

# Regional Framework for Preventing an Introduction of Dreissenids to the Pacific Northwest



## Regional Defense

Using resources in a cost-effective, interjurisdictional, coordinated response to prevent mussels from entering uninfested areas and to contain AIS at their source



# Support appropriation of WRDA funds to Columbia River Basin dreissenid activities

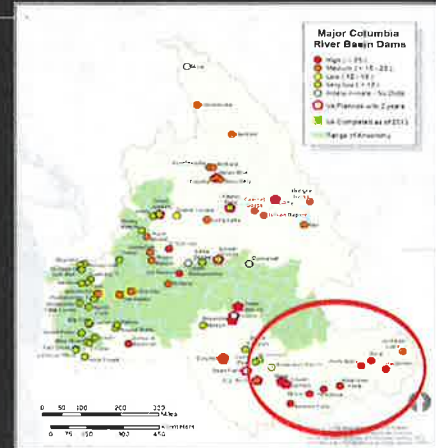
Water Resources Development Act (signed June 2014)

- Section 5007
  - Authorizes the Secretary (of the Army) to establish a program to prevent and manage aquatic invasive species in the Columbia River Basin in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. Directs the Secretary to establish watercraft inspection stations in the Basin at locations having the highest likelihood of preventing the spread of such species into reservoirs operated and maintained by the Secretary.”
  - Authorizes the Secretary to conduct monitoring and contingency planning that includes conducting risk assessment of each major public and private water resources facility in the Basin, establishing an AIS monitoring program in the Basin, establishing a Basin watershed-wide plan for expedited response to an AIS infestation, and monitoring water quality at facilities owned or managed by the Secretary in the Basin.
- \$20 million authorized

**ISSUE:** The funding has not been appropriated to the Basin.

**ACTION:**

C. Appropriating these funds could provide capacity within the Columbia River Basin for Idaho to address an infestation of invasive mussels. Idaho Snake River facilities are in the highest risk category for an invasive mussel introduction. Support appropriation of \$20 million authorized for use in Columbia River Basin dreissenid efforts.



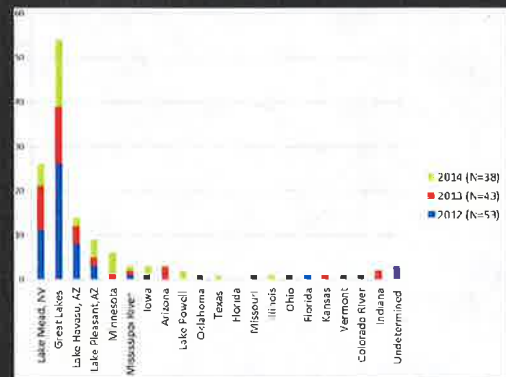
# Support mandatory decontamination of fouled watercraft at federally managed waterbodies

Priority One is “Containment at the Source”

- Cost-effective

**ISSUE:** We need a federally binding decontamination policy for federal waters (excluding the Great Lakes, where source decontamination is unrealistic)

**ACTION:** Support efforts for the mandatory decontamination of any watercraft/conveyance leaving a federally managed water body.



## Support reauthorization of the National Invasive Species Act

### Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act (NANPCA) of 1990

- ✦ Identify and implement ways to prevent the unintentional introduction and spread of invasive species into waters of the U.S.
- ✦ Work toward minimizing economic and ecological impacts of established invasive species
- ✦ Establish a program to assist states in the management and removal of invasive species
- ✦ NANPCA was reauthorized and amended in 1996 and renamed the National Invasive Species Act (NISA)

**ISSUE:** Congressional appropriations have never met the amounts authorized in NISA (group of bipartisan legislators wrote the leaders of their respective Appropriations Committees in 2002); other aspects of the legislation need updating to address numerous invasive species issues that have emerged since 1996.

### **ACTION:**

D. Support reauthorization of NISA to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species and minimize the impacts of established invasive species.

## Support adding quagga mussels as “Injurious species” under the Lacey Act

### The Lacey Act

- Enacted in 1900
- Administered by the US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Prohibits the interstate transport of wildlife killed or taken in violation of state law
- Amended in 1981 and 2008 to extend protections to plants, increase penalties for violations
- Title 16 prohibits wildlife trafficking and the submission of false records
- Title 18 prohibits the importation and interstate transportation of listed injurious species
  - Zebra mussels are listed as injurious species, but quagga mussels are not

**ISSUE:** The Lacey Act needs to be reformed to include quagga mussels as injurious to make it illegal to transport across state lines quagga mussels

**ACTION:** Support reforming the Lacey Act to include quagga mussels as injurious

## Communicate the economic and environmental effects of dreissenids

### Idaho Invasive Species Act of 2008

- Provided policy direction, planning and authority to combat invasive species and prevent new introductions
- Idaho State Department of Agriculture establishes rules, creates the Idaho Invasive Species Fund (2010 sticker legislation provided the source of funding for this fund), and conducts watercraft inspections

Enacting this legislation was visionary – Idaho became a leader for other PNW states

**ISSUE:** Other states need to develop and fund Invasive Species Funds and elevate awareness and understanding of the economic and environmental effects of invasive species

### **ACTIONS:**

A. Support/encourage other state legislators to develop similar legislation and funding mechanisms to advance individual state protections and create the capacity needed for states and regional entities to collaborate on regional defense and prevention.

B. Discuss the economic and environmental effects of invasive species on Idaho's agricultural, recreational and other industries with Congressional members.

## 2014 Idaho watercraft inspection/interception program data

Number of boats inspected: 49,380

Number of contaminated dreissenid boats inspected: 15

### Origin of intercepted contaminated boats:

- Minnesota (2)
  - Ohio (2)
  - Michigan
  - Iowa
  - Lake Pleasant
  - Lake Powell (2)
  - Great Lakes
  - Nevada (5)
- Destination of intercepted contaminated boats: Idaho (5), Washington (4), British Columbia (2), Alberta (1), Montana (3)



## Case Studies "Hello Boat"

### **INCIDENT DETAILS:**

Species Found: Quagga Mussels  
 Alive/Dead: Alive  
 Date Inspected: May 19, 2009  
 Date Decon: May 21, 2009  
 Boat From: Lake Mead, NV  
 Destination: Spokane, WA  
 Found by: UT and WA

Citation: Gross misdemeanor

On May 15, 2009, an alert citizen driving home from work in Utah saw a boat with likely invasive quagga mussels attached heading north out of Salt Lake City and reported it to Utah authorities. A general alert was broadcast to Idaho, Montana, Washington and Oregon as the boat's final destination was unknown. Based on a blog alert on an Idaho website, the boat was spotted at a residence in Spokane, WA on May 19. WDFW Enforcement Officers were dispatched and the boat was seized for decontamination as it was heavily fouled with live quagga mussels. The owner was a dealer who had just repossessed the boat from its location in Lake Mead, NV. WDFW held a press conference on May 21 to highlight the regional cooperative effort to find this boat before it could launch. Idaho Rep. Anderson attended the action, which also coincided with the Idaho governor signing new AIS legislation targeting zebra and quagga mussels. The owner was cited for unlawful transportation of a prohibited invasive species.



## Summary

- I. Support appropriation of WRDA funds to Columbia River Basin dreissenid activities.
- II. Support mandatory decontamination of fouled watercraft at federally managed waterbodies.
- III. Support reauthorization of the National Invasive Species Act.
- IV. Support adding quagga mussels as "Injurious species" under the Lacey Act.
- V. Communicate the economic and environmental effects of dreissenids.



1 Resolution Draft language for the State of Idaho

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3 TO THE HONORABLE BARACK OBAMA, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,  
4 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
5 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
6 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO SECRETARY SALLY JEWELL,  
7 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR:

8  
9 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of the Representatives of the state of Idaho, in  
10 legislative session assembled, respectfully represent and petition as follows:

11  
12 WHEREAS, Maintaining a healthy suite of economic, environmental and social ecosystem  
13 services in aquatic systems is integral to the quality of life in the State of Idaho.

14 WHEREAS, Healthy aquatic habitats provide clean drinking water, flood control, transportation,  
15 recreation, purification of human and industrial wastes, power generation, habitat for native plants and  
16 animals, production of fish and other foods, marketable goods, and cultural benefits.

17 WHEREAS, Aquatic invasive species, including Dreissenids (quagga mussels (*Dreissena*  
18 *rostriformis bugensis*) and zebra mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha*)), are invasive species that cause  
19 irreparable ecological damage to many waters in the United States.

20 WHEREAS, Dreissenids have not yet been detected in the Pacific Northwest. The estimated  
21 annual cost to address established populations of dreissenids in the Pacific Northwest Economic  
22 Region is almost \$0.5 billion annually.

23 WHEREAS, The Water Resources Reform and Development Act was signed in June 2014. It  
24 authorizes \$20 million for Columbia River Basin dreissenid efforts through the Secretary of the Army.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully request that Congress expedite  
26 appropriation of these funds to significantly enhance monitoring and prevention efforts and to  
27 implement the intent of the Act.

28 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the President of  
29 the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Senate and House of  
30 Representatives of the United States and each member of Congress from the State of Idaho.

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# WESTERN GOVERNORS' ASSOCIATION POLICY RESOLUTION XXXX-XX

## A. BACKGROUND

1. Maintaining a healthy suite of economic, environmental, and social ecosystem services in aquatic systems is integral to quality of life in the West.
2. Healthy aquatic habitats provide clean drinking water, flood control, transportation, recreation, purification of human and industrial wastes, power generation, habitat for native plants and animals, production of fish and other foods, marketable goods, and cultural benefits.
3. Aquatic invasive species, including Dreissenids (quagga mussels (*Dreissena rostriformis bugensis*) and zebra mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha*)), are invasive species that cause irreparable ecological damage to many waters in the United States.
4. The arrival of dreissenids to western U.S. waters extends their economic and ecological impacts in a region significantly challenged by water management issues.
5. Dreissenids clog water intake and delivery pipes, infest hydropower infrastructure, adhere to boats and pilings, foul recreational beaches, compete with native mussels, and disrupt food webs and the biological functioning of aquatic habitats. They pose a significant threat to anadromous fish restoration efforts in the West.
6. Dreissenids have not yet been detected in the Pacific Northwest. The estimated annual cost to address established populations of dreissenids in the Pacific Northwest Economic Region is almost \$0.5 billion annually.
7. Preventing an introduction requires coordinated, comprehensive, and complementary efforts from federal, state, and local governments as well as tribal sovereign nations. Successful prevention efforts focus on early detection, control, and management, and rely on policy and management actions that target the primary pathways and vectors of distribution.
8. Over \$10 million dollars is expended annually on watercraft inspection and decontamination programs in the western states and two western Canadian provinces, and although coordination and other activities have resulted in enhancements to prevention and early detection efforts, significant gaps remain in the ability of western states to address new introductions of aquatic invasive species, particularly dreissenids.

## B. GOVERNOR'S POLICY STATEMENT

1. Western Governors support continued interjurisdictional, coordinated, cost-effective, and efficient efforts to prevent the spread and new introductions of dreissenids and other aquatic invasive species in the West.
2. We believe containment at the source is the most cost-effective approach to prevent the spread of dreissenids from infested waters. We support efforts to provide capacity and resources to infested waters to implement decontamination programs. We call on federal agencies that manage water bodies with infestations of dreissenids to expedite mandatory decontamination of fouled watercraft to contain dreissenids at their source.
3. The Water Resources Reform and Development Act was signed in June 2014. It authorizes \$20 million for Columbia River Basin dreissenid efforts through the Secretary of the Army. The Governors request that Congress expedite appropriation of these funds to significantly enhance monitoring and prevention efforts and to implement the intent of the Act.
4. The Governors request that Congress fully fund and implement state and interstate aquatic nuisance species management plans to provide the capacity and resources to address aquatic invasive species threats.
5. The Governors request that Congress reauthorize the National Invasive Species Act (NISA) to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species and minimize the impacts of established invasive species. Further, the Governors request that Congress support appropriations authorized in NISA.
6. The Governors call on the US Fish and Wildlife Service to list quagga mussels as "injurious" under the Lacey Act to make it illegal to transport quagga mussels across state lines.

## C. GOVERNOR'S MANAGEMENT DIRECTIVE

1. The Governors direct the WGA staff, where appropriate, to work with federal, tribal sovereign nation, state, regional and local entities, and the Executive Branch to achieve the objectives of this resolution, including funding, subject to the appropriation process, based on prioritization of needs.
2. Additionally, the Governors direct the WGA staff to keep the Governors informed, on a regular basis, of their progress in implementing the objectives of this resolution.