

LONG LAKE *liaison*

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2007 SPRING

IN THIS ISSUE

Help Patrol for Milfoil

G

Divers Find Milfoil Growth

G

Algae Study Results Encouraging

G

Lake Included in Budgets

G

A Letter from the LMD President

G

Milfoil Grant Unsuccessful

G

Integrated Plan Drives Projects

Healthy Lawn...Healthy Lake

G

Remember Hydraulic Project Permit



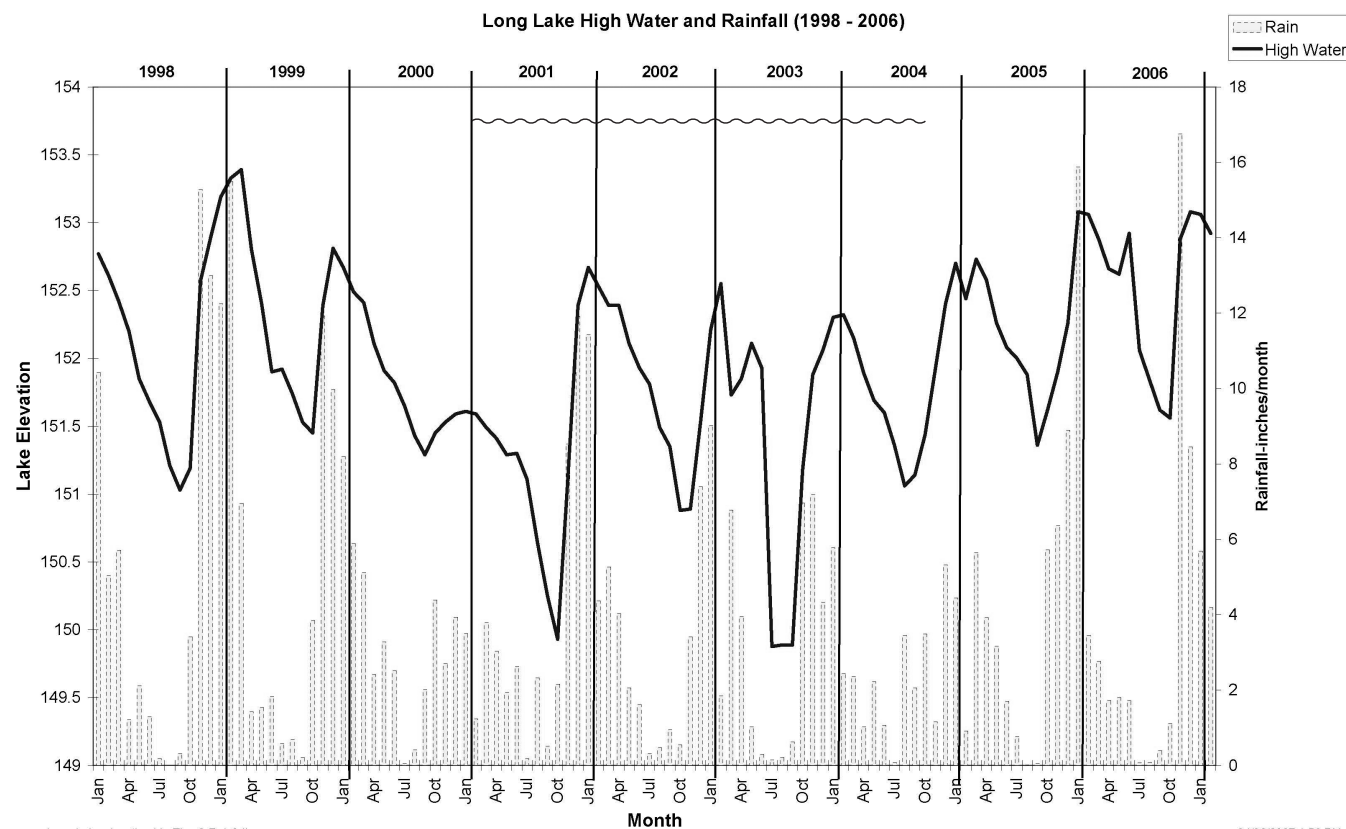
See the "lakes" button on www.co.thurston.wa.us/wwwm

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Volunteers Needed for Milfoil Patrol

The Annual Boater Awareness Program needs volunteers to spend an hour or two on opening day (April 28) to inspect boats for milfoil at the state Department of Fish and Wildlife public access ramp. Each year, volunteers hand out information about the threat of Eurasian watermilfoil, and answer questions about the threat of milfoil from Long Lake.

In the past, volunteers have checked about 150 boats from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please call Janet Boyd at 456-2066. You may also call David Christensen in the Thurston County Department of Water and Waste Management, 709-3119, or the county TDD line at 754-2933. David's e-mail address is christd@co.thurston.wa.us.



Long Lake elevation Lk. Elev & Rainfall

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 Because of near-record rainfall earlier this winter, water levels were higher in Long Lake than they have been since early 1999.

Divers Find Milfoil Growth

Divers spent 20 days in March and April hand-pulling Eurasian watermilfoil from Long Lake. The divers found several sites with milfoil, including one that had an infestation of about 1,000 square feet. To date, the divers have removed more than 10 pounds of plants. That is more than the total amount removed in the last three years combined.

In November, divers will spot-check areas where milfoil was removed earlier in the year.

The fact that such a large infestation was found this year is troubling. Long Lake users need to be especially vigilant this year to not spread the weed around—either into, or out of, Long Lake.



Eurasian watermilfoil

Most of the diving occurs in late winter to early spring, because the water is clear and most of the native plants are dormant. Milfoil, on the other hand, remains visible throughout the cold season.

In other news, we are sorry to report that the Lake Management

District's (LMD's) request for a \$30,000 state matching grant from the state Department of Ecology's Freshwater Aquatic Weeds Account was unsuccessful. See page 3 for details.

