

ISCCW 2018 Operating Plan

As Approved by the Board 1/16/18

As in past years, the ISCCW will continue its policies of education, eradication, and prevention as its primary orientations during the open water season.

With the help of the US Forest Service, we will operate three (3) boat washers throughout the summer months beginning with one washer at Thunder Bay on Lac Vieux Desert the first Saturday in May and all three in service May 15th. We will also service the tribal spear fishing at ice-out if requested by the tribe. We will continue this service until mid-October depending upon the weather. Our educator will continue attending local events (i.e. Lake Association meetings, Forest Service Events, Library programs, USFS Visitor Center Information Nights, parades, etc.) maintaining a constant positive presence in the public eye. In addition, the coordinator will continue the responsibility for the scheduling of hours of operation and locations for our boat wash units. Finally, the coordinator will be responsible for coordinating ISCCW events, such as on water training and student involvement projects. Two workshop/seminars were held in 2017 both of which were highly successful. Another workshop is in the planning stages for 2018. Details will be provided in March and April. Frequent press articles will be provided by the Education/PR Committee, giving further exposure to the ISCCW, its mission, and its overall involvement within Watersmeet Township.

All washers will be put into service with continued emphasis on targeting boats launching and exiting infected lakes so as to prevent boats from transporting invasive species from those lakes to lakes which may not be infected and to prevent the introduction of new invasive species to a lake already infected. Boat washers will be assigned to priority lakes based on fishing pressures, known tournament schedules and effectiveness based on past history. Our informational trailer will again be stationed at the BP on the Michigan/Wisconsin border. NOTE: *Schedules may be subject to change as the year progresses and 2017 use data becomes available.*

As in the past we will continue to work closely with our partners on our Township waterways.

- 2017 was the last year of our MISGP grant. Although grant money is no longer available, we will continue to monitor township waterways with the resources available.
- We were successful in receiving a RAC Grant for 2017 and 2018 for our work with our partners on Lac Vieux Desert; allowing us to increase our monitoring, diver assisted suction harvesting and hand pulling on LVD. We are also funded to do some terrestrial invasive shoreline survey work.
- Assistance may be available in the permitting and treatment of other lakes in the Township with known or new outbreaks of invasive species. Our level of participation on additional waterways, which may come to our attention, will be dependent on the level of infestation and assistance required and our available resources.

As time and resources permit, our contracted biologists will also be busy doing “meander surveys” and monitoring of various other waterways which are known to have had problems in the past or which are deemed to be susceptible to problems in the future. As in past years we continue to work closely our partners; Township Lake Associations, the USFS, the MDNR, WePIC, IBCD, the LVD Stakeholders Group, Watersmeet Township and the LVD Tribe.