

2020 USCLA Board Meeting Weed Management Report

- Contracts were issued to Aquest, Inc. (Doug Pullman, Lake Consultant); Aquatic Services (Jeff Knox, herbicide applicator); Huron Lakes (Bill Tupper, Weed Harvesting).
- On June 28, a vegetation survey of Upper Straits Lake was conducted by Gabrielle Metzner-Gustafson, Project Scientist for Aquest/Keiser Associates.
- On July 10, Aquatic Services spread a contact herbicide over 30 acres of shoreline. A systemic herbicide was used as a test case to control a persistent patch of ebrid milfoil in front of a single lakefront property. The long-term effectiveness of this approach will be assessed in 2020.
- On July 22-25, Huron Lakes harvested approximately 170,000 lbs. of weeds. From May-September, USCLA participated in the MiCorps' Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP): Water clarity/transparency was monitored using a Secchi Disk twice a month; "Chlorophyll-a" (an indicator of algae biomass) was sampled once a month; total phosphorus levels were measured in the Spring and Fall. A very slow movement toward higher nutrient levels has been indicated, reflected by less water transparency, increases in spring and summer phosphorus levels and monthly chlorophyll readings. Based on the CLMP results, Upper Straits Lake is rated between **oligotrophic** (deep and clear lakes with little aquatic plant or algae growth) and **mesotrophic** (having a mid-range amount of nutrients).
- On August 22, 2019, a second vegetation survey of Upper Straits Lake was conducted by Gabrielle Metzner-Gustafson, Project Scientist for Aquest/Keiser Associates. Based upon this survey, a 35 page report, **2019 Data and Analysis Summary for Upper Straits Lake**, was issued this past April.