Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Updates

Andrew Teal

3/27-4/7/2017

* Coordinated, ran, and took minutes for the DNR Early Detection/Response Meeting 2 at Lakewoods Resort Marina on Lake Namakagon. The minutes are attached.
* Ben, Kris, (and for one interview, Mark), and I interviewed four candidates (so far) for the Clean Boats Clean Waters Internship. Three are sure-fire hires if they accept our offers, the fourth was…not a good fit.
* Attended the three-day Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention in Stevens Point. There were many new and great things there this year, including the theme of focusing on our mental and emotional connection to our water. I attended one workshop that was quite interactive, called Spirituality & Water. We all received a different question, which we each read out loud and then answered out loud to the group. The difference was that there was no follow up from anyone else in the group. It kept the answers about our views of water, rather than starting a debate. They called it appreciative inquiry. My question was “Think about your favorite waterbody. Describe it. How would you feel if it disappeared?” Hint: My favorite waterbody is Lake Superior. If you would like my full answer to that question, I have it written down, so I could send it if you for the asking. The workshop really dug into the philosophy and morality of being good lake stewards, and how we interact with water throughout our lives. I enjoyed this new (to me) way of interacting with people beyond the science.
* Sent lots of emails and documents to prepare partners for field season, set up events via email and in person, began obtaining equipment for the Young Professionals Smelting event (hopefully it happens, the smelt are running earlier than usual this year).
* Set up a booth and display at the Wild Rivers Trout Unlimited Fishing Expo at Northland College. While there, I contacted approximately 30 people, including a Rod & Gun Club President who would like me to come present at a meeting, and interviewed with Ashland Daily Press to make the front page of the paper. I can scan the article and send it to you if you’re interested.