



Aquatic Invasive Species News

March 20, 2024

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RECOMMENDED READING:

[Invasive Species Threaten Climate Change Preparedness and Resilience \(2/28/24\)](#)

Invasive species are a significant threat to climate-preparedness and resilience, according to a new paper published for the National Invasive Species Council by the Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC). The paper, [Invasive Species Threaten the Success of Climate Change Adaptation Efforts](#), addresses one of the most critical intersections between invasive species and climate change—where invasive species are posing a direct threat to natural climate solutions and climate resilience—and provides recommendations for action at the federal level.

“Our research confirmed what we already suspected: US federal agencies have not yet actively integrated invasive species management into climate action planning, funding, and implementation- and they must take clear steps to do so in order to meet their own climate goals,” says Leigh Greenwood, TNC’s Director of Forest Pest and Pathogen Program and Chair of ISAC’s Climate Change subcommittee. “The paper includes five targeted recommendations that are achievable and would help protect both people and nature from the damaging impacts of climate change.”

[\[cont. reading\]](#)

PUBLIC COMMENT

[White House National Science and Technology Council Unveils New Aquaculture Plan, First in 40 Years - Public invited to comment on the National Aquaculture Development Plan through April 5, 2024.](#)

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For the first time since 1983, the United States is releasing an updated National Aquaculture Development Plan. It will strengthen U.S. commitment to food security, climate resilience, and the protection of threatened and endangered marine and freshwater species

In a changing climate, aquaculture is becoming increasingly important as a climate-smart and healthy means of food production. Seafood farming, if done responsibly—as it is in the United States—is one of the most environmentally sustainable ways to produce healthy food.

In addition to providing a sustainable source of American-raised seafood, aquaculture plays an important role in fisheries restoration. Hatchery-reared fish (seedstock and fingerlings) are released into the wild to help bolster populations of wild marine species. Aquaculture has helped more than 70 endangered or threatened species, including Pacific Salmon, white abalone, and queen conch. In addition, it's helped restore habitats and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

The National Science and Technology Council, Subcommittee on Aquaculture, is soliciting comments on the draft Overview of the *National Aquaculture Development Plan*. It includes three strategic plans.

Two of them, the *Strategic Plan to Enhance Regulatory Efficiency in Aquaculture* and the *National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture Research*, were completed and published in 2022. The third plan, the *draft Strategic Plan for Aquaculture Economic Development*, is now out for public comment.

Once finalized, together these four documents will comprise an updated National Aquaculture Development Plan that provides a holistic framework describing how federal agencies are advancing the contributions of aquaculture to support public health and nutrition, resilient communities, a strong economy, and a healthy planet.

The 45-day comment period for the *draft Aquaculture Development Plan*, including the *draft Strategic Plan for Aquaculture Economic Development*, is **open through April 5, 2024**.

Comments can be submitted to AquacultureEcoDev@usda.gov.

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget; Online Program Management System for Carbon Dioxide-Carp (ends 3/28/24)

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of publication of this notice at <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain> Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function. Please provide a copy of your comments to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, MS: PRB (JAO/3W), 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041–3803 (mail); or by email to: Info_Coll@fws.gov Please reference “1018–0182” in the subject line of your comments.

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Yellowstone National Park: Proposal to Implement Certain Restrictions for Launch of Some Types of Motorized Boats to Reduce the Risk of Aquatic Invasive Species

The National Park Service (NPS) is seeking public comments on Yellowstone National Park's (Park) proposal to implement a 30-day mandatory dry time for some types of motorized boats and sailboats before entering Park waters to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS).

To protect park waters and respond to this threat, the NPS is proposing a 30-day dry time requirement for complex, motorized boats (inboard, inboard/outboard, and inboard jet) and sailboats prior to launching in the Park. Large, complex, trailered watercraft pose the highest risk of transporting and introducing invasive mussels, and other AIS, because they are difficult to inspect and less likely to completely drain/dry or be fully decontaminated. Manual decontamination with the use of hot water is not always 100% effective in removing all mussels. Given this, a 30-day dry time is needed to mitigate the risk associated with these watercraft...

To meet this new requirement, boaters will need to have their watercraft inspected and sealed to its trailer at least 30 days in advance of their intended launch date. Seals from Yellowstone National Park, Idaho State Department of Agriculture; Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks; and Wyoming Game & Fish Department will be honored pending verification of the 30-day dry time during an already-mandatory Yellowstone AIS inspection prior to launch. Boaters will also be asked to present the inspection receipt from the date the seal was applied.

The comment period will be open for 30 days from March 7 to April 5, 2024.

WDFW releases draft interagency northern pike rapid response plan

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has released a draft Interagency Northern Pike Rapid Response Plan that guides coordination and resources for species management, including preventing the spread of northern pike to new areas in Washington and developing long-term management plans for northern pike. The draft plan is undergoing a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) review. As part of that process, WDFW is asking members of the public for input.

“This plan is important to conservation in our state as it maps out the response of WDFW and coordinating partners to a number of situations that could arise with the spread of northern pike,” said Justin Bush, aquatic invasive species policy coordinator with WDFW. “It will help to speed our response when timing is critical as partnering agencies and groups will already know their role and be prepared to respond.”

The northern pike (*Esox Lucius*) is a non-native fish classified as a prohibited aquatic invasive species (AIS) in Washington. It has already spread to several water bodies within the state.

Illegal stocking in the 1950s in Montana rivers and in the 1970s in the Coeur d'Alene river system led to establishment of northern pike in the upper Columbia River Basin. Since then, the species has steadily expanded downstream to include the Pend Oreille River, Spokane River, and the Columbia River upstream of Grand Coulee Dam. Northern pike have also been introduced in

Lake Washington in King County and one was found as recently as last week in a pond on San Juan Island.

Public comments can be submitted online at SEPA DNS 24-009 Interagency Northern Pike Rapid Response Plan – Public Input or by emailing to NPikePlan@PublicInput.com. Comments can also be mailed to Lisa Wood, SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, WDFW Habitat Program, Protection Division, P.O. Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504. **All comments, included mailed once, must be received by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Mar. 19, 2024, to be considered.**

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:

Other:

WATCH LIST

- Alaska: Report your sightings via the [ADF&G Invasive Species Reporter](#) or by calling the Invasive Species Hotline: 877-INVASIV (877-468-2748). If you locate invasive green crab on Annette Islands Reserve, you can call 907-886-FISH to make a report.
- British Columbia: Take a photo, put it back where you found it, and email the information about where you saw it and when to: AISPACIoFIC@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
- Washington: Take a photo, put it back where you found it, and report suspect crabs here <http://wdfw.wa.gov/greencrab>
- Oregon: Retain green crab caught in your gear - it is illegal to return them to state waters. They are part of your “Other Shellfish” daily catch limit. Try them as food with the rest of your catch. Do not mutilate or kill any crab while you are crabbing.

[5 invasive pests to look out for in WA and how to report sightings](#)

[Destructive forest pest, the emerald ash borer, arrives in Oregon; public asked to report sightings](#)

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[Cover your ash: Keep an eye out for the emerald ash borer in Washington](#)

[Invasive oak borer beetle worries Oregon forestry officials](#)

DREISSENID MUSSELS

[\[Colorado\] CPW reminds boaters Highline Lake is closed to motorized boating for the 2024 boating season \(3/1/24\)](#) Colorado Parks and Wildlife reminds boaters Highline Lake, at Highline Lake State Park, will be closed to motorized boating for the 2024 boating season. To eradicate zebra mussels from Highline Lake, staff began lowering the lake in early February. Park staff will continue to lower the lake throughout 2024, with an anticipated complete emptying of the lake by the end of the year.

[Okanagan stakeholders strategize on regional response to invasive species of mussels \(3/8/24\)](#) “This is the first time that we’ve engaged the broader community and a whole bunch of stakeholders from industry, from chambers of commerce, from tourism associations, from marinas, First Nations and local governments to get in the room together to really broaden the knowledge about the risk to the Okanagan,” said James Littlely, deputy administrator with the Okanagan Basin Water Board (OBWB).

[Quagga mussels will be catastrophic for wildlife and water systems, says Oregon invasive species coordinator \(3/14/24\)](#) Rick Boatner, invasive species coordinator at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, says inspections and monitoring could keep the quagga out of Oregon, but probably not for more than a few years. Once they get in, he says quagga mussels will forever change how we use water in Oregon. He joins to tell us more about what’s needed to slow their spread and to highlight a few of the other invasive species on the agency’s radar.

BOAT INSPECTION/DECON

[\[Wyoming\] Watercraft transported across states must be inspected for AIS \(2/29/24\)](#) Any watercraft transported into Wyoming must undergo a mandatory inspection to look for aquatic invasive species. Inspections must be done by a certified AIS inspector prior to launching on any Wyoming waters.

[CPW’s Aquatic nuisance species roadside inspection program to become full-time after two successful pilot years \(3/11/24\)](#) Colorado Parks and Wildlife will begin operating two aquatic nuisance species (ANS) watercraft inspection and decontamination stations at the Colorado State Patrol Loma and Trinidad Ports Of Entry on Thursday, March 14. These two check stations are

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the first to open and operate during the boating season as full-time seasonal roadside inspection stations after two years of a successful pilot program.

[Mussel-Fouled Boat Intercepted At Anaconda Inspection Station \(3/12/24\)](#) Montana's first mussel-fouled watercraft of the year was intercepted at the Anaconda watercraft inspection station on March 10. The pontoon boat was recently purchased used in North Dakota and was travelling along Interstate 90 west toward Ephrata, Wash. Mussels were found along the hull throughout the lifting strakes as well as the transom and gimbal areas. Inspectors performed a full decontamination on site, and the boat was locked to the trailer. Previous launch information was unknown, but the new owner believed it had not been in the water since last summer.

[Salute to Idaho Agriculture: Invasive species hot wash and watercraft inspection stations \(3/15/24\)](#) Spring will be here at this time next week, at least on the calendar, and that means the quagga hot wash, and watercraft inspection stations will be opening back up. Last year, the Idaho State Department of Agriculture discovered quagga mussels in the Mid-Snake River and implemented a rapid response plan which included hot wash stations and shutting down portions of the river where the mussels and their larvae were found.

[New aquatic invasive species regulations coming for some national parks in Alberta, B.C. \(3/19/24\)](#) The federal organization announced updated aquatic invasive species (AIS) prevention measures and watercraft and angling restrictions in Waterton Lakes, Yoho and Kootenay National Parks for 2024 via an information bulletin on Tuesday.

BALLAST WATER/BIOFOULING

[Turning the tide: from green crabs to guiding principles \(2/28/24\)](#) For IMCA members, who often work on a global basis moving from project to project, the issue is also a growing concern and changing regulations on the issue now mean new rules to follow. For example, ships arriving into Australia, New Zealand and the US need to demonstrate varying degrees of biofouling management before being permitted entry into port.

MARINE

GREEN (5-SPINED) CRAB

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[Status of the European Green Crab, *Carcinus maenas*, \(aka 5-spine crab\) in Oregon Estuaries. Report for 2023 \(Yamada et al. 2023\)](#)

[Summary of Magnet Study, June 18-19, 2023 \(Yamada and Royer, 2023\)](#)

[Summary of the use of sex pheromones to control the invasive green crab, *Carcinus maenas* \(Yamada 2024\)](#)

AQUACULTURE

[First Nations group calls for 'emergency meeting' to protect wild salmon \(2/28/24\)](#) A B.C. First Nations group is seeking an “emergency meeting” with Justin Trudeau regarding a transition plan for open-net pen fish farming. Chiefs of the First Nation Wild Salmon Alliance (FNWSA) say they will be gathering to “expose Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) bureaucrats” at a press conference on Thursday, for “systemically undermining Justin Trudeau’s mandate” on the open-net pen transition planning process.

[Bill to ban octopus farming passes Washington senate \(3/1/24\)](#) Poised to become the first law of its kind, a progressive bill to prohibit the farming of octopus in Washington state has been passed by the Senate, and is awaiting approval from the state Governor.

[Cooke gives up legal fight over trout farm closures \(3/15/24\)](#) Cooke Seafood has abandoned plans to win back leases at its two Washington state steelhead trout farms in the US, blaming delays by the state’s administration which it says make the case futile.

FRESHWATER

Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout Recovery in Yellowstone Lake: Complex Interactions Among Invasive Species Suppression, Disease, and Climate Change. Hayley C. Glassic, David D. Chagaris, Christopher S. Guy, Lusha M. Tronstad, Dominique R. Lujan, Michelle A. Briggs, Lindsey K. Albertson, Travis O. Brenden, Timothy E. Walsworth, Todd M. Koel
<https://doi.org/10.1002/fsh.10998>

Bota, G., Manzano-Rubio, R., Fanlo, H. et al. Passive acoustic monitoring and automated detection of the American bullfrog. *Biol Invasions* (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-023-03244-8>

Tripp, N., VanBuren, H. & Reisinger, L.S. Size-mediated competitive interactions between an invasive and an imperiled crayfish may explain extirpation of the imperiled species. *Biol Invasions* (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-023-03231-z> [\$]

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Rennie, M.D., James, L.A.H., Arnott, S.E. et al. Spiny water flea invasion alters fish mercury bioaccumulation rates. *Biol Invasions* (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-023-03238-6> [\$]

FISH

[Northern Pike Caught On San Juan Island \(3/1/24\)](#) As if to cap off Washington’s Invasive Species Awareness Week, San Juan County Conservation Land Bank (SJCCLB) and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) have confirmed the detection of a northern pike caught in the pond at the land bank’s Limekiln Preserve on western San Juan Island.

Hopf, J., Davis, S., Graham, K. et al. Linking demographic and habitat suitability modelling identifies the environmental determinants of successfully controlling invasive common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) in south-eastern Australia. *Biol Invasions* 26, 651–670 (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-023-03198-x>

AQUATIC PLANTS

[Division of Boating and Waterways Set to Control Aquatic Invasive Plants in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta \(2/21/24\)](#) California State Parks’ Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) today announced plans to control aquatic invasive plants in the west coast’s largest estuary, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and its southern tributaries. Starting March 6 through Nov. 30, 2024, DBW crews will begin herbicide treatments on water hyacinth, South American spongeplant, Uruguay water primrose, Alligator weed, Brazilian waterweed, curlyleaf pondweed, Eurasian watermilfoil, coontail, ribbon weed, and fanwort in the Delta. Depending on weather conditions and plant growth/movement, treatment dates may change. Select areas of the Delta with high infestations or coverage of water hyacinth will be controlled using mechanical harvesting efforts through December 2024.

CLIMATE CHANGE

[Study finds drought fuels invasive species after wildfires \(2/28/24\)](#) In a study recently published in the journal *Ecology*, University of California, Irvine scientists uncover the intricate dance between drought, wildfires and invasive species in Southern California’s coastal sage scrub ecosystems. Titled “Long-term drought promotes invasive species by reducing wildfire severity,” the research, led by Sarah Kimball, Ph.D., director of the Center for Environmental Biology at UCI, sheds light on the critical interplay of these factors and its profound implications for ecosystem health.

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[How Climate Change Drives the Spread of Invasive Plants \(3/12/24\)](#) As the climate warms, the number of alien species on every continent is expected to increase 36 percent by 2050. Some alien species—that is, plants or animals that live outside their natural range—are invasive and can harm ecosystems and the areas they invade with serious impacts on the global food supply, medicines, water quality, biodiversity, and livelihoods.

[It's Easy To Spot A Fish — But Not So Easy To Track Its Spawning \(2/26/24\)](#) “To understand the geographic distribution of species and how it’s influenced by climate change, we need to know more than just where the fish are,” says Ron Burton, a professor of marine biology at Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California, San Diego. Using Ocean Protection Council funding, and supported by California Sea Grant, Burton set out to study where these fish are spawning.

Montesanto, F., Hadjez, R., Mastrototaro, F. et al. Against the flow: Integrated taxonomy and environmental suitability of a cold-water species dispersing to warmer waters. *Biol Invasions* 26, 953–973 (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-023-03222-0> [\$]

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

[Factsheets: Economic Impact of Aquatic Invasive Species on Western Canada \(3/1/24\)](#) The Invasive Species Centre in collaboration with Fisheries and Oceans Canada, has developed economic fact sheets for certain Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) pertinent to Western Canada. Explore the expenses associated with these invaders and gain insights into their impact on Canadian economies, including fisheries, tourism, irrigation, and other sectors.

[Stopping the Spread of Invasive Species with Citizen Science \(3/1/24\)](#) While we love all creatures great and small, it's okay to love mosquitoes somewhat less. Yes, they are important to many aquatic and terrestrial food chains, but they cause misery and disease to millions of people. And increasingly, exotic species are taking hold in new regions. Join the NASA-supported GLOBE Observer: Mosquito Habitat Mapper project to help predict and control outbreaks.

Shaw, B.R., Heinrich, R.J., Brossard, D. et al. Predicting preferences for chemical treatment of aquatic invasive species and implications for outreach. *Biol Invasions* 26, 989–1000 (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-023-03223-z> [\$]

OTHER

[Problem to plate: Could eating invasive species be a sustainability game changer? \(3/18/24\)](#) Advocates are working to get consumers on board in an effort to contain and live with plants and animals wreaking havoc on environmental and commercial ecosystems.

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Robeck, P., Essl, F., van Kleunen, M. et al. Invading plants remain undetected in a lag phase while they explore suitable climates. *Nat Ecol Evol* 8, 477–488 (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41559-023-02313-4> [\$]

[Ball of snakes: Wildlife experts capture 500 pounds of Burmese pythons in southwest Florida \(3/15/24\)](#) Five hundred pounds of invasive Burmese pythons. That's what wildlife experts in southwest Florida said they recently captured after discovering a large ball of mating snakes — including one more than 16 feet long — in Collier County.

Schwindt, E., August, T.A., Vanderhoeven, S. et al. Overwhelming evidence galvanizes a global consensus on the need for action against Invasive Alien Species. *Biol Invasions* 26, 621–626 (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-023-03209-x>

Saranya, K.R.L., Satish, K.V. & Reddy, C.S. Remote sensing enabled essential biodiversity variables for invasive alien species management: towards the development of spatial decision support system. *Biol Invasions* 26, 943–951 (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-023-03240-y> [\$]

Garabedian, J.E., Kilgo, J.C. Rapid recovery of invasive wild pig (*Sus scrofa*) populations following density reduction. *Biol Invasions* 26, 1075–1089 (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-023-03230-0>

JOBS/GRANTS

New:

- *The Office of Personnel Management launched a [new portal](#) as part of USAJOBS for students interested in applying for internships at federal agencies, billed as a “one-stop shop” for those interested in exploring a career in government.*
- *Are you ready to make a contribution to fisheries of the West Coast? Begin your job search and application process by searching for [specific jobs at PSMFC](#)*

Jobs

[NMFS: Student Trainee Office Support](#)

NMFS West Coast Region is pleased to announce the advertisement of two Student Trainee Office Support (ZS-399-2) positions in the West Coast Region. This is a Pathways summer intern position with the Regional Administrators Office. They will be located in Long Beach (CA), Portland (OR), or Seattle (WA).

As a Student Trainee (Office Support), they will perform work assignments that are clear cut, well-planned, and designed to prepare the employee to perform work auxiliary to the organization. The incumbent receives direction and entry level, developmental assignments under closer than normal supervision. The major duties of the position may vary, however, consisting of the full range of standard administrative and clerical assignments with related steps, processes, and methods.

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The announcement will close 3/27/24.

[City of Seattle: Aquatic Resources and Policy Advisor \(Seattle City Light\)](#)

Seattle City Light, a department of the City of Seattle, is one of the nation's largest municipally owned utilities in terms of the number of customers served. Over the years we have worked very hard to keep Seattle's electricity affordable, reliable, and environmentally sound. Today, City Light is a recognized national leader in energy efficiency and environmental stewardship.

The Aquatic Resources and Policy Advisor is part of a team of Strategic Advisors in the Science Policy Unit providing leadership and oversight of utility environmental policy and activities with respect to meeting City Light's mission, particularly protection of aquatic resources and utility assets from environmental harm, environmental stewardship, and environmental compliance; tracking/reviewing environmental policies and engaging with agencies/stakeholders as needed to advocate for City Light's interests; integrating the best available science with policy to enable informed action on City Light's part; leading strategic scientific research to inform policy/decision-making; as well as providing technical support for environmental science, permitting and policy work for City Light as needed.

This position will serve as a Key Advisor and Subject Matter Expert in the area of fish and aquatic ecology, water quality, aquatic invasive species, and associated policy/regulatory requirements. In this role, the advisor will make recommendations for City Light's policies with respect to environmental stewardship, salmon recovery, water quality protection, and aquatic invasive species risk reduction/response. In this capacity, this position represents these interests when attending external stakeholder meetings and reporting back to City and City Light leadership at all levels as appropriate.

[ISAN Outreach Coordinator: Apply by April 30, 2024](#)

[Post-Doctoral Associate at University of Minnesota developing tools detecting aquatic invasive plants using eDNA](#)

We are recruiting a Post-Doctoral Associate to start Spring 2024 (immediately) to work on developing protocols for using a portable device, the MinION, to detect aquatic invasive plant species using environmental DNA (eDNA). The successful candidate will work as part of a collaborative team to develop the protocols for using the MinION device to detect aquatic invasive plant species in the Midwest region. The MinION is a portable sequencer that allows multiple species identification completely in the field, with results available within 1-2 days, can be conducted by field personnel with appropriate training. The project goals are to identify metabarcoding markers and optimize MinION protocols to detect up to 40 invasive plants so resource managers could quickly and cost-effectively conduct eDNA surveillance of waterbodies with high invasion risk or management needs. The tool would aid early detection and rapid response of AIS, as well as initiate eDNA biodiversity assessments.

[Fisheries Research Technician Charleston, Illinois](#)

Location: Center for Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL
When: Start date from April – June 2024, this is a full-time 12-month position and may be renewed annually depending on performance and funding availability.

Description: The Center for Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences at Eastern Illinois University is seeking a full-time research technician to lead various field and laboratory work related to

applied research in fisheries and aquatic ecology. The position involves assisting with diverse projects such as studying invasive carp reproduction ecology, monitoring stream fish communities, and analyzing sportfish population dynamics along the Wabash River. Field work responsibilities include supporting graduate students in conducting fisheries surveys, recording biological and environmental data, and maintaining field equipment. Study locations span streams, the Wabash and Illinois Rivers, and reservoirs throughout Central Illinois. Survey methods include barge electrofishing, electric seining, larval fish sampling, boat electrofishing, hoop netting, water quality sample collection, and macroinvertebrate sampling. Laboratory work will involve processing larval fish samples, aiding in stream fish identification, assisting with fish aging, and maintaining a clean and organized workspace.

Xerces Society: Freshwater Mussel Technician

LOCATION: Portland, Oregon. Majority of work sites located in central Oregon, with additional travel to sites in Washington state.

COMPENSATION: \$22 per hour

JOB TERM: Start date of approximately June 3, 2024. Term of employment is approximately 4 months after the expected start date.

STATUS & SCHEDULE: Seasonal, hourly non- exempt position, scheduled to work ~ 40 hours/week.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: **March 29, 2024**

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

All applications must be submitted via our application website at: <http://bit.ly/xerces-jobs>

Aquatic Invasive Species Watercraft Inspector (NM Dept Game and Fish)

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (State) | <https://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/>

Application Deadline: 04/17/2024

Starting Date: between 4/13/2024 and 5/11/2024

Ending Date: between 8/2/2024 and 9/13/2024

Hours per Week: 40

Salary: \$17.80 to \$28.48 per hour

Education Required: High School Diploma

Experience Required: at least 2 years

Locations: Ute Lake (Logan, NM, New Mexico)

Conchas Lake State Park (Conchas Dam, New Mexico)

Fisheries Research Technician - Charleston, Illinois

Location: Center for Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL

When: Start date from April – June 2024, this is a full-time 12-month position and may be renewed annually depending on performance and funding availability.

Description: The Center for Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences at Eastern Illinois University is seeking a full-time research technician to lead various field and laboratory work related to applied research in fisheries and aquatic ecology. The position involves assisting with diverse projects such as studying invasive carp reproduction ecology, monitoring stream fish communities, and analyzing sportfish population dynamics along the Wabash River. Field work responsibilities include supporting graduate students in conducting fisheries surveys, recording

biological and environmental data, and maintaining field equipment. Study locations span streams, the Wabash and Illinois Rivers, and reservoirs throughout Central Illinois. Survey methods include barge electrofishing, electric seining, larval fish sampling, boat electrofishing, hoop netting, water quality sample collection, and macroinvertebrate sampling. Laboratory work will involve processing larval fish samples, aiding in stream fish identification, assisting with fish aging, and maintaining a clean and organized workspace.

Salary and benefits: A salary of \$35,000 per year and a generous benefit package will be provided to the successful candidate. Benefits include health, dental, and eye insurance, as well as inclusion in the state of Illinois pension program. Leave time includes 24 vacation days, 10 sick days, and 12 university holidays per year.

To Apply: **For full consideration please apply by March 31st, 2024, however additional applicants may be considered until all positions are filled.**

Montana: AIS Watercraft Inspector - (24140323)

The AIS Watercraft Inspector position assists the AIS Area Supervisors, the AIS Prevention Specialist and the AIS Prevention Coordinator in carrying out specified inspector duties and tasks at watercraft inspection stations to prevent the movement of AIS and educate the public on AIS and best prevention practices.

This position runs from late April through mid-September, with mandatory training in April. Hours of site operation will vary with length of daylight. Schedules will vary and include weekends, evenings, and holidays. Inspectors are responsible for their own transportation to either the duty station, or to the watercraft inspection station. The watercraft inspection station is located at the Troy Rest Area.

Mandatory Training for this position will be held on April 16th and 17th .

Station opening date: 4/20/2024

This position is open until filled.

Montana: AIS Watercraft Inspector - Roving Site Lead - (24140317)

The AIS Watercraft Inspector - Roving Site Lead position assists the AIS Area Supervisors, the AIS Prevention Specialist and the AIS Prevention Coordinator in carrying out specified lead inspector duties and tasks at watercraft inspection stations to prevent the movement of AIS and educate the public on AIS and best prevention practices.

This announcement looks to fill one seasonal position. This position will work at watercraft inspections stations across Montana. A department vehicle is provided, and overnight travel is required.

This position is open until filled.

Washington: Lake Chelan

Full-Time Seasonal AIS Watercraft Inspector

Department: County of Natural Resources

Application Deadline: **Position open until filled.**

Part-Time Seasonal AIS Watercraft Inspector (4 Positions)

Department: County of Chelan Natural Resources

Application Deadline: **Position open until filled.**

Oregon: Aquatic Invasive Species Technicians

Help the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife fulfill its mission: To protect and enhance Oregon's fish and wildlife and their habitats for use and enjoyment by present and future generations. The goal of this recruitment is to fill the positions at the Fish & Wildlife Technician (FWT) level. However, we encourage candidates to apply for the Fish & Wildlife Technician Entry level (\$3,006/mo.), as the department may consider under-filling the positions.

April – September

[Ontario, OR](#)

[Umatilla, OR](#)

[Invasive Species Program Support Specialist](#)

Sheridan County Weed and Pest (County) | <https://www.scweeds.com/>

Posting: <https://www.scweeds.com/program-support-specialist>

Application Deadline: 04/01/2024

Location: Sheridan, WY 82801, USA

Description

Sheridan County Weed and Pest (SCWP) is seeking an enthusiastic and driven invasive species program support specialist to assist the district in implementation of district programs in accordance with local, state, and federal guidelines.

The Invasive Species Program Support Specialist will participate in the following district programs: mosquito mitigation, grasshopper mitigation, leafy spurge biocontrol, weed-free hay certification, and right-of-way weed control. The successful applicant, under the direction of the district supervisor, shall assist with collection and identification of weed and insect specimens, testing of mosquitoes for presence of West Nile virus, distribution and monitoring of leafy spurge beetles, equipment maintenance and repair, public interaction and education, and more. Other duties include, but are not limited to, reports, grant applications, and data compilation. Duties will be highly variable depending on season and need. Most field activities occur during the summer and mid-winter, and office duties in the autumn and spring. Specific training in invasive species programs will be provided by SCWP.

Wyoming Game & Fish Department Multiple openings:

- 2 [Biologist Technician Fisheries-Jackson](#) These seasonal positions will assist the regional fisheries management crew with all aspects of aquatic resource management activities. Positions will be based in Jackson, Wyoming.
- 26 [Seasonal Biologist Technician Fisheries-Statewide](#) These seasonal positions will assist fisheries management crews with all aspects of aquatic resource management activities. Positions will be based out of Casper, Cody, Green River, Lander, Laramie, Pinedale, and Sheridan, Wyoming.
- 3 [Aquatic Invasive Species \(AIS\) Specialist-Statewide](#) These regional positions implement the AIS program to protect the state's aquatic resources and infrastructure from the introduction of AIS.

Grants

Request for Proposals Now Open for the 2024 National Coastal Resilience Fund
[The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation—in partnership with NOAA, the U.S. Department of Defense, Occidental, and Shell—is now soliciting pre-proposals for the 2024 National Coastal Resilience Fund.](#) NFWF will award approximately \$140 million in grants to create and restore natural systems to increase community protection from coastal hazards (such as storms, sea- and lake-level changes, inundation, and coastal erosion) while improving habitats for fish and wildlife. NFWF will prioritize projects that are community-led or incorporate direct community engagement and benefit underserved communities facing disproportionate harm from climate impacts. Pre-proposals must be submitted through NFWF's Easygrants system **no later than Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 11:59 PM ET.**

QZAP: The [Funding Opportunity for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife QZAP FY2024](#) has officially been posted. The total funding amount for projects is approximately \$2,200,000.00, which is similar to last year. There has been significant change in the application process over the past three years, resulting from our transition to GrantSolutions.gov. This opportunity will be open for application through **April 15, 2024.** Applications will need to be submitted through [grantsolutions.gov](#), and you will need to create a login and password to access the system. There are recipient tutorials online linked below. The funding announcement number is F24AS00264 and the full title is "F24AS00264 FY2024 Implementation of the Quagga and Zebra Mussel Action Plan (QZAP) in the Western United States" Please feel free to reach out to barak_shemai@fws.gov. The opportunity can also be found at [grants.gov](#) but applications may NOT be submitted through [grants.gov](#). The [grants.gov](#) announcement can be found here [2024 QZAP Grant](#).

[Rapid Response Fund for Aquatic Invasive Species](#)

Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

This Notice of Funding Opportunity requests proposals for projects that support efforts to plan a response or deploy response measures to a new detection of a potentially invasive species. Response efforts must target an aquatic invasive species, defined as non-native plants or animals that reside in fresh, wetland, estuarine, or marine waters.

This Notice of Funding Opportunity will remain open until July 15, 2024, or until the Rapid Response Fund is depleted. Proposals will be accepted on a rolling basis; submitted proposals will be evaluated on a quarterly basis: Proposals submitted from **April 16 - July 15** will be evaluated with an anticipated award date of September 1. All proposals submitted for the Rapid Respond fund will be evaluated using the merit criteria

[SAVE-THE-DATE GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT](#)

California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW)

QZ Grant Program has the following 2024 announcement:

The application period for the 2024 cycle will open on April 1, 2024 and will close on May 10, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

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Up to \$2M is expected to be awarded. A presentation will be conducted via MS Teams on April 4, 2024; information will be posted on our webpage at: QZGrant@parks.ca.gov

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>

LEGISLATION

Advocacy

State/Provincial

[Washington] [Rep. Mary Dye: Washington is facing its worst-ever ecological disaster from a tiny mussel \(2/29/24\)](#) Imagine the devastation to our salmon population, our dams, and irrigation systems if this invasive species finds its way into Washington's rivers, lakes, streams, and estuaries! Conservative estimates suggest an invasive mussel invasion in Washington would easily destroy our salmon population and other native fish, and cost hundreds of millions of dollars annually. Yet, it may be a matter of time.

[B.C.] [Penticton Council calls for better ways to prevent 'catastrophe' of invasive mussels \(3/6/24\)](#) If invasive zebra mussels were to get into Okanagan and Skaha Lake, it could decimate both waterways within five years. That's why Penticton council will be sending a letter calling on multiple levels of government to better protect local waters from invasive mussels being brought in from out of province boats.

[Oregon] [Final Legislative Ag Review: \(3/10/24\)](#) We were pleased to see \$1 million in funding allocated to the Oregon Invasive Species Council. OFS has served on the Council since 2021 and supported the funding request through HB 4148. The allocation sets aside \$750,000 for specific projects and \$250,000 for outreach and education. We hope this investment helps to address current impacts from invasive species and raises interest and understanding of the impacts of invasive species to Oregon's natural resources sector.

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[Idaho] [Idaho legislature supports money, rules to contain quagga mussels \(3/18/24\)](#) One of the bills lawmakers passed contained Gov. Brad Little's \$6.6 budget request to support the Idaho State Department of Agriculture's mussel prevention and monitoring work... A separate bill also gives the Department of Agriculture more control in monitoring boats for quagga mussels. It requires immediately removing vegetation and water from boats upon exiting bodies of water.

Federal: Executive

Federal: Congressional

The Wildlife Society: [The EXPLORE Act aims to revolutionize recreation, conservation and public lands management \(2/28/24\)](#)

New recently introduced legislation backed by bipartisan support aims to improve recreational access on U.S. federal lands and waters. Chair Bruce Westerman (R-AR) introduced the “Expanding Public Lands Outdoor Recreation Experiences (EXPLORE) Act” ([H.R. 6492](#)) on Nov. 29, 2023, with support from representatives including Ranking Member Raúl Grijalva (Raza Unida Party-AZ). The legislation aims to expand public land access by streamlining permitting processes, enhancing outdoor recreation infrastructure, and fostering collaborative land management between agencies and communities. [Note: See the [February 28 AIS News](#) for more information on the Explore Act]

[EPW Committee Advances Legislation to Bolster Wildlife Conservation \(3/12/24\)](#)

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Today, the U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee voted to advance the [America’s Conservation Enhancement \(ACE\) Act](#) by voice vote. The legislation, [introduced](#) by U.S. Senator Tom Carper (D-Del.) and U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.), Chairman and Ranking Member of the EPW Committee, would reauthorize important habitat and wildlife conservation efforts throughout the country.

Invasive species language included in the bill:

SEC. 104. Protection Of Water, Oceans, Coasts, And Wildlife From Invasive Species.
Section 10(p) of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act ([16 U.S.C. 666c-1\(p\)](#)) is amended, in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “2025” and inserting “2030”.

RAWA: [Westerman Unveils Landmark Wildlife Habitat Legislation \(2/29/24\)](#)

Today, House Committee on Natural Resources Chairman Bruce Westerman (AR-04) unveiled the [America's Wildlife Habitat Conservation Act](#) (AWHCA, [[H.R. 7408](#)]). The America's Wildlife Habitat Conservation Act will empower states and local communities to use proven practices to restore and maintain habitat, which will benefit species in their state’s wildlife action plans. Good habitat management is integral to wildlife management and without it, species have little chance of maintaining sustainable populations and surviving. By strengthening relationships between states, tribes, private landowners and the federal government, we can empower them to implement proactive habitat conservation that will make a difference where it counts: on the ground across our abundant outdoors," said Chairman Westerman. "I'd like to

thank my colleagues who have supported this logical and forward-thinking legislation, and I look forward to working with them and members across the aisle to move this commonsense, financially responsible bill through the legislative process and ultimately into law.

Notes:

This House bill is a slimmed-down version of Recovering America's Wildlife Act. A hearing was held on the bill on 3/6/24. Go [HERE](#) to see the recording. At the hearing, according *to E&E Daily (3/7/24)*:

A Republican-authored wildlife conservation bill that would rearrange the Endangered Species Act elicited sharply conflicting assessments and a few hints of potential accord Wednesday. Introduced as an alternative to the bipartisan but long-stalled "Recovering America's Wildlife Act," the new measure is dubbed the "America's Wildlife Habitat Conservation Act." The two plans share certain broad goals as well as the name "wildlife," but differ in dramatic ways.

The GOP plan's funding depends on annual congressional appropriations and would end after five years. "RAWA" guaranteed funding for the long term. The new measure tweaks the ESA in several ways. The old bill left the ESA alone. "It is clear from its own data that the Fish and Wildlife Service has failed in its responsibility to recover species," said Rep. Cliff Bentz (R-Ore.). "This bill addresses this dismal record."

While groups — including the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies — saluted Westerman's bill Wednesday, a top FWS official, panel Democrats and the National Audubon Society voiced opposition. "The department supports many of the goals identified in the legislation," said Matthew Strickler, deputy assistant Interior secretary for fish and wildlife and parks, "however, this bill falls short, as we believe robust, predictable funding is essential to meet the resource needs of states and Tribes."

Rep. Jared Huffman (D-Calif.) called the House GOP proposal a "Trojan horse" and a product of what he termed "Team Extreme." "They're expecting you to believe that you can count on them to appropriate the funding every year," Huffman said, calling the measure a "hollow authorization."

[H.R. 7408](#) has 22 co-sponsors, all Republican and invests \$320 million annually in grant funding to states for wildlife habitat conservation, providing additional resources for state governments to enact their congressionally mandated state wildlife action plans. H.R. also includes "requiring the federal government to establish objective, incremental recovery goals for [ESA] listed species. Once those goals are established, the legislation builds incentives by providing incremental relief from ESA regulations as recovery goals are met. Over time, this creates an off-ramp toward state management of at-risk and listed species after recovery goals are met and in preparation for the delisting of the species."

Senate: The latest Senate version of "RAWA," [S. 1149](#), was introduced in 2023 by Sens. Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.) and Thom Tillis (R-N.C.) and currently has nine Republican, six Democratic and two independent co-sponsors. S. 1149 Funds conservation efforts for more than 12,000 species of wildlife and plants in need of assistance by providing \$1.4 billion in dedicated annual funding for proactive, on-the-ground efforts across the country.

Now What: The bills are far apart on a number of issues and funding levels, making passage of RAWA, which was pretty close to passing in the last Congress, an uncertainty at best (?) in this Congress.

[House Passes Bonamici Bill to Improve Marine Debris Prevention, Clean-up \(3/11/24\)](#)

WASHINGTON, DC – Today the House passed bipartisan legislation led by House Oceans Caucus Co-Chair Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR) to help remove marine debris from the ocean and waterways. The [Save Our Seas 2.0 Amendments Act](#) updates the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act and Marine Debris Act to provide NOAA with greater flexibility to deliver federal resources and enter into cooperative agreements to conduct marine debris prevention and clean-up.

Federal: Appropriations

President Signs First FY24 Appropriations Package (3/9/24)

On Saturday, March 9, 2024, the President signed into law: H.R. 4366, the “Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024,” which provides in divisions A through F, full-year funding through September 30, 2024, for departments and agencies of the Federal Government covered by 6 of 12 appropriations bills. Division G includes extensions for existing authorities.

A summary of the package is available [here](#).

Bill text is available [here](#).

Joint explanatory statements for each division of the package are available below:

- [Front Matter](#)
- [Division A - Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024](#)
- [Division B - Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024](#)
- [Division C - Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024](#)
- [Division D - Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024](#)
- [Division E - Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024](#)
- [Division F - Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024](#)
- The list of Community Project Funding requests included in the package is available [HERE](#).

AIS related funding is as follows (Note: *Thanks to Mark Heilman, NAISMA Legislative Committee Chair for summarizing much of the content below*). Also note the increase in European Green Crab funding in several lines below:

Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies

Corps of Engineers

- Invasive Carp.-Congress has provided consistent funding to develop the program authorized in section 509 the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2020 and is frustrated with the lack of progress. The Corps is expected to finalize this program in fiscal year 2024. The agreement reiterates House and Senate direction with respect to this program and efforts to prevent invasive carp from reaching the Great Lakes.

Aquatic Plant Control Program.

- The agreement includes additional funding of **\$9,000,000 for watercraft inspection stations and related monitoring**, consistent with Senate direction; **[Note: This is a significant decrease from FY 2023 levels, where watercraft inspection stations and related monitoring was at \$19 million]**
- \$1,000,000 for activities related to monitoring, surveying and control of hydrilla verticillata and **flowering rush**;
- \$5,000,000 for nationwide research; and
- \$5,000,000 to address infestations of hydrilla in Lake Champlain and the Connecticut River basins.
- The agreement notes that there is no additional capability for activities authorized pursuant to section 509 of WRDA 2020; the agreement expects swift progress on these efforts using existing funds.
- Mississippi River Basin.-The agreement includes \$150,000 consistent with Senate direction.

Aquatic Nuisance Control Research Program.- \$17,800,000 total funding...

- The agreement provides \$5,000,000 to supplement activities related to harmful algal bloom research and control, consistent with House direction;
- \$3,500,000 to develop next generation ecological models, consistent with House and Senate direction;
- \$5,000,000 to continue work on the Harmful Algal Bloom Demonstration Program, as authorized by WRDA of 2020; and
- \$4,000,000 to work with university partners, consistent with Senate direction.

Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

USFWS

Wildlife and Habitat Management - The agreement provides

- \$3,000,000 for nutria eradication;
- \$16,925,000 for invasive species to focus on high priority invasive species including nutria and cheatgrass.

Aquatic Invasive Species.-The agreement includes \$50,143,000 for aquatic invasive species programs **[Note: this amount is similar to FY 2023]**, of which

- \$5,038,000 is to implement subsection 5(d)(2) of the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act;
- \$2,749,000 is for Prevention;
- \$31,000,000 is for invasive carp as outlined in Senate Report 118-83 including not less than \$4,000,000 for contract fishing;
- \$2,834,000 for National Invasive Species Act of 1996 (NISA) State Plans and \$1,566,000 for NISA implementation which help control the spread of invasive carp;
- \$3,500,000 is to prevent the spread of quagga and zebra mussels allocated per the enacted levels;
- \$1,500,000 is for research on hydrilla, eel, and milfoil invasive grasses; and
- \$1,011,000 is for Great Lakes Sea Lamprey administration costs.

USGS

- Biological Threats and Invasive Species Research Program.-The agreement provides \$44,500,000, including funding for research on **European Green Crab**, Coral Disease, phytoplankton changes in the Great Lakes, and Chronic Wasting Disease at the fiscal year 2023 enacted level.
- The Committees maintain \$11,000,000 for research of invasive carp, of which \$3,000,000 is for research on containing or eradicating grass carp.

Bureau of Indian Affairs

- The agreement provides funding at the fiscal year 2023 enacted level for Agriculture and Range programs, which includes the invasive species program and supports efforts to address the problem of the **European Green Crab** that are impacting marine resources for Tribal communities in the Pacific Northwest.

National Park Service

- **Resource Stewardship**.-The bill provides \$398,820,000 for Resource Stewardship, including: \$5,300,000 for the Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers program and other similarly managed rivers; \$2,000,000 for Active Forest Management at national parks; **\$6,500,000 for Quagga and Zebra Mussel programs [Note: same as FY 2023]**; \$800,000 for Cave and Karst Ecosystem Research; \$400,000 for Recreational Access -Support Alaska Subsistence; \$18,856,000 for the National Trails System; and \$2,500,000 for socioeconomic monitoring.

Department of Commerce

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)

- **Habitat Conservation and Restoration.** The agreement provides \$1,500,000 for management, intervention, and mitigation of invasive European green crab.

Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending:

- **Annette Islands Reserve:** \$1 million for the Metlakatla Indian Community to monitor, survey, and trap European green crab in Southeast Alaska. (Murkowski/Peltola)

[House leaders mull Friday vote on final spending package \(3/19/24\)](#)

Brief weekend shutdown appears likely, though little impact on government operations is expected.

[President's FY 2025 Budget Released \(3/11/24\)](#)

Following his State of the Union address, President Biden released his budget detailing his vision to protect and build on the Administration's progress and invest in all of America to make sure the middle class has a fair shot and we leave no one behind. The Budget will lower costs for families, protect and strengthen Social Security and Medicare, and reduce the deficit by making the wealthy and corporations pay their fair share and cutting wasteful spending.

EVENTS

Archived Events:

Streaming available – [Oregon Green Crab Invasion \(OPB\) Oregon Field Guide](#)

Ongoing Training Opportunities:

Watercraft Inspection Training

Virtual: **** 2024 Schedule Now Available****

- Virtual WIT or Level 1 – Inspector Training (2 days - 8 am – Noon PST)
<https://www.westernais.org/level-1-inspector-training>

[April 2 - 3, 2024](#)

[April 9 -10, 2024](#)

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[May 14-15](#)

- WIT or Level 2 – Inspector & Decon Training (3 days – 8 am – Noon PST)
<https://www.westernais.org/level-2>

[April 2 - 4, 2024](#)

[April 9 - 11, 2024](#)

[May 14-16](#)

- WIT or Level 3 – Trainer Training (3 days- 9 am – 4pm PST)
<https://www.westernais.org/le>

[April 23- 25, 2024](#)

[DOI Invasive Species Training Opportunities Spreadsheet](#)

[PNW IPC Citizen Science Trainings](#)

[InvasivesU – NAISMA](#) - InvasivesU is NAISMA’s exclusive online learning library intended to provide professionals, students, and interested individuals with the knowledge and tools necessary to prevent and manage invasive species in North America. NAISMA experts have thoughtfully curated and developed this content, especially for you!

Calendar of Events

2024

March

[March 21, 2024 Oregon Invasive Species Council Meeting, Salem OR](#)

[March 21, 2024 Washington Invasive Species Council Meeting, Olympia WA](#)

April

The [Wyoming Game and Fish Department](#) is offering two aquatic invasive species (AIS) watercraft inspection training courses for members of the public in Sheridan April 5 and 26, 2024

NAISMA: April 17, 2024 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm CDT [Webinar: Field mapping protocols- What to consider when mapping for invasive plant species](#)

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May

The next [ANSTF meeting](#) will be held May 8 and 9, 2024 in Saratoga Springs, New York

The [23rd International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species](#) will take place in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, from May 12 – 16, 2024. The conference theme is ‘Meeting Challenges with Innovation’. The International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species addresses emerging freshwater, marine and estuarine AIS issues by involving scientists, policymakers, practitioners, and industry professionals in the presentation of research, and opportunities for collaboration on research and management projects. Stay tuned for more details.

NAISMA: May 15, 2024 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm CDT [Webinar: Invasive Lionfish](#)

June

June 1 – June 8: PlayCleanGo Awareness Week

Registration is now open for the 100th Meridian CRB AIS Team; Tuesday and Wednesday, June 4 & 5, 2024 at the Residence Inn Missoula Downtown in Missoula, MT. Registration is now open! [Register Here](#). We anticipate starting at 10am on 06/04 and ending ~ 3pm on 06/05. Please contact Leah Elwell for agenda questions at: leah@conservationcollaborations.com.

On June 10-11, 2024 the [Flathead Lake Biological Station](#) and MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks will conduct a 2 day aquatic invasive species training event including AIS identification and sampling methods, eDNA sample collection, and equipment decontamination. An integral portion of the training will be spent overviewing and using Loop-mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP), a “point of use” technology capable of real-time presence/absence detection. Training time will also be spent in the field collecting specimens following MTFWP all taxa protocols. Upon completion, participants will be provided access to additional AIS training resources, equipment loans, and sampling events. Lunch for both days will be provided, and lodging at FLBS is available upon request. For more information please send questions to phil.matson@flbs.umt.edu

[June 27, 2024 Washington Invasive Species Council Meeting, Olympia OR](#)

July

NAISMA July 17, 2024 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm CDT [Webinar: Chondria tumulosa impacts to coral reefs in Hawaii](#)

August

NAISMA: August 21, 2024 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm CDT [Webinar: Dutch Elm Disease and Resistance](#)

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September

[September 12, 2024 Washington Invasive Species Council Meeting, Olympia OR](#)

NAISMA September 18, 2024 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm CDT [Webinar: Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease](#)

September 30, 2024 @ 8:00 am - October 3, 2024 @ 5:00 pm CDT
[North American Invasive Species Management Association 32nd Annual Conference](#)

October

NAISMA: October 16, 2024 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm CDT [Webinar: White-Nose Syndrome and Bats](#)

This year the [annual WRP meeting](#) will be in Grand Junction, Colorado on October 23-25 and hosted by Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

December

December 5, 2024 @ 11:00 am - 3:00 pm CST [NAISMA Annual Biocontrol Summit](#)

[December 5, 2024 Washington Invasive Species Council Meeting, Olympia OR](#)

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