

Protect B.C. Waters from ZEBRA & QUAGGA MUSSELS



Zebra and quagga mussels are propeller blade shaped freshwater mussels that can reach up to 30 mm in size. **They are not yet in British Columbia and pose a serious threat to native species and fisheries in our lakes and rivers.**

Live mussels attached to boats, other watercraft and recreational equipment can easily be transferred from one body of water to another. Mussel larvae can float undetected in water in bait buckets, live-wells, pumps and bilges.

Once introduced, zebra and quagga mussels are very difficult to eradicate and costly to remove. They threaten native species and fisheries, and increase maintenance costs of hydroelectric, domestic water, industrial, agricultural and recreational facilities.

Practicing CLEAN, DRAIN, DRY is key to stop invasive mussels from entering B.C.



CLEAN off all plants, animals and mud from your boat and equipment (e.g. boots, waders, fishing gear). Use available power washing stations.



DRAIN onto land all water from bait buckets, live-wells, pumps, motor, bilges, and remove drain plugs.



DRY all items completely before launching the watercraft into another body of water.

CHECK HIDING SPOTS FOR INVASIVE SPECIES:



REPORT INVASIVE MUSSELS: 1-877-952-7277 (RAPP)
(B.C. CONSERVATION OFFICER SERVICE)

Help to Protect B.C. Waters from AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

Aquatic invasive species are plants and animals that have spread beyond their native origins and are not native to B.C.—they can cause harm to our environment and economy, and impact public health. Without intervention, they can crowd out native species, affect water quality and damage local fisheries. Learn to identify and report these aquatic invasive species:



Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) is a highly invasive freshwater plant that forms dense mats of vegetation that interfere with recreational activities and destroy fish and wildlife habitat. (Photo: D. Moorhead)



Asian Clam (*Corbicula fluminea*) is an invasive freshwater clam that reproduces in large colonies that can foul pipes and other structures in power plants, irrigation and water supply facilities. (Photo: Amy Benson, USGS)



Eurasian Watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) spreads quickly via boats and equipment that have not been cleaned properly. Their dense mats of vegetation crowd out native plants and interfere with recreation. (Photo: A. Fox)



Parrot Feather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*) forms a dense, floating mat that can clog irrigation ducts and canals, and can entangle boat propellers. It overshadows and kills native vegetation. (Photo: R. Old)



Northern Snakehead (*Channa argus*) is an aggressive, predatory fish that consumes native fish, other aquatic species, and sometimes small reptiles, birds and mammals.

Snakeheads can travel overland and can survive out of water for several days. (Photo: Susan Trammell, bugwood.org)



Northern Pike (*Esox lucius*) are a dominant predator that feed heavily on juveniles. They have been introduced beyond their native range in northern B.C. and

are a concern for native fish species. (Photo: T. Knepp)



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BC INVASIVE MUSSEL PROGRAM: www.gov.bc.ca/invasive-species

For more information on invasive species:

INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL OF BC: www.bcinvases.ca | 1-888-933-3722