

LAKE ASSESSMENT REPORT

LOTUS, LAKE

6 /11/2001

Lake assessments are being conducted to contribute physical and ecological data to the Atlas as a collaborative effort between project partners. The goal is to rapidly assess many of the lakes in the county and thus provide stakeholders a better understanding of the character of the lake, its shore, and the aquatic plants present there. These data are intended to assist in the future management of the lake and its watershed.

The first section of the report provides the results of the bottom mapping effort: a contour (bathymetric) map of the lake, area, volume and depth statistics, and the water level at the time of assessment (if available).

The second section provides the results of the ecological (vegetation) assessment conducted on the lake. These results can be used to better manage vegetation in the lake. A list is provided with the different plant species found at various sites around the lake. Potentially invasive, exotic (non-native) species are identified in a plant list and the percent of exotics is presented in a summary table. The results of this study are compared with other lakes in the watershed.

The intent of the assessment is to provide a starting point from which to track changes in the lake. These data can provide the information needed to determine changes and to monitor trends in physical condition and ecological health of the lake.

I. Physical Data – Area, Depth, Volume, & Bottom Contours

The bottom of the lake was mapped using a Global Positioning System (GPS) to determine the boat's position, and a depth-finder to provide depth associated with that measured position. The result is an estimate of the lake's area, mean and maximum depths, and volume (Table 1) and the creation of a bottom contour map. *NOTE: This map is for recreational purposes only.*

Table 1. Physical Characteristics of the Lake

Surface Area (acres):	81
Mean Depth (feet):	3.6
Maximum Depth (feet):	7.1
Volume (gallons):	95,542,410

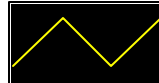
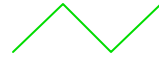


The lake assessments are created in partnership with Seminole County and the Florida Center for Community Design and Research. If you have any questions, please use the "Contact Us" form on the Seminole Atlas Website (www.seminole.wateratlas.org).



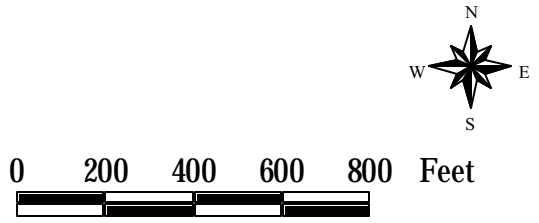
Lake Lotus

Section - Township - Range
20 & 21 - 21 - 29

-  Contour Lines
Expressed in
2-Foot Intervals
-  Estimated Lake
Perimeter

EXPLANATION:
 Assessment Date: June 11, 2001.
 Lake water level was 56.7 ft.
 above sea level when the lake was
 assessed. Contours are expressed in
 absolute depth below this level.

DATA SOURCES:
 Seminole County 1999 color aerials
 provided by Seminole County Public
 Works. All contours generated by
 Florida Center for Community Design
 and Research based on GPS/Sonar
 data provided by the Seminole County
 Stormwater Division.



II. Ecological Data - Aquatic Plant Survey

Approximately equispaced sites (typically ten or more) are mapped around the lake and the aquatic plants at each site are surveyed. The total number of species from all sites is used to approximate the total diversity of aquatic plants and the percent of invasive-exotic plants on the lake and in the watershed (Table 2). Many of these plants are considered ecologically harmful, as they tend to out-compete beneficial native species. Such “nuisance” plants can also make boating and other recreational activities difficult or impossible. The common and scientific names of plant species found on your lake are listed in Table 3.

Table 2. Comparison of species diversity between the lake and other assessed lakes located within the same watershed

	<u>Lake</u> LOTUS, LAKE	<u>Watershed</u> Little Wekiva
	(Average)	
Number of Taxa:	43	36
Percent Exotic Plants:	12%	18%

Table 3. Botanical and common names of the most commonly found plants on the lake. Percent frequency (of occurrence), habit (location where found), status (native or exotic), and EPPC status are provided

Common Name	Scientific Name	Frequency	Habit	Status	EPPC
Southern Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	93%	Emergent	Native	NL
Buttonbush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	79%	Emergent	Native	NL
Manyflower Marshpennywort, Water Penny	<i>Hydrocotyl umbellata</i>	79%	Emergent	Native	NL
Alligator Weed	<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>	71%	Emergent	Exotic	II
Smartweed, Knotweed	<i>Polygonum</i> spp.	71%	Emergent	Native	NL
Aster spp., Elliot's Aster	<i>Aster</i> spp.	64%	Unknown	Unknown	Unknow
Spatterdock, Yellow Pondlily	<i>Nuphar lutea</i>	57%	Floating	Native	NL
Torpedo Grass	<i>Panicum repens</i>	57%	Emergent	Exotic	I
Carolina Willow	<i>Salix caroliniana</i>	57%	Emergent	Native	NL
Wax Myrtle	<i>Myrica cerifera</i>	50%	Emergent	Native	NL
Wild Taro	<i>Colocasia esculenta</i>	43%	Emergent	Exotic	I
Water Spangles, Water Fern	<i>Salvinia minima</i>	43%	Floating	Native	NL
Royal Fern	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	36%	Emergent	Native	NL
Duckweed	<i>Lemna</i> spp.	29%	Floating	Native	NL
Peruvian Primrosewillow	<i>Ludwigia peruviana</i>	29%	Emergent	Exotic	NL
Climbing Hempvine	<i>Mikania scandens</i>	29%	Emergent	Native	NL
Cinnamon Fern	<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>	29%	Emergent	Native	NL
Pickerel Weed	<i>Pontederia cordata</i>	29%	Emergent	Native	NL

Dahoon Holly	<i>Ilex cassine</i>	21%	Emergent	Native	NL
Maidencane	<i>Panicum hemitomon</i>	21%	Emergent	Native	NL
Panic Grasses	<i>Panicum</i> spp.	21%	Emergent	Unknown	NL
Jamaica Swamp Saw Grass	<i>Cladium jamaicense</i>	14%	Emergent	Native	NL
Duck Potato	<i>Sagittaria lancifolia</i>	14%	Emergent	Native	NL
Lemon Bacopa	<i>Bacopa caroliniana</i>	7%	Submersed	Native	NL
Sedge	<i>Carex</i> spp.	7%	Emergent	Unknown	
Asian Pennywort, Coinwort	<i>Centella asiatica</i>	7%	Emergent	Native	NL
Dayflower	<i>Commelina</i> spp.	7%	Emergent	Native	NL
Fragrant Flatsedge	<i>Cyperus odoratus</i>	7%	Emergent	Native	NL
Sedge	<i>Cyperus</i> spp.	7%	Emergent	Unknown	NL
Yerba De Tajo	<i>Eclipta alba</i>	7%	Emergent	Native	NL
Hypericum spp., St. John's Wort	<i>Hypericum</i> spp.	7%	Emergent	Unknown	Unknow
Fourpetal St. John's-Wort	<i>Hypericum tetrapetalum</i>	7%	Emergent	Native	NL
Mexican Primrosewillow, Long-stalked Lud	<i>Ludwigia octovalvis</i>	7%	Emergent	Native	NL
Creeping Primrosewillow, Red Ludwigia	<i>Ludwigia repens</i>	7%	Emergent	Native	NL
Water Primroses, Primrosewillow	<i>Ludwigia</i> spp.	7%	Emergent	Unknown	NL
Stonewort	<i>Nitella</i> spp.	7%	Submersed	Native	NL
American White Water Lily, Fragrant Water	<i>Nymphaea odorata</i>	7%	Floating	Native	NL
Frog-fruit, Carpetweed, Turkey Tangle Fogf	<i>Phyla nodiflorea</i>	7%	Emergent	Native	NL
Marsh Fleabane,Camphorweed	<i>Pluchea</i> spp.	7%	Emergent	Native	NL
Bald Cypress	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	7%	Emergent	Native	NL
Cattails	<i>Typha</i> spp.	7%	Emergent	Native	NL
Unidentified Plant Species	UNKNOWN SPP	7%	Unknown	Unknown	Unknow
Creeping Oxeye	<i>Wedelia trilobata</i>	7%	Emergent	Exotic	II