

Big Lake 2013 DEC Water Quality Sampling Plan



Why is DEC sampling Big Lake water quality?

- Gasoline pollution from boats and personal watercraft has been measured in the East Basin of Big Lake.
- Members of the Big Lake community and DEC have implemented actions to reduce gasoline pollution. Water monitoring is being conducted to see if Big Lake is still polluted after implementing these pollution-reduction actions.

When will sampling occur?

- Memorial Day Weekend (May 24, 25, 26, 27), June 29, and Fourth of July Weekend (July 4, 5, 6 7).
- Samples will be collected every 3 hours on each day from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Where will samples be collected?

- 11 sites in the East Basin of Big Lake near launches, marinas, transportation, routes and a low use area.

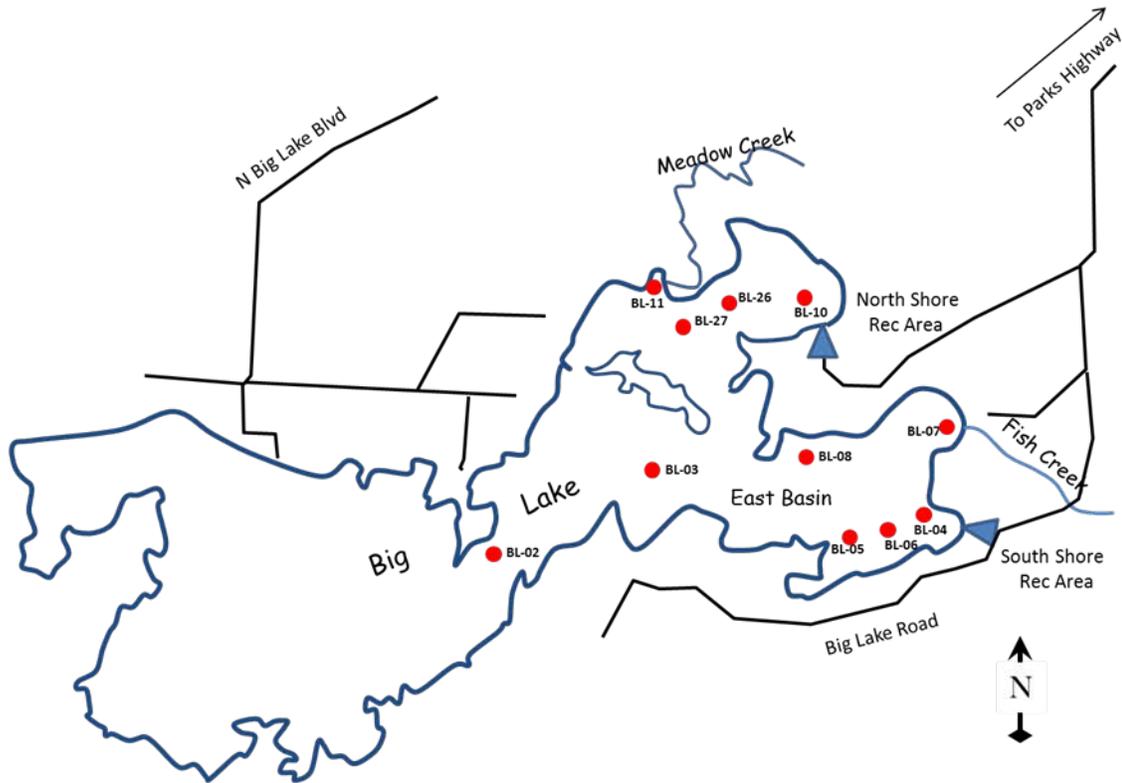
How are samples collected and measured?

- Sites are accessed by boat.
- Samples are collected below the water surface using a specially designed sampler.
- Samples are preserved, kept cold, and sent to an analytical laboratory.
- The number of boats operating within the East Basin will be recorded at the same time.
- Results will be available this fall.

How could the results affect boating and watercraft use on Big Lake?

- Option 1: If results meet water quality standards, conduct additional testing to be able to remove from the Impaired Water status.

- Option 2: If results do not meet water quality standards, the Big Lake community needs to consider additional actions.



Location of proposed 2013 sampling locations shown by the red dot and abbreviated lake name (BL-) and the site number.

For more information:

The full sampling plan can be downloaded from the DEC website at the following link: http://dec.alaska.gov/water/wnpssc/protection_restoration/biglakewq/index.htm.

Or you may contact Cindy Gilder at DEC (907) 269-3066 or via email cindy.gilder@alaska.gov.