

Kandiyohi County’s AIS Prevention Aid Program: A Snapshot of Accomplishments in 2023

Program Summary

Category	Metrics
 <p>AIS Prevention Aid Used</p>	<p>\$ 281,430.84 AIS Prevention Aid used this calendar year \$ 0 saved in a contingency fund – an estimated \$176,152.68 remains in carry-over funds from previous years for 2024</p>
 <p>People Dedicated to AIS Work</p>	<p>1 full-time staff with 25 % of their time dedicated to AIS work 21 part-time and seasonal staff with 100% of their time dedicated to AIS work 21 total watercraft inspectors, including: 2 trained as Level 1 and 19 trained as Level 2 \$179,949.90 spent on staff wages, including: \$179,949.90 in AIS Prevention Aid \$0 in other funds leveraged from na 0 volunteers conducted AIS work 0 volunteer hours served</p>
 <p>Partnerships Created and Maintained</p>	<p>Local organizations engaged and/or actively conducting aid-funded AIS work: 11 lake associations 1 conservation nonprofits and/or outdoor groups (e.g., angling, hunting, paddling, sailing, etc.) 2 schools and/or youth organizations 0 businesses 0 local governments 0 tribal governments 1 other groups such as County Fair Board Our county has an AIS Task Force or Committee: Yes</p>
 <p>Funds Distributed, Contributed and Leveraged</p>	<p>\$47,560.32 of AIS Prevention Aid awarded as grants reimbursed to other organizations with \$74,100 initially approved through the grant process 12 organizations awarded grants \$147,649.36 in funds contributed by other organizations that directly support aid-funded work 10 organizations contributing additional funds \$0 in other funds leveraged from na</p>
 <p>Communities Engaged</p>	<p>0 events held about AIS or that included AIS topics na residents and visitors directly contacted/engaged about AIS during events na children and na teachers taught about AIS na commitments gathered \$17,035 of aid spent on advertisements (gas station ads, geo fencing) Describe social media and/or advertising reach Posts on Kandiyohi County Facebook page</p>
 <p>Watercraft Inspected</p>	<p>\$150,656.12 spent on watercraft inspection and decontamination including: \$150,656.12 in AIS Prevention Aid \$0 in other funds leveraged from na 12055 inspections performed</p>

Category	Metrics
	<p><u>6237</u> hours of inspections performed <u>20</u> accesses covered by inspectors <u>13</u> water bodies covered by inspectors <u>98.6%</u> of watercraft recorded as arriving with drain plugs out <u>98.8%</u> of watercraft recorded as arriving free of aquatic plants <u>1</u> decontamination units (hot water, high pressure) operated by Level 2 inspectors <u>186</u> decontaminations performed <u>0</u> boaters engaged by AIS Volunteers/Ambassadors at water accesses <u>7</u> water bodies with cleaning tool stations maintained at <u>7</u> water accesses</p>
 <p>Law Enforcement Supported</p>	<p><u>\$0</u> in aid provided to local law enforcement officers to enforce AIS laws <u>0</u> local law enforcement officers trained this year on AIS laws <u>4</u> local law enforcement officers conducted AIS work <u>91</u> boaters contacted by local law enforcement</p>
 <p>Monitoring Conducted</p>	<p><u>1</u> total lakes and rivers surveyed for AIS. Surveys included: <u>1</u> early detection searches on <u>11</u> water bodies <u>0</u> zebra mussel settling plates deployed on <u>0</u> water bodies <u>0</u> veliger tows taken on <u>0</u> water bodies <u>0</u> aquatic plant surveys conducted on <u>0</u> water bodies <u>0</u> invasive common carp surveys conducted on <u>0</u> water bodies <u>3</u> new detections in the county <u>0</u> volunteers trained and/or active as AIS Detectors <u>0</u> people participated in the University of Minnesota Extension and Minnesota AIS Research Center’s “Starry Trek” event List of species targeted for monitoring or surveys: starry stonewort</p>
 <p>New Infestation Response Planned</p>	<p><u>1</u> coordinated response(s) to a new AIS population(s) Our county: Follows the state rapid response plan <u>1</u> sites controlled/managed</p>
 <p>AIS Controlled</p>	<p><u>\$8,196</u> spent on in-lake/river control of AIS, including: <u>\$5,696</u> in AIS Prevention Aid <u>\$2,500</u> in other funds leveraged from <u>1</u> organizations <u>10</u> groups involved or conducting aid-funded control activities <u>10</u> total water bodies / sites with aid-funded control activities, including: <u>10</u> water bodies with invasive aquatic plant management <u>0</u> water bodies with invasive common carp management <u>0</u> sites with purple loosestrife management where <u>0</u> biocontrol beetles were released <u>0</u> sites with non-native Phragmites management covered <u>0</u> acres <u>0</u> water bodies / sites with na management List of species controlled: Curly Leaf Pondweed, Eurasian Water Milfoil, Starry Stonewort</p>

Program Spending Summary

Budget Category	AIS Prevention Aid Spent by the County in 2023	AIS Prevention Spent by Local Grantees in 2023	In-Kind Funds Contributed in 2023	Description
Public Outreach and Education	\$19,545	\$	\$	Geofencing, gas stations, in school education
Watercraft Inspection	\$150,656.12	\$	\$	Salaries, overtime, FICA, PERA
Misc.	\$4,831.06	\$	\$	Per diem, communication, printing, dues & reg, professional services, misc., supplies for inspectors
New Infestation Response	\$5,696	\$	\$2,500	Starry stonewort treatment in Long Lake (Hawick)
AIS Control/Local Grants	\$0	\$47,560.32	\$	
Equipment/Repair & Maintenance	\$1,956.91	\$	\$	Equipment for inspectors & decon unit maintenance
Sentry Unit maintenance	\$6,300			
Employee travel	\$4,885.43			Inspector, taskforce, and staff mileage
Full time staff wages	\$40,000			
Totals	\$233,870.52	\$47,560.32	\$2,500	

Plans for 2024

The Kandiyohi County AIS program will remain much the same for 2024 with the only change being a lower overall budget to use a smaller amount of the remaining carry-over from previous years. The largest areas of the budget that will see less spent are education/advertising and local grants. Fewer inspectors will also be hired in 2024. New for 2024 will be a new infestation grant available to assist lake associations with funding treatment of newly discovered invasive species rather than waiting for the next year’s local grant.

2023 Highlights

Success Stories

- In 2024 we built and installed 5 more aqua weed stick stations for a total of 7 and visits to the accesses showed they appear to get a lot of use by boaters
- We also built and installed the first motion activated audio player at the Norway South access which is a much less expensive alternative to the sentry units. Currently there are no companies that sell audio only players like these so this could serve as a model for more of these to be installed to remind boaters to clean, drain and dry.

Reports and Products

- List of accesses inspected, inspection hours, and inspection rate
 - Diamond west 34004401 557.5hrs 2.77/hr
 - Diamond east 34004402 47.5hrs 1.20/hr
 - Long (Hawick) west 34006602 361.5hrs 1.10/hr
 - Green NE CP5 34007901 717hrs 1.76/hr
 - Green SW saulsbury 34007904 2038.5hrs 2.75/hr
 - Big Kandiyohi NE 34008601 169hrs 1.46/hr
 - Big Kandiyohi SW 34008602 472.25hrs 1.31/hr
 - George 34014201 58hrs .91/hr
 - Nest northeast 34015401 116.5hrs 1.24/hr
 - Nest west 34015402 146.5hrs 1.02/hr

- Eagle 34014101 771.5hrs 1.23/hr
- Long (Willmar) south 34019202 43.25hrs 1.43/hr
- Long (Willmar) east 34019201 26.25hrs .76/hr
- Andrew south 34020602 47.5hrs 1.12/hr
- Florida 34021707 151hrs 1.08/hr
- Games northeast 34022401 32.5hrs .62/hr
- Games southeast 34022402 6hrs .67/hr
- Norway south 34025102 145.75hrs 1.53/hr
- Point 34019301 4.75hrs 0/hr
- A rake toss to search for starry stonewort was done at the following accesses:
 - Big Kandiyohi east and west
 - Diamond west
 - Eagle
 - Florida
 - Green SW saulsbury
 - Green NE CP5
 - Green Rush Brown
 - Games Lake North
 - Norway South
 - Nest east
 - George Lake
 - Lake Andrew south
- List of water bodies where IAPM activities were funded:
 - Big Kandiyohi
 - Diamond
 - Florida
 - Green
 - Nest
 - Norway
 - George
 - Calhoun
 - Henderson

Photo(s) of AIS Activities

