2022 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.

Management Planning **and** ***AIS Control*** **Categories**		***AIS Volunteer Incentive*** **Category**	
Weight of Score	**Ranking Topic**	**Weight of Score**	**Ranking Topic**
20%	**AIS Planning** Project initiates or completes a strategic planning process *Comprehensive Management Plan* *Lake Vegetation Management Plan* *AIS Early Detection - Rapid Response Plan* Elements of AIS monitoring included *Pre or Post Treatment Assessments* *Early detection surveys* *Contracted AIS mapping*	50%	**AIS Volunteer Education - Time Commitment** Preference will be given to larger time commitments *50 hours = standard preference*
		50%	**AIS Volunteer Education & Engagement - Priority Project Status** Project is for a "new" AIS threat to Sherburne County waters *New occurrence of a MN Prohibited Species or Pioneer infestation*
		50%	**AIS Volunteer Engagement - County Relevance** Preference will be given for projects developing a resource for county-wide use or engaging volunteers on a multi-lake scale.
10%	**Community Involvement** Project includes aspects to increase community capacity *Lake resident survey* *Initiatives for lake community education* Partnership included within project *Partner organization is donating time / funds*		
25%	**AIS Management** AIS management is consistent with management plan / DNR guidance *Proposal has clearly defined goals, follows recommended guidance* *AIS is targeted strategically (dense colonies, public access, etc.)* *Integrated management (multiple AIS removal techniques used)*		
25%	**Feasibility of Project** Project is reasonable and has a good chance of success. *Methods and acceptable timeline are outlined* *Program budget is defined and reasonable*		
10%	**Volunteer Involvement** Project sponsor is involved in one or more volunteer programs *County-based AIS monitoring programs* *Sponsor-based AIS or lake monitoring program* *MN DNR AIS Volunteer program* *MPCA's Volunteer water quality monitoring program* *Participation in regional / statewide lake networking group (COLA)*		
10%	**Priority Project Status** Project is for a "new" AIS threat to Sherburne County waters *New occurrence of a MN Prohibited Species in County* *Pioneer infestation to a lake (new AIS introduction)*		

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

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

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