

BC Invasive Mussel Defence Program

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Invasive Fauna Unit Head

June 6th 2018

New for 2018

- Transition of program operations to the Conservation Officer Service
- Two dedicated Sgt's for the Program touring inspection stations and apprehending motorists failing to stop
- New watercraft inspection signs to increase visibility, awareness and improve compliance

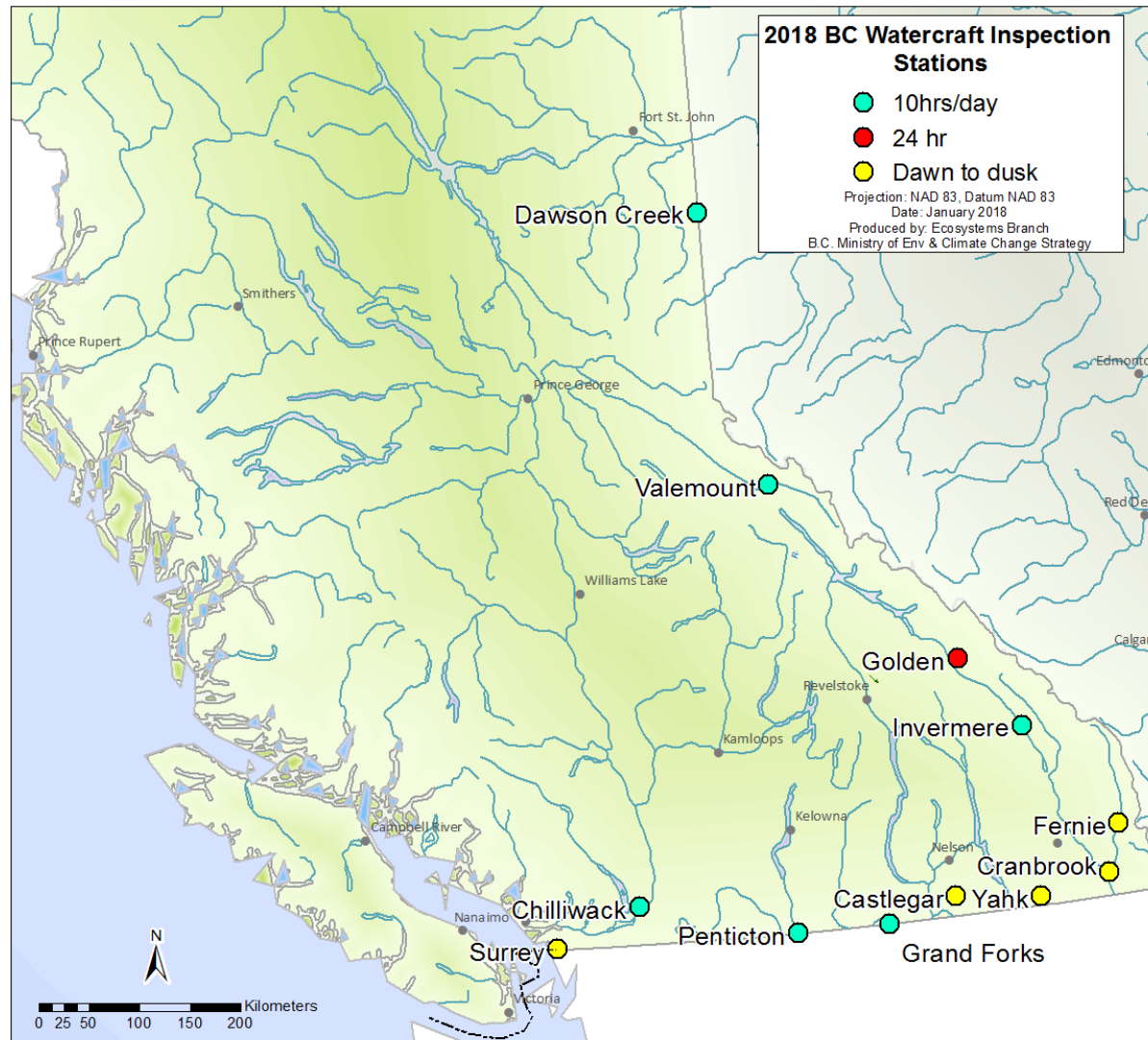


2018 Season

	2015	2016	2017	2018
Inspection Stations	Roving	8	10	12
Number of Auxiliary Conservation Officers	12	32	65	64*
Hours of Operation	5 days/week & 7hrs/day	7 days/week & 10hrs/day	9 stations dawn-dusk 7 days/week, 1 station 24hrs	1 station 24hrs, 5 dawn to dusk, 6 10hrs/day
Inspection Season	June-October	April to Sept/Oct	April/June to mid November	April to end of Sep and Oct

*Plus two dedicated Sgt's in COS touring inspection stations

2018 Inspection Stations



2018 Watercraft Inspections

- ~4,000 inspections to date
- 200 high risk boats
- 45 decontaminations performed
- 8 mussel fouled boats
 - Advanced notification for 7
 - From POE, AB, ID, MB, ANS alerts



BC CO Service @_BCCOS · May 30

The Surrey AIS Unit were busy decontaminating a boat this morning. This is a good reminder for everyone to please clean, drain, dry your boat! #bccos #coquitlam #cleandraindry



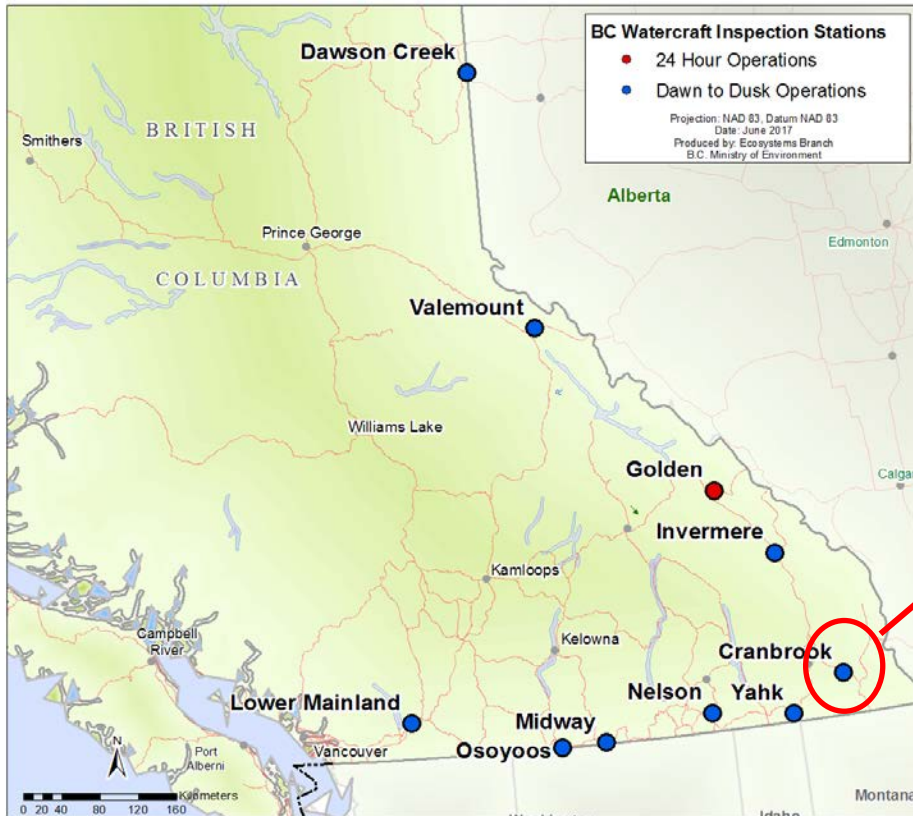
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Challenges & Success

Challenge in 2017

- Health and safety problems at some inspection stations



Success: Two New Sites!

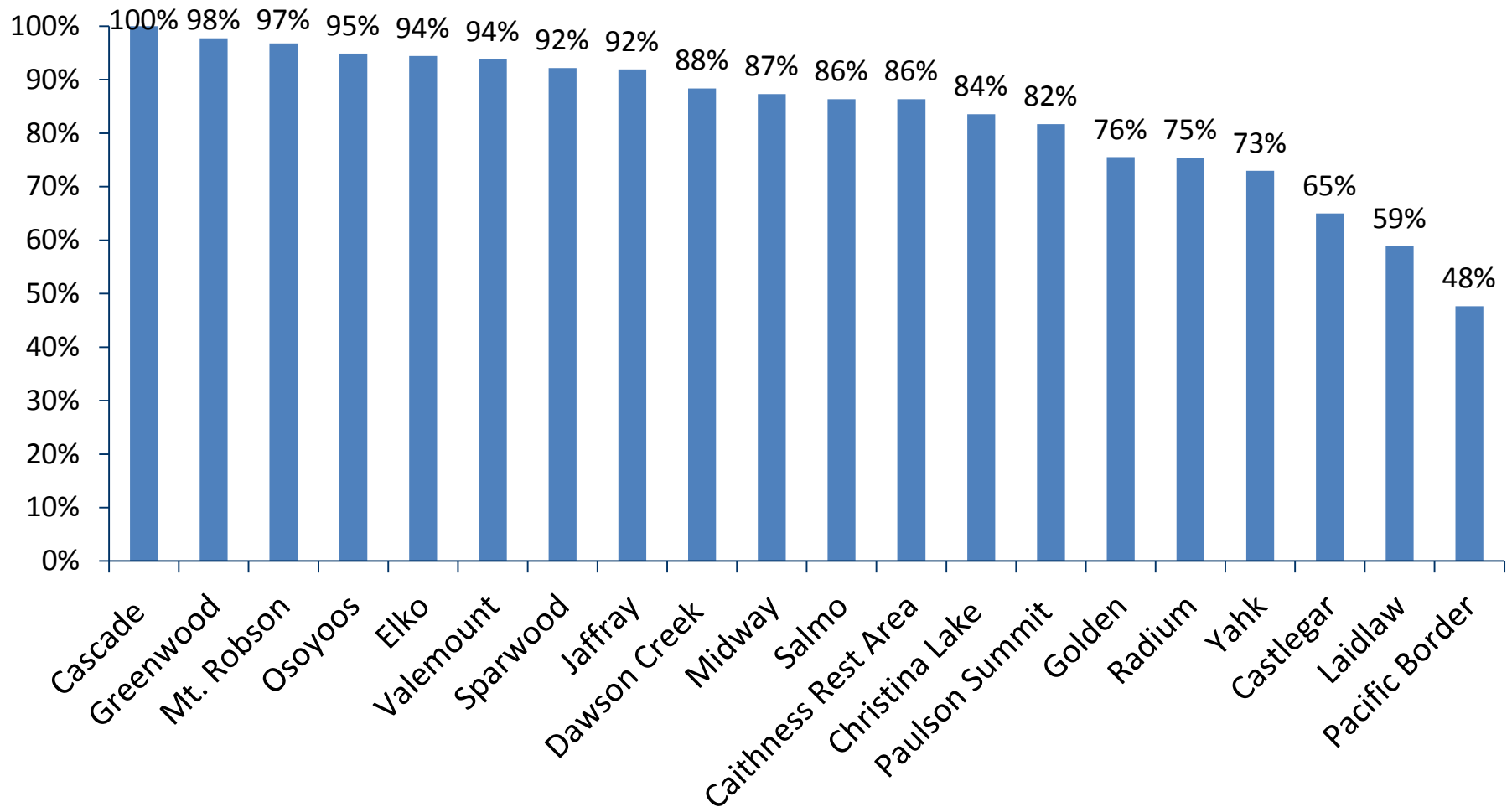


Compliance at Inspection Stations

- Average compliance at inspection stations was 76% for 2017
- 75% of watercraft failing to stop at inspection stations are non-motorized



2017 Compliance by station



Success: New Watercraft Inspection Signs

**INVASIVE MUSSEL
INSPECTION STATION**

**ALL watercraft
MUST report**



Failure to stop = \$345 FINE

**WATERCRAFT
INSPECTION AHEAD**



**Keep
Invasive
Mussels
Out!**

**Mandatory
Inspection
Ahead**

ALL Watercraft



Success:

- Joint delivery of program between science and compliance & enforcement
- Increased presence on social media informing public about fines for failing to stop



BC CO Service @_BCCOS · May 18

Failing to stop at a watercraft inspection station will result in a \$345 fine. A motorist pulling a vessel in Fernie was apprehended by COs after blowing by the inspection station on hwy 3. Prevent the spread of invasive mussels to B.C. waters
#cleandraindry #fernie

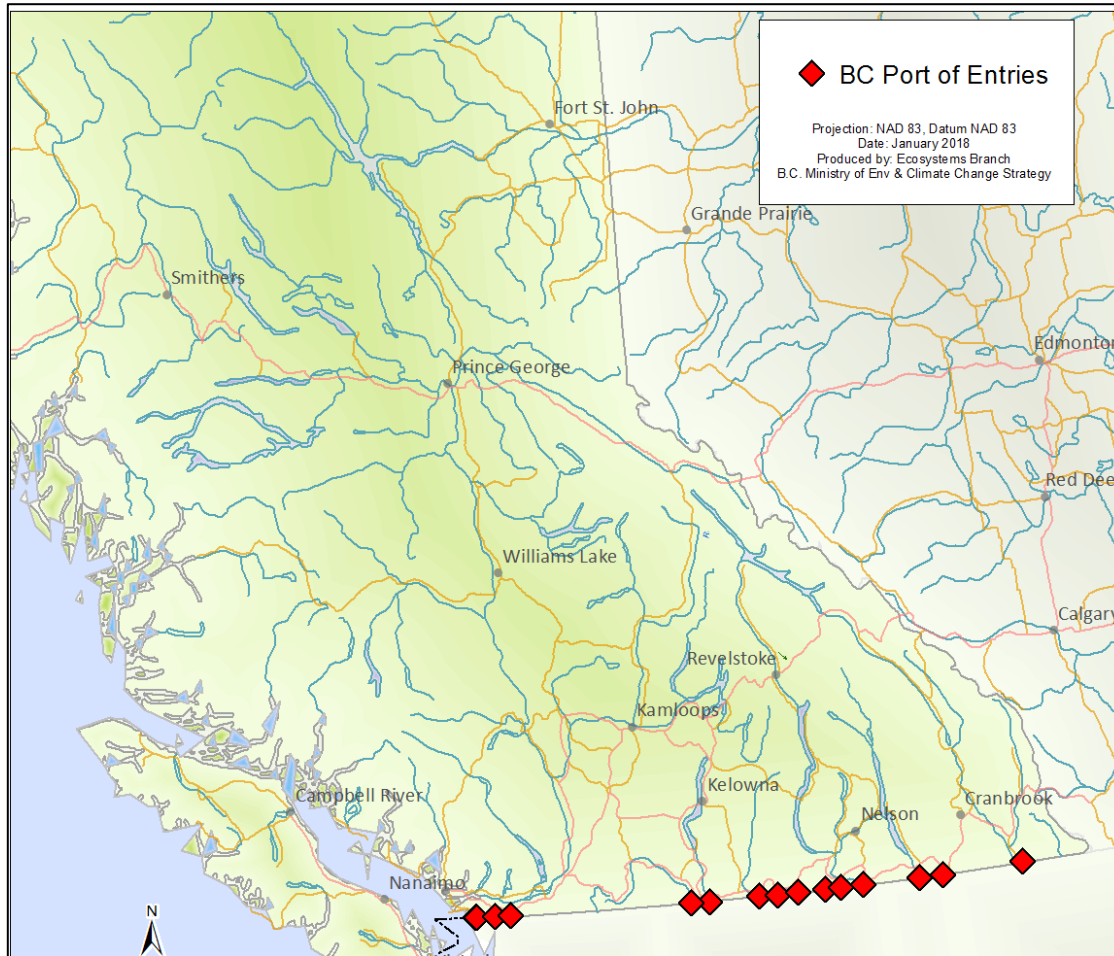


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Success: Increased Presence on Social Media



Challenge: Number of Port of Entries



Success

- 2017: program received ~300 notifications from POE's
- To date in 2018 program has already received & responded to 80 notifications from CBSA



Challenge: Water testing of new boats

- Several manufacturers water testing new boats in high risk waters and immediately shipped
- Large number of new boats destined for interior BC
- Requires follow up
- Can there be an accepted standard for water testing new boats?



Expansion of the K9 Unit

- K9 Major will be joining Kilo in the 2019 season once he has completed his training



Questions?