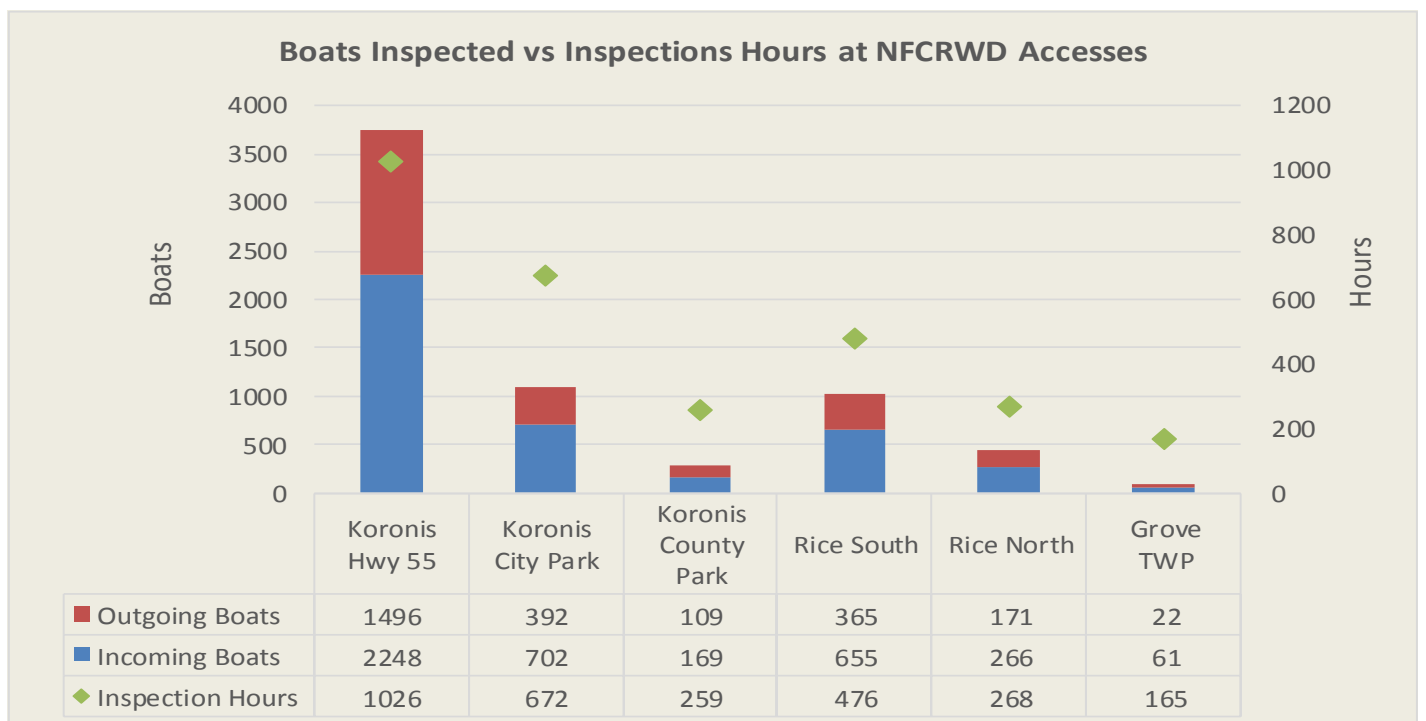
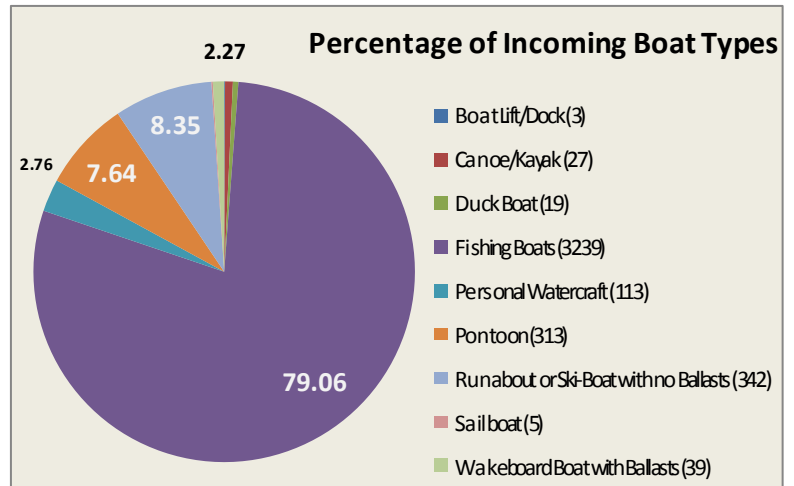


2014 AIS Boat Inspections Recap

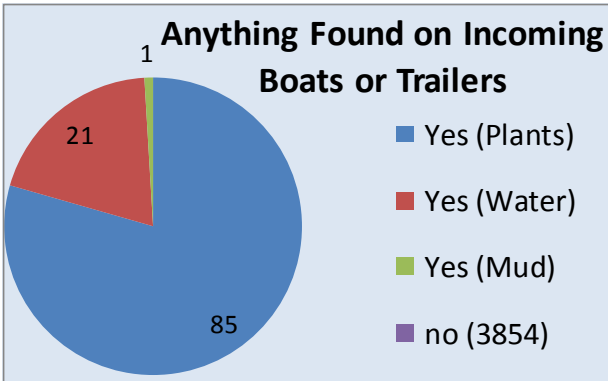
The North Fork Crow River Watershed District (NFCRWD) employed five Level 1 watercraft inspectors during 2014. The inspectors were trained by the MN DNR to inspect boats entering and exiting public boat accesses on the District’s recreational lakes. Contributors to the project included the Koronis Lake Association, NFCRWD, MN DNR, Paynesville TWP, City of Paynesville, Meeker County, Rice Lake Association, Union Grove TWP and Grove Lake Association. Both the NFCRWD and the Koronis Lake Association received DNR grants for financial aid and a DNR Intern that worked approximately 40 hours a week at the Hwy 55 Koronis access, respectfully.

During each watercraft inspection, the inspectors completed a DNR survey (results of questions are represented in tables and graphs), discussed MN AIS laws with boaters and completed a visual and physical inspection of boats entering or exiting waterways. Completing these processes with boaters increases the knowledge of AIS and self-inspection techniques, reducing the risk for AIS infestation in District waters.

The boat inspections went well and most boaters were very cooperative with the inspection and survey. Inspections/surveys took less than 5 minutes, unless there was an issue with the boat, i.e. weeds on the boat, plug in the boat, water in the live well. The NFCRWD will be continuing the AIS inspections program in 2015.



What was learned from Inspections

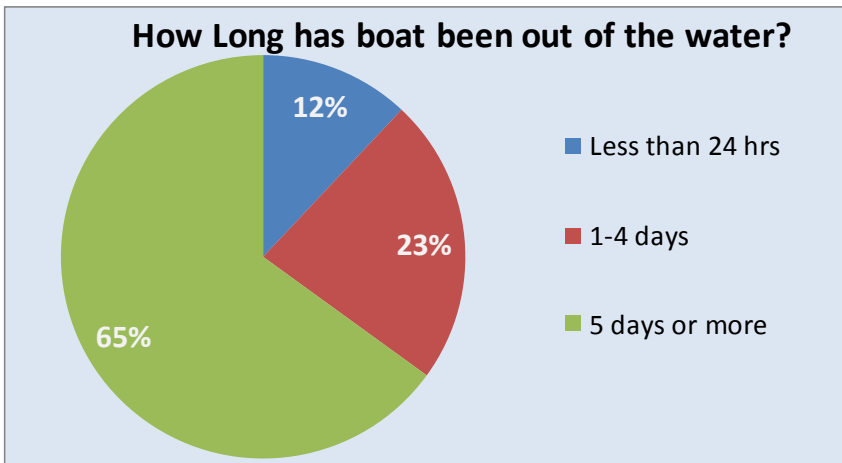


Drain Plug on Arrival

| Category | Count |
|----------|-------|
| In | 150 |
| Out | 3855 |

| Incoming Boats Last Lake Visited | Number of Boats |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Koronis | 1479 |
| Rice | 521 |
| Unknown / Does Not Know | 159 |
| Horseshoe (Stearns) | 94 |
| Green (Kandiyohi) | 66 |
| Clearwater (Wright & Stearns) | 56 |
| Washington (Meeker) | 35 |
| Out of State | 32 |
| Leech (Cass) | 31 |
| Big Fish (Stearns) | 28 |
| Eden (Stearns) | 28 |
| Mille Lacs | 24 |
| Grand (Stearns) | 24 |
| Diamond (Kandiyohi) | 23 |
| Minnewaska (Pope) | 20 |
| Mississippi River | 19 |
| Minnetonka (Hennepin) | 17 |
| Pearl (Stearns) | 17 |
| Sugar (Wright) | 17 |
| Buffalo (Wright) | 16 |
| Stella (Meeker) | 14 |
| Ripley (Meeker) | 13 |
| Lake of the Woods | 12 |
| Gull (Cass) | 12 |
| Minnie-Belle (Meeker) | 11 |
| Andrew (Kandiyohi) | 10 |
| Winnibigoshish | 9 |
| Miltona (Douglas) | 8 |

Zebra Mussels are transferred when attached to boats, trailers, docks, boat lifts or other equipment that are placed in water. The juvenile mussels can be transferred from lake to lake in a very small amount of water. Having a drain plug in a boat can greatly increase the spread of zebra mussels. Zebra Mussels can also survive out of a lake on boats for 29 days, depending on weather conditions. A boat coming from a contaminated lake that is not completely dry or decontaminated (high pressure wash with 140°F water) can spread zebra mussels.



Grant Funds and Contributions 2014 AIS Program

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| KLA | \$ 8,666 |
| NFCRWD (+ ~100hrs) | \$ 4,000 |
| DNR Grant to watershed | \$ 4,000 |
| DNR Grant to KLA of 1/2 490 hours of inspection | \$3,675 |
| Paynesville TWP (thru LKA) | \$ 7,500 |
| City of Paynesville | \$ 4,300 |
| Meeker Co (thru KLA) | \$ 4,000 |
| RLA | \$ 2,500 |
| Union Grove TWP (thru KLA) | \$ 1,500 |
| GLA | \$ 300 |
| 2014 Total | \$40,441 |



Lakes infested with AIS

Green—Milfoil

Blue—Zebra Mussels

Red—Zebra Mussels and Milfoil

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