



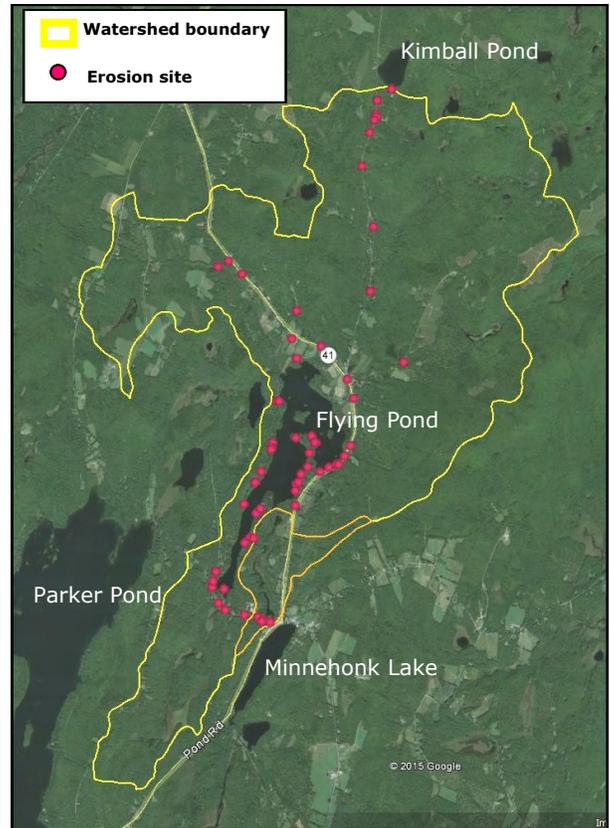
Flying Pond Watershed Survey Summary Report

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BACKGROUND:

Over the spring and summer of 2014, the 30 Mile River Watershed Association, with the support of its partners and trained volunteers, conducted a watershed survey of Flying Pond, near the head of the 30 Mile River watershed in Central Maine. The purpose of the survey was to protect and improve water quality in these lakes by (1) identifying and documenting potential sources of pollution from erosion and runoff and (2) recommending solutions to fix the problems.

Trained volunteers and technical leaders surveyed the developed areas of Flying Pond's watershed and identified 84 erosion sites that are impacting or have the potential to impact water quality. Data collected included information on the type of land use, a description of the problem, the level of impact on water quality and recommended solutions to fix each erosion source.



Volunteers and technical staff at the May 2014 Training

Project Partners:

30 Mile River Watershed Association, Flying Pond Improvement Association, Maine Department of Environmental Protection, and the towns of Mount Vernon and Vienna.

Funding was provided in part by the Davis Conservation Foundation

SURVEY PURPOSE:

Pollution from stormwater runoff is one of the biggest threats to our lakes.

The purpose of the watershed survey was to identify, and prioritize for remediation, existing sources of polluted runoff, particularly soil erosion sites, within this watershed. However, of equal importance was to:

- Raise public awareness of the connection between land use and water quality, and the impact of polluted runoff.
- Inspire people to become active stewards of the watershed.
- Use the information gathered as one component of a long-term pond protection strategy.
- Make general recommendations to landowners for fixing erosion problems on their properties.

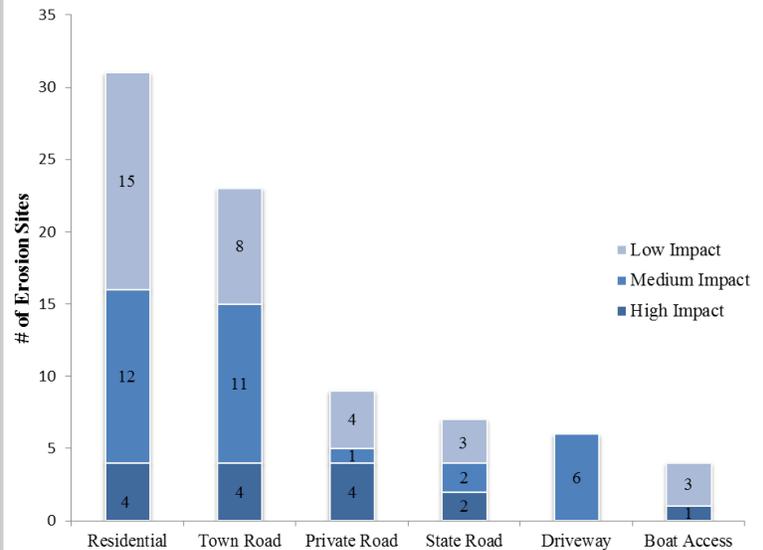
Once a lake's water quality has declined, it can be difficult or impossible to restore.

KEY SURVEY FINDINGS:

Within this watershed, volunteers and technical staff identified 84 sites that are impacting or have the potential to impact water quality. The full report provides the results and analysis of the survey. Some key findings include:

- ◆ 15 of the identified sites (18%) were rated as *high impact*, while 33 (39%) were rated as *medium impact* and 36 (43%) as *low impact*. Most of the low impact sites can be corrected with low cost repairs. Remediation of many of the smaller scale, low impact/low cost sites could be completed by the Youth Conservation Corps of the 30 Mile River Watershed Association.
- ◆ 31 sites (37%) were classified as a *residential land use*. Another 6 sites (7%) were identified as *driveways* located on residential properties.
- ◆ 23 sites (27%) were associated with *town roads*, including 13 paved and 10 dirt surfaces. Many of the problems identified at these sites are the result of the migration of winter (deicing) sand from the road surface into roadside ditches, or directly into nearby streams, and from erosion of exposed soil along road shoulders and in roadside ditches.
- ◆ Many of the town road sites will require substantial work by the towns to correct the existing problems, including removing loose winter sand, re-grading the road shoulders, stabilizing roadside ditches, and re-grading ditches. Most of these sites are located in Vienna. Of these 23 sites, 8 were low impact, 11 medium impact, and 4 high impact.
- ◆ 9 sites (11%) were associated with *private roads*. These included 4 low impact, 1 medium impact, and 4 high impact. Remediation of private road sites usually requires the cooperation of a road association or group of owners. Comprehensive planning by road associations is critical for proper, long-term road maintenance.

Erosion Sites by Land Use



NEXT STEPS:

Fixing the erosion sites identified in this survey will require efforts by individuals, road associations, municipal officials, the lake association and the 30 Mile River Watershed Association. Paying attention to run-off problems and identifying sites in need of work should be continual activities of those interested in protecting these lakes. This survey provided a snapshot of the situation of the surveyed areas on a particular day; new erosion sites develop, particularly after heavy rain or snowmelt.



Example of severe surface erosion identified on a private road.

The full report provides information about how landowners can find support in addressing erosion issues on their properties.

To view the full report, please visit www.30mileriver.org.

If you suspect an erosion problem on your property, please contact us at info@30mileriver.org or (207)860-4043.

The **30 Mile River Watershed Association** is a nonprofit coalition of lake associations, municipalities and land trusts with a shared mission to preserve and protect the land and water quality in the 30 Mile River Watershed.