



The Osternienburg Lakes - geochemistry and development of a post mining lake site in Central Germany

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The Osternienburg lake area near Dessau (Sachsen-Anhalt/ Central Germany) is the result of natural subsosion and anthropogenic mining. The lakes developed between 1902 and 1960. Due to the age, the Osternienburg lakes are an archetype of a ripe post mining lake area and can compared with the future situation of the developing lakes of the new German lake district (Neuseenland). The major forms of human pressure on these Osternienburg inland water bodies are anthropogenic pollution and natural salinization. In order for a better understanding of the related physical and hydrogeochemical mechanisms we coupled observational (physical, chemical, isotopic) investigations, remote sensing and modelling studies as well as core sampling and historical investigations.