

**Hydrilla Task Force  
Statewide Conference Call Notes  
for August 10, 2016**

**Coordination:**

- Statewide Task Force conference calls for 2016 (5/11/16, 6/8/16, 7/13/16, 8/10/16, 9/14/16)

**FUNDING UPDATES:**

**FEDERAL FUNDING:**

- **FWS ANS FY14 Grant:** Remaining balance \$89,507.21 (after Q2 2016 reimburse request). Will utilize remaining funding in 2016\*
- **FWS ANS FY15** Awarded \$225,000. TCSWCD processed and approved sub-agreement for FY15 grant. Will plan on using for 2017 season\*
- **FWS ANS FY16:** Awarded \$260,000. Once accepted by FWS, will utilize this funding over the 2017 & 2018 Seasons

**STATE FUNDING:**

- **NYS Parks Grant:** Balance approx. \$328.22 Will utilize remaining funds in 2016. New contract finalized between TCSWCD & NYS Parks for \$60,000 of FY15-16 funding. Working with NYS Parks Env. Mgmt. Bureau to discuss anticipated Project expenses and future funding needs/requests for NYS Parks funding. Held conference call on 9/13 to discuss these funding items.
- **NYSDEC Grant and Local Funding Support (City & Tompkins Co.):** HTF is working with FLOWPA and NYSDEC to finalize NCTE for DEC hydrilla grant. Extension will cover Project until August 2017. Plan to utilize remaining DEC funds for the 2016 season.

**MANAGEMENT & MONITORING UPDATES:**

• **TREATMENTS**

- **CAYUGA INLET:** Treatment started on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. First “bump” treatment with Sonar H4C pellets conducted on Friday 8/26. Second bump treatment conducted on Monday 9/19. Continued weekly monitoring of Fluridone levels in Cayuga Inlet and Fall Creek. Sonar treatment will continue through end of September.
  - **FALL CREEK:** First bump treatment with Sonar H4C pellets conducted on Friday 8/26. Second bump treatment conducted on Monday 9/19. Continued weekly monitoring of Fluridone levels in Cayuga Inlet and Fall Creek. Sonar treatment will continue through end of September. Racine-Johnson Aquatic Ecologists installed floating barriers in Fall Creek (across golf course lagoon mouth and Stewart Park pond mouth) the week of 8/22. Barriers aimed to improve Sonar H4C retention time and target concentration, and reduce the risk of hydrilla fragment spread (if present).
  - **SOUTHERN CAYUGA LAKE:** A great deal of elodea growth, but no hydrilla observations as of yet.
- **PLANT COMMUNITY MONITORING (Bob Johnson):** Concentrated rake tossing in the Cornell Sailing Club patch location. Extremely dense growth of aquatic plants this year. Elodea is major aquatic plant in southern Cayuga Lake, into Fall Creek. The dense growth has slowed down rake toss sampling. Have not observed any hydrilla anywhere, except for golf course lagoon (Fall Creek). Signs of fluridone effect on new growth of hydrilla plants. Does not appear to be rhizome growth this year. Plants are not very healthy, and not putting down tubers. Do not expect a lot of tuber formation due to slow growth of hydrilla. -Tinker Nature Park (Rochester, NY). Benthic barrier installation completed. Found hydrilla growing in cattails at western end of pond. Benthic barriers put down on the bottom, across the entire pond (except western end). Lack of hydrilla growth in western end would indicate that grass carp are present. Also observed Bladderwort growth in pond.

-University of Georgia is looking to test hydrilla plants from the northeast to determine if toxic cyanobacteria is present on the underside of hydrilla leaves\*

### **WNY Hydrilla Project Management Updates:**

- **MIKE GREER (US Army Corp.):**
  1. *No follow-up treatments with Super-K were necessary the week of 22 AUG, additional sampling indicated the JUL treatment was sufficient;*
  2. *Final monitoring is scheduled for the week of 19 SEP and final reporting will be in OCT/NOV; Sampling on 20/21. 26<sup>th</sup> for tubers\* 4 boats. Crew of 3 per boat. 12 total at least.*
  3. *There was a significant find of hydrilla in the lower Susquehanna, no other details but I did see some scary pictures*  
*-Mike Greer, email on 9/7/16*

### **Cayuga Hydrilla: OUTREACH/EDUCATION and PREVENTION:**

- HTF Outreach Committee has conducted outreach at Ithaca Farmers' Market. Will have presence on weekend Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Working with CLWN, Hydrilla Hunters, and other lakeshore groups around Cayuga Lake to stock and distribute hydrilla ID kits at boat launches and municipal offices around Cayuga Lake. 2015 saw over 600 ID kits distributed. On track to meet this number again in 2016.

### **WNY PROEJCT- Outreach:**

- No updates

### **STATEWIDE UPDATES:**

#### *New York State AIS Updates (Cathy McGlynn. NYSDEC)*

1. Croton Hydrilla Control Project: treatment this season was terminated due to inability to achieve the water flow rate necessary for the herbicide to be effective (New Croton Reservoir offline due to algal bloom)
2. Croton Hydrilla Control Project: Five Year Plan in progress and planning for December public stakeholder meeting has begun
3. New NYS AIS tip strips are available for distribution
4. NYSDEC webpage will soon be set up for boat stewardship programs
5. 2016 map of boat stewardship coverage is in the works
6. NYS Spiny Waterflea fact sheet is also in progress
7. ISAW 2016 recap – 120 events were hosted across the state, engaging more than 2,000 participants in 60% of NY's counties
  - a. Results will be presented during 9/28 PRISM webinar – presentation starts at 11:00am EST, visit [nyis.info](http://nyis.info) and click on the PRISMs and Partners tab for info about how to join the call
  - b. Next year's goal – have events in at least 5 counties who didn't host an event in 2016

### **New Jersey Hydrilla Discovery (Raritan Canal):**

- Coordination conference call on August 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss hydrilla discovery and potential management responses in Raritan Canal. Working with NJ Water Supply Authority (Heather Desko). Follow-up conference call with Heather on 8/26 to discuss extensive details and background on Cayuga Hydrilla Project. Provided technical input based on experiences in Cayuga Lake Watershed Project. Focused on management, monitoring/sampling, and education/outreach. Will continue to assist Heather/NJ WSA as they develop management response to hydrilla infestation in Canal (which provides municipal water supply). NJ WSA will be working with SOLitude Lake Management to conduct preliminary infestation delineation this year. NJ WSA will also contract development of Hydrilla Management Plan. SOLitude has conducted monitoring/sampling on ~7miles of canal. Another 8miles to be surveyed in September. Developing outreach plan and LTF. Management plan for 2017. Heather sent hydrilla samples to Univ. of Georgia (Dr. Susan Wilde) for analysis of toxic cyanobacteria presence. No toxic algae found.

### **Hilary Mosher (FL-PRISM)**

- Full partnership meeting on Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> at Ganodogan. 12-4pm.
- FL-PRISM funding Surveys in Monroe Co. (w/ Brockport). No additional detections
- FL-PRISM funding Surveys in Ontario Co.
- FL-PRISM AWG meeting. Someone reported hydrilla in pond in Greece.
- Conducting rake-tosses in areas where water chestnut is being removed. Looking for hydrilla while conducting removal.
- Conesus Lake conducted hydrilla hunt last month. Did not find any new AIS
- TINKER POND (Monroe County, NY): Benthic barriers installed. Will collect samples from Tinker for HAB analysis at Univ. of Georgia. Will work with Nature Center to conducted outreach engagement with community.
- Several CLEAN/DRAIN/DRY billboards and laminated posters this year. Citizen science program engaging people to look for hydrilla.

### **SAMANTHA EPSTEIN (Clearwater):**

- Lower Hudson steward season. Inspected 1,300 boats. Talked to 3,000 people.
- Training course to teach ID and IS spread prevention.
- Possible hydrilla sightings. No hydrilla found, but found other AIS.

**\*\*NEXT STATEWIDE CONFERENCE CALL SCHEDULED FOR:**

**October 12, 2016 @ 10:00AM. \*\***

Dial-in Number: [1-302-202-1110](tel:1-302-202-1110)

Conference Code: 982118

Host Code: 8346