

Hydrilla

Are we ready to respond?

- ✓ **INITIAL DETECTION**
Do standards exist for verification and are experts known?
- ✓ **THREAT-RISK EVALUATION**
Have threats and risks to Washington been identified?
- ✓ **AUTHORITY-RESOURCE INVENTORY**
Is the responsible agency known and is funding available?
- ✓ **DECISION TO ACT**
Has agency approval and funding been provided?
- ✓ **RESPONSE DEVELOPMENT**
Are control strategies known? Is an action plan in place?
- ✓ **OUTREACH TO DECISION MAKERS**
Is the process for outreach known and ready for implementation?
- ✓ **OUTREACH TO PUBLIC**
Is the process for outreach known and ready for implementation? Are key stakeholders known?
- ✓ **LEGAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL-PERMITTING PROCESS**
Are permits in place or readily secured?

After response actions and monitoring has occurred.

- ✓ **FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS**
Has the agency allocated funds for follow-up response actions informed by monitoring?



ARE WE READY?

Rapid Response Elements that are in Place for **Hydrilla**

INITIAL DETECTION. Do standards exist for verification? Are experts known?

Yes. The WA State Department of Ecology has an aquatic botanist who can identify and verify hydrilla. Ecology also has access to other experts including DNA specialists that can verify hydrilla.

THREAT-RISK EVALUATION. Have threats and risks to Washington been identified?

Yes. Hydrilla is listed on the WA's state noxious weed list as a Class A noxious weed. It is on WSDA's quarantine list and is listed as a federal noxious weed.

AUTHORITY-RESOURCE INVENTORY. Is the responsible agency known and is funding available?

Yes. Ecology gives hydrilla top priority for eradication if found. Ecology has made funding available since 1995 to King County for hydrilla eradication in Pipe and Lucerne Lakes and will continue to do so until hydrilla is declared eradicated.

DECISION TO ACT. Has agency approval and funding been provided?

Yes. Ecology has an Aquatic Weeds Program that has a dedicated fund source for aquatic plant management. Hydrilla eradication has been and is a top priority for Ecology including automatic funding to support eradication.

RESPONSE DEVELOPMENT. Are control strategies known? Is an action plan in place?

Yes, hydrilla is a serious weed in many southern states and in California so there are many control strategies for this species. The state and King County are following an action plan based on successful eradication projects in California. There is a site specific integrated pest management plan in place for Pipe and Lucerne Lakes.

OUTREACH TO DECISION MAKERS. Is the process for outreach known and ready for implementation?

Yes. Hydrilla is a priority species for the WA State Department of Ecology.

OUTREACH TO PUBLIC. Is the process for outreach known and ready for implementation? Are key stakeholders known?

Yes. Local governments handle public outreach for the current hydrilla eradication efforts. Ecology can issue press releases and has professional information officers available.

LEGAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL – PERMITTING PROCESS. Are permits in place or readily secured?

Yes. Permits are in place for chemicals and other permits are readily available (e.g., fish stocking permits for grass carp, Hydraulic Project Approval for hand pulling, etc.)

ACTION.

MONITORING.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS. Has the agency allocated funds for follow-up response actions informed by monitoring?

Yes, Ecology gives hydrilla the highest priority and will continue funding hydrilla eradication products for several years after no hydrilla plants are seen.