



# 2018 AIS Program Report

This is a brief summary of Cass County AIS Program projects and accomplishments in 2018.

## **2018 Statistics**

- Inspection hours-9,161 hours
- Inspections done-21,808
- 102 Inspection days

## **AIS boat plug law violation rates by year**

- 2015-2.4%-230
- 2016-.0.91%-179
- 2017-1.17%-211
- 2018-2.4%-265

## **Accomplishments**

We worked closely with several fishing tournaments (Leech Lake Walleye Tournament and the Frank Schneider Muskie Tournament) as well as the Leech Lake Regatta to insure ample watercraft inspection coverage throughout these events at multiple locations including the staging site at Northern Lights Casino and Events Center. In an unprecedented move, we partnered with Itasca County AIS program where they brought one of their decontamination units to the Casino staging site. Their unit was on hand and available until 10:30 pm the night prior to the tournament for any participants that may have needed a decontamination before launching into Leech Lake for the Frank Schneider Muskie Tournament.

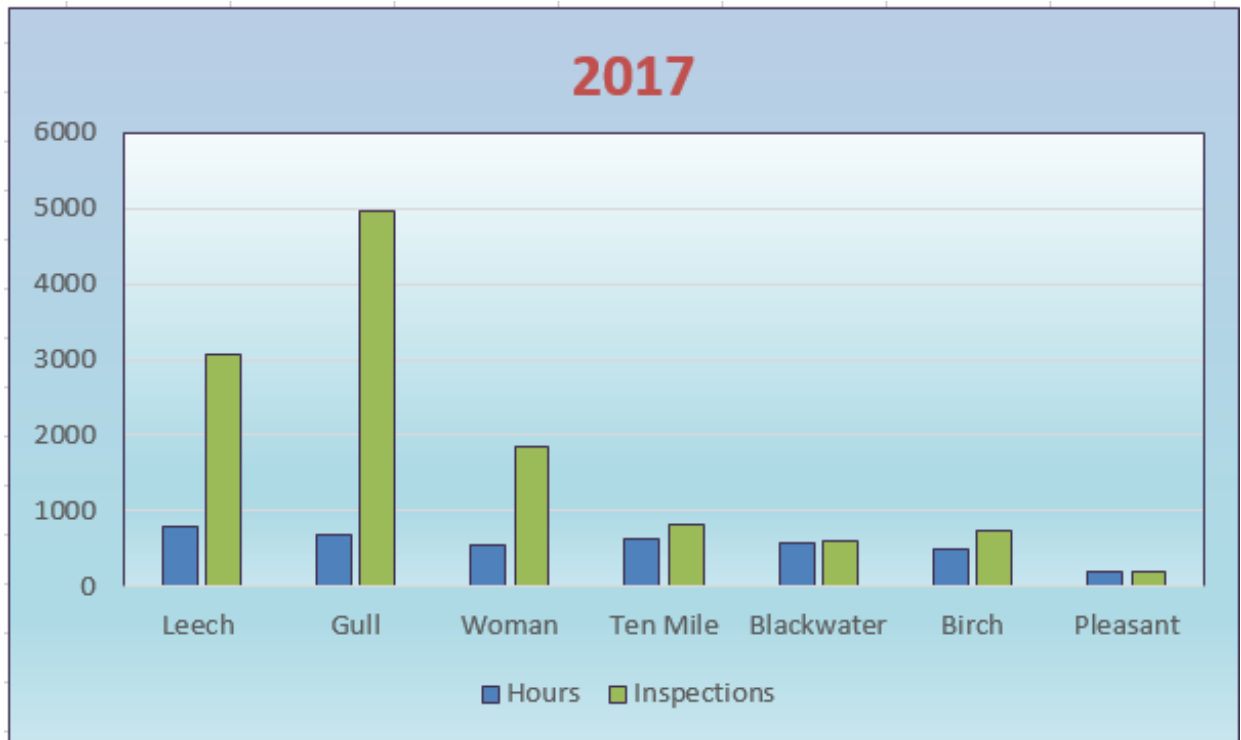
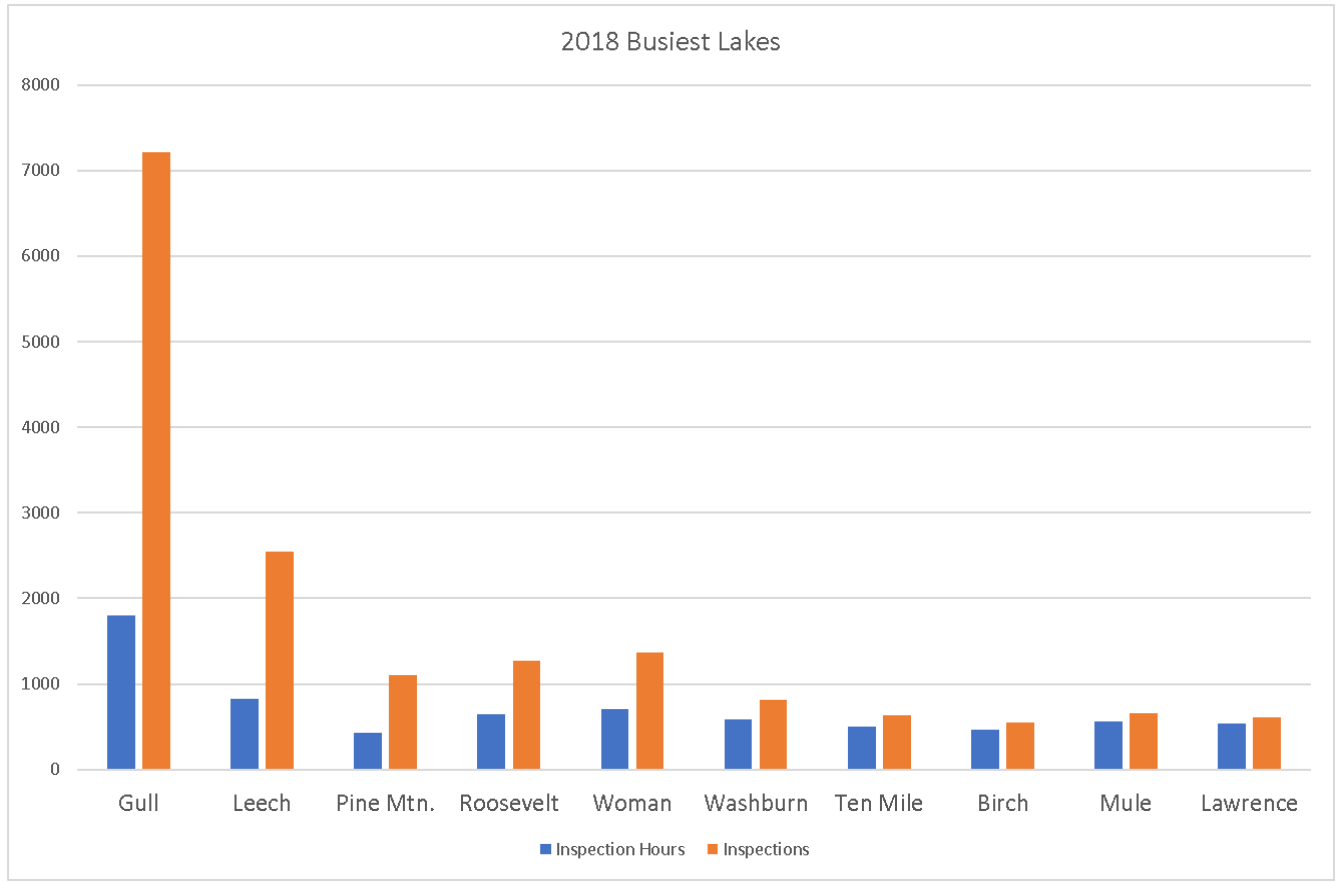
In April and August we conducted the Enhanced Training Workshops for the watercraft inspectors. The workshop was a huge success. The funding for the workshops came from a matching grant the Cass SWCD received from the Initiative Foundation. Watercraft inspectors from Beltrami County, Cass County and Clearwater County were the participants of the April session. Benefits from the workshop were realized as the season progressed with far fewer contentious interactions between boaters and inspectors. Feedback from all counties has been positive regarding the content and value of attending the workshop sessions. These workshops will be repeated through April 2019. Word has gotten out throughout the state among AIS Program Coordinators with many requests for us to share our format so other counties can replicate what we've done.

## **Peak Weeks:**

- **Fishing Opener 5/11-5/13-934 Inspections**
- **May 25-6/01-2815 Inspections-21 Inspectors**
- **7/01-07-08-1476 Inspections-22 Inspectors**
- **08/30-09/03-1363 Inspections-20 Inspections**

# Hours spent at landings and inspections conducted on Selected Lakes

## 2018



## 2018-Total Number of Inspections and Decontaminations

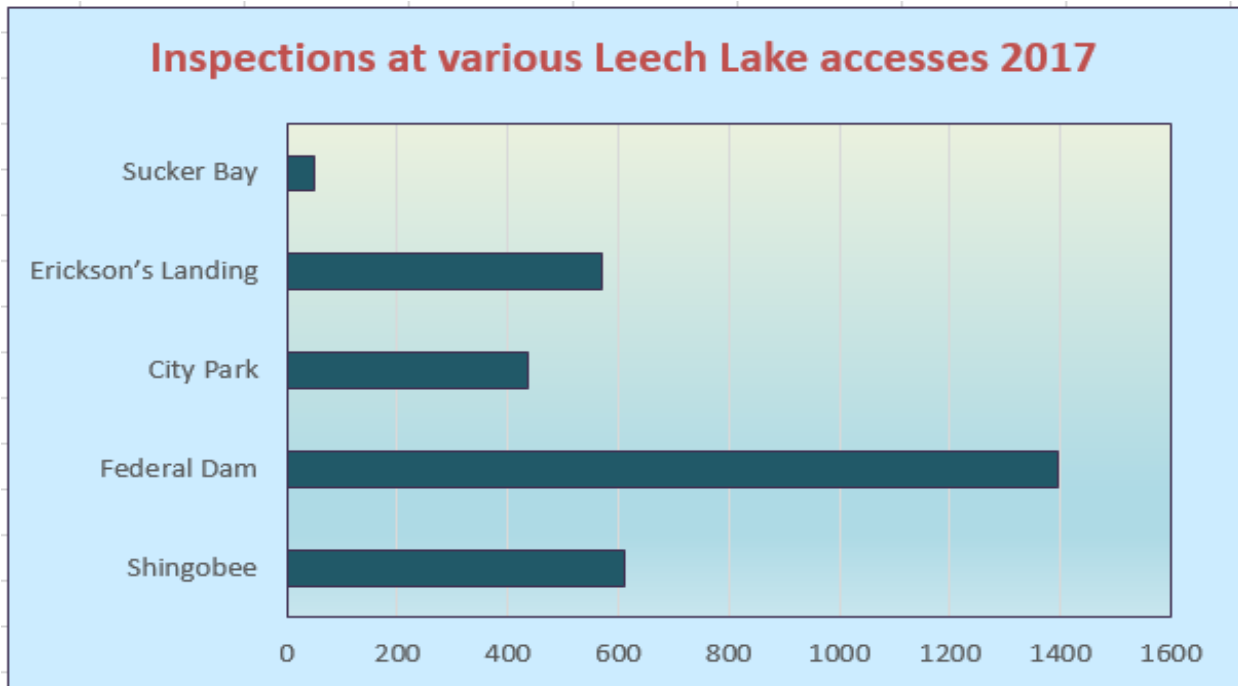
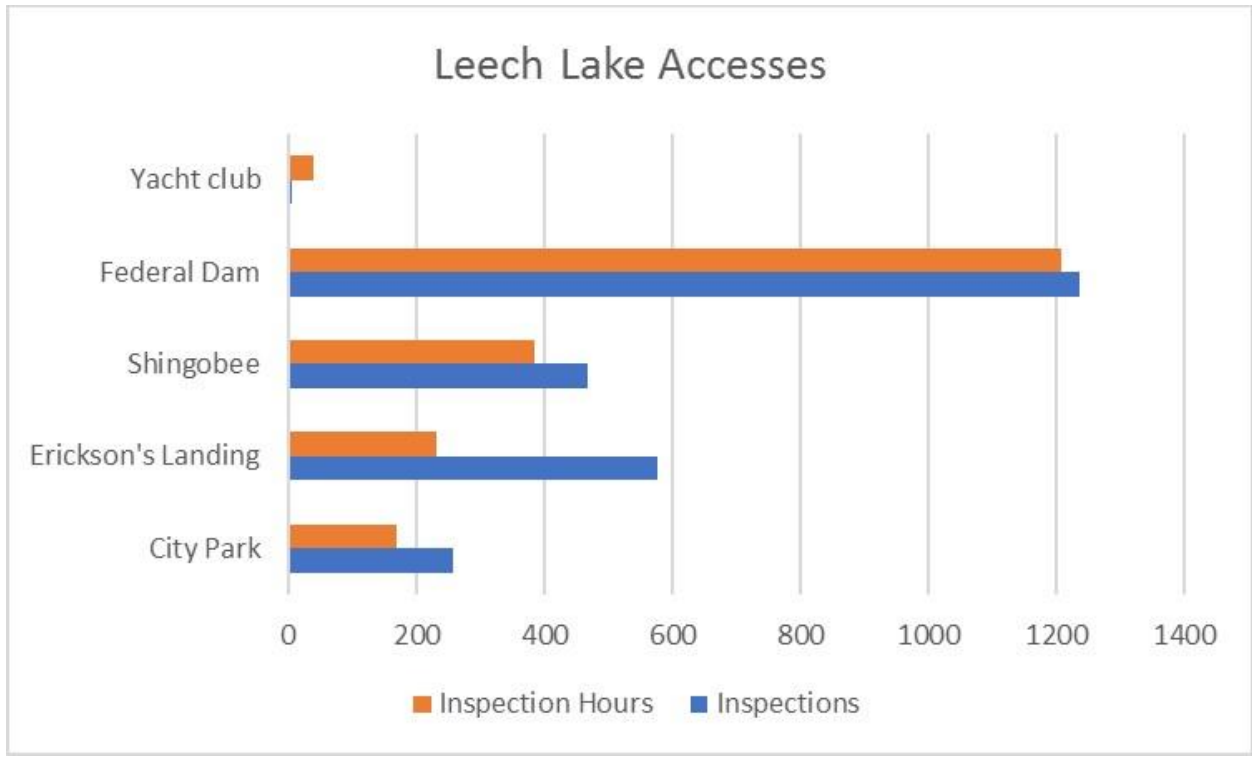
### Done in Cass County Lakes

<b>Inspections</b>	Leech	Winnie	Gull	Cass	Others	Totals
DNR	2464	355	3331	88	0	6238
Itasca County	0	131	0	0	0	131
Crow Wing County	0	0	2493	0	0	2493
Beltrami County	0	0	0	395	0	395
Cass	2562	218	4708	937	11805	20230
Total Inspections	5026	704	10532	1420	11805	29487

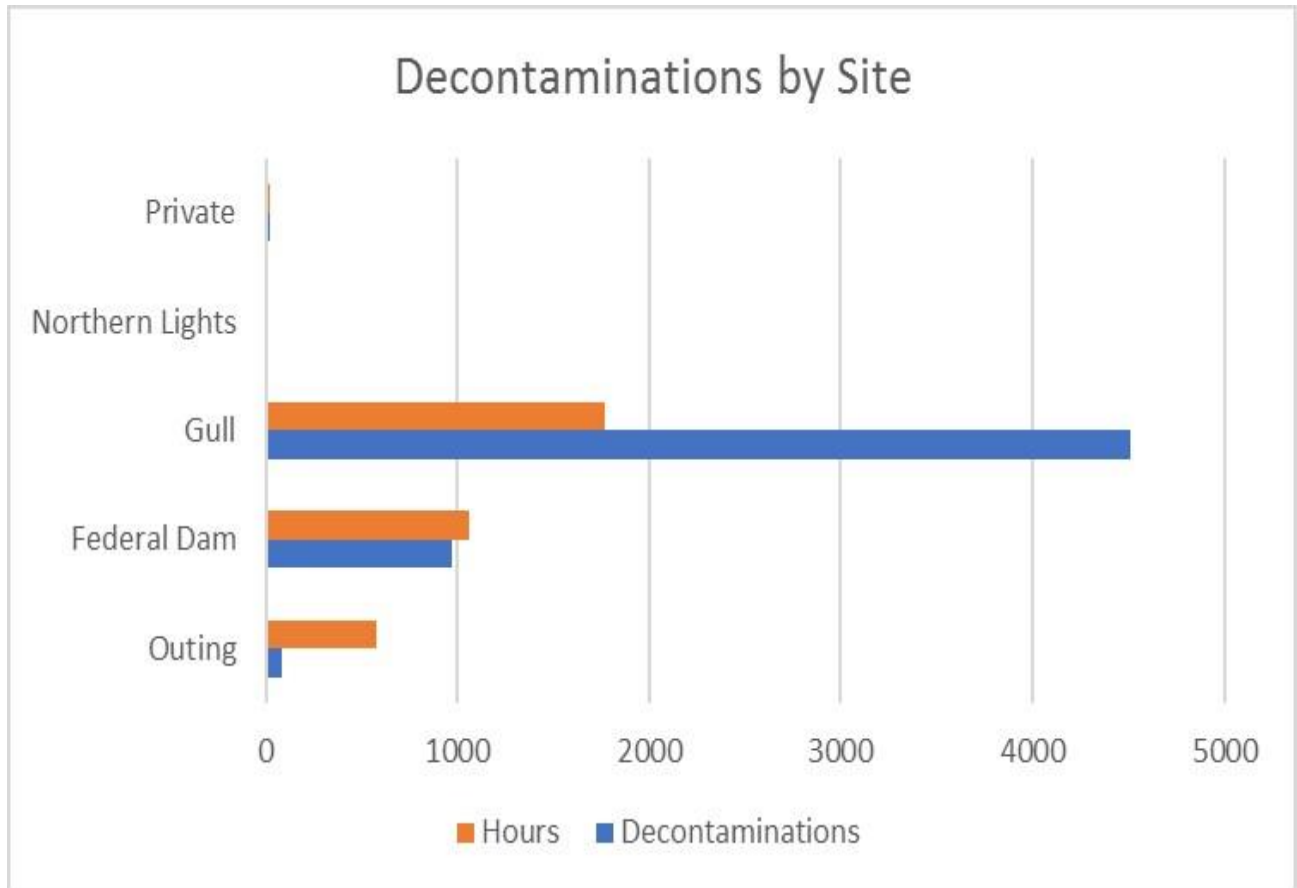
### Decontaminations

DNR	1068	241	2814	86	0	4209
Itasca	0	18	0	0	0	18
Crow Wing	0	0	113	0	0	113
Beltrami	0	0	0	2	0	2
Cass	1864	0	4564	4	21	6453
Totals Decontaminations	2932	259	7491	92	21	10795

## 2018 Cass Inspection Totals for Leech Lake-2562



## 2018 Decontaminations



**Totals: Outing-84, Federal Dam-968, Gull-4564, Northern Lights Casino-9**

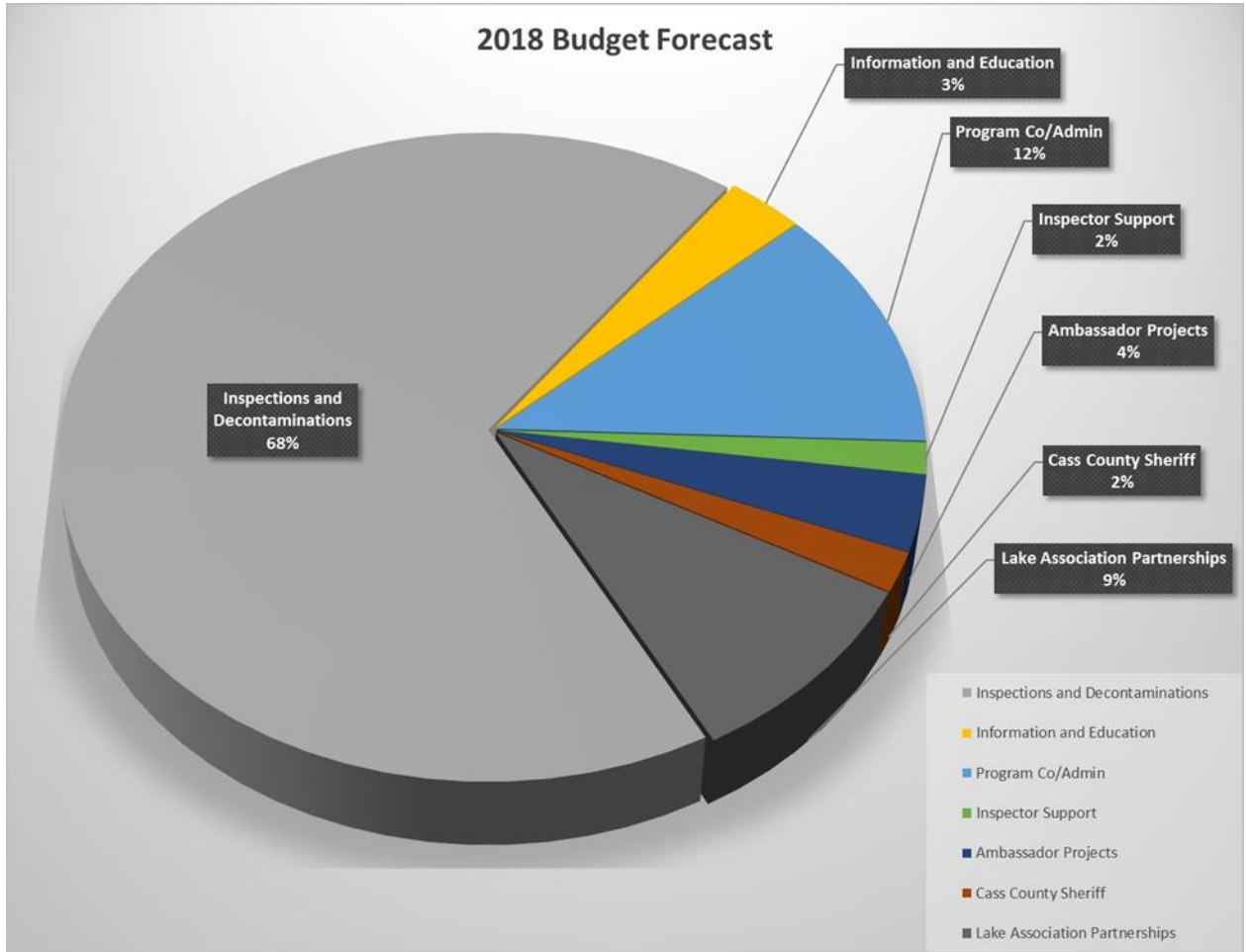
### ***Participation in 2018::***

- DNR Roundtable in Brainerd-January 2018
- AIS Summit in St. Paul-February 2018
- Enhanced Watercraft Inspector Training in April 2018-Northern Lights Casino
- Enhanced Training Workshop for Cass County in August-Cass County Land Dept.
- Worked with Itasca County and Lake Vermilion Association to develop and secure a grant from the Initiative Foundation for the creation of the Resort Ambassador Project

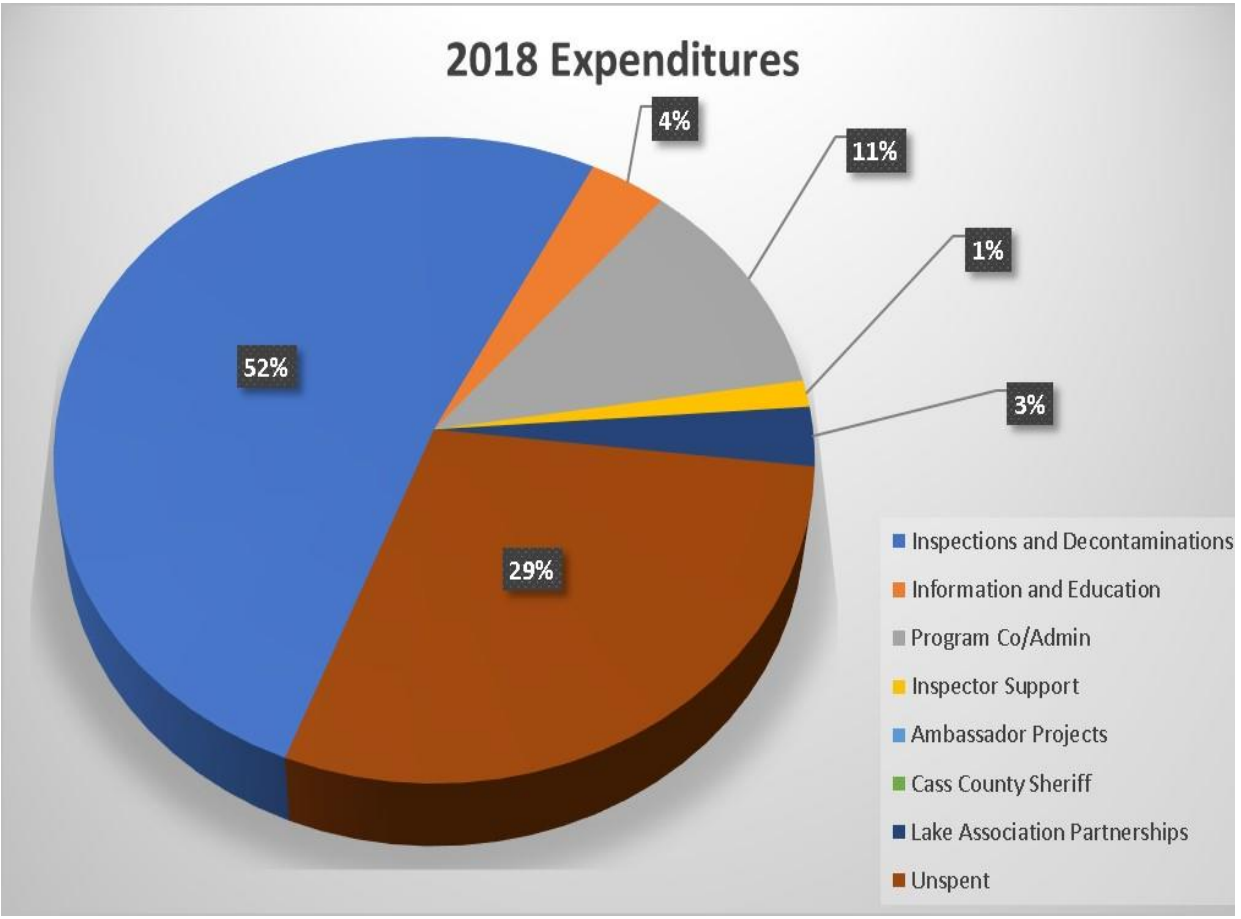
### **The Path for 2019**

We will continue to focus the majority of our funding dollars on boots on the ground inspections at the County boat accesses. Getting the Resort Ambassador Program up and running will be a priority of focus as well.

### 2018 Budget Forecast



### 2018 Expenditures



## 2018 Proposed Budget

Inspections	310,000
Information and Education	16,000
Lake Association Partnerships	60,000
Resort Ambassador Project w/Initiative Foundation	19,000
Law Enforcement Inspections	20,000
Inspector Training w/Initiative Foundation	10,000
Supplies Equipment Porta Potties	8,000
AIS Coordinator Wages	56,000
Program Administration	<u>6,000</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>505,000</b>