

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact:

Mindy Otto
Central Upper Peninsula Cooperative Weed Management Area (CUPCWMA)
(906) 226-8871 x116, cupcwma@gmail.com

Doug Barry
Michigan Department of Natural Resources
(906) 339-4461

Dave Forsberg
Upper Peninsula Power Company
(906) 485-2445

Aquatic Invasive Species ‘Landing Blitz’ Set for Dead River July 8
Educational Event to Focus on Protecting Great Lakes and Waterways

MARQUETTE -- The Michigan Departments of Environmental Quality, Natural Resources and Agriculture and Rural Development, in partnership with the Central Upper Peninsula Cooperative Weed Management Area (CUPCWMA) and Upper Peninsula Power Company (UPPCO), will host an Aquatic Invasive Species “Landing Blitz” from 1 to 5 p.m. on July 8 at the East End Boat Launch located on the Dead River (Hoist) Basin in Negaunee Township.

During the event, representatives from, CUPCWMA, UPPCO and the DNR will be on hand to provide educational materials, answer questions and further discuss what boaters and any member of the public can do to prevent the spread of invasive aquatic plants and animals such as Eurasian watermilfoil and zebra mussels. Aquatic invasive species crowd out native species, disrupt lake ecosystems, and interfere with boating, fishing, and other recreation.

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This event is one of many that will be held at boat landings across Michigan July 1-10 as part of Michigan's annual Aquatic Invasive Species Awareness Week. For more information about aquatic and terrestrial invasive species visit www.michigan.gov/Invasivespecies and www.cupcwma.org.

This project was funded in part with funds from the Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program through the Michigan Departments of Natural Resources, Environmental Quality and Agriculture and Rural Development. Funding was also provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grants to the Alger and Marquette County conservation districts. Additional funding for this project was provided by a grant to the Upper Peninsula Resource Conservation and Development Council from the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation which includes funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Forest Service.

NOTE TO MEDIA: Please see attached map regarding how to reach the East End Boat Launch located on the Dead River (Hoist) Basin in Negaunee Township. There will be opportunities to shoot video/take photos and gather interviews at the event.

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