



AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES NEWS

5/29/14

DREISSENID MUSSELS

[Lake Powell Quagga Mussel Containment Strategy \(5/23/14\)](#)

The National Park Service (NPS) has developed a response strategy in accordance with the NPS Quagga/Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention and Response Planning Guide (2007) to help reduce the spread of quagga mussels from Lake Powell to other lakes and rivers.

Related Story: [New goal: Contain Quagga mussels at Lake Powell \(5/23/14\)](#)

[Manitoba Announces Lake Winnipeg Zebra Mussel Treatment and Control Project Implementation Information \(5/14/14\)](#)

Following a consultation process with key stakeholders, the Manitoba government has finalized its plan for the treatment of zebra mussels in four harbours on Lake Winnipeg to ensure continued access to Lake Winnipeg for commercial fishers, Conservation and Water Stewardship Minister Gord Mackintosh announced today.

[Eyes on Manitoba as it tries to blast zebra mussels in unique experiment \(5/11/14\)](#)

[Lake Winnipeg zebra mussel plan panned by area residents \(5/1/14\)](#)

[Saskatchewan MLA Cox takes on Quagga mussels \(5/28/14\)](#)

Battlefords MLA Herb Cox is on a new crusade. His latest passion, as he calls it, is against a growing menace in the waters of North America. That menace is Quagga mussels, an invasive species from Eastern Europe that has made its way to this continent and has started wreaking havoc on rivers and lakes. At last Wednesday's Saskatchewan

Party nomination meeting at the Tropical Inn, where Cox was being re-nominated for his re-election bid, he showed party members an example of what he was talking about.

[California's Lake County considers countywide sales tax for invasive species prevention \(5/20/14\)](#)

There are only two weeks until the June 3 primary vote on the county's Measure L and there are still many undecided voters. Whereas most Lake County residents support the concept of Measure L, which would raise the countywide sales tax one-half percent -- with all money going toward keeping the lake healthy and keeping invasive species such as the quagga mussel out of the county -- some local residents aren't enthusiastic about how it will be carried out.

[Zebra mussel restrictions expanding across Texas \(5/22/14\)](#)

“We don't have **quagga mussels** in any of our lakes that we're aware of,” Van Zee said, “and we hope that through these public education efforts, that ...

['Popeye' The Mussel-Sniffing Dog Visits Northern County Lakes Memorial Day Weekend \(5/22/14\)](#)

Popeye the mussel-sniffing dog will be inspecting boats at both reservoirs for invasive quagga and zebra mussels, according to the

[Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin team up on video campaign to prevent invasive species transfers](#)

LANSING, Michigan — Three states in the Great Lakes region are cooperating on a video campaign (<http://bit.ly/1gPKGSq>) encouraging boaters and ...

[Central Basin Municipal Water District facing another crisis \(5/17/14\)](#)

Officials with the Central Basin Municipal Water District acknowledged this week that the embattled agency has been unable to acquire supplies it promised to sell the Water Replenishment District of Southern California. Standing in the way of a \$4.2 million water sale are experts with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works who are worried about quagga mussels. The small, invasive shellfish has contaminated the Colorado River and would threaten local water supplies if mistakenly introduced into L.A. area streams by the agency through the water transfer.

[Calif: Quagga mussel threat continue to be serious problem \(5/8/14\)](#)

Serious boaters know that when they reach their lake or river destinations, someone will be on hand to carefully inspect their craft for signs of either quagga or zebra mussels attached to the undersides, livewells or other possibly wet areas of their boats. Most people will have to fill out an affidavit at the location attesting that their craft remained clean and dry both before and after their last visit, lest the mussels be unintentionally transported and allowed to continue their rampage across the United States.....

[Salmon Arm, BC pushes for action on invasive mussels \(5/22/14\)](#)

Salmon Arm pushes for action on invasive mussels ... by the federal government on preventing invasive zebra and quagga mussels from entering B.C. ...

['Clean Boats, Clean Tournaments' training DVD helps Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers! \(5/12/14\)](#)

A new video produced by Wisconsin Sea Grant offers complementary views of exciting fishing tournament action along with the invitation to keep them aquatic-invasive-species-free. The 10- minute video provides step-by-step instructions for setting up a boat-washing station and works to educate fishing event organizers and anglers with the Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers! ® Clean Drain Dry message. "Clean Boats, Clean Tournaments" acknowledges that fishing tournaments can run the risk of spreading Eurasian milfoil, zebra/quagga mussels and spiny water fleas. These invaders can alter the habitat and wreak havoc on the food chain so vital for highly sought after sport fish. See the video here [VIDEO](#)

[No silver bullet for aquatic invasive species \(5/22/14\)](#)

In March the New York Times published a story called "[Science Takes on Silent Invader](#)," a version of which was reprinted in the Star Tribune. The article seems to indicate that scientists are closing in on a "silver bullet" solution, something that can be safely added to lakes that will kill zebra mussels and nothing else.

BOAT INSPECTION NEWS

[Nebraska power utility urges boaters to clean, drain, dry equipment to stymie invasive species \(5/24/14\)](#)

Nebraska Public Power District and the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission are asking water recreationalists to be aware of invasive species like ...

[Volunteers poised for teachable moments on quagga mussels \(5/23/14\)](#)

The Lake Havasu Marine Association is educating boaters this weekend on quagga mussels, an invasive species that has been found in Lake Havasu ...

[Iowa DNR reminds boaters of invasive water species \(5/21/14\)](#)

DES MOINES, Iowa — The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is reminding boaters and anglers to be aware of **invasive** water **species** ahead ...

[NV Boat Inspection Stations Open to Combat Aquatic Invasive Species \(5/22/14\)](#)

The Nevada Division of State Parks and the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) have announced the opening of four Northern Nevada Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) watercraft inspection and decontamination stations for summer 2014.

[Mandatory boat checks for invasive species begin at Sierra Nevada lake \(5/20/14\)](#)

TRUCKEE, Calif. — Mandatory inspections began at the Donner Lake Public Boat Launch on May 16 and are available Friday, Saturday and Sunday ...

[Boat inspection stations open in Oregon to target invasive species \(5/19/14\)](#)

SALEM, Ore. — Aquatic invasive species boat inspection stations are now open in Ashland, Gold Beach, Klamath Falls, Lakeview and Ontario. All vehicles carrying motorized or non-motorized boats (kayaks, canoes, paddleboards, sailboats, etc.) are required to stop. Motorists are alerted to inspections stations by orange “Boat Inspection Ahead” signs followed by a white “Inspection Required for All Watercraft” sign. Failure to stop at an inspection station could result in a \$110 fine

[OR: Boat inspectors find invasive quagga mussels on pontoon boat at Ontario inspection station \(5/21/14\)](#)

ONTARIO—Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife technicians discovered quagga mussels on a pontoon houseboat on May 20 at the Ontario boat inspection station in eastern Oregon. It is the first boat of the 2014 inspection season found to be infested with the invasive mussels.

[Invasive species monitoring resuming in Glacier NP \(5/15/14\)](#)

WEST GLACIER - Glacier National Park officials say that they're continuing their boat inspection and permit program this summer to help keep invasive species from invading the park's waters.

[Some Slight Changes If You're Planning To Boat At Grand Teton And Yellowstone National Parks \(5/15/14\)](#)

With the rise in recent years of invasive aquatic species such as New Zealand mud snails and quagga mussels, national parks are striving to....

[Funding Tahoe's boat inspections should be a top priority \(5/28/14\)](#)

Tahoe's boat inspections are again open for business. Inspectors are true heroes in the effort to Keep Tahoe Blue. They decontaminate thousands of boats each summer to ward off new invasive species. The top threats are quagga and zebra mussels, pests that multiply rapidly and have destroyed ecosystems in Eastern lakes and Nevada's own Lake Mead. These invaders are right at our doorstep. A dozen boats a year show up at inspection stations with live mussels. It only takes one contaminated boat to forever alter the Lake Tahoe we know and love.....

Related story: [Tahoe Boat Inspections Matter \(5/16/14\)](#)

[Lake Mead: Agencies Open No-Cost Ais Removal Stations \(5/13/14\)](#)

LAS VEGAS – The Nevada Department of Wildlife and the National Park Service have teamed up to provide boaters with a lakeside option for removing aquatic invasive species, such as quagga mussels from their vessels. This no-cost service includes both a vessel inspection and a hot-water wash, and is made possible by financial grants from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[New Mexico: Mussels continue to be problem for boaters \(5/16/14\)](#)

Summer time in New Mexico means waters across the state will soon be invaded by boats. That means the threat of invasive Zebra and Quagga mussels invading our waters too. "We want our waters to stay clean," said New Mexico Game and Fish Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator James Dominguez.

MARINE

[Tsunami debris confirmed in Washington state; skiff washed ashore in January \(5/20/14\)](#)

SEATTLE — A seaweed-covered skiff that washed ashore in January on the Washington coast near Westport was recently confirmed as debris from the March 2011 tsunami in Japan.....

Go [here](#) for website on confirmed Japan tsunami marine debris in Washington

WEEDS

[B.C. grants \\$1.6 million to fight invasive plants \(5/9/14\)](#)

The provincial government is providing over \$1.6 million in new grants to control the spread of invasive plants, Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Minister Steve Thomson announced today.

Related stories: [B.C. gives \\$180,000 to Invasive Species Council of B.C.](#) and [Government targets invasive plants with funding](#) and [Two Municipalities Receive \\$82K to Combat Invasive Plant Species](#)

[CDFW Latest “Eye on Invasives Newsletter”](#)

Scroll down to the bottom of the page and see [Invader Crusaders: Volume 4, Number 1 \(PDF\)](#).....Articles include” Volunteers and Weed Control: Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve”

FISH

[Hybridization Between Native And Invasive Species Of Trout Accelerated By Climate Change \(5/27/14\)](#)

Scientists have discovered that the rapid spread of hybridization between a native species and an invasive species of trout in the wild is strongly linked to changes in climate. In the study, stream temperature warming over the past several decades and decreases in spring flow over the same time period contributed to the spread of hybridization between native westslope cutthroat trout and introduced rainbow trout – the world’s most widely introduced invasive fish species –across the Flathead River system in Montana and British Columbia, Canada.

[Salish/Kootenai Tribes Pull 5,232 Lake Trout From Flathead Lake In Initial Gill-Netting \(5/16/14\)](#)

The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes completed an initial phase of gill netting on Montana's Flathead Lake during the last two weeks of April, catching 5,232 lake trout. The netting is part of a larger effort to suppress lake trout numbers for the benefit of bull trout and other native species.

[Salmon farming controversy aired in U.S. homes \(5/13/14\)](#)

British Columbia's salmon farming industry was front and centre in millions of American homes Sunday night. CBS' flagship newsmagazine 60 Minutes featured a 13-minute [segment](#) on the West Coast industry entitled Salmon in the Sea which investigated the issue of whether salmon farms help or hurt declining wild salmon stocks.

[Bassmaster Magazine Top-100 Jumps Columbia River To 14 In Best Bass Fishing, Dworshak At 47 \(5/9/14\)](#)

For the third year in a row, two water recreation locations managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Walla Walla District made the nationwide Bassmaster Magazine Top-100 list of best places to fish for bass. That's according to information released April 23 by B.A.S.S. Communications at <http://www.bassmaster.com/news/introducing-100-best-bass-lakes-2014>

[Fighting **invasive species**: If you can't beat em, eat em? \(5/25/14\)](#)

"Eating invasive species is not a silver bullet," said Laura Huffman, the Nature Conservancy's director in Texas. But it can still be "a way to get people ...

[The interactive effects of climate change, riparian management, and a non-native predator on stream-rearing salmon](#)

Predicting how climate change is likely to interact with myriad other stressors that threaten species of conservation concern is an essential challenge in aquatic ecosystems. This study provides a framework to accomplish this task in salmon-bearing streams of the northwestern United States, where land-use related reductions in riparian shading have caused changes in stream thermal regimes, and additional warming from projected climate change may result in significant losses of coldwater fish habitat over the next century.

[Chinese market could help rid rivers of **invasive Asian carp** \(5/19/14\)](#)

Asian carp are an invasive fish taking over portions of American rivers like the Missouri and Mississippi. The only way to beat them may be to eat them. But Americans don't have a taste for the carp. Until they do, fisheries are looking overseas.

OTHER

[ELI Webinar: Fading Forests: Protecting America's Trees from Non-Native Pests and Diseases](#)

Americans count on trees and forests to provide shade and shelter, jobs and products, and clean air and water, both today and for generations to come. However, non-native insects and diseases are destroying North American trees and forests. In some cases, entire species of trees are being removed from our forests and neighborhoods, causing economic and environmental costs and reduced quality of life in our communities. In this webinar, the authors of *Fading Forests III: American Forests: What Choice Will We Make?* will present policy and management options that can protect our trees and forests, followed by comments by a panel of experts from government, industry, and non-governmental organizations.

When: June 12, 2014; 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm **EDT**

Where: Via webinar

RSVP: **The event is free and open to the public.** Click [here](#) for more information

[Global warming will open Arctic to invasive species, Smithsonian scientists say \(5/28/14\)](#)

For the first time in roughly 2 million years, melting Arctic sea ice is connecting the north Pacific and north Atlantic oceans. The newly opened passages leave both coasts and Arctic waters vulnerable to a large wave of invasive species, biologists from the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center assert in a commentary published May 28 in *Nature Climate Change*.

[Evolutionary responses to global change: lessons from invasive species \(May 2014\)](#)

Biologists have recently devoted increasing attention to the role of rapid evolution in species' responses to environmental change. However, it is still unclear what evolutionary responses should be expected, at what rates, and whether evolution will save populations at risk of extinction. The potential of biological invasions to provide useful insights has barely been realised, despite the close analogies to species responding to global change, particularly climate change; in both cases, populations encounter novel climatic and biotic selection pressures, with expected evolutionary responses occurring over similar timescales. However, the analogy is not perfect, and invasive species are perhaps best used as an upper bound on expected change. In this article, we review what invasive species can and cannot teach us about likely evolutionary responses to global change and the constraints on those responses. We also discuss the limitations of invasive species as a model and outline directions for future research.

[Phoenix Zoo wrestles with unwanted turtles \(7/20/14\)](#)

Zoo officials, in conjunction with the Arizona Game and Fish Department, set traps last weekend to deal with what they say has been an ongoing problem: people dumping their pet turtles in the moat like lake in front of the zoo. Since 2007, zoo officials have trapped hundreds of non-native turtles.

[Oregon Lake Watch Needs You!](#)

See the end of this document for further information

[Scientists propose new classification scheme for invasive species \(5/7/14\)](#)

A group of researchers from across four continents (Australia, Africa, Europe, North America) has described a new sort of classification scheme for understanding the risks to biodiversity on our planet, modeled upon the approach taken by the [IUCN Red List](#). Rather than describing the species most at-risk for extinction, they're classifying invasive or alien species based on the level of impact they have on the recipient ecosystem. Think of it as an IUCN "Black List."

Go [here](#) for research paper

[A Unified Classification of Alien Species Based on the Magnitude of their Environmental Impacts \(5/6/14\)](#)

Abstract: Species moved by human activities beyond the limits of their native geographic ranges into areas in which they do not naturally occur (termed aliens) can cause a broad range of significant changes to recipient ecosystems; however, their impacts vary greatly across species and the ecosystems into which they are introduced. There is therefore a critical need for a standardised method to evaluate, compare, and eventually predict the magnitudes of these different impacts. Here, we propose a straightforward system for classifying alien species according to the magnitude of their environmental impacts, based on the mechanisms of impact used to code species in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Global Invasive Species Database, which are presented here for the first time. The classification system uses five semi-quantitative scenarios describing impacts under each mechanism to assign species to different levels of impact—ranging from Minimal to Massive—with assignment corresponding to the highest level of deleterious impact associated with any of the mechanisms. The scheme also includes categories for species that are Not Evaluated, have No Alien Population, or are Data Deficient, and a method for assigning uncertainty to all the classifications. We show how this classification system is applicable at different levels of ecological complexity and different spatial and temporal scales, and embraces existing impact metrics. In fact, the scheme is analogous to the already widely adopted and accepted Red List approach to categorising extinction risk, and so could conceivably be readily integrated with existing practices and policies in many regions.

[CDFW Latest Eye on Invasives Newsletter](#)

We hope you enjoy reading the issues and learn something new and interesting about California's invasive species. We encourage you to share the newsletters and this webpage with others who may be interested in learning about California's invasive species and their impacts. Go to -- [Invader Crusaders: Volume 4, Number 1 \(PDF\)](#)

[Development and validation of a quantitative PCR assay for the early detection and monitoring of the invasive diatom *Didymosphenia geminata* \(June 2014\)](#)

Didymosphenia geminata is a large, invasive, freshwater diatom that can produce distinctive and robust mucilaginous stalks. Over the last two decades, there has been a worldwide increase in the distribution and severity of *D. geminata* blooms. These dense, persistent blooms can have severe impacts on native species and ecosystem functioning. *D. geminata* is usually identified by microscopic methods that are time consuming, resource intensive, and dependent upon expert taxonomic identification, so the extent of surveillance programs has been limited. As an alternative, we have developed a TaqMan quantitative polymerase chain reaction (QPCR) assay for sensitive and rapid detection and enumeration of *D. geminata* in environmental samples. Species-specific QPCR primers and probe were designed by aligning the *D. geminata* 18S ribosomal DNA (rDNA) sequence with closely related diatoms. The QPCR assay was linear ($R^2 = 1.00$) over a detection range of eight orders of magnitude with a lower limit of approximately two *D. geminata* cells. QPCR analysis of environmental samples employed the comparative cycle threshold (C_T)-method with an exogenous plasmid used as an internal reference standard. The assay was evaluated using samples collected during a survey of *D. geminata* in three rivers in the South Island, New Zealand, and from 13 international locations where *D. geminata* is known to be present. Positive QPCR amplifications were confirmed as the correct amplification product through direct DNA sequencing. Phylogenetic analysis of 18S rDNA sequences suggests that *D. geminata* is more closely related to species in the family Cymbellaceae rather than Gomphonemataceae as currently classified.

SATIRE

[The Website of the USDA's Agency of Invasive Species](#)

The Agency of Invasive Species is the federal agency tasked with monitoring and mitigating threat of invasive species, particularly weeds.....

JOBS/RFPS

WDFW Ballast Water Program's technical assistance and data management position.

Duties: Tracking vessel movements; researching, collecting, organizing and evaluating ballast water reporting data for compliance and entering data into program's ACCESS database; designing, developing, maintaining quality control for state ballast water management (BWM) ACCESS database including protocols, complex queries, and automated reports;

Applications due by June 9th.

Go to <http://wdfw.wa.gov/employment/> and at bottom of page search with "Permanent Environmental Specialist 2 *04984-14"

For further information contact Allen Pleus, WDFW AIS Coordinator, (360) 902-2724, Allen.Pleus@dfw.wa.gov

LEGISLATION/FEDERAL ACTIONS/BUDGET

[MN: Tax bill adds \\$10M a year for invasive species \(5/23/14\)](#)

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — The tax bill signed by Gov. Mark Dayton provides an extra \$10 million a year for local government programs to fight the spread of aquatic invasive species — a consistent funding source that counties and lake organizations say will give their efforts a big boost.

Water Resources Reform and Development Act to President for Signature

The conference report to the "Water Resources Reform and Development Act" passed the senate on 5/22/14 by a 91-7 vote and the house 5/20/14 by a 412-4 vote. Along with the Conference Report, links to the Joint Explanatory, Section-By-Section, and Booklet can also be found @ <http://transportation.house.gov/wrrda/conference.htm>

AIS language in WRRDA:

1. See page 7 of [WRRDA 2014 Conference Report Section-By-Section](#)

Section 1039. Invasive Species.

This section authorizes the Secretary and heads of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and other applicable agencies to review existing authorities related to the prevention of invasive species and make recommendations to Congress on how to more effectively respond to threats

and requires the Comptroller General to review federal costs of operation and maintenance related to mitigating the impacts of aquatic invasive species on federally owned and operated facilities.

This section also requires the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, along with the Corps of Engineers, National Park Service, and United States Geological Survey, to work to slow the spread of Asian Carp by providing technical assistance, coordination, and support to state and local governments. Additionally, this section authorizes the Corps of Engineers to make modifications and enhancements to existing projects to prevent the spread of invasive species in the Great Lakes, increases the authorization of a small continuing authority program carried out by the Corps of Engineers for the purpose of preventing the spread of invasive species, and authorizes the Secretary, in consultation and coordination with the States of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington, to establish watercraft inspection stations in the vicinity of reservoirs operated by the Corps of Engineers.

2. See [WRRDA 2014 Conference Report, Joint Explanatory & Signatures](#)

Section 1039: Start at page 45...and Page 48 has information on **Watercraft Inspection Stations, Coordination, Monitoring and Contingency Planning.**

3. WRRDA related press:

[Congress poised to close Upper St. Anthony Falls lock to hold off Asian carp \(5/13/14\)](#)

[Senator Levin mentions WRRDA invasives language and benefit to Great Lakes \(5/22/14\)](#)

[House Passes Historic Measure to Strengthen Water Resources Infrastructure & America's Competitiveness \(5/20/14\)](#)

[Congressman McNerney Applauds Passage Of Essential Water Resources Legislation \(5/21/14\)](#)

Congress approves Texas water transfer bill (5/23/14)

The Senate yesterday passed and sent to President Obama for his signature a measure that would authorize Texas officials to pump water that may contain invasive species out of a lake on the Oklahoma-Texas border. Under the Lacey Act, such water transfers are illegal because the law bans moving invasives over state lines. But [H.R. 4032](#) from Rep. Ralph Hall (R-Texas) would exempt the North Texas Municipal Water District and the Greater Texoma Utility Authority from the act, in order to provide water to Texas locals. The water would be treated for invasives. Similar legislation specific to zebra mussels passed last Congress; this session's measure would expand the exemption to all invasives,

including the quagga mussel. While the administration has said the legislation could set a bad precedent for enforcement of the Lacey Act, it has not stated whether the president would veto the bill. Democrats have said the measure should not be used as a precedent for exemptions in the future. [Reprinted from “Greenwire” with permission from Environment & Energy Publishing, LLC. www.eenews.net. 202/628-6500]

MEETINGS

JUNE

1. Evolutionary Ethology of Fishes (EEEF): 22 – 26 June 2014, at Oregon State University in Corvallis, Oregon. At the upcoming biennial EEEF meeting in Corvallis, OR we will be holding a special session on the Ecology and Management of Invasive Fishes. We feel it is a great opportunity to bring together researchers from both freshwater and marine systems to share knowledge of ongoing fish invasions. We would like to invite you to participate in this special session that will encompass a variety of topics related to fish invasions including: population dynamics, interactions with native species, community-level effects, species level effects, management practices, and conservation efforts. If you are interested in participating in this session, please contact me directly via email. For further information go to <http://eeef2014.org/>

[2. Call for Citizen Science Invasive Species Volunteers: Join the effort to help locate and eradicate invasive plants from WA State!](#)

Friday, June 20th; 1pm – 3:30pm USDA Gifford Pinchot National Forest Office in Vancouver, WA. Address: 10600 NE 51st Circle, Vancouver, WA 98682

Saturday, June 21st; 9:30am - 12:00pm at the Cowlitz County Administration Building in Kelso, WA Address: 207 Fourth Avenue N., Kelso, WA, 92626

Saturday, June 28th, 9:30am - 12:00pm at the Naches Ranger Station in Naches, WA. Address: 10237 U.S. Highway 12, Naches, WA 98937

Capacity is limited

JULY

1. The Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) Annual Summit will be held July 20 – 24, 2014 at the Whistler Fairmont Chateau in Whistler, B.C. PNWER’s invasive species working group will meet July 23rd, 9:45am - 5:00pm. For further information go [here](#). For additional information on the invasive species session contact Megan Levy @ megan.levy@pnwer.org

AUGUST

1. 2014 California Invasive Species Action Week Saturday, August 2 – Sunday, August 10

Help protect our resources by joining a volunteer effort, learning about prevention practices, attending an educational presentation or field outing, or learning to identify your local invasive species. Find nearby volunteer efforts, a schedule of events, and educational information at www.dfg.ca.gov/invasives/actionweek .

SEPTEMBER

Western Regional Panel: The annual meeting of The Western Regional Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species will be held in Houston September 17-19, 2014. This will be a joint meeting of The WRP and the [Gulf and South Atlantic Panel](#). The Crowne Plaza Downtown is the meeting venue and host hotel. The [WRP website](#) will have more information on hotel reservations and more in the near future.

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

[Oregon - Invasive Species Cook-off 2014 - Eradication by Mastication: A](#) benefit for the Institute for Applied Ecology, Sunday, September 28, 2014, 2 pm - 7 pm, Zenith Vineyard (Salem, OR)

OCTOBER

The Alaska Chapter of the American Fisheries Society will be meeting in Juneau, Oct. 20-24. An invasive species session is being planned. Contact Tammy Davis, ADFG, for further information @ tammy.davis@alaska.gov

[The International Invasive Sea Squirt Conference V will be held at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Wed-Fri Oct 29-31, 2014.](#) Conference Registration Deadline October 1, 2014.

TO UNSUBSCRIBE/SUBSCRIBE from the AIS NEWS email sphillips@psmfc.org

Oregon Lake Watch Needs You

The Oregon Lake Watch program is looking for volunteers to survey for aquatic invasive species and monitor water quality in our lakes, ponds and reservoirs. The program is administered by the Center for Lakes and Reservoirs at Portland State University, and was started in 2013 to educate the public about threats of aquatic invasive species, provide early detection of aquatic invasive species, and provide long term water quality data for the better management of Oregon's lakes and reservoirs. Funding for the program has been provided by the Oregon State Marine Board and the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

In the recently released annual report, Oregon Lake Watch describes some of the highlights of the first year of the program, including training 18 volunteers to collect AIS and water quality data, collecting samples from 16 waterbodies located throughout the state of Oregon, and detecting seven different aquatic invasive species during the surveys, including four species that had not been previously documented in the survey lakes. Invasive species found included the aquatic plants Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) and curlyleaf pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*), as well as Chinese (or Japanese) mystery snails (*Cipangopaludina chinensis* or *C. japonica*) and Asian clams (*Corbicula fluminea*). The water quality data collected, including water transparency and temperature, will provide a valuable baseline for determining long term changes.

To become part of the program, volunteers must attend a training session, adopt a lake, survey for aquatic invasive species and water quality at least twice during the year, and enter their survey data on our online data entry portal. In return, volunteers are issued sampling equipment, learn valuable information about aquatic invasive species and water quality, spend quality time on their lake of choice, and will have the satisfaction of knowing they are contributing to the better management of our water resources.

Three training sessions have been scheduled for June of 2014: one in the Portland area, one in the Bend area, and one in Eugene or Roseburg area. Please visit our website (www.pdx.edu/oregon-lake-watch) to learn more about the program, sign up as a volunteer, and fill out a survey that will help us schedule the training sessions. You can also like us on Facebook!