



AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES NEWS

11/13/13

DREISSENID MUSSELS

1. [Invasive, non-native species able to multiply by the millions doing just that in 2 Conn. Lakes \(11/2/13\)](#)

DANBURY, Connecticut — Bernie Lintzner's zebra mussel hotel on Lake Zoar had no vacancies. Lintzner had lowered the hotel, four small squares of plywood with a bolt through their centers, into the lake from the dock near his Oxford home in early July.....

[Editor's Note: Lake Zoar calcium levels are in the "moderate risk" of establishment range of 16.8 mg/l and the zebra mussel colonization potential was listed as "possible" in a study that can be found [here](#)]

2. [CO thanks boaters as inspection stations close for the season \(10/31/13\)](#)

DENVER - The effort to stop the spread of harmful Aquatic Nuisance Species continued successfully during the 2013 boating season. Watercraft inspection and decontaminations stations were available at more than 75 locations across the state this year including 41 Colorado Parks and Wildlife stations. Colorado Parks and Wildlife and their numerous partners performed more than 420,000 inspections in 2013, each of which is an important public educational contact.....

3. [California Approves Marrone Bio Innovations' Zequanox for Invasive Mussel Control \(11/7/13\)](#)

DAVIS, Calif. -- Marrone Bio Innovations, Inc. a leading global provider of bio-based pest management products for agriculture and water, announced today that the state of California has issued a Certificate of Pesticide Registration for Zequanox (R) to control invasive zebra and quagga mussels (Dreissena species) in pipe systems and infrastructure.

Under this registration, Zequanox can now be used as an effective, environmentally responsible alternative to toxic, broad-spectrum chemicals (such as chlorine) to treat irrigation lines and water conveyance structures, as well as cooling and process water systems of industrial and power generation facilities.....

4. [Quagga and Zebra Mussels: Biology, Impacts, and Control, Second Edition \(10/25/13\)](#)

The introduction and rapid spread of two Eurasian mussel species, *Dreissena polymorpha* (zebra mussel) and *Dreissena rostriformis bugensis* (quagga mussel), in waters of North America has caused great concern among industrial and recreational water users. These invasive species can create substantial problems for raw water users such as water treatment facilities and power plants, and they can have other negative impacts by altering aquatic environments. In the 20 years since the first edition of this book was published, zebra mussels have continued to spread, and quagga mussels have become the greater threat in the Great Lakes, in deep regions of large lakes, and in the southwestern United States. Quagga mussels have also expanded greatly in eastern and western Europe since the first book edition was published. By CRC Press, Content: 815 Pages, 364 illustrations, Editor(s): Thomas F. Nalepa, Don W. Schloesser

5. [New Methods Improve Quagga and Zebra Mussel Identification \(10/31/13\)](#)

DENVER - The earliest possible detection of quagga and zebra mussels has long been a goal of biologists seeking to discover their presence in water bodies. The Bureau of Reclamation's Detection Laboratory has released two reports identifying a new sampling method to improve the accuracy of quagga and zebra mussel detection while still at the microscopic larval stage.....

WEEDS

1. [TX Budget for battling invasive aquatic plants about \\$1.4 million \(11/2/13\)](#)

The Texas budget for invasive aquatics is approximately \$1.4 million. The exact amount spent on salvinia will depend on the severity of the winter and what kind of growth we see next spring, compared to other species. It is not set in stone, but we spend roughly half our total budget for giant salvinia. The rest is split between hydrilla, water hyacinth, giant reed and a number of others.....

MARINE

[1. U.S. Ballast Water Rules will Cost Canadians \\$1.1 Billion \(10/29/13\)](#)

U.S. ballast water treatment regulations will cost the Canadian economy CAD1.1 billion (\$1.1 billion) over the next five years, according to a new [report](#) from the Canadian Shipowners Association (CSA). The report, written by Martin Associates, found that the rules, which go into effect next year, could shift shipments of grain, aggregates, and petroleum products to other modes of transportation.....

[2. Japan's 'toxic' monster creeping towards US \(11/1/13\)](#)

.....In one of the more dramatic photos of debris, two rooftops and an upside-down boat can be seen floating in the ocean. In another, a giant dock from Japan washed ashore in Oregon. Even more interesting may be what's living on the dock. "At first we were only thinking about objects like the floating docks, but now we're finding that all kinds of Japanese organisms are growing on the debris," John Chapman of the Marine Science Center at Oregon State University told FoxNews.com.....

3. EPA - VGP newsletter

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Vessel General Permit (VGP) program released its [VGP Newsletter](#) for Fall 2013. This edition addresses the 2013 VGP and supporting resources; the fall seminar series; and the new eNOI system. (11/1/13).

[4. Global change: Stowaways threaten fisheries in the Arctic \(11/4/13\)](#)

Just think of the warty comb jelly or sea walnut, as it is also known. It has caused tremendous damage to fisheries in the Black Sea after arriving in ballast water from its original habitat along the East coast of North America. This example should serve as a warning to everyone to take care and not to introduce new species into our waters.....

[5. Canada harrumphs over ballast water \(10/30/13\)](#)

You can be paranoid and they can still be watching you. Canada has reason to feel aggrieved and victimized by the US over maritime rules.

[6. Ballast Water System Market will Grow "Explosively" \(11/4/13\)](#)

Danish company Bawat expects to start selling a new ballast water cleaning system to carriers in 2014, taking advantage of a market that it expects to grow rapidly, CEO Kim Diederichsen [told](#) industry news site ShippingWatch.

OTHER

1. Congressional Research Service Releases Report: Invasive Species: Major Laws and the Role of Selected Federal Agencies (10/24/13)

.....Despite efforts to achieve high-level interdepartmental coordination, comprehensive legislation on the treatment of invasive species has never been enacted, and no single law provides coordination among federal agencies. Instead, the current legal framework is largely governed by a patchwork of laws, regulations, policies, and programs. Some laws are tailored to individual species or narrowly focused on what is affected by the species. Other laws have a broader intended purpose and may only peripherally address invasive species. Some laws, although they do not directly address invasive species control or prevention, may limit such introductions.

2. Mississippi River Basin Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species -- Fracking/Invasive Species Letter (9/24/13)

Please refer the end of this document for a copy of the letter from the [MRBP](#) sent to the [ANSTF](#)

FISH

1. First Evidence of Grass Carp Reproduction in the Great Lakes (10/28/13)

USGS scientists analyzed the fish, which were captured by a commercial fisher in October 2012, and determined that they were at least one year in age and had the capacity to become spawning adults. Bones in the heads of fishes, called otoliths, are useful to biologists because they provide a history of the chemistry of the water the fish inhabited over its life. Analysis of those bones indicates that the four captured grass carp had lived in the Sandusky watershed their entire lives. Scientists ruled out the possibility that the fish originated from a fish farm by comparing their otoliths to those from reference pond fish. The USGS study is published in the *Journal of Great Lakes Research*, and is available [online](#).

Another story [here](#)

Great Lakes Senators Urge Action On Invasive Asian Carp go [here](#)

Editorials [here](#) and [here](#)

2. SE Oregon Effort To Restore Native Cutthroat Trout Hampered By Illegal Rainbow, Brook Releases (11/1/13)

During the week of Nov. 4, biologists with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will be surveying 18 miles of McDermitt Creek looking for and removing non-native rainbow and brook trout – part of an eight-year effort to restore native Lahontan cutthroat trout to this remote watershed in southeast Oregon.....

[3. Montana Swan Lake Bull Trout Survey Shows Decline; Lake Trout Gill-Netting By-Catch A Factor \(11/8/13\)](#)

Fall gill netting for lake trout on Montana's Swan Lake wrapped up in late October, and bull trout spawning surveys revealed a fourth year of below average results.....

LEGISLATION/FEDERAL ACTIONS/BUDGET

[1. Amodei, Garamendi, Heck, Titus, Horsford introduce Lake Tahoe Restoration Act \(11/1/13\)](#)

“Lake Tahoe is a state and national treasure that must be protected,” said Heck. “This legislation continues the federal commitment to the Lake Tahoe Basin by ensuring the federal-state partnership focuses on key priorities like preventing wildfires and combating invasive species. **I am pleased that provisions from the Protecting Lakes Against Quaggas Act are included in this bill to reduce the threat Quagga mussels pose to our local environment and economy.** I commend Congressman Mark Amodei for his leadership on this issue and look forward to working with this bipartisan coalition to pass this bill.”

For bill text go [here](#)

[2. Congressman Garamendi \(CA\) adds support to PLAQ Act \(11/6/13\)](#)

WALNUT GROVE, CA – Congressman John Garamendi (D-Fairfield, CA), who represents Lake County along with Congressman Mike Thompson, has cosponsored H.R. 1823, the Protecting Lakes Against Quagga (PLAQ) Act of 2013, which would add quagga mussels to the national list of invasive species. This listing gives federal agencies greater ability to prevent the spread of these invasive species.....

[3. Midwestern Governors Unite to Address Aquatic Invasive Species; Call for Lead Federal Agency \(10/29/13\)](#)

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Midwestern Governors Association (MGA) recently sent President Obama [a letter asking that he designate](#) the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as the singular, lead federal agency for U.S. efforts to combat invasive species. The letter, along with a series of informational documents, is part of Minnesota Governor Mark Dayton's [agenda as MGA Chair](#) to combat the spread of aquatic invasive species in the region. Other publications released include:

- [Aquatic Invasive Species Policy Resolution](#)
- [Scope and Size of State AIS/ANS Programs](#)
- [Statutes and Regulations Relevant to the Control and Prevention of AIS](#)

[4. Tackling the Challenge of Invasive Species: A Coordinated and Comprehensive National Response \(11/4/13\)](#)

Today the National Environmental Coalition on Invasive Species (NECIS) released a document outlining a vision for a comprehensive national response in order to tackle the challenge of invasive species. The vision is intended to address the inadequate authority, capacity, and coordination of the current federal response to invasive species issues.....

[5. AFS Resolution on Federal Funding for Programs to Prevent, Control, and Manage Aquatic Invasive Species](#)

This resolution was passed by the membership on 6 March 2013 after an online vote. It was recently reprinted in *Fisheries* (Vol 38 No 11, November 2013)

MEETINGS

2014

FEBRUARY

1. [Marine Invasive Species - Management of Ballast Water and Other Vectors](#) . Muscat, Oman, February 17-19, 2014.

2. **A Flowering Rush Symposium** will be held the afternoon of February 13, 2014 at the Northern Quest Resort in Spokane on 10-14 February 2014 as part of the Northern Rockies Invasive Plant Council meeting. Registration is now online and linked to NRIPC website at: www.nripc.org or a direct link is <https://www.regonline.com/2014nripc>. For additional information please check the website or email weeds1@mt.net

APRIL

1. [2014 Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference: April 30 - May 2, 2014, Washington State Convention & Trade Center , Seattle, Washington](#)



Mississippi River Basin Panel
9053 Route 148
Marion, IL 62959

September 24, 2013

Mr. David Hoskins and Dr. Mark Schaefer
Co-Chairs, ANS Task Force
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
4401 North Fairfax Dr.
Arlington, VA 22203

Dear Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Co-Chairs:

From Nebraska to Pennsylvania and Montana to Louisiana, large areas of the Mississippi River Basin are experiencing a boom in drilling into deep shale deposits to extract natural gas. The process used to harvest the gas (hydraulic fracturing or "fracking") uses millions of gallons of water per well. Typically water is removed from an available water source and hauled by means of many trucks to the fracking site, where it is pumped into the well. Much of this water is later returned to the surface.

This movement of vast quantities of water, sometimes from one watershed to another, represents a potential vector for the spread of invasive species. Already, there is at least one example of a nuisance species transfer that may be a result of fracking activities. Golden alga is a European species with nuisance populations in Texas and North Carolina. Golden alga has now been found in a stream along the border of Pennsylvania and West Virginia where fracking has occurred. Because of the distances involved, movement of industrial equipment associated with fracking is a suspected vector. The USFS, recognizing similar concerns with the movement of water for fire suppression, has developed operational guidelines to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive organisms. These Best Management Practices (BMPs) could be used as a template for fracking operation guidelines. In addition to the possibility for invasive species to be transported in trucks, the removal of such large quantities of water from especially small streams could result in lower water levels and droughts that might also favor the spread of ANS.

The Mississippi River Basin Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species wishes to express our concern about these issues. We feel that much more information is needed on the practices involved in transporting and disposing of water for fracking, including:

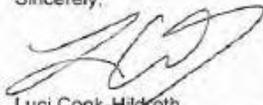
- What are the usual industry practices for water removal, transport, use and disposal?
 - Are ANS in source water considered?
- Are there any written BMPs, especially regarding minimizing the potential transport of invasive species?
 - Truck cleaning, screening, visual inspection?
- How many companies follow these BMPs?
- Are there protocols for monitoring the success of ANS transfer control measures?
- How often are water hauling trucks cleaned and how are they cleaned?
- What are the standards for water removal (e.g., is there a cap on quantities removed)?
- How are water leaks at the well site minimized, and if they do happen, what is the clean-up procedure?

Although the shale gas industry has already been booming in many Mississippi River Basin states, it will likely expand in the future and affect even more of the basin. It is critical that we gather additional information now on the practices involved in the transport and disposal of water for this industry.

MRBP can assist and participate in development of a white paper addressing potential of ANS transfer by fracking operations, or assist in development of BMPs, including development of monitoring protocols for activities associated with fracking. However, expertise on the details of fracking operations is not present in MRBP. We would like elevate the concern about the unevaluated potential for ANS transfer through fracking activities and ask for ANSTF assistance in working with fracking operators, water haulers, and regulators to address the issue.

We look forward to hearing from you regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Luci Cook-Hildreth
Mississippi River Basin Panel Co-chair
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

cc: Susan Mangin, ANS Task Force
Craig Martin, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Margaret (Peg) Brady, NOAA
Luke Skinner, Great Lakes Regional Panel
Leslie Hartman, Gulf and South Atlantic Regional Panel
Sarah Whitney, Mid-Atlantic Regional Panel
Curtis Tackett, Mississippi River Basin Regional Panel
Ann Bove, Northeast Regional Panel
Elizabeth Brown, Western Regional Panel