

**Survey of Eurasian Watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)
in Gloucester Pool, Port Severn, ON, Canada**

Prepared for:
Gloucester Pool Cottagers Association

Prepared by:



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INTRODUCTION

Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) is an invasive aquatic plant that has become widespread throughout North America including many inland lakes of southern Ontario. This submersed aquatic plant grows to the surface of the water and branches profusely subsequently creating dense stands of Eurasian milfoil. If left unmanaged the milfoil will continue to expand, posing a considerable long-term threat to the ecological health, recreational and aesthetic quality of the waterway, and reduce the property value.

At the request of the Gloucester Pool Cottagers Association, Milfoil Solution LLC. performed a presence/absence survey of Eurasian watermilfoil in Port Severn area between Lock 44 and Lock 45 including Six Mile Channel, Whites Bay, Gloucester Pool, Little Go Home Bay, Little Lake and Baxter Lake.

DESCRIPTION OF SURVEY AND RESULTS

On September 26, 2012, a biologist from the Milfoil Solution team undertook a presence/absence survey of Eurasian watermilfoil in Gloucester Pool with volunteers of the Gloucester Pool Cottagers Association. The survey began at the southern end of the Little Lake and traced along the shoreline of the waterbody noting Eurasian watermilfoil populations. Due to the depth of the waterbody much of the milfoil population was located within 30m of the shoreline. In addition, islands and shallow points located in open water were also surveyed to determine the presence of Eurasian watermilfoil.

Once located, the density of the Eurasian watermilfoil stand was visually estimated and recorded as sparse, moderate or dense (see Figures 1.1-1.3). Sparse stands were noted where Eurasian watermilfoil consisted of less than 50% of the plant community. Moderate stands consisted of Eurasian watermilfoil that was the dominant plant present (roughly 50-75% of the plant community). Dense stands included populations where Eurasian watermilfoil appeared to consist of greater than 75% of the plant community; in most cases dense stands reached the surface of the water and often the only species present.

The presence of Eurasian watermilfoil was fairly consistent along the shoreline throughout the waterway however, some of the largest populations were identified in Little Go Home Bay and White's Bay. Other areas such as Little Lake and Six Mile Channel consisted of Eurasian watermilfoil populations in areas close to the shoreline and within bays and channels where wind action would be lessened. Baxter Lake and Black Lake were also included in this survey. Baxter Lake consisted of a small population of Eurasian watermilfoil that hugged the shoreline throughout the channel north of the main island. Eurasian watermilfoil was not present within the Black River or southeast end of Black Lake. Due to concern over the potential for propeller damage to the volunteer's boat, only the

southeast section of Black Lake was surveyed. With such low water levels, high turbidity and the lack of Eurasian watermilfoil at the outflow of the lake, it is assumed that there would be a low density of Eurasian watermilfoil in this lake.

FUTURE WORK

Milfoil Solution, LLC. offers the use of a native insect, the milfoil weevil (*Euhrychiopsis lecontei*) as a biological control agent of Eurasian watermilfoil in Ontario known as **Milfoil Solution®**. The milfoil weevil is a native insect that is found naturally occurring on milfoil throughout most of the northern states and provinces across North America. In addition to being environmentally safe, Milfoil Solution® is the only proven approach for sustainable control, as opposed to mechanical and chemical application, which will need to be reapplied indefinitely. Therefore, this solution is the only natural and completely eco-friendly choice for addressing milfoil infestations and its sustainability saves money over the long-term.

Milfoil Solution's customized Milfoil Solution® includes stocking milfoil weevils into a lake, pond, or river over the course of two or more years, depending on the size of the lake and the milfoil infestation. Although every lake responds somewhat differently, experience has demonstrated that the length of time needed for the weevils to achieve lake-wide control depends on the total number of weevils stocked. Faster results and lower management costs in subsequent years are expected if the milfoil infestation is addressed more aggressively in the first two years.

Currently, the use of biological control on the Trent Severn Waterway is not permitted by Parks Canada. The Milfoil Solution® is currently used throughout Ontario in lakes and waterways outside of Parks Canada's jurisdiction in waterbodies regulated by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the Ministry of Natural Resources. Prior to use of the native milfoil weevil as a form of management in Gloucester Pool and the surrounding area, permission must be granted by Parks Canada.

If you have questions or comments regarding this report, please contact EnviroScience at (800) 940-4025, or e-mail at kborrowman@enviroscienceinc.com.

Milfoil Solution,
Lake Management Division

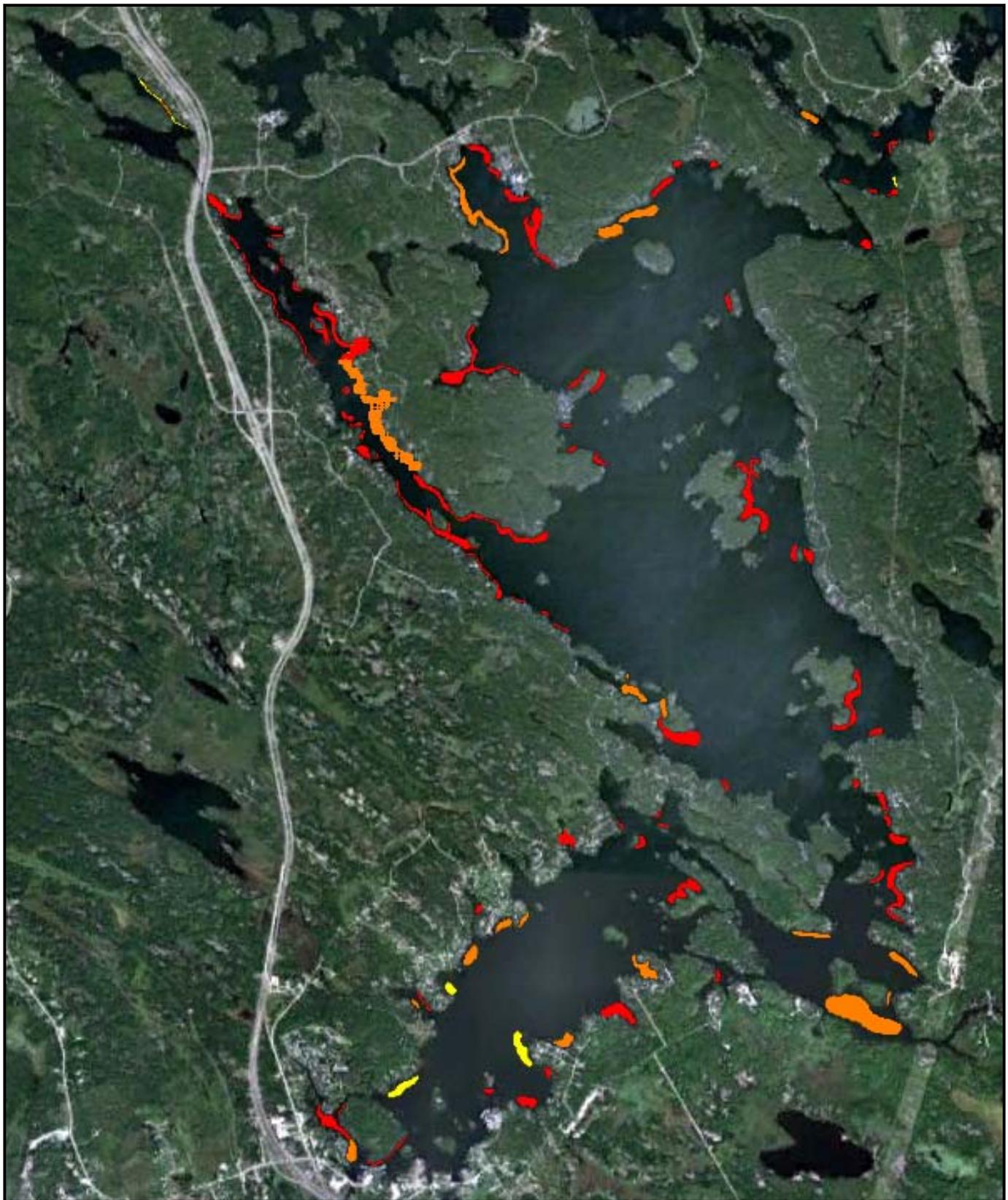


Figure 1.1: Distribution of Eurasian watermilfoil in Gloucester Pool

- Sparse
- Moderate
- Dense



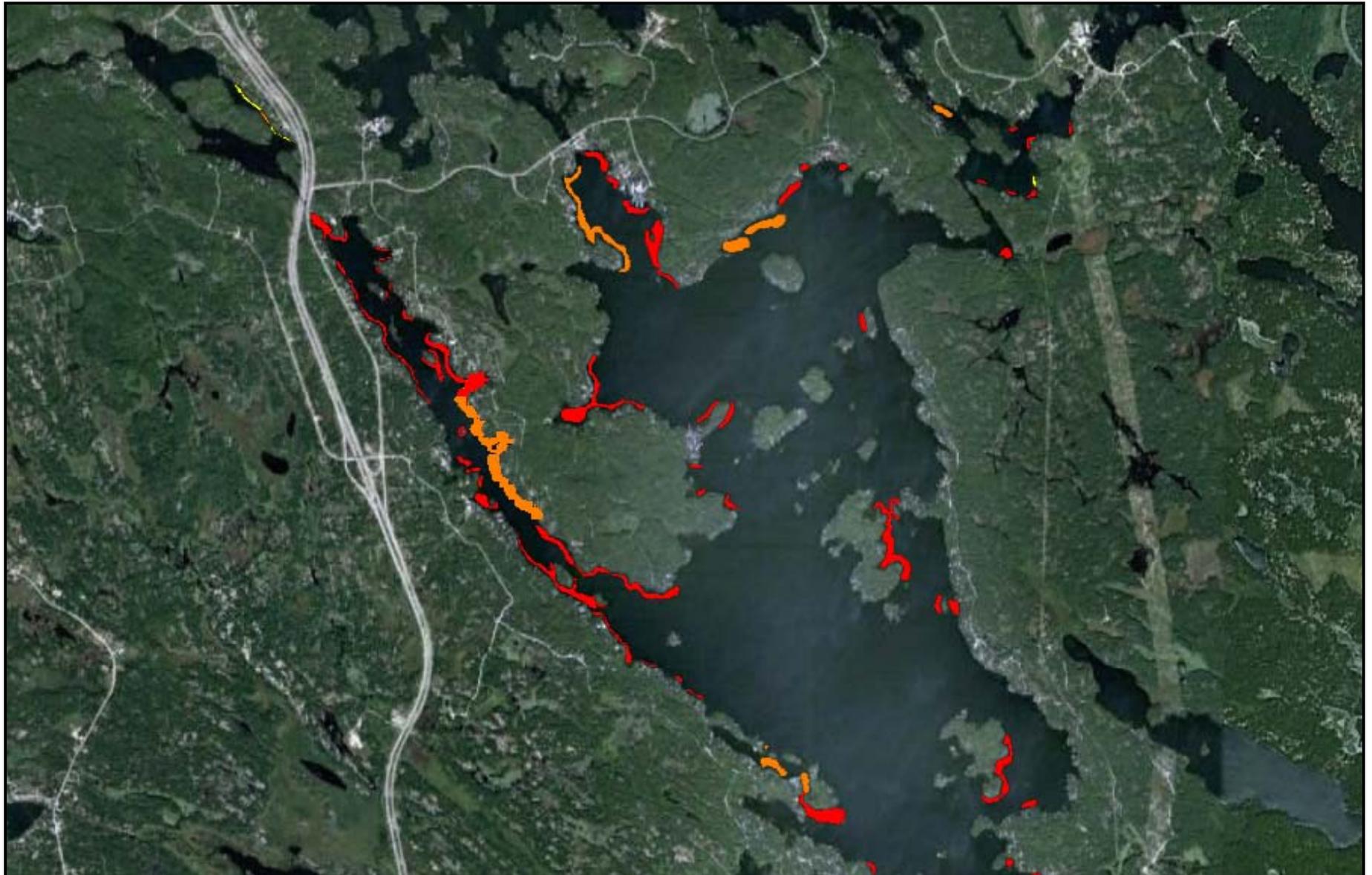


Figure 1.2: Distribution of Eurasian Watermilfoil in Gloucester Pool (North End)



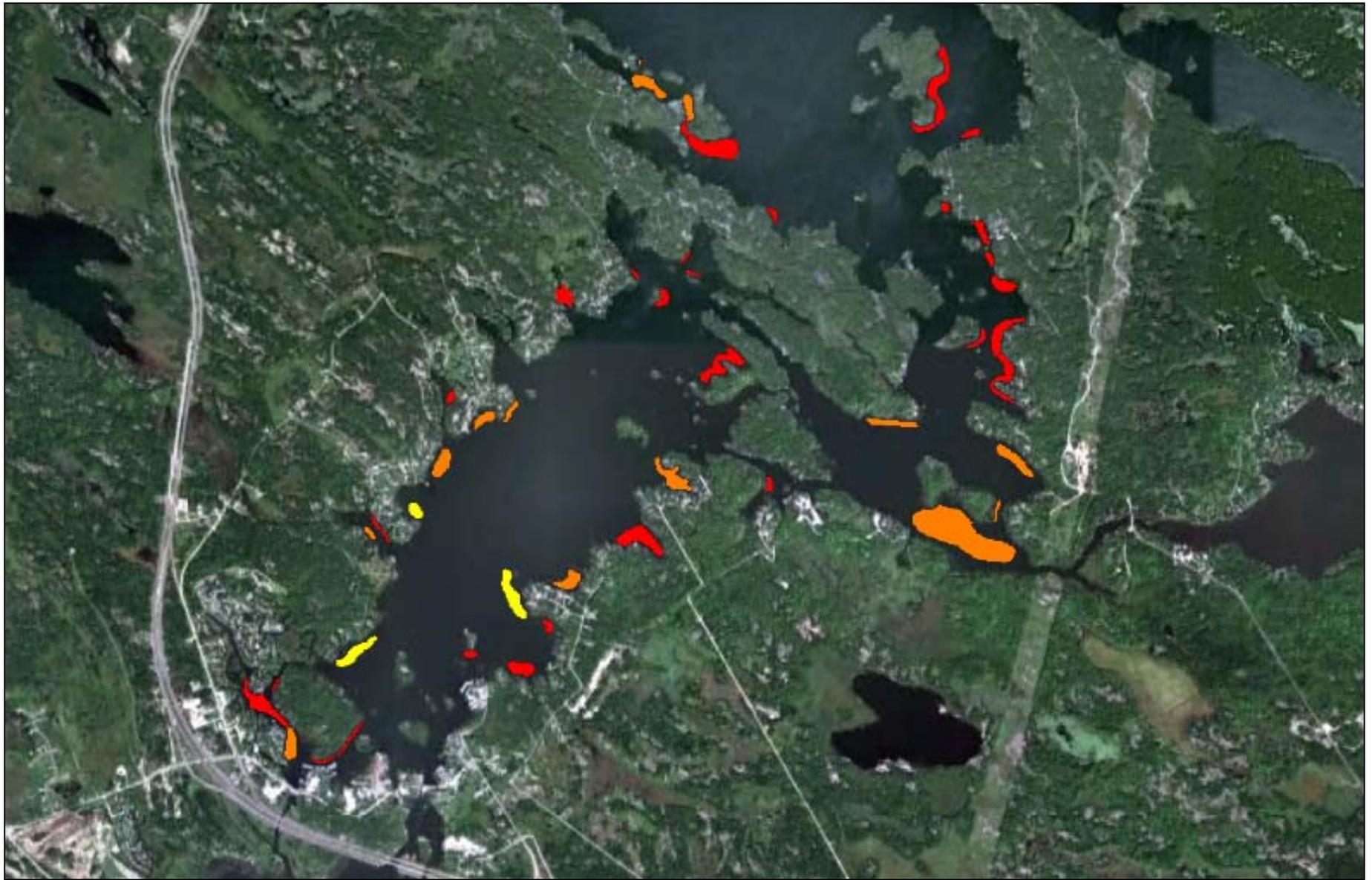


Figure 1.3: Distribution of Eurasian Watermilfoil in Gloucester Pool (South End)

-  Sparse
-  Moderate
-  Dense

