

## PROJECT SCOPE

Project Title: Clear Lake Property Owners Association- Aquatic Invasive Species Rapid Response Grant for Clear Lake (Sawyer County).

The Clear Lake Property Owners Association in cooperation with Sawyer County Land Conservation Department will conduct an early season herbicide treatment on 4 acres of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM). A whole lake treatment for EWM occurred in 2001 and 2001 with good success. EWM reappeared in 2003 and the association has treated in 2006 (4.5 acres) and 2007 (4.0 acres). The association is currently working on an APM plan.

The project includes the following goals:

1. An early season herbicide treatment on 4 acres of EWM in Clear Lake to control the spread. ✓ 08, 09
2. Monitor the EWM throughout the year to determine efficacy of the herbicide treatment and to continue the mapping of EWM. ✓

Project deliverables include:

1. The outcome of the treatment described should show evidence of declining EWM populations in treated areas and the response of native aquatic plants. ✓
2. EWM will be mapped prior to treatment and after treatment. The lake will be surveyed for EWM in mid July through Mid August after the herbicide treatment to determine efficacy of the treatment and regrowth. ✓

Specific conditions for this Project:

- The WDNR will be provided electronic and hard copies of all data and or reports/plans generated as a result of this project. ✓
- Implement the pre and post treatment monitoring protocol (DNR May, 2007). (NOT Done)
- Summary report on the effectiveness of the treatment. ✓
- Obtain an APM permit prior to awarding of this grant. ✓

November 2, 2009

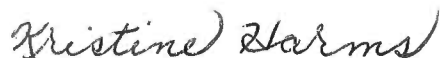
Mr. Jim Kreitlow  
Northern Region Headquarters  
107 Sutliff Ave  
Rhineland, WI 54501

Dear Mr. Kreitlow,

I am writing to you in regard to Clear Lake AIS control grant AIRR-035-08. I have enclosed a final report and done my best to include all of the deliverables expected to be found by the DNR in such a report. Please let me know your assessment of this report.

If the report meets your expectations, the Clear Lake Property Owners Association (CLPOA) respectfully requests payment of the DNR's 75% portion of the 2009 EWM treatment.

Sincerely,



Kristine Harms, president  
Clear Lake Property Owners Association, Inc.

Kris Harms  
1302 21<sup>st</sup> Ave NE  
Rochester, MN 55906  
(507) 288-9479

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)  
Control Grant  
Final Report of Project No.  
AIRR-035-08

Clear Lake Native Ecosystem  
Preservation Project

Clear Lake Property Owners Association, Inc.

Kristine M. Harms, president  
CLPOA, Inc  
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(507) 288-9479

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GPS co-ordinates used on June 10, 2008

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Location of EWM plants removed by hand in the summer of 2008

Figure 4

Visual representation of the 1.75 acres treated on June 4, 2009

Figure 5

GPS co-ordinates used on June 4, 2009

Figure 6

Location of EWM plants removed by hand in the summer of 2009

**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant  
Final Report:  
Clear Lake Native Ecosystem Preservation Project  
Clear Lake Property Owners Association, Inc.**

The Clear Lake Property Owner's Association, Inc. is pleased to submit, with appreciation, this final report of activities undertaken in response to the WDNR Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant in 2008 and 2009. (Project No. AIRR-035-08) The association is honored to work together with the Wisconsin DNR to conserve the ecosystem of Clear Lake, Sawyer County, Wisconsin.

**Utilization of Grant Funding**

As outlined in our grant application, the grant funds were utilized to add significantly to the control of the growth of the invasive species Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) in Clear Lake.

In June of 2008, growth of EWM was treated with the aquatic herbicide Navigate by Mr. Dale Dressel (of Northern Aquatic Services) under contract with the Clear Lake Property Association (CLPOA) under the terms of our AIS Control Grant cited above. Planning for this treatment was carefully undertaken with the professional assistance of Ms. Kristy Maki, Sawyer County Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist.

Treatment of 4 acres of Clear Lake was undertaken utilizing GPS coordinates as shown on the attached map, Figure 1 and document, Figure 2. These areas were selected for the density of plant growth, and the impracticality of physical removal. The largest affected area consisted of approximately two acres of contiguous growth reaching the surface of the lake. Application was carried out at a rate of 125 pounds of Navigate per acre as advised by our professional consultants.

This treatment resulted in dramatic reduction of EWM growth in the regions treated. Happily there was no apparent damage to native plants that were in abundance and variety in all of these areas on subsequent inspection.

Those expenses not covered by the AIS Control Grant in this effort were covered by voluntary donations to the lake association. The CLPOA has been supporting control of EWM financially and through volunteer efforts since recognition of infestation in 1999.

In June of 2009, recurrent growth of EWM was again treated with the aquatic herbicide Navigate by Mr. Dale Dressel. Once more, planning for this treatment was carefully undertaken with the professional assistance of Ms. Kristy Maki, Sawyer County Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist.

Treatment of 1.75 acres of Clear Lake was undertaken utilizing GPS coordinates as shown on Figure 5. Originally, the plan was to treat 4 acres, but in late May the acreage was reduced to 1.75 acres based on a visual survey of the proposed treatment area. Application was carried out at a rate of 150 pounds of Navigate per acre.

The native plants in the two regions treated and on the lake as a whole, are thriving.

Those expenses not covered by the Rapid Response Grant in this effort were covered by voluntary donations to the lake association.

In late June of 2009, a visual survey of the lake found only a few EWM plants. These were removed and at that time, all visible evidence of EWM was eradicated. Unfortunately, a widespread resurgence of EWM was seen during a visual survey carried out in August. (See Figure 6)

## **Volunteer Control Efforts**

The leadership of the Clear Lake Property Owners Association has utilized a significant segment of each meeting to educate the membership on invasive species, identifying samples brought to the meeting in laminated displays and samples in jars. As a result, members are becoming very familiar with the behavior of invasive species and best practices toward control.

Members of the Clear Lake Property Owners Association were also principally involved in follow-up monitoring of the condition of the lake. Permanent residents of the lake make a daily circumferential inspection of the lake and report evidence of re-growth to association leadership. Shallow re-growth has been carefully removed manually from the lake bottom and destroyed. This work has been largely performed by the president of the association after instruction by Ms. Maki. Another member of the association was a certified SCUBA diver and regularly harvested plants in areas too deep to approach via snorkel and mask. In each case, observers were utilized to assure capture of any fragments created by the removal of the parent plants. An excess of one hundred hours of effort has been given by members in monitoring and removing Eurasian Water Milfoil. The Association members do not expect financial recognition of this effort and have met the financial obligations of each grant received through private donations. The accompanying map shows areas where plants were physically removed in 2009. (Figure 6) Numerous EWM plants were also manually removed in 2008. (Figure 3)

These efforts together, though not eradicating the invasive species, have held its growth in check. As a result of these treatments, EWM currently has no visible impact on the ecosystem, there has been a widely-recognized improvement in the fishery, and growth has had no negative impact on recreation within the lake. Upon most recent inspection in September of 2009, Eurasian Water Milfoil is still widely distributed but is at a very low density.

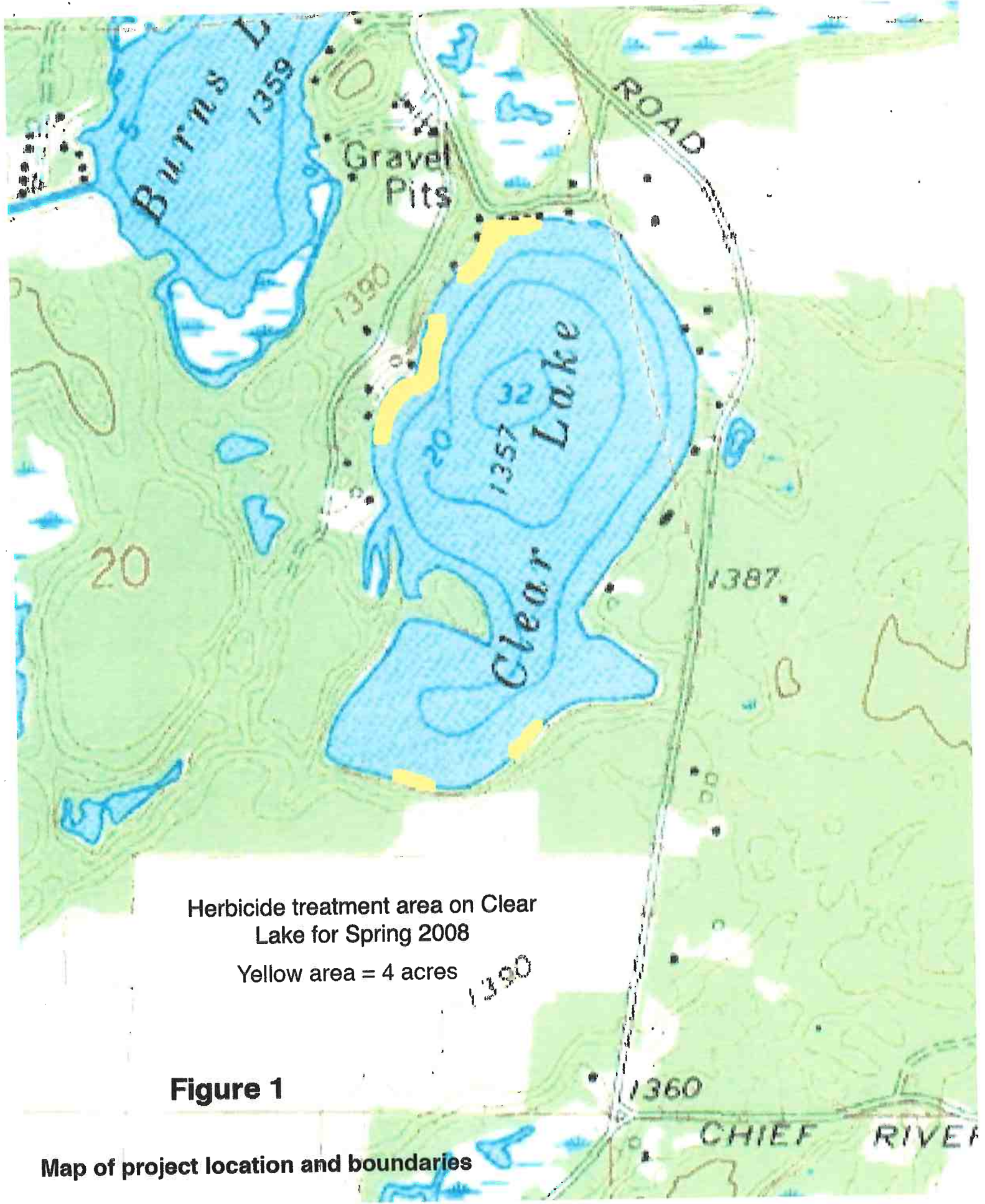
Of greatest importance, these volunteer efforts have diminished the number of plants most susceptible to spread by fragmentation.

## **Conclusion**

Clear Lake in Sawyer County is particularly susceptible to damage by Eurasian Water Milfoil, and the membership of CLPOA has recognized that its control will be an ongoing effort. Through education, financial donations, and physical effort, the association has demonstrated its willingness to partner with the DNR to conserve the natural ecosystem of Clear Lake. The Association wishes once again to express appreciation for the guidance, education, and funding help provided by the Wisconsin DNR. Any questions about the activities of the association, the utilization of these most important grant dollars, or opportunity to partner with private owners in securing the future of Clear Lake can be directed to the following officers of the CLPOA board.

Kristine Harms, President  
Robert Gluek, Vice-President  
Ann Smereczniak, Secretary  
Paul Schwister, Treasurer  
Frank Tyson, Member-at-Large





Herbicide treatment area on Clear Lake for Spring 2008  
Yellow area = 4 acres

**Figure 1**

**Map of project location and boundaries**

# Northern Aquatic Services

1061 240<sup>TH</sup> STREET DRESSER WI 54009 715-495-5252 WORK 715-755-3507 HOME

## Professional Aquatic Weed Control Services

### Area 1 (1.5 Acres) these points to shore

Clear 1A	Clear Lake	N46 01 01.1 W91 15 56.0
Clear 1B	Clear Lake	N46 01 01.7 W91 15 59.5
Clear 1C	Clear Lake	N46 01 02.1 W91 16 02.5
Clear 1D	Clear Lake	N46 01 03.3 W91 16 04.4
Clear 1E	Clear Lake	N46 01 03.6 W91 16 04.7

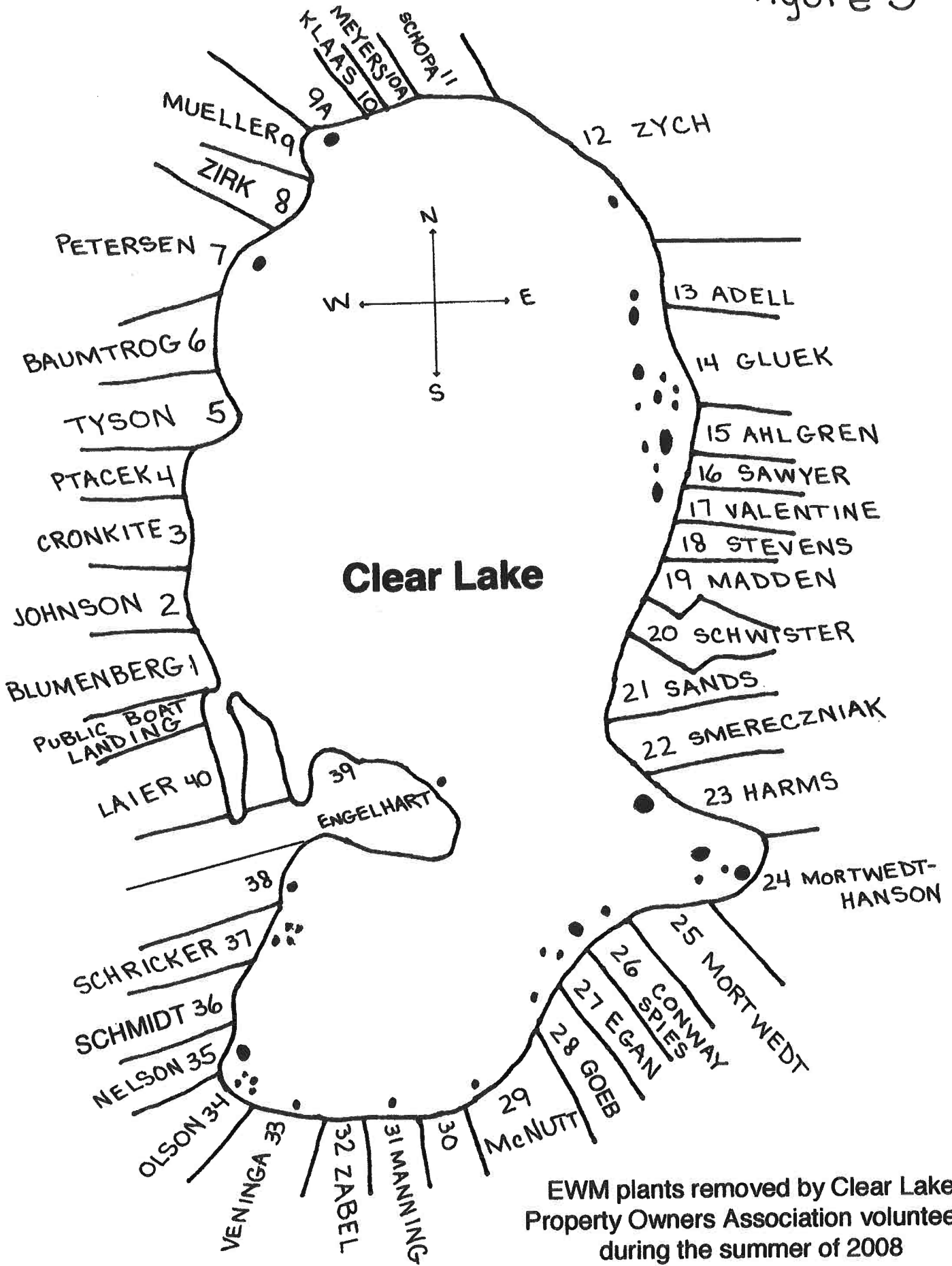
### Area 2 (2.5 Acres) these points to shore

Clear 2A	Clear Lake	N46 01 19.9 W91 16 00.6
Clear 2B	Clear Lake	N46 01 20.1 W91 15 59.1
Clear 2C	Clear Lake	N46 01 23.2 W91 15 58.1
Clear 2D	Clear Lake	N46 01 25.1 W91 15 55.7
Clear 2E	Clear Lake	N46 01 27.5 W91 15 52.5
Clear 2F	Clear Lake	N46 01 27.5 W91 15 49.7
Clear 2G	Clear Lake	N46 01 27.2 W91 15 46.9

EWM Treatment  
GPS coordinates from 2008  
Clear Lake  
Sawyer County  
Wisconsin

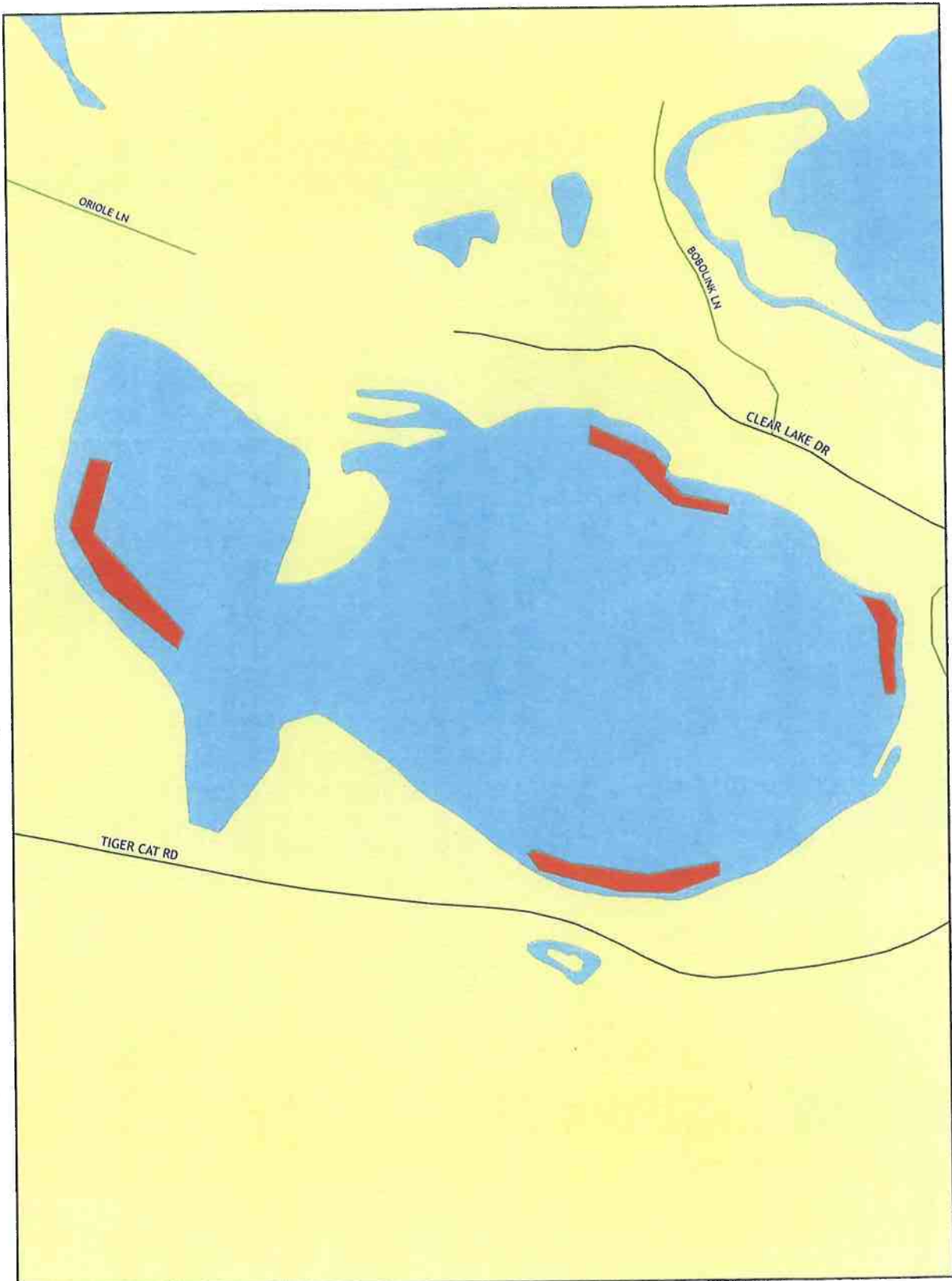
**Figure 2**

Figure 3



**Figure 4**

**Clear Lake 2009 Proposed Treatment**



Proposed treatment area = 4.0 acres

# Northern Aquatic Services

1061 240<sup>th</sup> street Dresser WI 54009 715-495-5252 work 715-755-3507 home

## Professional Aquatic Weed Control Services

### 2009 Clear Lake Treatment Areas

CA 1	N46 01.466 W91 15.801	
CA 2	N46 01.451 W91 15.804	
CA 3	N46 01.469 W91 15.858	.75 Acres
CA 4	N46 01.449 W91 15.896	
CA 5	N46 01.453 W91 15.844	
CB 1	N46 01.372 W91 15.981	
CB 2	N46 01.310 W91 16.022	
CB 3	N46 01.308 W91 16.000	.75 Acres
CB 4	N46 01.369 W91 15.969	
CC 1	N46 01.023 W91 16.002	
CC 2	N46 01.010 W91 16.005	
CC 3	N46 01.023 W91 15.980	.25 Acres
CC 4	N46 01.009 W91 15.982	

GPS Coordinates for 2009  
Clear Lake  
Sawyer County  
Wisconsin

**Figure 5**

Figure 6

