

# Buffalo Lake

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Clarity Report of August 13,  
2014



Land & Water Conservation Department

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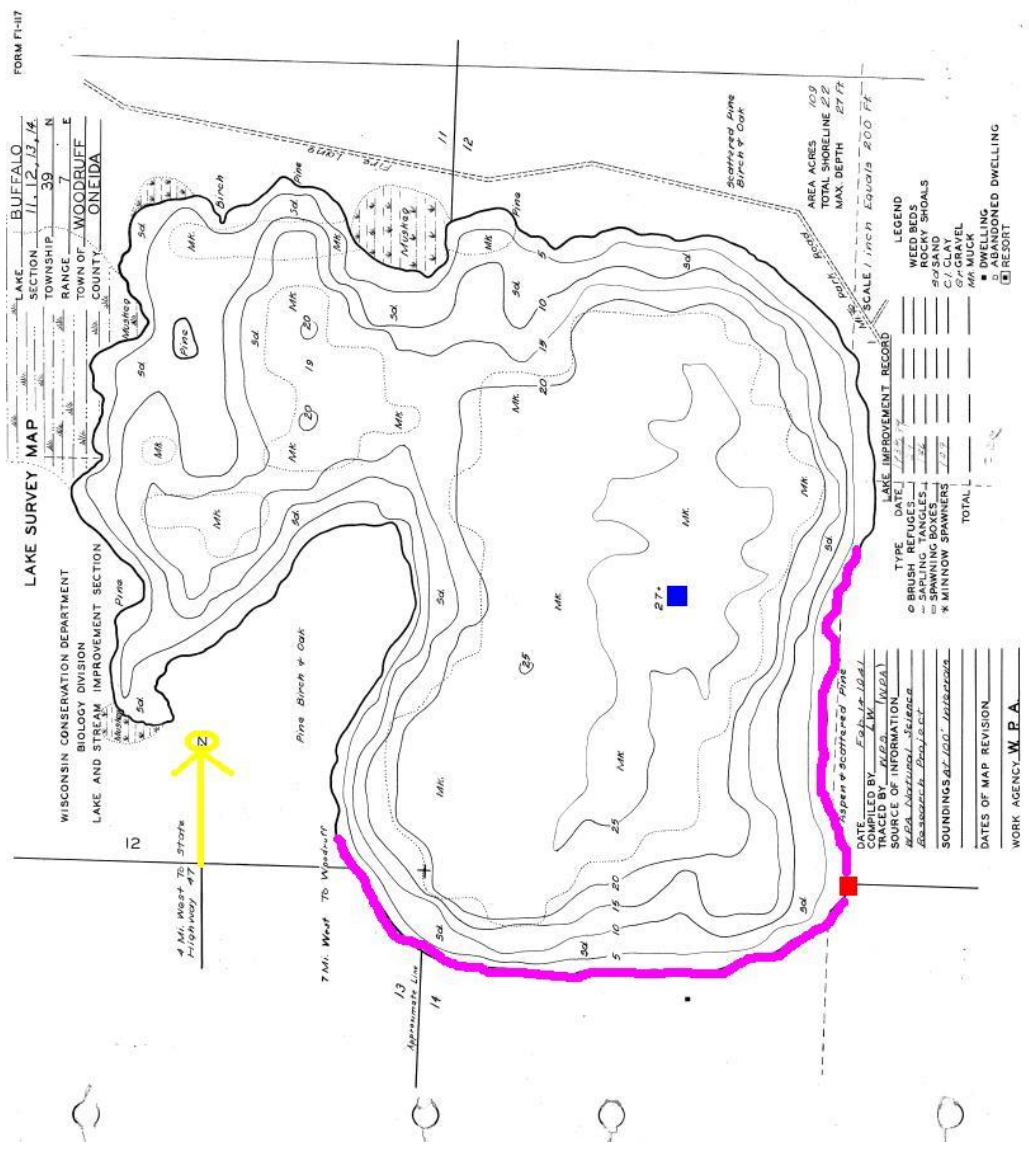
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## **Buffalo Lake AIS Monitoring and Water Clarity Report**

WBIC: 974200  
Previous AIS Findings: Chinese Mystery Snails  
New AIS Findings: None  
Field Date: August 13, 2014  
Field Crew: Stephanie Boismenu and Alyssa Nycz, AIS Project Assistants,  
Oneida County Land and Water Conservation Department  
Report by: Alyssa Nycz

Stephanie and I monitored Buffalo Lake on Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>. We accessed this lake from the public boat landing located on the campground along the eastern side of the lake. We navigated to the lake's deep hole (Figure 1), where we anchored at a depth of 20 feet. We used our GPS to map the coordinates of this location, and we recorded a Secchi disk reading of 11 feet.

The wind speed picked up significantly while we were anchored at the lake's deep hole, so we decided to monitor one long stretch of the southern shoreline to avoid fighting the wind. We began to monitor the shoreline where a large stairway is cut into a hill on shore. We continued south along the shoreline, past a second set of stairs, the public beach, the boat launch, and most of the private residences along the south end of the lake. Once we had reached the end of our stretch, we canoed back the way we came, moving much closer into shore to better observe the presence/absence of AIS. Finally, we got out of the canoe and walked a short distance from either side of the boat landing, using Aquascopes to check for anything of concern. The entire stretch was very sandy. The only vegetation we observed was southwest of the boat landing, and even this vegetation was sparse. We found a few Chinese mystery snails in the same area, but we did not observe any other aquatic life. Chinese mystery snails were previously discovered on Buffalo Lake, so our findings are not surprising. What Stephanie and I found most surprising is the lack of vegetation and aquatic life in the areas of Buffalo Lake where we monitored.



**Figure 1.** Please note that we have flipped the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' contour map of Buffalo Lake so the north end of the lake is pointed upwards, as marked by the yellow arrow. Additionally, the red square marks the boat landing, the blue square marks the deep hole, and the pink lines represent areas of the shoreline where we visually monitored for the presence/absence of AIS.