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
Bidens beckii	Water marigold	1	0	1
Ceratophyllum demersum	Coontail	1	0	1
Ceratophyllum echinatum	Spiny hornwort	1	0	0
Elodea canadensis	Common waterweed	1	1	1
Lemna trisulca	Forked duckweed	1	0	0
Myriophyllum sibiricum	Northern water-milfoil	1	0	1
Najas flexilis	Slender naiad	1	0	0
Najas gracillima	Northern naiad	1	0	1
Potamogeton alpinus	Alpine pondweed	0	1	0
Potamogeton amplifolius	Large-leaf pondweed	1	1	0
Potamogeton foliosus	Leafy pondweed	1	0	1
Potamogeton friesii	Fries' pondweed	1	0	1
Potamogeton nodosus	Long-leaf pondweed	0	0	1
Potamogeton obtusifolius	Blunt-leaf pondweed	1	0	1
Potamogeton praelongus	White-stem pondweed	1	0	0
Potamogeton richardsonii	Clasping-leaf pondweed	1	0	1
Potamogeton robbinsii	Fern pondweed	1	1	1
Potamogeton vaseyi	Vasey's pondweed	0	0	1
Potamogeton zosteriformis	Flat-stem pondweed	1	0	1
Ranunculus aquatilis	White water crowfoot	1	0	0
Vallisneria americana	Wild celery	1	0	0
Invasive Species				
Potamogeton crispus	Curly-leaf Pondweed	1	0	0
Myriophyllum spicatum	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.

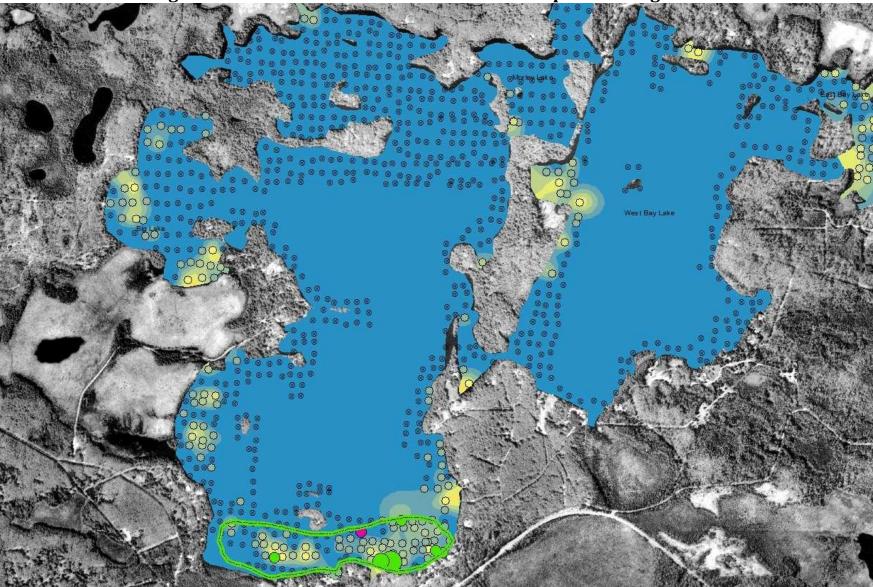


Figure 8 – Distribution of Native and Invasive Species in Big Lake