RECOMMENDED READING * PUBLIC COMMENT * NEW SPECIES * WATCH LIST * INVASIVE MUSSELS * BOAT INSPECTION/DECON *

BALLAST WATER/BIOFOULING * MARINE * GREEN CRAB * AQUACULTURE FRESHWATER * FISH * AQUATIC PLANTS * OUTREACH AND EDUCATION * OTHER * JOBS/GRANTS * LEGISLATION * EVENTS

RECOMMENDED READING

Third round of quagga mussels treatment starts in Snake River (10/01/25)

The Idaho State Department of Agriculture started treatment Tuesday on a 3.5-mile section of the Snake River still affected by the invasive quagga mussels.

The ISDA first detected the species in 2023. Two rounds of the treatment in the last two years cleared about half of the waterways, but recent samples showed quagga were still present between Shoshone and Twin Falls.

ISDA Deputy Director Lloyd Knight said for this next phase, the crew will be using a custom-made machine with a long tube to spray a chelated copper product, Natrix, in the harder-to-reach areas of the river. "It's not really a straight bathtub," he said. "There's a lot of nooks and crannies and holes, and there's several deep holes that are anywhere from 60 to 90 feet deep within the river that we're going to concentrate treatment on this year."

View full treatment plan here: <u>2025 Snake River Quagga Mussel Treatment</u>

Follow up: 10/14/25 - ISDA says third round of treatment for quagga went according to plan

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Mussels:

Colorado Parks and Wildlife has confirmed the presence of adult zebra mussels in two additional waters in the Grand Junction area (10/20/25)

- Red Rocks Lake at the Fruita Section of James M. Robb State Park
- Irrigation Pond at Mesa County Fairgrounds

[California] *Limnoperna fortunei* Delta-Mendota Canal at Bass Avenue Bridge and <u>San Luis</u> <u>Reservoir/Pacheco Pumping Plant</u>. For a list and map of all confirmed detections of invasive mussels visit: Golden mussel map

[Minnesota] Zebra mussels confirmed in Munson Lake in Becker County, Lake Six in Otter Tail County (10/09/25) The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has confirmed the presence of zebra mussels in Munson Lake, near Detroit Lakes in Becker County, and Lake Six, near Frazee in Otter Tail County.

[North Dakota] <u>Dreissena polymorpha</u> (zebra mussel) was found in Smishek Lake [<u>USGS NAS</u>]

Other:

[Texas] <u>Cipangopaludina chinensis</u> (Chinese mysterysnail) was found in Purtis Creek State Park [<u>USGS NAS</u>]

WATCH LIST

Green Crab:

- Alaska: Report your sightings via the <u>ADF&G Invasive Species Reporter</u> 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: <u>AISPACIoFIC@dfo-mpo.gc.ca</u>
- 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.

Walleye

• Idaho: Anyone who catches a walleye in rivers is asked to kill it, take a photo and contact Idaho Fish and Game Biologist Marika Dobos at the Lewiston Regional Office by email at marika.dobos@idfg.idaho.gov, or call (208) 750-4228.

INVASIVE MUSSELS

Keep Up with the Idaho Quagga Mussel Response @ ISDA

<u>Lake Whatcom partners craft emergency plan in case of invasive mussel detection</u> (10/20/25) Now, the Lake Whatcom partners, working with the state Department of Fish and Wildlife and consulting group Four Peaks Environmental, have crafted a <u>rapid response plan</u> in case invasive mussels are detected in Lake Whatcom. It's the first locally led, site-specific plan of its kind in the state and one of the first in the nation.

An inside look at Idaho's \$3M fight against invasive quagga mussels Now in its third year, the effort to rid Idaho's Snake River of invasive quagga mussels is a near 24/7 operation taking place both on the water and in a nearby laboratory.

"The lesser of two evils": Quagga Mussels not the only casualties of eradication efforts (10/7/25) The initial Natrix treatment resulted in nearly 100% mortality of sturgeon within the six-mile treatment area; most other fish species experienced a similar fate.

Zebra mussels threaten infrastructure and native ecosystems. Colorado ramps up efforts to contain them (10/5/2025) Zebra mussels cause damage to both native aquatic habitats and human infrastructure. Colorado Parks and Wildlife has been increasing its efforts to defect the bivalve ever since it was first discovered in the state in 2022.

More mussels found in Highline Lake (10/7/25) "We did expect to see some mussels but pulling that very first buoy out and seeing the big mussel on the bottom was really disheartening," Highline Lake State Park Manager Ashlee Wallace said. "Especially, after working so hard over the past two years."

<u>California DWR highlight new measures to combat golden mussels following detection at San Luis Reservoir (10/4/25)</u> The California Department of Water Resources (DWR), in coordination with California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and California State Parks, is highlighting new measures to protect California's water infrastructure and slow the spread of

invasive golden mussels following a recent discovery of the species at San Luis Reservoir in Merced County.

Zebra Mussel Eradication Plan for Smishek Lake (10/10/25) The North Dakota Game and Fish Department, in cooperation with state and federal partners and local stakeholders, have finalized a plan to eradicate zebra mussels from Smishek Lake...During the week of Oct. 13, Game and Fish Department staff will apply an EPA-registered copper-based molluscicide called EarthTecQZ.

Officials issue warning as harmful creature is found spreading in US lakes: 'No effective methods to treat or eliminate' (09/28/25) Officials in California are sounding the alarm after a small but threatening golden mussel was found in two key reservoirs in the southern part of the state, where it is considered invasive.

Manitoba lowers St. Malo reservoir to fight Zebra Mussels (10/01/25) The Manitoba government is taking another step in its battle against zebra mussels at the St. Malo Reservoir. A partial drawdown of the reservoir began last week and is still underway, according to the province's Environment and Climate Change Water Stewardship branch. The move is part of an ongoing response plan to suppress the invasive species, which were first detected in the reservoir last year. Officials had hoped to start treatment in the fall of 2024, but high-water inflows and cold weather forced them to postpone.

<u>Invasive zebra mussels now found in upper Colorado River. What does it mean for Lake Mead?</u> (10/19/25) Invasive mussels can cripple water infrastructure systems. Nevada experts prepare to deal with the species that are impossible to eliminate.

BOAT INSPECTION/DECON

Note: For a list of waterbody restrictions in California, see <u>Watercraft Inspections in California</u> and Vessel Restrictions

Lake Tahoe Sees Record Watercraft Inspections to Block Invasive Golden Mussels (10/19/25) The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) and Tahoe Resource Conservation District reported inspectors performed more than 4,700 decontaminations in 2025, a 60% increase over last year. Officials say the dramatic jump reflects heightened efforts to confront the growing threat of golden mussels in Northern California.

Golden mussel threat: Reason for optimism? (10/02/25) The next several months are going to be critical as to whether next year Northern California boaters and anglers will regain some freedom of movement that was restricted by 2025's golden mussel threat.

Genetic testing could identify invasive mussels on B.C.-bound boats (10/02/25) Boats being towed into B.C. might one day be swabbed to determine whether the vessel has been in water infested with invasive mussels. A proposal for a new DNA testing system at border inspection systems is being reviewed by directors of the Okanagan Basin Water Board. The goal is to detect the presence of zebra and quagga mussels much faster than is currently possible with sniffer dogs...Michael Russello, a professor at UBC Okanagan's Conservation Genomics Lab, has proposed a new approach using DNA testing of surface swabs and water samples collected from boats. "The new tool would make it possible to test boats and water samples on-site, providing accurate results within minutes at low cost," the OBWB document states.

Quagga mussels ever-present threat to BC waters (09/29/25) Invasive quagga mussels were found on boat from Ontario headed to Okanagan Lake.

BALLAST WATER/BIOFOULING

BWM compliance checked: RISK4SEA shares preliminary CiC results (10/21/25)

As this year's Concentrated Inspection Campaign (CIC) on Ballast Water Management (BWM) is underway, RISK4SEA shares insights into the initial findings, highlighting that ballast water recordkeeping, systems, plans, and crew training are currently in the spotlight.

Invasive Barnacle Species Detected in Arctic Canada Signaling Ecological Change (9/30/25) The Arctic is experiencing dramatic climate shifts, warming four times faster than the global average. Additionally, shipping traffic through the Northwest Passage has surged by over 250% since 1990. These changes are transforming an isolated ecosystem into one increasingly vulnerable to biological invasions.

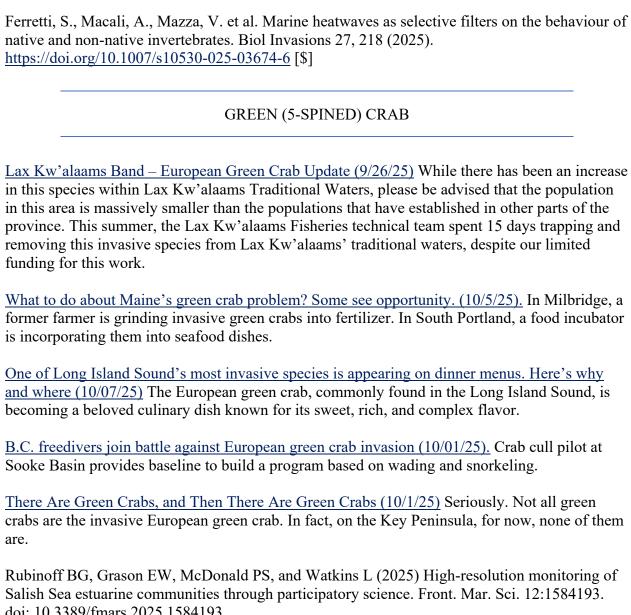
Wang, Q.; Yu, X.; Zhang, T.; Du, J.; Wu, H. Towards More Effective Ship Ballast Water Monitoring: Evaluating and Improving Compliance Monitoring Devices (CMDs). Water 2025, 17, 2845. https://doi.org/10.3390/w17192845

Study on Ports Perspectives regarding Biofouling Management (GEF-UNDP-IMO GloFouling Partnerships Project and GIA for Marine Biosafety, 2025)

	MARINE	

Record marine heatwave drives surge of invasive species in Mediterranean (9/30/25)

Warming seas are accelerating the spread of invasive species that threaten marine life and fisheries, especially in the Mediterranean, the European Union's Copernicus Marine Service warned on Tuesday.



doi: 10.3389/fmars.2025.1584193

https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/marine-science/articles/10.3389/fmars.2025.1584193



Taking the bull kelp by the horns (9/29/25). Combining scientific curiosity and practical grit, Olivia Duner and Jonny Antoni - with the support of several friends - set up Sea Quester Farms in 2022 in a bid to establish a regenerative aquaculture operation in Bear Creek, near Juneau.

Canada Needs To Recognize Aquaculture as a National Advantage, Not a Controversy (10/14/25) The head of Canada's Ocean Supercluster, a federally backed innovation network driving growth in the Blue Economy, is calling on Ottawa to stop treating marine aquaculture as a controversy and start recognizing it as a national advantage.

Environmental Groups Target Pacific Seafood Over Alleged Columbia River Pollution (10/16/25) Environmental experts say aquaculture facilities can discharge large volumes of untreated waste into nearby waterways, including excess nutrients, heavy metals, antibiotics, and chlorine compounds. Equipment failures or weather events can lead to fish escapes, which may threaten wild populations such as salmon through competition, interbreeding, and the spread of disease.

FRESHWATER

Flitcroft, R.L., Penaluna, B.E., Hauck, L.L. et al. Multi-species eDNA as a screening tool to facilitate early detection and eradication of aquatic invasive species in large water bodies. Sci Rep 15, 33615 (2025). https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-025-19083-7

<u>Invasive species found in popular Casper, WY fishery, results in temporary closure (10/14/25)</u> Invasive New Zealand mudsnails have wormed their way into Jessica's Pond just outside of Casper. As a result, the popular community fishery is now closed as a precautionary measure to protect the nearby Dan Speas Fish Hatchery.

Copic, C., Bieber, J.F., Egly, R.M. et al. Barriers to the spread of scud, Apocorophium lacustre, a high-risk invasive amphipod threatening the Great Lakes. Biol Invasions 27, 214 (2025). https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-025-03665-7

Bayer, L.M., Magoulick, D.D. Native crayfish shows high desiccation tolerance and potential to outcompete invader. Biol Invasions 27, 216 (2025). https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-025-03675-5 [\$]

Copic, C., Bieber, J.F., Egly, R.M. et al. Barriers to the spread of scud, Apocorophium lacustre, a high-risk invasive amphipod threatening the Great Lakes. Biol Invasions 27, 214 (2025). https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-025-03665-7 [\$]

|--|

Once threatened Lake Erie water snake hunts invasive fish. (10/14/25) Meet the Lake Erie water snake, a subspecies of the common or northern water snake and a native of the Great Lakes islands, according to the Reptiles of Ohio Field Guide. They can grow up to 3.5 feet long, and their favorite prey is the round goby, an invasive, nuisance fish species.

Saving Native Yellowstone Cutthroat by Killing Non-Native Rainbows: Idaho To Use Rotenone In Teton River Canyon (9/26/25) Idaho Fish and Game is launching a conservation project this fall to protect native Yellowstone cutthroat trout in the Teton River Canyon. On Oct. 8, biologists will conduct a rotenone treatment on the lower 5.5 miles of Badger Creek to reduce non-native rainbow trout that pose a threat to the genetic integrity of native cutthroat.
AQUATIC PLANTS
Spike in hydrilla means more grass carp are needed in Lake Austin, TX (10/3/25) The City of Austin plans to stock Lake Austin with more sterile grass carp later this fall. Hydrilla, a non-native, invasive plant, is now covering approximately 30% of the lake, up from less than 5% in June. Grass carp prefer to eat hydrilla and are the most environmentally responsible tool available to manage the plant. A stocking rate of five grass carp per acre of hydrilla should help reduce hydrilla while minimizing the grass carp's impact on native vegetation.
OUTREACH AND EDUCATION
OTHER
Officials deploy highly trained dogs along river to fight destructive threat: 'We're winning' (10/5/2025) Working Dogs for Conservation utilizes trained dogs to detect invasive species, such as weeds and mussels. For the past five years, the Bozeman, Montana-based organization has been working with the Teton County Weed & Pest department to help control harmful weeds that outcompete native plants.
Meyerson, L.A., Suzzi-Simmons, A. & Simberloff, D. Quantifying reviewer declines in scientific publishing: twenty-one years of data from biological invasions 2002–2024. Biol Invasions 27, 223 (2025). https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-025-03679-1
JOBS/GRANTS

Resources:

- The Office of Personnel Management launched a <u>new portal</u> as part of USAJOBS for students interested in applying for internships at federal agencies, billed as a "one-stop shop" for those interested in exploring a career in government.
- Are you ready to make a contribution to fisheries on the West Coast? Begin your job search and application process by searching for <u>specific jobs at PSMFC</u>

Jobs

PhD Assistantship: Biological control of introduced fish species

The Colorado State University Fish Ecology Laboratory in the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology invites applications for a funded graduate student to study questions related to the use of Tiger Muskellunge (sterile Northern Pike and Muskellunge hybrids) as biological control of introduced fish species. **Application Deadline:11/01/2025.**

Eastern Illinois University MS Graduate Research Assistantship Opportunity in Fisheries Ecology and Management

The Center for Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences at Eastern Illinois University (EIU) is seeking up to 4 MS Graduate Assistantship candidates with a preferred start date in Spring or Summer, 2026. We will also consider applicants for a later start date if needed. **Application Deadline:** 08/19/2026

Hawai'i is hiring two positions for the Hawai'i Division of Aquatic Resources Ballast Water and Biofouling Program. They are contract positions through the Hawai'i Coral Reef Initiative (HCRI). Please see the links below:

ID# 225567 HCRI Ballast Water & Biofouling Specialist Closing Date: 10/31/2025

ID# 225568 HCRI Ballast Water & Biofouling Technician Closing Date: 10/31/2025

Freshwater Mussel Conservation Biologist Xerces Society Portland, OR

Job Type: Full-time

Freshwater Mussel Conservation Biologist

Based in Pacific Northwest, preferably NW Oregon or SW Washington

\$62,857 per year

Full-time, regular position scheduled to work approximately 40 hrs/wk

Approximate start date October/November, 2025

Open until filled

All applications must be submitted via our application website at: http://bit.ly/xerces-jobs

Restoration Project Coordinator & Fisheries Biologist, California: Cannabis for Conservation is seeking to hire a dynamic Restoration Project Coordinator & Fisheries Biologist. To apply for this position, please read the following position description and use the Google form (linked below) to submit your application materials. Send questions or issues with the application process to Janelle [at] cannabisforconservation.org.

Grants		

TRAINING:

Certified Tribal Technician Program

NAFWS' vision for the Certified Tribal Technician Program is to offer professional certification training for tribal staff with the equivalency as a Fisheries Technician or an Invasive Species Technician to assist building tribal capacity for Tribes.

To achieve this, we will:

State/Provincial

- Promote tribal programs and assist in the building of tribal capacity by offering professional training opportunities.
- Provide training skills that expand or enhance knowledge for professional fish and wildlife/natural resources staff.
- Focus on concepts related to Fishery and/or Invasive Species Management to build tribal capacities to implement in comprehensive Fish and Wildlife/Natural Resources Management Programs.

The goal of the training program is to increase awareness, knowledge, and implementation of best management practices related to fisheries and invasive species management, and monitoring by tribal professionals and field staff.

	LEGISLATION	
Advoca	acy	

State funding beefs up project possibilities for Hawai'i Invasive Species Council (9/30/25) The state has beefed up its funding for the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council, meaning more resources for projects across the islands. HISC, one of the state's leading agencies in pest management, uses a portion of the money it receives to fund pest-related government projects. This year HISC received its most funding from the state Legislature since its creation in 2003 — about \$8.6 million between its base state funding and Act 236, a biosecurity measure passed this year.

Federal: Executive

Federal: Congressional

Senate passes mammoth annual defense policy bill (10/9/25)

The Senate approved its massive annual defense policy bill late Thursday as the U.S. government remains shut down. The GOP-led chamber approved the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) 70-20, aiming to fund the U.S. military at \$924.7 billion in fiscal 2026. The vote came after lawmakers reached a deal earlier in the day to unlock the stalled legislation.

The bill, S.2296, can be found HERE

Included in the bill is the <u>Coast Guard Reauthorization Act of 2025 (via S.Amdt.3742)</u> and includes the following AIS language:

"SEC. 904. INFORMATION ON TYPE APPROVAL CERTIFICATES

"Unless otherwise prohibited by law, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall, upon request by any State, the District of Columbia, any Indian Tribe, or any territory of the United States, provide all data possessed by the Coast Guard 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, as in effect on the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2025 pertaining to—

- "(1) challenge water (as defined in section 162.060–3 of title 46, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2025) quality characteristics;
- "(2) post-treatment water quality characteristics;
- "(3) challenge water (as defined in section
- 162.060–3 of title 46, Code of Federal Regulations,as in effect on the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2025) biologic organism concentrations data; and
- "(4) post-treatment water biologic organism concentrations data.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT .—The table of contents for the Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–282) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 903 the following:

"Sec. 904. Information on type approval certificates."

Now What: The House passed its version of the NDAA in September. The two chambers will work to craft a compromise NDAA and pass the final version before the end of the year.

Federal: Appropriations

<u>Live updates: Government shutdown drags to Day 21 with no end in sight (10/21/2025)</u> Another Senate vote on the House-pass funding bill will take place Wednesday amid the increasing pressure.

Shutdown
EVENTS

Archived Events:

Ongoing Training Opportunities:

Watercraft Inspection Training:

Virtual Level 1: <u>Level 1 - Inspector Training | westernais</u>

- November 4 5, 2025
- December 9 10, 2025
- January 13 14, 2026
- February 10 11, 2026
- March 10 11, 2026
- April 14 15, 2026
- May 5 6, 2026

Virtual Level 2: <u>Level 2 - Inspection and Decon Training | westernais</u>

- November 4 6, 2025
- December 9 11, 2025
- January 13 15, 2026
- February 10 12, 2026
- March 10 12, 2026
- April 14 16, 2026
- May 5 7, 2026

Virtual Level 3: <u>Level 3 - Trainer Training | westernais</u>

• Please <u>click here</u> to be notified when future Level 3 classes are scheduled.

DOI Invasive Species Training Opportunities Spreadsheet

<u>InvasivesU – NAISMA</u> - 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

2025

November

November 3, 2025 @ 8:00 am - November 6, 2025 @ 5:00 pm CST 2025 NAISMA Annual Conference

North American Lake Management Society International Symposium

November 4-7, 2025; Myrtle Beach, SC, US

NAISMA November 19, 2025 @ 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm CST

Webinar: <u>Harnessing AI for Invasive Species Detection: Smart Traps, Drones, and Machine</u>

Learning in Action

December

IMC Webinar: Golden Mussel Planning & Response

This webinar has been rescheduled from October 23 to **December 1st.** Event description: Tune in to hear from a panel of experts on jurisdictional responses to the Golden Mussel detection in the Western U.S. Presentations will include perspectives from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California State Lands Commission, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

Oregon Invasive Species Council Business Meeting, December 2, 2025 Salem

<u>2025 Delta Invasive Species Symposium</u> - Save the date for the sixth biennial Delta Invasive Species Symposium! This year's theme is Modeling and Managing Invasive Species for Tomorrow's Delta. The Symposium will take place at the California Natural Resources Agency building in Sacramento, California, on December 4, 2025.

Washington Invasive Species Council Meeting, December 9, Olympia

December 9, 2025 @ 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm CST International Invasive Species and Climate Change Conference

Please join us for the 2nd annual International Invasive Species and Climate Change Conference (IISCCC) organized by the Regional Invasive Species and Climate Change (RISCC) Management Network on December 9 and 10, 2025.

2026

January

Our winter 100th Meridian CRB AIS Team Meeting will be held in Vancouver, WA at the AC Hotel on Jan 13-14, 2026. Registration information and the agenda will be sent via the CRB AIS Newsletter and email list closer to the event date.

QUESTIONS: You may email Amy Stark at or call her at (503) 595-3112.

February

BC INVASIVES 2026 Returns February 9–12 Join us February 9th - 12th at the Anvil Centre in New Westminster, B.C., for the premier invasive species event in Western Canada. https://bcinvasives.ca

<u>Invasive Species Forum: Progress Through Partnerships</u> The virtual Invasive Species Forum is an annual event that brings attention to invasive species issues, research, and advances in prevention and management occurring across Canada, in neighbouring U.S. States, and beyond. The 2026 Invasive Species Forum will take place from February 17 to 19, 2026, with the theme: Progress Through Partnerships. Virtual

August

The 24th International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species will be hosted by Queen's University Belfast, in Belfast, Northern Ireland, Aug. 23-27, 2026.

Note: Planning for a special session and workshop on Transcending Boundaries Between the Science and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Biofouling at the 2026 International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species (ICAIS) is underway!

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