



Aquatic Invasive Species News

April 25, 2023

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Invasive crayfish update: The primary retailer companies and the primary suppliers currently identified have taken steps to reduce the likelihood inadvertent transfer of non-target species. They have increased screening at the facility before transfer and are ensuring the end retail stores nation-wide are following company policies to send back contaminated shipments or to euthanize the hitchhiking organisms.

- The states who have reported contaminated shipments include: North Carolina, Idaho, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Alaska, Vermont, Nebraska and North Dakota.
- Oregon reported frog tadpoles, and Idaho had bullfrog tadpoles in with the crayfish and goldfish. In Wisconsin, one tadpole was found transitioning to frog in goldfish tank.
- Most shipments included a couple of young crayfish.
- At this time, one shipper from Arkansas has been identified, and they are taking additional precautions to ensure hitchhikers are not going out in future shipments.
- From some reports, it seems like this has happened in the past and store employees have given away the crayfish or sold them. Petco corporate has been really responsive and has sent out notices to all their stores to remind them of their policies on hitchhiking organisms. Given that some of the crayfish were coming from Arkansas, this might be seasonally related to spring crayfish movement as they might be getting into the outdoor stock ponds.
- Many of the crayfish are too small/too young to identify easily. Wisconsin has confirmed at least one of the crayfish that was large enough to ID was [White River crayfish \(*Procambarus acutus*\)](#).

At this time, since only one species of crayfish has been identified, and it is not a federally injurious species, there is no national protocol. We are, however, continuing to collect and document reports to help track shipments and to work with retailers to eliminate this issue.

Please contact Kristen Sommers at Kristen_Sommers@fws.gov and Kerry Wixted at kwixted@fishwildlife.org with any information or questions you may have or receive.

RECOMMENDED READING

[There's a new Red River Showdown brewing and it has nothing to do with sports \(4/13/23\)](#)
... Invasive species discovery leads to a boundary dispute

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In 2009, zebra mussels were discovered in Lake Texoma. The small mollusks live in lakes in southern Russia and Ukraine and were accidentally introduced into the United States several years ago. The invasive species has proliferated in Southern waterways, including in Oklahoma and Texas. They hitch rides on unsuspecting boats and are transported across the U.S.

When the mussels were discovered in Lake Texoma, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service asked the pump station to temporarily shut down to limit the mussel's spread.

"The next year, in 2010, during a meeting with the Fish & Wildlife Service regarding bringing the pump station back into operation, the boundary issue was brought to our attention," Covington said to Oklahoma lawmakers on Thursday.

Neither Oklahoma nor the water utility services in Texas had known the water pump on Lake Texoma was actually in Oklahoma until 20 years after it went online.

When the boundary issue was brought up, another issue arose: Texas and Oklahoma were now violators of the Lacey Act. [\[cont. reading\]](#)

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>

[Arizona] [NZ Mudsnaails Confirmed In Canyon Creek](#) (4/20/23)

[Washington] [Butomus umbellatus \(flowering rush\)](#) was found in Rock Creek on private property approximately one mile downstream of the town of Rockford [[USGS NAS](#)]

WATCH LIST

Green Crab:

- Alaska: Report your sightings via the [ADF&G Invasive Species Reporter](#) or by calling the Invasive Species Hotline: 877-INVASIV (877-468-2748). If you locate invasive green crab on Annette Islands Reserve, you can call 907-886-FISH to make a report.

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- British Columbia: Take a photo, put it back where you found it, and email the information about where you saw it and when to: AISPACIoFIC@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
- Washington: Take a photo, put it back where you found it, and report suspect crabs here <http://wdfw.wa.gov/greencrab>
- Oregon: Retain green crab caught in your gear - it is illegal to return them to state waters. They are part of your “Other Shellfish” daily catch limit. Try them as food with the rest of your catch. Do not mutilate or kill any crab while you are crabbing.

[5 invasive pests to look out for in WA and how to report sightings](#)

[Destructive forest pest, the emerald ash borer, arrives in Oregon; public asked to report sightings](#)

DREISSENID MUSSELS

[Lake Mead water level rises, defies projections \(4/4/23\)](#) This winter's high snowfall across much of the West is making an impact.

[\[Clear Lake, CA\] boaters must have county quagga sticker \(4/6/23\)](#) A number of boaters don't understand that the state sticker doesn't replace the county sticker.

[Lingering winter delays opening of McPhee Reservoir boat ramp in Colorado \(4/7/23\)](#) Bay is iced over, and roads drifted with snow; invasive mussels found on Western Slope

[CPW adds third chemical treatment for mussels due to delay refilling Highline \(4/12/23\)](#) Thanks to a delay in refilling Highline Lake, Colorado Parks and Wildlife was able to chemically treat the lake a third time, one more than planned, in an effort to kill off invasive mussels there.
Related: [Highline Lake refills after treating zebra mussels](#)

BOAT INSPECTION/DECON

[Idaho Dept. of Ag boat check stations are cracking down on invasive species \(3/31/23\)](#) Watercraft inspections began in early March, with so far only two mussel-fouled boats have been documented this year - at the Interstate 15 'North Station' in Malad.

[Learn AIS inspection from Wyoming Game and Fish \(3/31/23\)](#) The department is offering training sessions for residents who want to become certified Wyoming aquatic invasive species inspectors.

[2023 watercraft changes at LAK Reservoir near Newcastle \(4/21/23\)](#) “Due to the discovery of invasive zebra mussels in Pactola Reservoir in South Dakota’s Black Hills in summer 2022, the threat of these invasive species getting introduced into a Wyoming water has been significantly increased,” said Sheridan Region Fisheries Supervisor Paul Mavrakis. “In discussions with True

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Ranches, it was decided that eliminating motorized watercraft on the reservoir would be an effective way to help reduce the AIS threat to LAK while still providing angling access.”

BALLAST WATER/BIOFOULING

[IMO MEPC 79: further progress on protecting the marine environment \(3/31/23\)](#) The IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) held its 79th session from December 12-16, 2022, with a full agenda reflecting numerous issues of importance to the maritime industry.

[Ozone as a ballast water treatment technology \(4/4/23\)](#) MEPC 79 in December 2022 saw an ozone technology-based ballast water submitted for basic approval, and other systems are under development.

[Compliance, Enforcement Risks, and Emerging Issues Regarding EPA’s Vessel General Permit \(4/5/23\)](#) About a year ago, we wrote about a rise in enforcement of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (“EPA”) Vessel General Permit (“VGP”). In the words of one EPA attorney, that was “just the beginning” and we have continued to see more aggressive reviews of VGP compliance and penalty demands, particularly on the U.S. West Coast.

Guillaume Drillet, Claudio Gianoli, Li Gang, Aristeia Zacharopoulou, Gerd Schneider, Peter Stehouwer, Vladimiro Bonamin, Robert Goldring, Lisa A. Drake. 2023. [Improvement in compliance of ships' ballast water discharges during commissioning tests](#). Marine Pollution Bulletin, Volume 191, 2023, 114911, ISSN 0025-326X,

MARINE

[Shellfish growers in Northwest’s oyster capital want ‘blitz’ against invasive green crabs \(4/5/23\)](#) Shellfish growers in Willapa Bay in southwest Washington, the self-styled “Oyster Capital of the World,” are alarmed by an invasion of potentially destructive nonnative European green crabs. Some are asking for an all-out trapping offensive to corral the invasive species.

[Maine growing hard clams to offset European green crab invasion, boost aquaculture \(4/6/23\)](#) Quahogs are native to Maine and global warming increases their survivability...

[Fishery council calls to rescind Oregon offshore wind areas \(4/5/23\)](#) The Pacific Fishery Management Council is asking federal regulators to rescind two "call areas" off the southern Oregon coast that have been identified for potential offshore wind energy development.

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[WSU Extension helps train volunteers to find invasive crab \(4/21/23\)](#) In response to this shore crab's booming population, Washington State University Extension and Washington Sea Grant outreach specialists are rolling out the Molt Search program in May.

AQUACULTURE

[Pro-aquaculture First Nation coalition wants BC net-pen removal decision overturned \(3/27/23\)](#) The most fundamental issue involved, the coalition said, is First Nation sovereignty.

[Lawsuits mount against "unlawful" Discovery Islands aquaculture decision \(4/1/23\)](#) Aquaculture supply and services companies sue current and former Fisheries Ministers for losses arising from their decisions to shut down salmon farms in the Discovery Islands

[A proposal to create fish farms in the Santa Barbara Channel meets some local opposition \(4/4/23\)](#) The sites, which include 8 in the Santa Barbara Channel, are being proposed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) following a Trump-era Executive Order to develop sites for fish farms. Related: [NOAA Identifies Eight Possible Sites for Aquaculture in Santa Barbara Channel](#)

[Activists rally in Seattle for end to large-scale fish farming operations \(4/5/23\)](#) Activists in Seattle, Los Angeles, and Portland, Maine, organized Wednesday to call for a stop to large-scale aquaculture developments that carry out breeding, raising, and harvesting of fish, shellfish, or plants.

[WA DNR floats a new option for aquaculture: tanks on land \(4/7/23\)](#) A company from Canada that has developed a method of commercial fish farming in tanks on land has signed a letter of intent with Washington's Department of Natural Resources, to explore opportunities for "an alternative aquaculture model" on public lands managed by the state.

[Al Roker Showcases Aquaculture as a Climate Solution \(4/17/24\)](#) Al Roker and his team visited aquaculture efforts in California and Connecticut to learn firsthand how aquaculture can support working waterfronts, local businesses, and the coastal economy, all of which are threatened by climate change.

FRESHWATER

[Asian swamp eels spread in the Everglades: 'Potentially the worst species we've had yet' \(3/30/23\)](#) While these eels have been a presence in certain pockets of the park for decades, a newly released paper published in the journal Science of the Total Environment has—for the first time—put some hard numbers on the voracious appetite of these creatures. And it isn't pretty.

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[Rodents With Orange Teeth Are Wrecking The Environment—And Winning Hearts \(4/13/23\)](#)

One state on the East Coast spent millions working to eradicate nutria, and others are considering following suit. However, officials are finding that some people are becoming infatuated with the critter.

[Protect The Park: 8 Keys To Preventing Aquatic Invasive Species In Yellowstone \(4/15/23\)](#)

The importance of these regulations may surprise you: the ecological processes vital to Yellowstone's survival are being threatened by a number of aquatic invasive species in Yellowstone, as well as some that have not yet entered the park, but soon may do so.

FISH

[Federal, state and tribal officials join together for a new plan to eradicate an invasive species of trout in Eastern Oregon \(3/27/23\)](#)

The new project will be spearheaded by a committee composed of representatives by the Burns Paiute Tribe, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

[One year on from its great re-branding, here's how Copi is doing locally \(3/31/23\)](#)

"Most of our emphasis has been at the highest level of distributors and consumers at a large level," Irons said. "The next phase is to help them get out to the restaurants and we've got some local mouthpieces that have been very effective at knocking on the doors of restaurants because this is the right thing to do."

[Massive Pike Caught in North Idaho's Hayden Lake a New State Record \(4/7/23\)](#)

On March 21, Hayden Lake in North Idaho produced a new certified state record northern pike. The record fish weighed a whopping 40.76 pounds, was 49 inches in length and 26.5 inches in girth – a true monster of a fish.

[Blue catfish are invasive. Eating them might help a Chesapeake Bay staple \(4/5/23\)](#)

Chef Zack Mills has aimed for environmental balance in his craft for decades, but now with invasive blue catfish potentially threatening a Chesapeake Bay staple, blue crabs, the cook has another item on his menu.

['Shockingly huge' steelhead salmon escape fish farm, threatening B.C. lake \(4/18/23\)](#)

Massive farmed fishing threatening the food web of a Powell River lake

AQUATIC PLANTS

CLIMATE CHANGE

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

[USDA Asks Americans to Protect Plants by Looking for Invasive Pests in April 24, 2023 \(4/4/23\)](#) The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is declaring April 2023 Invasive Plant Pest and Disease Awareness Month.

[WDFW suggests positive ways to make a difference this Earth Day \(4/20/23\)](#) The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is dedicated to conserving and protecting the state's wildlife — including endangered and other at-risk species — from these threats.

OTHER

[Lake Mead and Lake Powell are swelling. Here's what that means for the water supply \(4/21/23\)](#) LAS VEGAS ([KLAS](#)) — Lake Mead will rise 33 feet higher than expected this year because of snowpack levels in the Upper Colorado River Basin, according to estimates released Thursday by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

[Nonprofits using AI to battle invasive rats that threaten SoCal island's pristine ecosystem \(3/31/23\)](#) Nonprofits The Nature Conservancy and Island Conservation are piloting a program on Santa Cruz that uses camera traps to monitor animals on the island and artificial intelligence to help weed through hundreds of thousands of images to identify potential invaders.

[Snot otters and other wildlife are not rock stars. Should they be saved? \(4/5/23\)](#) Heelsplitters, mudbugs and ferrets are among the critters that could benefit from a bipartisan bill, the Recovering America's Wildlife Act

[Invasive Species are as Costly as Natural Disasters \(4/18/23\)](#) A new study released on March 17, 2023, revealed that biological invasions from invasive species are as economically devastating as these more well-known phenomena, underscoring the importance of action and preventative measures.

JOBS/GRANTS

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New: The Office of Personnel Management launched a [new portal](#) as part of USAJOBS for students interested in applying for internships at federal agencies, billed as a “one-stop shop” for those interested in exploring a career in government.

Jobs

Are you ready to make a contribution to fisheries of the West Coast? Begin your job search and application process by searching for [specific jobs at PSMFC](#)

Volunteer Opportunity in Washington: Join Crab Team in 2023!

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

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

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

WHERE are volunteers needed?

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

WHEN will training happen?

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

HOW do I join?

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

[Invasive Species Extension Coordinator - UF/IFAS](#)

APPLY NOW JOB NO: 526479 **APPLICATIONS CLOSE: 01 May 2023**

WORK TYPE:

Staff Full-Time

LOCATION:

Main Campus (Gainesville, FL)

CATEGORIES:

Communications/Public Relations/Marketing, Office/Administrative/Fiscal Support

DEPARTMENT:

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60460000 - AG-SCHL FOR, FISH, & GEOMATICS

CLASSIFICATION TITLE:

Communications Specialist

JOB DESCRIPTION:

- Identifies key invasive species stakeholders and constituent groups both internally and externally and develops and implements innovative methods to reach and connect them.
 - Implements an integrated communication plan to improve communications among Invasive Species Specialists within IFAS and the broader UF community, improving links between research and extension.
 - Works with IFAS IT specialists to develop an invasive species web portal to better direct stakeholders to the appropriate sites.
 - Coordinates data input into the FISP online landowner assistance tool from all agencies and organizations providing financial and/or technical assistance for preventing or controlling infestations of invasive species on private lands.
 - Confers regularly with diverse stakeholders including administrators, county faculty and specialists on significant issues and developments relating to invasive species, writing communication messages, news releases, articles, and newsletters via print, online and social media platforms. Drives state vehicle in the performance of duties.
 - Collaborates with UF/IFAS Communications in promoting invasive species stories for IFAS news operations. Identifies and develops strong story ideas.
 - Partners with the Florida Forest Stewardship Program on invasive species outreach to private landowners.
 - Identifies opportunities to fund Invasive species extension efforts.
- Other duties as assigned.
This is a Time-Limited Position.

[Utah DNR: Aquatic Invasive Species Technician I](#)

APPLY Salary \$15.00 - \$17.00 Hourly

Location Statewide, UT

Job Type Seasonal Agency 560 Department of Natural Resources

Job Number 36682

Closing 5/1/2023 11:59 PM Mountain

Recruiter Karen Weir

of Openings 50 - 60

Schedule Code TL - Time Limited - This is a career service exempt at will position.

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

[UGA-Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health-Tifton Campus](#)

Tifton, Georgia 31793

(229) 386-3298

THE POSITION OF: Post-Doctoral Associate

LOCATION: Tifton, GA

BASE ANNUAL SALARY: \$53,000

GENERAL DUTIES AND REQUIREMENTS:

This Postdoctoral Research Associate position will work on mapping and modeling invasive and potentially invasive species to North America as part of a U.S. Forest Service funded project.

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This grant-funded position is initially funded for 19 months and could be extended if additional funding is available. The primary work will be utilizing distribution data from EDDMapS (www.eddmaps.org) and the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (www.gbif.org) to model and map species distribution with variables of current and future climate, current land cover, and human population density. The position will be located in the Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health and will work closely with the Center faculty and staff.

[Recruiting Aquatic Ecology Research Associate](#)

Natural Resources Research Institute, University of Minnesota Duluth

Job Opening: 355112, Researcher 6: Aquatic Ecologist Research Associate

NRRI is hiring a full-time researcher (professional staff) to work within our Water Research Group. Individuals with expertise in any of several aquatic disciplines, including fisheries ecology, stream or wetland ecology, wetland plant ecology, aquatic toxicology, restoration ecology (aquatic focus), hydrology or hydrogeology, or a related field. The candidate will initially work with the Freshwater Ecosystem Research and Monitoring Lab on research projects related to understanding stream, wetland, and Great Lakes nearshore ecology, including effects of aquatic invasive species, use of biotic metrics to assess ecological condition, and assessing the success of restoration activities. As the successful candidate's own research program develops, they will lead projects and develop an extramurally funded research program of their own related to NRRI's mission and vision as it applies to aquatic resources.

Application review will begin in mid-May

USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Plant Protection and Quarantine Technician (8) Billings (4), Helena (4), Montana

RECRUITMENT NO: MSPHD-022

OPENING DATE: Immediately

The US Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine (USDA, APHIS, PPQ) continues to look for great additions to our summer work force. These positions, based in Billings or Helena, Montana are filled from May 20th to September 30th (or whenever someone has to leave to fulfill other obligations, like college).

Here's a snapshot

4-day work weeks (3-day weekend)

Vehicle and gas provided.

Hotel and Meals and incidental expenses provided.

Employees drive throughout Montana conducting field activities, including:

Placing and servicing insect traps

Collecting and moving beneficial insects that feed on invasive weeds

Survey for rangeland grasshopper densities

And more

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

American Conservation Experience

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States (On-Site)

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

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

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

Start Date: mid-May/early-June 2023

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

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

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

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

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

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

Grants

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

Minimum Eligibility Requirements:

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

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

For more information on European green crab and the state response, please visit

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/invasive/carcinus-maenas>

and <https://wdfw.wa.gov/news/emergency-measures-deployed-control-invasive-european-green-crabs-washington-waters>

The Funding Opportunity for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife QZAP FY2023 has officially been posted. The total funding amount for projects is approximately \$2,200,000.00, which is similar to last year. There has been significant change in the application process over the past three years, resulting from our transition to GrantSolutions.gov. **This opportunity will be open for application through June 12, 2023.**

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Applications will need to be submitted through grantsolutions.gov, and you will need to create a login and password to access the system. There are recipient tutorials online linked below. Below are the steps you will need to take to access and locate the funding announcement. The funding announcement number is **F23AS00319** and the full title is "F23AS00319 FY2023 Implementation of the Quagga and Zebra Mussel Action Plan (QZAP) in the Western United States - 2023".

Please disseminate this opportunity to all interested parties. Please feel free to reach out to barak_shemai@fws.gov. The opportunity can also be found at grants.gov but applications may NOT be submitted through grants.gov [2023 QZAP GRANT](#)

PLEASE FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS AFTER CREATING
A [GRANTSOLUTIONS.GOV](https://grantsolutions.gov) LOGIN AND PASSWORD

- Sign into grantsolutions.gov
- Go to the Funding Opportunities page
- Once there use CTRL + F to search the name of the opportunity "name in full" or "QZAP"
- You should see the QZAP opportunity - Select Apply on the far right

Links to the recipient training videos:

- <https://www.doi.gov/grants/grantsolutions>
- [GS Recipient Training Videos https://home.grantsolutions.gov/home/recipient-training-videos/](https://home.grantsolutions.gov/home/recipient-training-videos/)

Link to general information:

- [FWS GrantSolutions https://doimsp.sharepoint.com/sites/fws-F09W00000/SitePages/GrantSolutions.aspx](https://doimsp.sharepoint.com/sites/fws-F09W00000/SitePages/GrantSolutions.aspx)

DO NOT SUBMIT APPLICATIONS THROUGH [GRANTS.GOV](https://grants.gov)

LEGISLATION

Advocacy

[Stronger America Through Seafood Urges Congress to Support \\$25 Million in Funding for the National Marine Fisheries Service's Aquaculture Office \(3/29/23\)](#)

[Aquatic Invasive Species Commission Calls on Congress to Modernize Laws, Increase Funding To Combat Invasive Species in New Report \(4/4/23\)](#) The Aquatic Invasive Species Commission, a collaboration between YETI, Bass Pro Shops, and recreational boating and fishing industry stakeholders, [released a report](#) today that identifies regulatory gaps in addressing aquatic invasive species and urges Congress to modernize laws, increase spending, and improve coordination at federal, state, local, and tribal levels to combat harmful aquatic invasive species.

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[Washington state leaders push for federal funding to trap invasive European green crabs \(4/5/23\)](#)
U.S. Senator Patty Murray and U.S. Representative Derek Kilmer joined leaders from the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe along with environmental advocates and experts Wednesday to get an update on the progress of efforts to trap European green crabs.

State/Provincial

Federal: Executive

[Ocean Climate Action Plan Information](#): To accelerate the U.S. whole-of-government approach to climate action, the Ocean Policy Committee released an [Ocean Climate Action Plan](#) (March 21, 2023). This plan features ongoing and planned federal ocean-based climate mitigation and adaptation activities, identifies gaps in climate and ocean science and management capabilities, and recommends new or enhanced ocean science and policy actions to tackle climate change.

[Secretary Haaland Announces \\$125 Million to Restore Nation's Lands and Waters as Part of President's Investing in America Agenda \(4/21/23\)](#)

BOISE, Idaho—During remarks at the Society of Environmental Journalists Annual Conference in Boise, Idaho, today, Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland announced a \$125 million investment from President Biden's Investing in America agenda to restore the nation's lands and waters. The funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law advances the Department's restoration and resilience framework unveiled last month, which will put people to work in locally led landscape restoration projects driven by collaborative partnerships while advancing climate resilience.

National Frameworks for Restoration and Resilience

Funding will also support national frameworks that advance coordinated restoration, including:

- \$17.9 million to advance a **National Early Detection and Rapid Response**, which proactively addresses invasive species before they become too costly to control.
 - [Pilot Rapid Response Fund](#) (Aquatic Species) National-scale U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) \$1,000,000 [FY 2023] \$4,000,000 [Total Project Commitment]

Today's announcement follows a \$68 million investment provided last year for ecosystem restoration projects. Learn more about Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding for [ecosystem restoration](#) and view the full project list on [the Department's website](#).

Federal: Congressional

[WA Invasive Crab Problem Gets Attention From Murray, Kilmer \(4/5/23\)](#) “I will be writing our nation’s spending bills for the next fiscal year and here’s the bottom line: this is a priority for Puget Sound and all of Washington state – so I’m going to make sure it’s a federal priority, too,” said Sen. Patty Murray (D), chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, during a tour of Sequim Bay with Jamestown S’Klallam, WDFW, Washington Sea Grant and other officials.

[Heinrich, Tillis Introduce Bipartisan Recovering America’s Wildlife Act \(3/31/23\)](#)

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senators Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.) and Thom Tillis (R-N.C.) reintroduced the bipartisan Recovering America’s Wildlife Act (RAWA). This legislation [S.1149] invests in proactive, on-the-ground conservation work led by states, territories, and Tribal nations to support the long-term health of fish and wildlife and their...

Text for S. 1149 can be found [HERE](#)

Related: [Statement from the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Supporting the Introduction of the Recovering America's Wildlife Act in the Senate \(3/31/23\)](#)

Note: Once again, this legislation includes support for invasive species in *(d) WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES.—(E) To manage, control, and prevent invasive species as well as diseases and other risks to wildlife.*

[Welch, Braun, and Hassan Introduce Bill to Address Spread of Invasive Species and Protect Forest Ecosystems \(4/20/23\)](#)

Senator Peter Welch (D-VT) led a bipartisan group to introduce the Invasive Species Prevention and Forest Restoration Act today. The bill, co-led by Senators Mike Braun (R-IN) and Maggie Hassan (D-NH), provides tools to combat non-native insects and pathogens that threaten forests and woodlands. The bill takes a comprehensive approach to combatting the presence of invasive species by expanding access to emergency funds for the United States Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to eradicate or contain pests.

“Invasive species threaten the stability of our ecosystems and present a real threat to culturally and ecologically significant plant species, including Vermont’s ash trees,” said Sen. Welch.

“This bill will ensure USDA has the resources needed to tackle this issue head-on and protect the woodlands that mean so much to communities in Vermont and across the United States.”

“As a lifelong outdoorsman, I recognize the threat that invasive species have on our ecosystems like the extinction of native plants or the destruction of habitat. This bill will help strengthen our approach to combatting invasive species, in Indiana and across the country, and reduce the ecological and economic impact that they have,” said Sen. Braun.

Federal: Appropriations

EVENTS

Archived Events:

The recording for the WRP Mid-Year Webinar from yesterday is now available on the WRP YouTube Channel <https://youtu.be/kOcmsbMdXe8>

Ongoing Training Opportunities:

Watercraft Inspection Training

Virtual (TBA):

- Virtual WIT or Level 1 – Inspector Training (2 days - 8 am – Noon PST)
<https://www.westernais.org/level-1-inspector-training>
- WIT or Level 2 – Inspector & Decon Training (3 days – 8 am – Noon PST)
<https://www.westernais.org/level-2>
- WIT or Level 3 – Trainer Training (3 days- 9 am – 4pm PST)
<https://www.westernais.org/level-3>

In-Person:

May 2-4 – North Dakota

Classes do fill up quickly and registrations will close, so if you are planning to attend or send students, it is recommended to get registrations in soon.

For more information go to <https://www.westernais.org/> (under the “Training” tab) or contact Quagga D @ (702)236-3814 or quaggadee@cox.net

[DOI Invasive Species Training Opportunities Spreadsheet](#)

[PNW IPC Citizen Science Trainings](#)

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

Calendar of Events

April

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[Gulf and South Atlantic Regional Panel Spring Meeting April 25-26, 2023; Jekyll Island, Georgia](#)

[Webinar: Invasive Species Policy and Biology: Patterns in Eastern US State Laws](#)

A free webinar hosted by the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies will present the work of the Invasive Species Working Group at Virginia Tech to compile legal and regulatory frameworks for introduced and invasive species for 21 eastern US states and future plans to develop a comprehensive database. Date: April 27, 2023 Time: 3:00 PM in Eastern Time (US and Canada) Registration: [Click here](#).

May

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

NAISMA Webinar Series

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

June

On behalf of the Flathead Lake Biological Station and MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks, with generous support from the Montana Invasive Species Council and MT Natural Resources and Conservation, you are cordially invited to an early detection and monitoring training for the management of aquatic invasive species. We have scheduled this two-day training for Monday June 5th at the Flathead Lake Biological Station (Polson, MT) from 10:00 AM to 4 PM, and Tuesday June 6th (field day) on the beautiful Flathead Lake at Bigfork, MT and on the Swan River (east of Bigfork) from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. To join us, please RSVP for this in-person training to Phil Matson at <mailto:phil.matson@umontana.edu> by May 20th.

[Columbia River Basin \(CRB\) Team](#): The next meeting of the 100th Meridian Initiative Columbia River Basin AIS Team will be held June 6-7, 2023 at the SpringHill Suites in Boise, Idaho. Registration information will be available closer to that date. [Hotel rooms can be reserved at government per diem rates](#) until May 22, 2023. Contact Amy Stark for further information @ astark@psmfc.org

NAISMA Webinar Series

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

July

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

NAISMA Webinar Series

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

August

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

NAISMA Webinar Series

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

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

September

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

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

October

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

November

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

2024

May

The [23rd International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species](#) will take place in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, from May 12 – 16, 2024. The conference theme is ‘Meeting Challenges with Innovation’. Stay tuned for more details.

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sphillips@psmfc.org. AIS NEWS was compiled by Robyn Draheim

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[\(robbyndraheim@gmail.com\)](mailto:robbyndraheim@gmail.com) and Stephen Phillips. Past issues of AIS NEWS
can be found @ <https://www.westernais.org/western-ais-news>

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