

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources

Aquatic Invasive Species Activities – October 2016 thru March 2017

Early Detection / Rapid Response Activities

- 2 aerial surveys totaling 182 miles and 38 boat surveys totaling 413 miles were conducted for early detection of AIS and monitoring of existing infestations.
- A program of integrated pest management using salvinia weevils and spot herbicide application was used to treat existing populations of common salvinia and giant salvinia in accordance with all regulations.
- 111 giant applesnail egg masses were destroyed and 2 live snails were removed from Robinson Bayou, Pascagoula River. No applesnail eggs were found after October 24, 2016 thru end of reporting period. It is presumed that the snails have been surviving the cooler months by burrowing into the sediment and remaining dormant until warmer weather returns.
- A citizen report of zebra mussels in the lower East Pascagoula River was investigated. A search of the reported area was conducted. The report could not be verified.
- Received one report of an Asian tiger shrimp.

Coordination and Outreach Activities

- Attended the second meeting of the Mississippi Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force (MAISC).
- Attended the Mississippi Wild Hog Task Force meeting.
- Produced 132 lionfish outreach t-shirts for the Mississippi Aquatic Invasive Species Council to be distributed at an upcoming lionfish event.

