

**2012 Schroon Lake Eurasian Milfoil Control Program Annual Report
Schroon Lake (Essex County), New York
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prepared by

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I. Background Information (1995-2006):

Eurasian water milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), hereafter referred to as milfoil or EWM, was first discovered by Adirondack Ecologists, LLC (*AE*) in Schroon Lake during the summer of 1995. This initial sighting took place in the navigation canal of the Schroon Lake Marina, formerly known as the Maypine Marine, and it precipitated the eventual development of a milfoil management program for the lake. This management program was developed by *AE*, in conjunction with the Schroon Lake Association, Inc. (*SLA*), and the Towns of Chester, Horicon, and Schroon.

The focus of the program has remained the same through the years – the control of milfoil in order to foster the environmental, aesthetic, and recreational values of the lake. While the application of the program has evolved as necessary and warranted, it still contains two basic parts - a surveillance (monitoring) component and an eradication (control) component.

The objective of the monitoring component is to find milfoil and any other invasive species wherever they might exist in the lake. In order to accomplish this objective, *AE* began performing annual inspections of the near-shore littoral zone of Schroon Lake. In the early years of the program, this monitoring consisted of reconnaissance inspections of selected areas of the lake believed to be at high risk for milfoil infestation (i.e., boat launch sites, popular fishing spots, areas adjacent to known infestations, etc.). In 2000, funding became available to do boat surveys of the entire perimeter of the lake.

During this survey process, the littoral zone is traveled in a zigzag fashion and is inspected out to a water depth of roughly 8 feet (water transparency-permitting). This survey method is an excellent way of locating “beds” of mature milfoil plants, and it sometimes can even be successfully used to help identify scattered or individual plants. Normally, however, more extensive and expensive survey techniques, such as SCUBA surveys, are warranted when searching for small-scale, sparsely-established infestations.

As of the end of 2006, the surveillance program had been responsible for the identification and documentation of one curly-leaf pondweed (*Potamogeton crispis*) infestation and twenty-seven milfoil infestations in the lake. The majority of these infestations were located in the northern basin, and the concentration of the northern milfoil sites were situated either adjacent to the eastern side of Clark Island or along the eastern shoreline of the lake itself. One significant infestation was also discovered in the southern basin by *AE* during the 2002 reconnaissance survey. This site is situated in the small bay just northwest of the state boat launch site at the far southern end of the lake.

The milfoil infestations have historically ranged in size from one or two plants to relatively large, well-established beds consisting of hundreds (sometimes thousands) of plants. In some circumstances, the patches were obviously sites that had only recently been colonized and they were comprised primarily of low-growing, immature milfoil plants. In other cases, the beds were extensive, well-established and contained many hundreds of mature plants. These more

advanced colonies have obviously served as vector points for the spread of milfoil to adjacent or downwind (or down-current) areas in the lake for quite some time. Judging from the distribution and extent of the various infestations, milfoil has certainly been present in Schroon Lake since at least the 1980's (and probably earlier than that), and unfortunately since its existence went undetected for as long as it did, this invasive species has had the opportunity to colonize at multiple sites around the lake.

A relatively small-scale curly-leaf pondweed (hereafter referred to as CLP) infestation was discovered in Schroon Lake by *AE* in June of 2003 in the navigation channel of the marina, and it has been relatively easy to control at this location as long as control is initiated early in the summer each year prior to turion detachment. Curly-leaf pondweed is a submersed species that spreads by both turion production and fragmentation.

The objective of the control component of the program is simple: to eliminate in as timely a manner as possible any invasive, aquatic plants that are discovered. This objective has been accomplished via hand harvesting, and when feasible or needed, the judicious use of benthic barriers. Hand harvesting has normally commenced by mid- to late-June and follow-up scouting often continues through until late September or early October. Several divers normally work together at larger infestation sites, and a person is stationed from a pontoon boat to watch over the diver(s) and to collect any milfoil fragments that might be created as a result of the harvesting activity. The worksite is always cordoned off by dive flags/buoys and at some sites a canoe or kayak is even utilized to assist with the operation.

One of the prime considerations of hand harvesting milfoil is the amount of bottom detritus or silt that is stirred up during the harvesting process. The more flocculent the lake sediment is or the more clay that is present in the sediment, the more material that is distributed into the water column during harvesting. This material, once disturbed, minimizes visibility and occasionally eliminates it completely for a certain period of time, thus requiring that divers move to an adjacent site or a completely different infestation until the visibility clears up.

Sites situated along the eastern side of Clark Island are a perfect example of this type of situation. The extensive amount of clay present in the bottom sediment of the lake in this area and in the soil of the island itself routinely confound the efforts of a diver to stay in any one particular area for more than a few minutes at a time. After a dozen or so plants have been harvested, the water column becomes so "milky" that visibility is sometimes restricted to less than a foot. This situation requires that multiple trips be made to the same site in order to harvest plants present.

In most circumstances (when funding has been available and approval has been given), *AE* has expeditiously initiated control at sites of infestation during the same year that they have been

discovered. Unfortunately, sites that have been discovered too late in the season to commence control in or areas of infestation that control could not be implemented due to funding constraints, had to be left until such a time as management of the site could proceed. For example, Sites #11-13 were discovered and reported during the summer of 2002, but approval and funding to control these infestations were not forthcoming until 2004. This two-year delay afforded the milfoil an opportunity to spread significantly in this area, thus making control that much more difficult.

Funding for milfoil site identification and control on Schroon Lake has historically been low, but despite this fact, *AE* has actively tried to apply the most cost-effective and environmentally-sensitive strategies available for the management of milfoil in Schroon Lake. In order to help with surveillance, a volunteer milfoil watch consisting of approximately a dozen *SLA* members was established and trained by *AE* a few years after milfoil was first discovered in 1995, but the activity level of that group decreased over time.

In early 2006, *AE* prepared a nuisance aquatic vegetation management plan for the lake and this plan was incorporated into a grant application assembled by Eric Cordis of the Word of Life Institute for the state's new Aquatic Invasive Species Eradication Grant Program. A three-year grant was awarded to the Town of Schroon for the implementation of this plan, and work under the auspices of this grant was awarded to and initiated by *AE* in June of 2006.

II. Control Activity Updates:

2007

Monitoring efforts in 2007 started in late May and continued through to mid-October. Determination on the part of *AE*, good water clarity, and relatively low water levels (particularly in the late summer and early fall) were responsible for the discovery of several new areas of infestation. Milfoil was documented for the first time at the following locations: (1) a deep water site in the small embayment on the western side of Clark Island; (2) a site situated at the far northern end of the lake west of the mouth of Lockwood Bay; (3) a scattered patch of plants located 50 to 75 yards off of the eastern shore just south of Steep Hill Bay; (4) a site situated just off the northern tip of Clark Island; (5) a patch in deeper water in the bay near the Word of Life main boat launch ramp; (6) a scattered infestation in the harbor of the Adirondack Lodges; (7) a dozen and a half plants situated around the Town of Schroon boat launch site; and (8) a small patch located on the western side of Brill Island in the south basin, just opposite the Son Rise camp.

The 2007 control season was deemed to be very successful. Harvesting commenced on June 9 near Terra Alta and the control season officially ended on October 4 at the sites off of Clark Island. A decrease in the overall density of infestations was noted at several sites, particularly in Sites # 11-13 and #18-20.

Milfoil beds in the vicinity of Terra Alta (Sites #5a. and #5b.) and in the bay just south of Talachito Point (Sites #22-24) required a considerable amount of time and effort throughout the season in order to suppress a resurgence of growth. The warm water temperatures combined with the relatively shallow water depth of the lake resulted in favorable growth conditions for milfoil. A few of the sites (e.g., Site #8) even required late season harvesting to control re-growth.

Two of the sites discovered in 2007 possessed extremely high risk potential for the wide spread dispersal of milfoil. One of these areas was the Town of Schroon boat launch site. On July 3, *AE* discovered roughly a dozen and a half milfoil plants in and around the boat launch site and immediately removed them. A second location, the harbor of the Adirondack Lodges, was discovered by *ESSLA* scouts. On September 27, *AE* responded to manage this infestation and 118 milfoil plants were extracted. Both of these sites could have served as potential vector points for the dissemination of milfoil throughout the entire lake via boating traffic.

A total of approximately 75 mesh bags of milfoil were harvested at 35 sites around the lake, and these plants were removed from the lake and composted (Note: It is worth mentioning that the 2006 program resulted in roughly 111 mesh bags being removed from 27 sites around the lake). All of the known sites received very thorough harvesting and follow-up monitoring. *AE* staff and its subcontracted dive team made at least two (and normally three or more) separate trips to each area of infestation containing established beds, in order to remove any plants that might have been missed during the first harvest or to manage re-growth of plants after the initial harvest.

2008

Harvesting commenced on June 23 and control activities ceased on October 2. A total of 30 partial and total days were spent by *AE* during the 2008 control season. Two new areas of infestation were discovered by *AE*: an area in about 10+ feet of water northeast of Clark Island (*Site #21a*); another area located inside Lockwood Bay (*Site #1a*).

In addition, *AE* worked with a group of trained volunteers (“scouts”) from the *SLA* and the *ESSLA* and these volunteers served as layperson milfoil watchers on the lake. This group worked in coordination with and under the general guidance of *AE* on selected aspects of milfoil reconnaissance, with the objective being a more complete coverage of the near-shore littoral zone of Schroon Lake.

A few small areas of infestation, generally ranging in size from one to less than a dozen plants at each location, were discovered in 2008 by this group and were reported. Two sites were located in the general vicinity of the Blue Sky Estates mooring docks, one site was situated just north of Grove Point, and a report of plants near the town launch site was logged.

AE divers promptly responded to those reports that came in during the control season. Reports of milfoil that were received in October after control operations were logged for follow-up during the next season.

Roughly sixty-two mesh bags of milfoil (measuring 24” wide by 36” long) were harvested from 40 sites (or sub-sites) in 2008. Even though more sites possessing milfoil have been documented over the past several years the annual harvesting total for this past year’s control season decreased by a total of 49 bags from 2006. This represents roughly a 44% reduction in biomass harvested out of Schroon Lake in just the past two years, and clearly serves as a testimony to the overall success of the harvesting program.

In addition to harvesting, *AE* also installed benthic barriers on the lake bottom to help control the dense core of infestation present at *Site #21a*. Four barrier panels (each measuring 10 feet wide x 10 feet long) were placed in this area in July and were removed in September. A total of 400 square feet of milfoil was managed via this physical control technique.

2009

Control activities in 2009 began on June 11 and ended on September 15. Roughly 28 days were logged in 2009 and approximately twenty-seven mesh bags were harvested from 42 sites (or sub-sites) around the lake.

The majority of the sites continue to look significantly better (i.e., less number of plants or a decrease in plant density) each subsequent year of control. However, the size of the plot

within each site that *AE* finds it necessary to work or provide monitoring in generally increases each year as the company diligently attempts to locate and remove scattered milfoil plants located in outlying areas.

The southern-most sites (#11-13) possess the highest amount of biomass per unit area, but this is due primarily to the fact that this particular infestation was allowed to grow unchecked for several years before control was effectuated. Over time and with ongoing vigilance, this site can be expected to continue to improve. The littoral zone in the area of Terra Alta is another location that is improving, but it has historically required a lot of attention by *AE* throughout the summer.

One new area of infestation was discovered on August 26 by *AE* several hundred feet offshore of the Schroon Lake public beach. *AE* returned to this site on August 27 and hand harvested a total of 442 milfoil plants. The infestation was situated in roughly 7 to 8 feet of water and was fairly compact in nature. It was fortunate that this site was discovered when it was as fragments from it could have very easily infested the swimming area itself over time.

2010

Roughly twenty days were logged during the 2010 control season with approximately 32 bags of milfoil (EWM) and $\frac{2}{3}$ of a bag of curly-leaf pondweed (CLP) being removed from the lake.

A second infestation of CLP was discovered by *AE* on August 16 near the mouth of the Landings canal and all of the invasive plants observed in that area were harvested. This infestation was relatively new and its timely discovery prevented a potentially significant problem in this general area. Additional work will be required in subsequent years to keep it under control and to prevent it from spreading. The CLP infestation inside the Schroon Lake Marina has been improving annually with routine harvesting efforts.

The good news is that some EWM sites possessed a fewer number of plants in 2010, obviously a result of ongoing harvesting activities. *AE* expanded its operations in the northern basin around sites #8, 10, 14, 15 and 25 and in the southern basin around sites #11-13 in order to identify and remove any outlying plants. In addition, volunteers from the scout program identified and reported a small pocket of milfoil growing off the southern tip of Brill Island (further north than where *AE* has historically worked) and these plants were harvested by *AE*.

Acting on intuition, *AE* had some of its divers perform SCUBA surveys in deeper water adjacent to Site #8 and additional EWM plants were found there and harvested. More follow-up

work in this region will be required in 2011 and it is recommended that a more involved survey of the entire bay be performed during the coming field season.

2011

The 2011 field season was busy with a total of 26 hand harvesting days logged throughout the course of the summer and early fall. Harvesting activities commenced on June 20 and ended on September 30, and roughly 24.5 mesh bags of milfoil were collected during the 2011 season from established sites, as opposed to 32 bags in 2010 (representing a 23.4% decrease overall). For the most part, harvesting was performed in water deeper than 7 feet, with some sites being as deep as 10 feet.

An additional six days were spent performing reconnaissance inspections around the shoreline of the lake looking for new areas of infestation. Inspection and harvesting efforts were hampered on several occasions by reduced lake water clarity in August and September. A planktonic algae bloom was observed in the lake during the week of August 22 and then for several weeks after tropical storm Irene hit in late August, Schroon Lake water clarity was significantly diminished and the lake water level was elevated. Along with surface surveys, in-lake surveys were also performed by *AE* via SCUBA near the delta area of Horseshoe Pond Outlet and in Meadow Cove.

In addition to harvesting those areas known to exist by the end of the 2010 control season, *AE* also completed harvesting in three other locations. Two of the locations were spots called in by scouts (one area in Meadow Cove and one north of Grove Point) and the other was an area discovered by *AE* during a targeted SCUBA survey of the deeper (8- to 11-foot) regions of the bay in front of Decesare's Restaurant and Kish Duna. Harvesting in these three locations yielded a total take of approximately 4,860 additional plants.

The control of CLP has proven to be very successful. No CLP plants were observed in Site 8 in 2011 and only one-third of a bag of plants were removed from the navigation canal of the Schroon Lake Marina. It appears that the early discovery and control of CLP by *AE* has been tremendously successful in preventing this invasive species from spreading in the known areas of infestation.

Please refer to *Table 1* for a general description of the control activities at each site. *Table 2* and *Figure 1* both present a comparison of annual harvesting totals for the past six years and clearly show the progress made. In addition, a map (*Invasive Species Survey: Schroon Lake 2011*) has been included in this report which provides a pictorial illustration of the EWM and CLP sites currently identified.

2012

The 2012 harvesting season was very successful and it was the first year that two different harvesting crews (*AE* and Aquatic Invasives Management - *AIM*) worked together to help combat invasive species on Schroon Lake. *AE* concentrated its efforts in Essex County (with the exception of Meadow Cove, which is situated on the eastern shore of the lake) while *AIM* worked primarily in Warren County. *AIM* also worked in Meadow Cove and a few other sites in the north basin (Essex County) at the request and under the supervision of *AE*.

Many of the historically-managed sites looked quite good throughout the 2012 control season, but a few sites were a real challenge to suppress given the relatively low water levels and high water temperatures that were present from early June until the end of the summer. These factors contributed to aggressive milfoil (and native plant) growth in certain areas. Terra Alta and the area along the eastern side of Clark Island – especially the site situated adjacent to the Word of Life (WOL) docks - were two such areas.

AE commenced harvesting operations on Schroon Lake in the Schroon Lake Marina on May 15 and *AIM* started work in the cove adjacent to the WOL Ranch on June 18. *AE* spent a total of twenty-eight partial days on the lake in 2012 and harvested roughly 19.83 bags of EWM (plus an additional 333 individual plants) and 120 CLP plants at those already-established management sites in the lake. In addition, *AE* worked at three relatively small new sites (all adjacent to Clark Island) and one larger new site (adjacent to Kish Duna) that were discovered through various recon efforts in 2011 and 2012 and picked an additional 7.93 bags of EWM. The last partial harvesting day logged in 2012 was on October 15.

The Town of Schroon funded all work performed by *AE* (exclusive of that work performed around the periphery of Clark Island, which was funded by the *SLA*). In addition, the *SLA* underwrote the expense of the “emergency” (quick response) funding of milfoil control work at the newly discovered site at Kish Duna. The Towns of Chester and Horicon and the East Shore Schroon Lake Association funded the work performed by *AIM*.

The daily, summarized field notes and results of the 2012 season's control activities are included in the appendix section of this report, as are *Tables 1* and *2*. *Table 1* is a summarized listing of the dates and harvest takes from each of the north basin sites worked in by *AE* and *Table 2* is a listing of the GPS coordinates of each of those sites. *AIM* prepared its own reports on work performed on Schroon Lake and these reports can be accessed on their web site or by contacting the company or the project sponsors directly.

In addition to the usual harvesting and recon tasks, *AE* also performed a post-harvesting assessment of *AIM*'s control operations in Meadow Cove (per the outlined *APA* permit requirements). *AE* found *AIM* to be a reasonably good harvesting business to interface with and was pleased with the level of coordination and communication observed. In addition, it was felt

that the efficiency and quality of the work performed by AIM was good and no evidence of undue damage to non-target aquatic vegetation was observed.

AE also requested that *AIM* provide assistance with harvesting services in a few select areas in the north basin, in addition to Meadow Cove. These areas included a new site discovered by *AE* in deeper water near the WOL mainland launch, the region south of Clark Island (identified during the Lycott Survey in 2011), and the navigation channel east of Clark Island (a location where busy boating activity has somewhat inhibited past attempts at recon and harvesting). All of these locations were previously unharvested sites, so it was assumed that more EWM would be collected there than would normally be harvested at existing control sites.

The approximate total harvest takes by *AIM* per control site were as follows: WOL Ranch Cove – 8.5 bags of EWM, plus 1,670 EWM plants; Meadow Cove – 1,911 EWM plants and roughly 100 CLP plants; site off of the WOL mainland launch – 4 bags of EWM; southwest of Clark Island – 320 EWM plants; southern tip of Clark Island – 60 EWM plants; “new” site south of Clark Island – 8 bags of EWM, plus 450 EWM plants; and the eastern side of Clark Island – 6 bags of EWM, plus 175 EWM plants. *AIM* spent roughly thirteen days on the lake harvesting (2 days in June, 4 days in July, 4 days in August and 3 days in September).

One of the positive outcomes of *AIM*'s involvement in 2012 was the confirmation that Schroon Lake was indeed essentially in maintenance-mode in terms of milfoil control. In their Week One report, the company was quoted as writing “We were pleased and also relieved to find much less invasive growth than expected”. They went on to say in their Week Two report that “The majority of the plants found in the WOL shoreline in the south were newly established small single stem plants.” In addition, two other third party observers trained and experienced in the field of aquatic ecology toured Schroon Lake in 2012 and they both agreed that prudent and cost-effective control measures employed by *AE* soon after discovering milfoil had essentially resulted in a maintenance-mode control situation on the lake.

In 2013, it will be important to continue an aggressive recon and harvesting campaign to manage the milfoil in Schroon Lake. Most sites will only require maintenance-mode attention, but a few relatively “new” sites (e.g., Meadow Cove, area south of Clark island and the site adjacent to Kish Duna) will require more effort and time than most other sites. In addition to harvesting costs, funding should be made available for more intensive SCUBA recon and for pre- and post-monitoring of control sites. It is also advised that directed water sampling (i.e., phosphorus and bacteriological analysis) occur at those locations where it was deemed that aquatic plant growth seemed somewhat elevated relative to other comparable sites that were not necessarily in proximity to wastewater discharges. These sites include: Terra Alta; the cove near the WOL Ranch and the eastern side of Clark Island.

Adirondack Ecologists, LLC
Schroon Lake Invasive Species Control Update
(mid-June to mid-July 2012):

Note: The following narrative outlines the results of control activities initiated in those areas under contract with the Town of Schroon. A significant amount of additional control activities in several other sites have occurred under contract/agreement with other entities, however, the results of those operations do not appear in this update.

Terra Alta;

June 16 – worked at site #5a. and picked 1.50 bags of EWM.

June 20 – worked at site # 5a. and picked 0.33 bags of EWM. Also worked at site # 5b. and picked 0.50 bag of EWM. Plants were mostly scattered, but there were three small patches of more dense infestation that were cleared. Further investigation (water testing) into this site is planned as the amount of plant growth (native and invasive) seems more prolific than would be expected given the fact that this location has received extensive attention in the past.

Horseshoe Pond Outlet Delta;

July 1 – worked at site #8 (deeper section) and picked 3.00 bags of EWM. This location had quite a few plants in it, but much less than the previous year (since this specific location was discovered and managed for the first time in 2011). The majority of the plants harvested were “first-year regrowth” (i.e., one-stem) plants and less than a dozen “mature” (i.e.,

multiple stemmed) plants were observed and picked.

July 6 - worked at site # 8 (shallower section) and picked 0.2 bag of EWM and roughly 5 dozen CLP plants. This site looked much better than in year's past with the majority of the EWM observed being comprised of scattered one-stem plants.

Talachito Point Bay;

July 10 - worked in the bay just south of Talachito Point (sites #22-24) and picked 45 EWM plants. This bay looked the best it had ever looked with only minimal EWM infestation (i.e., scattered plants) present.

Adirondack Ecologists, LLC
Schroon Lake Invasive Species Control Update
(mid-July to August 2012):

Note: The following narrative outlines the results of control activities initiated in those areas under contract with the Town of Schroon. A significant amount of additional control activities in several other sites have occurred under contract/agreement with other entities, however, the results of those operations do not appear in this update.

Site #10 (near sandy point);

August 2 – worked at site #10 and picked 0.75 bag of EWM. The water level was low and this afforded AE a good opportunity to expand recon operations out further into the lake which resulted in some additional harvesting activities.

Site #37 (near town beach);

August 3 – worked at site #37 and picked 0.5 bag of EWM. For the most part, only single-stem plants were observed and removed. Very few mature plants were present.

Site #30 (near town boat launch site);

August 3 – surveyed this area from boat and did not observe any EWM.

Site #33 (near WOL mainland launch);

August 3 – performed a recon of this area and did not see any plants present in this site. However, several hundred feet to the south of this location a small bed of concentrated EWM was discovered further out into the

bay. The site was marked by AE and AIM was informed of this find since they still had some time left on their contract and it has since been harvested.

Site #25 (near sandy peninsula);

August 3 – worked at site #25 and expanded recon out deeper (further) into the lake. Found some additional plants out deeper and picked them. A total of 128 EWM plants were harvested from this general area.

Sites #21 & 21a. (eastern shore);

August 22 – performed recon at these locations and marked plants for later removal.

August 28 - worked at both sites and picked roughly 0.50 bag of EWM. This location looked quite good with only scattered plants present.

Sites #5a. & 5b. (Terra Alta);

August 28 - went back and hit both sites again. Both sites had a fair amount of regrowth and a total of 1 bag of EWM was harvested.

Adirondack Ecologists, LLC
Schroon Lake Invasive Species Control Update
(September 2012):

Note: The following narrative outlines the results of control activities initiated in those areas under contract with the Town of Schroon. A significant amount of additional control activities in several other sites have occurred under contract/agreement with other entities, however, the results of those operations do not appear in this update.

Site #6 (Terra Alta);

September 7 – performed a recon in the swimming area of Terra Alta and found a dense, but relatively small bed of EWM within what is normally a cordoned-off beach. Picked 2.0 bags of EWM.

September 10 – went back and cleared this site, picking an additional 0.66 bag of EWM. The much larger area that is normally the target of control looked excellent with less than a dozen EWM plants present. These were also removed.

Sites #5a. & 5b. (Terra Alta);

September 10 - went back for a third time and hit both sites again and picked roughly 0.33 bag of EWM.

September 26 - hit this area for a fourth time and harvested 0.20 bag of EWM. No plants were observed after this final clearing.

Sites #26 & 27 (Steep Bay);

September 11 - worked at both sites and picked 18 EWM plants. This location looked quite good with very few scattered plants present.

Site #31 (just south of Steep Bay);

September 11 - performed a recon of this entire area and found and harvested a total of 72 EWM plants, most of which were situated in deeper water.

Vicinity of Site #3 (Grove Point);

September 12 - followed up on a report of potential EWM plants situated within the confines of a near-shore rock and wood cribbing area located off of the point. This was an area well inside of the boating hazard markers and very difficult to access via motorized craft. Found and harvested roughly two-thirds of a bag of EWM.

Site #30 (near town boat launch site);

September 17 – acted upon a report of some EWM in very shallow water north of the town boat docks/launch site and found and harvested roughly 2 dozen 12"-18" plants in less than 3 feet of water. These plants were situated in water too shallow to have been seen from a pontoon boat during routine recon.

Site #1, 1a. & 2 (Lockwood Bay area);

September 20 - worked in Sites 1 and 1a. and harvested roughly 0.5 bag of EWM. No plants were observed at Site #2.

Adirondack Ecologists, LLC
Schroon Lake Invasive Species Control Update
(May to mid-July 2012):

Note: The following narrative outlines the results of control activities initiated in those areas under contract with the Schroon Lake Association. In addition, Schroon Lake Marina harvesting is also included. A significant amount of additional control activities in several other sites have occurred under contract/agreement with other entities, however, the results of those operations do not appear in this update.

Clark Island;

June 11 – worked at site #14 and picked 0.50 bag of EWM. Also worked at site #17 and picked 0.50 bag of EWM. Site #14 looked very good with only a half dozen or so mature plants present (which were situated amongst several dozen scattered single-stem plants). Site #17 also looked fairly good, but there was a concentration of plants in the immediate area of a downed tree which were somewhat difficult to get at to remove, but they were successfully harvested.

June 12 – worked at site #15 and picked 0.20 bag of EWM. Also worked at site #17 and picked 0.25 bag of EWM. Area received its initial clearing.

June 16 - worked at a site near the northeastern tip of the island (now to be

denoted as site #17a.). Only scattered plants present. Picked roughly 0.10 bag of EWM.

Marina;

- a total of 1.8 bags of EWM and 36 CLP plants were removed from the canal during the following dates: 5/15; 6/7; 6/12; 6/30 and 7/13.

New sites along Clark Island;

May 31 - worked on the southern tip of the island (near the lighthouse). There was a very dense, but relatively small infestation of mostly mature EWM plants discovered by the Lycott swim-over survey in 2011 and then confirmed by the scout program in May. A total of 2.0 bags were harvested. This particular site was literally situated within 8 feet of the rocks in a steep drop-off area in between 7 and 8 feet of water.

June 7 - worked at another site situated in the southern end of the small bay along the western side of the island (near the WOL beach). This was a very small pocket of mature growth and a total of 0.50 bag of EWM plants were harvested. A follow-up trip to the site near the southern rock tip was made and another 0.33 bag of EWM was picked.