

Dear HLPOA Member,

Here is the latest HLSIO Summer Update and Fundraising dinner information.

The summer season is well underway, and we have yet to see a Merganser duck brood on Higgins Lake. Please remain on the lookout as it is still possible for a brood to appear, and it would be very helpful for that to be reported to us should that happen. If we make it through the season without having to relocate a brood it would be the second year in a row. Years ago, I would have thought it was not possible to have a season without a merganser brood on the lake. For that to happen two years in a row would be incredibly good fortune.

We still continue to have a small amount of reported cases of Swimmer's Itch but most reports were earlier in the season. The yearly migration does bring infected ducks to the lake in the spring and fall, but we would still call the number of reported cases a minimum amount, especially compared to 6 years ago. The program you have continued to support is working!

With the COVID restrictions of last year removed, the relocation of geese from Higgins Lake was approved by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources-Wildlife Division and the Roscommon DNR office using a licensed relocation contractor. The initial roundup on June 10 was once again organized by HLSIO Board Secretary John Ogren. Using Goose Busters LLC, the roundup resulted in the capture near Detroit Point of 11 adults and 20 goslings. The geese were located by one of six volunteer teams spotting geese for relocation. Following the roundup, there have been no further reports of broods on the lake, but there have been several reports of a group of 12 juveniles still with us. A further attempt to round up the juveniles on June 28 when Goose busters were available in the Higgins Lake area failed when the geese could not be located. The relocation season ended on July 3 and the juveniles will probably be with us until the migration in the fall.

We are happy to announce that the popular Fundraising Dinner that we have held in the past is once again going to take place after a year away last summer. On Thursday evening, August 12th we will have the dinner at Jim and Laura Witt's barn. It will be catered again by Fred's of Roscommon. Among the attendees will be Dr. Curt Blankespoor who will address the group and answer any questions that the guests may have. Please consider supporting our dinner by buying tickets from Fred's, Witt's Collision, or any HLSIO or HLPOA board member. Tickets will once again be \$100 per person and all donations go toward HLSIO programs. If you have any questions, please contact:

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Thank you again for your past support. Your donations have made a huge difference to the Higgins Lake Community.

Your HLSIO Board
(The attachment outlines details for the fundraising dinner.)