

ISCCW Operating Plan 2025

Continue our main goal and mission of education, prevention, and eradication of Aquatic Invasive species (AIS)

- Complete bylaws update and review by an attorney before adoption.
- Continue monitoring and mitigation of Crooked Laked.
- Continue to strengthen our relationship with the Watersmeet Township and other communities with our presence and partnership.
- Strengthen our community partnership and relations with the LVD Tribe.
- Continue to pursue new grant opportunities.
- Work to increase the ISCCW membership.
- Continue to our partnership with MSU's outreach specialists.
- Continue to expand and build on the Annual Musky Expo event.
- Increase and strengthen our fund raising endeavors.
- Increase the public relations of the ISCCW's outreach.
- Support aid to lakes with ISCCW financial assistance.
- Continue to the Wake Boat Ordinance/Legislation as defined in our position paper.

Our boat washing operators continue to be the face of ISCCW. The boat washing season of 2024 was very successful. Our boat inspection work at landings offers free boat and trailer washings; the best way to control the spread of AIS. This also provides the opportunity to make contact with boat owners and operators to educate and spread awareness of AIS. Thanks to our ISCCW Boat Washers in 2024:

- 9,453 total watercraft/trailers inspected
- 19,844 total individuals contacted by the boat washers
- Lake landing sites served: Thousand Island, Misery Bay (LVD), Thunder Bay (LVD), Crooked Lake (Sylvania Wilderness), Big Lake (Palmer Bay), Duck Lake, Palmer Lake
- 3,883 total power washed watercraft/trailer

ISCCW will begin operation of our boat washing beginning the first Saturday in May at Thunder Bay on Lac Vieux Desert and Big Lake. We will continue with additional service once Michigan Opening occurs on May 15th. We plan to operate at Duck Lake Landing, Thousand Island Lake Landing, and Misery Bay Landing on LVD. Occasionally, schedules may change as boat washers will be assigned to priority lakes based on fishing pressures, known tournament schedules, and effectiveness based on past history. We will continue this service until mid-October, depending upon the weather.

Our Education Director continues scheduled attendance at local events (i.e. Lake Association meetings, Forest Service Events, USFS Visitor Center Information Nights, parades, etc.) and to maintain a constant positive presence in the public eye. Our educator will be responsible for coordinating ISCCW events, such as water training, special community events and student involvement projects. In cooperation with Iron County Lakes & Streams Partnership we will continue to hold events with MSU Extension as well as sponsor summer events with LOLA. 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. An ISCCW sponsored annual event, Musky Expo, at Northern Waters Casino has been added to the education and awareness endeavor. This year it is on March 29th.

As in the past we will continue to work closely with our partners on our Township waterways. Our funding for 2025 will come from the Township of Watersmeet, the USFS, member donations, and pending grants if we are selected. 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.

We continue to monitor area lakes for EWM infestation with possible hand pulling and/or chemical treatment in future years. 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. We will be emphasizing streams as well as lakes as our resources permit. We will also be spending time on water quality as it effects AIS. 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.