



Background

Due to excessive waters in much of Michigan, by 2017 many lakes were at critical flood stages and residential properties compromised.

Crooked Lake in Barry County was greatly affected, as it is a “kettle lake” having no inlet or outlet. It is in the Watson Drain, and the Kalamazoo River watershed

Crooked Lake is approximately 4 miles south of Long Lake, and has an upper and lower section – Upper Crooked Lake (UCL) and Lower Crooked Lake (LCL) Together Upper & Lower Crooked Lake comprise ~1150 acres
For comparative purposes, Long Lake is ~289 acres

Long Lake has an inlet from the Chain of Lakes and an outlet to Fall Creek. It is in the Cloverdale Drain and the Grand River watershed

“Chain of Lakes” is the naturally connected lakes just south of Long Lake, across Guernsey Rd, made up of Cloverdale, Wilkerson, Jones and Mud Lakes.

Long Lake has historically been “connected” to the Chain of Lakes by man-made means, as the drop in elevation between lakes powered an old mill on Guernsey Rd in the 1800’s. In the 1990s, a culvert was established beneath the road to relieve waters from chain of lakes into Long Lake.



Overview of Timeline & Geography

- Spring 2018 - Pumping (rather than natural flow) from flooded Cloverdale Lake into Long Lake began under “emergency” status, while M-43 flood waters pumped into flooded Cloverdale Lake.
- Spring 2018 - Flooding on Crooked Lake had worsened and attempts to pump to other lakes in the area and a southern route had failed.
- 2018: A plan was devised to take the at least 4 feet of the 7-8 foot overflow of Crooked Lake NORTH through Chain of Lakes and Long Lake.
- Jan 2019 - Permit request was made to EGLE (formerly DEQ) to begin pumping excess water north into a 15 acre infiltration basin (Est Spring 2019) across Delton Rd. from Crooked Lake.
- Sept 2019 - permit request was made to EGLE to pump the water north from the infiltration basin into and through Chain of Lakes and Long Lake to Fall Creek and ultimately the Grand River.

