

Cayuga Lake Watershed Hydrilla Project



*Croton Hydrilla
Public/Stakeholder Meeting
December 1, 2015*

*James A. Balyszak
Program Manager
Hydrilla Task Force of the
Cayuga Lake Watershed*

Cayuga Lake Watershed Hydrilla Project



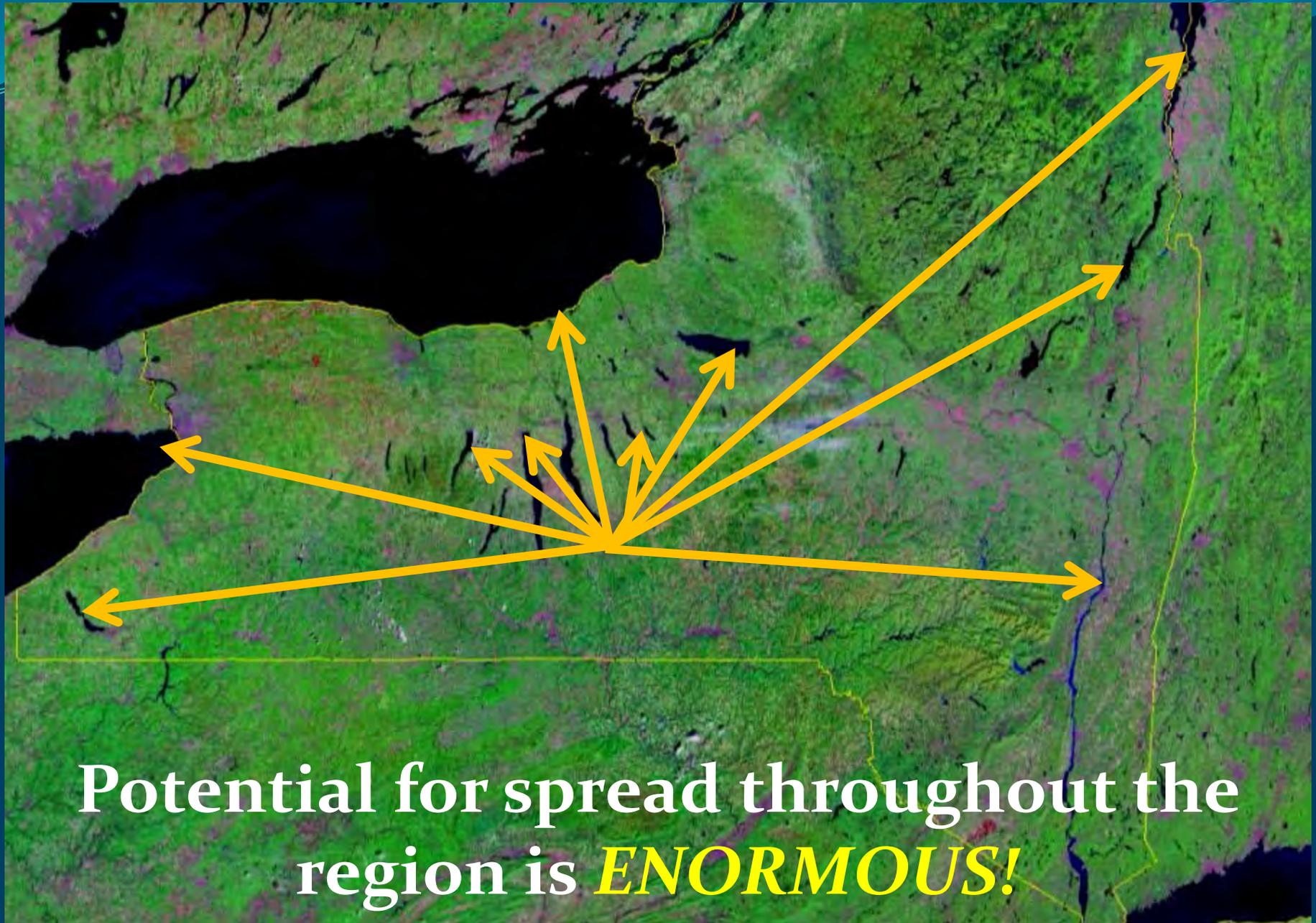
Located in Ithaca, NY

Cayuga Lake Watershed Hydrilla Project



Photo credit: Robert L. Johnson

Hydrilla discovered in Cayuga Inlet in August of 2011



Potential for spread throughout the region is **ENORMOUS!**

CLW Hydrilla Project: 3 Major Components



1. Extensive Plant Community & Hydrilla Tuber Sampling : Delineate infestation, assess hydrilla population levels, determine timing of treatments, and monitor native plant community response.

Monitoring & Sampling Sites

2015 Oregon Inland Tule Monitoring
Ruler population (thousands)

2015 Fall Creek Tule Monitoring
mas of core samples per season



Monitoring & Sampling

Plant Community Monitoring in Cayuga Inlet, Fall Creek, and Southern Cayuga Lake (2,440 locations sampled in 2015)



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1. Extensive Plant Community & Hydrilla Tuber Sampling : Delineate infestation, assess hydrilla population levels, determine timing of treatments, and monitor native plant community response.



2. Herbicide Treatments to Reduce Hydrilla Populations (biomass and tubers): Cayuga Inlet, Fall Creek, and SE corner of Cayuga Lake. Treatments utilize contact (endothall) and low-dose (fluridone) herbicides.



Photo: Andrew Casler (Ithaca Journal)

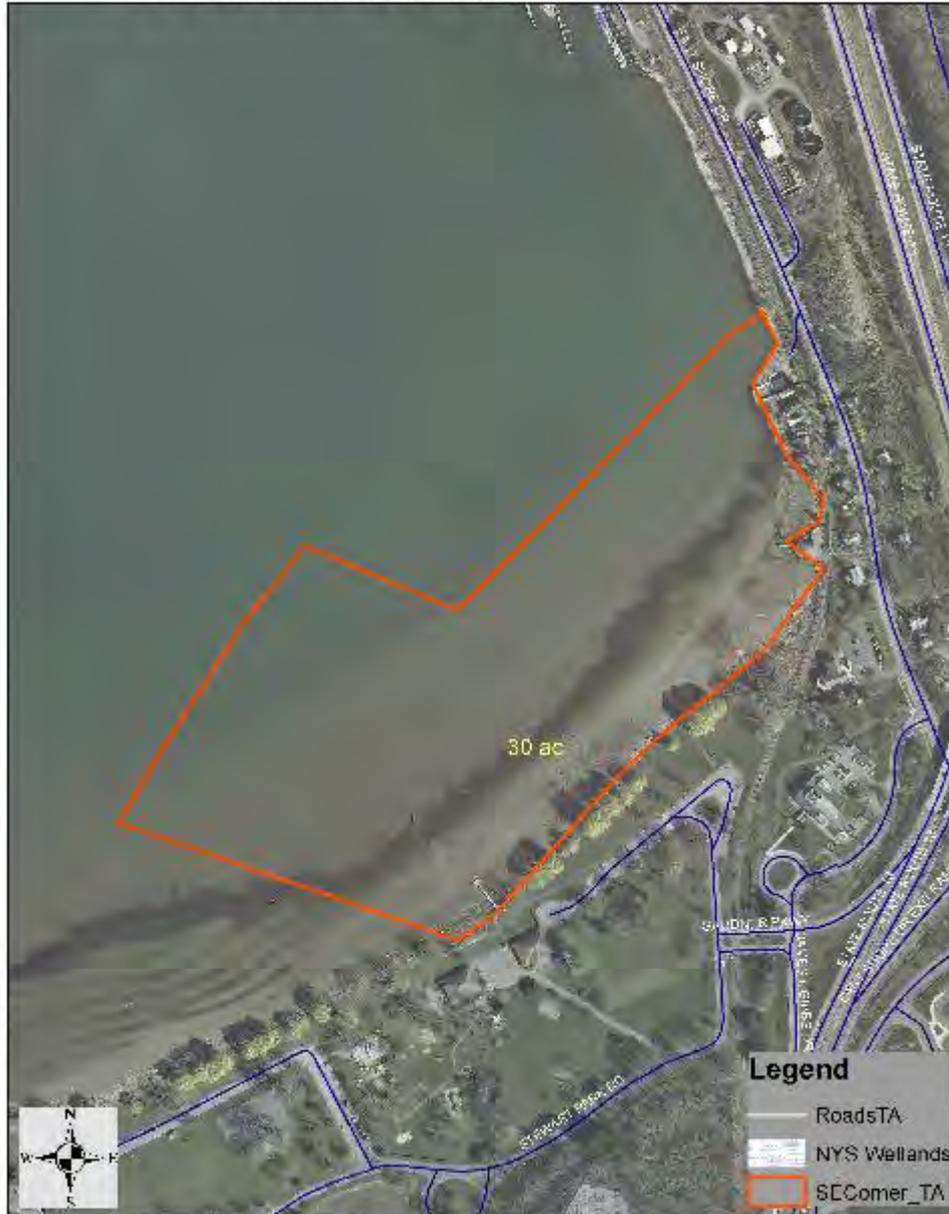
Herbicide application in Cayuga Inlet (2011 – 2015), Fall Creek (2013 – 2015), and the SE corner of Cayuga Lake (2015)

Herbicide Treatments

2015 Cayuga Inlet - En



2015 Southeast Corner Cayuga Lake Treatment Area

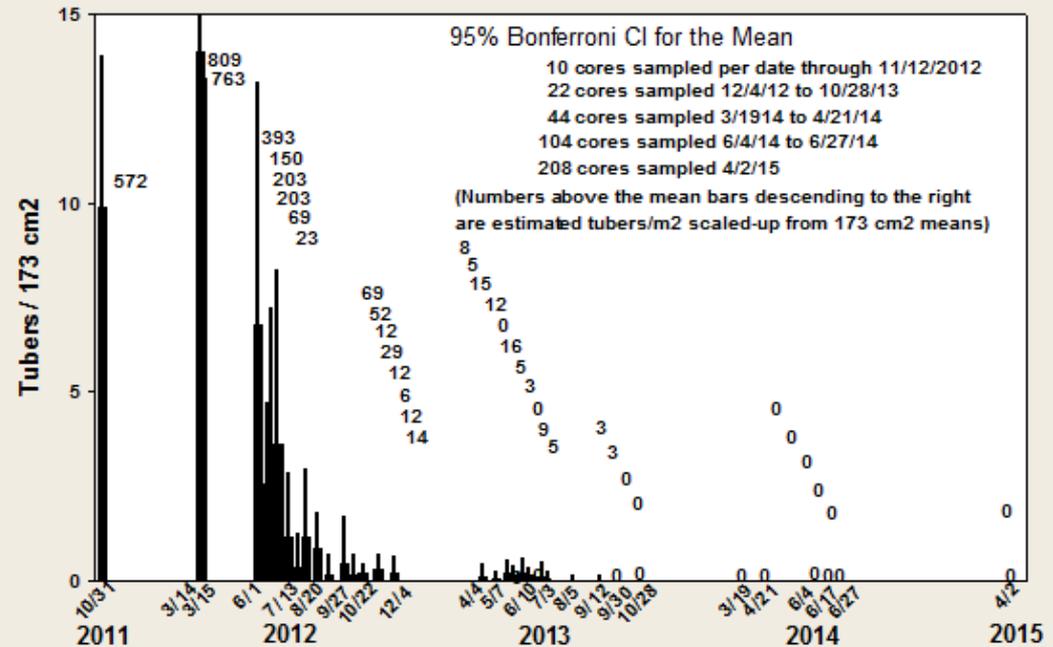


Injection Treatment Area



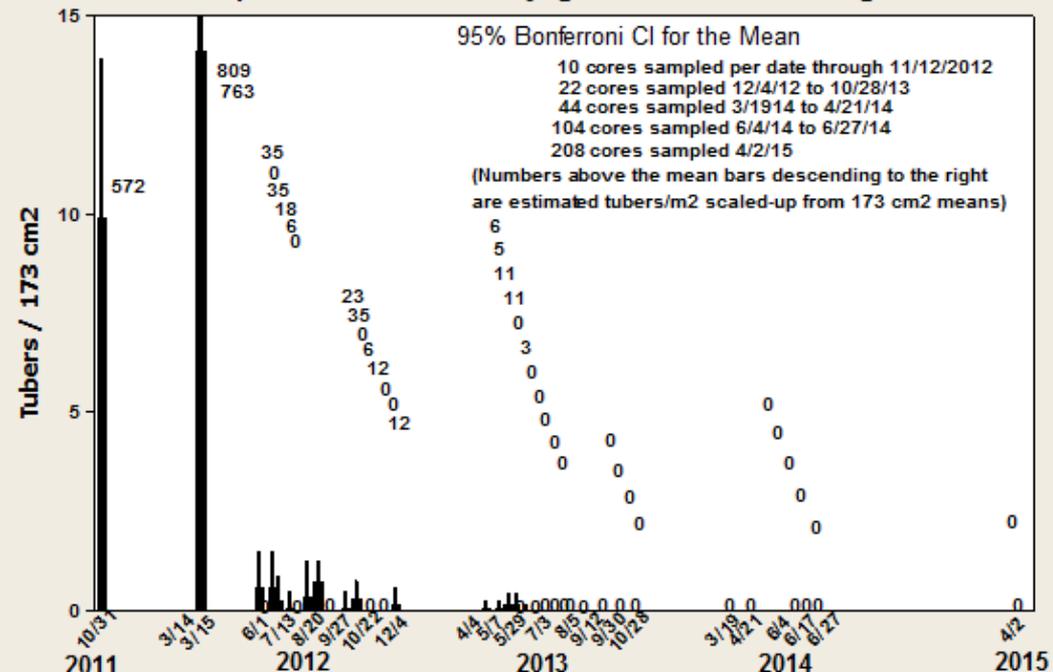
- Results of Hydrilla Tuber Density Measurements from 2011 – early 2015

Sprouted + Unsprouted Tubers at Cayuga Inlet S of Rt 79 Bridge



- Eradication progress continues in Cayuga Inlet with great results!

Unsprouted Tubers at Cayuga Inlet S of Rt 79 Bridge



Other Methods of Treatment

- Suction Harvesting by divers in fall of 2011 [*Do not Use*]
- Excavation of Linderman Creek [*Worked well, Followed up with herbicides*]
- Hand removal to prevent vegetation movement [*Worked well*]
- Hand removal with Benthic barriers in Lake in 2013 [*Worked very well*]
- Benthic barriers on hydrilla patches in the Lake late summer 2014 [*Worked very well*]



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2. Herbicide Treatments to Reduce Hydrilla Populations (biomass and tubers): Cayuga Inlet, Fall Creek, and SE corner of Cayuga Lake. Treatments utilize contact (Aquathol-K) and systemic (Sonar®) herbicides.



3. Public Education & Outreach: Conducted by HTF Outreach Committee. Collaboration with local, regional, and statewide agencies and organizations.

How the Community Can Help!

- Clean, Drain, and Dry your boat, trailer, and equipment
- Dispose of weeds and debris properly
- Volunteer for Education & Outreach efforts
- Become a Hydrilla Hunter!



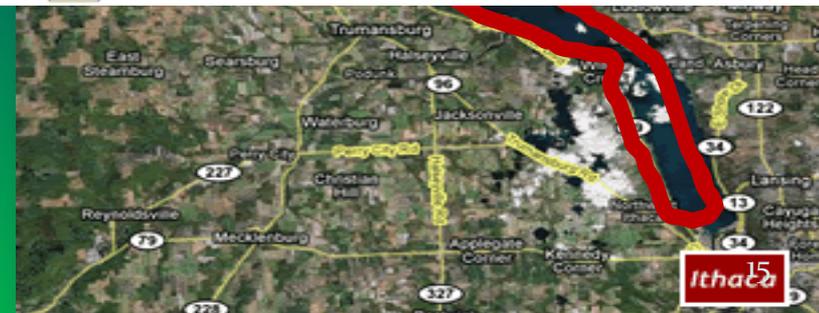
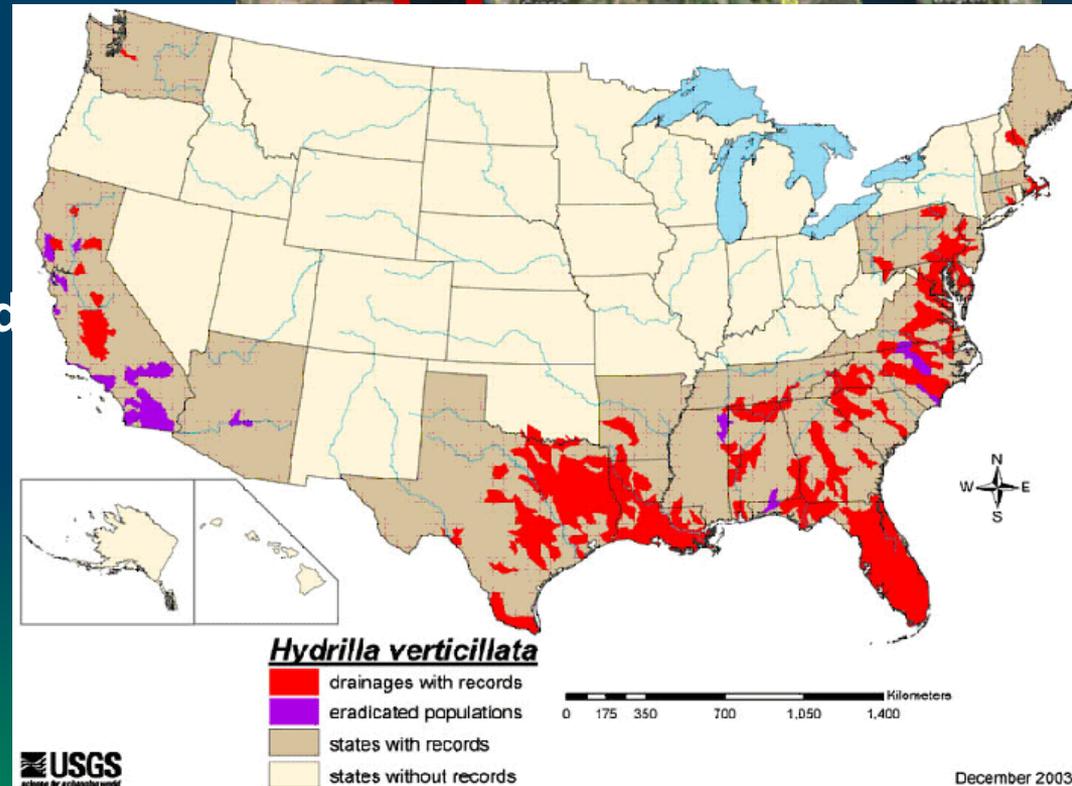
The Long-Term Impacts of Hydrilla

- States like Florida spend tens of millions of dollars **ANNUALLY** to manage hydrilla!
- If hydrilla is allowed to spread uncontrolled to Cayuga Lake, the Finger Lakes & Great Lakes?

Costs to New York State

=

10's Millions of Dollars per year
in perpetuity

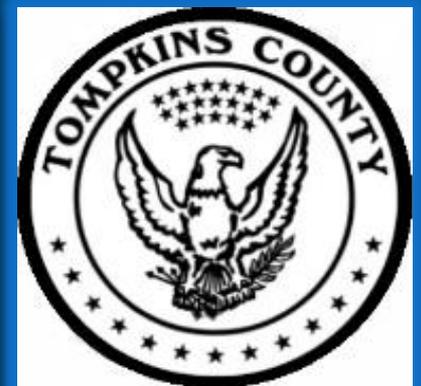


Long-Term Costs of Doing Nothing



Central Florida Lake filled with Hydrilla
Photo by Jeff Schardt,
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Thank You



Questions?

