Hydrocharis morsus-ranae

Common/European Frogbit

Hydrocharitaceae, the tape grass family
Category: EDRR

Diagnostic Characteristics

- Free-floating aquatic annual
- Leaves are approximately 1 inch in diameter, round and heart-shaped
- Leaf underside is dark purplish-red with a spongy coating (helps plant to float); curved veins extend from midvein following the leaf shape
- Flowers are 0.6 inch in diameter, have 3 petals, and are white with a yellow center

Background

- Native to Europe and parts of Asia and Africa; introduced as an ornamental
- Inhabits slow moving waters such as rivers, ponds, lakes, and ditches
- Reproduces by seeds, stem fragments, and turions
- Fast growing and forms thick mats; will shade and outcompete native species
- Plant decomposition in dense areas can remove oxygen from the water and adversely affect aquatic flora and fauna

Photo Credit:
UGA5272031 - Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org
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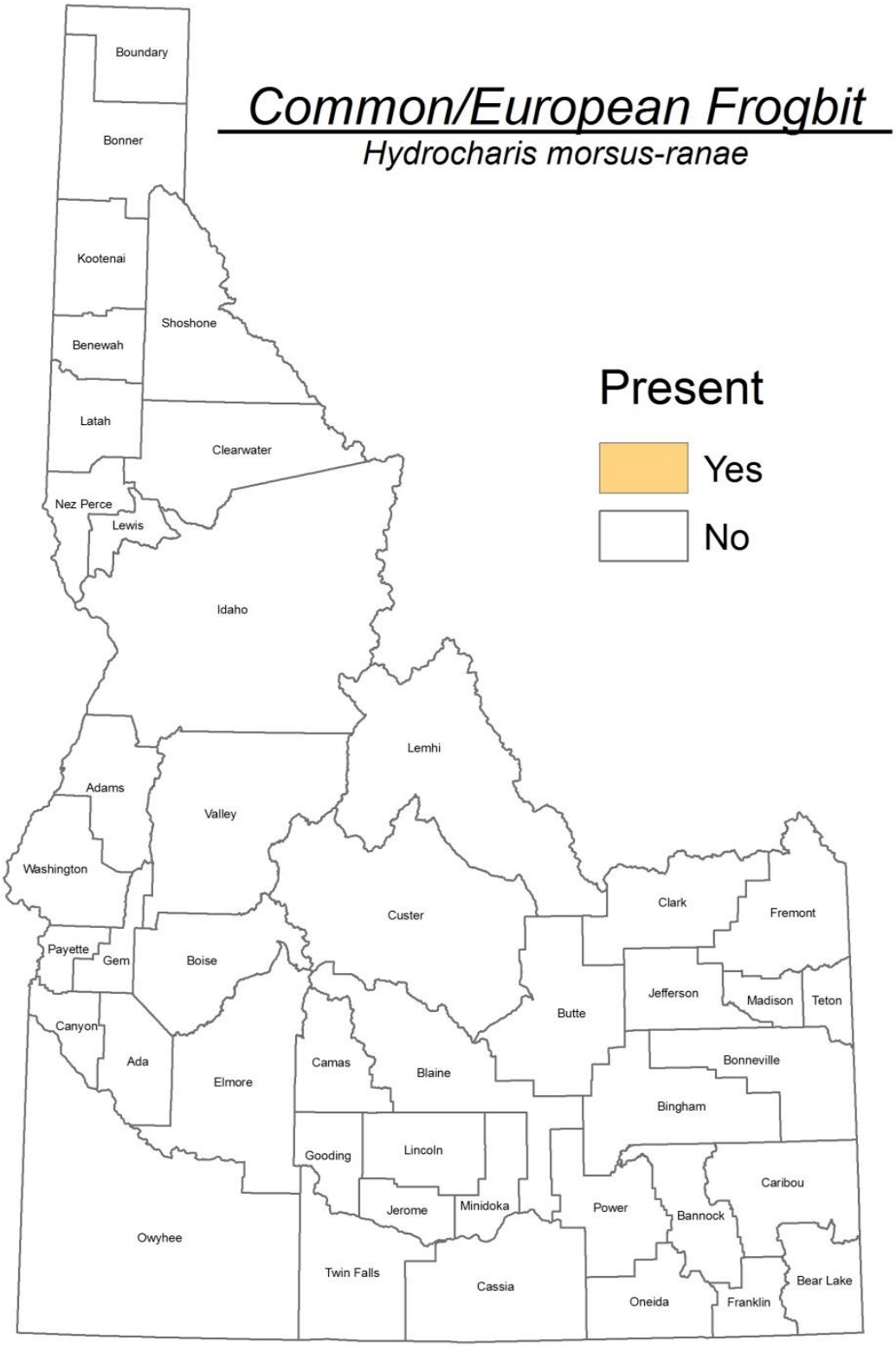
Common/European Frogbit
Hydrocharis morsus-ranae
Present
Yes
No
Boundary
Bonner
Kootenai
Shoshone
Benewah
Latah
Clearwater
Nez Perce
Lewis
Idaho
Lemhi
Adams
Valley
Washington
Custer
Clark
Fremont
Payette
Gem
Boise
Jefferson
Madison
Teton
Butte
Canyon
Ada
Elmore
Camas
Blaine
Bonneville
Bingham
Gooding
Lincoln
Caribou
Jerome
Minidoka
Power
Bannock
Owyhee
Twin Falls
Cassia
Oneida
Franklin
Bear Lake