

FIELD NOTES

Lake: Joslin Lake, Washtenaw County, MI

Date of Observation: 05 September 2012

Summary

The day was partly cloudy, warm, and windy. The water clarity was excellent and plants were visible to depths greater than 10'.

The lake appeared to have been seriously impacted by the widespread decline of starry stonewort. Starry stonewort production was limited to several AROS's scattered throughout the the lake.

Nuisance conditions were not generally found throughout the lake. Milfoil was conspicuously absent from most areas of the lake. A genetic variant of variable milfoil was found throughout the entire lake. Densities were low, but may have been considered to have reached nuisance levels by some lake user.

Details

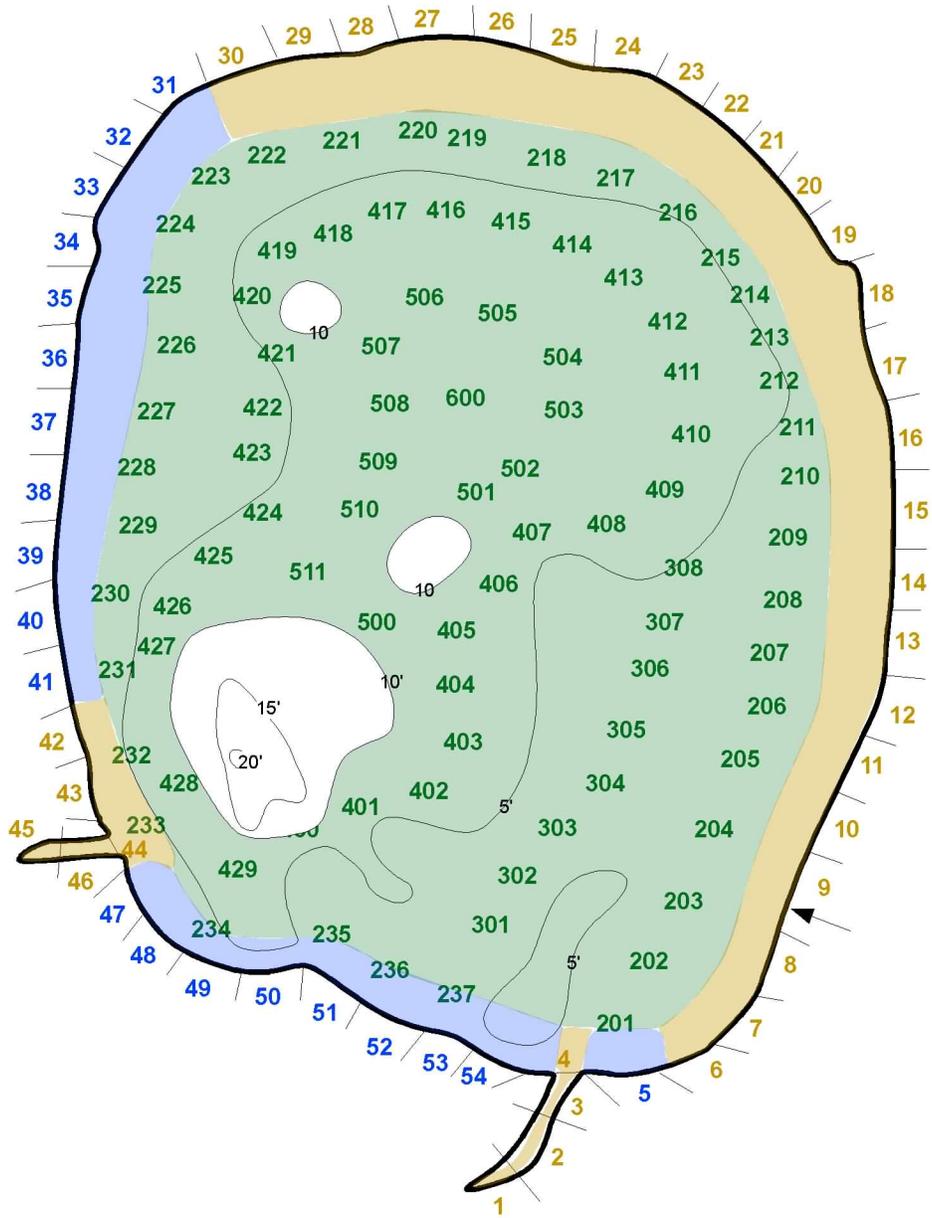
Starry stonewort appeared to be in decline throughout most of the lake. Decline events are seemingly a common characteristic of this plant and these events have profound impacts on the lake ecology. Declines of sufficient magnitude are usually accompanied by bad odors and poor water clarity. The starry stonewort decline in Joslin Lake did not appear to be large enough to create odorous conditions, but some may have noticed odors in the immediate vicinity of some of the declining patches. Starry stonewort will recover from this decline and is expected resume it's dominance of the lake flora by early next year.

Variable pondweed and wild celery were observed throughout the lake. Variable pondweed was clearly the dominant plant and may have been considered to be growing at nuisance levels by some lake users. This plant is considered to be a native species and control is restricted by the MI DEQ to only those areas that are less than 5' deep and less than 300' from shore or whichever area is the smaller.

Wild celery and variable milfoil were present in many areas around the lake, but were not considered to be growing at nuisance levels.

Summary Prescriptives

No additional treatment is recommended for this year. The growth of variable milfoil, variable pondweed and wild celery shall be closely watched. Should variable pondweed grow at similar levels in 2013, permitting negotiations may be required to obtain the permits necessary to alleviate nuisance conditions in off-shore areas. However, it is highly likely that starry stonewort will extirpate nuisance pondweeds in 2013 and such negotiation will not be necessary.



Joslin Lake MZL Map