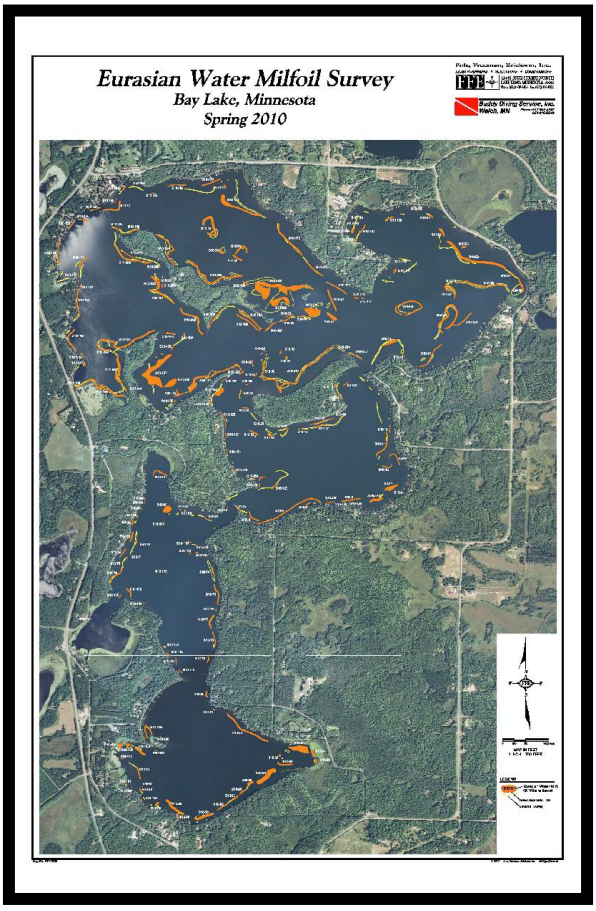
EWM Question & Answer #3

How Do We Identify Infestation Sites?

Our site identification process relies on divers, surface searching & resident reports.

In the early years divers and surface searches were used extensively throughout the lake because the infestation sites were localized and new sites were always popping up. Being proactive required searching.

Now that EWM is throughout the lake the diving and surface searches are directed by historical data and resident reports. This allows us to reduce the percentage of annual EWM costs that are devoted to infestation site identification and increase the percentage that is used to fight EWM.



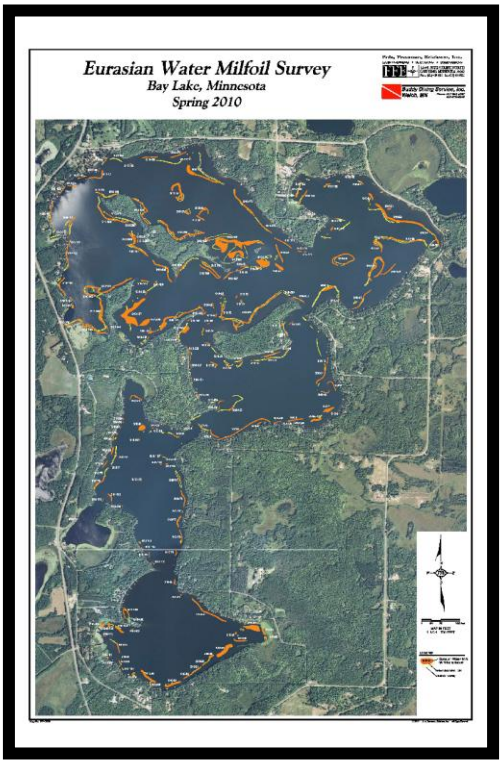
How Do We Track Infestation Sites?

For at least the last 10 years, we've employed GPS technology to record the exact locations of our EWM infestation sites.

More recently newly developed software programs have been used to track the sites and compare the sites from year to year.

By using the latest technology, we know exactly where the sites are and how effective our treatments have been. We can also predict which sites are likely to require treatment.

How Do We Determine Which Sites To Treat?



We'll discuss our environmental, regulatory and financial constraints in a future article, but for now let's say we can only treat 130 of our approximately 2,500 acres. As we explained in Q & A #1, Bay Lake has a huge amount of littoral area (where EWM will grow). It's likely in excess of 1,000 acres. So treatment sites must be prioritized.

Priority is given to sites where an infestation:

-would have a significantly adverse affect on lake use by a substantial number of boaters. For example, infestations in channels can impact every boat that goes through the channel.

-would put a relatively clear shoreline at risk. For example, our treatments have been relatively effective along the shorelines of Eaglewood, Hunter's Bay Point and Birkeland's. When an infestation develops a small and targeted treatment often avoids large scale treatment in subsequent years.

Because treatment will knock back an infestation, treatment sites can be rotated over a number of years.

Fall Versus Spring Treatment: Why Do I Have To Look At The Stuff All Summer?

18 years of experience has taught us that fall applications are more effective. An infestation site that is treated in the fall is likely to be relatively clear the following year. A site treated in the spring will most likely require treatment the following year (and given our constraints, we won't be able to treat it).

In summary:

BLIA's EWM treatment strategy is targeted, methodical, fact based, proven over time and it is driven by a desire to keep EWM from having a substantially negative impact on Bay Lake as a whole.

To learn more about EWM, our treatment strategy and how we could lose the fight, visit BayLake.com weekly. The series will last through September. And, please remember to send in your questions to ericksonpaulsue@aol.com.