Recommended Implementation, Funding, and Priority Plan for the Clam Lakes Aquatic Plant Management Plan (2022-26)

	Goals/Objectives/Actions	High (1st)	Med		Primary Implementers	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Education	Planning	Comprehensive Planning	AIS Prevention	Clean Boats Clean Waters	Population Management	Early Detection & Response	Research and Demonstration	Healthy Lakes & Rivers	Restoration	Management Plan Implementation	Fee Simple Land Easement and Acquisition	Wetland Restoration Incentives	Recreational Boating Facilities
		Priority Placement				Year of Implementation					WDNR Surface Water Education and Planning Grants								WDNR Surface Water Restoration and Management Grants					Other
**Goal 1: Protect, preserve, and enhance native aquatic plant communities in the Clam Lakes including wild rice.**																							
1 Maintain or increase three measurements of the quality of the native aquatic plant community: FQI, mean C, and # of native aquatic plant species w/visual and boat survey, based on values from the 2019 Whole-lake, Summer Point-intercept, Aquatic Plant Survey																							
1	Complete management planning annually with the intent to minimize negative impacts of management implementation on native aquatic vegetation.				CLPD, RP	x	x	x	x	x	x	x												
2	Continue education efforts aimed at changing attitudes of lake property owners and lake users as it relates to the importance of aquatic vegetation in the Clam Lakes for water quality, invasive species control, and improved fish and wildlife habitat.				CLPD	x	x	x	x	x	x	x												
2 Maintain the distribution and density of wild rice in both lakes at 2019 levels or better																							
1	Support SCTES efforts to protect, enhance, and restore historic wild rice beds				CLPD, SCTES	x	x	x	x	x														
2	Continue property owner and Lake User education efforts aimed at establishing the importance of wild rice as a resource in the Clam Lakes				CLPD, SCTES	x	x	x	x	x	x													
3	Establish "no wake zones" during the floating-leaf stage of wild rice development to help minimize dislodging events caused by watercraft generated waves				CLPD, BurCo, SCTES	x	x	x	x	x		x												
**Goal 2: Prevent CLP in Upper Clam Lake from expanding to levels where it might cause navigation issues or hinder native aquatic plant growth.**																							
1 Reduce navigational impairment and negative impacts to native aquatic plants caused by dense growth CLP																							
1	Complete annual bedmapping of CLP (May 15 - June 15)				CLPD, RP	x	x	x	x	x		x				x								
2	Implement physical/manual removal as outlined in the APM and move to the next action if/when a problem area is determined to be too large for physical/manual removal to be effective.				CLPD, RP	x	x	x	x	x						x								
3	Harvest all accessible CLP beds (May 1-June 30)				CLPD	x	x	x	x	x						x								
4	Prepare a WDNR aquatic plant harvesting permit annually, and once approved, implement large-scale harvesting				CLPD, RP	x	x	x	x	x		x				x								
**Goal 3: Prevent CLP in Lower Clam Lake from expanding to levels where it might cause navigation issues or hinder native aquatic plant growth.**																							
	1 Reduce navigational impairment and negative impacts to caused																							
1	Complete annual bedmapping of CLP (May 15 - June 15)				CLPD, RP	x	x	x	x	x		x				x								

#	Action			Responsible																			
2	Implement physical/manual removal as outlined in the APM and move to the next action if/when a problem area is determined to be too large for physical/manual removal to be effective.			CLPD, RP	x	x	x	x	x						x								
3	Harvest all accessible CLP beds (May 1 - June 30)			CLPD	x	x	x	x	x						x								
4	Prepare a WDNR aquatic plant harvesting permit annually, and once approved, implement large-scale harvesting			CLPD, RP	x	x	x	x	x		x				x								

Goal 4: Improve the efficiency of the Clam Lakes CLP harvesting program.

1 Improve and increase harvesting capabilities

#	Action			Responsible																			
1	Purchase a third mechanical harvester			CLPD	x	x	x	x	x						x								x
2	Install a portable GPS tracking unit on each of the harvesters owned by the CLPRD			CLPD	x	x	x	x	x						x								x

2 Determine the most effective harvesting strategy to reduce CLP annually and over time.

#	Action			Responsible																			
1	Develop and complete a research and demonstration project focused on harvesting depth and its impacts on CLP.			CLPD	x	x	x	x	x						x		x						

3 Determine if harvesting operations are reducing the number of CLP turions in the sediment over time

#	Action			Responsible																			
1	Work with a consultant/contractor to plan and implement a repeatable CLP turion density monitoring program			CLPD	x	x	x	x	x		x				x								

Goal 5: Improve access to open water through dense growth native aquatic vegetation for property owners along the Clam Lakes.

1 Improve access to open water for property owners and Lake Users on both lakes.

#	Action			Responsible																			
1	Open up a combined 7.66 miles of navigation and access lanes in both lakes (June 15 - September 15)			CLPD	x	x	x	x	x						x								
2	Open up an access lane from the inlet of the Clam River to Upper Clam Lake (June 15 - September 15)			CLPD	x	x	x	x	x						x								
4	Prepare a WDNR aquatic plant harvesting permit annually, and once approved, implement large-scale harvesting			CLPD, RP	x	x	x	x	x		x				x								

Goal 6: Prevent purple loosestrife from taking over any of the shoreline or wetlands around the Clam Lakes.

1 Allow no new purple loosestrife plants to remain along the greater shoreline of the lakes

#	Action			Responsible																			
1	Survey the shoreline of both lakes at least once a year between July 20 and Aug 20			CLPD, RP	x	x	x	x	x	x			x		x								
2	Physically remove pioneering plants that are easily accessible and attempt to pull or dig-up the entire plant, root and all			CLPD, RP	x	x	x	x	x				x		x								
3	Cut off flower heads and bulk of the stem from any plants identified during the survey			CLPD, RP	x	x	x	x	x				x		x								

2 Establish a viable population of Galerucella beetles in areas where purple loosestrife plants are too numerous to physically or chemically remove.

#	Action	Partners											
1	Implement a biological control rearing program with Lake District volunteers and aided by the Burnett County AIS Coordinator and the Siren School District.	CLPD, RP, SSD, BurCo	?	?	?	?	?	x			x	x	

Goal 7: Minimize negative impacts to the existing bluegill fishery caused by aquatic plant management actions in the Clam Lakes.

1 See no decline in the current bluegill population in the Clam Lakes

#	Action	Partners											
1	Promote physical removal of nuisance aquatic plants close to the shore (<3-ft)	CLPD	x	x	x	x	x	x					
2	Discuss with and seek input from the WDNR, SCTES, and other fisheries personnel before, during, and after aquatic plant management planning and implementation	CLPD, RP	x	x	x	x	x		x				

2 Support SCTES and WDNR efforts to monitor and manage the carp population

#	Action	Partners											
1	Continue to be a part of the dialogue surrounding carp management and planning implementation	CLPD	x	x	x	x	x						
2	Perpetuate financial, logistical, and resource support for carp management efforts by keeping the CLPRD constituency informed and involved	CLPD, SCTES, WDNR	x	x	x	x	x		x				

3 Improve in-lake habitat for fish and wildlife by installing coarse woody habitat (Fishsticks) projects

#	Action	Partners											
1	Map the shoreline of Clam Lakes and document the location of all coarse woody structure.	CLPD, RP	x	x					x				
2	Provide educational materials to lake property owners and users that state the benefits of coarse woody habitat in a lake	CLPD		x	x	x	x	x					
3	Promote and support the installation of Fishsticks projects through the Healthy Lakes and Rivers grant program.	CLPD		x	x	x	x						x

Goal 8: Minimize opportunities for new AIS to enter and become established in the Clam Lakes.

1 Improve the level of knowledge lake property owners and lake users have related to AIS and how they are and could impact the lakes.

#	Action	Partners											
1	Host and/or sponsor annual lake community events including AIS identification and management workshops	CLPD, BurCo, RP	x	x	x	x	x	x			x		
2	Distribute education and information materials to lake property owners and lake users through the newsletter, webpage, social media, and general mailings	CLPD, BurCo, RP	x	x	x	x	x	x			x		

2 Implement a watercraft inspection and AIS signage program at all public and private access sites.

#	Action	Partners											
1	Incorporate a CLMN/UW-Extension Lakes Clean Boats, Clean Waters program at the Hwy 70 Boat Landing on Lower Clam Lake	CLPD, BurCo, WDNR	x	x	x	x	x				x		
2	Evaluate and update signage at all public access points on the lakes	CLPD	x	x							x	x	
3	Work with resorts on the lake with private accesses to post signage and encourage watercraft inspection	CLPD	x					x			x		
4	Install an AIS Decontamination Station at the Hwy 70 Boat Landing	CLPD	x					x			x		

#	Action	Responsible Party	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	C9	C10	C11	C12	C13	C14	C15	C16
3 Implement an in-lake and shoreland AIS monitoring program in the lakes																		
1	Participate in the CLMN/UW-Extension Lakes AIS Monitoring Program to support in-lake monitoring efforts	CLPD, RP, BurCo, WDNR	x	x	x	x	x											
Goal 9: Reduce pollutant loading into the Clam Lakes.																		
1 Promote shoreland improvement projects in the nearshore area that will reduce surface runoff and pollutants entering the lakes.																		
1	Promote property owner participation in the Burnett County Shoreland Incentive Program	CLPD, BurCo	x	x	x	x	x	x									x	
2	Promote property owner participation in projects supported by the Healthy Lakes and Rivers grant program	CLPD, WDNR		x	x	x	x	x									x	
3	Recognize property owners who participate in and/or complete runoff and pollutant reduction practices	CLPD, WDNR, BurCo		x	x	x	x	x									x	
2 Reduce disturbances to bottom sediments in the Clam Lakes																		
1	Provide education and informational materials to lake property owners and users related to the disturbances caused by boat prop wash in shallow areas of the lake	CLPD, RP	x	x	x	x	x	x										
2	Promote voluntary extended "no wake" zones in shallow water near the shore	CLPD	x	x	x	x	x	x										
3	Continue to support carp removal efforts by SCTES and the WDNR	CLPD	x	x	x	x	x											
3 Encourage septic system inspection, maintenance, and repair																		
1	Send out reminders to property owners to have their septic system inspected to see if they are functioning properly	CLPD		x		x		x										
2	Encourage property owners to replace or repair septic systems not functioning properly	CLPD	x	x	x	x	x	x										
4 Encourage the use of agricultural, logging, and other industry best management practices to reduce sediment and nutrient loading from the watershed																		
1	Work with the Burnett County Land and Water Conservation Department and other entities to identify problem sites in the watershed and to develop plans to address them	CLPD, BurCo		x	x	x	x		x								x	x
2	Consider offering financial assistance to the County or other entities to implement first time and additional best management practices throughout the watershed	CLPD, BurCo		x	x	x	x										x	x
3	Encourage business and private property owners around the lake to implement best management practices that will reduce sediment and pollutant loading from the watershed	CLPD, RP	x	x	x	x	x	x	x								x	x
Goal 10: Provide property owner and lake user education and awareness of issues impacting the Clam Lakes.																		
1 Continue public outreach and education programs on issues facing the Clam lakes.																		

					Implementers																				
1	Facilitate AIS, aquatic plants, and water quality, and wildlife public education opportunities annually				CLPD, BurCo, RP	x	x	x	x	x	x													
2	Promote sustainable and multi-use recreational opportunities on the lakes				CLPD	x	x	x	x	x	x													

Goal 11: Collect lake related data to enhance and support current and future lake management planning and implementation in the Clam Lakes.

1 For management planning and assessing general lake health, collect lake data that will provide a better understanding of the issues impacting the lakes.

1	Reinstitute a CLPRD volunteer driven water quality testing program through the CLMN expanded water quality monitoring program				CLPD, WDNR	x	x	x	x	x														
2	Solicit water quality data collected by the SCTES annually				CLPD, SCTES	x	x	x	x	x														
3	Begin precipitation and lake level monitoring				CLPD	x	x	x	x	x														

Goal 12: Implement this plan following Integrated Pest Management guidelines from the WDNR.

1 Follow an adaptive management strategy that measures and analyzes the effectiveness of management activities and modify the management plan as necessary to meet goals and objectives

1	The CLPRD will continue active participation in all discussions related to management of the Clam Lakes				CLPD, RP	x	x	x	x	x		x												
2	Annual reports will be completed summarizing actions and results and presenting revisions for future management actions				CLPD, RP	x	x	x	x	x		x												
3	Evaluate results and revise management actions in this plan as needed to help meet the needs of the lakes				CLPD, RP	x	x	x	x	x		x												

Implementers: CLPD, Clam Lakes Protection District; RP, resource professionals/consultant; SCTES, St. Croix Tribal Environmental Resources; BurCo, Burnett County; WDNR, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; SSD, Siren School District; CLMN, Citizen Lake Monitoring Network; AIS, aquatic invasive species; CLP, curly-leaf pondweed; DO, dissolved oxygen; BMP, best management practice; LPL, lake management planning