



Research Summit on Wolf Lake Watershed

The Sea Grant logo, featuring a stylized bird in flight above the words "Sea Grant" in a serif font.

*Co-Sponsored by Calumet College of St. Joseph, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant
and the Association for the Wolf Lake Initiative*

*Funded by Chicago's 10th Ward Alderwoman Susan Sadlowski Garza, Cargill, Inc. Hammond Plant,
and Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant*

Friday, November 4, 2016

Calumet College of St. Joseph, Room 200, 2400 New York Avenue, Whiting, IN

Purpose of summit

The Summit brings natural and social scientists together with planners and policy makers to interact with those who manage the Wolf Lake watershed.

During the morning session, participants will determine the status of recommendations from past scientific studies on the Wolf Lake watershed. We will determine which recommendations have been implemented, which ones are awaiting funding, and which ones are no longer relevant or feasible. We will then discuss ongoing research.

Morning Session

Among the objectives and outcomes of the morning session is to:

- **remind** land managers of the recommendations of these studies, particularly to new personnel
- **suggest** to land managers that some of these recommendations might be thrown into the mix when planning future research needs, which will be discussed further in the afternoon
- **form** a baseline data base and establish repository of data for future use by land managers and planners
- **fulfill** one of the objectives of the Wolf Lake Vision document.

During the final segment of the morning session, we will review the 2002 BioBlitz at the Wolf Lake watershed to determine what should follow.

Afternoon Session

At the Summit's afternoon session, with a panel of land manager and planners, we will discuss how the morning session might influence current research and planning efforts. Another objective of the session would be to inform other stakeholders and neighbors to the watershed of these plans as an update to the 2000-01 Wolf Lake Vision document. Thus, **a second purpose of the summit is to tie research to planning**. The Summit will encourage government officials to pursue with greater vigor some of the major bi-state concerns, such as restoration of Indian Creek, discharges from Wolf Lake Terminals, connection of Wolf and Powderhorn lakes, recommendations for Calumet Container site, and extension of trails in the bi-state area.

Should there be subsequent summits? If so, what should be their focus? Finally, we will take a look at the big picture and discuss how the Wolf Lake watershed connects with other watersheds in the Calumet Region.

Agenda

Panelists/Speakers listed

8 a.m. Guided walk to observation pier and back

8:30 a.m.

Registration begins in Room 200

Information tables will include the Draft Greenways + Blueways 2020 Plan which is available now for public comment and others information and notices provided by participants.

9 a.m.

Welcome: Dr. Dan Lowery, President, Calumet College of St. Joseph

Introduction: Facilitator Diane Banta, National Park Service

9: 15 a.m.

Morning Panel: *Past Study Recommendations Worthy of Pursuit , Current and Proposed Efforts*

Dr. George Roadcap, Hydrogeologist, Illinois Water Survey

Bob Robertson, retired Fish Biologist, Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Tom Bacula, Fish Biologist, Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Dr. Young Choi, Professor of Biological Sciences, Purdue Northwest

Thomas Bloom, Superfund Brownfields, US EPA Region 5

Cherie LeBlanc Fisher, Social Scientist, USDA Forest Service

Nat Miller, Director of Conservation for Audubon Great Lakes, National Audubon Society

Kathy Luther, Director of Environmental Programs, Northwestern Indiana Region Planning Commission

Dr. Tomas Höök, Associate Director of Research at Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant

11:25 a.m. How do we keep this conversation going? Do we establish repository of data for future use by land managers and planners?

11:35 a.m.

2002 BioBlitz Revisited

Ders Anderson, Greenways Director, Openlands

Noon

Luncheon Speaker

Dr. Phil Willink, Senior Research Biologist, Shedd Aquarium, *Mudpuppy and Fish Research at Wolf Lake*

1 p.m.

Afternoon Panel: *Planning Efforts for the Wolf Lake Watershed: Current and Future*

Dr. Ellen Szarleta, Director, Center for Urban and Regional Excellence at Indiana University Northwest

Charles "Chip" O'Leary, Deputy Director of Resource Management, Cook County Forest Preserve District

Michael Repay, Lake County Commissioner

Bill Emerson, Jr., Lake County Surveyor

Susan Sadlowski Garza, Chicago's 10th Ward Alderwoman

Nelson Chueng, Chicago Department of Planning and Development

Chelsea Cottingham, Watershed Specialist at Indiana Department of Environmental Management

Emily Clamp, Illinois EPA

Suellen Burns, Senior Advisor, Millennium Reserve for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

Chris Rollins, Superintendent of William Powers State Fish and Wildlife Area, Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Byron Tsang, project manager and restoration ecologist for the Natural Areas Program, Chicago Park District.

3:00 p.m.

Applying Research and Planning to Current Concerns

- a. Indian Creek/Hammond flooding
- b. Wolf Lake Terminals discharges
- c. Calumet Container site restoration
- d. Wolf Lake/Powderhorn connection
- e. Hike/bike trails extension in Bi-State area
- f. Reconnecting Wolf Lake to Lake Michigan
- g. Eliminating more dikes at Wolf Lake

4:00 p.m.

How do we keep this conversation going? And when is the next research summit?

4:15 p.m. *Connecting Watersheds in the Calumet Region: the Big Picture*

Dr. Mark Bouman, Chicago Region Program Director, Science Action Center at Field Museum

4:45 p.m.

Concluding Remarks