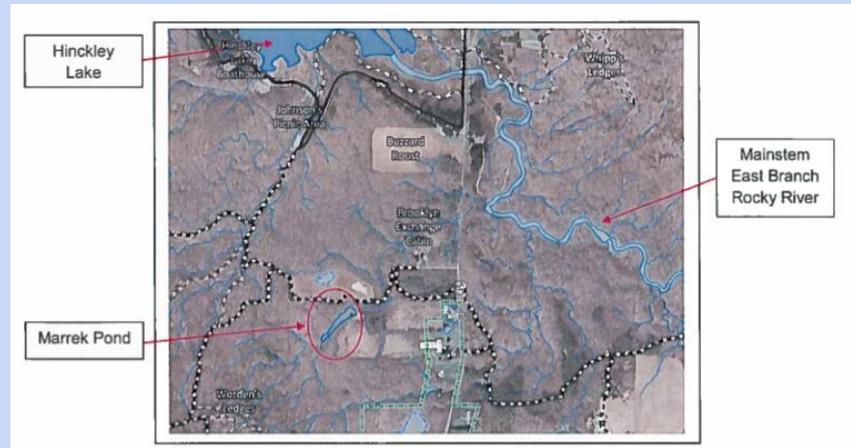
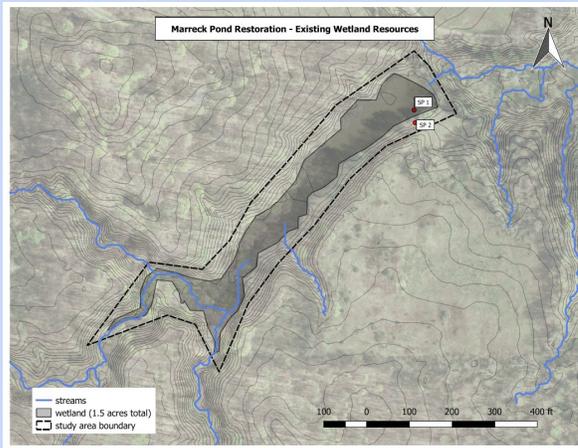


Marrek Pond Dam Removal and Restoration

Marrek Pond has been transformed from a 0.85 acre impoundment formed by an artificial dam into a wetland draining to a tributary of the East Branch of the Rocky River in Hinckley Reservation.



As part of the transformation, the dam was removed, the pond was drained and 640lf of stream and 0.9 acre of wetland were restored. After the dam was drained a diverse population of native plants sprouted. Constructed riffles were installed to transition between the upstream & downstream elevations. And log grade control structures were installed to allow the stream easy access to the floodplain and prevent the rich soil from eroding downstream. Locally sourced willow and dogwood trees were planted along the streambank.



Before



After

This restored wetland area will provide diverse habitat, improved water quality and slow down water during storm events.

2008

Marrek Pond acquired by Cleveland Metroparks

2015



Marrek Pond before drainage



Game fish transferred to other properties

Oct 2016

Dam Drained



After the pond was drained, plant recruitment from the original wetland seed bank was significant. Native species such as rice cut grass, orange jewelweed, and shallow sedge colonized the newly opened area.

Dec 2016

Natural colonization and log grade controlled observed



Native willow trees and dogwood shrubs were installed to increase bank stabilization. Log grade structures were set in place to improve headwater stability and assist with long term recovery.

May 2017

Oct 2018

Restoration complete



Natural stream conditions restored by 2019 and log grade control structures were added to mitigate channelization. Various aquatic wildlife observed in the stream including mayfly larvae, crayfish, and green frogs.

May 2019