

City of Prescott
Public Works Department
433 North Virginia Street
Prescott, AZ 86301



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Watson Lake Water Enhancement

May 2025

UTILITY PROJECT

Watson Lake Reservoir is listed as an impaired waterway by USEPA and suffers from harmful algae and aquatic weed blooms. In response, the City developed and implemented an action plan for water quality improvement.

The project consists of water quality monitoring, installing lake circulators, conducting large-scale water treatments, purchase of an electric aquatic weed harvesting boat, and stocking Watson Lake with grass carp (white amur) to consume vegetation.

Solar powered circulators have been installed to reduce algae blooms and promote beneficial microorganism growth. Water quality monitoring is ongoing with a state-licensed lab providing training and oversight. Whole-lake water quality treatment will begin late in May. A suitable fish barrier construction site has been identified and a design consultant has been recruited to allow stocking of both Watson and Willow Lakes with Grass Carp. The City's aquatic weed harvesting boat has been received.

The City's next steps are to perform water quality treatment, train city staff on use of the aquatic weed harvester and create a design for a fish barrier to allow lake stocking.

City Contact Information

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