



Aquatic Invasive Species News

July 2, 2024

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RECOMMENDED READING:

[Snake River Quagga Mussel Update Idaho State Department of Agriculture June 20, 2024](#)

Monitoring the Mid-Snake River for quagga mussel larvae will be an on-going effort and priority of the ISDA. River conditions have allowed for ISDA to begin monitoring however, it is important to acknowledge that determining the efficacy of the treatment will require years of monitoring.

The initial quagga mussel sample results from the infested area have been negative for viable quagga mussel(s).

While initial sample results are negative for viable quagga mussels, continuous sampling efforts will be critical in determining efficacy of last fall's treatment. Not detecting viable quagga mussels via sampling is a good sign, though samples this early on in the season do not definitively determine the presence of quagga mussels. To accurately define the scope of the infestation, ISDA will continue to closely monitor the Mid-Snake River for years to come. As a reminder, multiple veliger samples were conducted throughout the 2023 season prior to veligers being detected late in the 2023 season.

The ISDA is prepared to double quagga mussel sampling efforts across Idaho this season, with an emphasis on the Mid-Snake River. Learn more about ISDA's Early Detection Monitoring Program here: <https://invasivespecies.idaho.gov/edrr-monitoring>

PUBLIC COMMENT

[USCG: Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements to Document Environmental Compliance on Certain Commercial Vessels Request for Information \(6/7/24\)](#)

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The Coast Guard seeks information about the recordkeeping and reporting procedures required under the Coast Guard ballast water regulations issued in 2012 and 2015 and the monitoring, recordkeeping, and reporting required under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 2013 Vessel General Permit (VGP). The Coast Guard plans to use this information to evaluate new and updated solutions that inform data-driven policymaking, reduce the reporting and record-keeping burden on industry, and confirm environmental compliance.

We encourage you to submit comments through the Federal Decision-Making Portal at www.regulations.gov. To do so, go to www.regulations.gov, type **USCG-2024-0046** in the search box and click “Search.” Next, look for this document in the Search Results column, and click on it. Then click on the Comment option. If your material cannot be submitted using www.regulations.gov, contact the person in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this document for alternate instructions.

Public comments will be placed in our online docket at www.regulations.gov and can be viewed by following that website's instructions, provided on its Frequently Asked Questions page. We review all comments received, but we will only post comments that address the topic of this request for information. We may choose not to post off-topic, inappropriate, or duplicate comments that we receive. **Comment Due Date: July 22, 2024**

NEW SPECIES & SIGHTINGS

Want to get more new species alerts?

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

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

Dreissenids:

[Oklahoma] [Invasive Zebra Mussels Detected In Fort Supply Lake \(6/25/24\)](#) Invasive zebra mussels have been detected for the first time in Fort Supply Lake in Woodward County, according to the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. The mussels were discovered by ODWC fisheries biologists during recent sampling efforts. The presence of zebra mussel veligers, or offspring, confirms that the lake is now host to the invasive aquatic species.

Other:

[California]

[Platysternon megacephalum \(Big-headed Turtle\)](#) was found at a private residence in Orange County, C. Introduction presumed failed. [[USGS NAS](#)]

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[Craspedacusta sowerbii \(freshwater jellyfish\)](#) was found in Concow Creek, below the dam
[USGS NAS]

[Montana] [Northern Pike Detected In Bull River \(6/13/24\)](#) Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks is asking anglers to report any northern pike caught or observed in the Bull River in Sanders County following the first confirmed detection of the predacious non-native fish. FWP recently received a report from an angler who observed a pike in the river south of Bull Lake near Noxon. Fisheries biologists confirmed the observation by catching and removing the fish. The presence of pike in the river is believed to be the result of an illegal introduction.

[Washington] [Melanoides tuberculata \(red-rim melania\)](#) was found in Franklin D. Roosevelt Lake at Cottonwood Creek [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.

[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

[Clear Lake, Riding Mountain National Park, Canada: Monitoring and Sampling Update](#)
As of June 10, 2024, 26 water samples taken from high-priority areas in Clear Lake have tested negative for zebra mussel environmental DNA (eDNA). Currently, areas of focus are near Boat

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Cove and the area around the pier and the Clear Lake Marina. Water samples continue to be analyzed in Winnipeg by Fisheries and Oceans Canada on a priority basis. The likelihood of detecting zebra mussels increases as the water temperature warms.

Related: [Temporary Watercraft Management Measures for Clear Lake in Riding Mountain National Park \(5/9/24\)](#)

[Invasive freshwater mussel monitoring to ramp up in WA waters \(6/27/24\)](#) Beginning July 1, \$3.62 million in additional funding from the Washington State Legislature and federal partners will allow the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to increase monitoring, the watercraft inspection program, and other prevention and rapid response efforts.

[Officials ask for public's help in keeping Quagga Mussels out of the Boise River \(6/28/24\)](#) As float season opens on the Boise River, officials are asking for the public's help in stopping the spread of quagga mussels.

[Idaho implements new measures to combat invasive species \(7/1/24\)](#) The Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) announced that starting July 1, new laws will take effect to combat aquatic invasive species. Changes to law include mandatory inspection and decontamination for out of state watercraft, requirements for removing drain plugs and opportunities for local watercraft inspection stations.

BOAT INSPECTION/DECON

[WGFD boat inspectors intercept aquatic invasive species \(6/20/24\)](#) Watercraft inspection stations across the state have opened for the boating season, and some have already intercepted boats harboring invasive mussels. According to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD), four watercraft were inspected with aquatic invasive species (AIS); two of which traveled through the Interstate-80 Evanston check station.

[Owners of non-motorized watercraft in Utah required to train on quagga mussel prevention \(6/21/24\)](#) Before you launch your boat in Utah this summer, a new law requires you to take an online training course about the prevention of quagga mussels.

[Wyoming expects long game in AIS fight \(6/27/24\)](#) Private after-hours inspectors fill the gap at nights and weekends

BALLAST WATER/BIOFOULING

[DNV: New IMO guidance for ballast water quality management \(6/19/24\)](#) In response to the latest developments from the International Maritime Organization (IMO), DNV has published

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essential updates regarding ballast water management practices for ships navigating challenging water quality conditions.

[Great Lakes legislative clash \(6/24/24\)](#) Invasive species threaten the Great Lakes, but Canada and the USA are on different ballast water treatment regulation pathways

MARINE

[Experts urge people to fish and eat crab species invading coastlines and wreaking havoc \(6/19/24\)](#) The strategy of turning invasive species into sustenance is common, it's been implemented to deal with everything from weeds to lionfish.

GREEN (5-SPINED) CRAB

[Invasive European green crabs are expanding their territory in Southeast Alaska \(6/17/24\)](#) The discovery of more molted shells on Gravina Island recently, a few miles across Nichols Passage from Metlakatla, marks the first time the crabs have been documented outside of the Annette Island reserve.

AQUACULTURE

[US voters support research-led aquaculture expansion, says green group \(6/17/23\)](#) More than three-quarters of people who took part in a poll of United States voters support researching the expansion of open ocean aquaculture off the US coast, non-profit organisation the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) has announced.

[Responsible, Realistic, and Achievable: The Government of Canada announces transition from open net-pen salmon aquaculture in coastal British Columbia \(6/19/24\)](#) Wild Pacific salmon are an emblematic species in British Columbia that face unprecedented threats to their survival. The Government of Canada is committed to protecting wild salmon and promoting more sustainable aquaculture practices. Today, the Honourable Diane LeBouthillier, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, announced that the Government of Canada will ban open net-pen salmon aquaculture in British Columbia coastal waters by June 30, 2029.

Related: [William Shatner delivers foul-mouthed message to Canada's netpen salmon farmers \(6/21/24\)](#)

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FRESHWATER

[Lake Tahoe receives \\$3.4 million to help tackle invasive species \(6/25/24\)](#) In early June, the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California received \$3.4 million. The money is part of a 5-year grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to improve the health of Lake Tahoe.

[Invasive species: Could turtles with 'snorkel-like' nostrils spread in Metro Vancouver, CA? \(6/28/24\)](#) Several invasive turtles have been spotted in Vancouver's largest urban park, but one stands apart for its distinctive snout.

FISH

[Spearfishing and bait use for smallmouth bass allowed on Coquille River system \(6/25/24\)](#) Spearfishing for bass is allowed on the Coquille River through Oct. 31 - With a declining population of wild fall Chinook salmon, these rules are meant to give anglers another opportunity to remove smallmouth bass from the Coquille River system. Smallmouth bass preying on migrating wild juvenile fall Chinook salmon are the main reason for that population's decline.

Bajer, P.G., Hirt, M.V., Swanson, C.P. et al. Semi-automated system for capturing and removing invasive carp during seasonal migrations. *Biol Invasions* 26, 2005–2014 (2024).
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-024-03308-3>

Wallin Kihlberg, I., Florin, AB., Efstathiadis, I. et al. Indications of reproductive disturbance by the invasive round goby on a native salmonid. *Biol Invasions* 26, 2203–2215 (2024).
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-024-03305-6>

Garvey, J.E., Irons, K.S., Behnfeldt, G. and Kwasek, K.A. (2024), Introducing Copi as a Positive Path Toward Combatting Invasive Carps in North America. *Fisheries*, 49: 253-262.
<https://doi.org/10.1002/fsh.11088>

Quinn, T. P., Epifanio, J., Moyle, P. B., Gregory, S., Hasselman, D. J., Merrill, E., ... Wainwright, T. C. (2024). Ecological Interactions Between Non-Native American Shad and Pacific Salmon: The Columbia River Case Study. *Reviews in Fisheries Science & Aquaculture*, 32(3), 435–449. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23308249.2024.2337434>

AQUATIC PLANTS

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[USACE to treat Lake Wallula for invasive aquatic plant \(6/26/24\)](#) The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District, will apply herbicide to Lake Wallula this summer to control the invasive aquatic species plant flowering rush. USACE will perform up to five separate five-acre treatments beginning July 15 through 19. If necessary, treatments may continue through September 1.

CLIMATE CHANGE

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

OTHER

[How Can Invasive Species Redefine Food? \(6/18/24\) \[video\]](#) Invasive species can have major impacts on habitats and ecosystems, but how do they redefine the food we eat? Whether it is whiskey made with green crabs or sausage made from feral hogs, invasive species are making their way into kitchens across the country.

[Invasive Species Expanding Their Ranges 100x Faster Than Native Species, Study Finds \(6/25/24\)](#) In general, invasive species are spreading 100 times faster than native plants and animals, and even some that seem more sedentary are moving at least three times faster than native species, according to the [study, published in the journal Annual Reviews of Ecology, Evolution and Systematics](#).

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 on the West Coast? Begin your job search and application process by searching for [specific jobs at PSMFC](#)*

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Jobs

The State of Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is seeking applicants for a [Ballast Water and Biofouling Section Biologist \[Fish and Wildlife Biologist 3\]](#) (Full Time – Permanent, Salary: \$5,088 - \$6,838 Monthly) position based in Olympia, Washington. This recruitment is posted until July 21, 2024. This recruitment is **open until July 21**, and the first review of applicants will take place the week of July 1. Application review will be ongoing, and therefore we encourage you to submit your application materials as soon as possible.

The East Kootenay Invasive Species Council Job Opportunities:

- Field Operations Coordinator - The Field Operations Coordinator leads fieldwork to manage invasive species in the Regional District of East Kootenay, focusing on species identification, management, and restoration. They are the boots on the ground, running EKISC's internal field crew. They develop work plans, supervise field staff, conduct treatments, and assist with management plans, grant applications, and reporting. Closing date: open until position is filled [we will conduct interviews on a continuous basis] Position start date: July 29, 2024
- Field Operations Manager - The Field Operations Manager oversees field operations, focusing on planning, project management, and data collection related to invasive species management. They work with contractors, field crews, and the Program Director to manage projects, conduct field research, and maintain relationships with stakeholders, while also handling financial tracking and reporting. Closing date: open until position is filled [we will conduct interviews on a continuous basis] Position start date: July 29, 2024
- Education + Outreach Coordinator - The Education and Outreach Coordinator is a KEY role at EKISC. You'll coordinate educational initiatives and raise public awareness about the harm caused by invasive species in East Kootenay. You'll develop educational plans, lead a small team, and represent EKISC at events and outreach booths. Collaborating with the Communications Manager, you'll shape social media content and resources to foster change. Closing date: open until position is filled [we will conduct interviews on a continuous basis] Position start date: July 29, 2024

Invasive Species Program Support Specialist

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

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

Application Deadline: **open until filled**

Location: Sheridan, WY 82801, USA

Description

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

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

Wyoming Game & Fish Department Multiple openings:

- [3 Aquatic Invasive Species \(AIS\) Specialist-Statewide](#) These regional positions implement the AIS program to protect the state's aquatic resources and infrastructure from the introduction of AIS.

P2IP Project Manager:

The Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUT) are in the process of reintroducing salmon to areas located upstream of Chief Joseph, Grand Coulee, and Spokane River dams. The Coeur d'Alene Tribe (CDAT), Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (CTCR), Spokane Tribe of Indians (STI), and their consortium UCUT, are the leaders in returning anadromous fish to historically occupied habitats above these barriers. Collectively, they and their partners are implementing a 21-year plan to design, install, and test fish passage facilities and salmon reintroduction strategies. This plan is titled the Phase 2 Implementation Plan, or "P2IP." The UCUT organization and its member tribes have garnered policy support and secured funding for P2IP activities and are now seeking a project manager that can help keep P2IP implementation organized and focused.

The P2IP Project Manager will be responsible for administrative support to the UCUT organization. The position will report to the UCUT Policy Analyst and be expected to work closely with P2IP experts at three of the five UCUT tribes. This position will include six tasks: 1) project planning and initiation; 2) execution and coordination involving the UCUT organization, the member tribes, and regional partners; 3) risk management and issue resolution; 4) stakeholder coordination and communication; 5) project-specific budget tracking; and 6) project closure.

The position will remain open until filled. Applications will be reviewed in the order received starting July 12, 2024. Interested candidates are encouraged to submit their applications promptly.

Grants

Rapid Response Fund for Aquatic Invasive Species

Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

This Notice of Funding Opportunity requests proposals for projects that support efforts to plan a response or deploy response measures to a new detection of a potentially invasive species.

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Response efforts must target an aquatic invasive species, defined as non-native plants or animals that reside in fresh, wetland, estuarine, or marine waters.

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

[U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service \(USFWS\) Invasive Species Eradication Funding Opportunity](#)

Requesting proposals that support the eradication of a newly introduced or established invasive species in terrestrial or aquatic habitats of the United States, including the U.S. territories (aquatic habitats include freshwater, wetland, riparian, estuarine, and marine environments). While preference will be given to proposals that result in eradication of invasive species, research proposals that advance the effectiveness and availability of eradication tools will be considered.

As part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law authorization for ecosystem restoration, the Department of the Interior (DOI) invested \$3 million to establish an Invasive Species Eradication Funding Opportunity. It is administered within the existing authorities of DOI and administered by the USFWS in collaboration with DOI bureaus. The intent of this funding opportunity is to promote and invest in those projects with a high likelihood of achieving eradication success and that have existing partnerships and plans in place.

Please note that projects responding to founding populations of aquatic invasive species within the early detection and rapid response context should instead apply for funding through the [Rapid Response Fund for Aquatic Invasive Species](#). Projects addressing established aquatic invasive species infestations with a high likelihood of eradication can apply for this Eradication Funding Opportunity.

General information about the funding for invasive species eradication can be found [HERE](#). Additional questions may be directed to myself at jarrad_kosa@fws.gov.

The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office, on behalf of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, is soliciting proposals for interagency agreement funding to support the 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

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Advocacy

Legal

[Supreme Court takes sledgehammer to federal agency power in Chevron case \(6/28/24\)](#)

The challenge to Chevron before the court came through two separate but similar cases where herring fishermen challenged a rule requiring companies to pay for federal monitors onboard their vessel.

State/Provincial

[HI Governor's intent-to-veto list includes invasive species and biosecurity bills \(6/26/24\)](#)

The \$20 million “landmark” biosecurity bill to tackle invasive species in Hawai‘i could get cut in half. [House Bill 2619](#) was applauded by lawmakers, farming and conservation advocates, and even Gov. Josh Green for prioritizing invasive species. The measure’s passage comes as coconut rhinoceros beetles, little fire ants, coqui frogs and other pest species are rapidly spreading within the state. But, the bill is one of 17 that Green last week put on his intent-to-veto list, saying that he supports the efforts but has concerns about the funding amount.

Federal: Executive

[EPA advances rule on ballast water pollution \(6/20/24\)](#) A final rule to curb pathogens and invasive species from commercial vessels is now under White House review.

['Big win': Construction can start on project to block invasive carp from Great Lakes \(7/1/24\)](#)

Construction can start on a long-awaited project designed to block invasive carp from reaching the Great Lakes after Illinois signed on to an agreement with Michigan and the federal government. The Brandon Road Interbasin Project will cost upwards of \$1 billion, with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers funding 90% of the project and the rest split between Michigan and Illinois.

[A Profile of the 2023 Federal Workforce \(7/1/24\)](#)

Between fiscal 2019 and 2023, the federal workforce grew by more than 140,000 employees, a change of over 7%. The federal government’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic was likely a factor behind the increase in the federal workforce from 2020 to 2023, as some agencies [rapidly](#) hired employees to manage the public health and economic emergency.

The largest increase occurred in 2023, with an addition of over 80,000 federal employees, pushing the size of the full-time, permanent federal workforce to over 2 million employees. The growth was partly due to major federal investments such as the [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#). The significant increase in federal funding led to a surge in targeted hiring for key positions, including scientists, engineers, construction managers and clean water experts across several major agencies to manage the influx of funds and the complexity of new infrastructure projects. Changes in federal policies and priorities can impact the size of the federal workforce.

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Federal: Congressional

[Committee Approves Bipartisan Water Resources Development Act \(6/26/24\)](#)

The Transportation and Infrastructure Committee today approved the Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (WRDA) [[H.R. 8812](#)], legislation that authorizes the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Civil Works Program for projects to improve the nation's ports and harbors, inland waterway navigation, flood and storm protection, and other aspects of our water resources infrastructure.

AIS related items include:

SEC. 302. GENERAL REAUTHORIZATIONS.

(f) Asian carp prevention and control pilot program.—Section 509(a) of the Water Resources Development Act of 2020 ([33 U.S.C. 610](#) note) is amended—

- (1) in paragraph (2)(C)(ii), by striking “2024” and inserting “2030”; and
- (2) in paragraph (7), by striking “2 years thereafter” and inserting “2 years after the date of enactment of the Water Resources Development Act of 2024”.

SEC. 135. CONTROL OF AQUATIC PLANT GROWTHS AND INVASIVE SPECIES

Section 104 of the River and Harbor Act of 1958 (33 U.S.C. 610) is amended--

- (1) in subsection (e)(3), by inserting “, and monitoring and contingency planning for,” after “early detection of”; and
- (2) in subsection (g)(2)(A), by inserting “the Connecticut River Basin,” after “the Ohio River Basin,”.

SEC. 131. ABILITY TO PAY.

(c) Priority Projects. --The Secretary shall make a determination under section 103(m) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, as amended by this section, of the ability to pay of the non-Federal interest for the following projects:

- (1) Any authorized water resources development project for which the Secretary waives the cost-sharing requirement under section 1156 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (33 U.S.C. 2310).
- (2) Any authorized watercraft inspection and decontamination station established, operated, or maintained pursuant to section 104(d) of the River and Harbor Act of 1958 (33 U.S.C. 610(d)).

NOW WHAT: H.R. 8812. Requires non-federal partners to petition the Corps for a change to the APC WID Watercraft Inspection/Monitoring/Rapid Response cost-share program. The Senate WRDA bill [S.4367](#) (See [5/29/24 AIS News](#)) does not contain the “Ability to Pay” language and simply changes the cost share 50/50 formula for watercraft inspection and rapid response to 65 Federal-35 nonfederal. **Stay tuned!!**

[Letter Signed by 250 Outdoor Businesses and Organizations Calls on Senate to Pass EXPLORE Act \(6/16/24\)](#)

WASHINGTON – Hundreds of national and local businesses and organizations spanning the entire \$1.1 trillion outdoor recreation economy are calling on the Senate to pass the Expanding Public Lands Outdoor Recreation Experiences (EXPLORE) Act [[H.R.6492](#)], this bipartisan legislation would increase access and transform outdoor recreation opportunities across the country for all activities and all Americans. The EXPLORE Act [passed the House in April](#) by unanimous consent and is poised to stimulate local and national economies, enhance access for Americans—particularly those in underserved communities and with disabilities—to the outdoors, and modernize policies to bolster the recreation businesses that bridge people with nature and support 5 million jobs across America. The bill is similar to the America’s Outdoor Recreation Act (AORA), which passed the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee last year.

Note: [Sec. 128](#) of [H.R. 6492](#), is entitled “Aquatic resource activities assistance” and would establish a competitive grant program within the Bureau of Reclamation to help non-Federal partners conduct inspections and decontamination of watercraft around reservoirs administered by the DOI, including a 75% federal cost share. For more on H.R. 6492, see the [2/28/24 AIS News](#).

[AFWA Applauds House Introduction of ACE Act Reauthorization \(6/24/24\)](#)

The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (Association) applauds House introduction of the America's Conservation Enhancement (ACE) Reauthorization Act of 2024 ([H.R. 8811](#)). On Friday, June 21, the bipartisan legislation was introduced to reauthorize some of the most successful conservation programs in the country including the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) and the National Fish Habitat Partnership (NFHP)...

“With the Senate’s unanimous reauthorization of the ACE Act [[S.3791](#)] earlier this year, we are excited to work with this strong, bipartisan coalition of conservationists to achieve the same result in the House,” said Chuck Sykes, Director of the Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries and President of the Association. “By reauthorizing and fully funding these programs Congress can reaffirm its commitment to America’s hunters, anglers, and outdoor recreationists.”

Federal: Appropriations

[House approves Defense, State, Homeland Security funding bills as spending fight looms \(6/28/24\)](#)

The House on Friday approved a trio of government funding bills that the White House has already threatened to veto if they land on [President Biden's](#) desk, setting the stage for a bitter spending fight later this year. The three measures — **funding foreign operations and the departments of Defense, State, Homeland Security** — have virtually no chance of becoming law amid opposition from the White House and Democrats in the House and Senate over the spending levels, partisan policy riders and poison pill amendments.

[Committee Releases FY25 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act \(6/27/24\)](#)

The House Appropriations Committee released the Fiscal Year 2025 bill for the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee... The Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act provides a total discretionary allocation of \$38.478 billion, which is \$72 million (0.2%) below the Fiscal Year 2024 enacted level and \$4.407 billion (10%) below the President's Budget Request. The bill also rescinds \$55 million of Department of the Interior funding for the Presidio Trust provided by the Inflation Reduction Act.

Related: [Simpson, Cole at FY25 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Act Subcommittee Markup \(6/28\)](#)...passed out of subcommittee by voice vote

NOW WHAT: Bill Report language with spending details will be out in the coming weeks for the **Interior** (USFWS, BIA, USGS, NPS), **Commerce** (NOAA), **and Energy and Water** (USACE)stay tuned.

EVENTS

Archived Events:

Ongoing Training Opportunities:

Watercraft Inspection Training:

Level 1&2

- [September 10-12](#)
- [October 8-10](#)
- [November 12-14](#)
- [December 10-12](#)

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Level 3

- [September 17-19](#)
- [December 17-19](#)

[DOI Invasive Species Training Opportunities Spreadsheet](#)

[PNW IPC Citizen Science Trainings](#)

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

Calendar of Events

2024

July

[2024 64th Annual Aquatic Plant Management Society Meeting](#)

Jul 15, 2024 - Jul 18, 2024 Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront Location St. Petersburg, FL

[2024 IV International Young Researchers Conference on Invasive Species \(IyrCIS\)](#)

Jul 15, 2024 - Jul 16, 2024 | Location Virtual

The International Young Researchers Conference on Invasive Species is a forum to discuss invasive species worldwide. Communications are limited to young researchers: postgraduate students, master's students, PhD candidate, and first-year postdoc. Other researchers are welcome but never as the first author of the communication.

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

[Invasive Mussel Collaborative Webinar: Quagga mussel food choice at the HABs buffet](#)

July 24th, 1 - 2 p.m. Eastern (12 - 1 p.m. Central, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Mountain, 10 - 11 a.m. Pacific) Tune in to hear about the quagga mussel's big appetite for green algae!

August

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[Oregon Invasive Species Council – Insect Pest Summit](#) and Business meeting. August 5 – 7th. Hillsboro, OR

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

September

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

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

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

October

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

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

December

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

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

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