

Mountain View Lake & Indian Lake Restoration Initiative

Update: August, 2016

Since 2013, EcoLogic has been working with the Town of Bellmont to analyze the feasibility of a dredging program to restore impaired recreational and navigational uses of regions of Mountain View Lake, Indian Lake, and the connecting channel. Our project team, which includes representatives of the Mountain View Association, Town of Bellmont, and Franklin County Soil & Water Conservation District, is approaching this assignment in a stepwise and collaborative manner.

2013 Accomplishments:

- Habitat survey, sediment testing (surface grabs), field reconnaissance of potential disposal areas.
- Community meeting to discuss project, gather input regarding areas where recreational access is impaired.
- Pre-application meeting with representatives of NYSDEC, APA, Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) November 2013.

2014 Accomplishments:

- Watershed assessment of the sources of sediment; identified potential best practices to reduce erosion on roadways.
- In collaboration with Thew Associates, collected sediment cores and tested soil texture (mix of organic material, sands, silts, and clays) and nutrient content with depth.
- Shoreline tour and discussion with NYSDEC and APA representatives.
- Pre-application meeting with representatives of NYSDEC, APA, ACOE January 2015.

2015 Accomplishments:

- Anchor QEA joined the project team to complete cost estimates and preliminary engineering design.
- Thew Associates completed a bathymetric map of MVL and the channel. FCSWCD mapped areas of Indian Lake.
- Discussion and delineation of priority areas for dredging; developed volume estimates.
- Grant application successful– NYS providing matching funds to support engineering and permitting.
- Additional surveys for rare, threatened and endangered species completed.
- Provided boat tours for DEC (8/18/15) and APA (9/14/15) .
- Continued to identify areas suitable for sediment dewatering and ultimate disposal.
- Pre-application meeting with representatives of NYSDEC, APA, ACOE January 2016.

2016 Accomplishments:

- Analyzed ten years of water elevation records to define “ordinary high water level”, which affects dredging depth. Replaced and surveyed staff gauge on the outlet dam.
- Identified a pipeline route to convey sediment slurry to the dewatering (geotube) field, and return water to the lake.
- Initiated the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) process for the dredging project with completion of the Full Environmental Assessment Form and filing request for Lead Agency status.
- Applied for funding from the NYSDEC Water Quality Improvement Program to implement the dredging program.
- Met with ACOE representative on the lake in early August 2016 for the required wetland Jurisdictional Determination.
- Collected additional sediment samples in areas designated priority for dredging. Submitted the samples for laboratory analysis for an extended list of Part 360 disposal parameters to comply with NYSDEC requirement.

Nest Steps:

- Complete SEQR, finalize engineering reports, and file for permits from the ACOE and NYSDEC (joint) and APA.



Preliminary Dredge Area Boundaries

