



Aquatic Invasive Species News

January 14, 2025

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RECOMMENDED READING

[California researchers find sea otter population helps stop invasion of green crabs \(12/24\)](#)

"I've studied green crabs in estuaries on three coasts and two continents for decades, and this is one of the first pieces of good news we've gotten," said Rikke Jeppesen, an estuarine ecologist at Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve who spearheaded the publication, in a statement.

Jeppesen, R., de Rivera, C.E., Grosholz, E.D. et al. Recovering population of the southern sea otter suppresses a global marine invader. *Biol Invasions* 27, 33 (2025).

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-024-03467-3>

PUBLIC COMMENT

[Injurious Wildlife Species; Listing Two Freshwater Mussel Genera and One Crayfish Species](#)

A Proposed Rule by the Fish and Wildlife Service on 01/10/2025

Public Comment Closes: 3/11/25

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) proposes to add all species of freshwater mussels from two genera, Asian pond mussels (*Sinanodonta* species) and golden mussels (*Limnoperna* species), to the list of injurious mollusks. Additionally, the Service proposes to add marbled crayfish (*Procambarus virginalis*) to the list of injurious crustaceans. Listing these taxa as injurious will prohibit the importation of any live animal, larvae, viable egg, or hybrid of these taxa into the United States, except as specifically authorized. These listings would also prohibit shipment of any live animal, larvae, viable egg, or hybrid of these species between the continental United States, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any

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territory or possession of the United States, except as specifically authorized. The action is necessary to protect wildlife and wildlife resources by preventing the introduction and subsequent establishment of these foreign aquatic invertebrates into ecosystems of the United States.

A 60-day public comment period on the proposed rule to list the three taxa genera of invertebrates opens January 10, 2025, and closes March 11, 2025. Information on the rule, associated documents and how to submit comments can be found at www.federalregister.gov by searching for docket number FWS-HQ-FAC-2024-0060. Comments received during this time will be evaluated for possible inclusion in a future final rule.

Related:

[Injurious designation aims to protect aquatic environments from invasive invertebrates](#)

[NOAA advances efforts to identify Aquaculture Opportunity Areas \(11/15/24\)](#)

Today, NOAA Fisheries released two draft programmatic environmental impact statements (PEIS) to support the identification of proposed Aquaculture Opportunity Areas (AOAs) in Southern California and the Gulf of Mexico. The public is invited to review and submit comments on the draft statements from November 22, 2024, through **February 20, 2025**.

...

Both draft PEIS are open for public comment via the Federal Register from November 22, 2024, through February 20, 2025. Virtual public listening sessions will be held for both Southern California and the Gulf of Mexico, where the public is welcome to provide comments. Comments received will be assessed and considered by NOAA Fisheries to prepare Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statements for both regions.

[More information on the draft PEIS for Southern California and the Gulf of Mexico is available on the NOAA website.](#)

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>

Mussels:

[South Dakota] [Zebra mussels in Lake Poinsett \(1/7/25\)](#) In a January news release urging ice fishers to clean up after themselves, the South Dakota Game Fish and Parks (GFP) also revealed the presence of the state's least favorite invasive species in Lake Poinsett: zebra mussels.

Other:

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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.
- 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

Walleye

- Idaho: Anyone who catches a walleye in rivers is asked to kill it, take a photo and contact Idaho Fish and Game Biologist Marika Dobos at the Lewiston Regional Office by email at marika.dobos@idfg.idaho.gov, or call (208) 750-4228.

DREISSENID MUSSELS

[Keep Up with the Idaho Quagga Mussel Response @ ISDA](#)

[Alberta steps up fight against invasive mussels with new task force recommendations \(12/22/24\)](#)
The Provincial Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Task Force has issued recommendations aimed at improving detection, prevention, and response measures to protect the province’s ecosystems and infrastructure.

[\[Opinion\] Mercury research raises more questions about South Dakota’s lax approach to zebra mussels \(12/23/24\)](#) Anglers catching fish in zebra mussel-infested lakes may be reeling in adult walleyes with mercury content 72% higher and perch with 157% higher levels than those being caught on non-infested lakes.

Cianci-Gaskill, J.A., Thorpe, A.P., Jones, J.R. et al. Low densities and little change in water clarity characterize zebra mussel invasions near the southern extent of their range. *Biol Invasions* 27, 38 (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-024-03487-z>

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Turco, T., Casole, P., Saint-Marcoux, D. et al. Motorboat noise increases aggregation and alters gaping and filtration behaviors in the invasive quagga mussel. *Biol Invasions* 27, 15 (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-024-03475-3> [\$]

GOLDEN MUSSELS

[New: WDFW Golden Mussel Risk Screening Summary \(12/2024\)](#)

[California Fish and Game Commission Guards State Waters Against Golden Mussels \(12/19/24\)](#)

To protect California against the spread of invasive golden mussel (*Limnoperna fortunei*) discovered Oct. 17 at the Port of Stockton, and in the days following as far south as San Luis Reservoir's O'Neill Forebay, the Commission added golden mussel to the list of species restricted from live importation, transportation and possession. This discovery is North America's first; golden mussel is native to China and Southeast Asia and was likely transported across the ocean on large ships.

[New threat to BC lakes with invasive mussel discovery \(1/2/25\)](#) The fight to keep the Okanagan invasive mussel-free continues with the Okanagan Basin Water Board (OBWB) recently briefed on a new threat with the discovery of an invasive mussel new to North America, the golden mussel.

[Napa Closes Lake Hennessey Boat Launch To Guard Against Invasive Golden Mussel \(1/10/25\)](#)

To protect local drinking water, no boats are allowed on the city-owned lake until further notice.

Capurro, L., Pereira, J., Castro, M. et al. Environmental factors determining the distribution of *Limnoperna fortunei* and its impact on benthic communities in the reservoirs of the Rio Negro (Uruguay)). *Biol Invasions* 27, 19 (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-024-03477-1> [\$]

Ostrensky, A., Leite, R.V.V., da Silva Bertão, A.P. et al. Assessing the bioinvasion of the golden mussel (*Limnoperna fortunei*) through different watersheds in South Brazil: a comparison between quali-quantitative microscopic and molecular techniques. *Biol Invasions* 27, 16 (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-024-03479-z> [\$]

BOAT INSPECTION/DECON

[Wyoming AIS inspections top 78K in 2024 amid 'increasing threat' \(1/8/25\)](#) Watercraft inspection numbers reached a record high in 2024 as wildlife managers continue their efforts to

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prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species in state waterways, according to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

[Flathead Lake Biological Station saw no invasive species slipped into local waters this past summer \(1/3/25\)](#) Flathead Lake Biological Station released its 2024 Aquatic Invasive Species report recently, after pitching in to inspect more than 100,000 boats for invasive species. Nearly half of those boats originated from states with known infestations.

BALLAST WATER/BIOFOULING

[Management of Ships Biofouling to Reduce Invasive Aquatic Species \(12/20/24\)](#) Overview of US, IMO, and the GloFouling Partnership Forum.

[Essential Changes To Ballast Water Record-Keeping \(12/23/24\)](#). New requirements for the Ballast Water Record Book have been announced

[Year in Review: Ballast water treatment industry navigates 2024 challenges \(12/24/24\)](#)
The ballast water treatment sector in 2024 grappled with compliance hurdles, technological evolution and operational shifts, reflecting a dynamic, yet complex industry landscape

[2025: ballast water compliance advances amid regulatory shifts \(12/31/24\)](#) 2025 brings regulatory updates, new BWMS approvals and increased scrutiny of ballast water compliance in a tightening maritime regulatory landscape

[Ballast water regulations for the West Coast of Canada \(1/9/25\)](#) Recent clarifications from Transport Canada regarding ballast water discharge regulations have provided much-needed guidance for vessels operating in this region.

[Scienco/FAST, UniBallast Partner to Launch the InTankFITT Container BWTS \(1/13/25\)](#)
Scienco/FAST and UniBallast, B.V. launched the portable InTankFITT Container, a containerized version of its filterless Ballast Water Treatment System (BWTS), InTank

MARINE

Haram, L.E., Kinney, K., Montgomery, T. et al. Non-uniform consumption of a novel, non-native seaweed by native consumers. *Biol Invasions* 27, 34 (2025).
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-024-03484-2>

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GREEN (5-SPINED) CRAB

AQUACULTURE

[Aquaculture cited as strong tool for climate resilience \(12/24/24\)](#) A new aquaculture report released by NOAA Fisheries on Dec. 17 cites aquaculture as increasingly important in the nation's commitment to food security, climate resilience and protection of threatened and endangered marine and freshwater species.

[Board of Natural Resources Ends Open Sea Net Pen Salmon Farms in Washington Waters \(1/9/25\)](#) Washington's public aquatic lands will no longer be home to commercial finfish net pen aquaculture. The Washington State Board of Natural Resources Tuesday adopted a rule to prohibit commercial finfish net pen aquaculture on state-owned aquatic lands managed by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Related: [Washington's fish farmers fall victim to fearmongering and political agendas \(1/11/25\)](#)

[Aquaculture leader calls for BC salmon ban to be scrapped in 're-set' for Canada \(1/7/24\)](#)
Kennedy wants 'science-based' policies after 'transition' architect Trudeau quits

[Infectious agent release and Pacific salmon exposure at Atlantic salmon farms revealed by environmental DNA \(12/28/24\)](#) In this study, we utilized environmental DNA (eDNA) to characterize the release of dozens of IAs from, and exposure of Pacific salmon to, Atlantic salmon aquaculture.

FRESHWATER

[Scientists make game-changing discoveries with stray DNA left behind by species: 'It's like having eyes on the back of your head' \(1/19/25\)](#) While scientists have been collecting environmental DNA for some time, its use for conservation is fairly new. Still, in just a few decades, eDNA has made a tremendous impact on the field.

[red-swamp crayfish] Guareschi, S., Cancellario, T., Oficialdegui, F.J., Laini, A. and Clavero, M. (2024), Some Like It Cold: Long-Term Assessment of a Near-Global Invader. *Ecol Evol*, 14: e70760. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.70760>

FISH

[Estuarine dispersal of an invasive Holarctic predator \(*Esox lucius*\) confirmed in North America \(12/27/24\)](#) Here we provide early evidence that invasive Northern Pike (*Esox lucius*), a Holarctic freshwater top predator, illegally introduced in the late 1950s into Southcentral Alaska, are now dispersing through estuarine corridors.

[Koi illegally dumped into McKenzie River prompts ODFW response \(12/19/24\)](#) ODFW staff responded to a report made to the Oregon Invasive Species Hotline on Wednesday, Dec. 18, that a koi (fish) was spotted near the Armitage Boat Landing on the McKenzie River near Eugene. District fish biologists removed the large koi which was most likely intentionally released into the McKenzie River. Koi can live up to 25 years, reproduce rapidly, and can survive very cold winters. Mature koi can produce 5,000 to 10,000 eggs and the largest koi can lay 500,000 eggs.

AQUATIC PLANTS

Prins, N., Spitzen-van der Sluijs, A., Verbrugge, L. et al. The extent of amphibian, fish and water plant translocations by garden pond owners. *Biol Invasions* 27, 46 (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-024-03472-6>

Jha, R.R., Li, D. Quantifying the effects of water hyacinth (*Pontederia crassipes*) on freshwater ecosystems: a meta-analysis. *Biol Invasions* 27, 27 (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-024-03499-9>

CLIMATE CHANGE

[Climate change is helping invasive species take root in Washington \(1/2/25\)](#) Non-native plants are crowding out native ones in the Pacific Northwest and posing new challenges for the organizations that manage them.

Kumschick, S., Journiac, L., Boulesnane-Genguant, O. et al. Mapping potential environmental impacts of alien species in the face of climate change. *Biol Invasions* 27, 43 (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-024-03490-4>

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OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

OTHER

The Columbia River Basin Dreissenid Incident Response Toolkit ([CRBDIRT](#)) and ESA Consultation Manual is being phased out. The new resource will be the Western Basin Invasive Mussel Incident Response Toolkit at <https://www.westernqzrr.com/>.

[U.S. Restricts Salamander Imports to Protect Species From Deadly Disease \(1/8/25\)](#) The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service today announced final rules restricting the importation of salamanders for the pet trade. The restriction is designed to prevent introduction of the deadly fungus *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans*, or Bsal, into the United States.

[8-year-old Florida boy won UF-IFAS Agamapalooza by catching 93 invasive lizards \(1/2/25\)](#) After bagging 93 of the invasive lizards, the 8-year-old White City agama hunter took his trophy on a victory lap around school, for show-and-tell in his class, and anywhere else he could find a willing audience to hear about his accomplishment.

[Dogs sniff out devastating spotted lanternflies for early detection \(1/2/25\)](#) A study, published Dec. 26 in the journal *Ecosphere*, found that trained dogs – a Labrador retriever and a Belgian Malinois – were better than humans at detecting egg masses in forested areas near vineyards, while people spotted them better than the dogs in vineyards.

Sofaer, H.R., Williams, D.A., Jarnevich, C.S., Shadwell, K.S., Kittle, C.M., Pearse, I.S., Berio Fortini, L. and Brock, K.C. (2024), First records distribution models to guide biosurveillance for non-native species. *Ecography* e07522. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ecog.07522>

JOBS/GRANTS

Resources:

- *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 on the West Coast? Begin your job search and application process by searching for [specific jobs at PSMFC](#)*

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Jobs

Don't Move Firewood is hiring! To reduce the firewood-associated spread of emerald ash borer and other forest pests in the Pacific Northwest, The Nature Conservancy's Don't Move Firewood team is adding a temporary (6 month) position in 2025 to help us broaden and strengthen our outreach presence in this region. For more details and to apply, visit the following link: https://careers.nature.org/psp/tnccareers/APPLICANT/APPL/c/HRS_HRAM_FL.HRS_CG_SE_ARCH_FL.GBL?Page=HRS_APP_JBPST_FL&Action=U&FOCUS=Applicant&SiteId=1&JobOpeningId=56109&PostingSeq=1 Apply now! **Applications received by COB January 27 2025 are preferred**, however, note that applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled.

Invasive Species Program Coordinator - Alaska Center for Conservation Science

Term position with University of Alaska to help coordinate the Southcentral Alaska Invasion Hotspot Pilot project funded by the Department of the Interior through the National EDRR Framework initiative. University of Alaska Located in Anchorage or Homer, Alaska; **Closing February 12, 2025**. Contact Dr. Matt Carlson mlcarlson@alaska.edu

Wildlife Specialist Supervisor Statewide "Fish Health Program Manager"

Arizona Game and Fish Department

Phoenix, Arizona (Hybrid)

Salary - \$56,098 Per Year

Education - Bachelor's Degree

Type - Full Time

Currently recruiting for the Fish Health Program Manager position, which will manage and supervise the state's fish health program. Responsibilities include conducting fish health inspections and analyses, and verifying certifications at Department hatcheries and prior to importing, stocking, and/or transferring wild fish. Makes recommendations on treatment of diseases at hatcheries, coordinates medication requests with the Department veterinarian, and oversees treatments. Conducts eDNA analyses for aquatic invasive species identification or species of management interest. The position is the main point of contact for Arizona on all fish health concerns, questions, and informational needs, and works regularly with many other state, federal, NGO's, and private customers on jurisdictional and regulative fish health matters. Maintains AFS FHS Tier 1 laboratory certification. Establishes and maintains protocols and procedures following quality assurance and quality control guidelines. Reviews scientific publications pertinent to fish health to remain current on pathogens and testing methodologies. Supervises one employee.

Virginia Tech: Associate or Full Professor – Invasive Species Economist

Job no: 530578

Work type: Teaching & Research Faculty

Senior management: Agriculture & Life Sciences

Department: Agricultural & Applied Economics

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Location: Blacksburg, Virginia
Categories: Agriculture / Life Science

Open until filled

Job Description

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALs) and the College of Science (COS) at Virginia Tech are inviting applications for a 9-month (academic year) tenure-track research and teaching position at the Associate or Full Professor level in applied economics with a focus on invasive and other harmful species

[The Illinois Natural History Survey \(INHS\)](#) is seeking 2 graduate research assistants (GRAs) starting Summer or Fall 2025 to conduct research in the areas of aquatic ecology, invasion biology, or fisheries ecology. MS or PhD GRAs are available to research topics such as sport fish growth and recruitment, habitat enhancements for reservoir fisheries, riverine larval fish ecology, and harvest regulations. The **deadline to apply is February 14, 2025**.

[Knauss Fellowship](#)

[Ocean, coastal and Great Lakes resource management experience for graduate students](#)

The Sea Grant Knauss Fellowship provides a unique educational and professional experience to graduate students interested in ocean, coastal and Great Lakes resources and in the national policy decisions affecting those resources. The Fellowship, named after one of Sea Grant's founders and former NOAA Administrator John A. Knauss, matches highly qualified graduate students with "hosts" in the legislative and executive branch of government located in the Washington, D.C. area, for a one-year paid fellowship.

Applications due to your state's Sea Grant program on February 19, 2025, for the 2026 Fellowship. Applicants encouraged to reach out to programs 1-2 months in advance!

Grants

[Rapid Response Fund for Aquatic Invasive Species](#)

USFWS UPDATE: Thank you to everyone who has expressed interest in Funding Opportunity F25AS00039: Rapid Response Fund for Aquatic Invasive Species. After careful consideration, we have decided to discontinue this opportunity, at least temporarily, to explore alternate pilot models that we believe may have more of an immediate benefit to our management partners. This decision was not made lightly, and we understand it may come as a disappointment to those who were looking forward to applying. We encourage you to stay connected with us, as we will continue to provide updates on future opportunities.

[U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service \(USFWS\) Invasive Species Eradication Funding Opportunity](#)

Requesting proposals that support the eradication of a newly introduced or established invasive species in terrestrial or aquatic habitats of the United States, including the U.S. territories (aquatic habitats include freshwater, wetland, riparian, estuarine, and marine environments). While preference will be given to proposals that result in eradication of invasive species, research proposals that advance the effectiveness and availability of eradication tools will be considered.

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As part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law authorization for ecosystem restoration, the Department of the Interior (DOI) invested \$3 million to establish an Invasive Species Eradication Funding Opportunity. It is administered within the existing authorities of DOI and administered by the USFWS in collaboration with DOI bureaus. The intent of this funding opportunity is to promote and invest in those projects with a high likelihood of achieving eradication success and that have existing partnerships and plans in place.

Please note that projects responding to founding populations of aquatic invasive species within the early detection and rapid response context should instead apply for funding through the [Rapid Response Fund for Aquatic Invasive Species](#). (New: see note above) Projects addressing established aquatic invasive species infestations with a high likelihood of eradication can apply for this Eradication Funding Opportunity.

General information about the funding for invasive species eradication can be found [HERE](#). Additional questions may be directed to myself at mailto:jarrad_kosa@fws.gov.

\$100M in NOAA funding available for transformational habitat restoration

On Friday, NOAA announced the [availability of up to \\$100 million in funding](#) for transformational projects that restore marine, estuarine, coastal, and Great Lakes habitats and that strengthen community resilience. This is the third and final round of this funding opportunity under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

Of the \$100 million available, up to 15 percent is specifically available to U.S. federally recognized tribes, Alaska Native Corporations, and organizations that represent tribes through formal legal agreements, through direct awards or subawards. The remaining funding will be available to all eligible applicants.

NOAA will accept proposals between \$750,000 and \$10 million for the entire award, with typical funding anticipated to range from \$4 million to \$6 million. The application deadline is **April 16, 2025**. More information, including details about webinars for potential applicants, can be found on the [Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grants](#) page.

TRAINING:

Certified Tribal Technician Program

NAFWS' vision for the Certified Tribal Technician Program is to offer professional certification training for tribal staff with the equivalency as a Fisheries Technician or an Invasive Species Technician to assist building tribal capacity for Tribes.

To achieve this, we will:

- Promote tribal programs and assist in the building of tribal capacity by offering professional training opportunities.
- Provide training skills that expand or enhance knowledge for professional fish and wildlife/natural resources staff.
- Focus on concepts related to Fishery and/or Invasive Species Management to build tribal capacities to implement in comprehensive Fish and Wildlife/Natural Resources Management Programs.

The goal of the training program is to increase awareness, knowledge, and implementation of best management practices related to fisheries and invasive species management, and monitoring by tribal professionals and field staff.

LEGISLATION

Advocacy

State/Provincial

Federal: Executive

[Trump's nominees reach crucial stretch \(1/13/25\)](#)

...Former North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum (R) had originally been scheduled the same day [Tuesday] to sit for his hearing as he seeks confirmation to lead the Department of the Interior. But even the comparatively low-wattage Burgum drew pushback from Democrats, who complained about incomplete paperwork. Burgum's hearing has been pushed back to Thursday...

Federal: Congressional

[Dingell Introduces Legislation to Reauthorize Great Lakes Restoration Initiative \(1/9/25\)](#)

Today, Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-06) and her colleagues on the bipartisan Great Lakes Task Force introduced the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) Act of 2025. This bipartisan bill will reauthorize the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, which is set to expire at the end of FY 2026, for another five... The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative is critical in cleaning up the Great Lakes and waterways, and addressing problems that directly impact public health and safety. The Initiative has focused efforts to **stop the spread of invasive carp and other invasive species**, restore coastline, and prevent future contamination. Since 2010, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative has provided more than \$4.1 billion to fund 8,000 projects throughout the Great Lakes region.

[Outdoor Recreation Industry Celebrates Signing of the EXPLORE Act into Law \(1/6/25\)](#)

The Outdoor Recreation Roundtable (ORR) celebrates President Biden signing into law, the Expanding Public Lands Outdoor Recreation Experiences (EXPLORE) Act [[H.R.6492](#)] this weekend, a groundbreaking bipartisan achievement that cements the outdoor recreation industry as a cornerstone of America's economy and quality of life...

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Note: SEC. 128. “Aquatic resource activities assistance” of the bill gives the head of each Federal land management agency authorization to carry out inspections and decontamination of vessels entering or leaving Federal land and waters under the jurisdiction of the respective Federal land management agency. Additionally the bill establishes a competitive grant program to provide financial assistance to partners to conduct inspections and decontamination of vessels operating in Reclamation projects, including to purchase, establish, operate, or maintain a vessel inspection and decontamination station. The federal cost share for the grant program is 75%.

Now What: Funding the competitive grant program will require a separate appropriation.

Biden Signs WRDA Into Law (1/10/25)

Washington, D.C.—On January 4, President Joe Biden signed into law the broadly popular Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2024 [[S.4367](#)] that boosts the federal cost-share for inland waterways projects to 75 percent and authorizes more than 200 feasibility studies and 22 new or modified construction projects by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Note: AIS highlights of the bill can be found in the [12/18/24 AIS News](#)

Federal: Appropriations

EVENTS

Archived Events:

- [Exploring eDNA for Early Detection and Rapid Response \(Apr 2024\)](#)
- [Horizon Scanning & Hotspot Analysis for Invasive Species Early Detection and Rapid Response \(Apr 2024\)](#)
- [Found it! Enhancing eDNA Surveillance with the National EDRR Framework \(Oct 2024\)](#)

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Ongoing Training Opportunities:

Watercraft Inspection Training:

Virtual Level 1: [Level 1 - Inspector Training | westernais](#)

- [January 28-29, 2025](#)
- [February 25-26, 2025](#)
- [March 11-12, 2025](#)
- [April 1-2, 2025](#)
- [April 29-30, 2025](#)

Virtual Level 2: [Level 2 - Inspection and Decon Training | westernais](#)

- [January 28-30, 2025](#)
- [February 25-27, 2025](#)
- [March 11-13, 2025](#)
- [April 1-3, 2025](#)
- [April 29-May 1, 2025](#)

Virtual Level 3: [Level 3 - Trainer Training | westernais](#)

- January 21-23: CLASS FULL!
- [March 4-6, 2025](#)
- [April 15-17, 2025](#)
- [May 13-15, 2025](#)

[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

2025

January

[Conservation Detection & Nosework Seminar 2025](#) Holne Park House - River Dart Country Park
We're thrilled to announce that we are co-hosting the Conservation Detection & Nosework Seminar from 28 - 30 January 2025, in Devon, United Kingdom. This exciting event, held in partnership with Dogs with Jobs, promises to be a unique opportunity for learning and collaboration.

AFWA: Exploring and Implementing eDNA Point of Use Tools and Automated Sampling Technology.

When: Thurs Jan 30th, 2025; 2:00- 4:00 pm ET Register here:

<https://doitalent.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIsdO6orTMtExmbnIH0jBS7DOUU5QPn3wg#/registration>

Join us as we continue our webinar series on environmental DNA (eDNA) tools and resources available through the National Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) Framework for invasive species. This webinar will cover the eDNA tools that are in development as well as highlight case studies on how state and federal partners are working together to increase surveillance. As part of this, the webinar will include information on point of use tools and automated eDNA samplers and how the technology is being optimized for use to detect invasive species. This webinar is part of a series focused on the National EDRR Framework. The EDRR Framework is an initiative to strengthen interjurisdictional coordination and capacity to efficiently detect and respond to new invasive species across the nation. This talk is hosted in partnership with the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. Closed captions will be provided via Zoom.

February

[2025 Wild Spotter Invasive Species Ambassador Training Course](#) Feb 04, 2025 - Feb 06, 2025
Lake Guntersville State Park, Guntersville, Alabama

Feb. 24-27th, 2025 [INVASIVES 2025](#), ISCBC's Annual Forum & AGM in New Westminster, B.C.! With early bird pricing through December 20th and [discounts for members](#), don't miss the 20th anniversary of this special, in-person event!

[2025 33rd USDA Interagency Research Forum on Invasive Species](#) Feb 25, 2025 – Feb 28, 2025
Graduate Annapolis Hotel, Annapolis, Maryland

March

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[Oregon Invasive Species Council Business Meeting, March 4, 2025 Salem](#)

[Washington Invasive Species Council Meeting, March 20, Olympia](#)

April

April 14, 2025 @ 8:00 am - April 17, 2025 @ 5:00 pm CDT
[National Forum on Biological Control Conference](#)

[2nd National Forum on Biological Control Conference, April 14-17, 2025, Annapolis, MD.](#) This event, led by the USDA Forest Service in partnership with NAISMA and the National Association of State Foresters (NASF), is the premier gathering for biocontrol practitioners, researchers, policymakers, and other professionals dedicated to addressing the challenges and exploring the opportunities in weed and arthropod biocontrol.

The **2025 Pacific Ballast Water and Biofouling Group Meeting** has been scheduled for April 29 & 30, 2025. It will be held at Hyatt Centric The Pike Long Beach in Long Beach, California. Registration and hotel room block information will be released in early 2025. Contact [Amy Stark](#) if you have any questions.

May

Invasive Species Council of British Columbia's 2025 Research Conference Call for Proposals is Open! The conference theme is "Getting Ahead of the Invasion Curve: Bridging the Gap Between Research and Management" and it will be held at University of British Columbia's Okanagan campus in Kelowna, B.C on May 13 –15, 2025.

This is a fantastic opportunity to present research you and your teams might be doing, and to engage in critical discussions on the management of invasive species. Abstract submissions are scheduled to close **November 30, 2024**.

To submit and find detailed information on submission guidelines for presentations and posters, requirements, and event specifics can be found in the **Proposal Application** [here](#), while **Event Details** can be found [here](#).

July

[Washington Invasive Species Council Meeting, July 17, Olympia](#)

September

[Washington Invasive Species Council Meeting, September 25, Olympia](#)

October

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2025 Society for the Study of Marine Bioinvasions (SSMB) 12th International Conference (ICMB XII) Oct 07, 2025 - Oct 09, 2025 Hotel VidaMar Madeira Funchal, Madeira Island, Portugal

December

Oregon Invasive Species Council Business Meeting, December 2, 2025 Salem

Washington Invasive Species Council Meeting, December 9, Olympia

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