

Lessard – Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Aerial Cattail Control Spraying Demonstration by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

School Lake, Wright County, MN

August 21, 2019

The public is welcome and encouraged to join at the site for the demonstration and presentation.

A quorum of the Council may be possible during the demonstration; however, no business of the Council will be conducted.

For questions contact: Becky Enfield: 651-284-6430 becky.enfield@lsohc.leg.mn

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Location: School Lake on the southeast side of Pelican Lake, approximately two miles west of St. Michael, MN (see attached map and directions)

Background: Outdoor Heritage Funds (OHF) were used to equip a DNR helicopter with a spray tank and booms and upgraded avionics suitable for spraying cattails. Subsequent OHF appropriations are being used to purchase herbicide and pay pilot and helicopter costs to allow for annual spraying operations targeting monotypic stands of hybrid cattails that degrade wetlands.

Spraying is conducted in July and August and required a high level of coordination between:

- DNR Area Wildlife Staff – site selections, permitting and landing zone preparation
- DNR Roving Habitat Crews – transport of equipment and chemicals, ground support of spray operations
- DNR Law Enforcement Pilot – operation and maintenance of helicopter

See the attached map that shows the sites being sprayed in Minnesota in 2019.

Field Tour Specifics: Staff and equipment will be at the landing zone when attendees arrive. Attendees will be able to see the equipment and hear from DNR staff about how spraying operations are conducted. After these presentation have concluded, attendees will relocate to a nearby location from while they can observe both the landing zone operations and the helicopter at work at the spray site. The demonstration should be completed by noon.

Parking: Attendees should park along Iffert Ave., north of the helipad indicated on the accompanying site map. DNR staff will be on hand to direct you.

Note: This cattail spraying operation involves chemicals and large moving equipment. Please be aware that safety is a priority consideration. Respect any directions given by DNR staff to ensure we maintain safe conditions at all times.