



AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES NEWS

12/20/16

DREISSENID MUSSELS

[MT: No mussels detected in water samples \(12/20/16\)](#)

HELENA, Mont. – Test results from 182 water bodies in Montana have turned up no new detections of invasive mussels, according to the Montana Mussel Response Team. As a result of the joint response effort, the turnaround for testing was shortened from several months to two weeks. “This is very good news. No mussel larvae, or veligers, were found in any of the remaining samples,” said Mussel Response incident commander Matthew Wolcott. “This gives us a much clearer picture of what we’re dealing with, and where we will focus our efforts going forward.” Tiber Reservoir remains the only water body in which multiple sample results showed mussel larvae. Although there were suspect samples for Canyon Ferry Reservoir and the Milk River below Nelson Reservoir, and an inconclusive sample on the Missouri below Toston dam, Wolcott said further testing is needed to determine whether mussels are present. These detections are going to result in an increase in the number of samples and frequency of sampling across the state.....

[MT: Emergency restrictions approved in effort to contain invasive mussel spread \(12/2/16\)](#)

The Montana Mussel Response team today [12/2] announced immediate temporary emergency restrictions on the launch or removal of all boats, docks, and other structures for Tiber and Canyon Ferry reservoirs....

- Follow [Montana Mussel Response on Facebook](#)
- Email inquiries to musselresponse@mt.gov
- Mussel response hotline: (406) 444-2440
- MT website: musselresponse.mt.gov

Other Montana Stories

[Response to aquatic invasive species impressive \(12/20/16\)](#)

[Invasive mussel discovery not likely to impact ice fishing \(12/17/16\)](#)

[Will Federal Funds Arrive in Time to Help NW States Stymie Mussel Spread During 2017 Boating Season? \(12/16/16\)](#)

[Invasive mussels pushing their way to B.C. \(12/15/16\)](#)

[Our Voice: More state money needed to keep out invasive water creatures \(12/11/16\)](#)

[Yellowstone says no invasive mussels are in the park, but biologists are vigilant \(12/9/16\)](#)

[Under Siege: One of the most devastating invasive species in the world has arrived at the gateway to the Flathead Basin, posing ecological and economic consequences that could imperil the pristine watershed forever \(12/7/16\)](#)

[With Unified Task Force, Montana Expedites Invasive Mussel Testing - State lawmakers critical of 'slow, stumbling' response to first detection of aquatic invaders \(12/7/16\)](#)

[Boating on Canyon Ferry, Tiber closed due to invasive mussels \(12/2/16\)](#)

[Calif: Quagga Mussel Infestation Triggers Boating Restrictions at Pyramid and Castaic Lakes \(12/15/16\)](#)

Sacramento – Boats leaving [Pyramid Lake](#) and Castaic Lake are subject to restrictions to help prevent the spread of quagga mussels, which were discovered last week in a tunnel that connects the two Los Angeles County lakes, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) announced today....

Related Links: [USGS Specimen Collection Information](#) and [Outdoor Report: Quagga mussels discovered in Pyramid Lake \(12/11/16\)](#)

[Calif: Quagga mussel infestation discovered in Pyramid Lake, state imposes boating restrictions \(12/9/16\)](#)

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. - Six Quagga mussels were found in the Angeles Tunnel Thursday, which serves as a connector between [Pyramid Lake](#) and two State Water Project components, according to the California Department of Water Resources.

[MN: Zebra mussel larvae confirmed in Leech Lake \(12/8/16\)](#)

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has confirmed zebra mussels in their larval stage in two locations in Leech Lake in Cass County. The DNR has found no adult zebra mussels in the lake, but the locations and numbers of zebra mussel larvae, called veligers, indicate a reproducing population may be present.....

[IA: Council Bluffs Water Works officials discover troublesome zebra mussels along Missouri River \(12/27/16\)](#)

Zebra mussels, a potentially costly problem for cities when they clog water intakes, have been discovered in a preliminary settling basin at the Council Bluffs Water Works North 25th Street facility, which draws water for the city from the nearby Missouri River.....

BOAT INSPECTION/DECON NEWS

[Free training for Nebraska marinas, boat repair shops aims at fighting invasive species \(12/1/16\)](#)

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC) is offering free boat decontamination training to marinas and repair shops. Dave Tunink, NGPC Fisheries Division assistant administrator, says the goal is to stop the spread of invasive species, like zebra mussels.....Any operator interested in receiving the training should contact Tunink at dave.tunink@nebraska.gov or 402-471-5553. They should provide name, phone number, location, and the days they would be available for training.....

[Lake associations, local governments boost spending against aquatic invaders \(12/6/16\)](#)

.....Efforts on individual lakes can make a big difference, said Joe Shneider, secretary of the Minnesota Coalition of Lake Associations. The association for Shneider's lake — Christmas Lake in western Hennepin County — spends about \$80,000 a year on inspections and decontamination of boats at a single public landing. But a regional model could have more widespread impact for not much more money.....

[Sniffer dogs might help B.C. fight invasive species of mussels \(12/1/16\)](#)

Sniffer dogs that are trained to detect not bombs or drugs but invasive species may be put into service in British Columbia in an attempt to stop the spread of zebra and quagga mussels. The governments of British Columbia, Alberta, Yukon, Saskatchewan and

Manitoba have been working together to try to keep the destructive mussels from spreading west....

[Wildlife Forever Helps Launch Innovative Boat Cleaning Stations](#)

Brooklyn Center, MN – As aquatic invasive species continue their assault on our nation’s waterways, Wildlife Forever’s *Clean Drain Dry Initiative*[™] has partnered with *CD3 Station General Benefit Corporation*, (Clean Drain Dry Dispose) a Minnesota based company and developer of watercraft cleaning stations. Designed to provide hands-on tools to remove invasive species from water related equipment, CD3 Stations also fully integrate with the Clean Drain Dry Initiative educational campaign.....

[Switzerland: Identifying target factors for interventions to increase boat cleaning in order to prevent spread of invasive species \(12/9/16\)](#)

Overland transport of recreational boats is among the most important distribution vectors for aquatic invasive zebra and quagga mussels between inland waters. Simple measures such as instructing boat owners how to prepare their boat for transport so that the boat does not carry invasive species are considered to be important prevention measures. Nevertheless, the net effects of such measures are poorly understood and the boat cleaning behavior of boat owners has never been studied in detail before the implementation of such preventive measures. Using a “self-report” questionnaire, we investigated the boat cleaning behavior of boat owners in Switzerland where almost no preventive measures have been taken yet. We found that the self-reported boat cleaning rates are high, with 92% of boaters cleaning their boat upon finding mussels attached to their boat and 84% of them cleaning their boat before a transport. Nevertheless, only half of the boat owners report using high pressure washing to clean their boat before overland transport and many use ineffective cleaning methods. We show the importance of informing boat owners on the appropriate methods to remove invasive species from their boat and suggest that high pressure washing facilities should be made available at all potentially infested water bodies. Furthermore, our analysis shows that the boat cleaning behavior could be significantly improved by changing how boat owners value the perceived costs and benefits of cleaning, as well as by increasing their awareness of the potential negative impacts on aquatic ecosystems caused by non-native species. With regard to a possible spread of zebra mussels to uninfested alpine lakes and the imminent spread of quagga mussels in Switzerland, we conclude that the Swiss boating community would be open to accepting implementation of prevention measures.

MARINE

[MA: On the menu: Green crab \(11/30/16\)](#)

The hand-sized green crab could destroy the 20,00-acre Great Marsh and the local \$14 million softshell clam industry or it could provide local fishermen and clambers with

another source of income. It all depends on whether a loose confederation of local fishermen, marine biologists and scientists, and seafood distributors and retailers can establish a market for the European native green crab. "There is definitely a business there for someone," said Town Farm Road resident and fisherman Adam Smith, speaking specifically about a caviar and green crab meat product called Mazanetta, taken from Venice, Italy, where the green crab is a native species and Mazanetta has been a delicacy for centuries. "A good, gourmet restaurant could put it on the menu as an appetizer. Put it on a few crackers and you'd get \$20 for it, no question."....

[Hakai Magazine: The Clam That Sank a Thousand Ships \(12/5/16\)](#)

.....Among them is the little-known mollusk closest to Treneman's heart: not the *Mytilus*, no, but the shipworm, a tunneling bivalve with a voracious appetite for wood. Though we don't find any on this day, about 22 percent of the tsunami debris that researchers have assembled from the North American west coast is wooden building material. And as Treneman has painstakingly examined 125 collected pieces, she's found them riddled with shipworms from Japan's coastal waters and from the open ocean. It's too soon to tell whether any of the species will make a home alongside the one native and handful of introduced shipworm species here, says Carlton, a pioneer in the study of invasive marine organisms. But if they do, it will be the latest chapter in a tale of shipworms and people that stretches back millennia. Since some of the earliest recorded references to the creatures appeared in texts from Ancient Greece, the clams have hitched rides in the hulls of wooden boats and, later, in ballast water, settling in ports and harbors around the globe and devastating wooden infrastructure as they went. In fact, some species have become so ubiquitous, they're cryptogenic—meaning it's impossible to tell where they originated. Theirs, perhaps, is a liminal eighth continent, one built not of land, but of motion itself, its boundaries defined in part by the human quest for empire and commerce.....

BALLAST WATER/BIOFOULING

[New report shares details about the ballast water management system industry](#)

This report analyse the Ballast Water Management System industry in two aspects. One part is about its production and the other part is about its consumption. In terms of its production, it analyzes the production, revenue, gross margin of its main manufacturers and the unit price that they offer in different regions from 2011 to 2016. In terms of its consumption, it analyzes the consumption volume, consumption value, sale price, import and export in different regions from 2011 to 2016....[Cost: \$2600]

[MD: Carderock Answers Call to Protect Marine Life with Newly-Commissioned Ballast Water Research Laboratory \(12/13/16\)](#)

West Bethesda, Md. (NNS) -- Traveling across the globe from port to port, the U.S. Navy fleet transports Sailors and Marines, aircraft, and supplies. Unfortunately, ships can also unintentionally transport stowaways, small organisms which live in ballast water. Most people would not look at small organisms like mitten crabs or zebra mussels and think they are a major threat to the environment -- and in their natural habitats they pose no threat. But what happens when these organisms are introduced into a new ecosystem?

[Ballast Water Management \(BWM\) Extension Program Update \(12/2/16\)](#)

On December 2, 2016, the Marine Safety Center [announced](#) the approval of the first Coast Guard type approved Ballast Water Management System (BWMS). This bulletin provides answers to frequently asked questions concerning: 1) the extension program, 2) vessel compliance dates, and 3) use of Alternate Management Systems (AMS)....

[U.S. Type-Approves First Ballast Water Treatment System \(12/2/16\)](#)

One of the main stumbling blocks for the successful implementation of the IMO Ballast Water Management Convention is retreating now that the U.S. Coast Guard has issued its first type approval certificate for a ballast water treatment system. The U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Center issued the certificate to Norway's Optimarin on Friday for its UV-based treatment system. DNV GL tested the system to U.S. Coast Guard standards for fresh, brackish and marine water at the NIVA test facility in Norway. Optimarin, which installed the world's first commercial treatment system on the Princess Regal in 2000, has had its best year in business in 2016, taking orders from a wide range of shipowners, operators and yards. These include contracts with Atlantis Tankers, Vard Group, Saga Shipholding, Fincantieri Bay Shipbuilding, Fisherman's Finest, Solvang ASA and Carisbrooke, amongst others. Of the company's units installed to date, over 60 have been retrofitted in conjunction with global engineering partners Goltens and Zeppelin Power Systems....

[Ballast Water - does it have the power to scrap ships? \(12/1/16\)](#)

....The average age of a cargo ship was traditionally 30 years. A flat economy and depressed freight rates, on top of retrofitting for ballast, is not a winning combination for older vessels. The adjusted average age of ships after 2014 was about 15 years. Now I see the light! Owners have more reason to purge ships, which are not fuel efficient, may require plugging in at port and must clean ballast water. Heaping the 2017 IMO "regs" on top of the list will be the tell. *So I'll ask again. Ballast Water – does it have the power to scrap ships?*

FISH

[BC: Orange scourge: district working to stop spread of invasive goldfish \(12/9/16\)](#)

You might think your pet goldfish is ill-suited to a Peace Region winter and that, in the event it outgrows its fishbowl, you can deposit it in a local pond and let nature take its course. You'd be wrong. Invasive species staff with the Peace River Regional District are warning pet owners to keep their fish out of local waterways after an increase in goldfish infestations in local dugouts and ponds. "It's a huge problem," said Trish Morgan, the regional district's general manager of community services. "There's nothing here that wants to eat them, and they just grow and grow."...

[Evaluation of a Long-Term Predator Removal Program: Abundance and Population Dynamics of Invasive Northern Pike in the Yampa River, Colorado \(9/19/16\)](#)

The Northern Pike *Esox lucius* is invasive in the upper Green and Yampa River basins of Colorado and Utah and impedes endangered fish recovery in the upper Colorado River basin. Mechanical removal was implemented in 2004, but Northern Pike population dynamics and removal efficacy were not well understood. We analyzed mark-recapture records from 8,929 individual Northern Pike captured during 2004–2010 from three reaches of the Yampa River: Hayden to Craig (upstream reach), South Beach–Little Yampa Canyon–Juniper (middle reach), and Maybell–Sunbeam (downstream reach), encompassing 175 river kilometers. Annual survival rates for Northern Pike of the mean TL (465 mm) were highest downstream (mean = 0.54; range = 0.36–0.71) and lowest upstream (mean = 0.25; range = 0.12–0.38). Annual abundance exhibited the opposite pattern, as it was highest upstream (annual range = 1,144–4,078 fish) and lowest downstream (range = 232–746 fish). After removal occurred each year, Northern Pike abundance increased annually by nearly 1,000% in the upstream reach, over 875% in the middle reach, and over 375% in the downstream reach due to recruitment and immigration. Resulting densities were 4–58 times higher than those for a native apex predator, the endangered Colorado Pikeminnow *Ptychocheilus lucius*. Northern Pike movement was mostly (90%) downstream and sometimes extensive, which may have promoted establishment of additional populations. Removal rates were inadequate to reduce Northern Pike abundance in the Yampa River because recruitment and immigration exceeded removal and mortality. Investigation of reproduction and recruitment, along with source management, spawning disruption, and increased removal, are needed to further reduce Northern Pike abundance and to aid recovery of native and endangered fishes. These findings underscore the need for sustained, comprehensive, and often costly removal efforts—including evaluation of their effects—in the face of the expanding distribution and abundance of invasive predator species. [Full Article =\$\$\$\$\$]

[Panama: Predator Invasion Had Devastating, Long-term Effects on Native Fish \(12/12/16\)](#)

In 1969, 60 to 100 peacock bass imported from Buga, Colombia, were introduced into a pond in Panama for sport fishing. Several individuals escaped. By the early 1970s, they colonized Gatun Lake, the reservoir forming the main channel of the Panama Canal. Forty-five years later, native fish populations in the lake still have not recovered according to a new Smithsonian report. Peacock bass, *Cichla monoculus*, originally from the Amazon River and its tributaries, are voracious predators. They are considered delicious game fish and have been intentionally stocked for recreational and commercial fishing around the world.

[Detroit Free Press: Searching for truth about Asian carp in the Great Lakes \(12/18/16\)](#)

What's the truth about invasive Asian carp in the Great Lakes? Week after week, month after month over the past year, headlines have denied the presence of Asian carp in the Great Lakes. But there are Asian carp in the Great Lakes, and the way they are being handled has been the subject of heated discussion among scientists....Grass carp are identified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Michigan DNR as one of four species of invasive Asian carp, along with silver, bighead and black carp.

[Lake Davis to fill again, nearly a decade after chemicals were used to kill invasive fish \(12/13/16\)](#)

Nearly a decade after state officials last dumped chemicals into a Plumas County lake to kill off nonnative predatory fish, state water regulators are going to allow the reservoir to fill to the brim this winter. The Department of Water Resources lowered Lake Davis near Portola in the 1990s to prevent storms from washing predatory northern pike into the waterways below the dam and begin killing native fish. In 2007, state fisheries officials used a chemical in the 84,000-acre-foot reservoir to kill the fish. The lake was kept low in the following years as a precaution. A similar chemical treatment was conducted in 1997, but the pike were again found in the reservoir two years later....

OTHER

[WA: State drains Capitol Lake to help fight invasive mud snails \(12/15/16\)](#)

The state Department of Enterprise Services began lowering the water level in Capitol Lake on Thursday to fight the New Zealand mud snails that have invaded the lake. The goal is to expose the tiny mollusks to the cold weather and reduce their population. The department expects that most of the lake's bottom will be exposed to the elements Friday through Sunday, when temperatures are forecast to dip into the low 20s at night and

hover just above freezing during the days. The 260-acre lake will need two days to fill back up.....

[Invasive Snake Species Spreads Along Colorado River in Yuma \(12/19/16\)](#)

An invasive snake has been found in Yuma waters. Officials are concerned because the snakes could pose a threat to local species and alter the Colorado River ecosystem. "So where we're heading right now is north of Yuma on Laguna Dam Road. We're going to a lake called Mittry Lake," said Richard Meyers, an Arizona Game and Fish wildlife manager. Meyers is investigating the arrival of the Southern Banded Water Snake at Mittry Lake and other Colorado River waters in the Yuma area.

TRAININGS/WEBINARS/CONFERENCES

[Call for Abstracts for BC Invasive Species Research Conference](#)

Calling all invasive species researchers and practitioners! Thompson Rivers University and the Invasive Species Council of BC are excited to co-host the 2017 Invasive Species Research Conference - Turning Science into Action, being held in beautiful Kamloops, June 20 - 22, 2017. Submit your abstract for either oral or poster presentations. If you have an idea for a session theme, we also want to know. Visit our new events microsite to read more and submit a theme or abstract. The deadline for submissions is Jan 31, 2017. Follow the conference, interact and join the conversation on Twitter using #invasiveresearch2017.

JOBS/GRANTS

[FL: Invasive Species Extension Coordinator](#)

1. Identifies key invasive species constituents and constituent groups both internally and externally and develops and implements innovative methods to reach and connect them.
2. Implements an integrated communication plan to improve communications among Invasive Species Specialists within IFAS.
3. Works with IFAS IT specialists to develop an invasive species web portal to better direct clients to the appropriate sites.

Applications close: 09 Jan 2017

[WDFW will accept applications for ALEA volunteer grants \(11/28/16\)](#)

Five major types of projects are funded through the program, although other project types may be considered. Project types include habitat restoration, scientific research/citizen science, public education and outreach, facility development and artificial fish production.

For more program information, visit the ALEA Grant Program website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/grants/alea/>. **Starting Dec. 1**, interested persons can apply at <http://alea.fluidreview.com>.

FEDERAL/STATE/PROVINCIAL/EU LEGISLATION, RULES, ACTIONS

[Dutch breeders hit back at EU's invasive alien species ban \(12/14/16\)](#)

Plant breeders in the Netherlands are fighting back against the EU's attempts to ban a number of ornamental plants that are commonly used in gardens and parks. The dispute stems from the European Commission's list of Invasive Alien Species, animals and plants that would harm Europe's ecosystems — ranging from East Asian raccoon dogs to alligator weed that clogs waterways. The European Commission adopted its first [invasive species list](#) in July, which contained 37 organisms

[Assistant Secretary Kia'aina and Territorial Governors Establish Coordinating Committee to Prevent, Eradicate, and Control Invasive Species in the U.S. Territories](#)

WASHINGTON, D.C. (December 15, 2016) – Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Esther Kia'aina today met with Governors' representatives from the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the U.S. Virgin Islands for the first meeting of the U.S. Territories Invasive Species Coordinating Committee (USTISCC). The meeting follows the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on December 6, 2016, by the island Governors and the Assistant Secretary, committing to help prevent, eradicate, and control invasive species as well as to protect and restore natural and cultural resources from the effects of invasive species in the U.S. territories.....

CANADA

[Federal Liberals refuse to shut down B.C.'s marine aquaculture industry \(12/8/16\)](#)

NANAIMO — The BC Salmon Farmers Association is applauding the sound defeat of a federal NDP private members' bill to shut down the open net fish farming business in B.C., but not everybody's happy about it. The bill, authored by Lower Mainland MP

Finn Donnelly, calling for a transition to land based, closed contained technology, was shot down on Tuesday in a vote of 215 to 80. Salmon Farmers Association executive director Jeremy Dunn says the vote sends a strong message.....

STATE

[Hawai'i to Receive \\$3.1 Million to Fight Invasive Species \(12/13/16\)](#)

Hawai'i will receive \$3.1 million to fight invasive species like the [coconut rhinoceros beetle](#), [coffee berry borer](#), [Rapid 'Ōhia Death](#), and fruit flies. The funding announcement was made today by Rep. Tulsi Gabbard (HI-02), and was made possible through an allocation from the US Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. The funding is among 513 projects supported nationwide that aim to prevent the introduction or spread of plant pests and diseases that threaten US agriculture and the environment, as well as ensure the availability of a healthy supply of clean plant stock.

....

[WA: Group seeks support to stop invasive species \(12/12/16\)](#)

.....The Washington Legislature in 2015 set up a stakeholder advisory group to work on long-term funding recommendations. The group suggested using a combination of the state general fund, user fees and partnerships. The goal is to increase funding to \$3.8 million a biennium over six years. Supporters hope to increase watercraft inspections and mandatory check stations, and increase water sampling and inspections in the state's water bodies.....

[Editor's Note: We'll have more information in the next AIS News on this important WDFW led effort to increase state AIS funding in the 2017 legislative session. For further information contact Raquel Crosier, WDFW Legislative Liaison, Raquel.Crosier@dfw.wa.gov]

FEDERAL

[CISP Withdraws Red Swamp Crayfish From Lacey Petition \(12/7/16\)](#)

On September 26, 2016, the Center for Invasive Species Prevention (CISP) petitioned the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to add 43 species to those regulated under the Lacey Act. Among these species was the red swamp crayfish (*Procambarus clarkia*). We now plan to withdraw and reconsider that species after we do more analysis.....

Related Story: [Proposed regulation could hurt La. crawfish industry \(12/6/16\)](#)

[President Obama updates Executive Order on invasive species \(12/14/16\)](#)

[On December 5] President Obama issued an [executive order](#) that directs member agencies of the [National Invasive Species Council](#) (NISC) to consider human and wildlife health, climate change, and innovations in science and technology when working on issues relevant to invasive species. Established by a 1999 executive order from President Clinton, NISC is a conglomerate of federal agency leaders that guide national efforts to prevent, remove, and control invasive species in the United States. The new Executive Order expands the reach of NISC; adding the heads of the Department of Health and Human Services as well as several White House offices to the NISC membership. While the Executive Order largely reaffirms the council's original directives, the three emerging priorities" of health, climate change, and technology were added as considerations....

CONGRESS

[Senate Passes Continuing Resolution, Punting FY 2017 Budget to End of April \(12/12/16\)](#)

Late in the night on Friday December 9th, the Senate passed a buzzer-beater continuing resolution (or CR) to keep the Federal Government open and operating. The new deadline for us to watch is April 28th 2017, roughly four months from now. Passage of this legislation sets up an interesting first half of the year for Congress, as they will have an overflowing plate of items to work on: a Supreme Court vacancy to fill, Trump Administration cabinet positions to confirm, and a debt limit to deal with at the end of February. Adding the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 budget to the mix is a lot, and there is a possibility of a dreaded year-long CR. Keeping Federal funding at FY 2016 levels for all of Fiscal Year 2017 (which began on Oct 1st 2016) would be an effective cut due to inflation.....

Stay tuned...

[Stefanik helps remove ballast water discharge bill from finalized NDAA \(12/6/16\)](#)

[A bill](#) that would have eliminated the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's authority in regulating ballast water discharge from cargo vessels was struck from the finalized 2017 National Defense Authorization Act. A Congressional Research Service report conducted last year stated that the goal of the legislation is to set a single ballast water management standard overseen by the Coast Guard.

[Senate clears water bill \(WRDA\) with Flint aid, drought relief \(12/10/16\)](#)

After a weeklong battle over last-minute policy riders, the Senate passed a major water bill [[S. 612, WIIN Act](#)] in the early morning hours Saturday that includes emergency aid for Flint, Mich., and drought relief for California. The nearly \$12 billion measure, which authorizes 30 new infrastructure projects around the country, now heads to the president's desk....

On 12/16 The President signed the bill (statement [HERE](#)). Important AIS provisions in the bill are as follows:

- Contains “clarifying” watercraft inspection station location language in the Columbia River Basin (Section 1178):

“In carrying out this section, the Secretary may establish, operate, and maintain new or existing watercraft inspection stations to protect the Columbia River Basin to be located in the States of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington at locations, as determined by the Secretary in consultation with such States, with the highest likelihood of preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species at reservoirs operated and maintained by the Secretary.

Adds rapid response language

“The Secretary shall also assist the States referred to in this paragraph with rapid response to any aquatic invasive species, including quagga or zebra mussel, infestation.”

Adds monitoring language

“assist States in early detection of aquatic invasive species, including quagga and zebra mussels;”

- Includes (Section 3603) Lake Tahoe Restoration Act language ([S. 1724](#)), including \$45 million in funding for the TRPA's AIS and watercraft inspection program.
- Includes Great Lakes Restoration Initiative language ([S. 1024](#)), including a \$300 million authorization (Section 3901), some of which can be used for “the prevention and control of invasive species and the impacts of invasive species”.
- Includes Non-Federal pilot fish removal program to protect native anadromous fish in the Stanislaus River, Calif. (section 4010)

The Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Assistant Administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the districts shall jointly establish and conduct a nonnative predator research and pilot fish removal program to study the effects of removing from the Stanislaus River—

- (A) nonnative striped bass, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, black bass; and
- (B) other nonnative predator fish species.

Unfortunately the Senate WRDA bill (S. 2848) provision adding the Platte and Arkansas River Basins to areas that would qualify for watercraft inspection funding did not make it into the final bill.

Related Stories:

[Measure aims to prevent spread of invasive mussels -- Obama signs into law bill backed by Herrera Beutler \(12/18/16\)](#)

[Daines Secures Provision to Stop Spread of Invasive Mussels \(12/10/16\),](#)

[Daines pushes the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers \(Corps\) to expedite the deployment of funds for watercraft inspection stations \(12/6/16\)](#)

[\\$415M in Tahoe projects approved \(12/11/16\)](#)

[Boxer slams water bill rider backed by Feinstein \(12/5/16\)](#)

MEETINGS

JANUARY

Idaho Noxious Weed Conference: January 18-19, 2017 in Boise.
<http://www.idahoweedcontrol.org/weedconference.html>

FEBRUARY

[Invasive Species Council of BC's Public Forum & AGM, February 7-8 2016.](#) **Call for Poster/Abstracts - Extended until Jan 19, 2017**

Canada: Meet peers from across Canada at the [National Invasive Alien Species Forum](#) in Ottawa, Feb 28 - Mar 2, 2017

MARCH

[4th Annual Ballast Water Management Summit](#) -- March 6-8, 2017 in Long Beach, CA

Western Aquatic Plant Management Society / Western Society of Weed Science: March 13-16 in Coeur d'Alene, ID. <http://www.wsweedscience.org/annual-meeting/>

Call for Abstracts: [Iowa Invasive Species Conference 2017](#); *March 28-29, 2017*; Honey Creek Resort at Rathbun Lake, Moravia, IA

An AIS session has been added to the list of *potential* sessions at the [Missouri River Natural Resources Conference \(MRNRC\)](#) taking place March 21-23, 2017, at the [Lied Lodge](#) in Nebraska City, NE

[ACI's 17th Ballast Water Management Summit \(3/29-30, 2017\)](#) will provide essential, expert guidance to shipowner/operators on how to prepare for and manage the BWT Systems in terms of installation and technical operations, as well as advice on compliance, PSC and regulation once the convention is in place.

JUNE

[Invasive Species Research Conference](#): Calling all invasive species researchers and practitioners! Thompson Rivers University and the **Invasive Species Council of BC** are excited to co-host the 2017 Invasive Species Research Conference - Turning Science into Action, being held in beautiful Kamloops, June 20 - 22, 2017

SEPTEMBER

[Western Regional Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species](#): September 12-15, 2017 – San Diego, CA

OCTOBER

[Save the Date: ICAIS - October 22-26, 2017 – Fort Lauderdale, Florida](#)



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