



'Clean Drain Dry' Boots on the Ground

An annual review of the outreach and prevention projects implemented by Brant Dupree- 2021 Big Sky Watershed Corp Member

AIS Industry Outreach

Since 2019, UC³ has implemented the aquatic invasive species (AIS) Industry Outreach Project to engage water-based businesses with the 'Clean, Drain, Dry' message and create AIS prevention partners. Over the past three years, the number of contacts and partners has been increasing, with an all-time high of **83 visits and partners in 2021**. During the 2021 season, UC³ also surveyed to examine knowledge on AIS and CDD. The survey will help us to improve visit effectiveness and create connections between industry professionals and state agencies.



AIS Field Work

Shared with the Missoula County Weed District (MCWD), the BSWC member also focuses on AIS field projects during the summer months. In 2021 MCWD **applied herbicide on AIS across 130 miles of riverways** around Missoula, of which the BSWC **covered 30+ miles**. The BSWC member also assisted in projects on fragrant water-lily (FWL) in the clearwater lake chain. MCWD created plots to measure the competitiveness of FWL against native lily species as well as test herbicides for the future removal of FWL. The BSWC member aided in the **creation of 14+ plots** and research.



Community Outreach Events

The BSWC member was able to attend eight events across western Montana this year, including **rodeos, fishing camps, and lake honoring days**. UC³ partnered with Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks to cover more events and focus on spreading a unified CDD message. The majority of questions received revolved around boat check stations, fishing regulations, and quagga mussels.

Summary

2021 led to incredible successes for AIS outreach, with more CDD partners than ever before and the implementation of a state-wide industry outreach program.

In AIS prevention MCWD is paving the way for the management and removal of AIS. With the creation of Montana's first aquatic invasive species district, Missoula County continues to be a leader in the AIS field.

