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Minnesota Seasonal Recreational Property Owners

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MSRPO
Coalition, Inc.

Stop the Advance of Aquatic Invasive Species

Despite millions spent on education and public relations campaigns, fines of \$50 for transporting invasive species, posting all public landings with warning signs -- despite all of our efforts, invasive species continue their march across Minnesota's waters.

MSRPO, Minnesota Seasonal Recreational Property Owners, knows we can do better.

*** Increase fines for transporting AIS from \$50 to \$250 and impose a misdemeanor.** Poaching fines can run into the thousands, yet the transport of aquatic invasive species elicits only a \$50 fine. [HF 3355](#), Rep. Karla Bigham, is smart "pull-the-plug" legislation. People who are transporting boats between lakes must drain the bilge and live wells or face a \$250 fine. This is a good first step.

*** Stop creating pathways for AIS.** AIS is transported when an unclean boat is taken from an infested lake into an uninfested lake. Two northern Minnesota Legislators are proposing legislation that would stop the construction of any more public landings on lakes that do not currently have a public landing. Rep. David Dill introduced [HF 3230](#) and Gubernatorial candidate [Senator Tom Bakk](#) introduced [SF 2890](#).

These bills represent new, important tools in the fight to stop the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species. Still, some groups are opposing, claiming the bills will limit use and make it harder for people to enjoy Minnesota's natural resources.

They are wrong.

It is Milfoil and Curly Pond Weed, Spiny Water Flea and Zebra Mussels that are limiting "use," and stopping people from enjoying Minnesota's lakes and rivers. Infestation is nearly always permanent, destroying resources worth hundreds of millions in property value and recreation. Aquatic Invasive species are the real barrier to fishing and recreation, not a lack of access points.

ACT NOW

[CLICK HERE: Ask your legislators to support HF 3230 and SF 2890 and help stop the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species.](#)

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Sincerely,



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