2023 CD3 Synopsis

2023 marks the first season using stationary roadsides units. Reflecting on this season, GLEA takes note of the potential changes and improvements. The stationary units provided a greater convenience factor and less maintenance, compared to the previously used mobile. The GLEA was able to save time and energy through using he stationary units, as opposed to the mobile unit. This allowed us to put our efforts into other projects, while still being confident in promoting the prevention of spreading AIS. Additionally, we have found that a consistent, stable unit provides more awareness to the community than a mobile unit with a brief appearance.

QR codes and visual observation were used to track usage of the CD3 units. The QR codes were ineffective and not used at all during the season. GLEA is planning to introduce a new method to assess usage. Visual observations were the most accurate, but inconsistent and relied on a representative counting usage. GLEA is looking into an automatic reporting system that requires no community effort, to get the most accurate count on CD3 usage. Relying on community action decreases the probability of accurate results.

In the previous year, municipalities that installed stationary roadside CD3 units collaborated in cost-sharing the Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) Program with the agency. This joint effort involved their launch staff actively engaging in messaging to heighten awareness about Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) and underscored the crucial role of CD3 units in mitigating the spread of AIS. As we approach the upcoming year, all four municipalities with boat launches have committed to cost-sharing the CBCW Program. Our goal is that by 2025, each municipality will proactively take the initiative to apply and administer the CBCW Program for their communities' launch facilities.

In conclusion, GLEA views the stationary units as a success, with a decrease in maintenance and increase in exposure. With a new usage reporting system in place for 2024, there is hope for an accurate picture of use.