

Irrigating and Fluridone (Sonar) in Clear Lake

Treatments of active tuber beds are done with a pelletized fluridone herbicide. Fluridone applications will be made to treatment areas this year and will begin around April 5th, 2022. Treatments will occur approximately once a month during the spring and fall. Fluridone levels are actively monitored throughout the year in Clear Lake. These measurements show that the levels of fluridone in the water are low enough that they will not hurt even the most sensitive terrestrial plants, even if taken from the treatment areas themselves. There are no fishing or swimming restrictions for fluridone.

Irrigating and Copper in Clear Lake

The Hydrilla Eradication Project may use copper-based contact herbicides for the treatment of hydrilla this coming season. It is safe to use water treated with copper to irrigate established landscape areas and there are no restrictions for fishing or swimming. The version of copper that may be used is chelated ethylenediamine (Harpoon®, Komeen®), and this version of copper has been documented to be magnitudes less toxic to fish and aquatic invertebrates compared to other forms of copper herbicides such as copper sulfate.

Irrigating and Endothall (Aquathol K) or Copper in Clear Lake

The Hydrilla Eradication Project may use endothall as an alternate to copper-based contact herbicides for the treatment of hydrilla this coming season. Some aquatic plants show greater susceptibility to endothall treatment than others; for example, hydrilla is very susceptible and elodea, a common native plant, is not. It is safe to use water treated with endothall to irrigate established landscape areas and there are no restrictions for fishing or swimming. The version of endothall that may be used, dipotassium salt of endothall (Aquathol®), is not toxic to other forms of life when used in accordance with the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) label.