**AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES NEWS**

4/3/17

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**DREISSENID MUSSELS**


…An infestation of zebra mussels has been discovered in a tunnel leading away from Walthamshow Reservoirs in London, clogging up the waterway…


Over the past two months, Montana’s mussel response program has evolved from an emergency incident command system to a fully integrated joint implementation team led by FWP and the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. This “Situation Report” chronicles recent accomplishments and remaining challenges confronting Montana’s effort to contain, detect and prevent the spread of invasive mussels to other areas.

Related Articles:
Mussel meetings set for next week around southwest Montana (3/30/2017)
[Montana] CSKT team taking aim at invasive species (3/20/17)

The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes is taking aim at invasive species. The CSKT Natural Resources Department has set up a technical team of scientists and managers to focus primarily on the potential risk of aquatic invasive species in Flathead Lake… The AIS Technical Team has scheduled two community meetings in order to help anglers and boaters enhance their understanding of the recent findings of mussels -- and the risk they pose to Flathead Lake…

Related Articles:
Flathead Tribes Plan All-out War Against Spread Of Invasive Mussels (3/29/2017)


Motorized boats and trailered watercraft will not be allowed to operate in Glacier Park this summer. Faced with the threat of harmful invasive mussels that could infest pristine lakes and rivers, the National Park Service is only allowing hand-propelled watercraft, such as kayaks, canoes and paddleboards, on the water in Glacier National Park this year.

[Canada] $3 million added to war on mussels (3/30/2017)

The campaign to keep invasive mussels out of B.C. lakes is getting a $3-million boost. Premier Christy Clark announced Thursday in West Kelowna that the money will help pay for two new inspection stations, longer inspection hours, more inspectors and a mussel-sniffing dog. The province hopes to stop boats that may be carrying zebra and quagga mussels before they enter local lakes.

Related Article: 2017 RBC Blue Water Project donates $10,000 for the prevention of aquatic invasive species (3/21/17)


… Cahuma Lake visitors struggle with the county’s extreme management practices. Boats are quarantined, inspected and banded, meaning that boaters cannot freely visit various lakes. This management practice just doesn’t fit with our recreational habits. People like to visit different lakes, especially bass fisherfolk who become masters at picking up tactics and baits and learning the nuances of fishing each of our reservoirs within their striking distance…

[Washington] Study: Basin Efforts to Detect Non-Native Mussels Must Increase, Improve To Prevent Costly Invasion (3/22/2017)

The study looked at detection efforts in three Columbia River and one Snake River reservoir during 2011 to 2014 to determine if the efforts to detect the mussels
(dreissenids) were sufficient, finding that current efforts need to increase significantly if the goal is to eradicate and quarantine the mussels before they spread.


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**BOAT INSPECTION/DECON/TECH NEWS**

**[California]** Boaters should brace for stepped up quagga mussel inspections (3/28/31)

Boaters visiting either Lake Piru or Castaic Lake this summer should make time to have their boats inspected both coming and going as lake staffers intensify efforts to stop the spread of quagga mussels…

**[Wyoming]** Help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species and protect Wyoming’s waters (3/27/2017)

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department is offering trainings for members of the public to become a certified Wyoming Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) inspector. These trainings will provide the skills necessary to inspect personally-owned and other’s watercraft..

**Idaho invasive species check station intercepts infested boat (3/21/17)**

…It's only the first week of spring and Idaho highway check stations already have intercepted three boats fouled with invasive species. The latest was an especially serious potential threat to the region's waterways. The mussel-fouled watercraft was intercepted Monday at the US 93 inspection station near Twin Falls. The Idaho State Department of Agriculture’s Invasive Species Program reports today that the watercraft was is under quarantine at the Twin Falls County Sheriff’s Office…

Related article: Idaho fighting back against invasive species (3/22/17)

**[Montana]** FWP opens two ramps on Canyon Ferry for weekend boating (3/24/2017)

Boaters heading to Canyon Ferry Reservoir this weekend will find two open ramps with decontamination stations. With ice still covering some of the reservoir, the boat ramp at the Silos on the southwestern part of the reservoir, and the Shannon Boat Ramp on the north end, will be open for use with decontamination stations set up on site...

Related Articles:

Boating rules in place for Tiber, Canyon Ferry reservoirs (3/26/2017)
[Colorado] Boating is underway in many Colorado lakes and reservoirs; some changes expected due to reduced funding for watercraft inspection stations to prevent invasive species (3/29/2017)

As ice comes off the lakes and reservoirs, many opened to boating on March 1 and several more will follow in April and May. Colorado Parks and Wildlife has coordinated a successful mandatory inspection and decontamination program statewide since 2008 to protect boating and angling, natural resources and infrastructure from harmful invasive species such as zebra and quagga mussels. Boaters can expect changes to the program this year due to a lack of funding to implement the program while the state searches for long-term solutions to maintain protection.

Related Article:
Grand County’s Three Lakes region left vulnerable to invasive species (3/23/2017)
Funding cuts could mean changes to boating rules (3/30/2017)


Conservation dogs from Canada sniffed out invasive species on the shores of Lake Powell. The international cooperation aims to prevent the spread of aquatic mussels this week.

[Canada] Parks Canada has issued a ban against all motorized boats, and boats hauled by trailer, from Waterton Lakes National Park in response to a potential threat of zebra mussel (3/20/17)

Effective March 16, the Environment Canada issued a ban on all motorized boats and boats hauled by trailer from Waterton Lakes National Park, located in southern Alberta. The ban came in response to the discovery of zebra mussel larvae in a Montana lake 30 kilometres southwest of the park…

[Canada] Group wants pre-emptive measures from province to prevent zebra mussel invasion (3/20/17)

…Last summer, Saskatchewan's environment minister said the province was cracking down on boats which may be travelling to the province with unsavoury critters clinging to them. He also said conservation officers in Saskatchewan are trained to inspect boats for invasive species such as zebra mussels, and have two mobile decontamination units…

MARINE

[Alaska] Tons of trash from across the ocean is fouling Alaska national park beaches (3/21/2017)

Trash adrift in the world's oceans can travel great distances and wash up on some unexpected sites, including protected and supposedly pristine national parks in Alaska. Now an analysis of debris collected from beaches of five Alaska national parks is
revealing clues about the sources of the garbage, some of them very far away and some others very close to home…

**From entanglement to invasions of alien species—the harm caused by marine litter (3/17/17)**

…The invasion of our waters by non-indigenous species is one of the greatest drivers of biodiversity loss, posing a threat to the integrity and functioning of ecosystems. Marine litter can act as an enabler of this loss: non-indigenous invasive species often use litter in the ocean as a habitat in which to hide, as a platform on which to settle or as a transport medium for moving into new territories…

**[Alaska] Program targets potentially damaging invasive crab (3/27/2017)**

…There is one species of crab that is on the way to Alaska, or may be here already, but it’s not one that anyone wants to see. The European Green Crab is an invasive species that has been working its way up the West Coast for a while now…

**BALLAST WATER/BIOFOULING**

**IOPP decoupling threatens BWM installation schedule (3/29/2017)**

Some flag states are allowing ship owners to separate their International Oil Pollution Prevention (IOPP) certificate from the harmonised system of survey and certification (HSSC). As the IMO’s BWM Convention requires installation of a compliant system by the date of the first IOPP survey after entry into force (on September 8), bringing forward the survey to before entry into force would enable operators to postpone compliance by up to five years, to the date of the next survey.

**Successful project to address marine bio-invasions concludes (3/27/2017)**

A decade-long project to promote implementation of an international treaty stemming the transfer of potentially invasive species in ships’ ballast water has reached a successful conclusion at a meeting of stakeholders from Governments, industry and UN bodies.

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) has been executing the GloBallast Partnerships Programme in collaboration with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The project was launched in 2007 after an initial 4-year phase and has been assisting developing countries to reduce the transfer of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens in ships’ ballast water and implement the IMO Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention…

**[New Zealand] DL Marigold's Hull Being Cleaned Offshore (3/22/2017)**
The bulk carrier DL Marigold was ordered from both New Zealand and Fijian waters earlier this month for being an invasive species threat. The vessel’s hull is now being cleaned by a team of divers from New Zealand in international waters off Fiji…

Related Article: Banned vessel allowed to return after cleaning (3/29/2017)

Ships Struggle To Battle Invasive Species as Global Trade Surges (3/20/17)

In the battle against invasive species, giant commercial ships are fighting on the front lines. But even when they follow the rules, one of their best weapons is coming up short, marine biologists from the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) discovered in a new study published in *PLOS ONE* March 20…


Ballast Water Treatment: A ‘Sample’ of What to Expect Next (3/18/17)

…The ratification of the IMO ballast water convention has been followed in short order by the U.S. Coast Guard’s approval of not one, but three OEM BWT systems. A fourth is in the pipeline. A new bill inching its way through the federal legislative process – the so-called C VIDA bill – promises to unite all domestic regulatory oversight into a single entity. Separately, and according to ABS Regional VP Michael Michaud, it is possible if not very likely that as many as 12 BWT systems in total could be approved by the end of the year…

A Measure of Certainty (3/23/17)

The U.S. Coast Guard has finally issued its first type-approvals for ballast water treatment systems: Time for the industry to step up. Over 85 percent of all marine ecosystems are infested with invasive species, and as world trade grows there are more and more opportunities for marine life to travel. Some harbors report an astonishing rate of colonization: San Francisco Bay is already home to 250 invasive species, and it adds a few more every year…

FISH

Gillnetting ramps up to curb northern pike in Columbia River (4/2/17)

The front lines in the battle against non-native northern pike invading the Columbia River have moved to the Kettle Falls area of Lake Roosevelt. Gillnetting that started last year after the confirmation of northern pike spawning at the mouths of the Kettle and Colville
rivers has shifted from survey mode to suppression, said Holly McLellan, fisheries biologist for the Colville Tribe….

How Asian carp could soon take over the Great Lakes — and how they could be stopped (3/22/2017)

On a brisk November day in 1963, a station wagon pulled up to the brown brick federal research lab in eastern Arkansas loaded with a radical new weed killer… The station wagon's tailgate was dropped and three cardboard boxes, each with two white arrows pointing up, were hauled through the lab doors. The label on the boxes from Malaysia told the handlers that this was not just another toxic chemical compound whipped up in a lab. It read: "Live Fish."…

Excerpt from The Death and Life of the Great Lakes by Dan Egan. 2017.

A tale of two fish: DNR reports first silver carp capture on St. Croix (3/27/2017)

… Last week the Minnesota DNR confirmed the first capture of the invasive silver carp on the St. Croix River, near the Mississippi. A commercial angler caught the carp near Prescott, Wis., during proactive monitoring in partnership with the DNR. The fish was 33 inches long and weighed 13 pounds….

USGS and Partners Team Up to Track Down Nonnative and Invasive Fishes in South Florida (3/29/2017)

U.S. Geological Survey scientists teamed up with government, nonprofit, and university partners in South Florida’s Big Cypress National Preserve to hold a scientific scavenger hunt for nonnative and invasive freshwater fish species. Thirteen nonnative fish species were collected, including two not seen before on the Preserve: Nile tilapia and brown hoplo, also known as armored catfish. Last week’s Bio Blitz-like event, known as Fish Slam, marks the first nonnative fish survey in the Preserve in almost 15 years. Using canals and rivers like highways, nonnative fish in areas like the Everglades, Tampa Bay, and Naples may have an easy route into the Preserve, one of the most pristine parts of the region…

AQUACULTURE

[Canada] Local perch species clean sea lice from salmon, research finds (4/2/17)

Two local species of Pacific perch are showing aptitude as “cleaner fish” for salmon aquaculture, which could reduce the need for chemical treatments of sea lice on ocean-
based fish farms. Preliminary trials in 2016 showed that both kelp perch and pile perch can clean lice from infested salmon…

OTHER

2017 California Invasive Species Youth Art Contest Kicks Off with “Don’t Let it Loose” Theme

Young artists and future biologists are invited to enter this year’s California Invasive Species Art Contest, sponsored by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). This year’s theme is “Don’t Let it Loose!” Submissions must be received by May 5th…

Scientific Publications:


We illustrate the utility of expert elicitation, explicit recognition of uncertainty, and the value of information for directing management and research efforts for invasive species, using tegu lizards (Salvator merianae) in southern Florida as a case study.

WEEDS

[Canada] B.C. government provides $232,000 to fight invasive species (3/30/2017)

The B.C. government is providing a total of $232,000 to two local organizations to help manage invasive plants in the Cariboo region, Cariboo-Chilcotin MLA Donna Barnett announced today…

TRAININGS/Webinars/Conferences

Archived Talk (The Wildlife Society): Partnerships Produce Success in Dealing with Invasive Species

Presenter: Scott Cameron, Reduce Risk from Invasive Species Coalition: Invasive species are too frequently and inaccurately viewed as insurmountable problems once established on a landscape or in a watershed. In fact, there are a significant number of success stories across the United States in a variety of ecosystems infected with different types of invasive species that prove that invasive species can be very successfully managed. These successes provide lessons that can empower federal, state and local governments, along with nongovernmental partners and researchers, to yield similarly positive results in combatting invasive species. In this talk, Scott Cameron describes some of the most
successful efforts, and derives a set of principles from those efforts that can be applied by partners more generally to successfully deal with invasive species.

**JOBS/GRANTS**

**Invasive Species Technician – Idaho Department of Agriculture**

**Open March 29, 2017 - April 12, 2017**  
Announcement # 07024085375  
Salary Range: $14.64 per hour - Plus Competitive Benefits!  
Location(s): Idaho Falls  
The Idaho State Department of Agriculture is currently recruiting for a Technician 3 in the Plant Industries Division in Idaho Falls. This position plans, organizes, and coordinates technical activities for multiple hydrilla and invasive projects and programs; estimates equipment, materials, and manpower; establishes schedules and priorities and evaluates equipment and materials for adequacy, availability, and serviceability.

[Idaho] Two exciting job opportunities with The Freshwater Trust

Riparian Project Manager - Permanent/ Full-time. Boise and surrounding area. Riparian Project Manager will: 1) lead on irrigation and weed management at the Bayha Island Research Project (May - October); and 2) support the design, implementation, and monitoring of riparian restoration projects in the middle Snake, Weiser basins and elsewhere in Southern Idaho/Eastern Oregon as needed. **Closes May 1st**

Vegetation Maintenance Technician - Temporary. Bayha Island. Technician will support irrigation and weed management from May - October 31, 2017. All work will be field based. **Closes May 1st**


**Closing Date: May 12, 2017**  
Estimated Total Program Funding: $940,000  
Award Ceiling: $600,000  
Award Floor: $1,000  
This Request for Proposals (RFP) will fund proposals in four principal areas towards the fulfillment of the top priorities in the Quagga/Zebra Mussel Action Plan for Western U.S. Waters (QZAP):

1. Limiting the spread of invasive mussels through containment, especially by inspection and decontamination of watercraft moving from invaded water bodies to jurisdictions currently free of dreissenid mussels, and the coordination between states or other jurisdictions to this end;  
2. Limiting the spread of invasive mussels through containment by increasing compliance with state and tribal laws;
3. Increasing the effectiveness of outreach and education efforts to help advance prevention efforts;
4. Conducting Research consistent with the highest priorities of the 2015 Dreissenid Mussel Research Priorities Workshop which also benefit the priorities 1-3 listed above and the QZAP. Information regarding the 2015 Dreissenid Mussel Research Priorities Workshop can be found online at 
http://pdxscholar.library.pdx.edu/centerforlakes_pub/49/
http://www.starrranch.org/internships.html#three

**Long Island Invasive Species Management Area (LIISMA)**

Location: Port Jefferson, New York  
Website: [http://www.liisma.org](http://www.liisma.org)  
**Closes April 17, 2017**

Category: Botany, Ecology, Education, Marine Biology, Non-Profit Development, Restoration, Wetland, Wildlife

Position summary: The LIISMA Outreach Coordinator will be responsible for implementing invasive species education outreach and removal activities. The candidate will provide leadership and technical support in the development, management, and advancement of invasive species programming for the Long Island region including Staten Island. The LIISMA Outreach Coordinator will develop and support volunteer, internship, and fellowship programs. Activities may include, but are not limited to: developing and disseminating educational materials related to invasive species; organizing and assisting with volunteer field efforts; developing and implementing citizen science activities; developing and implementing community training workshops, outreach events and activities; conducting grant writing; and utilizing social media.

**Institute for Applied Ecology: Communications and Fundraising Coordinator**

Office Location: Corvallis, Oregon  
Status: Regular, full time  
Compensation: $17-20/hr depending on experience, plus a competitive benefits package  
**Closing date: April 7, 2017.** Preference will be given to applicants who can start by May 15 or earlier  

Position Summary: We seek a full-time Communications and Fundraising Coordinator to facilitate the forward-facing and fundraising functions of our organization. The Communications and Fundraising Coordinator will support and report to the Assistant Executive Director and will work closely with the Executive Director, as well as program staff and the Board of Directors. We are looking for an individual with a strong background in ecology and our mission themes, as well as experience and/or training in communications and fundraising. The position will not have supervisory responsibility.`
FEDERAL/STATE/PROVINCIAL/ LEGISLATION, RULES, ACTIONS

STATE

[Montana] Bill would produce revenue for Montana invasive species account (3/24/2017)

…Senate Bill 363 would require out-of-state owners of watercraft to buy two decals in order to operate on waters in the state, one verifying the vessel passed an inspection and the other a registration decal. Those funds would be deposited in the state’s invasive species account to be used on prevention and control… The bill also seeks to charge hydroelectric facilities a $1 invasive species fee for every 2,500 kilowatt hour produced. Full text of SB 363 here

Related articles:
Senate panel advances bill to fund invasive species work (3/24/2017)
Legislature considering new taxes, fees to raise $11 million to combat invasive mussels in Montana (3/26/2017)
Balancing the costs of battling aquatic invasive species (4/1/17)

[Montana] Lawmakers considering soda tax to fund parks, invasive species battle (3/24/2017)

One lawmaker has proposed imposing a tax on soda as a way to raise money for the state’s parks system and state efforts to combat aquatic invasive species. Rep. Bridget Smith, D-Wolf Point, is the sponsor of House Bill 607, which the House Taxation committee held a hearing on Thursday morning. The bill would charge soda bottlers and importers 5 cents for each bottle or can packaged or imported into Montana. Full Text of HB 607 here

Idaho ag department gets 11 percent budget hike (3/31/17)

The Idaho State Department of Agriculture’s fiscal year 2018 budget will increase $4.9 million. Most of the additional funding will be used to increase efforts to prevent quagga mussels from reaching Idaho waterways…

CONGRESS

Lawmakers Hope to Avert Government Shutdown (3/29/17)

After weeks of partisan fighting over health care and the Supreme Court, lawmakers have less than one month to come together and avert a government shutdown. Government funding for the 2017 fiscal year expires on April 28, five days after lawmakers return to the nation’s capital after a two-week recess. But negotiations appear to be moving forward. “So far things are working out pretty well,” Senate Minority Leader Charles E. Schumer said at his weekly press conference. “We’re working well with our Republican colleagues as we have in the past.” …

Senators Form Bipartisan Alliance to Address Marine Debris Crisis (3/29/17)
WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Senators Dan Sullivan (R-AK), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) and Cory Booker (D-NJ) today introduced S. 756, the bipartisan Save our Seas (SOS) Act to help address the marine debris epidemic affecting America’s ocean shorelines and inland waterways, as well as other coasts across the globe. Senators Chris Coons (D-DE), Jim Inhofe (R-OK), Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Gary Peters (D-MI) and Thom Tillis (R-NC) have also co-sponsored the bill…

MEETINGS

APRIL

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

MAY

Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Task Force Meeting, Lake Tahoe, CA, May 2-4, 2017

Come 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.

Scotch Broom Ecology and Management Symposium

Date: May 23, 2017
Location: Snoqualmie, Washington
Registration: Free but pre-registration required, maximum capacity is 300 people.
Continuing Education Credits: six recertification credits from Washington State and Oregon State Pesticide Applicator Recertification Credits have been requested

AFS Western Division Meeting – Missoula, MT 5/22-25/2017. 5/24/17 there will be an invasive species day.

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
100th Meridian Initiative - Columbia River Basin Team Next Meeting – June 27 – 28, Helena, MT The next meeting of the 100th Meridian Initiative Columbia River Basin Team is scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday June 27 - 28 at Montana WILD, 2668 Broadwater Avenue, Helena, MT 59601, Phone: (406) 444-9944.

JULY


AUGUST

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!

SEPTEMBER

Western Regional Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species: September 12-15, 2017 – San Diego, CA Abstract submission underway. submit online, Deadline for abstract submission is April 29.

OCTOBER

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

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