

AACT Update August 9, 2023

With apologies in the delay in reporting back to you:

The DEP team with John McPhedran, Toni Pied, and diver Denise Blanchette, came to Alamoosook on August 1st with a new boat, prepared to take samples from numerous plants marked by buoys placed by AACTers during surveys that began on July 17th. We are all grateful that the day was perfect, the DEP team could provide their professional expertise, and that Chip was able to motor Katie and Charleyne around as escorts to sectors around the lake.

20 samples were taken with enough extra material to do a second set of tests for some should it prove necessary. Below are snapshots of sample collection on Aug 1 and of some of the samples Chris Reily of DEP delivered to Luc Bernacki's lab on Aug 4. DEP will notify us of the results as soon as they get them. They will also share their data spreadsheet with the GPS coordinates for the samples they took. I will attach the spreadsheet we used for our records noting samples taken from which buoy locations. It was clear from John that Luc may not run tests on all 20 samples.



A HUGE THANK YOU to all who could participate in surveying this season and will continue to keep an eye out for developing milfoil colonies with everyone's help. We think all we found were native, and hopefully the lab results will rule out hybridization.

This was a TEAM effort by AACTers with wonderful support! A shout-out to Lucy Leaf who contributed numerous days to the survey effort, Mark Whiting and Catherine Fox who surveyed on July 20th, LSM staff Christine Guerrette & Brett Willard and interns Avery & Eden who joined us (Charleyne, Katie, Lucy) on the 24th to cover island and north arm sectors while the Narramissic team of Mim, Mary, and Uli surveyed those above-dam river sectors, Chip and Caroline who provided motorboat support on different days and Fritz Oldenburg who while swimming keeps an eye out for the unusual below the surface of the water. With a dedicated team including our newest AACTer, president Tad, we were able to cover the vast majority of sectors this summer. We continue to add equipment as needed thanks to the grant from Ram Island Conservation Fund.

I will share the lab results as soon as I get them and can explain them!

Then we'll need to get the word out to the entire membership.

Katie Greenman

AACT coordinator for the Alamoosook Lake Association