

Interstate Early Detection and Rapid Response

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

BALL STATE UNIVERSITY Interstate EDRR Phase IV project



Improve and refine the



system to inland waters of Great Lakes States and Tribal territories



Develop best practice guidance for aquatic plant surveillance methods

Obj. i: Facilitate regional surveillance meeting

- Feb 2023 Ann Arbor
- First post covid in person meeting but hybrid format
- Winter ice storm
- No cost extension Feb 20-22 (Ann Arbor) 2024.



Obj ii: Refine Great Lakes site prioritization

- Develop new underlying framework
- Based on the GLAHF 9x9km regular grid cells
- However, grid cells often are not centered on sites of interest like harbors
- Did not extend into St Lawrence
- A larger grid cell would mitigate this issue

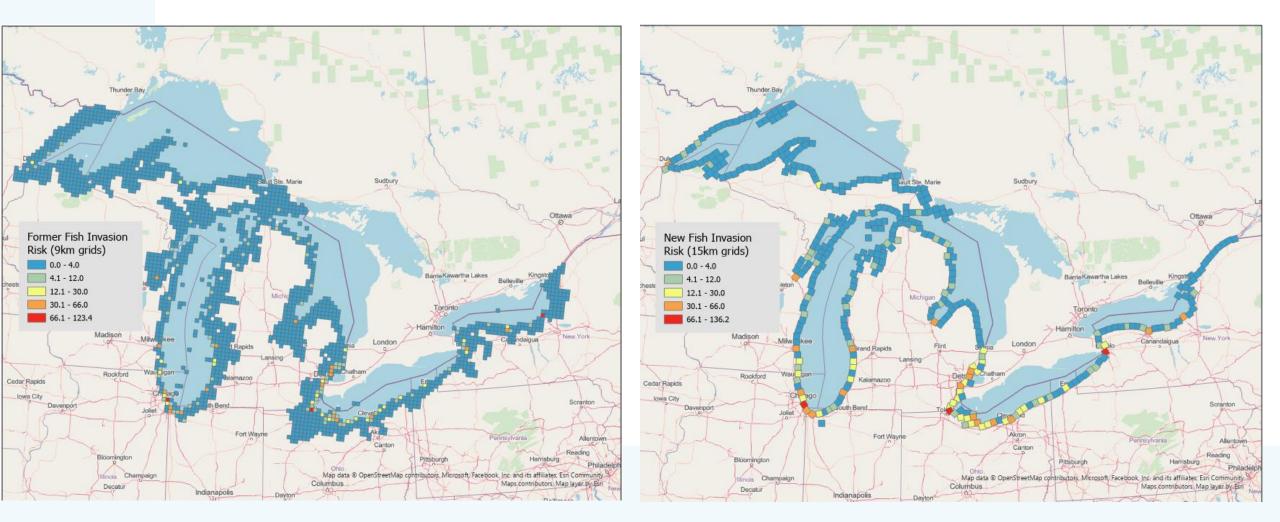


New 15km Risk Grid Centered on Former High Priority Sites

- Framework completed
- Attributed with invasion risk layers

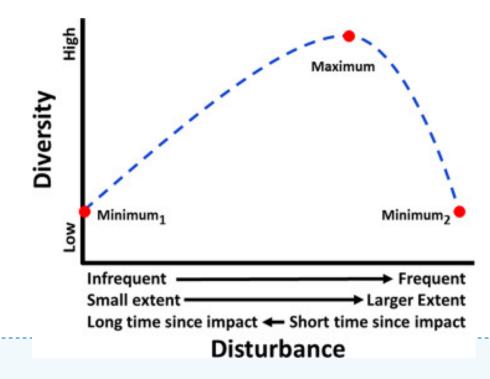






Anthropogenic Disturbances

Attributing grid squares with these as we speak

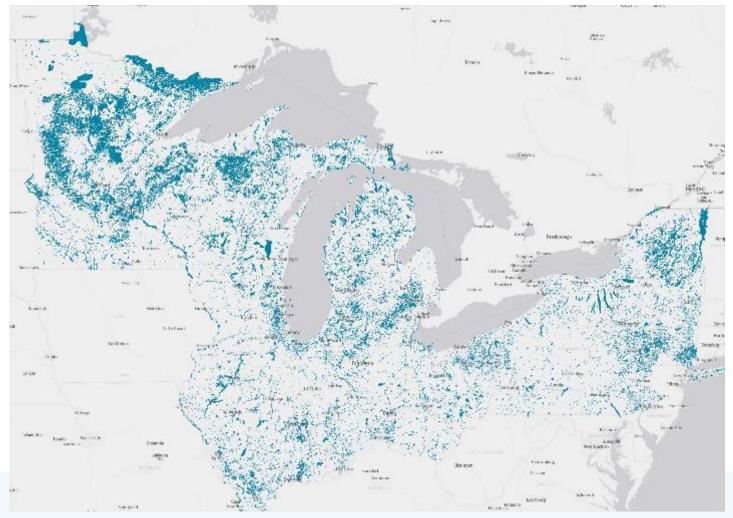




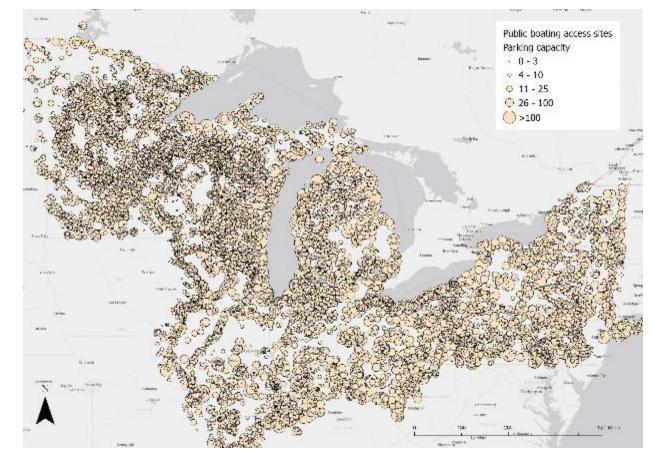
Next Steps

- Incorporate Connectivity data
- Build out habitat diversity measures for each grid square. (*winter /spring 24*)
 (e.g. depth, substrate, exposure, lacustrine wetlands, SAV)
- Empirical analyses to look at best predictors of invasive species and native species richness (as a surrogate measure of habitat suitability). (*Summer 23*)

- Baseline dataset of inland lakes/ponds
 - All lake/pond/reservoir waterbodies > 4 ha
 - Sources: NHDPlus V2 + additional water bodies
 >10 acres from other sources
 - Approx. 78,000 lakes
 - Related each lake to its local catchment, watershed and network

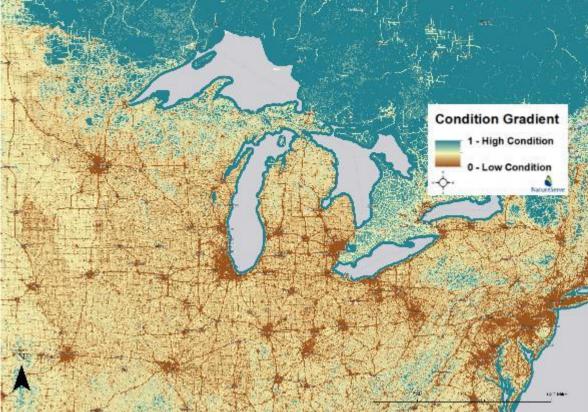


- Model inputs
 - Invasion pressure
 - Locations and size of public boat access sites
 - Population within a radius of the lake
 - Connectivity to waters known to be invaded
 - Recreational boating connectivity model



Locations and sizes of public boating access sites

- Model inputs
 - Habitat suitability: How likely is it that an invasive species will become established if it reaches a site?
 - Lake depth
 - Water temperature range
 - Water quality
 - Disturbance level
 - Lake condition: How significant is the potential impact of invasion?
 - Condition of catchment landscape
 - Degree of shoreline development
 - Protection status
 - Recreational value



NatureServe landscape condition index

Summary of inland lake input data collected/calculated/attributed

Physical/hydrology

- Surface area of lake, catchment, watershed
- Perimeter/area ratio
- Measured or estimated max, mean lake depth
- Natural or reservoir
- #s of upstream and downstream lakes, total number of connected lakes and area of connected surface water
- Is it connected to the GL via surface water? Are there any dams/barriers along the path?

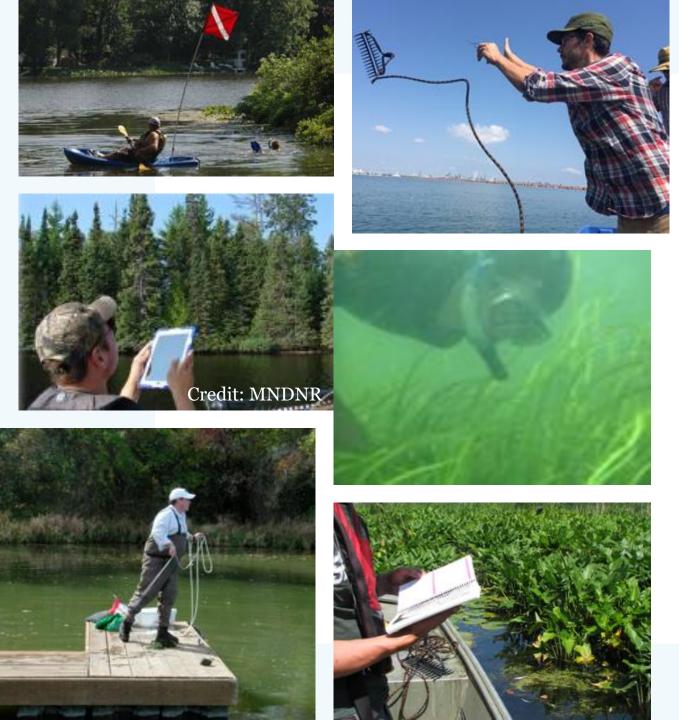
Invasion pressure

- # of invaded upstream lakes and stream distance to nearest (calc so far for zebra mussel, stonewort, EWM)
- Is there public boat access/how many parking spaces
- Population within 0.4, 5 km of shoreline
- EnviroAtlas freshwater fishing demand
- Road density/impervious surface % in catchment/watershed
- Density of artificial ponds in catchment (USFWS wetland layer)
- % of catchment that is protected

Habitat suitability

- Range of monthly average air temperatures (working on LST)
- Normalized Difference Chlorophyll index from Sentinel-2 imagery
- NatureServe landscape condition index
- TNC's Midwest freshwater resilience analysis datasets
- Mean synthetic fertilizer application rate in catchment/watershed (from LakeCat database)

- Finished collecting/cleaning model inputs
- Have collate additional AIS and native species distribution data for inland lakes:
- Plant, fish and invertebrate
- NFWF aquatic plant data is in hand
- Run initial empirical models to explore relationship between variables and patterns of invasion on landscape.



Objective iv. Develop best practice guidance for aquatic plant surveillance methods in inland lakes

- Technical workshop (and associated documentation) on IAP early detection monitoring methods
 - Traditional methods (Feb)
 - Remote sensing and eDNA (March)
- An **annotated bibliography** of relevant IAP early detection monitoring methods
- Draft best practices guidance document that summarizes recommendations for early detection of IAP in inland lakes