

Aquatic Invasive Species Inspection Report

Lake: **Sturgeon (DOW# 58006700)**

Inspection Date: **07/02/2025**

County: **Pine**

Surveyors: **Rich Rezanka**

Water Temp (*F): **72.0**

Report Author: **Rich Rezanka**

Inspection Times: 0900 - **1530**

Report Date: **07/07/2025**

Minnesota DNR Aquatic Invasive Species program staff inspected Sturgeon Lake for Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) on 07/02/2024. Eurasian watermilfoil was documented in only a few sites near the public access. Management activities may occur but will be minimal in 2025.



Photo 1: A view of the public access on Sturgeon Lake from July 2, 2025.

The survey was conducted from a boat with a sampling rake, water depth was measured with the depth finder, and GPS coordinates were recorded on a Garmin Map62stc unit.

Weather was sunny and hot with negligible wind from the south and southeast. Air temperature was 85 degrees; surface water temperature was 72 degrees. Water clarity in the lake was high (15 feet). Visual sampling was possible in shallow sites with depths less than six feet.

Delineation methods involved both visual methods and the use of a two-sided plant rake. The boat was driven from shallow water into deep water in a slow meandering pattern (figure 1). Special attention was paid to areas in the lake where favorable EWM growing conditions were present.

Eurasian watermilfoil was found at depths ranging from 4.0 - 9.0 feet. A significant reduction in EWM was observed on Sturgeon Lake in 2025 following the herbicide work done in 2024. Areas near shore and west of the public access supported EWM and could be considered for treatment in 2025 (figure 2).



Figure 2: Stand of Eurasian watermilfoil present in Sturgeon Lake on 2 July 2025.

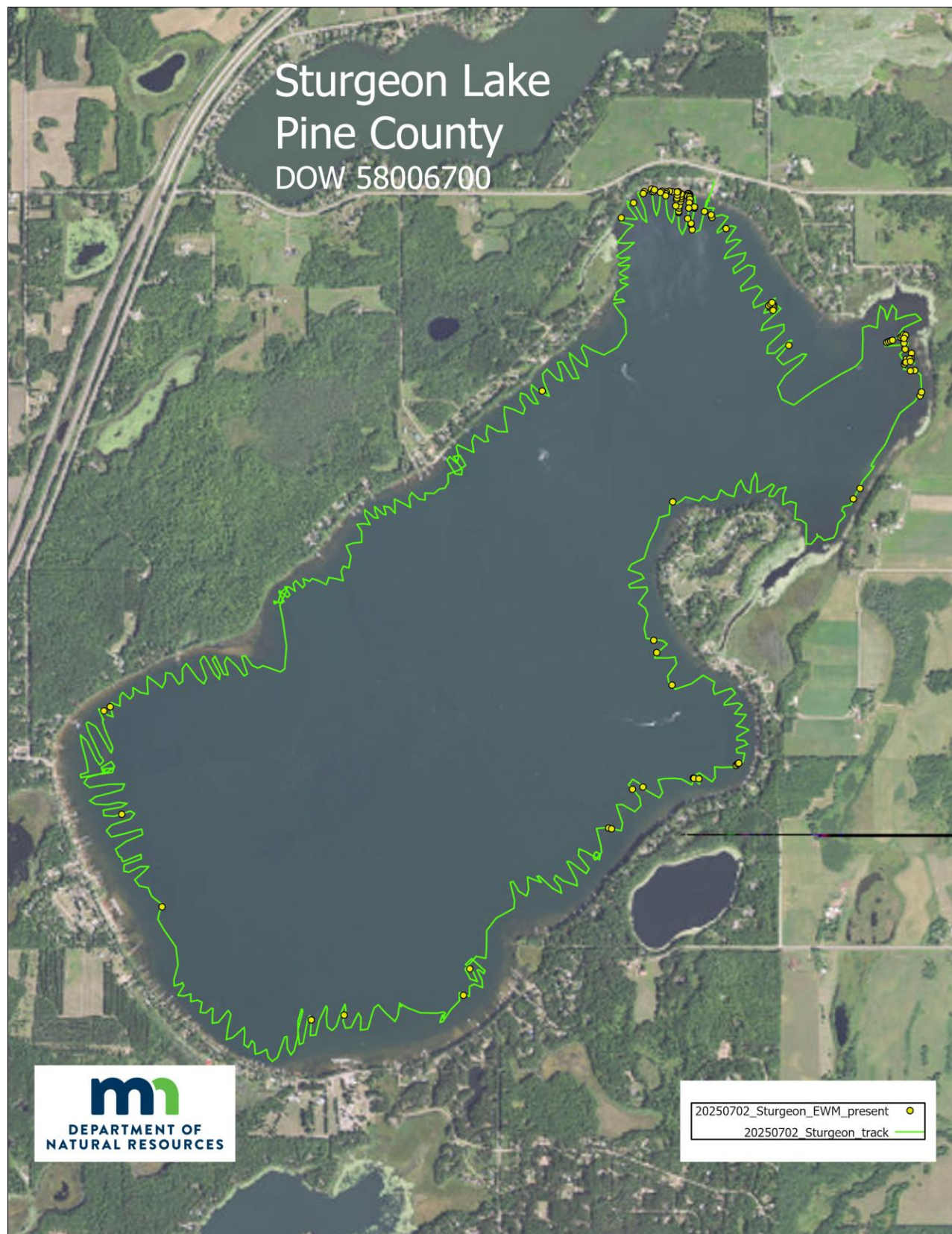


Figure 1. A survey map of Sturgeon Lake showing EWM locations and survey tracks from 2 July 2025.



Figure 2. Map indicates proposed treatment area of Eurasian watermilfoil in 2025.



photo 3: Underwater picture of Eurasian watermilfoil taken on 2 July 2025.



Photo 4: A variety of native plants have replaced Eurasian watermilfoil in Sturgeon Lake on 2 July 2025.