Sea Creatures Still Arriving in the U.S. on Plastic Debris From the Japanese Tsunami Eight Years Ago (2/26/19)

The open ocean is essentially a marine desert. So far from shore, starved of nutrients like phosphorus (which enters the ocean as runoff from land), not much lives out on the open sea.

So when living animals started washing up along the coasts of the Pacific Northwest and California, clinging to plastic debris that was swept out to sea by the 2011 Japanese tsunami, 4,300 miles away, it raised a few eyebrows. And when the living animals—mostly shellfish and crustaceans, but also marine worms, sea stars, sponges and even fish—kept arriving year after year, it raised even more.

By February 2017, nearly 300 species of living organisms had made landfall on the shores of Washington, Oregon, California and Hawaii. Jim Carlton, professor of marine sciences at Williams College, and colleagues published a study that year in the journal Science documenting the castaways that had made the trip from Japan to North America.

Two years later, the animals are still arriving, Carlton said earlier this month at the American Association for the Advancement of Science annual meeting in Washington, D.C. Debris seems to wash up on the shore seasonally, and the most recent recorded sighting of a living animal—a tiny crab—was last July…
PUBLIC COMMENT

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District (Corps) is soliciting comments from the public regarding the scope of the Flowering Rush Control Programmatic Environmental Assessment. The Corps proposes to share costs for the control of flowering rush with non-federal sponsors participating in the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission in accordance with section 1039 of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 and Section 1178 of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act of 2016. The Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies budget also included $1,000,000 for the control of flowering rush (under the Aquatic Plant Control Program, as authorized by section 1039 of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014).

The programmatic EA would analyze potential environmental impacts resulting from the use of mechanical or chemical control measures of flowering rush in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana state waterways. Future potential treatment locations covered by this EA include invasion sites within the Upper Missouri and Columbia River watersheds.

The scoping period is open from March 6, 2019 until April 5, 2019. The Corps is particularly interested in the public’s opinion on treatment alternatives and environmental effects that should be considered. Scoping comments will be used in: 1) identifying issues to address; 2) exploring alternatives; and 3) identifying potential environmental effects of such alternatives.

Electronic comments may be filed directly online at: http://www.nww.usace.army.mil/EnvironmentalComplianceComment/ or emailed to NEPANWW@usace.army.mil, inserting “Flowering Rush EA” in the subject line. You may also mail comments to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District, ATTN: PPL-C, Flowering Rush EA, 201 North 3rd Avenue, Walla Walla, WA 99362-1876.

Public can comment on proposed changes to suction dredging rules

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is seeking public comments on proposed rules that would require people to obtain a standard state hydraulics permit to use a suction dredge to prospect for gold or other minerals in or near state waters. A suction dredge works by sucking up water, gravel, gold, and other minerals through a narrow hose and ejecting this material into a sluice box, which expels the gravel and retains the gold and other minerals.

Under the proposed rules, suction dredgers would be required to obtain a standard individual Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) permit and submit an annual report on their activities. Current regulations allow people to operate a suction dredge as long as they follow state rules for that activity outlined in WDFW’s Gold and Fish pamphlet.

Draft rules for the new permitting system are posted for public review on the department’s website at https://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/hpa/rulemaking/. WDFW will accept public comments submitted through 5 p.m. April 8 on that website, email (HPARules@dfw.wa.gov) or postal mail (P.O. Box 43200, Olympia, WA, 98504-3200, ATTN: HPA Rules).

The department drafted the new rules at the direction of the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission, which called on WDFW last April to develop new regulations that provide greater accountability for suction dredging throughout the state.

The commission, a nine-member panel appointed by the governor to set policy for WDFW, has scheduled a public hearing on the proposed rules during a meeting scheduled April 5-6 in
Olympia. (See schedule at [https://wdfw.wa.gov/commission/meetings.html](https://wdfw.wa.gov/commission/meetings.html)) The commission will consider comments received during that meeting, along with those submitted in writing, before taking action on a final proposal later in 2019.

Randi Thurston, WDFW Habitat Program Protection Division Manager, said the rules proposed by the department are designed to provide more information on when, where, and how much suction dredging occurs throughout the state.

“Questions have been raised about the scope of suction dredging in our state,” she said “The proposed changes to the application process and permit requirements will provide that information.”

To help prevent the spread of invasive species, the proposed rules also include new requirements for inspection and decontamination of dredging gear that is moved into and around the state, Thurston said.

Last July, Thurston and other WDFW program staff held four public meetings around the state to discuss the rule-making process with suction dredgers and other members of the public. The department considered comments received at those meetings and other discussions in developing the proposal that is now available for public review.

NEW SPECIES SIGHTINGS

DRESISSENIDS

OTHER AIS

[USGS] Newly Hatched Invasive Grass Carp Found in Maumee River, Ohio (3/6/19)

A genetic analysis conducted by the U.S. Geological Survey recently confirmed that larval, or newly hatched, fish collected from the Maumee River during the summer of 2018 are grass carp, one species of invasive Asian carps that threaten the Great Lakes. The Maumee River is a tributary to Lake Erie.

[Texas] *Nymphoides cristata* (crested floating-heart) was found in Montgomery, TX in a pond near Lake Cecil [USGS NAS Report]

[Washington] *Typha angustifolia* (narrow-leaved cattail) was found in Chelan, WA in Columbia River at Entiat Lake. [USGS NAS Report]

WATCH LIST

Be on the lookout for *Bacopa rotundifolia* along the Columbia River. Contact: Mark D. Sytsma (503) 307-6131 mark.sytsma@pdx.edu
DREISSENID MUSSELS

Video: Zebra mussel survey methods | Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC)

DOI Releases: Safeguarding The West Report
We're pleased to announce the Department of the Interior's (DOI) 2019 Safeguarding the West progress report. The report describes numerous activities led by DOI bureaus in cooperation with you and others to prevent, contain, and control zebra and quagga mussels in western waters. We greatly value the leadership and coordinating role WRP plays and look forward to continued collaboration to address invasive mussels and other aquatic invasive species.

NPS Recognized For Efforts to Contain Invasive Quagga Mussels (3/2/19)
Since 2017, the National Park Service has redoubled its efforts to work with states in the West to contain quagga mussels through the Safeguarding the West from Invasive Mussels initiative. These efforts have not gone unnoticed, and in early January 2019 the Colorado River Fish and Wildlife Council sent a letter to the Department of the Interior recognizing specific National Park Service staff and parks for their tireless efforts to try to control aquatic invasive species.

[Arkansas] Officials flex plan for zebra mussels (2/19/19)
Andy Anderson, chairman of the Ozark Mountain Regional Public Water Authority learned Thursday that the authority has been approved for an $892,000 Emergency Community Water Assistance grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)…Anderson says the zebra mussels had no significant effect until 2016, when the authority was spending $11,800 a month for electricity to run the pumps…This year, the average electric bill for those intake pumps has been $19,400. That’s after a 2018 operation when divers mechanically removed mussels that covered 90 percent of the intake ports’ surface area…Simple maintenance scraping is not going to solve the problem. Anderson says it will take a combination of measures. “We’ll remove the mussels that are attached inside the pipeline between the intake pumps and the treatment plant by ‘pigging’ the line (swabbing it out with a big tough brush) and cleaning any shells out of the 1.3 million gallon clarifier. “We’ll replace the stainless steel screens on the intake pump inlets with four zinc alloy screens. The mussels will not attach to the zinc alloy, so they won’t cover and block the inlet screens. “The larvae are so small they will pass through the intake screens, so we need to fight them with a chemical agent. The injection system at the intake pumps will feed Zequanox into the raw water.

[Arizona] Mystery of world record solved? (2/15/19)
5 years after world-record redear sunfish catch, invasive quagga mussels considered a likely contributor to monster sizes of these sunfish at Lake Havasu

[Texas] Boaters cautioned about zebra mussel infestation (2/14/19)
An invasive animal continues to wreak havoc on Central Texas lakes. Zebra mussels have continued to disrupt delicate ecosystems across the country. They were recently found in Belton Lake in September, but spring is a critical time for the species.
Related: [Only you can prevent . . . zebra mussels (2/16/19)]

[Texas] Permanent zebra mussel solution still 18 months out (2/22/19)
Austin Water is already working to slow the population of zebra mussels by using chemical retardants in its piping systems and raw water tunnels. However, due to the speed with which these bivalves reproduce, it is not enough, according to Mehrdad Morabbi, an operations manager for Austin Water, who addressed the Environmental Commission at their Feb. 20 meeting.
Related: [Smelly water continues to spread throughout Austin (2/13/19)]
[Austin Water to use copper, other solution to weaken, kill zebra mussels (2/28/19)]

BOAT INSPECTION/DECON/TECH NEWS

[Michigan] Some boaters ignore multiple messages to control invasive species (2/21/19)
Most boaters have heard that zebra mussels, round gobies, milfoil and other invasive species harm the environment. But that doesn’t convince everyone to do something about it, according to a new study by Loyola University in Chicago titled “Risk of invasive species spread by recreational boaters remains high despite widespread adoption of conservation behaviors.”

B.C. invasive mussel defence program inspected 38,000 boats last year (2/21/19)
The B.C. government’s Invasive Mussel Defence Program was busy last year performing 38,000 watercraft inspections. As part of the 38,000 inspections, the province issued 293 decontamination orders as well as 238, 30-day quarantine periods, according to a report of highlights from the February Okanagan Basin Water Board meeting. Mussels can live for up to 30 days out of water. Twenty-five watercraft were found to be carrying invasive mussels and three of those vessels were bound for Okanagan waters.

[Washington] Report highlights 2018 Boat Inspection Program results (2/14/19)
In 2018, [Lake Whatcom] conducted a total of 12,444 watercraft inspections at Lake Whatcom and Lake Samish. The inspected watercraft came from a total of 267 different water bodies in 29 different states or provinces prior to launching at Lake Whatcom or Lake Samish in 2018, including 14 mussel infested waters… The 2018 inspection results can be viewed using an interactive online [Story Map] that shows the last water body visited by boats entering Lake Whatcom and Lake Samish.
[British Columbia] Invasive crab spotted near Sooke (2/22/19)
While residents report spotting an invasive crab in Sooke, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) says they’re aware, but do not have enough data to know if we have an invasion in our waters.


BALLAST WATER/BIOFOULING

Ballast Water Treatment Systems (3/1/19)
If a vessel has been fitted with a US Coast Guard type-approved Ballast Water Treatment System (BWTS) in recent years, chances are likely that it was tested at the Golden Bear Research Facility. Created in partnership with California State University Maritime Academy and Moss Landing Maritime Laboratories, Golden Bear provides Type Approval testing of Ballast Water treatment systems for the US Coast Guard and the International Maritime Organization. And with the closure of two US test facilities in recent years, Golden Bear stands as the only BWTS test facility operating in the US.

Counting Down to Ballast Water Compliance (2/22/19)
This September, IMO ballast water management rules will begin to take effect for existing ships, and the countdown to compliance has begun. For an inside view into the state of the market, MarEx spoke with Bio-UV’s CEO, Benoit Gillmann, and Bio-Sea business director Xavier Deval. Bio-Sea is one of the few U.S. Coast Guard-approved, UV-based ballast water treatment systems.

Finally, clarity in the world of ballast water treatment (2/21/19)
…There are now 16 type-approved ballast water treatment systems. More are seeking approval, and the latest is Miura of Japan, which has applied for type-approval for its HK-S(E) ballast water treatment system. This brings the number of BWMS awaiting USCG approval to 11. By the end of 2019, there could be 27 type-approved BWMS, providing options for nearly every type of passenger craft operating in US waters.

Biofouling: Don’t panic! (2/20/19)
There is no need to panic about biofouling, ShipInsight’s conference heard last week from Dr Bev MacKenzie, technical and policy director at the Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST). Unlike ballast water, “there is no scientific evidence that biofouling species cause collapses in biodiversity or extinctions,” she said…

Return to top

The Ballast Water Management Convention or BWM Convention (full name International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships’ Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004) is a treaty adopted by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in order to help prevent the spread of potentially harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens in ships' ballast water. The Convention was adopted by consensus at a Diplomatic Conference held at IMO Headquarters in London on 13 February 2004 and it entered into force on the 8th of September 2017. This document is intended to provide guidance for a harmonised approach to ballast water sampling procedures, identifying best practice according to the different standards, D-1 and D-2 for ascertaining the compliance with the Ballast Water Convention

FISH

VIDEO: Introduced Mullet Taking Over Hawaii Estuaries (2/26/19)
Officials are concerned that an introduced Kanda mullet will take over Hawai‘i muliwai, pushing out the native ‘ama‘ama mullet.

Biologists seek to cleanse streams and repopulate endangered native Utah trout (2/22/19)
Biologists with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources along with the U.S. Forest Service are planning to treat the waters of the High Uinta mountains in order to cleanse them of nonnative fish and reintroduce Colorado River cutthroats, according to a recent news release. They hope that this will help combat concerns about the fish’s future and keep them from being listed as an endangered species. If the proposal is approved, the biologists will cleanse nonnative brook trout from four drainages on the South Slope of the Uinta Mountains between the years of 2022-2034.

Fish Food For Food Fish: More California Fish Introductions (3/4/19)
Once the introduction of non-native fishes began in California, both for food and for sport, it didn’t take long for managers to decide they needed to augment the forage available for the introduced species. Even the reservoir-anglers’ beloved kokanee, prized for its culinary quality, was sometimes stocked to serve as forage for larger trout! In the early days of fish introductions, when food and game fish were transported from east of the Rocky Mountains via railway car or other means, additional kinds of fish were frequently included in the shipments as forage to sustain the target species – often bass – during the journey.

Major fish recovery project in NE Washington and Idaho gives boost to cutthroat and bull trout (2/20/19)
When it’s finished, the project will rank among the largest native-fish recovery efforts in the country. The cost will exceed a half-billion dollars. The work includes complex projects such as a dam removal, to simple work such as dropping trees into creeks. The efforts are to re-create natural habitats resembling those that existed a century ago. Erosion is being controlled along forest roads. Non-native fish are being removed from
waterways. A fish ladder over a dam has been built. And a westslope cutthroat trout hatchery is being built.

Will Tench Be the Next Great Lakes Invasive-Species Problem? (2/14/19)
…“Tench has had this really varied success in invading the areas where it was introduced,” Avlijaš said. “Nobody really thought that tench was going to be increasing its population and spreading quite like it has over the past few years.”


AQUACULTURE

Minister: We may help BC salmon farms 'transition' (2/15/19)
Fisheries Minister Jonathan Wilkinson has made it clear that BC salmon farmers have the support of the federal government. He acknowledges that the costly transition from open net pens to more environmentally sound technologies comes at a high cost. “There may be levers we can pull to help close that gap in the same way that we did with solar and renewable energy over the past couple of decades,” said Wilkinson in an interview with the Vancouver Sun.

Related: Canada keen to support technology overhaul for salmon farms: fisheries minister (2/13/19)

WEEDS

[California] Hydrilla eradicated from Shasta County (2/26/19)
The California Department of Food and Agriculture, working in cooperation with the Shasta County Agricultural Commissioner’s Office, has eradicated two hydrilla infestations within the cities of Redding and Anderson, ending a quarantine that began on July 18, 1996. Hydrilla, an invasive aquatic weed, was last detected in Shasta County in 2006. CDFA and Shasta County used integrated pest management methods to eradicate these infestations, with the last treatment in 2011. The affected water systems had been surveyed bi-annually through 2017, with zero hydrilla finds.
Scientists say there's still time to save Minnesota from invasive wetland plant (2/27/19)
An invasive grass is spreading in wetlands across Minnesota, but scientists at the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center say there's still time to stop it in its tracks. They want the state to get serious about invasive phragmites, an invasive strain of a native wetland grass that grows faster, taller and thicker than its native cousin. "Invasive phragmites is sort of like native phragmites on steroids," said University of Minnesota professor Dan Larkin, a MAISRC scientist who studies aquatic ecology.

[British Columbia] Editorial: Invasive species a problem that didn’t need to be (2/15/19)
The Municipality of North Cowichan is currently trying to decide what to do about ever-creeping parrot’s feather that has invaded Somenos Creek and Somenos Lake. There is no easy answer to get rid of this noxious aquatic weed, whose stands are so thick that they kill other native species, and even block water flow. Don’t try to kayak or canoe through this stuff, either. It’s a problem that didn’t have to be one. That’s what’s so frustrating.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate Change and Invasive Species Introduction (3/1/19)
Building ecosystem resiliency on islands is a crucial aspect of protecting the biodiversity contained within these wild places from both climate change as well as invasive species. There have been many climate studies that have explored these topics in detail. In fact, a study demonstrates new approaches that are being used to better understand how invasive species might act in the wild in the face of climate change. [Study: Invasion triple trouble: environmental fluctuations, fluctuation-adapted invaders and fluctuation-mal-adapted communities all govern invasion success]

Study Says Climate Of North American Cities Will Shift Hundreds Of Miles In One Generation (2/15/19)
"We can use this technique to translate a future forecast into something we can better conceptualize and link to our own experiences," said Fitzpatrick. "It's my hope that people have that 'wow' moment, and it sinks in for the first time the scale of the changes we're expecting in a single generation." Search the interactive climate map for your location at http://www.umces.edu/futureurbanclimates

OTHER

Invasive Species Have Led to a Third of Animal Extinctions Since 1500 (3/4/19)
The introduction of invasive species has been the primary cause of plant and animal extinctions over the past 500 years, a new study from University College London's (UCL) Center for Biodiversity and Environment Research found.

Carp-Crete Makes Kentucky Debut in Eddyville (2/26/19)
The first ever use of the new carp product, Carp-Crete, was poured Tuesday afternoon in Eddyville. Carp-Crete is actually a concrete which has as an ingredient, Asian carp
fishmeal, as an admixture. The idea for such a product came about as James Nobles, an Illinois civil engineer, was working on an idea to use waste products for an engineering project, while at the same time developing a product that would be more friendly to the environment. The carp fishmeal is more friendly to the environment, compared with traditional admixture such as fly ash, which contains arsenic, lead, and mercury, which can be harmful to humans.

Grounded in the Rockies: Why Colorado remains only state with a ban on seaplanes (2/24/19)

In a state known for its love of outdoor recreation, there is one thing you’ve probably never seen in a Colorado lake: a seaplane. The Centennial State remains the only one in the country with a ban on seaplanes in state-controlled waters. The ban was instituted years ago, over concerns that Colorado rivers and lakes were becoming overcrowded and that more needed to be done to protect them from invasive species. However, local pilots say it’s time for a change.

[Montana] Researchers Awarded NASA Grant To Track Aquatic Invaders (2/16/19)

Stopping invasive species from destroying ecosystems and regional economies is among the world’s greatest challenges. Now, thanks to a grant from NASA, an investigative team of researchers at the University of Montana Flathead Lake Biological Station will launch a new project enabling officials to predict the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS) through remote sensing, genetic monitoring and climate forecasting.

Related: New DNA technology could prevent aquatic invasive species (2/26/19)

[Wyoming] Invasive Species Have Some States Seeking Increased Federal Partnership (2/15/19)

“As daunting as the task of managing invasive species can be, successful management is realistic and achievable through partnerships involving federal, state and county agencies; non-government organizations; land-grant universities; and, critically important, the private landowner,” said Slade Franklin, weed and pest state coordinator with the Wyoming Department of Agriculture.

Self-fertilizing invasive crayfish discovered in Denmark (2/15/19)

The government has really stepped up its battle against invasive species of late. From dominating crabs, wild boar and destructive raccoon dogs, Denmark has declared war on undesirable species that have somehow managed to find their way across the Danish borders. And now the authorities have a new enemy on their hands: the feared marbled crayfish – the only known decapod crustacean with the ability to reproduce through parthenogenesis, also known as self-fertilization. Until now, the marble crayfish has kept south of the Danish border, but in late January one was discovered in Karup Stream near Skive in Jutland.

2019 Land Manager’s Guide to Developing an Invasive Plant Management Plan

The Guide focuses on the process of invasive plant management planning and deciding how to focus limited invasive species management resources to gain the greatest conservation benefit. It is applicable at any scale and in any situation wherever invasive plant management is necessary. It is intended to promote a strategic and adaptive invasive plant management approach using the best available information and following the time-
tested principles of integrated pest management. The Guide does not address specific policies and regulations because these can differ widely across agencies and organizations. Rather, it informs a manager as to critical points in the planning process when policies and regulations should be considered.


### JOBS/GRANTS

#### JOBS

**Invasive Species Action Network** is hiring: This is a great job opening for someone who already has some well-developed skills and is ready to join a small but successful non-profit that has many opportunities on the horizon. You will enjoy interacting with leaders across the US while benefitting from a low-stress work environment. This position reports directly to the Executive Director and is expected to work as part of a team with opportunities for leadership. For further Information: Leah Elwell, Invasive Species Action Network, 215 E. Lewis St. Suite 202, Livingston, MT 59047 406-222-7270 leah@stopais.org.

NMDGF is hiring four seasonal AIS watercraft inspectors:

https://careers.share.state.nm.us/pse/hprd0/EMPLOYEE/HRMS/c/HRS_HRAM_FL/HRS_CG_SEARCH_FL.GBL?Page=HRS_APP_JBPST_FL&Action=U&SiteId=1&FOCUS=Applicant&JobOpeningId=104942&PostingSeq=1. **Posting End Date: 03/25/2019**

**Interdisciplinary Supervisory Biologist/Toxicologist/Chemist, GS-14 DOI-USGS**

**Closing date: 04/01/2019**

As an Interdisciplinary Supervisory Biologist/Toxicologist/Chemist within the Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center (UMESC), some of your specific duties will include:

- Directly communicates and coordinates directly with USGS Program Coordinators and Program Managers the funding requests to implement and conduct high-priority research
by Aquatic Ecosystems Health (AEH) scientists to meet the research needs of a range of DOI and other agency partners. Implements effective budget oversight, including distribution of appropriated funds to AEH scientists to ensure budget execution of a diverse appropriated and reimbursable-funded program; identifies, prioritizes and programs investments into future scientific capacity within AEH Branch, and approves requests for travel, overtime, within-grade increases, and expenditures above micro threshold limits. Identifies and defines problem areas and formulates/leaders interdisciplinary teams of AEH and other UMESC scientists and external partners in developing annual to multi-year science frameworks and research initiatives on large, complex interdisciplinary scales to address diverse questions related to the form, function and processes of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, and ecosystem restoration. Prepares issue papers and research proposals for new project starts and submits them for UMESC and, when appropriate, regional, mission area, and national approval and funding. Maintains close liaison and working relations with the scientific community and the administrators and professional personnel in DOI, USGS, and other Federal and State natural resources agencies.

Invasive Species Technicians- New York - Colorado State University's Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands (CSU CEMML)
Location: Fort Drum, NY Job Category: Temporary/Seasonal Positions
Salary: $15.49/hour Start Date: 06/03/2019 Last Date to Apply: 04/12/2019
Description: Technicians (3) will help identify and map invasive plant populations. They will also help treat historically known infestations. Mechanical, chemical, and biological treatments will be implemented to different invasive populations according to their size and location.

Montana Seasonal AIS Jobs Posted for the Monitoring and Early Detection Program:
Seasonal monitoring crews and lab aide positions posted: 
AIS Early Detection & Monitoring Technician- Eastern MT - (19140471) Closes 3/19/19
AIS Early Detection & Monitoring Technician- Region 2 & 3 - (19140472) Closes 3/19/19
Biological Lab Aide - (19140230) Closes 3/11/19

East Kootemay Invasive Species Council: Summer Jobs
Invasive Species Field Assistant (2 summer student positions) Closes March 20, 2019
Invasive Species Education Assistant (2 summer student positions) Closes March 20, 2019

Lake Tahoe Watercraft Inspection Program seasonal job announcements

Watercraft Inspection Program Outreach Specialist
$14.00 – $16.00 per hour April – October 2019
Tahoe Resource Conservation District is seeking an Outreach Specialist to facilitate the ongoing implementation of the Watercraft Inspection Program throughout the Lake Tahoe Basin. This is a full time seasonal position. See full job description HERE. Position open until filled.
Watercraft Inspection Program Service Technician
$15.00 – $21.00 per hour April – October 2019
Tahoe Resource Conservation District is seeking Service Technicians to facilitate the ongoing implementation of the Watercraft Inspection Program throughout the Lake Tahoe Basin. This is a full time seasonal position. See full job description HERE. Position open until filled.

Watercraft Inspection Program Public Information Specialist
$12.00 – $15.00 per hour April – October 2019
Tahoe Resource Conservation District is seeking a Public Information Specialist to facilitate the ongoing implementation of the Watercraft Inspection Program throughout the Lake Tahoe Basin. This is a full-time seasonal position. See full job description HERE. Position open until filled.

Watercraft Inspection Program Watercraft Inspector
$14.00 – $16.00 per hour April – October 2019
Tahoe Resource Conservation District is seeking Watercraft Inspectors to facilitate the ongoing implementation of the Watercraft Inspection Program throughout the Lake Tahoe Basin. This is a full-time seasonal position. See full job description HERE. Position open until filled.

The Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Board is hiring for their Coordinator position. This is a full-time position out of Kelso, Washington. [no posted closing date]

Job Duties
- Consults with Weed Board Members to determine boundaries and priorities of weed control projects. Coordinates agency, entity, and private landowner weed control policies and carries out policies established by State Law and the Weed Board.
- Monitor current programs and identify new issues to address and incorporate into the program.
- Provides consultation, weed identification, vegetation management recommendations and education on general weed control to public agencies and industries. Emphasis on safe, responsible use of herbicides to ensure the health of humans and the environment.
- Establishes and maintains working relationships with various city/county/state/federal agencies to achieve compliance with Weed Laws.
- Prepares monthly meeting agendas and progress reports (verbal or written) to inform Weed Board of program status.
- …
- Works closely with other County departments to set procedures for compliance of the weed law.
- Perform other duties or special projects as assigned by the Noxious Weed Control Board.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is hiring for the position of Aquatic Invasive Species Pathway and Plans Analyst. Please see additional information about the job and how to apply below, and forward this information to anyone who might be interested. The application deadline is March 18, 2019.

Job Summary: Aquatic Invasive Species Pathway and Plans Analyst
The anticipated dates for this temporary, full-time position are from April 2019 through April 2020. The position’s work days are Monday through Friday.
This position will support the work of the DNR’s invasive species program by (1) designing and implementing outreach and other projects to address live trade in aquatic invasive species; (2) coordinating western Lake Superior stakeholder meetings about response to newly detected nonnative aquatic species and ballast water; and (3) assisting in updating the DNR’s plans related to response and management of invasive species. This position will have the opportunity to identify, design and implement projects to help prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species in Minnesota. This position will require travel within Minnesota, including potential overnight travel.

Job ID: 30662
Job Class: Planner Intermediate
Working Title: Aquatic Invasive Species Pathway and Plans Analyst
Who May Apply: Open to all qualified job seekers
Date Posted: 03/04/2019
Closing Date: 03/18/2019
Hiring Agency/Seniority Unit: Department of Natural Resources
Division/Unit: Ecological and Water Resources
Bargaining Unit/Union: 214 - MAPE
Work Location: St. Paul, Central Office

To view more information and apply, visit http://www.mn.gov/careers, then:
1. Click Search for Jobs Now (for current State of Minnesota employees, access the careers portal through Employee Self Service)
2. On the Job Search page, enter the Job ID number (30662) in the Keywords search field and click Search.
3. Click on the Job Title to view the job posting.
4. If interested, click Apply.

GRANTS

The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the 2019 Quagga and Zebra Mussel Action Plan for Western Waters has opened for competition at grants.gov. Please follow this link for direct access 2019 QZAP NOFO. If you are unable to use this link you can search for F19AS00118 at grants.gov. The announcement will be open through April 27, 2019, at which time all projects will be evaluated for award. In an effort toward wide dissemination, please forward this email to all potentially interested parties. Please carefully read all requirements and application review process, as some things have changed again this year.

Montana Aquatic Invasive Species Grants – Call for Applications
The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) Reclamation and Development Grants (RDG) Program offers state-funded grants for the prevention and control of aquatic invasive species (AIS). The goal of the grants is to protect the natural resources of Montana from severe and unacceptable damage from aquatic invasive species.

Eligible Activities: Activities include but are not limited to aquatic invasive species: (1) outreach and education; (2) prevention; (3) surveying and monitoring; (4) control; (5) treatment demonstration, research or design; or (6) other related actions.

Who is Eligible: AIS grants are available to state, city, county, tribal governments, or other local government subdivisions within the state.
Applications due Thursday, March 28, 2019 by 5 p.m.

California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) will open the application window for the 2018/19 Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program in February 2019. To receive future QZ Grant notices, click here.

**NEW DATES:**

The application window for the 2018/19 Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program has been deferred to: April 2, 2019 - May 10, 2019

A Solicitation Notice containing additional information regarding the workshop date (expected in March 2019), the posting of the Guidelines and other pertinent grant documents, and the accessibility of the On-Line Grant (OLGA) Application system, will be sent prior to opening of the grant application window stated above. The Notice will also be posted on the DBW website.

Minimum Eligibility Requirements:
Grant applicant must own/manage any aspect of the water in a reservoir where recreational activities are permitted; Grant applicant must demonstrate that the reservoir is uninfested with dreissenid mussels; and the reservoir must be open to the public.

What’s New?
- SB 790 broadened the eligibility of implementation grants to entities that own or manage any aspect of the water in a reservoir.
- To demonstrate that the reservoir is uninfested, applicants must provide mussel monitoring data collected since March 2018. Monitoring data can be from surface surveys, artificial substrates, and plankton tows.

Tech prize encourages solutions to threats from invasive species:
- The second round of the Con X Tech Prize offers 20 awards of $3,500 each, plus the chance to win the $20,000 grand prize, to help beginning inventors develop their ideas for solving conservation problems into prototypes.
- The challenge particularly encourages interdisciplinary teams to generate technological ideas to address the threats to economies and ecosystems from invasive species, though it welcomes submissions to help other conservation challenges as well.
- Teams must submit their proposals by March 13, 2019 to the Conservation X Labs Digital Makerspace.

Through the Asian Carp Market Value Program (MVP), Illinois Department of Natural Resources offers grant funding for current Asian carp processors and product-makers to support development of new markets and sales opportunities for Asian carp products. MVP’s intent is to assist the State of Illinois in meeting invasive species management goals by encouraging demand for Asian carp through business growth. Up to $8,000 per applicant is available, to be matched 20% by the applicant for business travel expenses and attendance at trade shows and conferences associated with market development and sales of Asian carp products. (For an applicant to receive the maximum $8,000, the applicant must spend $10,000 on travel and/or trade show/conference-related costs, $8,000 of which must be for eligible expenses.) This funding is provided on a reimbursement basis, once the travel and/or event has occurred. For further
program information or to request an application, please contact the staff person below, or visit http://www.ifishillinois.org/

Gina Behnfeldt, VP Economic Development Services
Tetra Tech
One Oxford Valley, Suite 200 Langhorne, PA 19047
Direct: 215.702.4094; Cell: 215.584.3180 E-mail: mailto:gina.behnfeldt@tetratech.com

The Legislative- Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) welcomes proposals for projects of all sizes that address the priorities and requirements described within this RFP and that aim to protect, conserve, preserve, and enhance Minnesota’s air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources. The LCCMR reviews applications and makes funding recommendations to the Minnesota Legislature from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF). Approximately $53 million is anticipated to be available from the Trust Fund through this RFP for projects beginning July 1, 2020. Most projects funded are 2-3 years in duration. Applicants are encouraged to submit draft proposals by March 15, 2019 to receive staff feedback. Final proposals must be submitted online at www.lccmr.leg.mn by April 15, 2019.

Funding Priorities Include: Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species
"Invasive species" includes any plants, animals, worms, insects, microbes, and diseases that are non-native, introduced species in the state and that are currently having, or pose a threat to have, significant adverse impacts on Minnesota’s native ecosystems and biodiversity. All research proposals related to invasive species research must consider the research priorities established by the University of Minnesota’s (UMN) Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plant Center or Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Center. All UMN proposals and others should apply to the Centers when applicable.

FEDERAL/STATE/PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION, RULES, ACTIONS

Advocacy

National Invasive Species Awareness Week Celebrates 20th Anniversary: Kickoff Begins February 25 (2/24/19)

This year marks the 20th anniversary of National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW), an event focused on how to prevent and manage the devastating damage caused by unwanted, biological invaders. Originally founded by the Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) as National Invasive Weeds Awareness Week (NIWAW), the event was broadened to NISAW in 2010 to encompass all types of invasive species.

Great Lakes Conservation Coalition Formed To Help Stop Asian Carp (2/14/19)

Conservation organizations representing hunters and anglers in the Great Lakes region have joined together to create the Great Lakes Conservation Coalition in support of a plan to keep Asian carp out of the Great Lakes and remove them from existing waters they inhabit. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has proposed a plan to rebuild the Brandon
Road Lock and Dam, south of Chicago, to include multiple technologies to prevent Asian carp from invading the Great Lakes.
Related: More than 200 outdoor groups support Army Corps plan to block Asian carp (2/27/19)
Governor Whitmer responds to federal Asian carp prevention plan (2/28/19)
Illinois governor signals support for project to block Asian carp (3/5/19)

State/Province

NORTH DAKOTA

Outdoors bills linger, legislative discussions ahead (2/26/19)
In the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee no action was taken following testimony on SB 2293, a bill that proposes to fund an Aquatic Nuisance Species program to be operated by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department. During Friday’s testimony Game and Fish requested that some wording in the bill be changed and agreed to the concept of an ANS program, but did not take sides on the issue.

OREGON

Current invasive species related bills that have been introduced:

SB47: (Oregon State Marine Board) Requires person operating non-motorized boat to have waterway access permit.
SB445: (Senator Roblan) Revises membership of Invasive Species Council and reporting requirements. Appropriates moneys to council for specified purposes.

SB 445 revises membership, leadership and reporting requirements of the Oregon Invasive Species Council and provides funding necessary to accomplish baseline state-mandated responsibilities. If passed, these revisions will allow the OISC to successfully fulfill its statutory role by enhancing communication, representation, and capacity.

HB2062: (Oregon Department of Agriculture) Requires Invasive Species Council to biennially report to interim committee of Legislative Assembly.
HB2076: (Oregon State Marine Board) Requires boat operators to remove or open devices used to drain water from boat before transporting boat within the state.

WASHINGTON: House Bill 1579 Implementing recommendations of the southern resident killer whale task force related to increasing chinook abundance -- seeks to increase prey for endangered southern resident orcas, and would implement some of the recommendations made by the Southern Resident Orca Task Force.

HAWAII: House Bill 201 would change language in an existing law allowing access to private property upon which invasive species are known to exist. Lowen’s bill would expand that authority to include private lands on which invasive species can be “reasonably suspected” to exist “based on the results of systematic surveys or reports or proximity to known populations.”
MONTANA

Opinion: Rep. Curdy [Missoula] Renew funding to catch invasive aquatic species (2/20/19)

…With the help of my colleagues, I hope we can find a way to continue funding this program with a common-sense funding mechanism that doesn’t let the burden fall entirely on the shoulders of Montana taxpayers. In addition to extending this critical mussel detection program, the legislature will also ask the Department of Interior to take on their fair share of the work and ramp up inspections on boats leaving federally administered, mussel-infested reservoirs…

NOTE: From Stephanie Hester (MISC):

Here is your weekly update on the status of invasive species-related legislation. All hearings are open to the public, and interested persons are able to provide comment during the public comment portion of the hearing agenda. Written comments may also be submitted to the committee staff.

Please note that not all of these bill title requests are active and hearings may be rescheduled at any time. Visit the Montana State Legislature website for the most current information on bill status and hearing dates.

Click here for legislative updates from the Montana Association of Conservation Districts.

INTRODUCED BILLS

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**HB 608**  
LC3120 Joe Read (R) HD 93  
(H) Hearing -- (H) Natural Resources

**HJ 17**  
LC2023 Willis Curdy (D) HD 98  
(H) Transmitted to Senate

**SB 257**  
LC3062 Mike Cufte (R) SD 1  
(H) Referred to Committee -- (H) State Administration

**SJ 12**  
LC3108 Mike Cufte (R) SD 1  
(H) Hearing -- (H) Natural Resources

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**UNINTRODUCED BILLS**

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[To look up bill language go HERE]
Executive

Recreational Fishing and Boating Community and NOAA Sign Memorandum of Agreement
The MOA is intended to promote sustainable recreational fishing and boating in federal waters (2/15/19)

This morning, representatives from the recreational fishing and boating community, NOAA Fisheries and NOAA’s Office of National Marine Sanctuaries signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to develop and expand a framework of cooperation for planning and implementing mutually beneficial projects and activities to promote sustainable recreational fishing and boating conducted within federal marine waters, including national marine sanctuaries.

To read the full text of the agreement, click here.

Congressional

On Wednesday, February 27, 2019, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee’s Environment Subcommittee held a hearing titled “Sea Change: Impacts of Climate Change on Our Oceans and Coasts.”
Witnesses included: Dr. Sarah Cooley, Director, Ocean Acidification Program, Ocean Conservancy; Dr. Radley Horton, Lamont Associate Research Professor, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, Columbia University Earth Institute; Dr. Thomas K. Frazer, Professor and Director, School of Natural Resources and Environment, University of Florida; Ms. Margaret A. Pilaro, Executive Director, Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association. Hearing can be viewed here: https://science.house.gov/legislation/hearings/sea-change-impacts-climate-change-our-oceans-and-coasts

Representatives Young and Bonamici Introduce Legislation to Improve Ocean Data Collection (2/15/19)

Today, Congressman Don Young (AK-At Large) and Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici (OR-01), Co-Chairs of the Bipartisan House Oceans Caucus, introduced the Integrated Coastal Ocean Observing System (ICOOS) Act — legislation to improve data collection and information sharing between the federal agencies and coastal observation partners dedicated to monitoring oceans, coasts, and the Great Lakes.

Senators highlight threat from invasive species (2/13/19)

The hearing before the Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works touched on the hazards caused by invasive species and the potential role federal funding or policy could play to help states address those challenges. “Few issues are more bipartisan than the need to protect our communities from invasive species,” said Chairman John Barrasso (R-Wyo.). “They cause more than $120 billion of economic damage each year.” The hearing follows Senate passage of the Wildlife Innovation and Longevity Driver Act (WILD Act) [S. 268], a bill which promotes wildlife conservation, protects endangered species and helps to manage invasive species, such as Burmese python, cheatgrass and Asian carp. [The Invasive Species Threat: Protecting Wildlife, Public Health, and Infrastructure]
Related: Archived Hearing: The Invasive Species Threat: Protecting Wildlife, Public Health, and Infrastructure (2/13/19): Today, U.S. Senator John Barrasso (R-WY), chairman of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works (EPW), delivered the following remarks at a hearing titled “The Invasive Species Threat: Protecting Wildlife, Public Health, and Infrastructure.” The hearing featured testimony from Slade Franklin, weed and pest state coordinator for the Wyoming Department of Agriculture; Terry Steinwand, director of the North Dakota Fish and Game Department; and Joseph Rogerson, program manager for wildlife species conservation and research of the Delaware Division of Fish & Wildlife.

Senate committee examines threat of invasive species (2/20/19)

APPROPRIATIONS

Administration Presents President Trump’s Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Request (3/11/19)

The President’s Fiscal Year 2020 Budget will be available on OMB.gov/Budget.

Trump Signs FY 2019 Spending Bill and Emergency Declaration, Avoiding Shutdown and Granting Pay Raise (2/15/19)

President Trump on Friday signed into law a spending bill to avoid another partial government shutdown, ensuring full-year appropriations for all federal agencies.... The bill sets spending levels for the departments of Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, State, Interior, Agriculture, Treasury, Commerce, Homeland Security and Justice, as well as the Environmental Protection Agency, NASA, Office of Personnel Management and other independent agencies.

NOTE: For details on the appropriations package go to H.J.Res.31 - Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 and see H. Rept. 116-9 (Conference Report). Keep in mind the following statement in H. Rept. 116-9 (Page 706):

The joint explanatory statement accompanying this Act is approved and indicates congressional intent. Report language contained in House Report 115–765 [of HR 6147] and Senate Report 115–276 [of S 3073] providing specific guidance to agencies regarding the administration of appropriated funds and any corresponding reporting requirements carries the same emphasis as the language included in this explanatory statement and should be complied with unless specifically addressed to the contrary herein. This explanatory statement, while repeating some language for emphasis, is not intended to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein.

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AIS related language in both of the Senate and House reports is as follows:

**HOUSE**

**United States Fish and Wildlife Service**

Aquatic Invasive Species.--The recommendation includes $21,748,000, of which: $1,000,000 is to help States implement plans required by the National Invasive Species Act (NISA); $1,623,000 is for NISA coordination; $3,088,000 is to implement subsection 5(d)(2) of the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act; $10,400,000 is for controlling Asian carp in the Mississippi and Ohio River Basins and preventing them from entering and establishing in the Great Lakes; and $2,000,000 is to prevent the spread of quagga and zebra mussels in the West. Of the amount recommended for Asian carp control and prevention, $2,000,000 is to expand and perfect the combined use of contract fishing and deterrents to extirpate Asian carp, including grass carp, where already established, pursuant to individual State laws and regulations and as called for in management plans. Contract fishing has proven to be an extremely effective management tool and it is not meant to develop a sustainable commercial fishery. The Service shall continue to work with its State partners to gather data to analyze the impacts of contract fishing to control abundance and movement of Asian carp.

**National Park Service**

Aquatic Invasive Mussels.--The Committee remains concerned about the rapid spread of quagga and zebra mussels in the western United States. Regional coordination of prevention efforts and watercraft inspection programs is vital to protect western water bodies from invasive mussels. The Committee recognizes and commends the considerable effort and collaboration involving western governors, as well as Federal, State, and Tribal partners, to develop a package of actions and initiatives to protect areas in the West from the economic and ecological threats posed by invasive mussels.

The Committee directs the Secretary of the Interior, in cooperation with the Chief of the Forest Service, through the Secretary of Agriculture, and the U.S. Army Corps of engineers/Civil Works, to work with the Western Governors Association and individual western governors to develop a joint Federal/State incident command system that would allow for cooperative and rapid response to new detections of invasive mussels in the West. Such incident command system must address appropriate division of labor between Federal and State governments, identify pre-arranged mechanisms for the Federal/State partners to fund rapid response actions, and address in advance any necessary environmental compliance requirements that might be associated with a predictable range of rapid response actions. The Committee expects a report on the creation of such an incident command system within 180 days of enactment of this Act. Further, consistent with fiscal year 2018, the Committee provides the Service with $3,000,000 for quagga and zebra mussel containment, prevention, and enforcement. These funds complement
additional funds contained in this bill directed toward protecting our waterways and ecosystems from the serious threat of invasive mussels and other invasive species.

**United States Geological Survey**

The Committee continues to be concerned about the economic, ecologic, and health threats posed by invasive species. The recommendation includes $6,620,000 for Asian carp control, which includes $1,000,000 for research on Asian grass carp to contain or eradicate them. Additionally, the Committee recognizes that invasive species managers face continued challenges from ongoing invasions by wide-spread weed species, such as cheatgrass. These challenges can be confronted through development of new tools for ongoing management and early detection and rapid response efforts. The Committee recommends an additional $200,000 for such efforts.

**SENATE**

**Multi-Agency Directives**

*Invasive Species.*—The Committee recognizes the critical importance of early detection and rapid response [EDRR] of invasive species as a strategy to mitigate the threats and impacts of invasive species and expects the Department of the Interior and the Forest Service to prioritize EDRR and control of invasive species that imperil endangered, threatened, or candidate species. In particular, the Committee supports efforts to prioritize EDRR in areas with large populations of invasive species. Within 180 days of the date of enactment of this act, the agencies shall provide the Committee with a report on their efforts to prioritize EDRR as part of their expected program of work for fiscal year 2019, including detail on how the agencies plan to protect specific native species and natural resource values on public lands across the Nation.

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**

--Aquatic Invasive Species.--$22,348,000 is provided for aquatic invasive species activities, an increase of $600,000 above the fiscal year 2018 enacted level. Within these funds, $3,088,000 has been provided to implement section 5(d)(2) of the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act.

Asian Carp.--The Committee recognizes the importance of the work conducted by the Service to combat the serious threat of Asian carp and provides $11,000,000 for Asian carp activities, an increase of $600,000 above the enacted level. Funding should be used to control Asian carp in the Mississippi and Ohio River Basins--including in Kentucky Lake, Lake Barkley and the Ohio River--and to prevent them from entering and establishing in the Great Lakes. The Service should consider the utility of creating a dedicated funding source to increase the intensity and geographic scope of efforts to prevent entry into the Great Lakes.
Invasive Species.--The Committee is aware that work is ongoing in several regions to address the threats posed by aquatic invasive species and directs the Service to continue to make available competitive grant funding for projects to eliminate these destructive, non-native species, which include Asian carp, quagga-zebra mussels, and variable-leaf watermilfoil. The Committee encourages the Service to support research, monitoring, and mitigation efforts, as well as efforts to disseminate such work, in all regions.

**US Geological Survey**

The Committee also notes the grave ecological threats and public nuisance posed by many invasive species and directs the Survey to prioritize research, detection, and response efforts on invasive species with extremely high impacts on public lands and natural resources, including Burmese Pythons in the Florida Everglades and Big Cypress Swamp.


**Nearly $30 million in federal funds secured for Great Lakes (2/19/19)**

Despite so much political contention prior to its passage late last week, one area of the federal budget that received bipartisan support was for that of millions of dollars in funds set to go toward conservation efforts in the Great Lakes, which includes a significant focus on the health of Lake Erie. Among the appropriations in the federal budget passed in the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate on Thursday and signed into law by President Donald Trump on Friday was $29.4 million to expand conservation efforts across the Great Lakes region.

**TRAININGS, WEBINARS, CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS**

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**Events: Archived Materials**


**Glyphosate, Friend or Foe?**  
Wednesday, February 27, 2019 Jason Ferrell, Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants, University of Florida
Events: Webinars, Trainings, Conferences and Meetings

Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination Trainings

The Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission and its 100th Meridian Initiative partners are announcing and sponsoring several types of WIT Trainings.

ONLINE REGISTRATION IS OPEN for the following (NEW CLASSES IN RED)
May 8, 2019 - WIT I - Mission Viejo, CA  
May 9, 2019 - WIT I - Mission Viejo, CA

3/26 – 3/27, 2019 - Lake Mead - WIT II (Class is Full)
4/23 – 4/24, 2019 - Lake Mead - WIT II
April 9-10, 2019 - WIT II - Lake Sonoma, California
April 23-24, 2019 – WIT II – Lake Mead

Openings are limited!!! Availability will close when class becomes full.

TO REGISTER: Go to http://www.westernais.org for more information. There are different registrations for Advanced Decontamination and Trainer Training (WIT III) classes. Click on the training tab of class you are interested in attending and register on that page link. These trainings do cost money and it is important that we fill all available openings. Please try to make sure that when you sign up for the class that you can attend so that we don’t end up paying for empty seats that could be used by others. WIT III - https://www.westernais.org/level-3-trainer-training

If you are interested in Trainer Training, register on website and when enough qualified individuals register, will put another class together – Have a WIT III waiting list

QUESTIONS? Should you have any questions or would like to host a training, please contact WIT Trainer Quagga D Davis at (702) 236-3814 or quaggadee@cox.net

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MARCH

Montana Lakes Conference, March 13 -15, 2019. The Montana Lakes Conference will gather diverse resource professionals to exchange information, scientific advancements, and management strategies that promote clean and healthy lake and reservoir ecosystems.

Join Crab Team! Washington Sea Grant's Crab Team monitors are gearing up for the fourth full season of early detection and monitoring of invasive European green crab. The evidence collected by Crab Team volunteers and partners to date suggests that green crab have arrived in the Salish Sea, but still remain extremely rare. Intervention at this stage is the most critical for reducing harm by this globally-damaging invasive species, and an important piece of that plan is continued monitoring and early detection.
Crab Team could use a few new recruits to help reinforce existing monitoring teams. What is being a Crab Team member like? Read about our Boots in the Mud. To find out if an opportunity to join a team is available near you, contact us.
If all that sounds good, join us for a full day training workshop, and we'll provide everything you need to join a Crab Team crew and help protect Washington shorelines. We are holding three workshops in March for new volunteers (below), and you can attend whichever is most convenient for you. RSVP on the event page to register. Please note that if you have not previously monitored with Crab Team, you should attend one of these new volunteer training workshops listed here - rather than a "refresher training" - even if you have attended a workshop before. Contact mailto:crabteam@uw.edu with any questions.

- Tacoma March 18 @ 9:30 am - 3:30 pm
- Padilla Bay March 20 @ 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
- Port Townsend March 21 @ 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

**NAISMA WEBINAR:** March 20th at 1:00 pm CST:

Boot Brush Stations: Are they an Effective Tool for Preventing Invasive Species and Raising Awareness? Presented by Chris Evans, Extension Forester, University of Illinois. Boot brushes stations are a popular tool used to raise awareness about invasive species and reduce the spread and establishment of new infestations. This webinar will discuss the boot brush stations, review a cooperative program in southern Illinois that installed boot brushes throughout the region, and highlight research that investigated if these stations were actually effective at removing seeds.

The California State Parks’ Division of Boating and Waterways, California Coastal Commission's Boating Clean & Green Program, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service invite you to participate in our FREE Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention Workshops.

AIS pose serious threats to water delivery systems, hydroelectric facilities, agriculture, boating, fishing, and the environment. Recreational activities, including boating and fishing, can spread AIS from infested waters to uninfested waters. Therefore, everyone accessing waters should take simple actions to avoid spreading AIS each time they leave a waterbody.

**Yolo**  
Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 (You must register to attend by Monday, March 25)  
Time: 8:45 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. Location: 45211 County Rd 32B (Chiles Rd) Davis, CA 95618

To register, please contact Vivian Matuk at (415) 904-6905 or vmatuk@coastal.ca.gov

**Washington Invasive Species Council:** March 28, 2019, Olympia, Natural Resources Building Room 172.

**Washington Invasive Species and Exotic Pest Workshop**  
March 29, 2019 8:00 am – 3:15 pm Bellingham Ferry Terminal, Bellingham WA

April

The next meeting of the **Pacific Ballast Water Group** will be held April 2-3 in Vallejo, CA at Cal Maritime (California State University Maritime Academy, 200 Maritime Academy Drive; Vallejo, CA 94590) We anticipate the meeting starting at ~9:00 am on 4/2 and ending early/mid
afternoon 4/3. Registration and hotel information will be sent out shortly. Agenda ideas always welcome.

The Washington State Salmon Recovery Funding Board will hold its seventh biennial conference April 8-9, 2019 at the Greater Tacoma Convention Center in Tacoma, WA. Abstracts for presentations and posters are being accepted December 21, 2018 — January 31, 2019

**NAISMA WEBINAR:** April 17th at 1:00 pm CST: Catching the "Unicorn:" Using Public, Private and Non-Profit Partnerships to Help Tackle AIS. Presented by Ed Rudberg, Ph. D., CEO CD3, General Benefit Corporation. Due to the high cost of high pressure, heated water decontamination, reducing the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS) often relies upon the adoption of best management practices at the individual level. However, until CD3’s 2017-2018 Waterless Cleaning Station Pilot, tools to implement best management practices were unavailable to boaters. The process for developing these tools was an example of how we caught a “unicorn,” via the elusive private, public and non-profit partnership. This presentation will outline the results of the pilot including usage rates, lessons learned, adoption rate, increases in compliance, and outline the future direction of the project.

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the next Missouri River Basin Panel Coordination meeting and an Asian carp field sampling workshop April 16-18, 2019, at Lake Barkley State Park Resort near Cadiz, Kentucky. We are tentatively planning for the coordination meeting on April 16 and the morning of April 17. The workshop will be all day April 17 and 18. The morning of April 17 will likely be a session of talks focused on Asian carp management and control that will transition us from the coordination meeting to the field sampling workshop.

The California State Parks’ Division of Boating and Waterways, California Coastal Commission's Boating Clean & Green Program, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service invite you to participate in our FREE Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention Workshops.

AIS pose serious threats to water delivery systems, hydroelectric facilities, agriculture, boating, fishing, and the environment. Recreational activities, including boating and fishing, can spread AIS from infested waters to uninfested waters. Therefore, everyone accessing waters should take simple actions to avoid spreading AIS each time they leave a waterbody.

**WORKSHOPS**

**Alameda**

Date: Tuesday, April 30, 2019 (You must register to attend by Friday, April 26) Time: 8:45 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. Location: Aeolian Yacht Club - 980 Fernside Blvd, Alameda, CA 94501

To register, please contact Vivian Matuk at (415) 904-6905 or vmatuk@coastal.ca.gov
May

The California State Parks’ Division of Boating and Waterways, California Coastal Commission's Boating Clean & Green Program, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service invite you to participate in our FREE Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention Workshops. AIS pose serious threats to water delivery systems, hydroelectric facilities, agriculture, boating, fishing, and the environment. Recreational activities, including boating and fishing, can spread AIS from infested waters to uninfested waters. Therefore, everyone accessing waters should take simple actions to avoid spreading AIS each time they leave a waterbody.

WORKSHOPS
- Pacific Grove, Monterey
  Date: May 7th 2019 (You must register to attend by Friday, May 3rd)
  Time: 8:45 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. Location: Mott Training Center- 837 Asilomar Avenue
  Pacific Grove, CA 93950 (Madrone Room)
To register, please contact Vivian Matuk at (415) 904-6905 or vmatuk@coastal.ca.gov

June

California Invasive Species Action Week (June 1-9, 2019)
The goals of the California Invasive Species Action Week (CISAW) are to increase public awareness of invasive species issues and promote public participation in the fight against California's invasive species and their impacts on our natural resources. Prevention is the most effective strategy in managing invasive species. However, hundreds of invasive plants and animals have already established in California and are rapidly spreading each year. These invaders are negatively impacting our waters, our native plants and animals (some of them rare, threatened, or endangered), our agriculture, our health, our economy, and our favorite recreational places. Help us celebrate California's Invasive Species Action Week, and more importantly, help stop the spread of invasive species, by volunteering to take action.

The next meeting of the 100th Meridian Initiative Columbia River Basin Team is scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, June 4 & 5, 2019 in Spokane, WA at Northern Quest. Further meeting details will be forthcoming in the near future. Leah Elwell will be putting the meeting agenda together. Please contact her if you have an agenda recommendation @ leah@stopais.org

Washington Invasive Species Council: June 6, 2019, Olympia, Natural Resources Building Room 172.

July

2019 Western Aquatic Plant Management Society and Aquatic Plant Management Society Joint Meeting Date: Jul 13, 2019 to Jul 19, 2019 Venue: Double Tree Hilton Hotel Location: San Diego, California

Join PNWER in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan for our 29th Annual Summit, July 21-25, 2019

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Registration is Now Open for the 2019 PNWER Annual Summit in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan! Over 500 regional business leaders, legislators, and key decision makers attend the Annual Summit to explore shared challenges in the region, discuss best practices, promote regional relationships, and develop an action plan to address challenges in the coming year.

**August**

*2019 104th Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting*

Date: Aug 11, 2019 to Aug 16, 2019 Venue: Kentucky International Convention Center Location: Louisville, Kentucky

**September**

*Washington Invasive Species Council*; September 26, 2019, Olympia, **Natural Resources Building** Room 172.

**SAVE THE DATE:** The 6th International Columbia River Transboundary Conference

WHEN: September 26, 2019 – September 28, 2019 WHERE: Kimberley, BC

Join Columbia Basin Trust and the Northwest Power and Conservation Council from September 26 to 28, 2019 in Kimberley, B.C. to connect and collaborate on the future of the Columbia River. The conference will cover topics including:

- Renegotiation of the Columbia River Treaty
- Reintroduction of salmon to the Columbia River above Grand Coulee Dam in Washington and British Columbia
- **Impacts of and response to invasive species including northern pike and invasive freshwater mussels**
- Energy issues including: hydropower, energy efficiency, transmission and renewable resources in the United States and British Columbia
- Climate change-related impacts on Columbia River water resources and resulting impacts on communities, ecosystems, the economy and hydropower generation.

The conference themes and agenda will include the interests and issues of First Nations and US Native American Tribes, as well as art, culture and history as it relates to the Columbia River. The conference format will be interactive with workshop formats encouraging participants to actively explore a wide range of technical, environmental, political and community issues. Watch for more details in early 2019 about how to register and information on speakers. For more information, contact Caitlin Hinton, Columbia Basin Trust, at 1.250.344.2445 or chinton@cbt.org

*2019 26th Annual Wildlife Society Conference* Date: Sep 29, 2019 to Oct 03, 2019 Location: Reno, Nevada

The **2019 North American Invasive Species Management Association - New York Invasive Species Research Institute Joint Conference** will be held September 30 - October 3, 2019 at the Saratoga Hilton, Saratoga Springs, NY. This year's conference theme is Connecting Science to Action. The organizing committee is especially interested in presentations that provide examples of: (1) how science is being used by invasive species managers and related professionals to
inform and improve management decisions, (2) how managers can inform, and are currently informing research on invasive species and (3) information on new policies, methods and technologies being used to prevent, detect, or manage invasive species. All general session abstracts must be submitted by the abstract deadline of April 3, 2019.

October

The Western Regional Panel on ANS invites you to join them at their Annual Meeting October 9-11, 2019 in Missoula, Montana. The meeting will be hosted by Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks.

The 21st International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species (ICAIS) will be held at Le Centre Sheraton Montreal, Montreal, Canada. October 27-31, 2019

December

Call for Presentations: Innovations in Invasive Species Management Conference and Training, December 10-12th, 2019. Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. The conference hosts people from throughout the US and World looking for new techniques and inspiration from successes to manage a wide range of invasive species. We are working to include more animal, marine and insect content as well this year. Be ready for some exciting new topics and demonstrations in 2019. The 2019 Innovations Conference is being hosted by the Pacific Northwest Invasive Plant Council https://www.pnw-ipc.org/ The Northern Rockies Invasive Plant Council http://www.nripc.org/ and Invasive Plant Control, Inc. http://www.invasiveplantcontrol.com/

Washington Invasive Species Council: December 19, 2019, Olympia, Natural Resources Building Room 172.

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