

WSSC Patuxent Reservoirs Watershed Protection Study

Briefing for WSSC Commissioners
19 November 2012

Watershed Protection Study



- Phase 1 of intended 2-phase effort
 - WSSC owned property (~5,600 acres)
 - Future Phase 2 : Remainder of watershed (~80,000 acres)
- EA Engineering, Science & Technology, Inc.

Watershed Protection Study

■ Methods

- Work Plan
- Existing reports and studies, interviews
- Desktop GIS
- Stakeholder outreach
- Field mapping
(recreation areas, shoreline trails, interior trails, perimeter access road)
- Draft and Final Report



Study Observations

- Shoreline trails
- Interior trails
- Perimeter access roads
- Recreation areas
- Recreational uses and abuses
- Property maintenance
- Programs



Study Recommendations

- Erosion prevention, control and restoration
- Fire protection
- Security and enforcement
- Forest management
- Wildlife and invasive species control
- Public access
- Recreational uses
- Impacts from neighboring land
- New or expanded programs



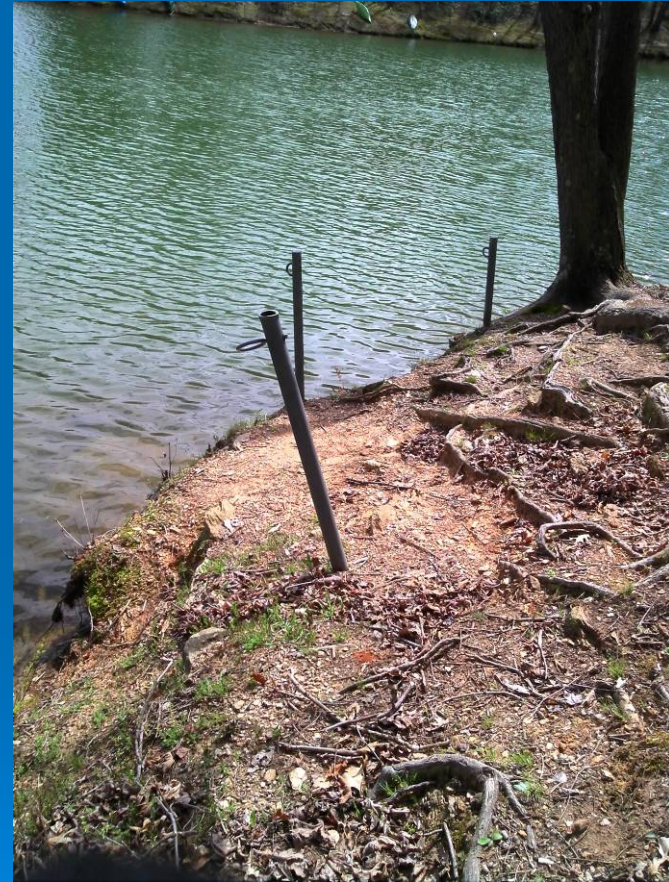
Study Recommendations

- Erosion prevention and restoration
 - Maintain access road, restore eroded sections
 - Repair, improve or replace culverts



Study Recommendations

- Erosion prevention and restoration (continued)
 - Shoreline trail bridges
 - Unauthorized shoreline fishing trails
 - Recreational use of Triadelphia access road
 - Sediment and nutrient study



Study Recommendations

- Fire protection
 - Fire Protection Plan
 - Are perimeter access roads needed?
- Security and enforcement
 - Patrols
 - Citations
 - Publicize penalties



Study Recommendations

- Forest management
 - Re-examine 2007 Forest Conservation Plan
 - Implement specific FCP recommendations:
 - Land disturbance, sediment
 - Mature tree stand density
 - Species and age diversity
 - Sensitive habitat areas



Study Recommendations

- Wildlife and invasive species control
 - Expand managed deer hunts
 - Invasive plant eradication or control program



Study Recommendations

- Public access
 - Improve, standardize or customize signage
 - Mark or post property boundary
 - Re-establish fencing
 - Adequate and appropriate parking



Study Recommendations

- Recreational uses
 - Additional trash receptacles
 - Boat access restrictions
 - Permit limitation, group rides
 - Wet-weather criteria
 - Maps of authorized trails



Study Recommendations

- Recreational uses
(continued)
 - Shoreline buffer setback
 - Trail maintenance and modification guidance
 - Stream crossing guidance
 - Consult Soil Conservation Districts



Study Recommendations

- Impacts from neighboring land
 - Proper Nutrient (Manure) Management
 - Unauthorized access points from private properties
 - Determine if prior authorizations are valid



Study Recommendations

- New or Expanded Programs
 - Develop source water protection program
 - Purchase additional land, easements, or fund BMPs
 - Targeted education and outreach



Study Recommendations

- New or Expanded Programs (continued)
 - Reporting system
 - Fee-based permits for amenities
 - Trash collection, sufficient parking, restrooms, signage, boat ramp and riding trail maintenance and improvements

