

## Lake Restoration Prioritization Process and Program

### Key Concepts and Facts:

- Lakes are important to Iowans: Six of ten Iowans visit lakes each year; they will visit these lakes an average of eight times during the year.
- Iowans prefer lakes with better water quality.
- Lakes provide significant economic benefits – ex. Clear Lake's \$43M annual economic benefit to the region is expected to double after restoration.
- A lake is a reflection of both watershed and lake management.
- Lake restoration starts in the watershed, it relies on strong local involvement and voluntary participation of landowners.

### Current Prioritization and Program

- Modeled after the Federal Clean Lakes Program established in the 1970's.
- DNR provided the 2006 legislature with a priority list of 35 lake candidates.
  - Priorities based on a 5-year ISU/DNR assessment of water quality, technical feasibility of restoration, potential economic benefits, use by Iowans, and local interest/involvement.
  - Projects require a lake **and** watershed (land draining to the lake) restoration assessment and plan
  - Lake and watershed protection requires local resources in combination with state and federal funds
  - Local groups can petition to have their lake added to the priority list.
  - Project status: 7 to be completed in 2007, 15 underway, 15 in review
  - DNR provides an annual progress report to the legislature that includes a work plan and budget

### Water Quality Goals

Stipulated in 2006 State Legislation (HF2782):

- Phosphorous and sediment coming from the watershed must be controlled before lake restoration begins.
- Shallow lakes management will be considered among options for restoration
- Water quality targets:
  - 4 ½ foot secchi disc transparency (water clarity) 50% of the time, April – September;
  - Water quality impairments must be eliminated;
  - A diverse and sustainable aquatic community will be maintained; and
  - Water quality and public use benefits must be sustained at least 50 years.

### Budget

- 2007 funding \$8.6 Million
- 2008 funding \$8.4 Million

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# Iowa Lakes Valuation Project

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## Clear Lake

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### Clear Lake

Single Day Trips, 2002-05 Average	332,631
Multiple Day Trips, 2002	99,681
Total Trips, 2002	432,312

Each recreation trip or visitation has an associated set of expenditures. The composition of these expenditures for typical trips of single day or multiple days (Table 1) is based on a survey of Storm Lake and Rock Creek Lake during the 2002 season. Applying these averages to the lake visitors in the above table results in the estimated spending figures in Table 2.

This level of spending is linked to other economic activity in the region as the initial expenditures are re-spent on goods and services in the regional economy. These multiplier effects are estimated with an Input-Output model for the region and are summarized in Table 3.

Iowa lakes have great value to the citizens of the state. In the process of using lakes for fishing, boating, swimming and enjoying other outdoor recreation, Iowans also spend money that benefit local economies. During the 2002-2005 period, Clear Lake averaged 432,312 visitors annually. They spend an average \$43.36 million annually which in turn supports 529 jobs and \$10.83 million of labor income in the region.

Table 1: Average Spending

Category	Single Day	Multiple Day	Annual Single Day	Annual Multiple Day	Total
Supplies	\$17.00	\$59.65	\$5,654,730	\$5,945,972	\$11,600,702
Eating and Drinking	\$9.45	\$96.30	\$3,143,365	\$9,599,280	\$12,742,645
Gas and Car Expenses	\$5.10	\$29.70	\$1,696,419	\$2,960,526	\$4,656,945
Lodging	\$0.60	\$69.80	\$199,579	\$6,957,734	\$7,157,313
Shopping and Entertainment	\$10.85	\$36.05	\$3,609,049	\$3,593,500	\$7,202,549
Total	\$43.00	\$291.50	\$14,303,142	\$29,057,012	\$43,360,153

Table 2: Spending, Labor Income, and Job Effects of Lake Visitations

Category	Spending	Income	Jobs
Supplies	\$11,600,702	\$1,339,966	61.2
Eating and drinking	\$12,742,645	\$3,638,316	271.5
Gas and Car Expenses	\$4,656,945	\$296,786	12.8
Lodging	\$7,157,313	\$2,095,744	99.4
Shopping and entertainment	\$7,202,549	\$783,670	37.5
Total	\$43,360,154	\$8,154,482	482.4

Table 3: Economic Value of Direct and Secondary Recreational Spending

Category	Total Sales	Labor Income	Value Added	Jobs
Agriculture	\$82,957	\$10,466	\$13,578	0.9
Construction	\$395,401	\$76,273	\$90,147	1.8
Manufacturing	\$1,925,257	\$192,431	\$276,328	4.3
Tran. Utilities	\$2,073,189	\$315,952	\$577,857	5.9
Trade	\$33,684,989	\$3,847,889	\$5,908,845	168.1
Fin. Ins. R. Estate	\$5,155,784	\$527,429	\$1,428,039	16.6
Prof. Services	\$7,761,518	\$1,407,539	\$1,766,149	36.3
Other Services	\$15,240,985	\$4,373,419	\$6,545,635	294.0
Government	\$2,336,943	\$79,878	\$820,852	1.4
Total	\$68,657,023	\$10,831,277	\$17,427,429	529.3