



**Adirondack
Park Agency**

P2026-0074 Town of Minerva

Agency Meeting Presentation

May 14, 2026

Presentation Overview

- Jurisdiction
- Conclusions of Law
- Project Location
- Management in Minerva Lake
- Proposed Treatment
- Public Comment & Review by Others
- Staff Recommendation
- Conclusions of Law
- Q & A

Jurisdiction

9 NYCRR Section 578.3(n)(2)(i)

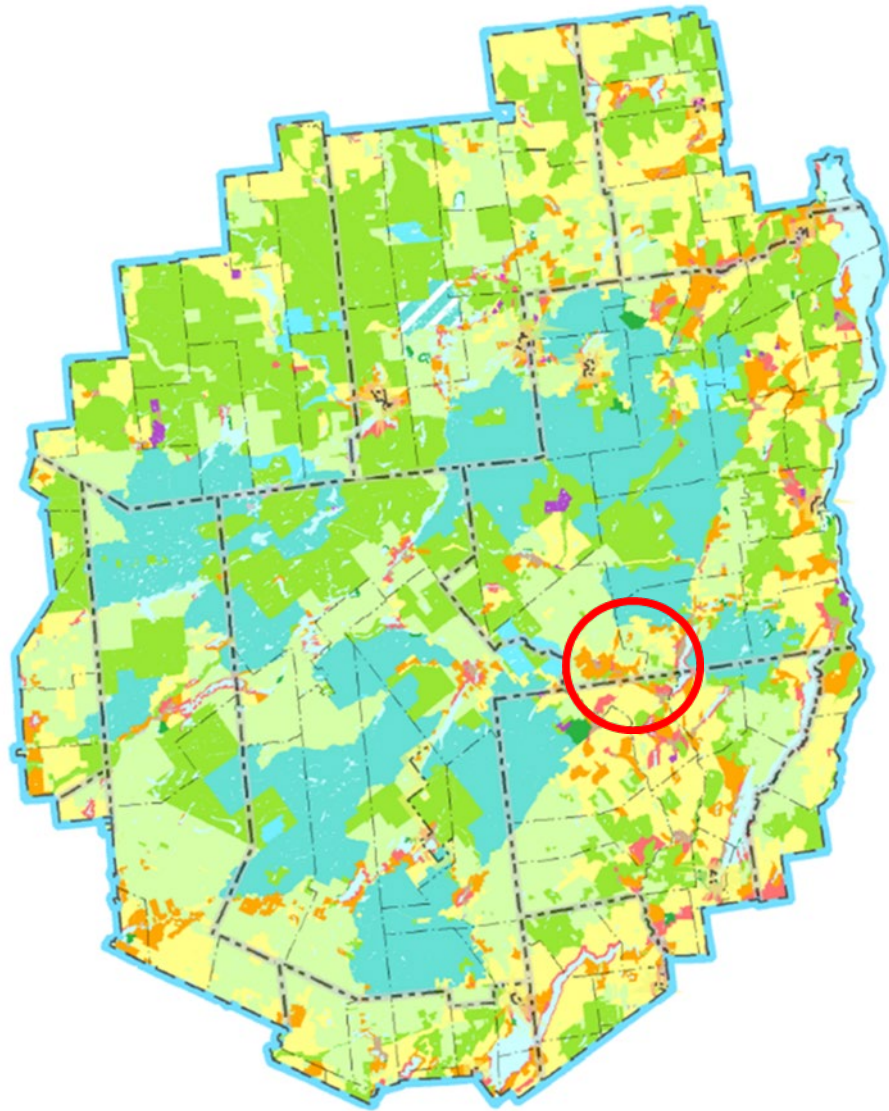
- Regulated Wetland Activity
 - Application of Herbicides in Wetlands

Conclusions of Law

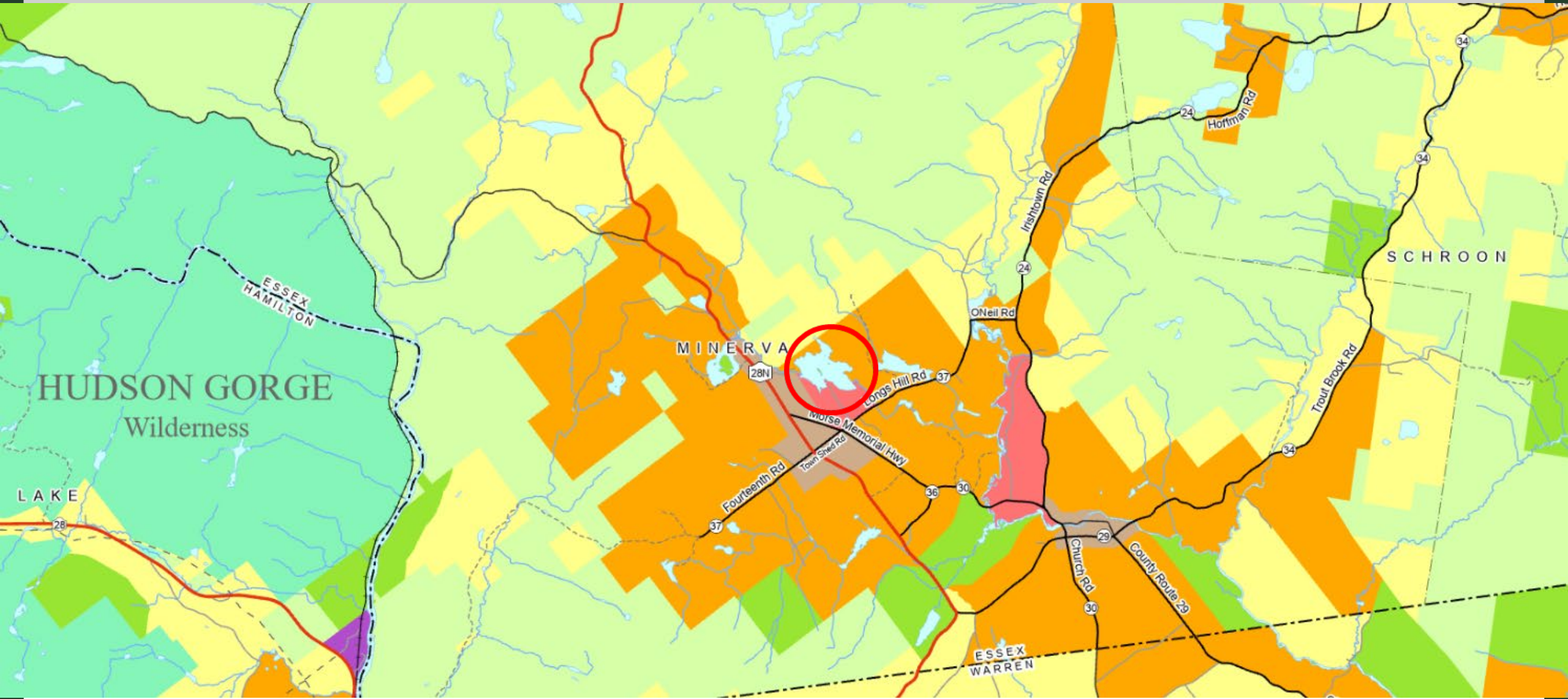
- is consistent with the applicable and relevant portions of the Freshwater Wetlands Act;
- is consistent with the Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan;
- will not have an undue adverse impact upon the natural, scenic, aesthetic, ecological, wildlife, historic, recreational or open space resources of the Park, taking into account the economic and social or other benefits to be derived from the activity; and
- provides economic, social and other benefits that compel a departure from the guidelines set forth in 9 NYCRR Section 578.10 as is permitted by 9 NYCRR Section 578.9.

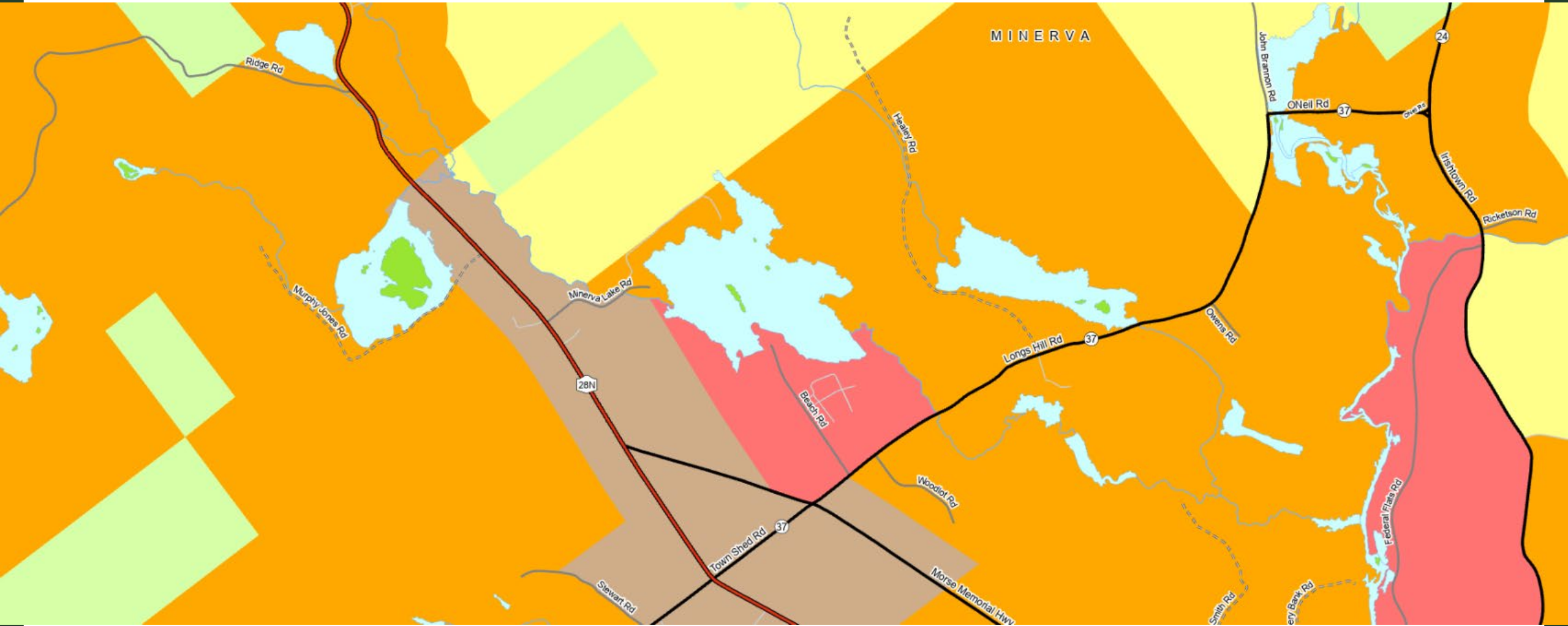


Project Location



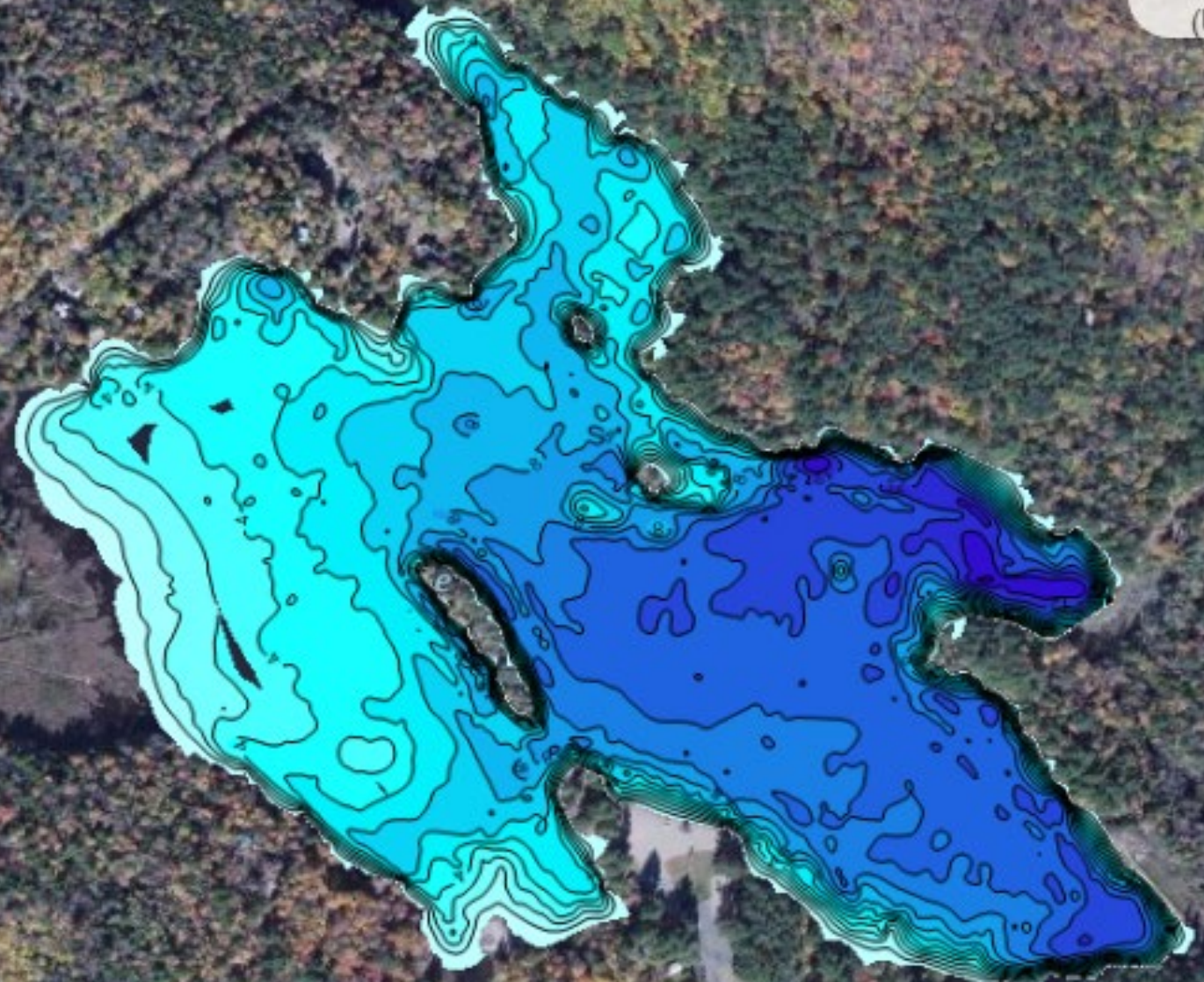
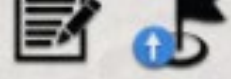
Town of Minerva, Essex County





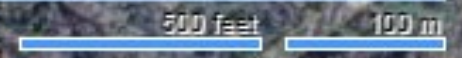


Merged map
06/14/2017 14:36:02
(UTC)



Court St
Beach Rd

Lat: 0043.7927700 Lon: -073.9841750



Management in Minerva Lake

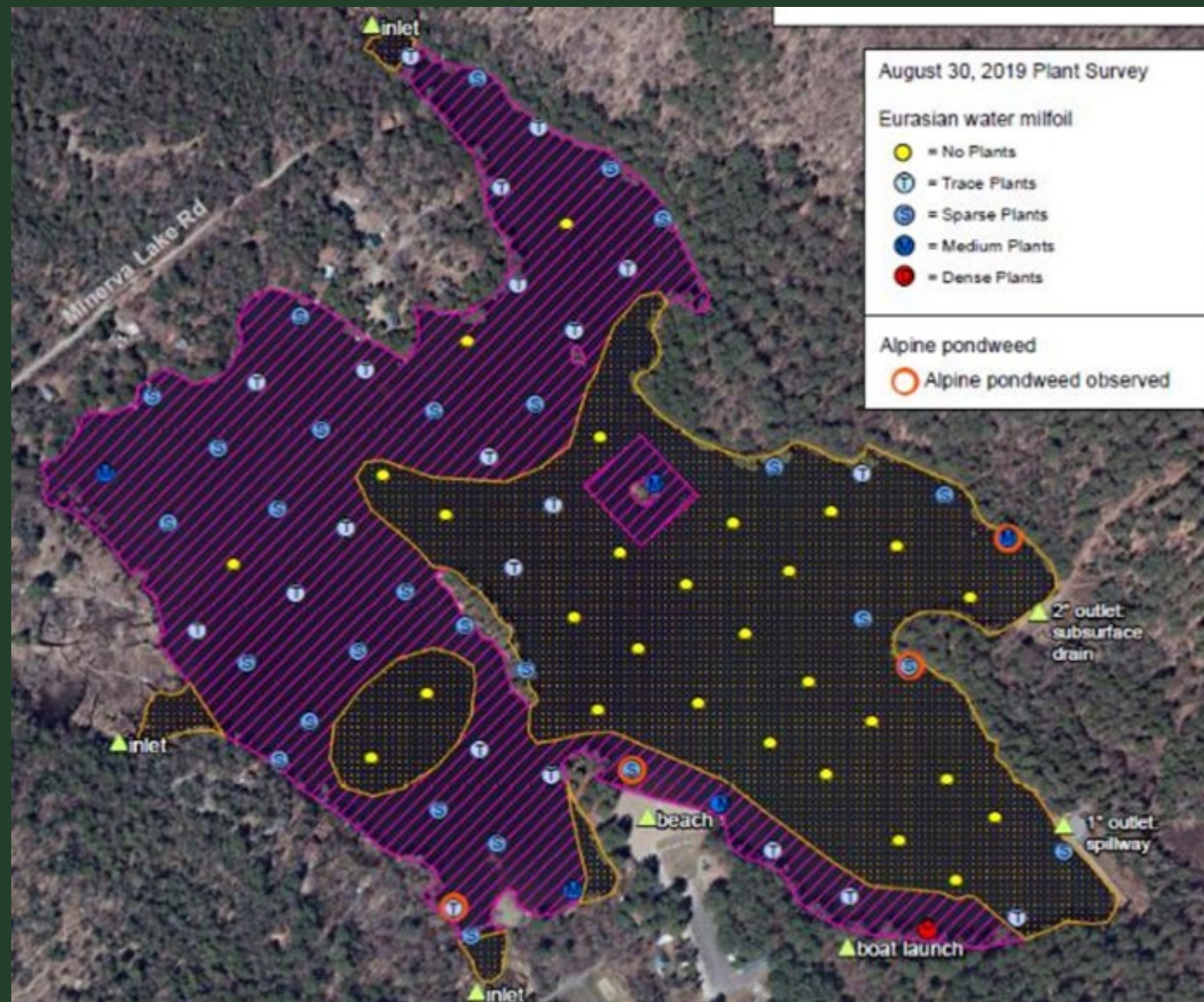
History

- Pre 2007 – Annual lake drawdowns for nuisance native vegetation control
- EWM first surveyed in 2007
- Annual hand harvesting 2007 – 2019
- ProcellaCor treatment in 2020
- Hand harvesting resumed 2023 - 2025



P2020-0044; Minerva Lake

Approval May, 2020; Treatment June 5, 2020



P2020-0044; Minerva Lake

Approval May, 2020; Treatment June 5, 2020

Table 2: 4 Year Change in common species abundance from 2019-2023.

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Eurasian watermilfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	66%	0%	0%	2%	1%
Common waterweed	<i>Elodea spp.</i>	60%	63%	74%	71%	24%
Flat-stem pondweed	<i>Potamogeton zosteriformis</i>	50%	54%	59%	65%	48%
Southern naiad	<i>Najas guadalupensis</i>	41%	60%	10%	68%	46%
Macroalgae	<i>Chara/Nitella spp.</i>	38%	48%	23%	24%	16%
Thin-leaf pondweed	<i>Potamogeton pusillus</i>	44%	21%	33%	16%	13%
Watershield	<i>Brasenia schreberi</i>	37%	26%	20%	21%	11%
Bassweed/Large-leaf pondweed	<i>Potamogeton amplifolius</i>	30%	37%	52%	43%	34%
Ribbon-leaf pondweed	<i>Potamogeton epiphydrus</i>	18%	34%	28%	7%	16%
Northern naiad (2019) Slender naiad (2020, 2021)	<i>Najas gracilima</i>	17%	9%	2%	0%	0%
Slender naiad (2019) Nodding naiad (2020, 2021)	<i>Najas flexilis</i>	16%	35%	82%	43%	16%

Eurasian Watermilfoil Density

Submersed Aquatic Plant Density



Trace



Medium



Sparse



Dense

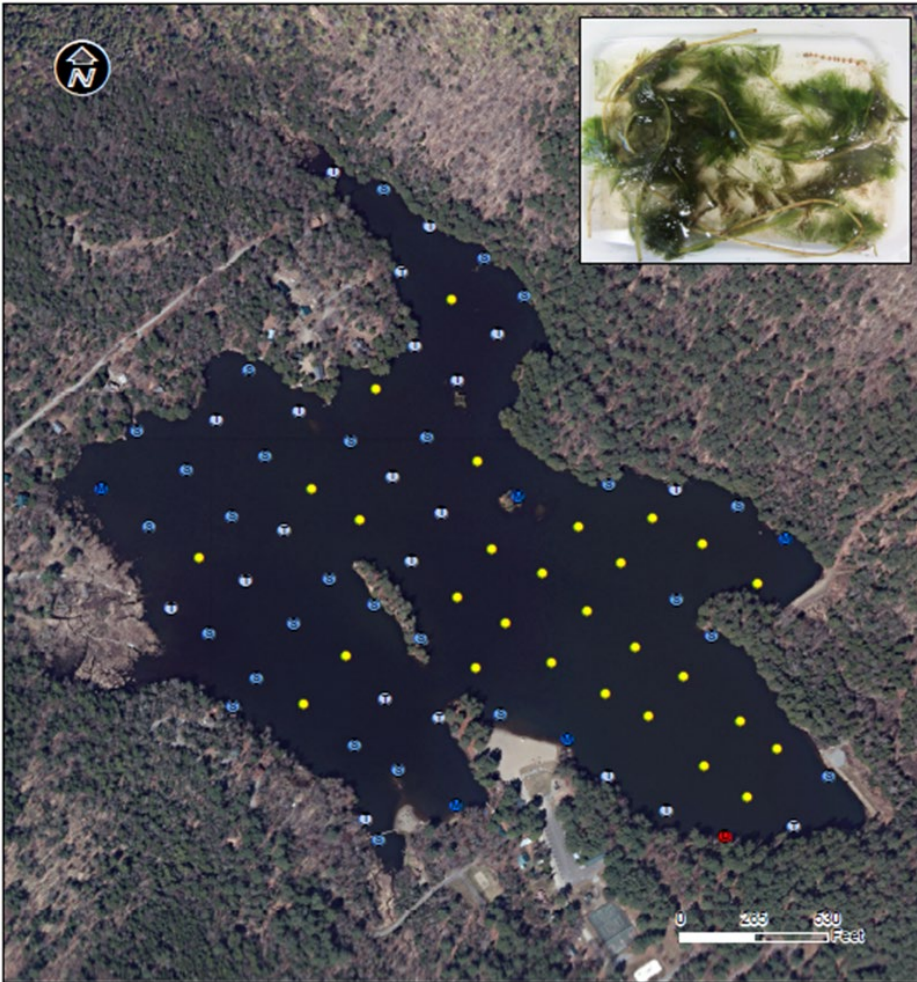
Year	EWM % of Survey Sites	Management
2019	66%	78,715 Pounds harvested
2020	0%	No harvest (ProcellaCor)
2021	0%	No harvest
2022	2%	No harvest
2023	1%	58 gallons harvested
2024	No Survey	340 gallons harvested
2025	34%	195 gallons harvested

	Total Sites	% Trace	% Sparse	% Medium	% Dense
EWM 2019	66%	39%	50%	9%	2%
EWM 2025	34%	71%	29%	0%	0%

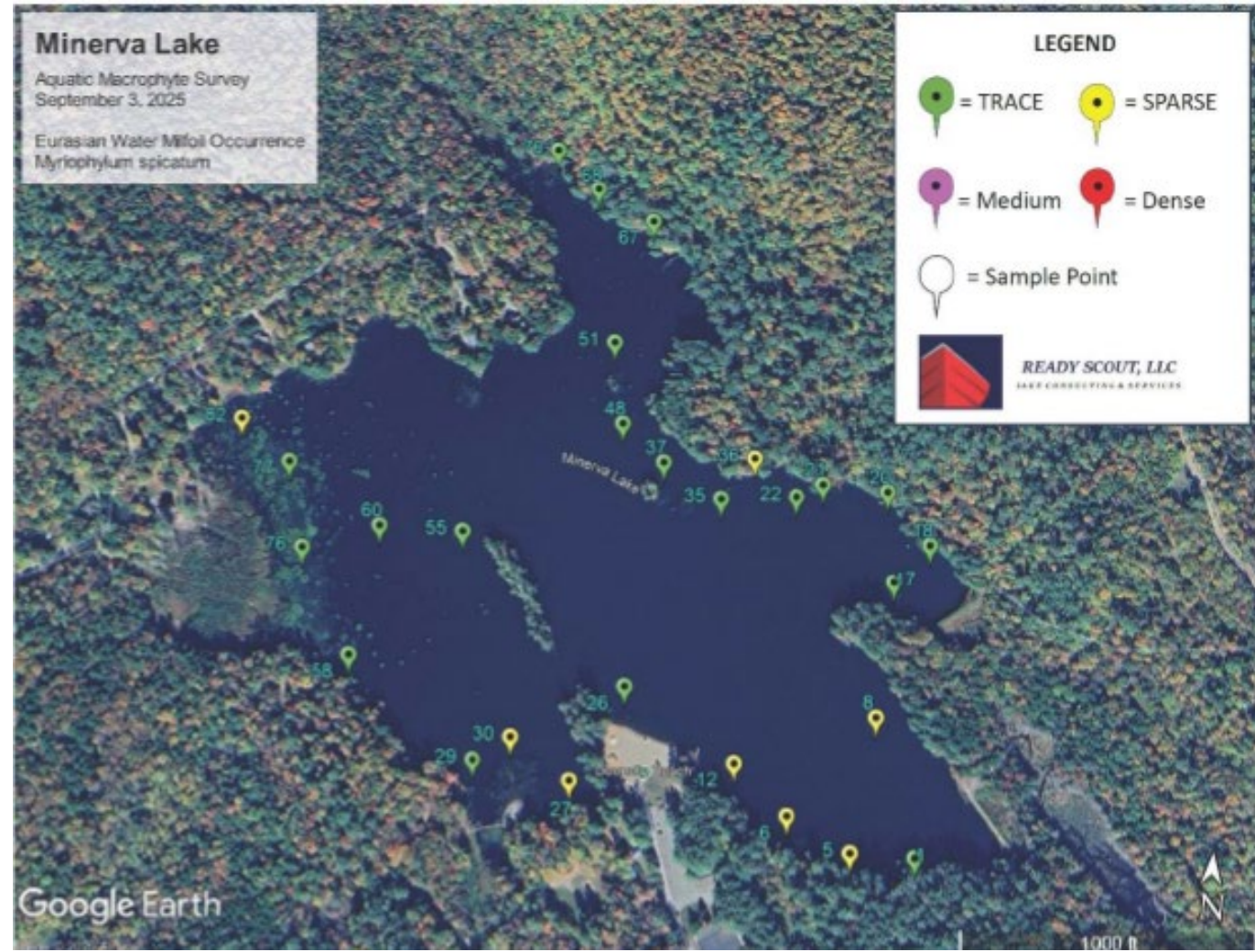
Eurasian Watermilfoil Areal Distribution

EURASIAN WATER MILFOIL (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)
DISTRIBUTION

SOLITUDE
LAKE MANAGEMENT
888.480.5253
solitudelakemanagement.com

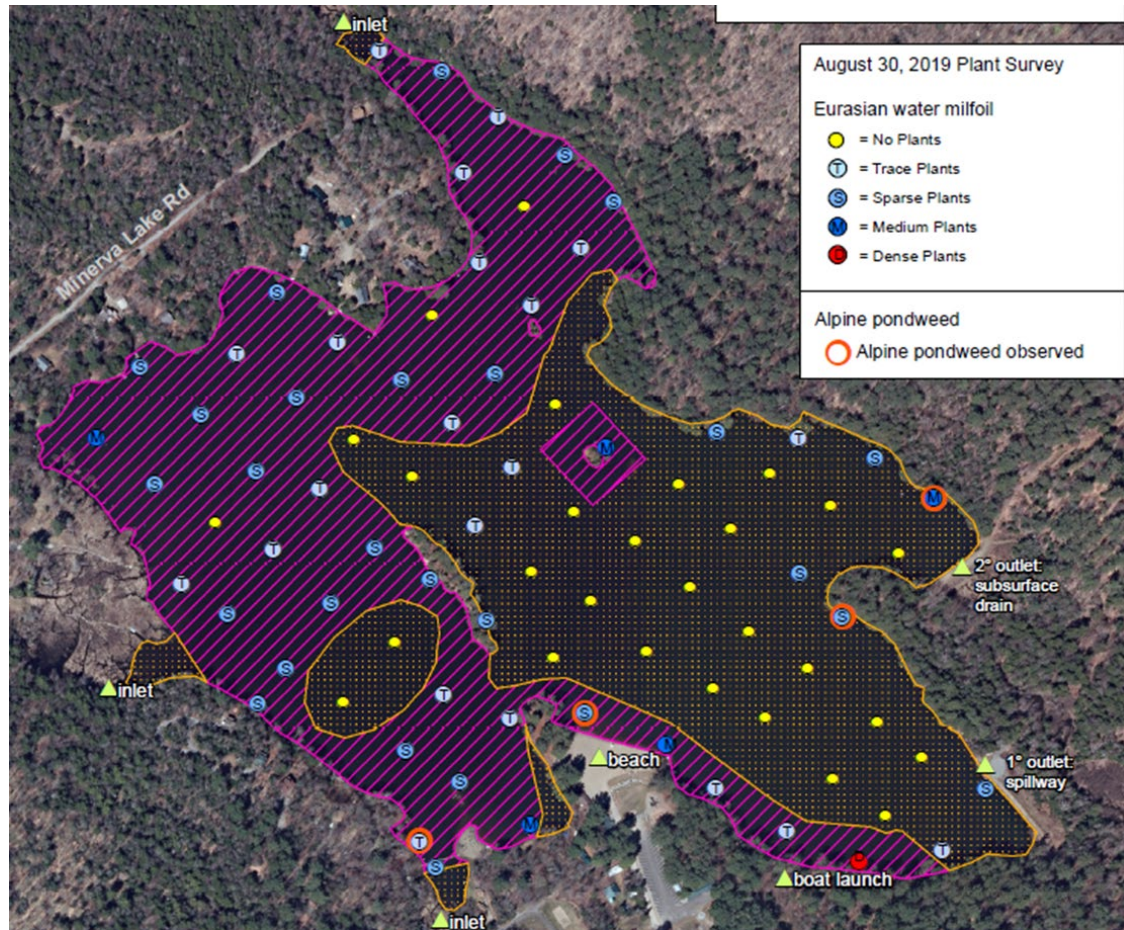


EWM Distribution 2019



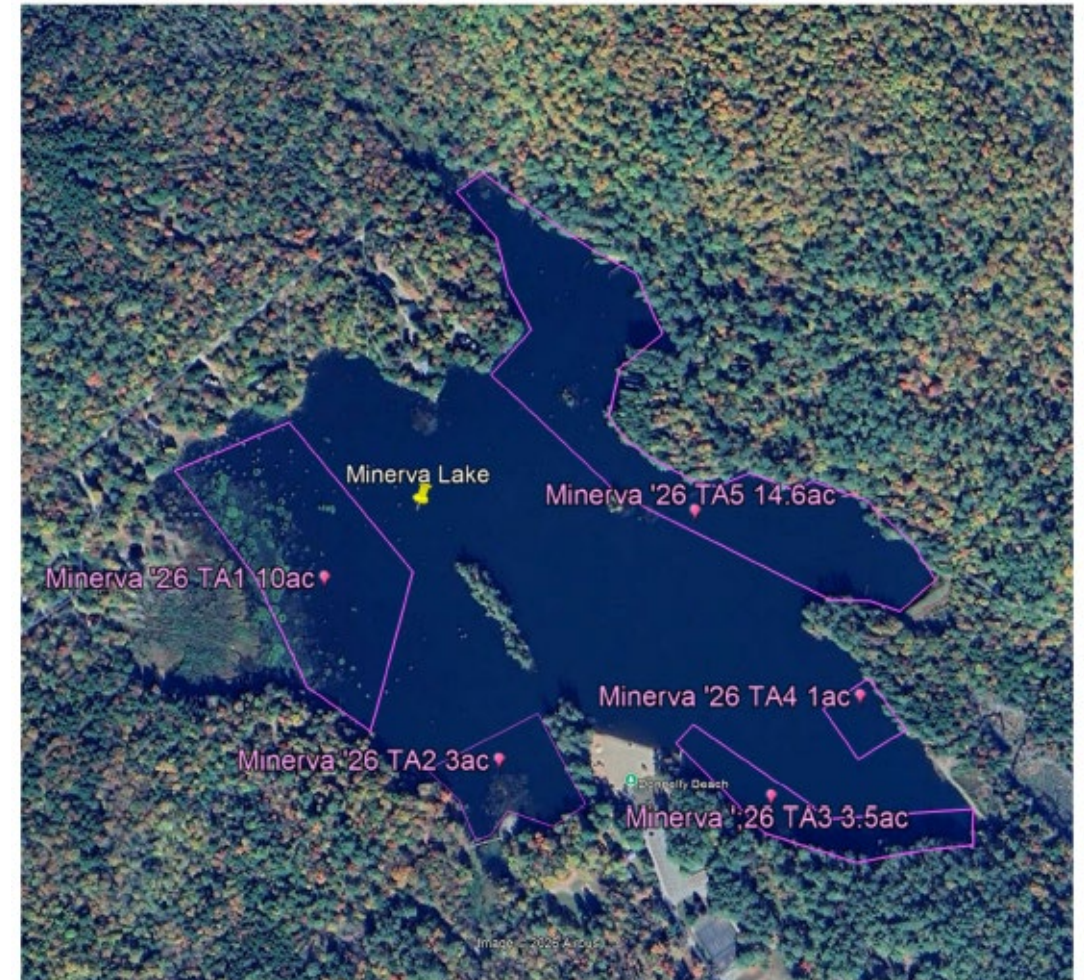
EWM Distribution 2025

Treatment Plan Maps



2020 – 41 Acres, 2 Treatment Areas

2026 Minerva Lake Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment Areas



2026 – 31.6 Acres, 5 Treatment Areas

Balancing Costs

MILFOIL EXPENDITURE

YEAR	BUDGET	ACTUAL
2026	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -
2025	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 11,980.00
2024	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 15,500.00
2023	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 7,605.00
2022	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 6,100.00
2021	\$ 40,000.00	\$ -
2020	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 26,575.00
2019	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 46,385.00
2018	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 67,900.00
2017	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 72,900.00
2016	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 72,002.00
2015	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 35,904.00
2014	\$ 24,000.00	?

2015-2019 (5 years before Chemical Treatment)

- \$280,425 total
- \$56,085 per year

2020-2025 (6 years after and including chemical treatment)

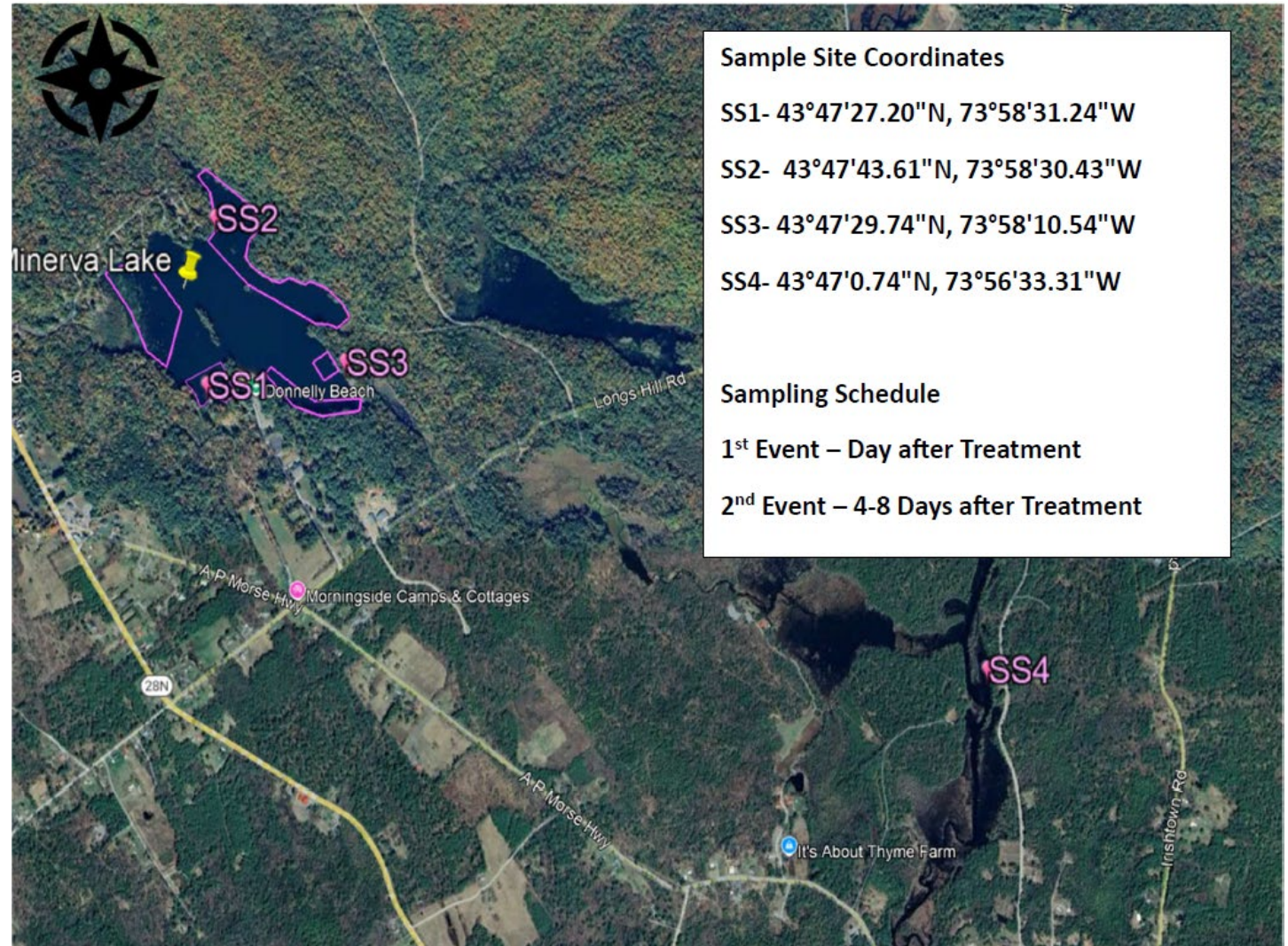
- \$67,760 total
- \$11,293 per year

Minerva Lake, Town of Minerva

Proposed Treatment

Proposed Treatment

- Treat 31.6 acres within five treatment areas in Minerva Lake with ProcellaCor EC.
- Post Treatment Samples collected until herbicide concentration is below 1 ppb in all samples.
- 1 day after treatment
- 4 – 8 days after treatment



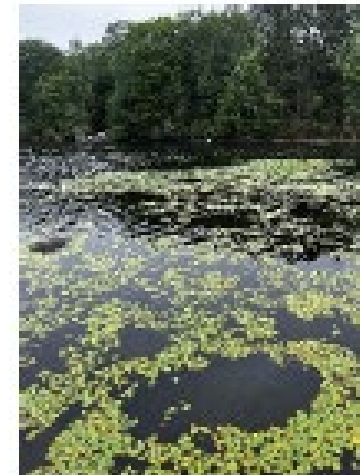
Post Treatment Requirements



- Qualitative survey about 6 weeks post-treatment
- Quantitative Plant Survey (August/September)
- Post Treatment Status Report (Due Dec. 1)
 - Survey Results
 - Residual Concentration Monitoring
 - Narrative assessment of lake health and discussion of effects on plant communities
- Record treatment in iMap invasives database

Susceptibility: Non-Target Species

Plant Species	Susceptibility
Water stargrass	Low – Moderate
Pickerelweed	Low – Moderate
Yellow waterlily	Moderate
White waterlily	Moderate
Watershield	Moderate – High



Watershield



Water Stargrass



Pickerelweed

Public Comment and Review by Others

Public Notice

- Shoreline owners notified when application was received, also when application was completed
(27 letters x 2 = 54 Notifications)
- Environmental Notice Bulletin: Comment Period Ended May 7, 2026
- Project posted for comment on the Agency's website
- 3 comment letters received, from advocacy groups, indicating concerns with the project

Public Comment

Topic: Monitoring should include sediment sampling instead of, or in addition to, water column sampling

- Water column monitoring protocol is associated with DEC Permit
- Presence of ProcellaCor in sediment does not necessarily mean there is an impact

Public Comment

Topic: Concerns about developing resistance to ProcellaCor if used a second time in the same lake

- Label restrictions:
 - Maximum of 3 treatments per year
 - Not to be used alone in same area for more than 2 consecutive years
- Minerva Lake treatment was 6 years ago

Public Comment

Topic: Need for a lake management plan / alternatives analysis

- Not a pre-requisite: 3 of 13 permits issued in lakes with management plans
- Minerva Lake has a history of using other management methodologies

Public Comment

Topic: Current proposal not justified / Need for establishment of criteria for chemical treatments

- Current proposal: Consistent growth, lakewide, rapidly increasing
- Wide variety of conditions may be suitable for chemical treatment

Review by Others

- NYS DEC
 - Bureau of Pesticides Application Approved May 8, 2026

Staff Recommendation / Draft Permit Conditions

Staff Recommendation: Approve with Conditions

Conditions

- Undertake project as proposed
- Adherence to Clean Drain Dry Standards for all equipment used
- Post-treatment concentration monitoring report
- Post treatment aquatic plant survey
- Submit treatment map to iMap Invasives Network

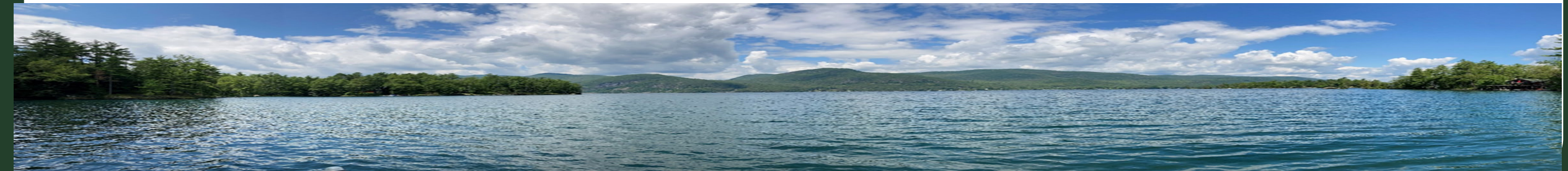
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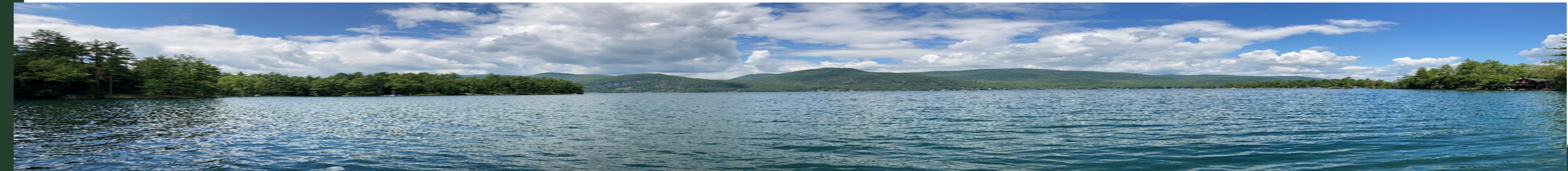
Conclusions of Law – Economic & Social Benefits

- Applicant notes the Lake provides opportunities for “year-round gathering, celebration and recreation” and is the “single largest driver of their economy.”
- Limited financial resources with a 79.8% decrease in annual spending on EWM control expenses.
- They maintain manual removals in combination with the proposed activity.



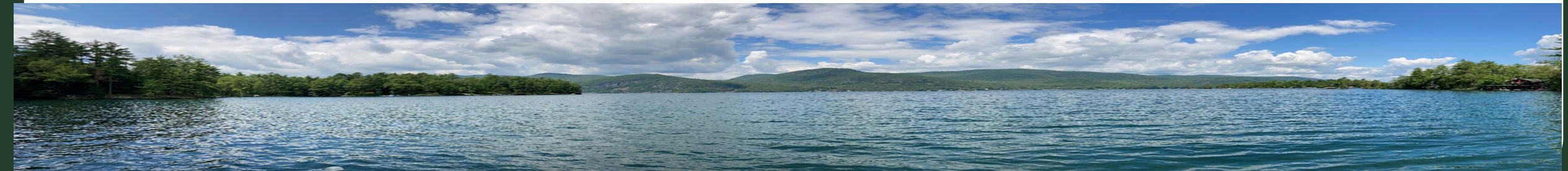
Other Benefits – AIS Control

- Public Policy: “Preserve, protect and conserve freshwater wetlands and the benefits derived therefrom, to prevent the despoliation and destruction of freshwater wetlands.”
- AIS Present: Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) is a recognized aquatic invasive species in New York State
- EWM is confirmed to be present and there is evidence that it's growing rapidly
- The method chosen targets EWM specifically and has minimal known impacts to non-target aquatic life



Other Benefits – AIS Control

- “Large infestation”
- Widespread distribution as opposed to patches
- Same density throughout
- History of other management methods





**Adirondack
Park Agency**