

# **AIS Strategy Team**

**Recreational Activities**

**Drafting Team**

# The RAT

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# Problem Statement

- **Importance of Great Lakes recreation**
- **Recreational activities as vectors of AIS introduction and spread**
- **Impacts of AIS on recreational activities**
- **Importance of collaboration in preventing new introductions and slowing the spread**

# **Performance-Based Goal**

**As of 2010, no new aquatic invasive species will be introduced to, established within or spread about the Great Lakes basin through recreational activities.**

# Ongoing Efforts

- **Research**
- **Policy and Legislation**
- **Regulation and Enforcement**
- **Planning**
- **Control and Management**
- **Outreach**
- **Materials**
- **Educational Programs**
- **Other**

# Ongoing Efforts

## Government

- Federal
- Regional
- State
- Tribal
- Local

# Ongoing Efforts

Educational Institutions and Programs

Environmental/Conservation Organizations

Other Citizen Organizations

Business and Industry Associations

# Ongoing Efforts

**Even greater capacity, collaboration and financial support is essential to accomplish the goal of preventing AIS introductions and stopping their spread.**

# Alternative Approaches

## *Mandatory*

**Supplement with laws, regulations and enforcement.**

**Early detection and rapid response, control and management also play important roles in a well integrated approach.**

# Alternative Approaches

## *Voluntary*

**Best to use constructive approaches that encourage responsible behavior.**

**Strategically focused, comprehensive outreach and education programs that empower and support individuals, organizations and communities have the greatest potential for preventing new introductions and slowing the spread of established species.**

# Recommended Strategies

- **Public outreach and education programs focused on prevention**
- **Early detection through ecological assessments and monitoring**
- **Rapid response planning and collaborative implementation**
- **Control and management programs**
- **Laws, regulations and enforcement**

# **Outreach and Education**

**Target recreational users, especially boaters and anglers. By 2010,**

**1 – Congress will authorize and appropriate necessary resources -- \$32.4 million.**

**2 – 4 million boaters and 2 million anglers will be aware of issues and personal responsibility through education.**

**3 – 95% of boaters and anglers will take preventive actions.**

# Outreach and Education

- 4 – Five most important recreational user groups will adopt preventive behaviors.
- 5 – 40 communities in strategic locations will conduct prevention programs.
- 6 – Program effectiveness will be evaluated.
- 7 – Next generation of recreational users become aware.

# **Early Detection and Rapid Response**

**Give government agencies the necessary legislative authority and financial resources to conduct effective programs.**

***Early Detection:***

**By 12/31/2007,**

- 1 – Congress will authorize and appropriate \$2 million to conduct ecological assessments.**
- 2 – Agencies develop accessible, integrated and centralized reporting program.**

# Early Detection and Rapid Response

## *Early Detection*

3 – 70% of GL anglers and boaters will be skilled at AIS identification and understand risks.

4 – 35% of GL boaters and anglers will participate in early detection programs.

# Early Detection and Rapid Response

## *Rapid Response*

- 1 – By 12/31/07, Congress will provide \$50 million annually to support state and interstate management plans that include rapid response plans.**
- 2 – By 12/31/05, Congress will authorize and appropriate \$15 million annually to support a USFWS GL AIS rapid response program.**

# Early Detection and Rapid Response

## *Rapid Response*

- 3 – By 12/31/05 Congress will authorize and appropriate \$1.5 million to establish a federal interagency rapid response team.**
- 4 – By 12/31/05 Congress will authorize and by 12/31/07 appropriate a \$10 million grant program to fund research, development, demonstration and verification of AIS control/eradication approaches.**

# **Control and Management**

**Establish programs that interrupt pathways of AIS introduction and spread.**

- 1 – By 12/31/06, federal agencies will initiate the research program outlined in RR, Objective 4**
- 2 – By 12/31/05, Congress will reauthorize NISA.**
- 3 – By 12/31/07, federal agencies will develop the capacity to control and manage AIS in addition to sea lamprey.**
- 4 – State management plans will be developed and fully funded for effective implementation.**

# **Laws, Regulation, Enforcement**

**Adopt effective laws and enforce them.**

- 1 – States and tribes will establish comprehensive AIS programs and provide long term funding to support them.**
- 2 – States, federal agencies and tribes will adopt consistent regulations prohibiting the transport of AIS and aquatic vegetation.**
- 3 – Federal, state and tribal governments will provide information on AIS regulations and preventive behaviors to recreational users and businesses.**

# The Bottom Line

- **Five + years of intensive effort**
- **\$360 million + investment**
- **No new AIS introductions, no more AIS spread!**