Porters Lake Eurasian Watermilfoil Monitoring and Management

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Porters Lake Facts

3 miles NE of Wautoma, WI
16 feet deep
76 acres
Hard-water seepage lake
  Drained by one outlet in NE corner
Marl sediments, except SW and NE (organic muck)
Porters Lake Facts

- Impressive aquatic plant diversity (50+ species known from various surveys)

- Small purple bladderwort (*Utricularia resupinata*)
  WI Special Concern species

- Robbins’ spikerush (*Eleocharis robbinsii*)
  WI Special Concern species

- Freshwater sponges common
Porters Lake
Porters Lake

Public boat landing
Public access
Water level 2'-3" below 'x' on brown boulder on E. boundary fence line of public access dredged area

Dredged area 3'-4' deep

Lake level down approx 4' at time of mapping
Lake mapped 8/5/58
PORTERS LAKE
Boat Launch ONLY No Camping, Picnics, or Swimming

Respect the natural beauty of this lake. All lake waters are NOT the same. Please do NOT bring in invasive plant or animal species.

Before Launching:
- INSPECT & REMOVE plants & mud
- DRAIN WATER from boat/motor away from lake
- USE NEW BAIT from licensed bait dealers

Before Leaving:
- REMOVE PLANTS & MUD
- DISPOSE OF UNUSED BAIT
- DRAIN WATER
- ICE YOUR CATCH

For Violations Contact: DNR 800-936-7463
For NO WAKE Violations Contact Sheriffs Dept. 920-787-3321

Porter's Lake
CLEAN BOATS
CLEAN WATERS
Volunteer Service
Here to Help Boaters
Pre-2012 AIS Management

Purple loosestrife beetle rearing
Clean Boats, Clean Waters watercraft inspectors
EWM Detected

June 23rd, 2012
EWM Targeted Visual Survey 8/23/12
Manual Removal of EWM

Snorkeling
Manual Removal of EWM

Rafts

Wading
Manual Removal of EWM

“Manual removal of EWM” tutorial free on YouTube
Search “EWM manual removal”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CfsEDyAwQP4

9:00 – 11:15
EWM Targeted Visual Survey 8/23/12
EWM Targeted Visual Survey 9/21/12

October/November 2012
Emergency District Meeting - Dec. 2012

Meeting called to discuss options to target EWM

Porters Lake District
Golden Sands RC&D

Community residents
Onterra, LLC
Emergency District Meeting - Dec. 2012

Meeting called to discuss options to target EWM

**Consensus:**
Apply for WDNR Rapid Response Grant
Granular 2,4-D application in spring 2013
Manually remove “leftovers”
Intense monitoring and continued removal as necessary
Granular 2,4-D application – May 15\textsuperscript{th}, 2013
Granular 2,4-D application – May 15\textsuperscript{th}, 2013

Results

Treatment was effective at killing nearly all remaining EWM

A few plants remained and were removed by hand in June
Results

Treatment had minor effect on some natives

Additional native species found in area previously dominated by EWM
June 2013 – October 2015

Frequent monitoring of treatment area and hand-pulling areas to search for remaining EWM.

2015 Efforts
AIS Early Detection survey (WDNR) – no EWM
Volunteer AIS monitoring via kayaks (PLMD) – no EWM
Volunteer AIS monitoring via SCUBA (PLMD) – no EWM
PI aquatic plant survey (GS RC&D, UWEX) – no EWM
Meander surveys (2) (Onterra) – No EWM
October 27, 2015

Small # of EWM found within 2013 treatment area
In Summary

EWM is putting up a good fight, but is losing.

Integrated management and vigilant monitoring have been extremely successful.

Additional species have shown up in the previously EWM-dominated areas, increasing competition.

Monitoring will continue in 2016 (and manual removal, if needed).
Questions?