

Yahara Lake Level Advisory Group 2 (YLAG2) Agenda

August 25, 2011

3 - 5 pm with Public Comment beginning at 5:00 pm

Location: Lyman F. Anderson Agriculture and Conservation Center

1 Fen Oak Court, Madison

1. **Introductions**
2. **Approval of Minutes – July 28, 2011 meeting**
3. **Check-in**
4. **Consideration of additional questions concerning hydraulics, dams and constrictions**
5. **Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Wetlands**

Presenters:

**Kurt Welke, Fish Manager, Wisconsin DNR, (608)273-5946,
kurt.welke@wisconsin.gov**

Cami Peterson, Water Management Specialist, Wisconsin DNR, (608)275-3208, cami.peterson@wisconsin.gov

Russ Hefty, Conservation Supervisor, Madison Parks Department, (608)267-4918, Russ.hefty@cityofmadison.com

Questions to be addressed:

1. What is the effect of lake levels on the health of Cherokee Marsh and other wetlands in the Yahara chain?
 - What causes wetlands to break off into floating bogs?
2. Could we restore more wetlands and divert flood water to them? Are there major wetlands we could restore that would be helpful?
3. What is the impact of high and low water to other(besides fish) wildlife on the lakes?
4. Fish Habitat and Fish Questions
 - What water levels are necessary for spawning and at what times of the year?
 - What are the highest priority habitat areas to be protected and how they are affected by unusually high or low water levels?
 - Biological issues (e.g. fish spawning, etc.) associated with lower levels in the summer (not spring).

- Describe relationship between fish populations and water level management as it currently occurs.
 - What are the consequences of high and low water levels for the fishery habitat and in particular, what would be the impact to the fishery (in all the lakes) if the water levels in Lake Mendota were lowered 6-12" from what the current orders are?
6. **Discuss next steps - Mindy Habecker, Dane County UW-Extension**
 7. **Future meeting dates, location and agenda items**
 8. **Public Comment**