



AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES NEWS

11/08/22

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SPOTLIGHT:

[South Dakota legislators want harder fight against zebra mussels \(10/20/22\)](#)

The state Game, Fish and Parks Department is under heavy fire from some lawmakers who want more done to slow or stop the spread of zebra mussels and other aquatic invasive species showing up in South Dakota lakes and rivers.

Top GFP officials met Tuesday and Wednesday with the Legislature’s Government Operations and Audit Committee to present information and answer questions.

The meeting came in the wake of a resolution approved by lawmakers earlier this year urging Governor Kristi Noem’s administration to “use all resources necessary to fight the spread of zebra mussels and other invasive species into our waters.”

But the department doesn’t appear to agree with another statement in that resolution that says, “Mitigation efforts to significantly slow down and even stop the spread of invasive species have proven effective in other states.”

GFP Secretary Kevin Robling filed a 12-page set of answers to questions from Representative Randy Gross, an Elkton Republican who chairs GOAC. In one key passage, Robling wrote, “There is no convincing evidence that there is a direct relationship between more (boat) inspections and fewer infestations.”

On whether zebra mussels discourage growth of walleyes — South Dakota’s state fish — Robling said various studies reach different conclusions. He said Lake Erie along the north shore of Ohio has become an “excellent” walleye fishery after zebra mussels were discovered there in the 1980s.

[\[Cont. reading\]](#)

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

[Colorado]

[Additional invasive zebra mussels found at Highline Lake State Park \(10/25/22\)](#)

CPW staff has discovered the presence of additional invasive zebra mussels at Highline Lake located at Highline Lake State Park north of Loma, Colorado. The discovery comes following increased testing after CPW found a single adult zebra mussel on an artificial PVC substrate in the lake during routine invasive species sampling on Sept. 14.

[Minnesota]

[Zebra mussels confirmed in Fish Lake in Hennepin County \(10/18/22\)](#)

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has confirmed a report of zebra mussels in Fish Lake, near Maple Grove in Hennepin County.

Three Rivers Park District staff contacted the DNR upon finding one adult zebra mussel on a settlement sampler near the south public access to Fish Lake.

[Zebra mussels confirmed in Smith Lake in Douglas County, West Rabbit Lake in Crow Wing County \(10/20/22\)](#)

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has confirmed reports of zebra mussels in Smith Lake, near Nelson in Douglas County, and in West Rabbit Lake, near Cuyuna in Crow Wing County.

Douglas County staff contacted the DNR after receiving a zebra mussel that was found on a dock being removed from Smith Lake for the season. A DNR invasive species specialist found a total of 10 zebra mussels during a follow-up search in four areas of Smith Lake.

[Zebra mussels confirmed in Lake Shetek in Murray County \(10/31/22\)](#)

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has confirmed a report of zebra mussels in Lake Shetek, near Currie in Murray County.

Lake Shetek is connected downstream by a meandering stream channel to Lake Sarah, where zebra mussels were confirmed in 2018. The DNR is considering which of several other water bodies connected to Lake Shetek might also be listed for zebra mussels.

[South Dakota]

[Zebra Mussels Discovered in Clear Lake \(10/29/22\)](#)

The South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) has confirmed the presence of zebra mussels in Clear Lake in Marshall County.

"GFP staff were notified an individual had found potential zebra mussels on a boat lift at Clear Lake in Marshall County," said Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator, Tanner Davis. "GFP staff verified these findings by inspecting boat lifts from the lake."

OTHER AIS

WATCH LIST

British Columbia: If you spot the European green crab, take a photo — put it back where you found it — and email the information about where you saw it and when to: AISPACIFIC@dfompo.gc.ca

5 invasive pests to look out for in WA and how to report sightings

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

Destructive forest pest, the emerald ash borer, arrives in Oregon; public asked to report sightings

DREISSENID MUSSELS

Mussels muscle into Highline: Infestation is first in Colorado (10/27/22)

It turns out that single adult zebra mussel found at Highline Lake in September had company, meaning the water body is now the first in Colorado categorized as infested with the invasive species.

Alan Martinez, manager of Highline Lake State Park, said that after previous sampling found no more of the mussels, 10 adults have now been found at different locations in the lake, thanks to additional discoveries on Friday and Sunday. The discovery of multiple adults means they're assumed to be reproducing.

“We are unfortunately the first-ever body of water infested” in the state, he said. “It’s not a title that we want. Now we’ve got to figure out how to protect the rest of Colorado.”

[Texas] Pflugerville water treatment plant to expand after being damaged by invasive zebra mussels (10/19/22)

Lake Pflugerville was infested and damaged by the non-native, invasive species in 2019, which resulted in damage to the city’s water treatment plant. Because of the damage, and exponential population growth over the last decade, the treatment plant will be significantly upgraded, nearly doubling its capacity.

BOAT INSPECTION/DECON/TECH NEWS

[Colorado] Construction begins on Vallecito decontamination station (11/7/22)

Construction began last week on a new aquatic nuisance species decontamination station at Vallecito Reservoir, which will be completed in May 2023.

[\[Minnesota\] Zebra mussels caught at Plantagenet, Big Stony Lake watercraft inspections \(11/7/22\)](#)

Aaron Anderson, Hubbard County aquatic invasive species (AIS) program coordinator, recently recapped the results of the 2022 season with the Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations.

[Tahoe's boat inspectors note big drop in invasive species \(11/4/22\)](#)

Less than a percent of the 5,800 boats, jet skis, and trailers inspected this year had invasive species onboard, less than half the number found last year.

Of the 56 vessels found to have invasive species onboard, eight of those were carrying quagga or zebra mussels, making this one of the lowest years on record for intercepting the prolific invader. Last year was one of the highest years ever, with inspectors intercepting 132 vessels with invasive species and 28 of those carrying quagga or zebra mussels. The high number of discoveries triggered an expanded outreach effort to boaters nationwide.

[Over 244,000 boats inspected for quagga mussels during 2022 boating season \(11/2/22\)](#)

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and other partnering agencies were again hard at work this year, inspecting and decontaminating boats across the state to prevent the spread of invasive quagga mussels. DWR technician performing a quagga mussel inspection at Lake Powell Statewide, Aquatic Invasive Species technicians with the DWR, Utah State Parks, Arizona Game and Fish Department and the National Park Service have inspected 244,909 boats and performed 4,276 decontaminations since Jan. 1. Of those total numbers, 66,239 of the boat inspections and 933 of the decontaminations took place at stations in the Lake Powell area

[Washington opens boat cleaning station at Kettle Falls in fight against aquatic invasive species \(10/19/22\)](#)

WDFW partnered with the Washington Invasive Species Council, the Bureau of Reclamation, Washington State Parks, U.S. Park Service, and area tribes.

BALLAST WATER/BIOFOULING

[Opinion: The pollution EPA refuses to regulate \(11/4/22\)](#)

The Clean Water Act turned 50 last month. There was much to celebrate, but it's also a good time to reflect on a critical task that remains undone.

Recently, 160 organizations — environmental and public health organizations, Native American tribes, water agencies and others — asked President Biden to direct the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to finally establish discharge standards for ships' ballast water that comply with the Clean Water Act. Back in June, 34 members of Congress wrote EPA Administrator Michael Regan with the same request.

[Antifouling coatings can reduce algal growth while preserving coral settlement \(10/26/22\)](#)

When algae, mussels or barnacles settle on ship hulls, this can lead to billions of euros worth of damage. To counteract this, surfaces are treated with antifouling coatings. A scientist at the Leibniz Center for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT) has now investigated the extent to which

newly developed antifouling coatings could be used to curb algal growth, which often affects coral larvae as they settle and develop. The results of the study were published in the journal Scientific Reports.

Ruiz, G.M., Galil, B.S., Davidson, I.C. et al. Global marine biosecurity and ship lay-ups: intensifying effects of trade disruptions. *Biol Invasions* 24, 3441–3446 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-022-02870-y>

MARINE

[Invasive green crab numbers soar, trapping efforts wrapping up \(11/4/22\)](#)

Skagit County has seen a large uptick of invasive European green crabs over the past two months. As of Oct. 21, 109 European green crabs have been caught in Samish Bay since the start of the year, according to Northwest Straits Commission Project Coordinator Jeff Whitty. The majority of the crabs were caught between late September and early October. The Northwest Straits Commission has been working with others, including Taylor Shellfish, to capture the crabs.

[European Green Crabs are Here in Alaska, Now what? \(11/22\)](#)

I've got bad news to report, dear reader; invasive European green crabs have reached Alaska. I wrote an article for Alaska Fish and Wildlife News in May of 2021 suggesting that European green crabs could be the next invasive aquatic species to threaten Alaska and described the reasons we should be concerned. While writing that article, it's likely they had already found a suitable spot to settle and reproduce in a lovely eelgrass meadow in the waters of southern Southeast Alaska. This summer, their presence was confirmed near Metlakatla on Annette Island.

[New tools to manage invasive species that threaten Palmyra Atoll's coral reefs \(10/25/22\)](#)

Scientists found new methods that may help control an invasive anemone species threatening valuable coral reefs in the Central Pacific Ocean.

[Willapa Bay, WA green crab war enters new phase \(10/24/22\)](#)

The war on an invasive crab wreaking havoc on Willapa Bay has entered a new phase, with scientists implementing an innovative intertidal tracking technology to help pinpoint the movements and behavior of European green crab above and below the tide line.

[Metlakatla working to prevent spread of invasive green crabs \(10/19/22\)](#)

Natalie Bennett was walking surveying a beach on Annette Island as part of a team trying to defend Southeast Alaska from marine invaders when she made a major but ominous discovery: the state's first documented shell of an invasive European green crab.

Related: [Catch of invasive green crabs continues to grow; record 62 in one day \(10/19/22\)](#)

Nydam, M.L., Stefaniak, L.M., Lambert, G. et al. Dynamics of ascidian-invaded communities over time. *Biol Invasions* 24, 3489–3507 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-022-02852-0>

Quinn, E.A., Malkin, S.H., Thomas, J.E. et al. Invasive slipper limpets (*Crepidula fornicata*) act like a sink, rather than source, of *Vibrio* spp.. *Biol Invasions* 24, 3647–3659 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-022-02868-6>

Mabey, A.L., Catford, J.A., Rius, M. et al. Herbivory and functional traits suggest that enemy release is not an important mechanism driving invasion success of brown seaweeds. *Biol Invasions* 24, 3919–3934 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-022-02894-4>

AQUACULTURE

[Idea of growing salmon on land is a “dead horse” \(10/31/22\)](#)

Salmon farming critic claims Federal Fisheries Minister Joyce Murray has betrayed her election promise and says idea of transitioning from open net aquaculture to land-based salmon farming in British Columbia is now a “dead horse”

[AquaBounty in murky water after accusations of safety violations at GM salmon plant \(10/25/22\)](#)

Braydon Humphrey shared photos and videos documenting contaminated water, toxic chemicals, and environmental damage, according to the Block Corporate Salmon campaign.

The evidence raises questions about how agrifood will regulate production as tools like biotech and novel farming systems become more widespread.

[Salmon farmers want more time to develop transition plan \(10/19/22\)](#)

BC’s salmon farmers are calling on the government to allow for more time to develop a Transition Plan for the aquaculture industry to successfully drive further innovation and technology adoption.

They are also asking Federal Fisheries Minister Joyce Murray to include her pending decision on the continued operations of salmon farms in the Discovery Island, to be part of the entire Transition Plan.

Related: [Vancouver Island First Nations worry feds flip-flopping on B.C. fish farms transition\]](#)

[\[Florida\] Challenge to permit for Ocean Era aquaculture project may include impact of Hurricane Ian \(10/20/22\)](#)

“We need to talk about the fact that we felt the permit was issued without adequate consideration of the facility’s environmental impacts,” said Marianne Cufone, an attorney who is also executive director of the Recirculating Farms Coalition. “I think we are able to talk about the concern with hurricanes because we have raised that before.

[Marine microalgae-based aquaculture could be the answer to nutritious, sustainable food, notes paper \(10/18/22\)](#)

Increasing agriculture and fisheries production to meet consumer needs negatively impacts climate, land use, freshwater resources, and biodiversity. According to a recently-published opinion article in *PLOS Biology*, this is why the world needs to shift the focus of marine

aquaculture down the food chain to algae to produce nutritional food while cutting the current food system's ecological footprint.

FISH

[Villagers worry TWRA losing carp war \(11/2/22\)](#)

Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, through State Rep. Lowell Russell R-Vonore, recently provided an update on the status of the project, emphasizing there are few options available to control the fish but the agency is taking the needed steps to implement all of them as funding allows.

[‘Programmed to eat’: Northern pike mauls husky at North Pole gravel pit \(10/21/22\)](#)

Dhondt has a video that a friend shot of a pike — possibly the same one that bit her dog Murphy — going after a beaver in the gravel pit. She said nobody has been able to catch the fish.

[Native predatory fish help control invasive species in Hawaiian fishpond \(10/18/22\)](#)

Jacks and barracuda in He'eia fishpond were found to feed on Australian mullet, an invasive species introduced to Oahu waters in the 1950s. This recently published finding suggests that these native predatory fish may provide a form of biocontrol on populations of the invasive mullet species in a traditional Hawaiian fishpond.

Whitledge, G.W., Kroboth, P.T., Chapman, D.C. et al. Establishment of invasive Black Carp (*Mylopharyngodon piceus*) in the Mississippi River basin: identifying sources and year classes contributing to recruitment. *Biol Invasions* 24, 3885–3904 (2022).

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-022-02889-1>

AQUATIC PLANTS

Shin, W., Oh, M., Hong, JS. et al. Early invasion of common cordgrass (*Spartina anglica*) increases belowground biomass and decreases macrofaunal density and diversity in a tidal flat marsh. *Biol Invasions* 24, 3615–3629 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-022-02866-8>

FRESHWATER

[DNR: Crayfish case nets first criminal convictions under Wis. invasive species law \(10/31/22\)](#)

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) today announced the first-ever criminal convictions under the state's invasive species law, Chapter NR 40, related to the importation of live red swamp crayfish.

Searcy, C.A. Current snapshot of a highly invaded assemblage: Walter E. Meshaka Jr., Suzanne L. Collins, R. Bruce Bury, and Malcolm L. McCallum: Exotic amphibians and reptiles of the

United States. Biol Invasions 24, 3661–3662 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-022-02854-y>

CLIMATE CHANGE

[On Guam there is no birdsong, you cannot imagine the trauma of a silent island \(11/1/22\)](#)

Climate change, invasive species and military expansion have formed an unholy trinity that threatens our small but ancient civilization

[Carp invasion: Study highlights climate threat to key Wisconsin rivers \(10/31/22\)](#)

If climate change is left unchecked, the Lower Wisconsin and more than half a dozen other rivers could become breeding grounds for invasive carp within a generation, according to a new study.

[The Pacific's future: 'It's either rats or reefs' \(10/19/22\)](#)

Invasive species are driving biodiversity loss in the Pacific. Island nations can fight them, if the world helps.

Simberloff, D. Plants in eastern Canada poised to become invasive problems – risks in light of climate change. Biol Invasions 24, 3953–3955 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-022-02876-6>

OTHER

[Algae innovator partners with US government to help control aquatic invasive species \(11/8/22\)](#)

Sundew ApS has signed a five-year cooperative research and development agreement (CRADA) with the US Geological Survey (USGS). The programme will use Sundew's proprietary algal RNA-mediated interference (RNAi) technology to combat aquatic invasive species which have established themselves in lakes, rivers and waterways across the United States

[Pest experts are one step closer to eradicating 'world's worst invaders' on Maui \(10/29/22\)](#)

Maui Invasive Species Committee is slowly but surely winning a grueling fight against Little Fire Ants. MISC has managed to shrink the island's largest infestation in Nahiku by partnering with helicopter pilots to attack the tiny invasive ants from above. "It can serve as a model for what other islands here in the state can do," said MISC Invasive Ant Supervisor Brooke Mahnken. "We've actually spoken to people from Guam and the international community is interested in our success, to replicate what we're doing here on Maui."

[Toxic Cuban tree frog hitched ride in car traveling from Florida to North Carolina \(10/18/22\)](#)

An exotic frog believed to be both toxic and invasive was found inside someone's car in North Carolina, according to BeWild Reptile Rescue in Durham. The agency reported the unusual discovery in an Oct. 17 Facebook post and noted the frog was contained before it could escape

into the wild. “This tiny froglet was found hitchhiking in someone’s car who had come up from Florida,” the nonprofit wrote.

[Invasive plant species carry legacy of colonialism \(10/18/22\)](#)

In 1860, a British expedition raided the highland forests of South America, looking for a hot commodity: Cinchona seeds. The bark of these ‘fever’ trees produces the anti-malarial compound quinine, and the British Empire sought a stable source of the drug for its soldiers and civil service in India. After cultivation in the United Kingdom, young Cinchona trees were planted across southern India and what is now Sri Lanka.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

[High school students invited to submit invasive species art to adorn new trailer \(11/3/22\)](#)

The Washington Invasive Species Council (WISC) and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) invite high school-age digital artists to participate in an art contest that will help spread the word about not spreading invasive species.

Lovelock, B., Ji, Y., Carr, A. et al. Should tourists care more about invasive species? International and domestic visitors’ perceptions of invasive plants and their control in New Zealand. *Biol Invasions* 24, 3905–3918 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-022-02890-8>

Probert, A.F., Wegmann, D., Volery, L. et al. Identifying, reducing, and communicating uncertainty in community science: a focus on alien species. *Biol Invasions* 24, 3395–3421 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-022-02858-8>

JOBS/GRANTS

JOBS

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Location updated to Salt Lake City

[AIS PROGRAM COORDINATOR \(WILDLIFE COORDINATOR\) - SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH](#)

AIS PROGRAM COORDINATOR

The position is schedule B, full time

Benefits: Yes

Location: Salt Lake City, Utah

Requisition #34592

Closes: **Sunday, November, 13, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.**

[The University of Washington Climate Impacts Group is hiring a new, full-time Research Scientist with a focus on ecosystems and invasive species.](#) To see the full job description, visit the [UW Hires website](#). **Open until filled. Application review begins 11/8/22**

The Research Scientist will support co-produced research and synthesis projects led by the Climate Impacts Group's senior scientists and work with the U.S. Geological Survey Northwest Climate Adaptation Science Center to coordinate the Northwest Regional Invasive Species and Climate Change Network. Focus areas of research and science synthesis will include climate impacts as they relate to species and ecosystems, invasive species, ecological disturbances, and landscape conservation.

We envision this position will: 1) synthesize scientific literature on climate impacts and adaptation relevant for the management of species and ecosystems in the Northwest; 2) coordinate the Northwest Regional Invasive Species and Climate Change Network; and 3) lead stakeholder engagement and coordinate multi-institution projects; and 4) develop climate science reports and associated communications materials for diverse audiences, including resource managers and policy makers.

We are seeking a candidate with a background in natural resources and experience with climate adaptation, who is passionate about partner engagement and our co-production model as our research and synthesis products are co-produced with federal, tribal, state, and local partners. While educational attainment is valued, we also encourage applications from practitioners who have worked in government, non-profits, or other organizations who can bring practical experience with climate adaptation in the natural resource sector.

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

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

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

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

The scope includes AIS management of statewide freshwater resources (approximately 8,000 lakes and 70,000 miles of streams) and marine resources (approximately 3,500 miles of

shoreline) across multiple state, federal, and tribal jurisdictions, and tribal co-management agreements.

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

Application deadline: **December 2, 2022**

Description

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

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

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

[Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources - Fisheries Program Coordinator- \(GFTL\)](#)

This position will coordinate activities of the Critical Species Investigations – North Branch, focused mainly on invasive carp management within the Ohio River and its tributaries. This position will also provide scientific and technical oversight in the management, research, and impacts of other aquatic nuisance species (ANS) throughout Kentucky's public waters. Additional duties include maintaining program records, development of annual work plans, report writing and data analysis, and representation at multi-agency meetings related to invasive carp and ANS management. **Advertisement Closes: 11/14/2022.** [Full description.](#)

[INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT SUPPORT SPECIALIST - USFWS PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION](#)

Job Code: 2022-RAP-111
Location: Sacramento
State: California
Program: Research Associate Program
Contract Length: Over 12 Months

Job Description:

Invasive species are a leading threat to conserving and protecting natural resources across the National Wildlife Refuge System. Within the 50 National Wildlife Refuges of the Pacific

Southwest Region, invasive species are the most widespread and serious threat to priority refuge resources. The Region's invasive species program funds and coordinates efforts of individual refuges to reduce the adverse effects of invasive species through strategic planning, baseline inventory, monitoring, early detection and rapid response, preventive measures, eradication, as well as control/management.

The Refuge Invasive Species Management Support Specialist assists the Invasive Species (IS) Coordinator/ Strike Team Coordinator for Pacific Southwest Region National Wildlife Refuges. The Specialist promotes and supports a strategic and adaptive approach to invasive species management (based on the established National Wildlife Refuge System model) on refuge lands, working collaboratively with other Pacific Southwest Region programs, including the Inventory and Monitoring Program, Integrated Pest Management Coordinator, the Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator, and Refuge Planning, as well as with refuges across the Region.

GRANTS

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

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

[Montana WHIP grant application period opens September 1](#) Deadline is November 23

The annual application period for the Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program (WHIP), a grant funding program administered by Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, will open Sept. 1. The purpose of WHIP is to accomplish large-scale restoration of private and publicly owned high-priority wildlife habitats through noxious weed management. Grant expenditures are limited to herbicide, mechanical, biocontrol and re-seeding treatments, specifically to restore wildlife habitat functions. Grazing management improvements may also be funded through the program to restore native wildlife habitats and reduce susceptibility to noxious weed invasion. Grant awards are based on eligibility and competitive ranking. To qualify for funding, projects must:

- enhance ecologically important wildlife habitat through management of noxious weeds that directly threaten habitat functions
- use a landscape scale approach
- have a reasonable probability of treatment effectiveness
- include a minimum 25% non-federal cash match

In addition to considering eligibility factors, ranking criteria includes:

- number of funding partners and amount of contributions
- number of landowners involved
- accessibility of participating lands for public hunting

Awarded grants can be structured to provide funding for up to five years. Total available funding is up to \$2 million annually; no single grant request can exceed this amount.

Starting Sept. 1, grant applicants can find the FWP Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program Grant Cycle 2023 funding opportunity at <https://funding.mt.gov>

Applicants new to WebGrants must register prior to accessing the application forms. For more information about the WHIP Program and grant application instructions, visit the WHIP webpage at <https://fwp.mt.gov/aboutfwp/grant-programs/wildlife-habitat-improvement>

WHIP applications must be submitted no later than 5 p.m., Nov. 23, to be considered for funding in 2023. If you have questions about applying for a WHIP grant or accessing the application forms, contact Smith Wells, WHIP coordinator, at smith.wells@mt.gov or 406-444-7291.

USDA-FS-BIL-R9-INVASIVES-STATE-CAPACITY [Related Opportunities]

[R9 BIL State Capacity Program for Invasive Species \(Non-Federal Lands\)](#)

[Department of Agriculture](#)

Forest Service

Closes 12/16/22

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

USDA-FS-BIL-R9-INVASIVES-PROJECTS [Related Opportunities]

[R9 BIL High-Priority Regional Invasive Species Projects \(Non-Federal Lands\)](#)

[Department of Agriculture](#)

Forest Service

Closes 2/3/23

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

FEDERAL/STATE/PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION, RULES, ACTIONS

Advocacy:

[Roda Responds To BOEM's Pacific Wind Lease Sale 1 Off California \(10/20/22\)](#)

State/Province

[\[Minnesota\] DNR proposes classifying 13 invasive plants, animals as prohibited to protect Minnesota's resources and economy \(10/31/22\)](#)

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is accepting public comment through Dec. 9 on its proposal to classify 13 high-risk invasive aquatic plants, fish and invertebrates as prohibited. The DNR classifies invasive species as prohibited to prevent their introduction and spread in Minnesota, and to protect the state's environment, economy, natural resources and outdoor recreation. [Notice Of Intent To Adopt Expedited Rules Without A Public Hearing](#)

[\[Montana\] Officials talk about consolidating invasive species commissions \(11/3/22\)](#)

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

... When UC3 was formed in 2017 Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) were a "huge" issue facing Montana, and while they still are, things have changed since 2017, said Amanda Kaster, director of the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC). FBC was formed in 1983 by the Montana Legislature to monitor and protect water quality and natural resources in one of the state's most important watersheds, according to their website.

Executive

Congressional

Recovering America's Wildlife Act (H.R.2773/S.2372)

According to the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (11/2/22):

The path to the finish line is becoming more straight forward and a lot hinges on the outcome of the score on the payfor right now. The target deadline for the Senate Joint

Committee on Taxation to score the payfor language was yesterday [last week]. Once it is released publicly, we will be sure to share it with you all.

In the meantime, here are a few articles discussing RAWA:

- [The ESA fails due to slow listing process](#)
- [Survey finds strong support for RAWA](#)
- [A bipartisan bill in Congress could mark a new chapter in the fight to preserve wildlife](#)

Please reach out to Sean Saville with any questions: ssaville@fishwildlife.org; 202-441-4214. **Resources:** [Alliance for America's Fish and Wildlife](#)

APPROPRIATIONS

[FY23 Appropriations and NDAA Update \(10/24/22\)](#)

When Congress returns in mid-November, there are two “must pass” bills Congress will address: i) the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 appropriations legislation and; ii) the FY23 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). These two legislative vehicles may serve as the final, executable opportunities to pass and enact policy in the 117th Congress. Fiscal legislation will be in the form of an all-encompassing, 12-bill omnibus package or, alternatively, another continuing resolution (CR) with flat funding into the 118th Congress. The current CR expires on 16 December 2022.

Negotiations over the final House and Senate conferenced legislation may include controversial amendments or riders. Because it is viewed as “must pass,” the NDAA attracts unrelated legislation in search of a vehicle for enactment. This year is no exception. The Senate filed NDAA includes authorization bills for the State Department, Maritime Administration, Coast Guard, and intelligence community. It also includes the Water Resources Development Act, which authorizes spending on ports, harbors, and inland waterways.

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

[Webinar: Montana Mussel Response: 5 Years Following Detection Recorded October 20, 2022 \[YouTube\]](#)

Events: Webinars, Trainings, Conferences and Meetings

Watercraft Inspection Training

Coming This Fall: Advanced Decontamination Training:

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

PNW IPC Citizen Science Trainings

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

Not MI Species Webinar: **Thursday, November 10, 2022, 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.** [Treat me right! Rules, regulations and best practices for controlling aquatic invasive species in Michigan’s inland lakes](#)

[2022 42nd International Symposium of the North American Lake Management Society](#)

Date Nov 14, 2022 - Nov 17, 2022, Minneapolis Marriott City Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Contact Sara Peel speel@arionconsultants.com
"Leveraging Experience to Manage Diverse Lakes, Landscapes, and People"

[NAISMA webinar: November 16, 2022 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm CST - Invasive Mussel Collaborative Tools and Accomplishments](#)

December

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

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

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

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

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

January

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

February

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

March

April

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

May

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

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