

March 2015
Update

<http://pelicanlakemn.org>



Pelican Lake, Ottertail Co, MN

Greetings!

It may still be winter, but there are still many things going on at Pelican group of lakes and here is the latest.

AIS updates (including Muskie)

The OTC AIS Task force, (overseen by the OTC Commissioners) has been put in charge of spending State funds to be put toward combating Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) and have about \$700,000 to spend within OTC. For the upcoming year, they will hire one more deputy and a vehicle with the focus being on AIS and will train the other deputies on AIS. They are also planning on continuing a youth education program through the schools along with more AIS signs on roadways and lake accesses. There is a small move afoot in the MN legislator to remove some of the funding the groups like OTC COLA get to combat AIS, but currently it is only in the house, with no corresponding bill in the senate, so at this time, it doesn't appear to have much traction. At this point, OTC Task Force is working on smart, constructive ways to spend this state money and are looking for ideas as well, so if you have any suggestions, please contact Dave Majkrzak. [Dave Majkrzak](#) and [Fred Manuel](#) have put in a lot of time representing us at OTC COLA, so if you have questions, they would be the best resources.

There is also an effort to stop the stocking of Muskie on Pelican Lake, and change the size limit back to 36" until the DNR completes the study's they were required to do in the first place to see if there are adverse effects on other fish, and tourism issues like ice fishing. It turns out that Muskie are not native to our area and for that reason, are considered AIS. This questioning of muskie stocking is going on in other OTC lakes and in the state as well. More information can be found in the [OTC COLA newsletter](#).

PGOLID updates

PGOLID has been pushing hard to get the DNR to correct the mess they left when they put a temporary patch on the Fish Lake dam. They also, continue the push the DNR to replace the dam as it should have been in the first place. Moriya Rufer has more updates on the [PGOLID website](#) including the [Lake Modeling project](#) conducted in 2014. Look it over when you get a chance.

County 9 construction update

The County 9 road construction project on the west end of the lake has slid back a bit and will not start until after the 4th of July, which is probably a good thing. The DNR was planning on expanding the west access, but it turns out they haven't shared their plans with the county engineer like they were supposed to. [Jim Beckstrom](#) has spent a lot of much appreciated time of this one, so if you have more questions, he would be the one to talk to.

Natural gas is back in the conversation

Greater Minnesota Gas Inc. has taken over where MN Energy left off and there is a possibility of Natural gas on parts of Pelican Lake this year, although since there has been very little contact with people around the lake, this may be a bit optimistic at this point. [David Pimney](#) of Greater Minnesota Gas would be a good contact if you have any questions.

Dues reminder

The notice for PLPOA 2015 dues has been sent out and many have already paid them. If you haven't had a chance, you can mail \$45 to PLPOA, PO Box 1782, Detroit Lakes, MN 56502 or pay online from this link on our website. It helps support information like this.

3rd Annual Ice out contest

With the coldest days of winter behind us, it's time to start thinking about spring. To set the tone, we'll have a contest to see who guesses the "ice out date". Email your best guess to plpoa@pelicanlakemn.org by March 12th. The winner will get a \$20 gift certificate to the Cormorant Pub. If there is a tie, those names will go into a hat and a winner shall be drawn!

Sincerely,

Jeff Peltier
PLPOA Communications