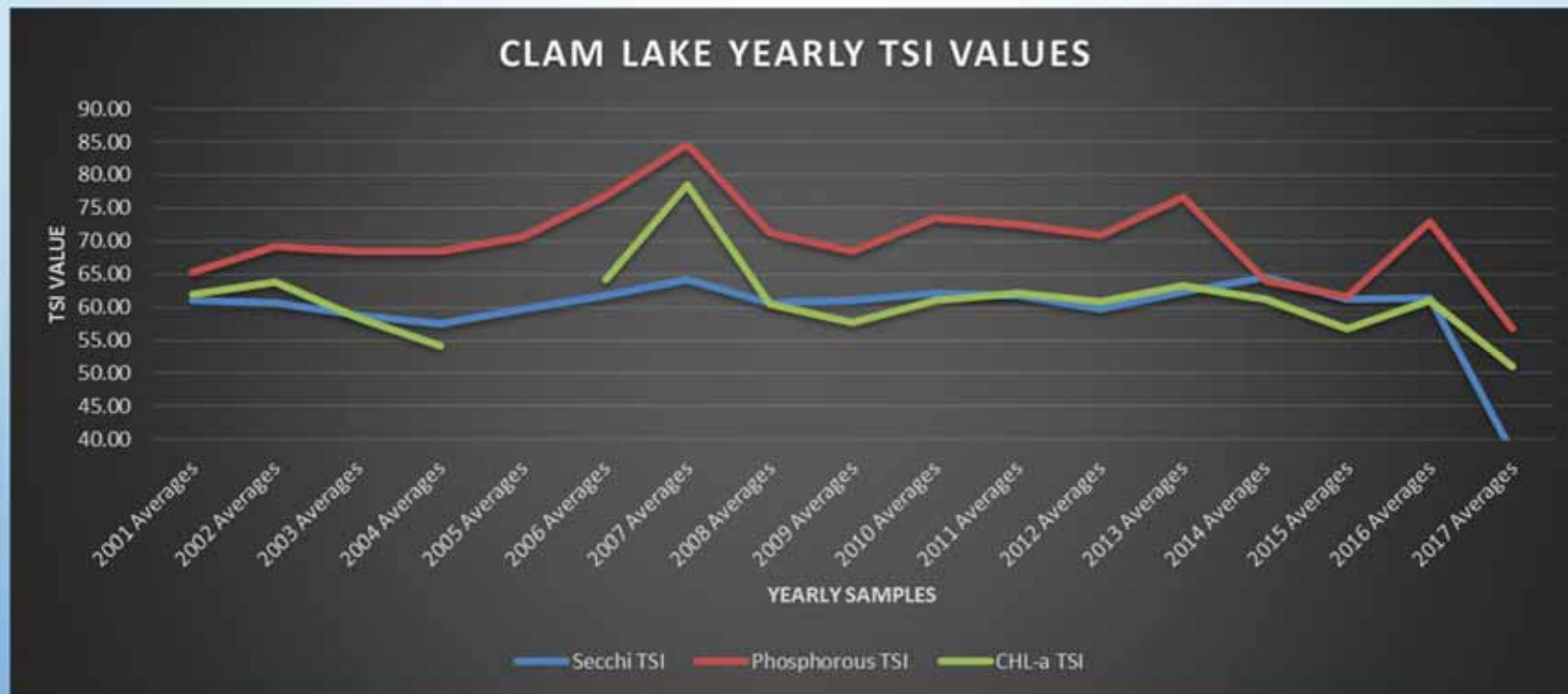


# CLAM LAKE CARP IPM RESULTS-WILD RICE

2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
1432	2730	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	15	66.5	588	997

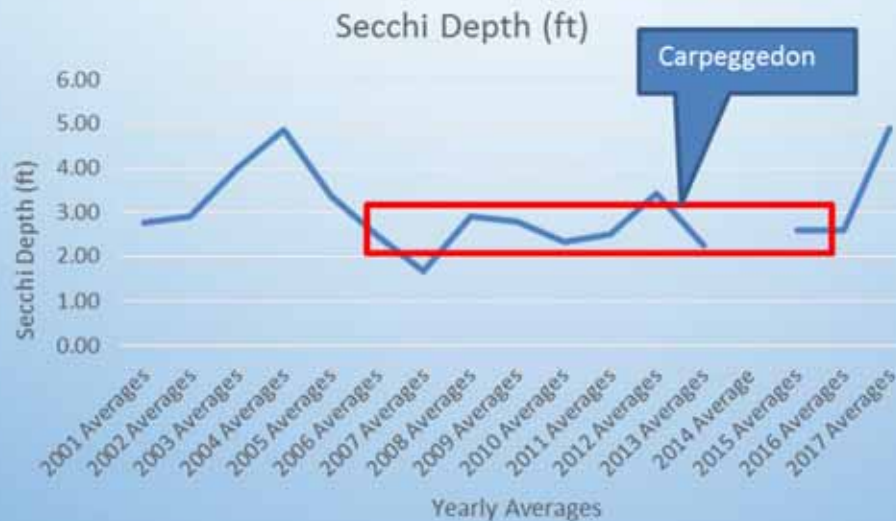


# CLAM LAKE CARP IPM RESULTS-WATER QUALITY



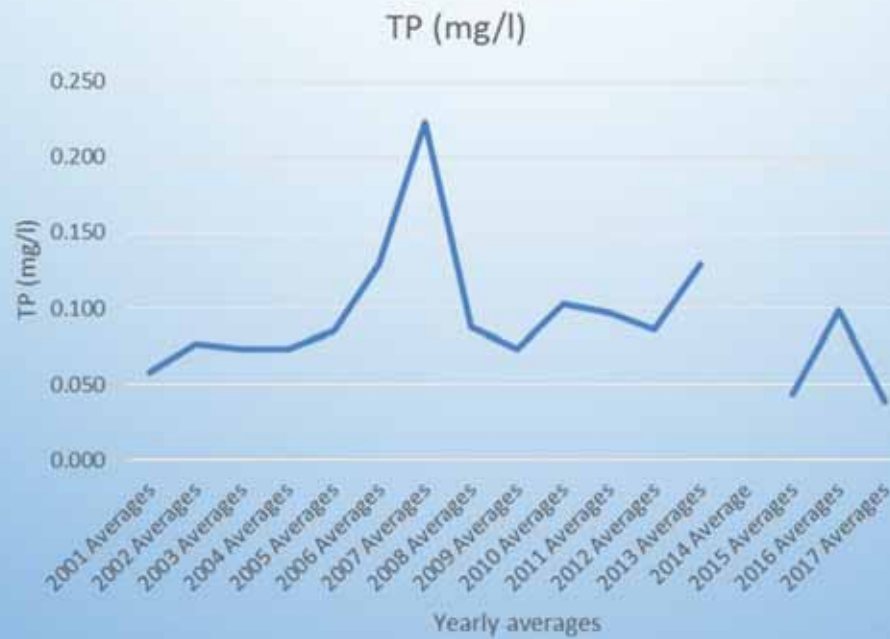
# CLAM LAKE CARP IPM RESULTS-SECCHI

- 10 YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE IS 2.8 FT; 2017 AVERAGE IS 4.9.



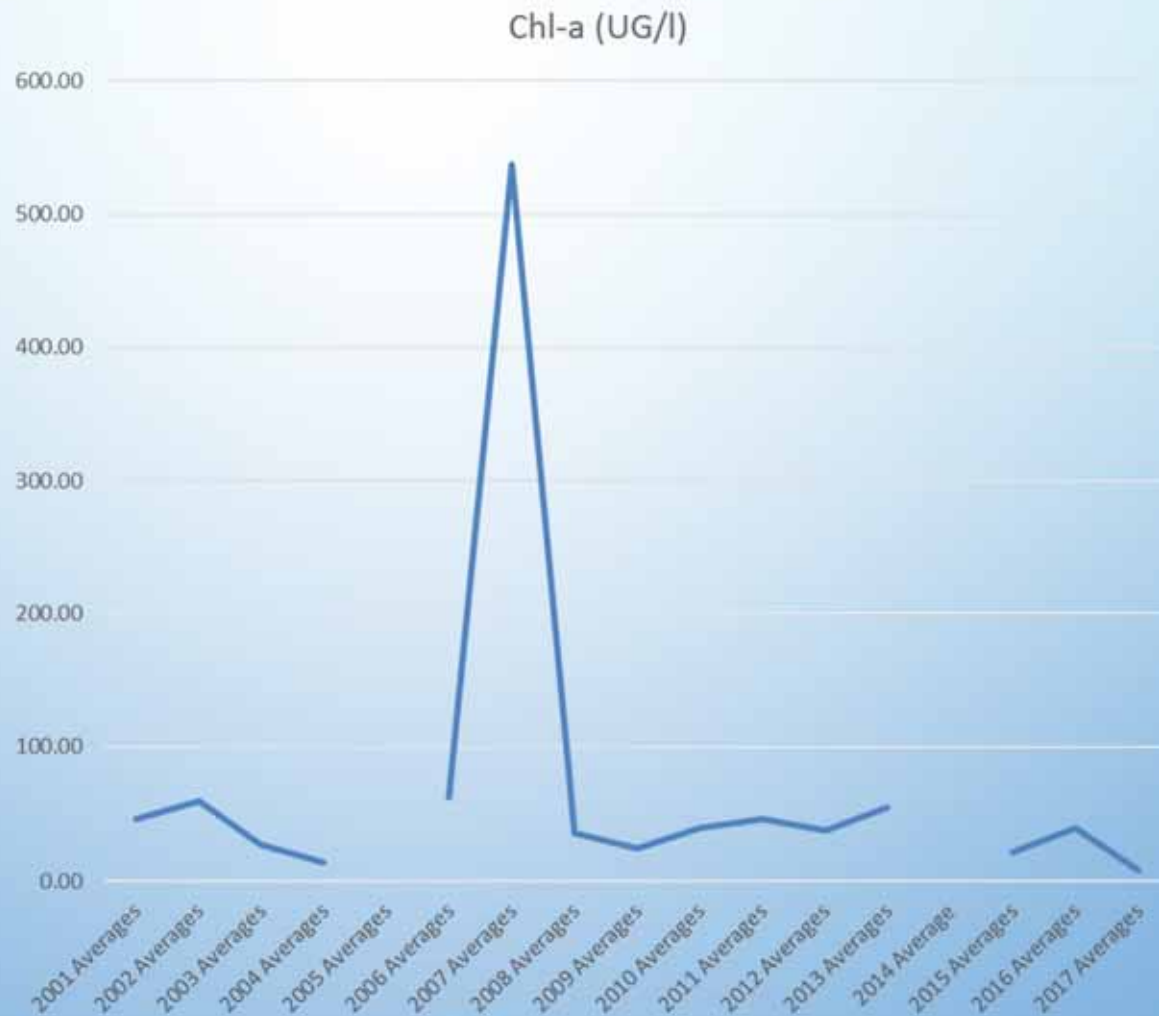
# CLAM LAKE CARP IPM RESULTS- TP

- 10 YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE IS 0.098 MG/L; 2017 AVERAGE IS 0.039



# CLAM LAKE CARP IPM RESULTS- CHL-A

10 YEAR  
ROLLING  
AVERAGE IS  
84.84 UG/L;  
2017 AVERAGE IS  
8.47 UG/L



## OTHER ONGOING MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

- ADDITION OF NEAR SHORE COARSE WOODY HABITAT
- WILD RICE SEEDING





# CONTINUED MONITORING

- GAMEFISH AND PANFISH SURVEYS
- POINT INTERCEPT SURVEYS
- WINTER AND SUMMER WATER QUALITY
- CARP TELEMETRY

# QUESTIONS?

