



## **FAQ: Whitey Kraus North Lake Public Access Carry-In Development Project**

*Background: In the fall of 2020, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) leadership met with representatives of the Reddelien Road Neighborhood Association and the North Lake Management District to share information about the DNR's plans for this public access point. This FAQ is being provided to help answer some of the DNR's most frequently received questions.*

**When will the carry-in access open?** Carry-in access is planned to open to the public beginning Feb. 1, 2021.

**Will users be allowed to operate any motorized vehicles on the property to access North Lake for ice fishing?** No, access to the water's edge will be limited to foot traffic only.

**Will users be able to use a motorized boat or other vessel launched at the North Lake carry-in access?** Yes, if the user can carry-in or wheel the vessel and motor 250 feet from the drop-off area to the water's edge.

**Can boats be stored overnight on the shore of the DNR carry-in access property?** No, overnight parking of boats on this property is not allowed.

**What if all parking stalls are occupied?** Users can drop their equipment off at the drop zone even if all parking stalls are occupied. Vehicle owners must seek out legal and safe parking alternatives.

**Can users park overnight in the designated parking stalls?** Only if the user has launched their vessel or accessed the property prior to 11 p.m. Users are not allowed to access the property if they arrive after 11 p.m.

**How many designated parking stalls are there?** Currently, there are four, single-car stalls for access and a turnaround drop zone located at the trail that leads to the lake. The DNR plans to add four vehicle-with-trailer stalls in 2021.

**Will there be a fishing pier?** The DNR plans to construct a fishing pier that will also provide a place to launch small watercraft. The floating kayak launchpad will facilitate the launching of paddling vessels, including kayaks.



## **Continued – FAQ: Whitey Kraus North Lake Public Access Carry-In Development Project**

**Will fish be stocked in the lake now that there is public access for customers?** The carry-in access development will not meet the minimum public boating access to qualify for resource enhancement services provided by the DNR. Under administrative code 1.91(4), the 437-acre North Lake would require 15 car/trailer parking units with a boat ramp to be considered adequate.

**Is the access road paved?** No, the access road is currently only gravel.

**Is there a boat ramp?** No, but there will be a floating kayak launch pad.

**Will the site be plowed or does the gate close at times for major snowstorms?** Yes, DNR staff will plow the access road on a regular basis. If we have too much snow depth, the gate may be closed until the road can be cleared. Access will be open for walk-in even if the gate is closed.

### **Questions Or Comments? Contact:**

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### **North Lake Public Access History**

In 2005, the DNR purchased 6.59 acres from Thomas and Elaine Kraus for \$1,125,000 with the intention to create a full-service public boat access site onto North Lake.

These plans met with opposition in 2010, which resulted in a petition and a contested case hearing. As a result of this dispute, the DNR postponed the development of this property.

Over the next several years, an alternative option was presented to the DNR to create a public boat landing located at the northeast corner of North Lake off of Highway 83. The DNR investigated this site and determined the site did not meet the DNR's interest, particularly because of high development needs, questionable soils, year-round access concerns and overall limited boat access. This was communicated to the landowners holding that property, along with new plans to develop carry-in public access on the existing DNR lands originally purchased in 2010.