



**PROTECT**   
**THE ADIRONDACKS!**

Stopping the Spread of AIS  
NYSFOLA Conference 2014

## Agenda

- 1) Tremendous fresh water resources across New York
- 1) AIS threats
- 2) What does a comprehensive AIS management program look like?
- 3) Current AIS Management Status  
Quo/NYS status quo/hopeful signs for Improvements
- 1) Transition from main focus on education and voluntary action to mandatory boat control

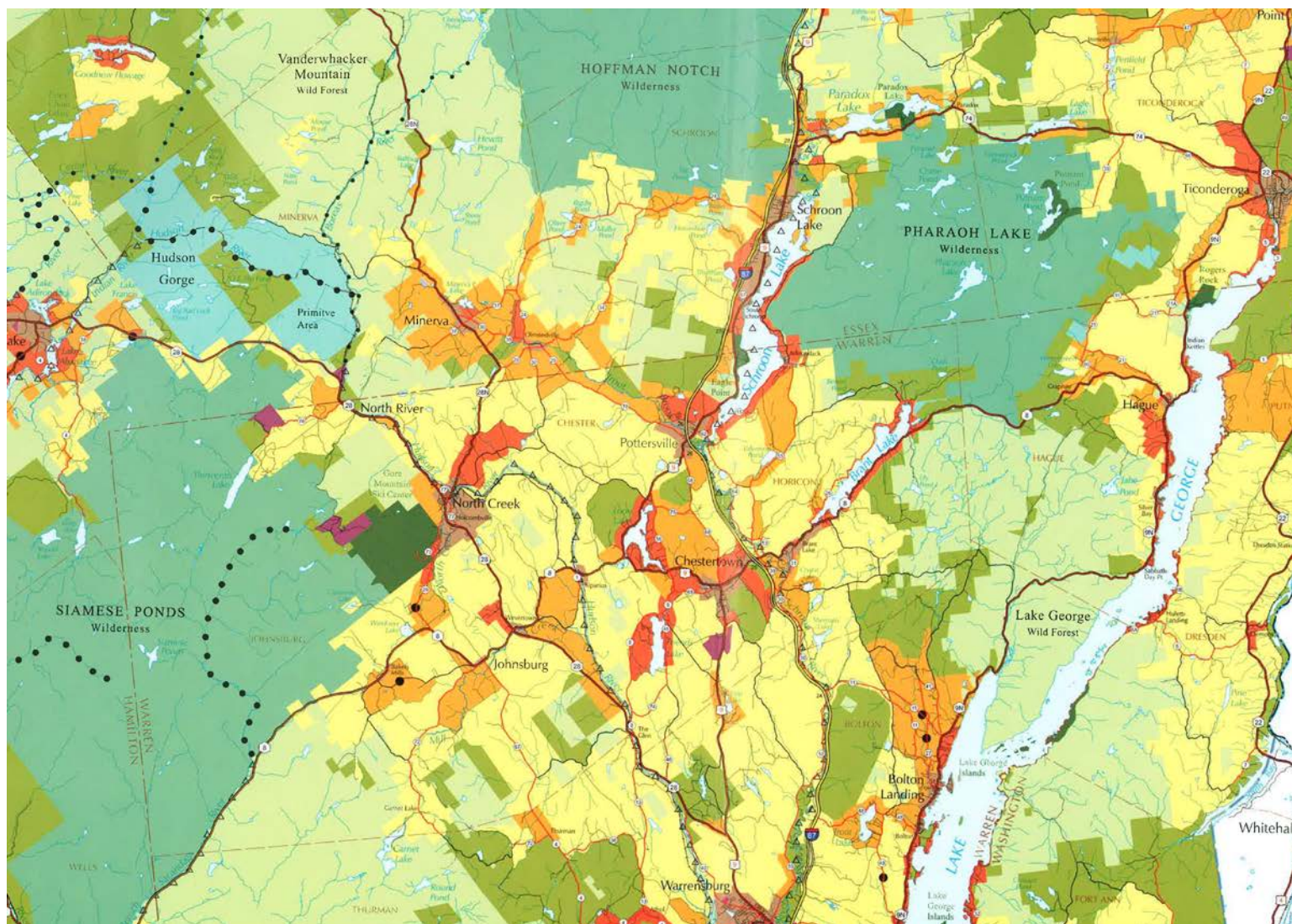


**STOP AQUATIC  
HITCHHIKERS!**



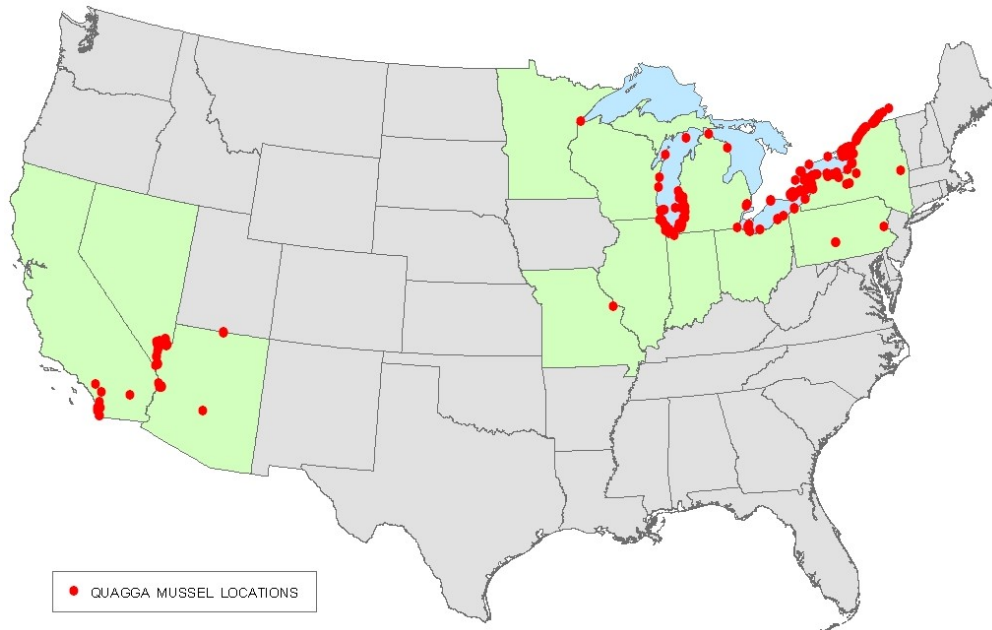
Water defines the Upstate New York experience.





Often development is highest on shorelines. Certainly property values are highest on shorelines.





Asian clam (*Corbicula fluminea*), quagga mussel (*Dreissena bugensis*), zebra mussels *Dreissena polymorpha*), spiny water flea (*Bythotrephes longimanus*). 460,000 registered boats in NYS in 2012, 7<sup>th</sup> in U.S.





Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*), Eurasian watermilfoil (*myriophyllum spicatum*), curly leaf pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*), water chestnut (*Eleocharis dulcis*). 460,000 registered boats in NYS in 2012, 7<sup>th</sup> in U.S.

## Management Scope

- Prevention, education, control all equal parts.
- Prevention is based on laws that prohibit the transport of plants/animals (clean, drained and dry). Laws must prohibit launching by a boat owner of a dirty boat and the launching of a dirty boat by a launch operator.
- Prevention is cheaper in the long-run and better for ecologic health of water body.
- Prevention must have adequate enforcement with plans to secure each affected water body.
- Prevention also depends on the easy availability of decontamination stations.
- Education is vital to promote need for clean boats at every step of the boater experience (online at multiple venues for boating services), along popular travel routes, and lakeside at point of entry.
- control should be the last resort because success is limited, is often required long-term to reduce infestation, and is costly. control funding is needed in partnerships with NGOs and local governments.





## New York State AIS Management Status Quo

- 1) Great vocal support for public education, but limited financial support.
- 1) NYS has strong preference for education over prevention.
- 1) Direct management is ad hoc, community by community, water body by water body.
- 1) NYS Invasive Species Task Force in 2005/Council Act organized in 2007. EPF funding has grown.

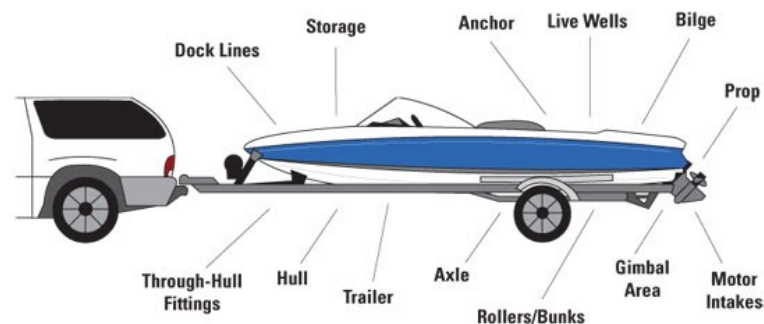




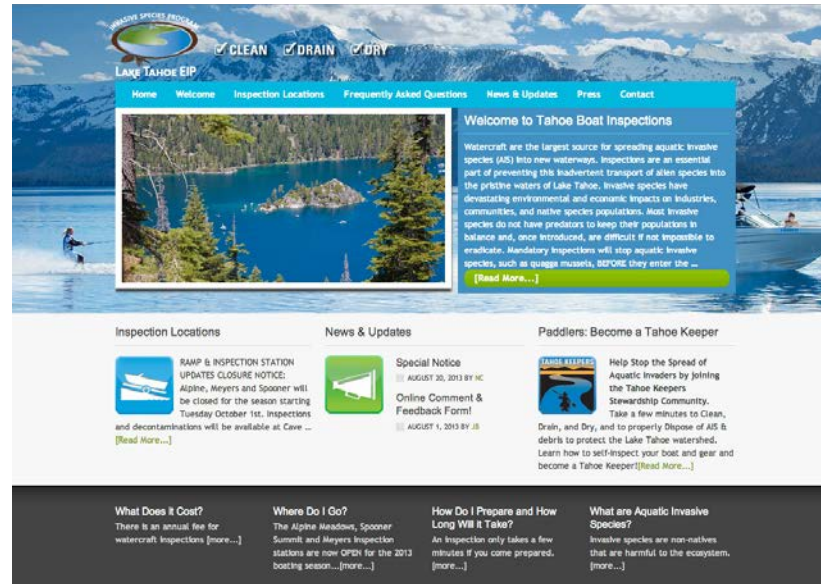
## New York State AIS Management Hopeful Signs

- 1) Commercial sales of invasive species prohibited in 2012.
- 1) 8 statewide PRISMs organized and funded.
- 2) Local government lead effort for a “Lake Tahoe” style mandatory boat control program on Lake George.
- 3) NYSDEC regulating AIS at state boat launches, fishing access sites.

Before launching and before leaving...  
**Inspect everything!**



## New York State AIS Management needs to transition from education and reactive management to prevention and interdiction.



2012 Watercraft Inspection Fees	
<b>Tahoe Only 12</b>	<b>Tahoe In/Out 12</b>
<b>Tahoe Only Boat Annual Fees for all Sealed Vessels</b>	<b>Tahoe In &amp; Out Boat Annual Inspection Fees</b>
Personal Watercraft (PWC)	\$25
Vessels up to 17 ft.	\$25
Vessels 17 ft. - 21 ft.	\$75
Vessels 21 ft. - 26 ft.	\$85
Vessels 26 ft. - 29 ft.	\$95
Vessels Over 29 ft.	\$125
<b>7-Day Launch Pass Inspection Fees</b>	
Personal Watercraft (PWC)	\$25
Vessels up to 17 ft.	\$25
Vessels 17 ft. - 21 ft.	\$75
Vessels 21 ft. - 26 ft.	\$85
Vessels 26 ft. - 29 ft.	\$95
Vessels Over 29 ft.	\$125
<b>Decontamination Fee</b>	
All vessels requiring a decontamination:	\$25
* Additional \$10 fee for decontamination of ballast systems	

2014 is 6<sup>th</sup> year of Lake Tahoe program, boat traffic is up, AIS is down with no new infestations.



## New York State AIS Management needs to transition from education and reactive management to prevention and interdiction.



Legislation that criminalizes the transport of AIS and fully empowers state and local law enforcement at every level to enforce this law. Fines must be serious. New York needs an AIS “transport law.” Such laws are in effect in Vermont, Washington, Montana, Idaho, California, Utah, Colorado, Arizona, Massachusetts, South Carolina, Minnesota, among others.



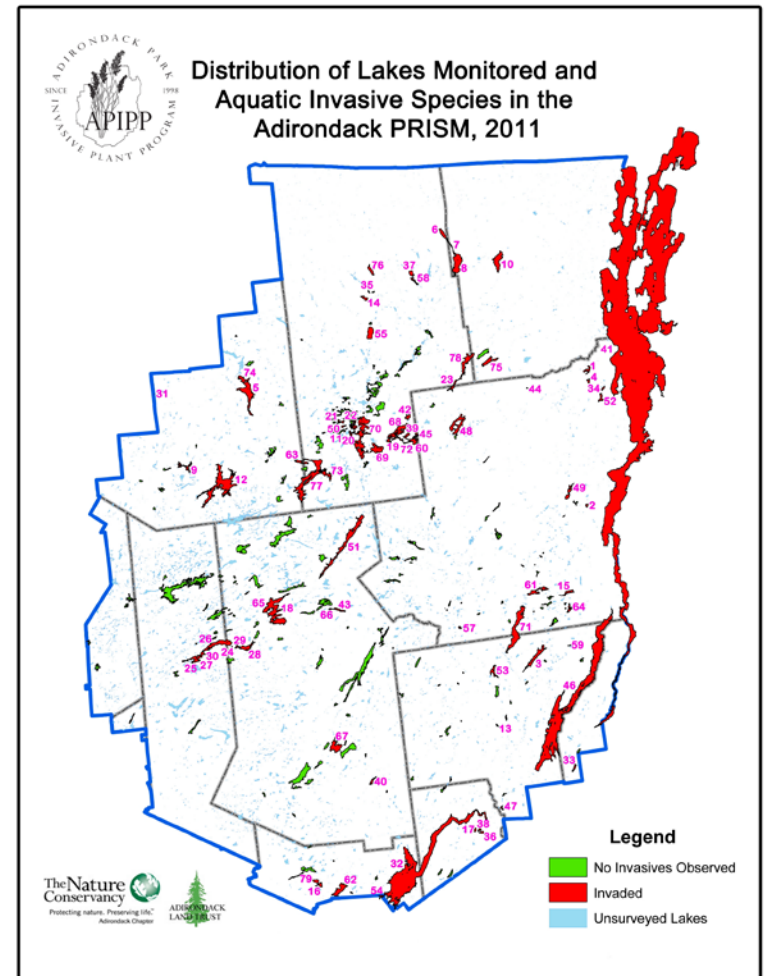
## New York State AIS Management needs to transition from education and reactive management to prevention and interdiction.



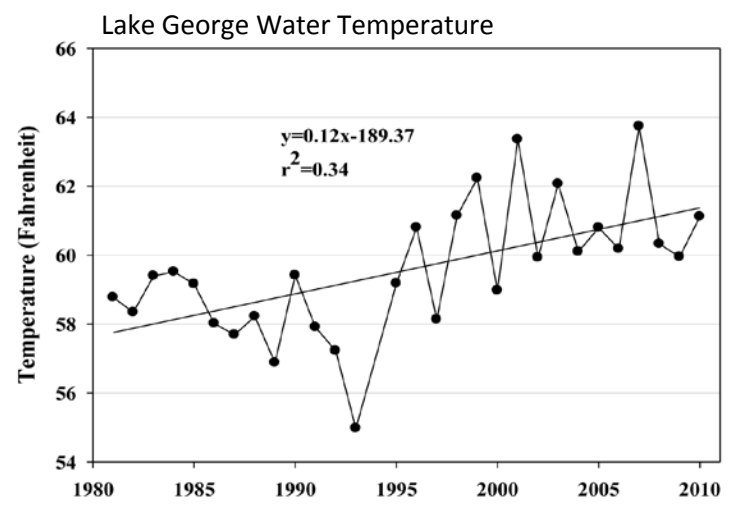
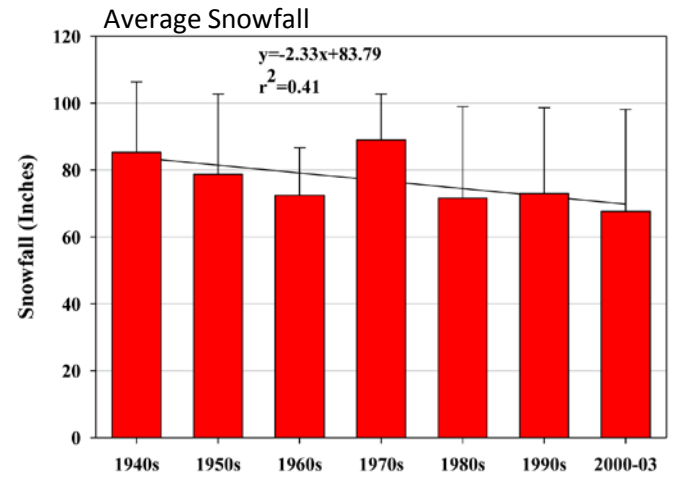
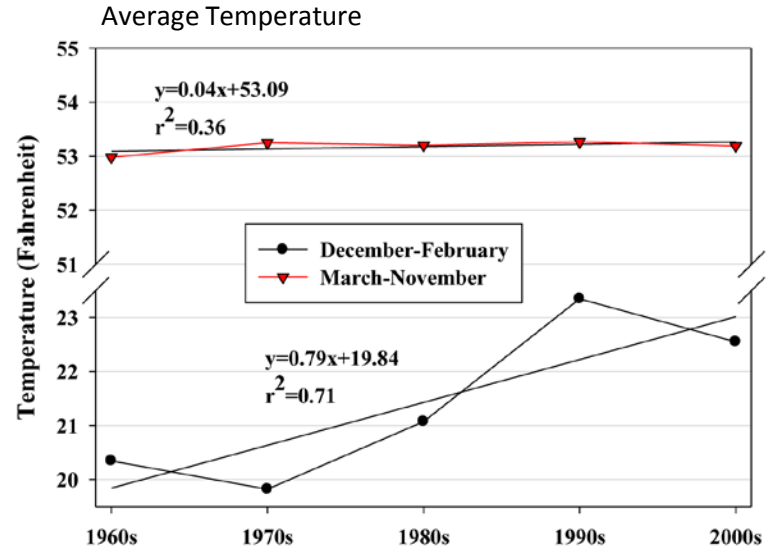
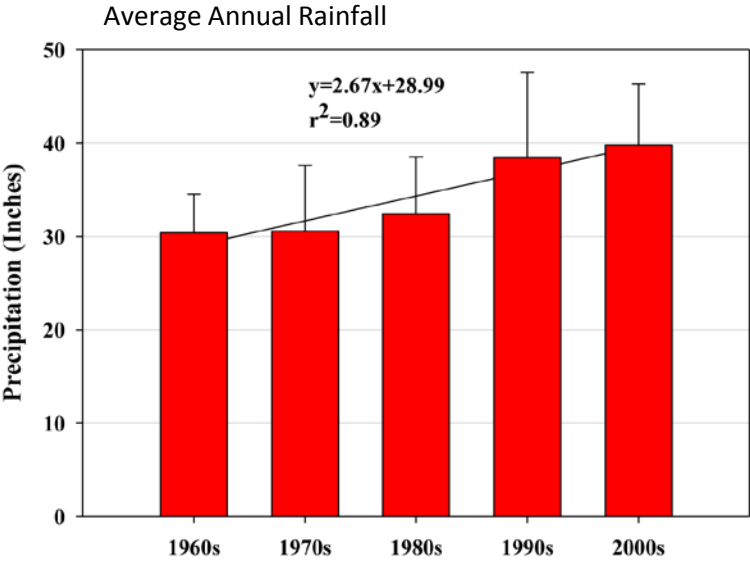
Must place a priority of saving an un-infested water bodies that remain in 2014.

In the Adirondacks, we have 90 lakes and ponds that are infested, yet many major lakes that are not.

Across New York there are still water bodies that can be saved. We cannot let these lakes be lost.







SOURCE: RPI DARRIN FRESH WATER INSTITUTE

## **New York State needs an AIS “transport” law.**

No person shall launch, or attempt to launch a watercraft from a boat launching site, a fishing access site, or any other site from which a watercraft may be launched, or leave from these sites with any plant or animal, or parts thereof, visible to the human eye, in, on, or attached to any part of the watercraft, including livewells and bilges, the motor, rudder, anchor or other appurtenants; any equipment or gear; or the trailer or any other device used to transport or launch a watercraft that may come into contact with the water, unless a written permit is obtained from the department.

No person shall launch, or attempt to launch a watercraft from a boat launching site, a fishing access site, or any other site from which a watercraft may be launched, or leave from these sites without draining the watercraft, including bilge areas, livewells, bait wells and ballast tanks, unless a written permit is obtained.