

Arizona Aquatic Invasive Species Program



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Arizona AIS Program:



- Goals:
 - Increase funding
 - Build consistency with region through rule and policy changes
 - Increase enforcement of AIS laws and rules
 - Build credibility of Arizona's AIS Program
 - Increase communication and build partnerships with agencies and private sector
 - Implement watercraft inspection and decontamination stations

Arizona AIS Program: Funding and Staffing



- State funding has been insufficient to implement widespread containment
 - Increase base funding in increments
 - Increase grant funding and pursue cost-sharing opportunities
 - USFWS, BLM, BOR
- Hiring freeze...

AIS Program: Director's Orders



- Last update was 2016
- Cumbersome and confusing



Director's Orders: Day Users



- Director's Order 3 – Mandatory Conditions of Watercraft/Equipment Moving from AIS waters
 - Day Users (Less than 6 consecutive days)
 - Essentially Clean, Drain, Dry
 - Ensure plugs and devices remain removed or open during transport.
 - Dry completely - Allow watercraft, vehicles, conveyances, or other equipment to dry completely prior to use in any other Arizona waters:

Director's Orders: Day Users



- Director's Order 3 – Mandatory Conditions of Watercraft/Equipment Moving from AIS waters – Day Users (less than 6 consecutive days)
 - Dry completely – prior to use in any Arizona waters:
 - **Old protocol:** Recommended vinegar – removed from all materials
 - **New protocol:** If conveyances cannot be fully drained and will be used in less than 7 days (May-October) or less than eighteen 18 days (November-April) at a different water body, it is highly recommended to contact AZGFD AIS Program to schedule an inspection and to determine if a decontamination is necessary.

Director's Orders: Long-term Users



- Director's Order 3 – Mandatory Conditions of Watercraft/Equipment Moving from AIS waters – Long-term Users (6 + days)
 - In addition to Clean, Drain, Dry:
 - **Old Protocols** – Remove all attached invasive species (e.g., quagga mussels, NZMS, etc.)
 - Where decontamination facilities exist, flush the engine, cooling systems, and any other through hull fittings for 10-30 secs. with hot water exiting those areas at 140°F to kill any hidden invasives
 - Prior to transport:
 - Complete and sign AZ Invasive Species Boat Inspection Report (AISBIR) and send to AZGFD

Director's Orders: Long-term Users



- Director's Order 3 – Mandatory Conditions of Watercraft/Equipment Moving from AIS waters – Long-term Users (6 or more consecutive days)
 - **New Protocol** – Contact AIS program or authorized agent* to schedule inspection and decontamination.
 - Clean, Drain, Dry. Plugs remain out.
 - Dry completely for 18 days Nov-April and 7 days May-Oct.
 - Prior to transport, an authorized agent or employee must submit inspection and decontamination information to AZGFD (via WID mobile database). A seal and receipt will be issued to owner/operator as proof of inspection/decontamination.

Director's Orders: All Users



- Director's Order 3 – Mandatory Conditions of Watercraft/Equipment Moving from AIS waters – All Users
- **New Protocol** – If suspected of documented AIS are found, inspection, and decontamination by AZGFD personnel or authorized agent will be required prior to transport.
- Authorized agents may perform inspections and decontaminations at Department authorized locations on behalf of AZGFD. Agents must have current, valid WID Certification from AZGFD to be authorized by the Department.
 - Subject to quality control and yearly re-certification

AIS Program

Arizona Game and Fish Department INSPECTION & DECONTAMINATION RECEIPT

WATERCRAFT INFORMATION

Inspection Location:		Inspection Date/Time:
Watercraft Registration #:	Trailer/Vehicle Plate #:	Inspector ID #:

WID PROCEDURE (all rows must be marked to be valid)

Inspection Type: <input type="checkbox"/> HIGH RISK <input type="checkbox"/> ENTRANCE <input type="checkbox"/> EXIT <input type="checkbox"/> OFF-WATER		
Inspection: HEAD	<input type="checkbox"/> Performed	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Performed
Decontamination: Full	<input type="checkbox"/> Performed	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Performed
Decontamination: Standing Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Performed	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Performed
Decontamination: Plant	<input type="checkbox"/> Performed	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Performed
Decontaminated: <input type="checkbox"/> HULL/EXTERIOR <input type="checkbox"/> TRAILER <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINE <input type="checkbox"/> LIVE WELL <input type="checkbox"/> BILGE/BALLAST <input type="checkbox"/> ANCHOR <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:		

SEAL

Seal Applied: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Receipt Only	Seal Serial Number:
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NOTES

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Distribution - White: Owner/Operator Yellow: AGFD Records

Version/FILE

OrderDate-PO#-Qty

Arizona Game and Fish Department FULL DECONTAMINATION REPORT



Date:	Time:	Location:
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CONTACT INFORMATION

First:	Middle:	Last:	
Address:	City:	State:	Zip:
Phone:	Email:		
Commercial Transport Company/Person Transporting Vessel:		Transporter/Owner Contact Number:	

WATERCRAFT INFORMATION

Watercraft Registration # / Name:	Trailer/Vehicle Plate #:	Vessel Type:
Make:	Model:	Size:

TRAVEL

Date Removed From Water:	How Long in Water:	Lake or Waterbody		
Final Destination:	State:	Anticipated Travel Date:	Destination ETA:	Travel Route:

INSPECTION & DECONTAMINATION (all rows must be marked to be valid)

	Inspected	Visible AIS or Mussels	Decontaminated	Re-inspected	Comments
Hull, Trailer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Engine	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Trim Tabs, Pitot Tubes, Etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Bilge, Through Hull Fittings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Bait and/or Live Wells	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Anchor, Rope, Chain, Locker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ballast Tanks/Bags	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Performed by:		Time Spent:	Seal #:	Seal Color:	
Impeller Took Water: <input type="checkbox"/> 1st attempt <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd Attempt <input type="checkbox"/> 3rd Attempt <input type="checkbox"/> Did Not Take Water		Owner in Possession of Bilge Plug <input type="checkbox"/>			

NOTES

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AIS Program: Outreach and Education



- Rebranding – Agency and AIS Program
 - Pull the Plug Observations and Focus Group
 - Increased focus on social media, geofencing, radio
 - Different messaging to winter (long-term) vs. summer (day users)
 - Building Partnerships – paddlers, angling groups, aquariums, zoo
 - AZGFD/NPS/UDWR shared brochure at Powell



Updates: Lake Powell



Glen Canyon National Recreation Area – Lake Powell

- Monthly meetings – coordinate on protocols, messaging, troubleshoot issues, align state programs as closely as possible.
- Add Arizona information to local boater program
- Seasonal technician – Representation and education
 - Fill in gaps, (e.g., Lee's Ferry and Antelope Point access points in AZ)
- Building rapport with local law enforcement



Updates: Lake Mead and Lake Mohave

Lake Mead National Recreation Area

- Meetings with NDOW and NPS, Safeguarding
 - NDOW doing majority of inspections and decontaminations at Lake Mead
- New AIS signage for NPS to post.
- 3 Concessioners in Arizona at Lake Mead/Mohave – Required to perform mussel abatement and follow state AIS laws
 - Katherine Landing, Willow Beach concessioners WID certified in July
 - Temple Bar needs re-certification

Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination



Lake Havasu/Lower Colorado River

- Highly interjurisdictional
 - BOR
 - BLM
 - AZGFD
 - CA Dept of Fish and Wildlife
 - AZ State Parks
 - USFWS
 - CO River Indian Tribes
 - Chemehuevi Tribe
 - Counties, municipalities
 - Private
 - Special Interest Groups



Updates: Tonto National Forest



Tonto National Forest – Canyon, Saguaro, Apache

- Coordination with USFS and partners for AIS removals, but still a lot of work to do with USFS and marinas for QM management
- Updated marina language with FS in 2017, likely needs revisiting if possible with new Director's Orders
- AZ transporters good at notifying if a boat is leaving these locations and we will send contractor/AIS personnel to inspect and decontaminate
 - Have been inspecting and decontaminating boats launching from out of state

Updates: Lake Pleasant



Lake Pleasant (Maricopa County – Phoenix)

- Two private marinas, Scorpion Bay and Pleasant Harbor
- One 10-lane public launch ramp, one 4-lane public launch ramp



Watercraft Decontaminations



Watercraft Decontaminations by AZGFD and Partners

FY15	FY16	*FY17	*FY18	*FY19 (YTD)
42	68	84	159	42

*AZGFD hired roving contractor to perform decontaminations of high/very high risk boats starting October 2017.

- In FY18, over 100 boats decontaminated were from the Lower Colorado River, mostly Havasu, followed by Pleasant
- Majority of these boats are long-term moored and many are very heavily infested, large, very complex watercraft
- Seeking more contractors to expand services/availability/

What's Next?



- More contractors to perform inspection and decontamination?
- Continue building partnerships and public support for AIS Program
- Voluntary → mandatory inspection stations
 - Rule and policy changes?
 - Hire through a temp agency?
 - RFP for contractors to run inspection stations similar to other states?

Questions?

