



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

3/6/17

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### **DREISSENID MUSSELS**

[CA: Invasive Mussel Veligers Detected in the Santa Ana Pipeline; State Conducting Further Testing \(2/24/17\)](#)

Mussel veligers (microscopic, free-floating larval life stage) this month were detected in water samples collected at the North Park valve of the Santa Ana Pipeline, which transports water from [Silverwood Lake, San Bernardino County](#), to [Lake Perris, Riverside County](#). Further testing is under way by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to confirm the findings and determine if the veligers are quagga mussels or zebra mussels...

[Manitoba Launches New Aquatic Invasive Species Awareness Campaign \(3/2/17\)](#)

The Manitoba government has launched a public awareness campaign, called 'Spot the Stripes and Stop the Spread', to encourage water-users to help in the battle against zebra mussels and other aquatic invasive species (AIS), Sustainable Development Minister Cathy Cox announced today...

[BC: Premier fields calls to boost BC's defenses for invasive mussels \(2/24/17\)](#)

Premier Christy Clark is boasting about a surplus budget, but will she spend some of that extra money protecting B.C.'s lakes and streams? The concern about a mussel invasion was raised in the Okanagan Friday, where the premier was promoting this week's budget to a business crowd. The first question she was asked at the luncheon put on by the Kelowna Chamber of Commerce was about protecting B.C. waters from invasive mussels...

Related Story: [Okanagan Basin Water Board pushes province to make invasive mussels a priority \(2/21/17\)](#)

#### [How do you get rid of 750 trillion mussels in Great Lakes? \(2/22/17\)](#)

What would it take to get rid of the trillions of invasive zebra and quagga mussels that carpet the bottom of Great Lakes and inland lakes alike? Nobody knows for sure. Yet. But copper ions, dead bacteria and even chili peppers all figure into potential solutions to a problem that plagues much of the Great Lakes and a growing number of inland lakes in Michigan. The fingernail-sized mollusk and its cousin, the quagga mussel, are small creatures that create big pain, coating piers, boat slips and lake bottoms...

#### [Zebra mussels are being muscled out of the Great Lakes \(2/21/17\)](#)

Quagga mussels now form 99.9 per cent of mussels in the lakes, says expert...

#### [AZ: Arizona plans to increase spending in fight against quagga mussels \(2/11/17\)](#)

...The Arizona Game and Fish Department is asking for \$285,000 in the 2018 state budget to pay for equipment, training and research that could help halt the spread of invasive species. The money, which would come from the watercraft license fund, would also support \$100,000 in partnerships with local agencies dealing with invasive species...

#### [Lake Powell: Mussels are here to stay \(2/17/17\)](#)

One of the most discouraging parts of a trip to Lake Powell is witnessing the infestation of quagga mussels on rocks, docks and almost every other hard or soft surface in the Bullfrog area. As the water level drops, thousands of mussels are visible everywhere. Let's take a look at some of the good, the bad and the ugly sides of the new reality for our state's largest body of fresh water...

#### [Great Lakes' Phosphorus Problems: Mussels Mix Up The Conventions Of Nutrient Pollution \(2/15/17\)](#)

...Invasive mussels are instigating a management problem that in a sense puts the health of nearshore and offshore areas of the Great Lakes at odds. Having less phosphorus in the lakes compared to the 1960s or 1970s is considered a good thing overall, an indicator of a successful collaboration among eight U.S. states and two Canadian provinces over the decades. But it hasn't stopped near-shore algae from making use of the phosphorus that's

still in the water, with an assist from mussels, at times creating harmful localized algal blooms. Further from shore, mussels appear to be creating a situation in which there's not enough phosphorus to support enough phytoplankton to feed both them and fish. This raises the possibility that phosphorus loads need to be cut even more for near-shore areas, while offshore waters could in theory benefit from greater phosphorus loads...

[MT: Local scientists leading fight against invasive mussels \(2/23/17\)](#)

With the threat of invasive mussels looming over the 2017 Flathead Lake boating season, local scientists are taking initiative in the fight to protect one of the last uninfested river systems in the West. "It is not inevitable, it is preventable," Tom Bansak, a research professor at the Flathead Lake Biological Station, said during a recent public forum at Salish Kootenai College. Bansak assured the audience that despite the destructive capacity of non-native zebra and quagga mussels, efforts can be made to safeguard Flathead Lake and the greater Columbia River Basin. "My goal is to both frighten you and send you on your way with some hope," he said.

**More Montana Articles:**

[FWP to spend \\$10 million on reducing invasive species \(2/24/17\)](#)

[February 2017 and the fate of the Flathead \(2/21/17\)](#)

[MT: FWP seeks comment on rules aimed at invasive mussels \(2/17/17\)](#)

[MT: Help protect Montana's waters from invasive mussels \(2/12/17\)](#)

[Montana Casting Doubt on Mussel Prevention in the Northwest \(2/15/17\)](#)

**Related Montana Links**

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

**BOAT INSPECTION/DECON/TECH NEWS**

[MT: Watercraft inspection stations open in Pablo, Clearwater Junction \(3/3/17\)](#)

Helena - Montana's first watercraft inspection stations opened Friday in Pablo and at Clearwater Junction at the junction of Highways 200 and 83. The inspection stations will be operated by the Flathead Basin Commission under a memorandum of understanding with Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. These inspection stations represent the first of what will be an expanded aquatic invasive species inspection station program for the 2017 boating season in Montana...

#### [MT: FWP seeks comment on rules aimed at invasive mussels \(2/17/17\)](#)

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks is seeking comment on proposed amendments to rules that outline new regulations needed in the battle to contain, detect and prevent the risk of spreading invasive mussels and other aquatic invasive species to other state waters.

Invasive mussel larvae were detected for the first time in Montana in October 2016 in Tiber Reservoir – and “suspect” detections turned up in Canyon Ferry Reservoir, the Missouri River below Toston Dam, and the Milk River. The discovery triggered a natural resource emergency in Montana and led to several recommended strategies to manage the threat of invasive mussels spreading to other areas.

The proposed rule amendments outline several new regulations, including:

- Mandatory inspections of out-of-state motorized or nonmotorized watercraft prior to launching on any Montana waterbody.
- Mandatory inspections of motorized or nonmotorized watercraft traveling across the Continental Divide into the Columbia River Basin within Montana.
- Mandatory inspections of all motorized or nonmotorized watercraft coming off Tiber and Canyon Ferry reservoirs, and decontamination if necessary.
- Drain plugs would be required to be removed; if the watercraft doesn't have drain plugs, reasonable measures must be taken to dry or drain all compartments, including bilges.
- Transporting lake and river water would be prohibited.
- Live bait and fish would be required to be transported in clean domestic water where allowed in current fishing regulations. Upon leaving Tiber and Canyon Ferry Reservoirs, bait and fish must be transported without water.

A public hearing on the proposed rule amendments is scheduled for **March 14** in Helena at FWP Headquarters, 1420 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. The hearing will begin at 6 p.m.

#### [UT: New rules for boaters in Utah aim to stop spread of mussels \(2/23/17\)](#)

A set of new rules has been issued for boaters who are planning to go out on two popular bodies of water in Utah. The changes, instigated by the Utah Department of Wildlife Resources, apply to boaters at Lake Powell and Deer Creek Reservoir, and is aimed at stopping the spread of an invasive variety of mussels...

Related Article: [UT: UDNR Issues Invasive Species Warning \(2/23/17\)](#)

[Corps Discussing Cost-Sharing For Watercraft Inspection Stations in Columbia River Basin To Fight Invasive Mussels While Waiting For HQ Final Decision \(2/24/17\)](#)

A letter that would allow the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to share the costs of invasive species inspection stations with four Northwest states is still undergoing review at the Corps' headquarters in Washington, D.C., but the Corps' Walla Walla district has already begun talks with states and the Pacific States Marine Fish Commission on those cost-sharing agreements. Public review of a draft Integrated Letter Report/Programmatic EA for Federal Participation in Watercraft Inspection Stations in the Columbia River Basin closed January 12 and the package was sent to Corps headquarters for final approval soon after...

[BC: Oliver joins fight against invasive mussels \(3/3/17\)](#)

..Gray said they are calling for legislative changes to require all watercraft entering BC to report to an inspection station prior to launching in provincial waters...

[WA: Report highlights 2016 Whatcom Boat Inspection Program results \(2/14/17\)](#)

We've just released our annual report highlighting results from our fifth season of watercraft inspections to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species to Whatcom County waters. In 2016, we conducted a total of 9,571 watercraft inspections at Lake Whatcom and Lake Samish. The inspected watercraft came from a total of 256 different water bodies in 19 different states or provinces prior to launching at Lake Whatcom or Lake Samish in 2016, including eight mussel infested waters. As watercraft continue to arrive from high-risk waters, the Whatcom Boat Inspection Program remains an important defense in the protection of our local waters....

[CA/NV: TRPA Opinion: Time to ramp up invasive species control at Lake Tahoe \(2/23/17\)](#)

...Along with the Tahoe Keepers program that trains people to inspect and decontaminate their own hand-powered watercraft, it has successfully prevented the introduction of any new invasives in the lake.

With this critically-important frontline prevention program working and sustainably funded through boater fees and contributions from the states of California and Nevada, now is the time to ramp up programs to better manage or eradicate the invasive species that are already in the lake before they can spread or do more harm...

[MN: Owners of resorts, campgrounds and rental businesses required to take aquatic invasive species training \(2/16/17\)](#)

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is offering aquatic invasive species training to owners of lake service provider businesses, so they can legally work in lakes and rivers throughout the state. Lake service provider businesses include resorts,

outfitters and campgrounds that rent or lease boats and other water-related equipment. Business owners must attend training, apply for a permit and pay a \$50 application fee every three years to comply with Minnesota law...

## MARINE

### [New study on Asian shore crabs and their impacts on community structure: Species coexistence and the superior ability of an invasive species to exploit a facilitation cascade habitat \(2/2017\)](#)

Facilitation cascades generated by co-occurring foundation species can enhance the abundance and diversity of associated organisms. However, it remains poorly understood how differences among native and invasive species in their ability to exploit these positive interactions contribute to emergent patterns of community structure and biotic acceptance. On intertidal shorelines in New England, we examined the patterns of coexistence between the native mud crabs and the invasive Asian shore crab in and out of a facilitation cascade habitat generated by mid intertidal cordgrass and ribbed mussels...

### [This Week In History: Studying non-native organisms that crossed the Pacific with the 2011 Tsunami \(2/18/17\)](#)

...The tsunami from the devastating March 2011 earthquake in Japan presented scientists with an unprecedented look at how marine organisms are transported by debris. "For the first time we were able to follow an event which transported not only single organisms, but whole communities of these benthic organisms across a very large space." And a significant amount of time: fifteen months at sea. "One of the first landings, in terms of a big piece of debris, was the dock, which landed in Oregon. "This particular one was one-hundred-eighty-eight tons, with well over one-hundred non-native and potentially invasive species on board...

Related Report: [NOAA: 2017 Marine Debris Invasive Species Report Invasive Species Marine Debris as a Potential Pathway for Invasive Species \(March 2017\)](#)

### [FL: Study: South American mussel hurts lagoon oysters \(2/10/17\)](#)

...For now, the [charru mussel](#) is kept in check by temperature and other unknown factors. Few would ever notice the tiny, black mussels, most less than an inch long. But new research suggests climate change could in decades to come make charru reign supreme in the lagoon, nudging out native shellfish similar to the way zebra mussels did in the Great Lakes....

## **BALLAST WATER/BIOFOULING**

### [Ballast water regs split environmentalists, shippers \(3/2/17\)](#)

Every year, hundreds of commercial ships make their way through the St. Lawrence seaway, taking on and letting out water to maintain stability as they load and unload cargo. This ballast water is regulated to prevent the spread of invasive species, but there is some disagreement about who should be in charge of those regulations.

### [The Looming Small Vessel General Permit \(sVGP\) Deadline \(3/1/17\)](#)

The long delayed Small Vessel General Permit (sVGP) legislation is scheduled to come into force on December 18, 2017. Despite some confusion and inconsistencies on this issue generally, there is currently no serious effort to delay the sVGP requirement...

### [White paper on ballast water management released by Alfa Laval \(2/23/17\)](#)

*Ballast water management: An overview of regulations and ballast water treatment technologies* ... This [document](#) provides an overview of the most influential ballast water regulations and their enforcement. It offers guidance for complying with these standards, including a detailed survey of available ballast water treatment technologies. It also provides information about selecting a system and supplier to match a particular vessel's needs, and about what to consider when planning the installation...

### [Carderock answers call to protect marine life with newly commissioned Ballast Water Research Lab \(12/13/2016\)](#)

... Through the use of the new Ballast Water Research Lab, engineers at Carderock will be able to study ways to treat ballast water so that by the time ballast water is dumped at a ship's final destination, those critters that lurk in the water will not be released to live and damage the ecosystem. The new lab gives engineers the capability of replicating the salinity of any body of water in the world. Jacobs is also looking forward to the addition of the nursery, which will give researchers the ability to grow and culture their own organisms...

### [Ramping up for BWM Installation \(2/20/17\)](#)

The first batch of US Coast Guard type approved ballast water management systems (BWMS) may have a valuable head start, but all suppliers face challenges in the run up to the IMO Ballast Water Management Convention...

### [Change to ballast water regulations splits environmental groups and shipping industry \(2/21/17\)](#)

Every year, hundreds of commercial ships make their way through the St. Lawrence seaway, taking on and letting out water to maintain stability as they load and unload cargo. This ballast water is regulated to prevent the spread of invasive species, but there is some disagreement about who should be in charge of those regulations.

#### [WA: Coast Guard completes ballast water violation investigation, initiates civil penalty \(2/13/17\)](#)

The Coast Guard, after an investigation of ballast water discharge violations, initiated civil penalty proceedings against the operator, Vega Reederei GmbH & Co. KG, of the bulk carrier Vega Mars, Feb. 2, 2017. Investigators found that around Jan. 29, 2017, while moored in Tacoma, ballast water was discharged from the vessel without the use of a Coast Guard approved ballast water management system or other approved means, a violation of the National Invasive Species Act with a maximum penalty for \$38,175. Vessels equipped with ballast water tanks that operate in the waters of the United States must employ an approved ballast water management method to prevent the unintentional introduction and spread of aquatic nuisance species...

#### [Headway offers reassurance after BWMS explosion \(2/14/17\)](#)

Headway Technology, maker of the OceanGuard ballast water management system (BWMS), is moving to reassure customers after an electrolytic unit failed catastrophically on a semi-submersible operating on the UK Continental Shelf...‘

#### [‘Tense’ PPR meeting backed MPN \(2/15/17\)](#)

Last month’s fourth Pollution Prevention and Response sub-committee meeting (PPR4) was “a very tense session” during which “the USCG suffered what appears to be a stunning blow,” according to one industry observer who attended the meeting. This observer is supportive of the “Most Probable Number” (MPN) assessment method and has provided an exclusive assessment to BWTT of its discussion, during which he said that PPR4 “made a clear determination that the MPN method is suitable for type-approving ballast water management systems (BWMSs).” Before the meeting, Denmark and Norway had jointly submitted a document that described the MPN and FDA methods for testing treated water and proposed both methods be accepted for determining viability of organisms in ballast water.

#### [Australia: Stronger biosecurity controls over potential disease carriers \(2/15/17\)](#)

...“Ballast water, which is water taken by ships before departure to improve the stability and discharged at the next port of call, is a threat to Australia’s biosecurity because plants and animals that live in the ocean are also picked up from the point of departure,” Minister Joyce said. “We want to strengthen the management of ballast water in ships, to provide protection for our fisheries and coastal environments from the risk of marine pest incursions by fostering new, more effective, ballast water treatment technologies, and phasing out risky ballast water disposal...”

## FISH

### [Agency delays plan for keeping Asian carp from Great Lakes \(2/28/17\)](#)

The Trump administration has delayed indefinitely a plan for strengthening defenses on a crucial Chicago-area waterway to prevent Asian carp from reaching the Great Lakes, where scientists say they could cause severe harm to native fish populations, officials said Tuesday...

Related Article: [Michigan lawmakers ask Trump to release delay on Asian carp plan \(3/3/17\)](#)

### [Asian carp: Invaders at the Great Lakes gates \(2/26/17\)](#)

The now two-decades-old battle to keep invasive Asian carp out of the Great Lakes, being waged at numerous sites around the Midwest, has evolved into an uneasy standoff of sorts here on the Chicago waterway that is universally considered the front line in this biological conflict...

Related Article: [Invasive Asian carp continue push toward the Great Lakes\(1/26/17\)](#)

### [MN: Scientists Look to the Past to Figure Out the Walleye Collapse on Lake Mille Lacs \(2/17/16\)](#)

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources just announced walleye anglers will have to follow strict catch and release rules on Lake Mille Lacs again this summer. The decision is in reaction to a decline in the walleye population in the lake... Researchers are taking core samples from the lake bed to figure out when the spiny waterflea arrived. It's a tiny invasive invertebrate called Bythotrephes that messes up the bottom of the food chain. The spiny waterflea arrived in Minnesota from the ballast of ships on Lake Superior. It's been in Lake Mille Lacs since 2009....

### [Spread of lionfish in Gulf of Mexico is threat to reef fisheries \(2/14/17\)](#)

... "We're talking millions of dollars in the fishing industries -- from catching and selling various fish to the hundreds of thousands of jobs and the recreational aspects of fishing," he said. "If left unchecked, there is the real potential that lionfish will have a negative impact on the fishing industry. After all, they are eating the same fish that our grouper and snapper rely on for food, and sometimes even the baby grouper and snapper themselves. In other words, it's likely that they are negatively impacting populations of the fish we like to eat, and at an alarming rate. That's why we must work to keep them under control so their impact on other fish is kept as reasonable as possible..."

## AQUACULTURE

### [Official repeats ban on crawfish farming in Vietnam \(2/10/17\)](#)

...An agriculture official reiterated that farming crawfish in Vietnam is banned after a company in the Mekong Delta province of Dong Thap was found to be raising the animal... Aquaculture experts said crawfish is also known as crayfish, crawdads, mudbugs, and red swamp crayfish. It is common in Louisiana in the US...

## OTHER

### [Why alien species can have catastrophic economic consequences \(2/28/17\)](#)

The invasion of alien species should be treated as a natural disaster, says a Canadian researcher who will be among the headliners at a national conference on preventing the spread of invasive species...

### [Concern over cuts to the EPA include the health of Lake Erie and its algal bloom and invasive species issues \(2/24/2017\)](#)

... One of the biggest threats the scientists are worried about, and what received the most attention: algal blooms. They are caused by an influx of phosphorous run-off from farms that use fertilizers and manure. The eastern portion of Lake Erie is often slimy with the bright green mess. But it isn't just ugly, say these experts. It can kill plant life and fish and even lead to liver damage.

Another big concern: invasive species like Asian carp, zebra and quagga mussels and round gobies, which are affecting fishing and Lake Erie's shoreline...

### [New Book: The Death and Life of the Great Lakes by Dan Egan](#)

...[a] compulsively readable portrait of an ecological catastrophe happening right before our eyes, blending the epic story of the lakes with an examination of the perils they face and the ways we can restore and preserve them for generations to come... Egan provides a chilling account of how sea lamprey, zebra and quagga mussels and other invaders have made their way into the lakes, decimating native species and largely destroying the age-old ecosystem. And because the lakes are no longer isolated, the invaders now threaten water intake pipes, hydroelectric dams and other infrastructure across the country...

### [Hoping for 'hog apocalypse,' Texas approves pesticide for wild pigs \(2/21/17\)](#)

Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller on Tuesday announced the approval of limited-use pesticide aimed at combating the state's large population of wild pigs.

Kaput Feral Hog Lure a warfarin-based poison, should be available to licensed applicators later this year, according to a press release from Miller's office. The pesticide, Miller hopes, will bring about a "hog apocalypse, if you will," he told the Austin American-Statesman. "If you want them gone," he said, "this will get them gone."

#### [Washington Invasive Species Awareness Week, February 26 - March 4 2017](#)

You Can Help: You can take simple actions to help prevent the introduction and spread of noxious weeds and invasive species...

#### [Invasive species on the rise globally \(2/15/17\)](#)

...The [study](#), published today in *Nature Communications*, shows that individual trends differ among taxonomic groups, which can be attributed to human activities, but overall, alien species numbers are increasing for all groups of organisms...

#### [Canada: Why alien species can have catastrophic economic consequences \(2/28/17\)](#)

...“Every time we think we have seen the worst, there's something else,” says Ricciardi. “You could see it as biological pollution. It should be treated with the same concern as oil spills.”...

#### [How evolution alters biological invasions \(2/13/17\)](#)

Biological invasions pose major threats to biodiversity, but little is known about how evolution might alter their impacts over time. Now, Rutgers University scientists have performed the first [study](#) of how evolution unfolds after invasions change native systems...

## **WEEDS**

#### [For The First Time, League to Save Lake Tahoe Supports Herbicide Use on Aggressively Spreading Aquatic Weed \(2/27/17\)](#)

The League to Save Lake Tahoe is funding the first study of aquatic herbicides at Lake Tahoe. The lagoons at the Tahoe Keys are frozen right now, but invasive weeds, which are dominant in the summer, lurk beneath the ice.

#### [Invasive and native marsh grasses may provide similar benefits to protected wetlands \(2/27/17\)](#)

[Phragmites] an invasive species of marsh grass that spreads, kudzu-like, throughout North American wetlands, may provide similar benefits to protected wetlands as native marsh grasses. According to new research from North Carolina State University, the invasive marsh grass's effects on carbon storage, erosion prevention and plant diversity in protected wetlands are neutral. The findings could impact management strategies aimed at eradicating the invasive grass...

#### [A Global Compendium of Weeds. Third Edition \(February 2017\)](#)

This publication is targeted at people who introduce, distribute, sell or grow plants, people who need to respond to reports of incursions or those who may generate the report. It should be used by farmers, pastoralists, home and hobbyist growers, production and retail nurseries, people involved with plants at any level of government and any and all volunteers who work with the environment and plants.

#### [MN: Group finds success treating Eurasian water milfoil \(2/11/17\)](#)

As the Big Marine Lake Association (BMLA) continues its work to control aquatic invasive species, the group reported success last year with a trial protocol treating Eurasian water milfoil (EWM). The new protocol, which called for applying multiple herbicide treatments in the same day, was an attempt to maintain adequate herbicide concentration in the water column to kill EWM. It worked. The area of EWM requiring treatment in 2017 should be as little as 10 acres, down from as much as 40 acres previously treated...

## **TRAININGS/WEBINARS/CONFERENCES**

#### [Archived PSMFC Webinar #4: Monitoring for quagga and zebra mussels -- February 16, 2017](#)

This Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission webinar included: Denise Hosler (Bureau of Reclamation), Steve Wells (Portland State University), and Tom Woolf (Idaho Department of Agriculture), as they discussed considerations when developing an effective and comprehensive AIS monitoring program, with a focus on monitoring associated with quagga and zebra mussels using plankton tows, eDNA (PCR) and substrate sampling.

#### [Calif: Control and Management of Non-Native Invasive Fish](#)

Course Title: Control and Management of Non-Native Invasive Fish  
Course ID: BIO-309  
Date(s): May 3, 2017: 8:30am - 4:30pm  
Location: University of Phoenix Classroom  
2860 Gateway Oaks Drive, Bldg B-#100; Sacramento, CA

Instructor: Joe Maroney (Kalispel Tribe)  
Tuition: \$345 / \$295; \$295 / \$245 (Before April 19, 2017)

## JOBS/GRANTS

### [CA: Call for Preliminary Proposals 2018](#)

The California Sea Grant College Program is now soliciting preliminary proposals for projects to begin on/after February 1, 2018. Faculty and academic staff from universities and scientists from research institutions throughout California are invited to apply. California Sea Grant continues to focus on the following integrated themes (or Strategic Focus Areas):

- [Healthy Coastal Ecosystems](#)
- [Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture](#)
- [Resilient Coastal Communities and Economies](#)

**Application Deadline: March 23, 2017**

### [NOAA Sea Grant 2017 Aquaculture Initiative: Integrated Projects to Increase Aquaculture Production Department of Commerce](#)

Depending on appropriations, NOAA Sea Grant expects to have available a total of \$10,000,000-\$12,000,000 across fiscal years 2017, 2018, and 2019 for a national initiative to increase aquaculture production in the short-term (2-4 years). Note applications are due from Sea Grant Programs to Grants.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, **April 18th, 2017**. Applications submitted after the closing dates and times will not be accepted.

### [UT: Wildlife Technician II, Aquatic Invasive Species Utah DWR](#)

Opening date: March 1, 2017 **Closing date: When filled**  
Salary: \$11.99 per hour Location: Ogden, Utah (Pineview)  
Time frame: Approx. from May 15 to August 30, 2017 (possible extension)  
The Utah Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife, has seasonal positions (no benefits) available in Ogden, Utah. This appointment will last from approximately May 15 to August 30, 2017, with possibility of extension. The successful individual will work within the UDWR's Aquatic Invasive Species Program, dealing primarily with Quagga/Zebra mussel interdiction and education. Duties include training technicians, maintaining workflow and data entry at inspection stations. This individual will also assist with inspecting and interviewing boaters prior to launching at Bear Lake and using a high-pressure sprayer to decontaminate boats when needed.

[*Note: Go to <https://naturalresources.utah.gov/seasonal-employment> for other seasonal AIS jobs in Utah*]

[WA: State of Washington: WDFW AIS Check Station Technicians \(2\)](#)

This recruitment is to fill two (2) non-permanent 6-months full-time Scientific Technician 1 position in the Fish Program, Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention Unit. The duty station is the Region 3 Pasco Enforcement Detachment Non-permanent Scientific Technician. Tasks include: Inspect watercraft at check stations with Enforcement Officers for AIS, identifies and preserves possible AIS from watercraft, interacts with the public about AIS, transports trailered electronic reader board, deploys signage alerting watercraft of check stations, and records data on electronic form using I-Pads. Approximately 20% office and 80% field. Work week will be Sunday to Saturday depending when check stations are scheduled, often on weekends and holidays, 8 hours a day/40 hours a week but occasionally will exceed the daily and weekly hours, and will be required to respond on short notice to infested AIS watercraft during non-scheduled hours. Salary \$2,218.00 - \$2,857.00 Monthly Location Franklin County – Pasco, WA Job Type Full Time - Non-Permanent Department Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Job Number 2017-01993 **Closing 3/10/2017 11:59 PM Pacific**

[SCA Invasive Species and Prairie Management Specialist: Nebraska](#)

The Student Conservation Association (SCA) is recruiting the 2017 Valentine National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Invasive Species and Prairie Management Specialist (ISPM Specialist). The ISPM Specialist will carry out much needed control of invasive plants threatening Sandhill Prairie, wetland and marsh habitats, which are critical to migrating and breeding birds, as well as other species of wildlife. Control methods include hand-pulling, herbicide application, and cutting and digging with hand tools. Biological aids will be responsible for documenting locations and treatments applied to invasive plants across the refuge using GPS technology. **Last Date to Apply: 04/01/2017**

[AZ: Arizona Game And Fish Department: Aquatic Invasive Species Program Coordinator](#)

Under the direction of the Statewide Sportfish Program Manager, the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Program Coordinator will be responsible for conducting, planning, organizing and administering Arizona's Aquatic Invasive Species Program. This position will set program priorities, prepare and manage program budget, prepare reports and provide leadership and guidance to Department leadership and regional fisheries programs including recommendations for strategic and operational direction. Administers, develops and provides guidance to staff for performing AIS abatement projects, AIS surveys, and outreach activities. Supervises, develops and administers watercraft inspections and decontaminations and manages the collection, recording and administration of invasive species data, specifically aquatic invasive species program information. Maintains records, guidelines and materials and provides

detailed program performance summaries for seasonal and annual program requirements. Provides leadership in communicating and coordinating AIS program activities within the Department and with other external partners and customers. Serves as the spokesperson for the program and develops partnerships with municipalities, external agencies, and other stakeholders regarding AIS. Writes articles, brochures, and press releases for popular media outlets and to the public. To Apply go to <https://azstatejobs.azdoa.gov/> and search for Job Id 28643. **Close Date: 03/10/2017**

[WA: Biological Weed Control Field Assistant; Two Fulltime, Temporary Positions Available.](#)

The Integrated Weed Control Project is a statewide program that provides invasive weed management support to land managers through education and implementation of weed identification and control techniques. During the field season, we focus primarily on supplying biological control agents to land managers across WA, including federal, tribal, state and county agencies, conservation groups and private landowners.

Dates of Employment: April 21 – August 25, 2017; **CLOSE DATE: March 10, 2017;**

To learn more, please visit: <http://www.invasives.wsu.edu/>. Application: Apply by submitting a brief letter describing how your experience and training support the major responsibility and qualifications for the position. Include a resume and three references. Screening applications will begin immediately and will continue until the positions have been filled. Send application materials (email preferred) to Jennifer Andreas, WSU Extension, 2606 W Pioneer, Puyallup WA 98371. Phone [253.651.2197](tel:253.651.2197) or email [jandreas@wsu.edu](mailto:jandreas@wsu.edu).

[WA: Washington Invasive Species Council is seeking a meeting facilitator](#)

The Washington Invasive Species Council is seeking a meeting facilitator to help establish and coordinate a collaborative of seven western states, which will host a regional summit and develop a plan for managing flowering rush in the Columbia River basin. Expected Time Period For Contract: April 12, 2017 through December 15, 2019  
**Proposals due March 20, 2017.**

[NV/AZ: Aquatic Invasive Species \(AIS\) Outreach Interns](#)

Working collaboratively with Lake Mead National Recreation Area (LMNRA), the Great Basin Institute is recruiting interns to learn about and participate on multiple projects including resource management and education at LMNRA. During the main boating season (May-September), the intern will educate the boating public about aquatic invasive species (AIS) and water safety, as well as gain skills and knowledge of natural and cultural resources in the LMNRA. This position is assigned to the Lake Mead National Recreation Area (Kathrine Landing). This position will be performing a variety of duties including (1) facilitating visitor contacts to create understanding of park resources, aquatic invasive species, and boater safety and responsibility; (2) collecting

data on water quality (e.g., water sampling); and (3) encourage visitors behavior to uphold the mission of the National Park Service. **Last Date to Apply: 03/20/2017**

[MN: Aquatic Invasive Species Educator & Watercraft Inspector: Minnesota](#)

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) is seeking educators to work in our Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) education and inspection program. Educators will work at Lakes Calhoun, Harriet, and Nokomi...

[WI: Wildlife/Invasive Species Technicians: Wisconsin](#)

The Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands (CEMML) at Colorado State University is hiring 6 to 8 seasonal Wildlife/Invasive Species Technicians to conduct field work at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin from approximately April 1st through November 30th, 2017. **Last Date to Apply: 03/15/2017**

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

**STATE**

[MT: FWP requests \\$11M to fight invasive species \(2/14/17\)](#)

BILLINGS – To increase its fight against aquatic invasive species Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks is requesting an additional \$11.5 million from the Montana Legislature over the next two years. “This is not business as usual, but rather a new way of going about the work of natural resource conservation and, frankly, protecting hydro-power facilities, irrigation and infrastructure,” Martha Williams, newly appointed FWP director, told the [Joint Natural Resources and Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee](#) ...

[Montana bill would employ councils to oversee invasive species \(2/22/17\)](#)

HELENA - In response to the discovery of invasive mussels in Tiber Reservoir in early November, lawmakers are considering implementing water basin planning committees to control and prevent certain species in bodies of water in Montana. [House Bill 540](#) would employ councils for four rivers in the state that would consult with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on methods of preventing invasive species from entering state waters.

[Idaho SB 1068](#)

INVASIVE SPECIES – Amends and adds to existing law to establish the Office of Invasive Species Policy and to provide for its duties; to revise definitions; to revise the

duties of the director of the Department of Agriculture with regard to invasive species; to encourage collaborative efforts with other agencies; and to provide a penalty for a person who fails to stop at a check station.

[ID: Bill introduced to raise invasive species sticker fee for out-of-state boaters \(2/23/17\)](#)

A fee increase for out-of-state boaters on invasive species stickers was introduced in the House Resources Committee this afternoon, on the recommendation of an [\[HB 211\]](#) interim panel of legislators who studied invasive species issues. The required stickers for out-of-state motorboats would rise from the current \$22 to \$30 on Jan. 1, 2018....

[Idaho lawmakers OK emergency budget bill for anti-mussel boat inspection stations \(2/20/17\)](#)

Idaho lawmakers on Monday approved an emergency appropriation of \$710,000 to expand the state's boat inspection stations to check for invasive quagga and zebra mussels. The money will allow the state to add three new stations, dawn-to-dusk operations and three employees in the current budget year.

**Related Idaho Stories:**

[ID: Invasive mussels threaten Pacific Northwest \(2/28/17\)](#)

[Fremont County ID asks for more action on invasive quagga mussels \(2/28/17\)](#)

[Invasive mollusk could leave Idaho mussel-bound \(2/24/17\)](#)

[Idaho Boat inspection program faces budget shortfall \(2/16/17\)](#)

[Washington state can spend \\$1.9 million now, or \\$100 million later on these invaders \(2/14/17\)](#)

...To address the issue, in 2015, the state Legislature called for a stakeholder group of members from the boating community, Public Utility Districts, irrigators and shipping industry, among others, to prepare long-term funding options. Those recommendations are now before both the Legislature in House Bill [HB 1429](#) and the Senate in Bill [SB 5303](#).

**FEDERAL**

[Uniform National Discharge Standards for Vessels of the Armed Forces—Phase II Batch One \(1/11/17\)](#)

**UPDATE (2/8/17):** SUMMARY: In accordance with the Presidential directive as expressed in the [memorandum](#) of January 20, 2017, from the Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff, entitled “Regulatory Freeze Pending Review,” This action

temporarily delays until March 21, 2017, the effective date of the rule entitled Uniform National Discharge Standards for Vessels of the Armed Forces—Phase II Batch One, published in the Federal Register on January 11, 2017. Federal Register Notice [HERE](#).

## CONGRESS

### [Stefanik Introduces Legislation to Combat Invasive Species During Invasive Species Awareness Week \(3/2/17\)](#)

Congresswoman Elise Stefanik (R-NY-21), Co-Chair of the bipartisan Congressional Invasive Species Caucus, re-introduced two pieces of legislation to help combat and raise awareness about the threat invasive species pose to our ecosystems...Congresswoman Stefanik has introduced the [Stamp Out Invasive Species Act](#) which would direct USPS to issue a “Combating Invasive Species Semipostal Stamp.” Net proceeds from the sale of this stamp would be directed to the United States Department of Agriculture and the Department of the Interior for programs that work to combat invasive species. Additionally, Congresswoman Stefanik has introduced [H. Res. \\_\\_\\_\\_](#) -- a resolution expressing the commitment of the House of Representatives to work to combat the nationwide problem of invasive species threatening native ecosystems.

### [Bill on control and management of invasive species on federal lands introduced by Rep. Mark Amodei \(R-NV\) \(3/2/17\)](#)

**H.R.1330:** To improve the control and management of invasive species that threaten and harm Federal land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior, and for other purposes. [*As of 03/05/2017 text has not been posted*].

### [House Agriculture Committee Passed Bill Deregulating Pesticides Near Waterways \(2/21/17\)](#)

It’s likely that the downstream impact of chemicals is not the first thing on a farmer’s mind while battling dangerous pests. But the fact remains that chemicals applied on land do work their way into our nation’s waterways. The U.S. House Committee on Agriculture [approved](#) two bills including one that would simplify the approval and application of pesticides. The *Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2017* ([H.R. 953](#)), which has been introduced four times in previous Congresses, easily passed with only one Democrat [voting](#) against. The bill would reinstate an exemption for farmers who use certain pesticides near waterways by preventing states from requiring permits. Proponents say the bill would fix a costly redundancy where permits would already have to be in compliance with the *Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act* ([P.L. 112-177](#)) and the *Clean Water Act* ([P.L. 107-303](#)). Critics of the bill include environmental groups who disagree that the intent of the two regulating bodies is redundant. Proponents of the bill see a clear path to passage this Congress as one of the main critics of the bill in its former incarnations was former Senator Barbara Boxer (CA) who is no longer on the committee. [*Source: Consortium for Ocean Leadership*]

*[Note: Similar legislation has been introduced in the Senate by Sens. Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) and Claire McCaskill (D-Mo.) ([S. 340](#)). The pair have introduced similar versions of the this legislation for the past two years in order to reverse a 2009 federal court decision in *National Cotton Council of America v. EPA* directing EPA to require permits for spraying pesticides over "navigable waters."]*

### [NY's AG Leads Coalition Against Bill To Strip State Authority On Ship Discharges](#)

New York's Eric Schneiderman and 10 other attorneys general have sent a letter to U.S. Senate leaders. The letter urges opposition to a bill [[S. 168](#)], that would eliminate states' authority to protect waterways from ships' polluted discharges, making it easier for non-native species to invade the Hudson River and Great Lakes. Schneiderman says the legislation would stop states from taking actions they deem necessary to protect their waters from aquatic invasive species discharged by commercial ships. This occurs when ships dump ballast water. Dr. David Strayer is a freshwater ecologist with the Millbrook-based Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies. "In my opinion, the Senate bill has the potential to cause further problems with regulations and open the door a little wider to the arrival of harmful species," Strayer says.

*[Note: [S. 168](#), the Commercial Vessel Incidental Discharge (VIDA) Act, was introduced 1/17/17 by Senator Roger Wicker (R-Miss.). Current sponsors are Sens. Rubio, Nelson, Thune, Sullivan (AK), Schatz (HI), and McCaskill. [The U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation](#) held an executive session on 1/24/17 and S.168 was voted out of committee. The archived hearing can be found [HERE](#). Many in the shipping industry including groups like the [American Waterway Operators](#) support VIDA. **What Next:** A companion bill in the House has not been introduced, but is expected.]*

**Related stories:** [NRDC: The Ballast Water Bill Is Back \(2/27/17\)](#), [NY Schneiderman leads coalition of 10 states urging U.S. Senate to oppose bill](#), [Chicago Sun-Times Editorial Board: Batten down hatches vs. more invasive species in lake \(2/20/17\)](#)

**For Further Information** on state management concerns related to VIDA, contact Allen Pleus, WDFW, [Allen.Pleus@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Allen.Pleus@dfw.wa.gov).

## MEETINGS

### MARCH

[4<sup>th</sup> 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/>

[Oregon Invasive Species Council](#): Spring Meeting: Astoria, OR, March 20th & 21<sup>st</sup>, Lodging and meetings at the Holiday Inn Express & Suites Astoria. Contact the Coordinator at [coordinator@oregoninvasivespecies.org](mailto:coordinator@oregoninvasivespecies.org) to fill out the RSVP form

The next [Washington Invasive Species Council](#) Meeting will be held March 23, Olympia Natural Resources Building Room 172

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.

## APRIL

The next meeting of the [Pacific Ballast Water Group](#) will be April 12 & 13 in Portland, Oregon. Meeting details [HERE](#).

## MAY

[The Next Aquatic Nuisance Species \(ANS\) Task Force Meeting, Lake Tahoe, CA, May 2-4, 2017](#)

**Conference on Great Lakes Research:** We're heading to Detroit! Find out what's in store for IAGLR's [60th Annual Conference on Great Lakes Research](#), scheduled for May 15-19, 2017, in Detroit, Michigan. The theme for the conference is *From Cities to Farms: Shaping Great Lakes Ecosystems*. Sessions include -- Physiology and ecology of dreissenid mussels: adaptation, impacts, and control.

## 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

## JULY

[Next ISAC Meeting, July 18–20, 2017 \(Washington, DC\)](#)

**SEPTEMBER**

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

**OCTOBER**

**REGISTRATON OPEN:** [International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species \(ICAIS\) - October 22-26, 2017 – Fort Lauderdale, Florida](#)

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