

**A message from Thomas J. McNabb, President, Clean Lakes, Inc.  
February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011**

As we enter our 5<sup>th</sup> decade of providing aquatic vegetation control services, yes, that's the 1970's, 1980's, 1990's, 2000's, and now the 2010's, and take a moment to reflect back, we want to take this opportunity to thank our valued customers for providing us the opportunity to support your aquatic vegetation control programs objectives through the years.



It all started in the early 1970's providing aquatic herbicide application services for the control of the invasive aquatic plant Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) in Michigan. As the winters were long and cold, we opened an office in the San Francisco Bay area in 1981 in an effort to find year long work (the other option was to get a job!). This move not only opened the door to support various aquatic invasive species control programs in the western United States, it also opened the door for projects that CLI staff have worked on in fifteen (15) countries.



In California, efforts included obtaining the required Experimental Use Permits and conducting field trials with liquid 2,4-D for the control of water hyacinth in the Sacramento, San Joaquin River systems in 1982 under a US Army Corps of Engineers contract (liquid 2,4-D was not registered for use in a flowing water system prior to these trials). In the mid 1980's, CLI staff supported the US Army Corps of Engineers and the Washington State Department of Ecology in developing a mechanical EWM program for the Pend Oreille River system in eastern Washington that was still operational in 2008, some 23 years later.



International opportunities first developed when a group from Japan arrived at our doorsteps in 1984 looking for someone to help them develop a mechanical control program to remove elodea, which was robbing nutrients from their fresh water pearl culture farms in Lake Biwa, Japan. We responded quickly helping them move from a physical removal

program to a mechanized mechanical vegetation control program that increased efficiencies, and resulted in a long term relationship through the formation of Japan Lake and Canal (a division of Nodak Group), which is still operating today.



From Japan opportunities expanded. The first contacts came from the government of Korea, after they learned of the Lake Biwa mechanical project, followed by a project in Taiwan (designed and built the Harbor Mogs for China Petroleum's Oil Spill Recovery Response requirements), the Philippines (designed and built an AquaMog dredge), Thailand (mechanical water hyacinth control program for the Royal Irrigation District), Malaysia (designed and built various multipurpose marine maintenance vessels), Indonesia (opened an office in Jakarta in 1994 to support the government's PROKASHI (Clean Rivers) Program), Portugal (water hyacinth control project), Saudi Arabia (dredging project), Mexico (aquatic vegetation control project), Canada (zebra mussel water intake dredging project) and finally East Africa (Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and



Rwanda) where we opened an office in Kampala, Uganda in 1996 to support and coordinate efforts to manage the Lake Victoria Water Hyacinth Control Program under a Cooperative Agreement with the United States Agency for International Development. We stayed involved with the Lake Victoria Water Hyacinth Control Program through 2003, when the water hyacinth problem subsided, in part due to implemented control efforts, and in part to contributing

environmental changes (Journal of Aquatic Plant Management, The Rise and Fall of Water Hyacinth in Lake Victoria and the Kagera River Basin, 1989-2001 ([http://www.cleanlake.com/images/Water\\_Hyacinth\\_Lake\\_Victoria\\_JAPM\\_42\\_2004.pdf](http://www.cleanlake.com/images/Water_Hyacinth_Lake_Victoria_JAPM_42_2004.pdf))).



Our Santa Monica Bay area office in Westlake Village, California was opened in 2004 to support aquatic ecosystem restoration and maintenance activities in the watershed and southern California.

In 2006, we opened our Inland Northwest office in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho that has developed into our Research and Development base, as well as our base of operations to support the aquatic invasive species control programs we are involved with in Idaho, Montana, Wisconsin and Florida.

In 2009, we teamed up with Clarke ([www.clarke.com](http://www.clarke.com)), a global environmental products and services company that has been devoted to mosquito control and aquatic services for over sixty years, to further develop and expand our service base utilizing the LittLine® Littoral Zone Treatment Technology ([www.littline.com](http://www.littline.com)).

A message from Thomas J. McNabb, President, Clean Lakes, Inc.  
 February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
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The highlights over the years have been working with each and every one of our current and past clients, collaborators, researchers, and regulators. We have made tremendous progress over the last four decades through participating in research efforts to support our mutual environmental goals of sound aquatic plant management practices through decreasing aquatic pesticide use while increasing control efficacy.

The services we provide today have evolved and been refined as we enter our fifth decade, and are outlined on our web site at [www.cleanlake.com](http://www.cleanlake.com). There are also some good pictures of our escapades through the decades that can be viewed on our website under the Photo Album link at (<http://www.cleanlake.com/photoalbum.html>).

Thanks again to all of our current and past clients for providing CLI the opportunity to support your aquatic ecosystem restoration and maintenance objectives, as well as to all of you who have helped guide and mentor our staff through the years.

Sincerely,

**CLEAN LAKES INC.**



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