

Algal survey of the Chain O'Lakes, preliminary report.

by John Isaac

Introduction

The purpose of this study was to determine the relationships of algae growth and nutrient seepage from septic systems of cabins and homes along the shore of the Chain O' Lakes. It is believed that this study may persuade owners of homes and cabins to eliminate the sources of these nutrients by accepting and supporting proposed plans for ^{Lake} ~~a~~ sewage treatment facility. Though this survey was only preliminary it has accomplished an important phase. This was the location of algae growths so that surveys to follow can accumulate more data. ^{AND ISOLATE THE SOURCES}

^{AND RECOMMEND PRECAUTIONS FOR CORRECTION OF POLLUTIONAL SOURCES.}

Materials and Methods

The survey was done the 24, 25, and 26 of April, 1971, by seven members of the Aquatic Zoology class from Central Michigan University. Samples were taken from Bellaire, Torch and Elk Lakes. Samples were not taken from Skegama Lake, however algae growths were observed and their locations recorded. Three boats were used, the "Fishhawk" and two outboards. The "Katty M" replaced the "Fishhawk" on Skekemag and Elk Lakes. The samples were scraped with a knife from rocks, pipes and logs, or picked up with a long handled net for such samples as diatoms. These samples were transported to C.M.U. where they were identified by the Aquatic Zoology class.

Results

The following is a list of algae which I have identified from five locations along the shore of Bellaire, Torch, and

Elk Lakes. The predominant genus are indicated by an asterisk (*) where more than one genus is present.

A. Lake Bellaire, west shore;

first cabin from duck blinds, straight across from island

Now -
No island
in lake
that I
LET know of

30

- * Cymbella sp.
- Synedra sp.
- Fragillaria sp.
- Navicula sp.

B. Torch Lake, west shore

31

- 1. white cabin with green trim
- 2. Small yellow cabin just inside cove

what location

- * Ulothrix sp.
- Cladophora sp.
- Fragillaria sp.
- Cymbella sp.

Need more info. on location!

C. Elk Lake, east shore

- 1. Fr 4/26/71-3
- Ulothrix sp.
- 2. Fr 4/26/71-4
- Cladophora sp.