

PROPOSED 2017 MANAGEMENT EFFORTS

Background

Input from national scientists/experts, Project consultants, as well as extensive plant community monitoring data from 2016 was used to develop the treatment plan for 2017.

CAYUGA INLET

Given the extensive reductions observed in hydrilla populations from 2013 – 2016, and a lack of hydrilla growth observed in Cayuga Inlet in 2015 and 2016, the HTF has decided to not chemically treat the Cayuga Inlet in 2017. Racine-Johnson will conduct more intensive monitoring of Cayuga Inlet in 2017 to ensure that no new growth is present in the 2017 treatment season. These measures will help ensure that hydrilla has been fully eradicated, and that re-infestation does not occur. Racine-Johnson will conduct hydrilla plant presence/absence monitoring in the Cayuga Inlet during 2017.

If hydrilla is found during monitoring, the HTF will utilize benthic mats and mechanical methods to address any hydrilla populations and potential growth.

FALL CREEK

Hydrilla populations within Fall Creek have been significantly reduced compared to original levels observed during the August 2013 discovery. To manage remaining hydrilla populations in Fall Creek, Sonar Genesis and Sonar H4C will be utilized in 2017.

Primary treatment will consist of a low-dose sub-surface injection of the herbicide Sonar Genesis (active ingredient: Fluridone) to the main channel of Fall Creek over a 60-90 day period (Figure 1, left). A pump system will be installed at an upstream staging area in Fall Creek. This injection system will meter in the appropriate concentration of the Sonar Genesis product. Additional application of Sonar Genesis (active ingredient: Fluridone) to Fall Creek will be conducted via the pump system equipment to ensure proper treatment coverage and effective concentration of the herbicide. Herbicide applicators and representatives from Solitude Lake Management will be on hand to conduct the treatment.



Figure 1: Fall Creek Treatment Area 2017: Sonar Genesis



Figure 2: Fall Creek Backwater Treatment Area: Sonar H4C

Following the initial application of Sonar Genesis to address hydrilla biomass in Fall Creek, Sonar H4C (pellets) will be applied to backwater/shallow areas of the Fall Creek system (See Figure 2, left). The goal of the Sonar H4C application will be the prevention of hydrilla growth in backwater/cove areas that will not get treated via Sonar Genesis due to the lack of flow into these areas. Turbidity curtains will be installed along the confluence of the golf course lagoon (0.83 ac) and Stewart Park pond (3.36 ac) to control the concentration of herbicide in these locations.

Prior to the treatment period all riparian landowners within the treatment area and ½ mile from the treatment area will be notified. The shoreline of the treatment area will be posted with signs describing the use of the herbicide and any restrictions that are included (See Figure 3, below)

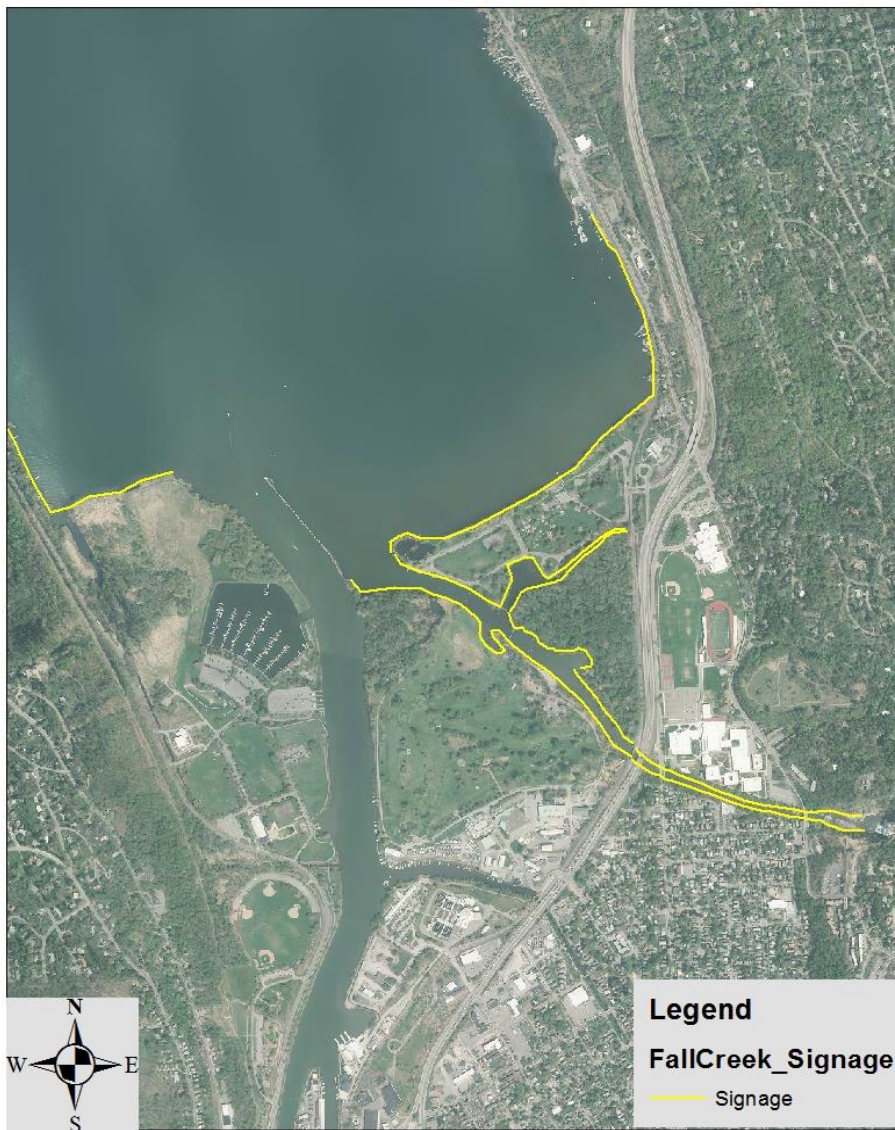


Figure 3: Signage Area for 2017 Treatment Season

SOUTHERN CAYUGA LAKE

In 2016, active herbicide applications were not conducted in the southern end of Cayuga Lake. A 30-acre treatment area in the southeast corner of the lake was treated with Sonar H4C (pellets) from July – September 2015. This experimental application was used to determine the effectiveness of herbicide applications for the treatment of hydrilla in open waters of southern Cayuga Lake.

With the high exchange rates and turnover of water in southern Cayuga Lake, maintaining target herbicide concentrations and retention time, even at the lower dosage rates of 1 to 2ppb, was incredibly challenging. Given the results observed in 2015, the HTF determined that herbicide application to the open waters of southern Cayuga Lake would not be the most effective hydrilla management strategy in 2016 and again will not be utilized in 2017.

Based on these observations, as well as observations related to successful physical removal/benthic barrier installation in the southeast corner of Cayuga Lake in 2013 – 2016, the HTF determined that physical removal

and benthic barrier installation would be the most feasible hydrilla management strategy in southern Cayuga Lake in 2017. Monitoring efforts in the southern end of Cayuga Lake will continue in 2017 with rake-toss sampling techniques. Continued efforts by the HTF and the cooperating partners will ensure that the invasive hydrilla plant will be kept at bay.