AIS Subcommittee #4 Meeting Summary

OCTOBER 29, 2026
CHELAN FIRE STATION, 232 E WAPATO AVENUE + CALL-IN OPTION

Attendees:
In person: Stephen Lesky (CCNRD); Richard Ulhorn (All Things Lake Chelan); Anna Galipeau (LCRI); Nate Hough-Snee (Meadow Run Environmental); Justin Bush (WDFW); Casey Pruitt (WDFW); Phil Long (LCRI); John Olson

Online: Kelsey Mach (Geosyntec); Sarah Peck (Chelan PUD); Wes Glison (Ecology); Adam Pfleeger (Chelan Co Noxious Weed Dept); Brian Patterson (Chelan Basin Conservancy)

Action Items:

1. Provide final feedback on AIS Management Plan via email to Nate (nate@natehough-snee.org) and Kelsey (kelsey.mach@geosyntec.com) by November 12, 2026.

Decisions Made: Recommend putting forward AIS Inspection Feasibility Study and AIS Management Plan to LCC in December.

Upcoming Events
NA

Meeting Summary:
Lake Chelan AIS Inspection Program Feasibility Study
Nate Hough-Snee (Meadow Run Environmental) provided an overview of the final Lake Chelan AIS Inspection Program Feasibility Study final framework and candidate inspection locations. There was discussion about how boats are handled that have already been inspected at other locations, and how the statewide database maintained by WDFW is used by the County, as well as consideration of private boat launches long term. The group was in consensus to put the Lake Chelan AIS Inspection Program Feasibility Study forward to the LCC at the December meeting.

Draft AIS Management Plan Presentation
Nate presented an overview of the AIS management plan draft, feedback received thus far and provided opportunity for discussion of priorities and feedback on projects. General feedback discussed includes:

- Update to impact graphic such that QZM and golden mussels are shown to have more impact than flowering rush.
- Adding discussion about ongoing WDFW ongoing monitoring including ponar surveys and eDNA which should be referenced in the plan.
- General agreement on species of focus and described management strategies. Suggestion to reference ProcellaCOR herbicide specifically as treatment for Eurasian Water Milfoil.
- Questions from group member about the feasibility of use of herbicides in Lake Chelan given that it's a drinking water source.
- General consensus from group about project list.

The group was in consensus to put the Lake Chelan AIS Management Plan forward to the LCC at the December meeting.

Statewide Aquatic Invasive Animal Species Prevention and Readiness Update
Justin Bush and Casey Pruit from WDFW gave updates on the statewide AIS program and funding. The presentation included updates on quagga mussels including the history of treatment in Idaho and recent detection of dead mussel in Oregon, ongoing efforts by WDFW for early detection and prevention of QZM and golden mussels, efforts underway in California related to golden mussel management, the recent exercises including the "Lower Columbia River Golden Mussel Response Exercise" and "Snake River Containment Exercise", the proposed rulemaking for golden mussels to classify them as Prohibited Level 1, and state and federal budget updates.

2026 CCNRD Watercraft Inspection Program Update
Stephen Lesky of CCNRD provided a summary of 2026 inspection season, numbers and lessons learned as well as pending funding requests and plans for the 2027 inspection season.

Next Steps / Decisions Made / Announcements

- Provide any additional feedback on AIS management plan to Nate and Kelsey by November 12th.
- AIS Management Plan and Watercraft Inspection Plan Feasibility Study will be shared with the LCC and put forward for adoption at the LCC.