RIDEM Office of Water Resources

Monitoring and Assessment Program

Aquatic Invasive Species Monitoring Field Report

LAKE NAME: Upper Dam Pond
Waterbody ID: RI0006014L-04
Coventry, RI
Watershed: Pawtuxet River Basin
Date Surveyed: August 28th, 2020

Investigation

On Friday, August 28th, 2020, two personnel from RI DEM investigated the presence of aquatic invasive species (AIS) in Upper Dam Pond in Coventry, RI (Figure 1). This visit was part of routine monitoring provided by RI DEM to identify native and invasive species in freshwater waterbodies. The RI DEM team launched two kayaks from a town beach off White Rock Road and paddled the perimeter of the pond approximately 0.52 miles, identifying plants in the littoral zone (Figure 1). The weather was partially cloudy, and the water was dark and cloudy green.

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Observed

- *Myriophyllum heterophyllum* (variable milfoil)
- *Myriophyllum spicatum* (Eurasian milfoil)
- *Corbicula fluminea* (Asian clam)

Native Aquatic Species Observed

- *Nymphaea odorata* (White water lily)
- *Nuphar variegata* (Yellow water lily)
- *Brasenia sp*. (watershield)
- *Utricularia sp.* (bladderwort, unspecified)

Emergent Species Observed

- No emergent species observed.

Herbicide Treatments
RIDEM OWR has no herbicide permit applications on record from 1997 to 2020.

Comments

The RI DEM team boated around the perimeter of Upper Dam Pond, identifying native and invasive plant species in the littoral zone (Figure 1). The RI DEM team had a hard time paddling the pond due to the thick density of submerged *Myriophyllum heterophyllum* (Variable milfoil) and thick density of floating *Brasenia sp.* (water shield) (Figure 2, Figure 3). Overall, the entire waterbody was difficult to paddle as the density of plants left very little open water to boat (Figure 4). The water was dark and 6 inches under the water surface there was a layer of cloudy green water. The cloudy water supports evidence that there may be an invasive carp population within the waterbody. The RI DEM team observed large fish jumping out of the water near their kayaks similar to carp behavior. The team also observed that the water levels were extremely low.

Figures

Figure 1: Aerial map (from Google Earth) of Upper Dam Pond showing path of AIS Monitoring Survey (in red)

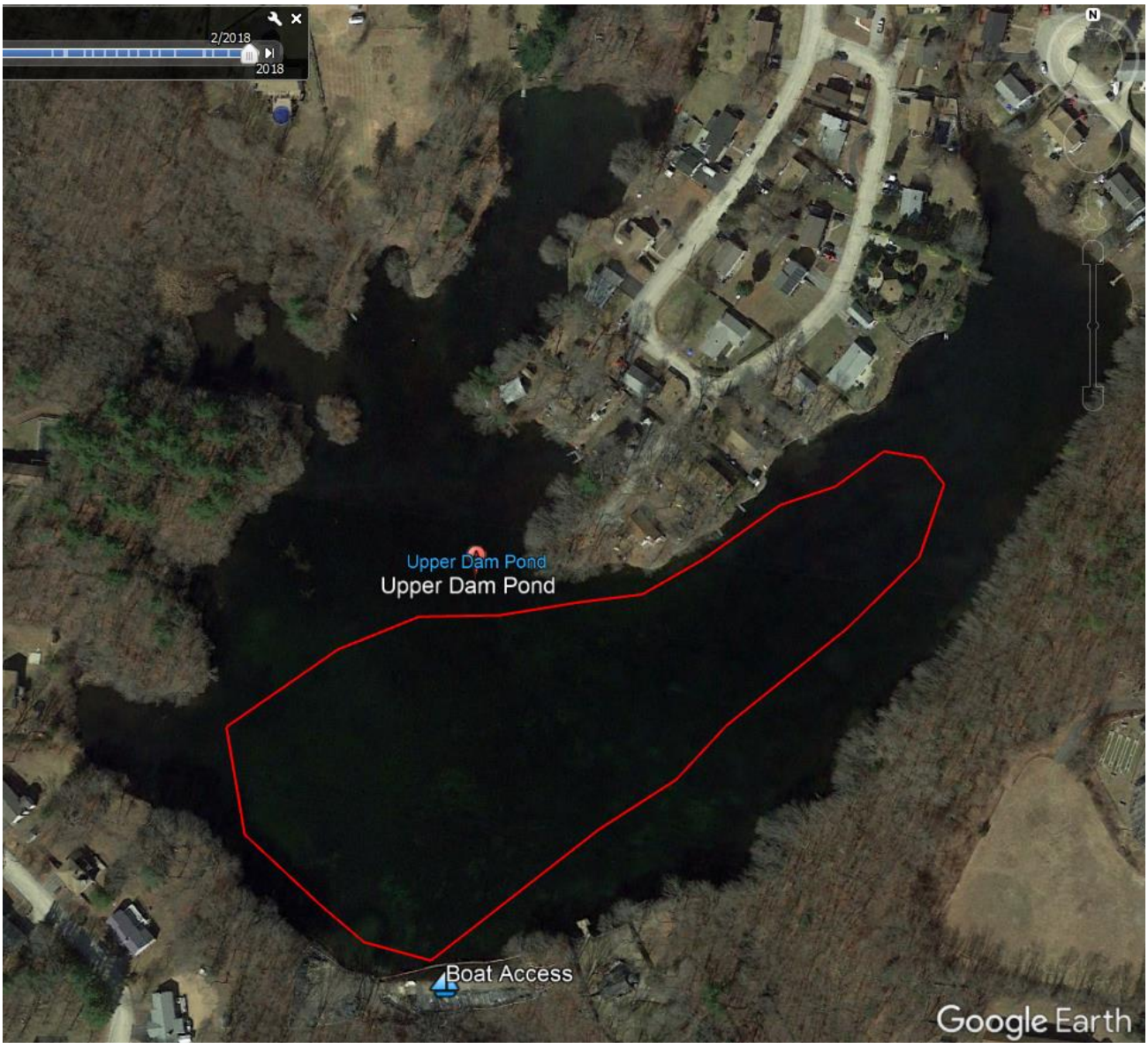

Figure 2: Thick layer of Variable milfoil submerged in upper Dam Pond.

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Figure 3. Thick layer of water shield covering Upper Dam Pond.

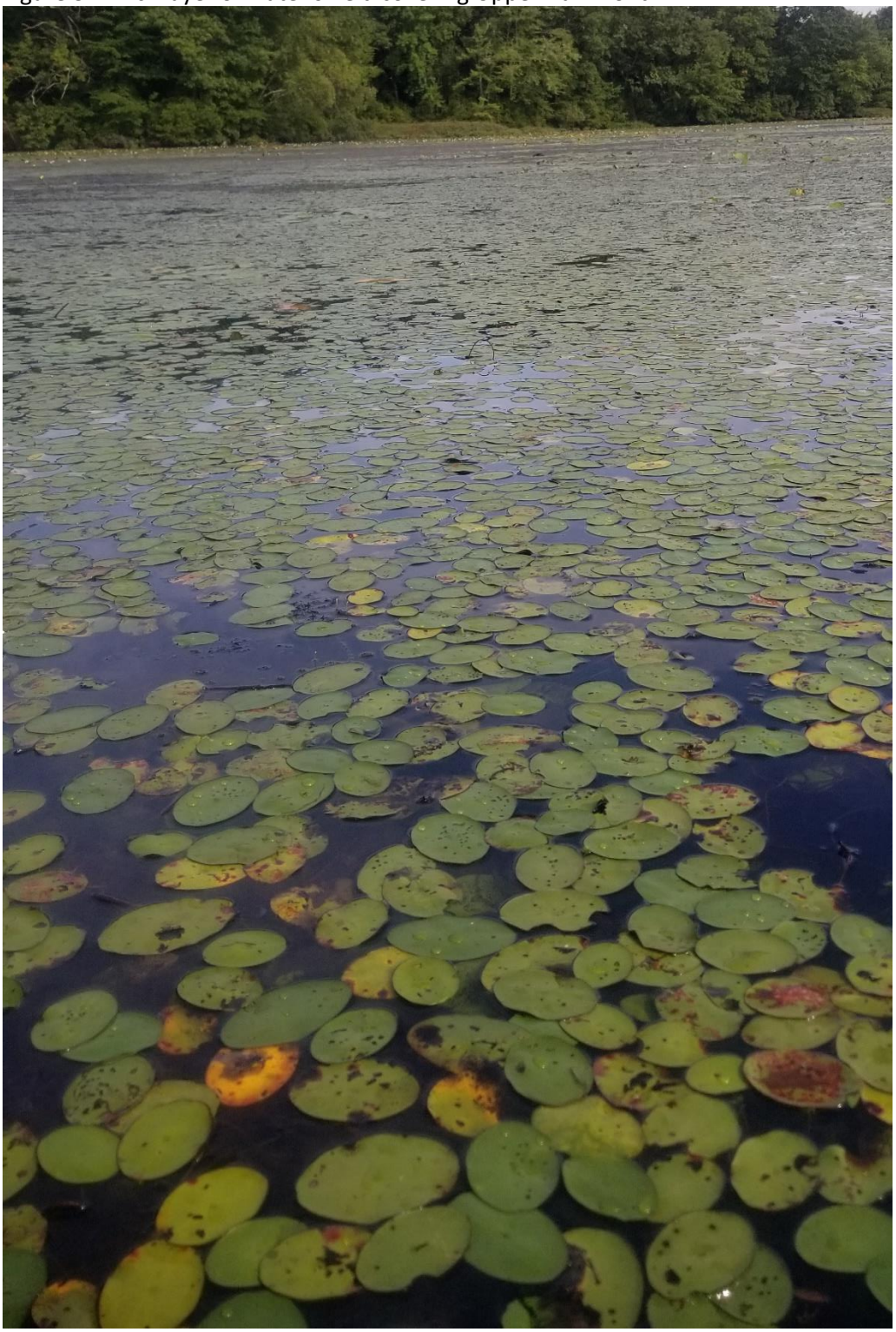

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Figure 4. Surface coverage at Upper Dam Pond.

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