

Request for Bids: Herbicide control of water chestnut in the FL-PRISM Region
Scope of Work

1. Project Title
Chemical control of water chestnut in Finger Lakes and Great Lakes Region.
2. Project Description
In late June to early August, the contractor will perform herbicide treatment of water chestnut in Red Creek, located in Wolcott, NY (approx. 7acres) and Seneca River/Barge Canal adjacent to Howland Island Wildlife Management Area, Conquest, NY (approx. 45 acres).
3. Project Term
Start June 1, 2017 End September 30, 2017
4. Project Location
Red Creek, Wolcott, Wayne County and Seneca River/Barge Canal, Conquest, Port Byron, and Savannah, Cayuga County. See maps attached.
5. Qualifications and Experience Needed
Contractor must be a licensed aquatic herbicide applicator in New York State. Previous experience with water chestnut control is desired. Finger Lakes Institute at Hobart and William Smith Colleges (FLI) will generate and submit the Article 15 Title 3 of the Environmental Conservation Law Part 327 of Title 6 New York Code of Rules and Regulations (6 NYCRR) permit application, and Article 24 Freshwater Wetlands Part 663 Title 23 of Article 71 Environmental Conservation Law Permit application Permit for the project.
6. Project Need/Background
Water chestnut (*Trapa natans*) is a highly prolific invasive species from Eurasia that is invading waterbodies in select locations of the Finger Lakes region. An annual plant, water chestnut seed must be removed before it drops in a given year. This reduces the population potential in subsequent years given the exponential growth rate for the plant. Unfortunately, seeds from long-standing infestations have the potential to remain viable for up to 10 years. Due to the magnitude of water chestnut populations at the two sites listed in 4. above, hand-pulling is not feasible.

FLI intends to contract with a vendor to conduct control of water chestnut in Red Creek and Seneca River/Barge Canal using an approved aquatic herbicide, specifically Weedar 64 or equivalent herbicide with 2,4-D as the active ingredient.

Native plant species in the treatment area in Red Creek include: *Lemna minor*, *Lemna trisulca*, *Spirodela polyrrhiza*, and *Ceratophyllum demersum*. Native plant species in the treatment area in Seneca River/Barge Canal include: *Lemna minor*, *Lemna trisulca*, *Spirodela polyrrhiza*, *Nymphaea odorata*, *Potamogeton zosteriformis*, *Stuckenia pectinata*, and *Ceratophyllum demersum*. These plants species are threatened by the spread of water chestnut that could outcompete them for light and nutrients and, if left untreated, water chestnut growth could decrease or even eliminate populations of native plants from the area. Although there may be

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impacts of herbicide on these plants, effects may be temporary and impacts will be monitored during the treatment.

The infestations have been delineated in Red Creek and in the Seneca River/Barge Canal in the summer of 2016 by the FLI Water Chestnut Strike Team. Red Creek flows into Lake Ontario while the Seneca River flows to the Oswego River and then proceeds to Lake Ontario. Connected waterways are especially susceptible to water chestnut infestation.

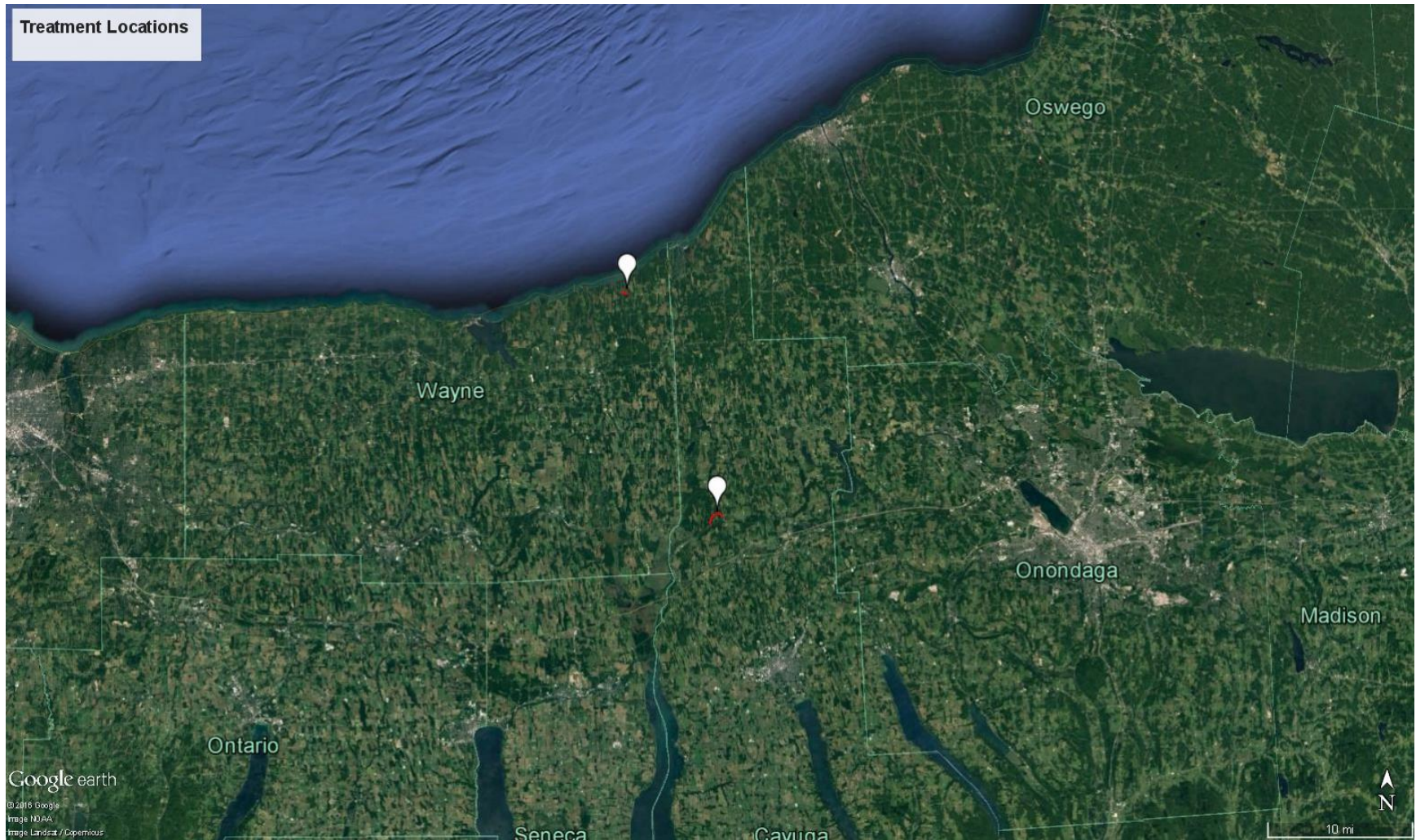
7. Project Methodology/Technical Approach

- The FLI will file the Article 15 Title 3 of the Environmental Conservation Law Part 327 of Title 6 New York Code of Rules and Regulations (6 NYCRR) permit application, and Article 24 Freshwater Wetlands Part 663 Title 23 of Article 71 Environmental Conservation Law Permit application for the project.
- Contractor will obtain an aquatic herbicide application license prior to the start of the project.
- Contractor will purchase Weedar 64 (2,4-d) and arrange for its transport and delivery to site and will secure the product from tampering or theft.
- During late June to early August the contractor will provide all required equipment for the boom-mounted spray method to apply the herbicide Weedar 64 onto water chestnut mats at both sites. Prior to herbicide release, all adjacent landowners must be contacted regarding the treatment and signage posted as required under Article 15 Part 327. The application dosage must be in accordance with the herbicide label in New York State.
- To prevent contamination by and spread of invasive and undesirable species, ALL equipment or vehicles to be used at the sites will be cleaned of all visible soil or plant matter before it is brought to the site and prior to leaving the site.
- The contractor will submit a final report including all data from the herbicide treatment by September 30, 2017 with an invoice for work conducted.

8. Project Outputs/Deliverables

Output #	Task/Product	Date Due
1	Obtain aquatic herbicide applicator license	May-June 2017
2	Perform herbicide application	Late June-early August 2017
3	Submit draft final report	August 31, 2017
4	Submit final report and invoice	September 30, 2017

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