

Eagle River Chain of Lakes Management Planning Project

Ecological Study Components

Water Quality – All Phases

Each lake sampled 6 times – Spring, June, July, August, Fall, and Winter
Full suite of parameters based upon WDNR Long-term Trends Monitoring Program
Aimed primarily at nutrients, eutrophication, and watershed modeling

Watershed and Shoreland – Phase IV

Watershed assessment based upon modeling land cover types & phosphorus loads
Lakes are modeled in series with each lake acting as a point source to downstream lakes
Screening level assessment
Shoreland assessment used to prioritize areas for restoration and protection

Fisheries and Habitat – Phase III

Compilation of existing data and summaries
Course Woody Habitat Survey

Aquatic Plant Surveys – All Phases

Point Intercept data would be utilized from 2012 surveys
Community mapping surveys focusing on important emergent and floating-leaf communities

Sociological and Public Participation Components

Kick-off Meeting – Phase I

General membership meeting focusing on project introduction

Volunteer AIS Monitoring Refresher – Phase I

Meeting with volunteers aimed at refreshing mapping skills, GPS use, and note taking

ERCLA GPS Updates – All Phases

ERCLA would purchase 4 GPS units for use during volunteer AIS monitoring
Annually, Onterra would create base maps showing past findings and treatment areas
GPS units would be “checked out” by volunteers along with a metal clip board and forms

Lake-Specific Planning Meetings – All Phases

Each lake would have a 2 hour meeting with Onterra staff to develop its plan
Meetings for each phase would be held on the same day
Focus would be placed on riparian understanding of study results and spur plan input
Would allow customization of each lakes’ plan

Annual Fall Informational Meeting – All Phases

Meeting would be similar to current fall meetings with focus on AIS control results

Written Stakeholder Survey – Phase II

Written survey would be distributed to all Eagle River Chain properties
Onterra would supply base survey and assist ERCLA in customizing it
Final survey must be approved by WDNR prior to being sent to riparians

Project Wrap-up Meeting – Phase IV

Meeting would focus on chain-wide study results and management plan

AIS Monitoring & EWM Management

Early-Season AIS Surveys (ESAIS) – All Phases

Littoral zones of all lakes would be searched by Onterra staff during June of each year
Survey would aid in locating EWM occurrences
Results of this survey would be added to ERCLA GPS units prior to volunteer surveys

Volunteer EWM Surveys – All Phases

Surveys would be similar to annual surveys currently being completed in August
GPS units would be loaded with a base map showing ESAIS results and spring treatment areas
Volunteers would not need to check ESAIS results or treatment areas
Volunteer findings would be recorded on ERCLA GPS units and forms
Volunteer results would be supplied to Onterra prior to EWM peak-biomass surveys

Eurasian Water Milfoil Peak-Biomass Surveys – All Phases

Surveys completed by Onterra in late August or early September of each year
Results of these surveys would be used to develop following year's EWM control strategy

Eurasian Water Milfoil Control Strategy Development – All Phases

Control strategy for following would be developed over the preceding fall/winter
Strategy would be presented via treatment maps and brief letter report

Spring Pretreatment Confirmation & Refinement Surveys – All Phases

All proposed treatment areas would be visited prior to treatment
Each site would be confirmed and refined as necessary to assure efficient application

Project Deliverables

Chain-wide Report and Management Plan – All Phases

This report would include a summary of study results from a chain-wide perspective
Chain-wide management goals and actions would be developed and presented
This document would be updated with the completion of each phase

Individual Lake Reports and Management Plans – All Phases

Each lake's results would be presented in a separate document
If applicable, specific management goals and actions would be developed for each lake