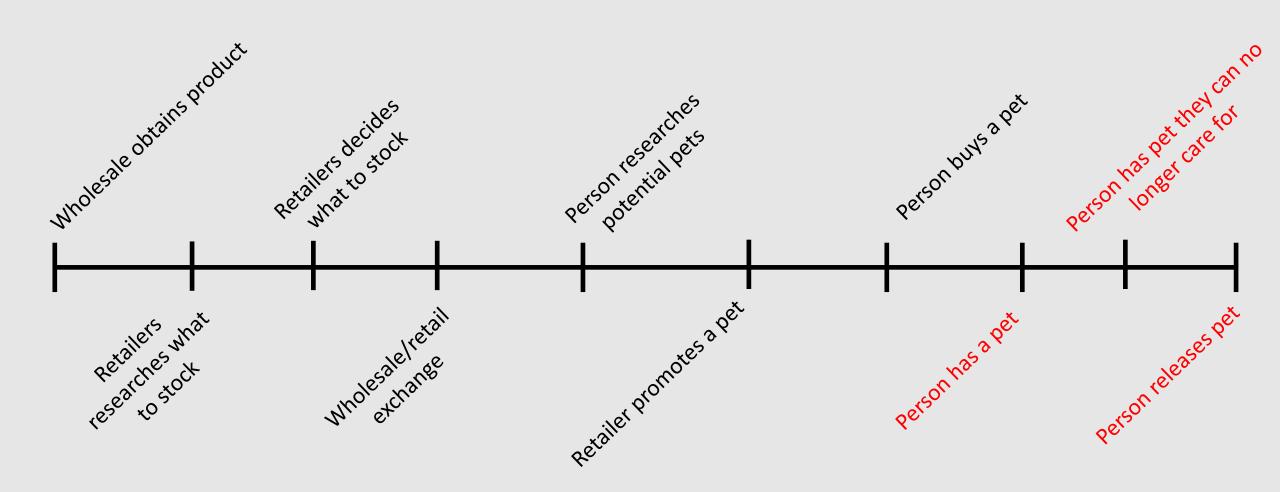


# AIS in Commerce: Outreach gaps, needs, and solutions

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#### A reminder of what our system is



## These are important, but outside of this project

- Outreach campaign coordination and optimization
- Pet surrender networks
- Resources for pet owners after they have a pet











### Key factors contributing to gaps & challenges

- System complexity
  - Diversity of knowledge and actions we're trying to promote
  - Federal and state regulations
  - Different motivations for action
- AIS Outreach is often lumped together, but working with OIT can be substantially different than recreational water users
  - Boats and pets aren't the same
- Intersection of LE and Outreach
  - Consistent regulatory enforcement everyone on a level playing field
  - Difference between outreach staff and LE
- Working with big, national brands
  - Staff turnover and chain of command
  - Federal vs state messaging
- Regional, national, international coordination
  - what formal networks are there?
  - Need time and effort to talk about these things





#### Criteria that should be considered for solutions

- Is an OIT specialist needed? Or could someone else more general implement?
  - People that know OIT or people that are good at a skill?
  - Natural resources background vs pet/animal/plant background?
- Ability for industry to integrate materials and programming
- How much continuous effort is needed?
- How can we track our effort? How can we evaluate it? Tracking progress.
- Consistent, dependable funding for it?
  - Not to just develop new things, but deliver things consistently
- Clear roles and responsibilities, clear metrics & objectives for people to meet.

#### Possible solutions

- Supply chain analysis to understand what is happening and what messages are needed
  - A system diagram with outreach goals/messages/metrics for each step
- Social science to understand attitudes, motivations, behaviors
  - Both of hobbyists and businesses

- Other possible solutions
  - OIT specialists for outreach or dedicated effort for staff with specific expertise
  - Make it easier for people to get answers to questions
  - HACCP approaches for retail stores
  - Better use of digital advertising and outreach
  - Consistent labeling of species for improved communication
  - Consistent to keep outreach going
  - Improve industry/outreach relationship

#### **Project Report:**

Addressing Aquatic Invasive Species in Illinois through Outreach and Planning:

Enhancing Effectiveness of Organisms-in-Trade through Survey Research

#### Case studies highlighting outreach gaps

- Invasive Crayfish Collaborative (OIT is big!)
  - Big lesson: initial scope was large
  - Being species specific left the entire supply chain and different aspects open
- Targeted ads on peer-to-peer sites (online outreach)
  - Kijiji Giving ad space for free
  - Marbled crayfish synonyms important (self-cloning crayfish)

#### Looking forward to the discussion!

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