









Itasca County SWCD AIS Program:

A Snapshot of Accomplishments in 2020



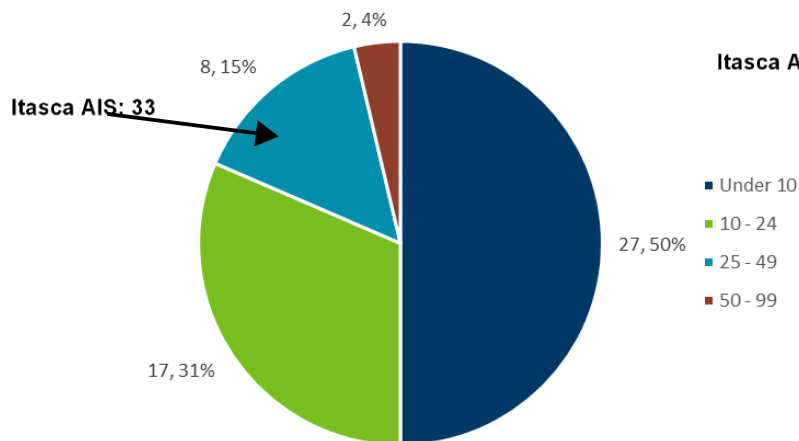
Category	Metrics
 AIS Prevention Aid Used	<p>\$ 645,535 AIS Prevention Aid used in calendar year 2020</p> <p>\$ 100,000 saved in a contingency fund</p>
 People Doing AIS Work	<p>2 full-time staff with 100 % of their time dedicated to AIS work</p> <p>5 seasonal staff with AIS duties (other than inspectors)</p> <p>12.2/24 FTE/People Level 1 Watercraft Inspectors</p> <p>8.9/12_ FTE/People Level 2 Watercraft Inspectors</p> <p>\$532,178 spent on staff wages: \$441,291/82% seasonal, \$90,887/14% full time.</p> <p>41 + volunteers conducting AIS work</p> <p>800 + volunteer hours served</p> <p>Our county does have an AIS Task Force or Committee</p>
 Funds Distributed, Contributed	<p>\$ 33,200 in grants awarded (aid to other organizations)</p> <p>7 organizations awarded grants</p> <p>\$ 17,800 in funds contributed by other organizations to directly support aid-funded work</p> <p>8 organizations contributing additional funds</p>
 Communities Engaged	<p>13 events held about AIS or that included AIS topics</p> <p>7,000 residents and visitors directly contacted/engaged about AIS during events</p> <p>200 children taught about AIS</p>
 Watercraft Inspected	<p>35,663 inspections performed</p> <p>19,179 man hours of inspections performed</p> <p>17,276 coverage hours of inspections performed</p> <p>33 accesses covered by inspectors</p> <p>22 water bodies covered by inspectors</p> <p>1.7 % of watercraft recorded as arriving with drain plugs out</p> <p>4 decontamination units in operation</p> <p>0 watercraft inspected by AIS Volunteers/Ambassadors at water accesses</p>
 Monitoring Conducted	<p>74 total lakes and rivers surveyed for AIS. Surveys included:</p> <p>74 early detection searches on 74 water bodies</p> <p>67 zebra mussel settling plates deployed on 54 water bodies</p> <p>35 veliger tows taken on 9 water bodies</p> <p>74 aquatic plant surveys conducted on 74 water bodies</p> <p>0 volunteers trained and/or active as AIS Detectors</p> <p>14 people participated in the University of Minnesota Extension and AIS Research Center's "Starry Trek" event</p>
 New Infestation Response Planning	<p>2 water bodies with Itasca AIS Grant funded IAPM activities</p> <p>Our county has a new infestation response plan</p>
 Invasive Aquatic Plant Management (IAPM)	<p>\$ 10,550 of aid spent on grant funded IAPM</p> <p>57 water bodies with IAPM activities funded with AIS Prevention Aid. SWCD AIS Staff performed all IAPM activities on 55 of the 57 water bodies with IAPM activities)</p>

LGU Inspection Summary 2020

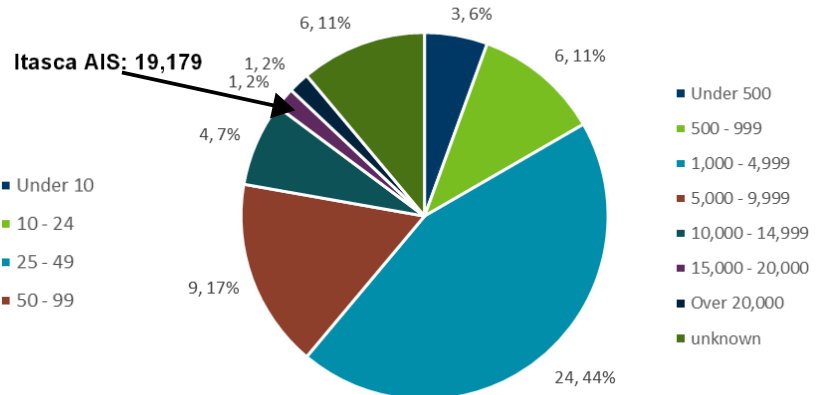
This summary includes end of season responses from 55 local government units (LGU).

Program Summary

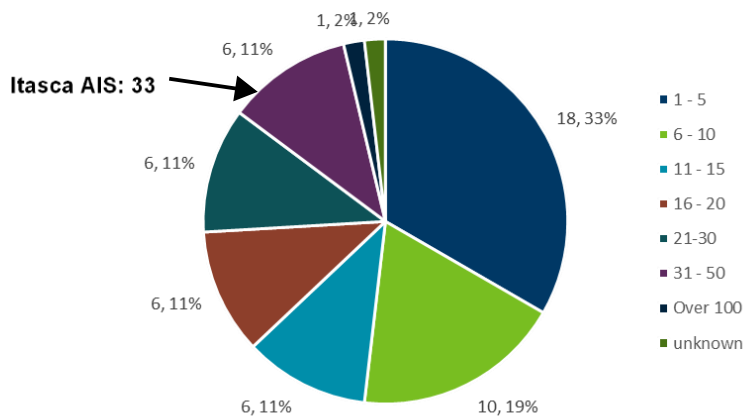
Staff Size



Number of Inspection Hours



Number of Accesses Inspected



Local Government inspection programs reported working 212,841 hours in 2012020 at 673 accesses. 86% of LGU programs reporting.

Itasca County SWCD 2020 AIS Watercraft Inspections Hours Per Landing

Lake Name	Access Name	ID #	2019 Total Hrs Worked	2020 Total Hrs Worked	2019 Coverage Hrs	2020 Coverage Hrs	2019 Total Insp	2020 Total Insp	2019 Insp/Hr	2020 Insp/Hr	Base Hrs	2019 CAP Grant Hours	2020 CAP Grant Hours	2019 Total Allotted Hours	2020 Total Allotted Hours	2019 Landing Hrs Above Allotted	2020 Landing Hrs Above Allotted	2019 Lake Hrs Above Allotted	2020 Lake Hrs Above Allotted
Bass	South	31057602	13	8	13	8	7	10	0.56	1.25	-	-	-	-	-	13	8	13	(248)
Bass	Pincherry	31057603	-	6	-	6	-	6	N/A	1.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-
Bowstring	NE	31081201	1,098	874	954	800	2,078	1,747	2.18	2.18	300	-	-	300	300	654	500	969	578
Bowstring	NW	31081303	210	44	210	44	191	65	0.91	1.48	300	-	-	300	300	(90)	(256)		
Bowstring	S	31081302	747	649	705	634	1,320	1,146	1.87	1.81	300	-	-	300	300	405	334		
Deer	Deer	31071901	1,578	2,584	1,463	1,952	3,489	4,955	2.38	2.54	300	700	700	1,000	1,000	463	952	578	952
Grave	Grave	31062400	-	133	-	133	-	154	N/A	1.16	300	-	-	300	300	(300)	(167)		(167)
Island	Island	31091301	906	834	866	834	1,316	1,105	1.52	1.32	300	-	-	300	300	566	534	606	534
Jay Gould	Clay Boswell	31010200	77	15	77	15	199	38	2.60	2.53	-	-	-	-	-	77	15	77	15
Jessie	Jessie	31057603	158	144	158	144	166	243	1.05	1.69	300	-	-	300	300	(142)	(156)	(142)	(156)
Mississippi	Izaak Walton	310103	-	3	-	3	-	12	N/A	4.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	3		3
Mississippi	Sylvan Bay	310101	-	1	-	1	-	3	N/A	3.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		1
Moose	Moose	31072201	-	243	-	243	-	151	N/A	0.62	-	-	-	-	-	-	243		243
Northstar	North Star	31065301	566	596	407	429	472	506	1.16	1.18	300	-	-	300	300	107	129	266	129
Pokagama	Tioga	31053201	941	1,429	798	1,068	2,117	3,289	2.65	3.08	300	-	-	300	300	498	768		
Pokagama	Mishawaka	31053203	620	845	602	803	1,284	1,782	2.13	2.22	300	-	-	300	300	302	503		
Pokagama	Kings	31053202	788	904	769	894	1,322	1,746	1.72	1.95	300	-	-	300	300	469	594	425	1,080
Pokagama	Trooptown	31053205	-	234	-	234	-	442	N/A	1.89	300	-	-	300	300	(300)	(66)		
Pokagama	Sherry's Arm	31053207	458	764	449	734	946	1,366	2.11	1.86	300	-	-	300	300	149	434		
Pokagama	LaPlant	31053204	-	46	-	46	-	23	N/A	0.50	300	-	-	300	300	(300)	(254)		
Rice	Rice Lake	31071701	10	-	10	-	6	-	0.60	N/A	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	10	-
Round	Round East	31089601	765	743	765	743	961	1,361	1.26	1.83	600	-	-	600	600	165	143	165	143
Sand	Sand	31082601	477	54	308	54	292	130	0.95	2.43	300	400	223	700	523	(392)	(470)	(392)	(470)
Siseebakwet	Siseebakwet	31055401	72	84	72	84	155	358	2.15	4.26	-	200	128	200	128	(128)	(44)	(128)	(44)
Spider	Spider	31053801	224	614	224	604	272	890	1.21	1.47	300	-	-	300	300	(76)	304	(76)	304
Split Hand	Split Hand	31033301	798	848	761	743	1,323	1,740	1.74	2.34	300	-	-	300	300	461	443	461	443
Swan	Swan	31006701	503	1,014	397	919	905	2,682	2.28	2.92	300	-	-	300	300	97	619	97	619
Turtle	Turtle	31072501	406	663	387	655	532	945	1.38	1.44	300	-	200	300	500	87	155	87	155
Trout	North	31021601	824	831	636	800	1,047	1,440	1.65	1.80	600	-	-	600	600	36	200	36	200
Wabana	Wabana NW	31039202	783	985	775	948	916	1,849	1.18	1.95	300	200	350	500	650	275	298	434	371
Wabana	Wabana SE	31039201	664	733	659	723	1,048	1,187	1.59	1.64	300	200	350	500	650	159	73		
Winni	Campground	11014706	7	-	7	-	56	-	8.00	N/A	300	-	-	300	300	(293)	(300)	(197)	146
Winni	Plug Hat	11014701	396	97	396	97	649	346	1.64	3.57	300	-	-	300	300	96	(203)		-
Cut Foot Souix	Mosomo	31085703	1,362	1,534	1,085	1,249	2,965	3,775	2.73	3.02	300	-	-	300	300	785	949	1,062	-
Totals			15,448	18,554	13,950	16,642	26,034	35,492	1.87	2.13	8,400	1,700	1,951	10,100	10,351	3,850	6,291	1,062	4,830

Notes:

+ Coverage hrs = # of hrs by at least one inspector. If two inspectors worked from 6:00 AM to 4:00 PM that would be 10 Coverage hrs and 20 total (man) Hrs

+ CAP Grant Hours = extra hours of inspection coverage paid for by a matching CAP grant.

+ **Bolded** Lakes above were 2020 Priority Lakes

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) In Itasca Lakes as of 10/01/2020

Lake - DNR ID Number	Curly Leaf Pond weed	Eurasian Milfoil	Faucet Snails	Flowering Rush	Purple Loosestrife	Starry Stonewor t	Zebra Mussels
Ball Club - 31081200							X
Bass - 31057600					X		
Biauswah - 31086200					X		
Bigfork River					X		X
Bird's Eye - 31083400							X
Blackwater - 31056100	X		X				X
Blandin Reservoir - 31053300	X				X		X
Blind - 31041800					X		
Bower - 31005200					X		
Bowstring - 31081300			X		X		X
Bray - 31014700					X		
Clubhouse - 31054000					X		
Coon/Sandwich - 31052400		X					
Crooked - 31019300					X		
Crystal/Ice - 31037200		X			X		
Cut Foot Sioux - 31085700			X		X		X
Deer - 31071900	X				X		
Deer River					X		
Dora - 31088200							X
Dunbar - 31090400					X		
Eagle - 31045400					X		
East Smith - 31061600					X		
Egg - 31081700			X				X
First River Lake - 31081800			X				X
Forest - 31037400					X		
Hale - 31037300		X			X		
Hart - 31002000				X			
Hartley - 31015400					X		
Holman - 31022700				X	X		
Ice/Crystal - 31037200		X			X		
Jay Gould - 31056500	X						X
Johnson - 31058600					X		
Leighton - 31073900					X		
Lily - 31037500					X		
Little Cutfoot - 31085200			X				X
Little Drum - 31074100					X		
Little Jay Gould - 31056600	X						X
Little Long - 31061300					X		
Little Sand - 31085300							X
Little Sturgeon - 69129000					X		
Little Turtle - 31077900					X		

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) In Itasca Lakes as of 10/01/2020

Lake - DNR ID Number	Curly Leaf Pond weed	Eurasian Milfoil	Faucet Snails	Flowering Rush	Purple Loosestrife	Starry Stonewor t	Zebra Mussels
Little White Oak - 31074000					X		
Little Winnibigoshish - 31085000			X				X
Long - 31057000					X		
Loon - 31057100					X		
Lower Balsam - 31024700					X		
Lower Lawrence - 31023800					X		
Maple - 31077300					X		
McKinney - 31037000		X			X		
Mike's - 31096600					X		
Mississippi River	X		X		X		X
Moose - 31072200	X				X		
Napoleon - 31029000					X		
Northstar - 31065300							X
O'brien - 31003200					X		
Pigeon River			X				X
Pokegama - 31053200	X				X		X
Portage - 31082400					X		X
Prairie - 31038400	X						
Prairie River					X		
Rabbit's - 31092300			X				X
Raven - 31092500			X				X
Rice - 31087600							X
Round - 31089600					X		
Sand - 31082600					X		X
Sand - 31043800					X		
Sandwich/Coon - 31052400		X					
Smith - 31065000	X				X		
Snaptail - 31025500					X		
South Sturgeon - 31000300					X		
South Sugar - 31055500					X		
Spider - 31053800				X			
Sugar - 31092600			X				X
Swan - 31006700	X				X		
Trout - 31021600				X	X		
Trout - 31041000					X		
Turtle - 31072500					X		
Twin - 31002600					X		
Twin (N&S) - 31019000/31019100		X		X	X		
Wasson - 31028100					X		
Winnibigoshish - 11014700			X		X	X	X

**Itasca SWCD
AIS Control & Monitoring Program
2020 Executive Summary**

Early Detection Efforts

- Zebra Mussel Veliger Settlement Samplers
 - ✦ Our crew deployed 67 veliger settlement samplers among 54 lakes in Itasca County that are of highest risk for Zebra Mussel infestation.
- Veliger Sampling
 - ✦ We collected and analyzed 35 plankton samples from 9 high-risk lakes in search of the presence of Zebra Mussel Veligers.
 - ✦ Early Detection Surveys
 - ✦ Thorough AIS surveys were completed on 69 lakes, 6 stretches of river, and 20 roadside wetlands within Itasca County in search of all invasive plants and animals.

New AIS Discoveries

- New Zebra Mussel populations were discovered in Bowstring, Ball Club, Jay Gould, Little Jay Gould, and Pokegama Lakes in 2020
- A total of approximately 5100 sq ft of Curly Leaf Pondweed was found among 2 separate locations on Deer Lake (Deer River Area).
- New Purple Loosestrife infestations were found on Round Lake (in Squaw Lake) and on the Bigfork River Near Wirt, MN.

Control Efforts

- Mechanical Control
 - ✦ Hand-pulled approximately 40 individual plants of Flowering Rush near the boat ramp of Spider Lake. Those plants were all growing within area of around 180 sq ft.
 - ✦ Hand-pulled approximately 5100 sq ft of Curly Leaf Pondweed from 2 separate locations on Deer Lake (Deer River Area).
 - ✦ Cleaned up the Starry Stonewort that was washed up on the West Winnie boat ramp during 3 separate events to prevent trailers from transporting the plants to other bodies of water.
- Chemical Control
 - ✦ Purple Loosestrife control efforts were implemented on 48 lakes, 4 separate stretches of river, and over 50 roadside wetlands.
- Biological Control
 - ✦ 56,798 Purple Loosestrife Defoliating Beetles were collected from known populations and dispersed throughout 17 sites with dense Loosestrife infestations.

Collaboration with MN DNR, Lake Associations, and Private Landowners

- Worked with DNR AIS Specialist Rich Rezanka to map out Eurasian Watermilfoil on McKinney lake to prepare for chemical control efforts.
- Teamed up with DNR to map the extent of new Zebra Mussel infestations on Pokegama, Jay Gould, Little Jay Gould, Ball Club, and Bowstring Lakes.
- Took plankton samples on Turtle, Grave and Little Bowstring Lakes by request of their respective lake associations.
- Released 6700 Purple Loosestrife Defoliating Beetles near the Wabigama Duck Camp on Bowstring Lake by request of the members of the hunting club.

Working with the core staff of the Itasca SWCD to implement a Buckthorn management project on the SWCD property in 2021.



2020 Itasca FiveStar Service Providers

Please move your business to an Itasca FiveStar service provider. FiveStar providers are DNR-certified, sign a contract agreeing to apply additional specified AIS best-practices and safeguards when moving from one lake or river to another, and agree to help identify and disseminate AIS best practices and safeguards throughout Itasca County. See description of services below. Rev04012021

FiveStar Firms Who Install/Remove Docks/Lifts Seasonally in Itasca County:

See brief description below for service area restrictions and services offered

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grand Rapids Marine 218-326-0351• Thousand Lakes Dock & Lift 218-398-7553• JJ's Barge Service 218-244-5194• Matt Almquist/38 Outpost 218-259-9997• Northland Lake Services/Chad Schumacher 218-256-9691 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grooms Property Service 218-326-9709• Fish Lake Dock and Lift 651-674-8581• Jessie Lake Services 218-259-2482• Huju Docks 218-256-8783 |
|---|---|

FiveStar Marine Dealers

- | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grand Rapids Marine 218-326-0351• Ray's Marine 218-326-0353 |
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FiveStar Resorts, Lodges, Campgrounds, Camps

- | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Camp Hiawatha 218-246-8604• Southwood Resort 218-259-8886• Britton's Trout Lake Resort 218-326-3333• Cedar Hill 218-766-9717• Rising Eagle Resort 218-832-3955 |
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FiveStar Landscaping Firms

- | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lange Nursery & Landscape 218-380-6939• McNeil Excavating 218-259-6364• J.V. Tree and Landscaping 866-232-5183 or 612-987-9992 |
|--|

FiveStar Firms Offering Other Services and Products in Itasca County

- | |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• R&R Rental 218-999-7368• Paddle Hoppers 218-326-5853• Cross Country Boat Transport 651-437-2454• RMB Labs 218-322-2304• PLM Lake and Land Management 866-687-5253 |
|---|

Success Stories

On July 22nd and 23rd, 2020 our AIS Control & Monitoring crew discovered two separate patches of Curly Leaf Pondweed on opposite ends of Deer Lake that covered a total of 5100 sq ft in area. Upon further inspection of the sites, it was found that the plants were rooted in very soft substrate in shallow water which would allow for easy hand-removal of the plants without a crew of divers.

Chris Evans quickly contacted DNR Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist, Rich Rezanka and the Deer Lake Association to coordinate a Curly Leaf removal event.

The event took place on August 4th with six Control & Monitoring Technicians and five members of the Deer Lake Association working together to uproot the plants, transport them to shore in Rubbermaid bins, and dump into a trailer to be moved off-site.

Every Curly Leaf Pondweed plant located was removed from the Lake. Deer Lake will be monitored, and a similar management plan will be implemented in future seasons to maintain control of the invasive plant.

Below: Two Control & Monitoring crew members uprooting Curly Leaf Pondweed by hand; Deer Lake.



Below: Curly Leaf Pondweed discovered near the access of Deer Lake.



Photos of AIS Activities



Pictured Above: Purple Loosestrife on Bowstring Lake that has been devastated by the biocontrol agent *Galerucella calmariensis*. Note how all other native vegetation is green and unaffected by the defoliating beetle.

Pictured Below: 2020 was marked by the COVID-19 Pandemic, Itasca SWCD AIS provided PPE to every inspector. The masks we made in house.

