Tomahawk Lake 2017 AIS Monitoring, Mapping & Planning Grant

1st Quarterly Report, April 1 through June 30, 2017

Grant Number ACEI 19817

The following report outlines the grant activities in the 1st grant quarter of 2017:

Hydraulic Conveyor System (HCS) Operations

Beginning on Tuesday, May 30, 2017 the Hydraulic Conveyor began operations for the 2017 harvesting season. Tomahawk Lake Association divers Angela Koziczkowski and Michael Greedy, along with Hydraulic Conveyor project manager Edward Greedy participated in a three-day training, followed by the beginning of full-time hydraulic conveyor harvesting.

The harvesting team continued operations in the 1st quarter, harvesting 35-40 hours per week, 5 days per week through and including June 30. Harvesting operations proceeded on this basis through the end of September. Daily operations included an early morning meeting to determine sites to be harvested that day, depended upon weather and specifically wind conditions. The harvesting team then proceeded to the agreed-upon sites, anchored over the target infestations and began harvesting. Each diver harvested underwater for approximately 1.25 hours, while the other member of the team remained on the boat, bagging the harvested plant material and maintaining the 3 stage separator on board. At the end of each 1.25 hour shift the divers exchanged positions and resumed harvesting. Each diver worked an average of 2 to 3 shifts per 8-hour day dependent upon environmental conditions.

The Hydraulic Conveyor returned to its birth at the end of each day and conducted a bi-catch analysis of sampled plants to determine the percentage of individual plant species in the days harvest, and also perform boat maintenance tasks.

The Hydraulic Conveyor team completed a daily harvesting log each day which included the GPS coordinates of all sites harvested, the type of beds being harvested detailing plant density and bottom type, as well as the results of the daily bi-catch analysis. These procedures were continued throughout the summer.

The daily harvested plant material was loaded into 3 mill 42 gallon plastic garbage bags during the daily harvest. The "ears" of each bag were clipped to allow for drainage of water, and the harvested bags were stored on the Tomahawk Lake Association's 28 foot flatbed trailer. The harvested milfoil bags continued to drain water throughout the storage period. The average weight of the drained harvested bags was 60# +. The bags were stored until the trailer had reached its maximum holding capacity (averaging two weeks) when the trailer was removed to the Town of Minocqua herbaceous waste site for disposal. All harvested plant material was removed from each bag prior to placing the EWM into the waste site and the plastic storage bags were removed from the waste site.

These are the qualified activities accomplished in the 1st quarter of grant ACEI 19817

Edward Greedy
Executive Director
The Tomahawk Lake Association, Inc.