



## **DREISSENIID MUSSELS**

### 1. Summary of PNWER's Invasive Species Working Group at our 2012 Economic Leadership Forum (11/27/12)

The recent meeting of PNWER's Invasive Species Working Group at our 2012 Economic Leadership Forum was a great success. Regional leaders came together to discuss how best to protect the Pacific Northwest from the severe ecological and economic effects of a potential infestation of Zebra and Quagga mussels, and devised new Action Items to further pursue this goal.....

### 2. Wyoming inspects more than 38K boats over summer (11/28/12)

CHEYENNE, Wyo. — Wyoming conducted more than 38,600 boat inspections this summer under a program that aims to keep undesirable mussels and other invasive species out of the state's lakes and reservoirs. Only 219 of the total inspections were considered high-risk for possibly having invasive species, and 94 of those resulted in watercraft being decontaminated, said Beth Bear, invasive species program coordinator for the state Game and Fish Department.....

## **MARINE**

### 1. Marine vomit threatens Drakes Estero, CA (11/26/12)

A vile-looking invasive species is lurking around oyster beds in Point Reyes National Seashore, covering hard surfaces in slippery muck and prompting concern from environmentalists. Colloquially dubbed “marine vomit” for its slimy, mucilaginous appearance, the marine invertebrate *Didemnum vexillum*, a sea squirt, is as ugly as it is fast-growing. While much about *D. vex* is not fully understood, morphologically similar species have been known to wreak havoc on aquaculture communities in other parts of

the world, and could potentially harm marine life in places like Tomales Bay and Drakes Estero.....

## **2 . EPA extends date for taking final action on the next VGP (11/28/12)**

Dear Stakeholders,

As many of you know, EPA signed settlement agreements in March 2011 that called for EPA to issue the 2013 VGP [Vessel General Permit] by November 30, 2012. EPA and Petitioners in NRDC v. EPA modified those settlement agreements to allow the Agency additional time to complete work on the next Vessel General Permit. The modifications extend the date for taking final action on the next VGP from November 30, 2012 to March 15, 2013.

With this extension, EPA now plans to issue the next VGP sometime on or before March 15, 2013 and will not be releasing the final permit this week. This extension will not impact the December 19, 2013 effective date for the next VGP.

If you should have any questions about the proposed VGP, please feel free to contact us at [vgp@epa.gov](mailto:vgp@epa.gov), included in the to field of this email.

Sincerely,

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For more on the VGP go to: <http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/vessels/vgpermit.cfm>

## **3. AquaBounty Hoping to Serve DNA-Altered Salmon on US Plates(12/4/12)**

Deep in the rain forests of Panama, in a secret location behind padlocked gates, barbed-wire fences and over a rickety wooden bridge, grows what could be the most debated food product of our time. It may look like the 1993 hit movie "Jurassic Park," but at this real-life freshwater farm scientists are altering the genes not of dinosaurs -- but of fish.....

## **4. Drivers Of Change In Estuarine-Coastal Ecosystems: Discoveries From Four Decades Of Study In San Francisco Bay (10/24/12)**

We use observations from this particularly well-studied estuary to illustrate responses to six drivers that are common agents of change where land and sea meet: water consumption and diversion, human modification of sediment supply, **introduction of nonnative species**, sewage input, environmental policy, and climate shifts.....

For an another article on this study go to (page 5)

<http://www.sfestuary.org/PDF/newsletters/Estuary-Nov2012-final.pdf>

## OTHER

### 1. Opinion: Aquatic invasive species threat in Montana (11/24/12)

Of the many challenges facing Montana's lakes and streams, perhaps the most pressing but controllable is the threat posed by aquatic invasive species, or AIS. Aquatic invasives include non-native plants, mussels, pathogens and fish that threaten environmental, commercial and recreational resources. Montana is still free of many problematic species, but some that plague other states if established here would create a multi-million dollar burden on some of the state's most important economic drivers, including the hydroelectric, agricultural and recreation industries.....

### 2. Enemy at the gates: Taking a look at invasive aquatic species in Manitoba (12/4/12)

Rivers and lakes have long been important for Manitoba. They are a source of food, they generate our electricity, and at one time they were important transportation routes. They are also centres of leisure. All these things affect, and are in turn affected by, the delicate ecosystems of our waterways. And these ecosystems are threatened by invasive species.....

## MEETINGS/WEBINARS

### 2. [International Didymo Conference](#)

March 12-13, 2013 in Providence, Rhode Island. Abstracts for all papers and posters must be received by **November 1 2012**.

### 3. [National Invasive Species Awareness Week March 3 – 8, 2013](#)

Please mark your calendars for events in Washington, DC and around the country. State, federal and local and tribal officials meet with NGO's, industry and stakeholder groups addressing invasive species to examine laws, policies and creative approaches to prevent and reduce invasive species threats to our health, economy, environment and natural resources including special places.

### 4. **Western Aquatic Plant Management Society Annual Meeting -- Save the Date!**

The next Western Aquatic Plant Management Society Annual Meeting will be held March 25 to 27, 2013 at the Coeur d'Alene Resort in Coeur d'Alene, ID.

<http://wapms.org>.

5. The Invasive Species Centre is hosting the 18th International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species, April 21-25, 2013 at the Sheraton-on-the-Falls Hotel in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada.

The **Preliminary Program** for the 18th International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species is now available on the ICAIS conference website [www.icaiss.org](http://www.icaiss.org) . The program is still subject to change, so please check the website for updates. Note that the cut-off date for hotel reservations is March 21, 2013 so be sure to reserve early to ensure your accommodation [http://www.icaiss.org/html/info\\_accomm.html](http://www.icaiss.org/html/info_accomm.html)