

DRAFT

DRAFT

33. Exotics Transport

Recommended Actions:

Efforts to educate users of the St. Louis River System about the importance of preventing the spread of ecologically harmful exotic species should be enhanced and coordinated between the states of Minnesota and Wisconsin. Additional regulatory measures to restrict the transport of these species into uninfested areas should be evaluated and enacted if feasible.

Implementors:

Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species, MDNR, State of Minnesota, WDNR, and State of Wisconsin.

Actions Taken:

4/98: Follow up letter sent to WDNR.

11/00: MDNR Exotic Species Coordinator: MDNR has rotating watercraft inspections at access sites to educate boaters. A field guide is handed out the first time. For future reference, a sticker is placed on the boat to indicate that the boater has received the guide. Signs are posted at access sites that state:

1. The area is infested.
2. How to prevent the spread of exotics.
3. Reminder to stop and remove exotics from watercraft.

Information about exotics is included in boating and fishing regulation booklets that are given out when people apply for licenses. Radio and TV spots have been run in Duluth as well as billboards and press releases on the ruffe. Work with Minnesota Sea Grant and use of their exotics information cards. MDNR can issue tickets for violations at road checks and boat launches, but they have not done this in the Duluth area. Any transport of water on public roads from an infested waterway requires a permit regardless of the amount.

Project Status:

Project not completed, but there are one or more agencies currently working on it.