

Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission

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ITEM

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DECISION

TOPIC Publicly Owned Lakes Program Watershed Eligibility

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The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the priority list of watersheds above publicly owned lakes and reservoirs where private landowners are eligible to receive cost-share funding of up to 75% of the cost of approved permanent soil and water conservation practices in fiscal year 2010. The eligible publicly owned lakes list is established by the Department in accordance with Iowa Administrative Code 571, Chapter 31, Public Owned Lakes Program.

The DNR is responsible for making an annual recommendation to the Commission utilizing the criteria established in the rule. The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship's (IDALS) Division of Soil Conservation manages the Public Owned Lakes Program, which makes funds available to private landowners in the watersheds above the designated publicly owned lakes. Funds for the program come from appropriations to IDALS. Funding for fiscal year 2010 is \$350,000.

The following eight applications were submitted:

- Big Creek Lake, Polk and Boone Counties
- Diamond Lake, Poweshiek County
- Lake Geode, Des Moines and Henry Counties
- Hawthorn Lake, Mahaska County
- Lake Icaria, Adams County
- West Lake, Clarke County
- Williamson Pond, Lucas County
- Windmill Lake, Taylor County

The applications were evaluated on their identification of locations within the watershed that contribute significant sediment to the lake and their plans for targeted installation of permanent soil conservation practices to reduce that sediment delivery. In accordance with the administrative rules, the Department makes the following recommendations to the Commission for watershed eligibility in fiscal year 2010:

- Big Creek Lake, Polk and Boone Counties
- Lake Geode, Des Moines and Henry Counties
- Hawthorn Lake, Mahaska County
- West Lake, Clarke County
- Williamson Pond, Lucas County
- Windmill Lake, Taylor County

These recommendations have been sent to all Soil and Water Conservation Districts for informational purposes.

Ken Herring, Administrator  
Conservation and Recreation Division  
June 11, 2009