What is Integrated Pest Management?

Integrated pest management (IPM) is a decision-making strategy. IPM uses information about the pest species, how that species interacts with the other species in the area and with the broader ecosystem. Integrated Pest Management focuses on long-term control and considers all the available tools in the toolbox to determine the most effective control strategy for a given water that also has the least impact on non-target species and water quality. Target species can adapt to and resist a repeated technique rendering it less effective each time its used. A mix of strategies does not allow the target to adapt and ultimately may make the target species more vulnerable to control.

How Will IPM Work in the APM Program?

How can Integrated Pest Management help with aquatic plant management?

Integrated Pest Management is recognized as the most effective approach to managing aquatic plant problems. It is an effective and environmentally sensitive approach to water resource management. IPM considers all the available tools and includes continuous monitoring and evaluation to compare goals to outcomes of aquatic plant control to inform the next round of management.

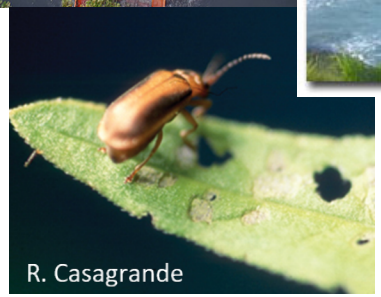
People who live on waters which have had aquatic invasive species (AIS) for decades know, AIS management is a long-term commitment. IPM is the best way to achieve goals for long-term problem control in an environmentally-sound way.

What if only one control strategy makes sense for my situation?

IPM does not mean that in every situation, multiple control techniques have to be used. First, IPM asks you to consider a management strategy overall based on the waterbody conditions. This results in setting reasonable goals. Then, IPM asks you to consider the pros and cons of each control technique to choose the techniques that make the most sense. Most importantly, IPM requires making a plan to incorporate updated observations and data into your future decisions to ensure effective management over time.

How is IPM incorporated into the program?

The DNR designed the planning process around Integrated Pest Management decision-making modules. Every five years, resource managers and leaders will update a plan for their waterbody. The plan will outline clear goals and objectives, name situations where control is needed, list what types of control may be used in different circumstances and evaluate control results for the waterbody.



When Will You Need a Plan?

You Will Need a Plan
If you are conducting large scale management
If you are managing aquatic invasive species populations
If you are applying for a 5-year mechanical harvesting or wetland permit.
You Won't Need a Plan
If you are controlling a pioneering population of a NR 40 Prohibited Species
If you have an Early Detection and Response Grant.
If the waterbody is entirely confined and retained on private property.
If you are conducting small scale control for navigation.
Your waterbody is less than or equal to 10 acres in size.

What if my waterbody has a Surface Water Planning Grant?

If you are working under a surface water planning grant, then you should follow the guidance and requirements of the grant program. The finished planning project, following SWG guidance and requirements, will be considered a "complete" plan under the APM Program and will allow you to get a permit.

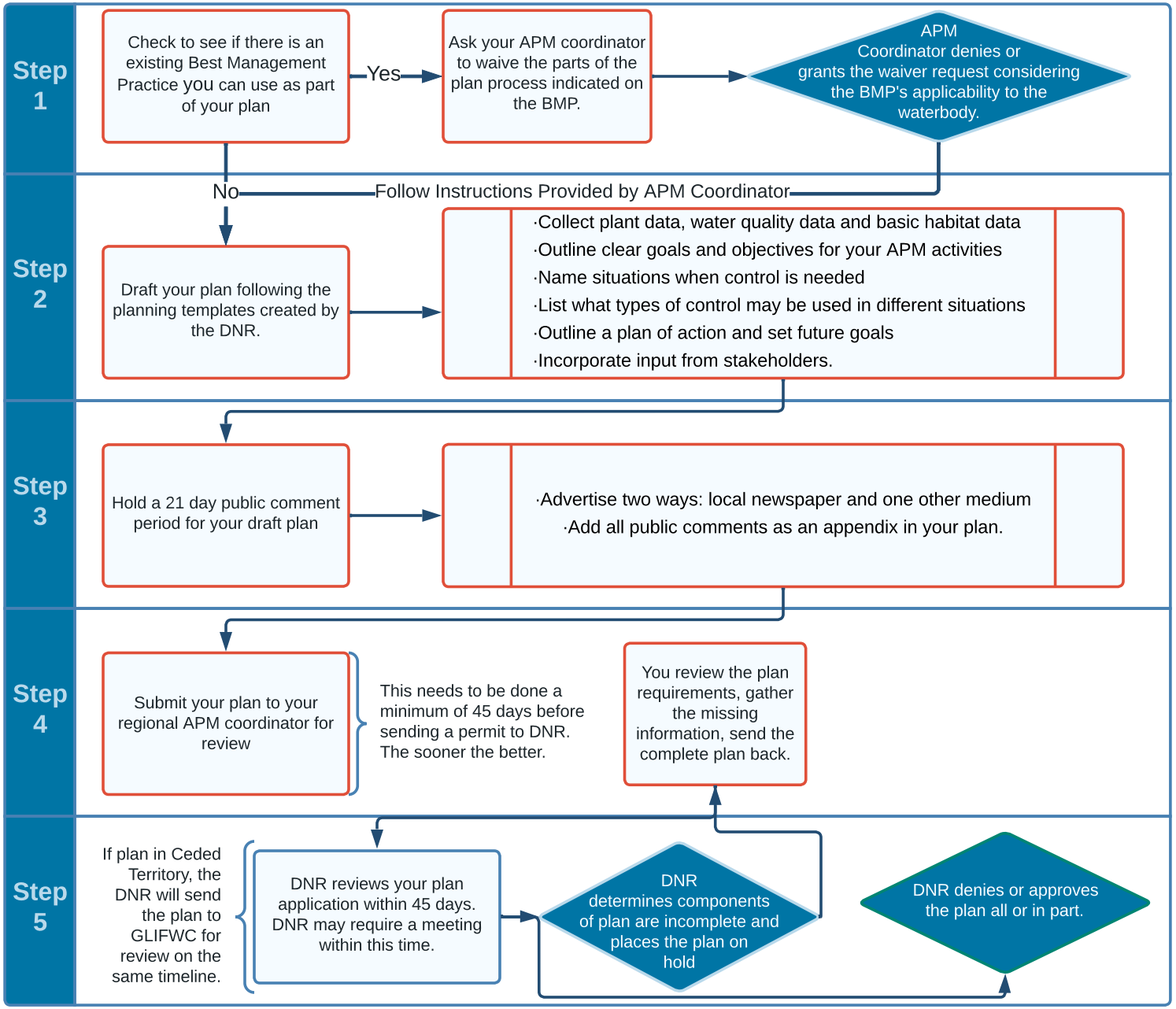
What's in a Plan?

1. A physical, chemical, and biological description of the body of water including the aquatic plant community.
2. A description of historical control activities.
3. A description of the target species' life cycle and habitat preferences.
4. A description of the documented impairments to beneficial water uses and ecological effects of the target species.
5. A description of aquatic plant management goals and objectives.
6. An evaluation of the chemical, mechanical, biological and physical aquatic plant control methods available.
7. Recommendations for an integrated aquatic plant management strategy utilizing some or all of the methods evaluated in6.
8. A strategy for evaluating the efficacy and environmental impacts of the aquatic plant management activities.
9. An education and information strategy for all stakeholders.
10. A description of how stakeholders and local governmental entities were involved in the development of the plan, including local units of government, qualified lake organizations, qualified river management organizations, and waterbody users.

What's in a plan update?

The life of a plan can be extended an additional 5 years, if plant survey data and the past 5 years of control history show the plan is still working well. So, for an update you would complete #1 and #2 above, review #5 and ask the DNR to extend the life of the plan for another 5 years. A plan will need to be fully updated at year 10.

What's the Planning Process?



What is the DNR considering when reviewing a plan application?

1. The potential for effects on protection and development of diverse and stable communities of native aquatic plants.
2. The potential for conflicts with goals of other written ecological or lake management plans.
3. The potential for cumulative impacts and effect on the ecological values in the body of water.
4. The potential for the long-term sustainability of beneficial water use activities.
5. The ability of the proposed management strategies to meet the stated goals of management.

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