

Biscay Pond Watershed Improvement Project Watershed Survey

#2003R-19B WIFAP

Waterbody Names: Biscay, Little and McCurdy Ponds

Waterbody Status: Biscay and Little - NPS Priority Watersheds

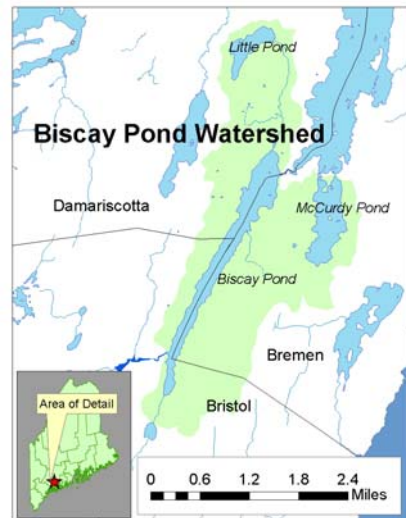
Location: Bremen, Bristol, Damariscotta - Lincoln County

Project Sponsor: Knox – Lincoln SWCD

Project Duration: March 2004 – March 2005

319 Grant Amount: \$10,000

Local Match: \$7,150 (local), \$4,000 (ME Dept. Ag.)



PROBLEM:

Biscay, Little and McCurdy Ponds are part of a network of lakes in the Pemaquid River Watershed. McCurdy Pond flows north into Pemaquid Pond, which then outlets into Biscay Pond. Little Pond flows south directly into Biscay Pond. Biscay Pond then flows directly into the Pemaquid River. Biscay Pond has a high potential for phosphorus recycling with an average potential for nuisance algal blooms. Biscay Pond has the most developed subwatershed in the Pemaquid River Watershed. It also has experienced a sharp increase in conversions from seasonal to year-round residences and has a high rate of *new* development as well.

The Pemaquid Watershed Association (PWA) is an active member-based organization that serves all waterbodies within the Pemaquid River Watershed. PWA has been involved with watershed surveys and implementing Best Management Practices in the watershed. Previous NPS surveys have already been conducted on Duckpuddle Pond and Pemaquid Pond. Duckpuddle Pond received a 319 grant for restoration projects on sites identified during the survey.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

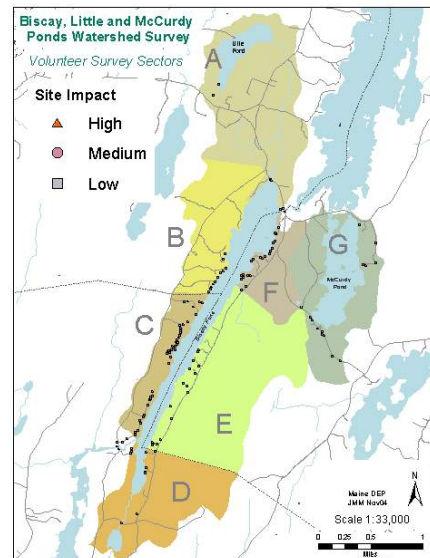
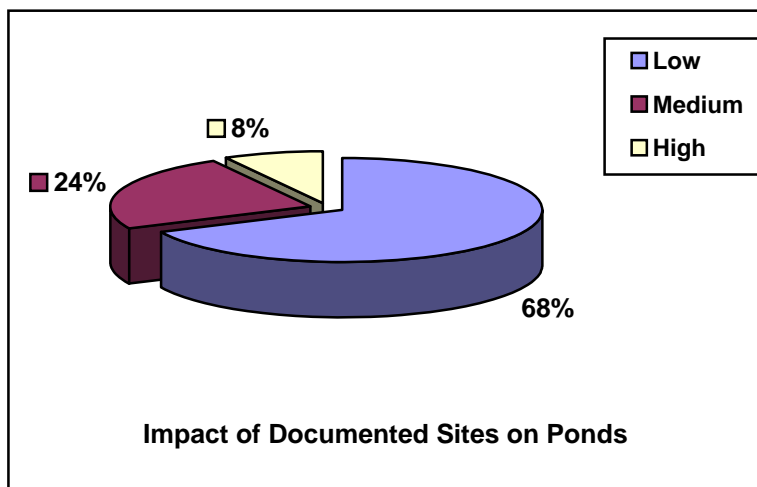
The original purpose of the project was to identify and document NPS sites in the Biscay Pond Watershed. However, staff determined that it would be feasible to also include the Little and McCurdy Ponds Watersheds in the project.

The Knox-Lincoln SWCD and PWA organized the watershed survey, which took place in the spring of 2004. Twenty-three volunteers attended the training and completed the field work. Technical follow-up on the sites was completed during the late spring and summer by project staff. In total 127 erosion sites were identified. PWA compiled the data and completed the watershed survey report in January, 2005. A final brochure that summarized the survey findings was created and mailed to watershed residences.



PROJECT OUTCOMES:

- Project staff and 23 volunteers completed watershed surveys for the Biscay, Little and McCurdy Ponds Watersheds. All four waterbodies that drain into Biscay Pond have been surveyed (Duckpuddle, Pemaquid, Little and McCurdy Ponds).
- The *Biscay, Little and McCurdy Ponds Watershed Survey Report* was completed in January, 2005
- The project nominated a state road and public access site identified as a major source of pollution in the survey for the Maine Department of Transportation's Surface Water Quality Protection Program (SWQPP). The DOT accepted the proposal and plans to correct this severe erosion problem.
- The Knox – Lincoln SWCD Engineer and PWA staff led four community members on a "Road Walk" to discuss identified sites on their private road.
- The project resulted in the formation of a watershed friends group called "The Biscay Ponders".



PROJECT PARTNERS:

Waldo County SWCD
Knox-Lincoln SWCD
Pemaquid Watershed Association
Towns of: Bremen, Bristol, Damariscotta
Maine Department of Agriculture

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Suggested Citation:
Maine Department of Environmental Protection (2006) "Nonpoint Source Management Program 2005 Annual Report," Document# DEPLW0758. Augusta: MDEP.