

## **Subject: Treatment of Hydrilla at O'Hara's Marina**

Northeast Aquatic Research (NEAR), the firm that the TLA engages to conduct water quality testing and aquatic plant surveys, recently conducted an aquatic plant survey of the entire Twin Lakes system and as expected, found numerous beds of hydrilla in the marina area. Hydrilla is a highly invasive aquatic plant that can have devastating impacts on water bodies if left unchecked. (For more information on hydrilla, please refer to the TLA website [www.twinlakesorg.org](http://www.twinlakesorg.org).)

The TLA, through its contracted, licensed herbicide applicator, The Pond and Lake Connection, has received a permit from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) to allow the use of SONAR (fluridone) to control hydrilla at O'Hara's Marina and in the NE cove of East Twin.

The TLA has worked with scientific advisors from the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the CT Agricultural Research Station (CAES), as well as our limnologist, George Knoecklein, PhD founder and principal of NEAR, to understand which herbicides have proven effective in the management of hydrilla; their recommendation was SONAR.

We are planning to begin treatment the week of July 8 using a controlled release formulation, SONAR One. Dosing will be repeated at intervals of about 3 weeks for the rest of the summer and into the fall to maintain the desired concentration of herbicide shown to be effective in the control of hydrilla. SONAR will be applied by The Pond and Lakes Connection.

SONAR was approved for use by the US EPA in 1986 and has been widely used in the US since then. Importantly, SONAR has no labeled restrictions on swimming or fishing when used as directed in the product label.

**Attached below is a map of areas where hydrilla has been found and additional information provided by the manufacturer regarding SONAR.**

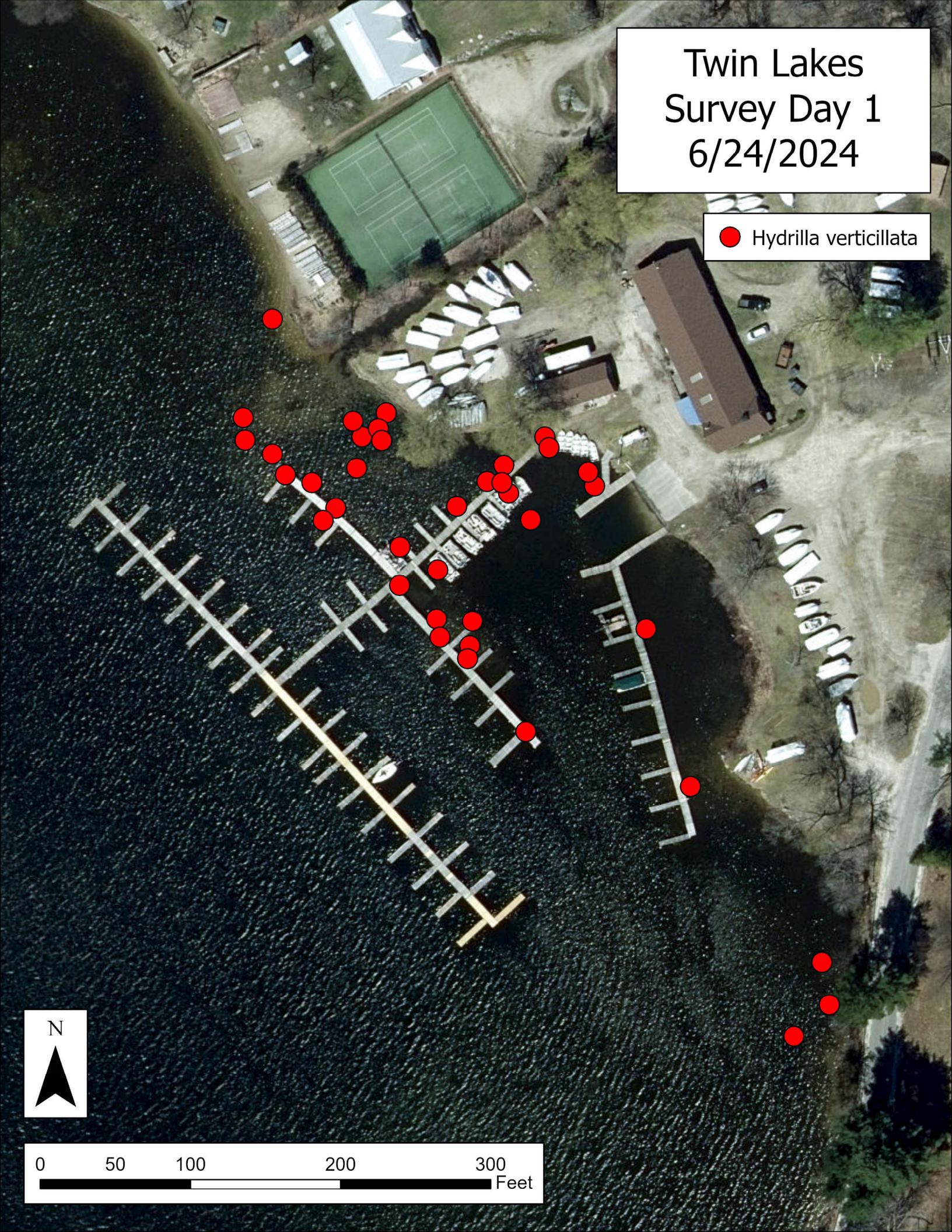
Thank you for your support and understanding as we work to control this highly invasive plant.

# Twin Lakes Survey Day 1 6/24/2024

● *Hydrilla verticillata*



0 50 100 200 300 Feet



# Sonar<sup>\*</sup> Aquatic Herbicide

## Humans who are exposed to Sonar-treated water are at negligible risk.

### Drinking Sonar-treated water

A 154-pound adult would have to drink over 1,000 gallons—a child over 285 gallons—of water daily, containing the maximum legally allowable concentration of Sonar in potable water (0.15 ppm), for a significant portion of their lifetime to receive a dose equivalent to the NOEL.



### Swimming in Sonar-treated water

At the maximum allowable concentration of Sonar in water (0.15 ppm), an adult would have to swim for 24 hours every day for over 57 years to receive an amount equal to the NOEL.



### Eating fish from Sonar-treated water

Adults would have to consume 2,467 pounds—a child over 705 pounds—of fish daily, at the maximum allowable tolerance limit in fish (0.5 ppm), for a significant portion of their lifetime to receive the dose equal to the NOEL.



### Eating food crops irrigated with Sonar-treated water

Adults would need to eat over 8,250 pounds—a child over 2,300 pounds—of these foods daily, at the maximum allowable tolerance limit (0.1 - 0.15 ppm), for a significant portion of their lifetime to receive the dose equal to the NOEL.



### Eating livestock exposed to Sonar from drinking treated water

Adults would need to eat 25,000 pounds—a child 7,000 pounds—of these foods daily, at the maximum allowable tolerance limit in meat, poultry, eggs and milk (0.05 ppm), for a significant portion of their lifetime to receive the dose equal to the NOEL.



### What is NOEL?

No Observable Effect Level (NOEL) – the highest dose at which no adverse effects are observed in laboratory animals. The maximum non-toxic dose is usually established by laboratory studies in animals and is reported as the NOEL. The dietary NOEL for Sonar is approximately 8 milligrams per kilogram of body weight per day (8mg/kg/day). This NOEL was determined from a study in rats that were fed Sonar in their regular diets every day for their entire two-year lifetime.

### What is Negligible Risk?

This term is used because it is beyond the capabilities of science to prove that a substance is absolutely safe, i.e., that the substance poses no risk whatsoever. Any substance, be it aspirin, table salt, caffeine, or household cleaning products, will cause adverse health effects at sufficiently high doses. Normal exposure to such substances in our daily lives, however, are well below those associated with adverse health effects. At some exposure, risks are so small that, for all practical purpose, no risk exists. We consider such risks to be *negligible* or insignificant.