



# Summary of Activities

Date: September 2, 2015

To: Ian Kitch  
Conservation & Water Stewardship

From: Holly Urban & Brock Koutecky  
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Subject: Little McBride Lake

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**Location:** Little McBride, Duck Mountain Provincial Park, 14U 329842 5820497

**Summary of Activities:** Little McBride Lake is a very small (3.4ha) waterbody in the Duck Mountains and has been a stocked trout water since the 1950's. The lake has been managed as a brook trout fishery, with interspersed stocking of brown trout throughout the decades. The most recent stocking of Little McBride occurred with in 2009 with brook trout. At some point immediately following this stocking, that lake level unexpectedly rose at a very significant rate, flooding the mixed-wood vegetation surrounding the lake. As a result of this increased lake level, high rates of decomposition then suffocated the lake to where oxygen levels could no longer support a fish community, and therefore stocking was discontinued.

In the summer of 2015 SVSFE technicians were in the area assessing East and West Watjask Lakes to determine potential for stocking game fish species. Since Little McBride is essentially "on the way" to the Watjasks, Ian Kitch asked us to "pop in" and determine if the lake level had retreated. Unfortunately upon arrival it appeared that the lake level had not retreated, and therefore the current situation remains the same (figure). It is recommended to continue monitoring the lake levels on an annual basis until the lake retreats to it's "regular level". Re-introductions should be considered facing positive winter dissolved oxygen testing and lowering of lake levels.



**Figure: Little McBride Lake**