

Itasca County Aquatic Invasive Species Program

AIS Coordinator Program Report ICOLA

October 18, 2017

- AIS Coordinator
 - Watercraft inspections will continue through November 1. Control & Monitoring crews remain active in the field assisting the DNR with intensive AIS surveying as long as needed or while conditions permit.
 - Zebra mussels were discovered in Little Winni Lake and 1.7 miles downstream from the Winni dam on the Mississippi River.
 - Zebra mussels were discovered on North Star Lake (31065300). DNR has determined that the infestation is too wide spread for treatment. ICOLA and Itasca Waters assisted in notifying area lakes.
 - A Multi-Region Resort Ambassador Program grant was awarded on 10/13/17. The grant will run from 10/13/17 to 6/30/19. The \$420,000 Initiative Foundation grant provides funding for Itasca, Cass and Lake Vermilion/Burntside Lake regions to develop and expand AIS early detection and inspections at resorts, lodges, campgrounds and marinas. Funding for the training of 30 new AIS Detectors in 2018 is part of the grant. Itasca County is the lead for the program.

- Prevention
 - Over 24,000 inspections and 250 decontaminations have been completed at 35 landings on 27 lakes as of September 27th.
 - Five major fishing tournaments were held in Itasca County in September, with two being taped for national television distribution.
 - F250 truck had to be replaced due to engine failure. A replacement was purchased that used all funds set aside for the purchase of a third tow vehicle. Currently we have 3 mobile decon units and two tow vehicles.

- Control & Monitoring
 - All 59 AIS Lakes & 40 highway AIS locations have received control measures this season.
 - Starry stonewort has been mapped in Lake Winni.
 - C&M crews are currently assisting the DNR with an intensive search for Zebra mussels in high priority lakes.

- CAP Grants
 - 50 Lake AIS Risk Assessment report has been received and is available on the ICOLA website.
 - Dixon and Swan Lake were treated for Curly leaf pondweed. Crystal Lake was treated for Eurasian water milfoil. A CAP grant for Sand Lake 2018 supplemental watercraft inspections was awarded.

- Awareness & Training
 - 17 AIS Detectors were trained and certified in Itasca County. Twelve of the 17 received \$175 scholarships from the Awareness & training budget.
 - Public Events attended include: 5th Grade Water Summit, Children's 1st, Jaycees Home & Sport Show, Tall Timber Days Saturday education booth & Sunday Parade, Starry Trek, Pokegama Float-in-Movie, County Fair.

- County
 - County AIS website development continues.

