

Developing a Management Plan for White Lake

Workshop #2, September 12, 2019

Effective lake and watershed management is based on an understanding of the ecosystem—long-term monitoring and special studies--and an understanding of how land use and recreational use can impact water quality and quantity

White Lake is a State-Owned Lake Multiple Entities With Multiple Responsibilities

State Agencies:

NC Division of Parks and Recreation
NC Wildlife Resources Commission
NC Division of Water Resources

Focused on Lake

Local/Regional:

Lumber River Council of Governments
Town of White Lake
Bladen County
Bladen Soil and Water Conservation
District

Focused on Land Use/Watershed

In-Lake Management for White Lake: The Process in 2018

Problem: persistent cyanobacterial bloom

Science Advisory Group reviewed options for treatment—alum to remove P and algae was selected as the best option

Town was able to use mosquito permit for treatment of <1,000 acres

HAB Aquatic Solutions met requirements for treatment; bid prepared and accepted by Town Board

Treatment conducted May 3-16, 2018

State-mandated monitoring conducted before, during and after treatment

In-Lake Management for White Lake: Future Process

NC DWR determined that **NC State Parks** must apply for NPDES permit for any future treatment

Application process—monitoring data would demonstrate need, **Science Advisory Group** would recommend trigger levels (such as pH, amount of cyanobacteria, amount of N or P)

State Agency review of completed application, approval by NC DWR

Development of RFP with requirements, dosing level, any budget constraints

Schedule, implement and monitor treatment

What Does A Natural White Lake Look Like?

The more the lake and watershed is altered, the more difficult it is to maintain its natural and beneficial functions.

Management actions that simulate natural processes are most likely to be successful.

Uses of the lake that we know are harmful should be modified or eliminated (often little cost to implement).

Continue on a collaborative and productive path:

Assessments, decision making, implementation of needed actions