Land & Water Conservation Department

Manson Lake

Oneida County, Wisconsin

Page 1: August 14th, 2020 Aquatic Invasive Species Boat Launch Monitoring and Purple Loosestrife Removal Report

Land & Water Conservation Department

Michele Sadauskas, County Conservationist
Stephanie Boismenue, AIS Coordinator
Jonna Stephens Jewell, Program Assistant

Oneida County Courthouse
P O Box 400, Rhinelander, Wisconsin 54501
Phone (715) 369-7835 Fax (715) 369-6268
www.oneidacountyais.com

Manson Lake AIS Boat Launch Monitoring and Purple Loosestrife Removal Report

WBIC:	1517200
Previous AIS Findings:	Banded Mystery Snail, Chinese Mystery Snail, Curly-Leaf Pondweed, Eurasian Water-Milfoil, Freshwater Jellyfish, Purple Loosestrife
New AIS Findings:	None
Field Date:	August 14, 2020
Field Crew:	Stephanie Boismenue, AIS Coordinator, Aubrey Nycz, Lead AIS Project Assistant, and Rachel Cook, AIS Project Assistant, Oneida County Land and Water Conservation Department
Report By:	Rachel Cook

On August 14th, 2020, Stephanie, Aubrey and I visited the Manson Lake boat landing located on Highway 8, in Oneida County, to perform an 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.

Manson Lake is a 236-acre oligotrophic, drainage lake with one public boat landing. This lake is known to have many invasive species in it, so it is critical to monitor their growth and make sure these species are not spreading to nearby lakes. Many people who fish on Manson Lake also fish other lakes in the area, so the boat landing is a prime contact spot for invasive species to spread. The shoreline at the Manson Lake boat landing is mainly sand and muck, and it holds a variety of native plants as well as the invasive ones.

As preparation for an upcoming workshop, Stephanie, Aubrey and I filmed each other using our monitoring equipment while we were conducting the search. We demonstrated how to use the aquascopes in shallow and deep water as well as to look under the pier. We also used nets to collect fragments of Eurasian Water-Milfoil and transported the plants into a garbage bag for disposal. Rake tosses were done from the pier, to see what plants were growing along the shoreline. Plants we saw were Eurasian Water-Milfoil, Large-leaf Pondweed, Coontail, and

Clasping Leaf Pondweed. We also discussed in the video how to identify these plants and tell invasive from native. Finally, we demonstrated how to use the Ekman Sediment Grabber, which sifts through the sand and muck to find vegetation and snails. In doing this, we found Chinese Mystery Snails. The last portion of the video included how to decontaminate the equipment.

Another project we worked on while at Manson Lake was the Purple Loosestrife management. This invasive species is thriving on the shoreline of this lake, and most of it was still in flower. We clipped all of the flower heads in order to prevent the seeds from spreading and the plants from being pollinated. With the time and resources we had left, we also dug or clipped as much of the plants from the ground as we could. We were able to remove all of the plants near the boat landing, but unfortunately the plant is growing in other areas along the shoreline which are on private property.

Manson Lake is a waterbody which should be closely monitored for Aquatic Invasive Species. The Eurasian Water-Milfoil is growing in thick mats in large areas of the lake, and without intervention it will interfere with recreation and affect the water quality. Chinese Mystery Snails were found in abundance along the sandy and rocky shoreline areas. Purple Loosestrife is growing in large areas around the lake and will continue to spread. This is a critical location and any watercraft or other equipment used in Manson Lake need to be carefully inspected before going to another waterbody. Continued hand removal and chemical treatments should be seriously considered for the future.

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

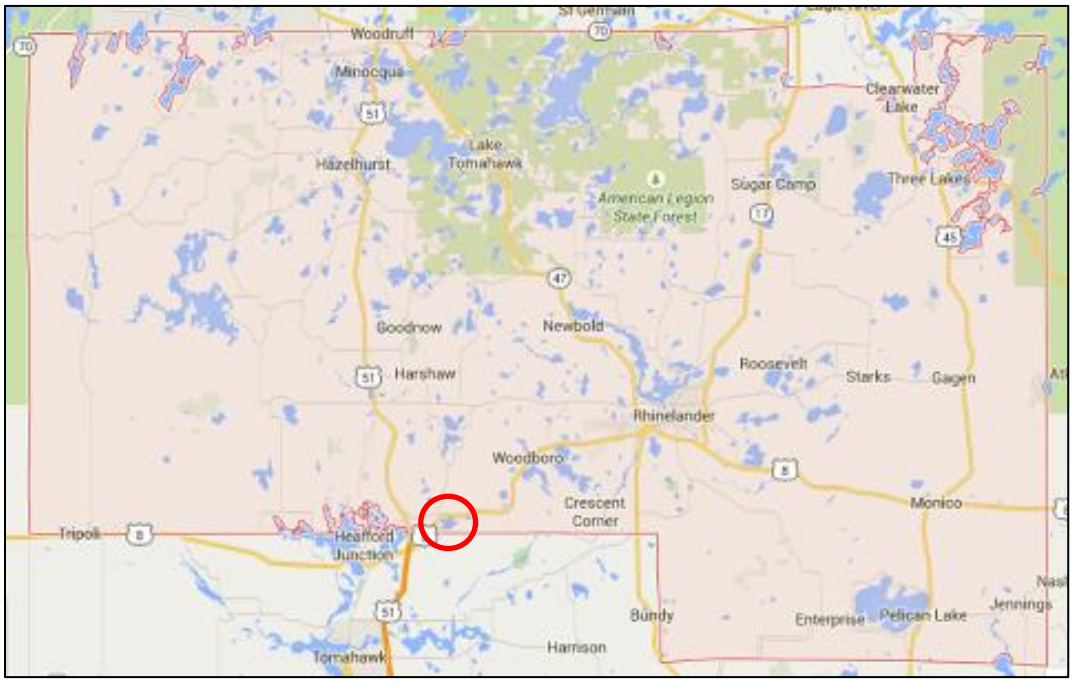

Figure 2. AIS Boat Launch and Shoreline Surveillance Monitoring Location.

Boat Landing