

THE LITTLE BITTERROOT LAKE ASSOCIATION STORY: OUR "LOCALS BASED" DEFENSE AGAINST AIS MAKING THE PASSIVE BOATER AN "ACTIVE" BOATER

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Whitefish Lake Institute

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THANK YOU

▶ Mike Koopal

▶ Community Action TEAM

▶ Russ Hartzell FWP, John Babcock WET, Tyler Tappenbeck FBS, and
Warden Sgt. Jon Obst FWP

- ▶ Helped us get our bearings
- ▶ Understand Lake Ecology
- ▶ Learned about AIS and AIS Measurement
- ▶ Grant Money Opportunities
- ▶ Master Plans for Septic and MORE!

AIS WHAT IS IT?

**AN INVASION
A WAR**

A decorative graphic consisting of several parallel white lines of varying lengths, slanted diagonally from the bottom right towards the top right, set against a blue gradient background.

AIS INVASION HISTORY

- ▶ **WHO** let this happen?
 - ▶ **GOVERNMENT AND CORPORATIONS.**
 - ▶ (Not the **LOCALS** who it will **MOST** effect.)
 - ▶ **WHY** did this happen?
- ▶ **LAX OVERSIGHT AND LAZY ACCOUNTABILITY**

REACTIONS TO THIS INVASION

▶ **SOMEBODY TAKE CARE OF ME**

VS

▶ **"OUR" View - WHAT CAN "WE" DO TO defend our LAKE?**

WE ASKED:
IS OUR LAKE PROPERLY PROTECTED FROM AIS?

OUR ANSWER: **NO IT IS NOT!**

- ▶ Over time it is likely our lake **will be infected** by AIS.
- ▶ **WHY?** Because the current government programs, inspections and methods have slowed but **NOT** stopped this threat. (Just look at an AIS map.)

We need a BETTER War STRATEGY

OUR WAR PLAN STARTED WITH – GET INTELL

Best Sources for advice on how to fight our WAR?

Mike Koopal –WLI

Sun Tzu - THE ART OF WAR

“DEFINE a Multilayer Strategy and Tactics based on assets available AND activate/motivate/educate your SOLDIERS to carry the battle”

SUN TZU/KOOPAL INSIGHT

- ▶ “If you know the enemy and know yourself you need not fear the results of a hundred battles.”
- ▶ “Strategy without tactics is the slowest route to victory. Tactics without strategy is the noise before defeat.”
- ▶ “Fight with efficiency and with **ALL** forces available”

AIS –OUR WAR PLAN

- ▶ If we don't personally take charge of Little Bitterroot Lake's destiny, it is likely to be infected by AIS.
- ▶ Government should design its tactics – bottom up!
- ▶ Only one choice MOBILIZE **ALL** available to RESIST



AIS –OUR WAR PLAN

- ▶ The government will NOT take care of us!
- ▶ Each LOCAL defence initiative must be designed, applied, and modified by LOCAL citizens supported by government CAT teams.
- ▶ The challenge is in constant flux so our defence initiatives are always localized works in progress and must be flexible. (Ex. Symposium/Boat Launch/Flotilla)
- ▶ AIS LOCAL defence programs will range from highly centralized (Whitefish) to very decentralized (Little Bitterroot).

IN SUMMARY: WE NEED

- 1) OFFENSIVE RESOURCES (CHECK STATIONS, NEW TECH TO STOP REPRODUCTION AND KILL AIS, ETC.).
- 2) DEFENSIVE RESOURCES (EDUCATION, MEASUREMENT, ANALYTICS, ETC.) PROPERLY FUNDED
- 3) LOCAL "ACTIVE" BOATERS
("BOOTS ON THE GROUND AT THE POINT OF WAR")

DEMONSTRATION: CONVINCING THE PASSIVE BOATER TO BE AN ACTIVE BOATER

****ONE VOLUNTEER PLEASE****