

2016

To Whom it May Concern,

I would like to nominate the Kangaroo Lake Association for a Fisheries External Partnership Award. In the nearly 20 years I have worked with the Kangaroo Lake Association I have found this organization to be dedicated stewards of the lake working in partnership with DNR, the Town of Jacksonport, Door County, the Nature Conservancy and other organizations to: protect and enhance habitat, improve water quality, monitoring and control invasive species and inventory fish populations in and along the shoreline Kangaroo Lake. The Kangaroo Lake Association through matching grants, countless hours of volunteer labor and numerous projects have made Kangaroo Lake a better place for those whom live and recreate there as well as for fish and other aquatic life. Their desire to make the lake a better place and their support of DNR programs has improved fisheries management of the lake.

The projects that they have worked on have been varied and impacted many facets of the Fisheries Program. Samples of the scope of projects completed by the Kangaroo Lake Association are:

- Placement of several fish sticks projects in the winters of 2014 and 2015
- Bulrush restoration projects in 2005, 2014-2016
- Updating the Kangaroo Lake Comprehensive Management Plan- 2015 ongoing
- Ongoing lake water quality monitoring- 20+ years
- Strongly supported and worked toward changing walleye fishing regulations on the lake to ensure strong walleye spawning populations
- Construction and placement of 32 fish cribs in 2001 and 2002
- Monitoring northern pike young of year production by setting and monitoring pike traps
- Assisting in Sensitive Area Designation in the lake and working with residents to understand the goals of the project
- Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) mapping in 2006, 2008, 2010. Hand pulling EWM along north side of the causeway
- Enacted slow-no-wake along the southern shoreline of the lake to protect bulrush planting. Placements of buoys have been ongoing.
- Establishment of voluntary expanded slow-no-wake areas along the remainder of the shoreline. Educated and encouraged boaters about the habitat needs of this program.
- Monitored ice on and ice off dates since 1999
- Assisted Fisheries staff in conducting Fish surveys in 2004, 2008 and 2012. In addition they have made time at annual meetings to discuss the results and recommendations with the public.

Many of the projects listed above have been entirely planned, permitted and conducted on their own time. Other projects have used multiple partners to accomplish. Working with the Kangaroo Lake Association has shown what a dedicated group can accomplish when working toward common goals.

Steve Hogler
Fisheries Biologist
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources