



Lake Munson Drawdown

Project Details

Consultant

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Progress

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Cost

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Project Schedule

Lake Munson Drawdown will occur from

October 18, 2010 through June 14, 2011.

Contact Information

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Project Description

Lake Munson was originally a cypress swamp and impounded for mill operations.

*Stabilized water levels and luxurious plant growth, especially water hyacinths, began the muck build-up process.

*Numerous fish kills occurred and active hyacinth spraying dominated work in the 1970's.

*Hydrilla was introduced in the 1980's creating a topped out, weed-choked lake.

*Leon County began the Lake Henrietta resurrection, Munson Slough re-alignment, and Delta removal during a planned complete drawdown in 1999-2000.

*Upon refill, a strong fishery response resulted in high numbers of largemouth bass being produced.

*The return of hydrilla, prompted Florida Department of Environmental Protection to implement noxious aquatic plant treatments.

*The exotic Island apple snail infested the lake and contributed to the massive reduction of submersed aquatic plants.

*Released nutrients allowed for extremely high densities of blue-green algae to flourish.

*Muck depth bathymetry and sediment analysis funded by Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission revealed muck depths up to 8 feet thick.



**Leon County
Public Works Department
Engineering Services Division**
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Proposed Improvements

- *Improved water quality.
- *Improved fish spawning substrate.
- *Lake bottom compaction and oxidation.
- *Stimulate healthy aquatic plant growth.
- *Improved esthetics.
- *Cypress tree roots rejuvenation.
- *Relatively inexpensive.
- *Can be repeated as needed.
- *Muck removal is probably no longer an option until water quality from Munson Slough improves substantially.
- *Muck removal is very costly while the Drawdown process is not as expensive
- *The best environmental improvement to the lake was when Leon County implemented an extreme drawdown during the 2000 delta removal.
- *A trophy bass fishery can develop in Lake Munson with bass over 10 pounds common.