

Big Sand Lake Property Owners Association

<b>Management Action:</b>	Conduct trial herbicide spot treatment of select nuisance areas of Eurasian watermilfoil
<b>Timeframe:</b>	Initiate 2022
<b>Facilitator:</b>	BSLPOA Board of Directors
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) management is a quickly evolving field. The BSLPOA has participated in the forefront of field research, specifically when engaged with the WDNR, US Army Corps of Engineers Research and Development Center (USACE), and Onterra as a part of the 2009-2011 large-scale/whole-lake 2,4-D treatments as well as follow-up spot treatments. Volunteers from the BSLPOA collected water samples and funded the local share of professional vegetation monitoring surveys on evaluate the efficacy and selectivity of the chemical control strategy</p> <p>In contrast to the whole-lake treatment(s), some of the herbicide spot treatments failed to meet managers expectations. The unpredictability of spot treatments state-wide has resulted in less favorability of this strategy with WDNR regulators. This is particularly true in areas of increased water exchange via flow or when traditional weak-acid herbicides like 2,4-D have been used. Therefore, the May 2017 <i>Plan</i> did not include a management action for spot treatments.</p> <p>In recent years there has been a change in preferred strategy amongst many lake managers and regulators when it comes to established EWM populations. Instead of chasing the entire EWM population with management, perhaps focusing on the areas that are causing the largest impacts can be more economical and cause less ecological stress. The WDNR supports using the management method that will impart the least stress on the overall ecosystem.</p> <p>New herbicide chemistries and combinations of existing chemistries are proving to be effective under short exposure situations. The BSLPOA would like to consider a trial set of herbicide spot treatments using florpyrauxifen-benzyl (ProcellaCOR™) in 2022 to target dense EWM colonies that exist in high-traffic areas of the lake.</p> <p>The BSLPOA has already started early consultation with WDNR about the control and monitoring strategy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring EWM efficacy by comparing pre- and post EWM mapping surveys. The pretreatment EWM mapping survey would be a focused survey of intended targeted areas and would be used to finalize the treatment strategy. Post treatment EWM mapping survey would occur during the traditional Late-Season timeframe.</li> <li>• A quantitative evaluation monitoring plan will be constructed that is consistent with the <i>Draft Aquatic Plant Treatment Evaluation Protocol (October 1, 2016)</i> – <a href="#">Click Here</a> This will consist of collecting quantitative point-intercept sampling on sites before the treatment (early/mid-June pre) and summer following the treatment (post). The treatment would be postponed until mid-June to allow meaningful pretreatment data to be collected, consistent with many ongoing projects around the state.</li> <li>• Herbicide concentration monitoring would occur.</li> </ul>
<b>Action Steps:</b>	
	See description above.