

Report of the Invasive Species Working Group

The Invasive Species Working Group was appointed by Pro Tem Hill and Speaker Bedke prior to the June 17, 2016 Legislative Council meeting. Members of the working group include Co-chair Senator Jim Rice, Co-chair Representative Terry Gestrin, Senator Lee Heider, Senator Mark Harris and Senator Grant Burgoyne and Representative Thomas Dayley, Representative Brandon Hixon and Representative Mat Erpelding.

The working group met on August 30, September 23, October 17 and November 9. The meeting on September 23 was conducted at The Reserve at Bear Lake. All remaining meetings were held in Boise.

The focus of the working group was primarily the threat Quagga and Zebra mussels pose to the state of Idaho as well as a review of current and potential prevention efforts.

During the meeting on August 30, the committee began its work by receiving a presentation from the Idaho State Department of Agriculture. The presentation of Mr. Thomas Woolf, Aquatic Invasive Species Program Manager, focused on understanding biological aspects of the mussels and the threat the mussels pose to the state of Idaho.

Mr. Woolf explained that zebra mussels were introduced into Lake Michigan by watercraft from the shipping industry through ballast water and adhesion to watercraft. He reported that both Quagga and Zebra mussels are from the eastern European area near the Black Sea. Mr. Woolf displayed evidence of the mussels in other parts of the country reproducing at alarming rates and affecting intake valves for drinking water, irrigation pipes and hydroelectric facilities, as well as damaging boats and waterfront areas.

The Idaho Invasive Species Council has conducted a study that estimates mussel introduction into the state would cost Idaho approximately \$94 million per year. This figure does not include agriculture related impacts but reflects the impact to hydroelectric facilities, recreation areas, fish hatcheries, golf courses, drinking water facilities and irrigation facilities.

Idaho has sixteen watercraft inspection stations that operate dawn to dusk February through October. Over 86,700 inspections have taken place in 2016, which is over 31% greater than last year, primarily due to extended hours of operation. Of the vessels inspected, over 1,100 of them came from mussel positive waters in the previous 30 days which resulted in the stations conducting over 975 hotwashes.

Findings:

1. The proposed increase in time for the operation of the watercraft inspection stations, as set forth in Recommendation 2 below, is appropriate, proper and necessary for the inspections to effectively prevent zebra and quagga mussels from being introduced into Idaho.
2. Irrigation districts may regulate waters under their purview.

Recommendations:

The working group proposes the following recommendations:

1. That the Legislature provide for an infraction violation, with an established fine, for anyone subject to inspection at a watercraft inspection station that bypasses a station.

2. That times of operation for the Bear Lake, Cedars, Cotterell, Franklin, Hwy 93, and Malad watercraft inspection stations be extended to 24-hour operation, funded with state general funds in the amount of \$4 million, representing an increase of \$2.7 million over the current budget.
3. That a Joint Memorial be adopted that encourages the federal government to continue to be engaged in quagga and zebra mussel prevention efforts at the source and to support inspection efforts.
4. That the Department of Parks and Recreation provide for the sale of invasive species stickers at all watercraft inspection stations in the state of Idaho.
5. That the Idaho State Department of Agriculture continue to provide invasive species training to Port of Entry inspectors.
6. That out-of-state motorized boat registration tags be increased from \$22.00 to \$30.00.
7. If the Legislature finds an effective program to fight the introduction of quagga and zebra mussels into the state, the program should include the fostering of cooperation between the states and the federal government regarding inspections and enforcement.

Supplemental Information Attached:

Attachment 1 - Mussel origins;

Attachment 2 - Depiction of mussel distribution across the country – comparison of 1998 and 2016;

Attachment 3 - Depiction of mussel-related beach decimation;

Attachment 4 - Economic impact of mussels;

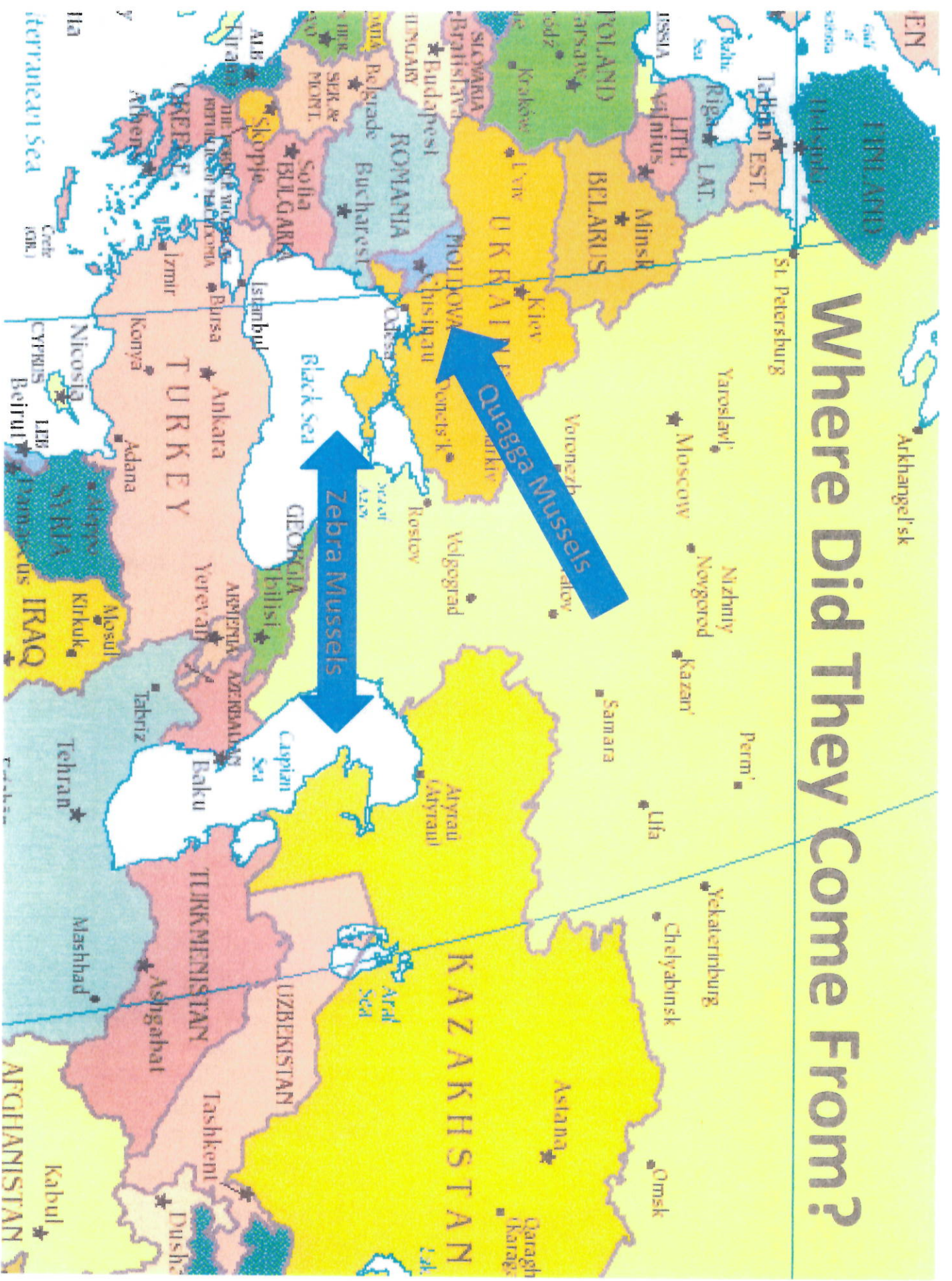
Attachment 5 - Home residence of boaters entering Idaho via the Cedars check station in 2015;

Attachment 6 - Listing of stations, hours of operations and costs – current strategy;

Attachment 7 - 2016 statistical data for the Bear Lake, Franklin and Malad check stations;

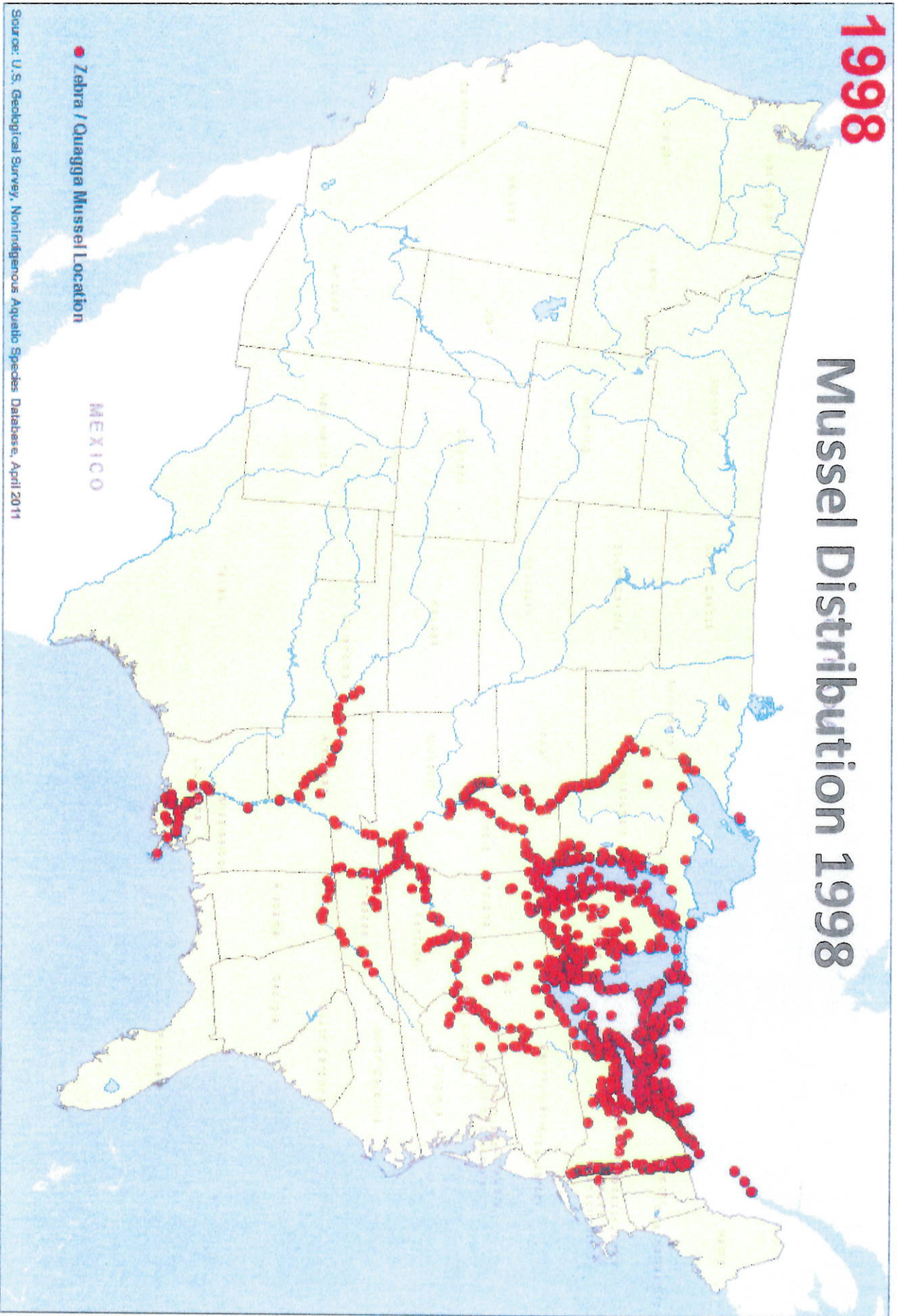
Attachment 8 - Invasive Species Sticker data – fees collected and distributed in FY 2016.

Where Did They Come From?



1998

Mussel Distribution 1998



Source: U.S. Geological Survey, Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database, April 2011



Zebra and Quagga Mussel Sightings Distribution

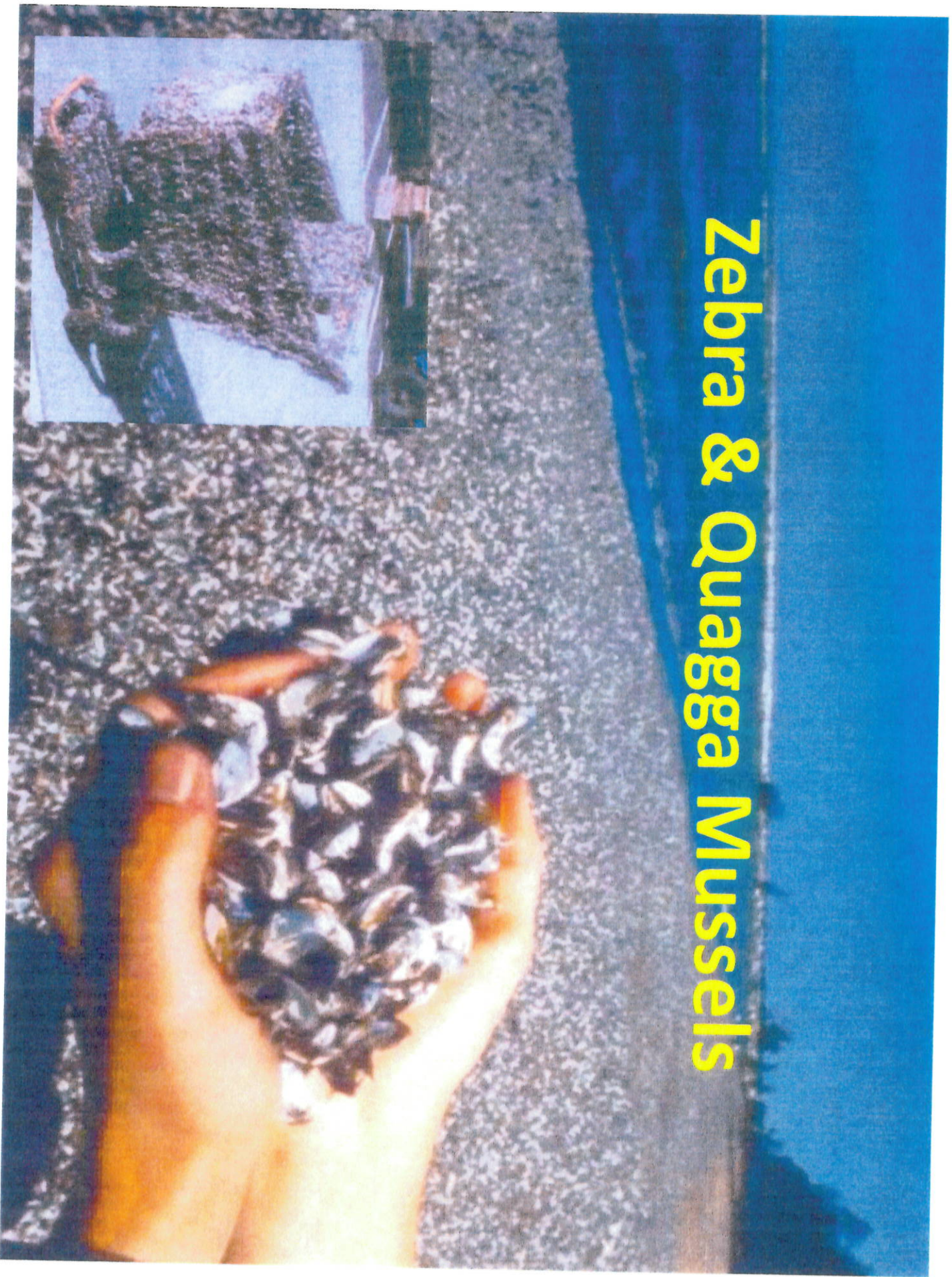
Dreissena polymorpha and *D. rostriformis bugensis*



- Zebra mussel occurrences
- Quagga mussel occurrences
- Both species occurrences
- Zebra/Quagga mussels eradicated
- Zebra/Quagga mussels failed

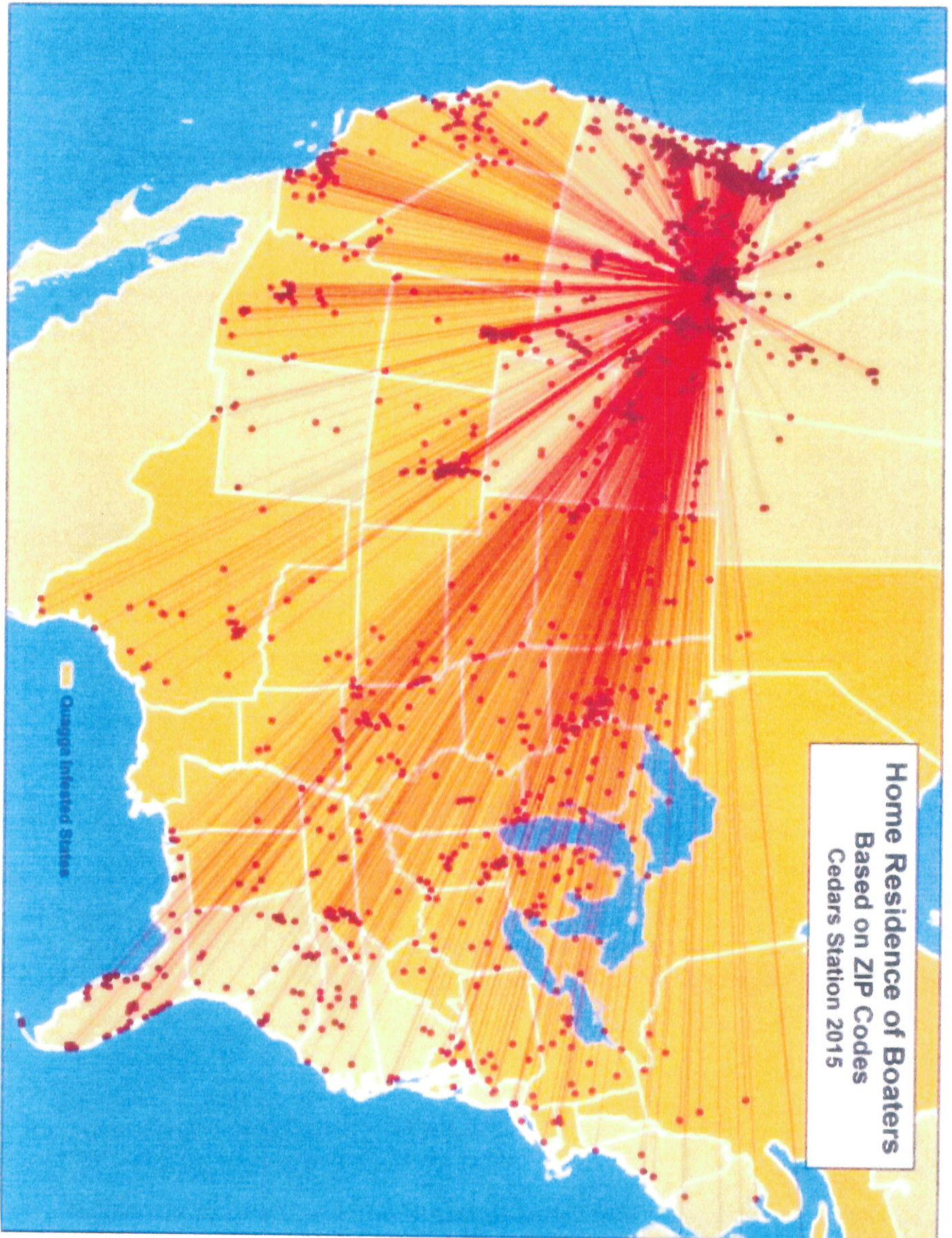
Map produced by the U.S. Geological Survey, Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database, July 8, 2016

Zebra & Quagga Mussels



Economic Impact of Mussels

- An industry estimate determined zebra mussels cost the Great Lakes states around **\$3.2 billion** over a 10 year period.
- Independent Economic Analysis Board estimates **hundreds of millions of dollars** in annual increased maintenance costs for hydropower facilities in the Columbia Basin.
- IISC study estimates mussel introduction would cost Idaho **\$94 million** per year (Figure did not include agriculture related impacts).
- www.westernais.org



Home Residence of Boaters
Based on ZIP Codes
Cedars Station 2015

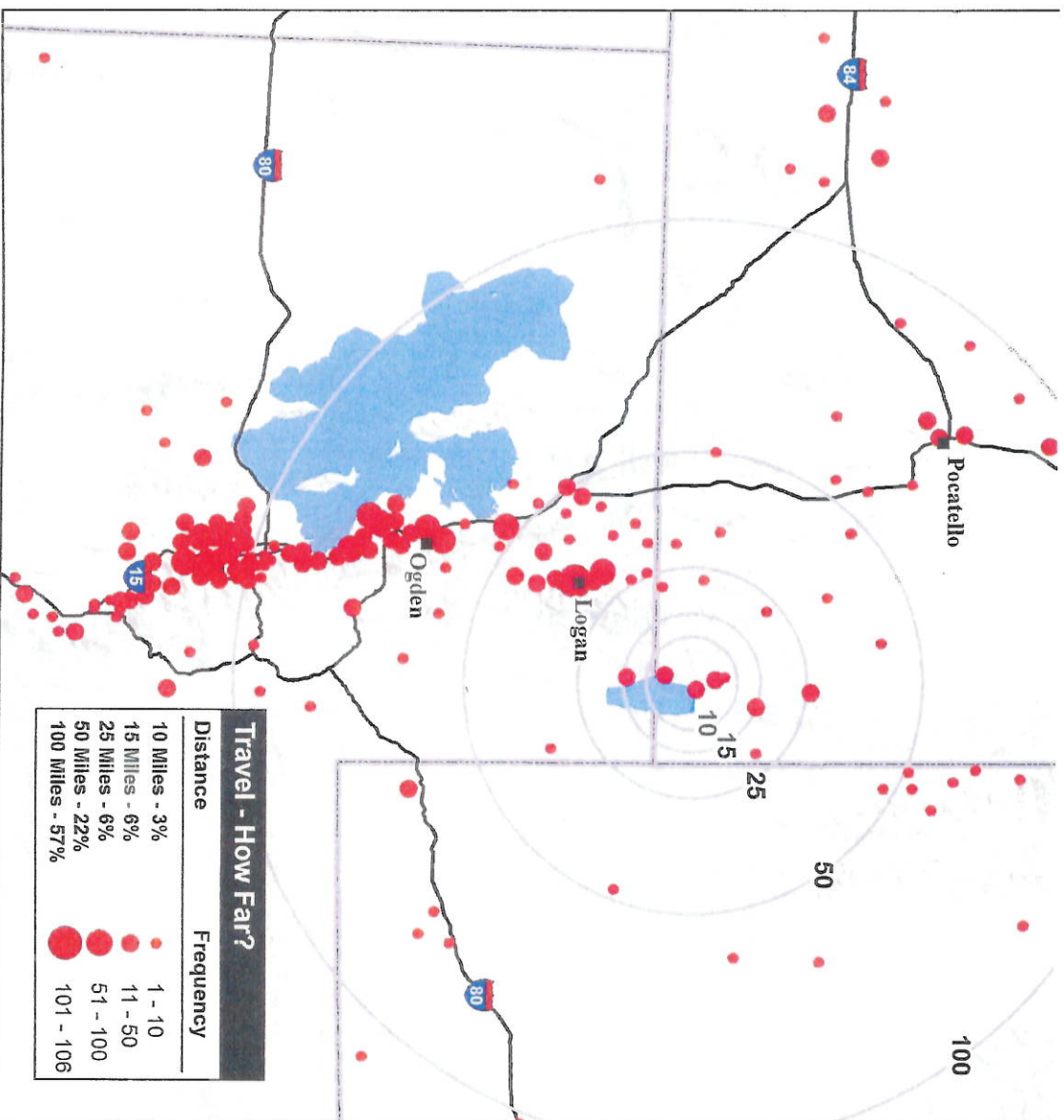
Omega Infested States

Station Operation Cost – Current Strategy

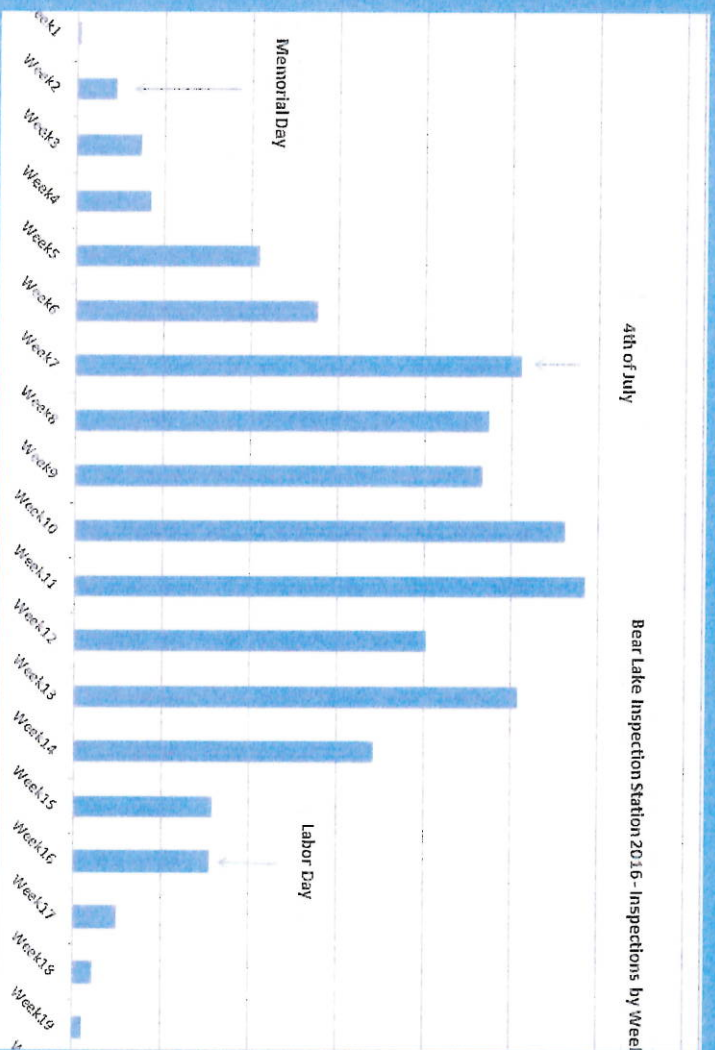
Stations 2017- Estimated	Open	Close	Days	Cost per Day (12 Hr.)	Cost per Season
Malad	24-Feb	2-Oct	230	\$806	\$175,900
Hwy 93	24-Feb	2-Oct	230	\$711	\$163,108
Bear Lake	19-May	1-Oct	135	\$606	\$82,107
Cedars	24-Feb	30-Oct	249	\$162	\$115,038
Franklin	19-May	30-Sep	119	\$547	\$73,299
Cottrell	24-Feb	30-Oct	249	\$441	\$109,809
Brunau	19-May	4-Sep	108	\$621	\$67,068
Redfish Lake	28-Jun	5-Sep	69	\$300	\$20,700
Huetter	6-May	5-Sep	123	\$585	\$71,955
Marsing	19-May	4-Sep	108	\$621	\$67,068
Samuels	19-May	4-Sep	108	\$697	\$75,271
Oldtown	19-May	4-Sep	108	\$697	\$75,271
Clark Fork	19-May	4-Sep	108	\$697	\$75,271
Hwy 20	19-May	4-Sep	108	\$619	\$66,825
Hwy 53	20-May	5-Sep	103	\$460	\$47,380
Hwy 87	19-May	4-Sep	108	\$619	\$66,825
					\$1,352,954

Bear Lake

- Significant traffic from Utah – 57% from within 100 miles
- “repeat” visitors aren’t quantified...but we know they are there



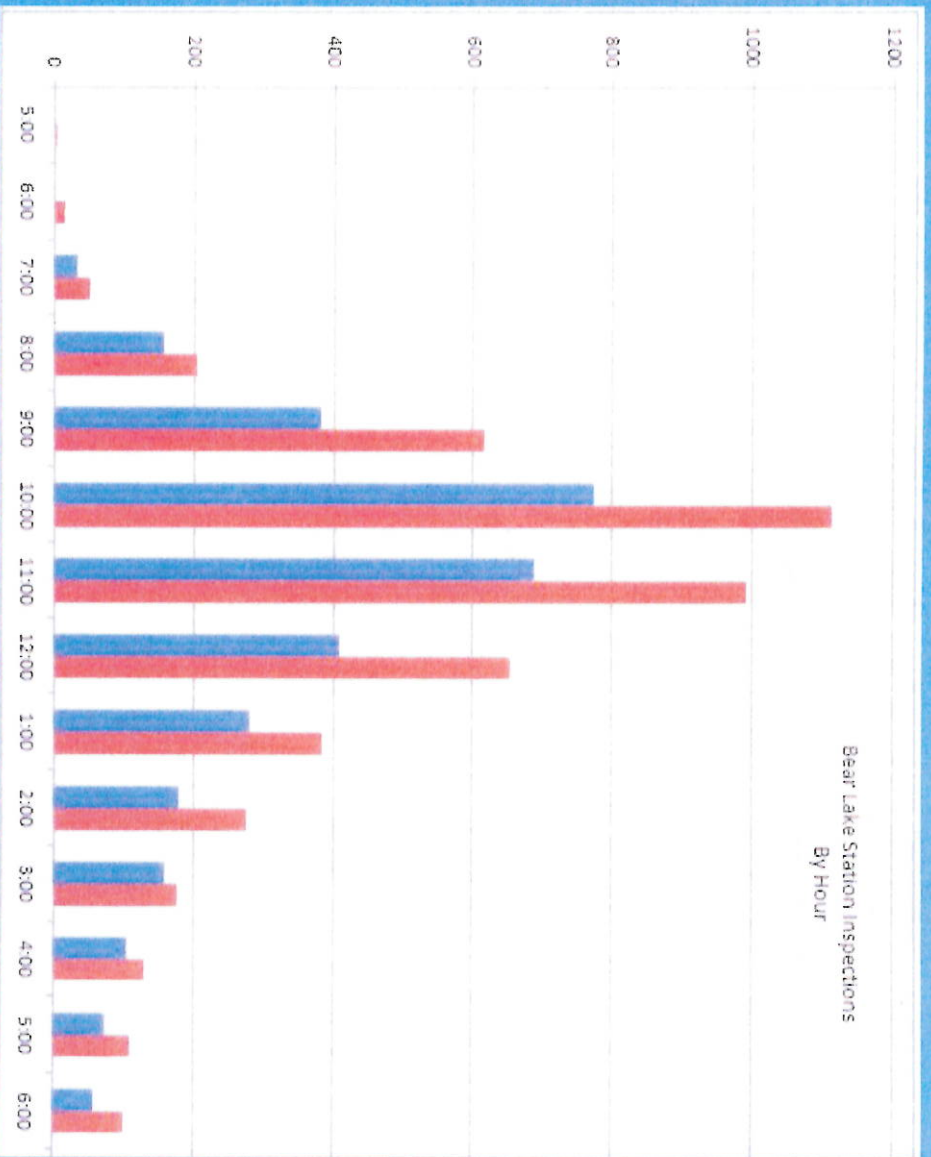
Bear Lake



- Total inspections: 4,947 (49.9% increase over 2015)
- 110 from a fouled waterbody (65 in 2015)
- 63 hotwashed
- 1,502 previously inspected (<100 in 2015)

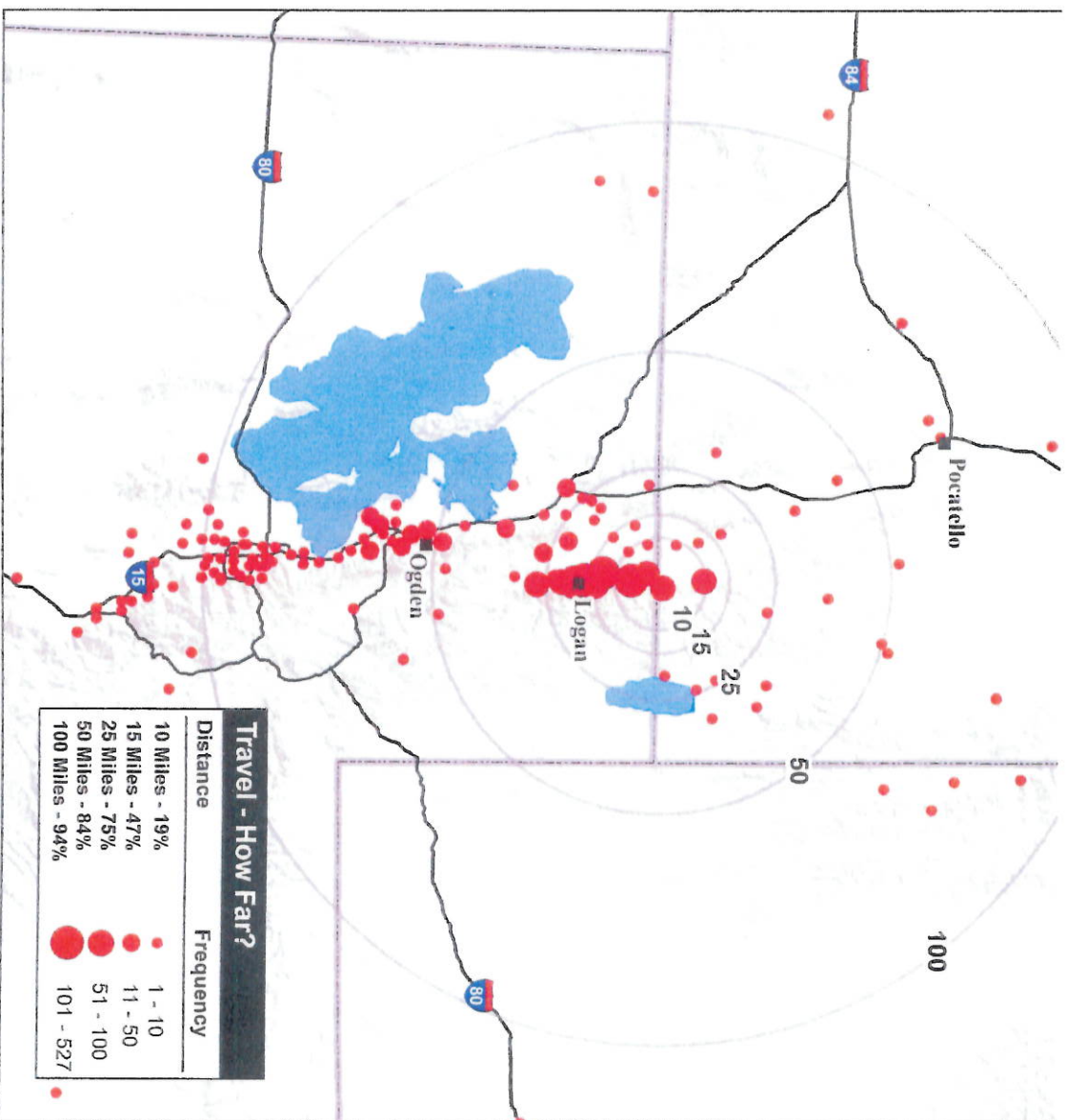
Bear Lake

- 8.3% during expanded hours



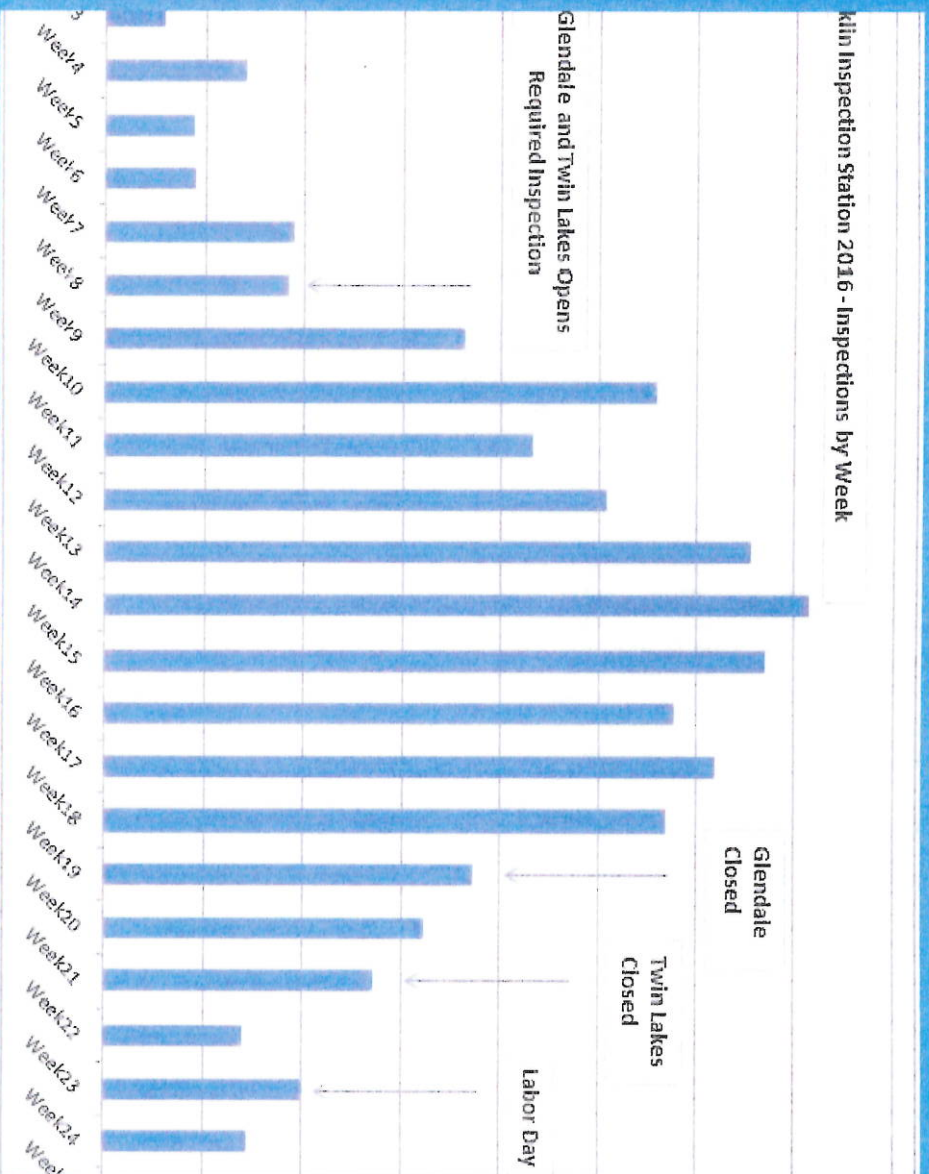
Franklin

- 94% from within 100 miles
- “local” traffic
- “repeat” visitors aren’t quantified...but we know they are there



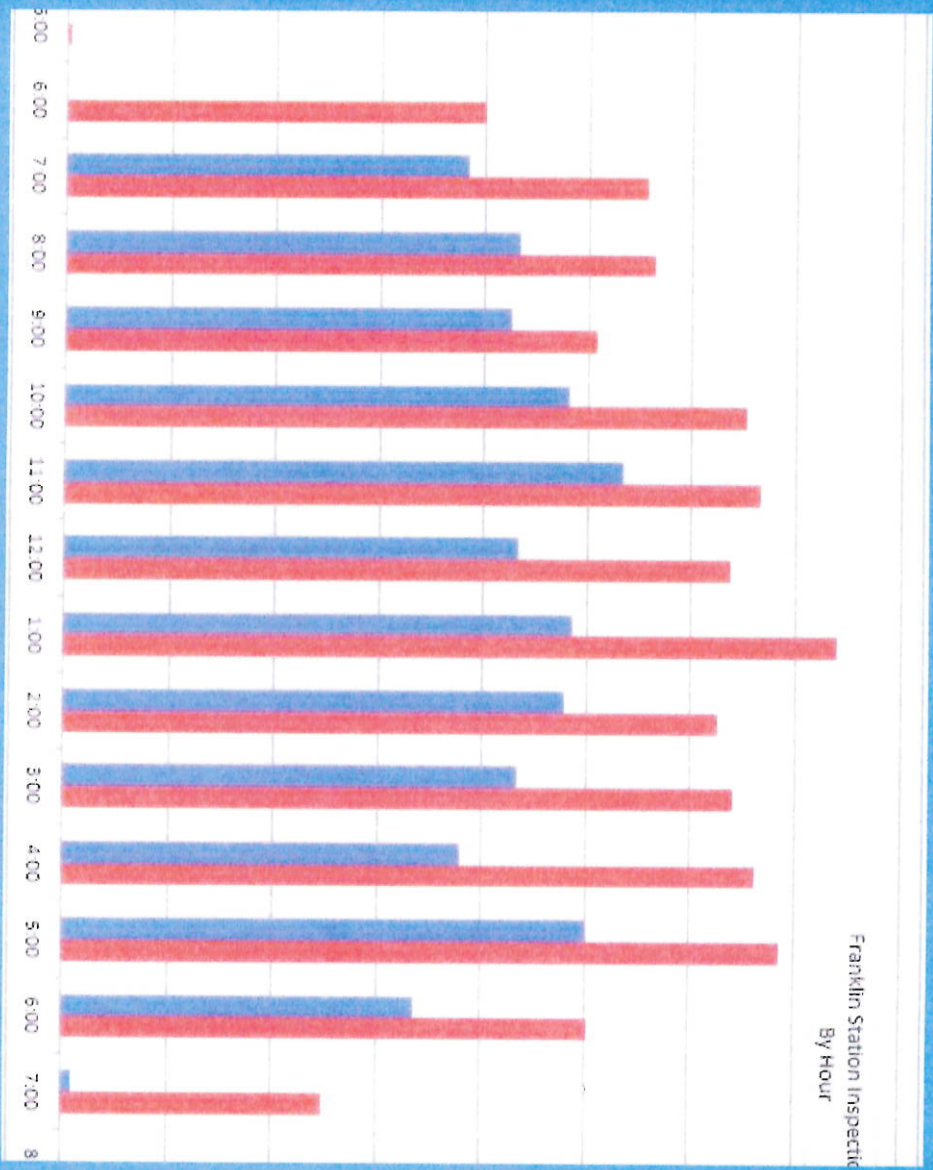
Franklin

- 4,099 total inspections (increase of 54.2% from 2015)
- 44 from a fouled waterbody (57 from three stations)
- 31 hotwashed
- 21 previously inspected



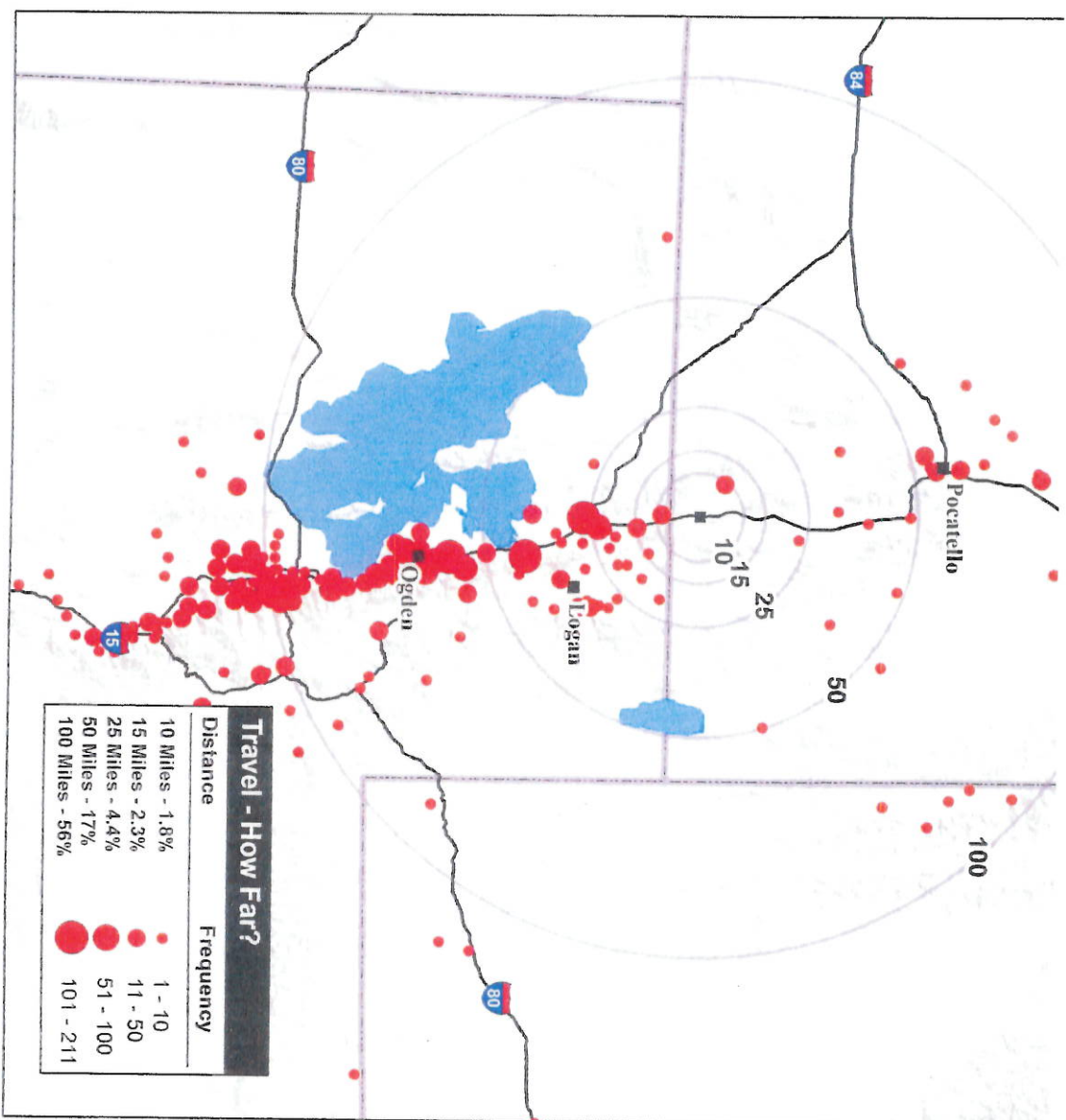
Franklin

- 26% of all inspections occurred during expanded hours



Malad

- One of our busier interstate stations...
- With over half of the boaters



Invasive Species Sticker
 Idaho Parks and Recreation Collections All Sources (Vendor Network, DMV, IDPR and Online)

FY 2016 Revenue by Source - Actual Fees Collected and Distributed FY 2016

Line	Description	Customer Price	Quantity	Subtotal	Amount	Notes
1	Idaho Motorized vessels and sailboats	\$ 10.00	67,575	\$ 675,750		/1 /2
2	Motorized Registered Outside state of Idaho	\$ 22.00	9,921	\$ 218,254		/1 /2
3	Nonmotorized vessels from Inside and Outside Idaho	\$ 7.00	28,801	\$ 201,606		/1 /2
4	Licensed outfitters group rates					
5	6 to 10 vessels	\$ 32.00				
6	11 to 20 vessels	\$ 57.00				
7	21 to 100 vessels	\$ 102.00				
8	101 or more add per vessel	\$ 1.00				
	Total Licensed Outfitters			\$ 4,757		/3
9	Duplicate Sticker			\$ 3,805		Data not available
10	Subtotal Lines 2 through 9			\$ 424,616		
11	Department of Parks and Rec Admin costs	20%		\$ (84,923)		
12	Subtotal Lines 10 through 11			\$ 58,082		/4
13	Vendor fees (except Idaho motorized)	\$ 1.50	38,721	\$ 1,358,448		
14	Estimated Total paid by boaters (line 1 plus line 10 plus line 13)			\$ 1,358,448		
15	Total transfer to Idaho State Department of Agriculture (line 1 plus line 12)			\$ 1,215,443		

Notes

- /1 Actual fees collected and distributed in FY 2016
- /2 Number collected fees 1 or \$ amount restricted and does not reconcile to stickers sold on a calendar year basis and includes duplicates and transfers
- /3 Processed manually outside RIS, calculated based on actual revenue posted in FY16 and will be distributed in FY17, we do not track sales data by volume
- /4 Vendor fees shown only for Non-motorized and Out-of-State Invasive Species only (Note /2 also applies)
 A 15% vendor fee applies to all Idaho motorized boat registrations after the \$10 invasive species fee is taken (see Distribution Reference tab)