

**The Connecticut
Agricultural
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Station**

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Pachaug Pond

Griswold, CT

**Aquatic Vegetation Survey
Water Chemistry
Aquatic Plant Management Options**

2020

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CAES

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Table of Contents

Introduction:	4
Objectives:	7
Materials and Methods:	7
<i>Aquatic Plant Surveys and Mapping:</i>	7
<i>Water Analysis:</i>	8
Results and Discussion:	10
<i>General Aquatic Plant Surveys and Transects:</i>	10
<i>Water Chemistry:</i>	13
<i>Aquatic Vegetation Management Options:</i>	16
Conclusions:	19
Acknowledgments:	19
Funding:	19
References:	20
Appendix	22
<i>Narrative from State Board of Fisheries and Game Lake and Pond Survey Unit – 1959..</i>	23
<i>Previous Years Aquatic Plant Survey Maps</i>	25
<i>Aquatic Plant Survey Maps by Section</i>	29
<i>Invasive Plant Descriptions</i>	35
<i>Transect Data</i>	40

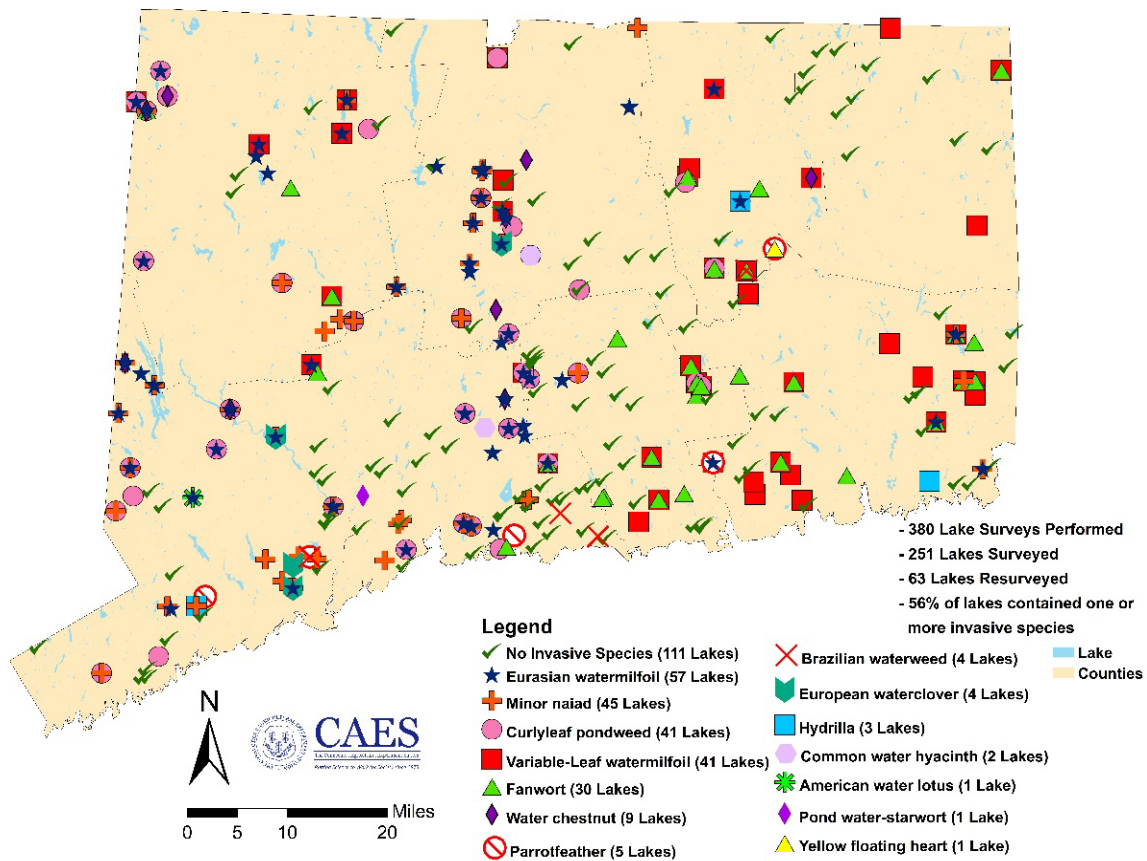


Figure 1. Locations of invasive aquatic plants found by CAES IAPP from 2004 to 2020.

Introduction:

Since 2004 the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) Invasive Aquatic Plant Program (IAPP) has surveyed or resurveyed aquatic vegetation and monitored water chemistry in over 250 Connecticut lakes and ponds (Figure 1). Approximately 60% of the lakes and ponds contain invasive (non-native) plant species that can cause rapid deterioration of aquatic ecosystems and recreation value. The presence of invasive species is related to water chemistry, public boat launches, and random events. The CAES IAPP information is stored on the website portal.ct.gov/caes-iapp where stakeholders can view digitized vegetation maps, detailed transect data, and temperature and dissolved oxygen profiles as well as water test results for clarity, pH, alkalinity, conductivity, and total phosphorus. This

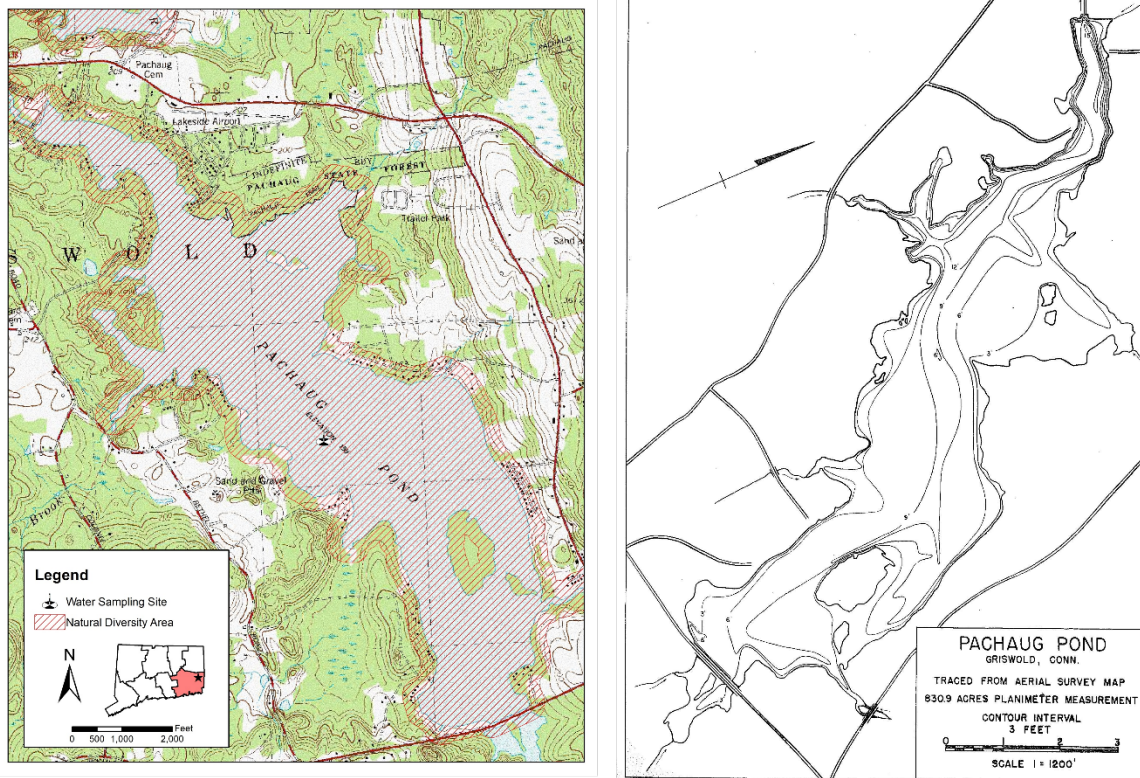


Figure 2. Topographic map of Pachaug Pond including location of state listed species (Natural Diversity Area) and CAES IAPP water sampling site (left) and bathymetry map circa 1959 (right).

information allows citizens, government officials, and scientists to view past conditions, compare them with current conditions, and make educated management decisions. This is the fourth CAES IAPP survey of Pachaug Pond for aquatic vegetation and water chemistry.

Pachaug Pond is an 817-acre waterbody located in Griswold, CT. It has a maximum depth of approximately 16 feet and an average depth of about six feet. The shallow nature of the lake allows a large littoral zone that favors aquatic plant growth. State listed species are present throughout the entire lake (Figure 2, left) (CTDEEP, 2020). Protection of these species requires withholding details from the



Figure 3. Water smartweed, fanwort, and water lilies in the northwestern cove of the lake.

public without special request forms. Public access is via a state boat launch on the northern shore. There are no motor restrictions. Previous work on Pachaug Pond dates back to the 1950's when the State Board of Fisheries and Game (1959) described the lake as being shallow and fertile with abundant emergent and submergent vegetation (Figure 2, right; see appendix for full description). The specific plant species were not mentioned, but the bottom was described as being mud, swampy ooze, and sand. A dense algal bloom was observed that reduced the water clarity to two feet. Bass fishing was described as excellent with fish over five pounds common. The 1959 information mentioned frequent severe summer drawdowns that may have been controlling aquatic vegetation. These drawdowns were stated as being due to utilization of the water for "industrial" purposes, which was likely power generation (personal communication). Apparently, drawdowns were lessening as of 1959, and aquatic vegetation was increasing. CAES studied Pachaug Pond in 1979 as part of a statewide investigation into changes in lake water chemistry (Frink and Norvell, 1984). In addition to detailed water chemistry, the study mentions Pachaug Pond as having moderately dense aquatic weeds in shallow areas and watermilfoil (species not identified) near the boat launch. Interestingly, pioneer infestations of invasive species might first be noticed at the boat launches if

the plant arrived on a boat or trailer. The 1979 CAES water tests found a water clarity of 3.5 m (12 feet), an alkalinity of 15 mg/L CaCO₃ and a total phosphorus concentration of 16 µg/L at the surface and 13 µg/L at the bottom. These results suggest an oligo-mesotrophic condition where nutrients are not excessive.

Objectives:

- Perform a fourth survey of Pachaug Pond for aquatic vegetation and test water to quantify water chemistry.
- Compare with previous surveys and add vegetation maps and water chemistry information to the CAES IAPP website.
- Update aquatic plant management options.

Materials and Methods:

Aquatic Plant Surveys and Mapping:

We surveyed Pachaug Pond for aquatic vegetation on August 12, 13, & 17, 2020. The survey utilized methods established by CAES IAPP with the exception of fewer transects and less detail due to funding restrictions. Surveys were conducted from 16- and 18-foot motorized boats traveling over areas shallow enough to support aquatic plants. Plant species were recorded based on visual observation or collections with a long-handled rake or grapple. Lowrance® Hook 5 and HDS 5 sonar systems as well as ground truthing with occasional grapple tosses were used to determine vegetated areas in deep water. Quantitative information on plant abundance was obtained by resurveying 10 transects that were positioned perpendicular to the shoreline in 2017. Transect locations represented the variety of habitats occurring in the lake. Transects were located using a Trimble® R1 GNSS global positioning system with sub-meter accuracy. Sampling data points were taken along each transect at points 0, 5, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, and 80 m from the shore. We measured depth with a rake handle, drop line, or digital depth finder, and sediment type was estimated. Plant samples were obtained in shallow water with a rake and with a grapple in deeper water.

Abundances of species present at each point were ranked on a scale of 1–5 (1 = very sparse, 2 = sparse, 3 = moderately abundant, 4 = abundant, 5 = extremely abundant). When field identifications of plants were questionable, we brought samples back to the lab for review using the taxonomy of Crow and Hellquist (2000*a*, 2000*b*). One specimen of each species collected in the lake was dried and mounted in the CAES IAPP aquatic plant herbarium. Digitized mounts can be viewed online (portal.ct.gov/caes-iapp). Cattail (*Typha* species) and common reed (*Phragmites australis*) are wetland plants included in our survey at the request of the Pachaug Pond Weed Control Association, Inc (PPWCA). Common reed is an invasive wetland species and is marked as such in our report. We post-processed the GPS data in Pathfinder® 5.85 (Trimble Navigation Limited, Sunnyvale, CA) and then imported it into ArcGIS® 10.8.1 (ESRI, Redlands, CA). Data were then overlaid onto recent high-resolution (1 m or better) aerial imagery for the continental United States made available by the USDA Farm Services Agency.

Water Analysis:

Water was analyzed from the deepest part of the lake. Water temperature and dissolved oxygen were measured 0.5 m beneath the surface and at 1 m intervals to the bottom. Water samples (250 mL) for pH, alkalinity, conductivity, and total phosphorus testing were obtained from 0.5 m beneath the surface and 0.5 m above the bottom. All samples were stored at 38°C until testing. A Fisher AR20® meter was used to determine pH and conductivity, and alkalinity (expressed as mg/l CaCO₃) was quantified by titration with 0.016 N H₂SO₄ to an end point of pH 4.5. We determined total phosphorus using the ascorbic acid method preceded by digestion with potassium persulfate (APHA, 1995). Phosphorus was quantified using a Milton Roy Spectronic 20D® spectrometer with a light path of 2 cm and a wavelength of 880 nm. Total Nitrogen was determined with a O-I Analytical 1080® Total Organic Carbon Analyzer. Water was tested for temperature and dissolved oxygen using an YSI 58® meter. Water clarity was measured by lowering a six-inch diameter black and white Secchi disk into the water and determining to what depth it could be viewed.

Table 1. Plants present in Pachaug Pond from 2017-2020. Present indicates the species presence in the lake while Frequency of Occurrence (FOQ) indicates presence of a species on transects.

Pachaug Pond									
Species (invasives in bold)		2017		2018		2019		2020	
Common Name	Scientific Name	Present	FOQ (%/point)	Present	FOQ (%/point)	Present	FOQ (%/point)	Present	FOQ (%/point)
Arrowhead	<i>Sagittaria</i> species	X	9	X	13	X	6	X	13
Bur-reed	<i>Sparganium</i> species	X	12			X	4	X	4
Cattail	<i>Typha</i> species	X	0	X		X	0	X	0
Clasping-Leaf pondweed	<i>Potamogeton perfoliatus</i>	X	2			X	1	X	1
Common bladderwort	<i>Utricularia macrorhiza</i>	X	8	X	54	X	1		
Common duckweed	<i>Lemna minor</i>					X	0		
Common reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	X	1	X	2	X	0	X	3
Coontail	<i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i>	X	17	X	17	X	16	X	10
Eelgrass	<i>Vallisneria americana</i>	X	65	X	59	X	53	X	72
Eurasian watermilfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	X	31	X	45	X	28	X	26
Fanwort	<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	X	48	X	42	X	42	X	39
Floating bladderwort	<i>Utricularia radiata</i>	X	48			X	32	X	1
Floating-Leaf pondweed	<i>Potamogeton natans</i>	X	3	X	1	X	0	X	2
Golden hedge-hyssop	<i>Gratiola aurea</i>	X	5	X	1				
Great duckweed	<i>Spirodela polyrhiza</i>			X	4	X	9	X	7
Humped bladderwort	<i>Utricularia gibba</i>	X	1	X	8	X	9	X	16
Large-Leaf pondweed	<i>Potamogeton amplifolius</i>	X	9	X	19	X	8	X	19
Leafy pondweed	<i>Potamogeton foliosus</i>	X	1	X	3	X	1	X	2
Lesser bladderwort	<i>Utricularia minor</i>			X	1				
Little floating heart	<i>Nymphoides cordata</i>			X	9	X	10	X	6
Low watermilfoil	<i>Myriophyllum humile</i>	X	8	X	4			X	2
Minor naiad	<i>Najas minor</i>	X	4	X	20	X	3	X	30
Mudmat	<i>Glossostigma cleistanthum</i>	X	1	X	7	X	3	X	8
Pickereelweed	<i>Pontederia cordata</i>	X	12	X	22	X	13	X	17
Pondweed	<i>Potamogeton</i> species							X	7
Primrose-Willow	<i>Ludwigia</i> species	X	2	X	5	X	4	X	1
Purple bladderwort	<i>Utricularia purpurea</i>	X	1	X	3	X	6	X	6
Quillwort	<i>Isoetes</i> species			X	3			X	0
Ribbon-Leaf pondweed	<i>Potamogeton epihydrus</i>	X	35	X	13	X	14	X	29
Robbins' pondweed	<i>Potamogeton robbinsii</i>	X	35	X	41	X	40	X	32
Slender naiad	<i>Najas flexilis</i>	X	11	X	19	X	18	X	32
Small pondweed	<i>Potamogeton pusillus</i>							X	12
Small-Leaved pond-lily	<i>Nuphar microphylla</i>	X	0						
Snailseed pondweed	<i>Potamogeton bicupulatus</i>	X	10	X	13	X	7	X	8
Spikerush	<i>Eleocharis</i> species	X	8	X	11	X	14	X	16
Variable-Leaf watermilfoil	<i>Myriophyllum heterophyllum</i>	X	8	X	9	X	20	X	29
Water smartweed	<i>Polygonum amphibium</i>	X	4	X	12	X	11	X	9
Watermeal	<i>Wolffia</i> species	X	1						
Watershield	<i>Brasenia schreberi</i>	X	31	X	30	X	32	X	35
Waterwort	<i>Elatine</i> species			X	7	X	1	X	3
Western waterweed	<i>Elodea nuttallii</i>			X	1	X	1		
White water lily	<i>Nymphaea odorata</i>	X	18	X	22	X	26	X	24
Yellow water lily	<i>Nuphar variegata</i>	X	13	X	14	X	6	X	11
Total Species Richness	43	34	32	34	34	35	31	36	34
Total Native Species Richness	38	29	27	29	29	30	26	31	29
Total Invasive Species Richness	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	5

Results and Discussion:

General Aquatic Plant Surveys and Transects:

We found five invasive and 31 native plant species in Pachaug Pond in 2020 (Table 1). Eurasian watermilfoil, fanwort, minor naiad, phragmites, and variable-leaf watermilfoil comprised the invasive species. Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) is an extremely aggressive invasive aquatic plant that plaques the southeast U.S and is now established in several CT lakes and the CT River (Figure



Figure 4. Hydrilla in the Mattabesset River, Middletown CT.

4). Fortunately, our survey found none in Pachaug Pond. Native species included a wide diversity of emergent and submergent macrophytes. Pachaug Pond contains among the greatest number of plant species found in any waterbody surveyed by CAES IAPP with only Gardner Lake (38 species) and Upper Moodus Reservoir (37 species) supporting more. Descriptions of the invasive species are in the appendix of this report while information on the native species can be found at the USDA “About PLANTS” website (https://plants.usda.gov/about_plants.html). Although monostands of invasive species were found in a few areas of the lake, areas covered by native species or invasive species mixed with native species were more common. Many of the shallow coves contained nuisance vegetation such as fanwort, water smartweed, and water lilies that reached the surface (Figure 3). Most of the lake, however, did not have problematic vegetation reaching the surface despite it being shallow enough to support luxuriant growth. In these areas, the bottom either did not support plant growth or was covered with native eelgrass and

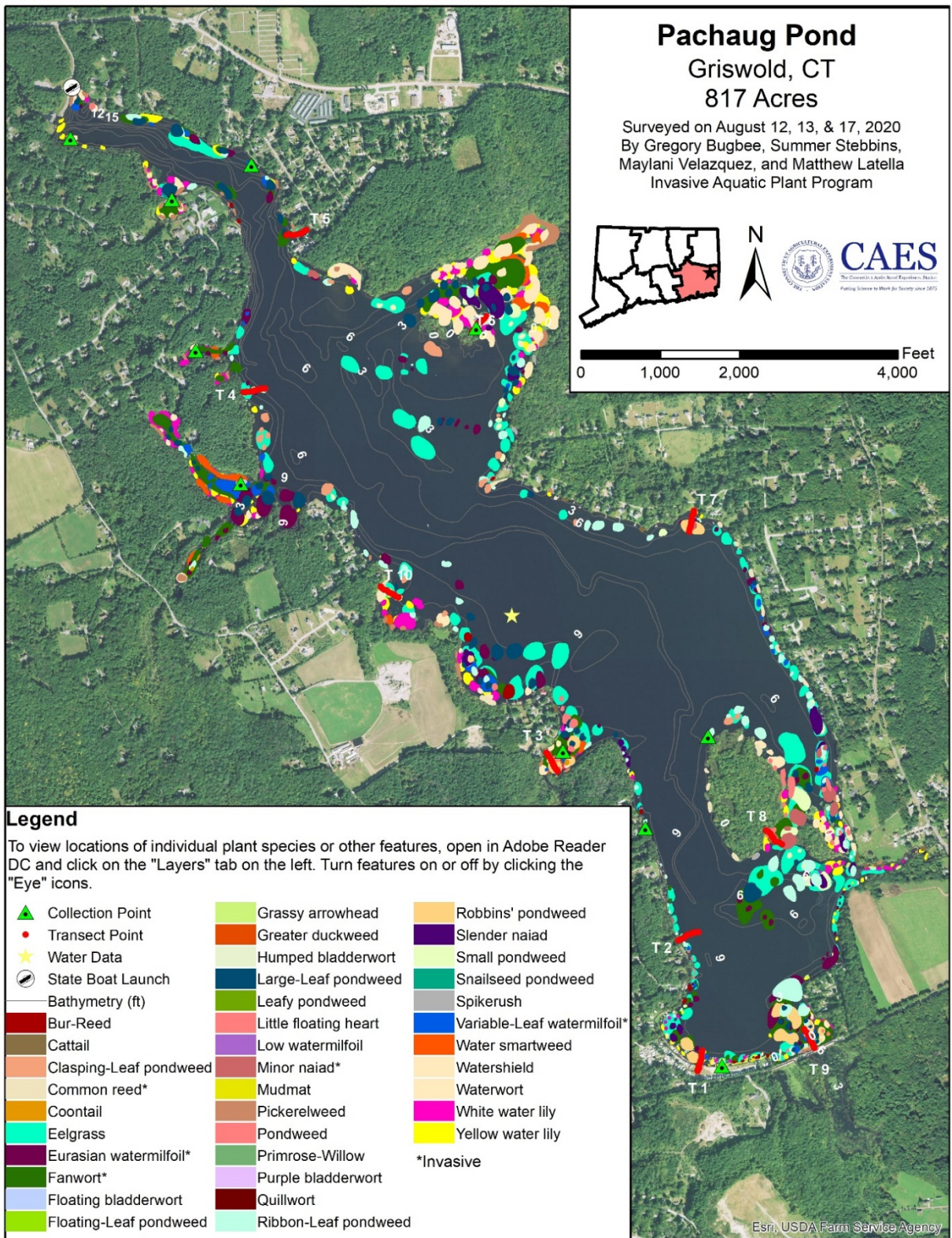


Figure 5. 2020 aquatic plant survey map of Pachaug Pond.

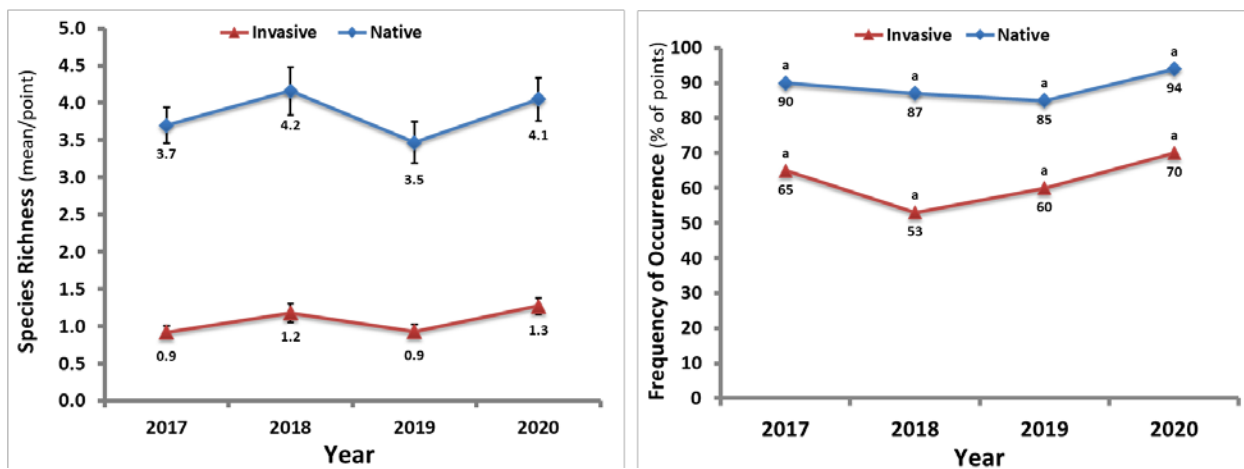


Figure 6. Species richness (left) and frequency of occurrence (FOQ, right) on native and invasive aquatic plants on transects in Pachaug Pond from 2017 - 2020.

Robbins' pondweed. Reasons for this may include the brown water coloration that limits light, infertile substrate, and previous drawdowns.

Compared to 2019 and 2018, vegetation appeared to slightly increase but remained less abundant than in 2017 (Figure 5, see appendix for previous years' maps). Many coves had nuisance levels of emergent vegetation such as white and yellow water lily, water smartweed, and watershield. Readers can consult the CAES IAPP website for the digitized survey maps where individual plant layers can be viewed separately:

(portal.ct.gov/caes-iapp).

Occasionally only charophyte, which is a low-lying filamentous algae, was found. Water smartweed, fanwort, and water lilies often occurred in

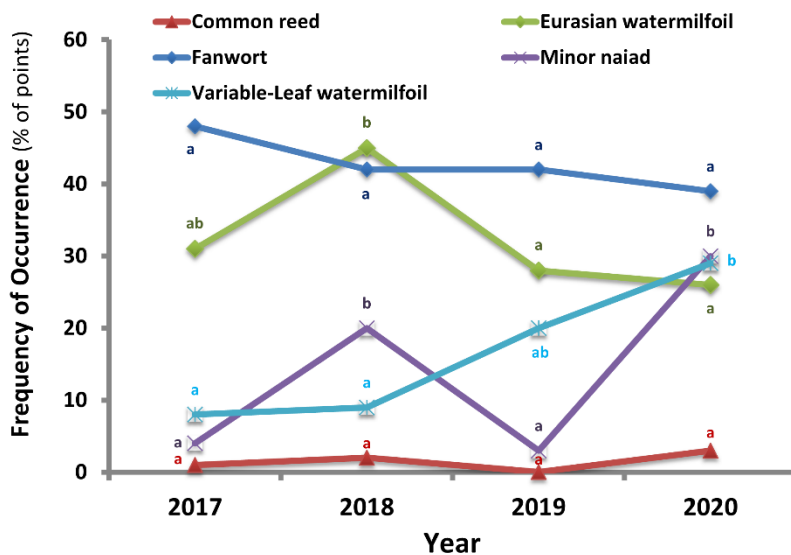


Figure 7 Frequency of occurrence (FOQ) of invasive aquatic plant species on transects in Pachaug Pond from 2017 - 2020.

patches dense enough to restrict navigation but likely created desirable habitat for fish, wildfowl, and other aquatic organisms (Figure 3). Many of these areas also contained dense bladderworts; however, these plants were rarely a nuisance.

Comparisons of our frequency of occurrence (FOQ) data from 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020, as taken from transects points, found little overall change in total invasive or native species (Figure 6). Individually, however, changes were evident (Figure 7, Table 1). The FOQ of fanwort had no significant change (48%, 42%, 42%, 39% respectively) while the reduction in Eurasian watermilfoil starting in 2018 continued significantly to 2020 (31%, 45%, 28%, 26% respectively). Minor naiad increased from 3% in 2019 to 30% in 2020 while variable-leaf watermilfoil continued the substantial increase from previous years (8%, 9%, 20%, 29% respectively). The most commonly found native plants in 2020 were eelgrass (72%), watershield (35%), Robbins' pondweed (32%), and slender naiad (32%). Overall species richness remained relatively unchanged for invasive species and native species alike (Figure 6).

Water Chemistry:

Water clarity in Connecticut's lakes ranged from 0.3 - 10 m (1-33 feet) with an average of 2.3 m (7 feet) (CAES IAPP, 2020). Pachaug Pond had water clarity of 1.5 m (5 feet) in our 2020 survey, which is slightly little lower than previous years (Figure 8). Measurements in 1979 found clarity to be 3.5 m (12 feet) (Frink and Norvell,

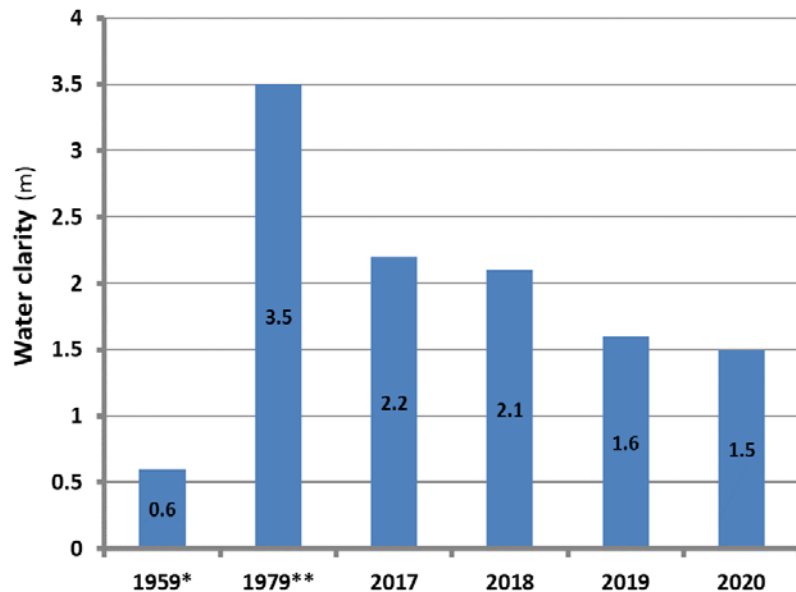


Figure 8. Water clarity in Pachaug Pond in 1959 (*State Board of Fisheries and Game), 1979 (**CAES), 2017-2020 (CAES IAPP).

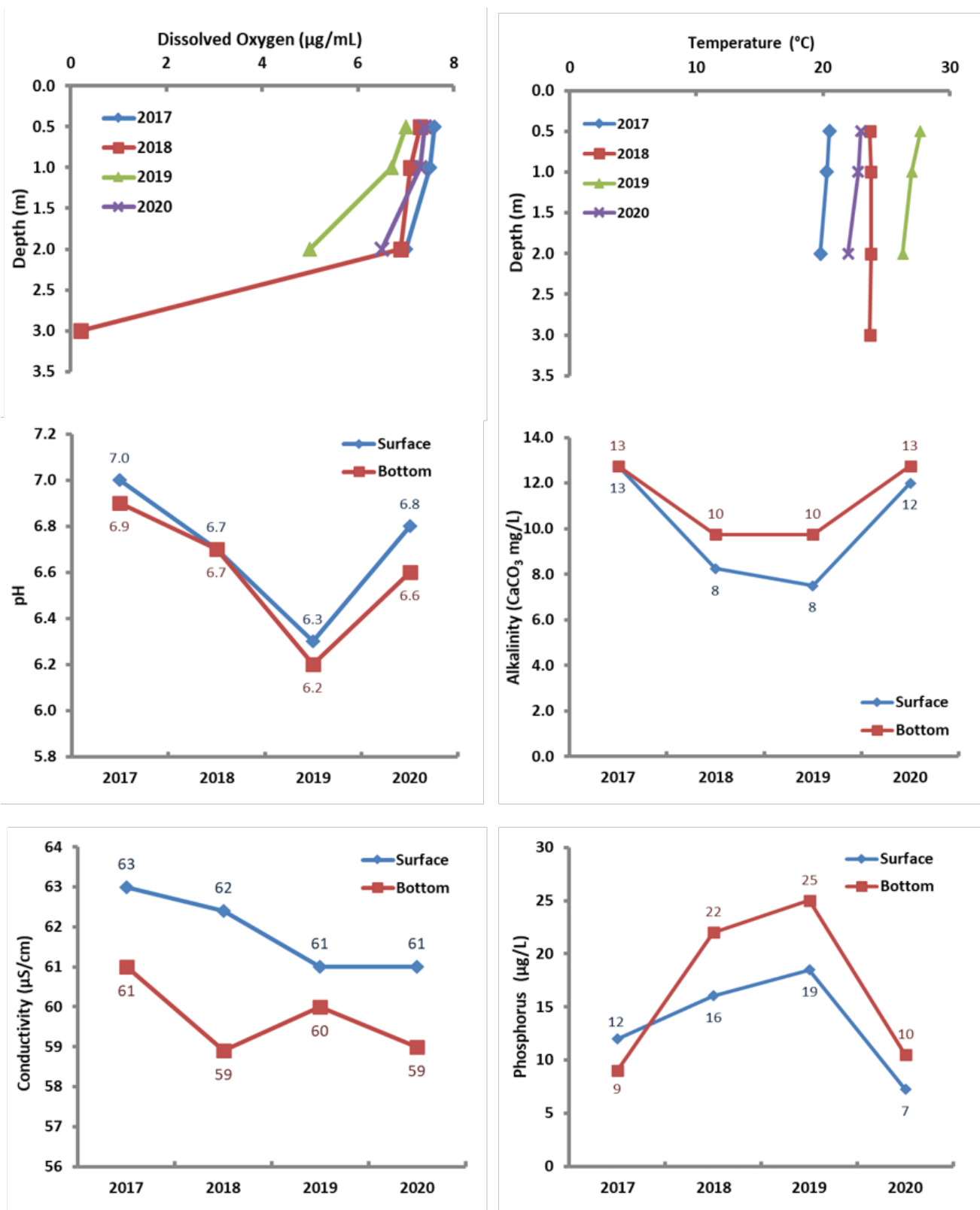


Figure 9. Water chemistry in Pachaug Pond from 2017-2020.

1984) while in the 1950's it was only 0.6 m (2 feet) (State Board of Fisheries and Game, 1959). The poor water clarity in the 1950's was attributed to an algal bloom. This could have been due to the reported industrial use of the water. Our 2020 observation was consistent with previous years with water clarity not reduced by algal blooms but rather the brown coloration caused by naturally occurring organic derivatives.

The shallow nature of Pachaug Pond resulted in little stratification of temperature and dissolved oxygen across all years and only minor changes in the tested water parameters with depth (Figure 9). Dissolved oxygen concentrations were high throughout the water column, and the pH was near neutral (6.2 - 7.0). The alkalinity of 7.5 - 13 mg/L CaCO₃ is low for Connecticut lakes which range from near 0 to >170 (CAES IAPP, 2020). Low alkalinity waterbodies are more prone to pH change due to outside influences such as watershed activities and acid rain. Conductivity is an indicator of dissolved ions that come from natural and man-made sources (mineral weathering, organic matter decomposition, fertilizers, septic systems, road salts, etc.). Connecticut waterbodies have conductivities that range from 50 -250 µS/cm. Pachaug Pond's conductivity of near 61 µS/cm ranks it among the lowest.

A key parameter used to categorize a lake's trophic state is the concentration of phosphorus (P) in the water column. High levels of P can lead to nuisance or toxic algal blooms (Frink and Norvell 1984, Wetzel 2001). Rooted macrophytes are less dependent on P from the water column as they obtain a majority of their nutrients from the hydrosol (Bristow and Whitcombe, 1971). Lakes with P levels from 0 - 10 µg/L are considered nutrient-poor or oligotrophic. When P concentrations reach 15 - 25 µg/L, lakes are classified as moderately fertile or mesotrophic and when P reaches 30 - 50 µg/L they are considered fertile or eutrophic (Frink and Norvell, 1984). Lakes with P concentrations >50 µg/L are categorized as extremely fertile or hyper-eutrophic. Pachaug Pond's P concentration in 2020 was 7 µg/L at surface and 10 µg/L near the bottom, which classifies the lake as oligotrophic (Figure 9). Analysis of the water in by CAES 1979 (Frink and Norvell, 1984) found similar P concentrations

of 16 µg/L at surface and 13 µg/L near the bottom. We tested total nitrogen (TN) for the first time in 2020 and found 267 µg/L the surface and 293 µg/L near the bottom (data not shown). Although nitrogen is likely less limiting to the growth of aquatic plants and algae, compared to terrestrial plants, it may play a role in lake productivity. Frink and Norvell (1984) found TN in Connecticut lakes ranged from 193 - 1830 µg/L and averaged 554 µg/L placing Pachaug Pond in the lower range.

CAES IAPP has found that the occurrence of invasive plants in lakes can be attributed to specific water chemistries (June-Wells et al. 2013). For instance, lakes with higher alkalinities and conductivities are more likely to support Eurasian watermilfoil, minor naiad, and curlyleaf pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*) while lakes with lower values support fanwort and variable-leaf watermilfoil. Invasive zebra mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha*) are becoming a problem in several lakes in western Connecticut and have similar water chemistry preferences.

Aquatic Vegetation Management Options:

Managing nuisance aquatic vegetation in Pachaug Pond will be challenging because the lake has extensive areas of desirable native vegetation, and state listed species may need protection. In addition, large numbers of residents utilize the lake for recreational activities, particularly fishing,



Figure 10. Eco-Harvester technology may improve removal of plant roots.

boating, and swimming. Options include water level drawdown, harvesting, herbicides, biological controls, and bottom barriers (Cooke et al., 2005). Dredging may also be employed but is usually impractical for large lakes like Pachaug.

Water level drawdown can be an effective and economical means of controlling nuisance vegetation in large shallow lakes like Pachaug Pond. Fortunately, the lake has a dam with an outlet suitable for the technique, and it has already been employed with some possible success. Proposed dam repairs will likely cause long-term draw-downs occurring in lakes such as Bashan Lake, Moodus Reservoir and Lake Beseck. Because the lake usually remains low during the growing season, significant changes can occur in the plant community with wetland plants proliferating in the former sediment and aquatic plants inhabiting areas that were formerly too deep. Often these plants are invasive such as phragmites, milfoil, and fanwort or nuisance native species such as cattails and water lilies.

Current interest in mechanical harvesting could result in this being a viable option; however, knowledge of the pros and cons is recommended prior to making large purchases of the necessary machinery. Major benefits of mechanical harvesting include quick results, the ability to target areas and avoid damage to species needing protection, avoidance of aquatic herbicides, and removal of nutrients contained in the harvested vegetation. Drawbacks include the initial expense of the harvesting machine, maintenance costs, rapid regrowth, the need for follow-up work, and costs for vegetation removal and disposal. New mechanical harvesting machines are now available that offer promise for removal of the root system, but this varies by plant species and sediment type (Figure 10). CAES IAPP is working the Moodus Reservoir stakeholders to test the efficacy of an Eco Harvester under conditions similar to Pachaug Pond.

Herbicides can be effective in controlling unwanted aquatic vegetation. Aquatic herbicide use requires permits from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CTDEEP). Specifics on the use of aquatic herbicides in Connecticut are found in the CTDEEP publication entitled “Nuisance Aquatic Vegetation Management: A Guidebook” (CTDEP, 2005). In 2018, CAES IAPP tested a new herbicide called ProcellaCOR to control variable-leaf watermilfoil in Bashan Lake with excellent results.



Figure 11. CAES IAPP testing of short-term benthic barriers in Lake Beseck.

Although efforts are underway to find biological controls for nuisance aquatic vegetation, breakthroughs have been limited. Plant eating fish called grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*) can effectively reduce the populations of certain aquatic weeds. The introduction of grass carp into Connecticut lakes requires approval by CTDEEP. In Connecticut, only sterile (triploid) grass carp are permitted. Introducing grass carp in Pachaug Pond could cause damage to non-target plants necessary to maintain the current fishery. CAES has worked with officials from the United States Department of Agriculture to find new plant pathogens and insects that control nuisance aquatic plants with little success.

Benthic barriers or “bottom blankets” are effective at eliminating nuisance vegetation in small areas such as swim zones, around docks, and pioneer infestations. CAES IAPP has tested short-term placement (<30 days) of the barriers in Lake Quonipaug, Bashan Lake, and Lake Beseck (Figure 11). Season long control for Eurasian watermilfoil and fanwort was achieved. Although labor intensive, benthic barriers may be able to be moved from place to place during a season for effective control.

Conclusions:

Our 2020 aquatic vegetation survey of Pachaug Pond found only small changes from previous years. Thirty-six plant species were documented which places Pachaug Pond among the most species rich lakes in Connecticut. The five invasive species found were Eurasian watermilfoil, fanwort, minor naiad, phragmites, and variable watermilfoil. These are the same as in past years but the frequency of occurrence on transects of variable watermilfoil and minor naiad has increased marginally. Many of the shallow coves contained nuisance vegetation such as fanwort, water smartweed, and water lilies that reached the surface. Most of the lake, however, did not have nuisance vegetation reaching the surface. In these areas, the bottom either did not support plant growth or was covered with non-nuisance eelgrass and Robbins' pondweed. Reasons for this may include brown coloration to the water that limits light, infertile substrate, and previous drawdowns. Our water tests found Pachaug Pond to be relatively low in alkalinity with minimal stratification. Water clarity was limited by the water's brown coloration. The most promising aquatic plant management option is continuation of the winter drawdown, although harvesting could play a major role if recent interest results in the procurement of the proper equipment and utilization. Proposed dam repairs will likely result in a long-term drawdown with considerable change in the plant community.

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State Board of Fisheries and Game Lake and Pond Survey Unit. 1959. A Fishery Survey of Lakes and Ponds of Connecticut. Report No.1. State Board of Fisheries and Game. 395 pp.

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Appendix

Narrative from State Board of Fisheries and Game Lake and Pond Survey Unit - 1959

PACHAUG POND

Pachaug Pond is a large, artificial impoundment located in New London County in the township of Griswold. This shallow, fertile pond was formed by impounding the Pachaug River. It has a surface area of 830.9 acres, a maximum depth of 18 feet and an average depth of 6.1 feet. Much of the well-wooded shoreline is in the Pachaug State Forest. Submerged and emergent vegetation is abundant, particularly in the shoal areas and shallow areas. The pond bottom is of mud, swampy ooze and sand. A dense algal bloom reduces transparency to two feet. The waters of this pond are not thermally stratified.

Shoreline development is very light and there are only a few cottages present. Boats are available for rental at a livery at the southern end of the pond. There is a state-owned right-of-way present, but this is poorly developed and is unuseable.

Pachaug Pond has been stocked with smallmouth bass and yellow perch.

Largemouth bass are common in abundance and exhibit excellent growth. Yellow perch are common in abundance. This species grows at a rate equal to the state average. Bluegill sunfish are abundant and grow at a rate well above the state average. Chain pickerel are scarce and exhibit an above-average growth rate. Calico bass are common in abundance. The growth rate of this species is equal to the state average. Bullheads are common in abundance and golden shiners are abundant.

This pond has the reputation of producing excellent bass fishing. Bass over five pounds are relatively common. Fishing for panfish such as perch, bluegill sunfish, calico bass and bullheads should be excellent.

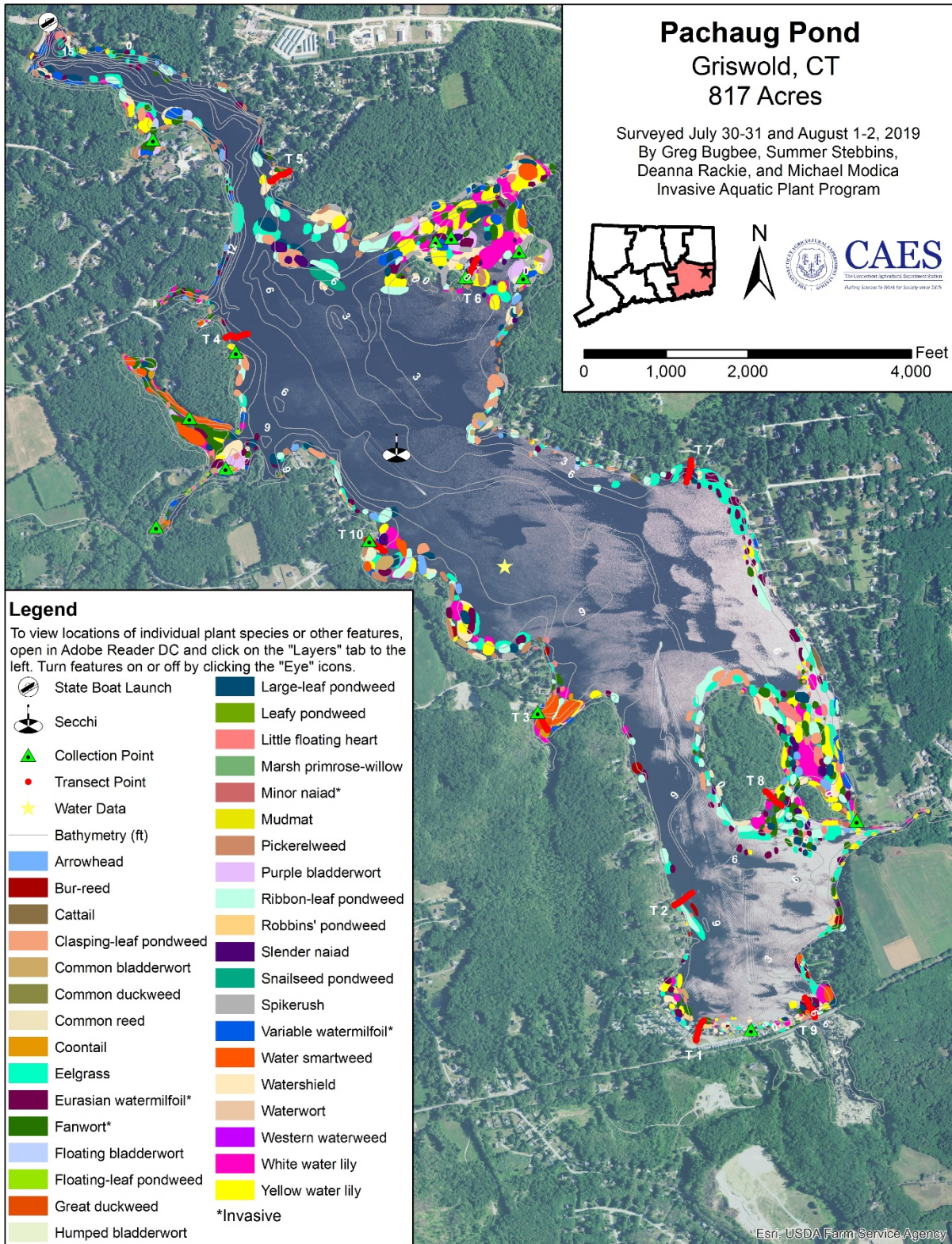
In the past, this body of water was subject to severe drawdown during late June, July and August. This drawdown took place after the game species had reproduced and did not destroy their nests or young. As a result of the drawdown, the game fish and panfish were crowded into a smaller area and the panfish were more readily available to the game fish as forage. The resultant increase in predation aided in controlling the numbers of panfish and helped to keep these fish within the limits of the food supply and, at the same time, helped to provide numerous fast-growing game fish. The drawdown process also helped to control aquatic vegetation and this resulted in considerable open water relatively free from water weeds. For the past several years, the water has not been used for industrial purposes and, as a result, the water level has remained fairly stable. Aquatic vegetation is becoming more abundant and the amount of open water more restricted. This increase in the abundance of "water weeds" may provide excessive escape cover for panfish and can well result in stunted populations of yellow perch and bluegill sunfish.

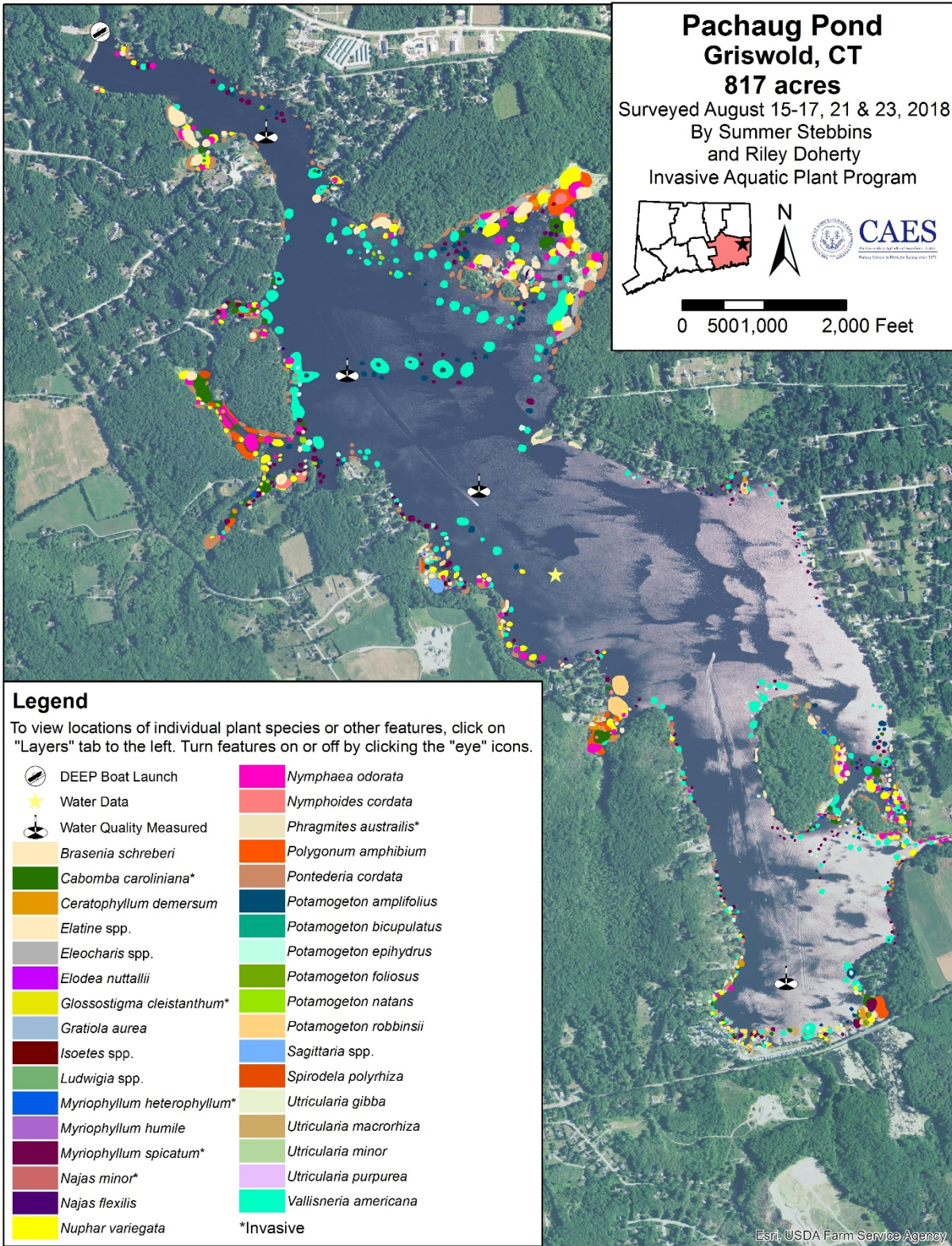
The drawdown and exposure of considerable areas of the pond bottom also allowed smartweed and other semi-terrestrial plants to grow on the exposed shoals. These terrestrial plants furnished excellent food for waterfowl and attracted large numbers of ducks during the fall shooting season.

It is recommended that a control structure be installed in the dam so that the pond can be lowered three to four feet every summer. Such a drawdown should be started in June and the reduced water level should be held until the end of August.

No special regulations are recommended at this time.

Previous Years Aquatic Plant Survey Maps





Pachaug Pond Griswold, CT

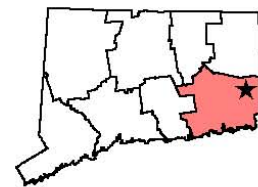
817 acres

Surveyed September 7-9, 2017
by Gregory Bugbee,
Amanda Massa and Abigail Wiegand
Invasive Aquatic Plant Program

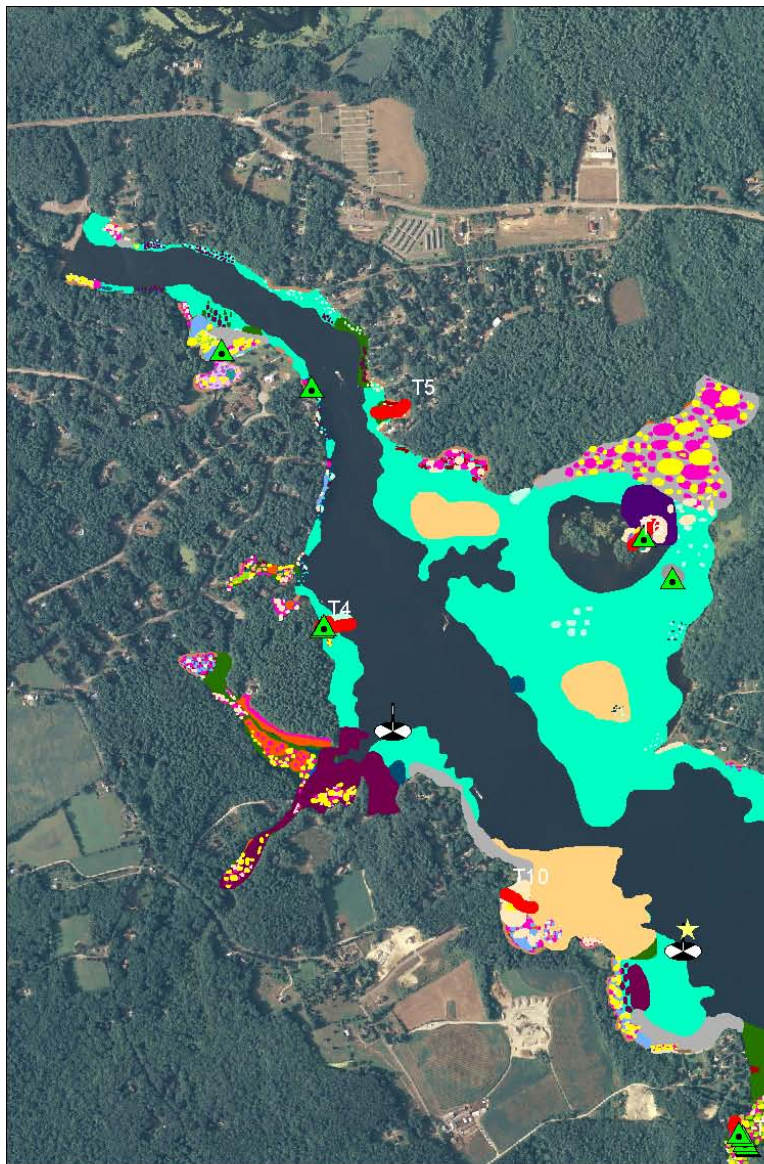


CAES

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station
Fulfilling Science to Work for Society since 1875



0 0.2 0.4 0.8 Kilometers

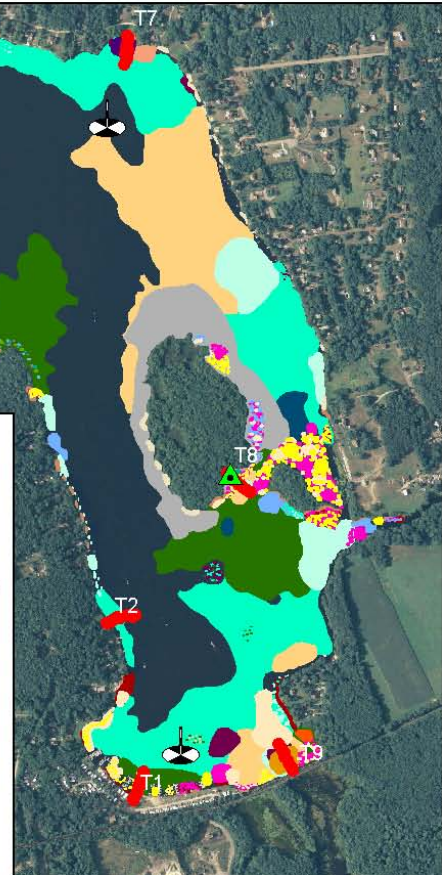


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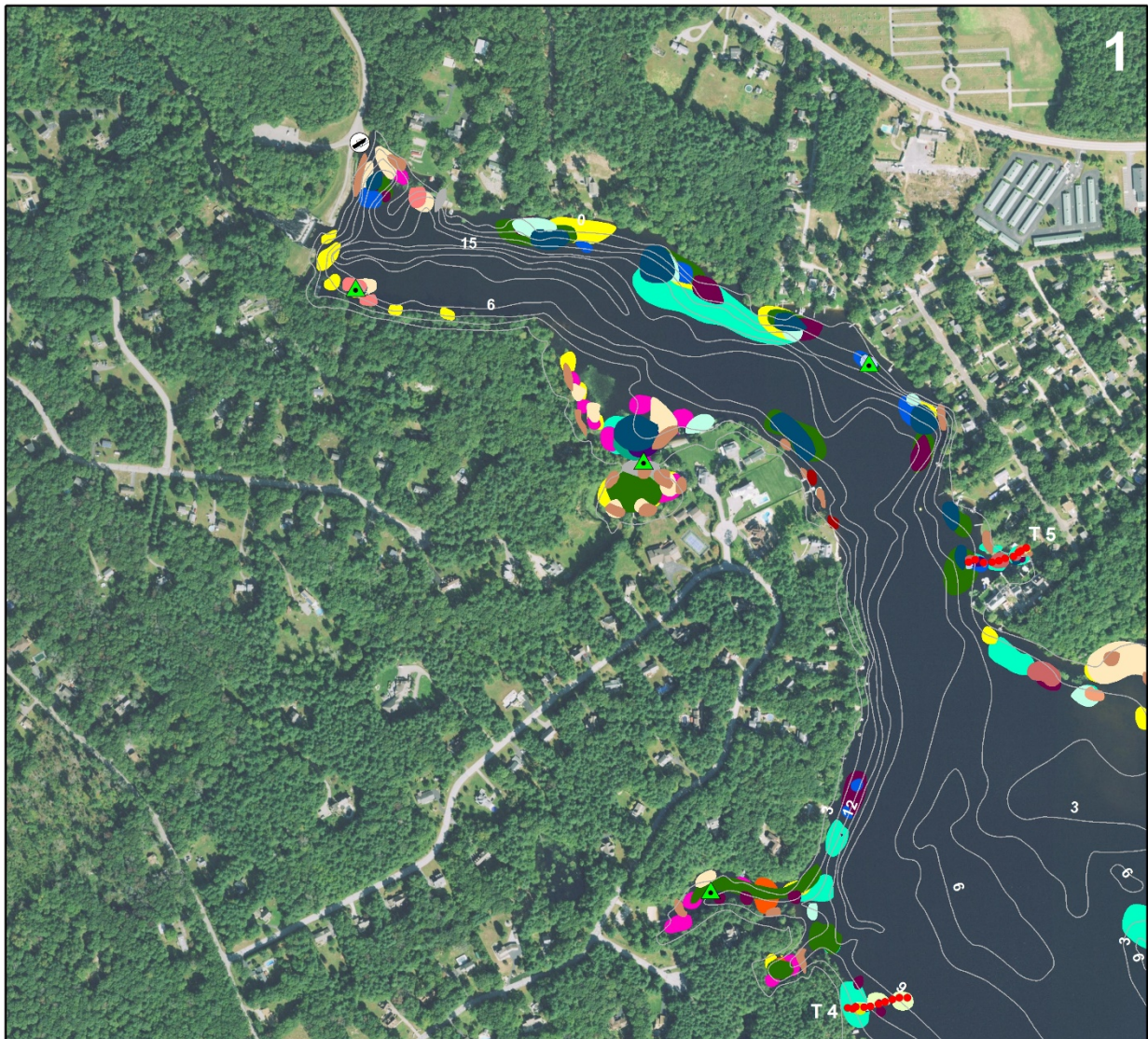
To view locations of individual plant species or other features, click on "Layers" tab to the left. Turn features on or off by clicking the "eye" icons.

Plant Collection	<i>Myriophyllum humile</i>	<i>Potamogeton foliosus</i>
Transect Points	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i> *	<i>Potamogeton natans</i>
Secchi Measurement	<i>Najas flexilis</i>	<i>Potamogeton perfoliatus</i>
Water Data	<i>Najas minor</i> *	<i>Potamogeton robbinsii</i>
<i>Brasenia schreberi</i>	<i>Nuphar microphylla</i>	<i>Sagittaria species</i>
<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i> *	<i>Nuphar variegata</i>	<i>Sparganium species</i>
<i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i>	<i>Nymphaea odorata</i>	<i>Typha species</i>
<i>Eleocharis species</i>	<i>Phragmites australis</i> *	<i>Utricularia gibba</i>
<i>Glossostigma cleistanthum</i> *	<i>Polygonum amphibium</i>	<i>Utricularia macrorhiza</i>
<i>Gratiola aurea</i>	<i>Pontederia cordata</i>	<i>Utricularia purpurea</i>
<i>Ludwigia palustris</i>	<i>Potamogeton amplifolius</i>	<i>Vallisneria americana</i>
<i>Myriophyllum heterophyllum</i> *	<i>Potamogeton bicupulatus</i>	<i>Wolffia brasiliensis</i>
	<i>Potamogeton ephedrus</i>	

*invasive



Aquatic Plant Survey Maps by Section

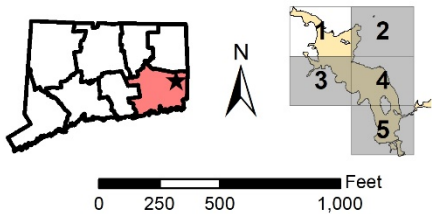


Pachaug Pond

Griswold, CT

817 Acres

Surveyed on August 12, 13, & 17, 2020
 By Gregory Bugbee, Summer Stebbins,
 Maylani Velazquez, and Matthew Latella
 Invasive Aquatic Plant Program



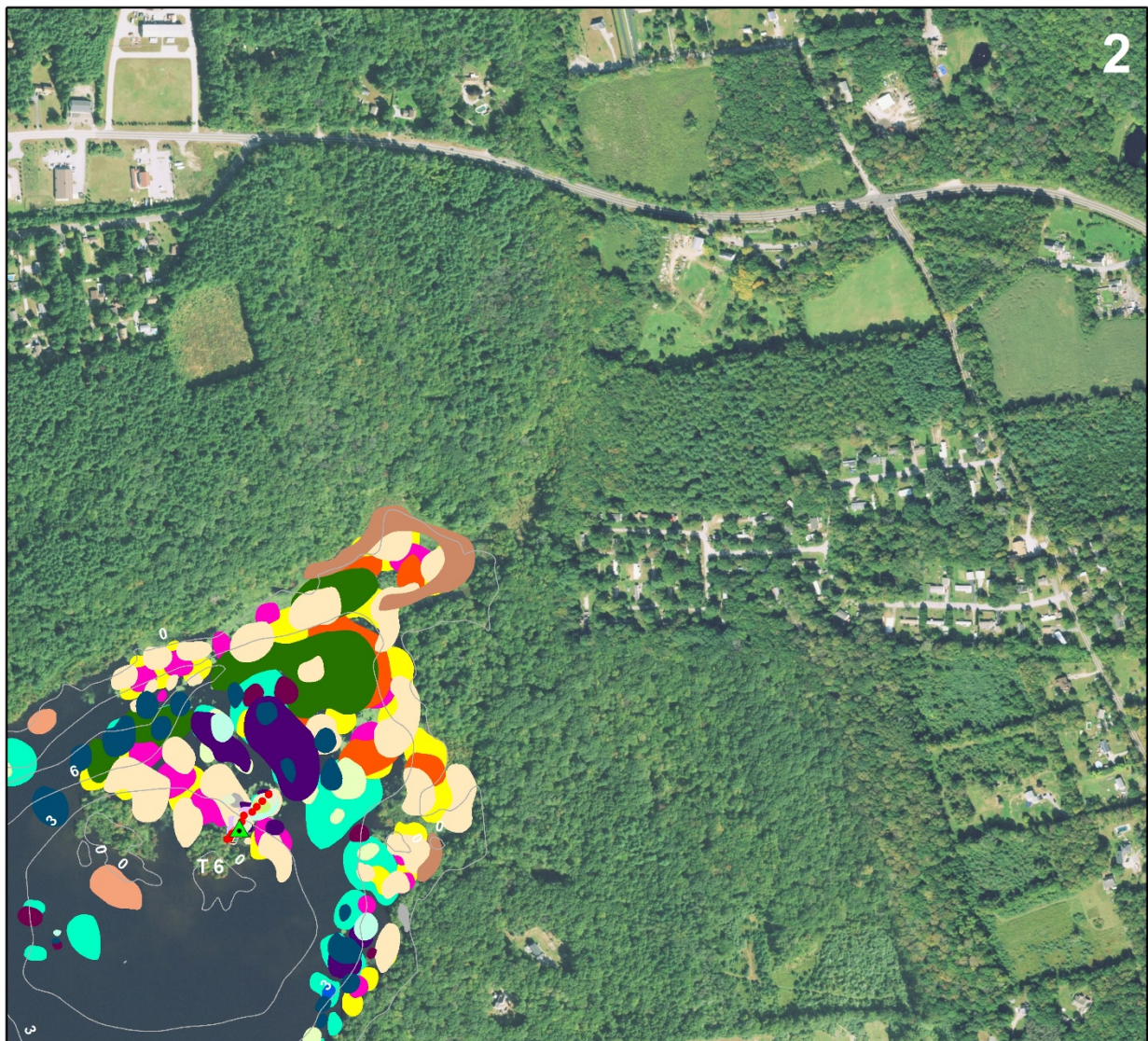
Legend

To view locations of individual plant species or other features, open in Adobe Reader DC and click on the "Layers" tab to the left. Turn features on or off by clicking the "Eye" icons.

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Collection Point | Grassy arrowhead | Robbins' pondweed |
| Transect Point | Greater duckweed | Slender naiad |
| Water Data | Humped bladderwort | Small pondweed |
| State Boat Launch | Leafy pondweed | Snailseed pondweed |
| Bathymetry (ft) | Little floating heart | Spikerush |
| Bur-Reed | Low watermilfoil | Variable-Leaf watermilfoil* |
| Cattail | Minor naiad* | Watershield |
| Clasping-Leaf pondweed | Mudmat | Waterwort |
| Common reed* | Pickerelweed | Water smartweed |
| Coontail | Large-Leaf pondweed | White water lily |
| Eelgrass | Pondweed | Yellow water lily |
| Eurasian watermilfoil* | Primrose-Willow | |
| Fanwort* | Purple bladderwort | |
| Floating bladderwort | Quillwort | |
| Floating-Leaf pondweed | Ribbon-Leaf pondweed | |

*Invasive



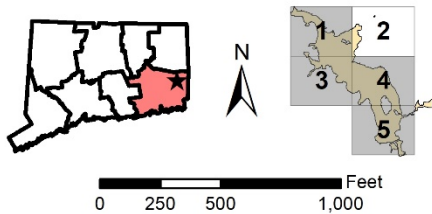


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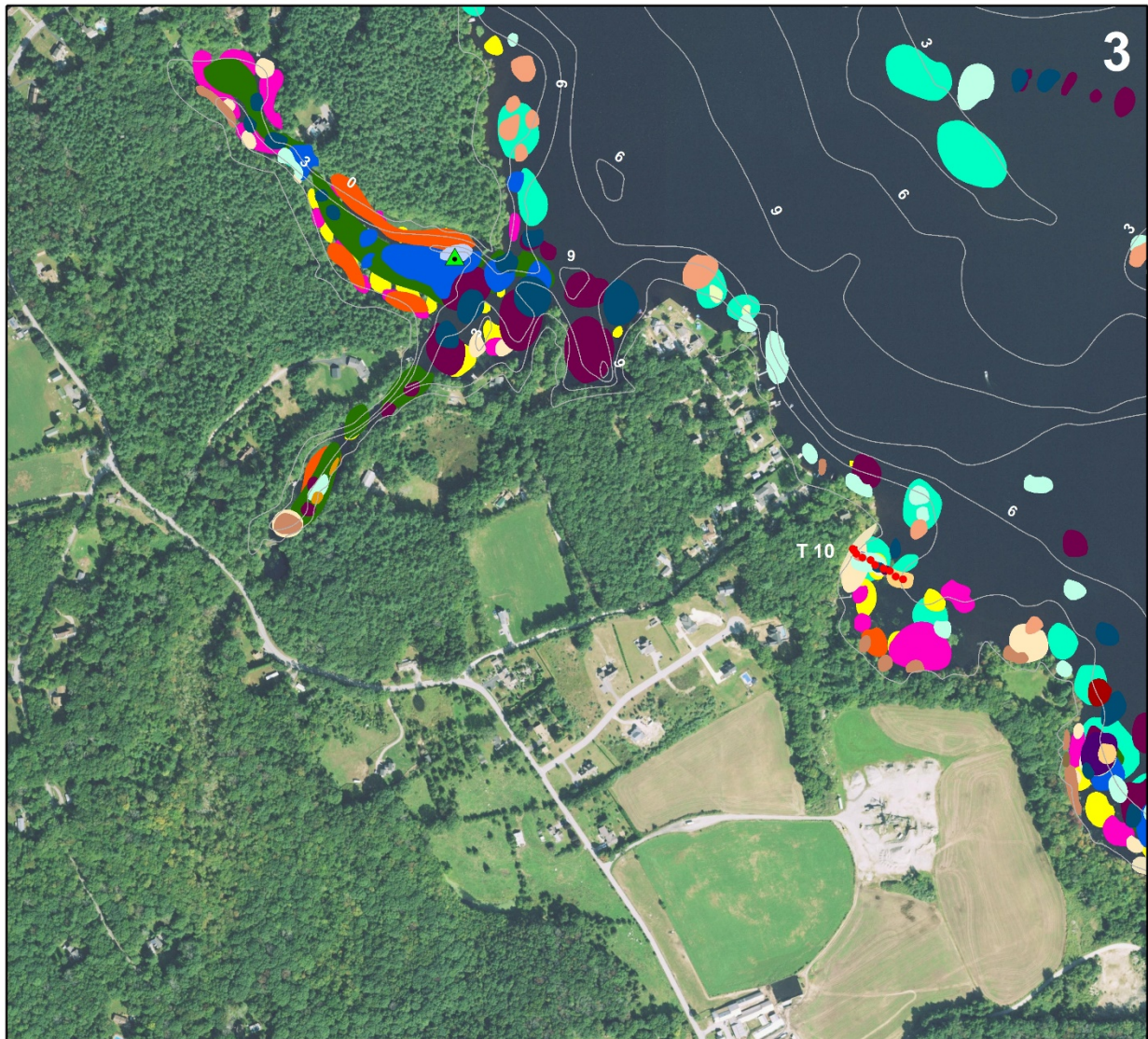
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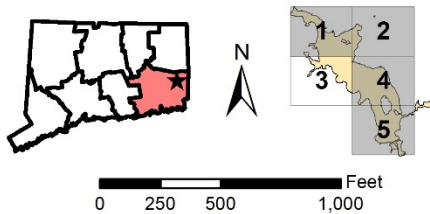


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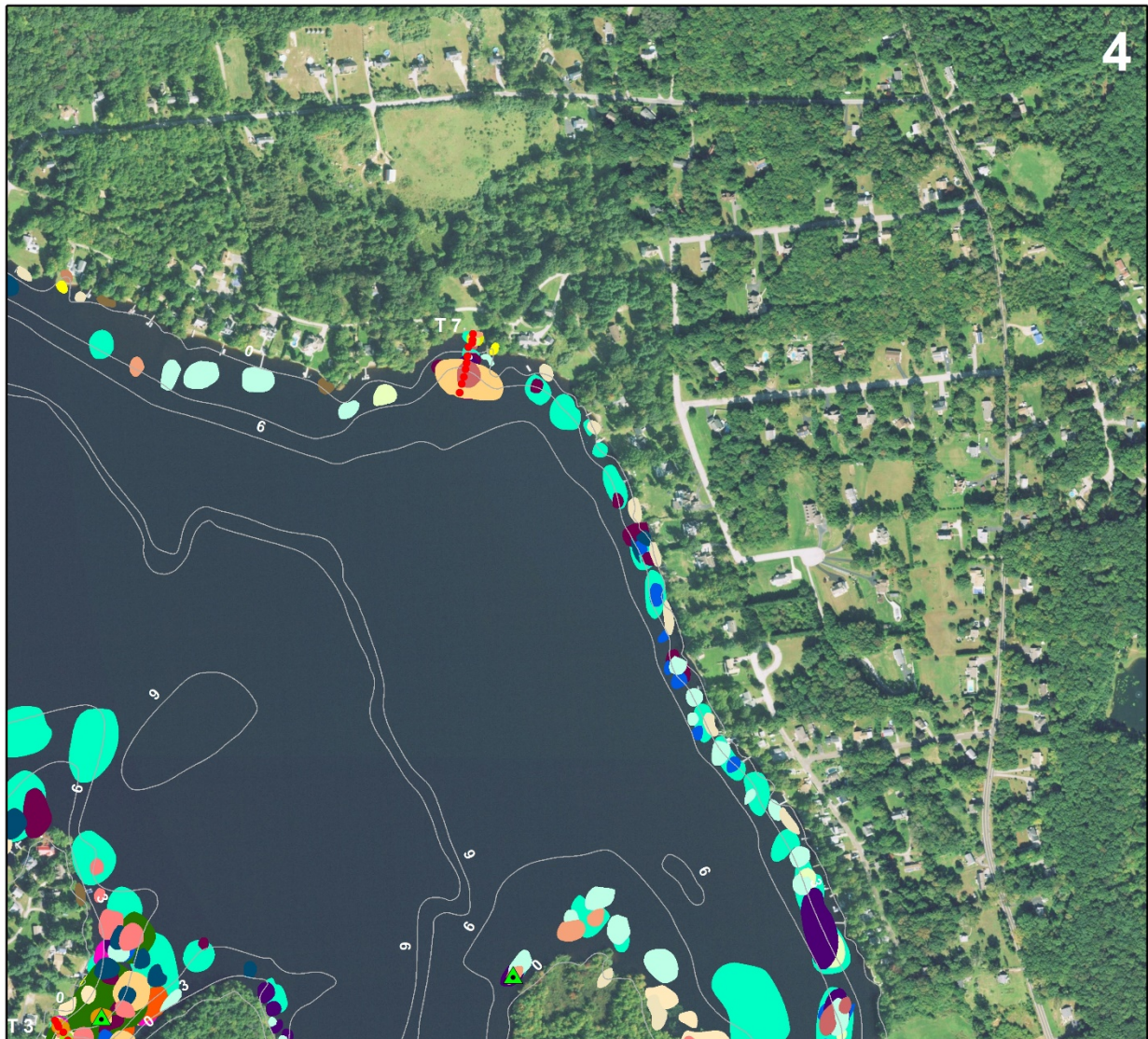
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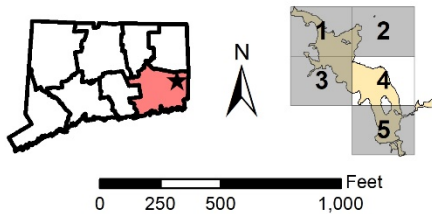
*Invasive





Pachaug Pond Griswold, CT 817 Acres

Surveyed on August 12, 13, & 17, 2020
By Gregory Bugbee, Summer Stebbins,
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Invasive Aquatic Plant Program



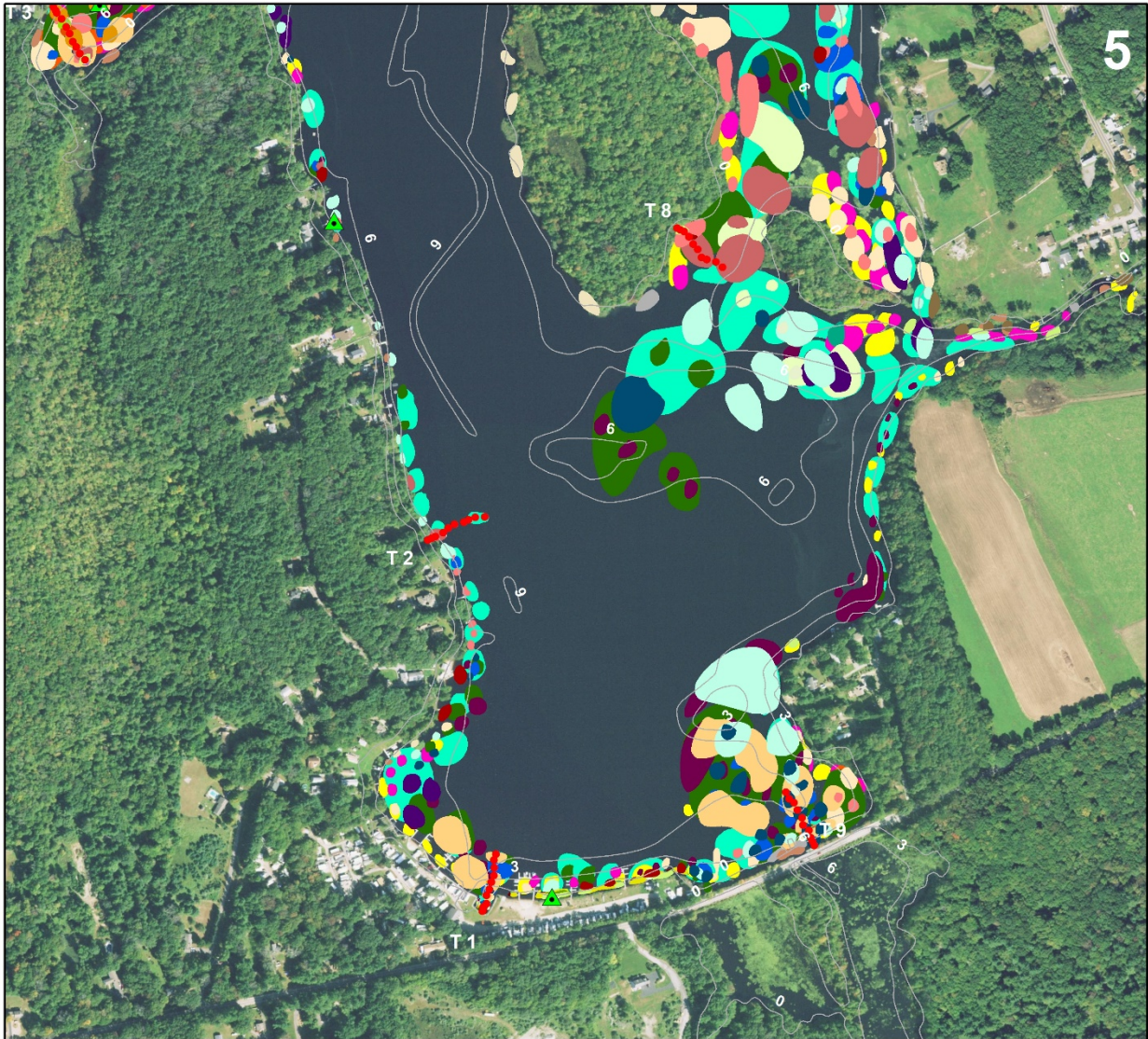
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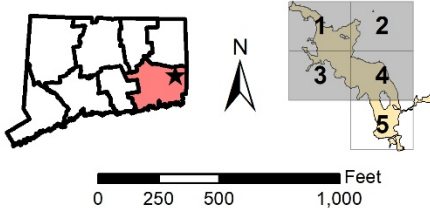
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Eurasian watermilfoil*	Primrose-Willow	
Fanwort*	Purple bladderwort	
Floating bladderwort	Quillwort	
Floating-Leaf pondweed	Ribbon-Leaf pondweed	

*Invasive



Invasive Plant Descriptions

Cabomba caroliniana

Common names:

Fanwort
Carolina fanwort

Origin:

Southeast United States
South America

Key features:

Plants are submersed

Stems: Can be 6 feet (2 m) long

Leaves: Dissected, opposite leaves 0.8-2 inches (2-5 cm) are fan-like and made up of forked leaflets attached to the stem by a petiole. Floating leaves 0.2-0.8 inches (6-20 mm) wide are oblong and produced on flower shoots

Flowers: Small, solitary flowers are usually white to pinkish

Fruits/Seeds: Flask shaped

Reproduction: Seed and fragmentation

Easily confused species:

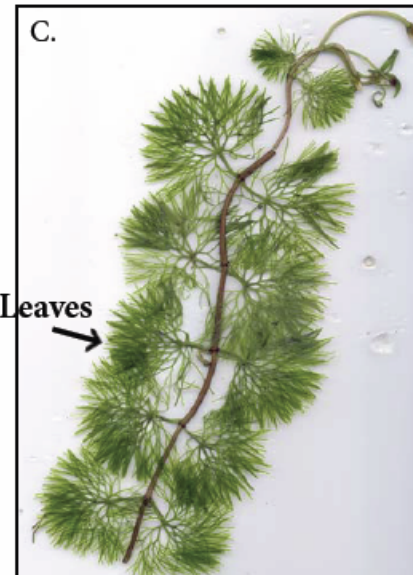
Watermilfoils: *Myriophyllum* spp.

White water crowfoot: *Ranunculus longirostris*

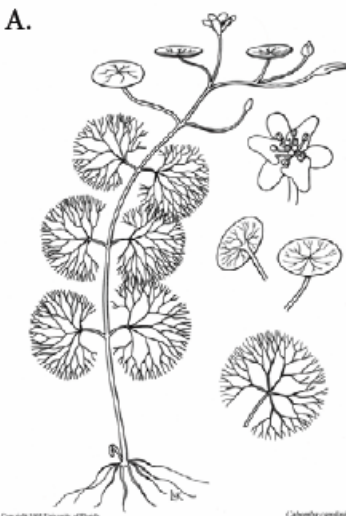
Water marigold: *Megalodonta beckii*



Photo by CAES IAPP



Opposite Leaves



Copyright 1991 University of Florida, Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants

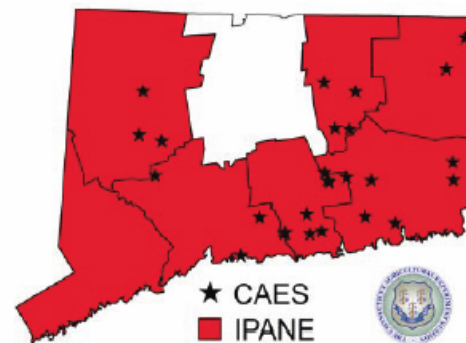
Cabomba caroliniana
Samuel



A. Copyright 1991 Univ. of Florida, Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants

B. Copyright 2002 Univ. of Florida, Photo by A. Murray

C. Photo by A. Smagula



Myriophyllum heterophyllum

Common names:

Variable-leaf watermilfoil
Variable watermilfoil
Two-leaf watermilfoil

Origin:

Southern United States

Key features:

Plants are submersed

Stems: Dark brown stems extend to the water's surface and spread to form large mats

Leaves: Triangular with ≤ 11 pairs of leaflets. Leaves are dissected and whorled (4-6 leaves/whorl) resulting in a feathery appearance with leaf whorls < 1 inch apart giving it a ropy appearance

Flowers: Inflorescence spike 2-14 inches (5-35 cm) long extend beyond the water's surface with flowers in whorls of four with reddish petals

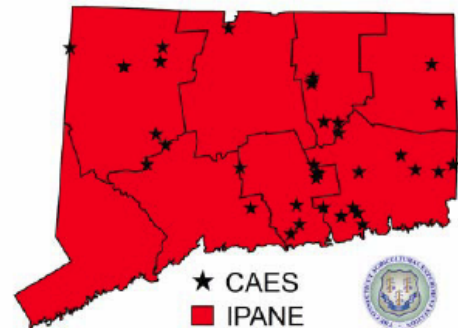
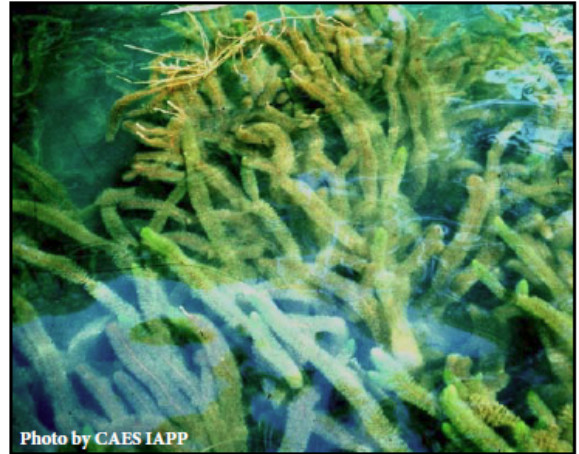
Fruits/Seeds: Fruits are almost round, with a rough surface

Reproduction: Fragmentation and seeds

Easily confused species:

Eurasian watermilfoil: *Myriophyllum spicatum*

Low watermilfoil: *Myriophyllum humile*



Myriophyllum spicatum

Common name:
Eurasian watermilfoil

Origin:
Europe and Asia

Key features:
Plants are submersed

Stems: Stem diameter below the inflorescence is greater with reddish stem tips

Leaves: Leaves are rectangular with ≥ 12 pairs of leaflets per leaf and are dissected giving a feathery appearance, arranged in a whorl, whorls are 1 inch (2.5 cm) apart

Flowers: Small pinkish male flowers that occur on reddish spikes, female flowers lack petals and sepals and have 4 lobed pistil

Fruits/Seeds: Fruit are round 0.08-0.12 inches (2-3 mm) and contain 4 seeds

Reproduction: Fragmentation and seeds

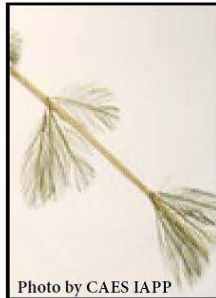
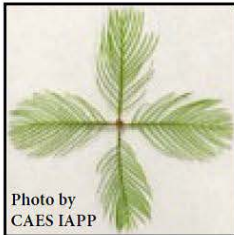
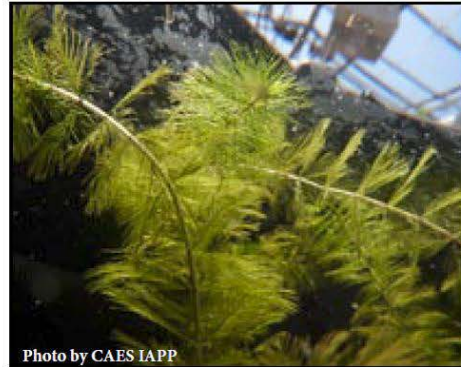
Easily confused species:

Variable-leaf watermilfoil: *Myriophyllum heterophyllum*

Low watermilfoil: *Myriophyllum humile*

Northern watermilfoil: *Myriophyllum sibiricum*

Whorled watermilfoil: *Myriophyllum verticillatum*



Najas minor

Common names:

Minor naiad
Brittle water nymph
Spiny leaf naiad
Eutrophic water nymph

Origin:

Europe

Key features:

Plants are submersed

Stems: Branched stems can grow up to 4-8 inches (10-20 cm) long

Leaves: Opposite and lance shaped on branched stems with easily visible toothed leaf edges and leaves appear curled under, basal lobes of leaf are also serrated, 0.01-0.02 inches (0.3-0.5 mm)

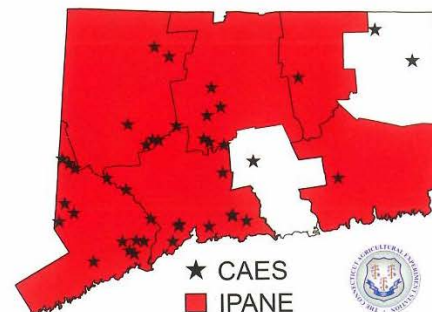
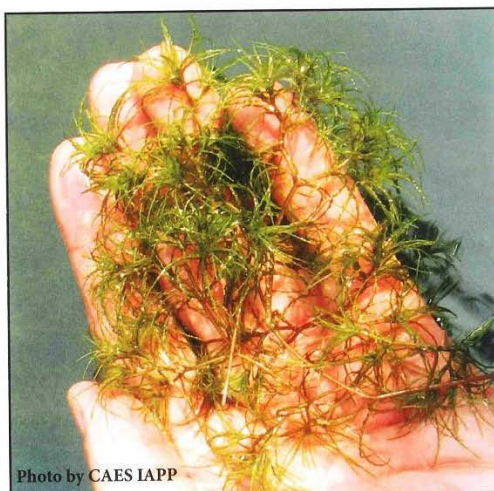
Flowers: Monoecious (male and female flowers on same plant)

Fruits/Seeds: Fruits are purple-tinged and seeds measure 0.03-0.06 inches (1.5-3 mm)

Reproduction: Seeds and fragmentation

Easily confused species:

Other naiads (native): *Najas* spp.



Transect Data

