

LAKE PARKER, FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2023 ANNUAL MEETING.

The Committee has been involved in various endeavors this year including:

1. Facilitating the State's stocking of Lake Parker with 900, one year old., 9.8" rainbow trout which occurred on 2 May 2023; please let me know at FishWildlife@lakeparker.org if you have caught any!!
2. Viewing and reviewing reports from others of eagle and other bird sightings while the cormorants continue to eat lots of fish!!
3. Viewing busy beavers at the south end of the Lake as well as loons, mink and painted turtles at various locations.
4. Participating in the Responsible Wakes for Vermont Lakes (RWVL) volunteer committee meetings and reviewing the State's progress regarding the use of wake boats on VT lakes and ponds and their detrimental effect on lakeshores, docks, swimmers, canoers, kayakers, sailors and stand up boards; relaying updates regarding the Petition and ANR's proposed rules to our membership.

The ANR's proposed rule was filed with the Secretary of State on 21 June 2023 (500 ft from shore, 20 ft min depth, 50 contiguous acres, home lake rule). Public meetings regarding the proposed rule will be held in person on 1 August 2023 in Montpelier and remotely on 3 August 2023; sign up to speak required in advance starting 10 July 2023; see attached. The RWVL is still supporting 1000 ft from shore.

We continue to be hopeful that wake boat sports will be managed and limited on Lake Parker.

5. Monitoring the VT Fish and Wildlife website at <https://vtfishandwildlife.com> which provides lots of interesting and educational information as well as the requirements for fishing and hunting licenses.
6. After consultation with, and with the help of, Eric Hansen of the Vermont Center for Ecological Studies, on 22 April 2023, the floating loon nest again was deployed in the cove just south of Stevens Brook on the west side of the lake. The loons, however, decided to nest in the marsh in this same area. The loons began building their nest on 21 May but by 26 May, the nest was empty, and disturbed by outside forces.

As we did last year, we will continue to keep an eye on the loon situation and will report back to our membership and the VT Center for Eco Studies.

7. Working with the VT Center for Eco Studies to have a lead weight and fishing line disposal receptacle installed at the Lake Parker boat launch area. (NEW FOR US!!)

HOPING ALL ARE KEEPING SAFE AND ARE ENJOYING THIS SUMMER,

Respectfully Submitted, John Wooten, Chair of the Fish and Wildlife Committee
Email: FishWildlife@lakeparker.org