

Report to Board, Town of White Lake  
January 14, 2020

1. Water Quality Monitoring: Sampling results through December 2019 have been posted on the White Lake Watch web site. Identifications of algae found in the lake are underway and should be completed within the next six weeks. Given that the lake water pH did not vary much over the summer (and stayed below 7) we expect the results will indicate the presence of species we have seen in the past (before the cyanobacterial bloom).
2. Aquatic Vegetation Sampling: Monthly monitoring for Hydrilla indicated none was found. A whole lake survey was conducted in September, and a report will be drafted soon, and a tuber survey (taking sediment samples to search for the small tubers that produce new growth in the spring) will be scheduled and completed this winter.
3. Bird Surveys: Counts of birds in and around the lake are underway, and these counts will continue through the winter months. This information will be provided to Wildlife Resources Commission personnel to assess trends and a public presentation will be scheduled (and also posted to the web site). Nutrient mitigation options are also being evaluated.
4. Rainfall and Lake Level Monitoring: Rainfall for 2019 was a bit above normal at 53", with fourth quarter rainfall being well above average. Lake levels are at the point that they were last January and should continue to increase with winter rains as has been seen in the past (note also that there is essentially no loss via evaporation in winter months).



Turtle Cove, November 30, 2019



Turtle Cove, January 3, 2020

Ed Wilkerson, Singletary Lake State Park Superintendent, continues to monitor Turtle Cove closely, and reports that the lake level is now above the level of the invert at the culverts. The wave action in the lake has created a natural sand rim near the point where the sandbags were placed, and this rim is now below water, indicating how much the lake level has increased (based on gauge monitoring, the difference in lake level over the 4.5 week period shown in the photos was about 5 inches).

5. Stormwater Assessments: Mapping of drainage areas is nearly completed, and the Lumber River Council of Governments IT staff continue to refine the GIS map that has been created so that it is both informative and easy to use. Water quality sampling of outfalls will be conducted in the coming weeks during rainfall events.
6. An abstract was submitted for a presentation at the NC Water Resources Research Institute conference, to be held in Raleigh in March.
7. A grant proposal to the Clean Water Management Trust Fund is in preparation; the deadline for applications is February 3, 2020.