

PAS FORUM

The US Army Corp, WDNR and RKLD are soliciting your comments regarding the joint Lake Koshkonong Management Plan; a comprehensive plan that includes the RKLD's goal of dredging and using the spoils to form man-made islands.

Three public workshops have concluded; May 13th at the Fort Atkinson High School, July 18th at the Anchor Inn, and September 18th at the Buckhorn.

We continue to welcome your ideas - however comprehensive or sketchy as you choose. But RKLD asks that your comments include good manners.

windmills / draining the lake / sediment

7/23/2011 8:41 AM

awilson

I am new to this forum but have had property on Blackhawk island for over 40 years. I do not claim to be an expert in any way but here are a couple of comments and then a question.....As far as I know windmills never really pay for themselves and need subsidies. In other words they would not financially benefit us. Windmills go way way down into the earth. The 5 to 10 feet of sediment would not matter much. Worse case you build up around or go a little deeper with their foundations. After all, Japan builds cities and airports on bad soil. If that didn't work, who says the windmills have to be on the islands far from the main electrical connection lines. We can put them wherever it is cheapest and use the funds for whatever we want. If they are a source of income why don't we have them now for anything we want to use the funds for? Windmills would be a distraction and lead us in the wrong direction. That being said I really don't know much about them. People who are in favor of draining the lake. It is a fantasy that will never happen and should not happen. The lake brings revenue even in it's current state. Draining it might bring other interested people but far from the revenue the lake brings. In addition, the lake was man made in the past and to me there is a responsibility to keep it because people bought homes around the lake of which the value is greatly dependent on the lake. You don't just destroy peoples property values like that. Besides like someone previously said there are plenty of marshlands if you want to visit them. To me first things first, control the erosion and pollutants into the lake. Then think about islands and other fun fantasy type things. Dredging 10,000, 5,000 acres or whatever it would be sounds ridiculously expensive. I don't know how we would pay for that. OK, enough talk about things I don't know enough about. I have questions? 1-We are not reinventing the wheel. How have other lake communities improved or maintained their water quality and water levels? 2-About the erosion. I always hear about the farm lands washing into the lake causing the silt and low lake levels. The lake is 10,000 acres. Where exactly does all this sediment come from? You would think there would be angry or devastated farmers who have lost their previously farmed land to the lake? Why wouldn't they take steps to protect their land with rip rap? Is it a cost issue? Wouldn't it be in everyone's best financial interest, WI and residents, if the state and lake owners worked together to require erosion control rip-rap for all shoreline properties? The state gets more taxes, higher lake levels equating to more business around the lake. Owners get increased property values. The state could have

options to get it done:1) Subsidize it 50/50 with residents on a voluntary basis.2)Residents vote on it and if a vast majority of owners, say 60% want it then the state creates a special tax district, borrows the money, charge ALL the residents over 15 years and does the job all around the lake. This is what we did in my neighborhood when we went from wells to taping into the city water. You can't please everyone but if the vast majority want it then you do it.

Cost and whose benefit?

7/16/2011 4:13 PM

rbrietzke

Cost and whose benefit?

First thanks for providing this great, informative website! The cost of the dredge project and whose benefit will come up particularly if the local cost of the project is to be assumed by all members of the RKLD. I currently reside on the Rock River a long way from Koshkonong and even longer time wise since the City of Fort Atkinson extended no wake zones to even longer stretches of the river. I support the RKLD maintaining the dam as everyone benefits from that action which was the initial goal of establishing the RKLD. I also support the RKLD working to improve the water quality. However, it has been hard for me to accept the huge sums of money spent on attorneys under the "raise the lake level" initiative----think of how that money could have been better spent to maintain the dam, improve the water quality for all or maybe even use as a down payment for hydro power generation. Now we are all faced with the prospect of dredging portions of the lake. I am not opposed to it as long as those who most directly benefit from it pay the local costs. From where I live my property value will not increase nor my ability to boat to or around the lake. I can see why this is so exciting to lakefront owners! I helped pay for the attorneys on the last project and would like to not pay the bill for dredging and I don't think I am alone in my thoughts. RBrietzke

Response

7/18/2011 9:20 PM

Brian

Re: Cost and whose benefit?

Thank you for your post RB and we appreciate your comments. Most of these issues you raised have already been addressed, but let take another crack. The Dam is at no risk of falling into disrepair - we have a non-lapsible segregated account that receives contributions from Jefferson and Rock County each year that will eventually total more than \$500k. On top of that, we are insured against catastrophic damages to the spillway and powerhouse. Your "raise the lake level" comment demonstrates an incomplete understanding of what the litigation against the DNR is all about - it is about changing the operating orders, which, depending on Mother Nature, would permit the RKLD to close the gates sooner to hold back 7 inches of water during low/drought conditions. As you are aware, the Dam has no impact, none, on high water/flood conditions. In fact, had you spent some time on this website, you would have read multiple times that the elevation of the spillway is lower than the elevation of the lake. What does that mean? It means the Dam is not even a speed bump during flood conditions. It means we are still

losing water downstream when ALL gates are closed. The costs of litigation is due to how the state statutes are written - and even the local daily newspaper has endorsed our efforts to bring a resolution to the artificial low water we experience during most months of the boating season. Your other comments are exactly what the PAS project is intended to do - improve the water quality in an efficient, affordable way. Nothing has been decided or recommended to the electors of the RKLD at this point. We will propose an experimental project to determine if dredging is viable to improve fish habitat, navigation, shore line protection and migratory bird nesting. You are correct not everyone is in favor of being this forward thinking and aggressive in our desire to leave a lake and river in better condition than we found it - but it is a minority opinion. Much like a person who does not have children in the public schools, yet pays their portion of the property tax to the local school district, so too are we funding environmental projects that support the Greater Good. For us to justify our proposals, we must fund environmental experts to determine if they are viable and sustainable. And far too often we must retain legal counsel to be sure our scientists and their expertise is considered fairly and objectively.

Our long term visions of Lake Koshkonong

7/19/2010 9:47 PM

Margaret

our long term visions of lake koshkonong

In the July issue of the newsletter Brian invited us to share our vision for the lake and river in 10, 20 or even 100 years from now. It's reassuring to know there are still a few people out there who are looking at the long term. I think it is feasible to expect that in 100 years Lake Koshkonong could be what it was like before it was dammed: a beautiful wide spot in the river, full of wild celery and wild rice and a great destination for lots of different species of wildlife. Most of us need more exercise and we'll be running out of affordable fuel one of these days. Canoeing and kayaking sound like great solutions to both of those problems to me. Lake Koshkonong could be a GREAT (not just good) destination for city folk to get away from the din of motorized vehicles; a place to nurture our souls and improve our health - both physically and emotionally. Will it bring property levels down? Probably at first. But the long term and indirect benefits will more than make up for that. The current water level is 6-8 feet above the level it was at before the dam was put in. And what is 6 feet below the surface? All the silt that has come down the river since then. Why not embrace what Lake Koshkonong has to offer instead of constantly fighting mother nature - trying for a lake that will never be?

Response

3/11/2011 12:04 PM

Re: our long term visions of lake koshkonong

The goal of the PAS grant is to improve Lake Koshkonong for all user groups, given the limitations both environmentally, and financially. I fail to see how draining the lake accomplishes that. Regarding property values, there is no example anywhere that can be accurately cited, where eliminating navigable water retains the same property values as when the full range of recreational opportunities are available due to navigable water. There are places - nearby - that if that is one's preference, to live on a marsh, one can certainly enjoy that ambience. I cannot support changing the environment so drastically as in

draining Koshkonong and harming property values and eliminating several options for user groups that likely moved here for the lake, any more than I would support taking measures to drastically change Horicon Marsh by making it a huge, deep water lake for PWCs to skip around on.....

Lake Plans

7/31/2010 12:07 AM

JJFS

Lake Plans

I grew up on this Lake. I would like all the people who put their hoists far out to mark their sunken hoists as it is a hazard to boaters. I broke the lower unit Friday the 30th of July because someone did not mark their sunken hoist. Please be a good lake member and mark your sunken hoists and decks. Now, let's not be naive about the Lake possibilities. By dredging, fishing will be improved and we will not have to put our hoists 100 yards into the Lake causing dangerous sunken hazards. I would like the Lake cleaned / dredged and make an island which can be a haven for wildfowl, cut down on shore erosion, and make boat shores where people can park their boats, barred from bird sanctuaries, and can have picnics, sunbathe and enjoy bird watching without access to nests. Putting windmills on the islands can pay for the costs. We can sell power to the electric company that we do not use. The population here is largely responsible for the monies coming to local businesses. I grew up here since I was 13, in 1967. Not many people can match the time I spent here. I work in IL but pay \$6K in taxes for the local schools and costs which I get very little back. This is not a complaint, but rather an eye opener to the stubborn people who still call us flatlanders. The power generated would not interfere with the beauty of the Lake since 10K acres is large enough to house this project. When Madison wants something, the State jumps. How about getting something back from the state? The duck hunters should enjoy the private islands since there would be no intrusion by flooding and people who destroy nests just for fun. When we flooded in 2008, many nests were destroyed. The deeper level would attract more tourists because fishing would be better due to the deeper water. The carp are on the rise again which makes people go elsewhere to fish. If we had a fair population of Muskie and Northern, the marinas would add many dollars to the local economy. Many people I talked to are afraid of higher taxes, which is a valid concern. The government should return some monies to us and give us something for all the millions they take from us. I also would ask that people who pay taxes here but have their main address elsewhere be treated as residents since we pay, pay and pay. The lottery take away showed many people that Wis is a place to leave and not take an active role in its future. Please drop old thinking and keep our Lake a pristine gem for our kids and grandkids. Best Regards JJFS

Response

3/11/2011 11:53 AM

Brian

Re: Lake Plans

The idea of islands - if they can be proven to be sustainable against the effects of Mother Nature, would likely be public - not private. Governance of the islands would be a public agency, whether WDNR, US

Fish and Wildlife, or even state park land. The material used to build islands, dredge spoils, would not be compactible to support the weight and torque of a 200 ft commercial windmill.

Feasibility of dredging

6/23/2010 5:49 AM

hess95

feasibility of dredging

I think the idea of dredging the lake bottom is great, but I've got plenty of questions and concerns as to the details. Since I'm not in the area the listening sessions/town hall meetings aren't helpful for me unless the material is published on the website. One concern is the longevity of this process. Since there is always silt and sand flowing down river will we have to do this every few years? Another is the size and location of the islands created and how will that be decided? Cost will likely be an issue here. Will different lake features affect the short term and long term effects of dredging? Dredging off a point as compared with dredging in a shallow bay. Finally, how close to land will we be able to dredge? My pier extends 100 feet into the lake and could go farther. Will dredging get close enough to really make a difference where it counts, finally being able to park my boat next to my dock? Thanks Brian for all your leadership, and giving us this forum to raise issues and hear what others are thinking. Hopefully it will be used to not just put out information but to elicit constructive feedback as well. Thanks again... Jason Cowpath Lane, Fort Atkinson

Response

7/1/2010 1:23 PM

bah_rkld

Re: feasibility of dredging

I share your concern about the longevity of the benefits of dredging. I'm not sure how we can justify the high cost of dredging to temporarily benefit isolated areas of the lake. I'm against the formation of islands. I believe islands will detract from the beauty of the 3rd largest lake in Wisconsin. I know I don't want to look at an island off shore instead of the beauty of the vast expanse of open water and distant natural shoreline. I'm also concerned that the islands will create navigation hazards as boaters approach and navigate around the islands from all directions. If dredging becomes our only alternative, I would rather see the spoils used to increase wetland area and protect wetland shorelines away from residential development. I still support our fight in court to increase the overall water level by making adjustments at the dam. I hope the pursuit of dredging does not make it appear to the judge that we have given up on the hope and support for our case.

Response

feasibility of dredging

7/19/2010 9:27 PM

Margaret

Re: feasibility of dredging

These are all great questions that I look forward to hearing answers to as well. I think it would be great if Lake Koshkonong was well suited to boating but I question whether that is an achievable goal. How high above pre-dam water levels is our current water level? 8 feet? The silt is going to keep on coming and dredging sounds very expensive to me.

Response

3/11/2011 11:48 AM

Brian

Re: feasibility of dredging

Very good posts and please review material newly posted in this website - PAS Project. The sustainability of dredging and potential islands is proving to be a real issue. I have suggested to ACOE and WDNR that we conduct an experimental project designed to monitor the effluence of the material on the bottom of the lake. If we can get permitting for such an experimental project, then we would need to search for funds. Our current funding including the \$100k appropriation from the last state budget we received, is being applied to researching all the alternatives and their sustainability.

Extend Points

7/19/2010 10:24 PM

rcosteri

Extend Points

I have long supported the dredging of Lake Koshkonong as part of a rehabilitation plan. I applaud this effort. Cost has always been a major obstacle. I suggest that extending the points of the lake towards the middle by building causeways in an extended loop with roads on top of them would be one way to reduce the cost. Dredging along the causeway would be cheaper. The dredged material could simply be dumped into the open loop. Once complete, the extended points could serve as parks and public access. The deeper dredged area would be along the shore and improve fishing as well. The extended points would force a current along the extended points towards the center of the lake. A current would reduce sediment. The new extended points would reduce wave action and provide quiet areas to increase weed growth. This plan would reduce the need to haul the sediment any distance, reducing cost and dredging time.

Response

3/11/2011 11:44 AM

Brian

Re: Extend Points

Good post - we have this concept included in our menu of items being researched with the \$100k that we won from the last state budget.

Island

7/31/2010 12:29 AM

JJFS

Island

I also would suggest people visit Blarney's Island in the IL Chain of lakes. If you want to see what an island can do to promote tourism visit this gem. I would have moved there but the Lake there is much smaller than our Gem. There are businesses there on the island that add to the economy and are a MAJOR draw from many states, even Wisconsin. Also snowmobiles can have a rest area, bar, restaurant and a place to park and picnic, water or ice. Ice fishermen would have a safe area as well as having a boat picnic area during the summer. Please all, think about the extra dollars that may even lower our taxes, which are quite high. I have seen many states that have done this and it DOES NOT take away from the beauty of the Lake. Us old timers, 1967 for me, I have to think about the land I lost, the farm run off which has turned the bottom of the lake into the constancy of baby poo. Let's not keep the bottom getting muckier. The fishing has taken a hit as well as tourists. The Lake is large enough for the windmills and extra boats. We have the room, let's have the resolve to make the Lake the gem on Wis. Best Regards JJFSPs: I would bet the Cat plant will be open again if we stop thinking small and stubborn.

Response

3/11/2011 11:38 AM

Brian

Re: Island

The distance from potential islands and their windmills and the terrain proves to be too costly to carry the energy to the main lines.

Maybe a Silly idea!

7/20/2010 11:34 AM

Martoranom

Maybe a Silly idea!

My name is Michael Martorano and I have a home at W7618 Koshkonong Mounds Rd. I attended the meeting last Sunday regarding the various options being looked at for the Lake. I'm not an engineer so what I offer is just an idea and I have no idea if it has any merit, however what I heard at that meeting was 'we can't control the sediment' and 'we can't control the quality of the lake water' and 'dredging tests showed that it gets filled back in', etc. It seems to me, that to really control the problem you need to 'control' the river. If you could build a concrete wall on each side of the river starting somewhere into the mouth of each side, you'd basically have a 'channel' that the river flows through that would isolate the lake. I'm not sure how high this wall would need to be out of the water, but such a method would control the sediment by containing it within this 'canal'. You could even filter the water that gets then pumped into the lake creating much more quality water, control the carp and other unwanted things bad for the lake and act as a wind barrier to help break that wave action. Once again, I'm not an engineer, and this may sound like the stupidest idea ever offered. Dredging can still be done to deepen the lake and island and rock barriers still built at strategic locations without the worry about being filled back in quickly. I'm sure they could also figure a way for boaters to access both sides of the lake across this 'canal'. If this idea warrants any further consideration, please feel free to submit it through the proper channels, and if they laugh at you, just tell them Mike gave me the idea!

Response

7/31/2010 12:47 AM

JJFS

Re: Maybe a Silly idea!

The answer to dredging being temporary is a control of the runoff from farms. The chemicals / fertilizers have to stop going into the Lake. Once the dredging is done, ditches have to be dug to have farm runoff

going to swamp land away from the Lake. This is not hard to do. The DNR has to push shore erosion close to the top of the list. I live on Lake drive and when it rains, I see farm soil going into the lake. This has to stop and can be done easily. The bottom of the Lake is full of farmland and actually can be used to build the islands. The windmills will provide funds that will help lake users wallets. The farms have to have some responsibility in this matter. Respectfully JJFS

Response

3/11/2011 11:35 AM

Brian

Re: Maybe a Silly idea!

So far, the material that would be dredged is proving to be too fine, too silty, to compact into islands and survive the elements of Mother Nature. Given the investment needed, it may not prove to be sustainable. Concrete walls to form a channel are not permitted, although rip rap is and every shoreline should be armored to protect against Mother Nature's impact on Koshkonong water levels.

OK how is this for an idea

8/13/2010 7:13 PM

mmcgarry

OK how is this for an idea

How ridiculous would it be to lower the water level low enough to bull doze / dig the sediment out instead of dredging I know this might only be feasible if at all at the East End of the lake where I personally have seen 18" of water very far into the lake. It seems to me that if you over dig in some areas of the lake, when it refills the sediment would shift and redistribute into the deeper areas but simultaneously increase the average depth of the lake, for a significant area around "the dig." If you were to use heavy equipment and dig down to some depth where the equipment is on firm enough bottom to operate, you would easily move mountains of sediment at less time and less cost than dredging. Do this for the bulk of the removal and dredge the rest.

Response

3/11/2011 11:27 AM

Brian

Re: OK how is this for an idea

This is a great idea and one that we have explored as recently as Dec/Jan. It will likely be included in our permit requests once the ACOE and WDNR fully vet this concept. One hurdle has to be overcome first, and that is getting tribal approval, given the amount of artifacts that have been found in the lake and its shoreline (pottery, arrowheads, etc). Nothing is easy, cheap, or quick when it comes to exploring options to improve the ecosystem and recreation opportunities on Lake Koshkonong.

Needed--long term solutions before quick fixes

7/20/2010 8:20 PM

RB

Needed--long term solutions before quick fixes

Modified By RB on 7/20/2010 8:23:55 PM

I have lived within the now Rock-Koskonong Lake District for 20 plus years. During that time I have watched the water, boated/canoed, fished and hunted from Jefferson to the Indianford Dam. True long term solutions are needed to address the underlying issues of the Lake. Up to this point I have heard only "lip service" given to longer term solutions. Lawyers and dredging are expensive short term

solutions to get more depth in a Lake that is filling in and has extremely poor water quality. It seems that all attention and money is continually focused on raising the water level with attorneys or digging the bottom deeper with dredges. Got to get it deeper! However most residents will still will not swim in water filled with red and green algae and who knows how much fecal material from farm runoff or septic systems regardless of how deep that water is. A good plan starts with recognizing the fact that lake residents are focused on the short term only. Next we all need to realize that we can do a much better job of controlling water run-off from phosphorus loaded lawns and manure laden farms. The phosphorus fertilizes the algae. Further all that mud in the river and the mucky goo on the bottom of Koshkonong came from somewhere within the watershed including construction sites and farms. Our watershed is like a conveyor belt of soil and phosphorus. No amount of digging or raising the dam level will stop this. There are steps to provide long term relief to the Lake. Some are easier and some are harder to implement. 1. Plan long term first 2. Ban phosphorus from residential lawns within the Rock River Watershed 3. Insist on tighter regulations of septic systems that bleed or are pumped into the watershed 4. Work with farmers to provide incentives to reduce runoff of soil and manure (think of the improvements that could have been built into farms with all the money we spent on lawyers). Some ideas include enhanced berms to deflect runoff or better fencing of cattle from streams 5. Increase incentives for a few years to pull more rough fish out of the system ex \$.03 a pound bonus for the contracted commercial fisher who works the Rock and Crawfish Rivers and the Lake. I have spoken with Steve, who owns one of the fishing outfits, and he would come back for more buffalo and carp with that kind of incentive. I have attached a link to the Rock River Coalition <http://www.rockrivercoalition.org/> for further details on how we can work together to improve the quality of the water not just the depth of our Lake. The link does a more thorough job of further explaining some details on how we can work together to improve the quality of the water not just the depth of our Lake. With more foresight, expensive fixes like dredging will fix the damage that has already been done and would potentially continue until the next time we dredge and debate islands, etc. RB

Response

7/20/2010 10:23 PM

Margaret

Re: Needed--long term solutions before quick fixes

These sound like very sensible things that the Lake District could work on without spending much money. Banning Phosphorous shouldn't be difficult at all. There are septic systems being PUMPED into the watershed?!?

Response

8/17/2010 11:59 AM

binsley

Re: Needed--long term solutions before quick fixes

I fully agree with long term solutions, however those solutions should have been implemented in the 1970's when the army corp of engineers and DNR first considered dredging. As for water quality compared to the 1950's the water is much better now. My family has had a vacation home on the lake since 1941, my first visit was in 1946 at the age of 2, since then great moves in the right direction have been made including the sewer system that has cut back considerably on septic runoff. As a young boy I remember sitting on a pier fishing in water that looked like split pea soup, when was the last time anyone saw that? The silt will never go away. The only way to improve the depth is to raise the water level. The bleeding heart wetland folks should worry the area economy not the wetlands, they must really be losing sleep during flood times, who do they blame mother nature? Let's hope it isn't too late to save our lake.

Response

3/11/2011 11:24 AM

Brian

Re: Needed--long term solutions before quick fixes

The concepts of dredging and island creation are hardly "quick fixes." Indeed, the reason why we have proceeded with assistance from the US Army Corp of Engineers - experts in dredging and island creation - and the WDNR, is to confirm hydrology models that those efforts would withstand the test of Mother Nature. We would not make an investment in dredging and islands if their existence could not be sustained. Near shore septic systems are rapidly disappearing - given increased regulation and inspections by state agencies, and grants awarded to local municipalities to extend and expand their sewer connections. Lake Koshkonong has actually been a statewide leader in this, having connected much of the failing septic systems in the Indian Ford area. Although phosphorus is now banned in WI for retail lawn fertilizers, its impact will be so negligible that it will hardly be measurable. Koshkonong sits within a 2,600 sq mi watershed and residential lawns are far and away outnumbered by agricultural lands. By focusing on 1/2 acre lots and lawn care, the deeper and more problematic issues of farm practices get little scrutiny. And finally, the length of life spent on the shore of Lake Koshkonong is frankly irrelevant. While it might be fun anecdotally to remember the good ole days, or bad ole days, or days when the Koshkonong Monster once swam our waters, it does not replace science and on-site research into the ecology of Koshkonong.

Provide Input on Rock River Basin Pollution-Reduction Goals

12/1/2010 7:39 PM

rbrietzke

Provide Input on Rock River Basin Pollution-Reduction Goals

People have until January 21, 2011 to provide input on pollution levels in the Rock River and the water that flows into and through Lake Koshkonong. Get involved in providing your thoughts on how important it is to clean up our water! Real improvements are needed as soon as possible to reduce nutrient levels and thus cut down on red and green algae and the terrible effects on water quality. These nutrients come from a variety of sources including lawn fertilizers, lawn clippings and manure runoff from locations like lawns, farms, ranches, bad septic systems, overflowing wastewater treatment plants, etc. In addition, incentives are needed to dramatically cut soil erosion that is filling up the river and lake with silt. Think beyond your parcel of land. The whole basin affects the river and lake not just those living along them. Ever watch high water or a heavy wash manure or soil into a small stream that runs into a creek that runs into the river that runs into the lake? All the dredging and lawyers in the world will not stop this type of pollution that is killing our river and lake. You need to get involved now to make a difference that will have a real lasting impact. A public information session is scheduled for Dec 16 at Lake Mills Community Center, 200 Water Street at 1:00 PM. In addition, written or electronic comments may be submitted to: Wisconsin Resources, Bureau of Watershed Management, PO Box 7921, Madison Wisconsin 53707-7921 Attn: Kevin Kirsh, or kevin.kirsh@wisconsin.gov

Response

3/11/2011 10:59 AM

Brian

Re: Provide Input on Rock River Basin Pollution-Reduction Goals

Koshkonong sits within a 2,800 sq mile watershed - among the largest in the Midwest. 26 municipal treatment facilities are located on the Rock River alone.

wind turbine

3/10/2011 6:50 AM

chuck

wind turbine

If there going to put islands on the lake, I wonder if the could put wind generators on those islands? Has anyone contacted alliant energy?

Response

3/11/2011 10:56 AM

Brian

Re: wind turbine

Islands are proving to be cost prohibitive given the locations and size they need to be to impact wind fetch. Windmills are even more costly given the distance and terrain to connect to mainlines.

SLOW NO WAKE

7/16/2010 10:02 PM

Brian

SLOW NO WAKE

Any comments about the duration/lake level that the SLOW NO WAKE was imposed? Too long?? Should still be ordered? We invite your feedback.

Response

7/26/2010 4:53 PM

Pete

Re: SLOW NO WAKE

It should be obvious given the high water, but is there in fact a SNW order on the Lake itself? And if so, how could one tell? 1) I went to the DNR launch but the sign, underwater (as was the parking lot), was far away and did not reference the lake. 2) From The Janesville Gazette at <http://gazettextra.com/news/2010/jul/26/threat-rock-river-flooding-recedes/> : "The city of Janesville and towns of Fulton, Milton, Janesville, Rock and Beloit have issued a slow/no wake restriction on the river." Still nothing references the lake. 3) And the township sites are useless as usual, Fulton only references their portion of the river for their request buried deep in the Notices and way down on their home page, and Milton Township has absolutely nothing, nada, just a broken link to the noaa water level site. 4) One fishing report at lake-link site said it was the whole lake, but a stories coming from a fisherman's site aren't exactly reliable or official lol "Trolled main lake 3 hours, got 2 white bass and nothing else (3 lines in water). Lake water was up maybe 8-10" over last weekend. I would have expected it higher. Clarity was the same as always (12" visibility). No wake in effect for entire lake. [This post was last edited on 7/26/10 at 7:56 AM]" Someone else on the lake-link site said everyone on the lake was ignoring the SNW, well no wonder... Google search for "no wake lake koshkonong was pretty useless too, am I missing something? Anyone can look up [http://water.weather.gov//ahps2/hydrograp"h.php?wfo=mkx&gage=nvlw3](http://water.weather.gov//ahps2/hydrograp), I don't need the the rkld blog to do that too. Would like to see rkld.org put official information from all affected areas right up front on its home page and keep it updated often, thanks

Response

7/27/2010 9:04 PM

BT

Re: SLOW NO WAKE

Great question, is it SNW on the lake? And agree, since this site is the most reliable site about all things lake related, it would be great if it could be posted here - thanks!

Response

7/28/2010 1:02 PM

JRP

Re: SLOW NO WAKE

Temporary slow-no-wake (SNW) is only on the river. However, there is ALWAYS a 100' SNW for boats, and 200' SNW for personal watercraft aka PWC's (jet ski's, waverunners) on every lake shore in Wisconsin. I would also like to add that though it is not the law to go SNW outside of the above listed distances, it is common courtesy to give a bit of a buffer for your fellow landowners while the water is high. Also, there is a law that states you are responsible for your wake and any damage it causes. Considering the enormous size of the lake, I suggest the boats intended to magnify the wake they put out (think wakeboarding) might want to consider moving out a bit farther into the lake. There is no SNW on Lake Koshkonong other than the law I note above, and I am 99.9% certain there never will be one.

Public Workshop #2 Sunday JULY 18 at Anchor Inn

7/16/2010 10:00 PM

Brian

Public Workshop #2 Sunday JULY 18 at Anchor Inn

Hey all - The Board invites you to post before or after the workshop on Sunday [HERE](#)>>>thanksBrian

Welcome!

6/17/2010 11:34 AM

Becky

Welcome!

Hello. I am just logging in from home to make sure I have registered correctly. I look forward to view all the thoughts and ideas to come!

Response

6/19/2010 4:30 PM

epowers

Joined: 6/19/2010

Re: Welcome!

What happened to previous home page? Where can I find the hour by hour weather report? Is it the new "improved version" of RKLD page? The new is not always improved. I have registered, but do not see the purpose if I can't get the info I need.

Response

6/19/2010 8:28 PM

pat

Re: Welcome!

Modified By pat on 6/22/2010 9:26:17 AM

what web sight for water level infooooo ? please tks an yes great idea get island at river outlet to break waves an slow boat speeds /?

Response

6/20/2010 2:12 PM

Brian

Re: Welcome!

Hey All - This new site is a work in progress - we will have all data and info from the previous web site moved to this site in short order. Be patient.thanks!Brian ChristiansonChair, RKLD

Response

6/22/2010 12:48 PM

fivereds

Water levels

Modified By fivereds on 6/22/2010 12:49:06 PM

Hi Brian:Thanks again for keeping the website updated. It's a great resource for those of us who live out of the area. Always nice to know what's going on. I appreciate the BLOG to keep up with things and usually check the NOAA site to get the water levels. For the person who is looking for this info - here is a link:

<http://water.weather.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?wfo=mkx&gage=nvlw3&view=1,1,1,1,1,1,1>This is the Newville site from the NOAA. One thing I don't see on the graph is where the levels are heading. It only shows current levels and the past few days. We'd really like to see projections like the site had in 2008 (sorry to bring THAT up again :) Gotta make sure the docks don't float away....Any idea who to contact to find out if this is something that can be displayed?

End of Comments and Posts