

Otters, Beavers, Turtles, & Frogs!

Hosted by NH LAKES

Wednesday, November 4, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Zoom Chat Box Discussion

00:44:36 Linda and Louise : Hi everybody! We are Linda & Louise, our favorite lake is Bradley Lake in Andover, NH

00:45:14 Jeannine Petriel: Jeannine from Weare, by my favorite "lake" Perkins Pond

00:45:39 Ann Haralambie: Silver Lake, Madison

00:45:51 Soren Denlinger, NH LAKES: Crystal Lake, Gilmanton!

00:46:26 Frank: Lake Winnepesaukee!

00:46:43 Krystal Balanoff, NH LAKES: Hi Linda and Jeannie! And big hello to Ann Haralambie a 2020 LakeSmart Program participant. With arguably one of the loveliest lakefront properties I have ever seen ;)

00:47:17 Kate Anslinger: Suncook Lake!

00:47:23 Josh Megyesy: Big Dan Hole Pond, Ossipee

00:47:41 csm: Hello to everyone from Jenness Pond in Pittsfield.

00:47:57 Stu Greer: Greetings from Otter Pond, Georges Mills

00:48:32 Krystal Balanoff, NH LAKES: So glad you could all join us tonight. Josh, thank you for presenting tonight and sharing your expertise!

00:52:52 Melissa Doperalski: Pleasant Lake, Deerfield

01:01:41 Jessica Sayers, NH LAKES: So cute!

01:03:08 Krystal Balanoff, NH LAKES: I repeat, turtles can breath through their butt. Fascinating!

01:05:02 Krystal Balanoff, NH LAKES: What a cute little baby turtle! Thanks for sharing Soren!

01:05:10 Melissa Doperalski: Snakes are super exciting and awesome!

01:05:23 Krystal Balanoff, NH LAKES: I agree. I<3snakes

01:07:16 Robyn Kozierok: Do water snakes overwinter underwater?

01:08:49 csm: are frog populations in decline and why?

01:08:58 Kate Anslinger: Do you know how to tell the age of a turtle?

01:09:00 Elizabeth Evarts: how can we set up our backyards to protect snakes turtles etc.

01:09:14 Frank: What water snakes are native to NH? Are any venomous?

01:09:20 don: How many Timber Rattlers do we have in NH?

01:09:45 Jeannine Petriel: We have snapping turtles near us that like to cross the street (and sometimes stop in the middle). What should someone do to help them get across the street?

01:09:52 Susy Reed: Is there data on the impact of lowering water levels in the fall on reptile/amphibian populations?

01:10:11 Elizabeth Evarts: Should people report sightings of endangered species discussed tonight.

01:10:14 Michele Rush: Can you comment on fungal diseases affecting amphibians in NH

01:12:09 Ann Haralambie: I'd rather just forget that they are there

01:12:18 Michele Rush: What is the mortality of amphibians in Vernal pools drying up before they mature enough

01:14:37 Janie's iPad: how aggressive would a snapping turtle be if it came close to a swimming area? does it spend winter under the water?

01:16:00 Robyn Kozierok: Can we get copies of the recording after the call?

01:16:05 Jessica Sayers, NH LAKES: Question on Timber Rattlesnakes-they are listed as critically imperiled <https://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/wildlife/profiles/timber-rattlesnake.html>

01:16:36 Jessica Sayers, NH LAKES: Hi Robyn, YES! We will be posting this recording and the slides on our NH LAKES webpage

01:16:36 Krystal Balanoff, NH LAKES: Hi Robin, we will post a recording and provide the slides and chat box after the presentation!

01:16:49 Robyn Kozierok: Thanks!

01:18:17 Petar: I am not able to view slides

01:20:15 Jessica Sayers, NH LAKES: Question on reporting species seen tonight-you can submit photos: <https://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/nongame/raarp-reporting.html>

01:24:14 Robert Reed: Will beavers attack humans and if so why? Concerned when fishing on float tube and they slap their tail at me.

01:27:12 Jessica Sayers, NH LAKES: Great question Robert! Beavers are usually not aggressive but if they feel threatened can give warnings to stay clear, like the tail slap. We will ask the experts at the end for more info!

01:28:58 Shauna Kondrat: Would it be common for beavers and otters to be in the same small pond? Or do the beavers try to stay away from the otters?

01:29:04 Ann Haralambie: we have a new long beaver dam this year with two new lodges side by side, one attached to the dam--would this indicate more than one beaver/family?

01:30:12 Sue K: we came across a dry pond this fall. could the beavers have broken a dam to raise the water level lower down to raise water around the lodge? or did it likely just dry up due to the drought?

01:31:05 Michele Rush: What is the population of beavers in NH currently. Are the numbers stable? How many beaver are trapped yearly in NH?

01:32:25 adari: We find castor mounds on our beach.

01:32:25 Pam T: I've seen beaver activity in and around Deering Lake. One area there was a bunch of trees downed from their chewing. Once a tree is downed, they appear to just leave it. Dont they want to eat more of it or was it downed to build a dam?

01:32:45 Michele Rush: What is the life expectancy of a Beaver?

01:34:14 Krystal Balanoff, NH LAKES: LOTS of good questions this session folks. Looking forward to asking the experts at the end.

01:35:08 Jessica Sayers, NH LAKES: Fish and Game Beaver Webpage:
<https://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/wildlife/profiles/beaver.html>

01:41:36 Linda: fascinating info! who knew?

01:42:51 Michele Rush: Are otters endangered in NH? Are they trapped In NH?

01:43:35 Michele Rush: Otters can live in saltwater?

01:43:54 Joan Funcke: Thank you for the great info!!!

01:44:34 karen: Does the beaver lodge sticks or the dam contain bacteria that should not have contact with humans who are attempting to demolish the dam

01:45:35 Susy Reed: That was great; thank you!

01:45:43 Ann Haralambie: my question related to the 2 beaver lodges literally next to each other

01:45:50 Diane Potter: how do I keep otters from using my boathouse as their toilet?

01:46:01 Stu Greer: We've always attributed open mussel shells in the water and shore to otters. True?

01:46:36 joannmaynard: Excellent informative presentations, thank you!

01:48:46 Michele Rush: Why is NH allowing trapping of beavers and otters?

01:49:19 Elizabeth Evarts: I echo that- excellent, interesting and educational presentations. thank you. .

01:49:51 Michele Rush: Is trapping allowed in national wildlife refuges in NH?

01:50:53 Patrick Tate: Trapping on national wildlife refuges is determined by the national wildlife refuge manager.

01:53:30 Bette: Perhaps unanswered questions could be addressed offline and posted later?

01:53:46 Andrea LaMoreaux, NH LAKES: Great idea, Bette!

01:55:11 Soren Denlinger, NH LAKES: re: trapping, it looks like it's permitted at Great Bay, Silvio Conte, and Umbagog NWRs <https://www.fws.gov/refuges/wildlife-conservation/trapping.html#nb>

01:56:49 karen: USDA has a proposal of inserting pipe into the wall of the dam to control the height of the water and surface area--how successful is this and how often has it been used

01:57:06 Jessica Sayers, NH LAKES: Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program: https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/null/?cid=nrcs141p2_024540

01:59:29 Ann Haralambie: fascinating

01:59:38 Jessica Sayers, NH LAKES: Thank you Josh and Patrick!