

# Citizen Riverine Monitoring Programs: Project RED and Snapshot Day

Amanda Perdzock

River Alliance of Wisconsin



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# Overview

- Introduction to citizen programs
- Trends in involvement
- Species Discoveries



# Programs used in Wisconsin



*Water Action Volunteers*



**Project RED**  
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# What is Project RED?

- Volunteers learn to ID AIS
- Adopt a stream segment
- Report findings

A screenshot of a web-based data entry form for Project RED. The form contains various fields for project information, including name, location, date, and time. Below these fields is a table for recording findings, with columns for 'Date', 'Time', 'Species', 'Count', 'Status', and 'Notes'. The table has several rows of data, some of which are highlighted in blue. At the bottom of the form, there are fields for 'Date' and 'Time' and a 'Save' button.

Date	Time	Species	Count	Status	Notes
08/11/2011	10:00	Spotted Salamander	1	Common	
08/11/2011	10:05	Spotted Salamander	1	Common	
08/11/2011	10:10	Spotted Salamander	1	Common	
08/11/2011	10:15	Spotted Salamander	1	Common	
08/11/2011	10:20	Spotted Salamander	1	Common	
08/11/2011	10:25	Spotted Salamander	1	Common	
08/11/2011	10:30	Spotted Salamander	1	Common	
08/11/2011	10:35	Spotted Salamander	1	Common	
08/11/2011	10:40	Spotted Salamander	1	Common	
08/11/2011	10:45	Spotted Salamander	1	Common	



# Species of Concern

## Plants and Algae

- Japanese knotweed
- Japanese hops
- Flowering rush
- Phragmites
- Purple loosestrife
- Yellow iris
- Eurasian watermilfoil
- Yellow floating heart
- Curly-leaf pondweed
- Hydrilla
- Brazilian waterweed
- Water Lettuce
- Water Hyacinth
- Reed manna grass
- Didymo

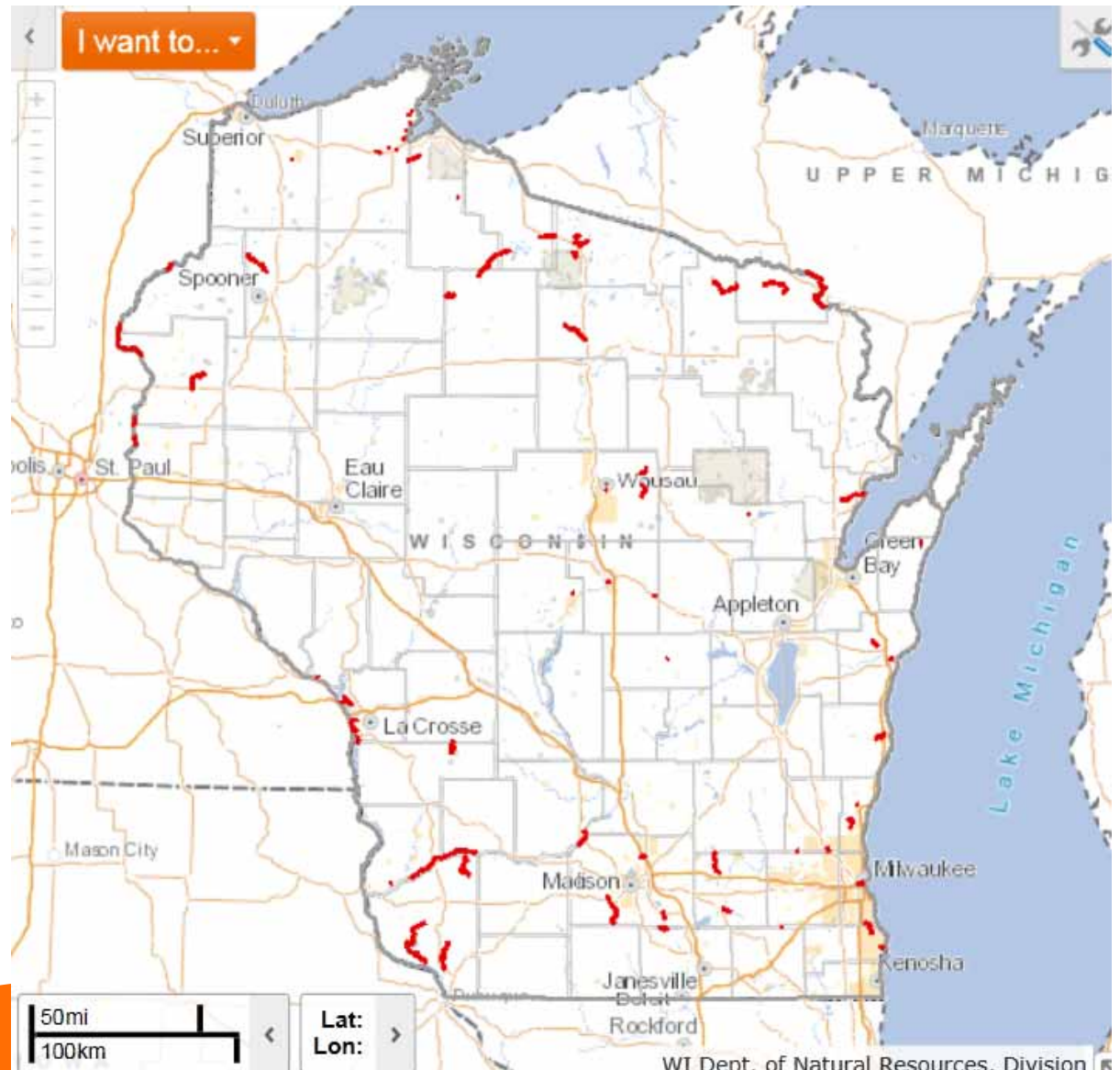
## Animals

- Faucet snail
- New Zealand mudsnail
- Zebra mussel
- Quagga mussel
- Red swamp crayfish
- Asian clam



# From 2009-2015:

343 people  
associations  
102 Monitoring  
Stations in  
SWIMS 2015  
141 Fieldwork  
events



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# 2015 Fieldwork events by County

- Burnette- 2
- Iron- 1
- La Crosse- 19
- Ozaukee- 1
- Polk- 6
- Saint Croix- 20
- Trempealeau-2
- Vernon- 2



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# Program Limitations

- Coordinator availability
- Higher commitment
- Continuous communication needed
- Data isn't always entered





And that's where Snapshot Day  
comes in...



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# What is Snapshot Day?

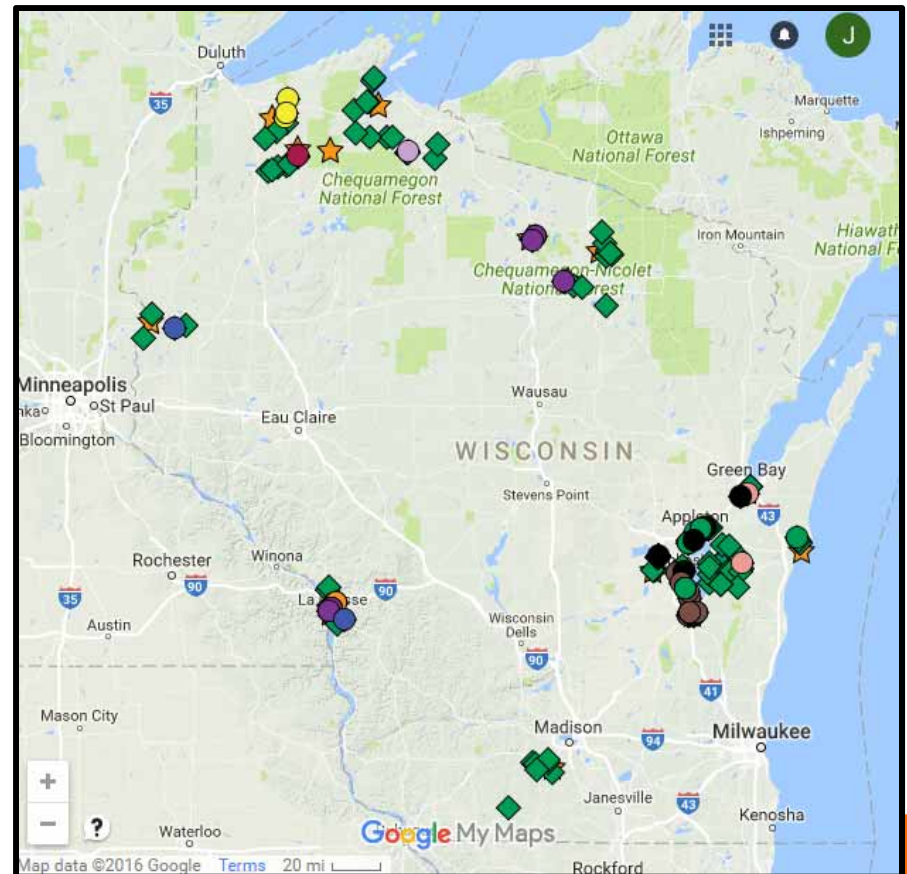
- Started in 2014
- One day event, multiple sites, 22 species
- Volunteers:
  - Learn ID and methods
  - Disperse to monitor
  - Collect data
  - Reconvene



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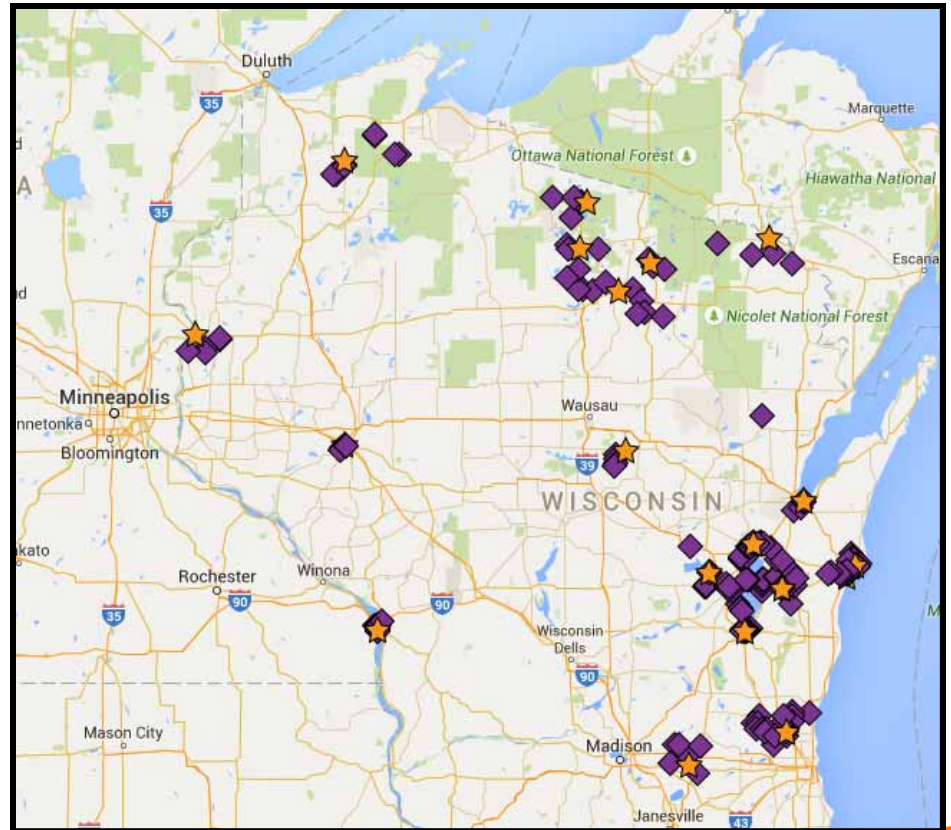
# 2014

- September 13<sup>th</sup>
- 17 Rendezvous Sites
- 142 Sites
- 59 waterbodies
- 161 Volunteers
- Zebra mussels, faucet snails, purple loosestrife, Eurasian watermilfoil



# 2015

- August 29<sup>th</sup>
- 17 Rendezvous sites
- 131 Monitoring sites
- 124 Volunteers
- Zebra mussels, purple loosestrife, faucet snails



# 2016

- September 10<sup>th</sup>
- 15 Rendezvous sites
- 143+ Monitoring sites
- 117 Volunteers



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# Future of Snapshot Day

- Combining efforts on lakes
- Sharing experience
- Pooling resources



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# Citizen Monitoring and Target Species Response in Wisconsin



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# Lake Onalaska Water Lettuce and Hyacinth

- Discovered in Lake Onalaska October 6 & 9, 2015
- Source: water garden
- RA, USFWS, DNR, Brice Prairie Conservation Association, and Lake Onalaska P&R District mobilized





- Surveys and clean up occurred Oct-Dec 2015
- Monitoring continued Apr-Oct 2016
- River Alliance hosted monitoring event 6/11/2016
- No water lettuce or hyacinth found in 2016



# Lake Winneconne Water Hyacinth

- Local volunteer attended Snapshot Day 2015
- Discovered water hyacinth fall 2015
- Response initiated
- DNR, CLMN, local volunteers mobilized



- Additional monitoring took place in 2016
- None found until end of season
- Local volunteers will continue efforts



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# Thank you

**Amanda Perdzock**

Aquatic Invasive Species Program Director

River Alliance of Wisconsin

[aperdzock@wisconsinrivers.org](mailto:aperdzock@wisconsinrivers.org)

608.257.2424x111



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