

# New Jersey Highlands Council Meeting

Thursday, January 19, 2023



# The Development of Site-Specific Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Management Plans

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January 19, 2023

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With offices in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland  
and Connecticut

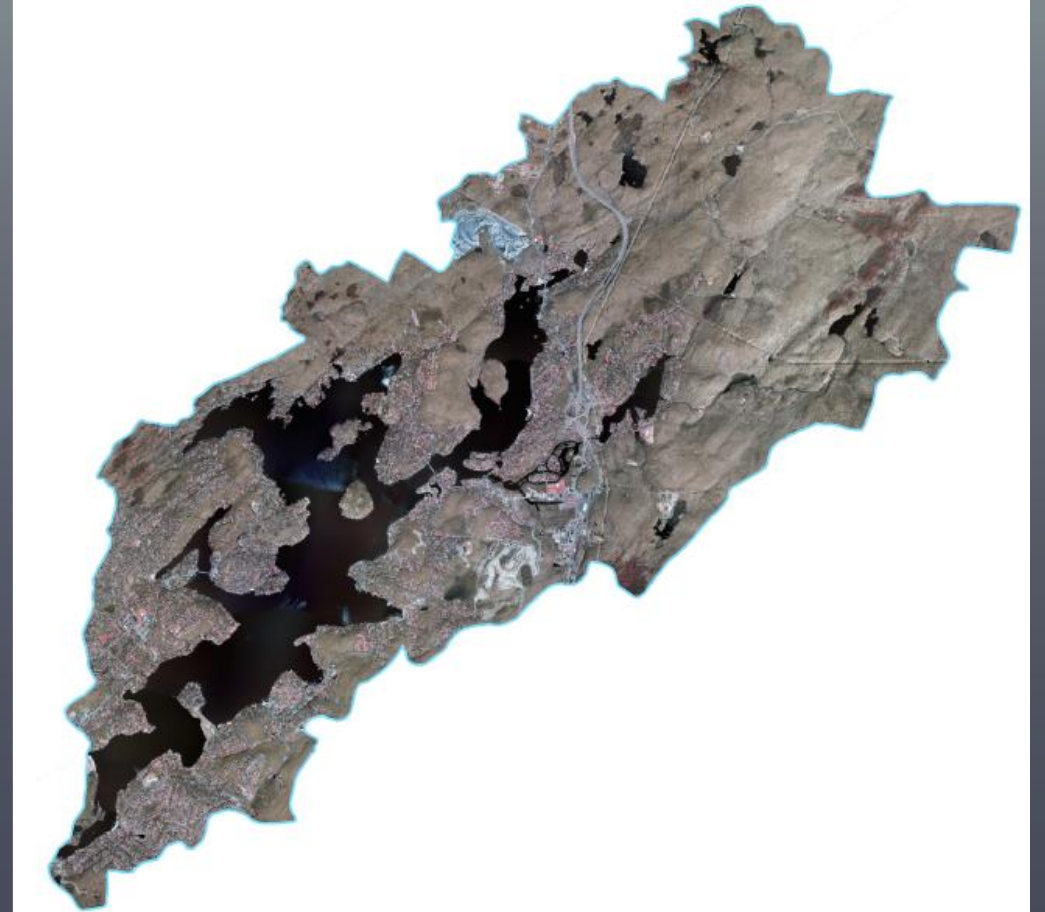
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# Phase I Diagnostic / Feasibility Studies

## Section 314 of the Clean Water Act

- ✓ Collect a variety of site-specific in-lake and watershed-based data.
- ✓ Quantify the annual hydrologic and pollutant loads.
- ✓ Develop a holistic Management Plan that addressed both in-lake and watershed issues.





## Watershed Implementation Plans

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- Focus on the external (watershed) source of pollution.
- Directly linked to the lake's TMDL (total phosphorus)
- US EPA 9-element WIPs.
- For Lake Hopatcong, NJ a Restoration Plan was developed in 2006 and then revised / updated into a full WIP in 2021 (funding provided by the NJ Highlands Council).



# Blooms at Lake Hopatcong, New Jersey (June 2019)

# Four (revised to Five) Point Strategy

- ✓ Complete the revision of the Restoration Plan into a Watershed Implementation Plan for Lake Hopatcong (completed in early 2021, with funding provided by the NJ Highlands Council)
- ✓ **Near-Shore Demonstration Projects**
- ✓ **Beach / Cove Restoration Plans**
- ✓ Scientific Investigation on Lake Hopatcong to address issues of concern and origin of the HABs.
- ✓ Later added – initiate sewerage the section of the watershed in the Township of Jefferson (Morris County)

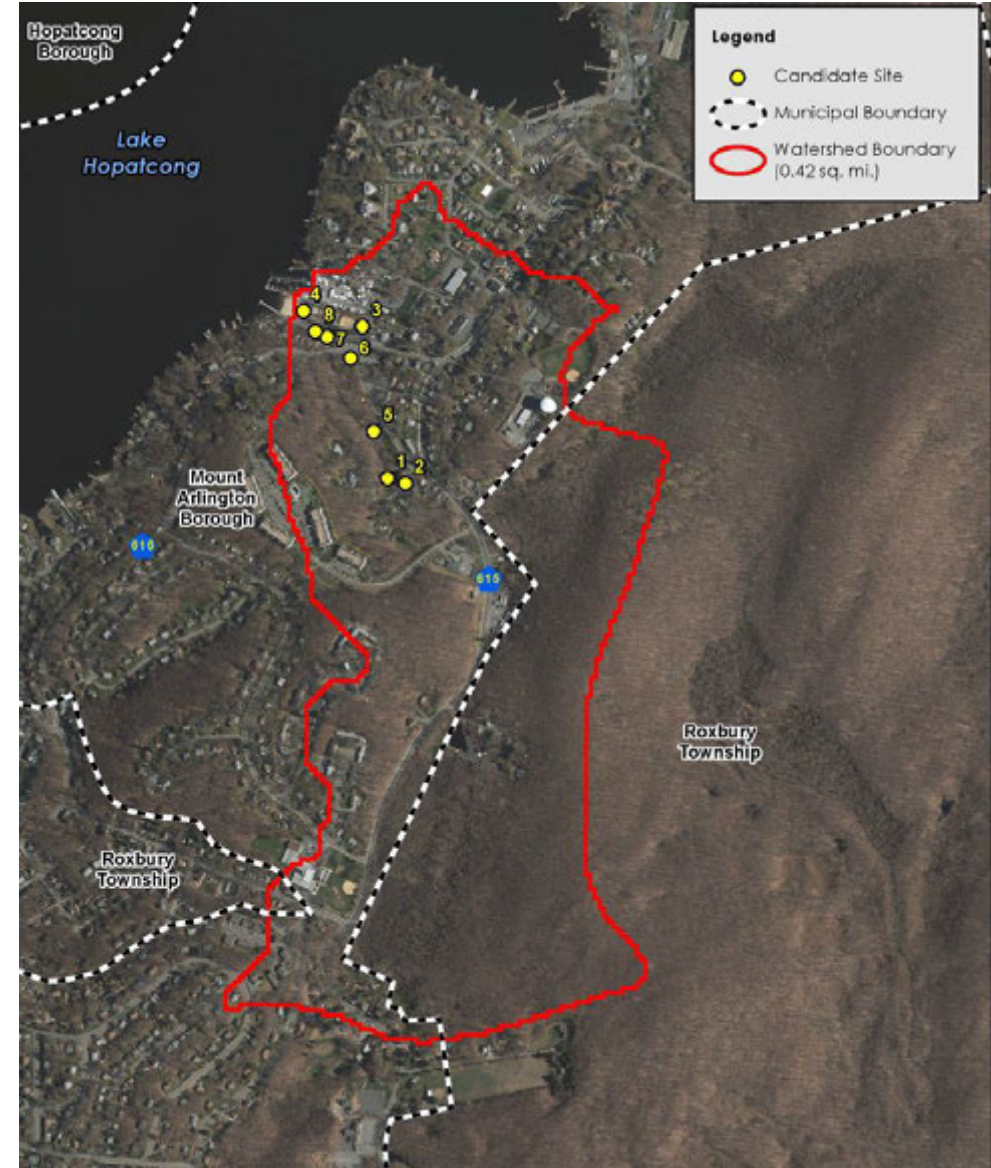
## The Need for Beach / Marina (Near-Shore) Restoration Plans

- ✓ Beach Management Plans (Beach MP) focused more on short-term improvements in water quality during the “high summer season,” defined as the period between Memorial Day and Labor Day Holiday weekends.
- The Beach MP should be flexible , can vary from year to year and will focus more on issues with cyanotoxins / aesthetics.



# Memorial Beach and Park, Mt. Arlington, Morris County, NJ

- Watershed Assessment.
- Bathymetric Assessment of Memorial Pond.
- Hydrologic and Pollutant Assessment for the Beach.
- Identify in-lake, in-pond, streambank and watershed projects for implementation.
- Proposed monitoring phycocyanin.
- Funds provided by the NJ Highlands Council.





# Hydrologic and Pollutant Budgets

- Glen Brook is the main source of water entering the Memorial beach area (left).
- Pollutant budget analysis for the Memorial beach drainage area (right).

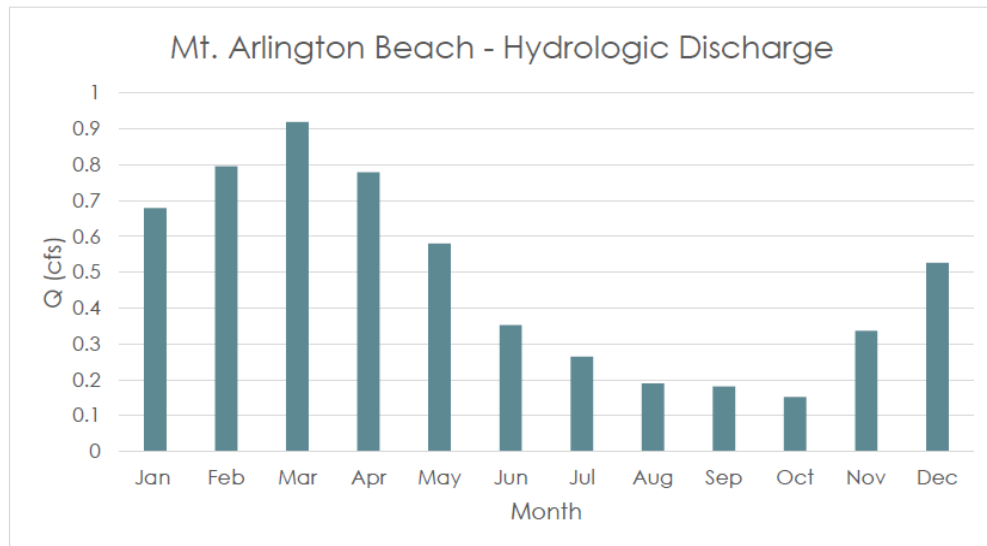


Figure 2.2: Glen Brook discharge.

Table 2.1: Annual nutrient and sediment load (source areas).

Sources	TN (kg)	TP (kg)	TSS (kg)
Deciduous Forest	112.1	9.0	11214.0
Developed, Open Space	100.0	5.0	10002.9
Woody Wetlands	0.0	0.0	0.0
Developed, Low Intensity	49.1	4.8	6459.3
Developed, Medium Intensity	17.0	1.7	2433.4
Developed, High Intensity	4.0	0.4	628.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>282.2</b>	<b>20.9</b>	<b>30737.6</b>

**Table 1.1: Causes and sources of pollution within the Memorial Beach / Park study area.**

Causes and Sources of Pollution	Areas of Concern
Impervious Cover	Memorial Park parking lot / walkways Memorial Beach upper parking lot Memorial Beach lower parking lot Altenbrand Avenue
Steep Slopes	Altenbrand Avenue / Memorial Beach
Erosion	Glen Brook (Upper / Memorial Park) Glen Brook (Lower / Memorial Beach)
Pet Waste and/or Wildlife Management	Memorial Park Memorial Beach
Memorial Pond	Lack of shoreline buffer Steep / bare slopes Sedimentation / infilling of Pond
Glen Brook	Lack of shoreline buffer Eroding streambanks
Stormwater / Catch Basins	Memorial Park (Surrounding Memorial Pond) Memorial Beach upper parking lot Memorial Beach lower parking lot

# Watershed Assessment

- Review of sites in need of stabilization / repair.
- General maintenance and routine clean outs.
- Sites that could benefit from green infrastructure.
- Minimize loss of soil / transport of sediments.

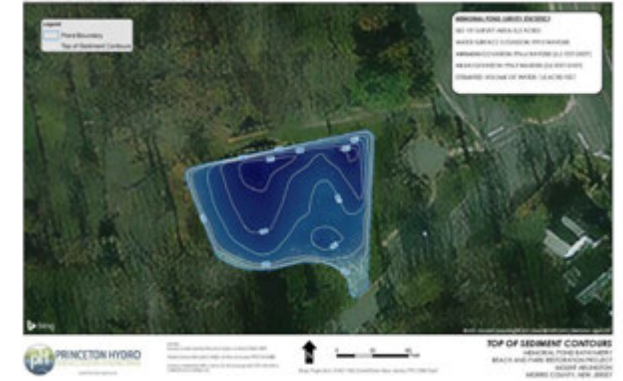


**Table 3.1: Proposed Watershed Projects Summary**

Site and Recommendations	Approximate Drainage Area (Acres)	Total P Removed (kg/yr) / (lbs/yr)	Total Suspended Solids Removed (kg/yr) / (lbs/yr)
<b>Memorial Pond</b> Biochar Floating Wetland Islands	187	2.80 / 6.17	-
<b>Memorial Pond Shoreline</b> Shoreline Buffer Enhancement / Plantings	+ / - 1	1.22 / 2.70	1,000 / 2,205
<b>Memorial Pond Catch Basin</b> Aqua-Guardian and Filter Media	+ / - 1	0.40 / .88	219 / 482
<b>Memorial Beach Upper Lot</b> Filterra Tree Box	+ / - 1	0.40 / 0.88	219 / 482
<b>Memorial Beach Parking Lot</b> MTD	215	3.8 / 8.38	10,500 / 23,148
<b>Glen Brook (Downstream of Memorial Pond)</b> Bank Stabilization Riparian Buffer	201	6.35 / 14.00	15,875 / 35,000
<b>Glen Brook and Altenbrand Avenue</b> Biochar	213	2.07 / 4.56	-
<b>Glen Brook (Upstream of Memorial Beach)</b> Vegetative Filter Strip	+ / - 1	0.10 / 0.22	146 / 322
<b>Totals</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>17.14 / 37.79</b>	<b>27,959 / 61,639</b>

# Memorial Pond – stormwater pond

- Was dredged 2000 / 2001; removed approximately 1,000 cubic yards. Time to dredge again.
- Installed Biochar to remove phosphorus from the pond.
- Plan to conduct a shoreline stabilization project in 2023.
- Will use some NFWF grant funds to conduct an outlet / streambank stabilization project downstream.



**Table 1.2: Bathymetric Survey Statistics**

Parameter	Statistic
Size of Survey Area	0.3 acres
Maximum Water Depth	5.5 feet
Mean Water Depth	3.0 feet
Estimated Volume of Water	1.0 acre-feet
Estimated Volume of Sediment	1,113.0 cubic yards
Mean Sediment Thickness	2.0 feet

# Use of Biochar

- Installed in some stormwater ponds
- After 3 months **TP** removal rates for the ponds were 67% and 81%.
- After 3 months **SRP** removal rates for the ponds were 76% and 97%.
- As the manufacturer stated, the longer the contact time, the higher the removal rate.
- After 7.5 months **TP** removal rates were 50% and **SRP** removal was 0%



# Floating Wetland Islands

- Just planted (to the right).
- About 1 month after plants (to the left)



# Memorial Pond Stabilization Project

- Steep slope exhibiting some erosion.
- Establish a vegetive shoreline buffer with native vegetation.
- Approximately 3,200 square feet of area that will be stabilized.
- The implementation of this work will be covered under an existing 319-grant.
- Scheduled to be conducted in spring 2023







**Table 3.2: In-lake Restoration Prioritization and Summary**

<b>In-Lake Restoration Prioritization Table</b>		
<b>Restoration Measure</b>	<b>Prioritization</b>	<b>Intended Results</b>
Biochar	High priority	Nutrient uptake
Aeration / Destratification	High priority	Maintenance of an oxic environment / reduction in nuisance plankton growth
Floating Wetland Islands	Medium priority	Nutrient uptake
Nutrient Inactivation	Low priority	Phosphorus reduction
Algaecides	As needed	Nuisance algae control
Nuisance Vegetation Control	As needed	Nuisance plant control

# Memorial Beach, Nanobubble



## Mt. Arlington (Nanobubble)

Sampling Date	Control	Aerated
25-May-22	42,905	13,125
22-Jun-22	20,484	18,710
2-Aug-22	88,495	67,820
24-Aug-22	260,641	234,444

# Use of Algicides

- Conducted on an as needed basis.
- However, in New Jersey need to have a licensed applicator file for a permit and conduct the treatment.
- Prefer the use of an oxidizer (GreenClean) over a copper-based algicide.
- Oxidizer can breakdown cyanotoxins as well as kill algae.



# Effectiveness of GreenClean

- Two near-shore GreenClean treatments; one at a beach (right) and one in an isolated cove (left).
- The cove treatment was more effective since it was separated from the main body of the lake.
- Also, used Biochar and PhosLock in the cove after the treatment.



# Conclusions

- ✓ While a WIP has been recently updated for Lake Hopatcong and focuses on reducing TP load and complying with the TMDL, these are long-term goals.
- ✓ The Beach MP for Memorial Beach / Park focuses on short-term measures to minimize / avoid HABs in the Memorial beach area during the high summer season.
- ✓ A combination of in-lake / beach and watershed-based measures are required to address potential HAB events at Memorial Beach.

# QUESTIONS?



## **Princeton Hydro, LLC**

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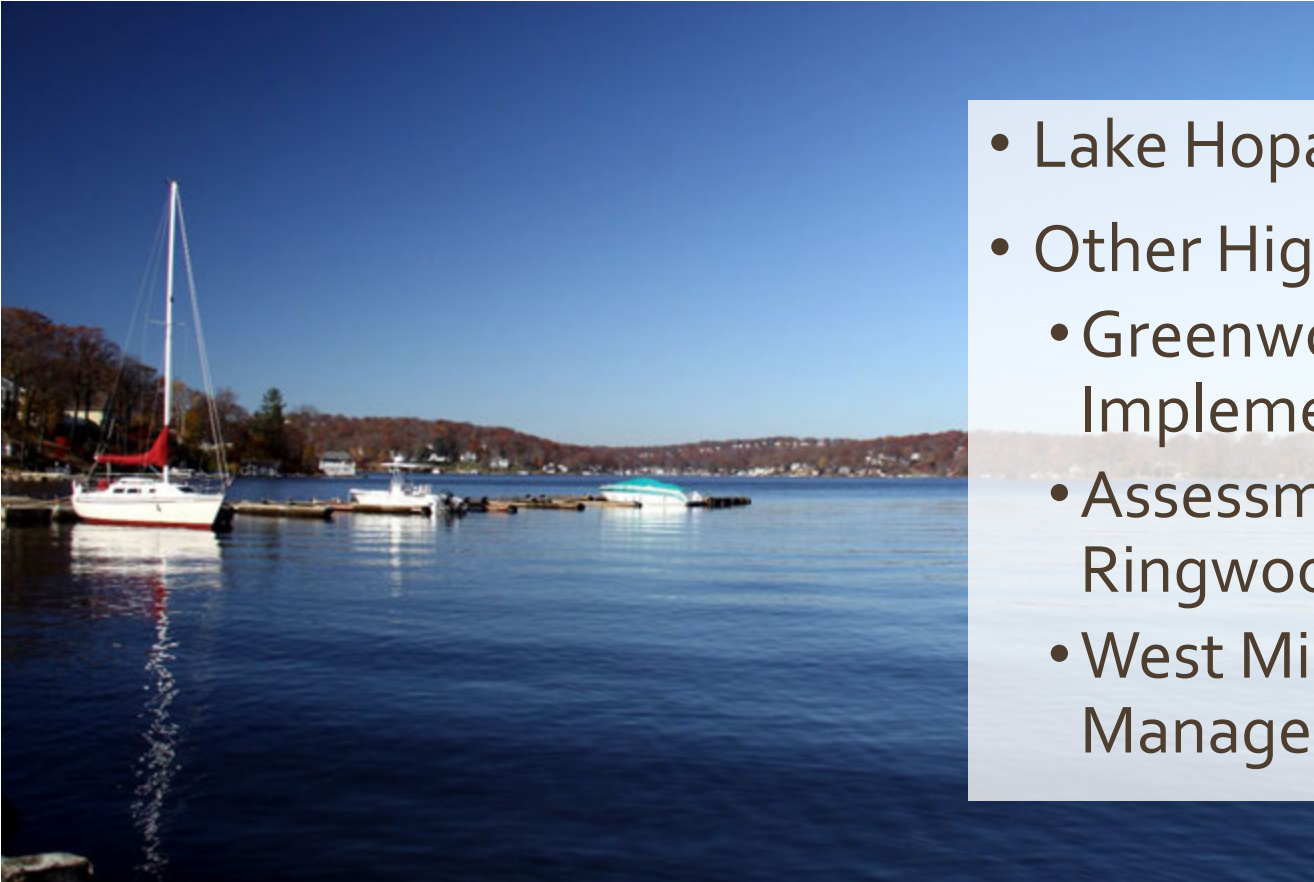
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*THANK  
YOU!*

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# Replicating Water Quality Improvement Success in the Highlands



- Lake Hopatcong project is just one example.
- Other Highlands Council-funded plans:
  - Greenwood Lake Watershed Implementation Plan
  - Assessment of the Lakes and Watersheds of Ringwood Borough (completed)
  - West Milford Township Watershed Management Program (in progress)

**Watersheds don't follow municipal boundaries.**

# Ensuring Watershed Protection in the Highlands Region

- Request for Proposals to develop or update **Watershed Restoration and Protection Plans.**
- May propose evaluation and analysis of multiple watersheds or sub-watersheds.
- Plan will be framed around Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) identified 9 key elements critical for achieving improvements in water quality.
- Final deliverable to include complete plan, with associated maps and data tables
- Completed plans position respondents for implementation funding.

**Multiple contracts  
may be awarded**

**Respondents to  
identify  
watershed(s)  
in need**

**12 months to  
complete**