

**2024 AIS Cost-Share Grant Program - Ranking Guidelines**

Consider the ranking criteria below when designing your project and when completing your application. AIS Volunteer Incentive grants will not compete against Management Planning and AIS Control cost-share grant categories.

<b>Management Planning and AIS Control Categories</b>		<b>AIS Volunteer Incentive Category</b>
<b>Weight of Score</b>	<b>Ranking Topic</b>	<b>Weight of Score</b>
20%	<b>AIS Planning</b> Project initiates or completes a strategic planning process <i>Comprehensive Management Plan</i> <i>Lake Vegetation Management Plan</i> <i>AIS Early Detection - Rapid Response Plan</i> Elements of AIS monitoring included <i>Pre or Post Treatment Assessments</i> <i>Early detection surveys</i> <i>Contracted AIS mapping</i>	<b>AIS Volunteer Education</b> Preference will be given to larger time commitments Preference for lakes with more AIS or "new" AIS threats
10%	<b>Community Involvement</b> Project includes aspects to increase community capacity <i>Lake resident survey</i> <i>Initiatives for lake community education</i> Partnership included within project <i>Partner organization is donating time / funds</i>	<b>AIS Volunteer Engagement</b> Preference for projects engaging larger number of people Preference for projects addressing "new" AIS threats
25%	<b>AIS Management</b> AIS management is consistent with management plan / DNR guidance <i>Proposal has clearly defined goals, follows recommended guidance</i> <i>AIS is targeted strategically (dense colonies, public access, etc.)</i> <i>Integrated management (multiple AIS removal techniques used)</i>	<b>MAISRC Education Scholarship</b> First come, first serve basis Preference for 1-2 individuals per lake group each year
25%	<b>Feasibility of Project</b> Project is reasonable and has a good chance of success. <i>Methods and acceptable timeline are outlined</i> <i>Program budget is defined and reasonable</i>	
10%	<b>Volunteer Involvement</b> Project sponsor is involved in one or more volunteer programs <i>County-based AIS monitoring programs</i> <i>Sponsor-based AIS or lake monitoring program</i> <i>MN DNR AIS Volunteer program</i> <i>MPCA's Volunteer water quality monitoring program</i> <i>Participation in regional / statewide lake networking group (COLA)</i>	
10%	<b>Priority Project Status</b> Project is for a "new" AIS threat to Sherburne County waters <i>New occurrence of a MN Prohibited Species in County</i> <i>Pioneer infestation to a lake (new AIS introduction)</i>	

## Resource and Guidance References

### Lake Management Planning References

**Interagency Lakes Coordinating Committee: Developing a Lake Management Plan** - <http://www.shorelandmanagement.org/depth/plan.pdf>

**Minnesota DNR: Guidance for AIS Early Detection and Monitoring** - [http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/natural\\_resources/invasives/prevention/ais\\_detection-baseline-monitoring.pdf](http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/natural_resources/invasives/prevention/ais_detection-baseline-monitoring.pdf)

### AIS Control and Management References

**Minnesota DNR Guidance for Selective Treatment of Invasive Plants** - [http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/invasives/guidance\\_trt\\_inv\\_aq\\_plants\\_apr\\_04.pdf](http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/invasives/guidance_trt_inv_aq_plants_apr_04.pdf)

**Minnesota DNR Permit Program** - <http://www.dnr.minnesota.gov/apm/index.html>

**Minnesota Prohibited Species List** - <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/laws.html>

### Lake / AIS Monitoring Programs

**Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Citizen Water Monitoring** - <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/citizen-water-monitoring>

**Minnesota DNR AIS Volunteer Program** - [http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/ais\\_volunteer.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/ais_volunteer.html)