

Lake Conservation Notes

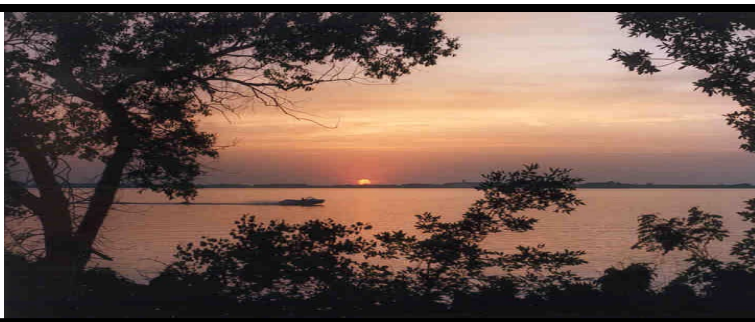
Northeast Glacial Lakes Watershed Project

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Blue Dog Lake Elevations 1934—2021

August 1934	1782.2	November 1956	1786.8	September 1990	1799.7
June 1935	1782.6	September 1956	1786.9	May 1991	1800.3
October 1935	1781.3*	April 1959	1787.1	October 1991	1800.1
May 1936	1782.5	April 1960	1788.2	April 1992	1800.3
November 1936	1781.6	June 1961	1787.4	September 1992	1800.0
May 1937	1786.3	December 1961	1786.7	May 1993	1800.3
October 1937	1784.2	June 1962	1787.9	September 1993	1800.5
June 1938	1785.0	December 1962	1787.3	May 1994	1800.7
October 1938	1784.2	May 1963	1787.5	September 1994	1800.2
May 1939	1784.8	May 1964	1787.3	May 1995	1800.8
November 1939	1783.9	October 1964	1787.4	October 1995	1800.5
May 1940	1785.4	May 1966	1787.8	May 1996	1800.7
October 1940	1784.4	November 1966	1787.3	September 1996	1800.0
June 1941	1784.8	May 1967	1787.8	April 1997	1802.3
November 1941	1784.0	May 1968	1787.7	October 1997	1800.5
May 1942	1784.1	November 1968	1787.3	April 1998	1802.0
November 1942	1785.2	May 1969	1787.3	June 1998	1803.0
June 1943	1784.9	September 1969	1786.6	September 1998	1802.5
November 1943	1784.8	May 1970	1788.0	April 1999	1803.6
July 1944	1784.8	December 1970	1787.1	September 1999	1803.3
November 1944	1784.4	November 1976	1785.3	May 2000	1802.8
May 1945	1784.9	May 1980	1800.1	November 2000	1801.3
October 1945	1783.7	November 1980	1799.5	June 2001	1803.0
May 1946	1785.9	April 1981	1800.2	October 2001	1801.5
September 1946	1784.7	May 1983	1800.2	May 2002	1801.6
May 1947	1785.1	October 1983	1799.7	October 2002	1800.3
May 1948	1784.9	June 1984	1800.3	April 2003	1800.4
May 1949	1784.8	August 1984	1800.2	September 2003	1799.9
November 1949	1786.4	May 1985	1800.3	May 2004	1799.9
May 1950	1787.5	October 1985	1800.3	September 2004	1799.9
January 1951	1787.0	May 1986	1800.7	May 2005	1800.0
May 1951	1787.5	September 1986	1800.8	September 2005	1799.8
February 1952	1787.2	April 1987	1800.6	April 2006	1800.2
October 1952	1786.6	October 1987	1800.0	September 2006	1799.8
November 1953	1786.4	April 1988	1800.2	May 2007	1801.3
April 1954	1788.5	September 1988	1799.2	October 2007	1800.3
September 1954	1786.6	April 1989	1800.2	May 2008	1801.0
May 1955	1787.3	October 1989	1799.8	October 2008	1800.6
May 1956	1787.4	May 1990	1800.0	April 2009	1802.4

September 2009	1801.4	May 2014	1802.9	October 2018	1800.9
May 2010	1804.4	October 2014	1802.5	July 2019	1805.03
September 2010	1802.8	April 2015	1802.4	October 2019	1805.2
June 2011	1805.8**	October 2015	1801.8	September 2020	1804.92
October 2011	1804.6	April 2016	1802.0	May 2021	1804.51
May 2012	1804.5	September 2016	1801.1	September 2021	1803.68
September 2012	1802.8	April 2017	1801.52		
May 2013	1803.0	October 2017	1800.61		
October 2013	1802.5	May 2018	1801.58		

Prior to 1981, Blue Dog Lake had a variable elevation control structure that was built in 1944. This structure allowed the lake elevation to vary between 1799.6 to 1800.35 feet above mean seal level (msl). This structure was replaced with a fixed elevation outlet structure in 1981. The current outlet elevation is set at 1799.93. Blue Dog Lake's Ordinary High Water Mark is 1800.7. The OHWM is determined by shoreline characteristics such as slope, soil, and shoreline vegetation. Over the past fifty years and prior to the construction of the fixed elevation outlet, the lake had undergone several increases in outlet elevation in an attempt to increase the lakes depth. However, by increasing lake elevation increased sedimentation occurred as the new shoreline became established through erosion. This short term solution to increase lake depth actually had detrimental effects over the long term as the lake lost depth to sedimentation. The lake reached a record level of 1805.8 on 3 June 2011.

* Lowest recorded elevation: Oct 1935 - 1781.3

**Highest recorded elevation: June 3, 2011 - 1805.8

Outlet Elevation: 1799.93

Lake elevations are taken every spring and fall by the Water Rights Division of the SD Dept. of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

