



Aquatic Invasive Species News

March 30, 2023

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Alert: Invasive Crayfish Hitchhiking in Aquarium Shipments

Over the last few years, documented cases of invasive animals have been detected when other aquarium related commodities have been purchased. In 2021, zebra mussels were detected in moss balls in pet stores in 46 states. In 2022, multiple states found that invasive crayfish were unintentionally shipped with goldfish or other aquarium fish and were subsequently detected in pet stores.

Multiple Petco stores in Nebraska and Idaho in the last few weeks have reported invasive crayfish in tanks. A few of the specimens retrieved from a Nebraska Petco retail store were four inches or more in length. Although protocols and policies are in place at the supplier and receiver ends of the supply chain, there is still work that needs to be done to minimize the risk of hitchhikers within this pathway. It is uncertain how widespread this issue is at this time.

Please keep an eye out for any potential hitchhikers in Petcos. The National Petco office has been alerted to this issue, but if any reports come up in your state, please contact Kerry Wixted (kwixted@fishwildlife.org).

RECOMMENDED READING

[One of North America's most dangerous invasive species is hitchhiking on fish \(3/10/23\)](#) Zebra mussel found attached to a lake chub in Canada, sparking concerns about faster spread. The scientists made the observation while assessing fish communities in a lake in southeastern Quebec last year. They found a zebra mussel attached to a lake chub (*Couesius plumbeus*), a species of minnow typically about 12 centimeters long. The observation, reported this month in *Biological Invasions*, is the only time a nonlarval freshwater bivalve has been seen attached to a fish. The mollusk had latched onto the hapless minnow (pictured above) using protein fibers called byssal threads, which they also use to attach to plants, rocks, and concrete...

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Ricciardi, A., Hill, J.M. [Passive transport of a zebra mussel attached to a freshwater fish: A novel Dreissena dispersal mechanism?](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-023-03036-0). Biol Invasions (2023).
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-023-03036-0>

PUBLIC COMMENT

The USGS has for help to determine research priorities for their [Biological Threats and Invasive Species Research Program \(BTRP\)](#) for 2024. To that end, they have a survey that covers research and information needs on invasive species for the 2024 year. The survey will take 10-15 minutes to complete but is extremely important for guiding program priorities in the future. The BTRP is a component of the Ecosystems Mission Area (EMA). Scientists in the BTRP work closely with DOI and other Federal, State, Local, and Tribal management partners to provide actionable science to prevent, identify, detect, contain, manage, or eradicate invasive species and wildlife disease that pose significant ecological or economic threats to the resources of the US, and pose human health threats. [The survey can be found here](#) **Please fill it out by COB on April 22.**

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>

[British Columbia] *Myriophyllum spicatum* (Eurasian watermilfoil) was found in a new drainage: Champion Lakes Provincial Park, West Kootenays [[USGS NAS](#)]

[California] *Ludwigia hexapetala* (six petal water primrose) was found in Sutter National Wildlife Refuge [[USGS NAS](#)] and in Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge [[USGS NAS](#)] and Golden Gate Park [[USGS NAS](#)]

Daphnia lumholtzi (a waterflea) was found in Lopez Lake, CA [[USGS NAS](#)]

[Montana] *Myriophyllum spicatum* (Eurasian watermilfoil) was found in the Missouri River, SW of Culbertson [[USGS NAS](#)]

Invasive mudsnail species discovered in Silverbow Creek, MT

[Nevada] *Potamopyrgus antipodarum* (New Zealand mudsnail) was found in Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge [[USGS NAS](#)]

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[Oregon] *Myriophyllum spicatum* (Eurasian watermilfoil) was found in a new drainage: Rouge River, Siskiyou National Forest [USGS NAS]

[South Dakota] *Butomus umbellatus* (flowering rush) was found in Covell Lake, Terrace Park [USGS NAS]

[Texas] *Ludwigia grandiflora* (large-flower primrose-willow) was found in Llano River below the dam [USGS NAS]

WATCH LIST

Green Crab:

- 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](#)

DREISSENID MUSSELS

[Earlier algae blooms, lingering toxins: Invasive species cause big changes to a lake’s microbial community \(3/15/23\)](#) New [research](#) from University of Wisconsin–Madison scientists traces two tiny invasive species through their outsized effects on the water quality, algae blooms and toxic conditions in a Wisconsin lake.

BOAT INSPECTION/DECON

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[Stop the spread of aquatic invasive species; become a watercraft inspector and protect Wyoming waters \(3/13/23\)](#) The Wyoming Game and Fish Department is offering trainings for members of the public to become certified Wyoming aquatic invasive species (AIS) inspectors.

BALLAST WATER/BIOFOULING

[Cargo ships put Hawai'i's fragile marine ecosystem at risk of a deadly coral pathogen \(3/17/23\)](#) These unwelcome visitors mainly hitch a ride in one of two ways: in biofouling, the crusty build-up of organisms on the hull of a ship, or in ballast water, seawater that a vessel takes up and releases to balance its weight when loading and unloading cargo.

MARINE

[Pacific fishery council calls for new start to offshore wind planning \(3/11/23\)](#) Proposed offshore wind energy areas off the Oregon coast must be set aside and the planning process started anew, using more planning tools “to minimize siting impacts to fisheries and ecosystem resources,” according to the Pacific Fishery Management Council

AQUACULTURE

[Indigenous groups say they can't trust Canada's fisheries minister after salmon-farming permit decision \(3/9/23\)](#) Indigenous chiefs representing a range of communities in British Columbia, Canada, traveled to the country's capital of Ottawa to make opposing arguments for and against net-pen aquaculture in the province's coastal waters.

[Seaweed farming inspires high hopes in Alaska for economic and environmental benefits \(3/13/23\)](#) To optimists, the plants that grow in the sea promise to diversify the Alaska economy, revitalize small coastal towns struggling with undependable fisheries and help communities adapt to climate change – and even mitigate it by absorbing atmospheric carbon.

[Fishermen, activists call on Biden to halt California offshore yellowtail fish farm \(3/17/23\)](#) The offshore floating farm would be the first of its kind in California federal waters if approved.

[Aquaculture group attacks Washington regulator in campaign protesting Cooke netpen farming ban \(3/16/23\)](#) The aquaculture association is urging the state legislature oppose Washington state Public Lands Commissioner Hillary Franz' plans for farming in the state.

[Fish farmers launch legal challenge of fish farm closures \(3/21/23\)](#) Salmon farmers and First Nations file for judicial review of Discovery Islands decision
Related: [B.C. salmon farm closure decision was necessary, says DFO amid court challenges \(3/23/23\)](#)

FRESHWATER

[Lewiston High School Students Participating in UI Extension Program Discover New Aquatic Invader \(3/9/23\)](#) A Lewiston High School teacher and two of her former students recently became published authors in a peer-reviewed scientific journal based on their discovery while participating in a University of Idaho Extension citizens' science program. Citation: Morton JL, Bayless R, Connerley E, Ekins JP, Elvidge JA, Hartman JH, Holzer KK, Reynolds RJ, Larson ER (2023) [Classroom citizen scientists discover red swamp crayfish *Procambarus clarkii* \(Girard, 1852\) from northern Idaho, United States.](#) BioInvasions Records 12 (in press)

[Ecologists want you to eat invasive frogs, but Texas frogging laws are stricter than you might think \(3/11/23\)](#) The State of Utah is serving up the American Bullfrog on a silver platter but in Texas, where frog "gigging" is more popular, the laws are more strict... Bullfrogs are native to parts of Texas, but are considered invasive in much of the western U.S. and several other continents.

[Beyond eating bullfrogs: Utah asks anglers to remove these 3 burdensome species \(3/12/23\)](#) Division officials said this week that they want anglers to remove northern pike from Utah Lake (Utah County), some but not all lake trout from Flaming Gorge (Daggett County) and carp from Pelican Lake (Uintah County) to aid biologists in their efforts to restore habitats for native species.

FISH

[Fears over radical plan to infect millions of 'feral fish' with herpes virus \(3/6/23\)](#) Australian commercial fishers are pleading with the federal government not to [release the herpes virus into river systems](#) to combat plagues of invasive carp.

[Save the Planet by Eating This Big Ugly Fish \(3/15/23\)](#) The hardiest freshwater fish in America could revive the Midwest's fishing industry—or destroy the Great Lakes. So much depends on your appetite.

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[Yearslong war on Asian carp showing some progress, but end is uncertain \(3/20/23\)](#)

... he could hardly have imagined how he would become engaged with what became known as the War on Carp in the years that followed. And there was no certainty that, as the 2023 tourism season approaches, that there would be cause for cautious optimism.

[Great Lakes invasive carp barrier system scaled down to be more cost efficient, but cost rises \(3/21/23\)](#)

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers found more efficient ways to construct a barrier near Chicago to keep invasive carp in the Mississippi River system out of the Great Lakes. But the cost is nearly 13 percent higher than a 2019 estimate. The Corps of Engineers blames inflation, material, and labor costs.

[Special Section: Invasive Carp Early Life History: North American Journal of Fisheries Management: Vol 43, No 1. 29opp](#)

Hartman, Jordan H., and Eric R. Larson. 2023. [Overlooked Invaders? Ecological Impacts of Non-Game, Native Transplant Fishes in the United States.](#) Fisheries. Volume 48, Issue 2. February 2023. Pages 62-71

[\[Wyoming\] Proper management of invasive species is critical \(3/15/23\)](#) I want to address the fishery problem caused by the dumping of aquarium fish into local lakes like West and East Newton, if not also Beck, New Cody, Buffalo Bill and the rest of the ones found in Park County.

AQUATIC PLANTS

CLIMATE CHANGE

[NOAA Fisheries Assessment Shows Impacts of Climate Change on West Coast Marine Species; Salmon, Sturgeon Highly Vulnerable \(3/9/23\)](#) All but the most resilient marine species off the West Coast are likely to be vulnerable to climate change, according to a new NOAA Fisheries assessment.

[How climate change and invasive species threaten tree frogs \(3/16/23\)](#) A new study from the University of Florida investigates how climate change and the spread of invasive species can combine to create a dual threat to biodiversity.

[New UN IPCC Report Details How Limiting Global Warming to 1.5 Degrees C Will Require Deep Decarbonization – Soon \(3/21/23\)](#) “... if we’re able to reduce our

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emissions very rapidly, then the warming will also slow down. And if we're able to get to net zero emissions, then we expect any further warming to stop and stabilize almost immediately.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

[Video: Watch: How the move of containers can cause spread of pests \(3/20/23\)](#)

OTHER

[How invasive species are impacting Alberta \(3/9/23\) \[video\]](#) The Alberta Invasive Species Council estimates that the impact of invasive species on the province's economy could be around \$2 billion a year.

[Python Invasion Has Exploded Out of the Everglades \(3/10/23\)](#) To put it simply, the snakes are very much on the move, butting up against civilization and heading north — how far it will go depends on several factors, including climate change.

[In Florida, an invasive snail is helping save an endangered bird \(3/14/23\)](#) Over the last century, as much of the Everglades was drained, the snail kite's population declined precipitously. But the kite has bounced back recently thanks to an exotic snail. It's a rare case of an invasive species having a positive impact.

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.

Jobs

[Postdoc Position: Quantitative ecology of invasive species Temple University, Philadelphia, USA](#)

The Integrative Ecology Lab at Temple University is seeking creative and productive applicants for a postdoctoral researcher in quantitative invasion ecology. The position

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provides the opportunity to work in the epicenter of a recent invasion using combinations of data science and statistical modeling. The invasive spotted lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*), which originates from China, was first introduced to the United States just outside Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 2014. Since then, it has spread to more than 10 surrounding states. The spotted lanternfly invasion is a fascinating study system for invasion ecology: lanternflies feed on a wide range of host plant species, thrive in urban landscapes yet are agricultural pests, spread via a mix of natural and human-assisted dispersal, and appear to have few natural enemies within their invaded range. The Integrative Ecology Lab is researching the factors that influence how the spotted lanternfly is spreading in collaboration with researchers from Penn State University, Purdue University, USDA (United States Department of Agriculture), and others. The postdoc will be advised by Matthew Helmus. Dr. Helmus jointly runs the Integrative Ecology Lab with the mission to integrate biodiversity science with human ecology to understand contemporary patterns of biodiversity and its functioning within ecosystems. To apply: Applications should be emailed to Dr. Helmus (mrhasmus@temple.edu). Please send it as a single PDF:

- Cover letter outlining qualifications, experience, and why you are interested in the position
- Curriculum vitae
- Name, affiliations, phone numbers, and email addresses of three references

The review of applications will begin on March 31, 2023.

Xerces Society:

[Endangered Species Conservation Biologist - Freshwater Mussels & Freshwater Mussel Technician](#)

Come join a team of conservation professionals at the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation who are dedicated to protecting some of the world's most important animals. We are seeking motivated professionals who can join our team of Endangered Species conservation biologists to support the freshwater mussel conservation program. The Xerces Society is seeking applicants for two open positions: [Conservation Biologist](#) and [Technician](#). **Deadline to apply is March 31.**

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department: WFWWB09-2023-00557-

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Specialist-Cheyenne, SALARY: \$4,737.20 - \$5,921.07

Monthly Location: Cheyenne, **Closing Date: 04/02/23 11:59 PM.**

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/wyoming?keywords=invasive>

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department is seeking to hire an Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist in Cheyenne, WY. The goal of the AIS program is to prevent the spread of AIS to and within Wyoming through public outreach, watercraft inspections, and monitoring. This position oversees multiple watercraft inspection stations in southeast Wyoming, hires, trains, and supervises AIS inspectors, conducts local outreach and education programs, conducts monitoring, summarizes data, writes reports, coordinates with local partners, and conducts eradication and control efforts. Human Resource Contact: Laura Curtis 307-777-4507 laura.curtis1@wyo.gov

[Washington: Zebra & Quagga Mussel Surveyor - Scientific Technician 2 - Career Seasonal - TWO Openings -*04050-23](#)

WDFW Fish Program - Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Unit
One (1) Position - Spokane Valley, Washington – Spokane County
One (1) Position - Cleveland Warehouse – Olympia, Washington – Thurston County

Anticipated Season 6.5 months

May 1 – November 15

Closes April 2, 2023

PSU's Center for Lakes and Reservoirs is hiring 5 seasonal field technicians

Position: Field Technician

Year/Term: Summer 2023

Area of Study: Aquatic Invasive Species Surveys and Research

Position Overview:

The Center for Lakes and Reservoirs at Portland State University is hiring 5 field technicians this summer to survey lakes and reservoirs in the Pacific Northwest for the early detection of aquatic invasive mussels (particularly *Dreissena* spp.), snails, crayfish, and invasive plants. The work includes field surveys at lakes and rivers, specimen collection, specimen ID training, lab analysis (involving the handling of hazardous chemicals), and field work involving eDNA sampling for invasive mussels, and water chemistry sampling. This position is excellent for gaining experience in field sampling, lab analysis, and research in aquatic systems.

Position Details: The position will be based out of Portland but will entail multiple 5 to 10 day sampling trips to waterbodies in Washington and Oregon. Fieldwork may be scheduled as 5-day trips with 8-hour days, or 8-day trips with 10 hour days (and 6 days off following such a trip). This will ensure that no more than 80 hours will be worked per 2-weeks. The target start date is May 1, 2023 but we will consider applications for start dates as late as July 1. The positions will run through mid- to late- September. We are typically able to create work schedules compatible with prior commitments such as classes. Review of applications starts Mar 20, 2023 and continues until all positions are filled. Please feel free to contact us with any questions you might have about the positions. Please send a resume, brief cover letter, and contact information for two references to [Ashley Newcomb](mailto:Ashley.Newcomb). Questions: please contact Ashley Newcomb <newcomb5@pdx.edu> or Cat de Rivera <derivera@pdx.edu>

Volunteer Opportunity in Washington: Join Crab Team in 2023!

Washington Sea Grant's Crab Team monitors are gearing up for the eighth full season of early detection and monitoring of invasive European green crab. Tracking green crab populations is an essential tool for effective management - and it's pretty fun!

WHO can join?

Each year, we're able to bring on new volunteers to meet targeted needs of sites within the Crab Team network. No prior experience is necessary, but all participants must be at least 14 years old.

WHAT is being a Crab Team monitor like?

Read about what it's like to be [Boots in the Mud](#) with Crab Team. You can even watch [this summary video](#) to get a flavor of sampling protocols.

WHERE are volunteers needed?

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Have you seen the [map of Crab Team sites](#)? We encourage you to find a site(s) you might be interested in joining and consider whether you would be able to travel there two consecutive days each month during the monitoring season (April through September). At this time, we are only bringing new volunteers onto specific teams that need more help. If sites near you are already full, we can keep your information on file for future openings.

WHEN will training happen?

This year's training is divided into four sessions, including 3 virtual sessions (on Zoom) and 1 in-person session. All dates and locations are listed below. In-person sessions will be held indoors this year and occur in several different geographies across the Puget Sound. Event specific details about locations, timing, and recommendations for COVID-19 safety will be shared with trainees.

HOW do I join?

If all of this sounds good, we would love to hear from you. Please fill out [this brief Interest Form](#) (also linked via the button below) and make sure to hit the "submit" button when you're finished. We'll review submissions on a rolling basis and let you know whether we will be able to bring you into our new volunteer training workshops this spring.

[Biotech Crew Member \(NPS Invasive Species Early Detection\) Great Basin Institute Ashland, Oregon, United States \(On-Site\)](#)

The Great Basin Institute is working cooperatively with the National Park Service Klamath Network (KLMN) Inventory & Monitoring (I&M) program to recruit a Biotech Crew Member for invasive species early detection. The overall objective is to perform surveys of park roads and trails and make observations of invasive species within the Klamath Network parks: Crater Lake National Park (Crater Lake), Lava Beds National Monument (Lava Beds), Lassen Volcanic National Monument (Lassen), Oregon Caves National Monument and Reserve (Oregon Caves), Redwood National and State Parks (Redwood), and Whiskeytown National Recreation Area (Whiskeytown), located throughout northern California and southern Oregon. Data collected will contribute to a multi year dataset aimed at detecting status and trends in park invasive species and is intended to provide decision-makers with location data of prioritized invasive species. Training and oversight will be provided for all duties.

Contract Timeline:

Mid April- Mid Aug 2023

For 18 weeks

Full time, 80 hours per pay period

[Invasive Species Member, John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum](#)

American Conservation Experience

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States (On-Site)

American Conservation Experience, a nonprofit Conservation Corps, in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), is seeking 1 invasive species member to

contribute to the mapping and management of invasive species as well as other biological projects alongside John Heinz NWR Staff.

For more information about ACE, please visit: www.usaconservation.org.

Start Date: mid-May/early-June 2023

Estimated End Date: 12 weeks later (August/September 2023)

[Invasive Species Member, Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex American Conservation Experience](#)

Shirley, New York, United States (On-Site)

American Conservation Experience (ACE), a non-profit conservation corps, in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), is seeking TWO Shorebird Monitoring and Biology Support Members to contribute to the biology program alongside Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex Staff.

For more information about ACE, please visit: www.usaconservation.org.

Start Date: May 22, 2023 Estimated End Date: September 22, 2023

[Invasive Species Member Rydell and Glacial Ridge National Wildlife Refuges American Conservation Experience](#)

Erskine, Minnesota, United States (On-Site)

American Conservation Experience, a nonprofit Conservation Corps, in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), is seeking one Invasive Species Member to contribute to work alongside Rydell and Glacial Ridge National Wildlife Refuge Staff.

During this term, the ACE members will work on meaningful conservation projects such as invasive species inventory and removal.

Start Date: May 2023 Estimated End Date: September/October 2023

[Invasive Species Members- Modoc National Wildlife Refuge American Conservation Experience](#)

California, United States

Invasive Species Members- Modoc National Wildlife Refuge

American Conservation Experience, a Nonprofit Conservation Corps, in partnership with USFWS is seeking TWO Invasive Species Members to contribute to invasive plant management projects alongside Modoc NWR staff.

For more information about ACE, please visit: www.usaconservation.org.

Start Date: May 8th, 2023, End date 14 weeks later.

Grants

[NFWF Announces Release of America the Beautiful Challenge 2023 Request for Proposals \(3/1/23\)](#)

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) today announced the release of the 2023 Request for Proposals (RFP) for the America the Beautiful Challenge program (ATBC). The program, which was launched in 2022, is dedicated to funding landscape-scale conservation and restoration projects that implement existing conservation plans across the nation. ATBC grant pre-proposals are due April 20, 2023, and the full RFP can be found here. Awards are expected to be announced in November 2023.

[2023 National Coastal Resilience Fund Request for Proposals](#)

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, in partnership with NOAA, the U.S. Department of Defense, Occidental, Shell, and TransRe, is now soliciting pre-proposals or the 2023 National Coastal Resilience Fund.

NFWF will award up to \$140 million in grants to create and restore natural systems in order to increase protection for communities from coastal hazards, such as storms, sea- and lake-level changes, inundation, and coastal erosion, while improving habitats for fish and wildlife species. NFWF prioritizes projects that are community led or incorporate direct community engagement and benefit underserved communities facing disproportionate harm from climate impacts.

How to Apply: **Pre-proposals must be submitted through NFWF Easygrants system no later than Wednesday, April 12, 2023.** An informational webinar has been scheduled for Thursday, March 2, 2023 3:00-4:30pm ET to provide an overview of the National Coastal Resilience funding opportunity. Applicants are strongly encouraged to participate and can register to attend the webinar.

Learn More: For more information or questions about this RFP, please contact Jessica Grannis (Jessica.Grannis@nfwf.org) or Arielle Mion (Arielle.Mion@nfwf.org).

California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) will accept applications for the [2023 Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program](#): **April 10, 2023 - May 19, 2023**, subject to available funds.

Minimum Eligibility Requirements:

1. Grant applicant must own/manage any aspect of the water in a reservoir where recreational activities are permitted.
2. The reservoir must be open to the public.
3. Grant applicant must demonstrate that the reservoir is uninfested with dreissenid mussels. To demonstrate that the reservoir is uninfested, applicants must provide mussel monitoring data collected since March 2022. Monitoring data can be from surface surveys, artificial substrates, and plankton tows.

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

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Advocacy

[Montana tribal leaders remind Congress of treaty obligations \(3/10/23\)](#)

State/Provincial

Federal: Executive

[Maryland Gov. Wes Moore seeks federal aid against invasive species that threaten Chesapeake Bay's fishing industry \(3/16/23\)](#) Maryland Gov. Wes Moore is asking the federal government for help against an expanding population of invasive fish species in the Chesapeake Bay, including blue catfish, flathead catfish and snakehead... Moore sent a letter to U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo requesting an emergency declaration under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act, which would qualify Maryland for federal fishery disaster assistance.

[Conservation, Key Administration Initiatives Prioritized in President's \\$2.1 Billion FY 2024 Budget Request for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service \(3/9/23\)](#)

The Biden-Harris administration today released the President's Budget for Fiscal Year 2024. The proposed budget includes \$2.1 billion to fund the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's resource management and conservation programs and to support the administration's priorities. The budget request includes:

\$259.8 million for the Fisheries and Aquatic Conservation Program, building on support in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law with \$18.6 million to provide for fish passage improvements to restore native fish habitat and reconnect fish migration routes. The program's budget also includes \$49.1 million to address the continued threat of aquatic invasive species, including funding for a pilot project to demonstrate the effectiveness of rapid response in combatting these threats to habitat, infrastructure and native species.

Now What: According to [E&E Daily \(3/10/23\)](#)

Even as the White House attempted to paint the budget framework as reducing the deficit, initial reactions from House Republicans were skeptical. “Our debt is one of the greatest threats to America and the time to address this crisis is now,” House Republican leadership said in a joint statement. “Yet, President Biden is proposing out of control spending and delaying debt negotiations, following his pattern of shrugging and ignoring when faced with a crisis.”

Biden’s request also comes amid a broader spending fight set to dominate the year as Congress continues to veer toward a potential default in the coming months when the nation is set to reach its debt limit. Republicans have already said that they will require larger spending cuts to earn their support for raising that limit. Democrats meanwhile are pressing for a clean debt limit extension.

House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) held a bipartisan all-members briefing earlier this week that featured a presentation from the Congressional Budget Office showing that as much as \$10 trillion over the next 10 years will go toward paying off interest on the national debt. “This is a spending problem, not a revenue problem,” GOP leadership added. “Yet President Biden’s unserious budget proposal includes trillions in new taxes that families will pay directly or through higher costs.”

Federal: Congressional

[Stefanik, Thompson Call on USPS to Issue Stamp to Combat Invasive Species \(3/17/23\)](#)

Congresswoman Elise Stefanik (R-NY) and Congressman Mike Thompson (D-CA), co-chairs of the Invasive Species Caucus, today called on Postmaster General Louis DeJoy to direct the United States Postal Service (USPS) to issue a semipostal stamp to help combat invasive species. Read the full letter [here](#).

[Sullivan, Whitehouse, Menendez, Peters, Bonamici & Gonzalez-Colón Seek to Enhance Effectiveness of Marine Debris Program \(2/9/23\)](#)

U.S. Senators Dan Sullivan (R-Alaska), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.) and Bob Menendez (D-N.J.), and Representatives Suzanne Bonamici (D-Ore.) and Jennifer González-Colón (R-Puerto Rico), today reintroduced legislation amending the 2020 [Save Our Seas \(SOS\) 2.0 Act](#) and the 2006 *Marine Debris Act* to provide the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) with greater flexibility to deliver federal resources and enter into cooperative agreements to conduct marine debris prevention and clean-up. The legislation also clarifies the function and responsibilities of the congressionally-chartered [Marine Debris Foundation](#). The legislation passed the Senate by unanimous consent in the previous Congress

Now What: On 3/22/23 the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee approved the bill. On 3/23/23 the House Natural Resources Water, Wildlife and Fisheries Subcommittee plans to hold a hearing on a companion bill, [H.R. 886](#), sponsored by Democratic Rep. Suzanne Bonamici of Oregon.

[H.R.1452 - To amend the Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018 to direct the Commandant of the Coast Guard to provide certain data related to water quality, and for other purposes. \(3/8/23\)](#)

“The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall, upon request by any State, the District of Columbia, or territory of the United States, provide all data possessed by the Coast Guard pertaining to challenge water quality characteristics, challenge water biological organism concentrations, post-treatment water quality characteristics, and post-treatment biological organism concentrations data for a ballast water management system with a type approval certificate approved by the Coast Guard pursuant to subpart 162.060 of title 46, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor Federal regulations).

Recovering America’s Wildlife Act (National Wildlife Federation (3/22/23):

The Senate is on a fast track to introduce and move the bipartisan Recovering America’s Wildlife Act. Senator Tillis (R-NC) is the new lead Republican working with Senator Heinrich (D-NM) as our champs to introduce the bill. The previous lead Republican, Senator Blunt (MO) retired. The focus is on reaching out to Republicans who co-sponsored the bill last session encouraging them to be an “original cosponsor” meaning they would be part of a group of Senators introducing the bill. Below is a list of these R’s (others also retired). Remember we need 60 votes to pass this kind of bill in the Senate. Ideally getting 10 Republicans would send a message this bill can pass. The bill looks very similar to last time with nothing problematic. The good news is that they anticipate adding in a “pay-for” meaning a source of funds that will cover the cost..... Lastly, there is talk that this bill might go to the Senate floor for a vote quickly, even by the end of this month. We know that presents a big push over a few weeks but wouldn’t that be an amazing outcome? Then we would be off to the races in the House. More on that another time but there are discussions happening among the key players on both sides of the aisle.

For further information: We [NWF] are creating new social media content, template press materials, and an action alert to be ready for bill introduction. As always, our toolkit remains available to take this content and adapt for your own organization and personal use: <https://affiliates.nwf.org/resources/recovering-toolkit/>

[Barrasso/Manchin Reintroduce Bipartisan Bill to Benefit Wyoming's Outdoor Recreation Economy, includes BOR WI cost share \(3/20/23\)](#)

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Senator John Barrasso (R-WY), ranking member of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources (ENR), joined ENR Chairman Joe Manchin (D-WV) in introducing [America's Outdoor Recreation Act of 2023](#). This bipartisan legislation will expand outdoor recreation opportunities in Wyoming and across America, while improving infrastructure and driving economic growth in rural communities.

Section 404. Federal Land and Aquatic Resource Activities Assistance. (from Outdoor Recreation Act): This section clarifies that relevant DOI agencies and the Forest Service may inspect and decontaminate watercraft entering and leaving Federal land and water located within a river basin that contains a Bureau of Reclamation project. This section establishes 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. In carrying out this section, DOI is to coordinate with non-Federal partners and consult the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force to identify potential improvements in the detection and management of invasive species on Federal land and water. Some of the [Bill Text](#):

(b) AUTHORITY OF BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, AND FOREST SERVICE WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN AQUATIC RESOURCE ACTIVITIES ON FEDERAL LAND AND WATER.

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries may inspect and decontaminate vessels entering or leaving Federal land and water located within a river basin that contains a Bureau of Reclamation water project.(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretaries shall—

- (A) in carrying out an inspection under paragraph (1), coordinate with 1 or more partners;
- (B) consult with the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force to identify potential improvements and efficiencies in the detection and management of invasive species on Federal land and water; and
- (C) to the maximum extent practicable, inspect vessels in a manner that minimizes disruptions to public access for boating and recreation in noncontaminated vessels.

(3) PARTNERSHIPS.—The Secretaries may enter into a partnership to provide technical assistance to a partner -

(A) to carry out an inspection or decontamination of vessels; or

(B) to establish an inspection and decontamination station for vessels.

(4) LIMITATION.—The Secretaries shall not prohibit access to Federal land and water for vessels under this subsection in the absence of an inspector.

(5) DATA SHARING.—The Secretaries shall make available to a Reclamation State any data gathered related to inspections carried out in the Reclamation State under this subsection.

(c) GRANT PROGRAM FOR RECLAMATION STATES FOR VESSEL INSPECTION AND DECONTAMINATION STATIONS.

(1) VESSELS INSPECTIONS IN RECLAMATION STATES.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary, acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation, shall establish a competitive grant program to provide grants to partners to conduct inspections and decontamination of vessels operating in reservoirs operated and maintained by the Secretary, including to purchase, establish, operate, or maintain a vessel inspection and decontamination station.

(2) COST SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of a grant under paragraph (1), including personnel costs, shall not exceed 75 percent.

(3) STANDARDS.—Before awarding a grant under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall determine that the project is technically and financially feasible.

(4) COORDINATION.—In carrying out this subsection, the Secretary shall coordinate with

(A) each of the Reclamation States;

(B) affected Indian Tribes; and

(C) the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force

Federal: Appropriations

EVENTS

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Archived Events:

Washington Invasive Species Council March Meeting: [video](#)
Special Presentation: Reexamining the Language of Invasive Species through the Intersection of Science, History, Social Justice, and Theater – Celeste Mari Williams (1:03:00)

Ongoing Training Opportunities:

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 (3 days- 9 am – 4pm PST)
3 classes available in 2023
<https://www.westernais.org/le>

In-Person:

May 2-4 – North 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

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Training Announcement

Train the Trainer: Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Planning to Prevent the Spread of Invasive Species.

This course will be held April 4-5, 2023 in Albuquerque, New Mexico at the USFWS Regional Office, 5th Floor Conference Room.

Course Description: HACCP Train the Trainer: Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) planning is a structured process that assesses a natural resource management activity, identifies possible risks, and facilitates removal or reduction of non-target species. HACCP is a five-step process of 1) Activity Description, 2) Activity Flow Chart, 3) Identify potential Non-Targets, 4) Non-Target Analysis Worksheet, and the 5) Non-target Risk Assessment Plan (NTRAP). This course will provide participants

with the tools (instructional, presentation and classroom management skills) needed to deliver a HACCP course.

Prerequisite: It is required that you have taken the 2-day HACCP course. There are several courses planned prior to this training, and there may be an opportunity to complete this prerequisite prior to the training. Please contact Barak Shemai to inquire.

To Register: Email barak_shemai@fws.gov with the following information: Name, Agency, Work Location, contact phone number, and contact email.

[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

March

[\(Webinar\) Invasive Species: Lake Huron's Most Unwanted](#)

Hosted by the Lake Huron Partnership, co-led by Environment and Climate Change Canada and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Are you ready to dive into the world of invasive species and explore Lake Huron's most unwanted creatures? If so, join us on Wednesday, March 31, 2023, at 10 a.m. CT (11 a.m. ET) for a one-hour public webinar, Invasive Species: Lake Huron's Most Unwanted, as part of our Let's Talk Lake Huron webinar series! [Register here](#)

[2023 Invasive Species Workshop and Webinars for Tribal Audiences](#)

Register below for a 2023 update on invasive species in the Pacific Northwest in an online workshop and webinar series for Tribal audiences.

The events are organized by Washington State University, The Washington Invasive Species Council, USDA APHIS, and Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The schedule is tentative and may change as we confirm speakers. Updates will be emailed to registrants as the event date approaches. More information can be found [HERE](#).

Tentative schedule below (all sessions online):

- March 30, 2023 (8:00am – 12:00pm) – Online Workshop – Impacts, Management, and Resources for Tribes – Day 2

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- Session 3 – Invasive species management in the PNW
- Session 4 – Resources and funding for Tribal Nations
- April 4th, 2023 (9:00-10:30am) – Webinar 1 – Wildlife and Plant Diseases of Tribal concern in the Pacific Northwest
- April 11th, 2023 (9:00-10:30am) – Webinar 2 – Aquatic Invasive species of Tribal concern in the Pacific Northwest
- April 18th 2023 (9:00-10:30am) – Webinar 3 – Invasive insect pests of Tribal concern in the Pacific Northwest
- April 25th 2023 (9:00-10:30am) – Webinar 4 – Invasive plants of Tribal concern in the Pacific Northwest

April

[Urban Ecosystem Research Consortium \(UERC\) 2023 Symposium](#) 21st Annual Urban Ecology Symposium 2023. Hosted by the Urban Ecosystem Research Consortium. Tuesday, April 4, 2023 Portland, Oregon

Join NAA and Esri for the last of an innovative three-part webinar/workshop highlighting the use of geographic information system (GIS) tools: April 18, 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm EST [Maximizing Volunteer Impact with ArcGIS Hub](#)

NAISMA Webinar Series

April 19, 2023 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm CDT: [Ventenata Identification, Impacts, and Management Options](#)

April 20, 2023 @ 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm CDT [EDDMapS Summit 2023](#)

[Gulf and South Atlantic Regional Panel Spring Meeting April 25-2, 2023; Jekyll Island, Georgia](#)

May

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

NAISMA Webinar Series

May 17, 2023 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm CDT [Webinar: Chemical Control of Invasive Weeds: Herbicide Selectivity, Modes of Action, and the Use of Herbicides](#)

June

[Columbia River Basin \(CRB\) Team](#): The next meeting of the 100th Meridian Initiative Columbia River Basin AIS Team will be held June 6-7, 2023 at the SpringHill Suites in Boise, Idaho. Registration information will be available closer to that date. Contact Amy Stark for further information @ astark@psmfc.org

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NAISMA Webinar Series

June 21, 2023 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm CDT [Webinar: Advancing International Invasive Species Prevention Efforts and Developing a Model Legal Framework for Noxious Weed Programs](#)

July

[32nd PNWER Annual Summit](#) July 16 – 20, Boise, ID

NAISMA Webinar Series

July 19, 2023 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm CDT [Webinar: Using People Powered Restoration to Manage Invasive Species in an Urban National Park](#)

August

[Ecological Society of America 2023 Annual Meeting](#) in Portland, Oregon August 6-11, 2023.

NAISMA Webinar Series

August 16, 2023 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm CDT [Webinar: Introduced Plant Pathogens Threatening North American Forests](#)

[American Fisheries Society 153rd Annual Meeting](#) August 20-24, 2023 | Grand Rapids, Michigan

September

The 2023 [Western Regional Panel Annual Meeting](#) will be September 20-21 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

[Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies 113th Annual Meeting](#) September 24-27, 2023; Calgary, Alberta

October

2023 Montana Lakes Conference, October 18-20. The theme for the conference is [“Montana Lakes at Risk; Challenges and Opportunities.”](#) Whitefish, MT

November

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

2024

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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'. Stay tuned for more details.

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