

Swamsauger Lake

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Clarity Report of August 7,
2014



Land & Water Conservation Department

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Swamsauger Lake AIS Monitoring and Water Clarity Report

WBIC: 1528700
Previous AIS Findings: Chinese Mystery Snails
New AIS Findings: None
Field Date: August 7, 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 Swamsauger Lake on Thursday, August 7th. We find it important to note that the drive to and from Swamsauger Lake is very lengthy, in part because many of the roads in this portion of Oneida County are unpaved. When we arrived at the lake's public boat access, we immediately noticed an "exotic species advisory" sign, which stated that the lake has purple loosestrife. We do not have prior documentation of any purple loosestrife findings on Swamsauger Lake, and Stephanie and I did not find any on the lake during our monitoring, either. We did observe a small patch of fireweed and two larger patches of pickerel weed which has flowered, producing light purple flower columns which may be mistakenly identified as purple loosestrife. We are curious as to if there is actually purple loosestrife on the lake, or if look-a-like plants were incorrectly identified.

Stephanie and I were unable to locate the lake's deep hole at 15 feet, but we did navigate to the general area as indicated by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' contour map and anchored there to collect our data (Figure 1, Table 1). We recorded a Secchi disk reading of only 1.5 feet. The water is a murky reddish-brown color. We found the dissolved oxygen measurements to be lower than all previous lakes we have monitored, with the exception of Burrow's Lake.

The first area of the shoreline we visually monitored was just to the west of the lake's deep site. It was difficult for us to see any vegetation or aquatic life due to the lake's poor water clarity. Additionally, there were no obvious beaches where we could walk along the shoreline for monitoring purposes.

The second length of shoreline we monitored was north of our first location. The water was shallower here, so we were able to observe some vegetation, including a large patch of pickerel weed that has flowered. It is at this location where we found invasive Canadian thistle growing along the shoreline and extending a few feet out into the water.

Finally, we meandered along the shoreline on both sides of the boat launch. A second patch of pickerel weed is located on the northern side of the launch and directly behind the "exotic species advisory" sign. We saw one Chinese Mystery Snail floating on the water's surface near the

boat landing. The lake has been previously documented to contain Chinese Mystery snails, so our finding is not new.

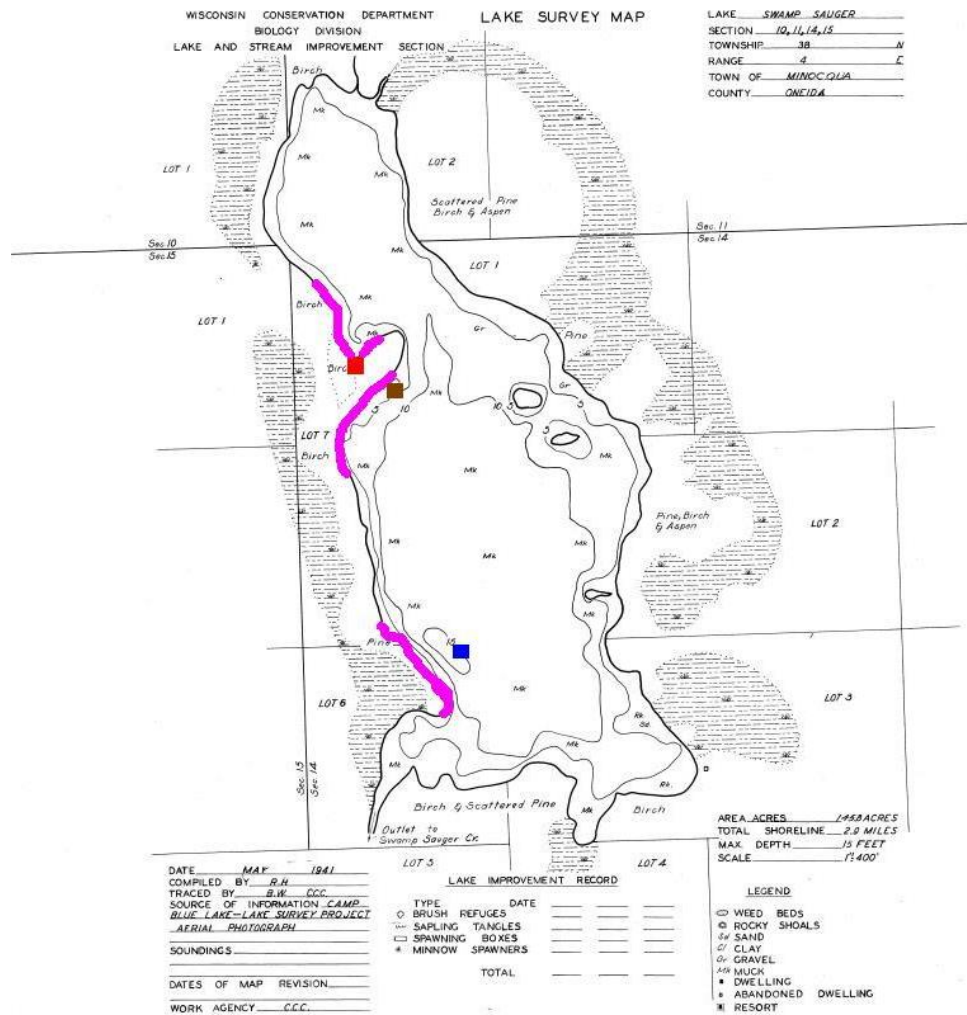


Figure 1. A map of Swamsauger Lake: the pink lines represent approximate areas where we scanned the shoreline for the presence/absence of AIS, the brown square marks where we identified Canadian thistle, the red square marks the boat landing, and the blue square marks our deep hole site.

Table 1. Dissolved oxygen levels and temperature readings were taken at our deep hole site, which fluctuated between 13 and 14 feet.

Depth	Dissolved Oxygen Level	Temperature Reading
1'	6.92 mg/L	76.2°F
4'	7.04 mg/L	73.6°F
7'	2.76 mg/L	70.0°F
10'	0.67 mg/L	67.7°F