

Hydrilla Response in Michigan

BGLAISF

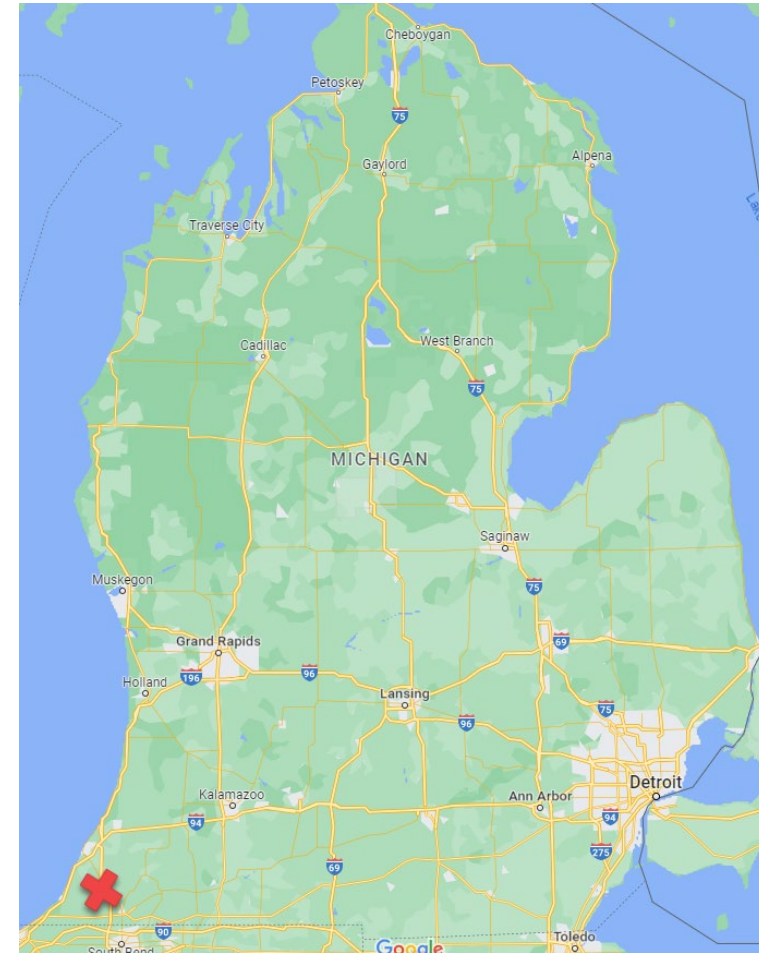
May 14, 2026

Billy Keiper

EGLE Water Resources Division

Background

- Two Small private ponds
- Found in 2023
- Ongoing parrot feather treatment since 2020
- Likely a hitchhiker with other planted pond plants
- Actively working toward eradication since found
- 1st observed by CISMA staff (pics date back to 2021)



MI Hydrilla Site

~4.5 Miles to
St. Joe River

Lemon Creek

Pond 3
No Hydrilla

Pond 2
Hydrilla

Lemon Creek Drain

Pond 1
Hydrilla

Flow



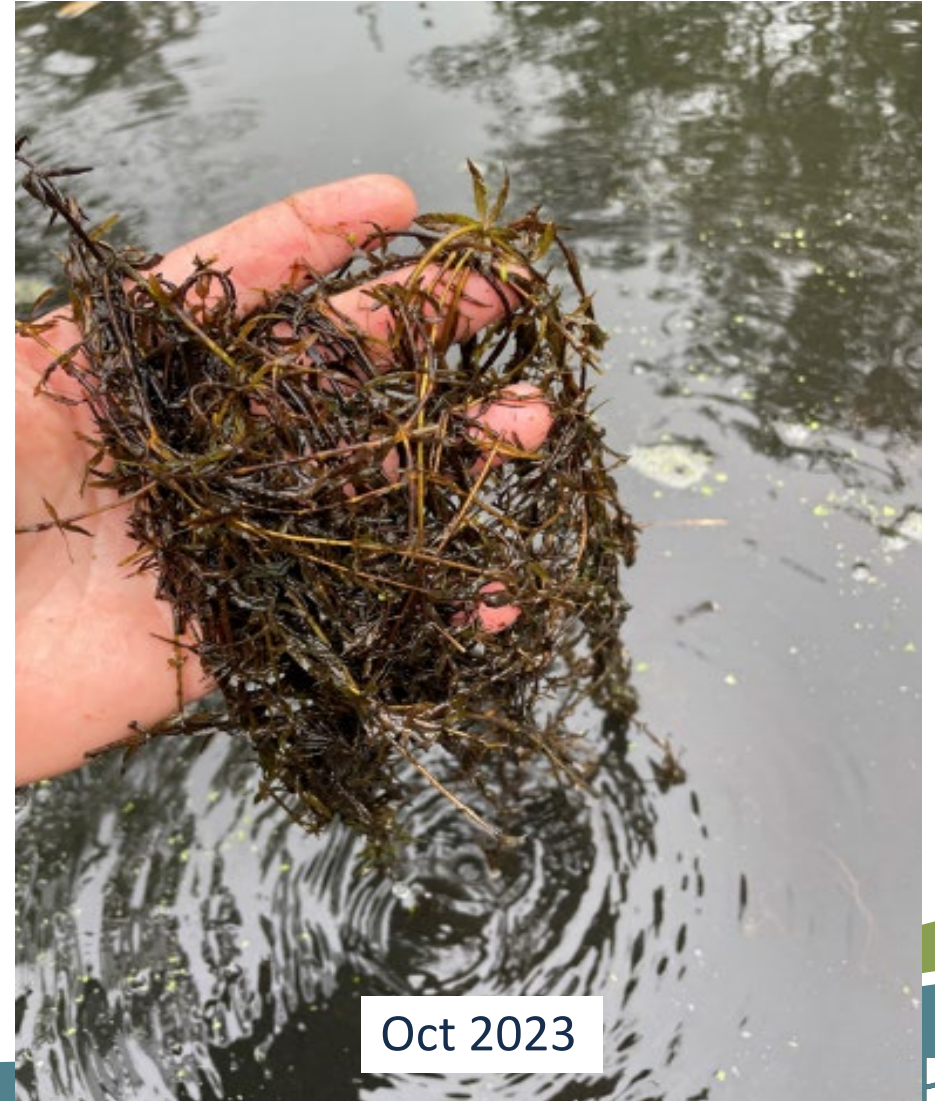
Detection/delimitation

- Survey of ponds routinely: Monthly in growing season
- Survey Lemon Creek and St. Joe River annually
- Primarily in Pond 1, few hydrilla plants in Pond 2
- None in Pond 3



Containment

- Containment through herbicide treatment
- Goal: Suppress growth during the growing season
- Herbicides:
 - Endothall and ProcellaCOR
 - Fluridone
- Treatments in 2023, 2024, and 2025



Control/Eradication Methods

- Eradication through dredging, lining, and capping
- Dredging alone did not work (2-4 ft of sediment removed)
- Boom in hydrilla post dredging
- In process to redrain, line, and cap pond



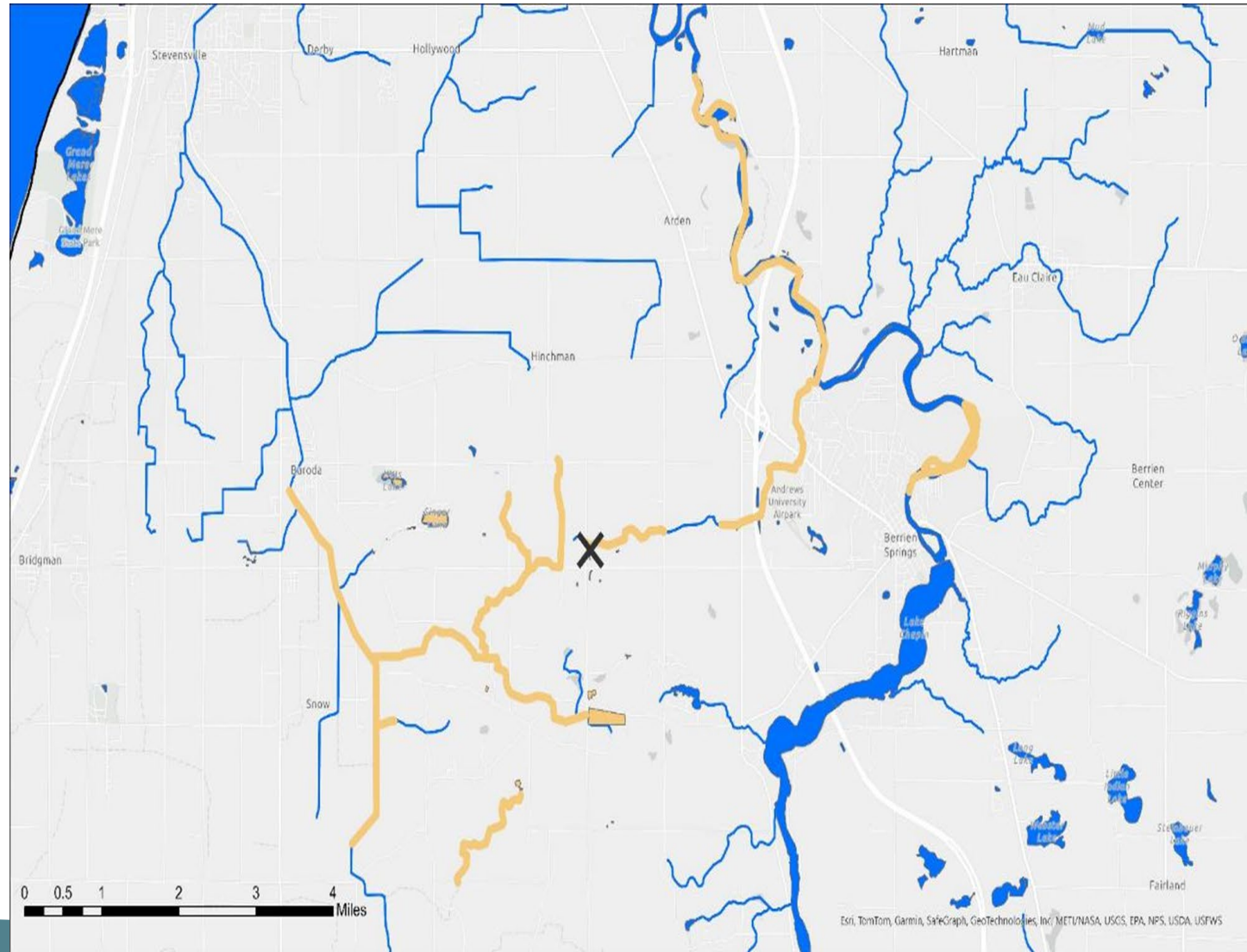
Eradication Determination

- No hydrilla present for 3 years
- Monthly monitoring (snorkeling and wading)



Surveillance

- Primarily led by partners (CISMAs)
- Assisted with securing additional funds for CISMA (2024-2025)
- CISMA project focused on boating access sites in region (2026-2027)
- Expanded volunteer AIS lake monitoring groups in region



Lesson Learned

- How cryptic hydrilla is
- Response efforts for a single species need to look for hydrilla
- Potential pathway with pink water lily
- Hydrilla's overall resiliency
- Construction projects are really complicated
- Reproduction and role of seeds?



A photograph of a pond or stream. In the foreground, several long, thin, green reeds or grass blades are visible, some crossing each other. The water is dark and still, reflecting the surrounding environment. In the middle ground, there are some yellow flowers, possibly water buttercups, and some brown, dried plant matter. A small, dark, brown object, possibly a seed or a small insect, is visible in the water near the center. The background is filled with more greenery and some small, star-shaped plants. The overall scene is a natural, outdoor setting.

October 2021

Questions

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Please report any suspicious aquatic plants
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