### Addressing Impairment in Beaver Dam Lake and Beaver Creek

UW-Madison Water Resources Management Practicum 2017





## <u>Outline</u>



### Introduction Watershed



### Introduction Watershed



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### Introduction Problem Statement

### Algae blooms

Phosphorus Shallow Warm temps Carp





## Introduction BDLIA Partnership





## Introduction Scope of Study

- 1. Engage Stakeholders to assess community priorities and barriers to action
- 2. Assess current state of **Beaver Dam Lake** and add to existing knowledge of water quality issues
- Assess water quality, biological health, and deposited sediment phosphorus content of Beaver Creek
- 4. Analyze **Upland** land use connections to water quality

## Component 1

### Stakeholder Engagement

Beaver Dam Lake

Beaver Creek

Upland Beaver Creek



### Stakeholders Events



### Questionnaire

### Administered at:

- Interviews
- Town hall meeting
- Kiwanis Club meeting

### Questions:

- Understanding of "watershed"
- Perceptions of lake and creek health
- Recreational usage
- Willingness to assist with water quality improvement efforts



### Questionnaire



### Stakeholders Questionnaire

#### Community sees value in improving water quality

- 76.6% believe there are economic benefits for community
- 67.6% would increase recreational usage if water quality improved



### Producer Interviews

### Interviews with landowners

\*\*Semi-structured, open-ended

Questions

- Understanding of "watershed"
- Perceptions of lake and creek health
- Land management
- Recreation
- Information seeking behaviors

Producer Interviews

Interviews with landowners

- 6 producers
- Generally well aware of BMPs, largest barrier financial
- Disconnect between producers and lake
  - Fishing for recreation, but rarely
  - 4/5 unwilling to contribute to water quality improvement efforts

### Producer Interviews



## Component 2

Stakeholder Engagement

**Beaver Dam Lake** 

**Beaver Creek** 

Upland Beaver Creek



## Beaver Dam Lake Sampling Locations



## Beaver Dam Lake Variables of Interest

### **Field Measurements**

### Lab Analyses

- Total Phosphorus (TP) in water
- Total Phosphorus (TP) in sediment
- PH



\*Biweekly sampling for a total of 11 samples

## Beaver Dam Lake Water Quality Results - TP



### Beaver Dam Lake Sediment TP



## **Beaver Dam Lake** P Modeling



### Beaver Dam Lake P Sources



**Component 3** 

Stakeholder Engagement

**Beaver Dam Lake** 

**Beaver Creek** 

**Upland Beaver Creek** 



### Beaver Creek Sampling Sites



\*Sites 146 and Pierce added in September

## Beaver Creek Stage Height



## <u>Beaver Creek</u> Storms & Baseline - TP



## Beaver Creek Water Quality TP & DRP







# Beaver Creek

### Macroinvertebrates

### 3 Sample Sites, 2 Sampling Days

\*\*UWEX Citizen Monitoring Index

Site	Spring Score	Fall Score
DG	1.73	2
73	2.3	2
G	2.3	2.1



1.0-2.0 = Poor, 2.1-2.5 = Fair, 2.6-3.5 = Good







### <u>Beaver Creek</u> Habitat Assessment

#### In-Stream

\*\*UWEX Wadeable Stream Index for Fish Habitat Quality

Site	Habitat Score	
DG	48	
73	33	
G	54.5	

<20=Poor, 20-60=fair, 60-80=Good, >80=Excellent

### <u>Beaver Creek</u> Habitat Assessment

### **Riparian Buffers**





Site	Buffer Score
DG	15/15
73	15/15
G	7.5*/15

### <u>Beaver Creek</u> Habitat Assessment

### Fine Sediments and Erosion



Site	Erosion Score
DG	5/15
73	10/15
G	15/15
Site	Fine Sediment Score
Site DG	Fine Sediment Score 5/15
Site DG 73	Fine Sediment Score 5/15 0/15

## Beaver Creek Sediment P Load



### Component 4

Stakeholder Engagement

Beaver Dam Lake

**Beaver Creek** 

**Upland Beaver Creek** 



### Upland Beaver Creek EVAAL Model



### Upland Beaver Creek EVAAL Outputs

#### 2012-2016 Crop Rotations



#### Stream Power Index



## Upland Beaver Creek Final EVAAL Results Erosion Vulnerability Index



### Upland Beaver Creek Roadside Observations



### Upland Beaver Creek Roadside Observations



### Upland Beaver Creek Soil Sampling





## Upland Beaver Creek Soil P Sampling



## Upland Beaver Creek Soil Sampling Results



## **Recommendations Outline**

Stakeholder Engagement

Beaver Dam Lake Water Quality

Beaver Creek Water Quality

### Recommendations Stakeholder Engagement

### School Partnership Water Studies



### Recommendations Stakeholder Engagement

### Regular Workshop/Volunteer Events



### Recommendations Stakeholder Engagement

### Farmer Led Council in Columbia County





# Recommendations Lake Water Quality Active Carp Management Plan



## Recommendations

### Lake Water Quality

### **Shoreline Erosion Assessment**



## Recommendations

### Lake Water Quality

### **Regular Lake Condition Monitoring**





### Recommendations Creek Water Quality

#### Update Watershed Plan EPA 9 Key Element Framework

5 Develop an information & education Identify the causes and sources that component to encourage participation and need to be controlled to achieve pollutant Plan implementation. load reductions. This includes quantifying significant sources and background levels using maps and tables. 6 Develop a schedule for implementing the management measures identified in the Plan. Estimate the pollutant load reductions expected from selected Describe interim, measurable milestones management measures. to assess if the Plan is being implemented. Describe management measures that Identify a set of criteria to determine need to be implemented to achieve load whether Plan objectives are or are not being reductions. Map priority areas for achieved over time. Outline how and when the implementing practices. Plan will be revised if progress is not being made. Estimate amounts of technical and Develop a monitoring component to financial assistance needed, evaluate the effectiveness of the associated costs, and/or the sources and implementation efforts over time using criteria authorities that will be relied upon, to implement the Plan. from elements 6, 7 and 8.



## Recommendations

Creek Water Quality

### Regular Stream Monitoring

- Determine P contribution of all tributaries to Lake
- Continue evaluating stream health
  - Expand on biotic surveys
    - Fish surveys
    - Habitat assessment
- Assess contribution of Paradise Marsh



## Thank You!

### To our many partners

## Beaver Dam Lake Improvement Association Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Agricultural Producers

Anita Thompson, UW-Madison WRM Advisor

Bill Foley
Ken Schmidt
Robert Bird
John Bohonek
Kurt Calkins
Andrew Craig
Michael A. Miller

Theresa Nelson Mark Riedel Mike Sorge Sarah Gatzke Faith Fitzpatrick Ken Genskow Laura Good Zach Zopp Dale Macheel Chin Wu Rob Montgomery Bill Boettge Dale Robertson Brenton Butterfield Jaclyn Meyer

## Fox Wolf Watershed? Creek Water Quality

- •WDNR Lake Planning Grant? (Plus other grants)
- •Nine Key Element Plan/Watershed Plan status?
- Social Indicators/SIPES Survey?
- •EVAAL Modeling (internships)?

















