

Suspected New AIS Discoveries – Communication Protocol

This document is intended for use by Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources staff when a suspected aquatic or wetland invasive species (AIS) is discovered in a Wisconsin waterbody (lake, river, or wetland) where it has not been previously reported. See the [Where to Find Invasive Species](#) document or the [Report Invasive Species](#) page to determine if the suspected AIS you discovered has been previously reported in the waterbody or location in a riparian site or wetland. DNR staff should use the following guidance if this is a new discovery. Note that this document is intended only as guidance and some scenarios may warrant deviations from the described process.

The Statewide AIS Monitoring Lead generates a biweekly list of new AIS reports from SWIMS and distributes reports to regional field supervisors, regional DNR AIS Coordinators, and groups E, F, and H each month.

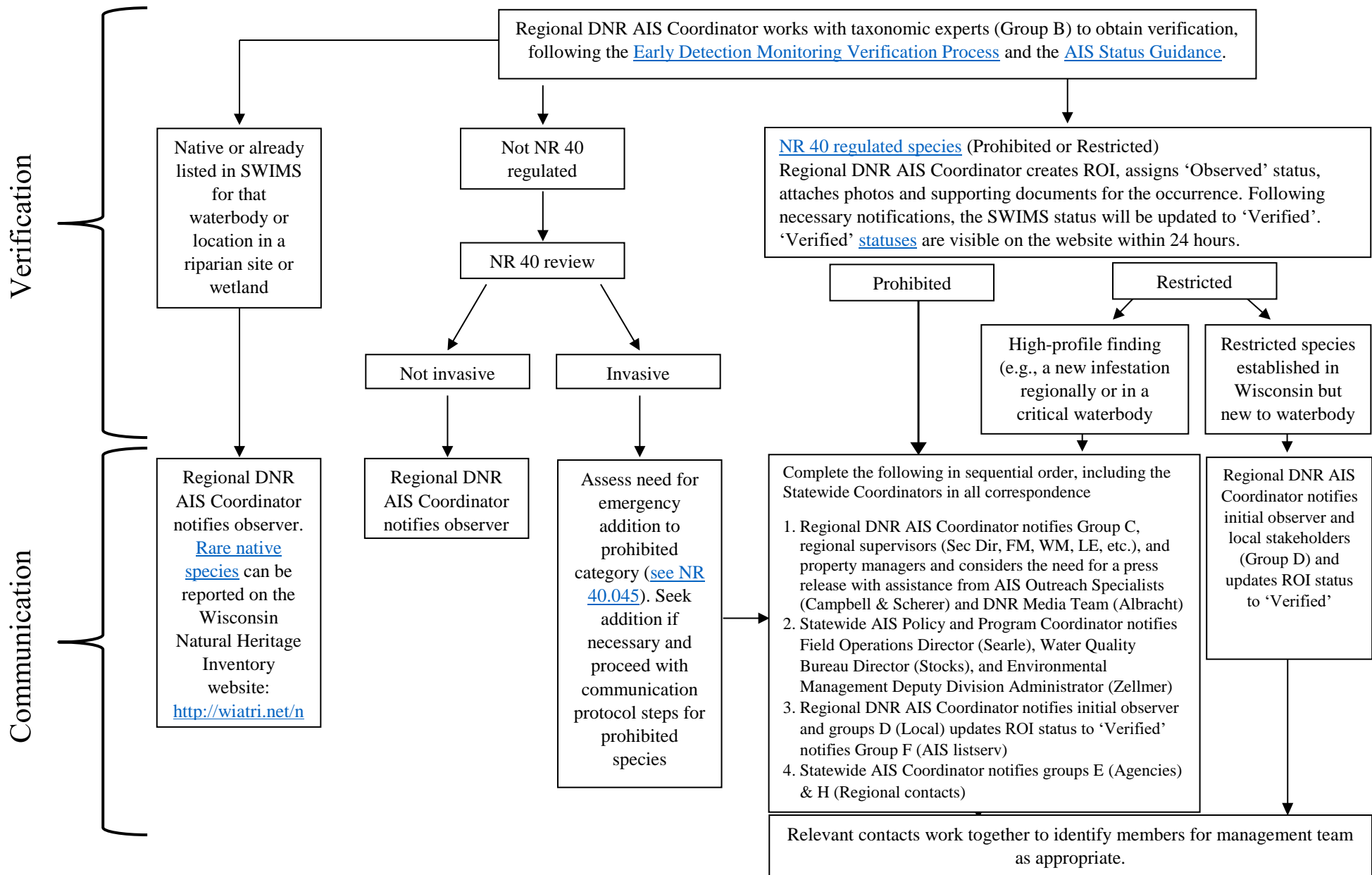
Early Detection & Reporting

Initial observer:

- 1.) **Report:** report the suspected AIS occurrence.
 - a. For occurrences that are part of planned monitoring effort (e.g. CLMN, early detection, DNR field work, etc.): notify the local DNR AIS Coordinator and enter the monitoring data (i.e., fieldwork event) into SWIMS. No incident report is needed.
 - b. For individuals without access to SWIMS or for the individuals with SWIMS access who discover a suspected new AIS population outside of planned monitoring: submit an [incident report](#).
- 2.) **Submit a photograph or specimen:** according to the [Early Detection Monitoring Verification Process](#)

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*The regional DNR AIS Coordinator may (with Supervisor approval) appoint another person to act as a regional coordinator or to complete individual tasks. However, it is the responsibility of the Regional DNR AIS Coordinator to ensure that assigned steps in the communication protocol are complete.

The following tables are **not** comprehensive but provide an initial set of contacts. They presume the identified individuals will directly make further contacts within their organizations. **Contact only affected agencies and organizations.**

Group A – Regional DNR AIS Coordinators: (Anyone can notify)			
See WDNR website: http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/invasives/Contacts.aspx?role=AIS_RE_COORD			
Group B – Taxonomic Experts: (Regional DNR AIS Coordinator notifies)			
To access the list of certified verifiers, first log in to SWIMs , then click the following link: https://prodoasint.dnr.wi.gov/swims/downloadDocument.do?id=162254639 Only DNR staff on a DNR computer can access this link. Consult the Statewide AIS Monitoring Lead if further verification is needed or for approval of verification by individuals not listed.			
Group C – DNR Central AIS Team: (Regional DNR AIS Coordinator notifies)			
Invasive Species Project Coordinator	Tara Bergeson	Tara.bergeson@wisconsin.gov	(608) 264-6043
Section Chief	Carroll Schaal	Carroll.Schaal@wisconsin.gov	(608) 261-6423
AIS Policy and Program Lead	Amy Kretlow	Amy.Kretlow@wisconsin.gov	(920) 838-2597
Statewide AIS Monitoring	Maureen Ferry	Maureen.Ferry@wisconsin.gov	(608) 261-6450
Statewide Surface Water Grant	Alison Mikulyuk	Alison.Mikulyuk@wisconsin.gov	(608) 381-1644
Statewide Lake Ecologist	Michelle Nault	Michelle.Nault@wisconsin.gov	(608) 513-4587
Statewide APM Lead	Madi Johansen	Madison.Johansen@wisconsin.gov	(608) 267-3531
AIS Outreach Specialist	Tim Campbell	Tim.campbell@wisc.edu	(608) 267-3531
AIS Outreach Specialist	Jeanne Scherer	jeanne.scherer@wisc.edu	(608) 266-0061
POC for Great Lakes Fish Commission	Brad Eggold	Bradley.Eggold@wisconsin.gov	(414) 303-0138
POC for Great Lakes Fish Commission	Kari Fenske	Kari.Fenske@Wisconsin.gov	(608) 590-5285
Wetland Invasive Plant Specialist	Matt Puz	Matthew.Puz@Wisconsin.gov	N/A
Invasive Plant Coordinator	Jason Granberg	Jason.Granberg@wisconsin.gov	(608) 267-7758
Law Enforcement	Bob Stroess	Robert.Stroess@wisconsin.gov	(920) 901-1361
Group D – Local Stakeholders: (Regional DNR AIS Coordinator notifies)			
Notify only affected stakeholders. This list is not comprehensive. Consider the following groups and other stakeholders who may be affected.			
Specific AIS County Coordinators (http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/invasives/topics.aspx)			
Site-specific volunteers (CLMN, WAV)			
Lake Districts/Associations (https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/organizations/lakelist/default.aspx)			
Private consultants who commonly work on the waterbody			
Dam Owner/Operator, if applicable			
River Associations (http://www.wisconsinrivers.org/local-groups)			
Wetland Organizations			
Local Non-profit Organizations			
Local Tribes (copy Agency Tribal Liaison, Shelly Allness, on communications between tribal entities and DNR)			
Local Universities (interested professors and researchers, e.g. Jake Vander Zanden at UW-Madison)			
DNR Lake Coordinators/AIS Specialists (http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/invasives/Contacts.aspx?role=AIS_RE_COORD)			
DNR Fisheries Team Unit Supervisor			
DNR Stream Biologist			
DNR Wildlife Biologist			
DNR Ballast Water Program			
Local federal offices (USFWS, NPS, USFS, ACOE)			
Others: DNR Wardens, Water guard, Regional Secretary Directors, Municipalities, etc.			

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Group E - Partner Agencies: (AIS Policy and Program Lead notifies)			
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DATCP	Brian Kuhn	Brian.Kuhn@wisconsin.gov	(608) 224-4590
GLIFWC	Steve Garske	steveg@glifwc.org	(715) 682-6619 x 2126
River Alliance of Wisconsin	Ellen Voss	evoss@wisconsinrivers.org	(608) 257-2424 x 111
USFWS	Amy McGovern	amy_mcgovern@fws.gov	(612) 713-5109
USGS	Mark Gaikowski	mgaikowski@usgs.gov	(608) 781-6221 x 221
UW-Extension Lakes	Eric Olson	eolson@uwsp.edu	(715) 346-2192
UW Extension WAV	Chad Cook	Chad.Cook@wisc.edu	(920) 232-1990
UW Sea Grant	Tim Campbell	tim.campbell@wisc.edu	(608) 267-3531
Wisconsin Lakes	Mike Engleson	mengleson@wisconsinlakes.org	(608) 661-4313
WI Wetlands Assoc.	Tracy Hames	tracy.hames@wisconsinwetlands.org	(608) 250-9971
Group F - AIS listserv: (Regional DNR AIS Coordinator notifies)			
WILMPNPartnership@g-groups.wisc.edu			
Group G - DNR Media Team: (AIS Outreach Specialist notifies)			
Public Affairs Manager	Jerad Albracht	Jerad.Albracht@wisconsin.gov	(608) 266-0161
Legislative Liaison	Sean Kennedy	seanp.kennedy@wisconsin.gov	(608) 400-2115
Liaison Specialist	Erin Ruby	Erin.Ruby@wisconsin.gov	(608) 266-7566
Group H - Regional Contacts: (AIS Policy and Program Lead notifies)			
Great Lakes Panel	Erika Jensen	ejensen@glc.org	(734) 971-9135
Mississippi River Panel	Greg Conover	greg_conover@fws.gov	(618) 997-6869 x 103

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