

July 2015 WQ Program Field and Lab Audit

Passamaquoddy Tribe at Indian Township

After completing the third month of water quality sampling for the 2015 season, we have compiled the following information. This information is to be used to help measure the success of the 2015 season, and to determine if any changes need to be made for the duration of this season.

Sites: Twenty-two (**22**) total Water Quality sites are being sampled in 2015, all lakes and ponds. As we did in 2011-2014, nineteen of these sites are sampled twice a month, approximately every (15) days. The lakes being sampled twice a month are as follows: **Big Lake, Long Lake, Lewey Lake, Grand Falls Flowage, Junior Lake, Scraggly Lake, Sysladobsis Lake, Pocumcus Lake, Side Pistol Lake, Upper Chain Lake, Middle Chain Lake, Killman Pond, Shaw Lake, Mill Privilege Lake, Pleasant Lake, East Musquash Lake, West Musquash Lake, West Grand Lake, and Bassett Pond.** Bassett Pond is a small fishless pond that has been sampled to some extent the last two years. When the schedule allows, we will make a trip to the Jackman area to sample the 3 ponds there, I hope to do this twice in 2015.

Field Audit 90%: (37/41) We were able to sample the majority of lakes and ponds in July this year. Bad weather and going to Jackman caused us to miss out on 4 different lakes. Sampling equipment: The PRO-DO that was put into service starting July 2011 continues to be a reliable piece of equipment. The Conductivity meter was replaced in 2014 and is working well. Our pH probe and meter has been put back into service on June 11 and is working well, passing all QA/QC tests. Mark Richter is our field assistant. VLMP rescheduled their recertification for August 14th.

July this year we hosted a number of Tribal high school students for the 2015 Summer Youth Program. We were able to take the students out on the lake and give them a hands-on demonstration of what we do and why we are doing it. Numerous students were taken through the entire process: from morning calibrations, to water quality sampling out on the lakes, and then again back in the office testing samples at the end of the day.

Lab Audit 100%: (148/148) All samples have been processed and/or delivered on time this month that were collected. We process samples for 4 parameters in the lab: Total Phosphorus, Chlorophyll-a, True Color, and Alkalinity. TP is collected and mailed out to the Health and Environmental Testing Lab in Augusta (HETL) every two weeks. Chl-a is filtered and frozen here at the office by our field assistant Mark Richter and then mailed out with the TP samples to HETL. The data from June has arrived from the lab.

Alkalinity is titrated in the office by Joe Musante and has had no problems to report. True Color is being done in the office also by Joe Musante using our DR2700 Spectrophotometer. The DR2700 continues to function well.