

# Montana's Battle Against Aquatic Invasive Species

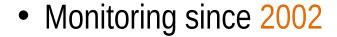






# FWP AIS Program





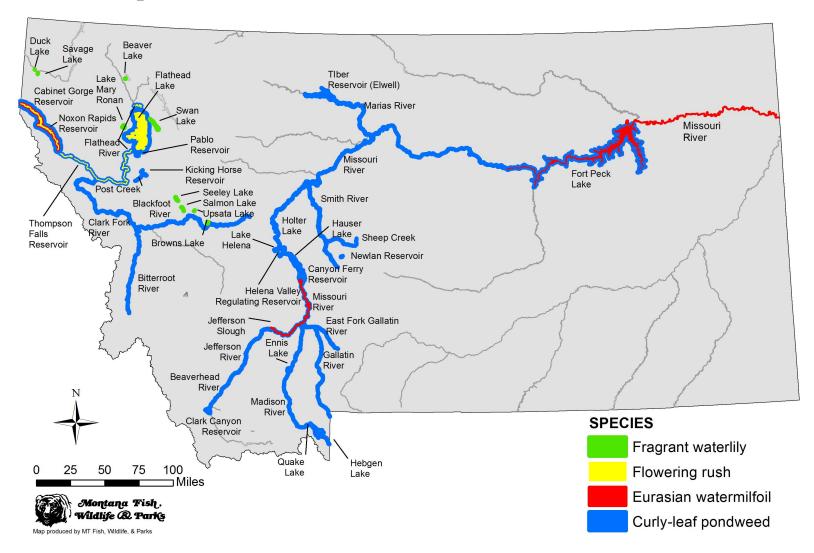
- Outreach and Education since 2002
- Inspection Stations since 2004
- Mandatory stops since 2011





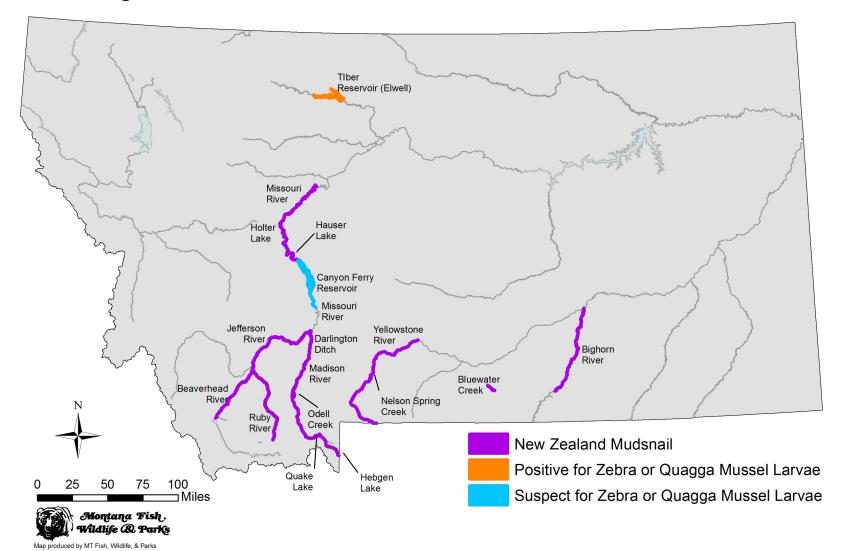


#### Aquatic Invasive Plant Locations in Montana - 2016





#### Aquatic Invasive Mollusk Locations in Montana - 2016





## Invasive Mussels Detected

- BOR Tiber detection in October 2016
- FWP Tiber and Canyon Ferry
- Positive in Tiber Reservoir
- Suspect in Canyon Ferry Reservoir



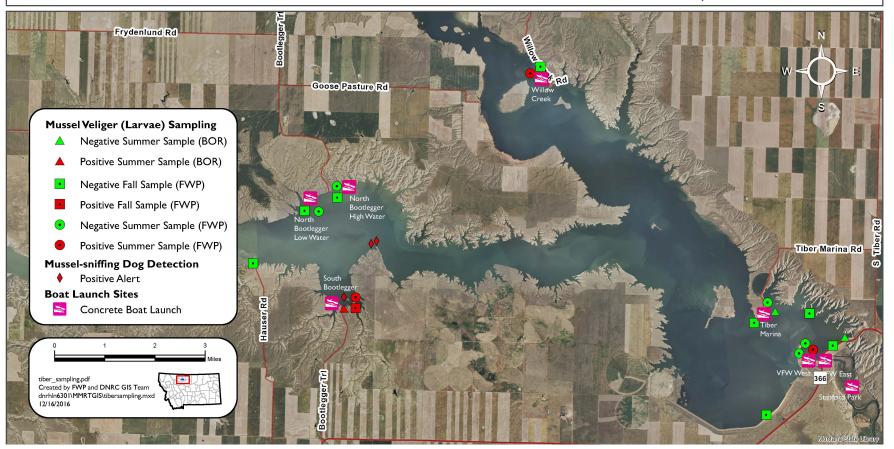


## **Detection at Tiber**

#### Invasive Species Mussel Sampling

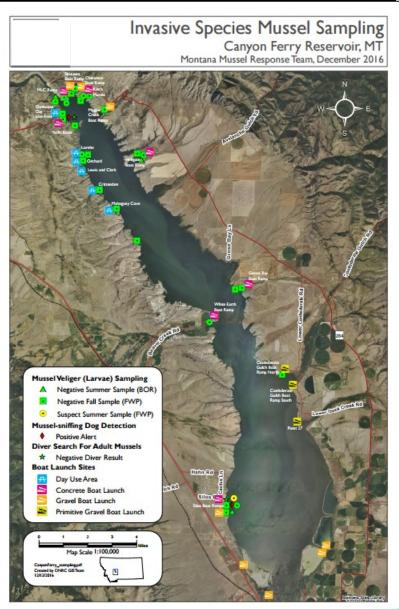
Tiber Reservoir, MT

Montana Mussel Response Team, December 2016





## Suspect Detection at Canyon Ferry





# Natural Resource Emergency



2) All Directors of other Departments of the State of Montana shall fully cooperate with the Incident Management Organization.

This Order is effective immediately.



GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana this 30 day of November, 2016

STEVE BULLOCK, Governor

ATTEST:

LINDA MCCULLOCH, Secretary of State

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#### MUSSEL RESPONSE TEAM – ICS

- Dual Command Structure
- Traditional ICS roles (Operations, Planning, Logistics, PIO, Liaison)
- Operations Chief broke Ops into Taskforce Teams:
  - Control/Containment
    - WIS
    - Decontamination
    - Drawdown

- Sampling/Monitoring
  - Backlog
  - Current
  - Future



# Mussel Response Team





#### **BOATERS \* ANGLERS \* WATER USERS**



You MUST stop at watercraft inspection stations

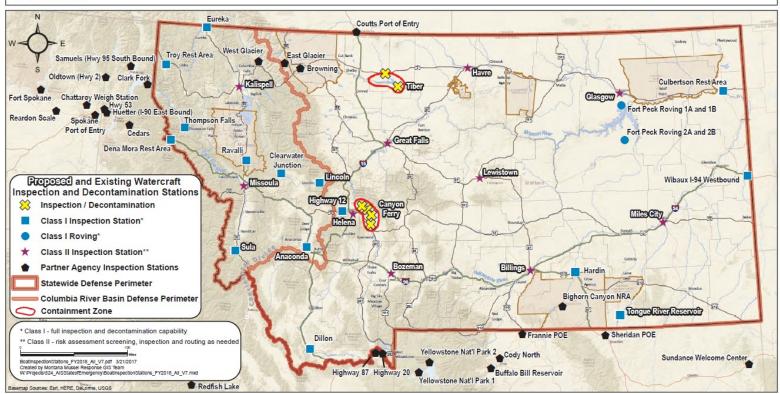
**NO INSPECTION?** DON'T LAUNCH!



# Statewide & Perimeter Defense Inspection & Decontamination Stations



Proposed and Existing Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination Stations - FY2018-19





#### MRT RECOMMENDATIONS - A FUNDING CHALLENGE

- ICS in a Fire World Resource Availability
- FWP/DNRC Existing Budgets
  - Remaining 2M Biennial (existing program)
  - DNRC Grant Remaining
- Remaining Emergency Fund (not available past E.O.)
- Funding Request and Timing:
  - Governor Approval of Request
  - HB3 Special Appropriations
  - Federal Assistance (DJ Grant Match) and WRRDA
  - Joint FWP/DNRC Budget Appropriations



## MUSSEL RESPONSE - IMPLEMENTATION

- Shift in Scope and Charge
- Similar ICS roles (operations, planning, logistics, PIO)
- Operations developed Taskforce Teams:
  - Decontamination
  - WIS
  - Sampling/Monitori ng
  - Hiring

- Enforcement
- Education/Outreach
- Rulemaking
- Logistics

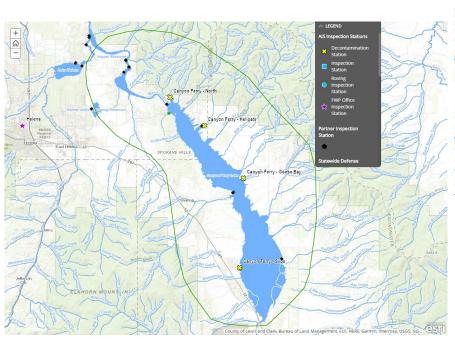


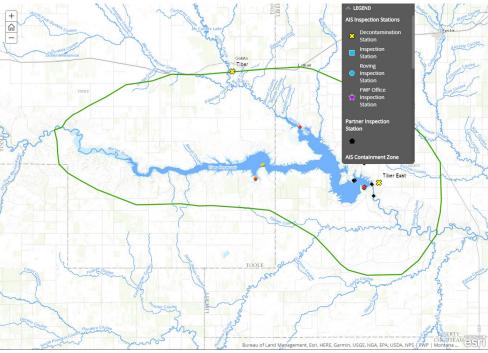
# Mussel Response - Implementation





# Mussel Containment Zones







## New Laws & Rules

- Mandatory inspection prior to launch
  - Out-of-state
  - Continental Divide
- Decontamination requirements
- No lake or river water transport
- Ramp restrictions
- Local boater program





## Enforcement

- FWP will be there to help, but all of Montana will rely on you to adhere to the rules and to help with enforcement.
- Call TIP-MONT if you witness any violations
- Enforcement efforts will be increased across the state





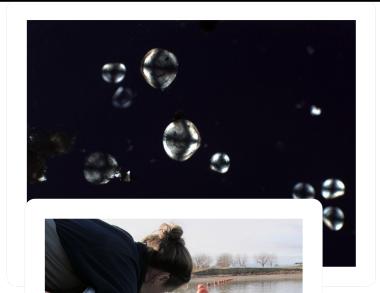
## What is the Local Boater Program

- The program is applicable only for Canyon Ferry or Tiber Reservoirs
- It will allow you to avoid the need for decontamination if your next boating trip is on the same waterbody.
- The purpose of the program is to decrease volume at the decontamination stations to allow FWP to focus on boats traveling elsewhere.





# FWP AIS Monitoring Enhancements

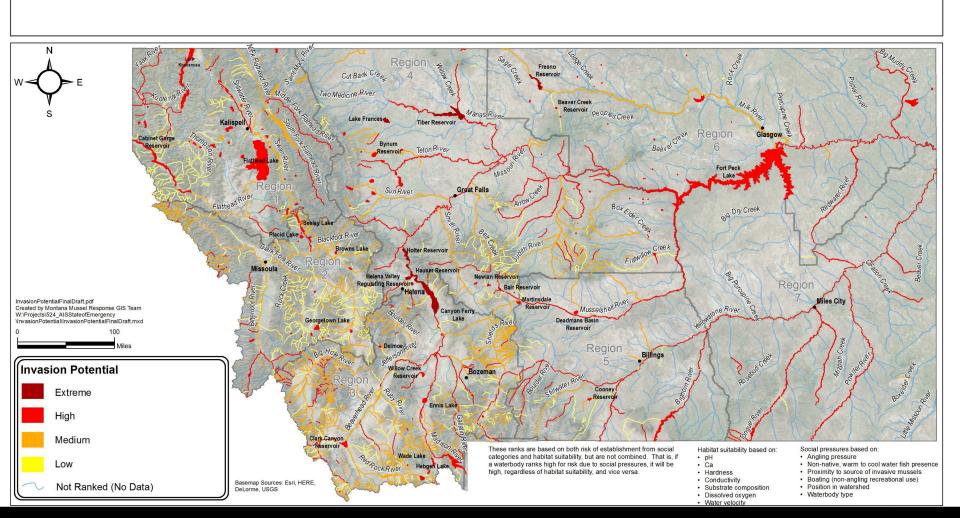


- From 610 to over 1500 samples
- From 180 to over 200 waterbodies
- Prioritized sampling/ lab turn-around
- Increased Lab Capacity



# FWP Scientists Identified Mussel High-Risk Waters

#### **Dreissenid Mussel Invasion Potential**



## MUSSEL RESPONSE - LESSONS LEARNED

- Communication/Involvement was one of biggest challenges
- Public, Partner, Legislative support critical
- Recognize Inherent "Elastic" nature of staffing and impacts
- Integration with Program/Agencies during and post response
- I.C.S. Works
  - -Training required for Responders
  - -Training Required for those who interact



## YOU

are the first line of defense in preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species.





#### THANKS! MONTANA'S DEPENDING ON YOU!







