

History of Yahara Lakes Water Level Advisory Groups (YLAG1 and YLAG2)

Early in 2001, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) created the Yahara Lakes Water Level Advisory Group (YLAG) to make recommendations regarding the water levels on the Yahara Lakes, including Mendota, Monona, Waubesa, Kegonsa and the Stoughton millpond.

In 2011, DNR reconvened the Yahara Lakes Advisory Group (YLAG2), with representatives from area governments, organizations and interests to discuss lake levels and other actions to reduce flooding. YLAG2's charge was to review YLAG1 recommendations and discuss and evaluate current conditions. The YLAG2 group developed additional recommendations on how to best manage the Yahara Chain of Lakes as a system and to build consensus on the issue instead of fragmented approaches.

Both YLAG and YLAG2 groups consisted of city, village, town, county and regional planning representatives, user groups, lake associations' representatives, University of Wisconsin educators, and DNR staff.