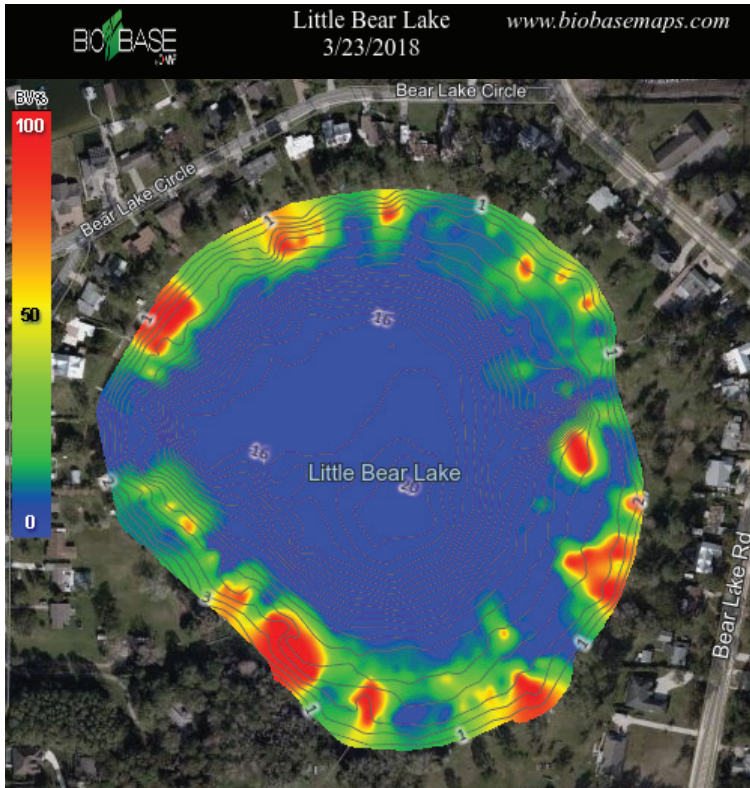
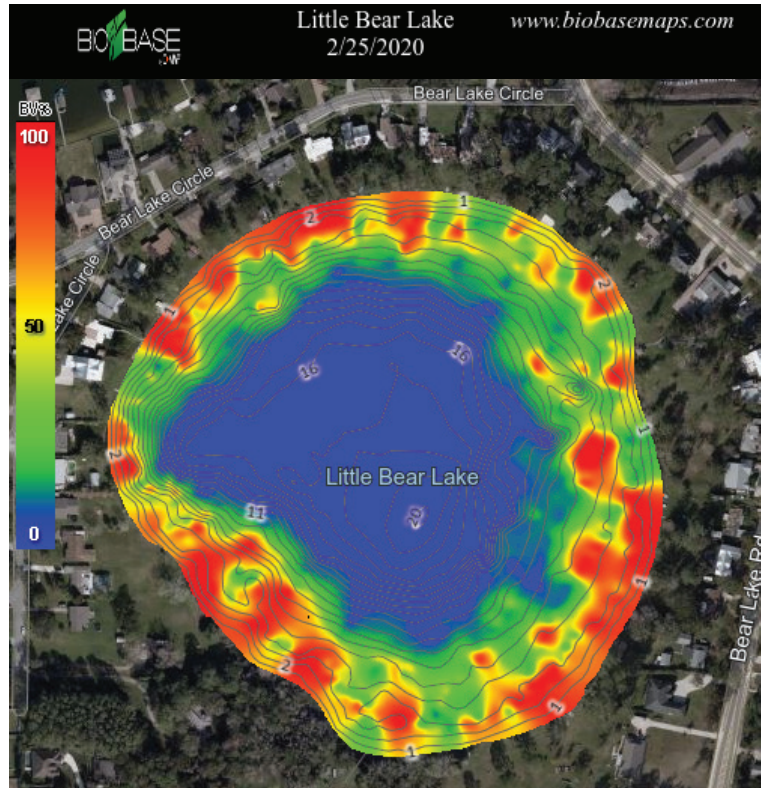


The Newsletter of the Bear Lake Preservation Association, Inc. • December 2020

## Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Mapping of Little Bear Lake



**2018 = 12 acres 31% biovolume**

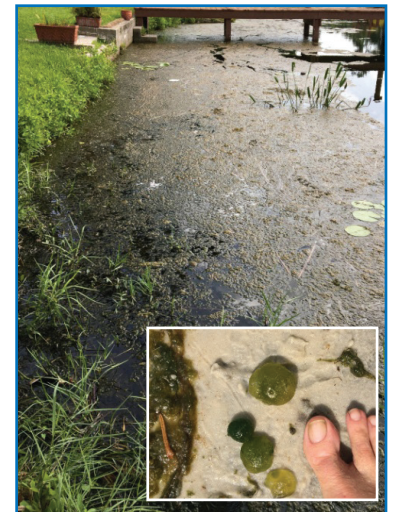


**2020 = 18 acres 46% biovolume**

There was an increase from 12 surface acres mapped on 3/23/2018 to 18 surface acres mapped this year on 2/25/2020 of Submersed Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) in Little Bear Lake. Also, the biovolume (amount of plants taking up space in the lake) increased from 31% to 46% respectively. 42 carp were introduced into Little Bear Lake in June of 2018. As you can see from the growth in the Biobase maps shown from 2018 to 2020, the 42 carp were not effective and a possible high mortality rate occurred as the size of the carp were small. In 2020, Little Bear Lake was permitted for an additional 84 triploid grass carp and this time larger fish were delivered. Thanks to John Brownlow for arranging for these nice carp, the support of the Little Bear Lake residents and the BLPA for the purchase.



Carp being released into Little Bear Lake.



Above: Algae named Cyanobacteria.

### LAKE ALERT

For up to date info on Damages to Bear Lake from Flushes of Muddy Water See [www.blpa.net](http://www.blpa.net) LAKE ALERT and page 3 in this newsletter.



## Real Estate Update

Provided by Susan Burton, Realtor®

The market is hot and selling fast. The following is the current information regarding the Bear Lakes

### Active Listings

1308 Lake Asher Cir. ....	\$325,000
9608 Bear Lake Rd. ....	\$550,000
3442 Holliday Av. ....	\$700,000
6135 Linnal Beach Dr. ....	\$1,300,000
3410 Holliday Av. ....	\$1,380,000

### Pending Sales

3542 Holliday Av. ....	540,000
3039 Cecelia Dr. ....	\$1,100,000

### Sold Listings

3124 Holliday Ave. ....	\$1,300,000
10026 Bear Lake Rd. ....	\$989,000
9730 Bear Lake Rd. ....	\$840,000
6131 Linnal Beach Dr. ....	\$715,000
10032 Bear Lake Rd. ....	\$585,000
1425 Balmy Beach. ....	\$520,000
1960 Bear View Dr. ....	\$224,500
5132 Cub Lake Dr. ....	\$270,000
2831 Azalea Rd. ....	\$272,000
1249 Poinsettia Av. ....	\$285,000
3609 Lina Lane. ....	\$285,000
1925 Bear View Dr. ....	\$305,000
1185 Floral Way. ....	\$330,000
5604 Bear Lake Cir. ....	\$449,000
6161 Linnal Beach. ....	\$505,000
6259 Linnal Beach. ....	\$641,000
6091 Linnal Beach. ....	\$1,750,000



January 21, 2020, small bear seen roaming along Holliday Avenue and into back yards. The bear spent two nights sleeping at the base of Nancy & Jim Dunn's dock. It nibbled on some berries and bromeliad plant roots.

**Stormwater from the watershed carries damaging fertilizers from lawns into the Bear Lakes feeding algae which causes poor clarity and greener lakes.**

**There is no prize for a fertilized green lawn in the Bear Lakes Watershed.**

## BEAR LAKE

Preservation Association

(Bear, Little Bear, Cub, and Lake Asher)  
Post Office Box 162605, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714

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# Oranole Way and SR 441 Construction Project

**A** natural "Significant Channel" of stormwater flows through this formerly wooded 7 acre property. The construction site for Outdoor Living previously served as a natural filtering system with two significant wetlands. It carries stormwater from the west side of SR 441 through a channel system and out into Bear Lake through the Bear Lake canal, as shown in the Bear Chain

of Lakes Hydrologic/Nutrient Budget and Water Quality Management Plan. Cub Lake started receiving the dirty water in July and now has 5' water clarity from the muddy water flowing in from Bear Lake which continues on to the Little Wekiva River.

**Construction in the Bear Lakes Watershed during the rainy season rarely turns out good for the Bear Lakes.**

The BLPA contacted SJRWMD and EPD in early May to discuss this property and its environmental role to the Bear Lakes. After months of muddy water flushing into Bear Lake, Outdoor Living retained environmental consultants to ensure proper erosion control.

Please go the BLPA Website for additional information and photos under LAKE ALERT.



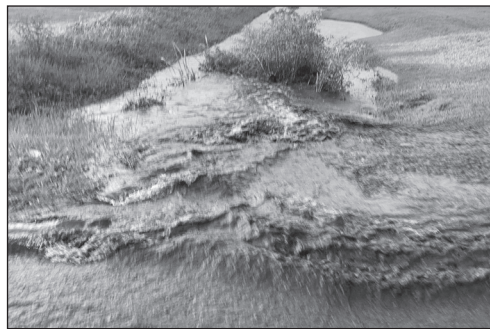
**www.blpa.net**  
**WEBSITE for additional**  
**Information on this LAKE ALERT**



## Environmental Disaster to Bear Lake and Waterways Downstream *Oranole Way and SR 441 - Outdoor Living Construction Project*



*Photo shows wetland area at NE corner of the property and Oranole Way. Note the location of the silt fence (underwater) as stormwater rushing through the property, including water from a pond, releases the muddy water flowing over the hay bales, silt fence and over the pavement of Oranole Way*



*Photo, taken at same time, shows mud flushing a foot high across the street from construction site into this channel along power lines to Bear Lake. Photo taken by Rob Wolford in his pickup truck on Oranole Roadway at the site of this flood. Neighborhood streets received this "flash flood" as they turned into rivers of mud which emptied into the canal, stormdrains and into Bear Lake.*



*Photo shows mud gushing into the Bear Lake Canal  
From the August 10, 2020 rains washed out of the Construction site directly into the channel to the canal*

**O**ne of the most damaging "blow-outs" of stormwater mud followed a 3-1/2" rain on August 9, 2020, and a 2-1/2" downpour the following early evening of August 10, 2020. Loads of muddy water gushed out of the Outdoor

Living construction property and flushed a foot high across Oranole Way into the channel to Bear Lake. **This was just one of eight significant floods caused by heavy rains and insufficient erosion control** from early June to the end of September

Neighborhood streets received this "flash flood" as they turned into rivers of mud which emptied into the stormdrains and into Bear Lake.

# Another Washout of the Playa Way Drainage Ditch to Bear Lake

**H**istorically sediments continue to fill up the Playa Way drainage ditch system about every three to five years. A plume of sand continues to build out into Bear Lake at Linneal Beach Dr. and Playa Way.

Seminole County re-worked the ditch, placing concrete blocks as berms to slow the flow, filtering and settling the sediments.

As the ditches become shallow with sediment buildup, the rains overflow the ditch line and spill out across near by property.

Over the past several years, it continues flush over and fills in the Bear Lake Heights HOA boat ramp. Heavy loads of stormwater flush out of the shallow ditch line and down the ramp area.

The last wash out of dirt into Bear Lake happened over a period of time since Hurricane Irma. Earlier this year the ditch was re-worked by Seminole County Stormwater crews to stabilize the sides and slow

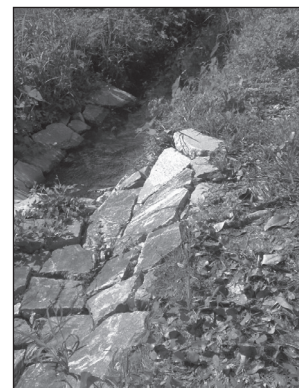
the flows before reaching the lake, as seen in the 2020 photo.

This inflow to Bear Lake needs to be readdressed by the BLPA and Seminole County Watershed Management Division, as the original plans to install an underground retention and nutrient separating system is not possible due to property needed on power line easement was not approved for use.

*Slowing down stormwater flow is the key to treatment by settling and filtering pollutants and sediments along the way, prior to entering a lake.*



*Wash out of Playa Way Drainage Ditch November 2019*



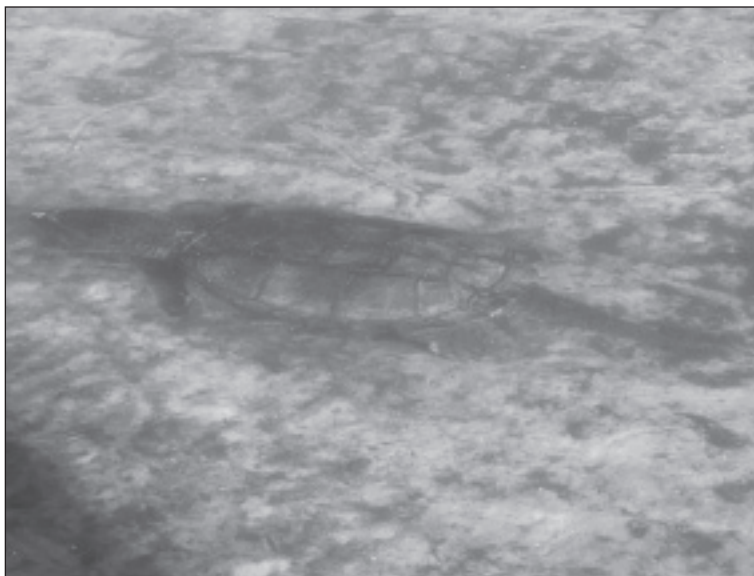
*Construction of rock berms along Playa Way drainage ditch slows the rushing stormwater during and after rains. This allows for settling of sediments and filtering out damaging nutrients before the stormwater reaches the lake. Photo taken June 2020*

## Alton Drive Progress Report

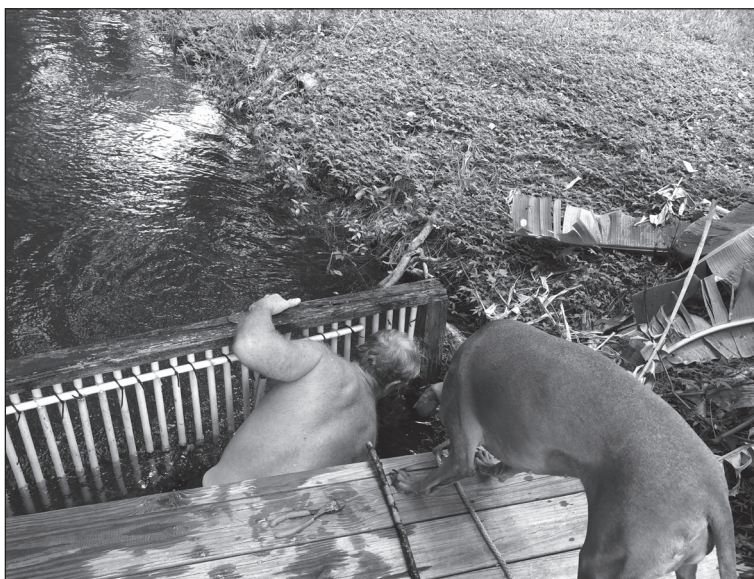
Kim Ornberg, PE, Manager, Watershed Management Division, Seminole County Public Works



**T**he Alton Drive Pond Retrofit Project – the purpose of this project is/was to improve the efficiency of the existing Alton Drive Pond by converting it into a wet pond (which means it has several feet of water all year round), and installing an innovative bioretention underdrain filtration system that uses aquatic plants and bio-absorptive material (BAM) to provide additional water quality treatment to the original 44 acre drainage basin. The project also reroutes an additional 14 acre basin into the pond that had been discharging directly into Lake Asher, so the pond now treats over 72% of the entire Lake Asher watershed. The BAM used for this project is called Bold & Gold and was developed and patented by the UCF Stormwater Academy. This project improves the quality of both the surface and groundwater in the Bear Lake Chain of Lakes and the Wekiva Springs Basin. It is estimated that the pond now removes nearly 23 pounds of Phosphorus and over 110 pounds of Nitrogen each year. Funding for this project was provided by state grants and the 2014 Penny (Infrastructure) Sales Tax.



Huge Snapping Turtle Spotted In Big Bear Lake Photos taken from the dock at Bunnell Rd. & Bear Lake Rd. Dave & Valerie Hotvedt estimated it to be over 2-1/2 feet from nose to tail. Seen in April 2020



Repair of Cub Lake carp grate



Dirty water flowing in through Cub Lake from Bear Lake (Alert)

## LAKEWATCH and Rainfall Data for the Bear Lakes

LAKE ASHER	CLARITY	ELEVATION	RAINFALL
October 2019	2'	106	7.5
November 2019	2.5'	106.2	1.65
December 2019	3.5'	106	6.1
January 2020	3'	105.9	.8
February 2020	3'	106	3.5
March 2020	3'	105.9	4.9
April 2020	3'	105.9	3.4
May 2020	2.5'	105.9	2.25
June 2020	2'	106	9.2
July 2020	2'	105.8	9.7
August 2020	3.5'	106.2	16
September 2020	3'	106.1	10.7
October 2020	3'	106	12
BEAR LAKE	CLARITY	ELEVATION	RAINFALL
October 2019	7'	103.78	7.5
November 2019	7.5'	103.42	1.65
December 2019	8'	103.72	6.1
January 2020	8'	103.45	.8
February 2020	8.5'	103.7	3.5
March 2020	9'	103.45	4.9
April 2020	9'	103.19	3.4
May 2020	9'	102.94	2.25
June 2020	8'	103.6	9.2
July 2020	8'	103.8	9.7
August 2020	6'	104	16
September 2020	5'	104	10.7
October 2020	5'	103.86	12
LITTLE BEAR	CLARITY	ELEVATION	RAINFALL
October 2019	12'	103.93	7.5
November 2019	10'	103.9	1.65
December 2019	N/A	N/A	6.1
January 2020	11'	103.84	.8
February 2020	10'	103.84	3.5
March 2020	13'	103.7	4.9
April 2020	NA	NA	3.4
May 2020	11'	103.4	2.25
June 2020	10'	104.1	9.2
July 2020	11'	103.83	9.7
August 2020	10'	104.14	16
September 2020	7'	104.53	10.7
October 2020	8'	103.91	12
CUB LAKE	CLARITY	ELEVATION	RAINFALL
October 2019	7'	100.5	7.5
November 2019	7'	100.4	1.65
December 2019	8'	100.4	6.1
January 2020	10'	100.0	.8
February 2020	11'	100.2	3.5
March 2020	8'	99.9	4.9
April 2020	8'	99.7	3.4
May 2020	7'	99.7	2.25
June 2020	8'	100.0	9.2
July 2020	7'	100.6	9.7
August 2020	6'	101.1	16
September 2020	5'	101.5	10.7
October 2020	5'	101.1	12



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Sunday School: 10:30 am

# Gene Lindsey



**W**e recently lost one of our valued neighbors, Gene Lindsey. Through the years Gene always stepped up when BLPA needed him. Below are three major battles he had organized and led. Each time our neighbors were doubtful and thought we could not do it, but with Gene's determination, encouragement and the time and effort he put into each battle, the community was able to achieve its objectives. He will always be remembered for his service and will be greatly missed.

1) In early 1996, when Gene heard about the plan of the Center for Drug Free Living to use the former Citrus Central property on the corner of Oranole and South Orange Blossom Trail, he mobilized the neighbors to fight the perceived threat to the residents' lives and properties. He organized a group of residents of two counties and worked with Atty. Frank McMillan to form the Bear Lake Area Coalition, Inc. (BLAC). It became a 3-member, non-profit corporation with no voting members and no election of officers. He named Carl Fielder, Mark Leavitt and himself as Board of Direc-

tors, appointing Carl Fielder as titular president and Mark Leavitt as vice-president. In August 1996, the Center for Drug Free Living decided not to proceed with the purchase, lease or other use of the subject property.

2) In November 2009, Gene obtained signatures/permission from all 173 lake-front property owners to get a state permit to acquire 3,000 Triploid carp fish and have them legally released into Bear Lake to eat the hydrilla and eel grass weeds that were destroying the lake and to control future growth of the unwanted weeds. In December 2009, he was granted a permit to import, possess and release up to 3000 triploid grass carp into Bear Lake. In March 2017, he was able to get approval of restocking another 600 triploid grass carp.

3) In March 2016, when Gene heard about a developer's plan to build a 300-occupant apartment complex next to our neighborhood of low-density properties, he arranged a meeting of homeowners directly affected by the apartment, specifically those behind the proposed complex. He provided the residents with documents that were used by BLAC in stopping the "Bear Lake Jail" and gave them some advice on what to do to stop the apartment. He also suggested that the organization be named BLAC II. Because of his health problems, he decided not to get involved directly, although he became a Director Emeritus and got so involved after all. BLAC II succeeded in stopping the apartments.



(Bear, Little Bear, Cub, and Lake Asher)

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Please make your check payable to "BLPA":

\$85.00.....Requested Donation-BLPA Contributor      \$50.00.....Requested Donation - BLPA Senior (62+)

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*So sorry but no formal  
BLPA boat parade planned this year.*



Asher, Bear, Little Bear, Cub Lakes  
PO Box 162605  
Altamonte Springs, FL 32716



*Sunrise on Little Bear Lake*



*My Pot of Gold*



*Bear Lake Canal neighbors gathered in April to Social Distance and....to get fresh air and have conversations.*



**LAKE ALERT**  
For up to date Info on Damages  
to Bear Lake from Flushes of Muddy Water  
See [www.blpa.net](http://www.blpa.net)

Cleaning out your shore line can be therapeutic...  
go to [www.BLPA.net](http://www.BLPA.net) to read the whole article.  
*Removal methods of algae.*

