

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources

AIS Program Update – GSARP April 2023 Meeting

Early Detection / Rapid Response Activities

- One aerial photo survey of 193 miles was conducted for early detection of AIS in difficult-to-access areas and to help monitor treatment efforts.
- A program of integrated pest management and spot herbicide application (32 boat missions) on was used to control populations of common salvinia, giant salvinia, alligator weed, torpedo grass, Eurasian watermilfoil, Brazilian elodea and water hyacinth in accordance with all regulations.
- No new reports of non-native AIS were received this period.
- *Pomacea maculata* trapping and egg mass destruction continued in the Pascagoula River. Limpkins continue to be sighted in the apple snail infested area

Coordination and Outreach Activities

- The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources continues to serve on the Mississippi Aquatic Invasive Species Council (MAISC), the Mississippi Cooperative Weed Management Area (MS-CWMA) and the Pascagoula River Alliance.
- Invasive species outreach and education events were held at the Mississippi Aquarium on Feb 17, the Biloxi Boat Show (February 4-5) and again at the Mississippi Aquarium for National Invasive Species Awareness Week (February 25). Large display items from the Travelling Trunk of Invasive Species were utilized to facilitate interaction with the public.

