



Big Lake Water Quality Improvement Project  
Community Action Plan Work Session + BLCC Presentation – May 9, 2012  
Meeting Notes for Work Session #8  
Facilitated by Shelly Wade, Agnew::Beck Consulting

### Welcome + Introductions

- After work session participants introduced themselves, Shelly Wade gave an overview of the purpose and topics of the work session, a brief project history and a summary of past/recent accomplishments. The remainder of the work session focused on sharing information and answering questions regarding summer 2012 activities (outlined below).  
**NOTE:** Following the work session, Shelly Wade, Rachel Lord (Cook Inletkeeper), Catherine Inman (Mat-Su Conservation Services) and Cindy Gilder (Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation – ADEC), presented to the Big Lake Community Council an overview of accomplishments and summary of upcoming activities.

### Summer 2012 Activities

- Logo – Working with Cook Inletkeeper, Big Lake has developed a “Keep Big Lake Clean” logo (pictured below). The logo will be used on future clean boating education materials and will also be available in sticker form and on brochures at key locations in Big Lake, including the marinas, launch sites and businesses that are frequented by both resident and non-resident lake users.



- Marinas – Cook Inletkeeper will continue to work with Burkesshore, Southport and small marinas on implementing clean harbor practices. Floyd Shilanski of Shilanski Family Marina and Bill and Helen Heairet of Extreme Marine + Sports in Big Lake, both requested clean boating kits to provide to their customers.
- Launch Host Program
  - Big Lake resident, Randi Perlman, is working Cook Inletkeeper and Mat-Su Conservations Services to organize and pilot the Big Lake Launch Host Program. The launch host program will focus on training community volunteers to serve as “hosts” at the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks launch sites (North + South State Recreation Sites).

- Launch hosts will actively connect with lake users throughout the summer by sharing and discussing clean boating practices and to help distribute clean boating kits. Hosts will also take the face-to-face opportunity with lake users to survey them on lake use and boating practices.
  - Additionally, launch hosts will be able to gather data (through surveys and observations) to help narrow the source of the impairment. Current testing does not differentiate between gasoline that may have been spilled during fueling or discharged through the engine from non-combustion.
  - **NOTE:** Volunteer recruitment is happening right now in preparation for Memorial Day weekend activities. Two volunteer training sessions will be held on Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 11am and Wednesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm, both at Big Lake North Recreation Site. For more information call Randi Perlman @ 376-9276 or Catherine Inman @ 907-841-2226.
- Newsletter Updates –The Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup> issue of “Big Lake News” featured the new “Keep Big Lake Clean” logo and information on the launch host program. The tentative plan is to include weekly updates and information on the Big Lake Water Improvement Project in the newsletter. For additional information, contact Ina Mueller, Big Lake Chamber of Commerce.
  - Big Lake in Mat-Su News – The Big Lake Water Quality Improvement Project was featured in the Saturday May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012 edition of the Frontiersman, [http://www.frontiersman.com/news/big-lake-discusses-cleaning-up-its-act/article\\_81bab44c-9cac-11e1-99ec-001a4bcf887a.html](http://www.frontiersman.com/news/big-lake-discusses-cleaning-up-its-act/article_81bab44c-9cac-11e1-99ec-001a4bcf887a.html).
  - DEC plans on having a clean boating booth at the June 9<sup>th</sup> Meadow Lakes Community Fair.

#### Next Meeting

- The next Big Lake Water Quality Improvement Project meeting is tentatively scheduled for sometime this fall (September/October). The preliminary purpose of the fall meeting is to share observations and progress made over the summer. The group will also revisit the timeline for retesting Big Lake. **NOTE:** Big Lake must test “clean” or within acceptable standards/limits for two consecutive years before it can be removed from the impaired water body list.

#### Community Action Plan Work Session Attendees

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