

Minnesota Statewide AIS Advisory Committee (SAISAC)

September 23, 2021 Meeting Minutes

WebEx Online Meeting

Members Present: Justine Dauphinais, Chris DuBose, Eric Johnson (morning), James Johnson, Holly Kalbus, Michaela Kofoed (afternoon), Kelsey Taylor, Ryan Wersal

Members Absent: Pat Brown, Kate Hagsten, Brian Gross, Roger Imdieke

Ex-officio Members Present: Doug Jensen, Nicholas Phelps

Ex-officio Members Absent: Nicole Lalum, Amy McGovern

DNR Staff Present: Jan Shaw Wolff, Heidi Wolf, Shane Kirlin, Tina Fitzgerald, Grace Loppnow, Jake Walsh

Guests: Tony Brough – Hennepin County

Chair J. Dauphinais called the meeting to order at 10:03am

Motion to approve agenda: First by E. Johnson, second by C. Dubois

Motion to approve Meeting Minutes from August 26, 2021: First by J. Dauphinais, second by C. Dubois

Meeting Summary

- The Committee learned about the interjurisdictional coordination and collaboration that the Minnesota DNR is involved with on AIS issues regionally, nationally and internationally. Minnesota DNR is well connected, well respected and actively involved in these important partnerships.
- The Committee discussed presentations and results of interest from the 2021 Minnesota AIS Research Center (MAISRC) Showcase and identified researchers and projects they would like to engage with at future meetings.
- The Committee learned about two novel efforts to engage shoreline residents about AIS issues: Hennepin County's Lake Pledge App and Le Sueur County's "Protect our lakes – clean and dry your equipment" behavior change pilot project and training video.

Member Updates

- **C. DuBose:** Continuing battle on non-native *Phragmites*, making progress. Trying to figure out how to replace *Phragmites* in the sewer plant. Lots of volunteers, lots of work.
- **E. Johnson:** Busy summer up by Voyageurs! Zebra mussels were detected on Rainy Lake, Bass Lake. Hoping that stays contained in that one area. Rainy Lake Association undertaking removal of 10-15 acres of cattails, increasing water flow to see if that keeps cattails at bay. Discovered that the problem may have been a roadway put in long ago, which choked parts of the lake. This project is taking steps to remedy that. **J. Dauphinais** asks, how has DNR permitting been? **E. Johnson** says pretty smooth! Park Service has been helpful for that process too.
- **H. Kalbus:** Inspection season pretty much wrapped up, with some time set aside for waterfowl hunters. CBSM program winding down too. Scheduling county's meeting in December. DNR staff found rare aquatic

plant on German Lake; a species of arrowhead. Near private property adjacent to access, but the new owner challenging to work with; hoping to improve that.

Member updates continued

- **J. Johnson:** Finishing up field season. In talking to applicators, low water levels may have caused milfoil to reach surface and make it look worse. Denser than in the past. Fall milfoil surveys right now. Lots of thick native milfoil this year has prompted calls. Lake Minnetonka is more organized this year, having more whole-lake meetings, which should improve the situation especially if something like starry stonewort is found. Milfoil genetics: Ryan Thum from Montana State University has been researching the genetics of hybrid milfoils and figuring out whether they are resistant to herbicide. His lab offered free genetic testing this year and he had a few lakes take advantage. Hybrid is hard to identify visually so genetic testing is needed. Did end up having a small cost, about \$300-400. Two samples came back as hybrid milfoil. Chris Jurek from DNR Region 3 said that she's been discussing hybrid milfoil with Wendy Crowell. **J. Johnson** would like some guidance from DNR about whether and when testing should be done. Chris Jurek said that if we had been treating that area, it's ok to keep treating it. Also asked Ray Newman (MAISRC researcher) about whether you can visually identify hybrid and it sounds like no. Patches of milfoil in Clearwater Lake near Garrison, managed with ProcellaCOR, switched to hand pulling. Also Townline Lake near Brainerd where patches are fragmenting off. A lot of DNR reimbursement is per acre and based on herbicide treatments. Is there a way to get some of that money for hand pulling? **J. Walsh** says yes, hand pulling is reimbursable under the grant. **C. DuBose** asks, what is the money used for, for hand pulling? **J. Johnson** says it is used for dive companies who contract for hand pulling. Might be useful to know scope that is available for use of the money. Is hand pulling a useful tool as alternate to herbicide? Crooked Lake may be interested in hand pulling too. **T. Fitzgerald** says for the county grant programs, reach out directly to the county AIS coordinator. Ask if hand pulling is covered and if not, if it could be in the future. Always looking to refine their programs. **J. Johnson** asks, should it be the consultant like me or the lake association who reaches out? **T. Fitzgerald** suggests both. **H. Wolf** adds that you should make all the justifications about the benefits of the method including selectivity and reduced chemical use. **J. Johnson** adds it may also be cheaper too.
- **J. Dauphinais:** Crooked Lake had very successful fluridone treatment in 2017, then spot treatments with ProcellaCOR and now hand pulling patches. Hybrid milfoil success in Ham Lake. Went on a "wine and weed tour" to look at aquatic vegetation and homeowners were interested in identifying milfoil and curly-leaf pondweed. Ham Lake did a low dose fluridone treatment over the winter and spring. The treatments have been so successful that **J. Dauphinais** did not find a single stem of hybrid milfoil. The particular hybrid was unique to Ham Lake and had shown resistance to 2,4D. Great success of low dose fluridone in Anoka County! For non-native *Phragmites*: started a few years back on small scale treatment in Coon Creek Watershed, now expanded to Anoka County. Now contracting for all plots with PLM. They are making live maps for all patches in metro where they update treatment status. At years 2 and 3 of treatment, looking forward to seeing results.
- **K. Taylor:** Very successful wild rice harvest this year. Is there invasive species info that goes along with the permit for wild rice harvesting? Unknown at the moment, **T. Fitzgerald** will look into it. Lots of folks coming from off reservation and dropping off rice for tribes to buy. Unclear whether people coming onto reservation were aware of decontamination procedures. Give information but do not approach people

during ricing season because equipment is culturally sensitive. May be useful to hand out info with permits. Known as the “snail people,” to report invasive snails. Luckily did not have anyone report new locations of Chinese mystery snails this year, just had people bring native snails and mussels in. Did eDNA sampling for rusty crayfish and zebra mussels—all negatives. **J. Dauphinais**, asks who is doing the eDNA sampling? **K. Taylor** says they have been working with Fond Du Lac Tribal Community College and they do sampling in their own lab and have results analyzed by University of Illinois. Would like to move to Minnesota in-house testing.

- **R. Wersal:** Full bore into the semester. Lots of teaching, winding down field projects. Putting together federal reports for end of the federal fiscal year.
- **N. Phelps:** Had the MAISRC Showcase, was a success! 426 people registered; highest number yet. Thinking of options for the future—will probably be hybrid because of large number of attendees. Lots of good conversation surrounding talks. Talks were all recorded and will be posted to YouTube once they are transcribed. Happy to send links.
- **D. Jensen** (provided via email): St. Louis County AIS Check-In Check-Out Webhub Project: Advisory committee met yesterday to review the draft survey and observation guidance. BWCAW AIS Signage Project: Advisory committee met to provide recommendations on content, messages and elements for development of AIS sign prototypes based on the national AIS sign inventory coordinated by MN Sea Grant. Advisory committee will next review and select signs based on the prototypes SG will develop, help convene public focus groups to review those signs, and select a new sign for posting at trailheads and water accesses. Don't Pack A Pest for Academic Traveler held a booth at the UMD Study Abroad Fair last week. 154 students and advisors were educated about the importance of declaring and what they can and cannot bring in their luggage upon return to the U.S. Yellow Iris – Kelsey Taylor's team may have investigated/cut/disposed seed heads from some of the St. Louis River sites this week. It is unknown if UMD has treated their infestation. Sea Grant remains interested in pursuing funding sources. Great Lakes Panel meeting: Helping to plan next meeting Oct 26-28. Helping to prepare GL BIOTIC Symposium III synthesis. Next symposium is deferred to spring meeting. ANSTF Meeting being planned for early Nov. ICAIS 22: Doug honored to be the first-ever plenary speaker on AIS and social science at the Int'l Conference on AIS, April 18-22, in Belgium. More info: [here](#).
- **K. Hagsten** (not attending, provided earlier via email): Not much to update since our last meeting. We did inspections and outreach to our ricers pertaining to Starry Stonewort. It was fairly successful. Looking to do more outreach proactively through the off season so people are more informed and are reporting any potential new risk infestations. We are almost ready to start DASH treatment on the SSW in Anderson Cove harbor. Having already done a review of the site with U of M. reps, Meg and Ranjan we will be working on a mini grant proposal to establish a monitoring protocol for long term progress of this treatment. We have finished purple bladderwort monitoring. Out of 20 lakes surveyed we found 1 population. We found a new candidate for a late season hire to do watercraft inspections. There is still a few fishing tournaments scheduled for our area and are glad we will have the extra help to do inspections. Still working through the paperwork for CD3 stations.

DNR Updates

- **H. Wolf:** \$825,000 for lake associations in IAPM (invasive aquatic plant management), we thought we could use in both fiscal years but cannot; but can be given out in year one and encumbered for a 2 year project. So

it will all need to go out in year one. There is no elasticity to give to local government or tribal government, only lake associations. Maybe if local government units (LGU) partner with a lake association, the lake association could be considered contracting with the LGU. A meeting is set to brainstorm how to distribute the funds and communicate more effectively to those who apply for funds. **J. Johnson** asks, when does it need to be out? **H. Wolf** says it will follow our typical schedule. Post in December, but must be out by 6/30/22 (end of fiscal year). Application process December-April. If not used up, it is lost. **J. Johnson** asks, is this money for research too? **H. Wolf** says it is only for IAPM, for management, delineations to set up permits. **J. Johnson** asks, will this affect the lottery system? **H. Wolf** says we don't know yet, we are working through setting up a new process. **J. Johnson** asks, can we target this to larger projects and go from there? Most lake associations are not thinking 2 years ahead; they are barely thinking 2 weeks ahead. **H. Wolf** says hopefully associations can think of things that happen every year and plan that for 2 years. Or maybe think about trying different strategies year to year. Originally we were trying to change the language to add LGUs and Tribes, and then there was confusion about why we had a 2 year timeline for distribution. So now we know that it's a one year requirement. This is one time money, we don't know if this will come back again. We need to be clear that this isn't permanent but it could be. We'll update more and we might seek some opinions too. If someone has opinions about it, we are open to those. **J. Dauphinais** asks, would these just be for plants listed in statute? Starry stonewort? Invasive cattails? **H. Wolf** says yes, just for those in statute. Definitely not for invasive cattails. For invasive cattail management, we would need to bring in Fish and Wildlife. Invasive cattails are not regulated in Minnesota. Biggest concern is people hearing it is invasive and then wanting to remove all cattails; when we know native cattails and other emergent vegetation provide very valuable fish and wildlife habitat. Complicated issue regarding when removal is appropriate. There is a starry stonewort emergency response fund. We have been doing removals for a while now under contract. Chelsey Blanke has been working on the update to the State Plan, looking for spring review instead of fall review so not to rush partners. Grace will update about the MUM.

- **T. Fitzgerald:** We closed the aquarium and pond hobbyist survey on Tuesday. Got 506 responses! Took about 12-15 minutes to do survey. People very much care and are aware about AIS. They prefer not to release to the environment. For unwanted animals, 90% would rather euthanize than release, and a very small number would rather release than euthanize. Minnesota DNR is the highest trusted source of information about AIS regulations, along with the Department of Agriculture, University of Minnesota Extension, Minnesota Aquarium Society and Minnesota Water Garden Society. People tend to compost or dispose of unwanted plants properly. Over 90% agree that it is important to prevent spread of AIS and that they have a role to play; similar to anglers and shoreline residents. There will be a summary and report. Working with businesses that handle equipment and organisms. Societies likely played a big role in making survey a success.
- **S. Kirilin:** Enforcement efforts have been ongoing. Checkpoints have been impacted by COVID-19 and our public safety commitments surrounding Line 3.

Meet the new Invasive Fish Coordinator

Presentation by Grace Loppnow, Invasive Fish Coordinator

About Grace:

- Formerly with the USFWS

- Green Bay, WI: Deputy Lead, Lake Michigan Early Detection and Monitoring Program (eDNA sampling, traditional fisheries surveys, specifically with grass carp)
- Carterville, IL: Fish Biologist (Hydroacoustics in Ohio River, Black carp research and coordination)
- Bachelor's from Notre Dame, PhD from UMN in Conservation Biology
 - Control strategies for bass, Paul Venturelli advisor
 - Risk analysis for introduced species minor
- Grace enjoys traveling, outdoor things and learning new things like hunting, ice fishing, foraging

Updates on upcoming invasive carp activities:

- MUM (Modified-Unified Method)
 - Selective method to move carp into a single area for seining
 - "Mini-mum" shorter, for targeted areas, can do up to 2/day
 - Second MUM: October 25-29, Pool 8 of Mississippi
 - Partnering with WDNR, USGS, USFWS, NPS, Wild Rivers Conservancy
 - eDNA (USGS, USFWS before and after event) and tagged fish help guide
- Tagging/tracking
 - Approved to tag 10 in pool 8, 2 in other pools of Miss., 2 in St. Croix, 2 in Minnesota
 - Tagging helps remove fish through traitor fish technique
- Increase commercial fishing
 - Getting a commercial fisher on retainer
- Lock and Dam 5 deterrent
 - Working with Peter Sorenson, assisting with staffing for the evaluating the deterrent system
- Richie Erickson (USGS)-modeling UMR
 - SEACarP model—each population and pool is modeled separately, model can accommodate management techniques and scenarios to explore how effective different approaches might be
- Interagency Invasive Carp Panels/Workgroups
 - UMR Basin Asian Carp Team
 - Missouri River Basin IC Group
 - IC Regional Coordinating Committee
 - GL Basin Panel on ANS
 - MAISRC Technical Committee
 - Black Carp Working Group
 - IC Modeling Group
 - eDNA Community of Practice
 - National Invasive Carp Monitoring Framework
- Contact: Grace.Loppnow@state.mn.us; 651-259-5670

Minnesota DNR interjurisdictional coordination on AIS prevention and management

Presentation by T. Fitzgerald, AIS Prevention Planner

- Overview and discussion of Minnesota DNR coordination and collaboration with organizations and agencies outside of Minnesota on AIS issues. Information was gathered from program coordinators in the Invasive Species Program, much of which is covered in the State Plan being updated by Chelsey Blanke. Minnesota Sea Grant is often involved in all the interjurisdictional work presented here as well.
- Interjurisdictional coordination (IJC) ranges in scope: Regional, national or international; Ongoing, periodic or specific; Formal or informal; Broad or project specific.
- IJC is very important:

- Opportunity to learn about threats and different strategies being implemented.
- A venue to share information and pursue coordination.
- Opportunity to form trusted relationships.
- MN DNR has the capacity to give it the priority it deserves with Invasive Species Program coordinators.
- Federal ANS Task Force
 - Network that raises awareness and takes action to prevent and manage aquatic nuisance species (ANS). Minnesota Sea Grant is active with this group.
 - Minnesota DNR is a member of the Great Lakes Panel (Chelsey Blanke), Mississippi River Basin Panel (Heidi Wolf, Grace Loppnow), and Adam Doll engages with the Western Regional Panel.
 - There are eight species-specific collaboratives related to the Great Lakes Panel as well as the Western Lake Superior AIS Work Group.
- Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement Annex 6
 - Agreement between US and Canada to identify binational priorities to implement actions that improve water quality.
 - EPA Coordinates US activities under the agreement.
- Great Lakes Ballast Water
 - The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (PCA) permits vessel owners that are required to obtain the EPA vessel general permit and wish to transit the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior. They must follow state statutes and install ballast water treatment systems or describe why a system is not feasible.
 - 663 lakers, 15 salties that come into Minnesota ports each year.
 - State permitting program will end with the national Vessel Incidental Discharge Act.
- Tribal nations
 - 11 federally recognized tribes
 - 1854 Treaty Authority
 - Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission
- National awareness campaigns
 - Play Clean Go (terrestrial); Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers! (watercraft); Habitattitude
- Watercraft pathway
 - National Sea Grant Law Center's project on a model law for Watercraft Inspection and Decon.
 - American Boat and Yacht Council T-32 Committee (Adam Doll is the Vice Chair).
 - Western Regional Panel Decon Think Tank Committee.
 - Great Lakes Commission AIS Landing Blitz.
- Invasive Carp
 - Asian Carp Regional Coordinating Committee (ACRCC).
 - Upper Mississippi River Asian Carp Team (UMRACT).
 - Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee (UMRCC).
 - Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resource Association (MICRA) Federal Visits.
 - 2021 Modified-Unified Method efforts in Mississippi Pool 8.
 - Minnesota Invasive Carp Action Plan.
- Conferences and Symposiums
 - Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference
 - North American Invasive Species Management Association Conference
 - Aquatic Plant Management Society Conference
 - North American Lake Management Society Conference
 - Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference

- American Fisheries Society Conference
- Other regional and national symposiums also provide opportunities for knowledge sharing and collaboration.
- Other Partnerships and Collaboratives
 - Many others not listed earlier.
 - Ongoing relationships with neighboring states.

Discussion on interjurisdictional coordination

- **T. Fitzgerald:** Did anything pop out that you'd like to learn more about? Did you find any gaps that you'd like to dig deeper in?
- **H. Kalbus:** thought it was interesting that the PCA does permitting for ballast water, is there a possibility for other stakeholders to provide input and comments into the permitting given the complexity around ballast water management? **T. Fitzgerald** says it is definitely complex, we're transitioning from individual permits by state to the Vessel Incidental Discharge Act in a more national approach. There's a whole Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference 2020 session on ballast water and would recommend watching the recorded session. **H. Wolf** says VIDA (Vessel Incident Discharge Act) is complicated and EPA is getting state input right now working primarily with Minnesota PCA and secondarily with DNR. **H. Wolf** has been in close communication with PCA staff about how they've been working with EPA on VIDA. Minnesota DNR submitted concerns about retaining state authority over invasive species. VIDA is not a done deal and is still in progress/development.
- **J. Dauphinais:** That's a lot of coordination, and Minnesota is widely regarded as a leader, it seems like the DNR has capacity to participate on these things, is the general thought that you're spread too thin? Only able to attend meetings for information and not necessarily take action? How does DNR prioritize what the biggest threats and risk are? How does it relate to participation in these various groups? **H. Wolf** says we'll always be involved in some. When we're fully staffed, it's not that overwhelming. With Kelly Pennington in the work out of class (temporarily working in another position with DNR), **H. Wolf** has had to handle a lot of the partnerships she's responsible for (Great Lakes Panel, VIDA, MISAC). Invasive Carp stuff is a ton of meetings, and it's great that **G. Loppnow** is here now to engage in all those meetings and partnerships. We haven't had to sit down as a program to dump different IJC efforts, but each coordinator does weigh and prioritize participation in different partnerships. The hiring freeze did lead to some overwhelm, but that should continue to get better, and this is an important part of our work. Relationship building is more important than anything (e.g., Duane Chapman and the MUM). **G. Loppnow** adds that invasive carp is a rapidly developing field and she wants to be constantly learning so we can use the most up to date technology for our own carp management. **T. Fitzgerald** adds that Minnesota DNR also gets federal funding for AIS work, some of which is interjurisdictional. For instance the interjurisdictional GLRI grants for non-native Phragmites and boater behavior. **H. Wolf** adds UMRAC and the St. Croix State/Interstate grant. Often things like this (invasive carp) make it up to the governor's level and we need to stay up to date on this. Meetings, money and relationships are necessary to be effective where we are.
- **J. Dauphinais:** Hard to ID gaps from a long list of IJC, but if anyone thinks of anything for risk assessment and prioritization, feel free to pass along ideas.

MAISRC Showcase Debrief

- **N. Phelps** says it was a successful online version of in-person event. A lot going on, with most talks given twice, included 16 topics. There were five projects were not presented (e.g. those that were going to present during the lab tour). But two videos of those projects were posted.
- **J. Johnson** mentions the cattail talk. They are going to take out dense cattail and see how it impacts fishes and emergent/floating leaf plant density and diversity. He is interested in any template they might develop for management applications. Was able to follow the talks without looking at the slides while listening from his boat doing field work. Being able to do that means they were good presenters. A couple projects didn't turn out how the researchers thought they would; but that is how research goes sometimes; leads to new questions (e.g. veliger death in Angelique's presentation). Also interesting to see researchers using large datasets. Loved seeing big data, including data he submitted. **N. Phelps** says there is so much data out there; seeing it used; hopefully inspires others to track/submit more. **J. Johnson** one missed opportunity he sees is the delineation data. No one seems to use that. Blind spot. He can send in stuff! **J. Walsh** says the MPARS data is now in a geospatial database. So now we know which projects have geospatial data; it would be a lot of work to go through, but it is there. **J. Johnson** says the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District has data with online viewing, but not clear on how it would be used from a management standpoint. All it would take is "this is the format that we need the data in." The DNR would have to be involved in that at some point.
- **J. Dauphinais** says she missed the showcase, but would like to talk more about cattails. Beginning stages, not results yet, right? **N. Phelps** says yes they just got started this season, weren't ready to talk about results yet. **J. Dauphinais** says it sounds like the DNR is interested/willing to discuss this more. We've heard Eco vs. Fisheries issues before – cattails would be a concrete topic on how to better work together. Quantifying ecosystem benefits is a good lens. She saw the "local and landscape" poster doing mock trials at boat landings, hiding AIS on boats and having various people do inspections. It covers various species, a survey of AIS awareness, and then the data would be integrated into the AIS Explorer to model interventions. **N. Phelps** says that project started this summer, did pilot test on campus to test the survey and make sure locations of AIS are realistic. Will do on-site trials in the metro and Duluth area in likely in Wisconsin. **J. Johnson** asks, is this testing inspectors or boaters? Is this a way to assess the inspector? **N. Phelps** says there are three treatment types: Level 1, Level 2, and boaters with various levels of awareness. For boaters, more awareness means they should be better at inspection, but is that true? A controlled experiment that can be built into the model. **J. Johnson** asks, for inspectors, is this blind or secrete? **N. Phelps** says they know it will be a study, but won't know where the AIS are hidden. **J. Johnson** sees a huge range of inspectors from crawling under the boat vs. just take a peek and saying go on. **N. Phelps** says Adam (DNR Watercraft Inspection Coordinator) is involved in the project. Help thinking through real-life scenarios and balance the tradeoff between controlled experiment and real life – thread the needle.
- **J. Johnson** has one recommendation, the talks are very research-y. Standard scientific presentation with introduction, research questions, methods, and results. Try to include the why and what this means for you the viewer. What this means for AIS in the future. **N. Phelps** says they get feedback on both extremes – too technical and too simple. He gives a template presentation to researchers, but only a few use it. He tries to take the academic out of it at least a little bit. **J. Johnson** suggests you could require every presentation has to end with a specific slide. **D. Jensen** says with UMISC, every time the comments always fall on either side

of the line. If you get those kinds of comments, you are doing it right. **N. Phelps** adds that the template allows them to talk to each kind of attendee at some point during the presentation.

- **K. Taylor** says she is interested in the project addressing genetic biocontrol and getting updates about that. She is excited to hear about it, it is the future and it is contentious. Should be involved in attitudes/awareness as well as management directions. **N. Phelps** says he just talked to the grad student and this is the time to get feedback. **T. Fitzgerald** will reach out for a presentation and discussion hopefully in October.
- **J. Dauphinais** lists the topics for the Committee to: cattail, hybrid milfoil, genetic biocontrol, and mock WIP data. Anything else? **T. Fitzgerald** mentions she and Adam Doll talked with Bob Height and Amy Kinsley about their optimal inspection and collaboration project. Likely will work these topics into the off-season workshops with counties. **N. Phelps** asks if there were discussions of prioritizing at the state level. **T. Fitzgerald** said not specifically, but it could be wrapped into the five-year watercraft inspection meetings that DNR is having internally. **J. Dauphinais** asks where the DNR is at with the five-year watercraft inspection planning. **H. Wolf** says they have had a few meeting and a few more coming up. Focused on operational e.g. what we do and how we allocate our time. Biometrician. Data gaps to help guide hours/allocations. To clarify, there is not a lack of communication between the state and counties – we aren't showing up at the same places at the same time. The challenge is that counties are placing inspectors based on different core values. How does that then influence our tier list / how we allocate our staff? How do we integrate it into what we are doing? Still in the beginning phases. There will definitely be an opportunity to discuss this with the Committee in more detail. Right now it is more internal operating systems. E.g. hours for union vs. recreational boater hours; what metrics to track; and how to evaluate changes. Not totally sure where Amy and Bob's models fit in; for instance their model right now doesn't get down to access, just lake-level. **T. Fitzgerald** says it sounds like we need more time at a future meeting for this topic. We can present what has happened so far and options to consider. Right now another challenge is trying to get over resistance to change.
- **J. Johnson** would like a DNR update at a future meeting concerning low dose copper treatment. Other lakes are going to want to do this. Wants to know the DNR's stance on permitting, e.g. at what level would it be permitted. **H. Wolf** says it would depend; what scenarios would this be useful to accomplish what? Reduce adults? Manage a nuisance? **J. Walsh** adds that where we are in the research process is really early. We aren't even to the point of assessing long-term management. **J. Johnson** says he has 3 lakes that are already interested; he will tell them to wait.

Engaging Shoreline Residents

Presentation by Tony Brough, Hennepin County

- Hennepin County has guidelines for how to spend AIS funds from their plan and local partners. CBSM (Community-Based Social Marketing) is in everything we do. Also working to reduce disparities and give a voice to underrepresented people. Lake Pledge App idea came to him at the DNR's CBSM workshop. So many barriers to get through... but after about 4 years they are finally piloting it. A lot of aspects of CBSM. Two important aspects for him were convenience (do on the phone) and the incentive (effort that have results to show local representatives). Many CBSM things in the landing page alone. Benefited most from peer to peer, talking to each other. It will be an App soon, which will be even easier to share.

- Super excited to get Minnesota Bound to be part of this.
- Showed video and walked through pilot website (<http://www.lakepledge.com/>). Showed how participants select the activities they are interested in.
- Shows that 45% of households on Weaver Lake have watched the videos and took the pledge; 25% on Cedar Lake; 20% on Fish Lake. Neat feature is that everyone can see what other neighbors do on the lake (aggregate).
- **J. Johnson** says **T. Brough** was at the Weaver Lake Association meeting last year to promote this. He will show this for other lake association meetings. **J. Dauphinais** says Fish Lake will get the presentation next spring. Trying to promote that all of us homeowners are doing things; biggest thing people are worried about is beating Weaver Lake. A healthy competition.
- **J. Johnson** always suggests lake associations do a survey on how residents use their lake, so they can develop a management plan. They could just use this.
- **T. Brough** says the reports on the backside are really neat. You can filter and learn about the stats for lakes and videos and pledges. Nothing is shared by address, it is by lake. Privacy is important. He will send visitor information and this Committee can test it out.
- What are the next steps? Whole county? **T. Brough** says counties might want to do different things. Could upload different videos, change questions, rebrand it, etc. He owns the web address; can add onto it. What should the scale be from “beginner to legendary”? Legendary should be the top spot. Again, wants it to be easy to share and easy to do.
- **J. Dauphinais** asks, can this be done broad scale at a more minimal cost now that Hennepin did the heavy lift? **T. Brough** says he or interested people would need to get permission from Minnesota Bound and branding colors would need to be changed. That is going to open it to anyone. Really happy with the group he worked with. It cost \$50,000. A lot of extra work for him, but very much worth it. It would also be a good idea to get new local people doing the intros as needed. He anticipates adding more money. Has heard a regional approach would work too. He’s had different reactions from different associations. Not sure how it would address apartment complexes yet.

Presentation by Holly Kalbus, Le Sueur County

- The project theme is “Protect our lakes – clean and dry your equipment.” The big CBSM component was the participation and commitment form to clean, rinse, dry for 21 days. Get a yard sign for signing it. They can also get more involved with hands on training for laws/cleaning best management practices and then get a goodie bag. Those that actually dry a dock/lift for 21 days before moving or installing it get an aqua weed stick. Rewards for different levels. They can sign up for whatever level they want.
- Yard signs were posted, mostly on main roads, which is great. Some put out by docks. Durable, which is important.
- Partnering with lake associations to educate residents was the goal. DNR survey showed individuals were limited physically to clean things off, so the stick fixes that barrier.
- New “how to handout” details laws and best practices for preventing the spread of AIS via shoreline equipment.
- Online training covers best management practices and regulations; Presentations from DNR staff Adam and April was really helpful. Offered one in August and another one coming up in October.

- Created a PSA video, due to pandemic limiting hands-on/in-person activities. Collaboration between 19 other LGUs. Partnerships are really important. Whole goal was to make this statewide.
- Survey will evaluate the program, similar questions as DNR survey as well as questions about participation in the program.
- Successes so far: comments from neighbors about signs, training was helpful, and 7 different lakes participated so far.
- Challenges: getting participation. Tried to promote through letters, association meetings, website, etc. Ideally training and promotion would be in-person. The most common thing she heard when promoting it was that they didn't want to participate because they were not moving, so it doesn't apply to them. Her response was that there are people that will be moving or who will come to your lake, so you can help educate others.

Discussion

J. Johnson asks **T. Brough** if he is planning any follow up for people that don't participate. Or engage the participants more? **T. Brough** says his energy is getting percentage of homes high. If it doesn't work, then can't move to 2.0. Next energy will be more lakes. Not following up with them via email – too big brother. But you could contact the lake group, then the association can go back to residents. Did a postcard and that didn't move the needle, it is all peer to peer. Also get out in the media. Focusing not just on lake association members, just regular people living on the lake.

Adjournment at 2:05PM

Next Meeting to be held via WebEx on October 28th from 10am to 2pm.