











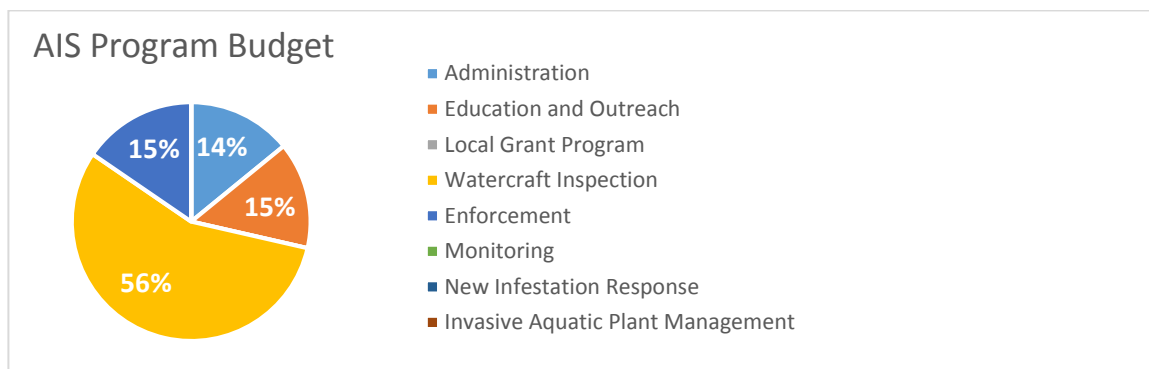
Otter Tail County's AIS Prevention Aid Program: A Snapshot of Accomplishments in 2019

Program Summary

Category	Metrics
 AIS Prevention Aid Used	<p>\$ 427,861.28* AIS Prevention Aid used in calendar year 2019 per Auditor's Report 1/7/20 *does not include calculated cost of AIS Deputy's salary of \$47,564.72, which due to accounting, will be processed with 2020 dollars.</p> <p>\$ N/A saved in a contingency fund</p>
 People Doing AIS Work	<p>1 full-time staff dedicated to AIS work</p> <p>N/A part-time staff dedicated to AIS work</p> <p>N/A seasonal staff with AIS duties (other than inspectors)</p> <p>25 Level 1 Watercraft Inspectors of which, 9 were trained as Level 2</p> <p>\$ 237,770.20 spent on watercraft inspector wages</p> <p>\$ 66,912.55 spent on AIS Specialist wages through 12/30/19 (includes FICA and PERA, Gross salaries \$59,868.66)</p> <p>5 Volunteers conducting AIS work (AIS Ambassadors)</p> <p>745 Volunteer hours served (Otter Tail Lake Property Owners Association AIS Ambassadors)</p>
 Partnerships	<p>Organizations engaged and/or actively conducting AIS work using AIS Prevention Aid:</p> <p>1 Coalition of Lake Associations</p> <p>N/A conservation nonprofits and outdoor groups (angling, hunting paddling, sailing, etc.)</p> <p>64 businesses</p> <p>1 local governments</p> <p>2 partnerships with surrounding Counties</p> <p>Our county [does] have an AIS Task Force or Committee</p>
 Funds Distributed and Leveraged	<p>\$ 30,200 in appropriations (AIS Prevention Aid to other organizations)</p> <p>2 organizations</p> <p>\$ 13,378.75 in additional funds leveraged</p> <p>3 organizations contributing additional funds</p>
 Communities Engaged	<p>6 events held about AIS or that included AIS topics</p> <p>500 residents and visitors reached about AIS during events</p> <p>9 in-school presentations about AIS</p> <p>709 children taught about AIS</p>
 Watercraft Inspected	<p>13,697 inspections performed</p> <p>13,072 hours of inspections performed</p> <p>98 accesses covered by inspectors (unique case numbers)</p> <p>83 water bodies covered by inspectors</p> <p>96.52% of watercraft recorded as arriving with drain plugs out</p> <p>1 decontamination units in operation</p> <p>N/A boaters engaged by AIS Volunteers/Ambassadors at water accesses</p>

Category	Metrics
 Law Enforcement Supported	27 local law enforcement officers trained on AIS laws 1 local law enforcement officers conducting AIS work 1993 boaters contacted by local law enforcement
 Monitoring Conducted	0 lakes and rivers surveyed for AIS 0 zebra mussel settling plates deployed 0 water bodies where veliger tows were taken 0 aquatic plant surveys conducted 9 volunteers trained and/or active as AIS Detectors 3 people participated in the University of Minnesota Extension and AIS Research Center's "Starry Trek" event
 New Infestation Response Planning	\$0 spent on new infestation response(s) N/A new infestation response(s) coordinated Our county [does not] have a new infestation response plan
 Invasive Aquatic Plant Management (IAPM)	0 water bodies with IAPM activities (funded with AIS Prevention Aid)

Program Spending Summary



Success Stories

2019 marks the 7th year of Otter Tail County's Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program. Among the achievements: 25 Watercraft Inspectors conducted 13,697 inspections at 98 public water accesses in 2019, a new record for the program. Of the 8,000 entering watercraft 86 were prevented from launching with aquatic plants hanging from them. 78 watercraft were prevented from launching for containing residual water. 11 watercraft were prevented from launching due to attached Zebra Mussels. 96.52% of watercraft arrived with the drain plug removed, an increase from 95.31% in 2018.

A decontamination unit was placed at Otter Tail Lake Sportsman's Public Water Access and staffed daily from May 24 to September 6. 158 decontaminations were performed in 2019. 5 AIS Ambassadors sponsored by the Otter Tail lake Property Owners Association assisted Otter Tail County Watercraft Inspectors at the Sportsman's Public Water Access to support decontamination operations. 745 hours were logged by the AIS Ambassadors in 2019.

As part of the Sheriff's Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program 27 sworn officers maintained the training required to enforce aquatic invasive species laws. The full time Aquatic Invasive Species Deputy made 1,993 contacts with boaters and issued 20 warnings and 15 citations for aquatic invasive species violations.

Lastly 709 students from 9 classrooms and 8 school districts participated in the Train the Teachers to Train the Kids Program.

Reports and Products



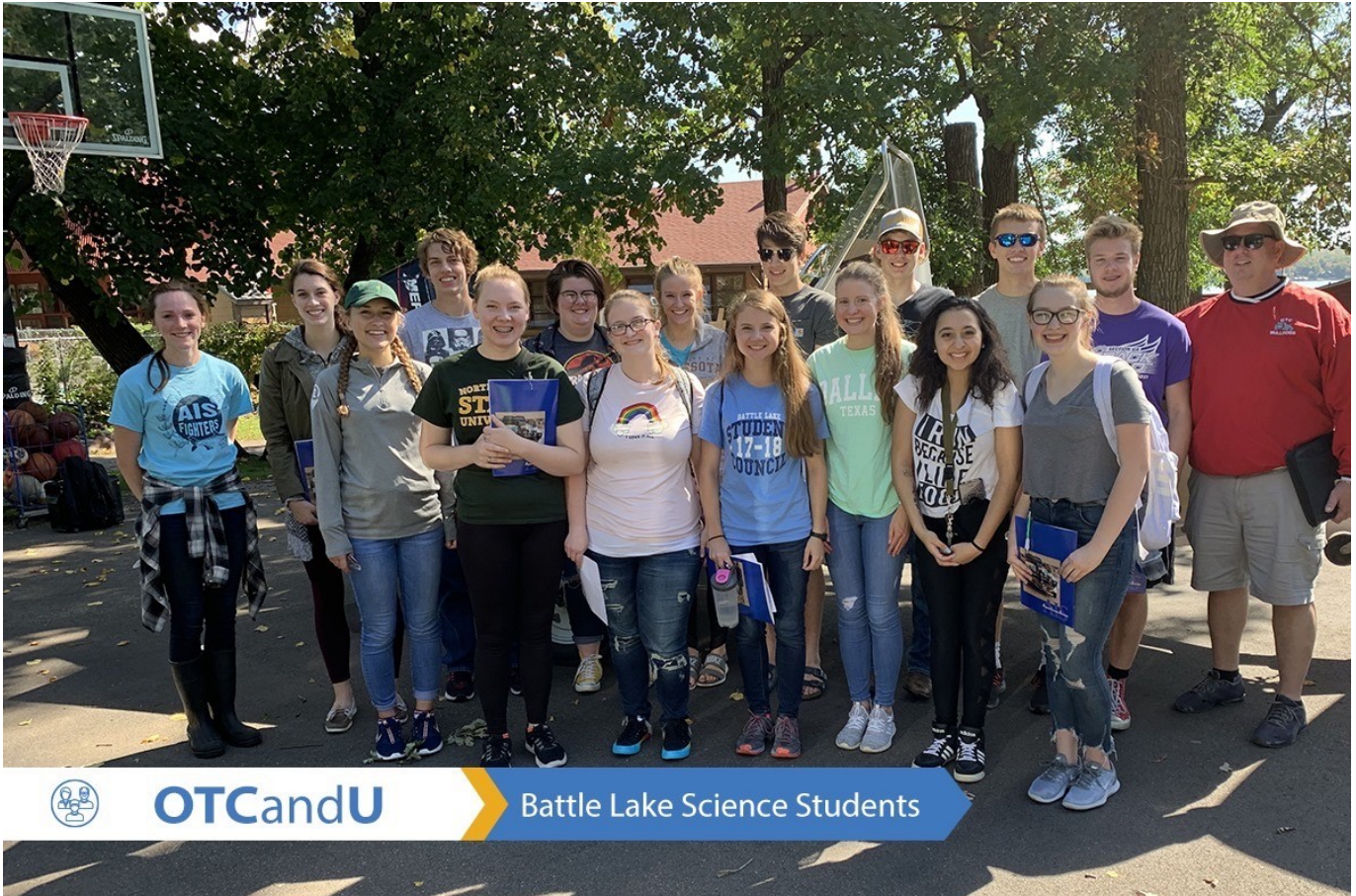
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AIS Decon Station

Hunter Eldien, Otter Tail County Level 2 Watercraft Inspector, cleans up after conducting a watercraft decontamination at the Otter Tail Lake Sportsman's Public Water Access, Summer 2019. The decontamination station was staffed 7 days a week from May 24 to September 6, 2019. 158 decontaminations were completed. The Otter Tail Lake Property Owners Association provided 5 AIS Ambassadors to assist in decontamination operations. The Ambassadors logged 745 hours in 2019.



Commissioner Betty Murphy, center left, Sheriff Barry Fitzgibbons, far left, Land and Resource Director Chris LeClair, center right and Spencer McGrew, Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist, welcomed attendees from across the state to the Minnesota Association of Planning and Zoning Administrators annual conference, October 2019. Among the subjects of the conference, Otter Tail County officials and staff lead discussion on the County's Dock and Riparian Use Ordinance. The Ordinance requires registration of docks and lifts when moved from one body of water to another. 50 pieces of equipment were registered in 2019.



Students from Mr Himmelspach's science class from Battle Lake Public School pose at Fair Hills Resort, Pelican Lake, September 2019. They had just completed an Aquatic Invasive Species pontoon tour of the lake. Students were shown how scientists conduct research and how Aquatic Invasive Species impact natural ecosystems. 709 students from 9 classrooms and 8 school districts in Otter Tail and surrounding counties participated in the Train the Teachers to Train the Kids Program in 2019.



Watercraft Inspector Bill Rollie greets a boater at the Otter Tail Lake Sportsman's Public Water Access, Otter Tail Lake.



Otter Tail County Deputy James Iverson demonstrates how to lawfully transport live bait at the Kids Public Safety Open House, May 2019, Fergus Falls Minnesota. Officer Iverson made 1,993 contacts with the public in 2019.