



Aquatic Invasive Species News

November 2, 2023

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RECOMMENDED READING:

Idaho Quagga Mussel Detection and PNW Response - Media Timeline (cont.)

Please see the October 12 edition of AIS News for 9/22/23 – 10/11/23

[War on Snake River quagga mussels already resulting in hundreds of dead fish including sturgeon \(10/11/23\)](#) Last week, spigots were turned on and, gradually, thousands of gallons of molluscicide were intentionally released into the Snake River from the hydropower plant at the Twin Falls downstream to Centennial Waterfront Park in an effort to kill quagga mussels. It shows that sometimes you have to harm something for it to survive.

[Quagga mussel treatment on Snake River has river users waiting \(10/11/23\)](#) “I was really impressed with the public meeting they had, because it calmed a lot of my fears of what was going to happen,” Dane said. “the plan that they proposed seems like a reasonable plan, and they laid it out real clear.”

[Idaho wraps up chemical treatment to eradicate invasive mussels \(10/12/23\)](#) Over the course of the two-week treatment, which is set to conclude on Friday, about 40,000 gallons of Natrix are expected to be introduced in total. Though the concentration of Natrix ISDA is maintaining is lower than the drinking water standard, it's still toxic to fish and aquatic plants.

[Mussel scare prompts Okanagan Water Board to call for out-of-province boat ban \(10/14/23\)](#) The Okanagan Basin Water Board (OBWB) wants to temporarily ban out-of-province boats following the recent discovery of invasive quagga mussel larvae in an Idaho river in the U.S.

[No good options: Eradicating invasive mussels means dumping toxins in Snake River \(10/14/23\)](#) Environmental group Idaho Conservation League (ICL) is worried the treatment plan may set a dangerous precedent for how the state deals with future quagga mussel infestations. The department's Plants Division section manager Jeremy Varley said during the town hall meeting the department plans to utilize a second molluscicide called niclosamide as “a spot treatment” following the copper treatment. The possible use of niclosamide is also worrisome to the ICL. The pesticide isn't currently approved for use in the United States.” They would have to get special approval to use

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niclosamide,” the spokesperson said. “ICL is seeking more information on its use and has not yet had our questions answered.”

[Quagga Threat \(10/16/23\)](#) Idaho Farm Bureau Federation, the state’s largest general farm organization, is supporting the Idaho State Department of Agriculture’s all-out effort to stop quagga mussels from gaining a foothold in Idaho waterways.

[Treatment for invasive quagga mussel finishes \(10/16/23\) \[video\]](#)

[Fish and Game to continue to monitor fish mortalities following quagga mussel treatment \(10/17/23\)](#) As expected, fish mortalities have been occurring throughout the quagga mussel treatment in the Snake River

[Idaho State Department of Agriculture will open a portion of the Snake River beginning October 19 \(10/18/23\)](#) The Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) announced today the decision to reopen a portion of the Snake River to public access, starting Thursday, Oct. 19 at 12:01a.m... Reopening public access to the section of river is in conjunction with Idaho Fish and Game Commission decision to reopen fishing, hunting and trapping in the same area.

[Quagga mussel treatment on Snake River ends. What's next? \(10/19/23\)](#) “We are watching and waiting to see what we’ll see,” Knight said.

[CURIOUS MIND: Quagga mussels are edible but ... \(10/24/23\)](#)

Q: Are zebra and quagga mussels edible?

A: “Yes, but they are not recommended to be eaten. These mussels accumulate toxins as they filter water. These toxins can be harmful to humans, dogs, and birds,” reported the Okanagan and Similkameen Invasive Species Society’s Invasive Mussels Factsheet, which was recommended by the Idaho State Department of Agriculture.

[Peachland supports push to ban watercraft from coming into B.C. \(10/25/23\)](#) The Okanagan Basin Water Board is asking local governments to support its proposal for a boat ban. The discovery of quagga mussel larvae in Idaho’s Snake River has put the water board on alert. There’s concern that if Idaho’s eradication efforts don’t succeed, mussels could spread to the Columbia River system, OBWB Deputy Administrator James Littlely said Tuesday... Littlely said B.C.’s current inspection program for boats coming in from out of province has too many gaps, so the water board wants to see a moratorium “until the full status of the infestation in the Columbia Basin is assessed,” which he said would take several months.

[Opinion: Successful collaborative effort in addressing quagga mussels \(10/28/23\)](#) Sen. Van Burtensha: In sharp contrast to the bickering and inaction at the federal level, Idaho’s leaders and state agencies demonstrated how to get the job done during the last month. In September, the early detection of microscopic quagga mussel larvae in the Snake River triggered a rapid-response plan pulling in resources from around the state. Through our 15-year monitoring and prevention program, we ensured the discovery of this aggressive invasive species before it gained a foothold in our waterways.

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[In Other Words: Eradicating the Quagga Mussels: Only YOU can help protect Idaho's water \(10/29/23\)](#) We must remain vigilant. While the rapid response and treatment of the Snake River shows signs of being successful, the threat is not over. Every single person, animal, and plant in the state of Idaho depends on clean water – but it is up to all of us to help keep our shared water clear of invasive species.

PUBLIC COMMENT

[Supplemental Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#)

On October 18, 2023, [EPA's Supplemental Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to the Vessel Incidental Discharge National Standards of Performance was published in the Federal Register \(88 FR 71788\)](#). The Supplemental Notice shares new ballast water information that EPA received from the U.S. Coast Guard and discusses additional regulatory options for ballast tanks, hulls and associated niche areas, and graywater systems that EPA is considering for the final rule.

Comments on the Supplemental Notice must be received no later than **December 18, 2023**. EPA is soliciting comments solely on the information presented in the Supplemental Notice. Please do not resubmit comments from the 2020 Proposed Rule or submit additional comments on topics not addressed in the Supplemental Notice. EPA's final rule will consider comments received on both the Proposed Rule and the Supplemental Notice.

[Request for Information on Identifying Aquaculture Opportunity Areas in Alaska: NOAA Fisheries is seeking public input via a 60-day comment period on the identification of study areas, data, and analyses relevant to identifying AOAs in Alaska state waters](#)

As a follow-up to our June 1, 2023 announcement beginning the process to identify Aquaculture Opportunity Areas (AOAs) in Alaska state waters, in partnership with the State of Alaska, NOAA Fisheries requests data, comments, views, information, analysis, or suggestions from the public to support the identification of AOAs in Alaska state waters, including siting parameters that can be used to select potential study areas for further analysis.

The public input provided in response to this Request For Information (RFI) will inform NOAA as it works with Federal, State, and Local agencies, appropriate Regional Fishery Management Councils, and in coordination with appropriate Tribal governments to identify AOAs.

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The [Oregon Invasive Species Council \(OISC\)](#) is seeking nominations for five appointed member seats to serve a 2-year term January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2025. Could you, or someone you know, be a good addition to the OISC? **Nominations open until filled.**

Invasive species have the potential to devastate Oregon's infrastructure, economy, and natural resources that Oregonians hold dear. The Oregon Invasive Species Council (OISC) acts as a catalyst for the collaborative effort to protect Oregon from invasive species across the network of its members, including state and public agencies, tribes, researchers, land managers, industry leaders, educators, and members of the public. Strong council member nominees will have experience or expertise that relates to invasive species prevention or control and/or specialize in a related area of interest. The Council is seeking the appointment of five members representing the following categories for 2-year term positions that conclude December 31, 2025:

- A member who represents a Native American or Indian Tribe or association of Tribes.
- A member who represents an Organization or Association that advocates on behalf of private industry.

Council members' primary role is to support the advancement of Oregon's Statewide Strategic Plan for Invasive Species. Members benefit from multi-agency communication and collaboration that the OISC provides through meetings, committees, events, and communication. Council members are expected to participate in 4-6 meetings per year depending on the format (in person or by teleconference), multi-day meetings may be possible twice a year. Council members are allowed to designate an alternate if they are unable to attend a meeting. Council members are not paid but may be reimbursed for travel expenses associated with attending Council meetings.

Additionally, Council members are required to serve on at least one committee and support communication with and/or convening other interested groups to contribute to Council activities. Membership is limited to two consecutive two-year terms.

The deadline to submit nominations will be held open until filled. Fill out the nomination form online here: <https://www.oregoninvasivespeciescouncil.org/nominations>

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>

[California] *Acanthogobius flavimanus* (Yellowfin Goby) was found in Humboldt Bay, southwestern corner of Klopp Lake [[USGS NAS](#)]

[Invasive Mudsnailed Detected at Lake Sonoma Fish Hatchery \(10/13/23\)](#) The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and partners have confirmed the presence of New

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Zealand mudsnails (NZMS) at Warm Springs Fish Hatchery near Lake Sonoma. While NZMS have been detected in other portions of the watershed, this is the first confirmed detection at Warm Springs Hatchery.

[Colorado] [Eichhornia crassipes \(common water-hyacinth\)](#) was found in a private pond in Windsor [[USGS NAS](#)]

[Minnesota] [News release: Zebra mussels confirmed in Big Stone Lake \(10/16/23\)](#) The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department has confirmed the presence of zebra mussels in Big Stone Lake, a long, narrow lake that extends 26 miles through Big Stone County in Minnesota and two South Dakota counties. Zebra mussels were found on multiple docks being removed from the lake at the end of the season, on both the South Dakota and Minnesota sides of the lake.

[New Brunswick] [Dreissena polymorpha \(zebra mussel\)](#) found at Madawaska Dam and Hydroelectric Generating Station, Edmundston, NB, St. John River watershed. [[USGS NAS](#)]

[Ontario] [New aquatic invasive found in Ontario \(10/10/23\)](#) “The marbled crayfish was first reported in the Burlington area on the app iNaturalist in 2021 but was incorrectly identified. In January 2022, however, it was positively identified by Dr. Premek Hamr, known by many as ‘Dr. Crayfish,’” said Brook Schryer, assistant coordinator for the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters Invading Species Awareness Program (ISAP).

[Texas] [Osteopilus septentrionalis \(Cuban Treefrog\)](#) was found in Cravens Camp Rd. Hardin, TX [[USGS NAS](#)]

[Washington] [Culaea inconstans \(Brook Stickleback\)](#) was found in an unnamed waterbody, downstream from impassible culvert, San Juan Islands [[USGS NAS](#)]

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.

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

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

DREISSENID MUSSELS

[Lakes Area News: Iowa DNR's Invasive Species Warning \(10/13/23\)](#) The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is urging everyone to be vigilant, this fall, as boats, docks and hoists come out of the water. "We know that there are zebra mussels in the Spirit Lake/Okoboji chain of lakes but not necessarily the lakes around them," Bogenschutz said. "And with some of the new infestations of milfoil popping up, we try to treat it but that stuff can get wrapped around docks as well..."

[Maritime Archaeologists Race to Locate Great Lakes Shipwrecks Before Quagga Mussels Destroy the Sites \(10/14/23\)](#) An invasive mussel is destroying shipwrecks deep in the depths of the lakes, forcing archeologists and amateur historians into a race against time to find as many sites as they can before the region touching eight U.S. states and the Canadian province of Ontario loses any physical trace of its centuries-long maritime history.

Related: [Local filmmakers discover 1895 shipwreck while making quagga mussels documentary \(10/16/23\)](#)

[Dock Removals Continuing Across Eastern South Dakota \(10/23/23\)](#) "Boat dock removal companies and private individuals are a key partner for aquatic invasive species (AIS) surveillance efforts," said Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator, Tanner Davis. "As boat docks are removed in the fall, these make for a perfect sampling platform for each waterbody."

BOAT INSPECTION/DECON

[State grant funds two more years of invasive quagga mussel prevention program at Lake Sonoma \(10/13/23\)](#) The Sonoma County Water Agency's watercraft inspection program at Lake Sonoma will continue for another two years, thanks to almost \$400,000 in state grant funding awarded in August and that went into effect as of Oct. 10. The California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways grant will fund the program to continue to prevent invasive quagga mussels from entering Lake Sonoma until October 2025.

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[State Wildlife Officials Working Hard To Hold Back Zebra Mussels \(10/22/23\)](#) South Dakota wildlife officials continue to do the best they can to try and control the expansion of zebra mussels in state waterways. Fisheries Biologist Fisheries Program Administrator Jake Davis told the Game, Fish and Parks Commission this month while inspection stations are helpful, finding all mussels are difficult...

BALLAST WATER/BIOFOULING

[Mini ballast water treatment system unveiled \(10/23/23\)](#) BIO-UV has unveiled a mini ballast water treatment system for the low-flow market to meet increased demand from operators of workboats, yachts, research ships and OSVs

MARINE

[Increasing Risk Of Invasive Species Colonization On Marine Debris \(10/29/23\)](#) The research, published recently in Marine Pollution Bulletin, delves into the critical interplay between plastic pollution and the introduction of non-indigenous organisms into Indian waters.

GREEN (5-SPINED) CRAB

[Blue crabs are showing up more often in the warming Gulf of Maine \(10/16/23\)](#) ... Burtis says he does see potential benefits of a blue crab population here. They could help to control the invasive green crab, which feed on young lobsters, mussels and softshell clams.

[Why a Gros Morne sea grass study is so important to the fishing industry \(10/18/23\)](#) Researchers says eelgrass meadows are in decline, but the grassy beds are home for juvenile halibut and cod... Brushett and her team of researchers say the eelgrass is declining and that has a lot to do with an invasive species called the European green crab. The crab can eat the eelgrass at the stem, destroying the meadows.

[Crabs everywhere': off Canada's Pacific coast, Indigenous Haida fight a host of invasive species \(10/23/23\)](#) The unique wildlife of Haida Gwaii's 150 islands is under attack by invasive crabs, rats and deer – echoing how local people also became vulnerable to outside forces.

[Washington European Green Crab Public Update - Sept/Oct 2023](#)

This report is also available online and includes a summary of European green crab (EGC) captures, monitoring, and other emergency measures from September and October 2023 as well as field and partner highlights and general updates: Justin Bush, WDFW Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Policy Coordinator, was delegated authority as the new EGC Incident Commander on Sept. 15. He replaces Allen Pleus, who retired Oct. 1. European Green Crab Incident Command objectives continue to include reduction of EGC populations to below levels harmful to environmental, economic, or cultural resources.

AQUACULTURE

[Fish farm giant Mowi suing fisheries ministers, taxpayers for Discovery Islands closures \(10/13/23\)](#) In a lawsuit, the aquaculture giant Mowi claims Canada 'wiped out' a third of its business

[Washington State's fish farm ban "has no legal effect" \(10/23/23\)](#) Thurston County Superior Court Judge, Indu Thomas, has ruled that Washington Department of Natural Resources so-called "net pen ban" (Commissioner's Order 202211) is merely an internal directive to begin the rulemaking process regarding commercial net pens in state aquatic lands.

[First Nation previously 'pushed aside' will now have say in Cooke's plan to expand salmon farming in Nova Scotia \(11/2/23\)](#) The Mersey River system, which drains into Liverpool Bay, is a known river of significance to the Mi'kmaq.

FRESHWATER

[40+ South Dakota bodies of water infested \(10/12/23\)](#) Overall there are 44 bodies of water in the state listed as containing 17 different invasive species.

[Scientists build traps to manage UK's rising number of Chinese mitten crabs \(10/14/23\)](#) The group has constructed and installed the UK's first Chinese mitten crab trap at Pote Hole in Lincolnshire, to catch the voracious predators as they migrate downstream to mate.

FISH

[Keeping more invasive species out of the Red Deer River, Alberta is sparking inter-municipal discussions \(10/11/23\)](#) Common carp were confirmed by a 2018 river study — and the situation is likely not improving.

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[\[Oregon\] Opinion: Letter: Removing the dam will eliminate invasive species \(10/12/23\)](#) The pervasive myth that the [North Umpqua] Winchester Dam prevents small mouth bass, an invasive species, from swimming upriver is false.

[Eat Asian Carp? Sure, Why Not? Conservation Official Says They Don't Taste as Fishy \(10/16/23\)](#) One way to get rid of them that some people might not consider is to catch and eat them. Andrew Branson with the Missouri Department of Conservation told MissouriNet that they are edible... And since the state is trying to eradicate the Asian Carp, there's no daily limit and they can be caught year-round with any legal fishing method.

[Montana Experts optimistic about efforts to curtail invasive lake trout \(10/22/23\)](#) Competition from lake trout in Montana waters continues to cut into the population of native fish, but experts are optimistic that ongoing efforts will manage and potentially reverse the decline.

[Bass in the Grass – Using DIDSON to Locate Hidden Predators in the Delta \(10/23/23\)](#) The channels and sloughs of the Delta are dominated by transplants, with native fish representing as little as 0.5% of species in fish community surveys.

Pintar, M.R., Dorn, N.J., Kline, J.L. et al. Contrasting invasion histories and effects of three non-native fishes observed with long-term monitoring data. *Biol Invasions* 25, 3887–3903 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-023-03146-9>

[An Angler Earned Over \\$100,000 Catching an Unwanted Species of Fish this Summer \(10/16/23\)](#) The Northern Pikeminnow Sport Reward Program is a yearly conservation bounty program. It operates on the lower Columbia River and is funded by the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). The program runs each summer from May 1 to September 30 and doles out significant cash to hundreds of anglers for removing pikeminnow—a species known to prey on salmon and steelhead smolt. Critics of the program say removing the native fish species obfuscates the real problem—the BPA's dams along the Lower Snake River. Related: [ISRP 2023 Follow-up Review of Project #1990-077-00, Development of Systemwide Predator Control \(Northern Pikeminnow Management Program\) \(10/4/23\)](#)

[Walleye aren't bad fish, just the wrong fish for Idaho \(10/25/23\)](#) Like a romcom movie, the relationship between walleye and Idaho is complicated. Some anglers enjoy them as a tasty fish, but walleye tend to upset the balance of existing fish populations, so it won't be an entertaining story if walleye populations expand across the state.

[Science Says What? How eDNA research is evolving to create a new era in conservation \(10/30/23\)](#) Thirteen years ago, a live bighead carp was caught within swimming distance of Lake Michigan. It had somehow slipped past an electric barrier in the Chicago Area Waterway System designed to keep out the invasive fish. While it caused a lot of justifiable hand wringing, I always suspected a small group of University of Notre Dame researchers was at least a little bit relieved. Not because they wanted the voracious fish to upend the lake's ecosystem. But because it was proof all the effort they'd put into a new detection tool – eDNA – was worth it.

AQUATIC PLANTS

[Tahoe Keys Weeds Test wraps up second year \(Opinion\) \(10/28/23\)](#) After decades fighting the growing weed problem, the Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association worked with the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, League to Save Lake Tahoe, and other partners to develop the Tahoe Keys Control Methods Test project.

CLIMATE CHANGE

[Colorado grapples with a rise of invasive species \(10/16/23\)](#) Invasive species are seeping into the Centennial State — and the Colorado River system — as climate change takes its toll on the environment.

[21 species have been declared extinct, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service says \(10/17/23\)](#) There are now 650 species that have gone extinct in the U.S., according to the Center for Biological Diversity, which says factors such as climate change, pollution and invasive species contribute to species loss.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

[Effectiveness of Aquatic Invasive Species Public Awareness Campaigns for Eliciting Prevention Behaviors: Findings, Takeaways, and Recommendations \(2023\)](#) This study was: commissioned by the Western Regional Panel (WRP) on Aquatic Nuisance Species Education and Outreach Committee, conducted by Dr. Gerard Kyle (Professor, Range, Wildlife and Fisheries Management, Texas A&M University), funded by a USFWS Quagga Zebra Mussel Action Plan Grant, coordinated by the Invasive Species Action Network, a survey of 3,900 individuals across all 19 WRP states and one Canadian province. Greatest participation was in UT, KS, OR, TX, and CA. [\[Full Study Here\]](#)

[\[California\] Free resources available for Quagga and Zebra Mussel \(QZ\) boater education](#)

[Invasive Species 101: Everything You Need to Know \(10/17/23\)](#)

[You can help fight invasive species, on land and water: the Midwest Invasive Species Information Network needs help finding and identifying invasive species \(10/23/23\)](#) Check your

car, kayak or a nearby rail car – it might be providing free transportation for an invasive pest or plant. And you can be part of a renewed effort to stop the invaders.

OTHER

[New invasive, weedy grasses discovered across Hawai‘i, some pose major fire risk \(10/13/23\)](#)

New species of flammable invasive grasses have been discovered and identified across most Hawaiian islands by a University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa School of Life Sciences PhD student. Kevin Faccenda discovered 34 invasive and/or weedy species never before reported in Hawai‘i during more than 50 days of fieldwork conducted across Kaua‘i, O‘ahu, Maui, Moloka‘i and Hawai‘i Island over the past year.

[Understanding mutualism can help control the spread of invasive species \(10/19/23\)](#) Recently, scientists have found evidence that some invasive plants become even more invasive in the presence of helpful partners, as can happen with certain pine trees and fungi or fig trees and wasps. But other studies have suggested that species that didn't rely on mutualist partners were more invasive.

[This Texas Scientist Trains Dogs to Sniff Out Invasive Species \(10/25/23\)](#) ... Instead of tracking prey or catching criminals, they're learning to be conservationists by sniffing out invasive species, agricultural pests, and hazardous pollutants. It's still rare for dogs to be trained in this kind of work, but Hall believes the niche holds great potential.

[Two million fruit flies being dumped over Los Angeles to fight invasive species \(10/26/23\)](#)

Around 2.25 million sterile male fruit flies will be dumped over Leimert Park neighbourhood

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

[Washington: AIS Decontamination Biologist - Fish & Wildlife Biologist 3 - Permanent -](#)

Salary: \$5,088.00 - \$6,838.00 Monthly

Location Thurston County – Olympia, WA

Job Type Full Time – Permanent Remote Employment Flexible/Hybrid

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Job Number 2023-13587

Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

The current duty station is Olympia, Washington, however, we are also considering Ridgefield, Washington as a possible duty station.

Serve as the senior level professional biologist to develop and implement WDFW's new decontamination certification course!

Certify WDFW field staff in decontamination procedures, inspect hatcheries for aquatic invasive species (AIS), prevent the introduction of new priority AIS, and respond to new AIS detections.

Opening Date 10/19/2023 Closing Date 11/5/2023 11:59 PM Pacific

Joe Burns Memorial Wildlife Policy Internship Program

The Wildlife Society has an opening for a paid wildlife policy intern with an interest in federal natural resource policy issues. This will be a six-month appointment from January-June 2024.

DUTIES: The wildlife policy intern will be an integral part of TWS' Government Affairs program. This program works to ensure that 1) TWS' members are informed of policy issues and the impact policies have on their work in wildlife conservation, 2) policies empower, enable, and assist wildlife professionals in their work of wildlife conservation and management, and 3) wildlife science is the foundation upon which wildlife-related policy decisions are made. Interns are responsible for:

- Researching and tracking wildlife conservation and management policy issues
- Preparing background information for use in testimony, letters, and comments
- Creating and updating policy-related TWS and coalition content (Fact Sheets, Webpages, Policy Briefs, etc.)
- Writing articles focused on wildlife policies and their effects
- Representing TWS at coalition meetings and supporting coalition activities
- Engaging in legislative hearings and agency briefings

POSITION: This internship is a full-time, six-month, paid position, with a stipend of \$2,000 per month. The internship will be taking place remotely. Intern is responsible for own housing and insurance.

Applications must be submitted by 12 November 2023.

Assistant Water Resources Specialist

Solano County Water Agency

Vacaville, CA, USA Full Time

Compensation: \$6,667.31 to \$8,104.16 Monthly

Wage dependent on education and work experience.

Assistant Water Resources Specialist salary is set to increase by 10% in January 2024 and another 2.5% in 2025.

CLOSING: Friday, November 17, 2023 at 12 PM.

Position Summary:

Under direct supervision, performs a variety of technical and administrative programmatic support tasks for the Solano County Water Agency Lake Berryessa Mussel Prevention Program. The technical tasks include but are not limited to conducting routine biological monitoring and sampling for the early detection of aquatic invasive species, performing aquatic invasive inspections and decontamination services on various watercraft, and conducting additional biological monitoring as needed. The administrative tasks include but are not limited to weekly

and quarterly report writing, acting as mentor and team lead to seasonal staff, assisting in grant and permit applications or reports, and community public outreach.

Grants

[The USDA 1994 Tribal Scholars Program](#) – Application Period Closes December 1, 2023

The USDA 1994 Tribal Scholars Program seeks to increase the number of American Indian and Alaska Native students studying agriculture, food, natural resource sciences, and related disciplines.

The USDA 1994 Tribal Scholars Program combines classroom study with paid work experience that leads to employment at USDA. Through this program, USDA seeks to boost the number of tribal college and university students studying and graduating in food, agriculture, natural resources, and other related fields of study, and help build the pipeline of future agricultural scientists and professionals. The program also strengthens USDA partnerships with 1994 land-grant institutions.

The program provides full tuition, employment, housing or a living stipend, employee benefits, fees, and books each year for up to 4 years to selected students pursuing a bachelor's degree in agriculture, food science, natural resource science, or a related academic discipline beginning at one of 35 federally recognized tribal colleges and universities and continuing at other higher education institutions. The scholarship may be renewed each year, contingent upon satisfactory academic performance and normal progress toward the bachelor's degree.

[Montana Invasive Species Council 2024 AIS Grant Cycle is Open](#)

The Montana Invasive Species Council is now accepting applications for 2024 Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Grants. The **application period is from October 30 to January 7.**

AIS grants are intended to increase local capacity and involvement to address AIS issues.

Projects that focused on these AIS management components are eligible: prevention, early detection, education and outreach, research, and treatment.

This state funded program awards approximately \$250,000 each year. Applicants may request up to \$50,000 per project. Grant applicants can be local, state, tribal, or other government entities within the state; and Montana-based non-governmental entities.

Applications are due Sunday, January 7, 2024, before midnight.

AIS Grant Program Guidelines are here: [Aquatic Invasive Species Grant Program | Montana Invasive Species \(mt.gov\)](#) The grant application form is here: [grants.dnrc.mt.gov](#). Scroll down to AIS 2024 Grant Application.

Contact Liz Lodman at 406-444-0547 with any questions on the grant and application process.

Questions can be emailed to dnraisgrants@mt.gov

Grant Opportunity: NOAA-NOS-NCCOS-2024-2008101

[Social, Cultural and Economic Assessment of Harmful Algal Blooms](#)

Department of Commerce **Current Closing Date for Applications: Jan 17, 2024**

NOAA-NOS-ORR-2024-2007993

[FY24 NOAA Marine Debris Removal under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#)

Department of Commerce **Current Closing Date for Applications: Feb 23, 2024**

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2025 John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship Program

Apply by February 15, 2024

The Knauss Fellowship provides a unique educational experience to graduate students who have an interest in ocean, coastal and Great Lakes resources and in the national policy decisions affecting those resources.

The program, which is sponsored by NOAA's National Sea Grant College Program, matches highly qualified graduate students with hosts in legislative and executive offices in the Washington, D.C., area. The fellowship is paid and lasts one year. Past fellows have developed successful careers in a variety of sectors, including government, academia, consulting, private companies and nonprofit.

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

[EPA Again Refuses to Protect U.S. Waters From Invasive Species, Diseases Released by Ships \(10/17/23\)](#) “This rule has been decades in the making, and I’m disappointed the EPA isn't proposing something better than these weak standards,” said Miyoko Sakashita, oceans program director at the Center for Biological Diversity. “While the EPA has been stalling, ships have continued to discharge invasive species and pathogens into our waterways, harming people and ecosystems.”

Related: [EPA Issues Supplemental Notice of Proposed Ruling to Implement the Vessel Incidental Discharge Act, Finally! \(10/25/23\)](#)

State/Provincial

[New York] [Hochul signs bill into law on aquatic invasive species \(10/27/23\)](#) Gov. Kathy Hochul signed a bill into law that aims to better combat aquatic invasive species, two Capital Region lawmakers said Friday. The new legislation enables town boards to further address and

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combat invasive aquatic invertebrate species, as they are currently only able to address invasive plants under state law.

Federal: Executive

Federal: Congressional

[US lawmakers reintroduce SEAfood Act to spur offshore aquaculture \(10/17/23\)](#)

U.S. lawmakers last week reintroduced the Science-based Equitable Aquaculture Food (SEAfood) Act, legislation designed to foster and encourage more offshore aquaculture development.

If passed, the legislation would authorize NOAA to establish an offshore aquaculture assessment program and a grant program that would help minority-serving educational institutions create aquaculture centers of excellence. The law would also require the Government Accountability Office, a congressional watchdog organization, to put together a report detailing regulatory requirements for offshore aquaculture, and the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to conduct a study on the science behind offshore aquaculture regulations.

The bill was introduced by U.S. Representative Nancy Mace (R-South Carolina), with U.S. Representative Jimmy Panetta (D-California) and U.S. Representative Chellie Pingree (D-Maine) listed as cosponsors. Former U.S. Representative Alan Lowenthal (D-California) originally introduced the SEAfood Act in the final days of the previous Congress, but the bill never made its way out of committee.

Related: [Bipartisan-supported House bill would better pave road for US offshore aquaculture The Science-based Equitable Aquaculture Food Act, or SEAfood Act, HR 5944, introduced Oct. 12, is co-sponsored by one Republican and two Democrats...](#)

Federal: Appropriations

[Senate passes first government funding package, setting up clash with House GOP \(11/1/23\)](#)

Senators voted 82-15 to pass the package — which covers full-year funding for the departments of Veterans Affairs (VA), Transportation (DOT) and Housing and Urban Development (HUD), as well as the Food and Drug Administration, among other agencies....However, they contain major differences from their counterparts in the House, where Republicans have taken a harder line on reducing spending for nondefense programs and proposed a slew of measures Democrats have deemed “poison pills” — including provisions to limit abortion access, enforcement of the Biden administration’s equity and diversity orders and more.

Under an extension approved in September, Congress has until Nov. 17 to pass legislation keeping the government funded or risk the first government shutdown in years. However, lawmakers in both chambers have already acknowledged a stopgap measure will likely be needed.

[Senate push for shorter stopgap sets up collision with House GOP \(10/31/23\)](#)

Senate appropriators are mulling a continuing resolution that would run until mid-December, which would put the chamber on a collision course with new Speaker Mike Johnson, R-La., who's been pushing to kick final spending decisions into next year...A CR ending the week of Dec. 11 is under consideration, though conversations are ongoing and no final decision has been made, sources familiar with the plans say.

[House Approves H.R. 4394, The Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act \(10/26/23\)](#)

WASHINGTON – Today, the House of Representatives met to consider [H.R. 4394](#), The Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. The measure was approved by the House with a vote of 210 to 199.

NOTE: The House E&W bill [See [6/27/23 AIS News](#)], funds the “APC-WID” cost share program @ \$7 million for watercraft inspection stations; \$ 3 million for monitoring and \$ 1 million for flowering rush and hydrilla. The Senate bill, which has not moved to the floor, provides \$ 3 million more for watercraft inspection and monitoring than the House bill. See [the 8/1/23 AIS News](#) for the AIS language in the Senate appropriations bill....stay tuned

EVENTS

Archived Events:

The special issues in the journals of Aquatic Invasions <http://bit.ly/3PZ6GNS> and Management of Biological Invasions <http://bit.ly/3Qo5Go5> include papers presented at the 22nd International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species held in Oostende, Belgium April 18-22, 2022.

Ongoing Training Opportunities:

Watercraft Inspection Training

Virtual (TBA): ******Announcement of 2024 Schedule Coming Soon******

- Virtual WIT or Level 1 – Inspector Training (2 days - 8 am – Noon PST)
<https://www.westernais.org/level-1-inspector-training>
- WIT or Level 2 – Inspector & Decon Training (3 days – 8 am – Noon PST)
<https://www.westernais.org/level-2>
- WIT or Level 3 – Trainer Training (3 days- 9 am – 4pm PST)
<https://www.westernais.org/level-3>

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[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

November

The 2023 [Alaska Invasive Species Workshop](#) theme is: [Invaders on the Edge!](#) Please join us November 7 – 9, 2023!

[Oregon Invasive Species Council - Business Meeting](#). Hybrid. November 8th, Hatfield Marine Science Center, Newport OR

[Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation \(CERF\) 2023: Resilience & Recovery](#) Portland, Oregon, USA | 12–16 November 2023

The [Invasive Species Advisory Committee](#) will convene in-person on Monday, November 13, 2023, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. (ET); Tuesday, November 14, 2023, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. (ET); and, Wednesday, November 15, 2023; 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. (ET). The general session proceedings will also be streamed virtually via Zoom webinar. NOTE: Virtual access to the general session portions of the meeting will be in “listen only” mode. Registration is required at: <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=urWTBhhLe02TQfMvQApUIJIUHiAav7dLhyBQ4gyITIdUNU9aR0JUVEk0VkJIT0IKRjJOOU02VDg2Ry4u>

[2023 Delta Invasive Species Symposium](#), November 30th, Sacramento, CA.

December

[Wild Spotter Invasive Species Ambassador Training Course December 5-7, 2023](#)

This intensive training will include building relationships, partnerships and engaging stakeholders; branding and marketing programs; using innovative tools and technologies; and volunteer citizen-science coordination, recruitment, and retention to meet invasive species management goals and expand local community capacity for action. This gathering will have limited attendance through a merit selection process. Please apply at <https://invasivesfree.org>.

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Priority will be given to participants who can demonstrate their commitment to building invasive species management capacity within their community.

[Washington Invasive Species Council Meeting 12/07/23](#)

[Zoom Webinar Registration](#)

Phone: 1-253-205-0468, Webinar ID: 872 1552 7263

Physical Location: Room 172, Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington St SE, Olympia, WA 98501

The next meeting of the [100th Meridian Initiative Columbia River Basin AIS Team](#) will be held December 12 & 13, 2023 at Hyatt Place Portland Airport/Cascade Station in Portland, OR. This will be a hybrid meeting. [Click here to register](#) for virtual or in-person attendance. The meeting link will be posted at the registration site and emailed to registered virtual attendees prior to the meeting.

The agenda is in development. For agenda questions, contact Leah Elwell: leah@conservationcollaborations.com and for meeting questions, contact Amy Stark: astark@psmfc.org

2024

January

International Invasive Species and Climate Change Conference ([RISCC](#) and NAISMA) January 30-31 (virtual conference). Details coming soon.

May

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.

TO UNSUBSCRIBE/SUBSCRIBE to the AIS NEWS email sphillips@psmfc.org. AIS NEWS was compiled by Robyn Draheim (robindraheim@gmail.com) and Stephen Phillips. Past issues of AIS NEWS can be found @ <https://www.westernais.org/western-ais-news>
