Land & Water Conservation Department

Clear Lake

Oneida County, Wisconsin

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Land & Water Conservation Department

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Clear Lake AIS Boat Launch and Shoreline Surveillance Monitoring Report

WBIC:	977500
Previous AIS Findings:	Chinese Mystery Snails and Freshwater Jellyfish
New AIS Findings:	None
Field Date:	May 31, 2020
Field Crew:	Aubrey Nycz, Lead AIS Project Assistant, Oneida County Land and Water Conservation Department
Report By:	Aubrey Nycz

On May 31, 2020, Aubrey Nycz, AIS Lead Project Assistant, visited the Clear Lake boat landing located near camp road, in Oneida County, to perform and AIS landing check (Figure 1). The main duties performed at AIS landing checks are to inspect shoreline vegetation, shallow aquatic vegetation, deeper aquatic vegetation (via rake), look for invasive animals, and replace old signs if needed. A GPS unit can be used to mark where the AIS check is performed, and to also mark invasive organisms if found. For today's landing check, I used the GPS on my phone to gather coordinates.

Clear Lake is an 873 acre seepage lake with two public boat landings. I chose to monitor this lake because it is located close to the Minocqua chain of lakes, which have many invasive species in them. Lake Minocqua is a "super spreader" for invasive species, so it is important to monitor lakes in the same area. The shoreline at the Clear Lake boat landing is mainly sand, and there was not a lot of vegetation surrounding the boat landing.

Clear Lake contains two kinds of invasive species. According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Chinese Mystery Snails and Freshwater Jellyfish are already present in the lake. While AIS monitoring at the boat landing, I did not observe any invasive species.

Figure 1. Map of Oneida County, WI with Clear Lake circled in red.

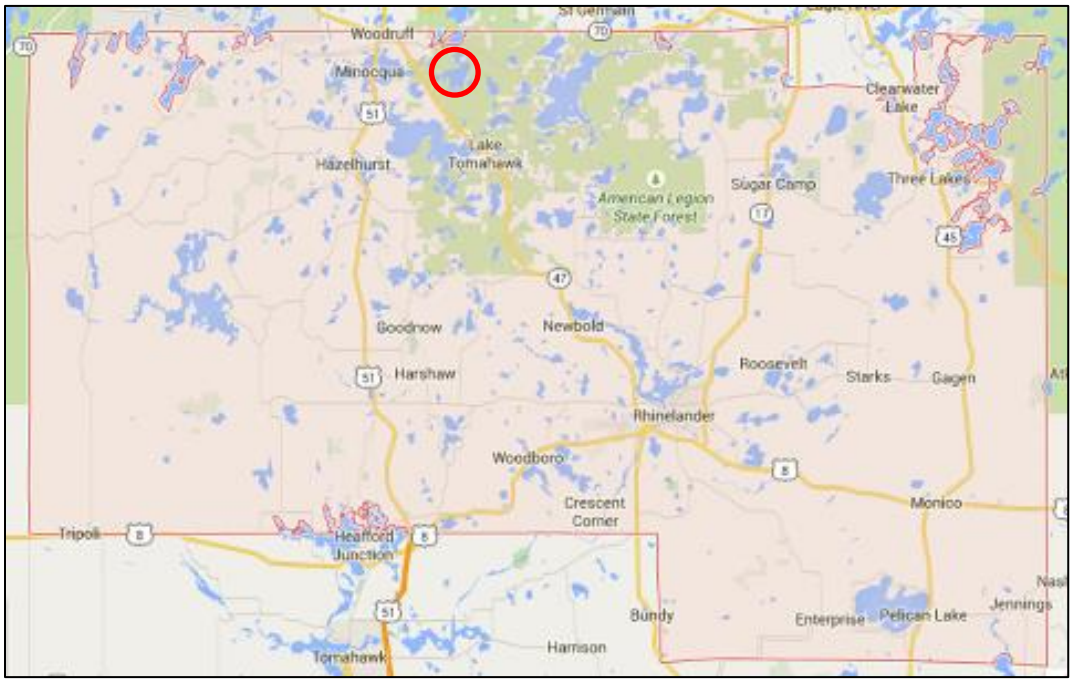
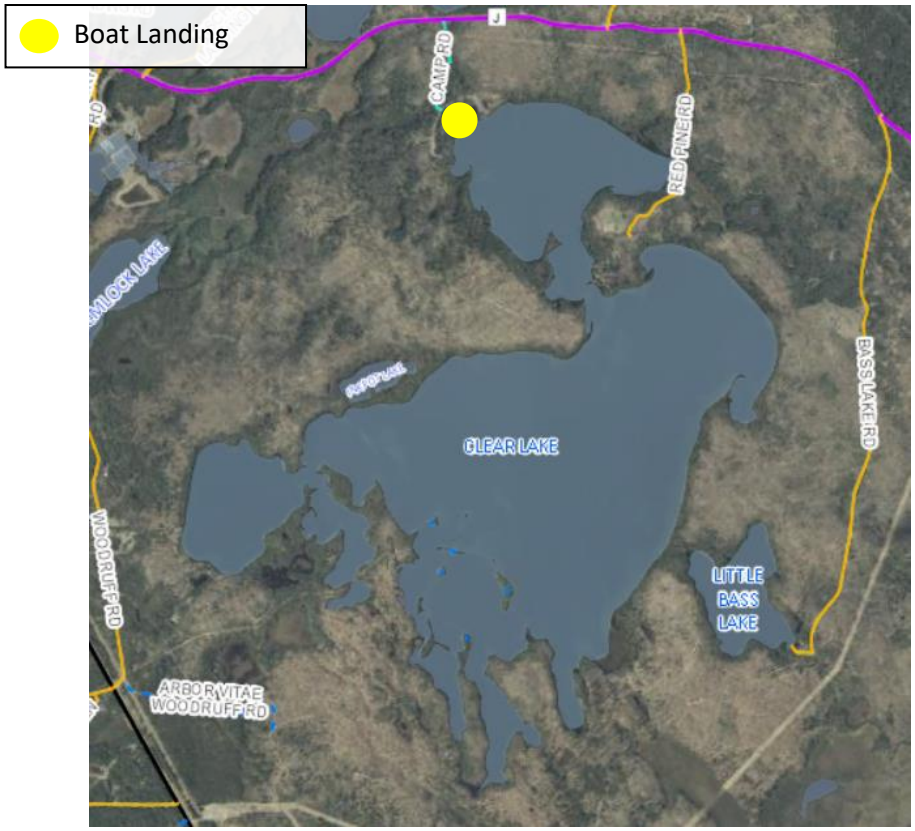


Figure 2. AIS Boat Launch and Shoreline Surveillance Monitoring Location.



Resources: https://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/lakepages/LakeDetail.aspx?wbic=977500

Clear Lake AIS Monitoring and Water Clarity Report

WBIC:	977500
Previous AIS Findings:	Chinese Mystery Snail, Freshwater Jellyfish
New AIS Findings:	None
Field Date:	June 26 and July 12, 2019
Field Crew:	Aubrey Nycz, Lead AIS Project Assistant, Isaac Benz, AIS Project Assistant, and Lauren Radtke, AIS Project Assistant, Oneida County Land and Water Conservation Department
Report By:	Lauren Radtke

On June 26 and July 12, 2019, Aubrey Nycz, Isaac Benz, and I visited Clear Lake, located in Oneida County, to conduct Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) monitoring along with water clarity and quality assessments (Figure 1). Clear Lake is an approximate 873-acre seepage lake with a maximum depth of 95 feet. The substrate is 65% sand, 10% gravel, 20% rock, and 5% muck and the water is blue in appearance. Along with reporting the depth and substrate, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reports that the lake has musky, panfish, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, trout and walleye. We did observe panfish while out on Clear Lake.

There are two public boat landings on Clear Lake. On June 26th, 2019, we launched our canoe at the landing off of Clear Lake Road, and on July 12th, 2019, we launched our canoe at the landing off of Camp Road (Figure 3). The weather while conducting research on Clear Lake was ideal June 26th. The outside temperature was 76 degrees Fahrenheit, the sky was sunny, and there wasn't much wind. On June 12th, the weather was more challenging as there were strong winds and white caps all over the lake.

AIS Monitoring

We completed a visual meander survey around various parts of the lake perimeter (Figure 2), searching both sides of the canoe, and moving in and out between various water depths. Polarized sunglasses were used to aide in looking at the bottom substrate. We looked both in the water and along the shoreline and made note of the plants and animals we observed in the process.

Water Quality Monitoring

We were unable to get water clarity and quality measurement on Clear Lake due to unsafe conditions caused by the high winds.

The lake appeared to be healthy, and many native plants were present. A detailed list of the plants that we found on the lake can be found in table 1.

Aquatic Invasive Species

No new invasives found.

Figure 1. Map of Oneida County, WI with Clear Lake circled in red.

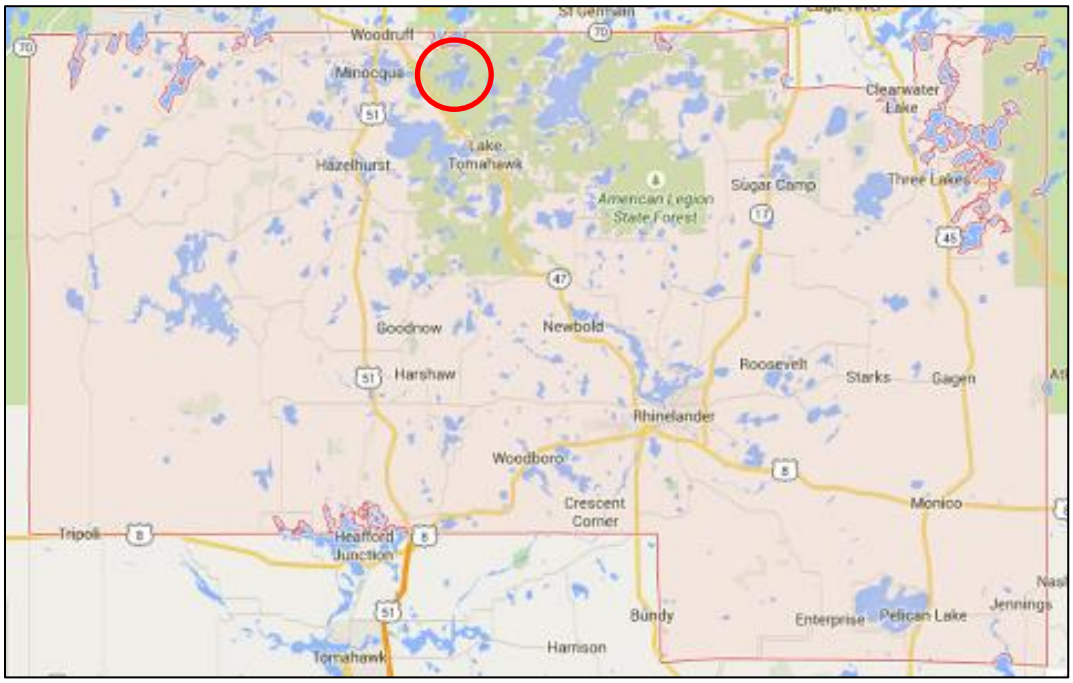


Figure 2. Lake monitoring locations.

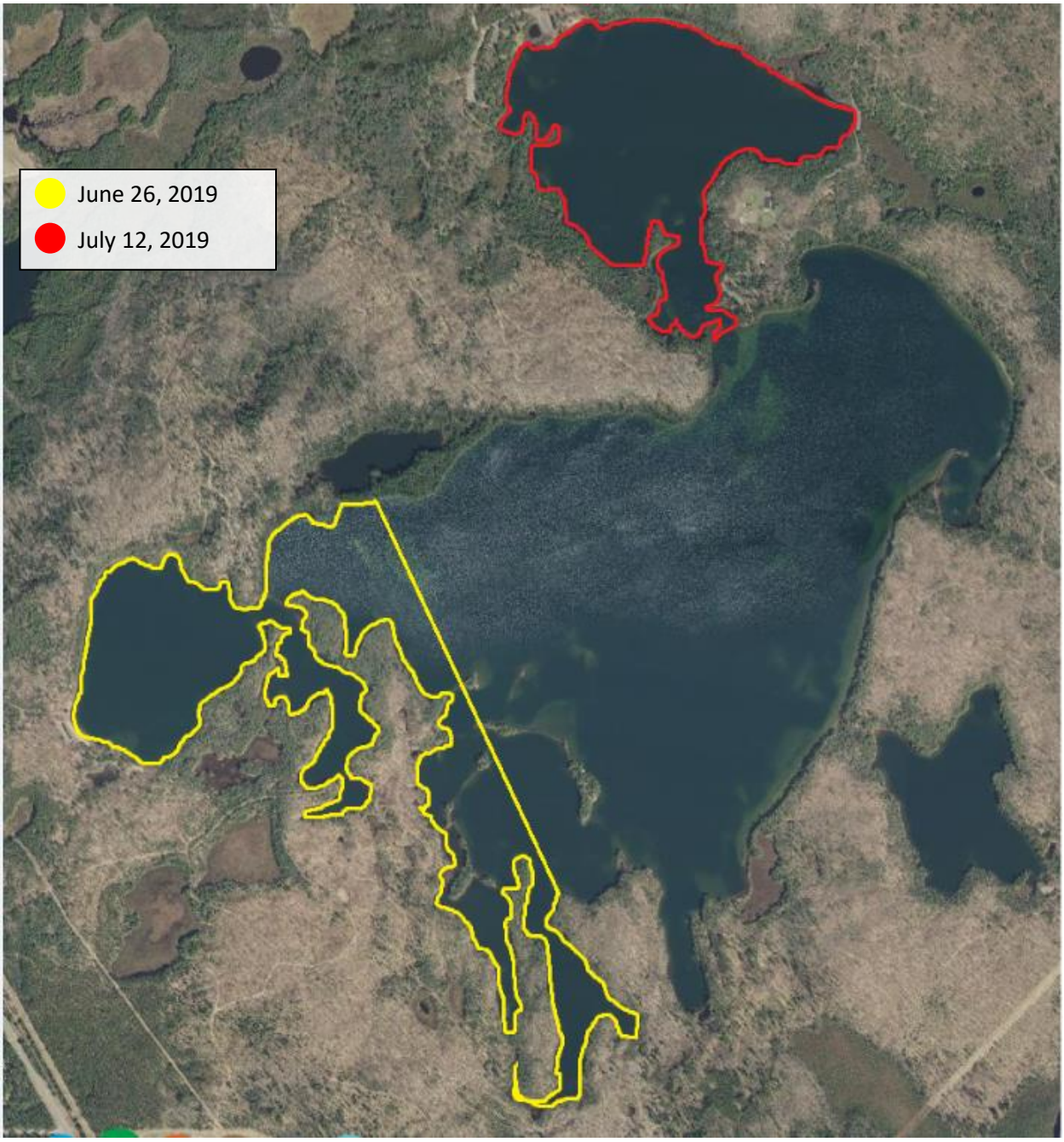


Table 2. Plants Found in Clear Lake While Monitoring

Blue flag iris *(Iris versicolor)* A semi-aquatic to emergent perennial. Flowers are deep blue to purple, 6 parted, 6-8 cm wide. Sepals may have greenish-yellow markings at the base surrounded by a white zone. Leaves are narrow, sword-like; arranged in flattened, fan-like clusters. Flowers stalks (20-80 cm high) are taller than the leaves. **Status:** Native. *Photo Credit: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources*	
Bullhead Pond Lily *(Nuphar variegate)* An aquatic plant with heart-shaped leaves that can grow to be 15 inches long. This plant also has a yellow, cup-shaped flower. **Status:** Native. *Photo Credit: Jomegat's Weblog*	
White Water Lily *(Nymphaea odorata)* **Description:** An aquatic plant that has large, round leaves that can grow to be 12 inches in diameter. White water lilies also have large, white flowers with many petals. **Status:** This plant is native. Photo Credit: *Stephanie Boismenue*	
Common Bladderwort *(Utricularia macrorhiza)* A submerged aquatic plant. Leaves contain small sacks that trap small invertebrates. This plant usually has unrooted stems that easily tangle with other plants, and tends to look cloudy underwater. **Status:** Native. *Photo Credit: frenchhill.org*	
Water Shield *(Brasenia schreberi)* **Description:** An aquatic plant with stems up to 2 meters long. This plant has small floating leaves and reddish purple flowers that have 6-8 petals. This plant is native. **Status:** Native *Photo Credit: Shannon Sharp*	
Large Leaf Pondweed *(Potamogeton amplifolius)* **Description:** A submerged aquatic plant. Leaves are very broad (4-7 cm wide and 8-20 cm long), arched and slightly folded leaves. **Status:** Native *Photo Credit: Paul Skawinski*	

Resources: https://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/lakepages/LakeDetail.aspx?wbic=977500