



2016 Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination Report

Background

North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District (NSLSWCD), Vermilion Lake Association (VLA), and Burntside Lake Association (BLA) were all granted St. Louis County Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention funds to implement watercraft inspection and decontamination programs in 2016. NSLSWCD acted as the Local Governing Unit (LGU) for the VLA program. The City of Ely and Morse Township acted as the LGU for the BLA program. Each program purchased two Landa ECOS 7000 portable and self-contained decontamination units. Vermilion decontamination units were stationed at the Y-Store (Tower) and the Country Store (Cook) from 6/03/16 – 9/24/16. Burntside decontamination units were stationed at the Ely Chamber of Commerce from 6/03/16 – 8/18/16, and stationed at Van Vac Landing from 5/26/16 – 9/18/16.

Level 1 Inspectors have DNR authorization to inspect watercraft and deny access if necessary. Level 2 Inspectors have all Level 1 authorization, as well as authorization to use decontamination equipment.

Summary

Lake Vermilion

- Total Watercraft Inspector Hours: 6,979
 - Level 1 Inspector Hours: 5,688
 - Level 2 Inspector Hours: 1,291
- Total Watercraft Inspections: 12,562
 - Entering Inspections: 6,755
 - Exiting Inspections: 5,784
 - Courtesy Inspections: 23
- Inspections Per Hour: 2.2
- Entering from In-State: 6,075 (90%)
- Entering from Out-of-State: 680 (10%)
- Drain Plug in on Arrival: 62 (0.9%)
- Vegetation/Water/Mud on Arrival: 34 (0.5%)
- Require 1-way Transport for Prohibited Species: 11
- Number of Decontaminations: 240 (4%)
 - Y Store (Tower): 135
 - Country Store (Cook): 105

Burntside Lake

- Total Watercraft Inspector Hours: 2,677
 - Level 1 Inspector Hours: 1,375
 - Level 2 Inspector Hours: 1,302
- Total Watercraft Inspections: 2,193
 - Entering Inspections: 1,204
 - Exiting Inspections: 989
 - Courtesy Inspections: 1
- Inspections Per Hour: 1.6
- Entering from In-State: 1,049 (87%)
- Entering from Out-of-State: 155 (13%)
- Drain Plug in on Arrival 10 (0.8%)
- Vegetation/Water/Mud on Arrival: 4 (0.3%)
- Require 1-way Transport of Prohibited Species: 2
- Number of Decontaminations: 132 (11%)
 - Van Vac Landing: 100
 - Ely Chamber of Commerce: 32



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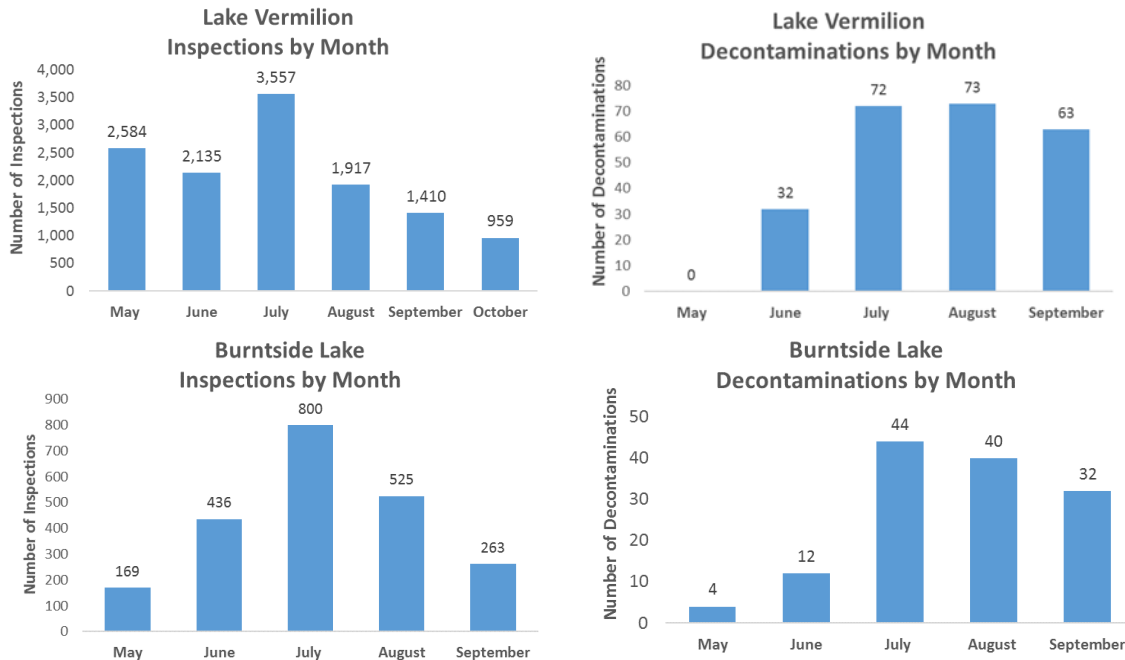


Figure 1. Total number of inspections and decontaminations in 2016.

Watercraft Coming from Infested Waters		
Species	Lake Vermilion	Burntside Lake
Eurasian Water Milfoil	329	38
Zebra Mussels	319	43
Faucet Snail	124	12
Flowering Rush	70	8
Big Head Carp	69	9
Silver Carp	69	9
Grass Carp	62	9
New Zealand Mud Snail	56	8
White Perch	56	8
Round Goby	56	8
Ruffe	56	8
VHS	56	8
Starry Stonewort	20	4
Total	1,342	172

Table 1. The documented number of opportunities for the potential introduction of new invasive species in 2016. Vermilion: Of the 6,755 entering inspections, there were 1,342 documented opportunities for the introduction of a new invasive species. *Nearly 20% of watercraft posed a risk for spreading AIS.* Burntside: Of the 1,204 entering inspections, there were 172 documented opportunities for the introduction of a new invasive species. *Nearly 15% of watercraft posed a risk of spreading AIS.* This excludes spiny water flea, as both lakes are designated spiny water flea infested waters. If spiny water flea is accounted for, in Vermilion there were 6,261 documented opportunities for entering watercraft to spread AIS. *Nearly 93% of watercraft posed a risk for spreading AIS.* If spiny water flea is accounted for in Burntside, there were 954 documented opportunities for entering watercraft to spread AIS. *Nearly 80% of watercraft posed a risk for spreading AIS.*