

Minnesota Statewide AIS Advisory Committee (SAISAC)

October 25, 2018 Meeting Minutes

MN DNR Office, Sauk Rapids, MN

Members Present: Paul Thiede, Jim Boettcher, Norman Baer, Jim Stratton, Tera Guetter, Kelsey Wenner, Justine Dauphinais, James Johnson, Eric Johnson, John Deurr, Paul Hamilton

Members Absent: Jaime Jost, Mary Alverson, Barb Halbakken Fischburg, Donovan Strong

Ex-officio Members Present: Nick Phelps, Doug Jensen, Nicole Lalum

Ex-officio Members Absent: Norman Deschampe

DNR Staff Present: Heidi Wolf, Tina Wolbers, Phil Hunsicker, Mike Duval, and Jackie Glaser (via phone)

Guests: Spencer McGrew (Otter Tail County AIS Specialist), Marsha Bowman (Otter Tail County Office Administrator), Bernie Steeves (Otter Tail County AIS Task Force Chair)

Vice-Chair J. Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Motion to approve agenda by P. Thiede. Second by D. Jensen. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion to approve Meeting Minutes of September 19, 2018 by J. Dauphinais. Second by N. Baer. Motion approved unanimously.

Meeting Summary:

- Five members of the Committee (along with a DNR contingent) attended the recent Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference (UMISC) in Rochester, MN. Attendees shared their overall impressions and favorite sessions.
- Three representatives from Otter Tail County talked about and then answered questions on their Dock and Riparian Use Ordinance, which was created to make sure riparian property owners who buy or sell a dock or lift that is moved to a different waterbody, to respect the 21-day dry law.
- Committee discussed content for their 2018 annual report, which should be released in January 2019. Each of the 4 sub-committees were tasked with coming up with bullet points of accomplishments in 2018 to incorporate into the annual report.
- Sub-committees had a chance to meet and discuss their work plans for the future. Sub-committees then reported out to the larger group.

Motions & Actionable Items:

- DNR will post on its website the handout entitled Initial Response to a New Occurrence of Starry Stonewort.
- **J. Glaser** will share more specific AIS enforcement numbers with the Committee.

- Sub-committees will email their 2018 accomplishment bullets to **T. Wolbers** for inclusion in the 2018 Annual Report.

Handouts:

- Initial Response to a New Occurrence of Starry Stonewort
- Summary of SAISAC Sub-Committees 2018
- Otter Tail County Dock and Riparian Use Ordinance
- Summary and Progress Report of Cattail Project in Voyageurs National Park September 2018

Committee Member Updates:

- **J. Deurr:** Attended another American Boat and Yacht Council (ABYC) summit meeting. Mostly reps from the west. Implementation of ABYC design recommendations is the next phase. Previously shared the report, which **T. Wolbers** posted on Basecamp. Will be attending a conference in December in New Orleans where the design recommendations will be introduced to the whole industry.
- **P. Thiede:** Showed an AIS awareness brochure that went out to every riparian property owner in Crow Wing County. People have seen it and commented favorably on it.
- **J. Dauphinais:** Attended UMISC. Involved with zebra mussel spotter program. Volunteers monitoring settling plates. About 60% response rate from 100 volunteers. Down from 80% last year, but still terrific! All negative results, which is good.
- **E. Johnson:** Shared hybrid cattail removal paper. Removed over 20 acres in Voyageurs National Park. Will see how remaining seed bank responds to removal.
- **T. Guetter:** Denied curly leaf pondweed treatment permit and it spread across the lake. Hiring Ryan Wurzel to do a readiness response plan. Worked with him before. He is with Mankato State. Aquatic plant management (APM) meeting coming up in February 2019. Figuring out agenda. SOS calls from people who are concerned that APM treatments take precedence over treatments needed for management of AIS.
- **N. Baer:** All docks off the lake. Invasive species response plan is an awareness tool for lake residents. Starry stonewort is on two lakes nearby. Response plan explains the process to follow if they see something unusual. Shared moose mascot with the Committee, which is a reminder to not get stuck in the same old thinking. Be open to new ideas. History with Bemidji State. Attended recent gala event there. **N. Phelps** was there to accept an award as outstanding young alumnus.
- **J. Boettcher:** Carver County is finishing up inspections. Zebra mussel was found at a private access on Lake Minnewashta. Carp Solutions is working on carp infestations. Auburn Lake is a 290-acre lake and 3,000 common carp were pulled out. Other area lakes had sizable carp harvests, too. Will be using Judas fish technique this winter to harvest carp under the ice. Looking at introducing sunfish in the spring to eat carp eggs. Not sure of the total cost for the carp removal process. Carp are ground up for fertilizer after applying oil to euthanize them. Funding comes from Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council.
- **K. Wenner:** Busy with education classes. Will be doing AIS monitoring next year. Found one new infestation of Chinese Mystery Snail confirmed in West Twin Lake this year. Found one potential new infestation of mystery snail in Big Lake, still waiting on confirmation. This year boat inspections took place

mostly in August and September. Next year the watercraft decontamination program will hopefully be started in early May and go through the end of September. The AIS program has been busy helping with the “We are Water” project being hosted by FDL at the Great Lakes Aquarium March 10th-April 22nd. The AIS program is also looking into the use of eDNA for early detection of AIS such as rusty crayfish, spiny waterflea, and potentially sea lamprey.

Committee Member Updates continued:

- **D. Jensen:** Attended MAISRC Showcase. Attended Sea Grant week in Portland, OR. Very good CBSM session there. Gave plenary presentation on successes of preventing AIS at States Organization for Boating Access annual conference in Duluth. Co-chaired session at State of Lake Superior conference in Houghton, MI. Presented on non-native species found in Lake Superior harbor vs. those found in the lake. Two reports out identifying more non-native species in harbor. Found six non-native species new to Lake Superior. Not a lot of info on them and their potential for any impacts. One species of concern is Bloody Red Shrimp, which has also not shown any impacts in the Great Lakes. A lot of activity around UMISC. Habitattitude surrender event in Duluth. Rehomed 7 fish. Reasons for bringing pets to the event were: fish had outgrown tank, and son had become disinterested. Many had seen advertisements for the event, which increased their awareness of the issue.
- **N. Phelps:** Thanked Committee for feeding research needs to the Minnesota AIS Research Center (MAISRC). Reviewing ideas in-house. Also reviewed by DNR and MAISRC advisory board. Final selections will be released as a Request for Proposals next week. Then, job is to find researchers to match up with priority ideas. 20 presentations given by MAISRC at UMISC. **D. Jensen** says that UMISC was the largest AIS conference in the world. 715 attendees. Minnesota was well represented and respected as leader in AIS work. More terrestrial emphasis than aquatics this time at 72%. **J. Johnson** says that aquatic vs. terrestrial attendees were poorly mixed in sessions. Gave example of Keegan Lund’s aquatics presentation that was in a session with mostly terrestrial talks – there were only a few aquatics people in the room.
- **J. Johnson:** Thanked **N. Phelps** and others at MAISRC for their research process. Participated in it. Nice job. UMISC was very good. Adam Doll’s residual water study was interesting. ProcellaCOR talk for Eurasian watermilfoil control. Field trials look promising. Case studies in Minnesota and other states. Lake-wide use of fluridone to control milfoil. Results were that milfoil disappeared and natives appeared to be untouched. Similar results in Minnesota and Wisconsin, without knowing that the other was doing similar research.
- **N. Lalum:** Ice fishing centerspread coming up. Articles on Explore Minnesota website reference DNR information about AIS. Private accesses are at resorts. Each year, there are large resort gatherings/conferences. Having some AIS education at those venues would be good. Could use Starry Trek program as an example for volunteers checking private accesses. Maybe DNR or someone else could present at one of the resort conferences. April Rust from the DNR has attended those in the past to provide Lake Service Provider training.
- **P. Hamilton:** Dealing with health issues, but future looks good. Glad to be back. Plank institute at the Blake School. Topic was environmental learning. 20 educators in audience. Thought this group would be open to our message on AIS. Received questions like: Why should I pay more for a boat registration? I already pay high taxes. Why are people fishing under my dock? A lot of different perspectives. Attended Minnesota Outdoor Heritage meetings. New focus on what we have in common, not what divides us. New tone, which is encouraging. CBSM experience in middle schools. Recycling with 6th graders in cafeteria. 70% said it

affected their awareness of the issue. 64% said they pay more attention. 48% said info coming from fellow students was more important than info coming from adults. Minnesota is revising state science standards this year. Slash detail and focus on cross-cutting issues. Engage kids in process. Positive developments. Hoping to get AIS info included. Histories and relationships can get in the way. Showed kids the importance of building relationships. Norway Lake Association is working with Cass County for a broader lake management plan. Can focus on managing native vegetation. Norway Lake is an impoundment and just 13 feet deep. **T. Guetter** worked with DNR to do a preserve at Sucker Creek and get students out there. Did mock planning commission meeting with students. Looked at development potential. Environmental viewpoint. Realtor viewpoint. Good exercise for students. Real life example was Detroit Mountain, which was threatened by development. Local interests got involved and were able to keep it as a ski resort.

DNR Updates

- **T. Wolbers:** Met CBSM contractor at UMISC. His name is Ken Donnelly. He moderated a CBSM session. Busy putting together an expert panel. Also developing a long list of behaviors. Will look at likeliness of adoption, what is not being done now, and which would have the highest impact. Will be surveying sectors this winter on those top-tier behaviors. Survey work will be done by consultant, who has experience doing a nationwide survey about AIS across Canada. **T. Guetter** asks what age groups to be surveyed? **T. Wolbers** guesses they have to be at least 18, but we can ask consultants. **T. Guetter** wonders about competitive high school fishing clubs popping up around state and our ability to tap into those kids.
- **M. Duval:** Didymo. Previous discoveries in New Zealand and Montana. Fisheries found it in Poplar River in Minnesota. Press release coming out soon. A surprise. Diatom that likes cold water. Making note of it. With cold temps, we're continuing to search. Clean, drain, dispose is still a viable message when active in streams. Not sure it's a problem. Not classified as an invasive species. **D. Jensen** recommends 5% salt solution (2 cups/3 gals) to soak soles of boots/waders followed by tap water rinse. Didymo likes low phosphorous conditions in water. When it freezes, it looks like frost on the rocks. Records of Didymo in Lake Superior since 1940. Global distribution, according to **M. Duval**. **D. Jensen** says massive bloom occurred in Rapid City, South Dakota. Another in Pennsylvania. **M. Duval** says it prefers shallow, groundwater-fed streams. Will freeze all the way down, which may provide some control. Additional sampling – visual census – this fall. **D. Jensen** suggests looking at streams in southeast Minnesota as anglers move frequently between Arrowhead region and southeast. Winona County is actively monitoring trout streams for anything unusual, according to **T. Wolbers**. Didymo watch cards are available through Sea Grant (will bring to next meeting).
- **J. Glaser:** Enforcement news. 150 officers statewide. Conservation Officer Academy coming up to add more staff in the field. 11,000 hours of AIS enforcement and education by staff in 2018. Aviation unit also active with AIS issues. 3,000 acres of hybrid cattail sprayed. Highly effective. Working on delegation agreements with counties to encourage counties to use local law enforcement more than before. **N. Phelps** asks what percentage of CO hours is dedicated to AIS. There are 2,080 hours per conservation officer (CO), which covers everything. Can try and break it down. **P. Thiede** asks what **J. Glaser** wants counties to do with regards to enforcement. Wants more local law enforcement involved – take a bigger role since COs are spread so thin. Sheriff's office is also spread thin, according to **P. Thiede**. Mostly, want good working relationships. **J. Dauphinais** wants numbers on violations this year. 95 tickets issued. Compliance rate is

85% for all AIS work Enforcement does. Includes check stations. Did 9 this year. Can share specific numbers via email.

- **H. Wolf:** provides a couple more updates.
 - Ann Pierce is the new deputy director of the Ecological and Water Resources Division. Don't know when her previous position will be filled – probably after elections.
 - DNR Invasive Species annual report for 2018 is being compiled right now.
 - Minnesota Wild's "This is Our Ice" campaign. Using filtered lake water from around the state to fill their rink. Agreement with DNR requires them to do some kind of AIS education. Maybe play PSA before games. Possible AIS booth in concourse.
 - Wright County has pulled together a group to discuss the future of the regional inspection program. Not all are on the same page in Wright County. Float Your Boat concept. Put boat in hydrogen peroxide bath. Need to talk with Dept. of Agriculture since it is not registered for that purpose. No outcomes yet from this year's project. Will present their yearly summary info to their county board on December 11th from 11:00 – 12:30. DNR COs cannot enforce county ordinances, but any peace officer can enforce state AIS laws. To give county ordinance authority to COs there would need to be a legislative change.
 - DNR will post the document entitled, "Initial Response to a New Occurrence of Starry Stonewort" on the DNR's website.

Discussion of UMISC

- Members who attended the conference shared information that they learned there.
- **H. Wolf** says 26 people from the DNR invasive species program went, and other DNR program sent representatives too. Thanks to **D. Jensen** and **T. Wolbers** who were involved in the conference planning process.
- **T. Wolbers** suggests people share an interesting presentation/topic that they attended at the conference.
- **H. Wolf** says the mapping session where Laura Van Riper (DNR Terrestrial Invasive Species Coordinator) talked about how the system can auto-load pins to where the surveyors are – this could be used for watercraft inspection, so there is less data entry error. Appreciates learning new things that can be applied to enhance existing programs.
- **J. Johnson** found the red swamp crayfish presentation by someone from Michigan interesting. The crayfish cause issues when they burrow into the shoreline. Erosion could be big cost for municipalities in stormwater pond management. He also learned the crayfishes can move long distances.
- **J. Johnson** had a good discussion with the CD3 Company, which is now developing a "phone booth" version with just a few tools. He has been working with a lake group that is interested in this equipment along with the addition of a stop line on the pavement to increase awareness/visibility of AIS prevention at the water access. How much does it cost? About \$10,000. **J. Boettcher** comments that he still doesn't see the value in the units; he already has those tools with him. **J. Johnson** says the lake group is more interested in the awareness component. It would be helpful to track the number of users and number that just drive by. It's another tool. **D. Jensen** adds he has been working on the backside of their project; they have a research project proposal to answer many of the questions that have been asked here today. **J. Johnson** asks, what could this group do to support the research project? **D. Jensen** says they just need money. A letter of

support would be helpful. **N. Phelps** adds that MAISRC recently worked with CD3 to submit a proposal to the SBIR grant program and were able to supply letter of support. A related topic is on MAISRC's high priority research needs list. **J. Johnson** asks, wasn't there an RFP on decontamination? The business could partner with a researcher. **D. Jensen** clarifies that the proposal was more a sociological experiment. For example, what about all the people that aren't always taking action and those that never take action? Can we move the needle using social norms and personal messages? **P. Hamilton** shares a recent experience where he observed boats leaving an access where a couple drove off without doing anything, but also saw a couple with some disabilities trying to remove vegetation with a cane. He notes that the age of the average fisherperson is increasing, and it's going to become more and more difficult to get to those hard to reach areas. He asked **J. Deurr** if trailer manufacturers are involved with the group he is working with on boat design. **J. Deurr** responds yes, one was involved.

Discussion of UMISC continued

- **J. Dauphinais** appreciates the greater Midwest perspective at the conference. It is interesting compared to where we are in Minnesota on some things. For instance with non-native Phragmites, Minnesota is in a unique position. If we devoted the time and resources we could address the issue. **N. Phelps** adds that the non-native Phragmites project at MAISRC is ongoing – they are going to produce management resources at the end of their project. **H. Wolf** adds once we know more about what is on the landscape, it will help with decisions. **J. Dauphinais** adds that there is viable seed reproduction in Minnesota. Their presentation also talked about changing its status to a prohibited invasive species. **K. Wenner** asks, has the Duluth group been working with the cities group? She is on the Duluth group and they already have been managing non-native Phragmites in St. Louis River Estuary for the past year. There is a huge disconnect. Duluth has already been doing early detection and actively managing it. **J. Johnson** suggests contacting Dan Larkin, he is a good resource.
- **J. Dauphinais** mentions one more presentation, the common carp “bait and switch” where they are getting piscicide into corn bait; but it is no longer a registered pesticide. The USGS is working on re-registering it.
- **D. Jensen** provides more conference statistics, saying there were 330 attendees at the first one and now 715 at this one. 300 presentations. 8 field trips. 6 workshops. Large symposium Great Lakes BIOTICs. 30 sponsors. 39 posters. 49 exhibitors. CABI presentation on biocontrol in Switzerland. Dan Larkin's starry stonewort desiccation study showed that everything dies in 72 hours. That reinforces the Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers! Campaign message of clean, drain, dry and 5 days dry. **J. Johnson** adds the lunch speaker was great. **D. Jensen** adds they received good media coverage with 10 media pick-ups. There was even a tweeting contest.
- **K. Wenner** appreciated the management tracker mapping application. More than just early detection, now can track management effort. Cool tool.
- **N. Phelps** says the biocontrol talk provided a nice overview with both wins and failures – shows the breadth of attempts. Group from Cornell conducting prioritization of hot-spot at risk areas – looking at establishment and introduction risk, to prioritize surveillance specifically in consideration of endangered species. Looking more at ecological impacts. Nice venue to see region, county, and worldwide efforts.
- **P. Hunsicker** found the presentations about water soldier, European frogbit, and Hydrilla interesting. In New York they are finding Hydrilla in areas with no human activity, concern waterfowl may be moving it.

- Members discussed the overall format and logistics of the conference.
 - **P. Hunsicker** felt kind of overwhelmed with PowerPoints. He had conversations with other DNR staff thinking about how we can keep people's attention, tell more stories, etc.
 - **J. Johnson** says there were a lot of sessions, but not enough networking time. Networking is a huge part of it.
 - **N. Lalum** shares an example conference that put different people at a table and had them pick a topic to discuss.
 - **T. Guetter** says she received similar feedback from her MAISRC event, they would have liked to have 15 minutes to discuss and digest what they just heard.
 - **J. Johnson** suggests maybe a break in the middle of the day not during a mealtime where the speakers will be available to talk to conference attendees informally.
 - **J. Johnson** says his was one of the last talks and wonders how to keep people around for the entire conference? **D. Jensen** says they try to bookend sessions with interesting presenters.
- **J. Dauphinais** mentions one more presentation called "ISM track," which appears to be Minnesota led.
- **M. Duval** mentions a presentation about risk pathways, susceptibility, and mining data specific to Duluth – spatial relationship and characteristics of individual lakes. The website is www.Data.nrri.umn.edu/ais and the presenter was Josh Dumke, whose research was funded by St. Louis County.

Presentation on Otter Tail County's Dock and Riparian Use Ordinance

Guest Speakers: Spencer McGrew, Marsha Bowman, and Bernie Steeves representing the Otter Tail County AIS Prevention Program

Summary

Otter Tail County has 62 townships, 1,049 lakes and 122 launches. The issue of docks as a vector became very clear when in 2011 a piece of equipment was placed into Rose Lake encrusted with live zebra mussels. The person was fined, but it was small. In 2012 the state passed the 21-day dry time requirement. The county formed the AIS Task Force in 2012, comprised of lake property owners, resorts, hunting/fishing guides, and advisors like SWCD, DNR, and Sheriff's Office – met monthly. The county board funded it before the state aid started. When the aid became available in 2014 and payable in 2015, the program really took off. The county expanded watercraft inspections, signage, working with schools, and closing gaps in knowledge with the public mainly at the boat ramps. The County Commissioners directed the AIS Task Force in 2017 to "do something about docks and lifts." It took about a year of research and working with county attorney, DNR, etc. For instance there is a dock and lift "bounty" in Stearns County – if you verified it was out for 21 days, you got a check. They found an existing Otter Tail County ordinance governing the placement of docks, lifts, piers, boat lifts in the water. The AIS Task Force thought this was a good place – they were able to get an amendment to Section F. It requires registration with the county if it is a used "dock, pier, wharf, or boatlift" and that it must remain dry for 21 days, in addition to all existing requirements of State Statute 84D. Works to raise attention to the 21-day dry rule. It is enforced by the sheriff. **S. McGrew** handles the registration. They used "bulk mail" to send out a flier to 24,000 addresses, primarily riparian, using the auto mail system in county post offices. Cost was \$8,500 total for printing and mailing. It was sent just before Labor Day and **S. McGrew** received lots of calls. Right now at least 20 people officially registered equipment. They already have a success story – they received a call from a resort

owner on Clitherall Lake, a neighbor noticed a lift encrusted with dead zebra mussels intending to get it placed into the water. Enforcement followed up with them. It was a teachable moment. If this system wasn't in place, could that have been a new infestation? Speaks to the system is working. Community policing. Lake property owners are involved with their neighbors and their lake. The public has been very receptive. They had a public hearing – one lake service provider was there and was very supportive. There is no on-site verification. One thing that came out of the public hearing was how to deal with other certain types of water-related equipment, like sea legs. State law is quite clear those are part of the watercraft. The implication was that the ordinance could potentially apply to sea legs and self-lifting boats. That is beyond the jurisdiction of the county, but has been talked about quite a bit. **B. Steeves** adds that a type of event that is gaining popularity is called “tunes on toons,” which brings a band to perform on a lake. Prior to this, pontoons were not moving, but now they are for these events. Otter Tail Lake had 500 pontoons at one event. Pontoons are difficult to clean. They need this group's help with addressing those. **S. McGrew** adds that pontoons are moving around more according to their data. The county is constantly balancing public use with protecting the waters. Do we make those folks, the ones with sea-legs/self-lifting equipment without lakeshore property wait 21 days before moving their boat? Doesn't seem fair.

Discussion

- **J. Johnson** asks, how are you tracking? A tag or sticker? **S. McGrew** responds that right now it is based on the county's ice damage repair policy; which between April 1 and 30 allows lakeshore property owners to call and push back the shoreline to where it was. People call in to report they are moving their equipment. Citizens are invested in this. The data we have now is more than we had before. The log, an excel spreadsheet, includes their first name, last name, date, address, description of equipment, where it last was, when it was last there, where it is going. Whoever is moving it – buyer or seller. Only applies to equipment being moved from one body of water to another.
- **J. Johnson** asks, does DNR or LSP track this information? **H. Wolf** says it is not a requirement. Permitted service providers have the knowledge of the laws, but don't have to keep records.
- **P. Thiede** asks, how many have been registered? **S. McGrew** responds 20, mostly boat lifts. Since June. But received about 100 phone calls.
- **P. Hunsicker** asks, are you able to gage how the seller is connecting with the buyer? Craigslist? Newspaper ads? Setting docks and lifts at the side of the road with a for sale sign? **S. McGrew** responds that Mike Bolinski (DNR Watercraft Inspection Supervisor) advised them that Craigslist is a popular way as well as any buy-sell-swap or for sale sign. **P. Hunsicker** adds that understanding how most docks and lifts are sold and how connections are made between the buyer and the seller could help us more accurately target specific buyer-seller pathways and craft appropriate messages.
- **N. Phelps** asks, do you have a guess on the compliance rate? **S. McGrew** responds not yet, because they have such a small sample size right now, but in the spring they should have more data.
- **S. McGrew** reminds the group that their goals are to gather data, spread the word about AIS prevention, and raise awareness about the 21-day dry law.
- **J. Stratton** says eventually you're going to have to tag. For instance, every semi that goes down the road has a tag. Like a seal on a power box. Suggests looking at doing it at the point of sale.

- **J. Johnson** asks, are other counties interested? **S. McGrew** responds Carver County asked them for more information. We want to learn and we want to share. Maybe seals are the way to go, but is that a county-wide or statewide issue? People need to have consistency at a statewide level with these AIS laws.
- **N. Phelps** says Bemidji State is testing tagging with a lake service provider right now. The data you are collecting is very important, we can't do the research without that data. Both this Committee and DNR submitted the movement of docks and lifts as an issue in their research prioritization process.

Discussion continued

- **S. McGrew** did contact lake service providers and they are already doing it and already bought into it.
- **J. Johnson** says I'm a lake service provider. I want all my clients to know I'm doing everything that needs to be done. There is a huge incentive already.
- **T. Guetter** asks, could we take this template and add it to the shoreline ordinance template?
- **J. Johnson** adds from a perception standpoint, coming from the county rather than DNR is more of a partnership approach.
- **D. Jensen** says the flier is great. The soft sell is good. There has been talk about tags for docks. It could be done with lake service providers putting them on used docks as well as manufactures could put on new ones.
- **S. McGrew** says not many have unique identifier, but it would be helpful to include on new equipment.
- **M. Bowman** adds that the county line shouldn't matter. That's where it needs to be a team effort and for consistency.
- **H. Wolf** asks about "tunes on toons" – how are they making money on that? **B. Steeves** says they have people on jet skis with buckets going around collecting money.
- **N. Lalum** says she went to one on West Battle Lake. There is an "ice bar" in the winter that she believes is the same company that does the tunes on toons in the summer.
- **S. McGrew** adds that it is new and oversight by the government is not quite there. The county commissioners created a task force. **M. Bowman** adds they do have to have permits to do stuff on the lake.
- **N. Lalum** asks, what about swim rafts and trampolines and floats? **M. Bowman** responds, you can't cover everything. They are starting with something concrete. The regulations already address it. **H. Wolf** notes docks/lifts are higher risk anyways.
- **P. Hamilton** asks, how many pieces do you think are on the lakes? **B. Steeves** says there are 1,500 parcels of land on Otter Tail Lake alone.
- **P. Hunsicker** mentions the DNR's community-based social marketing project. We asked our consultant to do a literature review on pathways. There is a lot on boater movement, a fair amount on aquarium trade, but very little on docks and lifts. We want to make sure they don't base future work only on the literature available. **N. Phelps** agrees, there is no data on it.
- **P. Hamilton** says it would help knowing how many properties, how many pieces of equipment, and how many might be moving around. In particular, it would be helpful to show MOHAW and other sportsmen groups those other pathways.
- **P. Hunsicker** says earlier there was some effort by counties to try to get a warning out on Craigslist for every dock/lift sale, but no one had any success connecting with the right person at Craigslist. **D. Jensen** adds

Facebook marketplace is another place. **J. Johnson** says lake associations have a huge interest in this. Neighbors know who might be buying and selling.

Discussion continued

- **D. Jensen** asks what's your budget? \$10,000 set aside by the AIS Task Force. **S. McGrew** says it has only taken a small amount of his time so far. They produced 24,000 fliers.
- One of the 6 PSAs done by filmmaker Erika Gilsdorf covers 21-day dry time.
- **J. Johnson** asks, is there a centralized place for counties to get this kind of information? **H. Wolf** and **P. Hunsicker** mention the county google group/forum and the annual workshops. **T. Wolbers** adds, us DNR Planners. That is our day to day work. Connecting counties with others doing similar projects. **M. Bowman** adds they are part of the Top 10 Counties group and sharing with others that way.
- **S. McGrew** adds that the county has a new website and information is there. Kind of have a Facebook presence. The county has a social marketing effort going on. **D. Jensen** mentions for the Habitattitude Surrender events, Tim Campbell with Wisconsin has been buying Facebook ads instead of traditional fliers/newspaper ads. They are very inexpensive (\$50) on a per contact basis
- **N. Phelps** asks, what would be the cons of rolling this out statewide? Why wouldn't this be done everywhere? **P. Thiede** notes to make sure counties aren't the ones doing all the collating. **H. Wolf** says it would need legislative support, it would need to be required. In general people don't want to be tracked or have their privacy infringed upon – which this could be perceived as. Once it is required, it would be logistics and people. It would need to be a lot of partnership and a budget for it as well. **N. Phelps** asks, is this a DNR priority? **H. Wolf** says it is on our list of concerns and we are looking into it on the behavior side of things with CBSM, we have addressed it through the LSP requirement.
- **T. Guetter** recommends to the legislative subcommittee to add this to their list.
- **P. Hamilton** points out that Otter Tail is gathering important data to see if it is doable and if broad scale implementation is feasible.
- **S. McGrew** says one of the watercraft inspection survey answers is "LSP." They could look at that data too. All these snapshots lead to better picture. Someone mentions that lake associations do surveys of their membership – they could add a question like "have you bought or sold a dock/lift." **D. Jensen** suggests when people call for information, you could ask them how many pieces of equipment they have. Also, make sure numbers assigned are unique identifiers. Numbers could be unique to each county, similar to the watercraft inspection survey site numbers.
- **J. Johnson** asks, how do you tag a dock system when they just sell pieces? Street address might be a better way, rather than the pieces of equipment. Or at least a description with the registration, like this contains 6 pieces.
- **N. Phelps** says DNR fisheries inventories habitat things on fish lakes, they might have data to share. **J. Johnson** adds it is amazing what you can see on Google Earth.
- **S. McGrew** says two of their SWCDs do lake assessments. Could add to that a shoreline development index.
- **H. Wolf** says this is exciting and thank you! You are collecting very important information. You are also sending a message too.
- **B. Steeves** says their AIS Task Force has 95 to 100% attendance – amazing interest and participation. It has really made a difference.

Discussion of Content for Annual Report

- **T. Wolbers** explained the purpose of the report – to share with the DNR Commissioner, DNR staff, legislators, and groups the members are affiliated with to showcase the work of the Committee.
- Looking for a volunteer from the Committee who would be willing to draft an outline for 2018. No volunteers.
- It's pretty easy to put the report together by simply reviewing summaries, which are part of the monthly meeting notes that are posted on the DNR's website.
- Need pictures to place into the report.
- Committee felt it would be appropriate to simply update information and follow the same format as the 2017 report.
- Can sub-committees update their sections? Sub-committees should use part of their discussion time today to come up with up to 5 bullet points about their accomplishments during 2018 that can be used in the annual report. Members will email **T. Wolbers** their list, and a draft report will be shared for review at the next meeting. Shooting for a January 2019 release.
- Committee members should think about organizations with whom the SAISAC annual report should be shared. For example, what audiences would be interested in hearing about the work of the legislative sub-committee? The research sub-committee? The SAISAC, in general?

Sub-Committees Report Out to Large Group

Research

- Participants: **J. Dauphinais, N. Phelps, J. Johnson, J. Deurr, N. Baer**
- Their group had a bit of an identity crisis and were looking at role that the subcommittee plays. For instance, the review process of the research priorities wasn't done as a subcommittee.
- They decided that every 2 years they will do the MAISRC research prioritization exercise, but they would prefer to review the DNR's list first, and then advise on that. They could tack things onto the DNR list as needed.
- They will also work with the legislative committee to support funding for more research.
- They will help advise DNR on how to cooperate with MAISRC.
 - MASIRC does research, but there is not a great way to get that information to DNR for management implications. Therefore, this Committee could push turning research into management actions. Then they would also have DNR come back and tell the Committee how research results were taken up.
 - **H. Wolf** asks if they could provide some examples. **N. Phelps** clarifies there is no bigger discussion – instead the researcher talks directly to a manager at DNR, but there is no discussion with the broader stakeholder group. Phragmites is a good example.
 - This Committee is not aware of the discussions being had between managers and researchers. And if something is not done, the public doesn't know why.
 - **T. Guetter** adds, for those of us actively managing, sharing that information with others is important.
 - **J. Johnson** says the Committee is a filter with maybe some re-prioritization.

Review DNR Programs

- Participants: **J. Boettcher, J. Stratton, P. Thiede**
- Their list included addressing private lot issues, docks and lifts and water-related equipment, local accesses, plant management, and community-based social marketing.
- **J. Boettcher** mentions a concern about data collection and tracking – for instance a boat comes into an access with zebra mussels and inspector says go to the decontamination station – where did that boat actually go? **H. Wolf** says they get flagged and enforcement is following up with those. The other challenge is that information isn't always available at the access – information is going into the database, but not going back out to the inspectors. This is because most don't have Wi-Fi access, the device stores the data for uploading later. **J. Boettcher** shares another example at Lake Waconia, when Minnetonka had the no-wake rule, they caught 4 in one day and 8 the next day with zebra mussel attached. Seeing that pattern would be helpful for inspectors. **H. Wolf** says the data is downloaded about every week so that counties can access it. Adam does webinars on how to interpret the data, e.g. using pivot tables. Data is not going back directly to the inspectors, but the program managers can share that information with their inspectors. The “hot” answers get flagged and forwarded onto enforcement, for all inspections. **J. Boettcher** asks, what about verification of decontamination? **H. Wolf** that is a difficult one. Some people just want to know if something was decontaminated, but others want verification in order to bypass inspection – which is not something we are excited about for many reasons.

Communication

- Participants: **P. Hamilton, D. Jensen, N. Lalum**
- This group determined the existing bullets from 2017 reflect the work in 2018. For example the docks and lifts issue, AIS Summit, UMISC, the way that various members reach out to others about the Committee's work, etc.
- They would like to see advancement of CBSM at multiple levels – maybe a short primer and a more of a practitioner level as well.

Legislative

- Participants: **T. Guetter, K. Wenner**
- Their list included support program funding especially for invasive aquatic plant management (IAPM) grants, AIS prevention training for current boat owners, increasing signage for decontamination stations, and shoreline ordinance for docks and lifts.
- They feel IAPM should get their share of permits first before APM permits are issued. Not sure if a legislative change or rule is needed, but they want to look into it more.
- They were also not sure what happens to these priorities. How can we help advocate for those at the legislature?
- Skype session with Commissioner Landwehr would be nice.

Adjournment at 2:57 p.m. Next meeting to be held at the MN DNR Sauk Rapids Office, 10:00AM-3:00PM, November 29, 2018. Tentatively scheduled to be part of the agenda is to have the Committee review and approve draft of SAISAC Annual Report.