

Issues within the Sub-Watershed: Red Lakes

What are the existing conditions, related potential problems and solution alternatives?

Issues related to: FLOOD DAMAGE	What is the NATURE of the problem?	How SEVERE is the problem? [high, moderate, low]	How wide spread or to what EXTENT is the problem?	What are the possible SOLUTIONS?
Flooding	Corps operation of dam, elevation 1174; release rate		Lake wide	Corps controls operations

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Flood Damages <i>(crop land, pastures, residential, roads, etc.)</i>	Cabin flooding	low		
	Shotley Brook dam failure; covered spawning habitat; (cross reference to habitat)			Stream rehab, (copy to habitat)
	Tamarac River Dam failure (see above)			
Drainage	Ditch 10, needs maintenance			

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	Ditch abandonment?			Need WD review with county for drainage needs
	Difficult due to high water table			
	Impacts to wild rice operations?	High?		
Drought	Impacts to wild rice operations,	This area has higher insurance claims than other ricing areas		
	Access to lakes, cabins from lake			

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Stream Flows				
Lake Levels	Lengthy drawdown	low		
	Affect demands for DNR permits for residential dredging of lake bottom for access (cross reference to recreation)			

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Groundwater	Very high groundwater table; drainage virtually impossible			
	What is desired landuse/land cover. Dictated by water level.			
Other Flood Damage Issues	Operation of dam			Army corps operational plan
	Beaver problems		widespread	Bounty, fur prices
	WCA; issues of replacement; mitigation		Most of subwatershed classified as wetland, makes doing projects difficult	

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	Shotley Brook; frequently plugged/blocked			
	Water release impacts downstream to Red River			



Issues related to: NATURAL RESOURCES	What is the NATURE of the problem?	How SEVERE is the problem? [high, moderate, low]	How wide spread or to what EXTENT is the problem?	What are the possible SOLUTIONS?
Erosion and Sedimentation <i>(stream, lake bank, ag and residential, ditches, etc.)</i>	Some erosion/runoff on Battle Creek/River?			Local landowners are installing riparian buffer strips
	Sedimentation & vegetative growth in ditch systems		Widespread; followed twp lines not topography	

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	Long shore drift clogs rivers, impedes access			
	Erosion problems on tributaries to Red Lakes (SE)			
Water Quality (point and nonpoint pollution, groundwater, etc.)	Water quality in this subwatershed is relatively good			
	Bartlett Lake Eutrophication (old sewage discharges)	High	Bartlett L and its watershed	Lake restoration based upon finding of Bartlett Lake Study (Northome School)
	Natural water quality now, historic, future?			TMDL process? 303d list for Mercury

Issues related to: NATURAL RESOURCES	What is the NATURE of the problem?	How SEVERE is the problem? [high, moderate, low]	How wide spread or to what EXTENT is the problem?	What are the possible SOLUTIONS?
Fish and Wildlife Habitat <i>(fish passage, waterfowl nesting habitat, beaver, otter, upland game, etc.)</i>	Shotley Brook dam failure; covered spawning habitat; (cross reference to habitat)			Stream rehab, (copy to habitat)
	Fish spawning impeded by beaver dams			
	Fish escapement			Fish ladders
	Sharptail habitat			Talk to Steve about Leks

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	Need for more controlled burning/active management of habitat (grass, shrubs and forest)			
	Fish cribs			
Water-based Recreational Activities <i>(water access, fishing, hunting, recreational trails, etc.)</i>	Good fishing on lakes, excellent walleye fishery			
	Water skiing, etc.			

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Unique Water / Land Related Resources	Bog state recreation area			
	Red Lakes themselves			
	Red lake nation			
	Trout stream			
Other Natural Resource Issues	Fish escapement issues from lakes			

OTHER COMMENTS/ISSUES TO COMPLETE THE “PICTURE!”

THESE COMMENTS SHARED BY: _____(NAME) _____(TELEPHONE)

NOTE: Return this form to Myron Jesme, Red Lake Watershed District Office