

	Mechanical Harvesting	Herbicides
Effectiveness of Control		
Reliability [difficulty in obtaining consistent results in different lakes (Potential failure of treatments)]	Always removes plants	Can fail
Time to relief	Immediate	7 to 14 days
Vegetation is collected and removed from the lake	Yes	No
Duration of control (and need for multiple treatments)	Shorter	Longer
Creation of channels	Good	Not as good
Control of plants over a large area	Not as good?	Good
Potential effect on plants outside the treated area	<u>Little to none</u>	<u>May be significant</u>
Additional Considerations		
Cost	Often higher	Often lower
Time required to complete a treatment	<u>Longer</u>	<u>Shorter</u>
Percentage of cost attributable to labor	high	low
Capital investment	High if harvester is purchased	None [for customer]
Duration of work	Continues over the season	One or a few days
Variability in cost	high	low
Disposal of harvested plants	Can be difficult to find a place where plants can be delivered	Not applicable (plants decompose in lake)
Potential spread of an invasive aquatic plant within a lake	Should not be employed on lakes where the distribution of milfoil is limited	Can be employed on lakes where the distribution of milfoil is limited
Effects on non-target organisms or lake ecosystem		
Removes invertebrates, fish, frogs, snakes, turtles, etc	Yes	No
When target plant is an invasive, removal or destruction of native vegetation	Yes	Yes or no, depending on particular herbicide used
Increased fragmentation	More	Less
Disturbs sediment and causes suspension of sediment in the water column, which in turn may reduce water clarity	Often does, likely to a greater extent	May do so, likely to a lesser extent
Restrictions on use of water after treatment	No	In some cases
Selectivity	Limited or none	Some are, some are not
Minnesota Regulations (M.R. 6280)		
Small area can be treated without a permit to control milfoil or other submersed aquatic plants	Yes (limited to nearshore areas)	No (<u>Always</u> requires a DNR permit)
Limit on the amount of area that may be treated	50% of the littoral zone	15% of the littoral zone