

SECCHI DIP-IN DATA SHEET

Please submit completed form on the BCLSS website: bclss.org/programs#dip or email to: info@bclss.org

General Information

Volunteer **Last** Name: _____ **First** Name: _____
Telephone Number: _____ Email Address: _____
Waterbody name: _____
What year did **YOU** begin monitoring this waterbody? _____
Region of waterbody: _____
Postal code of town nearest to the waterbody: _____
Name of nearest town: _____

Coordinates of waterbody (note: minutes and seconds cannot be greater than 60):

Longitude: degrees _____ minutes _____ seconds _____
Latitude: degrees _____ minutes _____ seconds _____

Waterbody type:

☐ natural lake/pond ☐ reservoir (has a dam) ☐ stream/river ☐ estuary ☐ ocean ☐ other
(harbour, marine, gravel pit, quarry, etc.) please specify: _____

Size (lake/reservoir only): ☐ <5 acres ☐ 5-9.9 acres ☐ 10-99 acres ☐ 100-499 acres ☐ 500+ acres

Actual size (if known): _____ acres or _____ hectares

Site Information

Depth at sampling location (if known): _____ metres
Date of reading: _____
Time of observation: _____ ☐ am ☐ pm
Weather at time of dip-in: ☐ sunny ☐ partly cloudy ☐ overcast ☐ rain ☐ other _____
Weather yesterday: ☐ sunny ☐ partly cloudy ☐ overcast ☐ rain ☐ other _____
Where did you take readings from? ☐ boat (canoe, pontoon boat, kayak, etc.) ☐ dock/pier
☐ bridge ☐ shore/wading in ☐ other: _____

SPECIFIC Site Name or Number: _____ **Secchi reading (nearest 0.01 m):** _____ metres

SPECIFIC Site Name or Number: _____ **Secchi reading (nearest 0.01 m):** _____ metres

Can the disk be seen on the bottom? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Is the Secchi disk ☐ all white ☐ black and white
Size of disc: ☐ 8 inch/20 cm ☐ 16 inch/40cm
Did you use a Viewscope? ☐ Yes ☐ No
→ If yes, is it: ☐ open tube ☐ closed tube with glass or plastic plate on bottom?
What side of the boat did you view the disk on? ☐ sunny ☐ shady
Did you wear sunglasses during the measurement? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If using an instrument other than a Secchi disk, please indicate here: (i.e., Lamotte Turbidity Column, Turbidity Tube, Turbidity Meter, etc.) _____

If you also measure **Water Temperature** (15 cm below the surface) or **pH**, please record:

Temp: _____ ☐ °C or ☐ °F
pH: _____ ☐ pH paper ☐ meter ☐ colour comparator ☐ other _____

Water Quality

Please indicate your perception of the following:

General water quality (check one)

- ☐ Beautiful, no problems
☐ Minor problems
☐ Slight use impairment
☐ Use totally impaired

Has the **water quality** changed in the past 5 years?

- ☐ Better
☐ Worse
☐ No change
☐ Don't know

Has the **transparency** changed in the past 5 years?

- ☐ Clearer
☐ More turbid
☐ No change
☐ Don't know

What factors (if any) **NEGATIVELY** affect the general water quality at your site?

Problem	I don't know	Beautiful, causes no problems	Causes minor problems	Causes slight use impairment	Causes substantial use impairment	Use totally impaired
Algal scums	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Aquatic weeds (seaweed)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Turbidity	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Boats/Boating (noise, congestion, safety)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Poor fishing	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Personal watercraft (jet skis)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Bacteria	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Dense housing	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Filling-in	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Trash and litter	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
"Pest" wildlife (raccoons, geese, ducks, etc)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Noise (non-boating: neighbours, traffic, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Swimmer's itch	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Too many rules and regulations	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Secchi Dip-In Reminders

- Measure transparency on any day during the Dip-In period (July), preferably **between 10 am and 2 pm**.
- Please do not go out if it is raining, if there is abnormally high boat traffic, or if your safety would be at risk. **A clear, calm day is best.**
- Carefully fill out the form to the best of your ability.
- For sampling instructions, please refer to the **2026 Secchi Dip-In Information sheet** found on our website <https://www.bclss.org/programs#dip>
- Do you have any questions? Email info@bclss.org.

If you have no computer access, please mail this form to:

BC Lake Stewardship Society
 Box 110, 5505 Jacobson Road
 Big Lake Ranch, BC V0L 1G0