

Lake Sutherland News



“Captain” Jan Snyder ferries two divers to their assigned area during a Lake Sutherland 2013 Eurasian milfoil weed pull.

Time for renewal

Petitions, election in lake program’s future

Lake Sutherland’s county management district, which has controlled the lake’s infestation of Eurasian milfoil for 10 years, soon must be renewed by the voting property owners of the lake in order to stay in business.

Cathy Lucero, the county’s coordinator for the district, has documented the progress made over 10 years in controlling the invasive Eurasian strain of milfoil, which left alone could spread and clog all shallow waters up to 20 feet deep. Property owners voted in 2004 to form the special management district. Since that time, the district steering committee, Lucero, volunteer scuba divers and many members of the lake community have gathered two to three times each summer for a Saturday devoted to pulling the weeds by hand and removing them from the lake.

The next step begins with a petition requesting the County Commission to start the process of re-establishing the district by ballot for 10 more years. The district steering committee on Feb. 6 decided to so petition this spring. (Continued on next page...)

Petition to keep fighting lake’s milfoil weeds

The undersigned affirm their support of the Milfoil Control Program and petition county government to schedule an election for re-formation of the Lake Sutherland Management District:

Property owner signature(s):

Property owner names (print):

Lake address:

Parcel/Lot# (if known):

Return to Cathy Lucero, County Courthouse, 223 East 4th Street, #15, Port Angeles, WA 98362



A volunteer diver rises with a light sack of pulled weeds.

Lake Steering Committee

Mike Price (928-2121)

Jim Haguewood (452-3540)

Don Nunley (928-9484)

John/Marie Marrs (928-3300)

Theresa Schmid (452-3490)

Jan Snyder (452-7059)

Gene Unger (452-2098)

Judy Ware (457-1579)

Admin., Cathy Lucero 417-2442.

(Continued from other page...)

The continuing efforts of many volunteers to control the lake's infestation found further success last summer, eliminating one five-gallon bucket of the weeds compared with twice that amount the year before. The weed pulls each summer have found fewer plants than the summer before. At one benchmark in 2008, almost 1,000 plants were pulled in a total of three Saturday weed pulls.

Lucero said the invasive weed is now chiefly limited to spots in Heron Cove, Mallard Cove and Maple Grove. She emphasizes that even a single bucket's worth of the plant will spread if left alone.

The steering committee on Feb. 6 decided to ask lake property owners to keep the annual assessment

at \$50 per parcel. There are 380 property parcels.

The district is finishing its first 10 years with a balance of about \$30,000 in reserve, an amount the committee members feel is minimal due to possible contingencies, such as a loss of key volunteers that could result in equipment rentals or purchases.

The committee credits Lucero with coordinating all volunteer efforts and guiding the district in its effective efforts after discovery of the milfoil invasion more than 10 years ago.

Signatures of at least 60 parcel owners will be needed to officially ask the county to hold a by-mail election. The committee hopes to achieve this total by May. The form on Page 1 can be signed and returned to help with this petition.

Lake Sutherland Management
District 2 Steering Committee

223 E. Fourth St., #15 Port Angeles, WA 98362

