Facts About Milfoil in Lake Bomoseen

Castleton Hubbardton – No. 2597 • Luca Conte, Lake Bomoseen Preservation Trust • Rustics Road, Castleton Posted to: Castleton Hubbardton Apr 5, 2022

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The Lake Bomoseen Association (LBA) and the Lake Bomoseen Preservation Trust (LBPT) jointly funded a comprehensive weed survey in August, 2021 in response to the increasing concerns about the growing dominance of Eurasian Milfoil in the lake. Here are some of the most important facts from that survey:

—Most recent detailed survey to date of Lake Bomoseen conducted 8/2-3/'21 by two professional biologists;

—Most comprehensive Weed Survey to date of Lake Bomoseen, covering 357 data points where weeds were actually sampled and recorded, both North and South of Float Bridge and including the Channel;

—35 plant species were identified; only one—Eurasian WaterMilfoil (EWM)—is an invasive species, with the remainder native Vermont aquatic species;

EWM was present in 88.8% of surveyed data points (317 out of 357 locations);

—EWM is the most abundant of the 35 plant species identified in the survey;

—Approximately 700 acres of Lake Bomoseen demonstrate the presence of EWM and are thus capable of supporting EWM growth;

—Fully 50% (17 plant species) of the Native Plant species identified were found to occupy only 10% or less of the entire Lake Weed population, with 16 of these species present in only 5% or less of the water column, and 11 species occupying less than 3% of the water column. (This is an indicator of extreme biological pressure or competition from EWM on those species which are present in very small numbers).

If you would like to see the entire survey, please go to: lakebomoseenpreservationtrust.org.

Those persons who would like to learn more about the options for addressing milfoil proliferation or to ask questions are invited to contact us at: LBPT@earthlink.net