

## FIELD NOTES

**Lake:** Whitmore Lake, Washtenaw and Livingston Co's., MI  
**Date of Observation:** 29 May 2012  
**Activity:** Visual Surveillance of Current Conditions

### Summary

The day was mostly sunny and clear but breezy. The water clarity was excellent and the water level was near normal levels for this time of the year.

Ebrid (Eurasian x northern water milfoil hybrid) milfoil appears to be diminishing as a dominant plant in Whitmore Lake. Hybrid pondweed and hybrid broad leaf pondweed were dominant in the lake at the time of this survey. It was observed; however, growing as a thin strip, approx. 10' to 30' wide along many of the northern shorelines. Off-shore patches were smaller than observed last year and may not be considered to be a nuisance.

Two distinct types of what appears to be pondweed hybrids were found as scattered individual plants or patches of differing sizes in most of the AROS's. These were the dominant plants in the lake and the primary nuisance in the water ski course. It was considered to be a nuisance in some nearshore areas.

Sago pondweed was also observed growing at nuisance levels in areas that contained the hybrid pondweeds and milfoil.

Starry stonewort did not seem to be growing aggressively at this time. This is considered to be a benefit.

Note: Nuisance conditions were not observed to cover as large an area as depicted by the Aqua-Weed maps. Starry stonewort and some off-shore milfoil beds may need to be treated later in the summer, depending on future growth and production. Wild celery was also unusually dense along the eastern central shore and may require attention in late July.

## Summary Prescriptives

Nuisance conditions in the lake are the result of co-dominant milfoil and hybrid pondweeds. Some nuisance areas also support sago pondweed growth. A broad spectrum herbicide combination will be needed to alleviate nuisance conditions.

Treatment of various nuisance species is recommended for the following AROS's.

AROS's 4-9: North Shore Area, thin bands milfoil and others

AROS's 72 – 78, and 221 and 222: East Shore Area, mixed plant community, extending up to 100' off-shore

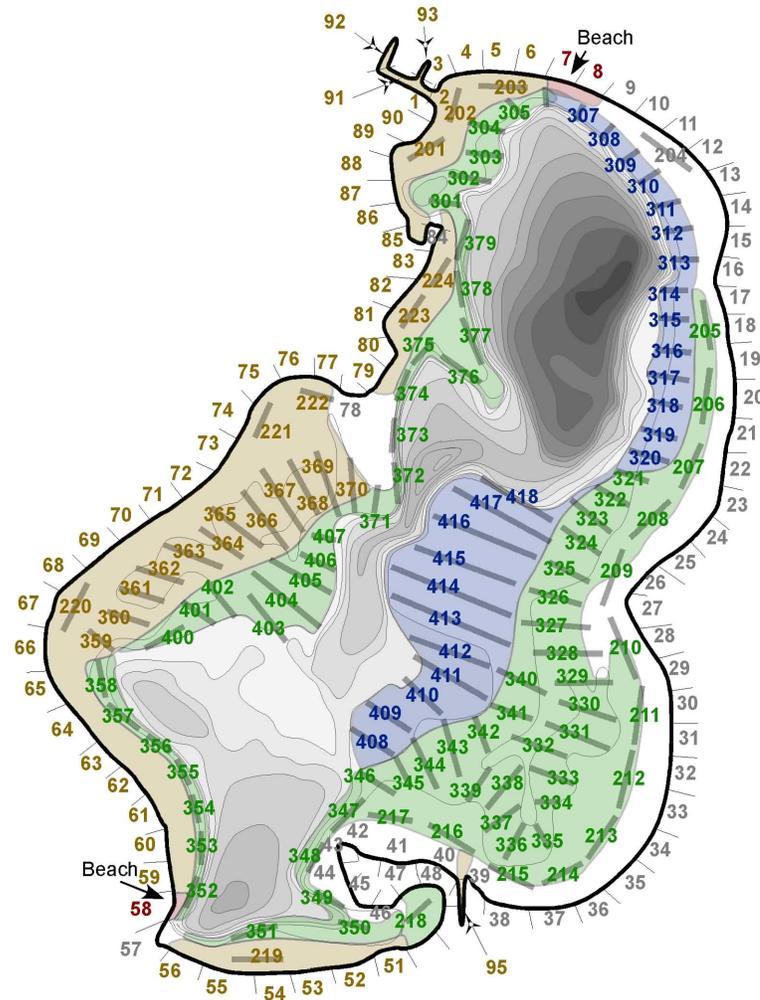
AROS's 92 – 95: Canal in the northwestern part of the lake. Mostly milfoil and curly leaf pondweed, but the opening of this channel is choked very thick sago pondweed. The entrance to this channel is a real mess.,

AROS's 302 – 306: Heavy pondweed growth will impede boaters if not treated.

AROS's 340 – 344 and 376 – 379: These are off shore milfoil "reefs" in approximately 8' of water depth. 200# of 2,4-D BEE is recommended for these areas.

AROS's 355 – 358: Ski Course Area. Nuisance hybrid and broad leaf hybrid pondweeds dominate, but there is plenty of milfoil. Broad spectrum herbicide mixture is strongly recommended or the ski course will be rendered unusable by the Fourth of July. The ski jump was anchored in a milfoil and weedy pondweed bed at AROS 356 to 357. Treatment would not normally be recommended for this area because it is an isolated zone. However, the plants in that area are dominated by milfoil and create a hazard for jumpers.

AROS's 63 – 67: These are the AROS's assigned to the commercial marina areas. Robin's pondweed is growing densely in this area, but provides numerous benefits. There are some hybrid weedy pondweeds and scattered milfoil patches that are considered to be growing to nuisance levels. It is hoped that these nuisance plants can be treated without inflicting too much damage on the Robin's pondweed. The shallow beach and wading areas between the docks and shore in AROS 64 and 65 have become overwhelmed by water lilies. These need to be removed. A follow up treatment, in August, will be needed to achieve longer term control of these nuisance plants.



Whitmore AROS/MZL Map, 2012