

Stressors to Adirondack Waters – 10/16/2020

How frequently can you repeat visits to high risk lakes?

With the lakes that have a higher chance of having an AIS introduced, we try to survey them every 1-3 years through either our professional or volunteer monitors.

What are the potential responses for milfoil - is there anything that really works?

This is a challenging question. Diver hand harvesting works but is expensive. There is a new herbicide call procellacor that is showing great promise

How many invasive found and cleaned from water crafts that stopped at water steward stations?

We inspected over 100,000 boats this summer and found about 300 with invasive species

Is there a way to set a limit on how far your boat can be from the park in order to limit the spread of the invasive?

Not at this time, though there is a law that makes it illegal to transport invasive species

What are you doing about the invasives that are in the lakes?

There are several things happening, boat launch stewards are inspecting and cleaning boats at nearly 100 launches around the region, and some lake associations are hand harvesting invasives to control their spread.

I would like to read the study from Vermont showing a potential 16% drop in property values due to intense invasive plants. Can you provide a reference or source for this ?

Thank you. "Zhang, C., Boyle, K.J., "The effect of an aquatic invasive species (Eurasian watermilfoil) on lakefront property values." Ecol. Econ.

This is a question primarily for Dan Kelting, earlier in the semester there was an opportunity to become certified in identifying aquatic invasive species, will there be another opportunity to offer that certification program for those who may have missed it? Or, is there somewhere we could go on our own and become certified?

We will be offering this again next spring, make sure you are signed up to get announcements by visiting our website adkwatershed.org and sign up on the contact form that pops up

Is there an initiative to increase the number of boat wash stations on Lake Champlain or elsewhere? Would more stations increase the likelihood of more boaters using them?

There are about 5 boat wash stations run by AWI on Lake Champlain currently. These are stationed on the highest traffic boat launches and boaters exiting Lake Champlain are encouraged to have their boat washed. The use of the boat washes continue to increase year after year as boaters get more used to them.

Are non-motorized lakes/waterbodies regulated or monitored by the Boat Steward program as much as motorized lakes in the ADK?

APIPP and ADK Mountain Club have a volunteer program that monitors lakes/ponds that are non-motorized. Fewer of these lakes have AIS, but there are some that do.

Once an invasive species is already in the lake, how do you take care of the species?
Do you harvest the species?

How the AIS is managed depends on the species. We have multiple lakes that hand harvest invasive Eurasian watermilfoil. We also hand harvest water chestnut and European frog-bit. In lakes that have established, widespread populations, the management is mostly to minimize that impacts that it might have.

Are there any plans to setup a boat wash on Osgood / church ponds?

To my knowledge, there are no plans for a boat wash station for Osgood/church plans. The boat wash stations are currently positioned on lakes that have AIS so that we can wash boats as they exit and will not move AIS to uninvaded lakes.

Are you seeing any correlation between bodies of water with impacts from road salt, having increased invasive species?

I don't think that this has been looked into yet in the Adirondacks, and I don't know if research has been done in other regions. I'd say that it is possible that the stress of road salt on native systems would make them more susceptible to AIS becoming established and thriving

Is there anyway to remove these invasive species that have already infected ADK water? Also, how quickly do the invasive species spread once they hit the new water or does it depend per species?

Unfortunately the cost of doing so would be astronomical at the park-scale. AIS do take some time to spread once established, from years to decades depending on the lake? It's very hard to remove AIS once they are in a lake. Options of management and success of management depends on the species. For example, water chestnut can be hand harvested successfully. Spiny waterflea have no form of management at this time.

Should we stop using salt around campus because of lower at. Regis?

We do see detectable influences of road salt on Lower St. Regis Lake. It would be wonderful for PSC to serve as a model for salt reduction. The Sustainable Winter Management (SWiM) Program is one option for salt reduction at the business/commercial level that the college could explore pursuing.

What are the consequences of alternatives such as brine?

Brine is generally a better option because it allows for a lower application rate and doesn't scatter off the road surface.