

Washburn County AIS Grant AEPP 57419
January 1st-December 31st 2021 Monthly Progress Report
Lisa Burns-Conservation Coordinator

January

- Worked on annual 2020 grant report and reimbursement.
- Started working on Healthy Lakes presentation for “Water Week”
- NW WI Lakes conference planning (NWLC) meeting 2021 conference.
- Hosted virtual County youth conservation speaking and poster contest. 1 student from Washburn Co. advanced to state speaking contest.
- Coordinated virtual NW Area youth conservation speaking and poster contest.
- Meeting with WI DNR and UW-Extension to find ways to start working more with Service Providers statewide and possibly have a training for them for AIS prevention.
- Met with Land Conservation Committee (LCC) and gave an AIS update.

February

- Submitted 2020 grant reimbursement/report to DNR.
- Attended Gilmore Lake APM meeting via zoom to discuss EWM herbicide treatment.
- Worked on presentations for WI Land & Water Conference and WI Water Week.
- Attended statewide AIS partnership meeting (zoom).
- Met with LCC and gave AIS update.
- Worked with WCLRA board members to follow up with Resorts and AIS packets that were delivered in 2020.

March

- NWLC committee meeting
- Presented 2020 Calcium study results at WI Land & Water Conference with Burnett Co.
- Presented 2020 Calcium study results at WI Water Week Conference with Burnett Co. The full presentation can be viewed here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G4c6j1OEC5A>
- Presented on Healthy Lakes with Mathews Lake Assn. at WI Water Week Conference.
- Updated CBCW and Decontamination workshop presentations.
- Attended SWIMS data entry training.
- Worked with GIS mapping Dept. to edit AIS Story Map on the County website.
- Met with County District Attorney to discuss the legalities of installation of a decontamination station at Leesome Lake, which is a private landing. Result is Landowner can have one and did pick up the materials.

April

- Inventoried decontamination materials for lake associations to pick up.
- NWLC committee meeting
- Updated CBCW workshop power point.
- Began discussion with UW Extension, WCLRA and Washburn Co Tourism to have a display at the Vistor Center to highlight importance of lakes in the County.

- Began recruitment for AIS summer intern.
- Hosted CBCW/Decontamination Workshop with Burnett County
- Trained CBCW inspectors for City of Shell Lake
- Covid 19 CBCW signs were updated and distributed to lake associations with decontamination stations.
- Did not participate in the County-wide purple loosestrife beetle program, mainly due to Covid restrictions, but also no time to collect enough beetles and get extra help.
- Reached out to all zebra mussel plate coordinators for updates on locations of plates on 22 monitored lakes.

May

- Set up display for AIS/lakes material at the County Visitor center for the lakes display that will be highlighted all year long.
- Attended SWIMS training
- Worked on power point for WCLRA meeting
- Presented to WCLRA on how we can partner more on AIS and other projects
- AIS LTE started-Hunter Denison
- NWLC committee meeting
- Began working with Burnett County and SCRA (now Wild River Conservancy) to develop a pressure washing video for the public.
- Began coordinating CBCW schedules with the McKenzie Lakes President and my LTE.
- Began CBCW inspections county-wide, including using pressure washer
- Coordinated with Burnett County to discuss 2021 zebra mussel monitoring plans.

June

- NWLC was hosted virtually and
- Took the WI DNR AIS Verifier test and passed.
- Presented 2020 Calcium study results at NWLC with Burnett Co.
- Developed a Yellow Flag Iris (YFI) handout for workshop.
- Co-hosted a YFI workshop on Tozer Lake with WCLRA, which included looking at infestations on the lake and demonstration of control methods.
- Worked on pressure washer video logistics

July

- Participated in the 4th of July landing blitz. Set up a table while doing CBCW for boaters to grab a towel if they wanted.
- Co-Hosted a Project Red workshop on the Yellow River with WCLRA.
- Began coordinating zebra mussel veliger testing with lake associations.
- Worked with Horseshoe Lake Association for interest on having a decontamination station at their landing. Provided paperwork and helped with questions for approval at the township level.
- Filmed a pressure washer video with SCRA, Burnett County LWCD and Bear Lake Association member. The video was developed to show how a pressure washer is used

at a boat landing. Discussion includes the decontamination ordinance, effectiveness of AIS removal, decal and paint concerns and ends with showing how it is used.

August

- Coordinated with SCRA to get ZM veliger supplies to conduct tows and they picked up all the samples after all tests were complete.
- Conducted veliger testing on the following lakes: Bass (Casey township), Balsam, Birch, Island, Long, Minong and Pokegema. SCRA sampled the McKenzie chain of lakes. Samples were analyzed by RMB Environmental Labs, Inc.
- LCC committee meeting. Gave updates on AIS and LTE gave overview on his summer fieldwork.
- Provided AIS information for the WCLRA fall newsletter.
- Horseshoe Lake Association picked up and installed decontamination station at landing.
- Hosted a Japanese Knotweed Workshop with Barron County LWCD at the HWY dept.

September

- Met with a landowner for an initial erosion concern, which led to finding a large Japanese Knotweed infestation on the property. I provided further information on control options. It's an old resort turned into Condo association which will be doing control in 2022.
- Submitted AIS information to "The Source" magazine for 2022.
- LTE done
- Met with WCLRA education committee to discuss outreach plans for 2022.

October

- NWLC post meeting to discuss 2021 conference and start planning 2022 conference.
- Submitted "Check your Equipment" article to newspaper and emailed lake groups.
- Began updating 2021 zebra mussel summary report

November

- NWLC planning meeting
- Put power point together for ZM management team meeting in December
- Began collecting volunteer match for reimbursement
- LCC meeting-Presented AIS updates
- Met with the new Burnett Co AIS Coordinator and discussed the zebra mussel work and other AIS work we partner on.

December

- Hosted a Zebra Mussel Management Team meeting to discuss 20-21' accomplishments.
- Began working on 2021 AIS grant report and reimbursement.
- Attended NW AIS meeting with Alex Selle, WI DNR.

*The Land and Water Department hired Hunter Denison as the summer LTE, for the 5th in a row. Although the CBCW program varied statewide, Hunter still conducted county-wide boat inspections, by safely social distancing and wearing a mask to communicate with boaters. With the high temperatures this summer, boating traffic was especially high so it was important he worked at the boat landings. No new AIS was found and boaters were compliant to the laws. No brochures were handed out again and a table was set up with towels during the landing blitz in July, for people to grab on their own.

*The 2020 covid *pre caution sign* approved by the Washburn County Health Department was updated and distributed to lake associations to put up at a boat landing where a decontamination station was present.

The majority of Hunter's inspection time, used the pressure washer shared with Burnett County. It is always favored over using the bleach solution however, compliance with the solution didn't pose many problems.

*Decontamination Videos- The training/educational video scenarios that were developed in 2020 are now available for viewing and was sent to lake associations as reference for using the equipment and general education.

They can be viewed here:

1. Washburn and Burnett County Decontamination Ordinance https://youtu.be/EaqhXEs_zew
2. Decontamination Scenario: Compliant Boater https://youtu.be/q_K_byy5Bq4
3. Decontamination Scenario: Hesitant Boater but does decontaminate <https://youtu.be/JIeDUHBlzYU>
4. Decontamination Scenario: Non-Compliant Boater <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFCOvRz8JjU>

*Pressure Washer Video

An educational video was developed to show how a pressure washer is used at a boat landing. Information includes the decontamination ordinance, effectiveness of AIS removal, decal and paint concerns and ends with showing how it is used. Partners included The Wild Rivers Conservancy, Burnett County and Bear Lake Association.

Here is a link to the video:  [**Power Washing 101 AIS Prevention 1.mp4**](#)

*We worked with Barron and Polk County Land and Water Departments to establish a decontamination ordinances similar to Washburn and Burnett's. That brings five NW counties having the ordinance, which is a big accomplishment. Sawyer County has also been inquiring and working with our department in hopes of getting one passed soon.

Zebra Mussels

No new lakes have been confirmed as having zebra mussels.

Here is a summary of the zebra mussel work accomplishments and ZM team minutes:

Washburn and Burnett Counties Zebra Mussel Accomplishments 2017-2021

The following lists are comprehensive of work completed from the start of the zebra mussel rapid response project (2017) to the current year (2021). The rapid response project finished in 2020, however, similar work continues between the county governments and their associated partners.

There were many partners involved in this process and the amount of field-work conducted would not have been possible without a strong cooperation between all groups involved. Burnett County, Washburn County, Wild Rivers Conservancy, U.S. National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and many local lake associations were all involved in the zebra mussel response efforts.

The response to zebra mussels in the McKenzie Lakes was in many ways the first of its kind. The challenges that were encountered throughout the process were used to make monitoring more effective as the years progressed. This project also offered the rest of the state some insight as to what should be expected from a rapid response framework. The journey was shared at the 2018 Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention, several AIS Partnership meetings, and through local media.

The methods for monitoring consisted of plate sampling, veliger tows, early detection surveys, and environmental DNA. These efforts are shown below by year for each lake that received monitoring. In addition, 30 lakes were also sampled for calcium. The goal of the suitability evaluation project was to take a closer look at the AIS Smart Prevention Tool, and its accuracy in a local setting. Conclusions drawn will help guide future zebra mussel containment decisions.

Decontamination stations are also placed at select boat launches throughout the two counties, and active lake associations are supplying the maintenance to keep them functional. Some of these stations were provided through a state AIS Grant, and others were purchased by lake associations. The decontamination stations consist of a large educational sign, 500 ppm bleach solution in a pressurized sprayer, safety goggles, boat brushes, and a boat hook. In both counties, if decontamination materials are present, they must be used per county ordinance. Educational video scenarios were developed to better understand the concept and how a decontamination is complete on boating equipment.

A hot water pressure washer is also shared between Burnett and Washburn Counties, and it travels to various boat landings. A portion of the unit's time is at the McKenzie Lakes for zebra mussel containment. An educational video is available to learn more about the unit.

If there are any questions about the zebra mussel monitoring efforts, feel free to contact Lisa or Emily at the information provided below.

Lisa Burns

Washburn County AIS Coordinator

Lburns@co.washburn.wi.us

715-468-4654

Emily Moore

Burnett County AIS Coordinator

emoore@burnettcounty.org

715-349-2109 Ext 2613

Washburn County Zebra Mussel Monitoring Efforts

Decontamination Station Locations

Balsam Lake (1)
Bass Lake (Casey) (1)
Bear Lake (2)
Big McKenzie Lake (1)
Cable Lake (1)
Horseshoe Lake (1)
Island Lake (1)
Leesome Lake (1)
Long Lake (4)
Lower McKenzie Lake (1)
Mathews Lake (1)
Nancy Lake (1)
Potato Lake (1)
Spooner Lake (1)
Stone Lake (1)
Total: 19

Zebra Mussel Veliger Testing Lakes

Balsam Lake (2021)
Bass Lake (Casey Township) (2018-2021)
Bear Lake (2020)
Big McKenzie Lake (2017-2021)
Birch Lake (2017, 2021)
Deep Lake (2017)
Gull Lake (2020)
Island Lake (2019, 2021)
Long Lake (2020, 2021)
Lower McKenzie Lake (2019-2021)
Matthews Lake (2020)
Minong Flowage (2021)
Nancy Lake (2019)
Pokegama Lake (2017, 2021)
Rocky Ridge Lake (2017)
Slim Lake (2019)
Spooner Lake (2018, 2019)
Stone Lake (2020)
Tozer Lake (2017-2019)
Trego Lake (2017)

Zebra Mussel Plate Sampler Lakes

Balsam Lake (2020, 2021)
Bass Lake (Casey) (2018-2021)
Bear Lake (2019-2021)
Big McKenzie Lake (2017-2021)
Chicog Lake (2017-2021)
Gull Lake (2018-2021)
Hemlock Lake (2020)
Horseshoe Lake (2019-2021)
Long Lake (2017-2021)
Lower McKenzie (2017-2021)
Mathews Lake (2017-2021)
McLain Lake (2017-2021)
Middle McKenzie (2017-2021)
Minong Flowage (2019-2021)
Nancy Lake (2018-2021)
Pear Lake (2017-2021)
Pokegama Lake (2019)
Red Cedar Lake (2017-2021)
Slim Lake (2019-2021)
Spooner Lake (2018-2021)
Trego Lake (2017-2021)
Twin Lakes (2017-2021)

Environmental – DNA Testing (eDNA)

Bass Lake (Casey Township) (2018)
Big McKenzie Lake (2018-2020)
Gull Lake (2018, 2019)
Long Lake (2018)
Lower McKenzie Lake (2018, 2019)
Middle McKenzie Lake (2018-2020)
Tozer Lake (2018)
Trego Lake (2018)

Calcium Sampled Lakes for Suitability Comparisons (fall of 2020 and analyzed 2021)

Washburn County Lakes:

Balsam Lake
Bass Lake (Casey township)
Bear Lake
Big McKenzie
Birch Lake
Gilmore Lake
Long Lake
Lower McKenzie
Mathews Lake
Middle McKenzie Lake
Minong Flowage
Nancy Lake
Shell Lake
Spider Lake
Spooner Lake

Burnett County Lakes:

Big Sand Lake
Big Trade Lake
Big Wood Lake
Birch Island Lake
Deer Lake
Demoines Lake
Devils Lake
Fish Lake
Lake 26
Lipsett Lake
Long Lake
Loon-Cadotte
Mudhen Lake
North Sand Lake
Spirit Lake

Results of 2020 Calcium and eDNA Studies:

*Calcium sampling- Washburn and Burnett received numerous inquiries concerning the suitability of area lakes to zebra mussel infestation. Currently the AIS Smart Prevention Model predicts suitability for the majority of lakes in WI. However, a majority of the NW WI data in this data set is very old. Thus, the two counties gathered conductivity/calcium data for 30 lakes and compared to the current Smart Prevention Model. Overall, actual calcium (lab derived) were almost higher in all lakes than what the Smart Prevention equation predicted. Results will be used to accurately prioritize control efforts within the 2 counties.

Presentation can be viewed here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G4c6j1OEC5A&list=PL6aVQYpBMBW_C4PQmILA8lefHIECNwpGf&index=6&t=242s

*eDNA sampling took place with Burnett County on Big and Middle McKenzie Lakes. Overall, results from the State Lab of Hygiene found that filtered water showed better results for detection. Also samples collected from the surface (air/water surface interface) vs the bottom, consisted of more DNR. Big McKenzie numbers are significantly higher than Middle McKenzie, as expected.

Purple Loosestrife

No purple loosestrife beetle efforts took place this year, mainly due to COVID and resources being hard to get. Also, as in the past, timing of plant growth and obtaining beetles has been a struggle, to co-inside with the southern part of the state. With colder temperatures lasting longer, plants are slower to emerge and harder to dig in the spring. The county relies on getting some beetles shipped from Madison as the population isn't as easy to collect in the spots they've been released.

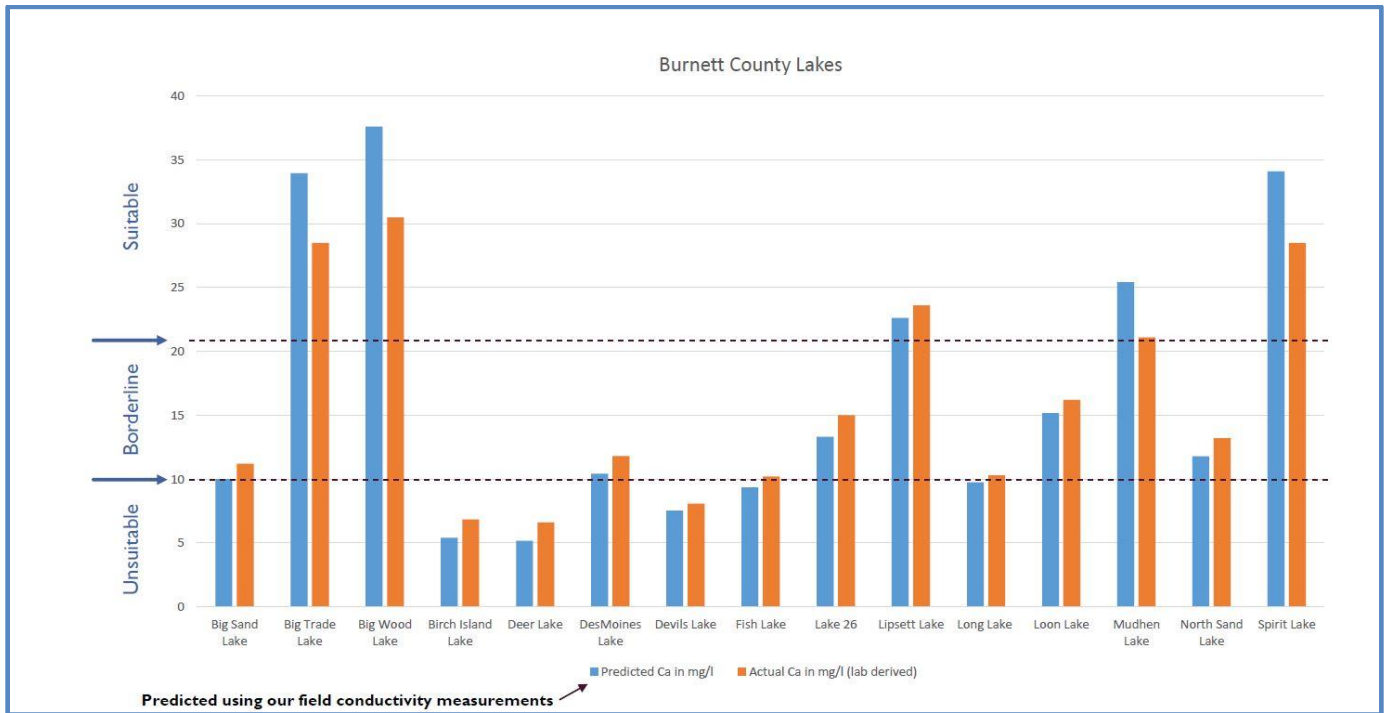
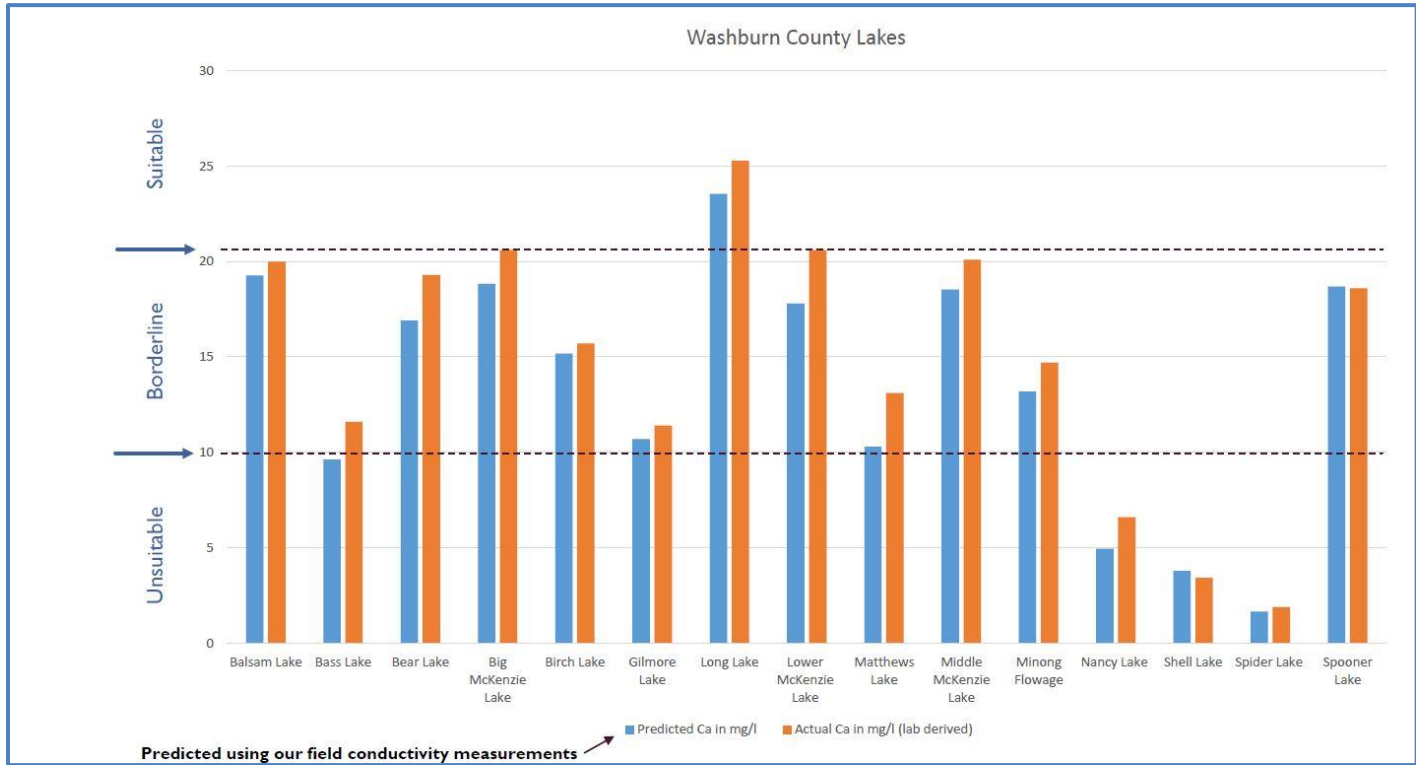
Yellow Flag Iris

An educational workshop took place on Tozer Lake. Hands-on discussion took place on land then was moved to the shoreline to identify areas of infestation. Control options were discussed.

Japanese Knotweed Update

A landowner that reached out in 2020 reported back that she had treated site, and has found control successful and will continue doing it until the plants are completely gone. Another condo-association landowner on Long Lake had a large patch of knotweed growing a hillside and along the shoreline. The association will be working with a professional contractor next spring to control it. Glad to see landowners taking the steps to control themselves.

Results from Calcium and Suitability Study Fall 2020



What: Clean Boats Clean Waters and Decontamination Training

When: Thursday, April 22, 2021

Where: Online-Zoom

Time: 5:00pm-6:00pm

Virtual Training hosted by Washburn and Burnett County Land Conservation Departments.

Through this program citizens will be trained to be watercraft inspectors. Inspectors will educate boaters, anglers and water enthusiasts about the statewide regulations pertaining to Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). Participants will learn where to find specific information on AIS, how to how to organize a volunteer inspection program, and how to conduct watercraft inspections. There will also be some discussion on the Washburn and Burnett County ordinance, regarding decontamination requirements at boat landings.

To register for this training, please contact Lisa Burns at lburns@co.washburn.wi.us.

The training will be recorded and available to view anytime.

For more information about CBCW, go to: <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/programs/cbcw/default.aspx>

This online Clean Boats, Clean Waters training will cover how to conduct watercraft inspections and decontamination ordinances specific to Washburn County. Given time constraints, this training will NOT be discussing the specific aquatic invasive species. Other resources will be shared to help you find that information. Also, because the training could potentially have a lot of participants, questions will only be asked over a chat box and not the phone. Tom Boisvert from Burnett County will be helping answer questions. Participants are encouraged to watch the presentation online versus calling in, so you can see the materials presented, especially the form(s) that need to be filled out.

This will also be recorded for anyone to watch at a different time.

*To register, please contact Lisa Burns at 715-468-4654 or email lburns@co.washburn.wi.us.

Project RED: Riverine Early Detection Training



DATE: TUESDAY JULY 20, 2021

TIME: 10:00 AM

LOCATION: Green Valley Road Bridge on the Yellow River-Washburn County

EQUIPMENT NEEDED: Kayak or Canoe and GPS (if you have one).

DETAILS: We will be meeting at Green Valley Bridge at 10:00 am for a brief training on aquatic invasive species and will have live species to learn how to identify. Discussion on how to monitor a river/stream will be discussed followed by a 2 mile paddle downstream to Hector Dam Road. We will be looking for invasives, taking pictures and/or collecting live species to identify after the paddle.

REGISTER by July 18th with Lisa Burns lburns@co.washburn.wi.us or call 715-468-4654

(We will need to figure out shuttling back to vehicles the day of).



Mark Your Calendar!

Invasive Yellow Flag Iris Education Event

The Washburn County Land Conservation Department & County Lakes and Rivers Association is hosting a FREE public event to educate the public on Yellow Flag Iris identification and control methods. The brilliant yellow-flowered plant can alter wildlife habitat and species diversity. All parts of this plant are poisonous, which results in lowered wildlife food sources in areas where it dominates. Blue Flag Iris is the native Iris landowners want to have along their shoreline.



WHAT TO EXPECT:

- * Identification
- * Education on the problems it creates
- * How shore land owners can control it
- * Training will be held outdoors on Tozer Lake
- * Dress for rain or shine, no restrooms available
- * Bring a kayak, canoe if you have one. Pontoon will be available

Date: June 25, 2021
Time: 1:00-3:30pm
Where: Tozer Lake
N4821 Tozer Lake Road, Spooner 54801

***Please Register with Lisa Burns by June 20th.**

715-468-4654
lburns@co.washburn.wi.us



Blue Flag Iris- want to see this on shorelines



Yellow Flag Iris Brochure-Hunter Denison

YELLOW FLAG IRIS IDENTIFICATION

- Sword shaped leaves are flat, erect and linear with a raised midrib.
- Grows one to five feet tall along shores in shallow water and roadside ditches.
- The dark to blue-green blades are 25-90 cm long and have sharply pointed tips.
- Yellow Flag: seed capsules grow up to 4 inches long, angular, glossy green to brown as it ripens. Contains dozens of pale brown seeds arranged in 3 rows. Seeds have a hard outer casing and can float.
- Blue Flag seeds form in a 3-sided cylindrical capsule, each side has 2 rows of seeds which are thin, D-shaped, and hard.
- Roots: Thick rhizomes spread extensively and forms thick mats and networks that crowd out native species. Rhizomes can float, survive prolonged dry conditions, and fragments can form new plants.
- Flower: Blooms April-July. Pale to bright yellow, up to 4 inches across. Three short petals in the center. The three outer, petal-like lobes of the blossom are sepals patterned with light brown to purple veins or flecks.

Pictured below: Yellow Flag Iris midrib is more pronounced and firm compared to Blue Flag.

Below: Blue Flag Iris leaf pictured below on the left and Yellow flag leaf pictured on right.



Photo credits: Paul Skawinski



Photo credits: Paul Skawinski



Blue Flag Iris

Photo credits: Bob Gibbons



Yellow Flag Iris

Photo credits: H. Zell

Control/Preventative Measures

Recommendations:

- Prevention: Learn to identify plants; know your property.
- Cultural: Competitive vegetation helps prevent infestation, but it does not stop it entirely.
- Chemical: Rodeo herbicide (requires DNR permit).
- Cutting: Snipping the plant so that the stem is below the water line has shown to slow the growth and potentially kill the plant. Removing flowers and seed capsules prevents the spread of the plant.
- Caution: Protect skin, as resin in the leaves and rhizomes can cause skin irritation. Unpalatable and **TOXIC** to wildlife and livestock due to high levels of glycosides. Both Blue Flag and Yellow Flag Iris are **TOXIC**.
- Digging: Digging Yellow Flag Iris is an effective way to remove the entire plant from the area. Yellow Flag Iris has thick rhizomes can float and survive dry conditions, even a small fragment of the rhizome can form a new plant.

For more information check the Wisconsin DNR page on Yellow Flag Iris or contact

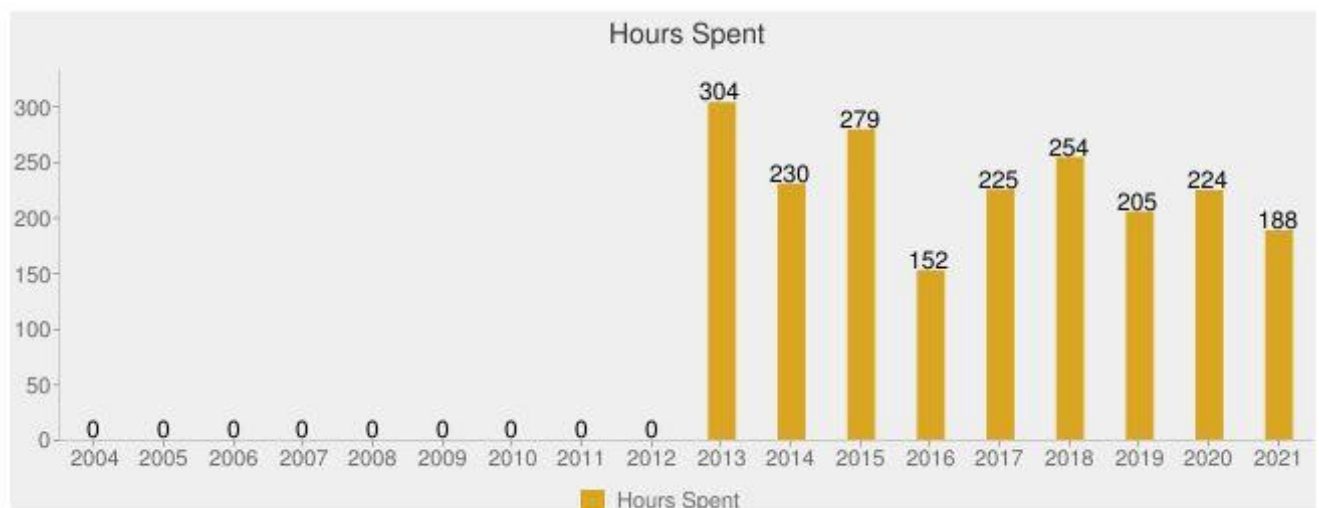
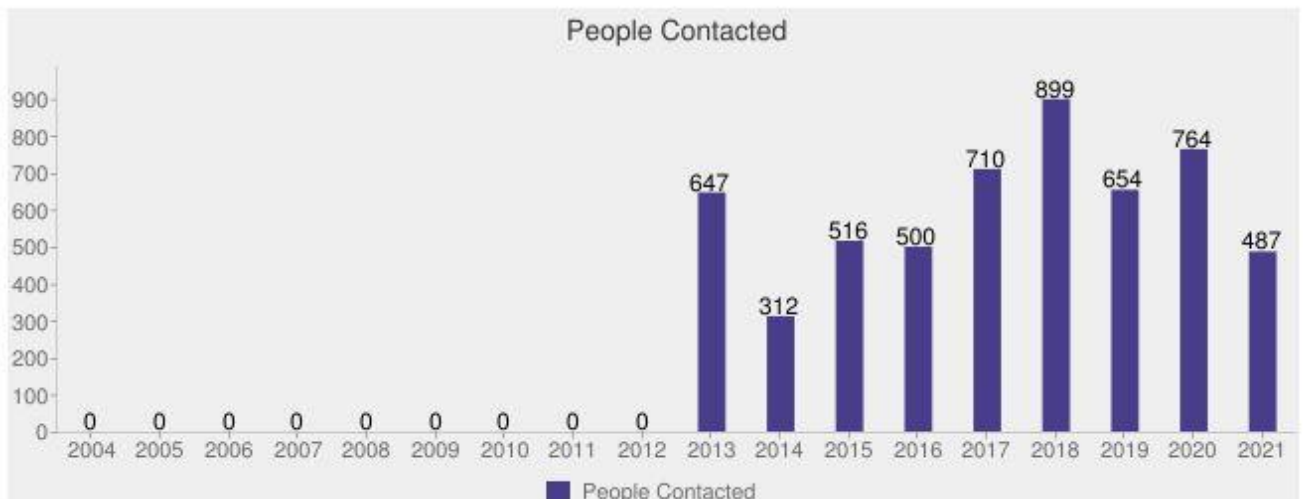
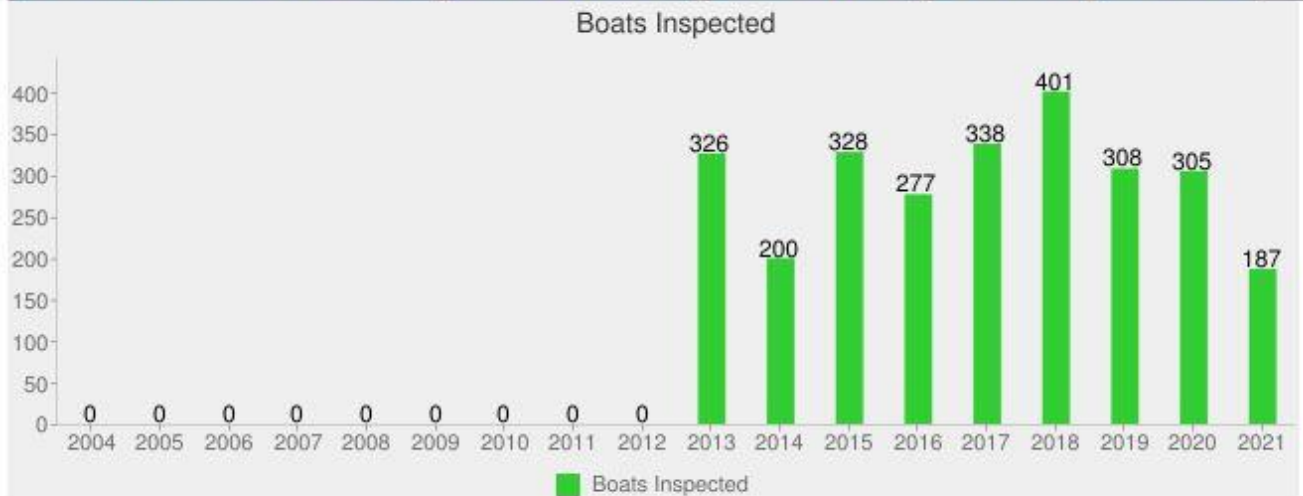
Lisa Burns

lburns@co.washburn.wi.us

(715)468-4654

2021 CBCW Data: Washburn County Land & Water Conservation Department

Watercraft Inspection Efforts **Boater Statistics** **Boater Travel** **Landings** **Download**



Agenda –Zebra Mussel Management Team
December 2, 2021 10:00-12:00 pm
Zoom

Meeting Purpose: 2021 field season recap (and part of 2020)

Present: Marian Shaffer, Katelin Anderson, Emily Moore, Dave Ferris, Colton Sorenson, Don Bushek, Robert Baker, Sandy Swanson, Alex Selle, Tyler Mesalk, Maureen Kalscheur, Cathie Erickson

1. Introductions and staffing updates

2. 2020 Calcium Sampling Results-Lisa Burns

Results in the power point. Overall, actual calcium values were higher than the smart prevention model equation predicts. Some lakes did change suitability, but regardless, prevention efforts should continue.

Full presentation can be viewed here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G4c6j1OEC5A>

3. 2020 eDNA Sampling Results- Maureen Kalscheur

Results in powerpoint. Overall, filtered water showed better results for detection. Also samples collected from the surface (air/water surface interface) vs the bottom, consisted of more DNA. Big McKenzie numbers are significantly higher than Middle McKenzie, as expected.

Big McKenzie #=54.5 (surface) and 20.36 (bottom)

Middle McKenzie #=5.27(surface) and 1.17 (bottom sample).

This data can be used to track trends over time, but sampler plates can also be used. It's not used to genetically track a species. The UMN is doing genetic testing, using the mussels themselves. Researcher, Scott Ballentyne may be able to offer more information in the future.

4. 2021 Monitoring & Results- Lisa

- Veliger testing- NO new lakes tested positive

Veliger results have shown to be decreasing since 2019 when the first ones were detected in sampling.

- ZM Plate Sampling- NO new lakes tested positive

*20 plates on Big McKenzie

*10 plates on Middle McKenzie

*6 on Lower McKenzie

*1 plate in McKenzie Creek on Section 1 Road

Per Sandy-Big and Middle McKenzie- Volunteers reported the zebra mussels are extremely small (2-3mm) indicating the current "older" adult population may be dying off and a new population is starting to produce. Numbers are "too many to count."

*Middle McKenzie- Volunteers reports hundreds to thousands on their sampling plate and sand reeds are covered in zebra mussels.

*Most are found on the North end of Big and South end of Middle.

*Found on rocks, vegetation, heavily on legs and wheels of docks/boat lifts.

*Fisherman reporting them on anchors and vegetation they pull in.

*West Point Resort on Big McKenzie is starting to show dead shells, which is new.

5. Clean Boats Clean Waters Inspections- McKenzie Lakes Summary- Sandy Swanson

*Service providers have been wonderful to work with. They are using the decontamination stations at the landings and some have their own pressure washer at their shop. Some have a trailer designated for big and middle and pressure wash afterward at the shop.

*Memorial Day weekend through Sept 12 including all holidays

*200 paid hours on all 3 lakes and 80 volunteer hours on each lake

*No violations reported, positive experiences overall with using decontamination

*2022 CBCW Grant awarded

6. Decontamination

- Location Updates (see powerpoint)

- Training Video Scenarios- (see powerpoint) email Lisa for the links to the 4 videos.

- New County Ordinances (see powerpoint)

- Deer Lake Update- Polk County Katelin and Colton Sorenson gave overviews.

*8 County-owned properties will have decontamination stations set up. The Parks staff will maintain them. Each has the sign, 5-gallon bucket for the solution and all the tools.

*Deer Lake is 786 acres. Zebra mussels found in 2016 but not much found after that until 2020. They were found on docks and at the outlet and. 2021 more residents found at outlet and on a cinder block and on native clams. Located ½ mile downstream from outlet.

*Veliger tows .003 (2019) to .04 (2020) to 1.97 (2021) per liter. Population is showing an increase. Some plate samplers out with USFWS).

- Stone Lake Battery Unit- Don Bushek

*16 gallon spray tank, 40 feet hose, battery operated (solar panel installed)

*Volunteer helps with maintenance of the station.

*Users are happy to have it at the landing and are cooperative. Monitors do most of the spraying, but it's encouraged for boaters to do it themselves in the future.

*Weekend use is effective, but want to know how it's working mid-week when no inspector is present.

7. Pressure Washers

- Educational Video- Katie Sickmann

A video developed to show how a pressure washer is used at a boatlanding. Discussion includes the decon ordinance, effectiveness of AIS removal, decal and paint concerns and ends with showing how it is used. Here is a link to the video, but we are still editing. Please don't share it yet. I will send the final version when it's all complete.

 [Power Washing 101 AIS Prevention 1.mp4](#)

- Lipsett Lake Unit- Bob Baker

*A cold-water pressure washing station was installed in fall 2021. Support came from the Lake Association. Fundraising through the years helped pay for the project.

*Township very supportive with the effort.

*4 Iron posts to protect the system from vehicle damage.

*About \$12,000 total cost.

*Hope to have working by 2022 fishing opener

6. Brief round table updates

Marian Shaffer-NPS monitoring

Concrete sampling blocks at 10 locations on St. Croix River (May-October).

2020 had large increase in zm numbers but in 2021 numbers were lower.

Dry dock surveys – 9 marinas looked, 100 boats at infestation at prop and back of boats were completely infested, highest than ever seen. Settlement/recruitment is high and seeing 2 waves of production.

None at high bridge or boom site. Highest number is at lift bridge in Stillwater.

Veliger tows- Indianhead Flowage above Dam (new detection for 2021). ***Please don't share this with the public at this point.***

WI DNR Early Detection and Rapid Response Grants can be used for control and monitoring of populations of AIS found and verified within 5 years. Prohibited species such as zebra mussels can receive multiple grants in succession where as a restricted species such as Eurasian Watermilfoil is only eligible for one rapid response.

Thank you everyone for all your hard work with our ZM responses and all AIS!

Check your equipment before storage

Fall is here and recreational water equipment is being removed from the water for the year. It is crucial everyone continues to take the proper steps to make sure all equipment is cleaned properly to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.

The following steps should be made when taking equipment out of the water for winter storage:

1. Remove all plants, mud or other debris found on equipment that has been sitting in water such as dock posts, wheels, boats, motors, rafts, pontoons, kayaks and jet skis.
2. Drain all water.
3. Spray all equipment (including live wells) with a hose or pressure washer. This will help get unwanted invasive species that are hanging on tight or that you can't see.
4. Spray down your equipment with a bleach/water solution, including the inside of live wells. One tablespoon of bleach per gallon of water will kill unseen hitchhikers. This small amount of solution won't harm paint or decals.
5. Talk to your own service provider and neighbors about taking these steps.

If you find something suspicious, take a picture, bag it and contact Lisa Burns, Conservation Coordinator at 715-468-4654 or lburns@co.washburn.wi.us

