

Sara Mills

Weekly Update for 08/12/14 to 08/16/14

Tuesday, August 12th, 2014

I wrote my weekly update for the previous week. Stephanie and I attempted to monitor McNaughton Lake but it was too windy, so we went to Indian Lake to retrieve the zebra mussel plate that we tied to a dock during the monitoring on the lake with their association. We also took GPS coordinates of the purple loosestrife stands on HWY 17. Back at the office, I updated entered data on SWIMS for our lake monitoring and wrote the lake monitoring summaries for Hodstradt Lake and Two Sisters Lake. I calculated my mileage for the rest of the week since I will be leaving for college on Sunday. I updated the purple loosestrife spreadsheet with the purple loosestrife Stephanie and I recorded today.

Wednesday, August 13th, 2014

I updated our facebook and website. I updated the list of lakes in Oneida County with invasive species.

Thursday, August 14th, 2014

Stephanie and I monitored McNaughton and Wind Pudding lakes. In addition, we performed a public boat landing AIS presence/absence check at Muskellunge Lake.

Friday, August 15th, 2014

I performed CBCW watercraft inspections at Willow Flowage.

Saturday, August 16th, 2014

I am working the Hazelhurst fair and then doing CBCW at Kawaguesaga Lake.

Stephanie Boismenu
Update 4-10-14 to 4-18-14

Thursday 04-10-2014

My first day on the job. Completed paperwork, Michele gave me a tour of the office, introduced me to staff, settled me into my new office area, and orientated me with the computer system. Michele and I went over schedules and the "White Board" which is the list of tasks and projects waiting for me to dig into as well as upcoming events to prep for and attend. A few examples include:

- Create the Ice Angler Survey Poster Presentation for the WI Lakes Partnership Convention held on April 24th-26, 2014.
- Contact printers about time frame and cost of printing poster
- Prep for and attend April 17th Envirothon at Treehaven,
- Update power point presentation for April 29th CBCW Workshop
- Review annotation of videos for lake Sihsih
- Develop 500 kids stickers
- Order various lake books as they become available
- Update AIS lake list

The rest of the day was spent adding up the Oneida County 2014 Ice Angler Survey results. I created a raw data-master list of the survey results on an excel spread sheet.

Friday 04-11-2014

Paper work day: I finished compiling the Ice Angler survey results. Once the survey data was finalized, I double checked the survey numbers against the numbers in the 2011-2014 Ice Angler Power Point Presentation and made corrections to the presentation as needed. With the Ice Angler Survey data now complete and the power point presentation updated, I was able to start developing an Oneida County Ice Angler Poster Presentation for the WI Lakes Partnership Convention. I phoned Copy Cat Printers in Minocqua to get a price and printing time frame for the poster - \$60.00 and can print it in 24 hours. I had a telephone delivered to my desk today.

Monday 04-14-2014

I continued working on the poster presentation. I finished writing the text, contents of the text, integrated the survey data, started formatting, and searched for pictures to use in the poster. Having problems opening power points on the "lcshare network" and online. Someone from IT will be here to fix it.

Michele asked Jean and I to meet with her for a brainstorming session to start formulating plans and organizing the Teachers Education Workshop to be held June 30th at Kemp Station's boathouse. Cesa 9 in Tomahawk is assisting with the workshop as well. The reason for the workshop is to provide teachers, from all over with area, with knowledge and tools to help them integrate AIS into their curriculum. The workshop will be a "professional development day" (will count as continuing education) and they will

receive a certificate for attending. Michele had lots of great ideas and Jean and I helped expand them. We had a productive meeting and planned a great workshop. Our brainstorming session resulted in coming up with the following: We decided on a time of 8:00am-3:30pm and broke down time slots for each class/activity including lunch. We developed 4 unique educational stations that the participants will rotate through during the day, such as: Station #1 is dry mustard, worms, and how to build and install worm frames in the school forest; Station #2 is "Water Walker" – walk the point along the lake and discuss/look for AIS; Station #3 "Patrick Goggin Station" – lake shore habitat/buffers; Station #4 Native Plant Restoration and the important roll natives play to help reduce AIS. At the end of the day there will be a class that explains how to implement these projects into classrooms. This is going to be a fun day!

Tuesday 04-15-2014

Yeah, finally got my email account set-up. I continued to work on the poster presentation. Michele, Jean, and Carrie (the grammar wizard) proof read the poster for me and help with editing. Michele and I worked on tweaking the posters text and text formatting.

Wednesday 04-16-2014

Paperwork day, tweaked poster presentation and I'm the only one working in LCW today (which went well). Michele called me this morning with a situation that she needed me to work on. She had just found out from Matt Cook, of the WDNR Ice Pack Program, that the pallets of ice packs are being delivered at the Rhinelander airport tomorrow rather than the scheduled date of 4-30-14. Michele explained that is a big problem because 1) she is working elsewhere tomorrow and will not be able to come to Rhinelander, 2) I'm working at Envirothon at Treehaven all day tomorrow, 3) someone from the county will need to be present with a forklift to unload the pallets, 4) we are due to get a whopping snowstorm tomorrow and 5) The following day is Good Friday and since we are not working that day, there is concern about the pallets sitting outside of the airport until Monday.

Problem Solving the Ice Pack Dilemma:

Michele directed me to Matt contact information, asked me to call him with the following questions: 1) Are the ice packs truly being delivered tomorrow - even in the snowstorm? 2) What time is the shipment arriving? 3) How many pallets are being delivered?

I'll say this, contacting Matt Cook made for an interesting morning! His phone number at the DNR was no longer his number. I searched the DNR's employee website – his name appeared but did not list a phone number or email. So, I called Kevin Gauthier and asked if he had contact information for Matt. Kevin searched the system and found an email address. Kevin suggested that since there is big turnover in Madison, it would be wise of me to send a Cc email to AIS Educations Specialist, Christal Campbell. However, Kevin said she was gone for the week. The second back-up person was also gone for the

day. The third contact person was Robert Wakeman and Kevin gave me his contact info. I emailed Matt and Cc'd Mr. Wakeman and Michele. I also called Mr. Wakeman, but his answering machine said he was out for the day, but would be checking messages, so I left a detailed message.

At 11:50am, I texted Michele to give her an update: that I was hitting a dead end.

At 3:45pm, Matt Cook called. He apologized for being hard to reach and explained he's a full time student. Anyway, Matt called UPS and yes the shipment is arriving tomorrow (4-17-14), time of delivery is unknown. Matt provided the following:

- Number of ice bags arriving is 1,500
- Pallet count is 1 ½
- 1,000 ice bags packaged in 40 boxes and fills an entire pallet
- 500 ice packs packaged in 20 boxes and fills a ½ pallet.

Thursday 04-17-2014

I spent the day at UWSP Treehaven helping with the WI Envirothon (from 7am to 4:30pm). I was originally signed-up to be a Runner. However, due to the snowstorm, one of the Team Leaders was unable to attend resulting in the Envirothon organizers changing my position to Team Leader, and now in charge of 15 students for the day. My position as a Team Leader was a much better task for me than a Runner. I had a ton of fun and it was a great experience!

Friday 04-18-2014

Off today – Good Friday

Stephanie Boismenu

Updates 04-21-14 to 04-27-14

Monday 04-21-14

I finished the poster presentation and after everyone in the department proofed it, I emailed it to Copy Cat Printing in Minocqua. I instructed the printer that we had to pick up the poster by late morning on Wednesday, the poster is 3' high by 4' wide, and provided billing instructions. Michele and I went over schedules and we talked about upcoming projects and events.

Tuesday 04-22-14

I called the printers and they did not receive my email of the poster - yikes - so I resent the email and confirmed that they did receive it. I printed and collated various Ice Angler Survey data for Michele to take to the WI Lakes Partnership Convention. I started working on the new CBCW Prompt Sheet,

Wednesday 04-23-14

I was off all day to prep for and drive to the WI Lakes Convention in Stevens Point. However, on my way to point, I drove up to Minocqua to pick-up the Ice Angler Poster Presentation.

Thursday 04-24-14

Off work: at WI Lakes Partnership Convention (on my own time not county time)

Friday 04-25-14

Off work: at WI Lakes Partnership Convention (on my own time not county time)

Saturday 04-26-14

Off work: at WI Lakes Partnership Convention (on my own time not county time)

Sunday 04-27-14

Off today

Stephanie Boismenu

Update 04-28-14 to 05-04-14

Monday 04-28-2014

Spent time preparing for tomorrows CBCW Workshop and updated the CBCW power point presentation by added several new slides, researching information for new slides, and updated data and dialog. Long day today as I worked on the presentation until 6:30pm.

Tuesday 04-29-2014

Tonight is the CBCW presentation in Committee Room 2, from 5pm-7:30pm. I spent the day preparing for tonight's presentation. Michele had brought her home-grown pepper plants for door prizes - I put CBCW stickers on the plant containers and used CBCW pens as plant stakes (very cool looking plants). I made final changes to the power point presentation, printed off and collated hand-outs, helped Michele set-up the committee room (move tables, get more chairs, decide on using the white board, put last year's poster contest posters on the wall, set-out the snacks, etc). At 4pm, Michele and I finally had a chance to sit in the committee room and practice running through the power point presentation. However, at about the 5th slide, folks started arriving for the presentation....

The presentation was a full house (somewhere around 50 participants) and it went very well. The participants got a bit hung-up on the sticker for the boat trailer, which lead to a big discussion, but overall it went well. Lots of positive comments about the new CBCW form! After everyone left, Michel, John Preuss and I clean-up the committee room.

Wednesday 04-30-2014

I put away supplies that we used last night and spent the day customizing the new CBCW Prompt Sheets for the following area: Minocqua's Lakes Region, Three Lakes Region, and Rhinelander Region. Squash Lake's CBCW Coordinator, Bill Akan, came in and asked for help to customize the prompt sheet for Squash Lake - Michele sent him my way. Bill and I worked together and came up with good dialog, which I wound-up using on the regional sheets as well.

Thursday 05-01-2014

Michele and I went over the poster contest tasks that I needed to complete tomorrow for Tuesdays poster judging. I worked on the prompt sheets. The Three Lakes Region was the most difficult because there are not a lot of sever AIS in that areas waterbodies. In the process of researching that area, I used Michele's list of Waterbodies with AIS. However, I ran into a snag because there are a few lakes in the county with the same name (i.e. there are two Cranberry Lakes in the county and both have AIS). In order to figure out which of those waterbody were in that region, I needed to have the waterbody ID. This lead to downloading, from the DNR's website, an excel spreadsheet that list the county waterbodies with AIS that list includes the waterbody ID's. I phoned IT to report a problem of not being able to open PDF's. They will come tomorrow to fix it.

Friday 05-2-2014

It was a busy half day today. Cade from IT was here and fixed my PDF issue. I also had him install MS Silverlight so I can interact with SWIMS Maps. I emailed Bill Akan his Squash Lake Prompt Sheet. Today was the last day to turn in posters for the Northwood's AIS Poster Contest. I made calls to the following to see if they had posters that we needed to picked-up:

- Antigo Public Library (not sure, they will call me back – but never did);
- Demmer Library (none);
- Minocqua Library (yes);
- Rhinelander Library (yes);
- Florence County (left message to call me)
- Iron County Land and Water (yes, but the poster pick-up has already been arranged with Mellen);
- Langlade County (left message for them to call me back)
- Price County Land and Water (none)

At 1:00, I left to go to both Rhinelander and Minocqua Libraries to pick-up posters. *Round trip was 52.8 miles (end ODO 72962.7)*

Saturday 05-03-2014

Off

Sunday 05-04-2014

Off

Stephanie Boismenu
Updates 05-05-14 to 05-10-14

Monday 05-05-2014

I was off – at my uncles' funeral in Chippewa Falls

Tuesday 05-06-2014

Poster Judging Day Today! I helped Michel get committee room 2 ready for the poster judging, which started at 9am. Lots of poster! After the judging, I tallied up the total number of posters and the total submitted from each teacher's class. This afternoon, Michele and I went to the airport to transport the ice packs in the basement of the airport. However, Michel decided that since us LTE's are the ones retrieving the ice packs, it would be easier if the ice packs were at the court house. I loaded up the boxes of ice packs into my suburban and unloaded them at the back entrance at the courthouse (under the steps).

Wednesday 05-07-2014

I ordered the medals and ribbons for the poster contest winners and then searched for books that were appropriate for 4-5th graders (for poster contest kids). Had a very nice lady names Judy from Mole Lake, stop by to inquire about AIS. She explained that she is a student at Nicolet College and had to write a 5 minute presentation about the ecological and economic impact of AIS. She did not have prior knowledge of AIS so spent about 45 minutes giving her an AIS education, loaded her up with various educational materials and gave her Michele's business card. She was a happy lady when she left! I helped Jean carry supplies to her car. I drove to the DNR office to pick up a box for Jean and then went to Roman Cinema and helped unload Jeans presentation materials.

Thursday 05-08-2014

Paperwork day today. I did more research to find books relating to lakes, rivers, or ponds that would be appropriate for the 4th-5th grade classrooms that participated in the Poster Contest. I spent time researching and starting to develop my May 23rd AIS program at CAVOC, which I will be presenting to the 3rd graders from Pelican School. I got caught-up on my weekly updates...yeah. I started unpacking boxes that were brought over from the airport office. However, as I was unpacking, I decided I had better wait to do this project when Michele is here, so she can direct me as to where she wants stuff moved to.

Friday 05-09-2014

Michele and I went over schedules, upcoming events, and tossed around ideas for the CAVOC-3rd grader projects. We went over the boxes that needed to be unpacked and she directed me to where the contents should be moved to. I organized CBCW supplies and found homes for some of the gear, such as waders, swim fins, and poster boards. We defiantly need some large totes (Rubbermaid containers) for the large, bulky items,

to both store the gear in and haul the gear around while we are out in the field—especially since most of the gear has the potential to be wet when we return it to the office after a day on the water. I began organizing the other LTE's desk area. Later in the day, I printed off 20 copies of the 2014 CBCW Watercraft Inspector Handbook and will have the high school students insert the new handbooks into the old handbooks when they are here next week.

Michele received a message from Rhinelander Library that they had more posters for the AIS poster contest waiting to be picked-up. Evidently they were dropped off at the library sometime after 4pm last Friday. I went to the library and picked-up the posters. Upon returning, John Preuss, Michele, and I judged the posters.

While at the library, I checked out several children's books that combine stories and education about lakes, rivers, and ponds. We will take a look at the books to see if any interest us and consider purchasing a book of interest online for the 4-5 grade classrooms who participated in the Poster Contest.

Saturday 05-10-2014

Off today

Sunday 05-11-14

Off

Stephanie Boismenu

Update 05-12-14 to 05-18-14

Monday 05/12/14

The other LTE's desk and area was consumed by boxes that had been moved here from the old office location at the airport. I unpacked boxes and found homes for their contents and cleaned the desks off. I organized the CBCW supplies and wildcards. I had to leave several things in boxes because I wasn't sure how or where Michele wanted those items stored.

I worked on updating and organizing the three LTE Outreach Kits and included in each one: 2014 CBCW handbook, clipboards, pencils, extra inspection forms, violation forms, wildcards, the 3 regional prompt sheets, maps, and the new 2014 list of Oneida County lakes with AIS.

At 1:15, Jean and I left to attend the Oneida County Land and Water Conservation Department/UWEX Committee Meeting at the extension office at the airport. I was there from 1:30-3:30pm. I returned to the office and compared the Oneida Co AIS lake list with the DNR's AIS lake list.

Tuesday 05/13/14

I showed Michele where I had stored/organized the supplies and had her direct me as to where the rest of the supplies should be stored. I then finished unpacking and organizing. I spent the rest of the day working on the public service announcement for the 2014 poster contest winners. I composed a letter to the teachers and media announcing the winners of the poster contest.

Wednesday 05/14/14

Michele picked-up an injured chickadee on the way to work and brought it in. I drove the chickadee to Wild Instincts for rehab. Michele and I discussed CBCW, boat landings, and various projects. We also discussed the 4th grade worm watch program, which she is attending this afternoon at Central School. Since I am attending the worm watch study at the end of the month, she wanted me to attend today's program too. However, since Jean and Carrie were both out of the office today, it was more important for me to stay here and keep the department open. I continued working on the letters to teachers and media announcing the winners of the poster contest. I added a few additional items to the LTE's outreach boxes (ziplock bags, exam gloves, toilet paper, and trash bags).

Thursday 05/15/14

I spent the morning working on paperwork and prepared for tomorrow's boat landing monitoring.

Friday 05/16/14

I performed CBCW watercraft inspections at the Willow Flowage today. It was very slow, which I'm sure was a direct result of the nasty bitter cold weather today (wind, rain and flurries). I had intended to work 8 hours, but I left early due to bad weather.

Saturday 05/17/14

Off today

Sunday 05/18/14

I performed CBCW watercraft inspections at the Rainbow Flowage. The Rainbow was a bit slow, so I traveled to North Nokomis Lake and Sand/Dam landings. Both landings were slow, so I returned to the Rainbow landing.

Steph Boismenu

Update 05-19-14 to 05-25-14

Monday 05-19-14

Steph off today

Tuesday 05-20-14

Completed paperwork in the morning and prepared for the afternoons CBCW workshop that Michele, Sandy and I presented at the Minocqua Public library.

Wednesday, May 21st 2014

Alyssa, Sara, and I attended GPS training provided by Art from the Oneida County Land Information Department. I spent the afternoon preparing for the upcoming Lake Thompson CBCW training, EcoTrek, and CAVOC events. Alyssa, Sara, and I went to Lake Thompson to provide CBCW training the Lake Thompson's three hired inspectors.

Thursday May 24, 2014

Alyssa and I were presenters at EcoTrek (7th graders) held at Kemp Station. Afterwards, we performed CBCW inspections at Stacks Bay and Lake Thompson.

Friday, May 23rd 2014

Alyssa, Sara and I spent the morning at CAVOC teaching third graders from Pelican School about Aquatic Invasive Species. I spent the afternoon training Alyssa and Sara on the CBCW watercraft inspections at the Boom Lake boat landing.

Saturday, May 24th, 2014

I performed watercraft inspections at Willow Flowage.

Sunday, May 25th, 2014

I performed boat inspections at Lake Minocqua's Thirsty Whale Landing, Kawaguesaga (by the dam), and Lake Minocqua's Stack Bay Landing I also checked on the boat inspectors at Lake Minocqua's School House Landing.

Steph Boismenu

Update 05-26-14 to 06-01-14

Monday May 26th, 2014

Off – Memorial Day

Tuesday May 27th, 2014

Off

Wednesday, May 28th, 2014

Entered watercraft inspection data and worked on paperwork. Michele, Alyssa, Sara, and I had our weekly team meeting and discussed upcoming events and projects. I prepared supplies for tonight's CBCW Workshop at the Reiter's Center in Three Lakes. The workshop was from 5:00 – 7:30pm and included a plant presentation by Sandy Wickman and a power point was presented by Michele and I.

Thursday, May 29th, 2014

What a fun day! Today I got to assist with the Worm Watch Study performed by Mrs. Werner's 4th grade class from Central Intermediate School. The basis of the study is to document the presence of earthworms in WI. All earthworms in WI are non-native invasive species and affect/alter the health of our forests. Using specific sampling supplies and protocol, the students had to identify the three types of earthworms as well as the volume of type; Epigeic which are the surface dwellers, Endogic which live in the topsoil and the big fat Anecic's which live deep in the soil. The morning's site location was at Germain Hemlock State Natural Area. After lunch we moved to our second site location at Lake Tomahawk's boat landing. Assisting with this project was and Rosie Page from WHIP, Michele and myself. This was a great day!

Friday, May 30th, 2014

Michele, Alyssa, Sara and I had a team meeting to discuss our plans for next week's events: Next Tuesday's Boom Lake AIS Fun Day with Mrs. Werner's 4th grade class, Wednesday's field training workshop at the DNR, and Saturdays Family Fishing Fun Day at Hodag Park. I spent the rest of the day I conducted watercraft inspections and collected data at Lake Minocqua's Stack's Bay Landing,

Saturday, May 31st, 2014

I conducted watercraft inspections and collected data at Squaw Lake, Buckskin Lake, Squirrel Lake, and Clear Lake.

Sunday, June 1st, 2014

Off

Steph Boismenu

Update 06-02-2014 to 06-08-2014

Monday, June 2nd, 2014

Off

Tuesday, June 3rd, 2014

Today's Hodag Park AIS Fun Day at with Mrs. Werner's 4th grade class was cancelled due to rain and rescheduled for Thursday. We started the morning with our weekly AIS Team meeting and discussed this week's schedule, event details and supplies needed for each event. The supply list for each event is extensive and will take time to gather items.

After our meeting, Michele, Alyssa, Sara, and I drove west of town, to Highway 8 by the Quality Inn, to dig-up and pot Purple Loosestrife plants. The plants will be delivered to volunteers who are rearing purple loosestrife beetles. The rest of the day was spent on paperwork and preparing for Thursdays AIS Fun Day and Saturday's Family Fishing Fun Day.

Wednesday, June 4th, 2014

Today Alyssa, Sara and I attended a Field Training Day at the WDNR service center in Rhinelander. The morning portion was spent in classroom learning about: point intercept surveys, AIS field sampling techniques, AIS disinfecting protocol, trailering protocol, Citizens Lake Monitoring Network and reviewing plants. The afternoon training session was spent at the Boom Lake boat landing, where we spent time at each of the following rotating stations: CBCW techniques; practicing/learning trailering techniques; went out on a boat to learn how to survey and identify aquatic plants and sample for zebra mussels and spiny water fleas. After that, we went back to the DNR service center to learn how to disinfect equipment.

Thursday, June 5th, 2014

Today was another fun day at work! Our AIS team held AIS Fun Day at with Mrs. Werner's 4th grade class held at Hodag Park and it was a huge success! After students arrived, we spent time with introductions and explained the day's events to the students. The class was then broken into 3 groups and each group spent 1 hour in each of the following stations:

- Michele took kids on a pontoon and provided AIS and plant sampling techniques,
- Alyssa and Sara shared a station and had the students make an AIS poster and then video taped small groups of students while the students explained the poster they made and explained other AIS facts,
- I shared a station with DNR Conservation Warden, Dave Waltz. Dave provided a DNR boat and went over boating safety and regulations and I taught the students about the individual hands-on AIS samples (zebra mussels, spiny waterfleas, Rusty crayfish, EWM, Curley leaf pondweed, and VHS).

Friday, June 6th, 2014

I spent the better part of the day going to various lakes to obtain live AIS plants and critter to put in our aquarium for tomorrow's Family Fishing Fun Day at Hodag Park. I went to hat Rapids Dam for Rusty Crayfish, but didn't have any luck. I then went to Little Bearskin Lake and just as I was setting the rusty crayfish trap, DNR Conservation Warden, Tim Ebert drove in. Tim gave me the name of the man who traps rusty's on Big Bearskin Lake and said he would be happy to provide some rustys for me. I called him and sure enough, he was happy to provide some, said he was home now and I could come and get them. I drove to his house and picked up two Rusty's. Afterwards, Sara and I gather supplies for Family Fishing Fun Day at Boom Lake the next day.

Saturday June 7th 2014

Today was Family Fishing Fun Day, which celebrates free fishing weekend in WI. Alyssa, Sara, and I set-up our hands-on AIS display in Hodag Park's blat landing pavilion. It included our aquarium of live AIS including rusty crayfish, zebra mussels, invasive snails, and EWM. We also had a large bucket filled with water so the kids would look through and aqua scope.

Afterwards, we came back to the court house and unpacked supplies. I spent the afternoon monitoring boats at Sand/Dam Landing.

Steph Boismenu

Update 06-09-2014 to 06-15-2014

Monday, June 9th, 2014

Off

Tuesday, June 10th, 2014

I worked on office paper work. At 9:45 I drove to the DNR to return the button maker to Sandy Wickman. The AIS team attended first aid training at Oneida County Health Department from 10:00-11:00. Afterwards, we returned to the office and worked on paperwork and had our AIS Team meeting and spent the rest of the day catching-up on paperwork, worked on the AIS Poster Contest Traveling Art Display, and planed/prepared for tomorrows AIS Poster Contest Awards Ceremony.

Wednesday, June 11th, 2014

Big – fun day today! I left early for work to pick-up ice-cream at Trigs for the AIS Poster Contest Awards Ceremony. I then met Michele at James Williams Junior High School, where we presented award to the 8th grade 1st place winner and ice cream to her entire classroom. Michele and I then traveled to Central Intermediate School and presented awards and ice cream to Mrs. Bowman and Mrs. Werner's classrooms. Apparently, Michele and I have developed a fan club with Mrs. Werner's class – as students had us sign their yearbooks and take group photos. Michele and I stopped at Mel's Trading Post to inquire about purchasing a canoe for the AIS Department. I spent the rest of the day working on paperwork and finished my part of the AIS Poster Contest Traveling Art Display.

Thursday, June 12, 2014

The morning started with an AIS Team meeting to discuss projects, schedules, and upcoming events to prepare for. Afterwards, I drove to Schroeder's Marina to return the propeller. I then set out to complete a few projects: 1) identify/confirm the Phragmites areas on Hwy G and Hwy Q (heading south towards Pelican Lake and 2) drive to Lake Metonga to obtain zebra mussels to include in our AIS educational aquarium at Saturday's Hazlehurst AIS Fair.

Locating the Phragmites areas was an interesting process. First off, it was questionable whether it was actually Phragmites reported in the first place. Before I left the courthouse, I obtained a map of their location. However, because the computer system at work was old, Michele was unable to get the GPS coordinates for me. I went to all of the locations as marked on the map, but did not see any sign of them. I called the office to obtain more location information and report my findings, or rather lack of findings.

Fortunately, Michele and Rosie were able to get the GPS coordinates, which I wrote down and drove to. However, I still did not find any Phragmites at any of the locations.

I then traveled to Lake Metonga and obtained the zebra mussels. When I returned to the courthouse, I set-up the aquarium and put supplies away.

Friday, June 13, 2014

I took the morning off to attend the Oneida County Lakes and Rivers Northern Lakes Conference and Annual Meeting. I spent the afternoon and evening monitoring boats. Afterwards, I returned to the courthouse to pack supplies for tomorrow's Hazlehurst AIS Fair. I then went to Sand/Dam boat landing to conduct CBCW Watercraft inspections and data collection. That evening at home, I walked my shoreline and collected Chinese and Banded Mystery Snails for tomorrow's educational display aquarium.

Saturday, June 14, 2014

Hazlehurst's AIS Fair. I drove to the rusty crayfish trapper/supplier at Big Bearskin to obtain rusty's for this morning's program. I then met Alyssa and Sara at the park in Hazlehurst. They helped me set-up our hands-on AIS display and once I was situated, Alyssa and Sara left to monitor boats. I had a great time with our AIS display at this fair and people of all ages enjoyed seeing live AIS critters and learning about the problems they can cause and how to prevent them from spreading. The aquarium of live AIS included: 3 rusty crayfish, about 2 dozen zebra mussels, several Chinese and Banded Mystery Snails, and EWM. I handed out educational material, bobbers and pencils. I heard from the Hazlehurst Lions Club that our AIS booth was the hit of the fair.

Sunday, June 15 2014

Off

Stephanie Boismenu

Update 06-16-14 to 06-22-14

Monday, June 16, 2014

Off

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Paperwork and finish project day. My car was loaded to the max with supplies that I used at Saturday's AIS booth at Hazlehurst Arts and Craft Fair. I spend about 45-50 minutes unloading, unpacking, and reorganizing supplies. After that, we had an AIS Team meeting in the conference room. Items discussed:

- For the week of July 4th, Alyssa, Sara, and I will do CBCW on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.
- Steph: sometime in the next few weeks, work on the "Lake Service Provider" – which is related to the issue of transporting and installing piers/docks and possibly

transporting AIS. Michele suggested researching "Lake Service Provider" outreach material from Doug Jensen, MN Sea Grant.

- CLMN: Wednesday and Thursdays we will monitor the littoral zone of the lakes on the DNR's list.
 1. Before we go the lakes we need to print out the lake maps and look-up what AIS exists in that lake.
 2. Monitoring will include looking for AIS while meandering the shorelines, perform secchi disk readings and DO readings.
 3. Pay special attention to the boat landings (100' of shoreline and 100" of littoral of the landing), inlets, outlets and private landings.
 4. Obtain samples of AIS if not already of list.
 5. Preserve snails with alcohol before we take them to the DNR.
 6. Write a report of each lake.
 7. Monitoring Supply list: canoe, paddles, pfd's, GPS, lake maps (print on Rite In the Rain paper), small rakes, hand held nets, DO meter, secchi disk, Aqua scopes, waders, mask, snorkel, fins, bags to put collected AIS samples in, marker, alcohol to preserve snails, water shoes, towel, change of clothes, and a large Rubbermaid tub to put wet stuff in.

After the meeting, I worked on Photoshopping the picture of EWM for the Traveling Art Show (poster contest winners) and worked on paperwork.

That evening at home, I put the canoe racks on my car and got supplies ready to monitor our fist lake tomorrow.

Wednesday, June 18th, 2014

Alyssa and I went to Mel's Trading Post to pick-up a canoe to use for today's monitoring. We were also giving this canoe a test-run to see how well it handled for our monitoring needs - for potential purchase by the AIS department. However, Brian at Mel's was not in, so I left my number and asked that he call me when he comes in. Alyssa and I went back to the courthouse and worked on paperwork. Brian called at 11:30 and said he would have the canoe available for us at noon. Alyssa and I picked-up the canoe and went to Long Lake, in the town of Cassian by the Germain Hemlock State Natural Area. While on Long Lake, we obtained secchi disk and DO readings from both deep hole site A & B. We then chose three areas of shoreline to check for presence/absence of AIS. IT was a beautiful day on the lake and the canoe handled extremely well!

Thursday, June 19, 2014

Alyssa and I went to Mel's to pick-up stern and bow rope for the canoe. We then drove to Lake Minocqua's Stacks bay landing and canoed to the **large Yellow Iris patch** by the bridge. We took photos and collected samples. Afterwards, we returned to the office and worked on paperwork.

Friday, June 20th, 2014

I conducted watercraft inspections and collected data at Hodag Park's Boom Lake Landing. While at Boom Lake, I helped Al (from DNR) dig-up Yellow Iris that was growing along the shoreline by the boat landing. I then drove to Pelican Lake to provide CBCW training to 3 of Pelican Lakes paid employees.

Saturday, June 21st, 2014

I provided CBCW watercraft inspection and data collection training to 5 volunteers of the Little Bearskin Lake Association. The training went very well and in fact, the 5 people that I trained were so interested in AIS that the training lasted a bit longer than usual. Afterwards, I conducted watercraft inspections and collected data at Lake Minocqua's Stack's Bay Landing; I did find Yellow Iris at the landing. See photos.



Stephanie Boismenu
Update 06-23-14 to 06-29-14

Monday, June 23, 2014

Michele, Sandy Wickman, and I assisted the Lake George's Lake Sweep. The purpose of the sweep was to check for presence and absence of Eurasian water-milfoil and Curly leaf Pondweed throughout the lake.

Tuesday, June 24th, 2014

Michele, Alyssa, Sara and I had our weekly AIS team meeting. Afterwards, I worked on paperwork and wrote an article about the invasive Yellow Flag Iris.

Wednesday, June 25th, 2014

I attended an all day Aquatic Plant Management Workshop at Kemp Station.

Thursday, June 26th, 2014

Yesterday, Michele was contacted by a resident (first name Marna) of Kathan Lake, who had just read our articles about the invasive Yellow Flag Iris and wanted to report locations of this iris on Kathan Lake. I spent most of the day kayaking the entire shoreline of Kathan Lake, looking for the invasive Yellow Flag Iris. I did indeed find several locations of this iris of which I made waypoints in the GPS and recorded the locations on my map as well.

Friday, June 27th, 2014

I conducted watercraft inspections and collected data at Lake Minocqua's Stacks Bay Landing.

Saturday, June 28th, 2014

Off

Sunday, June 29th, 2014

I conducted watercraft inspections and collected data at Willow Flowage Landing by the dam and lake Minocqua's Stacks Bay Landing.

Stephanie Boismenu
Update 06-30-14 to 07-6-14

Monday, June 30th, 2014
Off

Tuesday July 1st, 2014

Michele, Alyssa, Sara, and I held our weekly AIS team meeting. Shortly after the meeting, Michele, Jean, Rosie and I went to the Oneida County Airport to dig up native plants that were about to be bulldozed. We worked fast because the construction workers gave us very little time to remove plants before they started bulldozing.

Wednesday July 2nd, 2014

Sara and I stopped by Lake Tomahawk Lake to collect both invasive and native plants samples. The plant samples were for Big Bearskins Lake Association Fair this weekend. We then drove to Sunday Lake, just east of Minocqua and performed Citizens Lake Monitoring. We discovered the invasive Chinese Mystery Snail. Afterwards, Sara and I drove back to the courthouse and unloaded our monitoring gear.

Thursday, July 3rd, 2014

A crazy, busy, fun day today! Michele contacted me early this morning to let me know that the person from Big Bearskin was coming to the courthouse at 9am to collect the plant samples that I had collected yesterday, Michele asked me to go to the Courthouse early to separate, identify, and mark the plants that I had collected yesterday. I arrived at the courthouse at 7:15am and took care of the plants.

At 8am, I was off to meet Michele in Sugar Camp to help release Purple Loosestrife beetles. I first stopped by the Boom Lake boat landing to pick up Shelley Lehman, who was volunteering with Michele and I today. After meeting Michele in Sugar Camp, we drove to the home of the resident who was rearing the beetles, loaded the seven potted Purple Loosestrife plants containing beetles into my car and drove the plants to the release location. We removed the netting and stakes and using precise methodologies, the potted Purple Loosestrife plants were placed in amongst the established Purple Loosestrife plants.

Afterwards, Shelley and I drove back to Rhinelander's Boom Lake landing and trained Shelley how to conduct CBCW watercraft inspections and data collection. I spent the rest of the afternoon working at that landing.

Friday July 4th, 2014

I spent the day conducting watercraft inspections at Sand/Dam Landing and Lake Minocqua's Stacks Bay Landing. **Of note: I arrived at Stacks Bay landing at 3:00pm and there were 39 boat trailers and two dozen vehicles (without trailers) parked there. Next year, this landing should have coverage for the entire day.**

Saturday July 5th, 2014

I conducted watercraft inspections and data collection at Lake Minocqua's Stack's Bay Landing,

Sunday, July 6th, 2014

Off

Stephanie Boismenu

Update 07-07-14 to 07-13-14

Monday, July 7th, 2014

Off

Tuesday, July 8th, 2014

I started the day by entering my watercraft inspections data into the system and gathering totals of Alyssa, Sara, my inspection hours and data totals from July 3-5. Michele, Alyssa, Sara and I had our weekly AIS team meeting and discussed the successful inspection totals from July 3-5th. We went over details of the awards banquet including menu planning and brainstorming unique centerpieces. ☺ After the meeting, Alyssa, and Sara and I drove to the large Phragmites colony on Highway 8 West (just east of the Northwood's Golf Course entrance) and I obtained GPS coordinates of the outside parameter. I spent the rest of the day working on paperwork.

Wednesday, July 9th, 2014

I worked on a little paperwork this morning and prepared for the 1:30 Three Lakes Waterfront Association's Lake Sweep held on Virgin Lake. During the Lake Sweep, Sandy Wickman held a workshop on how to identify native and non native aquatic plants while Michele and I were on separate pontoon boats showing residents how to identify EWM from the water surface. Afterwards, Michele had me check out a possible sighting of Flowering Rush at Jenny Weber's boat landing. I obtained samples and headed back to the courthouse.

Thursday, July 10th, 2014

Today was a crazy busy fun day. Alyssa and I set out to monitor Wind Pudding Lake. Wow, what an adventure that was – driving to the landing on the north side took us through newly cut logging roads and I'm glad my car has all wheel drive! We did not find the boat landing, aborted that journey and headed to Hasbrook Lake.

Hasbrook Lake: As Alyssa and I canoed across Hasbrook Lake, I used the depth finder and maps to find the deep area of the lake (now known as Deep Hole Site A). While at Site A, we obtained GPS coordinates, dissolved oxygen, temperature, and Secchi disk readings. Alyssa and I then chose three 100" areas along the shoreline to monitor for AIS and I am happy to report that we did not find any. Hasbrook is a pretty lake with an active beaver lodge and extremely large bullfrogs. It has very clear water and the substrate is mostly sand and gravel. Alyssa and I were surprised to find so many homes that had front doors/areas of the home at least 10 feet from the waters edge. On the flip side, the majority of Hasbrook Lake's shoreline is undeveloped.

After Alyssa and I returned to the courthouse, Sara and I drove to Lynn Ann's Garden Center in Sugar Camp, to pickup native plants for a native restoration project. On the way back to Rhinelander, Sara and I stopped by Jenny Weber Lake to take a second look for the invasive flowering rush, and I'm happy to report that we did not find any. Of Note: Always wear waders when wading in Jenny Weber Lake. Sara and I then delivered the plants to the UW Extension-Rhinelander Oneida County Airport and placed them in the swimming pool that Sara had set-up earlier that day.

Friday, July 11th, 2014

I conducted watercraft inspections and collected data at Hodag Park's Boom Lake Landing.

Saturday, July 12th, 2014

I conducted watercraft inspections and collected data at Lake Minocqua's Stacks Bay Landing.

Sunday, July 13, 2014

I conducted watercraft inspections and collected data at Willow Flowage Landing by the dam.

Stephanie Boismenu

Update 07-14-14 to 07-20-14

Monday July 14, 2014

Off

Tuesday, July 15, 2014

I entered my CBCW watercraft data into SWIMS and worked on paperwork. Michele, Sara, Alyssa and I had our weekly AIS team meeting and went over details of tomorrows Purple Loosestrife plant/beetle delivery and details of the awards banquet. Michele and I had a meeting with Art in Land Information, to review my Lake Kathon yellow iris GPS coordinates.

I stopped by Menards and picked up 20 feet of chain and several latches for the Zebra Mussel plates.

Wednesday, July 16th, 2014

Today was the official Alyssa, Sara, Steph Purple Loosestrife (PL) Beetle Mission Day. Our mission was to place 15 PL plants laced with PL beetles, in amongst established PL colonies located throughout the county, obtain GPS coordinates, and complete the WDNR's PL Beetle Release Field Report for each of the locations. Today's mission was made possible by the McNaughton Correctional Facilities, PL bio-control project, which entails rearing PL beetles on potted PL plants. PL delivery locations included:

- Big Carr/Little Carr by Lake Tomahawk;
- Lake Minocqua by Fish Hatchery Road in Woodruff;
- The channel between Echo and Chain Lake in the Town of Sugar Camp;
- The intersection of Hwy 45 and Old Hwy 45 in the Town of Piehl (by Ginty Lake);
- Shepard Street in Rhinelander

Before we began, we stopped by the UW Extension office at the airport to obtain PL netting. While we were there, we checked in on the stash of potted native plants that we had placed in swimming pools last week. These potted plants are awaiting a new home in a restoration project. From there we drove to the McNaughton Correctional Facility to pickup our 15 plants with beetles – glad I drove my suburban today. We then delivered 6 plants to Carr Lake. Afterwards, we made a pit-stop at Hodstradt Lake to place a Zebra Mussel plate under the dock at the public boat landing. We then drove to the rest of the locations listed above and were successful at placing potted PL plants laced with beetles at each location. It was a fun and adventurous day, to say the least.

Thursday, July 17, 2014

Off today

Friday, July 18, 2014

Off today

Saturday, July 19, 2014

Off in the morning. I spend the afternoon and early evening conducting watercraft inspections and collecting data at Lake Minocqua's Stacks Bay Landing.

Sunday, July 20, 2014

Off today

Stephanie Boismenu

Update 07-21-14 to 07-27-14

Monday, July 21st, 2014

Off

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Off in the morning. I spent the afternoon catching-up on paperwork.

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Sara and I monitored Indian Lake this morning. Joining us were 7 members of the Indian Lake Association who wanted to observe and learn from our monitoring process. At 8:30 the group gathered at the public boat landing. All 9 of us were able to go out on one pontoon boat, which was provided by one of the members of the group. As we boarded the boat and introduced ourselves, I explained the itinerary and steps of each of the tests. We then went to the deep hole site A, where we obtained DO, temperature, and secchi readings and explained each test to the group.

Afterwards, I explained to the group that the next step was to conduct AIS monitoring of three 100 foot swaths of shoreline/littoral zone. I explained that one site will be the boat landing and the other two sites should be high risk areas, such as private boat launches or areas of heavy use. With that, the group decided that an area they wanted us to monitor was where there is a seaplane parked and flown to different lakes and back almost daily by the lake resident who owns the plane. We went to that location and I demonstrated how to monitor the shoreline, including checking solid surfaces, by walking the shoreline and using the aqua scope. I obtained GPS coordinates as I walked the shoreline (Monitoring Site 1).

The next AIS monitoring location was the public boat landing. I obtained GPS coordinates of the monitoring area as I monitored along the shoreline (Monitoring Site 2).

The next locations that the group chose to monitor, was an island across from the boat landing that gets heavy use year-round and is also used for overnight camping. We went to that location and I obtained GPS coordinates as I monitored along the shoreline (Monitoring Site 3).

The next process was to install the zebra mussel plates. Since the public boat landing does not have a dock, the group suggested we place it on the dock of the property next to the boat landing. The owner was happy to let us place the plate under his dock and I told him we would be back in about 2 weeks to check on it.

I am happy to report that other than the known existence of the Chinese Mystery Snail and Freshwater Jelly Fish, we did not find any new invasive species in Indian Lake. Afterwards, Sara and I drove back to the courthouse. I spent the afternoon writing my report on Kathan Lake's yellow flag iris and obtaining maps for tomorrow's monitoring adventures.

Thursday July 24, 2014

Kathan Lake: Yellow Flag Iris Site Visit #2

Alyssa and I went to Kathan Lake to obtain two more Yellow Flag Iris GPS coordinates. Lake Kathan residents, Myrna and Larry Wright, assisted Alyssa and I by driving us in their fishing boat to the locations. One benefit of going in the boat rather than a kayak was that we were higher up off the water surface thus allowing us better visual observation. The first GPS location that I had questioned turned out to be cattails. The second location (site B) is located in a shallow, swampy bay on the east side of the lake and consists of a large colony and a few scattered clumps of plants. Unfortunately, the water level was much lower than it had been during my first visit, making it incredibly difficult to get the boat close enough to the area to obtain GPS coordinates. We did the best we could with the GPS waypoints and took photos of the area. On the way back to the Wrights, we stopped at the yellow iris colony located on the floating island (site A) and took some photos.

Sand Lake:

The Phantom Plant of Sand Lake

In 2011, Kyle McLaughlin, of the WDNR, reported seeing Eurasian water milfoil (EWM) in Sand Lake, across from the boat landing in Pitlik's Resort Bay as well as some just under the bridge in Dam Lake. The WDNR's 2011 point intercept survey did not find EWM on the rake. However, Michele has record of a September 30, 2011 positive confirmation made by a UW Stevens Point Freckmann Herbarium voucher. Unfortunately, the record sent to Michele did not contain additional information about the voucher specimen nor waypoints. In the summer of 2012, the Oneida County AIS team looked for the EWM and did not find any.

Alyssa and I canoed spent a few hours canoeing around Sand Lake's north east bay across from the boat landing, in search of this mysterious EWM. It was a beautiful blue sky day and very calm – perfect conditions for visual search of EWM in dark amber colored water.

We began our visual monitoring process at the boat landing, heading north to the bridge, then under the bridge, crossing over to the east shoreline and worked our way around to the end of Pitlik's Resort Bay. As we paddled the shoreline and shallow water areas, I picked through vegetation that was floating, washed-up on shore, and caught around emergent plants and identified several look-a-like plants. I used the aqua scope and my polarized light amber colored sunglasses in the deeper water areas.

Stephanie Boismenu

Update 07-28-14 to 08-03-14

Monday, July 28th, 2014

Off work today

Tuesday, July 29th, 2014

Michele, Alyssa, Sara, and I held our weekly AIS team meeting. We discussed: last Friday and Saturday's CBCW boat inspections results/activities and hours; went over edits to the newsletter; discussed Wind Pudding Lake; Michele explained the statewide CBCW Special Project on Sunday August 10th that I am scheduled to work, which consist of spending 3 hours at Stella Lake and Madelyn Lake and use a special data collection form; discussed details about the upcoming AIS awards banquet and finalized details; discussed this weeks projects/activities including details about our booth at the upcoming Oneida County Fair, which Alyssa and Sara are working and harvesting Purple Loosestrife throughout the county on Thursday.

Afterwards, Michele and I had a meeting with Art (from Land Information) to discuss the GPS unit. I then spent the rest of the day preparing for/gathering supplies for this week's lake monitoring activities, catching up on paperwork, and entered my CBCW boat landing monitoring data into SWIMS.

Wednesday, July 30th, 2014

Today was another fun day. Volunteer Shelley Lehman assisted Sara and me as we preformed CLMN monitoring on Hodstradt Lake. In addition, we conducted AIS presence/absence checks at Two Sisters Lake landing and Muskellunge Lake landing. We then collected AIS plant samples for educational purposes at several upcoming events from both Lake Tomahawk and the dam at Hancock Lake.

Hodstradt Lake Monitoring:

It was a warm, blue sky day with a slight wind – perfect for canoeing the lake. Using the depth finder and bathymetric, I navigated the canoe to the first of two deep holes. I held the canoe steady while Sara obtained Secchi, dissolved oxygen, and temperature readings, as well as obtained a GPS point of our location (titled Deep Hole Site A).

We then paddled to three locations on the lake to perform an AIS presence/absence check. The protocol is to complete a visual inspection of the littoral zone along 100' of shoreline in each area. The areas we choose are the boat landing, and then two areas that I identify as potential private boat launches or other high risk situations. The visual inspection includes visual inspection from the canoe and via walking along the shoreline - as far out as comfortable, using an aqua scope, looking through vegetation, and checking around and under solid surfaces. The only AIS we found were Chinese Mystery Snails, which the WDNR already noted as existing in the lake. Upon returning to the boat landing, I removed the Zebra Mussel Plate that I had installed under the dock at the public boat landing a few weeks earlier. For complete monitoring details, please refer to the Hodstradt Lake Monitoring Report.

Two Sisters Lake – Boat Launch Monitoring for AIS Presence/Absence:

Sara, Shelley, and I performed a AIS presence/absence check at the boat landing and along several hundred feet of shoreline either side of the boat landing. We did not find any AIS.

Muskellunge Lake – Boat Launch Monitoring for AIS Presence/Absence:

We attempted to monitor the landing of Muskellunge Lake but the water was too murky. In addition, I determined that since the landing area that we needed to monitor was shaded, it would be best to come back and monitor it on a bright sunny morning rather than afternoon.

Thursday, July 31st, 2014

I helped Sara and Alyssa setup the AIS booth at the Oneida County Fair. Afterwards, I traveled to Minocqua and dug-up Purple Loosestrife plants in the drainage ditches along Highway 70 west by Wildwood Park.

Friday, August 1st, 2014

I conducted CBCW watercraft inspections and collected data at the Lake Nokomis boat landing, off of Hwy N. While at the landing, I trained Jasmine Labbs how to perform CBCW watercraft inspections. Jasmine has been hired by the Lake Mildred Lake Association to perform boat inspections next summer. She was a quick learner and will do very well.

Of note: while at Nokomis, I spotted a large patch of Purple Loosestrife about 500 feet east of the landing – right by the bridge. I informed Michele of this location.

Saturday, August 2nd, 2014

I conducted CBCW watercraft inspections and collected data at Town Line Lake in Three Lakes.

Sunday, August 3rd, 2014

Off today. However, I drove to town, to the Oneida County Fair grounds to collect the AIS booth supplies that Sara and Alyssa had set-up for the day before. However, since the fair was still going, I would have had to park about 6 blocks away. Therefore, I determined that obtaining the supplies would have to wait until tomorrow morning. I then went to the courthouse to obtain the zebra mussels and Rusty Crayfish that Sara and Alyssa used at the fair, and dropped off at the courthouse Saturday evening. I took the invasive critters home for disposal (burned them in my fire pit).

Did find PL

Friday July 25, 2015

I delivered the samples of potential blue green algae to the DNR. Afterwards, I conducted watercraft inspections and collected data at the Lake Nokomis Landing.

Saturday, July 26, 2014

I conducted watercraft inspections at Lake Minocqua's Stacks Bay Landing.

Stephanie Boismenu

Weekly Update for 08-04-14 to 08-10-14

Monday, August 4th, 2014

Off today

Tuesday, August 5th, 2014

Michele, Alyssa, Sara, and I held our weekly AIS team meeting. We discussed: last Friday and Saturday's CBCW boat inspections results/activities and hours; lake monitoring results and the need for a canoe anchor while obtaining DO's, as well as boat/gear decontamination procedures; discussed at length the details of tomorrow's AIS/CLMN awards banquet and activities to be completed for the banquet. We planned the activities for the next two weeks.

After the meeting, I entered my CBCW watercraft inspection data into SWIMS and then drove to Menards to purchase an anchor and 50 feet of anchor rope. They had the rope but not an anchor. I then went to Mel's Trading Post and picked-up an anchor. Then I set-out to collect items needed for tomorrow's AIS/CLMN awards banquet, which consisted of: going to the Dollar Tree Store and obtained small, round fish bowls for the banquet's table center pieces and a "happy Birthday" banner for celebrating CBCW 10th anniversary at the AIS awards banquet. I went to Wal-Mart to obtain the gift card that they promised us for the AIS awards banquet. Then I drove to the dam at Hancock Lake to obtain CLP, Manson Lake to obtain PL, EWM, CMS, and BMS. I then obtained Phragmites from the highway 8 west location.

I returned to the office and gathered-up/packed supplies for the banquet and prepared for monitoring lakes on Thursday. Michele and I discussed the Phragmites display for the banquet and determined that a large clump Phragmites would be an impressive educational tool. I will obtain additional Phragmites tomorrow

Wednesday, August 6th, 2014

Today is AIS/CLMN Awards Banquet Day! I collected fresh EWM from Squash Lake to add to the table center pieces. Then I obtained a large clump of Phragmites from the Hwy 8 location and carefully wrapped the seed heads in clear packaging tape as I cut the stalks. Luckily I had my suburban because the Phragmites barely fit the length of the car. Back at the courthouse, Alyssa, Sara, Michele and I loaded supplies into our cars and headed to Holiday Acres. The rest of the afternoon, up until the time the banquet began, was spent at Holiday Acres setting-up supplies, displays, and table center pieces. The banquet was a huge success! Good going AIS Team!

Thursday, August 7th, 2014

Alyssa and I drove to my house to pick up the canoe for today's monitoring activities. We then performed CLMN activities on both Burrows Lake and Swamsauger Lake. It was a productive day, but driving about 60 miles of unimproved gravel road to get to the lakes, made for a long day.

Burrows Lake Monitoring:

We had a beautiful day to canoe the lake. I used the depth finder and bathymetric map to navigate the canoe to the deep hole. We anchored the canoe at the deep hole and obtained Secchi, dissolved oxygen, and temperature readings. The GPS unit was not functioning properly and therefore, we were unable to obtain a GPS point of our location, but I did mark our location on the map.

We then paddled to three locations on the lake to perform an AIS presence/absence check. The protocol is to complete a visual inspection of the littoral zone along 100' of shoreline in each area. The areas we choose are the boat landing, and then two areas that I identify as potential private boat launches or other high risk situations. The visual inspection includes visual inspection from the canoe and via walking along the shoreline - as far out as comfortable, using an aqua scope, looking through vegetation, and checking around and under solid surfaces. Fortunately, we did not find any. For complete monitoring details, please refer to the Burrows Monitoring Report.

Swamsauger Lake Monitoring:

Of note: The public boat landing has an "exotic species advisory" sign, which states that the lake has purple loosestrife. However, we were not unaware of purple loosestrife on this waterbody nor does the WDNR have documentation of it. Alyssa and I did not find any on the lake during our monitoring, either.

We had a bit of a wind to this afternoon. I used the depth finder and bathymetric map to navigate the canoe to the deep hole. We were unable to find the exact location of the deep hole, so we anchored the canoe in the general location and proceeded to obtain Secchi, dissolved oxygen, and temperature readings. The GPS unit was not functioning properly and therefore, we were unable to obtain a point of our location, but I did mark our location on the map.

We then paddled to three locations on the lake to perform an AIS presence/absence check. However, our monitoring process was severely hampered by Swamsauger's incredibly dark redish-brown colored (with 1.5 foot Secchi reading), that it was nearly impossible to complete the monitoring process. We did, however, paddle close to the shoreline and visually inspected vegetation and around solid surfaces. For complete monitoring details, please refer to the Swamsauger Monitoring Report.

Friday, August 8th, 2014

I conducted CBCW watercraft inspections at Lake Minocqua's Stacks Bay Landing.

Saturday, August 9th, 2014

I conducted watercraft inspections at Lake Julia's Landing for a few hours in the morning. At 1:00pm, Michele and I participated in the filming of a documentary about AIS in the great lakes.

Sunday, August 10th, 2014

I participated in conducted a special statewide CBCW watercraft inspection, using a specific form provided, for three hours at Stella Lake and three hours at Madelyn Lake.

Stephanie Boismenu

Weekly Update for 08-11-14 to 08-17-14

Monday, August 11, 2014

Off

Tuesday, August 12, 2014

Sara and I drove to McNaughton Lake to obtain Secchi, dissolved oxygen, temperature readings and perform an AIS presence/absence check. However, upon arrival, whitecaps were beginning to peak and therefore, I decided that we should come back another day. We then drove to Indian Lake to obtain the zebra mussel plate that I had installed a few weeks earlier. Luckily, we did not find any zebra mussels. Afterwards, we obtained GPS coordinates on every purple loosestrife area along the entire length of Hwy 17, from Rhinelander heading north to County D.

Afterwards, Michele and I discussed the upcoming Rhinelander Flowage Lake Association meeting, which I am presenting at. I organizing monitoring equipment and then I entered my CBCW watercraft inspection data into SWIMS. My office computer was having issues and IT worked on it for the rest of the afternoon.

Wednesday, August 13, 2014

Alyssa and I monitored Sweeney Lake, Buffalo Lake, and Hemlock Lake. . The day was mostly sunny with a hefty wind from the northwest. For each of these lakes, we use the depth finder and bathymetric maps to navigate to our monitoring locations which are at the deep holes of each lake. We anchor the canoe and collect Secchi, dissolved oxygen, and temperature readings as well as obtained a GPS point for each of the monitoring locations at the deep holes.

After our data is collected, we then paddled to three locations on the lake to perform an AIS presence/absence check. The protocol for this process is to complete a visual inspection of the littoral zone along 100' of shoreline in each area. The areas we choose are the boat landing, and then two areas that I identify as potential private boat launches or other high risk situations. The visual inspection includes visual inspection from the canoe and via walking along the shoreline - as far out as comfortable, using an aqua scope, looking through vegetation, and checking around and under solid surfaces

Sweeney Lake Monitoring:

Sweeney Lake, located in the Town of Woodruff, is an absolutely beautiful lake with neat character, an eagle's nest, and mature forest. The best part about this lake is that

its entire 191 acres of rugged, undisturbed shoreline is protected by the Northern Highland American Legion State Forest. It is a drainage lake with a maximum depth of 18 feet. Its trophic status is Eutrophic. The only access to Sweeney Lake is via the public boat landing located in the northeast corner of the lake.

Unfortunately, there is a large colony of purple loosestrife at the west side of the public boat landing and extends about 25 feet down the shoreline. Chinese Mystery Snails were observed by the boat landing as well, but their presence has previously been recorded by the WDNR. For complete monitoring details, please refer to the Sweeney Lake Monitoring Report.

Buffalo Lake Monitoring:

Buffalo Lake, located in the Town of Woodruff, is 105 acres seepage lake, with a maximum depth of 27 feet, and its trophic status is Mesotrophic. Buffalo Lake's public access is located at the Buffalo Lake State Forest Campground. There are a few houses at the south side, but the rest of the shoreline is surrounded by the Northern Highland American Legion State Forest. The lakes 104 acres is very clear with a sandy bottom and we noted very little vegetation. For complete monitoring details, please refer to the Buffalo Lake Monitoring Report.

Hemlock Lake Monitoring:

Hemlock Lake, located in the Town of Woodruff, is a beautiful little 38 acre seepage lake with a means depth of 14 feet and a maximum depth of 25 feet. Its trophic status is Mesotrophic. There is one public access, but is a carry-in landing meant for canoes or kayaks. Its undeveloped mature shoreline is protected by the Northern Highland American Legion State Forest.

As Alyssa and I launched the canoe, I quickly identified large purple bladderwort. I called Michele and she confirmed that large purple bladderwort in Hemlock Lake has already been identified by the WDNR. For complete monitoring details, please refer to the Hemlock Lake Monitoring Report.

Thursday, August 14th, 2014

Today's monitoring activities would not have been possible without help from Bob Williams of Wind Pudding Lake! Thank you, Bob.

Sara and I monitored McNaughton and Wind Pudding Lakes. In addition, we performed an AIS presence/absence check at Muskellunge Lake public boat landing, which we did not find any AIS. It was a beautiful blue sky day with very little breeze – perfect for canoeing. At McNaughton and Wind Pudding Lakes we used the depth finder and bathymetric map to navigate the canoe to our monitoring location, which is at the deep hole of each lake. At the deep hole, we anchored the canoe, obtain a GPS point of our location and then collect Secchi, dissolved oxygen, and temperature readings.

After data collection, we paddled to three locations on the lake to perform an AIS presence/absence check. The protocol for this process is to complete a visual inspection of the littoral zone along 100' of shoreline in each area. The areas we choose are the boat landing, and then two areas that I identify as potential private boat launches or other high risk situations. The visual inspection includes visual inspection from the canoe and via walking along the shoreline - as far out as comfortable, using an aqua scope, looking through vegetation, and checking around and under solid surfaces

McNaughton Lake Monitoring:

McNaughton Lake is a beautiful 121 acre lake located in the Town of Lake Tomahawk. It is a spring-fed, groundwater drainage lake with a mean depth of 4 feet, maximum depth of 9 feet, and its trophic status is Mesotrophic. There is one public boat landing. The lakes undeveloped shoreline is protected by the Northern Highland American Legion State Forest.

Unfortunately, we discovered Purple Loosestrife growing at the boat landing and a few small clumps of plants scattered along the southeast shore. We did obtain PGS coordinates of each of these locations. For complete monitoring details, please refer to the McNaughton Lake Monitoring Report.

Wind Pudding Lake Monitoring:

Wind Pudding Lake is a beautiful 180 acre seepage lake with a maximum depth of 34 feet, and its trophic state index is oligotrophic. It has abundant native vegetation including large purple bladderwort (*Utricularia purpurea*). The lake has unique characteristics such as separate shallow and deep basins, the south west section is developed, and the rest of the lake, which is undeveloped, was designated as Wind Pudding Lake State Natural Area in 1983 and is surrounded by the Northern Highland American Legion State Forest. For complete monitoring details, please refer to the Wind Pudding Lake Monitoring Report.

Friday, August 15th, 2014

Off today

Saturday, August 16, 2014

I was one of three guest speakers at the Rhinelander Flowage Association meeting, held at Hodag Park. Afterwards, I worked at the AIS booth at the Hazlehurst fair.

Sunday, August 17, 2014

I worked the AIS booth at the Hazlehurst Fair.

Stephanie Boismenu

Weekly Update for 08-18-2014 to 08-24-2014

Monday, August 18, 2014

Off today

Tuesday, August 19, 2014

Off today

Wednesday, August 20, 2014

Art helped me with the GPS and installed a GPS program on my computer. I worked on paperwork until the computer died mid afternoon. Cade from IT, switched out my desktop, added memory, reloaded my programs. However, my computer was not finished until the following morning. In the meantime, I unloaded and put away supplies that were used at the Hazlehurst fair.

Thursday, August 21, 2014

Cade continued to work on repairing my computer. Afterwards, I worked on paperwork and various projects.

Friday, August 22, 2014

I conducted CBCW watercraft inspections at both Sand Lake and at North Nokomis Lake's public boat landings.

Saturday, August 23, 2014

I conducted CBCW watercraft inspections at Lake Nokomis's public boat landing.

Stephanie Boismenu

Weekly Update for 08-25-14 to 08-31-2014

Monday, August 25, 2014

Off today

Tuesday, August 26th, 2014

Michele and I discussed upcoming schedules, projects, and events. I spent the day working on updates and lake monitoring reports.

Wednesday, August 27, 2014

I worked on paperwork and Michele and I worked on purple loosestrife data, GPS issues, and prepared for tomorrow's purple loosestrife quest. In the process, we discovered a neat GPS program called GPS Visualizer, which is a free program and easy to navigate and use.

Thursday, August 28, 2014

Today was Purple Loosestrife Quest Day with Michele. Prior to leaving, I asked Art for P.L. GPS data. In addition, Michele, Art and I discussed our current ongoing GPS program issues and showed Art the GPS Visualizer program.

The goal of our Purple Loosestrife Quest was to cut flowers in large densities, dig up small densities, map new locations, and observe densities to update management plans. Our project area consisted of Highway 17 north to the Vilas County line, then head east to Three Lakes, then down Highway 45. We stopped at Menards and Michele picked-up yellow highway safety vest, heavy duty trash bags, and 2 safety cones.

We began our journey up Highway 17, clipping and digging in the drainage ditches. During the process, Michele accidentally fell and received a rather large puncture wound on her hand. I had some medical supplies in my car, so we were able to clean it up a bit. We continued our journey into the Three Lakes area. We stopped at the Three Lakes Pharmacy to get band aids for her hand, but the pharmacist looked at it and recommended she get stitches. So, I drove Michele to Rhinelander Aspirus clinic in Rhinelander, where she received three stitches.

Friday, August 29th, 2014

I worked on lake monitoring reports and updates. In addition, I prepared for tomorrow's Minocqua / Kawaguesaga Lake Protection Association Annual Pig Roast Fundraiser. For this event, I gathered, organized, and loaded into my car: AIS laminates, wildcards, brochures, AIS give-a-ways such as pens, pencils, wrist bands, soda can cozies, bobbers, stickers, and two of the CBCW Styrofoam bait buckets; I printed and laminated AIS educational information for the display board; loaded the two card tables, O.C.L.W.C.D. banner, live Zebra Mussels, and AIS samples such as Spiny Waterleaf, juvenile Zebra Mussels, and Chinese/Banded Mystery Snails.

Saturday, August 30th, 2014

As I was heading to the Minocqua / Kawaguesaga Lake Protection Association Annual Pig Roast Fundraiser, I stopped by the dam at Hancock Lake to obtain Curly Leaf Pondweed. However, it was pouring rain and I realized that climbing down to the dam was not going to be safe. Therefore, I did not obtain any. At the Minocqua / Kawaguesaga Lake Protection Association Annual Pig Roast Fundraiser, I shared display space with Susan Knight, from Trout Lake Station, and Rosie Page from WHIP. Since it was drizzling and a bit windy, I did not use the card tables or set-up the display board. Susan Knight had brought plastic tables, of which she let me utilize space. Despite the rain and cool temperatures, there was a large crowd and attendees of all ages were very appreciative of the AIS education that I provided and tools that I had on display, especially the live Rusty Cray Fish (compliments of Susan Knight) and the Zebra Mussels.

Sunday, August 31, 2014

Off today

Stephanie Boismenu

Weekly Update for 09-01-14 to 09-07-14

Monday September 1st, 2014

Off Labor Day

Tuesday, September 2nd, 2014

I spent the day in the office writing up lake reports and entering data into SWIMS. I discussed the GPS programs with Art and Michele and native plants at the airport with Michele.

Wednesday, September 3rd, 2014

On my way to work, I stopped by the airport to check on the supply of potted native plants, which are sitting in kiddie pools. I drained the majority of the water from the pools and improved upon the drainage holes. Back at the shop, Michele and I had our weekly team meeting to discuss projects and upcoming events, which includes:

- Identify and map Purple Loosestrife, which was reported by residents to be growing along the WI River in back of the Chamber of Commerce and along Hwy 45, which was reported to be growing in 7 locations between Highway 8 and Monico. Since PL is at the end of the growing season, I will begin mapping it later today and tomorrow.
- Follow-up with Sara about her missing CBCW hours
- Update my CBCW hours
- Check the fishing tournament schedule on the DNR's website
- Call the Chamber to offer them a box of our CBCW/AIS napkins to use during the 2014 Hodag Musky Tournament's banquet
- Set-up with Crescent Lake to monitor the entire shoreline for AIS
- Check which landings need new signage and complete the appropriate paperwork
- Dam Lake has Bladderwort sign that may need to be removed
- Check the DNR's listing of Canada Thistle and if it is prohibited, we need to figure out it's propriety, start mapping it, and figure out how to treat it, where does WHIP stand with Canada Thistle and could it be a WHIP project;
- Make a map of the county that identifies locations of flowering rush, CLP, EWM, PL, and Yellow Iris. The map should poster size and able to be updated

- Update on the Sand Lake Phantom EWM Plant: Michele reported that Sara Mills went to Freckmann Herbarium and did not find Sand Lake's EWM voucher. The only EWM vouchers Sara found for Oneida were Willow, Minocqua, Kathan, Burn Rollaway, and Pelican's
- Update display boards and we need to purchase a tabletop stand. Also we need to revisit if we need a 2 folded or 3 folder display board. Think of what has and hasn't worked and go from there
- Visit bait shops to resupply and provide them with the new fishing license holders. This needs to be done before ice fishing starts
- Discussed: Hodag Musky Tournament, bridge snapshot d, Lake Nokomis CBCW class
- Discussed working with Mrs. Werner's class to help with the native plant – Boom Lake Restoration project
- Discussed 2015 poster contest, calendar, and WJFW recording Mrs. Werner's class as they ask Michele and Jean AIS questions.

After our meeting, I worked on a little paperwork and obtained the dates of upcoming fishing tournaments. I then searched for Purple Loosestrife along two major highway areas west of Rhinelander, which were Hwy 17/45/8 and Hwy 45. The search along Hwy 45 was in response to a report of 7 plant locations from Monico to Three Lakes. My search began at the Rhinelander Chamber of Commerce, then headed south on Hwy 17/47/8 to Monico, then north on Hwy 45, and returned to Rhinelander via Hwy C. I drove very slowly and walked along stretches of rivers, creeks, and wetlands areas including ditches. For results and details please refer to my report '2014 Hwy 45 P.L. Identification and Mapping.'

Thursday, September 4th, 2014

Today's stormy weather made for an eventful field day of searching for Purple Loosestrife along Hwy 45. I started where I left off yesterday, on Hwy C to Hwy 45, and headed north on Hwy 45. Unfortunately, I had problems with the GPS Unit and therefore, I did my best to obtain coordinates on my cell phone – when I had satellite reception. Mid morning, I spoke to Michele and she reported a bad storm was approaching and that I needed to head to Three Lakes to take cover, which I did. For results and details please refer to my report '2014 Hwy 45 P.L. Identification and Mapping.' Afterwards, I returned to the office and worked on paperwork and discussed the GPS issues with Michele.

Friday, September 5th, 2014

I worked with Art on the ARCGIS program, which keeps crashing on my computer. Afterwards, I worked on paperwork, reports, and fishing tournaments. At 1:30, I left to monitor Squaw Lake for both CBCW and to complete an AIS presence absence check, After Squaw

Saturday, September 6th, 2014

Sunday, September 7th, 2014
Off

Stephanie Boismenu
Weekly Updates for 09-08-14 to 09-14-14

Monday, September 8th, 2014

Tuesday, September 9th, 2014

Wednesday, September 10th, 2014

Thursday, September 11th, 2014

Friday, September 12th, 2014

Saturday, September 13th, 2014

Sunday, September 14th, 2014
Off

Tuesday September 23rd, 2014

This morning I worked on weekly updates. Then Michele, Jean, Rosie, and I had a meeting to go over the upcoming Muskellunge Lake Shoreline Assessment and water quality/AIS presence and absence assessment that Rosie and I will be performing this week. The purpose is to identify, inventory, and assess emergent vegetation, floating vegetation, logs, tree structures, woody habitat; the presence of invasive species and the end result will be to provide outreach. Criteria for choosing a lake: Public boat landing, no lake association, input from DNR fisheries biologists. We discussed the procedure for mapping logs, log piles, tree structures, and plant beds as well as how to record each category on the GPS.

To prepare for the assessment, I created a document called Muskellunge Lake Facts and Figures and then printed maps of Muskellunge Lake on the Rite in the Rain paper.

Wednesday October 1, 2014

I entered the last of the CBCW data and then tallied up the CBCW Hours and Mileage for all three LTE's. Worked on SWIMS data and entered AIS P.L. Incident reports into SWIMS for McNaughton, Mercer, and Little Carr Lake.

Thursday October 2, 2014

I copied all of the photos that I had taken in the field onto the external hard drive. Worked on the AIS Monitoring reports and discovered that the only PL reports entered into SWIMS by Sara and Alyssa was the Insect Release on 7-16-14 at the Quality Inn Foot Bridge, which Sara entered. Therefore, I need to back track and enter the ALL of this seasons PL Findings and PL Beetle Release Reports into SWIMS. The new PL finds include Sand Lake, Hemlock Lake and Sweeney Lake.

Friday, October 3, 2014

I worked on AIS Monitoring reports and entered data into SWIMS

Monday October 6, 2014

Tuesday October 7, 2014

I worked on monitoring articles. Michele showed me how to update the website; I then worked on updating the website and started creating a Spiny Water Flea page.

Wednesday October 8, 2014

I continued working on the website and updated the facebook page.

Thursday October 9, 2014

Friday October 10, 2014

Thursday October 16, 2014

I worked on the AIS poster calendar and AIS monitoring/water quality reports. I emailed Jennifer Filbert the name combinations for the field crew for our swims reports and asked her to add Secchi, DO and temperature to our AIS Monitoring Reports in SWIMS.

Friday October 17, 2014

Off

Monday October 20, 2014

Attended the Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference in Duluth

Tuesday October 21, 2014

Attended the Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference in Duluth

Wednesday October 22, 2014

Attended the Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference in Duluth

Thursday October 23, 2014

Jennifer Filbert replied that the Data Collector Names, Secchi, DO, and Temp fields have been added to our AIS Monitoring Project in SWIMS. Now, the fun begins of updating/entering all of the additional data into each of the 13 plus AIS Monitoring