

Big Bowman Lake Questions and Answers, 2014 CSLAP

Q1. What is the condition of our lake this year?

A1. Lake conditions in 2014 were close to normal for Big Bowman Lake- the lake showed intermediate levels of water clarity, and algae, with no open water algae blooms and shoreline blooms comprised of green algae. Despite surface weed growth (probably due to bladderwort), recreational and water quality assessments are favorable

Q2. Is there anything new that showed up in the testing this year?

A2. The HABs testing includes information about the types of algae found in the water samples. These results showed open water (away from the shoreline) samples are comprised primarily of green algae and diatoms. No shoreline blue green algae blooms have been reported.

Q3. How does the condition of our lake this year compare with other lakes in the area?

A3. Big Bowman Lake had similar water quality- comparable water clarity and nutrient and algae levels - than many other nearby lakes.

Q4. Are there any trends in our lake's condition?

A4. No clear long term trends have been detected- nor would be detectable with only two years of data.

Q5. Should we be concerned about the condition of our lake? Are we close to a tipping point?

A5. The lake may be susceptible to blue green algae blooms and invasive plants, although they have not been detected at the lake. Lake residents should be vigilant about reporting observations of either.

Q6. Are any actions indicated, based on the trends and this year's results?

A6. Individual stewardship activities such as pumping your septic system, growing a buffer of native plants next to the water bodies, and reducing erosion from shoreline properties will help to maintain lake conditions and reduce nutrient loading to the lake. Lake residents should continue to keep outside boats from entering the lake to reduce the risk of new invasive species, since nearby lakes harbor several invasive plants not found in the lake.

Lake Use				
	PWL	Average Year	2014	Primary issue
Potable Water				Not applicable
Swimming				Invasive plants
Boating / Fishing				Invasive plants
Aquatic Life				No impacts
Aesthetics				No impacts
Fish Consumption				Not applicable

 Supported
 Threatened
 Stressed
 Impaired
 Not Known