### Clean Boats, Clean Waters



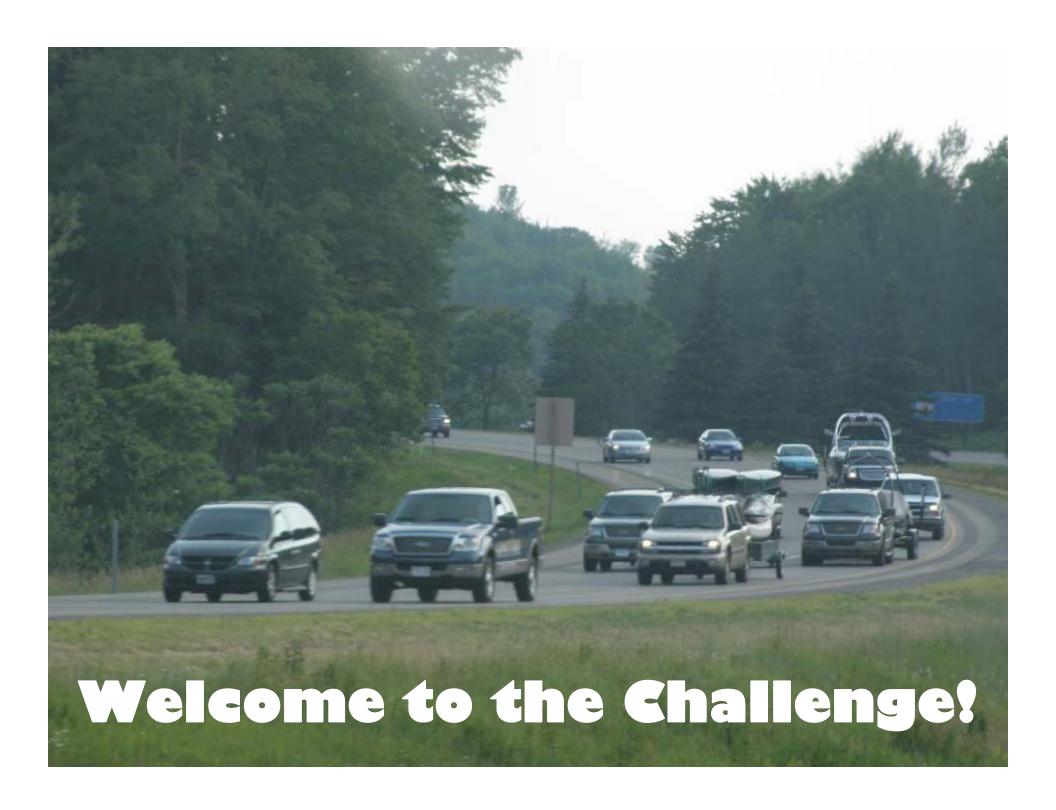
## Volunteer Watercraft Inspection Program



### Wisconsin: A Gathering of Waters

- > 11,190 square miles of water
- > 15,081 lakes
- > 43,000 miles of rivers and streams
- > 5.3 million acres of wetlands
- > 6.4 million acres of Great Lakes
- Estimated 1 million boats on waters each year!





# What you really need to know about AIS...





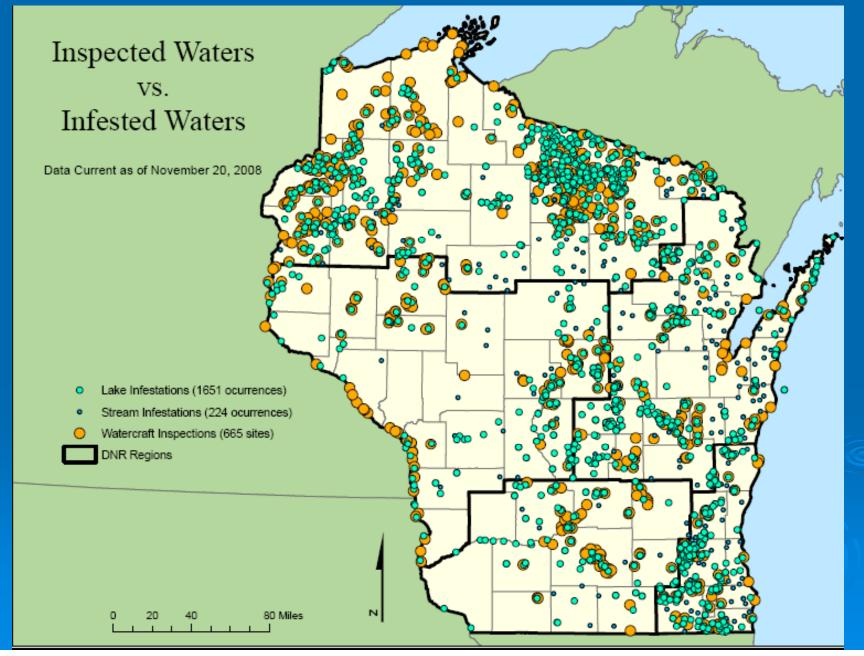


### Volunteers DO make a difference!





Why watercraft inspection?



### Getting Started: Volunteer Duties

- Inform and educate boaters
- Perform watercraft inspections
- Collect and report watercraft data



### Recruiting Volunteers

- Commit volunteers with: newsletters, phone call, personal visits
- Develop a recruiting/training packet
- Appoint a coordinator to schedule and organize volunteer hours
- Select optimum days and high use landing sites



Manitowoc Co. Lakes Council

### Retaining Volunteers

- Generous thank-you!
- Offer supplies
  - T-shirt & hat
  - Water
  - Sun tan lotion
  - Bug spray
- Publish volunteer names
- Advertise accomplishments
- Awards and certificates
- Celebrate!



**Waupaca Chain Of Lakes** 

### **Materials Needed**

- ✓ CBCW T-shirt or sticker
- ✓ Clipboard & pencil
- ✓ Boat landing script
- ✓ Watercraft Inspection form & Check Point List
- ✓ Tool kit
- ✓ List of lakes identified with AIS
- ✓ Plastic bags & marker
- ✓ Cell phone & local contacts
- ✓ Camera and Violation form



### **Boat Landing Message**

- Discuss prevention steps:
  - Inspect and remove aquatic plants and animals
  - Drain all water from boat and equipment
  - **Dispose** of unwanted bait in trash
  - Rinse boat and equipment with hot/high pressure water OR
  - Dry boat for at least 5 days

## **Boat Landing Message**

- Discuss the illegal to launch law - Wisconsin Statute 30.715(2)(3)
- Perform a watercraft check Involve boater!
- Offer a decal-commitment and prompt
- Repeat boaters?



## **Three Step Approach**

- > The SOFT touch:
  - Discuss the prevention steps
- > An assertive approach:
  - Help remove plants, get a sample and location of prior waterbody
- > The **STRONGEST** approach:
  - Violation report form, picture, registration numbers

## **Collecting Data**



#### Efforts for 2008:

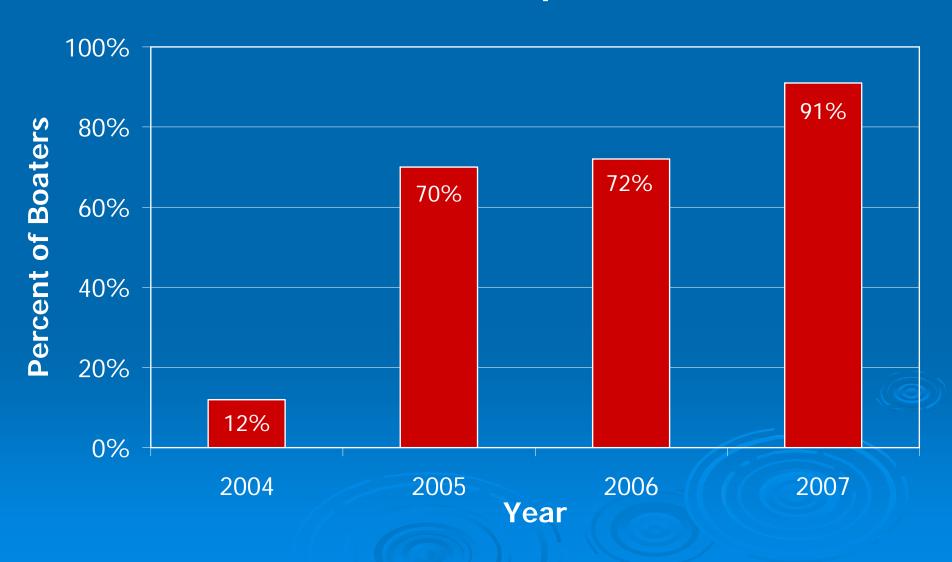
12,200 volunteer hours

54,115 boat inspections

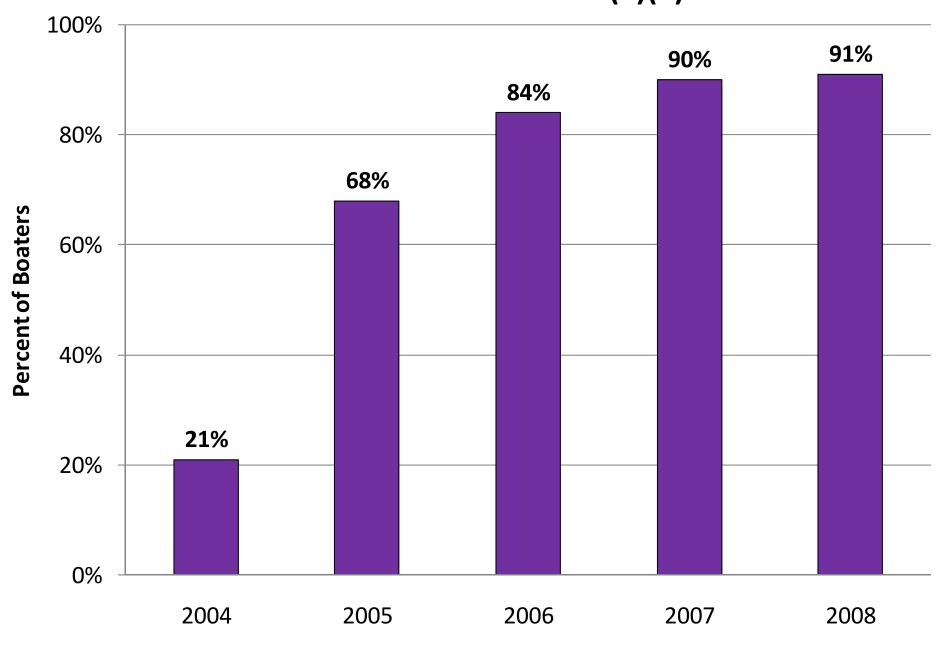
113,601 people contacted

- Gather information on boater behaviors
- Determine traveling patterns of recreational users
- Inventory boater knowledge of invasive species
- Useful data for lake planning grants, local ordinance reviews

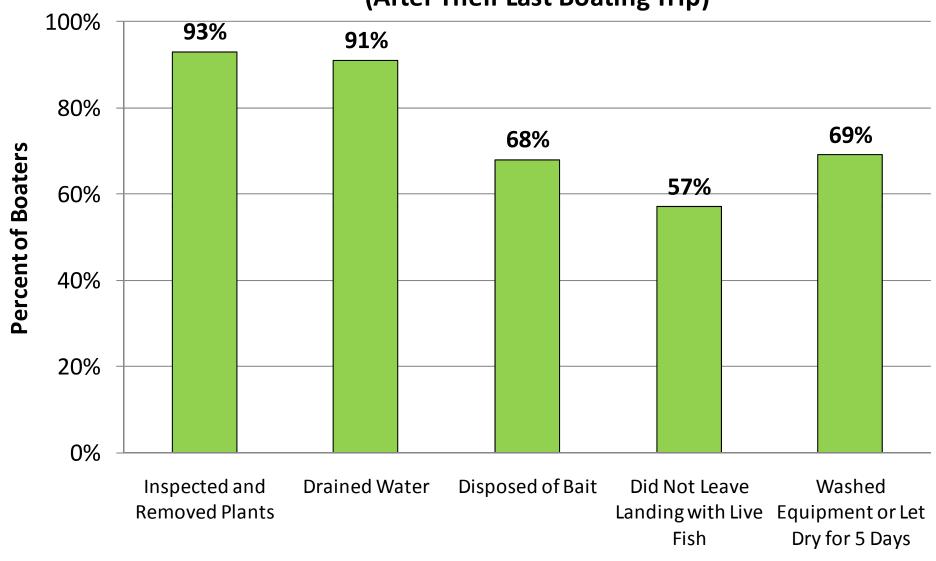
# **Boaters Who Reported Taking Prevention Steps 2004-2007**



#### Boaters Aware of WI Stat. 30.715(2)(3) 2004-2008



### Prevention Steps Taken by Boaters in 2008 (After Their Last Boating Trip)



**Prevention Steps** 

# Handling a Violation

Do your homework before...



### How to Change Boater Behavior

- Educational materials
- Prompts (decals, stickers)
- Personal contacts
- Modeling behavior
- Social diffusion



# Steps for an Effective Watercraft Inspection Program

- Determine boat landing ownership
- Maintain effective inspection hours
- Develop a plan to recruit, train, & retain volunteers
- Wear Clean Boats, Clean Waters t-shirts or stickers
- Develop an accurate and concise message

# Steps for an Effective Watercraft Inspection Program

- Know what educational materials are available and who to contact
- Keep and report watercraft inspection records
- Report any suspect specimens
- Encourage others!





### **CBCW Resources & Gear**

#### > Resources

- Watercraft Inspection Manual
- Tool kit
- DVDs
- Web site: <a href="https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/CBCW">www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/CBCW</a>

#### > Gear

- T-shirts
- Aprons
- Hats
- Stickers



### Please Contact Us!

> For more information contact:

Erin Henegar 715-346-4978 <u>ehenegar@uwsp.edu</u>



- ➤ To order t-shirts, kits, handbooks, aprons, or hats, contact Erin.
- To download materials & presentations, search for volunteers, etc., visit our web site:
  www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/CBCW

