

Round Lake

Round Lake water management task force chairman Bruce Paulsen reported that the county has written to the Department of Justice seeking the state's approval for a Nov. 16 deadline for the county highway department to lower the existing two culverts to the streambed level and install a third culvert for the Osprey Creek crossing of Highway NN south of Highway B.

Osprey Creek is the outlet of Round, Little Round and Osprey Lakes, and flows into Lac Courte Oreilles. The culvert project will mean closing Highway NN and detouring traffic for three days. At the urging of the DNR, the county will have a private surveyor, Mike Clamer, set the elevations for the culverts to DNR specifications.

The approximate cost of the project will be \$16,000 to \$20,000, mostly covered by the highway department labor and machinery budget. The estimated outside costs of \$7,000 will come from the county's Resource Development Fund.

The county also has received a DNR permit to remove and backfill the diversion canal and dam between Placid Lake and the northeast end of Round Lake.

County Zoning and Conservation Administrator Dale Olson said the county is considering using a private contractor to perform that project.

"It's because we don't have the big backhoes and have to bench our way down" a 26-foot deep excavation, he said. McClaine Road will be closed to traffic during the project.

Olson added that the county has money set aside for both these projects.