



Aquatic Invasive Species News

February 21, 2023

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NEW AND NOTABLE

[Searching: A Biologist's Journey by Joan Cabreza](#)

[Yes, that Joan Cabreza, aka AIS NEWS's very own founder, back when it was known as Aquatic Nuisance Species News in a Nutshell!]

She left searching for adventure, her country and herself, and found all three, but along the way she also discovered her life's passion and her faith. Part travelogue, part wildlife encounters and part dangerous, risk-filled adventure, this compelling memoir follows the journey of a female 1950s biologist frustrated by the conservative gender and social confines of the Midwest and disillusioned with the country. She leaves for two decades of real-world adventures in the Costa Rican Jungle, Hawaii, Asia, the Philippines and Guam, before finding her way back to the United States and home in Seattle.

RECOMMENDED READING

[The worst house guests: European green crabs are invading B.C. waters](#)

A monumental effort is underway to contain the spiny creatures, the bodies of which are flash frozen and dumped at landfills or churned into compost. But one First Nation is arguing that, given the price of groceries, we should rethink the way we eradicate invasive, but edible, species [[read more](#)]

PUBLIC COMMENT

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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is announcing its [intent to develop a Supplemental Notice to the Vessel Incidental Discharge National Standards of Performance](#) proposed rule. EPA anticipates that the Supplemental Notice will provide clarification on the proposed rule, share new ballast water data that EPA is receiving from the U.S. Coast Guard, and discuss additional regulatory options EPA is considering for the final rule. EPA intends to sign the Supplemental Notice in the Fall of 2023 and make it available for public comment in the Federal Register shortly thereafter. During the comment period, EPA will solicit comments specific to the issues identified in the Supplemental Notice. EPA anticipates that the final rule addressing public comments received on both the proposed rule and the Supplemental Notice will be signed for publication in the Fall of 2024. This schedule will be reflected in the 2023 Spring Semi-Annual Regulatory Agenda.

Information on the Vessel Incidental Discharge Act (VIDA) and EPA's proposed rule are available on EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/vessels-marinas-and-ports/commercial-vessel-discharge-standards>

The Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will conduct a 60-day public comment period to provide an opportunity for the public to give input and recommendations on the implementation of any provision contained in the WRDA of 2022.

Additionally, the ASA(CW) and USACE will host a series of virtual public listening sessions where participants can provide input and recommendations on the implementation of any WRDA 2022 provision. The public may attend the virtual listening sessions via Webex meeting <https://usace1.webex.com/meet/WRDA2022> or by phone (Phone Number: 844-800-2712, Code: 199 937 4287) on the days and times listed below.

- February 22, 2023 - 2:00-4:00 pm Eastern
- March 1, 2023 - 2:00-4:00 pm Eastern

The public comment period will be held from **January 20 through March 21, 2023**. You may submit comments, identified by Docket ID No. COE-2023-0002, by any of the following methods: Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov/>

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] [Trachemys scripta \(Red-eared Slider\)](#) was found in the Hassayampa drainage
[USGS NAS]

[California]

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Pistia stratiotes (water lettuce) was found in Newport Bay drainage [[USGS NAS](#)] and Los Angeles drainage [[USGS NAS](#)]

Pomacea canaliculata (channeled applesnail) was found in Santa Margarita drainage [[USGS NAS](#)]

Potamogeton crispus (curly-leaf pondweed) was found in San Luis Obispo [[USGS NAS](#)]

Trachemys scripta (Red-eared Slider) was found in the Santa Ana drainage [[USGS NAS](#)]

[Colorado] *Thymallus arcticus* (Arctic Grayling) was found in the Arkansas Headwaters [[USGS NAS](#)]

[Kansas] *Hypophthalmichthys nobilis* (Bighead Carp) was found in the Lower Kansas, Kansas [[USGS NAS](#)]

[Nevada] *Pterygoplichthys* sp. (sailfin armored catfish) was found in the Truckee drainage [[USGS NAS](#)]

Herichthys cyanoguttatus (Rio Grande Cichlid) was found in the Las Vegas Wash [[USGS NAS](#)]

[Oklahoma] *Dreissena polymorpha* (zebra mussel) was found in Lake Ellsworth, Oklahoma [[USGS NAS](#)]

[Texas]

Pistia stratiotes (water lettuce) was found in Buffalo-San Jacinto drainage. [[USGS NAS](#)]

Ludwigia hexapetala (six petal water primrose) was found in West Galveston Bay [[USGS NAS](#)]

Myriophyllum aquaticum (parrot feather) was found in the San Marcos drainage [[USGS NAS](#)]

Eichhornia crassipes (common water-hyacinth) was found in Lower City Lake [[USGS NAS](#)]

Herichthys cyanoguttatus (Rio Grande Cichlid) was found in the Lower Neches drainage [[USGS NAS](#)]

Salvinia minima (water spangles) was found in McKinney-Posten Bayous [[USGS NAS](#)]

[Washington] *Cipangopaludina chinensis* (Chinese mysterysnail) was found in the Little Spokane drainage [[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

[CDFW: Quagga veliger detected in Foothill Feeder Pressure Control Structure \(source water Castaic Lake\) \(2/10/23\)](#) On January 6, 2023, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) detected a single quagga mussel veliger using cross-polarized microscopy in a large volume plankton net sample collected at Metropolitan’s Foothill Feeder Pressure Control Structure, which is downstream of Castaic Lake. The veliger was confirmed as a quagga mussel by PCR and DNA sequencing.

[Clear Lake to be monitored for invasive species as precaution, Parks Canada says \(2/16/23\)](#) Beginning Monday, Riding Mountain National Park staff will be working with Fisheries and Oceans Canada as well as the province on increased testing, after a positive test for zebra mussel environmental DNA came back in late January.

Sepulveda, A.J., Gage, J.A., Counihan, T.D. et al. Can big data inform invasive dreissenid mussel risk assessments of habitat suitability?. *Hydrobiologia* (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10750-023-05156-z> [\$]

Crysta A. Gantz, Rich Miller, Steve Wells, Mark D. Sytsma and Angela L. Strecker [Mussel squeeze: dissolved oxygen and temperature can “squeeze” zebra mussels out of invaded reservoirs \(in press\)](#)

BOAT INSPECTION/DECON

BALLAST WATER/BIOFOULING

[EPA must update ship ballast water dumping rules, lawsuit says \(2/7/23\)](#) The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency missed deadlines to update pollution standards for ballast discharges from ships, according to a lawsuit filed by environmental groups claiming the government's inaction is threatening American waters.

Dobrzycka-Kraheil, A., & Medina-Villar, S. (2023). [A New Horizon-Scanning Tool to Identify Potential Aquatic Invasive Alien Species Introduced into the Baltic Sea by Shipping](#). *Water*, 15(3), 531.

[The future of ballast water management and treatment \(2/10/23\)](#) After decades of discussion, ballast water treatment regulations are still failing to provide owners and operators with confidence

[Mariners can help reduce lethal coral disease spread \(2/13/23\)](#) In response to this ongoing environmental threat and the potential for shipborne spread, the Coast Guard urges vessel owners and operators to familiarize themselves with existing ballast water requirements

MARINE

[From scourge to sauce? Fish sauce may be the answer to stopping the invasive green crab \(2/17/23\)](#) Working with scientists, a local chef has developed an Asian fish sauce from the crabs. It's local, pungent and could be one way to reduce the crabs' numbers.

AQUACULTURE

[Scientists slam DFO report regarding salmon farms, sea lice \(2/14/23\)](#) Open letter addressed to DFO finds 'inconsistencies' with salmon farm findings

[BC salmon farm closures trigger record high prices \(2/1/23\)](#) Price spikes are being driven by government decisions to reduce supply of BC's farm-raised salmon, states the Canadian Aquaculture Industry Alliance (CAIA).

[Activist 'doctored' aquaculture workshop video says First Nation \(2/14/23\)](#) Salmon farming battle heats up in British Columbia with activists targeting scientists and aquaculture-friendly First Nations

[Moving B.C. salmon farms from water to land costly, risky: study \(2/15/23\)](#)

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Replacing current production from open-net salmon farms in B.C. with land-based systems would require at least \$1.8 billion in investment, government subsidies and regulatory changes.

[Fisheries Department to shut 15 salmon farms off B.C.'s coast to protect wild fish \(2/16/23\)](#) Fisheries Minister Joyce Murray says recent science indicates uncertainty over the risks posed by the salmon farms to wild salmon.

FRESHWATER

[Treat waders with Formula 409? New study confirms it kills invasive snails \(2/4/23\)](#) Biology researchers in Michigan found the best way to kill invasive New Zealand mudsnails from fishing and boating gear is to heavily spritz with common household cleaner Formula 409.

[Why \[Texas\] shouldn't worry about the invasive Australian Redclaw Crayfish—yet. \(2/7/23\)](#) Last year, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) put out an ominous message warning Texans to be on the lookout for a new, invasive arrival: the Australian Redclaw Crayfish...

[Reign of invasive rusty crayfish may be ending; Wisconsin lakes rejoice \(2/13/23\)](#) Just how hard should natural resource managers fight invasive species after they establish? A new [University of Illinois study](#) suggests some invaders – even highly successful ones – can die off naturally, leaving native communities to rebound with minimal management effort.

FISH

Hartman, J.H. and Larson, E.R. (2023), Overlooked Invaders? Ecological Impacts of Non-Game, Native Transplant Fishes in the United States. Fisheries, 48: 62-71.
<https://doi.org/10.1002/fsh.10864>

[CDFW, Robinson Rancheria Partner On Pilot Program To Remove Invasive Carp, Goldfish To Help Clear Lake Hitch \(2/14/23\)](#) The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the Robinson Rancheria Pomo Indians of California (Robinson Rancheria) have initiated a pilot program on Clear Lake to remove invasive carp and goldfish to benefit the Clear Lake hitch, also known as “Chi.”

[\[Video\] Pest fishing, the exciting angling trend targeting invasive species](#)

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AQUATIC PLANTS

[Ocean Shores, WA honing major vegetation management strategy for third time in three decades \(2/9/23\)](#) Over the course of the last three decades, aquatic vegetation has posed a problem for fresh waterways in Ocean Shores, both in ecological health and for human use.

CLIMATE CHANGE

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

[Wildlife Forever Leads The War on Carp™ campaign with support from AFTCO \(1/30/23\)](#) Wildlife Forever is excited to announce new leadership of the War on Carp campaign raising awareness of invasive carps and needs for enhanced management and control.

Novoa, A., Canavan, S., Lieurance, D. et al. Exploring the performance of Biological Invasions in social media five years after opening its Facebook and Twitter accounts. Biol Invasions 25, 141–152 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-022-02901-8>

[WA Governor Proclaims the Week of February 20 as Invasive Species Awareness Week](#)

OTHER

[Japan to Ban Releasing Invasive Turtles, Crayfish into Wild in June \(2/2/23\)](#) Previously, designation as invasive alien species would prohibit individuals not only from releasing these creatures into the wild but also from keeping them as pets. This raised concern that some owners might abandon their pets in anticipation of their being designated as invasive alien species. In light of this, the government revised the Invasive Alien Species Law to enable designation as invasive alien species “with conditions” by government decree to allow them to be kept as pets.

[Huge chunk of plants, animals in U.S. at risk of extinction \(2/6/23\)](#) A leading conservation research group found that 40% of animals and 34% of plants in the United States are at risk of extinction, while 41% of ecosystems are facing collapse... Sean O'Brien, president of NatureServe, said the conclusions of the report were "terrifying" and he hoped it would help lawmakers understand the urgency of passing protections,

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such as the Recovering America's Wildlife Act that stalled out in Congress last year... The threats against plants, animals and ecosystems are varied, the report found, but include "habitat degradation and land conversion, invasive species, damming and polluting of rivers, and climate change."

Sax, Dov F., Martin A. Schlaepfer, and Julian D. Olden. "[Valuing the contributions of non-native species to people and nature.](#)" Trends in Ecology & Evolution (2022). [\$]

JOBS/GRANTS

Jobs

[OPM Launches a New Web Portal for Federal Internships \(2/17/23\)](#)

The Office of Personnel Management on Thursday 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. The [new portal](#) filters federal job advertisements by those available to current high school, university or graduate program students, and it allows potential applicants to sort openings by agency, salary and General Schedule pay grade, and location. Individual listings also state the length of the internship program, expected hours from participants, as well as whether interns could be converted to full-time positions upon the completion of their degree.

[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?

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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.

[Vessel Incidental Discharge Act \(VIDA\) Section Lead - Environmental Planner 5 - Perm - *01359-23 Full-Time/Permanent Fish Program WDFW](#)

Olympia, Washington – Thurston County

Help prevent the introduction of, and early detection monitoring of, marine and freshwater Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) transported into or spread within the state through multiple pathways. Lead the VIDA Section of the AIS Unit and serve as the Department expert and strategic advisor to the AIS Unit Manager on statewide VIDA planning, policies, and state and federal laws. Please note: This recruitment is posted until filled, with a **first review of applications to take place on February 9, 2023.**

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.

Oregon Department of Agriculture is issuing a Request For Proposals (RFP) under OregonBuys Bid Number S-60300-00005425 for

[Oregon Invasive Species Council Coordinator](#)

Date of Issue: January 26, 2023

February 23, 2023, 3:00pm

[Postdoctoral Research Associate - Wildlife Trade and Amphibian Diseases](#)

[The Brunner Lab](#) in the School of Biological Sciences at Washington State University is seeking a postdoctoral research associate to contribute to a multidisciplinary, multi-institutional NSF EEID-funded project, "Socioeconomic and Epidemiological Drivers of Pathogen Dynamics in Wildlife Trade Networks."

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter summarizing experience and professional interests, and a CV with at least three references. **Review of applications will begin on 20 February 2023, and continue until a suitable candidate is identified.**

The initial appointment is for one year with extension to a second year pending performance review. The candidate would ideally begin in the late spring or summer of 2023. Questions about the position can be directed to Dr. Jesse Brunner (jesse.brunner@wsu.edu).

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[The East Kootenay Invasive Species Council](#) is a non-profit organization based in the East Kootenays, who builds partnerships and supports collaborative projects on the ground, and in natural and applied science, policy research with outreach and education to protect our forests, fields, gardens, waterways and cities from the damaging effects of invasive species.

- Invasive Species Field Assistant

The Invasive Species Field Assistants are our boots on the ground WEED WARRIORS! Pulling, conducting inventories, reseeding, researching, lake monitoring, data collecting and so much more, all to help reduce invasive impacts throughout the East Kootenays

Deadline to apply is Mar 24

Application to: emma@ekisc.com

- Invasive Species Education Assistant

The Invasive Species Education Assistants are the FACE of EKISC! Raising awareness across the East Kootenays about the negative impacts of invasive species through workshops, courses, interpretive walks + events!

Deadline to apply is Mar 24

Application to: megan@ekisc.com

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

[New Mexico Aquatic Invasive Species Watercraft Inspector - Seasonal \(DGF](#)

[#10107352+\)](#)

Posting End Date 03/02/2023

Job Posting Type Standard Requisition

For more Job Requirements & Classification Description: [Click Here](#)

Job ID131225

Location

Santa Fe

Full/Part Time Part-Time

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Regular/TemporaryTemporary

SCA: Invasive Species Strike Team Member

Morris, Minnesota, United States

This position will be part of a four member crew comprising the Morris-Big Stone Strategic Weed Assault Team (SWAT). The crew will be dedicated solely to mapping and treating invasive plant species in high quality and highly threatened prairies across the project area. Work will take place on National Wildlife Refuge System Lands in Morris Wetland Management District, Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge/Wetland Management District, and Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge.

Expected Dates: June 12, 2023 - September 29, 2023

Invasive Species Strike Team Technician

Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership (CRISP)

Arkville, New York, United States (Hybrid)

We are seeking 4 motivated and reliable Invasive Species Strike Team Technicians to join us in controlling invasive species throughout the Catskills this season: Two Aquatic Strike Team Technicians and two Terrestrial Strike Team Technicians. These seasonal Technicians are anticipated to work 37.5 hours/week for 14 weeks, beginning mid-May. The Terrestrial Strike Team will focus control efforts on terrestrial plants and animals. The Aquatic Strike Team will focus efforts in and around lakes, rivers, and streams, working from boats or shore in waders or similar gear.

Biotech Crew Member (NPS Invasive Species Early Detection)

Great Basin Institute Ashland, Oregon, United States (On-Site)

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

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.

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

[Natural Resources Technician \(Invasive Species Management\) Jefferson County Colorado](#)

Jefferson County Open Space is currently hiring limited-term Natural Resources Technicians to assist with our invasive species management program. The Natural Resources Technicians assist with invasive species management on JCOS Parks and properties by safely operating light and heavy equipment, and hand tools during implementation of invasive species management projects; mixing, loading, and applying herbicides using motorized and/or hand-held equipment; following requirements and regulations of local, county, state, and federal weed control programs, including all requirements relative to pesticide storage, mixing, application, and disposal; collecting vegetation field data; and, working effectively as part of a team in challenging conditions and remote locations. These are limited-term positions with projected start and end dates of April 11th and October 27th, 2023. These positions are eligible for personal medical coverage the first of the month after you start.

[Cattail Treatment Research Technician Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Bemidji, Minnesota, United States \(On-Site\)](#)

The DNR is currently seeking a temporary Natural Resources Technician. The technician will assist with a research project evaluating vegetative responses and responses by waterfowl after cattails are treated in Minnesota wetlands. Invasive cattails form dense monotypic stands, displacing native aquatic plants and impacting fish, amphibians, and wetland birds via changing habitat structure and displacing food resources. A common management goal to benefit waterfowl is a 50:50 ratio of emergent vegetation to open water (“hemi-marsh”). The technician will assist the Research Scientist 2 and other project personnel in field and lab work, including conducting waterfowl pair surveys, invertebrate sampling, waterfowl brood surveys, and emergent vegetation surveys. The position will be based at the Wetlands Research Group office in Bemidji, MN, with travel to field sites.

The anticipated dates for this temporary position are April 3, 2023 through September 29, 2023.

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

Erskine, Minnesota, United States (On-Site)

American Conservation Experience, a nonprofit Conservation Corps, in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), is seeking one Invasive Species Member to contribute to work alongside Rydell and Glacial Ridge National Wildlife Refuge Staff. During this term, the ACE members will work on meaningful conservation projects such as invasive species inventory and removal.

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

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

California, United States

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Invasive Species Members- Modoc National Wildlife Refuge
American Conservation Experience, a Nonprofit Conservation Corps, in partnership with USFWS is seeking TWO Invasive Species Members to contribute to invasive plant management projects alongside Modoc NWR staff.
For more information about ACE, please visit: www.usaconservation.org.
Start Date: May 8th, 2023, End date 14 weeks later.

[Invasive Species Mapping Member Pixley National Wildlife Refuge
American Conservation Experience](#)

Earlimart, California, 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 ONE Invasive Species Mapping Member to contribute to the invasive species mapping program project alongside Kern National Wildlife Refuge Complex Staff.
For more information about ACE, please visit: www.usaconservation.org.
Start Date: April 17, 2023
Estimated End Date: November 11, 2023

Grants

[Request for Proposals: Aquatic Invasive Species \(AIS\) Prevention Program Secret Shopper RFP #230006](#)

The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) is requesting qualifications from all interested contractors to conduct independent assessments of program protocols at watercraft inspection stations and boat launch facilities.
Deadline: February 17, 2023 – Bidding Firms' Questions Due
March 3, 2023 – Deadline for Proposal Submissions
Questions: All questions should be submitted in writing to the RFP Coordinator:
Tom Boos tboos@trpa.gov

[Notice of Request For Quotes \(RFQ\) Announcement for Aquatic Invasive Species Dive Services](#)

Tahoe Regional Planning Agency is seeking quotes for on-call aquatic invasive species control and surveillance dive services. View the RFQ here:

<https://www.trpa.gov/contact/request-for-proposals/>

TRPA anticipates the following schedule, which is subject to change:

Bidding Firms' Questions Due: February 21, 2023

Questions and Answers posted to www.trpa.gov: February 24, 2023

Deadline for Proposal Submissions: March 15, 2023

Commencement of Work: April 15, 2023

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

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

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

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

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

The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office, on behalf of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, is soliciting proposals for interagency agreement funding to support response to the ongoing [European green crab emergency](#). Please visit <https://rco.wa.gov/about-us/employment-and-contracts/> for more information about the available funding for public agencies. **(Rolling deadline until funds fully allocated)** For more information on European green crab and the state response, please visit <https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/invasive/carcinus-maenas> and <https://wdfw.wa.gov/news/emergency-measures-deployed-control-invasive-european-green-crabs-washington-waters>

LEGISLATION

Advocacy

State/Provincial

[Hawaii] [Lawmakers signal support for invasive species program funding \(2/7/23\)](#)
[Senate Bill 652](#) appropriates funds to mitigate and control the two-lined spittlebug. Since its introduction to Hawai'i Island in 2016, the spittlebug has decimated thousands of acres of pastureland.

68th Montana State Legislature

Helena welcomes Montana's 100 representatives and 50 senators to the Capitol City. Information about the session can be found here - [Session Information](#)

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Bills MISC [[Montana Invasive Species Council](#)] is following:

- HB 34 - [Exempt certain DNRC grants from MEPA](#)
- HB 84 - [Revise laws related to treatment of garbage fed to swine](#)
- HB 86 - [Remove sunset from MT Wildlife Habitat Improvement Act \(WHIP\)](#)
- HB 93 - [Eliminate noxious weed seed free forage advisory council](#)
- SB 28 - [Provide funding for conservation districts](#)
- SB 83 - [Create western Montana Conservation Commission](#) [**Passed Senate, 49-0, 2/6/23**]
- SB 88 - [Exempt lifetime fishing licenses for the blind from AIS pass](#)

Unintroduced bills still in draft form

- LC 0230 - Transfer Montana Aquatic Invasive Species Act to DNRC
- LC 1721 - Generally revise pesticide disposal laws
- LC 1853 - Generally revise aquatic invasive species laws
- LC 3469 - Referendum to repeal Art. IX, section 6 of MT Constitution
- LC 3470 - Make Art. IX, sec 6 of MT Constitution statutory
- LC 3999 - Revise laws related to certain mussels
- LC 4265 - Generally revise aquatic invasive species funding laws

Federal: Executive

[Lawsuit Seeks to Protect U.S. Waters From Ship Pollution, Invasive Species \(2/6/23\)](#)

The Center for Biological Diversity and Friends of the Earth sued the Environmental Protection Agency today for failing to finalize nationwide standards that would protect U.S. waterways from harmful vessel discharges.

Federal: Congressional

Recovering America's Wildlife Act (2/8/23)

According to *AFWA's Invasive Species News*:

Early conversations have begun to take shape on the path to reintroduction of the Recovering America's Wildlife Act. Senator Heinrich has reinforced the importance of getting early support from Senate cosponsors, specifically Republicans, as they work behind the scenes to chart the path forward. Your help in reaching out to your Senators and gathering that support is greatly appreciated. He and his new co-lead, Senator Tillis (R-NC) are working diligently to secure a payfor and tee the bill up for reintroduction, so things could start to move quickly in the Senate. The process in the House is perhaps a bit more complicated, but a coordinated approach is being pursued. A Congressional

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Sportsman’s Foundation (CSF) event on Monday, January 30, kicked off several necessary conversations to advance the bill. There is a lot on the table in terms of what the bill will look like for reintroduction—bicameral conversations early in that process will be important for the ultimate success of getting through both chambers, minimizing hurdles and opportunities for political stalemate.

Federal: Appropriations

EVENTS

Archived Events:

Ongoing Training Opportunities:

Watercraft Inspection Training

Virtual:

- Virtual WIT or Level 1 – Inspector Training (2 days - 8 am – Noon PST)
<https://www.westernais.org/level-1-inspector-training>
- WIT or Level 2 – Inspector & Decon Training (3 days – 8 am – Noon PST)
3 classes available in 2023
<https://www.westernais.org/level-2>
- WIT or Level 3 – Trainer Training (3 days- 9 am – 4pm PST)
3 classes available in 2023
<https://www.westernais.org/le>

In-Person:

May 2-4 – North Dakota

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

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

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Training Announcement

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

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

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

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

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

[DOI Invasive Species Training Opportunities Spreadsheet](#)

[PNW IPC Citizen Science Trainings](#)

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

[Calendar of Events](#)

February

[North American Invasive Species Awareness Week](#) February 20-26, 2023

- Monday, February 20th [Invasive Species Programs Across Mexico](#)
- Tuesday, February 21st [USGS Invasive Species Research Unit: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Projects and the Effects of Climate Change on Invasive Species](#)
- Wednesday, February 22nd [The Water Resources Development Act: Provisions for Invasive Species Prevention and Management](#)

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- Thursday, February 23rd [Collaboratively Addressing Feral Swine/Wild Pigs and Preparing for African Swine Fever across North America](#)
- Friday, February 24th [American Bullfrog Management to Support Conservation and Recovery of Native Species in the West](#)

Washington Invasive Species Awareness Week; February 20 – February 26, 2023

- February 21 – [Washington Invasive Aquatic Plants to Look Out For Webinar](#) (11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.)
- February 21 – [European Green Crab Update Webinar](#) (2 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.)
- February 22 – [Safeguard Our Shellfish Webinar](#) (11 a.m. – 12 p.m.)
- February 22 – [Hunting for Hornets’ Season Three: A Recap of Activities During the 2022 Season Webinar](#) (12 p.m. – 1 p.m.)
- February 23 – [12th Annual Columbia Gorge Invasive Species and Exotic Pest Workshop](#) (9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. In-person only. Stevenson, WA)
- February 24 – [Aquatic Invasive Species, Decontamination, and Meet Fin! Webinar](#) (9 a.m. – 10 a.m.)
- February 24 – [African Clawed Frog in Washington Webinar](#) (11 a.m. – 12 p.m.)
- February 25 – [On the Horizon: Spotted Lanternfly Biology, Hosts, Impacts, and Action Plan Webinar](#) (10 a.m. – 11 a.m.)

[USGS Research on Invasive Species: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Effects of Climate Change on Invasive Species](#) February 21, 2023 @ 12:00 pm – 3:30 pm CDT.

Sat, Feb 25 | Mount Vernon, Washington

[Skagit County Invasive Species Training](#)

Attend a free 3-hour training, including a one-hour nature walk where you will learn how to identify priority invasive species, how to record basic data and how to report findings on EDDMapS, a national early detection reporting system.

March

[The Invasive Species Advisory Committee](#) will convene by Zoom virtual platform on Monday, March 6, 2023, 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.; Tuesday, March 7, 2023, 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.; and Wednesday, March 8, 2023, 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. The final agenda will be available on the National Invasive Species Council (NISC) website at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting at <https://www.invasivespecies.gov> Registration is required

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Registration is now open for the first annual [Western AIS \(Aquatic Invasive Species\) Short Course!](#) This annual AIS Short Course provides a vital bridge between landowners, aquatics professionals, researchers, and aquatics contractors. We are pleased to announce that our inaugural course will be held at the Holiday Inn Missoula Downtown in Missoula, Montana on March 7th - 8th, 2023. Breakfast and lunch will be provided on both days, as well as complimentary swag with each guest registration. Attendees of the course will benefit from this program by:

- Obtaining CEUs for Aquatic Pest Control Applicator License
- Gaining first-hand AIS knowledge from regional professionals at the county, state, and federal level.
- Receiving updates on current research from key professionals in the field of aquatics management
- Learning to identify invasive and priority AIS species in the regional area
- Streamlining communication between aquatics professionals, aquatics contractors, and private landowners
- Gaining education on preventative tactics on small- and large-scale levels
- Having the opportunity to network with managers and researchers during the short course social hour.

[Theodore Roosevelt Genius Prize Advisory Council Meeting \(3/9/23\)](#) The Council's purpose is to advise the Secretary of the Interior regarding any opportunities for technological innovation in the six focus areas: preventing wildlife poaching and trafficking, promoting wildlife conservation, managing invasive species, protecting endangered species, nonlethally managing human-wildlife conflict, and reducing human-predator conflict.

[VIRTUAL SUMMIT MARCH 8, 2023 10AM-1PM PACIFIC TIME](#)

[Developing Solutions to Mitigate Risks](#)

This 3-hour summit will identify gaps and issues and set the stage to develop strategies and actions to minimize risks posed by aquatic plants and pets in commerce. Expert presenters and panelists will share information on e-commerce, monitoring and inspection, labeling and recordkeeping, regulations and enforcement, voluntary industry standards, and outreach associated with plants and animals in trade. The summit will conclude with the launch of seven work groups from industry and government to focus on key gaps that contribute to the spread of AIS in commerce as well as potential solutions to address those gaps.

Learn more about the project here: <https://www.aisincommerce.org/>

North American Invasive Species Management Association Webinar Series

March 15, 2023 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm CDT: Webinar: [Preventing the Spread of Invasive Species through PlayCleanGo and WorkCleanGo](#)

The next meeting of the [Pacific Ballast Water Group \(PBWG\)](#) will be March 28-29, at the DoubleTree, Seattle Airport. We anticipate the meeting starting at 9:00 am PDT on Tuesday, March 28 and ending ~ @ 12 pm on Wednesday March 29. The meeting will have a virtual option.

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Registration and Hotel details will be coming shortly.
Agenda recommendations are welcome. Email [Amy Stark](#) for details.

April

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

May

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

June

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

July

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

August

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

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

September

[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

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

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