



MN Lakes & Rivers Advocates



Protect Our Lake Legacy

www.mnlakesandrivers.org

Protecting Minnesota's Lakes and Rivers... Acting Locally

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Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates' (MLR) mission is to protect Minnesota's lake and river heritage for current and future generations by forging powerful links between lakes, lake advocates and policy makers.



Land of 10,000 Lakes

*MN DNR AIS Spread Prevention Study
February 2012*

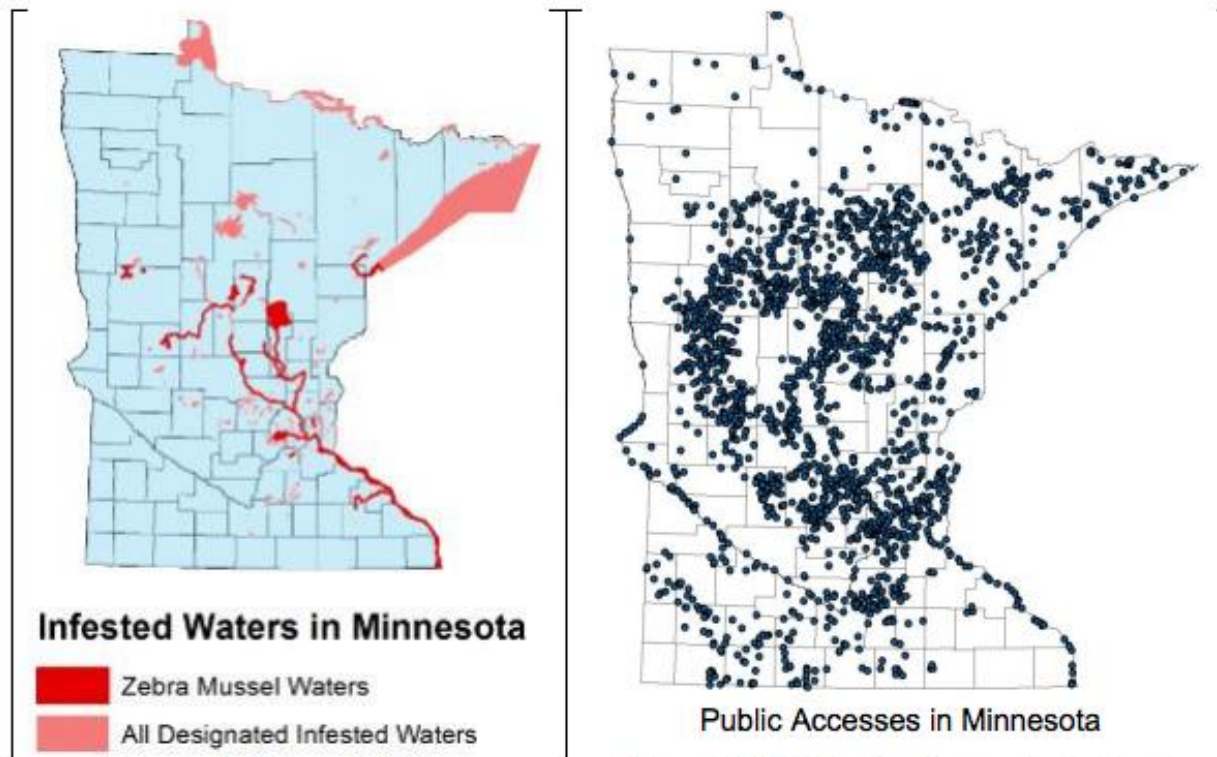
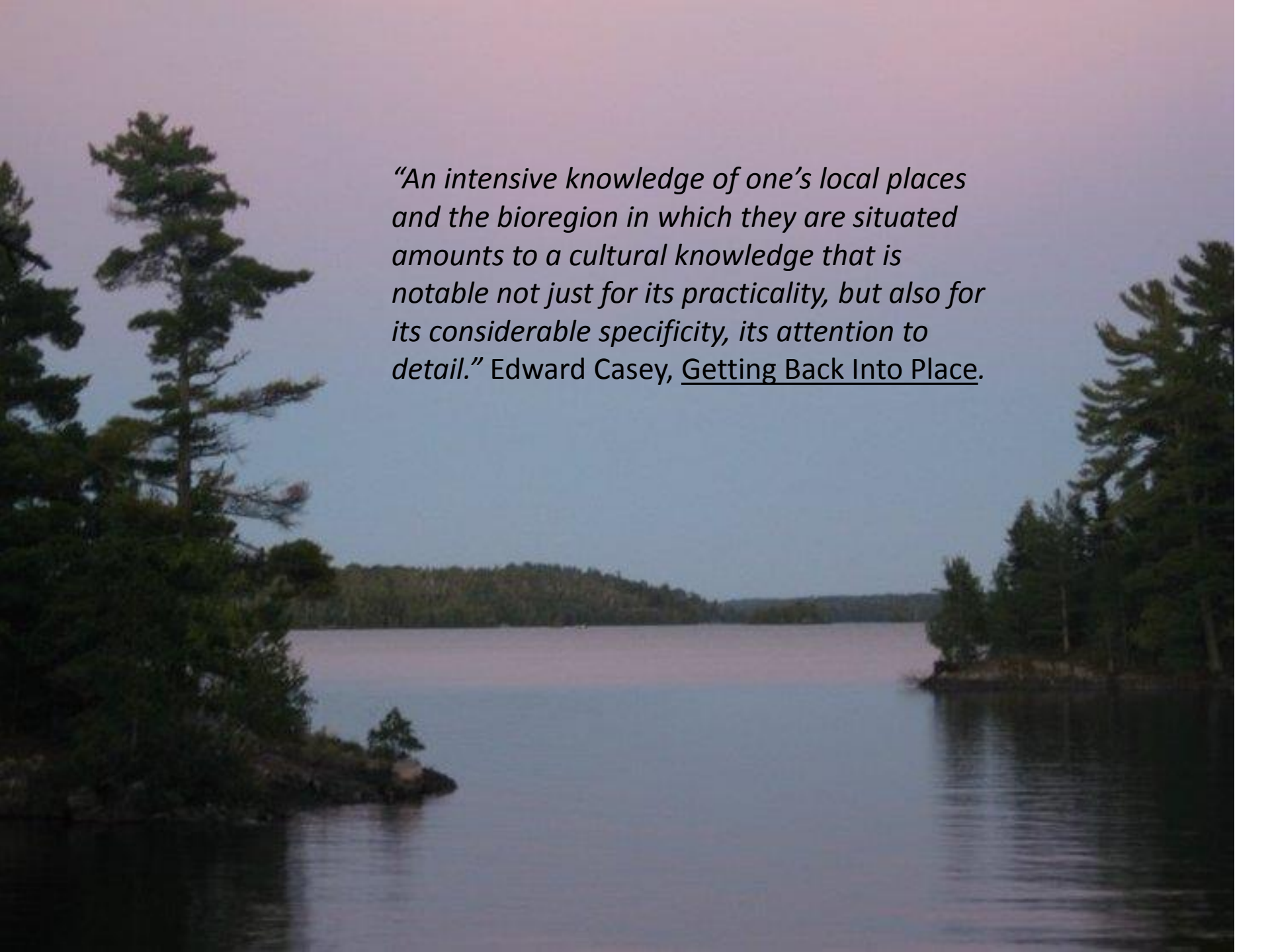


Figure 1: Infested Waters

Figure 2: MN Public Access Locations

Minnesota faces Unique AIS Challenges

- 11,843 lakes over ten acres in size,
- 1956 public accesses,
- 1722 private accesses,
- Over 876,000 registered boats in Minnesota.

A scenic view of a calm lake surrounded by dense evergreen forests under a clear sky. The water is still, reflecting the surrounding greenery and the pale blue sky. The trees are tall and dark green, framing the lake on both sides. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

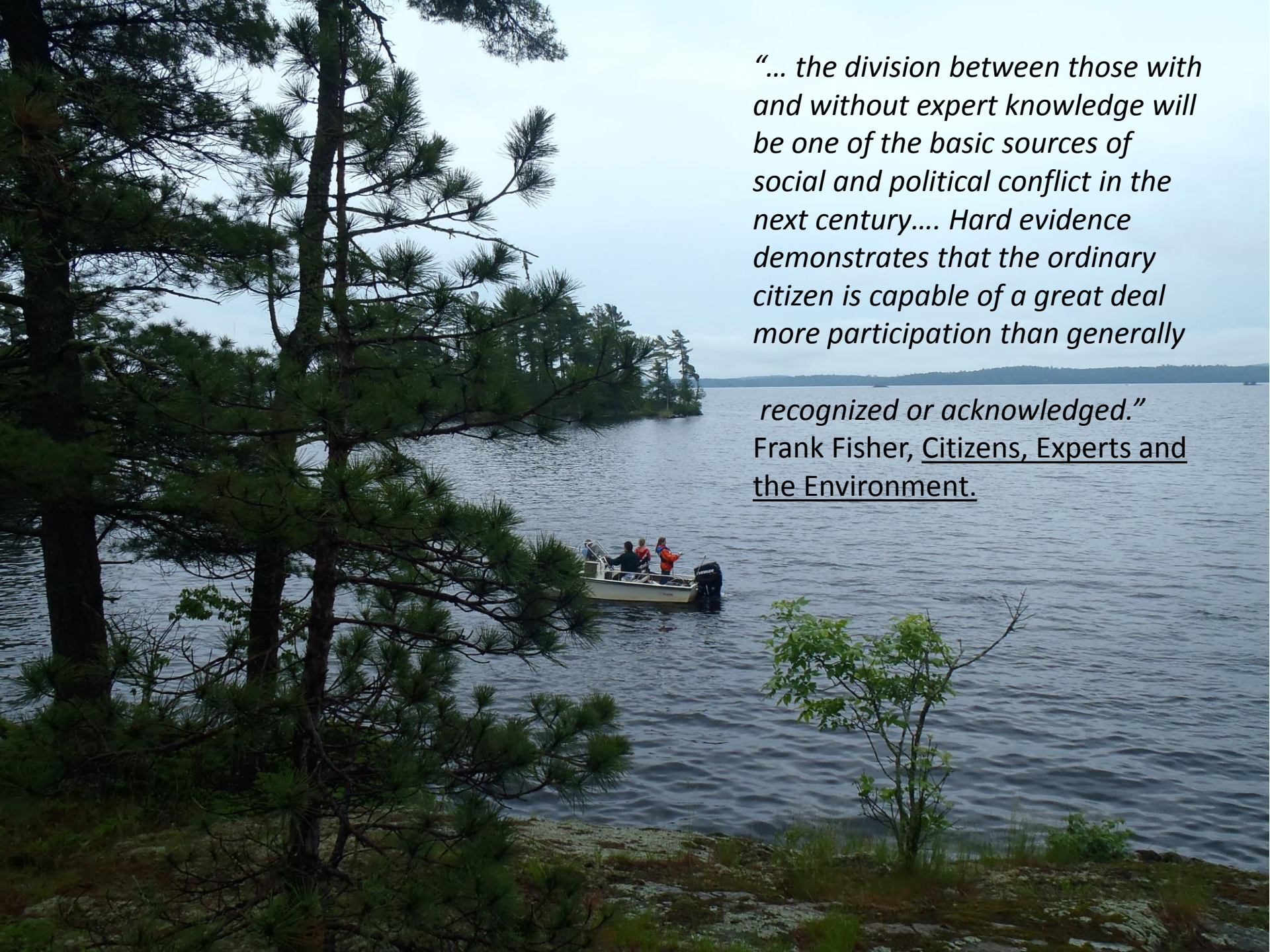
“An intensive knowledge of one’s local places and the bioregion in which they are situated amounts to a cultural knowledge that is notable not just for its practicality, but also for its considerable specificity, its attention to detail.” Edward Casey, Getting Back Into Place.

MN AIS Laws Passed Since 2010

- Pull the plug bill, making it illegal to transport water overland,
- Increase in AIS fines to \$250,
- Increased authority for certified AIS inspectors,
- Increased authority for Conservation Officers to remove high risk water craft or water related equipment from a water body or prevent launch,
- Increased maximum fines to \$500 for AIS violations,
- Required water service provider training in AIS laws and Best Management Practices,
- Funding of the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center,
- Creation of a \$4.5 million granting program for innovative AIS pilot projects in MN,
- Certified, mandatory decontamination of boats that fail AIS inspection,
- Required education and signed affirmation on all water craft registrations and non-resident fishing licenses that signer understands and will follow MN AIS laws and best management practices,
- Creation of annual, ongoing \$10 million County AIS Prevention Aid.

Lake Associations, a Minnesota Resource



A scenic view of a lake with a small boat in the middle ground, framed by pine trees in the foreground. The boat has three people on board and a motor. The water is calm with light ripples. In the background, there are more trees and a distant shoreline under a cloudy sky.

“... the division between those with and without expert knowledge will be one of the basic sources of social and political conflict in the next century.... Hard evidence demonstrates that the ordinary citizen is capable of a great deal more participation than generally recognized or acknowledged.”

Frank Fisher, Citizens, Experts and the Environment.