Reno Lake

Pope County

Summary

Reno Lake is a shallow eutrophic lake, and is on the MPCA Impaired Waters List. Algae concentration results (chlorophyll a) show that the lake experiences algae blooms every summer. Reno Lake shows no evidence of a trend in transparency or algae concentration (chlorophyll-a), but there is evidence of an improving trend in phosphorus monitored over the past 20 years. Phosphorus is the main nutrient feeding plants and algae in the lake. Monitoring should continue so that this phosphorus trend can be tracked in future years, and to see if the algae and transparency improve as a result of lower phosphorus concentrations.

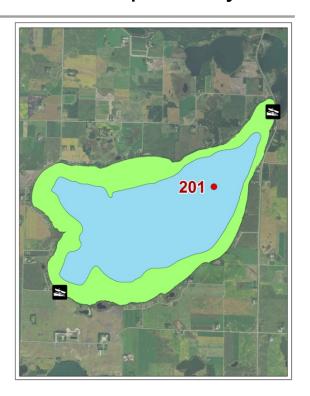
Lake Vitals

MN Lake ID: 61-0078-00

Ecoregion: North Central Hardwood Forest

Major Watershed: Chippewa River

Surface area (acres): 3793.7
Littoral area (acres): 1562.3
% Littoral area: 41.2%
Max depth: 23(ft) 7.0(m)
Aquatic Invasive Species: Zebra Mussels



Water Quality Characteristics

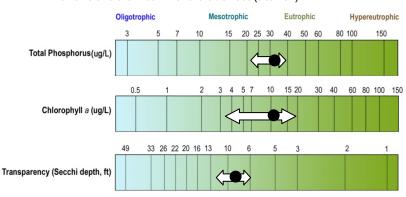
Years monitored: 1996 - 2016

Parameters Total Phosphorus Mean (ug/L): Total Phosphorus Min (ug/L): Total Phosphorus Max (ug/L): Number of Observations:	Historical 44.4 17 327 107	2016 33.6 22 39 5
Chlorophyll-a Mean (ug/L): Chlorophyll-a Min (ug/L): Chlorophyll-a Max (ug/L): Number of Observations:	13.2 0.5 187 95	10.5 3.6 17.8 5
Secchi Depth Mean (ft): Secchi Depth Min (ft): Secchi Depth Max (ft): Number of Observations:	7.8 3 22.5 224	8.6 6.6 11.5 5

Trophic State Index

Trophic State: Eutrophic (54)

The figure below shows the minimum and maximum values with the arrows and the mean with the black dot (site 201).



Ecoregion Comparisons

(Primary site only. Comparisons are based on interquartile range, 25th - 75th percentile, for ecoregion reference lakes)

Ecoregion: North Central Hardwood Forest

Total Phosphorus: Within Expected Range Chlorophyll-a: Within Expected Range Secchi Depth: Within Expected Range



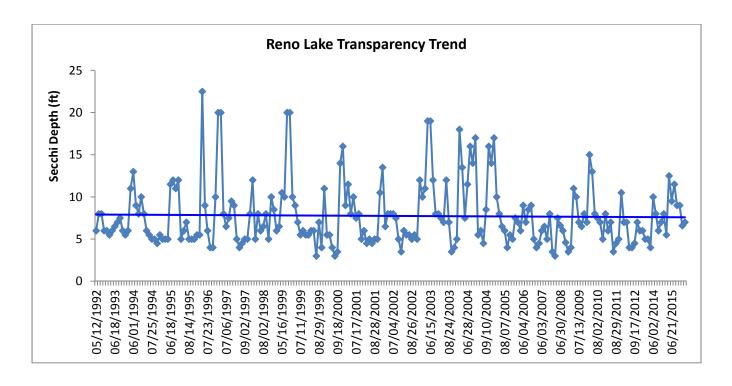
Trend Analysis Report

In assessing water quality, agencies and other lake data users want to know if the amount of algae has been changing over time. Scientists test hypotheses using statistics, and the hypothesis used in a trend analysis is that no trend exists. In other words, we begin with the assumption that there is no trend. We collect data and use statistics to determine the probability of collecting our data if this hypothesis of no trend is indeed true. The output from a statistical test is called the probability value (or p-value for short) of collecting data given the hypothesis of no trend is true. The smaller this probability value, the more likely the null hypothesis of no trend can be rejected. The MPCA has set the acceptable p-value to be less than 10%. In other words, if p < 0.10 we reject the hypothesis of no trend and accept that a trend likely exists. Another way to think of this is to say that there is in reality an existing trend, there is a 90% chance we would have collected the data we collected and that a 10% chance that the trend is a random result of the data. For detecting trends, a minimum of 8-10 years of data with four or more readings per season are recommended by the MPCA. Where data does not cover at least eight years or where there are only few samples within a year, trends can be misidentified because there can be different wet years and dry years, water levels, weather, and etc., that affect the water quality naturally.

Reno Lake had enough data to perform a trend analysis for all three parameters (Table 1). The data was analyzed using the Mann Kendall Trend Analysis.

Table 1. Trend analysis for Reno Lake.

Lake Site	Parameter	Date Range	Trend
201	Transparency	1992-2016	No Trend
201	Total Phosphorus	1996-2016	Improving (95%)
201	Chlorophyll-a	1996-2002, 2004-2011, 2013-2016	No Trend



Reno Lake shows no evidence of a trend in transparency or algae concentration (chlorophyll-a), but there is evidence of an improving trend in phosphorus monitored over the past 20 years. Phosphorus is the main nutrient feeding plants and algae in the lake. Monitoring should continue so that this phosphorus trend can be tracked in future years, and to see if the algae and transparency improve as a result of lower phosphorus concentrations.