



AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES NEWS

01/21/15

DREISSENID MUSSELS

[Quagga mussel veligers found in Deer Creek Reservoir, Utah \(1/15/15\)](#)

HEBER CITY — Starting immediately, you must decontaminate your boat before you leave [Deer Creek Reservoir](#) in north-central Utah. Water managers and wildlife biologists hope they don't find adult quagga mussels in Deer Creek Reservoir this year. This photo of adult quagga mussels was taken at Lake Mead a few years ago. The requirement comes after DNA tests conducted by two laboratories found microscopic juvenile quagga mussels — called veligers — in a water sample taken at the reservoir. Jordan Nielson, aquatic invasive species coordinator for the Division of Wildlife Resources, says the discovery does not mean Deer Creek Reservoir is infested with quagga mussels. "We've found veligers in the past at other waters in Utah," he says. "With the exception of Lake Powell, mussel populations never established themselves in the waters where veligers were found. We're hoping that will be the case at Deer Creek too."

RELATED STORIES: [Quagga mussel babies found at Deer Creek Reservoir \(1/15/15\)](#)
AND [Quagga mussels found; Deer Creek Reservoir boats must be decontaminated \(1/15/15\)](#)

[McPhee Reservoir, CO at risk for invasive species \(1/12/15\)](#)

Colorado Parks and Wildlife, the U.S. Forest Service, the Dolores Water Conservancy District, and local municipalities all have a common enemy — the invasive zebra and quagga mussel species. Invasive mussels attached to a boat from Lake Mead. There is a fear they could contaminate McPhee and cause expensive problems. So far, the environmentally destructive mussels have not contaminated McPhee Reservoir, but if they do, the result would be significant infrastructure damage to irrigation and even municipal water systems....

[Canadian snowbirds could bring home invasive aquatic species: B.C. conference \(1/20/15\)](#)

RICHMOND, B.C. - 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. International scientists meeting at the Invasive Species Council of B.C. on Tuesday said zebra and quagga mussels can be sneaky stowaways that have the ability to devastate waters where they're not indigenous. Colonies of the mussels not only pose risks to fishing and biodiversity but are known to clog pipes and cause major problems for hydroelectricity and irrigation infrastructure, the conference heard. Economic impact studies suggest the annual cost associated with an infestation could amount to \$75 million in Alberta and, based on more conservative criteria, \$28 million in B.C....

[Calif: Poison Lake Piru? Option on table to kill quagga mussels \(1/18/15\)](#)

LAKE PIRU, Calif. - State wildlife officials are so worried about invasive quagga mussels at Lake Piru that they're asking a local district to stop releasing lake water....

[ID: Lawmakers continue to fight threat of zebra mussel infestation \(1/20/15\)](#)

....."If you can prevent them from even leaving with mussels on them, that's going to be a real benefit to all un-infested water bodies," said Megan Levy, program manager for the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region, an activist group focusing on issues in the U.S. and Canada.....

[An evaluation Zequanox® efficacy and application strategies for targeted control of zebra mussels in shallow-water habitats in lakes \(12/18/14\)](#)

.....Results suggest that Zequanox has potential as a tool for controlling zebra mussels in shallow-water habitats in lakes without significant long-term effects on water quality....

[Invasive mussel species found in Cherokee Lake, TN \(12/19/14\)](#)

MORRISTOWN, Tenn. - An invasive species has made its way into Cherokee Lake, threatening to disrupt the lake's ecosystem and clog the lake with harmful and unsightly mussel colonies....

[MN: DNR unleashes zebra mussel-killing potash on Christmas Lake \(12/19/14\)](#)

Minnesota might have decontaminated its first lake from invasive zebra mussels Friday. The potential milestone came after workers pumped potash, a naturally occurring salt compound commonly used in fertilizers, into an infested corner of Christmas Lake in Shorewood, killing every last zebra mussel in the area....

[Fight against aquatic invaders comes to St. Cloud \(1/21/15\)](#)

....Aquatic invasive species are threatening Minnesota's \$12.5 billion tourism industry, advocates say. They harm lakes' ecosystems, damage dock and boating equipment, and hurt water quality. And for the first time ever, Forester said, the state is empowering communities to fight them. The Department of Natural Resources teamed up with some advocacy groups Monday and Tuesday to host the Aquatic Invaders Species Summit in St. Cloud, where local leaders from around the state could come up with a plan to do it....

[Protecting Northwest Waters from Aquatic Invasive Species will take Political Muscle \(1/12/15\)](#)

The Pacific Northwest is rich with water — our lakes are a huge draw for recreation, hydropower provides clean and affordable energy for many of the region's households and our fertile land blooms with rich agriculture supported by vast irrigation channels....

BOAT INSPECTION NEWS

[Minnesota to lead national summit on boat design \(1/1/15\)](#)

Industry experts will discuss if changing the way watercraft is designed could help to slow down invaders like the zebra mussel....

[MN: Invasive species tag repeal attempted \(1/15/15\)](#)

An attempt is being made to repeal a new law that mandates an aquatic invasive species boat trailer decal. As of July 1, the decal must be placed on trailers after owners pass 30 minutes of training about the dangers of invasive plant and animal species.....

RELATED STORIES: [MDNR FAQ on the new trailer decal](#) and [New Year, new trailer decal required \(1/1/15\)](#) and [Opinion: State should rethink invasive species plan \(1/2/15\)](#) and [MN, Editorial: Education is key \(12/27/14\)](#)

[SD GFP Commission Proposes Aquatic Invasive Species Rules \(1/16/15\)](#)

PIERRE, S.D. - The South Dakota Game Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission proposed several rules to prevent the introduction and slow the spread of existing populations of aquatic invasive species in the state. One rule proposal would allow conservation officers to require the removal of vegetation and all aquatic invasive species from a boat and trailer, and to require all drain plugs and related devices be opened or removed from boats when being transported. Exceptions would be for entering and exiting the water, emergency response vehicles, and livewells while on lands owned, leased, controlled or managed by the Department or other government entities adjacent to the water.

RELATED STORIES: [SD: Officials Looking to Boat Inspections to Slow the Advance of Invasive Species \(1/19/15\)](#) and [Discovery of zebra and quagga mussels near S.D. border raises concerns in Nebraska \(1/13/15\)](#)

MARINE

[Ballast Water Pathogen Tests Invalid? \(1/14/15\)](#)

The IMO ballast water management convention testing program intended to prevent the spread of diseases in ships' ballast water is a failure, according to a [study](#) released online by the peer-reviewed journal Marine Pollution Bulletin.....

[After Long, Cold Trip Across Pacific on Tsunami Debris, Sea Creatures Find Little Warmth \(1/12/15\)](#)

NEWPORT, Ore.—Scientists had rarely seen such an astounding sight: sea creatures that had survived hundreds of blistering days and frigid nights crossing the thrashing Pacific. When the specimens washed ashore north of here, John Chapman, who has spent years studying marine life, had to decide how to handle the rare find. “Kill them,” Dr. Chapman recalls ordering. “Kill them all.”.....

California Marine Invasive Species Act Enforcement and Hearing Process

The California State Lands Commission invites you to participate in the "Informal Comment Period" for the development of the proposed regulation: Article 4.9 - Marine Invasive Species Act Enforcement and Hearing Process. A link to the proposed regulations can be found here: http://www.slc.ca.gov/Division_Pages/MFD/MFD_Home_Page.html

The Informal Comment Period will be open from January 9 through **February 23, 2015**. Please send any comments to CSLC.MFDRegulation@slc.ca.gov. All comments will be considered, however responses will not be provided during the informal comment period. Formal rulemaking, including the formal comment period, is anticipated for mid-2015.

[IMO Secretary-General welcomes revised shipping industry stance on ballast water \(12/22/14\)](#)

IMO Secretary-General Koji Sekimizu has welcomed the reconsideration by the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) of its position towards the ratification by Governments of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 (BWM Convention).

FISH

[Feds: Sampling finds more Asian carp DNA near Lake Michigan \(1/16/15\)](#)

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. (AP) — A federal report says genetic markers of Asian carp are still showing up in Chicago-area waterways.....

[NOAA, Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute launch new lionfish web portal \(1/6/15\)](#)

The Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute and NOAA have partnered to launch a new web portal to provide managers, researchers, and the public with the latest information on the lionfish invasion in the Atlantic....

OTHER

USGS/NAS Database releases new web API

The U.S. Geological Survey's Nonindigenous Aquatic Species (NAS) database (<http://nas.er.usgs.gov>) functions as a repository and clearinghouse for occurrence information on nonindigenous aquatic species from across the United States. The NAS database contains spatially referenced biogeographic information on more than 1,000 species introduced since 1800, including foreign species and North American native taxa transplanted outside of their natural range. Awareness of, and timely response to, novel species introductions by those involved in nonindigenous aquatic species management and research is critical to effective mitigation, response, and control efforts. The NAS web site provides immediate access to new occurrence records through a real-time interface with the NAS database. Visitors to the web site can use a set of pre-defined queries to obtain lists of species according to state or hydrologic basin of interest. Fact sheets, distribution maps, and information on new occurrences are continually posted and updated. Dynamically generated species distribution maps show spatial accuracy of the locations reported, population status, and the points are linked to the full specimen record containing all information about that report.

To enhance access to the wealth of information contained within the database, the NAS program has created a web services API to provide information in a standardized, machine-readable format. This API will provide automated access to occurrence information stored in the NAS database, and allow for incorporation into novel nonindigenous aquatic species mapping and/or monitoring applications. For further information on the API, go to <http://nas.er.usgs.gov/api/documentation.aspx>

[Science Fiction Becomes Reality For Species Surveys \(12/23/14\)](#)

.....Environmental DNA can be used in two ways. One is to identify the suite of creatures around a place. The other is to confirm the presence or absence of a specific critter, typically an invasive or endangered species. Caren Goldberg runs the new eDNA lab at Washington State University in Pullman. She's one of the first biologists in the Northwest to take the tool from demonstration experiments to practical application. "It is extremely useful for species that are really hard to find," Goldberg said.....

[Crayfish crisis: \\$800K grant will aid effort to eradicate invasive species from Malibu, Calif. \(1/9/15\)](#)

The red swamp crayfish — a culinary delight in Louisiana — is more of a voracious predator in Southern California, an invasive species that has contributed to the decline of native amphibians and fish for at least a century....

2015 National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW) Awards.

Below are the winners who will be presented with an award during the week of NISAW, February 22 – 28, 2015 in Washington, DC. We hope to have the awards presented by officials from the US Department of Interior and US Department of Agriculture.

Lifetime Achievement/ Aquatic Award

Al Cofrancesco, U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, MS
Robert McMahan, University of Texas at Arlington, TX

Lifetime /Terrestrial Award

Gordon Brown, retired National Invasive Species Council, DC

Leadership / Aquatic Award

Steve Kendrot, USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services, MD

Leadership/ Terrestrial Award

Cathy Lucero, Clallam County Noxious Weed Control Board, WA

Outreach/Aquatic Award

Bob Wiltshire, Invasive Species Action Network, MT

Outreach/Terrestrial Award

Christy Martin, Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species, HI

Volunteer/ Aquatic Award

The Volunteers, NH LAKES Lake Host Program, NH

Volunteer/Terrestrial Award

Mark Imlay, Mid-Atlantic Invasive Plant Council, MD

[Boa constrictor emerges from office toilet in San Diego \(1/11/15\)](#)

SAN DIEGO, Jan. 11 (UPI) -- A full-sized boa constrictor slithered out of a toilet at a public relations firm in Southern California last week, according to a press release from the company....

[Ontario Reviewing Live Bait Policies \(12/21/14\)](#)

THUNDER BAY -- A review into the provincial regulations for live bait has some worried there could be major changes coming in the sport fishing industry. The Ministry of Natural Resources is in the middle of reviewing the current policies for the use of live bait in sport fishing to determine if there need to be recommendations made to further protect Ontario waters from invasive species....

JOBS/RFPS

[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**

For further Information: <http://dnrc.mt.gov/cardd/AIS/AISGrant.asp> [thanks Celestine Duncan]

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

ELI Webinar: Pathway Risk Assessment: Stopping Invasions Before They Start

January 27, 2015; 2-4 pm EST. RSVP: The event is free and open to the public. Click [HERE](#) to Register. Contact subramanian@eli.org with questions. Co-sponsored by the [National Invasive Species Council](#);

LEGISLATION/FEDERAL ACTIONS/BUDGET

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.

[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)]

[Bipartisan Group Introduce Bills to Ban GE Salmon and Require Product Labeling \(1/16/15\)](#)

Washington, D.C. – In their continued fight against genetically engineered (GE) fish, this week Alaskan Congressman Don Young and Reps. Mike Thompson (D-CA), Walter B. Jones (R-NC), Peter DeFazio (D-OR), and Jared Huffman (D-CA) introduced two pieces of legislation intended to prevent GE fish from making its way onto the nation's dinner plates and spreading into the nation's oceans. The first bill, H.R. 394, the Prevention of Escapement of Genetically Altered Salmon in the United States (PEGASUS) Act, would

effectively ban all GE fish in the United States by prohibiting the shipment, sale, transportation, purchase, procession, or release into the wild of GE salmon or other GE finfish unless the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service completes a full environmental impact statement and concludes that it will result in no such impact to the environment.

HI: [Lawmakers renew fight against invasive species threat \(1/13/15\) \(with video\)](#)

Lawmakers met Tuesday to get an update on invasive species threats across the state. Among the current threats: Coconut Rhinoceros Beetles, Little Fire Ants and coqui frogs....

[B.C. government mulling an Invasive Species Act to fight costly introduction of non-native species \(1/20/15\)](#)

The B.C. government is considering new legislation to coordinate the attack against a costly and ever-growing threat posed by the introduction of non-native plants, animals and diseases....

[MT: Bill would fight invasion of feral swine \(1/8/15\)](#)

Senators tried to avoid hamming it up during a legislative hearing on controlling feral pigs, but it was hard for some not to go whole-hog on the puns....

[Joyce co-sponsors reintroduction of Great Lakes protection bill \(01/11/15\)](#)

U.S. Rep. Dave Joyce and a bipartisan group of 18 other co-sponsors have reintroduced legislation designed to protect the Great Lakes. The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act of 2015, or H.R. 223, would formally authorize \$300 million in annual funding for the next five years. Legislators in a joint news release said the GLRI is an action-oriented, results-driven initiative targeting the most significant problems within the basin.....

[Note: The 12/18/15 issue of the *AIS News* had the story [The Great Lakes will benefit but Chicago canal, ballast water remain concerns](#) on the assumed passage of the Great Lakes funding package in the last congress. However ultimately the funding was not approved – see [Senate blocks \\$300M funding for Great Lakes \(12/24/15\)](#)]

USACE - GLMRIS EIS

The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has extended, through 30 January, the period within which to submit comments on its notice of intent to prepare a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS), evaluating aquatic nuisance species control measures near

Brandon Road Lock and Dam. An additional public scoping meeting will be held on 8 January in New Orleans. [80 Fed. Reg. 210](#) [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-01-05/pdf/2014-30859.pdf>] (1/5/15).

[MI: Stricter punishments for those who have, sell invasive species \(12/19/14\)](#)

LANSING, MI (AP) -- The Michigan Legislature has voted to boost penalties for knowingly having or selling prohibited aquatic species in the state....

House passes tsunami bill (1/7/15)

The House passed a bipartisan bill on 1/7/15 that prioritizes research on tsunami preparedness. The bill, [H.R. 34](#), would reauthorize a program created in 2006 that federal and state officials have credited with strengthening coordination among coastal states and preparing at-risk communities. It passed on a voice vote. Introduced by Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-Ore.), it directs the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to invest in research on tsunami detection, including "near-field tsunami detection." Both bills passed the House last year but failed to gain momentum in the Senate. Each has sponsors from both sides of the aisle.

Rep. Bonamici Press release [HERE](#)

MEETINGS

FEBRUARY

Idaho Invasive Species Council (IISC): The next meeting of the IISC will be Friday **February 6th** from 9:00 to 12:30 at ISDA Headquarters in Boise. Contact Thomas Woolf; Thomas.Woolf@agri.idaho.gov for an agenda and additional details.

[14th Annual Northern ID/Eastern WA Regional Lakes Conference, Saturday, February 7th, 2015](#): For more information: Jeremy Jenkins, Conference Organizer and Lake Protection Manager; 509-922-5443; lakesconference@libertylake.org

National Invasive Species Awareness Week – 02/22-28/2015. For further information go to <http://www.nisaw.org/>

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

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. **To submit a title and abstract, please visit www.wssaabstracts.com**

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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