

Tacoma Lakes NPS Abatement Project

#2007RR04

Waterbody Name: Sand, Woodbury, Buker, Jimmy and Little Purgatory Ponds

Location: Litchfield and Monmouth – Kennebec County

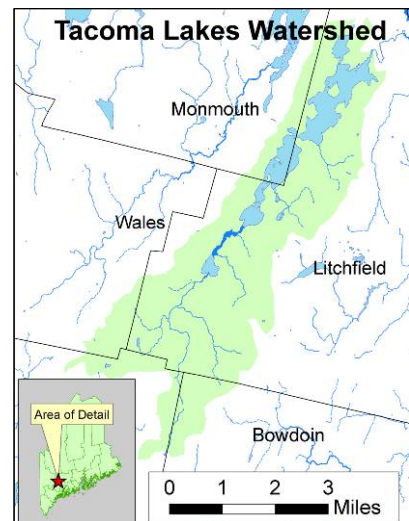
Waterbody Status: NPS Priority Watersheds, Most at Risk (Sand and Woodbury Ponds)

Project Grantee: Kennebec County SWCD

Project Duration: April 2007 – November 2009

319 Grant Amount: \$70,185

Local Match: \$58,680



PROBLEM:

The Tacoma Lakes are a chain of five ponds with a combined watershed area of 15.5 square miles. The smaller ponds are Buker Pond, Jimmy Pond and Little Purgatory Pond. Sand Pond and Woodbury Pond are the largest and deepest two ponds that are known for their excellent recreational fisheries and good water quality. However, the average Secchi disk measurements have decreased in these ponds for the past few years, and there has been a growing awareness of the need to protect their water quality. A 2006 NPS watershed survey found that erosion from public and private roads and runoff from shorefront properties are significant contributors to sediment and nutrient loading in the ponds.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The project goal was to protect the water quality of the Tacoma Lakes, especially Sand Pond and Woodbury Pond, against further NPS pollution from camp roads and shorefront properties. Another goal was to promote the use of low-cost erosion control practices by shorefront and camp road owners and to encourage general stewardship and monitoring in the watershed.

Project outreach and technical assistance was conducted by the Kennebec SWCD and the Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed (FOCW). Technical assistance consisted of site visits to private residences and roads and meetings with Town officials regarding town road sites. A gravel road workshop and LakeSmart-Start visits by the FOCW furthered the outreach to local landowners. The Kennebec SWCD completed BMP work such as ditch installation, checkdams, and turnouts, road and driveway rebuilding and super elevation, culvert replacement and armoring, shoreline stabilization, and buffer installation. The FOCW completed smaller BMP construction work on private residences with the assistance of their Youth Conservation Corps (YCC).



Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed's Youth Conservation Corps

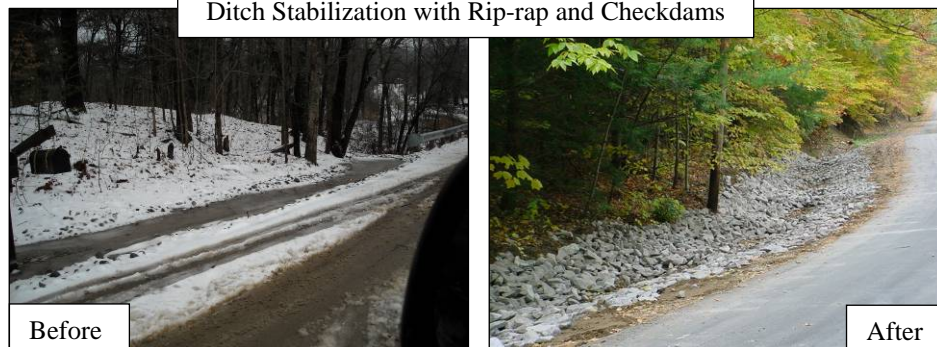
PROJECT OUTCOMES:

- The project installed conservation practices at 11 sites in the watershed, including significant projects on two town roads and several private residences and roads.
- The Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed's YCC fixed NPS problems at another 7 sites by installing buffer plantings, erosion control mulch, shoreline riprap and other BMPs.
- Technical assistance was provided by the Kennebec County SWCD and the Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed at a total of 47 different sites.
- Pollutant loading to the Tacoma Lakes was reduced by an estimated 8.4 tons of sediment, 8.1 pounds of phosphorus, and 16.4 pounds of nitrogen per year (WEPP Model and Region 5 Method).
- Approximately 823 linear feet of shoreline was stabilized through plantings, erosion control mulch and/or riprap.

Shoreline Erosion Stabilization with Rip-rap



Ditch Stabilization with Rip-rap and Checkdams



PROJECT PARTNERS:

Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed
Tacoma Lakes Improvement Society
Cobbossee Watershed District
Town of Litchfield

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Suggested Citation:

Maine Department of Environmental Protection (2010) “Nonpoint Source Management Program 2009 Annual Report,” Document# DEPLW-1159 2010. Augusta: MDEP.