



Great Lakes Hydrilla Collaborative

**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

Project Location: The project area covers the entire Great Lakes basin, however, special emphasis will be placed on areas with existing infestations.

Project Description: The monoecious biotype of hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) was recently discovered in the Cayuga Lake Inlet and Erie Canal, NY highlighting the concerns about the spread of this invasive plant species throughout the Great Lakes basin. Eradication programs are underway at both sites. The primary focus of this project is leading the response to eradicate the infestation in the Erie Canal. Other aspects of the project include technical assistance for other infestations in the Great Lakes; potential rapid response assistance at new infestations; development of new and innovative methods to combat hydrilla; and knowledge transfer to resource managers in all Great Lakes states.

Non-federal Partner: The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and members of the Great Lakes Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel.

Project Benefits: The project will substantially reduce or eliminate the infestation in the Erie Canal; minimizing ecological and economic damages typically seen in waterbodies infested with hydrilla. Additionally, new and innovative techniques are being tested that will better enable resource managers to combat existing/new infestations in the Great Lakes. As part of the project, and in cooperation with our partners, we have initiated an aggressive outreach and education campaign that is intended to heighten public awareness of hydrilla and educate resource managers on response measures. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has the only federally authorized research program for aquatic plant management.

Project Status: The first herbicide application in the Erie Canal was completed in July and August 2014. Plans for the 2015 herbicide application are being developed. Outreach and education regarding the impact of hydrilla and the proposed treatment is ongoing.



Estimated Project Costs	
Federal	\$600,000/yr
Non-federal	\$0
Total	\$600,000

Project Milestones	
Herbicide Application Contract award	APR 2015
Herbicide Application	JUL 2015
Outreach & Education	Ongoing

Point of Contact
Michael Greer, michael.j.greer@usace.army.mil (716) 879-4229