

Project Factsheet for: Storm Lake Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration

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Project Location Information

Location: Storm Lake is located in Buena Vista County in Northwestern Iowa.

River Basin(s): Des Moines

State(s): IA

Congressional District(s): IA-5

Status

Approved and funded for Feasibility Study. On hold due to programmatic lack of funds.

Description

The study area is the 17,917-acre Storm Lake watershed including a 3,147-acre natural glacial lake located in the City of Storm Lake, in Buena Vista County (County) in western Iowa. The main focus of this study will be the 190 acre Little Storm Lake located on the northwest corner of Storm Lake. The notable ecosystem once supported within the Storm Lake Watershed has experienced significant degradation over the last 100 years. Sediment and nutrients carried into the lake from its watershed reduced water clarity, lake depth, and the level of dissolved oxygen in the water column. Excessive turbidity and degraded water quality have caused macrophyte beds diversity to be nearly eliminated. Little Storm Lake originally had the ability to remove much of the sediment from incoming waters, and its healthy and diverse native plant population would use and remove much of the nutrients from the water and sediments. Unfortunately the ability to accomplish these tasks has dwindled due to reduced vegetative diversity. The loss of native plant communities, nutrient and sediment loading, and resuspension the major stressors on the Storm Lake ecosystem may be affecting biota in the lake, either directly or indirectly. Rehabilitating the ecosystem will require addressing these main stressors.

Summarized Financial Data

Estimated Federal Cost	\$2,602,000
Estimated Non-Federal Cost	\$1,169,000
Total Estimated Cost	\$3,771,000
Allocations thru FY 2008	\$285,000
Allocations for FY 2009	\$75,000*
Budget Request for FY 2009	TBD
Balance to Complete after FY 2010	\$2,242,000

*This is a Continuing Resolution Authority (CRA) amount, subject to modification by an Appropriations Act.

Major Work Item (This Fiscal Year)

FY 2009: If sufficient funds are provided the feasibility study could be completed.

Major Work Item (Next Fiscal Year)

FY 2010: If the feasibility study is approved the Design and Implementation phase could be initiated.

Authority

CA - Continuing Authorities - Section 206 --

Project Manager Information

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