

Lakeshore habitat and home site assessment worksheets

1.0 Landowner / location / conservation plan intent

Date (mm / dd / yy): _____

Project landowner(s): Name _____

Address(es) _____

Telephone numbers: _____

E-mail(s): _____

Name of lake [or water body]: _____ County: _____

WBIC number: _____

Lake type: Seepage lake Groundwater drainage lake Drainage lake Impoundment

Location: Latitude ____ - _____ Longitude ____ - _____

Parcel size: < 2 acres 2 to 5 acres 5 to 10 acres > 10 acres

Aerial map (Google Earth; WDNR Surface Water Data Viewer; county mapping source): Yes No

Conservation project scope:

Upland area - goals and objectives: _____

Lakeshore habitat area - goals and objectives: _____

Conservation project design intent - agencies or regulations affecting site design and planning alternatives:

State: _____

Permit(s) required? Yes No General permit Individual permit Wetlands protection

County: _____

Permit(s) required? Yes No Soil erosion, sedimentation control, and / or earth moving permit

Other (town; city; etc.): _____

Permit(s) required? Yes No

Project type: Voluntary Mandated mitigation

If mandated, describe the mitigating circumstances and treatment solution(s): _____

2.0 Conservation project goals

Conservation project goal(s)—[check all that apply]:

Scenic beauty Recreational use Site engineering / erosion control Enhance wildlife Bolster water quality

Provide a brief description of the project goal(s): _____

Describe how the lakeshore area will be used (family, visitors, clients/customers, employees, general public):

3.0 Maintenance expectations / property access

Maintenance – describe the acceptable or expected level of appearance for the site: _____

Specific maintenance requirements:

Upland - _____

Lakeshore area - _____

Performed by: Property owner Contractor Anticipated budget: _____

Comments: _____

Lakeshore property access: Open Limited Restricted (describe circumstances): _____

Watering access: Upland watering access point – Yes No Lakeshore area watering access point - Yes No

4.0 Near-shore / Littoral zone habitat / Physical and biological features

Lakeshore dimensions: Length _____ linear feet Desired width _____ linear feet

Estimate the average fetch distance: _____ feet

Describe the lakeshore orientation and general shape:

- North East South West Straight Half-moon/crescent S-curved

Native emergent plants (plants rooted in bottom sediments and emerging from surface):

- Low (1-5 species) Medium (5-15 species) High (> 15 species)

List emergent species you see growing on site: _____

Native floating-leaved plants (rooted plants with floating leaves):

- Low (1-5 species) Medium (5-15 species) High (> 15 species)

List floating-leaved species you see growing on site: _____

Native submergent plants (rooted plants that remain below the water surface):

- Low (1-5 species) Medium (5-15 species) High (> 15 species)

List submergent species you see growing on site: _____

Does the landowner remove aquatic plants from their near-shore area? Yes No

Are there any other management activities going on along the near-shore area? Yes No If so, describe it:

Type of pier: Solid Cantilevered Permanent Removable

Structures present: Swim raft Boathouse Bench PWC lift Flag pole Seawall Rock riprap
 Bioengineering treatment(s) If so, describe them: _____

Describe other features of this near-shore area important to the restoration project: _____

5.0 Water features

Water level at the time of your visit: Low Normal High Fetch length: _____ linear feet

Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) or top of bank height: _____ feet

Water depth:

~5-10 feet from shore: Shallow (1-2 ft.) Moderate (3-5 ft.) Deep (> 6 ft.) N/A (stream or river)

~20 feet from shore: Shallow (1-2 ft.) Moderate (3-5 ft.) Deep (> 6 ft.)

~100 feet from shore: Shallow (1-2 ft.) Moderate (3-5 ft.) Deep (> 6 ft.)

Typical wave action for site: Low Medium High Adjacent streams, flowing water, or springs: Yes No

Any evidence of fluctuating water levels: Yes No Fringe wetlands or upland wetlands on site: Yes No

Coarse woody habitat—downed trees, large branches (> 6" diameter): Absent Rare Common Abundant

6.0 Waterway designation / lakeshore access

Area of special natural resource interest: Yes No Section 303d listed water body: Yes No

Outstanding Resource Water (ORW) or Exceptional Water Resource (ERW): Yes No

Lakeshore property parcel dimensions: _____ ~lot width _____ ~lot length

Pathway to lakeshore design: Straight Meandering / S-curved Flat Steep

Pathway materials: Lawn/turf Wood chips Gravel Porous pavers Pavement Wood stairway

Access uses by landowner: Lake view Wildlife viewing Boat/dock access Swimming Fishing Sitting area

Extent of use: Low Medium High Access view corridor: Yes No

7.0 Erosion assessment

Erosion signs present: None Bare ground Furrows or gullies Slumping banks Deposits of sand/silt
 Visible sedimentation pathways to lake Uplands rills

Rate severity: Low Medium High

Identify probable causes of soil instability: Water level fluctuation Ice action Wave action Groundwater seep
 Overland flow Other Please explain: _____

Presence of existing erosion control practices: _____

Describe types of existing erosion control measures: _____

Describe the bank recession rate: _____

Evidence of ice ridge or ice push—describe conditions: _____

8.0 Existing structures / buildings

Year-round house Seasonal house/cabins Shed Garage Old foundations Other

Access to lake lot: Paved drive Gravel drive Unimproved two-track Foot path None

Closest distance from buildings to water's edge: _____ linear feet

What percentages of the lot is covered by hard surfaces (impervious):

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| a. Total impervious surface area | = | _____ square feet |
| b. Total lot area | = | _____ square feet |
| c. Impervious surface area fraction | = | _____ (= a / b) |
| d. Percent impervious surface area | = | _____ % (= c X 100) |

Consider the following attributes and describe their conditions on site-

Roads / lanes: _____

Property lines/setbacks: _____

Well location: _____

Easements: _____

Utilities/overhead lines/power lines: _____

Surface channels/drainage paths: _____

Runoff and stormwater flow patterns: _____

Gutters: _____

Propane tanks/lines: _____

Other: _____

9.0 Septic system

Septic system: Yes No

Type of system: Septic tank (with: drain field mound system dry well) Holding tank Other

Distance measured from septic drain field [waterward edge] to lake edge: _____ feet

Evidence of failing sewage system (i.e., water ponding on surface of field; sewage odors around system; dense aquatic plant growth by shore; etc.): Yes No

10.0 Cultural resources

Consult with the Natural Resource Conservation Service, your tribal partners, and/or your local Land and Water Conservation Departments for cultural resources information for your site.

11.0 Other considerations

Aesthetics: _____

Neighbors' concerns: _____

Sources of contamination to be aware of on site (i.e., spills; compacted areas; spoil areas; etc.): Yes No

Describe sources if present: _____

12.0 Site sketch

Attach pictures, maps, drawings, and other illustrations that depict essential site features.

13.0 Lakeshore area vegetation

Sun exposure: N NE E SE S SW W NW

Potential lakeshore habitat restoration area dimensions: _____ width feet _____ length feet

Lakeshore area slope: Flat (< 10 %) Moderate (10-20 %) Steep (> 20 %)

Vegetation layers present: Large trees Smaller trees Mid-layer shrubs Grasses Sedges/rushes Wildflowers

Native plant diversity:

Water plants/littoral zone: Low (1-5 species) Medium (5-15 species) High (> 15 species)

Wet-edge zone plants: Low (1-5 species) Medium (5-15 species) High (> 15 species)

Upland zone plants: Low (1-5 species) Medium (5-15 species) High (> 15 species)

Maximum distance wet feet plants extend back from the water's edge: _____ linear feet

Is there uniformity to the wet to dry/upland zone transition? Yes No

Identify how much of the current lawn turf / lakeshore habitat area along the shore be increased to natural vegetation:

Enhance or change existing vegetation by: Plant native vegetation Leave a no-mow area Other

List native species identified on site (asterisk those suitable for restoration plans): _____

Are there any invasive species on site: Yes No List them: _____

Site soil series: _____

Soil test report: ~ pH level - Acid (0 to 5) Neutral (6 to 8) Alkaline (9 to 14) or describe pH indicators:

General soil moisture: Wet Wet mesic Mesic (medium moisture) Dry mesic Dry

General soil type: Sand Loamy sand Loam Clay Gravel

Describe accessibility to site for construction equipment: Easy Moderate Difficult

14.0 Lakebed and bank composition

Lake sediment type/substrate makeup: Boulders Cobble Gravel Sand Silt Organic matter

Beach type: Natural Artificial None

Lake bed stability: Stable Eroding

Evidence of fish spawning? Yes No Describe: _____

Evidence of invertebrate, amphibian, or reptile use? _____

Describe other habitat features: _____

Notes:
