

Alma-Moon Lake Update of Shoreline Habitat Project Town of Saint Germain Lakes

The Moon Lake Shoreline Habitat Project that occurred from 2008-2009 was revisited by the fisheries management staff from the WDNR office in Woodruff to assess the status of the habitat project 10 years after completion.

The staff was primarily interested in the half log condition and fish use as well as the tree drop condition and fish use. They also wanted to evaluate several types of bolts that were used at the time to see how they would hold up. Needless to say, the stainless steel looked like new, but the galvanized timber bolts and zinc plated steel bolts were rusty and corroded.

Due to high water levels and a rainy spring, the visibility of the usually clear lake was reduced so the staff ended up snorkeling to complete their task.

They were able to locate 21 of the 22 half log structures, all of the boulders from the tree drops as well as four fish cribs that had been previously placed.

Summary of Results

Half logs

This had been part of a cooperative, federally funded shoreline habitat research project along the east ashore of Moon Lake for 1400 ft. Each half log was labeled so they knew bolt type and approximate location.

8 of the 21 half logs were tipped and at least one of the tipped half logs still showed signs of fish use. They re-positioned all tipped logs so they were upright again. No half logs were tipped and covered with debris. Sand and gravel were the most common substrates observed.

Depth and distances from shore had increased due to high water levels, but angle off the perpendicular from shore was always less than 20 degrees.

tree drops

All 4 tree drops were located with 1 tree still anchored in the rocks, 2 trees not located along the shoreline, 1 untethered tree found slightly down shore from the rock anchor, 1 naturally fallen tree near site with missing tree and good shoreline woody habitat was still present. Fish were observed using all of the improvements and woody habitat.

For further information and photos, go to our website almamoonlake.org and click on lake data then updates 2017.