



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

*08/11/2013*

### **DREISSENIID MUSSELS**

1. [Quagga Mussels Found In Salt River Project Canal System \(8/1/13\)](#)

More than a dozen **quagga mussels** have been discovered in two Valley canals after a routine inspection by Salt River Project (AZ) officials last month.

2. [Lake Havasu Marine Association receives federal grant to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species \(8/7/13\)](#)

Lake Havasu City, AZ: Preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species throughout freshwater lakes and rivers of the western United States has become a high priority, especially on the lower Colorado River now infested with a growing population of quagga mussels. In response, the Lake Havasu Marine Association (LHMA), in cooperation with Arizona Game and Fish, developed and initiated a grass-roots plan, “Sticker A Mussel,” to raise awareness and educate boaters on how to prevent contaminating other invasive species-free bodies of water.

For another related story go [here](#)

3. [Stunning Shipwrecks From War of 1812 Invaded by Mussels \(8/8/13\)](#)

4. [Zebra mussels found in Lake Mary in Douglas County, MN \(8/1/13\)](#)

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has confirmed the presence of zebra mussels in Lake Mary in Douglas County near Alexandria. After lake residents reported finding a zebra mussel attached to a rock in the northeast bay, DNR crews searched the area July 29 and found another adult zebra mussel.....

5. [States Seek Federal Crackdown on Mussel Invaders \(8/5/13\)](#)

State lawmakers and wildlife officials want Washington's help in battling huge colonies of zebra and quagga mussels that are wreaking havoc in U.S. waters and costing U.S. taxpayers billions of dollars.

#### 6. Clean-and-drain areas introduced at MN boat launches (8/2/13)

To help boaters prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS), the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is adding more than 200 clean-and-drain areas to statewide public water access sites this summer.

#### 7. Glacier NP Program to Prevent Aquatic Invasive Species Continues (7/9/13)

WEST GLACIER, MONT. – Glacier National Park continues its boat inspection and permit program this summer as part of an ongoing effort to prevent introduction of new aquatic invasive species (AIS) in park waterways. Quagga and zebra mussels, along with other aquatic invasive species, are primarily transported on recreational watercraft and pose a threat to delicate ecosystems, recreational opportunities, and local economies.

#### 8. Boater Education Courses Target Invasive Species (8/11/13)

DENTON — Every two months, Christopher Churchill, a U.S. Geological Survey biologist, scuba dives in Ray Roberts Lake, northwest of Dallas, to monitor the growth rates of zebra mussels, which have wreaked havoc on several Texas lakes and rivers.

#### 9. Mussels and grass are choking Arizona (8/9/13)

Whether they were introduced by accident or on purpose, invasive species are a nagging reminder of the unpleasant consequences of upsetting the delicate balance of nature.

#### 10. Mussel invaders: Tiny species costing billions in repairs (8/11/13, with video)

(CBS News) A tiny Russian invader is making big waves in the United States and costing taxpayers billions of dollars. The zebra mussel, a freshwater species native to southern Russia, and its close cousin, the quagga mussel, are now in more than 600 bodies of water in 27 states according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.....

## **WEEDS**

#### 1. Invading Cordova (8/9/13)

Look in any direction from town and between the clouds is a breathtaking view of snow-capped mountains meeting the blue waters of Prince William Sound, filled with abundant wildlife and lush green vegetation. If you look closer, though, you may notice a few things that don't belong in this pristine picture. One of those things is invasive species.....

## **MARINE**

### 1. New Ballast Water Regulations Add Costs for Shipowners (7/29/13)

Shipowners will soon be obliged to address new and expensive regulations to deal with ballast water. The Ballast Water Management Convention 2004 will require them to understand compliance standards, develop a ballast water management plan, select and install a treatment system and train personnel to operate the system. Their ships will be subject to surveys and inspection to maintain certification.....

## **OTHER**

### **1. Environmental Studies Student Publishes Guide to Aquatic Invaders**

Jen McBride, an environmental science graduate student at University of Montana, created a pocket guide titled “Aquatic Invasive Species Threatening the Crown of the Continent.” The tool aims to help identify and prevent aquatic invasive species from invading the Crown region. Species included in the guide were selected by agency professionals based on proximity to the Crown, potential impacts of invasion and likelihood of introduction. The 116-page guide will be distributed to land managers and others. View it online by going to [http://crownmanagers.org/storage/AIS\\_guide\\_final0313\\_web.pdf](http://crownmanagers.org/storage/AIS_guide_final0313_web.pdf)

### 2. AOPA Video on How to Stop the Spread of Invasive Plants and Animals by Seaplane

Since the 1980s, zebra mussels, quagga mussels, Eurasian watermilfoil, and other non-indigenous aquatic plants and animals have been rapidly taking over many of our freshwater lakes and causing billions of dollars in damage. These invasive species are primarily transported by watercraft, and once established can be impossible to eradicate. By following a few simple guidelines outlined in this video, seaplane pilots can help stop the spread of these aquatic nuisances.....

### 3. Pima County, AZ removes invasive bullfrogs from KERP ponds (8/9/13)

Pima County Regional Flood Control District is removing invasive and predatory bullfrogs this summer from the Kino Environmental Restoration Project (KERP)....

## **FISH**

### 1. Invasive carp: Poll says Minnesotans support closing locks on Mississippi (8/7/13)

A majority of Minnesotans — 63 percent — support closing the Mississippi River locks in Minneapolis and St. Paul to curb the upstream spread of invasive carp, according to a poll commissioned by a coalition of outdoors groups....

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

### **1. Congress Delays Work on Appropriations over Sequester Battles (7/29/13)**

Both the House and the Senate stumbled in their attempts to move appropriations bills given the impact of budget sequestration and the major differences in spending caps in the House and the Senate. The failure to garner sufficient votes in either body and with only a month of legislative activity remaining before the end of the fiscal year, a continuing resolution will be necessary to keep the government open. The collapse of the appropriations process this week occurred during bipartisan negotiations over a budget plan to replace the sequester. If a deal is not brokered to replace the sequester with cuts to entitlements or increased revenues, then Congress will be forced to negotiate the terms of a year-long continuing resolution. Republicans will likely want funding levels to meet those contained in the Budget Control Act, which would result in approximately a 2 percent across the board cut. Democrats would likely oppose these cuts, but if a deal is not made, then the federal government would shut down. [Source: *Ocean News Weekly: Week of July 29, 2013 – Number 210*]

### **2. The Lake Tahoe Restoration Act introduced (8/1/13)**

A bill to restore Lake Tahoe and the basin and protect the region from a number of imminent threats, was introduced 8/1/13, according to U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein's office. The bill was authored by Feinstein, D-Calif., and is cosponsored by Sens. Harry Reid and Dean Heller, R-Nev., and Barbara Boxer, D-Calif. The bill would:

- Allocate \$30 million dollars to watercraft inspections and removal of existing invasive species and requires all watercraft be inspected to prevent the introduction of invasive aquatic species in accordance with the Lake Tahoe Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan.

For a press release from Senator Reid's office go [here](#).

### **3. House Appropriations Committee Releases Fiscal Year 2014 Interior and Environment Bill (7/22/13)**

The House Appropriations Committee today released the fiscal year 2014 Interior and Environment Appropriations bill. The legislation includes funding for the Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Forest Service, and various independent and related agencies. Bill highlights include:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) – The FWS is funded at \$1.06 billion in the bill, a cut of \$401 million – or 27% – below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level. Within this amount, the legislation prioritizes funding – cutting operations costs by 18%, but maintaining funding for programs such as endangered species recovery, **invasive species**, prevention of illegal wildlife trafficking, and mitigation fish hatcheries.

**Report Language** for the 2014 Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriation Bill can be found [here](#). Note, see:

Page 14: Invasive Species: The Committee remains concerned about the rapid spread of quagga and zebra mussels in the West. As the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force stated in its February 2010 Quagga-Zebra Mussel Action Plan for Western U.S. Waters, “With-out increased and immediate action, quagga and zebra mussels will cause irreparable ecological damage to western waters and long-term costs will be in the billions.” The Committee therefore recommends not less than \$3 million to implement one or more of the Highest Priority Actions identified in the Action Plan, and directs the Service to transfer funds to other Federal member agencies of the Task Force if necessary to implement these Actions. These additional funds are intended to supplement existing funds already budgeted by Task Force member agencies for fiscal year 2014.

Page 21: Quagga and Zebra Mussel Management. The Committee remains concerned about the rapid spread of quagga and zebra mussels in the West. The Committee directs the Park Service to provide no less than \$2,000,000 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.

#### **4. Senate Interior Appropriations:**

The Senate Interior-EPA draft spending bill can be found [here](#) (8/1/13).

The Senate “Explanatory Statement for the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, 2014” can be found [here](#). See page 14, National Park Service:

Resource Stewardship: The bill provides \$356,099,000 for resource stewardship activities, equal to the request. The recommendation includes the requested increase of \$3,000,000 above the fiscal year 2013 level for control and management of white-nose syndrome in bats and **the requested increase of \$2,000,000 above the fiscal year 2013 level for the control of zebra and quagga mussels at national parks.**

## MEETINGS

### AUGUST

1. Aquatic Vegetation Identification Workshop – 8/16/2013: Clearwater Resource Council and Missoula County Weed District teamed up to host a FREE public workshop on native and invasive aquatic vegetation. Heidi Sedivy will be leading the workshop. **Friday, August 16th**, from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm at the Lake Inez boat launch. Lunch will be [Source: Celestine Duncan]

2. 8th International Conference on Marine Bioinvasions: August 20-22, 2013, Vancouver, Canada

3. Oregon Invasive Species Cook-off 2013

When: August 25 2:00 pm - 7 pm  
Host: Institute for Applied Ecology  
Where: Chintimini Farm, OR

### SEPTEMBER

1. **WRP Annual Meeting - Portland 2013** - The WRP will hold their *Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon on September 11 - 13, 2013*. The meeting will be held at the [University Place Hotel and Conference Center](#). Book your room for \$89 plus tax and be sure to mention "Western Regional Panel" at booking time. Call 1-866-845-4647 to reserve your room. Learn more about the meeting (including draft agenda) by going [here](#).

### OCTOBER

1. Mark your calendars now for October 16-18, 2013! That's the date set for the annual conference of the Washington State Lake Protection Association (WALPA) and the Oregon Lakes Association (OLA), whose theme, appropriately, is Collaborative Lake Management. For further information go to <http://www.walpa.org/annual-conference/>

### NOVEMBER

1. 2013 Alaska Invasive Species Conference – November 5-7. Fairbanks.  
<http://www.uaf.edu/ces/cnipm>

2. Save the Date : Washington State Weed Association WEED conference; November 6 - 8, 2013; Location: The Coast Wenatchee Center Hotel.

2014

**FEBRUARY**

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

**APRIL**

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



**[Stone Soup 8/3/13]**

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