



Member Report Submission

2025

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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

Alberta became the first jurisdiction in Canada to mandate watercraft inspections at its borders, requiring all vessels, regardless of station status, to stop for inspection, marking a significant shift from the previous policy of only stopping at open watercraft inspection stations.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

Alberta Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Task Force recommendations, into five key bullet points:

Mandatory Watercraft Stickers - Explore an annual AIS pass for all watercraft, with revenue dedicated to supporting Alberta's AIS program. A second inspection sticker would provide visual proof of compliance of inspection.

Pilot Decontamination Dip Tank - Explore a dip tank system for watercraft decontamination, modeled after Utah's approach, to improve efficiency and prevent invasive mussel introduction.

Strengthen Border Inspection Requirements - Require mandatory inspections for all watercraft entering Alberta from high-risk regions, particularly eastern and southern borders.

Enhance Monitoring and Rapid Response - Expand monitoring programs and develop rapid response protocols to detect and manage emerging AIS threats, especially invasive mussels.

Increase Education and Outreach - Boost public awareness through targeted education campaigns to reduce unintentional AIS introductions and promote responsible watercraft practices.

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

The priorities remain unchanged, with the foremost goal being the prevention of aquatic invasive species from entering Alberta's waters.





Member Report Submission

2025

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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) AIS Program continued expanding its monitoring program statewide in Spring/Summer 2025. Stocked waters in Arizona were prioritized for 2025, while efforts were expanded to adjacent and downstream locations of potential detections. AIS monitoring of AZGFD hatcheries has been expanded in order to address potential new infestations more quickly.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

*AZGFD has continued staffing launch ramps at Lake Powell (AZ) with a contractor providing inspectors. This partnership allows more efficient utilization of resources by partners at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area and allows for year-round ramp coverage to ensure containment of quagga mussels despite changing lake conditions.

*Expanded AIS monitoring program statewide in Spring 2025. Added golden mussels monitoring at high risk reservoirs.

*New Zealand mudsnail detections in 2025 have only occurred in known locations and downstream of known infestations.

*AZGFD and partners have performed over 7800 inspections and 220 decontaminations since September 2024.

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

1. AZGFD will continue to operate current watercraft inspections and decontamination locations.
2. Expand prevention capacity at non-AIS listed waters.
3. Provide outreach and ensuring AIS compliance.
4. Expand monitoring program as resources allow.



Member Report Submission
2025

Name	Martha Volkoff
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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

Golden mussel (*Limnoperna fortunei*) was discovered in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) on October 17, 2024. This is the first known occurrence of golden mussel in North America and was likely introduced to California by a ship traveling from an international port.

Following the October discovery the California Department of Fish and Wildlife coordinated a rapid-assessment of the Delta and non-hydrologically connected waters to determine the extent of the infestation and convened an interagency Task Force to lead the state response. The Task Forces is comprised of a Steering Committee of state and federal agency leadership and 8 topic-oriented Teams of agency staff, partners, and academia. Working under the leadership of the Steering Committee and within existing resources, Teams worked to concurrently implement immediate priority actions and develop recommendations for additional actions. In April 2025 those recommendations were published in the “State of California Golden Mussel Response Framework,” along with a solicitation for \$1M in grant funding for mussel prevention efforts that facilitate boating access. The process to award that funding is in progress, water managers throughout the state continue to develop mussel prevention programs at waterbodies, and the state continues to expand outreach and education to the public and implement priority research needs within existing authorities, staffing, and funding.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

1. California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) awarded approximately \$2 million dollars for the 2025 Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention (QZ Grant) cycle, to six applications. The two-year grants began in August 2025. Since the first grant cycle in 2014/15 through the current, approximately \$28.5 million has been awarded statewide for the prevention of quagga and zebra mussel infestation at uninfested publicly accessible reservoirs.
2. California Department of Fish and Wildlife continued its eradication effort of Nerodia watersnakes at Folsom (Sacramento County). To date 182 Nerodia have been removed, snakes continue to be captured, and the trapping area continues to expand into suitable habitat. No trapping was conducted in Roseville (Placer County) in 2025 where no Nerodia were captured in 2020-2024. A total of 110 Nerodia were

removed and we are optimistic the population has been eradicated. CDFW and UC Davis are collaborating on a publication on the results of this eradication effort.

3. Nutria eradication efforts continue. In 2023-2025, the area of infestation expanded significantly. At current budget and staffing levels the eradication effort is unable to meet the monitoring and trapping need for the 500K+ acres of suitable, connected habitat each year. Without stable funding, adequate staffing, access to all infested property, and better tools (scat detector dogs and judas nutria), nutria will continue to expand to new areas.

4. Caulerpa eradication and follow-up monitoring continues in Newport Bay and San Diego Bay, including the San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge.

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

1. Golden Mussel Prevention. State, federal, and local agencies will continue to work toward prevention and containment of golden mussel within the state, including water craft inspection programs at state-managed launch sites, outreach and education development and implementation, coordination of watercraft inspection programs statewide, and mussel research.

2. Continue nutria eradication efforts.

3. Continue Caulerpa eradication efforts.

4. Continue Nerodia eradication effort at Folsom.



Member Report Submission

2025

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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

We amended our ballast water management regulations via emergency rulemaking to add ballast water exchange to existing discharge performance standards (= treatment) for vessels carrying fresh or brackish ballast water and intending to discharge in California's fresh or brackish water ports.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

1. Amended ballast water management regulations via emergency rulemaking to improve management of fresh or brackish ballast water that is intended for discharge in California's fresh or brackish water ports (see answer to Question 1)
2. Published the 2025 Biennial Report on California's Marine Invasive Species Program
3. Celebrated the 25th anniversary of the California Marine Invasive Species Program
4. Participated in the Golden Mussel Task Force and participated in the production of the California Golden Mussel Response Framework
5. Successfully supported passage of SB 856 that requires the California State Lands Commission to post vessel arrival , ballast discharge, and inspection data on our public website twice annually and that changes the frequency of legislative reports from biennial to triennial.

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

1. Making emergency ballast water management regulations (see Question 1) permanent through regular rulemaking
2. Amend enforcement regulations to include biofouling regulations and ballast water performance standard regulations within the existing enforcement framework with transparent risk-based penalties.
3. Amend vessel fee regulations to adjust the amount of the fee assessed on qualifying vessel arrivals to fund all activities of the Marine Invasive Species Program
4. Ramp up ballast water sampling from discharging vessels, especially at southern California ports
5. Be successful with our lawsuit against U.S. EPA for specific issues related to their final Vessel Incidental Discharge Act regulations.





Member Report Submission

2025

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Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP to know about.

In late August, CPW initiated treatment of a privately owned body of water in western Eagle County after discovering a well-established zebra mussel population. The aim of this treatment is to eradicate the mussels from the water body.

Top 5 Accomplishments

- CPW leadership approved four new full-time positions dedicated to the Aquatic Nuisance Species Program. These positions include a new Specialist dedicated to the Upper Colorado River, an Administrative Assistant Position, and 2 ANS Investigators. CPW leadership has approved four new full-time positions for the Aquatic Nuisance Species Program. These positions include an Administrative Assistant, two ANS Investigators, and a Specialist dedicated to the Upper Colorado River.
- CPW established two new roadside watercraft inspection and decontamination stations at the Ft. Morgan and Limon Ports of Entry.
- CPW expanded our aquatic nuisance species laboratory. This expansion has allowed CPW to double the amount of technicians working in their laboratory and doubled the amount of samples able to be processed.
- CPW has continued our efforts to educate non-motorized users and provide cleaning opportunities at high use river access points. In 2025, CPW has performed more than 6,000 face to face educational contacts / surveys and installed 20 new cleaning stations.
- CPW launched a new public awareness campaign called "Oh, Shell No!". The campaign effectively highlights the potential impacts of aquatic nuisance species (ANS) on Colorado's ecosystem and economy. Its success stems from using iconic Colorado imagery, such as peaches, that are visually fouled with invasive mussels to reach target audiences.

Priorities for 2026

- CPW will continue to expand our monitoring effort in western Colorado to better understand the extent of zebra mussels. This expansion will likely include the further incorporation of eDNA methods.
- CPW will look towards a more long-term containment strategy on the Colorado River and associated waters in the Grand Junction area.
- CPW will continue to extend our efforts to provide cleaning stations for non-motorized users at high use access points primarily used by non-motorized boaters.
- CPW is collaborating with USFWS and Nebraska Game and Parks to perform early detection monitoring for invasive carp above the N. Platte Diversion and on the South Platte River in Colorado.
- CPW will expand upon the "Oh, Shell No" campaign to increase general awareness of the potential impacts of aquatic invasive species in Colorado.



Member Report Submission

2025

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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

Hosted joint meeting of the MRBP and WRP Panels.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

1. Conducted WID at high-use, zebra mussel infested waters in NE Kansas – Funding through USFWS via QZAP provided KDWP the ability to conduct WID related activities at 4 waters in Northeast Kansas in 2025:

- Milford Reservoir – zebra mussel infested
- Perry Reservoir – zebra mussel infested
- Clinton Reservoir – zebra mussel infested
- Hillsdale Reservoir – zebra mussel infested

KDWP plans to expand WID efforts to other parts of the state in future years as funding and staffing allows.

2. Continued bighead carp telemetry project on Neosho River - Grand Lake system to inform removal. In collaboration with Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation and South Dakota State University, invasive carp are being targeted for capture throughout the Neosho River Grand Lake system. All invasive carp captured are implanted with ultrasonic transmitters (Vemco V16-5H; 69kHz). Once fishes are fitted with transmitters, movement and passage will be documented throughout the life of the transmitters (up to 5 years). We are utilizing a monitoring array that is a combination of stationary receivers and manual tracking. The stationary receiver array will extend throughout Grand Lake, Neosho River, and Spring River. Manual tracking is also being conducted at regular intervals and concentrated during seasons with high movement (e.g., spawning movement) throughout the study to garner more fine scale habitat information (e.g., spawning locations) and “hot spots” (e.g., areas of high Asian carp concentration). The receivers will provide enough spatial coverage to detect longitudinal movement throughout the system. Receivers placed above and below low head dams will inform passage across these structures.

3. Continued removal of invasive carps from the Kansas River downstream of the Bowersock dam. In 2024, approximately 30,000 pounds of invasive carps were removed from the Kansas River downstream of

the Bowersock Dam to prevent upstream range expansion and to benefit native species and river users below this barrier. KDWP AIS staff conducted removal efforts using traditional boat electrofishing and gill nets. Comparisons of invasive carp demographic data between the area being targeted for removal and unfished locations showed there are significant differences and that removal efforts are reducing invasive carp density. Additionally, stable isotope sampling within the Kansas River system shows that removal efforts are reducing competition between invasive carps and native fishes and allowing native fishes to consume preferred foods.

4. Expanded AIS education and outreach. AIS education and outreach materials redesigned in 2024 were widely distributed in 2025 including through an increasing number of in-person AIS education and outreach events. Additionally, an AIS billboard campaign funded by the Bureau of Reclamation ran through prime boating season focusing on area near uninfested Western Kansas waters and high traffic areas.

5. Conducted bait shop inspections across the state. Inspections were conducted at bait shops statewide; no invasive species were found in commercial bait tanks during the inspection process. Bait identification posters and AIS literature were distributed to the bait shops during inspections.

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

1. Maintain current AIS funding and staffing levels.
2. Continue and expand WID activities in Kansas.
3. Increase removal of invasive carp from the Kansas River.
4. Install an invasive carp deterrent at Bowersock Dam.
5. Expand AIS education and outreach efforts.



Member Report Submission

2025

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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

Thanks to funding from Montana Invasive Species Council, we held our first ever aquatic pet rehoming events as part of our Don't Let It Loose programmatic efforts. Our first event was in partnership with ZooMontana in Billings. Eight pets were surrendered, including mystery snails and a red eared slider. Our second pet rehoming event was at University of Montana in Missoula, where we planned to target pets leaving the dormitories for the summer. The community surrendered 15 pets, including multiple prize goldfish from the previous summer's county fair.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

1) Utilize new (to us) outreach methods to better reach target audiences. In the past year, we've rolled out new direct and indirect outreach tools for our programs. At Canoecopia, we developed AIS passports for expo attendees to learn about regionally important AIS (and, of course, win prizes). This was successful and accessible for folks of all ages! We attended more whitewater events this year to talk to athletes and spectators alike - this year, we designed postcards for people to write messages to loved ones and spread the word about the importance of Clean, Drain, Dry. We utilized geofencing in order to reach visitors to the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem with invasive species prevention practices (in addition to online ads that targeted them during their trip planning).

2) Advocate for and maintain Don't Let It Loose. In the past year, we have advocated for funding that accommodates the pet release pathway. We continue to apply for funding from diverse sources to address the pathway with projects both small and large. We continue to hear from partners and pet owners about the importance of Don't Let It Loose resources and messaging. We were interviewed for multiple news publications about the harm of pet release this year and will continue to seek out opportunities for this program.

3) Expand paddler outreach. We expanded industry partnerships this year and provided staff trainings to REI stores across the region. Paddlesports manufacturers continue to engage meaningfully with our outreach efforts and express value in further protection of the resource; we're excited to see enthusiasm from large retailers, as well. We partnered with content creators to help get the word out about Clean, Drain, Dry and why it's so important that we all commit to it. To meet the diverse paddling community, our content creator partners included a nature educator, an outdoor adventurer, a paddlesports Olympian, and a kayak angler.

4) Reinvigorate K-12 education efforts. We applied for and received funding to conduct place-based outdoor education for invasive species prevention and place invasive species prevention resources and tools in more schools.

5) Always be a good partner. We partnered with local NGOs to conduct boat launch outreach all summer in the Gallatin watershed. We continue to engage with the WRP Education and Outreach Committee to improve outreach efforts across the West. We worked directly with agencies to ensure our quality assurance and quality control efforts of WID programs meet agency objectives and provide useful information in their efforts.

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

- 1) Continue all of the above;
- 2) Improve efficiency for pet rehoming efforts;
- 3) Expand paddlesports industry partnerships in both quantity and quality; and
- 4) Expand the Don't Let It Loose pet rehoming network to one or more new states.





Member Report Submission

2025

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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

To date, no evidence of invasive mussels has been detected in Montana waters during the 2025 season.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

- *Over 130k watercraft inspected with 47 mussel fouled vessels interceptions.
- *Over 3k invasive mussel early detection samples analyzed with no invasive mussels detected.
- *Extensive partner involvement with AIS prevention, early detection and outreach activities including tribes, conservation districts, counties, and NGO's.
- *Successful eradication projects on populations of Eurasian watermilfoil and corbicula.

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

- *Continue AIS prevention and early detection efforts in 2026.
- *Expand partner involvement with AIS projects.
- *Expand community science programs to encourage more public involvement with AIS early detection.
- *Submit updated AIS Management Plan to the ANS Taskforce for approval.



Member Report Submission

2025

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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

Conducted watercraft inspection / decontamination and other aquatic invasive species prevention activities at twenty National Park Service across four NPS regions.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

Working through Lake Mead NRA and in cooperation with the Nevada Department of Wildlife, provided \$200K to University Nevada, Reno for golden mussel research.
With Glen Canyon NRA and in cooperation with Utah Division of Wildlife Resources provided \$250K for a photo check-in / check-out pilot project at Lake Powell.
Through an agreement with the US Fish and Wildlife Service provided \$135K for watercraft inspection / decontamination training and the watercraft inspection database.
Following the detection of golden mussels in California, initiated a new prevention program at Whiskeytown National Recreation Area.

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

Finalize and publish the NPS Aquatic Invasive Species Strategic Plan, v2.
Maintain / increase aquatic invasive species prevention capacity within the National Park system to the degree possible, consistent with FY26 funding levels.
Work with parks and partners to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of AIS prevention activities in parks.
Utilized AIS Community of Practice, AIS SharePoint site and other means to increase awareness of AIS risk in parks systemwide and provide support for risk reduction measures.





Member Report Submission

2025

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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

Nebraska remains largely zebra mussel free despite being surrounded by states with growing infestations. Additionally NGPC has taken an aggressive approach to eradicating invasive aquatic plants like Eurasian Watermilfoil and CurlyLeaf Pondweed with 12 whole lake herbicide treatments in 2025.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

In 2025, the Nebraska AIS Program completed nearly 7,000 watercraft inspections statewide by 9 total inspectors at 40 different waterbodies. These inspections were conducted between Memorial Day and Labor Day with a primary focus on entrance inspections at un-infested waterbodies and exit inspections at Nebraska's two public zebra mussel infested waterbodies. Two mussel-fouled watercraft were intercepted and restricted from entering a waterbody. Nebraska continues to utilize a roving inspection system that maximizes the number of boater contacts in areas with high likelihood of zebra mussel and other invasive species introduction. The WID app was utilized to collect and store this inspection data.

Nebraska collected 159 zebra mussel veliger samples between May and August, processing each sample in-house at the Nebraska Game and Parks headquarters. No new veliger infestations were identified, confirming that Nebraska's current zebra mussel prevention strategies are effective. Samples will continue to be collected and analyzed through September 2025.

A total of 32 invasive vegetation surveys were conducted in which one new curly-leaf pondweed and one Eurasian watermilfoil infestation were identified. Only two brittle naiad infestations, identified before 2025, and no starry stonewort infestations are active in Nebraska. This year marked the most successful invasive aquatic plant management in the Commission's history. Twelve different waterbodies were with chemical herbicide to eradicate both Eurasian Watermilfoil and Curlyleaf Pondweed. Early results suggest successful treatments with more planned for 2026.

Education and outreach efforts were performed via various routes including in-person contact at public fishing and outdoor recreation events, school field trip opportunities, private club meetings, and podcasts, among others. An estimated 15,000 handout items promoting Clean, Drain, Dry protocols and other invasive species prevention strategies were dispersed at these events and during watercraft inspections. The Nebraska AIS Program successfully implemented the state's first Nebraska Invasive

Species Awareness Week, during which webinars, social media, and an in-person public event promoted AIS awareness and prevention.

Though the Nebraska AIS Program anticipates upcoming challenges such as continued invasive species spread in surrounding areas and budget reductions resulting in staff decrease, the Program remains determined to prevent invasive species spread within the state. Despite the AIS Program's small size and financial restrictions, the small number of newly identified invasive species infestations demonstrates its notable successes and strengths.

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

- 1) Continue zebra mussel prevention strategies
- 2) Expand herbicide treatments for invasive aquatic plants
- 3) Survey non-critical AIS taxa (e.g., crayfish species)
- 4) Continue expansion of the AIS outreach and education subprogram



Member Report Submission

2025

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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

The Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) hosted its inaugural "Pike Out" fishing tournament at a reservoir in eastern Nevada, aiming to reduce populations of invasive northern pike. The event drew 135 anglers from Nevada, Idaho, and Utah, with all prizes generously donated by local businesses. The tournament was well received by the public and served as an excellent platform to raise awareness about invasive species, including northern pike and quagga mussels. NDOW's Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) staff from Lake Mead National Recreation Area conducted pre-tournament watercraft inspections and ensured that all vessels were clean, drained, and dry following the event.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

Quagga mussel containment at Lake Mead National Recreation Area (LMNRA) remains a top priority for the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW). Despite ongoing challenges with federal funding, NDOW has successfully maintained a robust containment program at LMNRA. Since the program's inception, NDOW has decontaminated 6,052 watercraft at the site.

Equally important are NDOW's invasive mussel prevention efforts in northern Nevada. From April through October, NDOW operates Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination (WID) stations at five high-use reservoirs to help prevent the spread of invasive species.

Monthly post-treatment monitoring continues for the Australian redclaw crayfish eradication project at Clark County Wetlands Park. To date, no Australian redclaw crayfish have been detected.

A second population of Australian redclaw crayfish was discovered in Mineral County, located between Reno and Las Vegas. Initial eradication efforts took place during the winter of 2024–2025 and are scheduled to resume this coming winter.

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

NDOW is collaborating with the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency

(TRPA), and the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe to assess the risk of golden mussel introduction in western Nevada. Both Lake Tahoe and Pyramid Lake receive a high volume of watercraft traffic, including vessels originating from the California Delta. The project aims to conduct golden mussel survivorship studies in both lakes to better understand potential risks and inform future prevention strategies.

Due to ongoing challenges with federal funding, NDOW has not yet been able to hire a dedicated Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) biologist but remains hopeful that the position can be filled in the coming year.

In the meantime, NDOW plans to maintain all Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination (WID) activities—both containment and prevention—at current operational levels.

NDOW plans to continue hosting the "Pike Out" event to encourage public participation in the removal of invasive northern pike and to educate attendees about the impacts of AIS.

Finally, NDOW plans to continue eradication and monitoring efforts for Australian redclaw crayfish as warranted.



Member Report Submission

2025

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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

Updated ANS management plan to seek ANSTF approval. Hope to have an approved plan by 2026.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

Continued to grow WID efforts. Added inspectors in new areas and will likely have our most inspections yet. Intercept the highest number of fouled watercraft and commercial equipment in program history.

Monitored 170+ waters for QZM.

Installed several new ANS prevention devices (ILIDS and CD3s) to increase boater compliance with ANS regulations.

Implemented our largest ANS education campaign to date.

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

Grow contract inspection program.

Educate cabin owners on the risks of moored watercraft and dock/lifts.

Recruit more fall watercraft inspectors.

Increase seasonal quality control.



Member Report Submission

2025

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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

Inspections staff discovered mussels on a 45' yacht being commercially hauled from the Great Lakes to Portland. Staff performed an external decontamination of the vessel on site, but due to local limitations and safety, developed a plan to allow the vessel to travel to its final destination at a ship yard in Portland. Staff then coordinated with the ship yard and sales broker to perform a second inspection and decontamination of the vessel before being allowed to launch. Additional mussels were discovered in the bilge and sea strainer.

This is the largest vessel Oregon's current staff have had to perform a decontamination on. The crews that were involved in this effort did an excellent job communicating with one another and worked in a professional manner with the customer and shipyard.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

- Increase roving inspection presence; increased roving crew staffing from 2 to 5 seasonals and decentralized staff to border check stations.
- Pilot new inspection locations to protect specific waterbodies (Owyhee Reservoir) and explore locations that bypass current inspection locations.
- Oregon's Governor signed amendment to current watercraft inspection laws that allows state agencies to partner with local government, tribes, and districts to run inspection stations. This should allow us to increase our overall inspection footprint in the state.
- OSMB, Glenn Dolphin, led effort to update Oregon's invasive freshwater mussel response plan.
- Rapid response exercise planned for Sept. 24-25.

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

- Develop rules and process for onboarding new stations being run by partner entities.
- Continue developing Owyhee Reservoir check station with local government and partners.
- Increase roving and station staffing and hours of operation.





Member Report Submission

2025

Name	stephen phillips
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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

We recently received word that EPA approved the designation of potash as a biochemical pesticide.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

Hosted meetings of the Columbia River Basin AIS Team and Monitoring Forum in December (Spokane) and June (Boise) and Pacific Ballast Water and Biofouling Group (April, Long Beach)
Hosted green crab Monitoring database; supported monitoring by Oregon State University, Alaska Department of Fish and Game and Metlakatla Indian Community.
Supported Watercraft Inspection Training (WIT) (Elizabeth Brown, lead)
Supported Call Before You Haul (Lisa DeBruyckere, Lead)
Published bi-monthly AIS NEWS (Robyn Draheim, Editor)
Administered \$17.5 million APC_WID USACE cost –share program for watercraft inspection (Nez Perce Tribe, MTFWP, ISDA, ODFW, WYGF, and WDFW), monitoring (Nez Perce Tribe, MTFWP, WSU, ISDA, PSU, and WDFW)

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

1. Continue working on federally registering potash as a molluscicide
2. Seek funding for the USACE Aquatic Plant Control-Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination cost share program in FY 2026 Appropriations Legislation
3. Hold meetings of the Columbia River Basin Team of the 100th Meridian Initiative (January, Vancouver, WA; June (TBD) and Pacific Ballast Water and Biofouling Group (April WA/OR)
4. Hold watercraft inspection and decontamination trainings (Elizabeth Brown, Lead)
5. Increase participation in the Call Before You Haul program





Member Report Submission

2025

Name	Catherine de Rivera
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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

PSU's Center for Lakes and Reservoirs (CLR) surveyed for zebra/quagga and golden mussels and other freshwater ANS. From September 2024-August 2025, CLR sampled 53 lakes and reservoirs in Oregon. We sampled high risk reservoirs at least 3 times each, sometimes much more, especially for sites on the Snake; we sampled moderate risk reservoirs at least twice, and we sampled most low risk ones just once. Altogether we visited 208 unique sites (does not include repeats), and made 374 visits to sites (includes repeats), this year.. We sampled for an average of 3 hours per site. Adult mollusc and plant sampling included 197 dock or substrate patdowns/inspections, 176 shoreline surveys, 100 rake point samples, 43 Ponar point samples, and 42 crayfish trap surveys. Water quality and chemistry sampling included 190 YSI surveys (measuring pH, conductivity, temperature, optical dissolved oxygen), 23 Secchi point surveys, and 27 calcium samples. Mussel veliger sampling involved plankton tows and compositing of filtered water from waterbodies, of which we performed 659 (horizontal, vertical, and stationary tows), composited into a total of 300 veliger sample bottles. We also took a total of 209 eDNA samples (including blanks), which detects the presence of both adult and juvenile Zebra and Quagga mussels.

We didn't find any zebra or quagga mussel adults nor any golden mussels. No samples analyzed to date detected any invasive mussel veligers or eDNA (we are still waiting for analysis of our more recent samples). We did find other ANS including: New Zealand mudsnail (*Potamopyrgus antipodarum*), big-ear radix (*Radix auricularia*), rusty crayfish (*Faxonius rusticus*), Cipangopaludina sp. (Mystery snails), Asian Claim (*Corbicula*), Parrotfeather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*), Eurasian water milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), knotweed (*Fallopia* spp.), curly-leafed pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*), fragrant water lily (*Nymphaea odorata*), yellow flag iris (*Iris pseudacorus*). In addition, several novel or class A noxious weeds were detected such as: sessile-fruited arrowhead (*Sagittaria rigida*), cape pondweed (*Aponogeton distachyos*), dense-flowered cordgrass (*Spartina densiflora*), flowering rush (*Butomus umbellatus*), yellow floatingheart (*Nymphoides peltata*).

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

1. CLR researchers Rose and Campbell leveraged awards from USACE, OWEB, and the Great Basin Institute to survey hundreds of miles across the state for novel infestations of aquatic weeds. Targeted surveys for yellow floating heart funded by the ANS grant led to the discovery of a state record infestation of sessile-fruited arrowhead; CLR staff is currently pursuing funding for its eventual eradication. Flowering rush was also newly detected by CLR staff in Lake Celilo.
2. Rose and Campbell served as a resource for technical support for natural resources professionals and the general public alike. Since September 2024, Rose has responded to 16 reports regarding aquatic weeds via the Oregon Invasive Species Hotline and confirmed identifications of hundreds of user-inputted records via iMapInvasives. Additionally, approximately every month, Rose and Campbell field inquiries and requests for technical support via email or at professional meetings. In the summer of 2025, they facilitated workshops about aquatic weed identification for 32 participants in the natural resources field, including ODFW boat inspectors, which were well-received.
3. We conducted a survey of over 200 participants on incentive programs for removal of species aquatic invasive species and other invasive species, following up on Pasko and Goldberg and other literature, to determine what makes these programs successful, barriers to success, and suggestions for upcoming incentivized removal programs. We thank the WRP members who participated.
4. We worked with students to develop outreach materials and risk assessments on aquatic invasive species, including: A) Pamphlets we and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife later distributed to the public, on crayfish, flowering rush, and mute swans; B) A pest risk assessment for Mute Swans in Oregon for ODFW; C) an assessment for the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife's (WDFW) aquatic invasions team, 'Assessing the effectiveness of incentive programs for the control of invasive species: a meta-analysis to inform west coast European green crab management' D) a risk assessment on dredging and ballast water as possible vectors for *C. maenas* in Washington, prepared for WDFW's aquatic invasions team.
5. We surveyed for and removed green crabs, *Carcinus maenas*, from Netarts Bay Oregon (many there), and mentored students in and collaborated with colleagues on research on *C. maenas*. This research suggests that green crabs prey on juvenile Dungeness crabs both in tanks and in the field; that they are consuming a broad variety of prey including herring eggs, shrimp, and native crabs not documented to date (e.g., porcelain crabs), and that they are affecting oyster filtration rates. We are still working up the data for formal dissemination. We continue to participate in Washington DWF's green crab working group meetings and activities and Oregon's new green crab working group as well.

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

1. Continue early detection surveys for zebra and quagga mussels as well as golden mussels and other ANS, including with eDNA;
2. We will create risk assessments for new species of concern, including a risk analysis for *Limnoperna fortunei* for Oregon
3. Along with a consultant, we will build the interagency committee needed for implementation of our recent marine macro-algal plan and develop an ISC response framework
4. Prepare papers and talks on green crab impacts, on common names for aquatic invasive species that currently have place-based common names, and on incentive programs for aquatic invasive species.
5. Provide training for 50 natural resource professionals in the identification of aquatic weeds across Oregon.



Member Report Submission
2025

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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

South Dakota has worked to engage users in areas not previously inspected along the Missouri River and expanded operations on Shadehill Reservoir.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

- 1. Watercraft Inspections - As of 9/01/25, South Dakota has conducted 17,828 inspections have been conducted. Operations will continue through September in western South Dakota.
- 2. Significant findings and response - Currently, no new zebra mussel waters have been identified in 2025. Curly leaf pondweed has been identified in Lake Kampeska.
- 3. Invasive Carp - Other priorities continue to be understanding invasive carp movement, natal origins, areas of risk for expanded distribution, angler education, and ways to better market educational material to recreators.
- 4. Outreach – South Dakota continues to focus on outreach and education as the main tool to mitigate the spread of AIS. We conducted our first ever AIS Awareness week the week prior to Memorial Day weekend. South Dakota GFP also partnered with Lawrence and Schiller again for our AIS marketing campaign. Through the campaign, gas station TV was present at 43 gas stations across the state reminding folks to Stay Clean. Drain. Dry. Through the campaign we also ran radio PSA's and conducted instant experiences on our social media platforms for folks in certain areas of the state that may come in contact with infested waters. Finally, our communications staff ran numerous articles on our social media platforms and through email regarding AIS information.

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

- 1) Engage more unique users, at WID stations, using South Dakota waters.
- 2) Continue to improve SD WID program
- 3) Build relations with partners focusing on AIS prevention
- 4) Better understand invasive carp movement/risk of range expansion in the Missouri River Basin
- 5) Expand AIS outreach efforts to new audiences



Member Report Submission
2025

Name	Dennis Zabaglo
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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

Completed the three-years Tahoe Keys Control Methods Test which evaluated multiple treatment methodologies to address the largest infestation of invasive aquatic plants in the Tahoe Region. The test was innovative in that it implemented ultraviolet light (UV) treatments (technology developed in Lake Tahoe), and the first time aquatic herbicides have been used in the Lake as there are significant restrictions on their use. The innovative aspect to herbicides is that it was applied in a one-time application, utilizing non-chemical methods (benthic barriers, hand pulling, and UV spot treatments) to maintain knockback achieved in the first year using herbicides and larger treatments of UV. Program partners are evaluating the results of the test to develop a long-term strategy to address the highest priority infestation at Lake Tahoe.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

1. New prevention protocols to address the golden mussel discovery only two hours away from Lake Tahoe. All motorized vessels now have mandatory decontaminations along with inspection, where decontaminations in the based where conducted as needed.
2. Enhanced non-motorized prevention and education efforts with "roving" inspectors at beaches, use of CD3 machines, and promotion of the non-motorized stewardship program- Tahoe Keepers.
3. Completion of the largest invasive aquatic plant infestation eradication project in the Tahoe Region, at the Taylor and Tallac Creeks and Marshes. 17 acres of predominantly Eurasian watermilfoil and some curly-leaf pondweed was treated primarily with bottom barriers and some hand pulling. This is the largest wetland in Lake Tahoe and the first stage of an overall restoration of the system.
4. TRPA and other Lake Tahoe regulatory partners have implemented mandatory HAACP for any in-water projects to prevent AIS introduction and spread.

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

- 1. Construction of permanent locations for watercraft inspection stations.
- 2. Update the Lake Tahoe AIS Management Plan that includes a rapid response exercise.
- 3. Development of a long-term strategy to address the invasive aquatic plant infestation in the Tahoe Keys.



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PROGRAM



TAHOE KEEPERS

All motorized watercraft must be inspected prior to launching, including hydrobikes, surfboards, and other watercraft with electric or gas motors. All non-motorized watercraft is subject to inspection. Launching watercraft without inspection and/or spreading invasive species violates local, state and federal laws. Violators are subject to a minimum fine of \$5,000 (TNR Code of Ordinance 63.4)



Member Report Submission

2025

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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

Partnered with Pacific Shellfish Institute to write and submit a grant application for funding to support increased coordination, monitoring and implementation of priorities for EGC control in Washington State. (The request was unfunded, but will be available to submit for future funding opportunities).

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

Working with growers, schools and NGOs to coordinate control of non-native oyster drills.
Working with State regulating authority on transfer permit conditions to prevent spread of invasive species.
Continue to develop oyster breeding program resistant to OSHV-1
Coordinate with WDFW and partners on EGC trapping and research priorities on private tidelands.

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

Identify funding to support aquaculture grower trapping and monitoring of EGC throughout Puget Sound and WA Coast areas.
Explore opportunities to streamline permitting for removal of shoreline structures that attract non-native oyster drill.
Continue vigorous EGC monitoring and trapping efforts.
Work with partners, including tribes and agencies to monitor and report on new species observations on private tidelands.



Member Report Submission

2025

Name	Monica McGarrity
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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

Approximately 65 water bodies managed for AIS vegetation, including EDRR, with control achieved to the extent of functional eradication (i.e., negligible ecosystem, recreation or other impacts); all major water bodies monitored.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

- Continued successful management of aquatic invasive plants
- Continued multi-watershed scale management of the most highly invasive riparian plants that impact instream habitat
- Continued implementation of a large-scale outreach and prevention campaign for watercraft, aquarium dumping, and bait pathway (carp-specific)
- Continued partnership efforts for zebra/quagga mussel early detection
- Continued implementation of an AIS small grants research program, with a successful Request for Proposals and selection/funding of three new projects for the coming biennium with strong management focus

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

- Continued successful management of aquatic invasive plants with a goal of functional eradication and EDRR
- Continued multi-watershed scale management of the most highly invasive riparian plants that impact instream habitat
- Tailoring prioritized outreach and prevention campaign in light of significant funding cuts
- Continued partnership efforts for zebra/quagga mussel early detection
- Continued implementation of an AIS small grants research program, with completion of three projects and initiation of three new projects for the current biennium



Member Report Submission

2025

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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

USACE- Northwest Division (NWD) through Hydroelectric Design Center started working on mussel assessment and response plans for the Federal Columbia River Power System.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

- 1) Getting up to speed on Golden mussels.
- 2) Coordination with States (ID, WA, etc.) on Quagga mussel issues in the Snake River and cooperation of NWW with WDFW on preplanning, modeling, and strategies etc. for lower Snake River.
- 3) USACE-ERDC and Walla Walla District coordination and participation in AIS specific containment curtains encompassing design, testing, drills, etc.
- 4) NWD AIS workshop with federal and tribal entities (USFWS, NMFS, Tribes, etc.)

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

- 1) Regional coordination and development with WDFW, Walla Walla District, and ERDC on AIS containment curtain testing and drill training.
- 2) NWD and Walla Walla District maintaining participation in mussel preplanning, coordination, and collaboration with states and other stakeholders.



Member Report Submission
2025

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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

In 2025, Reclamation strengthened its aquatic invasive species program by expanding partnerships with tribal governments and other intergovernmental entities. These collaborations supported early detection, rapid response, monitoring efforts across high-risk water bodies, and research, which helped shape strategic planning through initiatives like the FY25 Mussels and AIS Spend Plan. This work reinforced Reclamation’s leadership in cross-jurisdictional AIS prevention and its commitment to inclusive, science-based stewardship.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

Reclamation expanded communication and engagement both internally and externally which remains an active priority in the changing landscape. This includes 1) Expanding internal communication to include external information sharing to broaden knowledge and break down silos; 2) Participating in the development of the Interjurisdictional Invasive Species Rapid Response Team; 3) Coordination with California and other partners on the Golden Mussel response and research needs; 4) Sharing resources, including research needs and developments outside of Reclamation; and 5) Completed 2,156 early detection samples across 297 water bodies, analyzed using microscopy and eDNA.

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

Reclamation's priorities for the coming year include 1) Increasing capacity by improving surveillance techniques through research and collaboration; 2) strengthen internal awareness of aquatic invasive species through training opportunities and guidance documentation/procedures; 3) Investing in research and development to develop innovative control and management techniques; 4) Continue to foster collaboration and coordination among federal, state, local, and tribal agencies; and 5) Continue to implement Reclamation's Mussels and AIS Spend Plan funding opportunities.





Member Report Submission

2025

Name: Susan Pasko

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Q1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

The Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (ANSTF) held a virtual meeting on July 8-9, 2025, the ANS Task Force held a virtual public meeting. . Additional details about the meeting, including the agenda and detailed meeting minutes can be found at: <https://www.fws.gov/program/aquatic-nuisance-species-task-force/meetings>. Below is the list of decisional and action items that resulted from the meeting:

Decisional Items:

- The ANS Task Force approved the Rapid Response Plan Template.
- The ANS Task Force approved the archival of the Ruffe Control Plan.
- The ANS Task Force approved the Guidance for Aquatic Nuisance Species Control and Management Plans.

Action Items

- Executive Secretary will meet with relevant agencies and other interested parties to review the 2015 document "Federal Policy Options: Addressing the Movement of Aquatic Invasive Species Onto and Off of Federal Land and Waters" and evaluate if the actions should be updated and/or expanded to align with the direction under the EXPLORE Act.
- Regional Panel Principals will review recent bait related projects, actions and priorities and then consider if there is a need to align efforts across regions.
- Executive Secretary will work on a document with the Control Subcommittee that will supplement the Ruffe Control Plan archival that summarizes the reason for archival, control program objectives that continue be relevant and conditions that may warrant updating the plan and returning to an active status.
- Executive Secretary and Control Subcommittee will form a Golden Mussel Work Group to evaluate immediate and long-term needs for this new invasion.
- Outreach Subcommittee will distribute the Boater Evaluation Survey template to ANSTF members and regional panels for review and comment.

Q2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, and /or priorities from the past year.

1. In 2024, two new State Plans – New Jersey and Delaware - were added to the list of ANS Task Force approved plans, bringing the total number of plans to 47 (44 State and 3 Interstate). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) received \$4.084 Mil for the FY25 State and Interstate Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plan grant

program. The Notice of Funding Opportunity is currently posted; the due date for application submission in GrantSolutions is November 3, 2025.

2. Interjurisdictional Invasive Species Rapid Response Team or IInSRRT is being co-administered by FWS'S Fish and Aquatic Conservation program and the Refuge Programs, as part of the Early Detection Rapid Response Framework. The purpose of IInSRRT is to support the pilot program to form a DOI Interjurisdictional Invasive Species Rapid Response Team. The team will support or lead, as requested, rapid response actions across jurisdictions in support of lead management authorities.
3. The ANSTF's Invasive Species Experts has been modernized and expanded to include both aquatic and terrestrial species experts and a broad range of professionals from multiple disciplines relevant to invasive species practitioners, such as invasive species management, planning, economics, data analysis, and outreach. Experts can be filtered by location, discipline, as well as taxonomic and management expertise. ISED can be viewed at: <https://siren.fort.usgs.gov/findexperts>. Survey to complete a expert profile for review for the database can be found at: <https://forms.office.com/g/R1sfWv9PCw>.
4. The FWS, in partnership with NOAA Sea Grant, hosted an AIS Outreach Workshop in October, 2024 that brought together outreach program managers and social science experts to review recent outreach assessments and discuss the needs and concerns for AIS outreach. The goal was to identify key messages, solutions for barriers, tools to reach targeted audiences, and prioritize best management practices to increase prevention behaviors. The workshop featured two sessions, that each had about 100 attendees, featuring current research on AIS outreach campaigns and program evaluation followed by a working session. A summary report was produced highlighting lessons learned and outlining future needs which will be considered during the next ANSTF work planning process.
5. Injurious wildlife: FWS Staff are actively working to promulgate rules related to injurious wildlife that may represent significant risk to our Nation's resources and people. Two rule packages were published in the Federal Register on January 10, 2025. First, a rule package for listing salamanders that may carry *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans* (Bsal), a fungus that is causing massive die-offs in European salamanders, was published; this rule package includes both a final rule and a second interim rule to list in total 36 genera of salamanders as injurious. Additionally, a proposed rule was published to list three taxa of invertebrates as injurious, including golden mussels, Asian pond mussels, and the marbled crayfish.

Q3. Outline 5 priorities for the coming year.

1. Evaluate accomplishment of the ANSTF and emerging issue as part of the planning process to develop the next ANSTF Strategic Plan. The next meeting of the ANSTF is scheduled for December 2025 and will kick off this process.
2. Facilitate the ANSTF Golden Mussel Work Group to evaluate immediate and long-term needs for this new invasion.
3. Implement recommendations identified by the Moss Ball / Zebra Mussel After Action Report.
4. Continue to grow IInSRRT and the Survey for inclusion in ISED: The Invasive Species Experts Database.



Member Report Submission

2025

Name: Theresa Thom – USFWS Pacific Region (Region 1) with contributions from FWS staff

Carrie Cook-Tabor, Josh Fisher, Jen Poirier, and Laura Sprague

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Q1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

In FY25, certified trainers from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service from multiple regions provided Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) planning certification courses to partner agencies and staff across the country. Trainings were offered in-person. HACCP-related training opportunities to prevent and mitigate the risk of unintentionally spreading invasive species will be offered in FY26 including a HACCP Train-the-Trainer course.

Q2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, and /or priorities from the past year.

1) The Columbia River Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (CRFWCO) is implementing an ongoing project to stock male brook trout with two Y chromosomes to eradicate a population of nonnative brook trout in Tyee Springs above Carson National Fish Hatchery in Washington. Project activities in 2025 included removing approximately 1,600 resident brook trout from Tyee Springs, collecting 600 tissue samples for genetic assignment tests and stocking 2,300 PIT tagged YY male brook trout in August 2025. The stocked YY male brook trout are surviving and spawning successfully in Tyee Springs. Annual survival of YY males has improved each year of the project based on the number of fish recaptured during fish removal efforts (e.g., 61 YY males stocked in summer 2024 were recaptured summer 2025). Sex ratios of brook trout captured during fish removal efforts are shifting to male. In 2025, we determined the sex of 573 randomly selected brook trout ranging in size from 89-150mm. Of the total, 42% were female and 58% were male. Finally, genetic assignment tests conducted by Abernathy Fish Technology Center identified conclusive evidence of YY male offspring in Tyee Springs. The proportion of YY male brook trout progeny detected in tissue samples collected from 1,139 young-of-year brook trout was 0.28% in 2021, 21.28% in 2022 and 9.98% in 2023. Genetic samples collected during the 2024 and 2025 field seasons (1200 total) will be analyzed by Abernathy Fish Technology Center in fall 2025. The presence of YY male progeny among young-of-year brook trout and male-favored sex ratios, confirm the spawning success of YY male brook trout and provide positive feedback that the YY male technique is progressing successfully in Tyee Springs.

The CRFWCO is conducting annual AIS monitoring at six lower Columbia National Fish hatcheries using eDNA and visual surveys. Although the primary focus of visual surveys is New Zealand mudsnail (NZMS), all eDNA samples are tested for NZMS, zebra mussels, quagga mussels, northern pike and American bullfrog. The purpose of this ongoing study is to evaluate the effectiveness of visual surveys and eDNA sampling for early detection of AIS and provide information to help design monitoring programs for early detection of NZMS and other high priority AIS at National Fish Hatcheries.

FWS staff at the Western Washington Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (WWFWCO) continued a research study with WDFW, King County, and the Muckleshoot Tribe to examine predation by non-native fishes (Yellow Perch, Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Black Crappie, and Rock Bass) on ESA listed Chinook Salmon and sockeye salmon in the Lake Washington Basin. This year's sampling efforts focused on the south end of Lake Washington and in the Ship Canal where non-native fishes may congregate to prey on juvenile salmonids. In FY 2025, products include one manuscript: Late summer consumption of Asian clam carrion by adult yellow perch in Lake Washington, submitted to Northwest Science. WWFWCO also initiated a new study in Lake Washington examining the impact of artificial light at night on the predation of juvenile salmon by invasive species such as yellow perch and rock bass. This study will help evaluate differences in rates of predation by invasive fish under dark and artificially lighted conditions in urban areas.

In cooperation with Washington Department Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), Washington Sea Grant (WSG), University of Washington, and other volunteer partners, the Western Washington Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (WWFWCO) assisted with the sentinel site monitoring of invasive European Green Crabs (EGC) for WSG's "Crab Team" at Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuge throughout 2025. See photo below.

The Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office (PIFWO) continues to work with the State of Hawaii, the US Territories of Guam and American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and non-governmental partners on biosecurity actions to prevent the spread of invasive species across the Pacific Islands Region. In 2025, PIFWO staff worked on early detection and rapid response planning for potential introductions of AIS into the Pacific region (ie. stony coral tissue loss disease and *Unomia*). This included a 2-day *Unomia* Learning Exchange held in Honolulu, HI with territorial and state representatives from Guam, CNMI, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. NAVFAC was a recipient of the FWS EDRR funds to address *Unomia* in Pearl Harbor, which was ongoing in FY25. In 2025, a collaborative U.S. Army pilot biosecurity project was initiated at Hawaii Army Garrison with FWS to evaluate pathways of invasion and mitigation methods. This included conducting a HACCP training for Army staff and partners. A draft biosecurity plan is expected by the end of FY25. PIFWO is also working on an Invasive Species Biosecurity Gap Analysis for the Marianas Islands to identify and direct resources to enhance biosecurity efforts at commercial and military ports of entry/exit for Guam and the CNMI. Two HACCP certification classes were held on Guam and Saipan in FY25, in support of the biosecurity emphasis in the Pacific Islands.

Q3. Outline 5 priorities for the coming year.

1. Provide Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) certification courses to partner agencies and staff across the country. The certification course will be offered in-person and online. The goal: to prevent and mitigate the risk of unintentionally spreading invasive species.
2. Work with entities responsible for key pathways (and associated vectors) to proactively reduce the risk of introduction of invasive species.
3. Implement a Nationally Coordinated Early Detection and Rapid Response Framework for aquatic invasive species and pathways.
4. Continue to assist with EGC Coordination, as well as invasive green crab monitoring and trapping efforts and further development of ANS outreach and education materials.
5. Support emergency response preparedness related to invasive species introductions.



Member Report Submission

2025

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Q1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

In July 2024, routine eDNA monitoring within Alchesay National Fish Hatchery returned positive results at the furthest downstream distribution box within the hatchery. The Service, in collaboration with the White Mountain Apache Tribe (WMAT) developed a rapid response plan to eradicate NZMS from the hatchery's distribution box and any piping leading to it. On October 8, 2024, hatchery staff began treating impacted areas with copper sulfate pentahydrate, a treatment known to be effective in the control and eradication of NZMS. Treatment of the distribution box and all piping leading to it continued until November 5, 2024 for a total of 29 calendar days.

Subsequent inspection of the distribution box resulted in no visual confirmation of NZMS. Additionally, the Service began collecting eDNA samples from the distribution box on November 19, 2024. A total of 5 samples were collected at the distribution box and all samples were negative for NZMS. A second round of water samples were collected on November 26, 2024 and again were negative for NZMS. Finally, an additional 55 water samples were collected at various points within the hatchery proper, including locations at holding ponds, raceways, radial flow settlers and at the hatchery's influent water site. All samples were confirmed to be negative for NZMS.

As a result of these efforts, that Service considers Alchesay NFH to be free from NZMS. A known population persists in the North Fork White River immediately adjacent to the hatchery's discharge pipe and the Service is developing plans to reconfigure the design of this pipe to prevent further immigration of NZMS.

Q2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, and /or priorities from the past year.

Region 2 will be awarding approximately \$1.75M in grant awards to address QZAP priorities in western waters.

Region 2 will be awarding approximately \$500K in grant awards to address Golden Mussel priorities in western waters.

Continued execution of an Interagency Agreement with BLM, BOR, NPS, and FWS to collectively support two Quagga/Zebra projects that benefit the greater western US including local governments, states, tribes and other federal agencies. These projects include watercraft inspection training, and watercraft inspection database.

Began 2025 invasive carp spawning monitoring efforts in late April, marking the fifth year of this ongoing initiative. This year, the team is focused on identifying the furthest upstream location where bigheaded carp may be spawning.

Continued year-round efforts to monitor adult Bigheaded Carp movement along the Red River under varying flow and water quality conditions.

Conducted a variety of field trials to remove aquatic invasive species (AIS) by manipulating dissolved oxygen levels with Sodium Sulfite. Sodium Sulfite is a food-safe oxygen scavenger typically used in raw meat and dried fruit packaging. This approach to AIS control is showing promise and research is ongoing to determine the best season, water temperature, and waterbody type/size in which to use this tool.





Member Report Submission

2025

Name: Region 6

Organization: USFWS

Q1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

After receiving the unfortunate news that eDNA samples at Jones Hole National Fish Hatchery in Utah were positive for New Zealand mudsnails (and visual confirmation), we jumped into action with the assistance of our UT/WY state partners. Through discussion and collaboration, we were able to stock all fish without the need for destruction, find a temporary hatchery (Saratoga) for initial rearing of FY26 cutthroat and begin the lengthy process of complete disinfection and modifications to prevent future infestation. We are ahead of schedule and should be able to transfer fish back on station in November. Much thanks to our partners!

Q2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, and /or priorities from the past year.

6. Our Bozeman Fish Health lab is now set up to process eDNA samples for NZMS
7. We are collaborating with CO (CPW) and Region 3 on future eDNA sampling of the North Platte for invasive carp
3. Our Grand Junction office assisted CPW with their sampling for zebras in the CO River
4. We have completely disinfected Jones Hole NFH and started major modifications to prevent future NZMS from the nearby creek

Q3. Outline 5 priorities for the coming year.

1. Continue to modify Jones Hole NFH to eliminate new NZMS in the hatchery perimeter
2. Work with CPW on invasive carp eDNA in the North Platte, and any assistance for zebra mussels in the CO River



Member Report Submission

2025

Name: Kim Holzer

Organization: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

Title: Regional Invasive Species Coordinator

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Q1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

Enhanced invasive species surveillance in *Southcentral Alaska Invasion Hotspot* geography through an agreement between USFWS and University of Alaska, funded by Department of the Interior's National EDRR Framework (\$1.6M). Key successes include cross-jurisdictional collaboration, filling spatial survey gaps, detecting new invaders in the field, intercepting prohibited taxa at ports, and providing trainings to students.

Q2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, and /or priorities from the past year.

1. Operated Alcan border watercraft inspection station for fifth full season (May–Aug), intercepted second invasive mussel-fouled boat (<https://www.fws.gov/story/2025-09/victory-against-invasive-species>), and received highest annual number of movement notices. ****Action**** Please reach out with interest in a funded Detail or temporary assignment (weeks to months) at the Alaska WID in 2026.
2. With USFWS support, Fairbanks Soil and Water Conservation District secured Department of Defense Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) funding to treat Harding Lake, the last stronghold of invasive elodea in Interior Alaska. Statewide, USFWS Invasive Species Strike Teams reported no new detections of elodea.
3. Conducted invasive rodent monitoring, rapid response, and proposed eradication planning, including rat sighting response in False Pass and continuation of an Environmental Impact Statement for rat eradication on four Aleutian Islands (<https://www.fws.gov/aleutianrateis>), including four-week field assessment on Great Sitkin Island.
4. Invested in partners to build EDRR capacity, including Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Alaska Department of Natural Resources, five Soil Water Conservation Districts, Tyonek Tribal Conservation District, University of Alaska, and Bristol Bay Guardians.
5. Conducted early detection monitoring for dreissenid mussels guided by the Dreissenid Mussel Vulnerability mapper <https://arcg.is/1OzGXW4>, and helped fund first cross-polarized microscopy lab for veliger identification in Alaska.

Q3. Outline 5 priorities for the coming year.

1. Co-develop new invasive species biosecurity plan for Fort Wainright.
2. Bring Hazardous Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) content to rural Alaska to boost community-based early detection.
3. Co-host collaborative sequel training for invasive species practitioners and partners on dreissenid field sampling and lab analysis (All Hands On Deck For Early Detection 2.0).
4. Sponsor northern pike rapid response drill on Kenai Peninsula.

5. Launch new invasive species exhibit at Tok Alaska Public Lands Information Center and plan outreach updates for other visitor centers and access points to educate public on prevention.

If you would like to share a **high-quality photo** that showcases a great AIS moment, you may upload that below. Any photos shared will also be added to the report.



Left: Biologist conducts veliger sampling at a popular non-motorized reservoir near Anchorage, Alaska, deploying a plankton net while kayakers paddle in the background. No invasive mussels were detected. © Aurelia Umholtz/USFWS.

Right: Biologist surveys beach at low tide in Cold Bay, Alaska, searching for invasive green crab molts. No invasive crabs were found. © Tessie Offner/USFWS.



Member Report Submission

2025

Name: Cesar C. Blanco, Ph.D.

Organization: USFWS- Pacific Southwest (R8) Region

Title: Regional Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator

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Q1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

In a fiscal year where we did not receive program funding until August, the USFWS Pacific Southwest Region managed to maintain a leadership presence in California & Nevada AIS issues and contribute to the development of GM response documents.

Q2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, and /or priorities from the past year.

8. RR of eradication of *Caulerpa* in San Diego Bay and proximate San Diego Bay NWR
9. RR of Golden Mussel (*Limnoperna fortunei*) in the Sacramento – San Joaquin Delta
3. Increased AIS awareness through HACCP Trainings in California & Nevada
4. Zebra/Quagga prevention in the Tahoe Basin and containment where present in the CA-GB

Q3. Outline 5 priorities for the coming year.

1. Golden Mussel Containment
2. NZMS Containment in Lake Tahoe
3. Zebra/Quagga Containment
4. Continue to teach HACCP Trainings



Member Report Submission
2025

Name	Adam Sepulveda
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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

Supported multiple NPS units in the West to integrate manual and autonomous eDNA sampling into their invasive species surveillance programs.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

- 1. Continued progress and execution of the EDDR National Framework suite of projects
- 2. Provided rapid eDNA analyses to support USFWS Alchesay Hatchery's rapid response eradication of New Zealand mudsnails
- 3. Deployed eDNA autonomous samplers in Grand Teton NP, Yellowstone NP, Channel Islands NP, Bighorn Canyon NRA, and Dinosaur NM to help survey for invasive species
- 4. Provided technical expertise to state of California's effort to develop and validate eDNA methods for golden mussel monitoring; worked with state of CA to deploy eDNA autosamplers for golden mussel monitoring near the southern terminus of the State Water Project
- 5. Supported Blackfeet Nation efforts to conduct early detection monitoring for invasive Prussian Carp

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

- 1. Support Department of Defense efforts to operationalize eDNA sampling for biomonitoring
- 2. Work with state and federal partners to formalize golden mussel eDNA protocols
- 3. Work with the international community of eDNA practitioners to develop ISO (International Organization for Standardization) standards for eDNA methods
- 4. Use a consensus-process to develop a decision tree to help managers consider whether a rapid

response is appropriate

5. Continued progress and execution of the EDDR National Framework suite of projects





Member Report Submission

2025

Name	Bill Janowsky
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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

Despite all of the chaos and uncertainty over the past 6 months, the Forest Service was able to secure 2025 IIJA funding for our aquatic ANS Program. The San Juan National Forest received \$78K for its McPhee Reservoir boat inspection, decontamination and prevention program in partnership with CPW and other partners in SW Colorado. In addition, our Wyoming National Forests Bighorn, Medicine Bow Routt and Shoshone received \$75K in aquatic ANS funding to initiate ANS Inspection and Prevention Programs on their respective forests. Funding will go towards purchasing Hot Water Pressure Washers, ANS signage, Education materials, and wader/boot washing stations etc.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

Maintained our very successful partnership work with Colorado Parks and Wildlife across 5 National Forests in Colorado. FS contributions were as follows:

- a. San Juan NF – McPhee Reservoir. 4-way partnership with CPW, FS, BOR, and Delores Water Users. FS Share = \$26,000K
- b. Grand Mesa/Uncompahgre/Gunnison NF – Taylor Park Reservoir. FS share = \$28,000K
- c. Pike/San Isabel NF – Turquoise and Twin Lakes. FS Share = \$15,000K
- d. White River NF – Green Mountain and Ruedi Reservoirs. FS Share = \$30,000K
- e. Arapaho Roosevelt NF – Colorado Big-Thompson System of Grand Lake, Shadow Mountain and Lake Granby. FS Share = \$55,000 of the \$100,000K needed with partners making up for FS deficit in cost share.

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

1. Assist CPW with trying to prevent the spread of mussels in the Colorado River.
2. Continue to support CPW at boat inspection and decontamination stations across 5 National Forests in CO.
3. Help Wyoming National Forests get their ANS programs up and running on 3 National Forests.
4. Assist White River National Forest in completing their purchase of the Michelle Cox ANS prototype decontamination trailer. It would be used across CO and Wy National Forests as needed.



Member Report Submission

2025

Name	Bruce Johnson
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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

- We received a large, one time funding from our state legislature. This was earmarked for (3) new diptanks and upgrade existing diptanks across the state.
- Leah and Kelly conducted the sample/testing of our diptank at Lake Powell. It was a success. Data will be presented by them at WRP.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

- Continued to upgrade (6) existing diptanks. Sourced a maintenance company for long term startup, takedown, and general maintenance for those.
- Leah and Kelly conducted the sampling/testing of our diptank at Lake Powell. SUCCESS!
- Began initial operations at our new AIS Inspection Station located at Kanab, UT.
- Filled the vacancy from the Casey Silva departure. Silva is still consulting for us.
- Working on new technology for the diptanks (Copper Ionizing units for Algae).

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

- Install and operate the new diptank at Jordanelle Reservoir (Oct 2025).
- Complete purchase and planning process for two future diptanks at Bear Lake and Pineview Reservoir (Spring 2028).
- Develop, continue Federal funding sources for continued AIS Staffing and presence in the field.
- Begin use of our newly developed 8GPM, Diesel/Diesel mobile decon unit.
- Increase operational hours (full time) at our new AIS Inspection Station located in Kanab, UT.



Member Report Submission

2025

Name	Justin Bush
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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

a. In 2024, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) secured a one-time \$3.62 million state legislative proviso to expand prevention and readiness following the detection of quagga mussels in Idaho’s Snake River, just 375 river miles from Washington. This investment enabled an aggressive response (<https://wdfw.medium.com/invasive-freshwater-mussel-monitoring-ramping-up-in-washington-waters-139cd1198b99>) and was followed by an additional \$7.24 million for the 2025–2027 biennium, beginning July 1, 2025. Expanded Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination capacity has already yielded significant results, including Washington’s largest interception in seven years: a mussel-fouled tugboat carrying 21 gallons of quagga and zebra mussels, decontaminated before entering state waters in January 2025 (<https://wdfw.medium.com/invasive-mussel-infested-tugboats-intercepted-in-spokane-8eff4ce873e6>).

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

1. In August 2024, a Renton fish wholesaler detected suspicious mussels attached to Marimo moss balls, a popular aquarium decoration. They alerted WDFW and encouraged their retail network to quarantine products. WDFW, the Washington State Department of Agriculture, USDA APHIS, and USFWS responded jointly, ultimately recovering and destroying approximately 1,000 potentially contaminated products, though more than 20,000 may have entered the national market (<https://wdfw.medium.com/invasive-zebra-mussels-detected-on-marimo-moss-balls-prompts-collaborative-response-bd363d3e088e>).
2. In October 2024, California confirmed the first-ever detection of golden mussels in North America, near the Port of Stockton. WDFW completed a state risk assessment (<https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/02625>), laying the foundation for prohibition rulemaking, and integrated golden mussel surveillance into statewide monitoring.
3. Recognizing the imminent threats from quagga, zebra, and golden mussels, WDFW and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife created the Oregon–Washington Invasive Mussel Near-Term Action Working Group. In January 2025, the agencies jointly published Findings and Near-Term Action Recommendations (<https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2025-01/oregon-washington-invasive-mussel-findings-and-near-term-action-recommendations.pdf>), setting shared short- and long-term priorities for

prevention and readiness, including management of Columbia River Basin waters.

4. WDFW and partners significantly expanded European green crab management through coordinated trapping, sustained state investment, and increased federal assistance. Over 40 co-managers, tribes, and partners were engaged, enabling broader coverage, improved efficiency, and stronger collaboration. These efforts were paired with the release of the 2025–2031 Management Plan (<https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/02537>), which establishes a long-term, strategic framework. Washington agencies and partners also advocated for additional federal funding (<https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2025-05/2025-may-european-green-crab-joint-letter-support.pdf>) to ensure capacity matches the scale of the threat.

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

1. Advocate for sufficient and sustained federal funding through the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs to address aquatic invasive species, supporting Congressional action on the needs outlined in Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians Resolution 2025-08 (https://atntribes.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Res-25-08_Invasive_Species_Funding_in_the_Pacific_Northwest.pdf).
2. Launch a statewide Clean Drain Dry communications campaign across print, radio, social media, and streaming platforms, building on recent overhauls of WDFW's AIS prevention resources, including the 1-888-WDFW-AIS hotline, updated website pages (<https://wdfw.wa.gov/ais>), and new educational products such as the quagga and zebra mussel rack card (<https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2025-05/final-qzm-rack-card-2025-0.pdf>) and Clean Drain Dry brochure (<https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2025-05/final-cdd-general-brochure-2025.pdf>).
3. Expand early detection and monitoring partnerships with tribes and local governments. In 2025, WDFW will increase support to the Kalispel Tribe of Indians and provide new capacity-building grants to the Nez Perce Tribe. WDFW will also help develop the Lake Whatcom Invasive Mussel Rapid and Extended Response Plan with local governments, and begin a new partnership with Chelan County and the Lake Chelan Collaborative to enhance inspections and develop an invasive species management plan.
4. Continue engagement with the U.S. Coast Guard on implementation of the Vessel Incidental Discharge Act (VIDA). WDFW will convene a working group to evaluate feasibility of shoreside and mobile ballast water treatment systems at Washington ports, in partnership with agencies, industry, ports, and engineering firms.
5. Develop a cost-sharing agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for prevention, detection, eradication, and suppression of northern pike in the Upper Columbia River Basin to prevent downstream spread threatening salmon and steelhead. WDFW also proposes eradication of illegally introduced northern pike from San Juan Island to protect coastal watersheds and native species.





Member Report Submission

2025

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Question 1. Provide one achievement / highlight from your AIS program that you would like the WRP members to know about.

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department decontaminated and quarantined a live mussel encrusted boat dock and lift that was transported into Wyoming. Thankfully the concerned citizen altered AIS personnel prior to placing it into Alcova Reservoir, as North Platte river impoundment. Surprisingly, this was not the only mussel encrusted dock encountered by WY AIS personnel in 2025. See pictures attached.

Question 2. Provide a description of up to five activities, accomplishments, priorities from the past year

1. Through August 2025, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department AIS program has conducted 67,977 inspections, which is a new record to this point. Of these, 7,359 were high risk watercraft and 1,257 were decontaminated for water onboard or suspect AIS. A total of fifty-two boats have been intercepted with mussels attached or in compartments.
2. The Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) continued with increased seasonal personnel hiring in 2025. The program now operates with 77 personnel during peak season; 8 FTE personnel, one 12 month contract Specialists, 5 crew leads and 63 seasonal inspectors.
3. The Glendo AIS check station was relocated to the boat ramps in 2025 and plans for a long-term location with improved facilities in currently in the works.
4. The WGFD completed check station improvements to the Evanston POE check station, including a well, multiple on-demand decontamination units and increased foot-print for adequate space when large volumes of employees are present.

Question 3. Outline up to 5 priorities for the coming year.

1. The WGFD will continue to upgrade utilities at check stations while transitioning mobile decontamination units to on-demand units, to help deliver more reliable temperatures when performing decontaminations.
2. The WGFD is in the process of constructing a new check stations at Keyhole Reservoir and the upgrading the Beulah AIS Check Station to more efficiently and effectively decontaminate watercraft coming from back east on I-90.
3. The WGFD is in the process of constructing a new check station at Glendo Reservoir.

