

2023 FWP Early Detection Sampling and Eradication/Control Efforts

Craig McLane

AIS Early Detection Coordinator



Plankton Sampling Efforts – 2023 – All partners

>3100 samples statewide; ~ 350 water bodies

Legend

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AIS_Survey_2_1_2023Plankton

● AIS Survey 2_1

Number of features

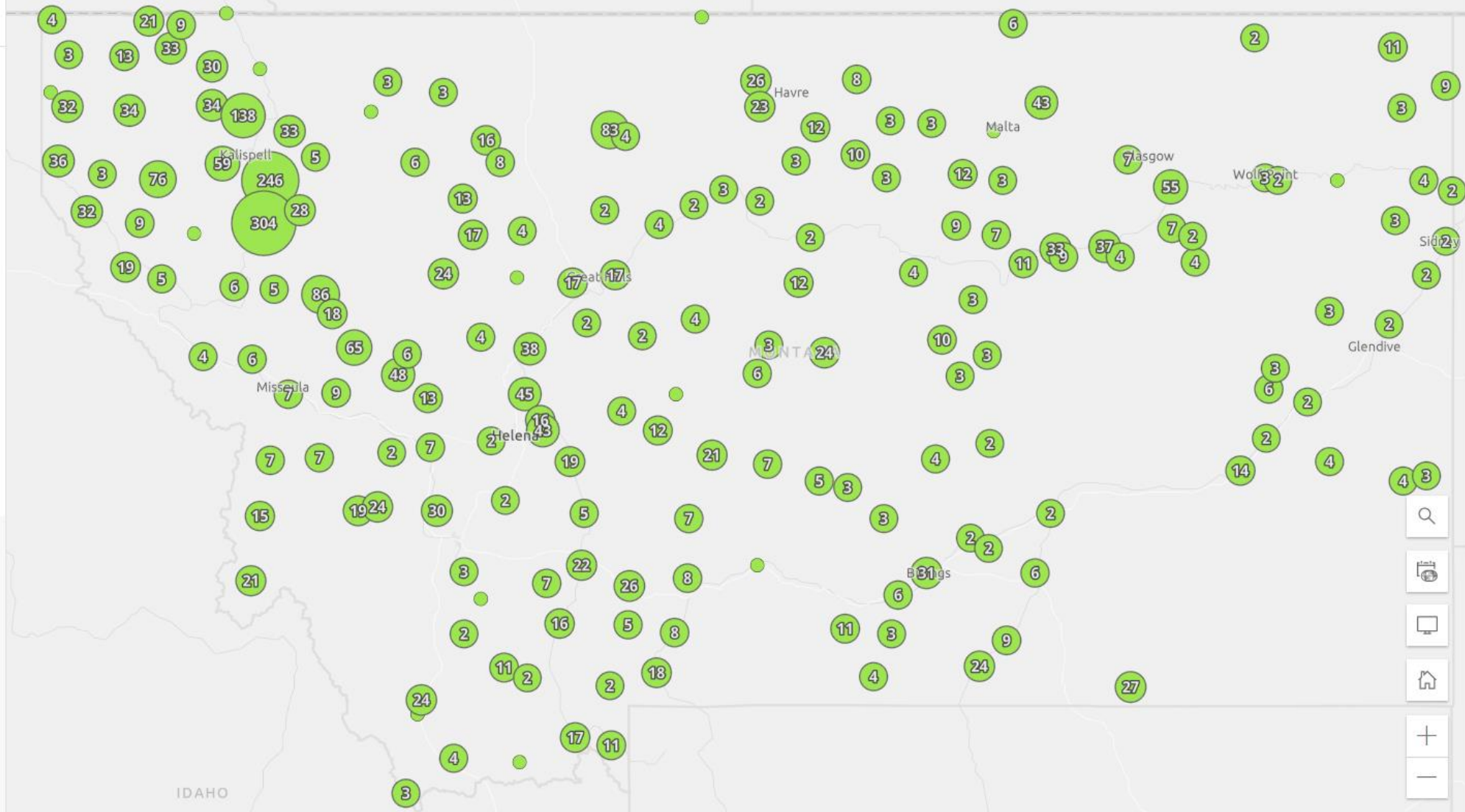
● > 304

● 230

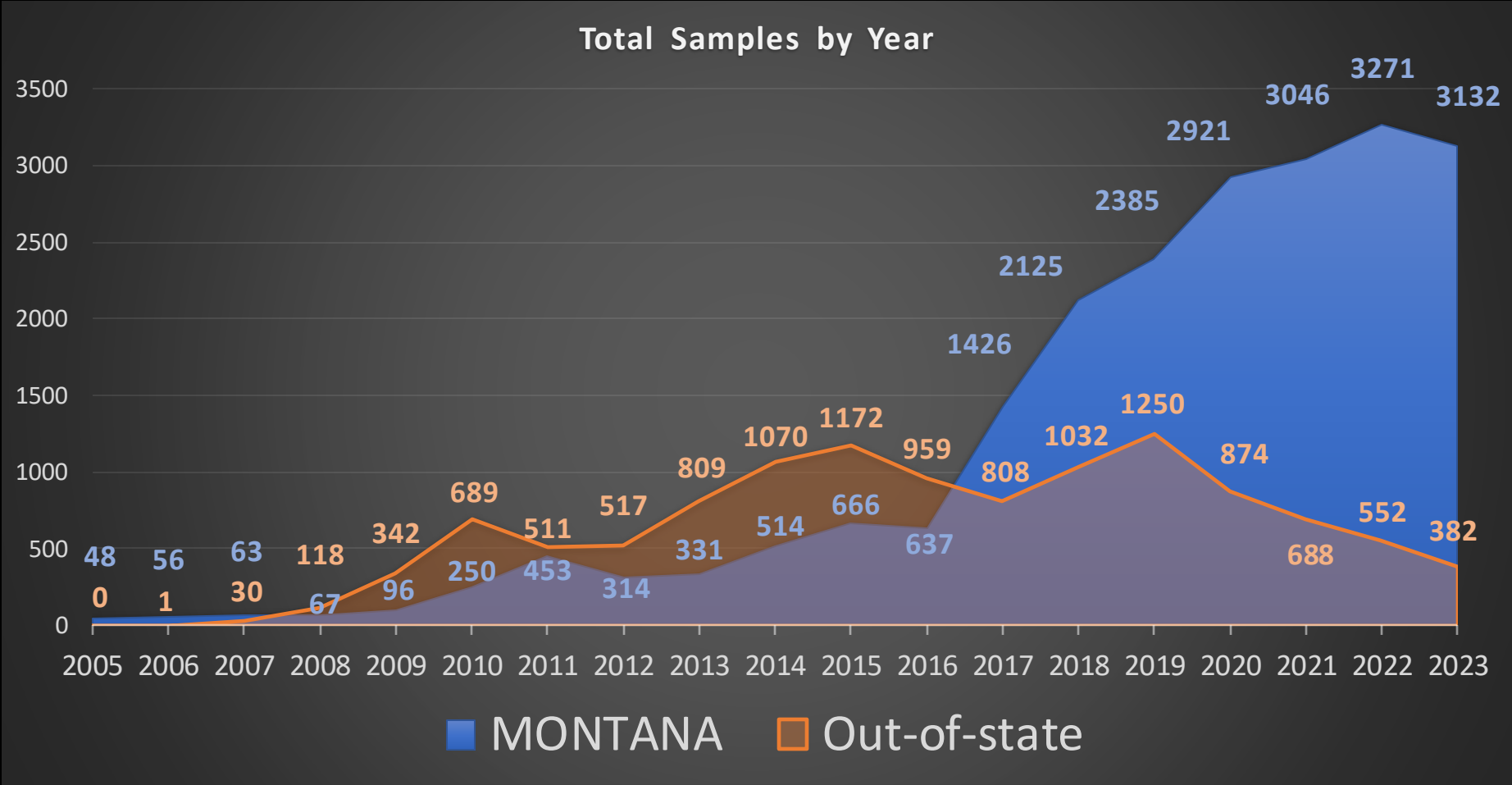
● 150

● 80

● < 2



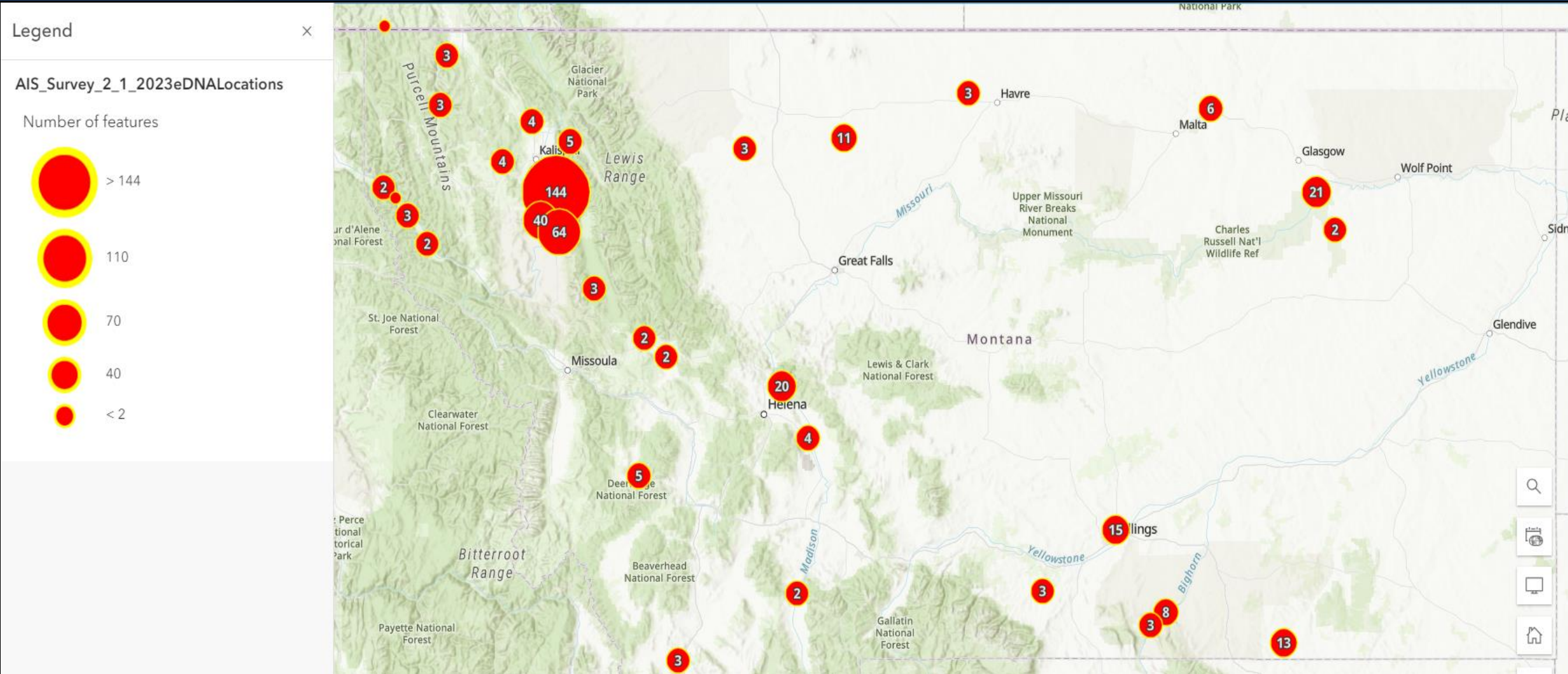
Lab update



<u>2023</u>	TOTAL	PROCESSED	UNPROCESSED
MT	3132	2548	584
OUT-OF-STATE	446	64	382

Statewide eDNA sampling – 2023 All Partners

- About 430 samples collected for dreissenid



FWP eDNA Sampling Details

- 3 rounds (Aug, Sep, Oct)
- 164 samples
- 2-3 week turnaround – All negative
 - Still waiting on 27 Oct samples from west of divide
- Use bike pump to push water through filters
- Positive hits would trigger additional sample methods/intensity



New Finds for 2023 – Waiting on Final Review of Crews' data

- New Zealand mudsnails – Silver Bow Creek below the Warm Springs ponds
- Eurasian watermilfoil – Thompson Park Pond
 - Adjacent to Noxon Rapids Reservoir – Verification needed
- Curlyleaf pondweed – The Lakes subdivision pond in Bozeman; Missoula Kids Pond



Hatchery Inspections

Bluewater Hatchery

Bitterroot Trout Hatchery

Wrights Rainbows

All the others



2023 AIS Training Workshops/Capacity Building

- Flathead Lake – Co-host with FLBS
- CSKT - Polson
- CEMIST – Miles City
- CEMIST – Harlowton
- Blackfeet Tribe Sampling on Hidden and Mission Lakes
- EWM Sampling on Pablo Reservoir and surrounding areas
- Yellowstone National Park – Sample day with AIS Biologist



Current Eradication Projects

Beaver Lake – Eurasian watermilfoil

Nilan Reservoir – Eurasian watermilfoil

Holland Lake – Fragrant waterlily

Lake Elmo – Corbicula



Beaver Lake (Flathead Co.) – Eurasian Watermilfoil Eradication

- No plants found in 2023
- 4 visits by FWP Dive Team



Nilan Reservoir (Lewis and Clark Co.) – Eurasian Watermilfoil Eradiation

- 2021
 - First detected in October
 - Treated initial pond in November
- 2022
 - Subsequent lake wide surveys found more populations
 - Both ponds treated
 - Hand pulled isolated plants from other locations.
- No detections in 2023



Holland Lake (Missoula Co., USFS) Fragrant Waterlily Control



Lake Elmo (Yellowstone Co.) Corbicula Clam Eradication

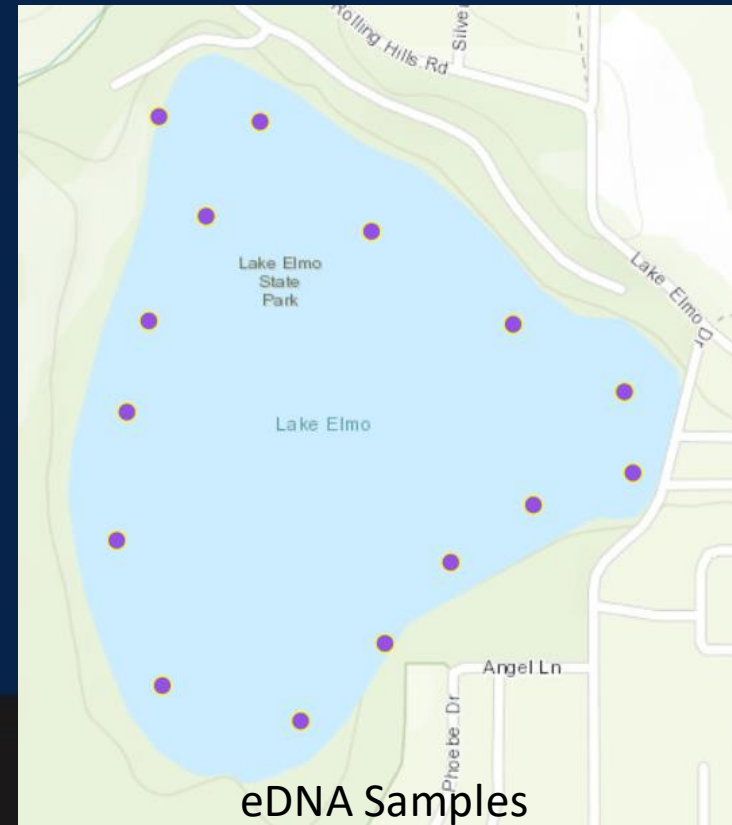
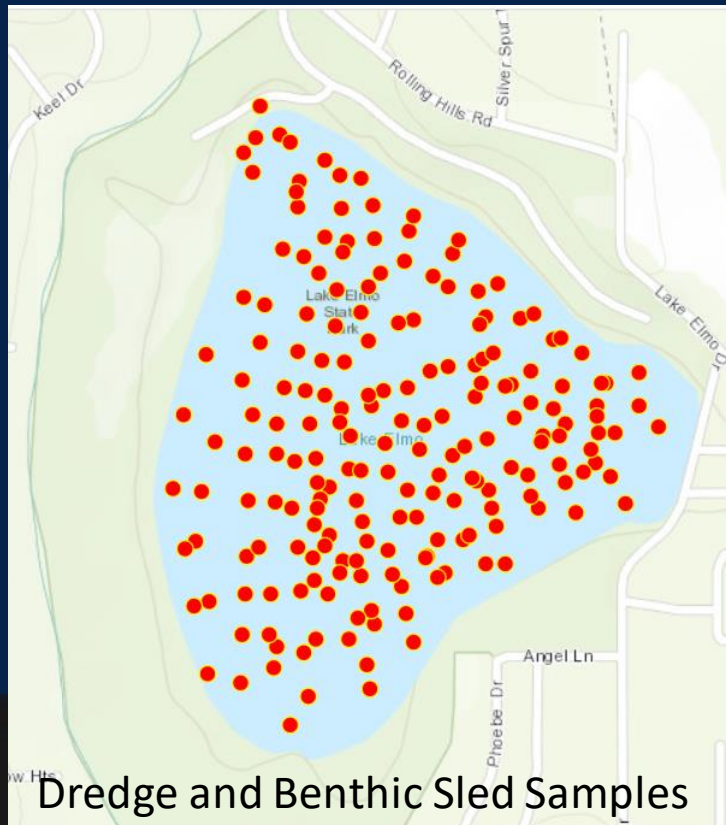
- Detected in Summer 2019
- Partial draining in 2020 (4' or so)
- Drained lake Fall 2021





2023 Activities

- All taxa surveys multiple times at access points
- 2 days of dredges and benthic sled
- Scuba dived eastern side (poor visibility 1-2 feet)
- 15 eDNA samples (results pending) – expecting some positives - Baseline copy numbers



Contact Information

Craig McLane

AIS Monitoring Coordinator

406-438-2592

cmclane@mt.gov

