

Montana Invasive Species Bulletin

Brought to you by the Montana Invasive Species Advisory Council
www.dnrc.mt.gov/misac

The Invasive Species Bulletin provides you with all the latest news on invasive species in Montana and the region. Please let us know if you have any suggestions, contributions, questions, corrections, or comments.

Email: shester@mt.gov

Montana News

- **FWP PROMOTES Clean. Dry. Drain.**

Montana's slogan to inform the public about aquatic hitchhikers and other unwanted invasive species has an updated, fresh new look and it's showing up in newspapers and special publications all over the state. Visit [FWP's website](#) to see the new look and tools for how to Clean. Dry. Drain.

..and check out the new YouTube video [Clean. Drain. Dry. video](#)

- **PUBLIC NOTICE: General Permit; Pesticide Applications to or Over State Surface Waters**

Montana DEQ is accepting comment on the renewal of the Pesticide General Permit, which will continue to provide statewide general permit coverage for owner/operators for the application of pesticide to or over state surface waters, including near (such that the pesticide is unavoidably discharged into the surface water). The PGP is designed to cover pesticide applications in which it is unavoidable that some of the pesticides will be deposited in the water in order to effectively target pests.

Public Comments postmarked by July 29, 2016

Visit [DEQ's website](#) for additional information

- **DOGS HELP FWP detect aquatic invasive species**

A unique partnership between Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and the Flathead Basin Commission is helping promote the use of new weapons in the war against

aquatic invasive species. These weapons have four legs and a keen sense of smell. [Read more...](#)

Meet FWP's new weapons in the battle against [invasive species video](#)

- **NEW AIS RULES in place for Montana recreationists**

Boaters in Montana have a couple of new rules to abide by this summer geared toward fighting the spread of aquatic invasive species.

Beginning May 21, boaters are now required to remove all vegetation from their vessels upon removing it from any surface water and before leaving the boat launch site. Additionally, drain plugs and any valve or device to prevent water from draining out of bilges or livewells must be removed before leaving the boat launch site. If the vessel doesn't have a plug, reasonable measures must be made to dry or drain all compartments or spaces that hold water. [Read more...](#)

- **NEW AMERICAN BULLFROGS in Montana paper out**

Summary: The American bullfrog is native to eastern North America, but now has a global distribution and is considered to be one of the worst invaders in the world. It is a relatively new invader in the Yellowstone River floodplain and was first documented in 1999. USGS scientists at the Northern Rocky Mountain Science Center have been researching the bullfrog invasion within the Yellowstone River floodplain, as well as other locations in Montana and Wyoming. Past research has documented the presence and extent of the bullfrog invasion, but this is the first study to use bullfrog genetics to track the path and history of the invasion in Montana. Using genetic material from 395 tadpoles collected along the Yellowstone River, and additional sites in Montana and Wyoming, findings suggest at least four independent introductions into Montana from diverse sources. These data were compared to genetic data from bullfrogs sampled across their native range in eastern North America. Three of seven genetic variants identified in Montana were identical to those previously found in native bullfrogs from the Midwest and Great Lakes regions. While genetic diversity was low in introduced bullfrogs, it did not differ significantly from potential source populations. The results also indicating that the spread of bullfrogs in the Yellowstone has likely occurred via natural dispersal following introduction. Evidence for multiple invasions of bullfrogs and lack of subsequent regional spread emphasizes the importance public education and legislation that prohibit bullfrogs from being imported into non-native ranges such as Montana.

["Genetic reconstruction of a bullfrog invasion to elucidate vectors of introduction and secondary spread"](#) and is published in the journal *Ecology and Evolution*.

- **NOXIOUS WEED PETITION PERIOD**

Petitions for new plants to be added the Montana Noxious Weed List are being accepted until September 31, 2016. Visit agr.mt.gov/agr/Programs/Weeds/ for more information or contact Dave Burch at 406,444-3140 or dburch@mt.gov

Regional and National News

- **TEMPORAL- and DENSITY-DEPENDENT impacts of an invasive plant on pollinators and pollination services to a native plant (Ecosphere Volume 7, Issue 2)**

Pollinators and pollination services are under threat globally, and invasive plants have been implicated in their decline. Results of previous studies suggest that consequences of invasion for pollinators and plant–pollinator interactions are context specific. Investigating factors such as the density of an invasive plant and its phenology may provide a nuanced understanding of invasive species impacts. We conducted a 2-yr study in Montana to investigate how local pollinator abundance, richness, community composition, and visitation patterns varied with invasive *Centaurea stoebe* density and phenology, and whether *C. stoebe* altered the reproduction of a co-flowering native plant, *Heterotheca villosa*, through changes in pollinator visitation. [Read more...](#)

- **INVASIVE SPECIES COULD cause billions in damages to agriculture (ScienceDaily, June 2016)**

Invasive insects and pathogens could be a multi-billion- dollar threat to global agriculture and developing countries may be the biggest target, according to a team of international researchers. [Read more...](#)

Other

- **NATIONAL FISH and WILDLIFE FOUNDATION RFPs**

The Pulling together Initiative of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) has published its latest Request For Proposals. The program will award grants that will develop cooperative weed management areas (CWMA), support significant advances of existing CWMAs, develop or strengthen prevention and

early detection/rapid response efforts, enhance education, and assist awareness projects to reduce or eliminate invasive plant species. The program is a partnership among the NFWF, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Forest Service. [For more information:http://www.nfwf.org/pti/Pages/2016rfp.aspx](http://www.nfwf.org/pti/Pages/2016rfp.aspx)

Pre-Proposal Due Date: August 3, 2016 by 11:59 PM Eastern Time

Full Proposal Due Date: September 29, 2016 by 11:59 PM Eastern Time

- **MISAC Council Member Vacancy**

MISAC is seeking a hydropower professional to represent the power industry on the Council. If you are interested or want to nominate someone, contact Stephanie Hester at shester@mt.gov

- **WESTERN REGIONAL PANEL (WRP) Membership Opportunities**

There are a number of membership opportunities with the Western Regional Panel on ANS. Open membership slots and Executive Committee positions are available. Elections will take place at the upcoming Western Regional Panel on ANS Annual Meeting in Jackson, WY October 2016. Visit the [WRP website](#) to learn more about membership.

For more information about MISAC and to access archives of this e-newsletter go to: <http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cardd/MISAC>

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