Fishing and Water Quality Committee Sept 5, 2026

Committee Attendees: Chris Allen, Brent Arment, Chad Arp, Bob Darling, Steve Dolezal, Nick Fiala, Terry Huisman, Doug Massop, Jeff Morse, Randy Rogers, Ed Schwery
Committee absent: Joe Cooley, Bob Eggers, John Grissom, Joe Jerkins, Paul Jones, Joel McCrea, Matt Raecker
Honorary Guest: Dave Christensen-Zoom

1. Tournaments/Events:

a. Fall Bass Tournament:
    i. Sept 26, pre-tourney meeting Sept 25 at 7pm
        1. Forms (entry and rules) in office and on facebook
        2. Please encourage friends to enter, $60 per boat
        3. Discussed fish fry options
    ii. Jeff Morse had plaques made and will be tournament director
    iii. Volunteers: Jeff will arrange for send-off and weigh-in
    iv. Live-well granules:
        1. Considier Use of BuzzerRocks Livewell Tourney Package
            a. $7.99 treats two boats for a 10 hour day- 4tablets per boat
            b. Discussed with Jeff and I will order these

        Consider water temp therapy if lake >70 degrees

b. Fall/Winter habitat work---Prob Oct 17 or 24, weather dependent (after fall bass tourney). Both Iowa and Iowa State bye on 10/17 and both away on 10/24
    1. Deploy a few Mossback units---4 pipes
    2. Harvest/deploy trees (Cedars and hardwoods)
        a. Chad Arp and Bob Darling trailers volunteered
    3. would like to do larger amount this winter
    4. wait for trees to drop leaves, deploy on ice if opportunity later

    Sites and number of trees??

c. Small bass tournament considerations
    i. Size, numbers, awards/trophies
    ii. Proposal will come from Jeff, Terry and Ed
    iii. Consider mid to late May prior to spawn
d. Discussed Summer monthly tourneys. Jeff will research and give info this winter

2. Water quality

Results have been good, submitted to office and available on website.

3. Aquatic hitch-hikers/Weed control

West end keycard gate access completed
Board plans to install keycard gate at dam access ramp this fall
Watching invasive weeds at west end
Will consider adjacent ponds as source of trash fish/invasive species..
I will check on this

4. Fishing limits—max of 2 authorized persons per day per lot

Plan on new fish shocking survey in the spring 2027 to assess change over time
Will then make new limit recs next spring

Daily Fishing limits at SVL	Numbers (size guidelines)
i. Walleye	3 (16" min, keep 1 >21")
ii. Bass	20 (>15" release)
iii. Catfish	3
iv. Crappie	12
v. Bluegilll	20
vi. Perch	10, ?increase
vii. Muskie	0
viii. Red Ear	0, ?increase

5. Building of fish gates at spillway

Optimal design/construct of fish gates
Several designs have been tried, best is horizontal bars spaced 2" apart
Product bid from DesMoines Steel Fence..approx $1500 for all materials
DNR Safety Inspection of Dam/Spillway looks good
Tried to work with Mike Otten (Shive-Hattery) to get engineer approved design
Other prior contractors
Shuck-Britson—bracing work for spillway in 1999
LT Leon—prior review of dam structure
Need proposed consulting budget for this project
I will discuss with contractors and board for options.

6. 2026 Budget review

Stocking

Walleye	4000 at $2.50	$10,000
Red Ear	10000 at $.65	$6500--done
Muskies.	20 at $25.00	$ 500. **I will discuss option of Tigers vs Pure see attached. Will also discuss use of catfish with Aquatic Controls**

Habitat Structure

Mossback/ Misc. (wire/block)	$5000---done

Other

Spillway fish gates	$1500	see above discussion
Tournament trophies	$500	
Signage/Misc.	$1000	
Total	$25,000	

Prior Mossback purchases

Order Date	Total	Root Wad	Root Wad Kit	Trophy Tree Kit	Safe Haven Kit	Ugly Tree	Safe Haven Post
08/25/2022	17,657.52		28	8	12		
5/3/2023	$ 4,506.71		8		4		
8/17/2023	$ 4,968.95		6		6		
6/4/2024	$ 4,396.68		6		3	7	
10/7/2024	$ 476.15	9					
10/24/2024	$ 631.30	12					
1/31/2025	3,081.49		10				
9/18/2025	3,259.70				5		5
1/23/2026	$ 3,814.68		5		5		3
6/10/2026	4,603.03		5		5		
6/10/2026	$ 492.20						4
Total	47,888.41	21	68	8	40	7	12

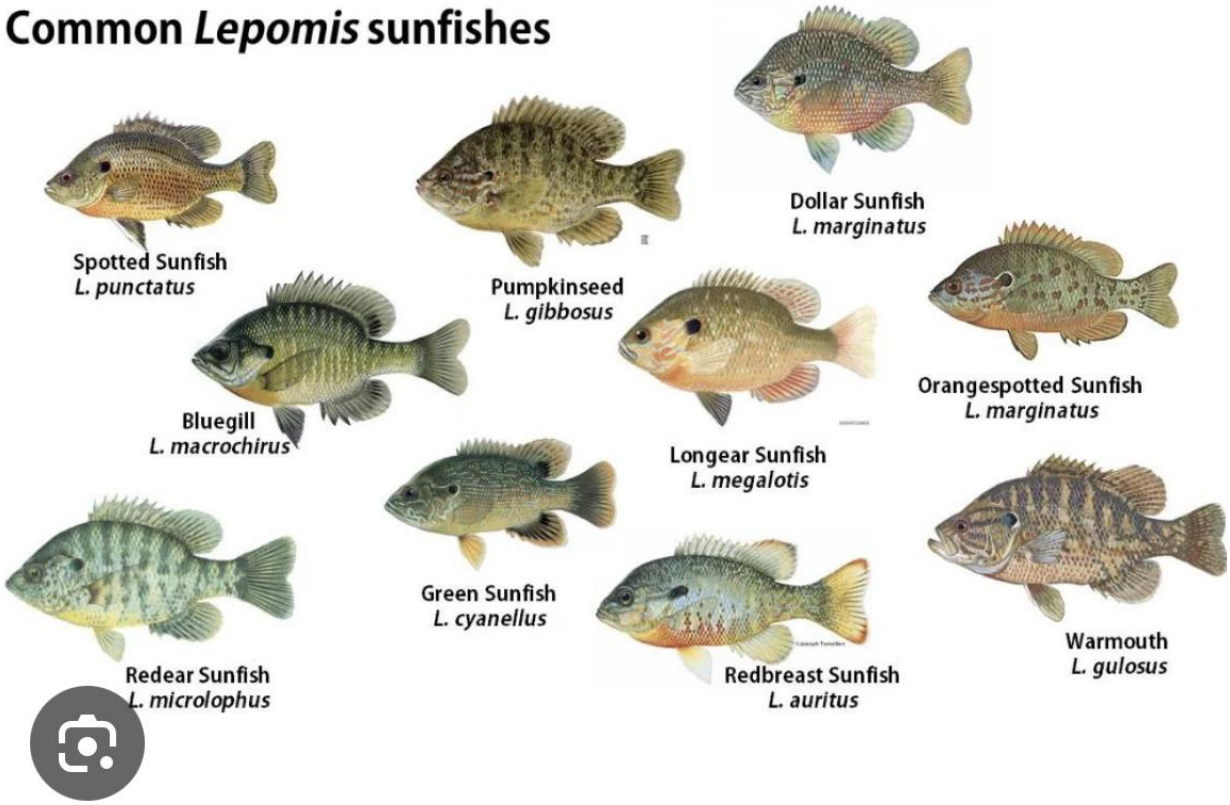
Review of muskie types: pure vs tiger

Pure muskellunge generally reach a slightly larger maximum size than tiger muskellunge, though tiger muskies often grow faster during their early years. [1]

Size Comparisons

- **Pure Muskellunge (*Esox masquinongy*)**:
  - **Average adult size:** 30 to 40 inches.
  - **Trophy size:** 50+ inches and 30 to 55+ pounds.
  - **Record size:** State and world records frequently exceed 50 inches and 55 pounds (with some historic or regional records pushing past 60 pounds). [1]
- **Tiger Muskellunge (*Esox masquinongy x Esox lucius*)**:
  - **Average adult size:** 28 to 38 inches.
  - **Trophy size:** 40 to 45+ inches and 20 to 30 pounds (exceptional large ones reach 50 inches and around 35 to 45 pounds).
  - **Record size:** The IGFA all-tackle world record for a tiger muskie is 51 pounds, 3 ounces. [1, 2, 3, 4]

Aquatic Controls strongly recommends using only Tiger Muskies to be sure of numbers on a small lake like ours

Also, our discussion of the photos that Chris Allen showed made me do a little more research on sunfish. The comparison photos are below and challenged thoughts I had on several things prior to this. First: the tip of the gill plate is not always bright red on the redear
Second: the belly can be brighter yellow onto the mid body
Third: the speckling pattern can be more random and not orderly like shown

So, take a good look at the variation between Bluegill, Redear, Green sunfish(more bass-like), and pumpkinseed.
We don't want the green or pumpkinseeds.