

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.

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Montana News

- **Invasive Species Framework Listening Sessions Conclude**

MISAC hosted listening sessions across the state to present and obtain input on a draft of the Montana Invasive Species Strategic Framework. Sessions were held in Miles City, Wolf Point, Great Falls, and Pablo from September 28-October 6. Sessions were well attended and provided MISAC with additional feedback from invasive species stakeholders to incorporate into the final version of the Framework. The Framework is in final production and is scheduled to be released in December.

Thanks to everyone that participated in the development and vetting of the plan. The process began with a statewide assessment of invasive species programs in February, followed by the Governor's Summit on Invasive Species in April 2016. The plan concludes two years of discussions and research to build a better invasive species management plan for Montana. [Draft Invasive Species Strategic Framework](#)

- **Fish Kill Parasite Spreads to Multiple Montana Rivers (ABC Fox Montana 10/20/16)**

BOZEMAN -The parasite that killed thousands of Whitefish in the Yellowstone River has now spread to other waterways in Montana.

After the fish kill scare Fish, Wildlife and Parks took samples of surrounding rivers and confirmed the parasite is in the upper and lower Madison, East Gallatin, Bighorn, Stillwater, Boulder, Jefferson and Shields rivers. After receiving more information, FWP is learning the parasite caused a smaller fish kill in the Jefferson last year.

The microscopic parasite causes kidney disease in the fish, one of the more devastating conditions for Whitefish and Trout.

FWP officials say each river is different so they're not expecting any large fish-kills now...[read more.](#)

- **MSU-Extension October Weed Post**

[Economic Impact of Noxious Weeds on Private Grazing Lands](#)

Regional and National News

- **Alberta: Authorities up efforts in the battle to keep out invasive mussels (10/5/16)**

The provincial government and irrigation districts are ramping up their efforts to keep invasive quagga and zebra mussels out of Alberta. Along with more watercraft inspections, the province is also stepping up enforcement — and boaters who fail to stop at an inspection station face a fine of up to \$100,000 or 12 months in prison. As well, a new piece of legislation known as “Pull the Plug” was put in place this year. By law, all watercraft transported on Alberta roadways must have any plugs within the waterline pulled...[read more.](#)

- **South Dakota: Belle reservoir faced zebra museel worry (10/8/16)**

MOBRIDGE | The state Game, Fish & Parks Commission learned Friday that zebra mussels have quickly overtaken Lewis and Clark Reservoir on the Missouri River near Yankton, and that the invaders nearly found their way into Belle Fourche Reservoir last month aboard a dredging company's barges.

State fishery director John Lott said GF&P employees have been inspecting and disinfecting boats when they come out of the water at Lewis and Clark Reservoir so the zebra mussels aren't carried to other waters of South Dakota...[read more.](#)

- **Idaho: Study indicates Pend Oreille bull trout population stable (10/21/16)**

A moratorium on angling and lake trout eradication efforts to address the threats of overfishing and a voracious non-native species appear to have stemmed the decline of bull trout in Lake Pend Oreille, according to a recent study.

The study compares the mean age, growth, maturity and abundance from surveys done in 2006 and 2008 with a 10-year old study of bull trout. It found that management had addressed current threats to the fish – overfishing and an invasive species—and in doing so, had increased the likelihood of their long-term persistence in the lake...[read more.](#)

Other

- **Next MISAC Meeting**

Date: November 10, 2016

Time: 10 a.m. — 4 p.m.

Location: DNRC Headquarters in Helena

[For more information](#)

- **MISAC Council Member Vacancies Filled**

Governor Bullock recently appointed Jon Siddoway, representing the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Andy Welch, representing the Hydropower Utility Industry, to the Council. Welcome aboard, Jon and Andy.

- **Save the Date: Invasive Species Day in the Capitol Rotunda**

MISAC will be hosting an invasive species educational event in the State Capitol Rotunda on April 3, 2017. Mark your calendars!

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

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