



# **Funding of Milfoil Treatment in New Hampshire's Waterbodies**

**“A Snapshot of Money Raised and Spent  
in 2009 and 2010”**

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for Ossipee Lake Alliance

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# Purpose of Study

- To obtain information about the amount of money raised and/or spent to treat milfoil in New Hampshire's lakes, ponds, and rivers in 2009 and 2010 by the state (DES), local municipalities, and private organizations.
- To analyze the trends in milfoil treatment funding from the data collected.
- To offer recommendations/suggestions about future policy and funding strategies for milfoil treatment



# Outline of Data Survey & Collection

- DES provided list of NH's milfoil infested waterbodies
  - Includes 73 lakes, ponds, and rivers encompassed by 59 towns and cities
- Data was collected April 1 – May 15, 2011
  - Primary sources were telephone and email interviews and internet research
  - 10 waterbodies are rivers and have no contact other than DES
  - 63 lakes contacted, 49 responded (78%)
- Additional information obtained through town records, news articles, and lake association websites



# Survey Tool

## Milfoil Survey for Ossipee Lake Alliance – 2011

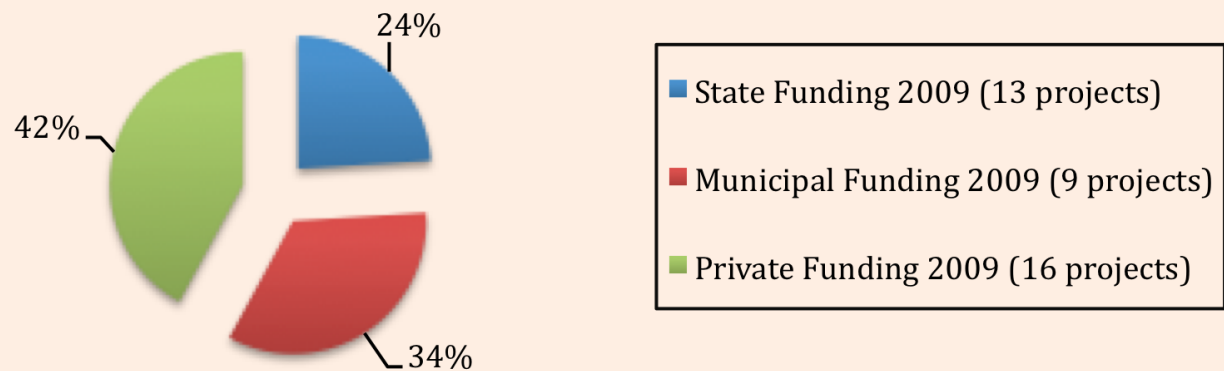
1. In the years of 2009 and/or 2010 has your lake association raised any funding to address the milfoil problem in your lake?
2. If so, how was this money raised?
  - A special assessment to members?
  - An allocation of annual dues paid by members?
  - A donation by private members or businesses?
  - Some other fundraiser?
3. Can you estimate how much funding was raised by the lake association to combat milfoil in 2009 and/or 2010?
4. What type of milfoil control program took place?



# Results - 2009

- Total \$\$ Spent/Raised: \$249,692.85
- Breakdown of 2009 milfoil funding:
  - State – **\$59,985.50**
  - Municipal – **\$84,685.00**
  - Private – **\$105,022.35**

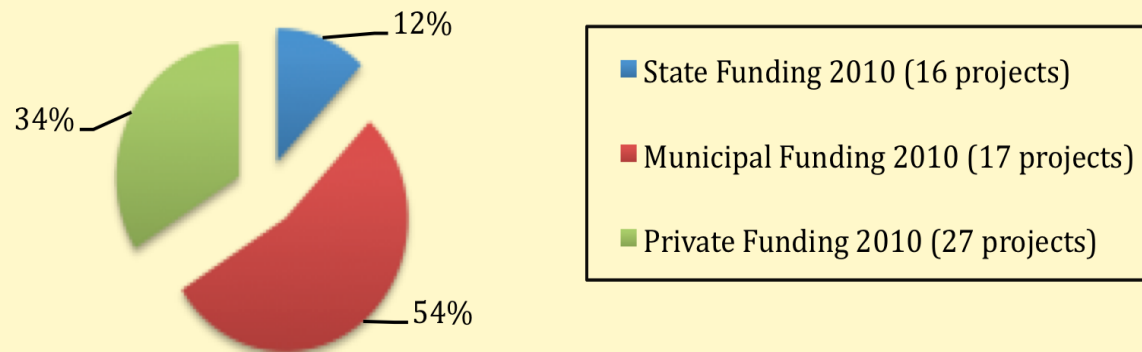
**Total Milfoil Funding 2009**



# Results - 2010

- Total \$\$ Spent/Raised: \$744,894.10
- Breakdown of 2010 milfoil funding:
  - State – **\$89,958.10**
  - Municipal – **\$401,740.00** \*(\$200,000 – Moultonborough)
  - Private – **\$253,196.00**

Total Milfoil Funding 2010



# Analysis of Data

- Available data shows that ~50% of the milfoil infestations are being addressed through known treatment programs
  - 25 lakes/ponds in 2009
  - 26 lakes/ponds in 2010
- Funding for milfoil treatment increased exponentially between 2009-2010 (\* a significant investment was made by the Town of Moultonborough)
- State of NH funded less than 25% of treatment cost in comparison with municipal and private funding sources
- Lakes with strong associations have greater success in raising funding both privately and through municipalities



# Analysis of Data: State Funding

- State (DES) does not fund control activities for every waterbody
  - DES was only able to help fund 13 projects in 2009 and 16 projects in 2010
  - 9 of the 29 total projects funded by DES in 2009-2010 were on Lake Winnepesaukee (31%)
  - State funding increased from \$59K in 2009 to \$90K in 2010





# Analysis of Data: Municipal Funding

- Municipal Funding strategies:
  - Town warrant articles – 9 towns in 2009, 12 towns in 2010
  - Conservation Commission funding through general appropriations
- Municipal funding appears to be short term
  - Out of 59 towns, only 9 allocated funding in 2009
  - Out of 59 towns, only 17 allocated funding in 2010 (29%)
  - Only 8 towns allocated funding for both 2009 and 2010



# Analysis of Data: Municipal Funding

## Raising Funds Locally - Use of Warrant Articles **Goffstown, 2010 - Approved**

*To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to Twenty-Three Thousand Dollars (\$23,000) for the purpose of supporting Namaske Lake Association's efforts to manage milfoil in Namaske Lake, also known as the lower portion of the Piscataquog River. The Namaske Lake Association estimates the cost of the milfoil management project at \$47,000 which they plan to fund as follows: \$14,000 from the State of NH, \$5,000 donation from Enel North America (operator of the Kelly Falls Dam), \$5,000 from local residents and Namaske Lake Association members; and \$23,000 from the Town of Goffstown. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 11).*

***Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0-0.***

***Recommended by the Budget Committee 14-0-0.***



# Analysis of Data: Municipal Funding

## Raising Funds Locally - Use of Warrant Articles **Moultonborough, 2010 - Approved**

*To see if the municipality will vote to establish an Expendable Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to be known as the Milfoil Control Trust Fund, for the purpose of ongoing management of milfoil in the town's waterways and to designate the Selectboard as agents to expend both principle and interest from this fund under rules and regulations to be promulgated. Further to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand dollars (\$200,000) to be placed in this fund.*



# Analysis of Data: Municipal Funding

## Raising Funds Locally - Use of Warrant Articles

### **Danville, 2010 – Not Approved**

*Article 2010-20 Citizen Petition – Milfoil Treatment: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,435 to fund the second year of milfoil treatment in Long Pond.*

***Not Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (0-4)***

***Not Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-8)***

\*Even though article failed, the town set aside funding through conservation commission monies



# Analysis of Data: Private Funding

## Successful Approaches to Milfoil Control through Private Fundraising

### **Example #1: Lake Wentworth Association**

#### **Provides funding for Lake Wentworth and Crescent Lake**

- Annual dues raise about \$15,000 per year from residents
- Train volunteer divers to hand-pull – association pays for SCUBA training, gear, supplies
- Have ‘dive parties’ on Saturday mornings – many residents offer to help upon seeing boat in area
- Association sells lime green t-shirts, golf shirts, visors, etc.
- Host annual dinners to garner interest with program
- Often award volunteer divers with gift cards
- LWA does not apply for DES grants



# Analysis of Data: Private Funding

## Successful Approaches to Milfoil Control through Private Fundraising

### **Example #2: Flint Pond Improvement Association**

#### **Provides funding for Flint Pond in Hollis, NH**

- Annual dues (\$10 per household) raises about \$500 per year from residents
- Fundraisers including t-shirt sales, coupon cards to local restaurants
- Charitable gaming nights – raised about \$8,000 over a period of several years
- Kayak raffle
- Website is affiliate of Bass Pro Shops



# Analysis of Data: Private Funding

## Other Fundraising Strategies

- Booth at town's Old Home Day for information and donations
- Mailings/newsletters to community residents
- Door-to-door campaigns
- Matching contributions from residents' employers
- Partnerships with marinas, businesses, camps on lakes



# Recommendations for Future Strategies

- Standardize Data – Build Evidence
  - Establish a central repository for data relative to milfoil treatment
  - Utilize similar terminology in order to identify and separate treatment funds from prevention funds
  - Differentiate between monies raised and spent
  - Report annually to quantify problem
- Further Enhance Education and Communication for Stakeholders
  - Broaden definition of stakeholders
  - Develop communication strategies to further enhance communication and collaboration among stakeholders





# Recommendations for Future Strategies

- Consider development of Public/Private Partnerships
  - Review other successful public/private partnerships
  - Research other State programs
  - Research federal grants and programs
    - Outreach & education to congressional delegation



## Conclusion

- Towns and private donations are funding dramatically increasing expenditures to control milfoil infestations (\$250K to \$750K)
- The State's share of funding dropped from 24% to 12% despite a 50% increase (\$60K to \$90K)
- Excluding Moultonborough, private funding exceeds state and municipal funding sources
- An estimated 50% of known milfoil infestations were not being addressed in 2009 / 2010
- What can we, as citizens, do to help increase the State's level of funding for milfoil control?

