

Huron River Chain of Lakes Update

August 3, 2018

The first round of herbicide applications and mechanical weed harvesting have been completed and now on to the second round! The post-application lake surveys have been conducted and several areas have been identified that require another treatment and one area for harvesting.

Herbicide Treatment Schedule: The applicator is planning on heading back out to the HRCL on Tuesday August 7th. The targeted lakes are Little Portage, Portage and Tamarack. Here is the link to the applicators schedule: <https://www.aquaticservicesinc.info/schedules>

If you would like to see the areas where the applicator will be applying on Little Portage, Portage and Tamarack, please follow this link:

<https://www.washtenaw.org/799/Chain-of-Lakes-Weed-Control-Activities>

Under each lake receiving treatment, the newest link will be called:

“August 2018 herbicide treatment map”. Keep an eye out for the **yellow** postings in these areas.

Mechanical Weed Harvesting Schedule: The Baseline-Portage Connector has been identified as needing attention from the harvester. In order to maximize the benefits from the harvesting process, harvesting will begin in this section sometime in the middle of August. Please follow the link above to see the “August 2018 weed harvesting map” for the Baseline-Portage Connector.

What’s missing... I had mentioned in the past that we were expecting a limited permit for the Baseline Lake canals and maybe even something for Portage Lake. Well, nothing has materialized from the MDEQ. I suspect the continued delay has to do with the protected mussel species located nearby. I understand that Dr. Pullman has a phone-in meeting scheduled with the MDEQ representative very soon. The current status of permits for these two lakes will be the main discussion point. Stay tuned for more information on this topic!

Looking forward... After speaking with Dr. Pullman, it appears entirely possible that several locations within the HRCL will require some attention via treatment or harvesting before the season ends. Any additional treatments would take place prior to Labor Day weekend.

Looking even further forward... Expect an assessment of how the HRCL responded to the treatments and harvesting after the season has concluded. We will also be ramping up for next year by diligently working with the MDEQ to do what we can to prevent/ensure that next season is not met with the delays we were faced with this year.

Thanks and have a safe and fun weekend everyone!