

SLAM AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS) PROTOCOL

This is the process to be followed by the Weed Watchers or anyone else who finds a possible invasive plant growing in Silver Lake.

Step 1: Document & Mark the Location

1. **Obtain the GPS coordinates** – Use a smartphone to identify the GPS coordinates for the location. On an iPhone, open the Maps app, press on the blue dot denoting your location, and slide the My Location pop-up screen up to see the GPS coordinates. On an Android phone, open the Google Maps app, click on the blue dot denoting your location and the coordinates will appear on a pop-up screen.
2. **Mark the location** – Drop a brightly colored, weighted, flagged noodle float. A few of these are stored with the weed watching lead, Doug McAllister (cell: 603/828-1256) and in the Lake Host building at the boat launch. Remember that a GPS location obtained with your phone may have an accuracy of +/-15-50 ft which is why a physical marker is critical.
3. **Photograph the plant** – Take a high-resolution photo to highlight the plant's stem, leaves, and any bracts or flowers. Cut a cross section perpendicular to the stem to show the arrangement of leaves. Include a scale in the photos (coin, ruler, etc.).

Step 2: Obtain a Sample

1. Collect a representative piece of the aquatic plant (full stem, leaves, flowers, and fruits if available). Be careful not to allow any plant debris to float away; capture everything you cut and remove it from the lake.
2. Wrap the plant carefully in a moist (not dripping) paper towel.
3. Seal the specimen in a sturdy Ziplock freezer bag and label with:
 - Name of waterbody and town
 - Date sample was collected
 - GPS location where collected

- Program you are part (e.g. Weed Watcher, Lake Host)
- Your name + phone number + email
- Any other pertinent information

Please be sure to include all of the information above as it will help NH DES to identify the location for the plant as well as how to contact you once the specimen is identified.

If needed, refer to NH DES WEBSITE for Exotic (Invasive) weeds and animals:

<https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/exoticspecies/index.htm>

Step 3: Notify SLAM Leadership

Ted Kramer – President
Cell: 603/367-8459
Home: 606/367-8459
E-mail: ted@silverlakekramers.com

Steve Bartlett – Vice President
Cell: 603/662-2729
E-mail: dbarts@twc.com

Step 4: Contact NH Department of Environmental Services

- Contact **Amy Smagula** of NH DES by email with the AIS location and photos for her to identify: Amy.Smagula@des.nh.gov (cell: **603-419-9325**).
- If Amy requests samples, deliver, or mail the specimen(s) immediately to:
Amy Smagula
Exotic Species Program NH DES
29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301

Note: Please do not mail specimens on Thursdays or Fridays as they will decay quickly in the mail. If you collect a specimen late in the week, please refrigerate or keep on ice until you can mail it.

- If Amy determines that the specimen is invasive, she will perform an on-site inspection. She will confirm with SLAM her findings and strategies for remediation as appropriate.

Step 5: Notify Cliff Cabral

- Once an AIS is confirmed, notify Cliff Cabral, owner of New England Milfoil:

nemilfoil@gmail.com

cell **603-387-2425**.

Cliff will dive and determine the wider extent of the plant and will help us to remark this area, as necessary, with additional buoys to restrict any boat activity and allow for unhindered investigation.

- Amy may be able to provide NHDES buoys that she uses during AIS harvesting.

Step 6: Notify Madison Selectmen

Website: <https://www.madison-nh.org>

Phone: (603) 367-4332

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