Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource LLC
"Providing Professional Resources for Management of Your Lake or Pond"

Professional Pond Management Products and Services
Aquatic Herbicide and Algaecide Applications
Lake Management Planning and Services
Pond Design and Development

Cedar Lake - Aquatic Plant Management Plan

Town of Schleswig
Sanitary District #1

WDNR Lake Planning Grant
LPL-1583-16

Prepared by:
Wisconsin Lake and Pond Resource

James Scharl

July 5, 2017

Toll Free: 866-208-0724
www.wisconsinlpr.com

N7828 Town Hall Rd.
Eldorado, WI 54932
Phone: (920) 872-2032
Fax: (920) 872-2036

Table of Contents Page

Executive Summary

Cedar Lake is the largest lake in Manitowoc County and provides numerous recreational opportunities for a wide spectrum of users. Being the largest inland lake in Manitowoc County and near the cities of Manitowoc and Sheboygan, Cedar Lake experiences the highest use of all lakes in Manitowoc County. Some use patterns may be detrimental to the overall health of the lake and bring a higher risk of the introduction of new aquatic invasive species (AIS).

The aquatic plant community in Cedar Lake is healthy and diverse, though it can grow dense in some locations. Dense aquatic plant growth can impact lake users and hamper navigation, which can be exacerbated by the presence of AIS. There are two AIS indicated to be present within Cedar Lake: Eurasian water-milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum* – EWM) and curly-leaf pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus* – CLP). Only EWM has been regularly confirmed during past and 2016 lake surveys.

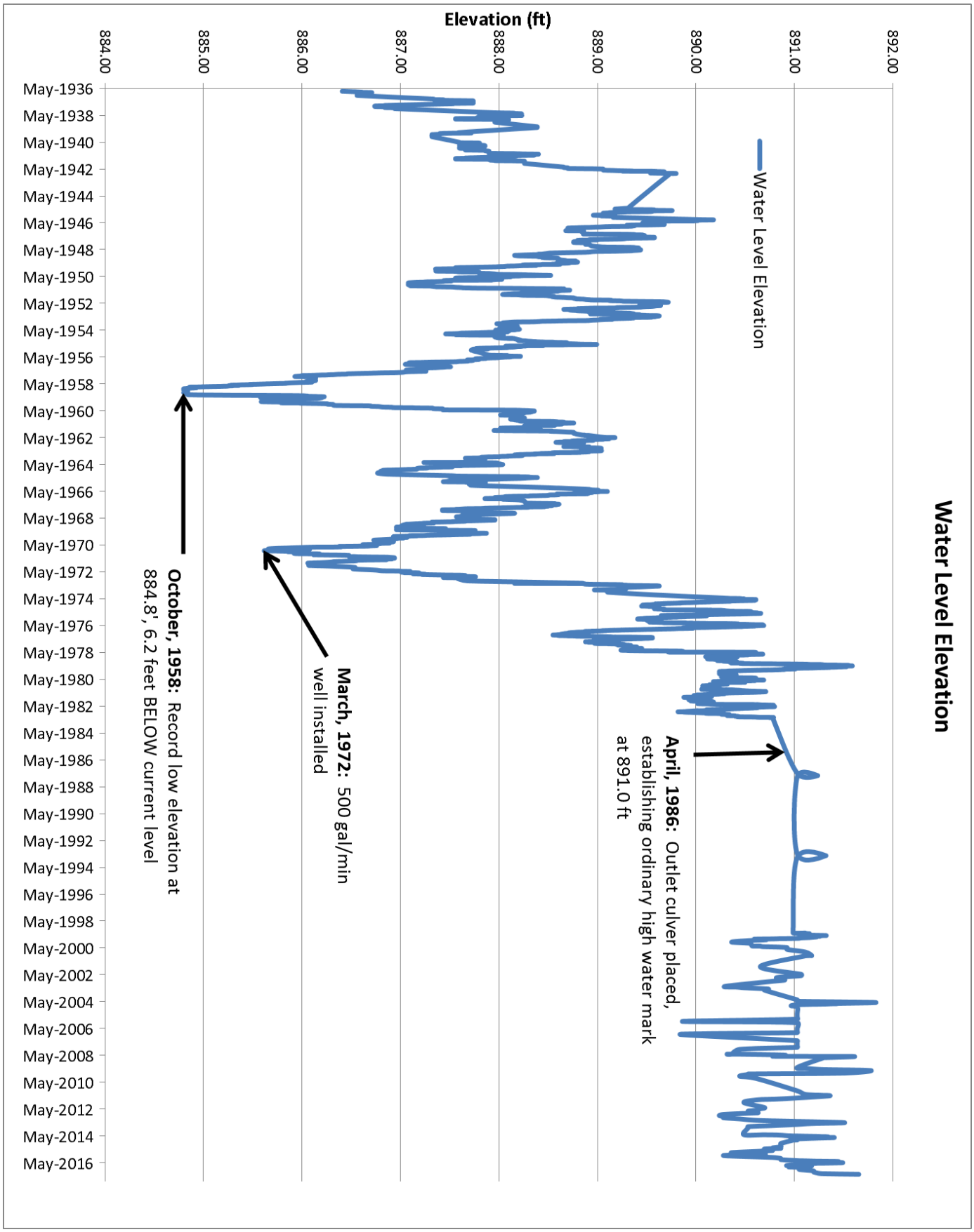
Locally dense aquatic plant growth, AIS, and heavy recreational traffic are the main issues of concern for lake users and can hamper navigation throughout the lake, limit enjoyment, and cause increased expenditure on actions to alleviate them with past management focused on mechanical aquatic plant harvesting. This technique, though expensive to begin, provides temporary relief to navigation and is an accepted practice on Cedar Lake. However, it does not reduce the presence or spread of aquatic invasive species. Current issues have caused the need for understanding of what is happening and why. Development of a comprehensive lake management plan for better management of the lake is needed.

This management plan provides a multi-faceted approach to address issues and recommend management options based on best fit, cost, feasibility, and desires based on direct input from the lake user survey questions. Many aquatic plant management options are evaluated and, while there is not one silver bullet, it is likely a combination of techniques over a period of several years that will begin to yield positive results. The basic plan is based on exploration of new aquatic plant management techniques with expanded actions for AIS control, overall aquatic plant community control, and protection of the lake's value to all users. Some of these actions potentially include continued harvesting, herbicide applications, protection of ecologically sensitive areas, and AIS and boat landing monitoring. It would be recommended the group start with a specific project component or area of the lake to gain early and immediate success and build off of that for future projects.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Cedar Lake is a natural seepage lake located in the Town of Schleswig in the south western portion of Manitowoc County, and, at 154-acres, is the largest lake in the County. The lake has a maximum depth of 27 feet, mean depth of 10.3 feet, and 3.57 miles of shoreline. Water levels in Cedar Lake have historically fluctuated, up to four and a half feet below current levels. In 1972, a high capacity well was installed to fill the lake and help maintain water levels. Only sporadic use of the well has been required to maintain target levels. Occasional heavy rain events created excessively high levels, which were remedied by the installation of two culverts, one installed in 1986 and the other in 2009, to alleviate reoccurrences. An updated depth contour map to show current conditions created from data collected as part of this plan is included as Figure 11. The chart following this page displays variation of the lake's water level over time.

Water quality of Cedar Lake rates as mesotrophic and mildly productive with excellent water clarity and provides numerous recreational opportunities. The Town of Schleswig Sanitary District #1 (TSSD) is the main organization responsible for management activities on Cedar Lake, with input and support from the Cedar Lake Improvement Association (CLIA). The CLIA is a group who supports the restoration and management of the lake with a strong tradition in conservation and resource management to protect and enhance these opportunities. Both entities have been active in a number of lake management activities on Cedar Lake including: aquatic plant management, water quality sampling and management, invasive species sampling, and fisheries management through stocking. The TSSD received a grant from WDNR and contracted with Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource, LLC (WLPR) to help develop a comprehensive aquatic plant management (APM) plan for Cedar Lake.


Water Level Elevation
Elevation (ft)
884.00
885.00
886.00
887.00
888.00
889.00
890.00
891.00
892.00
May-1936
May-1938
May-1940
May-1942
May-1944
May-1946
May-1948
May-1950
May-1952
May-1954
May-1956
May-1958
May-1960
May-1962
May-1964
May-1966
May-1968
May-1970
May-1972
May-1974
May-1976
May-1978
May-1980
May-1982
May-1984
May-1986
May-1988
May-1990
May-1992
May-1994
May-1996
May-1998
May-2000
May-2002
May-2004
May-2006
May-2008
May-2010
May-2012
May-2014
May-2016
Water Level Elevation
October, 1958: Record low elevation at 884.8', 6.2 feet BELOW current level
March, 1972: 500 gal/min well installed
April, 1986: Outlet culver placed, establishing ordinary high water mark at 891.0 ft

2.0 LAKE USER SURVEY AND PRIMARY CONCERNS

Any management plan can only be successful if accepted by the lake users it impacts the most. If options are laid out that are not needed or feasible, a plan is set to fail due to lack of support and this management plan is no different. Prior to drafting this plan, a questionnaire was sent out to all members of the CLIA, residents within the TSSD, and made available to any interested lake user, as this is the direct audience, and was available online for 60 days. Results of the questionnaire are included in Appendix A. This questionnaire gives us a unique look at all lake users and a better understanding of issues to guide development of a plan that will not only strive to improve current lake conditions, but be successfully implemented and supported by lake users through direct response actions by the people the lake impacts the most.

In total, 85 respondents completed the survey across an array of users with a majority (91%) residing on the water, showing that the lake and its health is important to riparian owners. Responses give an opportunity to look into personal histories with Cedar Lake and to create an average user profile. Overall, the average user looks like this:

- 70% have used the lake for over 10 years
    - Average of 26+ year history with the lake
- Spend a large portion of time on the water, with averages of:
    - 14.8 days per month during open water
    - 5.4 days per month during ice cover
- 96% find their time enjoyable with a variety of activities. The same amount of respondents owns a motor boat that is used on Cedar Lake. Activities enjoyed by users are focused on power boating while silent sports were the next most enjoyable, including:
    - Pontoon boating (#1) and pleasure boating (#2)
    - Nature viewing (#3)
    - Swimming (#4)
    - Canoeing or kayaking (#5)

Many responses indicated enjoyable experiences on the lake which have largely remained the same, even increasing over time.

- 36.4% indicated no change
- 40.3% indicated their use has become more enjoyable.
- 23.4% indicated their use has become less enjoyable, due to:
    - Increased boat traffic
    - Intensity of the uses on the waterway
- Main concerns on lake health
    - Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (#1)
    - Excessive aquatic plant growth (#2)
        - Negatively affected lake use to 61% of users
        - 85.5% believe management of aquatic plants is needed
    - Increased boat traffic
        - Negatively impacted users in some way 82% of the time
        - Due to excessive number of boats and boat wake waves

This plan will focus on the main two contributing factors – both native and invasive aquatic plant growth and touch on effects of increased boat traffic and conflicting uses.

- Users very knowledgeable about AIS and potential harm, 70.9% responded in kind
- 88.5% of respondents want action to manage aquatic plants, 0% responded with "No. Top management options were:
    - Mechanical Harvesting
    - Continued monitoring with plant surveys
    - Manual removal or hand pulling
    - No management was far and away the least preferred option
- Users chose the following elements as the most needed for this APM Plan:
    - Preventing the introduction of new AIS
    - Reduce the extent and density of existing AIS within the lake
    - Explore potential for grant funding for management efforts

The Cedar Lake APM Plan includes a review of available lake information, an aquatic plant survey, lake user questionnaire, and water quality evaluation to determine the most appropriate management alternatives (physical, mechanical, biological or chemical) for protection and health of the lake. Though not all activities desired for management by lake users may be viable or appropriate, their input above provides a strong base to form this plan.

A project kick off meeting to present the initial user survey results, aquatic plant survey data, and further refine the plan outline and over goals was held on August 2, 2016. Review of the draft APM plan was submitted to the District, CLIA, and WDNR for comments prior to finalization. The APM plan that follows recommends specific management activities for Cedar Lake based on the top two management concerns indicated in the questionnaire, spread of AIS and excessive aquatic plant growth, to ensure not only the health of the lake but also the enjoyment by future generations of Lake users.

3.0 LAKE HISTORY & PAST MANAGEMENT

Located in south western Manitowoc County in the Town of Schleswig, the lake has been an important fixture in the lives of residents and non-resident users. A public landing on the south shore provides excellent accessibility with two paved launch lanes. Additional lake access is provided by private properties, including a beach open to public use at The Cedars restaurant. Camp Rokilio, the largest Cub Scout camp in the Midwest, is located on 213 acres adjacent to the southeast bay of Cedar Lake. The camp serves numerous Scouts annually with multiple activities relating directly to the lake.

Exceptional and numerous accesses to Cedar Lake and its proximity to the cities of Manitowoc and Sheboygan have led to a history of heavy recreational use. Over time, other local lakes have limited boating activities on Sundays, which caused an increase of weekend boating traffic on Cedar Lake. In turn, this led to increased user conflicts and implementation of slow-no-wake speeds during the following periods:

- Between the hours of 6:00 PM – 11:00 AM
- Sundays except from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM
- Within areas of invasive plant growth at all times
- During periods of high water to limit shoreline erosion from waves

Cedar Lake is a productive lake with multiple locations of dense aquatic plant growth. Aquatic plants have created a nuisance to navigation in multiple locations which can be exacerbated by AIS, including EWM. Dense aquatic plant growth has been a concern throughout the history of Cedar Lake and has become the main issue for management. These have been dealt with in the past by various management plans and studies, including the following:

- **Cedar Lake Improvement Association – 1950:** CLIA officially founded to protect the lake, deal with management issues, and enhance the lake for future generations. All below activities, including this plan, would not have been possible without them.
- **Aquatic Plant Management – 1957**: Earliest methods of control were completed by individual landowners contracting for chemical treatments. In addition, the CLIA provided funds for several small mechanical harvesters for nuisance relief
- **Cedar Lake Rehabilitation District – 1960s**: The CLRD was formed to further deal with the lake management issues. It was determined that a Sanitary District format would be better to address the lake management issues. The CLRD was eventually abandoned with any remaining funds transferred to the Sanitary District #1 treasury.
- **Town of Schleswig Sanitary District #1 – 1967**: The District formed to further deal with lake management issues while being able to provide a stable financial situation for activities.
- **Aquatic Plant Survey – 1972**: The first documented aquatic plant survey of the lake was conducted on August 23. Many of the species noted in the 1972 survey are still present today and included: Millfoil species, pondweed species, large-leaf pondweed, muskgrass, white water lily, and others. Dense locations of growth requiring management were noted, especially along the north shore.
- **Sanitary District acquires its first mechanical harvester - 1972:** The District acquired its first mechanical harvester to deal with excessive aquatic plant growth. Harvesting continues today, averaging 131 tons of material annually.

- **Eurasian Water-milfoil Identified – 1993**: The first AIS was found growing in Cedar Lake – EWM. Though curly-leaf pondweed was also identified at this time, no official sample exists and surveys since 1993 have only turned up one location in 2005. Original samples of CLP may have been misidentified. Since then, the following AIS have been identified in Cedar Lake: Zebra mussel – 2001, banded mystery snail – 2008, rusty crayfish – 2010, and Chinese mystery snail – 2011.
- **Cedar Lake Water Quality Study and Management Plan – 1997-2001:** A three phase approach for a lake management plan began in 1997 with a water quality study, continued in 1999 with a runoff and land use addendum, and culminated in 2001with a comprehensive lake management plan summarizing all phases. Each major phase was aided by WDNR grant funding in cooperation with the District.
- **Aquatic Plant Management Plan - 2005:** An updated plan focused on targeted management of Cedar Lake's aquatic plants was created with financial assistance from the WDNR grant program and the District. This plan laid the groundwork for continued mechanical harvesting and was still in use for the most recent harvesting permit, which expires in 2017.

Management actions carried out for aquatic plant growth within the lake have concentrated on nuisance management through primarily mechanical harvesting. After several plans were created and actions enacted, Issues with dense plant growth still persisted in Cedar, as evidenced by the concerns raised in the user questionnaire. Continuation of aquatic plant issues, as well as the desire to continue plant management activities, which requires an updated plan approved by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), led to creation of this APM plan.

3.1 WATER QUALITY SUMMARY

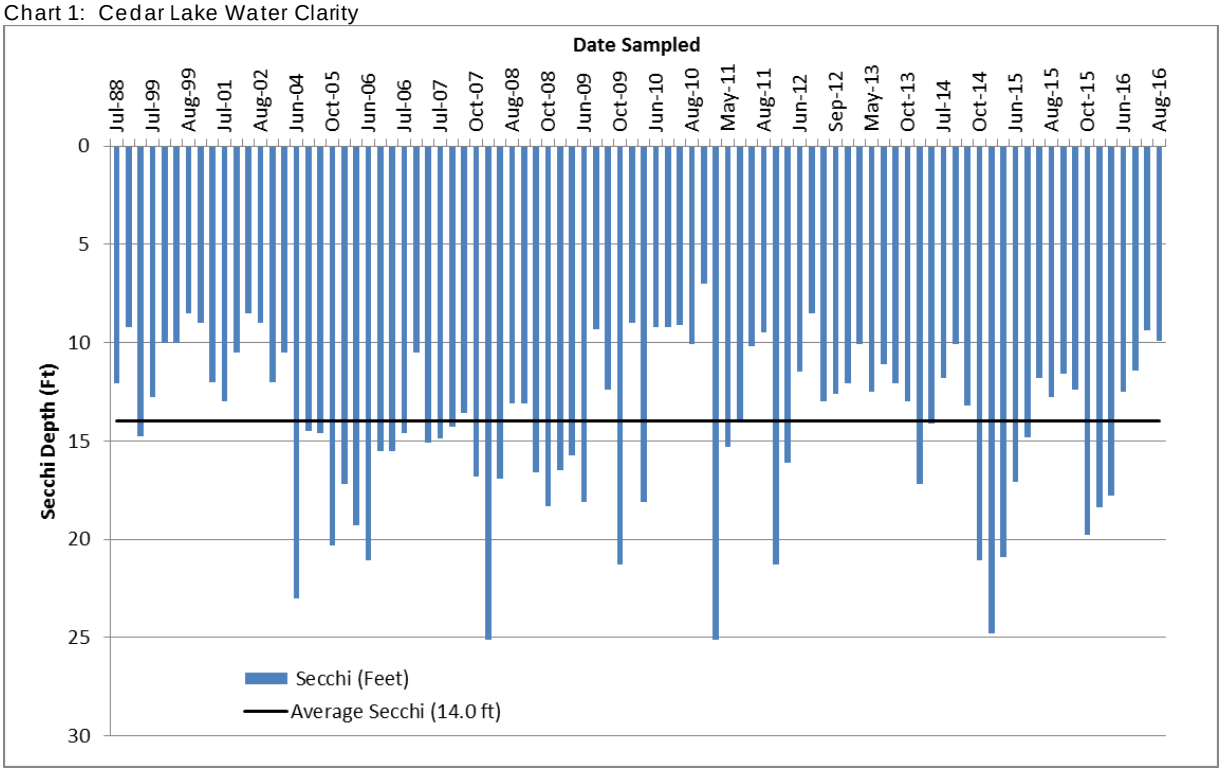
Cedar Lake is a natural seepage lake relying mainly on input from precipitation runoff and groundwater flowing into the system to maintain water levels. With a reliance on groundwater as the main source, water quality within the Lake remains stable over time, reflecting the quality of the ground water. In years of high rainfall, water quality may dip slightly due to increased runoff, but for only short periods of time.

Cedar Lake water quality data has been collected as part of various projects since 1988. Though data was collected from 1973-1975, results were atypical of the rest of the data pool and are excluded to represent current conditions. Samples since 1999 were collected by volunteers under the WDNR's Citizen Lake Monitoring program. Samples collected over time include:

- Water clarity (Secchi depth) – 1988, 1999-2016
- Total phosphorus – 1988, 1997-1998, 2006-2016
- Chlorophyll-*a* – 1988, 1997-1988, 2006-2016

Higher **secchi depth** (water clarity) readings indicate clearer water and deeper light penetration, allowing plants to grow in deeper areas of the lake. Historical water clarity for the lake is 14.0 feet (Chart 1), indicating excellent clarity when compared to the average for all lakes in Wisconsin (10ft). Seepage lakes like Cedar Lake tend to have better water clarity due to lessened impact from runoff, which increases nutrient and sediment loads within the water, when compared to drainage lakes and impoundments.

Chart 1: Cedar Lake Water Clarity



Nutrients within the water play an important part for the productivity of the water, leading to impacts on water quality. These include total phosphorus, nitrogen and chlorophyll-*a*. **Phosphorus** is the key nutrient or food source influencing plant growth in waterbodies. Phosphorus promotes excessive aquatic plant growth and originates from a variety of sources, many of which are related to human activities. Major sources include human and animal wastes, soil erosion, wastewater treatment plants, detergents, septic systems and runoff from farmland or lawns. Soluble reactive phosphorus is the amount of phosphorus in solution that is available to plants. Total phosphorus includes the amount of phosphorus in solution (reactive) and in particulate form. For natural lakes, the average total phosphorus should be between 0.016 and 0.030 milligrams per liter (mg/L). The below table outlines average phosphorus readings and their respective water quality:

Water quality vs. Total Phosphorus

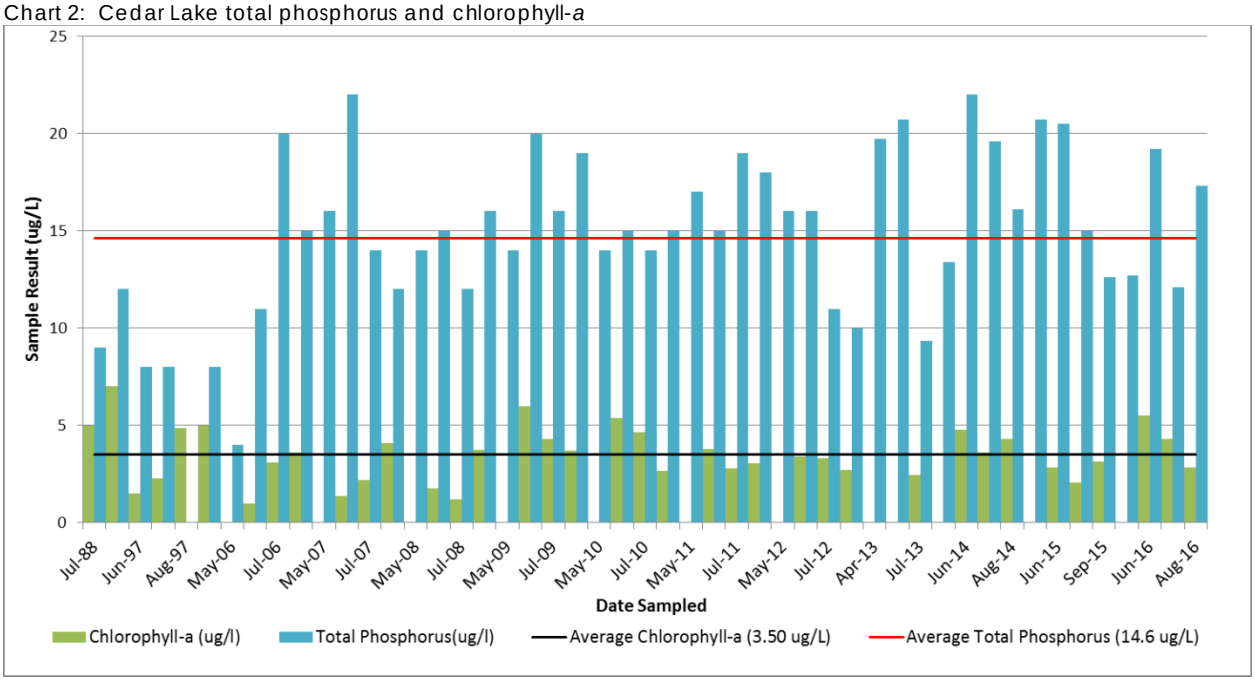
Water Quality Index	Total Phosphorus (mg/L)	
Very Poor	0.150+	
Poor	0.053 – 0.149	
Fair	0.031 – 0.052	
Good	0.016 – 0.030	
Very Good	0.002 – 0.015	← Cedar Lake
Excellent	0.001 or less	

All samples averaged 0.0146 mg/L (14.6 ug/L) for total phosphorus, indicating very good quality, better than Wisconsin lakes on average, and moderate availability of nutrients (Chart 2).

Chlorophyll-*a* is a green pigment present in all plant life and necessary for photosynthesis. The amount present in surface water depends on the amount of algae and is used as a common indicator of water quality. Higher chlorophyll-*a* values indicate lower water clarity. Values of 10 ug/L and higher are associated with algal blooms, while values between 5 and 10 ug/L indicate good water quality.

In natural lakes, these values cycle annually during the open water period. They begin low after ice out and increase throughout the year as the water warms and algae growth increases, sometimes spiking and creating a bloom condition (>10 ug/L). However, no readings over 10 ug/L were noted in Cedar Lake, indicating fairly stable planktonic algae populations. Though the amount of phosphorus present may fuel potential algae blooms, the algae is limited by other nutrients, such as nitrogen, or by zooplankton grazing in Cedar Lake. Zooplanktons are tiny, living organisms in the water column and are important food sources for small panfish and minnows.

Chart 2: Cedar Lake total phosphorus and chlorophyll-*a*



Water quality is a component of all three above factors: Water clarity (secchi), total phosphorus and chlorophyll-*a*. All factors are linked to each other, and as one changes so do the others. For example, if nutrient loads, such as phosphorus or nitrogen, increase, that increases available resources for algae (chlorophyll-*a*), which can cause an increase in this reading all while leading to a decrease in water clarity. Data is collected over time and averaged, allowing these factors to be used to assess the Trophic State Index (TSI) for a lake. TSI values are assigned to a lake based on all three values and are a measure of a lakes' biological productivity. Lakes with higher TSI values are more biologically productive, but have lower water clarity, increased nutrient input and the potential for frequent algae blooms. On the opposite end, lakes with low nutrient input and very clear water are typically less productive, having lower TSI values.

Historical water clarity, total phosphorus and chlorophyll-*a* data show a stable trend with minor annual variances of individual TSI averages for any of the three parameters. The overall average indicates that Cedar Lake is a mesotrophic lake with an average TSI rating of 44.

Table 1: Cedar Lake Trophic State Index

Category	TSI	Lake Characteristics	Total P *(ug/l)*	Chlorophyll a *(ug/l)*	Water Clarity *(feet)*
Oligotrophic	1-40	Clear water; oxygen rich at all depths, except if close to mesotrophic border; then may have low or no oxygen; cold-water fish likely in deeper lakes.	< 12	<2.6	>13
Mesotrophic	41-50	Moderately clear; increasing probability of low to no oxygen in bottom waters.	12 to 24	2.6 to 7.3	13 to 6.5
Eutrophic	51-70	Decreased water clarity; probably no oxygen in bottom waters during summer; warm-water fisheries only; blue-green algae likely in summer in upper range; plants also excessive.	> 24	>7.3	<6.5
Cedar Lake	**44**	**Mesotrophic**	**14.6**	**3.5**	**14**

Adopted from Carlson 1977, Lillie and Mason, 1983, and Shaw 1994 et al

The following chart displays the TSI of Cedar Lake over time and is adapted from WDNR data.

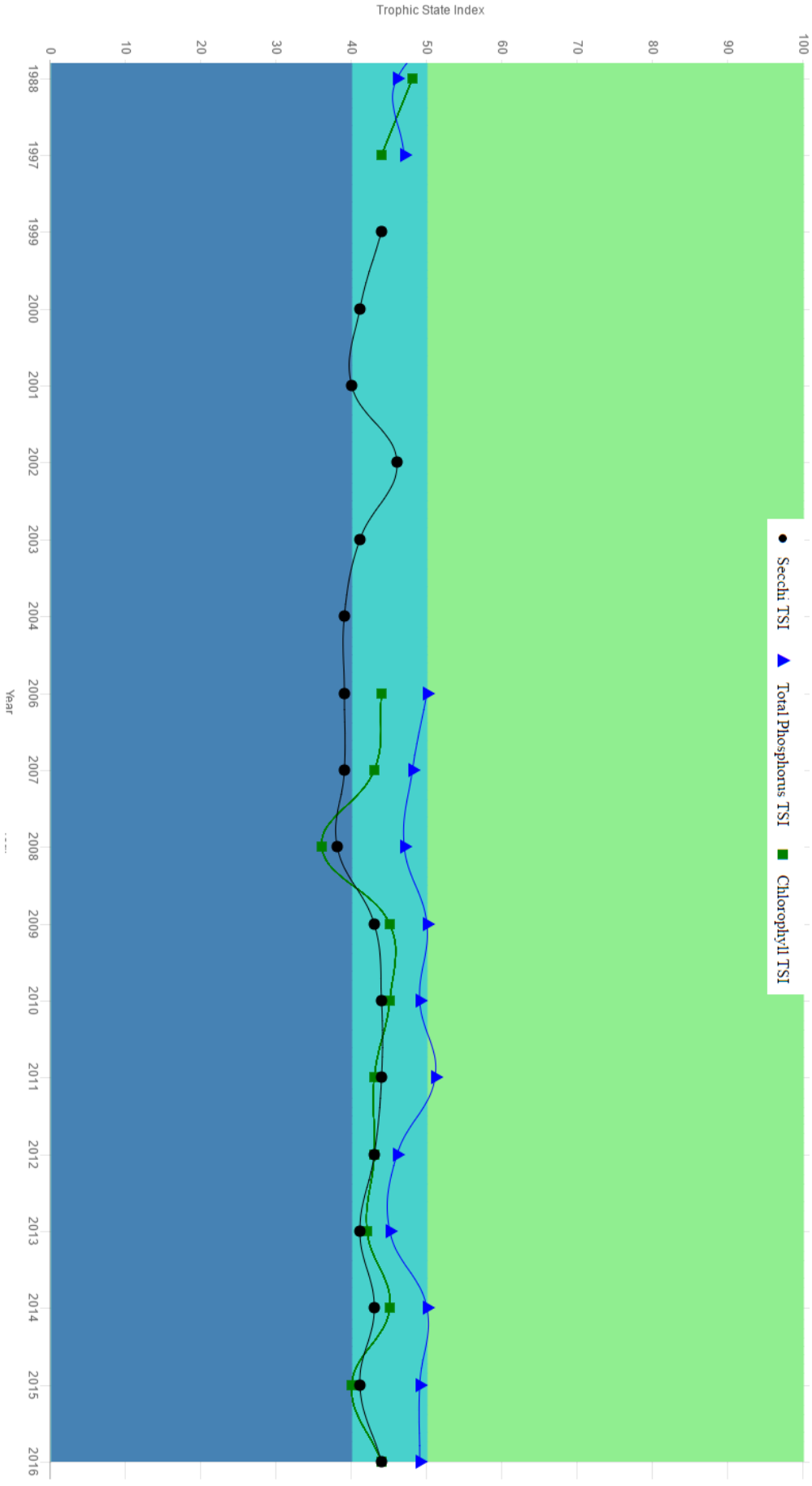


Chart 3: Trophic State Index Over Time, Cedar Lake

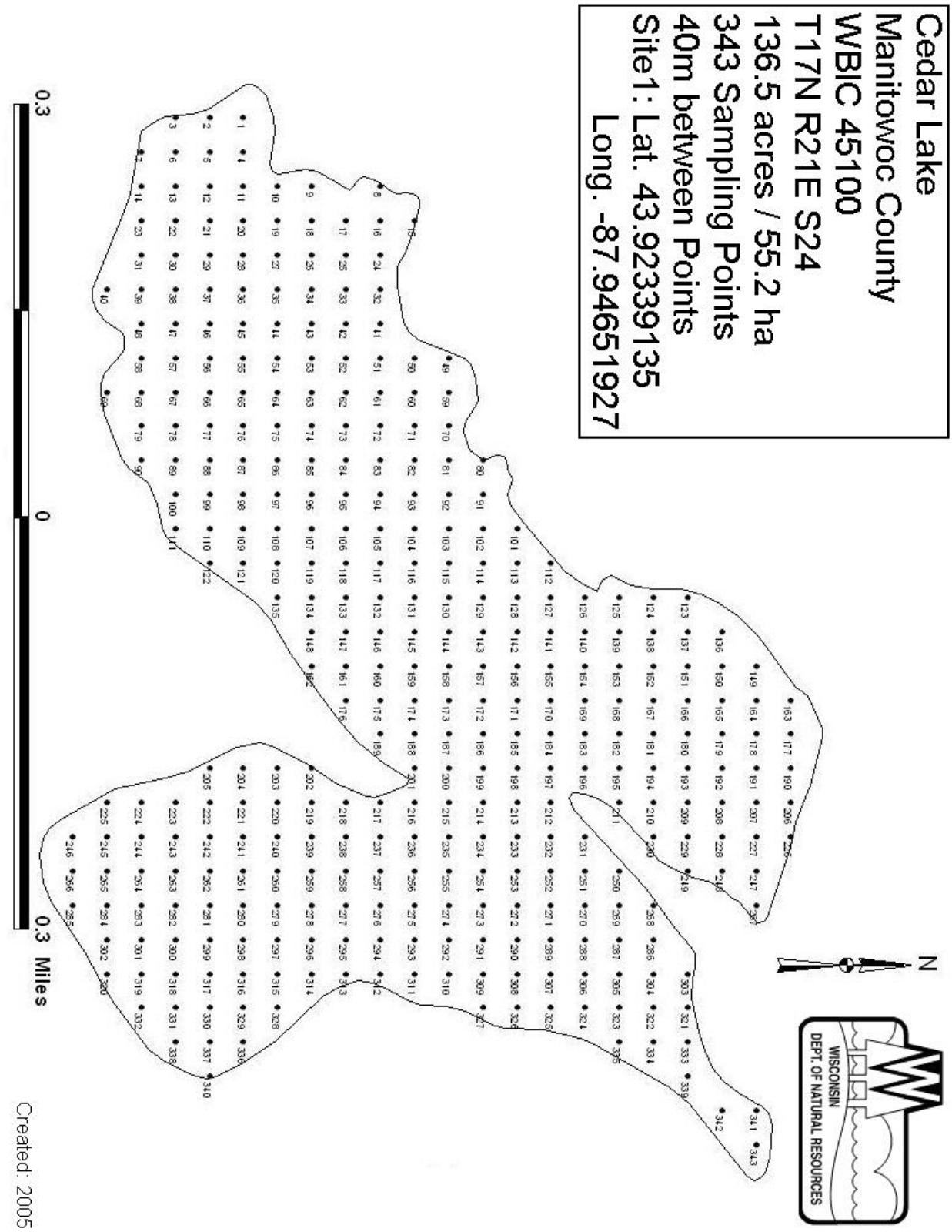
4.0 AQUATIC PLANTS

Aquatic plants are vital to the health of a water body. Unfortunately, they are often negatively referred to as "weeds". The misconceptions this type of attitude brings must be overcome in order to properly manage a lake ecosystem. Rooted aquatic plants are extremely important for the well-being of a lake community and possess many positive attributes. Despite their importance, they sometimes grow to nuisance levels that hamper recreational activities and are common in degraded ecosystems. The introduction of AIS, such as Eurasian water-milfoil, often can increase nuisance conditions, particularly when they successfully out-compete native vegetation and occupy large portions of a lake.

To assess the state of the current plant community, a full point-intercept survey was completed on July 6 & 8, 2016 following all WDNR survey protocol. The survey included sampling at 343 pre-determined locations uniformly spaced 40 meters apart to document the following at each site:

- Individual species present and their density
- Water depth
- Bottom substrate

Each location was assigned coordinates and loaded into a GPS unit, which was used to navigate to each point. Data collected at each point was then entered into a WDNR spreadsheet, which outputs various aquatic plant community indexes and data, allowing for a comparison to past data to monitor changes over time. Information on methods and all referenced tables or charts is included in Appendix B.


Cedar Lake
Manitowoc County
WBIC 45100
T17N R21E S24
136.5 acres / 55.2 ha
343 Sampling Points
40m between Points
Site1: Lat. 43.92339135
Long. -87.94651927
N
WISCONSIN
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
0.3
0
0.3 Miles
Created: 2005

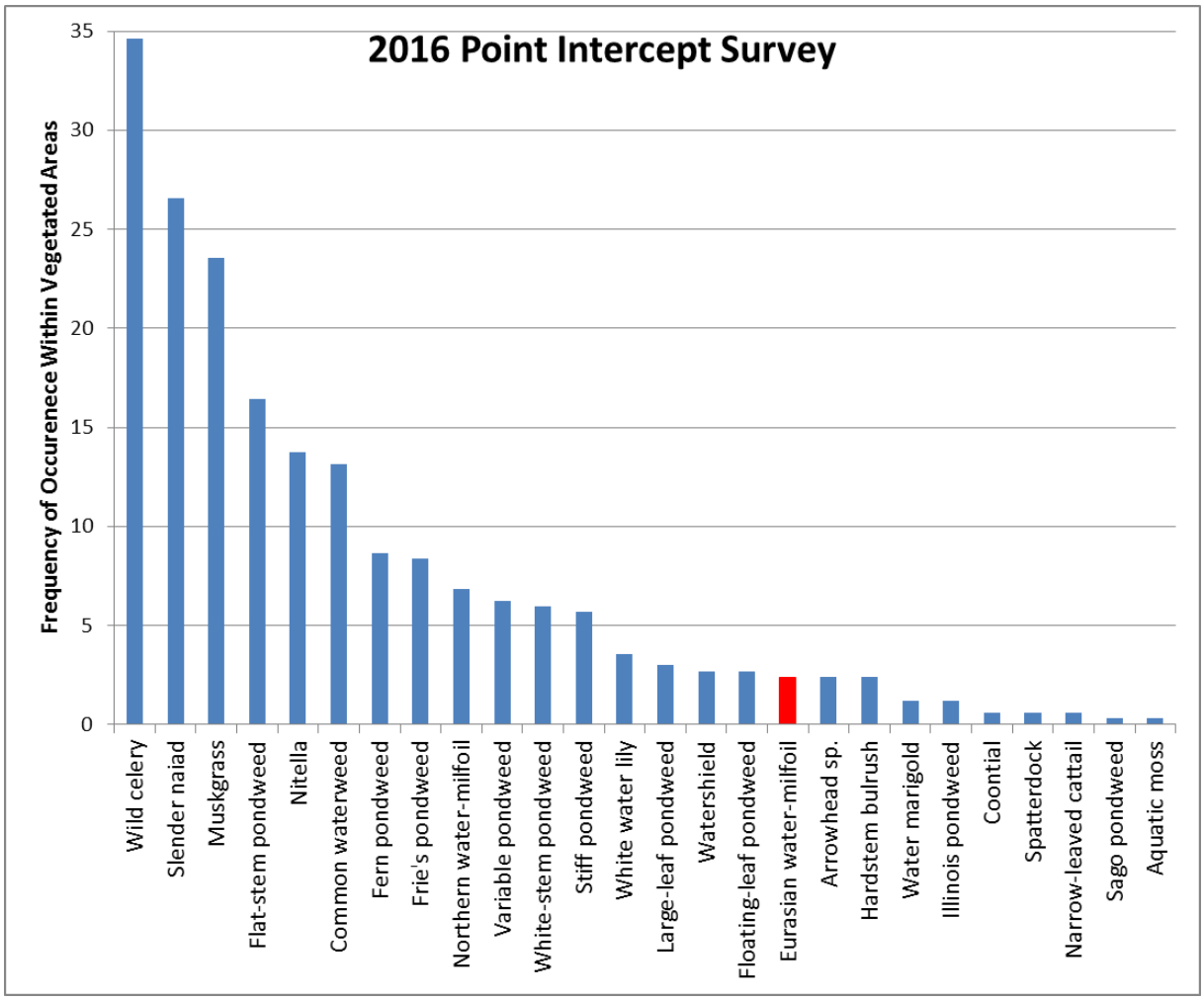
4.1 2016 POINT INTERCEPT SURVEY

In 2016, the aquatic plant survey identified a very diverse community, with scattered sections of dense submersed vegetation growth. In total, 25 species were identified; one of them being an AIS – Eurasian water-milfoil (Table 3, Appendix B). All remaining species identified are common of lakes in Wisconsin and included nine different species of pondweeds, which are vital to fisheries habitat.

Table 2: Aquatic Plant Community Statistics. Cedar Lake, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin.

Community Statistics	2016
Number of sites sampled	361
Number of sites with vegetation	268
Number of sites shallower than maximum depth of plants	335
Frequency at sites shallower than maximum depth of plants	80.0%
Simpson Diversity Index	0.91
Maximum depth of plants (feet)	22
Species richness	25
Average number of all species per site	1.93
Average number of all species per vegetated site	2.42
Average number of native species per site	1.91
Average number of native species per vegetated site	2.39

Species sampled in Cedar Lake were present in three categories: emergent, near shore species which are rooted below the water's surface with growth extending above the water (cattail - *Typha sp.);* floating-leaf species, which are rooted on the lake bottom but with leaves that float on the water's surface *(white water lily – Nymphaea odorata);* and submersed species which root on the lake bottom and remain below the water's surface (common waterweed – *Elodea canadensis*).



The photic zone, or area of the lake where light penetration is able to support plant growth, covered most of lake with plants found growing to 22 feet deep. Plant growth was locally dense with 80% of this area vegetated. Much of the sediment was compromised of sand, muck, or a mixture of the two. A mixture of sand and organic rich muck sediment provides ideal conditions for aquatic plant growth with an excellent nutrient source and solid footing for roots to establish in. In some areas of muck, the loose sediment allows plants to easily uproot due to wave or boat action and float to the surface, creating an additional nuisance to lake users.

Species richness was above average at 25 and exhibited moderately good diversity per sample point, averaging 2.39 native species per vegetated site with an excellent good spread throughout the system, as exhibited by a Simpson Diversity Index (SDI) of 0.91. An SDI value closer to 1.0 indicates a healthier, more evenly spread plant community. Wild celery (*Vallisneria americana*) and slender naiad (*Najas flexilis*), were the most dominant species present. Wild celery has been one of the most dominant species during past surveys as well and causes much of the dense, nuisance growth and often uproots in large mats which float to the surface.

Table 3, Appendix B displays frequency data by individual species. Figures 1-7 display the locations of the most common species and any AIS found during sampling. The health of the system is best represented by the average number of native species per sample point, which ranged from 0-7. Figure 8 displays this graphically and outlines many areas important to protecting the health and quality of the lake.

Though there are two AIS noted as being present in Cedar Lake (CLP & EWM), only EWM was sampled during the 2016 survey. At only 8 locations, none of them dense, EWM was the 17th most common species (Figure 1a). As an invasive species with aggressive growth tendencies, EWM spreads by growing from plant fragments, which can be hastened through mechanical harvesting. Though EWM has the potential to become an extreme nuisance and detriment to a lake's ecosystem and Cedar Lake has been harvesting as long as it has been found in the lake, EWM has not reached nuisance levels. Residents of Cedar Lake and members of the District and CLIA have been diligent in tracking the spread of EWM. Additional points of EWM growth noted by these volunteers are included in Figure 1b.

Curly-leaf pondweed was first noted in 1993, but no official sample exists in DNR records and was likely misidentified. During past surveys, it was only noted at one location in 2005 and not sampled in a 2007 or 2016 survey. It may still be present in Cedar Lake and, if so, has become part of the natural assemblage of plants and does not present nuisance conditions.

4.2 FLORISTIC QUALITY INDEX

To compare changes in the plant community over time within Cedar Lake and to similar lakes in Wisconsin, the floristic quality index (FQI) can be used. FQI provides the ability to compare aquatic plant communities based on species presence. This value varies throughout Wisconsin, ranging from 3.0 to 44.6, with a statewide average of 22.2. To achieve this, each plant species, except for AIS, is assigned a coefficient of conservatism value (C value). A plant's C value relates to a plant species' ability to tolerate disturbance. Low C values (0-3) indicate that a species is very tolerant of disturbance, while high C values (7-10) indicate species with a low tolerance of disturbance and are typically found in systems of higher water quality. Intermediate C values (4-6) indicate plant species that can tolerate moderate disturbance. The calculated FQI for Cedar Lake from the 2016 plant survey is 28.57 with an average C value of 5.96 (Table 4).

Table 4: FQI Breakdown by species for Cedar Lake, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin

	C-Value
Common Name	**2016**
Water marigold	8
Watershield	6
Coontial	3
Muskgrass	7
Common waterweed	3
Northern water-milfoil	6
Slender naiad	6
Nitella	7
Spatterdock	6
White water lily	6
Large-leaf pondweed	7
Frie's pondweed	8
Variable pondweed	7
Illinois pondweed	6
Floating-leaf pondweed	5
White-stem pondweed	8
Small pondweed	---
Fern pondweed	8
Stiff pondweed	8
Flat-stem pondweed	6
White water crowfoot	---
Hardstem bulrush	6
Sago pondweed	3
Narrow-leaved cattail	1
Wild celery	6
Total Species	23
Mean C	5.96
Floristic Quality Index (FQI)	**28.57**

Not only does this track changes over time within the lake, but allows for comparison of the Lake to lakes with similar environmental conditions within a delineated area, called an eco-region, to be compared. Cedar Lake is located within the Southeastern Wisconsin Till Plains eco-region. Lakes within the Southeastern Till Plains region are typically natural lakes created by glaciation.

Cedar Lake is found near the eastern border of the ecoregion within the Kettle Moraine sub-regions. Lakes within this area are primarily seepage lakes that formed in low areas between the hills and drumlins created by glaciation. Land use varies within the region from primarily forest to agricultural watersheds, with most lakes having at least moderate development along the shoreline.

Lakes within this eco-region have increased development around the lake and increased overall use leads to more disturbances from an expected natural condition, which leads to lower plant community metrics like FQI and coefficient of conservatism. Both of these are below the average for all Wisconsin lakes due to this.

Even after years of mechanical harvesting, Cedar Lake displays a high quality plant community for the eco-region. Its average C value (5.96) and FQI (28.57) are in the upper quartile for the Southeastern Till Plains ecoregion. Cedar Lake also ranks highly when compared to other lakes throughout the State as its FQI is also in the upper quartile (Table 5).

Table 5: FQI and Average Coefficient of Cedar Lake Compared to Wisconsin Southeastern Till Plains

	Average Coefficient of Conservatism			**Floristic Quality**		
Quartile*	Lower	Mean	Upper	Lower	Mean	Upper
Wisconsin Lakes	5.5	6	6.9	16.9	22.2	27.5
Southeastern Till Plains	5.2	5.6	5.8	17	20.9	24.4
2016	5.96			28.57		

Due to high shoreline development and recreation use for lakes within the region, many have a disturbed plant community. Mesotrophic lakes like Cedar Lake are moderately to very productive for both fisheries and aquatic plant growth, sometimes leading to dense nuisance growth, hampering navigation and use of the lake. This is true for Cedar Lake and though AIS are present, they do not pose an ecosystem threat within its very diverse native plant

community. 24 native species were found during the 2016 survey with an average of 2.08 native species per sample point with vegetation present and many sample points having more than this and up to seven native species present (Figure 8). This native plant community is important should any AIS management be wanted. , A healthy native plant population is already established and present to populate areas vacated by AIS due to potential management. Many lakes within the region with AIS growth lack a native community to do so.

4.3 HISTORICAL COMPARISON

The aquatic plant community of Cedar Lake has been sampled sparingly throughout its history, most recently in 2005. Similar sampling methods provide a unique opportunity to gauge changes over the years. Aquatic plant sampling protocol recommended by WDNR is completion of point-intercept surveys. These surveys are to be more repeatable between years. A full point-intercept survey was first completed in 2005 and repeated with an updated and expanded survey grid in 2016.

Table 6: Species sampled by year

	2005	2016
Invasive Species		
Curly-leaf Pondweed	X	
Eurasian water-milfoil	X	X
Floating-leaf species		
Spatterdock	X*	X
Watershield	X*	X
White water lily	X*	X
Emergent Species		
Arrowhead species		X
Cattail species	X*	
Hardstem bulrush	X	X
Narrow-leaved cattail	X*	X
Submersed Species		
Aquatic moss		X
Common waterweed	X	X
Coontial		X
Fern pondweed	X	X
Flat-stem pondweed	X	X
Floating-leaf pondweed	X	X
Frie's pondweed		X
Illinois pondweed	X	X
Large-leaf pondweed	X	X
Muskgrass	X	X
Nitella	X	X
Northern water-milfoil	X	X
Sago pondweed	X	X
Slender naiad	X	X
Small pondweed	X	
Stiff pondweed	X	X
Variable pondweed		X
Water marigold	X	X
White water crowfoot	X	
White-stem pondweed	X	X
Wild celery	X	X

* - Species noted visualy only

The relative plant community within the lake has fluctuated slightly over time in species composition while remaining stable overall. Species diversity, average coefficient of conservatism, and FQI all display the overall stability trend over time and are shown below for all metrics over time when comparing historical survey data (Tables 6 & 7).

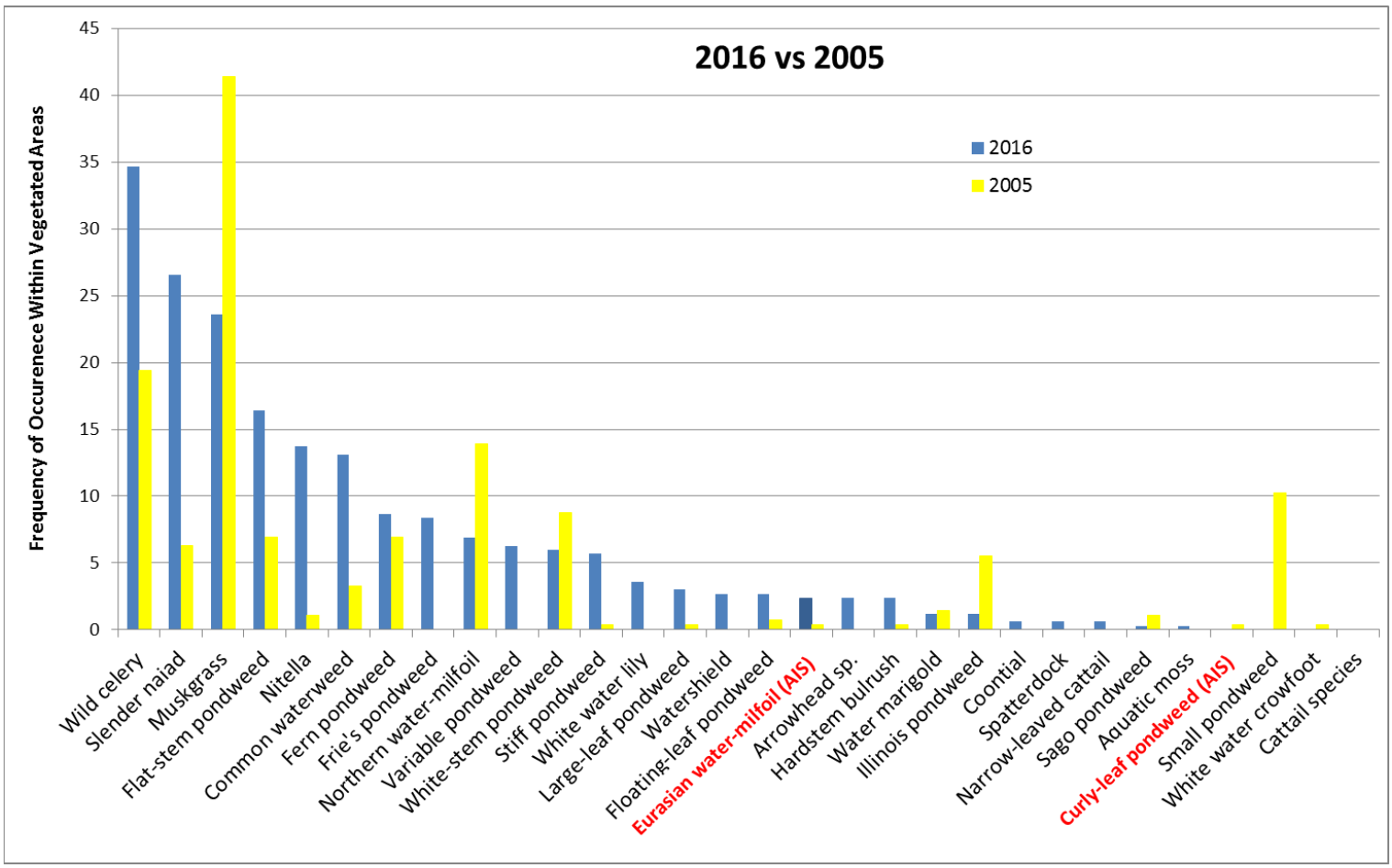
Table 7: Historical Aquatic Plant Community Statistics

	2005	2016
F.o.o. within photic zone	76.90%	80%
Most Dominant Species	Muskgrass	Wild celery
	Wild celery	Slender naiad
	Northern water-milfoil	Muskgrass
	Small pondweed	Flat-stem pondweed
	White-stem pondweed	Nitella
Maximum Depth of Plants	21.50	22
Species Richness	25	25
Community FQI	28.57	28.57
Average Coeffecient	6.06	5.96

Over the two most recent surveys (2005 and 2016) as shown above, the aquatic plant community has seen changes in overall species composition while maintaining many community metrics. Species sampled in 2005, but not present in 2016, include curly-leaf pondweed, cattail species, small pondweed and white water crowfoot. There are two species of cattail in Wisconsin that readily interbreed and create hybrids, making identification difficult at times. Cattail was still present in 2016, but identified to species level.

The 2016 survey had 5 species sampled that were not noted in 2005; arrowhead, aquatic moss, coontail, Frie's pondweed, and variable pondweed. Composition of the plant community changes by year and the lack of finding species in 2016 that were present in 2005 and vice versa is not concerning, especially due to the healthy and diverse community found in Cedar Lake.

Frequency of Occurrence between Sampling Events



Data comparison between years shows that the lake continually exhibits a dynamic and diverse aquatic plant community. Dominant species will vary year to year depending on many factors including weather patterns, community composition in year's prior, water levels and more. Some conditions may be favorable for certain species during one growing year but not others and vice versa. This is common and indicative of a healthy lake. Variance is normal and that noted within the lake is currently not a cause for concern.

AIS are an ever increasing threat. Eurasian water-milfoil is the most prevalent AIS present and has increased slightly from prior surveys. This species was found growing in scattered, sparse locations across the lake.

In many biologically productive lakes some native species can grow to nuisance levels, hampering navigation and enjoyment of the waterbody. Past observations from the District's commissioner, Scott Otterson, indicate that most of the earlier harvested plant material was northern water-milfoil. Up until the mid-1990's this was the case. However, now it is rare to see any northern water-milfoil harvested.

Throughout both surveys and current notes from the harvester operator, wild celery is now the bulk of the material harvested and has remained prevalent in Cedar Lake and continues to cause navigational nuisance within the system. Wild celery that is loosely rooted in soft sediments can easily break loose and float within the water column, causing an additional nuisance.

4.4 POTENTIALLY ENVIRONMENTALY SENSITIVE AREAS

Environmentally sensitive areas are locations within a lake that offer critical and/or unique fisheries or wildlife habitat areas or areas that offer water quality and erosion control benefits. Such areas play important roles within the lake's ecosystem such as offering fisheries spawning, nursery, feeding or cover areas, areas of rare species occurrence or habitat, or erosion and nutrient buffer locations. During the aquatic plant survey, special note was taken to inventory such potential areas on Cedar Lake. These have been mapped (Figure 9) and are described in detail below and should be avoided during harvesting activities.

- **Sensitive Areas #1-3**: These locations are along undeveloped shorelines where near-shore aquatic plant growth does not impact riparian landowners. Areas 1-3 have historically been left undisturbed by harvesting activities and exhibit a good mix of native plant species, especially along area 1 where up to 6 native species per sample location were noted. Additionally, portions of Areas 1 & 3 are located near wetlands that feed into Cedar Lake. These wetlands offer high quality habitat for fisheries spawning and rearing areas and are also protected under other sensitive areas listed below.

- **Sensitive Area #4**: Sensitive area #4 is a series of shallow sand and gravel humps. These locations were, at one time, above water during periods of low water levels. When the DNR bathymetric map was created in1964 these areas were mapped as islands. Now they are covered by 1-2 feet of water and harbor populations of hardstem bulrush. This emergent species provides good fisheries habitat and important sediment anchoring from wave action, both natural and man influenced. An updated bathymetric map is included in Figure 11.

- **Sensitive Areas #5 & 6**: These areas are small pockets with high plant diversity and adjacent to wetland areas and are important fisheries spawning and rearing areas. Plants common here include some of the only locations for floating-leaf species found in Cedar Lake, including: white water lily, watershield, and spatterdock.

5.0 AQUATIC PLANT MAINTENANCE ALTERNATIVES

Based on the goals of the stakeholders outlined above, several management alternatives are available for this APM plan. Some general alternatives are discussed below. More information on management alternatives are included in Appendix C. The following management alternatives are based on historical, aquatic plant management approaches and incorporate needs established by the questionnaire and recommendations of Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource.

AQUATIC PLANT MAINTENANCE ALTERNATIVES

A combination of management alternatives may be used on a lake with a healthy native aquatic plant community with invasive or non-native plant species present. Maintenance alternatives tend to be more protection-oriented because no significant plant problems exist or the issues are at levels that are generally acceptable to lake user groups with no active manipulation required. These alternatives can include an educational plan to inform lake shore owners of the value of a natural shoreline and encourage the protection of the lake water quality and the native aquatic plant community.

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES MONITORING

One AIS was identified within the Project Area during the 2016 full point-intercept survey. In order to monitor existing populations of current AIS and for new AIS in the future, a consistent and systematic monitoring program that conducts surveys for AIS is highly recommended. In some lake systems native aquatic plants "hold their own" and AIS never grow to nuisance levels; however, in others active management is required. The spread of AIS can be caused by several factors, including water quality.

It is recommended to complete pre and post treatment aquatic plant monitoring in any areas that are actively managed for AIS control to evaluate management effectiveness. Aquatic plant communities may undergo changes for a variety of reasons, including varying water levels, water clarity, nutrient levels and aquatic plant management actions. In general, lake-wide aquatic plant surveys are recommended every year to monitor changes in the overall aquatic plant community during large-scale treatments and then again every 5 years once small scale, maintenance treatments take place to monitor the effects of the aquatic plant management activities.

In addition to invasive plants, excessive native plant growth combined with shallow water depths can cause navigational issues for lake users. These have historically been addressed through a harvesting program.

CLEAN BOATS/CLEAN WATERS CAMPAIGN

Prevention of the introduction of new AIS to the lake and spread of existing AIS from the lake was the top management priority indicated in the user survey responses. To prevent the spread of AIS from Cedar Lake, a monitoring program such as Clean Boats/Clean Waters (CB/CW) is a good choice. This program is carried out by trained volunteers who inspect incoming and outgoing boats at launches. Boat landing signage also accompanies the use of CB/CW to inform lake users of proper identification of AIS and boat inspection procedures. Education of club members about inspecting watercraft for AIS before launching a boat or leaving access sites on other lakes could help prevent new AIS infestations.

CB/CW use on Cedar Lake has been ongoing and used extensively, contacting the most people and boaters throughout Manitowoc County. Continued participation in this program is strongly encouraged, especially when considering the high amount of recreational use.

Scheduling volunteers for CB/CW landing inspection is often difficult due to time constraints for volunteers. The WDNR offers grant assistance through the Surface Waters program to pay for CB/CW landing inspectors. This establishes a set and known schedule for boat landing monitoring, offering added protection for the Lake. If acquiring CB/CW monitors becomes difficult for Cedar Lake and the District it is recommended they apply through this grant to program to hire a dedicated monitor. This is often done in conjunction with County-wide AIS monitoring efforts.

AQUATIC PLANT PROTECTION AND SHORELINE MANAGEMENT

Protection of the native aquatic plant community is needed to slow the spread of AIS from lake to lake and within a lake once established. Therefore, riparian landowners should refrain from removing native vegetation. Additionally, EWM and CLP can thrive in nutrient (phosphorus and nitrogen) enriched waters or where nutrient rich sediments occur. Two relatively simple actions can prevent excessive nutrients and sediments from reaching the lake.

The first activity is the restoration of natural shorelines, which act as a buffer for runoff containing nutrients and sediments. This can be a potential issue within the lake, as 20.6% of the watershed is in agricultural use (WI DNR Hydro-Data, 2016). Overall, the Cedar Lake watershed is 669 acres, increased from that noted in 2002 and 2005 management plans due to better data collection abilities. Since 2005, the overall makeup of the watershed has seen a slight decrease in percent used in agricultural land, 20.6% from 24%,

Good candidates for shoreline restorations include areas that are mowed to the lake's edge, or that have structures directly adjacent to the lake edge. Establishing natural shoreline vegetation can sometimes be as easy as not mowing to the water's edge. Native plants can also be purchased from nurseries for restoration efforts. Shoreline restoration has the added benefits of providing wildlife habitat and erosion prevention. Or many times a simple "no mow" buffer strip 35'–50' back from the water's edge can provide effective and economical restoration for shoreline property owners. A vegetated buffer area can also prevent surface water runoff from roads, parking areas and lawns from carrying nutrients to the lake. Currently, much of the lake's shoreline is developed, providing potential avenues for increased impacts from runoff.

The second easy nutrient prevention effort is to use lawn fertilizers only when a soil test shows a lack of nutrients. Importantly, fertilizers containing phosphorus, though readily available to the consumer, are illegal for use in Wisconsin, unless a soil test shows a deficiency in phosphorus. The fertilizers commonly used for lawns and gardens have three major plant macronutrients: Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Potassium. These are summarized on the fertilizer package by three numbers. The middle number represents the amount of phosphorus. Since most Wisconsin lakes are "Phosphorus limited", meaning additions of phosphorus can cause increased aquatic plant or algae growth, preventing phosphorus from reaching the lake is a good practice. Local retailers and lawn care companies can provide soil test kits to determine a lawn's nutrient needs. To help prevent fertilizer runoff into local lakes, the Town of Schleswig has restricted fertilization of private properties within 35' of the waterbody. Of course, properties with an intact natural buffer require very little maintenance, and no fertilizers.

The Manitowoc County Soil and Water Conservation Department may be able to offer assistance with shoreline restoration projects, rain gardens and soil testing to determine nutrients

needs for lawns and gardens. Interested landowners can contact the Soil and Water Conservation Department at (920) 683-4183 to request additional information.

An additional option is the DNR Healthy Lakes grant program. This program provides initiative for lakeshore owners to improve their shoreline through simple and inexpensive best management practices. Deadline for application is February 1st with funding of up to $25,000 per group or $1,000 per individual on a 75% DNR / 25% applicant cost sharing. Further information can be obtained at: http:// http://healthylakeswi.com

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT

The TSSD and CLIA should continue to keep abreast of current AIS issues throughout the County and State. The County Soil and Water Conservation Department, WDNR Lakes Coordinator and the UW Extension are good sources of information. Many important materials can be ordered at the following website: http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/publications/

If the above hyperlink to web address becomes inactive, please contact WDNR for appropriate program and contact information.

MANUAL (HAND) REMOVAL

Native plants may be found at nuisance levels in scattered locales throughout the waterway. Manual removal efforts, including hand raking or hand pulling unwanted native plants (except wild rice in the northern region), is allowed under Wisconsin law to a maximum width of 30 feet (recreational zone) per riparian property. The intent is to provide pier, boatlift or swimming raft access in the recreation zone. A permit is not required for hand pulling or raking if the maximum width cleared does not exceed this 30-foot recreation zone (manual removal of any native aquatic vegetation beyond the 30-foot area would require a permit from the WDNR that satisfies the requirements of Chapter NR 109, Wisconsin Administrative Code, see Appendix D). However, manual removal is not recommended because it could open a niche for non-native invasive aquatic plants to occupy. Removal of native plants also destroys habitat for fish and wildlife.

Manual removal of aquatic plants can be quite labor intensive and time consuming. This technique is well suited for small areas in shallow water. Hiring laborers to remove aquatic vegetation is an option, but also increases cost. SCUBA divers can be contracted to remove unwanted vegetation in deeper areas. Benefits of manual removal by property owners include low cost compared to chemical control methods, quick containment of pioneering (new) populations of invasive aquatic plants and the ability for a property owner to slowly and consistently work on active management. The drawback of this alternative is that pulling aquatic plants includes the challenge of working in the water, especially deep water, the threat of letting fragments escape and colonize a new area, and the fact that control of any significant sized population is quite labor intensive, and therefore very costly; $1,500 - $2,000 per 5,000 square feet, or $10,000 - $20,000 acre depending on plant densities.

MECHANICAL HARVESTING / NUISANCE AQUATIC PLANT GROWTH

Aquatic plants may be mechanically harvested up to five feet below the water surface and one half the depth of the water column. Harvesting can be a practical and efficient means of controlling plant growth, as it generally removes the plant biomass from the lake. It can also be effective in controlling AIS such as curly-leaf pondweed if the plants are cut prior to the start of turion production. Harvesting can be an effective measure to control large-scale nuisance growth of aquatic plants.

The advantages of harvesting are that the harvester typically leaves enough plant material in the lake to provide shelter for fish and to stabilize the lake bottom. Navigation lanes cut by

harvesting also allow predator fish, such as bass or pike, better ambush opportunities. Many times, prey like minnows or panfish, are able to hide in thick vegetation lacking predation and potentially causing stunting to the population due to too many prey individuals and not being thinned out by predators. The disadvantages of the harvesting is that it does cause fragmentation and may facilitate the spread of some plants, including EWM, and may disturb sediment in shallow water increasing water turbidity and suspended sediment issues. Another disadvantage is harvesters are limited in depths to which they can effectively operate; typically it must be greater than 2' – 3' of water. Aquatic plant harvesting is subject to State permitting requirements which are renewable every 5 years.

In some areas of excessive plant growth, particularly in shallow water areas that can't be effectively managed using a harvester, contact herbicides can provide effective season long relief. Navigational channels 30' – 50' in width, as described in the section above, can be created using chemical herbicides. Since selectivity is not a concern for navigational treatment, contact herbicides such as diquat or more recently flumioxazin are used for submersed species. They are typically mixed with a copper based algaecide for increased efficacy. For floating leaf species, an herbicide such as imazapyr is typically used with a surfactant or sticking agent. A combination of harvesting and treatment is sometimes a wise approach to compare length of control, costs and season long performance.

Mechanical harvesting requires significant infrastructure to complete, many times requiring the purchase of a harvester by the group and, unless already being completed, has significant startup costs.

Currently, harvesting has been done annually since 1950s and is an accepted and practicable control technique for Cedar Lake. Though harvesting can impact native species and enhance the spread of EWM, neither of these instances have been noted on Cedar Lake. EWM has been present in small, scattered pockets without spreading or expanding while being potentially harvested. Additionally, Cedar Lake contains a diverse, high quality native plant community that has remained stable in the past 11+ years since the last survey.

The current harvesting permit expires in 2017 and is based on results from the 2005 plan that do not accurately portray current conditions. As an accepted practice already in place, mechanical harvesting is recommended to continue. An updated and renewed mechanical harvesting permit should be sought and use the Mechanical Harvesting Map attached (Figure 10). Harvesting should only be completed in the outlined areas to alleviate nuisance conditions for pier, swimming or boat access. Environmentally sensitive areas outlined in the map should be avoided to reduce negative impact to these locations.

6.0 INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES

6.1 AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES HERBICIDE TREATMENT

An aquatic herbicide treatment may be an appropriate way to treat larger areas of AIS and to conduct restoration of native plants. When using chemicals to control AIS, it is a good idea to reevaluate the lake's plant community and the extent of the AIS conditions before, during and after chemical treatment. The chosen herbicide may impact native plant communities including coontail, common waterweed, naiad species and others, especially during whole-lake applications and/or extended periods of herbicide exposure. The WDNR may require another aquatic plant survey and may require an AIS survey prior to approving a permit for treatment. Surveys should be included for all aquatic plant treatments and is typically a WDNR requirement.

The science regarding what chemicals are most effective, dosages, timing and how they should be applied is constantly evolving and being updated. Current WDNR and Army Corps of Engineer research has shown that herbicide applied to water diffuses off-site due to a variety of environmental and physical conditions including wind, waves, water depth, and treatment area relative to lake volume. Due to these actions, as treatment areas decrease, herbicide retention time needed for impact is lessened due to diffusion off-site because of the small amount of area treated and herbicide applied relative to the entire water volume. To combat this, it is recommended to apply at higher rates when compared to a whole-lake rate and typically with a granular herbicide with a combination of active ingredients in hopes to extend contact time.

Chemical treatment is usually a long term commitment and requires a specific plan with a goal set for "tolerable" levels of the relevant AIS. One such landmark might be 10% or less of the littoral area being occupied by aquatic invasive plants. WDNR recommends conducting a whole-lake point-intercept survey on a five year bases (for Cedar Lake the next would be 2021). Such a survey may reveal new AIS and at the very least would provide good trend data to see how the aquatic plant community is evolving.

Herbicides provide the opportunity for broader control over a larger area than hand pulling, and unlike harvesters, allow for a true restoration effort. Disadvantages include negative public perception of chemicals in natural lakes, the potential to affect non-target plant species (if not applied at an appropriate application rate and/or time of year), and the fact that water use restrictions may be necessary after application.

6.1.1 Curly-leaf Pondweed

Curly-leaf pondweed is the second most prevalent aquatic invasive plant species targeted for chemical treatment in the State. At present, endothall, a contact herbicide is the most common active ingredient in herbicides used for CLP management in Wisconsin. Imazamox has been used periodically in the last several years. Imazamox has shown promise in that it is a systemic herbicide for CLP control and can potentially have a much lower impact to the native plant community than a contact herbicide and appears to show increased year after treatment control than endothall. It is not entirely clear as to why this happens but it may be due to the systemic effect on turion production within the plants, resulting in fewer plants the following year.

Granular based formulations are generally more costly and used for smaller spot type treatments, while liquid formulations are less costly and generally used for larger contiguous treatment areas or whole-lake type treatments. In order to decrease any potential impact to native plants and be as selective as possible for CLP, treatments are completed in the spring

when native plant growth is minimal, typically prior to 60˚ water temperatures, but perhaps most importantly prior to the start of turion production. CLP seems to prefer and flourish in mucky or highly flocculent substrate, which is found in most of Cedar Lake's sediments. Given the lack locating populations of CLP during the most recent survey and large locations of appropriate substrate its presence was expected to have been more prevalent. Monitoring may be the best option for management.

6.1.2 Eurasian Water-milfoil

EWM is the most commonly managed AIS within Wisconsin lakes and the most prevalent within Cedar Lake. EWM is an extremely opportunistic plant and could easily expand within Cedar Lake. Should such an event take place, it is prudent to include potential management actions for EWM within this plan, to provide a quick and concise reference for management.

At present, 2,4-D is the most common active ingredient for selective systemic herbicides used for EWM management in Wisconsin, although triclopyr use is increasing and has been commonly used in Minnesota for well over a decade. Granular based formulations are typically more costly and used for smaller spot type treatments, while liquid formulations tend to be less costly and used for larger contiguous treatment areas or whole-lake type treatments. In order to maximize effectiveness and decrease any potential impact to native plants to the greatest extent possible, treatments should be completed in the spring when native plant growth is minimal, typically prior to 65˚ water temperatures.

Current WDNR and Army Corps of Engineer research has shown that herbicide applied to water diffuses off-site due to a variety of environmental and physical conditions including wind, waves, water depth, and treatment area relative to lake volume. Due to these actions, as treatment areas decrease, herbicide retention time needed for impact is lessened due to diffusion off-site because of the small amount of area treated and herbicide applied relative to the entire water volume. To combat this, it is recommended to apply at higher rates when compared to a whole-lake rate and typically with a granular herbicide with a combination of active ingredients in hopes to extend contact time. As EWM abundance lessens within Cedar Lake and smaller treatment areas < 2.0 ac) are mapped, it is recommended to use diquat, a fast acting contact herbicide, at max label rates of 0.37 parts per million (ppm). This approach has shown to be an effective management tool in various lakes throughout Wisconsin and is continuing to be researched for efficacy and long term control.

It is worth noting there are various hybrid strains of EWM being genetically confirmed throughout the State and many of these are showing resistance to typical systemic herbicides. Research projects are currently underway, with the WDNR and herbicide manufacturers' testing various combination herbicides (systemic, such as 2,4-D & contact, such as endothall) at 1:2 or 1:3 ratio as well other modes of action like pigment bleaching herbicides (fluridone) in the field and lab that may be more effective on these strains of hybrid EWM, in particular on a whole-lake basis maintaining a 2-4 PPB residual for 90+ days.

Fluridone is also available in different pelletized slow release formations that are designed to release off the carrier over extended periods of time; from several weeks to several months. These may be useful in a flowing water situation as the pellets can be placed upstream and the herbicide allowed to be carried downstream by the current as it is released off the pellet.

The size of the infestation tends to dictate the type of the treatment. Small treatment areas or beds less than 5 acres are many times consider spot treatments and usually targeted with granular type herbicides, or fast acting contact liquid herbicides. When there are multiple

"spot" treatment areas within a lake, it most often makes more sense from economic and efficacy standpoints to target the "whole" lake for treatment. This typically entails calculating the entire volume of water within the lake, in acre/feet, and applying a liquid herbicide, such as 2,4-D, at a low dose at a lake wide rate of typically between 250 – 350 parts per billion (PPB).

6.2 AQUATIC INVASIVE PLANT HARVESTING

MECHANICAL HARVESTING

Aquatic plants may be mechanically harvested up to five feet below the water surface or one half of the water column, whichever is less, and be a practical and efficient means of controlling plant growth as it generally removes the plant biomass from the lake. It can also be effective to control AIS such as curly-leaf pondweed if the plants are cut prior to and continually cut throughout the season to prevent turion production until the plant dies on its own in mid to late summer.

Harvesting can also be used as a means to facilitate native aquatic plant growth by "top cutting" AIS growth that has canopied out. This is done by removing a canopy of AIS that shades out native, lower growing species, such as pondweed species. Use of a top cut only in areas of dense AIS growth, can provide additional sunlight for growth, increasing diversity and available fisheries habitat quality.

MANUAL (HAND) REMOVAL

If a small isolated stand of AIS is present, hand pulling may be a viable option. No permit is required to remove non-native invasive aquatic vegetation as long as the removal is conducted completely by hand with no mechanical assistance. All aquatic plant material must be removed from the water to minimize dispersion and re-germination of unwanted aquatic plants. Portions of the roots may remain in the sediments, so removal may need to be repeated periodically throughout the growing season. This can be a very effective control mechanism for EWM if the entire plant mass and root structure is completely removed. The drawback of this alternative is that pulling aquatic plants includes the challenge of working in the water, especially deep water, threat of letting fragments escape and colonize a new area, and control of any significant sized population is quite labor intensive and very costly. Hand harvesting costs using professionally contracted SCUBA divers are around $1,500 - $2,000 per 5,000 square feet, or $10,000 - $20,000 acre depending on plant densities.

7.0 IMPACT OF HIGH WAKE BOATING ACTIVITIES

As a quality, public water body near large population centers, Cedar Lake receives significant amounts of recreational use. Overall intensity of watercraft uses on the lake was noted to have become busier by 80.5% of users in the survey. Currently, the most practiced activities include low impact actions from canoeing, kayaking, and swimming to high wake boating actions such as jet skiing, wake boarding, and wake surfing. High impact activities can negatively affect the experience of other users on the lake and was noted to have done so by 82% of respondents in the user survey, causing the enjoyment of the boating experience to decline for 85.7%.

To help alleviate issues caused by recreation pressure, slow-no-wake hours were established for Cedar Lake (Section 3.0, pg 3.5). However, 85.7% of survey responses indicated that their enjoyment of boating experiences has declined over time due to increased intensity of recreational uses. The primary factors involved in decreased experience being: excessive traffic (81.4%), boat wake waves (67.4%) and noise (16.3%).

In recent years there has been an increase of boating activities which artificially create a large wake big enough to surf upon and is known as wake surfing. A new style of boats have been developed by manufacturers to cater to this watersports market. These boats can stay in a semi-planed state and/or carry ballast water weight low in the hull creating a wake the size of typical small surf wave of about 4' high, or roughly double the height of typical inland boat wake.

There have been concerns noted by lake users regarding excessive wakes on the lake, in particular from specific boating activities designed to create large wakes for water sport activities. A concern of such boating activities is for the safety of other users in smaller watercraft. Under current Wisconsin law, boaters are responsible for damage or injury caused by a wake while in control of their watercraft.

Another of the concerns noted was relative to the large wakes causing disruption and uprooting of aquatic plants and erosion of shoreline due to excessive and unnatural wave action. The 2016 point-intercept aquatic plant survey, when compared with the survey completed in 2005, did not indicate any major changes in the aquatic plant community from a statistical perspective.

However, during the 2016 survey, several whole plants were noted floating that were completely uprooted. These plants were tall, typically 6' or more and may be susceptible to uprooting from large wakes. In deeper water much of their energy is dedicated to growing upward verses establishing a strong root structure, as a similar plant would growing in shallower water.

As public waterbodies owned by the State, regulations cannot be enacted that limit specific watercraft. However, actions that affect all watercraft, such as slow-no-wake speed limits, are permissible. The TSSD has imposed temporary, lake-wide slow no wake restrictions during periods of high water to protect the shoreline. It is possible that Cedar Lake be established as slow-no-wake at all times. This will affect all users, but not be acceptable and unlikely to pass.

Another option would be to limit the height of wake waves, which was supported by 54.5% of surveyed lake users. By limiting the height of the wake wave, from peak to trough, the impact to other users should be lessened. A regulation such as this may be difficult to enforce and no set height was recommended within the survey, with most identifying no opinion on the subject (42%). In addition, this would apply to all watercraft, even small boats going slightly over slow-no-wake. A more enforceable regulation would be to require all watercraft to be at slow-no-wake speeds within 50' of any person not on a watercraft. Typical rope lengths for water skiing and tubing are 60-75'+ and of adequate distance to still be able to engage in these activities.

CEDAR LAKE -
AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT PLAN
Impact of high wake boating activities
July 5, 2017

Wake wave height as it relates to certain boating activities has been a contentious topic for lake users and the District. Whatever options are chosen should be preceded by open discussion with all parties at the table to come up a plan of best fit.

8.0 OVERALL LAKE MANGEMENT GOALS

Cedar Lake is a natural seepage lake with very good water quality, an excellent aquatic plant community and high recreational use. Management actions recommended below are based on the findings of this APM plan and chosen to protect and enhance the conditions present:

- User of the lake enjoy their time on the water with over 26 average years of experience, indicating a longevity that is important to generations of families and an increased importance on maintaining conditions for future generations (Section 2.0, pg 2.3)

- Water quality is excellent, with clarity averaging 14.0 ft and low nutrients to fuel algae blooms (Section 3.1, pg 3.6)

- Good water clarity allows for aquatic plants to thrive, even in up to 22 feet of water. Largely, the aquatic plant community of Cedar Lake is of high quality with great diversity and includes 24 native species (Section 4.1, pg 4.13, & Figures 2-7)

- Though of high quality, aquatic plants can and do grow to nuisance levels, requiring active management through mechanical harvesting since 1950 (Section 3.0, pg 3.5)

- Aquatic invasive species are a constant threat to the quality of the lake and are present in low numbers (Section 4.1, pg 4.14, & Figure 1a-1b)

- A public user survey was conducted to gauge the perception of the lake and formulate aquatic plant management options that are not only viable for Cedar Lake, but also desired by its users and able to be successful (Appendix A)

- Current management actions have shown to have no negative impact to the aquatic plant over time (Section 4.3, pg 4.16) and are the most accepted and recommended by lake users (Appendix A)

Even with AIS present in Cedar Lake their impact to the system are minimal and are not currently at levels that require aggressive large-scale management. Though the aquatic plant community in Cedar Lake is healthy, it can grow dense and impact recreational use on the water. Dense aquatic plant growth only worsens navigational issues throughout the lake and negatively impacted users of the lake 82.7% of the time, with the same amount of users wanting management action to reduce aquatic plant issues.

Only those options that will be supported by the users, TSSD, and CLIA with high likelihood of subsequent approval from the WDNR will be selected to help accomplish management goals. However, not all desired management options are viable or feasible for each situation. All options are disused further in Appendix C. Based on the above, the following recommended action plan includes a combination of management actions to achieve desired results.

Goal: Renew the mechanical harvesting permit

Primary Action: The current permit expires in 2017 and was issued using the 2005 APM plan. Use the contents of this plan, including Figure 10, to update the harvesting permit based on current conditions.

Goal: Reduce Nuisance Aquatic Plant Growth Hampering Navigation

Primary Action: Mechanically harvest common navigational channels to a depth of 5' for riparian boat access, increase recreational potential for fishing, and maintain boating, swimming, and pier access. See figure 10 for recommended harvest areas. The following guideline should be used for all mechanical plant harvesting activities:

- Only cut in depths of three feet or more
- Only cut to a maximum depth of ½ the water column or 5', whichever is shallower
- Avoid cutting in environmentally sensitive areas
- All cut material should be inspected for fish and animals. Any organisms found should be immediately returned to the water
- All cut materials should be collected and deposited at the designated disposal site as indicated on the permit
- Free floating plants uprooted by wave and boating action may be surface skimmed without use of the cutting head if outside of designated harvest areas

Goal: Obtain financial assistance for AIS management activities.

Primary Action: Apply for an AIS Established Population Control Grant through the WDNR's Surface Water Grant program to manual harvesting of EWM through hand and SCUBA control methods. The deadline for application is February 1 and can fund up to 75% of eligible project costs.

Goal: Manage AIS to improve recreation, increase use opportunities, and rehabilitate native plants by reducing AIS abundance and frequency within the littoral zone. If active AIS management is pursued, the goal should be to maintain the presence of the target species to 5% frequencies of occurrence or less within the littoral zone over a 3 – 5 year active management window. Current populations are low and require minimal action.

Primary Action: Hand harvest areas of EWM in shallow, near shore areas and using SCUBA in areas of greater depth (> 5.0 ft).

Primary Action: Continue monitoring for, and citizen mapping of, EWM and other AIS.

Possible Action: If populations of AIS increase above 5.0% of littoral zone or 5.0 acres in size, use fast-acting contact herbicides for submersed plants.

***Possible Action*:** Each year direct AIS management is to take place, continue to complete aquatic plant surveys to monitor AIS and native plant responses to the management and plan for the future. AIS should be surveyed and mapped before and after treatment according to DNR protocol to evaluate effectiveness, or at least post-treatment each year following management activities. Comparison of data between years allows calculating reduction of targeted species in relation to project goals.

Goal: Continue comprehensive water quality monitoring within Cedar Lake through the WDNR Citizen Lake Monitoring Network and support CB/CW efforts.

Primary Action: Continue monitoring in 2017 and beyond for water quality through secchi readings, chlorophyll-a, and total phosphorus. Samples should be taken once monthly between May – September or at least 3 times a year spaced 30 days apart, or at a bare minimum once a year mid-summer.

Primary Action: Continue participation in the Clean Boats / Clean waters program and commit to a minimum of 50 hours of monitoring per year.

There are multiple resources and organizations able to help achieve plan goals and related actions. Contacts for those referenced in the plan and additional groups are included as follows.

Glacierland Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc.
PO Box 11203
Green Bay, WI 54307
(920) 465-3006

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Mary Gansberg – Water Resources Management Specialist
(920) 662-5489
mary.gansberg@wisconsin.gov

Manitowoc County Soil and Water Conservation Department
Jerry Halverson – Department Director
(920) 683-4183
jerryhalverson@co.manitowoc.wi.us

University of Wisconsin – Extension Lakes
(715) 346-2116
uwexlakes@uwsp.edu

9.0 REFERENCES

While not all references are specifically cited, the following resources were used in preparation of this report.

Borman, Susan, Robert Korth, and Jo Temte, *Through the Looking Glass, A Field Guide to Aquatic Plants*, Wisconsin Lakes Partnership, 1997

Carlson, R. E., A trophic state index for lakes. Limnology and Oceanography, 22:361-369, 1977

Fassett, Norman C., *A Manual of Aquatic Plants*, The University of Wisconsin Press, Madison, Wisconsin, 1975

Getsinger, Kurt D., and H.E. Westerdahl, *Aquatic Plant Identification and Herbicide Use Guide, Volume II Aquatic Plants and Susceptibility to Herbicides*, U.S. Bonestroo, Inc. Waterways Experiments Station, Technical Report A-88-9, 1988

Jester, Laura, Bozek, Michael, Helsel, Daniel, and Sheldon, Sallie, *Euhrychiopsis lecontei Distribution, Abundance, and Experimental Augmentation for Eurasian watermilfoil Control in Wisconsin Lakes*, Journal Aquatic Plant Management, 38:88-97

Madsen, John, *Point Intercept and Line Intercept Methods for Aquatic Plant Management, Aquatic Plant Control Technical Note MI-02*, February 1999

Nichols, Stanley A. *Distribution and habitat descriptions of Wisconsin lake plants*, Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey Bulletin 96, 1999

North America Lake Management Society of Aquatic Plant Management Society (NALMS), *Aquatic Plant Management in Lakes and Reservoirs,* 1997

Prescott, G.W., *How to Know the Aquatic Plants,* Wm. C. Brown Publishers, Dubuque, Iowa, 1980

United States Department of Agriculture, *Soil Survey of Vilas County, Wisconsin*. 1988

Welsh, Jeff, *Guide to Wisconsin Aquatic Plants,* Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Publication WR 173, 1992 revised

Wetzel, Robert G., *Limnology*, 1983

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, *Aquatic Plant Management in Wisconsin DRAFT,* April 25 2005

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, *Wisconsin Lakes,* Publication # PUB-FH-800, 2005

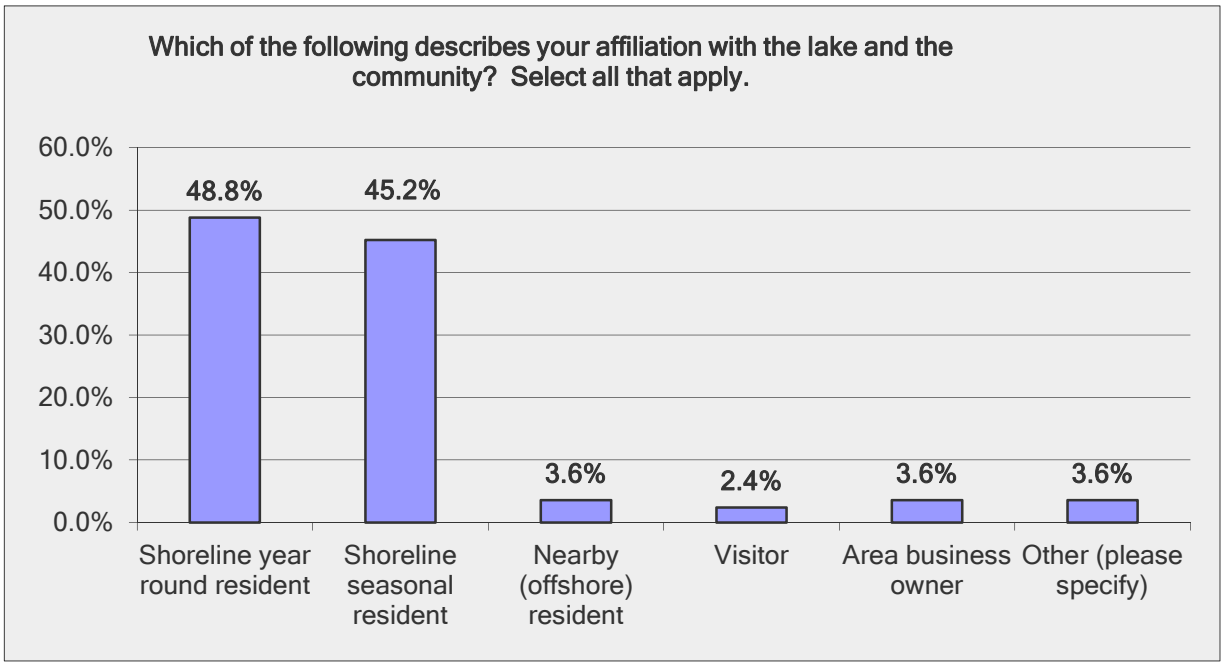
APPENDIX A – PUBLIC SURVEY RESULTS

Which of the following describes your affiliation with the lake and the community? Select all that apply.

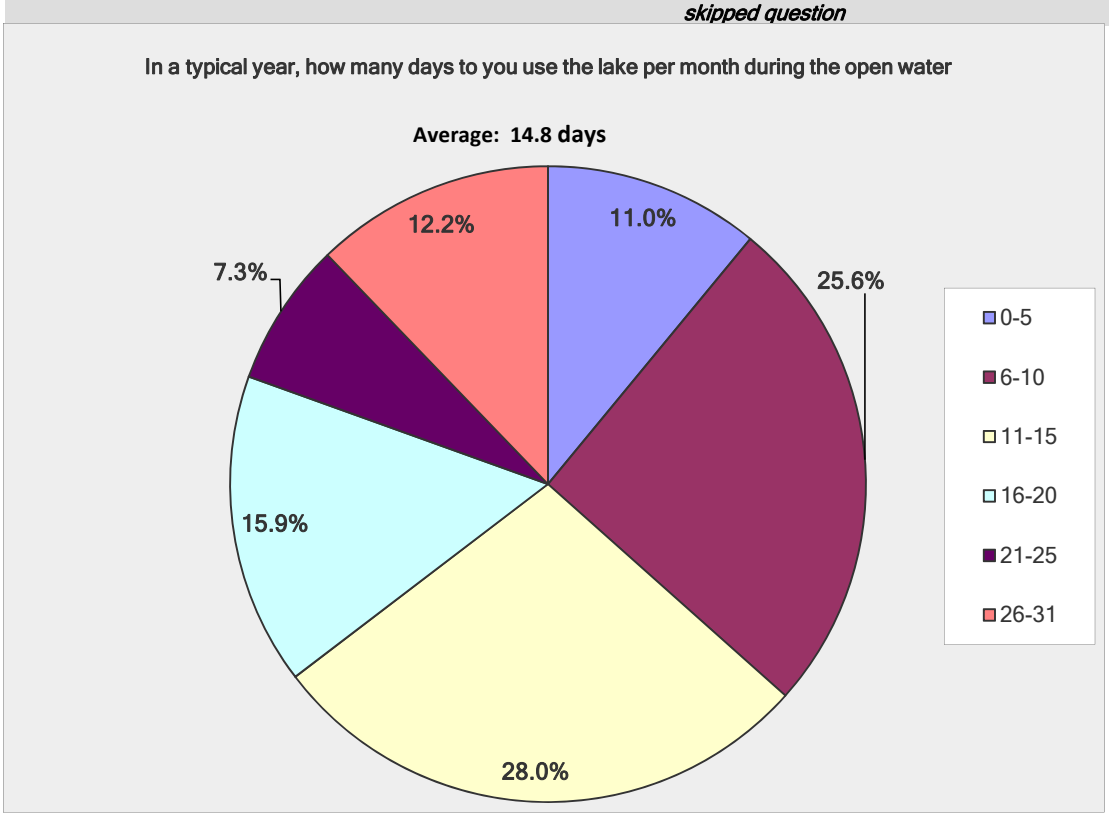
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Shoreline year round resident	48.8%	41
Shoreline seasonal resident	45.2%	38
Nearby (offshore) resident	3.6%	3
Visitor	2.4%	2
Area business owner	3.6%	3
Other (please specify)	3.6%	3
	answered question	84
	skipped question	1

Other (please specify)

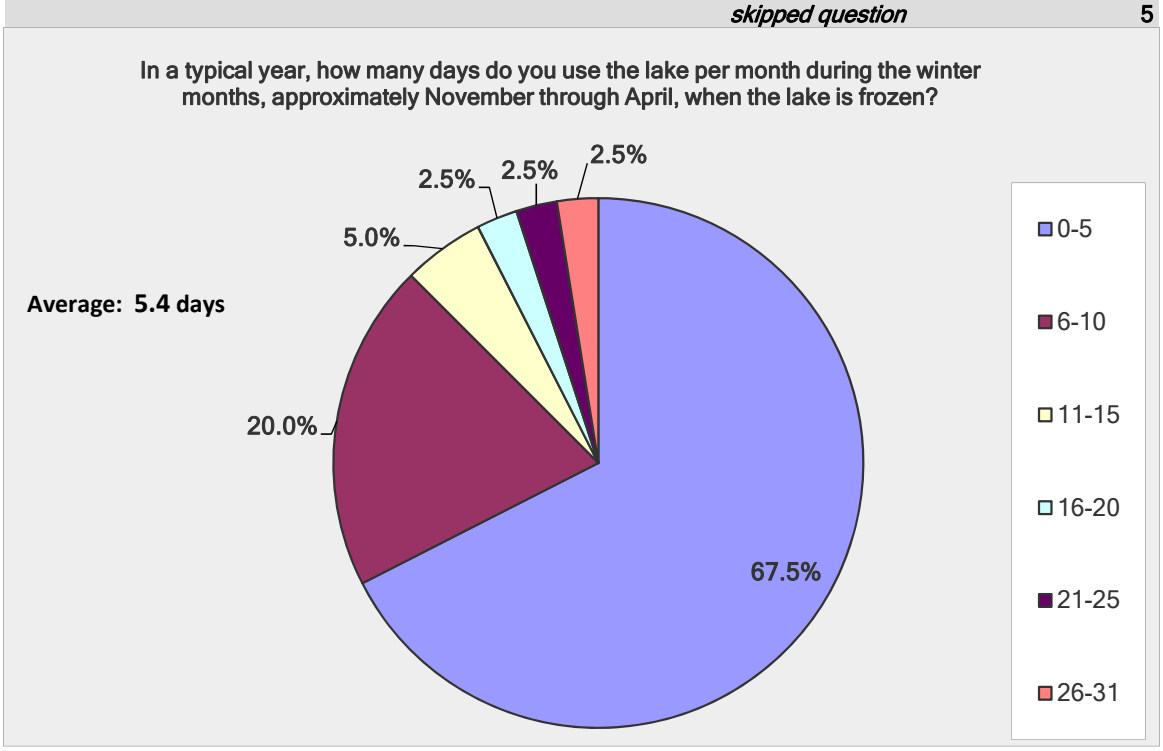
I have lived on the lake since I was 12 and visit my father who still lives there.
I have a family member who lives there year-round, but my family and I visit them often.
Soon to be a shoreline year around resident



In a typical year, how many days to you use the lake per month during the open water		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
0	1.2%	1
1	3.7%	3
2	1.2%	1
3	1.2%	1
4	2.4%	2
5	1.2%	1
6	1.2%	1
7	2.4%	2
8	3.7%	3
9	2.4%	2
10	15.9%	13
11	0.0%	0
12	9.8%	8
13	2.4%	2
14	1.2%	1
15	14.6%	12
16	0.0%	0
17	0.0%	0
18	4.9%	4
19	0.0%	0
20	11.0%	9
21	1.2%	1
22	0.0%	0
23	0.0%	0
24	3.7%	3
25	2.4%	2
26	0.0%	0
27	2.4%	2
28	1.2%	1
29	0.0%	0
30	3.7%	3
31	4.9%	4
answered question		82
skipped question		3



In a typical year, how many days do you use the lake per month during the winter months, approximately November through April, when the lake is frozen?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
0	17.5%	14
1	10.0%	8
2	16.3%	13
3	8.8%	7
4	10.0%	8
5	5.0%	4
6	8.8%	7
7	1.3%	1
8	3.8%	3
9	0.0%	0
10	6.3%	5
11	0.0%	0
12	0.0%	0
13	0.0%	0
14	1.3%	1
15	3.8%	3
16	0.0%	0
17	0.0%	0
18	0.0%	0
19	0.0%	0
20	2.5%	2
21	0.0%	0
22	2.5%	2
23	0.0%	0
24	0.0%	0
25	0.0%	0
26	0.0%	0
27	0.0%	0
28	1.3%	1
29	0.0%	0
30	0.0%	0
31	1.3%	1
	answered question	80
	skipped question	5

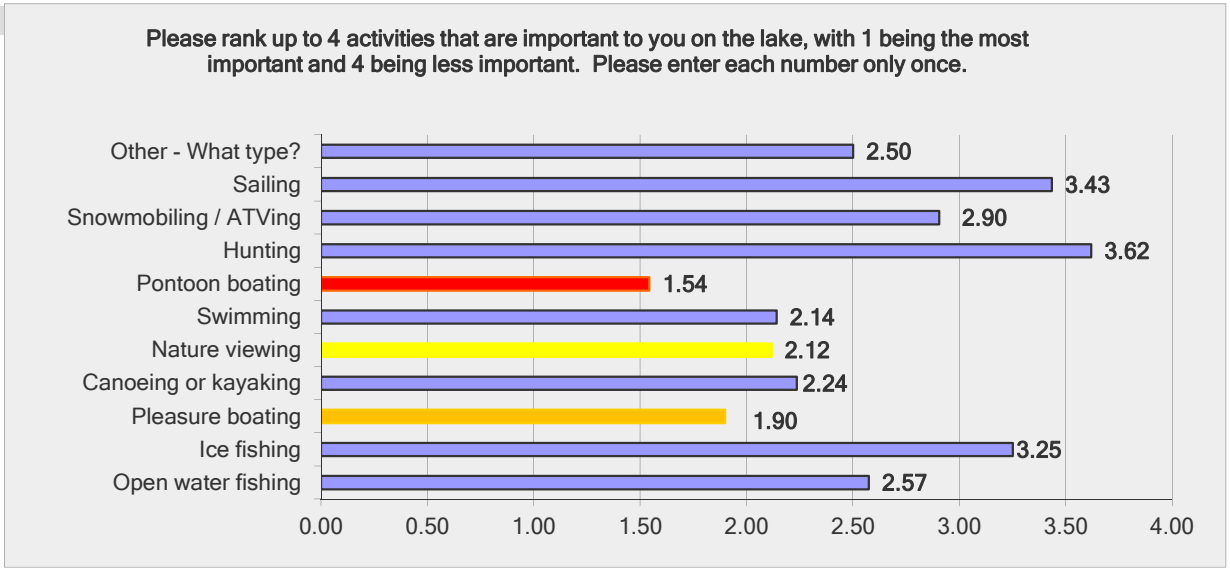


Please rank up to 4 activities that are important to you on the lake, with 1 being the most important and 4 being less important. Please enter each number only once.

Answer Options	1	2	3	4	Rating Average	Response Count
Open water fishing	13	7	14	13	2.57	47
Ice fishing	1	3	9	11	3.25	24
Pleasure boating	34	7	8	10	1.90	59
Canoeing or kayaking	24	16	16	12	2.24	68
Nature viewing	21	14	5	11	2.12	51
Swimming	27	19	13	12	2.14	71
Pontoon boating	40	11	3	5	1.54	59
Hunting	2	0	2	17	3.62	21
Snowmobiling / ATVing	4	4	3	10	2.90	21
Sailing	2	1	5	15	3.43	23
Other - What type?	5	3	0	6	2.50	14
Other (please specify)						11
					answered question	80
					skipped question	5

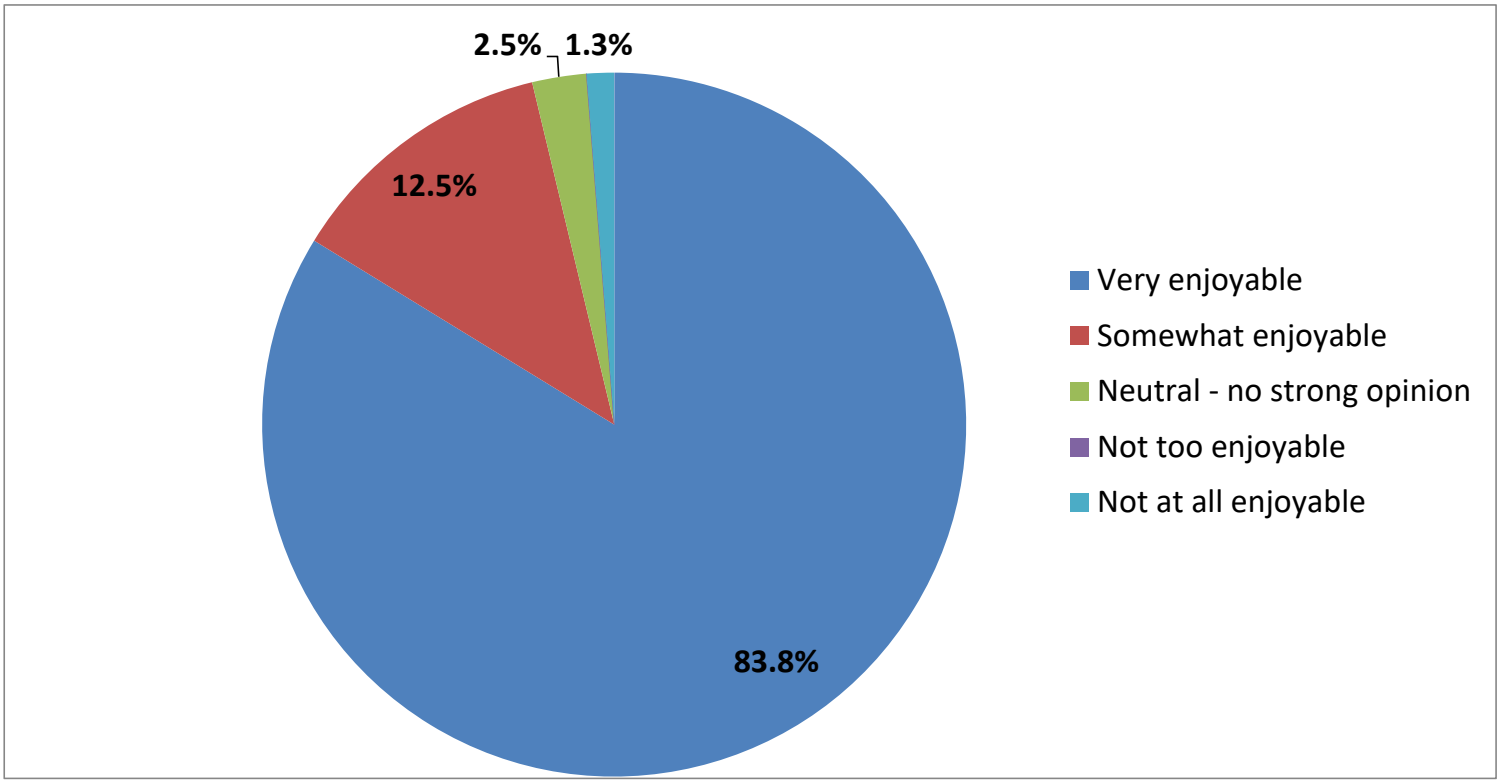
Other (please specify)

1. Walking
2. slalom water skiing
3. peddle boating
4. Shoreline activities - walking, relaxing, enjoying the lake
5. Boating towing sports (skiing, tubing, wakeboarding, etc.)
6. sauna
7. water skiing
8. jet skiing
9. Skiing and wakeboarding
10. water skiing
11. Paddleboarding



Question 5: Overall, how would you rate the enjoyment of your experiences on Cedar Lake?

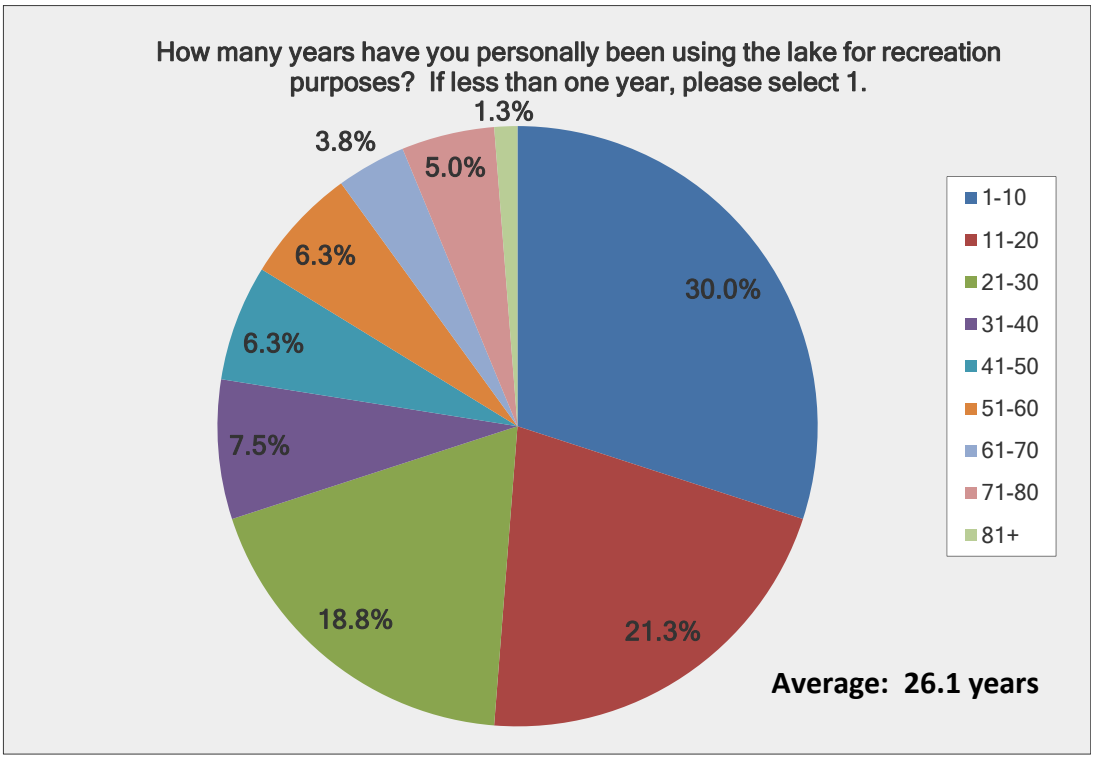
Answer Options	Very enjoyable	Somewhat enjoyable	Neutral - no strong opinion	Not too enjoyable	Not at all enjoyable	Rating Average	Response Count
	67 83.8%	10 12.5%	2 2.5%	0 0.0%	1 1.3%	1.23	80
						answered question	80
						skipped question	5



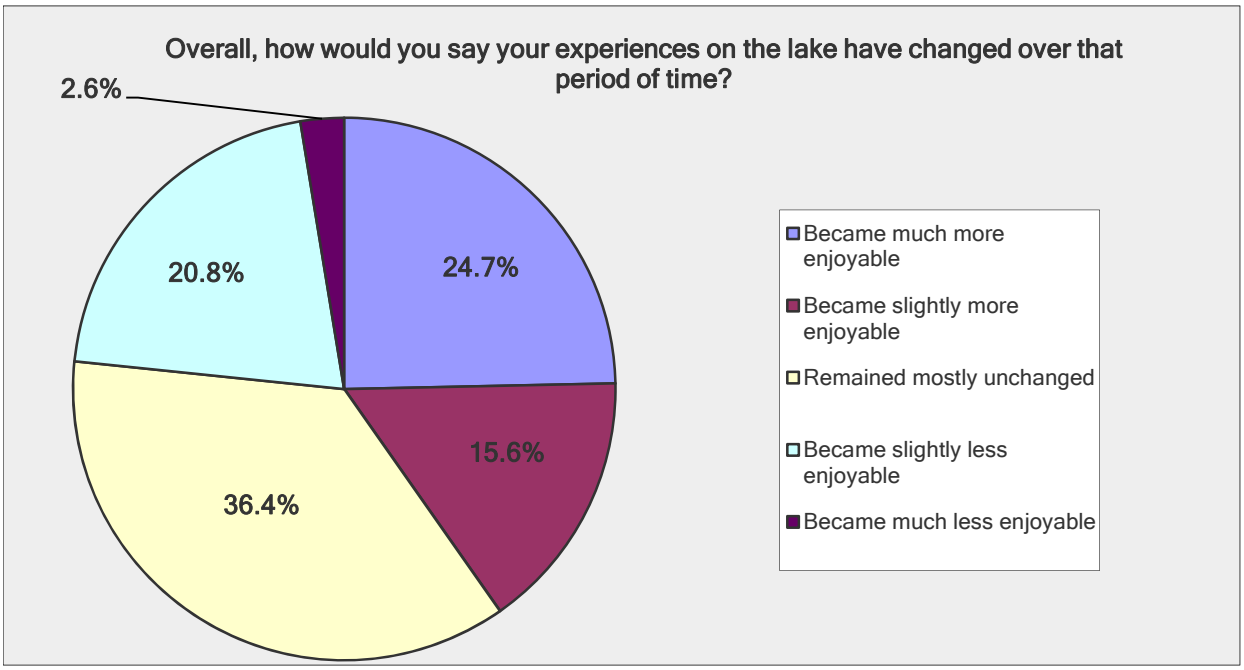
Question 6: How many years have you personally been using the lake for recreation purposes? If less than one year, please select 1.		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
1	6.3%	5
2	0.0%	0
3	5.0%	4
4	0.0%	0
5	7.5%	6
6	5.0%	4
7	2.5%	2
8	1.3%	1
9	1.3%	1
10	1.3%	1
11	3.8%	3
12	2.5%	2
13	1.3%	1
14	1.3%	1
15	3.8%	3
16	1.3%	1
17	0.0%	0
18	0.0%	0
19	1.3%	1
20	6.3%	5
21	0.0%	0
22	6.3%	5
23	0.0%	0
24	1.3%	1
25	2.5%	2
26	0.0%	0
27	0.0%	0
28	2.5%	2
29	0.0%	0
30	6.3%	5
31	1.3%	1
32	0.0%	0
33	1.3%	1
34	0.0%	0
35	0.0%	0
36	3.8%	3
37	0.0%	0
38	0.0%	0
39	0.0%	0
40	1.3%	1
41	0.0%	0
42	0.0%	0
43	0.0%	0
44	0.0%	0
45	0.0%	0
46	0.0%	0
47	1.3%	1
48	1.3%	1
49	0.0%	0

Question 6: How many years have you personally been using the lake for recreation purposes? If less than one year, please select 1.		
50	3.8%	3
51	0.0%	0
52	1.3%	1
53	0.0%	0
54	1.3%	1
55	0.0%	0
56	0.0%	0
57	1.3%	1
58	0.0%	0
59	0.0%	0
60	2.5%	2
61	1.3%	1
62	0.0%	0
63	0.0%	0
64	0.0%	0
65	0.0%	0
66	1.3%	1
67	0.0%	0
68	0.0%	0
69	0.0%	0
70	1.3%	1
71	0.0%	0
72	0.0%	0
73	1.3%	1
74	0.0%	0
75	1.3%	1
76	1.3%	1
77	1.3%	1
78	0.0%	0
79	0.0%	0
80	0.0%	0
81	1.3%	1
82	0.0%	0
83	0.0%	0
84	0.0%	0
85	0.0%	0
86	0.0%	0
87	0.0%	0
88	0.0%	0
89	0.0%	0
90	0.0%	0
91	0.0%	0
92	0.0%	0
93	0.0%	0
94	0.0%	0
95	0.0%	0
96	0.0%	0
97	0.0%	0
98	0.0%	0
99	0.0%	0
100	0.0%	0
	answered question	80
	skipped question	5

Question 6: How many years have you personally been using the lake for recreation purposes? If less than one year, please select 1.



Overall, how would you say your experiences on the lake have changed over that period of time?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Became much more enjoyable	24.7%	19
Became slightly more enjoyable	15.6%	12
Remained mostly unchanged	36.4%	28
Became slightly less enjoyable	20.8%	16
Became much less enjoyable	2.6%	2
	answered question	77
	skipped question	8

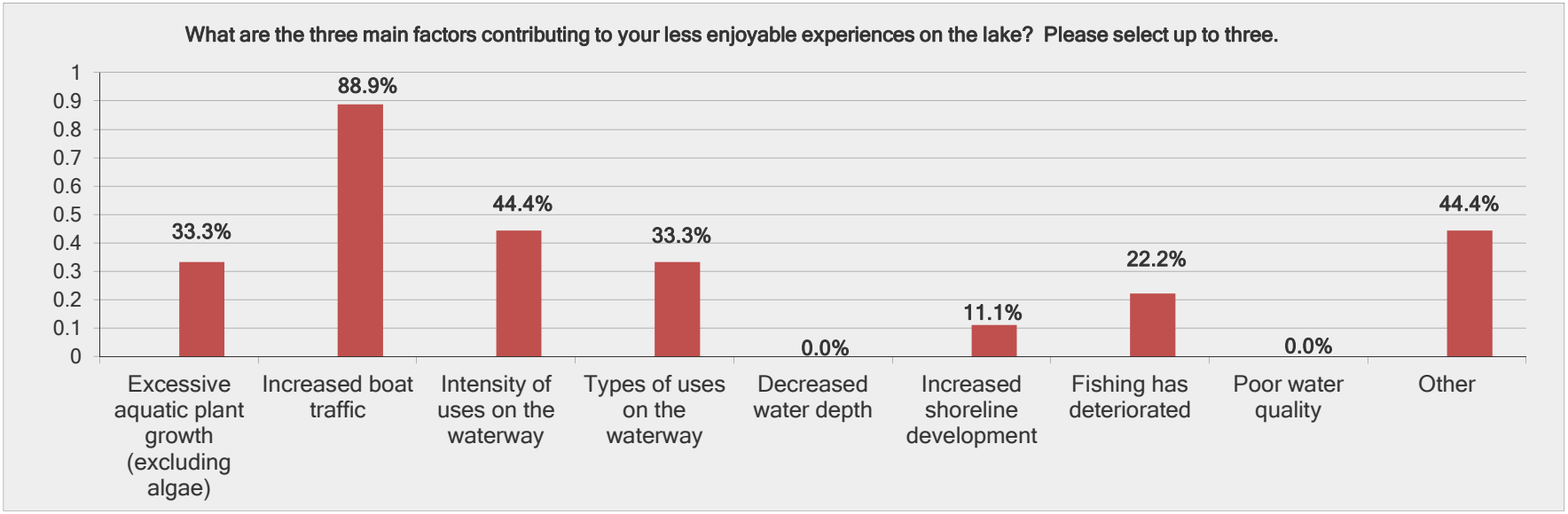


If your experience using the lake over time has become less enjoyable what do you consider the three main factors contributing to your less enjoyable experiences on the lake? Please select up to three.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Excessive aquatic plant growth (excluding algae)	33.3%	6
Increased boat traffic	88.9%	16
Intensity of uses on the waterway	44.4%	8
Types of uses on the waterway	33.3%	6
Decreased water depth	0.0%	0
Increased shoreline development	11.1%	2
Fishing has deteriorated	22.2%	4
Poor water quality	0.0%	0
Other	44.4%	8
	answered question	18
	skipped question	66

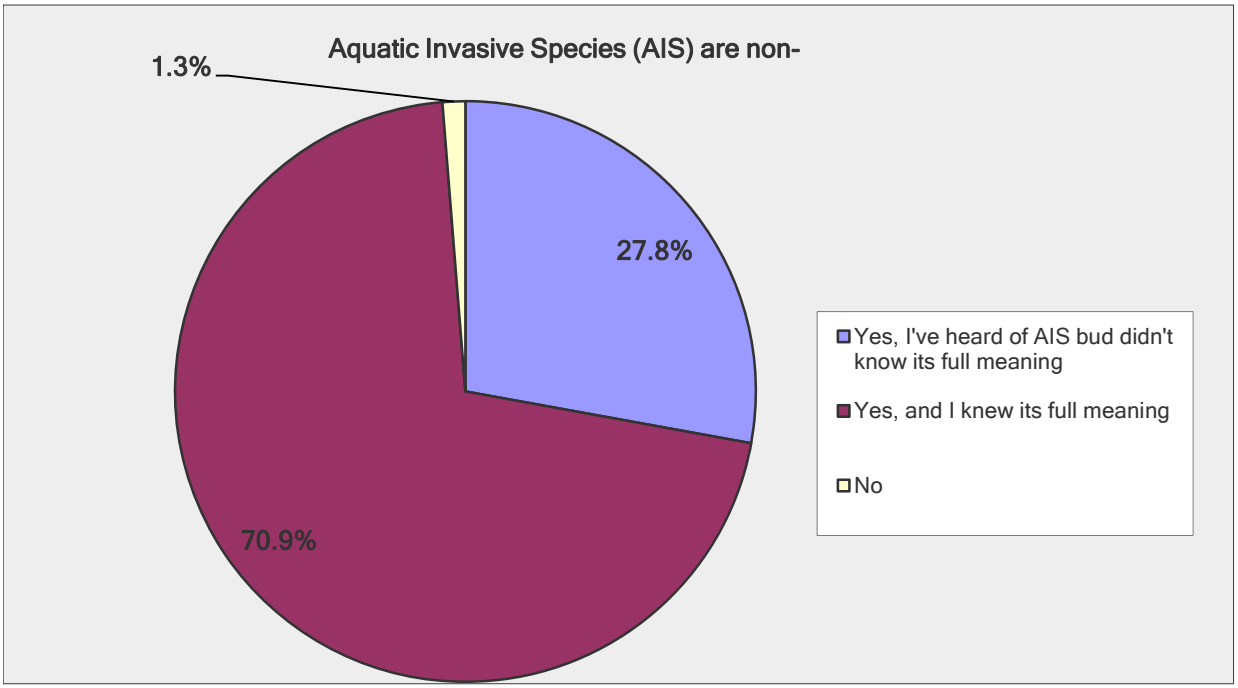
Other (please specify)

1	Excessive Regulation and local management decisions
2	The wake on the lake has increased dramatically and makes it so fishing, kayaking, and swimming are very difficult.
3	Zebra Muscles (invasive species exploded & cut feet) also, shore lines seem eroded more, less clean.
4	The frustration of several individuals trying to restrict recreational access to the lake
5	Deterioration of shoreline due to fast boating too close to shore
6	Peopel trying to restrict the recreational use of the lake- causing fighting between neighbors
7	Lake is way too small for personal watercraft and the size of some of the boats. We need a speed limit.
8	High wake boarding waves from boats



Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) are non-native plants or animals that can out-compete their native counterparts and can potentially cause many problems within the lake and/or ecosystem. Prior to this survey, have you heard the term Aquatic Invasive Species or AIS and did you know what it meant?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes, I've heard of AIS bud didn't know its full meaning	27.8%	22
Yes, and I knew its full meaning	70.9%	56
No	1.3%	1
answered question		79
skipped question		6

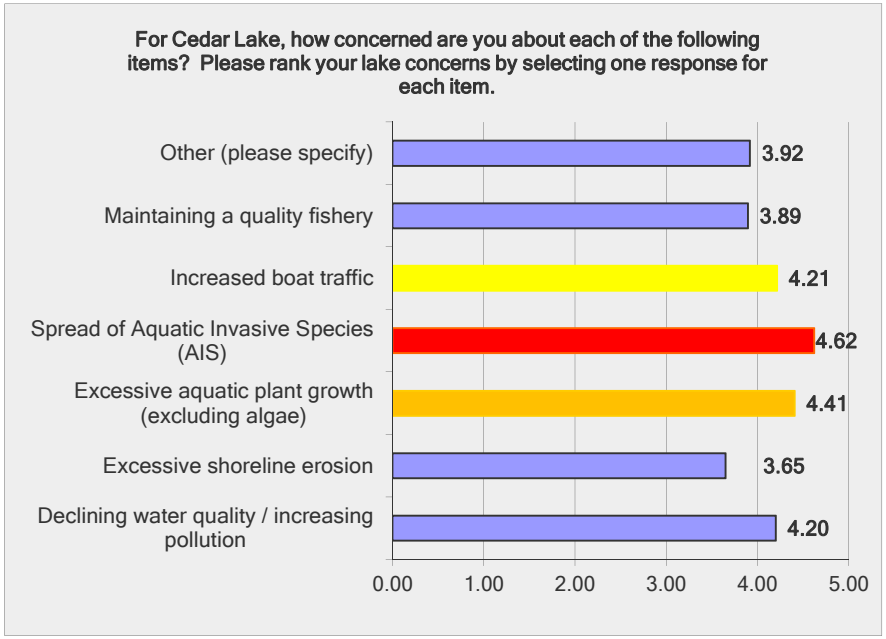


For Cedar Lake, how concerned are you about each of the following items? Please rank your lake concerns by selecting one response for each item.

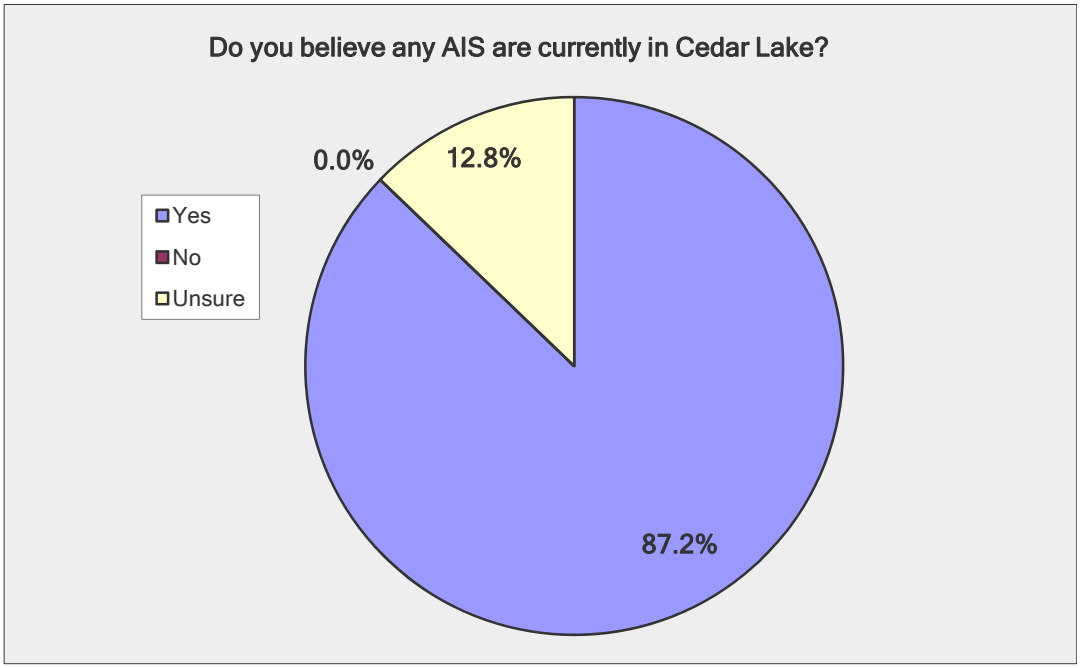
Answer Options	Not concerned	Moderately unconcerned	Neutral	Moderately concerned	Very concerned	Unsure - need more information	Rating Average	Response Count
Declining water quality / increasing pollution	1	7	5	25	37	2	4.20	77
Excessive shoreline erosion	12	4	11	18	29	3	3.65	77
Excessive aquatic plant growth (excluding algae)	0	4	3	26	41	3	4.41	77
Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)	1	1	3	14	52	5	4.62	76
Increased boat traffic	2	6	5	23	39	2	4.21	77
Maintaining a quality fishery	2	7	17	21	29	1	3.89	77
Other (please specify)	2	0	1	3	6	2	3.92	14
Other (please specify)								10
							answered question	77
							skipped question	8

Other (please specify)

1	Very concerned about algae
2	The passing of ordinances/rules/regulations that could change the way this lake is used/maintained.
3	high wave action from motor boats i.e. blatter & others
4	speed of boats & boats too close to shore and swimmers and rafts
5	Lake Safety
6	Increased regulation of water use activities
7	Boaters not following boating laws
8	very concerned about the new wake surfing trend
9	excessive waves creating multiple environmental issues
10	High waves from wake boarding boats



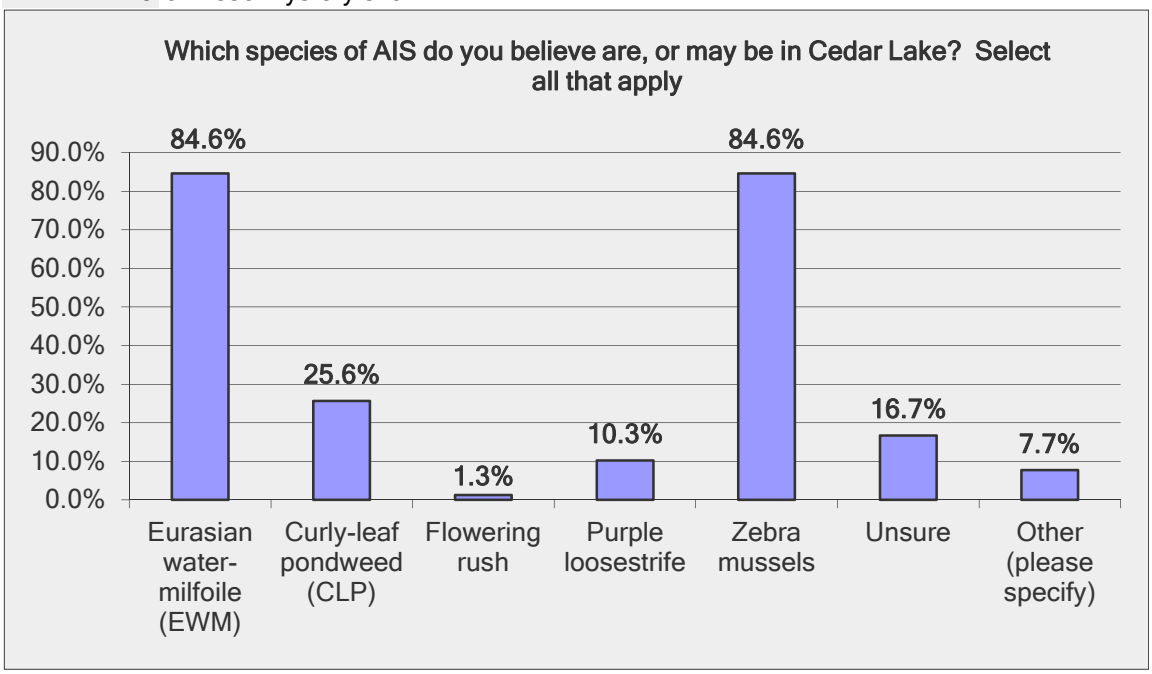
Do you believe any AIS are currently in Cedar Lake?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Yes	87.2%	68
No	0.0%	0
Unsure	12.8%	10
	answered question	**78**
	skipped question	**7**



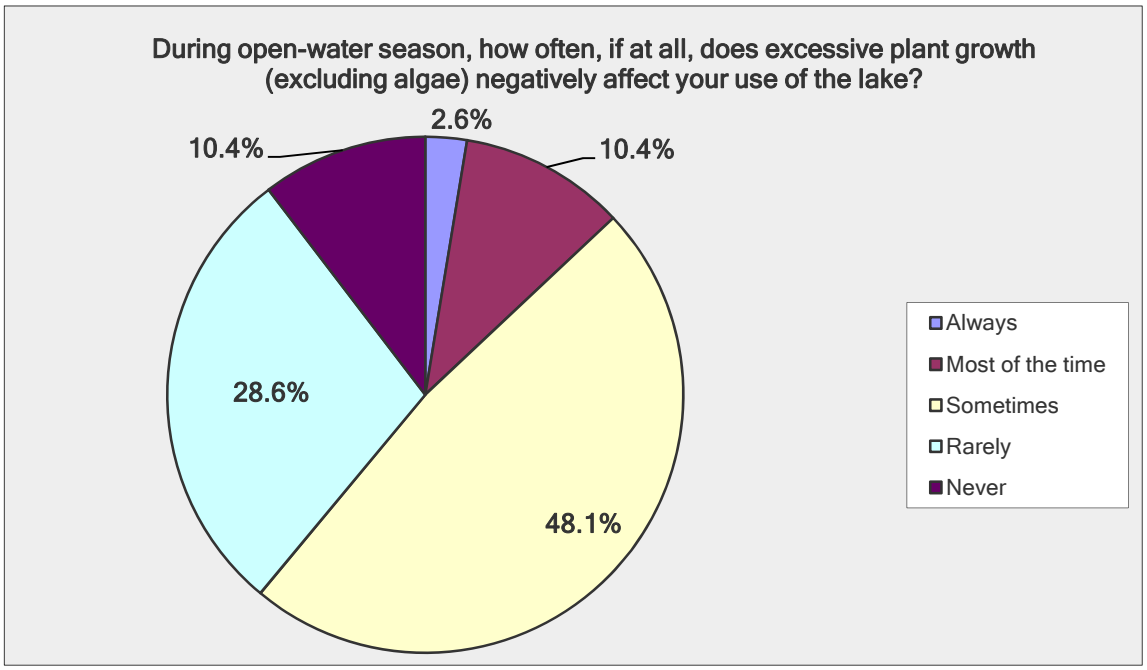
Which species of AIS do you believe are, or may be in Cedar Lake? Select all that apply		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Eurasian water-milfoile (EWM)	84.6%	66
Curly-leaf pondweed (CLP)	25.6%	20
Flowering rush	1.3%	1
Purple loosestrife	10.3%	8
Zebra mussels	84.6%	66
Unsure	16.7%	13
Other (please specify)	7.7%	6
	answered question	78
	skipped question	7

Other (please specify)

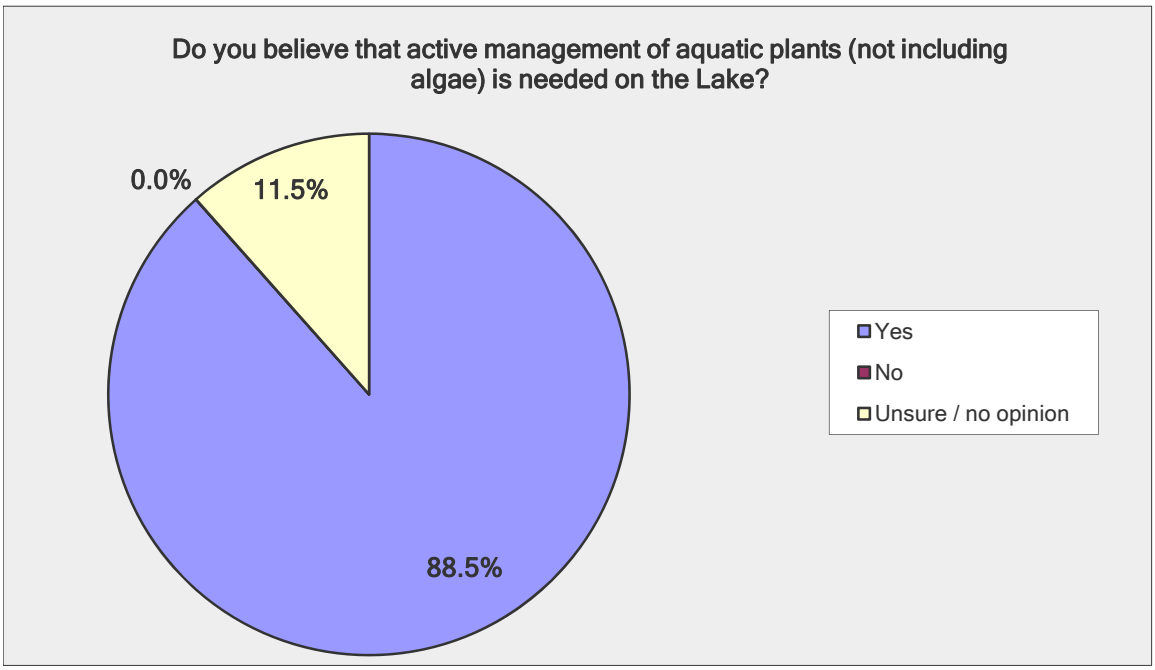
1. Celery weed
2. Banded mystery snails
3. celery weed: here only 1 to 2 decades. seems to be "choking" the lake
4. banded mystery snails
5. Banded mystery snail
6. chinese mystery snail



During open-water season, how often, if at all, does excessive plant growth (excluding algae) negatively affect your use of the lake?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Always	2.6%	2
Most of the time	10.4%	8
Sometimes	48.1%	37
Rarely	28.6%	22
Never	10.4%	8
	answered question	77
	skipped question	8

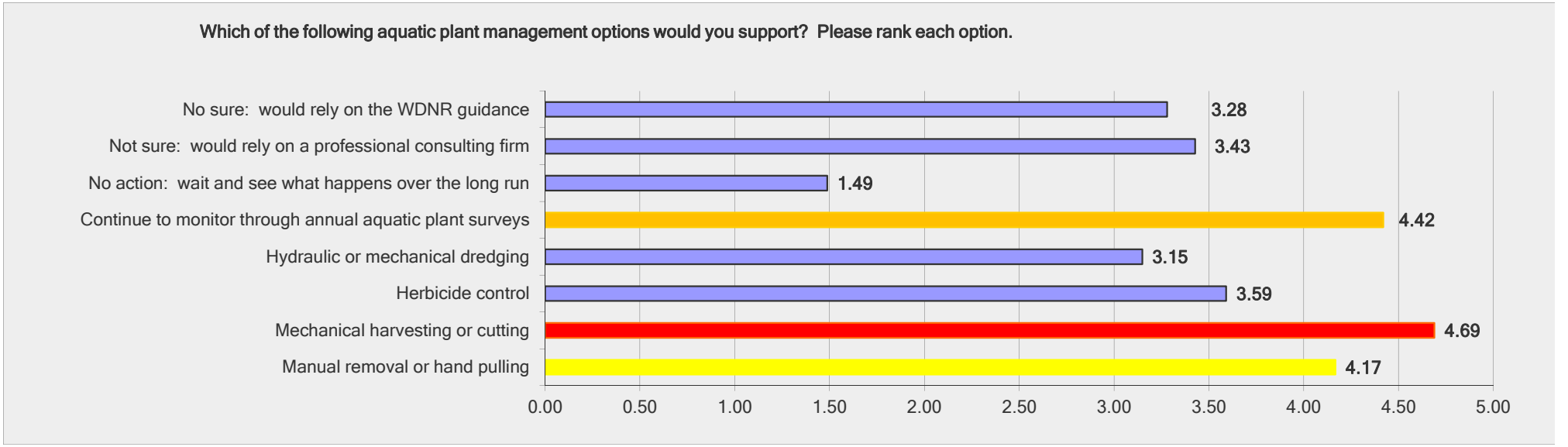


Do you belive that active management of aquatic plants (not including algae) is needed on the Lake?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Yes	88.5%	69
No	0.0%	0
Unsure / no opinion	11.5%	9
	answered question	**78**
	skipped question	**7**



Which of the following aquatic plant management options would you support? Please rank each option.

Answer Options	Not supportive	Moderately unsupportive	Neutral	Moderately supportive	Highly supportive	Unsure - need more information	Rating Average	Response Count
Manual removal or hand pulling	1	2	11	28	30	3	4.17	75
Mechanical harvesting or cutting	0	3	3	9	62	0	4.69	77
Herbicide control	6	9	9	17	20	16	3.59	77
Hydraulic or mechanical dredging	9	8	16	8	13	22	3.15	76
Continue to monitor through annual aquatic plant surveys	0	4	9	13	48	1	4.42	75
No action: wait and see what happens over the long run	57	7	7	4	1	0	1.49	76
Not sure: would rely on a professional consulting firm	8	3	25	16	16	4	3.43	72
No sure: would rely on the WDNR guidance	10	5	23	16	14	5	3.28	73
							answered question	77
							skipped question	8

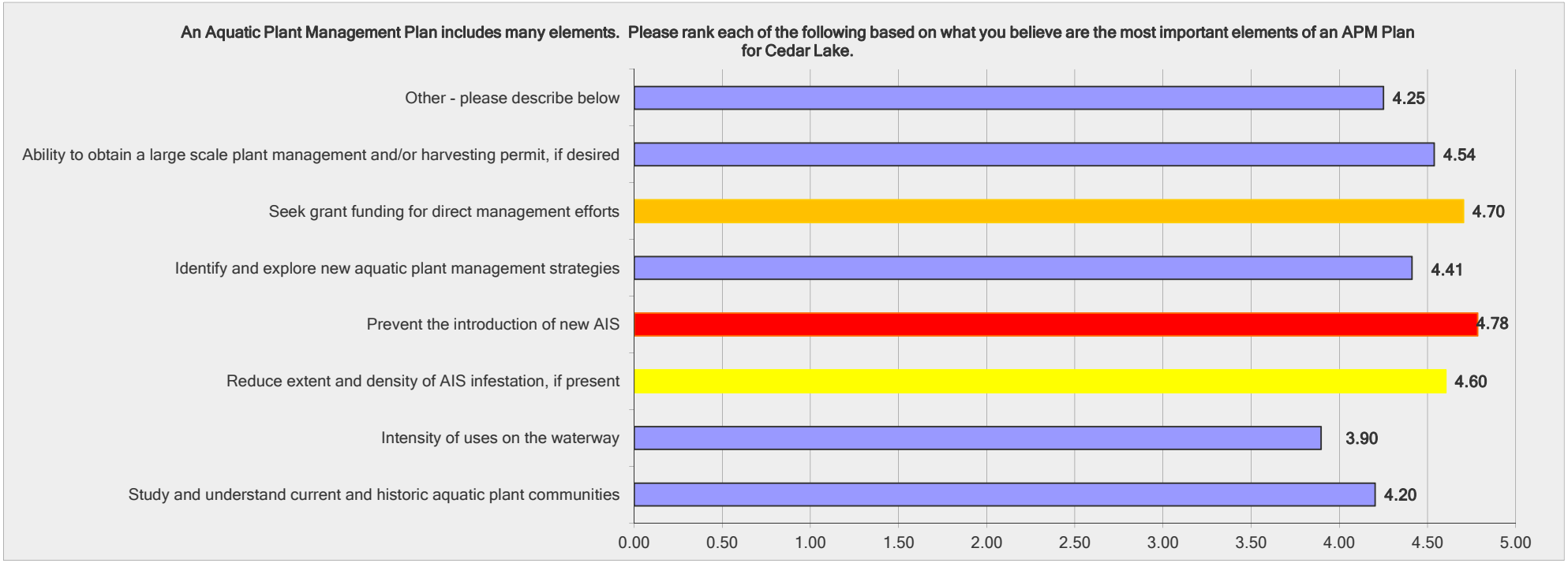


An Aquatic Plant Management Plan includes many elements. Please rank each of the following based on what you believe are the most important elements of an APM Plan for Cedar Lake.

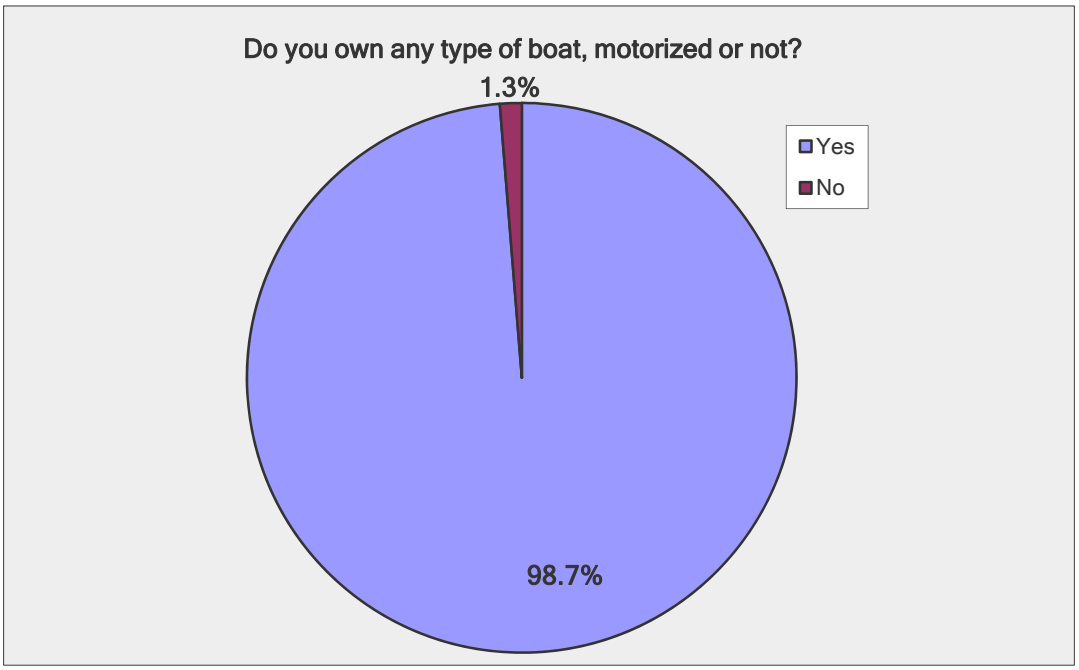
Answer Options	Definitely not necessary	Likely not necessary	Neutral	Likely needed	Definitely needed	Unsure - need more information	Rating Average	Response Count
Study and understand current and historic aquatic plant	0	3	7	36	28	1	4.20	75
Intensity of uses on the waterway	1	8	13	20	25	5	3.90	72
Reduce extent and density of AIS infestation, if present	0	1	1	24	47	2	4.60	75
Prevent the introduction of new AIS	0	1	1	11	61	1	4.78	75
Identify and explore new aquatic plant management	0	1	3	34	35	2	4.41	75
Seek grant funding for direct management efforts	0	0	3	16	55	1	4.70	75
Ability to obtain a large scale plant management and/or	0	0	7	17	43	9	4.54	76
Other - please describe below	0	0	3	0	5	0	4.25	8
Other (please specify)								6
							answered question	**75**
							skipped question	**9**

Other (please specify)

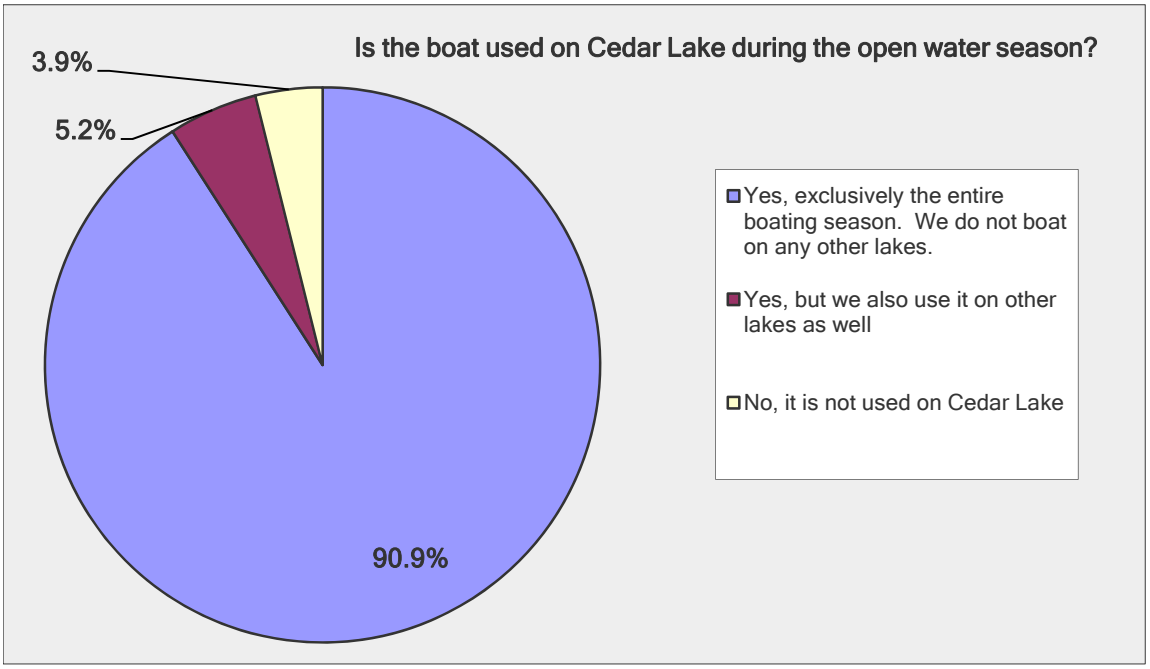
1. Don't like sinking trees into water for more fish-----dangerous and lake not that deep.
2. No new boating laws needed!
3. get rid of "celery" weed
4. training more residents about identifying and how it is spread
5. control huge wakes caused by wake surfing
6. high wave from boats for wake boarding / surfing stirs up mud/silt - shore line erosion



Do you own any type of boat, motorized or not?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Yes	98.7%	77
No	1.3%	1
	answered question	78
	skipped question	7



Is the boat used on Cedar Lake during the open water season?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Yes, exclusively the entire boating season. We do not	90.9%	70
Yes, but we also use it on other lakes as well	5.2%	4
No, it is not used on Cedar Lake	3.9%	3
	answered question	77
	skipped question	8



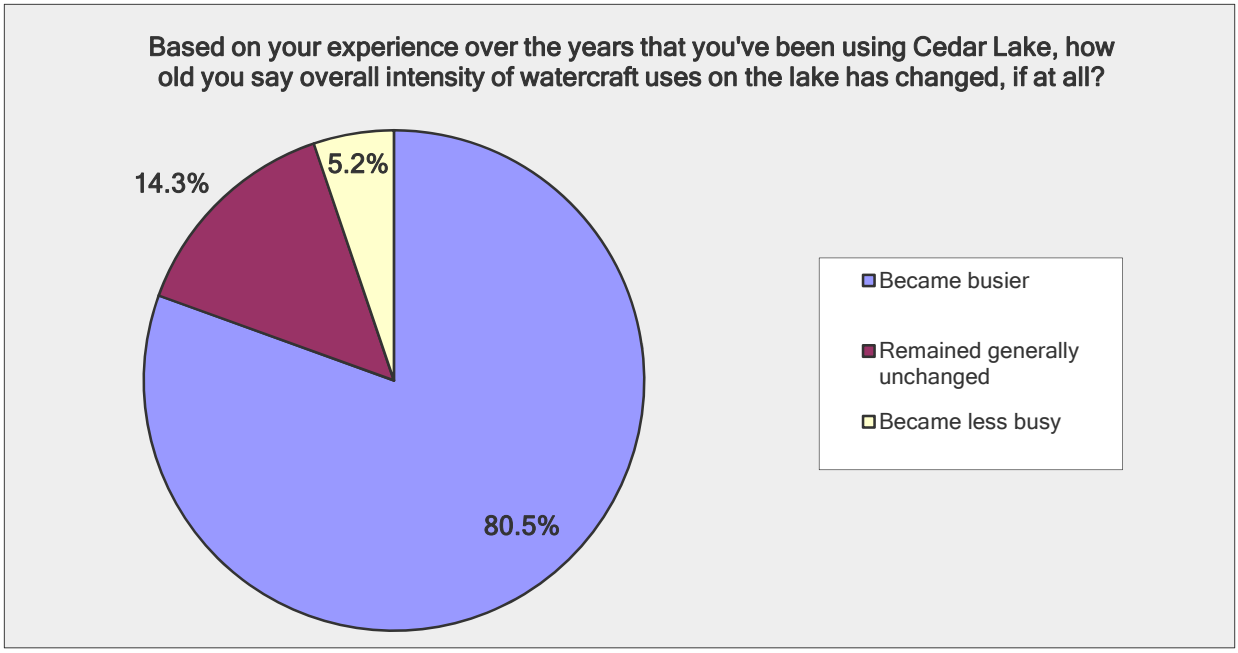
When you remove your boat from any lake, do you take any of the following actions to prevent the spread of AIS?

Action used?

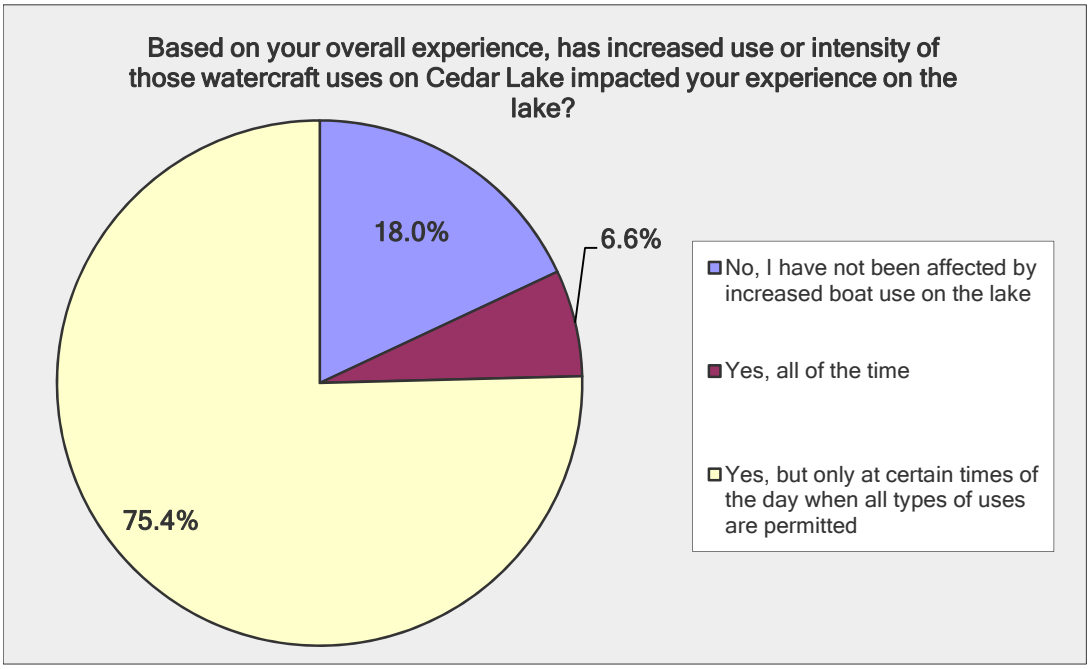
Answer Options	Yes	No	Precent Yes	Percent No	Response Count
Remove all plant material from boat and/or trailer	60	0	100.0%	0.0%	60
Drain all water from boat	57	3	95.0%	5.0%	60
Disinfect the boat and/or trailer with a bleach solution	21	38	35.6%	64.4%	59
Clean the boat and/or trailer with hot water	30	30	50.0%	50.0%	60
Kill any fish that may be alive prior to transport	40	10	80.0%	20.0%	50

	Question Totals
answered question	60
skipped question	25

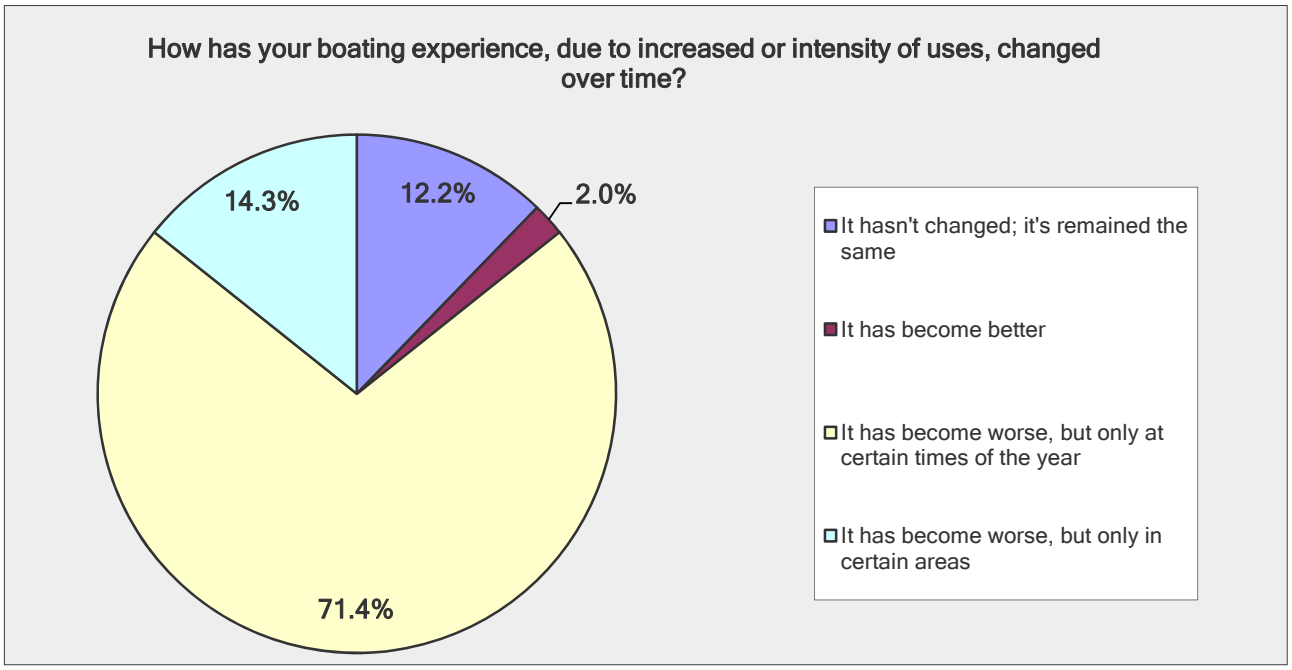
Based on your experience over the years that you've been using Cedar Lake, how ould you say overall intensity of watercraft uses on the lake has changed, if at all?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Became busier	80.5%	62
Remained generally unchanged	14.3%	11
Became less busy	5.2%	4
	answered question	77
	skipped question	8



Based on your overall experience, has increased use or intensity of those watercraft uses on Cedar Lake impacted your experience on the lake?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
No, I have not been affected by increased boat use on	18.0%	11
Yes, all of the time	6.6%	4
Yes, but only at certain times of the day when all types of	75.4%	46
	answered question	61
	skipped question	24

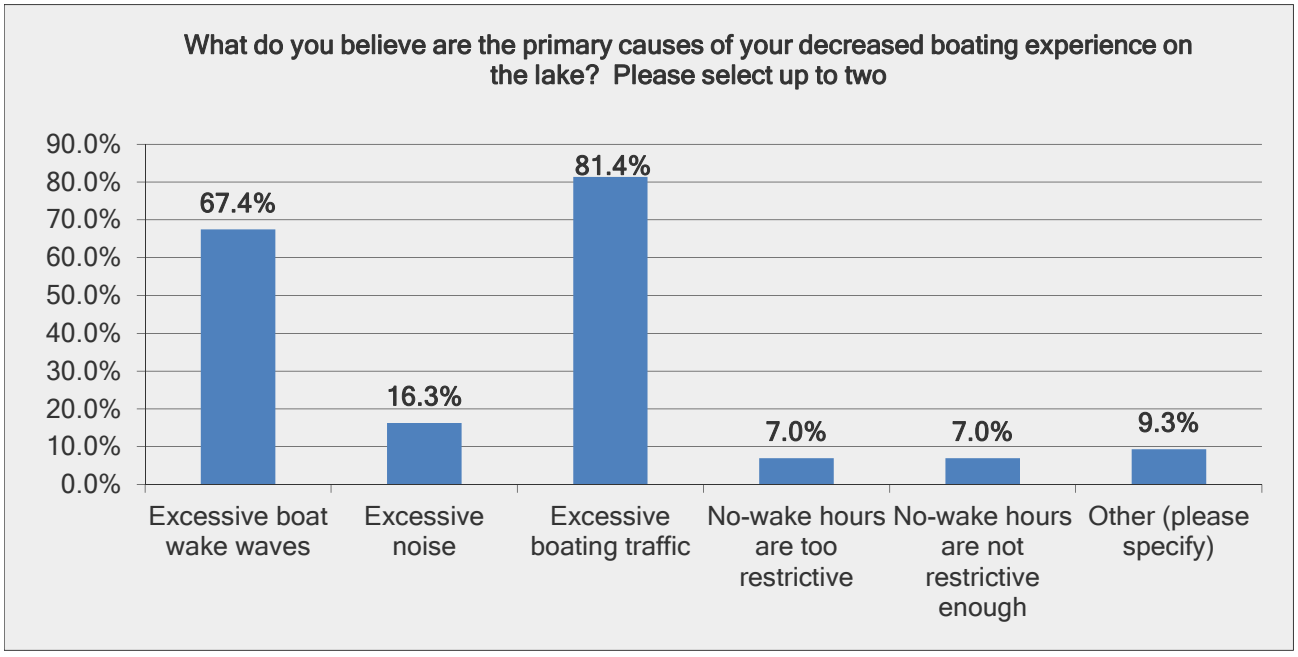


How has your boating experience, due to increased or intensity of uses, changed over time?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
It hasn't changed; it's remained the same	12.2%	6
It has become better	2.0%	1
It has become worse, but only at certain times of the year	71.4%	35
It has become worse, but only in certain areas	14.3%	7
	answered question	49
	skipped question	36

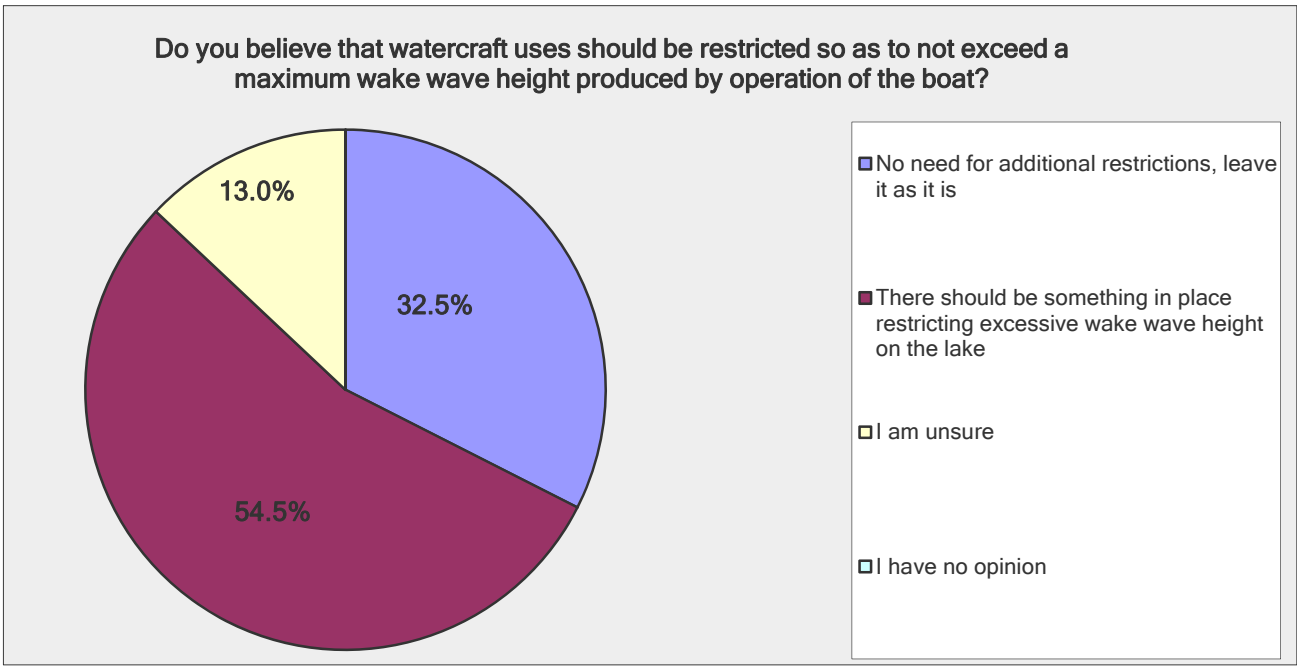


What do you believe are the primary causes of your decreased boating experience on the lake? Please select up to two		
Answer Options	Responser Percent	Response Count
Excessive boat wake waves	67.4%	29
Excessive noise	16.3%	7
Excessive boating traffic	81.4%	35
No-wake hours are too restrictive	7.0%	3
No-wake hours are not restrictive enough	7.0%	3
Other (please specify)	9.3%	4
	answered question	43
	skipped question	42

Other (please specify)	
1	Sea doos and others going 60mph plus and high wave generating ski boats
2	3 hour period on Sunday is too short and causes congestion
3	Personal watercraft - high speed and too close to shore
4	dangerous boaters
5	The increased number of pontoons and tubing has inhibited the use of the lake for other activities such as slalom skiing, bare foot skiing, use of trick skis, wakeboarding and
6	Watercraft that are too fast and too large for the size of the lake
7	My boating hasn't decreased
8	Some boaters just race from one end of the lake to the other. I am concerned about safety
9	High wakes from boats - wake surfing & boarding -due to loading / mechanical means

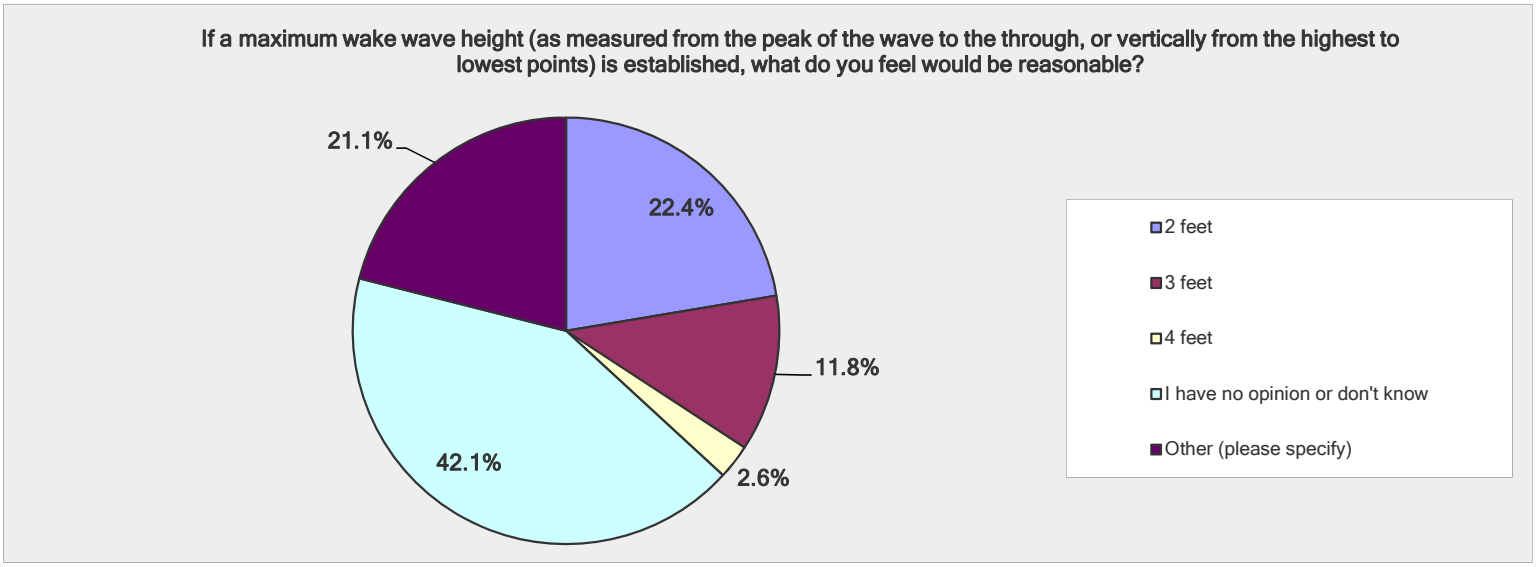


Do you believe that watercraft uses should be restricted so as to not exceed a maximum wake wave height produced by operation of the boat?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
No need for additional restrictions, leave it as it is	32.5%	25
There should be something in place restricting excessive wake wave height on the lake	54.5%	42
I am unsure	13.0%	10
I have no opinion	0.0%	0
	answered question	77
	skipped question	8



If a maximum wake wave height (as measured from the peak of the wave to the through, or vertically from the highest to lowest points) is established, what do you feel would be reasonable?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
2 feet	22.4%	17
3 feet	11.8%	9
4 feet	2.6%	2
I have no opinion or don't know	42.1%	32
Other (please specify)	21.1%	16
	answered question	**76**
	skipped question	**9**

Other (please specify)	
1	10 feet
2	The boats that produce very high waves usually realize that their boat is too big for this lake and they don't come back. As long as boats aren't too close to shore while making bigger waves, there shouldn't be a problem.
3	1 foot
4	This would however be a very difficult thing to monitor & enforce.
5	<3' of continuous wake propagation
6	1 ft.
7	even 2 feet is to high for the size and configuration of the lake and traffic pattern
8	I would want a professional opinion on what wave height impacts the shoreline...i'd guess 3 would be ok?
9	I thought this survey was for an Aquatic Plant Mangement Plan
10	This policy should be set by the DNR, not local lake societies.
11	that is hard to enforce by wake height--wake surfing should be banded because their wakes are very high and the speed does not mesh with other traffic
12	This would be very difficult to substantiate. This would be a fictitious and arbitrary measurement that could not be verified. Refer to the video " captains etiquette video".
13	Enforce current laws such as distance from shore. New rules unenforced are worthless
14	Suggest you refer to Water Sports Industry Associations "Boating Etiquette" video!!!
15	cannot enforce
16	1 to 1.5 feet - normal boat wake before planing



If you have any additional general comments about Cedar Lake, the Sanitary District, the lake planning process, or something that you felt wasn't addressed in this survey please enter them here.

Answer Options	Response Count
	26
answered question	**26**
skipped question	**59**

Number	Response
1	More fireworks!
2	Believe septic tanks should be pumped one a year...which is what I do.
3	The Sanitary District should mail (not email) the minutes of every meeting.
4	There are too many high powered ski boats and related high speed boat traffic for this small of a lake. we should consider further reducing fast times and weekend traffic.
5	more official surveillance
6	The lake should be patrolled more.
7	reduce wave height. do not allow big/Lake Michigan boats
8	Sanitary District, CLIA BOD & lake residents + off-lake users all must work together to help maintain water quality as well as reasonable recreational uses of Cedar Lake.
9	close the public access
10	I am concerned about the amount of weeds that float through our swim area after cutting. Our cottage is in Turtle Bay, and I feel that we get weeds from all over the lake. Also, there is more algae this year than we've seen in many years.
11	Safety issues of boating use is not enforced enough by DNR and Sheriff Dept.
12	The Sanitary District has historically overstepped its bounds and tried to limit the uses of the lake and home/boat owners to try and cater to the concerns of a very vocal very small minority while attempting to restrict access to the vast majority of homeowners and tax paying users.
13	I think that the negatives of wake and surfing on the lake far outweigh the positives. Lake conservation should be a top priority not lake destroying recreation. If people want big waves there is a HUGE lake right over in Sheboygan called Lake Michigan.
14	If you decide to keep boating as is, there should be someone checking for AIS on motor blades for sure...because someone dropped the ball on that for zebra mussels. They are everywhere, and maybe if there were more restrictions, this wouldn't be an issue. I love Cedar Lake and always will, but I think we need to keep a manageable level of boats on the lake and compromise with people who love water sports and the people who love the lake's natural habitat (the latter I feel is more important though).
15	A limit and/or fee for non-resident boats could help reduce traffic and associated problems as well as raise revenue to help with lake management.
16	You have a few misspelled words within your questions.
17	The DNR will not endorse changes or restrictions on recreational boating. If the Sanitary district attempts to create them there will be lawsuit this time. You will loose and it will bankrupt the town and sanitary district. Leave recreational boating alone! We have discussed this with the state recreational boating org. and they will support fighting these ordinances legally and
18	Restricting the size of the boats and or engines
19	I do think invasive species, excessive weeds in certain parts of the lake, high traffic usage and wave height are the biggest concerns. The size of the boats that use cedar lake are borderline ridiculous. Last year there was a cabin sleeper on the lake that should be home on green lake, lake Winnebago or Lake Michigan. Also, the wakeboard boats tend to be producing larger waves too close to the shore. Many are not 100 feet out as they should be.
20	right now the biggest problem is the fast growing trend of wake surfing which causes shoreline erosion and stirring of the bottom in the shallow water areas which releases bottom nutrients.
21	The fishery has been overcome with small panfish and northern pike for many years. The WDNR fish manager needs to look at slot limits, lower bag limits and convey to the stakeholders the results of other studies from other lakes.
22	Please consider the size of the lake. Large wakes should be for larger lakes.
23	Enforce restrictions on number of boats allowed to access the lake determined by the size of the landing parking lot. We need better patrolling for safety.
24	thanks for the opportunity
25	Why didn't question 22 include an option for "It has become worse" why was it restricted to either times or areas, because it is both!
26	High wakes from wake boarding boat on our lake - Cedar Lake - not a deep lake nor large lake causing stirring up bottom silt / erosion of shore line / safety due to high wake / etc..

APPENDIX B – SUPPORTING AQUATIC PLANT DOCUMENTATION

Appendix B – Supporting Aquatic Plant Documentation

The point intercept method was used to evaluate the existing emergent, submergent, floating-leaf and free-floating aquatic plants. If a species was not collected at a specific point, the space on the datasheet was left blank. For the survey, the data for each sample point was entered into the WDNR "Worksheets" (i.e., a data-processing spreadsheet) to calculate the following statistics:

Taxonomic richness (the total number of taxa detected)

- **Maximum depth of plant growth**
- **Community frequency of occurrence** (number of intercept points where aquatic plants were detected divided by the number of intercept points shallower than the maximum depth of plant growth)
- **Mean intercept point taxonomic richness** (the average number of taxa per intercept point)
- **Mean intercept point native taxonomic richness** (the average number of native taxa per intercept point)
- **Taxonomic frequency of occurrence within vegetated areas** (the number of intercept points where a particular taxon (e.g., genus, species, etc.) was detected divided by the total number of intercept points where vegetation was present)
- **Taxonomic frequency of occurrence at sites within the photic zone** (the number of intercept points where a particular taxon (e.g., genus, species, etc.) was detected divided by the total number of intercept points which are equal to or shallower than the maximum depth of plant growth)
- **Relative taxonomic frequency of occurrence** (the number of intercept points where a particular taxon (e.g., genus, species, etc.) was detected divided by the sum of all species' occurrences)
- **Mean density** (the sum of the density values for a particular species divided by the number of sampling sites)
- **Simpson Diversity Index (SDI)** is an indicator of aquatic plant community diversity. SDI is calculated by taking one minus the sum of the relative frequencies squared for each species present. Based upon the index of community diversity, the closer the SDI is to one, the greater the diversity within the population.

Floristic Quality Index (FQI) (This method uses a predetermined Coefficient of Conservatism (C), that has been assigned to each native plant species in Wisconsin, based on that species' tolerance for disturbance. Non-native plants are not assigned conservatism coefficients. The aggregate conservatism of all the plants inhabiting a site determines its floristic quality. The mean C value for a given lake is the arithmetic mean of the coefficients of all native vascular plant species occurring on the entire site, without regard to dominance or frequency. The FQI value is the mean C times the square root of the total number of native species. This formula combines the conservatism of the species present with a measure of the species richness of the site.

Table 3: Frequency of Occurrence of Aquatic Plant Species by Year. Cedar Lake, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin.

Species	Frequency of Occurrence (%)	
	2005	2016
Eurasian water-milfoil	**0.37**	**2.39**
Curly-leaf pondweed	**0.37**	**---**
Water marigold	1.47	1.19
Watershield	0*	2.69
Coontial	---	0.60
Muskgrass	41.39	23.58
Common waterweed	3.30	13.13
Northern water-milfoil	13.92	6.87
Slender naiad	6.27	26.57
Nitella	1.10	13.73
Spatterdock	0*	0.60
White water lily	0*	3.58
Large-leaf pondweed	0.37	2.99
Frie's pondweed	---	8.36
Variable pondweed	---	6.27
Illinois pondweed	5.50	1.19
Floating-leaf pondweed	0.73	2.69
White-stem pondweed	8.79	5.97
Small pondweed	10.26	---
Fern pondweed	6.96	8.66
Stiff pondweed	0.37	5.67
Flat-stem pondweed	6.96	16.42
White water crowfoot	0.37	---
Arrowhead sp.	---	2.39
Hardstem bulrush	0.37	2.39
Sago pondweed	1.10	0.30
Narrow-leaved cattail	0*	0.60
Cattail species	0*	---
Wild celery	19.41	34.63
Aquatic moss	---	0.30
* - recorded as visual only		
--- - species not sampled		

APPENDIX C – ADDITIONAL MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

Management Options for Aquatic Plants

Option	Permit Needed	How it Works	Pros	Cons
No Management	No	No active plant management	Possible protects native species that can enhance water quality and provide habitat for aquatic fauna: • No financial cost • No system disturbance • No harmful effects of chemicals • Permit not required	May allow small populations of invasive plants to become larger and more difficult to control later • Requires intensive monitoring
Mechanical Control	Required under NR 109	Plants reduced by mechanical means	Flexible control	Must be repeated, often more than once per season, sometimes weekly
		Wide range of techniques from manual to mechanized	Can balance habitat and recreational needs	Can suspend sediments and increase highly turbidity and nutrient release
a. Handpulling/ Manual raking	Yes/No	Scuba divers or snorkelers remove plants are removed with a rake	Little to no damage done to lake or to native plant species	Very labor intensive and costly by hand or plants
		Works best in soft sediments	Can be highly selective Can be done by shoreline property owners within an area <30 ft wide or removing EWM or CLP Can be very effective at removing problems particularly following early detection of an invasive specie	Needs to be carefully monitored Roots, runners and even fragments of some without permits species (including EWM) will start new where selectively planted, so all of plant must be removed Small scale control only plants Can be very costly if subcontracted
b. Harvesting	Yes	Plants are “mowed” at depths of 2-5 ft., collected with a conveyor and off loaded onto shore	Immediate results	Not selective in species removed
		Harvest invasives only if invasive is already present throughout the lake	Good for CLP management if cut prior to turion production and is then cut to be kept in check through its growth cycle Usually minimal impact to the lake Harvested lanes through dense weed beds can increase growth and forage ability of some fish Can remove some nutrients from the lake	Fragments of EWM can re-root Difficulty in finding disposal sites Can remove some small fish and reptiles from lake Initial cost of harvester expensive High transport, maintenance and operational costs Liability if owned
Biological Control	Yes	Living organisms (e.g. insects or fungi) eat or infect plants	Self sustaining organism will over winter resume eating its host the next year Lowers density of problem plant to allow growth of natives	Effectiveness will vary as control agent’s population fluctuates Provides moderate control – complete control unlikely Control response may be slow. Must have enough control agent to be effective

Management Options for Aquatic Plants

a. Weevils on EWM	Yes	Native weevil prefers EWM to other native water milfoil	Native to Wisconsin: Weevil cannot "escape" and become a problem Selective control of target species Longer term control with limited management	Excessive cost need to stock large numbers, even if some already present and are costly **$1.00/each** Need good habitat for over wintering on shore (leaf litter) associated with undeveloped shorelines High Panfish populations decrease densities through predation
b. Pathogens	Yes	Fungal/bacterial/viral pathogen introduced to target species to induce mortality	May be species specific May provide long term control Few dangers to humans or animals	Largely experimental; effectiveness and longevity unknown Possible side effects not understood
c. Allelopathy	Yes	Aquatic plants release chemical compounds that inhibit other plants from growing	May provide long term, maintenance free control Spikerushes (*Eleocharis* spp.) appear to inhibit Eurasian watermill foil growth	Initial transplanting slow and labor intensive Spikerushes native to Wisconsin and have not effectively limited EWM growth Wave action along shore makes it difficult to establish plants; plants will not grow in deep or turbid water
d. Restoration of native plants	Possibly, strongly recommend plan and consultation with DNR	Diverse native plant community established to help repel invasive species	Native plants provide food and habitat for aquatic fauna Diverse native community more repellant to invasive species Supplements removal techniques	Initial transplanting slow and labor intensive Nuisance invasive plants may outcompete plantings Largely experimental; few well documented successful cases and very costly
Physical Control	Required under Ch. 30/NR 107	Plants are reduced by altering variables that affect growth, such as water depth or light levels		
a. Drawdown	Yes, may require Environmental Assessment	Lake water lowered; plants killed when sediment dries, compacts or freezes	Can be effective for EWM, especially when done over winter, provided drying and freezing occur. Sediment compaction is possible over winter.	Plants with large seed bank or propagules that survive drawdown may become more abundant upon refilling
		Must have a water level control or device or siphon	Summer drawdown can restore large portions of shoreline and shallow areas as well as provide sediment compaction	Species growing in deep water (e.g. EWM) that survive may increase, particularly if desired native species are reduced
		Season or duration of drawdown can change effects	Emergent plant species often rebound near shore providing fish and wildlife habitat, sediment stabilization and increased water quality Successful for EWM	May impact attached wetlands and shallow wells near shore Not a good control measure for CLP

Management Options for Aquatic Plants

			Low cost if not a hydroelectric dam Restores natural water fluctuation important for all aquatic ecosystems	Can affect fish, particularly in shallow lakes if oxygen levels drop or if water levels are not restored before spring spawning Winter drawdown must start in early fall or will kill hibernating reptiles and amphibians Controversial
b. Dredging	Yes	Plants are removed along with sediment	Increases water depth	Expensive
		Most effective when soft sediments overlay harder substrate	Removes nutrient rich sediments	Increases turbidity and releases nutrients
		For extremely impacted systems	Removes soft bottom sediments that may have high oxygen demand	Exposed sediments may be recolonized by invasive species
		Extensive planning and permitting required		Sediment testing is expensive Removes benthic organisms Dredged materials must be disposed if Severe impact on lake ecosystem
c. Dyes	Yes	Colors water, reducing light and reducing plant and algal growth	Impairs plant growth without increasing turbidity Usually non-toxic, degrades naturally over a few weeks	Appropriate for very slam water bodies Should not be used in pond or lake with outflow Impairs aesthetics Affects to microscopic organisms unknown
d. Mechanical circulation (Solarbees)	Yes	Water is circulated and oxygenated	Reduces blue green algae	Method is experimental; no published studies have been done
		Oxygenation of water decreases ammonium-nitrogen, which is a preferred nutrient source of EWM, theoretically limiting EWM growth (has not been demonstrated scientifically)	May reduce levels of ammonium-nitrogen in the water and at the sediment interface, which could reduce EWM growth Oxygenated water may reduce phosphorus release from sediments if mixing is complete Reduces chance of fish kills by aerating water	Although EWM prefers ammonium-nitrogen to nitrate, it will uptake nitrate efficiently, so EWM growth may not be affected Units are aesthetically unpleasing Units could be a navigational hazard
e. Non-point source nutrient control	No	Runoff of nutrients from the watershed are reduced (e.g. by controlling construction erosion or reducing fertilizer use)	Attempts to correct source of problem, not treat symptoms Could improve water clarity and reduce occurrences of algal blooms	Results can take years to be evident due to internal recycling of already resent lake nutrients Expensive

Management Options for Aquatic Plants

			Native plants may be able to compete invasive species better in low nutrient conditions	Requires landowner cooperation and regulation Improved water clarity may increase plant growth
Chemical Control	Required under NR 107	Granules or liquid chemicals kill plants or cease plant growth; some chemicals used primarily for algae	Some flexibility for different situations	Possible toxicity to aquatic animals or humans, especially applicators
		Results usually within 10 days of treatment, but repeat treatments usually needed	Some can be selective if applied correctly Can be used for restoration activities	May kill desirable plant species, e.g. native water milfoil or native pondweeds Treatment set back requirements from potable water sources and/or drinking water use restrictions after application, usually based on concentration May cause severe drop in dissolved oxygen causing fish kill, depends on plant biomass killed, temperatures and lake size and shape Controversial
a. 2,4-D (DMA-4; Sculpin	Yes	Systemic[1] herbicide selective to broadleaf[2] plants that inhibit cell division in new tissue	Moderately to highly effective; especially on EWM	May cause oxygen depletion after plants die and decompose
		Applied as liquid or granules during early growth phase	Monocots, such as pondweeds (e.g. CLP) and many other native species not affected Can be used in synergy with endotholl for early season CLP and EWM treatments Widely used aquatic herbicides	Cannot be used in combination with copper herbicides (used for algae) Toxic to fish
b. Endothall (Aquathol)	Yes	Broad-spectrum[3], contact [4] herbicide that inhibits protein synthesis	Especially effective on CLP and also effective on EWM	Kills many native pondweeks
		Applied as liquid or granules	May be effective in reducing reestablishment of CLP if reapplied several years in a row in early spring Can be selective depending on concentration and seasonal timing Can be combined with 2,4-D for early season CLP and EWM treatments, or with copper compounds	Not as effective in dense plant beds Not to be used in water supplies Toxic to aquatic fauna (to varying degrees)
c. Diquat (Reward)	Yes	Broad-spectrum, contact herbicide that disrupts cellular functioning	Mostly used for water-milfoil and duckweed	May impact non-target plants, especially native pondweeds, coontail, elodea, naiads
		Applied as liquid, can be combined with copper treatment	Rapid action Limited direct toxicity on fish and other animals	Toxic to aquatic invertebrates Needs to be reapplied several years in a row

Management Options for Aquatic Plants

				Ineffective in muddy or cold water (<50°F)
d. Fluridone (Sonar)	Yes	Broad-spectrum, systemic pigment bleaching herbicide that inhibits photosynthesis, some reduction in non target effects can be achieved by lowering dosage	Effective on EWM for 2 to 4+ years Applied at very low concentration typically on lake wide basis of less than 8 PPB Specific granular formulation release over extended periods of time 30 – 60 days eliminating peaks and lessening impacts to non targets (natives)	Affects some non-target plants, particularly native milfoils, coontails, elodea and naiads, even at low concentrations. These plants are important to combat invasive species Requires long contact time: 60-90 + days Requires residual monitoring
			Slow decomposition of plants may limit decreases in dissolved oxygen Low toxicity to aquatic animals	Demonstrated herbicide resistance in hydrilla subjected to repeat treatments Unknown effect of repeat whole lake treatments on lake ecology
e. Glyphosate (Rodeo)	Yes	Broad spectrum, systemic herbicide that disrupts enzyme formation and function	Effective on floating and emergent plants such as purple loosestrife	Effective control for 1-5 years
		Usually used for purple loosestrife stems or cattails	Selective if carefully applied to individual plants	Ineffective in muddy water
		Applied as liquid spray or painted on loosestrife stems	Non-toxic to most aquatic animals at recommended dosages	Cannot be used near potable water intakes No control of submerged plants
f. Triclopyr (Renovate)	Yes	Systemic herbicide selective to broadleaf plants that disrupts enzyme function	Effective on many emergent and floating plants	Impacts may occur to some native plants at higher does (e.g. coontail)
		Applied as liquid spray or liquid	More effective on dicots, such as purple loosestrife; may be more effective than glyphosate Results in 3-5 weeks Low toxicity to aquatic animals No recreational use restrictions following treatment	May be toxic to sensitive invertebrates at higher concentrations Retreatment opportunities may be limited due to maximum seasonal rate (2.5 ppm) Sensitive to UV light; sunlight can break herbicide down prematurely Relatively new management option for aquatic plants (since 2003)
g. Copper compounds (Cutrine, Captain)	Yes	Broad-spectrum, systemic herbicide that prevents photosynthesis	Reduces algal growth and increases water clarity	Elemental copper accumulates and persists in sediments
		Used to control planktonic and filamentous algae	No recreational or agricultural restrictions on water use following treatment Herbicidal action on hydrilla, an invasive plant not yet present in Wisconsin	Short term results Small-scale control only, because algae are easily windblown

Management Options for Aquatic Plants

					Toxic to invertebrates, trout and other fish, depending on the hardness of the water Long-term effects of repeat treatments to benthic organism unknown Clear water may increase plant growth
h.	**Lime slurry**	Yes	Applications of lime temporarily raise water pH, which limits the availability of inorganic carbon to plants, preventing growth	Appears to be particularly effective against EWM and CLP Prevents release of sediment phosphorus, which reduces algal growth Increases growth of native plants beneficial as fish habitat	Relatively new technique, so effective dosage levels and exposure requirements are not yet known Short-term increase in turbidity due to suspended lime particles High pH detrimental to aquatic invertebrates May restrict growth of some native plants
i.	**Alum (aluminum sulfate)**	Yes	Remove phosphorus from water column and creates barrier on sediment to prevent internal loading of phosphorus	Most often used against algal problems Lasts up to 5 years	Most not eat fish for 30 days from treatment area
			Dosage must consider pH, hardness and water volume	Improves water clarity	Minimal effect on aquatic plants, or increased light penetration may increase aquatic plants Potential ecosystem toxicity issues for aquatic animals, including fish at some concentrations
j.	**Phoslock**	yes	Remove/sequesters phosphorus from water column and creates barrier on sediment to prevent internal loading of phosphorus	Most often used against algal problems/blooms Improves water quality	Higher cost than Alum
			Dosing based on water quality parameters and volumes	Lasts up to 5 years Made from natural materials/carriers and tends to be more environmentally friendly than alum	

***EWM** - Eurasian water-milfoil
***CLP** - Curly-leaf pondweed

[1]**Systemic herbicide -** Must be absorbed by the plant and moved to the site of action. Often slower-acting than contact herbicides.

[2]**Broadleaf herbicide -** Affects only dicots, one of two groups of plants. Aquatic dicots include waterlilies, bladderworts, watermilfoils, and coontails.

[3]**Broad-spectrum herbicide -** Affects both monocots and dicots.

[4]**Contact herbicide -** Unable to move within the plant; kills only plant tissue it contacts directly

Techniques for Aquatic Plant Control Not Allowed in Wisconsin

Option	How it Works	Pros	Cons
Biological Control			
a. Carp	Plants eaten by stocked carp	Effective at removing aquatic plants Involves species already present in Madison lakes	Illegal to transport or stock carp in Wisconsin Carp cause resuspension of sediments, increased water temperature, lower dissolved oxygen levels and reduction of light penetration Widespread plant removal deteriorates habitat for other fish and aquatic organisms Complete alteration of fish assemblage possible Dislodging of plants such as EWM or CLP turions can lead to accelerated spreading of plants
b. Crayfish	Plants eaten by stocked crayfish	Reduces macrophyte biomass	Illegal to transport or stock crayfish in Wisconsin Control not selective and may decimate plant community Not successful in productive, soft-bottom lakes with many fish predators Complete alteration of fish assemblage possible
Mechanical Control			
a. Cutting (no removal)	Plants are “mowed” with underwater cutter	Creates open water areas rapidly Works in water up to 25 ft	Root system remains for regrowth Fragments of vegetation can re-root and spread infestation throughout the lake Nutrient release can cause increased algae and bacteria and be a nuisance to riparian property owners Not selective in species removed small-scale control only
b. Rototilling	Sediment is tilled to uproot plant roots and stems	Decreases stem density, can affect entire plant	Creates turbidity
	Works in deep water (up to 17 ft)	Small scale control May provide long-term control	Not selective in species removed Fragments of vegetation can re-root Complete elimination of fish habitat

Techniques for Aquatic Plant Control Not Allowed in Wisconsin

			Releases nutrients Increased likelihood of invasive species recolonization
c. Hydroraking	Mechanical rake removes plants from lake Works in deep water (14 ft)	Creates open water areas rapidly	Fragments of vegetation can re-root May impact lake fauna Creates turbidity Plants regrown quickly Requires plant disposal
Physical Control			
a. Fabrics/Bottom Barriers	Prevents light from getting to lake bottom	Reduces turbidity in soft substrate areas Useful for small areas	Eliminates all plants, including native plants important for a healthy lake ecosystem May inhibit spawning by some fish Need maintenance or will become covered in sediment and ineffective Gas accumulation under blankets can cause them to dislodge from the bottom Affects benthic invertebrates Anaerobic environment forms that can release excessive nutrients from sediment

APPENDIX D – WI ADMIN CODES NR 107 & NR 109

Chapter NR 107

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT

Note: Chapter NR 107 as it existed on February 28, 1989 was repealed and a new Chapter NR 107 was created effective March 1, 1989.

NR 107.01 Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to establish procedures for the management of aquatic plants and control of other aquatic organisms pursuant to s. 227.11 (2) (a), Stats., and interpreting s. 281.17 (2), Stats. A balanced aquatic plant community is recognized to be a vital and necessary component of a healthy aquatic ecosystem. The department may allow the management of nuisance–causing aquatic plants with chemicals registered and labeled by the U.S. environmental protection agency and labeled and registered by firms licensed as pesticide manufacturers and labelers with the Wisconsin department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection. Chemical management shall be allowed in a manner consistent with sound ecosystem management and shall minimize the loss of ecological values in the water body.

History: Cr. Register, February, 1989, No. 398, eff. 3–1–89; **correction made under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 7., Stats., Register, December, 2000, No. 540.**

NR 107.02 Applicability. Any person sponsoring or conducting chemical treatment for the management of aquatic plants or control of other aquatic organisms in waters of the state shall obtain a permit from the department. Waters of the state include those portions of Lake Michigan and Lake Superior, and all lakes, bays, rivers, streams, springs, ponds, wells, impounding reservoirs, marshes, watercourses, drainage systems and other ground or surface water, natural or artificial, public or private, within the state or its jurisdiction as specified in s. 281.01 (18), Stats.

History: Cr. Register, February, 1989, No. 398, eff. 3–1–89; **correction made under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 7., Stats., Register, December, 2000, No. 540.**

NR 107.03 Definitions. (1) "Applicator" means the person physically applying the chemicals to the treatment site.

(2) "Chemical fact sheet" means a summary of information on a specific chemical written by the department including general aquatic community and human safety considerations applicable to Wisconsin sites.

(3) "Department" means the department of natural resources.

History: Cr. Register, February, 1989, No. 398, eff. 3–1–89.

NR 107.04 Application for permit. (1) Permit applications shall be made on forms provided by the department and shall be submitted to the district director for the district in which the project is located. Any amendment or revision to an application shall be treated by the department as a new application, except as provided in s. NR 107.04 (3) (g).

Note: The DNR district headquarters are located at:

1. Southern — 3911 Fish Hatchery Road, Fitchburg 53711
2. Southeast — 2300 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr., Box 12436, Milwaukee 53212
3. Lake Michigan — 1125 N. Military Ave., Box 10448, Green Bay 54307
4. North Central — 107 Sutliff Ave., Box 818, Rhinelander 54501
5. Western — 1300 W. Clairemont Ave., Call Box 4001, Eau Claire 54702
6. Northwest — Hwy 70 West, Box 309, Spooner 54801

(2) The application shall be accompanied by:

(a) A nonrefundable permit application fee of $20, and, for proposed treatments larger than 0.25 acres, an additional refundable acreage fee of $25.00 per acre, rounded up to the nearest whole acre, applied to a maximum of 50.0 acres.

1. The acreage fee shall be refunded in whole if the entire permit is denied or if no treatment occurs on any part of the permitted treatment area. Refunds will not be prorated for partial treatments.

2. If the permit is issued with the proposed treatment area partially denied, a refund of acreage fees shall be given for the area denied.

(b) A legal description of the body of water proposed for treatment including township, range and section number;

(c) One copy of a detailed map or sketch of the body of water with the proposed treatment area dimensions clearly shown and with pertinent information necessary to locate those properties, by name of owner, riparian to the treatment area, which may include street address, local telephone number, block, lot and fire number where available. If a local address is not available, the home address and phone number of the property owner may be included;

(d) A description of the uses being impaired by plants or aquatic organisms and reason for treatment;

(e) A description of the plant community or other aquatic organisms causing the use impairment;

(f) The product names of chemicals proposed for use and the method of application;

(g) The name of the person or commercial applicator, and applicator certification number, when required by s. NR 107.08 (5), of the person conducting the treatment;

(h) A comparison of alternative control methods and their feasibility for use on the proposed treatment site.

(3) In addition to the information required under sub. (2), when the proposed treatment is a large–scale treatment exceeding 10.0 acres in size or 10% of the area of the water body that is 10 feet or less in depth, the application shall be accompanied by:

(a) A map showing the size and boundaries of the water body and its watershed.

(b) A map and list identifying known or suspected land use practices contributing to plant–related water quality problems in the watershed.

(c) A summary of conditions contributing to undesirable plant growth on the water body.

(d) A general description of the fish and wildlife uses occurring within the proposed treatment site.

(e) A summary of recreational uses of the proposed treatment site.

(f) Evidence that a public notice of the proposed application has been made, and that a public informational meeting, if required, has been conducted.

1. Notice shall be given in 2 inch x 4 inch advertising format in the newspaper which has the largest circulation in the area affected by the application.

2. The notice shall state the size of the proposed treatment, the approximate treatment dates, and that the public may request within 5 days of the notice that the applicant hold a public informational meeting on the proposed application.

a. The applicant will conduct a public informational meeting in a location near the water body when a combination of 5 or more individuals, organizations, special units of government, or local units of government request the meeting in writing to the applicant

with a copy to the department within 5 days after the notice is made. The person or entity requesting the meeting shall state a specific agenda of topics including problems and alternatives to be discussed.

b. The meeting shall be given a minimum of one week advance notice, both in writing to the requestors, and advertised in the format of subd. 1.

(g) The provisions of pars. (a) to (e) shall be repeated once every 5 years and shall include new information. Annual modifications of the proposed treatment within the 5–year period which do not expand the treatment area more than 10% and cover a similar location and target organisms may be accepted as an amendment to the original application. The acreage fee submitted under sub. (2) (a) shall be adjusted in accordance with any proposed amendments.

(4) The applicant shall certify to the department that a copy of the application has been provided to any affected property owners' association, inland lake district, and, in the case of chemical applications for rooted aquatic plants, to any riparian property owners adjacent to and within the treatment area.

(5) A notice of the proposed treatment shall be provided by the department to any person or organization indicating annually in writing a desire to receive such notification.

History: Cr. Register, February, 1989, No. 398, eff. 3–1–89.

NR 107.05 Issuance of permit. (1) The department shall issue or deny issuance of the requested permit between 10 and 15 working days after receipt of an acceptable application, unless:

(a) An environmental impact report or statement is required under s. 1.11, Stats. Notification to the applicant shall be in writing within 10 working days of receipt of the application and no action may be taken until the report or statement has been completed; or

(b) A public hearing has been granted under s. 227.42, Stats.

(2) If a request for a public hearing is received after the permit is issued but prior to the actual treatment allowed by the permit, the department is not required to, but may, suspend the permit because of the request for public hearing.

(3) The department may deny issuance of the requested permit if:

(a) The proposed chemical is not labeled and registered for the intended use by the United States environmental protection agency and both labeled and registered by a firm licensed as a pesticide manufacturer and labeler with the Wisconsin department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection;

(b) The proposed chemical does not have a current department aquatic chemical fact sheet;

(c) The department determines the proposed treatment will not provide nuisance relief, or will place unreasonable restrictions on existing water uses;

(d) The department determines the proposed treatment will result in a hazard to humans, animals or other nontarget organisms;

(e) The department determines the proposed treatment will result in a significant adverse effect on the body of water;

(f) The proposed chemical application is for waters beyond 150 feet from shore except where approval is given by the department to maintain navigation channels, piers or other facilities used by organizations or the public including commercial facilities;

(g) The proposed chemical applications, other than those conducted by the department pursuant to ss. 29.421 and 29.424, Stats., will significantly injure fish, fish eggs, fish larvae, essential fish food organisms or wildlife, either directly or through habitat destruction;

(h) The proposed chemical application is in a location known to have endangered or threatened species as specified pursuant to s. 29.604, Stats., and as determined by the department;

(i) The proposed chemical application is in locations identified by the department as sensitive areas, except when the applicant demonstrates to the satisfaction of the department that treatments can be conducted in a manner that will not alter the ecological character or reduce the ecological value of the area.

1. Sensitive areas are areas of aquatic vegetation identified by the department as offering critical or unique fish and wildlife habitat, including seasonal or lifestage requirements, or offering water quality or erosion control benefits to the body of water.

2. The department shall notify any affected property owners' association, inland lake district, and riparian property owner of locations identified as sensitive areas.

(4) New applications will be reviewed with consideration given to the cumulative effect of applications already approved for the body of water.

(5) The department may approve the application in whole or in part consistent with the provisions of subs. (3) (a) through (i) and (4). Denials shall be in writing stating reasons for the denial.

(6) Permits may be issued for one treatment season only.

History: Cr. Register, February, 1989, No. 398, eff. 3–1–89; **corrections in (3) (g) and (h) made under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 7., Stats., Register, December, 2000, No. 540.**

NR 107.06 Chemical fact sheets. (1) The department shall develop a chemical fact sheet for each of the chemicals in present use for aquatic nuisance control in Wisconsin.

(1m) Chemical fact sheets for chemicals not previously used in Wisconsin shall be developed within 180 days after the department has received notice of intended use of the chemical.

(2) The applicant or permit holder shall provide copies of the applicable chemical fact sheets to any affected property owners' association and inland lake district.

(3) The department shall make chemical fact sheets available upon request.

History: Cr. Register, February, 1989, No. 398, eff. 3–1–89.

NR 107.07 Supervision. (1) The permit holder shall notify the district office 4 working days in advance of each anticipated treatment with the date, time, location, and proposed size of treatment. At the discretion of the department, the advance notification requirement may be waived.

(2) Supervision by a department representative may be required for any aquatic nuisance control project involving chemicals. Supervision may include inspection of the proposed treatment area, chemicals, and application equipment before, during or after treatment. The inspection may result in the determination that treatment is unnecessary or unwarranted in all or part of the proposed area, or that the equipment will not control the proper dosage.

History: Cr. Register, February, 1989, No. 398, eff. 3–1–89.

NR 107.08 Conditions of the permit. (1) The department may stop or limit the application of chemicals to a body of water if at any time it determines that chemical treatment will be ineffective, or will result in unreasonable restrictions on current water uses, or will produce unnecessary adverse side effects on nontarget organisms. Upon request, the department shall state the reason for such action in writing to the applicant.

(2) Chemical treatments shall be performed in accordance with label directions, existing pesticide use laws, and permit conditions.

(3) Chemical applications on lakes and impoundments are limited to waters along developed shoreline including public parks except where approval is given by the department for projects of public benefit.

(4) Treatment of areas containing high value species of aquatic plants shall be done in a manner which will not result in adverse long–term or permanent changes to a plant community in a specific aquatic ecosystem. High value species are individual species of aquatic plants known to offer important values in spe-

cific aquatic ecosystems, including *Potamogeton amplifolius, Potamogeton Richardsonii, Potamogeton praelongus, Potamogeton pectinatus, Potamogeton illinoensis, Potamogeton robbinsii, Eleocharis spp., Scirpus spp., Valisneria spp., Zizania aquatica, Zannichellia palustris* and *Brasenia schreberi.*

(5) Treatment shall be performed by an applicator currently certified by the Wisconsin department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection in the aquatic nuisance control category whenever:

(a) Treatment is to be performed for compensation by an applicator acting as an independent contractor for hire;

(b) The area to be treated is greater than 0.25 acres;

(c) The product to be used is classified as a "restricted use pesticide"; or

(d) Liquid chemicals are to be used.

(6) Power equipment used to apply liquid chemicals shall include the following:

(a) Containers used to mix and hold chemicals shall be constructed of watertight materials and be of sufficient size and strength to safely contain the chemical. Measuring containers and scales for the purpose of measuring solids and liquids shall be provided by the applicator;

(b) Suction hose used to deliver the chemical to the pump venturi assembly shall be fitted with an on–off ball–type valve. The system shall also be designed to prevent clogging from chemicals and aquatic vegetation;

(c) Suction hose used to deliver surface water to the pump shall be fitted with a check valve to prevent back siphoning into the surface water should the pump stop;

(d) Suction hose used to deliver a premixed solution shall be fitted with an on–off ball–type valve to regulate the discharge rate;

(e) Pressure hose used to discharge chemicals to the surface water shall be provided with an on–off ball–type valve. This valve will be fitted at the base of the hose nozzle or as part of the nozzle assembly;

(f) All pressure and suction hoses and mechanical fittings shall be watertight;

(g) Equipment shall be calibrated by the applicator. Evidence of calibration shall be provided at the request of the department supervisor.

(h) Other equipment designs may be acceptable if capable of equivalent performance.

(7) The permit holder shall be responsible for posting those areas of use in accordance with water use restrictions stated on the chemical label, but in all cases for a minimum of one day, and with the following conditions:

(a) Posting signs shall be brilliant yellow and conspicuous to the nonriparian public intending to use the treated water from both the water and shore, and shall state applicable label water use restrictions of the chemical being used, the name of the chemical and date of treatment. For tank mixes, the label requirements of the most restrictive chemical will be posted;

(b) Minimum sign dimensions used for posting shall be 11 inches by 11 inches or consistent with s. ATCP 29.15. The department will provide up to 6 signs to meet posting requirements. Additional signs may be purchased from the department;

(c) Signs shall be posted at the beginning of each treatment by the permit holder or representing agent. Posting prior to treatment may be required as a permit condition when the department determines that such posting is in the best interest of the public;

(d) Posting signs shall be placed along contiguous treated shoreline and at strategic locations to adequately inform the public. Posting of untreated shoreline located adjacent to treated shoreline and noncontiguous shoreline shall be at the discretion of the department;

(e) Posting signs shall be made of durable material to remain up and legible for the time period stated on the pesticide label for water use restrictions, after which the permit holder or representing agent is responsible for sign removal.

(8) After conducting a treatment, the permit holder shall complete and submit within 30 days an aquatic nuisance control report on a form supplied by the department. Required information will include the quantity and type of chemical, and the specific size and location of each treatment area. In the event of any unusual circumstances associated with a treatment, or at the request of the department, the report shall be provided immediately. If treatment did not occur, the form shall be submitted with appropriate comment by October 1.

(9) Failure to comply with the conditions of the permit may result in cancellation of the permit and loss of permit privileges for the subsequent treatment season. A notice of cancellation or loss of permit privileges shall be provided by the department to the permit holder accompanied by a statement of appeal rights.

History: Cr. Register, February, 1989, No. 398, eff. 3–1–89**;** correction in (7) (b) made under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 7., Stats., Register, September, 1995, No. 477.

NR 107.09 Special limitation. Due to the significant risk of environmental damage from copper accumulation in sediments, swimmer's itch treatments performed with copper sulfate products at a rate greater than 10 pounds of copper sulfate per acre are prohibited.

History: Cr. Register, February, 1989, No. 398, eff. 3–1–89.

NR 107.10 Field evaluation use permits. When a chemical product is considered for aquatic nuisance control and does not have a federal label for such use, the applicant shall apply to the administrator of the United States environmental protection agency for an experimental use permit under section 5 of the federal insecticide, fungicide and rodenticide act as amended (7 USC 136 et seq.). Upon receiving a permit, the permit holder shall obtain a field evaluation use permit from the department and be subject to the requirements of this chapter. Department field evaluation use permits shall be issued for the purpose of evaluating product effectiveness and safety under field conditions and will require in addition to the conditions of the permit specified in s. NR 107.08 (1) through (9), the following:

(1) Treatment shall be limited to an area specified by the department.

(2) The permit holder shall submit to the department a summary of treatment results at the end of the treatment season. The summary shall include:

(a) Total chemical used and distribution pattern, including chemical trade name, formulation, percent active ingredient, and dosage rate in the treated water in parts per million of active ingredient;

(b) Description of treatment areas including the character and the extent of the nuisance present;

(c) Effectiveness of the application and when applicable, a summary comparison of the results obtained from past experiments using the same chemical formulation;

(d) Other pertinent information required by the department; and

(e) Conclusions and recommendations for future use.

History: Cr. Register, February, 1989, No. 398, eff. 3–1–89.

NR 107.11 Exemptions. (1) Under any of the following conditions, the permit application fee in s. NR 107.04 (2) (a) will be limited to the basic application fee:

(a) The treatment is made for the control of bacteria on swimming beaches with chlorine or chlorinated lime;

(b) The treatment is intended to control algae or other aquatic nuisances that interfere with the use of the water for potable purposes;

(c) The treatment is necessary for the protection of public health, such as the control of disease carrying organisms in sanitary sewers, storm sewers, or marshes, and the treatment is sponsored by a governmental agency.

(2) The treatment of purple loosestrife is exempt from ss. NR 107.04 (2) (a) and (3), and 107.08 (5).

(3) The use of chemicals in private ponds is exempt from the provisions of this chapter except for ss. NR 107.04 (1), (2), (4) and (5), 107.05, 107.07, 107.08 (1), (2), (8) and (9), and 107.10.

(a) A private pond is a body of water located entirely on the land of an applicant, with no surface water discharge or a discharge that can be controlled to prevent chemical loss, and without access by the public.

(b) The permit application fee will be limited to the non–refundable $20 application fee.

(4) The use of chemicals in accordance with label instructions is exempt from the provisions of this chapter, when used in:

(a) Water tanks used for potable water supplies;

(b) Swimming pools;

(c) Treatment of public or private wells;

(d) Private fish hatcheries licensed under s. 95.60, Stats.;

(e) Treatment of emergent vegetation in drainage ditches or rights–of–way where the department determines that fish and wildlife resources are insignificant; or

(f) Waste treatment facilities which have received s. 281.41, Stats., plan approval or are utilized to meet effluent limitations set forth in permits issued under s. 283.31, Stats.

History: Cr. Register, February, 1989, No. 398, eff. 3–1–89; **corrections in (4) (d) and (f) made under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 7., Stats., Register, December, 2000, No. 540.**

Chapter NR 109

AQUATIC PLANTS: INTRODUCTION, MANUAL REMOVAL and MECHANICAL CONTROL REGULATIONS

NR 109.01 Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to establish procedures and requirements for the protection and regulation of aquatic plants pursuant to ss. 23.24 and 30.715, Stats. Diverse and stable communities of native aquatic plants are recognized to be a vital and necessary component of a healthy aquatic ecosystem. This chapter establishes procedures and requirements for issuing aquatic plant management permits for introduction of aquatic plants or control of aquatic plants by manual removal, burning, use of mechanical means or plant inhibitors. This chapter identifies other permits issued by the department for aquatic plant management that contain the appropriate conditions as required under this chapter for aquatic plant management, and for which no separate permit is required under this chapter**.** Introduction and control of aquatic plants shall be allowed in a manner consistent with sound ecosystem management, shall consider cumulative impacts, and shall minimize the loss of ecological values in the body of water. The purpose of this chapter is also to prevent the spread of invasive and non–native aquatic organisms by prohibiting the launching of watercraft or equipment that has any aquatic plants or zebra mussels attached.

History: CR 02–061: cr. Register May 2003 No. 569, eff. 6–1–03.

NR 109.02 Applicability. A person sponsoring or conducting manual removal, burning or using mechanical means or aquatic plant inhibitors to control aquatic plants in navigable waters, or introducing non–native aquatic plants to waters of this state shall obtain an aquatic plant management permit from the department under this chapter.

History: CR 02–061: cr. Register May 2003 No. 569, eff. 6–1–03.

NR 109.03 Definitions. In this chapter:

(1) "Aquatic community" means lake or river biological resources.

(2) "Beneficial water use activities" mean angling, boating, swimming or other navigational or recreational water use activity.

(3) "Body of water" means any lake, river or wetland that is a water of this state.

(4) "Complete application" means a completed and signed application form, the information specified in s. NR 109.04 and any other information which may reasonably be required from an applicant and which the department needs to make a decision under applicable provisions of law.

(5) "Department" means the Wisconsin department of natural resources.

(6) "Manual removal" means the control of aquatic plants by hand or hand–held devices without the use or aid of external or auxiliary power.

(7) "Navigable waters" means those waters defined as navigable under s. 30.10, Stats.

(8) "Permit" means aquatic plant management permit.

(9) "Plan" means aquatic plant management plan.

(10) "Wetlands" means an area where water is at, near or above the land surface long enough to be capable of supporting aquatic or hydrophytic vegetation and which has soils indicative of wet conditions.

History: CR 02–061: cr. Register May 2003 No. 569, eff. 6–1–03.

NR 109.04 Application requirements and fees. **(1)** Permit applications shall be made on forms provided by the department and shall be submitted to the regional director or designee for the region in which the project is located. Permit applications for licensed aquatic nursery growers may be submitted to the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection.

Note: Applications may be obtained from the department's regional headquarters or service centers. DATCP has agreed to send application forms and instructions provided by the department to aquatic nursery growers along with license renewal forms. DATCP will forward all applications to the department for processing.

(2) The application shall be accompanied by all of the following unless the application is made by licensed aquatic nursery growers for selective harvesting of aquatic plants for nursery stock. Applications made by licensed aquatic nursery growers for harvest of nursery stock do not have to include the information required by par. (d), (e), (h), (i) or (j).

(a) A nonrefundable application fee. The application fee for an aquatic plant management permit is:

1. $30 for a proposed project to manage aquatic plants on less than one acre.

2. $30 per acre to a maximum of $300 for a proposed project to manage aquatic plants on one acre or larger. Partial acres shall be rounded up to the next full acre for fee determination. An annual renewal of this permit may be requested with an additional application fee of one–half the original application fee, but not less than $30.

(b) A legal description of the body of water including township, range and section number.

(c) One copy of a detailed map of the body of water with the proposed introduction or control area dimensions clearly shown. Private individuals doing plant introduction or control shall provide the name of the owner riparian to the management area, which includes the street address or block, lot and fire number where available and local telephone number or other pertinent information necessary to locate the property.

(d) One copy of any existing aquatic management plan for the body of water, or detailed reference to the plan, citing the plan references to the proposed introduction or control area, and a description of how the proposed introduction or control of aquatic plants is compatible with any existing plan.

(e) A description of the impairments to water use caused by the aquatic plants to be managed.

(f) A description of the aquatic plants to be controlled or removed.

(g) The type of equipment and methods to be used for introduction, control or removal.

(h) A description of other introduction or control methods considered and the justification for the method selected.

(i) A description of any other method being used or intended for use for plant management by the applicant or on the area abutting the proposed management area.

(j) The area used for removal, reuse or disposal of aquatic plants.

(k) The name of any person or commercial provider of control or removal services.

(3) (a) The department may require that an application for an aquatic plant management permit contain an aquatic plant management plan that describes how the aquatic plants will be introduced, controlled, removed or disposed. Requirements for an aquatic plant management plan shall be made in writing stating the reason for the plan requirement. In deciding whether to require a plan, the department shall consider the potential for effects on protection and development of diverse and stable communities of native aquatic plants, for conflict with goals of other written ecological or lake management plans, for cumulative impacts and effect on the ecological values in the body of water, and the long–term sustainability of beneficial water use activities.

(b) Within 30 days of receipt of the plan, the department shall notify the applicant of any additional information or modifications to the plan that are required. If the applicant does not submit the additional information or modify the plan as requested by the department, the department may dismiss the aquatic plant management permit application.

(c) The department shall approve the aquatic plant management plan before an application may be considered complete.

(4) The permit sponsor may request an annual renewal in writing from the department under s. NR 109.05 if there is no change proposed in the conditions of the original permit issued.

History: CR 02–061: cr. Register May 2003 No. 569, eff. 6–1–03.

NR 109.05 Permit issuance. (1) The department shall issue or deny issuance of the requested permit within 15 working days after receipt of a completed application and approved plan as required under s. NR 109.04 (3).

(2) The department may specify any of the following as conditions of the permit:

(a) The quantity of aquatic plants that may be introduced or controlled.

(b) The species of aquatic plants that may be introduced or controlled.

(c) The areas in which aquatic plants may be introduced or controlled.

(d) The methods that may be used to introduce or control aquatic plants.

(e) The times during which aquatic plants may be introduced or controlled.

(f) The allowable methods used for disposing of or using aquatic plants that are removed or controlled.

(g) Annual or other reporting requirements to the department that may include information related to pars. (a) to (f).

(3) The department may deny issuance of the requested permit if the department determines any of the following:

(a) Aquatic plants are not causing significant impairment of beneficial water use activities.

(b) The proposed introduction or control will not remedy the water use impairments caused by aquatic plants as identified as a part of the application in s. NR 109.04 (2) (e).

(c) The proposed introduction or control will result in a hazard to humans.

(d) The proposed introduction or control will cause significant adverse impacts to threatened or endangered resources.

(e) The proposed introduction or control will result in a significant adverse effect on water quality, aquatic habitat or the aquatic community including the native aquatic plant community.

(f) The proposed introduction or control is in locations identified by the department as sensitive areas, under s. NR 107.05 (3) (i) 1., except when the applicant demonstrates to the satisfaction of the department that the project can be conducted in a manner that will not alter the ecological character or reduce the ecological value of the area.

(g) The proposed management will result in significant adverse long–term or permanent changes to a plant community or a high value species in a specific aquatic ecosystem. High value species are individual species of aquatic plants known to offer important values in specific aquatic ecosystems, including Potamogeton amplifolius, Potamogeton Richardsonii, Potamogeton praelongus, Stuckenia pectinata (Potamogeton pectinatus), Potamogeton illinoensis, Potamogeton robbinsii, Eleocharis spp., Scirpus spp., Valisneria spp., Zizania spp., Zannichellia palustris and Brasenia schreberi.

(h) If wild rice is involved, the stipulations incorporated by *Lac Courte Oreilles v. Wisconsin*, 775 F. Supp. 321 (W.D. Wis. 1991) shall be complied with.

(i) The proposed introduction or control will interfere with the rights of riparian owners.

(j) The proposed management is inconsistent with a department approved aquatic plant management plan for the body of water.

(4) The department may approve the application in whole or in part consistent with the provisions of sub. (3). A denial shall be in writing stating the reasons for the denial.

(5) (a) The department may issue an aquatic plant management permit on less than one acre in a single riparian area for a 3–year term.

(b) The department may issue an aquatic plant management permit for a one–year term for more than one acre or more than one riparian area. The permit may be renewed annually for up to a total of 3 years in succession at the written request of the permit holder, provided no modifications or changes are made from the original permit.

(c) The department may issue an aquatic plant management permit containing a department–approved plan for a 3 to 5 year term.

(d) The department may issue an aquatic plant management permit to a licensed nursery grower for a 3–year term for the harvesting of aquatic plants from a publicly owned lake bed or for a 5–year term for harvesting of aquatic plants from privately owned beds with the permission of the property owner.

(6) The approval of an aquatic plant management permit does not represent an endorsement of the permitted activity, but represents that the applicant has complied with all criteria of this chapter.

History: CR 02–061: cr. Register May 2003 No. 569, eff. 6–1–03**; reprinted to restore dropped language from rule order, Register October 2003 No. 574.**

NR 109.06 Waivers. The department waives the permit requirements under this chapter for any of the following:

(1) Manual removal or use of mechanical devices to control or remove aquatic plants from a body of water 10 acres or less that is entirely confined on the property of one person with the permission of that property owner.

Note: A person who introduces native aquatic plants or removes aquatic plants by manual or mechanical means in the course of operating an aquatic nursery as authorized under s. 94.10, Stats., on privately owned non–navigable waters of the state is not required to obtain a permit for the activities.

(2) A riparian owner who manually removes aquatic plants from a body of water or uses mechanical devices designed for cutting or mowing vegetation to control plants on an exposed lake bed that abuts the owner's property provided that the removal meets all of the following:

(a) 1. Removal of native plants is limited to a single area with a maximum width of no more than 30 feet measured along the

shoreline provided that any piers, boatlifts, swimrafts and other recreational and water use devices are located within that 30–foot wide zone and may not be in a new area or additional to an area where plants are controlled by another method; or

2. Removal of nonnative or invasive aquatic plants as designated under s. NR 109.07 when performed in a manner that does not harm the native aquatic plant community; or

3. Removal of dislodged aquatic plants that drift on–shore and accumulate along the waterfront.

(b) Is not located in a sensitive area as defined by the department under s. NR 107.05 (3) (i) 1., or in an area known to contain threatened or endangered resources or floating bogs.

(c) Does not interfere with the rights of other riparian owners.

(d) If wild rice is involved, the procedures of s. NR 19.09 (1) shall be followed.

(4) Control of purple loosestrife by manual removal or use of mechanical devices when performed in a manner that does not harm the native aquatic plant community or result in or encourage re–growth of purple loosestrife or other nonnative vegetation.

(5) Any aquatic plant management activity that is conducted by the department and is consistent with the purposes of this chapter.

(6) Manual removal and collection of native aquatic plants for lake study or scientific research when performed in a manner that does not harm the native aquatic plant community.

Note: Scientific collectors permit requirements are still applicable.

(7) Incidental cutting, removal or destroying of aquatic plants when engaged in beneficial water use activities.

History: CR 02–061: cr. Register May 2003 No. 569, eff. 6–1–03.

NR 109.07 Invasive and nonnative aquatic plants. (1) The department may designate any aquatic plant as an invasive aquatic plant for a water body or a group of water bodies if it has the ability to cause significant adverse change to desirable aquatic habitat, to significantly displace desirable aquatic vegetation, or to reduce the yield of products produced by aquaculture.

(2) The following aquatic plants are designated as invasive aquatic plants statewide: Eurasian water milfoil, curly leaf pondweed and purple loosestrife.

(3) Native and nonnative aquatic plants of Wisconsin shall be determined by using scientifically valid publications and findings by the department.

History: CR 02–061: cr. Register May 2003 No. 569, eff. 6–1–03.

NR 109.08 Prohibitions. (1) No person may distribute an invasive aquatic plant, under s. NR 109.07.

(2) No person may intentionally introduce Eurasian water milfoil, curly leaf pondweed or purple loosestrife into waters of this state without the permission of the department.

(3) No person may intentionally cut aquatic plants in public/navigable waters without removing cut vegetation from the body of water.

(4) (a) No person may place equipment used in aquatic plant management in a navigable water if the person has reason to believe that the equipment has any aquatic plants or zebra mussels attached.

(b) This subsection does not apply to equipment used in aquatic plant management when re–launched on the same body of water without having visited different waters, provided the re–launching will not introduce or encourage the spread of existing aquatic species within that body of water.

History: CR 02–061: cr. Register May 2003 No. 569, eff. 6–1–03.

NR 109.09 Plan specifications and approval. (1) Applicants required to submit an aquatic plant management plan, under s. NR 109.04 (3), shall develop and submit the plan in a format specified by the department.

(2) The plan shall present and discuss each of the following items:

(a) The goals and objectives of the aquatic plant management and protection activities.

(b) A physical, chemical and biological description of the waterbody.

(c) The intensity of water use.

(d) The location of aquatic plant management activities.

(e) An evaluation of chemical, mechanical, biological and physical aquatic plant control methods.

(f) Recommendations for an integrated aquatic plant management strategy utilizing some or all of the methods evaluated in par. (e).

(g) An education and information strategy.

(h) A strategy for evaluating the efficacy and environmental impacts of the aquatic plant management activities.

(i) The involvement of local units of government and any lake organizations in the development of the plan.

(3) The approval of an aquatic plant management plan does not represent an endorsement for plant management, but represents that adequate considerations in planning the actions have been made.

History: CR 02–061: cr. Register May 2003 No. 569, eff. 6–1–03.

NR 109.10 Other permits. Permits issued under s. 30.12, 30.20, 31.02 or 281.36, Stats., or under ch. NR 107 may contain provisions which provide for aquatic plant management. If a permit issued under one of these authorities contains the appropriate conditions as required under this chapter for aquatic plant management, a separate permit is not required under this chapter. The permit shall explicitly state that it is intended to comply with the substantive requirements of this chapter.

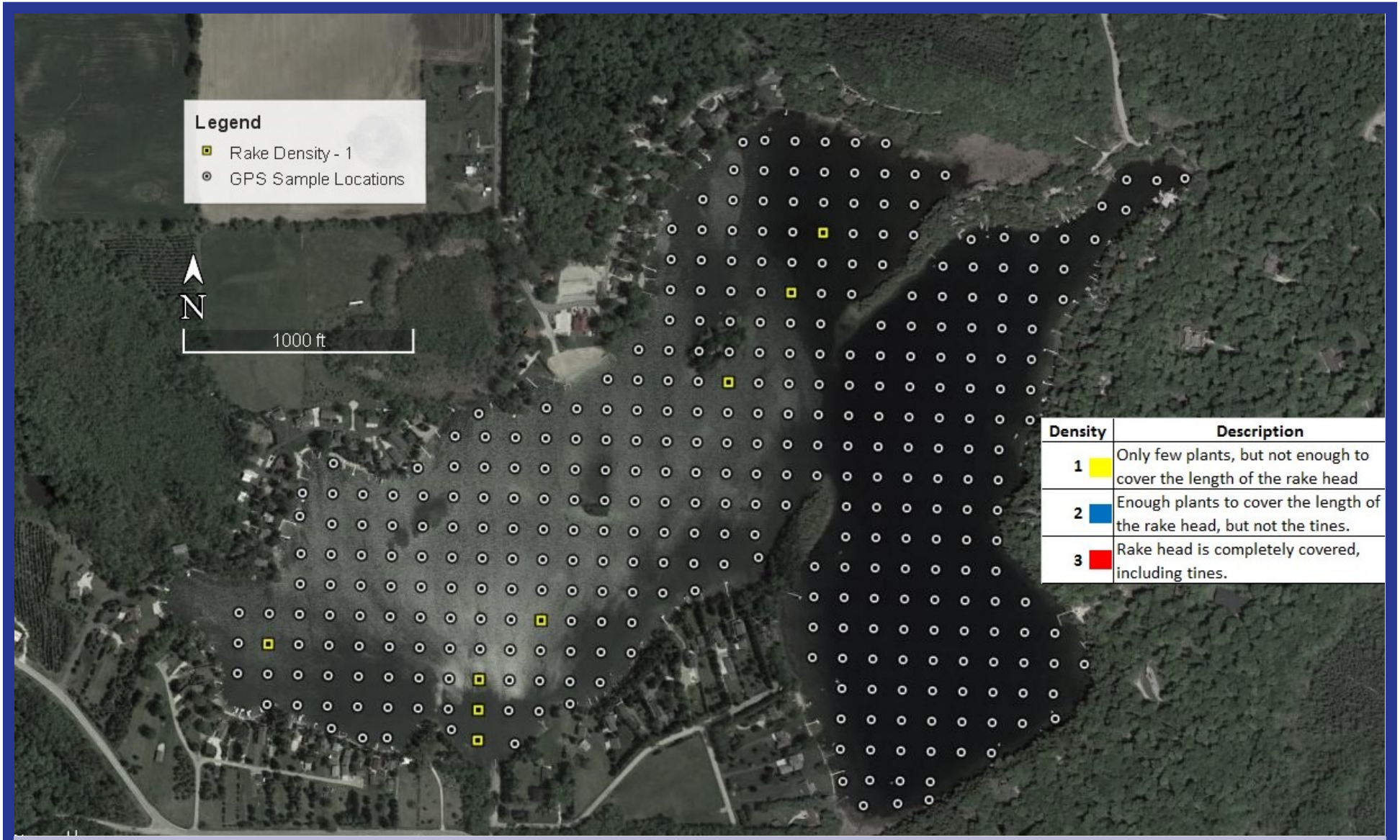
History: CR 02–061: cr. Register May 2003 No. 569, eff. 6–1–03.

NR 109.11 Enforcement. (1) Violations of this chapter may be prosecuted by the department under chs. 23, 30 and 31, Stats.

(2) Failure to comply with the conditions of a permit issued under or in accordance with this chapter may result in cancellation of the permit and loss of permit privileges for the subsequent year. Notice of cancellation or loss of permit privileges shall be provided by the department to the permit holder.

History: CR 02–061: cr. Register May 2003 No. 569, eff. 6–1–03.

FIGURES



2016 Point-intercept Survey - Eurasian Water-milfoil

Cedar Lake, Manitowoc County
Surveyed: July 6 & 8, 2016
Figure 1a

Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource LLC
"Providing Professional Resources for Management of Your Lake or Pond"
www.WisconsinLPR.com (920) 872-2032

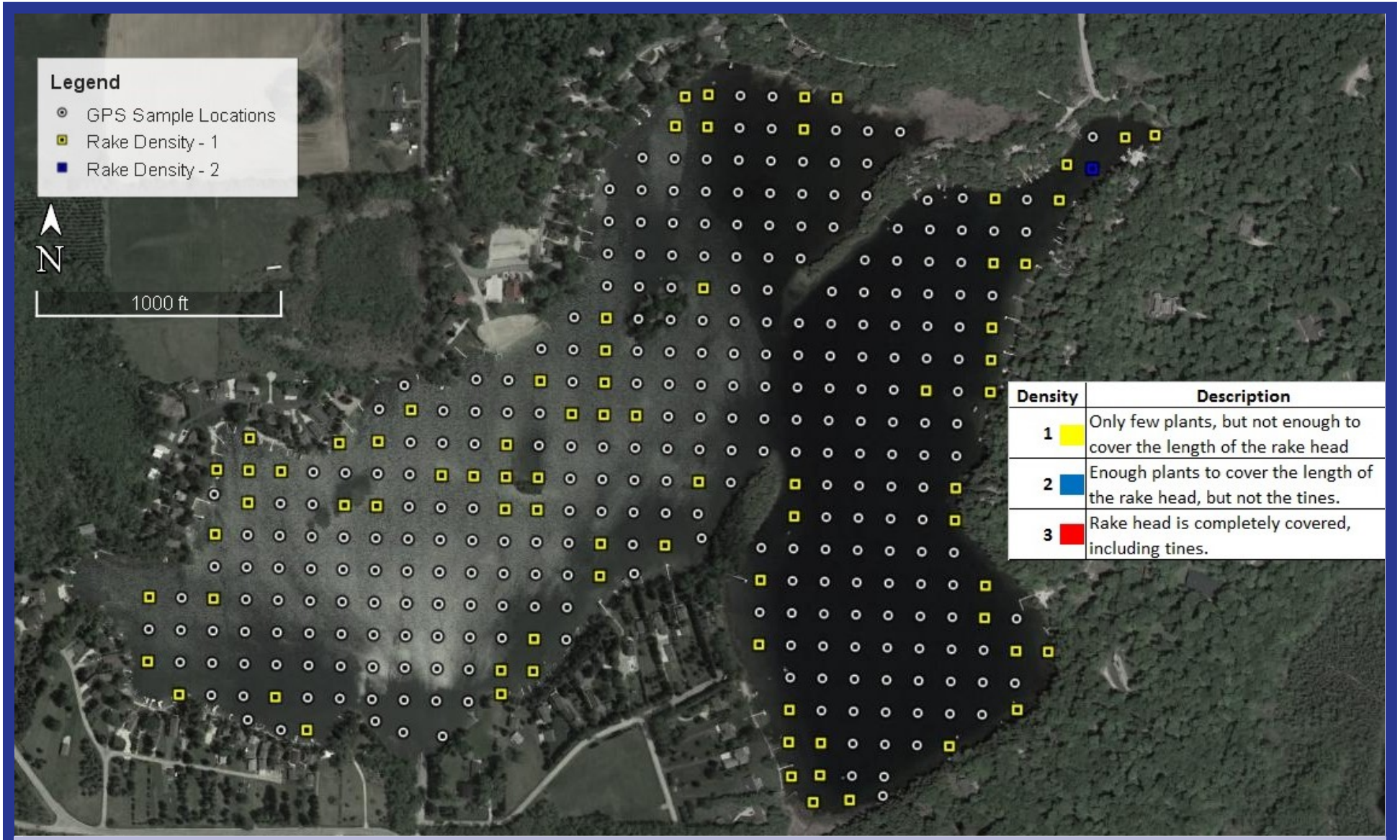
Eurasian Water-milfoil - Potential Locations

Cedar Lake, Manitowoc County

* - Locations noted as potential EWM populations only

Figure 1b

Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource LLC
"Providing Professional Resources for Management of Your Lake or Pond"
www.WisconsinLPR.com (920) 872-2032



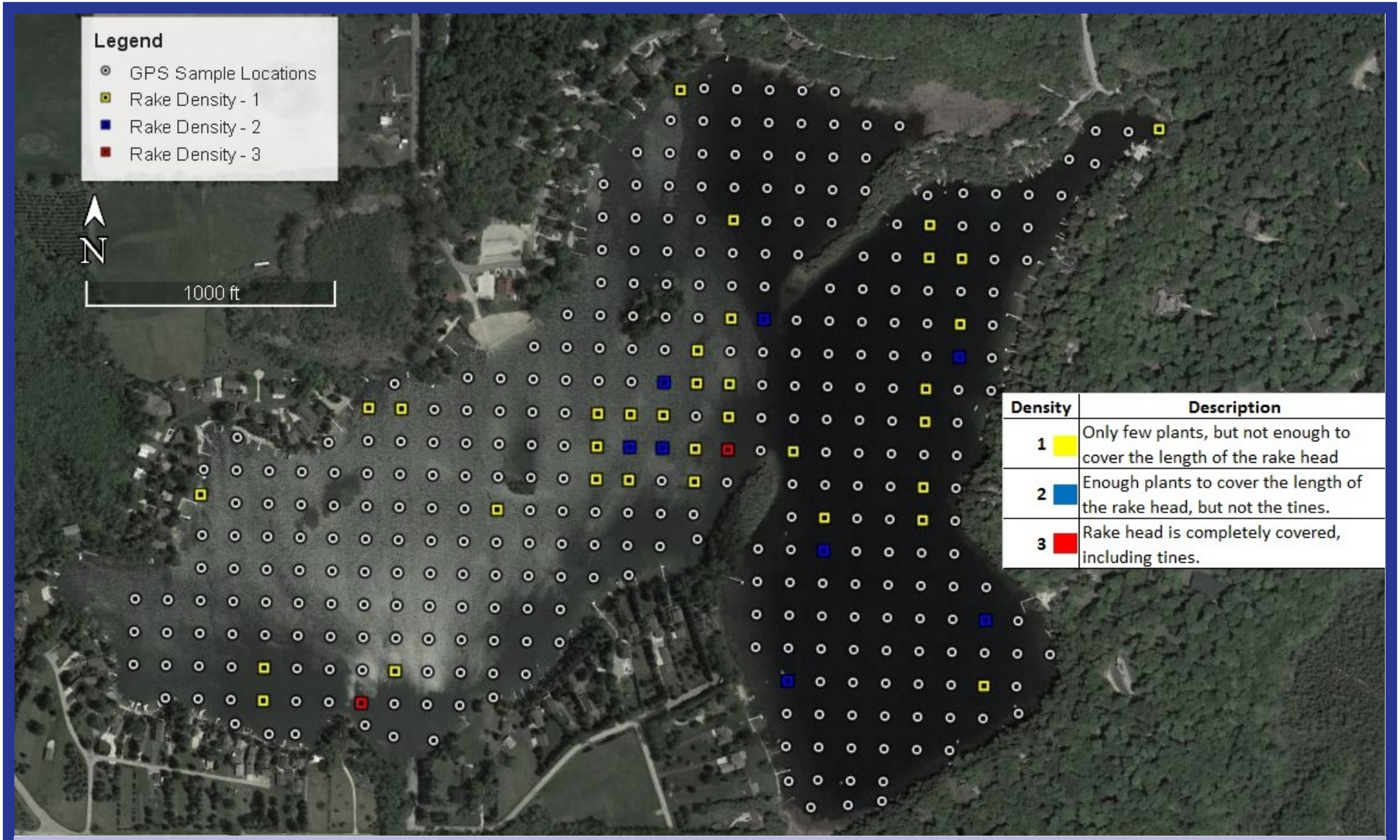
2016 Point-intercept Survey - Muskgrass

Cedar Lake, Manitowoc County

Surveyed: July 6 & 8, 2016

Figure 2

Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource LLC
"Providing Professional Resources for Management of Your Lake or Pond"
www.WisconsinLPR.com (920) 872-2032



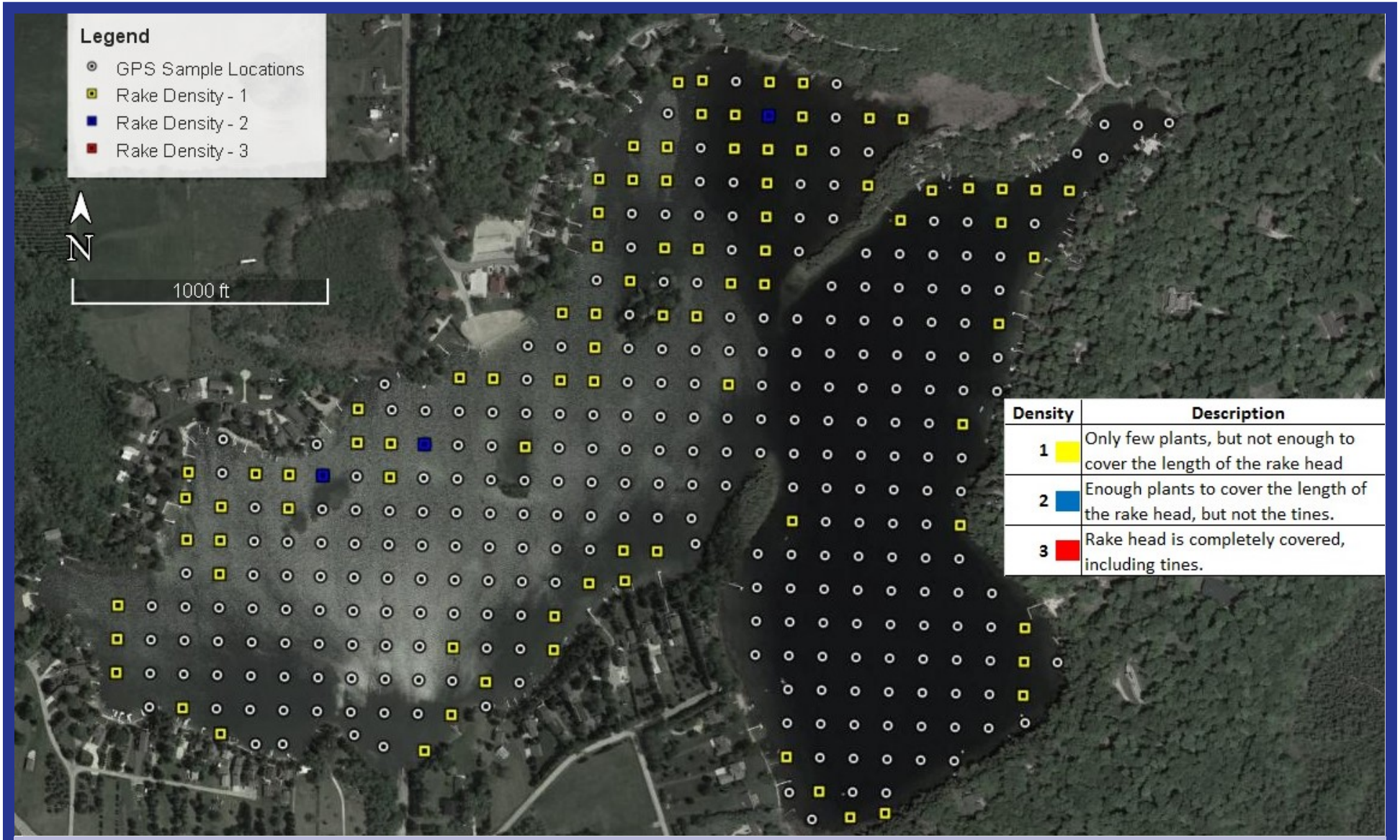
2016 Point-intercept Survey - Common Waterweed

Cedar Lake, Manitowoc County

Surveyed: July 6 & 8, 2016

Figure 3

Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource LLC
"Providing Professional Resources for Management of Your Lake or Pond"
www.WisconsinLPR.com (920) 872-2032



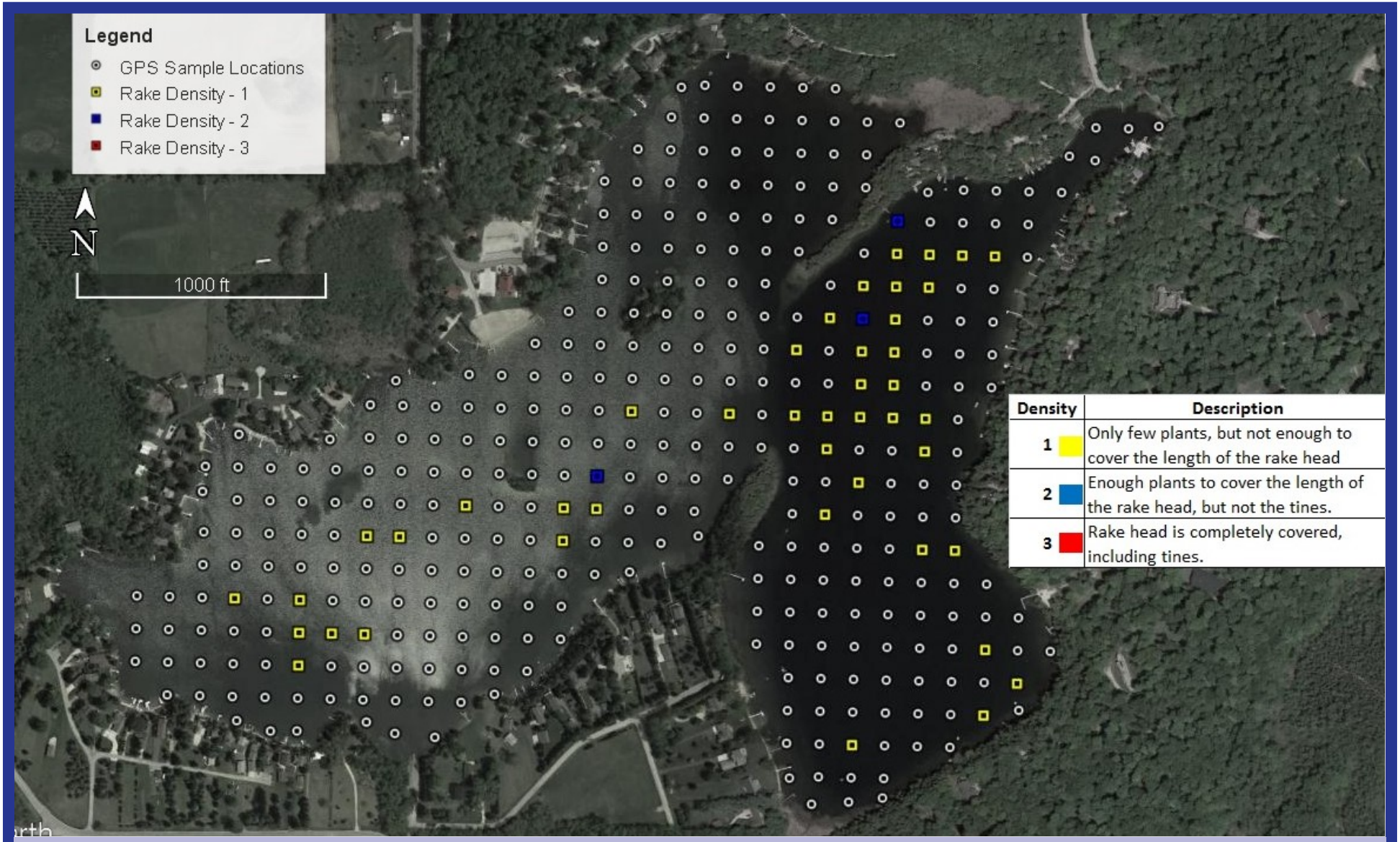
2016 Point-intercept Survey - Slender Naiad

Cedar Lake, Manitowoc County

Surveyed: July 6 & 8, 2016

Figure 4

Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource LLC
"Providing Professional Resources for Management of Your Lake or Pond"
www.WisconsinLPR.com (920) 872-2032



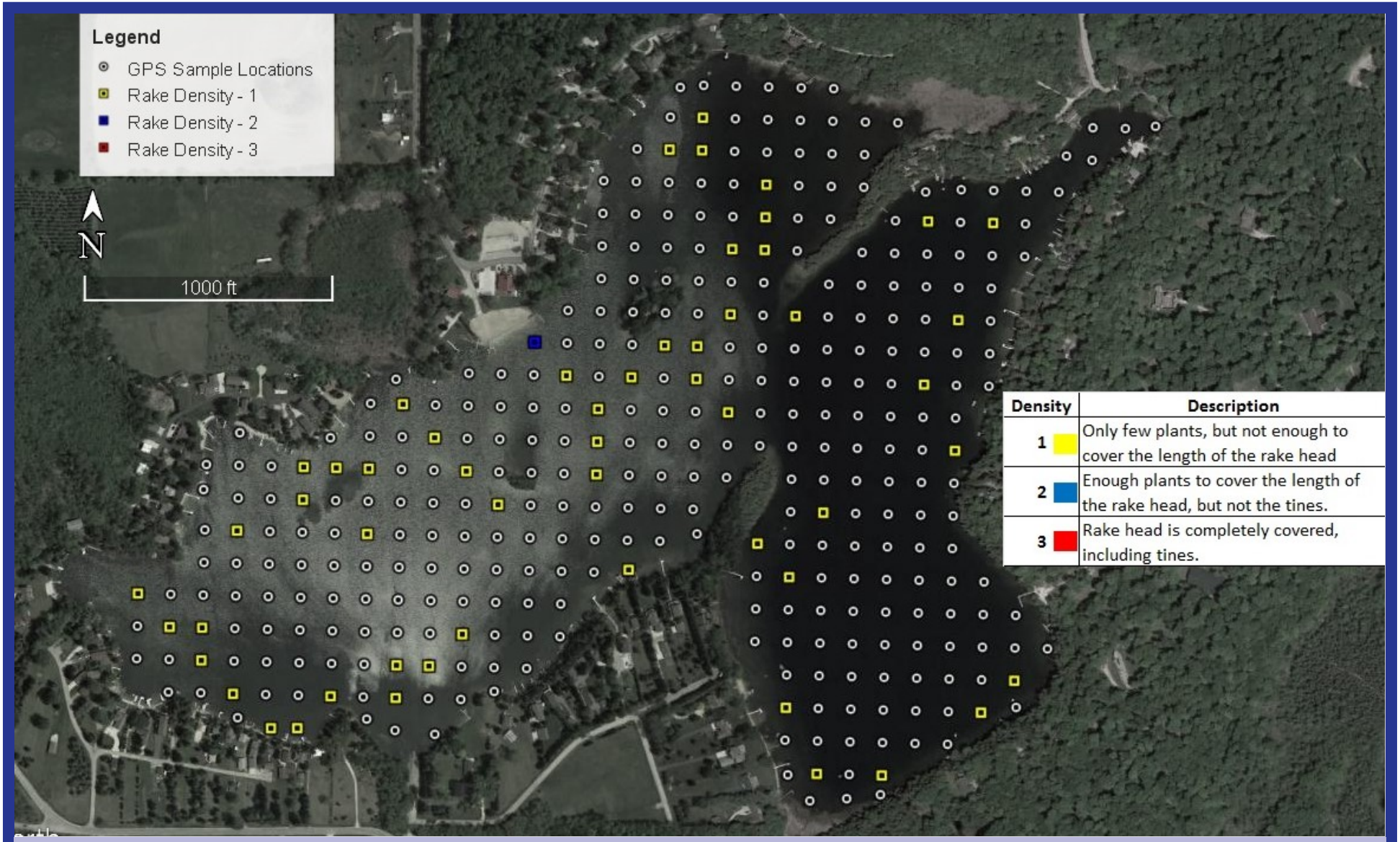
2016 Point-intercept Survey - Nitella sp.

Cedar Lake, Manitowoc County

Surveyed: July 6 & 8, 2016

Figure 5

Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource LLC
"Providing Professional Resources for Management of Your Lake or Pond"
www.WisconsinLPR.com (920) 872-2032



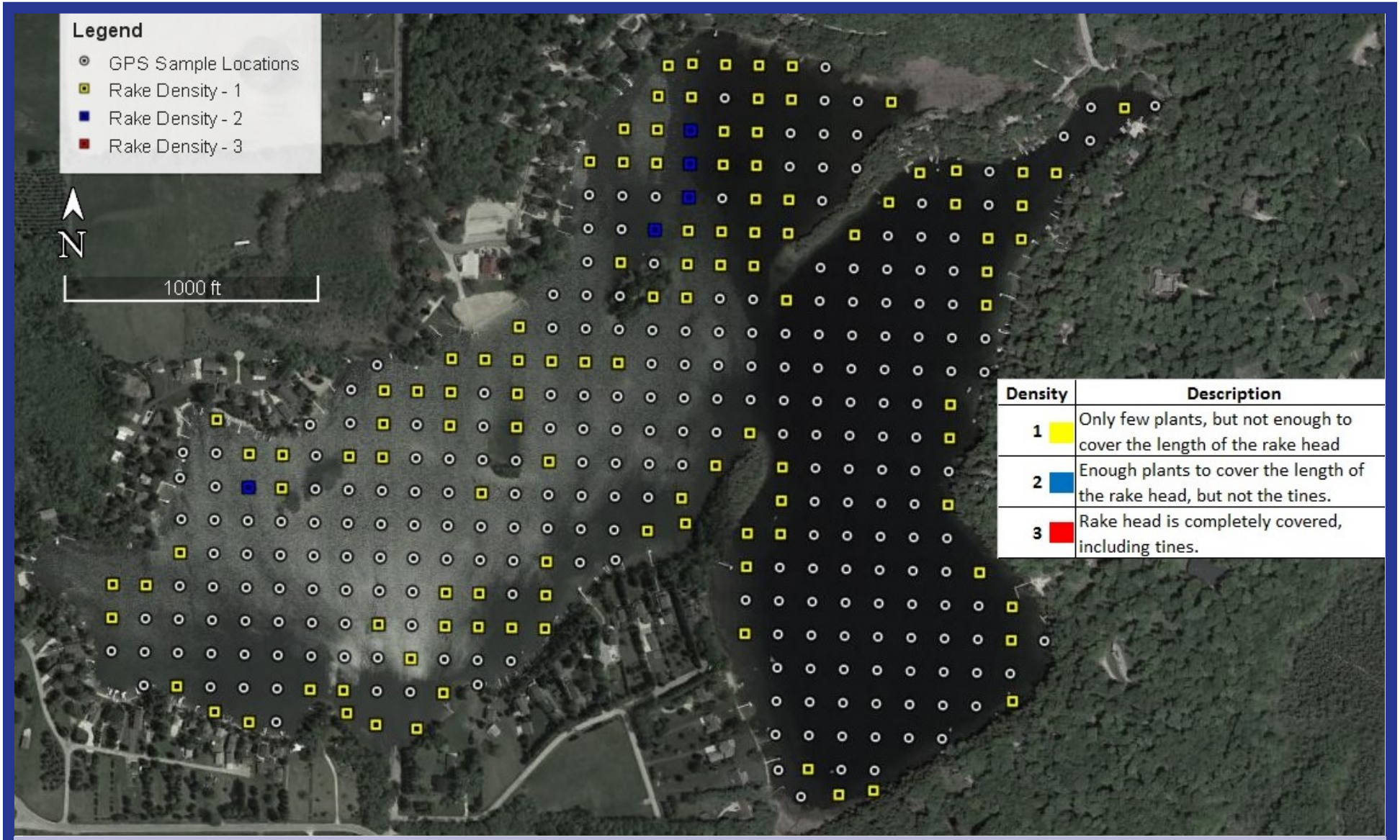
2016 Point-intercept Survey - Flat-stem Pondweed

Cedar Lake, Manitowoc County

Surveyed: July 6 & 8, 2016

Figure 6

Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource LLC
"Providing Professional Resources for Management of Your Lake or Pond"
www.WisconsinLPR.com (920) 872-2032



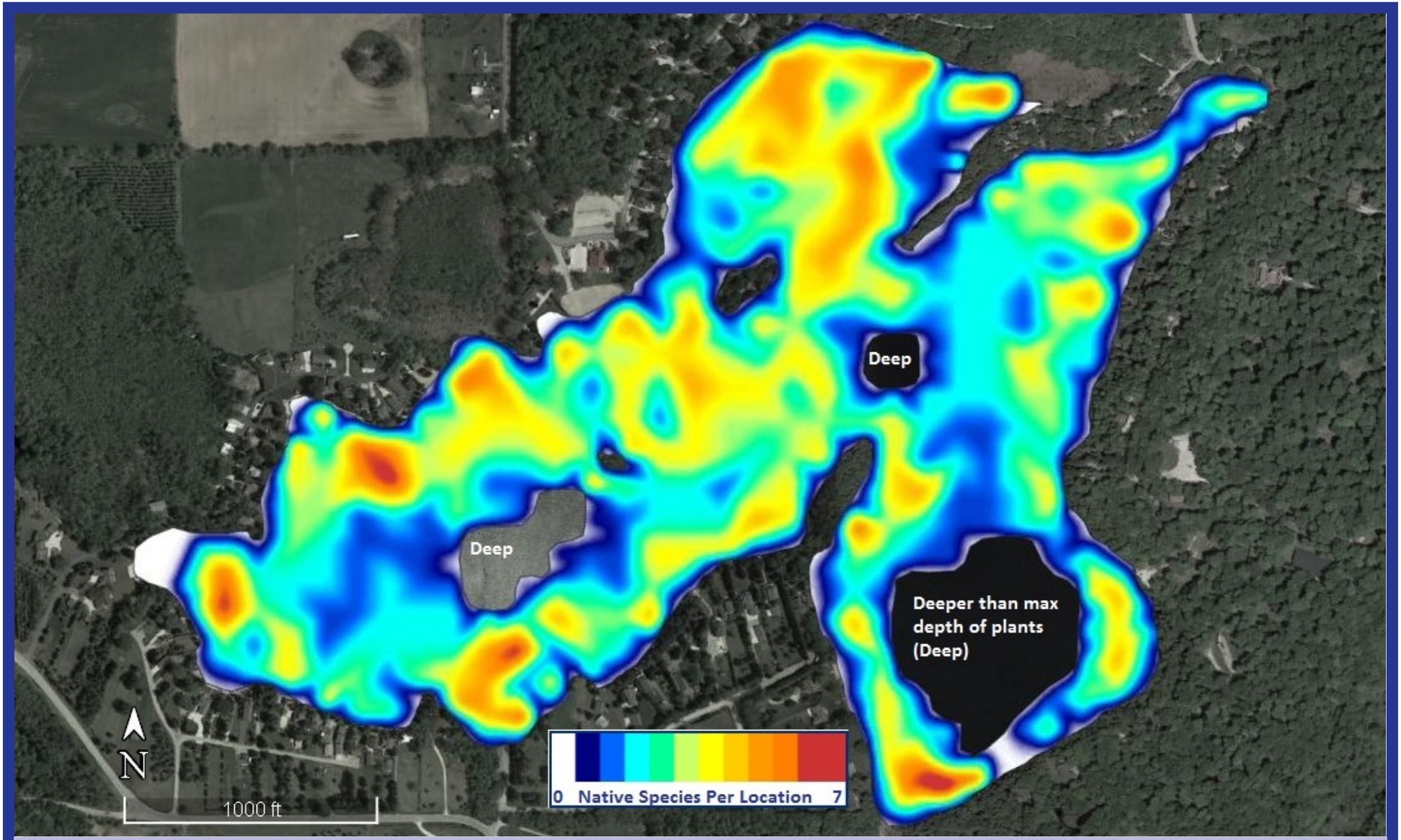
2016 Point-intercept Survey - Wild Celery

Cedar Lake, Manitowoc County

Surveyed: July 6 & 8, 2016

Figure 7

Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource LLC
"Providing Professional Resources for Management of Your Lake or Pond"
www.WisconsinLPR.com (920) 872-2032



2016 Point-intercept Survey - Native Species per Location

Cedar Lake, Manitowoc County
Surveyed: July 6 & 8, 2016
Figure 8

Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource LLC
"Providing Professional Resources for Management of Your Lake or Pond"
www.WisconsinLPR.com (920) 872-2032

Hardstem bulrush: Area 4

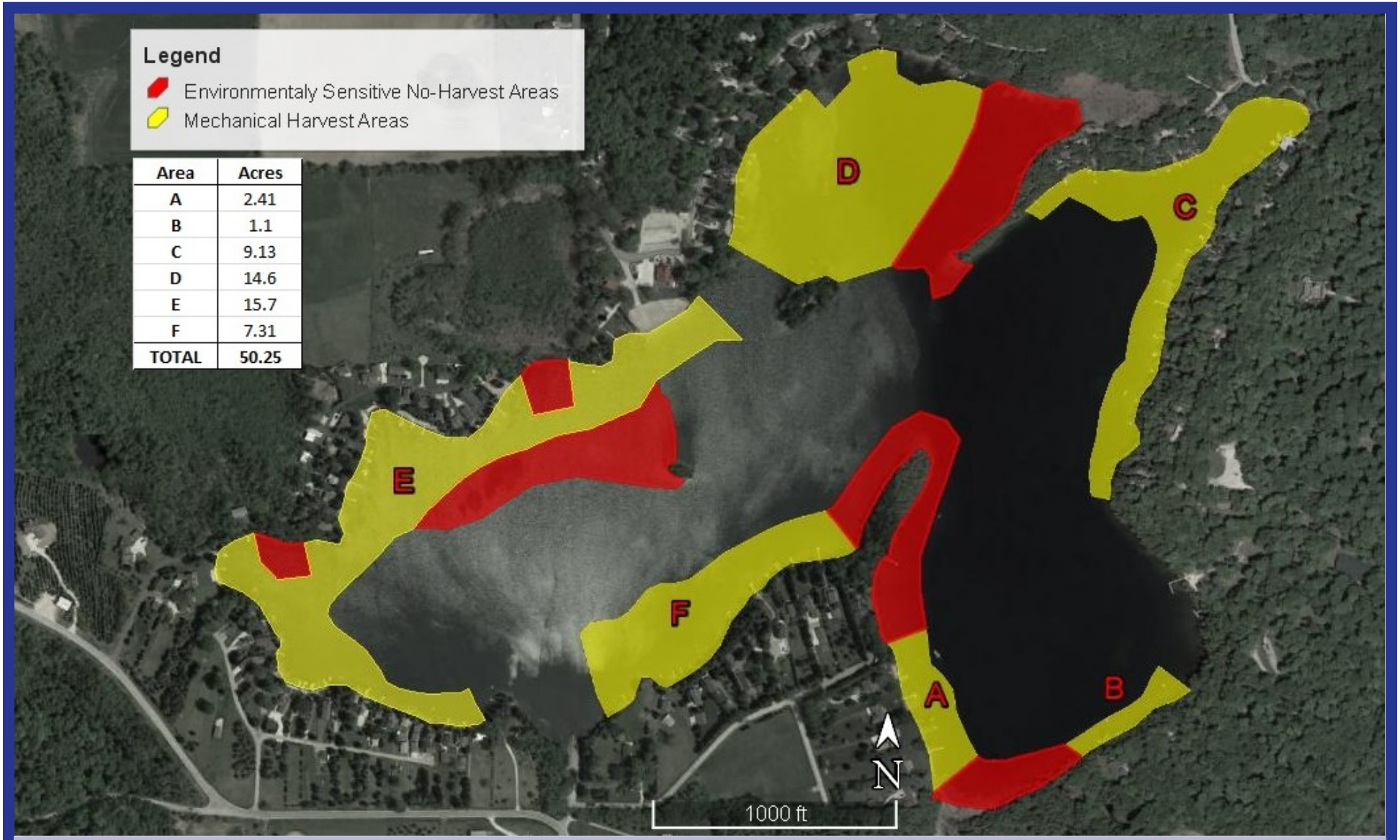
White water lily: Areas 5 & 6

Watershield: Area 5

Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource LLC
"Providing Professional Resources for Management of Your Lake or Pond"
www.WisconsinLPR.com (920) 872-2032

Environmentally Sensitive Areas

Cedar Lake, Manitowoc County
Surveyed: July 6 & 8, 2016
Figure 9

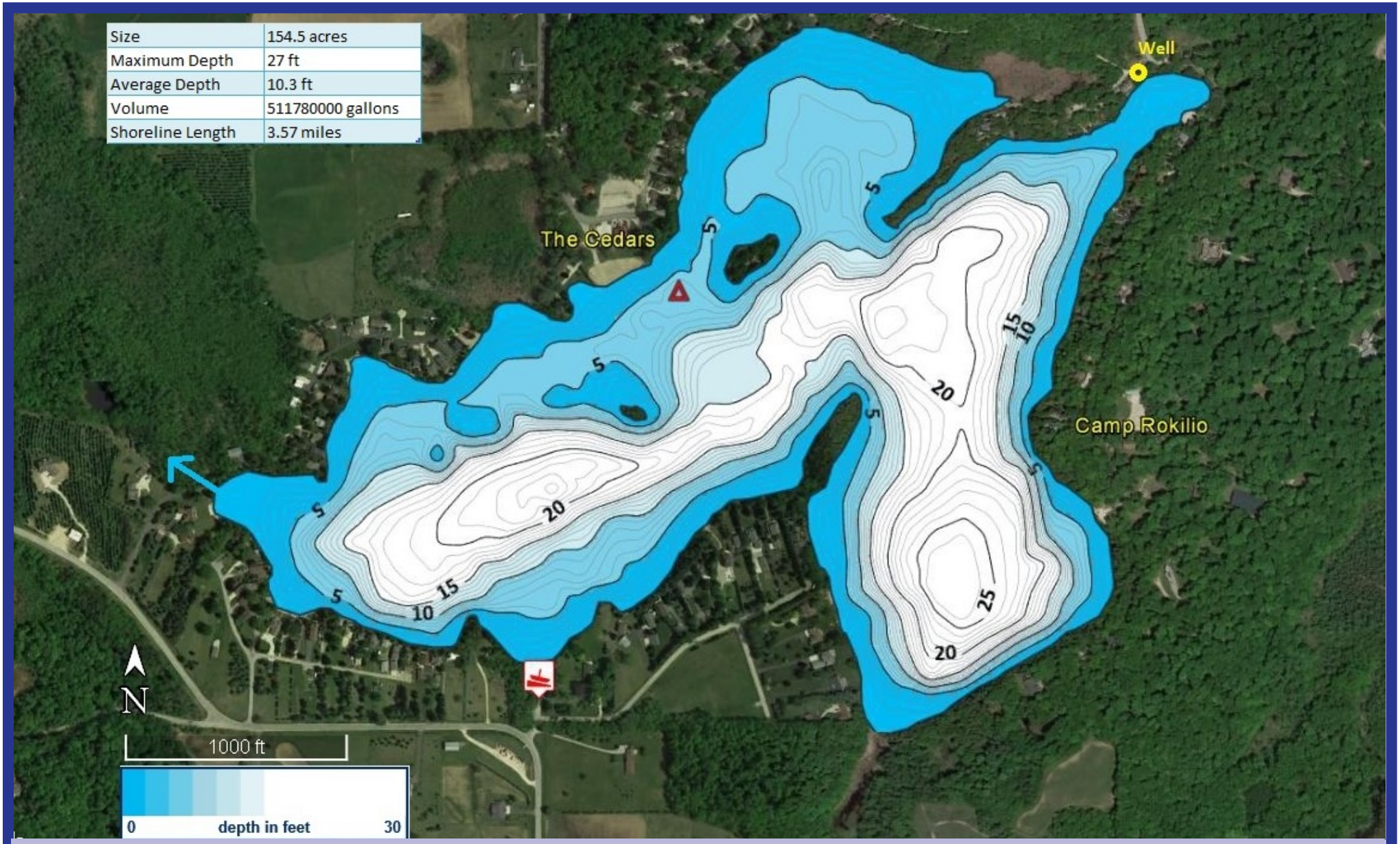


Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource LLC
"Providing Professional Resources for Management of Your Lake or Pond"
www.WisconsinLPR.com (920) 872-2032

Mechanical Harvesting Areas

Cedar Lake, Manitowoc County
Figure 10

NOTE: The District may only harvest within the yellow shaded areas for pier, swimming, or boat access.



Cedar Lake

Manitowoc County
Surveyed: July 8, 2016

Town of Schleswig Sanitary District #1 www.townofschleswig.com Commissioners: Richard Jens, Scott Otterson, & John Brotz