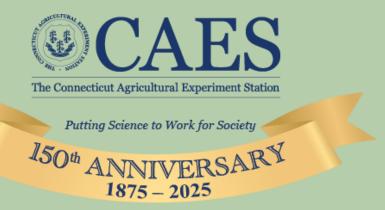
Welcome

Aquatic Plant Workshop March 1, 2025





The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

Notable Discoveries

- Vitamins (vitamin A)
- Hybrid corn
- First soil fertility test (Morgan Soil Test)
- Fungus that causes the collapse of gypsy moth populations
- Contributions in tick and mosquito borne diseases
- First statewide research into CT lakes





Lockwood Farm, Hamden



Main Laboratories, New Haven



Valley Laboratory , Windsor



Griswold Research Center, Griswold

AGENDA



Gregory Bugbee

- State of the State Update
- AIS Spread and Management



Summer Weidman

- Invasive Aquatic Plant Identification
- Remote Sensing Research



Jeremiah Foley IV, Ph.D.

- Integrated Pest Management
- Biocontrol Research



Riley Doherty, GISP

- CT AIS Web App
- Funding Sources

11:30 AM - 12 PM: Questions & Plant ID

Office of Aquatic Invasive Species



Established July 2022

An expansion of the Invasive Aquatic Plant Program (IAPP)



State Representative Christine Palm

Legislative Charges



Research and survey aquatic plant species



Coordinate with the Invasive Plants Council



Serve as a repository for statewide aquatic invasive species data



Advise municipalities on aquatic invasive species management



Educate the public on aquatic invasive species issues and identification



Act as a liaison among organizations and state agencies for AIS control and eradication issues

Aquatic Vegetation Surveys





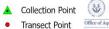


Lake Wononpakook

Salisbury, CT 167 acres

Office of Aquatic Invasive Species Surveyed on August 29 and 31, 2023 by G. Bugbee, R. Doherty, S. Stebbins, and J. Foley

To view locations of individual plant species or other features, open in Adobe Reader DC and click on the "Layers" tab. Turn features on or off by clicking the "Eye" icons



Water Data

* Invasive

Arrowhead

Bur-reed

Candian waterweed

Cattail

Common bladderwort

Coontail

Eelgrass

Eurasian watermilfoil*

Flat-stemmed pondweed

Floating-leaf pondweed

Hiddenfruit bladderwort

Illinois pondweed

Large-leaf pondweed

Minor naiad*

Phragmites*
Pickerelweed

Purple loosestrife*

Rush

Sago pondweed

Sedge

Southern naiad

Spikerush

Variable-leaf watermilfoil*

Water chestnut*

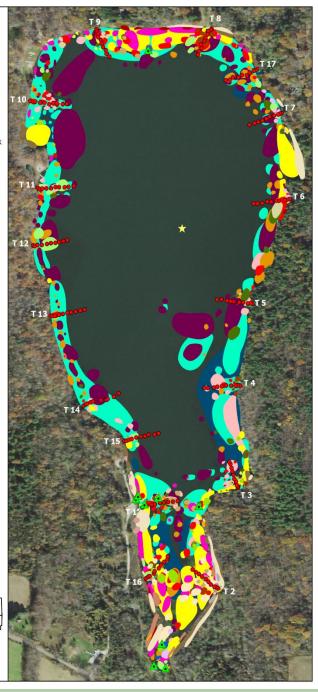
Watermeal

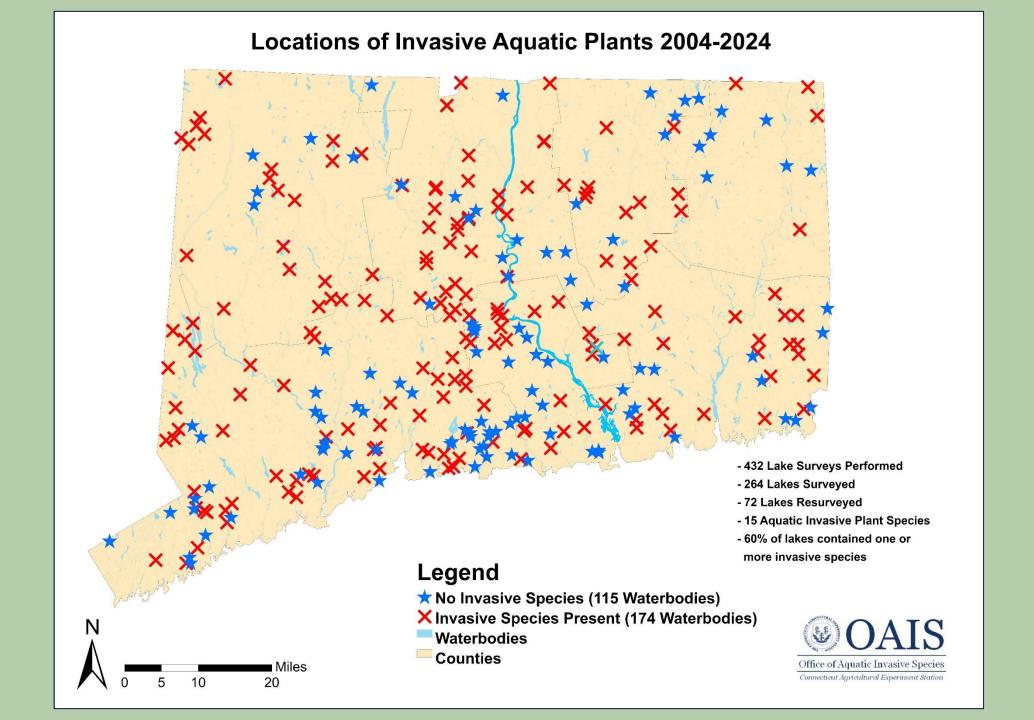
Water plantain
Watershield

White water lily Yellow water lily

250 500

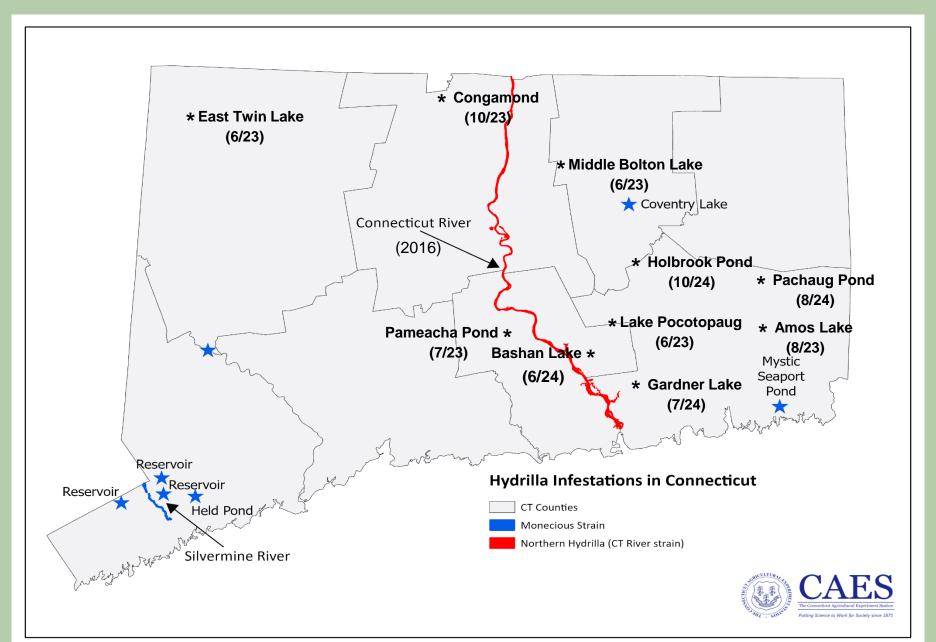
000 ■ US Feet





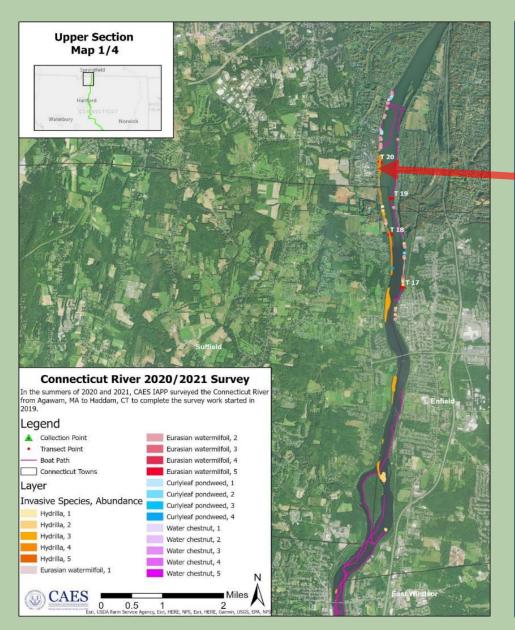


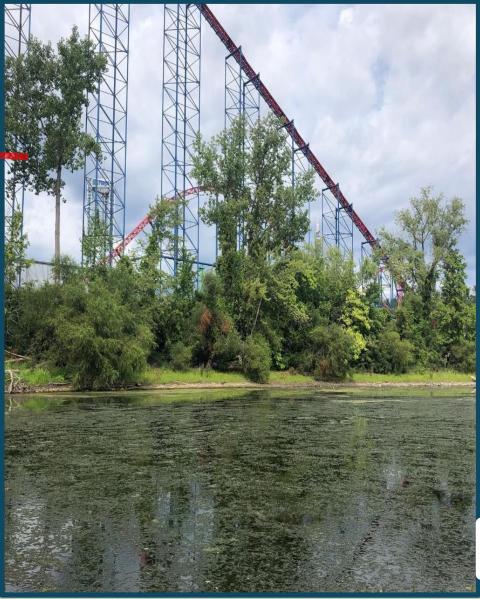
CT Hydrilla Detection Timeline





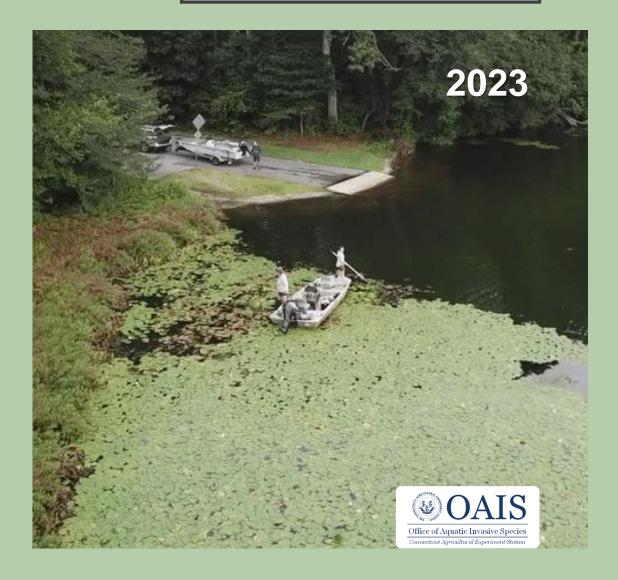
CT River Hydrilla has Not Moved North

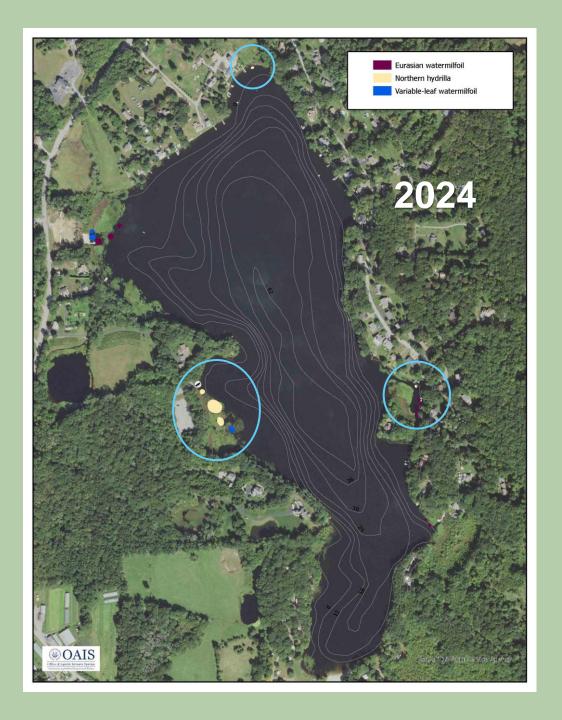


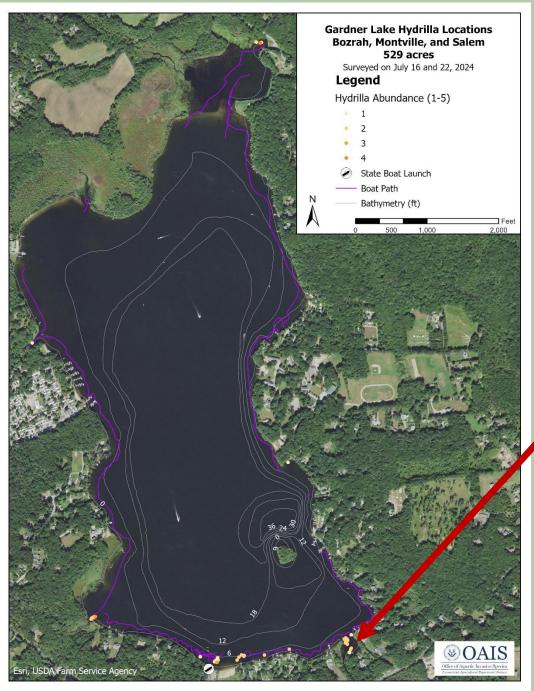




Amos Lake











Ultralow Grass Carp Stocking

Leveraging Feeding Preference

Table 1. Crass Carp Feeding Preference

	-78
COC	•
ces	

Order of Preference	Common Name	Scientific Name
1	Hydrilla	Hydrilla verticillata (L.f.) Royle
2	Muskgrass	Chara spp.
3	Southern Waternymph; Southern Naiad	Najas guadalupensis (Spreng.) Magnus
4	Brazilian Waterweed; Brazilian Egeria; Brazilian Elodea	Egeria densa Planch.
5	Watermeal	Wolffia spp.
6	Duckweed	Lemna spp.; Spirodela spp.; Landoltia spp.
7	Azolla; Waterfern; Mosquitofern	Azolla spp.
8	Pondweeds	Potamogeton spp.; Stuckenia pectinata (L.) Börner; Zannichellia palustris L.
9	Coontail	Ceratophyllum demersum L.
10	Torpedograss	Panicum repens L.
11	Cattail	Typha spp.
12	Crab's-claw; Wateraloe	Stratiotes aloides L
13	Watercress	Nasturtium spp.
14	Eurasian Watermilfoil	Myriophyllum spicatum L.
15	Tapegrass; American Eelgrass	Vallisneria americana Michx.
16	Parrotfeather	Myriophyllum aquaticum (Vell.) Verdc.
17	Waterhyacinth	Eichhornia crassipes (Mart.) Solms
18	Waterlettuce	Pistia stratiotes L.
19	Waterlily	Nymphaea spp.
20	Spatterdock	Nuphar lutea ssp. advena (Ait.) Kartesz & Gandhi





Grass Carp: A Fish for Biological Management of

Hydrilla and Other Aquatic Weeds in Florida¹ David L. Sutton, Vernon V. Vandiver Jr., and Jeffrey E. Hill²







Legend

Hydrilla Locations

State Boat Launch

Bathymetry (ft)



Hydrilla Locations in Pachaug Pond Griswold, CT

Surveyed on August 1, 2024 By Greg Bugbee









Lake Pocotopaug East Hampton

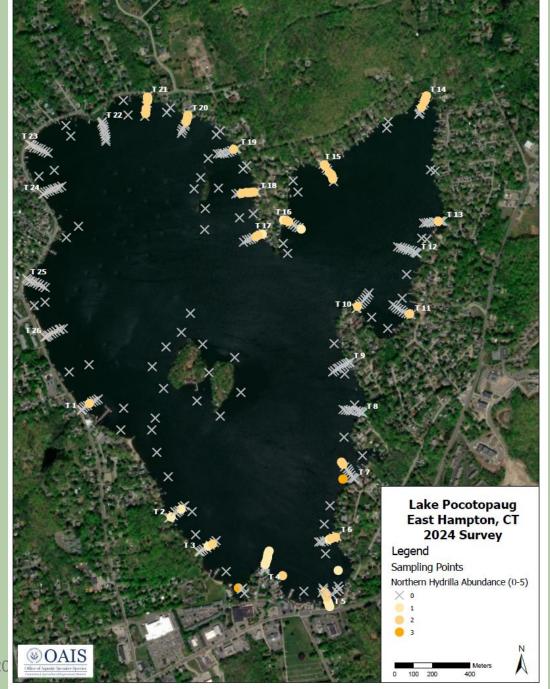
"TAKE A RAKE TO THE LAKE"

Hydrilla Raking Contest! Sunday, September 22nd

RULES:

- 1) Harvesting of Hydrilla can begin at sunrise on Sept. 22nd and must come from Lake Pocotopaug.
- 2) Collected Hydrilla must be in trash bags no larger than 45 gallon size or a container approx. 19Lx14Wx14H for weighing purposes on a scale. Harvested Hydrilla not in proper bags or containers will not be accepted.
- 3) Weigh-in will occur between the hours of 12pm-4pm on Sunday Sept.22, 2024 at Sears Park. Only one delivery to the weigh station of collected Hydrilla is allowed.
- 4) Judges will collect names, addresses and record weights. All decisions by Judges are final.
- 5) Three prizes will be awarded of 1st place \$500, 2nd place \$300 and third place \$200. Prize winners will be announced at 4:15pm on the 22nd, unless other arrangements are made. In the event of a tie weight, prizes will be awarded to the first recorded person/group. Prize checks will be mailed to the winners within (5) days.
- 6) The Conservation Lake Commission and Friends of the Lake reserve the right to publish names and pictures of the prize winners

For more information email ryenkner3@comcast.net or call Rob Yenkner 860-638-9874

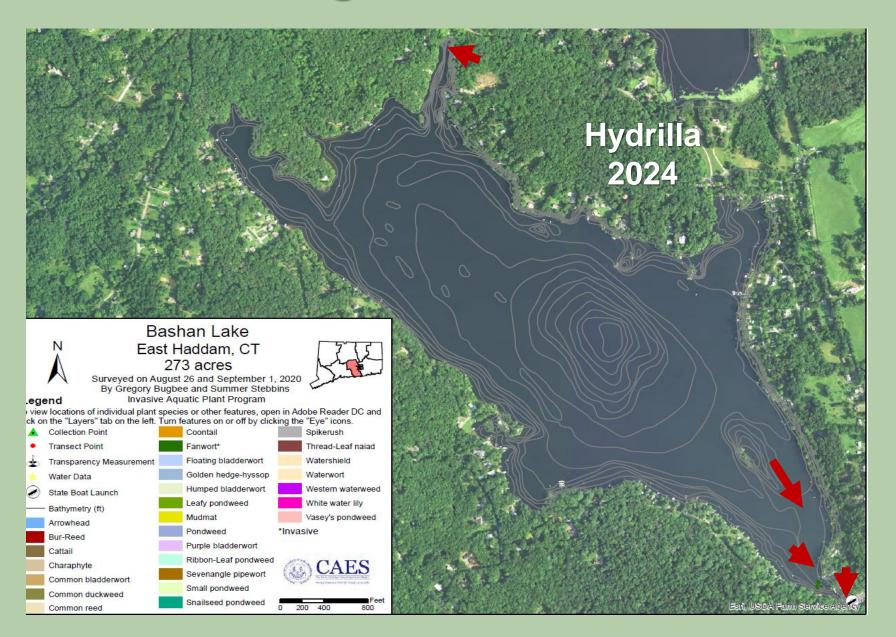






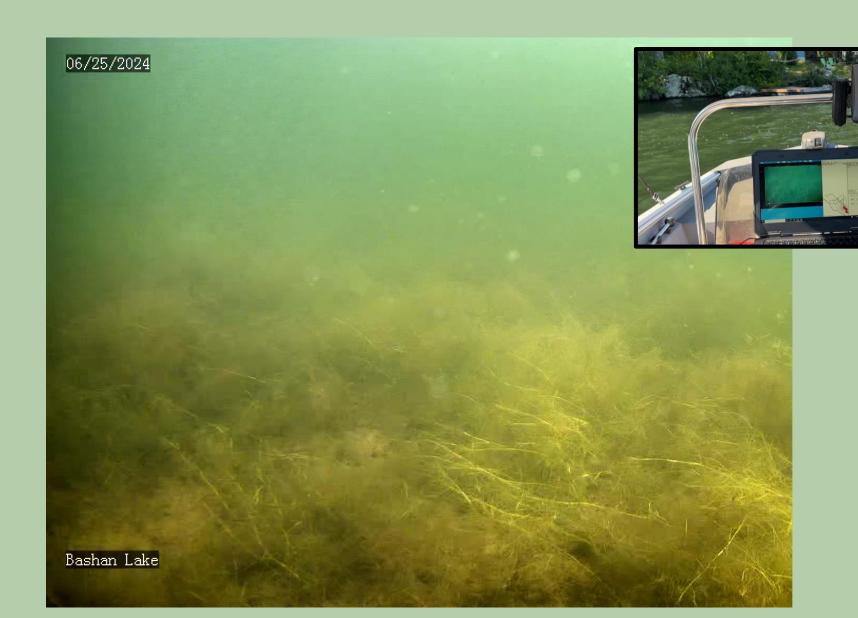


Hand Pulling Pioneer infestation





Bashan Lake, East Haddam





Bashan Lake, East Haddam







Bashan Lake, East Haddam



Wethersfield COVE

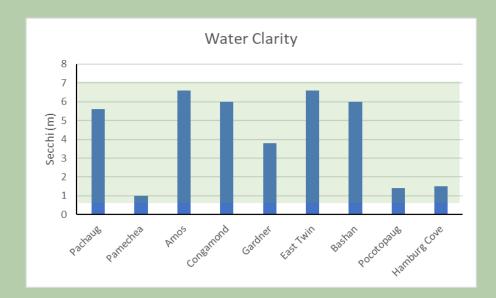
Treated with Diquat - 2022, 2023, 2024*

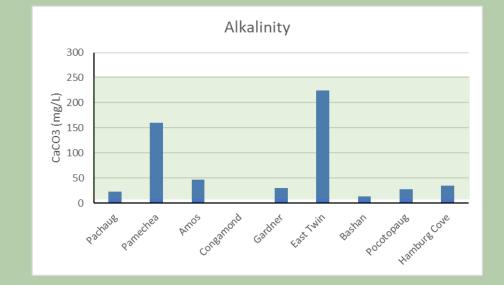




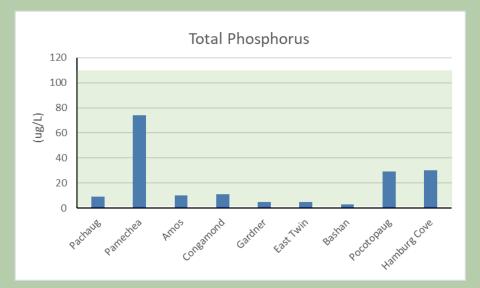
Hydrilla Infestations are Not Affected by Water Chemistry

(Green shading = CT Range)











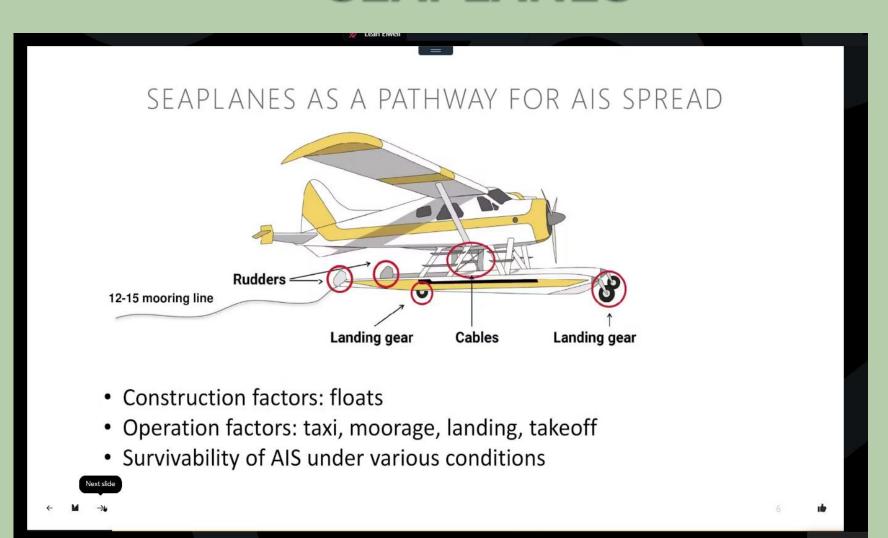
Movement of Watercraft







SEAPLANES



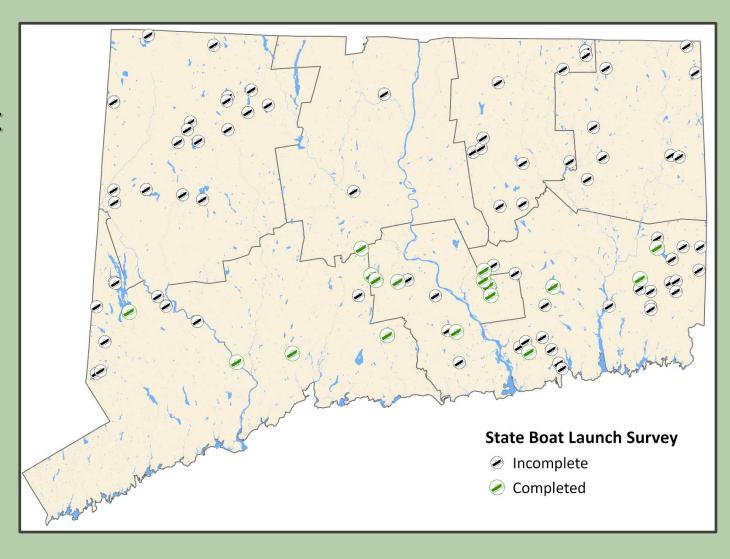
- Flight plans are optional when flying under Visual Flight Rules (VFR)
- Only Illinois, Maine, Washington, and Wisconsin have AIS requirements
- Connecticut requires the owner of any aircraft to register with their municipality



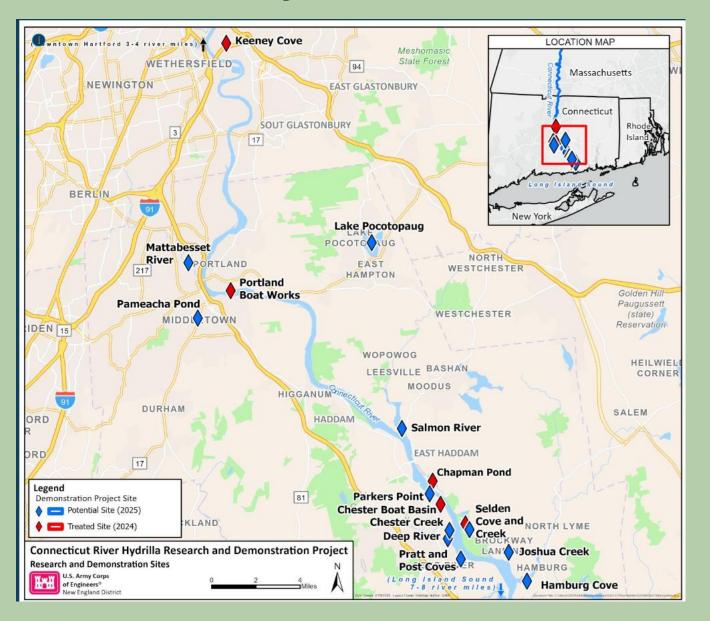
OAIS Survey of all State Boat Launches for Hydrilla

- Funded by CT DEEP AIS grant
- 94 State boat launches
 - Trailer & carry in
- 1 acre radius
- 17 completed (18%) in 2024
 - 4 detections
 - Only 1 new





USACE Hydrilla Control Demonstration Project







CT DEEP AIS Grants

Aquatic Invasive Species Grant Release

CT DEEP Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Grant Request for Proposals (RFP) Release

The Connecticut Department of Energy and
Environmental Protection (DEEP) has released the
Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Grant for the year.
The grant aims to provide funds to eligible
organizations and individuals to prevent the spread of
AIS in Connecticut's inland and marine waters.



Deadline to submit questions to CT DEEP is November 4, 2024

Deadline to apply is December 6, 2024

CT DEEP AIS Grant Webpage

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS) STAMP



Changes that will affect the 2025 boating season.

https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Boating/Boating-and-Paddling



2024 AIS STAMP OVERVIEW

- AIS Stamp was included in the 2024 Connecticut vessel registration, if paid prior to September 30, 2024.
- Vessel operators registering their vessel after October 1, 2024, must purchase through the Online Sportsmen Licensing System.
- Out-if-state registered vessel operators must purchase through the Online Sportsmen Licensing System
- . The AIS Stamp expires at the end of the calendar year (December 31).

2025 AIS STAMP CHANGES (Effective October 1, 2024)

- . These options are available for CT residents and non-residents
 - Option 1- \$7 individual operator
 - The AIS Stamp is assigned to the individual purchasing the stamp.
 - It will print on the Sportsmen Conservation License as a privilege (like a fishing or hunting license)
 - Option 2- \$20 decal to cover the individual plus all operators of a vessel
 - The decal must be affixed to the vessel and will cover any operator of that vessel
 - The total cost will be \$25 which includes a processing fee
 - The decal will be mailed to the customer and must be adhered to the vessel.
 - The AIS Stamp will also print on the Sportsmen Conservation License as a privilege (like a fishing or hunting license) to cover the purchaser on additional vessels.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLYING AIS THE STAMP DECAL

To properly use the AIS Stamp decal, it must be placed amidship on the port side of your vessel. You have the option of attaching it to the hull of the vessel or at the operator's station.

WHERE DO THE AIS STAMP FEES GO?

All fees collected are deposited into the "Connecticut Lakes, Rivers and Ponds Preservation Account". This account provides funding through a competitive grant process to state and municipal agencies, as well as non-profit organizations. These funds are utilized to conduct research on CT's lakes, rivers, and ponds, provide public education, and enhance public awareness. This ultimately helps improve the management of natural resources throughout the state.

If you have additional questions, contact DEEP Boating at deep.boating@ct.gov or 860-434-8638.

WHO NEEDS AN AIS STAMP?

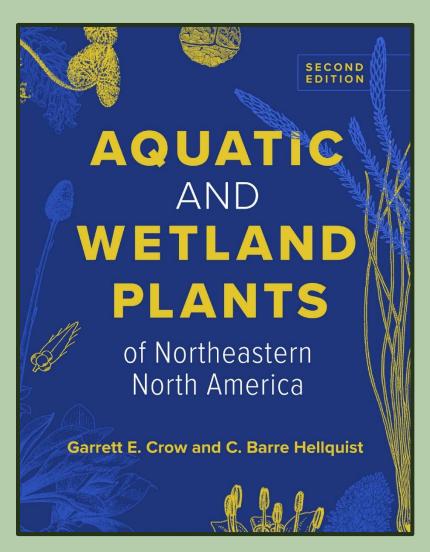
- Any person who operates a vessel on Connecticut inland waters and is required to display a registration decal, issued by this state or another state must have a CT AIS Stamp.
- For CT residents, until September 30, 2024, the AIS Stamp will be included with your Connecticut vessel registration.
- After October 1, 2024, CT residents needing an AIS Stamp or vessel decal must purchase through the Online Sportsmen Licensing System.
- For vessels registered out-of-state, the AIS Stamp must be purchased through the Online Sportsmen Licensing System.
- The AIS Stamp will be valid for the calendar year it was issued.
- The demarcation line for inland waters is the same as that used for inland fishing licenses.

How to purchase your AIS Stamp



Beginning October 1, 2024, you must obtain your AIS Stamp on the Sportsmen Online Licensing System-https://ct.aspirafocus.com/internetsales

Identification Guides



https://uwpress.wisc.edu/

books/5921.htm

Connecticut's Invasive Aquatic Plant, Clam, and Mussel Identification Guide 4TH EDITION Gregory J. Bugbee, Summer E. Stebbins, Martha E. Barton, and Jordan A.G. Wostbrock The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station Department of Environmental Science & Forestry 123 Huntington Street New Haven, CT 06511 ©CAES

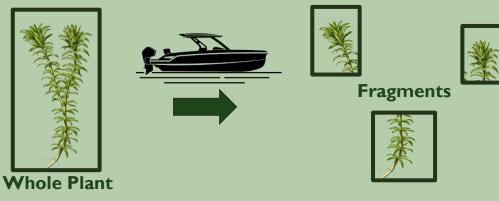
https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/CAES/DOCUME NTS/Publications/Bulletin s/B1087.pdf



Plant Terms

(Reproduction)

• Fragment - plant part that breaks off and grows to form a genetically identical plant



• **Tuber** - modified, underground stem for starch storage and form of vegetative reproduction





 Turion - a modified leaf bud on a stem or shoot, form of vegetative reproduction

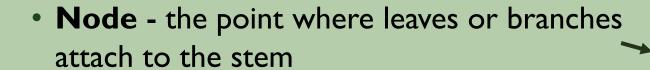


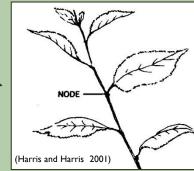




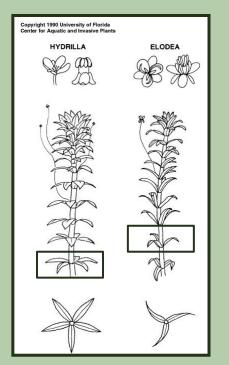
Plant Terms

(Leaves)

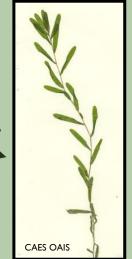




• Opposite - across from each other at the same node



• Alternate - one leaf per node on different sides of the stem



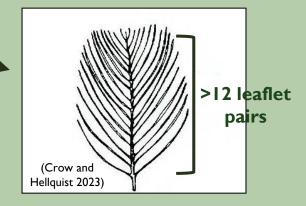
• Whorled - three or more leaves at the same node, forming a ring-like arrangement



Plant Terms

(Leaves cont.)

• **Leaflet** – one of many leaf-like looking structures that when combined make one leaf





CAES OAIS

• Petiole - leaf stalk

 Rosette - a cluster of leaves that surround the stem at the same point



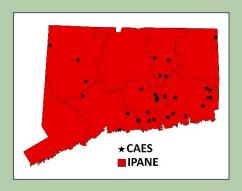


petiole

Tooth/Teeth — sharp points along a leaf margin

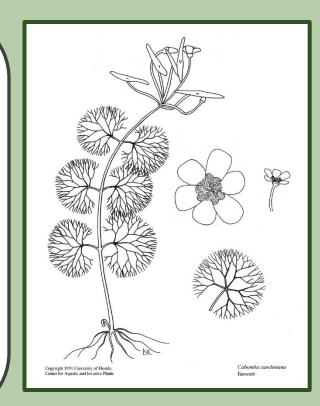


Fanwort Cabomba caroliniana



Key Info:

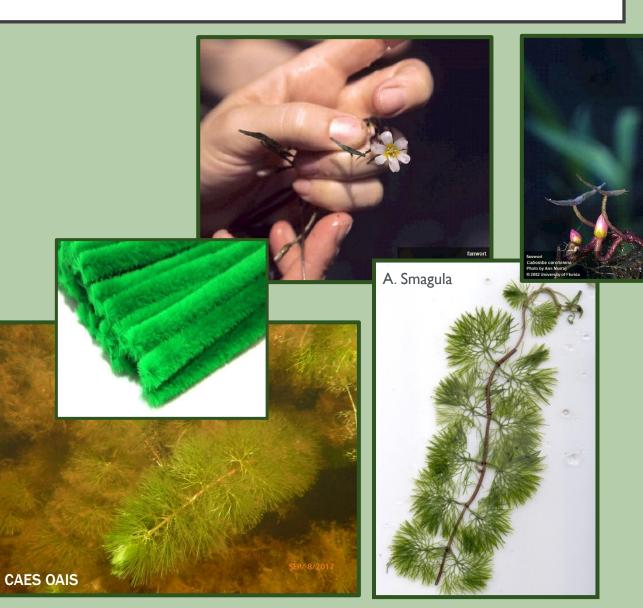
- Introduced to CT in 1937
- Submersed plant
- Grows in 3-10 feet of water
- Spreads through fragmentation





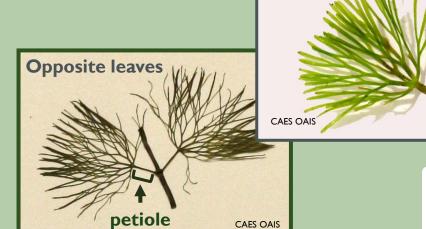


Fanwort Cabomba caroliniana



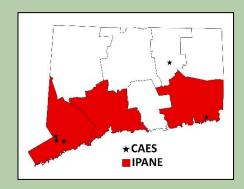
Key Features:

- Bright green, looks like a pipe cleaner
- Flowers: white, solitary
- Leaves: opposite, long petioles, fanlike



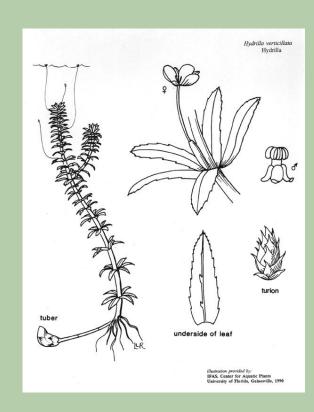


HydrillaHydrilla verticillata



Key Info:

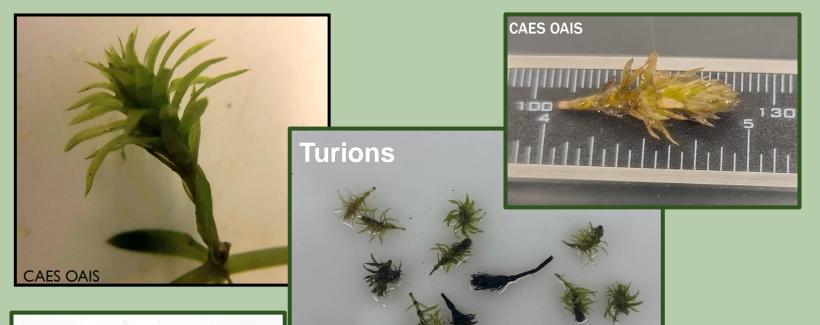
- Introduced to CT in 1989
- Spreads through turions, tubers, fragmentation
- Commonly confused with native waterweed





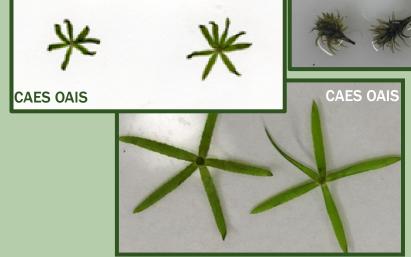


Hydrilla Hydrilla verticillata



Key Features:

- Whorls of ≥ 5 leaves
- Submersed plant
- May have turions or tubers









Wandering Hydrilla "Monoecious Hydrilla"

- Whorls of 5
- Less robust
- Tubers
- Less turions
- Coventry Lake
- Silvermine River





Hydrilla verticillata subsp. peregrina

Northern Hydrilla "CT River Hydrilla"



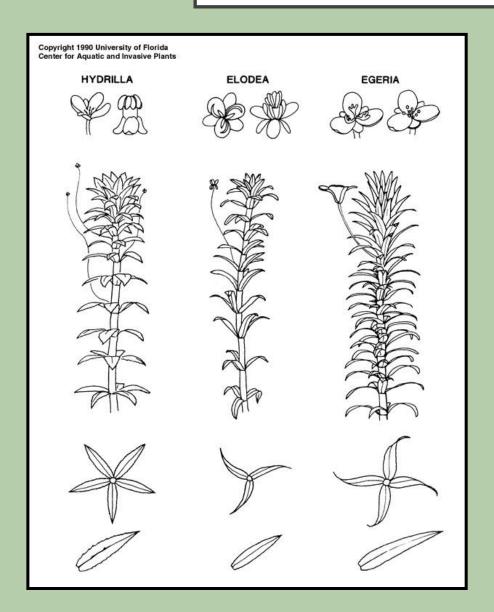
- Whorls ≥ 5
- Very robust
- No tubers
- Abundant turions
- CT River, 10otherwaterbodies*

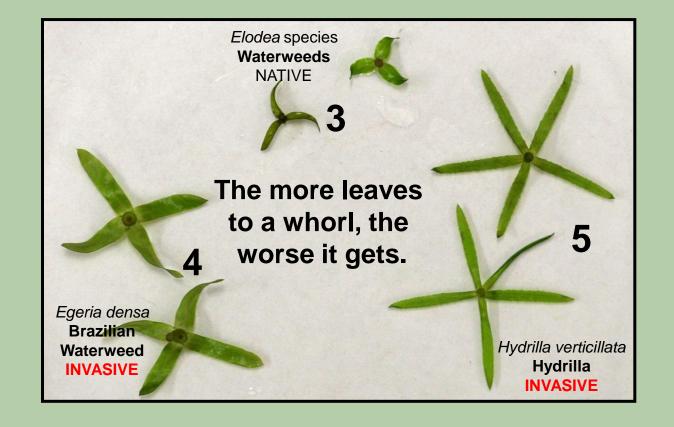


Hydrilla verticillata subsp. lithuanica



Commonly Confused Species





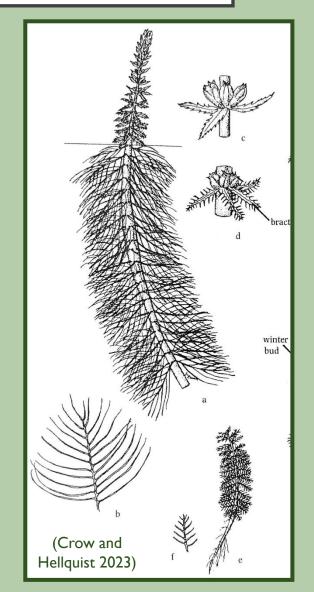


Variable-leaf watermilfoil Myriophyllum heterophyllum

* CAES ■ IPANE

Key Info:

- Introduced to CT in 1932
- Variable appearance, sometimes reddish, sometimes green
- Spreads through fragmentation







Variable-leaf watermilfoil Myriophyllum heterophyllum





Key Features:

- Thick flower spike
- Red or green Stem
- Triangular leaf
- Leaves < I inch apart
- ≤ | | leaflet pairs

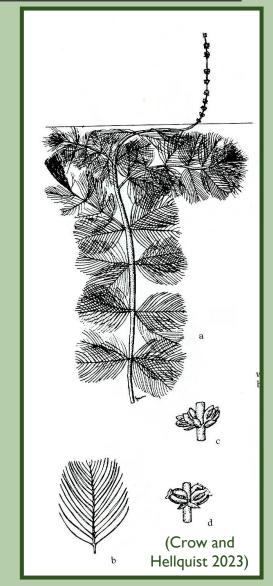


Eurasian watermilfoil Myriophyllum spicatum

* CAES ■ IPANE

Key Info:

- Introduced to CT in 1979
- Most common invasive aquatic plant in CT and northern U.S.
- Spreads through fragmentation







Eurasian watermilfoil Myriophyllum spicatum



CAES OAIS

Key Features:

- Thin flower spike
- Rectangular leaf
- Leaves > I inch apart
- ≥ 12 leaflet pairs



Eurasian watermilfoil

Myriophyllum spicatum

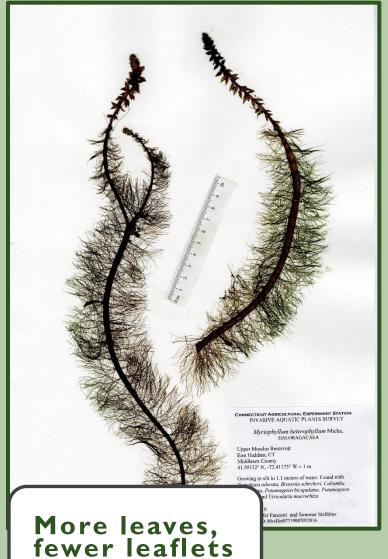
- Thin flower spike
- Rectangular leaf
- Leaves > I inch apart
- ≥ 12 leaflet pairs



Fewer leaves, more leaflets

Variable-leaf watermilfoil

Myriophyllum heterophyllum

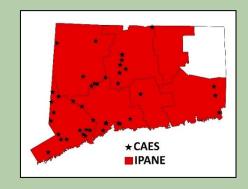


- Thick flower spike
- Triangular leaf
- Leaves < I inch apart
- ≤ | | leaflet pairs



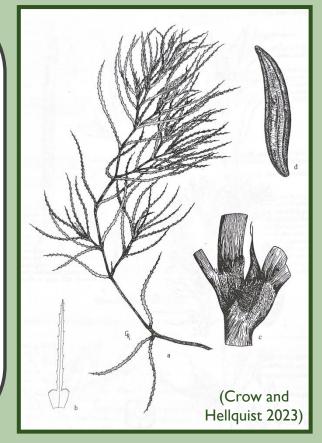
Minor naiad

Najas minor



Key Info:

- Introduced to CT in 2004
- Annual, sprouts from seed
- Low-growing, often found in shallow waters

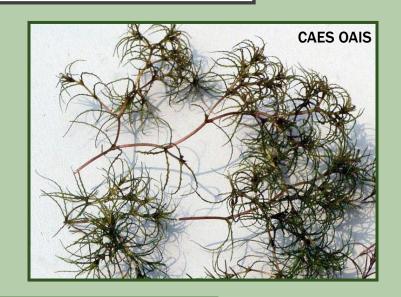






Minor naiad Najas minor





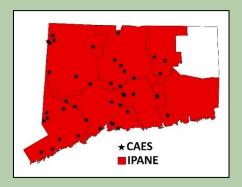


Key Features:

- Compact, bushy with highly branched stems
- Stiff, curled leaves
- Toothed leaves, visible to the naked eye

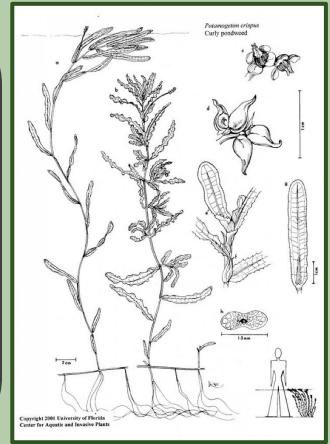


Curlyleaf pondweed Potamogeton crispus



Key Info:

- Introduced to CT in 1943
- Annual, sprouts from turions
- Fully grown in May/June, dies back midsummer







Curlyleaf pondweedPotamogeton crispus

Curly pondweed

Potamogeton crispus

Photo by Vic Ramey

© 2001 University of Florida





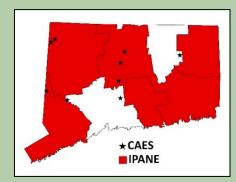


Key Features:

- Wavy, lasagnalike leaves
- Leaves alternate, no petioles
- Brown turions, like small pinecones

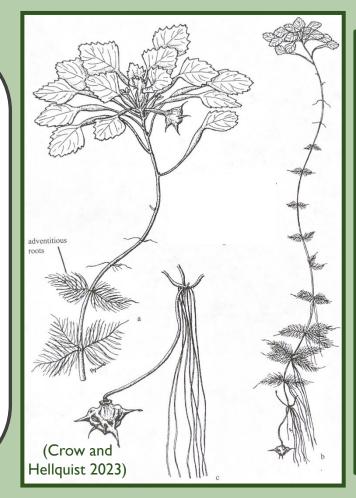


Water chestnut Trapa natans



Key Info:

- Introduced to CT in 1998
- Annual, sprouts from nutlets
- One nutlet = 10-15 rosettes
- One rosette = 15-20 seeds
- One nutlet = 150-300 new nutlets







Water chestnut Trapa natans



Key Features:

- Floating rosette
- Waxy, triangular leaves
- Feathery submersed leaves
- Small, white flower



Other Invasives





Brazilian waterweed

Egeria densa

- Whorls of 4 leaves
- White flowers with 3 petals



European waterclover

Marsilea quadrifolia

- Floating or emergent
- Clover-like leaves with 4 leaflets



Parrotfeather Myriophyllum aquaticum

- Thick, red stem
- Blue-green feathery leaves

Other Invasives





Water hyacinth

Pontederia crassipes

- Free-floating with black, feathery roots
- Inflated petioles, light purple flower



American water lotus

Nelumbo lutea

- Emergent
- White flowers
 - Seed head like the top of a watering can



Yellow floating heart

Nymphoides peltata

- Round, heartshaped floating leaves
- Bright yellow flower



Pond waterstarwort Callitriche

stagnalis

- Submersed plant with floating rosettes
- Spoonshaped, opposite leaves

Emerging Invasives





Swollen bladderwort Utricularia inflata

- Alternate, submersed leaves
- Large inflated floating leaves
- Yellow flower

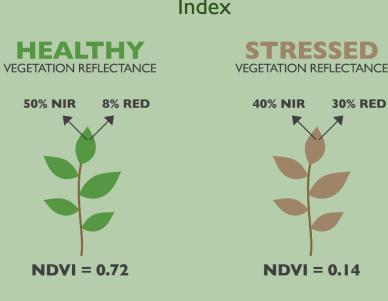


Spiny naiad Najas marina

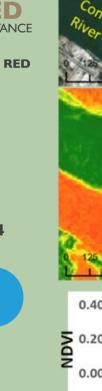
- Brittle, branched stems
- Conspicuous, brownish, prickly teeth

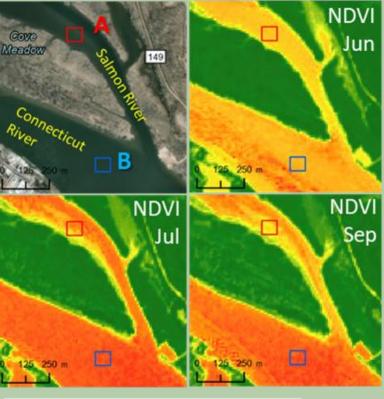
USING REMOTE SENSING TO MAP HYDRILLA

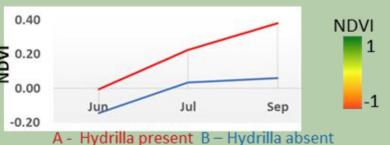
NDVI: Normalized Difference Vegetation Index













First survey took three years!







Dr. Jeremiah R. Foley IV

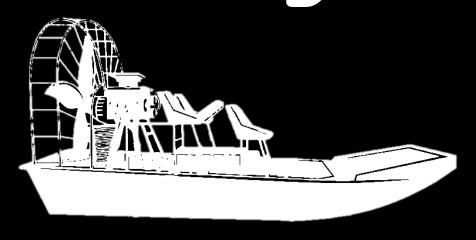
Office of Aquatic Invasive Species
Dept. of Environmental Science and Forestry
Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

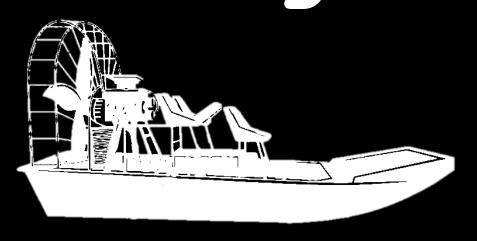


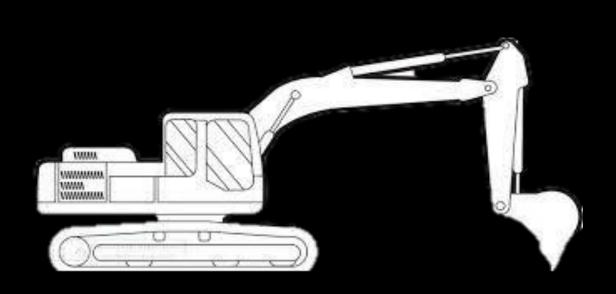
Estimated economic and health costs of invasive species in the United States have increased from \$2 billion in the 1960s to \$21 billion in the 2020s

Aquatic ecosystems are not immune to these types of invasions, and they are reported to cost the United States \$15 billion annually

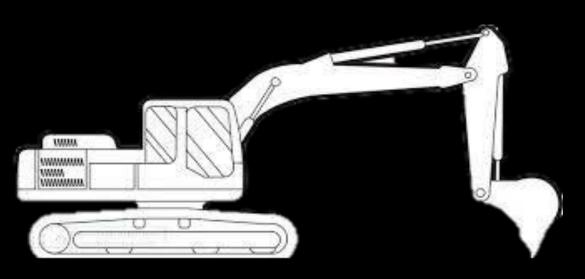
The northeastern United States is particularly vulnerable; the costs of invaded aquatic ecosystems in this region dominate the costs of terrestrial invasions

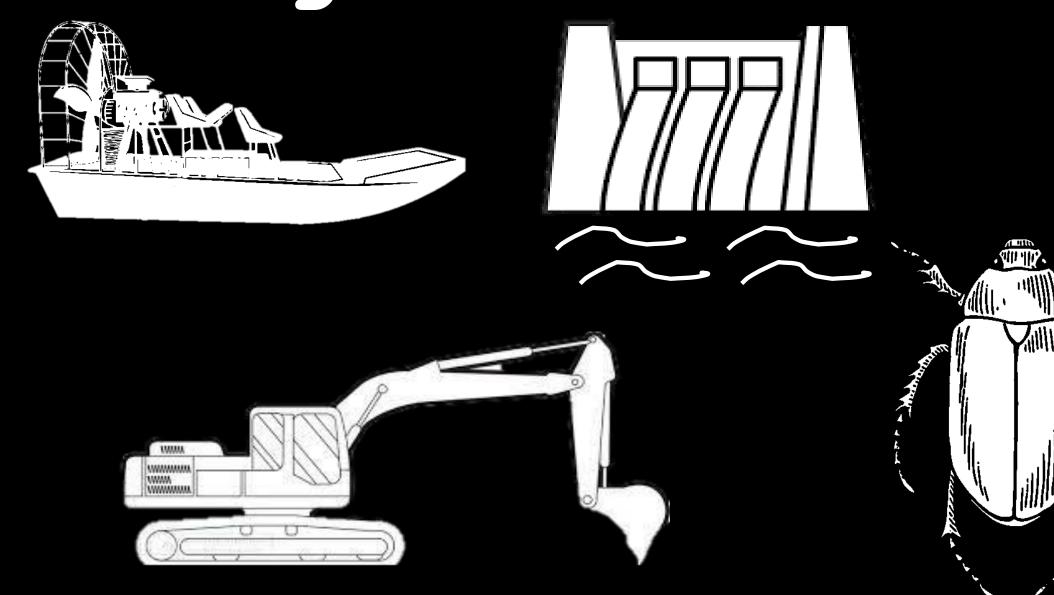


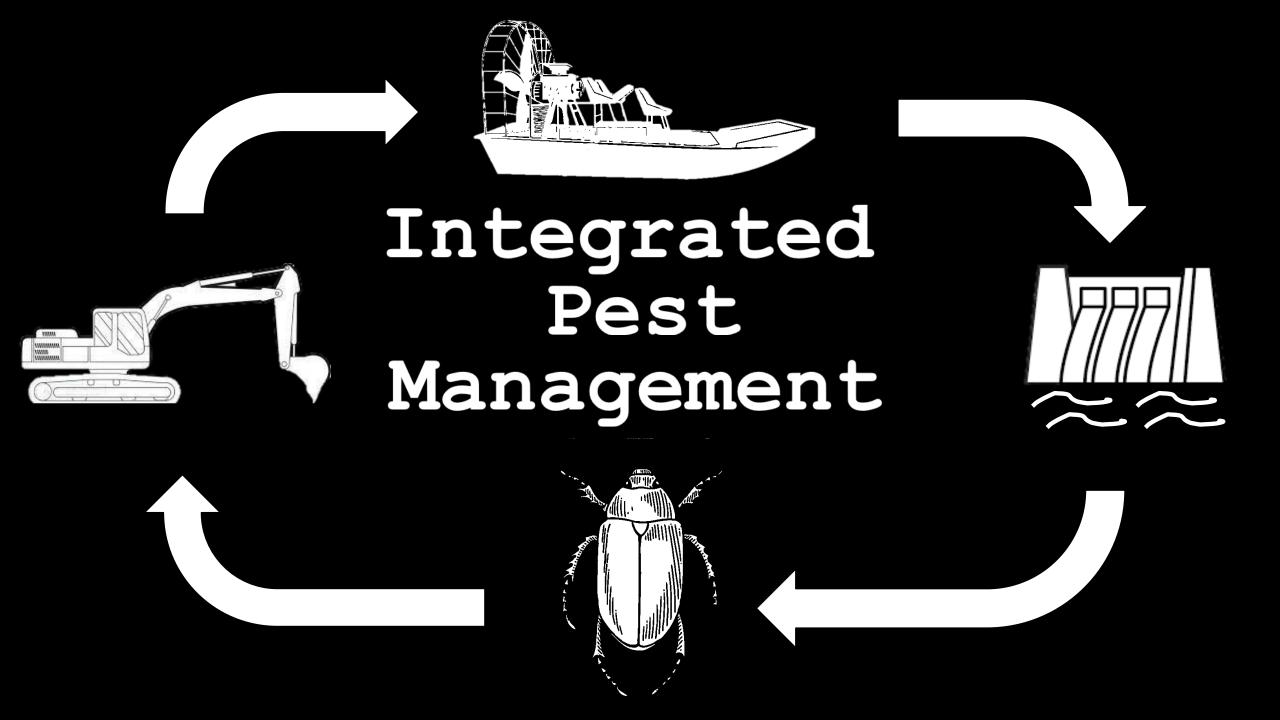




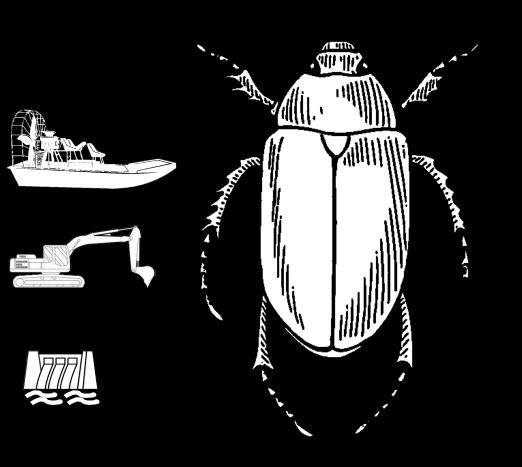








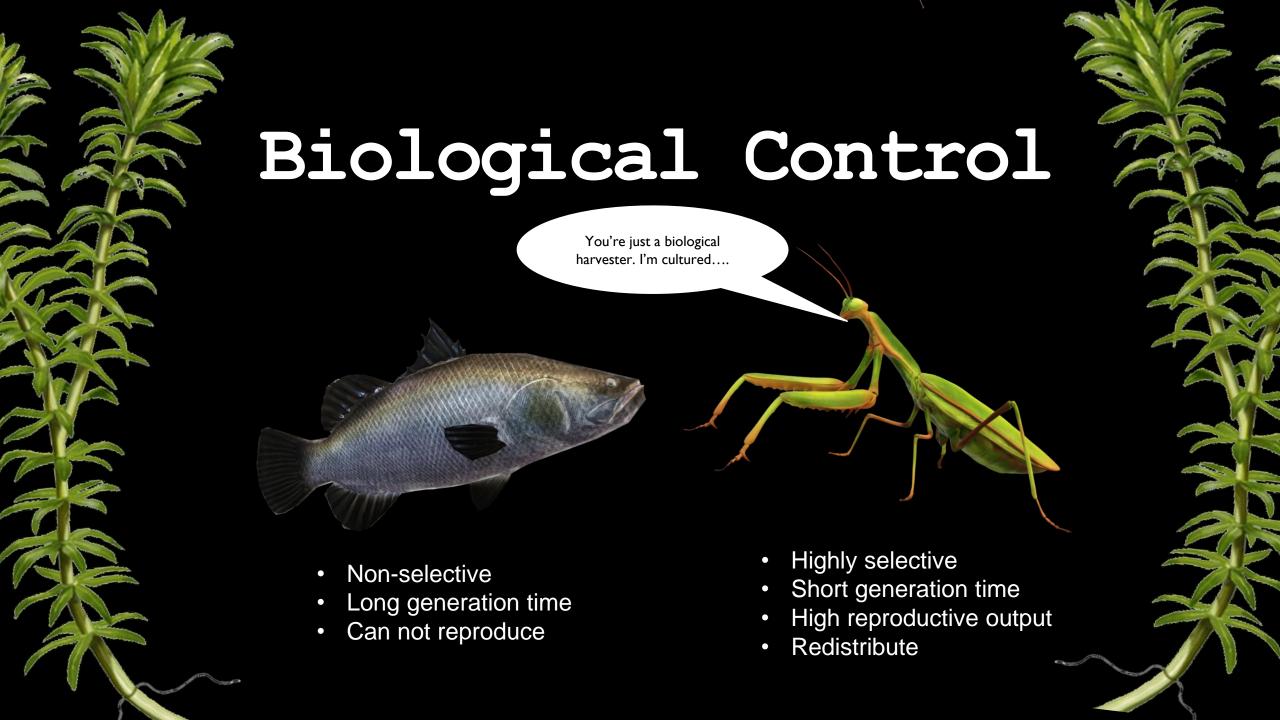
Biological Control



is the use of **living organisms**—
such as predators, parasites,
pathogens, or **herbivores**—to **manage** or suppress populations of
unwanted species, like **invasive plants** and insects, to reduce their
impact on **ecosystems**, agriculture,
or **human activities**.













Overseas Quarantine Research Research

Quarantine Research

Release



Quarantine Research

Release

Establishment



Quarantine Research

Release

Establishment

Technology Transfer









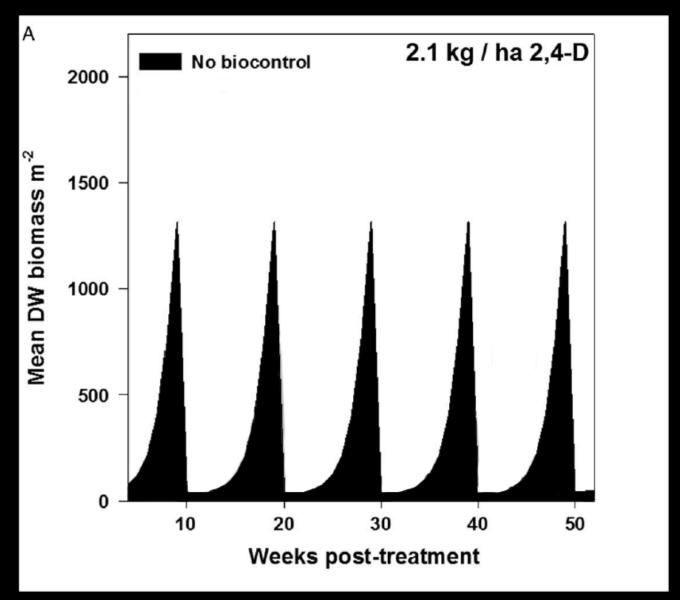
About

WATER HYACINTH WEEVILS *are* native to South America, were introduced to the U.S. in the 1970s to control invasive water. By feeding on the plant's leaves and stems, they reduce its growth, support native vegetation recovery, and lessen the need for chemical or mechanical controls



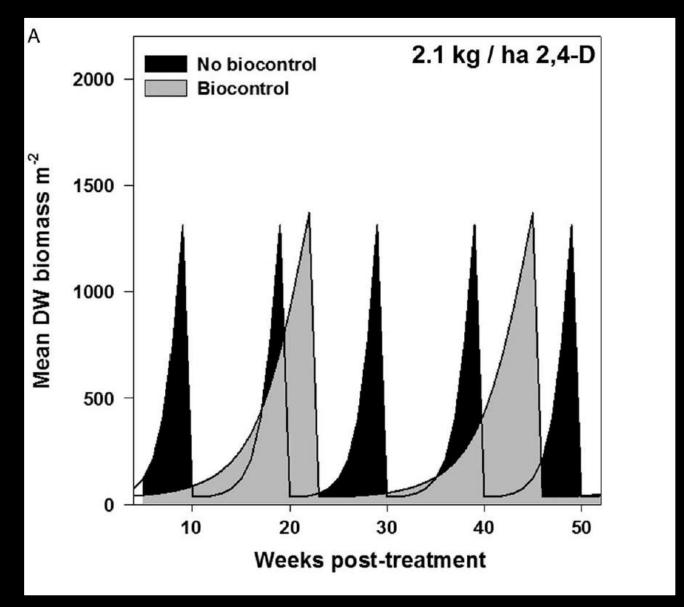


Waterhyacinth IPM: Biomass Reduction





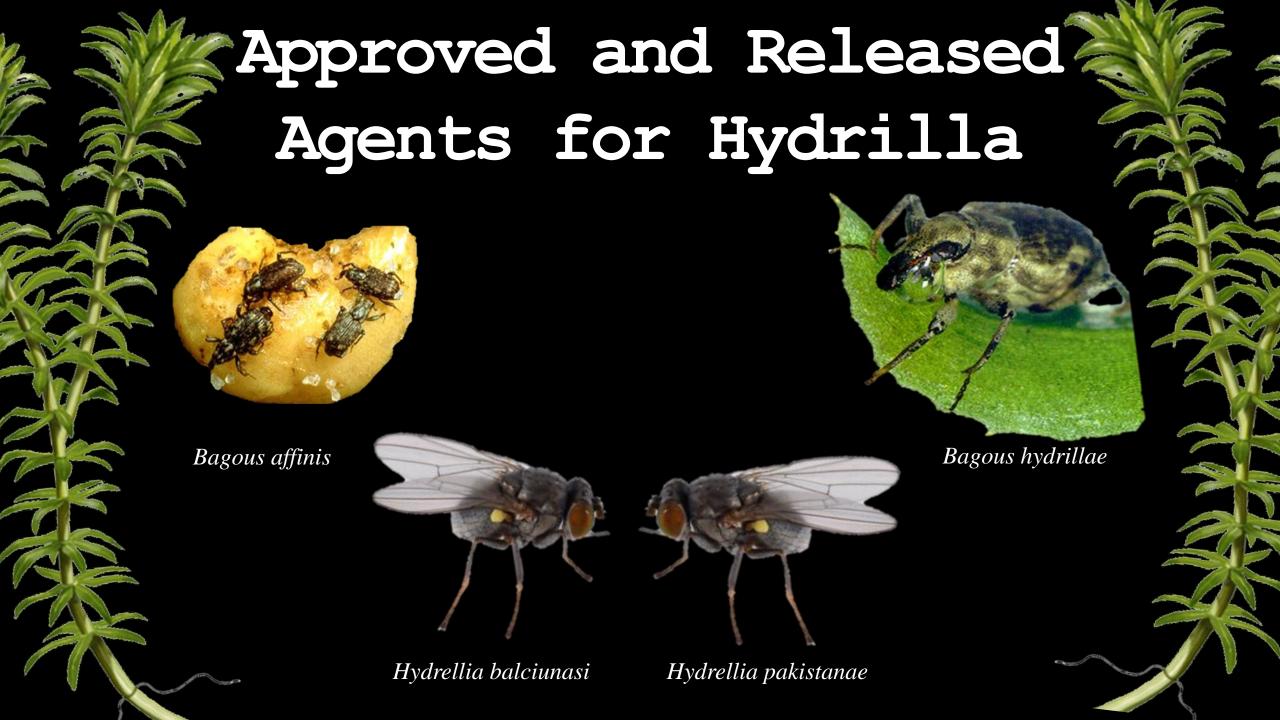
Waterhyacinth IPM: Biomass Reduction



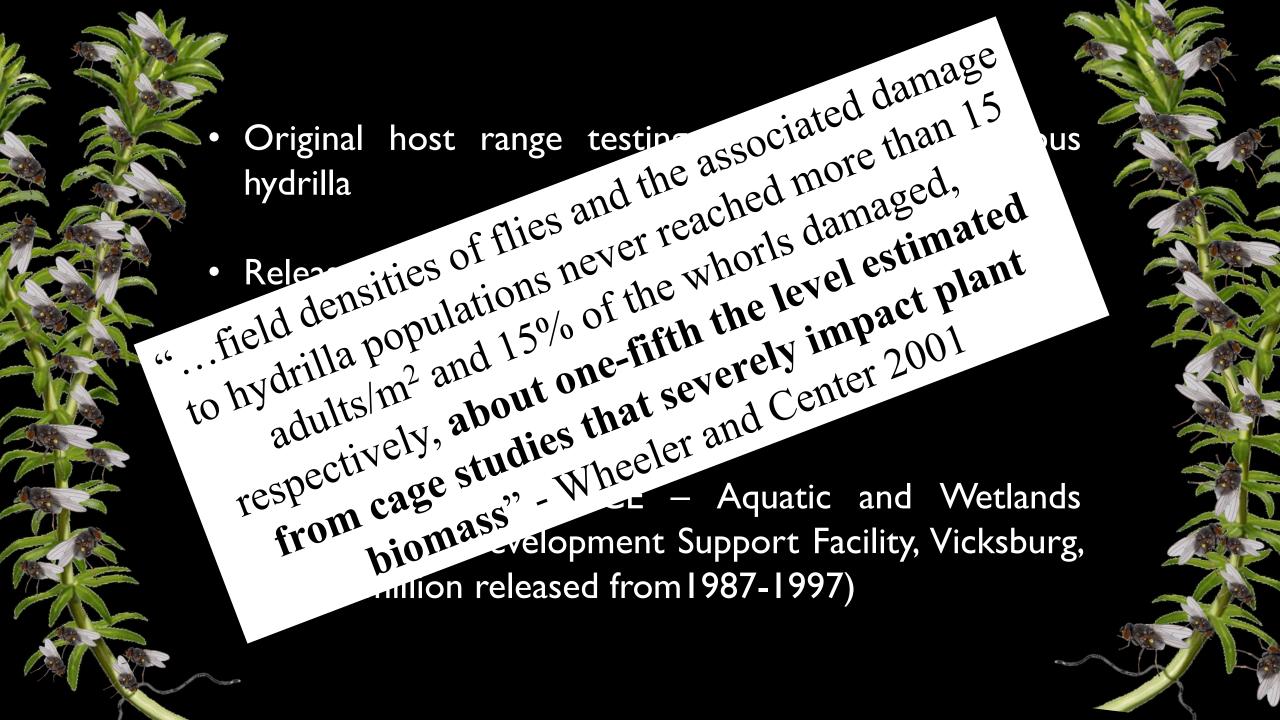










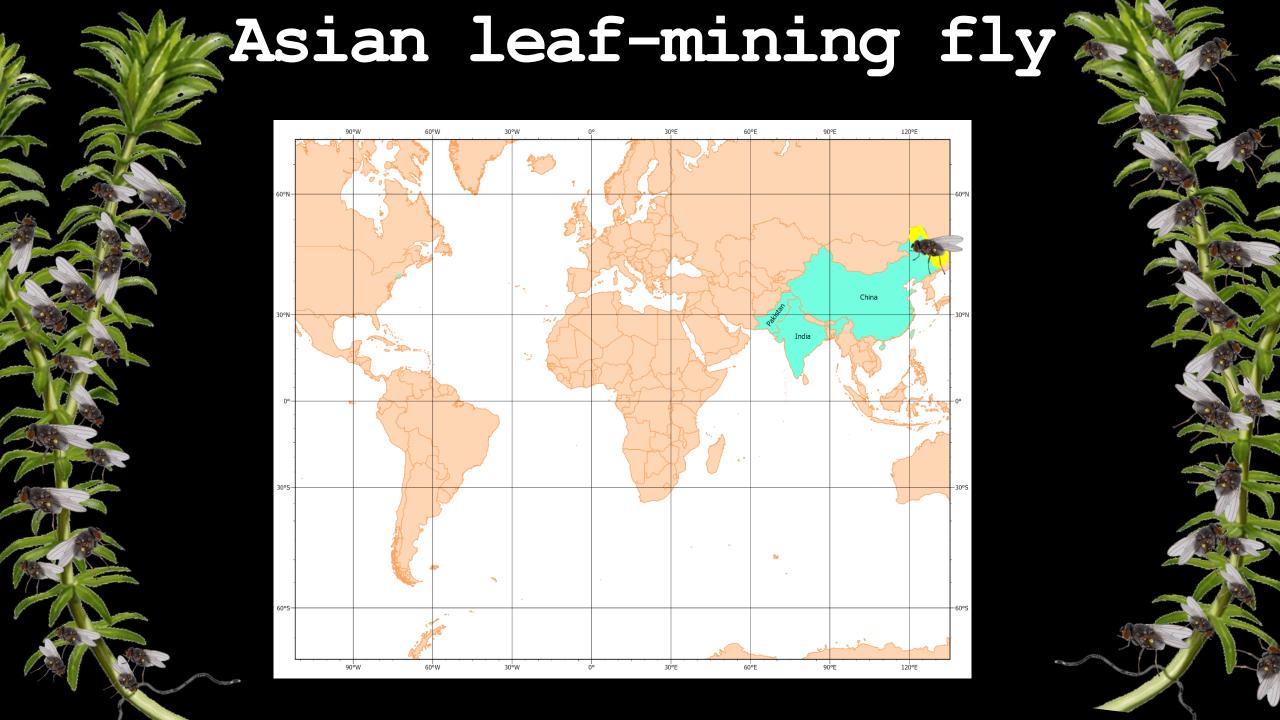


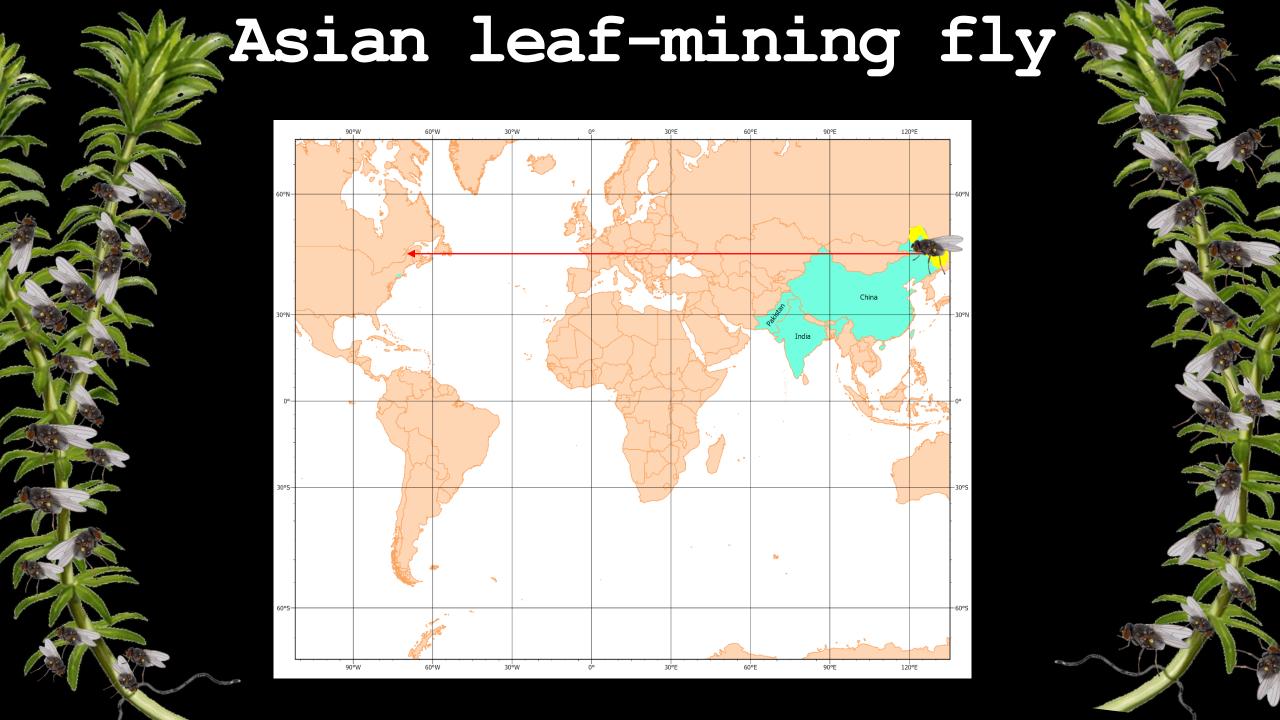


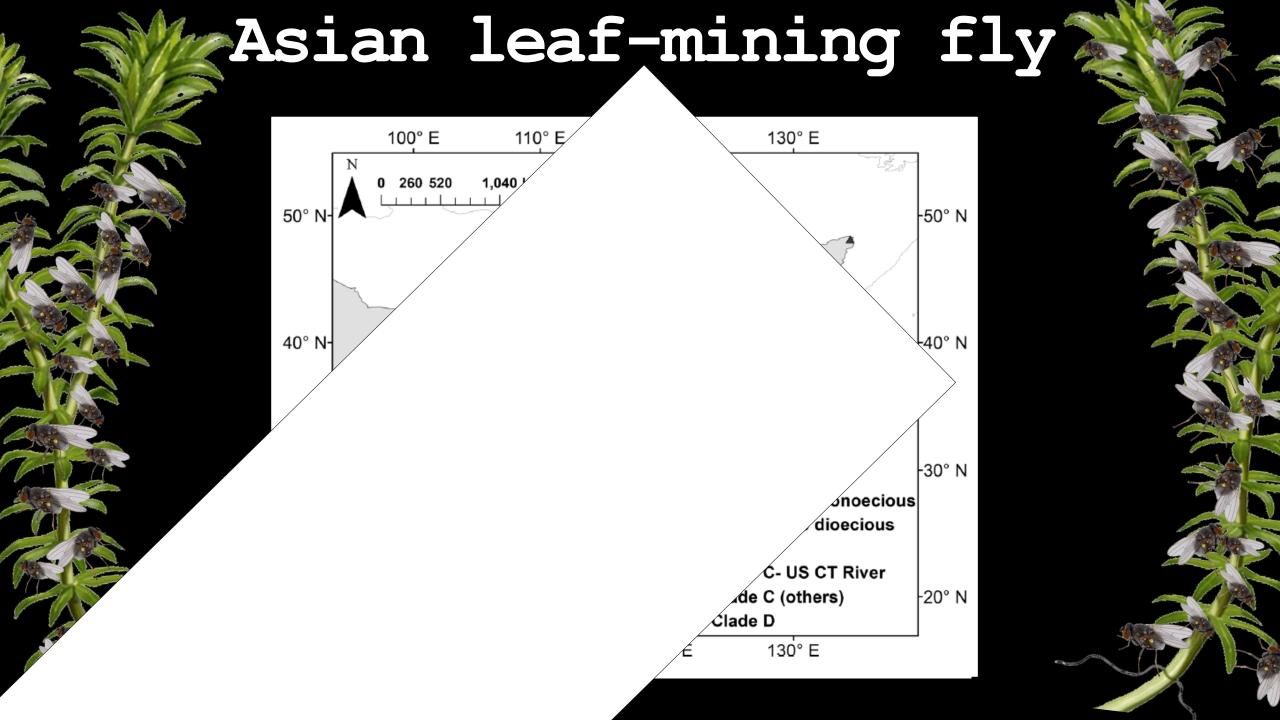


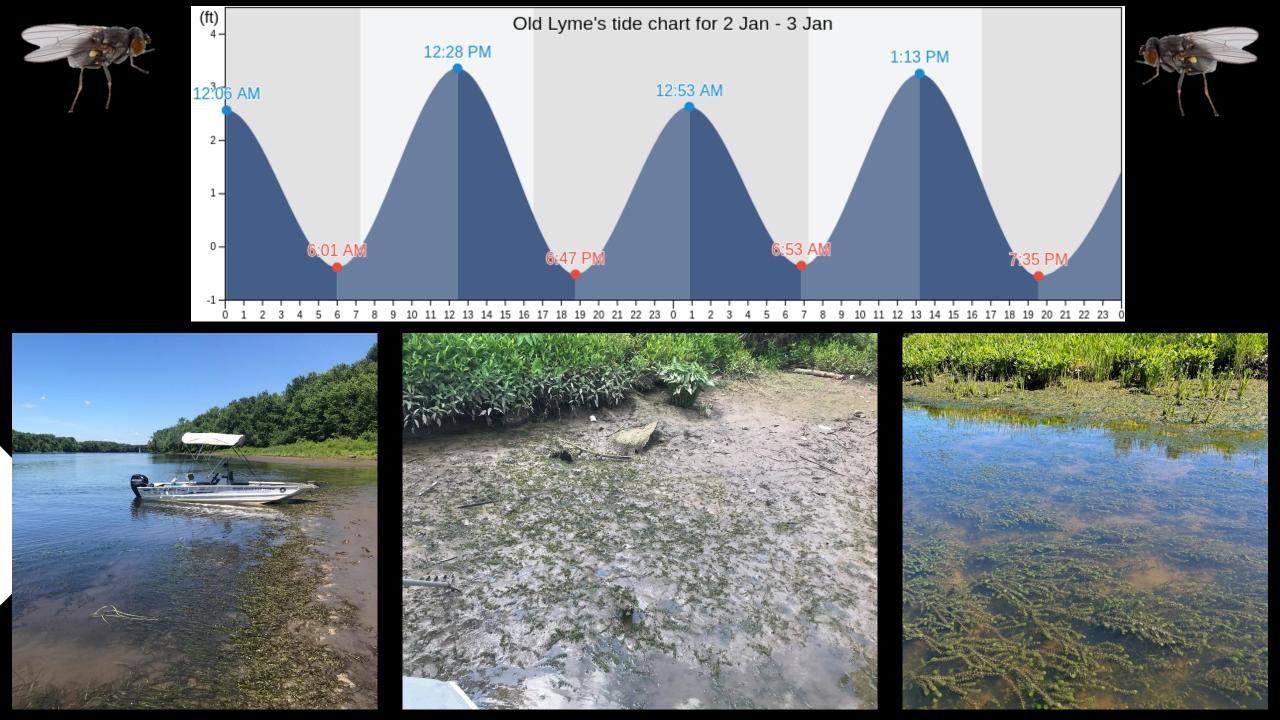


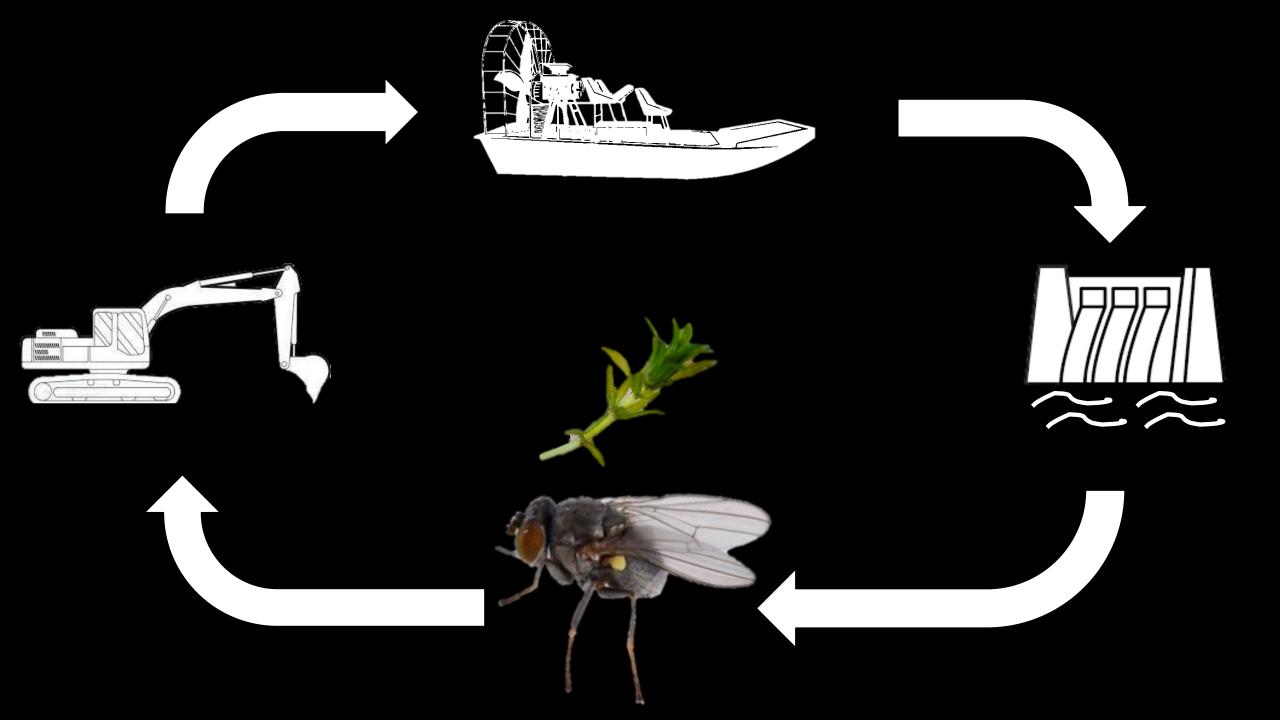






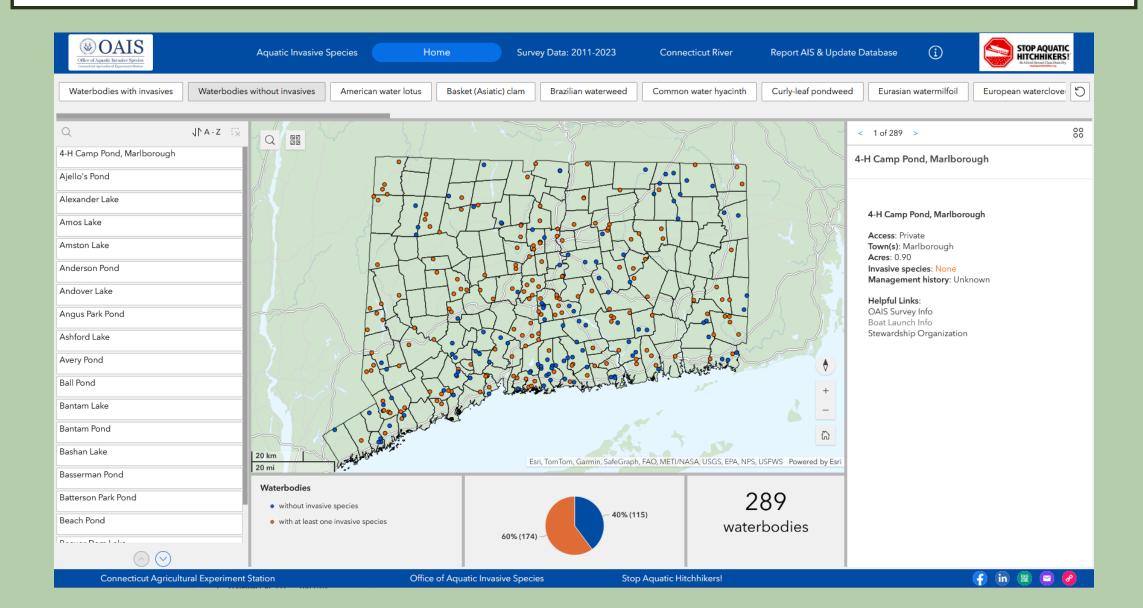




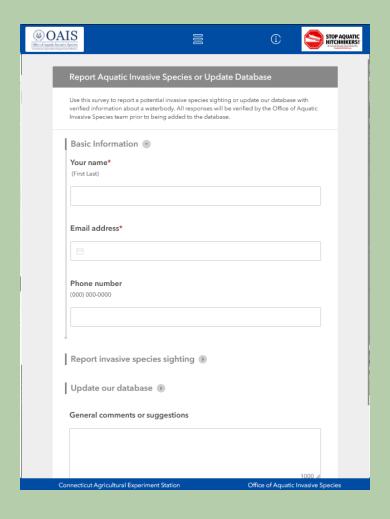


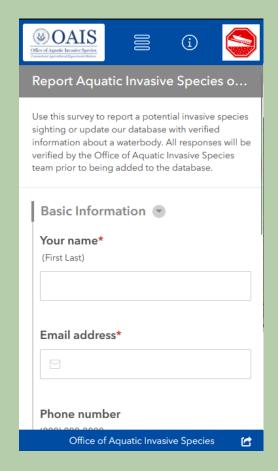


New CT AIS Web App



Tablet & Mobile Designs







USACE Cost Share Funding

33 U.S. Code § 610

Control of aquatic plant growths and invasive species

\$75 million

for each fiscal year 2021 through 2029

50/50 Cost Share

50% of cost is reimbursed when project is complete

USACE – CAES

project partnership agreement is currently in the works

Cost share funding should be available in 2026

Federally funded projects cannot be reimbursed



USACE Cost Share Funding





What types of projects does it cover?

AIS Prevention & Control

All Aquatic Invasive Species but...

Hydrilla is a USACE **priority**

Project Examples

AIS Management

Herbicide Treatments

Harvesting

Benthic Blankets

Monitoring & Survey Work

Boat Wash Stations

Boat Inspectors

Outreach & Education



USACE Cost Share Funding

Project Reimbursement Process

- 1. Partners submit project proposals
 - Future webpage on CAES OAIS website will include information and instructions
 - 2. CAES OAIS submits list of projects to USACE every Jan/Feb
 - - 3. USACE approves projects for funding
 - CAES OAIS sends confirmations to partner groups and creates contracts with partners
 - 4. When project is complete, partners receive 50% reimbursement from CAES

Questions?



Greg Bugbee
OAIS Lead
Gregory.Bugbee@ct.gov



Jeremiah Foley IV, Ph.D.
Biological Control Specialist
Jeremiah.Foley@ct.gov



Summer Weidman
Aquatic Plant Identification &
Remote Sensing Specialist
Summer.Weidman@ct.gov



Riley Doherty, GISP
GIS Specialist & Public Affairs
Riley.Doherty@ct.gov

Office of Aquatic Invasive Species

Department of Environmental Science & Forestry
Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station
123 Huntington St.
New Haven, CT 06511

portal.ct.gov/caes-oais

