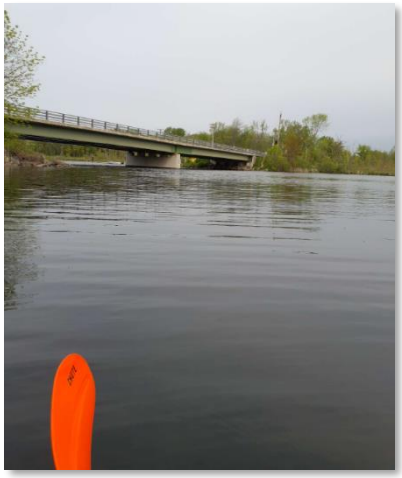
Capital Region PRISM
Partnership for Regional
Invasive Species Management

50 West High St.
Cornell Cooperative Extension | Saratoga County Ballston Spa, NY 12020
(518) 885-8995

Capital Region PRISM AIS Monitor and Detect Report

Fish Creek of Saratoga Lake, Saratoga County

About This Waterbody



Fish Creek of Saratoga Lake embodies 13 miles of shoreline, and is located in the Town of Saratoga. The waterbody connects to Saratoga Lake and flows out of Fish Creek for 13 miles towards Schuylerville into the Hudson River. The lake is regularly utilized for recreational boating activities, both motorized and non-motorized. The shoreline is comprised of grass and tree vegetation with limited residences within the beginning of Fish Creek. Access to Fish Creek is provided in several locations. The Kayak Shak is the closest hand launch, and rents kayaks to recreational users. The bottom cover of the lake is primarily comprised of muck and macrophytes, curly leaf pondweed (AIS) was prevalent throughout the survey area. Fish species that inhabit this waterbody includes but not limited to: Redbreast sunfish, black crappie, smallmouth bass, walleye and yellow perch.

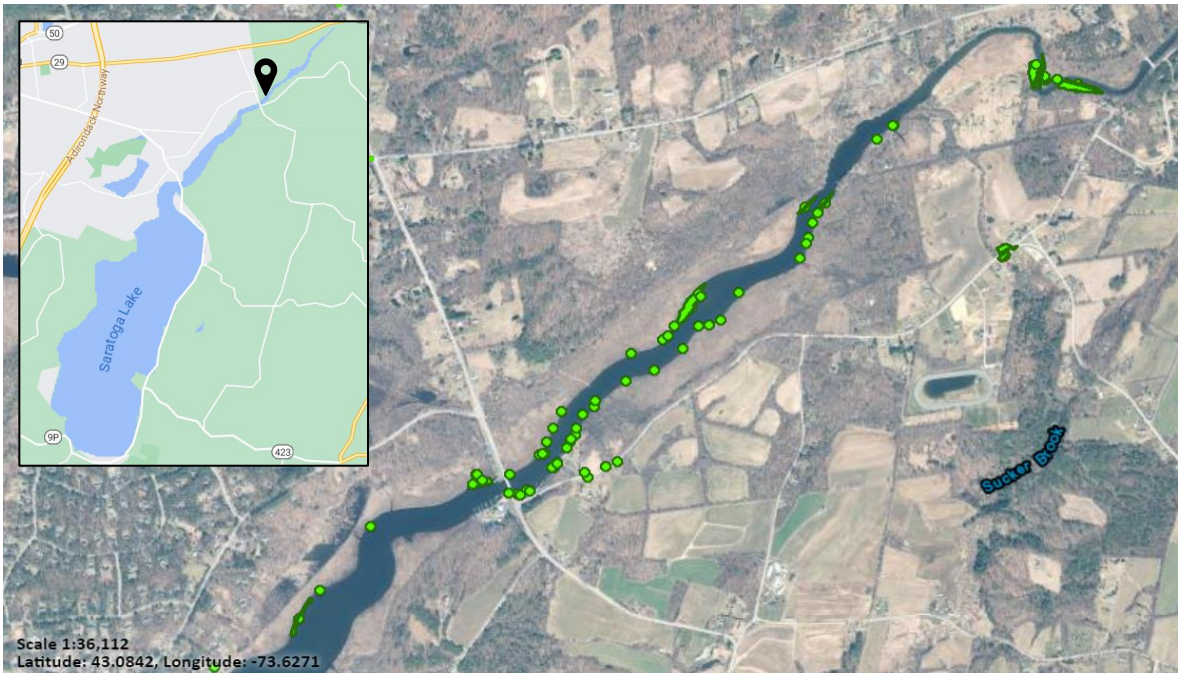
Aquatic Invasive Species Previously Recorded at Fish Creek

note that not all species at time of survey are present

Common Name	Scientific Name	Location (GPS)	Growth Type	Phenology	Abundance at Time of Survey
Water chestnut	*Trapa natans*	Multiple locations	Floating	Dormant	N/A
Curly pondweed	*Potamogeton crispus*	Multiple locations	Submerged	In Growth	Dense Clumps
Eurasian water milfoil	*Myriophyllum spicatum*	Multiple locations	Submerged	In Growth	Trace/Sparse
European Frogbit	*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*	Multiple locations	Floating	In Growth	Trace/Sparse

Growth Type: Tree, Shrub, Vine, Ground Cover, Herbaceous, Riparian, Submerged, Floating, Emergent, Wetland, Pest, Animal
Phenology: Flowering, Leaf unfolding, fruit ripening, leaf color change, dormant, swarming, spawning, emergence (insects), migrating, in seed, senesce
Distribution/Abundance: Trace (single plant/clump), Sparse (scattered plants/clumps), Dense plants/clumps, linearly scattered, Monoculture

iMapInvasives Confirmed Aquatic Invasive Species Observations



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Capital Region PRISM AIS Monitor and Detect Survey

On May 16th, 2023 the Capital Region PRISM conducted an aquatic survey on Fish Creek located in Saratoga County. The survey focused on early detection of Tier 1 and 2 aquatic invasive species. Upon completion of the surveys it was determined that the species listed above are present in Fish Creek. Within this waterbody there is European frogbit, a Tier 2 species within the CR-PRISM. Care should be taken by waterbody users to prevent the further spread of this species and others.

General Information	
Waterbody Name: Fish Creek, Saratoga Lake	**Date of Survey**: May 16th, 2023
Survey Lead: Hannah Coppola	**Time to Conduct Survey:** 1.5 Hours
Team Members: Hannah Coppola (AIS Program Manager) Ashley Leemans (WISP Assistant Supervisor)	**Address**: 251 Stafford Bridge Rd, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
iMapInvasives User ID: 21052	**County**: Saratoga
Property Owner Contact: Kayak Shak	**Coordinates**: 43.074383, -73.694604
Date of Last Survey: 6/27/22	**Waterbody Size**: 13 Miles comprises the entirety of Fish Creek
Recommended Date of Next Survey: Treatment in 2023	**Average Depth**: N/A
Has This Site Received Previous Management? *If so by who, when, what?* Water chestnut has been annually managed at this location for several years by the CR-PRISM, Kayak Shak, and local rowing team.	

Survey Techniques

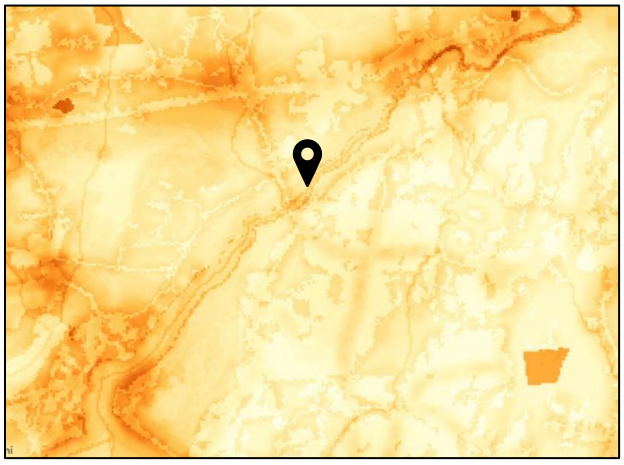
This survey was conducted using top-side visual methodology.

New York State Invasive Species Prioritization Model

Fish Creek is located near an area with a ***low to medium compressive score***

1. low to medium comprehensive score on the NYS Invasive Species Prioritization Model. Locations with lower comprehensive scores are less likely to have an ecological impact from aquatic invasive species.

NYS Invasive Species Prioritization Model



Aquatic Invasive Species Presence

Common Name	Scientific Name	Location (GPS)	Growth Type	Phenology	Abundance
Water chestnut	*Trapa natans*	Multiple locations	Floating	Dormant	N/A
Curly pondweed	*Potamogeton crispus*	Multiple locations	Submerged	In Growth	Dense Clumps
Eurasian water-milfoil	*Myriophyllum spicatum*	Multiple locations	Submerged	In Growth	Trace/Sparse
European Frogbit	*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*	Multiple locations	Floating	In Growth	Trace/Sparse

Water chestnut

- New York Non-Native Animal Invasiveness Ranking – 82
- http://nyis.info/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/61a2d_Trapa-natans-NYS.pdf

Curly Pondweed

- New York Non-Native Plant Invasiveness Ranking – 79
- https://nyis.info/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/7223b_Potamogeton.crispus.NYS_.pdf

Eurasian water-milfoil

- New York Non-Native Animal Invasiveness Ranking – 100
- http://nyis.info/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/5cdc8_Myriophyllum.spicatum.NYS_.pdf

European Frogbit

- New York Non-Native Plant Invasiveness Ranking – 85
- https://nyis.info/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/c6668_Hydrocharis-morsus-ranae.NYS_.pdf

Summary of Recommendations

Prevention

Prevention efforts are recommended to reduce the chance of new aquatic invasive species introductions into Fish Creek. Ensuring clean, drain, dry practices are being followed when transporting watercraft from one waterbody to another is recommended. Identifying and reporting any suspected aquatic invasive species is encouraged to ensure early detection. Rental property owners can take steps to educated their renters on the threats of aquatic invasive species and how they can prevent the spread into the waterbody they are visiting. Annual removal efforts of water chestnut and European frog-bit help to reduce spread to other areas of the waterbody.