We are pleased to present the first phase analysis of the Summit Reservoir Water Quality Improvement plan for The Village of Philmont NY.

In this report we have:

1. Conducted an analysis of all existing data, mapping and all other previous studies
2. Identified primary source and non-source loading of such pollutants into the lake
3. Proposed further steps needed to identify specific BMP (Best management practices), treatment solutions to halt further deterioration and begin the process of remediation.
4. Analyzed water quality, sediment in the lake, nutrients and other pathogens
5. Provided initial cost estimate for Phase 2 which will identify specific locations, and preliminary design, budgeting and plans for such BMPs
6. The subsequent phase will undertake preliminary planning and engineering of recommended BMP / GI solutions sufficient for permitting approvals and eligible for grant funding opportunities.

While it had been hoped that a large single treatment opportunity might have been revealed, we have concluded that:

Direct drainage from The Village contributes has very small sediment and nutrient loads relative to the upslope Agawamuck Creek watershed. Given the lake’s size (both area and volume) relative to the upslope drainage area (21 square miles), the lake will continue to capture and store sediment and nutrients carried by Agawamuck.

A watershed-scale approach to mitigating both in-stream and upland sources of sediment and nutrient loads is needed to manage water quality in the long term. As long as these sources are not addressed, in-lake treatment will not be cost-effective, i.e., sediment needs to be controlled upstream of lake.
Once sedimentation is controlled, water recirculation, aeration and other BMP practices can be introduced for water quality improvements in the lake, to remove existing lake pollution, clear aquatic vegetation and target other nutrients from within the lake.

We will be pleased to meet with the other consultants on the team, or participate in a presentation to the Village (or others as may be appropriate and helpful) to explain findings and discuss realistic next steps that may be both eligible for funding and that would have a real impact on water quality in the lake.

We look forward to working with you on Phase 2 and on specific projects that will improve water quality in the lake and throughout the watershed.

Thank You

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