



Capital Region Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management Aquatic Response Report

Section 1: Response Project Summary

General Information	
Date Response Action Conducted: Sept. 10 th , 2025	County: Saratoga
Site Name: DEC Round Lake Boat Launch	Permit(s)/Permission(s) Acquired? Yes TRP
Address (if different): 2151 US-9, Round Lake, NY 12151	Time Spent (Hours)/# of Staff On Site: 0.5 hr/1 staff
	Property Owner Name, Title, and Contact: NYSDEC Region 5 Rob Fiorentino (rob.fiorentino@dec.ny.gov) /Village of Round Lake Mayor Gary Putman (mayor@roundlakevillage.org)
Parking Lot Lat./Long.: 42.934582, -73.790748	Project Leader Name, Title, and Contact: Alexa Howansky—AIS Program Manager: ajh363@cornell.edu
Total Parcel Size (acres): 321 (entire waterbody)	Disposal Name and Contact: N/A
Worksite Size (acres): 2 (searched area near launch)	Team Member Name(s) and Title(s): None
Report Author: Alexa Howansky	Data Recorder & iMapInvasives ID:
# of Volunteers (if any): None	# of Total Volunteer Hours on Site (# of volunteers x Time spent on site): N/A

Conservation Goal:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delineate & assess a conservation value | <input type="checkbox"/> To prevent and protect a conservation value |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Eradication | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Post-Treatment Monitoring |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Suppression | <input type="checkbox"/> Exclusion |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Containment |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration |

Response Type:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Initial Response | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Follow-up Monitoring | <input type="checkbox"/> Crew Assistance Program Project |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Research Action | <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Engagement |

Disposal method(s): No Water Lettuce (target species) was found/disposed. Small amount of Water Chestnut biomass disposed in invasive species disposal box.

Project Significance:

Round Lake is on the CR-PRISM’s Priority Waterbody List, and is a significant site for recreation and fishing in the Capital Region. Due to high motorized boat traffic and frequent aquarium dumping, Round Lake is at high risk for new introductions of high threat invasive species, including those which have not yet been found or which have a very limited distribution within the PRISM (tier 1 and 2 species).

In 2024, a handful of Water Lettuce (*Pistia stratiodes*) plants were discovered amongst the native waterlilies in the immediate vicinity of the boat launch—an incidental finding during a routine Watercraft Steward site visit. Water Lettuce is a tier 1a species, meaning it is not established within the PRISM but is





within 100 miles of the boundary. This detection at Round Lake was assumedly an aquarium dumping, considering the lack of presence in any nearby waterbodies in addition to the fact that all of the plants were directly next to the shoreline—Water Lettuce is also thought to be unable to overwinter/produce recurring generations in the current local climate, but this must be monitored as climate change complicates these life histories.

All visible Water Lettuce plants (about 5) were removed immediately upon initial detection, and no additional plants were found for the remainder of the 2024 season. A plan was formulated to conduct post-treatment monitoring of the site in the summer of 2025 to ensure no Water Lettuce seeds had survived the winter.

Section 2: Response Results Summary

Is this the first year of treatment? No—initial removal occurred in August of 2024. No additional Water Lettuce plants were found in 2025, though a small number of Water Chestnut (*Trapa natans*) rosettes were found and removed on sight while monitoring for Water Lettuce. No previous Water Chestnut treatments have been documented at the site.

Is follow-up needed? What time of year and how often during the season? Yes—Round Lake should be consistently monitored every 2 or 3 years to check for new AIS introductions. Boat Stewards should remove Water Chestnut around the launch area each year.

Number of stems/bags/pounds of biomass removed: 0 Water Lettuce; half a contractor bag of Water Chestnut (15 – 20 lb.?)

Common & Scientific Name	Tier/Threat Rank	Growth Form/Lifecycle	Phenology/Life stage	Percent Cover (%)	Distribution/Abundance	Response Method	Area Infested (acres/miles if linear)	If Applicable Area Treated (acres/miles if linear)
Water Lettuce (<i>Pistia stratioides</i>)	1a/ Very High	Floating	N/A	0%	Not Detected	N/A	N/A	N/A
Water Chestnut (<i>Trapa natans</i>)	4/ Very High	Floating	Vegetative/ Fruits	< 5%	Sparse	Manual (hand-pull)	~4 acres (scattered throughout)	All plants detected w/in the 4 acre SA

See next page for map.



Map:



Figure 1. Not-Detected Record. Pictured is an aerial view of the DEC Round Lake Boat Launch area, with the cyan polygon (Not-Detected Record #107957) showing the area searched for Water Lettuce. Retrieved from [iMapInvasives.org](https://www.imapinvasives.org).

Photos:



Figure 2. Launch area shoreline, 2025. Pictured is the shallow area directly next to the boat launch, the exact location the Water Lettuce plants were found in 2024. Plants visible in the photo include Native White Waterlily, Arrowheads and/or Green Arrow Arum, Purple Loosestrife, and others.



Figure 3. Water Lettuce, 2024. Pictured is one of the Water Lettuce plants that was found in Round Lake in 2024. Note that the leaves are fuzzy with parallel, vertical veins running from base to tip—key identifying characteristics for the species.



Section 3: Summary of Recommendations

It is not likely that Water Lettuce will persist in Round Lake from the plants that were found and removed in 2024, so yearly surveying likely is not necessary hereafter.

Round Lake (especially the boat launch area) should be monitored every 2 to 3 years to continue checking for new introductions and aquarium dumpings. Round Lake-stationed Watercraft Stewards should be well trained on the ID of Water Lettuce and should be asked to keep an eye out throughout the boating season each year and to report any witnessed aquarium dumpings to a supervisor.

The Water Chestnut around the Round Lake boat launch tends to be minimal and should not require an organized removal event. Watercraft Stewards should routinely clear AIS, including Water Chestnut, from the launch area throughout each boating season.

