

From Stan Rud of Wassermann Lake to Schutz Lake Stewardship

Before the U of M was hired by MCWD to do a 3 year carp study on the entire Six Mile Creek Chain of lakes, we hired the only licensed commercial fisherman for our area (Don Guyer) to do a winter seine netting on Wassermann Lake. However he only netted about 1,000 carp which is less than 10% of the over 10,000 carp in our lake. In 2013 the U of M radio tagged 15 carp in Wassermann and tracked them monthly for 3 years to determine where they migrated and spawned. There was very little carp migration into or out of Wassermann during the 3 year study. They developed a carp management plan described in their 2016 final report linked below. MCWD is implementing this plan which initially includes a sufficient number of seine nettings to reduce our carp population by about 80% and then doing an alum treatment on the lake to sequester the internal phosphorous loading to clarify the lake. The first MCWD winter seine netting done last January netted 2,500 carp which is about 1/3 of their goal. More nettings are planned. Also several remediation projects will be done on the ponds and marsh areas that drain into Wassermann. This spring the MCWD and Victoria purchased the pond on the west side of Wassermann and will be remediation the phosphorous pollution draining into Wassermann from that pond.

The bottom line is that MCWD is in charge of the carp management project and reducing the phosphorous loading not our lake association. Our lake association is mainly encouraging home owners to reduce run-off through proper landscaping. We have no resources to spend tens of thousands of dollars on seine netting and hundreds of thousands of dollar on alum treatments to the lake and surrounding ponds. We are lucky that Wassermann has been identified by MCWD as a critical priority to improving water quality on the downstream lakes along Six Mile Creek so they are funding these water quality improvements.

Piersons lake association (APPLE) was able to harvest over 8,000 carp since they migrate into March lake to spawn via Six Mile Creek. They installed a carp gate to prevent the migration and then simply netted the carp from the narrow creek. We don't have a similar area to net them and our carp don't have a similar mass migration out of the lake to spawn according to the Carp Study. They spawn in multiple shallow areas of our lake making it hard to net them. Either Steve or John from APPLE could give you details on their very successful carp netting and disposal efforts. Here are their emails:

Steve Mohn [SRMohn@Comcast.net](mailto:SRMohn@Comcast.net)

John Pierson [jpierson@centurylink.net](mailto:jpierson@centurylink.net)

Here are links to the 2016 Carp study report and an earlier 2013 engineering diagnostic study report. They contain garboons of data on water quality and carp management if you want to spend a few nights reading them. But there are executive summaries included.

2016 U of M Six Mile Creek Carp Study Final Report link:

<http://minnehahacreek.org/project/six-mile-halsted-bay-carp-management>

2013 Wenke Engineers Six Mile Creek Diagnostic Study link:

<http://www.minnehahacreek.org/sites/minnehahacreek.org/files/Six%20Mile%20Creek%20Diagnostic%20and%20Feasibility%20Study%20FINAL%20DRAFT.pdf>