



Capital Mohawk PRISM
Cornell Cooperative Extension | Saratoga
50 West High St.
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

Terrestrial and Aquatic Survey of Lake Bonita and Middle Pond

Date: 07.09.19

Survey Team: Gwendolyn Temple and Emily Caboot

Project Description: During Invasive Species Awareness Week, the Gwendolyn Temple and Emily Caboot surveyed around the trailhead parking lot for Lake Bonita as well around the water's edge for terrestrial and aquatic invasive species. The team then moved to Moreau Lake State Park to do an on-water survey of Middle Pond for aquatic invasive species.

Location: Moreau Lake State Park
605 Old Saratoga Rd,
Gansevoort, NY 12831

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Introduction: On July 9th, 2019, Gwendolyn Temple and Emily Caboot conducted surveys in Moreau Lake State Park specifically around Lake Bonita, for terrestrial and aquatic invasive species, as well as on Middle Pond, for aquatic invasive species. The team was looking for points of interest for management as this is part of the Capital Mohawk PRISM's Invasive Species Prevention Zone in conjunction with Invasive Species Awareness Week.

Invasive Species Survey: Lake Bonita

Common Name	Scientific Name	Locations (GPS)	Survey Type	Status	Time/Survey
Common Reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	43.2114, -73.76916	Aquatic/terrestrial ISAW survey	Small/medium cluster	90 minutes
Oriental Bittersweet	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>	43.21128, -73.46916	Aquatic/terrestrial ISAW survey	Dense plants/clumps	90 minutes
Black Locust	<i>Robina pseudoacacia</i>	43.20384, - 72.76775	Aquatic/terrestrial ISAW survey	Single plant/clump	90 minutes

Findings and Recommendations: Terrestrial invasive species detected at Lake Bonita and Middle Pond.

Lake Bonita – Findings: Lake Bonita is part of Moreau State Park and is accessible from Wilton Mountain Road. The lake trail is a 2 mile loop around the lake. The trailhead parking lot was sparse with vegetation. The only invasive species detected in this area was a single, small black locust plant. The team hiked the water's edge to find only a medium sized clump of common reed and a dense clump of oriental bittersweet. Both of these were found on the far side of the Lake from the parking area. Otherwise, the shore of the lake was full of native vegetation. Additionally found on the shore of the south side of the lake towards the western end was a portion of a deer carcass.

Moreau State Park Lake – Findings: Moreau is a complex of glacial lakes in which the ground water aquifer breaches the surface. The complex is made of three lakes with a total shore line 4.24 miles. The team paddled across Moreau Lake to Middle pond, on kayaks, where the survey was conducted. Through the survey, there were

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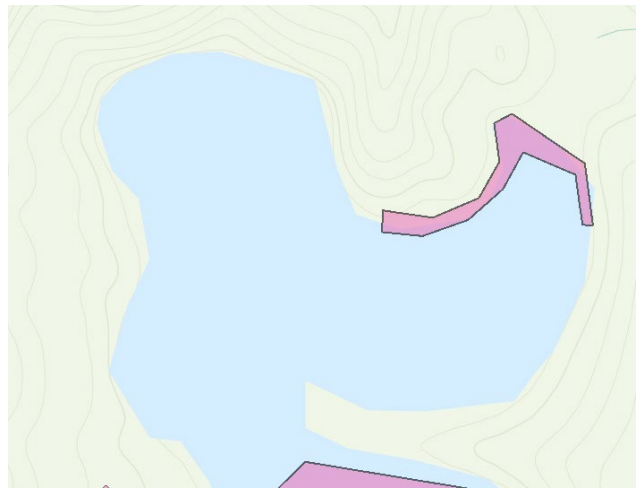
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no aquatic invasive species detected. Native species of American white lily pads, pond weed and duck weed were all found in the lake. Along the ponds edge, however, there were dense clumps of common reed.

Recommendations: Remove the black locust, single plant, at the Lake Bonita trailhead parking area to avoid expansion. Continue to monitor and manage the common reed and oriental bittersweet clusters as they are small and currently contained to the far side of the Lake. Monitoring Middle Pond should continue for aquatic invasive species. Continue to manage and monitor the common reed, on the edge of the pond. Moreau Lake State Park is designated by the Capital Mohawk PRISM as an Invasive Species Prevention Zone (ISPZ). Recommendation for the deer carcass is to research the cause of death for this animal.



Lake Bonita



Middle Pond

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