

# Twin Lakes Improvement Association Newsletter

[twlia@hotmail.com](mailto:twlia@hotmail.com)

<https://TwinLakesImprovementAssociation.org>

A 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization #82-0394746 – Incorporated October 4, 1956

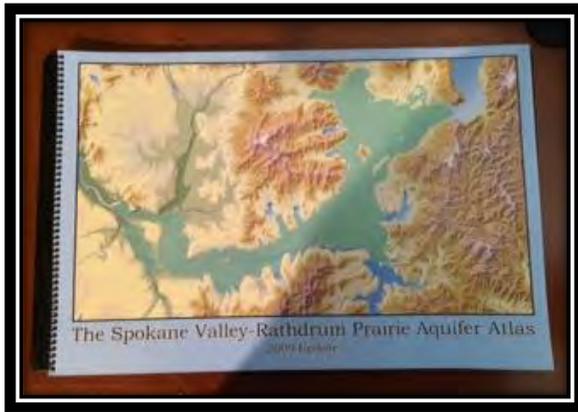
P. O. Box 620, Rathdrum, Idaho 83858

Spring/Summer-2014

57<sup>th</sup> Year - 1<sup>st</sup> Ed.

## ANNUAL MEETING - JULY 5, 2014

We are inviting all association members, property owners, general public and guests to the Twin Lakes Improvement Association annual meeting on **July 5, 2014**. Sign-in at 9:30 AM, meeting starts at 10:00 to 11:30 AM. Come early and receive this beautiful Spokane Valley / Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer Atlas free.



**Meeting Location** - We will meet at the **Twin Lakes Elementary School**, located at 5326 West Rice Road, in Rathdrum. Drive north on Hwy 41 from Rathdrum. Continue north 3.2 miles till you reach Rice Road (Twin Lakes Storage is at the corner). Turn left on Rice Road and continue 0.3 miles. Take the long driveway on the left, to Twin Lakes Elementary School.

This annual meeting provides you the opportunity to address your issues and concerns, with your Board of Directors. In order to facilitate this process, we are asking you to

provide us with your questions in advance of the meeting, so we can be prepared to address your questions. You can either: mail them to our post office box, or e-mail us at [twlia@hotmail.com](mailto:twlia@hotmail.com)

## Raffle

Let your 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend party continue, by taking a chance to win a **Rustic Wheel Barrel of Booze**. Raffle tickets will be \$5.00 each or 5 tickets for \$20.00. Come take a chance!

## ANNUAL MEETING SPEAKERS

TLIA Board Member **Mike Knowles** will provide an update of the Fish Creek Restoration Project work completed in 2013 and what to expect in 2014.

**Sandy Von Behren** from the Kootenai County's Emergency Manager and **Steve Bloedel**, FireSmart Project Manager will discuss emergency preparedness. Do you know what landscaping techniques will help keep your home from being impacted by a wildfire? Do you know what personal preparedness steps you should take in the event you may need to ride out an emergency in your home or in a worst case scenario, evacuate your home? Come and learn more.

**Jim Brady**, Supervisor for the Idaho Department of Lands, will provide a brief history of how the state gained title to the beds of navigable waters. He will explain what guides the laws of the Lake Protection Act. He will help

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us understand the permitting process, assignments, and what things can be permitted on the lakes ie: docks, waterlines, and buoys.

**Tom Woolf** is the Aquatic Plant Program Manager from the Idaho State Department of Agriculture. Tom will discuss the aquatic nuisance species. This is an important topic since these types of plants have no natural predators so their population goes unchecked. Once established they can do irreparable harm. Learn where these plants are coming from. In addition what you can personally do to help protect your property and Twin Lakes. Prevention remains our best defense.

## Silent Auction/ Fall Fundraiser

To help in our fundraising efforts, TLIA is asking our proud homeowners and businesses to donate new items and services for a silent auction. The auction will take place in the fall of 2014. Your donations are tax deductible. **Jeff Mott** is our auction coordinator this year. You can reach him at 208-755-8571. He can pick up your donated items as well.

**Jeff Mott** – TLIA Board Member

## Summer Fun Turns Disastrous....

### ...The Floating Island Conundrum

Summer fun and entertainment goes sideways with unintended consequences. As many of you know who boated in upper Twin Lake late last summer, a large floating “island” of vegetation moved within the upper lake. The island moved from its original location near the western end of the upper lake. At some

point local residents secured it to the rocky eastern shore, a couple of hundred yards from the outlet “narrows” at the channel. For fun, some of our more enterprising citizens posted real estate “for sale” signs, flamingos, dog house, clothes line, and dubbed it “Splash Island”.



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Unfortunately, late last fall, the island moved northeast and attached itself to the sandy beach just a hundred feet or so north of the narrows entering the channel. Before the lake froze, currents carried the island directly into the narrows, blocking the opening. Boat traffic between the two lakes was no longer possible.

Your Twin Lakes Improvement Association (TLIA) along with other lake residents contacted the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) and other agencies late last fall to address this issue. IDL coordinated with the Kootenai County Sheriff's Department's Marine Division to move the island without success. Due to the island resting on the shallow bed of the lake; the island could not be moved. This spring, increased flow from spring runoff water diverted around the north side of the island eroding the sandy beach of the adjacent private property. TLIA again contacted IDL in writing to encourage a coordinated agency response to remove the floating island from the narrows opening. While waiting to hear from IDL on their plan of action, a group of well-intended citizens attempted to move the obstructing island. They succeeded with great difficulty in moving the

bulk of the island north approximately 15 feet. The island was attached to the private property where the sand had eroded. This action opened a narrow channel of open water on the southern rocky side of the channel. At the time, it was unclear if the channel-way was wide enough or deep enough for boat passage. Small pieces of the island gradually broke off and scattered along the beach. The remaining portion of the island lodged in the narrows directly across from the rocky point. This blocked the channel limiting access to only very small boats.



For nearly two (2) months, efforts were made by the TLIA and very concerned lake residents to address this problem thru our county and state agencies. These same agencies tax our property and regulate the waterways of Twin Lakes. The IDL, Kootenai County Commissioners, and Parks and Waterway were encouraged to take action to remove the floating island from the narrows. The agency finger pointing and lack of accepting the responsibility to manage the navigable waterways was incredible.

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It was apparent if action was not taken soon, the high water level of the lake would naturally run off. This would lower the lake level, permanently lodging the island in the “narrows” part of the channel. When this occurred, boat traffic between lower Twin Lake and the upper Twin Lake would be closed. This closure would last thru this summer and for years to come, until something was done.

If the narrows blockage continued, it would create a more critical issue than just preventing pleasure boats from moving between upper and lower Twin Lakes. If there was a medical emergency requiring the Fire Department’s rescue boat, the time delay would likely affect the outcome of the rescue. With the fire boat parked on lower Twin Lake, the delay in removing and re-launching on upper Twin Lake would be unacceptable. The purpose of having the fire boat on the lake is for faster response to emergencies. There have been several incidents in recent years, where people required immediate medical attention on Twin Lakes. Twin Lake users depend on the emergency services of the marine division, and access thru the narrows is imperative. Boat access only residents need assurance a fire boat could reach their property.

Based on our research, IDL appeared to be the agency with the responsibility to address this type of problem. However, no action by IDL was planned or implemented to address this issue. The IDL deferred the problem back onto the lake residents to devise and submit their own plan of action back to IDL. It is a sad note, when faced with addressing this navigable

waterway problem; IDL would not take accountability for this issue.

The Kootenai County Parks and Waterways stepped in to help. Even though this agency did not have the legal responsibility to do so, their employees cut the floating island into smaller pieces allowing some of the sections to flow out of the narrows into the channel. The only problem was that several of the pieces did not float away. They settled on the bottom of the narrows, making boat traffic thru the narrows nearly impossible.



An appeal was made to the Kootenai County, Board of Commissioners for help. A hearing was convened with IDL, Parks and Waterways, and their legal representatives. Twin Lakes Improvement Association attended with two board members representing the interest of Twin Lakes in accordance of our mission to protect the natural resources of Twin Lakes. The conclusion of the hearing was for IDL to seek a bid from Idaho Marine to remove the island from the lake. This information was provided to the parties who attended the hearing. IDL obtained the bid of \$2,500 to

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\$5,000 from Idaho Marine, however made no move towards securing the contract.

One thing our community knows; when faced with a problem, local folks find a way to resolve it. The TLIA Board and property owners at Twin Lakes are very appreciative and thank those local residents who took action to address this situation. Faced with no assistance from IDL, residents utilized their personal funds and labor to remove the island from the narrows. This decision goes a long way to demonstrate personal commitment to keeping Twin Lakes open for all users. To avoid any government back lash, these “Good Samaritans” are intentionally not identified in this article. We all owe a debt of gratitude and appreciation to these folks for a job well done.

When you are boating this summer, and passing thru the narrows, think of what it would be like if you could not get thru the channel. What if you had to re-launch your boat each time you wanted to get between the lakes?

Your TLIA Board

## **FOURTH of JULY Boat Parade!!!!**

Come join this year’s parade on Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup> 2014, starting 11:00am. The parade will start on lower Twin Lake. The annual parade is enjoyed by so many people who live and visit Twin Lakes. So decorate your boat and join your neighbors on the water this 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Your TLIA Board wishes to remind participants; although your association does not organize the Boat Parade, we proudly support this grassroots participation in celebrating our country’s independence.



## **Thank You Volunteers**

It is with great appreciation your Twin Lakes Improvement Association (TLIA) Board wants to recognize and thank all those who helped in 2013, to make the work on the Fish Creek Restoration Project (FCRP) a success. Without your support, the work could not have been completed. We thank all those who volunteered their time and those that supported the work by providing a financial contribution. Your work and financial support will improve the water quality of Twin Lakes for yourself and generations to come. The stewardship in

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addressing water quality issues, exemplifies the importance of community involvement. You can be proud of the work accomplished in 2013.

Twin Lake residents and lake users can be proud of all the volunteers who put in personal time to help with this project. Volunteer time ranged from a few hours, to dozens of hours. There were over 1,600 volunteer hours provided during the 2013 construction period. There were volunteers of all ages, from young teenagers to retiree's. Everyone brought a variety of skills and abilities to the site. Young teenagers worked alongside older teens, to dig post holes and place the corner posts (rail road ties) for the fencing. Volunteers of all ages completed 1,200 feet of fencing to secure the cattle on the ranch from the restoration area along Fish Creek. There were those who helped place logs, rocks and fabric in the stream bank, to secure the foundation of the stream banks. There were those who helped with the planting of thousands of plants, trees and shrubs. There were church groups, neighborhood groups, school groups, Boy Scouts and dozens of people just like you who stepped up and volunteered.



Twin Lake residents represented only a small percentage of the actual volunteers. We are looking forward to more participation by those living at, or using Twin Lakes in 2014. Don't sit on the side lines, step up and volunteer a day or two at the site. For those who are unable to physically work at the site, we invite you to make a donation to provide financial assistance.

The volunteer work completed in 2013 was part of the Phase III portion (2013-2014) of the total restoration project. During 2013, restoration was completed on six (6) stream banks within a 1,200 foot section of Fish Creek. Work also began on the first of the two cattle crossings. The 2013 restoration work significantly reduced the erosion (sediment) during the 2014 spring run-off from the Twin Lakes watershed area. That is a reduction in sediment that did not end up in Twin Lakes.

Phase III is funded thru donations from our membership, concerned property owners and community groups, and by a \$140,000 grant from Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The grant match of \$56,000 in donations and in-kind services, approved by the TLIA membership, is the 40% match by the total grant. During 2013, the volunteers' and financial supporters contributed approximately half of our required match amount.

In 2014, we will continue the work to complete Phase III of the Fish Creek Restoration Project. This will complete stream bank restoration to the 1200 foot section we began in 2013. By the time this newsletter reaches our membership, the work season will have already

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started. We will work to complete the two (2) cattle crossings, additional fencing, complete any minor repairs caused by the 2014 spring run-off, and reconstruct six (6) additional stream banks.

These projects are expensive and require financial support for equipment, supplies and professional help to complete Phase III. This is our 40% required match for the \$319 grant. As we fine tune our work plan for 2014, we are asking each of you to help. Please put aside some time this year to participate at the work site. Please respond to requests for assistance. This is everyone's lake and everyone's responsibility to help keep it clean for future generations.

Again your TLIA Board wishes to thank all the volunteers and supporters who helped make 2013 a success. We want to invite each of you back again. We also would like to have others who are benefiting from this work, to step up and help those who are working to improve your lake water quality and experience at Twin Lakes. If you know someone who volunteered, please be sure to thank them.

To volunteer or provide financial assistance, contact me, Steve Kolb, at 208-818-4688 or via e-mail at [kskitroom@aol.com](mailto:kskitroom@aol.com).

**Steve Kolb** – TLIA V.P. / Chairman, Fish Creek Restoration Committee

## **Boat Inspections at the Pubic Accesses Help keep Twin Lakes from being invaded.**

“Aquatic invasive species are one of the most significant threats to the waters of Idaho

and the region. Things like eurasian water milfoil, flowering rush and zebra mussels all have significant economic and environmental impacts. Prevention is the best way to protect our waters. Boaters who Clean, Drain and Dry their boats, are doing their part in helping protect the waters of Idaho from aquatic invasive species.

Idaho's watercraft inspection stations are now open. Inspection is mandatory if the station is open. The process is very quick and easy if the boat is clean. Water craft inspections for invasive species will take place at the mid channel and upper lake public access. Inspections will provide education to the public, a few weekends this summer. The inspectors track data on where boats are coming from and going to. This data can be valuable in tracking how the invasive species are being introduced to the various lakes. Twin Lakes is one of the very few lakes without Eurasian Milfoil. Let's keep it that way by supporting prevention methods like the boat inspections.

For more information go to:

[www.invasivespecies.idaho.gov](http://www.invasivespecies.idaho.gov)

**Tom Woolf** – Aquatic Plant Program Manager, Idaho State Department of Agriculture

## **Save Our Lake!**

What **YOU** can do to preserve water quality of **TWIN LAKES**

While there is never an easy answer or quick fix to protect our lake, there are a number of simple things that we can do AND promote

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with our lake neighbors. Understanding how our actions affect the long term health of our lake helps current and future generations protect the lifestyle and value of our lake and environment. Limiting phosphorus entering the lake is the key to controlling the growth of algae, excessive aquatic plants and improving water clarity, oxygen content and water quality in general. Consider placing a copy at your cabins and homes on the lakes.

## Lake Do's and Don'ts

### Do's include:

1. Use zero-phosphorus lawn fertilizer
2. Properly operate and maintain septic systems; pump at least every three years for year-round residents, or 5 years for seasonal residents
3. Use phosphorous-free dishwasher & laundry detergents
4. Clean up pet waste
5. Keep bonfires away from the lake, and clean up all ashes
6. Pick up fireworks debris and residue
7. Insure your boat engine and gas tank have no fluid leaks. (Consider using a small hand pump or other devise to transfer gas from containers to your boat to avoid spills.)
8. Cover loose soil areas with vegetation and remedy any shoreline erosion problems
9. Develop and maintain a shoreline vegetation buffer

### Don'ts include:

1. Don't add sand along the shoreline- (Sand contains high amounts of phosphorus and destroys the natural filters we need to keep the lake healthy.)
2. Don't bathe, shampoo, or wash boats, pets, or other objects in the lake
3. Do not fertilize within 30 feet of the lake (From 30 feet to 250 feet, use no phosphate, slow release nitrogen fertilizer on vegetated areas.)
4. Don't feed the ducks and geese (Resident duck and goose populations increase disease causing bacteria in the water. They can also be a significant source of nutrients to the lake.)
5. Don't put leaves, grass clippings, branches or any kind of organic matter into the lake (Plant debris adds phosphorus and other nutrients directly to the lake.)

**Doug Jayne** – TLIA Board Member

### TLIA Board Elections

Elections for five (5) positions on the TLIA Board of Directors will take place at the annual meeting. We are looking for members who can dedicate time and energy to support the goals of our lake association and projects the Board is involved in. If you are interested in becoming active on the Board or know of some who is, please contact your Board President: **Debbie Andrews** at #724-553-8779 Cell , or Vice President: **Steve Kolb** at #208-818-4688 Cell.

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**TLIA's Web Site has a new updated look**

Our new website is more in line with our nonprofit mission. The new site address is [twinlakesimprovementassociation.org](http://twinlakesimprovementassociation.org). The site has new information as well as the capability to pay your dues and donations online.

**FREE Boating Safety Classes**

Boating is an enjoyable and fun adventure for everyone. It requires smart and level thinking to keep it safe. Think about attending a free Boating Safety Class, presented by the Kootenai County Sheriff's Office, Marine Division.

Classes are the 3rd sat every month at the Marine Division building. 2014 classes are scheduled on: June 21<sup>st</sup>, July 19<sup>th</sup>, Aug 16<sup>th</sup>, and Sept 20<sup>th</sup>. Classes start at 8:00 and go to 1:30. Contact Boat Safety Instructor **Bob Bjelland** at the Kootenai County Sheriff's office 208-446-2250. Check with your insurance company for a discount for taking the course.

**Kootenai County FireSmart™  
and Your Neighborhood.**

The blend of forest vegetation and scattered residential uses puts the Twin Lakes area at significant risk from wildfire. As we approach this year's fire season it is a good time for each of us to reflect on what we have done and what we can do to make ourselves, our families, and our community safer from this threat.

An important step in this process is coming to the realization we must take personal responsibility for an environment safer from wildfire. This responsibly spans many levels including making sure our home and landscaping are fire safe, our forest is well-

managed and healthy, and our community has a network of support. These tasks can seem overwhelming. Fortunately, taking personal responsibility does not mean we have to go it alone. There are helpful resources available. One such resource is Kootenai County's FireSmart™ program.

FireSmart™ plays two important roles in helping to create fire safe communities. One involves administering grant funds designated to physically treat hazardous vegetation. The other is educational.

Currently, FireSmart™ uses its grant funds to reduce hazardous fuels and create fuel breaks in carefully targeted neighborhoods where the work will protect numerous homes and important infrastructure. A good example of such a project near your community is the fuel break along Highway 41. Obtaining grants for this type of work is becoming very challenging as funds are limited and the process more competitive. It is increasingly important to identify the best area for hazardous fuels reduction. Furthermore, the most effective fuel breaks generally span multiple ownerships; therefore the highest priority areas that demonstrate interest, cooperation, and partnerships between multiple land owners have the best chance of obtaining future hazardous fuels reduction funding.

Although we are not currently administering any FireSmart™ grants in the Twin Lakes area, we look at this area as a very high priority and are working to verify interest and cooperation in the course of obtaining such funding.

In the process, we also hope to achieve the second major goal of FireSmart™. That is to

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provide property owners with information and educational tools to help them create their own fire safe environment. The educational role FireSmart™ plays also involves linking people to other resources such as their local fire district, Idaho FireWise, the Idaho Department of Lands, and the Natural Resource Conservation Service. For more information on the FireSmart™ program you can contact

Kootenai County's FireSmart™ Project manager **Steve Bloedel** at (208) 661-9405 or visit the Kootenai County Office of Emergency Management website at <http://oem.kcgov.us>.

## **Since You Asked**

During our annual meeting a number of questions came up and we wanted to provide the requested information.

### **Are Donations to TLIA Tax Deductable?**

The short answer is YES!

TLIA is a 501 C (3) nonprofit organization # 82-0394746, which has tax exempt status recognize by the internal Revenue Service. The term 501 C (3) broadly covers nonprofit organizations that do not insure or financially benefit in any private shareholder. Donors have the ability to claim deductions based on contrubutions made to TLIA. You should always consult your financial advisor on how to handel your tax deductible donations.

**Amy Geiger** - TLIA Treasurer

### **Does Idaho Fish and Game stock Twin Lake?**

The Idaho Fish and Game Department does stock Twin Lakes with 9-12 inch Rainbow Trout. During the week of May 5<sup>th</sup> 2014, lower Twin Lakes was stocked with 1,200 rainbow Trout. During the week of May 19<sup>th</sup> 2014, an additional 1,800 Rainbow Trout were stocked in lower Twin Lakes. Stocking trout is done based upon habitat compatibility. Fishing licenses are available at the Rathdrum Drug Store on Hwy 41, or online at <https://fishandgame.idaho.gov>. Fishing Adult is \$25.75 and Fishing Junior 14-17 is \$13.75. If you need further information please contact Idaho Fish and Game, Panhandle Region office at 208- 769-1414.

### **Who Controls the Lake Levels?**

Lake Levels are maintained between 10' 4" (high water) and 6'4" (low water) and monitored by the Flood Control District #17. This organization is chaired by John Eixenberger which meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 7PM at The Twin Village Office. This meeting is open to the public. You are encouraged to attend to learn more about the delicate balance of flooding and ensuring all water right holders can receive the necessary water they need. There is a link to the daily lake level data on the TLIA website. There is more information regarding the Flood Control District #17 (High Water) as well as the Twin Lakes Water District #95c (Low Water) on their website at [www.twinlakesidaho.org](http://www.twinlakesidaho.org).

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## Ty Wilding's Eagle Scout Project Benefits Twin Lakes, Fish Creek Restoration Project



The Eagle Scout Service Project is an opportunity for a Boy Scout to develop a plan, and demonstrate his leadership of others while performing a project for the benefit of his community. This is the culmination of the Eagle Scout candidate's leadership training, and it requires a significant effort on his part. The project must benefit an organization other than the BSA. Eagle Scout candidate **Ty Wilding** did just that. He heard about The Fish Creek Restoration Project and immediately thought this was a way for him to benefit the Twin Lakes Community. Ty is a member of Boy Scout Troop 289 chartered through the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Ty's Project included securing 480 Pine tree seedlings which he potted and cared for over five months. These trees stayed in his care until planted along the banks of Fish Creek. These pine trees will eventually provide the necessary shade benefiting the fish habitat and cooling the stream water. Even with the inclement weather it did not prevent the work from being done. They lived up to the Boy Scout motto "Be Prepared". He and 29 fellow Scouts and their leaders came to the work site in rain ponchos armed with tools, trailers full of trees and truck loads of compost. Ty demonstrated his leadership by directing the large group on safety first and then instructed them on the proper planting procedures. Ty's project will be one

that will benefit Twin Lakes for many years to come.

Ty went before the Eagle Scouts Board of Review and was found worthy to receive his Eagle Scout award. Only 2 percent of Boy Scouts actually go on to receive this prestigious award. On April 17, 2014, an Eagle Scout Court of Honor was held recognizing Ty Wilding's achievement. Debbie Andrews TLIA Board President attended this event as a representative of the benefiting organization.

Congratulations to Ty for earning his Eagle Scout Award and helping to protect the historic resources of Twin Lakes.

**Debbie Andrews** – TLIA Board President

## **Don Ellis and Maimie Moore Honored with the 2013 Stewardship Award**



During the 2013 Annual meeting **Don Ellis** and **Maimie Moore** were the recipients of the 2013 Stewardship award.

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Don Ellis is known for his contribution, leadership and dedicated service to the Twin Lakes Improvement Association. Don started coming to Twin Lakes on a regular basis in the spring of 1971 while dating his future wife Susie. He and Susie fell in love with each other and Twin lakes, purchasing their first cabin in 1981.

Don quickly became involved on the board in 1985 and has continuously served until the end of his term in 2013. During his 28 years of continuous service he has served in several significant roles, first as Vice President for over 10 years, then President serving from 1993-2000 and most recently as the Channel Restoration Project Chairman. Don has continued to provide the institutional and historical knowledge for the benefit of new board members.

When you look back over his 28 years; he has been involved and helped lead the way in many of the board accomplishments. We are proud of Don and his stewardship example.

At 93 years young **Maimie Moore** is still an active member of the Twin Lakes Association. Soon after Maimie moved to Twin Lakes in 1976, she became active in efforts to improve our lakes. She served on the Board of Twin Lakes Improvement Association for over 25 years. During this time Maimie was very involved in the Association's projects.

Maimie worked to create the Twin Lakes Sewer District. She then continued her efforts by becoming a director on the TLIA Board. After two major efforts to get the residents of the lakes to approve sewer systems at Twin Lakes, the Sewer District, and Maimie, became inactive in this area.

Maimie worked for about 10 years to create a public water district from a private system. After the North Kootenai Water District was formed, Maimie was on their Board of Directors for another 10 years.

Don and Maimie's dedication and service to the Twin Lake area earned them the distinctive honor of being good stewards. We want to again thank these two for helping to drive the board towards continued success. Their efforts and leadership have made Twin Lakes a great place to live and to recreate.

**Debbie Andrews** – President TLIA Board

## **Citizens Volunteer Monitoring Program (CVMP)** **What is it and What it mean to you?**

The Citizen Volunteer Monitoring Program, known as CVMP, is a partnership between the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and TLIA community volunteers interested in protecting Idaho's water resources. The goals of the CVMP are to:

- Collect data that will be used to protect or improve water bodies
- Identify water quality problems and locate their sources
- Provide citizens with a practical opportunity to learn about aquatic ecosystems, and
- Develop local grass roots support for environmental programs and foster cooperation among citizens, organizations, and government.

DEQ provides volunteers training on how to recognize water pollution, assess physical habitat conditions, and collect chemical and biological samples. Volunteers are trained in various types of monitoring activities which they perform at regular intervals to ensure the data collected are scientifically reliable.

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For over 40 years, members of the Twin Lakes Improvement Association have been performing the function of CVMP and collecting water samples within Twin Lakes. DEQ has been collecting this data from our sampling.



**Craig Nelson** at DEQ recently provided your TLIA Board, with the following information.

This is a summary of the results for the full record of data collected by the Citizen Volunteer Monitoring Program for Twin Lakes. Data from three earlier published studies was included (1975, 1981, and 1985-87). The period of record is 1975-2011.

The prime objective of monitoring is to detect a significant change in the lakes with time. This is accomplished by using the key variables defining the trophic state of a lake.

The trophic state of a lake is a classification of its biological productivity (the life-supporting capacity per unit volume of a lake).

Secchi disk transparency, chlorophyll a, and total phosphorus are often used to define the

degree of eutrophication, or trophic state of a lake. The concept of trophic state is based on the fact that changes in nutrient levels (measured by total phosphorus) causes changes in algal biomass (measured by chlorophyll a) which in turn causes changes in lake clarity (measured by Secchi disk transparency). Secchi disk transparency or water clarity is a measure of the depth one can see into a lake.

	TSI Average	Trophic State Classification
Upper Twin Lake	45	mesotrophic
Lower Twin Lake	42	mesotrophic

Chlorophyll is a measure of the amount of planktonic algae in the water. Phosphorus is the plant nutrient that controls aquatic plant growth.

A trophic state index is a convenient way to quantify this relationship. The Carlson trophic state index uses a log transformation of Secchi disk values as a measure of algal biomass on a scale from 0 - 110. Each increase of ten units on the scale represents a doubling of algal biomass. Because chlorophyll a and total phosphorus are usually closely correlated to Secchi disk measurements, these parameters can also be assigned trophic state index values. The Carlson trophic state index is useful for assessing changes in trophic status over time.

Ranges of trophic state index values are often grouped into trophic state classifications. The range between 40 and 50 is usually associated with mesotrophy (moderate productivity). Index values greater than 50 are associated with eutrophy (high productivity). Values less than 40 are associated with oligotrophy (low

# Twin Lakes Improvement Association - Newsletter

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productivity).

Presented below are the Carlson trophic state index values for Twin Lakes. Summer averages (June - September) are used in the calculations. As seen from the trophic state index values, both upper and lower Twin Lakes can be classified mesotrophic.

The three common trophic classifications are oligotrophic, mesotrophic, and eutrophic. Oligotrophic lakes are clear and blue, with very low levels of nutrients and algae. Mesotrophic lakes have moderate levels of nutrients and algae. Eutrophic lakes are green and murky, with higher amounts of nutrients and algae.

The trend analysis of the data reveals that there is no change in the trophic level in either lake. This is based on the PAC (percent annual change) average p-value (probability).

P-value Range	Interpretation
Less than or equal to 0.1	Definite Change
Greater than 0.1 and less than or equal to 0.2	Probable Change
Greater than 0.2 and less than or equal to 0.3	Possible Change
Greater than 0.3	No Change

	P-value	Interpretation
Upper Twin Lake	1.00	No change
Lower Twin Lake	0.37	No change

Your TLIA Board works closely with DEQ in several areas and thanks them for providing the data analysis. The positive relationship helps everyone know the past and current conditions of the lakes. This data helps your Board in

planning projects that benefit all users of Twin Lakes.

**Craig Nelson** – DEQ

## The Confluence Project Youth Water Summit

The Twin Lakes Improvement Association was asked to participate in judging The Confluence Project Youth Water Summit held at the University of Idaho, April 14th 2014. Debbie Andrews and Steve Kolb attended on behalf of TLIA serving as judges.

There were over 100 students from North Idaho and around the region who participated with the support of their teachers.

The students worked with the Confluence Project to identify water resource issues pertaining to the communities in which they live. During the water summit, students gave presentations on the issues they identified and the solutions they developed to address these issues. It was similar to science fair however the presentations took various forms ie. video, posters, journal articles, ect.

The students were judged with a rubric, evaluating their presentation skills, the project identified and solution presented.

One particular project by **Deavan Tristan** and **Kekoa Porter** of Post Falls High School caught the eye of the judges and noted this fantastic project was inspired by a field trip to the Fish Creek Restoration Project.

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This project model was well done and provided a unique solution for keeping the cattle out of the steams with the use of a nose pump. Training cows to press a pump with their nose to get water. Learn more at our annual meeting.

**Debbie Andrews** – TLIA President

## Bouy Placement

This is a topic that comes up on a regular basis. Placement of bouys in the lake are intended to protect your family and property from boaters coming too close to shore. There are always two sides of any dispute and this scenario is no different. On the homeowners side, there should be a reasonable area in front of your property that you can use for swimming and enjoying the water. On the other side, bouys placed out too far, restrict the area for boaters to pass safely during heavy traffic days. Fish do not know boundaries, and those who fish will often throw their lines in close to shore or near docks to locate fish who are searching for cooler water. Some residents and boaters take the issue very personal and disputes have erupted. In order to get the most accurate information regarding the placement of bouys, TLIA requested information from **Jim Brady**, Resource Supervisor at the Idaho Department of Lands. Below is a letter Mr. Brady provided as an explanation in this matter.

**Steve Kolb** – VP TLIA Board

**MICA SUPERVISORY AREA**  
3258 West Industrial Loop  
Coeur d'Alene ID 83815  
Phone (208) 769-1577  
Fax (208) 769-1597



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Tom Luna, Sup't of Public Instruction

March 28, 2014

To Whom It May Concern

RE: Floating Things on Kootenai County Lakes

**Buoys**  
The Idaho Department of Lands is charged by the Idaho Lake Protection Act, Idaho Code 58-13, to regulate and permit encroachments on all navigable lakes in the State of Idaho. According to the Act, all waterfront property owners have the right to an aid to navigation. Aids to navigation include piers, docks, boat lifts and a **single mooring buoy** per upland ownership. Mooring buoys in Kootenai County are required to be U.S. Coast Guard approved and are a white background with a blue stripe. It is important to note the permitting process for a mooring buoy is the same the permitting process for a dock. These mooring buoys **cannot** be installed out past the existing dock line.

The counties are charged to regulate boating safety. Boating safety includes navigational buoys. The Department of Lands will only accept navigational buoy applications from Kootenai County. An example of navigational buoys include: hazard buoys, channel markers and no wake zone buoys.

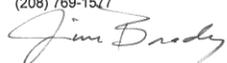
**Toys and Floaties**  
Idaho currently has no specific laws pertaining to toys and other floaties except when they become hazards to navigation. Toys and floaties are things like trampolines, floating islands, cubes and the like. However, you should check with the Kootenai County Sheriff Marine Division to inquire if they have rules regarding these structures.

The Department of Lands, and most likely the county, hope people use common sense with these devices so no one gets injured. The Department strongly recommends that these devices only be out past the docks when they are being used, are brought in and securely tied to a fixed structure so as not to get blown away when not being used and especially not left out past the docks at night. Some of these devices could cause significant damage to a boat if a collision with one were to occur.

The Idaho Department of Lands would be happy to answer any questions regarding any encroachment on the lake.

If you have further questions, please contact :

Jim Brady, Resource Supervisor – Lands & Waterways  
(208) 769-1577



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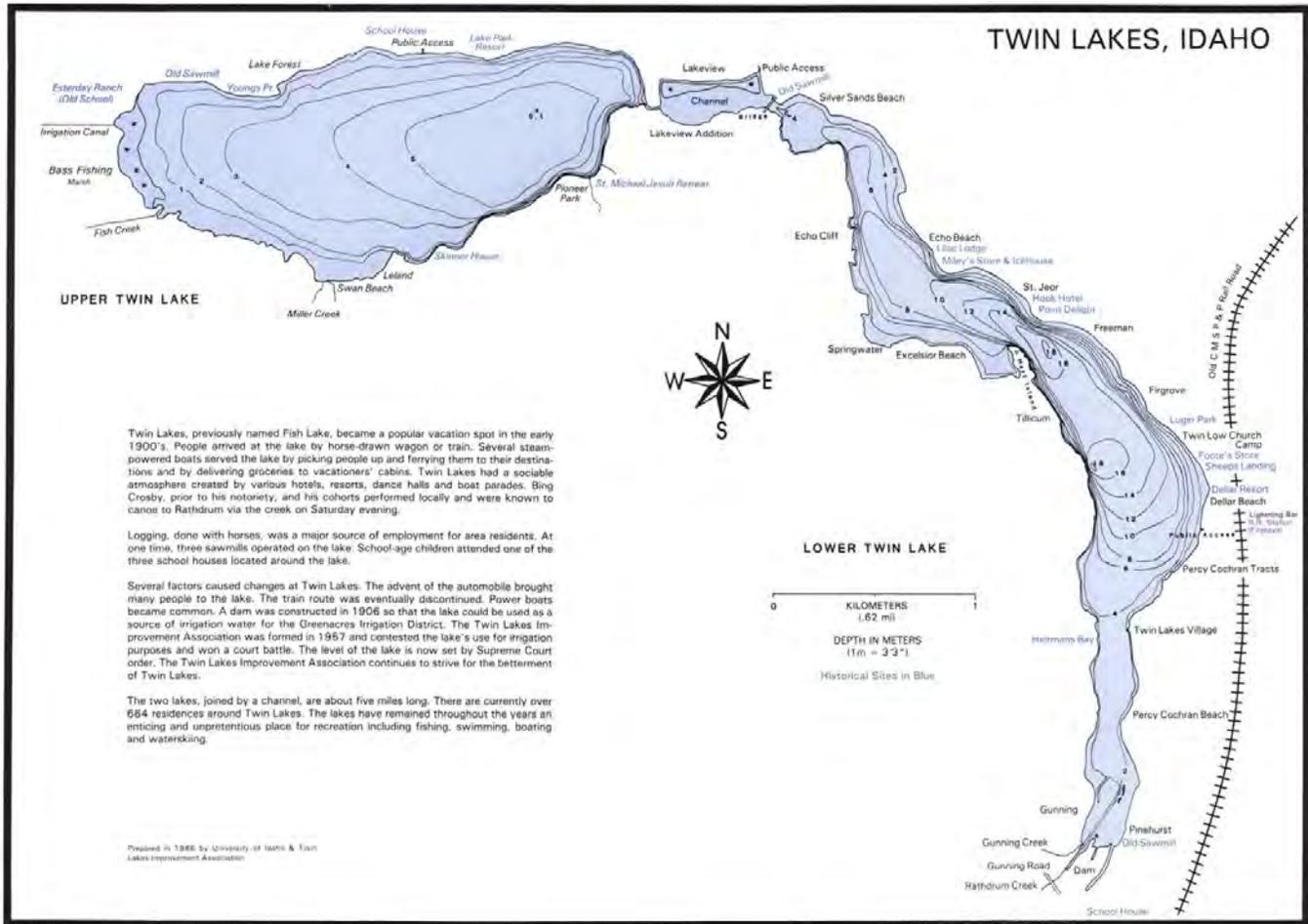
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## Historical Map of Twin Lakes Available

As anyone who has seen *Antiques Roadshows* can attest, map collecting is an increasingly popular way to own a piece of the past. We offer a beautiful map of Twin Lakes that is suitable for framing. It highlights important historical locations along the lakes and makes a great addition to any collection. It will be available at our annual meeting for a tax deductible donation of only \$10.00.



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## **Twin Lakes Improvement Association Board Members 2013- 2014**

**P. O. BOX 620 RATHDRUM ID 83858**

**[Twinlakesimprovementassociation.org](http://Twinlakesimprovementassociation.org)**

**[twlia@hotmail.com](mailto:twlia@hotmail.com)**

Position	Name	Term	Email	Phone
President	Debra Andrews	2016	<a href="mailto:fordebto@aol.com">fordebto@aol.com</a> or <a href="mailto:twlia@hotmail.com">twlia@hotmail.com</a>	Cell: 724-553-8779
Vice President	Steve Kolb	2016	<a href="mailto:kskitroom@aol.com">kskitroom@aol.com</a> or <a href="mailto:twlia@hotmail.com">twlia@hotmail.com</a>	Cell: 208-818-4688
Treasurer	Amy Geiger	2016	<a href="mailto:twlia@hotmail.com">twlia@hotmail.com</a>	Cell: 509-220-5060
Secretary	Judy Mott	None	<a href="mailto:twlia@hotmail.com">twlia@hotmail.com</a>	Cell: 850-508-3770
Board Member	Belinda Childers	2015	<a href="mailto:twlia@hotmail.com">twlia@hotmail.com</a>	Cell: 208-660-4560
Board Member	Gregg Durkee	2014	<a href="mailto:twlia@hotmail.com">twlia@hotmail.com</a>	Cell: 509-294-0780
Board Member	Marty Frantz	2015	<a href="mailto:twlia@hotmail.com">twlia@hotmail.com</a>	Cell: 208-661-9350
Board Member	Doug Jayne	2014	<a href="mailto:twlia@hotmail.com">twlia@hotmail.com</a>	Cell: 509-710-6791
Board Member	Mike Knowles	2014	<a href="mailto:twlia@hotmail.com">twlia@hotmail.com</a>	Cell: 509-863-4359
Board Member	Bob Kuhn	2015	<a href="mailto:twlia@hotmail.com">twlia@hotmail.com</a>	Cell: 805-239-5846
Board Member	Jeff Mott	2014	<a href="mailto:twlia@hotmail.com">twlia@hotmail.com</a>	Cell: 850-508-3770
Board Member	Tom Pearson	2015	<a href="mailto:twlia@hotmail.com">twlia@hotmail.com</a>	Cell: 208-691-6543
Board Member	Laurin Scarcello	2016	<a href="mailto:twlia@hotmail.com">twlia@hotmail.com</a>	Cell: 208-661-6090
Board Member	Tyler Wagner	2015	<a href="mailto:twlia@hotmail.com">twlia@hotmail.com</a>	Cell: 541-968-6791

**Fish Creek Project Manager: Chris Hardy, [cbhardy99@gmail.com](mailto:cbhardy99@gmail.com) Cell 208-659-1620**

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## AGENCY CONTACT LIST 2014

AGENCY	REMARKS	CONTACT PERSON	PHONE No.
Kootenai County Sheriff's Office 5500 N. Government Way Coeur d'Alene, ID	Sheriff: <b>Ben Wolfinger</b> Boat Safety Classes	Emergency Marine Unit Supervisor: <b>Sgt. Higgins</b>	911 208-446-1300
Northern Lakes Fire Protection District 125 W Hayden Ave, Hayden Lake	Fire Chief: <b>Dean Marcus</b> Residential fire permits	Emergency Business / Administration	911 208-772-5711
Idaho Department of Lands Mica Forest Protective District 3258 W. Industrial Loop, Cd'A	Boat access only; fire permits / May thru October	Area Manager <b>Tom Fleer</b>	208-769-1577
Idaho Department of Lands Navigational Waters 3258 W. Industrial Loop, Cd'A	Dock Permits	Resource Supervisor, Lands & Waterways <b>Jim Brady</b>	208-769-1577
Flood Control District #17 Under the Idaho Department of Water Resources, 208-762-2800 7600 Mineral Drive, Suite 100 Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815-7763	Water level from 6'4" to 10'4" at the dam (high water). Meets the 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 7 PM at the Twin Lakes Village	Water master: <b>Tim Sullivan</b> Chairman: <b>John Eixenberger</b>	(Emergencies) 360-477-5970 208-659-1701
Twin Lakes Water District #95c <a href="http://www.twinlakesidaho.org">www.twinlakesidaho.org</a>	Water level below 6'4" at the dam. (low water)	Water Master: <b>Lauren Scarcello</b> Chairman: <b>Don Ellis</b>	208-661-6090 208-755-4880
North Kootenai Water District 13649 N. Meyer Rd., Rathdrum, ID	Meets 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month	Board of Director President: <b>Tom Crimmin</b> District Manager: <b>Mike Galante</b>	208-687-6593
Panhandle Health District 8500 N. Atlas Rd., Hayden	Septic system permits / new & revisions	Division Director: <b>Dale Peck</b>	208-415-5200
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) 2110 Ironwood Pkwy. Cd'A	Environmental Quality issues, i.e.: Hazardous material spills, Surface water quality, Air quality.	<b>Dan Redline</b>	208-769-1422
Idaho Department of Water Resources 7600 Mineral Dr. #100, Cd'A	Water Rights	Regional Manager: <b>Keith Franklin</b>	208-762-2800
Kootenai County - Building and Planning Division 451 Government Way., Cd'A	Building permits, codes, storm water runoff	Community Development Director <b>David Callahan</b>	208-446-1070
Twin Lakes Improvement Association P.O. Box 620 Rathdrum ID 83858	Representing property owners in both upper & lower Twin Lakes and the Mid-Channel.	TLIA Board President <b>Debbie Andrews</b> TLIA Board Vice President <b>Steve Kolb</b>	Cell phone 724-553-8779 Cell phone 208-818-4688
Kootenai County – Parks, Waterways and Noxious Weeds 10905 N. Ramsey Road, Hayden 83835	Boat launch on upper Twin Lake	Director <b>Nick Snyder</b>	208-446-1275
Kootenai County - Noxious Weeds 10905 N. Ramsey Road, Hayden 83835		County Weed Superintendent <b>Bill Hargrave</b>	208-446-1290
Idaho Department of Agriculture PO Box 790 2270 Old Penitentiary Rd Boise, Idaho 83701	Aquatic Plant Program Manager Invasive Species Program	<b>Tom Woolf</b>	208-608-3404
Idaho Fish and Game Panhandle Regional office 2885 W. Kathleen Ave. Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815	Mid channel boat launch Stock fish in both Twin Lakes from Cabinet Gorge Hatchery 208-266-1431		208- 769-1414

**TLIA thanks local businesses in this Service Directory and invite you to enjoy their services.**

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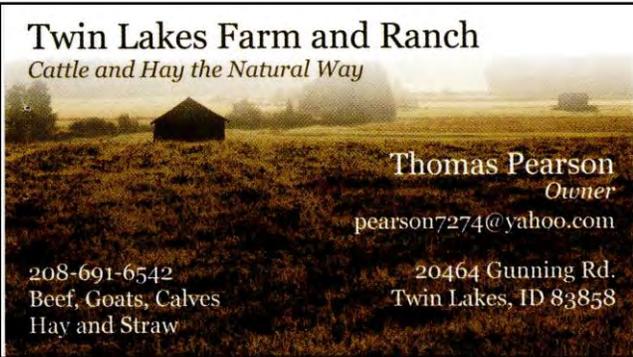
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[twinlakesjc@cs.com](mailto:twinlakesjc@cs.com)

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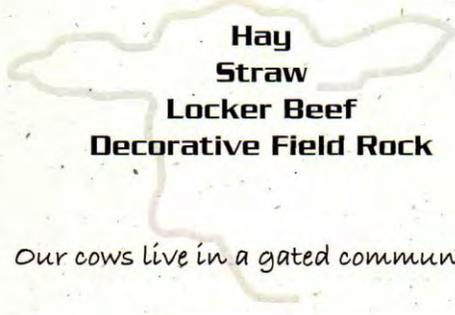
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### NEED A DOCK?

Twin Lakes Village will be replacing our docks in October of this year and we are trying to find a new home for our old docks. They would need to be moved immediately after October 1, 2014.

Our present docks are cedar float log with Douglas Fir decking. There are three separate docks, two with six slips and one with twelve.

We would sell each dock as is for \$500 each (or best offer); and it would be at the buyers expense to have them moved to a new location. Idaho State Permits would be needed for the new location.

If you are interested, please contact Kevin Sharrai, General Manager at Twin Lakes Village, 687-1312.



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**DUES FORM – Please Mail responses to:**

**TWIN LAKES IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION  
POST OFFICE BOX 620  
RATHDRUM, IDAHO 83858**

Please include:

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

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Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Member \_\_\_\_

Associate Member \_\_\_\_

Dues: \$10.00 / year      2014 \_\_\_\_\_  
   2015 \_\_\_\_\_  
   2016 \_\_\_\_\_

(+) Dues                      \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(+) General Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(+) Fish Creek Project \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(+) Channel Project      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Dues and Donation Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_      Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Check \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card type	
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## **Twin Lakes Improvement Association**

*A 501-C3 Non-Profit Organization # 82-0394746*

*- Inc. October 4, 1956*

*PO Box 620 Rathdrum Id 83858*



**Save the Date; TLIA Annual Meeting July 5, 2014 - Sign in: 9:30am - Meeting: 10:00am to 11:30 am**