



## ***AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES NEWS***

11/30/22

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### **SPOTLIGHT:**

#### [To outwit a giant hornet, scientists try speaking its language](#)

Even the biggest insects' brains are very small, though not so small they can't communicate with each other—or, to an extent, with human beings.

Researchers in Washington state, Japan, and South Korea aim to tell the world's largest hornets where to go by speaking the insects' language: the potent, wafting substances known as pheromones.

Of all the species from afar that have invaded Washington state, one has excited the public imagination more than any other: the northern giant hornet, sometimes called, a bit unfairly, the murder hornet.

Since the first massive hornet showed up in our region in 2019, officials in Washington and British Columbia have been trying to eradicate the species.

Now, researchers are partnering with scientists in Japan and Korea to try to outsmart the world's largest hornet.

[\[cont. reading or listen to 5 min. broadcast\]](#)

## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

### [Lake Mead National Recreation Area seeks public input on new low water access plan.](#)

Lake Mead National Recreation Area (NRA) will host a series of public meetings next month to explore management options on how to maintain launch ramp access for motorized recreational boaters to the lake and other visitor services amid record low water levels. The park will additionally meet with Tribes to gain their perspectives.

The concepts shared in these public scoping sessions are an initial component of the environmental analysis and review and will ultimately lead to selection of a preferred alternative, additional public comment, and management decisions in 2023.

“Already low water levels are decreasing at a more rapid rate than decades of projections indicated was likely. Climate change worsened drought requires us to think differently and plan for less predictable water levels into the future,” said Acting Superintendent Stan Austin. “The purpose of our Sustainable Low Water Access Plan is to develop a strategic direction for the future of motorized boat launching and related commercial services at five key access locations, along with facility and infrastructure needs and related implementation actions at these locations.”

The Sustainable Low Water Access Plan focuses on launch ramps at Hemenway Harbor, Callville Bay Marina, Echo Bay, Temple Bar Marina, and South Cove.

Public scoping meetings will include a presentation on a range of management alternatives for the public’s consideration and discussion. For detailed information about the management alternatives being considered, please read the project newsletter <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/LAKE-Low-Water-Access-Newsletter>

Meetings will be held at the following times and locations:

Meadview, AZ – Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022; 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. MST at the Meadview Civic Association Building; 247 E. Meadview Blvd., Meadview, AZ 86444

Boulder City, NV – Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2022; 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. PST at 500 Date Street, Building 100; Boulder City, NV 89005

Kingman, AZ – Thursday, Dec. 8, 2022; 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. MST at the Kingman Office of Tourism, Powerhouse Conference Room, 120 W. Andy Devine Ave., Kingman, AZ 86401

Virtual – Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2022; 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. PST

Comments regarding the planning concepts should be made online on the park’s planning website <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/LAKE-Low-Water-Access> where readers can find this and earlier planning efforts for review and consideration.

## [Minnesota: Public comments being accepted regarding Department of Natural Resources rulemaking on invasive species](#)

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is accepting public comments through Dec. 9, on its proposal to classify 13 species or species groups of high-risk invasive aquatic plants, fish and invertebrates as prohibited invasive species. The DNR is accepting written comments on these proposed rules from through **Dec. 9, 2022**. Please submit your comments to [ais.dnr@state.mn.us](mailto:ais.dnr@state.mn.us) All information you submit in a public comment during formal rulemaking proceedings is public data, including your name and contact information. The DNR invasive species rulemaking website will be updated with final decisions about the proposed rules. More information on the DNT Rulemaking can be found [HERE](#).

## [NOAA seeks public comments on Programmatic Environmental Assessment for Funding Aquaculture Projects](#)

NOAA is developing a Programmatic Environmental Assessment to analyze the potential impacts on the natural and human environment from aquaculture research and development projects funded by federal financial assistance awards. The effort is led by NOAA Sea Grant and the NOAA Fisheries Office of Aquaculture.

A public comment period for the [draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment](#) is open now through **December 18, 2022**

Instructions for submitting written comments are available in the [Federal Register Notice](#) and on [Sea Grant's website](#).

NOAA intends for this Programmatic Environmental Assessment to enhance agency efforts for environmental review and federal regulation compliance related to current and future aquaculture research and development awards. After the public comment period closes, NOAA will review comments and consider addressing them in the final version of the document, which is expected to be released in early 2023.

## **NEW SPECIES SIGHTINGS**

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**Want to get more new species alerts?**

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

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

## [DREISSENIIDS](#)

### [Kentucky: Zebra Mussels Detected In Williamstown Lake \(11/23/22\)](#)

Biologists with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources recently confirmed the presence of invasive zebra mussels in a popular northern Kentucky lake.

Biologists visited Williamstown Lake on Nov. 16 and concluded zebra mussels were present in the Grant County water body. Only mature adults were observed at the time.

### OTHER AIS

Idaho: [\*Alligator mississippiensis\* \(American alligator\)](#) was found in New Plymouth, Idaho NAS ARM map was not generated because we presume the introduction has failed.

### WATCH LIST

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

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

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

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

## **DREISSENID MUSSELS**

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### [Native mussel numbers down almost 95% since 1960s, Thames survey finds \(11/28/22\)](#)

A survey of mussels has revealed an alarming deterioration in the River Thames ecosystem since the 1960s, according to a study. Scientists attempting to replicate a 1964 survey of freshwater bivalves in a stretch of the Thames near Reading found striking results, as native mussel populations had crashed by almost 95%. One native species, the depressed river mussel, had vanished completely, and the remaining species were much smaller for their age, reflecting slower growth... The survey found high numbers of invasive species, the non-native zebra mussel and the Asian clam, which were absent from the 1964 study. The zebra mussel, known to grow on native species, smothering them to death, could be responsible for the decline, they said. Other possible causes could be changes in land use along the river or changes in the fish populations mussels depend on as part of their life cycle.

### [Shuswap group asks B.C. government for more resources to keep invasive mussels out of province \(11/17/22\)](#)

Infestation could cost Okanagan taxpayers alone \$42 million annually.

[Oklahoma: Concern over invasive species in Ardmore's City Lake \(11/17/22\)](#)

The Ardmore Utilities Department is working with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation to address a recently-found population of invasive zebra mussels in City Lake. Shawn Geurin, the director of public utilities, said it's not uncommon for zebra mussels to appear up in lakes, but there are a few concerns they are working to address.

[Minnesota: Zebra mussels in Canisteo Mine Pit interrupt plan to lower water levels \(11/17/22\)](#)

The zebra mussels, which can cause expensive damage to water intake pipes and can reduce or block water flow into intake pipes, were discovered just over two weeks before the state agency was scheduled to begin pumping water out of the pits to ensure water doesn't overwhelm drainage tile between the pit and low-lying Bovey homes or crest over the lowest edge of the pit. The pumps would also lower the water level enough to put a permanent fix in once enough funding is secured. But ensuring the invasive species doesn't spread to new waters puts into question both the temporary pump plan and permanent fix...

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## BOAT INSPECTION/DECON/TECH NEWS

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[Lake County California: Ramp monitors are first line of defense \(11/15/22\)](#)

The quagga mussel prevention program has been in existence nearly 10 and by all standards it has been a solid success. Despite Clear Lake having ideal conditions for the mussel to survive and grow, there is still no evidence of any quagga mussels residing in Clear Lake.

[Montana: The summer boating season is over and another AIS bullet has been dodged \(11/10/22\)](#)

...And that will put to rest for another boating season and the white-knuckle concern about the potential for infestation of zebra and/or quagga mussels in Flathead Lake, the Flathead River and Upper Columbia River basins that by linkage are part of the Columbia River Basin. The Columbia River Basin is the only river basin in the contiguous United States not infested by the invasive zebra and/or quagga mussels.

[Utah: Over 244,000 boats inspected for quagga mussels during 2022 boating season \(11/9/22\)](#)

Statewide, Aquatic Invasive Species technicians with the DWR, Utah State Parks, Arizona Game and Fish Department and the National Park Service have inspected 244,909 boats and performed 4,276 decontaminations since Jan. 1. Of those total numbers, 66,239 of the boat inspections and 933 of the decontaminations took place at stations in the Lake Powell area.

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## BALLAST WATER/BIOFOULING

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[USCG issues its 50th BWMS type approval \(11/14/22\)](#)

The US Coast Guard Marine Safety Center issued the 50th USCG BWMS Type Approval Certificate to AQUASTAR Co. after a detailed review of the manufacturer's type approval application determined the system met the requirements of 46 CFR 162.060.

The treatment principle of the AquaStar BWMS is based on filtration and electrolysis at intake and neutralization at discharge for salinities greater than 10 PSU. This approval covers eleven configurations with maximum treatment rated capacities between 200 and 5,000 m<sup>3</sup> /h.

Studivan, M.S., Baptist, M., Molina, V. et al. Transmission of stony coral tissue loss disease (SCTLD) in simulated ballast water confirms the potential for ship-born spread. Sci Rep 12, 19248 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-022-21868-z>

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## MARINE

### [Invasive crab population keeps booming in Washington \(11/28/22\)](#)

This year's record-smashing tally of the invasive species—248,000 caught as of Oct. 31—is more than twice the total caught last year along Washington shorelines.

2021 had seen a massive increase in the unwanted crabs, with 103,000 turning up in traps in the state.

That trend continued in 2022, with Willapa Bay on Washington's outer coast surpassing Lummi Bay on Puget Sound as a hotspot for the habitat-destroying, shellfish-crunching crabs.

Biologists say the growing haul reflects an increase in trapping efforts as well as booming numbers of crabs.

### [Invasive crab threatening shellfish industry, salmon found in another western Washington bay \(11/10/22\)](#)

The crabs have invaded the Lummi Indian reservation, Grays Harbor and Pacific counties the hardest, but now they're being found in Skagit County's Samish Bay. That's where a fishing crew from Taylor Shellfish is fishing for the crabs, but this "catch of the day" is something nobody wants. "It's pretty scary. That's my livelihood out there," said fisherman Andy Dewey. "A lot of jobs depend on this."

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## AQUACULTURE

### [Sea lice numbers not necessarily influenced by salmon farms: industry studies \(11/28/22\)](#)

No fish farms does not necessarily mean no sea lice, according to two aquaculture industry studies. The annual studies released by MOWI Canada and the Salmon Coast Field Station (SCFS) in October, suggest that no location, whether close to a salmon farm or not, has demonstrated consistent levels of sea lice prevalence in nearly a decade of sampling.

### [‘Writing on the wall’ for West Coast fish farms, conservationists say \(11/17/22\)](#)

Open net-pen fish farming on the Pacific coast took a one-two punch after operations closures were announced in both B.C. and Washington state this week... Wild salmon conservationists are celebrating both decisions, saying it's writing on the wall for open net-pen fish farms as well as a win for Indigenous rights and First Nations food security.

### [Leading US Seafood Industry Trade Groups Call for Independent Review of Washington DNR Decision \(11/16/22\)](#)

In response to the November 14 announcement that the State of Washington's Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will not renew the leases for Cooke Aquaculture Pacific's steelhead farms in Washington waters, three leading US trade groups—the Northwest Aquaculture Alliance (NWAA), National Fisheries Institute (NFI), and the National Aquaculture Association (NAA) are calling for an independent review of DNR's decision by one or more third parties such as the University of Washington School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences.

### [Alaska: Salmon hatchery operator agrees to pay \\$1 million for environmental violations \(11/16/22\)](#)

A salmon hatchery operator in Prince William Sound has agreed to pay a \$1 million fine for hazardous waste violations. Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation pled guilty to illegally burning fuel and waste at its hatcheries, which led to a worker being seriously injured. CoastAlaska's Angela Denning reports:

### [Global aquaculture deemed to be “in decline” \(11/15/22\)](#)

Aquaculture's growth rate peaked in 1996, and now it's in decline, according to a newly published paper by researchers from the University of British Columbia (UBC).

Sumaila UR, Pierruci A, Oyinlola MA, Cannas R, Froese R, Glaser S, Jacquet J, Kaiser BA, Issifu I, Micheli F, Naylor R and Pauly D (2022) Aquaculture over-optimism? Front. Mar. Sci. 9:984354. doi: [10.3389/fmars.2022.984354](https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2022.984354)

### [Washington: Commissioner Franz Cancels Leases for Remaining Net Pen Salmon Farms in Puget Sound \(11/14/22\)](#)

“Since the catastrophic Cypress Island net pen collapse in 2017, I have stood tall to defend the waters of Puget Sound,” said Commissioner of Public Lands Hilary Franz. “This effort began by terminating finfish net pen operations due to lease violations. Despite years of litigation – and a company that has fought us every step of the way – we are now able to deny lease renewals for the remaining net pen sites. Today, we are returning our waters to wild fish and natural habitat. Today, we are freeing Puget Sound of enclosed cages.”

Related:

### [Washington state ends commercial net pen aquaculture in Puget Sound \(11/15/22\)](#)

### [Future of B.C. salmon farms up in the air, as deadline to phase out open-net pen farms looms \(11/11/22\)](#)

A discussion framework put forward by the DFO leaves the door open for farms to remain in the water as it looks to "progressively minimize or eliminate interactions" between cultured and wild salmon.

Murray says they are looking to the industry to come up with innovative solutions, which potentially include semi-closed marine containment systems that reduce, but do not eliminate, interaction between wild and cultured salmon.

But some say the federal government's timeline is insufficient to come up with innovative, sustainable solutions — and to secure funding from investors to help implement those solutions.

[Aquaculture takes centre stage at UN climate conference \(11/10/22\)](#)

There is no prospect of maintaining the sustainability of the international seafood sector without shifting large amounts of fish production to aquaculture, says WWF, the world's leading conservation organization.

“We have now turned the corner that we have to farm the ocean to get the protein that we need,” says Merrielle Macleod, a director on the WWF-US Aquaculture team, as world leaders gathered in Egypt for this year's UN Climate Conference (COP27).

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## FISH

[Giant Goldfish Hybrid As Heavy As A 10-Year-Old Is A Reminder Not To Dump Your Pets \(11/22/22\)](#)

A record-breaking goldfish has been caught in Champagne, France, where an angler dragged a 30-kilogram (67-pound) specimen from BlueWater Lakes. The carp fishery released the behemoth, known as The Carrot, 20 years ago and it has since grown to be one of the largest in the world... The enormous size of The Carrot serves as a reminder not to release your pets into the wild, because as hardy fish, certain types of goldfish can grow to enormous sizes. Gigantic goldfish have been reported as a problem in parts of America where they upset the silt bed and rip up plants, and authorities believe pet owners are partly to blame.

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## AQUATIC PLANTS

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## FRESHWATER

[Oregon's sole native crayfish faces new invasive threat \(11/15/22\) \(also avail. as an audio file\)](#)

In May, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife received a tip that an unusual-looking crayfish was spotted in a creek around Lithia Park in Ashland. Biologists from the state agency laid out traps and confirmed the presence of Northern crayfish which are native to the Midwest. It marks the fourth invasive species of crayfish now found in Oregon waterways. Sampling conducted by ODFW scientists found that Northern crayfish had moved from the Ashland canal to Bear Creek near Medford, 15 miles away, and raised concerns that they could already be in the Rogue River. Rick Boatner is the invasive species coordinator for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. He shares with us how the aggressive crustaceans are proliferating in Southern Oregon and the threat they pose, not only to native Signal crayfish but also to endangered steelhead and salmon.



### [Seeing Pink: Norway Prepares For Salmon Invasion \(11/14/22\)](#)

Too many salmon returning from the ocean would perhaps be a welcome problem for fisheries managers along the West Coast of the US, where many stocks of Pacific salmon are dwindling. In contrast, an increasing abundance of non-native Pacific pink salmon (*Oncorhynchus gorbuscha*) in many rivers in Norway and elsewhere in Scandinavia is raising concerns among fishery managers about their impacts on native Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*), ocean-run brown trout (*Salmo trutta*), and anadromous arctic char (*Salvelinus alpinus*).

### [Snapping Back at Invasive Turtles \(10/22\)](#)

Bungum and Hendra are an elite pair of fellows through Montana Conservation Corps (MCC), an organization dedicated to inspiring young adults to become conservation leaders through hands-on experience. Based at the Flathead Lake Bio Station (FLBS), their sole purpose this summer is to find and destroy as many invasive snapping turtles as they can in the northeast portion of the Flathead Watershed. Armed by Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) with a hatchet and several vials of the anesthetic ketamine, the two have everything they need to make the kill. They just need to catch them first.

## CLIMATE CHANGE

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### [As California droughts intensify, ecosystems and rural communities will bear the brunt \(11/25/22\)](#)

Drought, human-caused climate change, invasive species and a “legacy” of environmental issues are permanently altering California’s landscape and placing some communities and ecosystems at increasing risk, a panel of experts told water officials recently.

## OTHER

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Simpson, Annie, Pam Fuller, Kevin Faccenda, Neal Evenhuis, Janis Matsunaga, and Matt Bowser, 2022, United States Register of Introduced and Invasive Species (US-RIIS) (ver. 2.0, November 2022): U.S. Geological Survey data release, <https://doi.org/10.5066/P9KFFTOD>  
Related: [Story Map for US-RIIS \(ver. 1.0, 2021\)](#)

### [Sen. Barrasso honored with NAISMA Special Recognition Award \(11/22/22\)](#)

On Nov. 9, Sen. John Barrasso was honored with a 2022 North American Invasive Species Management Association Special Recognition Award. According to NAISMA, this award goes to an organization or individual who, through a specific act or group of acts, helped amplify NAISMA’s mission... “We are very fortunate in Wyoming to have a senator who understands the issues related to invasive species and works tirelessly to address them,” said Slade Franklin, Weed and Pest coordinator for the Wyoming Department of Agriculture, who nominated Barrasso for the award.

### [Disease carried by cats, pigs kills 2 spinner dolphins in Hawaiian waters \(11/17/22\)](#)

Two spinner dolphins died from toxoplasmosis after becoming infected with the parasite *Toxoplasma gondii*, according to researchers at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Health and Stranding Lab. One dolphin was stranded on Hawai‘i Island in 2015 and the other on O‘ahu in 2019. Invasive species such as pigs, mongoose, chickens and cats harbor the parasite, but it is unclear which genotypes are most likely to infect wildlife species. [The findings were published in Diseases of Aquatic Organisms.](#)

### [Viral video reveals entire alligator inside Burmese python's stomach in Florida \(11/11/22\)](#)

An intact 5-foot long alligator has been found inside the stomach of Burmese python in Florida, scientists said. The 18-foot python was caught by workers in the Everglades National Park and euthanized on site... "The smell was horrendous," said the 26-year-old master free diver, who lives in Boca Raton.

### [Nebraska: And Now We Have Crabs \(11/9/22\)](#)

Am I suggesting that this urban waterbody is bound to be overrun with blue crabs? No, I doubt that any survive. However, I have been told that it is possible for those crabs to survive in freshwater! I am submitting that these activities threaten my fishing, your fishing! Sure, you can suggest that it will not hurt anything, suggest that it does not make any difference. It might not. However, I will tell you that is exactly how we have a host of invasive species we are now dealing with. The cavalier attitude is wrong and it is a threat to our resources, your resources, my resources!

### [Oregon’s legislative Emergency Board OKs funding to battle emerald ash borer \(11/9/22\)](#)

The Oregon Department of Agriculture has requested and received \$550,000 to fund efforts to combat the emerald ash borer, an invasive species of beetle that ODA officials say could devastate Oregon habitats.

## **OUTREACH AND EDUCATION**

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### [Video shows how biocontrol saved native Wiliwili trees in Hawai‘i from extinction \(11/17/22\)](#)

The video, produced by Hawai‘i’s Division of Forestry and Wildlife in collaboration with the Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species, shows how biocontrol worked for the Wiliwili trees and how biocontrol can continue to be an important tool in managing invasive species in the state.

### [High School Students Invited to Submit Invasive Species Art to Adorn New Trailer \(11/3/22\)](#)

The Washington Invasive Species Council (WISC) and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) invite high school-age artists to participate in an art contest that will help spread the word about not spreading invasive species. The art contest runs now through Dec. 31. Submissions are required to be in a digital art format, such as graphic designs, photographs, illustrations, cartoons, digital paintings and more. Submissions must include pictures or information on one or more species that could be, or has been, introduced into the area, such as

quagga and zebra mussels, European green crabs, Eurasian watermilfoil, northern pike, New Zealand mud snails and more.

## JOBS/GRANTS

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### JOBS

[WDFW: Aquatic Invasive Species \(AIS\) Unit Manager - WMS Band 3 - Permanent - \\*13128-22 FULL-TIME/PERMANENT AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES \(AIS\) UNIT MANAGER WMS BAND 3 Fish Program - AIS Unit](#)

Olympia Washington is the current duty station, however, depending on the successful candidate, other duty stations may be considered. **This recruitment is posted continuously and will remain open until a selection is made.** Application review will be ongoing, and therefore we encourage you to submit your application materials as soon as possible. The Hiring Manager reserves the right to close the posting at any time once a selection has been made.

Monitor and control nonnative aquatic animal species statewide to prevent their introduction and to manage established Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) populations.

Lead the statewide AIS Unit in formulating and administering Department policies and laws, developing, and implementing long-term strategies, and directing AIS Unit activities for statewide monitoring and control of AIS for conservation, recreational, and commercial purposes!

The scope includes AIS management of statewide freshwater resources (approximately 8,000 lakes and 70,000 miles of streams) and marine resources (approximately 3,500 miles of shoreline) across multiple state, federal, and tribal jurisdictions, and tribal co-management agreements.

[Great Lakes Commission Position Available: Senior Program Specialist](#)

Application deadline: **December 2, 2022**

#### Description

The Great Lakes Commission (GLC) has an immediate opening for a self-starting, highly motivated team player to join our staff. This position will work under the direction of GLC project managers, assisting with implementation of various projects and providing support to several issue-specific regional collaboratives coordinated by the GLC. This position particularly will support the GLC's portfolio of invasive species projects addressing a variety of invasive species issues relying heavily on regional coordination and collaboration to achieve desired outcomes. Over time this position may support projects focused on other Great Lakes issues, depending on agency needs.

[Montana AIS Area Supervisor-Southwest \(13874\) - \(22143848\)](#)

This position closes at 11:59 pm on December 7, 2022.

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

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

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

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

Regional AIS bureau liaison: AIS Area Supervisors serve as the primary regional contact on AIS issues in their region(s). This includes working closely with Department staff, tribes, conservation districts, National Parks, counties, cities, NGO's, user groups and the public to coordinate on AIS prevention, survey, and outreach activities.

AIS Outreach: Serves as the regional AIS outreach contact. Presents AIS information to partners in the supervisor's respective region. Coordinates outreach activities with the Com Ed Division. Delivers outreach information at local events and to interested user groups including partners with state, federal, tribal, county, NGO, and other user groups.

[Park Ranger \(Aquatic Nuisance Species Ranger\)](#)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

NPS Regions 6, 7 & 8

Closes 12/07/2022

Salary

\$36,118 - \$46,953 per year

Pay scale & grade

GS 5

Locations – Glen Canyon/Curecanti

31 vacancies

[Lead Wildlife Biologist](#)

Nexus Environmental Consultants is seeking an experienced Biological Lead for work in Northern Nevada. Duties would include, but not be limited to, assisting with Project management, conducting biological surveys, leading biological survey teams, and preparing technical documents. Other tasks may be included based on workload.

Work Duties

Managing and leading field teams for biological surveys and coordinating with State and Federal agencies.

Leading and conducting surveys for wildlife including, but not limited to, pygmy rabbits, western burrowing owl, migratory birds, raptors, springsnails, small mammals, acoustic bat surveys, greater sage-grouse lek surveys, etc.

Leading and conducting surveys for vegetation including, but not limited to, vegetation community mapping, noxious/invasive weed surveys, special status plant surveys, etc.

Leading and conducting surveys for water resources including, but not limited to, waters of the United States surveys, wetland delineations, collecting water quality samples, measuring seep and stream flow, documenting field parameters, and recording field conditions.

Preparing technical documents including, but not limited to, biological work plans, survey results reports, and biological specialist reports for NEPA documents.

#### [Montana Department of Natural Resources: Executive Director to manage the operations of both the Flathead Basin Commission and the Upper Columbia Conservation Commission](#)

The Executive Director is responsible for managing operations of both the FBC and UC3 as a direct report to the division administrator of CARDD. Leading two distinct Commissions, this position is responsible for forming and implementing each Commission's strategic and operational plans in cooperation with the respective Commission's elected chairperson and executive committee.

**Closing date: Dec 9, 2022**

#### [Wyoming Game and Fish - 4 Lead Aquatic Invasive Species \(AIS\) Technician-Statewide](#)

ATAW99-2022-04933

**Closing 12/27/2022**

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department is seeking to hire four (4) Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Crew Leads throughout the state. These 9-month positions will assist the Regional AIS specialists with implementing the state's aquatic invasive species program. The successful applicant will help oversee the daily operations of watercraft inspection stations located in Beulah, Evanston, Glendo, Newcastle, and/or Lusk.

#### [Idaho, Technician 3- Invasive Species, Post Falls, ID](#)

Full Time \$37,502.40 Annually. This position plans, organizes, and coordinates technical activities for multiple aquatic noxious weeds and invasive species projects and programs; estimates equipment, materials, and manpower; establishes schedules and priorities and evaluates equipment and materials for adequacy, availability, and serviceability. This position also serves as regional/department expert for multimedia sampling, maintenance, operation and calibration of scientific monitoring equipment for multiple media programs and projects; evaluate permits for monitoring requirements; perform data research and analysis; perform related work. Closing 1/31/2023.

## GRANTS

The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office, on behalf of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, is soliciting proposals for interagency agreement funding to support response to the ongoing [European green crab emergency](#). Please visit <https://rco.wa.gov/about-us/employment-and-contracts/> for more information about the available funding for public agencies. **(rolling deadline until funds fully allocated)**

For more information on European green crab and the state response, please visit <https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/invasive/carcinus-maenas> and <https://wdfw.wa.gov/news/emergency-measures-deployed-control-invasive-european-green-crabs-washington-waters>

USDA-FS-BIL-R9-INVASIVES-STATE-CAPACITY [Related Opportunities]  
[R9 BIL State Capacity Program for Invasive Species \(Non-Federal Lands\)](#)  
[Department of Agriculture](#)

Forest Service

**Closes 12/16/22**

States need to build and maintain capacity around invasive species work to accomplish the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's (BIL) broader ecosystem restoration objective and the invasive species provision. For example, funds may be used to conduct forest health management, including detection surveys, monitoring, evaluation, prevention, and suppression of insect, disease, and invasive plant outbreaks on non-Federal lands to strategically sustain the health of forest ecosystems or tree species with high ecological value.

USDA-FS-BIL-R9-INVASIVES-PROJECTS [Related Opportunities]  
[R9 BIL High-Priority Regional Invasive Species Projects \(Non-Federal Lands\)](#)  
[Department of Agriculture](#)

Forest Service

**Closes 2/3/23**

As part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's (BIL) broader ecosystem restoration objective, the non-federal lands portion of the invasive species provision enables the USDA-Forest Service, States, and other agencies to strategically sustain the health of forest ecosystems or tree species with high ecological value by taking stronger action in the early phases of the invasion curve at regional or sub-regional scales and at points of entry. Specifically, we aim to work collaboratively to scale-up the implementation of management actions in the field for the prevention of introductions or spread, prevention of damage, early detection of introductions, rapid response and eradication of invasive forest insects, worms, pathogens, and plants. It is expected that new projects will be complementary to existing cooperative and federal forest health protection programs and will sustain high value forest ecosystems or tree species (see, e.g., multi-state priority areas identified in State Forest Action Plans (SFAPs) or Northeast-Midwest State Foresters Alliance, Forest Health Committee (NMSFA FHC) 2021 priority needs document).

## FEDERAL/STATE/PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION, RULES, ACTIONS

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### Advocacy:

#### State/Province

##### [Minnesota: DNR proposes classifying 13 invasive plants, animals as prohibited to protect Minnesota's resources and economy \(11/10/22\)](#)

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is accepting public comment through Dec. 9 on its proposal to classify 13 high-risk invasive aquatic plants, fish and invertebrates as prohibited. The DNR classifies invasive species as prohibited to prevent introduction and spread in Minnesota and to protect the state's environment, economy, natural resources and outdoor recreation.

More information on these species can be found on the AIS Classification page of the DNR website ([mndnr.gov/Invasives/AIS/Classification.html](http://mndnr.gov/Invasives/AIS/Classification.html)).

##### [Montana: Officials consider consolidating invasive species commissions \(11/11/22\)](#)

State officials are considering consolidating the Flathead Basin Commission and Upper Columbia Conservation Commission as part of Gov. Greg Gianforte's campaign to trim bureaucracy, but critics worry it will water down the groups' efforts.

### Executive

##### [Summarizing the Major Management and Performance Challenges Facing the U.S. Department of the Interior Fiscal Year 2022 Inspector General's statement \(11/2022\)](#)

With the influx of Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding, the DOI will face challenges ensuring it can promptly deploy the funding, maintain staffing and resource capacity, produce reliable information, and establish appropriate program controls

##### [DOI: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Supports Ecosystem Restoration \(11/2022\)](#)

President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law [AKA Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), [HR 3684](#), [Public Law 117-58](#)] is a major investment in the conservation and stewardship of America's public lands that will lead to better outdoor spaces and habitats for people and wildlife for generations to come. The law's \$1.4 billion for Ecosystem Restoration and Resilience is a significant down payment in protecting our shared natural heritage. With these resources, the Department of the Interior is collaborating with states, Tribes and local communities to invest millions of dollars annually to restore habitat connectivity for aquatic species around the country and advance habitat restoration, invasive species control, conservation of at-risk and listed species and benefits to several significant ecosystems. Across the country, ecosystem restoration projects funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will advance healthy forests, detect and eradicate invasive species, invest in National Seed

Strategy collection and production, restore recreation sites and National Parks and mitigate hazards on Mined Lands.

**Also See:** Investing in America’s Infrastructure [priority page](#) (11/15/22).

Invasive species projects are as follows:

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law – Ecosystem Restoration Activity	Project Title	Location	Project Sponsor	Fiscal Year 2022 Project Cost
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Supporting Inter-Bureau Endemic Species Extinction Prevention Efforts: Novel Eradication Techniques for Invasive Mosquitoes	HI	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)	\$1,000,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Improving Identification and Detection of Invasive Species in Western Watersheds	WA, OR, ID, MT	Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation)	\$15,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Eradicating Invasive Plants to Maintain Species Habitat and Increase Channel Capacity Along the Platte River	NE	Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation)	\$785,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Increasing Westwide Detection of Invasive Species Through Additional Environmental DNA Collection and Analysis	WA, OR, ID, MT, CA, NV, AZ, NM, CO, UT, WY, ND, SD, KS, NE, OK, TX	Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation)	\$150,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Increasing Reclamation's Biocontrol Efforts to Support Invasive Plant Eradication Efforts	WA, OR, ID, MT, CA, NV, AZ, NM, CO, UT, WY, ND, SD, KS, NE, OK, TX	Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation)	\$50,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Supporting Inter-Bureau Endemic Species Extinction Prevention Efforts: Vector Management for Invasive Mosquitoes	HI	U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)	\$592,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Developing the Departmental Molecular-Based Early Detection Architecture to Support a National Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) Framework	National-scale	U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)	\$2,500,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Developing a National Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) Information System to Support a National EDRR Framework	National-scale	U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)	\$550,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Conducting Horizon Scans and Hotspot Analysis for Invasive Species in Various Priority Environments to Support a National Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) Framework	National-scale	U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)	\$750,000



Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Adding Terrestrial Invasive Plant Forecasting, Monitoring, and Data Visualization Capabilities to INHABIT- a Web Based Decision Support Tool - to Support a National Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) Framework	National scale	U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)	\$200,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Eradicating Invasive Plants to Protect Desert Springs at Mojave Springs in California	CA	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	\$100,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Eradicating Invasive Plants to Support Prairie Restoration in Four Areas of Critical Environmental Concern in Oregon	OR	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	\$70,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Eradicating Invasive Plants Using Integrated Pest Management to Conserve the West Eugene Wetlands in Western Oregon	OR	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	\$25,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Increasing the BIA Invasive Species Award Program to Support Tribal Projects Implementing Prevention, Early Detection-Rapid Response, and Eradication	Tribal	Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)	\$825,185
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Supporting Inter-Bureau Endemic Species Extinction Prevention Efforts: Novel Eradication Techniques for Invasive Mosquitoes at Haleakala National Park	HI	National Park Service (NPS)	\$6,000,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Eradicating Invasive Plants to Support Native Species in the Kings Range Conservation Area in California	CA	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	\$80,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Supporting the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society to Build Tribal Capacity for Invasive Species Management, Including Early Detection-Rapid Response, Prevention, and Eradication	Tribal	Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)	\$800,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Eradicating Invasive Plants to Promote Habitat Restoration in the San Felipe Creek Watershed in California	CA	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	\$100,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Eradicating Invasive Plants to Support Desert Riparian Restoration	CA	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	\$100,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Eradicating Invasive Plants in White Water Canyon to Support Restoration in Sand to Snow National Monument in California	CA	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	\$50,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Eradicating Invasive Plants to Maintain Wilderness Character in Montana	MT	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	\$30,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Detecting and Eradicating Invasive Plants That Remain After Blair Fire Rehabilitation in Idaho	ID	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	\$53,000

Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Eradicating Invasive Plants Remaining After Pony Fire Burned Area Rehabilitation in Idaho	ID	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	\$85,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Eradicating Invasive Plants Remaining After Burned Area Rehabilitation in Western Idaho	ID	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	\$75,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Eradicating Tamarisk to Improve Riparian Habitats in Western Colorado	CO	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	\$42,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Eradicating Invasive Plants to Improve Riparian Habitats in McElmo Creek and Yellow Jacket Creek in Colorado	CO	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	\$25,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Eradicating Invasive Plants to restore Dolores River Desert Riparian Systems in Colorado	CO	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	\$85,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Eradicating Invasive and Noxious Plants in Riparian and Upland Habitats in Iron and Beaver Counties in Utah	UT	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	\$50,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Eradicating Invasive Species to Improve Habitat in Las Cienegas National Conservation Area in Arizona	AZ	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	\$30,000
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Preventing the Introduction and Spread of Invasive Species Through Strategic Landscape-Level Approaches	National scale	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)	\$1,852,550
Activity 6 (Invasive Species)	Invasive Species Detection, Prevention, and Eradication	TBD	Office of Insular Affairs (OIA)	\$900,000

### [Congressional](#)

[Op/Ed: Urge US senators to pass RAWA, save wildlife species near extinction in Indiana \(11/25/22\)](#)

What is happening here in Indiana is part of a larger national trend where more than one-third of America’s wildlife are edging toward extinction. Fortunately, we have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to help save Indiana’s incredibly rich biodiversity through a bipartisan bill in Congress called the Recovering America’s Wildlife Act (RAWA). The bill is designed to fund proactive, collaborative and locally led efforts to help recover at-risk fish, wildlife and plant species. Indiana could receive more than \$18 million annually. It’s a solution that matches the magnitude of the wildlife crisis.

**National Defense Authorization Act Update**

National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) ([H.R. 7900](#), substitute amendment, [S.A. 5499](#)) is still sitting in the lame duck congress awaiting action. The NDAA includes the Water Resources Development Act ([S.4136/H.R.7776](#)) reauthorization, also includes the Senate version of the Coast Guard Authorization Act ([S.4802](#)), reauthorizes and amends the Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Reauthorization Act ([H.R. 241](#)), and establishes a new National Ocean Mapping, Exploration and Characterization Council that would be assigned to support more mapping of the ocean floor and sea exploration.

According to [E&E Daily](#) (11/28/22):

Congress is also looking to wrap up negotiations on the fiscal 2023 defense authorization bill, which is expected to carry a host of energy and environment priorities, including a water projects package ([E&E Daily](#), Oct. 19). The Senate decided against passing its own version of the bill earlier this month. Instead, lawmakers said they would negotiate an unofficial conference agreement for both chambers to pass before Christmas. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Chair Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.) has been eyeing the National Defense Authorization Act to carry permitting reform proposals. But House and Senate Armed Services committee leaders have downplayed the prospect, and progressives remain opposed ([Greenwire](#), Nov. 21).

## APPROPRIATIONS

[McConnell says there's 'widespread agreement' among leaders on need for omnibus \(11/29/22\)](#)  
Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) announced Tuesday that there is “widespread agreement” among leaders in Washington about the need to pass an omnibus spending package next month, despite calls from conservatives to punt such decisions into next year. But the GOP leader cautioned there are “significant hurdles” to reaching a deal, which means talks could drag right up until Christmas to avoid a government shutdown... McConnell and McCarthy agreeing on the need to pass an omnibus spending bill instead of a stopgap spending measure or continuing resolution that would freeze federal funding until next year is a significant development.

**NOW WHAT:** According to [E&E Daily](#) (11/29/22)

Ultimately, a failure to pass an omnibus before the end of 2022 would also be a death knell for myriad separate bills lawmakers have been hammering out on the side over the last two years, which they'd hoped to attach to a year-end package. A bipartisan congressional coalition has, for instance, been seeking to pass the “[Recovering America's Wilderness Act](#)” — [H.R. 2773](#) and [S. 2372](#) — in an omnibus if they can work out the final details on an offset. There is also a desire to pass, through an omnibus, a “lands package” of bills establishing new public land designations and protections, which have either been reported out individually through committees throughout the last two years or passed one chamber but not the other. Shelby, however, cautioned against putting too many riders in an omnibus. “The cleaner the bill is, the better chance of it passing,” he

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

## TRAININGS, WEBINARS, CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

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### Archived Materials

### Events: Webinars, Trainings, Conferences and Meetings

## **Watercraft Inspection Training**

### **Virtual**

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)  
3 classes available in 2023  
<https://www.westernais.org/level-2>

WIT or Level 3 – Trainer Training  
<https://www.westernais.org/level-3>  
3 classes available in 2023 – (3 days- 9 am – 4pm PST)

### **In-Person**

May 2-4 – N. Dakota

Classes do fill up quickly and registrations will close, so if you are planning to attend or send students, it is recommended to get registrations in soon.

For more information go to <https://www.westernais.org/> (under the “Training” tab)  
or contact  
Quagga D @ (702)236-3814 or [quaggadee@cox.net](mailto:quaggadee@cox.net)

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

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## [DOI Invasive Species Training Opportunities Spreadsheet](#)

### [PNW IPC Citizen Science Trainings](#)

#### December

NAISMA Webinar: December 1, 2022 @ 11:00 am – 3:00 pm CDT  
[Experiences in Implementation of Weed Biocontrol within Integrated Weed Management Programs in North America](#)

[100th Meridian Initiative Columbia River Basin Team](#); scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, December 6 & 7, 2022 in Spokane, WA at DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Spokane City Center. Virtual and in person options. [Both options require registration. Please Register By November 13, 2022.](#)

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

[2022 Innovations in Invasive Species Management Conference](#)  
Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center in Nashville, TN  
December 13th-16th, 2022  
Primary meeting dates will be December 14th and 15<sup>th</sup>

[Washington Invasive Species Council Meeting](#)  
December 15, 2022 Olympia, WA; Natural Resources Building, Room 172

NAISMA: December 21, 2022 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm CST - [Understanding ISPM 15 to Reduce the Risk of Pests in Wood Packaging](#)

#### January

[Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force National Meeting](#) January 11 – 12, 2023; Falls Church, Virginia with Virtual Option

## February

The virtual [Invasive Species Forum](#) is an annual event that brings attention to invasive species issues, research, and advances in prevention and management occurring across Canada, and in neighbouring U.S. States. Mark your calendars for the 2023 Invasive Species Forum, taking place from February 7 to 9.

## March

## April

[Urban Ecosystem Research Consortium \(UERC\) 2023 Symposium](#) The UERC symposium will be on TUESDAY April 4, 2023, and it will be IN PERSON at Portland State University, Portland OR

## May

[11th International Conference on Marine Bioinvasions](#) May 15 – 19, 2023; Baltimore, Maryland

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