

The Newsletter of the Bear Lake Preservation Association, Inc. • April 2019

Construction of Bear Lake Road/Cub Lake Stormwater Pond and Outfall Systems - Your One Cent Sales Tax at Work in Your Backyard



Cub Lake ditch and pond prior to construction.



Turbidity barrier placed at drain pipe into Cub Lake.



Very little rain during pond construction prevented dirt from flushing into Cub Lake.

As you probably noticed by now, a major stormwater project for the Bear Lakes area was completed March 2019. When the construction of this Bear Lake Road Stormwater Pond began on November 20, 2018, local residents were curious about what was happening to the wooded corner lot located at the curve of Bear Lake Road and Bear Lake Circle. Here is what went down! Thanks to the one cent sales tax increase approved by Seminole County voters, the funds needed to undertake this, and other related projects, are now available. Our County Commissioners and County stormwater staff have given top priority to preserving the water quality of our lakes and rivers.

This project was listed as one of the top five recommendations of Bear Lakes' Watershed Hydrologic/Nutrient Budget and Water Quality Management Plans' scientific study conducted by Dr. Harvey Harper and funded by Seminole County. This pond will collect the stormwater from Bear Lake Road, north and south, and hold it while pollutants and contaminants settle out. Specifically, it will provide stormwater quality treatment for a portion of Bear Lake Road (between Cub Lake Drive and Bear Lake Circle) which is discharging pollutants and trash directly

into Cub Lake. Further, a reduction in nutrients and sediments to Cub Lake and **downstream to the Wekiva River** will result. This is the second major project to be completed by Seminole County in the last two years. Lake Asher, which flows into Bear Lake, was de-mucked, cleaned and planted with native aquatic plants in 2018.

The Bear Lake Preservation Association (BLPA) worked closely with Seminole County to help the County purchase this former Hamilton property, adjacent to the existing ditch/pond at Cub Lake. The project began with silt fencing and a large turbidity barrier installed out into Cub Lake. The land clearing and debris was trucked out of the project area. The plan was to leave the existing treed buffer between the pond and residents' homes on Cub Lake Drive and Bear Lake Road. Next, a dewatering and treatment system was installed to facilitate the excavation of the pond and installation of the stormwater pipes.

Eventually, when they are completed, all the top recommendations from the nutrient study will work to improve the quality of all four of the Bear Lakes (Asher, Bear, Little Bear, and Cub). BLPA will continue to



Stormwater quality improvements pond after construction.

keep you informed of any new developments of these improvements. Numerous presentations on these projects have been held at the BLPA General Meetings since 2012, when the Nutrient Study was completed. To learn more about the County's top five projects designed to improve the water quality of the Bear Lakes, visit our website: www.blpa.net. (August 2018 newsletter) Seminole County's Current Projects for the Bear Lakes: Asher, Bear, Little Bear, and Cub

Your continued support of the BLPA has allowed us to have a strong and credible voice in preserving our quality of life on our lakes!

Membership Drive 2019



Who We Are

BLPA is a proactive community of residents established in 1995 to preserve the integrity, quality and environmental beauty of Asher, Bear, Little Bear and Cub Lakes. The BLPA is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

Contact Us

Current President: Dr. Jay Goebel
Phone: 407-497-5282
Email: jgoebel@blpa.net

Vice President: Nancy Dunn
Phone: 407-920-4975
Email: nancydunn@blpa.net

Secretary: Bill Houston
Phone: 407-721-0219
Email: bhouston@blpa.net

For general and membership information, go to www.blpa.net

Help to preserve the water quality of the Bear Lakes in Central Florida along with your property values. Just visit blpa.net and click the "Donate" button.

Why is the BLPA important to the property owners of the Bear Lake area?

- Coordinates with government agencies to maintain water quality in high priority preservation and enhancing property values
- Provides a sense of community in an otherwise unpopulated setting
- Offers a forum for security and safety efforts



BLPA Mission

The mission of the BLPA is to provide environmental and lake stewardship for the Bear Lakes Watershed. This is achieved through water quality monitoring, scientific understanding, public education, governmental involvement and watershed preservation for the enhancement and preservation of the water quality and biological integrity of Bear Lakes.

There's Power in Numbers

Getting the attention of county and state government can be challenging at times, but if BLPA is able to unite their most of its residents are active, educated members, we will get the timely respect and action that we desire.

BLPA Services

Acts as a "watchdog" to help respectfully request government change and environmental management efforts affecting our lakes.

Organizes town hall sessions designed to both inform residents of environmental issues and provide a forum for discussion of ideas and concerns.

Encourages a sense of community by scheduling social events such as boat parades and pot luck dinners.

Provides a means of coordinating neighborhood safety and security initiatives such as neighborhood watch and County Sheriff Office Surveillant and County Sheriff Office Surveillant.

Maintains a positive working relationship with governmental agencies regarding water quality programs.

Educates residents regarding environmental safety impacting the lakes.

Your membership \$5's goes toward:

- Education and awareness efforts lake water quality monitoring, signage, etc.
- Fund administration of ongoing initiatives like the waterway lighting and dredging
- Initiatives to encourage attendance at Community Activities (Boat and Heritage Day) events, boat parades
- Subsidize to the USFWS Graduate Studies for Lakewatch

Hopefully by the time you receive this newsletter you will have gotten a personal visit from one of your friendly BLPA board members! It has been a long time since the board has reached out personally to greet our neighbors and encourage you to join, if you haven't already, your neighborhood association, the BLPA. The board hand delivered more than 250 information packets to area neighbors that contained important information about our lakes and the latest information about fertilizing, which is one of the most impactful actions you can take to safeguard the quality of our lakes. Whether you have been here for decades or just moved on to the lake, we still need everyone to be an active member and to be informed of the latest happenings regarding our precious lakes.

As the brochure in the package says, "there is power in numbers". The BLPA already has and gets the immediate attention of the local and state agencies when there is an issue. Many of you

probably take for granted the effort it takes to keep our lakes in good condition. It takes active involvement and education to assist the county and state agencies in protecting our beautiful waters of the Bear Lakes.

Historically, if there has been a big issue, we have successfully raised the money for the specific cause. Your membership dues however, cover costs of general information sharing, community events, scholarships for Lakewatch, newsletters, etc. However, the most important part of having your membership is to show the county and state agencies that we are serious about the protection of our waters. We have committed and capable board members and supporters who voluntarily perform a variety of tasks dedicated to the preservation of our natural habitat and the quality of our water.

We encourage you to engage in active involvement, as well as BLPA membership, to keep Bear Lakes a highly desired community for everyone!

Did you receive your BLPA Membership Package/Door Hanger?

- New BLPA Brochure
- Magnet for Clean Lakes
- Letter of Accomplishments
- 2019 Membership Join/Renewal Form
- Fertilizer Information Handout

If you did not, please contact Jay Goebel – (407) 497-5282
NEW MEMBERS RECEIVE A BLPA LICENSE PLATE FREE

Stormwater from the watershed carries damaging fertilizers from lawns into the Bear Lakes feeding algae which causes poor clarity and greener lakes. There is no prize for a fertilized green lawn in the Bear Lakes Watershed.



(Bear, Little Bear, Cub, and Lake Asher)
Post Office Box 162605, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714

2018 Board of Directors

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- President.....Dr. Jay Goebel
407-497-5282
- Vice PresidentBob Shields
321-354-4449
- TreasurerTim Clifford,
407-341-4222
- Secretary.....George Helm
407-808-2089

Directors

- Nancy Dunn 407-920-4975
- Bill Houston..... 407-721-0219
- Judy Ihrig..... 407-292-4632
- Sheri Walls..... 407-928-8877
- Valarie Kenski..... 407-869-5637
- Jerry Smalley..... 407-256-3723

Committees

- BLPA Email....Happy Oropeza, 407-446-5859
- Ecology Nancy Dunn, 407-920-4975
Dr. Jay Goebel, 4407-497-5282
Bill Houston, 407-721-0219
Bob Shields, 321-354-4449
- Lakewatch..... Nancy Dunn, Big Bear
407-920-4975
Jan Brown, Little Bear, 407-295-6739
Margaret Bundy, Cub Lake, 407-497-0295
- Membership.....All Board of Directors
- NewsletterNancy Dunn, Editor
407-920-4975
Judy Ihrig, Advertising, 407-292-4632
- Youth Group Sherri Walls, 407-928-8877

Board Supporters

- Brian Allen 407-580-6979
- Jan and Sandy Brown..... 407-295-6739
- Michael & Margaret Bundy..... 407-399-5605
- Susan Burton 407-521-8212
- Patsy Cumbie 407-886-5588
- Denise Fitzgerald..... 407-296-0079
- Tealea Fortune 407-694-9297
- Buddy Hutson 407-298-3681
- Anne and Walt Juergensen 407-299-7147
- Mark Leavitt 407-578-9993
- Sue Parker 407-294-6026
- Matt Rayl..... 765-437-5118
- Vicki and Marc Renner 407-569-0494
- John Vick 407-421-2620

2019 BLPA Voting Ballot

To all residents of the Bear Lakes: Asher, Bear, Little Bear and Cub

The general meeting for the Bear Lake Preservation Association is to be held Thursday, April 25, 2019 at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be held in the fellowship hall of Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church, located on Bear Lake Road and Cub Lake Drive. This meeting is for the election of Board Representatives for the Bear Lake Preservation Association. Plan to attend. Your continued support and interest in our lakes is how Bear Lake Preservation Association continues to be a strong and effective advocate for clean water and healthy lakes in our community.

The following individuals are up for election to serve a two year term as a Board Representative for the Bear Lake Preservation Association. To vote, please place a mark on the line next to each individual you are voting for:

_____ Bill Houston _____ Bob Shields _____ George Helm _____ Judy Ihrig

You may write-in the names of one or more candidates, including yourself, on the blank line provided. Please make sure you place a mark next to each name of the person you are voting for to serve another term.

You may write in the name of any person you wish to serve as a Board Representative, as well. To vote, please clearly print the name(s) of any candidate(s):

One ballot per household (i.e., husband and wife will vote together as a current BLPA participant. Additionally, if a BLPA participant owns one or more homes, we ask that you vote only once).

BLPA would like to have a maximum of 11, but a minimum of 7, interested and active board representatives to share in the responsibility of maintaining the integrity of the association. The time commitment to the board is not substantial when we are able to share it with more volunteers.

The following individuals are currently serving their second term as a Board Representative for the Bear Lake Preservation Association: Tim Clifford, Nancy Dunn, Dr. Jay Goebel, Valarie Kenski and Sherri Walls

You must be a current 2019 paid contributor to the Bear Lake Preservation Association to be eligible to cast your ballot. If you are voting by mail, your absentee ballot must be postmarked by Thursday, May 2, 2019.



Spring has sprung, the real estate market is quite busy at this time of year, especially with the interest rates remaining low.

Active Listings

9916 Bear Lake Rd.....	\$447,000
6161 Linneal Beach Dr.....	\$562,900
6043 Linneal Beach Dr.....	\$675,000
6083 Linneal Beach Dr.....	\$729,500
3442 Holliday Ave.....	\$740,000
6007 Linneal Beach Dr.....	\$778,759
3300 Holliday Ave.....	\$1,775,000
6079 Linneal Beach Dr.....	\$2,599,000

Pending Sales

5819 Bear Lake Cir.....	\$550,000
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Closed Sales

5711 Bear Lake Cir.....	\$1,100,000
3042 Holliday Ave.....	\$1,030,000

Debris-filled Dump Truck Overturns on Bear Lake Road and Spills Diesel Fuel



Dump truck overturns on the Bear Lake Rd. curves.



Debris and fuel dumped into road and drains.



Diesel fuel clean up.



Diesel fuel spill clean up.

Monday, February 18, 2019, a large truck filled with tree and soil debris overturned on the south curve of Bear Lake Road about 3:00 pm. A significant amount of diesel fuel began to leak out of the fuel tank and travel to the curb and gutter along the west side of Bear Lake Road. Area residents and BLPA members were quick to call the emergency personnel needed to respond fast to this accident. Seminole County fire and rescue as well as the hazmat team cared for the driver of the truck and placed absorbent tubing in the curb inlets to minimize the diesel fuel entering the stormwater pipe system.

Shannon Wetzal, Seminole County Principal Environmental Scientist with the Watershed Mgmt. Division, has been one of the BLPA's dedicated heroes who we call first from the County for Lake Emergencies! She indicated the fire department did a good job of blocking off the stormdrains and placing absorbent booms and pads inside the storm drains to absorb the diesel fuel that made it into the storm pipes. The estimated amount of diesel fuel that spilled onto the road was 30-40 gallons but less than 2 gallons was estimated to have gotten into the storm system. The fuel entered the storm drain on the west side of Bear Lake Rd., just north of Pineview Way. The storm pipe flows north along the west side of Bear Lake Rd. until it crosses back to the east by the church and then ultimately discharges to Cub Lake. She walked down to Cub Lake outfall and there was no visible petroleum sheen present. After looking in the storm sewers along the way to the lake, it appears that the fuel that

entered the storm drain was contained in the storm pipe along the western side of Bear Lake Rd. The fire department had quickly placed absorbent booms and pads in the storm drains along the western side of Bear Lake Rd. It did not appear that any of the fuel spilled onto grassed or soil areas.

The responsible party had a clean up company en route to the site to conduct the remaining clean up. County staff from the ECAP3 spill response team remained on-site to ensure proper clean up by the contractor.

Seminole County environmentalists came out to the scene to assess possible flow of diesel fuel into the lake waters of the area.

The cleanup contractor returned the next day and cleaned out the stormdrain/manholes in the vicinity of the accident and removed the absorbent booms as well. County staff from the spill response group was on-site and verified the work. The debris from the truck and the diesel fuel were cleared and removed from the south curve of Bear Lake Road over the next few days.

Bear Lakes LAKEWATCH volunteers were on site and Margaret Bundy, LAKEWATCH Captain for Cub Lake made sure the contractor returned again to get additional dirt and tree debris out of the stormwater culvert. Clean Lakes are our standards and clean drains which lead to the lakes are a priority. Thank you to all that were involved in making sure this accident did not turn into a major disaster.

LAKEWATCH and Rainfall Data for the Bear Lakes

	Date	Rainfall	Clarity Level	Water Level (Above Sea Level)
Bear Lake	11/18	4.2"	9'	103.37
	12/18	7.05"	8.5'	103.84
	1/19	4.2"	10'	103.8
	2/19	1.9"	10'	103.67
	3/19	.6"	10'	103.34
Little Bear Lake	11/18	4.2"	11'	103.82
	12/18	7.05"	12'	103.83
	1/19	4.2"	11'	104.2
	2/19	1.9"	12'	104
	3/19	.6"	12.5'	103.72
Cub Lake	11/18	4.2"	9'	100
	12/18	7.05"	8'	100.3
	1/19	4.2"	10'	100.3
	2/19	1.9"	10'	100.3
	3/19	.6"	9'	99.95

Note: *Rain data in this chart reflects the rain amounts collected during the time period from the last month's LAKEWATCH data collection date to the next month's data collection date, and not for the month itself. The elevations are recorded on the actual date of the LAKEWATCH sampling.

LAKEWATCH Annual Reports for 2018 just completed!! See reports for all 4 Lakes on the website: www.blpa.net

Little Bear Lake's Rising Waters Flooded Backyards During Construction



Little Bear Lake Residents, with reason to be nervous just after 5pm on a Friday evening, January 24th, called our volunteer LAKEWATCH Captains, County Departments, and even called 911 to report their backyards were flooding and the lake water was rising! The after hours number to get in touch with the Seminole County Stormwater crew forwards callers to an emergency call center to contact the Stormwater crew on call. They also tried to contact the County Construction Contractor, as water was no longer flowing out of the Little Bear Lake outfall drain; however it was flowing backwards and **into the lake**, increasing the lake water elevation. Residents immediately pointed to "the Construction Project for the Bear Lake Road Pond".

Seminole County Watershed Management Division, Marie Lackey, responded

after hours and assisted all weekend with communications between the staff, contractor and residents.

As little Bear Lake's waters continued to rise, all contacts were quickly made aware of the problem, as it was learned earlier; the Construction Crew had to block the pipe flowing from both Bear and Little Bear Lakes to make a repair before proceeding. The next day, extra pumps were brought in to pipe a portion of the lakes water into Cub Lake, reducing some of the flow going backwards into Little Bear Lake and to prevent homes from being flooded.

The flow from the lakes was blocked for 19 days total. Daily elevation readings were taken by the Contractor on both lakes during the repair.

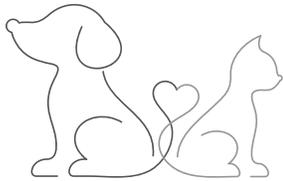
Do not underestimate the volume of flow coming from the Bear Lakes! Groundwater flows and runoff from the watershed is constant. During a drought, one canal drain still flows in 13 gallons per minute.

The elevation readings are recorded as feet above sea level. Little Bear Lake increased from

103.8 to 104.9 when the lake was reaching uneasy flood levels, flooding over seawalls and docks before the repair was completed and the pipe was unblocked.

BLPA Members have been closely watching the Cub Lake Pond construction. Did you know LAKEWATCH Captains check the lake gauges daily for unusual variations of lake water elevation?

When comparing to the daily rainfall they also record, this group can immediately identify a problem, and check the drains and outfalls on our lakes. The County is contacted if the problems are more than a simple clearing of a drain.



SPRING RUN VETERINARY HOSPITAL

JAY GOEBEL, DVM

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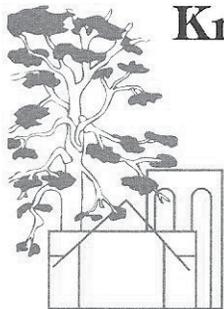


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St. Andrews Presbyterian Church Community Easter Sunrise Service

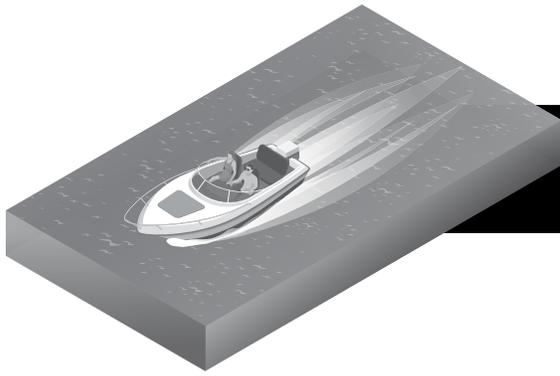
6:30 am to 7:30 am Sunday April 21st

At the Bear Lake Clubhouse
3324 Holliday Av., Forest City

Regular Service information:

9913 Bear Lake Road, Apopka, FL
407-293-6802

Worship: 9:30 am Sunday School: 10:30 am



Anti-Wake Law

It is boating season again and we want to remind everyone:

In 1998, the Seminole County Board of Commissioners approved a law that prohibits wakes within 50 yards (**150 feet**) of the shoreline. A wake is defined as moving waves — a track or path that a boat leaves behind it when moving across the water. The ordinance reads as follows: “It is unlawful to navigate or operate on any waters of Seminole County, any vessel, aquaplane, or similar device in any bathing, swimming or launching area at a speed creating a wake.

“The term bathing, swimming or launching area shall include any area within (50) yards (**150 feet**) of the shoreline, docks, piers, bridges or boathouses, or any other object arising from the water (excluding ski jumps or slalom courses) except when picking up or dropping off a water-skier in a manner otherwise consistent with this Code and State law. “The fifty yard distance shall be measured from the vessel, aquaplane or similar device or from any extension thereto including, but not limited to:

a skier, or other device being towed.” Violators are subject to fines of up to \$500 and/or 60 days in jail. Seminole County Sheriff Dennis Lemma and his staff and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (www.myfwc.com) will vigorously enforce this law and other existing boating laws. The Anti-Wake Law is designed for safety and water quality for swimming conditions.

In addition to Safety:

According to the Bear Lakes Hydrologic/Nutrient Budget and Water Quality Management Study:

Scientists recommend for the Bear Lakes: restrict normal boating activities to areas greater than 10’ in Depth; 15’ for enhanced wake boats, 6’ for jet skis; idle speeding all other areas.

All depths determined for prevention of stirring up the lake bottom or eroding the shoreline.

(Maps from the study are available at the BLPA General Meetings.)



(Bear, Little Bear, Cub, and Lake Asher)

BLPA 2019 DONATION FORM/ CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION

BLPA, PO Box 162605, Altamonte Springs, FL 32716-2605

Please make your check payable to “BLPA”:

\$85.00.....Requested Donation-BLPA Contributor

\$50.00.....Requested Donation - BLPA Senior (62+)

Please mail this form and your payment to BLPA, PO Box 162605, Altamonte Springs, FL 32716-2605

You can easily contribute or make donations online by using a credit card, your checking account, or PayPal, just go to www.blpa.net and click DONATE!

PLEASE CHECK: New Contributor(s) Current Contributor(s) Change of Contributor(s) Contact Information

Name(s) _____ Date _____

Address 1 _____ City _____ State/Zip _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State/Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell 1 _____ Cell 2 _____

Email 1 _____ Email 2 _____

CHECK AN OPTION BELOW FOR A BOARD MEMBER TO CONTACT YOU AND ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT POSSIBLY VOLUNTEERING FOR BLPA:

- Serve as a Board Representative Serve as a Board Supporter Serve on a Current Committee
 I prefer to be contacted by: Home Phone Cell Phone Email

BLPA is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization. All financial contributions to BLPA are tax deductible. BLPA will provide a receipt upon request for your donation. Under the new Obama Administration Ruling for 501(c)(3), social security or personal information will not be provided to the IRS for any past or future contributions made to this organization.

BLPA UPCOMING EVENTS

UPCOMING GENERAL MEETING

(Bear, Little Bear, Cub, and Asher)

Thursday, April 25, 2019

St. Andrews Church Fellowship Hall
9913 Bear Lake Rd.
7:00 pm (note time change)

TOPIC: RECENTLY COMPLETED BEAR LAKE ROAD STORMWATER TREATMENT POND CONSTRUCTED AT THE BEAR LAKE RD. CURVES BETWEEN CUB DR. AND PINEVIEW WAY

TOPIC: REPORTS ARE IN! COME FIND OUT ABOUT THE CURRENT CONDITION OF THE BEAR LAKES!

PLEASE JOIN US ON:

Thursday, April 25, 2019, to hear About Important Topics Affecting All the Bear Lakes!



PO Box 162605
Altamonte Springs, FL 32716



Bear Lake Holiday Boat Parade 2018



December 8th was a beautiful evening for a Boat Parade! Boats were filled with families and friends having a great time together. Thanks go out to Ray & Michelle Krogman for inviting participants to gather at their beautifully decorated dock for registration. We enjoyed seeing 10 festive, colorful boats cruising around the shoreline of Bear Lake. Christmas lights were seen in backyards and on docks around the lake. Residents came out of their houses

and down to the lake to wave and cheer on the Holiday Boaters who joined the 2018 parade.

Thanks to all of you who decorated and participated, making this another fun time for all!

The Holiday Boat Parade is a Great Time to Celebrate with family, friends, and neighbors!

It is not too early to start planning your decorations for our next Holiday Boat Parade: **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** December 14th, 2019.

2018 Holiday Prize Winners FIRST PLACE DECORATED BOAT

Chris & Christen Halliday & Company

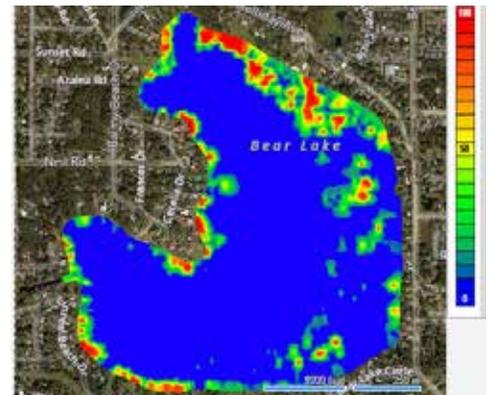
SECOND PLACE DECORATED BOAT

Pat & Elizabeth Brown & Company

BEST BACKYARD & DOCK

Randall Cranmer & Angie Willis

January 2018: 74.8 acres of submerged Vegetation



JUST IN!

March 2019:

26.12 acres of submerged Vegetation

