



AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES NEWS

10/5/15

DREISSENID MUSSELS

[MB: Zebra mussel population increases in Lake Winnipeg, Red River \(9/25/15\)](#)

The population of zebra mussels in Lake Winnipeg and the Red River has shown a "significant increase," according to a Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship report. In an attempt to counteract the spread, the provincial department announced watercraft inspection stations with decontamination units will be available to boaters at Selkirk Park through Sunday and Pine Falls on Sunday. The program will continue until Oct. 11.

Related Story: [Zebra mussel population explodes in Gimli Harbour \(10/2/15...with video\)](#) ...Gord Mackintosh, the acting Minister of Conservation, said the province is working on new zebra mussel laws that will be the toughest in the country....

['Third Straw' uncapped to provide Lake Mead water to Vegas \(9/23/15\)](#)

.....One of the last projects once the drilling rig and rails were removed was to install a water sampling conduit and twin chemical pipelines running the length of the structure. The pipes will deliver ammonia and chlorine to the mouth of the intake, where officials say they'll mix to create chloramine - a compound that is used to eradicate quagga mussel larvae. Quagga mussels reproduce rapidly in fresh water and grow into fingernail-size shells that clog water pipes and cause maintenance problems.

[Saskatchewan at risk for invasion of zebra mussels, researcher says \(9/22/15\)](#)

The invasive zebra mussel could yet get into Saskatchewan waters, a risk that is of concern to researchers. Zebra mussels reproduce quickly and can damage ecosystems if unchecked. "We found that the western provinces, including Saskatchewan, were at very high risk for invasion and that's because the lakes in southern Saskatchewan and Alberta

have fairly high calcium levels," Scott Higgins, a research scientist with the International Institute for Sustainable Development's Experimental Lakes Area, said.....

[MN: Crow Wing County Board: Board funds Ruth Lake AIS treatment \(9/23/15\)](#)

[Ruth Lake](#) in Emily will likely be the site of a fifth zebra mussel treatment pilot project by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, the Crow Wing County Board learned Tuesday.....

[United Water Conservation District \(California\) Quagga Mussel Workshop \(8/13/15\)](#)

In August, the UWCD hosted a Quagga Mussel Workshop in Oxnard California. The purpose of the workshop was to inform and engage local constituencies in comprehensive quagga mussel prevention, as well as the control and monitoring program for **Lake Piru** and adjacent water bodies. The workshop presentations were videotaped and can be found [HERE](#). Also, under the "News and Outreach" tab (see "Lake Piru Recreation Area") you can find additional Lake Piru quagga mussel information.

[Increase in zebra mussels evident in Iowa Great Lakes \(10/1/15\)](#)

As docks and hoists are being removed from most Northwest Iowa Lakes, a most unwelcome visitor is being discovered in greater numbers. Zebra mussels, first discovered in East Okoboji Lake and Upper Gar Lake in the fall of 2012, have been increasing in numbers and distribution the past few years throughout most of the Iowa Great Lakes. Spirit Lake is the only lake where adult zebra mussels have not been found. This fall, the number of zebra mussels on docks and hoists removed from East Okoboji has noticeably increased. Residents who observe zebra mussels on docks and hoists removed from Spirit Lake are requested to report the location to the DNR Fisheries office in Spirit Lake.....

[VT: Zebra mussels: Good, the bad and the ugly \(10/2/15\)](#)

....What's bad for these predators may be good for their prey. To figure out just how good or bad zebra mussels could be for Lake Champlain invertebrates, we ran experiments under 30 feet of water in sandy areas of Appletree Bay. When my colleagues Ellen Marsden, Mark Beekey, and I fenced off lake floor patches with and without zebra mussels, twice as many invertebrates colonized areas with zebra mussels.....

[ND: Zebra Mussels Found in Grand Forks, Check Structures \(10/5/15\)](#)

...."This does not come as a surprise to us since earlier this summer one zebra mussel adult was found in Fargo, and many veligers were found along the entire length of the Red River," Ryckman said. "This definitely serves as a reminder to look for zebra mussels now during winter prep work."...

BOAT INSPECTION/DECON NEWS

[Violations Decrease as DNR Ramps Up Invasive Species Enforcement \(9/25/15\)](#)

Minnesota trained 660 watercraft inspectors this summer to slow the spread of aquatic invasive species. The results show most boaters are starting to understand the laws. Out of the 168,811 boats inspected in 2015, only 3 percent arrived at lakes carrying any plants or invasive species. Ninety-five percent of boaters had already pulled the drain plug, the highest rate since the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) started tracking inspections in 2013.....

[Province's proactive response to mussels is working \(9/25/15\)](#)

.....A contaminated boat was stopped in Kelowna in July, and there have been a few other near misses in the past. What you may not have heard about recently was a very close call in our region. On August 18th a boat was spotted in Montana that was travelling from Wisconsin (a "dirty" jurisdiction) to Koochanusa reservoir for a wakesurf event. The US inspectors quickly alerted their counterparts in BC: the Conservation Officer Service (COS) and Canada Border Service Agency (CBSA). When the driver arrived at the Eureka/Roosville border, he was denied entry into Canada. Inspector Caravetta with the BC Conservation Officer Service advises "it is THAT serious"! A Montana crew seized the boat and decontaminated it with hot water under high pressure to kill and remove the tenacious mussels. Conservation Officers in BC also have the authority to seize boats for the decontamination and quarantine process.....

[UT: Ramp to close at Deer Creek Monday \(9/24/15\)](#)

....The park was listed as a quagga mussel suspect water last fall when tests found five juvenile quagga mussels in a water sample collected at the reservoir. Though **no adult mussels have been found**, the reservoir must be treated as if infected.....

[DNR issuing permits after zebra mussel infestation at Iowa Great Lakes \(9/24/15\)](#)

Officials with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources announced Wednesday the growing population of zebra mussels in the Iowa Great Lakes is starting to be noticed more and more, and they're encouraging lakeshore property owners and service providers to be vigilant while taking out boat hoists and docks this fall and reports any findings to the agency.....

[Alberta sniffer dogs protecting waters from invasive zebra mussels \(9/23/15\)](#)

.....At the 12 inspection stations activated this year – triple the number there were in 2014 – nearly 22,000 boats were inspected, AEP spokeswoman Kate Wilson told Yahoo Canada News in an interview Wednesday. They found 16 “mussel-fouled” vessels.....

[Boating Industry’s 2015 Bold Moves \(9/15/15\)](#)

.....“From a practical standpoint, it is the time to start developing and constructing boats in consideration of AIS,” said ABYC president John Adey.....

[Tahoe Boat Inspections Move to Launch Ramps for Fall & Winter \(9/28/15\)](#)

Starting October 1st, boat inspections will move to select launch ramps and winter hours will begin. Tahoe Resource Conservation District (Tahoe RCD) inspectors will be stationed at Cave Rock and Lake Forest boat launches from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. seven days a week, weather permitting. All boats without an intact Tahoe inspection seal are required to get an inspection during daylight hours.....

[Lake Havasu: IJSBA hoping to avoid repeat of quagga mussel inspection headaches \(10/1/15\)](#)

Teams participating in the IJSBA World Finals this month will be notified of the desired “protocol” for packing equipment for transport in hopes of avoiding a repeat of a delayed shipment last year, according to an Arizona state official. A British Jet Ski team incurred extra shipping costs and missed a competition last year after its equipment was held up in California at the border and at port over concerns that invasive quagga mussels could be transported to California lakes. In hopes of avoiding similar problems this fall, officials from Arizona Game and Fish have worked with their California counterparts to define a packing procedure and spread word to the event organizers, contestants and the people responsible for moving the equipment.....

MARINE/BALLAST WATER

[Marine Invasive Species: Management of Ballast Water and Other Vectors](#)

Aquatic Ecosystem Health & Management, the official journal of the Aquatic Ecosystem Health and Management Society, recently published a new Special Issue titled [***Marine Invasive Species: Management of Ballast Water and Other Vectors***](#). This special issue is a compendium of 10 papers which originated from the Marine Invasive Species conference held in Oman, 2014, including several keynote papers. The issue is now available for **free access for a limited time**. You can read the articles by clicking [here](#).

[Pro Tip: Give Your Ocean Robot a Bath \(9/29/15\)](#)

Drone owners have it easy. They don't have to wash their UAVs before sending them up into the sky. If you're an owner of an underwater robot, on the other hand, you owe it to the planet to give that ROV of yours a thorough scrub. [A paper published Monday in the open access journal *Tropical Conservation Science*](#) warns that, while the proliferation of tiny, consumer-friendly remotely operated underwater vehicles is great for citizen science, it may not be so great for the ocean if owners don't take proper care to screen for potentially harmful organisms that might be hitching a ride....

[Lab tests ways to kill creatures lurking in the bottom of ships \(9/29/15\)](#)

.....We're on the western shore of Lake Superior, where he works with the [Great Ships Initiative](#). It's a program that's trying to stop invasive species from hitchhiking in the ballast water of ships.....[with Audio]

[Ballast Water Treatment System Museum Pieces \(9/21/15\)](#)

The debate about whether UV-based ballast water treatment systems will meet U.S. type approval requirements continues with some in the industry still believing that shipowners should not to install equipment until they are forced to. UV systems face a potential problem because of the different wording used in the IMO Ballast Water Management Convention and the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) type approval regulations. One of the key problems continuing to plague the industry, as noted in BIMCO's official position on ballast water management, is that while the numerical values of the discharge standards in the U.S. are identical to those of the IMO convention, the qualitative criteria are different. IMO sets limits for organisms that are viable whereas the U.S. sets limits for organisms that are living.....

[System aims to stop spread of invasive species \(9/27/15\)](#)

.....Alice Hudder, an associate professor of biochemistry at the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, and a former colleague, Jeffrey Ram of Wayne State University, collaborated on the development of an automated, shipboard, rapid-testing system that can detect live organisms in ballast water. The system, based on a fluorescence detection technology, enables ships to quickly determine -- on board and in real time -- whether their decontamination procedures are actually working to prevent the spread of non-native species, Hudder said. The technology determines whether the organism is alive or dead.....

[Hydroxide stabilization as a new tool for ballast disinfection: efficacy of treatment on zooplankton \(4/15/15\)](#)

Effective and economical tools are needed for treating ship ballast to meet new regulatory requirements designed to reduce the introduction of invasive aquatic species from ship traffic. We tested the efficacy of hydroxide stabilization as a ballast disinfection tool in replicated, sequential field trials on board the M/V Ranger III in waters of Lake Superior. Ballast water was introduced into each of four identical 1,320 L stainless steel tanks during a simulated ballasting operation. Two tanks were treated with NaOH to elevate the pH to 11.7 and the remaining two tanks were held as controls without pH alteration. After retention on board for 14–18 h, CO₂-rich gas recovered from one of two diesel propulsion engines was sparged into tanks treated with NaOH for 2 h to force conversion of NaOH ultimately to sodium bicarbonate, thereby lowering pH to about 7.1. Prior to gas sparging, the engine exhaust was treated by a unique catalytic converter/wet scrubber process train to remove unwanted combustion byproducts and to provide cooling. The contents of each tank were then drained and filtered through 35-µm mesh plankton nets to collect all zooplankton. The composition and relative survival of zooplankton in each tank were evaluated by microscopy. Zooplankton populations were dominated by rotifers, but copepods and cladocerans were observed. Hydroxide stabilization was 100% effective in killing all zooplankton present at the start of the tests. Our results suggest hydroxide stabilization has potential to be an effective and practical tool to disinfect ship ballast. Further, using CO₂ released from the ship engine reduces emissions and the neutralized by product, sodium bicarbonate, can have beneficial impacts on the aquatic environment.

OTHER

[Washington Invasive Species Council's Draft Strategic Plan](#)

*****REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT*****

The Washington Invasive Species Council is seeking comments on our Draft Strategic Plan. Please help us set priorities for the management of invasive species in Washington State!

The Draft Strategic Plan can be accessed [HERE](#). Comments can be sent directly to the WISC Coordinator Raquel Crosier at raquel.crosier@rco.wa.gov until **November 2nd 2015**.

[Crawdad creep: In Kodiak, an invasive species proliferates \(10/2/15\)](#)

KODIAK -- There's somewhat of a slow motion invasion of a fresh water crustacean happening in Buskin River and Buskin Lake. It has a hard shell, two claws and tastes

great in pies. “Crawdads, crawfish, crayfish, it all depends where you grew up,” says Blythe Brown of the Kodiak Soil and Water Conservation District. Brown says they’ve caught a lot of crayfish this year compared to the roughly one per year they’ve found in the past. They went into the project last year hoping to find out whether crayfish were breeding and, this year, they did a little bit of experimenting with traps.

[Expanding the reach of environmental research with Citizen Science \(9/30/15\)](#)

Public participation in scientific research has surged in popularity and prominence in recent years through the connections of the world wide web, an explosion of smartphone pocket computing power, and a slow cultural change within professional science toward a more open and welcoming research environment. Today, the White House affirmed the potential for citizen science to engage the public directly in scientific discovery and the monitoring and management of our natural resources. In a [memorandum](#) to the heads of executive departments and agencies, Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy John Holdren mandated that all federal agencies build capacity for citizen science and crowdsourcing while facilitating cooperation across agencies and with outside organizations. To help guide program managers in deciding if citizen science is right for their organizations and how best to design citizen science projects to meet their organization’s goals, the Ecological Society of America (ESA) has released a [report](#) today summarizing how “Investing in Citizen Science can improve natural resource management and environmental protection.” The report is number 19 in ESA’s series *Issues in Ecology* and is included as a resource in the [Federal Citizen Science and Crowdsourcing Toolkit](#), released this morning in conjunction with Holdren’s policy memo and a Citizen Science Forum webcast live from the White House.

[Meeting the aquatic invasive species challenge at Tahoe \(9/21/15\)](#)

.....Fortunately, Tahoe is a national leader in fighting AIS, with the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and 40 public and private partners working to prevent, detect, and remove harmful infestations. That partnership was showcased this month when the Western Regional Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species held its yearly conference at Tahoe.

[Are Puerto Rico's Loudest Invasive Frogs Coming to Los Angeles? \(9/22/15\)](#)

Coqui frogs sound larger than they look. The adults measure just a couple of inches from head to tail, and the babies are about the size of a fingernail. But when the males decide its time to find a friendly female and make some little froggy babies, they aren't shy about advertising their goods. Perhaps it's because they're so loud and so hard to spot that trying to find them is such a frustrating task....

WEEDS

[How eBay Could Be Messing Up the World's Ecosystems \(10/4/15\)](#)

The world's biggest online auction platforms, like eBay, boast all kinds of miscellany, including clothes, electronics, cars, and many an eccentric novelty item. Some websites also allow the trade of flowers and plants, offering users the chance to buy and sell botany from around the world. It sounds innocuous—a niche trade that lets plant enthusiasts enjoy a wide spectrum of plant species without having to personally travel to other countries to find them. But a team of Swedish researchers [warns](#) that the plant trade may be much more harmful than it appears. Turns out, online plant sales raise the risk of spreading invasive species to new regions. Researchers led by Christoph Kueffer from the Institute of Integrative Biology tracked for 50 days the world's online flora trade through eBay and nine other auction sites. Their findings, [published](#) recently in the journal *Conservation Biology*, show that 2,625 plant species were on sale over that period from 65 countries, and 510 of them were identified as an invasive species in at least one region of the world.

[Can herbicides keep Tahoe blue? \(9/28/15\)](#)

On a hazy July afternoon a few miles west of the California-Nevada border, Lars Anderson paces the docks that frame Lake Tahoe's southern shore, twirling a rake in his right hand, preparing to pull some weeds. With a flick of his wrist, the plant physiologist flings the rake, tethered to an orange rope, 20 feet out into the lake's opaque waters. Anderson hauls hard and the rope twangs taut, as though he's hooked a gigantic fish. At last his catch emerges: a dripping mat of blackish vegetation, longer than Anderson is tall, its tendrils dense and clotted as hair plucked from the drain. Anderson lays it on the dock, where it shimmers like a dead deep-sea squid. The plant, Anderson pronounces, is Eurasian milfoil, an invasive species.....

FISH

[Tribe's pike bounty program raises concerns \(9/25/15\)](#)

COEUR d'ALENE — The Coeur d'Alene Tribe announced a new program on Thursday to pay fishermen a bounty to catch northern pike on the southern portion of Lake Coeur d'Alene. But not everyone is happy about that.....

[UK: North East fisherman are being urged to kill 'alien' pink salmon \(9/28/15\)](#)

A fishy tale about an alien invasion has spooked experts in the North East. The alien in question is the pink salmon which has been reported in the waters of Northumberland,

County Durham and South Tyneside in recent months, thousands of miles away from their usual habitat in the North Pacific basin. Fishermen are being urged to kill any they catch, with one scientist in the region saying their presence threatens to turn our waters into an “outdoor aquarium with a ragbag of species.”

[Technical Announcement: Invasive Silver Carp Respond Strongly to Sound \(9/23/14\)](#)

[Silver carp](#), a species of invasive [Asian carp](#), demonstrated a strong aversion to certain noises during a recent study on the potential use of sound for silver carp control. Scientists with the University of Minnesota Duluth (UMD) and the U.S. Geological Survey recently studied silver carps’ reaction to sound at the USGS Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center (UMESC) in La Crosse, Wisconsin. The researchers found that silver carp reacted strongly to complex noises such as underwater recordings of boat motors, consistently swimming away up to 37 times in succession. The results are published in the journal [Biological Invasions](#).....

[Queen Elizabeth loves lamprey, which is fine with Great Lakes fishermen \(9/24/15\)](#)

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. — When Queen Elizabeth II became the longest-reigning British monarch earlier this month, cooks in Gloucester presented her with an unusual gift: a lamprey pie. They had to import lampreys from the Great Lakes, where they are considered an invasive species.....

[WA: Invasive Bluegill Found in Lake Sutherland \(10/1/15\)](#)

Clallam County – Bluegill fish were recently discovered in Lake Sutherland, and now environmentalists are busy putting together a strategy to deal with controlling what is considered an invasive species. The bluegill is not native to the waters west of the Rocky Mountains which means that the fish were introduced to Lake Sutherland illegally.....[with audio]

[Editor’s Note: Bluegill are classified as a game fish in Washington State]

**FEDERAL/STATE/PROVINCIAL
LEGISLATION, ACTIONS**

[Request for Nominations for the Invasive Species Advisory Committee](#)

The U.S. Department of the Interior, on behalf of the interdepartmental National Invasive Species Council (NISC), proposes to appoint new members to the Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC). The Secretary of the Interior, acting as administrative lead, is requesting nominations for qualified persons to serve as members of the ISAC. Nominations must be postmarked by **November 30, 2015**.

“California Emergency Drought Relief Act of 2015” Opposed by Fishing Group

[S. 1894](#) has language for pilot projects to implement the CALFED invasive species program:

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than January 1, 2017, the Secretary of the Interior, in collaboration with the Secretary of Commerce, the Director of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and other relevant agencies and interested parties, shall begin pilot projects to implement the invasive species control program authorized pursuant to section 103(d)(6)(A)(iv) of [Public Law 108–361](#) (118 Stat. 1690).

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The pilot projects shall—

(A) seek to reduce invasive aquatic vegetation, predators, and other competitors which contribute to the decline of native listed pelagic and anadromous species that occupy the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers and their tributaries and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay-Delta; and

(B) remove, reduce, or control the effects of species, including Asiatic clams, silversides, gobies, Brazilian water weed, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, striped bass, crappie, bluegill, white and channel catfish, and brown bullheads.

Reaction: On 9/18/15 the [Allied Fishing Groups](#) came out in opposition to the bill stating: “This legislation would decimate the striped bass, largemouth and smallmouth bass and other recreational fisheries throughout the Bay and Delta region, while failing to deal with the fundamental problems that have been so destructive to the estuary and our native fishes.”

NOW WHAT: Sen. Lisa Murkowski's (R-Alaska) Energy and Natural Resources Committee will hold a legislative hearing on these drought measures on 10/8 (9:30 AM EDT, 366 Dirksen; Details on the hearing [HERE](#)).

MEETINGS

OCTOBER

[Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference:](#) October 17-19 2016 La Crosse, Wisconsin.

[Oregon Invasive Species Council:](#) Please set aside **October 14th** in your calendars for the next OISC meeting. We will be meeting at 9am at Portland State University in the Smith Memorial

Student Union (SMSU) building room 296. For further information contact Christian Parker cparker@talloaks-environmental.com

NAISMA: The Invasive Species Council of Metro Vancouver (BC) is co-hosting with the North American Invasive Species Management Association in Vancouver **October 20-22, 2015**. In addition to a great lineup of topics and speakers, we are excited that CABI will be hosting a full day session on Biocontrol on the 22nd. This session will include information on agents currently being researched for a variety of weed species. More information can be found on the agenda. This is an amazing opportunity to have this kind of session in our own backyard! Agenda and registration information can be found at: www.naisma.org

13th Ballast Water Management Summit: 21-22 October 2015, Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

ISAC: The Fall 2015 meeting of the Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC) will be held on Wednesday, October 28, 2015 through Friday, October 30, 2015, at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Library (NAL), 10301 Baltimore Avenue (U.S. Rt. 1), Beltsville, MD 20705.

NOVEMBER

Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Task Force will meet from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 4, and Thursday, November 5, 2015 at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Building 3 (SSMC3), Room 4527, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301-713-0174).

Coastal & Estuarine Research Federation November 8-12 Portland, Oregon.

2016

JANUARY

ICMB-IX - Hulls, harbours and other invasion hotspots: 19-21 January 2016, Sydney, **Australia**
The International Society for the Study of Marine Bioinvasions invites you to participate in the 9th International Conference on Marine Bioinvasions (ICMB-IX), in Sydney, Australia. Abstracts should be submitted to the ICMB Scientific Steering Committee using the electronic form on the '[Call for Abstracts](#)' page.

FEBRUARY

Invasive Species Council of BC, **INVASIVES 2016: Invasive Species Council of BC's Public Forum & AGM**, will be held **Feb. 2-3, 2016** at the Pacific Gateway Hotel in Richmond, BC. Everyone welcome! Enjoy two action-filled days of learning, networking and sharing with

colleagues from across North America. Registration is open; be sure to enjoy early bird rates until Dec. 15th, 2015. See the [Draft Agenda](#) (*as of July 28, 2015*). [REGISTER](#)

APRIL

[ICAIS: 19th International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species](#) Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada; **April 10-14, 2016.**

MAY

[The Aquatic Ecosystem Health and Management Society](#) international conference Marine & Freshwater Invasive Species Ecology, Impact and Management, Buenos Aires, Argentina, **May 2-4, 2016.**

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