

Lone Lake Carp

In June 2007 over 800 grass carp were introduced into Lone Lake to help control invasive weed regrowth (Brazilian Elodea). The lake had previously been treated in 2005 with Flourodine, which killed nearly all aquatic plants in the lake, including the Elodea. Since introduction, the carp have continued to graze nearly all the vegetative regrowth in the lake, creating an unbalanced aquatic system.

Several organizations are coming together to hopefully improve the quality trout fishing opportunities in Lone Lake. Working hand in hand these organizations hope to improve the vegetation growth, reduce the carp population, and improve the quality trout fishing opportunities.

Carp Exclusion Project - The purpose of this study is to evaluate the regrowth and establishment of native and exotic vegetation previously cropped by a large grass carp population in Lone Lake, Island County. Results from this effort will be used to develop a re-vegetation plan for the lake. The coordinated efforts will install and monitor exclusionary netting in the littoral zone in waters from 2 to 6 feet deep. Each of the two approximately 10,000 square feet (50' X200' each) areas will be isolated using nets with floats and lead lines and of a mesh size that will allow the passage of small trout but stop the movement of grass carp. The plots will be evaluated over a two year timeline to assess the regrowth and establishment of native and exotic vegetation in the absence of grass carp. Quarterly written assessments will be prepared for/by the project team.

Installation Date June 2013

Result from this two year pilot study will be used to determine the rate and diversity of aquatic vegetation recovery assuming the grass carp numbers are further reduced.

Project Team

Noxious Weed Coordinator, Island County -Janet Stein
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife -Justin Spinelli
Evergreen Fly Fishing Club -Jake Jacobson
International Federation of Fly Fishers -Carl Johnson
Whidbey Island Fly Fishing Club -Clarence Hein
Department of Ecology -Jennifer Parsons
Lone Lake Homeowners Association -John Lees

Carp reduction efforts are also being coordinated by this project team. A "Carpathon" Fish Out activity is being scheduled for Summer 2013 and a Carp Seine Net Operation for Fall 2013. Contact Jake Jacobson jjacobson1@frontier.com or Clarence Hein clarenceonwhidbey@gmail.com for additional information or to assist with these efforts.

<http://www.evergreenflyclub.org/Lone%20Lake%20Carp%20Sign.pdf>
<http://www.evergreenflyclub.org/lone%20lake%20carp%20exclusion%20net%20map.pdf>