



AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES NEWS

05/20/2013

DREISSENID MUSSELS

1. [Reps. Heck, Thompson, and Amodei Introduce Bipartisan Bill Adding Quagga Mussels to National Invasive Species List \(May 16, 2013\)](#)

Washington, DC – U.S. Reps. Joe Heck (NV-03), Mark Amodei (NV-02), Mike Thompson (CA-05), today announced that they introduced [H.R. 1823](#), the Protecting Lakes Against Quagga (PLAQ) Act of 2013 which would add quagga mussels to the national list of invasive species. This listing gives federal agencies greater ability to prevent the spread of the invasive species.

This legislation is supported by: Governor Brian Sandoval (NV); Nevada Department of Wildlife; Northwest Power and Conservation Council; Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission; Washington Invasive Species Council; Pacific Fisheries Legislative Task Force; New Mexico Department of Game and Fish; Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife; Oregon Invasive Species Council; Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks; Colorado Weed Management Association; and Colorado Lake and Reservoir Management Association.....

2. [More quagga mussels removed from Lake Powell \(5/13/13\)](#)

National Park Service authorities say they have removed 150 invasive adult quagga mussels from vessel and dock structures at two marinas on the south end of Lake Powell in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.....

[3. Boat being towed through Wyoming found with zebra mussels \(5/12/13\)](#)

(Cheyenne, Wyo) – – A boat being towed through Wyoming along interstate 80 was found to have zebra mussels attached to the motor of the boat during a routine inspection at the port of entry east of Cheyenne.

[4. Invasive zebra mussels \(*Dreissena polymorpha*\) and Asian clams \(*Corbicula fluminea*\) survive gut passage of migratory fish species: implications for dispersal](#)

Abstract: The introduction and spread of invasive species is of great concern to natural resource managers in the United States. To effectively control the spread of these species, managers must be aware of the multitude of dispersal methods used by the organisms. We investigated the potential for survival through the gut of a migrating fish (blue catfish, *Ictalurus furcatus*) as a dispersal mechanism for two invasive bivalves: zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*) and Asian clam (*Corbicula fluminea*). Blue catfish (N = 62) were sampled over several months from Sooner Lake, Oklahoma, transported to a laboratory and held in individual tanks for 48 h. All fecal material was collected and inspected for live mussels. Survival was significantly related to water temperature in the lake at the time of collection, with no mussels surviving above 21.1 C°, whereas 12 % of zebra mussels (N = 939) and 39 % of Asian clams (N = 408) consumed in cooler water survived gut passage. This research demonstrates the potential for blue catfish to serve as a dispersal vector for invasive bivalves at low water temperatures.

[5. Officials seek improvements to Lake Whatcom, WA boat inspections \(5/4/13\)](#)

As Whatcom County Council members waste no time trying to fix what they say is a flawed boat inspection program on Lake Whatcom, those in charge of the inspections say they already have begun making them better.....

[6. Attacking invasive zebra mussels upstream \(5/7/13\)](#)

There's increasing evidence that the zebra mussels now multiplying in Lake Lillinonah and Lake Zoar were begat upstream, at Laurel Lake in Massachusetts, before riding the Housatonic River south into the two man-made lakes. So this summer, researchers will see if they can destroy the microscopic mussel larvae before they even get into the river. If the study proves successful, it may provide the Housatonic River and lake communities with a strong tool to keep the mussels at bay.

7. Inspections for invasive mussels planned at Sonoma, Mendocino lakes, CA (5/12/13)

An eager chocolate Lab named Popeye, trained to sniff out invasive species of mussels, will be on duty again at Lake Sonoma and Lake Mendocino beginning Memorial Day Weekend.

8. Invasive zebra mussels found in lake at Schell-Osage Conservation Area (MO)

Biologists have found zebra mussels in a lake at the Schell-Osage Conservation Area, which is in Vernon and St. Clair counties in west central Missouri. Zebra mussels are an invasive species from Eurasia that can cause ecological and property damage.

9. Mussels could pose irrigation threat to Alberta (5/9/13)

You can be excused if you have never heard of zebra mussels before. That, however, is about to change. A non-native invasive species, zebra mussels pose serious ecological and economic problems already in many areas in the United States and Eastern Canada. Heavy infestations have been known to impact fish populations, interfere with recreation, increase costs for industry and pose problems for water-supply facilities.

10. Pacific Northwest Unaffected By Mussel Invasion; Preventive Strategy Urged (5/17/13)

Representatives of state and federal agencies, utilities, local governments, academic institutions and others gathered Wednesday in Vancouver to enhance the passions, and strategic plans, for heading off an invasion of non-native zebra and/or quagga mussels.

11. Yellowstone to check boats for invasive species (5/14/13)

All motorized and nonmotorized watercraft entering Yellowstone National Park's lakes must first pass an aquatic invasive-species inspection as part of the watercraft permitting process.....

12. Washington Will Check Commercial Haulers Of Oversize Watercraft For Invasive Mussels At Entry Ports (5/10/13)

....Beginning this week, the Washington State Department of Transportation will notify commercial haulers of oversize watercraft that their oversize load permit information is being provided to the Washington State Patrol and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and that state law prohibits the transport of aquatic invasive species....

WA RCO Press release go [here](#)

13. Prevent invasive mussels from infesting Okanagan Lake, Canada (5/1/13)

Halfway measures will get halfway results, warns **D.D. Davis [PSMFC WIT Level II Instructor]**, boat inspection trainer in the Lake Mead National Recreation Area in Nevada—and once invasive quagga mussels are in your lake, they're there forever. So, she advocates taking severe measures upfront to prevent an infestation, in order to avoid billions of dollars in damage to everything aquatic, from the valley's ecology to waterworks, bridges, boats and beaches.

For information on WIT II go to [here](#)

14. DNR conservation officers using dogs to detect zebra mussels (5/7/13)

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will be using three zebra mussel-sniffing K-9 teams for the first time this year to help combat the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS)...

15. 2012 Invasive Mussels Legal workshop: White Papers and followup material

Background Resources and Publications from “Legal and Regulatory Efforts to Minimize Expansion of Invasive Mussels through Watercraft Movements – a Co-Learning Workshop, August 22-23, 2012.”

16. Lake Havasu Marine Association “Sticker a Mussel” Program

The Lake Havasu Marine Association's 'Sticker A Mussel' campaign, working in concert with Arizona Game and Fish, to raise boater awareness about the importance of not spreading invasive species, especially the quagga mussels, to other non-contaminated lakes and rivers in neighboring states is now underway. "We successfully delivered over 4,000 stickers to 29 local Lake....."

17. Anglers, boaters told to 'clean, drain and dry' to stop aquatic invasive species in Taos, NM (4/29/13)

New Mexico anglers and boaters are asked to be conscious and cautious to prevent the spread of invasive species in the state's waterways. "Clean, drain and dry" is the phrase of the day, and it applies to watercraft, wading boots, ATVs and other outdoor gear." James Domínguez, aquatic invasive species coordinator with the state Game and Fish Department, said thoroughly cleaning, disinfecting and drying boats and gear between uses does a lot to block the proliferation of harmful invasives.

WEEDS

1. Casper and Natrona County officials wage war against invasive plants (5/13/13)

.....The Natrona County Weed and Pest District supervisor led a group of city and county officials across the pedestrian bridge at the North Casper athletic complex for a walk on Thursday in observance of Wyoming Invasive Weed Awareness Week. The walk highlighted the city and county's efforts to eradicate Russian olives, Dalmatian toadflax and cheatgrass.....

2. OISC Blog: Where do You Buy Plants? (5/4/13)

By Dan Hilburn: If you're like us, you probably feel good about buying local plants. But are those plants in the garden center really local? You'd be surprised at the amount of plant material Oregon imports, some of it from overseas. Below is a summary of the nursery stock imported into Oregon from foreign sources last month (April, 2013).....

3. Flowering Rush Report – Results of herbicide trials for managing flowering rush in Detroit Lakes, MI 2012 Report is available at [Thanks to Celestine Duncan for providing this information]:

https://www.gri.msstate.edu/publications/docs/2013/04/11274GRI_Report_5059_2013.pdf

MARINE

1. Tsunami

1. Japanese tsunami: The debris washing up in Canada (5/16/13)

Brandy Yanchyk went to Flores Island in British Columbia to find out what locals are finding on the west coast of Canada.

Link to OR Tsunami stories go to (scroll down page):

http://www.beachconnection.net/news/invasiv032513_601.php

For further WA Tsunami information also go to <http://marinedebris.wa.gov/>

2. New study on shipping and ballast water risk

[Thanks to Allen Pleus for compiling these links and the following comments] The authors found that the Northwest Pacific region is one of the most endangered marine ecosystems in the world on par with Central Indo-Pacific, Mediterranean, and Northwest Atlantic regions for ship-borne invasive species. The paper bases their modeling results on

the global tracking of ship journeys using the Automatic Identification System, ballast water release protocols, port environmental conditions, and biogeography. The authors focus on ballast water as the primary marine bioinvasion pathway, but do not include volumes of ballast water discharged in each region studies. Therefore, I would consider the information as relevant to biofouling as a similar marine bioinvasion risk.

Stories below:

1. <http://www.enn.com/ecosystems/article/45937>
2. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-22397076>
3. <http://theterramarproject.org/thedailycatch/scientists-map-global-routes-of-ship-borne-invasive-species/>
4. <http://articles.latimes.com/2013/may/05/science/la-sci-invasive-species-ships-20130505>
5. [http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2013/05/130505073750.htm?utm_source=rss1.0&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+sciencedaily+\(ScienceDaily%3A+Latest+Science+News\)](http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2013/05/130505073750.htm?utm_source=rss1.0&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+sciencedaily+(ScienceDaily%3A+Latest+Science+News))

You can purchase a copy of the report at:

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/ele.12111/abstract;jsessionid=9F6C8061835F6DD7A31EF934F7001E33.d03t01>

[3. Wildlife Federation sues to allow New York state to toughen ballast standards \(5/2/13\)](#)

The fight to protect the Great Lakes from the next zebra mussel is headed back to court. The National Wildlife Federation filed a motion Wednesday asking a federal judge in Washington to stop the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency from imposing a rule that would prohibit the State of New York from adopting tougher standards for ballast water discharges from overseas freighters visiting the Great Lakes....

[4. Disinfection of Three Wading Boot Surfaces Infested with New Zealand Mudsnails](#)

Abstract: New Zealand mudsnails *Potamopyrgus antipodarum* (NZMS) have been introduced into many continents and are easily transported live while attached to wading and other field gear. We quantified the relative attachment by different life stages of NZMS to felt, neoprene, and rubber-soled boots exposed to two densities of NZMS in experimental exposure totes. Attachment by NZMS occurred on boots of all surfaces, but the highest numbers of all life stages occurred on boots with felt surfaces. We found a 15–20-min bath application of 20 g/L Virkon Aquatic was a reliable tool to disinfect boot surfaces infested with NZMS and other aquatic invertebrates. Our studies support that spray application of this disinfectant was not reliable to provide complete mortality of attached adult NZMS or neonates. Wading gear surfaces exposed to repeated bath disinfections showed little deterioration. Our results provide strong evidence that bath disinfections with Virkon Aquatic are helpful to assure biosecurity in field and hatchery

settings, but applications should be coupled with cleaning procedures to remove organic materials that can deactivate the reagent [Thanks to Christine Moffitt].

OTHER

[1. Snails prove costly for Port of Tacoma to remove \(5/10/13\)](#)

When agricultural inspectors first discovered a dime-sized mollusk on a vacant industrial site at the Port of Tacoma eight years ago, they sounded a loud alarm.....

2. Didymo: For anyone interested, the presentations and posters from the International Didymo Conference have now been posted online. There is a lot of great didymo info available @ http://www.stopans.org/Didymo_Conference_2013_Results.htm

[3. Aquatic Hitchhikers! Partnership Campaign Announces Bold Changes \(5/8/13\)](#)

Fishing and boating season is just around the corner, and new communications tools and an enhanced partnership will make it easier than ever to learn how to Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers!™. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently announced it is passing the “red stop sign” baton of this unique aquatic resource campaign to the Minnesota-based nonprofit conservation organization Wildlife Forever.

[4. An offbeat environmental documentary about Nutria](#)

When we first heard about the nutria, we couldn't believe it. Why were they here? What did they want? And why did they insist on eating up the entire Louisiana bayou?? The more we heard, the stranger the story got.....

[5. New invasive species poses threat to Lake Tahoe \(5/17/13\)](#)

Another invasive species is encroaching on Lake Tahoe Basin waters. Three New Zealand mudsnails were found in the Truckee River near Reno earlier this spring, increasing the chances the invasive species could migrate to the basin.....

[6. MN County hires AIS enforcement deputies \(5/16/13\)](#)

DETROIT LAKES, Minn. – Becker County has hired two seasonal aquatic invasive species enforcement deputies. They will focus on inspection, education and enforcement of Minnesota laws regarding AIS. Some of those laws include: - Cleaning visible aquatic plants, zebra mussels and other prohibited species off of watercrafts, trailers and all water-related equipment before transporting them from any water access.....

FISH

1. PikePalooza continues suppression effort on Pend Oreille River (5/16/13)

PikePalooza is offering more than \$5,000 in cash and prizes for anglers who catch northern pike in various categories during the Friday-Sunday (May 17-19) event on the Pend Oreille River.

LEGISLATION/FEDERAL BUDGET

1. Schumer Launches Plan For First-Ever Rapid Response Grant Program To Combat Aquatic Invasive Species (5/8/13)

Today, on a conference call with reporters, U.S. Senator Charles E. Schumer launched a plan to create the first-ever early detection and rapid response (EDRR) grant program to quickly combat aquatic invasive species once they reach new waterways. Such plants and animals as Eurasian milfoil, Asian clam and Hydrilla have already caused serious damage in Upstate New York waterways.....

2. Montana -- HB 586 (LC2136): HB 586 (LC2136): "Revise aquatic invasive species laws" sponsored by Rep Mike Cuffe can be viewed at <http://data.opi.mt.gov/bills/2013/billhtml/HB0586.htm> Total of \$1.58 million. **Signed by the Governor on 4/30/13**

3. . WA Aquatic Invasive Species Legislation

Sen. Honeyford's legislation, Substitute Senate Bill 5702 , regarding aquatic invasive species is expected to be **signed** by the Governor on 5/20.

4. Senate Passes Water Resources Development Bill

Last week, the Senate passed S.601, Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2013, which will provide funding for water projects involving navigation, flood control, and environmental restoration. Last week, the Senate passed several amendments to this bill, including Senator Whitehouse's National Endowment for the Ocean. The chamber still had to consider the full bill, which passed in a vote of 83 to 14. It includes a means of increasing money available from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund for dredging and other harbor projects through 2020, and provisions designed to expedite environmental permitting. For example, the bill would impose penalties on agencies that fail to meet permitting decision time frames. The bill will also create a loan program for water

infrastructure projects. The next step is House consideration of WRDA. House Transportation and Infrastructure Chairman Bill Shuster (R-PA-9) has expressed a determination to pass a separate House bill that can be conferenced with the Senate. A House version of WRDA might include an expedited process for phasing out diversion of funds from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund and an increase of the diesel tax that funnels into the Inland Waterways Trust Fund. An environmental sticking point may be the permitting process – with House Republicans likely to ask that additional streamlining measures be implemented in addition to those passed in the Senate version of the Bill. [Source: *Ocean News Weekly : Week of May 13, 2013 – Number 202*]

NOTE: See SEC. 5007 “Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention and Management; Columbia River Basin” AND Sec. 5018. “Multiagency effort to slow the spread of Asian carp in the Upper Mississippi River and Ohio River basins and tributaries.”

[5. Archived Video Webcast: Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation: “Oversight Hearing on “Invasive Species Management on Federal Lands”; Thursday, May 16, 2013](#)

Witnesses and Testimony: Paul Ries, Associate Deputy Chief, United States Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; Dr. George Beck, Colorado State University [Healthy Habitats Coalition](#); Randy C. Dye, President, National Association of State Foresters; Jason Fearneyhough, Director, Wyoming Department of Agriculture; Debra Hughes Executive Director, New Mexico Association of Conservative Districts; James Ogsbury Executive Director, Western Governors’ Association.

[6. Reps. Heck, Thompson, and Amodei Introduce Bipartisan Bill Adding Quagga Mussels to National Invasive Species List \(May 16, 2013\)](#)

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MEETINGS

JUNE

1. Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Task Force Webinar: Monday June 17 from 1:00 - 4:00 Eastern time. Details will be posted on <http://www.anstaskforce.gov/default.php>

JULY

1. Aquatic Plant Management Society Annual Meeting: July 14-17, 2013; The Westin Riverwalk San Antonio, TX. Make your reservations now at <http://apms.org/>

2. Registration is now open for the PNWER 3rd Annual Invasive Species Conference!

July 17, 2013; Anchorage, Alaska, Dena'ina Conference Center: Join federal, state, tribal and local government agencies; academic institutions; non-profit organizations; industry leaders; legislators; and others in developing regional strategies to address the threat of invasive species to our natural resources, economy, and quality of life. Early bird registration rate end **5/31/13**.

AUGUST

1. 8th International Conference on Marine Bioinvasions: August 20-22, 2013, Vancouver, Canada

SEPTEMBER

1. Save the Date - the [WRP](#) will hold their Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon on September 11 - 13, 2013. The first two days of the conference will be information sharing, presentations and the business meeting. The last day of the conference will be a field trip. More information on the agenda and other details will available in the coming months.

NOVEMBER

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