



ELODEA

Submersed aquatic plants in the genus *Elodea* are **not native** to Alaska. *Elodea* survives freezing, and can spread by tiny fragments.

These traits make it extremely invasive.

Elodea has been confirmed in lakes and slow-moving rivers/streams in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Cordova. It's a popular aquarium plant in Alaska and can spread if released: waders, boats, trailers, floatplanes, and equipment can act as vectors.

Elodea will cause serious, irreversible harm to fish and aquatic habitats in Alaska if allowed to spread unchecked.

Please keep your eyes open for this invasive aquatic plant

Flowers: Small (~ ¼-inch across), white flowers occur at the ends of long, thread-like stalks.

Leaf: Unlike native species, leaves are mostly arranged in whorls of 3 (occasionally 4) and densely packed along the stem.

Stem: Long, slender, generally branched typically lighter in color than leaves.

Roots: Tufts of fibrous roots.



Individual plants vary widely in appearance depending on growing conditions: some are bushy; others have few leaves and weak stems.

See back for more examples!



If you find *Elodea*:

- ◆ **Note its location:** GPS coordinates and/or a mark on a map with description.
- ◆ **Note its habitat:** did you find it in a river or lake? how deep was the water? was the water clear or slightly muddy?
- ◆ **Take a specimen:** At minimum, take a photo. Take as much of the entire plant as you can, including the flower if present. Put it in a zip lock bag and store in a cool place. If you don't have a bag, press it in a book or inside wax paper and keep it somewhere safe so it doesn't break up. Aquatic plants dry quickly.
- ◆ **Report it:** Call the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's invasive species hotline: At that time someone will let you know where to send the sample. **1-877-INVASIV (468-2748)**



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

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

CLEAN-Rinse and remove visible mud, plant debris from boats, trailers, floatplanes, and gear.

DRAIN-Empty coolers, bilge pumps, buckets and wring out gear before leaving a waterbody.

DRY-Completely dry equipment and gear between visits to fresh water systems.

Never release plants, fish, or other animals into a body of water.

ELODEA



spread the word, not the weed!

Elodea is a very invasive submerged aquatic plant. It survives freezing & spreads by tiny fragments introduced by float planes, boats, trailers, school/home aquariums, and equipment.

It is not native to Alaska.

We DON'T want *Elodea* in Alaska

- **Safety:** fouls float plane rudders & boat propellers
- **Nuisance:** impedes boat & float plane launching, navigation, & fishing
- **Ecological:** degrades salmon spawning habitat
- **Economic:** reduces property values by fouling launch sites/habitats

Confirmed infestations

- **Anchorage:** Sand, Delong, & Little Campbell Lakes
- **Fairbanks:** Chena Lake, River & Slough
- **Cordova:** Eyak, McKinley, Martin Lakes; Alaganik Slough; Eyak River; 2 unnamed ponds
- **Kenai Peninsula:** Stormy & Daniels Lakes

Float Plane Operators - Alaska Needs Your Help!

Inspect & clean your aircraft before every flight

- Before entering the aircraft remove visible plants and/or debris and pump water from floats
- Before takeoff don't taxi through heavy plant growth; raise and lower rudders
- After takeoff raise/lower rudders to free plant fragments over the waters you just left or dry land
- Watch "Sea Plane Inspection and Decontamination" on YouTube for more details

Report sightings & help identify new infestations

- Note location (GPS or mark on map) and water depth/clarity.
- Take a specimen if possible (photo at a minimum). Take as much of the entire plant as you can (including the flower if present). Put it in a zip lock bag, book, or wax paper. Store in a cool place.
- Call **1-877-INVASIV** to report sightings!

Support eradication efforts!

