

Early Season 2,4-D Herbicide and Deep Harvesting Treatment Effects on Eurasian Watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) and Native Macrophytes in Turville Bay, Lake Monona, Dane County, Wisconsin



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Tim Asplund, John Skogerboe, Susan Jones,
Jim Leverance, and Susan Graham**

Project Collaborators



- Dane County, Wisconsin
Susan Jones, Jim Leverance



- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
John Skogerboe



- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

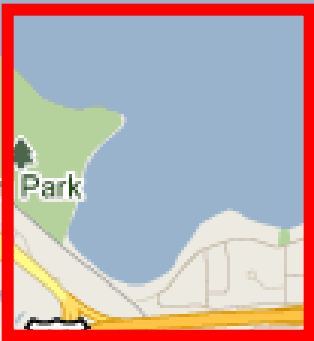
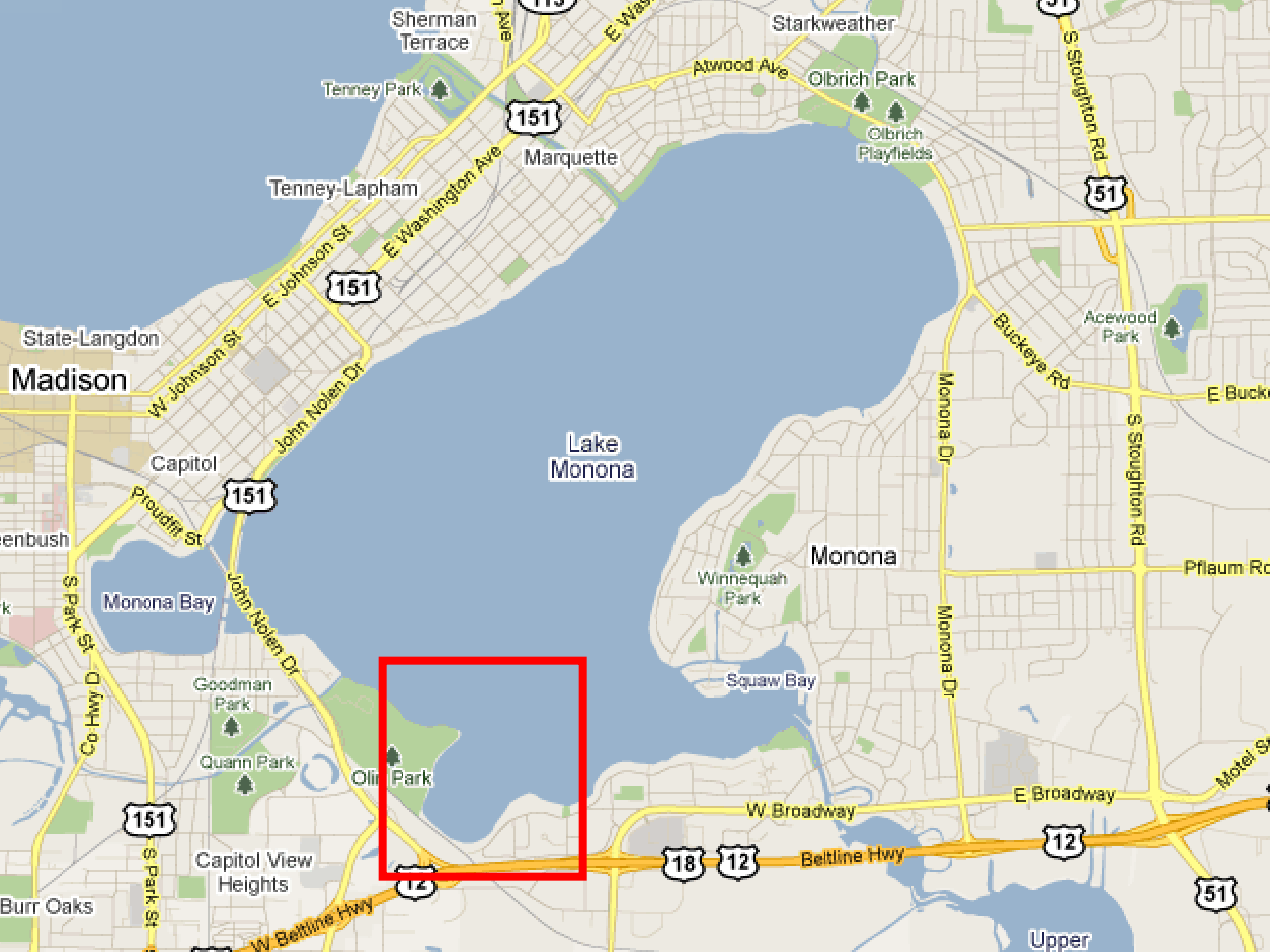
Jennifer Hauxwell, Tim Asplund, Alison Mikulyuk, Michelle Nault, Kelly Wagner, Scott van Egeren and Susan Graham

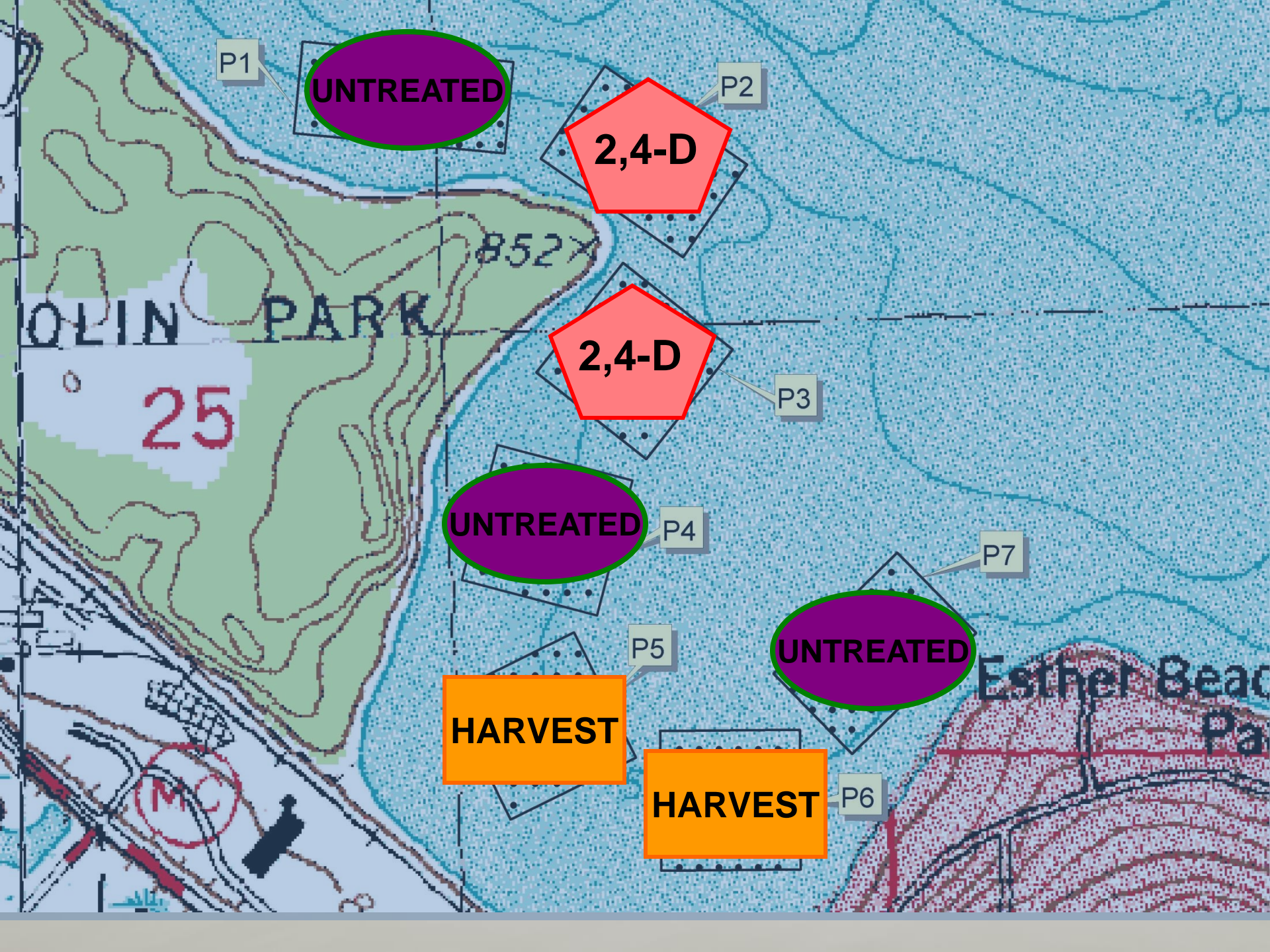
Project Goals

- To determine if early season herbicide or early mechanical harvesting treatments are effective control measures
- Strategic planning increased selectivity for exotics
- Improve habitat for native plant species

Early-Season Control Strategies

- 2,4-D herbicide treatment
 - Semi-selective
 - Dicots: EWM, Coontail, Water marigold
- Deep mechanical harvesting
 - Non-selective
- Can treating early increase selectivity?





P1

UNTREATED

P2

2,4-D

852

OLIN PARK

25

2,4-D

P3

UNTREATED

P4

P7

UNTREATED

Esther Beach
Park

P5

HARVEST

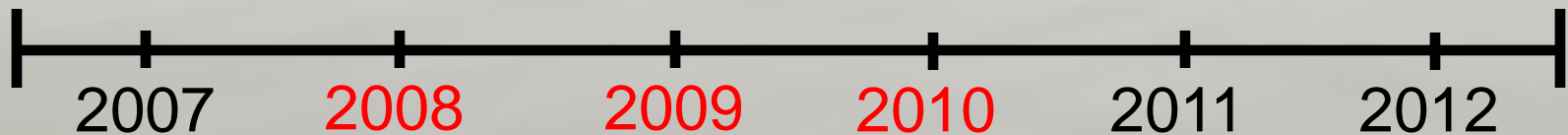
HARVEST

P6

MC

Herbicide Treatment

- Granular 2,4-D as Navigate®
- 2008
 - 100 - 150 lbs/acre (by depth)
- 2009 and 2010
 - 150 lbs/acre



Mechanical harvesting

- Deep harvesting
 - 4.5 – 5 ft from water's surface
- 2008
 - high water levels prevented harvesting until later in the season (July)
- 2009 (early June) and 2010 (25 May)
 - timing was based on start of EWM growth
- 2011 (July 5 - 7)
 - Plant growth slower than usual, waited until within one foot of surface before harvesting



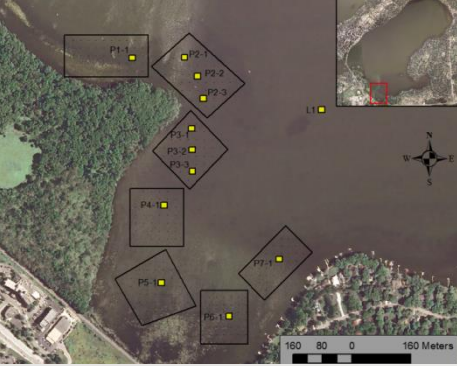
Assessing Plant Response

- 12 Surveys : June & August, 2007-2012
- ~40 points per 5 acre plot
- **Plant presence/absence**
 - Generalized Linear Mixed-Effect Models
 - Presence/absence
 - Assess significance of plant response to treatments





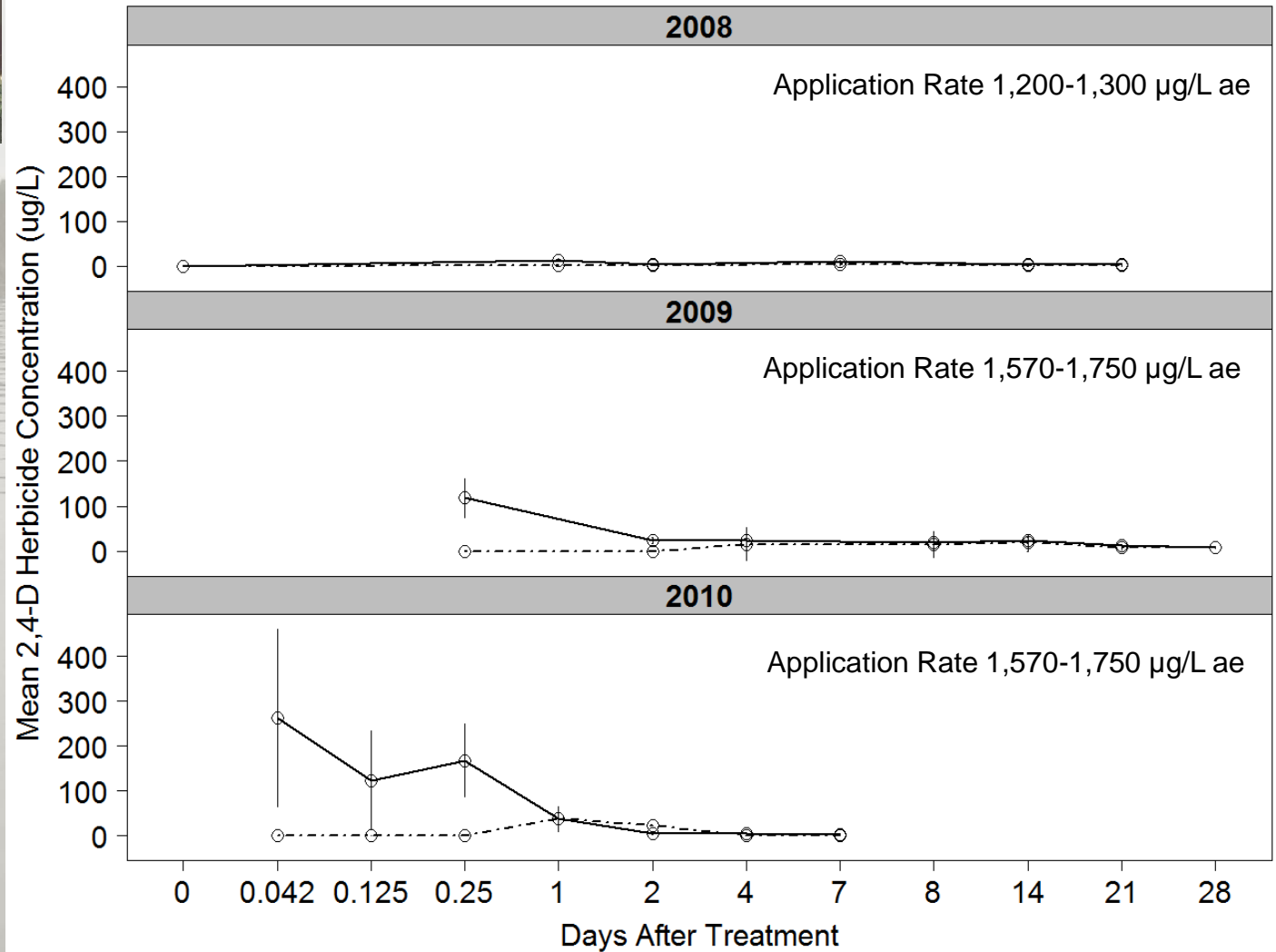
Results



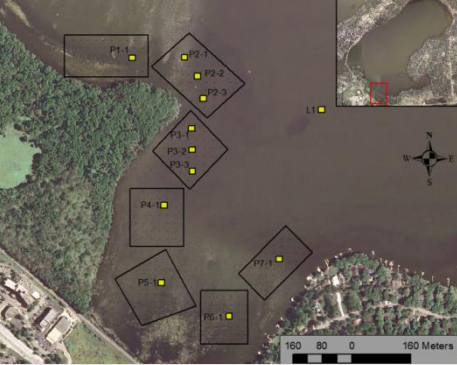
* $\mu\text{g/L}$ = parts per billion

2,4-D Herbicide Concentrations

Treated $\circ-\circ-\circ$ Untreated $\circ-\text{---}-\circ$



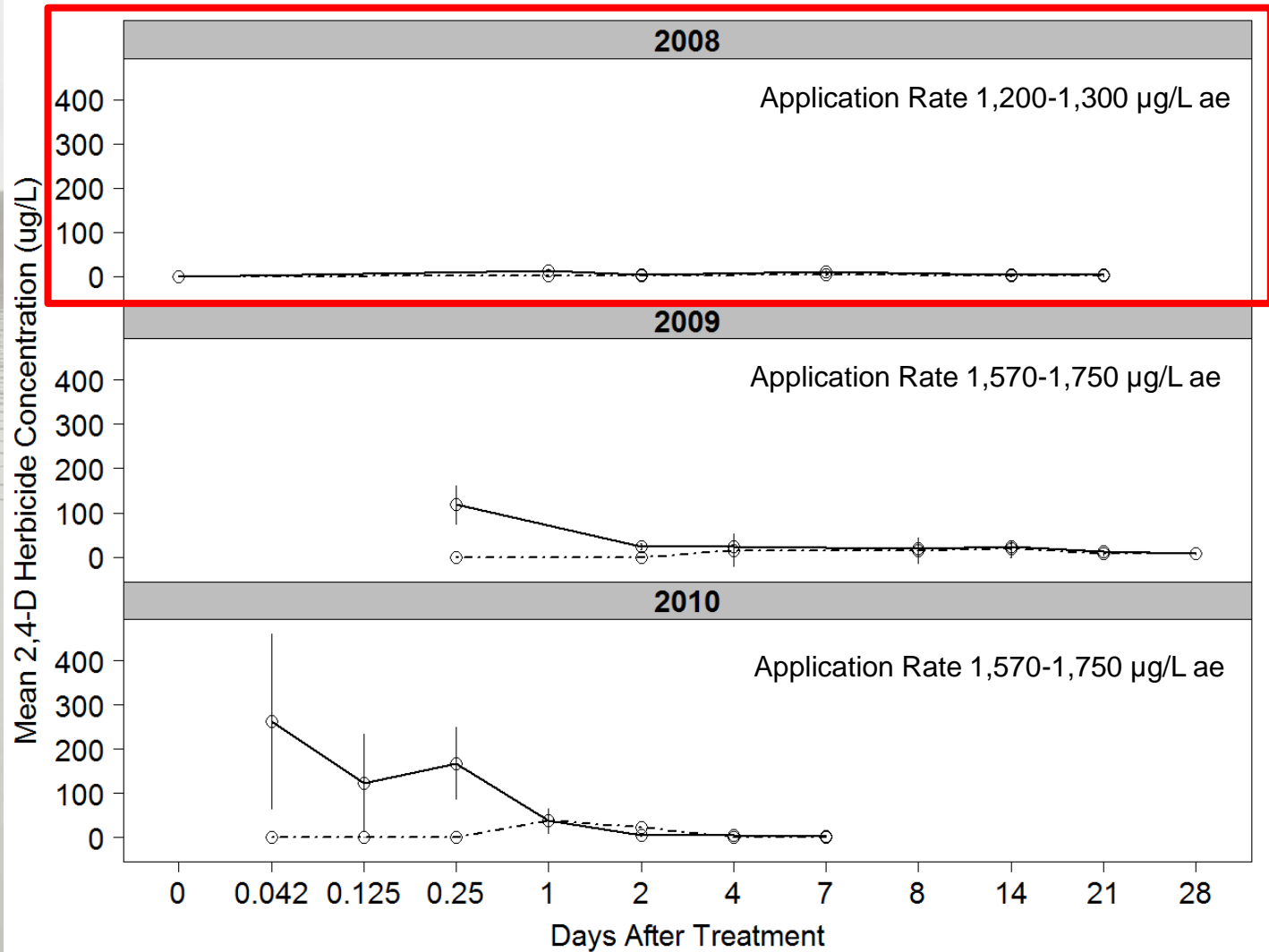
- 2,4-D Dissipated quickly
- Very low concentrations detected in untreated areas



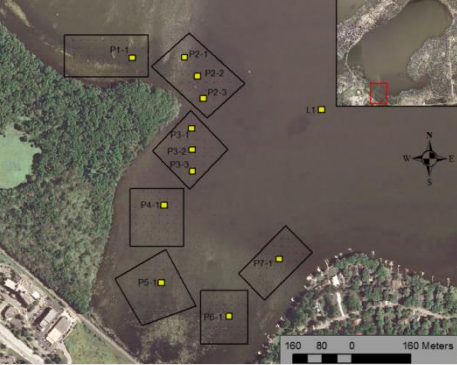
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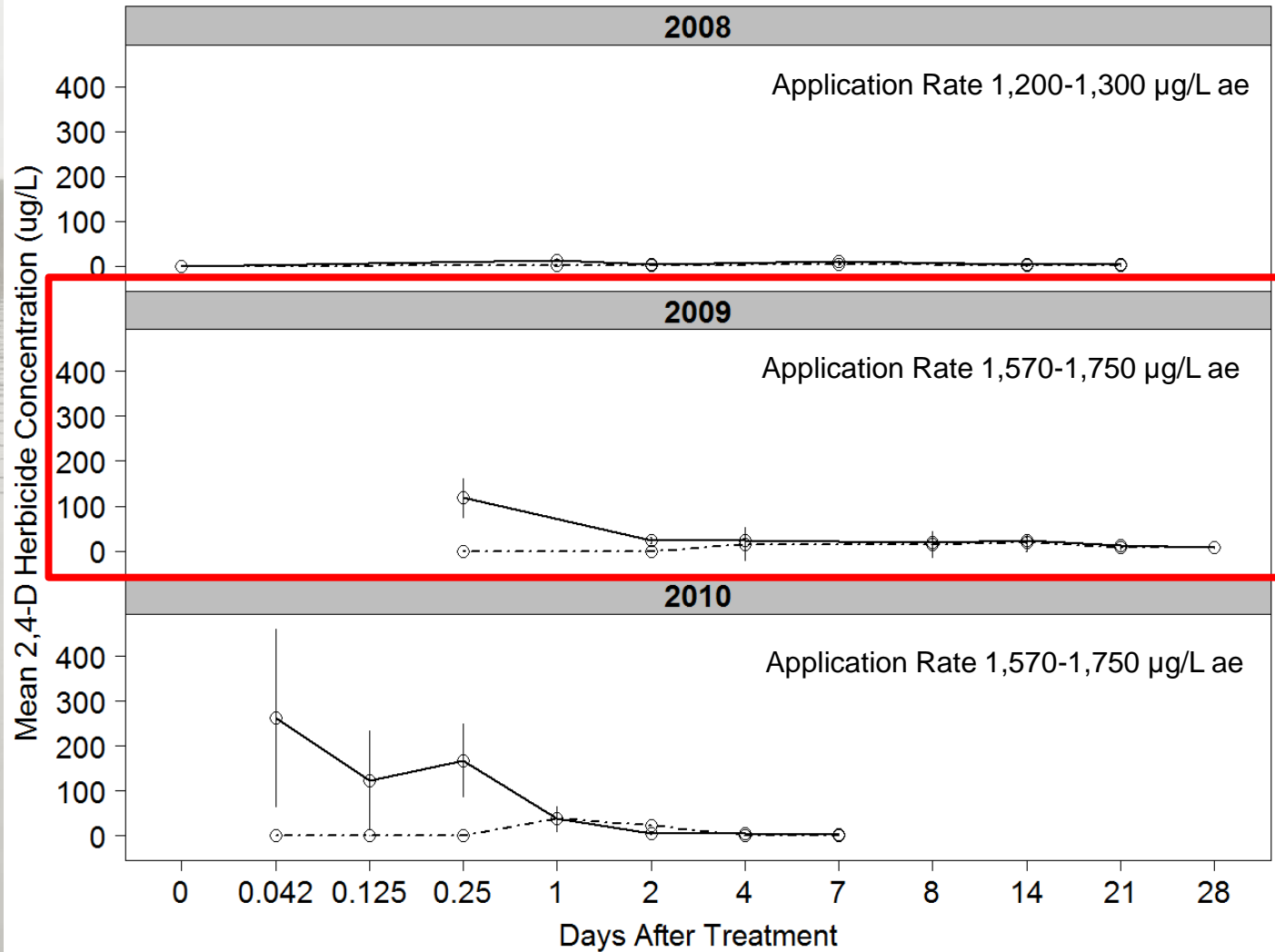
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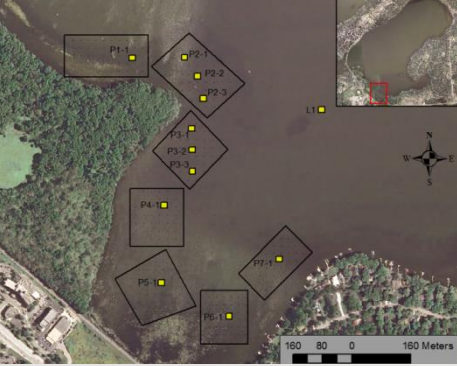
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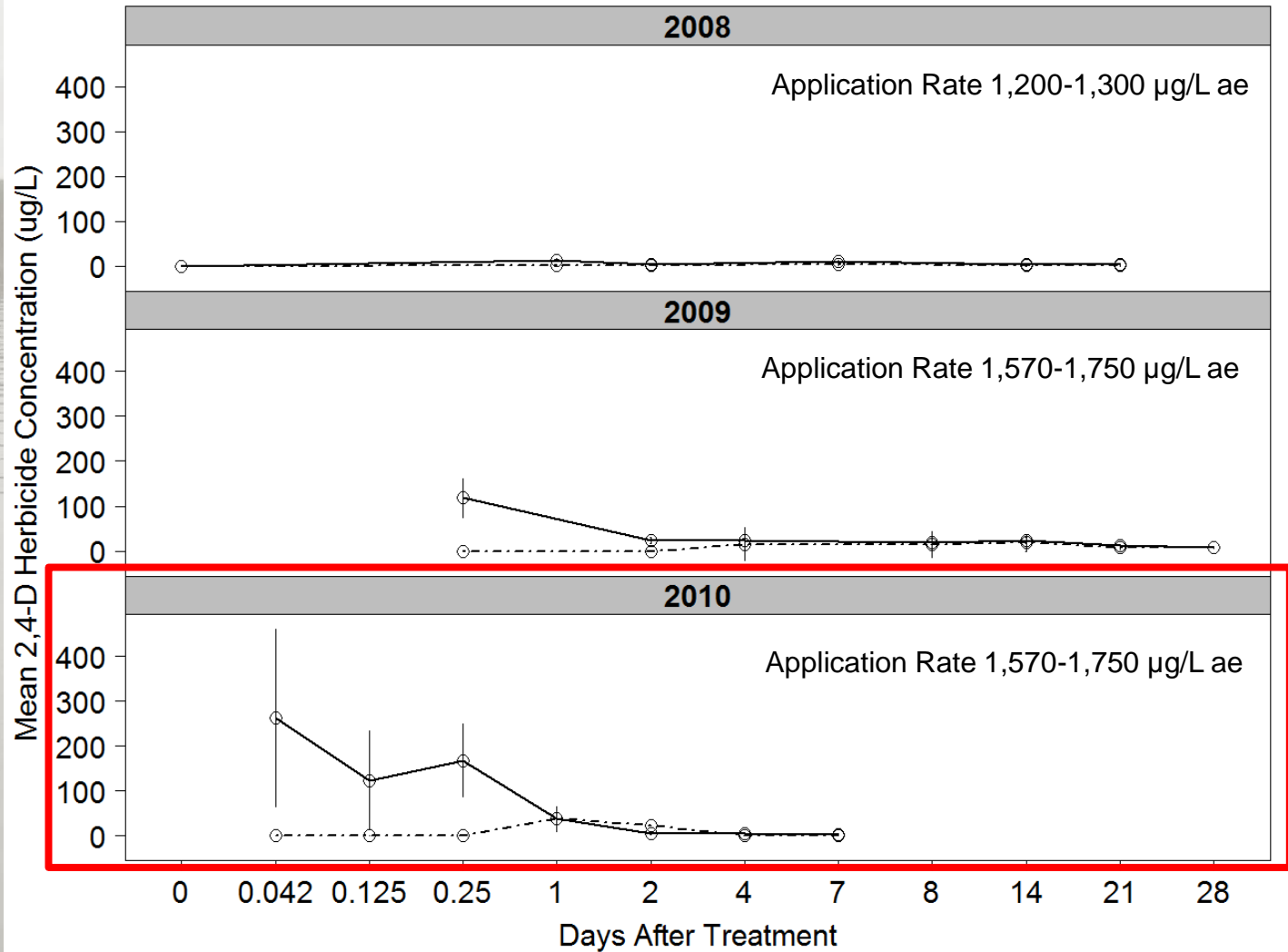
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2,4-D Herbicide Concentrations

Treated $\circ-\circ-\circ$ Untreated $\circ-\text{---}-\circ$



- 2,4-D Dissipated quickly
- Very low concentrations detected in untreated areas

Predict:

Given:

TREATMENT

Reference
Herbicide
Harvest

Species

Presence
Absence

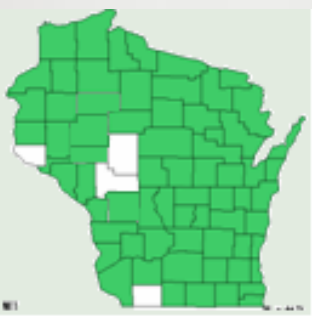
**Random plot
differences**

**Random year
differences**

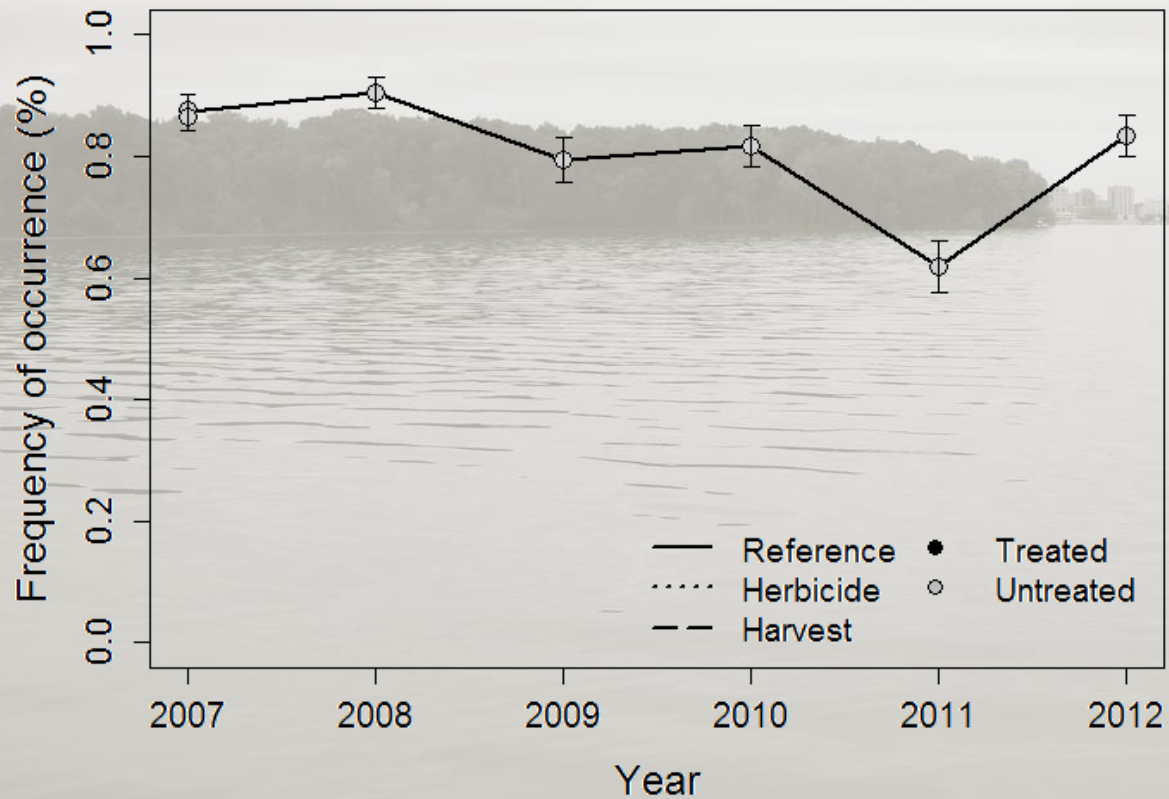
Generalized Linear Mixed Model

$\text{SPECIES} \sim \text{TREATMENT} + (1 \mid \text{PLOT}) + (\text{YEAR} \mid \text{PLOT})$

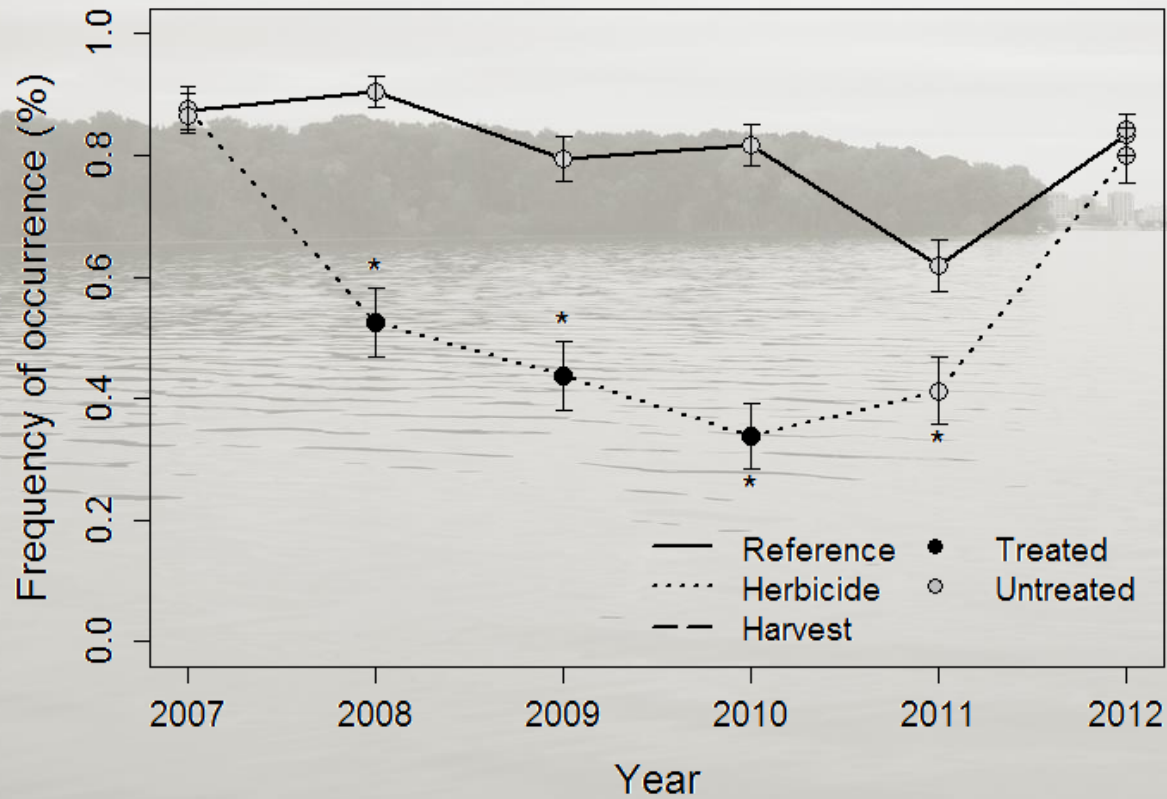
Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)



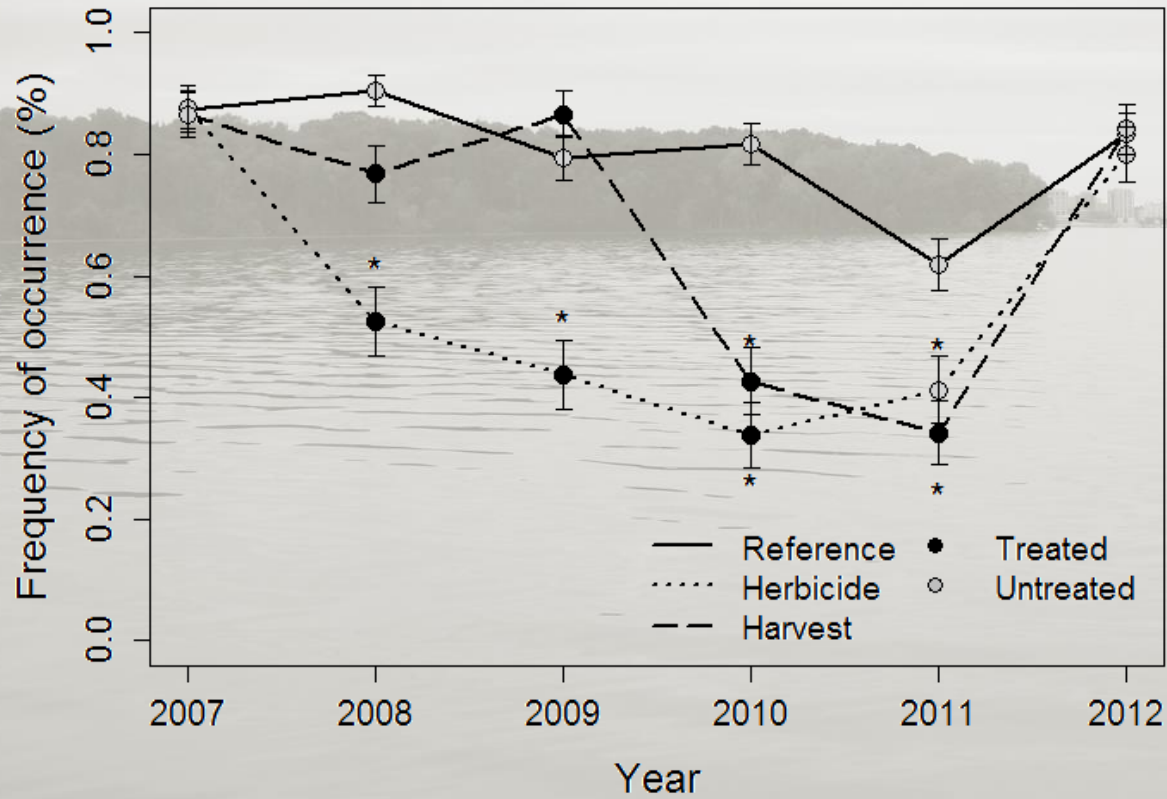
Eurasian watermilfoil



Eurasian watermilfoil



Eurasian watermilfoil



Native Species

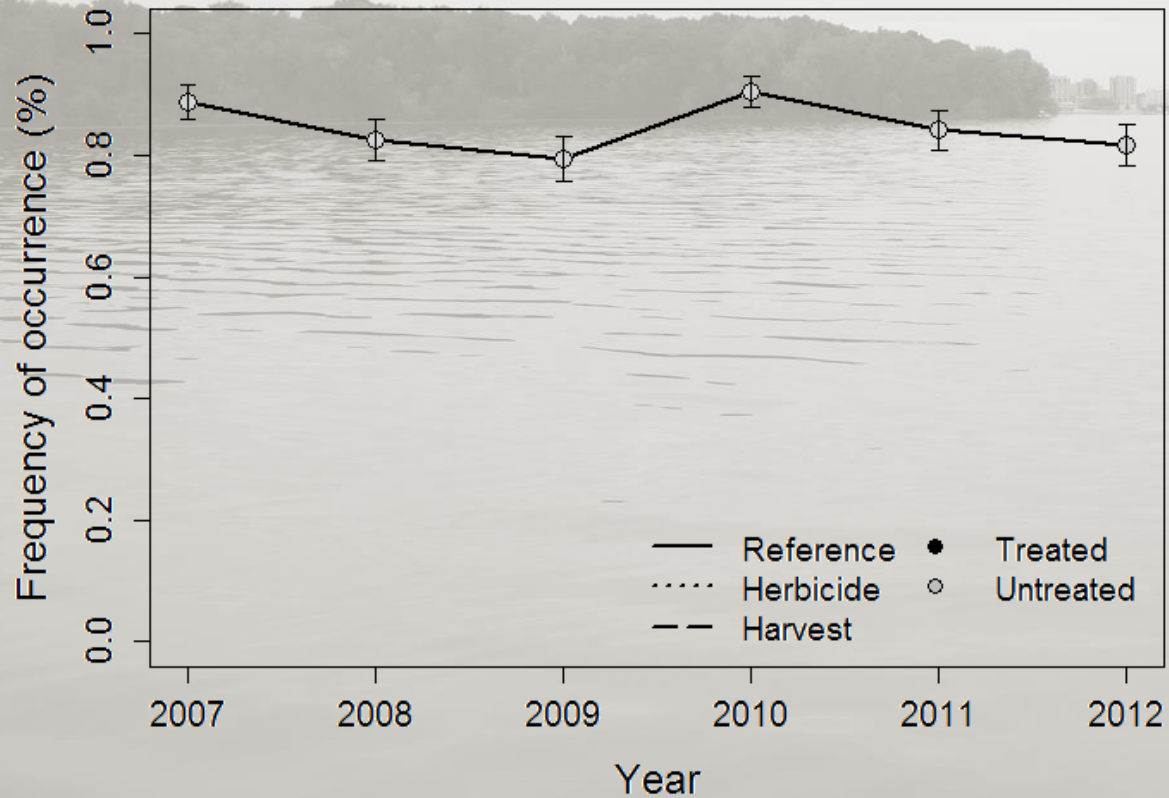
13 Native Plant
Species found

7 occurred > 5%
frequency of
occurrence

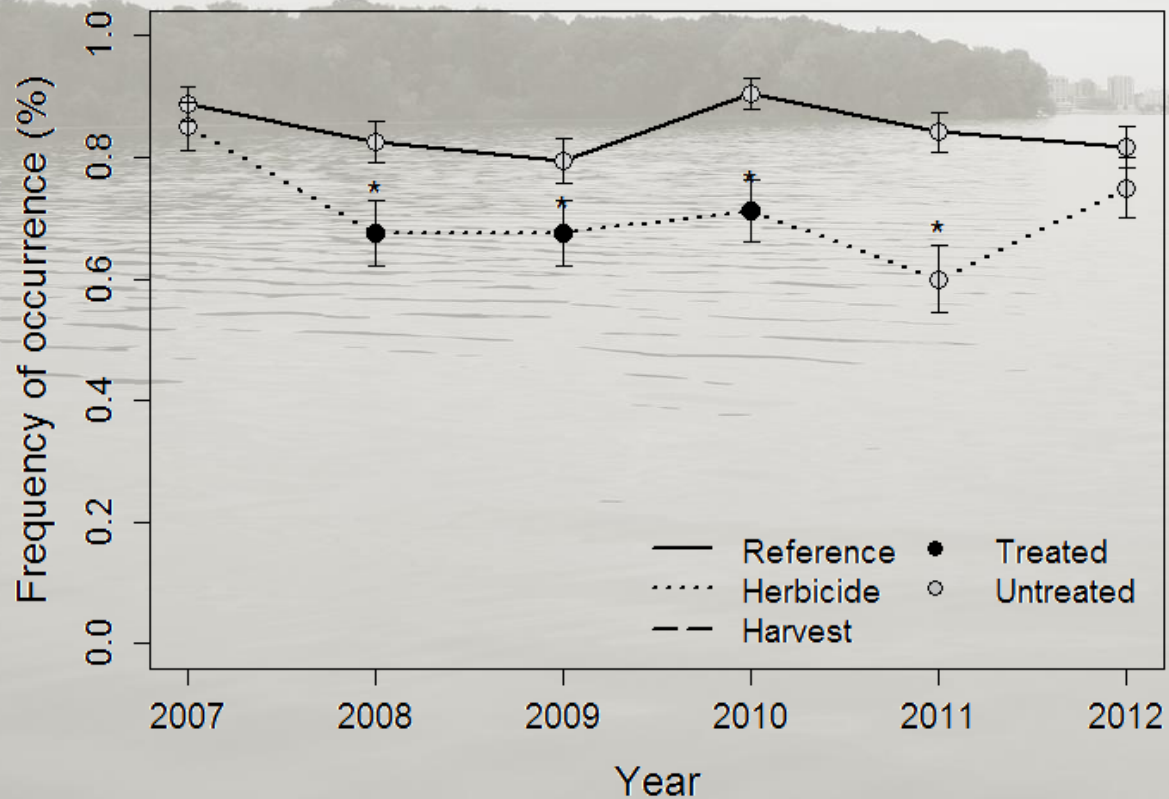
| | Common Name | Scientific Name |
|----|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | Coontail | <i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i> |
| 2 | Sago pondweed | <i>Stuckenia pectinata</i> |
| 3 | Clasping-leaf pondweed | <i>Potamogeton richardsonii</i> |
| 4 | Wild celery | <i>Valisneria americana</i> |
| 5 | Common waterweed | <i>Elodea canadensis</i> |
| 6 | Water star-grass | <i>Heteranthera dubia</i> |
| 7 | Leafy pondweed | <i>Potamogeton foliosus</i> |
| 8 | Muskgrass | <i>Chara</i> sp. |
| 9 | Small duckweed | <i>Lemna minor</i> |
| 10 | Slender naiad | <i>Najas flexilis</i> |
| 11 | Flat-stem pondweed | <i>Potamogeton zosteriformis</i> |
| 12 | White water crowfoot | <i>Ranunculus aquatilis</i> |
| 13 | Horned pondweed | <i>Zannichelia palustris</i> |

Coontail

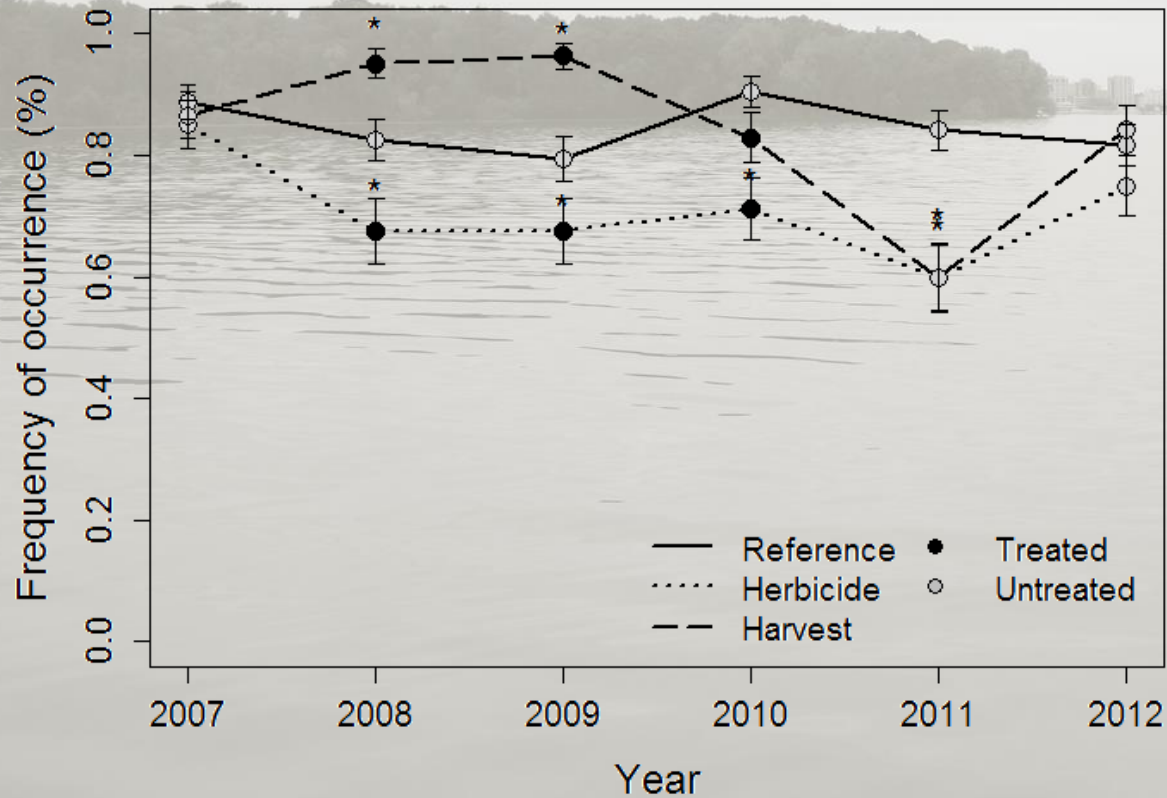
(Ceratophyllum demersum)



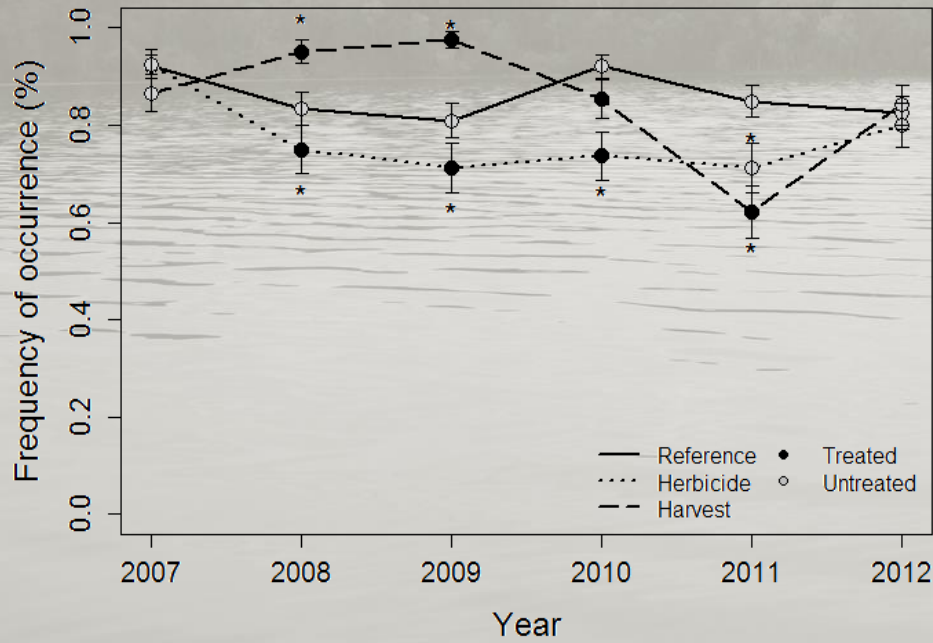
Coontail (*Ceratophyllum demersum*)



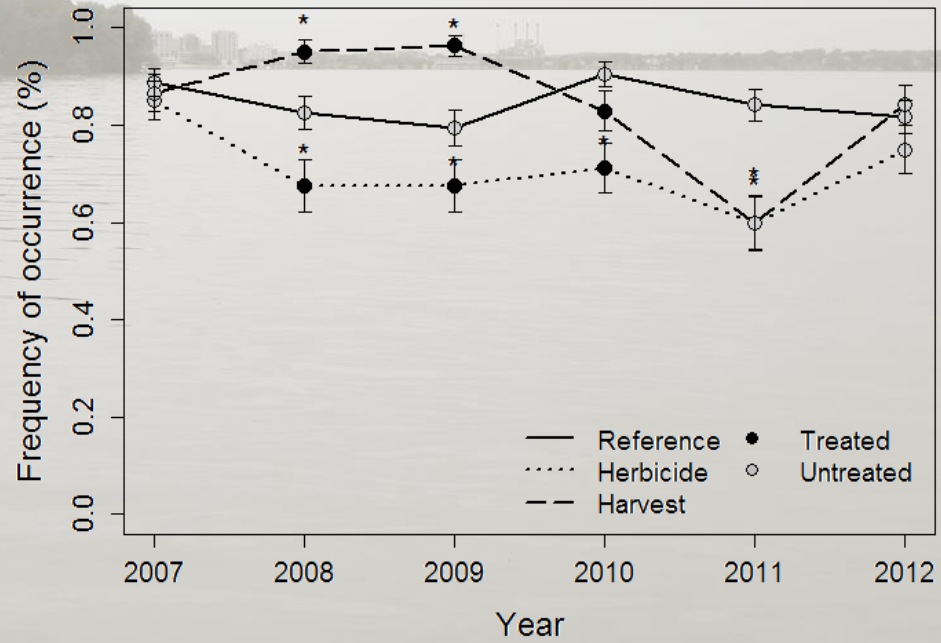
Coontail (*Ceratophyllum demersum*)



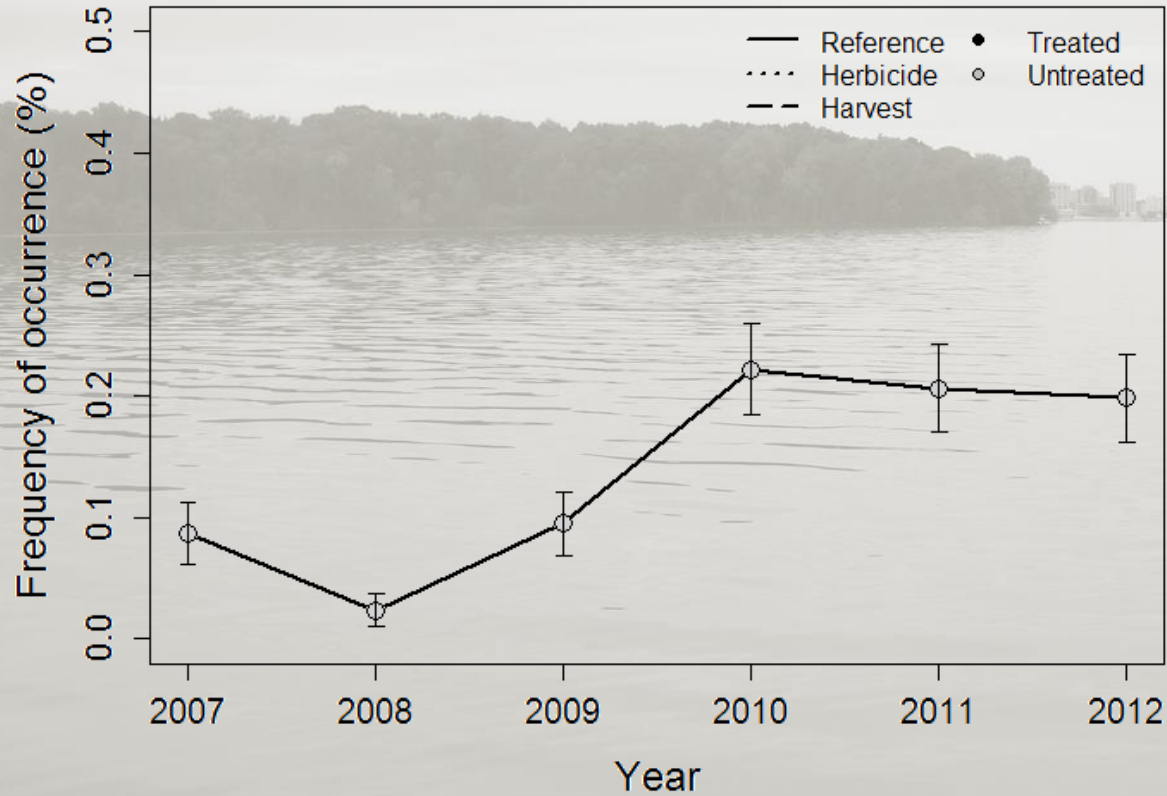
All Natives



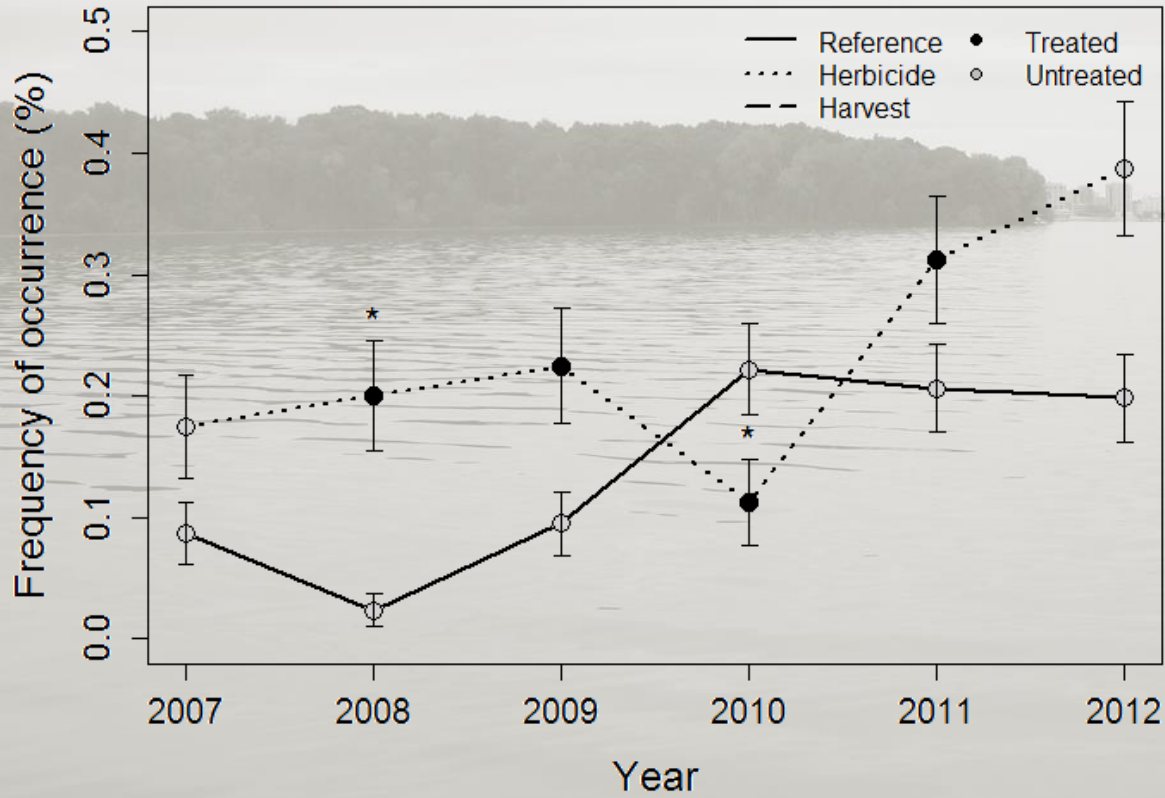
Coontail



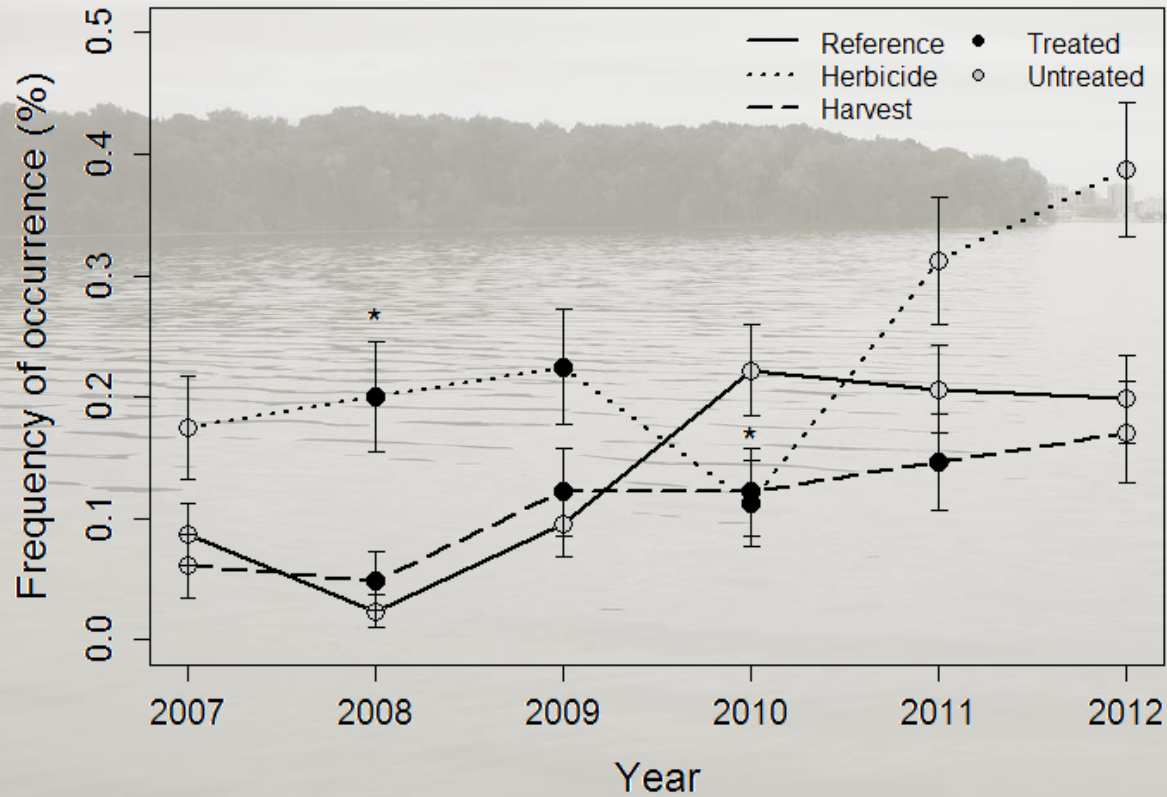
Sago (*Stuckenia pectinata*)



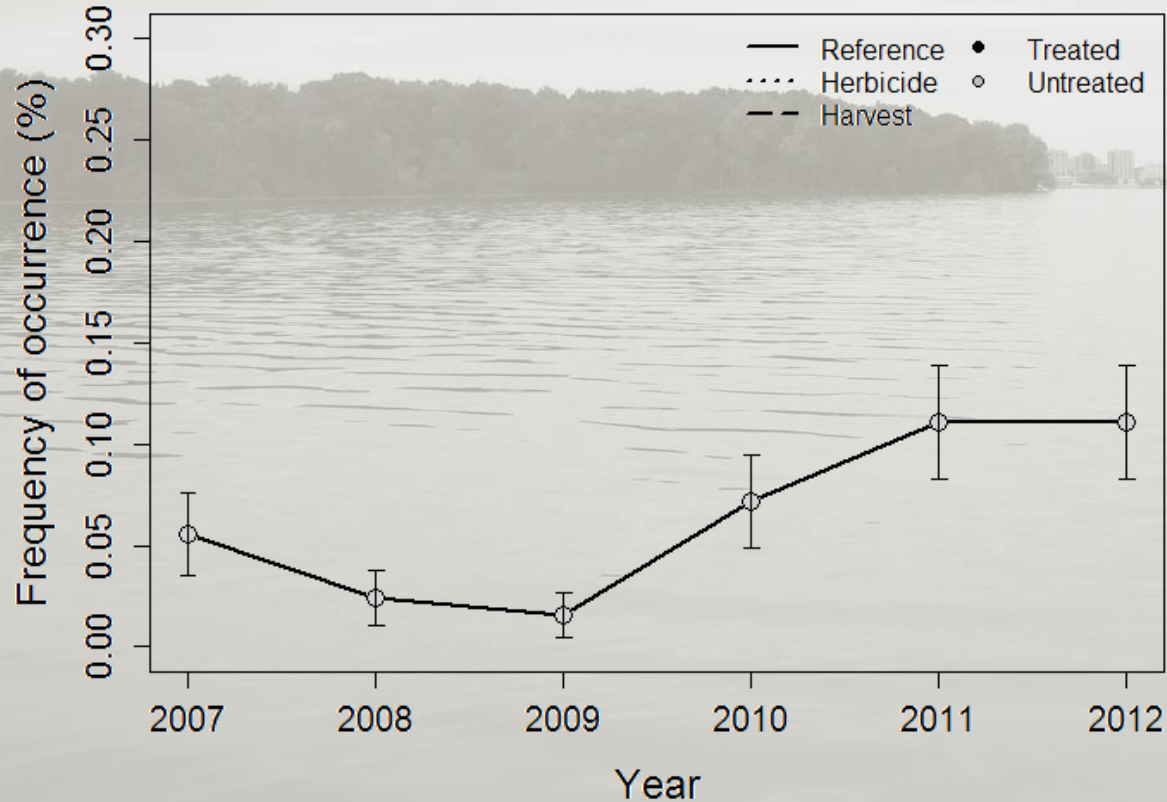
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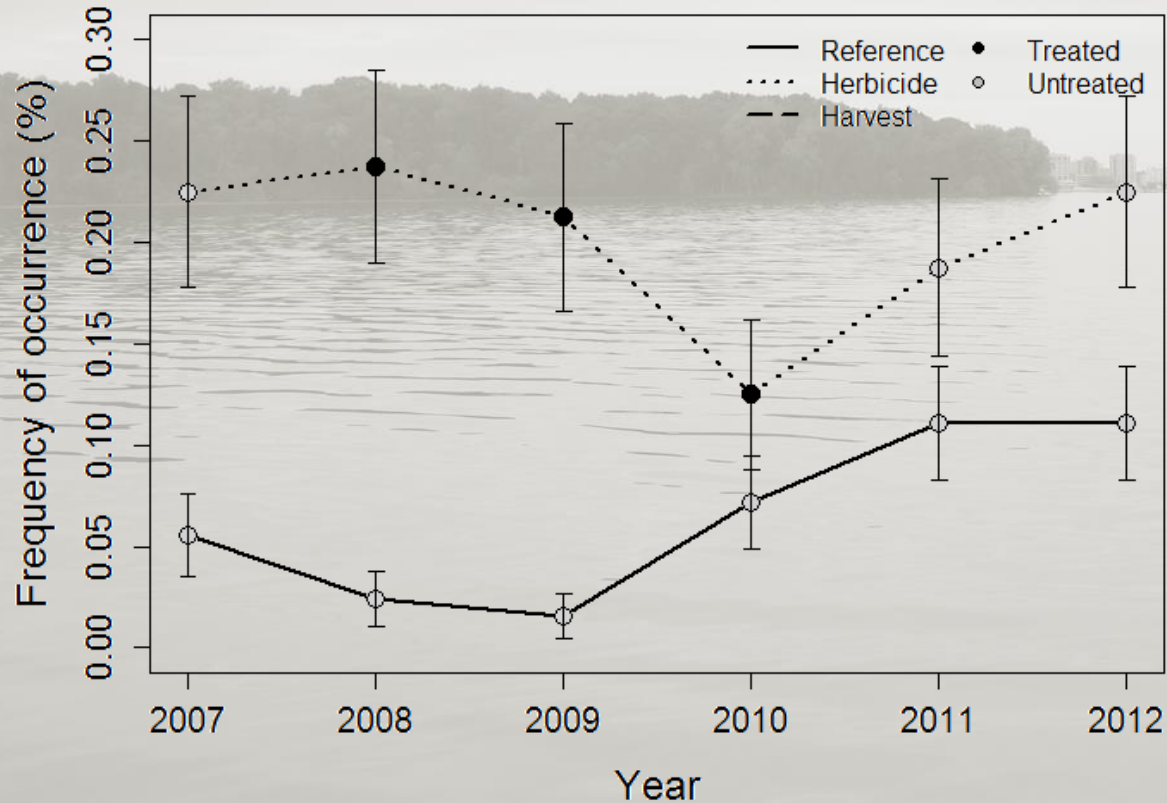
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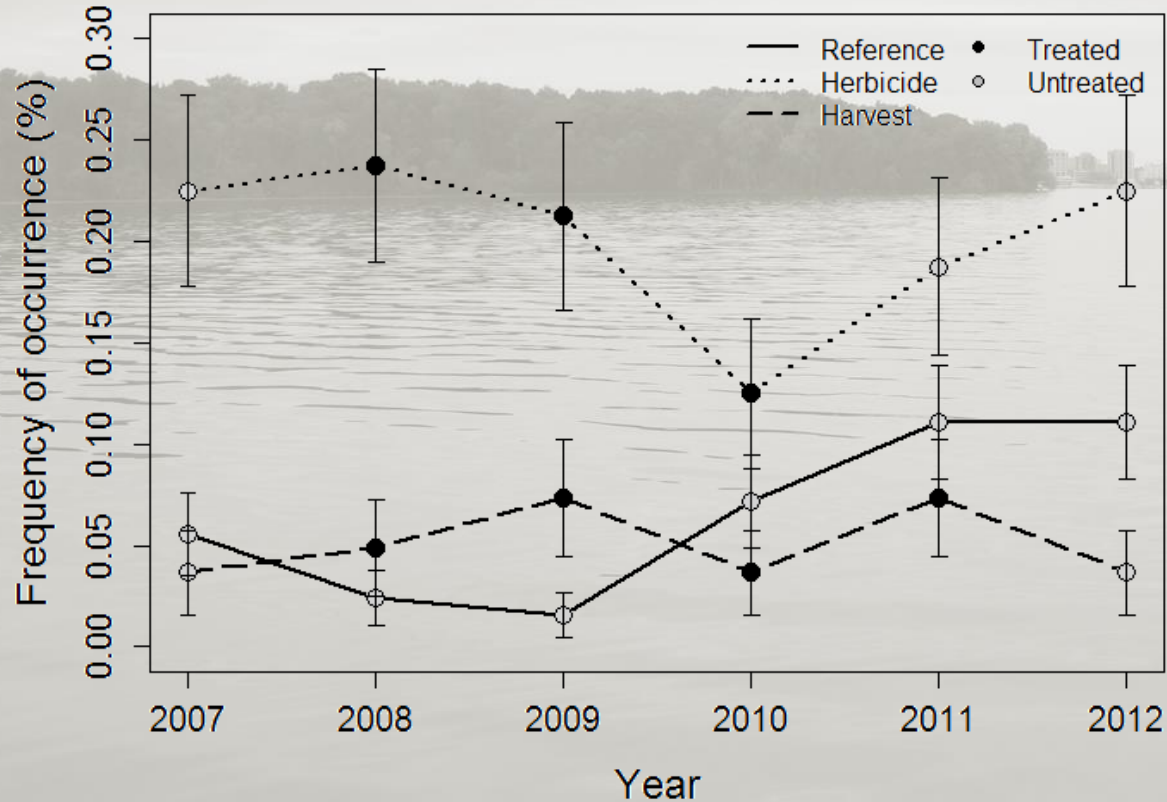
Clasping-leaf pondweed (*Potamogeton richardsonii*)



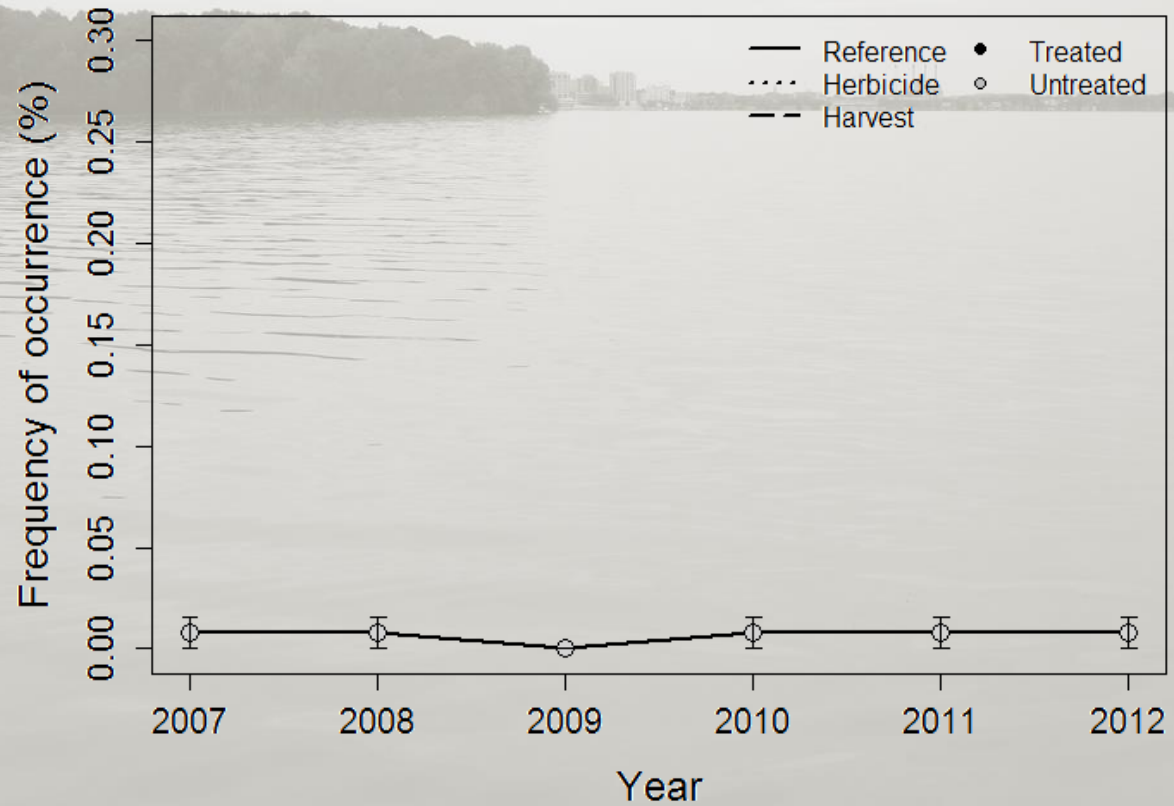
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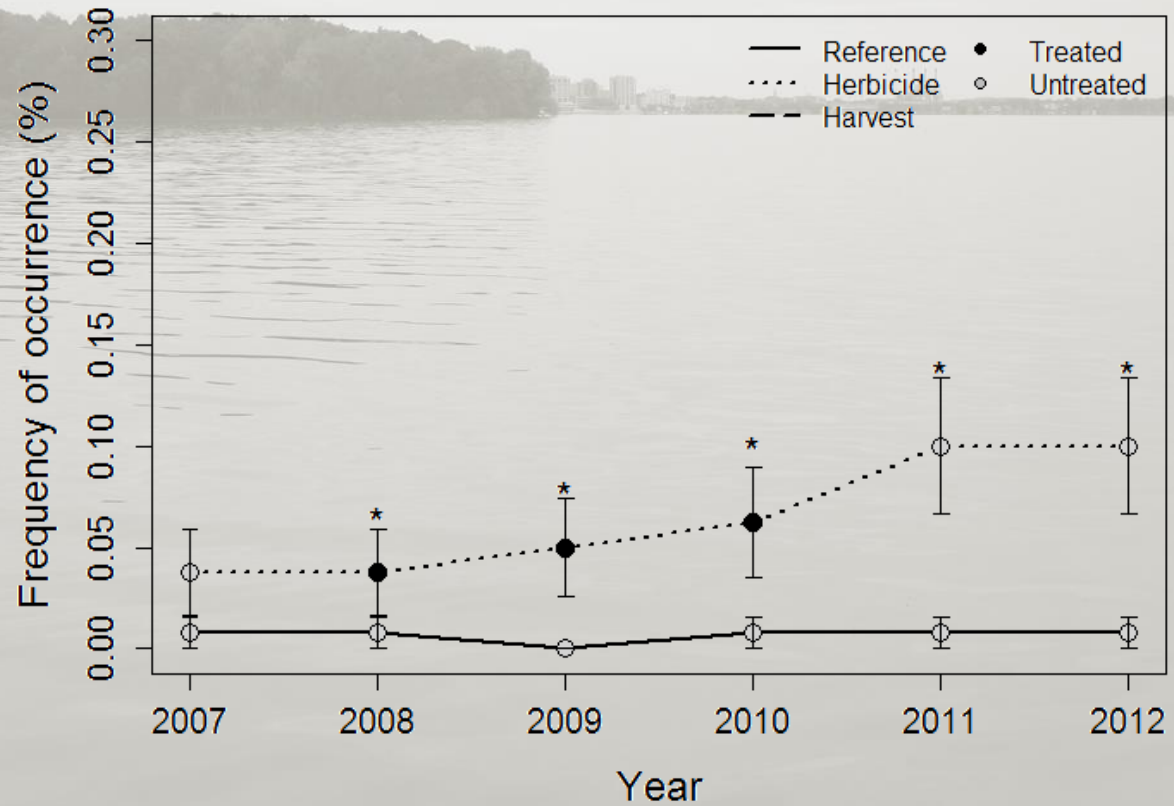
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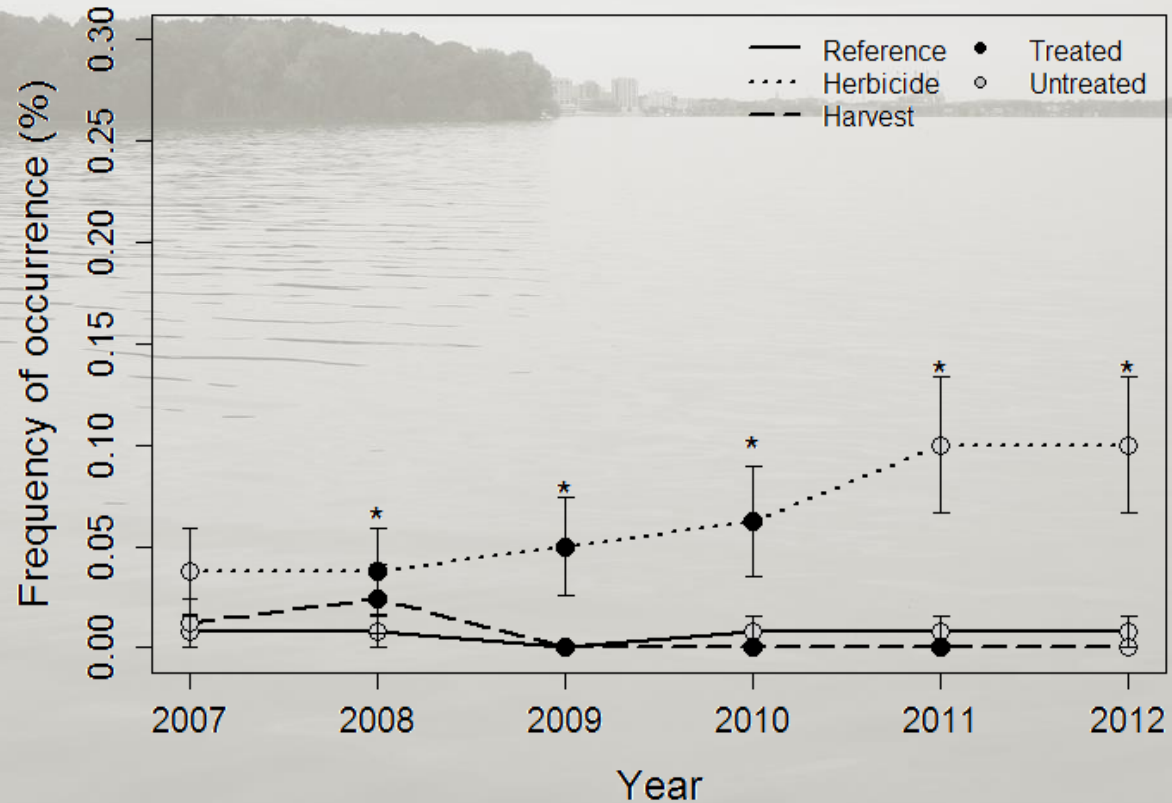
Wild celery (*Vallisneria americana*)



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Wild celery (*Vallisneria americana*)



Summary

Herbicide

- EWM decreased all years of treatment + 1
- Coontail decreased all years of treatment + 1
- 1 other native species decreased
- 4 other native species increased

Harvest

- EWM declined during years 3 and 4 of treatment
- Coontail increased the first 2 years then decreased the last 2 years of treatment
- 2 other native species increased during the study
- May have different results if operational issues resolved

Conclusions

1. The use of early-season 2,4-D treatments on small target areas of EWM may provide selective nuisance control.
2. The use of early-season harvesting may also provide nuisance control of EWM in small areas of larger lake systems. Successive years of treatment, however, may be necessary to begin to achieve good control.
3. The long-term ecosystem impacts of herbicide and harvesting treatments are not well understood and need further study.
4. Deciding which control method to use should be based on the overall management goals and time scale to achieve those goals.
5. Small-scale management activities within large lakes can provide temporary, localized nuisance control of EWM with little impact to natives.
6. Long-term restoration of an aquatic plant community after a successful invader becomes established remains a challenge for managers.

Acknowledgments

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THANK YOU!

Questions or comments?

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