



CHINA LAKE ASSOCIATION

A 501(C)(3) Non-Profit Association

P.O Box 6215

China Village, Maine 04926

<https://www.chinalakeassociation.org>

The China Lake Association:

**Preserving China Lake for Future Generations
Through Environmental Stewardship and Community Action**

Newsletter Thanksgiving 2021

To: The China Lake Association Membership and Friends

From: Stephen Greene, President

How: Via Email; otherwise, via first class mail

It is a privilege to share with you year-end news and developments of the China Lake Association.

Since the annual CLA meeting, on July 31, 2021, at the China Middle School, the association, through its board of directors and volunteers, made significant strides in the pursuit of the goals set forth in our Mission Statement. This report summarizes specific actions demonstrating CLA's enduring commitment to the health and welfare of China Lake.

1. The Board of Directors convened Zoom meetings in August, September, October and November. We asked ourselves: What are CLA's short and long-term goals? What are the priorities? How do we use our resources and talents to achieve and measure results? What should the directors, officers, members, and volunteers be working on? How do we retain, increase and engage membership? We do not have the final answers to these questions yet, but we resolved that we shall work harder and smarter on your behalf in the best interests of our membership. Please let us know what you think.
2. The Board elected director Eric Lind to serve a term as Vice President to support the growth of our organization.
3. Leadership teams of officers and directors scheduled and attended outreach visits with CLA partners for introductions and sharing information and ideas; for example, we met with China Region Lakes Alliance, Webber Pond Association, Kennebec Water District, Maine Lakes, China Town Office of Manager and Office of Code Enforcement. At these meetings, we reiterated the understanding that

collaboration and mutual support is the essential foundation between CLA and the community.

4. CLA's website, www.chinalakeassociation.org, is expanding with more current news. We added PayPal to offer online membership enrollment and renewal.
5. CLA directors attended meetings of the China Lake Watershed-Based Management Plan Technical Committee and Steering Committee for project updates on this important research collaboration with Maine DEP, Kennebec County Soil & Water Conservation District, Kennebec Water District, China Region Lakes Alliance, Town of China, Town of Vassalboro, and Webber Pond Association. Please stay tuned for upcoming reports and public meetings on the project.
6. We rolled out a November 2021 fundraising campaign with letters to China Lake area business sponsors. We will report on the drive's success in 2022 so you will know which local businesses are supporting us.
7. A China Lake water quality report prepared by the Kennebec Water District for us indicates steady conditions prevail around the lake. Please see below the KWD report.
8. The CLA will participate in the 3rd annual China Lake Fishing Derby on February 19, 2022. Please join us for the day's events.
9. Last, but not least, please consider making a year-end donation to China Lake Association. CLA manages and supports several programs that protect the water quality of China Lake. Your contribution makes it all possible. Thank you, and best wishes to you this holiday season.

Officers

Stephen Greene, President
Eric Lind, Vice President
Elaine Philbrook, Treasurer
David Preston, Secretary

Board of Directors

Robbie Bickford
Bunny Caldwell
Peter Caldwell
Wayne Clark
Ginger Davis
Stephen Greene
Eric Lind
Marie Michaud
Robert O'Connor
Elaine Philbrook
Scott Pierz
James Pitney
William Powell

PUBLIC MEETING

CHINA LAKE 10-YEAR WATERSHED-BASED PLAN UPDATE

Date: Thursday, December 2

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Register now for this interactive Zoom webinar hosted by CLA to present the results of the two-year planning project to develop a 10-year Watershed Management Plan for China Lake.

Register for the meeting here!

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/3916372725825/WN_ksBioidNQ6Wego1KCBWsWg

David Preston

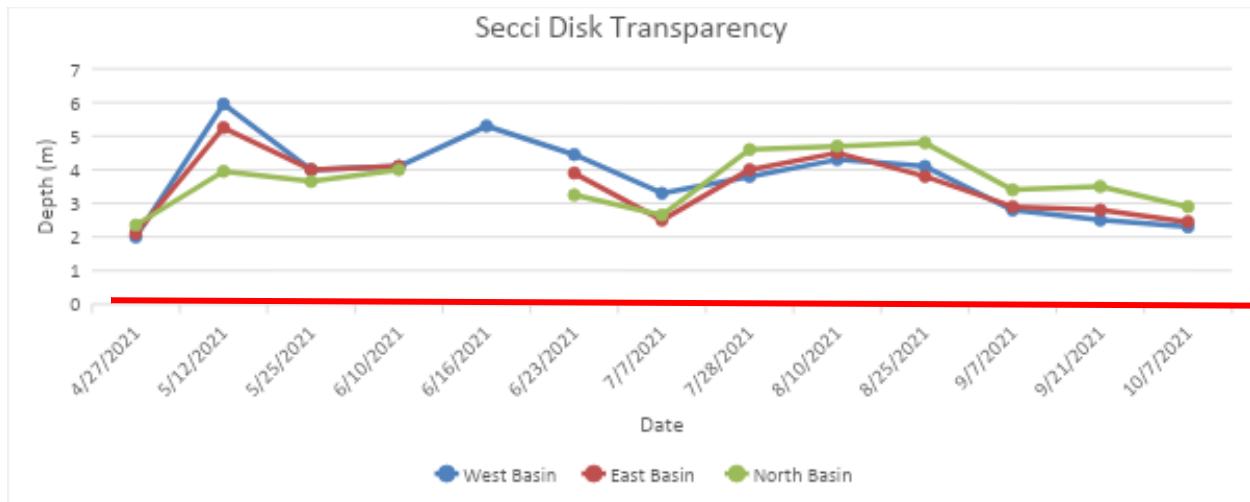
2021 China Lake Sampling Data Summary

By Robert Bickford, Water Quality Manager

Introduction:

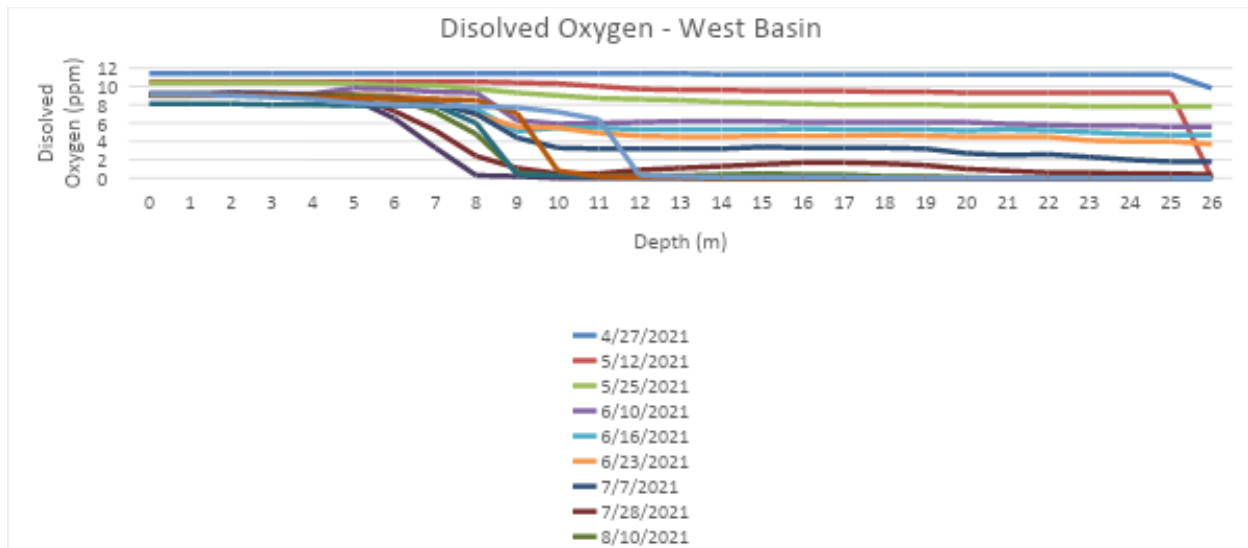
The Kennebec Water District (KWD) monitored the three China Lake sampling points (North Basin, East Basin, and West Basin) for secchi disk transparency, dissolved oxygen, temperature, phosphorus, and Chlorophyll-A every two weeks starting in late April 2021 and continuing until late October 2021. This data has been compiled by KWD but will be reported and verified by Lake Stewards of Maine over the next few months.

Secchi Disk Data:



In April 2021, during the first sampling event in the West Basin, we noted low transparency as the ice went out. This is customary for early spring as nutrients are circulated throughout the lake as mixing occurs. As the spring continued, we saw improving transparency until the highest reading of the year (6m) was taken in the West Basin on May 11, 2021. Summer 2021 saw transparencies staying consistent until early September when the lake experienced a significant increase in algae propagation. With that said, China Lake didn't experience what would be considered a "nuisance algae bloom" (Transparency <2m) any time during the 2021 sampling season. Overall, the data collected in 2021 shows no significant change of water transparencies in China Lake.

Dissolved Oxygen:



All three Basins of China Lake experienced significant thermal stratification with the hypolimnion (bottom section of the lake) experiencing anoxia (Oxygen <1ppm) starting in July 2021 and continuing for the remainder of the sampling season. Thermal stratification and hypolimnion anoxia have been observed in China Lake every summer for about half a decade.

Conclusion:

As we look back on the 2021 data and prepare for 2022 sampling and water quality projects, it is important to remember that improving the water quality of China Lake is a long process and will not happen overnight. Everything that is done to protect and preserve China Lake, from LakeSmart projects, to gravel road repairs, and education adds up over time to greatly impact the lake.

If you have any questions regarding the data that is presented above or would like a copy of the preliminary data that KWD has compiled, please email me at RBickford@kennebecwater.org and I will respond as soon as possible.