

2010 Iowa Lakes Monitoring

Principal Investigator: John Downing

Student Investigator: n/a

Collaborators: Lisa Fascher, Iowa Department of Natural Resources
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Duration: June 2010 to February 2011

Funding Source(s): Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Goals and Objectives:

- To provide the Iowa Department of Natural Resources with lake monitoring data, including water chemistry, biological, and limnological analysis of Iowa's lakes.
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Progress:

ISU has completed all work associated with this contract. Monitoring data were submitted to and approved by Iowa DNR. Data were uploaded to the Iowa Lakes Information System website (<http://limnology.eeob.iastate.edu/lakereport/>) and are freely accessible to the general public. Formatted data were also submitted to Iowa DNR for upload to the Iowa STORET water quality database.

Conclusions and Recommendations:

Iowa DNR will use water quality data collected and analyzed during this project to fulfill Clean Water Act requirements. Water quality data from 2010 (this project) were added to a database containing water quality data collected in Iowa lakes since 2000. Iowa DNR uses this comprehensive monitoring dataset to identify lakes for restoration and document water quality improvements resulting from past restoration activities. 2010 water quality data showed that Iowa lakes continue to be highly productive systems with phytoplankton communities dominated by Cyanobacteria because of high nutrient loading from watersheds. ISU and Iowa DNR have signed a contract to continue monitoring water quality in Iowa lakes through 2013.