Brandon Park Pond

Conceptual Plans for Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement

Existing Conditions

Shallow Pond

- Average depth of 3.5 ft.
- Max depth of 5.7 ft.
- Submersed aquatic vegetation growing throughout (*e.g.*, naiads & coontails)
- Dissolved oxygen levels are rapidly depleted
- Vulnerable to mortality during winter months

Competing Predators

- Midland painted turtles and American bullfrogs are known to occupy the site
- Existing pond conditions provide optimal habitat for these species throughout
- Both species can act as voracious predators of small fish
- Both species may also compete with larger fish for food, reducing prey availability

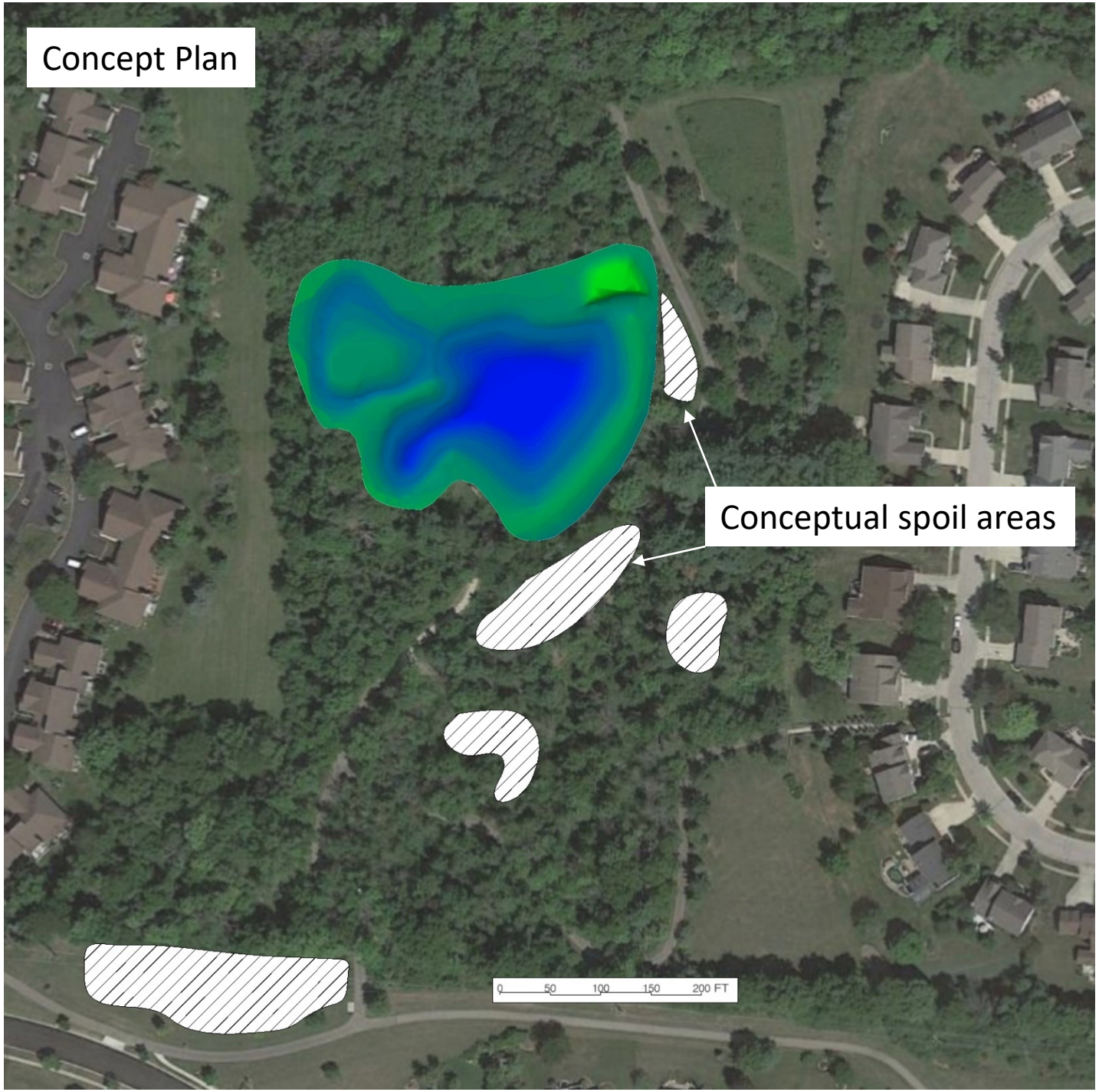
Sport Fish

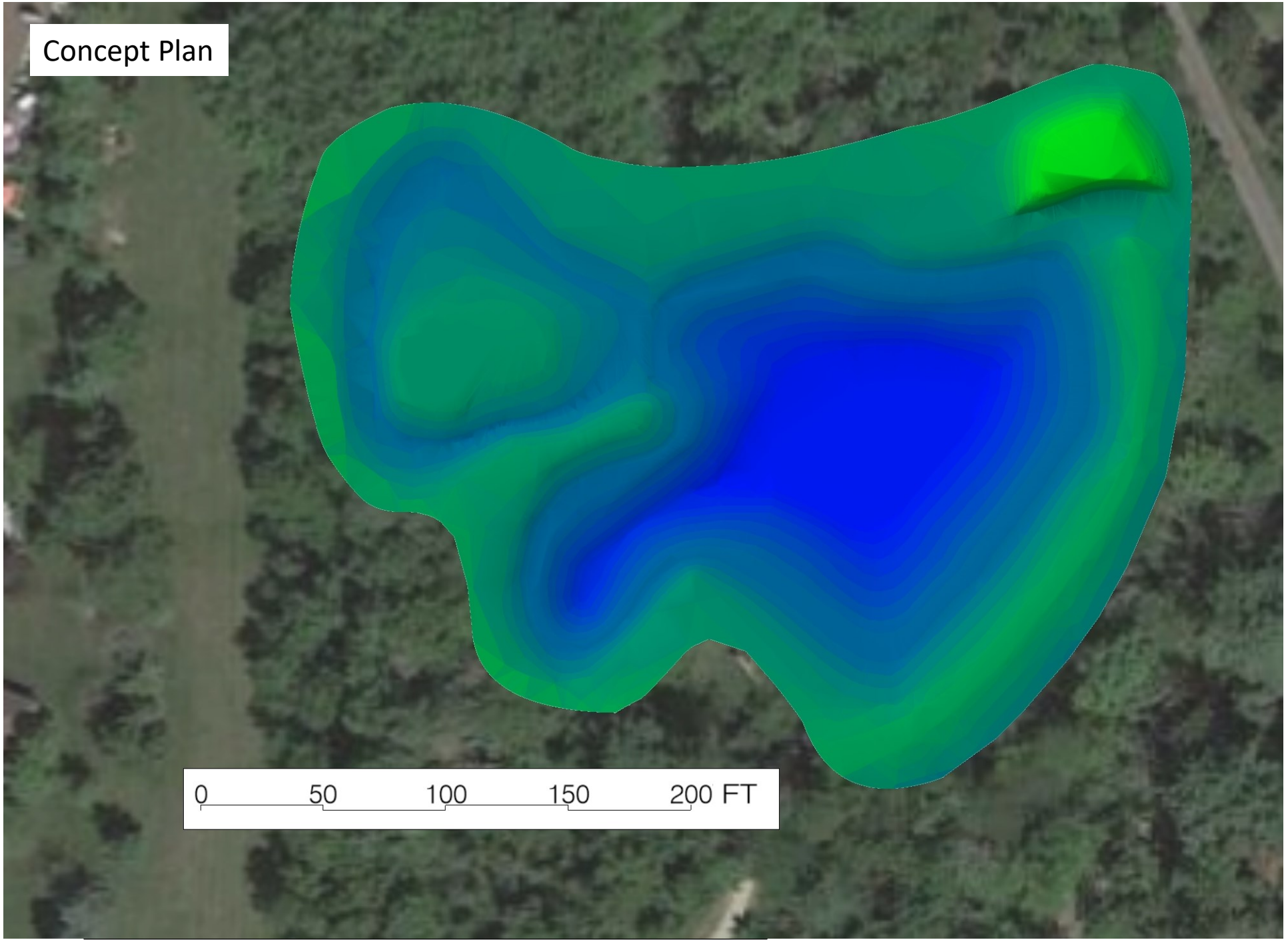
- Bluegill and largemouth bass are consistently smaller than typical recreational standards
  - Primarily as a result of pond size & competing predators
- Goal: Improve habitat conditions to enhance recreational fishing opportunities, without compromising existing habitat for other wildlife

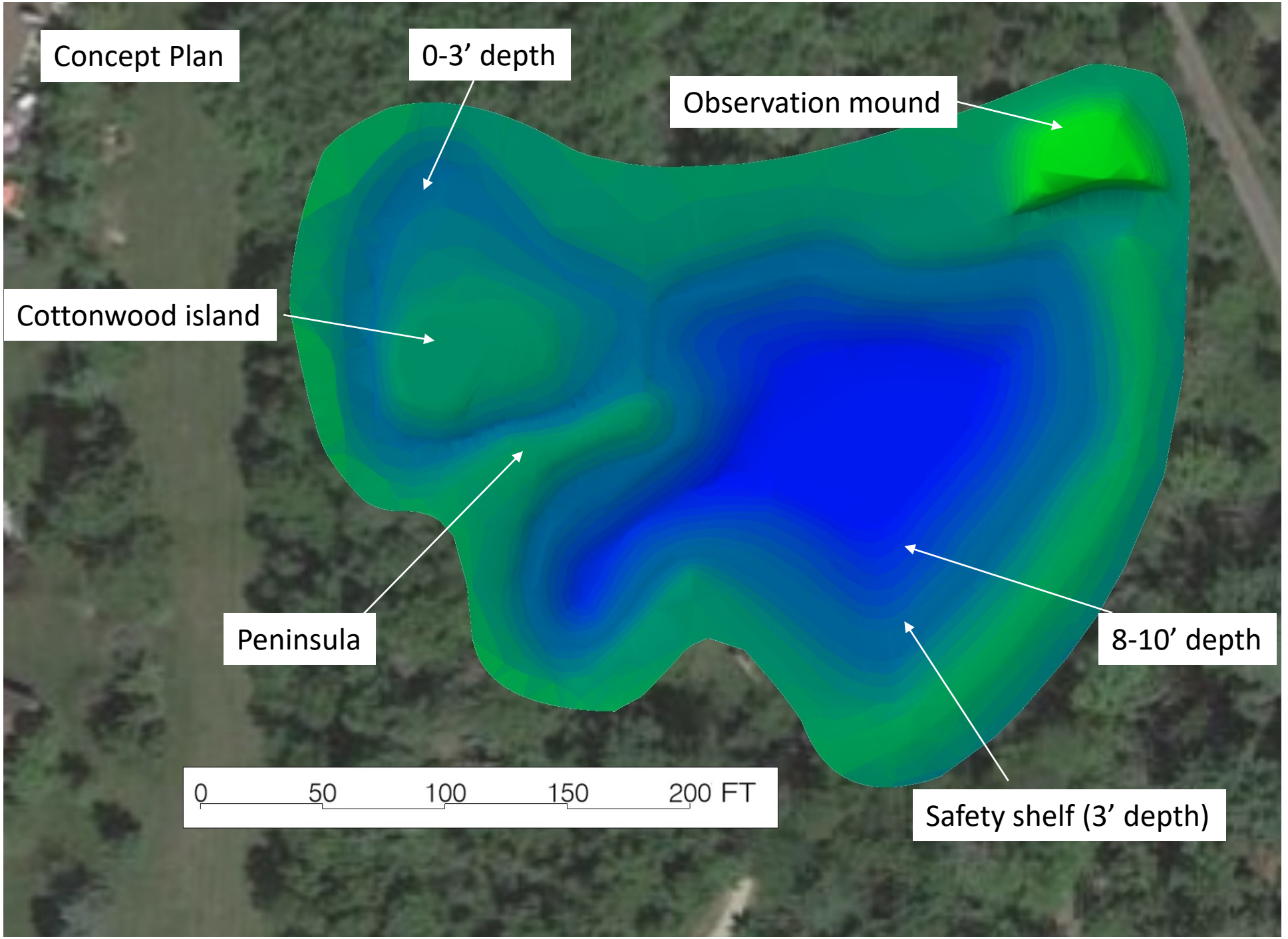
Proposed Conceptual Enhancements

Conceptual Habitat Enhancements

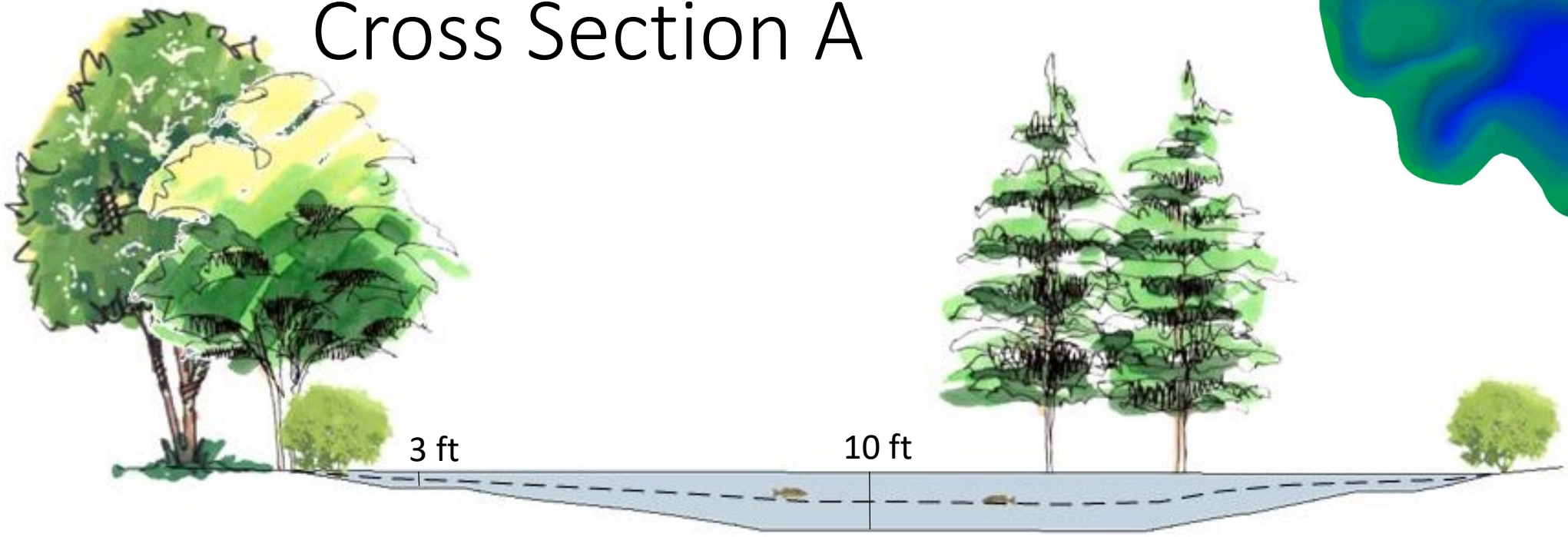
- Expand pond area & depth
  - Increase water volume to increase available dissolved oxygen, limiting potential for winter fish die-off.
  - Limit extent of aquatic vegetation that, through decomposition, reduces oxygen levels.
- Maintain roughly 1:3 slopes
  - Limits ability of aquatic vegetation to establish near pond center.
  - Provides optimal cover and feeding areas for desirable species (e.g., largemouth bass & bluegill)
- Create wetland fringe
  - Provides habitat for additional species, many of which can serve as prey for sportfish.
- Increased oxygen availability will improve survival, and greater prey abundance will increase reproduction.
  - This will result in larger & more abundant fish!

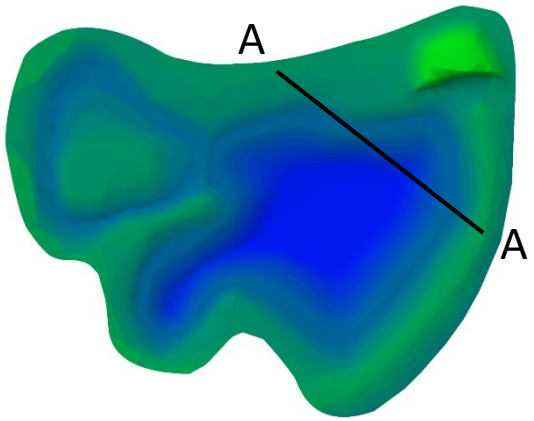

Concept Plan
Conceptual spoil areas
0 50 100 150 200 FT


Concept Plan
0
50
100
150
200 FT


Concept Plan
0-3’ depth
Observation mound
Cottonwood island
Peninsula
8-10’ depth
Safety shelf (3’ depth)
0
50
100
150
200 FT

Cross Section A



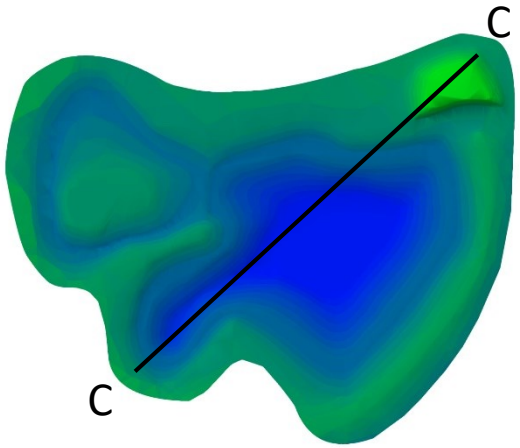


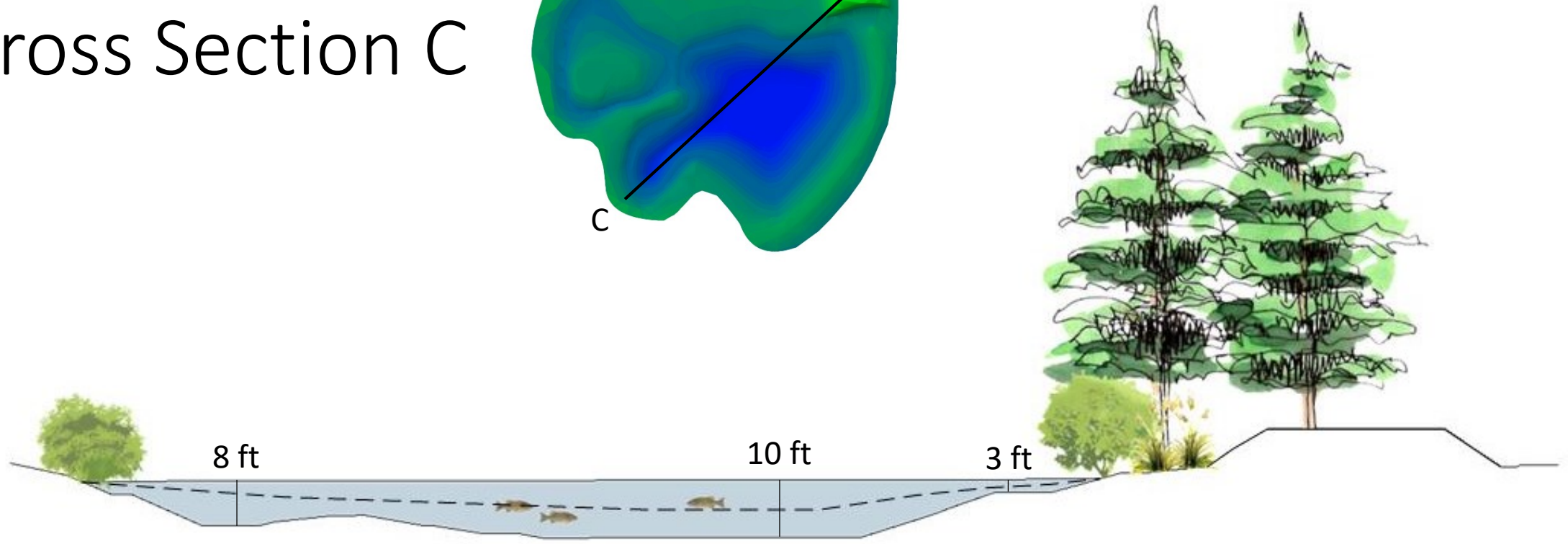
0 50 100 150 200

DISTANCE (FT)

Cross Section B

Cross Section C





Expected Outcomes

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- Improved sportfish habitat
- Enhanced wetland fringe
- Increased fishing access
- Improved (long-term) resilience

QUESTIONS?

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