

Rice Lake

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 Clarity Report of June 24, 2015



Land & Water Conservation Department

*Jean Hansen, County Conservationist
Michele Sadauskas, AIS Coordinator
Jonna Stephens Jewell, Program Assistant*

Oneida County Courthouse
P O Box 400, Rhinelander, Wisconsin 54501
Phone (715) 369-7835 Fax (715) 369-6268

Rice Lake AIS Monitoring and Water Clarity Report

WBIC: 1617200
Previous AIS Findings: None
New AIS Findings: None
Field Date: June 24, 2015
Field Crew: Stephanie Boismenu and Samantha Zommers, AIS Project Assistants, Oneida County Land and Water Conservation Department
Report By: Samantha Zommers

Stephanie and I monitored Rice Lake on June 24th, 2015. Rice Lake is located in the town of Three Lakes (Figure 1). It is a drainage lake of 122 acres and maximum depth of 3 feet. The substrate on the lake is 99% muck with brown, turbid waters. Although the lake is shallow and turbid, there are still panfish present. Rice Lake's trophic state is listed as eutrophic. Eutrophic lakes are characterized by an excessive amount of nutrients, allowing the lake to support an abundance of plants and algae. Rice Lake is completely surrounded and protected by the Thunder Lake State Wildlife Area.

Since there is no access point to this lake through a landing or drop area, Stephanie and I navigated through a channel that runs alongside Rice Lake Road. We lowered the canoe into the channel and navigated into the lake. On our way down the channel, we had to maneuver over two beaver dams. There was a storm coming in during the afternoon which made the skies cloudy and the lake windy. We did our best to get the monitoring done well and finished in time to avoid the storms.

The depth finder was used during our monitoring to find a deep point (Figure 2) on the lake since there is no contour map available through the Department of Natural Resources. Stephanie navigated the canoe until we found a good anchoring point. At this anchoring deep point we took the GPS point of our locations and did measurements on water clarity using the Secchi disk, dissolved oxygen using the dissolved oxygen meter, and temperature (Table 1).

After data collection, we paddled to five locations of the lake shore to perform an AIS presence/absence check (Figure 2). The protocol for this process is to complete a visual inspection of the littoral zone along 100 feet of the shoreline in each area. For the five locations of AIS presence/absence checks, we meandered the shoreline via walking along the shoreline, looking through vegetation, and checking under and around solid surfaces. In addition to the five presence/absence checks, we also visually inspected from the canoe for the entire shoreline of the lake.

Findings:

Aquatic Invasive Species:

Fortunately, there were no invasive species discovered while monitoring this lake.

Secchi:

The Secchi reading on this lake was 1 foot out of a 3 foot max depth. The water color was murky and brown which made for a short Secchi reading.

Dissolved Oxygen:

These measurements can be seen on Table 1.

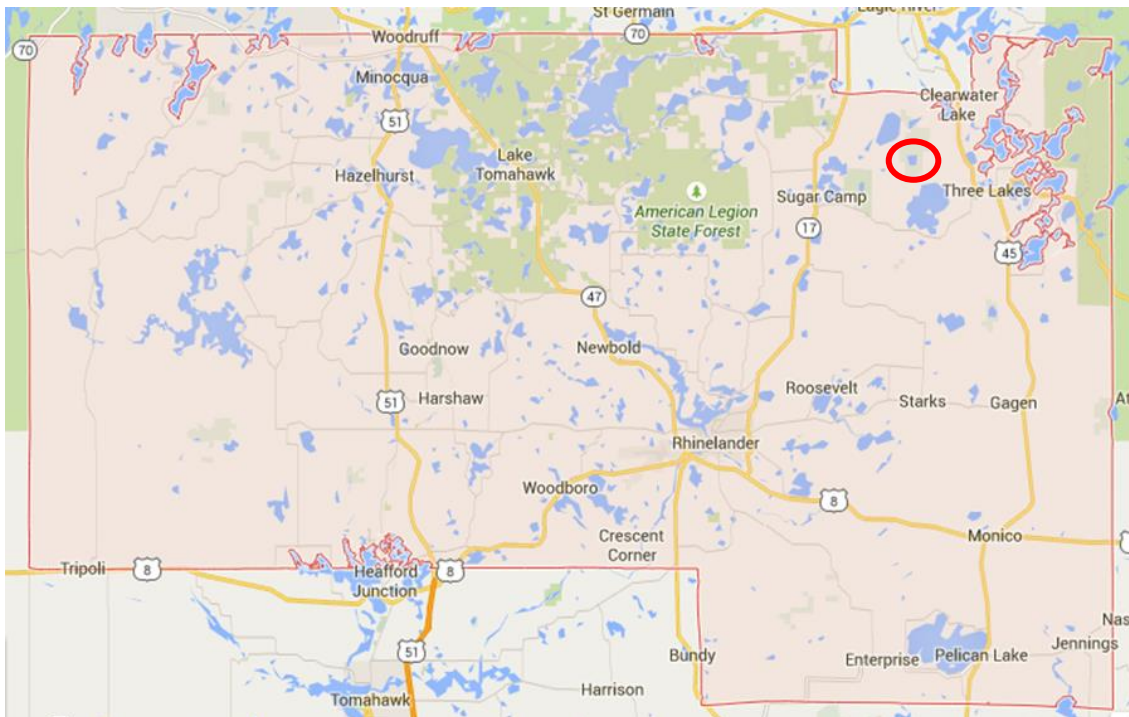


Figure 1. Map of Oneida County, WI with Rice Lake circled.

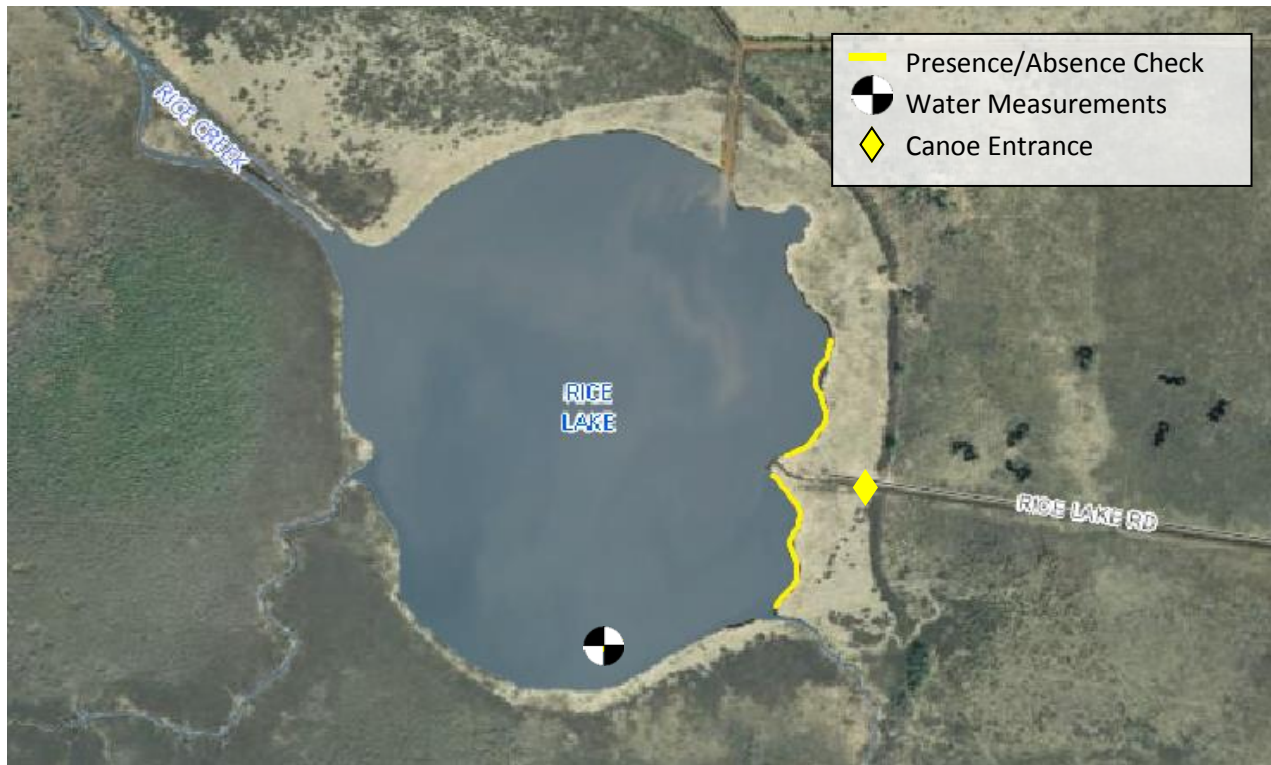


Figure 2. Map of Rice Lake with our presence/absence checks, deep hole, and canoe entrance.

Water Quality GPS Coordinate: 45.81455, -89.23058

Table 1. Dissolved oxygen levels and temperatures at the deep hole.

Depth (Feet)	Dissolved Oxygen Levels (mg/L)	Temperature (F)
1	8.35	75.4
2	8.38	74.7

Resources: <http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/lakepages/LakeDetail.aspx?wbic=1617200&page=facts>