



Annual Report

2010

Thirty Lakes Watershed District
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TLWD 2010 Annual Report

2010 Annual Report Thirty Lakes Watershed District Brainerd, MN

This annual report is submitted pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103.D. It summarizes the activities of the Thirty Lakes Watershed District for the calendar year of 2010.

Background

Thirty Lakes Watershed District was established by Order of the Minnesota Water Resources Board on May 18, 1971 in response to two nominating petitions.

The primary goal of Thirty Lakes Watershed District is the protection of the surface and subsurface water within the District Boundaries.

The primary purpose of the District is to conserve natural resources through land use planning, flood control and other conservation projects to protect public health, safety and welfare.

There are 34 lakes and 18 protected wetlands within the 70 square miles of the Thirty Lakes Watershed District boundaries. The entire District lies within Crow Wing County, and 60% of the total area is covered with surface water. Portions of the cities of Nisswa, Merrifield and Breezy Point are within the District, as well as portions of the townships of Lake Edward, Pelican, Mission and Unorganized First Assessment. The largest lakes within the District are Pelican Lake, Lake Edward, Lake Hubert and North Long Lake.

Introduction

The Board of Managers of the Thirty Lakes Watershed District holds regular meetings on the second Monday of each month. All regular meetings are open to the public and were held at the District office located at 17064 Commercial Park Road, Brainerd, MN, until June 2010, then held at Lake Edward Town Hall, Merrifield, MN, and then at 322 Laurel Street, Brainerd, MN. The District Office moved June 1, 2010 to 322 Laurel Street, Suite 13, Brainerd, MN. Proper notices of special meetings are published in the prescribed manner.

The Annual Election of Officers for the Board of Managers is held during the regular June meeting.

The **Managers and Officers** at the beginning of 2010 were as follows:

Thomas R. Ebnet, President 7335 Crabtree Lane Nisswa, MN 56468 (218) 963-2318	Kenneth B. Svee, Vice President 20200 Elm Drive (P. O. Box 1077) Brainerd, MN 56401 (218) 963-9432
Mark Young, Secretary Pine Crest Resort 13873 County Road 109 Merrifield, MN 56465 218-831-0539	Gorden Hardy, Treasurer 22426 County Road 3 Merrifield, MN 56465 218-829-2737

Appointed to the Board in May of 2010:

Thomas Sweningson, Secretary 29421 Huxtable Point Road Merrifield, MN 56465 218-765-3798	Donald Otremba, Treasurer 10425 County Road 127 Nisswa, MN 56468 218-828-3011
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Resigned from the Board in 2010 were as follows:

Kenneth B. Svee 20200 Elm Drive (P. O. Box 1077) Brainerd, MN 56401 (218) 963-9432	Donald Otremba 10425 County Road 127 Nisswa, MN 56468 218-828-3011
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Citizen Advisory Committee

The Thirty Lakes Watershed Board of Managers is grateful to have the following individuals comprise the Citizen Advisory Committee:

Bob Albrecht 22 Third Street N.W. Crosby, MN 56441 (218) 546-6633	County Commissioner Rosemary Franzen 14732 Inglewood Drive Baxter, MN 56425 (218) 820-7640
Rick A. Johnson 9124 Hunter's Lane Lakes, MN 56472 (218) 562-4201	
Coralee Fox-No Longer on Committee 205060 Carolyn Lane Brainerd, MN 56401 (218) 963-4462	Vic Peterson-No Longer on Committee 24400 Smiley Road, Suite 4 Nisswa, MN 56468 (218) 562-5643

Staff

Tasha Lauer, Office Manager 14451 Blackberry Court Baxter, MN 56425 (218) 330-4310	
Marty Peisch, Administrator -Jan.-May 5211 Ojibwa Road Brainerd, MN 56401 (218) 963-4359	Mary Lou Cody, Bookkeeper- Jan.-October 10894 County Road #127 Nisswa, MN 56468 (218) 829-9588

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2010 PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

DNR Shoreline Habitat Program

Through the Department of Natural Resources Shoreline Habitat Grant Program, Thirty Lakes Watershed District was able to fund 2 shoreline restoration projects. The DNR guidelines require that the restoration be a shoreline area of 100 ft. by 25 ft., or 75% or more of the shoreline on a particular property. The projects included 3 (three) private residences.



County Building Permits

Onsite inspections were made of some 61 properties that had been granted Construction Permits from Crow Wing County. The District conducted the inspections only to address possible stormwater issues both during and after construction.

Watershed District Permits

The District issued 42 Watershed District Permits during 2010.

Annual Overflight

The 2010 overflight documented the entire southern portion of the District. The result was digital photographs entered into a GIS mapping system. These photographs will provide important historic information for future land use decisions.



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Web Site

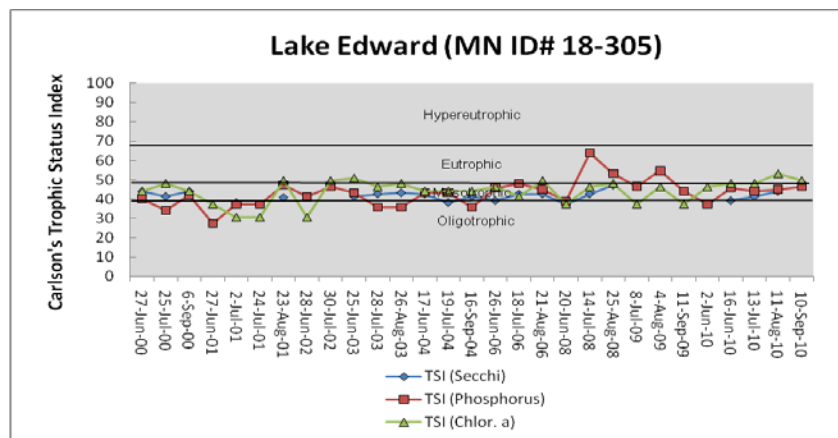
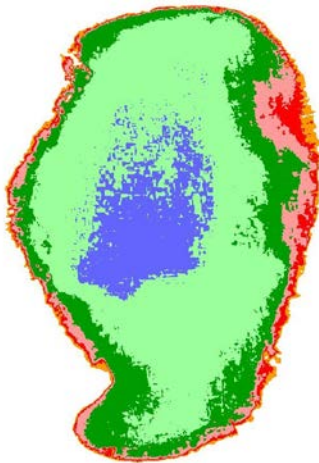
The web site of Thirty Lakes Watershed District, www.30lakes.org, continues to be regularly updated with current information, meeting minutes and photographs.



Water Quality and Lake Level Monitoring

Twenty (20) lakes were tested four times during the summer of 2010 to determine their Trophic Status. Of the 52 lakes and wetlands within the District, 12 to 18 are tested each year on a rotation basis. All data was submitted to the MPCA STORET system and made available on the Thirty Lakes Watershed District website.

Lake gauges were placed in twenty two (22) lakes within the District, and their levels were recorded every one to two weeks from May through October. Eleven Volunteers checked 12 of the lakes, while District Staff monitored the rest. All data was submitted to a DNR Hydrologist and made available on the Thirty Lakes website.



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Pelican Lake Stormwater Project

Thirty Lakes Watershed District and CW SWCD had been working with the “Stakeholders” and Tim Ramerth of Westwood Professionals Services. We have designed a plan that has been accepted by all. This plan was submitted to the Board of Soil and Water Resources for funding through the Clean Water Legacy Program by TLWD and CW SWCD. The CW SWCD has received funding in the amount of \$39,000 for this project. Easements were drafted and approved by all Stakeholders. The project started construction on October 20, 2010. The solution included 4 treatment areas; 3 were designed and planted as raingardens and the 4th doubles as a grass lawn edged by native wet-meadow flowers. A berm constructed along the lake was planted in native shrubs and grasses as a goose deterrent. Funding has been set aside for maintenance for the next ten (10) years.



Arbor Day

Thirty Lakes was instrumental in organizing an Arbor Day event at the Northland Arboretum in Brainerd. Ten (10) Exhibitors had displays regarding Rain Barrels, Shoreline Buffers, Rain Gardens, Composting, Free Tree Give Away and Nature Artwork. Live music provided by the Brainerd High School Band. Nature Walks were guided by a Master Gardener and SWCD Technician.



Lakes Area Clean Waters Council

As a Charter Member and the Fiscal Agent, Thirty Lakes Watershed District continues to be active in this group and is responsible for the creation, design and update of their website, www.dropstopabsorb.org. The goal of this organization is to implement 1,000 new rain gardens, shoreline buffers or rain barrels by the end of 2011. 66 projects recorded.

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Cost-Share Program

Our Cost-Share Program is a 50% Cost Share with the land owner, up to amounts of \$2500. We have had 2 (two) Rain Gardens installed this year.



Bass Lake 18-402 Water Quality Project

A Ground Water Intrusion Overflight was conducted on Bass Lake 18-402 using water penetrating cameras that can identify ground water intrusions into lake water. TLWD and City of Nisswa are currently working with the landowners to identify what issues need to be addressed.

North Long Lake Culvert Sampling

Three (3) Culverts along Hwy 371 N on the West Bay of North Long Lake have been tested for Chlorides, Total Phosphorus and Total Suspended Solids. Findings included Culvert #1 to be very high in Phosphorus. Bio-Rolls at pipe outlets, Raising of median grate 3" on #1, 6: weir in the apron outlet of #2, #3 will be plugged and abandoned, these will be implemented by MNDOT in their 2011 Hwy 371 N Project.



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Work Plan for 2011

Cooperation

The District will strengthen its cooperation with the cities, county, and other LGUs.

DNR Shoreline Habitat Program

The District will continue to be a fiscal agent for the DNR's Shoreline Habitat Grant for this year.

Annual Overflight

The District will continue to have annual overflights to document land use, and quality.

Website

The District will continue to utilize the web site to post monitoring data and other important reports to improve water quality, etc.

Water Quality and Lake Level Monitoring

The District will continue its extensive monitoring programs.

Cost Share Program

The District will continue its Cost Share Program. We have one resident that has received a grant already, planning to plant in the spring of 2011.

Bass Lake 18-402 Water Quality Project

The District will continue to monitor and work on implementing solutions to improve the water quality in this lake.

Public Awareness and Education

The District will create more public awareness and education through advertisements, flyers, workshops, and having an open house.