

1. Introduction and Project Setting

Muskellunge Lake is located in Vilas County, Wisconsin (Figure 1). Muskellunge Lake characteristics are shown in Table 1.

The objectives of this study were to characterize existing lake conditions and to make recommendations to protect and improve the lake environment where feasible.

Table 1. Lake statistics (Robertson et al 2003).

	Muskellunge Lake
Size (acres)	272
Mean depth (ft)	9.3
Maximum depth (ft)	19



Figure 1. Muskellunge Lake is located in Vilas County, Wisconsin.

2. Glaciers and Soils

Muskellunge Lake was formed approximately 10,000 years ago during the last glacial retreat of the Wisconsin Valley Lobe (Figure 2). The soils deposited by the Wisconsin Valley Lobe glacier were primarily sands and loamy-sands. Beneath these soils, at depths of about 50-350 feet, is Precambrian bedrock that is over one billion years old. The bedrock is referred to as the North American shield.

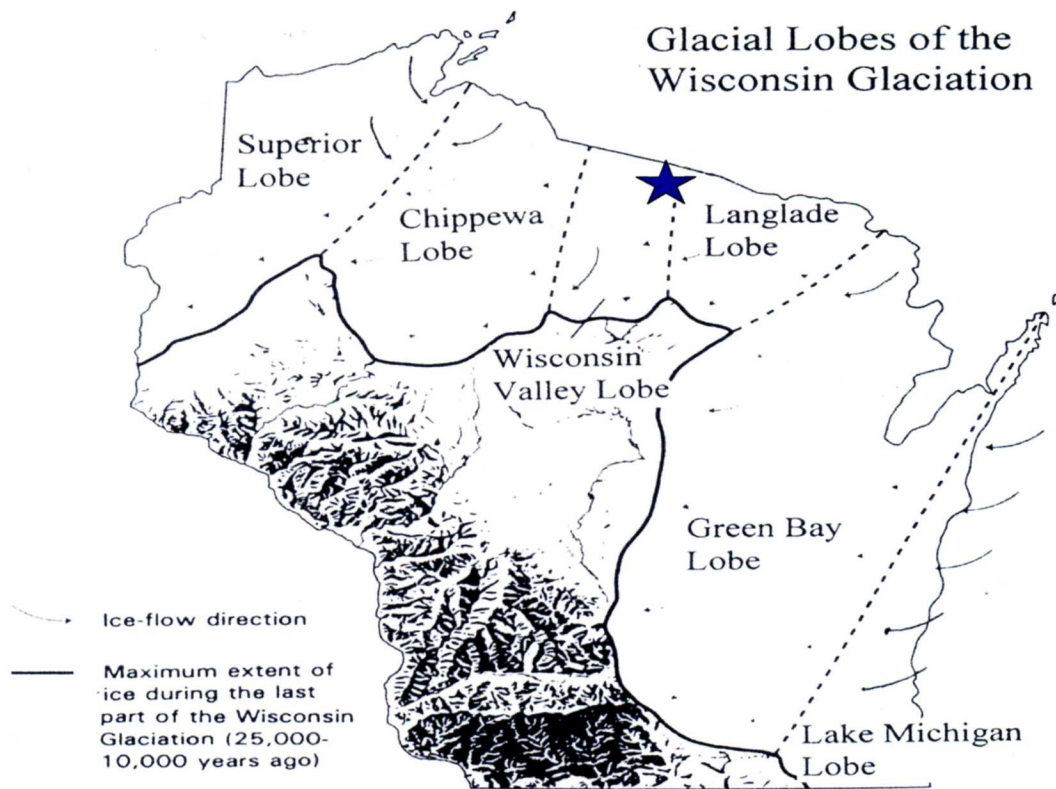


Figure 2. Glacial lobes of the Wisconsin glaciation. Muskellunge Lake is located in the Wisconsin Valley lobe.

Soil composition reflects the parent material that is present. Muskellunge Lake is located in an area dominated by forested silty soils and adjacent to forested loamy soils (Figure 3).

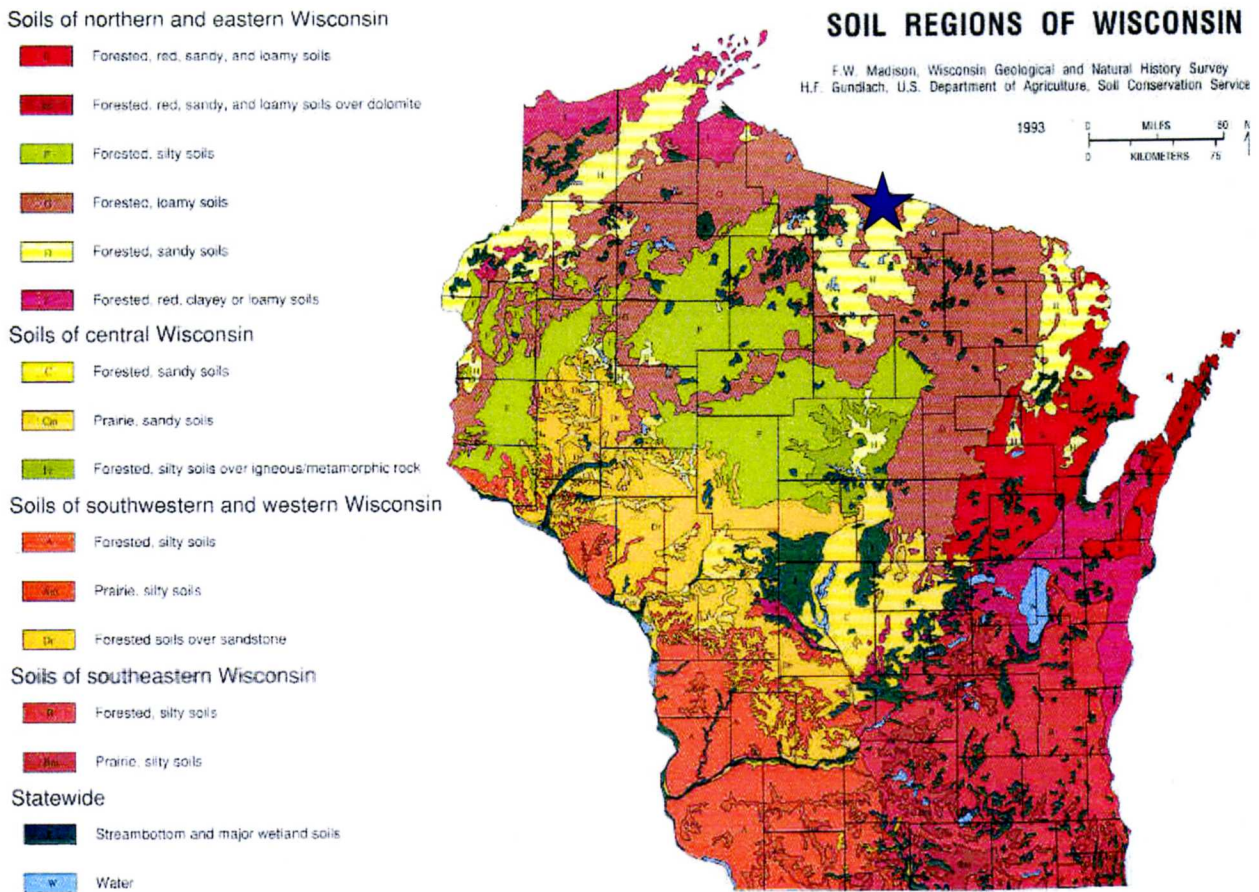


Figure 3. Muskellunge Lake is located within a soils group characterized as forested silty soils.

