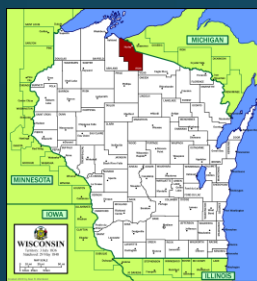


Iron County Land & Water Resource Management Plan 2020-2030

Presented by: Heather Palmquist, County Conservationist/Dept Head
Iron County Land & Water Conservation Department
Ken Saari – Iron County LCC Member



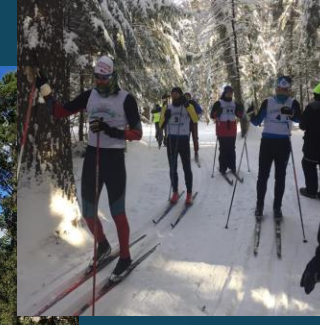
Iron County



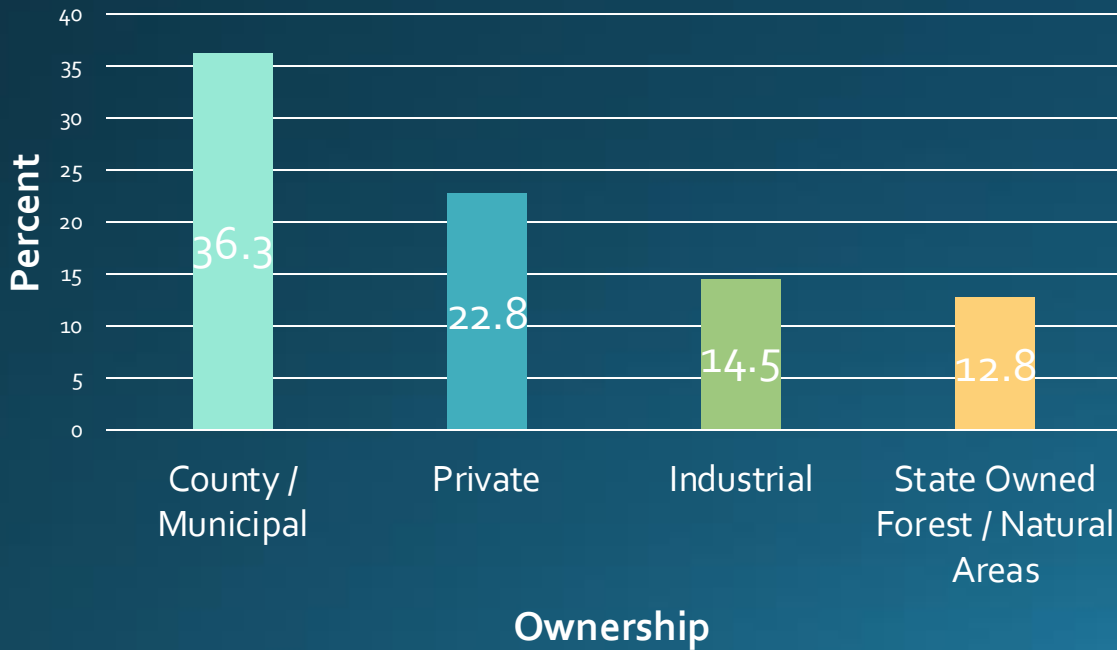
- Pop. 5,916
- Snow capital of the state
- High unemployment rate
- High number of second homes
- Aging population

County – 484,660 acres

- 86.4% Forested – 3rd largest county forest in the state
- 32% Wetlands – majority are forested
- 6% Surface Water
- 1.6% Agriculture Lands



Iron County Forested Land



Surface Water

- 494 Lakes – 29,902 acres
 - 612 miles of shoreline
 - 2/3 classified as seepage <10ac
- 724 miles of perennial streams
 - 336 miles Trout waters
- 7.5 miles of Lake Superior coastline



Iron Co LWCD Staff & LCC Members



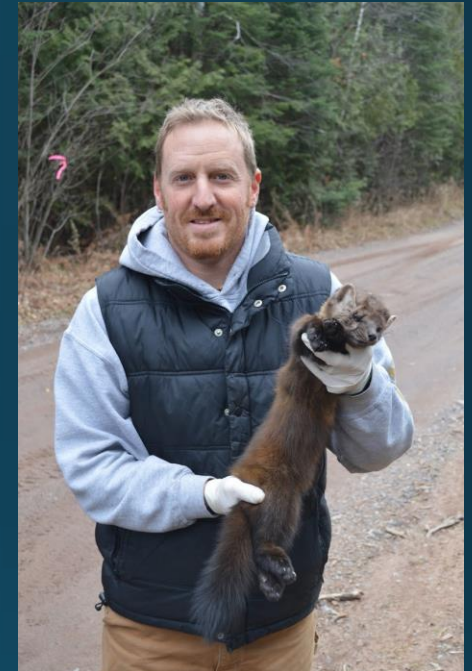
Heather Palmquist

County Conservationist/Dept
Head

- Administration
- Technician
- Native Plant Sale

- 2 LTE Staff (Summer)
 - Invasive species
- Assist on technical projects

Zach Wilson
Conservation
Specialist



- Invasive Species Program
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Education & Outreach

LCC Members: William Thomas (Acting Chair, VC), Ken Saari, Larry Youngs, Dale Wehmas (FSA Rep)
Brad Matson - Chair (passed away in Aug 2019)

Challenges 2015-2019

- Nutrient Management
 - Farmers don't participate
- Farmland Preservation
 - Plan updated in 2017
 - No interest, historically or presently
- Job checks of past projects
- Groundwater education in the classroom
- Annual tour of projects



Achievements:

- 8 projects installed on 2 farms
- 2017 Job Check – recuperated \$2,236 Cost Share money
- LCC is interested in tours



Surprises

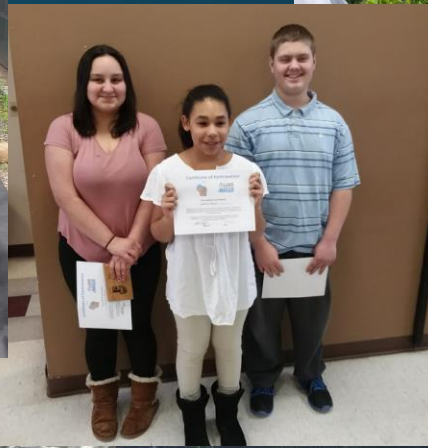


2016 Flood Event
14 in rain – 3 hrs
1 death
\$14.6 million in damage in Iron County
2018 – 2 events - \$1.2 million in damage



Successes 2015-2019

- Increased public awareness of dept.
- Built up our Education & Outreach program – surpassed goals
- Increased our water quality volunteer program – adding 15 new volunteers
- Coordinate WI Land+Water Conservation Camp for high school students – very successful camp
- Built our Cost Share Program – project requests now exceed funding
 - Increased our BOND request by \$10,000/yr.
- Secured our 2nd position – historically grant funded, until 2019!

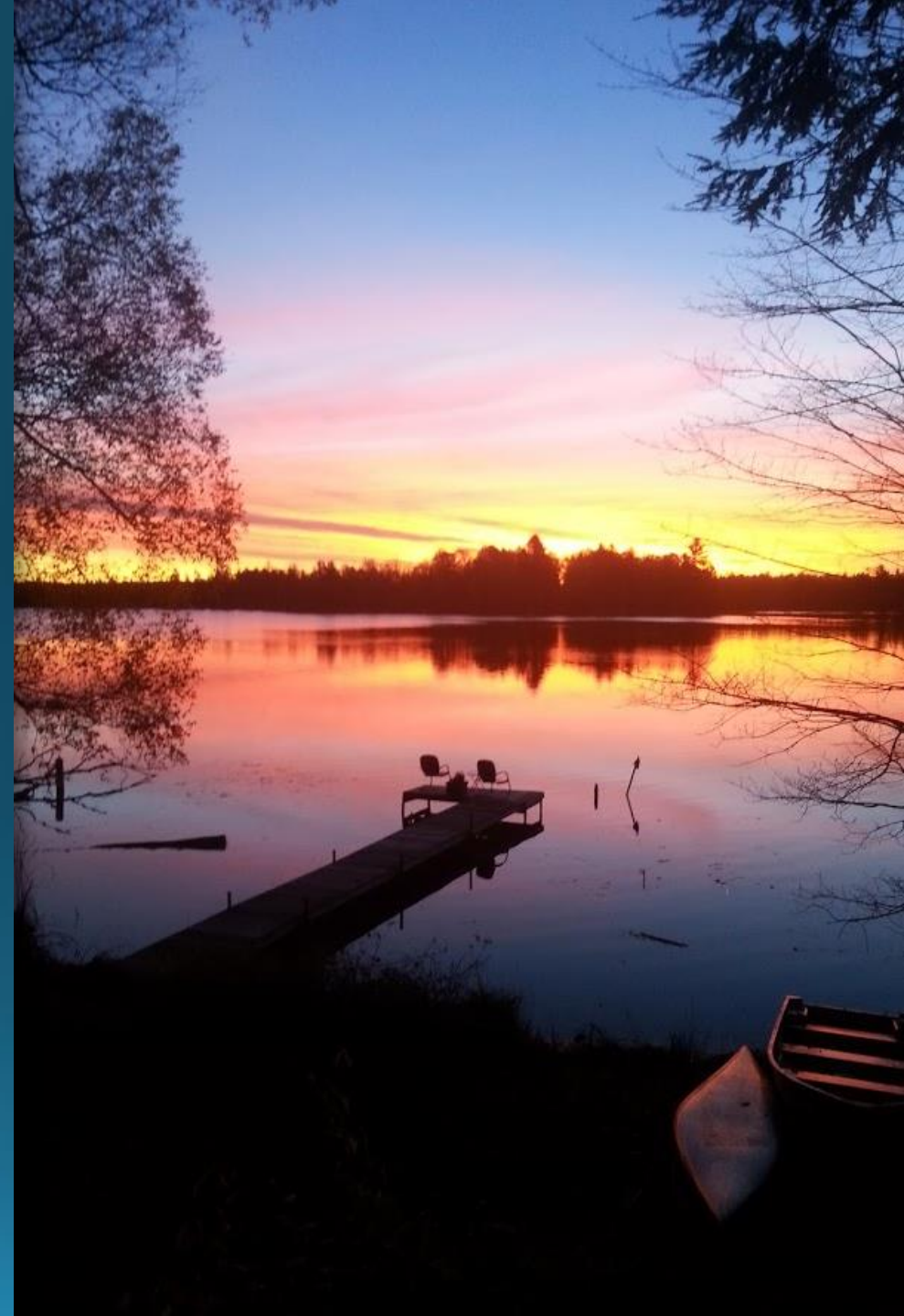


Looking Ahead – 2020-2030

- Goal 1: Increase public's level of environmental knowledge and stewardship.
- Goal 2: Protect and enhance surface water & groundwater quality.
- Goal 3: Promote sustainable land use practices.
- Goal 4: Mitigate invasive species impacts.
- Goal 5: Maintain a well-trained staff.

2020-2030

- Shoreland Habitat Assessment Surveys
- Incorporate climate resiliency in technical designs
- Wetland delineation & restorations to mitigate flood impacts
- Develop a pollinator program
- Expand department staffing – this plan is based off 3 FTE





Thank You!

Questions?