Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Updates

Andrew Teal

06/05-06/16/17

* Ran survey rods for Ben and Travis to determine elevation of a field and its eligibility to have wetlands created there
* Hosted an aquatic plant ID training at Middle Eau Claire boat landing, followed by harvesting techniques for aquatic invasive plants using a Diver Assisted Suction Harvester. Sidebar: a 4” diameter hose seems to clog easily with the amount of plants that need to be “vacuumed” up to make an impact on the sites we are working on. Chief operators noted other issues and needed equipment after the first time in use, too. I even got to run the hose, though it was difficult because I was too buoyant.
* Coordinated our four interns to run the boat decontamination unit and monitor four boat landings on Lake Superior.
* Gave a 20-minute presentation about invasive species prevention at the North Country Rod & Gun Club near Ashland
* Provided a staff report for the Land Conservation Committee meeting, which I also attended
* Participated in Drain Campaign by having the interns hand out ice packs during their watercraft inspection duties
* Provided AIS Coordinator report to the Town of Barnes AIS Committee in absentia
* Scouted and controlled knotweed sites in the City of Bayfield with DNR and USFS partners, Colleen Matula and Mike McNelly, respectively
* Worked with Ben, Arianna, and Northland College employees to submit payroll for the interns
* Attended the Northwest WI Lakes Conference with all four interns, took care of some business in person to save a lot of driving too. One thing was handing off hats and shirts for watercraft inspectors, the other was handing off invasive species costumes that will now be used in a production about invasive species at Big Top Chautauqua! ☺
* Attended Invasive Species ID Day planning meeting with Susan Nelson with the USFS at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center, and a colleague from Ohio State University who happens to be an Environmental Education Professor there.