



AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES NEWS

09/07/22

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SPOTLIGHT:

[All hands on deck: How researchers and divers are testing creative ways to quell the lionfish invasion \(8/25/22\)](#)

When Captain Cindy Garb and her passengers set out on a lionfish hunting expedition off the coast of North Carolina, they load up a boat with silver nitrox-filled scuba tanks, three-prong paralyzer tip spears, puncture-resistant gloves, and clear plastic tubes.

...

The state is the upper-most year-round limit of the Atlantic lionfish invasion. This voracious species feeds on the juveniles of commercially important fish like grouper and snapper. At this northern frontier, researchers and divers like Garb are finding creative ways to tackle the predator's spread.

...

Explorers with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or NOAA, recently got a fresh sense of the extent of the lionfish explosion in North Carolina. On a May dive to explore the E.M. Clark, a tanker sunk by a German U-boat during WWII's Battle of the Atlantic, researchers took in an "unsettling" sight.

"Every square foot of it is covered with the lionfish," said a researcher, describing the scene on the 500-foot wreck in a video of the dive posted to Facebook. "I've never seen anything like this."

This [new video](#) of the wreck that sits on the ocean floor in the Graveyard of the Atlantic is helping to answer the question of what the invasion looks like in deep waters off the North Carolina coast.

...

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Steve Gittings, the chief scientist for NOAA’s Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, says there are a few lionfish invasion trends experts are observing that are prompting both confusion and questions.

In most sites off the Atlantic Coast, it seems the lionfish rates may have already peaked.

“There are quite a lot of reports and places with lionfish in less abundant numbers than they were just a few years ago. And there's a lot of questions as to why that is,” says Gittings.

But in deeper waters, researchers are observing a different trend. Gittings added: “There are also a lot of people saying, ‘But if you go down in deepwater ... they're bigger, and they're more of them.’”

[\[continue reading here\]](#)

PUBLIC COMMENT

NEW SPECIES SIGHTINGS

Want to get more new species alerts?

USGS NAS: <https://nas.er.usgs.gov/AlertSystem/default.aspx>

IMAP INVASIVES: <https://www.imapinvasives.org>

DREISSENIDS

[Minnesota]

[Zebra mussels confirmed in Lake Henry and Red Rock Lake in Douglas County \(8/22/22\)](#)

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has confirmed reports of zebra mussels in Lake Henry, near Alexandria, and Red Rock Lake, near Hoffman. Both lakes are in Douglas County. A Lake Henry property owner contacted the DNR when his daughter found an adult zebra mussel while swimming in the lake. A DNR invasive species specialist found another adult zebra mussel near the location of the initial report. Connected Lake Agnes and other unnamed connected waters also will be listed for zebra mussels.

[New Mexico]

[Eichhornia crassipes \(common water-hyacinth\)](#) was found in Rio Grande-Albuquerque drainage

[\[USGS NAS\]](#)

[Pistia stratiotes \(water lettuce\)](#) was found in Rio Grande-Albuquerque drainage

[\[USGS NAS\]](#)

OTHER AIS

[Texas] [Protopterus sp. \(lungfish\)](#) was found in Guadalupe River, at Independence Park, Gonzales. NAS ARM map was not generated because we presume the [introduction](#) has failed.

WATCH LIST

British Columbia: If you spot the European green crab, take a photo — put it back where you found it — and email the information about where you saw it and when to: AISPACIFIC@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

5 invasive pests to look out for in WA and how to report sightings

WDFW continues to receive numerous reports from the public of native crab species misidentified for invasive European green crabs. While WDFW appreciates the public interest in helping to identify invasive species, these incidents are examples of why WDFW calls on the public to photograph and report suspected European green crabs at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/greencrab> returning the crab in question unharmed to the water where it was found.

Destructive forest pest, the emerald ash borer, arrives in Oregon; public asked to report sightings

DREISSENID MUSSELS

Zebra mussels found in 24 bodies of water in Oklahoma (9/6/22)

An invasive species is spreading through Oklahoma lakes as zebra mussels were found in 24 bodies of water throughout the state.

[Texas] Lake Walter E. Long “Fully Infested” with Zebra Mussels (8/31/22)

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) has designated Lake Walter E. Long in Travis County as “infested” with zebra mussels, signifying an established, reproducing population in the lake. Walter E. Long had already received a “positive” designation following the repeated detection of zebra mussel larvae in October 2018 and May 2019. However, subsequent searches for settled mussels conducted as recently as 2021 did not detect any juveniles or adults. In early August of this year, City of Austin Watershed Protection biologists conducted shoreline searches for zebra mussels and found two adults in the lake, indicating the presence of an established population.

[The untouched ‘wilderness’ of the Great Lakes is an illusion \(8/29/22\)](#)

It was December 1989. Something was clogging the Lake Erie drinking water intake of the city of Monroe, interrupting the flow to city residents. Two days would pass before Monroe was able to supply all of its citizens with drinking water again. What the heck was going on?

[\[South Dakota\] Zebra mussel spread prompts calls for more aggressive prevention strategies for aquatic invasive species \(8/15/22\)](#)

Despite a ramped-up state effort to address the threat of aquatic invasive species, zebra mussel infestations this summer reached new ground in the northeastern and western parts of the state, prompting calls from interest groups for greater investment into prevention.

Related: [South Dakota's invasive species effort needs more urgency \(8/20/22\)](#)

[Society monitors West Kootenay waters for invasive mussels \(8/15/22\)](#)

Invasive species society is making sure Kootenay waters stay free of quagga and zebra mussels

Winder M, Sepulveda AJ, Hoegh A (2022) [An initial assessment of plankton tow detection probabilities for dreissenid mussels in the western United States](#). Management of Biological Invasions 13

BOAT INSPECTION/DECON/TECH NEWS

[More Than 84,000 AIS Inspections Conducted in Montana So Far This Season \(8/31/22\)](#)

So far this year, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks and its partners have inspected more than 84,000 watercraft, 46 of which were mussel-fouled and 300 were found with aquatic weeds.

[\[British Columbia\] Columbia Basin Trust supports effort to keep invasive mussels at bay \(8/31/22\)](#)

The Invasive Mussel Defence Program was created at an integral time. Soon Lockwood was seeing more watercraft coming into the province carrying mussels. The Invasive Mussel Defence Program, which includes watercraft inspections, lake monitoring and public outreach and education, remains extremely effective at preventing the introduction of invasive mussels into BC waterways. To protect the ecosystem, Columbia Basin Trust and Columbia Power Corporation have helped fund the Province’s Invasive Mussel Defence Program since its creation.

[Too Close For Comfort \(8/25/22\)](#)

Last Wednesday the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes AIS program worked in cahoots to inspect a large watercraft that was being transferred through Montana. It was last launched in Lake Erie and was being transferred to the West Coast in shrink-wrap after being in storage for a year. The boat was inspected at the Anaconda inspection station Sunday but only on the outside and not under the shrink-wrap. In the meantime FWP decided to inspect it thoroughly and put a hold on the boat and on Wednesday, August 17 it was inspected at the Ravalli inspection station by FWP and the CSKT AIS inspectors.

“They found quite a bit of mussels — a huge amount — in the water strainers in the boat and some more attached to the boat,” said Katie Finley, CSKT AIS program manager. “They were

huge adult mussels and because of the length of time the boat was in storage we knew they were dormant. But it was a great learning experience inspecting the cabin system and its three water strainers, and working in partnership with Fish, Wildlife and Parks.”

[DWR launches new website to help boaters gauge the amount of traffic at each Utah quagga mussel inspection station \(8/19/22\)](#)

While boaters should call to schedule a quagga mussel decontamination for their watercraft, the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources has released a new online dashboard to help the public gauge how busy the state's inspection stations are.

[Clean, Drain, and Dry units coming to Columbia River sites \(8/9/22\)](#)

Funded through a U.S. Department of the Interior [grant] A Washington Invasive Species Council interagency advisory team determined where to place units like the Steamboat Rock unit. In addition to WDFW, that team included Washington State Parks, U.S. National Parks Service, Tribal governments, and local jurisdictions including the Chelan, Douglas, and Grant County Public Utility Districts, as well as Chelan and Okanogan Counties. The system is one of several in the process of installation as part of a pilot project to test these machines throughout the Columbia River basin.

BALLAST WATER/BIOFOULING

[Key Ballast Water Issues Not Resolved After MEPC 78 \(8/26/22\)](#)

In June 2022, the IMO’s Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) 78th session agreed in principle to develop a Ballast Water Management Convention Review Plan after a review of the experience-building phase. The Motorship spoke to key stakeholders to get their views on where the issues lie.

MARINE

[NBC News: Green crabs have already invaded Washington's shorelines. Now they're heading to Alaska \(9/6/22\)](#)

The first signs of the Alaskan invasion were discovered by an intern. In July, a young woman walking the shoreline of the [Metlakatla Indian Community](#) during an internship with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration found a shell of a known menace in the U.S. — the European green crab.

[\[Washington\] Agencies, tribes work to stop growth of invasive crab \(8/24/22\)](#)

Allen Pleus, European Green Crab Incident Commander for fish and wildlife, said Washington is still early enough in the phases of invasion that it is possible to make a significant dent in populations. “We have a really unique opportunity to hit these hard and try to manage them,” Pleus said.

[WDFW – European Green Crab Update \(9/22/22\)](#)

European Green Crab Incident Command objectives continue to include reduction of EGC populations to below levels harmful to environmental, economic, or cultural resources.

2022 European Green Crab Capture/Removal Totals:

Latest Operational Period 13,000 (July 25 to August 7, 2022)

Total 138,000 as of August 7*

[First Observation of Invasive European Green Crabs in Alaska at Annette Islands Reserve \(8/18/22\)](#)

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), with the Metlakatla Indian Community (MIC) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) would like to inform the public that invasive European green crabs (*Carcinus maenas*) have been verified within Alaska for the first time in the Annette Islands Reserve in southern Southeast, Alaska. As of August 9, 2022, MIC Department of Fish and Wildlife has trapped 32 live European green crabs from Tamgas Harbor. Surveys in adjacent Smuggler’s Cove have resulted in detection of only dead invasive crabs. European green crabs are classified as a banned invasive species in state regulations. European green crabs are considered one of the top 100 worst invasive species globally. As highly competitive, voracious predators, these crabs have decimated shellfish populations, displaced native crabs, and reduced eelgrass and saltmarsh habitats in areas where they have become established outside their native range. Unless controlled, they can significantly reduce biodiversity and abundance of inter- and subtidal species and destroy nearshore ecosystems. For nearly two decades, ADF&G has supported early detection monitoring for European green crabs by providing technical assistance and traps. MIC has conducted an early detection program around Annette Islands Reserve for the past three years. Since discovery of European green crabs on July 19, 2022, MIC has implemented eradication protocols by increasing trapping effort, partnering to collect samples and data for research, and expanding monitoring and outreach. NOAA Fisheries has provided technical and financial assistance for the MIC program. This fall, ADF&G will survey for presence of European green crabs in vulnerable estuaries and embayments in southern Southeast, Alaska.

Related: [NOAA - Green Crab Detected in Alaska for the First Time \(8/24/22\)](#)

[Oregon triples recreational bag limit for invasive green crabs as population explodes \(8/15/22\)](#)

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission increased the bag limit of European green crab from 10 to 35 per day. It’s part of a concerted effort to eradicate these invasive crustaceans – which are known to compete with native crabs for food.

AQUACULTURE

[An insincere consultation about salmon farming in BC \(8/25/22\)](#)

The Federal government’s nonsensical policy about salmon farming in BC only hurts local communities and First Nations, while failing to do anything to address the real causes of population decline in wild stocks

[Proposed salmon farm stirs concern for last of Maryland Sturgeon \(8/16/22\)](#)

Lovers of the sturgeon, a species as old as dinosaurs that was once thought to have disappeared from the Chesapeake Bay, worry its fate could hinge on what happens with a massive salmon farm planned on the banks of a pristine Eastern Shore creek.

[Wendy Elliott: Open-pen fish farming's farcical oversight \(8/16/22\)](#)

Isn't it time for our new government to step up, listen to communities, and fix things that previous governments broke, especially since the federal government announced details last month of a \$3.5-billion plan to protect the oceans?

FISH

[SIU researchers seek to use invasive copi as baby food for farm-raised yellow perch \(8/30/22\)](#)

Their approach might also lead to an expanded market for copi (previously known as Asian carp), an invasive species that threatens Illinois waterways...The SIU researchers are exploring ways to convert the copi protein into a new feed for the larvae essentially by pre-digesting it in-vitro. Mixing protein from copi with the enzyme-laden digestive tracts of processed mature perch, and then incubating the resulting slurry at temperatures and pH levels that mimic the digestive process, breaks the copi protein into molecular sizes that the larvae can absorb.

[Killing Invasive Species Is Now a Competitive Sport \(9/5/22\)](#)

Although there is an obvious conservation benefit to eliminating lionfish, Bowman does not think of herself primarily as an environmentalist. She sees her targets as invaders, and considers it her job to repel them. "What you're hunting isn't prey—it's the enemy," she told me, adding, "Isn't it nice to be on the side of the good guys?" She also appreciates the fact that there are no regulations about lionfish killing. "No bag limits, sex limits, seasons, boat limits, gear limits," she said. "Lionfish is the only species that is one-hundred-per-cent wide open." Hunting them is a throwback to an era when you could go into the water and come out of it with whatever you wanted—to an era, paradoxically, before conservation measures were needed.

[University researchers working to make fish food from Asian carp \(9/3/22\)](#)

Two researchers at Southern Illinois University are trying to create a new feed for fish farmers that's made from Asian carp. Karolina Kwasek and Michal Wojno are trying to find better ways to hatch and successfully raise yellow perch. Their plan is to combine low-tech hatchery equipment, easily copied by professional fish farmers, with creating a new feed that uses the invasive species as a protein source.

[Sound, studies and snacks: How Iowa is tackling invasive carp \(9/2/22\)](#)

... Ongoing research points to several locations that seem to be sporting more stationary sub-populations of the invasive fish. The lack of mobility could make it easier to control their growth, Weber said. His lab also is trying to learn more about invasive carp reproduction. In Iowa rivers and tributaries, the researchers use fine mesh nets to catch fish eggs and newly hatched fish larvae that look like "little white squiggly lines," Weber said. A recently developed

app, called WhoseEgg, analyzes the eggs — which can be hard to differentiate between species — and helps predict what fish could emerge.

[Invasive to innovative: coping with water hyacinth and Nile perch in Lake Victoria \(8/31/22\)](#)

While the introduction of invasive non-native species such as Nile perch and water hyacinth have had a catastrophic impact on the biodiversity of Lake Victoria, a growing number of initiatives to control them may help to limit the damage and create new jobs.

[Millions to keep invasive fish out of the Great Lakes, but who is protecting the Mississippi River? \(8/26/22\)](#)

Federal and state agencies spend millions of dollars every year to keep destructive invasive carp out of the Great Lakes. Meanwhile, at least 25 destructive species — like water fleas and bloody red shrimp — are inching closer to the Mississippi River Basin.

[Something to Carp About: Plano Fisherman Finds Invasive Fish in Texas Waters \(8/21/22\)](#)

To prevent the spread of these invasive species, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission recently passed regulations that ban transporting any live nongame fish from Northeast Texas waters where they've been spotted, including the Sulphur River downstream of Lake Wright Patman and Big Cypress Bayou downstream of Lake O' the Pines.

AQUATIC PLANTS

[Officials say Lake Tahoe Keys invasive weeds test working; 1st turbidity curtain being removed \(9/3/22\)](#)

Officials say the Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association test project to control the largest infestation of aquatic invasive weeds in the Tahoe Basin through the use of herbicides is proving successful.

[Eurasian Watermilfoil, an Aquatic Invasive Plant Species, Has Been Detected at Boulder Reservoir \(8/25/22\)](#)

Last week, Colorado Parks and Wildlife confirmed the presence of Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM), an invasive plant, in the Boulder Reservoir during their semi-annual invasive species monitoring visit.

[Water primrose can be a real pain \(8/23/22\)](#)

Few lakes in the world offer the food and habitat that Clear Lake does. The lake is literally awash with various fish, animals and aquatic plants. While some are an asset to man, others can cause problems, especially when it comes to plants. For years there was a fear that hydrilla would overrun the landscape and drive native plants out. The good news is hydrilla has been completely controlled on the lake.

However, the recent drought has caused another plant to prosper, the water primrose. The water primrose is common throughout Lake County and is especially abundant in the coves and keys around the lake, but this plant isn't popular with many lakeside dwellers. For those living on a channel it will take over the shoreline and deny you access to the lake.

FRESHWATER

['They're not supposed to be here': Invasive crayfish found in Banff National Park \(8/24/22\)](#)

Parks Canada officials are raising alarms after finding an invasive crayfish in Banff National Park, upstream from Calgary... The Parks Canada aquatic invasive species team spent several days investigating a reported crayfish sighting and setting traps before snagging the [Northern] crayfish, according to Megan Goudie, an aquatic ecologist with the federal agency. “It was a female of reproductive age,” Goudie said.

[Snitch on the snails: Invasive species spotted in San Antonio River can lay up to 2,000 eggs \(8/16/22\)](#)

The San Antonio River Authority needs water warriors to help report sightings of an invasive species. Giant apple snails are an invasive species to Texas that grow up to six inches long. They can be seen in numerous bodies of water throughout Texas, including along the San Antonio River Walk. Apple snail’s pink egg clutches are also easy to spot and semi-resemble a wad of chewing gum.

[Sea lamprey navigate North Shore rivers as reports of the invasive species increase in parts of Lake Superior \(8/14/22\)](#)

Cold water this year in Lake Superior, with the surface temperature hovering just above 40 degrees throughout most of the summer, is impacting the Fish and Wildlife Service’s ability to conduct certain lamprey control measures.

[More invasive Australian crayfish found in Brownsville pond \(8/14/22\)](#)

“Release of aquarium life is unfortunately a key means by which invasive species such as these crayfish are introduced,” said Monica McGarrity, TPWD senior scientist for aquatic invasive species. “Well-meaning, uninformed aquarium owners sometimes release their pets thinking they’re doing the best thing for them, but if they do survive, they can become invasive and harm the aquatic species and ecosystem. Aquarium owners should research alternatives to aquarium dumping and help prevent introductions of the next invasive species.”

Jeremy A. Geist, Diana Ethaiya, Scott D. Tiegs. 2022. [Coupling Gear Decontamination Trials and Angler Surveys to Minimize Spread of Invasive New Zealand Mud Snails *Potamopyrgus antipodarum*](#). North American Journal of Fisheries Management 42(4) [\$]

Brazier, T., Cherif, E., Martin, J. F., Gilles, A., Blanchet, S., Zhao, Y., ... & Gozlan, R. E. (2022). [The influence of native populations’ genetic history on the reconstruction of invasion routes: the case of a highly invasive aquatic species](#). Biological Invasions, 1-22. [\$]

Souty-Grosset, C., Anastácio, P., Reynolds, J., & Tricarico, E. (2018). [Invasive freshwater invertebrates and fishes: Impacts on human health](#). Invasive species and human health, 10, 91. [\$]

Sundaray, J. K., Hussan, A., & Das, I. I. (2022). [Aquatic Invasive Species: Traditional Control Options to Emerging Genetic Bio-control Strategies](#). J. Indian Soc. Coastal Agric. Res, 40(1), 1-12.

CLIMATE CHANGE

OTHER

[Can invasive species ever be ‘good’? \(8/29/22\)](#)

... Sometimes, however, a non-native species ends up filling a crucial niche or providing benefits for an ecosystem’s natural inhabitants. Mariana Campbell, an ecology researcher at Charles Darwin University in Australia, was recently part of a team that documented the rapid population growth of the native crocodile following protections in the 1970s. She and fellow researchers hypothesized that the croc’s return was aided by the increasingly abundant feral pigs to snack on...

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

JOBS/GRANTS

JOBS

[California Sea Grant Science Communications Specialist](#)

California Sea Grant is hiring a new science communications specialist to help spread the word about our research, education, and outreach programs. The science communications specialist will serve as the primary science writer and editor for CASG, coordinating the work of contract science writers, graphic designer(s), and communications fellows and interns for the writing, posting, publishing and distributing of newsletters, project summaries and profiles, and press releases.

The position is eligible for remote/hybrid work. Successful candidates will have experience performing writing, marketing and PR duties, thorough knowledge of the concepts and principles of news, media communications and media relations, and more.

The full job description and list of responsibilities are available through the UC San Diego Employment website. Job offer is contingent upon satisfactory clearance based on Background Check results.

Applications Deadline: September 14, 2022.

[Montana FWP - AIS Area Supervisor - Southeast \(13877\) - \(22142427\)](#)

Regional watercraft inspection station management duties: including interpretation and application of Montana statute and rules; quick decision making on questions posed; decontamination and tracking of certain watercraft; coordination with other entities; presentations; trainings

Watercraft inspection station supervision: including hiring, scheduling, and training; addressing personnel issues; remote supervision of employees; handling logistics related to equipment, outreach, etc.; on-call duties; collaboration and coordination with inspection station partners

Administrative: including recruitment and new hire paperwork; time roll; computing; reporting to supervisor; creating/augmenting training materials and watercraft inspection station documents

Maintenance and repair of equipment: including maintaining property lists, and equipment and supplies; perform routine maintenance as necessary; remote trouble shooting; assesses need for vehicles; coordinated repairs and warranty work

[Idaho Ag. Program Specialist- Invasive Species](#)

Salary \$59,987.20 Annually Location Boise, ID

Job Type Full Time Department of Agriculture Job Number 15794-0031

Closing 11/30/2022 11:59 PM Mountain

The Idaho State Department of Agriculture is currently recruiting for an Agriculture Program Specialist with Invasive Species in the Plant Division.

Example of Duties

- Plan, implement, evaluate and coordinate Invasive Species program for assigned region.
- Educate the public on laws and government regulations on the principles of integrated pest management; safe, proper and effective use of herbicides and pesticides and direct efforts of technical invasive species control personnel.
- Ensure compliance with applicable legal requirements. Ability to communicate effects of changes in laws, rules and regulations.
- Use knowledge of GIS mapping and data collection to measure project effectiveness.
- Assist with statewide mapping and data coordination program for use in tracking, evaluating, and reviewing the effectiveness of programs.
- Oversee watercraft inspection station including troubleshooting and training.
- Invasive species survey, etc... [\[Full description\]](#)

[Idaho Invasive Species Technician 3](#)

Closing Date: Review of applicants begins immediately

Location: Post Falls, Idaho

Type: Permanent Full-Time

Salary: \$37,502.40 Annually

This position plans, organizes, and coordinates technical activities for multiple aquatic noxious weeds and invasive species projects and programs; estimates equipment, materials, and manpower; establishes schedules and priorities and evaluates equipment and materials for adequacy, availability, and serviceability. This position also serves as regional/department expert for multimedia sampling, maintenance, operation and calibration of scientific monitoring equipment for multiple media programs and projects; evaluate permits for monitoring requirements; perform data research and analysis; perform related work.

[Natural Resources Specialist ND Parks and Recreation Bismarck, North Dakota](#)

The Natural Resource Specialist will assist with managing projects on Department lands, including vegetation management through noxious weed and invasive species control, prescribed fires, grasslands restorations, and tree/shrub plantings. Preparation of inventories and assessments reports, plans, presentations. Management of spatial and tabular databases using basic GIS software.

[MS or PhD GRA South Dakota State University Brookings, South Dakota](#)

We are seeking to fill a graduate student research assistantship position (either MS or PhD based on interests and qualifications) to advance knowledge about women in the outdoors, the fastest growing segment of America's hunters and anglers today. The successful candidate will be advised by Dr. Jennifer Zavaleta Cheek and housed in the Natural Resource Management Department at South Dakota State University. The student will work with women's groups for hunting and fishing, employing qualitative research techniques, including using social systems mapping techniques. Ideally the candidate will have some experience with qualitative methods, but technical skills are not required. The successful candidate will work closely with women's group leaders and support a project aimed at improving retention of women in the outdoors. The successful candidate will gain skills in supervising a team of student workers and will be required to travel to participate in women's hunting and fishing retreats in SD, MT, UT, CO, and WY. The successful candidate will also support the establishment of a community of practice. The student will conduct an independent thesis research project that aligns with the larger goal and research team, produce a report and online storymap in addition to peer-reviewed publications, present at conferences, and complete necessary coursework.

GRANTS

The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office, on behalf of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, is soliciting proposals for interagency agreement funding to support response to the ongoing [European green crab emergency](#). Please visit <https://rco.wa.gov/about-us/employment-and-contracts/> for more information about the available funding for public agencies. **(rolling deadline until funds fully allocated)** For more information on European green crab and the state response, please visit <https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/invasive/carcinus-maenas> and <https://wdfw.wa.gov/news/emergency-measures-deployed-control-invasive-european-green-crabs-washington-waters>

[Grant Funding Available for Invasive Plant Management](#) **Due September 9, 2022**

The Richard King Mellon Foundation has just released a Request for Proposal (RFP) to fund projects designed to slow or stop the spread of harmful invasive plants in the United States. This RFP focuses on the following three areas:

- Strengthening Programs Limiting Invasive Plants in the Nursery Trade and Retail Outlets
- Promoting Voluntary Efforts Through Outreach and Education
- Integrating Warming Temperatures and Climate Change into Prevention and Early
- Detection/Rapid Response

Questions? Contact Nikki Pirain (npirain@rkmf.org), Richard King Mellon Foundation.

Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Grants for Underserved Communities: Up to \$10 million in funding is available for habitat restoration and resilience awards for underserved communities through [NOAA's FY2022 Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Grants for Underserved Communities Notice of Funding Opportunity](#). Through this funding, NOAA will engage underserved communities in habitat restoration activities that promote resilient ecosystems and communities. This funding will provide capacity for these communities to more fully participate in developing future transformational habitat projects. This capacity is intended to ensure that communities are integral to the visioning and decision-making for coastal habitat restoration projects that affect them, and that they directly benefit from these projects.

Projects selected through this opportunity may include:

- Capacity building activities, including participation in municipal or regional-scale resilience planning, project planning and feasibility studies, stakeholder engagement, and proposal development for future funding.
- Restoration activities, including demonstration projects, engineering and design, permitting, and on-the-ground implementation.

NOAA will accept proposals between \$250,000 to \$500,000 total over the award period. The application deadline is **September 30, 2022**.

[NOAA-OAR-SG-2022-2007452 National Sea Grant Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act \(IIJA\) Marine Debris Challenge Competition](#) Department of Commerce **Closes September 30, 2022** Eligibility: Sea Grant College Programs, Sea Grant Institutional Programs, and Sea Grant Coherent Area Programs. A Sea Grant program may submit or participate in more than one proposal. Other interested entities must submit proposals in partnership with and through a relevant Sea Grant program.

Proposals may address (but are not limited to) innovative interception and/or removal technologies, reusable systems, microplastics, and/or nanoplastics. Proposals are sought that will build upon and extend existing knowledge and efforts related to marine debris; support broad, non-proprietary, and innovative research to address critical gaps with respect to marine debris; make that information available to communities and stakeholders; include Sea Grant education and extension professionals, community representatives, government, academic, non-governmental, and industry partners, as appropriate; and proactively incorporate principles of diversity, equity, inclusion, justice, and accessibility at every level of the work. Proposals must include funding for Sea Grant education and/or extension personnel as collaborators.

Community, government, academic, non-government, and industry stakeholder participation/involvement in projects is strongly encouraged. Applications DO NOT require the standard 50% non-federal match for Sea Grant projects. However, applicants are strongly encouraged to combine NOAA federal funding with formal matching contributions and informal leverage from a broad range of sources in the public and private sectors. To this end, applicants should note that cost sharing and leverage of other funds is an element considered in the evaluation criteria.

[Montana WHIP grant application period opens September 1](#)
[Deadline is November 23](#)

The annual application period for the Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program (WHIP), a grant funding program administered by Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, will open Sept. 1.

The purpose of WHIP is to accomplish large-scale restoration of private and publicly owned high-priority wildlife habitats through noxious weed management. Grant expenditures are limited to herbicide, mechanical, biocontrol and re-seeding treatments, specifically to restore wildlife habitat functions. Grazing management improvements may also be funded through the program to restore native wildlife habitats and reduce susceptibility to noxious weed invasion. Grant awards are based on eligibility and competitive ranking. To qualify for funding, projects must:

- enhance ecologically important wildlife habitat through management of noxious weeds that directly threaten habitat functions
- use a landscape scale approach
- have a reasonable probability of treatment effectiveness
- include a minimum 25% non-federal cash match

In addition to considering eligibility factors, ranking criteria includes:

- number of funding partners and amount of contributions
- number of landowners involved
- accessibility of participating lands for public hunting

Awarded grants can be structured to provide funding for up to five years. Total available funding is up to \$2 million annually; no single grant request can exceed this amount.

Starting Sept. 1, grant applicants can find the FWP Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program Grant Cycle 2023 funding opportunity at <https://funding.mt.gov>

Applicants new to WebGrants must register prior to accessing the application forms. For more information about the WHIP Program and grant application instructions, visit the WHIP webpage at <https://fwp.mt.gov/aboutfwp/grant-programs/wildlife-habitat-improvement>

WHIP applications must be submitted no later than 5 p.m., Nov. 23, to be considered for funding in 2023. If you have questions about applying for a WHIP grant or accessing the application forms, contact Smith Wells, WHIP coordinator, at smith.wells@mt.gov or 406-444-7291.

FEDERAL/STATE/PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION, RULES, ACTIONS

Advocacy:

[Cary Institute asks Congress for hearing on invasive species \(8/22/22\)](#)

Invasive pests like the emerald ash borer and Asian longhorned beetle pose irreversible threats to New York's forest ecosystems by targeting native trees and, in some cases, threatening to wipe them out for good. The threat posed by these pests, which primarily enter the country through packaging used in international trade, is "one of the most severe and urgent threats facing U.S. trees," according to the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, an environmental research nonprofit based in Millbrook.

That's why the Cary Institute is asking Congress to do something about it. In July, the nonprofit delivered a petition with over 1,700 signatures to the United States House and Senate Agriculture Committees asking for a Congressional hearing on invasive forest pests.

[\[Alaska\] Roundtable Addresses Invasive Species \(8/22/22\)](#)

Aquatic invasive species were the topic of last week's Kenai Classic Roundtable on sportfishing policy. The Aquatic Invasive Species Blue Ribbon Commission shared concerns and sought input on solutions from an audience of Alaska officials, including U.S. Sen Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), Sen. Dan Sullivan (R-Alaska) and Gov. Mike Dunleavy, as well as NOAA administrator Richard Spinrad. The commission plans to complete a white paper and present findings to Congress and the Biden administration in 2023, with the goal of passing comprehensive legislation to better manage aquatic invasive species, commission sponsor Yamaha Rightwaters said in a statement.

State/Province

[Lower Snake River Dams Benefit Replacement Report: Final Report and Recommendations from Senator Murray and Governor Inslee \(August 2022\)](#)

The final LSRD Benefit Replacement Study Report has been released and is [available here](#). The report authors are grateful to the individuals and organizations that provided thoughtful input for both the draft and final report

Executive

Congressional

Recovering America's Wildlife Act

According to the AFWA Invasive Species News (9/6/22):

[\(H.R.2773/S.2372\)](#)

Senators Heinrich and Blunt continue to make progress in gathering additional support from Senators, especially Republican offices, for the pay for option being pursued to offset the price tag of the bill. There is a 4 week window in September/October for action, so contacts continue to be critically important. Field tours, meetings, media hits and other touches to important stakeholders have all had a cumulative impact of building support. A few recent press articles are included below:

- [Congress has a chance to pass the most significant conservation law in decades](#) (Opinion; Washington Post)
- [Meanwhile, Congress is set to pass a huge wildlife conservation bill with bipartisan support](#) (Vox)
- [Illinois to benefit from Recovering America's Wildlife Act](#) (Advantage News)
- Resources: [Alliance for America's Fish and Wildlife](#)

APPROPRIATIONS

[House prepping stopgap funding bill through mid-December \(9/1/22\)](#)

House Democratic leaders are working on a tentative plan to take up a temporary spending bill the week of Sept. 12 that would extend current government funding levels through Dec. 16, sources familiar with the discussions said. That end date is the House's adjournment target for the 117th Congress, and it could still shift in talks with Senate leaders, who are currently planning to be in session a few extra days, through Dec. 21. Either way, it signals a seriousness about getting an omnibus appropriations package for the upcoming fiscal year done before the new Congress is seated, when control of one or both chambers could shift.

Now What: According to [E&E Daily](#) (9/6/22)

Democrats are expected to kick off talks by offering a CR that would run until mid-December to buy them time to negotiate and then pass an omnibus with most, if not all, fiscal 2023 spending bills attached, before Congress adjourns for the year.

They'll have the backing of Senate Appropriations Chair Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) and ranking member Richard Shelby (R-Ala.), both powerful lawmakers who are retiring and want to cut a final deal to direct dollars to their states — including in the form of earmarks.

"We're confident that Congress will use that additional time to reach a bipartisan funding agreement that will deliver for the American people just as they did for the current fiscal year," an Office of Management and Budget official, speaking on background, told reporters at the end of last week.

Republicans, however, are more likely to press for a shorter-term CR that would expire just after the elections to weigh their political options. If the GOP wins one or both chambers, it might try to delay a final spending accord until the next Congress so the party would have more leverage in shaping it.

An AIS federal legislative table is posted on the web on the www.westernais.org website. Go to <https://www.westernais.org/federal-provincial-regulations> and see *AIS Legislative Tracker*

TRAININGS, WEBINARS, CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

Archived Materials

During the May 2022 Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force meeting, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, and Department of the Interior presented on their efforts to advance a National Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) Framework. Interest from ANSTF prompted a request for future presentations or a recording that could be shared with the regional panels and other interested audiences.

The presentation recording is now available, [linked here](#). This presentation discusses the importance of a National EDRR Framework and describes an initial set of projects supported through the historic Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to build or enhance foundational components of the Framework.

The recording is also available with [Audio Descriptions for the visually impaired](#) and [Closed Captioning with Transcript for the hearing impaired](#).

Events: Webinars, Trainings, Conferences and Meetings

Watercraft Inspection Training

Coming This Fall: Advanced Decontamination Training:

October 18-19, 2022 Lake Powell Resort & Marina Page, AZ 86040

To Register: Go to <https://form.jotform.com/63037607848968> and complete the registration survey. This will be an in-person "Hands-On" training. To qualify you must have completed WIT II training by a PSMFC certified instructor.

For more information go to <https://www.westernais.org/> (under the "Training" tab)
or contact

Quagga D @ (702)236-3814 or quaggadee@cox.net

Because of continued concerns due to COVID-19 upcoming meetings and events listed below may be postponed, cancelled or converted to teleconferencing events. Please check directly with the organizers of these events for the most up-to-date information.

DOI Invasive Species Training Opportunities Spreadsheet

PNW IPC Citizen Science Trainings

September

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[Montana Invasive Species Council September 7, 2022](#)

[Oregon Invasive Species Cook-off](#). September 10, 22 Corvallis, OR

[Mississippi River Basin Regional Panel Meeting](#) September 13-15, 2022; Tiptonville, TN

[Washington Invasive Species Council Meeting](#)

September 15, 2022 Olympia, WA; Natural Resources Building, Room 172

[Biofouling Prevention Forum September 20, 2022. \[Virtual Event\]](#) Optimise your fleet:

Controlling and preventing biofouling and invasive species.

[Western Regional Panel](#). September 21-23, 2022 in Anchorage, Alaska. The meeting will be held at the Hilton in downtown Anchorage. Three days of presentations, discussions, workshops and a field trip are all being planned. Online option also available.

NAISMA Webinar September 21, 2022 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm CDT - [Utilizing Fire and Grazing as part of an Integrated Prairie Management Program](#)

The health and resilience of prairies relies upon plant/animal diversity and heterogeneous habitat structure that supports that diversity. The Nature Conservancy has been long experimenting with combinations of prescribed fire and cattle grazing that provide varied habitat structure and support high plant diversity at its Platte River Prairies in Nebraska. Our treatments include grazing stocking rates that are comparable with those used by our agricultural neighbors....

October

[2nd GloFouling R&D Forum on Biofouling Prevention and Management for Maritime Industries: Greener Technologies for Biofouling Management](#). IMO Headquarters, London, UK, 11-14 October 2022

CALMS 37th Annual Conference October 13–14, 2022 // Oakland, California
[California Lake Management Society](#)

[Oregon Invasive Species Council](#) October 17-18, 2022

NAISMA Webinar: October 19, 2022 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm CDT - [Invasive plant management on non-industrial forest lands in the Panhandle, Fl after Hurricane Michael](#)

Hurricane Michael had catastrophic socio-ecological impacts on landowners and forestlands in the Panhandle, Florida. Although scientists predict an increase in the spread of invasive species after ecological disturbances, there is limited research about the human dimensions of hurricanes, invasive plants, and forest management...

WALPA 35th Annual Conference October 19–21, 2022 // Richland, Washington
[Washington State Lake Protection Association](#)

[Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference 2022](#)

October 25-27, 2022; Green Bay, Wisconsin.

November

The [2022 North American Invasive Species Management Association \(NAISMA\) Annual Conference](#), Managing For Resilience co-hosted with the Florida Invasive Species Council (FISC) November 7-10, 2022, Sanibel Harbor Marriott, across from Sanibel Island Ft. Myers, Florida

December

[Oregon Invasive Species Council](#) December 6, 2022

[2022 Innovations in Invasive Species Management Conference](#)

Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center in Nashville, TN

December 13th-16th, 2022

Primary meeting dates will be December 14th and 15th

[Washington Invasive Species Council Meeting](#)

December 15, 2022 Olympia, WA; Natural Resources Building, Room 172

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