

BLUE LAKE AQUATIC PLANT SURVEY 2013-2014

One of the recommendations of the 2011 Lake Management Plan for Blue Lake, Minocqua, WI was that comprehensive aquatic plant surveys should be done every five years. This report covers the second survey that was done five years after the original survey.

During the summer of 2013 the East lobe of Blue Lake was surveyed and during the summer of 2014 the West lobe was surveyed. As in the past, a two sided rake was thrown and allowed to reach the bottom of the lake. It was then retrieved and the plants on it were identified and ranked according concentration, both a total rake fullness rating, and the concentration of each species found on the rake.

Blue Lake has 962 different sampling points and each was sampled except for a small number that were skipped. If, in a particular area, the rake came up empty of vegetation for three consecutive throws, thereafter every other point was sampled until some vegetation was found. At this time the last point skipped was then sampled to insure nothing was missed.

Although the sample points were identified by latitude and longitude in both the original survey and this one, various factors, such as GPS accuracy limits or boat drift during sampling, affected where the rake actually touched bottom. We allow that there would be some differences in readings from one survey to the next. That being said, we found no great surprises. **WE FOUND NO EVIDENCE OF ANY NON-NATIVE (INVASIVE) PLANTS DURING THIS SURVEY.** As always, one must not let down their guard and must stay aware of the possibility of their introduction. Make sure all boats are not bringing any aquatic invasive species into the lake. When on or in the water, look for evidence of non-native plants. Become familiar with what the most common invasives look like, especially Eurasian Water Milfoil and Curly Leaf Pondweed.

The total number of species identified during this survey increased over the first go around. This is mainly attributed to the higher experience level of the samplers. Many things learned the first time around were used to improve the sampling methods used and thus made things work more efficiently and accurately. The East lobe had 24 species identified and the West lobe had 29 species identified.

The Floristic Quality Index (FQI) for the East lobe was 32.25 compared with 26.59 five years before. Again, we attribute the increase mainly to better sampling techniques. For the West lobe the FQI was 36.21 compared with 36.33, for the most part no change. For a more detailed explanation of the Floristic Quality Index, please refer to the Lake Management Plan for Blue Lake, Minocqua, WI, submitted January 2, 2011. Since all of the species found in the East lobe were also found in the west lobe, the overall lake FQI is also 36.21.

The pages following (Part I) will show a graphic representation of plant species found at each sampling point. The size and intensity of the dots represent the concentration of the different species as measured by rake fullness of the sampling rake. The Total Rake Fullness chart depicts the relative concentration of all species at a given point.

Additional pages (Part II) will show the species found at each sampling point (Raw Data).

Further (Part III) will show the Floristic Quality Index (FQI) for this survey.

PEOPLE WHO HELPED WITH THE 2013-2014 AQUATIC PLANT SURVEY

SPECIAL THANKS ARE IN ORDER FOR THE FOLLOWING WHO GRACIOUSLY OFFERED TIME AND TALENT:

BLUE LAKE

Bill Clark

Fred Haag

Cheryl Kamba

Sylvia Knust

Janine Myers

Mayra Myers

Dan Pagel

Sue Pagel

DNR/UW-EXTENSION/UWSP

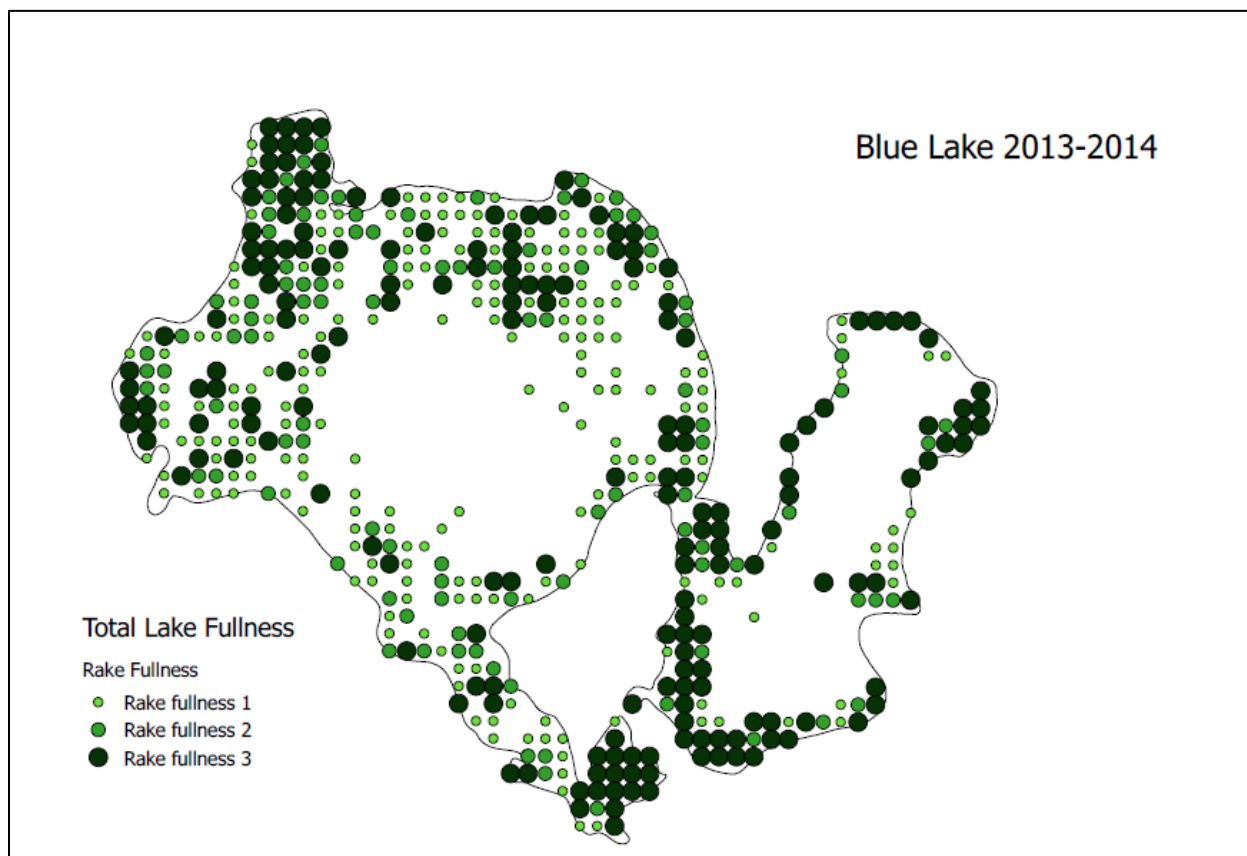
Paul Frater

Christine Koeller

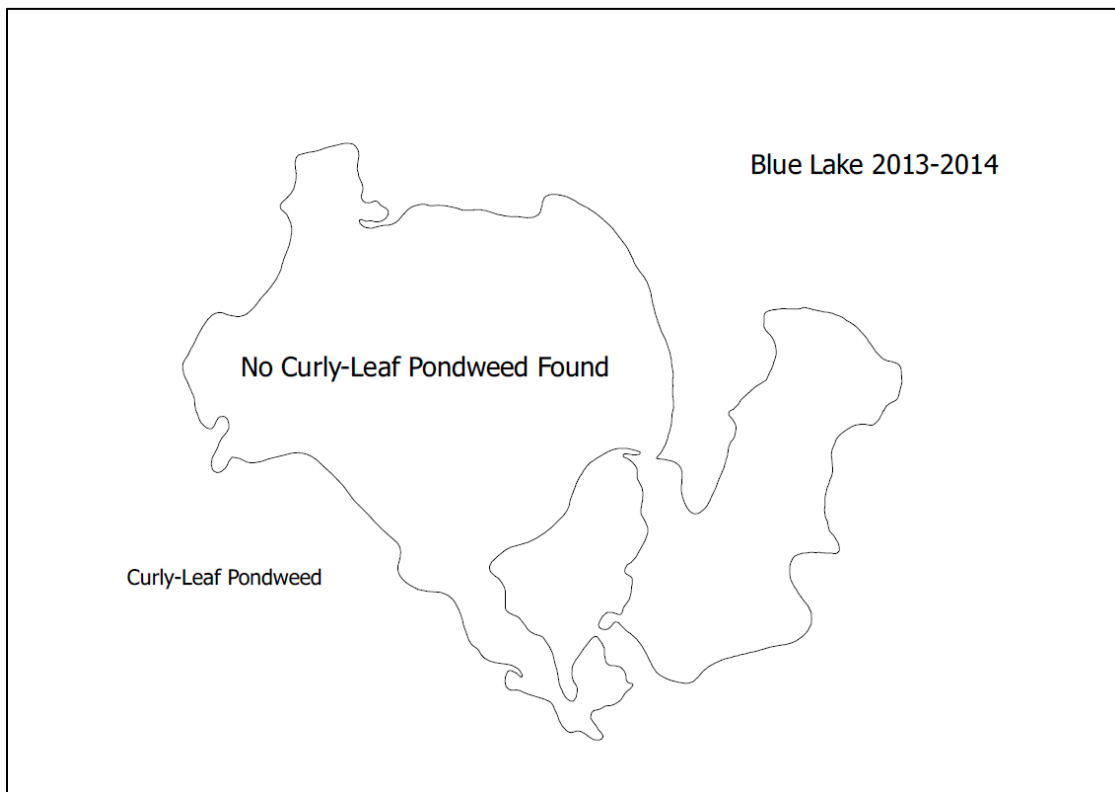
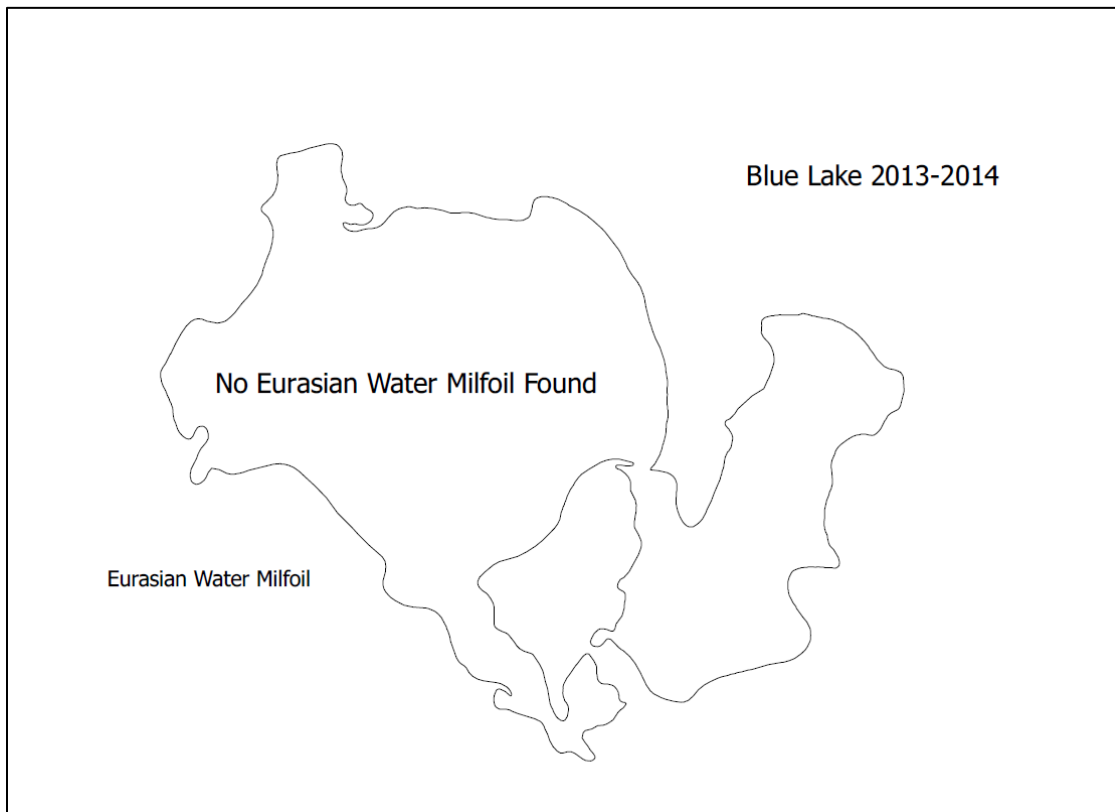
Sandy Wickman

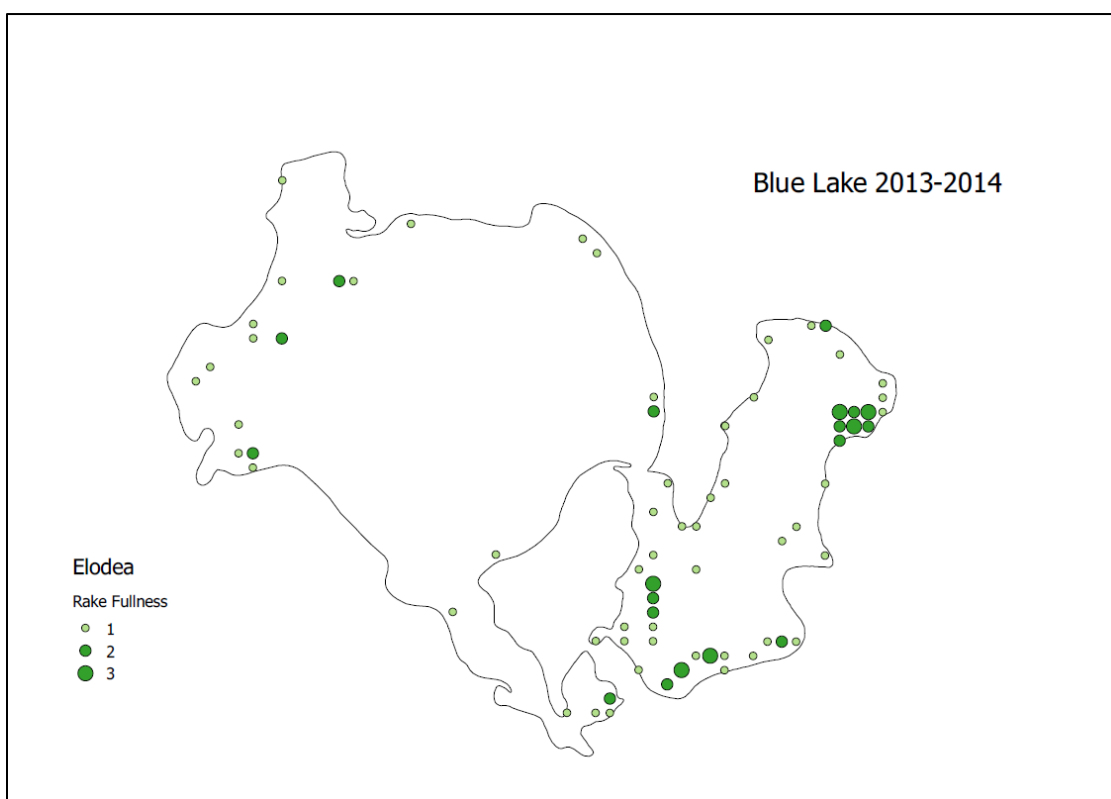
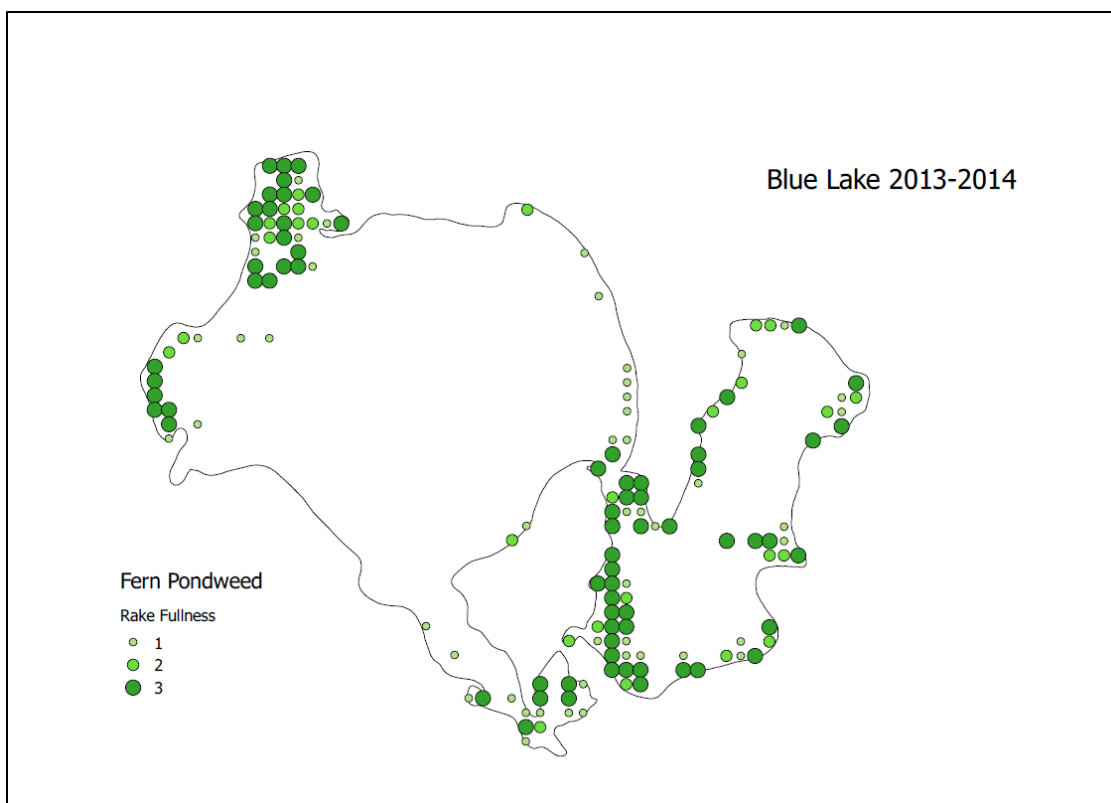
Part I Aquatic Plant Survey 2013-2014

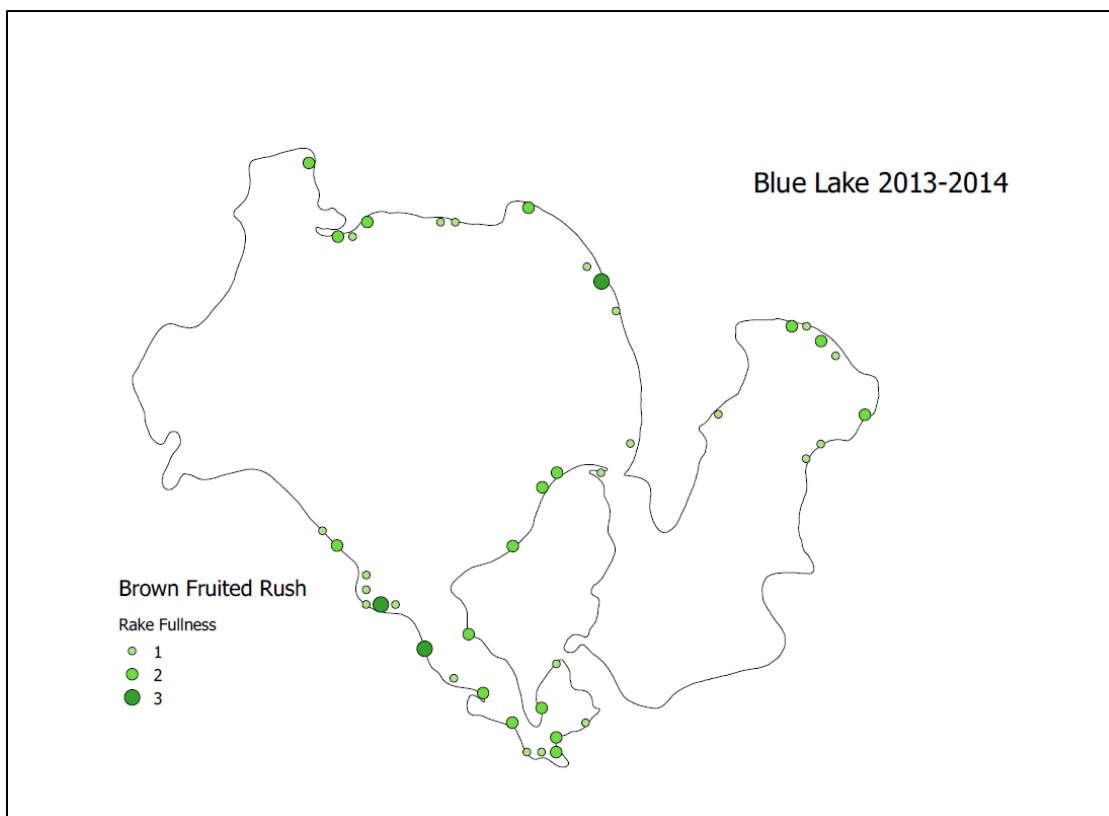
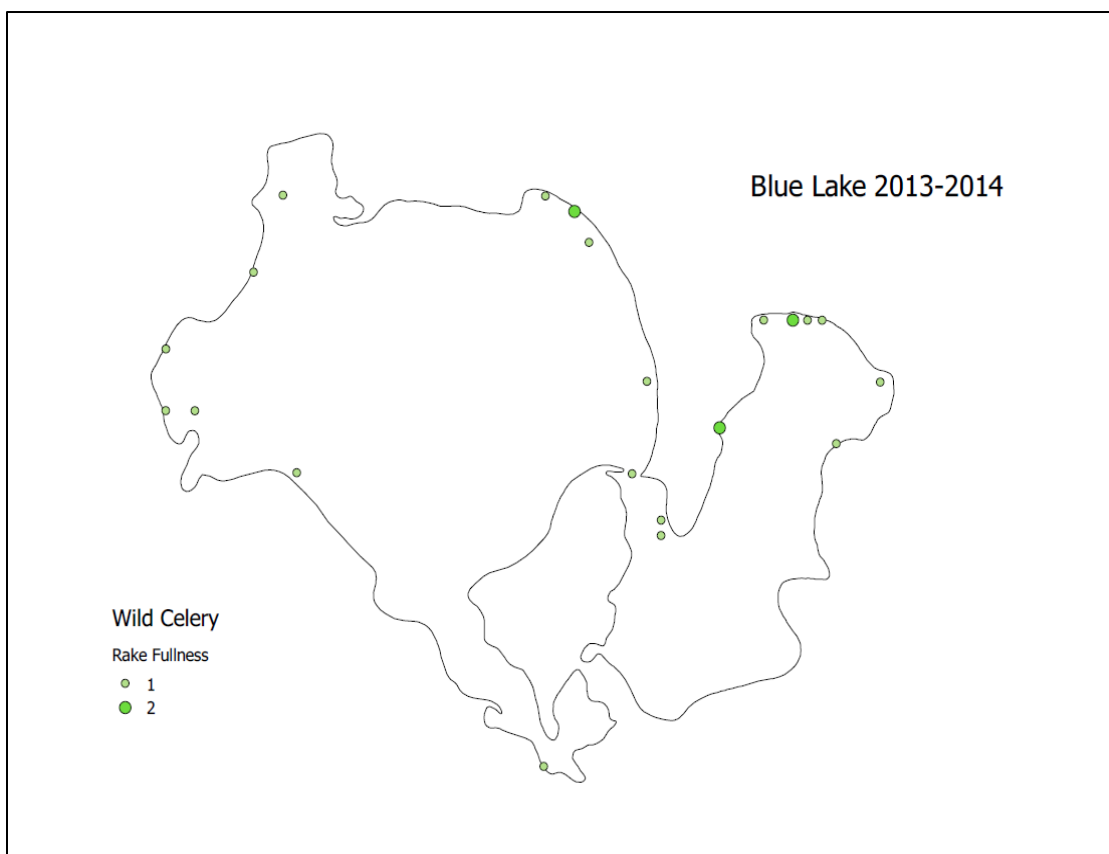
The slide immediately below is the total rake fullness of all plants at a particular sampling point.

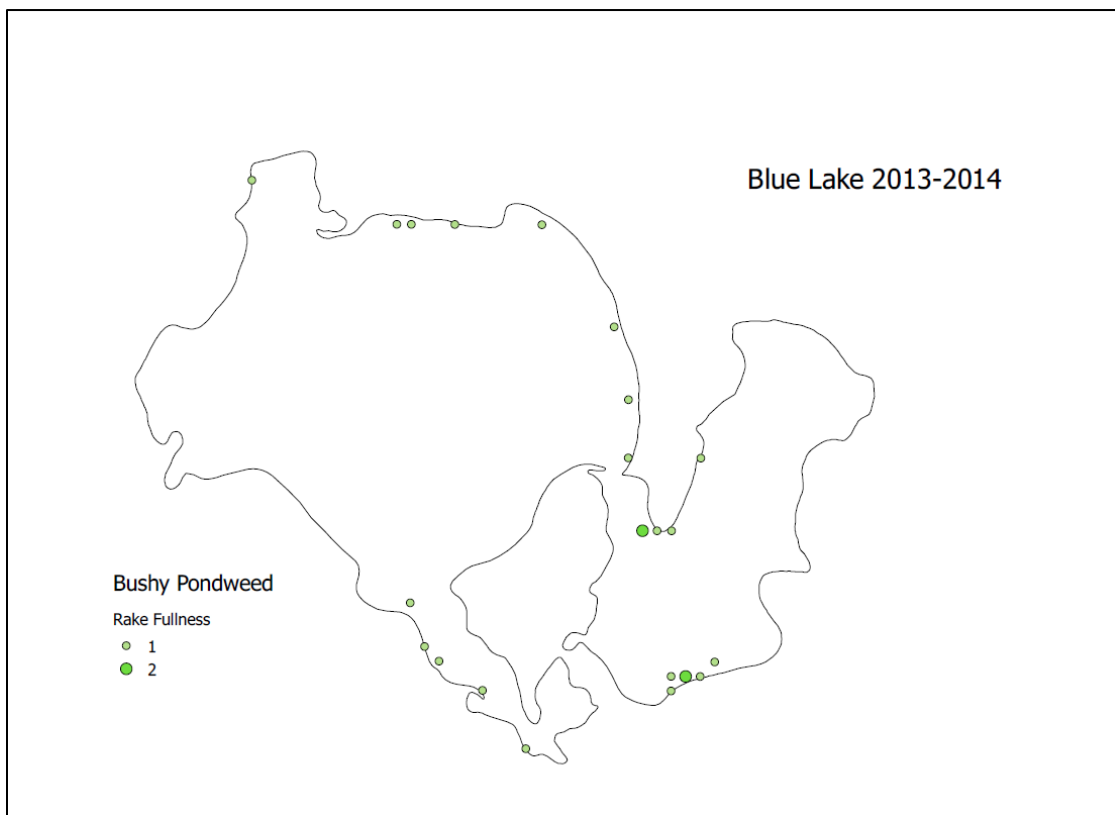
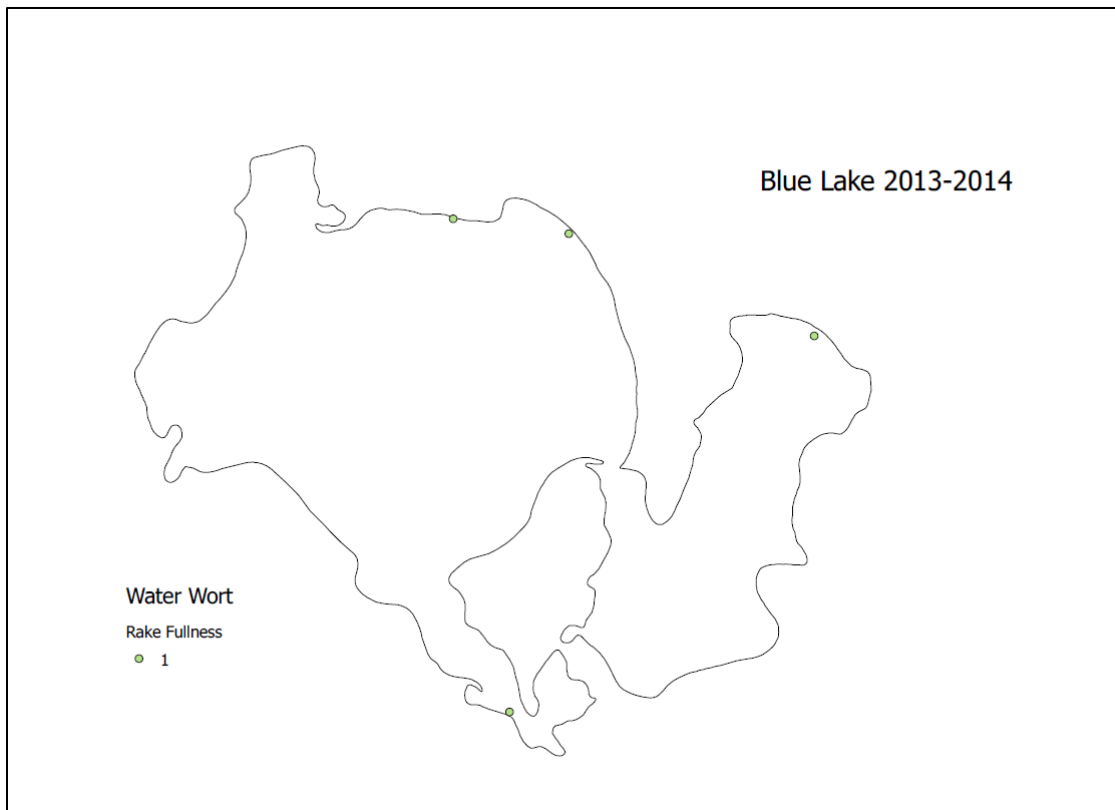


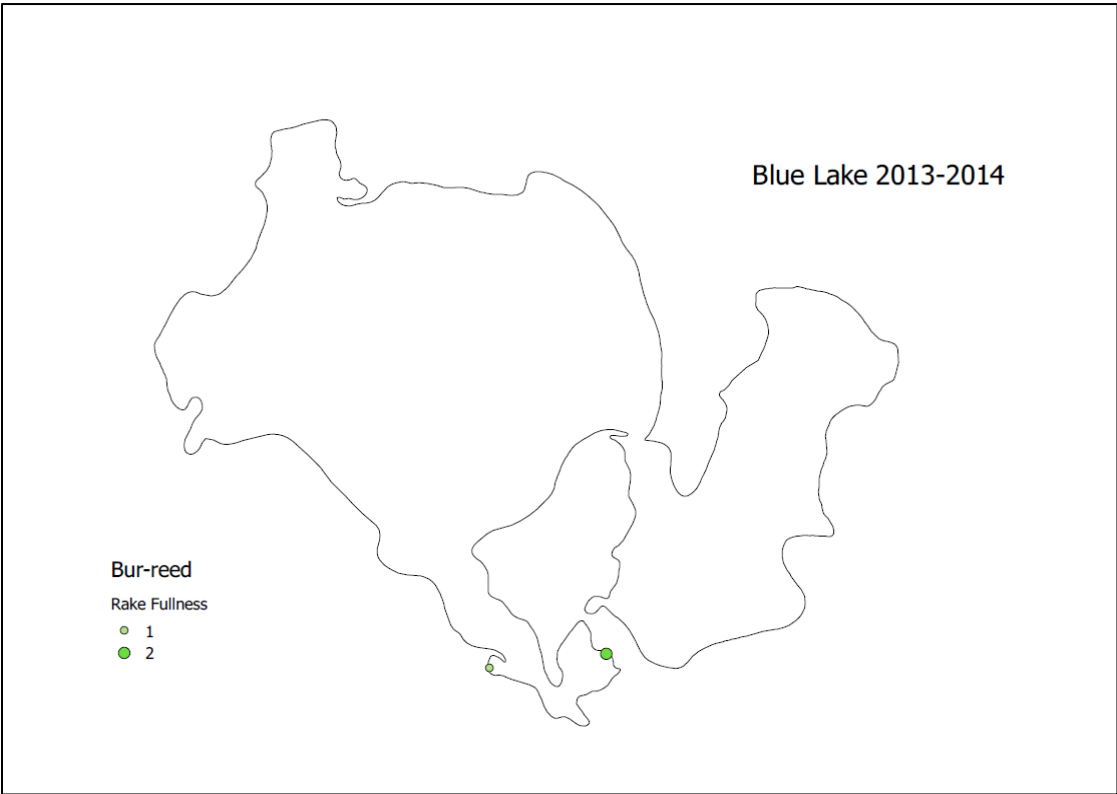
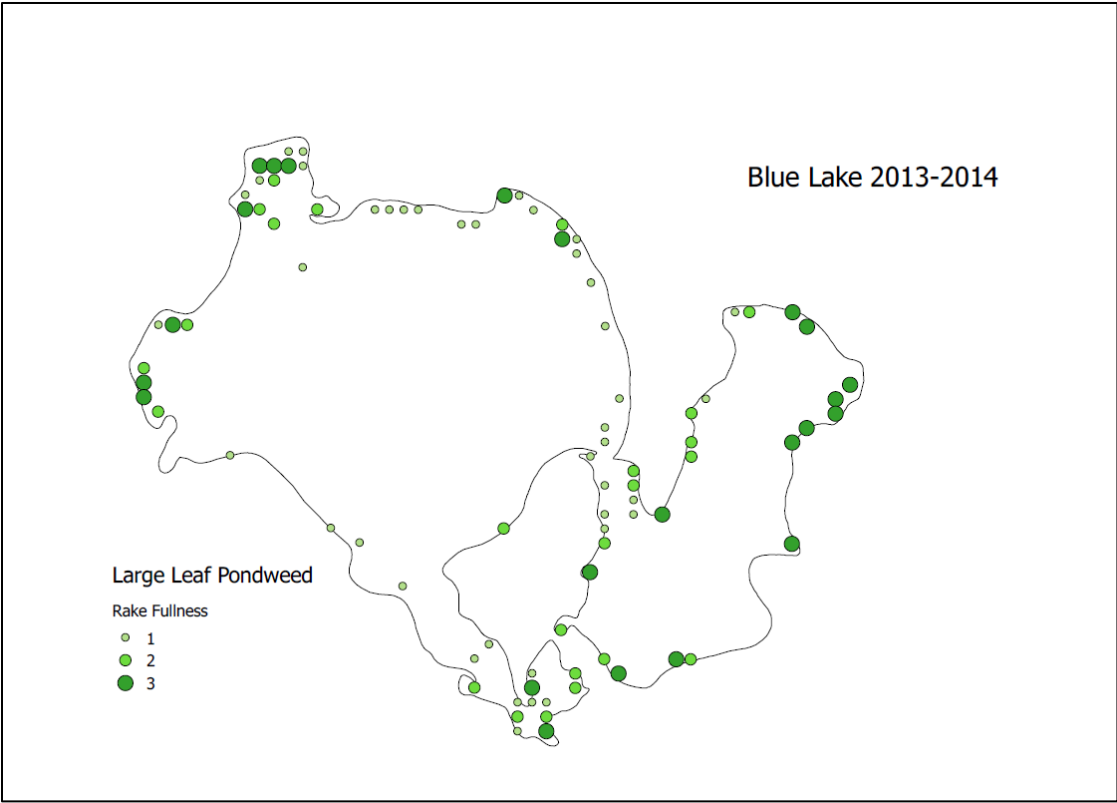
On the following pages, each plant species is represented individually.

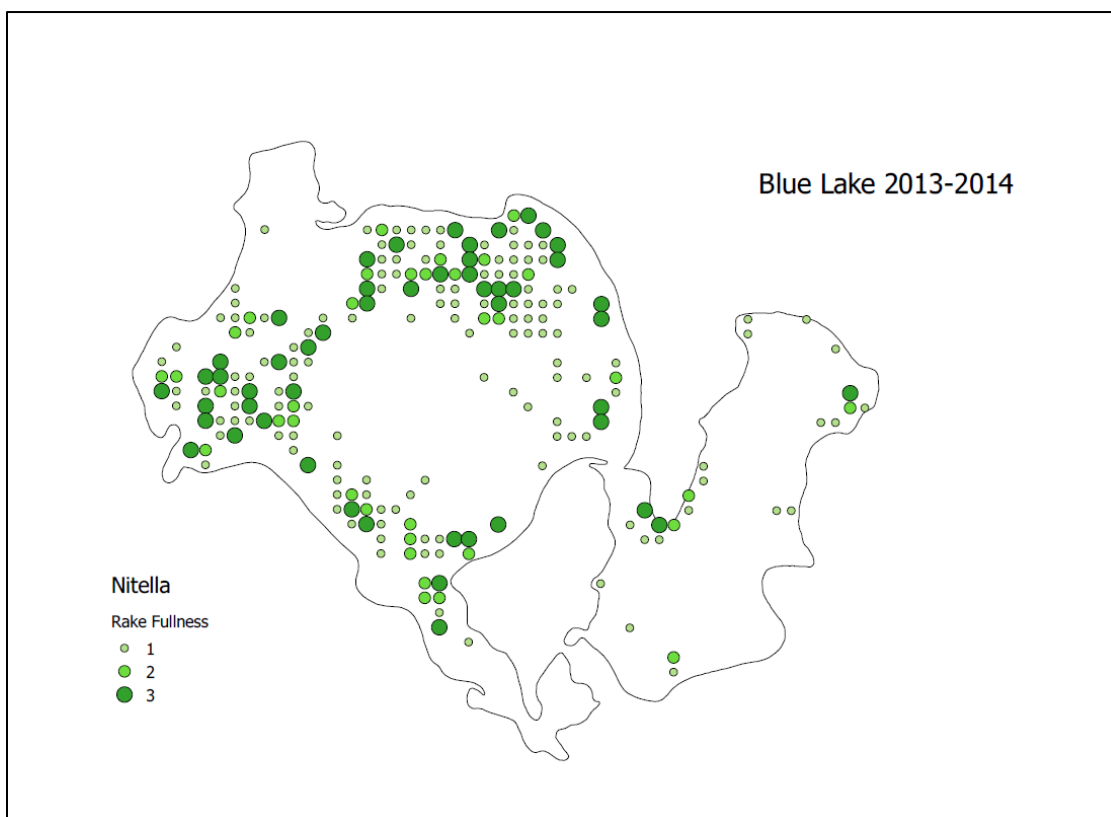
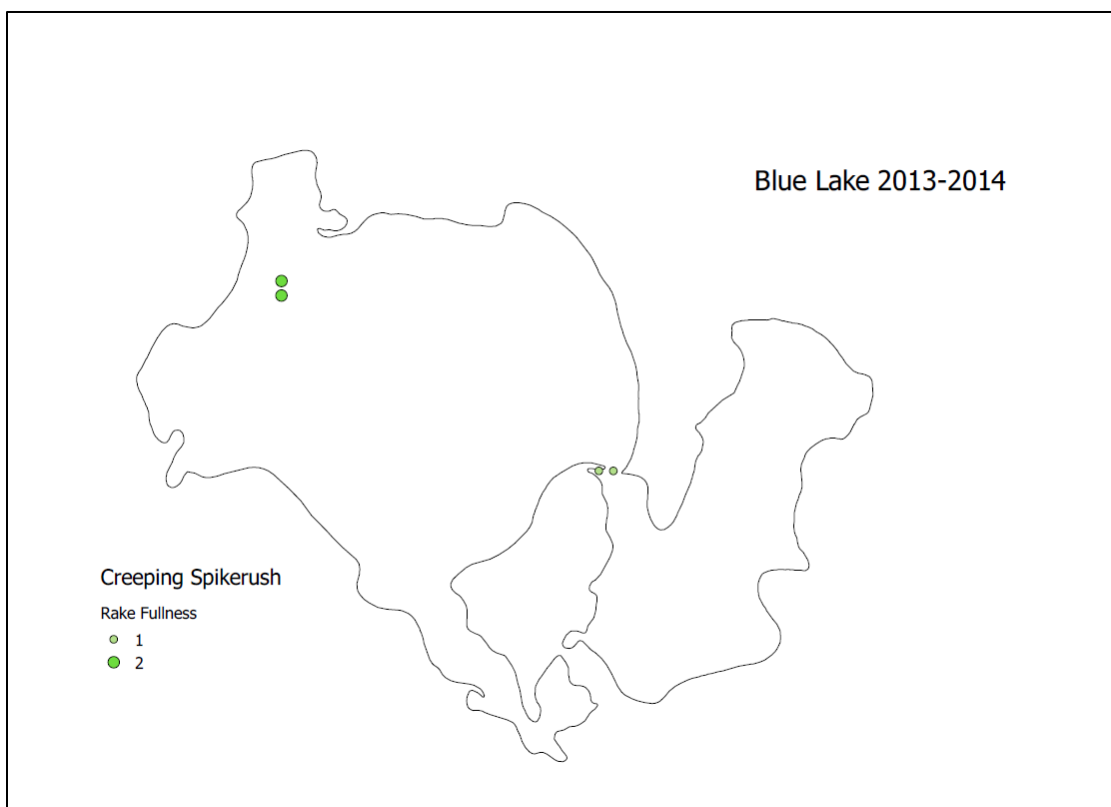


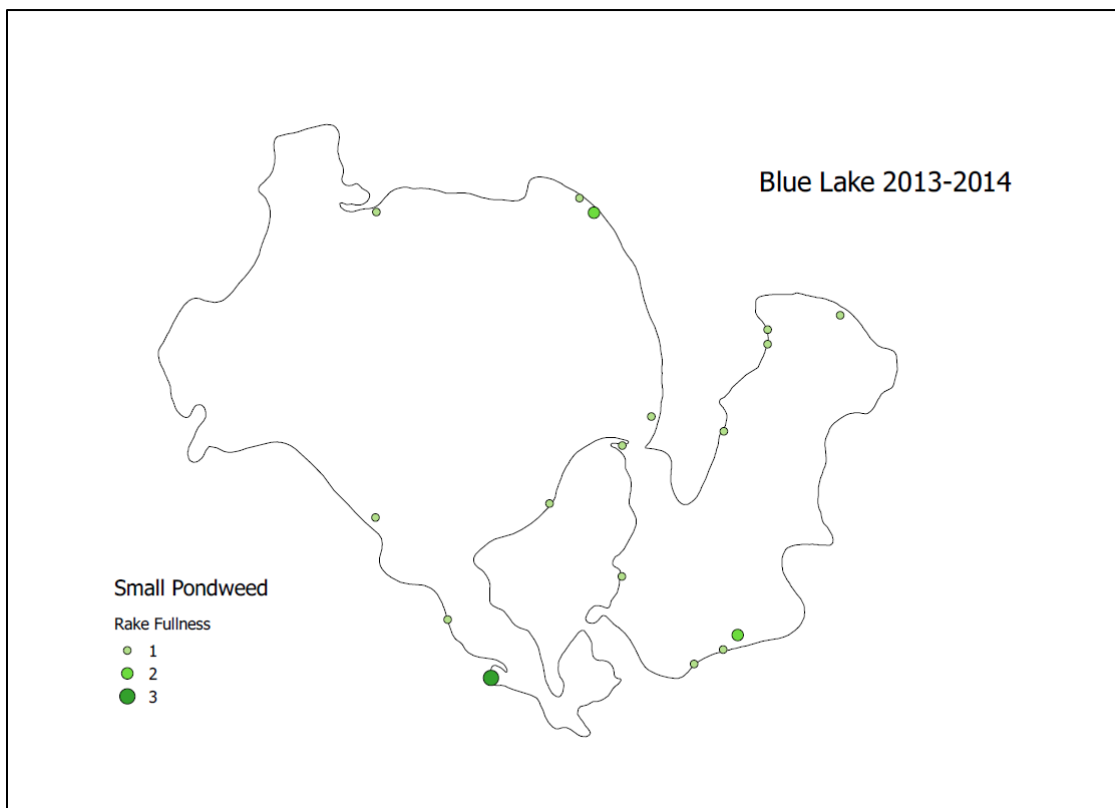
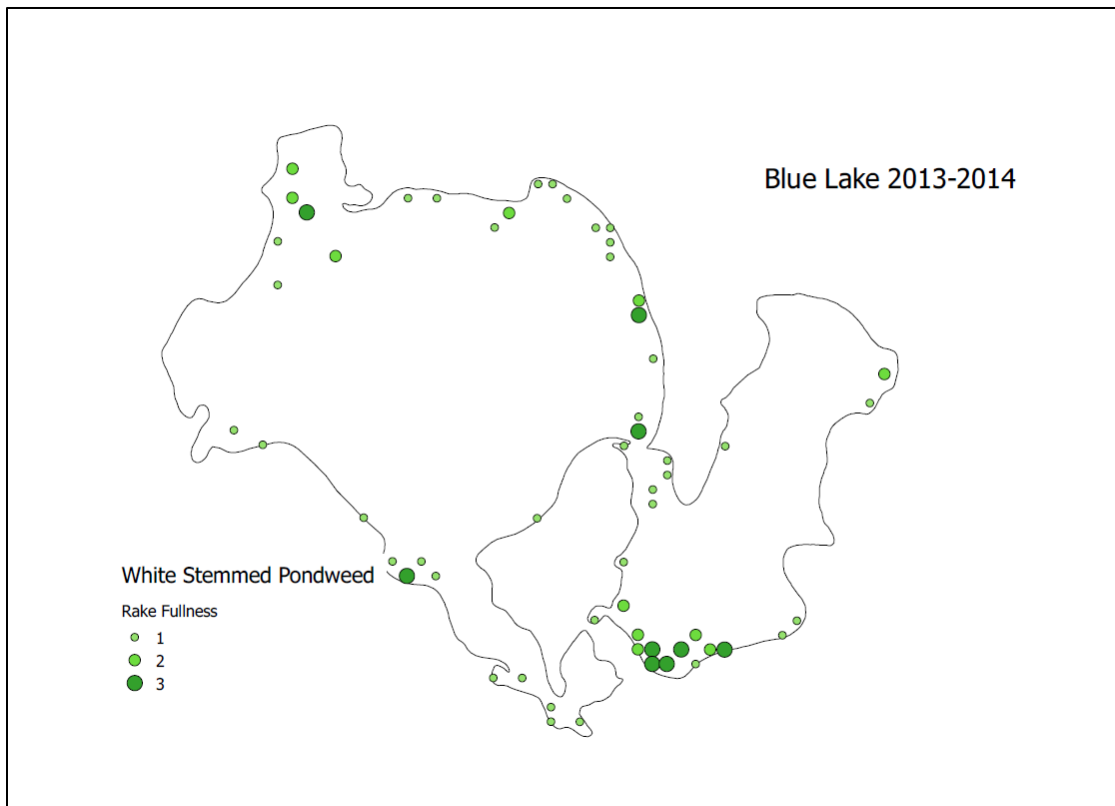


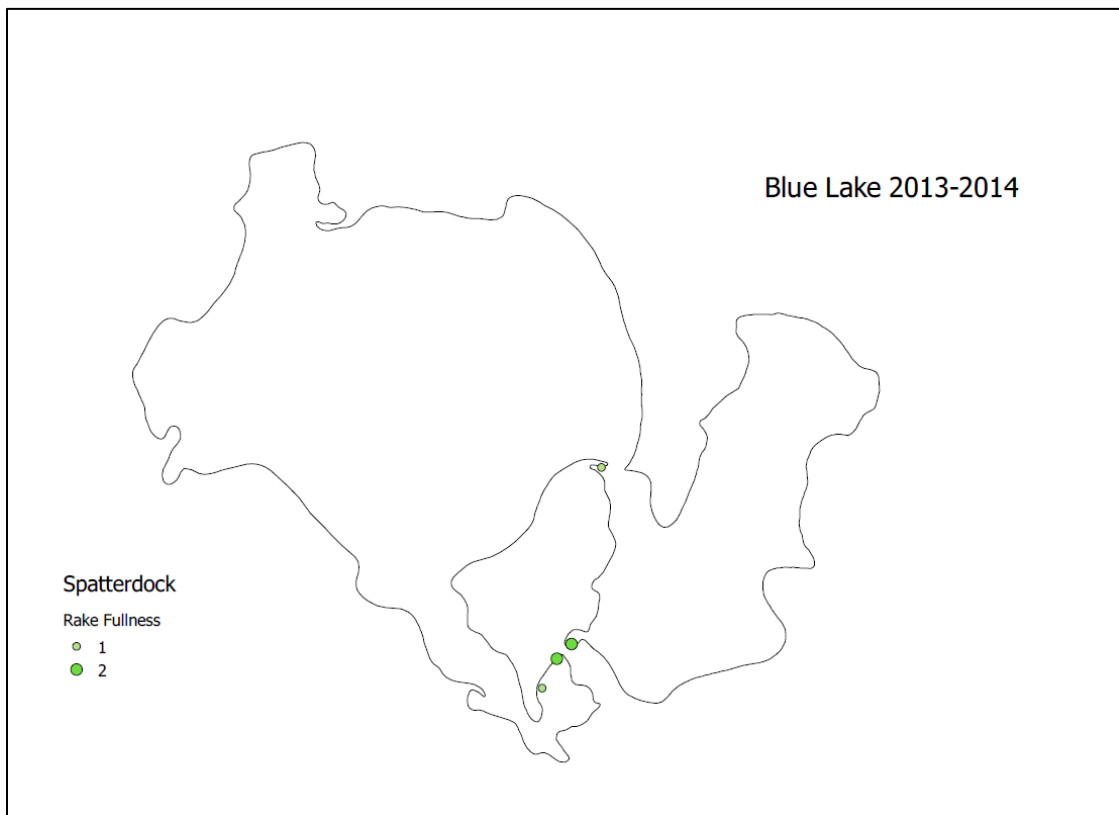
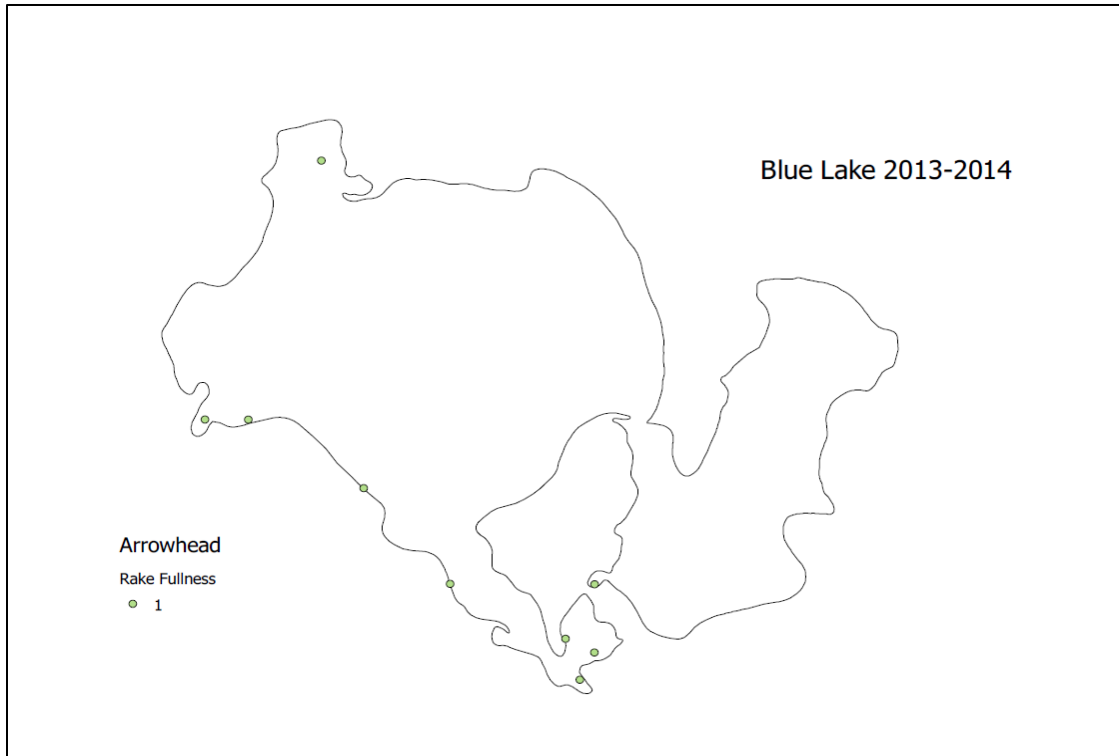


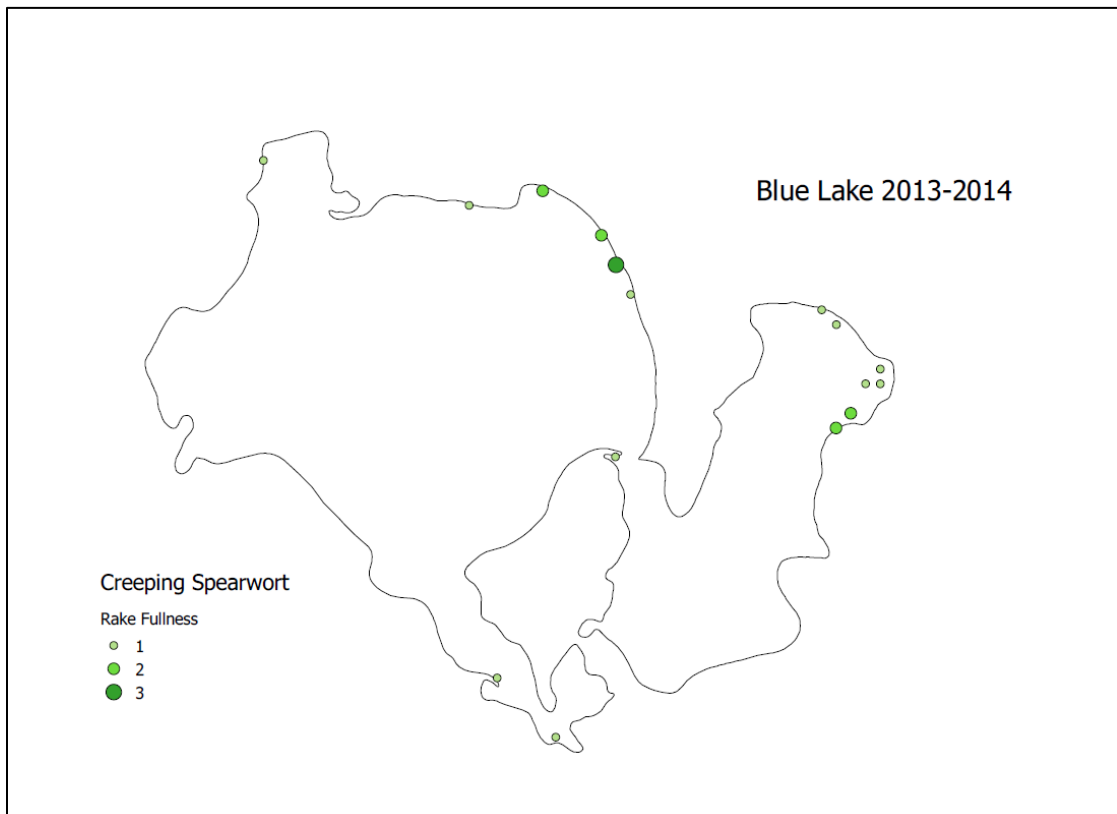
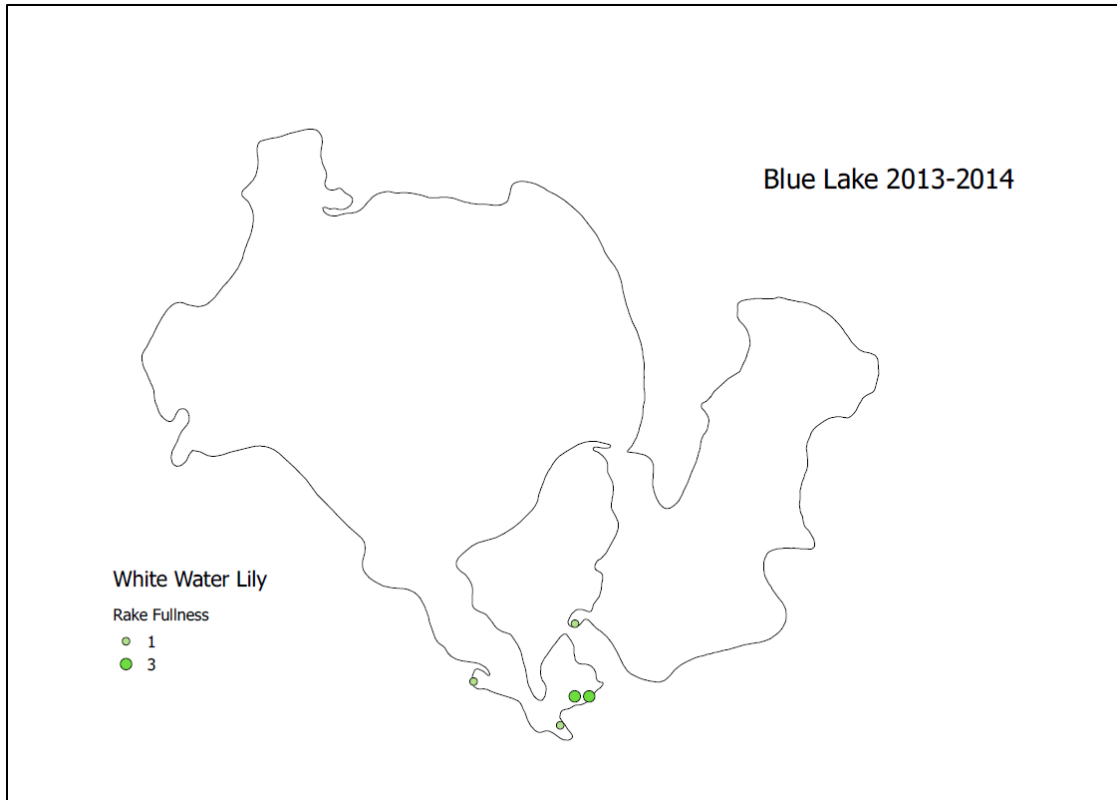


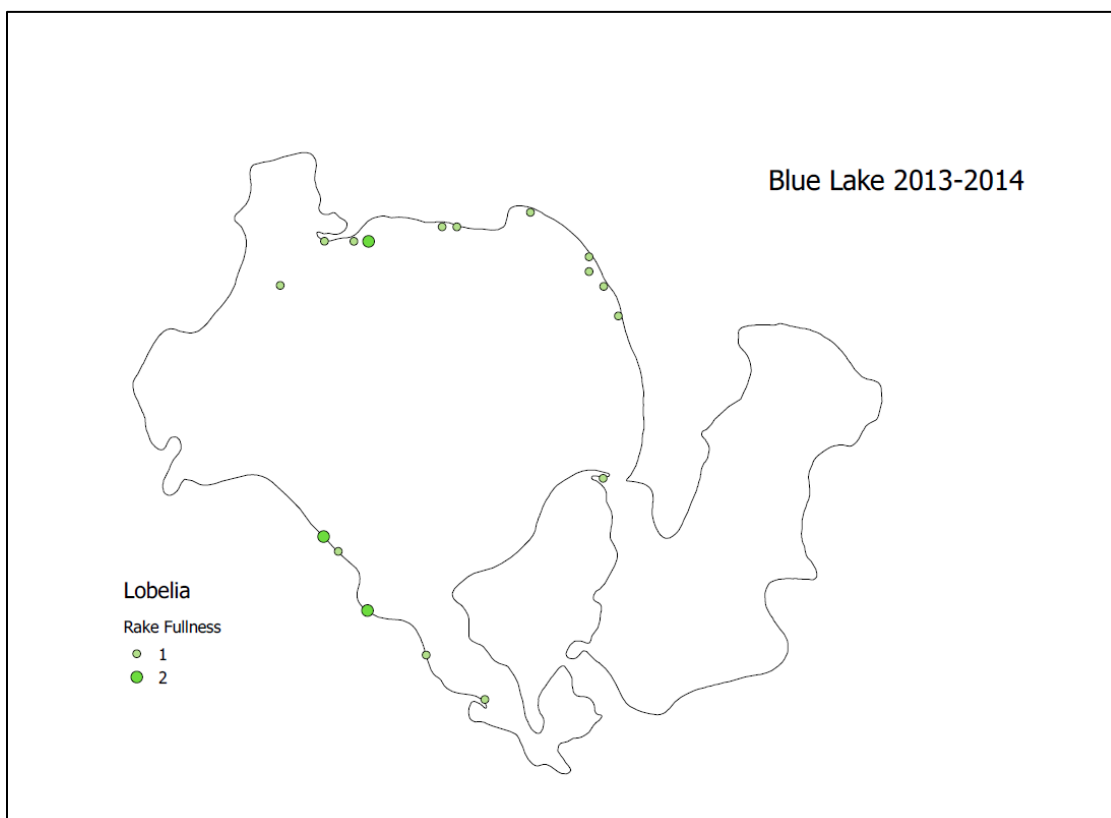
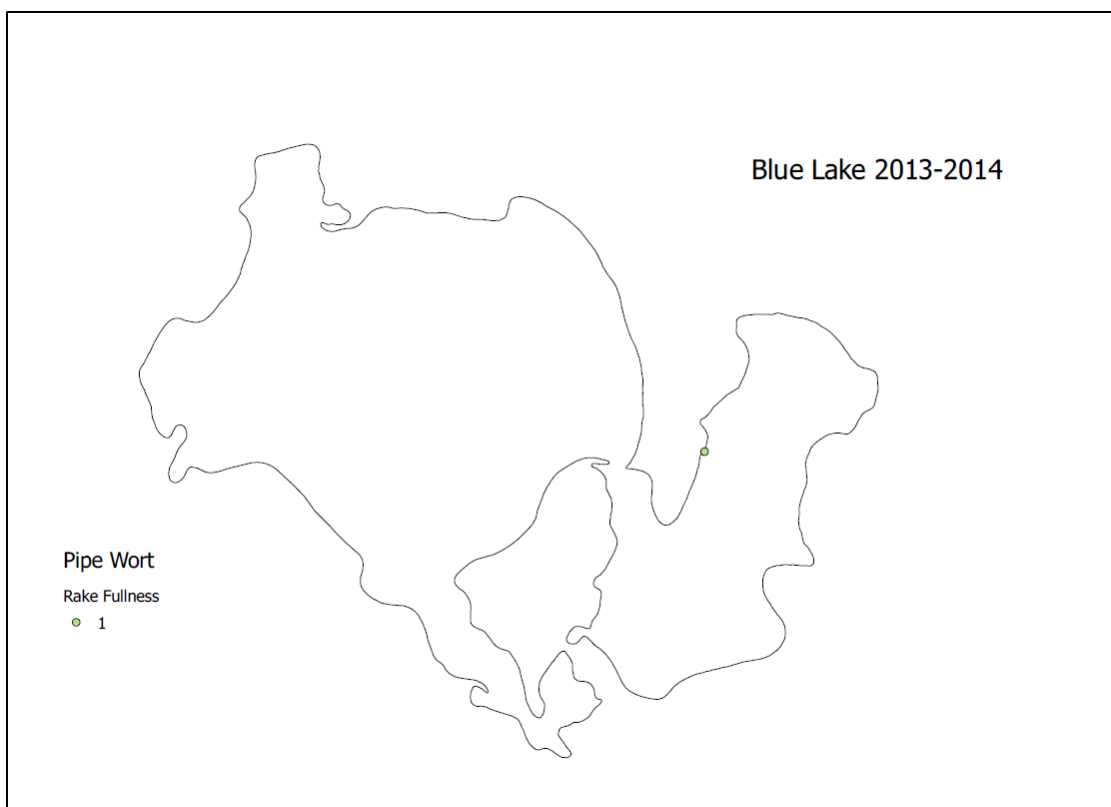


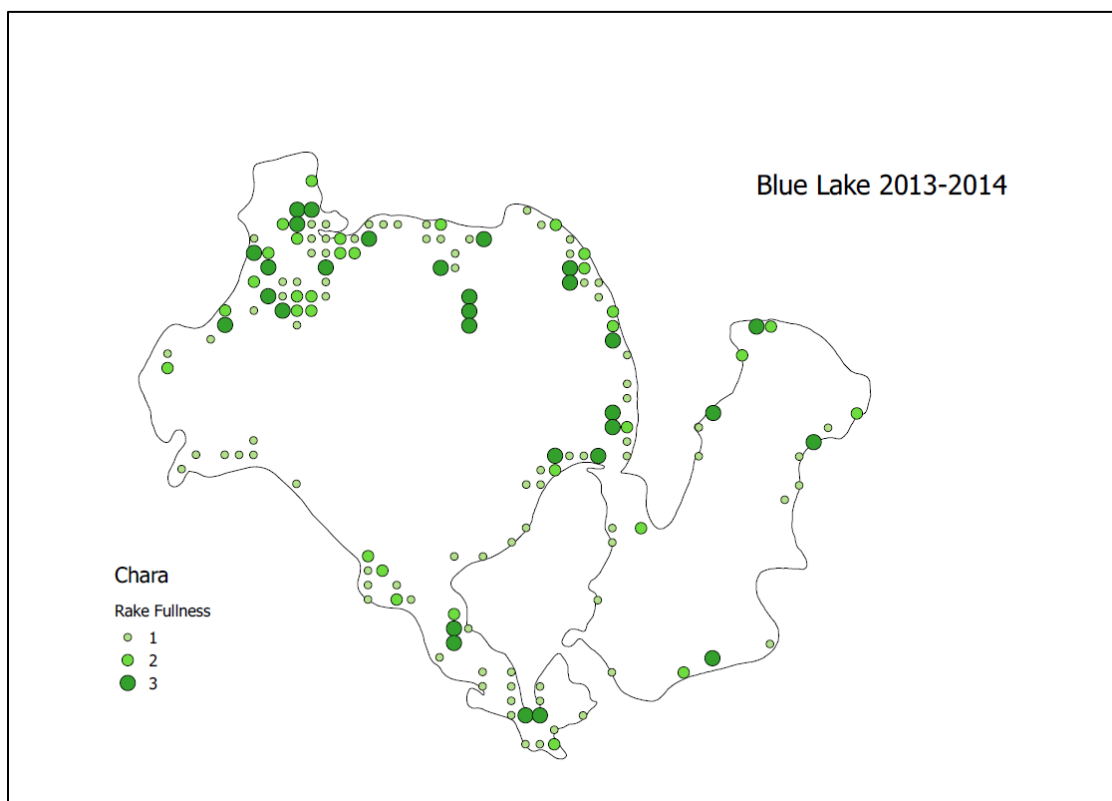
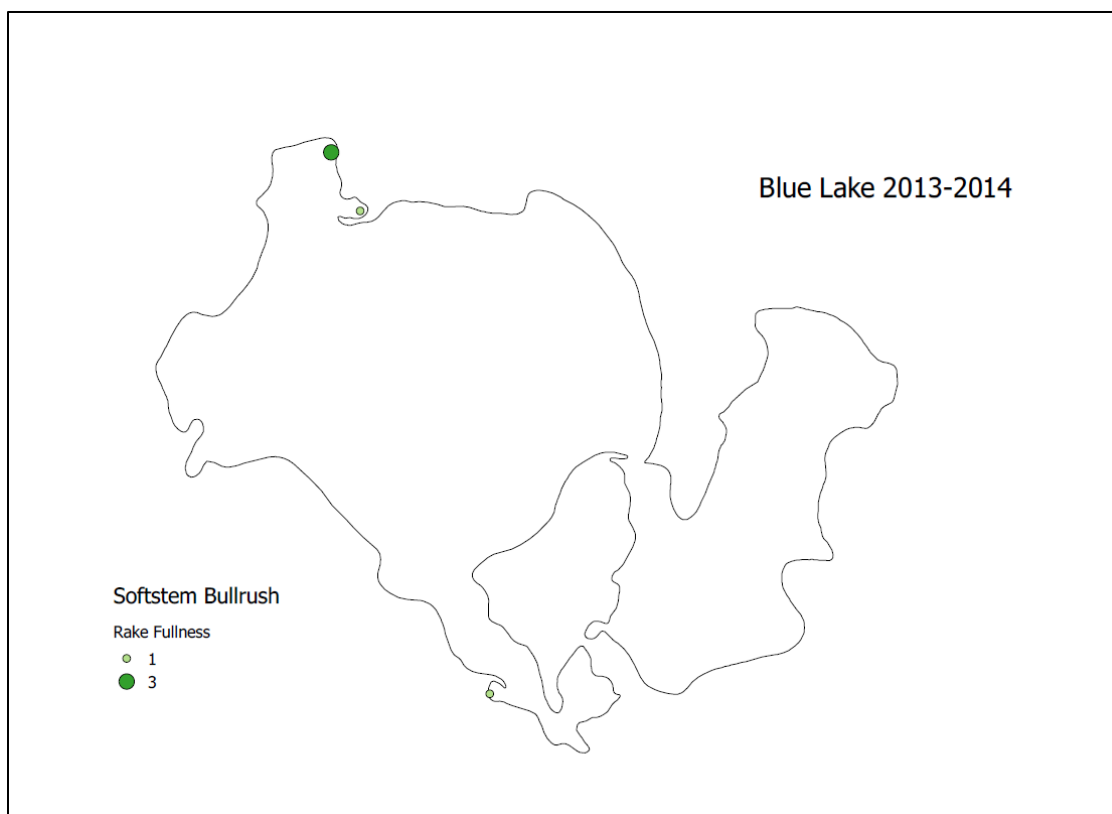


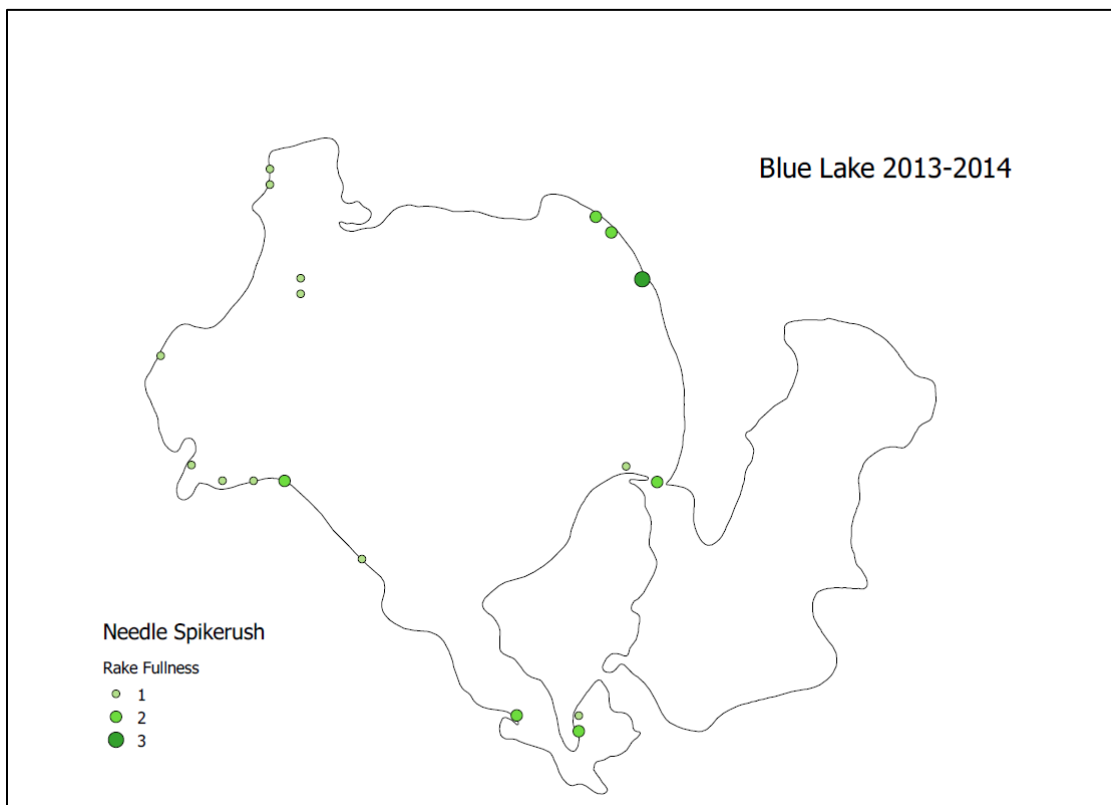
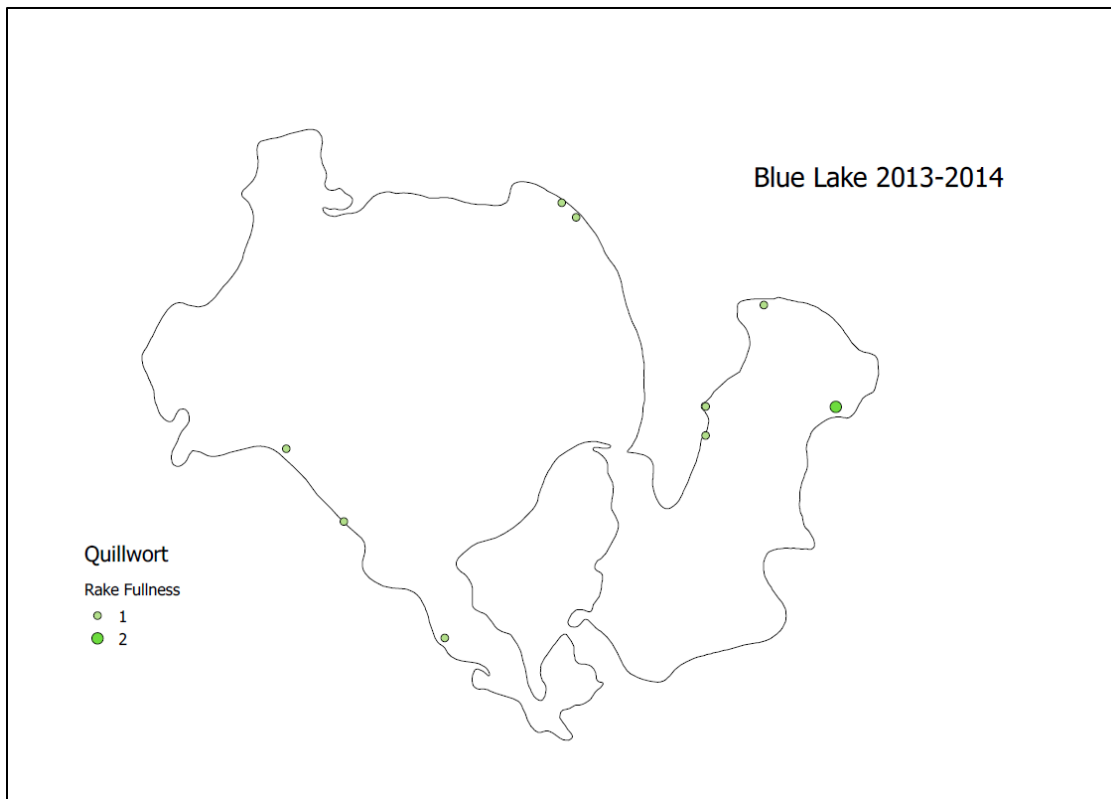


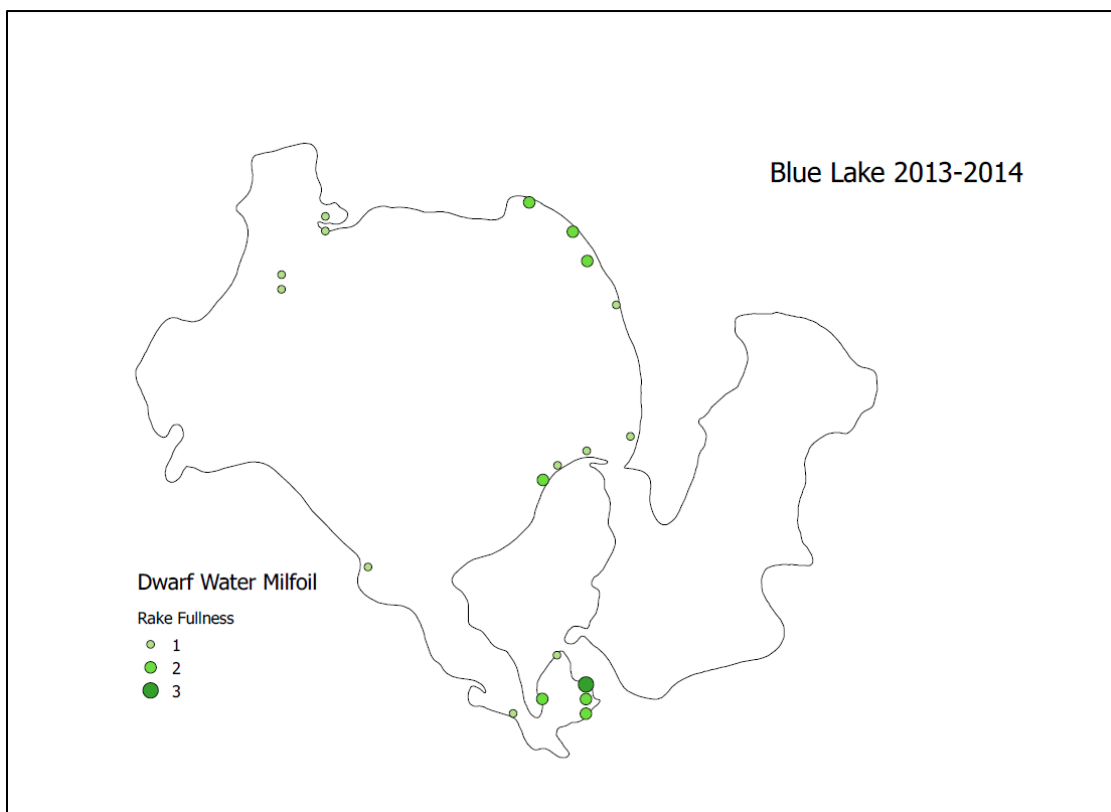
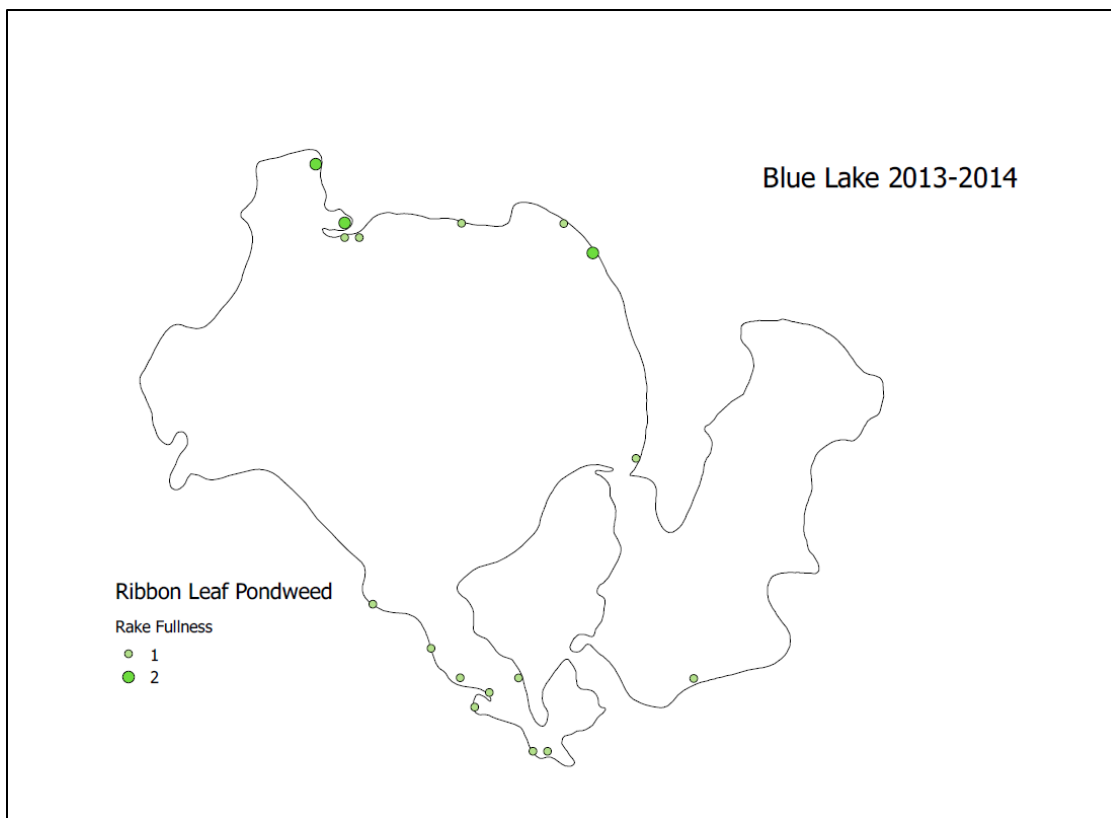


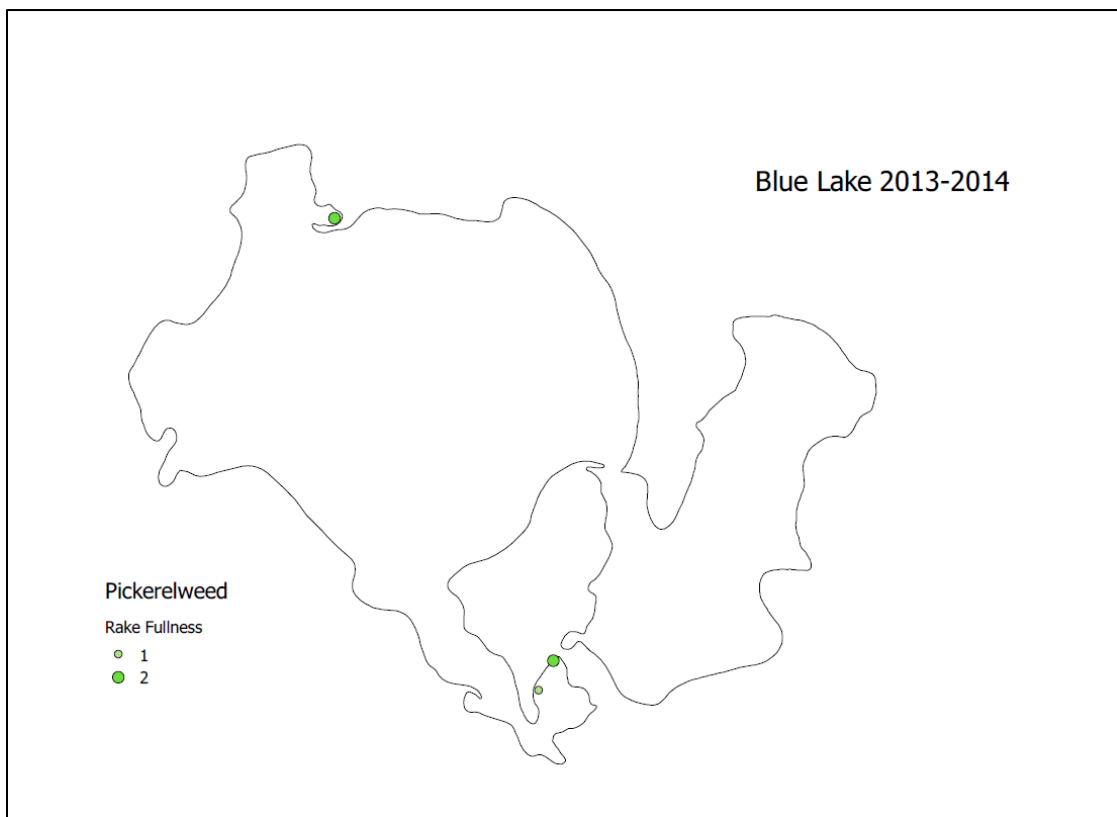
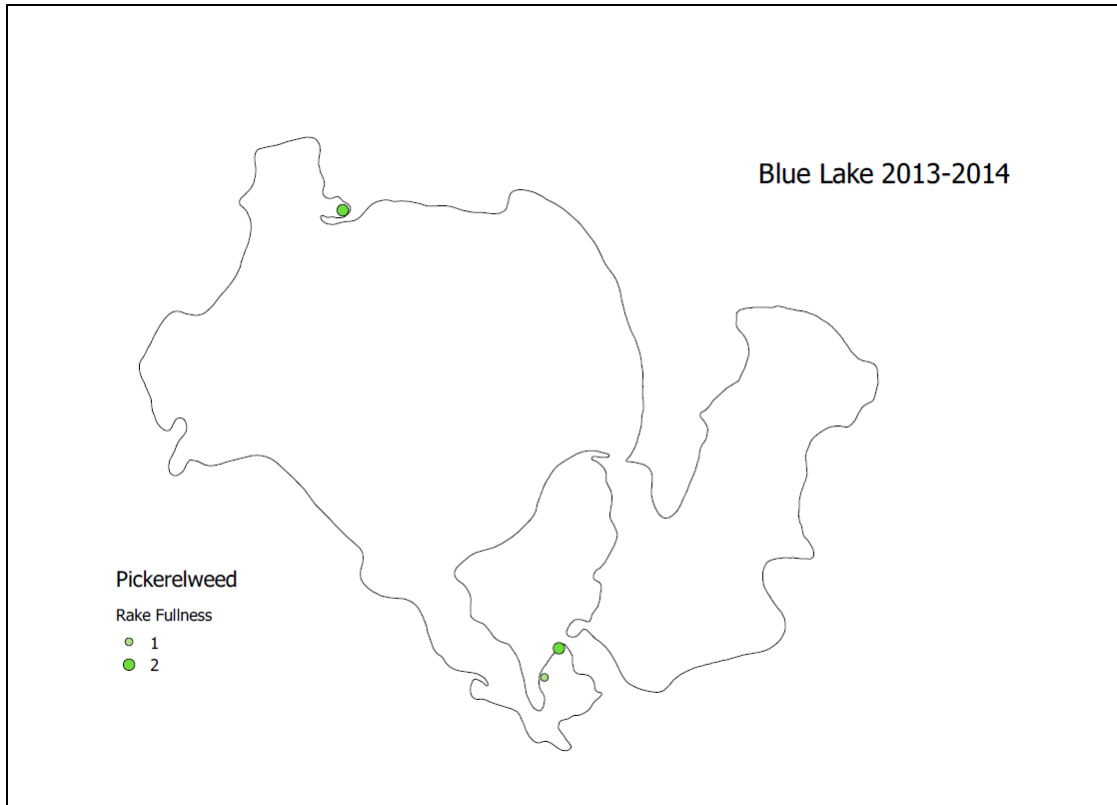


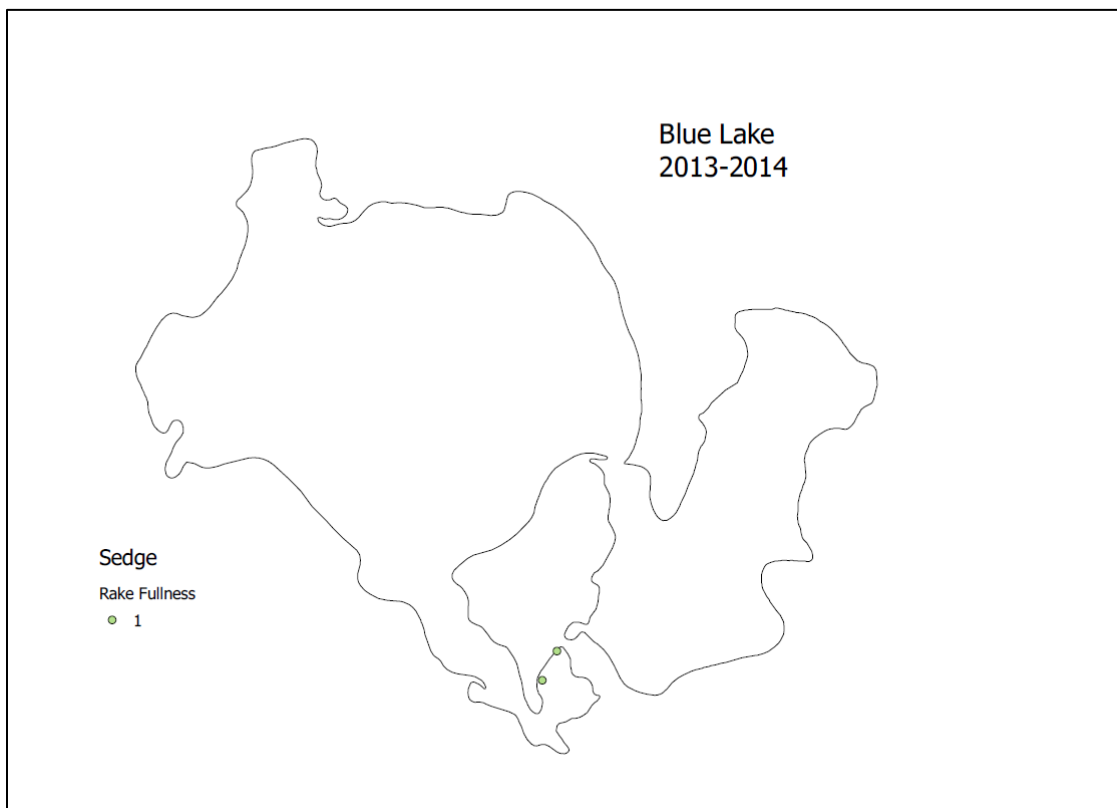
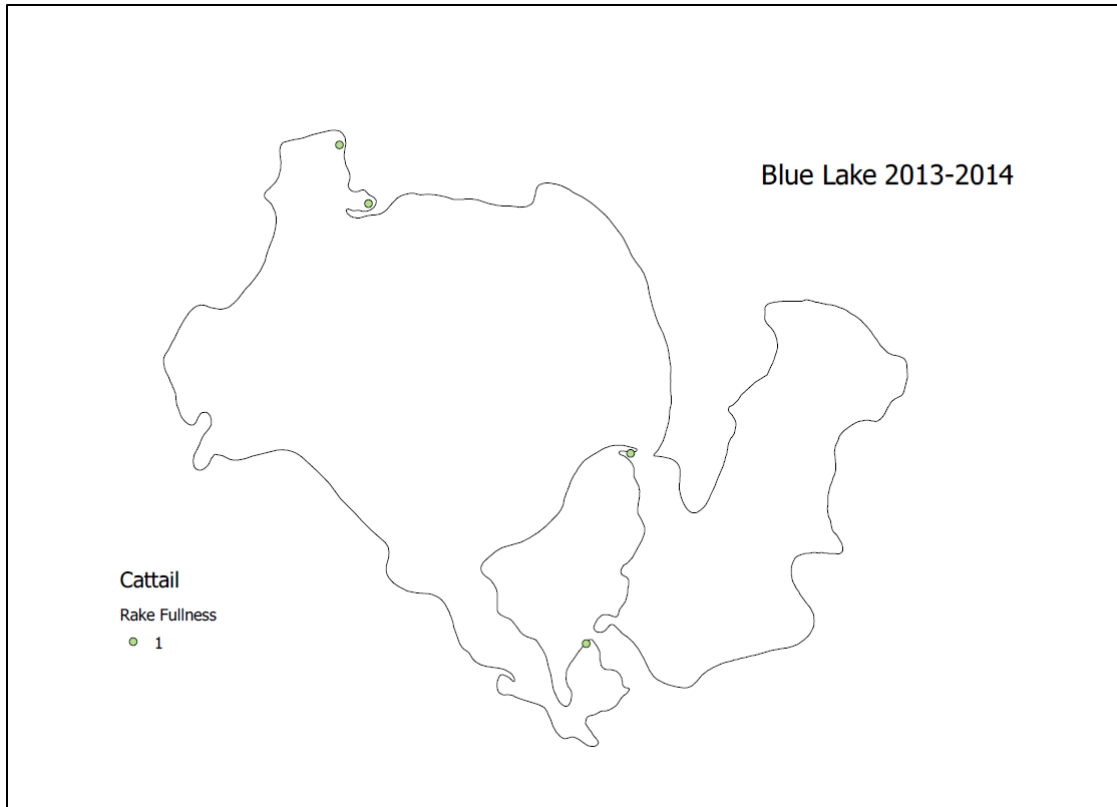


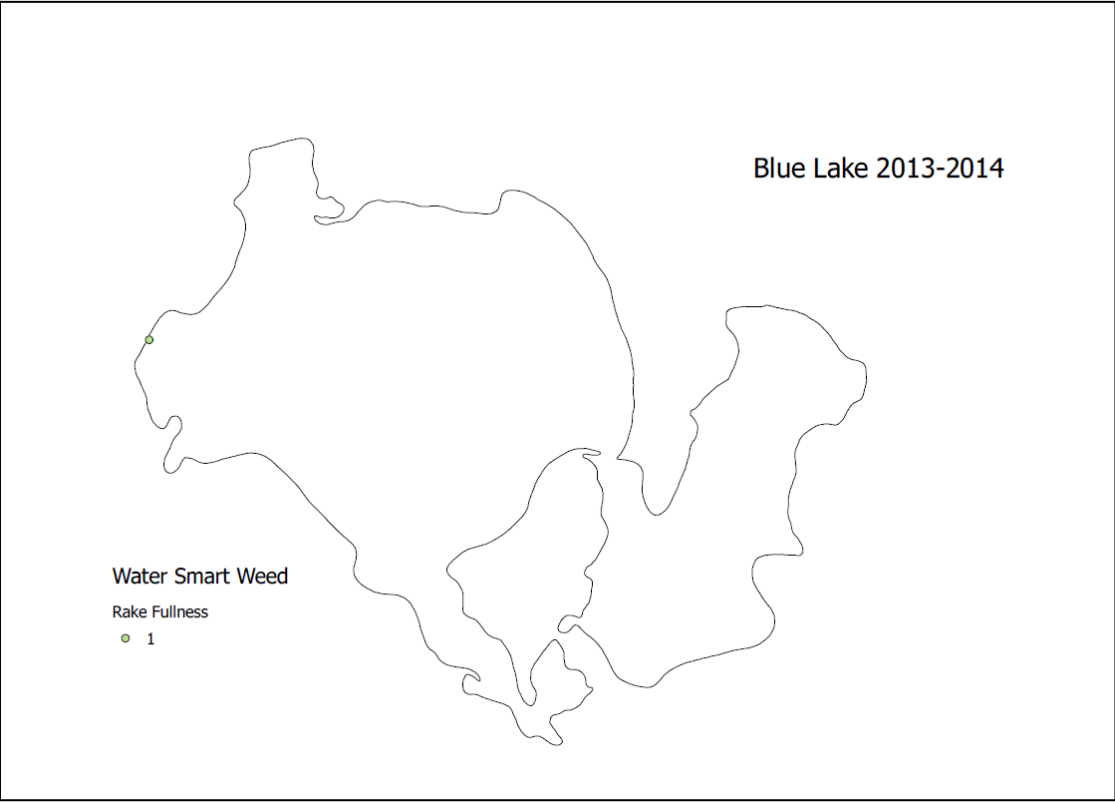












Part II Aquatic Plant Survey 2013-2014

Species Found at each Sampling Point

Part III Aquatic Plant Survey 2013-2014

Floristic Quality Index (FQI)

Floristic Quality Index (FQI) West Lobe				
Species	Common Name	C	Present?	FQI
Carex comosa	Bottle brush sedge	5	Y	5
Chara	Muskgrasses	7	Y	7
Elatine minima	Waterwort	9	Y	9
Eleocharis acicularis	Needle spikerush	5	Y	5
Eleocharis palustris	Creeping spikerush	6	Y	6
Elodea canadensis	Common waterweed	3	Y	3
Eriocaulon aquaticum	Pipewort	9	Y	9
Isoetes sp.	Quillwort	8	Y	8
Juncus pelocarpus f. submersus	Brown-fruited rush	8	Y	8
Lobelia dortmanna	Water lobelia	10	Y	10
Myriophyllum tenellum	Dwarf water-milfoil	10	Y	10
Najas flexilis	Slender naiad	6	Y	6
Nitella	Nitella	7	Y	7
Nuphar variegata	Spatterdock	6	Y	6
Nymphaea odorata	White water lily	6	Y	6
Polygonum amphibium	Water smartweed	5	Y	5
Pontederia cordata	Pickereelweed	8	Y	8
Potamogeton amplifolius	Large-leaf pondweed	7	Y	7
Potamogeton epihydrus	Ribbon-leaf pondweed	8	Y	8
Potamogeton foliosus	Leafy pondweed	6	Y	6
Potamogeton praelongus	White-stem pondweed	8	Y	8
Potamogeton pusillus	Small pondweed	7	Y	7
Potamogeton robbinsii	Fern pondweed	8	Y	8
Ranunculus flammula	Creeping spearwort	9	Y	9
Sagittaria latifolia	Common arrowhead	3	Y	3
Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani	Softstem bulrush	4	Y	4
Sparganium fluctuans	Floating-leaf bur-reed	10	Y	10
Typha sp.	Cattail	1	Y	1
Vallisneria americana	Wild celery	6	Y	6
N			29	
mean C				6.724138
FQI				36.21059

Floristic Quality Index (FQI) East Lobe				
Species	Common Name	C	Present?	FQI
Chara	Muskgrasses	7	Y	7
Elatine minima	Waterwort	9	Y	9
Eleocharis acicularis	Needle spikerush	5	Y	5
Eleocharis palustris	Creeping spikerush	6	Y	6
Elodea canadensis	Common waterweed	3	Y	3
Eriocaulon aquaticum	Pipewort	9	Y	9
Isoetes sp.	Quillwort	8	Y	8
Juncus pelocarpus f. submersus	Brown-fruited rush	8	Y	8
Lobelia dortmanna	Water lobelia	10	Y	10
Najas flexilis	Slender naiad	6	Y	6
Nitella	Nitella	7	Y	7
Nuphar variegata	Spatterdock	6	Y	6
Nymphaea odorata	White water lily	6	Y	6
Pontederia cordata	Pickerelweed	8	Y	8
Potamogeton amplifolius	Large-leaf pondweed	7	Y	7
Potamogeton epihydrus	Ribbon-leaf pondweed	8	Y	8
Potamogeton foliosus	Leafy pondweed	6	Y	6
Potamogeton praelongus	White-stem pondweed	8	Y	8
Potamogeton robbinsii	Fern pondweed	8	Y	8
Ranunculus flammula	Creeping spearwort	9	Y	9
Sagittaria latifolia	Common arrowhead	3	Y	3
Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani	Softstem bulrush	4	Y	4
Typha sp.	Cattail	1	Y	1
Vallisneria americana	Wild celery	6	Y	6
N			24	
Mean C				6.583333
FQI				32.25161