

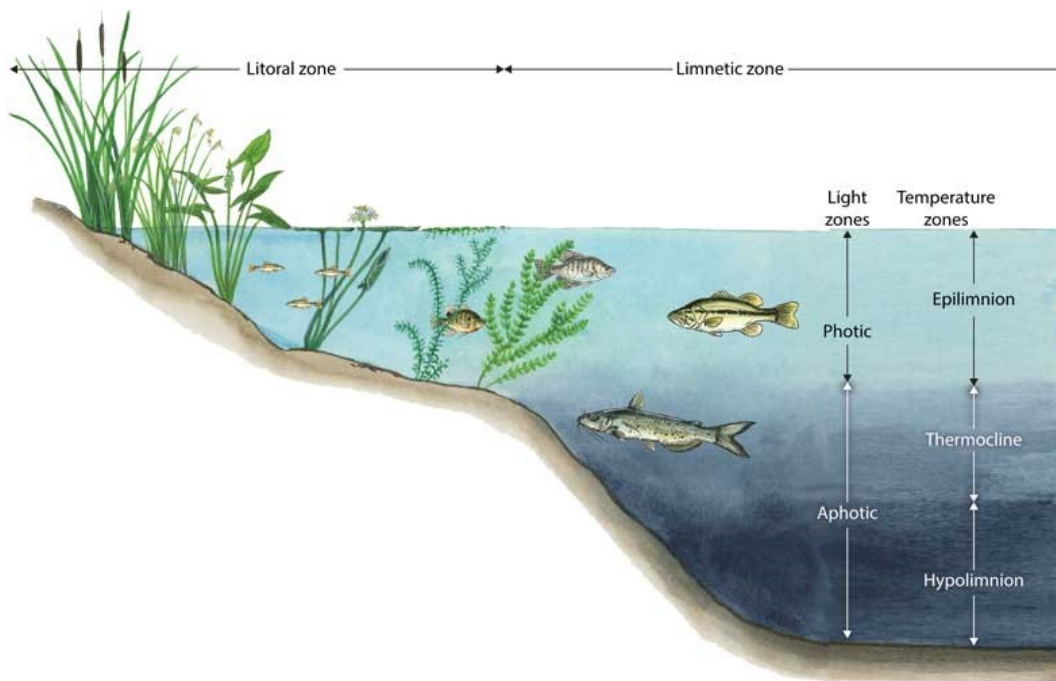


Lake Evaluation Summary

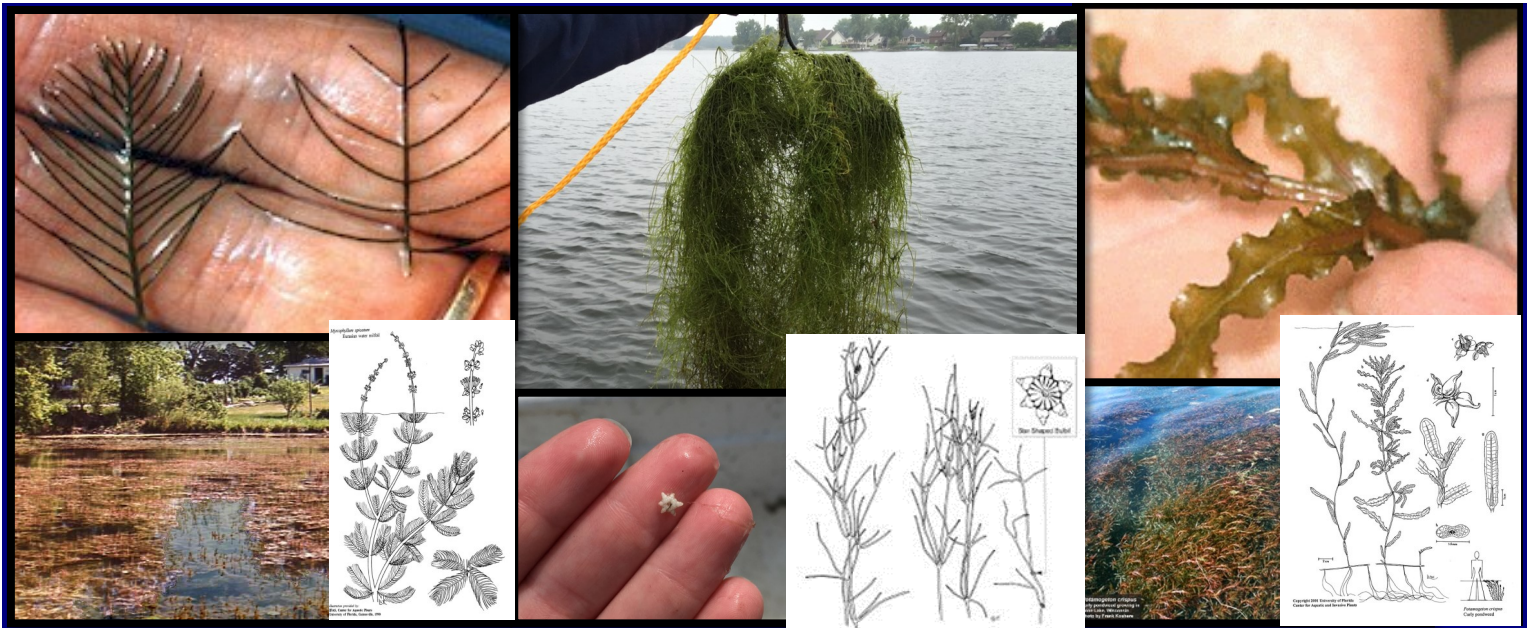
Lake Name: Ann Lake **County:** Benzie

Evaluated by: Eric R. and Sal A. **Reviewed by:** Bre Grabill

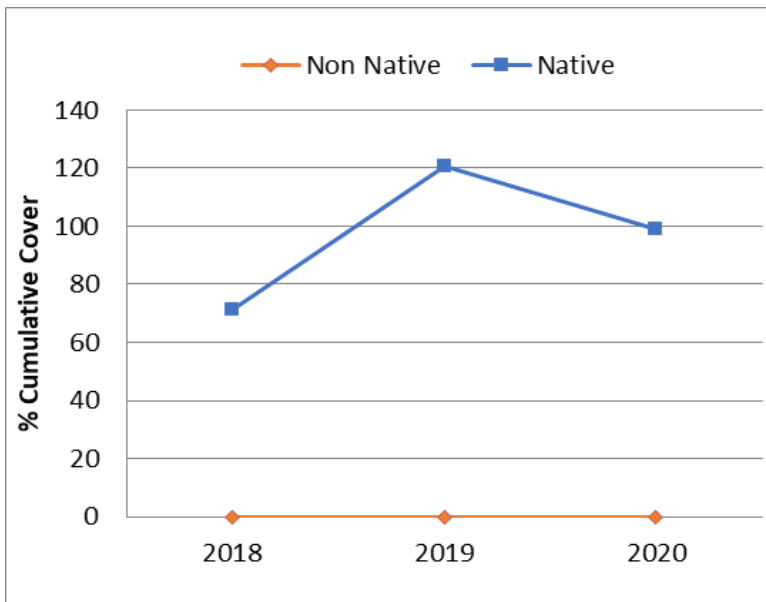
Date: Aug. 2020



Ann Lake was surveyed in August 2020, by experienced PLM scientists. The goal of this survey was to identify any exotic species and document native plant diversity. An AVAS Survey was performed, using EGLE approved survey techniques which broke the lake down into 82 segments to document all vegetation present by species and density. August is an ideal time for finding peak biomass in this geographical area. Out of the 82 sites surveyed, 20 native species were found and no nonnative species were identified. Native milfoil was found and determined to be Northern milfoil. Overall, the growth in Ann Lake was moderate to high and Chara, Naiad, Northern milfoil and various pondweeds were the most prevalent species found. Chara is a vital part of the lake ecosystem, providing sediment control and is a natural filter for the lake, while providing habitat for fish.



Exotic Plants—Exotic plant species cause most of the serious weed problems in Michigan’s lakes. Exotic plants (or nonnative) are plants that are not native to this geographical area, which have been brought to the region inadvertently. Because they often have few natural enemies (their pests, pathogens, etc. may not have come over with them) therefore, they grow out of control. When exotic aquatic plants such Eurasian watermilfoil, Starry stonewort and Curlyleaf pondweed invade a lake, they often form extensive dense populations, crowd out native species, negatively impact fisheries, reducing the quality of habitat for other organisms and impacting the entire lake ecosystem. Management efforts are underway across Michigan to reduce the spread of nonnative aquatic plants, yet typically property owners and local municipalities are left to oversee and pay for management efforts.



This graph compares native plant cover to nonnative plant cover throughout Ann Lake. Participating in an annual management program, allows plant trends to be tracked over time. This allows for oversight over nonnative plants as well as tracking new infestations of any plants (early detection rapid response for nonnative species) and fluctuations in the native plant community. An annual management program can be vital in tracking changes over time and a great addition to any citizen scientist programs underway.

Ann Lake’s Recommended Management Program:

- Survey Program including:
 - Annual AVAS Survey
- Water quality evaluation (optional)