



FACT SHEET

February 2016

NORTHEAST (NE) HYDRILLA - New York

Section 104 of the River and Harbor Act of 1958
Aquatic Plant Control Research Program (APCRP)

Location

- The monoecious biotype of hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) was recently discovered in the Cayuga Lake Inlet, Ithaca, NY; Erie Canal, Tonawanda, NY; and Pymatuning Lake, PA/OH

Project Description

- The Buffalo District and Engineer Research Development Center are providing technical support to state and local resource managers at all three project locations
- The Corps is leading a demonstration project for control efforts at the Erie Canal site, about 13-miles, while local interests are leading the effort at Cayuga Lake
- Several EPA registered herbicides are available to control hydrilla depending on site specific conditions. Other control measures are either ineffective or not

suitable for use in northern glacial water bodies

- Total cost of the technical support and herbicide application at the Erie Canal is \$500k annually. The demonstration project is scheduled for 5 years and costs will be reevaluated annually
- Assistance provided under the APCRCP is 100% Federal

Importance

- This project will help protect the ecological and economic benefits that are derived from the Erie Canal system. The project will also help reduce the risk of hydrilla spreading to other water bodies in the Great Lakes
- In the absence of hydrilla control measures, the highly invasive plant will crowd out native vegetation, diminish habitat available for fish and wildlife, and impede boating and recreational use of the waterway

Project Phase	Est. Fed. Cost of Phase	Federal Funding through FY15	FY16 Requirement	FY16 Budget	FY17 Requirement	FY17 Budget
Design & Implementation	\$3M	\$1,050K*	\$500K	\$0	\$500K	NA

* \$197.5K Funded through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) Program

Current Status

- Technical support is ongoing at all locations
- The second herbicide application in the Erie Canal was completed in July 2015. Plans for the 2016 herbicide application are being developed
- Public outreach and education regarding the impact of hydrilla and the proposed treatment is ongoing

Project Sponsor/Customer

- New York State Department of Conservation and New York State Canal Corporation

- Various resource agencies in Ohio and Pennsylvania

Congressional Interests

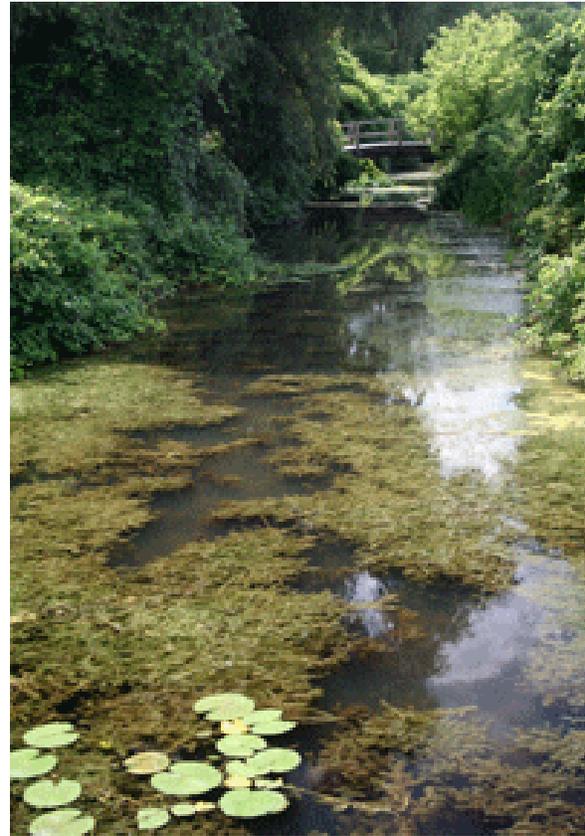
- Representative Tom Reed R-NY-23
- Representative Brian Higgins D-NY-26
- Senator Charles Schumer D-NY
- Senator Kirsten Gillibrand D-NY
- Representative David Joyce R-OH
- Representative Mike Kelly R-PA

Issues

- Eradication of invasive species is challenging especially if the species becomes established
- The Aquatic Plant Control Research Program hasn't been in the President's Budget since 2011



Hydrilla infestation at the Erie Canal, photo courtesy of Mike Netherland



Hydrilla infestation at Cayuga Lake Inlet, photo courtesy of Robert Johnson

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