



Work Summary: Minerva Lake, NY, 2012

Aquatic Invasive Management, LLC

Work Conducted: 40 hours with a crew of two divers and one surface boss locating and removing invasive plant growth.

Crew: Doug Russo, Kurt Bramer, Jim Foucher

Monday:

Started work in the Northernmost bay on the lake where the densest growth was found in 2007. Picked mostly single stem, 2-4' tall plants totaling 1 full bag. Appeared to be much less than 2011.

Tuesday:

Worked on the West side of the lake between the islands and shore finding mostly 2-4' single stem plants and a few larger multi-stem plants. Switched to the Eastern shore beginning at the boat launch and found a few 4-6' tall plants. Harvested 2.25 bags total.

Wednesday:

Conducted full coverage swims of West side of the lake between the big island and shore. Milfoil was scattered but consistent with most plants being 3-4' tall and mostly single stemmed. 3.25 bags were harvested.

Thursday:

Finished the remainder of the West side of the lake and continued South to the town beach. Plants were scattered and 3-4' tall single stems. Then cleared the area between the biggest and second biggest islands finding some small patches of growth with 4-6' tall multi-stem plants. 1.5 bags were harvested.

2012 bag total: 8 bags 200 lbs

2011 bag total: 5 bags 125 lbs

Summary:

With only one week to harvest on Minerva this year we found that the plants had plenty of time to grow larger and produce more mass. The crew found some patches with mature, multi-stemmed plants that each had a lot of weight and size to them. It is our opinion that the increase (by 3) in bag total was the result of this biomass rather than a result of a spreading or increasing presence of milfoil. When planning for next year we should continue to operate with only one week with a two diver crew, however we may try splitting that week into two days of early season work (June) and two days of late season work (August), to achieve the multi-hit harvesting that we prefer. If we find that the growth has expanded (which we do not anticipate) we will recommend an additional week. We still feel that the lake is in good shape and that we can keep it there, it is now simply a process of refining our methods to get the best overall effect.

For questions contact:

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Maps

