



INVENTORY OF STATE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS TO CLEAN, DRAIN, AND DRY WATERCRAFT

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Aquatic invasive species (AIS) are spread in many ways. Preventing harmful introductions before they occur is the most effective means to avoid the costs and negative consequences from AIS. Managing pathways that contribute to the introduction and movement of AIS is critical to controlling their spread. One of the highest priority pathways identified in the United States is the overland transport of watercraft. The movement of watercraft after use in waterways infested with AIS presents a significant risk of AIS introduction to uninfested waters.

To address this pathway, states promote *Clean, Drain, Dry* (CDD). The phrase “Clean Drain Dry” entered into the national vocabulary of AIS prevention in 2008 through the *Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers!* campaign. The CDD message is designed to help recreational users remember critical prevention measures that can reduce the risk of AIS spread. These measures are:

- Cleaning the conveyance by removing all visible organic material, including, but not limited to, plants, animals, and mud;
- Draining the conveyance by removing any plug or other barrier that prevents water drainage and running any pumps on board to expel water; and
- Drying all compartments, spaces, and associated equipment that hold or may hold water.

During the past 20 years, states and conservation partners have developed extensive CDD outreach campaigns that include ads, education materials, posters, brochures, presentations, and websites.

Many states have gone a step beyond outreach and have taken action to give the CDD message the force of law through the enactment of legislation or regulations. State CDD laws range along a continuum from simple prohibitions on the transport of aquatic plants on watercraft, trailers, and vehicles to mandatory directives that watercraft be cleaned and drained upon removal from a water. Compliance and enforcement of these laws is often supported by state watercraft inspection and decontamination (WID) programs that involve operation of inspection stations and provision of decontamination services by trained personnel.

This report presents the results of a national inventory and comparative analysis of state AIS laws to determine the extent of CDD policy adoption and gaps in the legal framework. The focus of this analysis was on legally enforceable requirements for boaters to CDD watercraft. As discussed in more detail below, policy elements were considered present in a state only if expressly stated in law, regulation, or agency order.

The findings in this report are not intended to imply value judgments regarding the effectiveness of a state’s overall AIS program. Many states with elements missing in this analytical framework have robust AIS management programs with demonstrated impact in reducing the spread of AIS. Rather, these findings are intended to highlight details of existing state policy regimes to inform discussions regarding whether there is a need for, and what potential benefits may be provided by, a federal CDD policy.

To conduct its analysis, the National Sea Grant Law Center reviewed the AIS laws in each of the 50 states for CDD requirements (See Appendix A). Specifically, the Law Center was looking for legislative or regulatory provisions that imposed express requirements on boaters to clean watercraft by removing animals and plants, drain water from watercraft, and take some action to

dry watercraft. States vary in their policy preferences regarding when boaters should take required CDD actions. States may require boaters to take action prior to launch, upon removal from a waterway, or during transport. For each CDD provision identified, the Law Center also noted the corresponding “trigger” for action. The draft research findings and a short survey were distributed to state AIS Coordinators to ensure accuracy of the legal compilation and gather input on state policies.

Nearly 70% of states (33) have at least one legally enforceable CDD provision. Of the three components, drainage requirements are the most common. Twenty-six states have drainage requirements with statewide applicability and an additional three states have requirements for certain bodies of water (29 total). Nineteen states have cleaning requirements that apply statewide and three states have requirements that apply to certain bodies of water (22 states). Nine additional states have cleaning requirements that apply statewide but are specific to certain species (31 total). Mandatory drying requirements are the rarest - five states impose statewide requirements and three impose requirements on specific waterbodies (8 total).

A total of 27 states have a law or regulation that prohibits the transport of AIS or quagga and zebra mussels regardless of mode. Such general transport restrictions do prohibit the transport of AIS on watercraft and boaters are required to CDD watercraft to avoid possible violations. However, the mandatory requirements are not an express directive to boaters to CDD, which was the focus of this comparative analysis. There is overlap among states with general AIS transport restrictions and watercraft-specific transport restrictions resulting in states following into one of four categories.

- States with both a general AIS transport restriction and a watercraft-specific transport restriction (16)
- States with a watercraft-specific transport restriction only (9)
- States with a general AIS transport restriction only (11)
- States with neither (14)

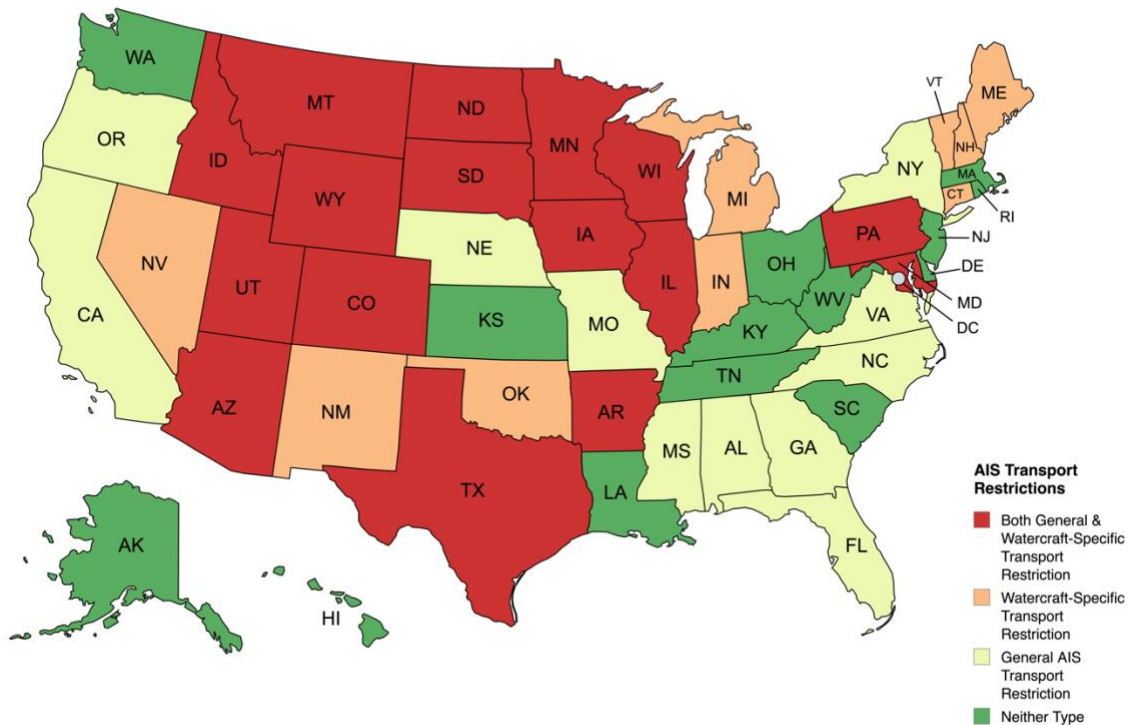


Fig. 1. Map illustrating the type of state approach with respect to AIS transport restrictions.

Clean

The “clean” in CDD refers to the best practice of cleaning the watercraft by removing all visible organic material, including, but not limited to, plants, animals, and mud. In its review, the National Sea Grant Law Center searched for language in enacted laws or regulations that required boaters to take an action equivalent to this best practice regardless of whether the term “clean” was used. There are two common approaches to the translation of the “clean” best practice into state law. First, states may adopt affirmative removal requirements. For example, Massachusetts regulations require boat operators to immediately removal all plants and animals upon leaving any inland water (302 Mass. Code Regs. 18.04). Alternatively, states may prohibit watercraft from being launched, removed, or transported with species attached, which implies an obligation to remove such species from the watercraft. For example, in North Dakota, watercraft must be free of prohibited or regulated aquatic nuisance species when entering or leaving any water body, or while in transit (N.D. Admin. Code 30-03-06-01).

Thirty-one states have a legal provision that requires boaters to take some action to clean watercraft. In 19 states, the law applies statewide to all state waters. In three states, boaters are only required to take action when leaving certain waters, such as waters listed as infested by AIS or managed by particular agencies. In nine states, the cleaning requirements are specific to

certain species, most commonly aquatic plants. Nineteen states have no legal requirement for boaters to clean watercraft.

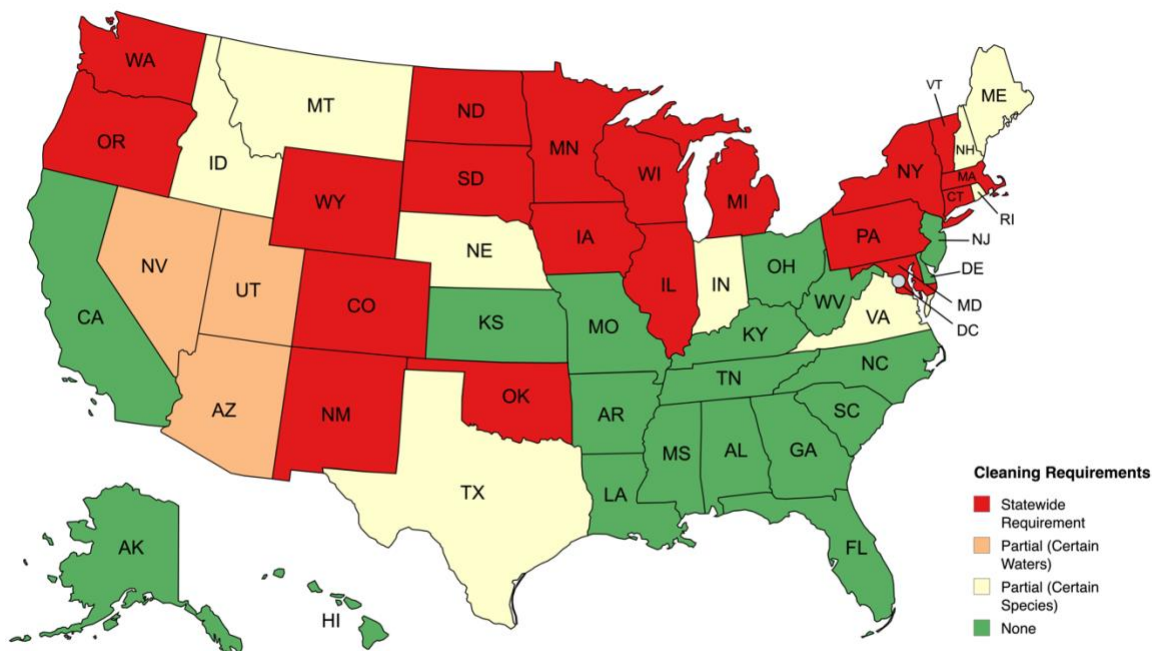


Fig. 2. Map illustrating the type of watercraft cleaning requirements state have enacted.

There is significant variation in the legal triggers for cleaning requirements. Four states incorporate all three triggers, requiring boats to be clean before launch, upon removal, and during transport. The rest incorporate a mix of 1–2 triggers. Among states with only one trigger, five require cleaning before launch, six require cleaning upon removal, and two require cleaning during transport. Among states with two triggers, six require cleaning before launch and upon removal, five require before launch and during transport, and three require upon removal and during transport (See table).

	Launch	Removal	Transport	All Three
Launch	5: MD, MN, NV, NY, OR	6: AZ, MA, NE, NM, RI, SD	5: IA, MI, NH, OK, PA	
Removal		6: MT, TX, UT, VA, WA, WY	3: CO, ID, ME	
Transport			2: CT, IN	
All Three				4: IL, ND, VT, WI

Drain

The “drain” in CDD refers to draining the watercraft. In its relevant of this policy element, the National Sea Grant Law Center searched for language in enacted laws or regulations that required boaters to take action to drain water from boats. States use more consistent language in their translation of this best practice into law, and most states use some variation of the term “drain” (e.g., drained, draining, drainage). Although a few states impose general requirements to drain watercraft without specific guidance on how boaters are required to do so, most states direct boaters to remove plugs or other barriers that prevent water drainage. These provisions, referred to in this report collectively as “drain plug laws,” also often require that drain plugs remain open and removed during transport. To date, 27 have enacted drain plug laws.

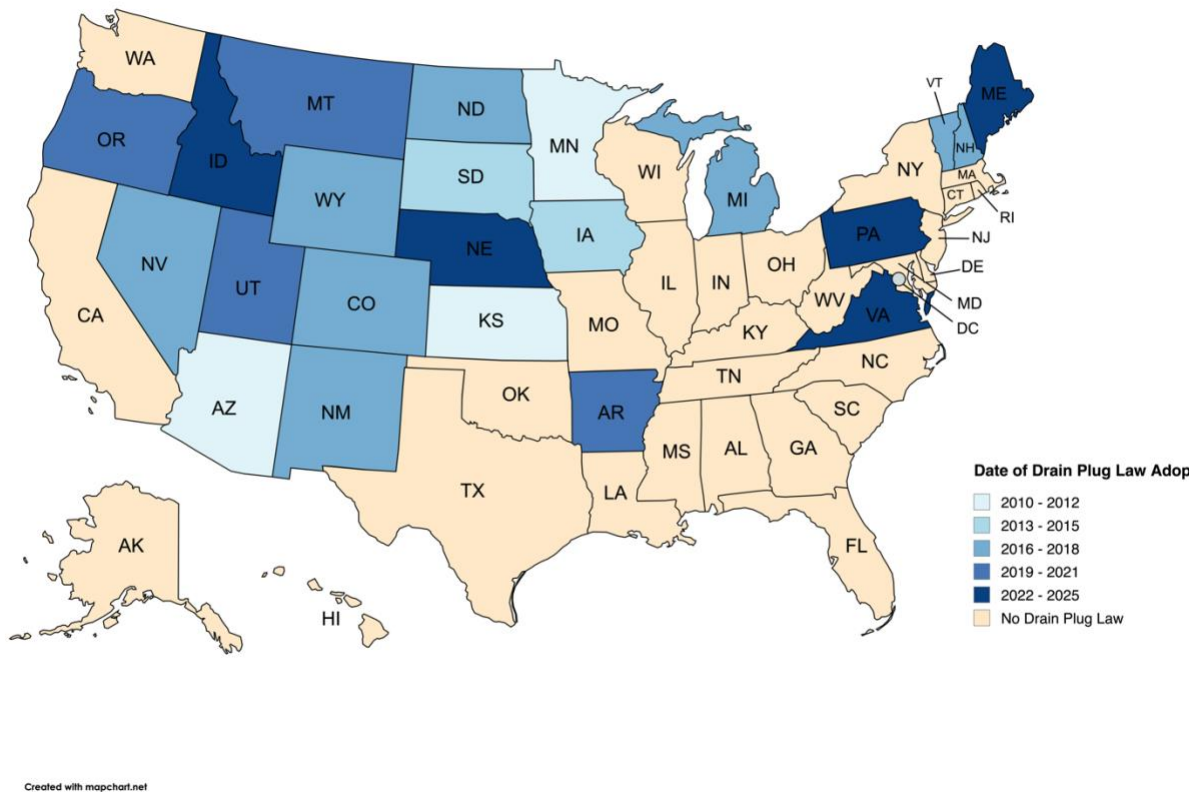


Fig. 3. Map illustrating the states that have drain plug laws categorized by date of enactment.

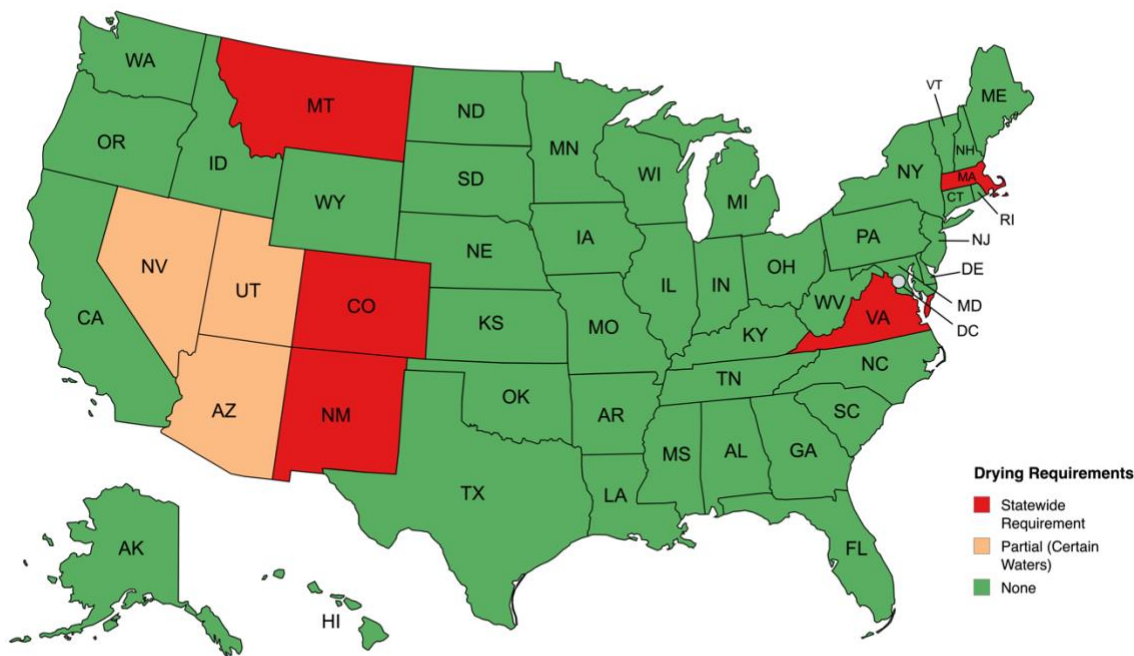
Twenty-six states have enacted statewide draining requirements, and three have requirements applicable to certain bodies of water. The states without drain plug laws with more general language regarding draining are: Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, and New York.

express references in law to generally applicable drying requirements. The drying of watercraft is facilitated by the draining requirements discussed above, especially if state law requires drain plugs to be removed and remain open during transport. Separate drying requirements may be deemed unnecessary or redundant in such states. When drying is mentioned, it is often in the context of mandatory decontamination orders that do not apply to all watercraft.

Five states have enacted explicit drying requirements that apply statewide, although the exact meaning of the term “dry” is not defined. Virginia, for example, requires boat operators take “reasonable measures to dry bilges, livewells, baitwells, and ballast tanks on a watercraft before it is used on another body of water” (4 Va. Admin. Code 15-370-45).

Three states have drying requirements that apply to certain bodies of water. In Nevada, it is unlawful to leave an impaired body of water and launch in another body of water without decontaminating the vessel. A person required to decontaminate must allow the vessel or conveyance to dry for not less than the period recommended by the Drying Time Estimator of the 100th Meridian Initiative (Nev. Admin. Code 488.520).

With respect to triggers in these eight states, six require watercraft to be dried upon removal from the water, whereas two impose the requirement before launch.



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Fig 5. Map illustrating the type of drying requirements enacted by states.

Key Takeaways

The objective of this research was to identify the presence or absence of explicit CDD requirements in state law. A strong regulatory framework reinforces state policies and outreach messaging regarding desired behavior change and ensures legal mechanisms are available to penalize egregious actions that threaten the state's environmental and conservation goals. Further, because boaters frequently transport watercraft across state lines, consistency among state laws is critical to minimizing confusion and increasing compliance. This research reveals inconsistencies and gaps in several key areas:

- Although many states require boaters to take action to clean watercraft, in some states the directives are limited to certain species or bodies of water. Such limitations can create compliance and enforcement challenges, as species identification can be difficult and the travel history of watercraft is often unknown. Gaps could be addressed by states enacting or amending laws and regulations to (1) require boaters to clean watercraft before entering or when leaving any water body in the state and (2) consistently defining cleaning broadly as the removal of all visible mud, debris, plants, animals, and other material from watercraft.
- State laws that reference draining of watercraft are the most consistent, although some states limit the geographic scope of their requirements. State laws vary with respect to whether drain plugs must remain open during transport, although such provisions are easier to enforce as compliance can be visually confirmed. Gaps could be addressed by states enacting or amending laws and regulations to require (1) draining upon exit of any water body in the state and (2) drain plugs and other similar devices remain open during transport.
- Additional policy clarity is needed with respect to the “dry” element of CDD. Only a handful of states explicitly require boaters to dry watercraft, and most do not provide guidance on what steps should be taken to do so. Gaps could be addressed by states enacting or amending laws and regulations to outline the actions required to dry a boat after water has been drained. Such steps could include wiping down surfaces with a towel or allowing everything to completely dry before launching (e.g., recommended minimum number of days).

Appendix A

Inventory of State CDD Legal Requirements

AIS Transport Restrictions

State	Present	Citation	Notes
Alabama	Y	Ala. Admin. Code r. 220-2-.26	Restricted species regulation incorporate Lacey Act injurious species list by reference, which includes QZM. Regulation prohibits transport of listed species within the state except by permit.
Alaska	N	5 AAC 41.075	QZM are listed Class A banned species by regulation refers only to possession, not transport.
Arizona	Y	A.R.S. § 17-255.02	Unlawful to "transport into or within this state" an aquatic invasive species.
Arkansas	Y	Ark. Admin. Code 002.01.1-J1.04	QZM are listed on the prohibited exotic aquatic species list. Unlawful to transport any live specimen.
California	Y	14 CCR § 671	Unlawful to transport live restricted animals, which includes QZM and golden mussels.
Colorado	Y	C.R.S.A. § 33-10.5-105	Unlawful to transport an aquatic nuisance species
Connecticut	N	Regs. Conn. State Agencies § 26-55-5	QZM are a listed nuisance aquatic invertebrate, but regulation only refers to import, introduction, and possession not transport.
Delaware	N	7 Del. Admin. Code 3545	State does have transport restrictions for a few invasive finfish, but QZM not listed nor does state have a general AIS transport restriction.
Florida	Y	Fla. Admin. Code r. 68-5.007	Transport of live specimens of listed prohibited non-native species is prohibited except by permit. QZM are listed on the state's prohibited non-native species list. Also unlawful to transport listed prohibited plants. Fla. Admin. Code r. 5B-64.011
Georgia	Y	Ga Comp. R. & Regs. 391-4-8-.03	Unlawful to transport certain listed wild animals but QZM not included (Ga. Code Ann., § 27-5-4). However, QZM are listed as prohibited wild animals by a separate DNR rule that appears to supplement the list in Ga. Code Ann., § 27-5-5. No general AIS transport restrictions.
Hawaii	N	Haw. Admin. Rules (HAR) § 13-124-3	Zebra mussel designated as a pest for control and eradication purposes, but that doesn't appear to have transport prohibitions. (Haw. Admin. Rules (HAR) § 4-69A Attachment 1). Unlawful to transport live injurious wildlife to islands or locations within the State where they are not already established and living in a wild state. However, QZM not included on list of injurious wildlife. (Haw. Admin. Rules (HAR) § 13-124 Exhibit 5).
Idaho	Y	I.C. § 22-1905, IDAPA 02.06.09.120	Unlawful to transport an invasive species except by permit. QZM listed invasive species. (IDAPA 02.06.09.140).
Illinois	Y	17 Ill. Adm. Code 805.30	Unlawful to transport injurious species with some exceptions. QZM included on list of injurious species. 17 Ill. Adm. Code 805.20
Indiana	N	312 IAC 9-9-3	QZM import and possession is prohibited, but no reference to transport
Iowa	Y	Iowa Admin. Code 571-90.3(456A)	AIS transport restriction in statute is limited to water-related equipment. I.C.A. § 456A.37, but general restriction in regulation. QZM are listed. Iowa Admin. Code 571-90.2(456A)
Kansas	N	K.A.R. 115-18-10	Importation, possession, or release of certain live wildlife species prohibited in Kansas which includes QZM. Transportation not mentioned.
Kentucky	N	301 Ky. Admin. Regs. 1:122	Import, possession, and release of certain aquatic species is prohibited including zebra mussel. Only transportation references are to carp.
Louisiana	N		Transport restrictions for certain types of exotic fish (LSA-R.S. 56:319) but no restrictions regarding QZM or general AIS found.
Maine	N	09-137 CMR Ch. 7, § 7.06	Lacey Act injurious species incorporated by reference into state's Category 1 Restricted Species List. 09-137 CMR Ch. 7, § 7.18. A permit is required to import, possess Category 1 restricted species. No mention of transport.
Maryland	Y	COMAR 08.02.19.04	Unlawful to transport listed nonnative aquatic organisms, which includes QZM.
Massachusetts	N		Massachusetts has a prohibited plant list and watercraft restrictions, but no general AIS transport restrictions or prohibited species list found. Certain fish species are prohibited without a permit. 321 CMR 9.01
Michigan	N		QZM are listed restricted species. M.C.L.A. 324.41301. Introduction of restricted species is prohibited. M.C.L.A. 324.41305. Not general transport restrictions - do have watercraft transport regulations
Minnesota	Y	Minnesota Rules, part 6216.0265	No one may transport a prohibited invasive species. QZM are prohibited invasive species. Minnesota Rules, part 6216.0250. Also may not transport aquatic macrophytes. M.S.A. § 84D.09
Mississippi	Y	2 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 1, Subpt. 4, Ch. 11	Zebra mussels are listed as prohibited species. Transport of prohibited species is unlawful.
Missouri	Y	3 Mo. Code of State Regulations 10-4.117	Prohibited species may not be transported live. QZM are listed prohibited species.
Montana	Y	ARM 12.6.2201	QZM are prohibited species. ARM 12.6.2215. Permits may be issued to allow possession, and some transportation through the state is allowed. ARM 12.6.2220. Prohibited species may not be transport in Montana except by permit.
Nebraska	Y	Neb. Admin. R. & Regs. Tit. 163, Ch. 2, § 0	Zebra mussel listed as category 2 priority species. Unlawful to possess or transport.
Nevada	N		QZM and golden mussels are listed aquatic invasive species. NAC 503.074. Nevada has watercraft transport restrictions, but no general transportation restriction found.
New Hampshire	N		Possession of zebra mussels is prohibited (N.H. Code Admin. R. Fis 804.03). So is import (N.H. Code Admin. R. Fis 803.04) and release (N.H. Code Admin. R. Fis 805.01). Definition of "prohibited" refers to transportation. N.H. Code Admin. R. Fis 801.19, but there are no separate regulatory references.
New Jersey	N		No relevant provisions found regarding prohibited species.

AIS Transport Restrictions

New Mexico	N		QZM are identified as aquatic invasive species. (N. M. S. A. 1978, § 17-4-35). New Mexico has watercraft transport restrictions, but no general AIS transport provisions found
New York	Y	6 NYCRR 575.3	QZM are listed prohibited species which may not be transported.
North Carolina	Y	15A NCAC 10C.0211	Possession of certain "live fishes" is prohibited. List includes QZM.
North Dakota	Y	NDCC, 20.1-17-06	Unlawful to transport a prohibited aquatic nuisance species. QZM are listed prohibited species. ANS Species List (https://gf.nd.gov/ans/species)
Ohio	N	OAC 1501:31-19-01	Ohio's list of injurious AIS includes QZM (https://dam.assets.ohio.gov/image/upload/ohiodnr.gov/documents/wildlife/fish-management/Injurious%20Aquatic%20Invasive%20Species.pdf). Unlawful to import, possess, release. No general transport restriction
Oklahoma	N	Okla. Admin. Code 800:20-4-3	QZM are listed harmful ANS, but only possession and import prohibited. State does have watercraft transport restrictions.
Oregon	Y	OAR 635-056-0050	QZM are included on list of prohibited species. Prohibited species may not be transported live.
Pennsylvania	Y	58 Pa. Code § 71a.11	QZM are listed prohibited species. May not be transported in or through the state.
Rhode Island	N		Possession of zebra mussel prohibited. 250-RICR- 40-05-3.17. Relevant part of regulation doesn't mention transport.
South Carolina	N		SC's regulations for nonnative wildlife are limited to Black and White tegu. S.C. Code of Regulations R. 123-152. Found no other relevant provisions.
South Dakota	Y	SDCL § 41-13A-2	Transport of AIS without permit is prohibited. QZM included on list of AIS. ARSD 41:10:04:01
Tennessee	N		Zebra mussels are Class V wildlife. Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 1660-01-18-.03. Class V species may only be held in zoos under certain conditions. T. C. A. § 70-4-403. No references to transport.
Texas	Y	31 TAC § 57.113	QZM are a list exotic species. 31 TAC § 57.112. May not transport a controlled exotic species except in limited circumstances (by permit, frozen)
Utah	Y	U.A.C. R657-60-3	May not transport dreissena mussel.
Vermont	N		QZM are defined as aquatic nuisances. 10 V.S.A. § 1452. State has general watercraft transport restrictions, but not general transport restriction. Unlawful to import or possess "live wild animal" unless by permit or listed as unrestricted live wild animal. Vt. Admin. Code 16-4-116:4.0 Unrestricted live wild animals are for animals commonly sold in the pet trade. QZM are listed as an "exception" to the unrestricted wild animal list. So permit to import/possess required. No reference to transport in relevant sections.
Virginia	Y	VA Code Ann. § 29.1-574	May not knowingly transport aquatic nuisance species. QZM are included as ANS by legislative definition. VA Code Ann. § 29.1-571
Washington	N		Unlawful to introduce or possess a Prohibited Level 1 species. WAC 220-640-100. RCWA 77.135.040. QZM are Prohibited Level 1. WAC 220-640-030. No reference to transport in relevant provisions. State has watercraft transport restrictions.
West Virginia	N		State has prohibited amphibian and reptile list, but no general AIS found.
Wisconsin	Y	Wis. Adm. Code § NR 40.06	QZM are restricted species. Wis. Adm. Code § NR 40.05. Transport only allowed with permit.
Wyoming	Y	W.S.1977 § 23-4-202	Unlawful to transport AIS except as authorized. QZM is listed aquatic invasive species. WY Rules and Regulations 040.0001.62 § 2.
Total		27	
Percentage		54%	

Cleaning Requirements

State	Present	When Triggered?	Citation	Notes
Alabama	N			Alabama has no relevant provisions on state level.
Alaska	N			Alaska has no relevant provisions on state level.
Arizona	P (G)	Removal	A.A.C. R12-4-902	May not place in any waters of this state any equipment, watercraft, vessel, vehicle or conveyance that has been in any water or location where aquatic invasive species are present within the preceding thirty days without first decontaminating. A.R.S. § 17-255.02. This places a geographic restriction on the requirement (only applies to AIS-listed waters). Upon removing watercraft from any listed waters and prior to transport, person shall remove all clinging materials such as plants, animals, and mud.
Arkansas	N			Arkansas Fish and Game Commission regulations prohibit the possession of certain aquatic plants (Ark. Admin. Code 002.01.1-19.20), which agency reviewers asserted means boaters "must ensure invasive plants are not transported onto or from these properties on their boats, trailers, or other items." However, that is not an express directive.
California	N			California law authorizes watercraft inspections, but there are no express directives to boaters.
Colorado	Y	Removal & Transport	2 CCR 405-8:803	Colorado Parks and Wildlife regulations state that it is the responsibility of the vessel owner to clean vessel between launches. There is also an express directive to remove aquatic plants upon removal of vessel from waters of the state. Transport of vessel with plants attached is prohibited.
Connecticut	Y	Transport	C.G.S.A. § 15-180	Vegetation and visible aquatic nuisance species must be removed from vessel before transport.
Delaware	N			Delaware has no relevant provisions
Florida	N			Florida has no relevant watercraft provisions.
Georgia	N			Georgia has no relevant provisions
Hawaii	N			Hawaii has no relevant provisions
Idaho	P (S)	Removal & Transport	I.C. § 22-1905A	Immediately upon removing a conveyance from any waters of this state or for transport of conveyances within the state, the operator shall remove all visible vegetation from the conveyance. Must be inspected prior to launch if they've been in mussel infested water or from out of state.
Illinois	Y	Launch, Removal & Transport	625 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 45/5-23	No person may place or operate a vehicle, seaplane, watercraft, or other object of any kind in waters of this State if it has any aquatic plants or aquatic animals attached to the exterior of the vehicle, seaplane, watercraft, or other object. May not take off with a seaplane or operate on a highway with aquatic plants or animals attached.
Indiana	P (S)	Transport	312 IAC 18-3-23	May not transport prohibited invasive plant species on or within boat or related equipment.
Iowa	Y	Launch & Transport	Iowa Code Ann. § 456A.37	A person shall not transport on a public road, or place or attempt to place into waters of the state, any water-related equipment that has an aquatic invasive species or aquatic plant attached to or within
Kansas	N			No provision found requiring the removal of animals and plants
Kentucky	N			Kentucky has no relevant provisions
Louisiana	N			Louisiana has no relevant provisions
Maine	P (S)	Removal & Transport	Me. Rev. Stat. Ann. tit. 38, § 419-C	A person may not transport or fail to remove any aquatic plant or parts of any aquatic plant from the outside of a vehicle, boat, personal watercraft, boat trailer or other equipment on a public road
Maryland	Y	Launch	Md. Code Regs. 08.02.19.05	A person may not place or attempt to place upon or into State waters a watercraft or associated equipment with attached or contained aquatic plants, zebra mussels, or other prohibited species of nonnative organisms.
Massachusetts	Y	Launch & Removal	302 Mass. Code Regs. 18.04	Immediately upon leaving any Inland Water, boat operators must remove all plants and animals. Regulations also prohibit launch with plants and animals attached. 302 CMR 18.03
Michigan	Y	Launch & Transport	Mich. Comp. Laws Ann. § 324.41325	May not place a watercraft, watercraft equipment, or a watercraft trailer in the waters of this state with an aquatic plant attached. May not transport before ensuring watercraft are free of aquatic organisms, including plants.
Minnesota	Y	Launch	M.S.A. § 84D.10, M.S.A. § 84D.09	May not place water-related equipment in waters of the state with aquatic macrophytes or prohibited invasive species attached.
Mississippi	N			Mississippi has no relevant provisions.
Missouri	N			Missouri has no relevant provisions.
Montana	P (S)	Removal	Mont. Admin. R. 12.5.706	upon removing a vessel, all aquatic vegetation must be removed from the vessel, trailer, and equipment;
Nebraska	P (S)	Launch & Removal	163 Neb. Admin. Code Ch. 2, 012	Unlawful on property owned or operated by the Parks and Game Commission to arrive at or leave any water body with equipment that contains any plant material.
Nevada	P (G)	Launch	NAC 488.520	It is unlawful to leave an impaired body of water in Nevada or any other state and launch the vessel any body of water in Nevada without first decontaminating the vessel. Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 488.530(c). A person required to decontaminate must remove AIS and aquatic plant material and clean each item on the vessel.
New Hampshire	P (S)	Transport	N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 487:16-c	No person shall negligently transport any aquatic plants or plant parts or exotic aquatic weed or weed parts to or from any New Hampshire waters
New Jersey	N			New Jersey has no relevant provisions.
New Mexico	Y	Removal	N.M. Admin. Code 19.30.14.12	It shall be unlawful for the owner or person in control of a conveyance(s) or equipment to fail to take reasonable measures upon exiting a waterbody to decontaminate all equipment, compartments or spaces that are wet, hold water or could transfer AIS, including aquatic vegetation. Decontaminate by definition means "to clean." N.M. Admin. Code 19.30.14.7
New York	Y	Launch	6 NYCRR 576.3	May not launch a watercraft into a public waterbody without inspection and removing any plant or animal.
North Carolina	N			North Carolina has no relevant provisions.
North Dakota	Y	Launch, Removal & Transport	N.D. Admin. Code 30-03-06-01	Upon entering or leaving any water body or while in transit, watercraft must be free of prohibited or regulated aquatic nuisance species. Additionally, no aquatic vegetation may be on watercraft when out of the water. NDAC 30-03-06-03. No one may transport aquatic vegetation to or from water. NDAC 30-03-06-04
Ohio	N			Ohio has no relevant provisions.

Cleaning Requirements

State	Present	When Triggered?	Citation	Notes
Oklahoma	Y	Launch & Transport	Okla. Admin. Code 800:20-4-2, Okla. Admin. Code 800:20-4-3	Aquatic plants may not be transported between waters of the state. Plants must be removed from boat trailer and other gear before launch. In addition, Boats, trailers, and boat parts must be cleaned free of live zebra and/or quagga mussels before launching in any public waters.
Oregon	Y	Launch	O.R.S. § 830.560	May not launch a boat with visible species attached.
Pennsylvania	Y	Launch & Transport	58 Pa. Code § 71a.12	May not place a watercraft in state waters that has aquatic plants or prohibited species attached. Persons transporting watercraft must ensure the watercraft, trailer, etc. is free of aquatic organisms.
Rhode Island	P (S)	Launch & Removal	250 R.I. Code R. 60-00-10.6	The transport of any plant or plant part into or out of any Rhode Island waterbody on boats, vessels, other water conveyances, vehicles, trailers, fishing supplies, or any other equipment is prohibited.
South Carolina	N			South Carolina has no relevant provisions.
South Dakota	Y	Launch & Removal	SDCL § 41-13A-3, S.D. Codified Laws § 41-13A-4	A person removing watercraft must clean the conveyance by removing all visible organic material, including plants, animals, and mud. May not place a conveyance in waters without meeting the requirements of 41-13A-4.
Tennessee	N			Tennessee has no relevant provisions.
Texas	P (S)	Removal	TEX. PARKS & WILD. CODE § 66.001	Exotic aquatic plants must be removed upon leaving any public or private body of water.
Utah	P (G)	Removal	Utah Admin. Code r. R657-60-5	The owner, operator, or possessor of any equipment or conveyance that has been in a waterbody subject to decontamination requirements must inspect for mussels. If found free of mussels, fish, plants and mud, may be transported to location for decon or storage.
Vermont	Y	Launch, Removal & Transport	Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 10, § 1454	A person shall not transport an aquatic plant, aquatic plant part, or aquatic nuisance species to or from any Vermont water. A person transporting a vessel should, prior to launching the vessel and upon leaving a water, inspect and remove aquatic plants and aquatic nuisance species.
Virginia	P (S)	Removal	4 Va. Admin. Code 15-370-45	Before leaving the area where the watercraft has been removed from the water, all aquatic vegetation must be removed from the vessel, trailer, and equipment.
Washington	Y	Removal	Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 77.135.110	A person in possession of an aquatic conveyance must meet clean and drain requirements after the conveyance's use in or on a water body or property. By definition "clean and drain" includes removal of visible native and nonnative aquatic animals, plants, or other organisms. Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 77.135.010
West Virginia	N			West Virginia has no relevant provisions.
Wisconsin	Y	Launch, Removal & Transport	Wis. Admin. Code NR § 40.07, Wis. Stat. Ann. § 30.07	Any person who removes a vehicle, boat, boat trailer, boating or fishing equipment, or other equipment or gear of any type from any inland or outlying water or from its bank or shore shall remove all attached aquatic plants and aquatic animals immediately. In addition, No person may place or operate a vehicle, seaplane, watercraft, or other object of any kind in a navigable water if it has any aquatic plants or aquatic animals attached to the exterior of the vehicle, seaplane, watercraft, or other object. Wis. Stat. Ann. § 30.07. Also unlawful to transport watercraft on highway with aquatic plants attached.
Wyoming	Y	Removal	Wyo. Admin. Code 040.0001.62 § 3	Immediately upon removal, the operator shall remove all visible vegetation from the watercraft and trailer.
Total	19			
Percentage	38%			

Draining Requirements

State	Present	When Triggered?	Drain Plug Law	Citation	Notes
Alabama	N				Alabama has no relevant provisions on state level.
Alaska	N				Alaska has no relevant provisions on state level.
Arizona	P (G)	Removal & Transport	Y	A.A.C. R12-4-902	Upon removal of watercraft from AIS-listed waters, person must remove all plugs and other valves or devices that prevent water drainage from all compartments that may retain water, such as ballast tanks, ballast bags, bilges, and ensure plugs or devices remain removed or open during transport.
Arkansas	Y	Removal & Transport	Y	Ark. Admin. Code 002.01.1-37.10	All aquatic vessel drain plugs must be removed before and during trailering of vessel to and from waterbody access facilities.
California	N				California law authorizes watercraft inspections, but there are no express directives to boaters.
Colorado	Y	Launch & Removal	Y	2 CCR 405-8:803	Colorado Parks and Wildlife regulations state that it is the responsibility of the vessel owner to drain vessel between launches. There is also an express directive to remove drain plugs upon removal from waters of the state.
Connecticut	N				Connecticut has no relevant provisions.
Delaware	N				Delaware has no relevant provisions
Florida	N				Florida has no relevant watercraft provisions.
Georgia	N				Georgia has no relevant provisions
Hawaii	N				Hawaii has no relevant provisions
Idaho	Y	Removal & Transport	Y	I.C. § 22-1905A	Immediately upon removal, all water must be drained. Drained plugs must be removed and remain open during transit.
Illinois	Y	Removal		Ill. Admin. Code tit. 17, § 875.50	It is unlawful to remove any watercraft, boat, boat trailer or other equipment from waters of the State without emptying and draining any bait bucket, livewell, baitwell, bilge, etc., or any other compartment capable of holding natural waters.
Indiana	N				Indiana has no relevant provisions
Iowa	Y	Removal & Transport	Y	Iowa Code Ann. § 456A.37	A person shall drain all water from water-related equipment when leaving the waters of the state and before transporting the water-related equipment off a water access area or riparian property. Drain plugs must remain removed and open during transport.
Kansas	Y	Removal	Y	Kan. Admin. Regs. 115-30-13	The livewells and bilges shall be drained and the drain plugs removed from all vessels being removed from the waters of the state before transport on any public highway of the state.
Kentucky	N				Kentucky has no relevant provisions
Louisiana	N				Louisiana has no relevant provisions
Maine	Y	Launch & Removal	Y	38 M.R.S.A. § 419-C	Prior to launch and when removing watercraft from inland waterbody and prior to transport away, drain plugs must be removed and open.
Maryland	P (G)	Transport		Md. Code Regs. 08.02.19.05	Water taken from waters infested by prohibited nonnative species may not be transported on public roads, with limited exceptions
Massachusetts	Y	Removal		302 Mass. Code Regs. 18.04	Upon removal, operators must Dispose of livewell, cooling, bilge and ballast water away from the shore after each use in Inland Water
Michigan	Y	Transport	Y	M.C.L.A. 324.41325	Drain plugs must be removed and water drained prior to transport.
Minnesota	Y	Removal & Transport	Y	Minn. Stat. Ann. § 84D.10	Water must be drained by removing drain plug before transporting the water-related equipment. Drain plugs must be removed and open during transport.
Mississippi	N				Mississippi has no relevant provisions.
Missouri	N				Missouri has no relevant provisions.
Montana	Y	Removal & Transport	Y	MCA 80-7-1015	After use in state waters, water must be drained and drain plugs disengaged. Drain plugs may be reengaged after draining. If there are no drain plug, reasonable measures must be taken to dry. Transport of surface water is prohibited. Mont. Admin. R. 12.5.706
Nebraska	P (G)	Launch & Removal	Y	163 Neb. Admin. Code Ch. 2, 012	Must drain water by removing drain plug before arriving at, attempting to enter, or leaving a water body owned or operated by the Commission. Unlawful to arrive at or leave any water body owned or operated by the Commission with water from other than a domestic source.
Nevada	Y	Removal & Transport	Y	NAC 488.526	At or near the site where the boat is taken out of the water, must drain all water. Drain plugs must be removed and open during transport.
New Hampshire	Y	Removal & Transport	Y	N.H. Rev. Stat. § 487:16-d	When leaving waters of the state, boats must be drained. Drain plugs must be removed and open during transport.
New Jersey	N				New Jersey has no relevant provisions.
New Mexico	Y	Removal & Transport	Y	N.M. Admin. Code 19.30.14.12	It shall be unlawful for the owner or person in control of a conveyance(s) or equipment transported on a public road in New Mexico to have any plug or other barrier in place that prevents water drainage from bilge lines, ballast tanks, motor cooling systems, live wells, compartments and equipment. Additionally, it shall be unlawful for the owner or person in control of a conveyance(s) or equipment to fail to take reasonable measures upon exiting a waterbody to decontaminate all equipment, compartments or spaces that are wet, hold water or could transfer AIS, including aquatic vegetation. Decontaminate by definition means "to drain." N.M. Admin. Code 19.30.14.7
New York	Y	Launch		6 NYCRR 576.3	No one may launch a watercraft in public waterbody without draining water from the watercraft
North Carolina	N				North Carolina has no relevant provisions.
North Dakota	Y	Removal & Transport	Y	NDAC 30-03-06-05	All water must be drained when watercraft are out of the water or upon entering the state. Drain plugs must be removed and remain open during transport.
Ohio	N				Ohio has no relevant provisions.
Oklahoma	N				OK does not require watercraft to be drained.
Oregon	Y	Removal	Y	O.R.S. § 830.302	after leaving the waters of this state with a boat, a person shall remove or open all drain plugs prior to transport. Because it doesn't explicitly state they need to be open during transport, only counted removal as trigger.
Pennsylvania	Y	Removal & Transport	Y	58 Pa. Code § 71a.12	When leaving state waters, a person must drain watercraft before transporting. Drain plugs must remain removed or open during transport.
Rhode Island	N				Rhode Island has no relevant provisions.
South Carolina	N				South Carolina has no relevant provisions.
South Dakota	Y	Removal & Transport	Y	S.D. Codified Laws § 41-13A-4	Upon removal, must drain the conveyance by removing any plug or other barrier that prevents water drainage and running any pumps on board to expunge water. all trailered boats must have all drain plugs, bailers, valves, and other devices used to control the drainage of water opened or removed. S.D. Admin. R. 41:10:04:03

Draining Requirements

State	Present	When Triggered?	Drain Plug Law	Citation	Notes
Tennessee	N				Tennessee has no relevant provisions.
Texas	Y	Transport		TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 57.1001	Water must be drained before transporting vessels to and from waterbodies on a public roadway.
Utah	Y	Transport	Y	U.C.A. 1953 § 23A-10-305, U.A.C. R657-60-5	Drain plugs must be remove before transport. Language in silent on whether they need to remain open during transport, but section heading says during transport. Other regulation say must be removed during transport and storage.
Vermont	Y	Removal & Transport	Y	Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 10, § 1454	When leaving a water of the State and prior to transport away from the area where the vessel left the water, a person operating a vessel shall drain the vessel, trailer, and other equipment of water, including water in live wells, ballast tanks, and bilge areas. Plugs should remain removed and open during transport.
Virginia	Y	Removal	Y	4 Va. Admin. Code 15-370-45	Before leaving area, watercraft operators must also remove or open water drain plugs from bilges of watercraft.
Washington	Y	Removal		Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 77.135.110	A person in possession of an aquatic conveyance must meet clean and drain requirements after the conveyance's use in or on a water body or property. By definition "clean and drain" includes removal of raw water. Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 77.135.010
West Virginia	N				West Virginia has no relevant provisions.
Wisconsin	Y	Removal		Wis. Adm. Code § NR 40.07	Water must be drained upon removal from water.
Wyoming	Y	Removal & Transport	Y	Wyo. Admin. Code 040.0001.62 § 3	Immediately upon removal, the operator shall drain all water from the watercraft. Drain plugs should be removed and remain open during transport.
Total	26				
Percentage	52%				

Drying Requirements

State	Present	When Triggered?	Citation	Notes
Alabama	N			Alabama has no relevant provisions on state level.
Alaska	N			Alaska has no relevant provisions on state level.
Arizona	P (G)	Removal	A.A.C. R12-4-902; Director's Order	If no plugs or barriers exist, upon removal must take reasonable measures to drain or dry all compartments or spaces that may retain water. Reasonable measures include, but are not limited to, emptying bilges, application of absorbents, or ventilation. Further, Director's Order 3 imposes mandatory drying times even on Day Use vessels. https://azgfd-portal-wordpress-pantheon.s3.us-west-2.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/archive/2023-AIS-DO-3.pdf
Arkansas	N			Arkansas regulations do not mention drying.
California	N			California law authorizes watercraft inspections, but there are no express directives to boaters.
Colorado	Y	Removal	2 CCR 405-8:803	Colorado Parks and Wildlife regulations state that it is the responsibility of the vessel owner to dry the vessel between launches. "Dry" means no visible sign of standing water, or wetness on or in the vessel or other floating device. Watercraft that has been out of the water long enough for attached mussels to desiccate. 2 Colo. Code Regs. § 405-8:800
Connecticut	N			Connecticut has no relevant provisions.
Delaware	N			Delaware has no relevant provisions
Florida	N			Florida has no relevant watercraft provisions.
Georgia	N			Georgia has no relevant provisions
Hawaii	N			Hawaii has no relevant provisions
Idaho	N			No reference to "dry" found in regulation. Mandatory decontamination requirements do not include drying times. Website states that hot wash is required. https://invasivespecies.idaho.gov/watercraft-inspection-stations
Illinois	N			No reference to "Dry" found in law.
Indiana	N			Indiana has no relevant provisions
Iowa	N			No reference to "Dry" found in law.
Kansas	N			Kentucky has no relevant provisions
Kentucky	N			Louisiana has no relevant provisions
Louisiana	N			No reference to "Dry" found in law.
Maine	N			No reference to "Dry" found in law.
Maryland	N			No reference to "Dry" found in law.
Massachusetts	Y	Launch	302 CMR 18.04	Upon removal, All equipment must be dried prior to its use on another Inland Water body.
Michigan	N			No reference to "Dry" found in law.
Minnesota	N			No reference to "Dry" found with respect to watercraft. They do have a 21-day drying period for boat lift, dock, swim raft, or associated equipment. Minn. Stat. Ann. § 84D.10 (West)
Mississippi	N			Mississippi has no relevant provisions.
Missouri	N			Missouri has no relevant provisions.
Montana	Y	Removal	Mont. Admin.R. 12.5.706	Reasonable measures must be taken to "dry or drain" all compartments. Doesn't expressly say trigger, but in context appears to be removal. In addition, drying time may be part of ordered decon and vessels with ballast or bladders must be decontaminated upon entering the state or crossing the continental divide into the Columbia River basin unless not launched in previous 45 days. Mont. Code Ann. § 80-7-1030. If decon not possible may be locked to complete drying period.
Nebraska	N			Regulations mention that vessels can be ordered removed from water body or quarantined for certain amount of time up to 30 days, but not general obligation. Neb. Admin. R. & Regs. Tit. 163, Ch. 2, § 012
Nevada	P (G)	Launch	NAC 488.520	It is unlawful to leave an impaired body of water in Nevada or any other state and launch the vessel any body of water in Nevada without first decontaminating the vessel. Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 488.530(c). A person required to decontaminate must Allow the vessel or conveyance to dry for not less than the period recommended by the Drying Time Estimator of the 100th Meridian Initiative.
New Hampshire	N			NH law encourages public boat access facility owners to provide technology to assist with CDD and decontamination. Boaters are required to use such technology when available, but not a express directive to dry.
New Jersey	N			New Jersey has no relevant provisions.
New Mexico	Y	Removal	N.M. Admin. Code 19.30.14.12	It shall be unlawful for the owner or person in control of a conveyance(s) or equipment to fail to take reasonable measures upon exiting a waterbody to decontaminate all equipment, compartments or spaces that are wet, hold water or could transfer AIS, including aquatic vegetation. Decontaminate by definition means "to dry or otherwise treat" in accordance with director guidelines and UMPS. N.M. Admin. Code 19.30.14.7
New York	N		6 NYCRR 576.3	No one may launch a watercraft into a public waterbody without taking reasonable precaution of treating, which can be one of two methods - drying or rinsing. As drying is not absolutely required, did not count.
North Carolina	N			North Carolina has no relevant provisions.
North Dakota	N			Nothing found for watercraft but "All docks, lifts, and related equipment must be dried and left out of the water for at least twenty-one days before they may be placed in another water." N.D. Admin. Code 30-03-06-01
Ohio	N			Ohio has no relevant provisions.
Oklahoma	N			No reference to "Dry" found in law.
Oregon	N			No reference to "Dry" found in law.
Pennsylvania	N			No reference to "Dry" found in law.
Rhode Island	N			Rhode Island has no relevant provisions.
South Carolina	N			South Carolina has no relevant provisions.
South Dakota	N			No reference to "Dry" found in law.
Tennessee	N			Tennessee has no relevant provisions.
Texas	N			Texas has no relevant provisions.

Drying Requirements

State	Present	When Triggered?	Citation	Notes
Utah	P (G)	Removal	U.A.C. R657-60-5	The owner, operator, or possessor of any equipment or conveyance that has been in a waterbody subject to decontamination requirements may transport a clean boat to a location for decon or storage/return to same waterbody. Definition of decon contains drying requirements with specific time periods. U.A.C. R657-60-2
Vermont	N			No reference to "dry" found. Regulation does have this provision "A person operating a vessel shall drain the vessel, trailer, and other equipment of water in a manner to avoid a discharge to the water of the State." Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 10, § 1454. But still just refers to draining.
Virginia	Y	Removal	4 Va. Admin. Code 15-370-45	Operators shall take reasonable measures to dry bilges, livewells, baitwells, and ballast tanks on a watercraft before it is used on another body of water.
Washington	N			No reference to "Dry" found in law.
West Virginia	N			West Virginia has no relevant provisions.
Wisconsin	N			No reference to dry in Chapter 40. There are some required drying times for construction equipment. See, Wis. Adm. Code § NR 345.04
Wyoming	N			No reference to "Dry" found in law.
Total	5			
Percentage	10%			