

# Wyoming AIS Update



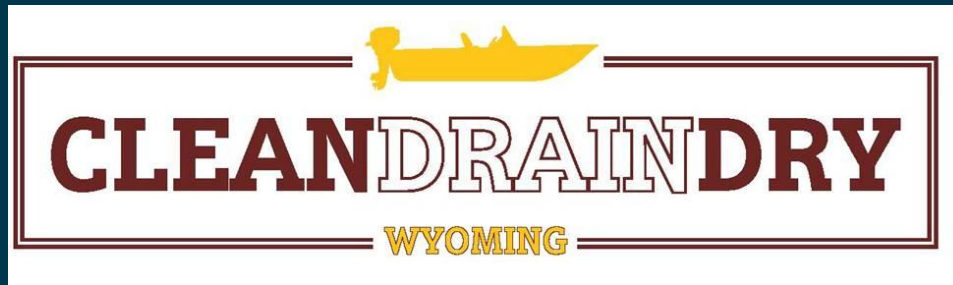
CRB AIS Team Meeting  
June 7, 2023  
Josh Leonard – WGFD AIS Coordinator



## 2022 Inspections

Over 66,000 inspections

- Last used on 1,881 different waters
  - 680 unique last infested waters
- 4,792 high risk
- 698 decontaminations
- 58 mussel fouled boats



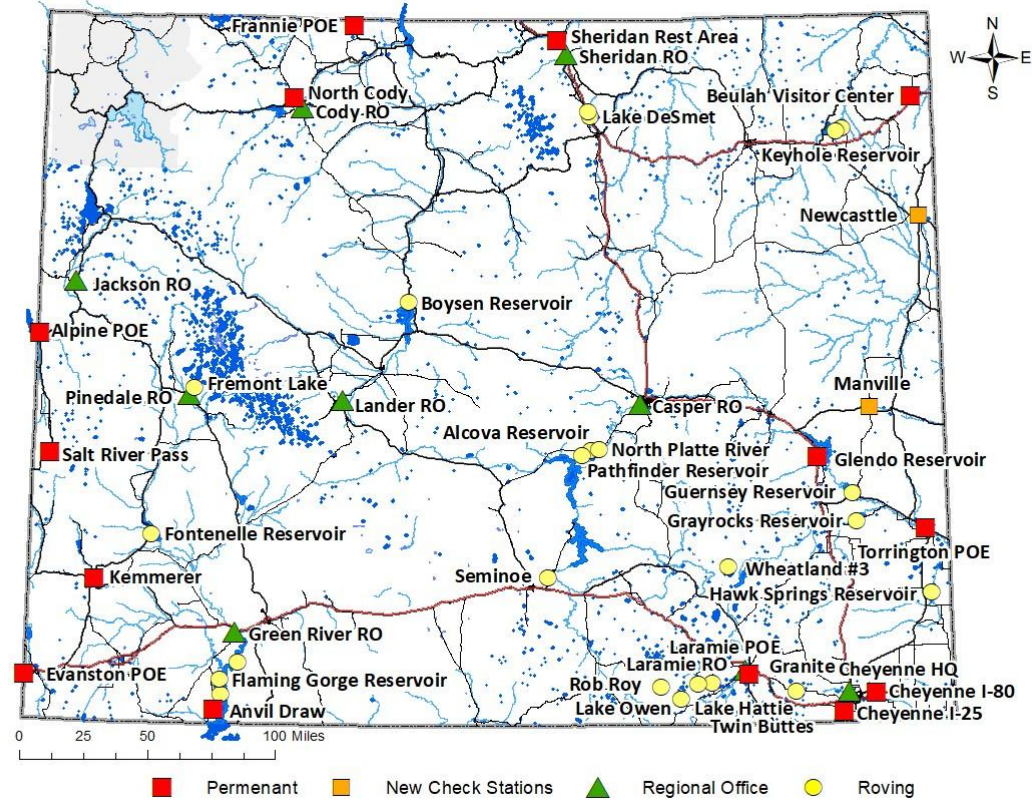
# Wyoming's Response to Pactola Infestation

- Increased AIS sampling at Keyhole and LAK Reservoirs
- Increased staffing and hours at Beulah and Keyhole check stations
- Inspection protocol change addressing boats last used in South Dakota, all boats decontaminated if used within 30 days in SD
- Prohibition of all watercraft at LAK Reservoir for 2022 starting August 1st
- Closed Keyhole and Glendo to one ramp and restricted hours starting Oct 1
  - operated until ice on
- Increased outreach and education statewide and locally



## Changes for 2023

- Move back to border approach
- Remove ramp closures
- Addition of two new check stations
- Increased staffing by 20% statewide
- Increased budget by 50% statewide
- Pay increase for AIS Inspectors
- Select check stations operate March through November



## 2023 Staffing

### Permanent Personnel – 5

- Program Coordinator; Laramie
- Regional Specialist; Casper, Cheyenne, Evanston, Sheridan

### Temporary Personnel – 70

- Regional Specialists (4)
  - Two 12 month
  - Two 10.5 month
  - Supervise 4-17 inspectors each
- Technician Inspectors (66)
  - Four 9 month lead technicians
  - 62 four-6 month technicians
  - Located at borders and waters



## 2023 Changes

- Revision of Chapter 51: Private Fish Hatcheries
  - All private fish hatcheries must have valid AIS Hatchery Inspection in order to stock or import fish into the state of Wyoming
    - All fish hauling vehicles required to stop if they encounter an AIS Check Station on route of travel
- In effect starting January 1, 2023



### Aquatic Invasive Species Hatchery Inspection Protocol

Wyoming Game and Fish Department

Aquatic Invasive Species Program

#### I. Purpose.

Fish stocking is a potential vector for unintentionally introducing aquatic invasive species (AIS) and other unwanted aquatic wildlife into waterways. To minimize the risk of introducing AIS to Wyoming waters, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) conducts annual AIS inspections of all in-state hatchery facilities and requires inspection of out of state hatcheries prior to authorizing importation of fish to Wyoming waters.

Fish hatcheries requesting authorization to import fish into Wyoming must provide the results of an AIS inspection that was conducted following procedures outlined below.

#### II. Hatchery AIS Inspection Requirements

(a) Inspections must be conducted by an employee of a state AIS program, state department of agriculture, county weed and pest district, or other individual approved by the WGFD who has completed an aquatic invasive species hatchery inspection training course that meets the requirements established by the WGFD to certify inspectors to conduct AIS hatchery inspections.

(b) All AIS hatchery inspections shall be conducted between June 15 and October 15 and results shall be documented in an AIS hatchery inspection report. The report shall note any AIS known to occur in the drainage containing the private fish hatchery.

(c) Contact information for various states is provided below. If you are having issues getting an inspection conducted within your respective state, please reach out to the Wyoming AIS Coordinator Josh Leonard for assistance (contact information below).

# Questions?



Contact: [joshua.leonard@wyo.gov](mailto:joshua.leonard@wyo.gov) or 307-721-1374

