

Greetings!

Below please find the latest assessment updated for lakes Jesup, Monroe, and Harney.

On **February 29th, 2012**, Seminole County Lake Management Program (SCLMP) personnel, Gloria Eby and Thomas Calhoun, surveyed the aquatic plants in **Lake Jesup**.

Submersed aquatic vegetation (SAV) found during the inspection included coontail, hydrilla, and eelgrass. Hydrilla and coontail were found at the Sanford avenue boat ramp canal and eelgrass was observed within all but one of the FWC enclosures. Less than an acre of both floating exotics, water hyacinth and water lettuce were present in the lake. Access, via airboat, from the ramp is impeded by sediments and suggestion for navigational improvements will be submitted to county's Leisure Services Department.

Photo: FWC eelgrass enclosures (blooms present).



The FWC-AHRES and Seminole County Cooperative Restoration Project continues to expand very well. This project is located along the north shore centered by the SR417 bridge. Bulrush, pickerelweed, and thalia are expanding exceptionally well within this area, although cattails and phragmites are invading portions of the restoration area west of the SR417 bridge.

The spartina at Overlook Park continues to do well, although the pickerelweed and duck potato is almost gone, which is likely due to fluctuating water elevation within this area.

Photo: Bulrush expanding in restoration area.



The secchi reading was 0.9 feet in 3.1 feet of water. The water elevation at the time of the inspection was 0.26 feet below sea level.

The 1st Lake Jesup Restoration Event (photos attached) held on Saturday, April 14th, was a huge success in which 110+ volunteers braved a cool/windy day on Lake Jesup to help us plant approx. 30,000 eelgrass plants in a 1 acre plot, along with building (2) - 1 acre cages. Special thanks go out to Black Hammock Adventures!!! Without your dedication, support, and transportation of our SERV volunteers by airboat to the planting location, we could not have accomplished this huge planting event. On behalf of Seminole County, FWC, and all of our volunteers, THANK YOU!

Monroe 2-29-2012

On **February 29, 2012**, Seminole County Lake Management Program (SCLMP) personnel, Gloria Eby and Thomas Calhoun, surveyed the aquatic plants in **Lake Monroe**.

Native submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) observed included: coontail to a depth of 3 feet, eelgrass to 3 feet, and bladderwort (*Utricularia foliosa*) to a depth of 3 feet. One exotic SAV, hydrilla, was found to a depth of 6 feet. SAV was found at more shallow depths than in previous inspections due to lower water conditions. Currently, eelgrass is the dominant SAV throughout the lake and found topped out along the perimeter. Hydrilla had been found to be more abundant in the previous inspection than during this inspection. There were many coots observed foraging upon SAV over nearly the entire perimeter of the lake, more so than in previous inspections, with most foraging noted on the hydrilla as the majority of the plants were without leaves.

Photo: Hydrilla, without leaves, found along perimeter of the lake.



Water hyacinth and water lettuce were found in small populations within the lake, however a large amount of water hyacinth was found in the river near the Interstate 4 bridge. Bulrush has expanded around the edges of the lake, making a great recovery from the effects of TS Fay.

Photo: Topped out eelgrass around Stone Island.



Secchi reading was 3.2 feet in 4.2 feet of water. The water elevation at the time of the inspection was 0.3 feet below sea level.

Harney 3-12-2012

On **March 12, 2012**, SCLMP personnel, Thomas Calhoun and Marie Lackey, surveyed the aquatic plants in **Lake Harney**.

SAV included: eelgrass to 2 feet, coontail to 2 feet, and hydrilla to 1 foot. Eelgrass was the dominant SAV and has expanded around the entire perimeter of the lake with the leaf blades topped out in 2 feet of water. Hydrilla was found to be sparse and was intermixed within the eelgrass only on the west side of the lake, in less than 1 foot of water. Coontail was found only in the canals along the east side of the lake.

Photo: Eelgrass topped out in the shallow regions of the lake.



Photo: Hydrilla found along the western shoreline.



Native emergent aquatic plants that were found included: bulrush, knot grass, pickerelweed and bulrush. Invasive emergent plants found included: torpedo grass, cattails and common reed. Other invasive exotics included Brazilian pepper, water hyacinth, and water lettuce.

Secchi reading was 2.8 feet in 5.6 feet of water. Water elevation at the time of inspection was 1.03 feet at the USGS monitoring station.

Have a great day!

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Be sure to visit <http://www.seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/LakeManagement>