MN DNR to Inject Potash into Christmas Lake to Fight Invasive Species (12/15/14)

A lake in Shorewood will be the first in Minnesota to be injected with potash to combat invasive species. The Environmental Protection Agency recently approved the use of liquid potash to eradicate zebra and quagga mussels in Christmas Lake and Lake Independence. Liquid potash, or potassium chloride, has only been used in the U.S. three times. Congressman Erik Paulsen, who sent a letter to the EPA requesting permission to use potash, says results indicate it killed off 100 percent of the infestation. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources says officials will test out the potassium mix Friday on Christmas Lake. Zebra mussels were discovered in a small area of the lake in August. The species has the potential to produce up to 500,000 eggs per year, threatening the lake's eco system.

DNR officials have already pumped Zequanox, a non-chemical treatment, and copper into a section of the lake with positive results. However, Zequanox is less effective in cooler water, officials say……..

RELATED: Potassium Chloride; Receipt of Application for Emergency Exemption; Solicitation of Public Comment (comment period ends 12/26/14)
EPA has received a quarantine exemption request from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture to use the chemical potassium chloride to treat Christmas Lake and Lake Independence in Hennepin County, Minnesota to control zebra mussels and quagga mussels. The applicant proposes the use of a new chemical which has not been registered by EPA. EPA is soliciting public comments about this notice and treatment program.

Pipe-clogging zebra mussels a growing concern in Maryland (12/15/14)
Invasive zebra mussels — the bane of water systems and power plants in the Great Lakes area — appear to be proliferating in the lower Susquehanna River and the upper Chesapeake Bay, just a couple years after they were first spotted there……

**Flathead Lake Biological Station video on mussels**

The Flathead Lake Biological Station, MT has put together an informative video to let people know about the threat of Zebra/Quagga Mussels and their eDNA testing for zebra/quagga mussels and eurasian watermilfoil. For further information contact Tom Bansak tom.bansak@flbs.umt.edu

**Canada: Feds trying to keep out invasive mussels with proposed new regulations (12/5/14)**

Kelowna – They may be small but they pose a threat to the Okanagan. The Okanagan Basin Water Board has long been warning that zebra and quagga mussels could have a significant negative impact on the environment, infrastructure and the local economy if they are introduced. Now the federal government is looking at imposing new regulations to try and keep them out. Two Okanagan MPs were in Kelowna today announcing the federal government’s plans for proposed new regulations aimed at preventing the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species nationally…..

**RELATED STORIES**

Opinion, Dan Albas, Member of Parliament for Okanagan-Coquihalla, BC (12/12/14)

Opinion: New measures now proposed to fight aquatic invasive species (12/15/14)

To see the “Proposed Regulations Fisheries and Oceans, Dept. of Fisheries Act” go to Canada Gazette -- Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations

**SDGF&P is researching ways to slow spread of mussels (12/12/14)**

FORT PIERRE, SD — Two state fishery officials said Friday there hasn't been any further evidence of quagga mussels and zebra mussels in South Dakota waters since two initial incidents in recent months at Angostura reservoir and Lewis and Clark reservoir……

**RELATED: Yankton Eyes Mussel Threat (12/15/14)**

**Heftier fines coming for Manitoba zebra mussel scofflaws (12/3/14)**

Increased powers for enforcement officers and heftier fines are the likely result of proposed provincial legislation aimed to control the spread of zebra mussels in Lake Winnipeg.
The importance of understanding the interactions of invasive species and native species
(12/15/14)

The effect of invasive species on native species can be profound, yet very little is known
about the complex interaction between the invaders and the native species, or, perhaps
more importantly, between multiple invaders and native species. In a research paper
"Complex replacement of invasive congeners may relax impact on native species: interactions
among zebra, quagga, and native unionid mussels," lead author Lyubov E. Burlakova, research
scientist with the Great Lakes Center discusses the importance of understanding those
interactions. The study was published online in PLOS ONE on December 9, 2014 and can be
found HERE.

Great Lakes: Salmon crowned king, but its reign is wobbly (12/7/14)

…… It turned out the alewives were not only being decimated by far more salmon in the
lake than anyone realized. They also were struggling due to an infestation of zebra and
quagga mussels. There are now trillions of the penny-sized mussels smothering the lake
bottom, each of which can filter up to a liter of water per day, stripping away the
nutrients that alewives depend on……..

Great Lakes: Manitoulin Island commercial fisheries battle zebra mussels, wind (12/15/14)

……"The zebra mussels cleaned the lake up so much and now there's more algae
growing, and there's just different organisms growing, and it gets in the webbing and it's
just so heavy, like grass, and moss and slime, it'll take the web right out of the line," said
Ross Herbert of Herbert Fisheries……..

First record of quagga mussel Dreissena rostriformis bugensis from Mexico (12/10/14)

The freshwater mussel Dreissena rostriformis bugensis has been identified as an invader
on different continents. Here, we report the first record of quagga mussel species in
México. We detected quagga mussels in El Carrizo reservoir in the Mexican state of Baja
California on July 12, 2014. Additional studies in both regions indicated that this species
is spreading in the Colorado River basin. However, no specimens were detected in the
sites examined in the Mexican portion of the Colorado River Basin. Further sampling is
required to assess the invasion area.

BOAT INSPECTION NEWS

Zebra mussels found on boat from U.S. at Alberta border (12/15/14)
Agents at the Coutts border crossing between Montana and Alberta have intercepted another watercraft with a zebra mussel infestation.…

Aquatic Invasive Species Summit sponsored by ABYC

The ABYC's Aquatic Invasive Species Summit (AIS) is intended to engage major stakeholders in an in-depth dialogue surrounding inspection and decontamination of boats to prevent invasives spread. This event will focus on identifying and vetting opportunities related to boat design and construction, component/system design and installation, engine and propulsion systems, and trailer design and construction. Stakeholders are encouraged to attend and participate. Location: South Point Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada

The Brunswick Room; Dates: Tuesday, January 27 and Wednesday, January 28, 2015; Time: 8:00am - 5:00pm. Online registration is available until: 1/5/2015. Register »

FOLLOWING THE ABYC MEETING: “Building Consensus – Model Regulations Kick-off Meeting”. There will be a “Building Consensus” meeting in Las Vegas on January 29, 2015 (Laguna Room, South Point Hotel & Casino; 8:00 am – 5:00 pm). The Building Consensus Planning Committee is taking advantage of the ABYC boat summit to hold an in-person kick-off meeting for the model regulation for state watercraft inspection and decontamination programs work to be undertaken next year. All the state AIS coordinators have been invited, as well as a few Assistant Attorneys General who were active in the model law working group. There will be other opportunities in the coming months to participate in the process. Space for this meeting is limited, if you are interested in attending please contact Stephanie Showalter Otts sshowalt@olemiss.edu ASAP.

Report: Lake Whatcom, WA boat inspections keep pace with busy season (12/15/14)

BELLINGHAM — Boat inspectors looking for invasive mussels and other potentially harmful plants and animals checked almost 8,000 boats this season at Lake Whatcom and Lake Samish, more than double the number from 2013.....

More detailed results from the 2014 boating season, including the 2014 annual report, can be found HERE

County boaters advised to get mussel prevention stickers for 2015 (12/10/14)

LAKE COUNTY, Calif. – It's time to celebrate a quagga/zebra mussel-free Lake County by purchasing 2015 Lake County resident stickers for vessels....

MARINE

Getting here is more than half the battle for invasive species, UWindsor study finds (12/14/15)
Foreign species hoping to survive a trans-oceanic voyage prefer the fastest route from port to port, a new study by a UWindsor researcher has found. Farrah Chan, a biologist at the Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research, has determined that shipping routes matter to stowaways in the holds of vessels.

EPA hosting a webinar 1/7/15 to discuss the Annual Report requirements of the 2013 Vessel General Permit (VGP)

When: Wednesday, January 7, 2015 from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm EST. This webinar will describe:
- Who is required to submit annual reports under the 2013 VGP,
- How to register or update registration to use the new annual reporting module of EPA’s electronic reporting system (eNOI),
- What information is required to be submitted in the annual report,
- How to submit single or multiple (i.e., batch) annual reports, and
- Where to go for help with submitting these reports.

Time will be allotted during the webinar for EPA to respond to questions posed by participants. To participate in this webinar, please go to https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/616753794 to register in advance. There is no charge to register or participate. If you cannot participate, a recording of the webinar will be accessible from our VGP website at: http://water.epa.gov/polwaste/npdes/vessels/Vessel-General-Permit.cfm.

Scientists prepare for another wave of tsunami debris, possible invasives (12/8/14)

NEWPORT, Ore. – Scientists monitoring incoming tsunami debris were taken aback last spring when some 30 fishing vessels from Japan washed ashore along the Pacific Northwest coast – many of them covered in living organisms indigenous to Asia. Incidence of wayward skiffs and other tsunami debris subsequently declined sharply over the summer because of seasonal shifts in the winds. Now, those winds and currents have returned to their winter-spring pattern and scientists are expecting more items to wash ashore – even though it is nearing four years since a massive earthquake and tsunami shook Japan. Blue mussels have been found on literally every boat that has washed ashore and some 200 different species overall have been documented on tsunami debris, according to John Chapman, an Oregon State University marine invasive species specialist at OSU’s Hatfield Marine Science Center.

ICS Changes Position on Ratification by Governments of IMO Ballast Water Management Convention (12/17/14)

The global trade association for merchant shipowners, the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS), has modified its stance towards the ratification by governments of the
International Maritime Organization (IMO) Ballast Water Management Convention, which has still not yet entered into force having been adopted more than 10 years ago…. 

2014 in Review: Ballast Water Treatment Monitoring (12/5/14)

The 2004 IMO Ballast Water Management Convention has inched closer to entry into force over 2014. Japan and Turkey were among those states to ratify, and one or two of the major flags (e.g. Italy, UK, Singapore, China, Hong Kong, Bahamas, Malta, Greece, Cyprus) would be enough to end the 10 year wait. Equipment manufacturers, at least, hope 2015 will be the year. Around 60,000 ships worldwide are expected to have to install ballast water treatment systems in the next five to seven years to comply with the convention. As shipowners are faced with the challenges of a convention that is growing in complexity with time, so are innovators seeing opportunities to help…. 

WEEDS

Invasive noxious weeds impact Oregon economy (12/10/14)

Scotch broom and Armenian blackberries might be costing the Oregon agricultural industry $79.6 million…. 

The report “Economic Impact From Selected Noxious Weeds in Oregon” can be found HERE.

Biological Weed Control Research Update (December 2014)

Biological weed control research is a long process. Typically, agents are studied for 5-10 years before the researchers submit a petition to APHIS’s Technical Advisory Group on the Biological Control of Weeds (TAG)….See December 2014: Biocontrol research update.

Australia: Detector Dogs To Join War On Weeds (12/8/14)

Weed Eradication Detector Dogs will be deployed across the State in an effort to step up the fight against invasive plants in NSW, Minister for Primary Industries, Katrina Hodgkinson, has announced. 

Publication on Biological Control Available

New resource for biological control of terrestrial weeds and includes purple loosestrife (riparian). A joint effort from US Forest Service and the Univ. of Idaho. Available at: http://www.ibiocontrol.org/westernweeds.pdf [Thanks Celestine Duncan]
FISH

Invasive loach on the loose in Central Valley (12/15/14)

While invasive species are now commonplace in California, each new introduction of a non-native species can pose unknown threats to an already fragile ecosystem. Wildlife officials are now on alert after reports…

BC Salmon farmers will spend $1.5 million to study interactions with wild fish (12/14/15)

Industry will appoint independent researchers to look at disease transmission, migration routes …..

Valuation of Extent, Causes and Cost of European Fish Farm Escape (12/9/14)

As part of an EU funded 7th Framework project, Prevent Escape, a programme of research was undertaken by Dave Jackson et al, The Marine Institute, Ireland, to document the extent, size and knowledge of the causes of escapes from marine fin fish farms in Europe over a three year period………..

NOAA - lionfish prevention & management plan (12/12/14)

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) seeks comments on the draft National Invasive Lionfish Prevention and Management Plan. Comments must be received by 26 January 2015.

See Draft National Invasive Lionfish Prevention and Management Plan and Federal Register Notice

Non-Native Walleye Numbers Double In Clark Fork Delta In Three Years, Elimination Not Possible (12/5/14)

A newcomer is establishing itself in northern Idaho. Walleye, a staple of the midwestern United States, have not historically been a part of the northern Idaho landscape. They have found their way into area waters fairly recently. Lake Pend Oreille, well known for its kokanee, Kamloops rainbow trout, bull trout and cutthroat is now also home to a growing walleye population. Walleye were illegally introduced into the Clark Fork River, upstream in Montana. They gradually worked their way downstream into Idaho and were detected in Lake Pend Oreille and the Pend Oreille River around 2004-2006….

Comments sought: Brandon Road alternatives to prevent aquatic inter-basin transfer of ANS between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River watersheds.
As a next step in the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS), the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) has directed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to proceed with a formal evaluation of potential aquatic nuisance species (ANS) control technologies. The GLMRIS - Brandon Road effort will assess the viability of establishing a single point to control the one-way, upstream transfer of aquatic nuisance species from the Mississippi River basin into the Great Lakes basin near the Brandon Road Lock and Dam located in Joliet, Illinois. Comments must be postmarked by January 16, 2015.

OTHER

Governor signs executive action combating invasive species in Montana (12/4/14)

HELENA -- Whether plants or animals, invasive species are a major concern throughout the West. Thursday, Governor Steve Bullock signed an executive order to help the state tackle the problem….

Press Release [HERE] and Executive Order [HERE]

Alberta Water Council: Aquatic Invasive Species Stakeholder and Jurisdictional Review Project Team

The Aquatic Invasive Species Stakeholder and Jurisdictional Review Project Team was formed in June 2013 after the Council approved a terms of reference for a project to identify gaps and opportunities for improving awareness, communication and coordination of activities by stakeholders in Alberta that are working to prevent and manage the threats of aquatic invasive species. This work will include a review of other jurisdictions’ prevention and management strategies; how their stakeholders are working together to achieve shared outcomes and how these strategies can be adapted or improved for Alberta.

The Aquatic Invasive Species project team engaged consultants to prepare a report that informed the team in developing their final report and recommendations. It should be understood that this report was developed for the sole purpose of informing the AIS project team. This report is for information only and contain no recommendations. The Council does not make any statement or judgment around the quality of this report. Posting this report on this website is consistent with the Council's process guidelines. The report, dated 10/31/14, can be found [HERE] [Thanks Kate Wilson]

Wetlands Face More Invaders With Climate Change (12/10/14)

Invasive species are becoming more and more of a problem, especially as climate change warms parts of the Northern Hemisphere, making regions more habitable for invaders. This is particularly true for wetlands, a new study finds, where changing temperatures are tipping the scales in favor of nonnative plant species. The study, published in the journal Ecological Applications, details how factors like changing surface-water temperature,
rainfall patterns, and river flow is contributing to the rise of invasive species like
Japanese knotweed, hydrilla, honeysuckle, and privet…

Invasive Snails Killing Great Lake Birds (12/17/14)

To add to the list of factors wreaking havoc on the polluted Great Lakes, an invasive snail
species carrying parasites is killing some aquatic birds in the region, and spreading fast,
according to reports. Over the last three years, researchers with 10 different universities
and the US Environmental Protection Agency have spotted faucet snails - *Bithynia
tentaculata* - in various new locations. It was found in sites in all five Great Lakes, which
is more widespread than scientists initially thought.

USGS Amps up Environmental DNA Research With New DNA Machine (12/17/14)

GAINESVILLE, Fla.—The U.S. Geological Survey Southeast Ecological Science Center
has acquired a state-of-the-art genetic analysis machine that will help advance
environmental DNA research efforts. The use of environmental DNA, or eDNA, could
assist resource managers nationwide conserve imperiled species and improve control
efforts of invasive species……

How Wildlife Professionals are Battling Amphibian Declines (12/8/14)

A parasitic fungus, similar to the one that caused the extinction of numerous tropical frog
and toad species, is killing salamanders in Europe. Scientists first identified the fungus,
*Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans*, in 2013 as the culprit behind the death of fire
salamanders (*Salamandra salamandra*) in the Netherlands (*Martel et al. 2013*) and are
now exploring its potential impact to other species. Although the fungus, which kills the
amphibians by infecting their skin, has not yet spread to the United States, researchers
believe it’s only a matter of time before it does and, when that happens, the impact on
salamander populations could be devastating (*Martel et al. 2014*).

‘Where Do Camels Belong?’ explores invasive species (10/4/14)

Invasive species are the outlaws of the ecological world. They move in and muck up
ecosystems, sap natural resources and muscle out respectable natives. The U.S.
government spends billions of dollars each year to combat these rowdy aliens, and yet
they keep on coming.

RELATED STORY: [HERE](#)

**JOBS/RFPs**

**Coordinator: Oregon Invasive Species Council**
The Oregon Invasive Species Council is currently advertising for a Coordinator position to help cooperative efforts at preventing and controlling damaging invasive species in the state of Oregon. The 17-member OISC was created in 2001 and has had many successful campaigns in eliminating or mitigating invasive species. For more on the Council, please visit www.oregoninvasivespeciescouncil.org.

Interested parties must apply for the contract using the Oregon Procurement Information Network (ORPIN System) at http://orpin.oregon.gov/ and click “Browse”, “Browse Opportunities” then “By Organization” and then “Agriculture, Department of”. The RFP number is #603-1392-14. All questions, requests for clarification, and protests pertaining to this RFP, including the technical requirements, contractual requirements, and the procurement process, must be directed to the Single Point of Contact identified as:

Zaida Zuniga, OPBC
Procurement Specialist
635 Capitol Street NE
Salem, OR  97301
503-986-4612
zzuniga@oda.state.or.us

CLOSE DATE: January 13, 2015; 2:00 pm (PST)

Terrestrial Invasive Species Project Coordinator, Keene Valley New York (The Nature Conservancy)

To apply to position number 42690, submit resume and cover letter as one document. All applications must be submitted in the system prior to 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on January 14, 2015.

FY15 Marine Debris Prevention through Education and Outreach Grant Opportunity (12/8/14)

The NOAA Marine Debris Program is proud to announce our annual “Marine Debris Prevention through Education and Outreach” Federal Funding Opportunity. The NOAA MDP seeks to fund projects that will lead to the prevention of marine debris in marine and coastal environments through the implementation of dedicated education and outreach activities. Projects awarded through this grant competition are expected to educate the public about marine debris through proposals including, but not limited to:

- encouraging changes in behavior to reduce and address marine debris;
- developing and implementing activities to reduce and prevent marine debris working with students, teachers, industries, and the public, and,
• engaging the public in active, personal participation (e.g. a small-scale shoreline cleanup with students or other hands-on activities, etc.).

Typical project awards will range from $30,000 – $75,000. NOAA will NOT accept proposals with a budget less than $15,000 or more than $100,000 under this solicitation. The anticipated number of awards ranges from five to twelve. To download the official Federal Funding Opportunity along with complete eligibility requirements, please visit Grants Online by clicking here: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=270188

**Deadline:** The deadline for applications to this funding opportunity is January 15, 2015. Applications must be submitted online via http://www.grants.gov.

**Resources:** For further guidance and applicant assistance with this Federal Funding Opportunity, visit our MDP Funding: Applicant and Grantee Resources Page: http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/about-our-program/applicant-resources

2014 Algae Technology Research Grant

**Fluid Imaging Technologies is pleased to announce the Algae Technology Research Grant.** Graduate students and senior undergraduates enrolled at a North American college or university who are studying advanced uses of algae for biofuels, plastics, nutraceuticals or other commercial applications are encouraged to apply for the use of a FlowCAM® to support their research. **Proposals are due December 31, 2014.** The award winner will be announced by January 15. All proposals will be reviewed by a panel of up to four independent scientists each having experience with use of the FlowCAM. The grant winner should plan on starting the project in February or March.

Also see 2015 Student Equipment & Travel Grant (Proposals are due March 31, 2015)

**WDFW accepting applications for ALEA volunteer grants**

OLYMPIA – The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is accepting grant applications through Feb. 28, 2015 for volunteer projects that benefit fish and wildlife. WDFW currently expects from $1.1 to $1.36 million to be available for these grants, funded through the state’s Aquatic Land Enhancement Account (ALEA), beginning July 1, 2015. Five major types of projects are funded through the program, although others may be considered. These project types include habitat restoration, scientific research/citizen science, public education, facility development and artificial fish production. Eligible applicants are individual citizens, non-profit organizations, schools (including universities), tribes and political subdivisions of the state such as conservation districts. For-profit businesses, and state and federal agencies are not eligible.
Interested persons can apply at http://alea.fluidreview.com. For more information, visit the ALEA Grant Program website at http://wdfw.wa.gov/grants/alea. The application packet must be submitted by 11:59 pm on February 28, 2015.

TRAININGS/WEBINARS

Webinar: Key next steps in developing a regional defense against invasive dreissenid mussels.

The Pacific NorthWest Economic Region is hosting a webinar on Wednesday, January 21, from 9am to 12:00 pm Pacific Time to take key next steps in developing a regional defense against invasive dreissenid mussels.

WHEN: Wednesday, January 21, 2015; 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Pacific

The webinar will feature:
- Information on efforts to date to prevent an introduction, including the efforts of numerous working groups and consortiums
- Identify existing gaps
- Identify sticking points - what are states/provinces unable or unwilling to do (e.g., nighttime inspection stations)
- Identify existing programs and their costs
- Identify best management practices
- Identify existing elements of draft framework and obtain input for moving forward

REGISTER TODAY: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2048737971067800578

Great Lakes “Invasive Mussel Collaborative” Webinar Online

Information from the December 1 webinar is available as follows:

Click here to view the webinar recording.
Click here to download the overview presentation

LEGISLATION/FEDERAL ACTIONS/BUDGET

[Note: The 113th finished its session on 12/16/14, legislation that was not passed by this date will need to be reintroduced in the 114th Congress which begins 1/6/15]

Great Lakes bills introduced on aquatic invasive species (12/12/14)
Representative Camp (R-MI) introduced a bill (H.R. 5861) to control the spread of aquatic invasive species between the Great Lakes basin and the Mississippi River basin, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available, but Representative Camp issued a press release explaining the measure (12/11/14). Information on Senate companion Senator introduced by Senator Stabenow (D-MI) (S. 3002) can be found @press release

The Great Lakes will benefit but Chicago canal, ballast water remain concerns (12/13/14)

The Great Lakes and the states that rely on them for their livelihood and recreation received some good news last week: The budget hammered out in Congress contains $300 million for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative for 2015, which provides funding for projects aimed at restoring and protecting the lakes. Milwaukee and Wisconsin have benefited from the initiative, and will continue to do so.

Omnibus Spending Bill for fiscal year 2015

Below is report language related to Quagga/Zebra funding and policies from the FY 2015 Federal Appropriations Bill (A.K.A. “Cromnibus”)

DIVISION F -DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

Quagga and Zebra Mussel Control -

The Committees remain concerned about the rapid spread of quagga and zebra mussels in the West. The Secretary of the Interior is directed to develop and continue to update, using the best available science, minimum protocols and training techniques for Federal, State, local, and private entities, a consistent standard of inspection and decontamination of recreational watercraft and equipment, as prescribed in the February 2010 Quagga/Zebra Mussel Action Plan for Western U.S. Waters. Further, the Service is directed to provide no less than $2,000,000 for quagga and zebra mussel containment, prevention, and enforcement and prioritize the decontamination of watercraft and equipment leaving the watersheds of contaminated bodies, including Lake Powell and Lake Mead. Lastly, the Service is directed to report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, on steps taken to address this pervasive threat to western watersheds. [Page 15]
Zebra and Quagga Mussels.-The Corps has completed, is working on, and intends to initiate additional invasive mussel vulnerability assessments at numerous federal dams in the Pacific Northwest. The Corps is encouraged to continue these efforts.

[Page 58]

Zebra and Quagga Mussels.-Reclamation has completed, is working on, and intends to initiate additional invasive mussel vulnerability assessments at numerous federal dams in the Pacific Northwest. Reclamation is encouraged to continue these efforts.

[Page 72]

Sen. Murkowski: “CRomnibus” Government Spending Bill Includes Funding for Alaska’s Fisheries, Arctic Navigation, Tsunami Debris Protection (12/10/14)

Both houses of Congress on [12/10/14] Wednesday passed a Coast Guard bill that includes a three-year moratorium on vessel discharge regulations for boats 79 feet and smaller. The bill now goes to the president’s desk for his signature. If the moratorium hadn’t passed, Alaska’s fishing fleet would have had to comply with new regulations the industry claims are unworkable….

Finally!!!: Congress Gives Fishermen 3-Year Reprieve from EPA Regs (12/10/15)

Both houses of Congress on [12/10/14] Wednesday passed a Coast Guard bill that includes a three-year moratorium on vessel discharge regulations for boats 79 feet and smaller. The bill now goes to the president’s desk for his signature. If the moratorium hadn’t passed, Alaska’s fishing fleet would have had to comply with new regulations the industry claims are unworkable….

Chairman Rogers Announces Appropriations Subcommittee Chairs for the 114th Congress (11/20/14)

MEETINGS

2015

JANUARY

The first-ever Alberta Aquatic Invasive Species Summit will be held in Calgary January 14-15, 2015. We’ll capture the accomplishments to date, discuss emerging technologies, hear from neighbouring jurisdictions, receive program evaluation and recommendations from an expert panel, and more! Space is limited so an RSVP REQUIRED by November 1, 2014. Please RSVP as soon as possible to Tanya Rushcall: Tanya.Rushcall@gov.ab.ca or call (780) 644-4647.
FEBRUARY

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

MARCH/APRIL

2015 WAPMS Conference Information: The 34th annual Western Aquatic Plant Management Society conference will be held at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Portland, OR on March 30 – April 1, 2015. Visit the Conference Info page for more information on registering, submitting titles and abstracts, and hotel reservations. To submit a title and abstract, please visit www.wssaabstracts.com

SEPTEMBER

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

************NOTE****

The PSMFC has upgraded and moved our AIS website. The new website can be found at http://www.westernais.org/
TO UNSUBSCRIBE/SUBSCRIBE to the AIS NEWS email sphillips@psmfc.org

Past issues of AIS NEWS can be found @ http://www.westernais.org/ under “News” tab.