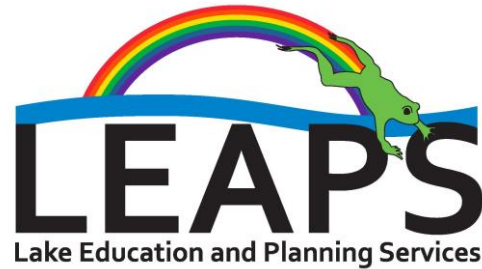


Lake Education and Planning Services, LLC  
PO Box 26  
Cameron, WI 54822

August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021

2021 Social Survey Questionnaire



Dear Osprey Lake Property Owner,

The Osprey Lake Property Owners Association, Inc. (OLPOA) is working to improve their understanding of what lakeshore owners on Osprey Lake care about and would like to see improve. Your responses to the questions in this survey will be used to inform the OLPOA on what about Osprey Lake matters most to you and how the OLPOA can help you improve it. This survey asks questions that will help evaluate the current level of knowledge about lake issues and engagement of property owners in lake improvement activities.

The OLPOA wishes to gather background information on how you like to enjoy your lake so that they can work with you to improve those aspects of the lake. The survey also asks a series of questions to gather background information on your knowledge about water quality, aquatic invasive species, and shoreline improvement opportunities so that they can implement educational events and projects designed around your specific input. Your responses are greatly appreciated and a valuable part of the lake improvement planning process.

This survey has been mailed to every property owner on Osprey Lake. The completed survey should be returned to LEAPS in the envelope provided. Survey responses are considered anonymous, so honest and complete responses to the questions are important. Please complete the survey and send it back by September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Results will be tallied by LEAPS and incorporated into OLPOA lake management projects and decisions. A summary presentation will be given in 2022. Thank you for your time and interest in this survey.

Sincerely,

Dave Blumer, Lake Educator  
715-642-0635  
[dblumerleaps@gmail.com](mailto:dblumerleaps@gmail.com)

Megan Mader, Aquatic Biologist  
715-661-1831  
[mmaderleaps@gmail.com](mailto:mmaderleaps@gmail.com)

# Osprey Lake Survey

## SECTION 1 – Background

1. What type of property do you have on Osprey Lake? If you have more than one type of property, please report on only the property you have had the longest. (Please select one.)
- Permanent residence                       Second home                       Other (please specify):  
 Undeveloped land                       Cabin (not for long term residency)

2. How long have you owned your property on Osprey Lake? (If you have owned the property for less than 1 year please write '1' in the space provided. If you own multiple properties, please comment on the one you have owned for the longest period of time.)

I have owned the property for \_\_\_ year(s).

3. During a 12-month period (Jan. 1 – Dec. 31 how many days do you, members of your family, or guests use the property indicated in Question 1? (Please provide your best estimate in the space below.)

There are people at the property approximately \_\_\_\_\_ days a year.

4. On average, about how many people are at the property each time it is being used? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Which activities from the list below do you or your family participate in during open-water (no ice) season on Osprey Lake? (Please check all that apply. If you do not participate in any activities, please select the last response.)

- Fishing                                       Sailing                                       Wildlife viewing  
 Water skiing/tubing                       Rest/relaxation                       Other (please list):  
 Speed boating                               Canoeing/kayaking/paddle boating/etc.                       I / We do not participate in any activities on the lake  
 Pontoon boating  
 Jet skiing                                       Swimming/wading

6. In your opinion, have the following characteristics of the lake improved, remained the same, or worsened since you've owned your property? (Please place a check mark under one column only for each characteristic.)

Characteristic	Improved	No Change	Worsened	Not sure
a) Quality of living on the lakes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b) Quality of pan fishing (bluegills, crappie, perch)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c) Quality of game fishing (walleye, musky, northern pike, bass)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d) Scenic/aesthetic quality of the lake	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e) Quality of motorized recreation (other than fishing)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f) Quality of non-motorized recreation (canoe, kayak, paddleboarding, sailing)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g) Quality of swimming and wading	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h) Diversity of wildlife (different types)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7. From the list in Question 6, which three characteristics are of greatest importance to you? (Please place the letters of the three characteristics that are most important to you in the spaces below.)

\_\_\_\_\_

8. In your opinion, have the following characteristics of Osprey Lake increased, remained the same, or decreased since you've owned your property? (Please place a check mark under one column only for each characteristic.)

Characteristic	Increased	No Change	Decreased	Not sure
a) Amount of rooted vegetation near shore	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b) Amount of green scum on the water surface	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c) Amount of waterskiing/tubing on the lakes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d) Use of non-motorized watercraft on the lakes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e) Use of motorized boats on the lake	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f) Use of jet skis/personal watercraft on the lakes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g) Public use on the lakes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h) Garbage in the lakes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
i) Noise pollution on the lakes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

9. From the list in Question 8, which three characteristics are of greatest concern to you? (Please place the letters of the three characteristics that most concern you in the spaces below.)

\_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION 2 – Lake Stewardship

Lake stewardship is an attitude that recognizes the vulnerability of lakes and the need for citizens, both individually and collectively, to assume responsibility for their care. This section of the survey will provide information about the lake stewardship practices of lake property owners. Please answer the questions as they pertain to your property.

1. The following are landscaping practices used to protect and improve lake water quality. Which ones have you heard of? (Check all that apply.)

- Rain garden
- Shoreline buffers
- Native flower/tree planting
- Natural shoreline restoration
- Runoff reduction practices
- No mow area
- Other (please describe):
- I have not heard of any of these water quality/landscaping practices

2. From the list below, please indicate any reasons preventing you from implementing a landscaping practice on your property. (Check all that apply.)

- My property doesn't impact the lake
- I don't believe the practices make much difference
- I don't have the time to install a practice
- I don't have the space on my lot to install a practice
- My neighbors may not like it
- I don't have the knowledge to install a practice
- I don't have the money to install a practice
- I don't want to install a practice
- Physical ability
- Other (please describe):

3. Which, if any, of the following might influence you to implement a landscaping for water quality practice on your property? (Check all that apply.)
- More information
  - Training
  - Increasing the natural beauty of your property
  - Improving the water quality of the lake
  - Providing better habitat for fish
  - Providing better habitat for birds and wildlife
  - Setting an example for other lake residents
  - Less lawn mowing time
  - A property tax rebate
  - Financial assistance that pays a portion of the cost of installation
  - No-cost technical assistance that would identify appropriate practices to install
  - Other (please describe):
  - I have no interest in implementing a landscaping for water quality practice on my property
4. Currently, Osprey Lake has a slow-no-wake ordinance in place from 6:00pm to 10:00am. From the list below, please check your opinion on the current slow-no-wake ordinance.
- Acceptable as is
  - Shorten slow-no-wake hours
  - Lengthen slow-no-wake hours
  - Eliminate slow-no-wake ordinance
  - No opinion
  - Other (please describe):

### SECTION 3 – Water Quality

Water quality in a lake is measured by the clarity of the water, the amount of algae in the water, and the concentration of nutrients in the water. High water clarity and low levels of algae and nutrients usually indicate good or excellent water quality. Low water clarity and high levels of algae and nutrients usually indicate poor water quality. Please answer the questions in this section as they pertain to your property.

1. In your opinion, how would you rate the water quality in the summer (June-September) in Osprey Lake?
- Excellent
  - Good
  - Fair
  - Poor
  - Very poor
  - Not sure
2. In your opinion, how has the water quality changed in Osprey Lake since you have owned property on the lake?
- Hasn't changed
  - Gotten worse
  - Gotten better
  - Not sure
3. In your opinion, which of the following items do you believe hold the greatest potential for contributing to poor water quality in Osprey Lake? (Please choose up to **three** responses or check the last response if you do not believe any hold potential for contributing to poor water quality.)
- Stirring up bottom sediments by boat use
  - Stirring up bottom sediments by wind/waves
  - Faulty septic systems
  - Dead and dying vegetation in the lakes
  - Runoff from fertilized lawns
  - Construction runoff
  - Shoreline erosion
  - Inflow from stream/rivers
  - Runoff from hard surfaces (roof tops, driveways)
  - Other (please specify):
  - None of these hold potential for contributing to poor water quality

## SECTION 4 – Aquatic Plant Management in Osprey Lake

Aquatic plants in a lake, whether native or non-native, can be managed in many different ways. In most cases, management is ongoing and long-term. Sometimes no aquatic plant management may be the best option.

- How confident do you feel in telling native plants and animals apart from invasive plants and animals?
  - Very confident
  - Confident
  - Not very confident
  - Not at all confident
  - Not sure
- Which of the following AIS, if any, do you think you would recognize if you saw them? A \* indicates species known to be present in Osprey Lake. (Please place a check mark under one column only for each AIS.)

Species	Definitely Yes	Probably Yes	Unsure	Probably Not	Definitely Not
*Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM)					
Curly-leaf Pondweed (CLP)					
*Purple Loosestrife					
Zebra Mussels					
Chinese Mystery Snails					
New Zealand Mud Snails					
Spiny Water Fleas					
Rusty Crayfish					

- Has the presence of AIS in Osprey Lake impacted or changed how you use the lake?
  - Yes
  - No
  - Not sure
- If management of an aquatic invasive plant species like Eurasian watermilfoil is recommended for Osprey Lake, what management methods would you support? Please mark if you would support, oppose, or if you need more information about each method. Please assume that the following management alternatives are safe and legal, and would only be used if approved by the State of Wisconsin and the OLPOA. (Mark only one option per alternative.)

Aquatic Plant Management Alternative	Support	Oppose	Need more information
a) Small-scale (less than 10 acres) mechanical harvesting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b) Large-scale (10 acres or more) mechanical harvesting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c) Hand pulling and raking in shallow water	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d) Small-scale (less than 10 acres) chemical herbicide	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e) Large-scale (10 acres or greater) chemical herbicide	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f) Biological control (using one live species to control another)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g) No management (the lakes are what they are, leave them be)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. Of the management methods presented in Question 4, which two would you most support; and which two would you least support? (Please place the letters corresponding to your choices in the spaces provided.)  
 Most Support: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
 Least Support: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
6. Since you have owned your property, have any attempts been made to remove or control aquatic plants by your shore land property?  
 yes  no
7. What has been done to remove aquatic plants from the lake by your property? (Check all that apply.)  
 someone hired to apply chemical herbicide  mechanical plant removal with boat and motor or other apparatus  
 someone hired to hand pull or rake  
 self-apply chemical herbicide Other (please specify):  
 self-hand pull or rake

## SECTION 5 – Public Participation and Community Support

Local, county, state, and federal resources will be sought in addition to OLPOA funds to implement management recommendations for Osprey Lake. Donations of volunteer time, services, materials, and equipment can be used as match funding for many grant programs reducing the overall financial burden to the OLPOA.

1. Which, if any, of the following activities would you, as part of the lake community, **be willing to participate in** to help improve Osprey Lake? **X** all that apply. (This is not a formal commitment.)
- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Participate in riparian improvement activities (no-mow areas, native planting, rain gardens) | <input type="radio"/> Helping others on your lake look for and/or remove AIS |
| <input type="radio"/> Operating your boat at no-wake speeds in designated areas                                    | <input type="radio"/> Avoid sensitive area for fish and wildlife             |
| <input type="radio"/> Looking for AIS around your shoreline  | <input type="radio"/> Catch and release fishing                              |
| <input type="radio"/> Removing AIS by hand around your shoreline   | <input type="radio"/> None of the above                                      |
|  | <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify):                                |
2. What has deterred or prevented you from participating in more lake improvement activities? Check all that apply.
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Cost                | <input type="radio"/> Physical ability   |
| <input type="radio"/> Lack of time        | <input type="radio"/> I'm not aware of improvement projects I could participate in |
| <input type="radio"/> Lack of information |  |
| <input type="radio"/> Lack of interest    |  |

3. The OLPOA is interested in hosting educational events for lake residents. Would you be interested in an educational event on any of the following topics to improve your understanding of the conditions in your lake?

EDUCATIONAL TOPIC:	Yes, I'm interested.	No, I'm not interested.
Water quality		
Aquatic plants and invasive species		
Fish		
Shoreline improvement		
General lake rules and regulations		
Formation of a lake district		

Other topic? (please specify):

If you would like to be contacted in the future about education events, please leave your information below:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

### **SECTION 6 - Final Comments**

If there are any additional issues you would like the OLPOA to address, or comments you would like to make, please use the space below. Thank you for your time and effort in filling out and returning this survey.

# Osprey Lake Survey Summary



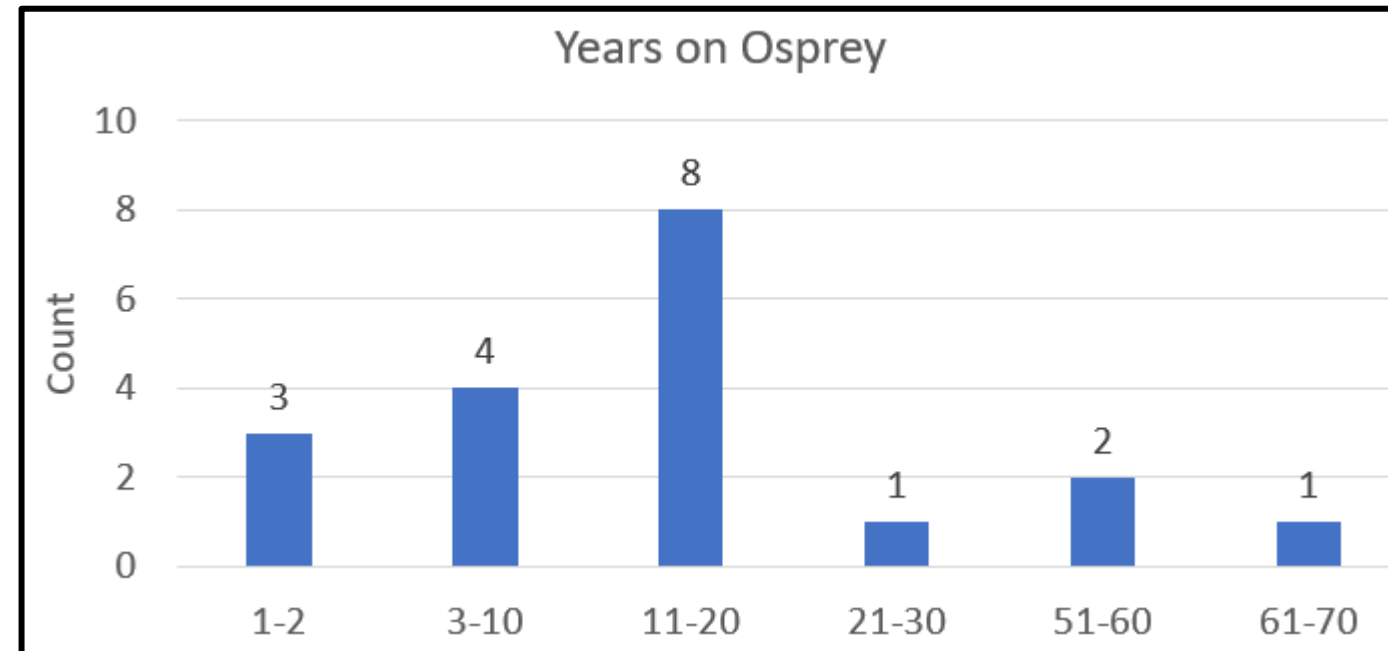
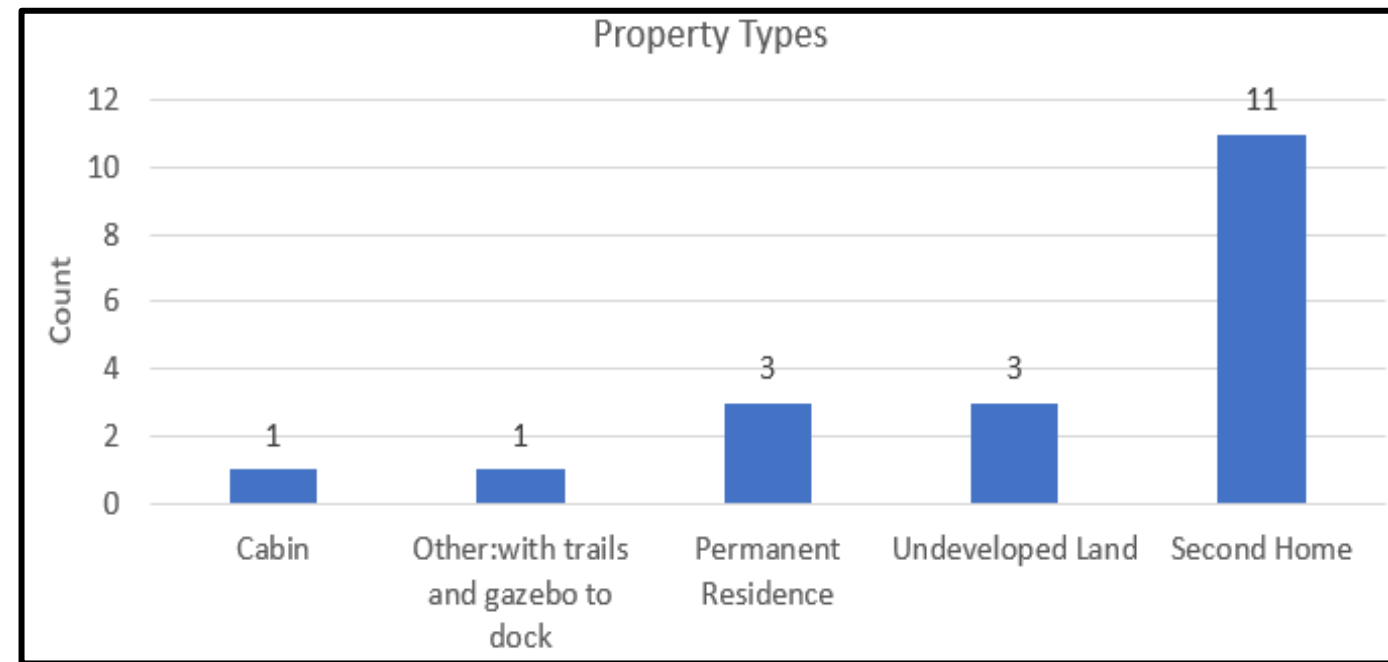
## BACKGROUND

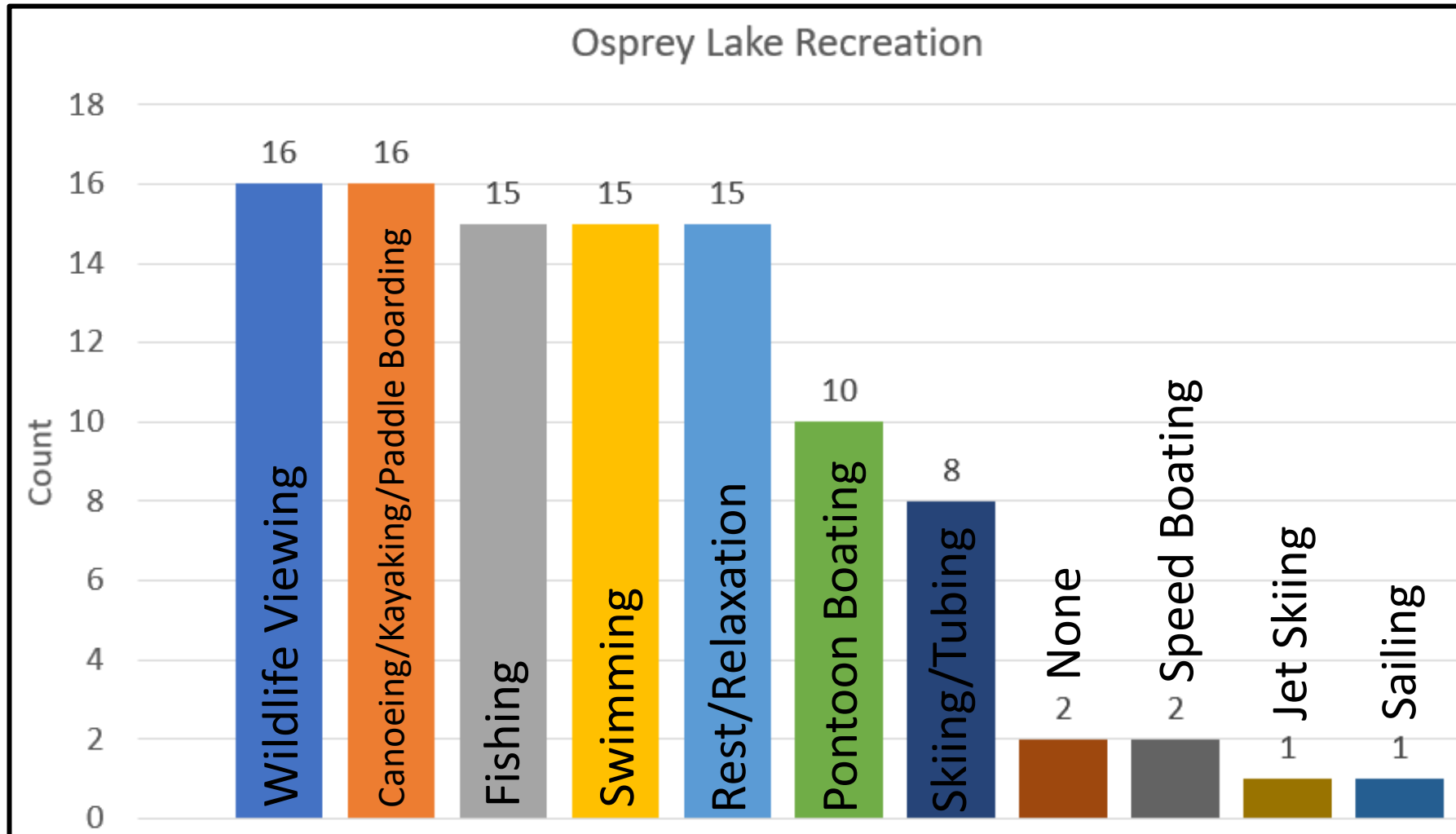
# surveys sent out – 37

# surveys returned – 19

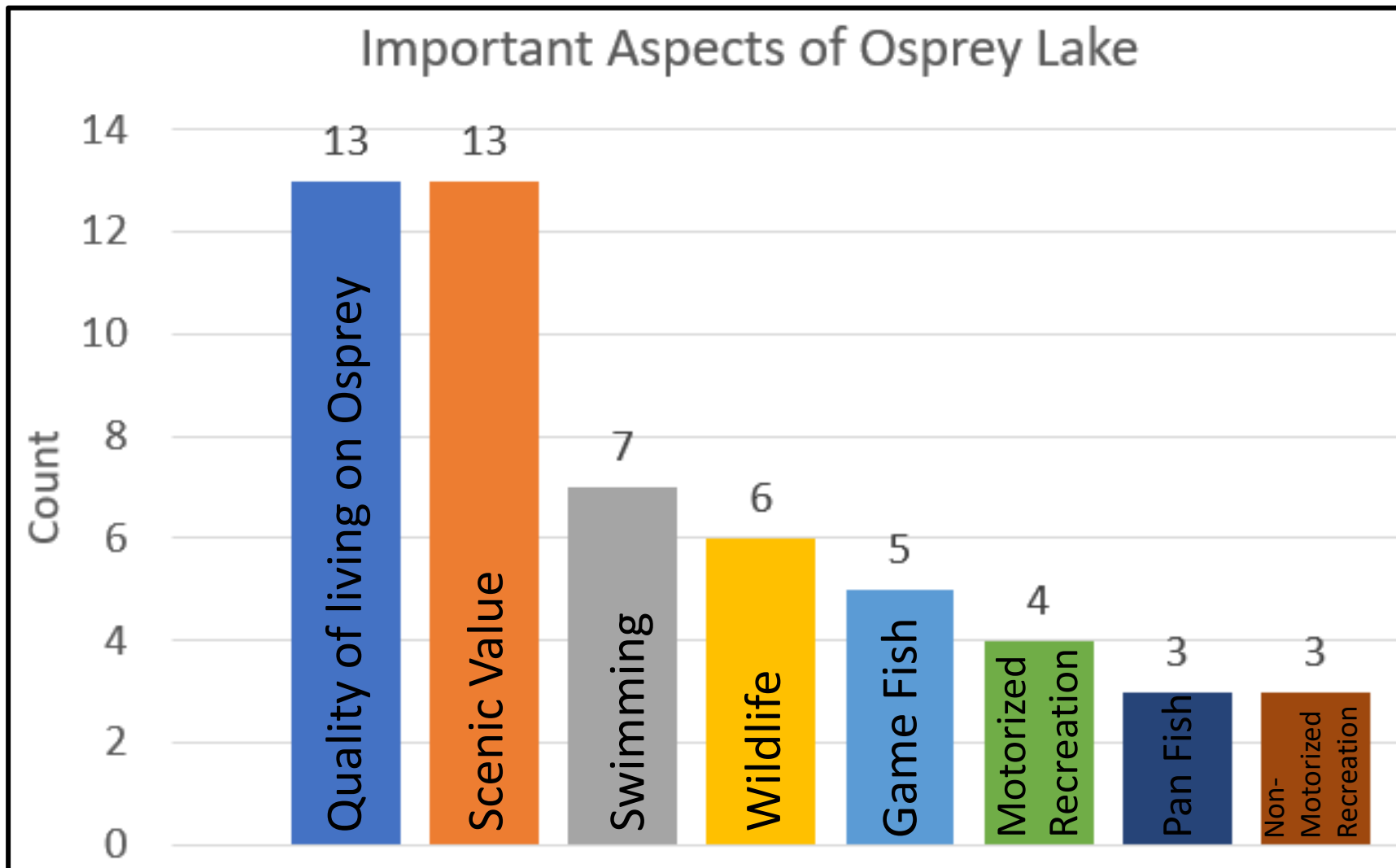
Return rate – 51%

58% of responders use their Osprey Lake property as a second home, and most owners have owned their property between 11 and 20 years. The average owner spends 118 days on Osprey Lake.

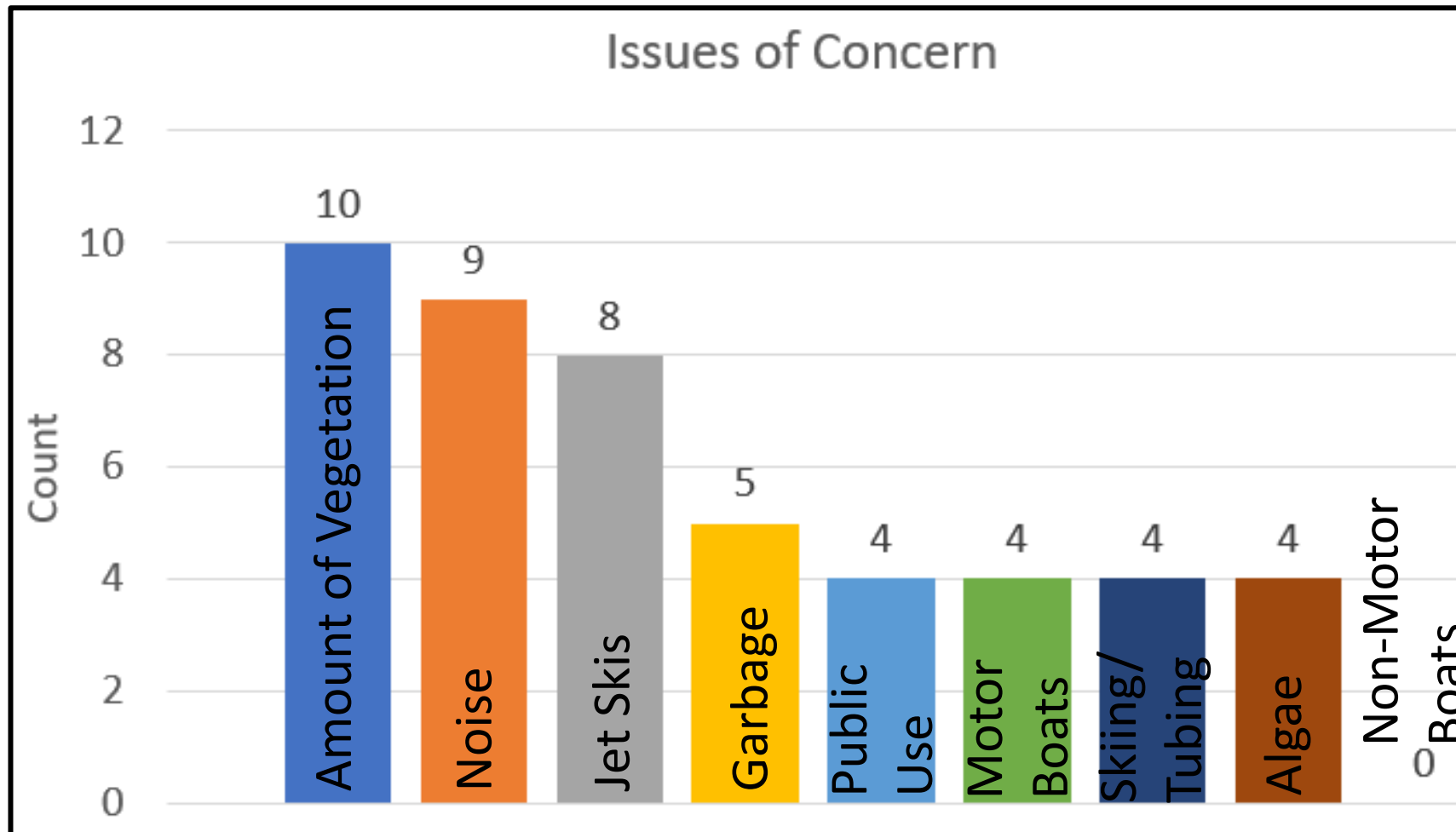




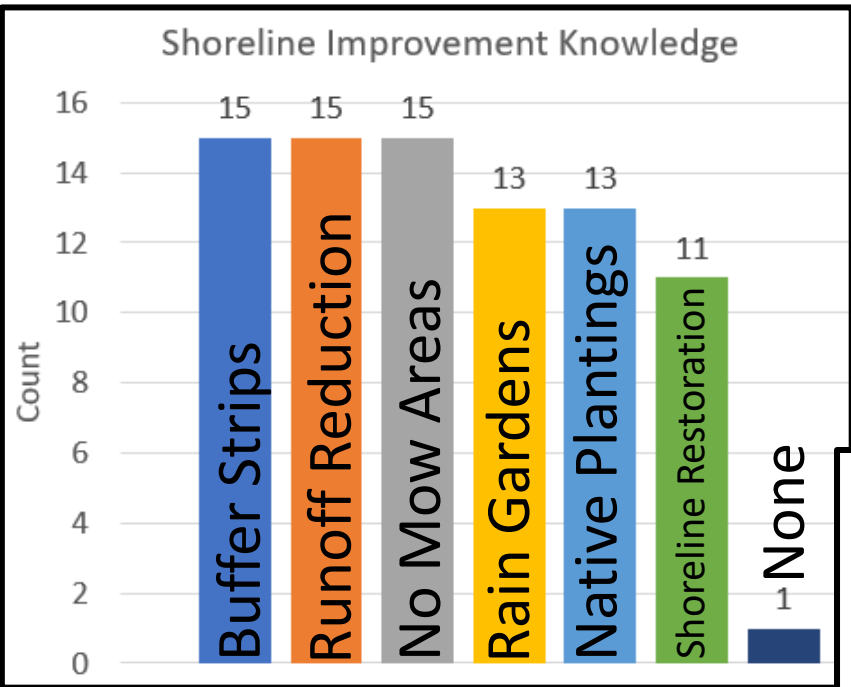
The majority of property owners enjoy and participate in “quiet” lake recreational opportunities, and most aspects of living on the lake have generally not changed for most responders.



The majority of property owners highly value the current quality of the lake and its scenery, and although many owners participate in fishing and non-motorized recreation, those aspects did not score highly as aspects that people value.

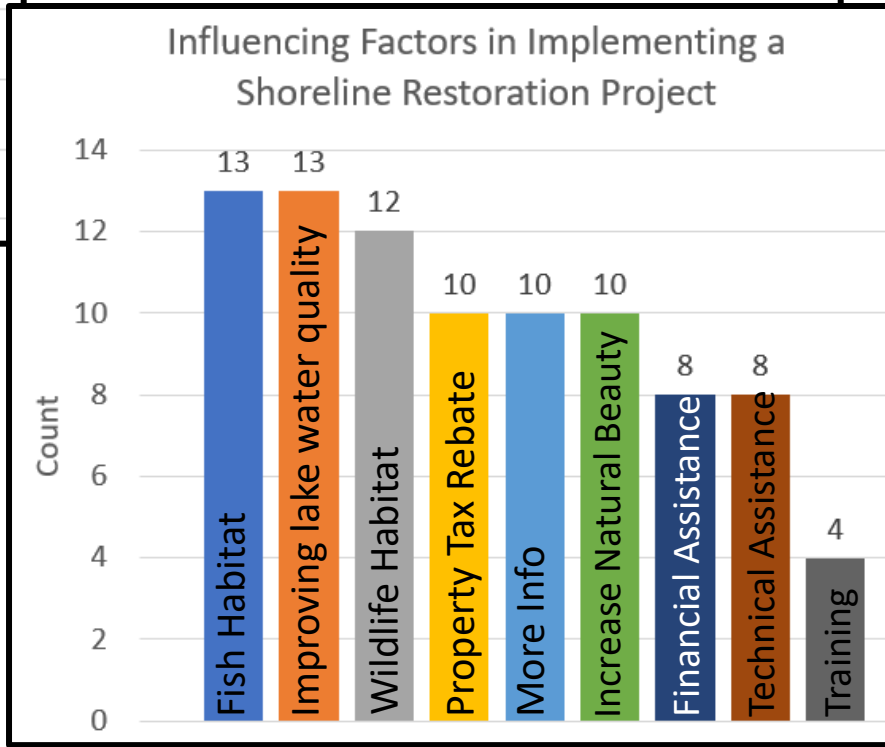
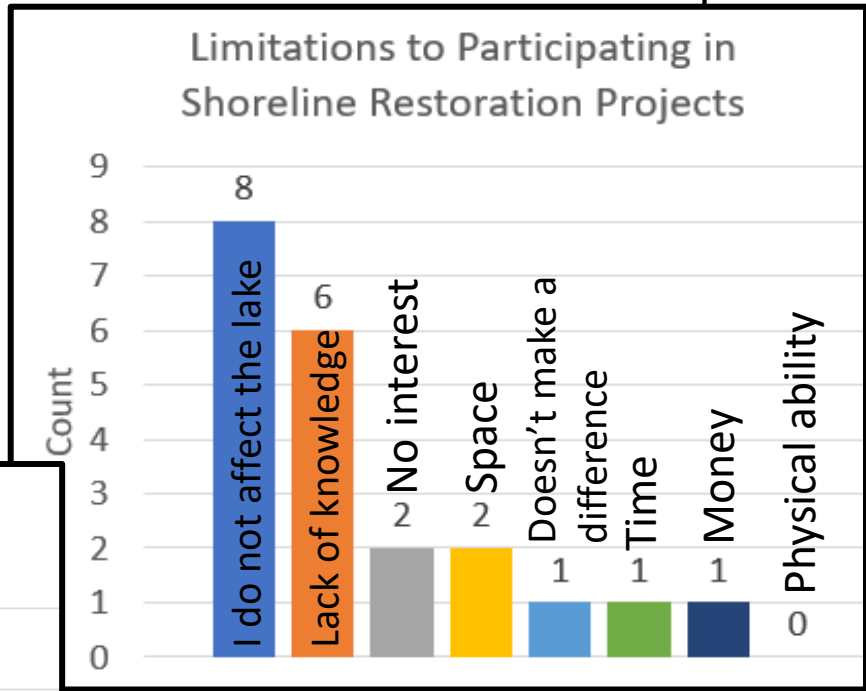


55% of survey responders are concerned with how much rooted vegetation is near shore, which can be addressed in an educational event and in the APM Plan. Noise and jet skis may be closely related and 44-50% of owners who responded to this survey are concerned about those issues.



What projects have you heard about?

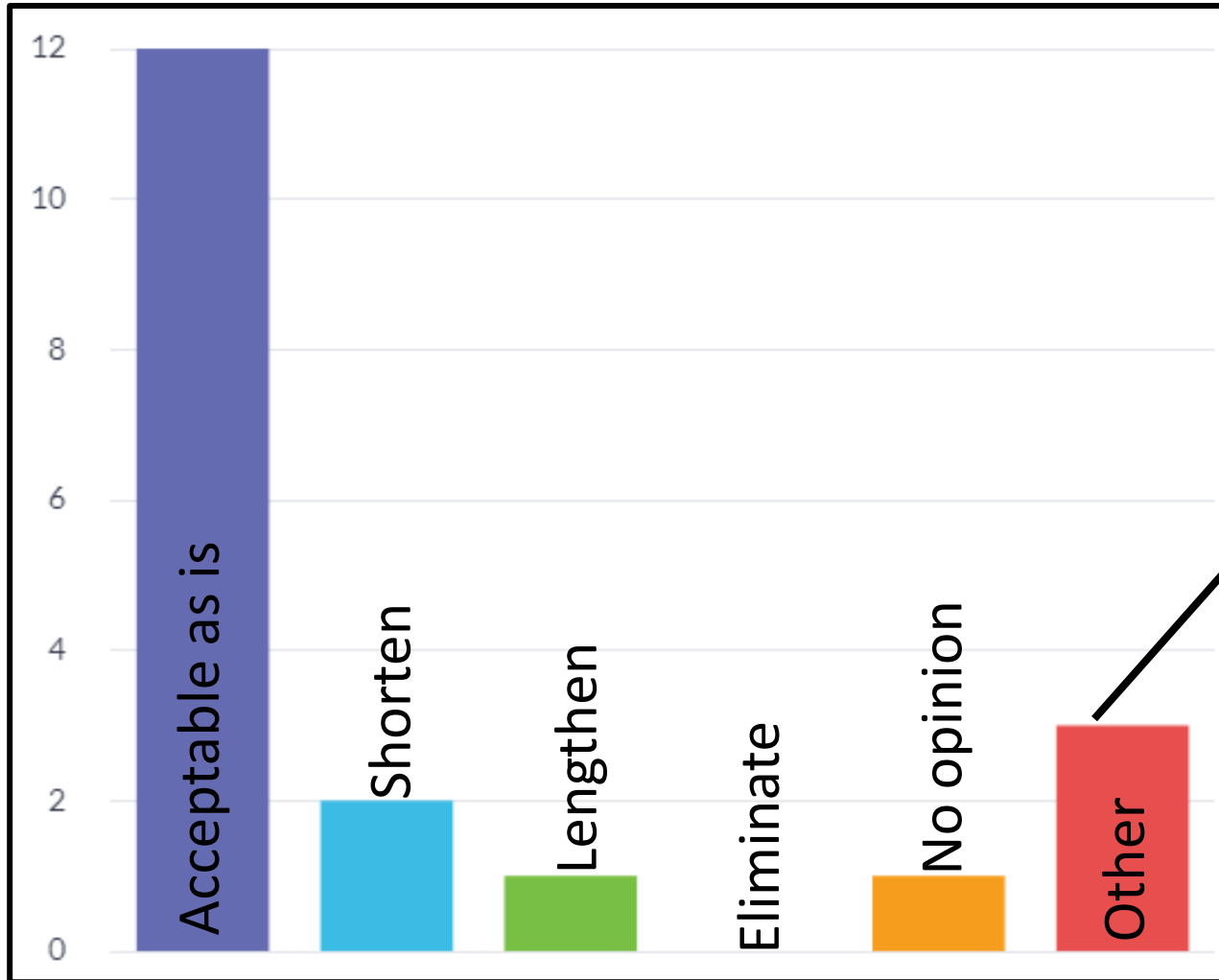
What has stopped you from participating in improvement projects?



What would convince you to participate in a project?

The majority of responders have heard of at least one shoreline improvement practice, and in general, the shoreline of Osprey is in good shape. It may benefit the lake to have an educational event about shoreline improvement options because 72% of responders are interesting in improving the lake and habitat; however, few people indicate that they would be motivated by training (but 82% said they would be interested in a shoreline improvement education event).

### Slow-No-Wake Ordinance

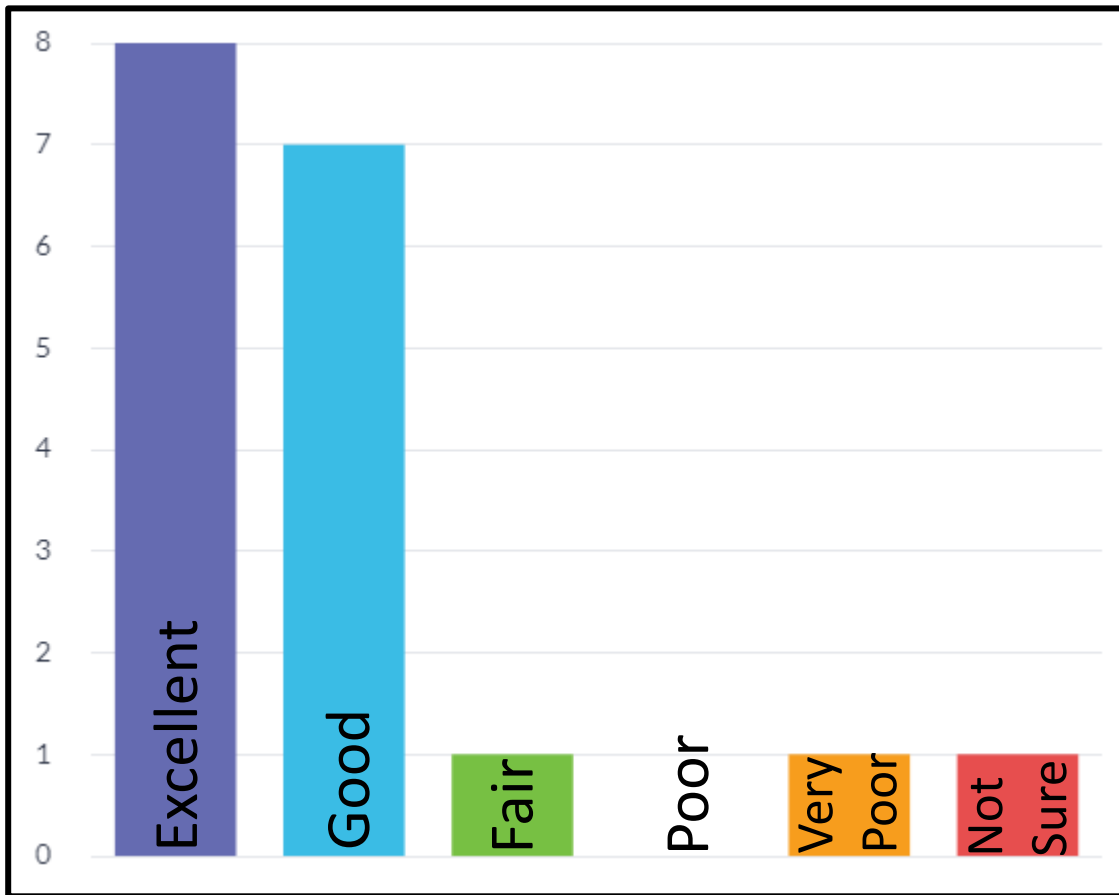


**Other Comments:**

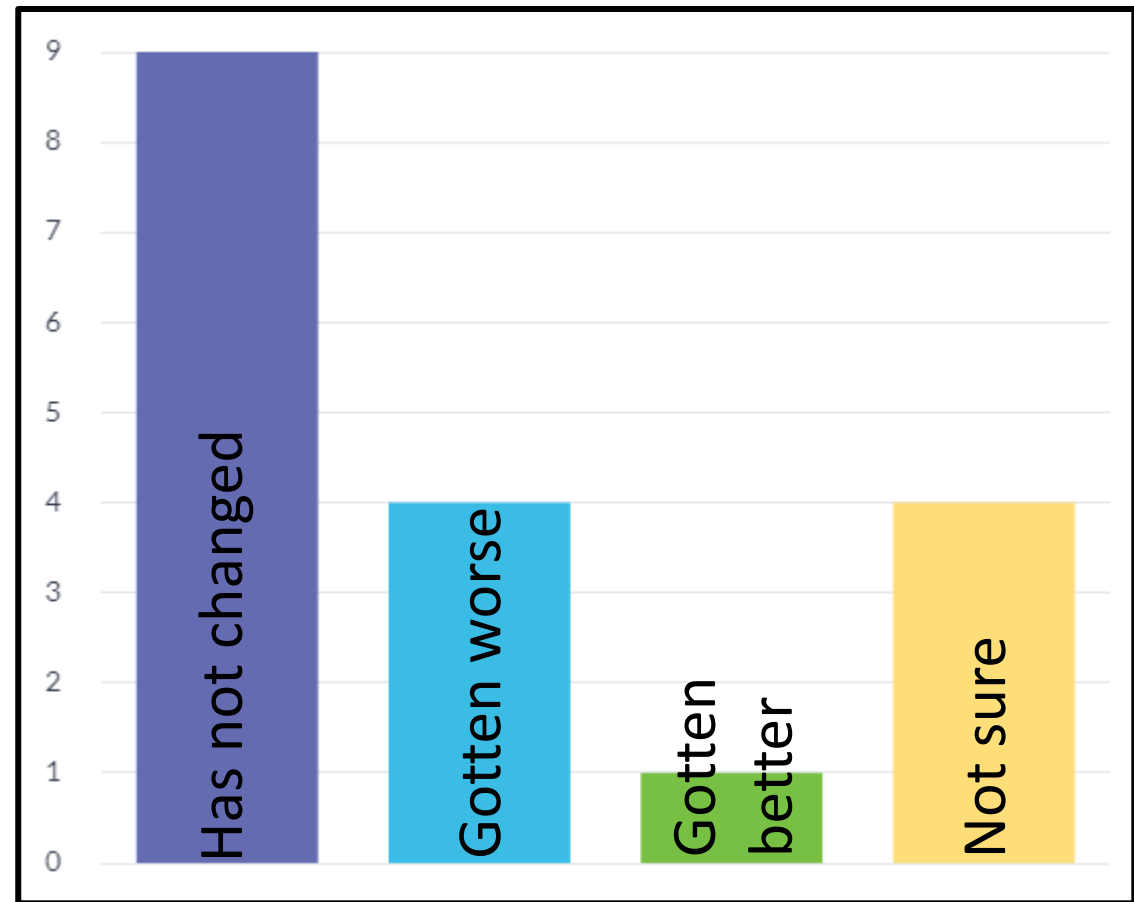
- Implement displacement and motor size restrictions (200 max)
- Should not have any rule we cannot enforce
- Shorten – 8pm-10am

63% of responders find the current slow-no-wake ordinance (6pm-10am) acceptable as is.

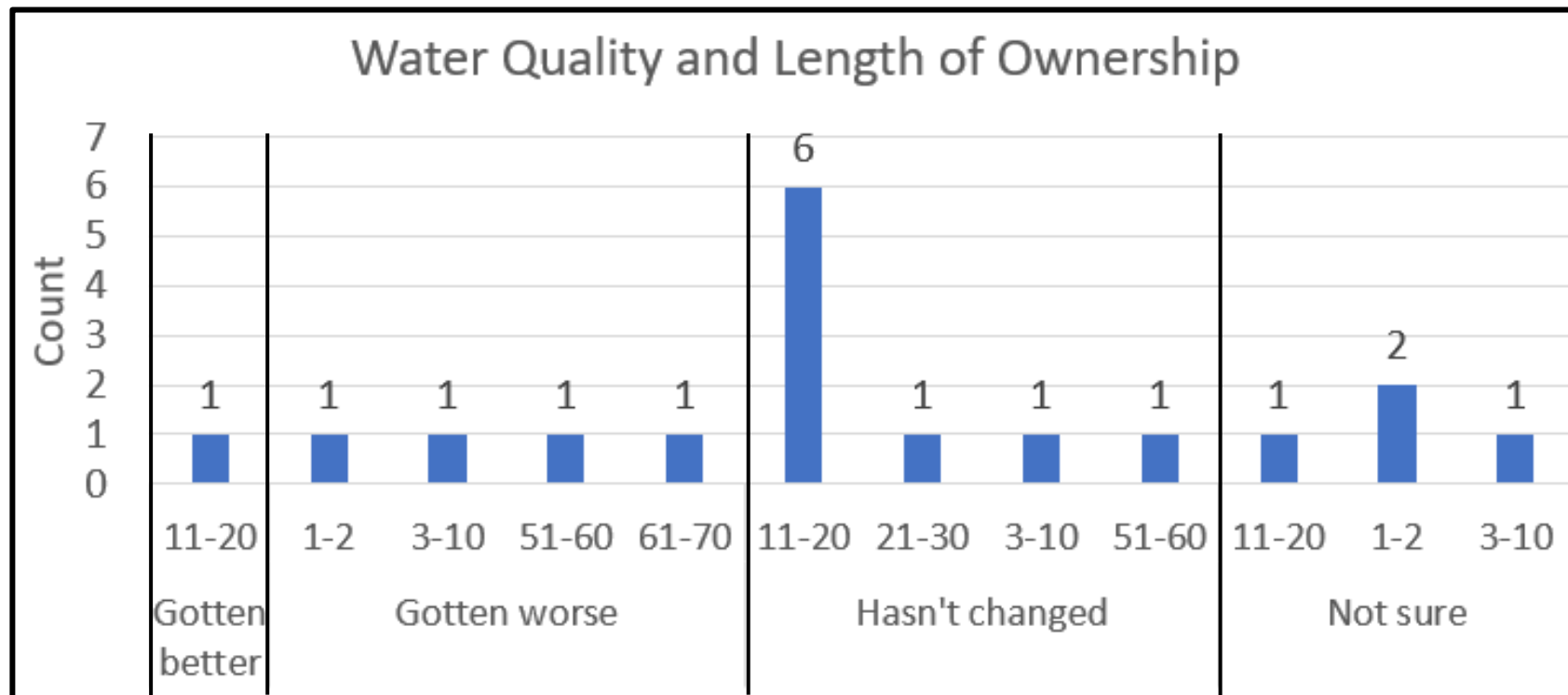
Water Quality Rating



Water Quality Over Time



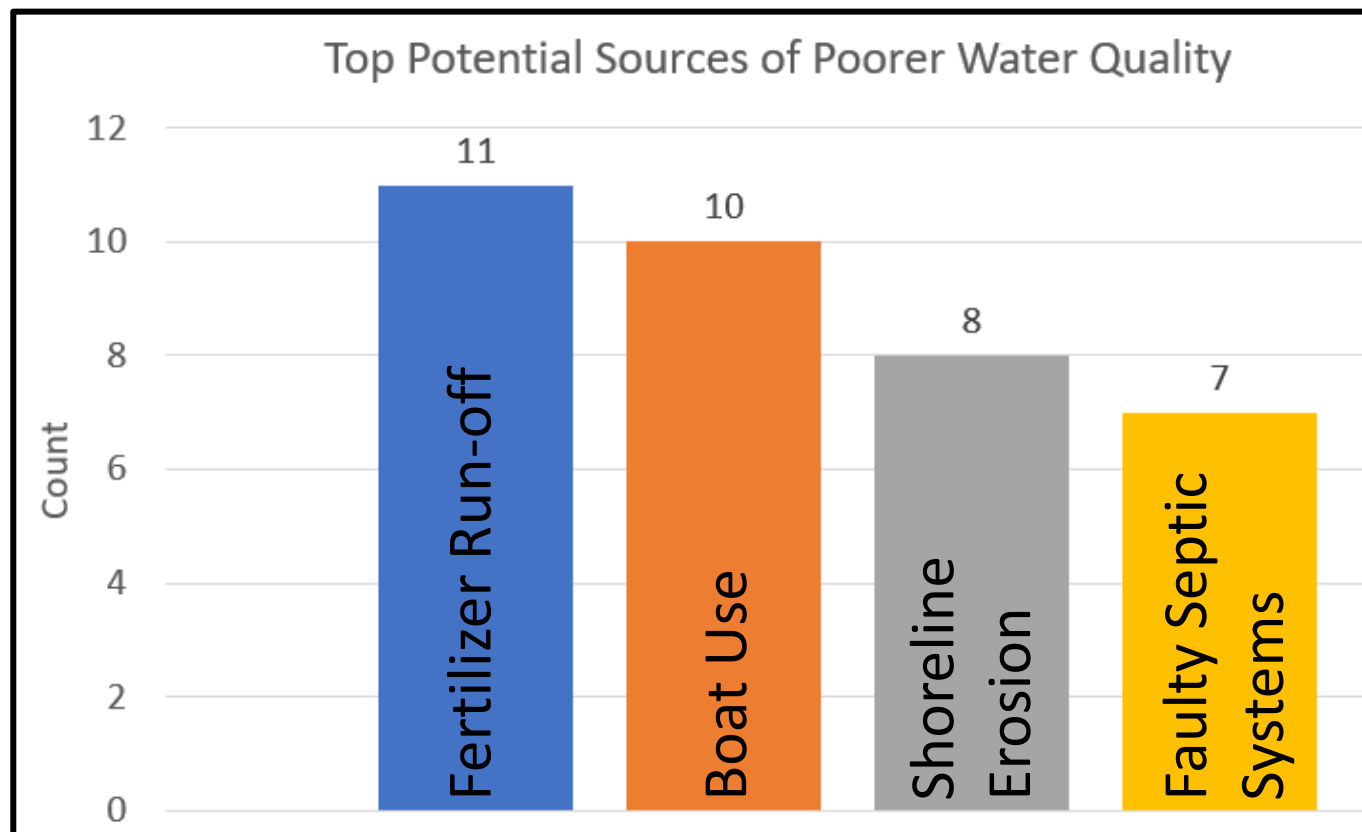
83% of responders feel that Osprey's water quality is Excellent or Good. 50% feel that it has not changed, and 44% feel that it has gotten worse or are not sure.



11 years = long enough to see significant change in water quality over time  
 22% of people who have been on Osprey at least 11 years say that water quality has not changed,  
 5% of people who have been on Osprey at least 11 years say that water quality has gotten worse,  
 3% of people who have been on Osprey at least 11 years say that water quality has gotten better.

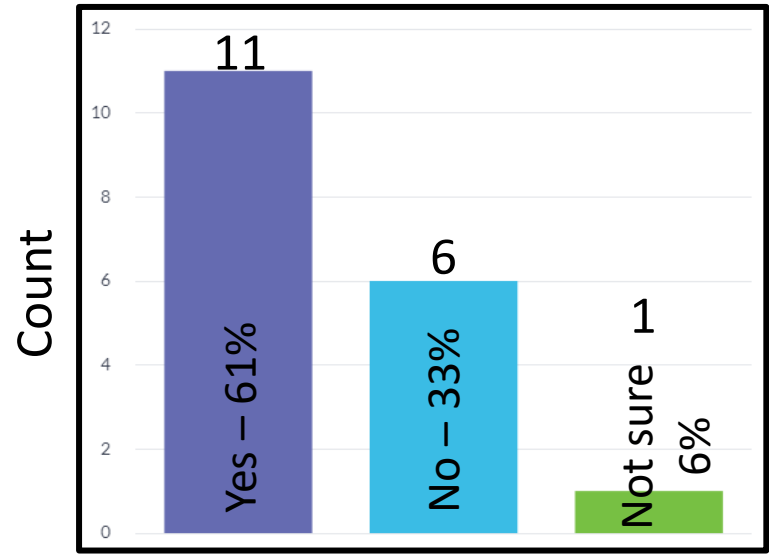
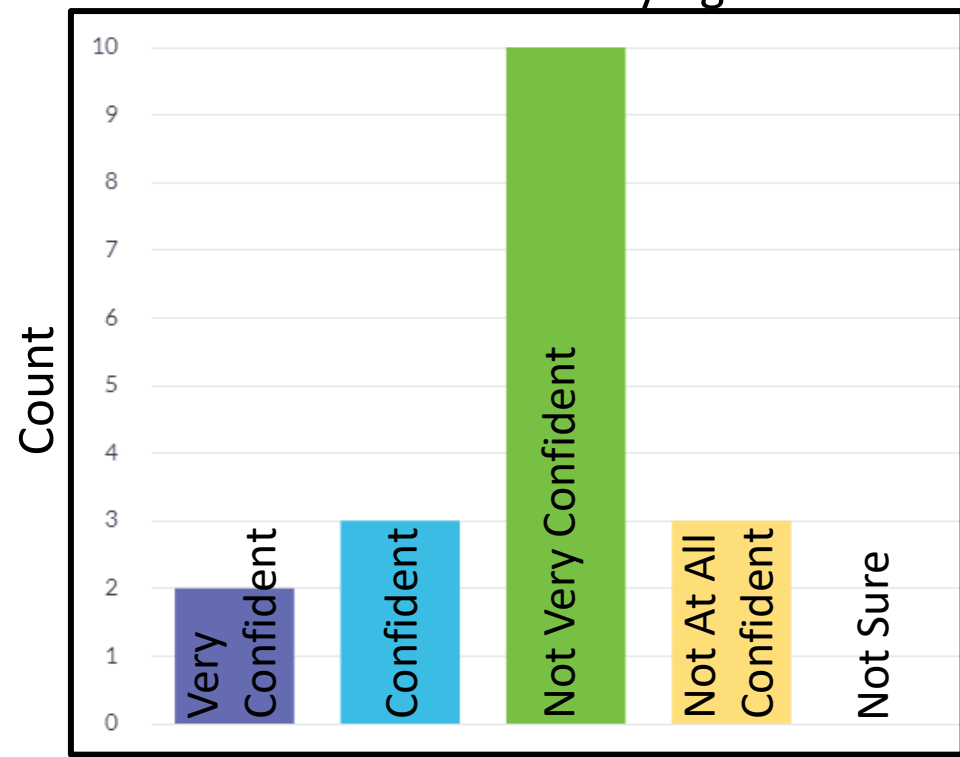
This indicates that water quality has generally been good and has stayed good over time. This is supported by CLMN water quality data that shows the lake has high water quality (clear water, no algal blooms, low nutrients).



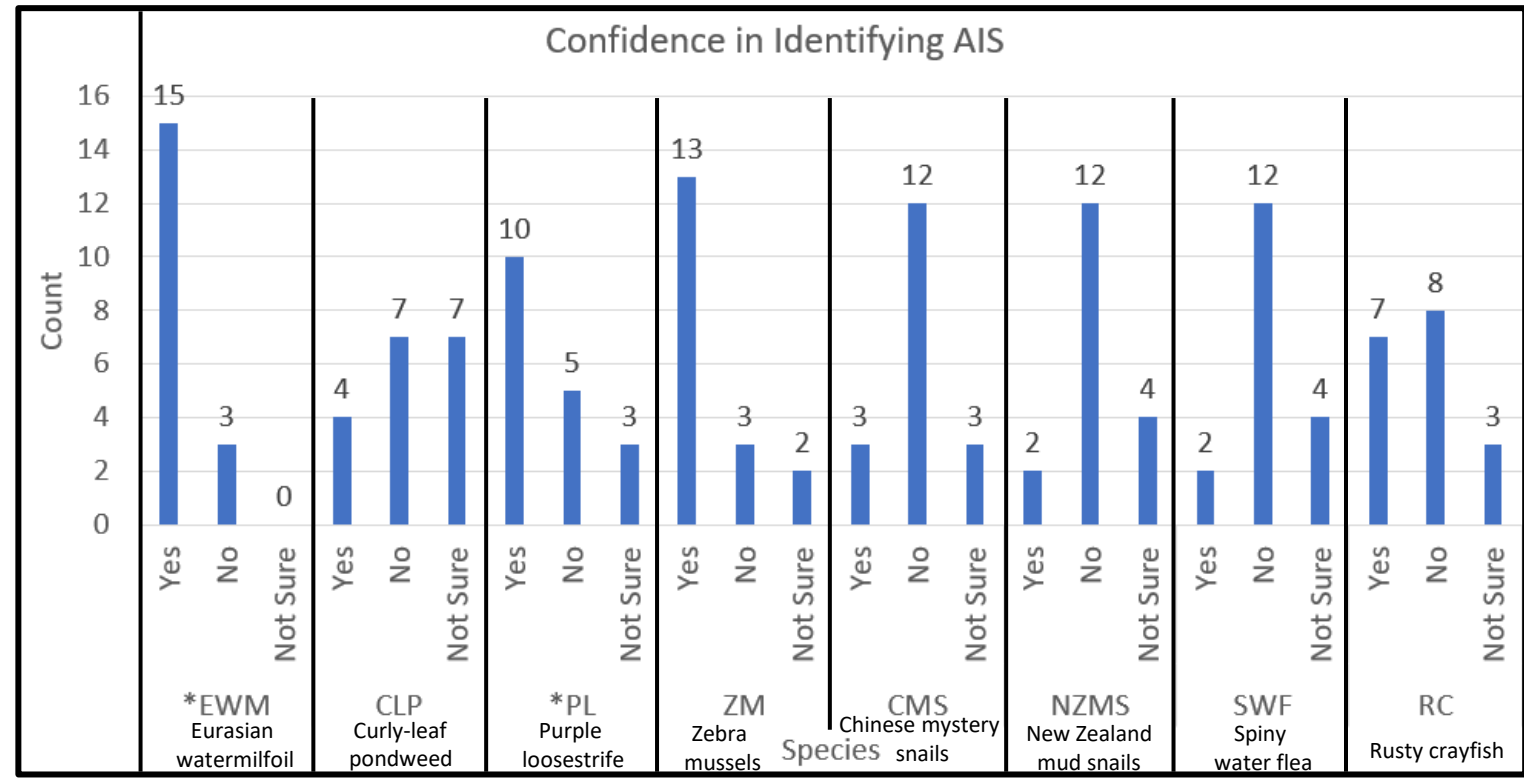


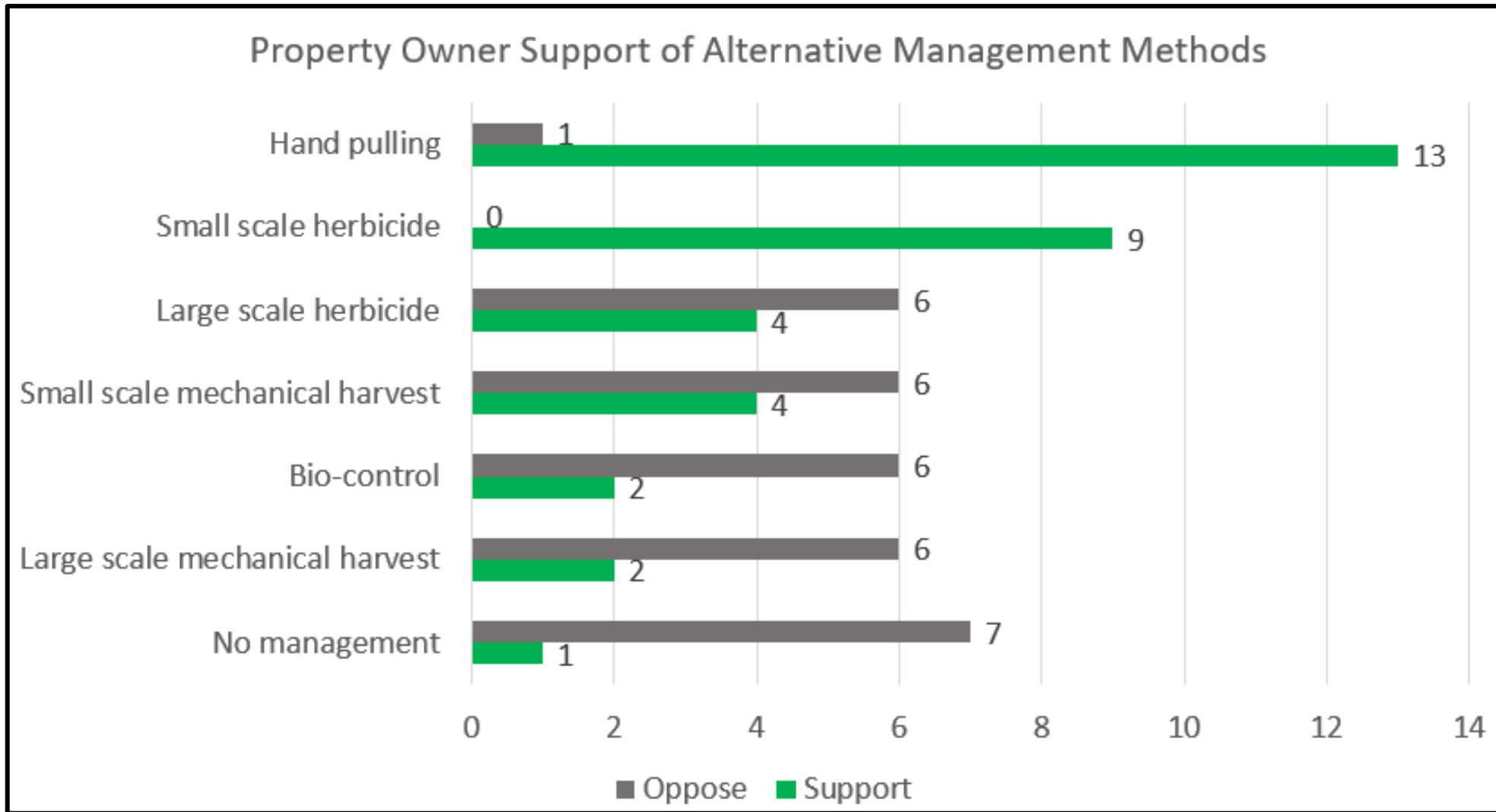
Fertilizer run-off from agriculture may not be realistic for the OLPOA to address; however, continuing CLMN sampling of the lake will provide data to track nutrient and chlorophyll data to assess if it may be an issue in the future. Again, boat use scores fairly high as a cause of concern because of stirring up bottom sediment, and boat use is also related to shoreline erosion; this is an area where shoreline improvement projects could be implemented. An assessment of septic systems may also be warranted in the future to ensure there are no excess inflows of nutrients affecting the water quality of the lake. These measures may need to only be taken if CLMN data shows that water quality is decreasing over time.

Confidence in Identifying AIS

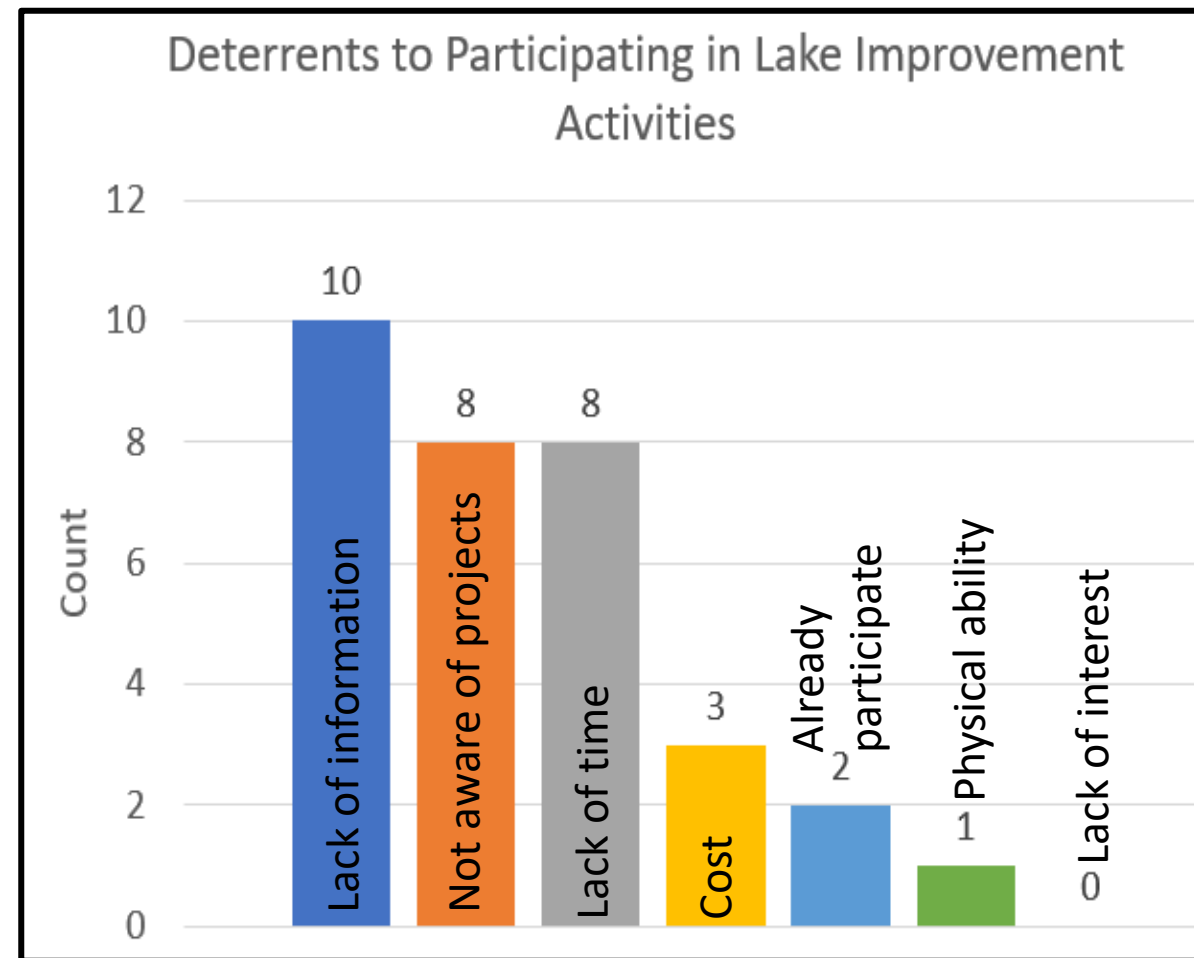
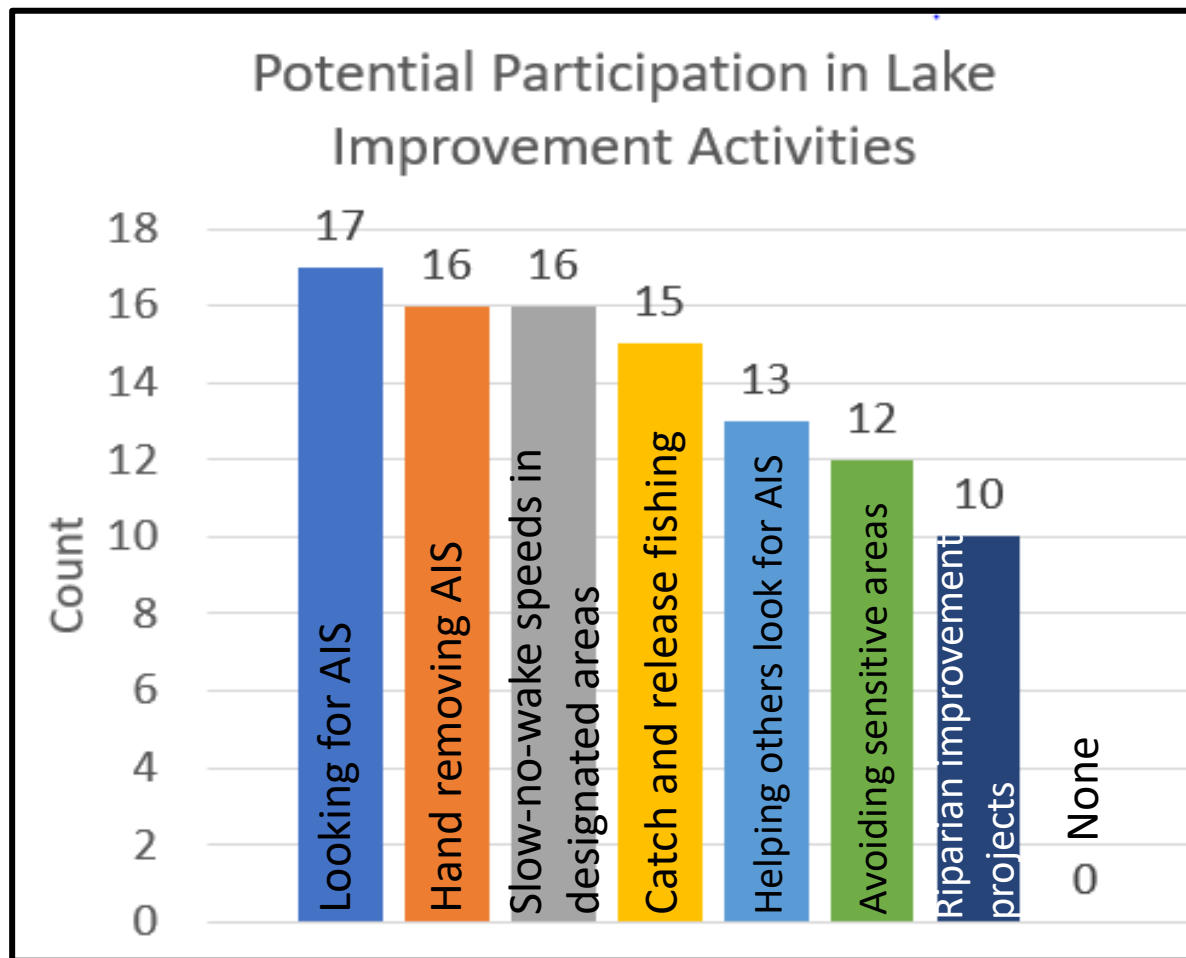


Osprey Lake constituents are generally not familiar with AIS or confident in identifying them; however, 83% of responders indicate that they can identify EWM -- the main AIS of concern and management in Osprey Lake. Shoreline property owners may benefit from an AIS education event, which 76% of responders said they would be interested in attending. The majority (61%) of responders have changed the way they use the lake as a result of AIS (EWM) in the lake.

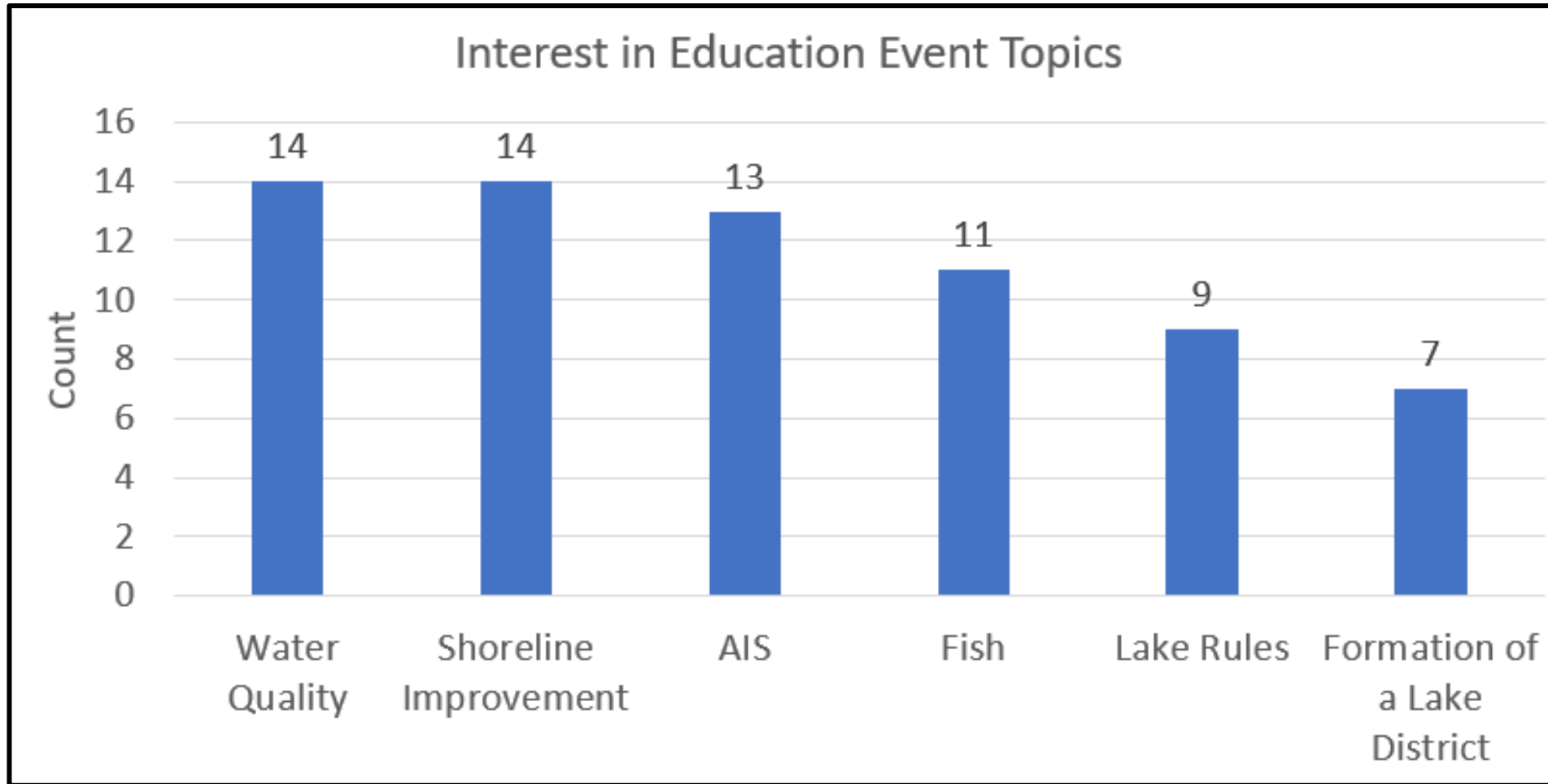




72% of Osprey Lake property owners who responded to the survey support using hand pulling/raking methods to control EWM, and 50% support small scale (<10 acres) herbicide treatments with only a small percent opposing either method. Large scale (>10 acres) herbicide treatment, mechanical harvest, biological control, and no management are largely opposed. The supported management actions are in line with the current APM plan. Osprey Lake constituents may benefit from an AIS education event that includes management options (76% indicated they would attend such an event).



Osprey Lake property owners are generally willing to be involved with projects and activities on the lake. AIS concerns rank the highest, and volunteer involvement seems likely. To engage even more constituents, it is recommended that the OLPOA introduce more education on management, restoration, and conservation tactics and projects through events, hand outs, newsletters, etc.



82% of responders are interested in learning more about water quality and shoreline improvement. These may be areas where education could lead to involvement in CLMN and Healthy Lakes projects. 76% would be interested in AIS education, which could cultivate more knowledge and engagement in management. 65% are interested in fish, 53% are interested in lake rules (likely boating restrictions), and 41% are interested in learning more about forming a lake district. It is recommended that the OLPOA provide educational materials and opportunities for their constituents through newsletters, handouts, education events, support to attend conferences, etc.