

# **LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES**



**OFFICE OF FISHERIES  
INLAND FISHERIES SECTION**

**PART VI –C (ARCHIVES)**

**WATERBODY MANAGEMENT PLAN SERIES**

**FALSE RIVER**

**AQUATIC VEGETATION TYPE MAPS  
AND NARRATIVES**

# HISTORICAL TYPEMAPS – FALSE RIVER

February 8, 1983

TO: James Manning, Coordinator, Aquatic Plant Research & Control Section

FROM: Larry H. Hartmann, Region III Aquatic Biologist

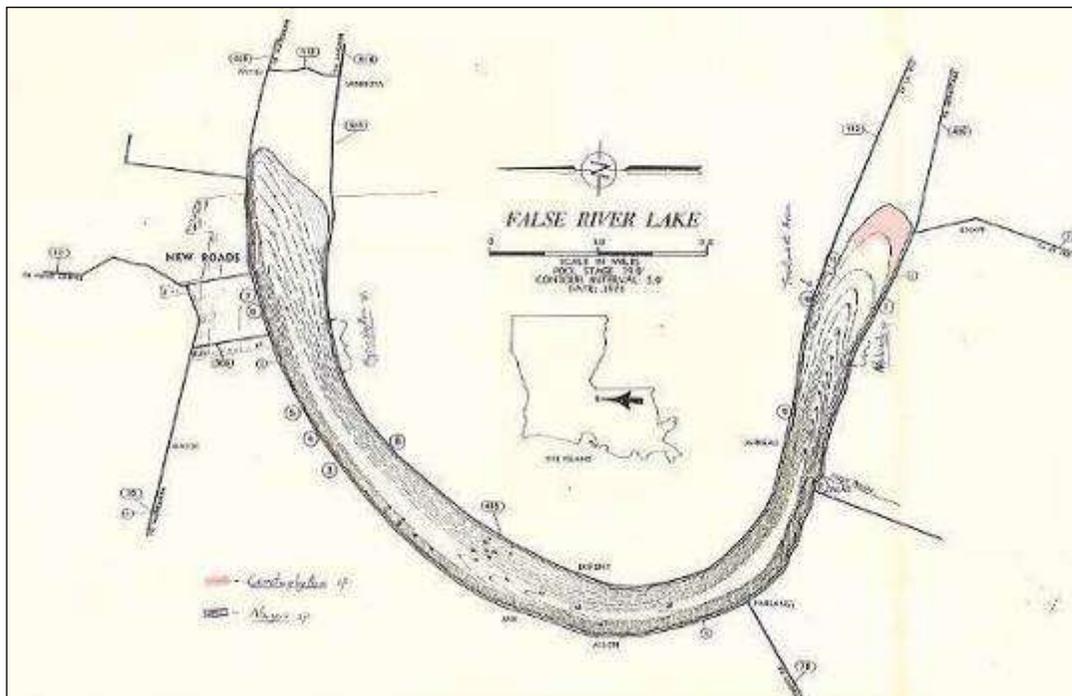
SUBJECT: 1983 Condition Assessment Report, False River Lake (Pointe Coupee Parish)

Section personnel surveyed False River Lake, Pointe Coupee Parish, on September 1, 1983, in order to assess aquatic vegetation levels.

Results are as follows:

- South Flats Area – Mostly coontail (*Ceratophyllum sp.*), dense and reaching surface from 0 to approximately 3.5 ft. depth; moderate and mostly submerged out to 5 – 5.5 ft. depth. Area treated in 7/83 with an Aquathol/Cutrine/Hydrothol mixture along lake side of Pecan Island is clean. A small area of lotus (*Nelumbo sp.*) exists along the Hwy. 1 shore.
- Central Lake Area – Good condition, with the exception of scattered dense but narrow fringes in 0-3 ft. depth between boat docks, mostly coontail. A moderate to heavy fringe of *Myriophyllum sp.*, extending for approximately 0.3 – 0.5 miles along the upper Hwy. 413 bank, was treated in 7/83 with an injection of 2,4-D Amine. This area remains clean.
- North Flats Area – Extensive mats of heavy *Najas sp.* infestation in waters 0-3 ft. in depth. Boat lanes opened in 7/83 with an Aquathol/Cutrine/Hydrothol mixture area relatively clean and passable, but with spotty results. Several large matted areas in this vicinity were treated with the above chemical mixture in late 8/83 with good results. A narrow but intermittently dense fringe of coontail interspersed with naiad runs along Hwy. 1 bank for 1.5-1.75 miles. Treatment in 8/83 proved to achieve poor results. Marine distress marker dye was used in this application.

In summary, although extensive mats of coontail and naiad exist (mainly in the South Flats and North Flats areas) in False River Lake, chemical treatment of boat lanes and dock areas provided sufficient control to allow public use of those facilities. The remainder of the lake is in reasonable good condition.



June 1, 1984

MEMORANDUM

TO: Louie V. Richardson, Section Research Biologist  
FROM: Larry H. Hartmann, Region III Aquatic Biologist  
SUBJECT: 1984 False River Vegetation Survey

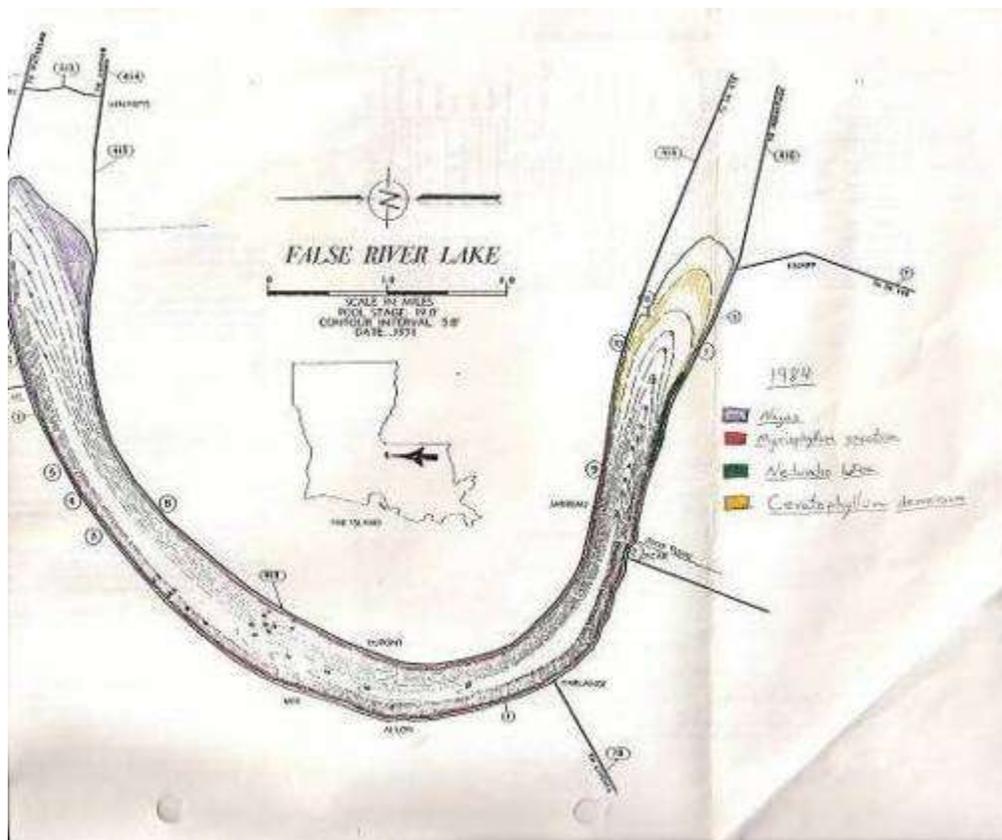
False River Lake, Pointe Coupee Parish, was surveyed on Friday, May 25, 1984 for aquatic vegetation composition and severity. The following are the findings of that annual survey:

North Flats – By far the most severe area of plant infestation. Heavy Najas sp. Growth over almost the entire area topped out in up to 4 feet of depth. Weed beds extend out at least to the 5 -6 foot depth but have not reached surface. Some scattered Ceratophyllum demersum is intermingled in the stand. A fairly heavy layer of filamentous algae scum overlays most of the area's weed beds. Area piers and docks have restricted access.

Central Lake Area – Extending down from the North Flats area, most of both sides of the central lake were found to have moderate to heavy infestations of Myriophyllum spicatum out from the banks to a depth of 4 – 5 feet. This is a much increased acreage as compared to last year's water milfoil problem. Quite a considerable number of boat docks, piers, and boat houses are being affected. The area of Nelumbo lutea between Oscar Bayou and the South Flats has also expanded to a strip approximately 200 yards long.

South Flats Area – Ceratophyllum with some Najas accounts for the bulk of the scant vegetation in this area. No immediate problem is expected.

Bayou Chenal – A spotty but possibly troublesome fringe of Najas/Ceratophyllum exists all along the bayou and deserves periodic observation. The bayou is overlain with a moderate covering of duckweed which may become a problem soon.



FALSE  
RIVER

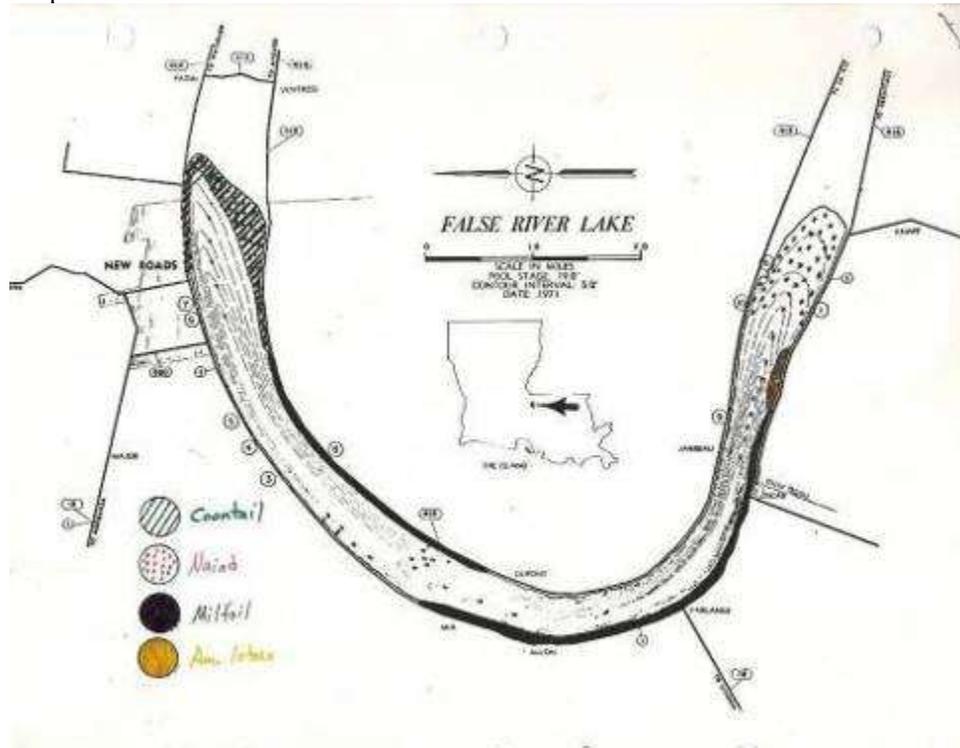
September 1985

On September 17, 1985, False River, Pointe Coupee Parish, was surveyed to determine presence and severity of aquatic plants.

The North Flats area was by far the most severe area of plant infestation. Moderate to heavy infestation of coontail (*Ceratophyllum demersum*) and naiad (*Najas sp.*) were common in the entire area extending out to a depth of 7.0 feet. In most areas these species had topped out and were overlaid by a heavy layer of filamentous algae scum. A moderate infestation of Eurasian milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) occurred on the upper end of the east shoreline and extended from the shoreline out to a depth of 5.0 feet. Numerous piers in the vicinity of New Roads continue to have restricted access.

Both sides of the central portion of the lake were found to have light to moderate infestations of milfoil extending from the banks to a depth of 3.5 feet. Scattered clumps of coontail were found along the Highway 1 shoreline in water up to 3.0 feet. The area of American lotus (*Nelumbo lutea*) between Oscar Bayou and the South Flats in approximately 250 yards long and extends from the bank out to a depth of 6.0 feet.

In the south Flats, a moderate to heavy infestation of naiad comprises the bulk of vegetation present in this area. These beds extend from the bank out to a depth of 5.0 feet. Light to moderate patches of milfoil were found in waters up to a depth of 5.0 feet.



## FALSE RIVER

September 1986

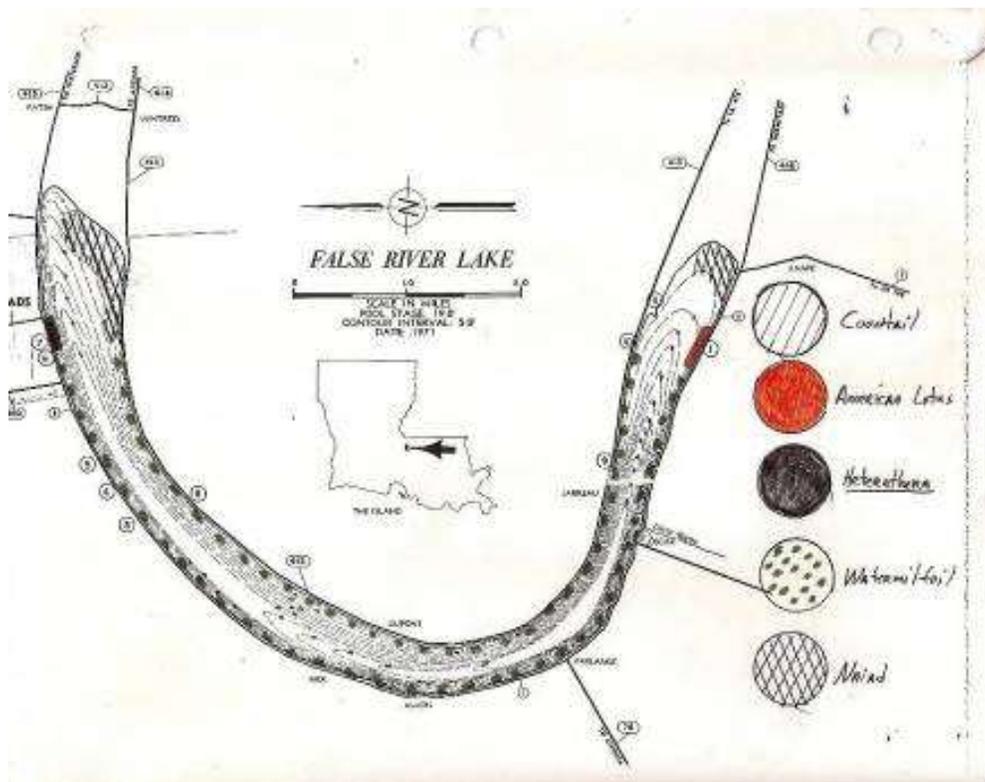
False River, Pointe Coupee Parish, was surveyed to determine aquatic vegetation presence. A moderate to heavy infestation of coontail (*Ceratophyllum demersum*) and naiad (*Najas* sp.) was again covering a large portion of the area known as the North Flats. These plants were located in water up to 7.0 feet in depth and were covered with a moderate layer of filamentous algae. A heavy infestation of Eurasian milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) occurred along a large portion of the east shoreline extending out to a depth of 5.0 feet. Both shorelines in the central area of the lake had light to moderate fringe of milfoil which extended out to a depth of 3.5 feet.

American lotus near the South Flats on the Highway 1 shoreline covers an area approximately 250 yards long and extends from the shore out into water 7.0 feet in depth.

The South Flats area contained a moderate to heavy infestation of naiad mixed with coontail both of which were overlaid with a mat of filamentous algae. These plants were found in areas extending to a depth of 6.0 feet.

Mud plantain (*Heteranthera dubia*) occurred in scattered patches near the shoreline throughout the lake, but was very common near the public boat landing at New Roads. There was a heavy infestation in this area which extended out to a depth of 6.0 feet.

Other plants observed during this survey were water paspalum (*Paspalum* sp.), giant duckweed (*Spirodela polyrhiza*), and water hyacinths (*Eichhornia crassipes*).



## FALSE RIVER

September 1987

False River, Pointe Coupee Parish, was surveyed on September 22, 1987 to determine aquatic weed

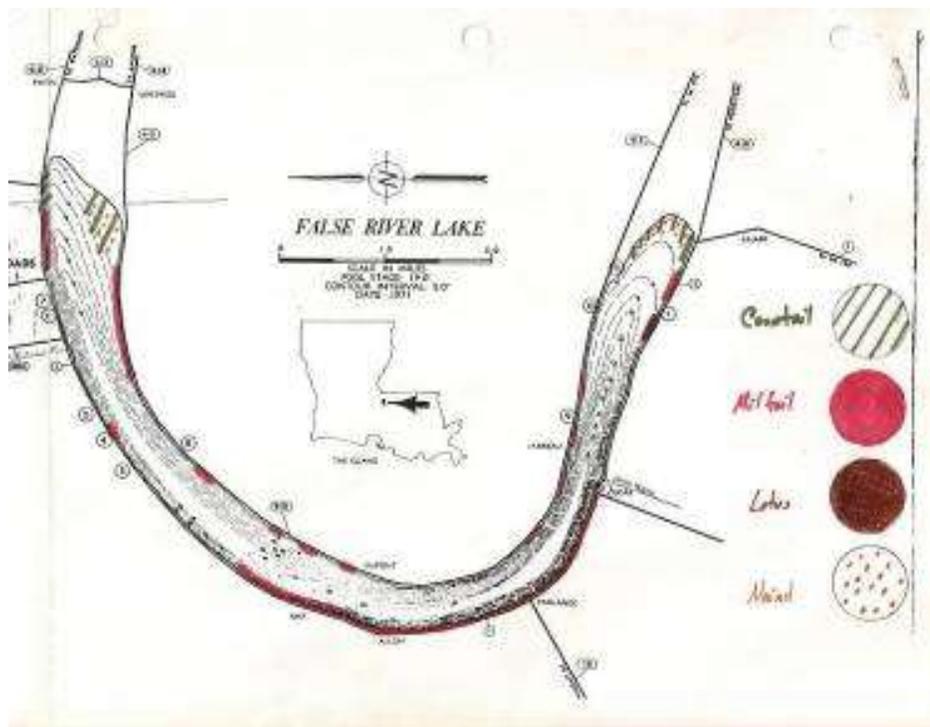
composition and severity.

Once again, the heaviest infestation of aquatic plant growth was located in the areas known as “the flats”, both north and south. On the north flats, coontail (*Ceratophyllum demersum*), Eurasian water milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), and southern naiad (*Najas guadalupensis*) were the dominant plant species. A moderate to heavy infestation was observed in water up to 5.0 feet deep. Weed beds were covered with filamentous algae in areas where submergent vegetation reached the water surface.

A heavy infestation of coontail mixed with naiad and milfoil were present in the south flats area of the lake. Vegetation extended from the shoreline outward into the lake to a depth of 5.5 feet. The area below the mouth of Bayou Chenal which was treated with granular Aquathol earlier this summer remains relatively clean. The area of American lotus (*Nelumbo lutea*) adjacent to Highway 1 covers an area approximately 300 yards long and plants were observed growing in water up to 10 feet deep. A small area of lotus has become established near the shoreline of the extreme southern portion of the lake. These plants are located in water less than 1 foot deep and pose no immediate problem

Extending down from the north flats, patchy areas of water milfoil occurred along both shorelines out to a depth of 5.0 feet. Occasionally, moderate to heavy infestations were found, but the overall acreage of infestation appears to be less than last year. Scattered patches of mud plantain (*Heteranthera dubia*) were also found in these areas.

Other plants observed during this survey were water hyacinths (*Eichhornia crassipes*), giant duckweed (*Spirodela polyrhiza*), and elephant ear (*Colocasia sp.*).



## FALSE RIVER

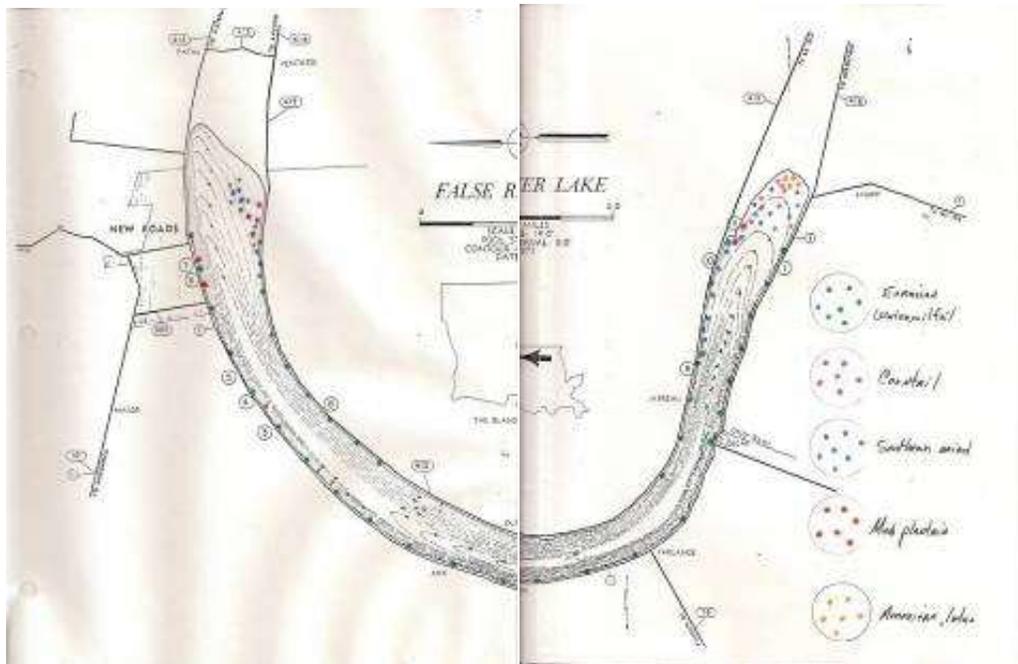
October 1988

On October 4, 1988, False River was surveyed to determine the presence and composition of aquatic vegetation. As was reported last year, the heaviest infestation of aquatic plant growth was observed in the north and south flats areas. Eurasian water milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), coontail (*Ceratophyllum demersum*), and southern naiad (*Najas guadalupensis*) were the dominant species in the north flats. A moderate to heavy infestation of these plants was located near the "island" side of the lake and extended out toward the middle of the lake in water up to 6.0' in depth.

In the south flats area, a heavy infestation of coontail, naiad, and milfoil were observed in water up to 5.0' deep. The lotus (*Nelumbo lutea*) stand located near the extreme southern shoreline of the lake has increased in area and now covers approximately 3-4 acres. During this survey, there was no indication of any lotus in the area adjacent to Highway 1 as reported in the past. This could be attributed to the fact that these plants were treated with herbicides last year at the request of nearby camp owners.

A moderate to heavy infestation of water milfoil was found along both shorelines between the north and south flats in water up to 5.5' in depth. Mud plantain was also observed in these areas and appears to be more common than in years past.

Water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) and duckweed (*Spirodela* sp.) were also observed during this survey.

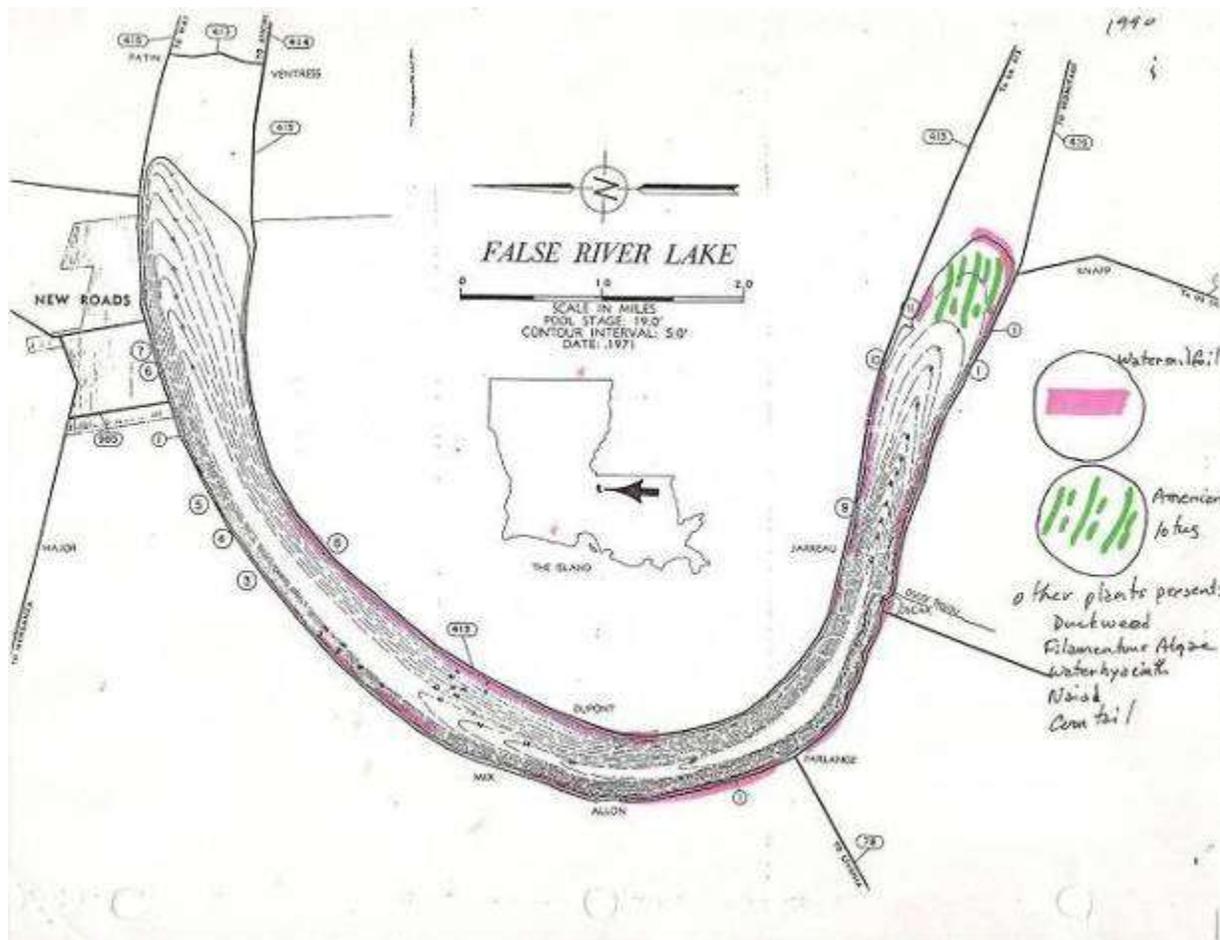


On October 8, 1990,  
False River, Pointe Coupee Parish was surveyed to determine aquatic vegetation composition and severity.

The heaviest infestation of aquatic plant growth was found in the south flats. Water milfoil (Myriophyllum spicatum), coontail (Ceratophyllum demersum), water stargrass (Heteranthera dubia) and naiad (Najas guadalupensis) were the dominant submersed species of plants found. These species were found in water 2.5' to 5.0' deep. A dense stand of American lotus (Nelumbo lutea) was also found in the south flats covering 4 -5 acres.

A moderate to light infestation of water milfoil was found along both shorelines between the north and south flats in water up to 5' deep. The north flat was clear of aquatic plants.

Other plants observed were duckweed (Lemna minor), water hyacinth (Eichhornia crassipes) and filamentous algae.



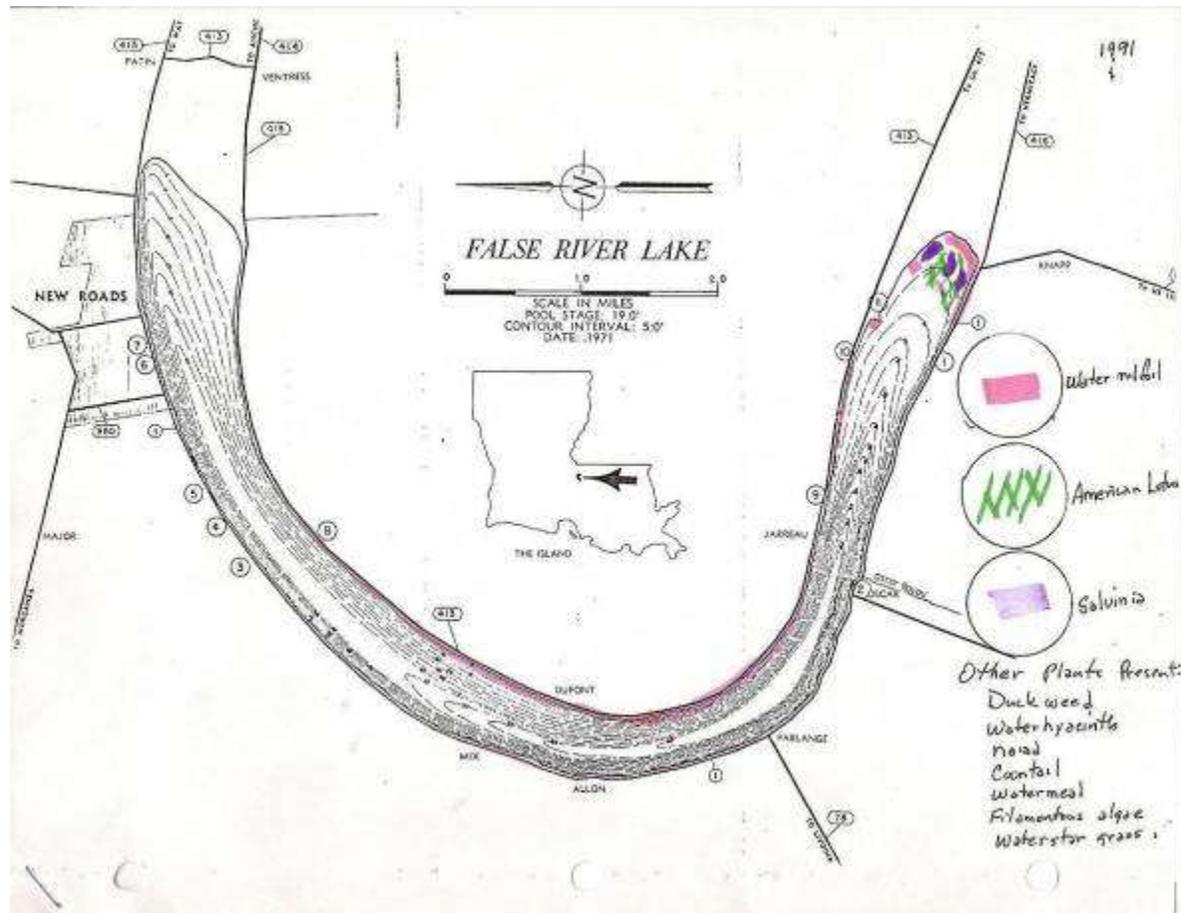
On September 24, 1991, False River, Pointe Coupee Parish was surveyed to determine the presence and composition of aquatic vegetation.

The southern flats again have the heaviest infestation of aquatic plant growth. Water milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) was the dominant submerged plant in the south flats. Coontail (*Ceratophyllum demersum*) was intermingled in the water milfoil beds but was not as common as last year. American lotus (*Nelumbo lutea*) stand seems to be about the same size as last year (4-5 acres).

A light to sparse infestation of water milfoil was found along both shorelines between the north and south flats in water up to 5' deep.

Again the north flat was clear of aquatic plants.

Other plants observed were duckweed (*Lemna minor*), water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*), watermeal (*Wolffia spp.*), salvinia (*Salvinia rotundifolia*) and water stargrass (*Heteranthera dubia*).

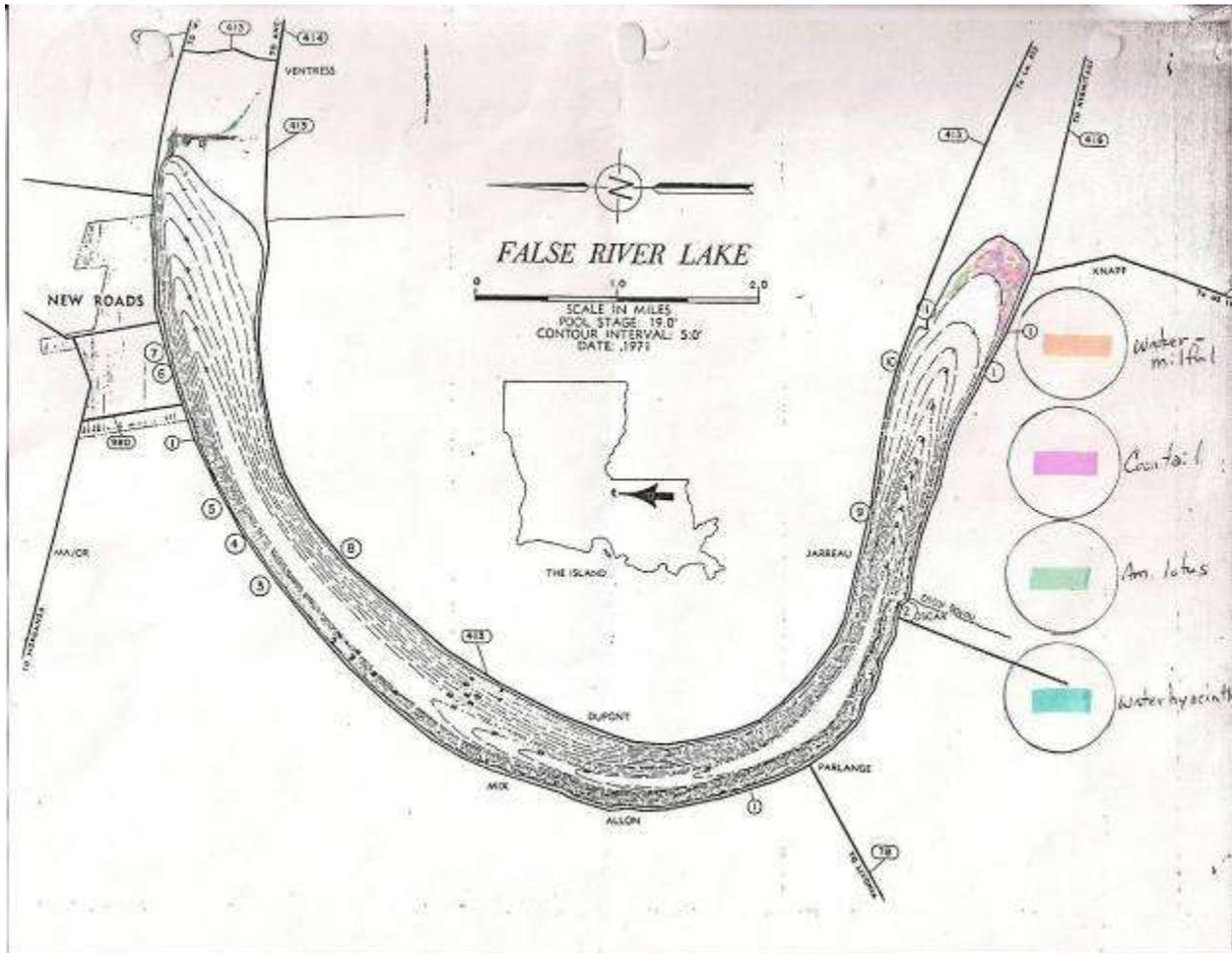


FALSE RIVER  
OCTOBER 1992

On October 20, 1992, False River, Pointe Coupee Parish, was surveyed to determine presence and composition of aquatic vegetation.

The south flats again have the heaviest infestation of aquatic plant growth. Coontail (*Ceratophyllum demersum*) was the dominant submerged plant in the south flats. Water milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) was intermingled in the coontail beds and again it seems that water milfoil infestation has decreased. American lotus (*Nelumbo lutea*) stands have spread toward the opening of Bayou Chenal increasing its infestation from approximately 4-5 acres to 6-7 acres.

Other plants observed were duckweed (*Lemna* sp.) and water hyacinths (*Eichhornia crassipes*).





FALSE RIVER  
22 JUNE 1994

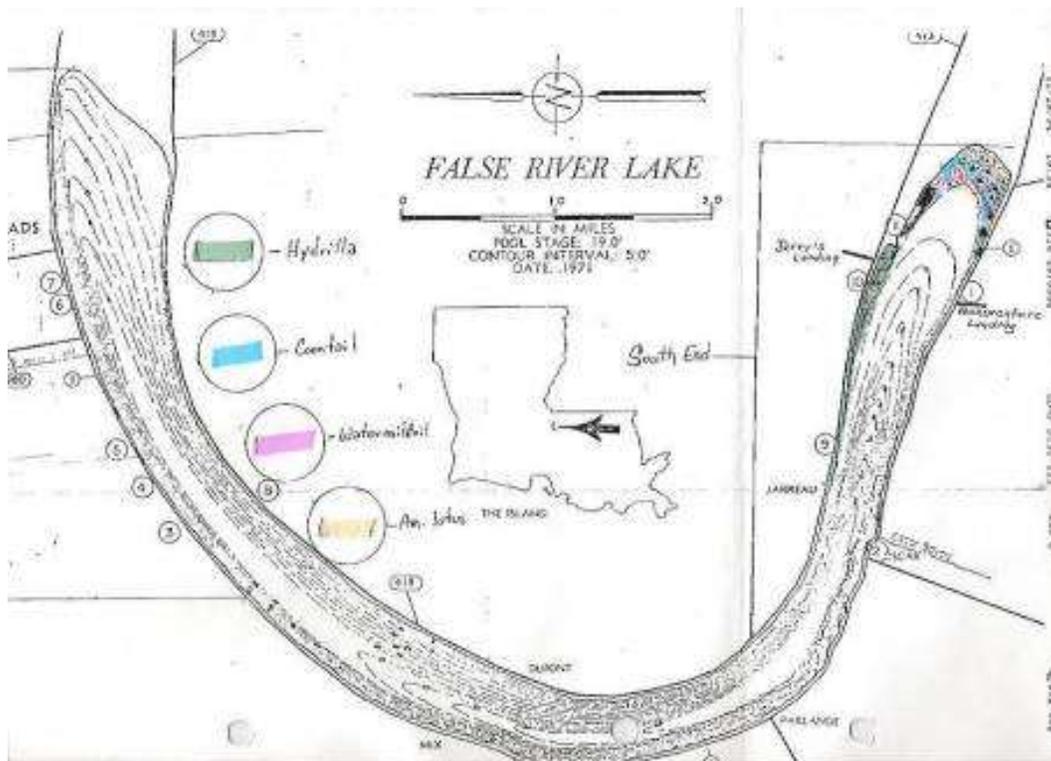
On June 13, 1994, False River, Pointe Coupee Parish, was surveyed to determine the presence and composition of aquatic plants.

Island Side (South End) – Hydrilla (Hydrilla verticillata) was found in dense mats from the boat landing (Jerry's Landing/ La Express) approx. 1.5 mi. WNW to approx. 1.0 mi. ESE. Hydrilla was observed rooted at 7 ft. depths in some locations. Algae, duckweed (Lemna sp.) and salvinia (Salvinia sp.) were intermingled and floating on top of these mats. The shoreline seemed to be almost aquatic plant free from 1.5 mi. WNW of the landing to the North End of the lake.

South End – This location was covered with a variety of aquatic plants. American lotus (Nelumbo lutea) covered most of this end of the lake, beginning approx. ¼ mi. ESE of Bayou Chenal outlet. Coontail (Ceratophyllum demersum) and Eurasian water milfoil (Myriophyllum spicatum) were growing profusely under the cover of the lotus plants, coontail being the most predominant species. Duckweed, salvinia and algae were also present.

Bonaventure Side (From approx. ½ mi. ESE of this landing WNW to Oscar Bayou) – Coontail, milfoil, hydrilla, water stargrass (Heteranthera dubia) and naiad (Najas sp.) were present. Coontail was the predominant species but hydrilla was more evident in this location than it was last year. Hydrilla was observed in large patches and found intermingled within the other plants. From Oscar bayou to the North End very few aquatic plants were observed.

Surveyed by: Charles Biggar  
Aquatic Habitat Biologist Project Coordinator



FALSE RIVER  
25 SEP 1995

On Sept. 25, 1995, False River, Pointe Coupee Parish, was surveyed to determine the presence and composition of aquatic plants.

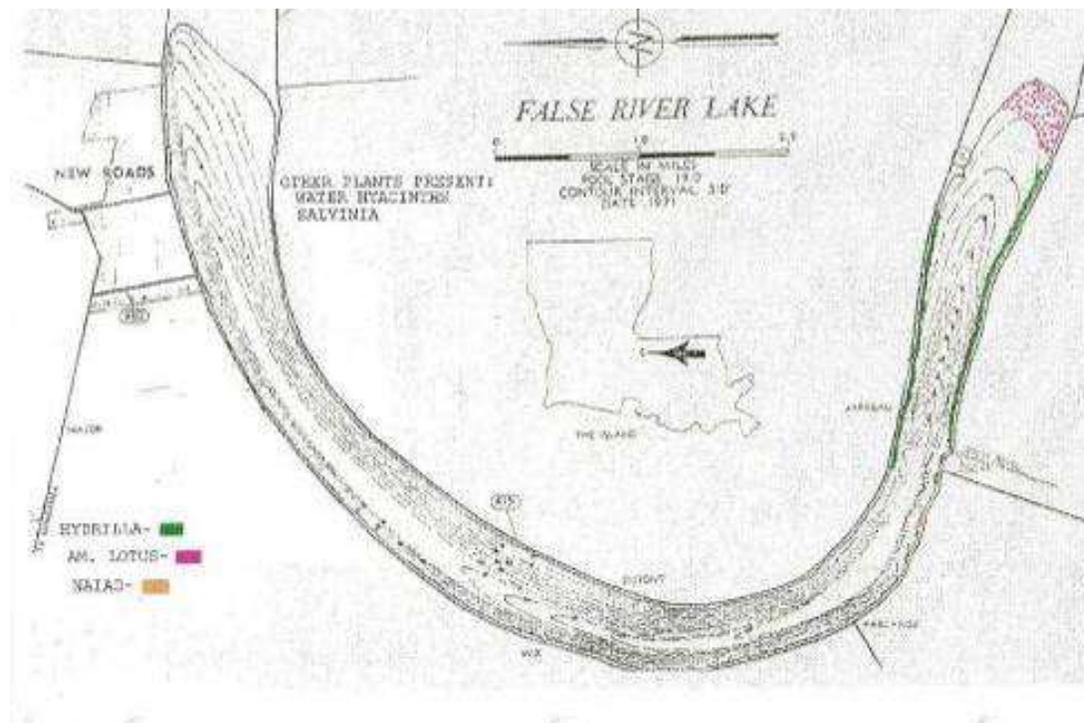
Island Side (South End) – Hydrilla (Hydrilla verticillata) was found in dense mats from 0.25 mi. below the boat landing (Jerry's Landing/ La. Express) to approx. 1.5 mi. WNW. Algae, duckweed (Lemna sp.), salvinia (Salvinia sp.) and water hyacinths (Eichhornia crassipes) were observed floating on top of these mats.

South Flats – This location was covered with American lotus (Nelumbo lutes). Some duckweed, salvinia and algae were present. The absence of coontail (Ceratophyllum demersum) and Eurasian water milfoil (Myriophyllum spicatum) was noted.

Bonaventure Side (From approx. 0.5 mi. ESE of the landing to the Yacht Club) – Hydrilla has become the dominant aquatic plant in this location. Coontail, water milfoil, water hyacinths and naiad (Najas sp.) were found intermingled inside the hydrilla mats.

From approx. 1.75 mi. WNW of Jerry's Landing/La. Express to the North End and from the Yacht Club to the North End the lake is without aquatic plants.

Surveyed by: Charles Biggar  
Aquatic Habitat Biologist Project Coordinator



FALSE RIVER  
15AUG1996

On Aug. 15, 1996, False River, Pointe Coupee Parish, was surveyed to determine the presence and composition of aquatic plants.

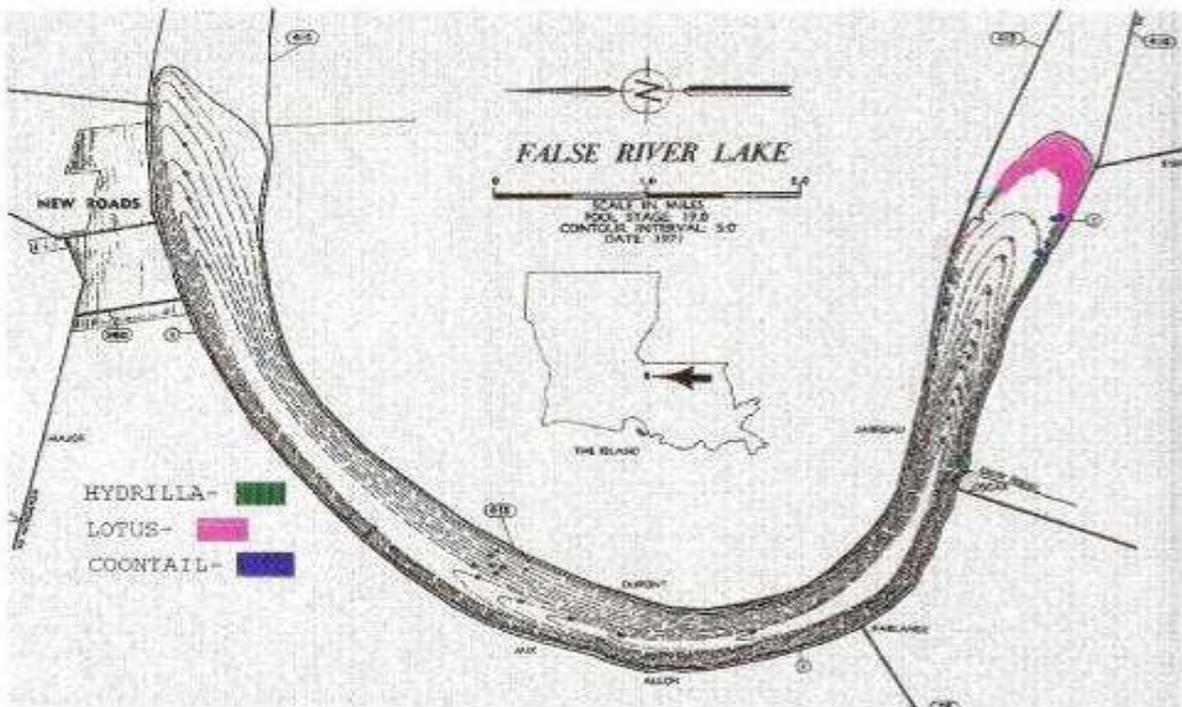
Island Side (South End) – scattered mats of hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) was found below the boat landing (Jerry's Landing/ La. Express) near camps and homes located on Bayou Chenal. Algae and some duckweed (*Lemna sp.*) were observed in these mats. A large stand of American lotus (*Nelumbo lutea*) was also present.

South Flats – American lotus has taken over this area of the lake. Some hydrilla and coontail (*Ceratophyllum demersum*) were also noted.

Bonaventure Side – Extensive hydrilla mats were found extending from the South Flats to Bonaventure Landing. Small patches of coontail were also found. A small infestation of hydrilla was also found at Oscar Bayou.

As in the recent past, no aquatic vegetation was found from mid-lake to the North Flats.

Surveyed by: Charles Biggar  
Biologist Supervisor



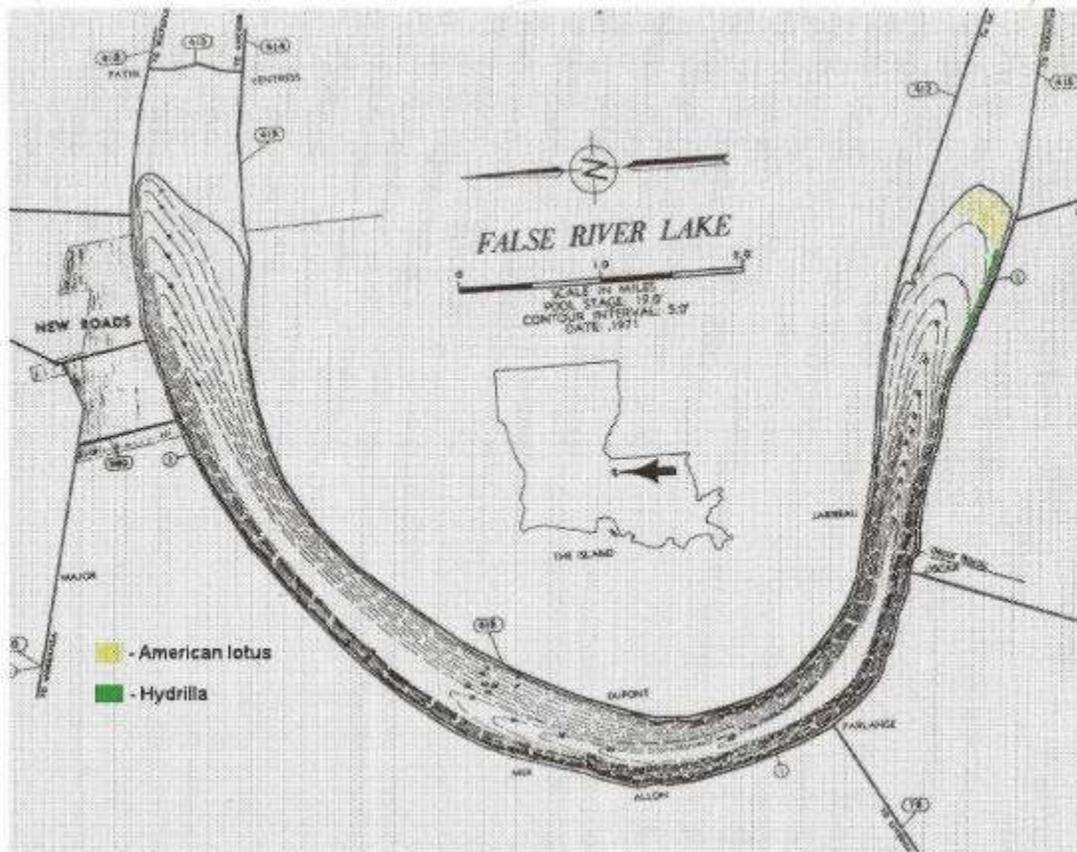
FALSE RIVER  
30OCT1997

On Oct. 30, 1997, False River, Pointe Coupee parish was surveyed to determine the presence and composition of aquatic plants.

The only aquatic plants present this year were located in the south flats and along the State Hwy. 1 side of the lake. The south flats contained a sizable stand of American lotus (*Nelumbo lutea*) but this stand of lotus is not encompassing as much of the south flats as it did last year. Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) mats begin where the lotus stand ends on the Hwy. 1 side of the lake to Bonaventure Landings. These mats extend from 5 feet to 20 feet from the bank.

This year, the lake has less aquatic vegetation than recorded in the last fourteen years.

Surveyed by: Charles Biggar  
Biologist Supervisor

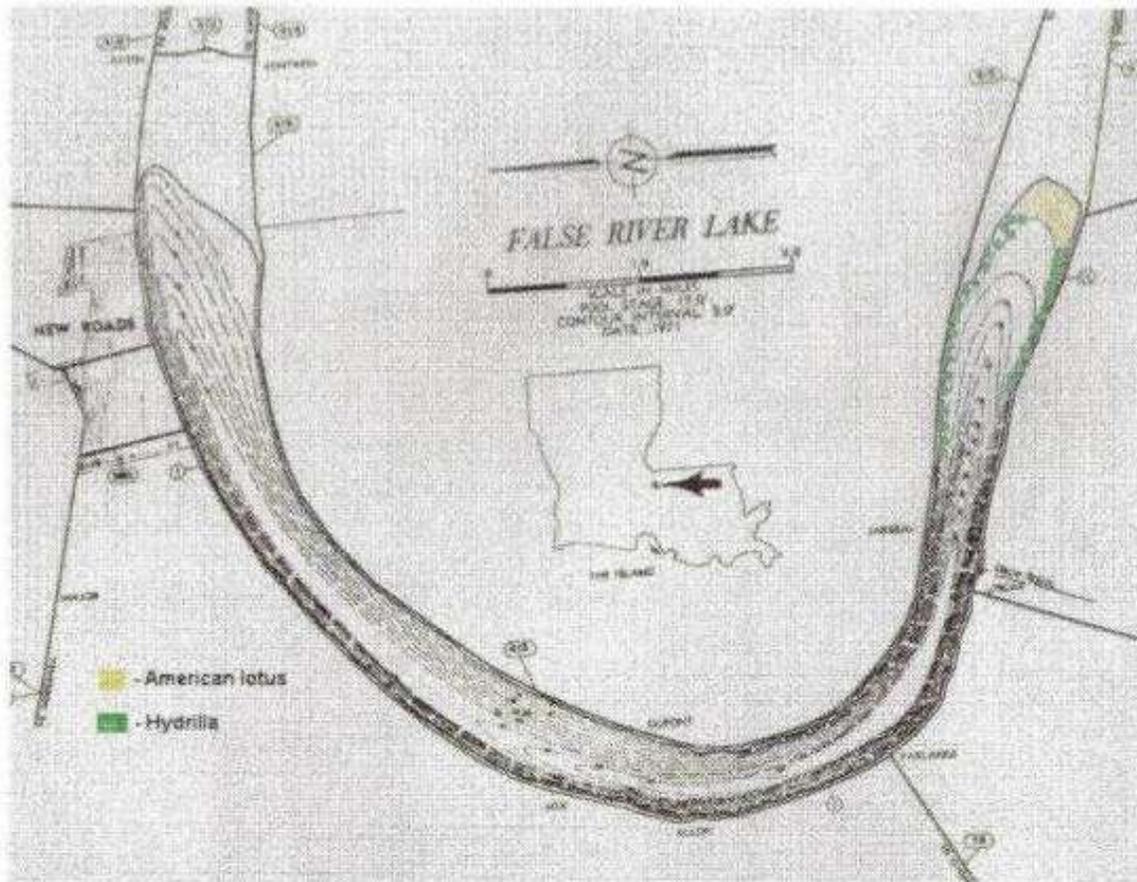


FALSE RIVER  
15 OCT 1998

On Oct. 15, 1998, False River, Pointe Coupee parish was surveyed to determine the presence and composition of aquatic plants.

Aquatic plants present this year were located in the south flats and along the State Hwy. 1 and the Hwy 413 side of the lake. The south flats contained a sizable stand of American lotus (*Nelumbo lutea*). Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) mats begin where the lotus stand ends on the Hwy. 1 side of the lake to Bonaventure Landing. These mats extend from 5 feet to 20 feet from the bank. On Hwy 413 side mats extended from South flats to 1 mile north along the shoreline. Southern Naiad was noted in the areas between Light House Canal and the Yacht Club ranging from a depth of 1 ft to 4 ft with a swath of approximately 20 ft.

Surveyed by: Karl Mapes  
Biologist Supervisor



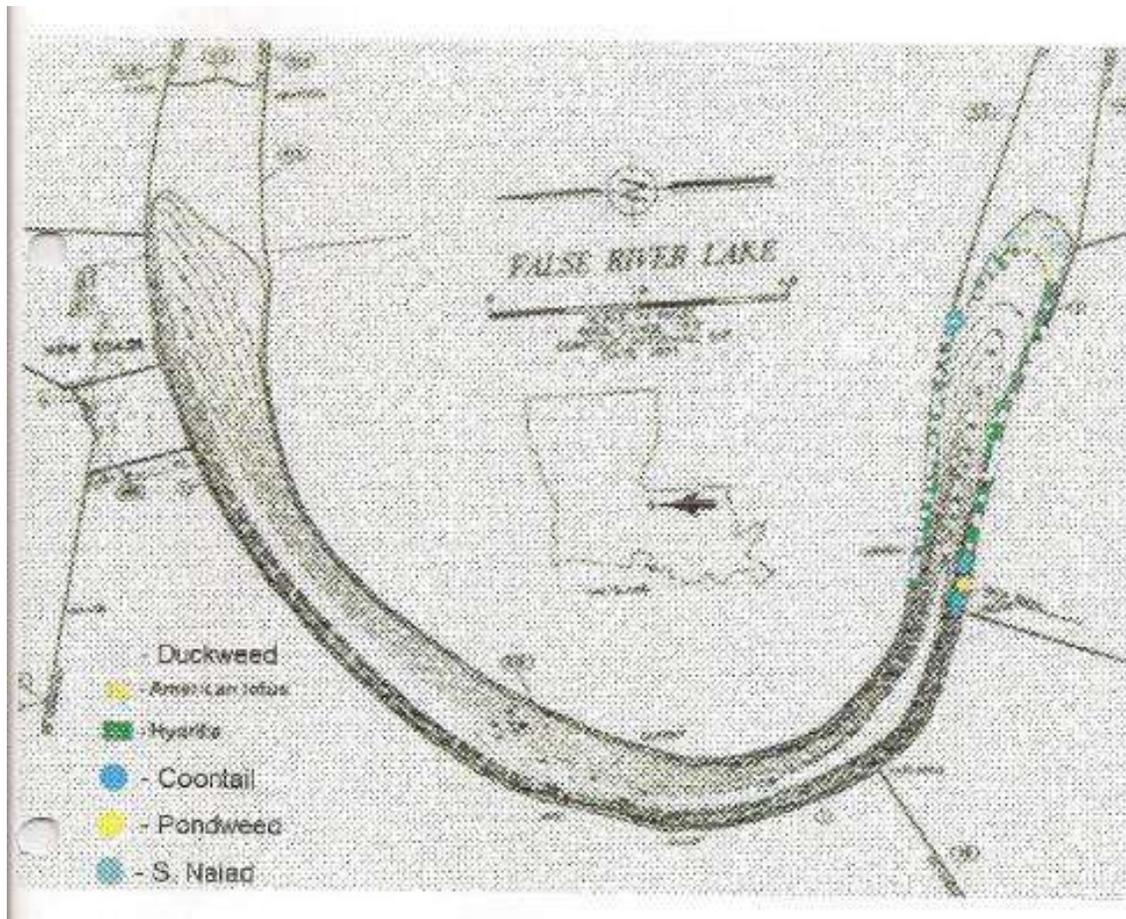
FALSE RIVER  
16 September 1999

On September 16, 1999 False River, Pointe Coupee Parish was surveyed to determine the presence and composition of aquatic plants.

Aquatic plants present this year were located in the south flats and along the State Hwy. 1 and the Hwy 413 side of the lake. The south flats contained a sizable stand of American lotus (*Nelumbo lutes*) intermixed with coontail (*Ceratophyllum demersum*) and duckweed (*Lemna spp.*). Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) mats begin where the lotus stand ends on the Hwy. 1 side of the lake and terminate past Bonaventure Landing at GPS coordinates 30° 36' 98" N & 91° 27' 64" W. These mats extend from 5 feet to 20 feet from the bank. On Hwy 413 side mats extended from South flats to coordinates 30° 37' 29" N & 91° 27' 78" W along the shoreline. Southern Naiad was noted in the areas between Light House Canal and the Yacht Club ranging from a depth of 1 ft to 4 ft with a swath of approximately 20 ft. A small plot of Pondweed (*Potamogeton spp.*) was found on the Hwy 1 side south of the Bayou Oscar.

Average depth of the South Flats area was 2.5 ft. This may be attributable to the lack of rainfall we experienced this year.

Surveyed by: Karl Mapes  
Biologist Supervisor



FALSE RIVER  
August 28, 2000

On August 25, 2000 False River in Pointe Coupee parish was surveyed to determine the presence and composition of aquatic plants.

The south end of the lake contained American lotus (*Nelumbo lutes*), which is the dominate plant, intermixed with coontail (*Ceratophyllum demersum*) and duckweed (*Lemna spp.*). Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) mats begin on the margins of the lake where the lotus stand ends on the Hwy. 1 side of the lake and terminate past Bonaventure Landing. These mats extend outward from the shoreline 5 feet to 20 feet. On Hwy 413 side mats extended from South end of the lake to just north of Bueche's bar along the shoreline. Southern naiad (*Najas guadalupensis* (Spreng) Magnus) was noted South of Light House Canal extending to the Yacht Club ranging from a depth of 1 ft to 4 ft with a swath of approximately 20 ft. Two small plots of Pondweed (Potamogeton spp.) were found on the Hwy 1 side south of the Bayou Oscar.

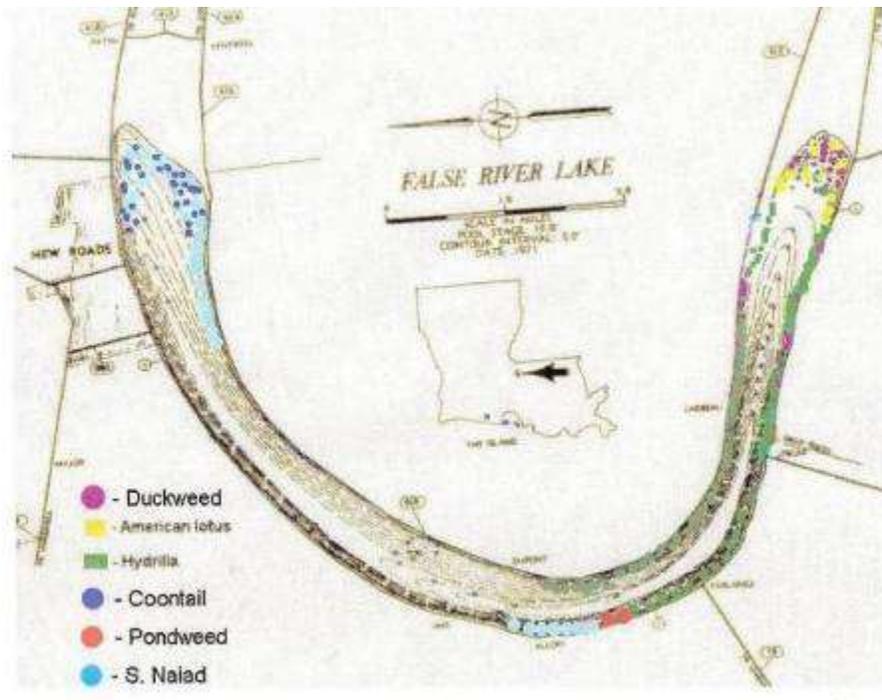
Two predominate species occur on the North end of the lake, southern naiad (*Najas guadalupensis* (Spreng) Magnus) and coontail (*Ceratophyllum demersum*). Two aquatic plant test plots using 4 species of native aquatic plants was done on the north end. Vallisneria, pondweed, water-grass and naiad were planted. This project was funded locally and contracted by the Corps of Engineers as a project designed to replace Hydrilla.

Sparsely dispersed floating mats as well as singular plants of water hyacinth were observed on the North end of the lake.

Since last year 5 separate Hydrilla treatments have occurred in False River Lake. In April 2000 on the Pecan Island (10 acres) shoreline and in June at the LA Express boat launch north to the end of the condominiums (5 acres) suing Sonar SRP. Additionally three areas (approx. 1.7 surface acres) were treated with Aquathol Super K; two on the hwy 1 side and 1 on the hwy 413 side. One application south of Bonaventures was done in April and the other two in July.

Average depth of the South flats area was 2.0 ft. Drought conditions continue throughout the region.

Surveyed by: Karl Mapes  
Biologist Supervisor

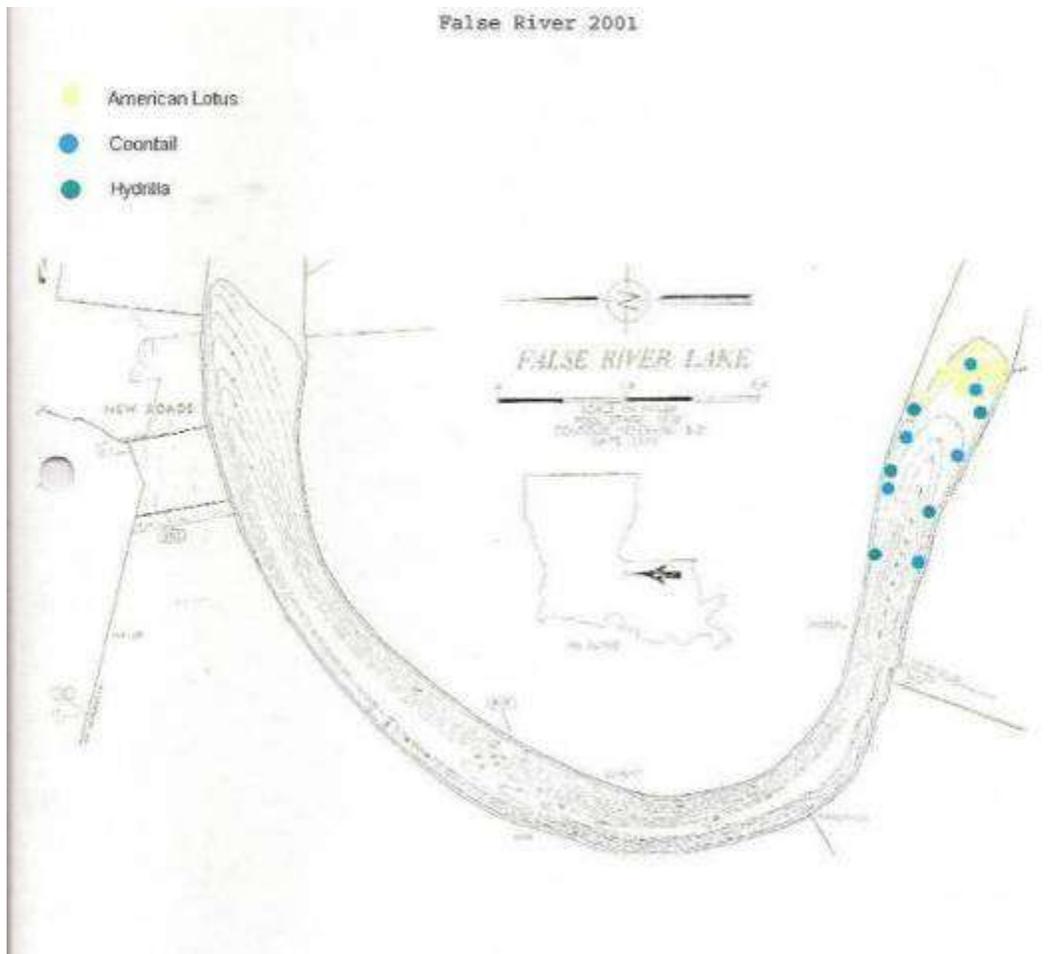


## FALSE RIVER 2001

False River was type mapped on September 7, 2001 with less vegetation found this year compared with previous years. The large volume of rainfall during Allyson could have silted in those plants from the runoff. The dominant species of plant present was American lotus. In May of this year these lotus beds were treated with Aqua Kleen to allow camp owners access to the lake. Traces of hydrilla and coontail could be found on the southern end of the system.

Over 10 acres of False River's southern end hydrilla was treated in June of 2000 with Sonar SRP. Additionally another 5 acres was treated with Aquathol Super K.

Karl Mapes, Biologist Supervisor  
Region III

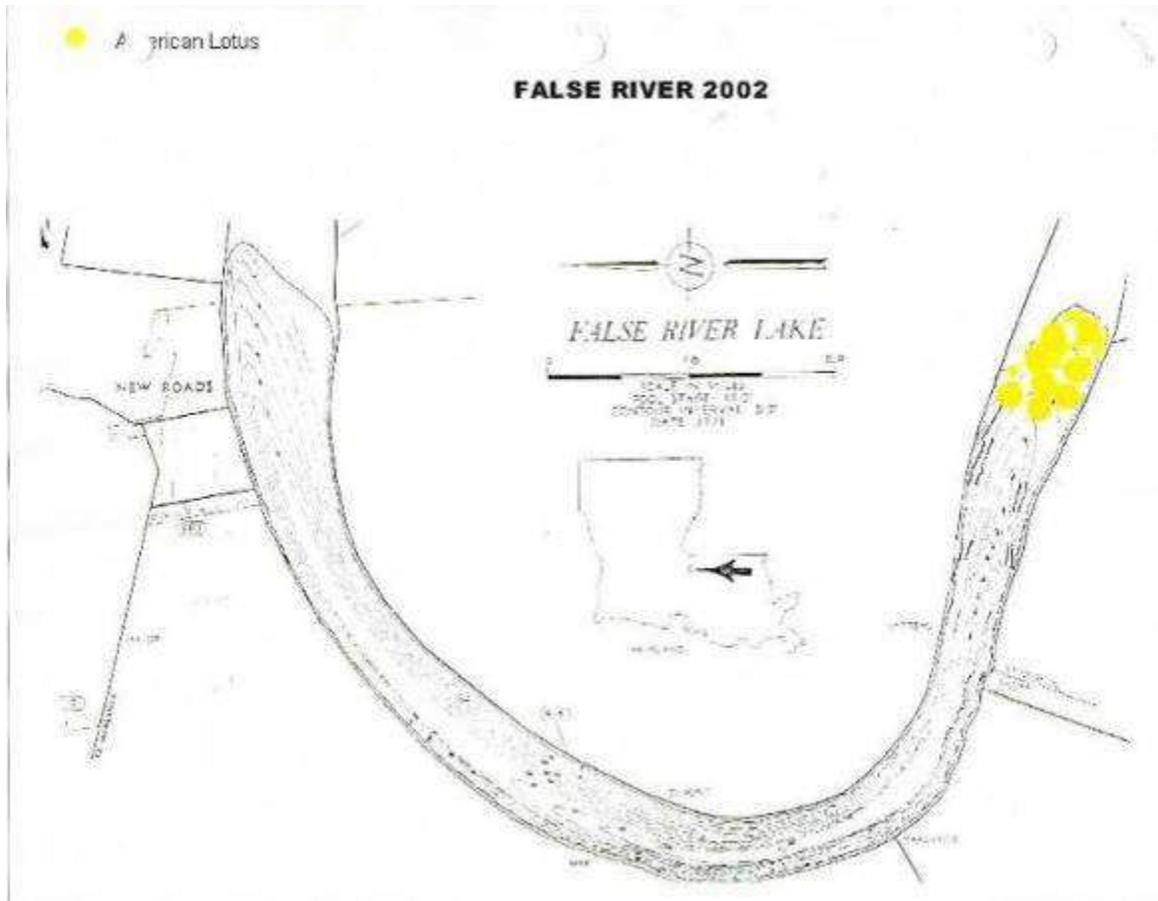


## Type mapping of False River 2002

Farrell Lasseigne, Chris Chutz and I type mapped False River on 27 August 2002. Many changes had occurred since the last visit with the most notable being no hydrilla present. All those areas that had infestations were visited only to find no evidence of re-growth. Sparse finding of hyacinth and alligatorweed were the only other plants noticed and they were extremely few in number with only one site containing no greater than 10 hyacinth plants.

Average depth on the south end was 4.2 feet and the north end averaged 2.5 feet.

Karl Mapes  
Biologist Supervisor, Region III

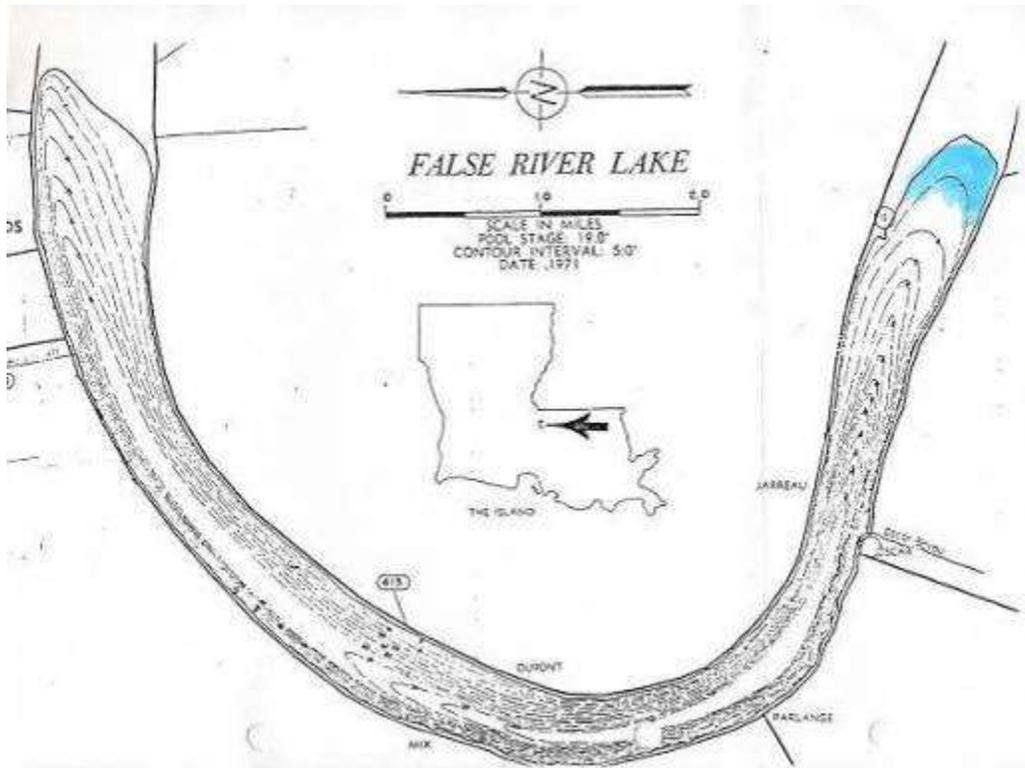


### False River Type mapping 2003

On August 1, 2003 I surveyed False River to determine plant densities and composition. The most dominant plant species found is American lotus *Nelumbo lutea* and it was only found on the south end of the lake. No other plant species were found on the north end of the lake. None of the species planted by the contractor have survived this summer. There was no evidence of any growth.

Average depth on the north end of the lake was 3.0 ft. with the Secchi reading of 1.8 ft. and average depth on the south end was 4.8 ft. with a Secchi of 1.5 ft.

Karl Mapes  
Biologist Supervisor, Region III



## False River Type mapping 2004

On September 28, 2004 I surveyed False River to determine plant densities and composition. American lotus *Nelumbo lutea* is still the most dominant plant species found and is only located on the south end of the lake. Sparse outcroppings of water hyacinth *Eichhornia crassipes*, alligatorweed, *Alternanthera philoxeroides* and duckweed could be found. These plants were primarily located in the south end as well. No other plant species were found on the north end of the lake. None of those species planted by the contractor seemed to have survived. There was no evidence of any growth in any cage.

Average depth on the north end of the lake was 2.7 ft. and average depth on the south end was 4.1 ft.

Karl Mapes  
Biologist Supervisor, Region III

