

Laser Level: An alternative method to measure your diversion

This method uses a standard construction laser level – preferably self-leveling

1. Establish a spot where you can place the level every month such that the beam projects precisely at spill height.

2. Shoot the beam over the pond.

3. Measure down from the beam to the (current) water level. Record this number - it is your Reference Level for the month.

4. Find the Reference Level on your pond's depth capacity curve.

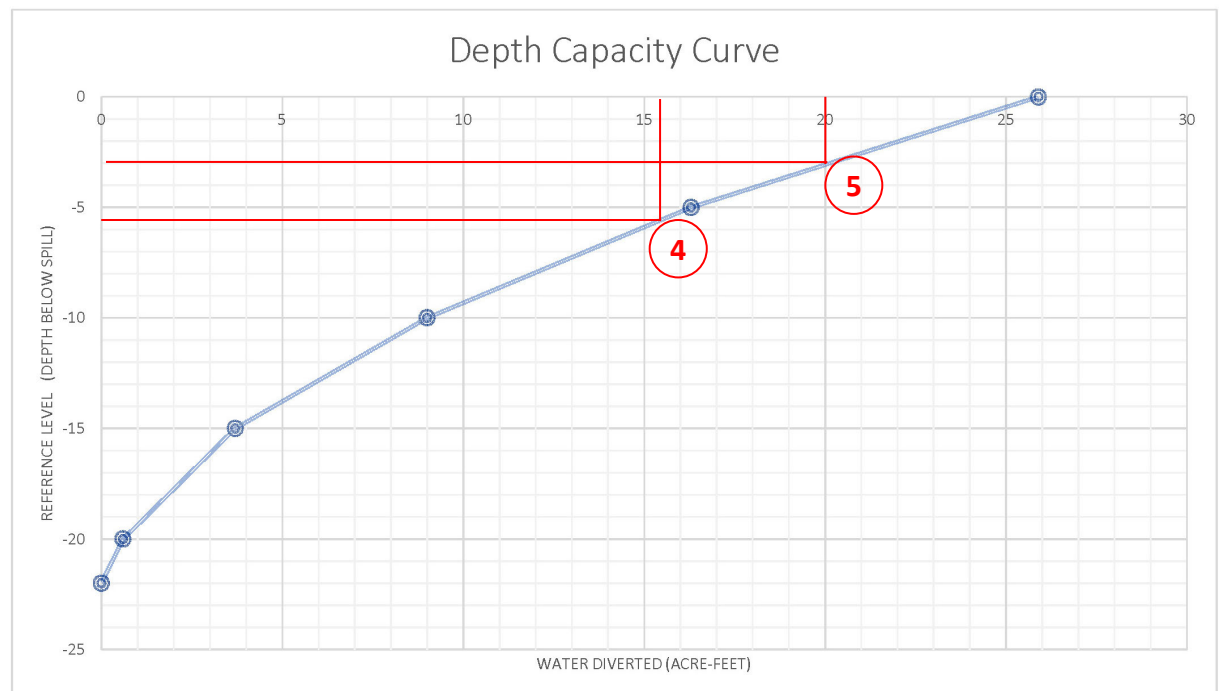
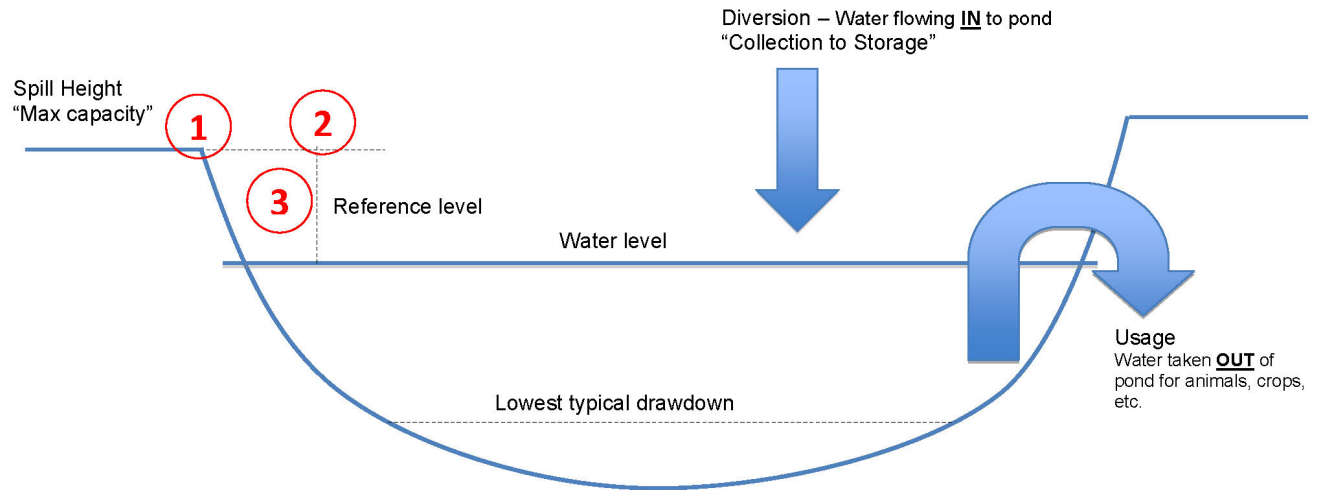
E.g. On January 1st, water is 5.5 feet below spill. Reference level is -5.5 feet. On the depth capacity curve, this means 15.5 acre-feet of water in the pond.

5. Repeat the process next month.

E.g. On February 1st, water level is 3 feet below spill. Reference level is -3.0 feet. On the depth capacity curve, this means 20 acre-feet of water in the pond.

6. Calculate the change over the 30-day period. A positive number means diversion (water added to pond) a negative number means usage (water taken from pond)

February number minus January number (20 - 15.5) equals 4.5 acre-feet.



Diversion for January was 4.5 acre-feet.