



NOR' EASTER

A Newsletter of the Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society

www.neapms.net

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Spring 2008

President's Message



Thanks to the efforts of many and the participation of many more, our 9th Annual NEAPMS Meeting in January was a resounding success. Weather was a bit more accommodating for our second consecutive year at The Grand Summit Resort at Mount Snow in Vermont, despite slow trips up to the mountain on Monday. But for those that arrived early enough, me included, the skiing was great! I could fill the page acknowledging everyone that contributed, but I would be remiss not to give special thanks to Ann Bove for coordinating the local arrangements over the past two years and providing us with this unique opportunity.

Conference attendance again topped 130. There was a full slate of talks covering everything from didymo to climate change, and we had a constructive discussion on aquatic plant management in the presence of rare, threatened and endangered species – an issue that we're all facing. Barre Hellquist educated us by displaying his internet shopping spree of invasive species. Hopefully a reminder to all of us to keep our eyes

open when we're in the field and to support state and federal legislation banning the sale and transport of invasive species. Good times were had at the Presidential Reception and at the Banquet and Awards Ceremony. Larry Eichler received the well deserved 2008 *Scientist of the Year* award. We were also pleased to present SePRO with the *Outstanding Corporate Member* award. SePRO's consistent financial support of the Society and significant contributions to our industry warrant this special recognition. We welcomed Bin Zhu and the return of Scott Kishbaugh to three-year terms as Directors and Bob Johnson as the Vice President/President-Elect.

The Annual Meeting continues to be the most important function of the Society. The sharing of information and ideas and chance to catch up with colleagues face-to-face makes it a "can't miss" event. We have been extremely fortunate to hear quality presentations from regional and national leaders in aquatic plant management. We've also seen increased student participation and interest in our scholarship programs. None of this would be feasible without generous support from all of our corporate sponsors, whose financial contributions and participation in NEAPMS are greatly appreciated. It is also important to recognize the Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Foundation for their continued support to cover conference regis-

tration fees for several state regulators.

With spring and busy field seasons right around the corner, I'd ask you not to forget about NEAPMS. Visit our updated website (www.neapms.net) regularly...more changes are planned. We would like it to serve as a regional resource for our industry, so please send ideas, suggestions and any newsworthy items or announcements. Also, start thinking about possible presentation topics and encourage your colleagues to submit abstracts for next year's conference. And above all, don't hesitate to contact us if you'd like to become more active with NEAPMS. New ideas and fresh faces are always welcome.

Next year will be our 10th anniversary celebration and we will be returning to the Gideon Putnam Resort in Saratoga Springs, New York for our annual meeting and conference, January 19 thru 21, 2009. Special events are being planned to commemorate the Society reaching this ten-year milestone. Block off the dates on your calendar now, we hope this will be our best attended conference yet!

Marc Belland, President

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Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society

The Purpose of the Society shall be to assist in the management of aquatic vegetation, to provide for the scientific and educational advancement of members, to encourage scientific research in all facets of aquatic plant management, to promote an exchange of information among members, and to extend and develop public understanding in the discipline.

Mission Statement, adopted 20 April 1999

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NEAPMS 2008 Officers and Board of Directors, left to right: Larry Eichler, Lee Lyman, Shaun Hyde, Bin Zhu, John McPhedran, Marc Bellaud, Jim Sutherland, Amy Smagula, Bob Johnson and Scott Kishbaugh (missing, Glenn Sullivan and Ann Bove)

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<i>Webmaster</i>	Shaun Hyde
<i>Awards</i>	Charles Gilbert, Gerry Smith, Glenn Sullivan

State Updates

The following compendium of state updates is provided by the NEAPMS Board appointed state liaisons.

CONNECTICUT

Shaun Hyde, SePro Corporation

The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CTDEP) will soon post a position for an Invasive Plant Coordinator. This position will be responsible for setting an integrated program that addresses prevention, early detection, rapid response and education.

CT has been awarded \$43,000 from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for aquatic nuisance species (ANS) work. These funds will be used to implement the ANS Plan that was recently developed collaboratively by CTDEP, CT Sea Grant, Connecticut Institute of Water Resources and others.

The Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group Symposium will be held on October 1, 2008 at the University of Connecticut in Storrs. The theme of the symposium is “Cherish Our Natural Heritage: Managing Invasives to Promote Natives.” Program information will be posted in March on the Working Group website (www.hort.uconn.edu/cipwg) or call (860) 486-6448.

DELAWARE/MARYLAND

David Hardin, Restoration Ecological Services, Inc.

In January, Maryland Department of Natural Resources reported that the U.S. Geological Survey had discovered *Pistia stratiotes* (water lettuce) last summer in Mattawoman Creek, a large tributary of the Poto-

mac River. While it's generally thought that Maryland's winter temperatures are too low for year to year survival of this species, it has been listed as “Invader of the Month” for January on the Department's “Invasive Species of Concern in Maryland” website. The Department has not listed what control actions (if any) it will take to control *P. stratiotes* in Mattawoman Creek.

Also last summer, the Maryland Department of Agriculture released 500 mile-a-minute weevils (*Rhinoncomimus latipes*) in Howard County (west of Baltimore) to try to control the spread of the invasive Asian vine, *Polygonum perfoliatum* (mile-a-minute weed). The release is part of a biocontrol study being conducted by researchers at the University of Delaware, Department of Entomology and Wildlife Biology. Mile-a-minute weed is a prickly trailing annual vine in the buckwheat family that invades a wide range of habitats, choking out trees and other plants in forested floodplains, streamside herbaceous wetlands and upland forests. While the weevil shows promise, it remains to be seen whether weevil populations will develop in high enough numbers to significantly impact survival, seed production and spread of this invasive plant.

There are no new regulatory changes to report for Delaware or Maryland.

MAINE

John McPhedran, MEDEP

Infestation status: Maine marked

2007 as not only another year without new infestations of invasive aquatic plants in Maine, but with one less waterbody to list as infested. Variable watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum heterophyllum*), found in one location in Great East Lake (a New Hampshire/Maine border lake) in 2006, was removed by quick-thinking NH-trained volunteers. Because no additional plants were found in 2007, Great East Lake was therefore removed from Maine Department of Environmental Protection's (MEDEP) infested waters list.

Four invasive aquatic plants are known to exist in Maine lakes, ponds and rivers: *M. heterophyllum* in 25 waterbodies (2 of these are the hybrid with *M. laxum*), and *Hydrilla verticillata*, *M. spicatum*, and *Potamogeton crispus* in one waterbody each.

Plant Control Efforts: The MEDEP anticipates Maine's infested lakes will continue to benefit from citizen scientists and other volunteers who conduct plant control work by deploying benthic barriers and removing plants by hand, and on several lakes using locally built diver assisted suction harvesters. So far, three lake groups have commissioned four suction harvester units to control *M. heterophyllum* on Little Sebago Lake (Gray, Windham) and on the Songo River (Naples) while the latest is dedicated for control of curly-leaf pondweed on West Pond (Parsonsfield).

In 2008, the MEDEP anticipates continued treatment of the *H. verticillata* infestation, SCUBA surveys and rampside boat inspection at Pickerel

Continued on next page

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State Updates continued

Pond (Limerick). The Department will shortly issue a Request for Proposals for continued treatment by a contractor. In 2008, the MEDEP will conduct more SCUBA surveys to determine the status of *M. spicatum* in a 28 acre pond in Scarborough. None was found in 2007 after herbicide treatment of the pond the previous year.

Courtesy Boat Inspections: Maine's Courtesy Boat Inspection Program once again proved effective both for intercepting potential invasive threats and as a teachable moment for the boating public. For the 2007 season, inspections increased by more than 9,000 to a total of 49,783 – a 23% increase from 2006. Maintaining this high level of prevention effort is a tremendous achievement for local and regional groups running the inspection programs. Boats were inspected both entering and leaving a lake with the majority of inspections (65%) conducted on boats entering. Inspectors logged a total of 26,534 inspection hours in 2007, roughly equivalent to 13 full-time employees.

A total of 2.1% of all inspections yielded plant fragments (1,069 inspections), little change from past years. This figure includes all plant fragments, whether invasive or native, on both entering and exiting boats. Of the 1,069 inspections that yielded plant fragments, 170 (16%) of these were invasive plants, primarily *M. heterophyllum* watermilfoil. The majority of the invasive plant fragments (159 or 94%) were found on boats and equipment leaving infested lakes while 11 invasive plants were recorded entering a lake.

Most notable is the “catch” of *M. spicatum* discovered on a boat from Pennsylvania entering Damariscotta Lake (Jefferson). This boater reported previously being on Lake Housatonic, an infested lake in Connecticut. The remaining 10 invasive plants were all *M. heterophyllum* found on boats entering lakes already infested with the species; the boats had previously motored on the same lake they were entering.

Grants: The 2008 cost share grant program (applications due in mid-April) will again include funds for boat inspection programs and plant removal efforts. A bill passed in 2007 that reduces administrative costs in the state's sticker funding program will begin generating new revenue in 2008. The first priority of this money is to increase grants for local invasive aquatic plant control efforts. The amount available for cost share grants for plant removal will increase from \$20,000 in 2007 to \$60,000 in 2008, and will possibly rise even higher in 2009.

More information: Please check the ME IASP's website <http://www.maine.gov/dep/blwq/topic/invasives/index.htm> or email milfoil@maine.gov

MASSACHUSETTS

Marc Bellaud, Aquatic Control Technology, Inc.

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Lakes and Ponds Program (MADCR) remains active in aquatic invasive species management in the state. Education and monitoring continue to be a primary focus including programs like Weed Watchers and Boat Ramp Monitoring.

They are clearly getting the word out. From the 3,000 surveys collected by Boat Ramp Monitors, 76% were aware of invasive species, 71% were aware that they are spread by boats and 99% were willing to participate in the survey. MADCR reported that of the 2,800 boats inspected in 2007, 30% had plant fragments and 33% of the plant fragments were invasive species. All told the Boat Ramp Monitoring efforts in 2007 resulted in 293 "saves" or prevented introductions of invasive species. Monitors working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service also removed 2.5 tons of *Trapa natans* plants in 2007.

Wallum Lake (Douglas) is proof that the program works. Surveys performed in 2002 and 2004 verified that the lake was free of invasive species. Boat Ramp Monitoring performed over the past four years have stopped 25 boats carrying non-native plants from entering the lake, which has helped to keep the lake free of invasive species.

In 2008, MADCR will ramp up initiatives to combat the spread of didymo and zebra mussels. They are working with the Massachusetts De-

partment of Environmental Protection (MADEP) to set up an Invasive Species Task Force to develop specific monitoring protocol and decontamination procedures for didymo. For zebra mussel prevention, MADCR is working with a consultant to develop specialized monitoring kits for distribution to high risk waterbodies.

MADCR also intends to fund several specific invasive species management projects. Control of *T. natans* will occur at several locations including efforts to organize volunteer hand-pulling for pioneer infestations. A research evaluation of SolarBee circulators being used as a potential control for *Myriophyllum spicatum* will continue. Coastal beaches continue to be inventoried and targeted for control of *Phragmites australis* and other invasive species. MADCR is also working with MADEP to seek state review for the use of triclopyr (Renovate) in groundwater wellhead protection areas.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Amy Smagula, NHDES

By the end of the 2007 growing season, New Hampshire logged three new infestations of exotic aquatic plants. *Myriophyllum heterophyllum* (variable watermilfoil) infestations were found in Powwow Pond (Kingston), Glen Lake (Goffstown) and in Lake Pemigewasset (New Hampton). Overall, the number of infested waterbodies now reaches 69, with some of these waterbodies infested with more than one invasive species. The current numbers and types of infestations in New Hampshire's lakes and ponds are:

Variable watermilfoil (*M. heterophyllum*) = 61
Eurasian watermilfoil (*M. spicatum*) = 3

Water chestnut (*Trapa natans*) = 1
Fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*) = 9
Curly-leaf pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*) = 1
European naiad (*Najas minor*) = 3
Brazilian elodea (*Egeria densa*) = 1

We continue to coordinate activities associated with exotic aquatic plants under the mantra of *Prevention, Early Detection, Rapid Response, Containment and Control/Management*. Our prevention activities are through extensive education and outreach campaigns and our Lake Host Program. Through the Lake Host Program, paid and volunteer staff conduct courtesy inspections of boats and trailers as they enter and leave waterbodies in the state, removing any tag-along plants or animals from their exteriors. In 2007, the Lake Host Program logged numerous "saves" whereby plant fragments later shown to be exotic aquatic plants were removed from 156 vessels.

Early detection occurs through regular monitoring activities by state biologists and through lake residents that participate in the Weed Watcher Program. More and more, infestations are caught when they are single stems or small patches, rather than acres of infestation, which of course makes management much easier.

Unfortunately, with limited funding, control activities are always fewer and more scaled down than what is really needed. State biologists have been preparing long-term management plans for each waterbody that is infested in New Hampshire, but due to a lack of adequate funding, these waterbodies do not receive the follow-through that would ordinarily make most management projects successful. For example, in some lakes where herbicide treatments are conducted to reduce the overall size and density of an in-

Continued on next page

festation of exotic plants, and where follow-up non-chemical approaches are then recommended, funding is not adequate to complete all recommended management practices. The benefits of the initial control action are not truly recognized because funding isn't available to pay for additional actions that same year or even in following years.

As for new tools, state biologists are putting the finishing touches on a new diver-assisted suction harvesting device to be put into use starting in summer 2008 (thanks to some federal dollars). A research project led by Dr. Ken Wagner, ENSR Corporation examined the use of suction harvesting, followed by native plant replacement, in a waterbody in New Hampshire (this was the subject of a 2007 NEAPMS presentation). Since that time, we worked to purchase, and then modify and retrofit a suction harvester device for regular use on our waterbodies. Other private individuals are also building their own machines for use on a contractual basis with interested lakes.

We hope to work closely with legislators in the coming year to find a way to increase state funding so that more projects can be carried through to a successful endpoint, and that the goals of successful long-term management, or possibly even eradication, can be achieved.

NEW JERSEY

Glenn Sullivan, Allied Biological

Aquatic invasive plants have not made it to the front burner at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection just yet. The invasive species initiatives of 2004 have essentially faded under tightening budgets. Invasive plants, including aquatic nuisance species, continue to get some attention by the state Division of Parks and Forestry, who maintains its own park-based programs utilizing volunteer efforts. In spring 2007, the 2nd New Jersey Volunteer Monitoring Summit focused on understanding invasive plants. The Program falls under the auspices of the relatively new state Bureau of Freshwater and Biological Monitoring, whose formation provides en-

couragement that future New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection attention may eventually return to aquatic nuisance plant species.

The New Jersey Natural Heritage Program continues to focus attention on endangered and threatened aquatic plant species. The situation involving Swartswood State Park and the battle between protection of *Potamogeton praelongus* and the control of *Myriophyllum spicatum* bears monitoring. In the last few months, the state Division of Parks and Forestry decided to continue its site-selective, aquatic plant maintenance program in order to provide recreational access to the lake, forcing the Natural Heritage Program to form a policy on protection of rare plants versus control of invasives. As of this writing, no new policy has been announced.

The state Pesticide Control Program, which administers aquatic pesticide permits, has not planned any substantial changes in 2008. The program requires identification of target species in permit applications and use reports, which can then be used to track plant infestations. Reports of *Hydrilla verticillata* and *Trapa natans* have increased by two sites each in 2007, although the *H. verticillata* identifications have not been confirmed. The Pesticide Control Program plans to monitor these new sites in 2008, and send plant samples out for identification. The state does not have a rapid response plan in place.

The newest state program that may affect lakes is the formation of the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council, a governing body dedicated to protecting land and water in the northeast region of the state where much of northern New Jersey's drinking water



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comes from. New regulations are currently under public review, which include a Lake Management Area Program. The draft language of the program addresses various planning tiers, from the immediate lake shoreline to the surrounding watershed. Details of the Lake Management Area Program can be found at www.highlands.state.nj.us

NEW YORK

Scott Kishbaugh, NY State Department of Environmental Conservation

Unfortunately, the march of invasive species into the waterways of New York continues. Larry Eichler, Darrin Freshwater Institute has maintained a database of confirmed sightings of *Myriophyllum spicatum*, *Trapa natans*, *Cabomba caroliniana* and *Potamogeton crispus* since 2000, and in recent years has added *M. heterophyllum*, *M. aquaticum*, *Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*, *Nitellopsis obtusa*, and *Egeria densa* to the watch list.

These inventories, populated by data collected by Darrin Freshwater Institute, the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program, Cornell University, the New York Department of Environmental Conservation (NYDEC), the state Office of Parks and Recreation and others, demonstrate the movement of *M. spicatum* into essentially every county in the state. For both long established and new invaders, the distribution maps reflect both a continued spread of exotic plants, and incomplete monitoring and inventory data in many regions of the state. More than 40 new exotic plant findings were reported in 2007, with the majority of these comprised of new reports of *M. spicatum* and *M. heterophyllum* from highly accessible lakes to more remote ponds from western New York to Long Island. Perhaps the most troubling is the recent discovery of

M. heterophyllum, *Cabomba caroliniana*, and *Egeria densa* in a number of lakes in Harriman State Park. The faint silver lining is that *Hydrilla verticillata* has still not been reported in New York, although hopes that this is due to inhospitability have been surpassed by fears that it is already lurking in some yet unassessed waterbody.

The most significant news in the battle against invasive species in New York was the creation of an Office of Invasive Species within the NYDEC in 2008. This unit will be led by Steve Sanford, a NYDEC biologist closely involved in the Governor's Task Force on Invasive Species, the Task Force Report and the Invasive Species. The Office will eventually house four employees charged with spearheading statewide mapping, database and clearinghouse work, coordinating the state invasive species grants program (part of a \$5 million state budget allocation in 2007-08) and Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISMs), and helping to create an Institute for Invasive Species Research at Cornell University. Although the Office of Invasive Species will tackle a wide range of invasive species, from Asian long-horned beetle to zebra mussels, much of their attention will be dedicated to inva-

sive and exotic plants.

The Aquatic Invasive Species Eradication grants program issued 31 grants (out of 45 proposals) to municipalities and not-for-profit organizations in November 2007, for a total of \$1.4 million. About \$300,000 of this total was for wetland plants, about \$200,000 for projects involving both wetland and open water plants, and the balance for floating leaf and submergent plant control projects. Projects were awarded on a 1:1 match basis, and individual grants were awarded for a minimum of \$7,500 and a maximum of \$100,000.

Several PRISMs continue to make significant progress in combating invasive plant problems. The Long Island Invasive Species Management Area developed an invasive assessment protocol for prioritizing inventory and management efforts

Continued on page 12

Too Many Weeds Spoil the Fishing



Exotic invasive aquatic plants such as Hydrilla, Eurasian Water Milfoil, Curlyleaf Pondweed, Water Chestnut and Water Hyacinth can be detrimental to a healthy fishery in lakes across the country.

These invasive plants when left unmanaged can alter the ecosystem of lakes and reservoirs, causing a decline in the fishery, as well as interfering with other valued uses of waterbodies.

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Awards co-chairs, Charles Gilbert, Jim Sutherland and Gerald Smith preside over our annual awards



From left to right, outgoing President, Glenn Sullivan and Board of Directors, Paul Lord and Barre Hellquist; and Mar...

NEAPMS 2008 Conference 9th Annual Meeting at



ards ceremony. Honored during the NEAPMS Banquet were...



ic Bellaud "Outstanding Member;" Larry Eichler, "Scientist of the Year;" and SePRO, "Outstanding Corporate Member."

ference Highlights

Mount Snow, Vermont



NEAPMS Silent Auction, Raffle and Scholarship Fund

THANK YOU for YOUR SUPPORT!

Thanks to the generosity and participation of the 2008 NEAPMS Annual Meeting and Conference attendees, the Silent Auction yielded \$1809 and the banquet raffle, \$1436. Total proceeds (\$3245), matched by an additional 50% of the total from the scholarship account, will be available to support future graduate and undergraduate student scholarships.

NEAPMS continues to offer graduate scholarship and undergraduate stipend opportunities for highly qualified students with focus on topics associated with aquatic plant management.

At this time, NEAPMS is proud to sponsor Lori Benoit, a doctoral student at the University of Connecticut under a NEAPMS graduate student scholarship for her work on the molecular genetics and herbicide resistance in *Hydrilla verticillata*. Lori presented her study findings to date at the 2008 NEAPMS Annual Meeting and Conference in January. She reports making progress on using the new genetic markers (microsatellite markers) to track the spread of hydrilla. This summer she plans to travel to Pennsylvania and New Jersey to complete the necessary plant collecting and looks forward to accomplishing much of the remaining lab work for the project.

The NEAPMS Scholarship Committee is also currently reviewing three new proposals for graduate level projects. The Committee expects to select one of these three proposals for funding and will announce the winner in the next newsletter (fall 2008).



A special thank you to Cygnet Enterprises, Inc. for the generous raffle donation.

Regularly updated information on NEAPMS Scholarships is available online at www.neapms.net

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Graduate scholarships can range up to \$2500 per year for two or three years (maximum), depending on the degree pursued. Undergraduate students interested in participating in an internship in aquatic plant management can be eligible for a stipend to pay for salary and/or related expenses during the internship.



For more detailed information visit the NEAPMS website at www.neapms.net or contact Amy Smagula at (603) 271-2248 or asmagula@des.state.nh.us



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State Updates continued

for invasive plants on Long Island, assigning scores for distribution, ecological impact and amplitude, biological dispersal, and feasibility of control. This protocol may be applicable throughout the state in establishing and refining monitoring programs, scoring competitive grants programs, and directing research. The Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (through the Adirondack Chapter of The Nature Conservancy) received one of the six 2007 NY-DEC Environmental Excellence Awards for their work in identifying and controlling invasive plant problems throughout the Adirondacks, and for their work in establishing the Adirondack region PRISM.

In news from the plant management toolbox, triclopyr (Renovate) was registered for use fall 2007 after an extensive review by the NYDEC. The first uses of the aquatic herbicide are anticipated to take place in the spring and summer 2008.

RHODE ISLAND

Lee Lyman, *Lycott Environmental*

No report available this issue.

PENNSYLVANIA

Sarah Whitney, *PA Sea Grant*

The Pennsylvania Invasive Species Council is in the process of hiring a coordinator to assist with organizing meetings, finding funding and developing a state comprehensive invasive species management plan. The Council's next meeting will occur on April 16, 2008 in Harrisburg.

More information is available at <http://www.agriculture.state.pa.us/agriculture/cwp/view.asp?a=3&Q=139310>

VERMONT

Ann Bove, *VTDEC*

Legislative News: In late January, shortly after the Vermont Legislature returned for their second year of the 2007-2008 legislative session, a comprehensive aquatic nuisance species bill, H-720, was introduced by a handful of Representatives. H-720 proposes to recodify the existing aquatic nuisance control program under one statutory chapter and proposes a number of changes to existing and related programs including, among other things:

- An expansion of the existing aquatic nuisance transport law to include the transport of all aquatic plants
- Creating a new aquatic species rapid response program
- Creating the need for non-motorized vessels and motorboats registered outside of Vermont (used on Vermont waters) to display an annually issued sticker at a cost of \$10 and \$20 respectively. Monies collected from sticker sales would go into a proposed Aquatic Species Control Fund for spread prevention, education and outreach, rapid response, enforcement and other program provisions.

H-720 currently resides with the House Committee on Fish, Wildlife and Water Resources. Stay tuned...

Use of Herbicides for *Myriophyllum spicatum* Control: In 2007, four waterbodies in Vermont received spot/partial-lake treatments using the aquatic herbicide Renovate (active ingredient triclopyr): Lakes Hortonia, Morey, St. Catherine and Star. Three of the four treatments (Lakes Hortonia, St. Catherine and Star) were conducted as part of a five-year management program following a whole-lake herbicide treatment using the

aquatic herbicide Sonar (active ingredient fluridone). A requirement of the five-year program includes herbicide minimization, the goal being to reduce *Myriophyllum spicatum* to the point where non-chemical control methods can be used effectively. Two of the treatments conducted as part of long-range management programs (Hortonia and St. Catherine) used a new formulation of Renovate, "On Target Flakes" or OTF. The Lake Morey treatment also used the OTF formulation. Renovate OTF can be used in areas of greater dilution such as steep shoreline areas and open coves because the flake formulation carries the triclopyr to the target plants in deeper water and localizes it where the plants are growing, effectively holding it "on target."

End of season aquatic plant survey reports for the three waterbodies using the new formulation of Renovate, OTF, indicated that *M. spicatum* responded favorably to the treatment in most areas with significant reductions of milfoil density and distribution observed. However, results did vary from poor to excellent both within and between OTF treated lakes. Reasons for the lack of control could include dilution, topped out plants or both. No obvious impacts to non-target species were noted. Preliminary findings indicate that this formulation of Renovate could prove to be a valuable "tool" for controlling *M. spicatum* without impacting non-target species.

Permit applications requesting the use of Renovate OTF in 2008 were received for three of the four waterbodies treated in 2007 (Lakes Hortonia, Morey and St. Catherine). The intention of the proposals is to treat areas not treated in 2007 and areas found at the end of the growing season with *M. spicatum* too dense to effectively control with non-chemical control methods. Stay tuned...

Trapa natans Status: Lake Champlain was the first confirmation of *T. natans* in Vermont (some time in the 1940s). While subsequent populations have been confirmed and managed in a handful of other waters, the most extensive population in Vermont exists in southern Lake Champlain. **Good News:** In 2007, mechanical harvesting efforts in southern Lake Champlain reached an area over a half a mile further south than recent previous efforts; actions to control water chestnut in this region had not occurred since 1979, due to increased spread of the species further north in the lake and a lack of adequate, available management funds. **More Good News:** Of 67 known water chestnut sites in Lake Champlain, 17 had no water chestnut in 2007. **Even More Good News:** In 2007, sites in northern Lake Champlain (confirmed in only 2005) had only half the amount of water chestnut as in 2006 following extensive handpulling. **Bad News:** Three new water chestnut sites were discovered in Vermont in 2007. **Good News About the Bad News:** Rapid response controls were initiated at all three new sites before mature water chestnut seeds dropped. Stay tuned...

The number of confirmed *Myriophyllum spicatum* waters in Vermont increased in 2007. With four new confirmations documented during the 2007 growing season, the total number of known Vermont *M. spicatum* populations in a lake/pond is now 64 and in other waters, 26. While increases in the number of *T. natans* and *M. spicatum* sites were noted in 2007, **no new species of non-native invasive aquatic plants were confirmed in the state.** Stay tuned...

Didymosphenia geminata ("Didymo"): This potentially invasive alga species that inhabits fast-flowing, cold-water river and stream environments was discovered in the northern reaches of the Connecticut River, the White River and the Batten Kill during summer 2007. There are no known eradication methods available. The Agency of Natural Resources response is focused on public education about spread prevention and monitoring. It remains to be seen whether didymo blooms will re-occur in infested rivers in 2008 with the same magnitude as seen in 2007. Stay tuned...

Advancing the Science of Aquatic Plant Management.

SePRO remains at the forefront of industry-advancing research and development as a core capability of its business.

In 2007, SePRO introduced a new tool to the aquatic plant management industry, named Renovate OTF. The use of a dry carrier for Renovate has improved the ability to achieve control of milfoil species and other susceptible weeds in shoreline treatments and deep water sites subject to dilution.

Attention New York!

In 2008, aquatic plant managers in New York will have the opportunity to use Renovate OTF and Renovate 3 in your aquatic plant management programs. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has approved 24(c)/Special Local Needs labels for both Renovate formulations.

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Opportunities/Upcoming Events

2008 Aquatic Weed Control Short Course
University of Florida-IFAS, May 4-8, 2008
Coral Springs, Florida
<http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/>

2008 New England Lakes Conference: Celebrating Lake and Watershed Stewardship

Lake Morey Resort, Fairlee, Vermont
June 13-14, 2008
sponsored by the New England Affiliate of
NALMS

<http://www.nalms.org/necnalms/>

APMS 48th Annual Meeting

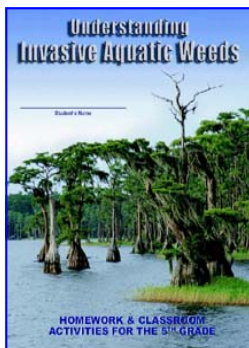
The Mills House Hotel
Charleston, South Carolina
July 13-16, 2008

<http://www.apms.org/activity.htm>

Check out the

**Aquatic Plant Management Society's
Student Activity Booklet**

"Understanding Invasive Aquatic Weeds"



This 16 page booklet contains information and activities about aquatic ecology and the major weeds affecting North American aquatic ecosystems.

<http://www.apms.org/activity.htm>

NEAPMS Website Resource

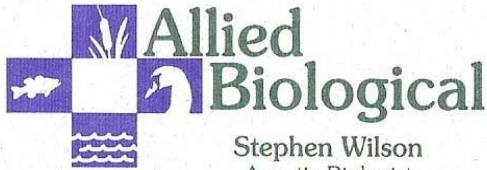
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At the January 2008 NEAPMS Annual Meeting and Conference, C. Barre Hellquist, Professor Emeritus, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and past NEAPMS board member conducted a workshop of live aquatic plants obtained via an internet shopping spree. Barre selected plants that are hardy or possibly hardy to and with the potential to become established in the Northeast, if not already here. A few were already familiar, as they are native or already established here:

Myriophyllum heterophyllum, *M. pinnatum*, *M. aquaticum*, *Nuphar advena*, *Cabomba caroliniana* and *Vallisneria americana*. However, many of the plants he selected are native to the Southeast (*Nymphoides aquaticum*, *Mayaca fluviatilis* and *Didipilis diandra*) or hardy European, Australian or Japanese species (*Nymphoides peltata*, *Marsilea quadrifolia* and *Nuphar japonica*).



Thanks to the efforts of NEAPMS members, Amy Smagula and Ken Wagner, 29 photographs of the plants Barre selected and presented at the workshop are now available on the NEAPMS website as a PowerPoint presentation. To access the presentation, visit <http://www.neapms.net> under "Past Programs and Abstracts, 2008 Presentations."



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Meeting Celebrate the 10th Anniversary of NEAPMS!

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