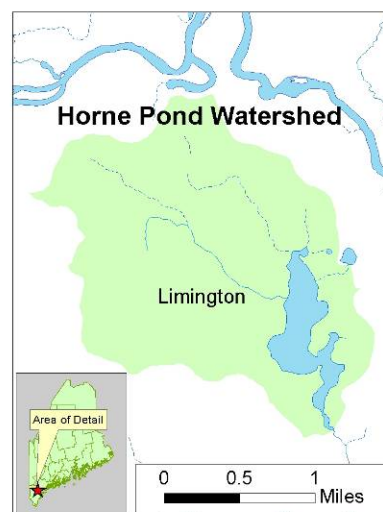


Horne Pond Watershed Survey

#2011RR06

Waterbody Name: Horne Pond
Location: Limington – York County
Waterbody Status: NPS Priority Watershed, Most at Risk
Project Grantee: York County SWCD
Project Duration: February 2011 – January 2012
604(b) Grant Amount: \$10,646
Local Match: \$9,123



PROBLEM:

Horne Pond (locally known as Pequawket Lake) covers 139 acres and has a direct watershed of 2.8 square miles. The lake flows into the Little Ossipee River and is part of the larger Saco River watershed. Horne Pond is developed with 177 seasonal and year-round residences and the Town's Moy-Mo-Da-Yo Beach area, which covers 36 acres and includes a boat launch, parking, swimming, and summer camp facilities. The Town formed the Moy-Mo-Day-O Beach Recreation Oversight Committee in 2007 to oversee further development of the park's day uses, overnight camping, and boat access.

Water quality monitoring has been conducted on the lake since 1980. The lake's water quality is considered above average with water clarity of 6.2 meters. However, recent dissolved oxygen profiles show low to moderate depletion in deep areas of the lake. In 1996, the Pequawket Lake Preservation Association (PLPA) formed to monitor, protect, and preserve the lake's water quality. The Town of Limington and Beach Oversight Committee have done some work to stabilize eroded area and reduce runoff into the lake.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of the project was to identify, document, and prioritize soil erosion sites in the Horne Pond watershed. Survey methods were based on those outlined in the DEP publication, *Citizen's Guide to Lake Watershed Surveys*. Letters were sent to all 270 watershed property owners to notify them of the survey and invite their participation in the project. In June 2011, 35 volunteers participated in the training session and field survey.

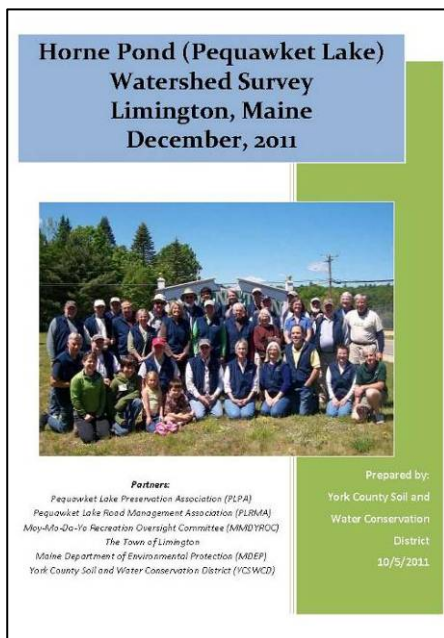
In total, 48 erosion sites were identified in the watershed. Survey data was summarized in the *Horne Pond (Pequawket Lake) Watershed Survey Report* (December 2011). Survey reports were distributed to town officials and interested residents and posted on partner websites.



Erosion on Moy-Mo-Da-Yo Beach

PROJECT OUTCOMES:

- Project staff and volunteers surveyed the entire Horne Pond watershed and documented 48 erosion sites. Of these, 68 percent (32 sites) were associated with residential properties and another 18 percent (nine sites) were associated with town and private roads. The remaining seven sites were found on driveways (four sites), the town beach area (two sites), and a logging area.
- The *Horne Pond (Pequawket Lake) Watershed Survey Report* was completed in December 2011. The report summarizes watershed survey findings and lists specific recommendations for identified sites.
- The survey project helped launch PLPA into a more proactive leadership role. PLPA added language to their by-laws stating that members must inspect their septic systems once every five years and then worked with a local septic company to provide discounts. In 2011, 14 members took advantage of the discounts. Two of the systems were found to be failing and were replaced by the owners.
- PLPA and project staff met with Maine Forest Service (MFS) officials to clarify cutting recommendations of their 'Firewise' program that were inconsistent with Limington shoreland zoning and the watershed survey report. This meeting resulted in a MFS policy change in program guidelines for vegetation removal within the shoreland zone.



PROJECT PARTNERS:

Moy-Mo-Day-O Beach Recreation Oversight Committee
Pequawket Lake Preservation Association
Town of Limington

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Wendy Garland, DEP – (207) 615-2451, wendy.garland@maine.gov

Joe Anderson, York County SWCD – (207) 324-0888, janderson@yorkswcd.org

Suggested Citation:

Maine Department of Environmental Protection (2012) “Nonpoint Source Management Program 2011 Annual Report,” Document # DEPLW-1237. Augusta: MDEP.