



Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
Aquatic Invasive Species Activities – April thru September 2016

Early Detection / Rapid Response Activities

- 1 aerial survey, 2 ground surveys and 66 boat surveys were conducted for early detection of AIS and monitoring of existing infestations.
- A program of integrated pest management using salvinia weevils and limited spot herbicide application was used to treat existing populations of common salvinia and giant salvinia in accordance with all regulations.
- 3,485 giant applesnail egg masses were destroyed and 35 live snails were removed from Robinson Bayou, Pascagoula River.
- A citizen report of invasive plants in the Tchoutacabouffa River was investigated. A site visit revealed a heavy accumulation of native aquatic vegetation. A citizen report of alligator weed in Hancock County was confirmed but did not require treatment due to the effects of alligatorweed flea beetles.
- Received a confirmed report of Lionfish on one of Mississippi's offshore artificial reef sites. Four confirmed reports of Asian Tiger Shrimp were also received.

Coordination and Outreach Activities

- Organized and attended the inaugural meeting of the Mississippi Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force (MAISC).
- Attended the quarterly board meeting of the Mississippi Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA)
- Gave presentation about DMR's aquatic vegetation control efforts at the annual meeting of the Mid-South Aquatic Plant Management Society.
- Conducted an invasive species educational seminar at the Pascagoula River Audubon Center.
- Displayed and distributed invasive species outreach materials (including items from GSARP's "Travelling Trunk") as part of an interactive outreach exhibit at the Celebrate the Gulf Marine Educational Festival.
- Assisted Dauphin Island Sea Lab in outreach to Mississippi Shrimp fishermen to collect live Tiger Shrimp