

Middleburg Fish

& Recreation Club

Pictures of the 2010 Pond

PICTURES II



I rented a D-7 Cat above and our Kamotso to smooth out the dirt as it was dumped onto the banks.





This picture shows the Hydro Hoe loading 1 of the 2 off road dump trucks, note the tree stumps sticking up in the water; those were placed down in the trench and in these early photos the dirt is being lifted up and away from the deep drainage trench and all the dirt hauled to the dams.



This shows the dump truck unloading to make the very long dam along the west side.



As the trucks dumped the 2 dozers kept busy leveling out the dirt so the next truck could dump again.



Basically the pond was built by digging the dirt around the large drainage canal.



This picture shows the dozer down inside building one of the many surrounding ponds.



The off road trucks could pivot, so if they drove onto a edge and fail over, the bed and cab would just pivot and not break off. These huge trucks fail over twice while building the banks.



Note the tree trunks to the right; these were placed down into the open canal early on, because the water was rising while we were digging.



The boys got to watch the ponds daily become larger and larger.



I was amazed it took all the interior pond dirt to supply the dirt needed to build the west side dam. The trucks started at 5 widths wide, then the next layer was 4, then 3, then 2 and the top layer about 20 feet wide. Basically building a pyramid shaped wall.



While the large pond was being built, I continued with the small ones, adding the drainage pipes as each one was finished.



The far side pond by the outer woods drainage creek is probably 12 feet lower than the main pond, yet still plenty deep. This pond still floods as the creek goes out of control and eventually I hope to have the creek 100% controlled this summer after the soil dries enough to work on it again.



The main section is getting close to being done; note the location of the trees and sharp drop off wall to the left.



This sharp drop off wall is about 10 feet deep. This drop off is located to the north side of the peninsula dividing the two ponds.



The Hydro Hoe and 2 dump trucks would work from 7 am till 3 pm, while the 2 dozers would run later rounding up the dirt getting it ready for the next day. All totaled, the machines cost about \$700 per hour to operate. They can move a tremendous amount of dirt in an hours time.



This shows a couple of Blue Spruce trees planted around the upper two ponds.



Note the location of the tree stumps! They are in the middle of the large pond, it would take a mighty surf rod to reach these and then drop down to where the big cats lay. Note the rectangle boxes in the foreground; these were cut out by the hydro hoe because we needed more dirt on the upper bank, so the operator sunk box like holes at the bottom of the pond and turned and swung the dirt to the top of the bank. These holes are about 6 feet deep.



The creek side pond was full with the first rain.



With each rain, I would pump water out of the creek side pond up into the large pond. This picture shows the height difference from the large pond to the outer creek pond and shows how much dirt was needed to build this huge pond dam.



The small 5 hp water pump would pump a lot of water for a gallon of gas!



This was the first attempt of a drainage area for the creek side pond; these 2 drain pipes already blew out and been replaced, the hole shown here is about 10x larger and all the dirt up to the 2 exit pipes shown here has washed away. I need about 10 loads of large rock to stop the erosion. The soil has so much sand in it that it will not pack down to stop the water. If the corn field had this sand, it would have been impossible to build the large pond. Underneath the creek located here is all blue / gray sand and stone and if any machinery gets near this area it will sink fast.