

Invasive Species Management in Michigan

Kevin Walters – Aquatic Biologist
MI DEQ Water Resources Division





- Leaders in Environmental Stewardship
- Full Partners in Economic Development
- Excellent Customer Service

Water Resources Division

- **Protect and Monitor...**
 - 4 Great Lakes
 - 11,000 Inland Lakes
 - 36,000 river miles
 - 5 million acres of wetlands
 - 70,000 acres of coastal dunes**...for swimming, fishing, drinking water and healthy aquatic ecosystems.**

Water
use

Water
quality

Invasive
species

Invasive Species Definition (from Michigan's state management plan)

*“An invasive species is defined as a species that is
not native and whose introduction causes, or is
likely to cause, economic or environmental harm or
harm to human health.”*



06Z Radar Image from National Weather Service: KMLB 23:43 UTC 08/13/2004
Lake City



ANIMATED BY PETER DEBIA AND JEFFREY L. SMITH
WRITTEN BY MICHAEL BASS AND BRIAN WINTERSON - PRODUCED BY LARS JENSEN
COMING IN DECEMBER



Invasive Species Can...



- Homogenize our landscapes
- Lower diversity
- Outcompete native species
- Cause health concerns
- Degrade habitat
- Alter food webs
- Limit access
- Lower property values
- Change hydrology
- Cost you money!



Why should we care about invasive species?



They're expensive!

State of Michigan Invasive Species Program:

AIS & TIS Teams

Department of Environmental Quality

- Water Resources Division
- Office of the Great Lakes



Department of Natural Resources

- Fisheries Division
- Wildlife Division
- Parks & Recreation Division
- Law Enforcement Division



Department of Agriculture & Rural Development

- Pesticide & Plant Pest Management Division
- Animal Industry Division



Others

- Department of Transportation
- DNR Forestry
- Attorney General



Michigan's AIS State Management Plan

Goal 1: **Prevent new introductions** of AIS into Michigan waters

Goal 2: **Limit the spread** of established populations of AIS into unfested waters of the state

Goal 3: Develop an **early detection and rapid response** program to address new AIS invasions

Goal 4: **Manage and control** AIS to lessen the harmful ecological, economic, social and public health impacts



Michigan's TIS State Management Plan

- Ready by end of 2015
- Stakeholder review process – Late winter/early spring 2015
- 2016 funding

4 Opportunities for Volunteers to get Involved in Invasive Species Monitoring/Prevention



1) Clean Boats Clean Waters

2) Mobile Boat Washing
Demonstrations

3) AIS Landing Blitz

4) Exotic Aquatic Plant Watch

CLEAN BOATS CLEAN WATERS



What is it?

- Volunteer program to organize a boater education program in your local community to help prevent the introduction and spread of AIS
- Volunteers show boaters how to inspect, clean, drain and dry their boats and equipment at boating access sites

How can I learn more?

- Contact Beth Clawson (MSU Extension) at (269) 657-8213 or clawsonb@anr.msu.edu

Clean



Drain



Dry



DEQ/MSU/USFS Boat Wash Partnership



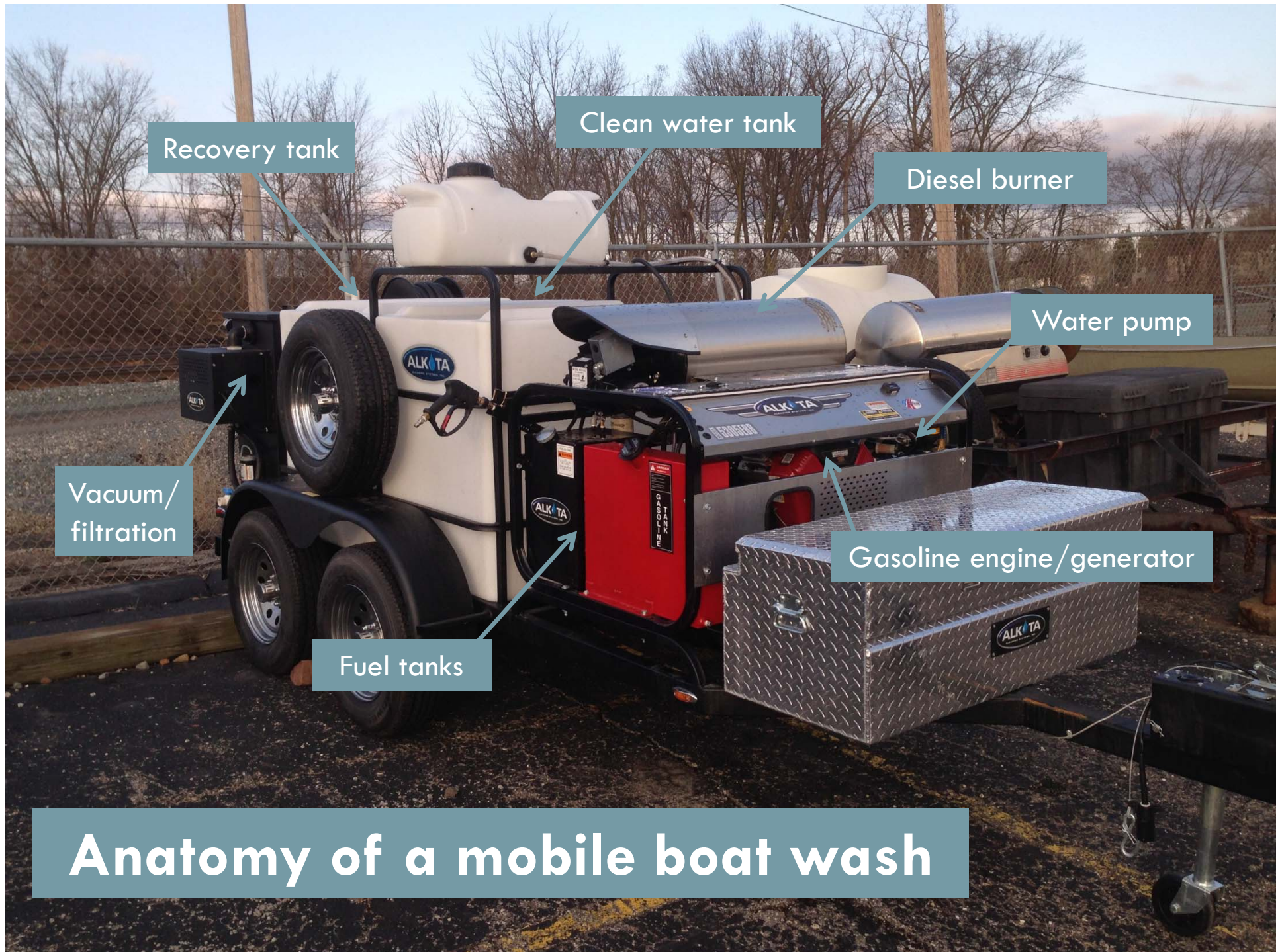
- Over 500 impressions (messaging to individual people)
- 137 boats washed
- Over 30 events/locations visited
- Contact Kevin Walters (waltersk3@michigan.gov) or Jo Latimore (MSU) to learn more

Boat Wash Stations (mobile/permanent)



- Pressure washer w/ hot water (~140-160 degrees F)
- No soap/chemicals recommended
- Water recovery and recycling

**Interested in a demonstration or partnership at your access site?
Contact Kevin Walters at waltersk3@Michigan.gov**



Recovery tank

Clean water tank

Diesel burner

Water pump

Vacuum/
filtration

Gasoline engine/generator

Fuel tanks

Anatomy of a mobile boat wash



AIS Landing Blitz (2nd Annual – Summer 2015)

What is it?

Coordinated statewide outreach event to raise awareness among boaters/anglers about the spread and introduction of AIS

AIS Landing Blitz 2014 (June 6-7, 2014):

- 12 boat landings across Michigan
- 770+ impressions
- 128 boats washed
- Lots of volunteer help! (Thank you!!!)

For information about taking part in the 2015 AIS Landing Blitz, contact Kevin Walters – MDEQ (waltersk3@michigan.gov)

2014 AIS Landing Blitz



Exotic Aquatic Plant Watch Program



Protect your lake by having a plant expert teachers volunteers how to sample their lake for invasive aquatic plants

To learn more or sign up, visit the MiCorps/CLMP website at Micorps.net

Exotic Aquatic Plant Watch Program

DEQ has sponsored:

- Field visits by experts to new lakes in the program
- Distribution of the book *A Michigan Boater's Guide to Selected Invasive Aquatic Plants*
- General promotion and growth of the program



Parrot feather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*)



Origin: S. America
Pathway: Aquarium and water garden trade
Current Distribution: First confirmed occurrence in Michigan – Erie Metropark (Brown Co.) from fall 2013









Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program



Program Purpose: Provide funding & technical assistance to prevent, detect, eradicate and control TIS/AIS

Program Goals:

- CISMAs available in all areas of Michigan
- Respond to 90 early detection sites
- Provide outreach to 750,000 citizens
- Expand efforts where opportunities exist

Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program



How much funding is available?

- Minimum of \$3.6 million and up to \$5 million

Who can apply?

- Local, federal, or tribal units of government, Non-profit organizations, Universities

What are the grant limits and match requirements?

- Minimum grant amount is \$25k
- Applicant must provide at least 10% match
- More points awarded for more match

Full details, handbook and application available online at
www.Michigan.gov/InvasiveSpecies

Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program

Program Areas of Focus:

Focus Area 1: Regional Cooperative Prevention, Detection, Eradication, and Control

Focus Area 2: Integrated approaches towards treating EWM and other aquatic invasive plant species

Focus Area 3: Reduction of forest disease incidence and transfer

Focus Area 4: Prevention of new forest invaders

Focus Area 5: Enhancing public reporting, species ID, and documentation of treatment histories

Focus Area 6: Other projects

Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program



Schedule

Request for Proposals Begins

October 22, 2014

Grant Applications Due

December 5, 2014

Applications Approved & Announced

February 15, 2015

Project Period Begins

Upon execution of grant

Project Schedule

Follows Work Plan

Progress Reports

Oct. 31 & April 30

Final Project Report

December 30, 2016



Thank you!

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DEQ Website:
www.Michigan.gov/AquaticInvasives

DNR Website:
www.Michigan.gov/InvasiveSpecies