

Lake Wissota Planning Survey Report



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INTRODUCTION

The Lake Wissota Improvement and Protection Association contracted with the Beaver Creek Reserve Citizen Science Center to develop and conduct a sociological survey of lake residents as part of the development of the Lake Wissota Aquatic Plant Management Plan. The purpose of the survey was to determine (1) opinions about the water quality of the lake, (2) opinions about and knowledge of the aquatic plant community, (3) the knowledge of and action in regards to aquatic invasive species (including thoughts about the effectiveness of the Clean Boats, Clean Waters program on Lake Wissota), (4) the knowledge of the relationship between shoreline restoration and water quality, (5) opinions about recreation on the lake, and (6) overall thoughts about the value of the lake to lake users. The survey also included one question about the Lake Wissota fishery.

Lake Wissota was created between 1915 and 1917 when a dam was built on the Chippewa River, which created the 4-mile long and 2-mile wide impoundment lake (Borman 1991). Lake Wissota is 6,024 acres and has a maximum depth of 64 feet (Konkel 2007, Hartnett and Molnar 2005). There are two smaller embayments, Little Lake Wissota and Moon Bay. Lake Wissota is located north east of Chippewa Falls in T28-29N R7-8W, in the civil towns of Anson, Eagle Point and Lafayette.

METHODS

The Lake Wissota Planning Survey was developed by Sarah Braun, Beaver Creek Reserve Citizen Science Center Director, in conjunction with Roger Kees and Mary Jo Fleming of the Lake Wissota Improvement and Protection Association (LWIPA), and Buzz Sorge of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). Input about early drafts of the survey was solicited from LWIPA board members. University of Wisconsin-Extension Lake Specialists Bob Korth and Patrick Goggin reviewed later drafts of the survey. Jordan Petchenik, Research Scientist with the Science Information Services Section of the WDNR, reviewed the final draft of the survey to ensure that questions were well organized and properly worded. The survey contained three open-ended questions, 15 multiple-choice questions, and 18 Likert-scale questions with the following scale: Strongly Agree, Agree, Strongly Disagree, Disagree and Unsure.

RESULTS

The survey was mailed on August 26, 2008 to 2,170 people living within a quarter-mile of Lake Wissota. Lake Association members and Beaver Creek Reserve staff handed out an additional 20 surveys at public boat landings on the lake in July. The total number of surveys distributed was 2,190. Of the surveys distributed, 452 (21%) were returned. "It is important to note that with a usable return rate of 21%, we cannot say the results represent with statistical accuracy the target population of Lake Wissota property owners and users. The results represent the opinions and experiences of those who responded to the survey. Results, however, do provide us with a level of insight previously unknown, and will be used with discretion to help inform the Lake Wissota planning process," (Petchenik 2009, pers. comm.). A copy of the survey, including the results, is included at the end of this report (Appendix A). Over two-thirds of the surveys returned were from people who had waterfront property on Lake Wissota (307 respondents, 67.9%), while 32.1% (145 respondents) were from people without waterfront property. More than half of respondents (242 respondents, 53.5%) have a permanent residence on Lake Wissota, while 10.2% (42 respondents) have a part-time residence, 2.0% (9 respondents) other, and 34.3% of the surveys (155) were not answered (null). Slightly more than half

of respondents (50.9%, 230 respondents) indicated that they have had their permanent or part-time residence for more than 10 years, 9.5% (43 respondents) for 5-10 years, 7.3% (33 respondents) for less than 5 years, and 32.2% (146 surveys) were null. Just under half of all respondents (198 respondents, 43.8%) would like to participate in activities to help protect and improve Lake Wissota.

Overall Value of the Lake

One open-ended question was asked about the overall value of Lake Wissota to lake users, specifically, what does the lake mean to them and what impact does it have on them (Question 1)? Results were tallied into the following categories (listed from most to least common response): misc. recreation (153 respondents), scenic (128 respondents), home (124 respondents), enjoyment/relaxing (100 respondents), fishing (84 respondents), boating (71 respondents), family (69 respondents), swimming (55 respondents), natural resource (37 respondents), economics (32 respondents), positive impact (29 respondents), wildlife (20 respondents), quality of life (17 respondents), beach (5 respondents), no impact (4 respondents), and null (75 respondents). The categories were developed from the responses provided for Question 1. The results presented here reflect responses given on 4 or more surveys and reflect some interpretation of responses. For example, the Enjoyment/Relaxing category encompasses responses of “peace”, “tranquility”, “stress relief” and “happy”, among others, while the Scenic category includes responses such as “beauty”, “great view”, etc. Unique responses to Question 1 are not necessarily included in these results. For example, one survey participant indicated that they think boathouses are eyesores and while this opinion is important to note, a category was not created for this specific response because it was unique to one respondent. If a respondent indicated a concern about the lake, the concerns were noted in the Question 36 results, as this question was “I have additional concerns about Lake Wissota which include...”

Recreation

Four questions on the survey pertained to recreation on Lake Wissota (Questions: 5, 6, 32, and 33). The most common recreational activities on Lake Wissota include (1) scenic viewing (359 respondents), (2) motorized boating (349 respondents), (3) fishing (348 respondents), (4) swimming (330 respondents), and (5) wildlife viewing (274 respondents). When asked to rank their top three recreational activities, most respondents selected motorized boating (236 respondents), fishing (195 respondents), and swimming (116 respondents). More than two-thirds of respondents (69.4%) strongly agreed (32.7%) or agreed (36.7%) with the statement “I am concerned about recreational safety on Lake Wissota.” Nearly three-quarters of respondents (72.3%) strongly agreed (29.6%) or agreed (42.7%) that there is sufficient public access to Lake Wissota.

Water Quality

Four questions on the survey pertained to water quality (Questions: 7, 8, 30, and 31). Most respondents thought the overall water quality of Lake Wissota was either “fair”(44.0%) or “good” (34.3%). Respondents generally thought the water quality has remained the same over the last 5 years (40.3%) or degraded (31.6%). The majority of respondents (82.3%) strongly agreed (46.0%) or agreed (36.3%) with the statement “Too much phosphorous in a lake can lead to algae blooms.” Nearly all respondents (92.3%) strongly agreed (53.1%) or agreed (39.2%) with the statement “Property owners and users of Lake Wissota have a responsibility to try to improve the lake ecology.”

Aquatic Plant Community

Five questions on the survey pertained to the aquatic plant community (Questions: 9, 10, 25, 26, 27). When asked how they felt the plant community had changed over the last five years, over half of respondents (54.0%) thought that there were more plants and 19.2% of respondents were unsure. When asked about their opinion about the number of plants in Lake Wissota, most respondents felt that there

were either too many plants (44.9%) or just the right amount (31.6%). Nearly all respondents (91.3%) strongly agreed (52.4%) or agreed (38.9%) with the statement “Native aquatic plants are important to maintaining a healthy lake ecosystem.” Just under half of respondents (45.8%) strongly disagreed (17.0%) or disagreed (28.8%) with the statement “Removal of aquatic plants improves water clarity,” while 25.3% strongly agreed (10.0%) or agreed (15.3%), 23.2% were unsure and 5.8% did not respond to the question. More than half of respondents (53.0%) strongly disagreed (19.2%) or disagreed (33.8%) with the statement “I dislike any/all aquatic plants along my shoreline property,” while 22.8% strongly agreed (10.2%) or agreed (12.6%), 13.5% were unsure and 10.6% did not respond to the question.

Aquatic Invasive Species

Thirteen questions on the survey pertained to aquatic invasive species (Questions: 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24). The overwhelming majority of all respondents (70.4%) have received information about Clean Boats, Clean Waters at Lake Wissota boat landings and 82.7% strongly agreed (35.4%) or agreed (47.3%) that the Clean Boats, Clean Waters program is an effective way to keep aquatic invasive species from spreading to uninfested lakes. Nearly three-quarters of all respondents (74.1%) inspect their boat and trailer and remove aquatic plants and other debris from them when they leave the lake. Just under half of respondents look for aquatic invasive species in the water near their residence (44.0%), but nearly the same percentage of respondents does not (42.7%). Most respondents (81.2%) have not reported sightings of aquatic invasive species to the Lake Wissota Improvement and Protection Association, the DNR, Beaver Creek Reserve Staff, or other professionals. Respondents reported that they heard about aquatic invasive species most often through (1) newspapers or magazines (330 respondents), (2) television (260 respondents), (3) newsletters (206 respondents), and (4) Clean Boats, Clean Waters volunteers or staff (182 respondents). Over three-quarters of respondents (79.2%) strongly agreed (40.7%) or agreed (38.5%) with the statement “Aquatic invasive species are non-native organisms that are spreading in Lake Wissota and displacing or otherwise threatening native organisms.” Nearly three-quarters of respondents (73.7%) strongly agreed (37.2%) or agreed (36.5%) with the statement “Aquatic invasive species have a negative impact on the economy of the lake region (ie. Towns of Anson, Eagle Point, Lafayette, Chippewa Falls). The majority of respondents (85.4%) strongly agreed (47.1%) or agreed (38.3%) with the statement “Aquatic invasive species have a negative impact on the aesthetics of the lake.” Most respondents (86.9%) are concerned about Eurasian water milfoil and the damage it can do to the ecology of Lake Wissota. Nearly all respondents (92%) strongly agreed (61.7%) or agreed (30.3%) with the statement “Invasive species should be controlled whenever possible.” Just over half of respondents (61.7%) would like additional information about how to control invasive species and nearly three-quarters of respondents (74.1%) would like additional information about how to identify invasive species.

Shoreline Restoration

Two questions on the survey pertained to shoreline restoration (Questions: 28, 29). Nearly three-quarters of respondents (73.2%) strongly agreed (29.6%) or agreed (43.6%) with the statement “Shoreline restoration projects improve the aesthetics of Lake Wissota.” A similar percent of respondents (71.3%) strongly agreed (31.0%) or agreed (40.3%) with the statement “Shoreline restoration prevents phosphorous, other nutrients, and soil from washing out of lawns and into the lake.”

Fishery

One question on the survey pertained to the Lake Wissota fishery (Question 34). There was a distinct split in response to the statement “The Lake Wissota Fishery has improved over the last five years.”

39.8% of respondents either strongly agreed (10.8%) or agreed (29.0%) with this statement, while 40.7% of respondents were unsure.

Additional Concerns

Question 36 stated “I have additional concerns about Lake Wissota that include...” The majority of respondents did not indicate any additional concerns about Lake Wissota (260 respondents). The responses were tallied into the following categories (listed from most to least common response): algae (44 respondents), runoff/fertilizer/phosphorous concerns (26 respondents), erosion (21 respondents), too many boats (20 respondents), water quality (19 respondents), trash/litter (16 respondents), weeds (15 respondents), too many regulations/law enforcement (14 respondents), noise complaints (14 respondents), not enough law enforcement (9 respondents), safety (8 respondents), no wake zone/boats too close to shore (8 respondents), prevent more development (6 respondents), aquatic invasive species (5 respondents), walley slot limits (5 respondents), taxes too high (4 respondents), more depth markings in shallows (4 respondents), rash/swimmers itch/allergy to algae (4 respondents) and water too high (3 respondents).

In all, survey participants contributed 80.25 hours (4815 minutes) to completing the Lake Wissota Planning Survey.

SUMMARY

Respondents to the Lake Wissota Planning Survey overwhelmingly indicated that Lake Wissota was valuable to them for its beauty and the recreational value it offers them. Fishing, swimming, boating, and spending time with family were responses repeated over and over when asked, “What does Lake Wissota mean to you?” Enjoyment and relaxing were other common responses. Responses to questions about recreation on the lake indicated that scenic viewing, motorized boating, fishing, and swimming are the types of activities most often enjoyed by lake users. Respondents are concerned about recreational safety on Lake Wissota. The availability of the recreational activities indicated by respondents is strongly linked to water quality, which respondents considered Fair or Good. However, when asked if they had any additional concerns about Lake Wissota, 44 of the respondents that answered this question indicated they were concerned about algae and 26 respondents expressed concern about runoff, fertilizer and phosphorous. Erosion, too many boats on the lake, and water quality were also common concerns.

Most users indicated an understanding of the link between large amounts of phosphorous and low water quality (as it relates to algae blooms). More than half of all respondents seemed to understand that shoreline restoration can prevent large amounts of nutrients from flowing into the lake, although 18.1% of respondents were “unsure”.

It is less clear whether respondents understand the link between water quality and the aquatic plant community. The vast majority of respondents agreed that native aquatic plants are important to maintaining a healthy lake ecosystem. However, when asked whether removal of aquatic plants improves water clarity, 25.3% of respondents strongly agreed or agreed and 23.2% of respondents were “unsure”. Just under half of respondents also indicated they thought there were too many aquatic plants in Lake Wissota.

Most respondents indicated an understanding of what aquatic invasive species are and believe that they have a negative impact on the economies of the communities surrounding the lake. Respondents also

believe that aquatic invasive species have a negative impact on the aesthetics of the lake. Most respondents are concerned about Eurasian water milfoil and believe that invasive species should be controlled wherever possible. A majority of respondents indicated that they would like further information about how to control and identify invasive species.

The Clean Boats, Clean Waters program was believed by respondents to be an effective way to keep aquatic invasive species from spreading to uninfested lakes and nearly three-quarters of respondents indicated that they have received information about CBCW at Lake Wissota boat landings. Nearly three-quarters of respondents also practice Clean Boats, Clean Waters steps by removing aquatic plants and other debris from their boat and trailer when they leave a lake.

APPENDIX A

** For each question on the survey, the option with the highest percent of respondents is highlighted in gray. If the respondent did not answer the question, their response was marked as “null”.*

Lake Wissota Planning Survey

This survey is being sent to you by the Citizen Science Center at Beaver Creek Reserve under contract with the Lake Wissota Improvement and Protection Association to ask you for your ideas, concerns, knowledge and interests regarding Lake Wissota.

Why are we conducting this survey?

This survey is being conducted as part of an Aquatic Invasive Species grant received by the Lake Wissota Improvement and Protection Association to assess lake users values (**your** values) about water quality, recreational use and aquatic invasive species on Lake Wissota.

How will the survey results be used?

The results of this survey will be used to define goals for an aquatic invasive species management plan being developed for Lake Wissota. While there may be publications as a result of this study, your identity will be completely anonymous.

Why is it important for me to fill out this survey?

In order for the survey to provide us with a representative picture of who uses Lake Wissota and their values about the lake, we need to hear from as many lake area residents and users as possible. Even if you have very little experience with the lake, your opinions matter. By participating in this survey you are directly informing decision makers for Lake Wissota of your needs and values about the Lake Wissota lake community. These decisions will play a key role in developing the aquatic plant and other management plans for the lake, which will directly affect all lake users and improve the ability of the plan to meet your needs.

Who should I contact if I have questions?

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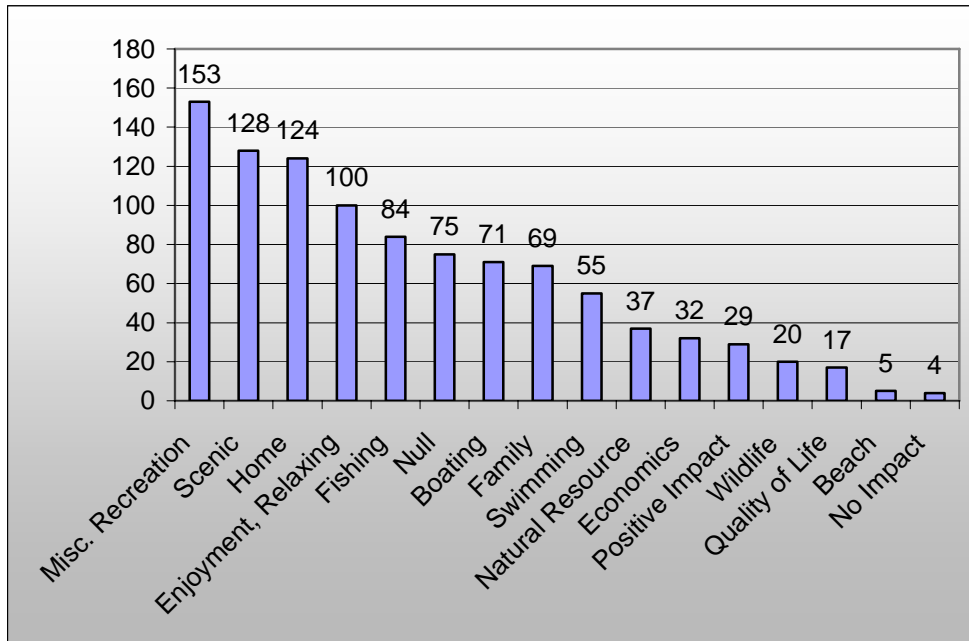
The time you spend completing this survey may be used to offset grant obligations. Please note the time at which you start the survey. At the end of this survey you will be asked to record the number of minutes it took you to complete the survey.

Instructions

Please answer the questions below by checking the answers that apply to you. For question #1, write your answer out. If you need more space, please feel free to add additional sheets.

PART 1

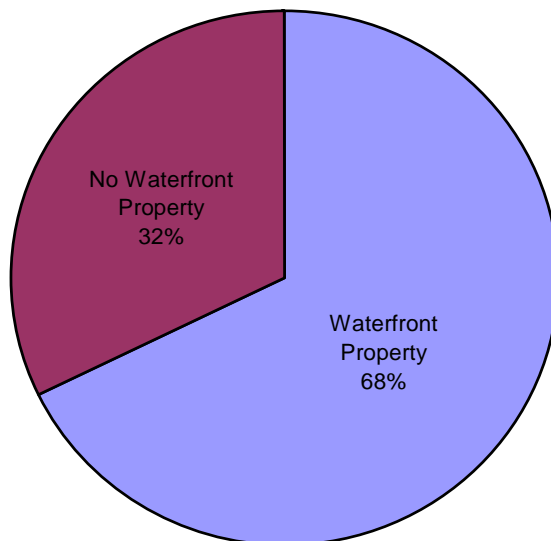
1. What does Lake Wissota mean to you? What impact does Lake Wissota have on your life?



2. Do you have waterfront property on Lake Wissota? If not, please go to question #4.

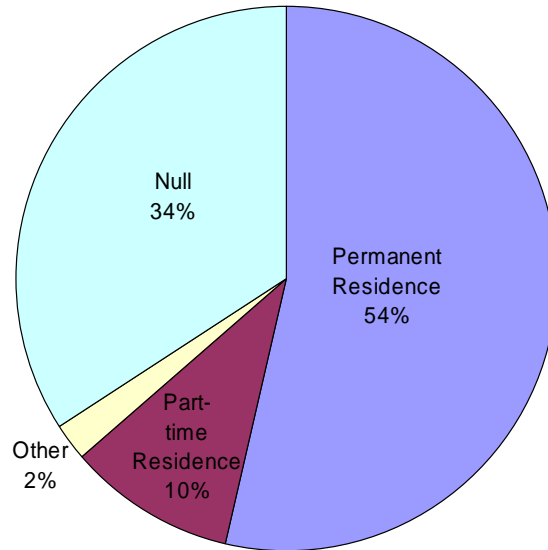
(307, 67.9%) Yes

(145, 32.1%) No



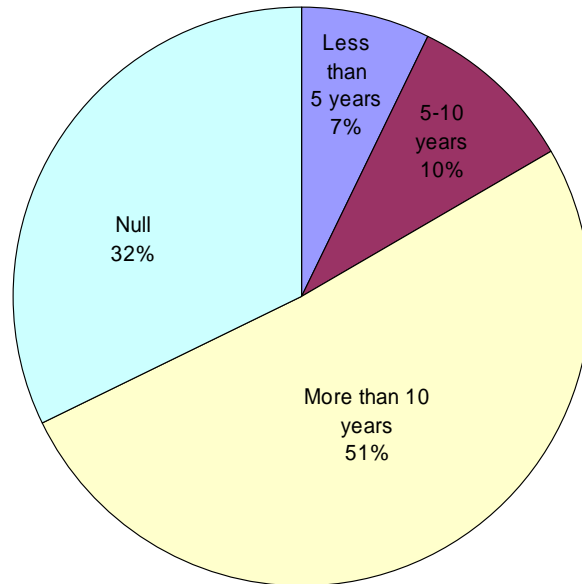
3. If you answered Yes to question #2, is the property on Lake Wissota your permanent residence, a part-time residence (such as a vacation home, etc.), or other? *If you own multiple properties on Lake Wissota, please describe in the space below.

(242, 53.5%) Permanent residence **(46, 10.2%) Part-time residence**
(9, 2.0%) Other (Please specify below) **(155, 34.3%) Null**



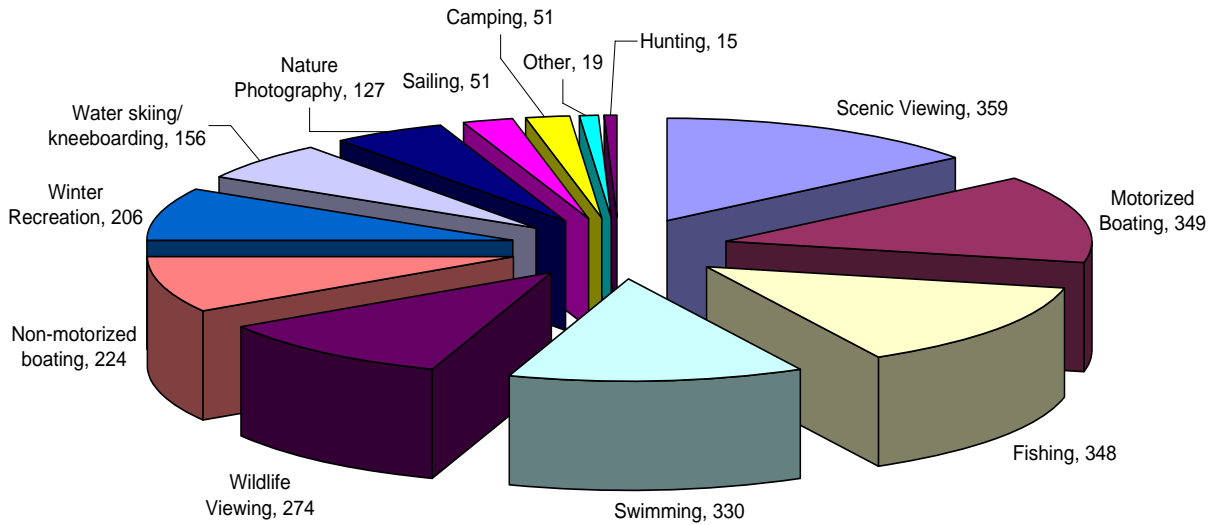
4. If you have a permanent or part-time residence on Lake Wissota, how many years have you had that property? Please round to the nearest year.

(230, 50.9%) More than 10
(33, 7.3%) Less than 5 years **(43, 9.5%) 5-10**
(146, 32.3%) Null



5. Please check the activities you participate in on Lake Wissota. Check all that apply.

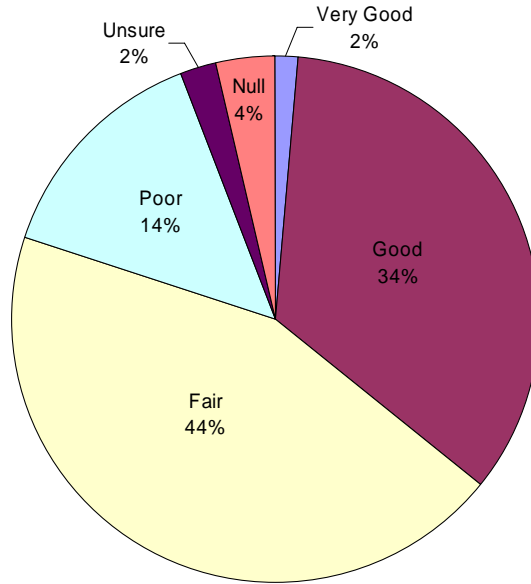
- Swimming
- Camping
- Motorized boating
- Non-motorized boating (ie. canoe, kayak, etc.)
- Sailing
- Water skiing/knee boarding
- Fishing (including ice fishing)
- Hunting
- Wildlife viewing
- Scenic viewing
- Nature photography
- Winter recreation (i.e. Cross country skiing, ice-skating, snowmobiling, etc.)
- Other (Please specify) _____



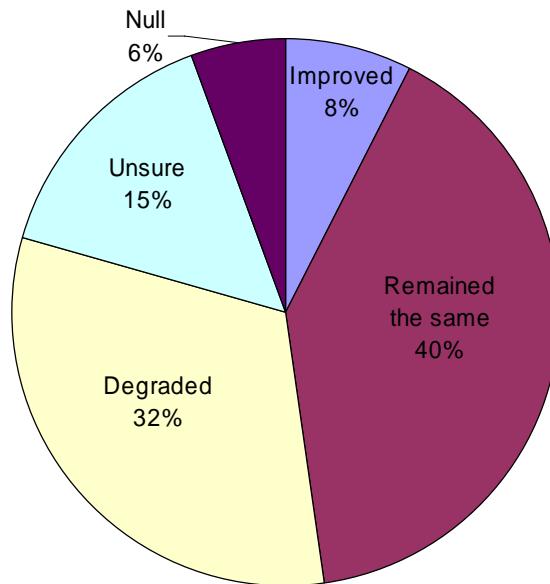
6. Please rank your top three recreational activities on Lake Wissota from the list above.

1. Motorized boating (125), Fishing (115), Swimming (62) _____
2. Motorized boating (111), Fishing (80), Swimming (54) _____
3. NULL (76), Scenic Viewing (75), Swimming (64) _____

7. What term best describes how you see the overall water quality of Lake Wissota?
 (7, 1.5%) Very good (155, 34.3%) Good (199, 44.0%) Fair (65, 14.4%) Poor
 (10, 2.2%) Unsure (16, 3.5%) Null

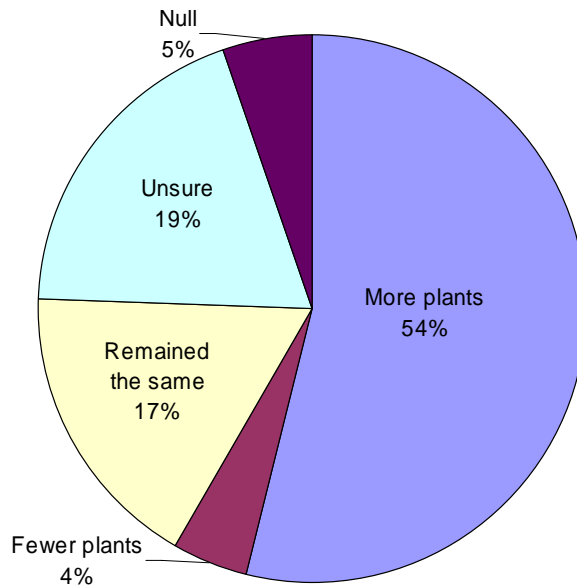


8. If you have revisited the lake over the past 5 years, how do you think the **water quality** has changed over those years?
 (34, 7.5%) Improved (182, 40.3%) Remained the same (143, 31.6%) Degraded
 (68, 15.0%) Unsure (25, 5.5%) Null



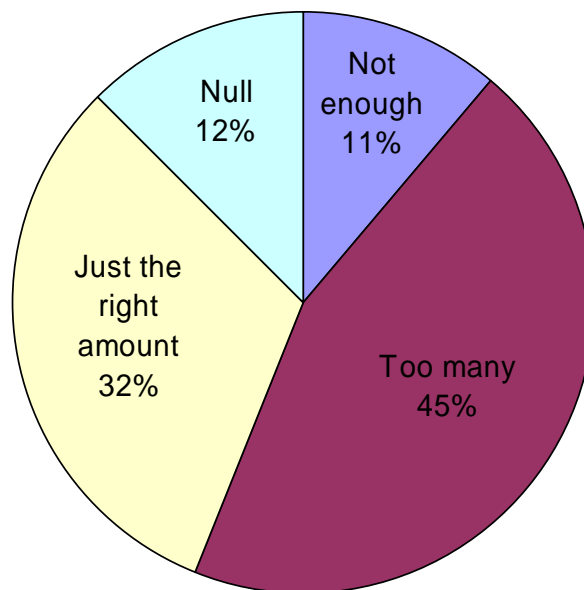
9. If you have revisited the lake over the past 5 years, how do you think the **plant community** on Lake Wissota has changed over those years?

(244, 54.0%) More plants **(19, 4.2%)** Fewer plants **(78, 17.3%)** Remained the same
(87, 19.2%) Unsure **(24, 5.3%)** Null



10. Thinking about aquatic plants in Lake Wissota, would you say there are...

(50, 11.1%) Not enough **(203, 44.9%)** Too many
(143, 31.6%) Just the right amount **(56, 12.4%)** Null



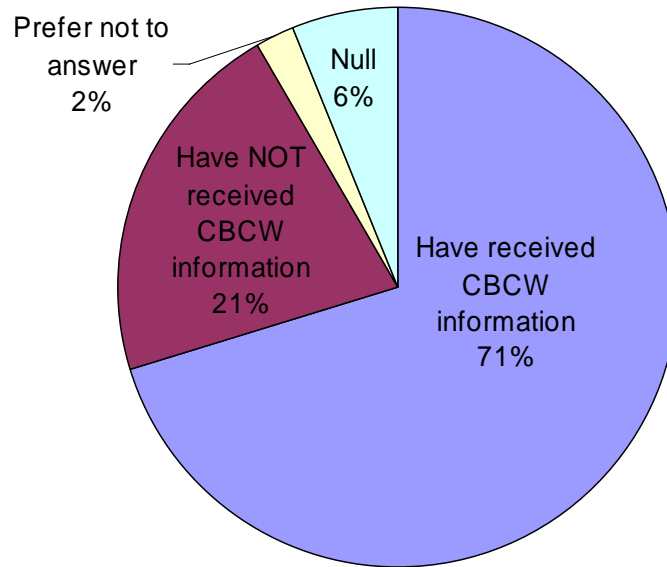
PART 2

11. I have received information about Clean Boats, Clean Waters at Lake Wissota boat landings.

(318, 70.4%) Yes
(28, 6.2%) Null

(96, 21.2%) No

(10, 2.2%) I prefer not to answer

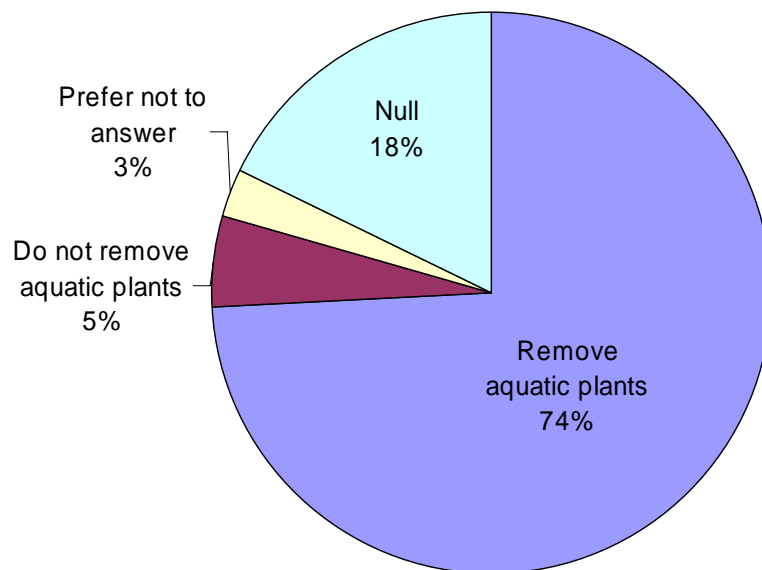


12. I inspect my boat and trailer and remove aquatic plants and other debris from them when I leave a lake.

(335, 74.1%) Yes
(81, 17.9%) Null

(24, 5.3%) No

(12, 2.7%) I prefer not to answer

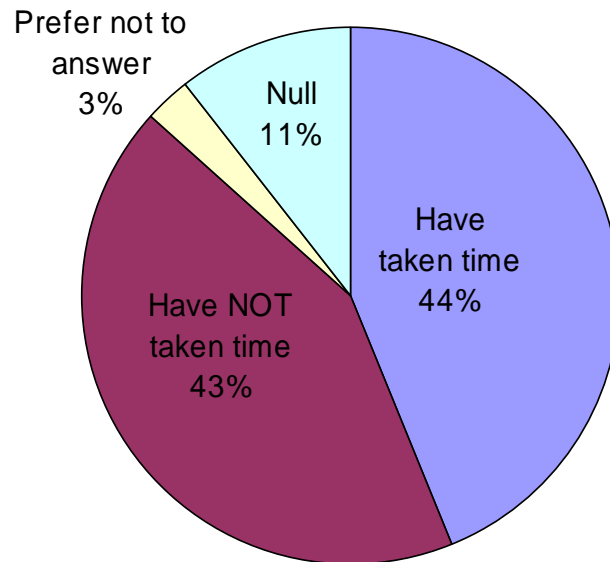


13. I have taken time to look for aquatic invasive species in the water near my residence.

(199, 44.0%) Yes
(48, 10.6%) Null

(193, 42.7%) No

(12, 2.7%) I prefer not to answer

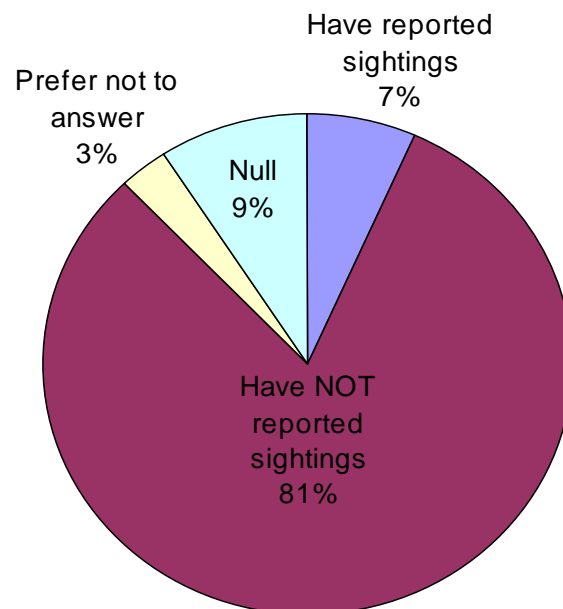


14. I have reported sightings of aquatic invasive species to LWIPA, the DNR, Beaver Creek Reserve staff, or other professionals.

(30, 6.6%) Yes
(41, 9.1%) Null

(367, 81.2%) No

(14, 3.1%) I prefer not to answer

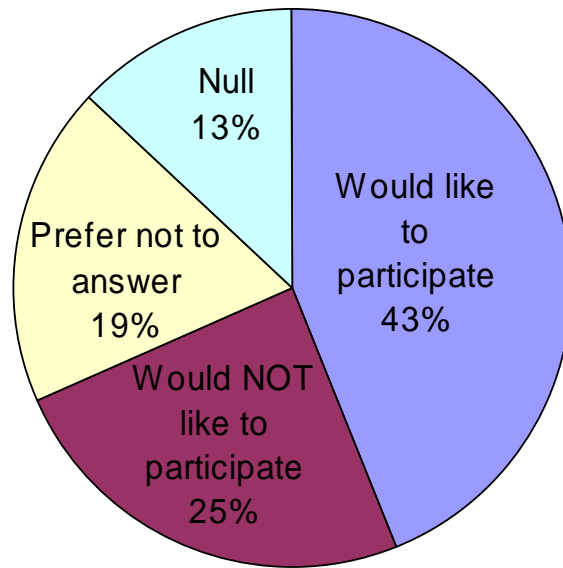


15. I would like to participate in activities to help protect and improve Lake Wissota.

(198, 43.8%) Yes
(59, 13.1%) Null

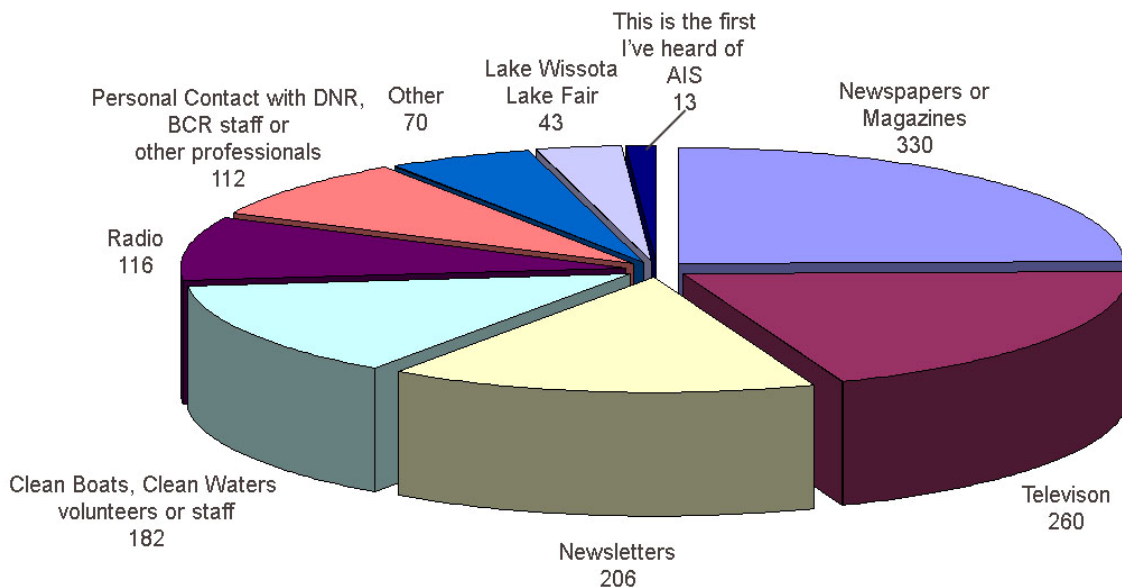
(111, 24.6%) No

(84, 18.6%) I prefer not to answer



16. Other than this survey, where have you heard about aquatic invasive species? Check all that apply.

- This is the first I've heard of aquatic invasive species
- Newspapers or magazines
- Newsletters
- Television
- Radio
- Clean Boats, Clean Waters volunteers or staff
- Personal contact with DNR, Beaver Creek Reserve, or other professionals
- Lake Wissota Lake Fair
- Other

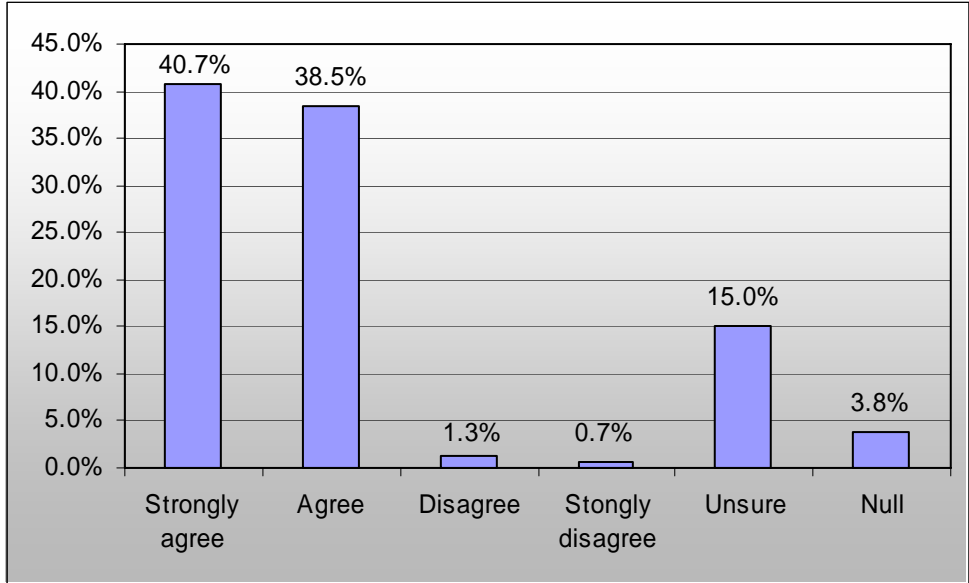


PART 3

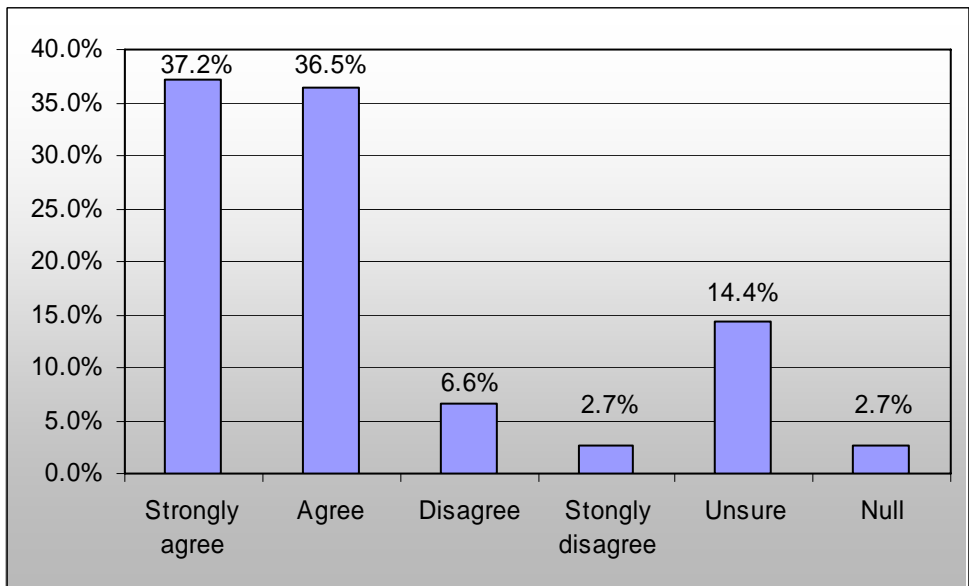
Please place an X in the column next to each statement below indicating whether you Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), Strongly Disagree (SD), or are Undecided (U).

	Statement	SA	A	D	SD	U	Null
17	Aquatic invasive species are non-native organisms that are spreading in Lake Wissota and displacing or otherwise threatening native organisms.	184 40.7%	174 38.5%	6 1.3%	3 0.7%	68 15.0%	17 3.8%
18	Aquatic invasive species have a negative impact on the economy of the lake region (ie. Towns of Anson, Eagle Point, Lafayette, Chippewa Falls).	168 37.2%	165 36.5%	30 6.6%	12 2.7%	65 14.4%	12 2.7%
19	Aquatic invasive species have a negative impact on the aesthetics of the lake.	213 47.1%	173 38.3%	13 2.9%	5 1.1%	35 7.7%	13 2.9%
20	I am concerned about Eurasian water milfoil and the damage it can do to the ecology of the lake.	236 52.2%	157 34.7%	3 0.7%	3 0.7%	38 8.4%	15 3.3%
21	Invasive species should be controlled whenever possible.	279 61.7%	137 30.3%	3 0.7%	0 0%	12 2.7%	21 4.6%
22	I believe the Clean Boats, Clean Waters program is an effective way to keep aquatic invasive species from spreading to uninfested lakes.	160 35.4%	214 47.3%	11 2.4%	4 0.9%	48 10.6%	15 3.3%
23	I would like more information about how to CONTROL invasive species.	96 21.2%	183 40.5%	45 10.0%	9 2.0%	79 17.5%	40 8.8%
24	I would like more information about how to IDENTIFY invasive species.	133 29.4%	202 44.7%	32 7.1%	6 1.3%	49 10.8%	30 6.6%
25	Native aquatic plants are important to maintaining a healthy lake ecosystem.	237 52.4%	176 38.9%	9 2.0%	1 0.2%	17 3.8%	12 2.7%
26	I dislike any/all aquatic plants along my shoreline property.	46 10.2%	57 12.6%	153 33.8%	87 19.2%	61 13.5%	48 10.6%
27	Removal of aquatic plants improves water clarity.	45 10.0%	69 15.3%	130 28.8%	77 17.0%	105 23.2%	26 5.8%
28	Shoreline restoration projects improve the aesthetics of Lake Wissota.	134 29.6%	197 43.6%	25 5.5%	6 1.3%	68 15.0%	22 4.9%
29	Shoreline restoration prevents phosphorous, other nutrients, and soil from washing out of lawns and into the lake.	140 31.0%	182 40.3%	26 5.8%	5 1.1%	82 18.1%	17 3.8%
30	Too much phosphorous in a lake can lead to algae blooms.	208 46.0%	164 36.3%	2 0.4%	1 0.2%	62 13.7%	15 3.3%
31	Property owners and users of Lake Wissota have a responsibility to try to improve the lake ecology.	240 53.1%	177 39.2%	7 1.5%	5 1.1%	10 2.2%	13 2.9%
32	I am concerned about recreational safety on Lake Wissota.	148 32.7%	166 36.7%	58 12.8%	17 3.8%	46 10.2%	17 3.8%
33	There is sufficient public access to Lake Wissota.	134 29.6%	193 42.7%	47 10.4%	34 7.5%	31 6.9%	13 2.9%
34	The Lake Wissota fishery has improved over the last five years.	49 10.8%	131 29.0%	48 10.6%	19 4.2%	184 40.7%	21 4.6%

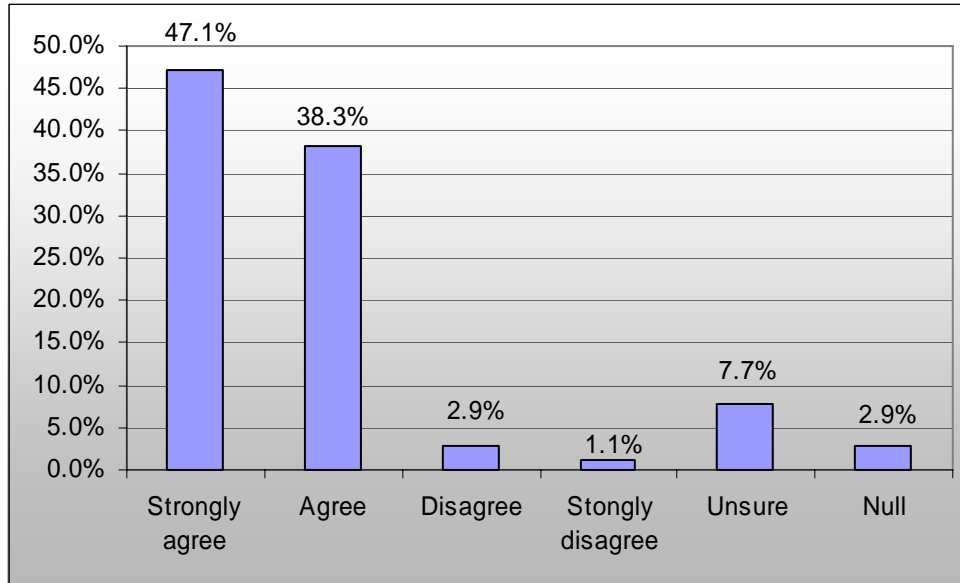
Question 17: Response to statement “Aquatic invasive species are non-native organisms that are spreading in Lake Wissota and displacing or otherwise threatening native organisms.” Strongly agree (40.7%, 184 respondents), Agree (38.5%, 174 respondents), Disagree (1.3%, 6 respondents), Strongly disagree (0.7%, 3 respondents), Unsure (15.0%, 68 respondents), Null (3.8%, 17 respondents).



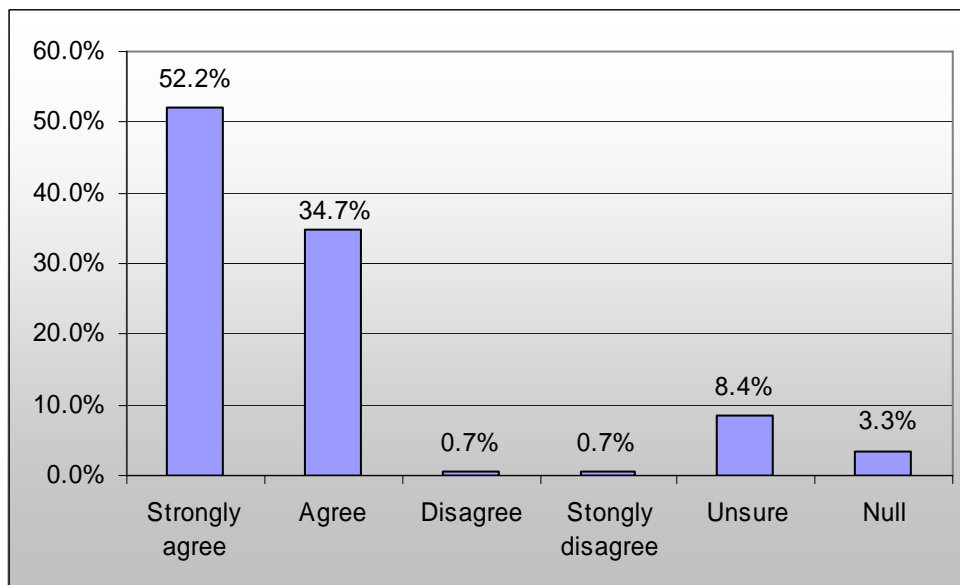
Question 18: Response to statement “Aquatic Invasive species have a negative impact on the economy of the lake region (ie. Towns of Anson, Eagle Point, Lafayette, Chippewa Falls).” Strongly agree (37.2%, 168 respondents), Agree (36.5%, 165 respondents), Disagree (6.6%, 30 respondents), Strongly disagree (2.7%, 12 respondents), Unsure (14.4%, 65 respondents), Null (2.7%, 12 respondents).



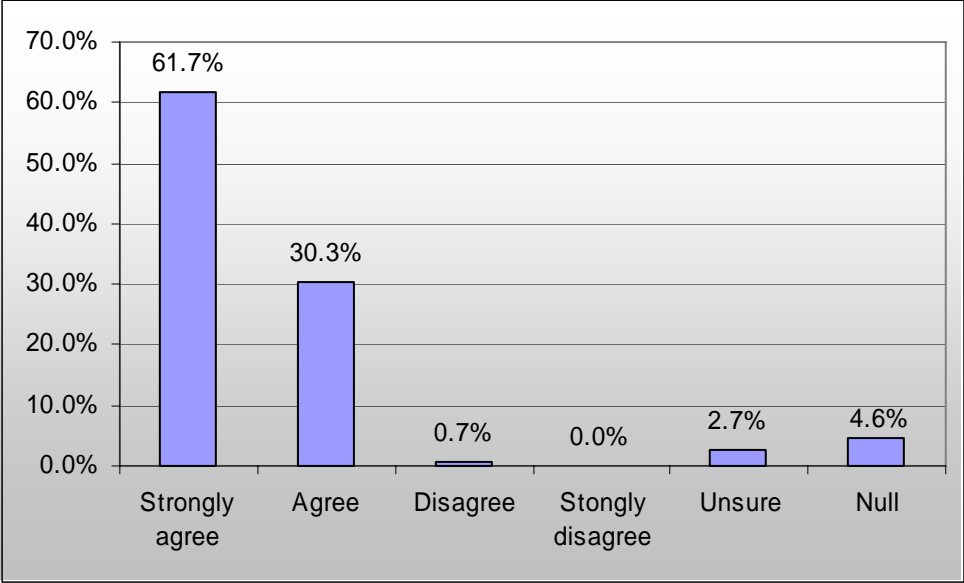
Question 19. Response to the statement “Aquatic invasive species have a negative impact on the aesthetics of the lake.” Strongly agree (47.1%, 213 respondents), Agree (38.3%, 173 respondents), Disagree (2.9%, 13 respondents), Strongly disagree (1.1%, 5 respondents), Unsure (7.7%, 35 respondents), Null (2.9%, 13 respondents).



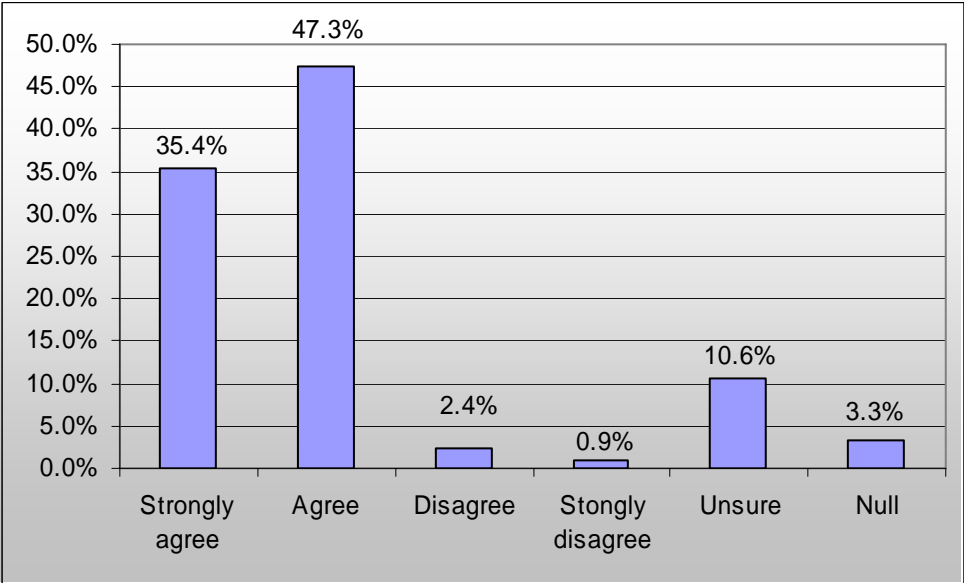
Question 20. Response to the statement “I am concerned about Eurasian water milfoil and the damage it can do to the ecology of the lake.” Strongly agree (52.2%, 236 respondents), Agree (34.7%, 157 respondents), Disagree (0.7%, 3 respondents), Strongly disagree (0.7%, 3 respondents), Unsure (8.4%, 38 respondents), Null (3.3%, 15 respondents).



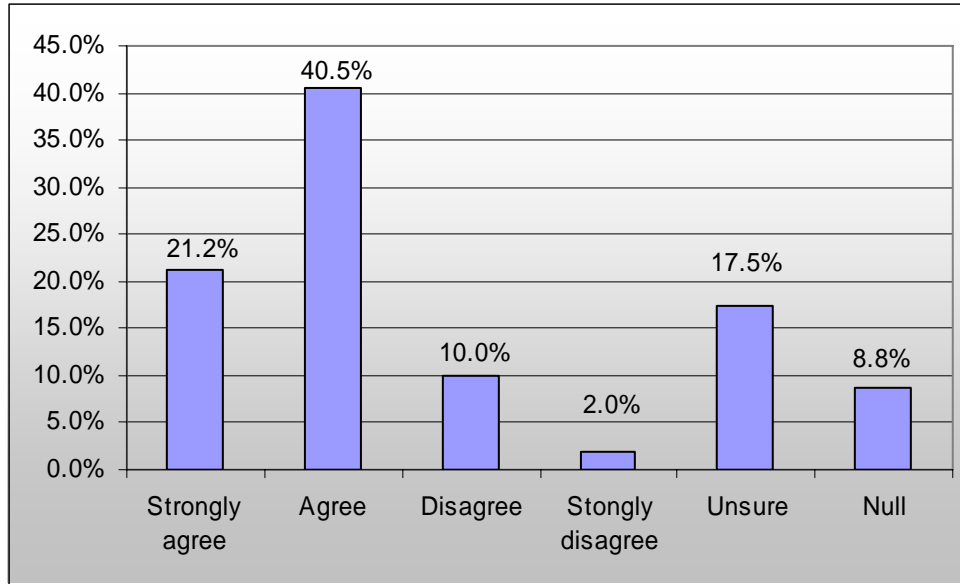
Question 21. Response to the statement “ Invasive species should be controlled whenever possible.” Strongly agree (61.7%, 279 respondents), Agree (30.3%, 137 respondents), Disagree (0.7%, 3 respondents), Strongly disagree (0.0%, 0 respondents), Unsure (2.7%, 12 respondents), Null (4.6%, 21 respondents).



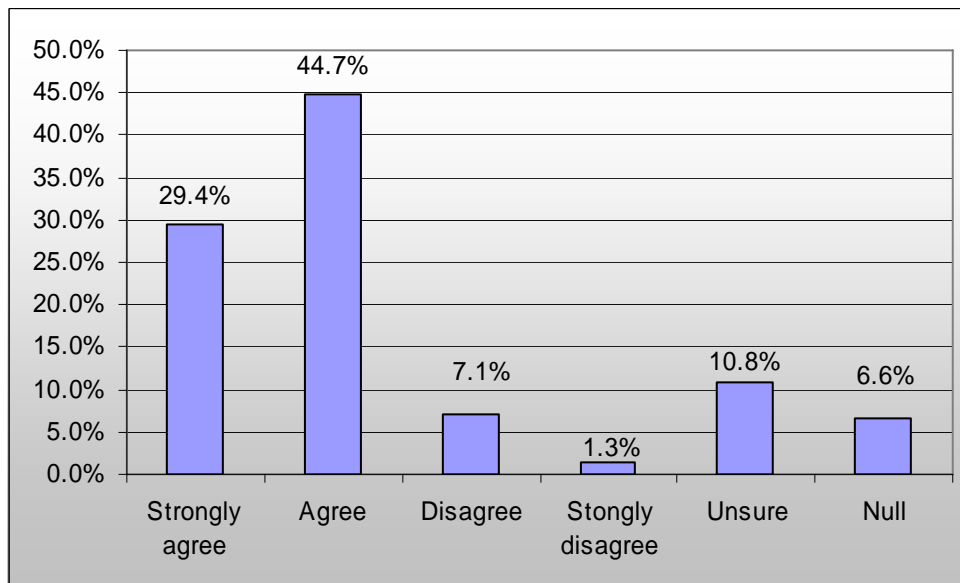
Question 22. Response to the statement “I believe the Clean Boats, Clean Waters program is an effective way to keep aquatic invasive species from spreading to uninfested lakes.” Strongly agree (35.4%, 160 respondents), Agree (47.3%, 214 respondents), Disagree (2.4%, 11 respondents), Strongly disagree (0.9%, 4 respondents), Unsure (10.6%, 48 respondents), Null (3.3%, 15 respondents).



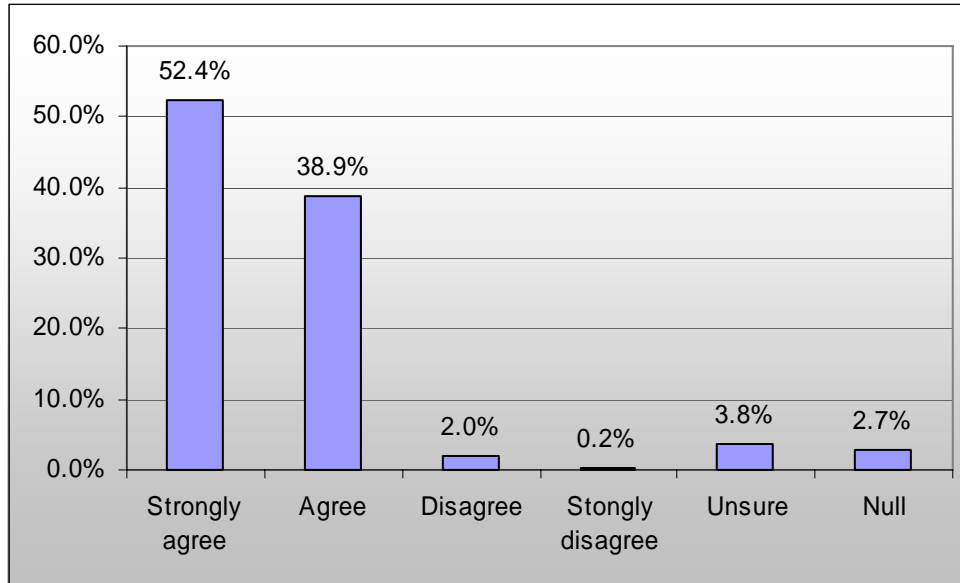
Question 23. Response to the statement “I would like more information about how to CONTROL invasive species.” Strongly agree (21.2%, 96 respondents), Agree (40.5%, 183 respondents), Disagree (10.0%, 45 respondents), Strongly disagree (2.0%, 9 respondents), Unsure (17.5%, 79 respondents), Null (8.8%, 40 respondents).



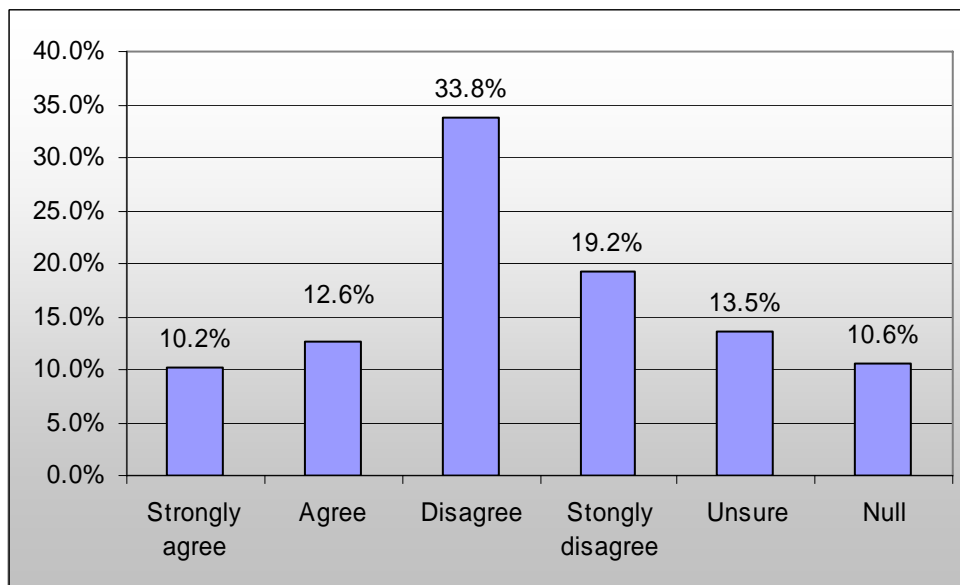
Question 24. Response to the statement “I would like more information about how to IDENTIFY invasive species.” Strongly agree (29.4%, 133 respondents), Agree (44.7%, 202 respondents), Disagree (7.1%, 32 respondents), Strongly disagree (1.3%, 6 respondents), Unsure (10.8%, 49 respondents), Null (6.6%, 30 respondents).



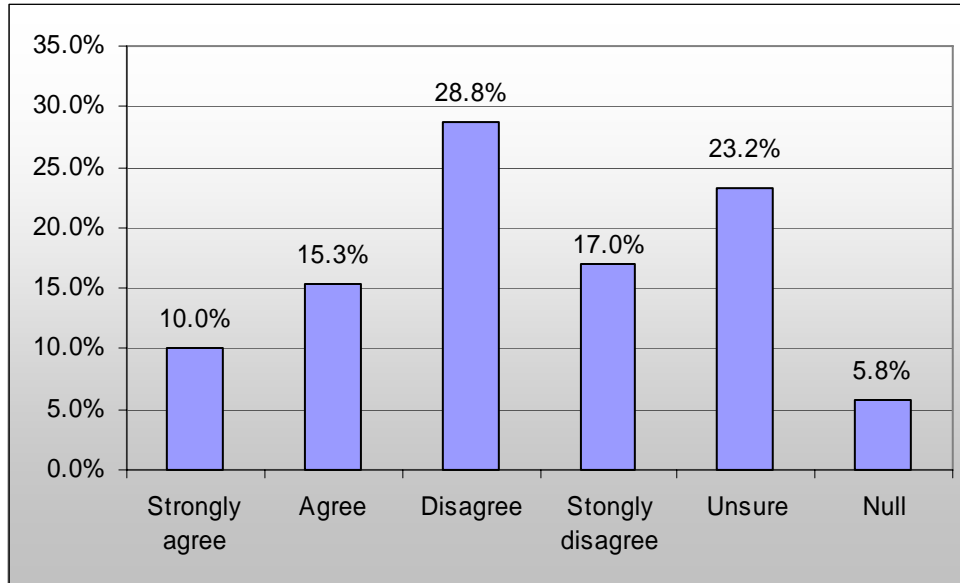
Question 25. Response to the statement “Native aquatic plants are important to maintaining a healthy lake ecosystem.” Strongly agree (52.4%, 237 respondents), Agree (38.9%, 176 respondents), Disagree (2.0%, 9 respondents), Strongly disagree (0.2%, 1 respondent), Unsure (3.8%, 17 respondents), Null (2.7%, 12 respondents).



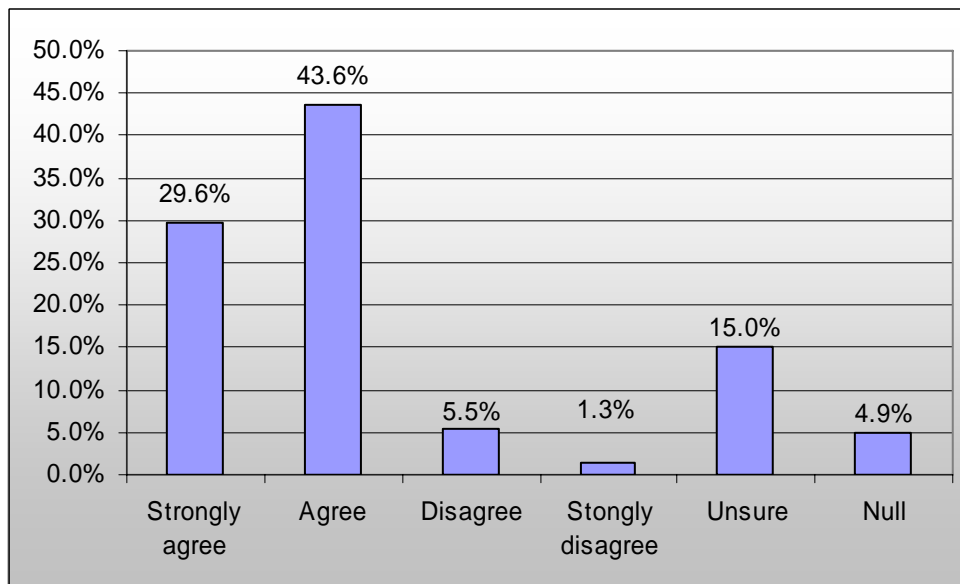
Question 26. Response to the statement “I dislike any/all aquatic plants along my shoreline property.” Strongly agree (10.2%, 46 respondents), Agree (12.6%, 57 respondents), Disagree (33.8%, 153 respondents), Strongly disagree (19.2%, 87 respondents), Unsure (13.5%, 61 respondents), Null (10.6%, 48 respondents).



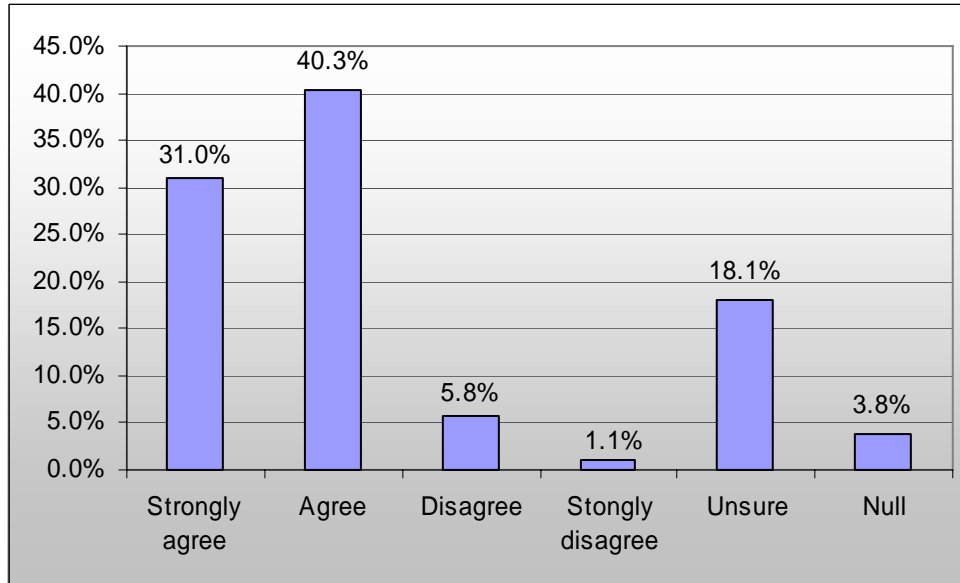
Question 27. Response to the statement “Removal of aquatic plants improves water clarity.” Strongly agree (10.0%, 45 respondents), Agree (15.3%, 69 respondents), Disagree (28.8%, 130 respondents), Strongly disagree (17.0%, 77 respondents), Unsure (23.2%, 105 respondents), Null (5.8%, 26 respondents).



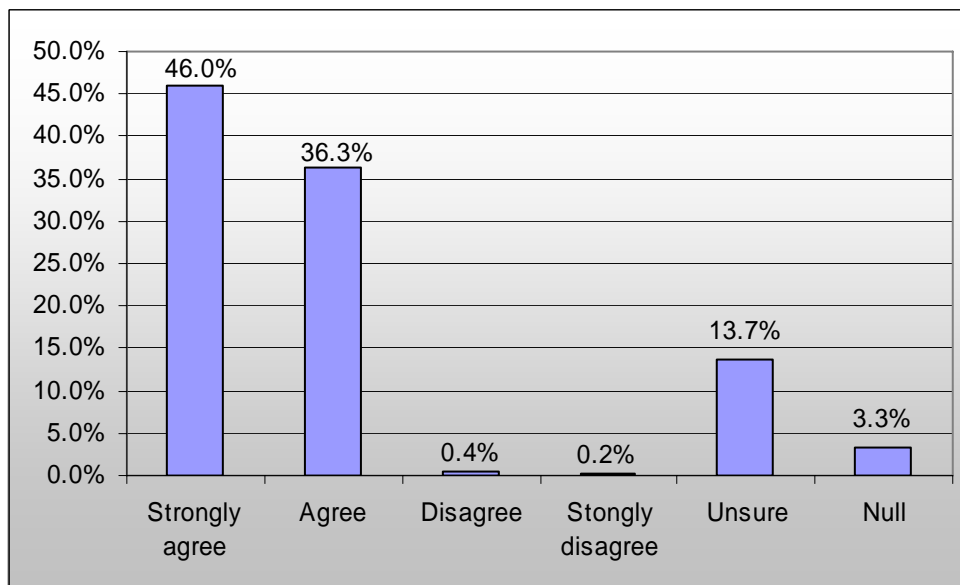
Question 28. Response to the statement “Shoreline restoration projects improve the aesthetics of Lake Wissota.” Strongly agree (29.6%, 134 respondents), Agree (43.6%, 197 respondents), Disagree (5.5%, 25 respondents), Strongly disagree (1.3%, 6 respondents), Unsure (15.0%, 68 respondents), Null (4.9%, 22 respondents).



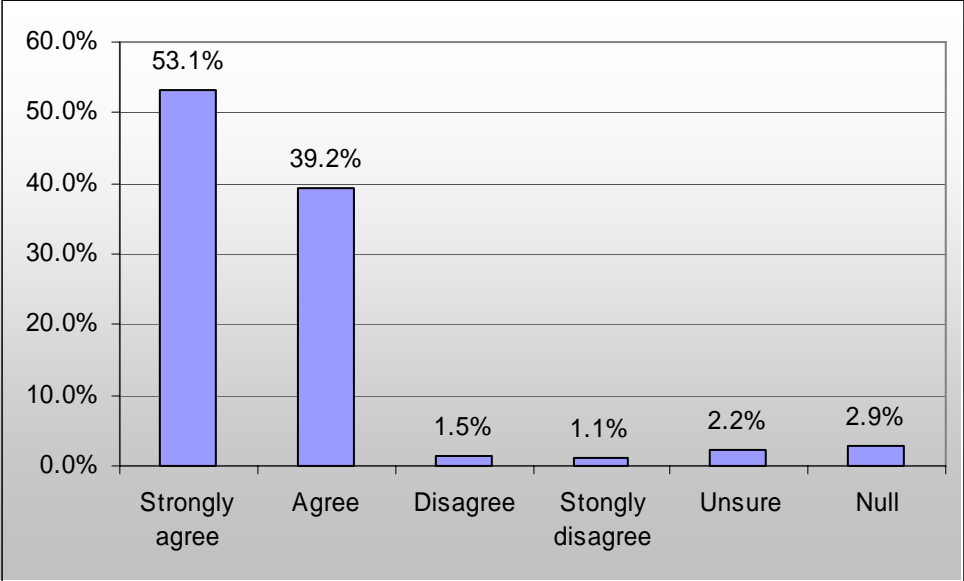
Question 29. Response to the statement “Shoreline restoration prevents phosphorous, other nutrients, and soil from washing out of lawns and into the lake.” Strongly agree (31.0%, 140 respondents), Agree (40.3%, 182 respondents), Disagree (5.8%, 26 respondents), Strongly disagree (1.1%, 5 respondents), Unsure (18.1%, 82 respondents), Null (3.8%, 17 respondents).



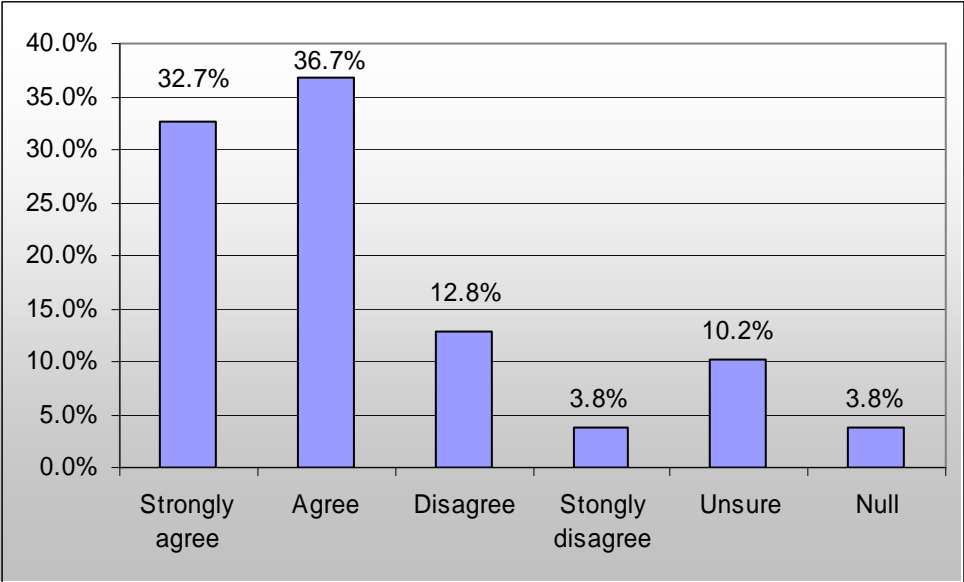
Question 30. Response to the statement “Too much phosphorous in a lake can lead to algae blooms.” Strongly agree (46.0%, 208 respondents), Agree (36.3%, 164 respondents), Disagree (0.4%, 2 respondents), Strongly disagree (0.2%, 1 respondent), Unsure (13.7%, 62 respondents), Null (3.3%, 15 respondents).



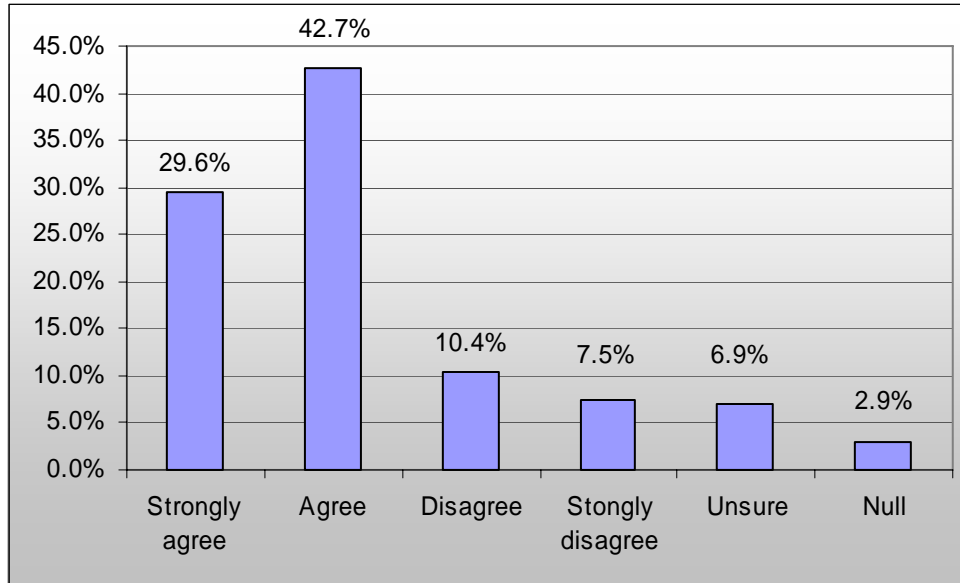
Question 31. Response to the statement “Property owners and users of Lake Wissota have a responsibility to try to improve the lake ecology.” Strongly agree (53.1%, 240 respondents), Agree (39.2%, 177 respondents), Disagree (1.5%, 7 respondents), Strongly disagree (1.1%, 5 respondents), Unsure (2.2%, 10 respondents), Null (2.9%, 13 respondents).



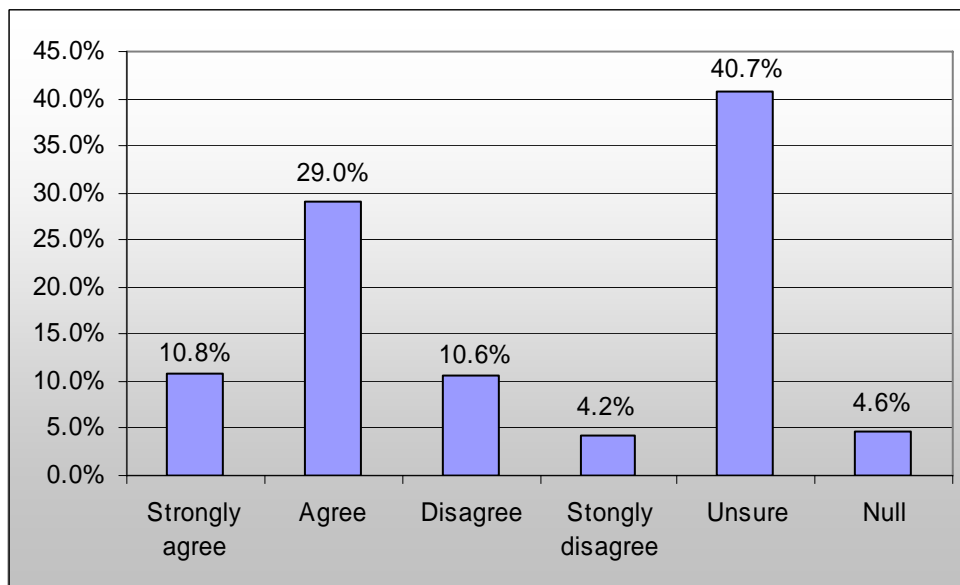
Question 32. Response to the statement “I am concerned about recreational safety on Lake Wissota.” Strongly agree (32.7%, 148 respondents), Agree (36.7%, 166 respondents), Disagree (12.8%, 58 respondents), Strongly disagree (3.8%, 17 respondents), Unsure (10.2%, 46 respondents), Null (3.8%, 17 respondents).



Question 33. Response to the statement “There is sufficient public access to Lake Wissota.” Strongly agree (29.6%, 134 respondents), Agree (42.7%, 193 respondents), Disagree (10.4%, 47 respondents), Strongly disagree (7.5%, 34 respondents), Unsure (6.9%, 31 respondents), Null (2.9%, 13 respondents).

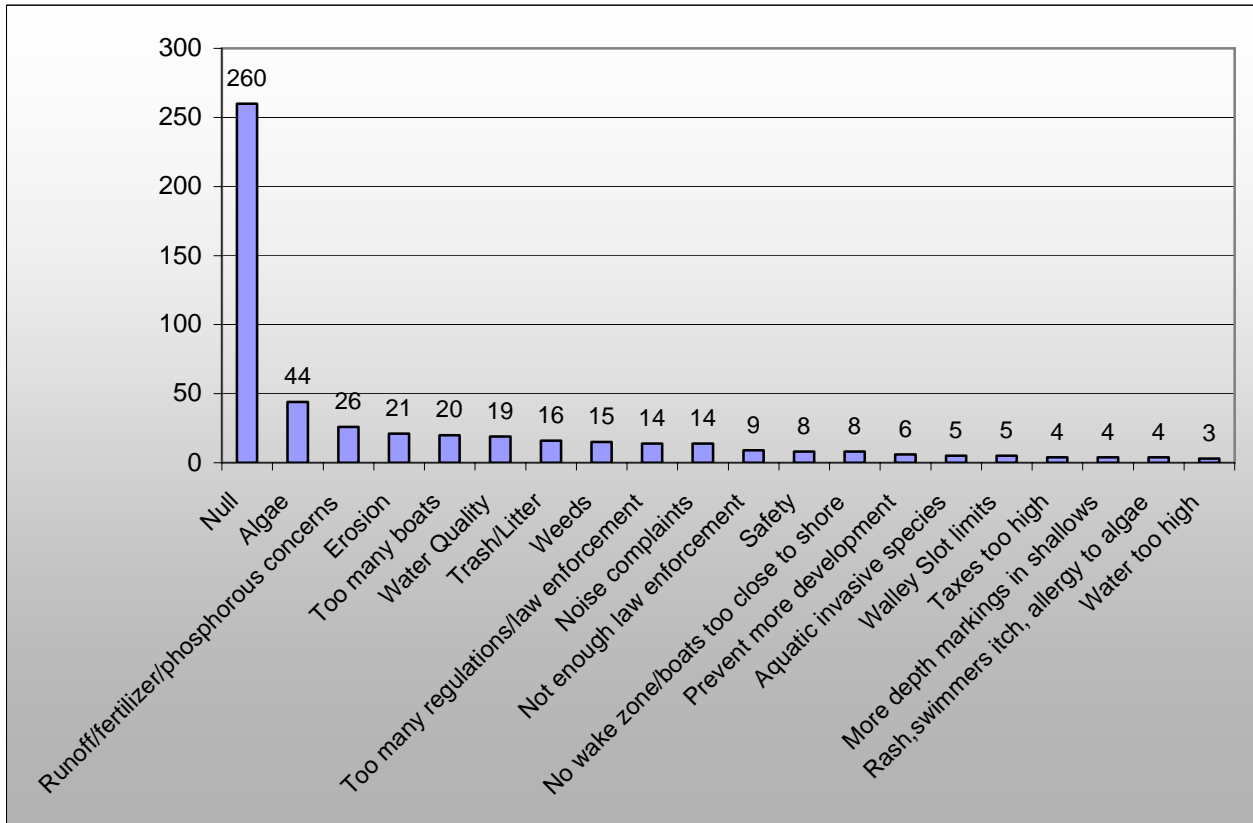


Question 34. Response to the statement “The Lake Wissota fishery has improved over the last five years.” Strongly agree (10.8%, 49 respondents), Agree (29.0%, 131 respondents), Disagree (10.6%, 48 respondents), Strongly disagree (4.2%, 19 respondents), Unsure (40.7%, 184 respondents), Null (4.6%, 21 respondents).



35. How many minutes did it take you to complete this survey? 4815 minutes = 80.25 hrs.
 Also, please specify the date on which you completed the survey _____.

36. I have additional concerns about Lake Wissota that include:



Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey! Please return the survey in the self-addressed, stamped envelope no later than September 15th. Results of the survey will be included in the Lake Wissota aquatic plant management plan and on the Lake Wissota Improvement and Protection Association website (www.lwipa.org) as soon as they are tabulated.