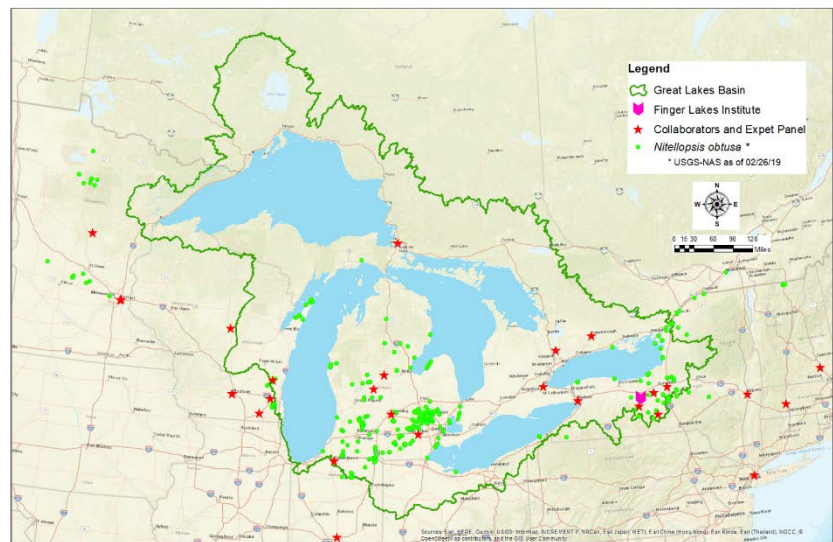


Project: Starrystonewort Collaborative  
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 Funded By: Environmental Protection Agency Great Lakes Restoration Initiative  
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[www.starrystonewort.org](http://www.starrystonewort.org); [www.facebook.com/starrystonewort](https://www.facebook.com/starrystonewort)



*Nitellopsis obtusa* or Starry Stonewort (P. Skawinski)

Starry Stonewort (*SSW*, *Nitellopsis obtusa*) is an aquatic invasive macroalgae from Eurasia that closely resembles a vascular plant. Left unchecked it's rapid, excessive growth will cause harm to natural environmental systems, native species habitat, and can inhibit the use of waterways.



Project Collaborators & *Nitellopsis obtusa* locations -10/14/18; USGS-NAS

The Starry Stonewort Collaborative project for the Great Lakes basin is designed to enhance the capacity of experts and resource managers and increase engagement of community volunteers to address Starry Stonewort infestations.

A key component of the project is a collaborative framework of 20+ scientists, stakeholders and resource managers who help with outreach efforts, resource exchange and participation in webinars. These partners, from all across the Great Lakes basin, are integral in a primary focus of encouraging community scientists from the region to identify and report SSW infestations. Additionally, a smaller Expert Panel helps guide the project, will assist with peer review of papers, recommend existing and new best management practices (BMPs), and provide outreach assistance and informational webinars.

Locations and descriptions of identified SSW infestations will be maintained in online databases such as the United States Geological Survey Nonindigenous Aquatic Species program (USGS-NAS) and *iMapInvasives*. A dedicated SSW web site with a library of information including, research, BMPs, fact sheets and media presentations is in development for use by researchers, scientists and stakeholders.