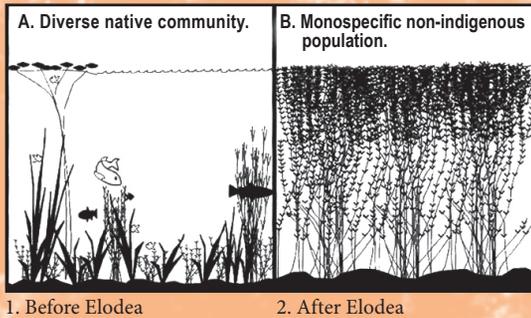


Elodea in Alaska

Until recently, Alaska has been considered free of invasive submerged aquatic plants that greatly impact freshwater resources in other areas of the world where they are not native.

The discovery of Elodea in Chena Slough in Fairbanks in 2010 drew attention to an established population in Eyak Lake and led to the discovery of Elodea in other waterbodies near population centers. Elodea is not native to Alaska and it has the potential to spread by fragments on float planes, boats, trailers, school/home aquariums, and other equipment.

A coordinated effort is underway between state and federal agencies and other land management groups to manage Elodea and inform people of the risk it poses to Alaska's natural resources.



For more information or to report a sighting contact:

Invasive Plants and
Agricultural Pest Coordinator

Heather.Stewart@alaska.gov

907-745-4469

plants.alaska.gov/invasives/elodea.htm

or call

1-877-INVASIV

(468-2748)

How You Can Help

Leadership, initiative, cooperation, funding, and fast action are all needed to solve this growing problem.

- Support eradication efforts statewide.
- Volunteer to help educate stakeholders.
- When you are on the water, follow the simple procedures below to prevent the spread of this aquatic invasive species.

CLEAN ° Remove all visible mud, plants, fish/animals from equipment.

DRAIN ° Eliminate water from all equipment before transporting.

Much of the recreational equipment we use can collect water and harbor hitchhikers

DRY ° Clean and dry anything that came in contact with water.

Use hot (140°F) or salt water if possible, allow 5 days to dry before entering new waters

Never release plants, water, fish, or animals into a body of water unless they came from that water body.

Aquarium plants and animals are able to survive in our Alaskan waters! Dispose of aquariums responsibly, not by dumping them into waterways.

CLEAN ° DRAIN ° DRY



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

Prevent the transport of nuisance species.
Clean **all** recreational equipment.
www.ProtectYourWaters.net



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STOP THE SPREAD
of this aquatic invasive species!

ELODEA



Photo: USFS

If Elodea continues to spread, the less control we will have over the outcome of Alaskan freshwaters; threatening biodiversity and costing our citizens.

PLEASE CALL AND REPORT SIGHTINGS OF ELODEA

Potential Impacts on Alaska

- Degrades fish habitat and displaces native flora and fauna.
- Makes boat travel difficult and reduces recreation opportunities.
- Fouls float plane rudders.
- Alters freshwater habitats by decreasing flow and increasing sedimentation.
- Reduces value of waterfront property and may financially impact businesses associated with water related activities.

Elodea is Quarantined!

The accidental or deliberate introduction of Elodea to a waterbody can lead to the formation of dense mats that can drastically alter the water body's ecology.

For more information visit:

<http://plants.alaska.gov/invasives/aquatics.html>

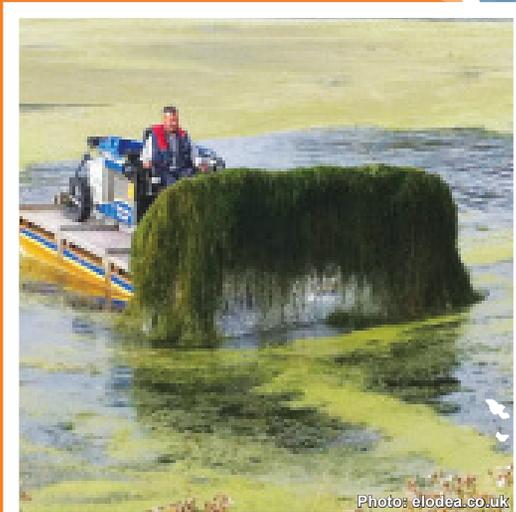


Photo: elodea.co.uk



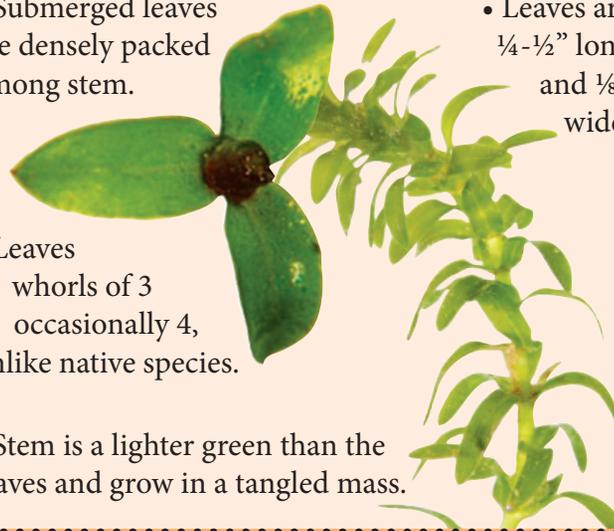
Photo: Fairbanks Soil & Water Conservation District



Photo: Fairbanks Soil & Water Conservation District

Identifying Characteristics

- Submerged leaves are densely packed among stem.
- Leaves are $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ " long and $\frac{1}{8}$ " wide.
- Leaves in whorls of 3 or occasionally 4, unlike native species.
- Stem is a lighter green than the leaves and grow in a tangled mass.



Other Waters at Risk

Elodea can spread to new locations and waterbodies through tiny plant fragments carried by float planes, boats, trailers, aquariums, and other equipment. This plant spreads easily because:

- Broken fragments can root to form new plants.
- It can survive harsh winters under ice.



Photo: Florida DEP

Known Locations of Elodea in Alaska

Fairbanks:

Chena River
Chena Slough
Chena Lake

Anchorage:

Little Campbell
Sand Lake
Delong Lake

Mat-Su:

Alexander Lake

Kenai Peninsula:

Stormy Lake
Daniels Lake
Beck Lake

Cordova:

Alaganik Slough
(& adjacent sloughs)
Eyak Lake
Eyak River
(& adjacent ponds)
Bering Lake
McKinley Lake
Martin Lakes
Odiak Lagoon
Wooded Pond
Wrong Way Pond

