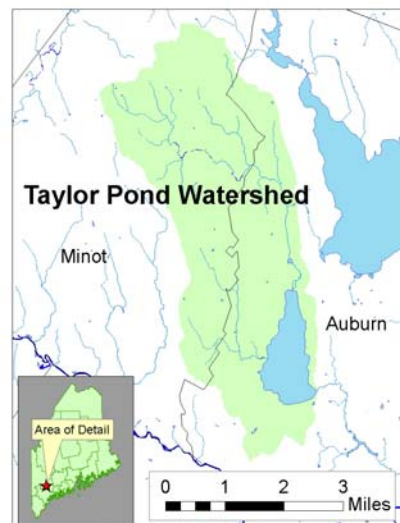


Taylor Pond Watershed Survey

#2005R-07

Waterbody Name: Taylor Pond
Location: Auburn and Minot – Androscoggin County
Waterbody Status: NPS Priority Watershed, Most At Risk
Project Sponsor: Androscoggin Valley SWCD
Project Duration: April 2005 – December 2006
319 Grant Amount: \$12,368
Local Match: \$13,594



PROBLEM:

Taylor Pond is a 640-acre lake in the City of Auburn that outlets into a small brook draining into the Androscoggin River. The 14.6 square mile watershed extends into Minot and includes the Lost Valley Ski Area and two active farms. The lake's shoreline is heavily developed with over 200 seasonal and year-round homes and a private campground.

The DEP and volunteers have monitored Taylor Pond's water quality since 1975. The water quality is considered average; however, the lake has experienced high depletion of dissolved oxygen in the bottom waters in late summer and is considered to have a high potential for internal loading problems. In 1991, the Androscoggin Valley SWCD, Taylor Pond Association (TPA) and DEP conducted a 319-funded watershed survey and identified 115 erosion sites. From 1992 to 1995, two phases of 319-funded implementation projects that installed 63 BMPs in 14 key areas throughout the watershed.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of the project was to identify, document and prioritize remaining soil erosion sites in the Taylor Pond Watershed and to recommend conservation practices for each of these sites. Survey methods were based on those outlined in the DEP publication, *Citizen's Guide to Lake Watershed Surveys*. The volunteer training session was held on May 21, 2005 and included hands-on training in the field. The 26 volunteers were trained to identify and rate erosion problems, and develop recommendations. Volunteers completed the survey over the following month.

Technical staff compiled the survey data, developed maps and created the *Taylor Pond Watershed Survey Report*. In total, 134 sites were identified that are impacting or have the potential to impact Taylor Pond. Engineering staff also developed preliminary designs for multiple sites on two roads and the campground. Survey reports and two-page summary sheets were distributed to municipal officials and the public. Presentations were delivered at TPA annual meetings, an Auburn City Council meeting and a Minot Select Board meeting. The TPA also took the initiative to distribute tailored letters to landowners and road associations associated with identified sites.

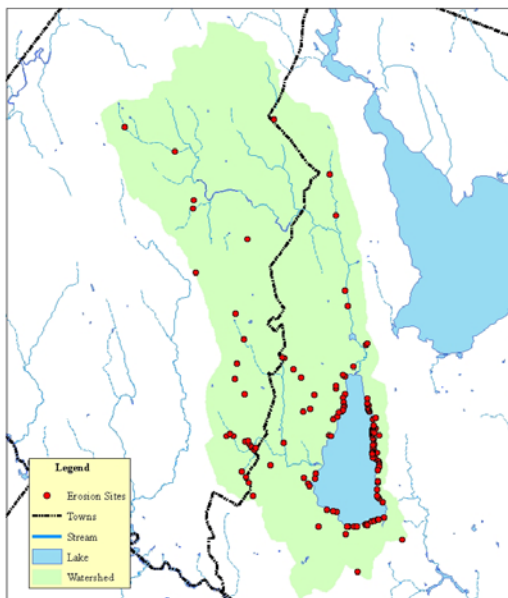


Ditch erosion site on town road.

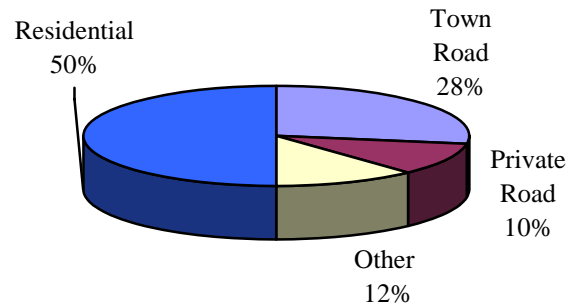
PROJECT OUTCOMES:

- Project staff and volunteers surveyed the entire Taylor Pond Watershed and documented 134 erosion sites. They also developed preliminary recommendations for each site and rated the impact to the lake and cost and technical level required to fix each site.
- Project staff produced the *Taylor Pond Watershed Survey Report* (July 2006), which summarizes watershed survey findings, lists specific information on each identified site and outlines next steps for watershed stewardship.
- Over the course of the project, the Town of Minot fixed or partially fixed at least 7 of its 23 town road sites identified during the survey. The City of Auburn also fixed 4 of their 15 road and municipal sites.
- The project developed preliminary designs for several high priority sites associated two roads and the campground. These designs will help set the stage for future mitigation work in the watershed.
- The local community proved to be extremely motivated and were involved throughout the project. The TPA and local volunteers generated nearly \$13,600 in match (approximately \$5,000 more than originally planned) and 26 volunteers participated in the watershed survey itself.

Identified Erosion Sites



Breakdown of Sites by Land Use



Other – Construction Site 3%, Driveway 2%, Commercial 2%, Agriculture 1%, Boat Access 1%, Logging Road 1%, Municipal 1%

PROJECT PARTNERS:

Taylor Pond Association
Town of Minot
City of Auburn

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Suggested Citation:

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