

**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Central Sands Lakes Study (CSLS) Update
June 2018**



In December 2017, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) released a [Scope of Work](#) outlining the preliminary technical methodology for the implementation of the Central Sands Lakes Study (CSLS) as required in 2017 Wisconsin Act 10. The WDNR has taken steps to prepare for the modeling and evaluation of water levels and their relationship with groundwater withdrawals within the area of three Waushara County lakes. The following summarizes the project activities that took place January through June 2018:

- The WDNR established funding agreements with the United States Geological Survey and the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey (WGNHS) to provide technical assistance in modeling activities and field data collection.
- WDNR and WGNHS staff created a compilation of approximately 90 relevant geologic and hydrologic research studies previously conducted throughout the Central Sands region in the last several decades. These articles will inform staff on the resource characterization, field study, and groundwater modeling CSLS project teams.
- Monitoring is a major component of the CSLS.
 - WDNR and its partners have installed three stream gages, a lake level gage on each of the three lakes, and groundwater level monitoring equipment on 21 wells near the lakes.
 - WDNR has created an online viewer for the public to see where data are being collected and what types of data are being collected. Go to www.dnr.wi.gov and Search “Water Quantity Data” or directly to: https://dnrmaps.wi.gov/H5/?viewer=Water_Use_Viewer.
- Updates to the project are posted on the WDNR website: www.dnr.wi.gov Search “Central Sands” or directly to: <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Wells/HighCap/CSLStudy.html>

The WDNR and WGNHS have provided project updates to various stakeholder groups such as: the Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Growers Association, Wisconsin Farm Bureau, Pleasant Lake Management District and the Long Lake Association.

Throughout this summer, the WDNR and their project partners will continue monitoring water levels and stream flows; conduct exploratory drilling; complete in-lake assessments of Plainfield, Pleasant, and Long lakes; and start developing the CSLS groundwater flow model.