

UPPER COLUMBIA CONSERVATION COMMISSION



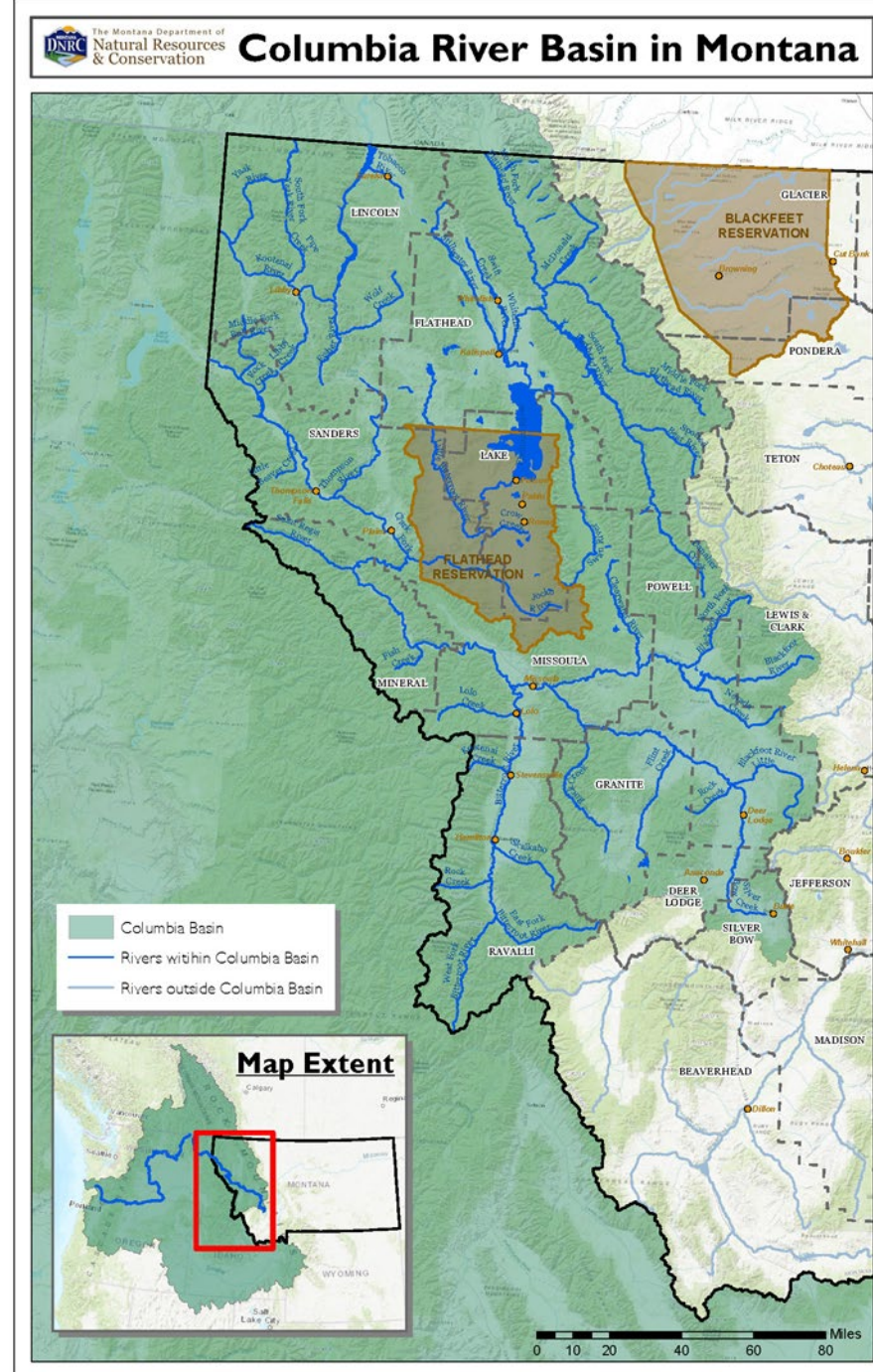
# UPPER COLUMBIA CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Columbia River Basin Mtg December 5, 2018

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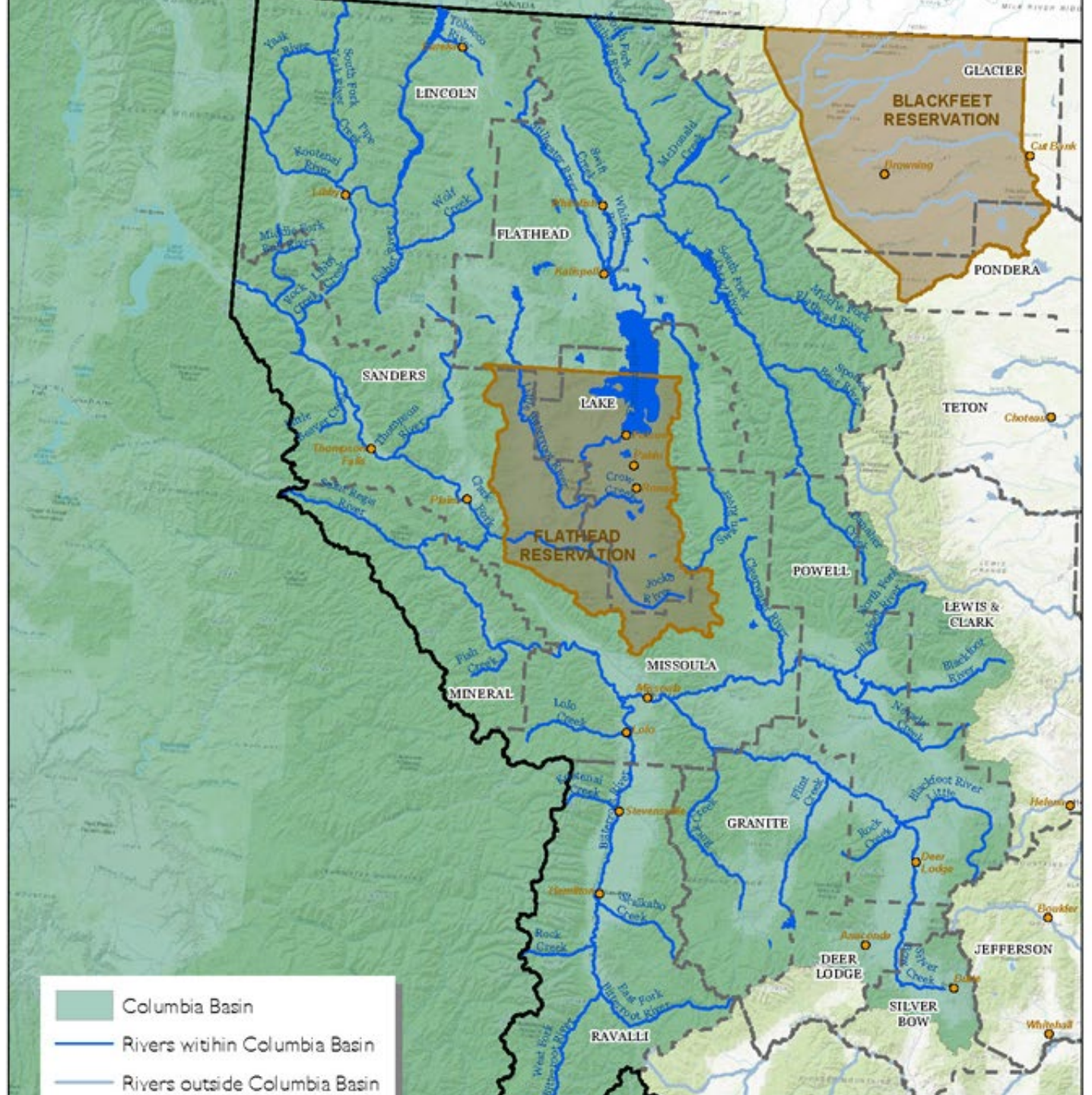
# FOR CONTEXT...

- Created by the 2017 Montana Legislature
- Purpose: AIS Prevention, enhancing coordination
- Geographic scope: Upper Columbia Basin
- Membership: 9 voting members appointed by the Governor, ~10 ex-officio federal members
- Coordination, monitoring, education, response
- Meet 4-6 times annually
  - Next meeting: 12/12 in Missoula
    - Funding discussion
    - AIS in the upcoming Legislative session
  - Potential: Monitoring pre-season workshop





- Southern end: Deer Lodge
- Northern end: BC Border
- Major waterbodies:
  - Blackfoot River
  - Bitterroot River
  - Clark Fork River
  - Kootenai River
  - Flathead Lake
  - Whitefish Lake
  - Seeley Lake
  - Swan Lake
  - Noxon & Cabinet Gorge Reservoirs



# COUPLE COOL PROJECTS...

- **2018 Montana AIS Program Evaluation**

- Stakeholder/partner vs. public
- Experience (direct vs indirect)
- Watercraft Inspections
- Monitoring
- Education & Outreach
- Signs, materials, advertising
- Rules
- AIS funding sources
- General feedback

SUMMARY → DESIGN SURVEY → **PREVIEW & SCORE** → COLLECT RESPONSES → ANALYZE RESULTS → PRESENT RESULTS



Montana Aquatic Invasive Species Program Partner & Stakeholder Evaluation - 2018

Addressing the Threat of Aquatic Invasive Species

Invasive species are one of the most serious environmental threats of the 21st century. Invasive species are defined as "a species that is non-native to the ecosystem under consideration and whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health." Invasive species are also one of the largest threats to biodiversity, cited as second only to habitat destruction as a result of development.



# WATERCRAFT INSPECTIONS – FOCAL POINT OF SURVEY

- Nature of experience
- Location/hours
- Ease of use
- Results of inspection
- Thoroughness
- Coordination & communication between stations
- Suggestions for improvement

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Montana Aquatic Invasive Species Program Partner & Stakeholder Evaluation - 2018

Watercraft Inspection Experience

13. During your watercraft inspection experience in Montana in the 2018 if the following measures were taken by an inspector? (Select all that apply your watercraft)

<input type="checkbox"/> Visual inspection of the entire watercraft	<input type="checkbox"/> Kayak/canoe/SUP inspection
<input type="checkbox"/> Live/bait wells inspected (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/> Inspection passport issued
<input type="checkbox"/> Anchors/Anchor compartments inspected (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/> CLEAN DRAIN DRY maintenance (sponge, chamois, brochure)

0 of 34 answered

# EDUCATION & OUTREACH


- Partners/stakeholders – conduct E&O? Resources?
- All – evaluate exposure/efficacy of advertising

21. Did you personally encounter an AIS billboard in the 2018 season? *(see below image)*

Yes

No

AIS billboard



The billboard features a blue background with a white diagonal line. On the left, the text 'n boats' is written vertically in white on a blue background. In the center, the word 'STOP' is written in large, bold, white letters. On the right, the text 'MONTANA boat inspections are mandatory' is written in blue and red.

0 of 34 answered

State Line Sign

ALL WATERCRAFT  
MUST BE INSPECTED  
BEFORE ENTERING ANY  
MONTANA WATERWAY

Continue

Continental Divide Sign

ALL WATERCRAFT  
CROSSING THE  
CONTINENTAL DIVIDE  
MUST BE INSPECTED  
BEFORE LAUNCHING

# SOME FUN QUESTIONS...

- Rules!
- Funding!

## Current EQC Montana State AIS Funding Proposal

First Year of EQC Proposal - 2020	Amount
Anglers Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Pass (MT resident \$2, non-resident \$15)	\$3,043,140
Non-motorized watercraft (MT resident \$5, non-resident \$10)	\$375,235
Motorized watercraft (MT resident \$10, non-resident \$60)	\$1,090,780
General Fund	\$1,990,845
<b>Total (First Year)</b>	<b>\$6,500,00</b>

Second Year of EQC Proposal - 2021	Amount
Anglers Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Pass (MT resident \$2, non-resident \$7.50)	\$1,707,420
Non-motorized watercraft (MT resident \$5, non-resident \$10)	\$375,235
Motorized watercraft (MT resident \$10, non-resident \$60)	\$1,090,780
General Fund	\$3,326,565
<b>Total (Second Year)</b>	<b>\$6,500,00</b>

30. Which of the following is NOT a mandatory rule in Montana?

- Watercraft inspections are mandatory for all watercraft coming from out of state
- Watercraft inspections are mandatory for watercraft entering the Flathead Basin
- Watercraft inspections are mandatory for all watercraft crossing the Continental Divide (to the west)
- Watercraft inspections are not mandatory for non-motorized watercraft (e.g. kayaks, canoes, Stand Up Paddleboards, driftboats, rafts, etc.)
- Watercraft inspections are mandatory for all passing watercraft when stations are open

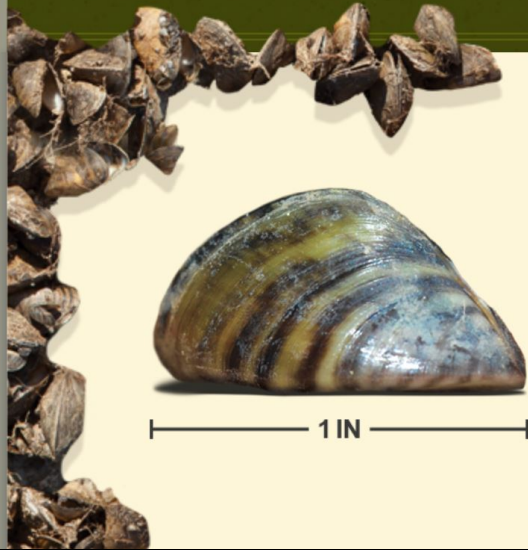
# THIS ONE TOO!

- Bureau of Reclamation Funding
  - **Education & Outreach**: website, promotional materials, displays
  - **Monitoring**: Expansion of citizen science network in Flathead Basin
  - **Response**: GIS/mapping of Upper Columbia waterways to compliment state EDRR Guidelines
  - **Marina Pilot**: Target key marina operators within the Upper Columbia
    - Build relationships
    - Assess capacity
    - Build support for program
    - Prevention focus – verification of inspection prior to launch



# PROTECT THE LAKES YOU LOVE. STOP ZEBRA MUSSELS.

CLEAN, DRAIN AND DRY



TEXASINVASIVES.ORG

HELLO INVASIVE SPECIES.  
GOODBYE TEXAS.

INVASIVES 101

TAKE ACTION

CITIZEN SCIENTISTS

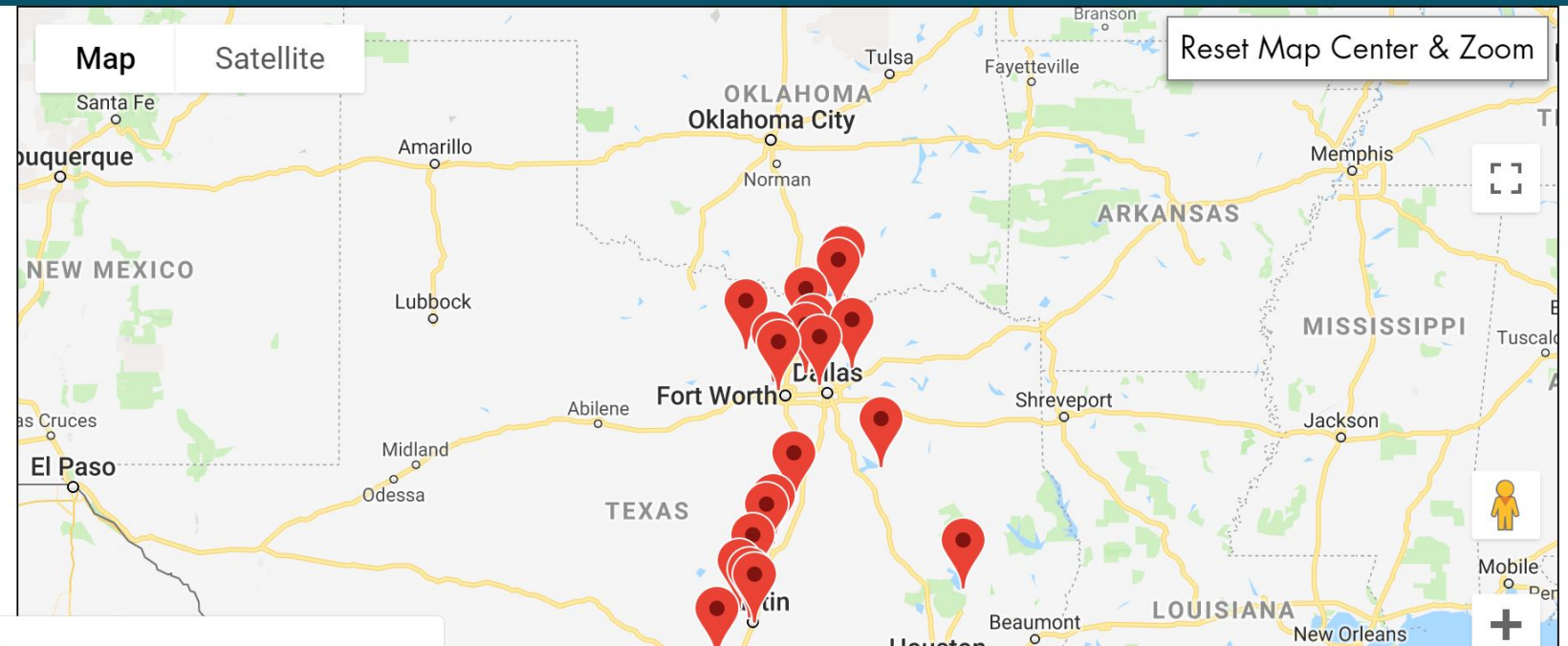
PROFESSIONALS

RESOURCES

INVASIVES  
DATABASE



## TEXAS LAKES KNOWN TO HAVE ZEBRA MUSSELS



# OTHER INTERESTING TIDBITS...

- **Montana Invasive Species Summit** 11/15-11/16 (Helena)
  - Law Review focus
  - Sessions based on findings
  - AIS: aquatic invasive plants, penalties for drive-bys, drain plug rule, listing
  - Governor Bullock: Working Group on comprehensive Invasive Species Act
- **Fire Protocols**
  - Northern Rockies Mandatory Protocol
  - WRP Working Group created
- **Seaplanes** – Columbia River Basin approach
- **New videos!** Boaters, anglers, water users, non-motorized boats, hydro





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