



## ***AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES NEWS***

12/8/15

### ***DREISSENID MUSSELS***

#### **[TX: Lake Waco on track to dodge zebra mussel infestation \(12/5/15\)](#)**

There's more good news from the Lake Waco battlefield in the war on invasive zebra mussels. Three water samples that Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials took around the lake last month have been found to be free of microscopic larvae or genetic materials from the pest species. The news doesn't mean the lake is safe from the threat of a general infestation, as local and state officials had feared after a barge introduced adult mussels to the lake in summer 2014.....

#### **[AB: Chlorine, potash tested as possible mussel control methods \(12/3/15\)](#)**

Alberta wants to be ready for a fight if zebra and quagga mussels invade the province's water bodies. The small, invasive species multiply rapidly and cling to boats, water infrastructure and almost anything else. They clog pipes and machinery and consume water-borne nutrients essential to fish, plants and other aquatic species. The mussels' size and habitat make them difficult to kill.

#### **[If you think zebra mussels are bad, experts say quagga mussels could be far worse for Manitoba \(11/20/15, with video\)](#)**

DUNNOTTAR, MB — The docks have been pulled and the piers on Lake Winnipeg have been put away. The lake is at rest for the winter season but those who live on it are uneasy. "Two years ago we found zebra mussels on one pole and this year they've increased at least ten times, if not more," Rick Gamble from the village of Dunnottar said.....

#### **[Winnipeg's drinking water is vulnerable to zebra mussels, experts say \(11/18/15\)](#)**

Some zebra mussel experts say Shoal Lake is ripe for an infestation of the invasive water pest, even though they applaud the city for being proactive with plans to keep the mussels out of Winnipeg's drinking water.....

[WY: Aquatic invasive species program monitors local waters \(11/19/15\)](#)

Wyoming's aquatic invasive species (AIS) program goes to a lot of effort to protect the state's waters. If you ask an average angler or boater what comes to mind when the AIS program is mentioned, most would say boat inspections and other outreach messages. These are the most public based parts of the program. However, monitoring and sampling Wyoming's waters for the presence of zebra mussels and other invasive species is also a big part of the program.

## **BOAT INSPECTION/DECON NEWS**

[Boaters to help Nebraska fight spread of aquatic invasive species \(12/4/15\)](#)

LINCOLN — Boaters in Nebraska, starting in 2016, will help the state's effort to prevent the infestation and spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). The Aquatic Invasive Species Program was created by the Nebraska Legislature in 2015. An Aquatic Invasive Species Fee, to be collected from resident and nonresident boaters, will help fund the program. The fees will pay for education programs, prevention efforts such as monitoring water bodies, inspection and decontamination of boats, control of AIS populations, and other projects as needed.....

[Packrafting Association Lobbies For Access To Yellowstone, Grand Teton National Parks \(11/26/15\)](#)

In a rebuttal to National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis' contention that [packrafting shouldn't be allowed](#) to more waters than presently allowed in Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks, the American Packrafting Association is challenging his arguments in a letter of its own to U.S. Rep. Rob Bishop. [The letter](#), sent Tuesday, points out that the association shares many of the concerns for wildlife and scenic vistas that the director cited in his own letter to Rep. Bishop, who chairs the House Natural Resources Committee that earlier this fall approved legislation that would open up many streams and rivers in the two parks to packrafting. But association President Brad Meiklejohn also noted that many of the director's concerns regarding invasive species and packrafting ring hollow.....

[Botulism likely caused Lake Ontario bird die-offs \(11/30/15\)](#)

.....The toxin is found most commonly in the round goby, an invasive species that accumulates the toxin from invasive mussels it eats on the lake bottom.....

## **MARINE/BALLAST WATER**

### ["How Clean is Clean?" a film by Northeast-Midwest Institute](#)

The Northeast-Midwest Institute released “How Clean is Clean?” describing its cutting-edge research to protect the Great Lakes from future invasive species. Produced by Ravenswood Media with funds from the Great Lakes Protection Fund, the film depicts ways the NEMWI and its partners are developing to prepare the Great Lakes region to manage discharges of aquatic invasive species, like ballast water, in response to actual Great Lakes ecosystem vulnerabilities as revealed through directed scientific research....

### [Ballast Water Management in the Field Put to the Test \(11/24/15\)](#)

.....The goal of this cruise was focused on ballast water sampling techniques and protocols. Various instruments were used to test collected ballast water enabling researchers to determine efficiency for the various sampling techniques employed. The preferred technique would then be used for sampling ballast water from ships for the purpose of collecting an appropriate sample when checking if ships’ ballast waters comply with ballast discharge standards.....

### [ICS: IMO Ballast Water Convention Implementation Won't Fix "Extreme Difficulties" in the U.S. \(11/26/15\)](#)

The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) [says](#) that this week's announcement that the International Maritime Organization's (IMO's) Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention is set to be put into force next year will do nothing to solve "extreme difficulties" that remain in the U.S. around water treatment equipment. "There is still great uncertainty with respect to the more stringent United States approval regime for treatment equipment, which started to be enforced in January 2014," states ICS. ICS explains that the U.S., which is not a party to the IMO Convention, requires that all vessels discharging ballast water in U.S. waters use a U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) approved treatment system, but notes that no systems have been approved yet.....

### [Just How Close is the Ballast Water Convention? \(11/30/15\)](#)

The IMO has not yet issued a confirmation about whether or not the ballast water management convention has reached the tonnage required for its entry into force. The convention will come into force 12 months after the date on which 30 IMO member states, representing 35 percent of the world’s tonnage, ratify it. Morocco, Indonesia and Ghana ratified the convention during the week starting November 23, and Jad Mouawad of Mouawad Consulting has collated their tonnage figures from 2014. Morocco

contributed 0.03 percent to the required gross tons. Indonesia contributed 1.1 percent and Ghana contributed 0.01 percent gross tons. This means the total gross tons as of November 26, based on 2014 figures, is 34.14 percent.....

#### [Call for papers for 2016 IMO-GloBallast R&D Forum on Ballast Water Management \(12/8/15\)](#)

The 6th Global Environment Facility (GEF)-United Nations Development Program (UNDP)- International Maritime Organization (IMO) GloBallast R&D Forum and Exhibition on Ballast Water Management will be held from 16-18 March 2016 at the Headquarters of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), in Montreal, Canada.....

#### [Final Rule \(USCG\): Ballast Water Management Reporting and Recordkeeping \(11/24/15\)](#)

This final rule amends the Coast Guard's ballast water management reporting and recordkeeping requirements. Upon the effective date of this rule, the Coast Guard will require vessels with ballast tanks operating exclusively on voyages between ports or places within a single Captain of the Port Zone to submit an annual report of their ballast water management practices. This rule also simplifies and streamlines the ballast water report form. Finally, this rule will allow most vessels to submit ballast water reports after arrival at a port or place of destination, instead of requiring submission of such reports prior to arrival. This rule will reduce the administrative burden on the regulated population, while still providing the Coast Guard with the information necessary to analyze and understand ballast water management practices....

#### [Lobsterman discovers sea squirts on his traps \(11/25/15\)](#)

....The bumpy critters are [Ascidella aspersa](#), a native of Europe that was most likely introduced to the United States from hull fouling or ballast water discharge from ocean-going ships. First discovered in New England waters in the 1980s, by 2010 it could be found in the Gulf of Maine at least as far to the east as the North Shore of Massachusetts and now apparently has reached Blue Hill Bay.....

#### [Green crab pathogen research raises concern for Nova Scotia lobster industry \(11/16/15\)](#)

Bacteria lethal to lobsters has now been found in green crab along the province's Northumberland Strait.....

#### [New Zealand: Genetic barcoding system scans marine species for pests \(11/18/15\)](#)

....The DNA-based detection technology has been incorporated into settlement arrays deployed at Albany, Barrow Island and Hillary's in August and September as part of the project. The devices, which provide habitat for marine organisms to settle on, will be

retrieved and analysed at various intervals before the project ends in January. This system means WA Fisheries staff can detect, identify and monitor introduced marine pests much more efficiently in the future.....

[Tunicates invade slowly \(11/9/15\)](#)

Tunicates- spineless marine creatures- have been the center of study for Christopher Donar and Gary Freitag, who presented their findings Friday at the inaugural Friday Night Insight, a winter lecture series at the Southeast Alaska Discovery Center...[with Audio]

## OTHER

[Calif: Invasive New Zealand Mud Snails Found on HSU Campus \(12/4/15\)](#)

Invasive New Zealand mud snails have been found on the campus of Humboldt State University. If you think that's not a big deal, keep reading.....

[OR: Perfect Invaders: How Crayfish Are Threatening Crater Lake's Smallest Creatures \(12/4/15\)](#)

.....The story of the crayfish in Crater Lake begins more than 100 years ago. Back when getting to the future national park from Medford took five days by horse and wagon. To attract visitors, early conservationists began stocking the lake with game fish like trout and salmon....

[Day of the triffids \(12/5/15, \*The Economist\*\)](#)

Himalayan Balsam is a wonderful plant. It grows fast, shooting up flimsy stems that can rise ten feet high. Its pretty pink flowers are adored by bees. Best are its seeds, which explode dramatically when touched. A clump growing by a stream will keep a young child happy for half an hour....

**Related Story:** [EU Parliament rejects invasive species ban \(12/3/15\)](#)

[Man caught with turtles in his pants pleads guilty \(12/1/15\)](#)

A Canadian college student has pleaded guilty to smuggling or attempting to smuggle thousands of turtles from southeastern Michigan, more than a year after he was caught at a border crossing with 51 snappers taped to his body. Kai Xu ordered turtles online and would travel to the U.S. to ship them to China or return with them to Canada.....

[Made in Louisiana: Marsh Dog nutria meat dog treats \(11/22/15\),](#)

BATON ROUGE - It's a problem that has dogged Louisiana's wetlands for years.

Some people call it Louisiana's swamp rat, better known as the nutria, and Hansel and Veni Harlen turned that problem into a treat. A treat for conservation and a treat for canines. "So we wanted to make a really high quality dog treat, that was made with top shelf ingredients, all natural, no chemicals or this that or the other," Hansel Harlen said. They call it "Marsh Dog," and it is an all natural dog treat made out of nutria meat.....  
[w/video]

#### [Eating invasive species is tasty—but not as easy as you'd think \(11/21/15\)](#)

.....Matthew Barnes, an assistant professor at Texas A&M University and the founder of [Invasivore.org](#), isn't surprised that wholesalers aren't embracing invasive species. "If they embraced the true invasivore spirit—eating to eradicate species—wholesalers would be entering an unsustainable market and aiming to put themselves out of business," he says. "Not exactly a successful business strategy.".....

#### [SK: Invasive pet turtles dumped in Wascana Lake continue to spark concern \(11/13/15\)](#)

Certain breeds of turtles in Canada are better off in the tank, according to a Regina researcher. A team of turtle scientists in Regina has spotted more red-eared slider turtles in the marsh around Wascana Lake. The breed is non-native to Canada and has overwhelmed ecosystems in Ontario and British Columbia. It's sold in stores as a household pet and can live up to thirty years in captivity. "People buy like small, cute little hatchlings at the pet store and they don't realize how much of a long-term commitment they are," said turtle researcher Kelsey Marchand.....

#### [Protect the environment: Eat these animals! \(11/23/15\)](#)

(CNN) When the marine invasion started, the U.S. was taken by surprise -- and overrun. Today, the lionfish enjoys virtually unrivaled supremacy in its ever-expanding territory from the East Coast to the Caribbean. The distinctively striped interloper from the Pacific has few predators willing to face its venomous spines, and a devastating appetite.....

#### [Opening Pandora's bait box: a potent vector for biological invasions of live marine species \(10/15/15\)](#)

For over 80 years, the Maine baitworm trade has shipped live polychaete worms and packing algae 'wormweed' to distributors world-wide, while also consistently transferring a wide diversity and abundance of hitchhiking organisms of all life stages to numerous recipient communities. Here, we investigate this potent, yet underestimated, invasion vector using an important recipient region (the Mid-Atlantic) to examine the stepwise species transfer and survival along four stages of the vector....

#### [Gator Triumphs in Rematch Against Pythons \(11/9/15\)](#)

....But perhaps no face-off was quite as sensational or emblematic of the state as the famed showdown of alligator versus python in 2006....

## FISH

### [WA: Commission to consider proposed changes to sportfishing regulations on 12/11/15](#)

The proposals include:

- Several changes to protect wild steelhead on the north coast of Washington, including adjusting gear rules on some north coast rivers and prohibiting the harvest of wild steelhead in several coastal rivers.
- **Eliminating size restrictions and daily limits for eastern brook trout in most western Washington streams and crappie in several western Washington lakes.**
- Removing rules limiting anglers to keeping only two trout that are larger than 14 inches in several western Washington lowland lakes. WDFW is stocking these lakes with larger trout, making the requirement unnecessary.

### [FDA Has Determined That the AquAdvantage Salmon is as Safe to Eat as Non-GE Salmon \(11/19/15\)](#)

After an exhaustive and rigorous scientific review, FDA has arrived at the decision that [AquAdvantage](#) salmon is as safe to eat as any non-genetically engineered (GE) Atlantic salmon, and also as nutritious.....

#### **Related Articles and Reaction:**

[Will GMO salmon harm Alaska's fishing industry? \(11/27/15\)](#)

[Are Genetically Engineered Salmon Too Fishy? \(12/2/15, NY Times\)](#)

[If the GMO salmon is as good as its maker says, why not label it? \(11/19/15, Washington Post\)](#)

[Senator Murkowski Fights FDA's Approval of GE Salmon \(11/23/15\)](#)

[Approval of GM salmon eggs will be challenged in Canadian court \(11/15/15\)](#)

### [Fight continues against Asian carp; barrier nearly done \(11/25/15\)](#)

FORT WAYNE, Ind. - A nearly 2 mile-long earthen berm through a northeastern Indiana marsh that's designed to keep Asian carp from entering the Great Lakes is nearly complete months after heavy rains temporarily halted the project.....

### [Research using CO2 keeps even small fry invasive carp at bay \(11/18/15\)](#)

URBANA, Ill. - University of Illinois researcher Cory Suski has already shown that bubbling high concentrations of carbon dioxide (CO2) into water is a deterrent to invasive Asian carp adults. The gas makes them feel 'woozy' and they choose to swim away. His recent research shows that fish the size of an eyelash also experience negative consequences following CO2 exposure.....

### [WA: The Battle Against Northern Pike Intensifies In Lake Roosevelt \(11/18/15\)](#)

The campaign to halt the proliferation of Northern pike in Lake Roosevelt, the reservoir behind Grand Coulee Dam, is intensifying, state and tribal fish biologists reported to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council in November. First detected in the northern end of the 150-mile-long reservoir in 2009 and still confined to that area, the aggressive predator species appears to be breeding and the population, still small, steadily growing. Pike are voracious and can grow to more than 30 pounds and a meter in length.....

**Related Story:** [Northern pike in John Day Pool apparently was pikeminnow, officials say \(11/19/15\)](#)

### [ODFW rids North Twin Lake of invasive species \(11/17/15\)](#)

NewsChannel 21's Kandra Kent has an inside look at how ODFW treats North Twin Lake to remove invasive catfish [*video*].

### [MT: Invasive species take toll on native fish \(11/18/15\)](#)

.....Bucket biologists — the term for people who dump species illegally — fly under the radar of the law. “We have no sense of who does it,” Mark Deleray, fisheries manager for Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks in Kalispell, said. “We have made some cases but it’s very difficult to catch someone in the act of doing it.”.....

### [FL: Traps for invasive lionfish on the horizon \(12/5/15\)](#)

..... Lionfish are curious by nature. Clear panels have been fitted on traps to let them have an unobstructed view inside; once they determine it looks like a safe hiding hole, the fish start working their way around the trap to find an entry point. When they come to the “funnel,” they can enter the “foyer” of the trap, where a sensor system will run a pattern recognition program. If the computer recognizes the unique profile of a lionfish, the outside gate closes, and the inside gate opens. Once the fish enters the trap, the internal gate closes, and the external gate re-opens. If a non-target species, such as a snapper or grouper, tries to get in the trap, the gate system denies entry.....

## WEEDS

### USGS Nonindigenous Aquatic Species (NAS) database for plants back on-line.

Pam Fuller, USGS Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Program (Gainesville), reports that Aquatic plant botanists Dan Thayer ([dthayer@usgs.gov](mailto:dthayer@usgs.gov)) and Ian Pflingsten ([ipflingsten@usgs.gov](mailto:ipflingsten@usgs.gov)) have recently joined the USGS team to bring this side of the NAS database back (<http://nas.er.usgs.gov>). USGS also is ready to accept any aquatic plant data you are willing to share with them. In addition to updating the distribution data and fact sheets for these species, they are contacting each of the states and provincial governments to create a contact list to ensure we have the most up-to-date information. Four species are now available on the web site: Hydrilla (separated by biotypes, as requested), Eurasian Watermilfoil, Starry Stonewort, and Water Chestnut. These species have been reviewed, but please let us know if we are missing data or if you find any errors. Water-hyacinth and Brazilian waterweed (*Egeria densa*) are the next two species on the list. As distribution data are collected and validated for the other 144 nonindigenous aquatic plant species in the database, they will also be made available. For further information contact Pam Fuller @ [PFuller@usgs.gov](mailto:PFuller@usgs.gov).

### [AK: Kenai Peninsula leads statewide elodea fight \(11/16/15\)](#)

Although elodea wasn't discovered on the Kenai Peninsula until 2012, the peninsula is at the forefront of eradicating it. The invasive aquatic plant was discovered in Beck Lake, Daniels Lake and Stormy Lake, all in Nikiski. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service slammed the brakes on activity in the lakes to prevent further spread, which has so far been successful, according to Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Supervisory Biologist Dr. John Morton — the department has not found the plant anywhere else on the peninsula....

### [TX: Giant Salvinia Found on Lake Fork \(11/24/15\)](#)

ATHENS—The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has confirmed the presence of giant salvinia in Chaney Branch on Lake Fork. The infestation appears to be confined to this branch and another small cove west of the dam and occupies an estimated 3.25 acres. Judging by the distribution and age of the plants, it is apparent it has been in place for several months. As is the case for other introductions in East Texas, the plants were most likely introduced to the lake by boat trailer...

**Related Story:** [Invasive plants are growing problem on Texas waters \(12/5/15\)](#)

## JOBS/POSITIONS/GRANTS

### [A PHD Position in Harmful and Invasive Species: University of Texas at Arlington](#)

The successful applicant is expected to have expertise in ecology, experience with statistical data analysis, and excellent communication skills. Using extensive national databases, s/he will study the biogeography of harmful and invasive species (algae, macroinvertebrates, and fish) in US streams. The project will be at the interface of macroecology and conservation and will involve collaboration with scientists from Europe.

### [MN: Request for Research Proposals](#)

The Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC), University of Minnesota, is seeking proposals for research studies to advance control and management, prevention of establishment and spread, risk assessment and early detection of AIS in Minnesota.

**The deadline for pre-proposals is December 15, 2015 (4:30 PM).** Pre-proposals (including [cover sheet + 2pp narrative](#), a [budget](#), and project manager qualifications & organization description) should be submitted electronically to Becca Nash, MAISRC Associate Director, [nash0029@umn.edu](mailto:nash0029@umn.edu), 612.624.7785. Feel free to call or write with questions about the research priorities or proposal process.

### [WA: Watershed Protection and Restoration Grant](#)

Application Period: Opened on December 1st, 2015 and closes on **January 31st, 2016.**

Riparian restoration activities in the Puget Sound region including **invasive species** removal will qualify under the grant. **For More Information:** Carrie Byron, Washington Department of Ecology, Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program, 425-649-4451; [carrie.byron@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:carrie.byron@ecy.wa.gov)

## FEDERAL/STATE/PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION, ACTIONS

### [GAO: Aquatic Invasive Species: Additional Steps Could Help Measure Federal Progress in Achieving Strategic Goals \(11/30/15\)](#)

What GAO Recommends: GAO recommends that the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force develop a mechanism to measure progress toward its strategic goals and help meet certain statutory requirements. Most member agencies generally concurred or had no

comments, but NOAA disagreed. GAO believes its recommendation is valid as discussed further in this report.....

**Related Story:** [Invasive species thrive despite millions spent \(12/7/15\)](#)

[House Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on Interior holds hearing on Examining Invasive Species Policy \(12/1/15\)](#)

Testifying were

1. Jamie Reaser, Ph.D., Executive Director, National Invasive Species Council, U.S. Department of the Interior
2. Mr. Scott J. Cameron, President, Reduce Risks from Invasive Species Coalition,
3. K. George Beck, Ph.D., Professor of Weed Science, Colorado State University
4. Alan D. Steinman, Ph.D., Director and Professor, Robert B. Annis Water Resources Institute Grand Valley State University

Written Testimony can be found [HERE](#)

The archived hearing can be found [HERE](#)

*E & E Daily* reported on the hearing, saying:

Members of a House Oversight and Government Reform subcommittee from both sides of the aisle yesterday criticized a federal council meant to tackle invasive species threats. The National Invasive Species Council, whose members include the heads of 13 federal agencies, was formed under a 1999 executive order with the mission to "to ensure that Federal programs and activities to prevent and control invasive species are coordinated, effective and efficient." But Interior Subcommittee Chairwoman Cynthia Lummis (R-Wyo.) said that since the council's inception, there has been little oversight to gauge its success. The council is also far behind on updating its strategy. When the council formed, regulations required it to issue updates to its national management plan every two years. However, the document has only been revised twice, with the first revision submitted in 2001 and the second in 2008. "A review of the 2001 plan by the Government Accountability Office found problems with coordination delays and setting clear long-term goals," Lummis said. "In the past several years, there has been relatively little oversight of the council's work and success in managing the invasive species problem. Questions continue to be raised about whether the council and other federal agencies are effective in stopping the spread of invasive species." Subcommittee ranking member Brenda Lawrence (D-Mich.) echoed those comments, adding that she plans to hold additional meetings on the matter and to scour forthcoming updates to the national management plan. "We know that the invasive species problem has worsened," Lawrence said. "And I feel strongly that the lack of a proper plan is contributing to the impact." The council's executive director, Jamie Reaser, said the management plan has not been

revised recently due to "unanticipated staff turnover" in agencies, which stalled work on the document. She said she has only been with the council for nine weeks and intends to lead an effort to revise the document, a process she expects will be completed this spring. [Reprinted from E&E Daily with permission from Environment & Energy Publishing, [www.eenews.net](http://www.eenews.net) . 202/628-6500.]

### [Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2015 \(S. 1611\)](#)

S. 1611 has been reported (11/30/15) by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation and is now available for consideration on the Senate floor. The measure includes a controversial revision to the ballast water management program. S. 1611 ballast water management language is similar to [S.373](#), the “Vessel Incidental Discharge Act (VIDA).” The states of Oregon Washington and California are in opposition to the amendment language saying in a 7/2/15 letter to West Coast Senators:

*The States oppose provisions that would preempt a states’ authority to address incidental vessel discharges, including ballast water, within state waters....  
.....The provisions of Title VIII within S. 1611 would eliminate long-standing ability of States to protect their unique waters from shipping-mediated pollution, the introduction of non-native species, and their associated deleterious economic, human health and ecological impacts.*

The [Great Lakes Legislative Caucus](#) also has concerns on the S. 373/S.1611 saying:

If passed, S. 373 would represent an unnecessary overreach by repealing state regulations that are preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species in lake and river basins across the United States. We feel strongly that authorizing the important work of the Coast Guard should neither put the Great Lakes in jeopardy nor undermine the ability of states to take creative, effective approaches to preventing the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species within their waters.

Supporting the ballast water language in S. 373 and S. 1611 are a coalition of [maritime industry interests](#) saying

S. 373 would eliminate an overlapping patchwork of federal and state regulations that has made compliance confusing and costly for vessel owners and mariners, and that has delayed investments in environmentally protective ballast water treatment technologies. The bill would enhance the level of protection for the nation’s waterways by codifying the de facto consensus that exists between the scientific community, the states and the federal government on the capabilities of ballast water treatment technology, but also strikes a balance between state and federal roles by giving wide latitude for the Coast Guard to take into account state considerations in crafting vessel discharge regulations. In addition, the Peters amendment to S.373 will allow states the ongoing opportunity to

petition the Coast Guard for higher standards as technology advances over time.

[FY 2016 Omnibus Budget: Talks stall as shutdown deadline nears \(12/7/15\)](#)

Facing a government shutdown at the end of the week, GOP and Democratic leaders have made little progress on finalizing a massive omnibus spending package they had hoped to introduce by Monday.....

**Related Story:** [House Scrambling To Meet Deadlines, Go Home For Christmas \(12/8/15\)](#)

## MEETINGS

### DECEMBER

**Oregon Invasive Species Council:** December 14, 2015; 9:00 am - 3:00 pm; Red Lion, 3301 Market St NE, Salem, OR 97301. [Please RSVP at this LINK here.](#) [Draft agenda LINK here.](#) For further information contact Jalene Littlejohn @ [jalene@littlejohnenvironmental.com](mailto:jalene@littlejohnenvironmental.com)

### 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

**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](#)

**National Invasive Species Awareness Week 2016:** Save The Date! February 21 – 27, 2016. Check [www.nisaw.org](http://www.nisaw.org) for the NISAW Toolkit for planning local events and the NISAW Event

Locator – as well as more specific dates, details, event schedules, complete lists of partners and further developments and other potential events in Washington, DC!.

### **MARCH**

International Maritime Organization (IMO) GloBallast R&D Forum and Exhibition on Ballast Water Management will be held from 16-18 March 2016. Conference website: <http://www.ballast2016.com/>

### **APRIL**

**ICAIS: 19<sup>th</sup> 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.**

**14th Ballast Water Management Conference:** **Date:** 4th May 2016 - 5th May 2016 **Location:** Baltimore - MD - USA

### **OCTOBER**

**Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference:** **October 17-19 2016** La Crosse, Wisconsin.



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