



AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES NEWS

02/10/15

DREISSENID MUSSELS

[\\$0.5 million or \\$75 million: pay now or pay later \(2/10/15\)](#)

Saskatchewan's western neighbour estimates the annual cost to municipal, agricultural and industrial infrastructure could easily be \$75 million if quagga and zebra mussels invade Alberta's lakes, rivers and irrigation canals. In 2014, the Alberta government invested over \$500,000 in an ongoing effort to stop that invasion. Saskatchewan's eastern neighbour is already playing catch-up, investing approximately the same amount in 2014 in a failed attempt to treat portions of Lake Winnipeg where zebra mussels were first identified as having reached Manitoba in 2013.

[Water sampling suggests zebra mussels have not spread at Lake Waco, TX \(2/2/15\)](#)

Officials trying to safeguard Lake Waco against the zebra mussel menace have scored a tentative victory. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials received word late last week that there were no traces of zebra mussel larvae or DNA in samples taken from the lake Dec. 4.....

[MO: Lake Drawdown Planned to Fight Zebra Mussels \(1/27/15\)](#)

HERMITAGE, Mo. - Operators at Pomme de Terre Lake will attack an invasive species of mussels recently discovered there by dropping the lake level by three feet in the next few days. That will take 10 to 12 days at 1,200 cubic feet of water per second, according to information from the U.S. Corps of Engineers.....

[TX: Water sampling suggests zebra mussels have not spread at Lake Waco \(2/2/15\)](#)

Officials trying to safeguard Lake Waco against the zebra mussel menace have scored a tentative victory. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials received word late last

week that there were no traces of zebra mussel larvae or DNA in samples taken from the lake Dec. 4. A colony of zebra mussels [was discovered](#) around the Ridgewood Country Club dock in September. The city of Waco reacted by [installing a football field-size tarp to smother them](#) before lake temperatures dropped to the ideal breeding range. The tarp will be removed in about a month. John Tibbs, a Waco-based Texas Parks and Wildlife biologist, said it is too early to declare the mussels vanquished, but no news is good news....

[AB: Board members call for action on Zebra mussel threat \(2/3/15\)](#)

Agricultural services board members from across the province are calling on government ministries to do more to keep Zebra and Quagga mussels out of Alberta lakes and rivers. During the recent 2015 agricultural services boards convention in Edmonton, delegates approved the following resolution: “That Minister of Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development (AESRD) direct Alberta Transportation to have all border crossings into Alberta have a water craft inspection station where it is mandatory for all water craft to stop and be inspected for the presence of all aquatic invasive species (including Zebra and Quagga mussels).”

[What’s the fuss? 10 reasons why quagga mussels pose a dangerous threat in Utah \(1/25/15\)](#)

PROVO — The recent discovery of five quagga mussel larvae in a Deer Creek Reservoir water sample has some wondering what the effect may be downstream in the Provo River and Utah Lake.....

[Alstom teams up with Atlantium for invasive species prevention technology \(2/6/15\)](#)

Global manufacturer Alstom has signed a bilateral agreement with Israel's Atlantium Technologies Ltd. to expand the use of an ultraviolet (UV) ray water treatment process in its hydropower equipment.....Atlantium said in a white paper released in September 2013 that the use of UV technology, which the company called "[Hydro Optic Disinfection](#)" (HOD), showed promising results in controlling zebra and quagga mussel populations on dams and hydroelectric power projects.....

[NOAA study shows oysters, mussels have low levels of disease, parasites \(2/5/15\)](#)

.....The report provides both national and regional trends. For example, oysters in the Gulf of Mexico and along the East Coast showed higher parasite levels than those in Puerto Rico or Hawaii. Also, West Coast mussels had significantly higher parasite levels than East Coast mussels. Zebra mussels, which are invasive in the Great Lakes, harbored few parasites and had significantly fewer cases of disease than all the other bivalves studied.....

BOAT INSPECTION NEWS

[ABYC hosts invasive-species summit in Vegas \(2/9/15\)](#)

The American Boat and Yacht Council hosted an Aquatic Invasive Species Summit Jan. 27-28 in Las Vegas to explore the role of boat design and construction as it regards invasive species.....

RELATED STORY: [Minn. Boat Manufacturer Shares Designs to Prevent Invasive Species Spread \(2/1/15\)](#)

[Invasive species boating fee advanced in Nebraska \(2/5/15\)](#)

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) Nebraska lawmakers have advanced a new boating fee to cover the cost of fighting invasive water species. The measure won first-round approval Thursday with a 36-1 vote. It would create a new fee of \$5 to \$10 to register or renew a motorboat registration. Out-of-state residents would pay a \$10 to \$15 stamp fee for motorboats operating in Nebraska's waters....

See bill text <https://legiscan.com/NE/bill/LB142A/2015>

MN: [DNR delays mandatory invasive species training for boaters \(1/29/15\)](#)

A program that would require boaters to pass a 30-minute training course to legally pull watercraft on a trailer in Minnesota ran aground Wednesday when its launch was postponed by the Department of Natural Resources. Intended to fight the spread of aquatic invasive species, the controversial program was to begin at the end of the month. But legislators have introduced bills to kill the law requiring the training, and DNR officials don't want boaters to take the course if that happens, or major changes are made. Boaters who pass the test would get a decal for their trailer, and people transporting boats on a trailer without a decal could be ticketed. "We didn't want people to take test and get the decal now if there will be changes to the law," said Bob Meier, DNR assistant commissioner....

MNDNR Press Release [HERE](#) and related stories as follows: [MN: Times Writers Group: Protection will win AIS war \(1/25/14\)](#), and [MN: Decal, aquatic invasive species class won't disappear \(1/31/15\)](#)

[Snowbirds threaten to bring home invasive species \(1/21/15\)](#)

Canadian snowbirds towing pleasure boats back to Western provinces from winter getaways in the United States are in danger of bringing back some unwelcome guests — two invasive aquatic species....

[SD: Group Plans Area Missouri River Summer Events, Clean Up \(1/21/15\)](#)

The recent discovery of a zebra mussel in Lewis and Clark Lake near Yankton may ratchet up this year's Clean Boat Event, the organizer says. The event, a week-long effort in May, educates the public about caring for their watercraft in preventing the spread of invasive species such as the zebra mussel, said Paul Lepisto with the Izaak Walton League of America (IWLA)....

[Calif: County's boat requirements strict \(1/23/15\)](#)

Lake County has one of the strictest boat inspection requirements for invasive species in Northern California. All boaters are required to have their boats inspected and be issued a Lake County quagga mussel sticker before launching their boat in any body of water in the county. Residents can purchase an annual quagga mussel sticker and nonresidents are required to purchase a sticker monthly. The cost per sticker is \$10....

[Proposed New Rules Regarding Aquatic Invasive Species in South Dakota \(2/9/15\)](#)

These proposed rules can be viewed in their entirety online at: <http://gfp.sd.gov/agency/commission/default.aspx> . Written comments can be sent to 523 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre, S.D. 57501. To be included in the public record, **comments must be received by 12 p.m. CST on March 5** and have your full name and city of residence.

MARINE

[Federal Appeals Court in New York to Hear Oral Argument in Challenge to Ballast Water Discharge Permit \(1/30/15\)](#)

On Friday, January 30, the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, located in New York, will hear oral argument in a challenge to the legality of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Vessel General Permit (VGP). The permit requires treatment of ballast water discharges that contain invasive species. Once discharged, populations of invasive species— such as the zebra mussel— can . . .

[Great Lakes Seaway Ballast Water Working Group releases 2014 Ballast Water Management Report \(2/6/15\)](#)

CLEVELAND — The Great Lakes Ballast Water Working Group released its 2014 Summary of Great Lakes Seaway Ballast Water Management activities Thursday.....

[Interview: Markus Helavuori, International Maritime Organisation \(IMO\) \(1/20/15\)](#)

Marine Engineering & Offshore Technology spoke to Markus Helavuori, from the marine environment division at IMO about the Ballast Water Management Convention and its likely impact on the marine industry...

[Going global: The introduction of the Asian isopod *Ianiropsis serricaudis* to North America and Europe \(12/8/14\)](#)

Abstract: The Asian isopod *Ianiropsis serricaudis* is now well established in fouling communities, often associated with introduced ascidians, throughout the Northern Hemisphere but has gone largely unnoticed because of its diminutive size (typically less than 3 mm in length) and the difficulties of identifying small peracarid crustaceans. Known locations include the northeastern Pacific (Puget Sound, San Francisco Bay, and Monterey Bay), the northwestern Atlantic (from the Gulf of Maine to Barnegat Bay, NJ), and the northeastern Atlantic (England and the Netherlands). We predict that this species is widespread along North America and European coasts, and may already be introduced to cold temperate waters of the Southern Hemisphere as well.

WEEDS

[Invasive plants taking over the U.S. \(1/30/15\)](#)

Invasive plants are conquering the United States. The first comprehensive assessment for the continental United States has found that nonnative plants are more widely distributed than native plants are. And humans are largely to blame....

[Editorial \(BC\): New law needed to fight invaders \(1/23/15\)](#)

In considering the heroes and villains among Vancouver Island's early European settlers, Capt. Walter Colquhoun Grant would definitely fall in the latter category. It was he who gets the credit for introducing Scotch broom to the Island. Grant apparently saw the yellow-flowering shrub growing in Hawaii in 1850 and thought it would do well on his farm in Sooke. This prolific and hardy plant has become a serious problem on the West Coast, as well as in many parts of North America. Way to go, Walter.....

FISH

[Warming Arctic will let Atlantic and Pacific fish mix \(2/2/15\)](#)

Climate change is heating up the planet, and [species are moving](#) toward the poles, up mountains and deeper into the oceans. For most, there's a natural end to this journey — the edge of a continent, for instance, or the summit of a mountain. For fish and sea creatures in the Northern Hemisphere, though, there is no such physical barrier to their movement — only one of temperature. And once the Arctic Ocean warms enough for them to move in, they can keep moving, right on through to the other side of the world. A new study finds that by end of the century, dozens of fish species will have moved into the Atlantic from the Pacific, and vice versa. The research appears January 26 in *Nature Climate Change*.....

[WY: Warmth Gives Ugly Invasive Fish Brief Reprieve From Anglers \(2/6/15\)](#)

CHEYENNE, Wyo. — Warm weather has helped grant a reprieve this year to a homely, eel-like and especially slimy invasive fish pursued by anglers as they compete for big money in two ice-fishing tournaments on the Wyoming-Utah line. The goal of both annual events is to remove burbot (pronounced BUR'-but) from Flaming Gorge Reservoir. Burbot are known for being best caught in frigid weather using smelly bait, for wrapping their slippery bodies around fishermen's arms — and for being delicious. Some call them the "poor man's lobster."...

[Great Lakes Goby: One invasive species may have found a niche \(1/31/15\)](#)

LANSING – Can invasive species be good news – rather than bad – for native fish in the Great Lakes? That sounds counterintuitive, but a new study shows that the invasive round goby has become an important food source for several native species, especially smallmouth bass, but with benefits also for yellow perch and walleye.....

[Army Corps of Engineers remain confident in barrier, unconcerned with positive Asian carp tests \(1/21/15\)](#)

Despite recent tests for Asian carp environmental DNA coming back positive above the electrical barrier in the Chicago Area Waterway System, the Army Corps of Engineers is not concerned as the results are incapable of proving the existence of an actual fish. Tests came back positive for Asian carp in the same areas in the past, but no Asian carp were found....

OTHER

[Study attempts to predict the future of invasive species in the Great Lakes \(2/10/15\)](#)

Over the last two centuries, more than 180 have been found in the Great Lakes and the rivers that feed them. About 20% of those species are considered harmful either economically, ecologically or both. A new study from researchers at McGill University in Montreal attempts to predict the future of invasive species in the lakes and what those species might be.....

[New Invasive Species, European Ear Snail, Found In Middle Fork John Day River; Monitoring Continues \(1/23/15\)](#)

The north-central Oregon's North Fork John Day Watershed Council's intensive monitoring efforts on the Middle Fork of the John Day River last year resulted in the collection of an invasive species, previously undetected in eastern Oregon or the John Day River system. The "European ear snail" was collected by monitoring project coordinator Valeen Madden on Sept. 24 in regular monitoring activities. The snail was collected in a drift net. Drift nets are set in the river's current for a period of at least six hours to collect insects and crustaceans, commonly referred to as "macro-invertebrates." The invertebrates collected are then sent to a lab for careful identification and evaluation. The lab providing the positive identification of this sample was Rithron Laboratories of Missoula, Mont.....

[Study: Clams in Lake George, NY transported by boat anchor sediment \(1/3/15\)](#)

LAKE GEORGE -- Researchers have pried open some information on how Asian clams move around Lake George. At the December Lake George Park Commission meeting, the Darrin Fresh Water Institute's Sandra Nierzwicki-Bauer and Jeremy Farrell reported findings from their research on the aquatic invasive species first spotted by Farrell in August 2010 off Lake Avenue Beach in the village.....

[Brazil scientists fear golden mussel threat to Amazon River \(2/5/15\)](#)

RIO DE JANEIRO — The world's mightiest waterway, the Amazon River, is threatened by the most diminutive of foes — a tiny mussel invading from China.....

[New discoveries of introduced and cryptogenic fresh and brackish water gastropods in the western United States \(1/6/15\)](#)

We report the discovery of a second western Atlantic brackish-coastal cochliopid gastropod in San Francisco Bay, *Spurwinkia salsa*, and detail the first records for a widely distributed member of the family, *Tryonia porrecta*, from artificial lakes (in the Phoenix metropolitan area).....

[A tad too high: Sensitivity to UV-B radiation may limit invasion potential of American bullfrogs in the Pacific Northwest invasion range \(1/6/15\)](#)

.....Our study explored tolerance and plastic trait response to UV-B radiation in an invasive anuran, the American bullfrog.....

JOBS/RFPS

[Aquatic Invasive Species position in Vermont.](#)

The position is located within the Lakes and Ponds Management and Protection Program of the Watershed Management Division. The incumbent serves as the technical lead for aquatic invasive animals, and oversees the development and implementation of an effective, statewide aquatic invasive species spread prevention program. The incumbent collaborates with other staff to manage aquatic invasive species statewide. The application deadline is **March 1, 2015**.

[MT: Aquatic Invasive Species Grants](#)

GENERAL INFORMATION: The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) is offering grants to local government entities for the prevention and control of aquatic invasive species. The goal of the grants is to protect the natural resources of Montana from severe and unacceptable damage from aquatic invasive species.

PRIORITY SPECIES: Eurasian watermilfoil, Quagga mussels, Zebra mussels. Flowering rush and Curly-leaf pondweed control projects will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

2015 Grant Deadline: March 2, 2015

WDFW accepting applications for ALEA volunteer grants

OLYMPIA – The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is accepting grant applications through **Feb. 28, 2015** for volunteer projects that benefit fish and wildlife. WDFW currently expects from \$1.1 to \$1.36 million to be available for these grants, funded through the state’s Aquatic Land Enhancement Account (ALEA), beginning July 1, 2015. Five major types of projects are funded through the program, although others may be considered. These project types include habitat restoration, scientific research/citizen science, public education, facility development and artificial fish production. Eligible applicants are individual citizens, non-profit organizations, schools (including universities), tribes and political subdivisions of the state such as conservation districts. For-profit businesses, and state and federal agencies are not eligible.

Interested persons can apply at <http://alea.fluidreview.com> . For more information, visit the ALEA Grant Program website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/grants/alea/> . The application packet must be submitted by 11:59 pm on **February 28, 2015**.

TRAININGS/WEBINARS

NISAW Webinars

As part of National Invasive Species Awareness Week, the University of Florida, Auburn University, University of Georgia Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health, and Southern IPM Center are proud to present a number of webinars. For further information go [HERE](#)

LEGISLATION/FEDERAL ACTIONS/BUDGET

[Senator Introduces Bipartisan Bill to Exempt Fishing Fleet from Onerous E.P.A. Permit and “Fish Gut” Fines \(2/5/15\)](#)

Senator Lisa Murkowski today introduced legislation [[S. 371](#)] to permanently block an EPA incidental discharge regulation that poses serious threats to Alaska’s fisherman and coastal communities. The flawed regulation is written so broadly that it would penalize Alaska’s fisherman and more than 8,000 boats statewide simply for rinsing fish guts off their deck, or rainwater washing other materials off their decks.

Senate - hearing on vessel discharge regulations (2/5/15)

The Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation conducted a hearing [located at entitled "The Impacts of Vessel Discharge Regulations on our Shipping and Fishing Industries". Testimony was heard from Mr. James Farley, Kirby Offshore Marine; Mr. James Weakley, Lake Carriers Association; Ms. Claudia Copeland, Congressional Research Service; and Captain Robert Zales, National Association of Charter Boat Operators. (2/4/15). Archived webcast [HERE](#)

S.373 - A bill to “provide for the establishment of nationally uniform and environmentally sound standards governing discharges incidental to the normal operation of a vessel.”

[S.373](#) was introduced by Sen. Rubio, Marco (R-FL) on 02/04/2015.

[Editor’s Note: In a similar bill introduced last session ([S. 2094](#)), the States of California, Oregon and Washington the Great Lakes Commission and [conservation groups](#) raised concerns about the legislation. In a 2014 letter the states of California,

Washington and Oregon said the following: “..... If adopted, S. 2094 would eliminate the long-standing ability of States to protect unique state waters from shipping-mediated pollution, the introduction of non-native species, and their associated deleterious economic, human health and ecological impacts.”]

Oregon Bill would make purchase of aquatic invasive species prevention permit voluntary, rather than mandatory

[House Bill 2511](#) directs the Oregon State Marine Board to provide education to public about aquatic invasive species and makes purchase of aquatic invasive species prevention permit voluntary, rather than mandatory. **UPDATE:** Jan 16, 2015: Referred to Agriculture and Natural Resources. Activity on this bill can be tracked [HERE](#)

[Editor’s Note: The Oregon aquatic invasive species prevention permit funds Oregon’s watercraft inspection station program. There is concern that if this permit was made voluntary that funding for the inspection program would be severely reduced. Oregon’s watercraft inspection stations have intercepted 35 watercraft fouled with adult quagga/zebra mussels in the past 3 years (in addition to hundreds of “high risk” watercraft; High Risk = a watercraft that has been in infested waters in the past 30 days)]

MEETINGS

FEBRUARY

National Invasive Species Awareness Week – 02/22-28/2015. For further information go to <http://www.nisaw.org/> [the agenda has been updated]

MARCH/APRIL

Washington Invasive Species Council: The next meeting of the WISC is March 12. For further information go to <http://www.invasivespecies.wa.gov/meetings.shtml> or contact Raquel Crosier raquel.crosier@rco.wa.gov

Save the Date: 4th Annual Columbia Gorge Invasive Species and Exotic Pest Workshop

When March 19, 2019

Where: Stevenson, Washington

For further information Contact: Emily Stevenson, estevenson@co.skamania.wa.us

To register go to <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/1198226>

2015 WAPMS Conference Information: The 34th annual Western Aquatic Plant Management Society conference will be held at the [Crown Plaza Hotel](#) in Portland, OR on March 30 – April 1,

2015. Visit the [Conference Info](#) page for more information on registering, submitting titles and abstracts, and hotel reservations. **Deadline for Early Bird Registration is March 2, 2015!**

MAY

Columbia River Basin Team of the 100th Meridian Initiative will meet May 12 and 13 in Boise Idaho. Stay tuned for details via this list serve....

SEPTEMBER

Save the Date – WRP 2015 Annual Meeting - Lake Tahoe. The WRP will hold their 2015 Annual Meeting in Lake Tahoe, CA on September 2-4 at the [Lake Tahoe Resort Hotel](#). The meeting is hosted by Tahoe Regional Planning Agency. More details are available on the [WRP website](#).

OCTOBER

Save the Date: Society of Wetland Scientists PNW Chapter 2015 Regional Conference -- October 6th, 7th & 8th 2015, Red Lion Conference Center, Olympia, WA

*****NOTE*****

The PSMFC has upgraded and moved our AIS website. The new website can be found at <http://www.westernais.org/>

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