

HANSON ENVIRONMENTAL

Contract Report: Eurasian Watermilfoil removal in Noxon Reservoir.

August 2013

Overview

Diver dredge removal occurred over the dates of August 14th through the 16th. A total of 620 lbs of EWM was removed. 400 lbs were removed from the sites scheduled for dredging. 220 lbs of EWM were removed from the shoreline at site t-13-14. Most of the sites had significant amounts of aquatic plants in thick stands and in some areas solid to the surface. This made for difficult dredging and swimming conditions. Diver dredging would be more effective earlier in the season before the plants become so dense. Also, the plants appeared to be at the end of the period where dredging is effective as the plants were starting to fragment.

In most areas, plants were scattered but occurred in stands. It was not uncommon to find a 5 ft square area of solid EWM that was 5 feet high. This pattern of scattered stands was observed in other areas of the reservoir from the treatment sites to the boat launch at Finley Flats five miles upstream.

Site: t-13-19

40 lbs of Eurasian watermilfoil removed. 90% removal. The site had dense beds of Coontain with EWM growing immediately adjacent to shore and on the outside edge of the patch. Plants were scattered with a concentration at the downstream end near the boat ramp.=

Start Latitude/Longitude 47°48'49.39"N 115°31'29.30"W

Stop Latitude/Longitude 47°48'46.02"N 115°31'17.32"W

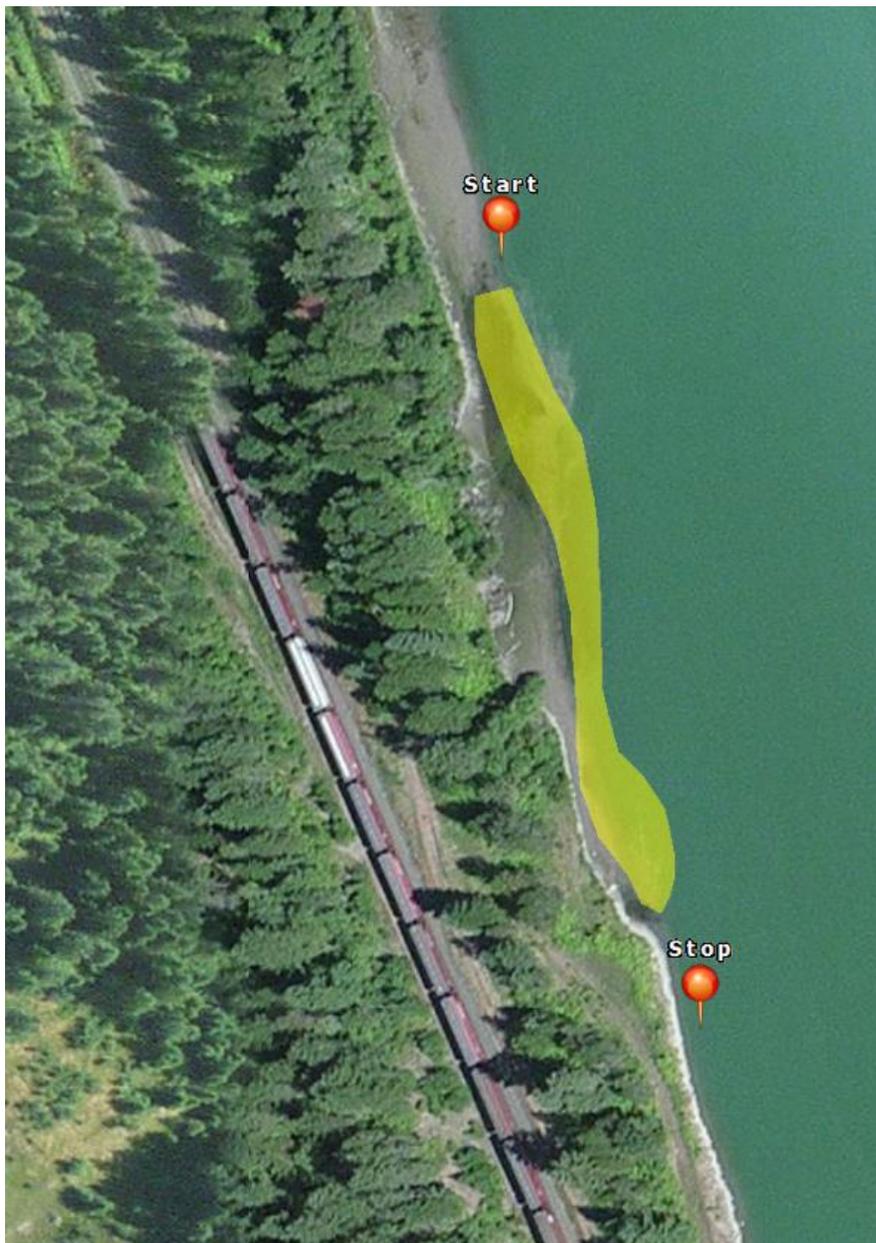


Site: T-13-16

260 lbs of EWM removed. 90% removal. Site had significant amounts of EWM mixed in with common elodea from shore to 6 ft depth. Large stands of EWM were interspersed with Coontail from 6ft deep to 12 ft. The nearshore area was too dense to dredge or swim through, so removal was conducted by hand. Approximately 50% of the EWM removed was dredged, the other hand removed by a two person crew. Scattered EWM plants continued upstream from the site but few plants were seen immediately downstream of the site.

Start Latitude/Longitude 47°47'36.55"N 115°30'14.33"W

Stop Latitude/Longitude 47°47'30.82"N 115°30'12.12"W

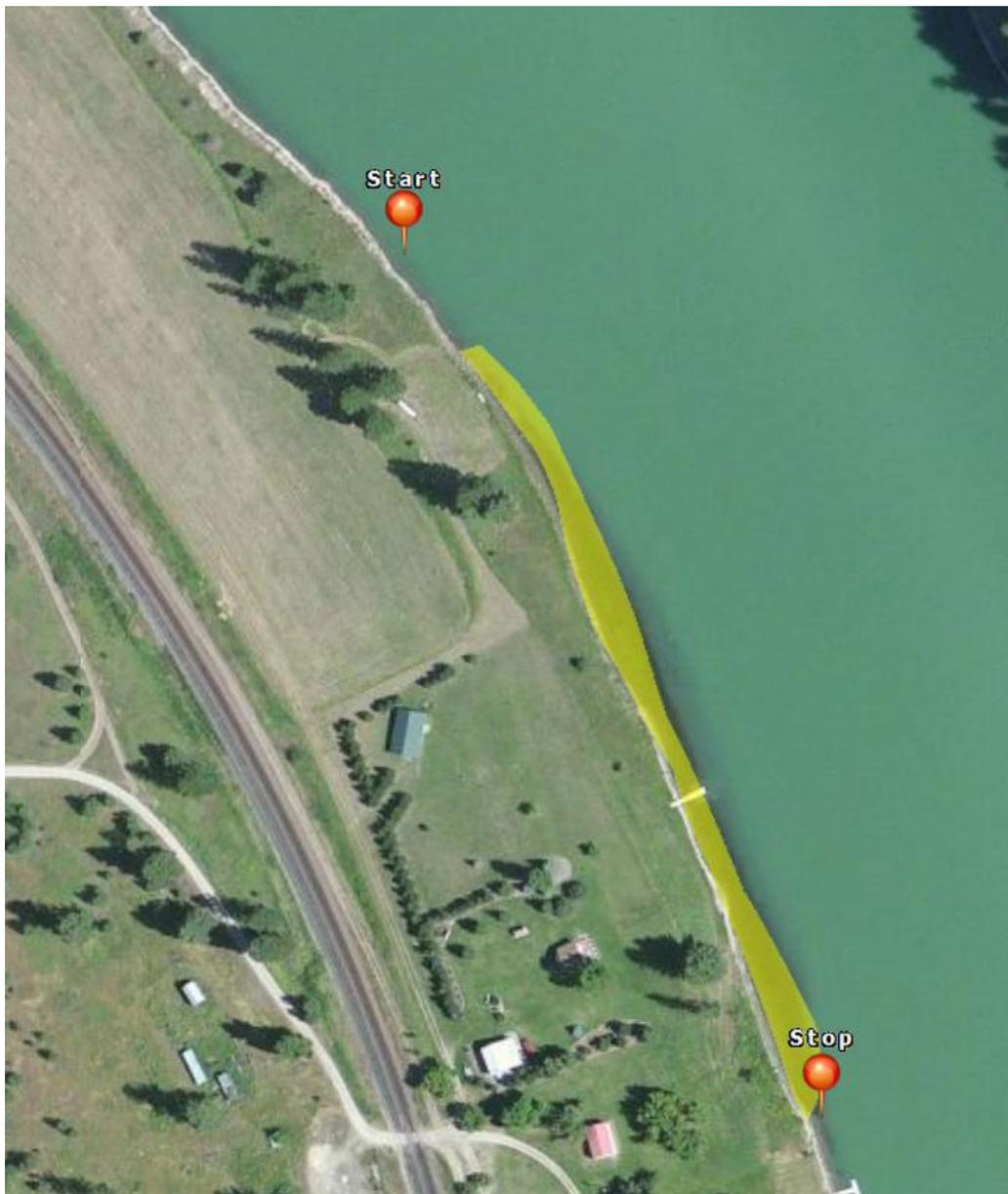


Site: T-13-12

100 lbs of EWM removed 70% removal due to EWM plants dropping out in upstream area. The upstream portion of the site appeared to be effected by the herbicide treatment of the adjacent plot. Most of the plants in that area where dead and lying on the bottom. Healthy and standing plants started occurring about halfway through the site. The majority of the EWM was on the outside of a dense band of Coontail and were scattered. Scattered EWM continued downstream of the site. As the plants were lying down in the upstream portion, few plants were removed in this area.

Start Latitude/Longitude 47°46'52.62"N 115°29'12.44"W

Stop Latitude/Longitude 47°46'42.95"N 115°29'05.49"W



Additional non-contract work completed

Hand removal of EWM at site t-13-14. T-13-14 was not a site selected for dredging but was spot treated with herbicide. It was observed that there was a significant amount of dense EWM that remained in the site in shallow (less than 2 ft) of water. 2.5 hours were spent hand pulling these plants with a two person crew. 220 lbs of EWM was removed.

A snorkel survey transect was made upstream of site T-13-11. Scattered EWM plants were observed from the boat launch at Finley Flats down to the treatment plots. A snorkel survey was made to determine the level of infestation and potential for removal. The EWM occurs primarily in dense stands often isolated from other aquatic plants. There were significant amounts of EWM observed over the area in the transect (red line) pictured below. A video was made of a portion of the transect and can be seen online at: [Noxon EWM upstream of site 13](#)

