

Invasive Plant Survey Report 2020 (Volunteer Team)

Water Bodies: Wilson, Dexter and Berry Ponds

Location: Monmouth, Winthrop, and Wayne, Maine

MIDAS #: 3832, 3830, 3828

Survey Level Type: Level 2

Date(s): July 13, 2020 – September 6, 2020

IPP Survey Leader/Coordinator: Susan Onion, 414 Hardscrabble Rd., Wayne, ME 04284
(207) 636-7353 (IPP Cert#: ON-1442)

Surveyors:

Volunteers: Marcia Jackson, Sue Firlotte, Bob Sands, Carol Grandstaff, Glenn Griswold, Mary Griswold, Sam Onion, Susan Onion, Fritz Onion, Andrew Tarrant, Tyler Kidder, Steve Kolenda, Jan Kolenda, Tim Byron

Staff: Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed

Survey Hours:

IPP Volunteers: 23.5 hours on the water

IPP Survey Coordinator/Leader: 7 hours, organizing, outreach and reporting

FOCW Paid staff: 42.75 hours on the water

Survey Purpose: Survey high risk areas on Berry, Dexter and Wilson Ponds for invasive aquatic plants, specifically, Eurasian and Variable Leaf Milfoil

Results: No invasive Milfoil was found

Summary:

In its fourth year as an IPP team, 14 volunteers surveyed Wilson, Dexter and Berry Ponds for invasive aquatic plants. The team was tasked specifically with surveying for invasive Milfoils.

Although the Berry, Dexter, Wilson Ponds Watershed Association was not able to hold a refresher/new recruitment training session for people interested in joining the team due to COVID19, the majority of the 2019 survey team agreed to survey their same sectors again during summer 2020. Some members of this current team have expressed interest in completing the full IPP certification course sometime in the future.

Team training: The majority of the Berry, Dexter, Wilson Ponds Watershed Association's team has participated in training to identify Milfoil. 4 members of the 2020 Volunteer IPP team attended a combined *Milfoil 101/plant paddle* class offered by FOCW in summer 2019. 8 members of the team attended *Milfoil 101* and *How to Survey (Plant Paddle)* classes provided by FOCW and CWD staff in summer 2017. 2 members of the team are certified IPP surveyors.

In summer 2020, teams were assigned plant rich sectors on Berry, Dexter, and Wilson Ponds to survey. Volunteer surveys were completed over a period of several weeks between July 13 to September 6th, while FOCW staff completed surveys in early July.

Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed staff surveyed sectors of highest risk around established boat launches, dense aquatic plant growth regions and near roadside access points. Some of the sectors were also revisited by volunteers later in the summer.

Sectors surveyed by FOCW staff

- Wilson Pond sectors: 1, 2, 3 & 7
- Berry/Dexter Ponds sectors: 2, 3 & 4

Berry, Dexter, Wilson Ponds Watershed Association volunteers surveyed areas along familiar shorelines.

Sectors surveyed by BDW Ponds Assoc. volunteers

- Wilson Pond sectors: 4, 5, 6, 6A, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14
- Berry/Dexter Ponds sectors: 1

(See attached maps for volunteer and FOCW staff sector assignment locations)

Volunteer teams reported survey hours and results to IPP survey leader, Susan Onion. Reports from Susan Onion and Sam Onion detailing aquatic plants in their specific surveyed sectors are attached. Complete reports from the FOCW staff for survey results on Wilson and Berry Ponds have been submitted separately by Toni Pied, staff member at Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed.