
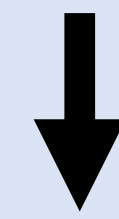


WHY?

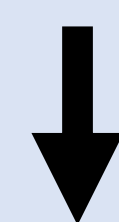

Check, Clean, Drain, Dry PREVENTION



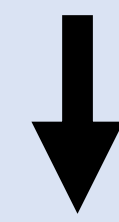

- boat brings invasive plant fragment to a new lake
- just a small stem, no roots, flowers or seeds needed




- Small fragment grows new "roots"
- once established, colony spreads

- grow faster than native plants
- have fewer predators than native plants

- invasives can take over lake habitat
- disrupts healthy balance of plant types in lake

Invasives can cause problems:

- alter food webs & fish habitat
- degrade water quality
- negatively impact fun activities (swimming, boating, fishing)
- require substantial resources to manage and control



SDRA GREAT Boater Program



Greeting Recreationalists to Empower And Train



Check. Clean. Drain. Dry.



Stop the Spread of Invasive Species

REMOVE PLANTS BEFORE AND AFTER BOATING

Check watercraft, trailer, lines and all gear

Clean all weeds and plants from boats, boots and gear

Drain boat, motor, bait buckets & live wells far from lake

Dry boats out of water at least 24 hours before next put in



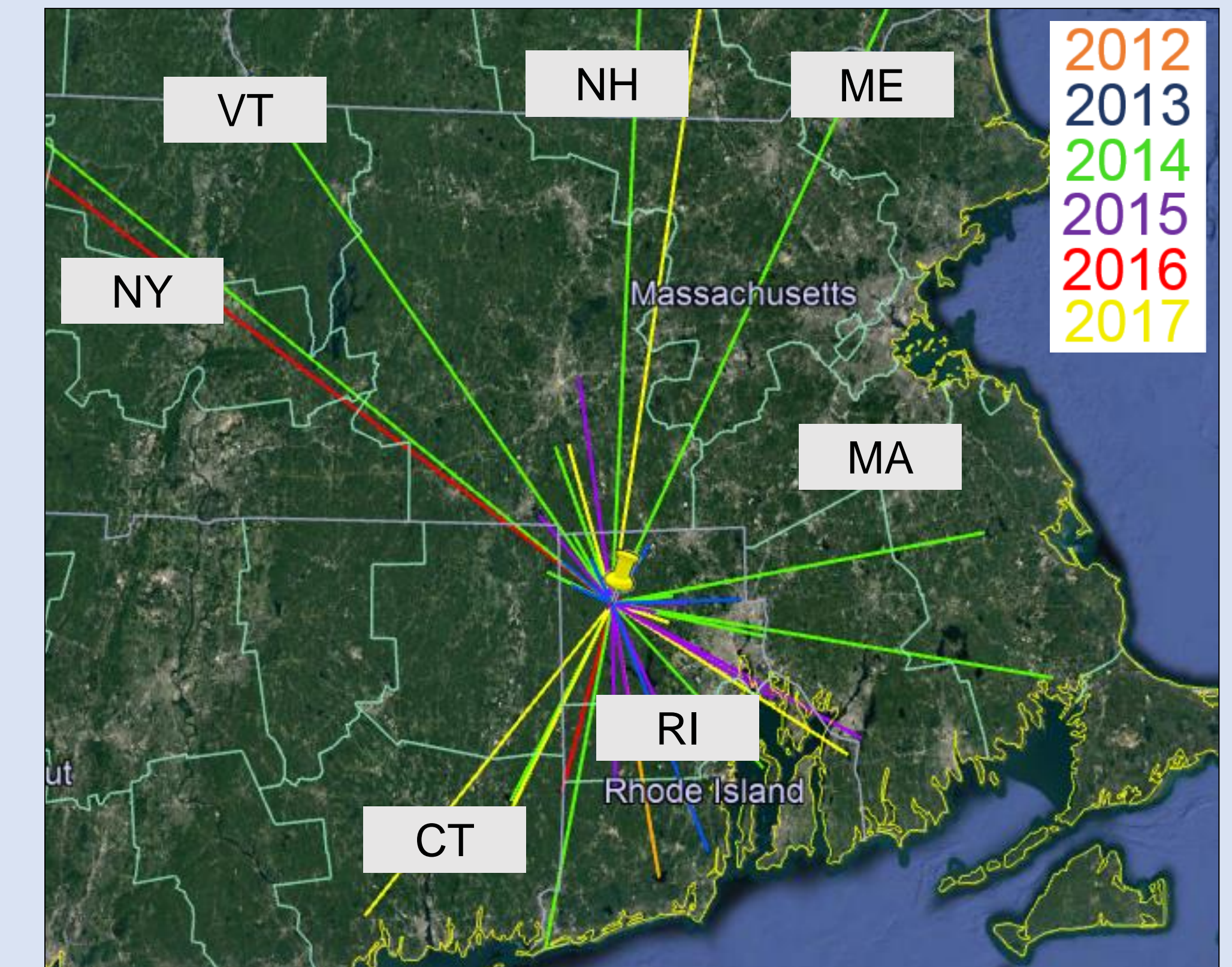
Sand Dam Reservoir Association (SDRA) GREAT Boater Volunteers:

- Greet boaters at the public boat ramp
- Remind boaters to check for plants
- Collect geographic data on boat traffic

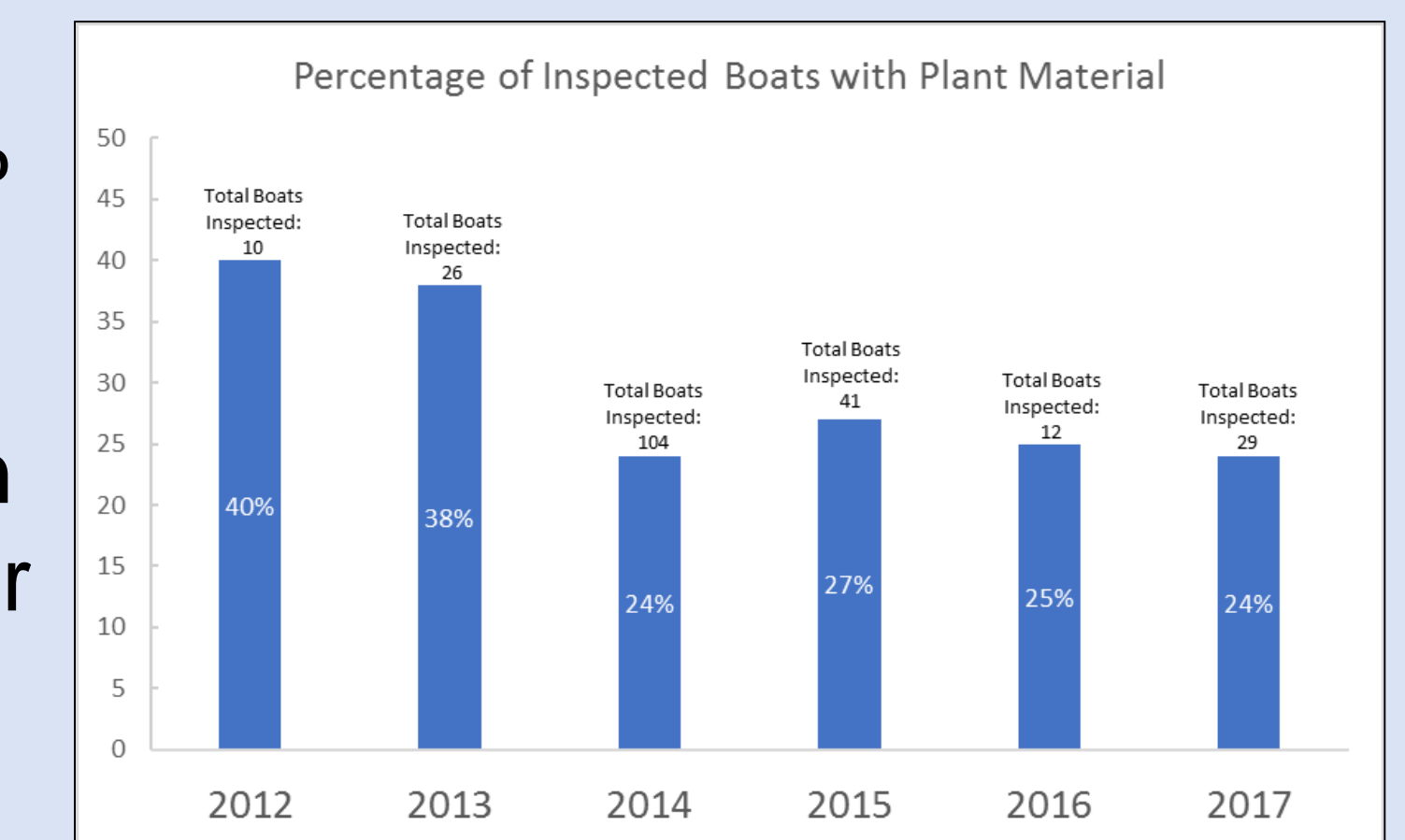
To become a GREAT boater volunteer, contact SDRA.

GREAT Boater Data @ Sand Dam Reservoir Ramp

- Volunteered 48 days (2012-2017)
- Interacted with 252 boats
- Boats traveled from 7 states
- 71% boats travel 1-15 miles
- 16% boats travel 15-40 miles
- 13% boats travel 40-200 miles



24% - 40% of boats had plant material on their boat or trailer



In Rhode Island, 95 lakes host 13 different invasive plants, so there is always a threat!

→ ALWAYS CHECK EVERY TIME ←

