Hydrilla Response in Michigan

BGLAISF

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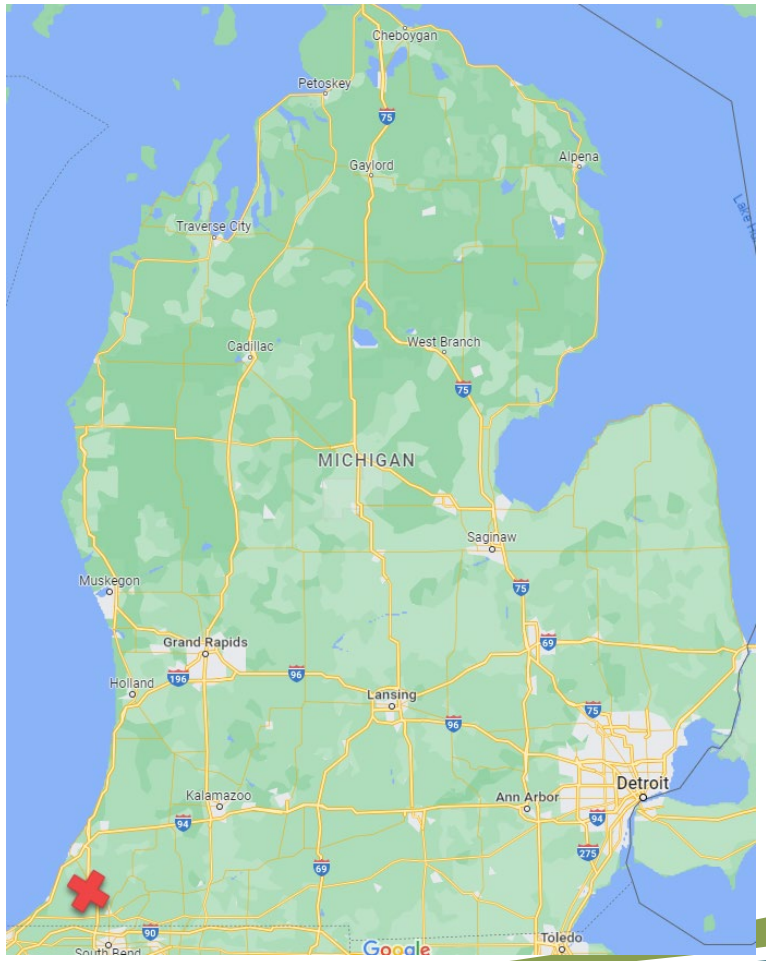
Billy Keiper

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

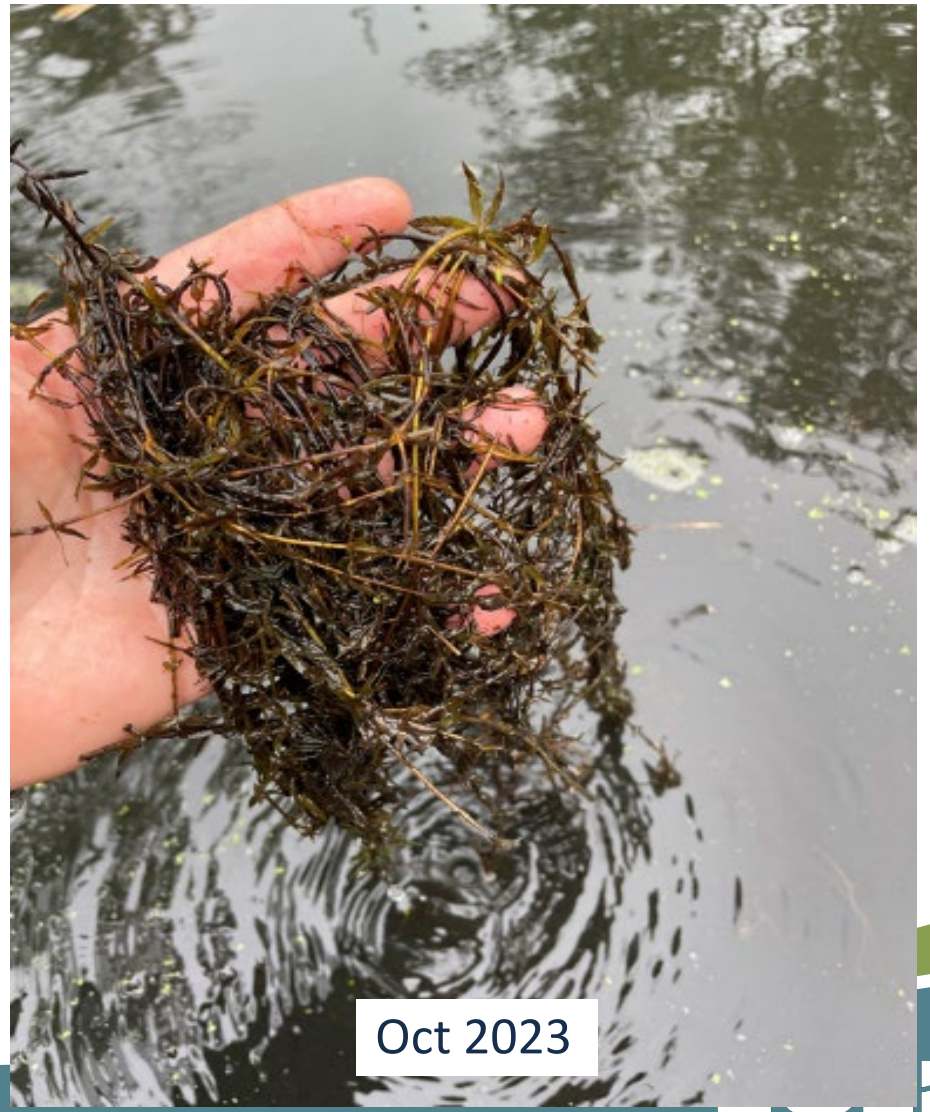
Detection/delimitation

- 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

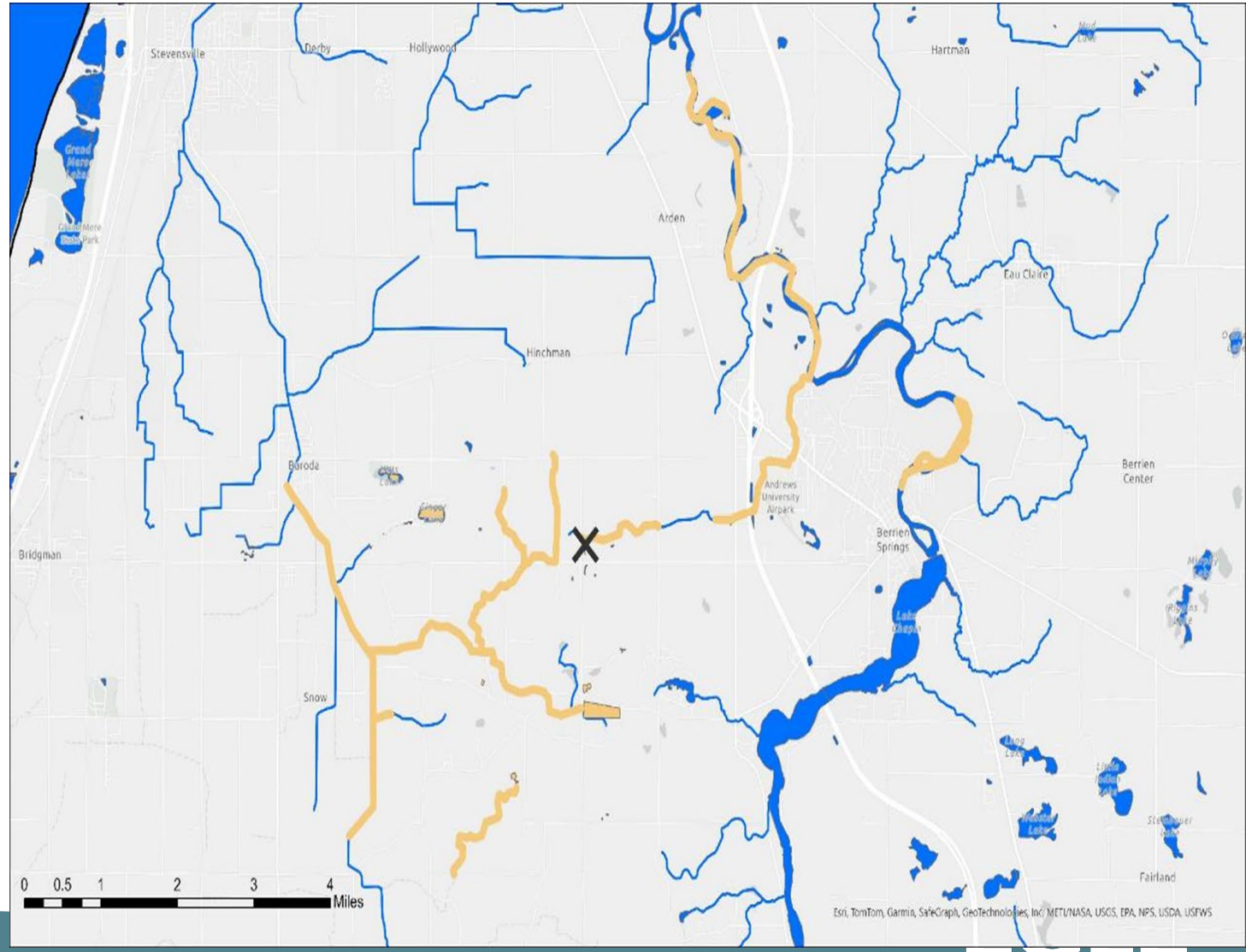
- Eradication through dredging, lining, and capping
- Dredging alone did not work (2-4 ft of sediment removed)
- Boom in hydrilla post dredging
- In process to redrain, line, and cap pond

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?

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Questions

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Please report any suspicious aquatic plants

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