

# **Clearwater Lake Association Annual Meeting**

**June 17, 2020**

# Agenda

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- Welcome
- Clearwater Camp Update
- Treasurer's Report
- Lake Management Initiatives
  - 2019 Review
  - Guest speaker: James Johnson, Freshwater Scientific Services, LLC
  - Report updates – milfoil, rusty crayfish, fishery, loons
  - 2020 Plan
- Social Activities
- Official Business
- Sharing Other Lake Activities
  - Questions - Communication
- Adjourn

# Board Members

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- Gary Perkins, Co-Chair
- Paul Bergren, Co-Chair
- Barb Schmitz, Treasurer and Secretary
- Lance Baumann
- Ron Green, Lake Management Committee
- Katie Johnson
- Charles Lick, Lake Management Committee Chair
- Kathy Peterson
- John Smalkoski

# Additional Volunteers

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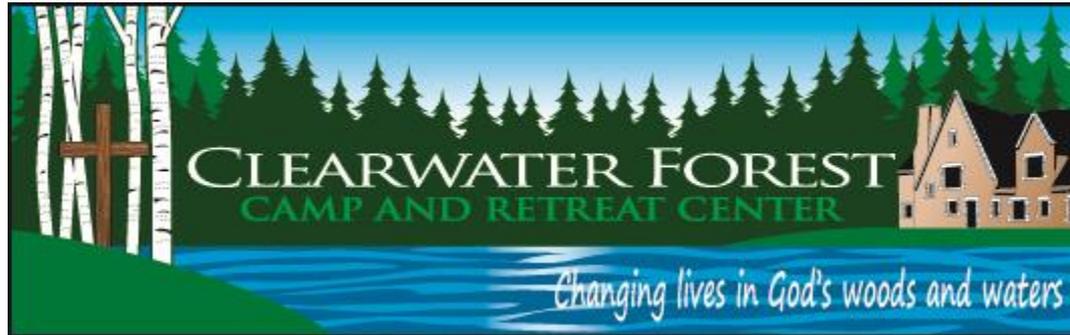


- Loon Nesting – Jeff Zernov, Gary Johnson, Lance Bauman
- Rock Pile Buoys – Francisco Gonzales and Mike Dufour

**T-H-A-N-K Y-O-U !!!**

# Clearwater Forest Update

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- Lance Baumann
- Doug Snaza
- Jon Kirschhoffer
  
- Capital Campaign and Video

# Treasurer's Report

## as of May 23, 2020



<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Deposits</b>	<b>Expenses</b>
<b>\$53,837.91</b>	\$14,150.00 (Homeowners Donations) (\$50 dues only = \$1,000; Over \$50 = \$13,150)	\$24,000.00 (Central MN Aquatics – EWM Survey and Treatment)
	\$ 4,000.00 (Crow Wing County Grant)	\$ 875.00 (PLM Lake and Land Mgmt. – water testing after EWM treatment)
		\$ 874.95 (Crayfish Traps)
		\$ 507.52 (Clearwater Forest – 2019 Annual Mtg. Breakfast)
		\$ 500.00 (Donation to U of MN MAISRC – consultations)
		\$ 480.00 (Freshwater Scientific Services – Consultation)
		\$ 145.00 (State of Water Conference Registration)
		\$ 143.87 (Water Testing Supplies, Mailing)
		\$ 65.00 (Zoom Acct. Set Up)
		\$ 50.00 (MN Attorney General Filing Fee)
		\$ 25.00 (Dairy Queen – Pontoon Parade)
		\$ 15.98 (Crayfish Trapping Info Sheets)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$18,150.00</b>	<b>\$27,682.32</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>		
<b>\$44,306.02</b>		
<i>(Reference 2018)</i>	<i>\$15,630.00 (\$50 dues only = \$550; Over \$50 = \$23,600)</i>	<i>\$ 6,443.80</i>
<i>(Reference 2017)</i>	<i>\$19,150.00 (\$50 dues only = \$1050; Over \$50 = \$18,100)</i>	<i>\$22,148.46</i>

2017: 18 homeowners donated \$50; 26 donated over \$50 (44 total donations)

2018: 11 homeowners donated \$50; 17 donated over \$50 (28 total)

2019: 20 homeowners donated \$50; 13 donated over \$50 (33 total)

**Annual Association Dues: \$50. Environmental Fund: \$300.**

**Send check or now use Paypal**

# 2019 Lake Initiatives Review

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- Key Lake Concerns
  - Invasives: milfoil and rusty crayfish
  - Loss of native vegetation/plants – what is causing? milfoil chemical 2-4-D? Crayfish? Natural causes? Other?
  - Reduction of fish populations
- Formed Lake Management Committee
- Met and consulted with James Johnson of Freshwater Scientific Services, LLC

# 2019 Lake Initiatives Review

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## ■ 2019 Action Items

- Surveyed extent of milfoil – found significant increase (doubled from previous season)
- DNR conducted fish survey
- Began discussions with DNR regarding catch & release designation and reducing fish limits
- Approved milfoil treatment with traditional and new technology
- Tested water after treatment to determine if compromised

# Consultant Comments

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James A. Johnson, MS

Aquatic Ecologist / Certified Lake Manager

Freshwater Scientific Services, LLC

# Rusty Crayfish Report

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## Problem:

When Rusty Crayfish reach high densities, their voracious foraging drastically reduces aquatic plant populations. The loss of plant cover leads to declines in aquatic invertebrates and panfish.

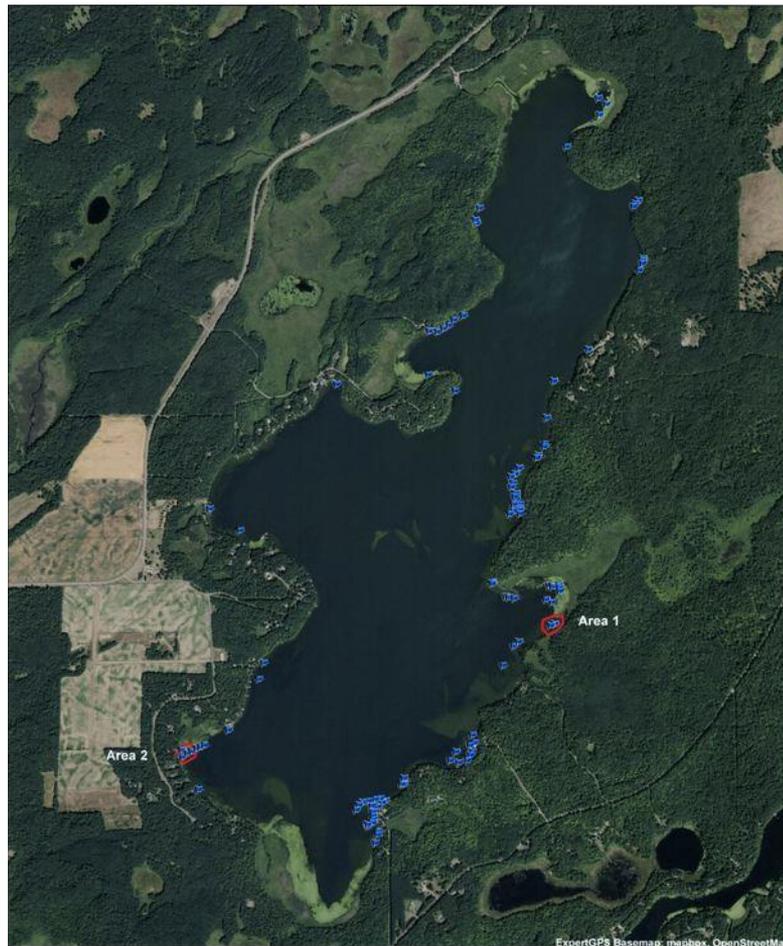
## What We Can Do:

- ***Trapping:*** Difficult to make a meaningful reduction in population due to time and number of traps required, but it can be fun and delicious!
- ***Predator Species:*** Pursue slot limits and/or catch-and-release for Crappie, Blue Gill, and Bass with the DNR to promote their population growth.
- ***MAISRC Pilot Program:*** Recruit researchers for Rusty Crayfish research on Clearwater Lake.
- **Consultants:** James Johnson – Freshwater Scientific Services, Gretchen Hansen - Professor U of M, Dan Larkin – Professor U of M.

# Milfoil Growth – doubled in area and density

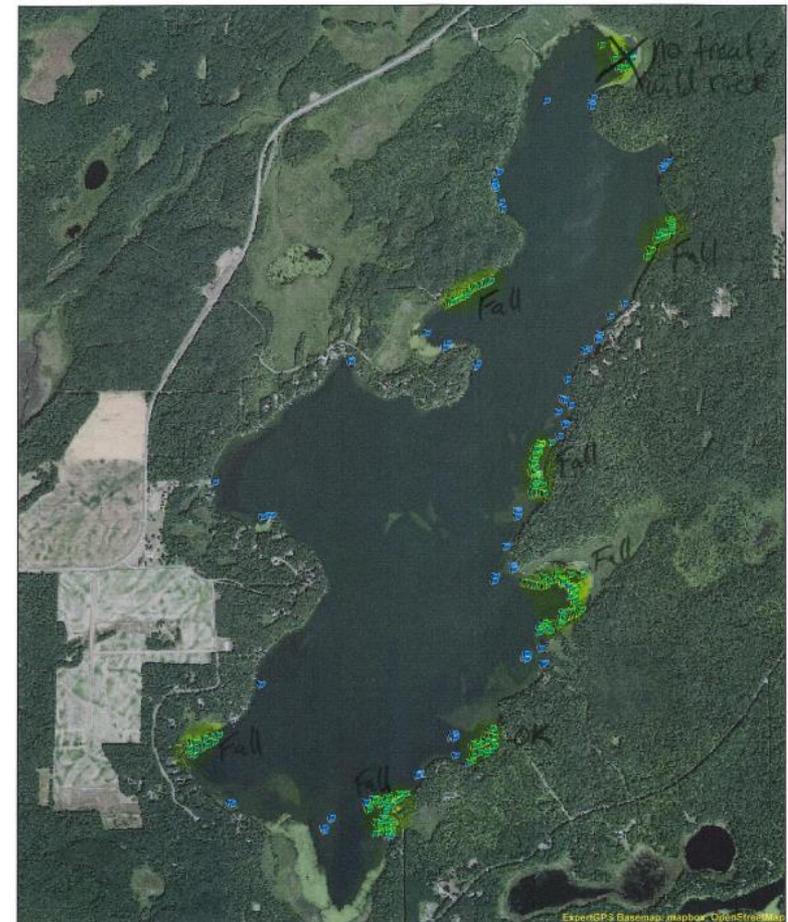


2018 Survey – No Treatment



Clearwater Lake Survey, July 13, 2018, Central Minnesota Aquatics, Inc.

2019 Survey – Fall Treatment

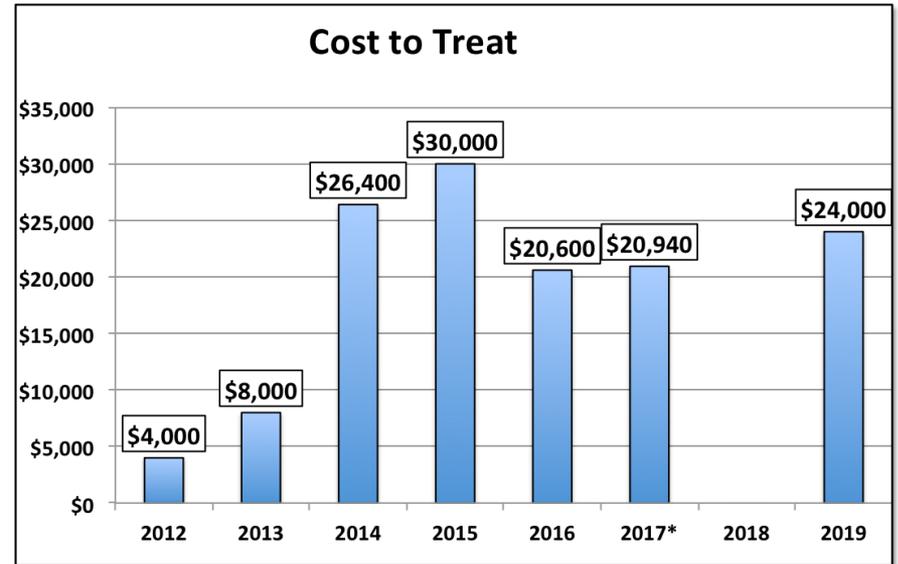
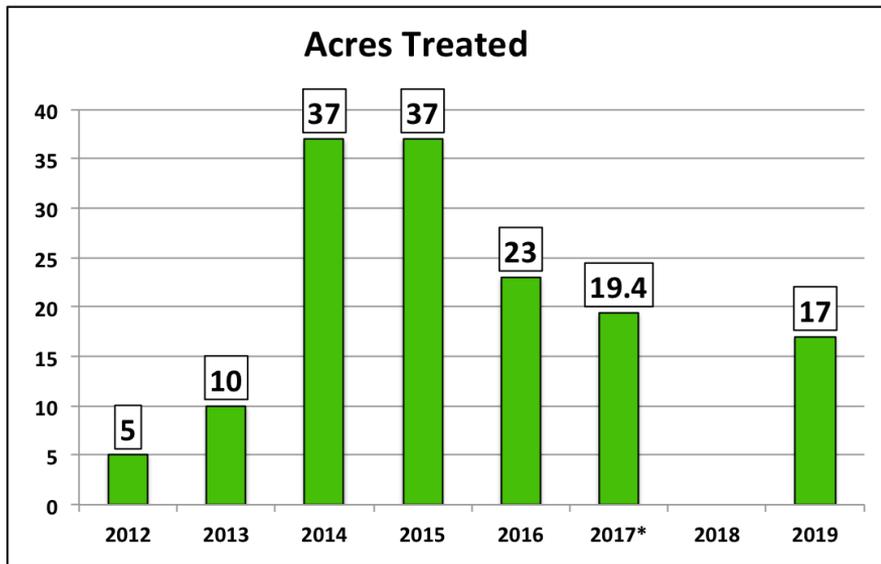


Clearwater Lake EWM Survey, July 19-20, 2019, Central Minnesota Aquatics, Inc.

■ Areas inspected



# Milfoil Report



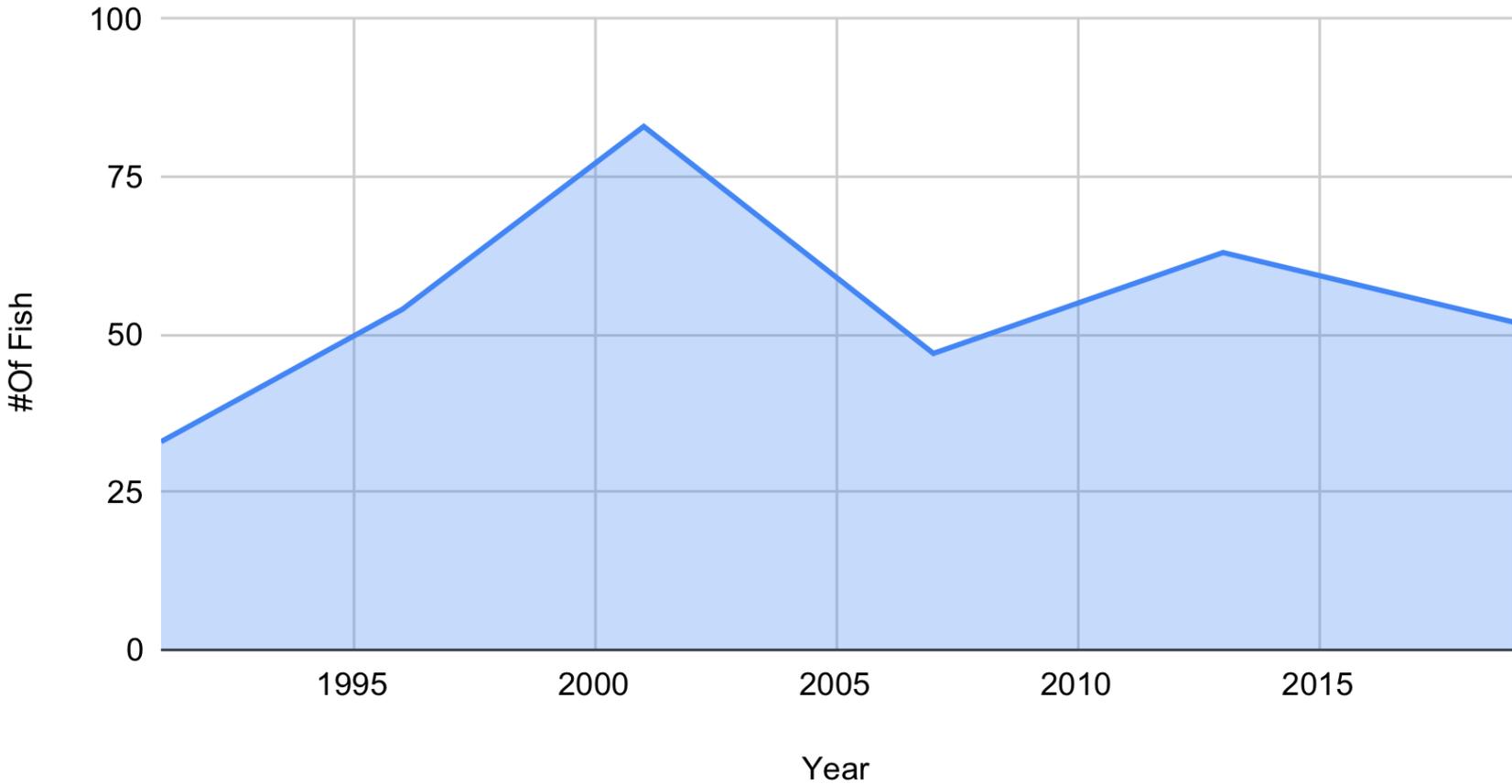
\* In 2017 one treatment was provided on 14 acres and a second treatment on only 5.4 acre = total acres treat 19.4

## 2020 milfoil grants

1. Crow Wing County \$3000
2. MN DNR - sliding scale based on # acres treated - if we do 17 acres again ~\$2500

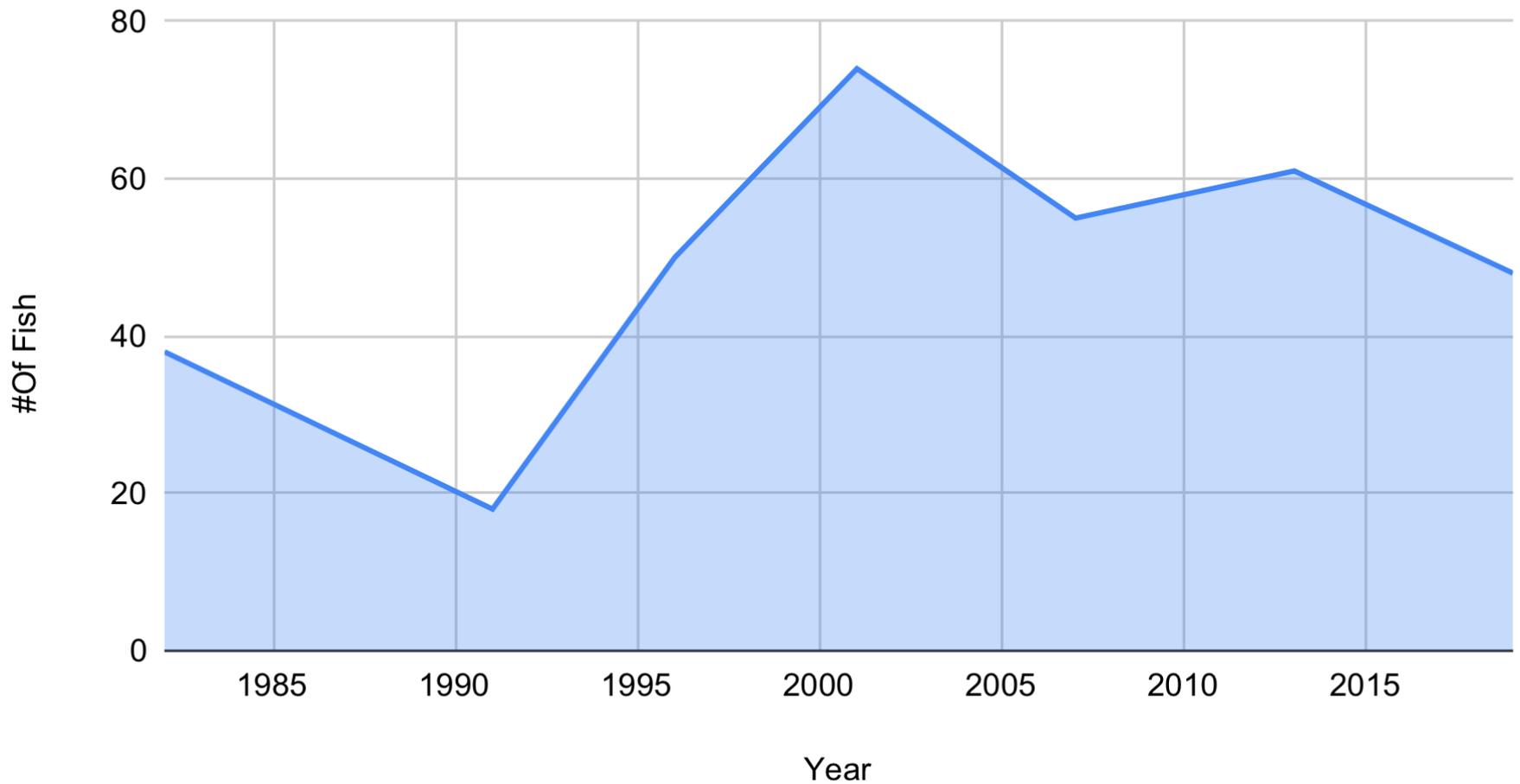
# Fishery Report - Walleyes

Walleyes



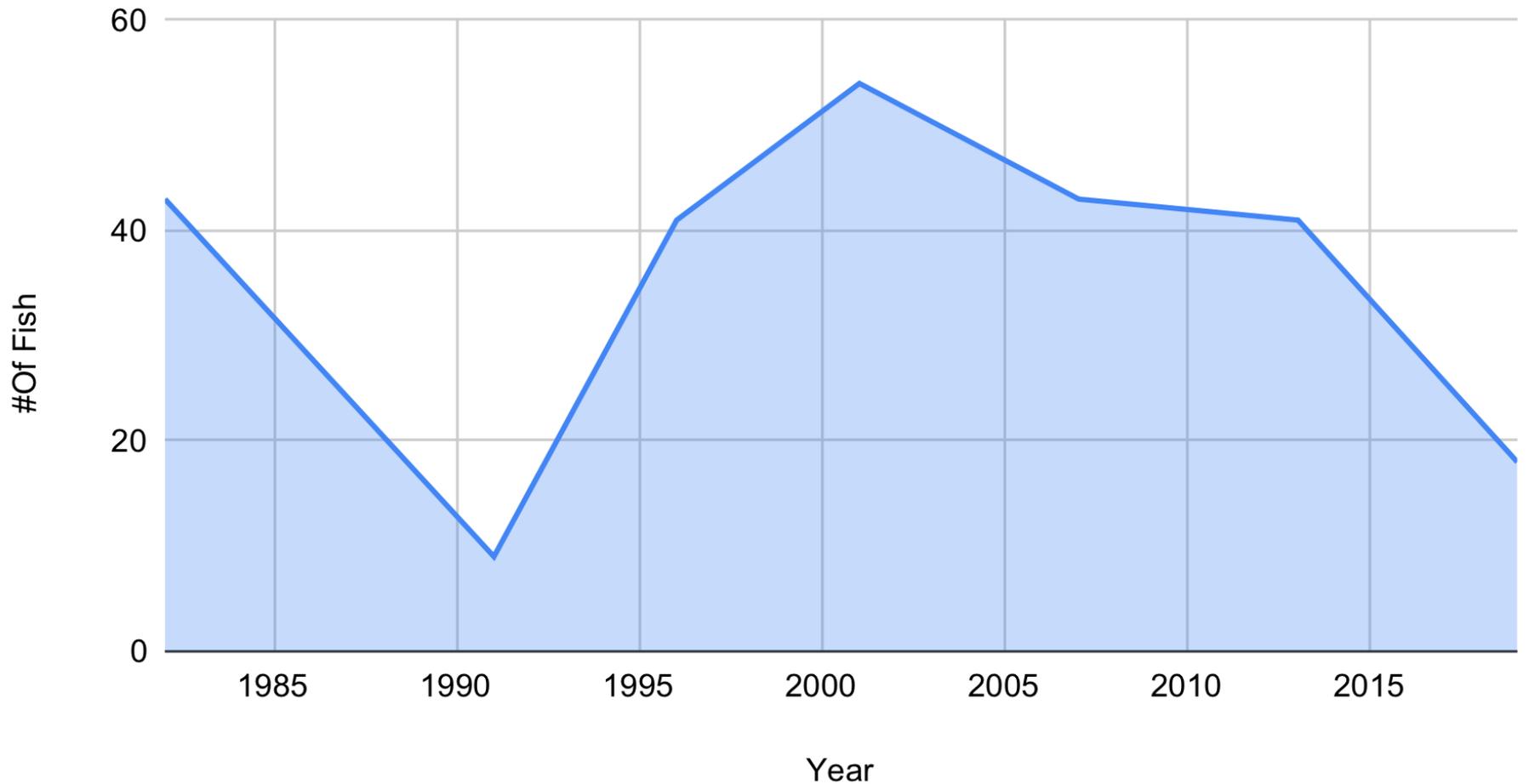
# Fishery Report - Northerns

## Northerns



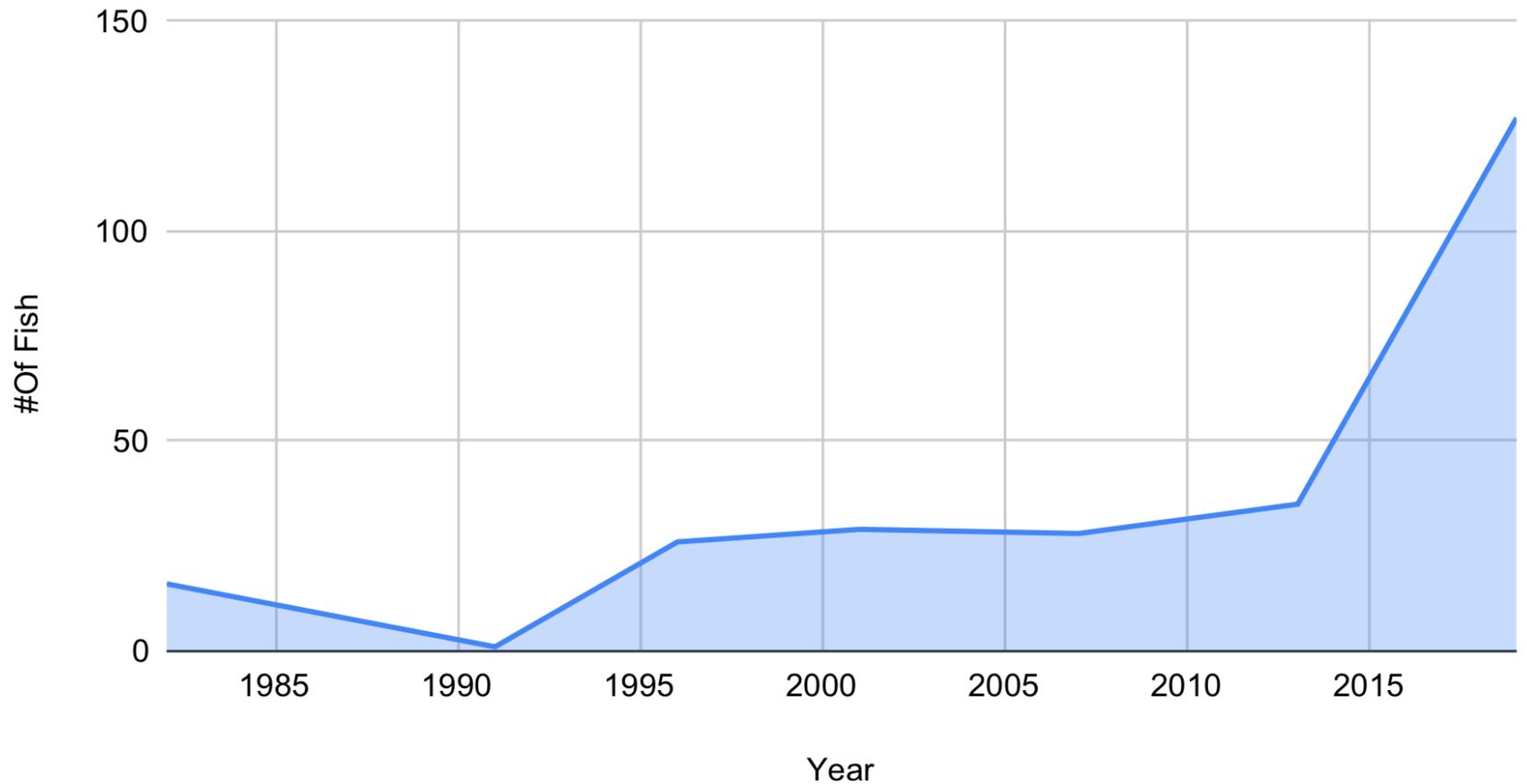
# Fishery Report – Large Mouth Bass

## Large Mouth Bass



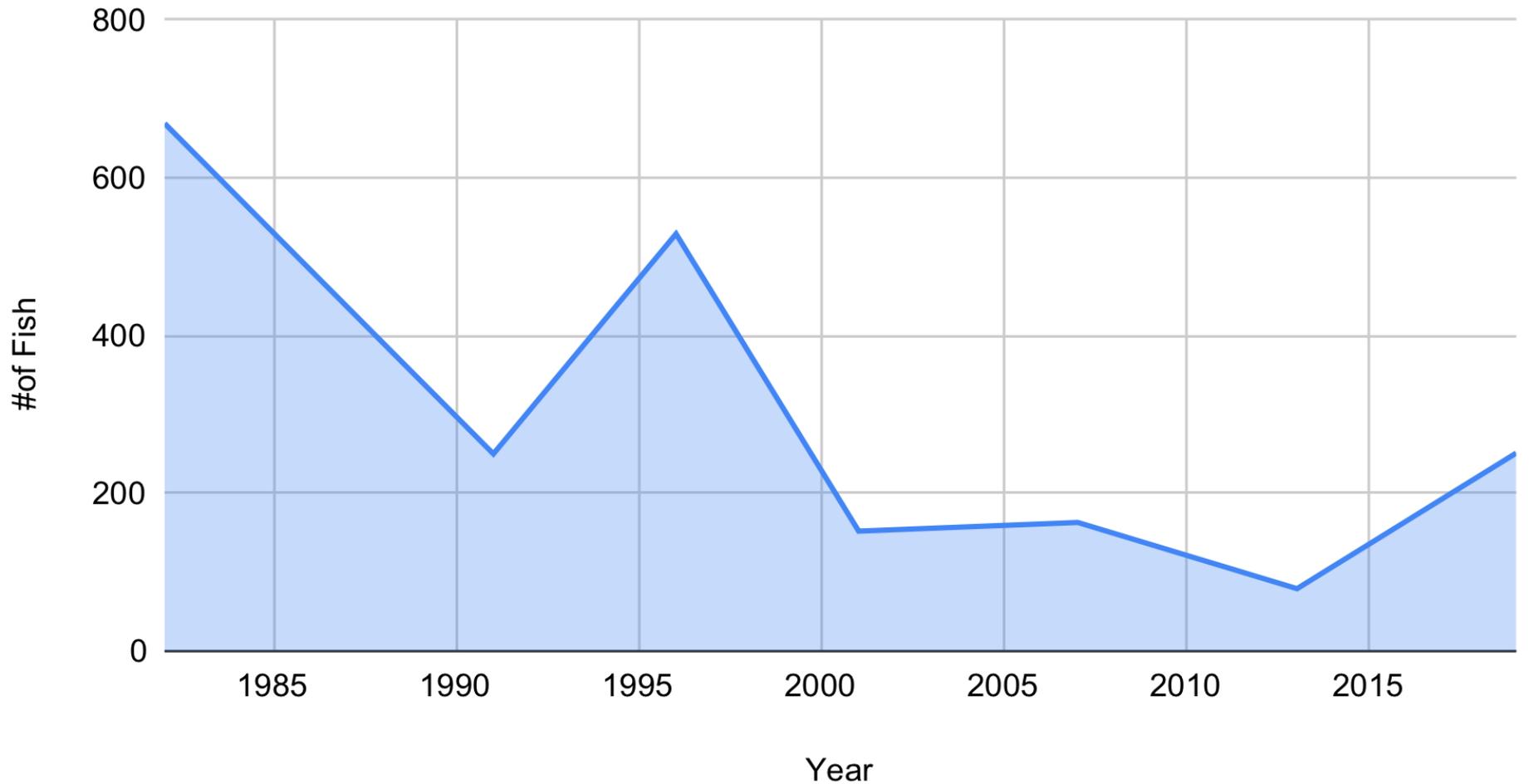
# Fishery Report – Small Mouth Bass

## Small Mouth Bass



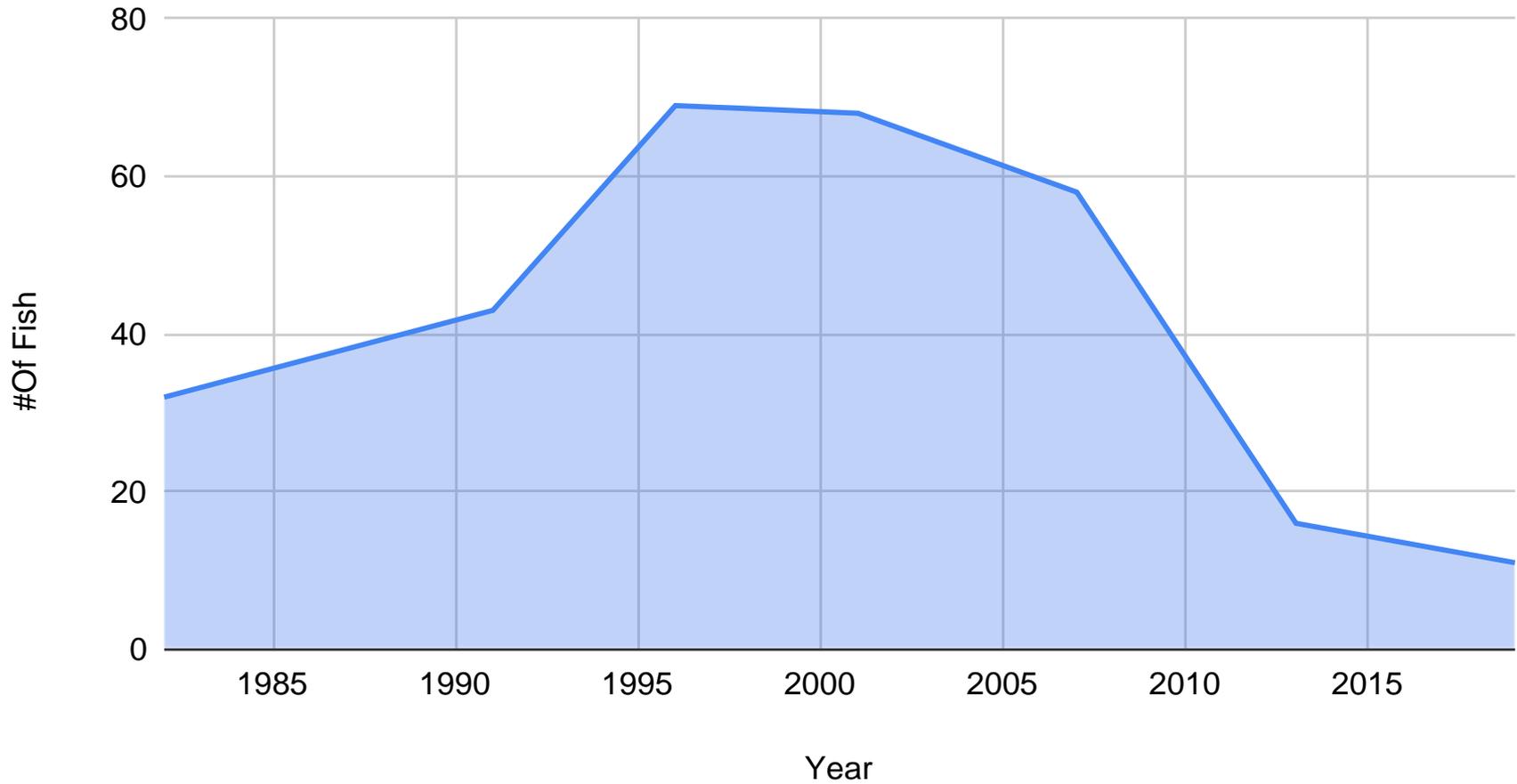
# Fishery Report - Sunfish

## Sunfish



# Fishery Report - Crappies

## Crappies



# Loon Report



- 9 nests occupied
- 6 pair with 2 chicks
- 2 pair with 1 chick
- 1 momma still sitting



# 2020 Lake Management Plan

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## Goals

1. Protect and improve fish and wildlife habitat
2. Minimize impact of aquatic invasive species (AIS) – coexist until eradicate
3. Protect and preserve native aquatic vegetation
4. Ensure lake water quality is adequate for recreation, fishing, and wildlife

# Key Priority Actions for 2020

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- Communicate to property owners and encourage them to assess on a regular basis the impact their property is having to the health and quality of the lake.
- Explore joint research projects with U of M researchers re: rusty crayfish; aquatic vegetation loss (both native and invasive); reductions of pan fish.
- Accelerate discussions with DNR on fish limits / catch and release to help control rusty population, maintain/increase aquatic vegetation, and maintain/improve lake water quality.
- Control milfoil spread and assess impact / effectiveness of new test chemical (assess value for future treatments).

# Next Steps for All of Us

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- Please review the Lake Management Plan
  - This is our lake and the Board wants your input!!!
  - Return comments to any or all Board members
- Review section on What You Can Do to Help Protect and Preserve Clearwater Lake – good practical guidance
- Volunteer, get involved; we'd love to have you join the Lake Management Plan committee
- Lake owner survey – Monkey Survey – how you use the lake, what you want Board to focus on, etc.

# Lake Social Activities

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Annual Boat Parade

Sunday, July 5

1:00 meet at Loon Point



# Official Annual Meeting Business

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- Name Change (dba) – Clearwater Lake Conservancy
  
- Election of Volunteer Board
  - Per our bylaws, Board members shall be elected at an annual meeting by a majority vote of the membership. Candidates must be members in good standing of the Association.
  
- Volunteer to be on a committee

# Sharing Other Lake Activities

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- Communication
  - How would you like to get information
  - E-mail? Website? Town Hall conference calls?
  
- Questions collected during Conference Call

# Adjourn

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- Board welcome to stay on longer to open it up for questions