



## ***AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES NEWS***

*2/26/14*

### **DREISSENID MUSSELS**

#### [Quagga mussels have invaded Lake Powell, Glen Canyon Dam \(2/25/14\)](#)

Like a bad rumor spread with malicious intent, invasive and destructive quagga mussels have finally taken hold at the massive Lake Powell reservoir on the Utah/Arizona border. Glen Canyon National Recreation Area officials announced Tuesday that "thousands" of adult quagga mussels have been found from Glen Canyon Dam to Bullfrog Bay, some 95 miles up the lake.....

#### [Public Scoping Period: Glen Canyon Quagga/Zebra Mussel Comprehensive Management Plan](#)

**The NPS is seeking input to help develop the QZMP during the public scoping period from February 3 - **March 7, 2014**.** As of January 2014, approximately 1,300 adult quagga mussels have been found and removed from Lake Powell. We are finding additional adult mussels as the season progresses. The Quagga-Zebra Mussel Management Plan (QZMP) is needed to help the NPS decide what tools are appropriate to support the ongoing management of invasive mussels in Glen Canyon now that quagga mussels are present in Lake Powell. The QZMP will consider changes to the existing prevention and monitoring efforts, and would include analysis of potential control, containment, and other park management actions. The plan will also consider options for providing a sustainable funding source. The NPS has used a variety of tools to support extensive mussel prevention efforts for several years. This has included education efforts, monitoring, and inspection, decontamination, and quarantine of incoming boats as necessary.

#### [Why you may see dogs at MT boat check stations this summer \(2/14/14\)](#)

Pepin is an 8-year-old Belgian Malinois trained to identify about 19 different scents. In a demonstration at the Flathead National Forest office he's finding wolverine scat Megan Parker placed out there earlier in the day. Parker is the Director for Research, and also a

co-founder of Working Dogs for Conservation. The Missoula-based group is in the Flathead to talk with the Flathead Basin Commission about how dogs like Pepin could help in the effort to stop aquatic invasive mussels and weeds from getting into the area.

[New rules for mussel inspection program get hearing before Whatcom council \(2/21/14\)](#)

The boat inspection program to prevent invasive species from entering Lake Whatcom and Lake Samish may expand to include kayaks, canoes and rowboats this year. The public will have a chance to comment on this and other changes at a hearing before the Whatcom County Council on Tuesday, Feb. 25.

[Lake Piru Update: Damaging exotic mussels in area lake are impossible to eradicate \(2/19/14\)](#)

Mike Bennett first visited [Lake Piru](#) in Ventura County as a kid with his grandparents. He's continued to come back to it for his whole life. Since retiring from the Los Angeles City Fire Department two years ago, he's had a lot more time to come out fishing on his boat.

[Okanagan: Mussel threat worries officials \(2/12/14\)](#)

Senior governments are being told to flex some muscles when it comes to mussels. The Okanagan Basin Water Board is demanding that the provincial and federal government initiate efforts to prevent the spread of the invasive zebra and quagga mussels.....

[Science Takes On a Silent Invader \(2/24/13\)](#)

Since they arrived in the Great Lakes in the 1980s, two species of mussels the size of pistachios have spread to hundreds of lakes and rivers in 34 states and have done vast economic and ecological damage.....

[Link between zebra mussels, risk of algae blooms \(1/12/14\)](#)

Researchers at Grand Valley State University's Annis Water Resources Institute are learning more about the impact invasive zebra mussels and native aquatic insect larvae have on the risk of algae blooms in two West Michigan lakes. The results of the research will be published in the journal Oikos.....

**New on-board technology for Wake Sport boats designed to reduce the spread of harmful aquatic invasive species announced by Wake WorX**

See full press release at end of this document

**MARINE**

[Fathom Spotlight: Active Or Non-Active? That Is The Ballast Question - Part Two \(2/13/14\)](#)

The Convention will enter into force 12 months after its ratification by 30 States representing at least 35 percent of the world's tonnage. Ratification by **Switzerland** in September 2013 brought the total to 38 States, but these only represent 30.32 percent of global tonnage. Nonetheless, the 35 percent tonnage requirement could now be met by the ratification of just one major Flag State or a few medium Flag States.....

[Shippers wait on April MEPC meeting on Ballast Water Management \(2/14/14\)](#)

The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) has decided to 'wait and see' over the ratification of the controversial Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention. In a message, the ICS said that it will continue to refrain from encouraging flag administrations that have not yet ratified the convention from making the additional ratifications required to bring about its immediate entry into force. At its recent board meeting, the ICS agreed that governments should wait until outstanding implementation problems have been resolved at IMO, hopefully at the next MEPC meeting in April, at which ICS (in co-operation with other industry organisations) has proposed a way forward.

[Canadian businessman wants to put Maine green crabs on global menu \(2/6/13\)](#)

BRUNSWICK, Maine — Canadian businessman Ron Howse boiled up a pot of European green crabs in a microwave Thursday afternoon and offered tastes of the sweet white flesh to reporters, fishermen and others gathered at a news conference in downtown Brunswick.

## **WEEDS**

[Idaho considers permitting invasive plants \(2/20/14\)](#)

BOISE — Idaho lawmakers have approved a rule that will allow certain invasive plants to be grown in Idaho to make biofuels or to eradicate a crop pest.....

[Weed Guides for Oregon Available](#)

Plan now for the coming field season! Three up-to-date weed guides for Oregon are currently available:

- Field Guide to Weeds of the Willamette Valley
- Field Guide to Weeds of Eastern Oregon
- Field Guide to Weeds of the Oregon Coast

[Texas researchers develop new approach to invasive plant control \(2/19/14\)](#)

The totally new concept and approach to controlling giant salvinia is called “endocides” (endogenous biocides) and has been extensively tested in both greenhouse experiments on the SFA campus and in recent field trials by researchers at the National Center for Pharmaceutical Crops in SFA’s Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture....

### **Abstracts Available-Flowering Rush Symposium**

The symposium held in conjunction with the Northern Rockies Invasive Plant Council was a great opportunity to share research and management concerns about flowering rush. Thanks to the Western IPM Center, organizers, speakers and other stakeholders that supported the event! Abstracts are available at:

<http://www.nrpic.org/2014NRIPC%20AgendaAbstractsBios.pdf>

### [Victoria News: Fighting the good fight against invasives \(2/5/14\)](#)

Decades ago, long before suburban development in Royal Oak, it seemed a bright idea to plant reed canary grass for cow feed on farmland around Rithet’s Bog. While not exactly cursing that era, Russ Pym and other volunteers now spend their weekends yanking the invasive species from the ground. Reed canary grass grows fast and tall, monopolizing nutrients and shading out competing native plants. Bringing 42-hectare Rithet’s Bog to a roughly natural state is a labour of love that will take years.....

### National Conservation Training Center’s “[Field Techniques for Invasive Plant Management](#)”

This class will be held in Portland Oregon from April 14-18, 2014. Field instruction will include a visit to Ridgefield NWR and other natural areas in the Portland metro area. Registration is open on [DOI Learn](#) (you can search by course number CLM2139 to find it). April will come soon; consider registering soon if you are interested in attending. For additional information, I have attached both the training announcement and a draft of the class agenda. If you have any questions concerning this course you can contact Karen Lindsey, Course Coordinator for the National Conservation Training Center at 406.243.4627 or [karen\\_lindsey@fws.gov](mailto:karen_lindsey@fws.gov).

### [Invasive Species Webinar Series Invasive Plants – Issues, challenges, and Discoveries](#)

The USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station is pleased to announce a new webinar series, *Invasive Plants – Issues, Challenges, and Discoveries*. This free interactive series, which includes seven webinars, will provide attendees with cutting-edge information about invasive plants and their management. We encourage land managers, professionals, scientists, and other interested people to attend. Next webinar is **March 13, 2014** (*Merging plant-insect chemical ecology with weed biocontrol to better predict efficacy and climate change impacts*)

## FISH

### [Officials Working Out Plan For Invasive Species In Lake Yankton \(2/6/14\)](#)

Plans are slowly progressing on a solution to the growth in invasive fish species in Lake Yankton. However, Nebraska Game & Parks Commission fisheries biologist Jeff Schuckman said there is a long way to go before tackling the proposed “chemical renovation,” a process that involves partial draining the lake and introducing a chemical meant to kill off the fish in the lake. ...

### [Opinion: Cut the Carp Crap: Invasive Species Attack Is an Opportunity for Chicago \(2/5/14\)](#)

In January, the Army Corps of Engineers released their long-awaited, congressionally-mandated study outlining scenarios to rebuff the most infamous invasive species Chicago has ever seen. The Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study outlines a series of scenarios for keeping the Asian carp out of Chicago's waterways to protect the Great Lakes from the havoc the fish have wreaked on many of America's inland waterways....

## GRANTS

### **UDAF opens application period for weed control grants in Utah**

SALT LAKE CITY-- Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) will award \$1,800,000 this year in grants to fight the spread of invasive weed species throughout Utah. Grant applications are now available from UDAF. The 2014 ISMF application is available on the UDAF Website: <http://ag.utah.gov/documents/ISM2014.pdf>

Applications are due Monday, **March 17**. Funds will be available by the end of July 2014.

### **MT AIS Grants Available**

The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) is offering grants for the control of aquatic invasive species. For an application and general information go to <https://dnrc.mt.gov/cardd/AIS/AISGrant.asp>. *Grant applications are due **March 14, 2014***. Contact Alicia Stickney at 406-444-0547 or [astickney@mt.gov](mailto:astickney@mt.gov) for additional information. [Thanks Celestine Duncan]

## JOBS

**The West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health (WCGA) Marine Debris Action Coordination Team (ACT) seeks a part-time data and outreach intern**

The Marine Debris ACT is seeking to hire an intern to work part-time for one year to assist the ACT in managing the Marine Debris Database. This is a crucial role that is time-intensive. In addition, as the year progresses the intern will also focus on assisting with the launch of the Marine Debris Coalition, specifically through outreach to potential marine debris partners along the West Coast. To apply, please e-mail a resume and cover letter by Monday, **March 10th** to: Karen Kayfetz, California Natural Resources Agency: [Karen.Kayfetz@resources.ca.gov](mailto:Karen.Kayfetz@resources.ca.gov)

Work on this internship is expected to begin **April 1st**. For a full description, please see the attachment or click [here](#).

**Watercraft Inspectors Needed in Montana:** If you know of anyone interested in a summer field position at the Coram station (or other Watercraft Inspection Stations in MT), please refer such folks to the following link to apply [thanks Celestine Duncan]:  
<https://svc.mt.gov/statejobsearch/listingdetails.aspx?id=12061>

## **LEGISLATION/FEDERAL ACTIONS/BUDGET**

### [UTAH: SB212 Invasive Species Amendments – Inspection Stations](#)

The bill would allow Utah wildlife officials to create inspection stations at state borders. People hauling boats could face a Class B misdemeanor for failing to stop at the checkpoints.

### [MI Gov. Seeks \\$14M Invasive Species Plan \(2/5/14\)](#)

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. (AP) - Gov. Rick Snyder will propose spending \$14 million over the next two years in a stepped-up fight to prevent more invasive species from getting into Michigan.....

### [WA: Defense against invasive species one step closer after Honeyford bill approval \(2/11/14\)](#)

Sunnyside [Sen. Jim Honeyford](#)'s work to keep state waterways from being infested by non-native mussels received another boost Tuesday. In a marathon meeting of the Senate Ways

and Means Committee before the legislative cutoff deadline Tuesday, lawmakers approved [Senate Bill 6040](#) and sent it to be considered by the full Senate.

**UPDATE:** SB 6040 is now ESSB6040, after unanimous passage by the Senate on **2/14/14**. Prior to passage, it was amended on the floor by Senator Honeygrove, in an attempt to provide a funding package that the House might accept. The bill was modified to include 3-year phased in funding using the watercraft excise tax as follows:

- FY15 = 4% diversion (~\$580k)
- FY16 = 7% diversion (~\$1.015m)
- FY17 = 10% diversion (~\$1.45m)

**On 2/25/14 SB 6040** passed unanimously out of House Agriculture and Natural Resources committee and now goes to the House appropriations committee. See <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/summary.aspx?bill=6040&year=2013> for current bill language.

#### [U.S. House bill would separate Mississippi River, Great Lakes watersheds \(2/7/14\)](#)

U.S. Rep. Candice Miller, R-Mich., introduced the [Defending Against Aquatic Invasive Species Act of 2014](#) (H.R. 4001) as a solution to stop the spread of Asian carp to the Great Lakes. The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Army to completely separate the hydrologic connection between the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan, preventing the invasive species from invading the Great Lakes. If enacted, the legislation would require the Secretary to start designing the project within 180 days in consultation with important stakeholders including the governors of the surrounding states and the Great Lakes Commission. Once completed, the Secretary would have another 180 days to start construction.....

#### [LoBiondo's Permanent Moratorium on Fines for Incidental Discharges from Commercial Fishing Vessels Approved by House Committee \(2/12/14\)](#)

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Congressman Frank A. LoBiondo (NJ-02), a senior member of the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, today applauded passage by the Committee of his language to place a permanent moratorium from Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), state regulations and fines governing incidental discharges on commercial fishing vessels and all other commercial vessels less than 79 feet. The “Commercial Vessel Discharges Reform Act of 2013” ([H.R. 3464](#)) as introduced by LoBiondo in November was included in [H.R. 4005](#), the “Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act.”

Related: [Seafood Coalition Supports the Commercial Vessel Discharges Reform Act of 2013](#)

## Federal Lands Invasive Species Control, Prevention, and Management Act

On 2/5/14 H.R. 3994 was introduced Rep. Rob Bishop [R-UT1]. The bill is also co-sponsored by Rep. Steven Horford [D-NV 4]. The purpose of the bill is to improve the control and management of invasive species that threaten and harm Federal lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior, and for other purposes.

## MEETINGS

### APRIL

#### 1. Watercraft Inspection Training - Idaho

Due to a double booking at the City Hall in Post Falls, the WIT1 training has been moved up a day and now will be Wednesday **April 9<sup>th</sup>**. A second training is scheduled for Dover, ID on **May 21<sup>st</sup>**. Contact Tom Woolf, Aquatic Program Manager, Idaho State Department of Agriculture, @ [Thomas.Woolf@agri.idaho.gov](mailto:Thomas.Woolf@agri.idaho.gov)), 208-608-3404.

**2. Greater Yellowstone Area Invasive Species Meeting:** The meeting will probably April 15-17 in West Yellowstone. Terrestrial meeting on the 15th and morning of the 16th with the aquatic invasive species discussion the afternoon of the 16th and all day 17<sup>th</sup>. Contact Bryce Fowler for more info at [bfowler@co.fremont.id.us](mailto:bfowler@co.fremont.id.us)

3. [2014 WAPMS Conference Information](#): The 33rd Annual Western Aquatic Plant Management Society conference will be held at the Peppermill Resort in Reno, NV on March 31 – April 2, 2014. Visit the [Conference Info](#) page for more information on registering, submitting titles and abstracts, and hotel reservations.

4. [2014 Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference: April 30 - May 2, 2014, Washington State Convention & Trade Center, Seattle, Washington](#)

### MAY

1. The next meeting of Columbia River Basin Team of the 100<sup>th</sup> Meridian Initiative will be held May 13-14 in Spokane, Washington [details will be sent out soon].

2. [ANSTF](#) – The next meeting of the Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Task Force is scheduled for May 7-8, 2014 in Arlington, VA

### SEPTEMBER

1. [Meeting the Challenge: Preventing, Detecting, and Controlling Invasive Plants September 16-17, 2014, University of Washington Botanic Gardens, Seattle, WA](#)

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PRESS RELEASE- for IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WAKE WORX, LLC

Sarasota, Florida---New on-board technology for Wake Sport boats designed to reduce the spread of harmful aquatic invasive species and make boat decontamination faster and easier for boaters will be unveiled next week at a national boat manufacturer's summit in Colorado, the marine technology manufacturer Wake WorX said today.

The new "patent pending" system effectively filters out aquatic invasive species and their larvae before allowing them to be pumped into special ballast tanks or bladders commonly used in boats designed for wakeboarding and other wake sports. Ballast tanks have been identified by water protection agencies as a key factor in the spread of harmful invasive species such as Quagga and Zebra mussel around the United States. Decontaminating ballast tanks and bladders slows the inspection process for boaters at water bodies that require it and raise the cost of inspection programs, according to the Lake Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA), creator of one of the first mandatory watercraft inspection programs in the nation.

The system was developed by Scott Wood, of Wake WorX, in a partnership with the Water Sports Industry Association (WSIA), the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA), the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, and the Western Region Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species.

Extensive biological testing in Lake Mead by leading aquatic invasive species researchers at the University of Nevada, Reno has proven the system effective at keeping mussel larvae as well as other Aquatic Invasive Species out of ballast tanks, live-wells and bait-wells, thus eliminating the need to de-contaminate those tanks.

Called the Mussel Mast'R, the new technology will be formally presented at the WSIA "Summit in the Snow" at the end of February in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. The system can save time and money by eliminating the need to decontaminate ballast tanks, according to the manufacturer.

"It's so very important that the people who enjoy WakeSports have a way to both protect the waterways they love and to help streamline the decontamination process so they have more time on the water." Wake WorX founder Scott Wood said. "The Mussel Mast'R Aquatic Invasive Species Filtration System makes that possible".

"Aquatic Invasive Species can devastate native species and ruin entire waterways," TRPA Aquatic Invasive Species Program Coordinator Dennis Zabaglo said. "This is a big step forward

in saving our lakes and waterways and giving boaters the tools they need to protect the waters they use."

The system will be available through boat dealerships this year. For more information on The Mussel Mast'R and Wake WorX, visit [www.SuperSacR.com](http://www.SuperSacR.com)

For more information on the WSIA Summit in the Snow, visit [www.WSIA.net](http://www.WSIA.net)

For more information on the Lake Tahoe Aquatic Invasive Species program, visit [www.tahoeboatinspections.com](http://www.tahoeboatinspections.com)

Wake WorX also produces the most efficient and easy to use after-market ballast pump systems for wakesports boats in the world! Their Super Sac'R WakeSports Pump System is the only Three-in-one Wakesports Pump System, combining the function of a ballast pump, wash-down hose and auxiliary bilge pump in one easy to use package. They also offer a complete line of ballast pump systems for adding additional ballast to any boat.