



## Western States and Provinces Best Management Practices to Comply with State/Provincial Laws and Prevent the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species

### Preventing Delays and Reducing Costs Associated with Transporting, Buying, and Selling Boats

Aquatic invasive species, such as zebra and quagga mussels, pose a threat to the economy and natural resources of western states and provinces. In addition, fines and costly delays associated with transporting boats with aquatic invasive species can affect the recreational boating industry.

To prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species, the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Western Regional Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species, and others are making information available to boat haulers, auctioneers, marinas, manufacturers, and brokers to make it easy to comply with state, provincial and federal laws, prevent costly delays in transporting or selling boats, and help reduce the spread of aquatic invasive species.

A few key facts you should know:

#### It's the Law!

Federal laws, including the Lacey Act in the United States and the Fisheries Act in Canada, make it illegal to transport listed invasive species into the U.S. and across state and international borders. In addition, the western states and provinces have enacted legislation to reduce the spread of aquatic invasive species. Businesses and individuals have been cited for transporting boats into and through western states and provinces with invasive mussels attached, resulting in costly fines and significant delays.

#### CLEAN, DRAIN, DRY, NOTIFY

If you follow four simple steps, your chances of experiencing any delays or fines associated with transporting or selling a boat are minimized. A Clean, Drained, and Dry boat has no plants or animals attached and is not carrying water in its wells, ballast, or engine. Most

jurisdictions have drain plug laws – any boat out of water should have a pulled drain plug.



#### Communication Prevents Delays

The western state and provincial AIS coordinators know the laws and regulations for their jurisdictions, and they're available to assist you by informing you of their laws and providing you with any other tools and information you need to successfully transport a boat, or sell/auction a boat, particularly those coming from water bodies infested with aquatic invasive species. Contact any western state or provincial AIS coordinator via our website:



[www.westernais.org/moving-a-boat](http://www.westernais.org/moving-a-boat)

## Boat Haulers - Know Before You Go

Here's what you can do to comply with state laws and help prevent the spread:

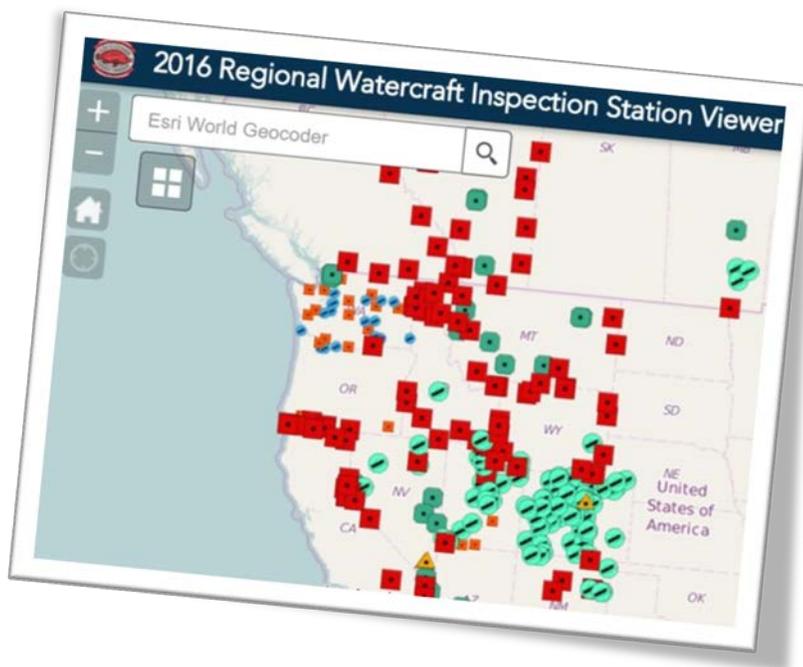
Access our website ([www.westernais.org/moving-a-boat](http://www.westernais.org/moving-a-boat)) to become familiar with information about moving a boat between states or from one water body to another.

If you are transporting a boat:

- **CLEAN** the boat – Remove all plants, animals, and mud, and thoroughly wash everything, especially FROM all crevices and other hidden areas. Inspect the plumbing system for hitchhikers!
- **DRAIN** the boat – Eliminate all water before leaving the area, including wells, ballast, and engine cooling water. Pull the drain plug!
- **DRY** the boat.
- **ALWAYS CONTACT the destination state or province** to understand the laws and regulations that jurisdiction has for boats coming from other states. To minimize travel delays and ensure compliance with state law, an inspection of your watercraft will be scheduled in your destination state.

An online map of regional watercraft inspection stations, and contact information for AIS coordinators in the western states and Canadian provinces is available at

[www.westernais.org/moving-a-boat](http://www.westernais.org/moving-a-boat).



## Boat Auctioneers, Sellers and Brokers

Never sell a dirty boat. Period. When you do sell a boat, ensure you comply with the best management practices described in this brochure. Any boat you sell should be clean, drained, and dry so that the buyer does not unknowingly purchase, transport, and/or launch a dirty boat – and so that you help protect the boating industry, recreational opportunities, and your livelihood.

Do everything possible to ensure the individual that purchases the boat you auction, sell, or broker is aware of the information in this brochure. You have a vested interest in seeing that your boat buyer has a positive experience from the time he/she purchases a boat through to the time that boat launches in its destination waters.

