Integrated Pest Management: Application in the Sea Lamprey Control Program



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AIS: The Problem in the Great Lakes

- 180+ non-native species in Great Lakes
- Perhaps 20 or so are a serious nuisance
 - Environmentally
 - Economically
- Only 2 can be controlled (!)





AIS: Why Do We Care?

One of the leading threats to the lucrative Great Lakes fishery

- Nuisance
- Competition
- Unhealthy environment
- Disease & parasites
- Lost fish

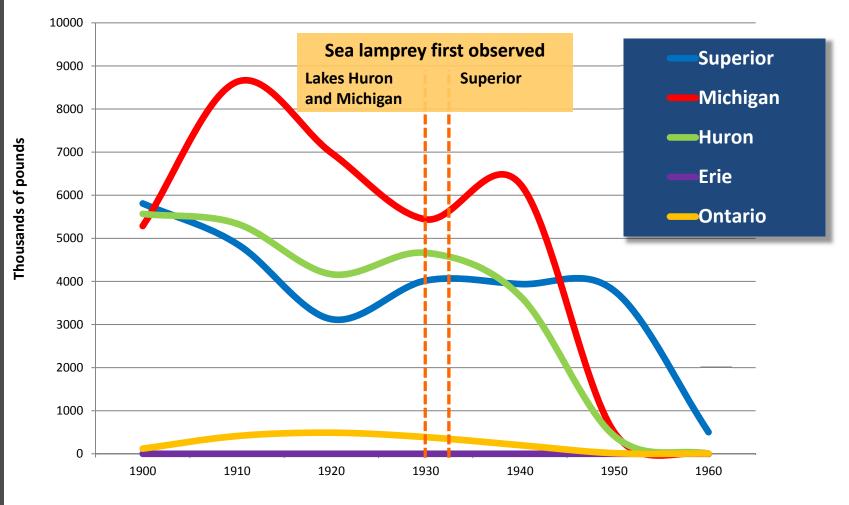




• Most **destructive** invader in the Great Lakes

AIS: Why Do We Care?

Commercial Harvest of Lake Trout





- Most destructive invader in the Great Lakes
- Successful control program: 90% reduction in population

Sea Lamprey Control Program



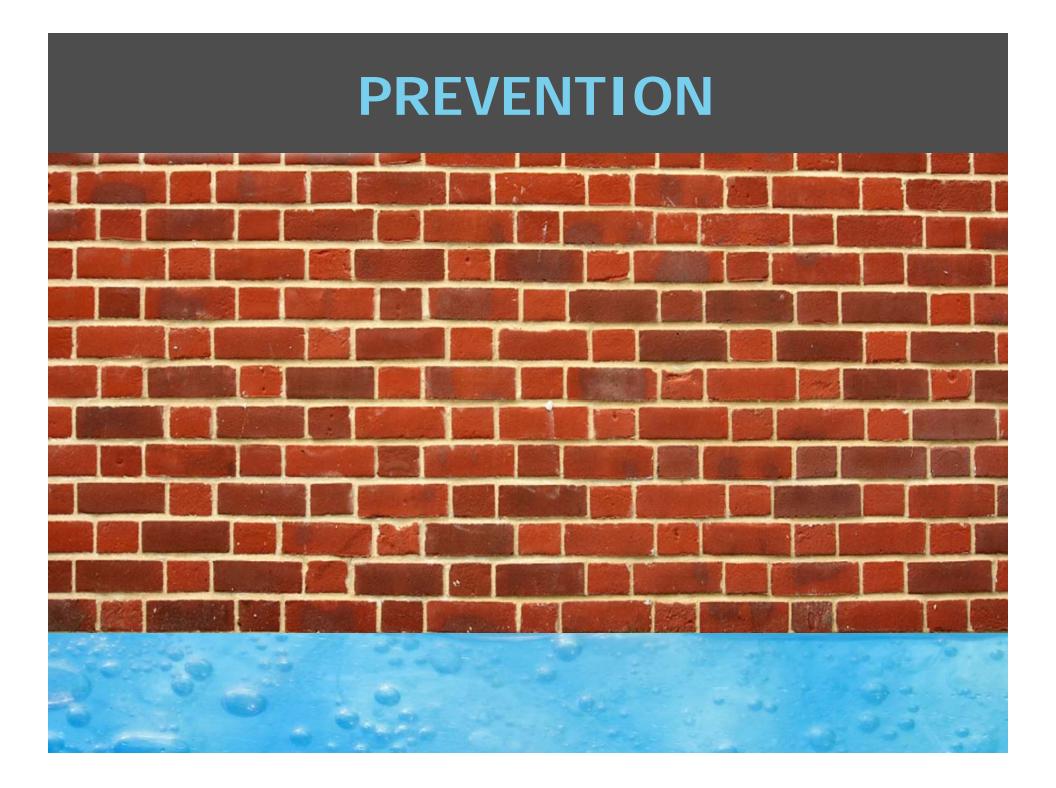


- Most destructive invader in the Great Lakes
- Successful control program: 90% reduction in population
- Integrated Pest Management incorporated since mid-1980s

History of IPM in Sea Lamprey Control

- Sea Lamprey Integrated Symposium I, 1979:
 - "The most significant development emerging from SLIS I"
- Integrated Management of Sea Lamprey (IMSL), 1982
 - Concepts: Defined targets for control, Application of alternative control, Use of quantitative methods & systems approaches
 - Connected IMSL to Fish Community Objectives
- Evolution from IMSL \rightarrow Integrated Control of Sea Lampreys
 - Incorporated "expert judgment" into decision-making

 Integrated Control of
Sea Lampreys
✓ Monitoring
✓ Response
✓ Evaluation

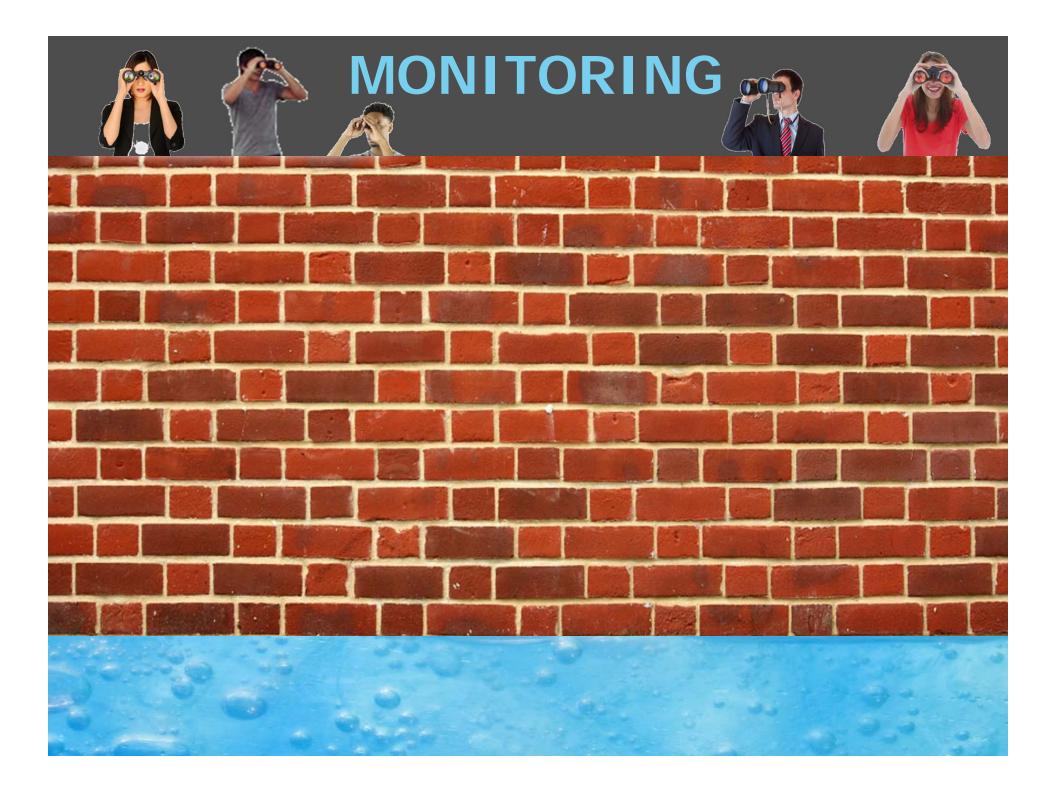


Prevention: Key Objectives

- Stop introduction
- Anticipate next threat



Great Lakes Fishery Commission, est. 1955

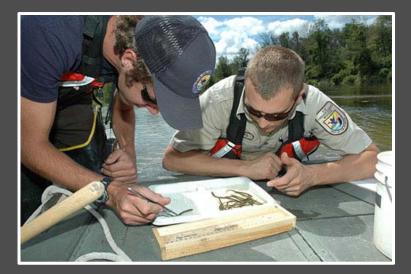


Monitoring: Key Objectives

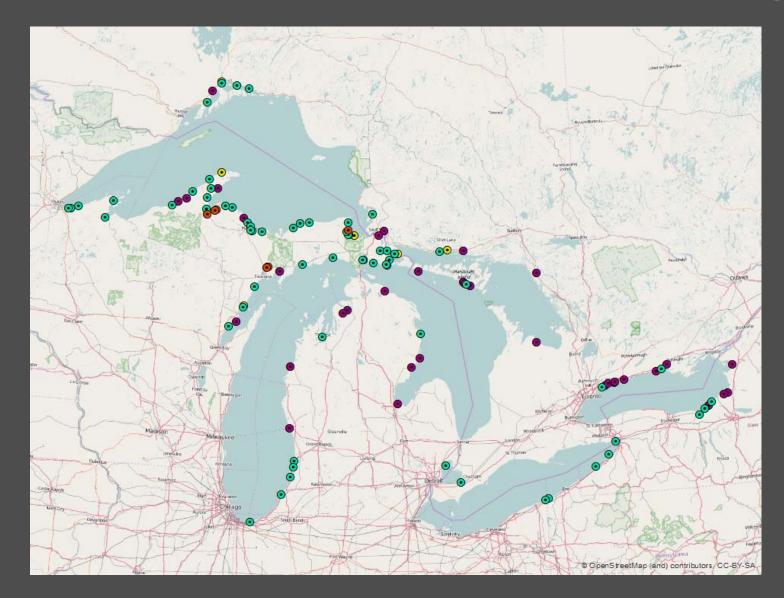
- Early identification of introduction
- Identifies areas for potential spread of existing invaders

Sea lamprey → informs most effective method(s) of control → informs effective use of resources



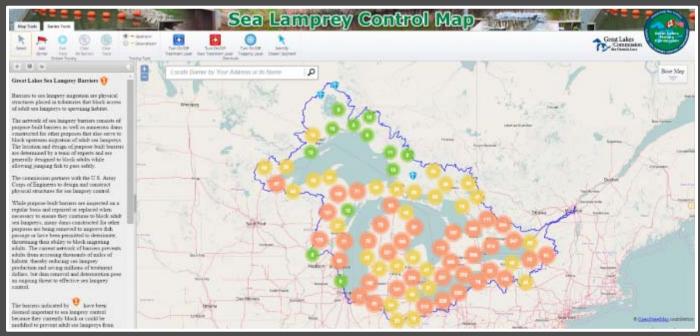


Annual Lampricide Stream Ranking



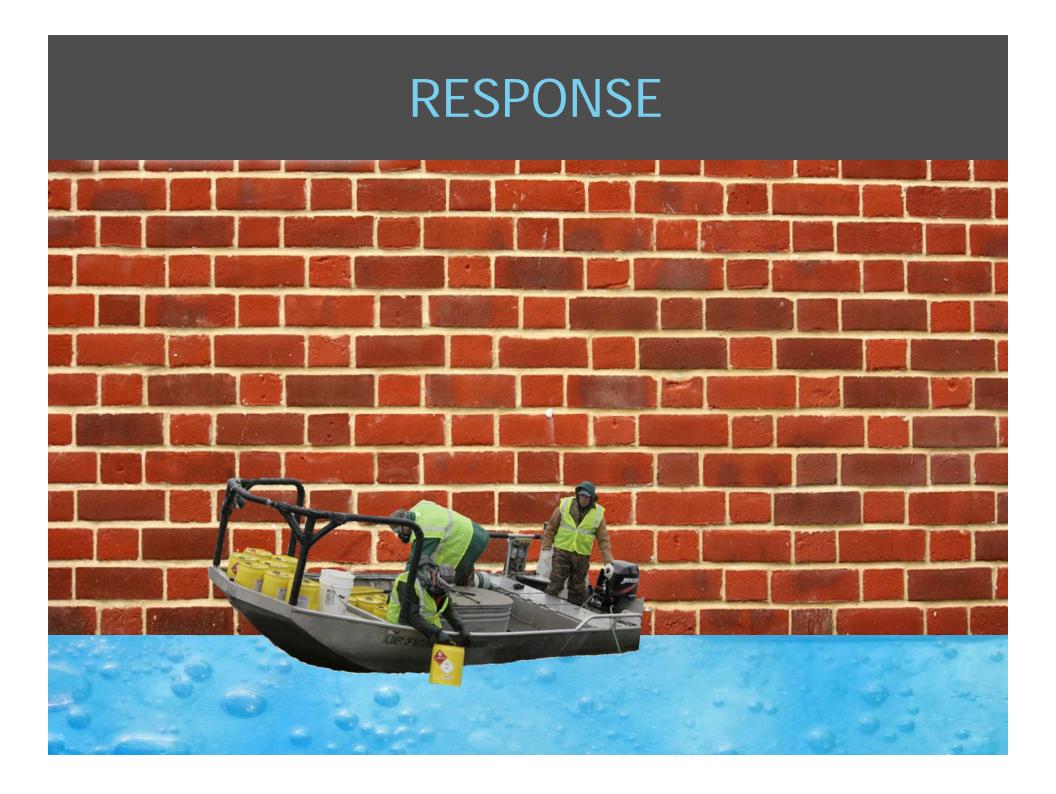
Barriers

• Overall move towards improving aquatic connectivity BUT sometimes, barriers are necessary



Barrier Mapping Tool

- Shows number of impacted stream miles when barrier is added/removed.
- Linked to Sea Lamprey Control Program databases



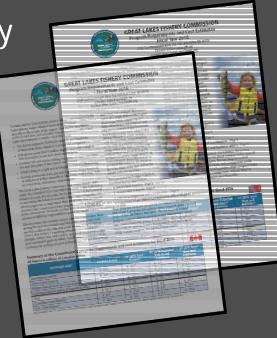
Response: Key Objectives

- Swift, coordinated, committed action
 - Must be willing, prepared to act quickly
 - Resources limited, use each other wisely
 - AIS are resilient, we must be as well

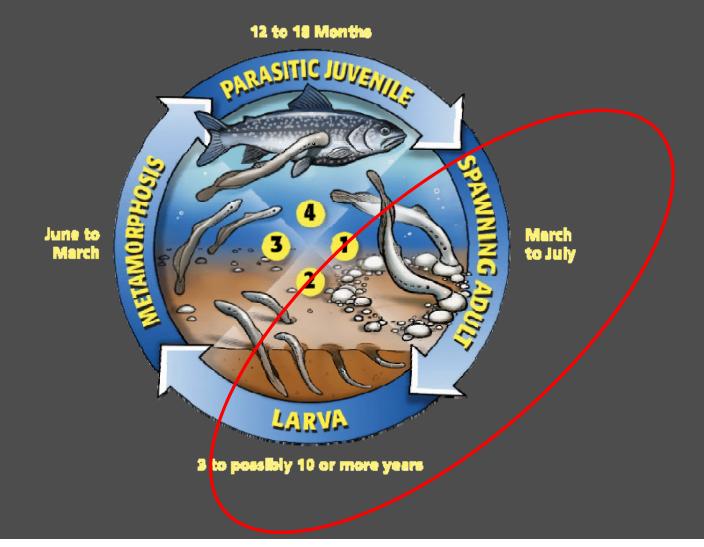
Sea Lamprey \rightarrow ongoing control as eradication is not feasible

 \rightarrow budget set annually





Rule #1: Know Your Enemy (Research) SEA LAMPREY LIFE CYCLE



Rule #1: Know Your Enemy (Research) SEA LAMPREY INFESTED TRIBUTARIES



Sea Lamprey Control Program



U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Service



Fisheries and Oceans Canada



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

AN INTEGRATED APPROACH



≈USGS

science for a changing world

U.S. Geological Survey

Lampricides



Sea Lamprey Barriers



Traps

Lampricide Application



500+ GREAT LAKES TRIBUTARIES



Sea Lamprey Barriers

- First means of attempted control, pre-dating the commission
- Network of barriers consists of purpose-built barriers (~50) and numerous other dams that block migrating sea lamprey
- All newly constructed barriers include traps to remove adult sea lamprey
 - Development of "fish passage" technology is underway





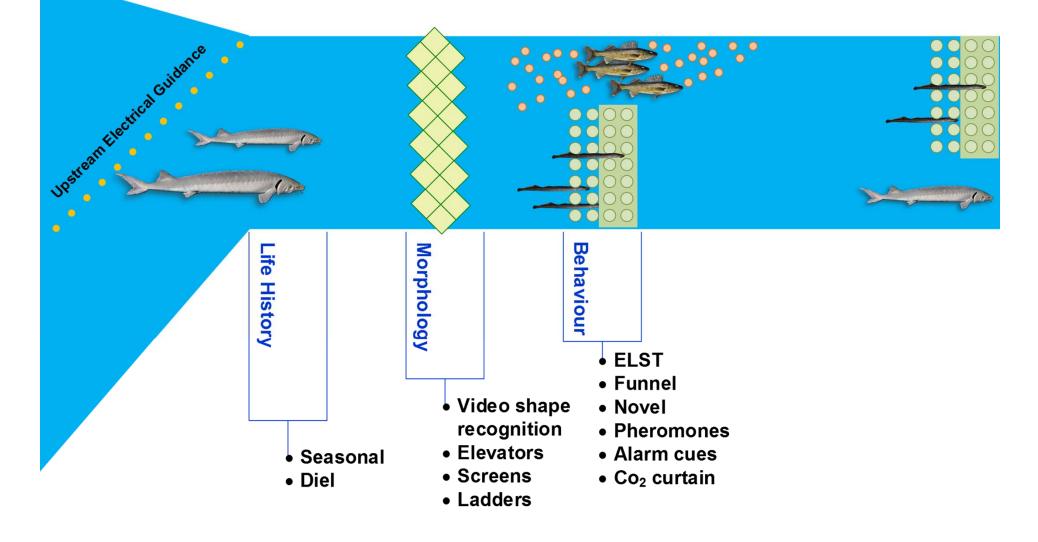
Possible Future Control Methods

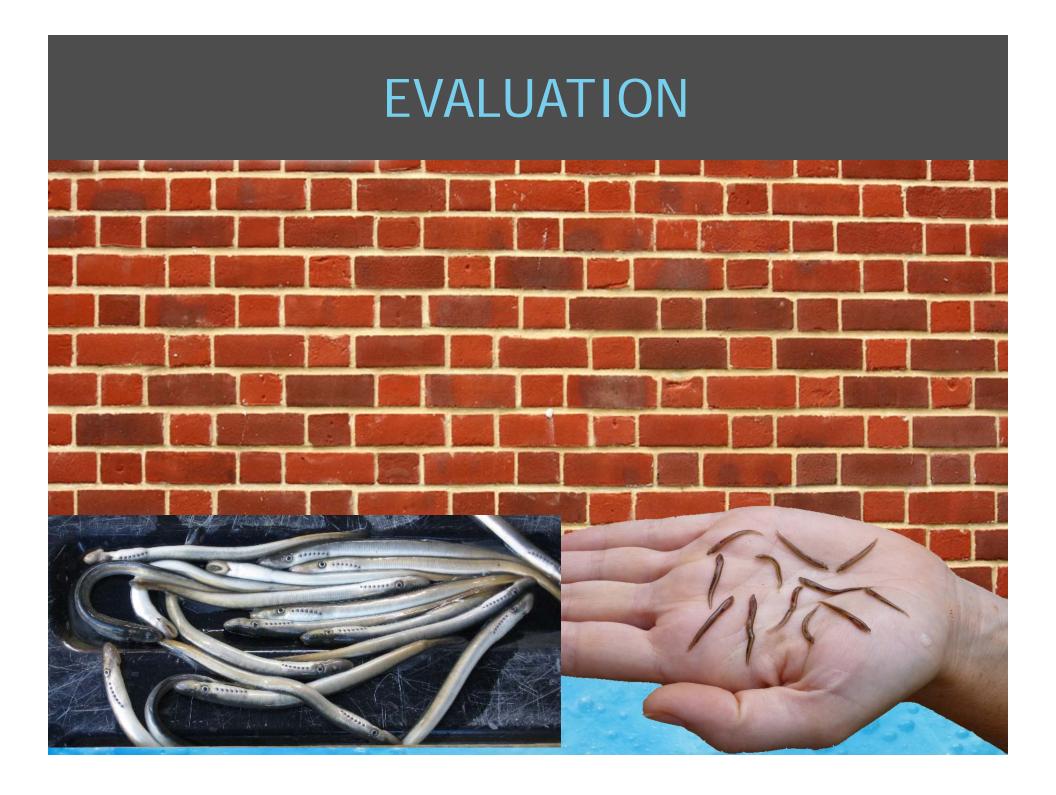
- Pheromones
- Electrical guidance
- Sterile-male-release
- Eel ladder style traps
- Juvenile trapping technology
- Lampricide resistance workshop



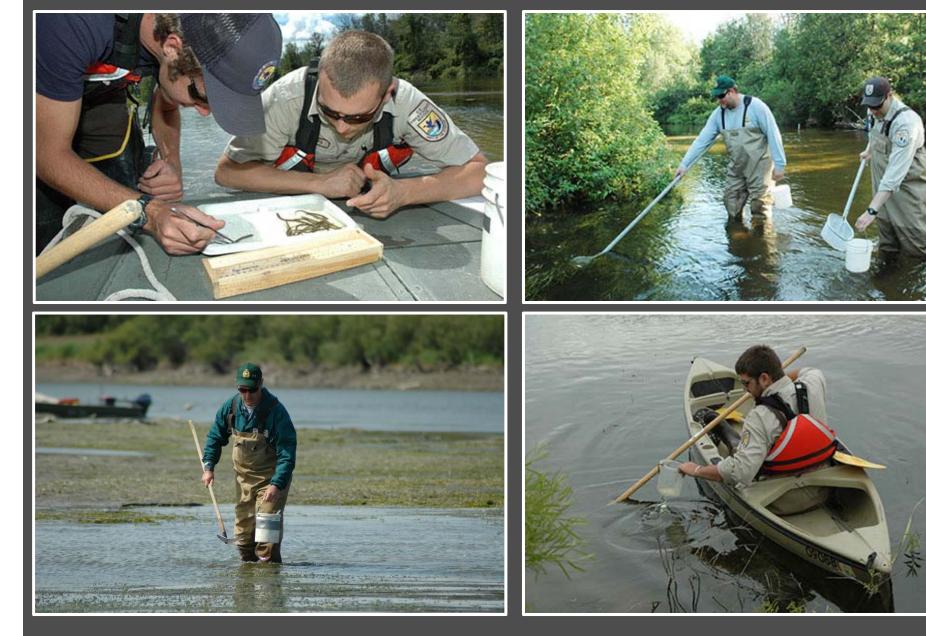


Conceptual Approach Integrating Technologies





Individual Treatment Evaluations



Evaluation of Barriers

- Barrier on Manistique River failed early 2000s
- Opened up 326 miles of lamprey spawning habitat
- Treatment stats:
 - 550 staff days
 - \$775,000 USD
 - → Every 2 years*!
- 12 years to rebuild barrier (and counting...)
- → Ripling effect



Sea Lamprey Control Program Effectiveness

BEFORE SEA LAMPREY CONTROL







AFTER SEA LAMPREY CONTROL







