

# LAKE ISTOKPOGA MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING FOR HYDRILLA

## MINUTES OF APRIL 23, 2008

Dick Reaney	Jack Richie	Erin McCarta
Jeanne Porter	Dr. Mike Netherland	Erica Van Horn
Vicki Pontius	Bill Dwinell	Ray Gaiefsky
Carl Smith	David Douglass	Steven Gornak
Jim Reed	Cindy Schulz	Tom Champeau

Meeting opened at 10:00 by Ray Gaiefsky. Vicki Pontius read the Public Notice. Erica Van Horn, DEP biologist, gave a presentation on the present state of hydrilla on Lake Istokpoga. DEP recently completed a treatment in March that consisted of approximately 2074 acres of targeted hydrilla, however additional acreage impacted. As a result of high winds, almost double the amount of acreage (3570) was controlled. The DEP plans to continue its management goals for this lake. They are: keep hydrilla out of the north end of the lake, keep navigation open for residents and the flood gate at S68, minimize the biomass throughout the southern portion of the lake, protect native plants such as pond weed and eel grass from encroachment by invasives and improve the wildlife habitat. In order to attain the management goals, the recommendation from DEP is to continue the use of Aquathol K during optimal treatment times which are January-March, April-May and November-December. The plans for the next treatment are as follows: Treat 1600 acres of hydrilla using 8000 gallons of Aquathol K liquid, applied as an aerial treatment, at a rate of 2ppm. The cost for the herbicide is estimated at \$379,200.00 and the cost of labor estimated at \$105,000.00.

Cindy Shulz, representing FFWCC, provided information about the 10 nesting sites for the snail kites and the limited activity buffer zone that is required. Carl Smith stated the herbicide will be ready for application on May 13-14. Jeanne Porter asked about the Sebring Park canal. Carl stated that he had herbicide ordered and that this canal will be treated soon. Discussion was held on killing of spatterdock and eelgrass out from No-Name Creek, problems with canals at Trails End and southward, how close could treatment be to a shoreline and still protect osprey nests, and determination of how many acres are impacted. Dave Douglass asked how Erica determined how many acres were actually impacted. Erica explained that she plotted GPS coordinates and used a rake, then overlaid her results with the Remetrix maps, which were completed in December, 2007. Mike Netherland explained that he had residual samples performed just after the March treatment, March 5-18 and noted that there was no residue left in any of the plots treated. He stated that it was interesting that by March 8 there were no residues at all present. He thought that this must have been a result of the high winds on the lake at the time of treatment and soon thereafter. He thought that the wind had a great impact on the treatment and that the K diluted quickly. The product, which works in 24-48 hours.

Timing of treatments was discussed. The ultimate time for treatment is when the water temperatures are below 75 degrees. This is due to factors including DO and microbe activity. There is much less of an impact on dissolved oxygen when the water is cooler and microbial activity, which breaks down the herbicide, increases greatly with warmer water. Dave Douglass pleaded that a treatment not be applied between January and March, primary spawning season for bass. Tom Champeau stated that if there was information floating around about herbiciding impacting spawning, that it was incorrect. Dave asked that

the DEP consider doing the largest plots during December and April, and do smaller areas in January-March, if possible. Discussion was held on this matter and DEP stated that they would consider this method of treatment.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Pontius