Below are the questions that were not covered in the webinar on December 1st, 2022.

If you have any related questions please post them to the forum - HERE

1. If we have a prototype requiring power, what would be the desired power consumption in kilowatts per hour?

    a. Power consumption rate is not a critical component. The prototype should show the ability to be operated in remote areas without an external power source for extended periods of time.

2. The chemical and herbicide envelope is well understood. Are there any imposing limitations for the mechanical envelope?

    a. Mechanical methods are labor intensive, do not prevent regrowth, and can cause large amounts of debris to be sent downstream, clogging intakes and potentially creating new infestations. Current mechanical methods may also be hindered by large obstacles in the canal such as concrete, rebar, or other trash. Mechanical methods cannot physically alter or damage the canal.

3. Regarding particle size distribution, what is the maximal size of spill over particles?
    a. Bed materials vary based on canal location. Depth of flow in canals can range from 0.5 to 20 ft, with medium canals in the range of 2 to 6 ft deep.

4. Are there areas like marshes and sludges? Can you please speak towards some real-world scenarios?

a. Canals do not typically include marshes or sludges. Real-world scenarios vary widely. Please see the canal specifications document under the resources section of the website for typical ranges. LINK

5. Do we need to remove tree roots that are penetrating through the canal embankments?

    a. Although tree roots in embankments can also be problematic – no, these would not be a target of this prize challenge. Herbaceous rooted vegetation management is the primary removal target.

6. In a given year, what is the cost/budget that BA commits to aquatic weed control in canals?

    a. A specific annual cost/budget for aquatic weed control is very difficult to ascertain because they are lumped under a general operational and maintenance budget and are not itemized. There are also various other factors to be considered that may affect the cost/efficacy evaluation that are difficult to quantify, including operator safety, expertise/training requirements, duration of control, avoidance of regulatory limitations, public perception, etc.