1974 ASSABET RIVER BASIN

Baseline Water Quality Studies of Selected Lakes and Ponds



Massachusetts Department of Environmental Quality Engineering

DIVISION of WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

Thomas C. McMahon, Director

BASELINE WATER QUALITY SURVEYS OF

SELECTED LAKES AND PONDS

IN THE ASSABET RIVER BASIN

1974

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Cover

Aqueduct Traversing the Assabet River at Northborough, Massachusetts

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A NOTE ON LIMNOLOGY AND THE LAKE AS AN ECOSYSTEM

Limnology is the study of inland fresh waters, especially lakes and ponds (lentic water vs. lotic water for streams and rivers). The science encompasses the geological, physical, chemical, and biological events that operate together in a lake basin and are dependent on each other (Hutchinson, 1957). It is the study of both biotic and abiotic features that make up a lake's ecosystem. As pointed out by Dillon (1974) and others before him, in order to understand lake conditions, one must realize that the entire watershed and not just the lake, or the lake and its shoreline, is the basic ecosystem. A very important factor, and one on which the life of the lake depends, is the gravitational movement of minerals from the watershed to the lake. Admittedly, the report contained herein concentrates mainly on the lake itself. Yet the foremost problem affecting the lakes and ponds today is accelerated cultural eutrophication, which originates in the watershed and is translated into various and sundry non-point sources of pollution. A great deal of lake restoration projects will have to focus on shoreland and lake watershed management.



EUTROPHICATION - the process of aging by ecological succession.

Source: <u>Measures for the Restoration and Enhancement of Quality of Freshwater Lakes</u>. Washington, D.C.: United States Environmental Protection Agency, 1973.

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EUTROPHICATION

The term "eutrophic" means well-nourished; thus, "eutrophication" refers to natural or artificial addition of nutrients to bodies of water and to the effects of added nutrients (<u>Eutrophication: Causes, Consequences, and</u> <u>Correctives</u>, 1969). The process of eutrophication is nothing new or invented by man. It is the process whereby a lake ages and eventually disappears. An undisturbed lake will slowly undergo a natural succession of stages, the end product usually being a bog and finally dry land (see Figure A). These stages can be identified by measuring various physical, chemical, and biological aspects of the lake's ecosystem. Man can and often does affect the rate of eutrophication. From a pollutional point of view, these effects are caused by increased population, industrial growth, agricultural practices, watershed development, recreational use of land and waters, and other forms of watershed exploitation.

For restorative or preservative purposes of a lake and its watershed, it is important to identify both a lake's problem and the cause of the problem. Problems associated with eutrophication include: nuisance algal blooms (especially blue-green algae); excessive aquatic plant growth; low dissolved oxygen content; degradation of sport fisheries; low transparency; mucky bottoms; changes in species type and diversity; and others. The pollutional cause is identified as either point or non-point in origin. A point source of pollution may be an inlet to the lake carrying some waste discharge from upstream. Or it may be an industrial, agricultural or domestic (i.e., washing machine pipe) waste discharge which can be easily identified, quantified, and evaluated.

Non-point sources of pollution, which are the more common type affecting a lake, are more difficult to identify. They include agricultural runoff, urban runoff, fertilizers, septic or cesspool leakage, land clearing, and many more. They are often difficult to quantify and thus evaluate.

An objective of a baseline survey is to measure a lake's trophic state, that is, to describe the point at which the lake is in the aging process. The measure most widely used is a lake's productivity. Technically, this involves finding out the amount of carbon fixed per meter per day by the primary producers. Since it is a rather involved procedure to do this, the baseline survey attempts to indirectly describe the lake's trophic state or level of biological productivity.

During the process of eutrophication, a lake passes through three major, broad stages of succession: oligotrophy, mesotrophy, and eutrophy. Each stage has its own characteristics (see Table A). Data from a baseline survey can be analysed for assessment of the lake's trophic state. Although the level of productivity is not quantified, the physical, chemical, and biological parameters measured go a long way in positioning the lake as to its trophic status. The perimeter survey helps locate and identify sources of pollution.

TABLE A

LAKE TROPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

- 1. Oligotrophic lakes:
 - a. Very deep, thermocline high; volume of hypolimnion large; water of hypolimnion cold.
 - b. Organic materials on bottom and in suspension very low.
 - c. Electrolytes low, or variable; calcium, phosphorus, and nitrogen relatively poor; humic materials very low or absent.
 - d. Dissolved oxygen content high at all depths and throughout year.
 - e. Larger aquatic plants scanty.
 - f. Plankton quantitatively restricted; species many; algal blooms rare; Chlorophyceae dominant.
 - g. Profundal fauna relatively rich in species and quantity; <u>Tanytarsus</u> type; Corethra usually absent.
 - h. Deep-dwelling, cold-water fishes (salmon, cisco, trout) common to abundant.
 - i. Succession into eutrophic type.
- 2. Eutrophic lakes:
 - a. Relatively shallow; deep, cold water minimal or absent.
 - b. Organic materials on bottom and in suspension abundant.
 - c. Electrolytes variable, often high; calcium, phosphorus, and nitrogen abundant; humic materials slight.
 - d. Dissolved oxygen, in deeper stratified lakes of this type, minimal or absent in hypolimnion.
 - e. Larger aquatic plants abundant.
 - f. Plankton quantitatively abundant; quality variable; water blooms common; Myxophyceae and diatoms predominant.
 - g. Profundal fauna, in deeper stratified lakes of this type, poor in species and quantity in hypolimnion; <u>Chironomus</u> type; <u>Corethra</u> present.
 - h. Deep-dwelling, cold-water fishes usually absent; suitable for perch, pike, bass, and other warm-water fishes.
 - i. Succession into pond, swamp, or marsh.
- 3. Dystrophic lakes:
 - a. Usually shallow; temperature variable; in bog surroundings or in old mountains.
 - b. Organic materials in bottom and in suspension abundant.
 - c. Electrolytes low; calcium, phosphorus, and nitrogen very scanty; humic materials abundant.
 - d. Dissolved oxygen almost or entirely absent in deeper water.
 - e. Larger aquatic plants scanty.
 - f. Plankton variable; commonly low in species and quantity; Myxophyceae may be very rich quantitatively.
 - g. Profundal macrofauna poor to absent; all bottom deposits with very scant fauna; Chironomus sometimes present; <u>Corethra</u> present.
 - h. Deep-dwelling cold-water fishes always absent in advanced dystrophic lakes; sometimes devoid of fish fauna; when present, fish production usually poor.
 - i. Succession into peat bog.

SOURCE: Welch, P.S., <u>Limnology</u>, McGraw Hill Book Co., New York, 1952. (Reprinted with permission from the publisher.)

Figure B shows the various zones of a typical stratified lake. In addition to the lake's life history mentioned above, a lake also has characteristic annual cycles. Depending on the season, a lake has a particular temperature and dissolved oxygen profile (see Figure B). During the summer season, the epilimmion, or warm surface water, occupies the top zone. Below this is the metalimmion which is characterized by a thermocline. In a stratified lake this is the zone of rapid temperature change with depth. The bottom waters, or hypolimmion, contain colder water. The epilimmion is well mixed by wind action, whereas the hypolimmion does not normally circulate. During the spring and fall seasons these regions break down due to temperature change and the whole lake circulates as one body. In shallow lakes (e.g., 10-15 feet maximum depth) affected by wind action, these zones do not exist except for short periods during calm weather.

The summer season (July-August) is the best time to survey a lake in order to measure its trophic status. This is the time when productivity and biomass are at their highest and when their direct or indirect effects can best be measured and observed. Some of the lakes included in this report were surveyed during June, or the early summer season. For this reason the thermocline had not yet strongly developed and the oxygen demand in the hypolimnion had only begun to assert itself. In each case, reference is made to this situation and described for each lake.

The oxygen concentration in the hypolimnion is an important characteristic for a lake. A high level of productivity in the surface waters usually results in low oxygen concentrations in the lake's bottom. Low oxygen in the hypolimnion can adversely affect the life in the lake, especially the cold water fish which require a certain oxygen concentration.

Table B depicts concentrations of various substances and other data for two hypothetical lakes, one eutrophic, the other oligotrophic. It is intended as a guide for comparison to the lakes included in this report. Each lake, of course, is different from all others. There is no hard and fast rule as to critical concentrations for each lake. The morphology of a lake (e.g., mean depth) plays an important part in its general well-being. A small, deep lake will react differently to nutrient loading than a large, shallow lake. In the final analysis, each lake is found unique and must be evaluated on an individual basis.



Source: <u>Measures for the Restoration and Enhancement of Quality of</u> <u>Freshwater Lakes</u>. Washington, D.C.: United States Environmental Protection Agency, 1973.

FIGURE B

TABLE B

SELECTED DATA FOR TWO HYPOTHETICAL LAKES 1

Concentrations in mg/1

trophic ² status	DISSOLVED OXYGEN AT BOTTOM	TRANSPARENCY (Secchi level)	NH 3	NO3	TOTAL P	PHYTOPLANKTON	AQUATIC VEGETATION	FISHERIES
Lake A (Oligotrophic)	High >5.0	High	low <0.03	low <0.03	1ow <0.01	High diversity, low numbers, nearly complete absence of blue- greens	Sparse	Coldwater types
Lake B (Eutrophic)	Low <5.0	Low	high >0.03	high >0.03	high >0.01	Low diversity, high numbers, abundance of blue-greens.	Abundant	Warm water types

¹Not established as State standards.

²Oligotrophic = nutrient poor

Eutrophic = high concentrations of nutrients



BASELINE LAKE and POND SURVEYS-1974

FIGURE C

1 13

ASSABET RIVER BASIN LAKE SURVEYS

INTRODUCTION

Baseline lake studies were conducted on selected lakes and ponds within the Assabet River Basin during June and July, 1974. These surveys were run concurrently with the 1974 Assabet River water quality survey. The results of the river survey have been published by the Division in The Assabet River 1974 Water Quality Survey Data (Westborough, 1975).

The objectives of the lake baseline surveys were several:

- 1. Estimation of the lakes' trophic level;
- Data collection for the state's lake identification and classification program;
- 3. Satisfaction of the requirements of Section 314, PL92-500, of the Federal Lake Program;
- Satisfaction of public demand for attention to lake problems.

The baseline survey is accomplished in one day. It generally consists of a perimeter survey and sampling of the water column and sediments at the deep hole station. Inlets, outlets, and occasional special samples are also collected. The perimeter survey includes the qualitative mapping of aquatic vegetation. Also noted are watershed characteristics, including dominant tree type, land use, number and type of dwellings, and, of course, any direct discharges or septic tank problems. The results of a baseline survey enable the Division of Water Pollution Control to classify and identify the water quality of Massachusetts lakes. On the basis of such a survey, a lake may or may not be chosen for intensive, year-round study. The baseline surveys included in this report are of the following lakes and ponds:

Municipalities	Area (acres)	Volume (acre ft.)
Westborough	333	924
Westborough	27	86
Boy1ston	61	384
Stow/Hudson	166	1,844
Concord	58	188
Westborough	177	2,100
-	Municipalities Westborough Westborough Boylston Stow/Hudson Concord Westborough	MunicipalitiesArea (acres)Westborough333Westborough27Boylston61Stow/Hudson166Concord58Westborough177

ASSABET RIVER BASIN GEOLOGY

Northeastern Massachusetts is crossed by several belts of hilly country which have a general northeast-southwest trend, separating broad tracts of lowland that are, to some extent, the valleys of the main streams. The only one of these hilly belts which can really be called a range extends from Shrewsbury northeast through Harvard and Westford into Chelmsford, separating the Nashua River Basin from the Assabet and Concord basins. This pseudo-range is mainly a belt of metamorphosed sedimentary rock which is more resistant than the granitic rocks on either side of it. In a broad sense, there is a relation between the topography and the rock structure, as the hilly belts are to a large extent underlain by granites and other igneous rocks, while the lowlands are underlain by sedimentary rocks. The rocks in this general area present a greater diversity in kind and structure than those of other areas of Massachusetts. Periods of sedimentation were often interrupted by periods of deformation and followed by periods of intrusion. The area has been several times folded and faulted and has been deeply eroded.

The headwaters of the Assabet River are underlain mainly by quartzite (Westboro Quartzite Formation) which progresses into a biotite schist (Marlboro Formation). There are many places where horizontal layers of conglomerate intermix with the schist formations. Finally, the northern part of the Assabet River Basin is composed primarily of quartzite or quartz-schist (Merrimack Quartzite Formation). This rock is, in general, more massively quartzitic toward the northwest and more slaty toward the southeast.

Many broad sand areas, some of them underlain by laminated clays, mark the sites of glacial lakes, many of them quite large, which were fed by the glacial waters and wholly or partly dammed back by the ice. One of these lakes was Lake Sudbury, which extended from South Framingham to Weston and from Concord to Wellesley. West of Lake Sudbury was the glacial Lake Assabet, outlined by the broad glacial sand plains of Westborough, Southborough, and Northborough, with lobes running north to Marlborough and Bolton. Finally, there was the great Lake Nashua, which extended broadly over the drainage area of the Nashua River from Boylston, past Clinton and Ayer, to East Pepperell. The valley deposits in the Assabet basin are morainic deposits or outwash plains left by the ice which retreated up the valley.

ASSABET LAKES SOILS DESCRIPTION

Flow Augmentation Pond, Westborough: Hinckley-Windsor-Muck Association -Drouthy gravelly and sandy soils and very poorly drained bog soils. The Hinckley and Windsor soils have formed on deep deposits of sand and/or gravel; while the muck soils, often extending twenty feet, occupy low-lying depression areas.

Hocomonco Pond, Westborough: Similar to Flow Augmentation Pond.

<u>Rocky Pond</u>, Boylston: Charlton-Paxton-Hollis Association - Well-drained upland soils with and without hardpans, and shallow to bedrock soils. The soils in this association are generally fine sandy loams.

Boons Pond, Stow and Hudson: Similar to Rocky Pond.

Warners Pond, Concord: Similar to Rocky Pond.

Lake Chauncy, Westborough: Similar to Flow Augmentation Pond.

LAKE METHODOLOGY

MORPHOLOGY

Bathymetric maps of the lakes were prepared either using an original from the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife or constructing one in the field using a fathometer (Raytheon model DE728A). Morphometric parameters were measured with a planimeter and rotometer according to Hutchinson (1957) and Welch (1948). Other pertinent map data were derived from U.S.G.S. topographic maps (7.5 minute series).

STATION LOCATION

For each lake surveyed, the following stations were established:

- 1. Deep hole station on the lake;
- Inlet station(s);
- 3. Outlet station.

Occasional special samples were also collected if any waste discharge was suspected or observed.

DATA COLLECTION

Physical and Chemical Data

Temperature profiles were made "in situ" with a Thermo Fishometer (Bright Radio Laboratories, Inc., Oceanside, N.Y.). Transparency measurements were made with a standard 20 cm. secchi disc. Field pH tests were taken with a Hach model 17N Wide Range pH Test Kit. Water samples from the deep hole stations were collected with a standard type brass Kemmerer water sampler, while inlet and outlet samples were generally collected below the surface by hand. The sample for dissolved oxygen was collected in the manner prescribed by Welch (1948). The dissolved oxygen concentration was measured by azide modification of the Winkler technique (Standard Methods, APHA, 1971). Titrations were made within several hours after fixing in the field with the manganese sulfate and alkali-azide-iodide reagents. The sulfuric acid was added just prior to the titrations in the laboratory. Samples for chemical analyses were transported as soon as possible to the Lawrence Experiment Station of the Division of Environmental Health and analyzed according to Standard Methods (APHA, 1971). The following analyses were performed on each sample: pH, alkalinity, hardness, conductivity, silica, ammonia-nitrogen, nitrate-nitrogen, and total phosphorus. In addition, many of the lakes were also tested for chloride, iron, and manganese. Wind, weather, and air temperatures were routinely recorded on each survey, along with any other pertinent observations.

Biological Data

Phytoplankton

Phytoplankton samples were collected by a standard procedure prescribed by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Lakes and Biological Studies. The sample consisted of a composite core taken with a $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch I.D. plastic tube with a weight attached to one end. The tube was lowered at the deep hole station close to the bottom, pinched below the meniscus, and raised into the boat. The sample was then allowed to drain into a clean and rinsed collection bottle. The procedure was repeated until a volume of 500 ml. was collected. Samples were normally analyzed for phytoplankton on the day of collection using a Whipple micrometer and Sedgewick-Rafter cell. Algae counts were reported as areal standard units (ASU) per ml. (Standard Methods, 1971).

Macroinvertebrates

Bottom invertebrate samples were collected at the deep hole station using a 6x6 inch Ekman dredge (0.25 square feet). A total of four samples were taken, emptied into a bucket and mixed; then a one-quart volume subsample was taken and put in a plastic container, sieved (#30 standard sieve), and "picked" within one week of collection and preserved in 70% ethyl alcohol for later identification.

Aquatic Vegetation

The aquatic vegetation in the lake was located and mapped by slowly examining the entire littoral zone of the lake by boat. Where the bottom was not visible, it was semi-quantitatively dragged for aquatic plants. Identification for the most part was made "in situ" except for a few samples which were taken back to the lab and identified according to Fasset (1957), Weldon <u>et al</u>. (1973), or Hotchkiss (1972). Some aquatic macrophytes could not be keyed to species because the plants were not in flower or fruit at the time of the survey.

BASELINE LAKE SURVEYS

FLOW AUGMENTATION POND

This shallow pond, impounded by the George H. Nichols Dam, forms the headwaters of the Assabet River. It is located in the Town of Westborough and has a watershed of seven square miles, including portions of Grafton and Shrewsbury. The dam was constructed in 1969 and included a siphon-type outlet to the Assabet River. The outflow for June 4-7, 1974, averaged 7.0 cfs. The dam was built for the purpose of "fish and wildlife development and flood prevention" by the Massachusetts Water Resources Commission. When the pond area behind the dam was cleared, however, the stumps, roots, and other vegetation were not removed. Indeed, a good part of the pond area was not even cleared of trees. The result has been a large amount of organic decay with depressed oxygen levels and poor water quality.

The depth and area of the Flow Augementation Pond are highly variable depending upon the season and amount of rainfall in the watershed. During the spring, the pond is normally quite full; whereas during the late summer, it is often reduced to small pools of water scattered around the main basin.

Because it was built in 1969, the Flow Augmentation Pond should be considered still young, or more precisely, a recently reclaimed swamp area. For this reason it is only beginning to establish itself as a pond and wildlife habitat. With time, it will pass through various successional stages before its water quality, flora, and fauna stabilize themselves.

During the June baseline survey, no aquatic vegetation was observed along the littoral zone. For this reason, an aquatic vegetation map has been ommitted.

HOCOMONCO POND

This very small (27 acres), shallow pond is located in Westborough about 1,000 feet north of the Flow Augmentation Pond. It has a very small watershed area of 0.38 square miles in Westborough with an outlet flowing into the Assabet River. There are only some five dwellings around the pond, and the Westborough airport is located to the north. A single inlet is located on the west shore and drains mostly swampy land. During the survey, many old tires were observed on the shore and an old gravel pit sighted near the southwest shore. The pond is not heavily used for recreational purposes.

ROCKY POND

Rocky Pond (61 acres) is located in Boylston and has a small watershed (0.42 square miles) in Boylston and a small part of Northborough. The lake has a north and a south basin, the former of which is the deeper with a maximum depth of 20 feet. Houses around the lake are mostly concentrated

along the western shore with two dwellings on the eastern shore. There are no inlets to the lake, and the outlet forms Cold Harbor Brook which joins the Assabet River in Northborough. It is easy to see how the pond got its name because the perimeter and littoral zone are covered with rocks and boulders, some of which are quite formidible. There is also a small island in the southern basin.

BOONS POND

This unusually shaped lake of 166 acres is located in Stow and Hudson and has a watershed of 1.75 square miles covering portions of Stow, Hudson, Sudbury, and Maynard. The lake is L-shaped with the deep basin (20 feet) located in the northern half. There are two major inlets flowing into the southern end of the lake, and the outlet flows immediately into the Assabet River. The shore and littoral zone are well covered with rocks and gravel. The lake's perimeter has one of the highest densities of dwellings around it in the Commonwealth. Except for the eastern end, the area around the lake is saturated with houses and cottages. The lake's unusual shape is reflected in a very high development of shoreline index of 3.8.

WARNERS POND

Warners Pond is a small lake (58 acres) located in Concord with a comparatively large watershed (7.46 square miles) spread over Acton, Stow, Maynard, and Concord. Fort Pond Brook and Nashoba Brook enter the lake from the north, and the outlet flows over a dam directly into the Assabet River in West Concord. There are four islands on the lake, the largest of which measures some 12 acres. The lake's perimeter is mostly undeveloped except for a few dwellings scattered around the shore. During the survey, a 36" concrete drain was observed on the north shore and sampled.

LAKE CHAUNCY

Lake Chauncy is located in Westborough and has a fairly small watershed (1.21 square miles) in that town and a tiny portion of Northborough. Most of the watershed is swamp land. The area around the lake is largely undeveloped because most of it is state property. Both the Westborough State School and the Lyman State School (where the Water Quality Section of the Division of Water Pollution Control is housed) are located in the watershed. The Division of Fisheries and Wildlife manages part of the property for wildlife and beagle training. The inlets to the lake are swamp drainage; and the outlet flows into Little Chauncy Pond, thence to Bartlett Pond, and from there to the Assabet River via Stirrup Brook in Northborough.



FLOW AUGMENTATION POND

MORPHOMETRIC DATA

Maximum Length	6,700	feet
Maximum Effective Length	6,700	feet
Maximum Width	4,400	feet
Maximum Effective Width	4,400	feet
Maximum Depth	5.0	feet
Mean Depth	2.8	feet
Mean Width	2,165	feet
Area	333	acres
Volume	924	acre feet
Shoreline	24,920	feet
Development of Shoreline	1.8	
Development of Volume	1.70	/
Mean to Maximum Depth Ratio	0.56	feet
Drainage Area	6.09	square miles

'n

2
TABLE

FLOW AUGMENTATION POND

WATER QUALITY DATA (mg/1)

JUNE 3, 1974

BOD5		ł		ľ		ł		1		4.2
TOTAL SOLIDS		B -1		1		l I				98
SUSP.		!		ł						25
TOTAL P	CENTER		 0.14		LET	0.17	LET	0.04	LET	0.16
N− [€] ON	N 1 - POND		 0.1	ł	ION 2 - IN	0.1	ION 3 – IN	0.0	on 4 – out	0.1
NH3-N	STATIO] I	 0.40	ł	STAT	0.43	STAT	0.01	STATI	0.06
TOTAL ALK.		ł	19	ł		18		18		20
Hq		7.0	6.8 0	6.8		6.8		6.8		6.9
D.O.		7.4	2.8 2.8	0.0		7.0		6.5		9.3
TEMP. (^O F)		66.0	66.0 66.0	66.0		70.0		70.0		72.1
DEPTH (feet)		Surface	N 4	ŝ		Surface		Surface		Surface



TEMPERATURE & DISSOLVED OXYGEN Profile

FLOW AUGMENTATION Figure N POND

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FLOW AUGMENTATION POND

MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION IN AREAL STANDARD UNITS/m1

STATIONS 1 AND 4 - June 3, 1974

ORGANISM	STATION 1	STATION 4 ¹
Bacillariophyceae		
Cymbella sp.	18	
<u>Melosira</u> sp.		12
Navicula sp.	12	35
Cyanophyceae		
<u>Merismopedium</u> sp.		29
Chlorophyceae		
Ankistrodesmus sp.		12
Coelastrum sp.	53	209
Scenedesmus sp.	29	100
<u>Staurastrum</u> sp.	6	12
<u>Selenastrum</u> sp.	6	
<u>Sphaerocystis</u> sp.		47
Pleurococcus sp.	35	47
Phiocytium sp.	12	
<u>Volvox</u> sp.		734
Mastogophora		
<u>Monas</u> sp.		23
Synura sp.		88
Phacus sp.	12	
Infusoria	6	
Rotifera ²		
Anuraea sp.	2	1
Amorphous Matter	7,497	9,408

 $^{1}\mbox{Composite}$ during Assabet River Water Quality Survey.

²Number of individuals

HOCOMONCO POND 27 Acres Westborough

. . . .

<u>KEY</u> Sampling Stations —Contours in feet

BATHYMETRIC MAP

and LOCATION OF SAMPLING STATIONS

.

Figure 3

HOCOMONCO POND

MORPHOMETRIC DATA

		~
Maximum Length	2,300	feet
Maximum Effective Length	2,300	feet
Maximum Width	1,000	feet
Maximum Effective Width	1,000	feet
Maximum Depth	6.0	feet
Mean Depth	3.2	feet
Mean Width	511	feet
Area	27	acres
Volume	86	acre feet
Shoreline	5,780	feet
Development of Shoreline	1.5	
Development of Volume	1,60	
Mean to Maximum Depth Ratio	0.53	feet
Drainage Area	0,38	square miles

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HOCOMONCO POND

WATER QUALITY DATA (mg/1)

JUNE 4, 1974

				TOTAL	TOTAL			TOTAL		SUSP.	TOTAL
DEPTH (feet)	TEMP. (^o F)	D.O.	pН	ALK.	HARD.	NH3-N	NO3-N	Р	SiO ₂	SOLIDS	SOLIDS
					STATION 1	- CENTER	HOLE				
Surface	70.0	11.2	8.0								
2	69.0	11.9	7.7	27	38	0.02	0.2	0.20	2.6		
5 4 5	68.0 68.0	12.1 11.9	 8.0		 	 					
					STATI	:on 2 - in:	LET				
Surface	58.0	10.6	7.0	19	38	0.05	1.1	0.01	11		
					STATIC	ON 3 - OUT	LET				
Surface	72.1	8.3	7.3	28		0.02	0.2	0.03	Gia 244 127	4.5	80

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TEMPERATURE & DISSOLVED OXYGEN PROFILE (with secchi disc reading)

June 4,1974



HOCOMONCO POND

28

Figure

4

HOCOMONCO POND

MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION IN AREAL STANDARD UNITS/m1

STATION 1 - JUNE 4, 1974

ORGANISM	STATION 1
Bacillariophyceae <u>Fragilaria</u> sp.	18
Chlorophyceae <u>Chorella</u> sp.	12
Mastigophora <u>Ceratium</u> sp. <u>Mallomonas</u> sp.	88 12
Rotifera ¹ Anuraea sp.	2
Amorphous Matter	7,497

¹Number of organisms

HOCOMONCO POND 27 Acres

Westborough

KEY

B-<u>Brasenia</u> sp. (watershield) I-<u>Lobelia</u> sp. (Lobelia) N-<u>Nuphar</u> sp. (yellow water lily) P-<u>Potamogeton</u> sp. (pondweed) S-<u>Sagittaria</u> sp. (arrowhead) T-Typha sp. (cattails)

NOTE:

Plants not in flower. Ceratophyllum (coontail) found in Ekman sample at station no.1.



AQUATIC VEGETATION



BATHYMETRIC MAP

and LOCATION OF SAMPLING STATIONS

Figure 6

ROCKY POND

MORPHOMETRIC DATA

Maximum Length	3,200	feet
Maximum Effective Length	3,200	feet
Maximum Width	2,100	feet
Maximum Effective Width	2,100	feet
Maximum Depth	20.0	feet
Mean Depth	6.3	feet
Mean Width	830	feet
Area	61	acres
Volume	384	acre feet
Shoreline	13,660	feet
Development of Shoreline	2.4	•
Development of Volume	0.95	,
Mean to Maximum Depth Ratio	0.31	feet
Drainage Area	0.42	square miles

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TABLE	

ROCKY POND

WATER QUALITY DATA (mg/1)

JUNE 4, 1974

	Si02		ł	-	
	TOTAL P		ł		
	N- ² ON	НОГЕ	1		
TOTAT,	NH3-N	I - DEEP		1	
	TOTAL HARD.	STATION	ł	1	
	TOTAL ALK.		1	1	
	рH		ł	 	
	D.0.		10.0	و.5 د	0.6
	TEMP. (of)		71.0	71.0	71.0
	DEPTH (feet)		Surface	2	4

ł	ļ		0.4	ł]	ł	ł	ł	1	0.4		0.4
			0.01		ł		}	H sa	 	0.01		0.01
t	ł		0.0		-	1	1	ļ] 	0.0	LET	0.0
ļ			0.00	ł		1	H 1	·	+	0.01	:0N 2 - 0UI	0.00
			0.6		ł		ł	ł		0.6	STATI	0.6
1	1		3.0	ł	ł	ł	ł	ł	ł	3.0		3.0
ł	I J		6.3	ł	ł	1	ļ	ł		6.2		6.2
10.0	9.5	0.6	.9 . 3	9.8	9.6	9.6	9.4	9.3	9.3	9.2		10.8
71.0	71.0	71.0	68.0	67.0	66.0	66.0	66.0	65.0	65.0	64.0		73.0
Surface	2	4	9	ω	10	12	14	16	18	20		Surface



DEPTH (ft)

ROCKY POND

ROCKY POND

MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION IN AREAL STANDARD UNITS/ml

STATION 1 - JUNE 4, 1974

ORGANISM	STATION 1
Bacillariophyceae <u>Cyclotella</u> sp.	6
Chlorophyceae Pleurococcus sp.	29
Amorphous Matter	2,499

ROCKY POND OF Acres Boylston

ΚEΥ

B-<u>Brasenia</u> sp.(water shield) m-<u>Myriophyllum</u> (water milfoil) N-<u>Nuphar</u> sp.(yellow water lily) S-<u>Sagittaria</u> sp.(arrowhead)





AQUATIC VEGETATION



Figure 9

BOONS POND

MORPHOMETRIC DATA

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Maximum Length	5,300 f	eet
Maximum Effective Length	5,300 f	eet
Maximum Width	1,900 f	eet
Maximum Effective Width	1,900 f	eet
Maximum Depth	20.0 f	eet
Mean Depth	11.0 f	eet
Mean Width	1,364 f	eet
Area	166 a	cres
Volume	1,844 a	cre feet
Shoreline	36,460 f	eet
Development of Shoreline	3.8	
Development of Volume	1.65	/
Mean to Maximum Depth Ratio	0.55 f	eet
Drainage Area	1.75 s	quare miles

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BOONS POND

WATER QUALITY DATA (mg/1)

JUNE 5, 1974

				TOTAL	TOTAL			TOTAL		SUSP.	TOTAL
DEPTH (feet)	TEMP. (°F)	D.O.	рН	ALK.	HARD.	^{NH} 3 ^{-N}	NO3-N	Р	SiO_2	SOLIDS	SOLIDS
		<u> </u>	,		STATIC	DN 1 - NORT	'H BASIN				
Surface	67.0	9.6			_						
2	68.0	9.5								÷	
4	67.0	10.0									
6	67.0	9.5	6.9	13	16	0.03	0.1	0.14	0.6		
8	66.0	9.4									
10	65.0	9.5									
12	64.0	9.2		- -		-					
14	64.0	9.5									
16	63.0	8.6					-				
18	62.0	6.5									
20	62.0	5.0	6.7	9	12	0.12	0.1	0.04	0.6		
					STATIC	on 2 – East	BASIN				
Surface	68.0	9.2	7.0	9	12	0.07	0.1	0,03	0.3		
2	69.0	9.7									
4	69.0	9.4									
6	67.0	10.0									
8	66.0	9.7					14-14 Sala				
10	66.0	9.5	6.8	9	12	0.09	0.1	0.01	0.6		
					STAT	CION 3 - IN	LET				
Surface	59.0	4.2	4.6	1	8.0	0.03	0.0	0.03	10		
					STAT	TION 4 - IN	LET				
Surface	58.0	9.1	6.1	5	12	0.06	0.7	0.04	10		
					STATI	ION 5 - OUT	LET				
Surface	68.0	9.8	7.0	9	12	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.4	3.0	5.0



DEPTH (ft)

BOONS POND

Figure 10a



BOONS POND

Figure 10b

BOONS POND

MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION IN AREAL STANDARD UNITS/m1

STATIONS 1, 2, AND 5 - JUNE 5, 1974

ORGANISM	STATION 1	STATION 2	STATION 5 ¹
Bacillariophyceae			
Cyclotella sp.	6		41
<u>Melosira</u> sp.			18
<u>Tabellaria</u> sp.	35	6	
Суапорһусеае			
<u>Anabaena</u> sp.			100
Chlorophyceae			
Pediastrum sp.	147		
Staurastrum sp.			29
Pleurococcus sp.	18		
Mastigophora			
<u>Synura</u> sp.		194	
Protozoa			6
Amorphous Matter	2,293	3,469	5,439

¹Composite during Assabet River Water Quality Survey.

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Figure II

WARNERS POND

MORPHOMETRIC DATA

Maximum Length	2,600	feet
Maximum Effective Length	2,600	feet
Maximum Width	2,100	feet
Maximum Effective Width	1,800	feet
Maximum Depth	12.0	feet
Mean Depth	3.2	feet
Mean Width	972	feet
Area	58	acres
Volume	188	acre feet
Shoreline - Main Basin Inlet Channel Development of Shoreline - Main Basin and Inlet Channel	10,280 9,180 3.5	feet feet
Development of Volume	0.80	/
Mean to Maximum Depth Ratio	0.30	feet
Drainage Area	7.46	square miles

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WARNERS POND 58 Acres

Concord



BATHYMETRIC MAP

and LOCATION OF SAMPLING STATIONS

Figure 12

WARNERS POND WATER QUALITY DATA (mg/1)

TOTAL SUSP. TOTAL NO ₃ -N P SIO ₂ SOLIDS SOLIDS	EP HOLE	0.3 0.06 5.0	 0.3 0.03 6.8			0.3 0.06 6.8	rt Pond Brook)	0.3 0.04 4.2	ashoba Brook)	0.5 0.04 7.4	IN PIPE INLET	0.9 0.02 10	OUTLET	0.2 0.03 5.2 5.0 111
H3-N NO	1 – DEEP H(0.00	0,10			0.14 0.	ET (Fort Po	0.02 0.	LET (Nashoł	0.02 0.	6" DRAIN PI	0.05 0.	ON 5 - 0UTI	0.00 0.0
TOTAL HARD. N	STATION	28	 28			28	ION 2 - INL	32	NI - E NOL	28	VTION 4 - 3	41	STATI	29
TOTAL ALK.		18	 16			16	STATI	20	STAT	16	STA	18		18
Hď		7.1	 6, 7		ł	6.7		7.0		7.0		6.7		6.8
D.0.		6.9 8.8	6.2 6.4	6.1	6.1	5.1		7.3		7.5		9.4		7.7
TEMP. (^O F)		68.0 68.0	65.0 55.0	54.0	54.0	54.0		67.0		68.0		56.0		70.0
DEPTH (feet)		Surface 2	40	8	10	12		Surface		Surface		Pipe Inflow		Surface

6

TEMPERATURE & DISSOLVED OXYGEN PROFILE

(with SECCHI DISC READING)

June 6, 1974 /



WARNER'S POND

47

DEPTH (ft)

WARNERS POND

MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION IN AREAL STANDARD UNITS/ml

STATIONS 1 AND 4 - JUNE 6, 1974

ORGANISM	STATION 1	STATION 4 ¹
Bacillariophyceae Cyclotella sp. Surirella sp.	6 12	
Mastigophora Monas sp. Synura sp.	 88	6 2
Amorphous Matter	3,969	3,205

¹Composite during Assabet River Water Quality Survey.

WARNERS POND 58 Acres

Concord



AQUATIC VEGETATION

Figure 14 ·

LAKE CHAUNCY

MORPHOMETRIC DATA

Maximum Length	3,600	feet
Maximum Effective Length	3,600	feet
Maximum Width	3,500	feet
Maximum Effective Width	3,500	feet
Maximum Depth	20.0	feet
Mean Depth	11.9	feet
Mean Width	2,142	feet
Area	177	acres
Volume	2,100	acre feet
Shoreline	12,960	feet
Development of Shoreline	1.3	
Development of Volume	1,79	1
Mean to Maximum Depth Ratio	0.59	feet
Drainage Area	1,21	square miles





and LOCATION OF SAMPLING STATIONS

Figure 15

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TABLE 17 LAKE CHAUNCY

WATER QUALITY DATA (mg/1) JULY 1, 1974

CONDUCTIVITY (umho/cm)		150	a. T	160	I I		200		220		150
Si02		3.6	ł	4.7	l I		16		6.9		4,6
TOTAL P		0.03	1	0.05	!		0.25		0.07		0.05
NO3-N	ER	0.0	 	0.0	}		0.0		0.0		0.0
NH3-N	DEEP CENT	00.00	1	0.16	1	2 – INLET	0.09	3 - INLET	1.2	+ - OUTLET	0.00
TOTAL HARD.	STATION 1 -	40	1	44	-	STATION	47	STATION	65	STATION 4	40
TOTAL ALK.		23	 	31	ł		30		50		23
ΡH		7.3	7.3	6.9	6.9		6.3		6.8		6.6
D.0.		8.2	8 8 4	8.4	8.6		1.5		3.6		8 4
TEMP. (of)		65.5	65.5 65.5	63.0	53.5		63.0		65.0		66.0
DEPTH (feet)		Surface	10 5	15	20		Surface		Surface		Surface



LAKE CHAUNCY

Figure 16

LAKE CHAUNCY

MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION IN AREAL STANDARD UNITS/ml

STATIONS 1 AND 5 - JULY 1, 1974

ORGANISM	STATION 1	STATION 5 ¹
Cyanophyceae <u>Anabaena</u> sp. <u>Aphanizomenon</u> sp.	473 65	
<u>Polycystis</u> sp. Ciliophora Paramecium sp.	2,341	BLOOM BLOOM ²
Amorphous Matter	9,205	

¹Special grab at outlet $2_{\text{Too numerous to count}}$

54

CHAUNCY LAKE <u>177 Acres</u> Westborough

KEY



AQUATIC VEGETATION

ASSABET RIVER BASIN

LAKE MACROINVERTEBRATES

LAKE/POND	ORGANISMS	NUMBER
Flow Augmentation Pond Station 1 - Deep Hole	Oligochaeta (aquatic worms) Naididae	
June 3, 1974	Nais sp.	50
	Limnodrilus claparadianus	2
	Contropoda (univelue mellucka)	
	Planorbidae	
	Helisoma sp.	1
	<u></u>	-
	Diptera (true flies)	
	Chironomidae	100
	Chironomus sp.	189
	Stictochironmus sp.	1 ว
	Clyptotendines semilie	10
	Dicrotendipes pervosus	1
	Calopsectra sp.	î
	Microtendipes pedellus	3
Rooma Dand	014	
Station 1 - Northorn Basin	Uligochaeta Tubificidae	
June 5 1974	Iupiricidae Limpodrilus hoffmoistori	15
5 GMC 53 1977	IIIIIIOdillus nollimeistell	15
	Diptera	
	Chironomidae (^O rthocladiinae) Chaoboridae	1
	Chaoborus punctipennis	1
Station 2 - Southern Basin	Oligochaeta	
June 5, 1974	Tubificidae	
	Limnodrilus hoffmeisteri	7
	Diptera	
	Chironomidae (^O rthocladiinae)	3
	Parachironomus abortivus	1
	Chaoboridae	
	<u>Chaoborus punctipennis</u>	1

TABLE 19 (Continued)

LAKE/POND	ORGANISMS	NUMBER
Lake Chauncy Station 1 - Deep Hole July 1, 1974	Oligochaeta Tubificidae <u>Limnodrilus</u> hoffmeisteri	9
	Diptera Chironomidae (Orthocladiinae) Chaoboridae	19
	Chaoborus punctipennis	17
Warners Pond Station 1 - Deep Hole	Oligochaeta Naididae	
June 6, 1974	<u>Nais</u> sp. Tubificidae	12
	Limnodrilus sp.	5
	Pelecypoda (bivalve mollusks) Sphaeridae	1
	<u>ristatum</u> sp.	T
	Diptera Chaoboridae	
	Chaoborus punctipennis	3

DESCRIPTION OF TERMS

MAXIMUM LENGTH: Length of line connecting two most remote extremities of lake. Represents true open-water length; does not cross any land other than islands.

MAXIMUM EFFECTIVE LENGTH: Length of straight line connecting most remote extremities of lake along which wind and wave action occur without any kind of land interruption. Often identical with maximum length.

MAXIMUM WIDTH: Length of straight line connecting most remote transverse extremities over water at right angles to maximum length axis.

MAXIMUM EFFECTIVE WIDTH: Similar to maximum effective length only at right angles to it.

MAXIMUM DEPTH: Maximum depth known for lake.

MEAN DEPTH: Volume of lake divided by its surface area.

MEAN WIDTH: Area of lake divided by maximum length.

<u>AREA</u>: Refers to surface area of lake exclusive of islands. Determined by planimetry from outline of map.

<u>VOLUME</u>: Determined by computing the volume of each horizontal stratum as limited by the several submerged contours on the bathymetric (hydrographic) map and taking the sum of the volumes of all such strata.

SHORELINE: Length of lake's perimeter, measured from map with rotometer (map measurer).

<u>DEVELOPMENT OF SHORELINE</u>: Degree of regularity or irregularity of shoreline expressed as index figure. It is the ratio of the length of the shoreline to the length of the circumference of a circle of an area equal to that of the lake. It cannot be less than unity. The quantity can be regarded as a measure of the potential effect of littoral processes on the lake.

<u>DEVELOPMENT OF VOLUME</u>: Defined as the ratio of the volume of the lake to that of a cone of basal area equal to the lake's area and height equal to the maximum depth.

<u>MEAN DEPTH - MAXIMUM DEPTH RATIO</u>: Mean depth divided by maximum depth. It serves as an index figure which indicates in general the character of the approach of basin shape to conical forms.

LENTIC: Relating to still or calm water, as lakes or ponds.

LOTIC: Relating to moving water, as rivers or streams.

EPILIMNION: The circulating, superficial layer of a lake or pond lying above the metalimnion which does not exhibit thermal stratification.

<u>METALIMNION</u>: The layer of water in a lake between the epilimnion and hypolimnion in which the temperature exhibits the greatest difference in a vertical direction.

HYPOLIMNION: The deep layer of a lake lying below the metalimnion and removed from surface influences (i.e., not circulating).

THERMOCLINE: Coincident with metalimnion; relates to lake zone with greatest temperature change in a vertical direction.

<u>CLINOGRADE</u>: A stratification curve of temperature or of a chemical substance in a lake that exhibits a uniform slope from the surface into deep water.

<u>ORTHOGRADE</u>: A stratification curve for temperature or a chemical substance in a lake which has a straight uniform course.

HETEROGRADE: A stratification curve for temperature or a chemical substance in a lake that exhibits a non-uniform slope from top to bottom. It can be <u>positive</u> (metalimmetic maximum) or <u>negative</u> (metalimmetic minimum).

<u>CULTURAL EUTROPHICATION</u>: Enrichment or rapid increase in productivity of a body of water caused by man. It is an accelerated process as opposed to natural, slow aging of a body of water. Visual effects include nuisance algal blooms, low transparency, extensive aquatic plant growth, loss of cold water fisheries due to oxygen depletion, and others. It is caused by the rapid increase in nutrient additions to the lake.

AQUATIC PLANTS: An aquatic can be defined as a vascular plant that germinates and grows with at least its base in the water and is large enough to be seen with the naked eye. The following three broad categories are recognized:

- 1. <u>EMERGENT</u>: Those plants rooted at the bottom and projecting out of the water for part of their length. Examples: Arrowhead (Sagittaria sp.)
 - Pickerelweed (Pontederia sp.)
- 2. FLOATING: Those which wholly or in part float on the surface of the water and usually do not project above it. Examples: Water shield (Brasenia sp.) Yellow water lily (Nuphar sp.)
- 3. <u>SUEMERGED</u>: Those which are continuously submerged (except sometimes for floating or emergent inflorescences). Examples: Bladderwort (<u>Utricularia</u> sp.) Pondweed (Potamogeton sp.)

SESTON: All the particulate matter suspended in the water.

DIMICTIC LAKE: One with spring and fall turnovers (temperate lakes).

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<u>SILICA</u>: This substance (SiO_2) is necessary for diatom growth. The concentration of silica is often closely linked with the diatom population's growth. The limiting concentration is usually considered to be 0.5 mg/l.

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APPENDIX A

ASSABET RIVER LAKES AND PONDS

TEMPERATURE (°F) AND DISSOLVED OXYGEN (mg/1) CONCENTRATIONS

DEEP HOLE STATIONS

BOONS PON	ND 8/10/4	¥5	LAKE CHAUN	ICY 8/9/	44
Depth (ft)	Temp.	D.O.	Depth (ft)	Temp.	D.O.
1	79.0	8.0	1	78.0	8.6
10	74.0	8.1	5	77.0	8.6
18	73.0	7.9	10	76.0	8.2
			12	75.0	5.0
			15	73.0	1.4

HOCOMONCO	POND 7/1	4/52	ROCKY POND	7/25/51	
Depth (ft	:) Temp.	D.O.	Depth (ft)	Temp.	D.0.
1	81.0		1	78.0	6.8
2	80.0		10	76.0	
3	77.0		12	76.0	6.4
4	76.0	9.0	13	75.0	
5	75.0		15	74.0	5.1
6	75.0		17	69.0	
7	75.0	8.6	19	66.0	1.3
8	74.0		20	65.0	

Source: Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife.

APPENDIX A

ASSABET RIVER LAKES AND PONDS

TEMPERATURE (°F) AND DISSOLVED OXYGEN (mg/1) CONCENTRATIONS

DEEP HOLE STATIONS

BOONS PON	ND 8/10/	45	LAKE CHAUI	NCY 8/9/	44
Depth (ft)	Temp.	D.O.	Depth (ft)	Temp.	D.O.
1	79.0	8.0	1	78.0	8.6
10	74.0	8.1	5	77.0	8.6
18	73.0	7.9	10	76.0	8.2
			12	75.0	5.0
			15	73.0	1.4

HOCOMONCO P	OND 7/14	/52	ROCKY POND	7/25/51	
Depth (ft)	Temp.	D.O.	Depth (ft)	Temp.	D.O.
1	81.0		1	78.0	6.8
2	80.0		10	76.0	
3	77.0		12	76.0	6.4
4	76.0	9.0	13	75.0	
5	75.0		15	74.0	5.1
6	75.0		17	69.0	
7	75.0	8.6	19	66.0	1.3
8	74.0		20	65.0	

Source: Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife.