



**Leon County  
Public Works Department  
Engineering Services Division**  
*"People Focused. Performance Driven."*

## Lake Munson Drawdown

### Project Details

Consultant

- N/A

Progress

- 

Cost

- 

### 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.



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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.