

Reducing the Interstate Transport of Aquatic Invasive Species-Infested Watercraft

Next Steps



What is Call Before You Haul?

Launched in December 2021 by the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, Call Before You Haul is a 24/7 toll-free hotline, [1-844-311-4873](tel:1-844-311-4873), designed for watercraft haulers. It simplifies compliance and helps ensure boats are inspected, decontaminated (if needed), and legally transported across state and international borders.

How it Works:



1. Call the Toll-Free Number [1-844-311-4873](tel:1-844-311-4873): Haulers provide details about the watercraft's source and destination.



2. Inspection Coordination: The destination state or province is notified to arrange an inspection, and if necessary, decontamination.



3. Stay Compliant: Haulers avoid fines, delays, and the spread of aquatic invasive species by adhering to state and federal laws.



Boat Inspections Where California Delta Was Last Water Visited: 2024

Count
 ● 1 - 9
 ● 10 - 49
 ● 50 - 1000

Location	State	Count
Lake Berryessa	CA	831
Lake Tahoe	CA/NV	291
New Melones Lake	CA	163
Clear Lake	CA	148
Ashland POE	OR	108
Calero Reservoir	CA	80
Lake Sonoma	CA	73
Lexington Reservoir	CA	42
Lake Nacimiento	CA	37
Evanston POE	WY	31
Cle Elum Eastbound	WA	28
Coyote Lake	CA	26
Stevens Creek Reservoir	CA	23
Pasco	WA	21
Pyramid Lake	NV	19
San Antonio Lake	CA	16
Brookings	OR	16
Lake Mendocino	CA	15
I-15 Port of Entry	UT	11



0 155 310 620 Miles



Map Produced by CPWANS Program 11/8/2024

Invasive Mussels Recently Spotted in California Mark a First for North America

The species may have been carried to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta in ballast water on ships



Alexa Robles-Gil
 Daily Correspondent
 November 4, 2024



The golden mussel is an invasive freshwater bivalve recently discovered near the Port of Stockton in California. Department of Water Resources/California Department of Fish and Wildlife

What else can we do to prevent the transport/interstate transport of infested watercraft – for the benefit of all states and provinces?



PHASE II

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Grant – October 2024

Three Key Deliverables

I. **Build upon *Call Before You Haul* PSMFC-funded efforts to date, continuing 27-7 hotline and expanding engagement with state DOTs and boat transporters.**

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- AASHTO presentation to Subcommittee on Freight Operations (harmonize interstate regulations) – 12 November 2024
 - AASHTO Committee on Environment and Sustainability (best practices and innovations that streamline environmental review and promote environmental stewardship) – 11 December 2024
 - AASHTO Committee on Freight Policy – Not yet scheduled
 - Owner Operator Independent Drivers Association Land Line Media Sirius/XM satellite radio and e-newsletter/social media
 - Dave Nemo Program/Road Dog Trucking News with Mark Willis on Sirius XM
 - Overdrive Magazine article
 - State Freight Advisory Councils



AASHTO

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Three Key Deliverables

II. Work with boat transport industries, focused on the Great Lakes and Lower Colorado River regions, to amplify CDD and CBYH, and incorporate CDD clauses into boat sales contracts, boat broker agreements, marina slip leases, and other legal agreements and contracts.

-  Updated Call Before You Haul webpage:
<https://www.westernais.org/callbeforeyouhaul>
- Next steps – direct engagement with sellers

Call Before You Haul

Protect Our Waters from Aquatic Invasive Species

Clean, Drain, Dry - Safeguarding Waterways Starts with You

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) threaten ecosystems, economies, and recreational waterways. The Call Before You Haul program helps prevent the spread of AIS by ensuring all watercraft hauled are Clean, Drain, Dry.

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Why It Matters:

- **It's the Law:** States and provinces mandate compliance with AIS regulations.
- **Protect the Environment:** AIS disrupts ecosystems, harms native species, and degrades water quality.
- **Prevent Economic Losses:** The boating, tourism, and recreation industries depend on healthy waterways.
- **Trailered Watercraft Are Key Vectors:** One-third of invasive mussel-infested boats intercepted in the Pacific Northwest are commercially hauled.
- **Support Industry Growth:** Clean, Drain, Dry practices protect haulers, dealers, and buyers alike.

Easy Steps to Prevent AIS Spread:

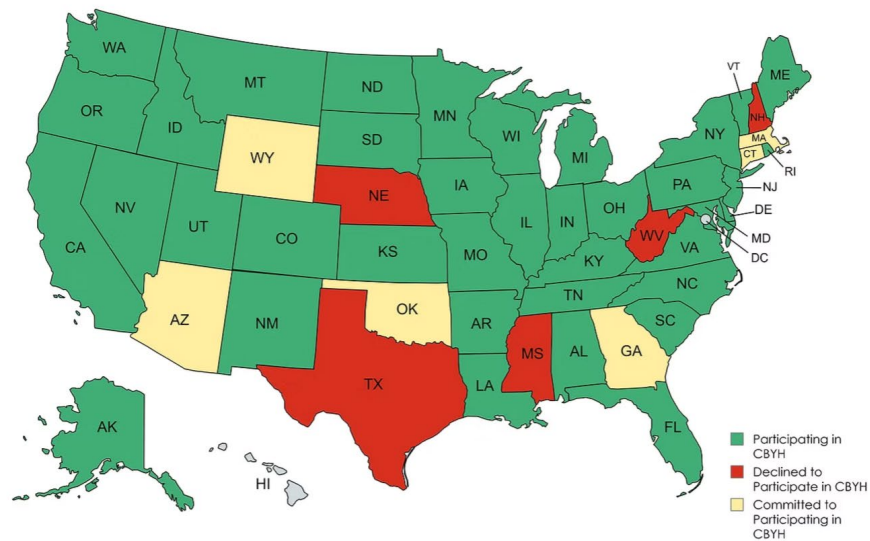


1. **Clean:** Remove all plants, animals, and mud from boats and trailers.
2. **Drain:** Empty all water from wells, ballast, and engines, and pull the drain plug.
3. **Dry:** Ensure the boat is thoroughly dry before transport.

Learn more about AIS prevention and inspection requirements at westernais.org.

Call Before You Haul Participation Map

Track state-by-state progress and find [inspection station](#) details for your route. More than 40 states have integrated Call Before You Haul into their transportation systems.

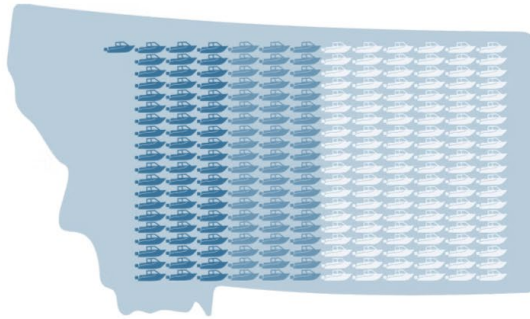


Tools for Haulers and Dealers

- [Interactive Map](#): Locate watercraft inspection stations across the U.S. and Canada.
- [Dashboard Stickers](#): Reminders to call the toll-free hotline before transport.
- [Contact Information Flier](#): Western States and Provinces Watercraft Inspection Station contact information
- **Best Practice Guides**: Resources for dealers, brokers, and auctioneers to ensure boats are Clean, Drain, Dry.
 - [Informational poster](#)
 - [Commercial hauler informational brochure](#)
 - [Reducing Transportation of Aquatic Invasive Species via Trailered Watercraft: 1-hour Webinar Video](#)
 - [Link to the slide deck used for the aforementioned webinar](#)

Together, we can stop the spread of aquatic invasive species. **Call Before You Haul** to protect waterways and support sustainable boating industries.

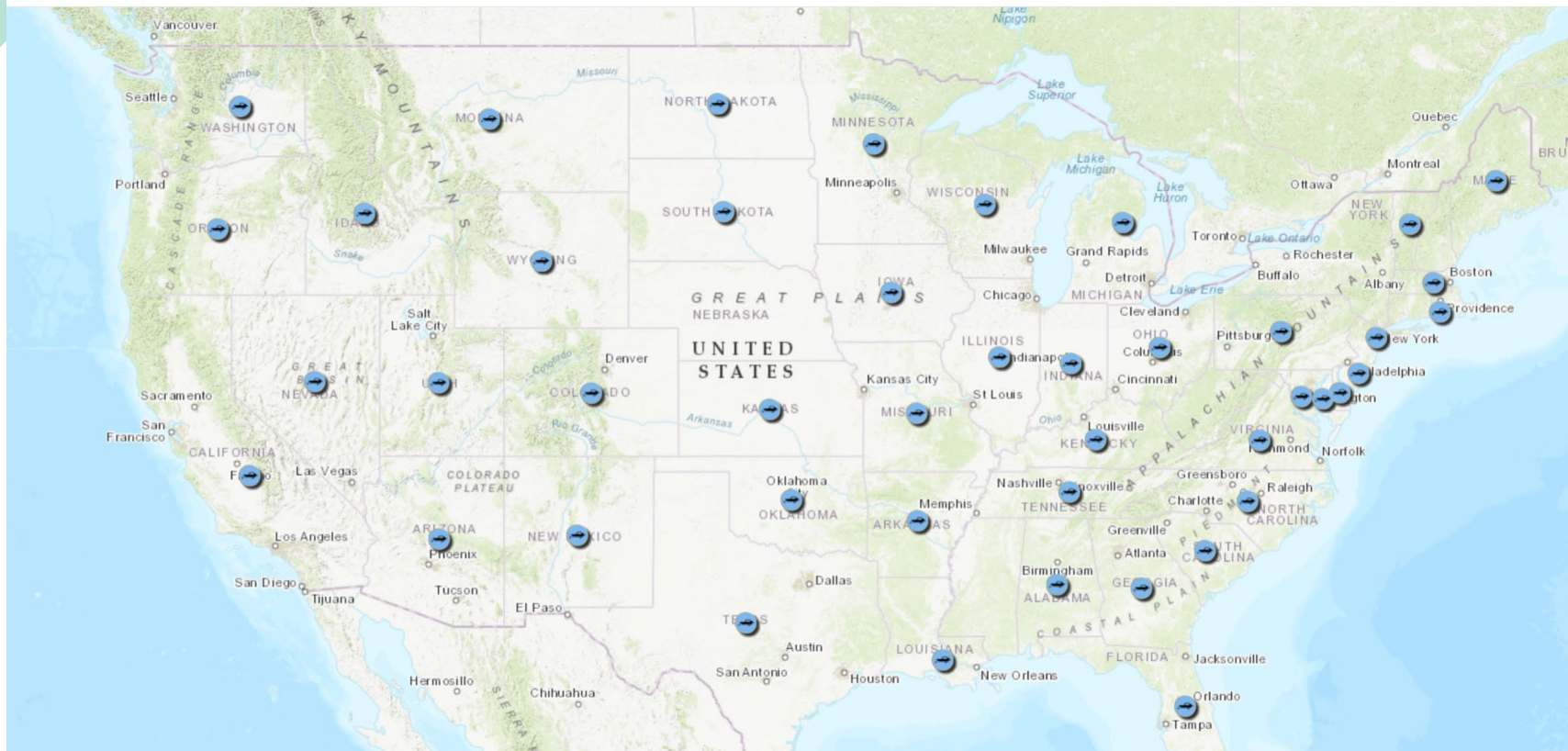
Working Together Produces Real Results



Between 2017 and 2023, **Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks** reported **intercepting 241 mussel-infested vessels** from the Midwest, Southeast, Texas, and the Southwest destined for the Northwest and Canada. The agency confirmed that **1/3 of those vessels were commercially hauled** and **50% were recently purchased**.



From 2012 through 2023, states and provinces and their partners have inspected more than 4,000,000 vessels destined for Pacific Northwest waters and coming from 37 different states and Canadian regions. A total of 1,197 of those vessels were infested and decontaminated.



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Three Key Deliverables

III. Inventory state and Tribal CDD laws and identify gaps in the legal framework, identify federal laws and regulations that could serve as models for a *National Clean Watercraft Transport Law*, and vet with states and Tribes

- **Standard Permit Condition:** State DOT may incorporate conditions into oversize/overweight permits that require watercraft be CDD and for transporters to provide notification through CBYH. Language for permit condition modeled after existing state examples.
- **Model State Legislative/Regulatory Language:** Some state agencies may need express legislative authority to incorporate CDD requirements into transportation permits. Model language will be drafted to illustrate how such authority could be granted by legislation and implemented through agency regulation.
- **Model Federal Law:** Federal law provides an important overlay to state aquatic invasive species laws, especially when interstate transport is involved, thus model language for a federal CDD requirement will also be included.



Strategies and Next Steps to Reduce the Interstate Transport of AIS-Infested Watercraft



Questions?

Contact Lisa DeBruyckere @ lisad@createstrat.com | (503) 704-2884