



AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES NEWS

02/22/22

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SPOTLIGHT:

[National Invasive Species Awareness Week](#)

February 28, 2022 – March 4, 2022

Outreach and Communications – [NAISMA](#) encourages local, state, and regional organizations to use the [FREE NISAW toolkit](#) of outreach and communications resources to raise awareness of local invasive species concerns to elected officials, agency leadership, and the public. NAISMA's emails, social media posts, and digital advertising campaign aims to reach 500,000 viewers.

Educational Webinars – NAISMA hosts [educational webinars](#) on priority invasive species issues the week of NISAW and the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Other organizations may host webinars also. Get more information and register on the [NISAW events](#) page.

- Monday, February 28th at 10:00 am central – [USGS Decision Science – Modeling and Structured Decision Making](#)
- Tuesday, March 1st at 11:00 am central – [Climate Change and Invasive Species](#)
- Wednesday, March 2nd at 11:00 am central – [Protect the Uninfested West from Aquatic Invasive Species](#)
- Thursday, March 3rd at 12:00 pm central – [Pacific Green Crab Management](#)
- Friday, March 4th at 11:00 am central – [Firewood Rules, Certifications, and Recommendations across the USA](#)

Congressional Briefings – NISAW provides an opportunity for organizations to hold formal briefings for Congressional staff to educate and inform on a specific topic or bill.

- Thursday, March 3rd at 10:00 am central – [Managing the Hydrilla River Infestation in the Connecticut River](#)

Individual Meetings – NISAW provides an opportunity for individuals and organizations to meet with elected officials and agency leadership to communicate priorities for invasive species legislation, funding, policy, and management.

Local Events and Awareness Weeks or Months – NAISMA promotes state and local events and Awareness Weeks or Months utilizing the [NISAW events](#) page and [social media](#) channels.

Social Media – [NAISMA](#) will collaborate with members, partners, and like-minded organizations to arrange [social media](#) during the week of [NISAW](#) to raise awareness of the economic and ecological impacts of invasive species.

PUBLIC COMMENT

[University of Washington: Nuisance Species Bounty Program Survey](#)

Note: You need a Google account to access the survey

A team of researchers at the University of Washington is conducting a global study of nuisance and invasive species bounty programs. A "bounty program" is considered a financial incentive program in which money is paid to a person to collect a specified organism, including recreational harvesting initiatives that have lottery monetary prizes. The PI's have requested that the survey be forwarded to any program or individuals conducting such programs. The [ONLINE SURVEY](#) should take approximately 15 minutes to complete, and it can be completed with the assistance of other members of the program. Please note that the deadline to complete the survey has been extended to March 15. Question should be directed to Julian Olden (olden@uw.edu)

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[Request for Nominations published in today's Federal Register for the newly re-established Invasive Species Advisory Committee \(ISAC\)](#)

The Department of the Interior announced today that it will appoint new members to the Invasive Species Advisory Committee (Committee), which provides information and expert advice to inform federal government activities related to invasive species. The Committee's efforts to address the threat of invasive species will help advance the conservation goals of the America the Beautiful initiative, while also bolstering climate resilience for communities across the country.

Chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the Committee provides advice to support the National Invasive Species Council (NISC), an interagency body that provides the vision and

national leadership to coordinate, sustain and expand federal efforts to safeguard the interests of the United States through the prevention, eradication, and control of invasive species, and through the restoration of ecosystems and other assets impacted by invasive species.

After having been active for nearly two decades, the Trump administration defunded and disbanded the Committee in 2019. President Biden reestablished the Committee on September 30, 2021.

...

The Committee will consist of up to 20 members who will have a broad range of expertise and stakeholder interests that includes non-federal government agencies (e.g., state, territorial, tribal, local); academia, research institutions, and scientific societies; the private sector and industry/trade associations; conservation and land management organizations; landowners, farmers, ranchers, foresters, and other resource users; public health specialists; education and outreach specialists; regional organizations; and citizen scientists, recreationists, and other public interest groups.

Ex officio members from several national organizations and associations engaged in addressing invasive species and their impacts may also be appointed.

Nominations must be received by March 28, 2022.

Information on how to submit formal nominations for the ISAC is available in [the Federal Register notice](#).

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

Quagga Mussels Detected for First Time in a Texas Reservoir (2/2/22)

AUSTIN – The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) reports that invasive quagga mussels have been detected for the first time in Texas. The quagga mussel discovery was made by National Park Service (NPS) staff at the International Amistad Reservoir in the Rio Grande basin along the Texas-Mexico border near Del Rio. Quagga mussels are a close relative of the zebra mussel, which has invaded 33 Texas lakes across six river basins since it was first introduced in Texas in Lake Texoma in 2009. In addition to being the first detection of quagga mussels in Texas waters, this is also the first finding of any invasive mussel species in the Rio Grande basin.

OTHER AIS

WATCH LIST

[Canada] DFO wants people to report sightings of European Green Crabs in the Salish Sea. Sightings can be reported to AISPACIFIC@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

[Canada] [What the shell is out there? Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society wants help documenting what kinds of shells are out there.](#)

[Washington] [Are there still ‘murder hornets’ in Washington state? 2022 will be the test](#)

DREISSENID MUSSELS

[\[Montana\] Trend shows summer could bring more boats with invasive mussels \(2/17/22\)](#)

With record numbers of contaminated boats passing through Montana, more education on the dangers of invasive mussels is needed.

During Wednesday’s meeting of the Upper Columbia Conservation Commission Thomas Woolf, Aquatic Invasive Species Bureau Chief for Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, reviewed the record-setting statistics of last summer’s invasive mussel prevention efforts, which aren’t likely to change in the upcoming season.

[\[Spain\] Irrigation community eliminates zebra mussels \(2/22\)](#)

Picassent irrigation community distributes and manages irrigation water for over 387 hectares of crops to more than 900 users, mostly growing citrus and palm trees. Water is taken from the Tous dam through the Júcar-Turia canal, a large waterway that delivers water for irrigation and municipal use in the Valencia region of Spain... Zebra mussels have been plaguing the irrigation community for a long time. The aquatic animal has been an invasive species in Europe for centuries, negatively impacting both ecosystems and agricultural communities. Combatting the zebra mussels has mostly been focused on controlling strategies, as they are difficult to eliminate entirely once established. The complete disappearance of zebra mussel colonies after application of the HPGen system is a hopeful sign not only for the Picassent irrigation community, but also for the broader struggle against this invasive species.

[\[British Columbia\] Regional MPs, Okanagan Basin Water Board discuss invasive mussel threat \(1/31/22\)](#)

Invasive mussels are in the focus of MPs from across the region who met this week with Okanagan Basin Water Board leadership.

In a conference call organized by North Okanagan-Shuswap MP Mel Arnold, water board executive director Anna Warwick Sears and operations manager James Littlely gave an update on zebra and quagga mussels, which have so far successfully been kept out of Okanagan lakes.

BOAT INSPECTION/DECON/TECH NEWS

[Washington Fish and Wildlife enlist the help of 'Puddles' the mussel sniffing dog \(2/8/22\)](#)

Zebra Mussels are an invasive species of mollusk native to Eurasia. They are the size of a fingernail and multiply quickly, each female is capable of releasing one million eggs every year. It is unclear when Zebra Mussels invaded the United States but it is estimated that they arrived in the Great Lakes in the 1980's.

[\[Colorado\] Lake Pueblo shifts to spring hours for boat ramps, aquatic nuisance species decon stations \(2/8/22\)](#)

Lake Pueblo State Park will shift to springtime operating hours February 14 for its inspection stations that guard against the invasion of non-native zebra and quagga mussels, known as Aquatic Nuisance Species, or ANS.

BALLAST WATER/BIOFOULING

[Shipowners must act on ballast water as installation peak looms. \(2/9/22\)](#)

Although it's been over four years since the Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention entered into force, it's anticipated that the peak installation period for ballast water treatment systems will be from now until 2024. This is due to the compliance schedule being based on a vessel's second International Oil Pollution Prevention (IOPP) renewal survey. Additionally, ships that are not issued with IOPP certificates (less than 400 GT), but have to comply with the BWM convention, also have to comply by 2024.

[New venture aims to plug hole for US ballast water treatment \(2/7/22\)](#)

Danish-based ballast water technology specialist, Bawat, has teamed up with two US companies to offer vessel owners with outdated onboard ballast water treatment systems with a portside alternative when calling in US ports.

MARINE

[Extreme weather could help invasive green crab crawl along Vancouver Island, B.C. coast \(2/19/22\)](#)

"We're now seeing conditions outside the 'normal' for us in B.C. and we don't necessarily understand how that's going to affect the invader," Therriault said. Extreme weather events, such as last summer's heat dome and changing precipitation patterns, can shift the ecology and if that proves in favour of green crab larvae, they could flourish.

[\[Washington\] eDNA a useful tool for early detection of invasive green crab \(2/15/22\)](#)

As the green crab invasion in the state worsens, a new analysis method developed by University of Washington and Washington Sea Grant scientists could help contain future invasions and prevent new outbreaks using water testing and genetic analysis.

[Think 85,000 invasive crabs is a lot? Wait 'til you see Vancouver Island \(1/31/22\)](#)

While 85,000 invasive green crabs—a record number—were captured near Bellingham last year, even more of the voracious crustaceans have turned up just across Washington’s watery border with Canada. Since mid-November, trappers have scooped up more than 107,000 European green crabs in Clayoquot Sound, the traditional territories of the Tla-o-qui-aht and Ahousaht First Nations, on the west coast of Vancouver Island. “It’s incredible how much green crab are being pulled up, way too many for our liking,” said Councilmember Terry Dorward of the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation in Tofino, British Columbia.

Gargan, L.M., Brooks, P.R., Vye, S.R. et al. [The use of environmental DNA metabarcoding and quantitative PCR for molecular detection of marine invasive non-native species associated with artificial structures](#). Biol Invasions 24, 635–648 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-021-02672-8>

AQUACULTURE

[Trade Restrictions on Oysters Get Shucked \(2/18/22\)](#)

The trade barrier started because of a difference in how the E.U. and the U.S. tested their shellfish. The E.U. tested the actual shellfish while American regulators tested the water in which the shellfish grew. Worrying that E.U. oysters could bring norovirus and other pathogens to the U.S. that were present in their waters, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) banned all E.U. shellfish. And European regulators returned the favor.

[Grieg deploys semi-closed cages in British Columbia \(2/9/22\)](#)

The company hopes that the new system will protect the fish in the pens against sea lice and reduce the danger of any interaction with wild salmonids.

The new CO2L Flow system (pronounced “Cool Flow”) is a form of semi-closed containment, which allows for farmers to raise or lower custom designed farm enclosures – ensuring the farmed fish benefit from natural ocean conditions, while also providing protection for wild salmon.

[Kelp is the fastest growing aquaculture sector in California \(2/4/22\)](#)

The California Coastal Commission staff recently approved a permit for a seaweed aquaculture project for the San Pedro company that was co-founded by the author of the guest commentary. The commission will be recommending approval at a February hearing for an entirely new shellfish farm on 110 acres in Humboldt Bay

[Regional partnership sparks collaboration to advance Indigenous aquaculture practices \(2/1/2022\)](#)

Alaska Sea Grant is working with Washington Sea Grant and Hawai'i Sea Grant to foster collaboration among researchers, students, and diverse stakeholders to advance sustainable Indigenous aquaculture practices. This Cross-Pacific Regional Collaborative Hub for Indigenous Aquaculture aims to catalyze regional partnerships to strengthen community access to customary practices and enhance seafood production across the Pacific region.

[Are aquaculture's gold rush investors digging in the wrong creek? \(1/31/22\)](#)

At the end of the 1840s California's gold fields were busy. But with only so much gold in the ground, the story goes, most miners returned empty-handed. The real winners were those selling the shovels. "Selling the shovels" has its adherents in aquaculture, too. Investors rightly see an enormous future in aquaculture, and the sector's having an exciting moment as investment piles into emerging feeds science, novel production systems and innovative new tools to sharpen value chains. But the real scarcity today isn't shovels, but an acute shortage of miners. Marine aquaculture production represents seafood's biggest opportunities for profits and impacts, but barriers to investment are keeping a tight lid on its growth. Until production takes off in the areas where it can meet the enormous scale of demand, seafood's most promising field – from both a commercial and impact perspective – won't meet its true potential.

FISH

[Northern pike suppression efforts push back invasive fish in Lake Roosevelt \(2/15/22\)](#)

The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Spokane Tribe of Indians and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife reported during a Northwest Power and Conservation Council Fish and Wildlife Committee meeting on Tuesday a dramatic decrease in northern pike numbers due to years of monitoring and suppression tactics.

[More Than 400 Invasive Fish Dumped From Aquariums Found in Texas River \(1/31/22\)](#)

Researchers from Texas A&M and Texas State universities pulled 406 invasive suckermouth armored catfish from the San Marcos River in Texas earlier this month... The catfish, also called plecostomus or plecos, are native to South America, Panama and Costa Rica, but were introduced into numerous water bodies in Texas after people dumped them from aquariums. The fish are popular among aquarists because they eat algae in tanks.

AQUATIC PLANTS

[Beetle picked to battle Flathead's flowering rush invasion \(2/18/22\)](#)

A Missoula-based invasive weed workgroup is eyeing the prowess of a European weevil to nibble down flowering rush at Flathead Lake, where the exotic aquatic perennial thrives.

An invasive ornamental plant of Eurasian origin, flowering rush was first found in the West's largest natural freshwater lake in the early 1960s, with little overall success in thwarting its spread.

[Invasive Species Endangers Boaters In San Joaquin River \(2/3/22\)](#)

An invasive plant species is taking over the Central Valley's waterways, posing a danger to people recreating in rivers.

The species in question is a weed called water hyacinth. The California Division of Boating and Waterways says it's native to the Amazon Basin in South America. It has bright green petal-like leaves and showy purple flowers that make it a popular ornament in fish tanks and isolated ponds. But from there, it's expanded, and accidental releases have brought it to nearly every corner of the globe.

FRESHWATER

['Rock snot' algae discovery sparks survey of Michigan's up north rivers \(2/15/22\)](#)

River advocates and environmental regulators intend to fan out across northern Lower Michigan in coming months and determine where blooms of invasive "rock snot" algae threaten otherwise pristine, freshwater streams.

[HPU researcher shares why bullfrogs are so successful as an invasive species \(2/14/22\)](#)

[also available as audio file]

New research is being done on a familiar amphibian found on all the main Hawaiian Islands. The bullfrog first arrived in Hawai'i around 120 years ago. Now the International Union for Conservation of Nature considers it one of the worst invasive species in the world. They live in low-elevation wetlands, also home to the nests of endangered birds.

CLIMATE CHANGE

[UF study shows how climate change can worsen impact of invasive plants \(2/8/22\)](#)

Scientists have long hypothesized that climate change, by intensifying stressors like drought or wildfires, would make an ecosystem more vulnerable to invasive plants. Those invasive plants may in turn alter the environment in ways that amplify the impacts of climate change, explained Luke Flory, a professor of ecology in the UF/IFAS agronomy department.

A new long-term field study conducted by Flory's lab offers the first experimental evidence to support this hypothesis.

The [study, published in the journal "Ecology Letters,"](#) exposed small plots of long-leaf pine to three scenarios: drought conditions, colonization by the invasive plant cogongrass and a combination of these two factors.

[Explosion of plant life shows 'major change' in a warming Antarctica \(2/17/22\)](#)

Antarctica's two native flowering plants are spreading rapidly as temperatures warm, according to the first study to show changes in fragile polar ecosystems have accelerated in the past decade... Although warming may benefit some native species in isolation, it greatly increases the

risk of the establishment of non-native species that could outcompete native species and trigger irreversible wildlife loss, researchers warn.

OTHER

[\[British Columbia\] Regional district digs in to develop strategy to deal with invasive species \(2/17/22\)](#)

One of the greatest threats to biodiversity in the West Kootenay will be dealt with this year. A detailed regional invasive species plan will be developed this year by Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) staff — with the help of the Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society (CKISS) — to better determine the extent of invasive species on all RDCK owned or leased properties.

[\[California\] A quiet fight for soil is unfolding between invasive and native plant species. \(2/17/22\)](#)

This battle, between native and invasive plant species, takes place on an environmental scale, which means the stakes are high and the impact wide ranging, but it happens across decades and centuries, timelines too slow to grab the attention of human populations at-large. That is, until something substantial happens, such as hotter and more uncontrollable wildfires that burn eucalyptus tree oils and torch through French broom gauntlets, deeply damaging the earth below.

[Invasive species prevention 'could save trillions' \(2/15/22\)](#)

The cost of damage caused by invasive species around the world, including to agriculture, fisheries, and forestry, is at least 10 times that of preventing or controlling them, an international study suggests. The [research, published in Science of the Total Environment](#) earlier this month, highlights the huge economic burden of invasive species and says their prevention could save trillions of US dollars.

[Scientists Have Named an 'Alien' Predatory Flatworm After COVID \(2/7/22\)](#)

COVID-19 has infected every part of our lives over the last two years. The ways we work, engage with our surroundings, and see family and friends have all been drastically altered during the ongoing pandemic. By far the worst have been the deaths of all the loved ones the disease has taken from us. Now, partly in recognition of the people lost, researchers have named a newly discovered species of hammerhead flatworm *Humbertium covidum*.

[Feral pigs in California destroy property and endanger humans. Time to stamp them out \(2/7/22\)](#)

Irresponsible hunters who moved captive pigs from one state to another may be behind several isolated populations that now exist hundreds of miles apart.

Related: [Nearly 10,000 feral hogs removed from Missouri in 2021 \(2/10/22\)](#)

[There's a new tool in the battle of the invasive coconut rhinoceros beetle \(2/7/22\)](#)

Hawai'i officials are using new tools to fight the invasive coconut rhinoceros beetle and its proliferation through the movement of green waste... Since then there's been a joint effort to set

large black traps across O‘ahu to monitor the spread. Teams funded through the Research Corporation of the University of Hawai‘i check them regularly. State agriculture officials say they're using shipping containers to fumigate trees and green waste before disposal.

[International travelers can introduce invasive species \(2/4/22\)](#)

A recent [study](#) from New Zealand looked at the potential for international travelers to introduce non-native and sometimes invasive species from abroad. This follows up on a 2011 study which showed that for every gram of soil carried on shoe soles, 2.5 plant seeds, 41 roundworms, 0.004 insects and a host of microorganisms were also carried along. These organisms were alive and potential threats to the local ecology.

[6 Bugs Scientists Want You to Squash Immediately \(1/31/22\)](#)

... Experts have asked the public to show no mercy and just annihilate species that have been identified as invasive and destructive. With that in mind, we invite you to take a close look at these suspect species and do what biologists say is your duty to stamp them out. Literally.

[In North Carolina and Oregon, Detector Dogs Demonstrate Their Value \(1/31/22\)](#)

They're coming to get you, spotted lanternflies and Japanese beetles! Detector canines—trained by USDA's Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) program—are ready to sniff out these damaging invasive pests to detect them early and prevent their spread.

These highly trained dogs represent some of the recent successes of our Agricultural Detector Canines strategic initiative. Its goal is to expand the use of detector dogs to enhance domestic pest surveys, detect pests early, and facilitate the trade of U.S. agricultural products.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

[Youth Art Contest Rallies Californians To Unite To Fight Invasive Species \(2/9/22\)](#)

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is pleased to announce the ninth annual California Invasive Species Youth Art Contest. This year's theme, "Unite to Fight Invasive Species," reflects the need for all Californians to work together to prevent the spread and impacts of invasive species.

[Blacklists do not necessarily make people curious about invasive alien species. A case study with Bayesian structural time series and Wikipedia searches about invasive mammals in Italy](#)

Cerri, J., Carnevali, L., Monaco, A., Genovesi, P., & Bertolino, S. (2022). Blacklists do not necessarily make people curious about invasive alien species. A case study with Bayesian structural time series and Wikipedia searches about invasive mammals in Italy. *NeoBiota* 71: 113–128.

[Message in a Molecule: How \[The Nature Conservancy is\] Using Environmental DNA to Protect Aquatic Species \(2/4/22\)](#)

It is a deceptively low-tech move for a high-tech operation. The Nature Conservancy's New York Aquatic Restoration and Resiliency Coordinator Brittney Rogers, in snow boots and a parka, stands near the marshy end of the Salmon River in Pulaski, New York, and dips a one-liter sampling bottle attached to a pole into a tributary of eastern Lake Ontario. She pulls it in toward her, seals the top, and later that afternoon draws the water through a filter. Beside her, the Conservancy's New York Sustainable Fisheries Ecologist Philippa Kohn and their seasonal technician Jacob Wojcik maneuver the controls on an underwater remote operated vehicle (ROV), complete with cameras, lights and propellers. "It helps us visualize and characterize the areas where we're sampling," Kohn explains.

[\[Washington\] Volunteers needed: Join Crab Team in 2022!](#)

Washington Sea Grant's Crab Team monitors are gearing up for the seventh 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?

This year, we're bringing 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 16 years old.

JOBS/GRANTS

[Internship Opportunities At The North American Lake Management Society](#)

Closes 3-15-22

[NAISMA: Job Announcement Executive Director](#)

The North American Invasive Species Management Association (NAISMA) seeks its next Executive Director to further its mission: to support, promote, and empower invasive species prevention and management in North America. NAISMA has a welcoming and collaborative culture that supports diverse ideas, perspectives, and encourages inclusiveness across geographic, cultural and other groups. NAISMA began as a grassroots association of Western U.S. land managers 30 years ago. Today, the organization has nearly 600 members and partners who do aquatic, terrestrial, and forest health invasive species management from across North America from local to state and federal levels. NAISMA provides a supportive community, trainings, and resources for anyone who engages in invasive species management and/or prevention. Examples of our members include employees of state and provincial pest councils, national parks, nonprofit preserves, soil and water conservation districts, university extension agencies, state, and federal agencies, and many more individuals and organizations dedicated to managing lands and waters.

... This is a full-time position with flexibility in working hours and can be held remotely. A contractor position would be considered, but an employee is preferred. The salary range for this position is \$68,000 - \$75,000 with a limited flex benefit plan to cover eligible non-taxable reimbursements. Interested candidates should send their resumes, a cover letter and 3 references, in one (1) single PDF in an email with subject line, "Executive Director Position Application," to employment@naisma.org by **March 16, 2022**. Inquiries may also be sent to that email address.

Tahoe Resource Conservation District (Tahoe RCD):

- [Aquatic Invasive Species \(AIS\) Watercraft Inspector](#)
Environmental Technician I
Salary - \$17.99 Per Hour
Full-time or Part-time, Summer seasonal positions through September
Open until filled
- [Watercraft Inspector – Site Supervisor](#)
Program Assistant / Site Supervisor
Salary range - \$23.24 - \$29.05 Per Hour
Full-time, year-round position with benefits
Open until filled

[Washington - Noxious Weed Control Coordinator Clallam County](#)

Salary \$61,195.08 - \$74,560.44 Annually
Location: Clallam County Courthouse, WA
Job Type: Regular Full-Time
Department: Noxious Weed Control
Job Number: 2022-08

Closing 2/28/2022 11:59 PM Pacific

Plan and implement effective education programs, develop and adapt technical methods and programs for the successful suppression and control of noxious weeds, and create action-oriented, community-based activities that foster widespread understanding of noxious weed control and a community stewardship ethic toward natural resources. Implement the policies and regulations of the Clallam County Noxious Weed Control Board while administering Washington's noxious weed control laws. The individual in this position operates under the general supervision of the Clallam County Noxious Weed Control Board, and the direct supervision of the Clallam County Administrator. The Clallam County Noxious Weed Control Program's mission is to protect citizens, land and natural resources from the economic and environmental impacts of noxious weeds in Clallam County.

The [Arizona Game and Fish Department](#) is looking for an [Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist](#). We are looking for a motivated individual that will help lead our aquatic invasive species efforts at Lake Powell (Page, AZ). Please note that the announcement **closes March 3, 2022**. Interested candidates can apply [here](#).

[\[Bellingham, WA\] Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program Staff - Seasonal](#)

Salary \$16.32 Hourly
Location City of Bellingham, WA
Job Type Seasonal Recurring Positions (3-4mo, 6 mo, 8-9mo)
Seasonal Positions are available in the Public Works Aquatic Invasive Species Program. Length of season will vary depending on position but will fall within the 2022 season which runs April through the end of September. These positions are open until filled and may be closed at any time. Starting hourly rate is at Step 1 (\$16.32/hour). The current full salary range for this position

is \$16.32/hour - \$19.85/hour. This position is required to work a varied schedule at multiple sites including weekends, holidays, early mornings and evenings.

All City of Bellingham employees are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 as a condition of employment, per Mayor Seth Fleetwood's Executive Order 2021-02.

The Public Works Department currently has several vacancies for the 2022 Aquatic Invasive Species season:

Aquatic Invasive Species Program Staff

15 positions - 6 Month Season

5 positions - 3 Month Season

WYOMING [ATAW99-2022-02792-AIS Specialist-Cody](#)

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department is seeking an AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) Specialist based out of Cody, WY. This 12-month position is responsible for implementing the state's aquatic invasive species program. The successful applicant will take primary responsibility for outreach, watercraft inspection, and monitoring in the Cody and Lander regions. Salary \$25.55 Hourly; Location Cody, WY; Job Type Temporary Department040-Game & Fish; Job Number2022-02792

Closing 3/13/2022 11:59 PM Mountain

GRANTS

SAVE-THE-DATE GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT

California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) expects to open the application window for the 2022 [Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Program Grant Cycle in March 2022](#), subject to available funds.

Minimum Eligibility Requirements:

1. Grant applicant must own/manage any aspect of the water in a reservoir;
2. The reservoir must be open to the public for recreation; and
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 2021. Monitoring data can be from surface surveys, artificial substrates, and plankton tows.

[Aquatic Invasive Species Grants Available!](#)

The Montana Invasive Species Council is accepting grant applications to fund Aquatic Invasive Species projects. This is the second round of grants for this period and approximately \$85,000 is available to fund grants. Up to \$50,000 is available per project to Montana communities; local, state, tribal, or other government entities within the state; and to Montana-based non-governmental entities.

Applications are due Sunday, March 13, 2022, before midnight.

AIS Grant Program Guidelines and application instructions can be found [here](#).

[Partners for Fish and Wildlife FY22](#)

The Partners for Fish and Wildlife (PFW) Program is a voluntary, incentive-based program that provides direct technical assistance and financial assistance in the form of cooperative and grant agreements to private landowners to restore and conserve fish and wildlife habitat for the benefit of federal trust resources. The PFW Program is delivered through more than 250 full-time staff, active in all 50 States and territories. Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program staff coordinate with project partners, stakeholders and other Service programs to identify geographic focus areas and develop habitat conservation priorities within these focus areas. Geographic focus areas define where the program directs resources to conserve habitat for federal trust species. Project work plans are developed strategically, in coordination with partners, and with substantial involvement from Service field staff. The program has been in existence since 1987 and has over 30 years of successful delivery. Project selection will seek to align or support the Secretary's priorities. It also advance the Department of the Interior's mission,

[The FlowCam Aquatic Research Equipment & Travel Grant for Graduate Students and Undergraduate Faculty](#)

- Are you a graduate student studying marine, freshwater, or estuarine ecosystems with a focus on microorganisms or other particles?
- Are you a faculty member who would like to introduce your students to modern methods of data collection?
- Wouldn't you love a method to streamline your research and speed up the tedious process of manual microscopy?

Enter to win the use of a FlowCam instrument for up to 4 months, including remote training, technical support, and temporary software licenses.

Winners will also receive funding to present at a major scientific conference in North America within twelve months of project completion. Eligible expenses include conference registration, travel, food, and lodging.

Masters or Ph.D. Students Application Deadline: April 15, 2022

Undergraduate Faculty Application Deadline: June 15, 2022

FEDERAL/STATE/PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION, RULES, ACTIONS

[Advocacy:](#)

[State/Province](#)

[Alabama Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plan Approved \(2/17/22\)](#)

Recent approval of the Alabama Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plan opens avenues of federal funding for the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR), Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries (WFF) Division and Marine Resources Division to deal with

aquatic invasive species in Alabama's abundant waterways. Alabama Governor Kay Ivey submitted the aquatic invasive species plan to the Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Task Force, an entity of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the recent approval means Alabama will be eligible for up to \$100,000 annually to combat aquatic invasive species.

[\[Idaho\] Invasive species stickers won't go away for paddleboards, canoes \(2/17/22\)](#)

Legislation that sought to remove the requirement for \$7 annual invasive species stickers on paddleboards, canoes and other small non-motorized craft, while sharply increasing fees for motorized boats from out of state, has died. Rep. Doug Okuniewicz, R-Hayden, said his proposal drew too much opposition from other legislators and won't proceed this year. He's now sponsoring a different bill to impose a \$25 surcharge on registration fees for out-of-state motorboats.

[\[South Dakota\] Bill to Appropriate Money for Zebra Mussel Cleaning Stations \(2/15/22\)](#)

A bill focused on addressing the spread of zebra mussels in South Dakota waterways. Senate Bill 200 would appropriate \$62,500 from the state's general fund to purchase and construct five boat cleaning stations in the state. Justin Smith with the South Dakota Visitor Industry Alliance supports the measure... Opposing the bill was the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department but not because they don't think mitigating zebra mussels is important. Wildlife Division Director Tom Kirschmann says getting more decontamination units is not a priority for G-F and P...

Judicial

Executive

[Senate confirms former Montana FWP director to lead USFWS \(2 /17/22\)](#)

Former Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) Director Martha Williams has been confirmed by the U.S. Senate as the new director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

[Interior and Agriculture Departments Join Western Governors to Launch Collaborative Conservation Task Force \(2/3/22\)](#)

The Departments of the Interior and Agriculture today joined the Western Governors Association (WGA) to launch a Task Force on Collaborative Conservation designed to enhance collaboration across federal, state and local jurisdictions and focus on the strategic coordination necessary to meet our collective natural resource management challenges and improve environmental outcomes for communities across the West.

The agreement formally establishes the Task Force as a forum for federal, state and territory representatives to collaboratively and effectively respond to the land, water and wildlife challenges facing Western landscapes...

"This is an important milestone in strengthening collaboration between western states and the federal government, and builds on efforts like the USDA-WGA Shared Stewardship Agreement," said Jim Ogsbury, WGA's Executive Director. "Western Governors appreciate the value of cross-boundary coordination between federal, state, local, Tribal and private landowners on issues like wildfire mitigation, invasive species control, and habitat restoration. The Task

Force is designed to drive to collective action on some of the biggest challenges we face on our western landscapes.”

[Interior Department Announces Over \\$1.5 Billion to Support State Wildlife Conservation and Outdoor Recreation \(2/11/22\)](#)

State-by-state listing of the Service’s final apportionment of Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration program funds for Fiscal Year 2022 can be found on the [WSFR webpage](#).

[Congressional](#)

[Audubon's Julie Hill-Gabriel Testifies Before U.S. House on Climate Resilience and Ecosystem Restoration \(2/8/22\)](#)

On February 8, 2022, Julie Hill-Gabriel, vice president for water conservation testified in front of the U.S. House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment. The committee was seeking input from a panel of stakeholders on the Water Resources Development Act of 2022... Julie's testimony addressed restoration of the Everglades, the Mississippi River Delta and coastal Louisiana, Asian carp in the Great Lakes, the Salton Sea, and the historic drought in the Western U.S., among other issues.

[Archived Hearing: “Proposals for a Water Resources Development Act of 2022: Stakeholder Priorities” \(2/8/22\)](#)

[House committee OKs conservation bills \(2/17/22\)](#)

The House Natural Resources Committee yesterday approved a slew of public lands and wildlife bills to address issues ranging from online wildlife trafficking to restoring fish habitat in the Great Lakes, improving water quality in Chesapeake Bay and saving dwindling kelp forests off the California coastline.

The committee also debated and approved:

[H.R. 5973](#), sponsored by Rep. Debbie Dingell (D-Mich.). It calls for reauthorizing the “Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 1990”, which expired at the end of fiscal 2021, for five years through fiscal 2027. But the committee agreed not to advance the bill to the House floor — per an amendment by Moore — until the Fish and Wildlife Service submits to the committee a report, now overdue, detailing how the program is functioning.

[H.R.1546](#), “Combating Online Wildlife Trafficking Act of 2021”, sponsored by Representative Earl L. "Buddy" Carter, would direct the Presidential Task Force on Wildlife Trafficking to recommend ways of addressing wildlife trafficking on the internet and on social media. The legislation would also task the State Department and U.S. Agency for International Development to develop a strategy to tackle wildlife trafficking online.

[House sets up Senate showdown with vote on partisan China bill \(2/4/21\)](#)

The House on Friday passed its version of a broad bill [HR 4521](#) (known as the America COMPETES Act) to combat China economically, setting up a showdown with the Senate over how to regulate commerce between the world’s two largest economies. Within the bill is [Section 71102](#) which amends the Lacey Act to significantly increase federal animal importation and interstate regulation. This language is similar to [S. 626: Lacey Act Amendments of 2021](#). S. 626 bill language, according to its sponsors (Senators (Rubio/Schatz), would address oversights in existing legal authority to prevent the importation of invasive species. The legislation would correct the negative impacts of a 2017 D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals decision that diminished the ability of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to manage the establishment and spread of invasive species in the United States. The bill would also grant authority for emergency designation of species that pose an imminent threat, and authority to prohibit importation of wildlife species not yet in trade until they have been assessed for injuriousness.

S. 626 is supported by the North American Invasive Species Management Association ([NAISMA](#))

S. 626/HR 4521 is opposed by the [Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council \(PIJAC\)](#), [United States Association of Reptile Keepers \(USARK\)](#) and [National Aquaculture Association \(NAA\)](#): According to these groups in a 2/13/22 statement entitled *The Facts About the Lacey Act Amendments in the COMPETES Act of 2022 (H.R.4521)*:

...These amendments would: authorize the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to prevent interstate transport of species listed as injurious; create a white list of import-approved species and any animal not listed would be considered injurious and banned by default; and enable the Secretary of the Interior to use an "emergency declaration" to prohibit importation of a species suspected to be injurious to humans, agriculture, horticulture, forestry, wildlife, or wildlife resources for up to three years with no public or Congressional input.

What this means is that importing or transporting across state lines animals would immediately become unlawful, should those species not have cleared the complex and lengthy process of being deemed “not injurious”. And at any time, a species could be banned on short notice for years via a variety of factors that cause it to be considered injurious. This would trigger a domino effect across the live animal economy, devastating not only those businesses and farms that sell those species,

but also manufacturers, distributors and retailers who produce and sell products to grow or care for them.

Now What: The House and Senate will now go to conference on their versions of the bill, hoping to craft a compromise package capable of passing both chambers.

APPROPRIATIONS

[Congress races to clinch government funding deal \(2/21/22\)](#)

Congressional negotiators are moving quickly to try to finalize work on a sprawling package to fund the government through the remainder of the fiscal year, though sticking points remain. Lawmakers have roughly three weeks to finish crafting — and ideally pass — a bill to fund the government through Sept. 30, after advancing the latest stopgap last week. That bill, which extends funding through March 11, marked the third time Congress has had to pass a continuing resolution to keep the government funded in the 2022 fiscal year. And while leaders have struggled to reach a broader, bipartisan agreement, negotiators are hopeful it'll be the last short-term fix.

[Even with spending framework, infrastructure delays loom \(2/10/22\)](#)

Programs approved in the bipartisan *infrastructure* law remain in a holding pattern until Congress can pass a spending bill.

[Biden Administration Releases Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Guidebook for State, Local, Tribal and Territorial Governments \(1/31/22\)](#)

Today, the White House released the [first edition of its Bipartisan Infrastructure Law guidebook](#) to help state, local, Tribal and territorial governments unlock the benefits from the historic investments in our nation's infrastructure. The guidebook is a one-stop-shop on the law and contains the most comprehensive information to date on the more than 375 programs included in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

[Brandon Road Gets Dedicated Funding \(2/4/22\)](#)

Communities around the country are publicizing and celebrating their infrastructure funding streams from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Conservation groups, Great Lakes states and Asian carp opponents are rejoicing, too, since the Corps of Engineers has announced that it will dedicate \$226 million to the Brandon Road Interbasin Project, also known as the Brandon Road Lock and Dam Project, on the Des Plaines River near Joliet, Ill. The Corps had previously dedicated a small amount to cover pre-construction, environmental and design (PED) studies at Brandon Road, but this funding tranche marks a significant start to a project that is estimated to cost \$858 million and whose costs could go up.

[Rosen Applauds \\$17 Million in Funding From Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to Protect Lake Tahoe from Invasive Species \(2/18/22\)](#)

The Lake Tahoe restoration funding will provide important resources to control aquatic invasive species for the benefit of Lahontan cutthroat trout and other native species. The trout is a threatened species under the *Endangered Species Act* and is a recovery priority for the Lake Tahoe basin.

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

TRAININGS, WEBINARS, CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

[Archived Materials](#)

[Western Regional Panel: eDNA Workgroup Presentations \[YouTube\]](#)

[Events: Webinars, Trainings, Conferences and Meetings](#)

Watercraft Inspection Training

Level 1 Virtual Training - March 22-23, 2022 (2 days) 8am-noon PST; [[Register Here](#)]

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Level 2 Virtual Training - March 22-24, 2022 (3 days) 8am-noon PST; [[Register Here](#)]

-

Level 3 Virtual Training - March 8-10, 2022 (3 days) 8 am to 4 pm PST; [FULL]

For more information go to <https://www.westernais.org/> (under the “Training” tab)
or contact

Quagga D @ (702)236-3814 or quaggadee@cox.net

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.

[DOI Invasive Species Training Opportunities Spreadsheet](#)

February

[National Invasive Species Awareness Week](#)

February 28, 2022 – March 4, 2022

March

The [Montana Invasive Species Council \(MISC\)](#) will hold its next meeting Wednesday, March 2, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Montana State Capitol room 472. A virtual option will also be available.

[11th Annual Columbia Gorge Invasive Species & Exotic Pest Workshop](#)

We are excited to announce that our annual invasive species symposium is scheduled for March 3rd, 2022! It will be co-hosted by the Columbia Gorge Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA), USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the Washington Invasive Species Council, and Washington State University Extension. 2022 Invasive Species & Exotic Pest Workshop

Thursday, March 3rd, 2022

10:00am-3:15pm PST

Webinar (via Zoom Webinar)

Cost: FREE

[Register now!](#)

ODA and WSDA pesticide recertification credits are anticipated for attendees (approval pending).

[2022 Missouri River Natural Resource Conference](#)

Theme – Missouri River: Ebbs & Flows

Conference Dates: March 21-23, 2022

Conference Location: Lied Lodge Conference Center in Nebraska City, Nebraska

The next meeting of the [Pacific Ballast Water Group \(PBWG\)](#) will be March 29-30, 2022 (Tuesday/Wednesday). This will be a virtual event. More detailed information on the meeting will be sent out in the next month

April

April 18-22 ICAIS Oostende Belgium: The [International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species \(ICAIS\)](#) is the most comprehensive international forum to address new and emerging issues related to aquatic invasive species in freshwater, marine and estuarine environments. ICAIS provides an international platform for the presentation of aquatic invasive species

research that pertains to species biology, risk assessment, prevention, management and control methods, ecological and ecosystem impacts and restoration, outreach and policy.
Online Registration is available now! Early Registration ends 14-Jan-2022

May

Mark your calendars for the [Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting](#) in Grand Rapids, Michigan, May 14-20, 2022. The meeting will be held at the DeVos Place convention center and it is organized by the Consortium of Aquatic Science Societies (CASS).

[11th International Conference on Marine Bioinvasions](#) May 15-19, 2022; Annapolis, Maryland

October

[Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference 2022](#)

October 25-27, 2022; Green Bay, Wisconsin.

November

The [2022 North American Invasive Species Management Association \(NAISMA\) Annual Conference](#), Managing For Resilience co-hosted with the Florida Invasive Species Council (FISC) November 7-10, 2022, Sanibel Harbor Marriott, across from Sanibel Island Ft. Myers, Florida

December

[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 15th

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