

PROJECT STATUS UPDATE: 2019 CROTON HYDRILLA CONTROL PROJECT

REPORT DATE: 06/02/19-06/15/19

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Project Description: Hydrilla (monoecious) discovered 10/19/13 in Croton River. Surveys have been conducted annually since 2014 to delineate the hydrilla infestation in the Croton River as well as several high-risk sites within a 10 miles radius including the Hudson River and its tributaries. To-date, no hydrilla has been found in proximity outside the Croton River and the New Croton Reservoir. A five-year management plan was created to control Hydrilla in the Croton River. After successful treatments in 2017 and 2018, the treatment proposed for 2019 again involves the injection of the aquatic herbicide Sonar Genesis®, also known as fluridone, into the river just below the New Croton Dam and at Black Rock Park with a target concentration of 2.0-4.0 parts per billion (ppb) for 90-120 days.

Tasks Completed:

- 2018 Annual Report is now available: https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands_forests_pdf/croton2018.pdf
- Day 2 of project installation 06/05/19: New stainless steel conduit and injection line installed @ Black Rock Park
- Treatment signage dated and posted at Croton River public access points 06/05/19 & 06/10/19 (40 total - same locations as 2018)
- Day 3 of project installation 06/07/19: New line run at New Croton Dam, Black Rock Park unit calibrated
- New Croton Dam unit calibrated, tanks filled at both locations, communications system updated 06/10/19
- **Fluridone treatment began 06/10/19 (2-4 ppb for 90-120 days)**
- Drinking water samples collected 6/11, 6/12, 6/13, 6/15: Fluridone levels all below 1ppb and listed as “Normal”
- Tanks refilled/units checked 6/12, 6/14
- NYS Hydrilla Task Force Call 6/12
- Treatment was shut down for ~3 hours due to high flows 6/13, treatment restored once flows fell below 500cfs.
- Plant tissue samples collected 6/14: Sent to University of Georgia to test for presence of harmful cyanobacteria

Upcoming Tasks 06/16/2019-06/29/2019		
Task #	Description	Lead
1	Continue fluridone treatment (2-4 ppb for 90-120 days) of entire Croton River	ISCS/SOLitude/SePRO
2	Post water quality sampling results to webpage	ISCS- White
3	Install thermographs @ Croton Gorge Park & Silver Lake Beach	Reg 3 Fisheries
4	Begin hydrilla surveys in surrounding water bodies	ISCS- White

Internal Group Members: Nicole White, Catherine McGlynn, Anthony Lamanno, Cathy Ahlers, Bill Rudge, Justin Perry, Josh Thiel
Support: Brenan Tarrier/Dan Kendall (DOW), Dan Kendall/Lloyd Wilson/James Leach/Jim Hyde (DOH), Wendy Rosenbach (R3 CPS)

Croton Hydrilla Control Project Page: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/106386.html>