

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIE EARLY DETECTION SURVEY
AUGUSTA LAKE (86028400)
STEARNS/WRIGHT COUNTIES, MINNESOTA

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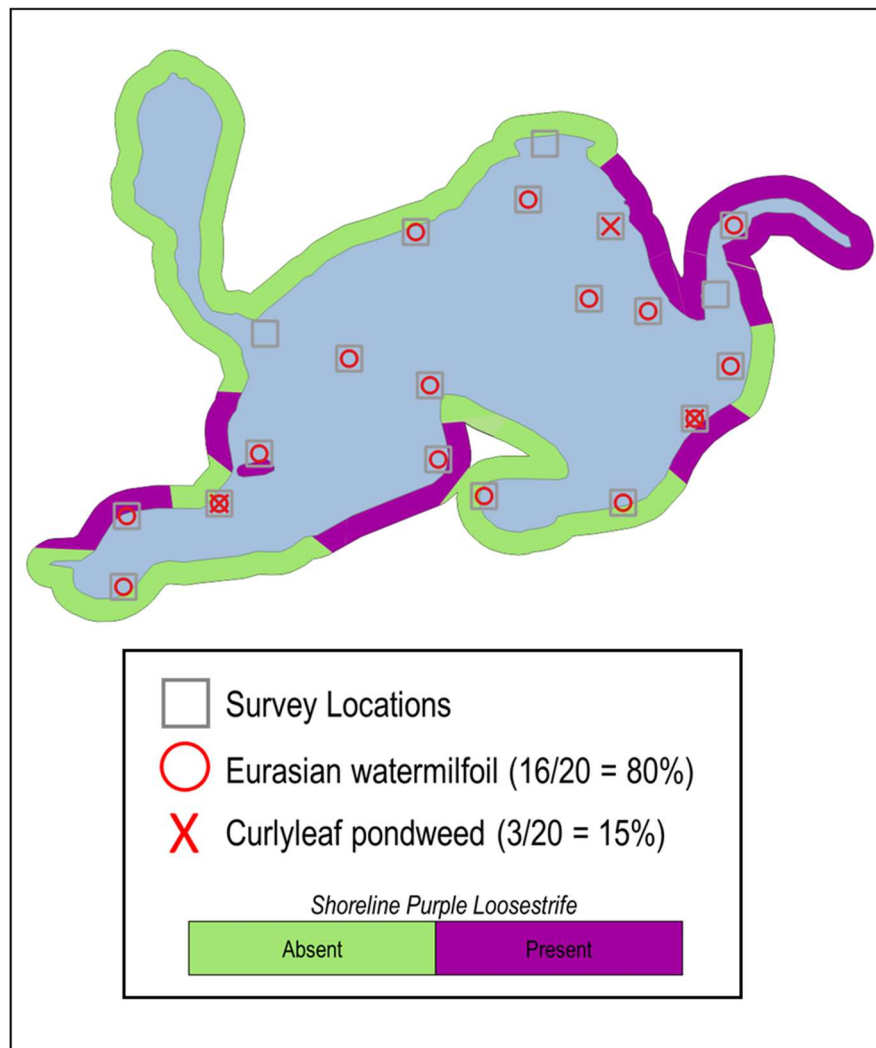
Prepared for
Augusta Lake Association

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Executive Summary

A meandering 20-point AIS Early Detection Survey was conducted by Limnopro Aquatic Science, Inc. on August 19, 2018 at Lake Augusta. Points were determined randomly using a GIS computer program prior to the survey. We traveled to each point while observing shoreline vegetation and underwater vegetation where we were able to see. We used an exhaustive sampling approach where at each of the points we threw a standard double-sided aquatic plant rake from all directions of the boat until we were not pulling up any new plant species. We targeted inspections primarily for starry stonewort, Eurasian watermilfoil, curlyleaf pondweed, purple loosestrife, flowering rush, rusty crayfish, and zebra mussels but also looked for other known MN AIS including brittle naiad, phragmites, yellow iris and mystery snails. Conditions at the time of the survey showed water temperatures of 79.3 °F with limited visibility through the water column due to turbid conditions, likely from summer algae growth. We found three invasive species previously known to be in Lake Augusta including Eurasian watermilfoil (16 of 20 sites), new grow of curlyleaf pondweed (3/20) for 2019 crop, and purple loosestrife occurring sparsely along approximately half of the shoreline, mixed in with cattails. No other invasive species were detected.

2018 Lake Augusta AIS



Three Aquatic Invasive Species, including Eurasian watermilfoil, curlyleaf pondweed, and purple loosestrife, were detected in Augusta Lake on August 19, 2018 during a meandering survey of 20 points. EWM was found at 16 of 20 points and CLP was found at 3 of 20 points. Typically, we do not see CLP until early spring. The plants that were detected were young and small and likely new growth for the 2019 crop. Purple loosestrife was in flower and at scattered locations along the shoreline mixed with cattails. While zebra mussels were reported in Augusta lake in 2017, we found no evidence of their existence during our survey. We also found no evidence that the lake has been infested by starry stonewort, brittle naiad, flowering rush, phragmites, yellow iris, rusty crayfish or mystery snails. An additional AIS survey will be conducted at 20 different points after September 15, 2018.