St. Lawrence Eastern Lake Ontario Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management

Whetstone Reservoir

SLELO-PRISM Water Chestnut and Hydrilla Surveillance 2012

June 5 & 6 (Water Chestnut); July 31 & August 1 (Hydrilla)

Report drafted by Greg Chapman and Mike McHale, 6/7/12 & 8/21/12.

Figure 1: Panoramic view of Whetstone Reservoir, June 6, 2012. Photo by Mike McHale.

Introduction and Background

Whetstone Reservoir is an approximately 161-acre freshwater artificial water body located within Whetstone Gulf State Park and the Lesser Wilderness State Forest in the eastern Tug Hill region of New York. Water supplied by the Whetstone Creek inlet at the western end of the reservoir is retained by a small concrete dam at the northeastern end of the water body.

Public access is provided by an unimproved boat launch near the dam. G&W Road also provides access along the southern portion of the reservoir for shoreline fishing and launching of canoes and other small watercraft.

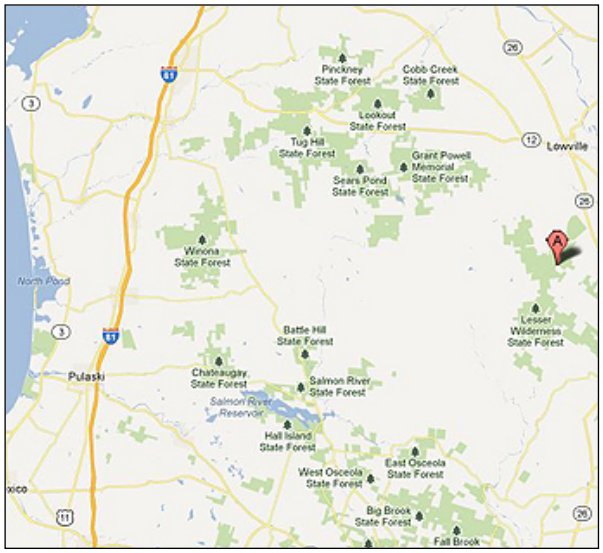

Figure 2: Map showing location of Whetstone Reservoir within the Tug Hill region.

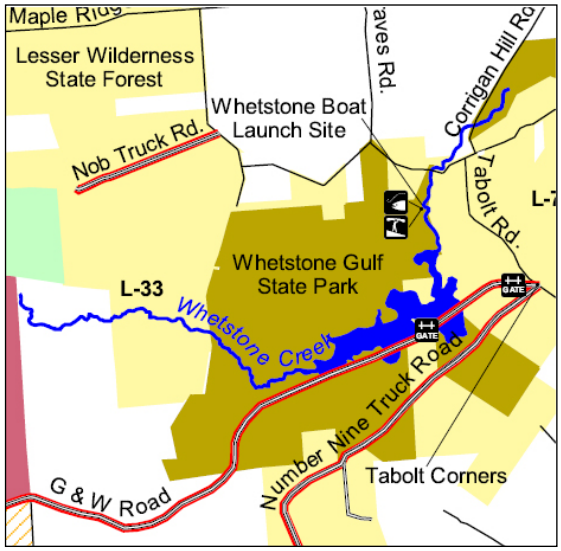

Figure 3: Map showing Whetstone Reservoir and surrounding area.

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Actions Taken

A survey targeting Water Chestnut (*Trapa natans*) and other aquatic and riparian invasive species (for species list, see the SLELO-PRISM 2012 – 2016 Strategic Plan, pp. 36 – 37) was undertaken by SLELO-PRISM seasonal employees Mike McHale and Greg Chapman on June 5 & 6, 2012. The reservoir was visually inspected both from accessible shoreline and via canoe, which was launched at various locations on each day. See Figure 6 for a map detailing the survey route.

Figure 4: Picture showing an area dominated by water shield (*Brasenia schreberi*) at Whetstone Reservoir, June 6, 2012. Photo by Mike McHale.

A subsequent survey targeting Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) was undertaken by SLELO-PRISM seasonal employees Mike McHale and Greg Chapman on July 31 & August 1, 2012. During this survey, rake toss sampling was conducted at various locations throughout the reservoir. See Figure 7 and Table 1 for survey map and results.

Invasive species occurrences were to be recorded using the iMapInvasives Observation Field Form and reported to the iMapInvasives database. A Garmin hand-held GPS unit was used to record invasive species occurrence coordinates as well as tracking the route taken during the survey.

Figure 5: Typical rake toss results (August 1, 2012) from Whetstone Reservoir, showing submerged vegetation consisting largely of *Elodea*. Photo by Greg Chapman.

Observations - Water Chestnut Surveillance

No Water Chestnut occurrences were observed during the two-day survey, nor were occurrences of other targeted species noted.

Dominant floating vegetation observed within the reservoir included yellow pond lily (*Nuphar lutea*) and water shield (*Brasenia schreberi*). Observed submerged vegetation included several areas dominated by *Elodea*.

Observations - Hydrilla Surveillance

No occurrences of Hydrilla were observed during the two-day survey, nor were occurrences of any other targeted invasive species noted.

Maps and Data Tables

Figure 6: Satellite image of Whetstone Reservoir. The thin white lines detail the route taken by the canoe during the course of the Water Chestnut survey, June 5 & 6, 2012.

Figure 7: Rake toss locations and survey route taken during Hydrilla surveillance, July 31 and August 1, 2012. See Table 1 for corresponding data.

Table 1: Rake toss data for Whetstone Reservoir (*continued on following two pages*).

Location: Whetstone Reservoir							**Dates: 7/31/12 & 8/1/12**
Point	**Lat/Long**	**Throw**	**Depth (ft)**	**# Spp.**	**# Inv.**	**Invasive Spp. present**	**Notes**
218	43.67405609	1	3	1	0		
	-75.50527015	2	3	1	0		
219	43.67552276	1	3	1	0		
	-75.50598806	2	3	1	0		
220	43.67649933	1	6	0	0		

	-75.5076869	2	6	0	0		
221	43.67852029	1	2	3	0		
	-75.50734609	2	2	3	0		
222	43.68106127	1	2	2	0		
	-75.50719983	2	2	2	0		
223	43.68245568	1	2	2	0		
	-75.5085603	2	2	2	0		
224	43.68283714	1	12	0	0		
	-75.50932431	2	12	0	0		
225	43.68264696	1	9	1	0		
	-75.50951516	2	9	0	0		
226	43.68224077	1	2	3	0		
	-75.50939362	2	2	3	0		
227	43.68044486	1	2	5	0		
	-75.50880656	2	2	3	0		
228	43.67826029	1	2	3	0		
	-75.50928717	2	2	2	0		
229	43.67645726	1	1.5	2	0		
	-75.50827322	2	2	2	0		
230	43.67480049	1	2	3	0		
	-75.50823047	2	2	1	0		
231	43.67452531	1	2	1	0		
	-75.51078611	2	1.5	2	0		
232	43.67362929	1	1.5	1	0		
	-75.51181566	2	1	1	0		
233	43.67292822	1	2	1	0		
	-75.5102091	2	2	1	0		
234	43.67237217	1	3.5	2	0		
	-75.50817263	2	4	2	0		
235	43.66998148	1	1	2	0		
	-75.51401105	2	1	4	0		
236	43.66979146	1	3	2	0		
	-75.51609345	2	1.5	3	0		
237	43.66885856	1	6	4	0		
	-75.5193033	2	5	3	0		
238	43.66769356	1	2	2	0		
	-75.52168854	2	2	1	0		

239	43.66811056	1	4	3	0		
	-75.52288757	2	3	3	0		
240	43.66865111	1	1.5	3	0		
	-75.52224803	2	1.5	4	0		
241	43.66986397	1	1.5	1	0		
	-75.51954377	2	1.5	1	0		
242	43.67104917	1	2	1	0		
	-75.5163294	2	2	1	0		
243	43.67110927	1	6	1	0		
	-75.51490406	2	4	2	0		
244	43.6721161	1	3	1	0		
	-75.51449619	2	2	1	0		
245	43.67242145	1	2	2	0		
	-75.51262284	2	2	2	0		
246	43.67266294	1	5	2	0		
	-75.51191021	2	3	1	0		
247	43.67185643	1	3	2	0		
	-75.51065007	2	3	3	0		
248	43.67212406	1	2.5	1	0		
	-75.50772881	2	2.5	1	0		
249	43.67113718	1	1	2	0		
	-75.50627883	2	1.5	2	0		
250	43.67327406	1	2	1	0		
	-75.50487544	2	2.5	1	0		