

OREGON LAKE WATCH



October, 1990

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CITIZEN LAKE WATCH PROGRAM

Scientific Resources, Inc. (SRI) has initiated the *Citizens Lake Watch* (CLW) program for selected Oregon lakes as part of the Clean Lakes Challenge Grant contracted by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The purpose of the program is to both continue and expand the collection of basic, base-line water quality data on the lakes so that any apparent long-term trends can be identified. Early in the summer, volunteers were contacted at various lakes who might wish to participate in the program. To assure that adequate monitoring data was collected, selected volunteers were those that either lived on or very nearby the lake. Each volunteer owns a boat or has access to a boat so that data could be collected at least once per week.

The kinds of data volunteers have and are collecting include water transparency (secchi disk depths), surface air temperature, surface water temperature, and surface water pH.

The goal for this year's program was to acquire volunteers to monitor 40 lakes throughout the growing season--spring, summer, and fall. While some volunteers were able to start early during this period, most monitoring efforts began in late June and early July. Volunteers were recruited for 9 coastal lakes, 10 cascade lakes, Wallowa Lake in northeast Oregon, and Lake Oswego in the Willamette Valley.

The remaining candidate lakes were not monitored as volunteers at these lakes generally are resort owners who often do not have the time to contribute during the busy summer season, campground hosts who are transient and often don't have boats, or home owners who also could not make sufficient time commitments.

For the most part, however, the recruitment and data collection efforts were successful. In addition, some

lakes were acquired where past monitoring data has not been collected over such a time period. This will provide useful information to the State's lake managers.

The Cascade lakes volunteers are now winding down their monitoring, as snow will soon fall. Coastal lake volunteers will continue to collect data through at least November, with some data collection efforts extending through the winter and spring. A third newsletter will be sent out in late December to mid-January. A summary report will be provided in April to each volunteer on their lake showing both any past data and the information they have collected this year.

NEWS OF OREGON LAKES

Waldo Lake

Waldo Lake, located in the Cascades in the Willamette National Forest, is perhaps the purest lake in the state, and among the purest in the world. Since 1969, Dr. Douglas Larson has studied the Waldo Lake system. With the assistance of Jim Sweet, John Salinas, and Randy Jones efforts to further understand the lake and its watershed have been increased during the late 1980's. This summer, as part of the DEQ Clean Lakes Challenge Grant, this team of scientists deployed a remote operated vehicle (ROV), a small unmanned submersible, into the lake to study the characteristics of the lake's bottom.

The ROV is equipped with a sealed video camera used to record existing conditions of the flora and sediment characteristics found at depth. Most of the deepest areas of the lake were surveyed, filmed, and inspected visually. Detailed depth charting was also conducted in tandem with the ROV filming. The team also continued their limnological monitoring of phytoplankton, zooplankton, nutrients, and water transparency. A report of the findings will be presented to DEQ this winter.

1990 CITIZEN LAKE WATCH VOLUNTEERS AND THEIR LAKES

The following is a list of the people who have and are contributing their time to furthering our collective understanding of Oregon Lakes. The data and observations the volunteers collect is an important link between actual lake conditions/lake quality trends and management decisions concerning lakes of the state.

Coastal Lakes

Cullaby L.	Glenda Flanik
Sunset L.	Joe Bakkensen
Siltcoos L.	Warren Stafford
Triangle L.	Ralph and Charlotte Schmitt, Ernie Jacks
Munsel L.	Jack and Helen Adams
Woahink L.	Bob Anderson
Garrison L.	Fred McMillan
Mercer L.	Norman Dain

Cascade Lakes

Lava L.	Joan Frazee
South Twin L.	Bill Sasson
Cultus L.	Martin Tjomsland
East L.	John Hofferd
Hosmer L.	Maxwell Peel
Timothy L.	Grover Reed
Suttle L.	Rick Petersen
Blue L.	Gary Lovegren
Odell L.	John Millander

Willamette Valley Lakes

Lake Oswego	Chris Kern
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Scientific Resources, Inc. and the Department of Environmental Quality sincerely thanks each of the volunteers who participated this year. Your efforts are vital to our collective understanding of the lakes of Oregon. For those volunteers who intend to continue their efforts through the winter and into next year, FULL STEAM AHEAD!

OREGON LAKES ASSOCIATION

You are invited to join the Oregon Lakes Association (OLA), the first organization working to promote the understanding, protection, and thoughtful management of Oregon's lakes and watersheds. OLA was formed and founded by a group of citizens who share the

common goal of maintaining and restoring the quality of Oregon's lake resources for ourselves and for future generations.

OLA was organized initially at a Spring 1990 lakes workshop sponsored by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. At that meeting it was decided that the state desperately needed a statewide organization that would work to give our lakes the attention they deserve. As of November 9th, OLA is officially recognized and approved as a state chapter of the North American Lake Management Society, a strong national organization dedicated to the wise use of our nation's lakes and reservoirs.

To date, OLA members include recreationists, property owners, public agencies and non-profit organizations, local lake associations, academicians, and environmental consultants. Andy Schaedel has been named as president and Ela Whelan named as treasurer. By-laws have been developed, are in the process of being reviewed, and a strategy planning session for the future has been laid out. Standing committees have been formed and include, for example, a nominating committee, a membership committee, a monitoring and assessment committee, a conference committee, and a legislative committee.

Aside from other key objectives of OLA, as a new organization all interested persons and organizations are encouraged to become actively involved. Enclosed with this newsletter is a membership application form so you can do just that-- GET INVOLVED!

EDITOR'S NOTES

During this year's efforts to organize and recruit volunteers, a common theme discovered among both those who volunteered and those who were interested in the project but could not commit sufficient time was that a wealth of information exists among you about the various lakes of the state. In fact, the amount and depth of knowledge people have about "their lakes" was incredible! Having worked on the *Atlas of Oregon Lakes* (a compendium of available information and data on Oregon most significant lakes), we immediately recognized that there is so much more we can learn.

We encourage you to take an evening or two (or as long as you can or need) and write down what you know about your lake(s). For example, what has happened to your lake over time, what can you say

about changes in the watershed as might be related to changes observed to the lake, or what are your primary concerns and recommendations regarding the uses of the lake now and for the future?

This information doesn't exist in the libraries and is not in some file at an agency or other office. You have it and can make a significant contribution to our knowledge. Please write us, sending your letters to the address presided below.

*If you have questions about the Lake Watch
program contact:*

*Randy Jones
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or

*Jim Sweet
Aquatic Analysts
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