LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES

OFFICE OF FISHERIES
INLAND FISHERIES SECTION

PART VI –C (ARCHIVES)

WATERBODY MANAGEMENT PLAN SERIES

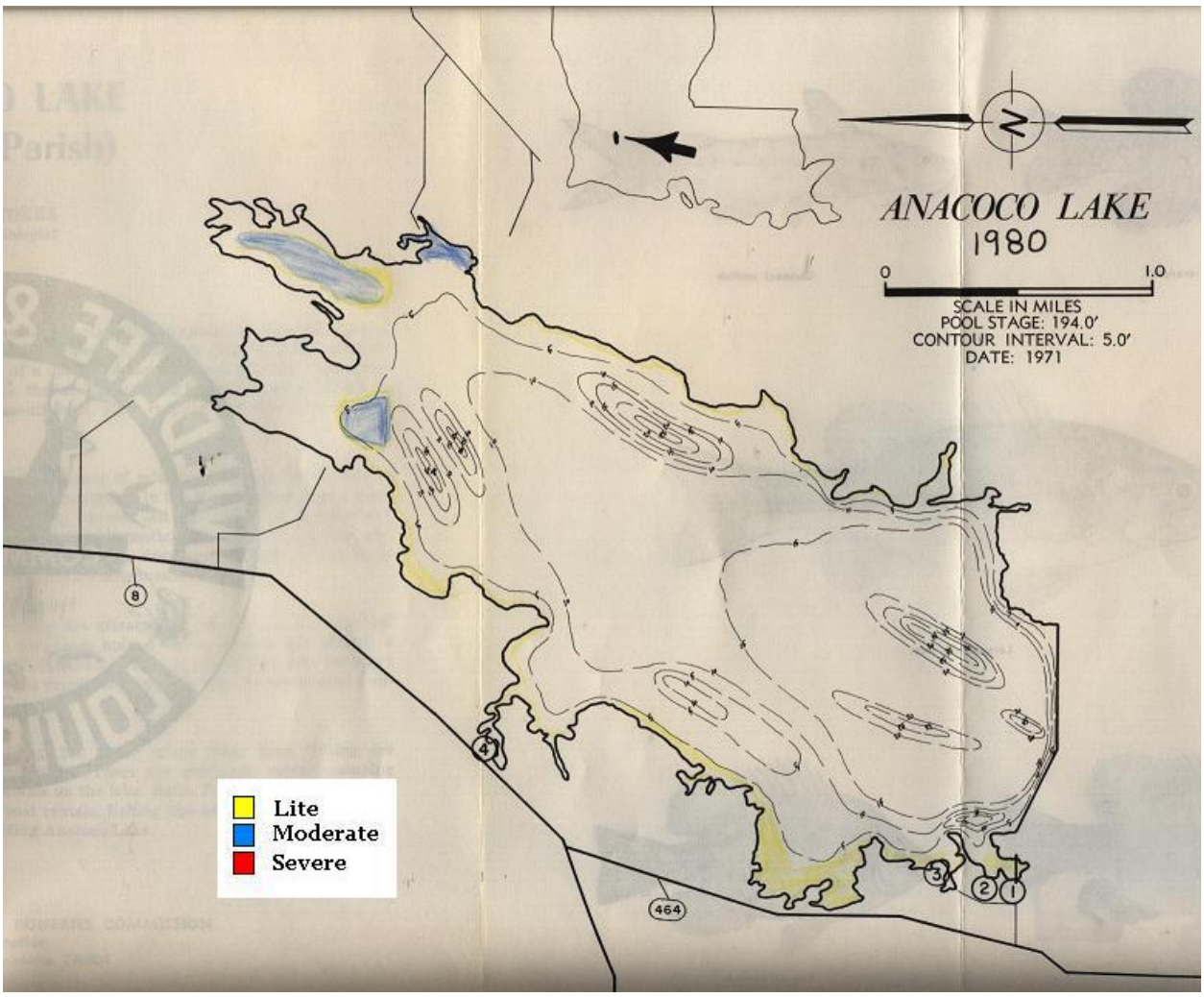
ANACOCO LAKE

AQUATIC VEGETATION TYPE MAPS
AND NARRATIVES

ANACOCO LAKE
1980

NOTES:

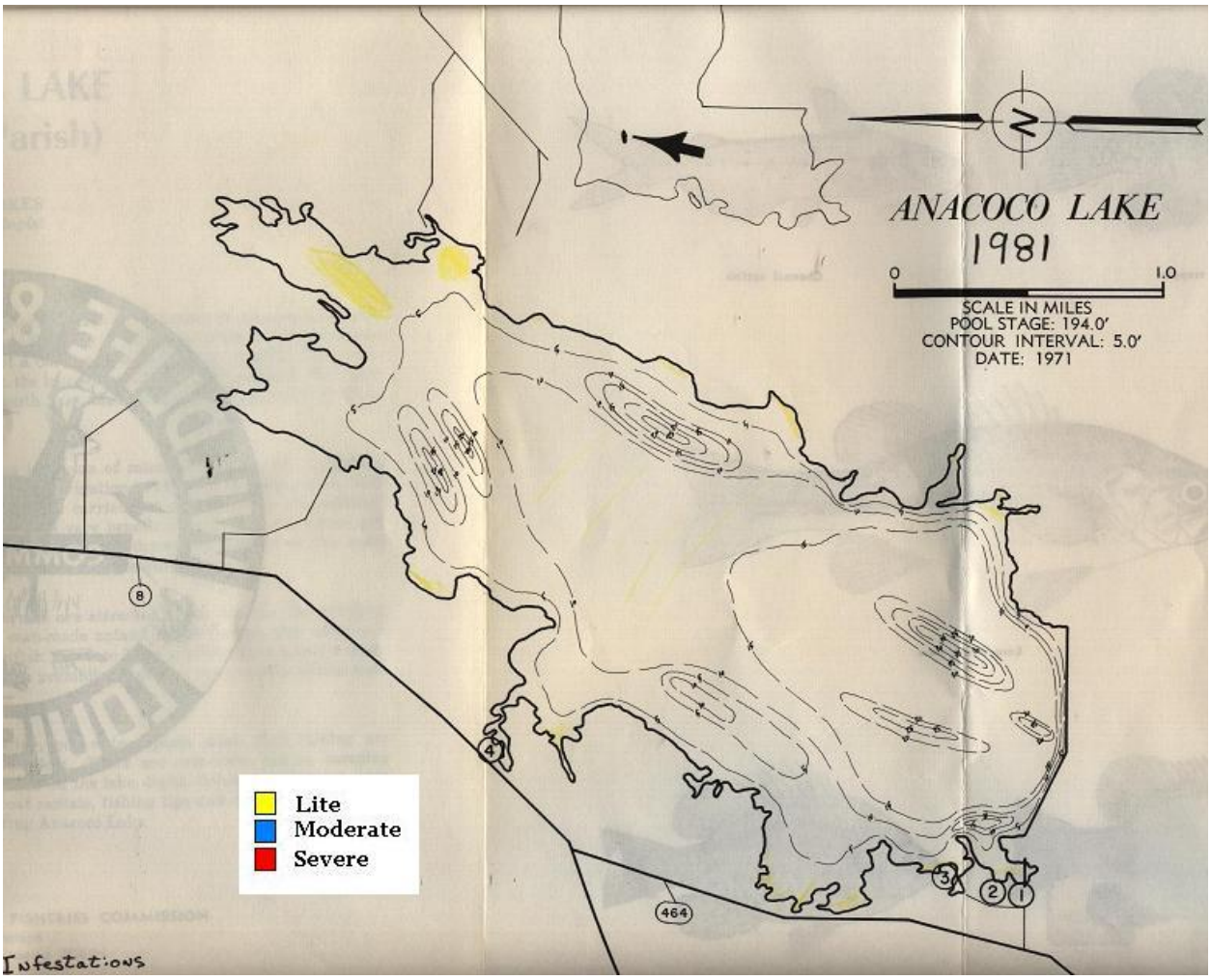
- Moderate infestation in two areas of Coontail and Cabomba
- Light infestation of Bladderwort
- Marginal infestation of Bidens and Primrose



ANACOCO LAKE
1981

NOTES:

- Light infestation of Bladderwort, Coontail, and Chara
- Marginal fringe of Bidens and Primrose greatly reduced from 1980



ANACOCO LAKE
1982

At the time of assessment Anacoco Lake was two (2) inches below pool stage. The color of the water was clear. There was some plankton bloom noted.

The marginal plants noted were *Cephalanthus* (buttonbush), Ludwigia (Primrose), and Hydrolea.

The emersed plants noted were *Eleocharis* and *Hydrochloa* (water grass).

The submersed plants noted were *Utricularia* (gibba), *Chara*, and *Potamogeton*.

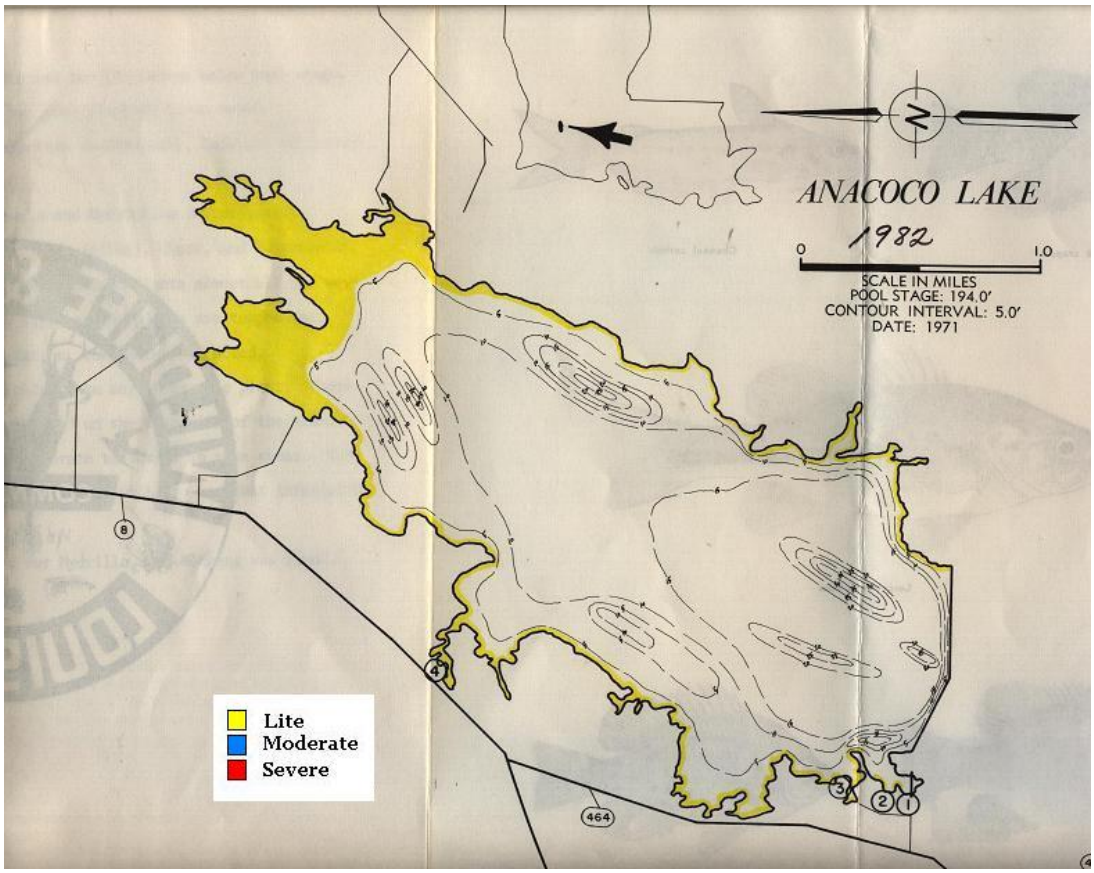
Anacoco Lake has a high infestation of submersed plants almost all the way around the lake. The infestation is very light and no plants are topped out.

The emersed plants were not an infestation, they were just noted.

The marginal plants are more of a problem than any other type plant. There is a buttonbush infestation in the upper end and on the west side of the lake.

The infestation of buttonbush ranges from moderate to severe in some areas. The primrose infestations range from moderate to severe with the severest infestation being in the upper end.

All the public landings were checked for Hydrilla, but nothing was found.


ANACOCO LAKE
1982
0
1.0
SCALE IN MILES
POOL STAGE: 194.0'
CONTOUR INTERVAL: 5.0'
DATE: 1971
Lite
Moderate
Severe
8
4
464
3
2
1

ANACOCO LAKE
1983

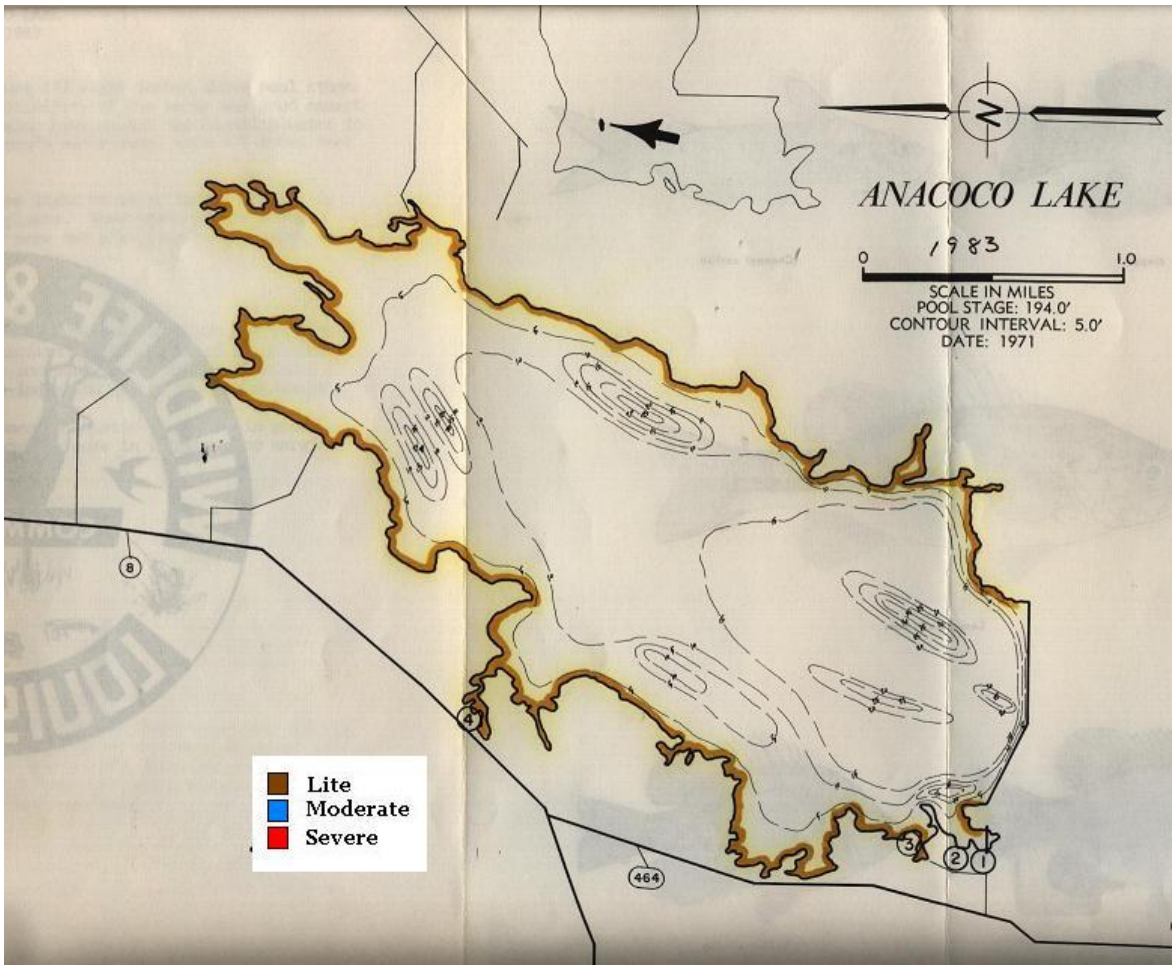
At the time of assessment Anacoco Lake was (8) eight inches above pool stage. The color of the water was good. The visibility of the water was good except in the extreme upper end where recent rains have3 caused the incoming water to by murky. During this past winter Anacoco Lakes water level went (7) seven feet above pool stage.

All infestations of submersed plants were light to very light. Eleocharis and Filamentous algae were the primary plants. Some spots of Utricularia were present in the upper end, but they were not significant. Potamogeton and Hydrochloa were also noted in small amounts.

No floating plants were noted at all.

The marginal plants noted were Cephalanthus, Hydrolea, Ludwigia, Polygonum and Saururus. Button bush is still a problem on the upper end of Anacoco Lake, but there does not seem to be any increase in the amount of plants from last year. Water primrose has not increased enough to be a nuisance.

In summary, Anacoco Lake, as far as submersed aquatic plants is in good condition. There has been no significant increase in submersed or marginal plants since last year.


ANACOCO LAKE
1983
0
1.0
SCALE IN MILES
POOL STAGE: 194.0'
CONTOUR INTERVAL: 5.0'
DATE: 1971
Lite
Moderate
Severe
8
4
464
3
2
1

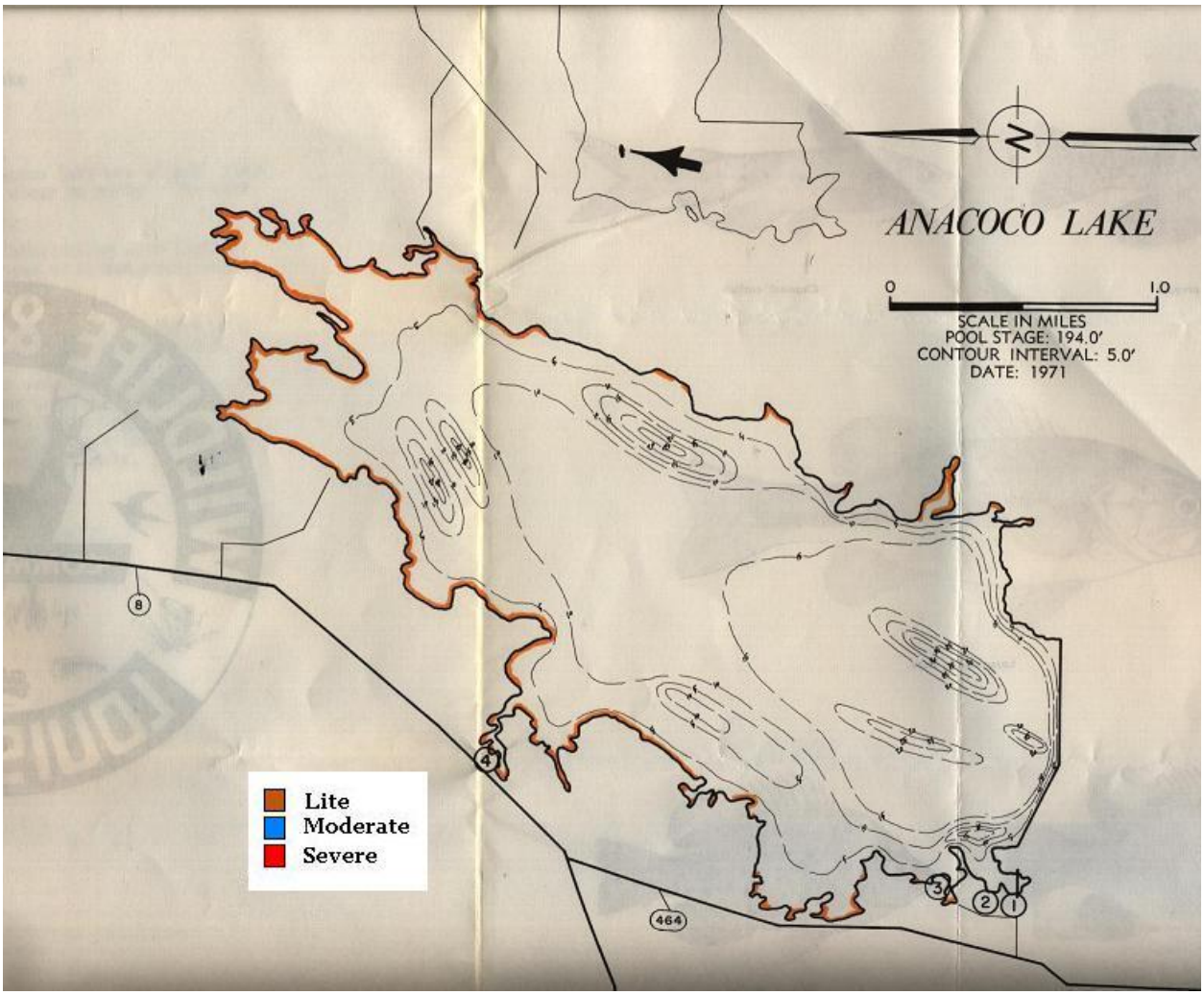
ANACOCO LAKE
1984

At the time of assessment Anacoco Lake was at pool stage. The color of the water was fairly clear to murky. The lake had a fair plankton bloom.

The submersed aquatic plant infestations were light. The light infestations were comprised of Potamogeton, Najas, Hydrochloa, Chara and filamentous algae.

The marginal plants noted were Cephalanthus, Hydrolea, Panicum, Scirpus, Polygonium, Ludwigia and Alternanthera.

In summary Anacoco lake is in very good condition. The lake has no submersed aquatic plant problem. The button bush problem in Anacoco Lake has not gotten any better, although there seems to be no increase since last year. All other marginal plants are in tolerable amounts.

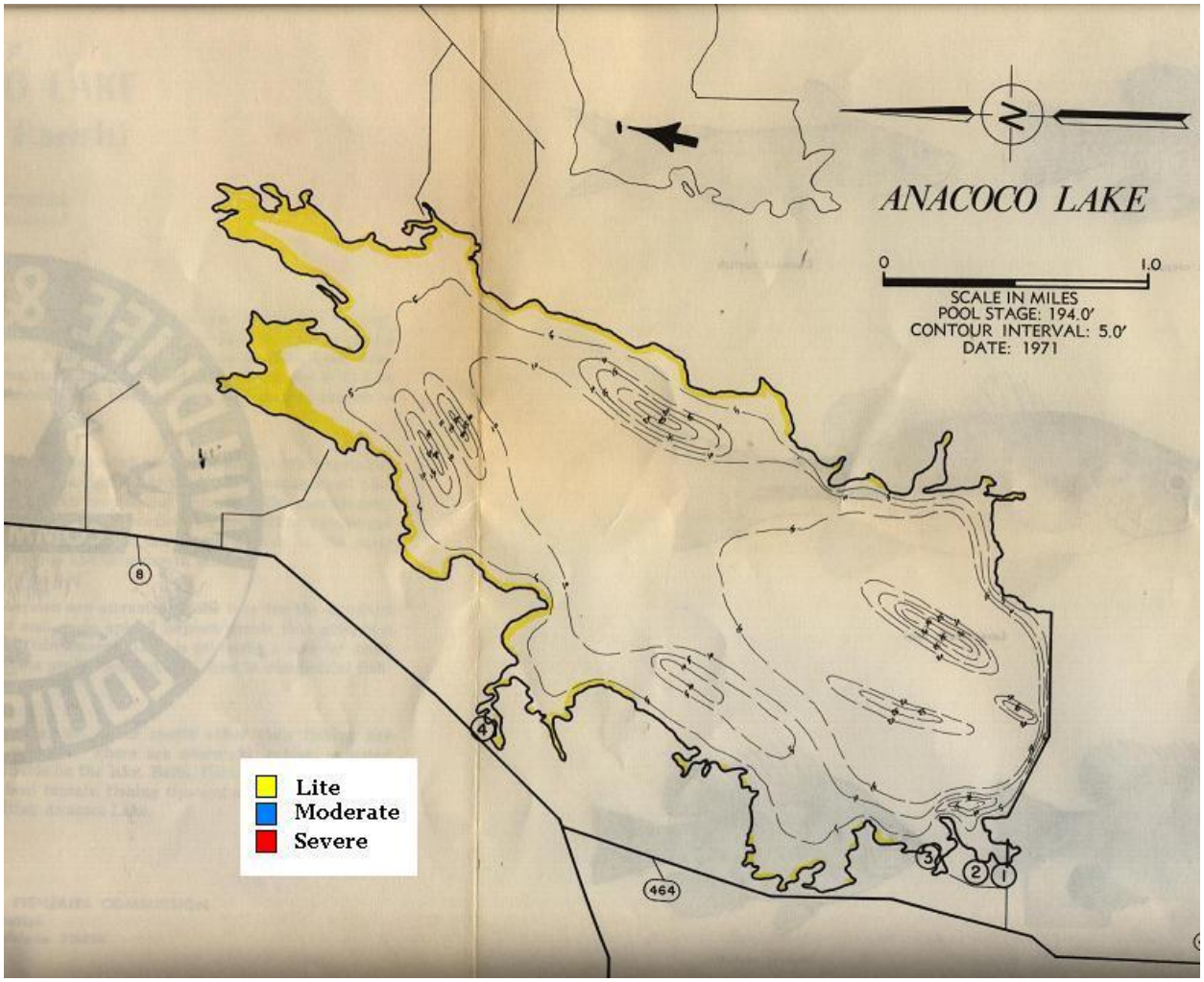


ANACOCO LAKE
1988

At the time of assessment Anacoco Lake was 8 inches below pool stage. The water color was fair. Most areas of the lake had very clear water with no notice of plankton bloom.

The emersed aquatic plant noted was primarily primrose.

In summary Anacoco Lake is in good condition. There has been no significant increase in plants this growing season. Button willow is still a problem in the upper end of the lake, but there has been no increase.



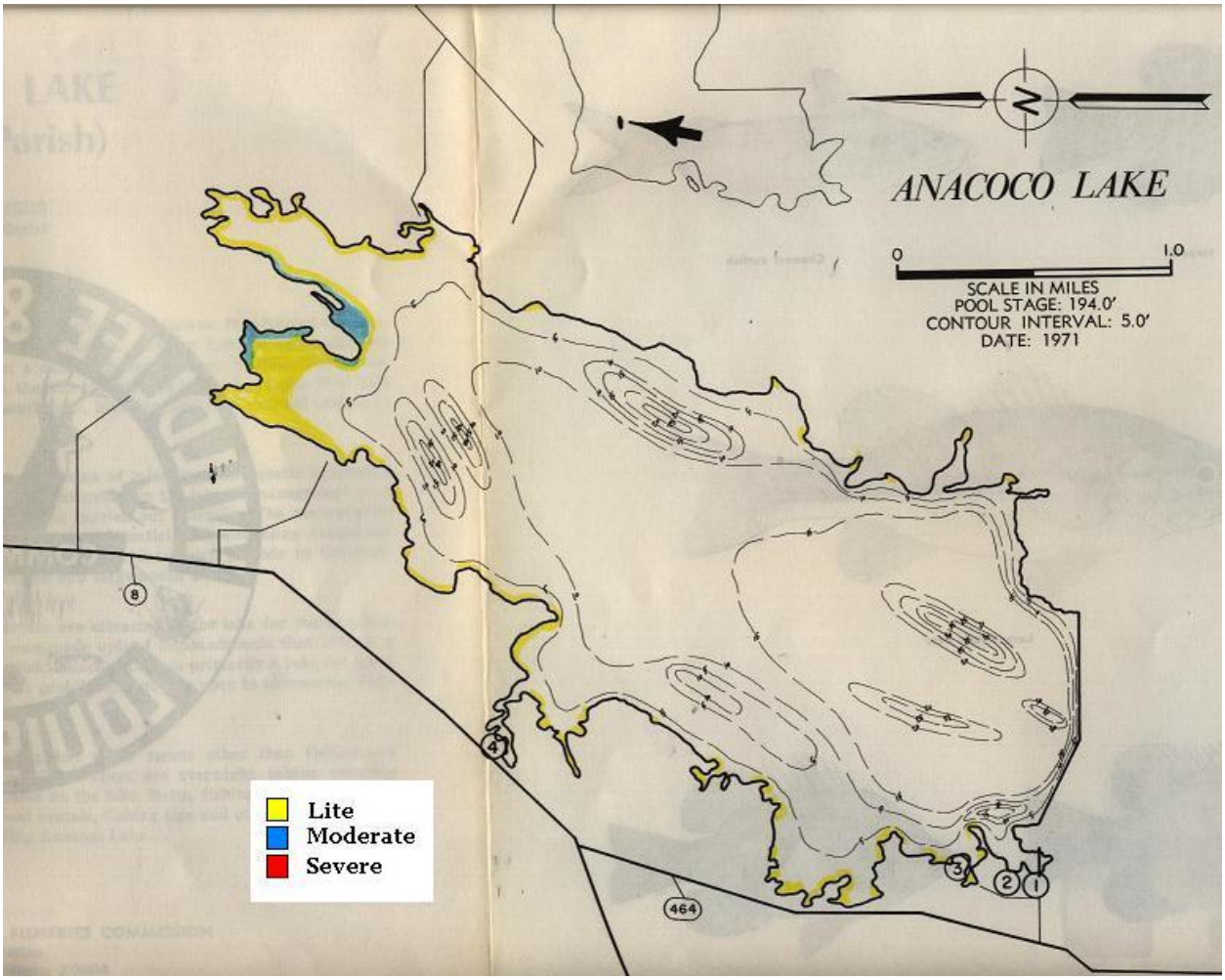
ANACOCO LAKE
1989

Anacoco Lake, Vernon Parish, was assessed in September, 1989. The water level was five inches (5") above pool stages. Recent local rains caused the rise in water and the turbidity to increase. The Secchi disc reading was thirty eight (38") inches in the lower end and twenty five (25") inches in the upper end.

The dominant submersed aquatic plant in the upper half of Anacoco Lake was Utricularia. The secondary aquatic plants noted were *Ceratophyllum demersum* and southern naiad (*Najas*). Also noted were Chara in one area. All infestations were very light in all areas.

The dominant submersed aquatic plant in the lower half of Anacoco Lake was Southern Naiad (*Najas*). Some small fragments of Utricularia were also noted in one or two coves.

The buttonbush (*Cephalanthus*) in Anacoco Lake's upper end has not increased to any noticeable extent. Submersed aquatic plants have not increased since last growing season. Early summer rains may have had some effect on submersed plants because of higher water levels.



ANACOCO LAKE

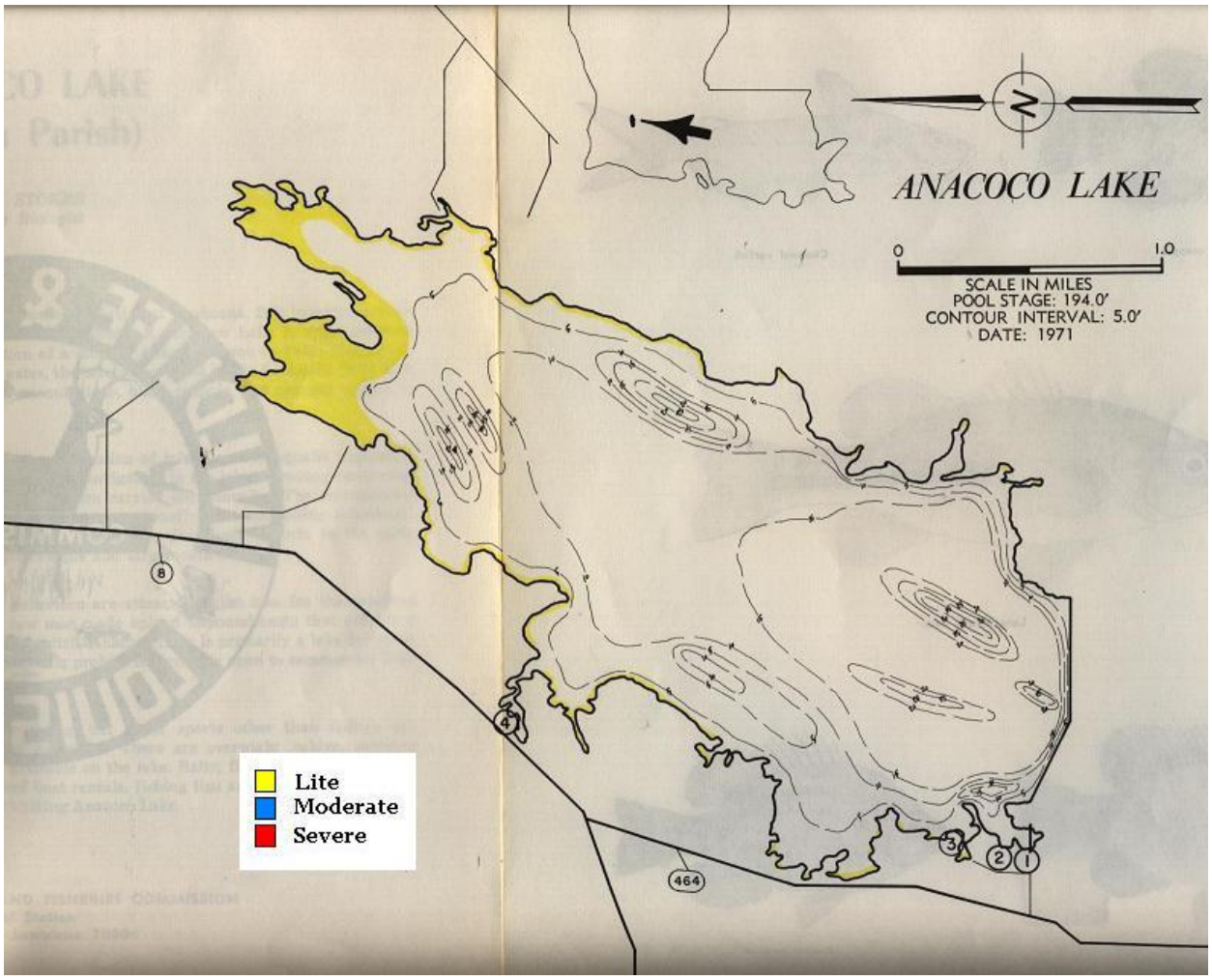
1991

At the time of assessment Anacoco Lake was at pool stage. Water conditions were fair. The turbidity was moderate and the plankton bloom was fair. The Secchi disc reading was 28 inches.

The submersed aquatic plants noted were *Ceratophyllum demersum*, *Utricularia inflata*, *Potamogeton spp*., and Najas guadalupensis.

The emergent plants noted were *Brasenia spp*., *Nymphaea spp*., *Ludwigia spp*. and *Alternanthera spp*.

In summary Anacoco Lake has mainly light infestation of *Utricularia spp*. and *Najas spp*., one area of moderate infestation in the upper end was composed of *Utricularia*.



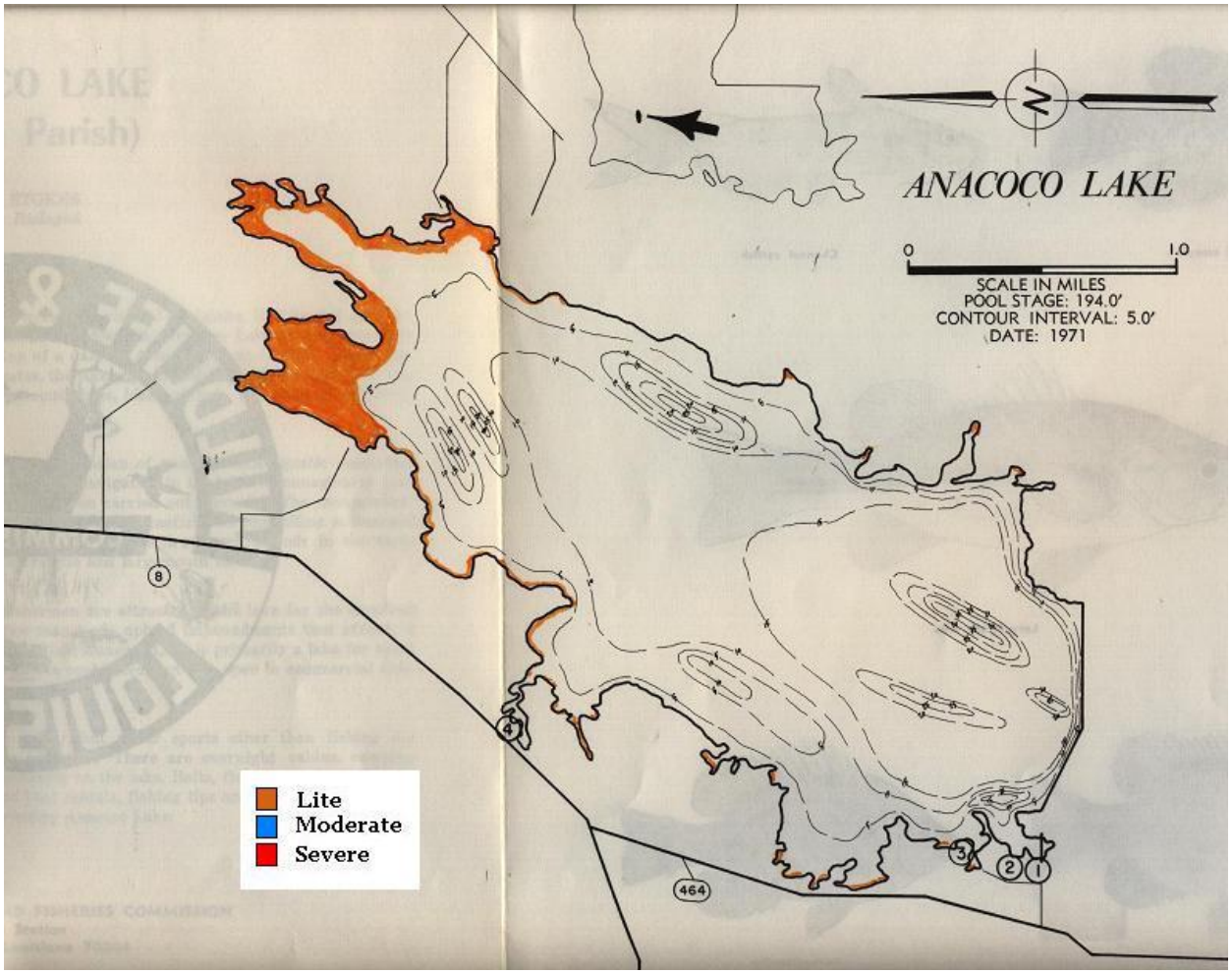
ANACOCO LAKE
1992

Anacoco Lake was surveyed for aquatic plants in June, 1992.

At the time of assessment Anacoco Lake was at pool stage. The water color ranged from clear in upper end to turbid in the lower portion.

The primary aquatic plant noted was *Utricularia*. The secondary plant noted was *Potamogeton*, coontail, *Cabomba* and Southern Naiad.

Most infestations of aquatic plants in Anacoco Lake was confined to the upper end and was light and growing in depths out to 5' feet in some areas.



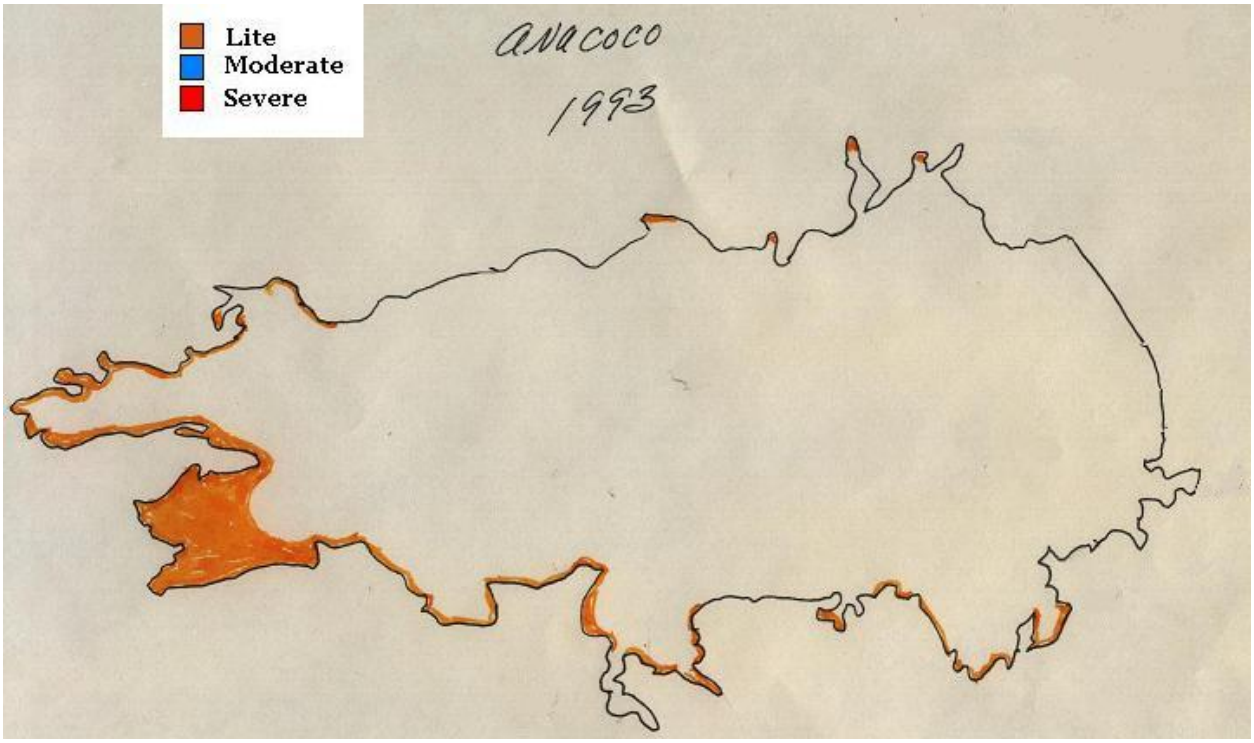
ANACOCO LAKE
1993

Anacoco Lake was surveyed for aquatic plants in the spring of 1993.

At the time of assessment Anacoco Lake was at pool stage. The water color was turbid. The Secchi disc reading was 3' feet.

The primary aquatic plant noted was *Utricularia*. The secondary plants were Southern naiad and *Potamogeton*, *Cabomba* and coontail was also noted in the upper end. Most infestations were light and growing out to 5' feet in some areas.

Marginal plants noted were *Brasenia*, primrose and alligatorweed.

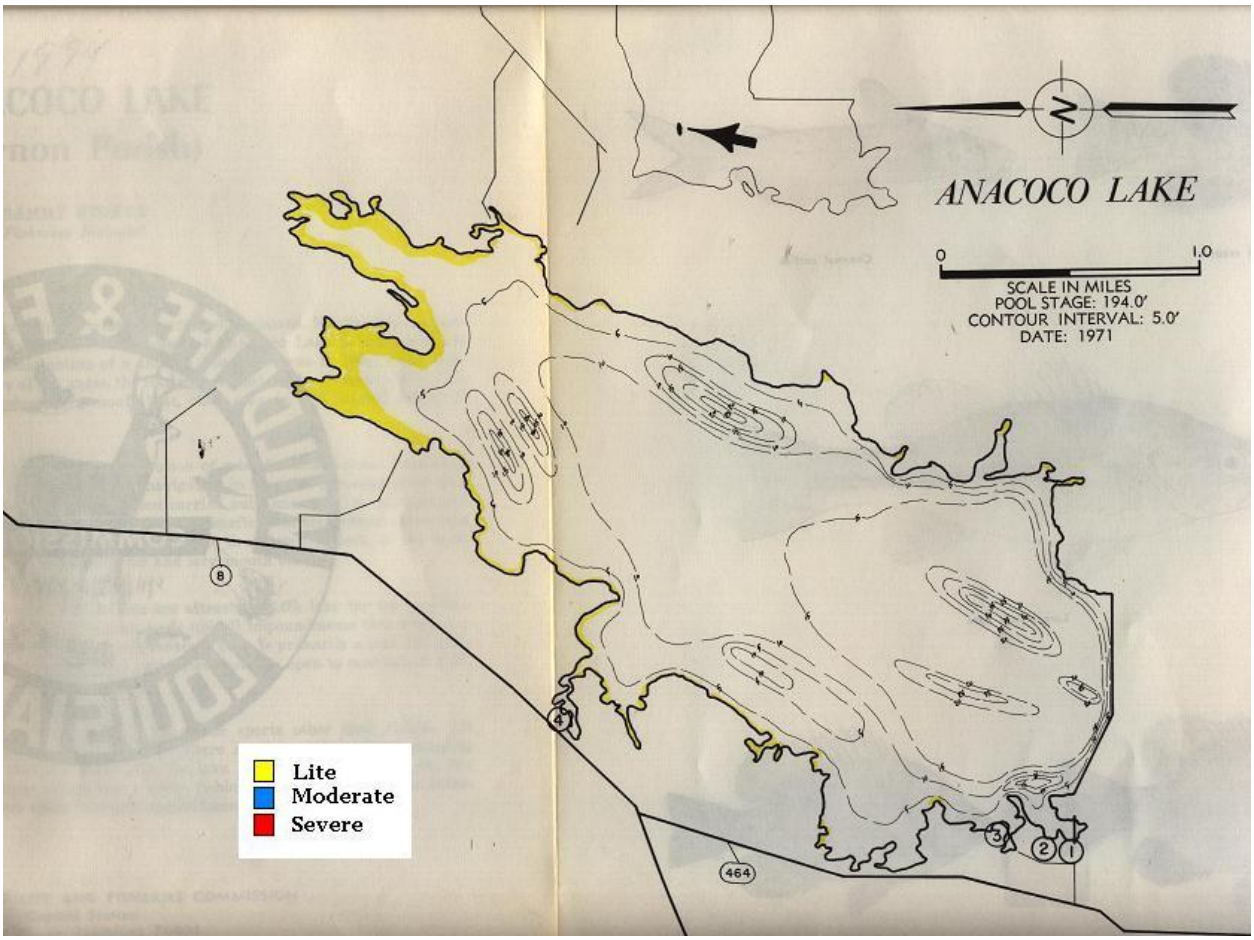


ANACOCO LAKE
1994

At the time of assessment Anacoco Lake was 4” above pool stage. The water color was very turbid and yellow in color. The Secchi disc reading was 18 inches in the middle of the lake.

The submersed aquatic plants noted were Cabomba, Utricularia, Southern naiad and Potamogeton.

The submersed aquatic plants in Anacoco Lake were light in all areas. Most infestations were composed of southern naiad and Potamogeton. A fragment of Cabomba was noted also some Utricularia was noted in the extreme upper end.



ANACOCO LAKE
1995

At the time of assessment Anacoco Lake was at pool stage. The water color was milky and very turbid. Secchi disc reading was 15" inches.

Under the conditions the only submersed aquatic plant noted was *Utricularia* (Gibbs).

The emersed aquatic plants noted were *Saurus*, *Sagittaria*, smart weed and Primrose.

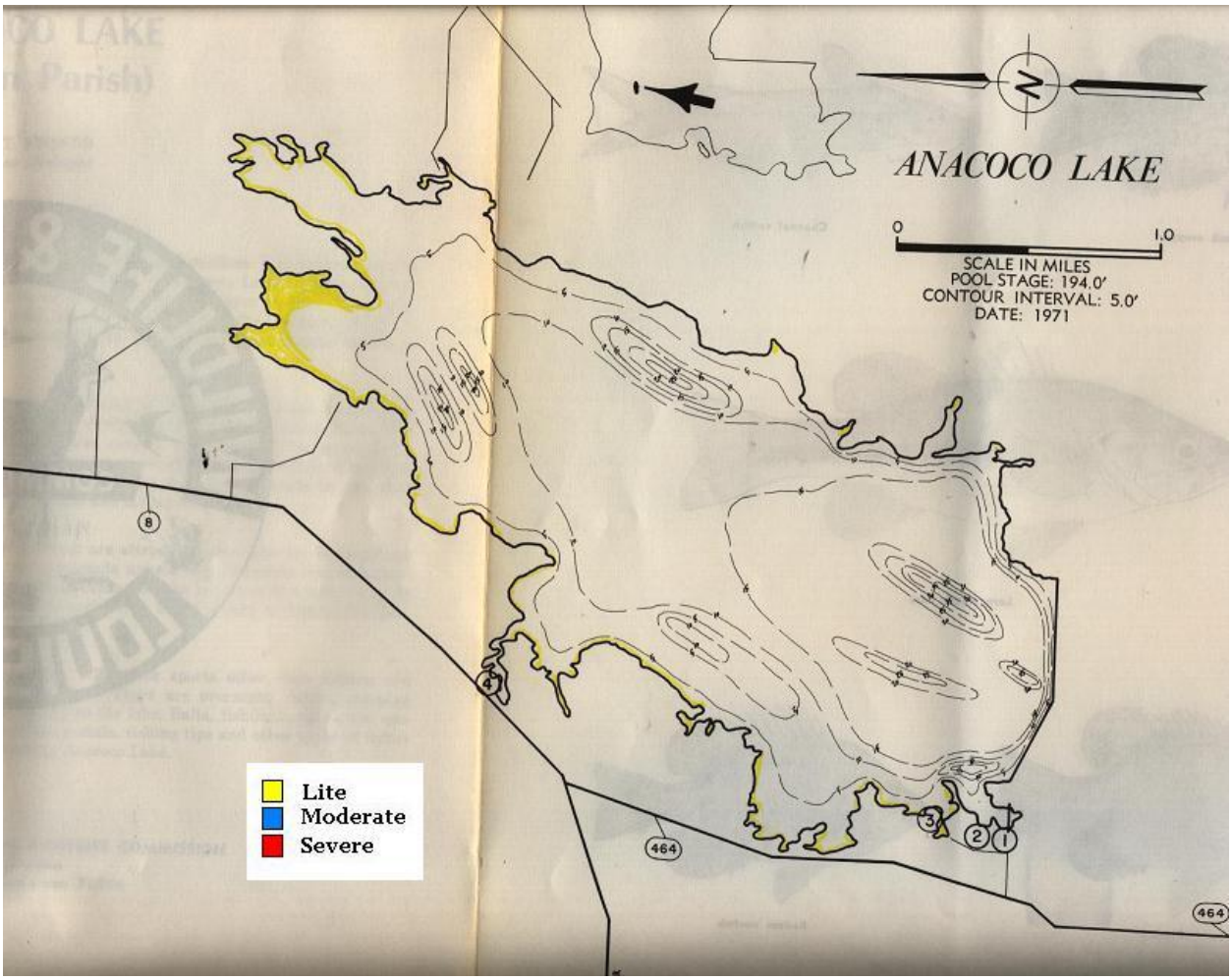
NO MAP

ANACOCO LAKE
1998
Melvin Bagwell

At the time of assessment, Anacoco Lake was at pool stage. The water color was very turbid. The Secchi disk reading was 12 inches in the upper end and 38 inches in the lower end.

The aquatic plants surveyed were bladderwort, pondweed, Chara, and filamentous algae. The emersed plants surveyed were Bacopa, smartweed, bulrush, and alligatorweed.

The distribution of aquatic plants was light to very light in all areas. The total infested area was an estimated 10%.



ANACOCO LAKE
Aquatic Weed Assessment
September 30, 1999

Anacoco Lake is currently under an extended drawdown for fisheries management purposes. Water control gates were opened February 1, 1999. The lake bed renovation plan called for a 16 foot drawdown along with seeding and fertilization of the lake bottom. Boat docks, launch sites, and duck blinds were refurbished during low water conditions. Also, boat lanes were cleared to improve boating access. Water control gates were closed August 17, 1999.

NO MAP

ANACOCO LAKE
AQUATIC PLANT SURVEY
October 4, 2000

Anacoco Lake was surveyed October 4, 2000 to determine aquatic plant infestation levels. The water was clear. A very light algae bloom was present. Submerged vegetation was sampled using a 6-point, reverse tine "drag".

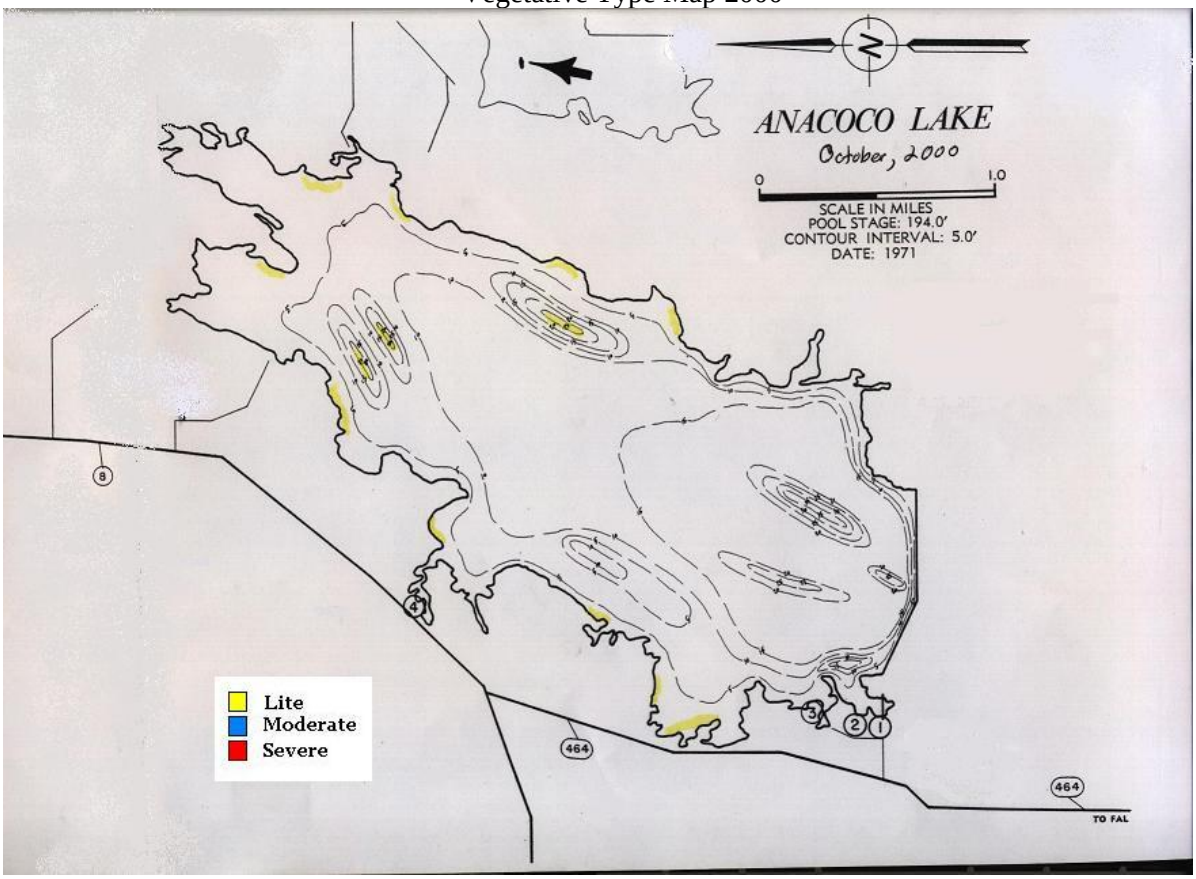
The LDWF and Vernon Parish Police Jury dewatered Anacoco Lake from April 1999 until April 2000 for lakebed renovation purposes. The renovation project objective was fishery enhancement. This extended drawdown (approximately 12 months) controlled aquatic plant growth on the lake. Because of the limited time the lake had been flooded (7 months), no significant infestations of aquatic weeds had occurred by the time of this survey.

However, aquatic plant growth was present and consisted mostly of *Potamogeton spp*., *Najas spp*., *Hydrochloa spp*., and *Nymphaea odorata*. These plants were found in several locations of the lake where water was less than 18 inches deep. The infestations were very minor and only worthy of mention at this point in time. We observed no floating aquatic plants. Marginal aquatic plants such as *Ludwigia spp*., *Polygonum spp*., and *Alternanthera philoxeroides*, were very rare.

Salix nigra (willow) was beginning to establish itself in the lakebed during drawdown. When the lake returned to pool stage, some of this willow growth was not completely inundated. This willow growth may require herbicide treatment if it continues to grow under partially flooded conditions.

In summary, aquatic plants were present on Anacoco Lake during this survey, but species variety and coverage were very limited. Introduction of native submersed vegetation such as *Ceratophyllum demersum*, *Vallisneria americana*, and *Sagittaria spp*. Would increase aquatic plant community diversity and coverage. An increase in aquatic plant coverage (up to 25%) could possibly benefit the lake's fishery.

Vegetative Type Map 2000



ANACOCO LAKE
NOVEMBER 2005
Eric Shanks

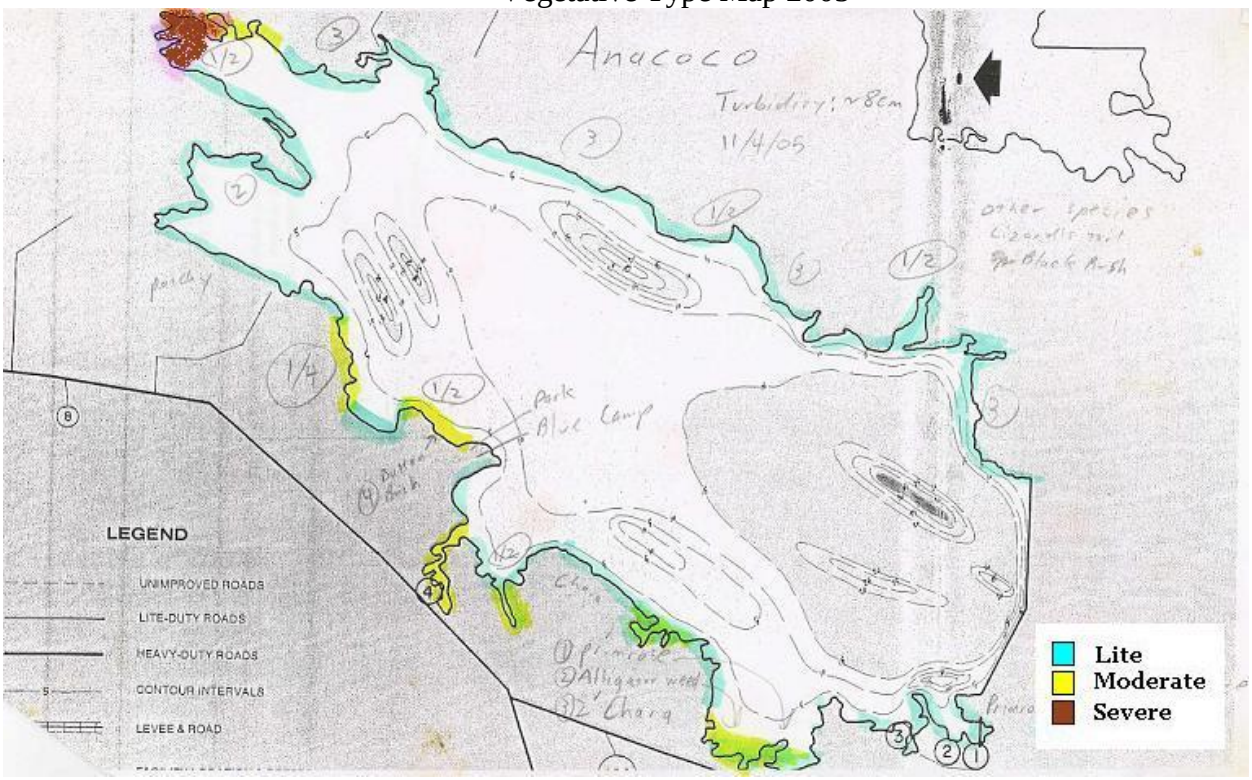
Anacoco Lake, in Vernon Parish, was surveyed for the presence of aquatic vegetation on November 4, 2005. On the day of the survey the water was muddy with a secchi disk reading of 8-10 cm. Water levels were at 193' MSL, slightly below pool stage.

Primroses (*Ludwigia peploides*) were the most abundant vegetation observed during the survey with light to moderate amounts along most of the shoreline and one heavy infestation at the northern tip of the lake. Alligatorweed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*) was also present in lesser amounts in the same areas.

Light amounts of muskgrass (*Chara spp*.) were found along most of the 2' contour of the lake with this being the only submersed aquatic observed.

Other plants present in trace to light amounts were lizard's tail (*Saururus cernuus*), needlegrass (*Juncus roemerianus*), and maidencane (*Panicum hemitomon*).

Vegetative Type Map 2005



ANACOCO LAKE
September 2007
Eric Shanks

Anacoco Lake, in Vernon Parish, was surveyed for the presence of aquatic vegetation on September 27, 2007. On the day of the survey water clarity was poor with a secchi disk reading of 18-20 cm. Water levels were approximately 193' MSL or one foot below pool elevation.

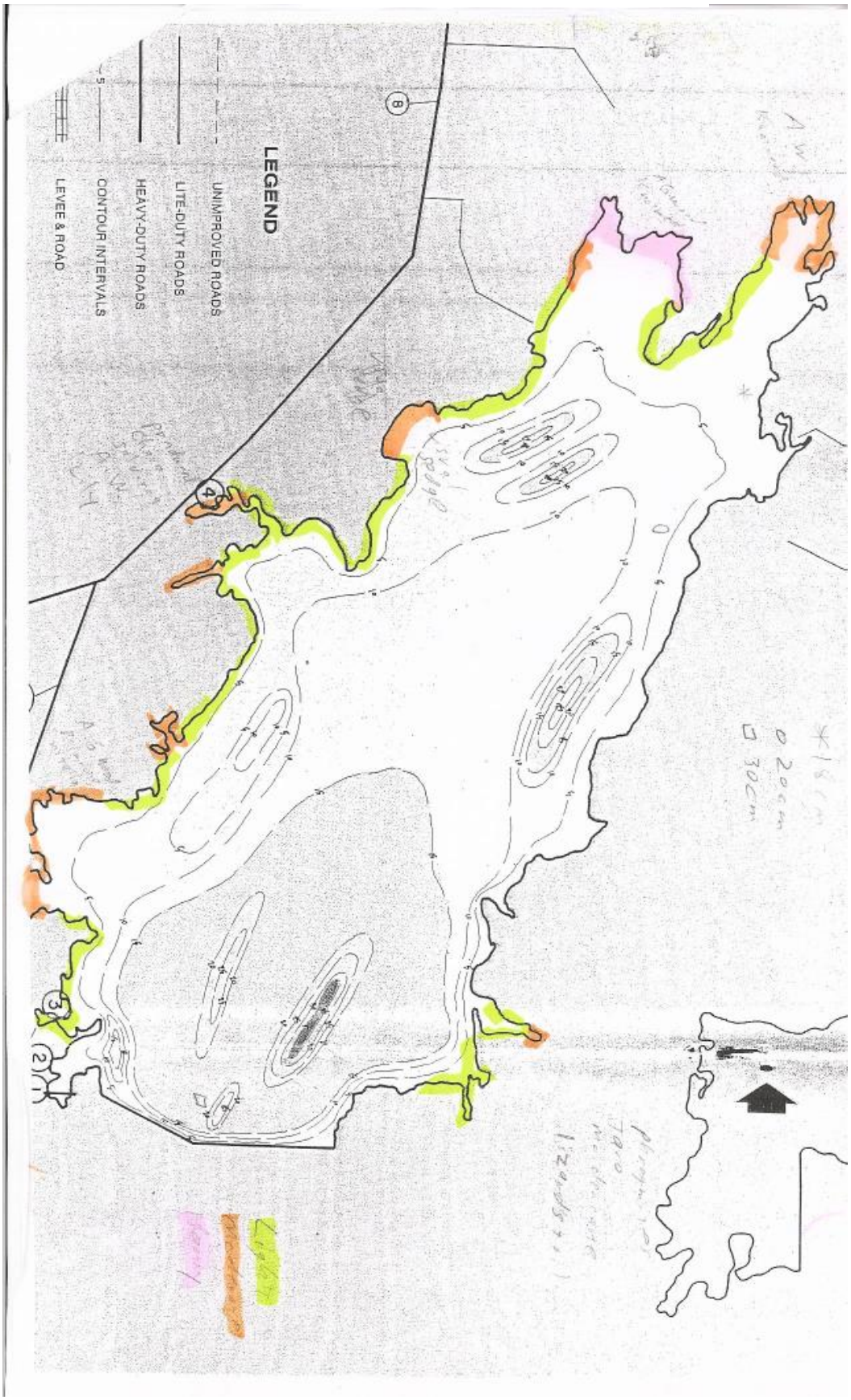
Alligatorweed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*) was the most abundant vegetation observed during the survey with light amounts along much of the shoreline and one heavy infestation at the northern tip of the lake. Primroses (*Ludwigia peploides*) were also present in lesser amounts in the same areas. Smartweed (*Polygonum spp*.) was also present in moderate amounts in the northern part of the lake

Light amounts of stonewort (*Nitella spp*.) and muskgrass (*Chara spp*.) were found along the 2' to 3' contour of the lake. These plants were mostly observed along the western and northern shores of the lake.

Other plants present in trace to light amounts were lizard's tail (*Saururus cernuus*), maidencane (*Panicum hemitomon*), water lily (*Nymphaea odorata*), elephant ear (*Taro spp*.), common reed (*Phragmites australis*), water sedge (*Cyperus spp*.), and variable leaf pondweed (*Potamogeton diversifolia*).

Light amounts of common salvinia (*Salvinia minima*) were observed in several coves along the western shore of the lake.

Vegetative Type Map 2007



ANACOCO LAKE
October 2009
Eric Shanks

Anacoco Lake, in Vernon Parish, was surveyed for the presence of aquatic vegetation on October 14, 2009. On the day of the survey water clarity was 45cm as measured by secchi disk. Water levels were approximately 193.75' MSL or three inches below pool elevation.

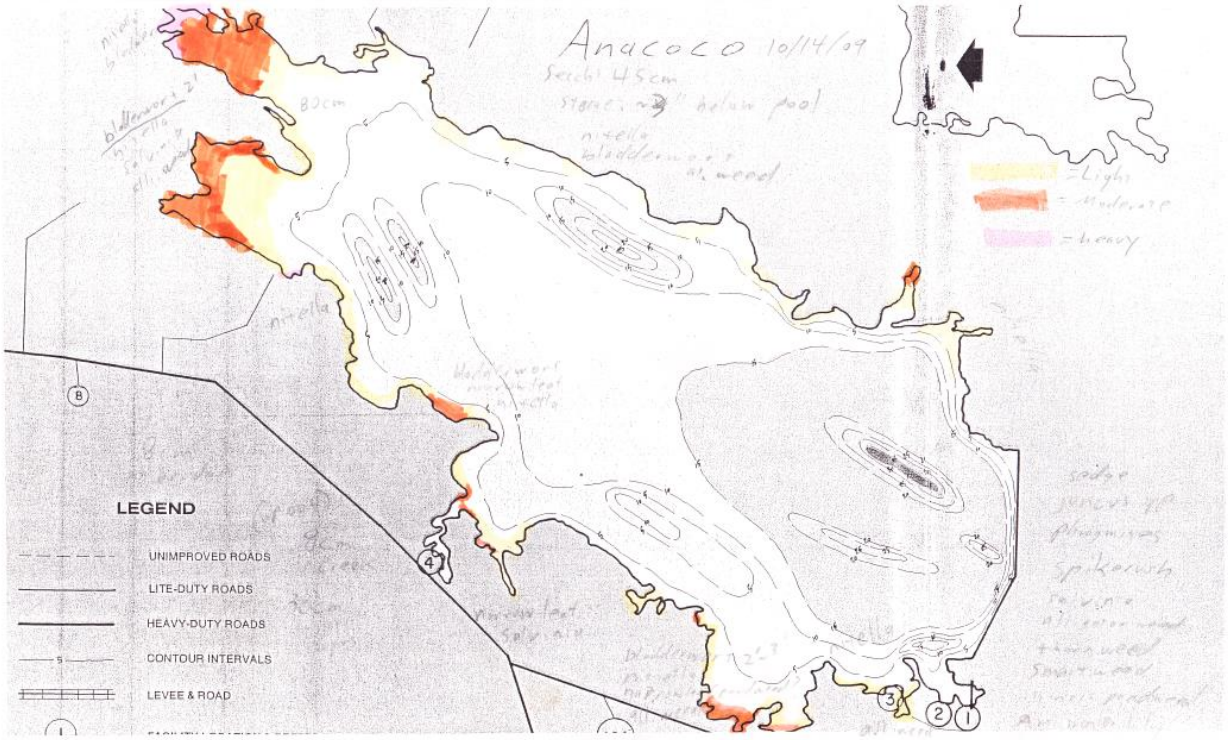
The predominant aquatic plants observed were bladderwort (Utricularia spp.) and stonewort (*Nitella spp*.), with light to moderate amounts found along the 2' to 4' contour of the lake. These plants were mostly observed along the western and northern shores of the lake, but light amounts were present along the eastern shoreline. Leafy pondweed (*Potamogeton foliosus*) was also present in light amounts along these same contours.

Alligatorweed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*) infestations were much reduced from last year with little or none present around most of the lake, and only moderate amounts present in the upper parts of the northern coves.

Common salvinia (*Salvinia minima*) was more abundant than last year with light to moderate infestations observed in coves along the western and northern shores of the lake.

Other plants present in trace to light amounts were water lily (*Nymphaea odorata*), common reed (*Phragmites australis*), water sedge (*Cyperus spp*.), rushes (*Juncus spp*.), spikerush (*Eleocharis* spp.), smartweed (*Polygonum hydropiperoides*), Primrose (*Ludwigia peploides*), Illinois pondweed (*Potamogeton illinoensis)*, and variable leaf pondweed (*Potamogeton diversifolia*).

Vegetative Type Map 2009



ANACOCO LAKE
September 2010
George Melancon

Anacoco Lake, in Vernon Parish, was surveyed for the presence of aquatic vegetation on September 28, 2010. On the day of the survey water clarity was 53cm as measured by secchi disk. Water level observed at the time of the survey was approximately 193.00' MSL, which is 24 in. below the lake pool level of 195.00' MSL.

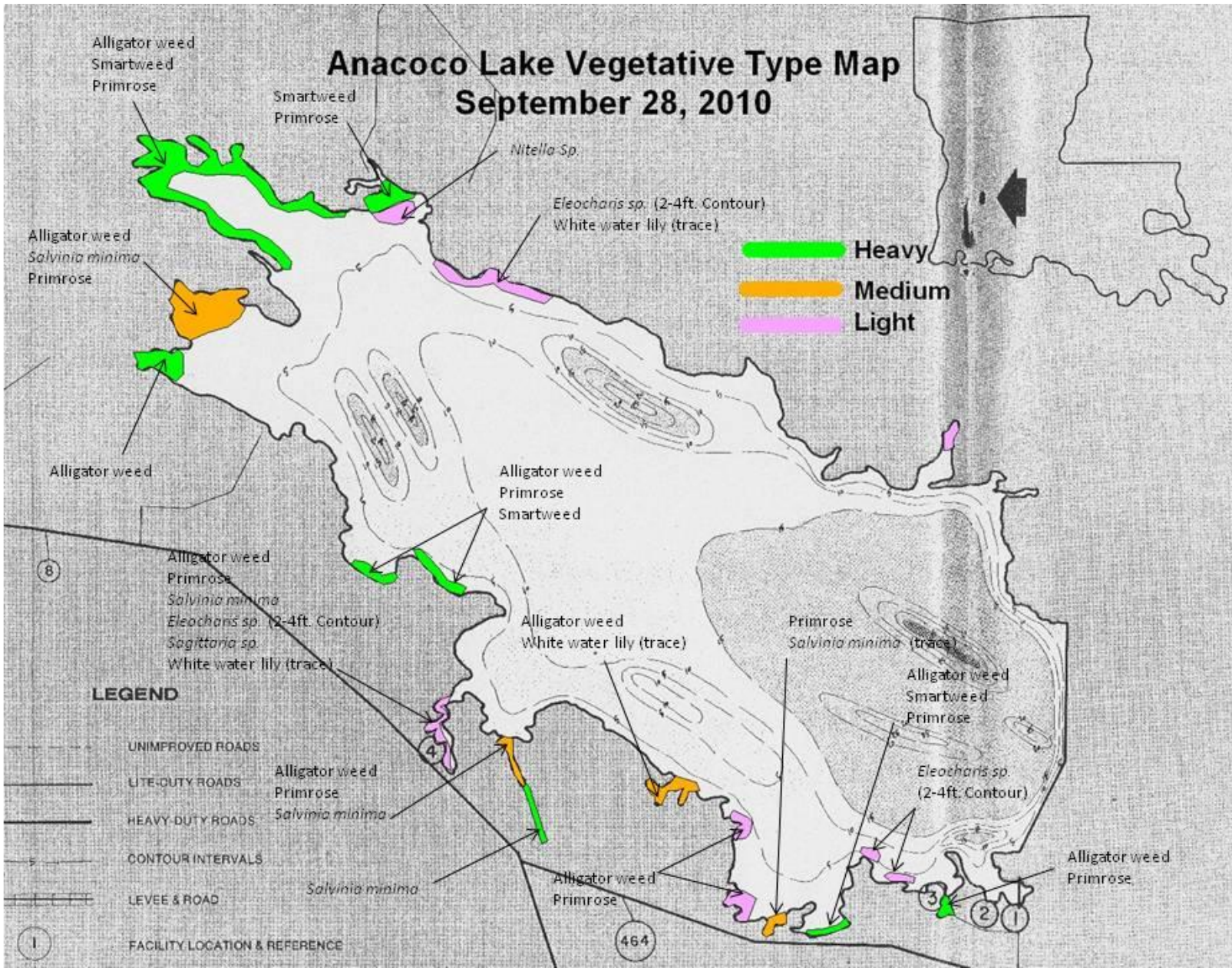
Areas of observed occurrence were designated as "Heavy", "Medium", or "Light". Most areas classified as "Heavy" were observed in the protected shallow-water areas located within coves and bays or canals found along the lake. Predominant species associated with these areas were emergent Alligatorweed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*), Primrose *(Ludwigia spp.)*, and Smartweed *(Polygonum spp.)*. Additionally, these three species were found in light to moderate amounts intermittently along shoreline of the entire lake.

Common salvinia (*Salvinia minima*) was found in medium to heavy amounts in only in two small areas. One of these areas is a small dead-end canal near Brown-Ridder Loop Road, on the east side of the lake, and the other is a cove located on the north side of the lake.

Few submerged aquatic species were observed during the survey. The predominant species observed were stonewort (*Nitella spp*.) and spikerush *(Eleocharis sp.)*.

Other plants present in trace to light amounts were white water lily (*Nymphaea odorata*), water plantain (*Sagittaria spp.*), common reed (*Phragmites australis*), and water sedge (*Cyperus spp*.).

As a whole, aquatic vegetation is not negatively impacting fisheries habitat or angler access on Anacoco Lake. We will continue to monitor common salvinia and alligatorweed levels and recommend treatments if infestations become significant. Water quality issues continue to plague this lake, making establishment of beneficial submerged aquatic vegetation difficult.


Anacoco Lake Vegetative Type Map
September 28, 2010
Alligator weed
Smartweed
Primrose
Smartweed
Primrose
Nitella Sp.
Eleocharis sp. (2-4ft. Contour)
White water lily (trace)
Heavy
Medium
Light
Alligator weed
Salvinia minima
Primrose
Alligator weed
Alligator weed
Primrose
Smartweed
Alligator weed
Primrose
Salvinia minima
Eleocharis sp. (2-4ft. Contour)
Sagittaria sp.
White water lily (trace)
Alligator weed
White water lily (trace)
Primrose
Salvinia minima (trace)
Alligator weed
Smartweed
Primrose
Eleocharis sp.
(2-4ft. Contour)
LEGEND
UNIMPROVED ROADS
LITE-DUTY ROADS
HEAVY-DUTY ROADS
CONTOUR INTERVALS
LEVEE & ROAD
FACILITY LOCATION & REFERENCE
Alligator weed
Primrose
Salvinia minima
Salvinia minima
Alligator weed
Primrose
Alligator weed
Primrose
8
4
3
2
1
464

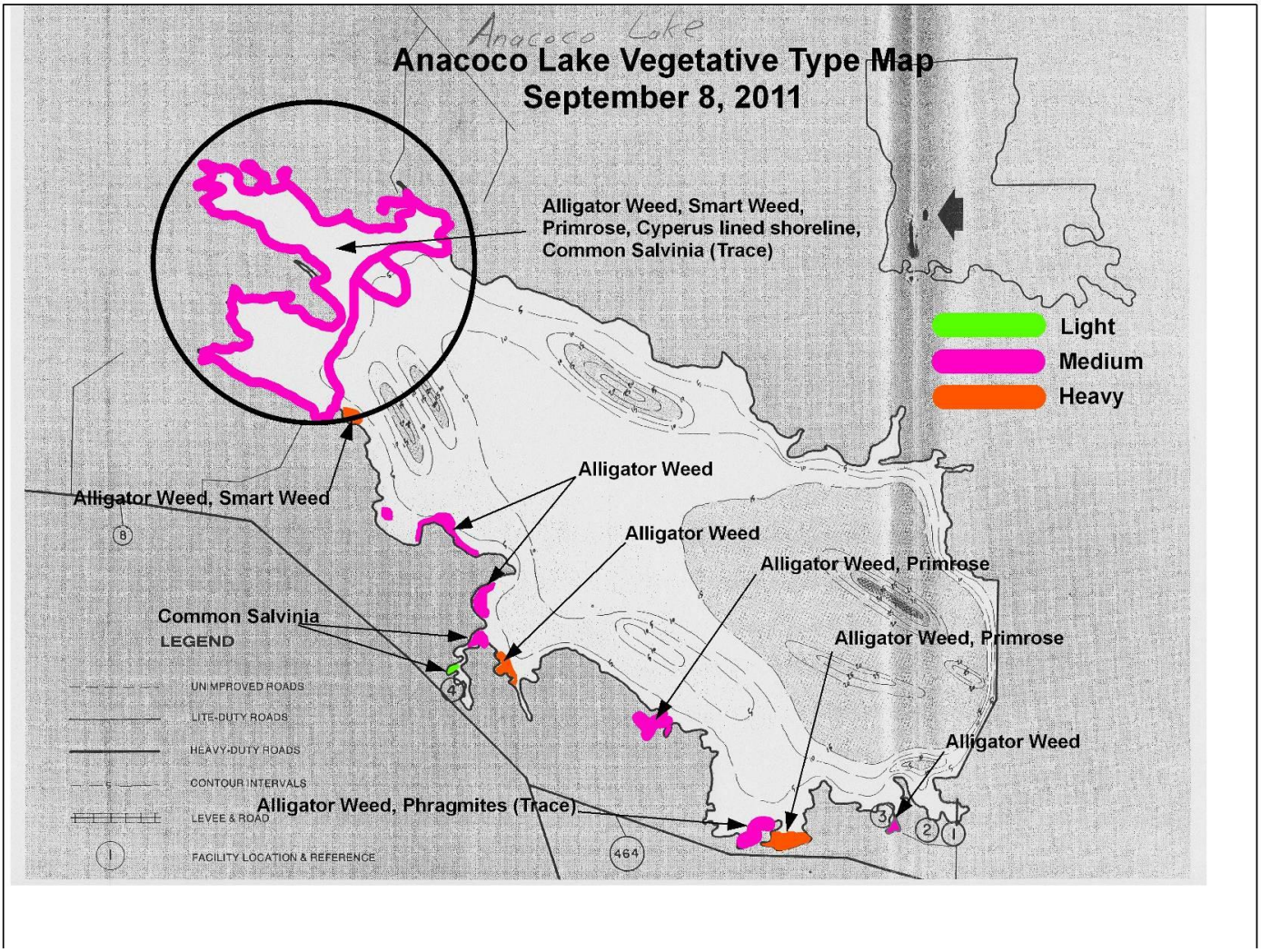
ANACOCO LAKE
September 2011
George Melancon

Anacoco Lake, in Vernon Parish, was surveyed for the presence of aquatic vegetation on September 8, 2011. On the day of the survey water clarity was 10cm as measured by Secchi disk. Water level observed at the time of the survey was approximately 192.20' MSL, which is 33 in. below the lake pool level of 195.00' MSL.

Areas of observed occurrence were designated as "Heavy", "Medium", or "Light". Very few areas of the lake were identified as having aquatic vegetation present. Because of the extreme drought conditions and extended period of low water, most of the vegetation present was observed along the exposed edges of the shoreline in "Medium" amounts. Predominant species associated with these areas were emergent Alligatorweed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*), Primrose *(Ludwigia spp.)*, and Smartweed *(Polygonum spp.)*. "Heavy" aquatic vegetation was identified in only two small areas on the lake. Vegetation in these areas consisted mostly of Alligatorweed and Smartweed with a moderate amount of Common salvinia at the location near Sandy Creek. Common salvinia was also identified in trace amounts in the flats on the northern portions of the lake as well as flat sedges (*Cyperus spp*.).

Due to the severe turbidity and poor clarity no submerged aquatic species were observed during the survey.

As a whole, aquatic vegetation is not negatively impacting fisheries habitat or angler access on Anacoco Lake. We will continue to monitor common salvinia and alligatorweed levels and recommend treatments if infestations become significant. Water quality issues continue to plague this lake, making establishment of beneficial submerged aquatic vegetation difficult.


Anacoco Lake
Anacoco Lake Vegetative Type Map
September 8, 2011
Alligator Weed, Smart Weed, Primrose, Cyperus lined shoreline, Common Salvinia (Trace)
Light
Medium
Heavy
Alligator Weed
Alligator Weed, Smart Weed
Alligator Weed
Alligator Weed, Primrose
Common Salvinia
LEGEND
Alligator Weed, Primrose
UNIMPROVED ROADS
LITE-DUTY ROADS
HEAVY-DUTY ROADS
CONTOUR INTERVALS
LEVEE & ROAD
FACILITY LOCATION & REFERENCE
Alligator Weed
Alligator Weed, Phragmites (Trace)
464