Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Updates

Andrew Teal

9/17-10/12/18

* Attended last Town of Barnes AIS Committee meeting for the year, made some recommendations about match and personnel and how they might go about obtaining those, and suggested an expanded Clean Boats Clean Waters training to bring in residents from lakes in other counties that also use this program. Basically, to help the folks that don’t have an AIS Coordinator in their county.
* Participated in the Lake Ecology Education Program by helping with the aquatic plants module. The students go on a pontoon boat, rake up aquatic plants from the lake, and bring them back to shore for identification.
* Went onto Lake Superior with Red Cliff Treaty Natural Resources Department staff to conduct some presence/absence aquatic macrophyte surveying. Found about 15 species, of which one was rare in inland lakes, though it was present at three of the sites we checked. This was alternate-flowered watermilfoil.
* Held our last Invasive Species ID Day, where Gabrielle Van Bergen from Red Cliff Treaty Natural Resources Department shared much information about the invasive Phragmites removal project she has been coordinating at three area waste water treatment plants. Native Phragmites will take the place of the invasive Phragmites, and we shall see how that turns out.
* Ramona Shackleford, Mariana Brewster-Brown, and I took turns watching our booth at Bayfield Apple Festival. Tens of thousands of people moved through that area over three days, and we talked to a few hundred of them, despite the nasty weather.
* Attended an Executive Committee meeting with Ben Dufford to see what the fate of our budget would be. I guess we will find out more soon.
* Attended Bayfield County Lakes Forum Annual Meeting to provide an update on the state of AIS in Bayfield County.
* Worked with multiple partners to make the Student Science Research Symposium come together at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center.
* Next Week: I will be at the Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference for most of the week. Volunteering for 6-8 hours gets you free registration, a savings of $300.