

Project 09-154 Community Lakes Enhancement And Restoration

Project Legend:

The CLEAR Program has received two previous three-year grants from NETF for community lake rehabilitation and enhancement projects. Twenty-three projects were completed with those funds and nine additional related projects funded were completed using other funds. There are still communities looking for funding to complete lake improvement projects. The CLEAR program, comprised of individuals representing NGPC, NDEQ, and UNL is seeking funding for two years to complete two additional lake improvement projects in Nebraska communities.

Proposal Context: Ecosystem

Duration: 2009

Cost: \$624,194 total investment. \$450,000 Awarded from NET for Four approved projects in 2009. The remaining amount was raised by the four participating communities

NET Funding Objective: Surface and groundwater

Process:

The CLEAR team requested funding in 2009 for four approved projects which are briefly summarized below.

- Big Springs – Youth Recreation Lake: This project removed 2,500 cubic yards of sediment to create deep water areas for fish survival. A liner was installed to reduce seepage and tree stumps. Wood structures were installed to create fish habitat. The shoreline was graded to control erosion and provide better user access. The shoreline was reinforced with rip rap and re-vegetated.
- Oxford – Community Lake: This project removed 10,867 cubic yards of sediment from the pond and constructed a perimeter berm to protect the lake from over flows of the Republican River. The shoreline was graded to control erosion and enhance angler access, reinforced with rip rap and re-vegetated. Jetties were installed to break wind erosion and provide angler access to deeper water.
- Grand Island – Sucks's Lake: Remedial work was done to stabilize the north shoreline of this pond. Closeness to neighboring property required installation of a block wall to stabilize the shoreline. This activity was deferred from the previous project in the hope that other improvements would be sufficient to reduce erosive pressure. Erosion unfortunately continued, requiring a structural solution.
- Tecumseh – City Pond Park: Remedial work was done to reduce leakage. The dam face was graded and sediment removed from the pond was compacted on the dam to address this problem. Tree root cavities and animal burrows were thought to be the main cause of leakage and were repaired in the early phase of this project. These repairs were not sufficient to reduce leakage and the project was discontinued.

Domains: The removal of sediment and stabilization of shoreline resulted in many environmental benefits. For this reason this project falls under the Environmental domain.

Transferability: Participating communities have reported significant environmental, social, and economic benefits from their projects. Use of the parks increased dramatically after the restoration effort. For these reasons the restoration techniques used by these communities could be transferred to any community facing similar issues.

