

# Impacts of dredging Mirror Pond

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## Wildlife habitat and water quality

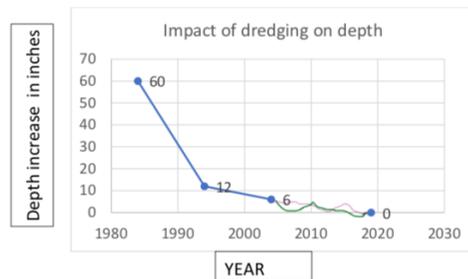
In an oft referenced City of Bend survey in 2015, 77% of residents considered these values "extremely important".

Dredging has a negative impact on wildlife habitat and water quality. Technical details are well summarized in Comments to Oregon DSL by Ryan Houston, then Executive Director of Upper Deschutes Watershed Council, July 5, 2017



## Increase depth of water: a time limited benefit.

In a City Club forum in 2013 a panel of 3 hydrologists opined that 80% of sediment will reaccumulate within 10 years, 90% after 20 years. The graph illustrates hypothetical changes after the 1984 dredge, given this rate of recurrent sedimentation and current dredge proposal to achieve a 60 inch depth increase. After 20 years trend projections illustrate that sediments will find a natural balance as exists now, 35 years after the 1984 dredge. This hypothetical illustration fits with the historical experience; concerns were raised about recurrent sediments in the 1990s.



## Impact on weed beds: a minimal benefit.

Kayakers and paddle boarders complain of the weeds in lower Mirror Pond. But experience after the 1984 dredge documents how time limited this benefit would be. Problematic weed beds recurred only 3 years after the 1984 dredge (The Bulletin, August 13, 1987).

## Impact on mud flats: a minimal benefit.

Mud flats are exposed when pond levels drop e.g. when dam repairs are made or when irrigators do stock runs during winter low water conditions. As for weed beds, this was a recurrent issue only 3 years after the 1984 dredge. (The Bulletin, November 17, 1987).

## Preserve historical view:

As this photo of January 12, 2019 shows, the historic views are intact. How can dredging improve on these views?

