Ohio's Response to Hydrilla

To Conserve and improve Fish and Wildlife resources and their Habitats for sustainable use and appreciation by all





John Navarro Fish Management and Research

Current Distribution



Three Hydrilla Scenarios

- 1. Ohio River: Large open system outside Lake Erie watershed
- 2. Pymatuning Lake: Large closed system close to Lake Erie watershed
- 3. Cleveland Metroparks: Small closed systems within Lake Erie watershed



Ohio River



TNC – Rapid Assessment for Invasive Plants



- Compared rake toss and snorkel
- Snorkel more accurate
- Snorkel detects rare species better

- 838 sites principally boat landings
- 581 inland lakes surveyed
- 119 Ohio River public landings
- Invasive plants, mussels, and snails
- Indiana, Michigan, Illinois and Ohio



Results of Inland Lake Surveillance

- Recorded the presence of invasive and native plants
- Generated distributional data for 12 invasive plant
- Generated distributional data for 72 native plants
- No new populations of Hydrilla, Brazilian elodea, or parrots feather



Results of Ohio River Surveillance

- Hydrilla was found to be well established in the upper Ohio River
- Further downstream (IN and IL) fragments found
- Establishment in the lower river is imminent



Response to Ohio River Hydrilla



- Outreach
- Surveillance



Pymatuning Lake



Pymatuning Lake (16,350 acres) Within five miles of Lake Erie Watershed



Popular Boating Spot on Lake Erie's Doorstep

- Large lake 16,349 acres
- Interjurisdictional (OH and PA)
- Popular boating and fishing
- Within 5 miles of Lake Erie
- 16 boat ramps total
- 5 boat ramps on Ohio side





Hydrilla found at Several Locations

- 433 points surveyed
- 10% frequency occurrence
- Green = sparse
- Yellow = moderate
- Red = dense





Response to Pymatuning Lake Hydrilla



- Outreach
- Surveillance
- Spot Treatment



Cleveland Metroparks Lakes



Hydrilla found at Five Locations



Wallace Lake – Adjacent to Rocky River







Response to Cleveland Metro Parks Hydrilla

- Outreach
- Surveillance
- Eradication



Lake/Pond Use Restrictions

Use of this body of water is currently restricted due to ongoing Natural Resources management activities. Please observe the guidelines listed below.

Boating: This area is closed to all types of boating from $\frac{7}{27}$ to_____

Fishing: This area is closed to all fishing from $\frac{7}{27}$ to $\frac{8}{27}$.

Swimming: This area is closed to swimming from ______ to _____

Cleveland Metroparks staff is conducting important management activities in this lake/pond.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions please call Cleveland Metroparks at 216-635-3200. Thank you.





Ohio's Response Based on Risk - Reward

1. Ohio River:

- Large open system
- Outside Lake Erie watershed
- Extensive infestation
- Outreach and surveillance

2. Pymatuning Lake:

- Large closed system
- Within 10 miles of Lake Erie watershed
- Early in infestation
- Outreach, surveillance, and spot treatments

3. Cleveland Metroparks:

- Small closed systems
- Inside the Lake Erie watershed
- Manageable situation
- Outreach, surveillance, and eradication



