

# LITTLE LONELY LAKE LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN



ADOPTED  
MAY 2005

Matanuska-Susitna Borough  
Department of Planning and Land Use



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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Purpose

This lake management plan presents goals and objectives to balance the physical and social demands of those that live or recreate on Little Lonely Lake with the need to maintain a healthy and productive lake ecosystem. The lake management plan process was established by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough to provide a means to reduce user conflicts, balance various environmental and recreational demands placed upon a lake, and protect the health, safety and welfare of its residents and lake users.

## 1.2 Scope

Lake management plans provide guidance for how the surface of the lake is used and makes recommendations concerning public access and education of lake users to meet the goals of the plan. Certain aspects of the plan can be implemented as enforceable regulations through MSB Title 17.59. The borough assembly adopted guidelines for appropriate regulations for different sizes of lakes as follows:

### LAKES 75 SURFACE ACRES OR LESS

May recommend the following guidelines:

- ✓ No wake zone - 100 feet from shoreline
- ✓ Quiet hours - 10 p.m. to 8 a.m.
- ✓ Personal watercraft restriction
- ✓ 10 horse power limit\*
- ✓ No wake speed zone on lake\*

\* These options *may* be recommended on a daily time share basis.

### LAKES MORE THAN 75 SURFACE ACRES TO 200 SURFACE ACRES

May recommend the following guidelines:

- ✓ No wake zone - 100 feet from shoreline
- ✓ Quiet hours - 10 p.m. to 8 a.m.
- ✓ Personal watercraft restriction
- ✓ 10 horse power limit\*\*
- ✓ No wake speed zone on lake\*\*

\*\*These options *must* be on a daily time share basis.

### LAKES MORE THAN 200 SURFACE ACRES

May recommend the following options:

- ✓ No wake zone - 150 feet from shoreline
- ✓ Quiet hours - 11 p.m. to 8 a.m.

## FOR ALL LAKES

- ✓ Access recommendations will be consistent with traditional use and current level of access development.
- ✓ Quiet hours apply to repetitive recreational activities such as water skiing and racing or high speed activities NOT to moderate speed point to point transportation.
- ✓ No wake is defined as the slowest speed a boat or personal water craft can go and still maintain safe operation and maneuverability.
- ✓ Time share means restrictions do not apply on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and all three day weekends mandated by federal holiday (Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day).
- ✓ Ice house means a structure utilized for ice fishing and left on the frozen surface of a lake for more than 24 hours.
- ✓ Motor vehicles means automotive vehicles with rubber tires for use on highways.
- ✓ Motorized watercraft use means the operation of watercraft powered or propelled by a force other than human muscle power, gravity, or wind. This definition does not include airplanes as motorized watercraft when landing, taking off, or taxiing on a water body.
- ✓ Personal watercraft includes vehicles such as jet skis, wave runners, and similar acrobatic or stunt equipment.
- ✓ A wake is the track in the water left after the passage of watercraft or other vehicle.
- ✓ A special permit is a permit approved by the planning director for a special purpose and is limited to a specific time to conduct an event that would otherwise involve activities in violation of MSB 17.59.

These guidelines may be varied due to lake configuration, lake depth, or other considerations through the adoption of individual lake management plans.

Little Lonely Lake is 56 surface acres in size, and therefore, falls within the guidelines for lakes 75 surface acres or less

### 1.3 Process

Lake management plans are initiated by local residents or property owners. The initiators circulate a petition to get the required number of signatures on the petition required by code.

Once a valid petition has been filed with the department, a ballot is mailed to all property owners within 600 upland feet of the affected lake. This ballot serves as

notice of the receipt of a valid petition and requests a vote to begin the lake management process. The borough begins a lake management plan if the majority of property owners responding to the mailed ballot vote in favor of developing a lake management plan.

Borough Planning staff collect background information on the lake and encourage adjacent property owners and users to participate in the planning process. Borough staff, lake users, lake residents, and property owners identify issues and concerns and establish goals and objectives that are incorporated into the draft plan.

The draft plan is reviewed by the public and community council and by the borough Planning Commission. The Commission considers all oral and written comments received in a public hearing and either recommends to the Assembly adoption of the plan as is, or with modifications, or recommends Assembly disapproval of the plan. The Assembly either adopts the plan as is or with modifications, or votes down the plan.

#### 1.4 Enforceable Code Restriction

Most of the lake property owners and residents in attendance at the meetings expressed a preference for enforceable restrictions on:

- Quiet hours - 10 p.m. to 8 a.m.
- Personal watercraft restriction
- 10 horse power limit
- Lake wide no wake speed zone
- Ice house registration

These restrictions will protect the quiet enjoyment of the properties and allow continued use of the lake by residents and visitors in keeping with traditional practices. The plan will also help future lake users to fish, boat or recreate in a manner that protects neighborhood values.

## **2. Inventory of Existing Conditions**

### 2.1 Location

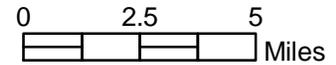
Little Lonely Lake is located in the vicinity of Willow, Alaska, at about Milepost 67 of the Parks Highway. It is one of a number of lakes that form a lake system adjacent to the Nancy Lake State Recreation area. This complex is bordered by the Susitna River, Talkeetna Mountains and Little Susitna River. (Figures 1 & 2).

Little Lonely Lake is accessed from Crystal Lake and Long Lake roads and a public use easement that serves the Beryozova subdivision.

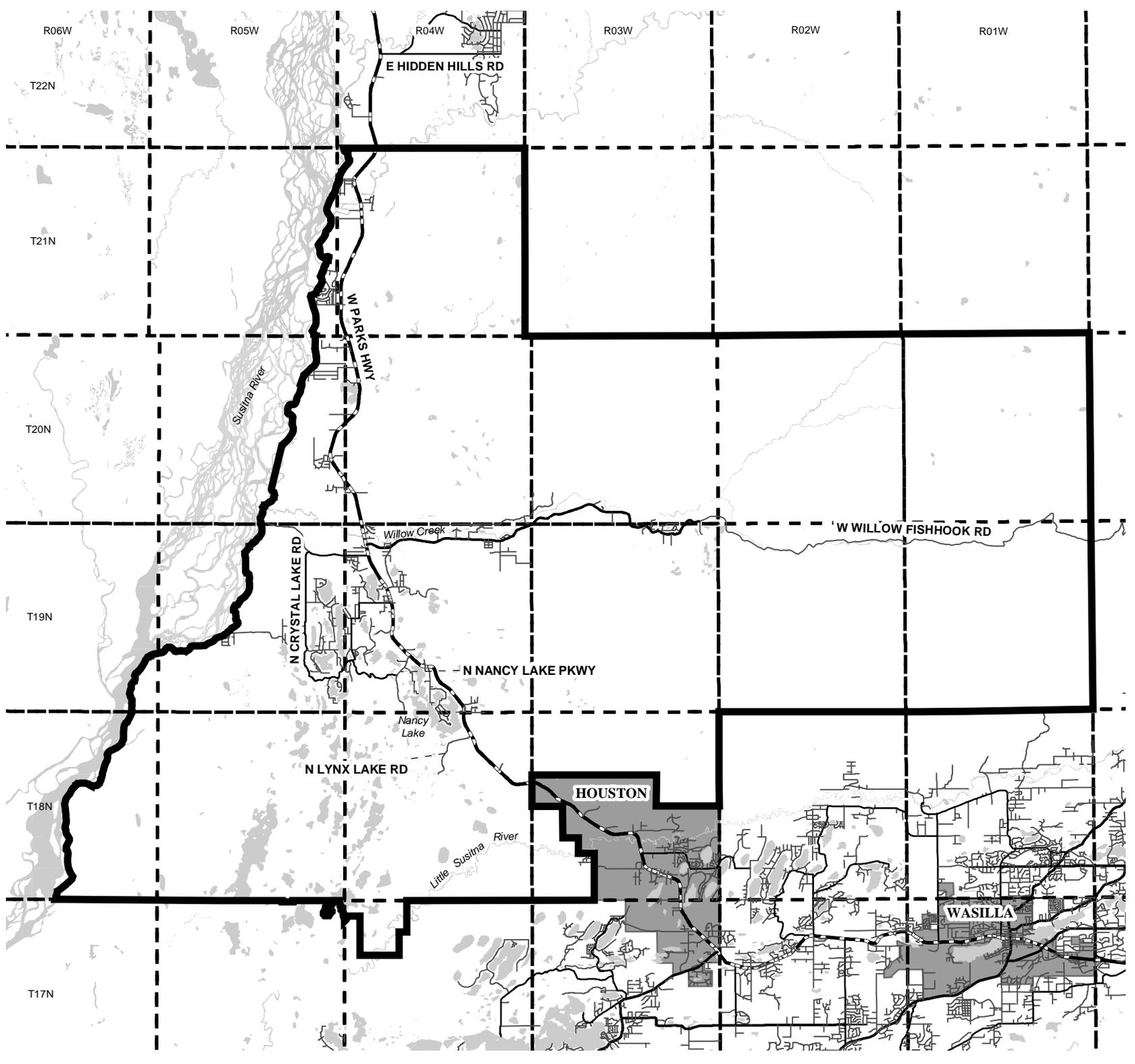
# WILLOW Community Council

## Legend

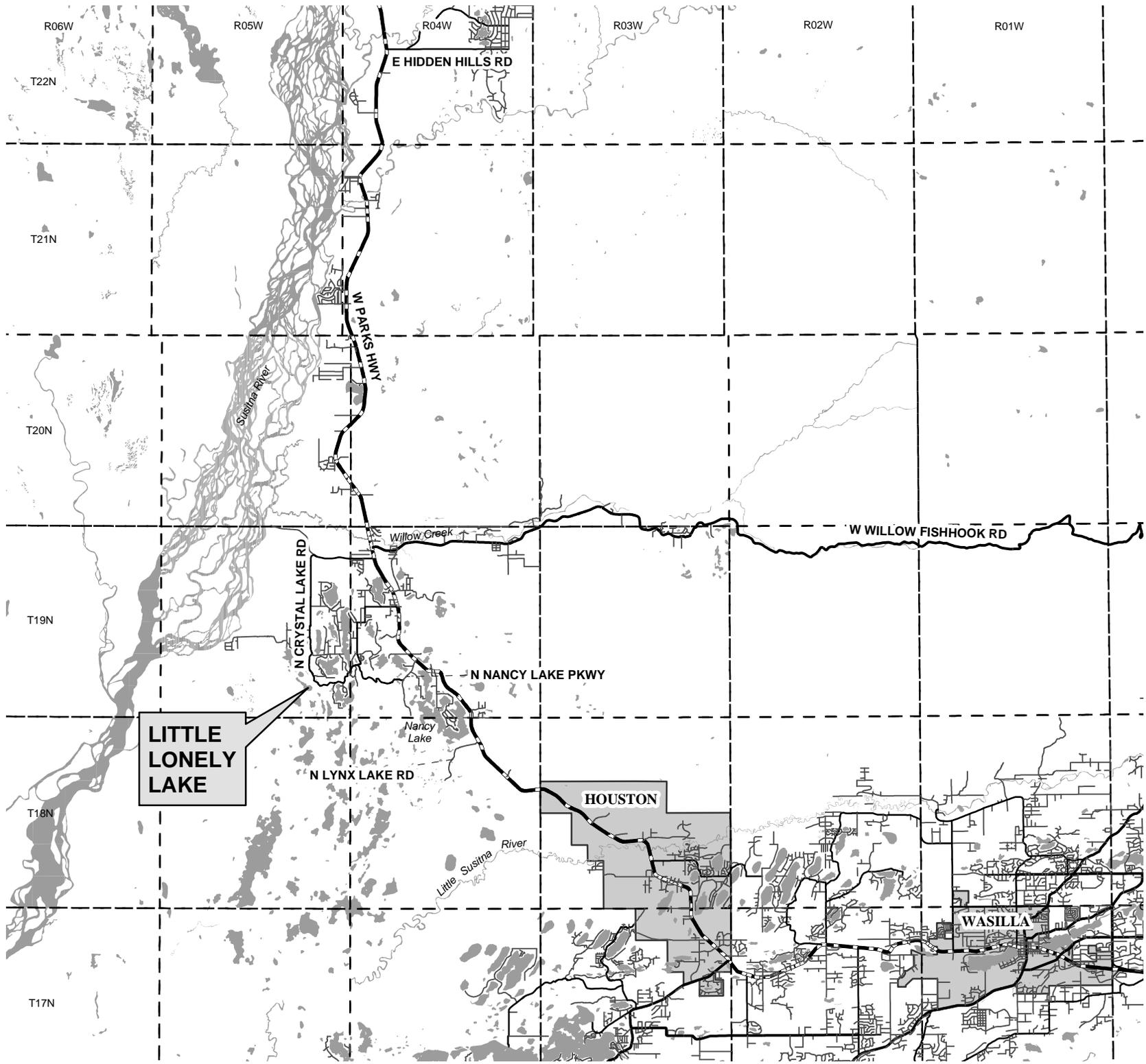
-  Community Council Boundary
-  City Boundary



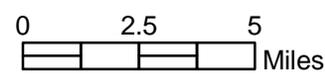
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# Figure 2 LITTLE LONELY LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN



 City Boundary



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## 2.2 Physical Characteristics of the Lake

Little Lonely Lake is typical of glacial moraine formed lakes in the area. These lakes are situated in mixed gravels and sands with well defined shorelines in mixed spruce/birch forest habitats. The lake hydrology is dominated by subsurface flows of groundwater. Surface creek flows are a minor component in relation to the size of the lake. The surrounding topography is relatively flat, with most properties having about 4-6 feet elevation from the lake surface.

The western portion of the lake is relatively shallow (10-20 feet), while the eastern portion drops off steadily to a maximum depth of over 60 feet (Figure3). While there is no named stream flowing into or out of Little Lonely Lake, a wetland connects Little Lonely to Big Darrel, Boot and Vera lakes.

The lake substrate is mixed cobble and gravels with fine sands and silts. Shorelines are mixed with established vegetation stabilizing undeveloped waterfronts. Aquatic vegetation is localized adjacent to wetlands. Much of the shoreline is in its natural condition.

The lake ecology is fairly productive and supports rainbow trout stocked by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game stocking. Little Lonely Lake appears typical of glacial moraine lakes that are in successional stages from low nutrient (oligotrophic) from their formation as glaciers receded to high nutrient (eutrophic) systems with established marshes, aquatic plants and organic lake bottoms. Little Lonely Lake can be placed toward the low nutrient end of the successional scale.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game surveyed the lake in 1987 as part of the stocking program. Water quality problems have not been reported and casual observations by borough staff report no problems.

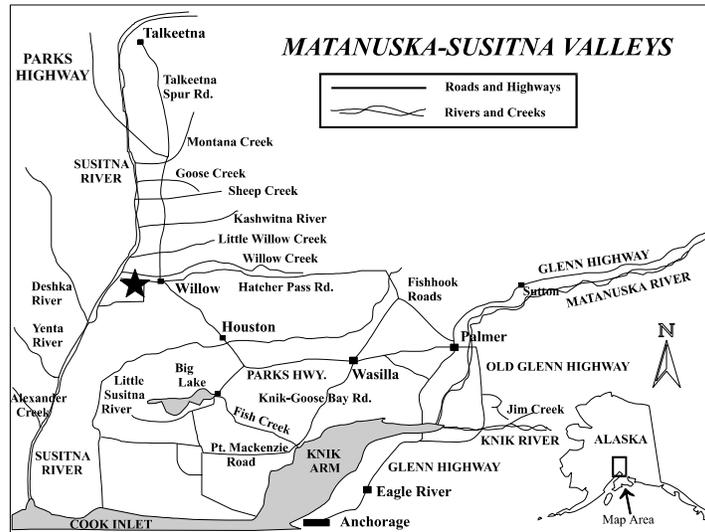
Table 1: Little Lonely Lake Physical Characteristics

Surface Acres	56
Volume	1,124 acre feet
Mean Depth	20 feet
Maximum Depth	63 feet
Shoreline Length	1.8 miles

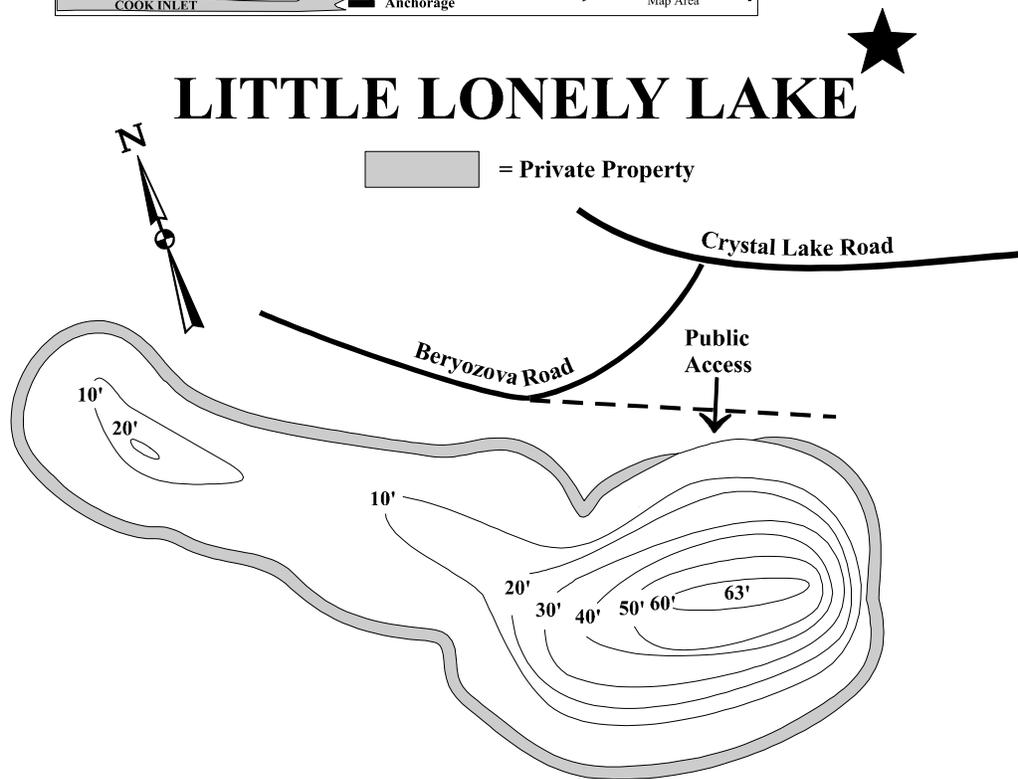
Source: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

# MATANUSKA-SUSITNA VALLEYS STOCKED LAKES SERIES

State of Alaska  
 Department of Fish and Game  
 Sport Fish Division  
 1800 Glenn Hwy #4  
 Palmer, AK 99645  
 (907) 746 - 6300



## LITTLE LONELY LAKE



U.S.G.S. Map Ref.	Tyonek C-1, T19N, R5W, S26	Geographic Location	61°43'60"N, 150°07'27"W
Elevation	200'	Surface Acres	56
Volume	1,124 Acre Ft.	Maximum Depth	63'
Mean Depth	20'	Shoreline Length	1.8 Miles
Surveyed	8/87 ADFG	Year 1st Stocked	1987
Game Fish Present	Rainbow Trout		

**LITTLE LONELY LAKE PUBLIC ACCESS:** Mile 69.2 Parks Hwy. West on Long Lake Rd. 3.4 miles where it becomes Crystal Lake Rd. Continue on Crystal Lake Rd. 1.7 miles to Beryozova Road. Left on Beryozova Rd. 0.2 mile to dirt road on left. 0.1 mile on dirt road (4-wheel drive necessary if wet). Short trail leads to lake. **NOTE:** Limited public access. Majority of lake shoreline is privately owned. Please respect private property.

**STOCKING ACCESS:** same as public access

**STOCKING METHOD:** truck/bucket; can dump with long hose

### 2.3 Land Use and Land Ownership

All lots with frontage on Little Lonely Lake (Figure 4) are privately owned. Country Lakes Subdivision on the northeast shore provides the only public access to the lake through a marginally improved dirt track. A plat for Little Lonely Lake Subdivision creating 6 additional lots has been granted preliminary approval by the Borough, but has yet to be finalized.

Most lots immediately adjacent to the lake have not been developed for residential or recreational use. One float plane dock is in use.

# Figure 4 LITTLE LONELY LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN

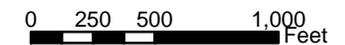
## Legend

### Land Use - within 600' of lake

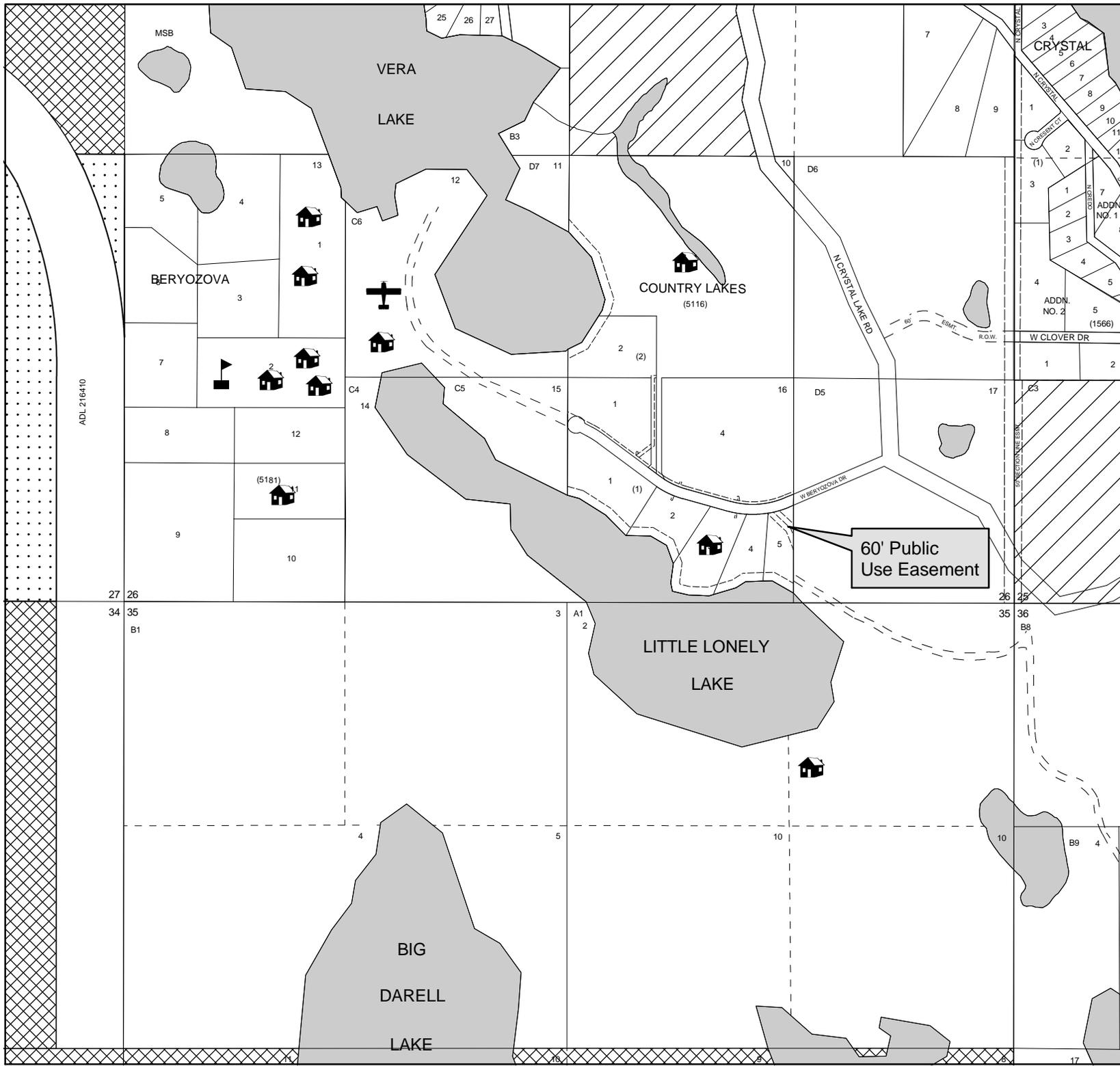
-  Residential Structure
-  Aircraft Transportation
-  School

### Ownership

-  Borough
-  Private
-  State
-  No Data



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## 2.4 Social/Demographic – Usage

The present human use of Little Lonely Lake may be characterized as being primarily quiet, recreational and residential. Some residents came to the area as homesteaders and pioneered trails or primitive roads to the lake properties. Some residents have recently bought property from borough land disbursements. One large tract on the southwest shore has been submitted as a preliminary subdivision creating 6 new lots. Several other large parcels would also be suitable for subdivision, but at the time of development of this plan, no additional subdivision plans are identified.

Public access to the lake is not well advertised and can be characterized as a rough trail. The recorded access route goes through two parcels of land which were once borough owned, but have since been conveyed into private ownership. While visitors may be able to launch small boats, canoes may be more common for those fishing or recreating. Those in attendance at the meetings prefer to keep the access as rustic and not to provide improvements to the trail. There are no plans to improve the access for a boat launch. Continued stocking by ADF&G will likely draw visitors for fishing.

Lake residents and property owners enjoy the quiet, natural aspects of the lake and tend to not use motorized boats. One float plane uses the lake.

## 2.5 Existing Plans and Lake Monitoring Programs

### State

The State plan affecting the Little Lonely Lake area is the Susitna Area Plan (SAP). The SAP, adopted in June 1985, contains management intent for State and Borough lands within the SAP, an area of approximately 15.8 million acres.

ADFG lists Little Lonely Lake for continued stocking of 8,400 rainbow trout fingerling through 2008. Records show that on average about 7 % are caught with about 4 fish per angler day.

### Borough

Borough plans that address Little Lonely Lake in some manner include the Borough-wide Comprehensive Plan, adopted in 1971, the Borough-wide Long Range Transportation Plan, Public Facilities Plan, and the MSB Recreational Trails Plan.

The Borough-wide comprehensive plan does not make specific recommendations for Little Lonely Lake. Rather, the 1971 plan makes a series of general recommendations for the Willow area do not reflect the current social, economic or development realities.

The Borough Public Facilities Plan makes recommendations on a regional basis for the provisions of public services including the development of public facilities necessary to the provision of those services. Services included in the plan are public safety (fire protection, emergency medical services, and emergency preparedness);

library; historical preservation; governmental administration; education; parks, recreation and open space; trails; and utilities. All of these elements affect the Little Lonely Lake area in some way, but the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space; and Trails elements have the most potential impact.

#### Lake Monitoring Program

The borough coordinates a lake monitoring program to monitor water quality, identify problems that degrade water quality, monitor the biological and hydraulic functions of the lake, and establish baseline trends to assist planning. The program depends on local volunteers to gather information and take samples for further testing. In addition, lake monitors identify fish and wildlife habitat and report environmental impacts of natural or man-made origin. Residents on Little Lonely Lake began participating in the Lake Monitoring program in the Fall of 2004.

## 2.6 Existing Regulations

This section describes the principle regulations affecting use and development in the Little Lonely Lake area.

### Federal

Any work which results in the dredging or placing of structures or fills in tidal (ocean) waters, streams, lakes or wetlands requires a 404 permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Migratory birds, which include loons and grebes, are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The Act, among other things, prohibits the “taking” of migratory birds. Destruction of nest sites, eggs, or the birds themselves are a violation of the Act.

Operation of aircraft, both private and commercial, is regulated by the Federal Aviation Administration.

### State

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) provides regulations for wastewater disposal. DEC wastewater/septic regulations [18 AAC 72.015(f)] state that no holding tank, septic tank, soil absorption system, seepage pit, privy, or other waste water collection, treatment, or disposal system may be within 100 feet, measured horizontally, of the mean annual high water level of a lake, stream, spring, slough, or the mean higher high water level of coastal waters.

In addition to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 404 permit requirements; any activity within streams and certain work within lakes require a Title 41 permit from the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Since 1994, the Habitat and Restoration Division of the Alaska Department of Fish & Game issued a one-year general permit, renewed annually, and currently DNR issues such permits allowing vehicle movement on frozen water surfaces in south-central Alaska without a special permit (Appendix A). This general permit is of interest to these property owners, as one of the areas of concern is the unregulated use of the lake by snow machines.

Likely, the only tools available to resolve this issue through the lake management plan process are education on public access points and quiet hours. Finally, the general ADF&G fishing regulations apply to Little Lonely Lake.

A navigable or public waterbody includes water suitable for commercial navigation, floating of logs, landing and take-off of aircraft, and public boating, trapping, hunting of waterfowl and aquatic animals, fishing, or other public recreational purposes. Little Lonely Lake meets the definition of public waterbody.

Land that has been or is currently owned by the State of Alaska, and is adjacent to a navigable or public waterbody has special access requirements. Alaska Statute (AS 38.05.127) requires access to the surface waters of navigable and public waterways, typically through a "to" easement. Additionally, land adjacent to navigable or public waters may be subject to an "along" easement, which provides a 50-foot public use easement along the waterway adjacent to the ordinary high-water mark. These easements are created when the State or Borough obtains patents to their lands and stay with the property when the land is disposed of. State and Borough lands transferred prior to the adoption of AS 38.05.127 are not usually subject to the "to" and "along" easements. Also, lands patented by the federal government are not usually subject to the "to" and "along" easements.

Country Lakes Subdivision was recorded in 2001 with the 50 foot public access easement along the shoreline in place. However, it is the only group of lots around the lake on which that easement currently exists.

### Borough

Several Borough-wide ordinances address the development and use of land adjacent to Little Lonely Lake. The regulations are contained within the Borough's planning (Title 15), subdivision (Title 16), zoning (Title 17), and real property management (Title 23) ordinances.

Title 15 establishes and describes the general functions of the Planning Commission (both planning and zoning functions) and the Board of Adjustment and Appeals. Title 15 also describes the comprehensive plan and purposes. Once adopted, the Little Lonely Lake, Lake Management Plan will become an instrument of Borough policy similar to the other plans adopted by the Borough Assembly.

Title 16 provides the subdivision development standards within the Borough and establishes the Platting Board. Two of Title 16's requirements that are of special note to the development at Little Lonely Lake include a minimum lot size of 40,000 square feet, and a minimum lot width when measured at the lake's water line of one hundred twenty-five feet (Figure 4). If community septic system is provided, then the minimum lot size is 20,000 square feet and minimum width may be eighty-five feet.

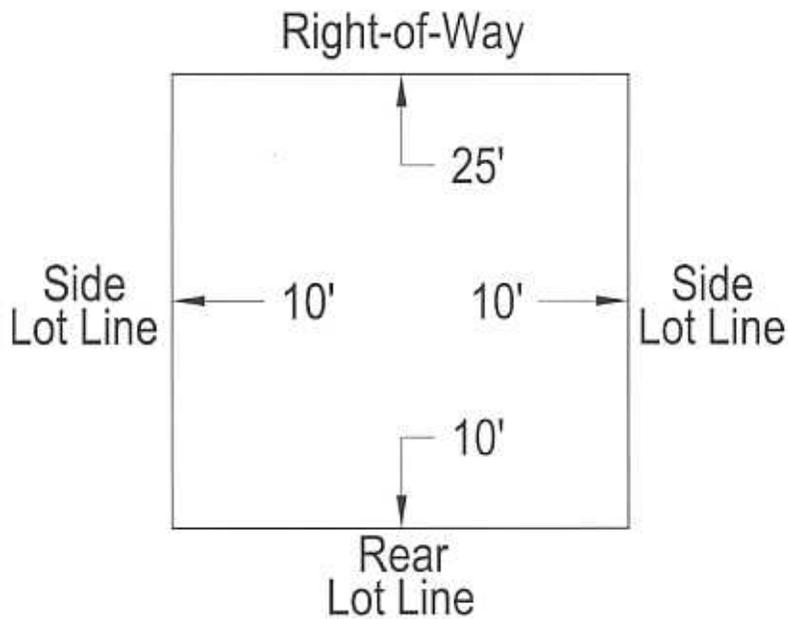
Zoning regulations (Title 17) that are of special note to development activities at Little Lonely Lake include setback requirements and a petition process to limit or eliminate motorized use of lakes and conditional use permits. Presently, all structures must be a minimum of twenty-five feet from the right-of-way and ten feet from side and rear lot lines. In addition, the voters of the borough approved, by initiative, a requirement that all habitable structures and garages must be located at least seventy-five feet from the ordinary high water mark of any waterbed or water course (Figure 4). The Borough also requires that any development which seeks to establish or operate a mobile home park, junkyard, refuse area or landfill, or dispense alcohol, must first obtain a conditional use permit.

#### Private

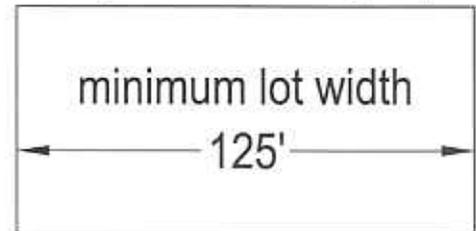
Private regulations which exist in the Little Lonely Lake area would be in the form of subdivision covenants. Country Lakes Subdivision is located adjacent to the lake, and the borough has copies of their recorded subdivision covenants. The borough files do not contain a copy of any other recorded covenants for land adjacent to Little Lonely Lake. However, this does not mean that they do not exist. For current information about covenants, the reader is referred to the State of Alaska Records Office.

Little Lonely Lake is within the Willow Community Council Area and will be included in any comprehensive planning started by the Willow Area Community Organizations (WACO). In addition, borough code requires that the Little Lonely Lake Draft Management Plan be submitted to WACO for review and comment prior to consideration by the Planning Commission.

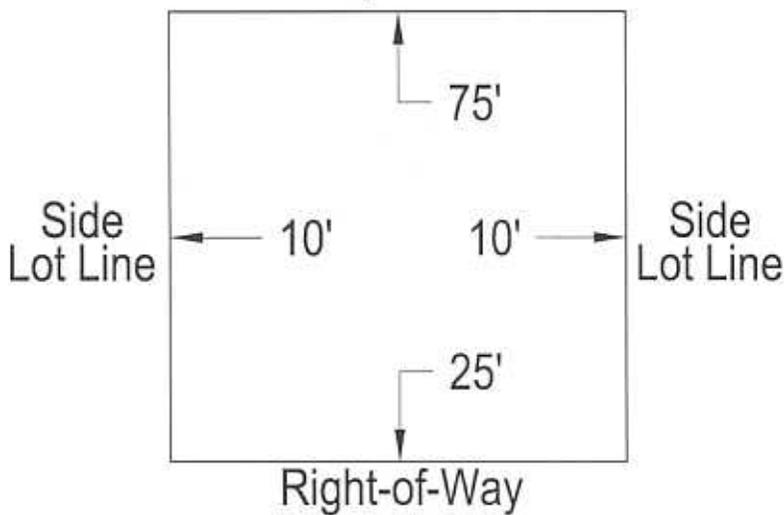
Figure 5  
General Setback Requirements  
and  
Lot Size\* Requirements



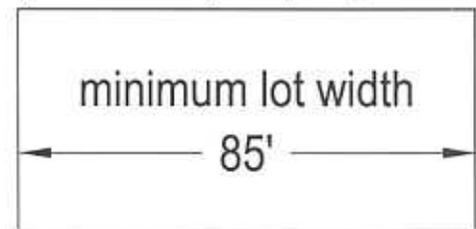
Ordinary High Water Line  
of Lake (no community septage)



Ordinary High Water Line  
of Water Body or Watercourse



Ordinary High Water Line of  
Lake (community septage available)



\*All lots must be a minimum of 40,000 sq. ft.

### 3. Issues and Concerns

The issues and concerns identified by residents include:

- ✓ Protection of the quiet residential/recreational character of the lake
- ✓ Unregulated use of the lake by snow machines
- ✓ Increasing noise and disturbance as a result of development and new residents
- ✓ The potential for erosion and harm to nesting waterfowl caused by wakes
- ✓ Ice houses
- ✓ Maintaining current access

A majority of those attending the meetings said that the quiet, residential character of the lake should be protected. The present state of the lake may be characterized as a residential development having a quiet quality. The historical use of Little Lonely Lake has generally not included high powered motorized or personal watercraft. Some property owners are concerned that if public access to the lake is improved to the point of providing boat launch capabilities, the lake will be used increasingly by watercraft with large motors and jetskis/wave runners. New subdivisions and homebuilding may also result in greater impacts of noise and wakes degrading the shoreline and impacting views.

Residents are also concerned with winter use of snowmobiles on the lake and the potential for winter fish houses that detract from the natural aesthetics. Staff informed residents that while use of snow machines on the lake is listed by the State of Alaska on their fact sheet of **Generally Allowed Uses on State Land (Appendix A)**, clear identification of the public access points and designation of quiet hours may help resolve some of their concerns. Another recommendation in the plan could address ice house registration.

### 4.0 Goals

Goals describe the future expectations of residents, property owners, and users of a lake. The following goals reflect the aspirations of Little Lonely Lake residents, property owners, and users and address their principle concerns: quality of experience, recreational character of the area, wildlife and water quality. The goals are not shown in priority order as they are interdependent.

#### 4.1 Water Quality and Wildlife Protection

Little Lonely Lake is a significant natural resource. It is the desire of property owners, residents, and users of Little Lonely Lake to maintain or improve the lake's water quality and to ensure that recreational uses of the lake are compatible with wildlife and habitat.

4.2 Preservation of Quiet Recreational and Residential Character

It is the desire of property owners, residents, and users of Little Lonely Lake to preserve the quiet and peaceful residential character of the lake, while allowing some recreational uses for both residents and visitors.

4.3 Maintenance of Access

It is the desire of property owners, residents, and users of Little Lonely Lake to maintain the public access trail in its current state.

4.4 Educate Residents and Visitors

It is the desire of property owners, residents, and users of Little Lonely Lake to utilize public education as a means by which to accomplish many of the other goals of the lake management plan, and to encourage responsible development on properties surrounding the lake.

## 5.0 Recommendations

5.1 Maintain Water Quality and Protect Wildlife

Certain uses, such as high powered motorized watercraft and personal watercraft (a.k.a. jet skis), can create wakes that contribute to shoreline erosion and disturb nesting waterfowl. Wake action may cause loon and grebe mortality by swamping active nests or by separating parents from chicks. Noise caused by large motors may also disturb nesting waterfowl. It is recommended that a 10 horsepower limitation be established on Little Lonely Lake and that personal watercraft be prohibited, to reduce wakes and manage noise generation. It is also recommend that a lake wide no wake zone be established.

Most individuals will not disturb a nest site when or if they are informed of its location and the proper behavior when near it. A number of techniques can be employed to provide the public with information about loons and grebes, including identifying individual nests and providing signage at lake access points. Residents and property owners agreed they prefer not to identify individual nests; however, they support informational/educational signage at access points. It is recommended that loon and grebe alert notices and general information about loons and grebes should be posted at a weather protected signboard at the lake's public access point to inform the public about proper "loon or grebe etiquette". (Appendix B)

Maintaining a natural shoreline habitat is one of the best ways to protect water quality. Natural shoreline vegetation provides erosion control, filtering of surface runoff, and habitat for fish and wildlife. It is recommended that lakeshore property owners follow Matanuska-Susitna Borough voluntary best management practices for development around waterbodies.

In order to determine baseline water quality conditions on Little Lonely Lake, volunteers are encouraged to continue participating in the Borough's Lake Monitoring Program.

5.2 Preserve Quiet Recreational and Residential Character

Residents and property owners of the area initiated the lake management planning process to protect the quiet recreational and residential use of the lake. The majority of those attending the meetings support horsepower limitations for watercraft motors as a means of reducing noise and promoting safety. It is recommended that watercraft horsepower be limited on Little Lonely Lake.

The use of personal watercraft, a.k.a. jetskis, is not a traditional use of Little Lonely Lake. It is incompatible with the quiet recreational and residential uses of the lake. Furthermore, personal watercraft pose a safety hazard for swimmers and boaters. All residents and property owners who have attended the public meetings support a ban of personal watercraft. It is recommended that personal watercraft be prohibited on Little Lonely Lake.

Residents are concerned with noise caused by winter use of snowmobiles on the lake. The establishment of quiet hours, between 10 p.m. and 8 a.m., Sunday through Saturday, is recommended to maintain the existing quiet nature and residential quality of the lake during all seasons.

Residents attending meetings expressed concern about the potential for winter fish houses that detract from the natural aesthetics of the lake. The requirement of registration of ice houses is recommended to address concerns that residents have about this use. Local residents also point out that Little Lonely Lake is not conducive to accommodating airplane traffic, due to its small size. It is recommended that commercial floatplane operations be discouraged at Little Lonely Lake.

5.3 Maintain Current Access

Public access to the lake is not well advertised and can be characterized as a rough trail. The recorded access route goes through two parcels of land which were once borough owned, but have since been conveyed into private ownership. Those in attendance at the meetings prefer to maintain the rustic access and not to provide improvements to the trail. It is recommended that public access remain and be maintained in its current state.

5.4 Educate Residents and Visitors

It is recommended that the following methods be used to educate residents and visitors to Little Lonely Lake about use restrictions and best management practices:

Post and maintain signs at the public access point that inform the public about code restrictions and non-code recommendations.

Mail or deliver notices to inform property owners and residents about code restrictions, and enclose information about non-code recommendations.

Post lake restrictions along with any “Property for Sale” signs to inform potential buyers that lake restrictions are in place.

Inform residents about the process for reporting violations to the Borough Code Compliance Division.

## **6.0 Implementation**

Lake management plans are implemented through a combination of regulations, public information, and best management practices. MSB 17.59 Lake Management Plan Implementation, implements adopted lake management plans, using the borough’s citation authority. Specific recommendations of the lake management plans that are implemented through MSB 17.59 are: quiet hours, no wake zones, motorized water craft use, special permits, winter motor vehicles, and ice house registration. When the Little Lonely Lake, Lake Management Plan is adopted, MSB 17.59 will be amended to include the recommendations of the plan. Those recommendations of the plan that are not included in MSB 17.59 will be implemented through public information and best management practices.

### **Personal Watercraft Ban**

To preserve the quiet residential and recreational uses of the lake, prevent shoreline disturbance, and protect nesting waterfowl, personal watercraft are prohibited from Little Lonely Lake. Personal watercraft includes vehicles such as jet skis, wave runners, and similar acrobatic or stunt equipment.

### **Quiet Hours**

To maintain the existing quiet nature, residential quality and low impact use of the lake, quiet hours are established between the hours of 10 p.m. and 8 a.m. Sunday through Saturday. Quiet hours apply to repetitive recreational activities such as water skiing and racing or high speed activities and NOT to moderate speed point to point transportation.

### **10 horsepower limit**

Loons and grebes nesting on a small lake are at an increased risk of disturbance from wakes caused by watercraft with large horsepower engines. Large wakes also contribute to shoreline erosion. A 10 horsepower limitation is established for Little Lonely Lake.

### **No wake zone**

To prevent shoreline erosion, reduce noise, and protect nesting waterfowl, a lake wide no wake zone is established.

### **Ice House Registration**

To protect the natural aesthetics of the Little Lonely Lake, the registration of ice houses is required. Ice house means a structure utilized for ice fishing and left on the frozen surface of a lake for more than 24 hours.

### **Commercial Aircraft Operations**

Local residents point out that Little Lonely Lake is not conducive to accommodating airplane traffic, due to its small size. Therefore, it is recommended that commercial floatplane operations be discouraged from operating at Little Lonely Lake.

### **Public Information**

Signs should be posted at the public access point of Little Lonely Lake informing lake users of the regulations on the lake. Mail or deliver notices to inform property owners and residents about code restrictions, and enclose information about non-code recommendations. Inform residents about the process for reporting violations to the Borough Code Compliance Division.



Appendix A:

Fact Sheet – Generally Allowed Uses on State Land



# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

*Office of Habitat Management and Permitting*

**FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR**

1800 GLENN HIGHWAY, SUITE 12  
PALMER, ALASKA 99645-6736

PHONE: (907) 745-7363

FAX: (907) 745-7369

### FISH HABITAT PERMIT FH-04-IV-0007-GP Revised

**ISSUED:** February 6, 2004

**EXPIRES:** December 31, 2004

General Public:

Re: Vehicle Movement on Frozen Water Surfaces within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough

Pursuant to AS 41.14.870(b), the Department of Natural Resources, Office of Habitat Management and Permitting (OHMP) has determined that both the public interest and the proper protection of fish and game would be served through the issuance of a general permit (GP) authorizing the use of any motorized vehicles on frozen waters of various specified rivers, lakes, and streams within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

Categories of motorized vehicles covered by the GP include: any wheeled, tracked, or other ground effect motorized vehicles less than 12,000 pounds gross vehicle weight (GVW).

This GP does not authorize cross-country movement of equipment on state land or other activities not generally authorized by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

Various rivers, lakes, or streams within the described area have been specified as being important for the spawning, rearing, or migration of anadromous fish pursuant to AS 41.14.870(a). The rivers, lakes, and streams are utilized by salmon and other anadromous fish for spawning, rearing, or migration, and by resident fish species.

In accordance with AS 41.14.870(d), access to, use and crossings of, or egress from any specified waters, as described above, is hereby authorized provided the stipulations contained herein are adhered to:

1. The ice cover shall be of sufficient thickness to support the weight-bearing load of the authorized vehicles(s).
2. There shall be no vehicles or equipment operated in the open water of any specified lake, river, or stream under this GP.
3. The use of snow or ice bridges, access ramps, or cribbing to cross any specified river or stream is prohibited unless specifically approved, in writing, by the Department of Natural Resources, Office of Habitat Management and Permitting (OHMP) .

*"Develop, Conserve, and Enhance Natural Resources for Present and Future Alaskans."*

4. Access to or egress from frozen waters shall occur only at locations with gently or gradually sloping banks. There shall be no access to or egress from frozen waters at locations with sheer or cut banks.
5. The bed or banks of any specified lake, river, or stream shall not be altered or disturbed in any way to facilitate access to, use of, or egress from their frozen surfaces.
6. No fuel shall be stored, nor vehicles fueled or serviced while on the frozen surface of below the ordinary high water line (vegetation line) of any specified lake, river, or stream. No vehicles leaking fuels, oils, hydraulic or cooling fluids shall be operated on the frozen surface or below the ordinary high water line of any specified lake, river, or stream.

The vehicle owner and the operator, or the legal guardian of minor dependents is responsible for the actions of contractors, agents, or other persons who participate in the approved activity. For any activity that deviates from this approval, the responsible party shall notify OHMP and obtain written approval in the form of an individual permit before beginning the activity. Any action taken which increases the scope of the approved activity or that negates, alters, or minimizes the intent or effectiveness of any stipulation contained in this permit will be deemed a significant deviation from the approved activity. The final determination as to the significance of any deviation and the need for an individual permit is the responsibility of OHMP. Therefore, it is recommended that OHMP be consulted immediately when a deviation from the approved activity is being considered.

This letter constitutes a permit issued under the authority of AS 41.14.870. Please be advised that this approval does not relieve you of the responsibility for securing other permits: state, federal, or local.

Pursuant to 6 AAC 80.010(b), the conditions of this general permit are consistent with the Alaska Coastal Management Program and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

The operation of wheeled or tracked equipment of frozen waters has been found consistent with the Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP) under the standard conditions contained in General Concurrence-5 (attached).

In addition to the penalties provided by law, this permit may be terminated or revoked for failure to comply with its provisions or failure to comply with applicable statutes and regulations. The OHMP reserves the right to require mitigation measures to correct disruptions to fish and game created by the project that were a direct result of the failure to comply with this permit or any applicable law.

The recipient of this permit (the responsible party or permittee) shall indemnify, save harmless, and defend the OHMP, its agents, and its employees from any and all claims, actions, or liabilities for injuries or damages sustained by any person or property arising directly or indirectly from permitted activities or the permittee's performance under this permit. However, this provision has no effect if, and only if, the sole proximate cause of the injury is the OHMP's negligence.

This permit decision may be appealed in accordance with the provisions of AS 44.62.330--44.62.630.

Sincerely,

Dick LeFebvre, Deputy Commissioner

By: Jeffrey C. Davis, Habitat Biologist  
Office of Habitat Management and Permitting

Enclosure: General Concurrence GC-5

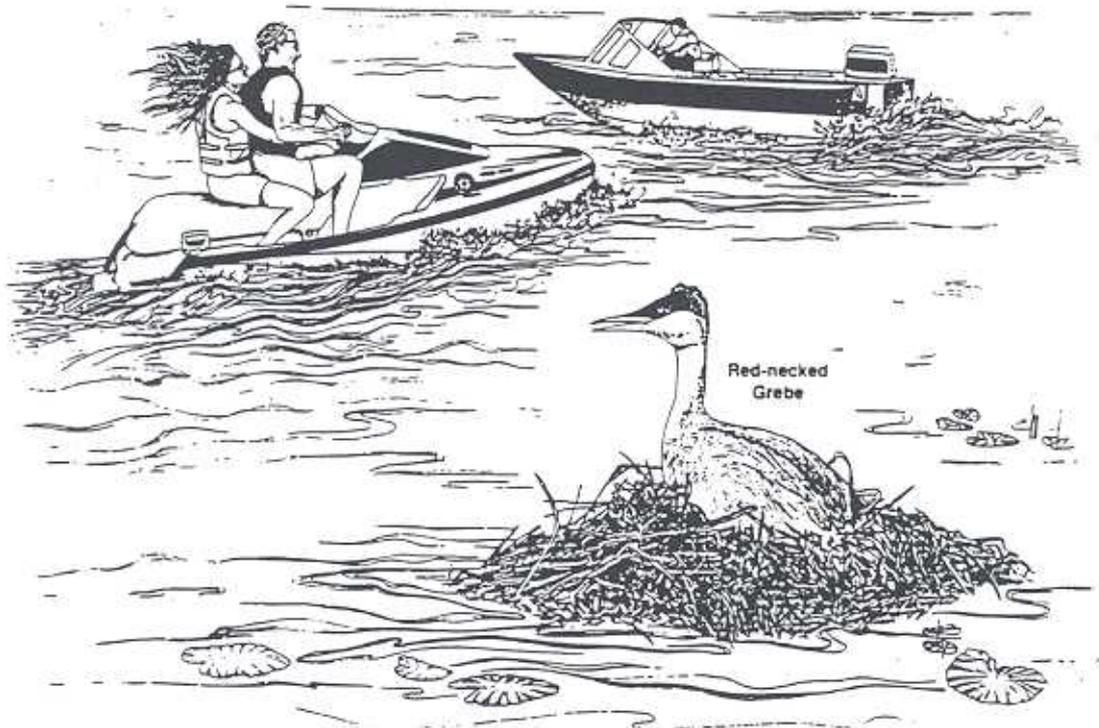
cc: M. Agnew, ABWE  
S. Duncan, EPA  
K. Hudson, MSB  
J. Jones, ATS  
S. Joy, USCOE  
K. Kruse, DNR/DML&W  
B. Lance, NMFS  
T. Oleck, ABWE  
A. Rappoport, USFWS  
T. Rumfelt, ADEC  
D. Rutz, ADF&G  
R. Thompson, DNR  
C. Yoder, ABWE  
C. Zuelow-Osborne, OPMP



Appendix B:  
Bird nesting area buoys, Loon Alert! and Steer Clear! signs



# STEER CLEAR!



**BOATERS – Stay at least 100 feet away  
from nesting Red-necked Grebes.**

Grebes are duck-sized birds that nest on floating vegetation and debris in shallow water.

Wakes from watercraft will destroy their nests and kill their eggs and chicks.

Go slowly along shorelines and avoid nesting areas.

**– HELP PROTECT ALASKA'S WILDLIFE –**

Wildlife harassment is illegal. Report violations to Fish and Wildlife Protection (State Troopers) or call (800) 478-3377.

This sign was produced by a grant to the Alaska Watchable Wildlife Trust Fund, c/o Alaska Conservation Foundation, 430 W. 7th Avenue #215, Anchorage AK 99501 (907) 276-1917.

POSTED BY ALASKA DEPT. FISH AND GAME



# LOON ALERT



**Help keep this lake safe  
for loons and other wildlife:**

1. Watch loons from a distance.
2. Pick up fishing line and other litter that may entangle loons.
3. Keep your dog on a leash.

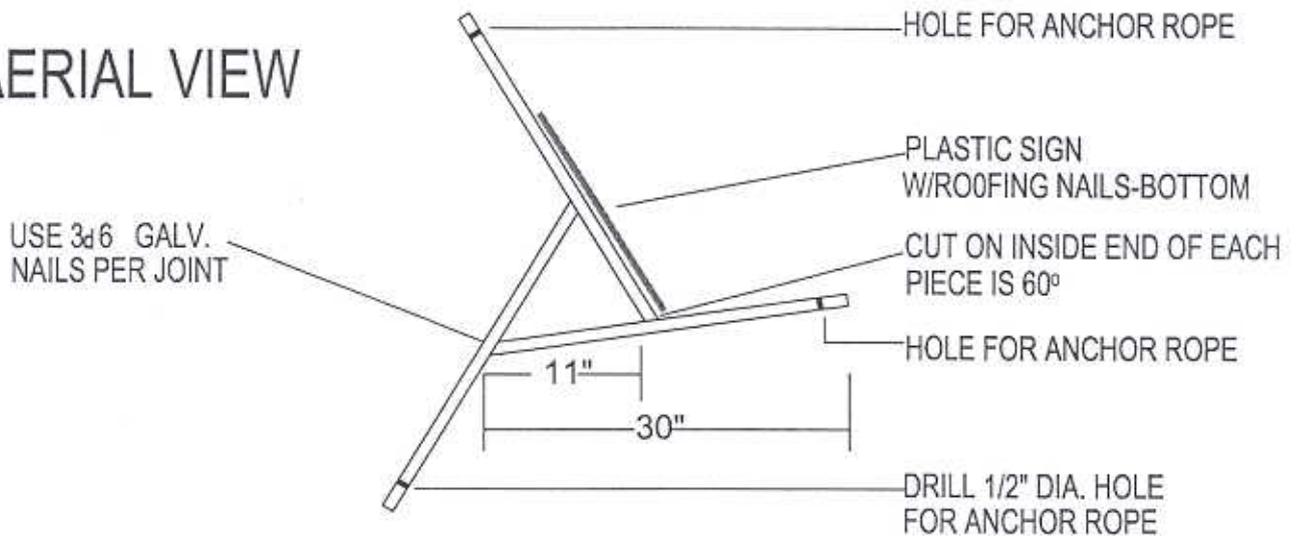
Breeding loons have declined or disappeared from other U.S. states due to human disturbance and habitat loss. Wildlife harassment is illegal. Please report violations to Fish and Wildlife Protection (State Troopers) or call (800) 478-3377. For loon information write: Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Wildlife Conservation, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518.



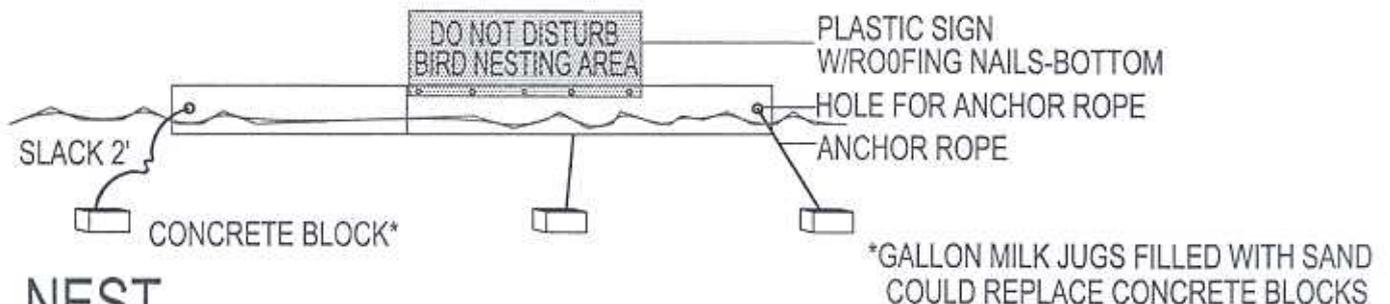
# SIGN FLOAT FOR LOON NESTS

(NOT LIKELY TO TURN OVER  
IN THE STRONGEST WIND)

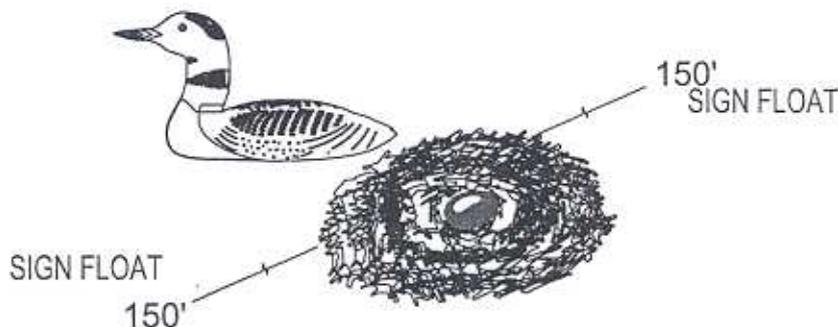
## AERIAL VIEW



## VIEW FROM WATER



## NEST



## MATERIALS LIST

3 - 1"x 4"x 30"  
WHITE PINE OR  
NO. WHITE CEDAR

9 - 6d. GALV BOX NAILS

5 - 1" ROOFING GALV. NAILS

1 - LOON SIGN

2 - 3 CONCRETE BLOCK \*  
FOR ANCHORS

ENOUGH 1/4" NYLON ROPE  
TO REACH BOTTOM OF LAKE  
FOR ANCHOR

DESIGNED BY:  
HERB CALLEY, PO BOX 348 TUPELO POINT, BOWLAKE, NORTWOOD, N.H. 03261

ENHANCED BY:  
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH SUPPORT SERVICE 1995

The platforms should be attached with two anchors a minimum of 150 feet from the nest (more, if needed to avoid disturbing the loons) and be clearly visible, yet not be a boating hazard. Signs should be removed after nesting is completed (usually by mid-July) each year to preserve their use. Signs should be stored over the winter in a dry area.

