Hubbard County
2015 AIS Task Force Year End Report
And
2016 Plan and Guidelines

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Respectively Submitted:
(Signature on File)
__________________________ Date: 12.10.2015
Kenneth Grob,
Chairman, Hubbard County AIS Task Force
Hubbard County AIS Coordinator

Accepted by Hubbard County Commissioners:
(Signature on File)
__________________________ Date: 12.10.2015
Dan Stacy, Chairman
I. PROJECT SUMMARY FOR 2015 AND GUIDELINES FOR 2016:

The objective of this report is to document the results of the 2015 Hubbard County AIS Prevention and Containment program. The objectives, financial plan, and organizational roles are documented in the 2015 plan that was approved by the County Commissioners on November 4, 2014 and submitted to the Minnesota DNR to satisfy the requirements of Statute 477A.19 for Aid to Counties for AIS prevention.

This report also documents the 2016 plan and financial objectives and is intended to satisfy the statutory requirements for submission of a plan and guidelines for the use of 2016 state allocated money for AIS prevention work.

The Hubbard County AIS Task Force through close cooperation with the Hubbard County SWCD and Hubbard County COLA (HCCOLA) completed a very successful program in the first year of MN State Aid to Counties for AIS Prevention. Of significant note are:

- Watercraft Inspection was expanded to cover every significant lake access (37) in the county. 21,059 watercraft inspections were conducted by DNR trained inspectors.
- Inspection hours were increased to 14,943 hours, a 71% increase over 2014.
- Decontaminations were increased to 130 (242% increase).
- 66 local resorts were visited and over 50% are now screening or inspecting guest watercraft. Some using a check list similar to public access inspectors.
- 25 lakes were monitored for Zebra mussels with cinder blocks, and 29 were monitored for zebra mussel veligers through water sampling.
- Financial objectives were achieved.
- Hubbard County, local townships & cities, lake associations, and Hubbard COLA contributed over $128,000 to supplement the $236,000 received from MN Aid to Counties for AIS prevention
- Administrative costs were less than 8% of the MN Aid to Counties funding due to many volunteer hours and local funding.

More details on accomplishments/results of the 2015 program are listed in Section II.

The organization structure used to manage the program (PPI Sub-Committee) and the financial control responsibility through SWCD Board and Staff worked very well and is recommended to remain in place for 2016.

The proposed program for 2016 will mirror the 2015 program, by maintaining the same level of strong emphasis on watercraft inspection, while improving and growing our performance in all the other areas of prevention. We will continue to expect lake associations and townships to contribute financial resources to the inspection program.

Finally, the County Commissioners deserve a sincere thank you for their leadership in support of the AIS Prevention program and also their continued financial support in 2016.
II. ACCOMPLISHMENTS--2015 (See Appendix for Detailed Reports)

Public Awareness:

- AIS Billboards sponsored through Wildlife Forever
- Local radio AIS prevention publicity—over 1200 Public Service Announcements (PSA) broadcast
- PRDBA publicized AIS prevention on Walking Map (10,000) and on Website
- AIS ID cards (4000) published and distributed through DNR matching grant

Resort Education and Inspections:

- Survey form provided to resort owners to screen guests – questions similar to watercraft inspector format
- 66 resorts contacted (several multiple times); 40 have boat launch facility
- 36 (>50%) inspect entering watercraft
- 25 refer watercraft to public launch inspectors
- Only 40 owners had received LSP training and certification; DNR conducted special LSP training session in September at SWCD request

Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination:

- 21,059 inspections conducted; 14,943 hours of inspection; Average 1.41 inspections/hour
- 130 decontaminations conducted; 49 (38%) came from infested lakes.
- Drain plug violations were 2.75% overall; with a range of .5% to about 8%.
- 9% of watercraft inspected came from infested lakes
- 14% of watercraft inspected came from out-of-state
- 42 inspectors were trained by the DNR and participated in inspections
- County, Townships, and lake associations contributed over $128,000 to the inspection program
- Border lakes in Becker county (Two Inlets and Straight) were assigned inspectors by Becker County
- SWCD contracted to provide watercraft inspection for four Wadena County lakes

Early Detection/Lake Monitoring:

- An inventory of Hubbard County waterbodies was conducted to determine level of monitoring for water quality
- 25 Hubbard County lakes monitored for adult Zebra Mussels with cinder blocks/PVC pipes
- 26 Hubbard County lakes conducted water sampling for zebra mussel veligers
- SWCD contracted and provided veliger sampling on four additional Wadena County lakes
- 19 new volunteers were trained in lake monitoring; bringing total to over 120 since 2008.
- Lake residents were encouraged to check water related equipment when removing for winter storage

Rapid Response/Containment:

- Although this project fell short of objectives, a county-wide set of guidelines were drafted to complement DNR Guidelines
- Two lake specific plans were drafted
- This is a very difficult task as there are very few examples or action guides available in Minnesota

Management/Mitigation:

- County level funding not provided for managing the existing infestations of curly leaf pondweed and faucet snails
- Local lake associations provided funds and manpower to do mitigations on existing infestations; Most notably the Portage Lake and 11th Crow Wing Lake Association’s control of curly leaf pondweed.

Administration:

- Hubbard SWCD managed the watercraft inspection, decontamination, and traffic counter projects
- Hubbard SWCD provided the financial controls for the projects; Financial objectives were achieved for 2015
- Hubbard SWCD supervised the resort public awareness/education project
- Hubbard COLA managed the public awareness publicity and the lake monitoring/early detection projects
- Overall project leadership was managed by the PPI sub-committee of the County AIS Task Force; this organization structure was efficient and cost effective.
The table below outlines the major elements and activities for the 2015 AIS Prevention Plan. Table displays total cost of AIS prevention in Hubbard County and identifies the allocation of state funds.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELEMENT</th>
<th>KEY ACTIVITIES (See Detailed Sections for explanation)</th>
<th>2015 TOTAL FUNDS</th>
<th>2015 TOTAL FUNDS ACTUAL</th>
<th>2014/5 STATE FUNDS ACTUAL</th>
<th>2015 LOCAL FUNDS ACTUAL (including DNR Grants)</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Budget Plan</td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>(including DNR Grants)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V.1</td>
<td>1) Public Awareness &amp; Education Materials</td>
<td>$2,800</td>
<td>$1,177</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$1,177</td>
<td>DNR/COLA match</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2) Billboards &amp; PSA’s</td>
<td>$2,400</td>
<td>$2,400</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$2,400</td>
<td>DNR/COLA match</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3) Resort Training and Support</td>
<td>$5,400</td>
<td>$6,769</td>
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<td>-</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>V.2</td>
<td>PREVENTION AND DECON STATIONS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1) Watercraft Inspection</td>
<td>$251,345</td>
<td>$260,829</td>
<td>$159,066</td>
<td>$101,763</td>
<td>1) Additional Hrs/O.T. required</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2) Decon Stations Labor</td>
<td>$12,344</td>
<td>$6,183</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>2) Second decon unit not staffed</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3) Decon Equipment</td>
<td>$8,250</td>
<td>$8,009</td>
<td>$8009</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3) Second unit purchased</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4) Inspector training and Mts</td>
<td>$14,500</td>
<td>$17,663</td>
<td>$17,663</td>
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<td>4) New PDA units purchased</td>
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<td>5) Staff support for inspectors</td>
<td>$4,250</td>
<td>$6,342</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5) Inspector Support &amp; Traffic Counters work</td>
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<td>V.3</td>
<td>EARLY DETECTION</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>1) Lake Monitoring Team coordinates, data collection</td>
<td>$3,600</td>
<td>$1,159</td>
<td>$1,159</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1) Monitoring support labor reduced</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>and reports for County</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2) Additional lakes sampled</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2) Veliger Sampling/Testing</td>
<td>$5,840</td>
<td>$7,018</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3) Lake Vegetation Mapping</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V.4</td>
<td>RAPID RESPONSE &amp; CONTAINMENT</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1) Early Detection Plan</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1) No costs incurred</td>
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<td>2) Reserve for RRP</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>V.5</td>
<td>MITIGATION &amp; MANAGEMENT</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1) Grants for Management of High Priority infestations</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2) Supplemental inspection hours for CLP infested lakes</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3) Reserve for treating future infestations of major</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>prohibited species</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>V.6</td>
<td>ADMINISTRATION</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1) Watercraft Inspection &amp; Decon Program Coordinator</td>
<td>$42,000</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$35,000</td>
<td>1) Position not staffed for 2 months</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2) SWCD Admin Allocation</td>
<td>$11,025</td>
<td>$13,225</td>
<td>$13,225</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3) Public Awareness/Edu</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4) Resort Education</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5) Lake Monitoring</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6) Special Grants/Contingency</td>
<td>$8,873</td>
<td>$2.1/V.6.2</td>
<td>$2.1/V.6.2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6) Contingency funds needed for additional inspections and SWCD Admin costs</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7) Local Law Enforcement</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$1,793</td>
<td>$1,793</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8) Collaboration with border counties</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9) Collaborate with state and local organizations</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTALS</td>
<td></td>
<td>$377,127</td>
<td>$372,567</td>
<td>$232,227**</td>
<td>$140,340</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Carry over of $4,555 will be applied to 2016 projects (State payments were $236,782)
IV. KEY INITIATIVES FOR 2016

1) Fund Public Awareness direct (except billboards and radio costs). Share cost with HCCOLA. DNR will not fund Public Awareness Grant projects in 2016.

2) Expand Public Awareness media uses to newspapers, social media, etc. Vary radio messages, emphasize dock and lift prevention, DVD for resorts.

3) Increase resort screening/inspection to 75%. 100% on resorts with an access that is used by guests. Resort Public Awareness will be a prevention activity in 2016.

4) Provide AIS inspection training to all resort owners; Insure LSP compliant

5) Improve “quality” of inspections; while maintaining current number of inspectors. Increase field training of inspectors to improve consistency of inspections. Consider longer days (10 hours) to get max coverage. DNR Grants for LGU inspections will not be available in 2016.

6) Document all private and PUD launch sites in county and pursue prevention actions at sites

7) Increase level of decontamination. Prefer all high risk watercraft go to decontamination before launch if watercraft has come from a prohibited species (ZM or spiny waterflea) infested lake and not been out of water for at least 5 days.

8) Increase lake association early detection/monitoring activity to cover 80% of lakes

9) Establish a Rapid Response Plan (RRP)/Containment process and guidelines for Hubbard County

10) Write a RRP/Containment plan for top five lakes

10) Restructure AIS Task Force and Upgrade membership. Clarify roles for Advisors, PPI Committee, and RRP/Containment Team.

Assumption: Funding level from all sources is same as 2015, except DNR public awareness and LGU inspections. No lakes are infested with any significant AIS. Organization structure/responsibilities remain the same as documented in the 2015 Plan.
## V. AIS PROGRAM BUDGET SUMMARY -- 2016

The table below outlines the major elements and activities for the 2016 AIS Prevention Plan. Table displays total cost of AIS prevention in Hubbard County and identifies the allocation of state funds.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELEMENT</th>
<th>KEY ACTIVITIES (See Detailed Sections for explanation)</th>
<th>2016 TOTAL FUNDS</th>
<th>2015/6 STATE FUNDS &amp; CARRY OVER</th>
<th>2016 LOCAL FUNDS</th>
<th>SUPPLEMENTAL ACTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>V.1 PUBLIC AWARENESS &amp; EDUCATION</td>
<td>1) Public Awareness &amp; Education Materials</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>1) Significant increase in targeted public awareness. Use UMN Ext Programs for some Education in 2016. COLA to provide $500 for some materials 2) Do not expect any DNR Grants in 2016. COLA match state funds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2) Billboards &amp; PSA’s</td>
<td>$2,400</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V.2 PREVENTION AND DECON STATIONS</td>
<td>1) Watercraft Inspection</td>
<td>$266,638</td>
<td>$171,070</td>
<td>$95,568</td>
<td>1) Lake Associations and Twp’s to contribute ~$95,568. No DNR Grant expected.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2) Decon Stations Labor</td>
<td>$10,536</td>
<td>$10,536</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3) Decon Equipment</td>
<td>$1,800</td>
<td>$1,800</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4) Inspector training and Mts</td>
<td>$9,930</td>
<td>$9,930</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5) Staff support for Inspectors</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6) Resort Training and Support</td>
<td>$5,400</td>
<td>$5,400</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7) Traffic Counter Labor and Equipment</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V.3 EARLY DETECTION</td>
<td>1) Lake Monitoring Team coordination, data collection and reports for County; Veliger Sampling/Testing</td>
<td>$5135</td>
<td>$5135</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>1) Lake Association AIS Coordinators to help coordinate programs; Water Sampling done by volunteers 2) Future Project; Cost Share?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3) Lake Vegetation Mapping</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V.4 RAPID RESPONSE &amp; CONTAINMENT</td>
<td>1) Early Detection Plan</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2) Reserve for RRP/Containment</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V.5 MITIGATION &amp; MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>1) Grants for Management of High Priority Infestations</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>1) Use lake association Charitable Trusts funds. No support will be provided for CLP Management. 2) Reserve for a new infestation of a critical prohibited species (EWM, ZM, SWF) if needed in any future RR/Containment Actions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2) Reserve for treating future infestations of major prohibited species</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V.6 ADMINISTRATION</td>
<td>1) Watercraft Inspection &amp; Decon Program Coordinator</td>
<td>$45,000</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$35,000</td>
<td>1) Hubbard County contribution of $35,000 expected to continue in 2016 2) Charge out allocation of SWCD Manager and Administrative Staff 3,4,5) COLA and HCAISTF Staff Volunteer time/supplies 6) Covers emergency costs 7) Expect DNR to provide training of county officers 8,9) HCAISTF Staff, e.g. (DNR, State AIS Advisory Committee, Wildlife Forever, SeaGrant)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>2) SWCD Admin Allocation</td>
<td>$15,225</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3) Public Awareness/Edu</td>
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<td>-0-</td>
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<td>5) Lake Monitoring</td>
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<td>7) Local Law Enforcement</td>
<td>$1,750</td>
<td>$1,750</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8) Collaboration with border counties</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9) Collaborate with state and local organizations</td>
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<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>-0-</td>
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<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$385,578</strong></td>
<td><strong>$253,310</strong></td>
<td><strong>$132,268</strong></td>
<td>Dec 2016 State AIS Payment used for 2017 programs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CHANGE TRACKING:**

***** Funds Available = ½ of state 2015 payment (Dec) + 2015 Carryover + ½ of 2016 state payment (July 2016)

***** Total State Funds Available = $124,622 + $4,555 + $124,133 = **$253,310**
APPENDIX SECTION

A. Public Awareness 2015 Report
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APPENDIX A

HUBBARD COUNTY AIS REPORT – AIS PUBLIC AWARENESS PROJECT

2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS/RESULTS:

- Local billboards sponsored through Wildlife forever with matching funds from HCCOLA and a DNR Grant.
- Local radio station Public Service Announcements (PSA’s) were sponsored with matching funds from HCCOLA and a DNR matching grant. Over 1200 spots aired. Spots emphasized decontamination at the Hubbard County AIS station.
- AIS materials were provided to Resort owners to educate their guests. The materials included a special AIS ID card, DNR brochures, sample guest letters, and a suggested guest screening form. See Appendix B for more detailed information on resort contacts.
- AIS ID card (4000) were printed and distributed to resorts and to watercraft owners at launch sites by SWCD watercraft inspectors. Cards also distributed to local businesses.
- PRDBA continued promoting AIS Prevention in their “Downtown Walking” brochure (10,000 published) and on their webcam site.

CONCLUSIONS:

- Radio and Billboards continue to be a viable media for AIS public awareness
- Other media may be needed to communicate message on AIS prevention to younger demographics. Several social media options are possible.
- AIS ID Card is very popular with watercraft users and inspectors
- Resort owner public awareness is probably not sufficient to insure “clean” watercraft. Owner screening and/or inspection is needed. The resort contact process needs to focus on prevention actions in future.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Explore more public awareness channels: e.g. Newspaper articles, social media, easy access to information on location of decontamination stations, emphasize laws/practices on movement of lake equipment (docks/lifts), focused communication to LSP’s, bait shops, etc., Short simple DVD for resorts to use.
- Continue to use billboards and radio PSA’s in 2016. Continue relationship with PRDBA to promote AIS prevention in their brochure. Consider promotion of AIS prevention at Weekly downtown music event. Note: DNR matching grants will not be available for Public Awareness in 2016.
- Transfer Resort “Contact” activities to Prevention Project. Focus contact on guest screening and inspection. Improve Resort owner education and training through sponsored workshops.
ACCOMPLISHMENTS/RESULTS:

- 66 of the 67 identified resorts, campgrounds, seasonal RV’s, etc. were visited in person.
- 40 of those visited have access ramps/launch facilities.
- 36 of the resorts inspect boats entering.
- 25 resorts refer incoming boats to public access inspectors.
- 40 of those visited have had lake service provider training and received required permits.
- Special LSP training session conducted in September for resorts that did not have training/permits.
- Survey form provided to resort owners to screen guests.

CONCLUSIONS:

- Most of the resorts will refer guests to the inspectors at the public access if they feel there is a legitimate threat. (Such as last lake watercraft was on is listed as an infested lake or guest is new and/or unfamiliar with AIS prevention or the resort owner is uncomfortable allowing launch.)
- Campers Paradise on Lake Belle Taine would allow us to inspect on Fridays and Saturday mornings at our expense.
- Eagle beach (on Eagle Lake) has a very limited access and can only launch smaller watercraft, the rest they send to the public landing.

CONTACT SUMMARY BY CHAIN OF LAKES:

- **CROW WING CHAIN**
  - 17 Resorts, Campgrounds, Seasonal RV Sites
  - 15 with Access/Launch Facilities
  - 11 Have Lake Service Provider Training & Permits
  - 9 Inspect Incoming Boats
  - 1 Refers Incoming Boats to Public Access

- **MANTRAP CHAIN**
  - 13 Resorts, Campgrounds, Seasonal RV Sites
  - 5 Have Access/ Launch Facilities
  - 9 Have Lake Service Provider Training & Permits
  - 9 Refer Incoming Boats to the Public Access

- **FISH HOOK CHAIN**
  - 7 Resorts, Campgrounds, Seasonal RV Sites
  - 3 Have Access/Launch Facilities
  - 4 Have Lake Service Provider Training and Permits
  - 1 Inspects Incoming Boats
  - 5 Refer Incoming Boats to Public Access

- **MANTRAP TOWNSHIP LAKES (Spider, Ojibway, Crooked Lakes)**
  - 5 Resorts, Campgrounds, Seasonal RV Sites
  - 5 Have Access/Launch Facilities
  - 2 Have Lake Service Provider Training & Permits
  - 3 Inspect Incoming Boats
  - 0 Refer to Public Access(s) or Inspectors

- **OTHER INDIVIDUAL LAKES** (BENEDICT, BOULDER, BAD AXE, DUCK, FISH HOOK RIVER, GARFIELD, GEORGE, KABEKONA, LITTLE MANTRAP, PLANTAGENET, SKUNK, STOCKING & WOLF)
  - 15 Resorts, Campgrounds, Seasonal RV Sites
  - 10 Have Access/Launch Facilities
  - 6 Have Lake Service Provider Training and Permits
  - 7 Inspect Incoming Boats
  - 6 Refer to Public Access(s) or Inspectors

RESORT CONTACT RECOMMENDATIONS:

- GET STARTED EARLIER (Mid-Late March); REVISIT RESORTS EARLY (BEFORE THEY OPEN FOR THE SEASON)
  a. Inspection Demo/training
  b. Watercraft Questionnaires
  c. Referrals
  d. Possible Inspectors on Site on Targeted Dates

- IDENTIFY PRIVATE ACCESS/RAMPS (RESORT CONVERSIONS, SEASONAL CAMPGROUNDS, ETC.)
  a. Determine Contact Person(s)/Office
  b. Ask owner to Inspect/Refer guests to inspection site; Possibility of On-site Inspector
ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- The number of AIS inspections across Hubbard County saw a significant increase over the same period last year (See Appendix G for detailed results).
- Decontaminations also saw over a three-fold increase over the same time period.
- We also had possible infestations prevented on area lake accesses thanks to our inspectors.
- The most important accomplishment for the year for Hubbard County AIS program was that there were no aquatic infestations reported.

CONCLUSIONS:

- The amount of time needed in the field/training/education has to be increased and number and frequency of reports/meetings has to be condensed for the latter to be able to occur.
- PPI Sub-Committee must work on decontamination protocols so that inspectors have a clear understanding when to refer a boater to decontamination.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2016:

- Use inspection data to determine how the lake hours are allotted, e.g. watercraft coming from infested waters as a higher risk element to the matrix.
- Consult DNR on inspection survey so that it could be more streamlined (e.g. keeping the same access for each shift and get missing lakes put into the survey) and relay information from inspector feedback to Adam Doll and Mike Bolinsky (DNR AIS Specialists)
- Purchase new tablets, about 25, to replace old ones. (We have about half Nexus 7s, which are good to go for next year, and the other half are the old, slow Ubislates, which need replacing).
- Need to have fishing tournament information available to the staffing company well in advance as to schedule appropriately for those events.
- Work closer with staffing company in regards to expected duties, better scheduling, communication, and unique lake preferences for time of inspections etc.
  1. Create a Tentative Comprehensive Schedule for the Season
  2. Hire Inspectors as Early as Possible and
     a. Complete Level 1 and 2 Training with DNR
     b. Do Extensive Training with Inspectors on New Tablets; Include customer service training
     c. Eliminate to the extent possible any Paper Form Inspections
     d. Communicate to Inspectors our Expectations of Performance and that their role is critical to the success of the AIS prevention program.

Jamin Carlson
SWCD Water Quality/Resource Specialist
APPENDIX D

Hubbard County AIS Report – AIS Lake Monitoring Early Detection Plan Summary

The 2015 AIS Lake Monitoring Program has made considerable progress toward implementing a successful AIS Lake monitoring and early detection plan in Hubbard County. AIS Lake monitoring actions include: 1) adult/juvenile zebra mussel monitoring; 2) veliger sampling; and 3) invasive plant monitoring. The following information highlights some of our accomplishments, conclusions and recommendations for improvement.

2015 Accomplishments/Results:

- Hubbard County COLA (HCCOLA) conducted inventory to determine status of AIS Lake monitoring.
  - 26 lake associations (LA’s) complete survey. HCCOLA is comprised of 29 lake associations with 38 lakes.
  - 21 lakes have an AIS Coordinator.
  - 21 lake associations educate their residents about AIS in some fashion.
  - 13 out of 29 lake associations (44.8 %) monitor their lake for aquatic invasive plants.
  - 10 lake associations have completed a vegetation map of their lake.

- HCCOLA engages lake associations to monitor for adult/juvenile zebra mussels in Hubbard County
  - 25 out of 38 lakes (65.7 %) monitor for adult/juvenile zebra mussels using cinder blocks/PVC pipes.
    - Over 100 cinder blocks have been distributed on the 25 participating lakes.
  - HCCOLA underscores that lake associations should, when cabins are being closed up, urge residents to check docks, lifts and other equipment for zebra mussels.

- HCCOLA initiates monitoring program for zebra mussel veligers in Park Rapids Area Lakes.
  - 25 of 38 lakes (65.7 %) in Hubbard County conducted zebra mussel veliger sampling.
  - 4 neighboring lakes in Wadena County conducted zebra mussel veliger sampling.

- HCCOLA sponsors training opportunities to assist lake associations with AIS early detection efforts.
  - 19 volunteers and SWCD staff trained in zebra mussel veliger monitoring in conjunction with RMB Labs.
  - 19 volunteers from 12 area lakes attend AIS identification/lake monitoring training in conjunction with MN and Hubbard County Extension.
  - 120 volunteers attend lake monitoring and aquatic plant ID training since 2008.

- HCCOLA develops protocols to assist lakes when monitoring for adult/juvenile mussels.

- AIS Lake monitoring action summary (as delineated in paragraph one above): 1) 13 of 38 lakes (34 %) conduct at least one form of AIS Lake monitoring; 2) 12 of 38 lakes (31.5 %) conduct two forms of AIS Lake monitoring; and 3) 9 of 38 lakes (23.6 %) conduct all three forms of AIS Lake monitoring.

Conclusions:

- HCCOLA underscores that early detection can help with mitigation and the prevention of spread of AIS.
- Forming AIS lake monitoring programs are essential for all Hubbard County lake associations.
- AIS Lake monitoring on key area lakes that don’t have a lake association can help prevent the spread of AIS.
- Communication, reporting and education are crucial elements for early detection of AIS.
- AIS Lake monitoring teams need appropriate resources, equipment and technical assistance to develop their early detection programs.
- Some small lakes/lake associations need financial assistance to implement an AIS Lake monitoring program.

Recommendations:

- Continue to assist lake associations with the development/implementation of AIS Lake monitoring programs.
- Expand AIS Lake monitoring beyond COLA lakes in Hubbard County that do not have a lake association.
- Develop incentives (small grants) for lakes/lake associations to increase participation in AIS Lake monitoring.
- Advocate for AIS Lake monitoring with a countywide communication program that includes email, COLA/lake association websites, COLA blog, local news media, billboards, social media and newsletters.
- Utilize factsheet with baseline data to evaluate effectiveness of AIS Lake monitoring program.
- Develop tool kits as an incentive to assist lake associations with their AIS Lake monitoring programs.
- Develop AIS Lake monitoring early detection page on HCCOLA website.
- Develop AIS Lake Monitoring Early Detection Manual for Hubbard County.
- Conduct brief educational activity on AIS plant identification at monthly HCCOLA meetings.

Dan Kittilson 11/04/2015
ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- 2015 objectives for Rapid Response Planning in Hubbard County fell short of our objectives.
- Our proposed plan includes containment actions and launch site management programs that will require more time to gain local and state support.
- While local Rapid Response plans include initiatives that we can implement, containment through launch site management and restricted travel between lakes is critical to prevention of the spread of AIS.
- Rapid Response Plans are being designed for Potato Lake and Long Lake. They will require Local and DNR support for full implementation.

RECOMMENDED 2016 OBJECTIVES:

1. Complete planning for Potato and Long Lake with the understanding that we will be restricted to increased watercraft inspection and much higher levels of decontamination on infested lakes.
2. Align with others statewide to address barriers to effective containment programs.
3. Develop Rapid Response plans for additional lakes in Hubbard County

Bob Berdahl  9.23.2015
APPENDIX F

HUBBARD COUNTY AIS REPORT - ADMINISTRATIVE/ORGANIZATION ROLES

☐ COUNTY COMMISSIONERS/HUBBARD COUNTY AIS TASK FORCE
  ▪ AIS TASK FORCE ASSIGNED RESPONSIBILITY FOR COORDINATING HUBBARD COUNTYS AIS PREVENTION WORK
  ▪ AIS TASK FORCE ASSIGNED RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALLOCATING AND MANAGING MN STATE AID TO COUNTIES FUNDING
  ▪ COLLABORATION WITH BORDER COUNTIES AND STATE AIS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

☐ PROGRAM PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION SUB-COMMITTEE
  ▪ PPI SUB-COMMITTEE ASSIGNED TASK OF MANAGING ALL AIS PROJECTS; STRATEGIES, FUNDING, AND REGULAR REVIEW.
  ▪ PPI SUB-COMMITTEE PREPARES FINAL REPORTS AND ANNUAL PLANS
  ▪ AIS COORDINATOR FOR COUNTY CHAIRS PPI COMMITTEE; WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM HCCOLA, SWCD BOARD/STAFF AND PROJECT LEADERS

☐ HCCOLA AIS COMMITTEE
  ▪ PUBLIC AWARENESS PROJECTS
  ▪ EARLY DETECTION AND LAKE MONITORING PROJECTS
  ▪ FUND RAISING FROM LAKE ASSOCIATIONS FOR WATERCRAFT INSPECTION
  ▪ FUND RAISING FROM TOWNSHIPS FOR WATERCRAFT INSPECTION

☐ HSWCD MANAGER/HSWCD BOARD
  ▪ FISCAL AGENT FOR STATE FUNDS AND AIS PROGRAM FUNDING
  ▪ RESORT CONTACT PROJECT

☐ HSWCD WATERCRAFT INSPECTION COORDINATOR
  ▪ WATERCRAFT INSPECTION PROJECT
  ▪ DECONTAMINATION PROJECT
  ▪ TRAFFIC COUNTER PROJECT
  ▪ COORDINATION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT ORGANIZATIONS
Appendix G

2015 Inspection Report Summary

HUBBARD COUNTY AIS WATERCRAFT INSPECTION

SUMMARY 5/9/15 TO 10/31/15

2015

INSPECTIONS: (11,911 ENTER, 9148 EXIT) 21,059
HOURS 14,942.8
INSPECTIONS PER HOUR: 1.41
VEGETATION/WATER/MUD AT ARRIVAL: 339 (2.85%)
DRAIN PLUG IN ON ARRIVAL: 326 (2.74%)
ARRIVALS - LAST IN INFESTED WATERS**: 1073 (9.01%)
ARRIVALS - ZEBRA MUSSEL INFESTED WATERS: 409 (3.43%)
ENTERING FROM OUT OF STATE*: 1703 (14.30%)
NUMBER OF DECONTAMINATIONS: 130 (1.09%)
NUMBER OF DECONTAMINATIONS (Infested): 49 (37.7% Decon)

NOTES:
1. ~ 42 FULL TIME EQUIVALENT INSPECTORS
2. INSPECTORS WORKED STRAIGHT SHIFTS (NOT SPLIT)
3. FULL TIME SUPERVISOR MANAGES INSPECTORS
4. DNR LGU AIS WATERCRAFT INSPECTION GRANT PROGRAM

* VEHICLE REGISTRATION (NOT WATERCRAFT)
** DOES NOT INCLUDE CURLY LEAF PONDWEED
### APPENDIX H

#### 2016 RECOMMENDED HOURS

#### HUBBARD WATERCRAFT INSPECTION --TOTAL LAKE HOURS FOR 2016

#### ISOLATED LAKES (Not in Chain or Township Group)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lake</th>
<th>TOTAL 2015 INSPECTION HRS</th>
<th>State funded 2016 hours</th>
<th>Supplemental 2016 Hours/$$$ (Lake Assoc. &amp; Township)</th>
<th>TOTAL 2016 INSPECTION HOURS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benedict</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>0/$0</td>
<td>288</td>
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<td>Garfield</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>268</td>
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<td>268</td>
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<td>Hennepin</td>
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<td>24</td>
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<td>Midge</td>
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<td>56</td>
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<td>Lake George</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>0/$0</td>
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<td>Boulder</td>
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<td>288</td>
<td>62/$1085</td>
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<td>Plantagenet</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>720</td>
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<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long</td>
<td>1300</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>580/$10,150</td>
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<td>Big Mantrap</td>
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<td>720</td>
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<td>Duck</td>
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<td>628</td>
<td>472/$8260</td>
<td>1100</td>
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<td>Kabekona</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>396</td>
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<tr>
<td>Palmer</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>56/$980</td>
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#### CW CHAIN OF LAKES

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<th>Lake</th>
<th>TOTAL 2015 INSPECTION HRS</th>
<th>State funded 2016 hours</th>
<th>Supplemental 2016 Hours/$$$ (Lake Assoc. &amp; Township)</th>
<th>TOTAL 2016 INSPECTION HOURS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/10&quot; CW</td>
<td>604</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>132/$2310</td>
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<tr>
<td>8&quot;/9&quot; CW</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>0/$0</td>
<td>400</td>
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<tr>
<td>5-7&quot; CW</td>
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<tr>
<td>1-4&quot; CW</td>
<td>676</td>
<td>532</td>
<td>112/$1960</td>
<td>644</td>
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#### MANTRAP TOWNSHIP LAKES

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<th>Lake</th>
<th>TOTAL 2015 INSPECTION HRS</th>
<th>State funded 2016 hours</th>
<th>Supplemental 2016 Hours/$$$ (Lake Assoc. &amp; Township)</th>
<th>TOTAL 2016 INSPECTION HOURS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spider</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>206/$3605</td>
<td>350</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crooked East</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>72/$1260</td>
<td>216</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crooked Middle</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>72/$1260</td>
<td>144</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crooked West</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>36/$630</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ojibway</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>36/$630</td>
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#### LAKE EMMA TOWNSHIP LAKES

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<th>Supplemental 2016 Hours/$$$ (Lake Assoc. &amp; Township)</th>
<th>TOTAL 2016 INSPECTION HOURS</th>
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<td>Blue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Big Sand</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>604/$10,570</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Sand</td>
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<td>288</td>
<td>144/$2520</td>
<td>432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>125/$2187</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
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<td>Potato</td>
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<td>1200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pickerel</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0/$0</td>
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</table>

#### FISH HOOK CHAIN OF LAKES (Not including Potato Lake)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Lake</th>
<th>TOTAL 2015 INSPECTION HRS</th>
<th>State funded 2016 hours</th>
<th>Supplemental 2016 Hours/$$$ (Lake Assoc. &amp; Township)</th>
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<td>Island</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>288</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eagle</td>
<td>604</td>
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<td>172/$3010</td>
<td>604</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portage</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>0/$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fish Hook</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>720</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two Inlets &amp; Straight Lake</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>281</td>
<td>300/$???.</td>
<td>Becker Co. Funding</td>
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</table>

**TOTAL** 14,857 14,943 9,604 HOURS 5,461 HOURS 15,065 HOURS

Note: Hourly Rate for 2016 is $17.50/hour  Note: State hours are preliminary (May change)