

<b>How can Invasive Plants be Controlled?</b>		
<u>Management Strategy</u>	<u>Advantages</u>	<u>Disadvantages</u>
<b>Eradicate</b>	Effective at individual sites for removing a few individual plants; highly specific to target plant species.	
Hand-pulling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completely removes plants</li> <li>• Generally low-cost</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Labor-intensive</li> <li>• Effective only over small areas</li> </ul>
<b>Contain</b>	Effective in small areas of plant growth; not specific to target species (impacts all plants within barrier or net).	
Benthic Barriers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Screens or mats secured to the lake bottom like a carpet block sunlight and prevent growth</li> <li>• Impedes fragmentation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High maintenance</li> <li>• Affects non-target plants, animals and soils below the barrier</li> </ul>
Floating nets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enclose small area (cove or inlet) to inhibit spread of plant fragments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May impede boating, swimming and fish movement</li> </ul>
<b>Control &amp; Maintain</b>	Effective for larger areas and infestations; can be costly	
<u>Chemical</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can control large areas</li> <li>• Chemical may be selective to target species</li> <li>• Results often seen rapidly</li> <li>• One application may work for 1-3 years</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High cost</li> <li>• Use of water body for swimming and drinking often limited for period of time after application</li> <li>• Multiple treatments often necessary for long-term control</li> </ul>
Herbicide Treatment		
<u>Physical</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large machinery quickly covers large areas and removes large quantities of plants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High cost for short-term solution</li> <li>• Requires follow-up maintenance</li> <li>• May spread plant fragments</li> <li>• Removes non-target plants</li> <li>• Disturbs soils &amp; habitat</li> <li>• Increases turbidity</li> </ul>
Mechanical harvesters and hydro-raking		
<u>Habitat Manipulation</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water level may be lowered in the winter to allow sediments and plants to freeze and dry out</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affects non-target plant species and wildlife (fish, frogs, mussels)</li> <li>• May affect access to water</li> <li>• Increased post-drawdown nutrient levels, turbidity and erosion</li> </ul>
Water Drawdown		
Dredging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete removal of plants and associated sediments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completely alters lake ecology</li> <li>• Will impact all plants and wildlife</li> <li>• May cause water quality problems</li> <li>• High cost</li> </ul>
<u>Biological Controls</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction of natural prey (insects, fish) into lake to control plant population</li> <li>• Often highly specific to target species</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction of new species may be problematic (or unethical)</li> <li>• Highly experimental</li> </ul>