

Webber Pond Watershed Erosion Control Project

#2005R-26 – WIFAP

Waterbody Names: Webber, Threemile and Three-Cornered Ponds

Location: Augusta, China, Vassalboro, Windsor – Kennebec County

Waterbody Status: Impaired, NPS Priority Watersheds

Project Grantee: Kennebec County SWCD

Project Duration: December 2005 – December 2007

319 Grant Amount: \$30,000

Match: \$13,984 (local), \$20,000 (Maine Dept. Ag.)



PROBLEM:

Three-Cornered Pond drains to Threemile Pond, which then drains into Webber Pond via Seaward Mills Brook. The three watersheds cover approximately 22.5 square miles. Webber and Threemile Ponds have a history of algal blooms during late summer, and there is a general downward trend in water quality. The TMDL reports for each pond outline past pollution control efforts, sources of phosphorus loading and corrective actions. Although pond sediment is the largest single phosphorus contributor, in-lake alum treatments were not recommended because of the expense and large number of existing land-based phosphorus sources. Area surveys showed that 58% of the 400 shoreline residences of the three ponds had moderate to high impacts on water quality, and roads were also significant NPS sources.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

This project attempted to reduce phosphorus loading in the three watersheds by implementing actions proposed in the TMDL and Watershed-Based Plan reports. Nineteen problem NPS sites were fixed through the project, and technical assistance was provided to 20 landowners.

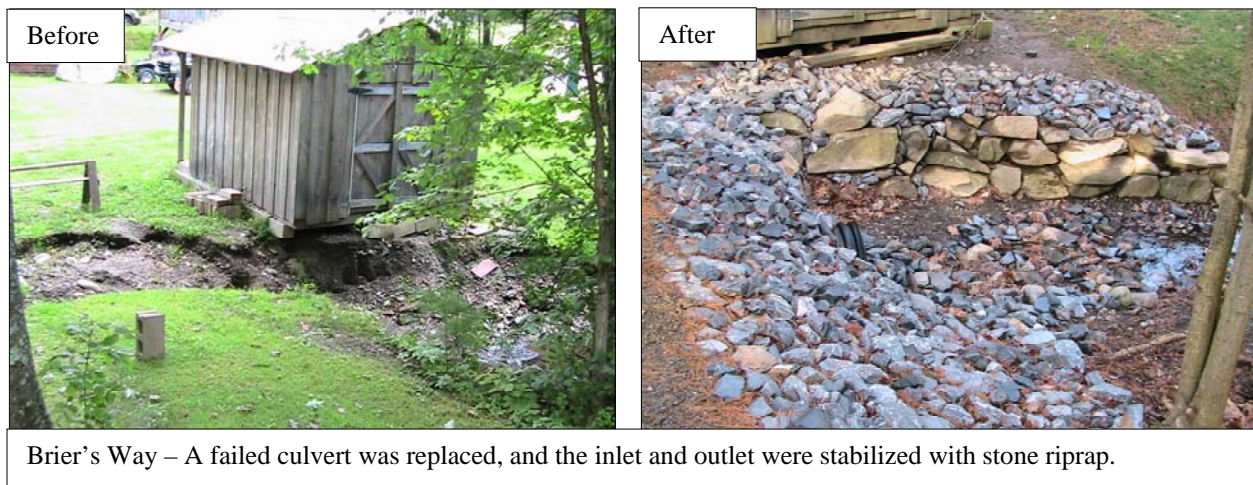
Project outreach included workshops on camp road maintenance. This project was administered in conjunction with a 'twin' grant project (#2005R-05) using the same Steering Committee for both projects, in an attempt to create a more cost-effective, efficient and better-managed effort.



Casey Road – The causeway, which was frequently flooded and eroded, was raised and stabilized.

PROJECT OUTCOMES:

- 19 NPS sites were fixed through the project. This included six sites on Three-Mile Pond, 11 sites on Webber Pond and two sites on Threecornered Pond.
- Pollutant loads to the ponds were reduced by an estimated 23.2 tons of sediment, 19.8 pounds of phosphorus and 39.6 pounds of nitrogen per year (US EPA Region 5 Method and WEPP Method).
- Approximately 20 parties received on-site technical assistance.
- 21 individuals participated in road maintenance workshops that were held in conjunction with the twin 319 project (#2005R-09, *the Webber Pond Phosphorous Reduction Project*).
- Three lake associations and several private road associations participated and received useful information regarding NPS pollution control.



PROJECT PARTNERS:

China Region Lakes Alliance
Town of China
Town of Vassalboro
Town of Windsor
City of Augusta
Maine Department of Agriculture

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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