



AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES NEWS

8/1/17

CLICK BELOW TO NAVIGATE

[DREISSENID MUSSELS](#) * [BOAT INSPECTION/DECON/TECH NEWS](#) * [MARINE](#) *
[BALLAST WATER/BIOFOULING](#) * [FISH](#) * [AQUACULTURE](#) * [OTHER](#) * [WEEDS](#) *
* [JOBS/GRANTS](#) * [FEDERAL/STATE/PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION, RULES, ACTIONS](#)
* [TRAININGS, WEBINARS, CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS](#)

DREISSENID MUSSELS

[\[Minnesota\] Science battles back \(7/31/17\)](#)

Kenny Beckman's laboratory at the University of Minnesota's Cancer and Cardiovascular Research Building features some of the world's most sophisticated gene-mapping tools, including a newly arrived \$1 million sequencer that will accelerate groundbreaking work on DNA. These instruments also represent the most promising front in a high-speed scramble to halt the spread of zebra mussels, which for two centuries have wreaked biological havoc in European and North American waterways...

[South Dakota and Nebraska Officials Work To Contain Zebra Mussels \(7/10/2017\)](#)

Stop aquatic hitchhikers! Zap the zebra! Clean, drain and dry! You might be familiar with some of these rallying cries if you've recently spent time near [Lewis and Clark Lake](#) or the Missouri River along the South Dakota and Nebraska borders...

Related Article:

[Defensive Measures -- Gavins Point Hatchery Adds Filtration System To Halt Spread Of Zebra Mussels \(7/17/2017\)](#)

[Return to top](#)

[\[Nebraska\] Zebra Mussels Found In Lake Yankton \(7/26/2017\)](#)

A fast-growing invasive aquatic species has found its way into yet another local body of water. Wednesday, Nebraska Game & Parks announced via [press release](#) that zebra mussels have been confirmed in [Lake Yankton](#). Jeff Schuckman, Nebraska Game, Fish & Parks Northeast District fisheries manager, told the Press & Dakotan that the mussels were confirmed within the last two weeks. "We had a picture that someone had turned in with a zebra mussel attached to an Asian clam," Schuckman said. "The South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks had a snorkel team down on Monday and verified that there are adult zebra mussels in Lake Yankton."

[\[Missouri\] MDC confirms zebra mussels in three Jackson County lakes \(7/25/2017\)](#)

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) has confirmed that zebra mussels are now in the chain lakes of Prairie Lee, Lake Jacomo and Blue Springs Lake. Zebra mussels are a prolific invasive species that can harm boats, docks, and the aquatic ecology that supports sport fish. Boaters and anglers are asked to take steps to prevent them from spreading to other lakes...

[Minnesota] DNR Reports New Zebra Mussel Infestations

[Crow Wing County waters \(7/13/17\)](#); [Comfort Lake in Chisago County \(7/27/17\)](#); [Rush Lake in Otter Tail County \(7/21/17\)](#); [Douglas County's Burgen Lake \(7/31/17\)](#)

[\[Minnesota\] Lake Minnetonka zebra mussel study tests population control \(7/12/2017\)](#)

A study is continuing in [Lake Minnetonka](#) this year on a potential new method to control zebra mussel populations. Researchers from the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District and the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center are testing low doses of a copper-based product to kill off or at least slow the spread of zebra mussel larvae, known as veligers...

[\[Montana\] Whitefish to tweak invasive species regulations \(7/17/2017\)](#)

Whitefish adopted its aquatic invasive species ordinance in April and began performing inspections and Whitefish State Park and City Beach on May 1, requesting decontamination of high-risk boats. After the city began its program, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks received calls from boaters concerns about the city's decontamination protocol and the fee Whitefish Lake Institute was charging boaters for use of its decontamination station...

Related Articles:

[Whitefish Council Votes For Closer Cooperation with State on Invasive Mussel Prevention \(7/18/2017\)](#)

[Montana FWP Recommending Commission Approve Conservation Easement Purchase for Whitefish Plan \(7/28/2017\)](#)

[\[Montana\] State of the Lake: All hands on deck approach needed to keep invasive mussels at bay \(7/29/2017\)](#)

... The University of Montana's Flathead Lake Biological Station Director Jim Elser offered the good news that the latest round of sophisticated DNA monitoring showed no evidence that invasive quagga or zebra mussels had set up shop in the pristine waters of Flathead...

[\[Michigan\] Treatments on Round Lake target invasive mussels \(7/21/2017\)](#)

The zebra mussels in Emmet County's [Round Lake](#) are about to receive an experimental dose of a natural compound molluscicide made from a common soil bacterium. Zequanox, although manufactured in Michigan, was developed by Marrone Bio Innovations, a company based in California that specializes in bio-based, sustainable, organic pesticides and products. The highly selective molluscicide is effective against invasive zebra and quagga mussels, but not native species.



BOAT INSPECTION/DECON/TECH NEWS

[\[Montana\] Glacier Park launches phase of invasive species response \(7/1//2017\)](#)

Glacier National Park is implementing a third phase in its aquatic invasive species emergency response that will allow privately owned motorboats to launch on Lake McDonald following inspection and a 30-day quarantine...

Related Articles:

[Glacier loosens boating restrictions under Zinke directive \(7/12/2017\)](#)

[AIS 'Retraction' Stirs Confusion \(7/17/2017\)](#)

[Glacier Park Battling Invasive Species on Land and Water \(7/25/2017\)](#)

[Colorado Parks and Wildlife urges boaters to be cautious about mussels \(7/18/2017\)](#)

Colorado Parks and Wildlife reports success with its program aimed at keeping quagga and zebra mussels out of the state, but waters in several surrounding states are infested with mussels, causing a potential problem for Colorado. But this spring, boats brought into Colorado from Arizona, Kentucky, Kansas, Minnesota, Texas and Utah were found to be infested with mussels, according to a press release from the agency...

[Goodbye double-check: Idaho-Utah partner on Bear Lake mussel inspections \(7/25/2017\)](#)

Protecting Bear Lake from invasive species became a little bit easier with the Friday announcement of an agreement that will see Idaho contributing funding to Utah to combat the spread of mussels. Because of the unique challenges of preventing the spread of the quagga and zebra mussels into the two-state body of water, the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, the Idaho State Department of Agriculture and the Bear Lake Regional Commission have partnered to provide better coverage and pooled resources keep the waterway free of infestation...

[\[California\] Boats that have been in mussel-infested waters aren't allowed in SLO County lakes \(7/22/2017\)](#)

The San Luis Obispo County Public Works Department issued a restriction on boats launching in county lakes if they have visited any zebra or quagga mussel-infested lake in the last 30 days or have failed a vessel inspection. The penalty for boating in a SLO County lake without a signed inspection form on board is a fine of up to \$2,000.

[\[Montana\] 10 boats with invasive mussels intercepted \(7/25/2017\)](#)

Inspectors have intercepted 10 boats with invasive mussels as they entered Montana or tried to cross the Continental Divide into the Columbia River Basin, which is invasive-mussel free, according to Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

Related Article:

[Keeping vigilant on protecting Montana's waterway \(7/26/2017\)](#)

[\[Montana\] Seeley Unable to Match "Gold Standard" in AIS Inspection \(7/20/2017\)](#)

...Here in Montana, more money and attention is being turned to AIS prevention every year. This year, the Montana legislature passed a bill requiring all anglers to purchase an AIS prevention pass in addition to their fishing license. The pass is estimated to bring in an additional \$3.2 million a year to help Montana combat AIS. Until a stricter standard is put into place around [Seeley](#) and the surrounding lakes, Wallenburn will continue to be concerned...

[\[British Columbia\] Doing your part to control invasive mussels \(7/24/2017\)](#)

[At Christina Lake] All boaters are encouraged to follow the “Clean, Drain, Dry” approach. Clean all visible vegetation and dirt or debris from the watercraft, equipment and trailer, drain all storage compartments, wells and bilge areas on the watercraft, equipment and trailers, and allow all moisture to dry completely. It is also important to properly clean pets, waders, footwear, life jackets and any other items that may have been in contact with contaminated water...

[\[Manitoba\] Community takes zebra mussel fight into their own hands as province fails to issue fines \(7/26/2017\)](#)

The invasive species are becoming a growing concern in Manitoba and have already infested three bodies of water: Lake Winnipeg, the Red River and Cedar Lake. But people near [Gull Lake](#), a mere 10 km’s from Grand Beach, are doing everything they can to ensure they don’t end up there too. The Gull Lake Management Board has invested in its own pressure washer and set up a decontamination area by the boat launch.

[\[Montana\] How Montana Is Fighting Invasive Hitchhikers on Firefighting Aircraft \(7/27/2017\)](#)

Montana faces twin threats this summer: On land, crews are battling some of the biggest and most destructive fires in the country. In the water, officials are staving off the spread of invasive mussels that could cause millions of dollars of damage to hydropower dams and irrigation lines. These threats come together for wildland firefighters, who often use equipment that travels across the country and has the potential to carry invasive hitchhikers with it. But firefighters are tackling the potential contamination head on...

[\[Alaska\] Office of Law Enforcement Protects Alaskan Waters from Invasive and Injurious Species \(7/14/2017\)](#)

...The Wildlife Inspectors are certified in watercraft inspection and decontamination and ensured that those working this operation understood basic boat inspection procedures for zebra and Quagga mussels. They also were present throughout the entire operation to assist in determining the risks posed by each watercraft that was inspected...

MARINE

[\[Washington\] Invasive green crab count hits 87 on Dungeness Spit \(7/12/2017\)](#)

As crabbing season reaches its midpoint in the area, state and federal resource managers report they've caught 87 of the invasive European green crab on the Dungeness Spit...

[This cannibalistic invasive species could be coming to your dinner table \(7/22/2017\)](#)

Food scientists are exploring ways to turn the European green crab into a lucrative commercial industry...

[\[Oregon\] Native Shrimp Once Killed With Pesticides Now At Risk from Invasive Parasite \(7/28/2017\)](#)

Oregon State University researcher John Chapman is knee-deep in mud and sinking deeper by the minute. The mudflat surrounding him in Newport's Yaquina Bay is pocked with holes – some snaking down more than 6 feet underground. These are the burrows of the burrowing mud shrimp...

[\[Hawaii\] Volunteers remove invasive algae from nearshore waters of Maunalua Bay \(7/22/2017\)](#)

...Due to sediment and invasive runoff, invasive species have kind of taken over this native ecosystem, and by removing the algae, we're helping to heal the bay and bring the native system and species back," said Molly Mamaril, assistant project manager, Pono Pacific...

[\[Hawaii\] Invasive Algae Posing Threat to Molokai Shore, Experts Say \(7/31/17\)](#)

WAILUKU, Hawaii (AP) — Invasive algae species could overtake the island of Molokai's south shore if action is not taken to stop it, officials said. The group of scientists and volunteers conducted a survey along more than 30 miles (48 kilometers) and 4 sq. miles (10 sq. kilometers) of island's south shore to measure and map the three invasive algae species present on Molokai, which is between Oahu and Maui, the Maui News reported (<http://bit.ly/2wdTMBk>).

[\[California\] Jellyfish migrate from Russia to Napa River \(7/22/2017\)](#)

... The jellies turned out to be *Maotias inexpectata* that are native to the Black Sea in Russia and may have come to the Bay Area in ballast water... "The jellies make terrible pets," she said. "Leave them in the river."...

BALLAST WATER/BIOFOULING

[Updated Ballast Water Management FAQs now available \(7/28/2017\)](#)

The Coast Guard announced today that updated Ballast Water Management (BWM) Program guidance is available on its public Homeport internet portal. Two slideshow presentations are available to provide interested readers a “BWM 101” overview of the program and a “BWM Update” on recent developments and activities. These presentations include speaker notes for each slide and will be frequently updated in an effort to keep all stakeholders informed...

[International Maritime Organization moves ahead with oceans and climate change agenda \(7/11/2017\)](#)

The International Maritime Organization (IMO), the United Nations agency charged with regulating international shipping, has progressed its environmental agenda at the recent meeting of its Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC), 71st session (3-7 July). The Committee clarified the ballast water management schedule, progressed GHG and air pollution issues, adopted new NOx emission control areas, designated a further Particularly Sensitive Sea Area and agreed to work on implementation of the 0.50% global sulphur limit...

[New Study Shows Ecological Risks of Hull Fouling \(7/18/2017\)](#)

Researchers with Tel Aviv University’s School of Zoology have published a new study of the ecological threat posed by biofouling. Their analysis found that half the ships passing along the Mediterranean coast of Israel are carrying potentially invasive ascidians (sea squirts) on their hulls, among other organisms from around the world...

[IMO Ballast Water delay prompts revision of intermediate-term tanker supply view \(7/18/2017\)](#)

Older tankers have been given a new lease of life, meaning that the tanker market’s tonnage oversupply issues could take longer to resolve. In its latest weekly report, shipbroker Charles R. Weber noted that “in a development that caught many industry participants off guard, the IMO agreed last week to urging by a number of flag-states to delay enforcement of Ballast Water Management Convention (BWMC) compliance for existing vessels from September 2017 to September 2019...

Related Articles:

[\[Opinion\] Has ballast water been kicked into the long grass? \(7/11/2017\)](#)

[Rules threaten ships \(7/19/2017\)](#)

[Bureau Veritas launches ‘My BWMP’ \(7/1/3/2017\)](#)

As the Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention's D1 8th September deadline looms, ship owners must secure International BWM Certificates and approved BWM plans for their ships. Bureau Veritas is addressing the challenge with a fast, effective and straightforward platform – 'My Ballast Water Management Plan' (My BWMP). My BWMP provides ship owners with immediate online quotations, the ability to pay online, to submit their documents and then receive their approved BWM plans...

[Ballast water compliance delay is disappointing, says Calgon \(7/13/2017\)](#)

...Randy Dearth, CEO of Calgon Carbon, said: "We are disappointed that full compliance with regulations to protect the world's marine ecosystems have yet again been delayed. Every day, millions of gallons of untreated and potentially harmful ballast water are discharged into ports around the world – even though effective treatment solutions are ready and available."...

[Port and Environmental Regulations: Charting the Best Route \(7/17/2017\)](#)

Trade, federal preemption and states' rights have been the subject of debate, legal cases and jurisdictional battles for more than 200 years. During my time in the Coast Guard and serving as Captain of the Port, Puget Sound, we dealt with a preemption case involving tankers that went to the Supreme Court. Earlier in my career, it was the role of the federal pilotage in a state pilotage system, again decided at the Supreme Court. And, in my current role as Vice President of the Pacific Merchant Shipping Association, jurisdictional questions come up continuously, particularly around the role of the state...

FISH

[Washington] [Lake Roosevelt Northern Pike Numbers Rise; 'Chronic Recruitment, Exponential Growth \(7/21/2017\)](#)

The population of northern pike that is taking up residency in Lake Roosevelt, the reservoir created by Grand Coulee Dam, has spread south this year and has a team of experts saying that suppression of the fish could easily have begun a year or two earlier than it did...

[Great Lakes] [Wake-Up Call on Asian Carp Met with a Collective Yawn by Administration and Agencies \(7/11/2017\)](#)

The Alliance for the Great Lakes has released the following statement: "With today's announcement that monitoring efforts have not turned up additional Asian carp north of the electric barrier, the ACRCC appears to be breathing a sigh of relief. We, and the

Great Lakes region, are not. The finding of an adult Asian carp north of the electric barrier should be a wake-up call...

Related article:

[Two weeks, 43 miles of net, 365 electro-fishing runs and no new Asian carp \(7/1//2017\)](#)
[Pressure mounts for release of federal report after discovery of Asian carp \(7/15/2017\)](#)

[Illinois' Asian Carp population half what it was a decade ago \(7/17/2017\)](#)

The state of Illinois has done a great job of fishing the Asian Carp population down. But wildlife managers in the state say what they really need is a good carp fish sandwich to clear out the invasive fish from Illinois' rivers...

[\[Texas\] Lady Bird Lake vegetation at risk after 'mass migration' of carp \(7/11/2017\)](#)

...State and local officials released tens of thousands of Asian grass carp into [Lake Austin](#) to combat overgrown vegetation in recent years. They came. They ate. They conquered. Then they kept swimming...

[Refined DNA tool tracks native and invasive fish \(7/14/2017\)](#)

Rather than conduct an aquatic roll call with nets to know which fish reside in a particular body of water, scientists can now use DNA fragments suspended in water to catalog invasive or native species. The research from Cornell, the University of Notre Dame and Hawaii Pacific University was published July 14 in *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*...

Research Paper: [Long-range PCR allows sequencing of mitochondrial genomes from environmental DNA](#)

[\[Scotland\] 'Grizzly favourite' pink salmon found in River Ness \(7/11/2017\)](#)

A non-native species of salmon has been found for what is thought to be the first time on the [River Ness](#). Two pink, also known as humpback salmon, were caught by anglers last week. The fish are native to Pacific Ocean waters and are a favourite prey of North America's grizzly bears. A potentially invasive species to the UK, the salmon caught on the Ness maybe related to fish introduced to the Barents Sea in Russia in the 1950s...

AQUACULTURE

[Genetically engineered salmon is coming to America \(7/12/2017\)](#)

On a hill above the cold waters around Prince Edward Island, technicians painstakingly create fertilized Atlantic salmon eggs that include growth-enhancing DNA from two other fish species. The eggs will be shipped to tanks in the high rainforest of Panama,

where they will produce fish that mature far more quickly than normal farmed salmon. More than 20 years after first seeking approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, AquaBounty Technologies of Maynard, Massachusetts, plans to bring these "AquAdvantage" fish to the U.S. and Canadian markets next year...

Related Articles:

[\[Canada\] Council lists GM salmon concerns \(7/17/2017\)](#)

OTHER

[\[Montana\] Hanson named new AIS coordinator \(7/13/2017\)](#)

A new director has been named to help with preventative measures against invasive mussel species in Flathead Lake, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes have announced. The Division of Fish, Wildlife, Recreation and Conservation has announced the new hire of Erik Hanson as Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator, according to a press release from the tribes' Natural Resources Department...

[Freshwater jellyfish invade Lake Erie and experts say there's no way to stop them \(7/17/2017\)](#)

Step aside zebra mussels and phragmites, another foreign invader is lurking beneath the surface of Southwestern Ontario's lakes and streams — a little umbrella-shaped creature that's making people who see it do a double take. They're freshwater jellyfish, a non-native species that's been spotted in Port Dover, Norfolk County, Welland, Fort Erie and in lakes and streams across central Ontario. Though the small and slimy translucent animals are a rare sight, one thing is clear: they're here to stay...

Related Article:

[Freshwater jellyfish spotted in Lake Erie, but they've been here a while \(7/18/2017\)](#)

[Invasive crayfish reported in 2 bodies of water in Michigan \(7/18/2017\)](#)

... The Michigan Department of Natural Resources confirmed the presence of the invasive red swamp crayfish, also known as Louisiana crayfish, in Sunset Lake in Vicksburg on the state's west side and a retention pond off Haggerty Road in Novi...

[\[Hawaii\] Audit criticizes state's invasive species control efforts \(7/12/2017\)](#)

From coqui frogs to coconut rhinoceros beetles and the coffee berry borer, Department of Agriculture inspectors are the first line of defense against the spread of invasive species. However, the department is struggling with staff shortages and antiquated technology. The state auditor said the Department of Agriculture hasn't moved quickly enough to

improve while the threat to agriculture has increased. The state auditor said the agriculture department's biosecurity efforts could be called "bioinsecurity..."

[\[North Dakota\] Q & A: Aquatic nuisance species remain relatively scarce in N.D. waters \(7/16/2017\)](#)

[Jessica] Howell talked about the status of ANS in North Dakota and prevention efforts during a recent interview with Herald outdoors editor Brad Dokken. Here is an edited, heavily condensed transcript of their conversation...

[\[Book Review\] "Beyond the war on invasive species: A Permaculture Approach to Ecosystem Restoration \(7/11/2017\)](#)

...Her book is a worthwhile entry in the ongoing discussion about how to carry on the very real and most urgent tasks of ecosystem regeneration in human-occupied areas, which is to say nearly everywhere. She criticizes the vocabulary and approach of the field of invasion biology, which, according to her, is ideology driven, demonizes non-native species and features an increasing reliance on toxic pesticides to eliminate invasive plant species in natural areas, which in her view repeats the mistakes of industrial age agriculture...

[BC Invasives Short Video Contest \(7/28/2017\)](#)

Enter your BC Invasives short video today for the chance to win great prizes from MEC! Your video should help spread the word about invasive species in BC e.g. identify invasive species or ways to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species or how to take action on invasive species - in a fun or engaging way!

[MN Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center announces six new projects \(7/29/2017\)](#)

The Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC) announced the launch of six new research projects, on topics ranging from assessing the impacts of aquatic invasive species (AIS) on walleye populations, prioritizing cleaning efforts for reducing the spread of spiny waterflea, and creating a decision-making tool to help counties better allocate AIS funds. These projects were selected as part of a competitive proposal process following a comprehensive needs assessment conducted by MAISRC. The results of these projects will lead to better prevention of aquatic invasive species and improved management of Minnesota's resources, including the species impacted by AIS.

WEEDS

[\[Texas\] Conservationists work to protect San Marcos River from Hydrilla \(7/18/2017\)](#)

Parts of the [San Marcos River](#) are overrun with invasive plant species. Spectrum News talked to some local conservationists who are trying control the issue. "Today, what we're

going to do is remove some Hydrilla from the San Marcos River. And we're doing that because it's an invasive species," said conservationist Jessica Frye.

[Pilot program kills invasive aquatic plants in Lake Tahoe with UV light \(7/10/2017\)](#)

Over the past two weeks, engineers have been testing out a new method of killing off invasive aquatic plants in Lake Tahoe using ultraviolet light — and the results are promising. A team from Inventive Resources, Inc., a private engineering firm with a focus on environmental services, spent the last two years lab testing the effects of targeted ultraviolet light, specifically ultraviolet-C, on non-native aquatic species like Eurasian watermilfoil...

JOBS/GRANTS

Washington State - The Department of Ecology is recruiting for an [Aquatic Pesticide Permitting Specialist \(Environmental Specialist 5\)](#) in the Water Quality Program. This position serves as the senior program expert on aquatic plant and animal control. This position advises agency management, other agencies, permittees, and the public regarding aquatic plant and animal control and management, and serves as the senior permit writer for aquatic pesticide use. **Ends:** **August 7, 2017**

FEDERAL/STATE/PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION, RULES, ACTIONS

[State/Provincial](#)

[California] [AB-1587 Invasive species: dreissenid mussels](#). Passed 5/31/2017 -- An act to amend Section 2301 of the Fish and Game Code, and to amend Section 676 of, and to add Section 675.5 to, the Harbors and Navigation Code, relating to invasive species.

...This bill would require the director, upon lifting a closure, quarantine, or restriction on a reservoir described above where dreissenid mussels have been detected, to order the entity that owns or manages the reservoir to implement a dreissenid mussel control program to prevent the spread of dreissenid mussels within the state from conveyances exiting the reservoir. The bill would delete the immunity from liability for water supply systems described above...This bill would additionally impose a quagga and zebra mussel infestation prevention fee, in an amount to be determined by the division not to exceed a maximum annual amount of \$50, on a nonresident owner of a vessel to be paid by that owner before placing the vessel on the waterways of the state....

Latest Action: Amended in Senate June 29, 2017

[\[New Mexico\] New rules issued for aquatic invasive species \(7/11/2017\)](#)

The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish has now created new rules to help combat the spread of invasive species in New Mexico. The changes include: Watercraft owners are required to stop at an inspection station whenever one is set up and in operation. Mandatory inspection and, if necessary, decontamination is required of all out-of-state registered watercraft or watercraft re-entering the state of New Mexico. All boaters are required to “pull the plug” and completely drain watercraft when transporting on a New Mexico roadway...

Federal

[Blocked Asian carp plan to be released Aug. 7 \(7/28/2017\)](#)

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers says it will soon release a stalled draft plan to stop Asian carp from reaching the Great Lakes by strengthening a choke point in the Chicago waterway system. The so-called Brandon Road study will finally be made public after about six months under the thumb of the White House, which blocked the report at the last minute on Feb. 28 after downriver barge operators and shipping interests expressed concern structural changes to the river might inhibit shipping navigation...

Congressional

[Interior Department announces \\$4 million to combat invasive species in U.S. territories \(7/24/2017\)](#)

Guam soon will have more federal funding to combat some of the most problematic invasive species, specifically the brown tree snake and the little fire ant. Nikolao Pula, acting assistant secretary for the Department of the Interior, [recently announced](#) about \$4 million will be set aside to help prevent and control the spread of invasive species in the U.S. island territories...

[Leaders meet with Congressional Boating Caucus \(7/17/2017\)](#)

Boating industry leaders held briefings last week on Capitol Hill in conjunction with the Congressional Boating Caucus. Titled “Boating Safety and Infrastructure,” the briefings focused on issues ranging from dredging the Intracoastal Waterway and engine cutoff devices to aquatic invasive species and public-private partnerships with marinas.

[Nolan Pushes Army Corps for Solution to Invasive Zebra Mussels \(7/12/2017\)](#)

...As the primary author of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act’s section regarding invasive species (Section 1039(d)(3)(D)), Nolan said: “I am concerned there

appears to be a lack of meaningful development pertaining to the addition of “aquatic invasive species” to the Army Corps’ Aquatic Plant Control Program. This vitally important expansion and broadening of the Aquatic Plant Control Program enhanced the Army Corps’ ongoing efforts to control noxious aquatic plant and animal growths in our Nation’s waterways...

[Bug invader killing Mississippi Delta wetlands draws federal attention \(7/20/2017\)](#)

The insect invasion that's killing critical wetlands in the Mississippi River Delta has drawn the federal government's attention. The [2018 agricultural appropriations bill](#) directs federal agencies to develop a plan for eradicating the Asian scale insect that has wiped out more than 200,000 acres of roseau cane, a wetland grass that holds much of lower delta together. The bill was approved by the U.S. Senate appropriations committee on Thursday (July 20).

[H.R.2603 - SAVES Act](#)

To amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide that nonnative species in the United States shall not be treated as endangered species or threatened species for purposes of that Act. [Rep. Louie Gohmert \(R-Texas\)](#). [Full Text](#).

FY 2018 APPROPRIATIONS (USACE, BOR, NPS, NOAA, AG)

INTERIOR

[HOUSE Appropriations Committee Approves Fiscal Year 2018 Interior and Environment Bill \(7/18/17\)](#)

The House Appropriations Committee today approved the fiscal year 2018 Interior and Environment Appropriations bill on a vote of 30-21. The legislation includes funding for the Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Forest Service, the Indian Health Service, and various independent and related agencies...

USFWS Report Language [HERE](#), See Page 19

The recommendation includes \$21,029,000 for Aquatic Invasive Species...

[Note: While the USFWS AIS total is above the FY 2017 appropriations level of ~\$16 million, in FY 2018 an additional “\$2,000,000 is to supplement funding provided through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative for intensive control efforts via contract fishing pursuant to individual State laws and regulations and as called for in management plans.” And “\$3,088,000 is to implement subsection (d)(2) of Section 5, of Public

Law 106–506, as amended” {“Lake Tahoe Restoration Act”}. Therefore, the FY 2018 House recommended appropriation appears to be ~ similar to FY 2017 for state plan grants, regional panel support, and quagga zebra mussel related activities.

National Park Service Report Language, see page 25:

Aquatic Invasive Mussels: The Committee remains concerned about the spread of quagga and zebra mussels in the western United States. As of 2016, there were nine western parks with established quagga and zebra mussel management or prevention programs.

The Committee recognizes and commends the considerable effort and collaboration involving western governors, as well as Federal, State and Tribal partners, to recently develop a package of actions and initiatives to protect areas in the West from the economic and ecological threats posed by invasive mussels. Inspecting and decontaminating recreational watercraft is one critical element toward preventing and containing the spread of invasive mussels.

The Committee urges the Secretary of the Interior to continue to work with State and Tribal partners, and other stakeholders, on containment, prevention and enforcement efforts at these parks, and NPS-managed waterbodies including Lake Powell and Lake Mead, following the Western Regional Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species Uniform Minimum Protocols and Standards for Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination Programs and consistent with the Quagga/Zebra Mussel Action Plan for Western US Waters. Further, consistent with fiscal year 2017, the Committee provides the Service with \$2,000,000 for quagga and zebra mussel containment, prevention and enforcement. These funds complement additional funds contained in this bill directed toward protecting our water-ways and ecosystems from the serious threat of invasive mussels and other invasive species.

[Note: The FY2017 Senate Interior, Environment Appropriations bill has not been released.]

NOAA

[SENATE Committee Approves FY2018 Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Bill \(7/27/17\)](#)

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Senate Committee on Appropriations today approved the [FY2018 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act](#), which would provide funding for law enforcement, economic prosperity, scientific research, and space exploration and other national priorities.

Report language [HERE](#). See page 29

NOAA is further encouraged to work with its NERRS and National Marine Sanctuary partners on efforts for early detection, rapid response, and control of invasive species, especially those that jeopardize endangered or threatened native species.

AGRICULTURE

[**SENATE: Murkowski Provision Works on labeling mandate for genetically engineered \(GE\) salmon \(7/21/17\)**](#)

GE Salmon: Since the FDA's decision to approve GE salmon for human consumption, Senator Murkowski has continued her fight for the health of both consumers and Alaska's fisheries. Senator Murkowski secured language that requires the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to mandate labeling of GE salmon and that continues the current import ban until final labeling guidelines have been set by the FDA.

[**Related: Murkowski Introduces GE Salmon Labeling Bill, S 1528 \(7/14/17\)**](#)

USACE/BOR

[**HOUSE Appropriations Committee Approves Fiscal Year 2018 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill \(7/12/17\)**](#)

The House Appropriations Committee today approved the fiscal year 2018 Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill on a voice vote. The legislation provides annual funding for national defense nuclear weapons activities, the Army Corps of Engineers, various programs under the Department of Energy (DOE), and other related agencies...

Report Language got [HERE](#):

USACE (Page 30): Aquatic Plant Control Program.—Funding is provided for watercraft inspection stations, as authorized by section 1039 of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014, and related monitoring. [Note: Page 27 has a line item “Aquatic Plant Control Program” - \$ 5 Million]

USACE (Page 24): Research and Development, Partnerships: The Corps is an instrumental partner in controlling aquatic nuisance species in our nation's waterways, including the Columbia River Basin with twelve listed salmon and steelhead species and more than \$3,000,000,000 of goods transported for delivery around the world. The Committee recognizes the economic and environmental benefits of the Columbia River

Basin and urges the Corps to utilize local and regional research partners, as appropriate, to address this serious issue.

USACE, ASIAN CARP (Page 16):

The recommendation funds the request for the existing electric barriers in the Chicago Area Waterway System. The Corps is directed to analyze the most recent information regarding the presence of Asian Carp in close proximity to Lake Michigan and any other Great Lake to determine if any emergency or additional actions are warranted, including increasing the existing barriers' efficiency and efficacy.

The Corps shall complete this analysis not later than 45 days after the enactment of this Act. Upon completion of this analysis, the Corps shall report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the conclusions, including whether any additional authorization is required. Additionally, the Corps is encouraged to consult with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Coast Guard, the State of Illinois and other members of the Asian Carp Regional Coordinating Committee to evaluate whether navigation protocols would be beneficial or effective in reducing the risk of vessels inadvertently transporting aquatic nuisance species, including Asian Carp, through the Electric Dispersal Barrier near Romeoville, Illinois, and locks and dams in the Illinois River.

The Corps is expected to release the draft Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS) Brandon Road Study consistent with the urgency of its previous actions. The Corps shall adhere to a public and agency review process that is open and transparent. The Corps is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress semi-annual updates on the progress and status of efforts to prevent the further spread of the carp as well as the location and density of Asian Carp populations. The Corps is further directed to work with other appropriate federal entities to develop and submit to the Committees as soon as practicable a concise report with graphics and maps detailing the geographic migration of Asian Carp up the Mississippi River from 2000 to the present.

Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) ([Page 73](#)):

Quagga and Zebra Mussels: The Committee is aware of the environmental and economic threat posed by invasive quagga and zebra mussels. Mussel infestations at Reclamation reservoirs can increase significantly the costs of operation of dams, power plants, pumping plants, and other water infrastructure. Reclamation and its federal, state, and local partners have undertaken many varied actions to combat the spread of these species, including support for watercraft inspection and decontamination where appropriate. In fact, the fiscal year 2018 budget

request includes an increase of \$4,388,000 for this purpose. The Committee encourages Reclamation to continue its efforts in cooperation with its partners to prevent the spread of quagga and zebra mussels

!!UPDATE!!: The House Energy and Water appropriations report language for USACE and BOR above was included in the [National Security Funding Bill](#) approved by the House on **July 27**.

Related Articles:

[House budgeters defy Trump by allotting \\$300 million for Great Lakes cleanup \(7/11/2017\)](#)

[Environmentalists: Trump policies threaten Great Lakes \(7/14/2017\)](#)

[SENATE FY2018 Energy & Water Development Appropriations Bill Advances \(7/20/17\)](#)

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Senate Committee on Appropriations today approved the [FY2018 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill](#), a measure to fund the nation’s priorities for energy development, research, and water infrastructure requirements. The measure provides \$38.4 billion to fund U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) programs, critical infrastructure projects administered by the Army Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation, and related agencies. The bill is \$629 million above the FY2017 enacted level and \$4.1 billion above the President’s request. It was approved 30-1.

Report Language [HERE](#):

USACE, WIIN (Page 18): Aquatic Plant Control Program — Of the funding recommended for the Aquatic Plant Control Program, \$5,000,000 shall be for nationwide research and development to address invasive aquatic plants. The Committee encourages the Corps to support cost-shared aquatic plant management programs. The funding recommendation includes \$6,000,000 for watercraft inspection stations, early detection monitoring, and rapid response as authorized by section 1178(b) of the WIIN Act. Within this amount, the Corps is also directed to undertake control of the **flowering rush**.

[Note: This is the first time that Flowering Rush has been included in the WIIN/WRDA appropriation. If FY 2016, funds were only appropriated to support the CRB Watercraft Inspection stations, in FY 2017 monitoring was added as an allowable expense, and in FY 2018 (so far) rapid response was added as an allowable expense in addition to Flowering Rush].

USACE, ASIAN CARP (Page 8): The Corps is directed to provide quarterly updates to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the progress and status of efforts to prevent the further spread of Asian carp as well as the location and density of carp populations, including the use of emergency procedures. The Corps shall collaborate with the U.S. Coast Guard, the State of Illinois, and members of the Asian Carp Regional Coordinating Committee to institute navigation protocols identified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to reduce the risk of vessels inadvertently carrying aquatic invasive species, including Asian carp, through the Electric Dispersal Barrier near Romeoville, Illinois and locks and dams in the Illinois River. The Committee directs the Corps to institute these navigation protocols within a year of enactment of this act. The Committee is aware that the Corps and other Federal and State agencies are conducting ongoing research on potential solutions.

USACE, Aquatic Invasive Species Dispersal Barrier, Champlain Canal (Page 13): The Corps is encouraged to consider the feasibility of a dispersal barrier to mitigate Champlain Canal as a vector for invasive species, as authorized in section 5146 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–114). (\$50,000)

USACE, Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal Dispersal Barrier, Illinois (Page 18): The issue of hydrologic separation should be fully studied by the Corps and vetted by the appropriate congressional authorizing committees and specifically enacted into law. No funds provided in this act may be used for construction of hydrologic separation measures. (\$16.7 million)

Related articles:

[Durbin Pushes for Release of Plan to Keep Asian Carp Out of Great Lakes \(7/21/2017\)](#)

[Stabenow Applauds Action Requiring Release of Study to Stop Asian Carp \(7/20/2017\)](#)

NOW WHAT: It is unlikely a FY 2018 budget will be finalized before the end of the fiscal year on September 30. A continuing resolution seems likely to extend funding for agencies at FY 2017 levels to avoid a government shutdown. You may recall that the FY 2017 budget was not finalized until May 2017, seven months into the fiscal year.

TRAININGS, WEBINARS, CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

Events: Webinars, Trainings, Conferences and Meetings

[Symposium: Gene Drive Modified Organisms and Practical Considerations for Environmental Risk Assessments \(7/19/2017\)](#) PDF available, recorded presentation available soon

AUGUST

[ABS Webinar: MEPC 71 Outcomes & Industry Impact](#), Wed, Aug 2, 2017 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM PDT, Thomas Kirk, Director, Environmental Performance, will present on the latest news from the 71st IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) meeting, which concluded a short time before this webinar. The latest information on the Ballast Water Management Convention and an update on ballast water treatment technologies and installation challenges will be discussed, as well as select air emission topics.

[6th annual Invasive Species Cook-off](#) The Invasive Species Cook-Off will be held Saturday, August 19th from 4:30-8:30pm in Corvallis, OR. This annual party and fundraiser has live music, local libations, Getaway Raffle packages, kids' activities and more. It's a contest where you can use invasive species as an ingredient in a dish to share!

[Delta Invasive Species Symposium](#) - UC Davis August 29, 2017 Presentations will explore tools and actions being developed to meet today's management needs as well as to prepare for future challenges. The symposium will also explore our understanding of how habitats can be managed to encourage native and deter invasive species and how social science can be better integrated into invasive species management. Lunch will be provided for registered attendees during a poster session in the middle of the day. [Register here](#).

SEPTEMBER

[EMAPI 2017 - 14th International Conference on Ecology and Management of Alien Plant Invasions: Syntheses, challenges and new opportunities \(link is external\)](#) Date: Sep 04, 2017 to Sep 08, 2017, Location: Lisbon, Portugal.

[Western Regional Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species](#): September 13-15, 2017 – San Diego, CA The WRP will hold their 2017 Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA on September 13-15 at the Horton Grand Hotel. California Department of Fish and Wildlife and California State Lands Commission host the meeting. [Register here](#)

[“What is the State of our Pacific Northwest Unionids?”](#) at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center, The Dalles, OR, September 19th-20th, 2017. Hosted by EcoAnalysts, Inc., this two-day event is focused on the biology, ecology, cultural significance, and conservation of freshwater mussels in the Pacific Northwest. The workshop will include lectures on freshwater mussels, presentations of local mussel work, and a panel discussion chaired by local experts to answer questions and lead discussion. The workshop will also include a special seminar on mussel

survey methods taught by Heidi Dunn of Ecological Specialists, Inc., including a day-long field demonstration of mussel habitats and survey methods. [Register here](#)

[Oregon Invasive Species Council Meeting – Clackamas ODFW Field Office, OR September 20](#)

[Washington Invasive Species Council Meeting](#). September 21, 2017 Olympia, [Natural Resources Building](#) Room 172

[BWMTech North America](#). 26 - 28 September 2017 Trump International Beach Resort, Miami. Are you operating to international standards? Clarify regulations. Plan BWMS integration. Prevent operational failure. [Agenda here](#).

[18th Ballast Water Management Summit will be held in Singapore on 27-28 September 2017](#). The event will provide essential, expert guidance to shipowner/operators on how to prepare for and manage the BWT Systems in terms of selection, installation and technical operations, as well as advice on compliance, PSC and regulation once the convention is in place. The conference will also address Type Approval and system excellences for the BWT System Manufacturers.

OCTOBER

[International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species \(ICAIS\) - October 22-26, 2017 – Fort Lauderdale, Florida](#): Early Registration (*before September 1, 2017*). **Preliminary program available [here](#)**

NOVEMBER

Note: The next meeting of the 100th Meridian Initiative -[Columbia River Basin Team](#) will occur in November/December in the Portland Metro area. A “Hold the Date” announcement will be sent out on this listserv in the near future.

[State of Lake Michigan \(SOLM\) Conference](#) is Nov. 6-10 at the Hyatt Regency in Green Bay, Wisconsin. An informal opening reception will be held on the evening of Nov. 6, all workshops and presentations will be Nov. 7-10, with the conference ending midday on Friday, Nov. 10.

[North American Lake Management Society \(NALMS\) 2017 International Symposium](#), Westminster, Colorado. November 6–9, 2017.

DECEMBER

[Oregon Invasive Species Council Meeting – Salem, OR December 6th](#)

[Innovations in Invasive Species Management Conference](#): We invite you to join us for the first Innovations in Invasive Species Management Conference and Workshop to be held in Nashville, TN December 13-15th, 2017 at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel.

[Washington Invasive Species Council Meeting](#) December 14, 2017 Olympia, [Natural Resources Building](#) Room 172

JANUARY

[Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference](#) January 28-31, 2018 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The theme of the meeting is "Strengthening Natural Resources Through Collaboration."

FEBRUARY

MARCH

[National Shellfisheries Association 110th Annual Meeting](#), March 18-22, 2018. Renaissance Hotel, Seattle Washington, USA. Special European Green Crab Session. **Call for abstracts due December 17, 2017.** Contact: Sylvia Yamada yamadas@science.oregonstate.edu or Thomas Therriault, thomas.therriault@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

APRIL

[2018 Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference](#) Ecosystem Recovery in a Transboundary System. April 4th-6th, at the Washington State Convention Center in Seattle, Washington.

TO UNSUBSCRIBE/SUBSCRIBE to the *AIS NEWS* email sphillips@psmfc.org
AIS NEWS was compiled by Stephen Phillips and Robyn Draheim
Past issues of *AIS NEWS* can be found @ <http://www.westernais.org/> under the "News" tab.