

MDMR invasive species activities
October 1, 2008 - March 31, 2009

Survey Mileage:

397 miles of waterways surveyed for invasive aquatic vegetation
593 miles driven surveying waterway/road intersections for same
165 mile aerial survey was performed to search otherwise inaccessible areas for AIS

Early Detection of AIS From Surveys:

Several previously unreported Giant Reed, (*Arundo donax*) infestations were discovered in Harrison and Hancock Counties

Infestations have been mapped and will soon be reported to SE Exotic Plant Pest Council for use in their database.

A kudzu infestation was discovered in Harrison County and reported to SE Exotic Plant Pest Council for use in their database

Herbicide Usage:

96 gallons of herbicide applied to control AIS in accordance with Federal and State laws with a breakdown as follows:

41 gallons on giant salvinia

55 gallons on common salvinia

Other Accomplishments:

Authored written abstract for and presented department's work on giant salvinia at 27th annual meeting of the Mid-South Aquatic Plant Management Society

Co-authored article about AIS project for Coastal Markers newsletter

Investigated mass nutria mortality in Hancock County.

Created a list of "species of concern" that are present across state lines or more Northern areas of the state but have not been found here yet.

Conducted a brief risk analysis for the potential of the channeled apple snail, (*Pomacea canaliculata*) to harm coastal Mississippi's waterways. These have been decimating native aquatic vegetation (and rice fields) in SE Louisiana recently and they have become newly problematic in Mobile, AL too.

Designed a aquatic invasive species poster for potential use in education and outreach.