

Minnesota Statewide AIS Advisory Committee (SAISAC)

August 22, 2019 Meeting Minutes

MN DNR Headquarters, 500 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul, MN

Members Present: Jim Boettcher, Norman Baer, Justine Dauphinais, James Johnson, John Deurr, Kelsey Wenner, Roger Imdieke

Members Absent: Jaime Jost, Barb Halbakken Fischburg, Eric Johnson, Paul Hamilton, Chris DuBose, Tera Guetter, Donovan Strong, Mary Alverson

Ex-officio Members Present: Doug Jensen

Ex-officio Members Absent: Amy McGovern, Nicole Lalum, Nick Phelps

DNR Staff Present: Heidi Wolf, Phil Hunsicker, Chelsey Blanke, Commissioner Sarah Strommen, Jacqueline Glaser, Steve Colvin, Jan Shaw Wolff

Chair J. Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

Motion to approve agenda with changes (Commissioner to meet with Committee at 2:30 instead of 1:00) by R. Imdieke and second by J. Deurr. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion to approve Meeting Minutes of April 25, 2019 by J. Dauphinais and second by J. Boettcher. Motion approved unanimously.

Meeting Summary:

- The Committee met in St. Paul to accommodate Commissioner Strommen's busy schedule along with her willingness to meet with the Committee. The Committee listened to her priorities, shared with her the responsibilities of the Statewide AIS Advisory Committee, and offered their assistance when it comes to the Commissioner's AIS priorities. EWR Director, Steve Colvin, and Section Manager, Jan Shaw Wolff, attended the whole meeting.
- Committee discussed the three Angling, AIS and Access workshops that were held around the state and "hosted" by the Statewide AIS Advisory Committee in partnership with the DNR.
- The Committee tabled the discussion of an AIS legislative agenda until winter to better coordinate with the DNR's timetable for developing legislative priorities.

Motions & Actionable Items:

- **H. Wolf** will get the DNR's specific legislative timeline and put it on Basecamp to help the Committee to decide when to discuss legislative recommendations

- Many Committee members will be attending the MAISRC Showcase on September 18th, and questioned whether a regular Committee meeting the next day was necessary. Instead of a regular Committee meeting in September, Committee members agreed to look into the idea of a field trip in late-September to view non-native *Phragmites* management sites in the north metro area. **J. Dauphinais** will let the Committee know about the treatment schedule in September in Anoka County. Committee members will use Basecamp for discussions.
- **P. Hunsicker** will ask **T. Guetter** and Ryan Wersal if they are available on October 24th to talk with the Committee about flowering rush and starry stonewort.

Committee Member Updates

For this and future meetings, members were asked to only share updates directly relevant to the Committee's roles and responsibilities.

- **J. Dauphinais:** Coon Creek Watershed District worked with Crooked Lake Association on hybrid watermilfoil (HWM) control. A whole-lake fluridone treatment was conducted in 2016 which reduced cover from 60 to <1%. Recently followed with ProcellaCOR spot treatments and only found one milfoil plant this year. Very limited damage to native plant communities and record levels of species richness. North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) meeting will be held in Minneapolis in 2020, and the Crooked Lake story will be presented there. **J. Johnson** also worked on the project. Has also been working with the Anoka County Conservation District on invasive *Phragmites*, and there is a bid out for control of all non-native *Phragmites* populations in Anoka County.
- **D. Jensen:** 4,200 people educated on AIS issues at events this summer. Hired several interns. Two based in Duluth and two in Grand Portage. Four events are coming up in the Duluth area – Harvest Fest, Cloquet Forestry Field Day, Chester Bowl Fall Fest (in partnership with Duluth-area CISMA), and Habitattitude surrender event with Animal Allies – the last event is an opportunity for people with pets to bring them in to have them rehomed. Over the past three years, program has rehomed over 500 animals – provides an alternative to releasing them into the environment so provides win-win. The Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers Campaign website graphics enhancement – working to populate them with graphics, many from MN. There is a Great Lakes Panel meeting in October that will have a heavy ballast water session. Also, working with **C. Blanke** on the pathways project and **T. Wolbers** on the Community-Based Social Marketing (CBSM) project. Working on responding to a goldfish infestation in a pond in Duluth. First step will be to consult with UMD Facilities Mgmt. to do some compare and contrast to a project they worked on previously to remove the goldfish. Will also reach out to Nick Frohnauer at DNR. Also working with MISAC and Laura Van Riper to update MISAC risk assessments last conducted in 2002-2003. Almost done with that effort.
- **J. Boettcher:** Just completed forming a speaker's bureau, which includes five canned presentations that anyone on the committee can use for AIS education. Will start by taking it out to schools. Also going to take it out to homeowner's associations. Noted that new shoreland owners don't always know about these things. Goldfish in Chaska Lakes - still getting pushback from Hazeltine Lake. They don't want anything to be done to their water level because of the golf course. Becky, who is a watercraft inspector in Carver County has trained her dog for many duties and is interested in having her dog certified to find zebra mussels (ZM). **J. Glaser** noted that there is an intensive training process with DNR's ZM dogs. Minnesotans are welcome to use their dogs for tracking ZM but it would be on their own. **J. Boettcher** asked if she can use her dog in her work as an inspector? **H. Wolf** said it would get confusing for people very quickly. Inspectors have very specific guidelines and DNR dogs have very specific qualifications. There is also the state insurance policy behind it so there are

liability issues. DNR would be happy to talk to her about it but if she wants to do it, she should probably talk with Carver County as her employer. **D. Jensen** suggests there may be some kind of intermediate step to supporting Minnesotans who want to do this.

Committee member updates continued

- **K. Wenner:** Working on integrating traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) into their AIS programs. Want to roll out program to local schools and community. Their goals are not to eradicate, but work on establishing a balance. Still removing Chinese mystery snails. First live specimen found in a new lake – will be contacting Rich Rezanka with the DNR. Gearing up for wild rice season and promoting/providing decontamination. Chinese mystery snails are coming in on the rice so it's becoming a big issue. Working on using the snails as fish food and fertilizer in gardens – but there's actually too much to give away. *Phragmites* project on the St. Louis River has been very successful this year. They're getting 90% control even in >1 acre populations – compared to seeing only minimal control in the past. Will be doing *Phragmites* and loosestrife management on Spirit Lake this year. Using imazapyr in the early fall and knockdowns each spring. There is one property owner who doesn't care and won't allow control to be conducted – this has been actively contributing to spread. Community Action Duluth does monitoring. Also doing an eDNA project next year with the Fond du Lac College to look for rusty crayfish. They are really destructive to wild rice beds. Aim to do river surveillance to detect them if they're coming up towards the rice lakes. She also has recipes for using Chinese mystery snails and other invasives as food. Salsa made with mystery snails was very popular at a recent gathering. On the terrestrial side, parsnip can be used. Also, Tansy can be used as a bug repellent. Again, aiming for balance. Want to help people use TEK. **D. Jensen** says he did an extensive risk assessment of mystery snails when working on their Watch Card. Didn't find research documenting impacts but obviously if Fond du Lac is collecting 40 lbs. a week, there must at least be localized effects. It's important to prevent the spread because we don't know what they can do.
- **R. Imdieke:** Was just on Green Lake for the first time this summer, wondering about ballast tanks and how clean they are. Was in Canada a few weeks ago and there were two roadside stops where they asked what lakes they'd been in. Donated \$5,000 toward starry stonewort control on Lake Koronis since Lake Koronis is close. Lots of participants in Starry Trek in the county. Project with Ducks Unlimited (DU) - looking for a way to increase waterfowl production near Diamond Lake (near Spicer). 5-year project including the watershed district, DU, and BWSR. Drew down lakes for two years in three little lakes that flow into Diamond Lake. Those three lakes were contributing 70% of the phosphorus to Diamond Lake, as well as carp. They also put a fish trap back in to catch fish before they enter into Diamond Lake. Planning for 4 years, just implemented this past year.
- **J. Deurr:** Has been looking into western states' work and working on a check sheet that drivers can carry to state they have done decontamination. We might be overlooking transportation issues. **D. Jensen** asked if all manufacturers test their boats with a water test. **J. Deurr.** ~40% of boats in their group are tested in infested lakes. He guessed most other manufacturers do this as well. **D. Jensen** says boats are often tested in zebra mussel-infested waters and shipped all across the nation. **H. Wolf** asks if there is a possibility of developing a log book. People don't expect a new boat to have been tested in ZM waters. **J. Deurr** passed a draft around. Working on something but does not yet have legal backing. **J. Johnson** asks if we could take advantage of Minnesota's watercraft inspection program and build this into it. **H. Wolf** says yes, but the challenge comes from having interstate coordination and getting other states on board with requirements. **D. Jensen** asks if there is also someone in the facility that does quality control. Could AIS inspections be built in with that? **J. Deurr** says yes, they are working on this.

Committee member updates continued

- **N. Baer:** Association had been planning an herbicide application on North Brown's Lake and it was conducted May 29. Will be getting feedback from property owners about the effectiveness. Had a MAISRC-trained AIS Detector come and give a talk and help the association members with plant identification. Coontail has been plentiful this year.
- **J. Johnson:** MAISRC Showcase is a great event – highly recommend it. The research center really seems to be hitting its stride.
- **N. Baer:** The showcase is September 18th. This group has a meeting the next day. Would there be any value in focusing on the MAISRC meeting instead of SAISAC's next meeting? **P. Hunsicker** says that's up to the Committee. **J. Johnson** suggests that the Committee decide on Basecamp. Personally doesn't want to cancel since there are so few meetings. Field trip also didn't work out this summer – everyone is busy. Warrants further discussion.
- **D. Jensen:** September 5th MISAC field trip is in Bemidji in Itasca County. This group will be invited.
- **J. Johnson:** We could possibly combine field trip with regular meeting.
- **J. Johnson:** Last year, we wrote a letter to LGUs asking that their watercraft inspectors, when they have time, to rake up vegetation at accesses. Found that some LGUs are already doing it. Also discovered that some LGUs can provide rakes, while it appears to be more difficult budget-wise for others. In addition to Crooked Lake, also doing treatments on Minnetonka for patches in bays. North Arm Bay has historically had a lot of milfoil. They're actually doing a lakewide fluridone treatment. U of M also came out to do a survey. Only found milfoil at about 7 points. Shouldn't have reports of dense milfoil, but likely to have other native plants moving in. ProcellaCOR treatment – you could see the line where they treated. Seeing a lot of re-infestation in areas that haven't been treated – need to think about whole-lake management, not just localized areas. Thinking about the next meeting and field trip, could possibly look at *Phragmites* stands. **J. Dauphinais** agrees, and adds that they will be treating the Anoka County *Phragmites* populations in September. That might be a good time to visit. **J. Johnson** says Christmas Lake has a very intensive inspection process. Previously talked about going to that lake because of the milfoil weevils. **J. Boettcher** says they have been the most aggressive with their watercraft inspection, but still couldn't prevent zebra mussels from entering the lake. **H. Wolf** says we would probably want Sallie Sheldon (lead researcher) to come talk to us about milfoil weevils. **J. Johnson** agreed. Need to think about what there is to see there beyond a beautiful lake. **H. Wolf** says the group could also consider asking Julia Bohnen to give a talk on *Phragmites*. **D. Jensen** says it would also be interesting to see one of the wastewater treatment facilities with *Phragmites*. **H. Wolf** says we would definitely need permission for that. Would probably work with MPCA and Julia on that. There's a facility in Mora with failing native *Phragmites* that Sheryl Bock (MPCA) and Julia are going to visit, so that could possibly be an interesting one to see as well. It seems that all the facilities are doing things differently. Julia could talk about the differences. **J. Johnson** says this sounds like it might have to be a full-day meeting. Would the group be comfortable with that? Or would you rather have a sit-down meeting? **H. Wolf** and **J. Dauphinais** suggest flexibility. Could possibly have sit-down meeting toward the end of the day. Committee agreed that they should do something after the MAISRC Showcase.
- **H. Wolf** asked about the effects of ProcellaCOR. **J. Johnson** says there appeared to be some impacts to native plants but not so much that they won't recover. Some treatments are ¼ acre areas because it gets into the plants so rapidly. Feels like a different tool; drift doesn't seem to be as much of an issue. Was hoping for a tool that would work within lily beds but not sure if this would work that way. Wished we had more monitoring on these treatments – a colleague joked that he might not have enough work next year due to the product.

Difference between diquat and ProcellaCOR is that diquat is a contact herbicide rather than systemic. ProcellaCOR is systemic and fast-acting, so it can get down to the roots. **D. Jensen** says Michigan has been using ProcellaCOR a lot – could ask contacts there about what they’re seeing. **R. Imdieke** asks about the spectrum of this product. **J. Johnson** says it kills broadleaf plants. Gets into milfoils quicker. Will also get into native milfoils. **J. Boettcher** asks if it would work the same at greater depths **J. Johnson** says it could, but it would get expensive because it’s not normally used in deep water since the treatment is based on volume of water treated. **N. Baer** asked about NALMS. **J. Johnson** explained there would be a presentation at NALMS about the whole-lake management he’s worked on with **J. Dauphinais**.

- **P. Hamilton:** Will be working part-time this year. Had an expanding concern with CLP over the past two years, and this year it just disappeared, almost entirely. This might be related to winds in the past years pushing it to one end of the lake. Several lakes have reported very little milfoil this year. Working on collecting native weevils – Keegan Lund and others helped identify Lake Johanna and others as good sources but couldn’t find weevils there. Looking for new sites – considering Lake Independence and collaboration with YMCA Camp. On Norway Lake, will conduct a plant survey next spring to help determine effectiveness of chemical treatments over the next years. Annually harvest 30-40 acres of plants, primarily coontail, on the first 3 feet – seeing some of the vegetation change (more water celery) and changes in the fish structure as well (fewer panfish, larger crappies, predatory fish doing better).

Organizing Thoughts for Meeting with Commissioner Strommen

- **J. Johnson:** The Committee’s charter states that there should be top-down information coming to the Committee from the DNR. Rely on **H. Wolf** to communicate back to upper level management. Would a more formalized method be preferred? **S. Colvin** said current system is working. Governor will be giving an opportunity to weigh in on Vessel Incidental Discharge Act (VIDA) – that made its way up to the Commissioner’s office this morning. With other advisory committees, for example, Natural Heritage, if there are things they’d like to see the agency pursue legislatively, request that information be provided in writing. Can go to **H. Wolf**, **J. Wolff**, etc. However, the first meeting about upcoming legislative session this year occurred during the last week of the previous legislative session – the timeline is long, need all proposals to the Governor’s office tomorrow. Need to plan about a year ahead. **J. Johnson** said that they would appreciate reviewing lists ahead of time, even a year ahead of time. It is difficult to keep track of the legislative process. **S. Colvin** says we need to think about timing on that one – there are points in the process where DNR isn’t allowed to talk about legislative proposals, occurs between May-July. That was the case with the Dayton administration. It’s possible the Walz administration would do things differently. **H. Wolf** says she keeps track of suggestions from the Committee. Feel free to send them in at any time. **R. Imdieke** says the Committee could have a summer meeting entirely focused on what should be recommended to the Legislature. **H. Wolf** will get the specific timeline and will put it on Basecamp to decide when it makes most sense to have a meeting to discuss legislative recommendations. **J. Johnson** says it would be good to get input before the meeting – come with a list of things to talk about. **H. Wolf** says to keep in mind a lot of DNR’s legislative items are fixes (e.g., dead zebra mussels are still zebra mussels), but we’re always open to anything. **S. Colvin** adds the last few years have been minor fixes, though we did have that major funding increase during the last legislative session. **J. Wolff** suggested also meeting with Assistant Commissioner, Bob Meier. He really is DNR’s liaison with the legislature and has deep connections with a lot of issues. **J. Johnson** asks if it would be reasonable to have an annual meeting with upper level management, or is that a waste of their time? **H. Wolf** says the current system is working, but if you’re interested in that, we can pursue that. Bob Meyer is the

highest level you can get to as far as individuals who actually testify on invasive species issues. **J. Johnson** asks about their availability. **H. Wolf** responds that it's hard for Bob, easier for others when legislature isn't in session. Easier if meeting is in St. Paul or over the phone. **P. Hunsicker** informed the Committee that several years ago, the previous Committee had a lengthy phone conversation with Bob Meier during one meeting to get caught up on legislative issues, especially those that affected AIS. Something like that could be arranged again. **J. Wolff** encouraged engaging some of these upper-level individuals because SAISAC's input is very appreciated and provides a deeper understanding of the issues. **R. Imdieke** noted that sometimes legislators will listen more to a constituent than someone they might consider a bureaucrat. **J. Johnson** says the value of this group is the many different viewpoints. **S. Colvin** noted DNR does monitor bills that are going forward and can let the group know of anything that is concerning. **H. Wolf** can pass this information on to SAISAC and you can also follow things online. **J. Johnson** clarified that things do seem to be working well, and that this is just a fine-tuning exercise. **P. Hunsicker** recalled a bill that would have allowed bait to come from out of state, and this group weighed in on that. They wrote letters to legislators supporting the DNR position.

Organizing Thoughts for Meeting with Commissioner Strommen cont.

- **N. Baer:** When treating invasive species, we're really treating a symptom of a problem. How do we deal with that? **S. Colvin** noted that Governor Dayton tried to address this by requiring buffers to protect public waters.
- **J. Johnson:** What is the role of this group (from the Commissioner's perspective)? **S. Colvin** says that having the advisory group develop ideas would be helpful.
- **S. Colvin:** Could ask her about where she thinks the agency is going with AIS management. We're refreshing the Conservation Agenda, which is a plan from the Dept. Leadership. Ask her how she sees AIS and IS in general. And ask, how can you provide input on your views?
- **P. Hamilton:** Would like some information about no-child-left indoors legislation recently passed and how that grant money will be implemented.
- **N. Baer** asked about grants for lake associations to do aquatic plant management/treatments. **J. Johnson** and **H. Wolf** noted that those grants, which went away due to budget constraints, will be re-established with the legislative approval of an increase in the boat surcharge fee, which supports the DNR's Invasive Species Program. **N. Baer** would like to see this continue to be renewed. **H. Wolf** agreed and said this will be contingent on continued funding.
- **P. Hunsicker** suggested the Committee could also ask the Commissioner about another opportunity to meet with her in the future.
- **D. Jensen:** Crayfish (e.g., red swamp, marbled) are an issue. They're coming in from out of state. There are various pathways that are issues. 40 dozen crayfish were received by Habitattitude. Want to develop guidelines or regulations to prevent introduction by that pathway. Some crayfish, Marbled crayfish clone themselves. They are spreading in Europe, climate similar to MN. Freshwater shrimp are another issue, are being cultured in MN and we don't know enough about their potential invasiveness.
- **S. Colvin:** One of the Commissioner's chief concerns, and also a major concern of the new governor, is to get more children and families outdoors, so the Committee could ask her about that.

DNR Updates

- **C. Blanke:** GLRI grant supporting her position with Organisms in Trade (OIT) is funded through end of 2020. Dealing with biological supply, aquarium trade, live food markets, snakeheads, live bait, water gardens, school pets, etc. What are pathways and how do we identify opportunities? Talking with a lot of people including **D.**

Jensen and **J. Glaser** with Enforcement. AIS in trade is moved through different trade pathways, not from one lake to another like most other AIS. **N. Baer** reminds us that non-native *Phragmites* has been used in decorative plant displays (found in Duluth). **J. Johnson** asks if she will be working with trade reps or doing education of the masses. Both, first want to identify priority pathways to focus on. Many originators don't know this is a problem or illegal. **H. Wolf** says we might contact suppliers of red swamp crayfish to educate them. Maybe contacting restaurants. Too many opportunities, so trying to find priority pathways. **C. Blanke** has been working with fairs that give away red-eared slider turtles. Why is this allowed? FDA says you can't give away or sell turtles less than 4 inches. A salmonella risk. Goldfish giveaways also concern. Improving communication and coordination among Western Great Lakes groups. **P. Hamilton** says in schools, raising goldfish is part of the official curriculum. **R. Imdieke** added that the Glacial Lakes Sanitary Sewer District had clogging problems that were due to someone dumping their aquarium contents. **D. Jensen** says he's supported Red Swamp Crayfish boils in the Duluth area. Partnered with Bent Paddle Brewery. 250 lbs served. 400 people attended and they were given information about how to prevent the spread. Called it "Tales and Ales." Red Swamp must be frozen dead to be permitted by DNR for importation. Yes, rusties are smaller but they taste the same, according to **D. Jensen**.

DNR updates continued

- **H. Wolf** brings up non-native *Phragmites*. Are observers correctly identifying it from the native form? U of M did genetic testing and found that 95% is identified correctly. Person who is trained typically gets it right. *Phragmites* situation is not bad in MN. Bad situation in WI, not even working on it in eastern WI because it is so prevalent. Probable origin in MN is wastewater treatment plants. 17 POTWs have been identified. Used as a dewatering agent in wastewater treatment. GLRI money to work with University. Publicly Owned Wastewater treatment plants have been in the loop for many years now. Explaining transport problems. Because of MDA regulations on plants used with the treatment of human waste, when they are removed and disposed, they have to apply herbicide and plow it into the soil. Some push back on requirement that treatment plants cover their trucks when transporting. Meeting with University personnel monthly to do more research on other plants that can be used instead – native *Phragmites* or is there something else? Two places in WI are using native *Phragmites*. Cost is \$1 million per facility to remove and use native instead. Modifications are expensive. Writing comprehensive management plan with the University. Suggestion to categorize it as "prohibited control" instead of "restricted" on noxious weed list. May become prohibited on DNR list and we will work with them on things like cutting seed heads so it can't spread. **J. Dauphinais** asks about timeline. Months to a year to come into effect to change status. **J. Dauphinais** says this could affect what counties can do. On private property, now, we try and work with the landowner and can cover costs. If it becomes "prohibited," it would become illegal to have and the county might no longer pay for removal since it is illegal and must therefore be removed by the property owner.
- State Fair – stop by invasive species display. Sign up to pledge to do your part. In exchange, you get a waterproof cellphone case, which has been very popular.
- Genetic biocontrol symposium. 45 participants. GLRI funded. Included researchers, regulatory agencies, etc. No clear process for permit right now. EPA and MDA also participated. How do you get acceptance about genetic biocontrol from the social side?
- **S. Colvin**: Every 5 years state does a water management plan. Beginning of next 5-year plan. Goes through EQB. Completed in 2020. Focusing on climate change. Randall Doneen is lead for DNR. **J. Dauphinais** asks if this committee could comment on it. How does water management plan address AIS issues?

- **J. Glaser:** Academy class graduating soon with 14 new officers. Filling vacant positions around the state. **J. Glaser** adds that quality of applicants for Conservation Officer Academy is low. We have more vacancies to fill, but we only want qualified people. Performed 9 check stations statewide. 12 officers were involved. Avg. 20% violation rate. Near Duluth, one had 34% violation. Great Lakes AIS Landing blitz, no violations. 93 violations statewide concurrently during that same time. Crayfish issues. Creating pamphlet for officers so they are more knowledgeable about this topic. **N. Baer** says Stearns County Sherriff was asked to attend his lake association meeting to talk about water patrol. Very well received by association. **J. Glaser** says they are trying to get local county law enforcement involved more in AIS enforcement. **J. Boettcher** asks if there is a correlation between drunk boaters and AIS. No studies that **J. Glaser** knows. **D. Jensen** is interested in violation rate at check points. Why is that higher than what we see at public accesses where there are inspectors? Are they coming from out of state? Are they pass throughs who are unaware of our AIS laws?

Discussion of Angling, AIS, and Access Workshops

- **P. Hunsicker** explained the concept of open space format, which was used for these sessions. Allows attendees to set the agenda of topics to be discussed. No DNR presentations, and DNR staff did not facilitate conversations. Attendees who wanted to have a specific conversation would present their idea to the group. By presenting their topic, they also agree to facilitate the conversation and take notes. Everyone gets to decide which conversation they want to participate in. This discussion about angling, AIS and access came about because of some DNR Roundtable fisheries back porch sessions that demonstrated a tension between lakeshore homeowners and anglers over who was responsible for moving AIS around. The reason for these sessions was the hope that once you speak with each other, and listen to the other side's perspective, you will find that you have more in common than in disagreement.
- **J. Johnson** says many attendees wanted to talk about non-AIS stuff like wakeboard boats, stocking muskies, etc. Many thought a trailer sticker campaign would be good, which was tried a few years ago, but was stopped by the Legislature. Hearing conversations, you learn that simple problems are very nuanced. **P. Hamilton** says Brainerd session showed nuances. Need to have more of these conversations. Struck him that property owners can get permits to destroy habitat along their shoreline for water access, and yet they accuse fishermen of destroying habitat. We should be reminded that we shoreland property owners have the right to put out a dock in public waters, which is an amazing right. With that right comes responsibilities. Learned that the fishing community doesn't have a central overseeing organization. It's all based on species. Difficult to connect with one group that represents all anglers.
- **D. Jensen** says take-home message during Monticello behavior science break out was the importance of using science-based information. Also, how do you develop a campaign and implement it at a county level? How can we improve inspections? We need more social science!
- **J. Boettcher** says wakeboard boats was a big topic at the Monticello session. Central inspection was a topic, but they were more concerned about economic feasibility. Concerns with 5-day dry recommendation. Where does that come from? **J. Boettcher's** bass club always cleans the access when they are done fishing a lake. They want to create a positive image.
- **H. Wolf** says lobbyists came in from other states to attend the Monticello session.
- **P. Hamilton** says having Committee members present gave some credence to the gatherings. Information will go somewhere.

- **J. Glaser** talks about wakeboard boats – “Own your wake” campaign has gotten a lot of publicity. **J. Johnson** mentioned that Lund was at the Alexandria gathering and talked about boat design. Where will this go? Don’t know yet. Costs involved. Logistics. Desired outcome is conversation!
- **S. Colvin** says you can’t do anything together until you develop a relationship based on common interests.
- **D. Jensen** agreed and says parties (anglers and lakeshore property owners) aren’t too far off with relation to values. Still lots of finger pointing, however.
- **J. Johnson** asks if fishing tournaments were discussed. **P. Hamilton** says yes, at the Brainerd session. Discussed permit requirements for tournaments and whether or not lake associations need to be notified if a tournament is occurring. In Carver county, 15 boats is difference, according to **J. Boettcher**.
- Additional conversation about wakeboard boat conversations. **J. Dauphinais** suggests AIS awareness info should be included in wakeboard promotions. The issues aren’t just noise and erosion of shorelines due to large wakes. They might be transporting AIS (zebra mussel veligers) in their ballast tanks. **N. Baer** asks how property owners find out about no-wake zones. Typically under the jurisdiction of the Sheriff’s Dept. **R. Imdieke** says information about no-wake zones goes on Sheriff’s Facebook page and gets spread that way. **R. Imdieke** asks about special rules concerning wakeboard boats on smaller lakes. **J. Johnson** says one suggestion he’s heard is to treat wakeboard boats like jet skis, which are regulated. Not sure what those rules are.
- **P. Hunsicker** said that one positive action that came out of the Brainerd session was that lake association members realized that they never invite the fishing community to their lake association meetings. In the future, they promised to do that. Anglers agreed to do the same with their meetings – reach out to lake association reps to include them in their conversations.

Committee’s Legislative Agenda for 2019-2020

- Committee reviewed their 2018 priorities as a reminder. **H. Wolf** told the Committee that they can throw ideas out at DNR anytime.
- **P. Hunsicker** says that one of the 2018 priorities was to track federal legislation and advocate for the federal government to provide more support for state AIS programs. We have a new ex-officio representative to this Committee who represents the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Unfortunately, **A. McGovern** has been unable to attend recent meetings. The Committee should look to her for guidance on federal AIS issues.
- Based on information provided earlier by **S. Colvin** about the DNR’s internal legislative process, the Committee should adjust their schedule and develop their legislative ideas during the winter because in the spring, the DNR starts looking seriously at legislative items. Committee agreed to table this subject until then.

Review of Action Items

- September meeting. With the MAISRC showcase, instead of doing a full-day sit-down meeting, perhaps the Committee can agree to participate in a field trip – non-native *Phragmites* sites in the north metro. A discussion can happen on Basecamp.
- Ask Ryan Wersel to talk about flowering rush, starry stonewort in October. Keegan Lund can also talk about management projects and results. **J. Deurr** can report on any observed boat design changes he sees at the boat show in mid-January.

- The Committee sent out letters to boat manufacturers in MN about boat design recommendations. Received no responses from manufacturers.

Meeting with Commissioner Strommen

- **J. Johnson** asks “What is your vision for lakes and how does AIS fit into that?” **S. Strommen** responds that she has been with DNR for 5 years. Assistant Commissioner before her current position. Also worked with BWSR, nonprofits, and was a locally elected official for 15 years. Brings a diverse perspective. Public engagement is important! Connecting our work to others. Experience spans local governments, non-profits, and as a public official – time in local government has her very aware of how government interacts with the people it serves. Very passionate about out-of-doors. Wants to look out ahead, far into the future, and the relevancy of this agency going forward. Reality is that demographics are changing and demographics of those engaged are not changing. People need personal experiences with outdoors to care about it. Lakes are a great place for people to have those experiences, and there are a lot of opportunities to engage citizen-type groups interested in the health of their lakes. The state’s ecology is changing, largely due to climate change. You will not see me portrayed as having one priority like the former Commissioner did with prairies and grasslands. Climate change needs to be dealt with by this agency. Need to talk about it more. AIS changes how people interact with the environment, and there’s a reaction that happens with climate change, too. These can be issues that create tension, so how can we facilitate conversations between people with different values? We need to find common values and interests. DNR can help facilitate those conversations.
- Familiarity with Committee makeup – diversity of skills, opinions, desires.
- No child left inside legislation. Grant program. Supports high school angling programs. Also, firearms safety in schools. Third aspect is generally available to get kids outside. It is run out of Fish and Wildlife Division of DNR. Not all parameters have been established. \$500,000, which isn’t a huge amount of money, but it can be a platform for getting kids outside. **R. Imdieke** asks if Let’s Go Fishing and Environmental Learning Centers are logical entities to participate. Commissioner responds yes, and it could include community orgs, cultural orgs, etc. Getting Latino and Somali populations involved in Kandiyohi has been difficult, according to **R. Imdieke**.
- **K. Wenner** asked about whether the no child left inside program would include traditional recreational activities, and not just western ways of experiencing the outdoors. **S. Strommen** responded that there are good opportunities there. We also want to meet people where they are. For example, at Somali festivals.
- **N. Baer** says funding for AIS treatments is important and wants to see it continue. Commissioner agrees. Committees like this are helpful to have important conversations and find common ground.
- **D. Jensen** mentions attending the Monticello “AIS, Angling and Access” session – boat operator education is supported. Need for science-based info and need for social science to help understand behaviors and why people do what they do.
- **J. Johnson** explains what committee does and if the Commissioner has something that the Committee could help with, please present it to us. Commissioner says the Committee should feel free to share their ideas with her.
- **N. Baer** says we should be thinking about how we get ahead of AIS that aren’t here yet, but may be coming.
- **S. Strommen** says we need to think creatively and cooperatively. Our landscape is different than other places.

Adjournment at 3:03 p.m. Next meeting may be an organized field trip in late September instead of a sit-down meeting. Many Committee members will be attending the MAISRC Showcase on September 18th and felt that a meeting the next day would be unnecessary. Next sit-down meeting would be October 24 at the DNR Sauk Rapids office.