

2024 Eurasian Watermilfoil Search for Briggs Lake Chain

- **Rush Lake** (#71-0147)
- **Briggs Lake** (#71-0146)
- **Julia Lake** (#71-0145)

Surveyed September , 2024



Surveys, Analysis, & Reporting by:

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Purpose of Surveys

These surveys were conducted to assess the presence, distribution, and density of any Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) in Briggs Lake, Julia Lake, Rush Lake. The results from these surveys will help to guide management of EWM in the lakes and meet DNR permit and grant requirements.

Survey Methods

EWM Search & Delineation Surveys

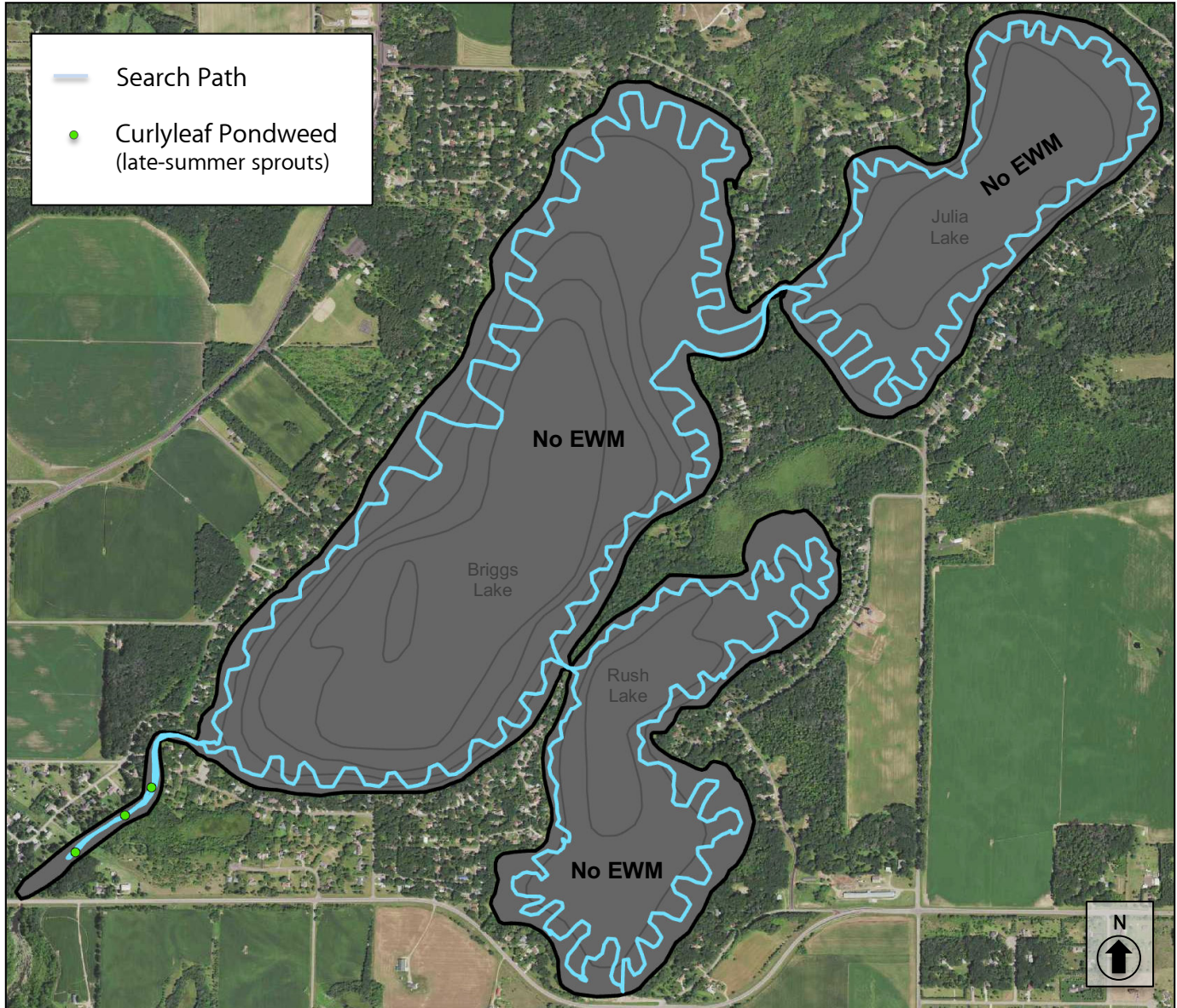
Freshwater Scientific Services surveyed Briggs, Julia, and Rush Lake on September 20, 2024. Rush Lake has had EWM growth documented in the past, but management (hand-pulling and herbicide) has successfully controlled these areas of EWM. Briggs and Julia have had no known occurrences of Eurasian watermilfoil. During each of these surveys, we navigated a meandering search path over the vegetated portion of each lake while using a combination of surface observations, sonar readings, and rake tosses to locate and delineate any areas of EWM growth. Sonar and visual assessments were conducted continuously, with subsequent rake tosses to assess EWM presence and abundance at locations where plants were not identifiable from the surface. While searching for EWM, we also noted any additional aquatic invasive species (AIS) that we encountered.

Results & Management Context

During the 2024 surveys, we did not find any areas of EWM in the northern three lakes of the chain (Briggs, Julia, or Rush; map on page 3). This indicates that the past management of EWM in Rush Lake has provided excellent long-term control of the previously identified EWM patches, and has kept EWM from expanding into Briggs and Julia. While searching for EWM, we also noted some areas with late-summer sprouting of curlyleaf pondweed (CLP) in the Briggs bayou. A small portion of curlyleaf turions in lake sediments typically sprout in the fall, so this is not concerning. These CLP plants will not produce turions this year, and will likely not survive the winter if we receive normal ice-cover and snowfall (blocks out light). We did not find any additional AIS during our surveys.

Briggs Lake Chain

2024 Eurasian Watermilfoil Search & Delineation Surveys



Surveyed: Sept 20, 2024
Methods: Visual, Sonar, Rake
Surveyor: JA Johnson



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Online Resources & Contacts

Minnesota Administrative Rules for Aquatic Plant Management
<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/?id=6280>

Minnesota DNR – Aquatic Plant Management Regulations & Permit Application Forms
<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/apm/index.html>

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