

LAKE ASSESSMENT REPORT

PEARL LAKE (Unincorporated)

7 /22/2002

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

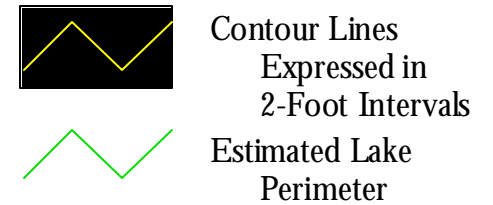
Surface Area (acres):	13
Mean Depth (feet):	7.9
Maximum Depth (feet):	19.0
Volume (gallons):	33,748,061



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).

Pearl Lake

Section - Township - Range
17 & 18-21-30



EXPLANATION:

Assessment Date: July 22, 2002.
Lake water level was 87.45 feet
above sea level when the lake was
assessed. Contours are expressed in
absolute depth below this level and
may not exclude the presence of
submersed aquatic vegetation.

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> PEARL LAKE (Unincorporated)	<u>Watershed</u> Gee Creek
	(Average)	
Number of Taxa:	24	30
Percent Exotic Plants:	25%	20%

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
Hydrilla, waterthyme	Hydrilla verticillata	100%	Submersed	Exotic	I
Peruvian Primrosewillow	Ludwigia peruviana	100%	Emergent	Exotic	NL
Alligator Weed	Alternanthera philoxeroides	86%	Emergent	Exotic	II
Torpedo Grass	Panicum repens	86%	Emergent	Exotic	I
Pickereel Weed	Pontederia cordata	86%	Emergent	Native	NL
Southern Naiad	Najas guadelupensis	71%	Submersed	Native	NL
Spatterdock, Yellow Pondlily	Nuphar lutea	71%	Floating	Native	NL
Climbing Hempvine	Mikania scandens	57%	Emergent	Native	NL
Cattails	Typha spp.	57%	Emergent	Native	NL
Southern Red Maple	Acer rubrum	43%	Emergent	Native	NL
Buttonbush	Cephalanthus occidentalis	43%	Emergent	Native	NL
Wax Myrtle	Myrica cerifera	43%	Emergent	Native	NL
Maidencane	Panicum hemitomon	43%	Emergent	Native	NL
Carolina Willow	Salix caroliniana	43%	Emergent	Native	NL
Chinese Tallow Tree	Sapium sebiferum	43%	Emergent	Exotic	I
East Indian Hygrophila, Indian Swampweed	Hygrophila polysperma	29%	Unknown	Exotic	I
American White Water Lily, Fragrant Water	Nymphaea odorata	29%	Floating	Native	NL
Banana Lily, Big Floatingheart	Nymphoides aquatica	29%	Floating	Native	NL

Bald Cypress	Taxodium distichum	29%	Emergent	Native	NL
Aster spp., Elliot's Aster	Aster spp.	14%	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Jamaica Swamp Saw Grass	Cladium jamaicense	14%	Emergent	Native	NL
Fragrant Flatsedge	Cyperus odoratus	14%	Emergent	Native	NL
Wapato, Common Arrowhead, Duck Potato	Sagittaria latifolia	14%	Emergent	Native	NL
Giant Bulrush	Scirpus californicus	14%	Emergent	Native	NL