



AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES NEWS

2/4/14

DREISSENID MUSSELS

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

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. **The NPS is seeking input to help develop the QZMP during the public scoping period from February 3 - March 7, 2014.**

[Special meeting on quagga mussels in Castle Country, Utah \(1/28/14\)](#)

Emery Water Conservancy District held a special meeting in Castle Dale. Jay Mark Humphrey led this meeting by asking the question of those present, how shall we control and prevent an invasive species called quagga mussels and zebra mussels from damaging our dams and irrigation systems?

[NV AIS Decal Program Fully Implemented, Enforcement Program Starts \(1/15/14\)](#)

The Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) today announced the full implementation of the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Watercraft Decal Program, developed more than a year ago to fund prevention efforts against aggressive invasive species, such as quagga and zebra mussels.

[Lake County, Calif., seeking tax increase in fight against invasive mussels \(1/28/14\)](#)

The “Healthy Lake Sales Tax” would boost funding for the county's battle against quagga and zebra mussels. It also would fund clean water and wetlands projects and the ongoing battle to control the chronic overgrowth of aquatic plants in the lake.....

[Idaho: Funding adequate for invasive species prevention \(1/30/14\)](#)

BOISE — Funding levels are adequate at the state Department of Agriculture to fend off the invasive water milfoil plant and quagga mussels, a division administrator at the agency told state legislators. Included in that funding, the invasive species stickers required of Idaho boaters generates state revenue that ranges somewhere between \$1.2 million and \$1.5 million annually, said Agriculture’s Lloyd Knight. That revenue stream from the fees added to boat licenses has given stability to the program that Knight manages, he said.

[Parks and Wildlife Commission Approves Expansion of Zebra Mussel Rules \(1/23/14\)](#)

AUSTIN – In the state’s ongoing effort to combat the spread of invasive zebra mussels, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission Thursday approved expanding rules requiring anyone leaving or approaching public waters in 30 counties in Central and North Texas to drain their boats.

Another story [here](#)

[Lake Piru: Mini-mussel menace assessed \(1/20/14\)](#)

SANTA CLARITA - Park officials aided by a university dive team have been assessing Lake Piru to determine the spread of the destructive quagga mussel, a tiny mollusk that some fear could endanger part of the Santa Clara River.....

[Editor’s Note: On 1/22/14 the Ventura County Star reported that the dive teams discovered the quagga mussels have settled in around much of the lake, have likely been there long enough to spawn and that the population "is a little more widespread than we had anticipated".]

[Donner Lake, CA boaters again face mandatory inspections to keep out invasive species \(1/19/14\)](#)

TRUCKEE, California — Boaters at Donner Lake in the Sierra will again face mandatory watercraft inspections this year. The Truckee Town Council unanimously voted this week to reinstate a program designed to keep invasive species out of the Sierra lake. Under the action, all motorized watercraft entering Truckee water bodies must be inspected and receive a passing sticker before launch.....

[Alberta Officials warn of threat of invasive mussels in irrigation reservoirs \(1/22/14\)](#)

It was a close call and prompted provincial officials to warn boaters to take care and not inadvertently bring invasive mussels into the province. Seven boats with Zebra or Quagga mussels were discovered in the province last year, and officials said they would cause havoc if ever introduced into the province's irrigation reservoirs.....

[Idaho Invasive Species Watercraft Inspection Program 5 Year Review 2009 -2013 \(1/15/13\)](#)

In 2009, the Idaho Legislature and Governor provided the statute and authority to the Idaho State Department of Agriculture to institute an ambitious and proactive watercraft inspection program in order to prevent the introduction of zebra and quagga mussels into the state. Zebra and quagga mussels cause significant economic and environmental damage and are primarily transported and introduced through the movement of watercraft. To date the program has conducted nearly 200,000 inspections and has intercepted 105 vessels transporting mussels.

[Opinion: We need controlled launching sites at Bear Lake, Utah \(1/31/14\)](#)

During the 2013 Utah legislative session, HB333, sponsored by Rep. Ronda Menlove, R-Garland, and Sen. Lyle Hillyard, R-Logan, was passed by the Utah legislature. HB333 was originally proposed to effectively close Bear Lake beaches or "sovereign lands" to any and all use by the public to protect Bear Lake from invasive species. In the last minute of the 2013 legislative session, HB333 was changed to allow "adjacent property owners to launch or retrieve a vessel from their adjacent property." HB333 effectively creates miles of uncontrolled launching along the shores of Bear Lake.....

Update: Mussel Fee Paid sticker requirements for California registered vessels

As of January 1, 2014, California registered recreational vessels using fresh water bodies within the state are required to display a "Mussel Fee Paid" sticker on the hull next to the current registration sticker. Paying the Mussel Fee does not entitle vessels to bypass inspections or fees for inspections conducted by individual water managers. Boaters should contact the particular water body office directly for information regarding their inspection program and requirements prior to visiting. A list of watercraft inspection programs and contact information is available at: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/invasives/quaggamussel/> . DBW's website (<http://www.dbw.ca.gov/PDF/FAQ-QuaggaFee.pdf>) has additional information on the Mussel Fee.

MARINE

[US West Coast on high alert against tsunami-washed Japanese invasive species \(2/3/14\)](#)

“The answer is ‘yes,’ there is a real threat,” John Chapman of the Oregon State University’s Marine Bioinvasion Lab told RT in an interview, noting that well over 150 marine species have arrived on the coast over the last year. “These [creatures] have the potential to invade local habitats.”

[Drakes Bay Oyster Co. has more time to prepare for Supreme Court \(1/27/13\)](#)

The Drakes Bay Oyster Co. has been granted a legal stay to allow it to continue operations over the next 90 days while it prepares its case for the U.S. Supreme Court...

[NH: The environmental, and economic, costs of invasive species \(1/10/14\)](#)

The tunicate is a spineless marine animal that’s better known by another name -- sea squirt, which sounds like a cute little creature that might be the best friend of a cartoon mermaid. But Larry Harris has a nickname for didemnum, one particular kind of sea squirt that is anything but cute. UNH professor Larry Harris says invasive species found in New Hampshire waters, like the didemnum, have economic impacts, ‘from clogging intakes to cooling systems of water treatment plants to having a negative impact on aquacultures.’ "My term for it is the tunicate from hell," says Harris, professor and chair of the department of biological sciences at the University of New Hampshire.

[NRCS partners with WA Tribes on invasive Japanese oyster drill control](#)

Japanese oyster drills are an invasive species of snail that feed on shellfish and barnacles. They are called "drills" because the snail attaches itself to the outer shell of the mollusk and then drills a small hole through the shell allowing it to eat the meat inside. Their presence is both detrimental to the production of shellfish and to the environment. In 2013 the NRCS began working with Tribes and individual shellfish producers to monitor and remove Japanese oyster drill from shellfish beds as a new practice under EQIP.....

[Acidification, predators pose double threat to oysters \(1/15/14\)](#)

The once-booming, now struggling Olympia oyster native to the West Coast could face a double threat from ocean acidification and invasive predators, according to new research from the University of California, Davis' Bodega Marine Laboratory. The work is published Jan. 15 in the journal Proceedings of the Royal Society B.....

WEEDS

National Conservation Training Center's "[Field Techniques for Invasive Plant Management](#)" 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.

[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 **February 27, 2014** (title: Rapid evolution of biocontrol insects in response to climate change)

OTHER

The Winter 2014 issue of "Invasives Quarterly" newsletter from USFWS Pacific Region can be found [here](#)

[WA State to lower Capitol Lake Feb. 4 to freeze invasive snails \(02/03/14\)](#)

The water level at Capitol Lake will be lowered starting Feb. 4 in an effort to control invasive New Zealand mudsnails. Colder than normal temperatures are expected this week; providing an opportunity to kill the snails by freezing them. Enterprise Services, which manages the 260-acre lake, will begin lowering the water level shortly after midnight on Tuesday morning. By Tuesday afternoon, most of the lake bottom will be exposed to the elements, although some pools and channels will still be covered with water. The drawdown will likely last until Saturday, Feb. 8.

[Invasive species get a leg up State's grade drops; budget cuts blamed \(1/26/14\)](#)

The state received a B- in the Oregon Invasive Species Council's annual report card, down from an A- the previous year.

[Essays in the Economics of Invasive Species Management \(by Amitrajeet A Batabyal\)](#)

There is no doubt that the phenomenon we now call globalization has brought many benefits to the citizens of our heterogeneous world. Inter alia, this phenomenon has resulted in the increased mobility of humans, goods, and services from one part of the world to another. International trade in both final goods and services and in various

factors of production has risen, and this rise has generally seen the welfare improving for all the involved parties.

FISH

[Anglers remove thousands of burbot during Flaming Gorge ice derby \(1/30/14\)](#)

.....In total, 400 anglers caught, weighed and verified about 2,000 fish during Flaming Gorge Reservoir's ice fishing derby Friday through Sunday. Between a November fishing tournament, the ice derby last weekend and the months in between, anglers caught 4,039 burbot in an open war on the invasive, predatory species.....

[New York man pleads guilty to smuggling nearly 40,000 piranhas into the U.S. \(1/30/14\)](#)

(CNN) -- New York City resident Joel Rakower bit off more than he could chew when he smuggled nearly 40,000 piranhas into the United States. Rakower pleaded guilty Wednesday in federal court in Brooklyn to smuggling the deadly piranhas from 2011 to 2012, according to a U.S. Department of Justice statement. The federal Lacey Act combats trafficking in "illegal" wildlife, fish and plants.....

[Canada: \\$75K in fines levied for importing live Asian carp \(With Video\) \(1/17/14\)](#)

A trucker and the Edmonton company he worked for were fined \$75,000 in court Thursday for bringing live Asian carp into Canada. Alltheway Trucking, based in Edmonton, was fined \$70,000 and driver Yong-Sheng Zhang of Markham, Ont., was fined \$5,000 for twice bringing the invasive species over the Ambassador Bridge.....

[Invasive Lionfish, the Kings of the Caribbean, May Have Met Their Match \(1/24/14\)](#)

Scientists have devised a key to controlling the deadly lionfish in the warm waters of the southern Atlantic.....

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.

[WA – Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account \(ALEA\) Volunteer Cooperative Grant Program](#)

Grant applications will be accepted from December 1, 2013 – February 28, 2014.

The Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is announcing a small grants program for the control of noxious weeds and invasive aquatic plants for Washington State counties located outside of the greater Puget Sound region. This one-time funding is available only through the end of the 2013-2015 biennium, comprising one complete growing season, the spring and summer of 2014, with the funded elements being completed by June 30, 2015.) The primary contact for questions related to this program is Carol Piening and her contact information 360-740-6808; carol.piening@dnr.wa.gov .

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 for additional information. [Thanks Celestine Duncan]

LEGISLATION/FEDERAL ACTIONS/BUDGET

FY 2014 Federal Budget

Interior: [The FY 2014 Appropriations Omnibus bill](#) for the Department of the Interior includes funding for both the USFWS (\$2 Million) and Park Service (\$2 Million) for “quagga and zebra mussel containment, prevention, and enforcement as prescribed in the February 2010 [Quagga-Zebra Mussel Action Plan](#) for Western U.S. Waters.”

Appropriators include \$4 million for aquatic plant control. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Aquatic Plant Control Research Program ([APCRP](#)) is the nation’s only federally authorized program for research and development of science-based management strategies for invasive aquatic weeds. The FY 2014 omnibus appropriations bill includes \$4 million for APCRP. [Thanks Celestine Duncan]

[WA Rep. Condotta responds to concerned fisheries with revamped GMO bill \(1/27/14\)](#)

OLYMPIA — Fish farms in Washington are still not happy with an updated bill that intends to label transgenic fish. Transgenic is a form of genetic engineering where the DNA is “spliced” to create more desirable traits. Although the new bill only addresses labeling and not the production of these fish, the industry opposes it. Rep. Cary Condotta, R-East Wenatchee, originally filed [House Bill 2143](#), which would prohibit the production

of genetically modified finfish and would require them to be labeled when sent to supermarket shelves to be purchased as food by consumers.

[WA: Honeyford bill intended to keep invasive species out of state's waters \(1/23/14\)](#)

OLYMPIA – “They’re coming to wreak havoc on Washington’s waterways unless state officials can stop them now.” That’s the message Sen. Jim Honeyford conveyed to the Senate Natural Resources and Parks Committee this past Tuesday as he spoke in favor of Senate Bill 6040. Honeyford (R-Sunnyside) is sponsoring the bill in hopes of helping the state Department of Fish and Wildlife address invasive species through an integrated management approach.....

See bill information [here](#) [The companion bill is HB 2458]

Other stories on the bill [here](#) and (with video) [here](#)

[Hawaii: A new year, outlook for legislators \(1/15/14\)](#)

An issue that has generated some consensus among legislators statewide is the threat of invasive species, which has raised a few eyebrows on Kauai over the past few years. “We have already seen a glimpse of the damage and harm that this invasive species has had to Hawaii Island and Maui,” Rep. James “Jimmy” Kunane Tokioka, D-Wailua Homesteads-Omao, wrote in an email. “Like the coqui frog, we don’t want to see the fire ant on Kauai. Unlike the coqui frog, however, the effects of the fire ant could potentially be deadly.”.....

MEETINGS

FEBRUARY

1. 2014 Northern ID/Eastern WA Regional Lakes Conference - SAVE THE DATE!



13th Annual Regional Lakes Conference

- Who: Everyone interested in lakes and water
- When: Saturday, February 8th, 2014
- Where: Spokane Community College
Lair Student Center
N. 1810 Greene St., Spokane, WA 99207
- Are you interested in sponsorship, exhibit space, or presenting a project?

Contact Jeremy Jenkins, 509-922-5443 or jjenkins@libertylake.org

- Stay tuned for conference details in the coming weeks!

   Washington State Lake Protection Association

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

3. [Ballast Water Management Summit -- February 25-27, 2014, Renaissance Long Beach Hotel, Long Beach, CA](#)

APRIL

1. [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.

2. [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 100th Meridian Initiative will be held May 13-14 in Spokane, Washington [details will be sent out soon].

SEPTEMBER

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