

Invasive Species Report to the Town of Caroga

August 10, 2022

- 1. APA Permit** – In discussions with Aaron Zieman of the APA, he proposed an alternate format and data presentation to the APA for the 2019-2021 reports not yet received by them. Working with Lead Diver John Morley and the 1st shift divers we were able to search through all of the files I was given and found what I believe will be enough information to satisfy the requirements of Mr. Zieman's proposal. A draft for his review will be sent to him this week.
- 2. Harvester and Lake Management boat** – One of the fuel injectors on the diesel engine began leaking and was spraying fuel so had to be shut down. It took Matt Cooper several days to locate the correct injectors and they have been shipped. Hoping to have it back on line this week.
The Sonar unit on the Lake Management boat has stopped functioning. In communication with the company, it may have to be returned for service.
- 3. Milfoil Removal** –
 - A.** July was a much better month for removal with the weather much warmer and not as much rain. The wind however did figure into some missed days. Total for July is 574 Bushels and YTD is 956 Bushels.
 - B.** West Caroga is usually done in August but the patch of Milfoil off Vrooman Road and on the western side of the lake has expanded so we have spent a little over a week clearing a good portion of it and will return to complete when the diesel engine is back in operation.

4. Public Presentations - Updated the ECLPA general membership, July 30th on the Invasive Species progress and investigating whether Herbicides could be beneficial in supplementing the current process. While looking very promising, considerable research is still needed.

5. Educational Seminars –

A. I attended an all day conference presented by the Adirondack Lakes Alliance on protecting our lakes. While I had hoped to learn about ProcellaCOR, a Herbicide for Milfoil, the DEC requested it be removed from discussion until the Lawsuit against Lake George to prevent its use has been resolved. The other presentations on Invasive Species were informative and I was able to get some useful information by networking with other attendees. Road Salt reduction and ineffective Septic systems which cause harm to our lakes were also presented.

B. John Morley, our Lead Diver attended a program on Sat. Aug. 6th in Speculator put on by APIPP pertaining to identifying all types of Invasive species. To date the divers report they have not seen any other Invasive Species, however it appears native vegetation has increased.

6. Tracking Milfoil – Brian Green of APIPP forwarded information on software used to track Milfoil locations and quantities removed over time. Will begin familiarization over the next few weeks.

7. The Sate of East Caroga Lake – Received a final report done by graduate student Lucas LeTarte from the SUCO Oneonta Biological Field Station in Cooperstown for his Masters

Thesis. Currently have a call into Rick Mendetta from the ECLPA to discuss and will also be shared with Town Officials.

Respectfully submitted

Walter Hogan Invasive Species Director