

2025 Bad Medicine Lake AIS inspection facts:

1. In 2025, Becker County budgeted 500 hours of inspector time for Bad Medicine Lake. In 2024, 984 inspection hours were completed. Inspections began on 5/10. A 7-day-per-week schedule began that weekend and continued through Labor Day. 500 inspection hours have been allocated for the 2026 season.
2. The total number of inspections was 1221. 773 (63%) were on entry and 448 (37%) on exit.
3. May 10 was the busiest day with 50 inspections. 65 inspections were completed on the fishing opener weekend.
4. For the summer, Saturday was the busiest day of the week with 375 inspections followed by Sunday (244), Friday (153) and Thursday (138).
5. For the summer, weekly inspection numbers were consistent from the fishing opener until the end of July and then dropped off substantially in August.
6. Fishing boats accounted for 73% of inspections followed by pontoons (8.4%), runabouts/ski boats (6.8%) canoes/kayaks (4%), personal watercraft (3.3%), and Lake Service Provider barges (2.3%)
7. State of registration was Minnesota (84%) followed by North Dakota (12%), and then 15 other states totaling about 4%.
8. For the 2025 inspection season, none of the boats entering Bad Medicine were found to have drain plugs in place on arrival. Inspectors found and removed plants, water or mud from 14 entering watercrafts (1.81%).
9. No zebra mussels were detected by inspectors in 2025.
10. No referrals for decontamination were made from the Bad Medicine public access in 2025.
11. 29% of entering boaters reported last using their watercraft on a designated infested waterbody.