

LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN
(Use reverse side and add additional sheets as needed)

Region 3	Area Brainerd (320)	D.O.W. Number 18-227	County Crow Wing	D.O.W. Lake Name O'Brien	Acreage 188										
<p>Long Range Goal: Maintain northern pike abundance at 7/set and a PSD (24) of 40%. Improve the yellow perch abundance to 10/set. Maintain a bluegill CPUE of 50/set and a RSD-P of 40%.</p>															
<p>Operational Plan:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct periodic test netting on a 10 year rotation, the next one a population assessment in 2009 and every third a full survey. 2. Allow the lake association permission to stock Mississippi strain walleyes on only an alternate year basis at most 1 lb/littoral acre or 103 lbs or 1,030 fish at 10/lbs. 3. Aerial fish house counts every third year. 4. Communicate periodically with locals and the lake association. 															
<p>Mid Range Objective: Determine the health of the fish community and progress toward goals.</p>															
<p>Potential Plan:</p> <table> <tr> <td>1. Purchase and install public access.</td> <td align="right">70,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Initiate techniques to improve bluegill fishery when they are known.</td> <td align="right">10,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Special regulations for NOP, LMB, BLG if appropriate.</td> <td align="right">2,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Purchase AMA.</td> <td align="right"><u>100,000</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td align="right">182,000</td> </tr> </table>						1. Purchase and install public access.	70,000	2. Initiate techniques to improve bluegill fishery when they are known.	10,000	3. Special regulations for NOP, LMB, BLG if appropriate.	2,000	4. Purchase AMA.	<u>100,000</u>		182,000
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Primary Species Management Northern Pike, Bluegill		Secondary Species Management Yellow Perch, largemouth Bass, Black Crappie		For Central Office Use Only											
				Entry Date	Year Resurvey										
Area Supervisor's Signature <i>Timothy J. Beaterup</i>		Date 3/15/01		Stock Species-Size-Number per Acre Pr./Sec.											
Regional Supervisor's Signature <i>Timothy J. Soema</i>		Date 04-20-2001		Schedule	Year Beginning										
<p>NARRATIVE: LAKE CLASS = 32 LMPP# = 4</p> <p>(Historical perspectives - various surveys; past management; social considerations; present limiting factors; survey needs; land acquisition; habitat development and protection; commercial fishery; stocking plans other management tools; and evaluation plans)</p> <p>cc: Area, Regional and St. Paul Fisheries Office</p>				Population Manipulation <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Year											
				Development <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Year											
				Creel or Use Survey <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Year											
Other															

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Page No. 2	Lake Name O'Brien	D.O.W. Number 18-227	Date 3/1/01
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Narrative:

Various Surveys: The lake was mapped in 1967. Population assessment nettings were conducted in 1980, 1984, 1987 and 1999. The initial survey was done in 1967 and a resurvey was done in 1992.

Past Management: Past Management has been primarily fisheries research and periodic test nettings. O'Brien Lake was a control lake during study #125, of fish community dynamics. Past management also included contact with local residents and review of permit applications for private walleye stocking and environmental review.

Social Considerations: The Goodrich-O'Brien Lake Association is an active, concerned, and energetic group. They are apparently quite interested in establishing a walleye fishery and are, admittedly, not interested in a public access being acquired for this lake nor in the use of the lake and its fishery by the general public and DNR.

Present Limiting Factors: The yellow perch population is extremely low so predator management is quite limited. The lack of a public access also limits the intensity of management and choice of management options.

Survey Needs: Periodic test nettings on a 10 year rotation should be done, with a full lake survey every third netting. The next population assessment netting should be done in 2009. The township has apparently decided to remove the accessible, informal access point so there will be nearly no ability to assess this lake again until access has been restored.

Land Acquisition: It would be beneficial for the public if the DNR were to purchase and install a public access. Additionally, an aquatic management area (AMA) should be purchased for the purpose of preserving natural lakeshore in the event a parcel becomes available. The AMA would not include an access in it, by AMA rules.

Habitat Development and Protection: All shoreland rules variances, WCA replacement plans and DOW applications should be reviewed carefully for the purpose of minimizing impacts to fish habitat. All ANC permit applications for emergent plant, floating leaf and beneficial submerged species control should be minimized to protect critical habitat.

Commercial Fishing: A commercial bullhead fishery does not exist, nor is there adequate access to equate to a viable commercial fishery.

Stocking Plans: There are no formal plans for DNR fish stocking due to lack of a public access and lack of forage. Private walleye stocking permits will be recommended for up to alternate year walleye fingerling stocking at a rate of 1 lb/littoral acre or 103 lbs and 1030 fish at 10/lb rate. The next permit will be allowed in 2002.

Other Tools: When better techniques for improving bluegill fisheries are known, they should be initiated on this lake. Special regulations to protect and improve NOP, LMB, BLG, and BLC should be initiated if appropriate.

Evaluation: This plan will be reviewed in 2015 and the fishery will be reviewed for progress toward goals.

Historical Netting
G= gillnet T= trapnet

Species	Gear	1967	1980	1984	1987	1992	1999	Quartiles
NOP	G	7.3	8.0	10.0	11.5	8.0	8.0	3.5-8.85
WAE	G	2.3	-	-	-	0.33	0.67	0.5-2.33
YEP	G	1.6	1.0	5.83	0.67	3.33	0.67	1.0-10.28
LMB	T	0.4	-	0.80	1.67	0.50	0.33	0.28-1.38
BLG	T	18.0	122.0	98.3	107.78	62.75	64.17	9.5-57.33
BLC	T	0.6	11.0	1.7	5.0	1.0	0.50	0.82-3.97