

Montana AIS Update





YAAK VALLEY FOREST COUNCIL

Partnerships



FISHING OUTFITTERS
ASSOCIATION OF MONTANA

OUR LAKE
OUR FUTURE

Whitefish Lake | Aquatic Invasive Species
Management Program



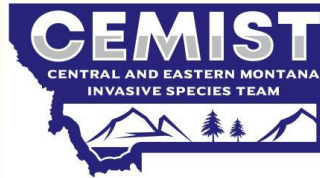
Missoula County
WEED DISTRICT
& EXTENSION



Lincoln
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



FLATHEAD LAKE
BIO STATION
UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA



WESTERN MONTANA
Conservation
Commission



TROUT UNLIMITED



Whitefish Lake
INSTITUTE



FLATHEAD
LAKERS



Inspection Station Partners

Partners (Contracted):

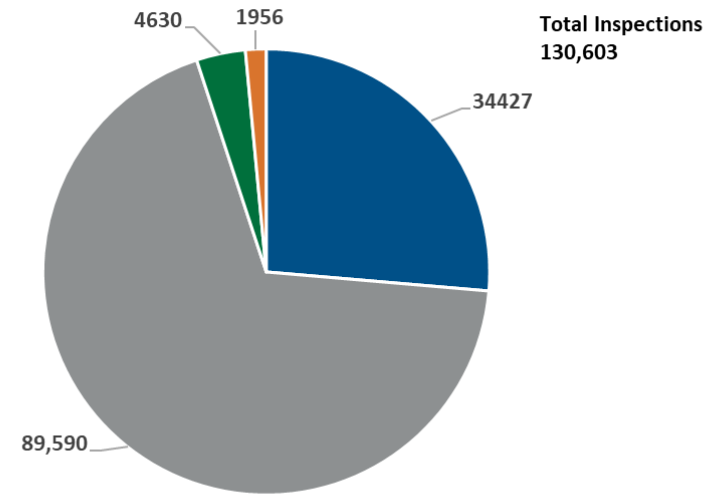
- Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (Ravalli & Thompson falls)
- Blackfeet Nation (Browning)
- Missoula County (Clearwater Junction)
- Garfield Conservation District (Flowing Wells & Wibaux)
- McCone Conservation District (Nashua)
- Beaverhead Conservation District (Dillon)
- Bighorn Conservation District (Hardin & St.Xavier)
- Powder River Conservation District (Broadus)
- Lincoln Conservation District
- Flathead Conservation District
- Little Shell of the Chippewa Tribe

Other Inspection Station Partners

- City of Whitefish
- Swan Lakers
- Glacier National Park
- Yellowstone National Park



Total Inspections by FWP and Partner Stations, 2023



■ FWP Operated Stations ■ Partner Stations ■ Glacier National Park ■ City Of Whitefish

AIS Prevention

FWP Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination Stations



2023 Season

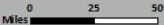


- Decontamination Station
- Class I Inspection Station*
- Class II Inspection Station**
- Partner Agency Station
- Statewide Defense Perimeter
- Columbia River Basin Defense Perimeter
- Fishing District



BoatInspectionStations_2023_11x17.pdf
 1/30/2023 Created by Geographic Data Services
 W:\Projects\402_AIS\InspectionStations\2023\End of Season Map

* Class I - full inspection and decontamination capability
 ** Class II - risk assessment screening, inspection and routing as needed

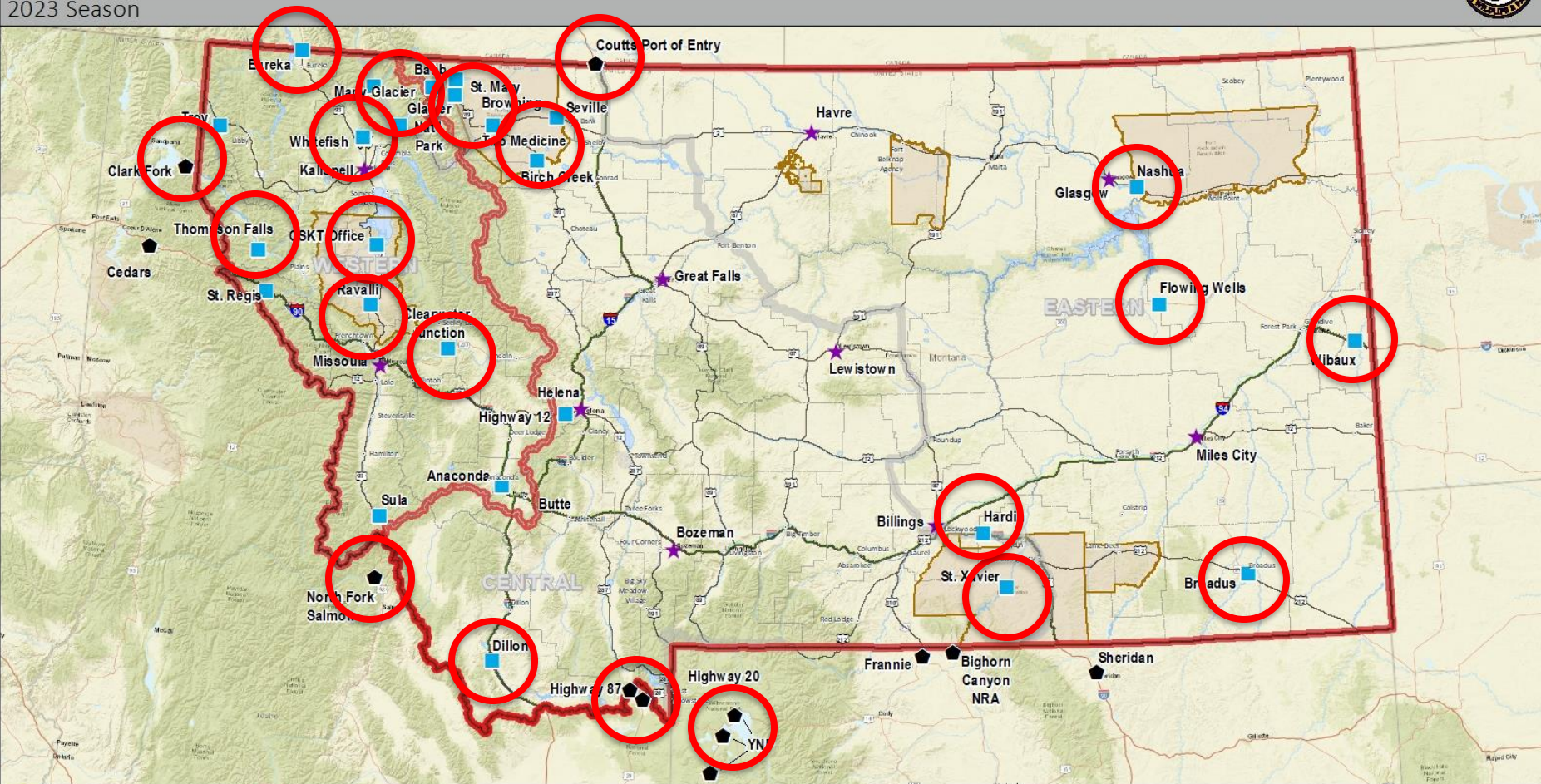


AIS Prevention

FWP Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination Stations



2023 Season



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BIG Project 2024

- Boater Information Gathering Project.
- Flathead, Fort Peck and Hebgen boat ramps.
- Interview out-of- state boaters.
 - Are boaters meeting inspection-before-launch requirements?
- Identify gaps.



Mussel Fouled Vessels 2024

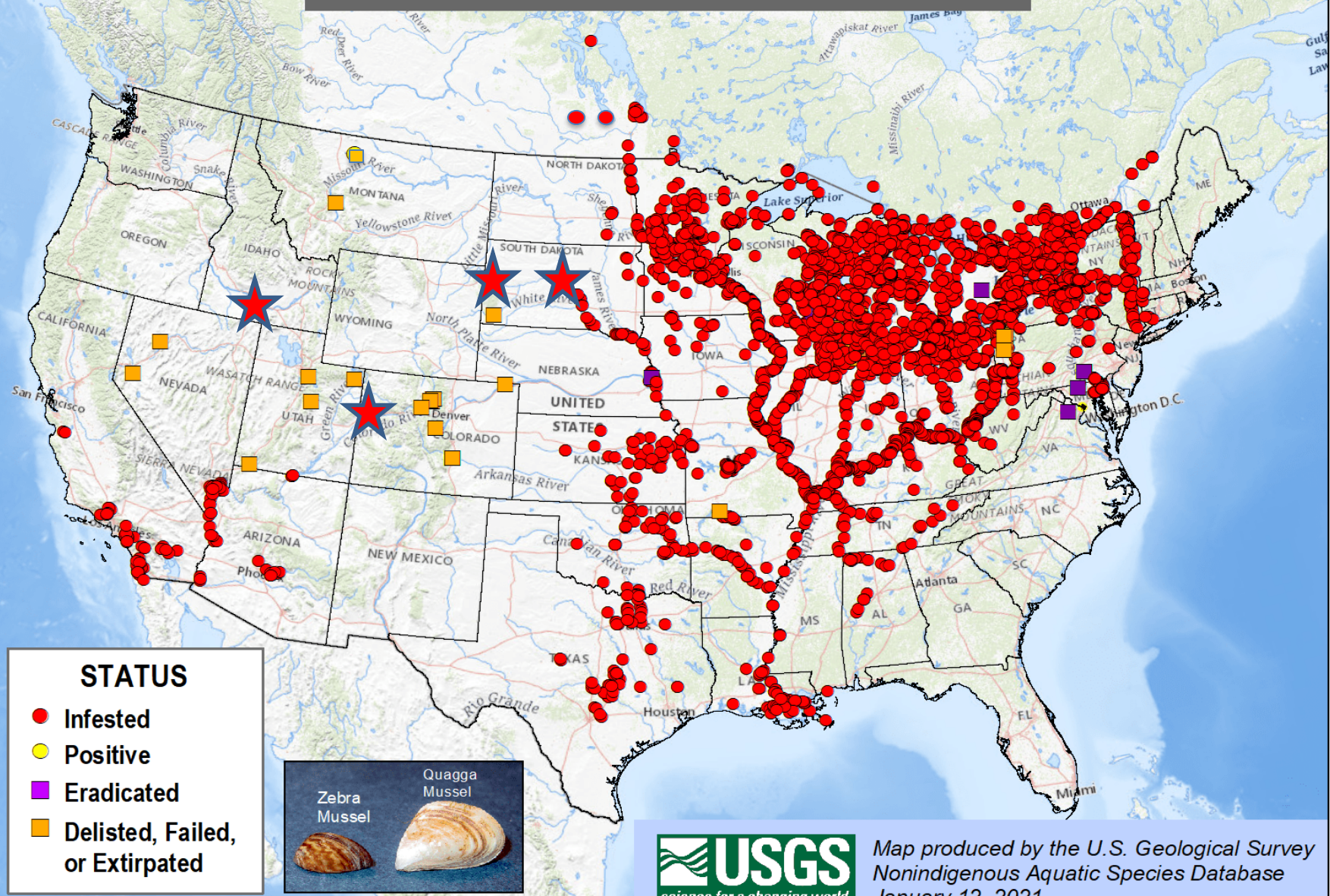


Boat Origin 

Boat Destination 

Zebra and Quagga Mussel Sightings Distribution

Dreissena polymorpha and *D. rostriformis bugensis*



Zebra and Quagga Mussel Sightings Distribution

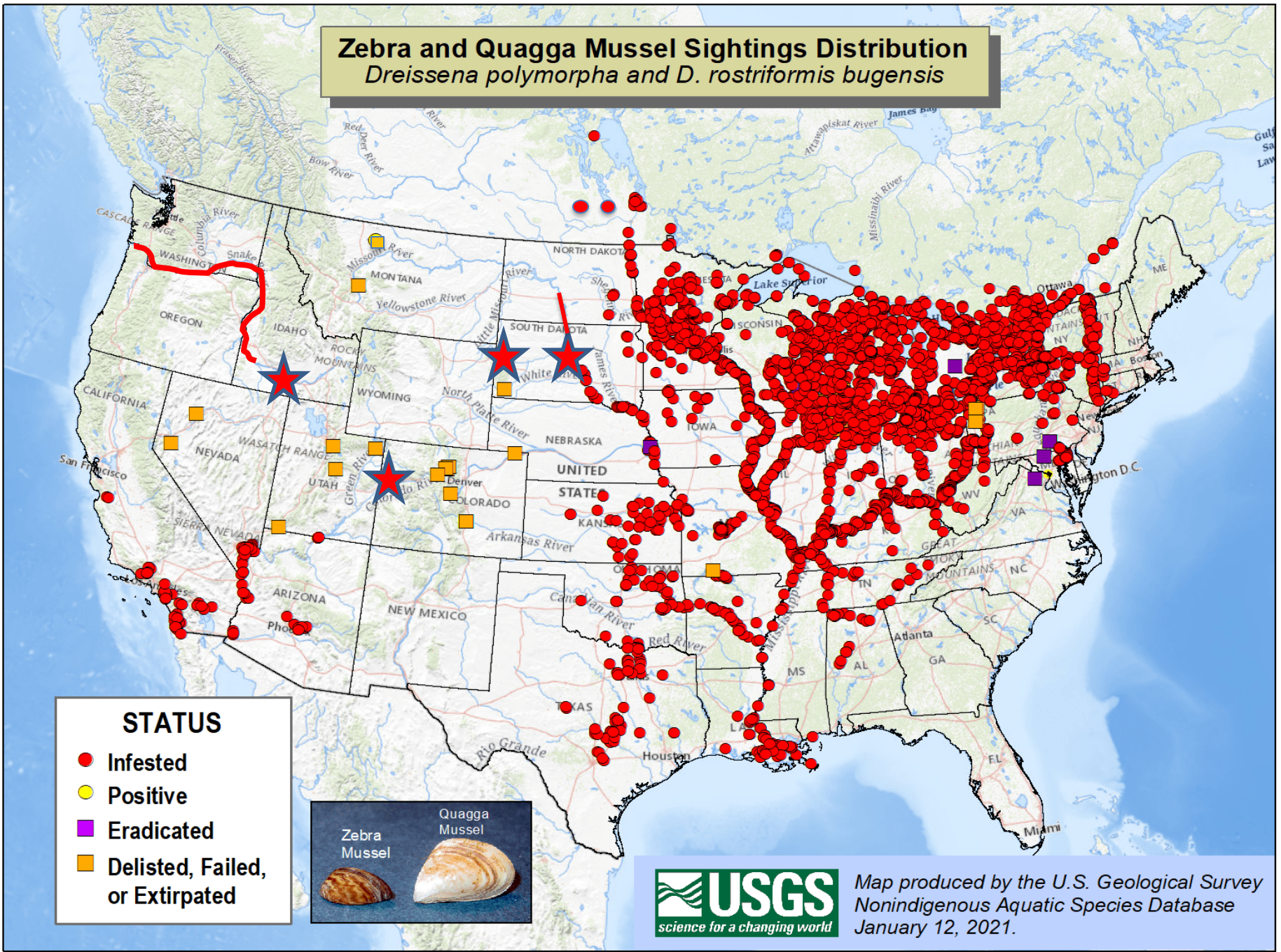
Dreissena polymorpha and *D. rostriformis bugensis*

STATUS

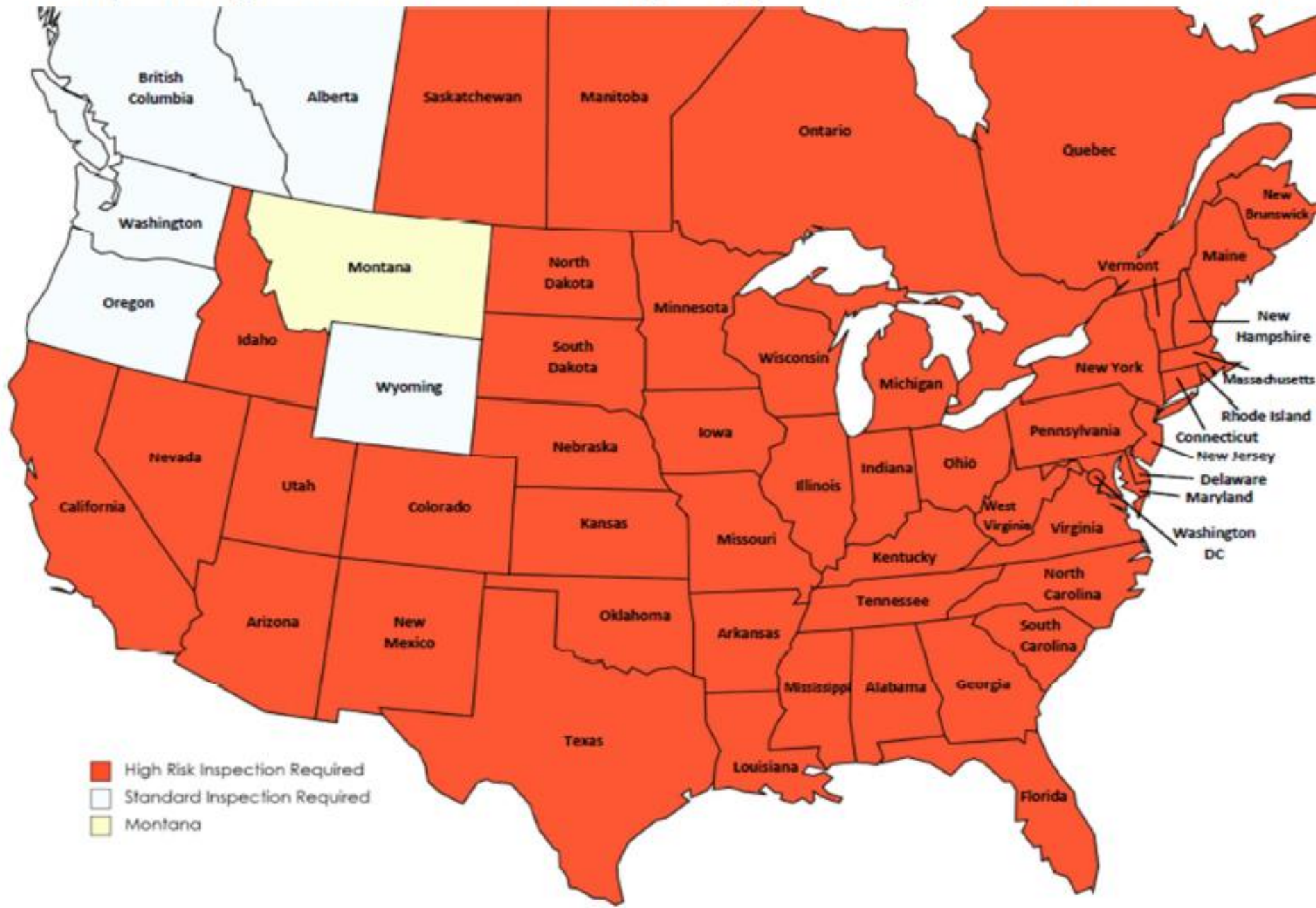
- Infested
- Positive
- Eradicated
- Delisted, Failed, or Extirpated



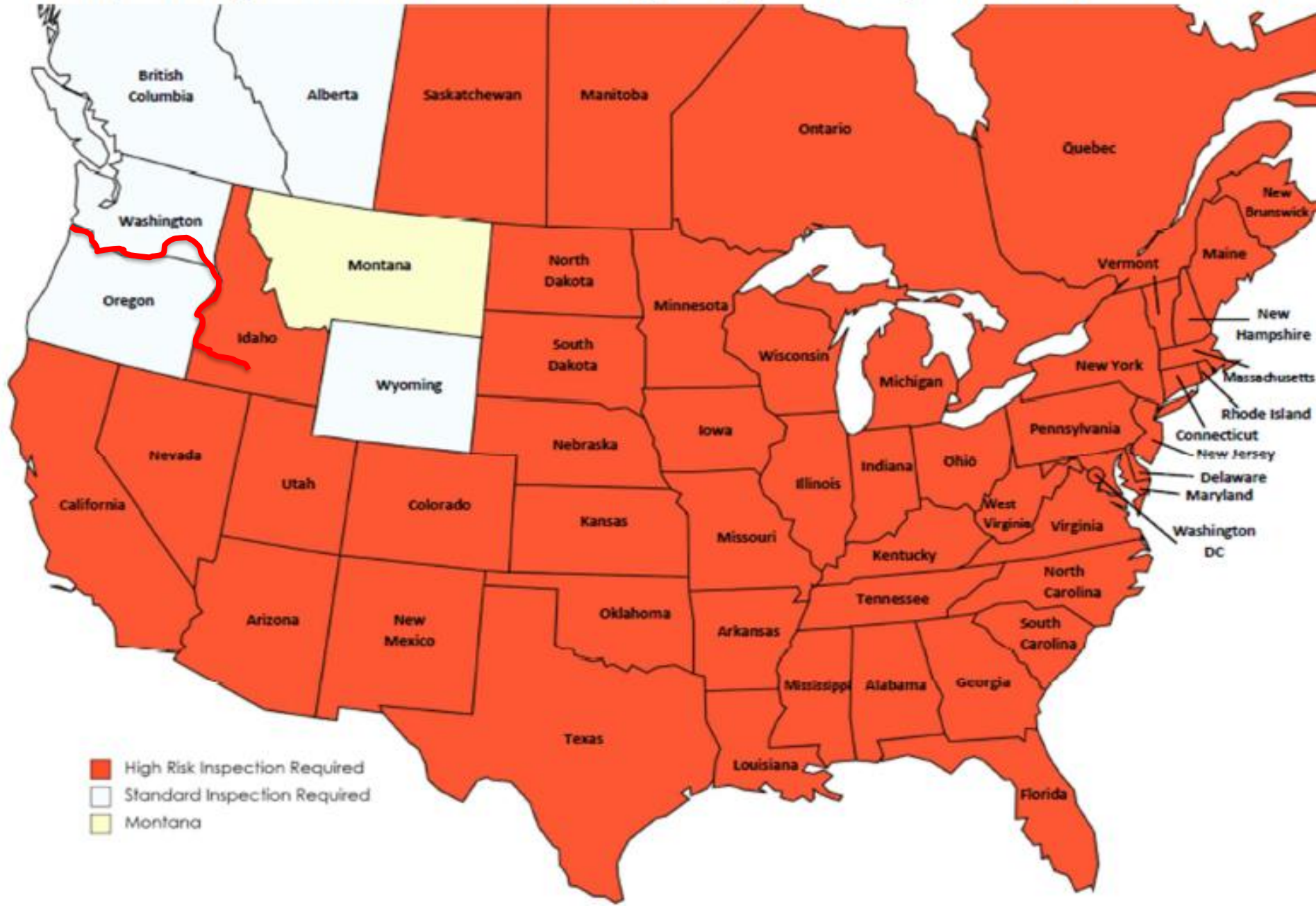
Map produced by the U.S. Geological Survey
Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database
January 12, 2021.



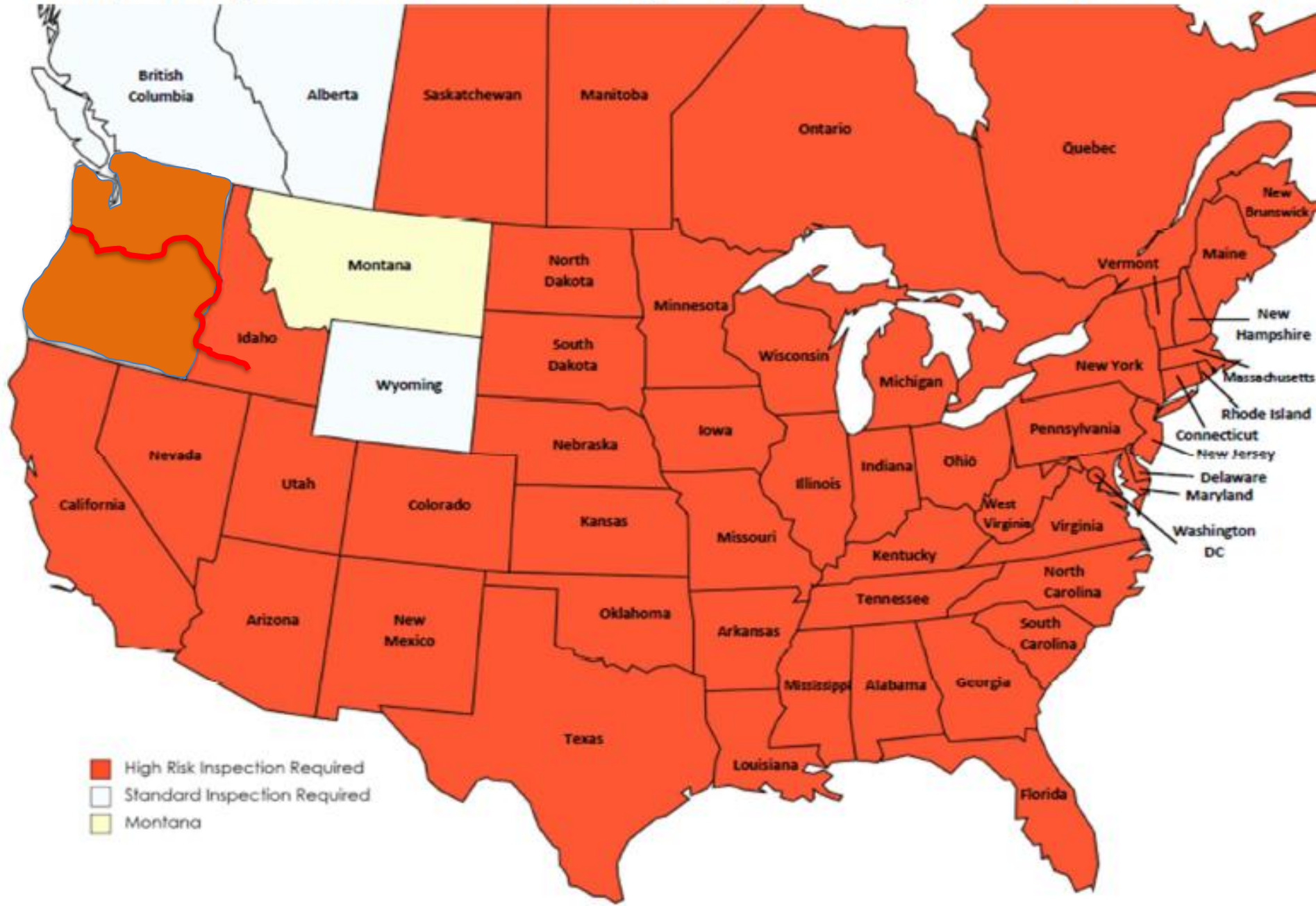
Map of high-risk states and suspect, positive, or infested waters



Map of high-risk states and suspect, positive, or infested waters



Map of high-risk states and suspect, positive, or infested waters



Need to Explore New Strategies

- New strategies to put responsibility on the boater.
- More efficient means for containment.
- Explore using technology to improve compliance.
- What will containment efforts look like in the future?
- CRB and WRP are ideal forums to lead that conversation.



AmeriCorps Support



Social Media

SILVER CARP



If it Floats



It's a Boat

STOP AT INSPECTION STATIONS



Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
May 9 at 8:38 AM

Uh-oh, it looks like some aquatic invasive species snuck into this year's garden-themed Met Gala! This American bullfrog is wearing flowering rush, common water hyacinth, and fragrant water-lily, three invasive aquatic plants popular in gardens. Fortunately, gala security was able to quickly apprehend these invaders, but here in Montana we rely on you to protect our waters.

Always clean, drain, and dry your water gear. Never dump aquatic plants or animals into the wild. If ... See more



Videos

- How to sample.
- Info for water-based businesses.
- AIS Specialists take a day off... and talk about AIS.
- Find on the FWP YouTube Channel.



This Season

- Evaluate boater compliance
- Continue to improve QA/QC
- Update State ANS Plan
- Continue to engage, empower and involve local partners.
- Identify new strategies for prevention and containment.
- Improve eDNA coordination.



MONTANA FWP

**PROTECT OUR
WATERS**

FWP.MT.gov/AIS

