



Secord Lake Fishery Advisory Committee

May 4, 2026



As we look forward to the return to legal lake level, the Secord Lake Association (SLA) created the Secord Lake Fishery Advisory Committee. The purpose of this committee is to partner with the DNR Fisheries Biologist to champion and communicate responsible management of the Secord Lake fishery for generations to come. At this point, the committee is made up of SLA Members Jeff Sorensen (chair), Ken Wells, Joel Vernier, Phil Dast, Paul Gorans along with April Morey, MI DNR Fisheries Biologist. We seek additional help as we move into Summer. If interested drop us a line at SecordLakeAssociation@gmail.com

The team met over the winter months. We appreciate and value collaboration between MI DNR and the Secord Lake Association (SLA).

April shared her appreciation to better understand the status of Secord Lake and the initiative-taking actions of the SLA as we continue to inform property owners how to maintain status quo of shorelines as we prepare for legal lake level ([Retake Our Lake initiative](#)). April understands the different challenges between Secord, Smallwood, Wixom, and Sanford.

MI DNR Fisheries will be releasing a high-level plan to restore and manage the fisheries of the 4 Lakes to include Secord. We will share that document when it is available.

These are the specific Secord Lake action steps where more information will be provided to the lake community by SLA:

- 1) Shoreline Management** – April discussed things lake front property owners can do to help improve the water quality and lake environment for fish / wildlife. We learned a new term “Armored Shoreline” as April shared a map of the 47.5 miles of Secord Lake shoreline. FLTF is leading communications with educational materials published by EGLE and DNR providing options / alternatives to shoreline property owners.
- 2) Fish Survey or Angler Diary** – April seeks visibility to fishing success on Secord. The team has created a [SECORD LAKE ANGLERS DIARY](#) to seek voluntary information from anglers of their “real time” experience on Secord Lake. You can find this simple survey at this link. [SECORD LAKE ANGLERS DIARY](#)
- 3) Secord Fish Survey 2026** – Secord was last surveyed by MI DNR in June 2008. April indicates plan to survey Secord Lake in May 2026. Scott Gratopp, owner of Secord Lake Marina – On The Water™ confirmed his offer to DNR for use of his boat launch. With an updated lake survey coupled with data from the Angler Diary, April would like to attend an SLA Member meeting to share broader plans for Secord later this year.
- 4) Review Fish Stocking Plan / Strategy after Secord Fish Survey** – there is agreement to determine the best time to stock to utilize existing resources (either DNR or SLA private) toward stocking. April indicates a new Fish Survey will allow fact-based decisions / recommendations to follow. As the 4 Lakes are priority, decision making can be quick with data in hand. Secord was last stocked with 49,956 Walleye in June 2016 and 1,224 Musky in October 2022.
- 5) Fish Management “Harvest” Recommendations** – the SLA, in collaboration with DNR Fishery, will utilize our communications capability to provide information on how “harvesting” certain fish can help the overall Secord Lake fishery.

A question we received. . . is it possible to stock fish in Secord Lake? Yes. The MI DNR has stocked Walleye and Musky in Secord in the past as indicated above. There are factors that will go into decisions to stock in the future regarding timing and species. Having the MI DNR better understand the Secord fishery is critical. While it is unlikely there will be a need to stock panfish in Secord, there may be opportunities for MI DNR and local private efforts to stock gamefish. As stated earlier, “The purpose of this committee is to partner with the DNR Fisheries Biologist to champion and communicate responsible management of the Secord Lake fishery for generations to come.”

We realize there are many questions and Secord Anglers will have interest in this topic. You can send questions and comments to SecordLakeAssociation@gmail.com We will continue to keep the Secord Lake community updated as we move forward. Please watch for Secord Lake Association communications

Please visit www.SecordLakeAssociation.org to sign up for email updates as they are available.

Please read our [2025 Year in Review](#) to learn more about how SLA supports the restoration of Secord Lake.

[Membership](#) in the Secord Lake Association is just \$25 / year for individuals or \$35 / year for a family. We look forward to you joining us.

Monthly Member meetings began in April to run through October. All are welcome to attend.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, May 16th at 10 AM – Secord Township Hall.

Saturday, May 16	Saturday, Aug 15	
Saturday, June 20	Saturday, Sept 12	SLA Golf Outing – Saturday, Sept 19
Saturday, July 18	Saturday, Oct 10	SLA Chili Cook Off – Saturday, Oct 17

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