

Big Lake

Twenty-one native species and two invasive species (Eurasian Water-milfoil and Curly-leaf Pondweed) were detected throughout Big Lake (Table 2). The majority of species were detected in the main body of Big Lake and Palmer Bay and relatively few species were detected in Michigan Bay (Figure 8). Throughout the entire lake, species diversity and plant community integrity were at moderate levels, with a Floristic Quality Index value of 28.28. The invasive species EWM and CLP were both detected along the southern shore of Big Lake. Throughout the southern end of the lake, CLP was only detected at one discrete point, while EWM was found at a low density throughout much of the littoral area. EWM was also found in one ~1-acre bed at high densities.

Native Species	Common Name	Big	Big - Michigan Bay	Big - Palmer Bay
<i>Bidens beckii</i>	Water marigold	1	0	1
<i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i>	Coontail	1	0	1
<i>Ceratophyllum echinatum</i>	Spiny hornwort	1	0	0
<i>Elodea canadensis</i>	Common waterweed	1	1	1
<i>Lemna trisulca</i>	Forked duckweed	1	0	0
<i>Myriophyllum sibiricum</i>	Northern water-milfoil	1	0	1
<i>Najas flexilis</i>	Slender naiad	1	0	0
<i>Najas gracillima</i>	Northern naiad	1	0	1
<i>Potamogeton alpinus</i>	Alpine pondweed	0	1	0
<i>Potamogeton amplifolius</i>	Large-leaf pondweed	1	1	0
<i>Potamogeton foliosus</i>	Leafy pondweed	1	0	1
<i>Potamogeton friesii</i>	Fries' pondweed	1	0	1
<i>Potamogeton nodosus</i>	Long-leaf pondweed	0	0	1
<i>Potamogeton obtusifolius</i>	Blunt-leaf pondweed	1	0	1
<i>Potamogeton praelongus</i>	White-stem pondweed	1	0	0
<i>Potamogeton richardsonii</i>	Clasping-leaf pondweed	1	0	1
<i>Potamogeton robbinsii</i>	Fern pondweed	1	1	1
<i>Potamogeton vaseyi</i>	Vasey's pondweed	0	0	1
<i>Potamogeton zosteriformis</i>	Flat-stem pondweed	1	0	1
<i>Ranunculus aquatilis</i>	White water crowfoot	1	0	0
<i>Vallisneria americana</i>	Wild celery	1	0	0
Invasive Species				
<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>	Curly-leaf Pondweed	1	0	0
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	Eurasian Water-milfoil	1	0	0
Species Detected		18	4	13
Floristic Quality Index		28.28	13.50	23.85

Table 2 – Aquatic plant abundance and relative quality estimates for Big Lake.

Figure 8 - Distribution of Native and Invasive Species in Big Lake

