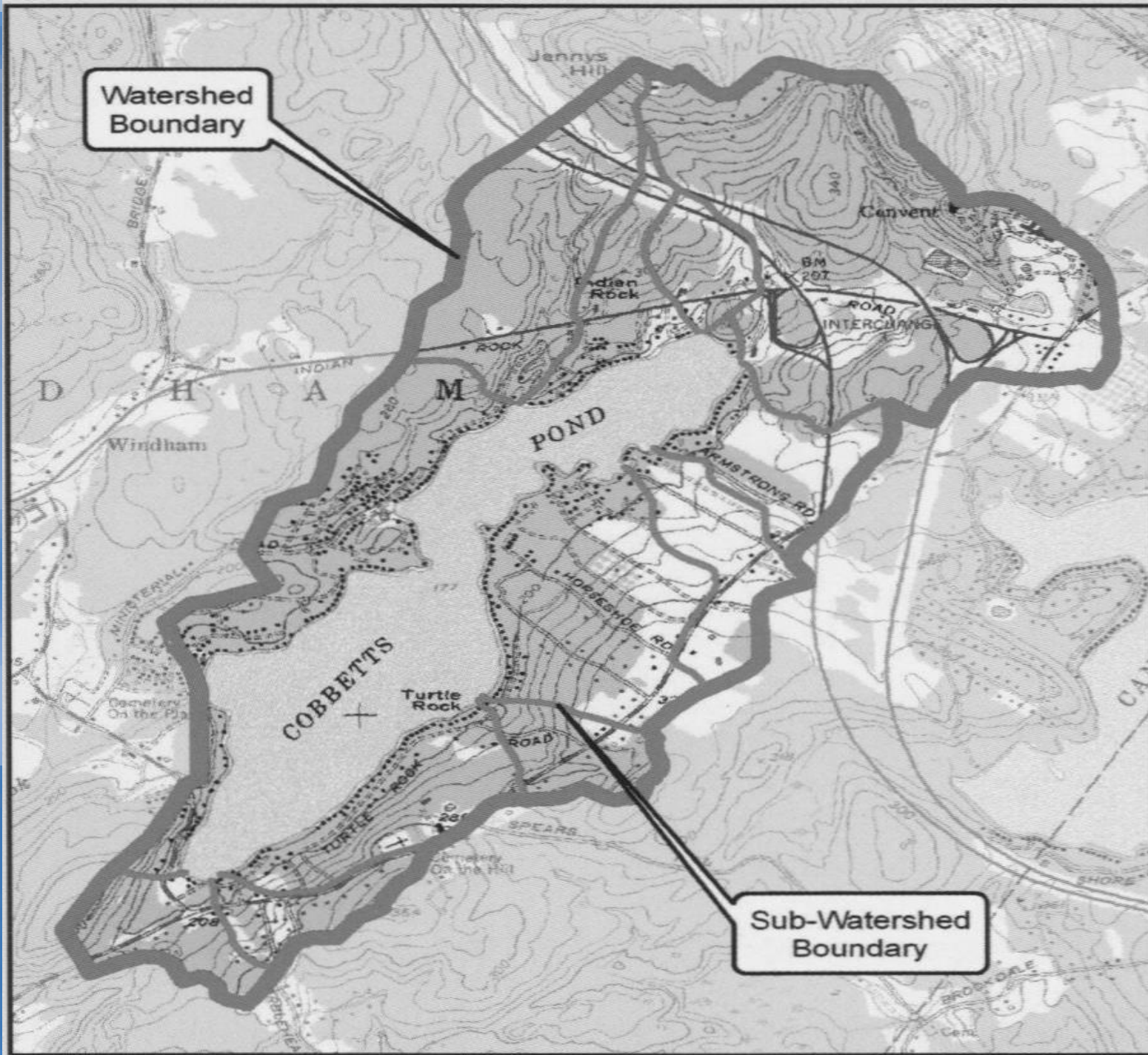


# Cobbetts Pond

Windham, New Hampshire



# **Cobbetts Pond Improvement Association (CPIA)**

- Object and purpose: To preserve, protect and improve the environment, the Dam property and aquatic life of Cobbetts Pond through civic, educational, recreational and charitable endeavors for the protection and preservation of Cobbetts Pond.
- Membership is voluntary and all residential property owners with deeded rights to the use of Cobbetts Pond are entitled to membership in the CPIA.

# Cobbetts Pond Improvement Association (CPIA)

- Approximately 250 families are members of the CPIA.
- The CPIA participates in the DES VLAP program.
- The CPIA works with NH Lakes, DES the EPA and the Windham Board of Selectmen, Conservation Commission and Planning Board to preserve and protect the lake's water quality.

# Cobbetts Pond Facts

- Cobbetts Pond is a 302-acre natural pond with an average depth of 33 feet and a maximum depth of 50 feet.
- A watershed is the land that surrounds a water body and provides it with water. The Cobbetts Pond watershed includes 1,325 acres (2.1 square miles) in Windham.

# Cobbetts Pond Facts

- Water from Cobbetts Pond flows via Golden Brook and Beaver Brook to the Merrimack River, ultimately reaching the Atlantic Ocean in Newburyport, Massachusetts.
- Approximately 12.4% of the Cobbetts Pond watershed is comprised of impervious surfaces such as roads, driveways and roof-tops that prevent storm water from soaking into the ground.

# Cobbetts Pond Facts

- A significant part of the I93 expansion construction project is located in the Cobbetts Pond watershed.
- The CPIA proposed and implemented a Watershed Protection Ordinance.
- The voters of the Town of Windham adopted the ordinance.

# Cobbetts Pond Facts

- In 2008, The CPIA was awarded a Section 319 Restoration Grant for \$125,000 to develop a Watershed Restoration Plan, which was completed in 2010. This plan evaluated the watershed and outlined a plan to address areas of non-point pollution sources.

# 193 Construction Water Quality Problems



- December, 2008. Middlesex Construction cleared a large area to start 193 construction. Slopes and banks not stabilized after acreage clearing. Heavy rains resulted in significant sediment plume into Cobbetts Pond in front of Castleton. Complaint filed with DOT.

# 193 Construction Water Quality Problems



# I93 Construction Water Quality Problems



- January, 2010. Significant sediment runoff into Cobbetts Pond from I93 construction. Particular cause not determined.

# 193 Construction Water Quality Problems



# 193 Construction Water Quality Problems



- February, 2010. Water quality woes continued after storm water collection basins failed following heavy rains and dirty water poured into pond for a period of 24-36 hours.
- Basin on former Dunkin' Donuts site breached capacity, overtopped a manhole and dumped dirty water directly into a piped section of Dinsmore Brook.
- Dirty water pumped directly into catch basins as a result of detention pond overflow.

# 193 Construction Water Quality Problems



- March, 2010.  
Detention basin failed, dumped dirty water into a wetlands system that fed into Hollow Glen Brook and into Cobbetts Pond.

# Solutions

- CPIA, as local water quality advocacy group, calls upon DOT to implement safeguards to protect Cobbetts Pond during I93 construction.
- DOT initiates goal to have zero water quality incidents.
- Proactive attitude and strong commitment from all involved to be vigilant in protecting water quality.
- Water detention areas on the construction site increased.

# Solutions

- Construction contractor directed to review and verify that capacity of all storm water basins meet or exceed storage requirements.
- Response to December, 2008 complaint: AG's office worked with the CPIA, contractor, DOT and DES, in lieu of the contractor paying a fine, to help in our watershed restoration efforts by installing a storm water treatment system.
- CPIA and Canobie Lake Protective Association invited to attend and participate in weekly erosion control meetings at the I93 construction site.

The CPIA extends its appreciation to  
DOT Commissioner Campbell,  
DES Commissioner Burack and their respective staff for  
working with us to protect Cobbetts Pond water quality  
during the I93 construction project.

Presented by  
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