

Native Submerged Aquatic Plant (Cabbage) in Bass Lake on October 25, 2019.

# Starry Stonewort Search for Bass Lake, Wright County, Minnesota, October 25, 2019

## Prepared for: Bass Lake Association



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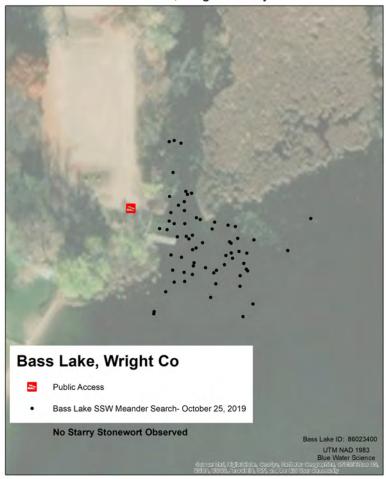
# Starry Stonewort Search for Bass Lake, Wright County, Minnesota, October 25, 2019

**Summary of the 2019 search:** Two searchers from Blue Water Science, surveyed the boat access on October 25, 2019 on Bass Lake looking for occurrences of an invasive plant species, starry stonewort (Table 1, Figure 1). The searchers (Figure 2) spent a total of approximately 4 search hours. No starry stonewort was observed. Also no Eurasian watermilfoil nor zebra mussels were observed. Representative plant species are shown on the next page.

Table 1. Site data for the starry stonewort search on October 1, 2019.

Rake Sampling and other searches	SSW	Bottom Conditions
<ul><li>- 66 rake samples</li><li>- Scuba diving within the public access area</li><li>- A total of 4 hours of searching was conducted</li></ul>		Organic sediments with some sand. Native plants abundant.

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Figure 2. The AIS search used scuba diving (top) and rake sampling from a boat (bottom).

Figure 1. Location of the search sites.

### **Bass Lake Plant Conditions October 25, 2019**



Marsh marigold

Figure 3. Plants were actively growing in Bass Lake on October 25, 2019.

Cabbage

#### **Starry Stonewort Information Sheet**

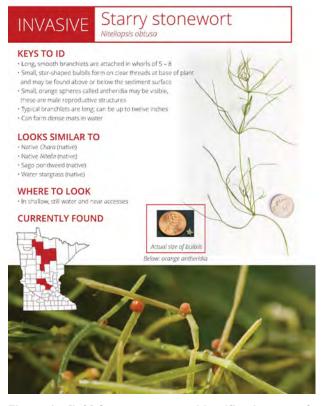




Figure 4a. [left] Starry stonewort identification page from the University of Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC).

[left] Chara from Lake John, collected on June 22, 2017. Chara looks somewhat like starry stonewort.

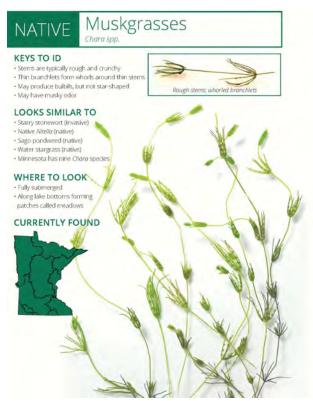


Figure 4b. Chara identification page from the MAISRC.

Starry stonewort looks a lot like some growth forms of chara and nitella (Figure 4). Starry stonewort was not observed in Bass Lake on the October 25, 2019

The northeast private access of Bass Lake has sandy sediments compared to the south side public access where sediments are more organic and softer.

### **Rapid Response Plan for Starry Stonewort**

Starry stonewort has not been found in Bass Lake as of October 25, 2019. A rapid response plan, shown in Table 2, has a number of preventative steps as well as actions after a potential sighting..

Table 2. Tasks and assignments for an early detection and rapid response program for Bass Lake, Wright County, Minnesota.

	Bass Lake Lake Assoc.	Volunteers	Wright County	MnDNR	Others	Treatment Contractor	BWS
1. Early Detection							
1.1. Create website information.	X						
1.2. Designate contact person.	X						
1.3. Conduct training session for volunteer searchers.	Late summer	Late summer					Late summer
1.4. Conduct monthly targeted searches (late summer).	X						Х
1.5. Press release if SSW is found.	Х			Х			
2. Rapid Response Assessment							
2.1. Conduct an initial exploratory search after the first report of a starry stonewort observation.				x			х
2.2. Organize and train lake resident searchers for a full search effort.	Х						х
2.3. Conduct an expanded targeted search with diving (if needed).	х	Х		Х			Х
3. Rapid Response Action							
3.1. Meet to determine treatment options.	X		Χ	Х	Х	Х	Х
3.2. Close public access, if necessary.	х		Х	Х	Х		
3.3. Treat area with copper sulfate.						Х	
3.4. Evaluate treatment.				Х			Х
3.5. Report all findings and results.	X			Χ			Χ



Figure 5. Rapid response assessment for zebra mussels in Christmas Lake in 2014. Some of the same approaches are used for starry stonewort.