



Aquatic Invasive Species News

October 12, 2023

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RECOMMENDED READING:

Idaho Quagga Mussel Detection and Response - Media Timeline

[Invasive mussel discovery in Idaho puts Pacific Northwest on alert \(9/22/23\)](#) The DNA lab results came back Monday. “The initial phone call was a bit of a shock,” said Nic Zurfluh, the Idaho State Department of Agriculture bureau chief for invasive species. “But this is what we plan for.” The call confirmed that routine water sampling had captured the larval form of the quagga mussel – only visible under a microscope – freely floating in the Snake River by Twin Falls.

[\[video\] Idaho Fish and Game speaks on Quagga Mussel efforts thus far \(9/26/23\)](#) While the Idaho Department of Agriculture is taking the lead on a large amount of the efforts in combating the invasive species, Fish and Game Regional communications manager for the Magic Valley Region Terry Thompson stressed that this is a community effort to ensure that this does not become a larger problem for the entire Pacific Northwest.

[Sportsmen/women need to respect Snake River closures due to quagga mussels \(9/26/23\)](#) “Fish and Game is part of a statewide effort to keep people away from this area of the Snake River while critical work is being spearheaded by ISDA. Unfortunately, it looks like some people aren’t getting the message, or they’re ignoring it,” Fish and Game Director Jim Fredericks said. “This is a serious matter, and Idaho can’t afford the risk of spreading quagga mussels outside of the impacted area, so enforcement is being stepped up.”

[Preliminary test samples are coming back, ISDA is starting to explore treatment options for Quagga Mussels in the Snake River \(9/27/23\)](#) It’s been nine days since the Idaho State Department of Agriculture discovered the presence of Quagga Mussel larvae in Centennial Park and the work is still far from over. Over those nine days, the ISDA has taken hundreds of samples from Shoshone Falls to downriver of Centennial Park. ISDA officials say they have not seen a significant change in the results from the original sample area but are seeing a lot of negative results in other parts of the river. So far, no samples have come back positive downriver of Centennial Park.

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[Opinion: Quagga mussels could screw us all \(9/28/23\)](#) Governor Little correctly noted last week that Quagga Mussel infestation in the Snake River system could cost the state tens of millions of dollars a year. While that prospect is scary enough, I'm worried Right-Wing Idaho legislators, combined with a spineless governor, could make the situation even worse.

[A possible Government shutdown should not impact the Idaho State Department of Agriculture's Quagga Mussel Action Plan \(9/29/23\)](#) As the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) continues to work to contain and treat the Snake River Quagga Mussels outbreak a Federal Government shutdown lingers overhead. ISDA Director Chanel Tewalt told KMVT that even if the Federal Government does shut down there should be no impact to its action plan against the invasive species. Tewalt said the ISDA is very fortunate, thanks to the Idaho legislature and Gov. Brad Little, to have healthy funding which allowed them to have an immediate state response.

[Fish and Game issues hunting and fishing closures related to the Quagga Action Plan \(9/29/23\)](#) An additional quagga related closure was also issued this morning by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game Commissioners. The closure is closely related to their fishing ban that was issued last Friday. The newest closure bans hunting and trapping.

[Town Hall briefing in Twin Falls about quagga mussel invasion, treatment \(10/1/23\)](#) The Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) is holding a public town hall meeting in Twin Falls to discuss the invasion of the quagga mussel and how the department plans to treat it. The event is Sunday, Oct. 1 at the City of Twin Falls Council Chambers from 5 to 6 p.m. [People can also stream the meeting here.](#)

[ISDA to deploy chemical treatment in Snake River to kill invasive mussels. Here's what to know \(10/1/23\)](#) A copper-based pesticide will be released into the Snake River this week as the Idaho State Department of Agriculture attempts to eradicate invasive quagga mussels. The chemical, called Natrix, is known to be toxic to aquatic mussels at all life stages. It had already been specially approved to control invasive mollusks in Idaho by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

[Boats airlifted to battle invasive quagga mussels in Snake River: ISDA's 10-day treatment plan begins \(10/2/23\)](#) Boats are being airlifted into the Snake River in preparation of a treatment plan to help fight the invasive quagga mussels. Parts of the river are now deemed impassable by boats in order to get to the main section of river that is affected, so ISDA is airlifting boats to the section of river where treatment is needed.

['If we don't treat, we lose the whole river': Quagga mussel treatment underway on mid-Snake River \(10/3/23\)](#) The treatment is not expected to impact any drinking water sources. However, it is expected to kill a significant number of fish, as well as aquatic plants and algae within the treatment area of the Snake River. [Idaho Fish and Game has established a benchmark on current fish populations](#) that will be used to help guide future fish restoration efforts.

[Gooding County officials declare Invasive Quagga Mussel Emergency \(10/5/23\)](#) The Gooding County Board of County Commissioners declared an Invasive Quagga Mussel Emergency based on the severity of the mussels in the Snake River.

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[Rep. Necochea: Quagga mussel emergency shows value of preparedness \(10/6/23\)](#) The rapid response was possible due to bipartisan legislative support for monitoring and preparedness. The Legislature must continue to allocate resources to combat the current invasion, prevent future invasions, and conduct monitoring to help us catch future issues early.

[Fish and Game and the Idaho State Department of Agriculture actively monitor for fish mortalities during quagga mussel treatment in the Snake River \(10/7/23\)](#) Fish and Game notes that what they are seeing is pooling of fish in certain areas. Regional fisheries manager Mike Peterson says, "Any place that there are spring inflows were seeing fish pool up around those inflows for that fresh water. So that is something that we weren't sure would occur and this point we're learning new things each day. " The fish mortality they can account for doesn't include a lot of sport fish species, so far.

[ISDA gives an update on the Quagga Mussel treatment \(10/8/23\)](#) Deputy Director Lloyd Knight says, "Everything is progressing exactly as we had planned. We're seeing the levels of treatment are doing exactly what we had planned for and identified. We haven't had any upsets or anything that causes us any concern. So, everything is going exactly as we had planned."

[Snake River quagga mussel treatment continues with support from Idahoans \(10/10/23\)](#) The ISDA along with the product manufacturer, the contracted applicator, and the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality are routinely monitoring the water to evaluate treatment effectiveness, impact and dissipation. The treatment will end October 13.

[Idaho bets big on plan to eradicate quagga mussels from the Snake River \(10/11/23\)](#) The risks are enormous, the task is arduous and the side effects are severe. But everyone agrees it has to be done, that doing nothing would be far worse.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The [Oregon Invasive Species Council \(OISC\)](#) is seeking nominations for five appointed member seats to serve a 2-year term January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2025. Could you, or someone you know, be a good addition to the OISC? **Send in a nomination by October 20, 2023.**

Invasive species have the potential to devastate Oregon's infrastructure, economy, and natural resources that Oregonians hold dear. The Oregon Invasive Species Council (OISC) acts as a catalyst for the collaborative effort to protect Oregon from invasive species across the network of its members, including state and public agencies, tribes, researchers, land managers, industry leaders, educators, and members of the public. Strong council member nominees will have experience or expertise that relates to invasive species prevention or control and/or specialize in a related area of interest. The Council is seeking the appointment of five members representing the following categories for 2-year term positions that conclude December 31, 2025:

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- A member who represents an entity, regardless of the form of the entity, with a headquarters or principal operations in Baker, Crook, Deschutes, Grant, Harney, Klamath, Lake, or Malheur Counties with the purpose of responding to invasive species concerns.
- A member who represents an entity, regardless of the form of the entity, with a headquarters or principal operations in Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington, or Yamhill Counties with the purpose of responding to invasive species concerns.
- A member who represents a Native American or Indian Tribe or association of Tribes.
- A member who represents an Organization or Association that advocates on behalf of private industry.
- A member who represents the public.

Council members' primary role is to support the advancement of Oregon's Statewide Strategic Plan for Invasive Species. Members benefit from multi-agency communication and collaboration that the OISC provides through meetings, committees, events, and communication. Council members are expected to participate in 4-6 meetings per year depending on the format (in person or by teleconference), multi-day meetings may be possible twice a year. Council members are allowed to designate an alternate if they are unable to attend a meeting. Council members are not paid but may be reimbursed for travel expenses associated with attending Council meetings.

Additionally, Council members are required to serve on at least one committee and support communication with and/or convening other interested groups to contribute to Council activities. Membership is limited to two consecutive two-year terms.

The deadline to submit nominations is October 20, 2023. Fill out the nomination form online here: <https://www.oregoninvasivespeciescouncil.org/nominations>

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>

[First Michigan detection of invasive hydrilla triggers response \(10/2/23\)](#) The Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy confirmed two small populations of the plant in adjacent private ponds on residential properties in Berrien Springs in Southwest Michigan.

([USGS NAS](#))

[Invasive New Zealand mudsnails found in Alsop Lake, WY \(10/3/23\)](#) The emerging population of New Zealand mudsnails in Alsop Lake was detected and reported by a Laramie resident. Jenny Loveridge has been snorkeling in Alsop Lake since she moved to Laramie 16 years ago. Her attention was grabbed this year by tiny snails covering vegetation in the lake. In her years of

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snorkeling, she had never seen snails like that before. “They were everywhere,” said Loveridge. “I thought, this has got to be a problem, so I reported my observation to Game and Fish.”

[Zebra mussels confirmed in East Leaf Lake in Otter Tail County \(10/5/23\)](#) The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has confirmed the presence of zebra mussels in East Leaf Lake, near Henning in Otter Tail County. A lake property owner contacted the Minnesota DNR after finding zebra mussels on equipment being removed from East Leaf Lake for the season. A Minnesota DNR invasive species specialist found five zebra mussels on a dock at the public access, about one-half mile from the location of the initial report.

[Zebra mussels found in Big Stone Lake in northeastern South Dakota \(10/11/23\)](#) The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department reports that Big Stone Lake on the Minnesota-South Dakota border is the latest body of water infested with zebra mussels. The Zebra Mussel Rapid Response Team will place high-profile signs on access areas, actively engage boaters using the infested water, and reiterate information on decontamination requirements.

WATCH LIST

- 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.
- 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](#)
[Cover your ash: Keep an eye out for the emerald ash borer in Washington](#)

[Invasive oak borer beetle worries Oregon forestry officials](#)

DREISSENIID MUSSELS

[GF&P 'Rapid Response Team' addressing zebra mussels in South Dakota lakes \(9/25/23\)](#) South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks employees have been out surveying and sampling lakes across the state to monitor fish populations and for the presence of zebra mussels. "We have also implemented a Zebra Mussel Rapid Response Team of employees to better respond to zebra mussels and to keep on top of lake situations," said Jake Davis, fisheries program manager. The team recently responded to a property owner on Roy Lake, in Marshall County, who had found mussels when removing their dock.

[South Dakota GFP says new zebra mussel infestation a result of previous infested waters \(9/29/23\)](#) The number of infested bodies of water in South Dakota has now reached 19 with the addition of the James River, Roy Lake, and the Big Sioux River this year. Tanner Davis with GFP said that prevention measures are working and that the new infestations are a result of previously infested waters draining into them. "We've been monitoring for zebra mussels across the state as well as inspecting watercraft as they travel through South Dakota," Davis explained. "There have not been any new infestations this year that would have come from transport where prevention could have occurred."

[Big Sioux River is South Dakota's latest failure in containing zebra mussel spread \(10/2/23\)](#) The countdown until an aquatic infestation arrives on the doorstep of Sioux Falls began Thursday. Buried within a South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks press release, the agency responsible for slowing the spread of zebra mussels reported said stripy specimens now infest the Big Sioux River.

[Zebra mussels, algae, plague beleaguered rural North Texas water system \(10/3/23\)](#) The Community Water Supply Corporation and its 1,250 customers are facing a perfect storm of setbacks, including low levels in Eagle Mountain Lake resulting in high algae levels and invasive zebra mussels that damaged equipment needed to treat the water.

[Inspecting for Zebra Mussels in North Dakota \(10/5/23\)](#) The North Dakota Game and Fish Department is asking water recreationists and property owners to check for zebra mussels and other aquatic nuisance species when removing boat lifts, docks and other equipment from state waters.

[Division of Boating and Waterways Provides \\$18.8 Million in Grants to Keep California's Waterways Clean and Safe](#): California State Parks' Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) has awarded \$18.8 million to public entities to provide clean and safe waterways for California's recreational community. Funding will be used to prevent the further spread of quagga and zebra mussels in freshwater bodies, discourage the illegal disposal of unwanted vessels and purchase search-and-rescue equipment for law enforcement entities.

- [Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program](#): \$2,982,586 was awarded for infestation-prevention work for nine agencies, for a total of 12 grants, to protect 19 reservoirs. Funding helps with the revision or preparation of a prevention plan, early-detection mussel monitoring, water chemistry monitoring,

cleaning/decontamination areas, outreach efforts and other projects. Funding for this program comes from the sale of Mussel Fee Stickers. Some of the recipients include the Big Bear Municipal Water District, East Bay Regional Park District and the Sonoma County Water Agency.

[CPW announces additional zebra mussels found at Highline Lake State Park \(10/6/23\)](#) “This is heartbreaking,” said Robert Walters, Invasive Species Program Manager. “We knew this was a possibility, but held out hope lowering lake levels to expose shoreline and the application of EarthTech QZ would effectively eradicate the zebra mussels that were discovered last fall.”
Related: [CPW announces plan to eradicate zebra mussels from Highline Lake \(10/12/23\)](#)

[Quagga, zebra mussels creep closer to Wyoming, encroaching on 3 sides \(10/11/23\)](#) Discoveries of species in the Black Hills, Snake River basin are foreboding for a state that’s managed to keep the most noxious mussels out of its borders for decades.

BOAT INSPECTION/DECON

[Wyoming AIS watercraft check stations reduce hours, close for season \(9/25/23\)](#) Boating season in Wyoming is winding down and so are the Wyoming Game and Fish Department aquatic invasive species check stations. Check stations throughout the state will start to close or reduce hours this month. However, it is required that any watercraft transported into Wyoming from March 1-Nov. 30 undergo a mandatory inspection by an authorized inspector prior to launching.

[Washington watching for invasive species as it gets closer in Idaho \(9/25/23\)](#) Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife officials announced they're ramping up monitoring and prevention efforts, after quagga mussel larvae were found in several samples from a park near Twin Falls, Idaho.

[Invasive quagga mussels found in Snake River increase threat to Oregon waterways \(9/28/23\)](#) ODFW has not detected the presence of quagga mussels in Oregon but has decontaminated ten watercrafts for quagga or zebra mussels and 287 watercrafts for other types of aquatic biofouling such as Eurasian Watermilfoil at inspection stations in 2023. Since the start of the Watercraft Inspection Stations program in 2010, ODFW has inspected 208,154 watercraft and intercepted and decontaminated 167 watercrafts with quagga or zebra mussels and 3,206 watercrafts with other types of aquatic biofouling.

[Invasive mussels found in Idaho sparks concern for the Okanagan \(9/26/23\)](#) “The call we made was to look at putting up moratorium on bringing boats in from the U.S., but we’d have to upgrade our boundary management with Alberta because it would be just as easy to come north from Idaho into Alberta and then come across.”

[Inspections continue for South Dakota's Game, Fish and Parks after Zebra Mussels found in Big Sioux River \(9/29/23\)](#) Following this detection, the Big Sioux River from Lake Kampeska to the confluence of the Big Sioux and Missouri River is now considered infested. The Zebra Mussel Rapid Response Team will place high-profile signs on access areas, actively engage boaters using the infested water, reiterate information on decontamination requirements, and identify groups of people and entities that will be potentially affected by the infestation.

[Idaho found invasive mussel larvae in the Snake River, fortunately Montana steers clear of positive detection \(10/3/23\)](#) Fortunately for us next door, Montana has not detected any mussel larvae for several years in any water despite inspections that do turn up mussel-fouled boats.

BALLAST WATER/BIOFOULING

[Finally—A Path Forward for Implementation of the Vessel Incidental Discharge Act \(9/28/23\)](#) In the intervening months, the parties negotiated a settlement and on September 8, 2023, EPA published a Notice of Proposed Consent Decree and request for comments. The Consent Decree requires EPA to finalize its performance standards by September 23, 2024. To keep EPA accountable, EPA is also required to provide updates to the court every three months on the status of the rulemaking. Comments on the Consent Decree are due by October 10.

[Ballast water management – regulations are tightening \(10/3/23\)](#) A year from now, all vessels subject to the Ballast Water Management Convention must have an approved ballast water treatment system installed onboard. Is your ship ready for tighter regulations?

[Is energy use consequential in achieving ballast water compliance? \(10/9/23\)](#) For years, the focus of ballast water treatment systems has been on compliance, but with the new era of shipping decarbonisation, how much does and should energy efficiency play a part?

[Lake Superior Research Institute testing filter technology aimed to keep aquatic invasive species out \(10/11/23\)](#) The University of Wisconsin-Superior Lake Superior Research Institute's Ballast Water Treatment Testing Facility is researching a filter technology that can be used to help keep invasive aquatic species out of the lake.

MARINE

GREEN (5-SPINED) CRAB

[Atlantic Healthy Oceans Initiative Monitoring Green Crab and Eelgrass Beds in Bonne Bay, Newfoundland \(10/8/23\)](#) Eelgrass beds are threatened by damage caused by development, coastal erosion, climate change and the introduction of invasive species like the green crab. The Healthy Oceans initiative is using a number of methods to collect data in the region including underwater drones.

AQUACULTURE

[B.C. First Nations, commercial fishers and tourism groups urge federal government to phase out salmon farms \(9/27/23\)](#) A group comprised of First Nations chiefs, leaders in the commercial fishing industry and tourism associations came together Wednesday to encourage the federal government to move ahead with a plan to phase out open-net pen salmon farms on the British Columbia coast by 2025.

[“To preserve wild salmon, we must also grow salmon.” \(9/28/23\)](#) Coalition of First Nations reaffirms right to farm salmon in their traditional territories.

[Court victory secured, Washington aquaculture opponents turn sights on US Army Corps “letters of permission” \(10/6/23\)](#) Court victory secured, Washington aquaculture opponents turn sights on US Army Corps “letters of permission”

[B.C. aquaculture industry urges 'balanced' approach to fish farms \(10/6/23\)](#) Wholesale shut-down of open-net salmon farms would take supply chain with it

[Canada has an inconsistent stance on fish farms - why? \(10/10/23\)](#) In Atlantic Canada, the fish farm industry is on the precipice of a boom. Nova Scotia could see a four-fold increase in open-net pen salmon farming, and significant expansion is planned along the south coast of Newfoundland and Labrador. It’s the opposite story on the other side of the country, where fish farms in British Columbia have been shutting down following decades of opposition from many First Nations, scientists and other opponents who point to research showing the farms exacerbate the spread of sea lice and pathogens that contribute to plummeting wild Pacific salmon stocks.

FRESHWATER

[Lake Tahoe's Ecosystem Facing Invasive Threat \(9/25/23\)](#) "Contract divers with Marine Taxonomic Services, Ltd. surveying invasive weeds on the South Shore discovered tiny snails on the bottom of the lake nearly a half mile offshore from the mouth of the Upper Truckee River. Consultation with experts and a DNA lab analysis confirmed the species is New Zealand mud

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snail, an aquatic invasive species (AIS) that has been detected in nearby waterways including the Lower Truckee River downstream from Lake Tahoe near Reno, Nevada

[Diving Beneath the Surface of Montana's Lakes \(10/10/23\)](#) While western Montana's lakes remain clean, blue and mussel-free, scientists at the second-annual Montana Lakes Conference in Whitefish plan to discuss community-based solutions to ongoing environmental challenges

FISH

[Invasive catfish poised to be "apex predators" after eating their way into Georgia rivers \(9/28/23\)](#) The Georgia Department of Natural Resources said that systematic sampling in August found more than a dozen flathead catfish in a stretch of the Ogeechee River just upstream from Interstate 95.

[Missouri Department of Conservation removes 38,700 pounds of invasive carp from the Grand River \(10/10/23\)](#) MDC, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks used nets and electrofishing from Sept. 11-14 and Sept. 25-28 on portions of the Grand River near Brunswick and Bosworth. The project improved available river habitats for native fish and provided information on how commercial operations might be used in the future to reduce invasive carp.

Lampo, E.G., Vallazza, J.M., Anderson, C.A. et al. Predation of invasive silver carp by native largemouth bass is size-selective in the Illinois River. *Sci Rep* 13, 16870 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-023-43470-7>

AQUATIC PLANTS

CLIMATE CHANGE

[A warming Colorado River grapples with invasive species \(10/10/23\)](#) As climate change bakes the U.S. West and dries up key Colorado River reservoirs, a slew of invasive species is flourishing in warmer waters at the expense of the artery's native inhabitants.

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[Experts Warn of Invasive Pests Increasing Their Footprint Across the U.S. \(10/10/24\)](#) The National Pest Management Association educates homeowners on invasive pest threats they may encounter as pest populations continue to flourish.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

OTHER

[What's on the menu from this Louisiana chef? Nutria rat, carp and more invasive critters \(10/3/23\)](#) Chef Philippe Parola wants you to bite back against foreign plants and animals

JOBS/GRANTS

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.*
- *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](#)*

Jobs

PACIFIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION POSITION DESCRIPTION

Title: Senior Program Manager

Group Definition: Members of the Program Manager job family have responsibility for developing and implementing budgets, staffing, work plans, and schedules for their organization in support of fisheries management and/or data collection activities. They monitor and evaluate progress toward meeting contractually established goals and are held accountable for the achievement of those goals. **Closes 10/31/23**

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Research Fish Biologist DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR USGS

Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center

Open & closing dates: 10/16/2023 to 10/25/2023

As a Research Fish Biologist within the Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center, some of your specific duties will include:

- Planning, designing, and executing complex and comprehensive research projects that are applicable to management approaches to conserve and restore assemblages of native freshwater mussels, particularly in the Mississippi River Basin and the Laurentian Great Lakes.
- Applying complex ecological data and comprehensive models to understand individual, population, and community dynamics to inform approaches to conserve and recover mussel assemblages.
- Providing leadership in planning, conducting, and overseeing research involving teams of multidisciplinary and multiagency personnel as applied to the conservation and restoration of native freshwater mussels.
- Publishing results in peer-reviewed outlets and presents results at regional and national conferences. Ensuring that new research projects are responsive to DOI and USGS needs at a national and regional scale.
- Providing technical support to other federal, state, and tribal management agencies in the form of committee membership and participation to inform conservation and recovery plans, identify data and information gaps, and inform species status assessments and participating in strategic planning and coordination meetings with other USGS, DOI and State partners.
- Operates government owned vehicle as an incidental driver.

East Kootenay ISC Education & Outreach Coordinator: [EKISC Education + Outreach Coordinator Job Description 2023](#) The Education + Outreach Coordinator will be responsible for coordinating education activities and raising public awareness about the impacts of invasive species within the Regional District of East Kootenay (RDEK). They will follow and refine a detailed short- and long-term education work plan, focusing on outreach and education programs. The coordinator will lead a crew of 1-2 summer students in delivering programming on aquatic and terrestrial invasive species identification, impacts, management options, and restoration techniques. The coordinator and crew will represent EKISC at events, set up outreach booths, and educate the public about invasive species identification and management. They will work alongside and report to the Communications Manager to create social media content, resources and provide consistent messaging. **Applications will be accepted until positions are filled.**

SSISC Invasive Animals Program Coordinator/Crab Team Coordinator: [SSISC EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY - Invasive Animals Program Coordinator](#) The Sea to Sky Invasive Species Council (SSISC) is a non-profit organization that works to minimize the threat of invasive species in the Sea to Sky Corridor. The SSISC is looking for a self-motivated, hardworking individual to coordinate our existing invasive animal monitoring programs, as well

as work with the Executive Director to develop, fundraise and potentially expand our invasive animal monitoring programs.

The position will involve volunteer management, fieldwork in marine and aquatic ecosystems throughout the Sea to Sky region, data collection, analysis and mapping; coordination, planning and communication; as well as grant writing, fundraising and program development.

Applications will be accepted until positions are filled.

Upper Columbia United Tribes: Salmon Reintroduction Grant and Project Manager. This position will support the efforts of the UCUT tribes and UCUT organization to implement the Phase 2 Implementation Plan for salmon reintroduction in the upper Columbia.

The Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUT) are in the process of reintroducing salmon to areas located upstream of Chief Joseph, Grand Coulee, and the Spokane River dams. The Coeur d'Alene Tribe (CDAT), Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (CTCR), Spokane Tribe of Indians (STI), and their consortium UCUT, are the leaders in returning anadromous fish to historically occupied habitats above these barriers. Collectively, they and their partners are implementing a 21-year plan to design, install, and test fish passage facilities and salmon reintroduction strategies. The UCUT organization and its member tribes have been working together to garner policy support for the reintroduction effort, secure funding needed for salmon reintroduction activities, conduct research, and perform cultural and educational releases of salmon to the tribes' waters.

The Salmon Reintroduction Grant and Project Manager will be responsible for administrative and accounting support to both the consortium and the member tribes. This will be accomplished through four main tasks: 1) administratively manage salmon reintroduction projects that involve the UCUT organization and the member tribes; 2) pursue funding opportunities; 3) manage salmon reintroduction budgets for the UCUT organization; and 4) coordinate salmon reintroduction communications amongst the UCUT organization, the member tribes, and regional partners.

The position will remain open until filled. Applications will be reviewed in the order received starting October 26, 2023. Interested candidates are encouraged to submit their applications promptly. If you have questions about the position, please contact Laura Robinson, UCUT Policy Analyst: laura@ucut-nsn.org.

[USGS-Utah Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Postdoctoral Fellowship- Aquaculture and Fisheries, Logan UT:](#) We are recruiting a talented postdoc to begin in Spring 2024. The prospective scientist will be developing innovative methods for invasive population control of Common Carp *Cyprinus carpio* by conducting feminization experiments of captive reared cohorts. This research is critical for the production of YY individuals (fish that are homozygous for the male-coding chromosome) that can be released into an invasive population, skewing the sex ratio towards all male, and eventually leading to their extirpation. This position requires a diverse skillset in aquaculture and fish physiology/histology. The candidates will be constructing aquaculture systems, conducting spawning methods, developing feminization methods using exogenous hormone treatments, and assessing developmental impacts of hormone treatments. Although primarily a hatchery-based position, there will be field work involving fish sampling

for the capture and establishment of captive broodstocks. The selected scientist will obtain mentor experience working with undergraduate research technicians and graduate student researchers. This is a two-year appointment with one year of funding secured. The partners and sponsors for this project are an excellent consortium of scientists from federal and state agencies. Postdoctoral fellow will be advised by Dr. Chad Teal (U.S. Geological Survey, Utah State University). Closing date: **October 15** or until filled. Applicants should submit materials as soon as possible to be considered.

[USGS-Utah Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, MS Graduate Research Assistantships- Aquaculture and Fisheries, Logan, UT.](#)

Description: We are recruiting two talented MS students to begin in Spring 2024. The prospective students will be developing innovative methods for invasive population control of Red Shiner *Cyprinella lutrensis* and Channel Catfish *Ictalurus punctatus* by conducting feminization experiments of captively reared cohorts. This research is critical for the production of YY individuals (fish that are homozygous for the male-coding chromosome) that can be released into an invasive population, skewing the sex ratio towards all male, and eventually leading to their extirpation. These positions require a diverse skillset in aquaculture, fish physiology/histology, and genetic testing. The candidates will be constructing aquaculture systems, conducting spawning methods, developing feminization methods using exogenous hormone treatments, and conducting genetic testing of treated individuals. Although primarily a hatchery-based position, there will be field work involving fish sampling for the capture and establishment of captive broodstocks. Candidates will develop highly applicable skills for future careers in aquaculture, fisheries, and genetics, and will obtain mentor experience working with undergraduate research technicians. The partners and sponsors for this project are an excellent team of scientists from federal and state agencies. Students will be advised by Dr. Chad Teal (U.S. Geological Survey, Utah State University).

Closing date: **October 15** or until filled. Applicants should submit materials as soon as possible to be considered.

[Fisheries/Aquatic Ecology Research Technician \(Hourly\), Illinois Natural History Survey / Prairie Research Institute \\$15.00 - \\$16.00 Per Hour - Full Time](#)

Conduct field and laboratory work in support of research projects on sportfish management and invasion biology in lakes and rivers. Current research projects include spatial ecology and food web effects of habitat enhancements in reservoirs, experimental harvest regulations, and the ecology and management of invasive carp in the Illinois River. Application: Applications will be considered as they are received, with an expected close date of **10/27/2023**.

Grants

We are excited to announce that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, on behalf of the Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Task Force, posted a [Notice of Funding Opportunity \(F24AS00018, Rapid Response Fund for Aquatic Invasive Species\)](#) on August 17, 2023 to request proposals

that support the rapid response to a new species introduction within freshwater, estuarine, or marine waters of the United States, including the U.S. territories.

This year, as part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law authorization for ecosystem restoration, the Department of the Interior invested \$1 million to establish a pilot Rapid Response Fund for Aquatic Invasive Species with an additional \$1 million envisioned each year 2024 through 2026 as part of advancing a National Early Detection and Rapid Response Framework. The Rapid Response Fund will be administered within the existing authorities of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Fish and Aquatic Conservation program and coordinated through the ANS Task Force. In July 2023, the ANS Task Force approved [The Model Process: Rapid Response Fund for Aquatic Invasive Species](#) that outlines a structure and process for operation of the Fund.

The deadline for the first cycle of proposals is **October 18, 2023**. After this cycle, we will continue with quarterly review and selections, anticipated to begin on or near **November 1, 2023**, February 1, 2024, and May 1, 2024. General information about the Fund and a list of Frequently Asked Questions can be found [HERE](#). Additional questions may be directed to Susan Pasko, ANS Task Force Executive Secretary, at susan_pasko@fws.gov.

Grant Opportunity: NOAA-NOS-NCCOS-2024-2008101

[Social, Cultural and Economic Assessment of Harmful Algal Blooms](#)

Department of Commerce **Current Closing Date for Applications: Jan 17, 2024**

NOAA-NOS-ORR-2024-2007993

[FY24 NOAA Marine Debris Removal under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#)

Department of Commerce **Current Closing Date for Applications: Feb 23, 2024**

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

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Federal: Executive

Federal: Congressional

[GOP opposition to Scalise for Speaker sharpens \(10/12/23\)](#)

Republicans have their nominee for Speaker, but the House GOP is divided. House Majority Leader Steve Scalise (R-La.) secured the party's nomination Wednesday for Speaker, defeating House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jim Jordan (R-Ohio) in a 113-99 vote. Now he's scrambling to lock down the 217 votes he'll need on the House floor. In the GOP's narrow majority, he can afford to lose only a handful of votes, and the number of Republicans who have announced their opposition would be enough to deny Scalise the gavel. House Republicans left a closed-door meeting Thursday afternoon saying there are no plans for a floor vote, but Scalise would meet with the lawmakers withholding their support.

Federal: Appropriations

[Shutdown averted, for now \(10/2/23\)](#)

Congress on Saturday voted in shocking fashion to avert a government shutdown — passing a so-called “clean” continuing resolution that will keep the government funded through **Nov. 17**.

EVENTS

Archived Events:

The Western Regional Panel on ANS met in Salt Lake City in September> There are live recordings of both days to allow you to go back to your favorite presentation or check out what you might have missed.

[2023 WRP Annual Meeting - Day 1 - YouTube](#)

[2023 WRP Annual Meeting - Day 2 - YouTube](#)

Ongoing Training Opportunities:

Watercraft Inspection Training

Virtual (TBA): ******Announcement of 2024 Schedule Coming Soon******

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

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- 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/le>

[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

October

[North American Invasive Species Management Association's 31st Annual Conference](#)

October 16-19, 2023; Lincoln, Nebraska

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

Oregon Aquatic Invasive Species Summit, Salem, OR October 24th, 2023 (8:30am-4:30pm PST)
ODFW Field Office in Salem, OR FREE – lunch will be provided [Register now!](#)

November

[Oregon Invasive Species Council - Business Meeting.](#) Hybrid. November 8th, Hatfield Marine Science Center, Newport OR

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

[2023 Delta Invasive Species Symposium.](#) November 30th, Sacramento, CA.

December

[Wild Spotter Invasive Species Ambassador Training Course December 5-7, 2023](#)

This intensive training will include building relationships, partnerships and engaging stakeholders; branding and marketing programs; using innovative tools and technologies; and

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volunteer citizen-science coordination, recruitment, and retention to meet invasive species management goals and expand local community capacity for action. This gathering will have limited attendance through a merit selection process. Please apply at <https://invasivesfree.org>. Priority will be given to participants who can demonstrate their commitment to building invasive species management capacity within their community.

[Washington Invasive Species Council Meeting 12/07/23](#)

[Zoom Webinar Registration](#)

Phone: 1-253-205-0468, Webinar ID: 872 1552 7263

Physical Location: Room 172, Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington St SE, Olympia, WA 98501

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’. The International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species addresses emerging freshwater, marine and estuarine AIS issues by involving scientists, policymakers, practitioners, and industry professionals in the presentation of research, and opportunities for collaboration on research and management projects. Stay tuned for more details.

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can be found @ <https://www.westernais.org/western-ais-news>

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