

How to Take Aquatic & Wetland Invasive Species Verification Photos

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Webinar

May 28, 2020

Edits May 6, 2021

Wisconsin's AIS Monitoring



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



RIVER ALLIANCE
of Wisconsin



Become Familiar

- Review NR40 species list
- Review identification guides
 - [NR40 factsheets](#)
 - [CLMN Early Detector Handbook](#)
 - [DNR Aquatic Invasive Species Identification Guide](#)
 - [Aquatic Invasive Species ID Webinar May 27 2020 – YouTube](#)
- Review what known AIS is in the waterbody
 - [Lakes and AIS Mapping Tool](#)
 - [Waterbodies with known AIS](#)
 - [Species](#)

dnr.wi.gov search "invasives"



HUNT

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LICENSES NEWS ABOUT CONTACT

REPORT INVASIVE SPECIES

We are working to keep invasive species out of Wisconsin. Early reporting and control of invasive species before they spread into new areas. Share what you have found.

Aquatic, Shoreline and Wetland

Terrestrial

NR40 species

AQUATIC, SHORELINE AND WETLAND

Check to see if the suspected invasive species has been reported in Wisconsin. Search [waterbody](#) or [species](#) lists or refer to AIS [mapping tool](#) if the invasive species is not known to occur in the waterbody or wetland.

[Regional DNR Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator](#)

by following the steps below. Report every suspected wetland invasive species not associated with a waterbody, except reed canary grass (unless the latter is a new, small stand adjacent to a un-infested, natural wetland).

Aquatic Invasive Species Contacts - Aquatic Invasive Species - Regional Coordinator

Location:

Contact	Organization	Location/Comments	Work Phone	Email
SHERBY ADLER	Wisconsin DNR	Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Grant, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Lafayette, Richland, Rock, Sauk	608-275-3283	✉
Chris Kolesinski	Wisconsin DNR	Brown, Calumet, Door, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Marinette, Marquette, Menominee, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano, Waupesa, Waushara, Winnebago		✉
Amy Kostlow	Wisconsin DNR	Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Sheboygan, Walworth, Washington, Waukesha	920-893-8552	✉
TYLER MESALK	Wisconsin DNR	Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Sawyer, Washburn	715-635-4227	✉

- Invasive Species
- Learn More
- Report an Invasive
- Prevent the Spread
- Control Measures
- Rules and Regulations
- Wisconsin Invasive Species Council
- AIS Efforts
- Publications



Report

- Enter monitoring data:
 - Planned fieldwork – enter data to SWIMS
 - Unplanned fieldwork - submit Incident Report
- Collect photos/specimens for verification
 - Always submit photos to regional DNR AIS Coordinator
 - Collect specimens in case DNR needs them




Photo Naming

- Name photos:

SPSCODE_ COUNTY_YYYYMMDD_ WATERBODY
NAME_(WBIC or STATIONID or
LATITUDE_LONGITUDE)_COLLECTOR NAME

Ex: ZM_ Dane_2016/08/05_ Lake
Delton_1295200_Graham



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES'
RESPONSE FRAMEWORK FOR INVASIVE SPECIES

dnr.wi.gov search "invasive
response framework"

This document was developed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' Department Invasive Species Team (DIST) as an internal protocol for responding to newly detected populations of suspected invasive species. This framework cannot and does not attempt to provide answers or solutions to all of the issues associated with response activities. Rather, this document provides a framework to assist any manager in responding thoroughly, professionally, and effectively to the many challenges that result from new invasions.

This framework will be used when:

- A terrestrial invasive species is found in a county where it is listed as Prohibited, OR
- An aquatic invasive species is found in a county where it is listed as Prohibited or Restricted, OR
- An invasive species is discovered in an area of the state where it has not been previously documented

AND:

- Legal access is granted for entry onto the property the species is found on

Stepped enforcement procedures should be considered in lieu of or in concert with this response framework when legal access to populations in question is not granted, or the report is a result of a complaint or allegation submitted via the [DNR's Violation Hotline](#). This framework, if not used initially, can be re-entered at any time. Stepped enforcement procedures can be found in the Bureau of Law Enforcement's [Invasive Species Compliance Guidance](#).

This framework will not be used when the species is one of the following: [white nose syndrome](#), [emerald ash borer](#) or [gypsy moth](#). Wisconsin has species-specific plans already in place that should be followed when these species, or any future species with

Suspected New AIS Discoveries – Communication Protocol

Internal document

This document is to be used when a suspected aquatic or wetland invasive species (AIS) is discovered in a Wisconsin waterbody (lake, river, or wetland) that it has not been previously reported in. See the [Where to Find Invasive Species](#) document or the [Report Invasive Species](#) page to determine if the suspected AIS you discovered has been previously reported in the waterbody or location in a riparian site or wetland. Use the following guidance if this is a new discovery.

The Statewide AIS Monitoring Lead generates a biweekly list of new AIS reports from SWIMS and distributes reports to regional field supervisors, regional DNR AIS Coordinators, and groups E, F, and H each month.

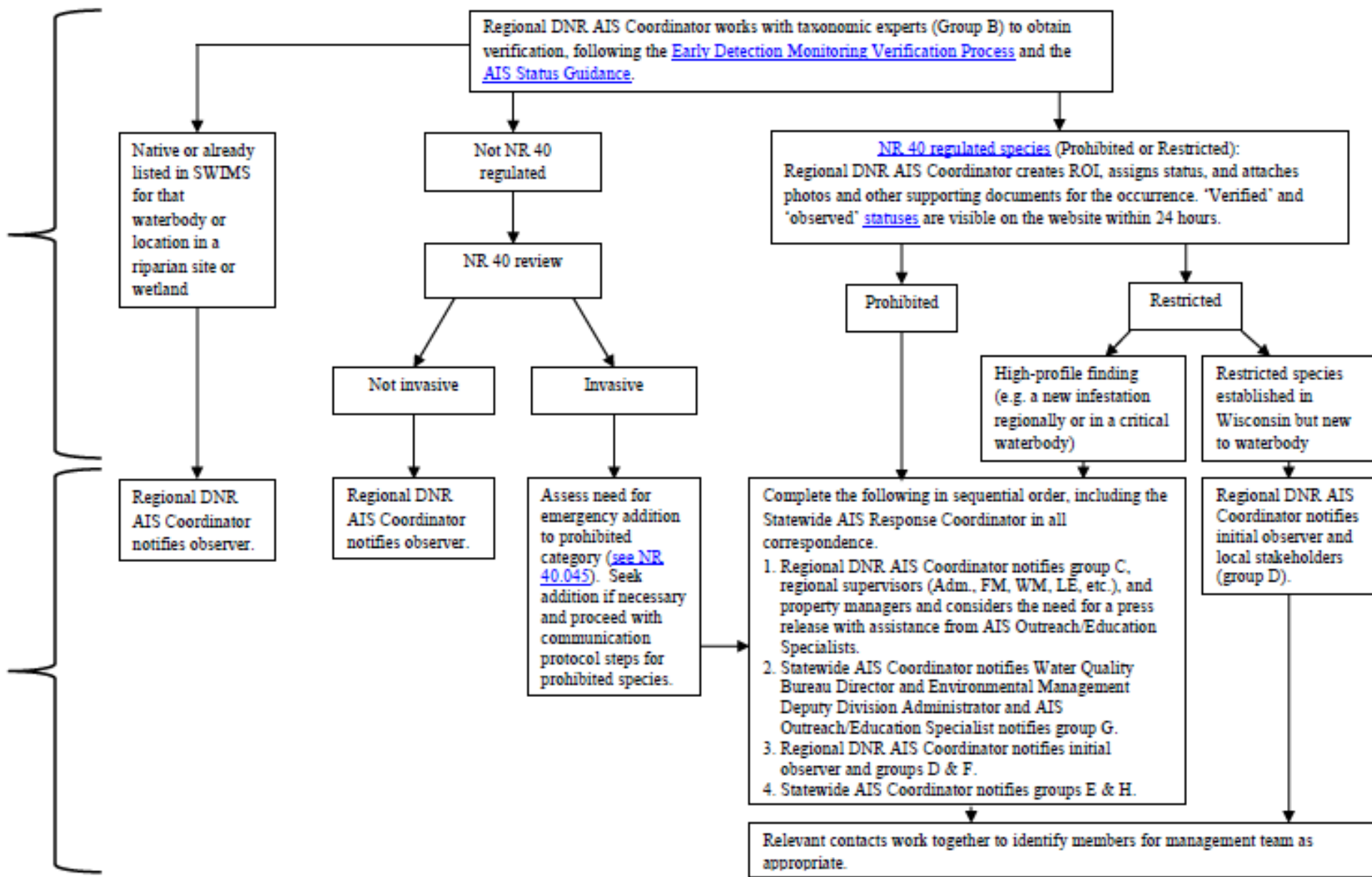
Early Detection & Reporting

Initial observer:

- 1.) **Report:** report the suspected AIS occurrence.
 - a. For occurrences that are part of planned monitoring effort (i.e. CLMN, early detection, DNR field work, etc.): notify the local DNR AIS Coordinator and enter monitoring data into SWIMS. No incident report is needed.
 - b. For individuals without access to SWIMS: submit an [incident report](#).
- 2.) **Submit a specimen:** Follow the directions on the [Report Invasive Species](#) website to submit a specimen to the local DNR AIS Coordinator.

Verification

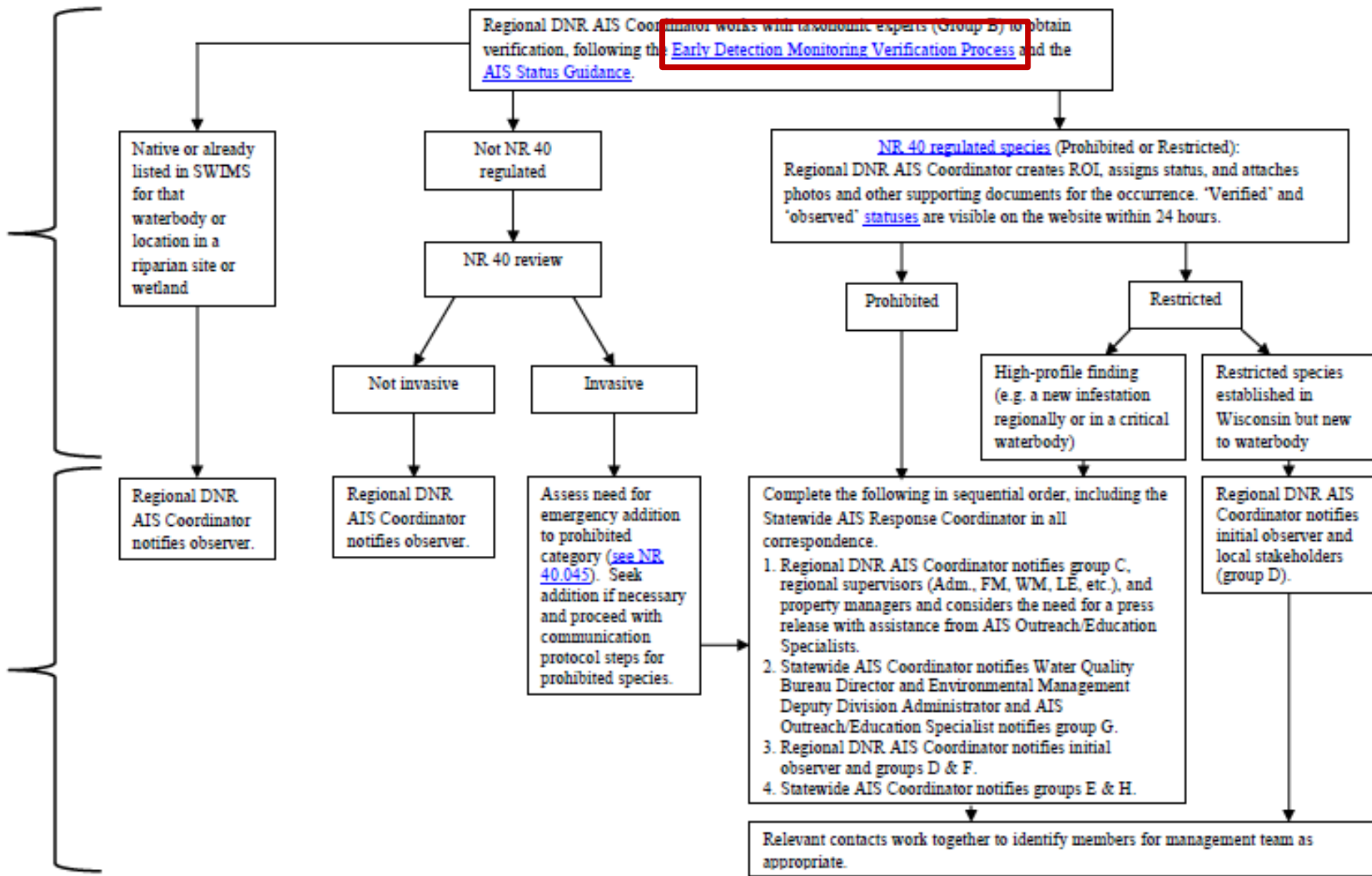
Communication



*The regional DNR AIS Coordinator may (with Supervisor approval) appoint another person to act as a regional coordinator or to complete individual tasks. However, it is the responsibility of the Regional DNR AIS Coordinator to ensure that assigned steps in the communication protocol are complete.

Verification

Communication



*The regional DNR AIS Coordinator may (with Supervisor approval) appoint another person to act as a regional coordinator or to complete individual tasks. However, it is the responsibility of the Regional DNR AIS Coordinator to ensure that assigned steps in the communication protocol are complete.

This document may be updated at any time. Make sure to use the most recent version for up-to-date information.

Last edited: 1/25/2018



Verification Process

- DNR trained and tested staff around the state
- Regional DNR AIS coordinator will confirm ID with 2 verifiers
- Once 2 verifiers agree, regional DNR AIS coordinator will create record in SWIMS for tabular and spatial website



Lakes, Rivers, and Wetlands with Aquatic Invasive Species

Aquatic Invasive Species

Location:

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) records are assigned statuses of "verified", "observed", or "no longer observed" based on AIS Status Guidance. In general, "verified" populations are established and have been verified by a taxonomic expert. Populations with the "observed" status have not been verified by a taxonomic expert or do not have established populations. Populations with the "no longer observed" status include populations where a reproducing population did not establish. Our inventories are not necessarily exhaustive so it is important to report occurrences. To report new discoveries visit: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Invasives/report.html>. See the Aquatic Invasive Species Guidance for information on how statuses are assigned. Personally identifiable information on data collection forms may be provided to requesters to the extent required by Wisconsin's Open Records Law [ss. 19.31-19.39, Wis. Stats.].

To Excel

< First	< Prev	Page 1 of 99	Next >	Last >
Waterbody Name	Waterbody ID Code (WBIC)	Invasive Species		
Adams County (28)				
Arkdale Lake	1374300	Chinese Mystery Snail, Curly-Leaf Pondweed, Eurasian Water-Milfoil, Purple Loosestrife, Rusty Crayfish, Water Hyacinth		
Big Roche A Cri Creek	1374100	Japanese Knotweed, Rusty Crayfish, Water Hyacinth, Zebra Mussel		
Big Roche a Cri	1374800	Chinese Mystery Snail, Curly-Leaf Pondweed, Eurasian Water-		

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[W](#)
[D](#)
[B](#)

[A](#)
[C](#)



Species Locations

Asiatic Clam (Corbicula)

Select Another Location:

Statewide

Total Locations: 23

Total Lakes and Rivers: 24 *

Disclaimer: Aquatic invasive species (AIS) records are assigned statuses of "verified", "observed", or "no longer observed" based on AIS Status Guidance. In general, "verified" populations are established and have been verified by a taxonomic expert. Populations with the "observed" status have not been verified by a taxonomic expert or do not have established populations. Populations with the "no longer observed" status include populations where a reproducing population did not establish. Our inventories are not necessarily exhaustive so it is important to report occurrences. To report new discoveries visit: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Invasives/report.html>. See the Aquatic Invasive Species Guidance for information on how statuses are assigned. Personally identifiable information on data collection forms may be provided to requesters to the extent required by Wisconsin's Open Records Law [ss. 19.31-19.39, Wis. Stat. 19.31-19.39].

[By County](#) | [By Waterbody](#) | [By Species](#) | [By Year](#) | [Open In Excel](#)

Waterbody	Status	Waterbody ID Code (WBIC)	County
Bohners Lake	Verified and Vouchered	750800	Racine
Browns Lake	Verified and Vouchered	750300	Racine
Eagle Spring Lake	Verified and Vouchered	768600	Walworth, Waukesha
Fox River - CTH E	Verified and Vouchered	742500	Waukesha
Lake Andrea	Verified and Vouchered	733850	Kenosha

Aquatic Invasive Species

Contact information

For information on Lakes in Wisconsin, contact:

[Wisconsin DNR Lakes](#)

Division of Water

Bureau of Water Quality

[Aquatic Invasive Species](#)

[Contacts](#)



Aquatic Invasive Species Locations




- [All - New 2016](#)
- [All - New 2017](#)
- [Asiatic Clam \(Corbicula\)](#)
- [Banded Mystery Snail](#)
- [Bighead Carp](#)
- [Brittle Waternymph](#)
- [Chinese Mystery Snail](#)
- [Curly-Leaf Pondweed](#)
- [Eurasian Water-Milfoil](#)
- [Faucet Snail](#)
- [Fishhook Waterflea](#)
- [Flowering Rush](#)


Lakes & AIS Mapping Tool

Bureau of Water Quality, Environment Management Division





Search... 

Basic Tools Identify Tools Drawing & Measuring Find Location Maps & Data Help

 Home
 Show Layers
 Show Legend

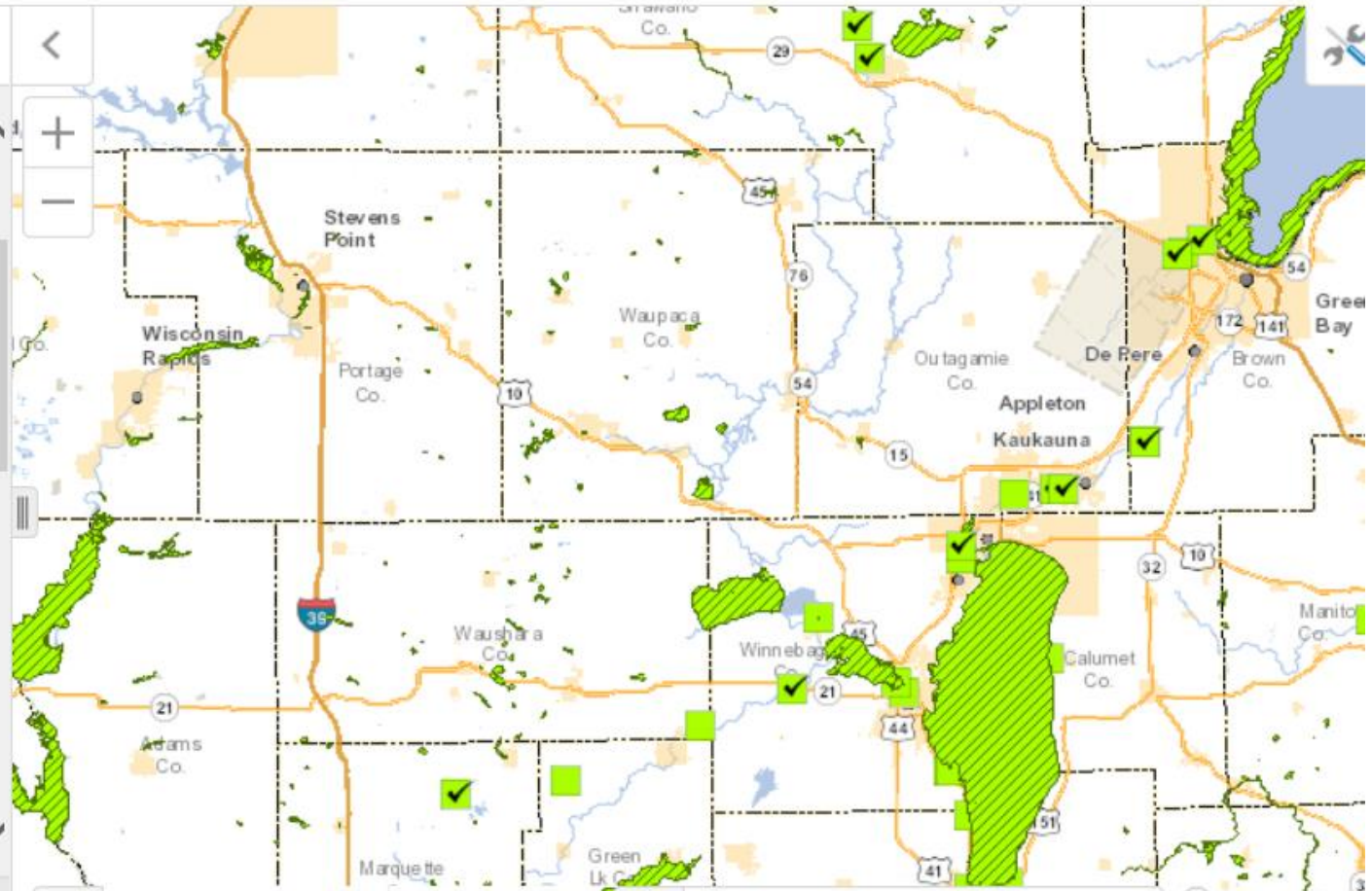
 Table of Contents

 Pan
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Layers

- Invasive Aquatic Plants
 - Brittle Waterlily (*Najas minor*)
 - Curly-Leaf Pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*)
 - Eurasian Water-Milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)
 - Hybrid Water-Milfoil (Eurasian x Northern)
 - Java Water Dropwort (*Oenanthe javanica*)
 - Starry Stonewort (*Nitellopsis obtusa*)
 - Water Hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes/azurea*)
 - Water Lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*)

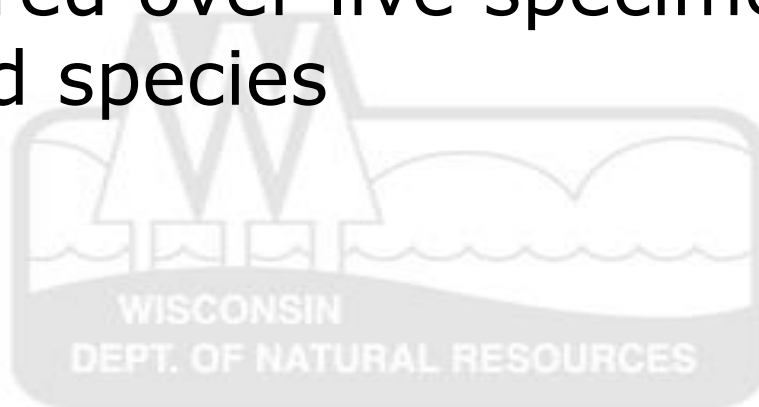


LIFE IS EASIER WHEN YOU'VE GOT A POSSE.



Vouchering with photos

- Use your datasheet as background for AIS in closeup photo to show scale
- Submit photos to DNR AIS Coordinator
- DNR AIS Coordinator will respond with ID and will request specimen if needed.
- Photos are preferred over live specimens to verify restricted species




Wisconsin Citizen Lake Monitoring Network
Use these labels when submitting a sample of an aquatic plant or animal for identification

Which species do you think it is?
Asian clam

Lake & county where it was collected:
Lulu Lake, Walworth Co.

Date:
8/10/16

Your name and contact information:
Paul Skawinski
715-346-4853 Pskawins@uwsp.edu



Vouchering with photos

- Make sure subject is in focus. A closer image is not any better if it's no longer in focus.
- Take multiple photos from different angles. If you know the features that are important for ID, make sure to display those clearly.



Take a couple of landscape photos

- Wide-angle photos help to show the extent of the population and its context in the landscape.
- Show landmarks (large trees, boulders, docks, bridges...)
- Avoid photographing people or private property when possible
- Include datasheet or CLMN label in photo when possible



Common causes of poor photos

- Light flares – caused by aiming the camera at the sun or other light source

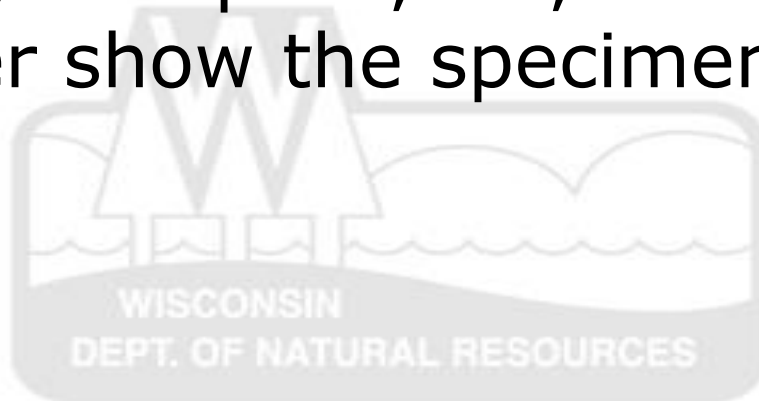
Solution: Turn around to have the Light source behind you



Common causes of poor photos

- Background is too busy/distracting and features of specimen are hard to see.

Solution: Isolate the plant or animal. Use your clipboard, notebook, backpack, car, water, or a plain background to better show the specimen.



Common causes of poor photos

- Subject is out of focus – commonly caused by camera being closer than its minimum focal length, or poor lighting/contrast is making it difficult for the camera to determine what your subject is.

Solution: Move the camera farther away and try again. Move specimen into better light if possible, or use a cell phone or other flashlight to provide extra light.

Common causes of poor photos

- Specimen is dark even on bright sunny days – background is probably bright and the camera's automatic light meter bumped down (darker) the exposure of the entire frame because of the bright background.

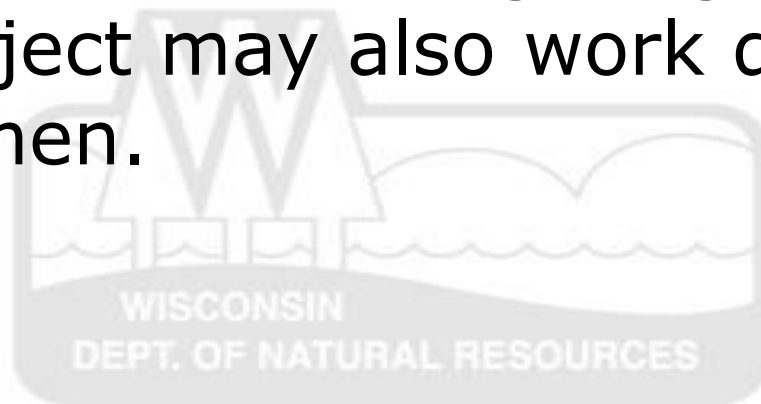


Solution: Move the specimen if possible to have a darker background. If not, bump up the camera's exposure manually or use the spot-meter function.

Common causes of poor photos

- Lighting is very uneven, especially under tree canopy

Solution: Use your shadow or the shadow of an assistant to cover the specimen with even lighting. Holding up a clipboard or other object may also work depending on the size of the specimen.



Common causes of poor photos

- Photo has strange yellow or blue tint – caused by improper white balance.

Solution: Manually change the white balance setting to match the type of light you have (sunlight, fluorescent, tungsten, flash, etc.)



Common causes of poor photos

- Subject is too far away to identify.

Solution: Get closer if at all possible. Some specimens cannot be identified simply because they are too small in the photo to see distinguishing characteristics.



Common causes of poor photos

- Subject is very pixelated and may be surrounded by blue/purple border – often caused by use of digital zoom feature.

Solution: Use only optical zoom. Digital zoom = in-camera cropping. Move closer to subject if possible.

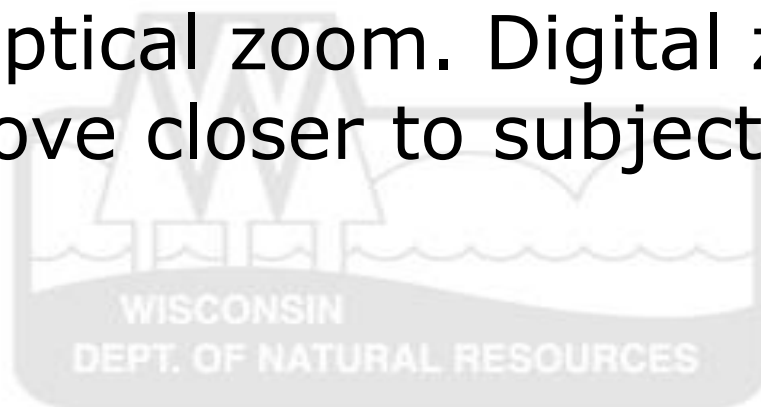




Photo Naming

- Name photos:

SPSCODE_ COUNTY_YYYYMMDD_ WATERBODY
NAME_(WBIC or STATIONID or
LATITUDE_LONGITUDE)_COLLECTOR NAME

Ex: ZM_ Dane_2016/08/05_ Lake
Delton_1295200_Graham



Questions?

Contact your [Regional DNR AIS Coordinator](#),
Maureen or Paul with questions

