



Capital Region Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management Aquatic Detection & Monitoring Report

Section 1: Survey Summary

General Information	
Date Survey Conducted: June 4 th , 2025	County: Albany
Site Name: Fawn Lake	Permit(s)/Permission(s) Acquired? Yes TRP/public WB
Address (if different): Fawn Lake Rd, Partridge Run Wildlife Management Area, Berne, NY	Time Spent on Site (Hours)/# of Staff on Site: 3 hours/2 staff
Parking Lot Latitude/Longitude: 42.561898, -74.165381	Property Owner Name, Title, and Contact: DEC Region 4 Schenectady Office, (518) 357-2154; Wildlife.r4@dec.ny.gov
Total Waterbody Size (acres): 20 acres	
Worksite Size (acres): 20 acres	Survey Leader Name, Title, and Contact: Alexa Howansky—AIS Program Manager; ajh363@cornell.edu
Average Depth (ft): UNK	Team Member Name(s) and Title(s): Kris Williams—PRISM Lead Coordinator
Report Author: Alexa Howansky	Data Recorder & iMapInvasives ID: Alexa Howansky—iMap ID 28804
# of Volunteers (if applicable): None	Total Volunteer Hours: N/A

Conservation Goal:

- Delineate & assess a conservation value To prevent and protect a conservation value
 Local Eradication Post-Treatment Monitoring Containment
 Suppression Exclusion Restoration

Survey Type:

- Detection Delineation Follow-up Monitoring Detection Training
 Volunteer Engagement Crew Assistance Program Project eDNA

Launch Description: Provide all launch information including location (address, GPS coordinates, etc.), [launch type](#), accessibility (public, private), and who maintains the launch. If waterbody is private, state who provided access.

Site Description:

Fawn Lake is a 20-acre waterbody with substrate comprised of muck, sand, and some rock, with bottom cover including macrophytes and woody debris. The littoral zone of the lake is dominated by various native pondweeds, with substantial populations of elodea, spatterdock, and macroalgae.

Motorized watercrafts are prohibited. A small hand launch and dock is accessible for non-motorized watercraft. A small dam and unguarded spillway are located at the east end of the waterbody near the parking lot, requiring caution while paddling in this part of the lake.





Site Significance:

Fawn Lake is located within the Partridge Run Wildlife Management Area, as well as the Helderberg Bird Conservation Area. These areas provide essential habitat for diverse wildlife, including migratory birds. The lake has been identified by the Capital Region PRISM as a priority waterbody using the comprehensive priority waterbody model.

In terms of aquatic significance, the [AIS Pond & Lake Vulnerability Prioritization model](#) lists Fawn Lake as being in the 77th percentile for risk and the 93rd percentile for impact—this means that Fawn Lake is at a higher risk for introduction/establishment of AIS than 77% or more of other ponds & lakes in NYS, and that if it were to become invaded with AIS, the impact would be greater than that of 93% or more of other ponds & lakes in NYS (“Impact” includes ecological and recreational/ economic consequences of aquatic invasion, such as rare/threatened/ endangered species, native species richness, water quality, fishing use, etc.). **This puts Fawn Lake in the top 23% of at-risk waterbodies and in the top 7% of high-value waterbodies in NYS.**

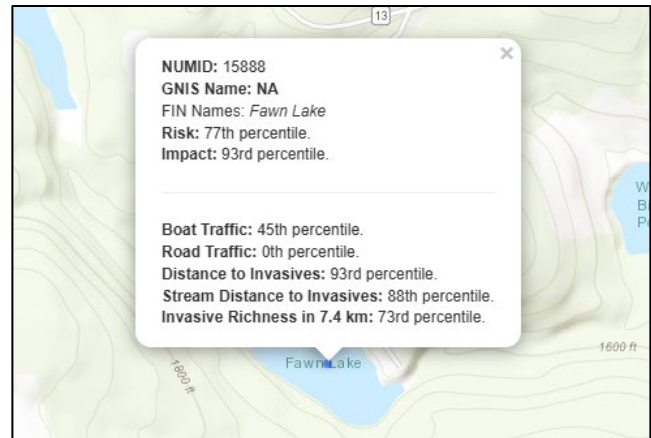


Figure 1. NYS AIS Pond & Lake Vulnerability Prioritization Mapper. Shown are Fawn Lake’s vulnerability metrics.

Survey Techniques:

The survey intensity was entire waterbody. Top-water methods were used, specifically top-side (visual) and limited rake toss—the littoral zone was paddled in a meandering (S-shaped) pattern, recording species observed by looking over the side of the boat, and just a few rake tosses were conducted to limit disturbance of native macrophytes. Data was collected using Cornell method overall and per-species relative abundance estimates and recorded using SAS_Pro in the Survey123 app.

Section 2 begins on next page.



Section 2: Survey Result Summary

Invasive Species Present

Common Name & Scientific Name	Tier Rank	Threat Ranking	Growth Form	Phenology/ Life stage	Percent Cover (%)	Distribution/ Abundance	Area Infested (acres/miles if linear)
Water Chestnut (<i>Trapa natans</i>)	4	Very High	Floating	Vegetative	< 5%	Sparse	< 1 acre / scattered

Native Species Present

Scientific Name	Common Name	Growth Form	Phenology/ Life stage	Percent Cover (%)	Distribution/ Abundance	Area Inhabiting (acres/miles if linear)
<i>Potamogeton epihydrus</i>	Ribbonleaf Pondweed	Submerged/ Floating	Vegetative	5 – 25%	Sparse	< 5 acres; Scattered
<i>P. zosteriformis</i>	Flatstem Pondweed	Submerged	Vegetative	5 – 25%	Sparse	< 5 acres; Scattered
<i>P. amplifolius</i>	Largeleaf Pondweed	Submerged/ Floating	Vegetative	< 5%	Sparse	< 1 acre; Scattered
<i>P. illinoensis</i>	Illinois Pondweed	Submerged/ Floating	Vegetative	5 – 25%	Sparse to Dense	< 5 acres
<i>Nuphar variegata</i>	Spatardock	Floating	Vegetative/ Flowering	5 – 25%	Sparse to Dense	< 5 acres
<i>Elodea canadensis</i>	Canadian Waterweed	Submerged	Vegetative	< 5%	Trace to Sparse	UNK
<i>Elodea nuttallii</i>	Nuttall's Waterweed	Submerged	Vegetative	< 5%	Trace to Sparse	UNK
<i>Chara spp.</i> and/or <i>Nitella spp.</i>	Muskgrass/Stoneworts	Submerged	Macroalgae	< 5%	Sparse	UNK
<i>Lemna minor</i>	Common Duckweed	Free-floating	Vegetative	< 5%	Sparse	< 1 acre
<i>Sparganium fluctuans</i>	Floating Burr-reed	Floating	Vegetative	< 5%	Sparse	< 1 acre
<i>Iris versicolor</i>	Blueflag Iris	Wetland	Flowering	< 5%	Trace	2 individuals
Unknown	Unknown sedge/reed	Emergent	Vegetative	25 – 50%	Sparse to Dense	Accounts for much of shoreline



The only AIS detected in Fawn Lake was small amounts of Water Chestnut, mostly in the northwestern portion of the lake—this was expected, given the past observations and removals of water chestnut. All Water Chestnut found was removed on sight, totaling 15-20 small/immature rosettes. Post-treatment monitoring was planned for later in the season to check for any lingering plants that had not yet emerged at the time of this survey.

The native macrophyte community appears healthy and robust, with a diverse array of pondweeds, elodeas, and various emergent/wetland plants.

Map:

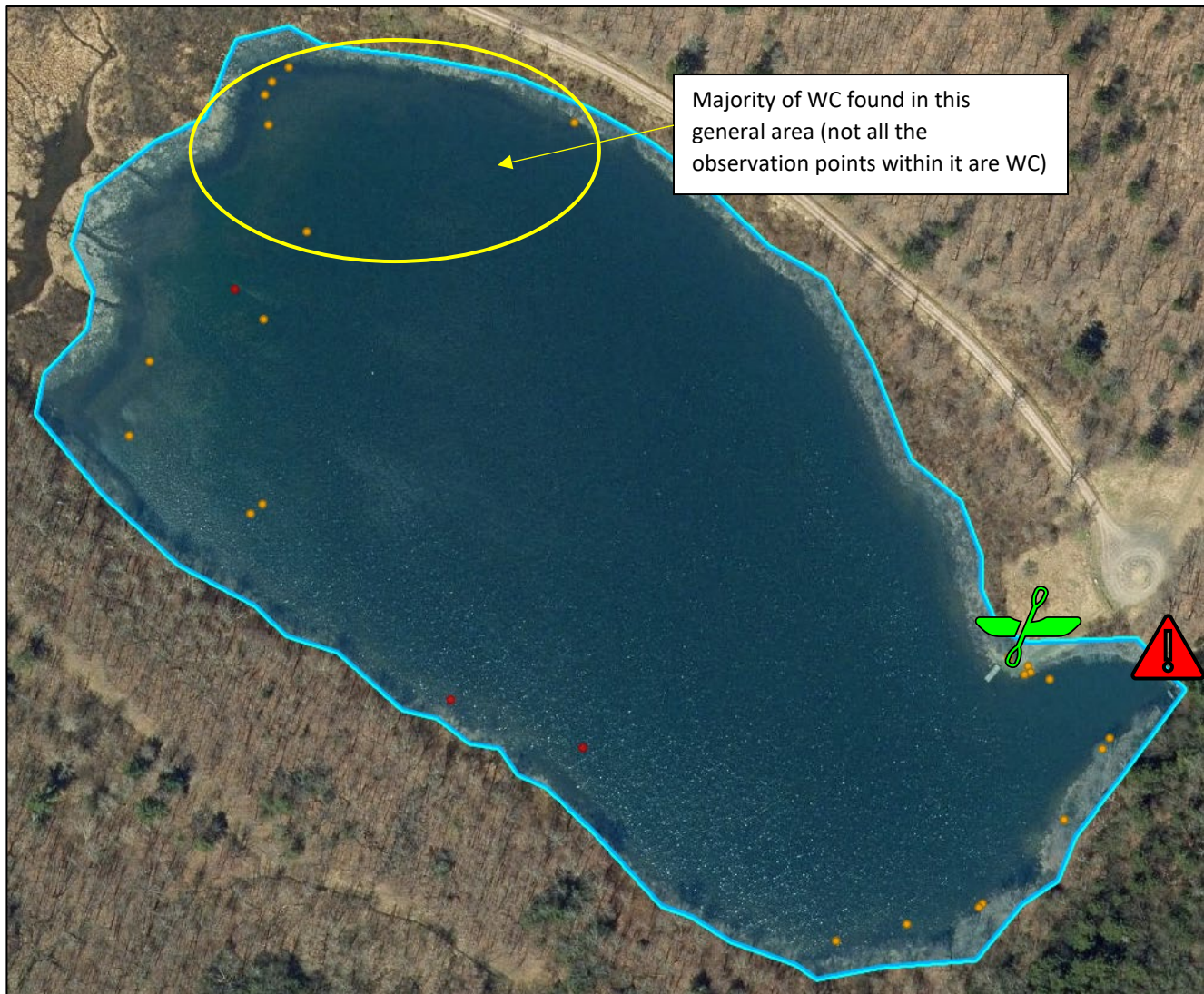


Figure 2. Fawn Lake survey area. Blue outline = searched area; yellow-orange circles = species detected outside rake toss; red circles = rake toss; location of Water Chestnut denoted with bright yellow oval; boat launch denoted with bright green kayak symbol; dam/spillway denoted with red hazard symbol.



Photos:



Figure 3. Unidentified sedge/reed.



Figure 4. Floating burr-reed.



Figure 5. Tadpoles! (American Toad?)



Figure 6. Illinois Pondweed.



Figure 7. Water Chestnut.



Section 3: Summary of Recommendations

Management:

Small populations of water chestnut (approx. 15-20 plants) were removed, including attached nutlets. The water chestnut plants are still very small/young at this stage in the season and may not have all emerged yet. Regular surveying of this location is recommended to control the small water chestnut population as it would be feasible to eradicate.

Post-Survey Monitoring:

Fawn Lake will be surveyed annually or biannually for Water Chestnut and other potential AIS. An Invasive Species Management Plan is not needed at this time.

