



Vilas County Land & Water Conservation

330 Court Street • Eagle River, WI 54521

715-479-3747 • Fax: 715-479-3627 • [http:// www.vilasconservation.com](http://www.vilasconservation.com)

September 24, 2020

Dear Surface Water Grant Reviewers:

I was approached by the Muskellunge Lake Association to provide a letter of support for the aquatic plant management portion of the Muskellunge Lake Management Plan. There are some elements of the Implementation Plan I feel are well thought out as well as portions where I can assist the Association.

Muskellunge Lake Association's lake consultant has been successful at recruiting members of the lake association to collect and enter data on the spread of Eurasian water-milfoil. This seems to be a rare level of engagement this is quite uplifting to see in action. The APM implementation plan continues to engage members with water sample collection and Clean Boats Clean Waters monitoring, and I fully support this model under the direction of the lake consultant.

I am happy to train volunteers on native aquatic plant monitoring and weevil rearing when the timing is appropriate.

The Muskellunge Lake Management Plan also mentions Healthy Lakes projects. I anticipate working with any willing landowners to plan, apply for funding for these projects within the County's budget. I do hope to work with Muskellunge Lake owners going into the future.

Feel free to contact me should you have any further questions at cahigl@vilascountywi.gov or 715-479-3738.

Sincerely,

Catherine Higley, Lake Conservation Specialist