Background WISP

• Supporting WISP has been a top priority to decrease the spread of AIS in the past decade
• 2015 NYS AIS management plan highlighted Educate and Outreach Immediate Action
• 2016 Law AIS Statewide Transport Ban for Watercraft (Part 576)
• 2018 WISP expanded regionally
• Certification in the Adirondack Park (Amendment to Part 576)
Part 576: The Details

- Active since May 27, 2016
- Cleaning, draining, and treating (i.e. drying and rinsing) must be done before launching a watercraft into a public waterbody
- ECO’s have discretionary authority to enforce law
- Watercraft and floating docks are exempt when relaunched from the same waterbody without having been launched in another waterbody
Certification: Amendment to Article 9-1710 and Addition of 9-1711

- **Effective Area:** Adirondack Park and launch areas within ten miles of the Blue Line

- **Required Users:** boaters with motorized watercraft
  - Receive certification card from steward after inspection and, if needed, decontamination at locations covered by Adirondack Watershed Institute/NYSDEC
  - Can self-certify at home and bring self-certification document to launch
Certification card training

- 100 trained steward trained annually
- 3-day training
- DEC has authority
- Department to offer training starting in the spring 2024
- Cert cards handed to public upon passing inspection, must meet CDD standards
Why ADK

- Ecologically important
- 75% of water bodies have no AIS
- Local Support
- Government
Certification Documents

Self-certification Document
• Print out at home
• Take preventive measures
• Fill out and sign
• Bring to boat launch

Certification Card
• Provided by steward upon inspection and, if necessary, decontamination
Resources

Clean, Drain, Dry webpage:
- self-cert document
- FAQ sheet
- interactive mapper for steward and decon locations, updating in 2024
Certification card

- Is it making a difference?
- Can't say definitively, but data has shown boater spread prevention has increased since amendment to part 576
- Geographic acceptance or more boaters being reached
- The program can be replicated anywhere
- The Department is willing to share all info with partners interested in cert program
- Challenges
Prevention: Watercraft Inspection Steward Program (WISP)

- Coverage at more than 250 locations across the state
- 1,449,223 records
- 72,103 AIS interceptions
- 18,790 1\textsuperscript{st} time interactions
- 8 regions
Welcome center exit 18

- Set-up, logistics
- Cost to install turning lane, 2 buildings, catchment basin, water and electrical $700,000
- Annual cost to maintain and operate $85,000
- 1200 inspections, 300 plus decon
Typical Decon Setup

- Shed for MHC/PHW - base price is $2900 (ADK Storage Barns)
- Landa pressure washing unit $7500
- 550gal water tank with valve and hose (when well/city water is not available) - $1200 (one time purchase)
- Tools, attachments, PPE, cones, fire extinguisher - $500 - (initial purchase, monitor and replace as needed)
- Site work, landscaping fabric, crushed stone - $1500-4000 (one time purchase)
- Piloting on-demand units