



2025 Annual Report

Review of 2025 Activities

Invasive Variable Milfoil Management and Mitigation

BLIMP's mission has always been to mitigate the impact of invasive variable milfoil by controlling its spread using divers to remove the milfoil plants and herbicide treatments where allowed. We know that we will never eliminate the plant, but we strive to reduce it as much as possible. We carry out this mission abiding by the rules and regulations of both Maine and New Hampshire.

2025 was our second year utilizing the services of Aqualogic for removal of invasive variable leaf milfoil. The dive team was headed by Nate Adams who had been on Balch the previous year. Our on-water surveying by volunteer camp owners proved to be very effective with new infestations of variable leaf milfoil found along the shore of the Ridge Association in the Maine end. In NH, Foye Cove and the western end of Wyman Cove turned out to be the hot spots.

- **See Appendix I – Milfoil Harvest**

Funding and Financials.

Our funding comes from three primary sources:

- 1) Camp contributions – contributions were up by \$3,000 with an average contribution rate of \$69/camp. Those increases were a very positive sign after several years of contributions being down
- 2) State and local governments grants included:
 - Maine DEP (ME-DEP) plant removal & courtesy boat inspection (CBI) grant awards of \$15,288
 - NH-DES grant award was \$13,600 for diver plant removal
 - The towns of Newfield and Wakefield provided similar funding as previous years.
- 3) Fundraising events generated almost \$5000 for BLIMP. Many thanks to all who volunteered and supported these efforts!

- **See Appendix II – Major Sources of Revenue**

Of our total expenses (\$ 71,139) 95% went directly to plant harvest and water quality testing (\$934)

Volunteer Support

Our volunteer efforts continue to be outstanding.

Our committees' activities in 2025:

- Science Committee – John Castellot, Chair
 - UNH Water sampling – Tony & Ginny Tagliaferro again coordinated the water testing program in conjunction with UNH. This program monitors the general health of our lake's waters. We received a rating of "Excellent" across the three parameters that get tested.
 - Katahdin Water sampling - For a 3rd year we worked with the Katahdin Group to test for >200 undesirable compounds, such as "forever chemicals" (including PFAS & BPA), heavy metals and gas & oil. The testing results again concluded that all of these compounds were either undetectable or at least 50-100-fold below the most stringent federal and state guidelines.
- Fundraising – Donna Lefebvre, Chair
 - Donna coordinated with the many people that run the various fundraising events which included:

- Bake Sale
- Calendar Sales
- Concerts
- Fishing Derby
- These events not only raise money for BLIMP, but also give camp owners from around the lake a chance to enjoy each other.
- Communication and Education – Donna Lefebvre, Chair
 - As well as being the coordinator for all communications to our 12 associations, Donna has also developed a very informative newsletter that is published several times a year.
- On Water Operations – Tom Eichner, Chair
 - With Tom spending most of the summer dealing with personal health issues several others stepped up to coordinate with the Aqualogic dive team. One of the highlights for the divers is the amazing number of people who showed up with snacks, lunches, and drinks.

Other General Information

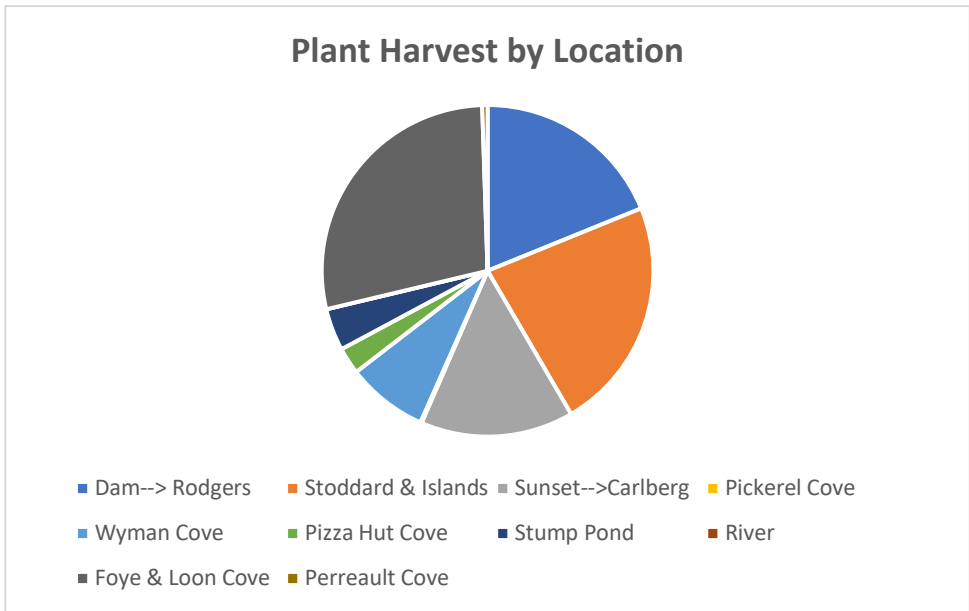
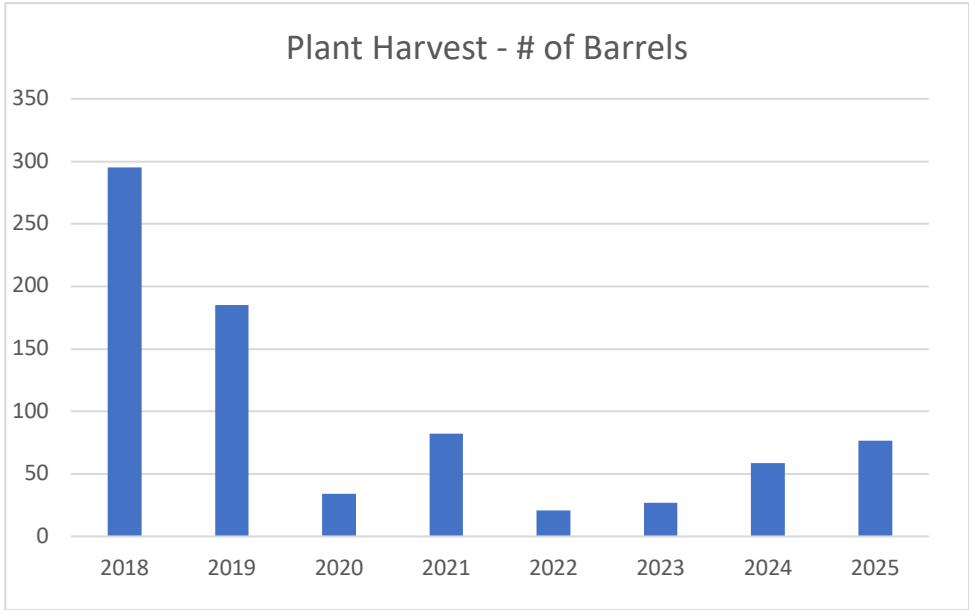
Office	Contact Name	E-mail
President	Sue Jackman	sjackman123@gmail.com
Vice President	Tom Eichner	Tom.Eichner.Blimp@gmail.com
Treasurer	Ed Suleski	ed.suleski.blimp@gmail.com
Secretary	Denise Bowden	bowden.family@comcast.net
Secretary	Bruce Bowden	bowden.family@comcast.net
Board member	Henry Lovejoy	henry@ecofish.com
Communications & Education	Donna Lefebvre	don_ox@yahoo.com
Science Committee	John Castellot	john.castellot@tufts.edu
Webmaster	Jack McAdam	captjack@gwi.net
Advisor	Michael Kattman	dmkattman@gmail.com
Advisor	Kathleen Lisbon	Kathleen.Lisbon@comcast.net
Advisor	Dennis Racine	DRacine999@aol.com

Additional Notes:

- BLIMP is always looking for new volunteers to join one of our standing committees, help with a fund-raising event, or assist with data entry for courtesy boat inspections please contact any board member.
- BLIMP is working very closely with the Loon Preservation Committee. If you observe a loon nesting place, please report it to Henry Lovejoy. Avoid using lead sinkers as they and broken fishing lines are the number one killer of loons.
- PLEASE watch the wakes - more reports of dock, boat, wall, and shoreline damage are reported each year as a result of the large wakes.
- Any questions, comments, or needed clarifications please send them to Sue @ sjackman123@gmail.com

Best regards,
Sue Jackman
President, BLIMP

Appendix I – Milfoil Harvest



Appendix II – Major Soures of Revenue

Source	Amount
Camp Owners	27,005
ME-DEP	15,288
NH-DES	13,600
Towns	12,500
Fundraisers	6,646

