



Pacific NorthWest  
Economic Region



# STOP THE SPREAD! QUAGGA AND ZEBRA MUSSELS

The Columbia River Basin must be protected from this potential environmental and economic disaster!

## YOU CAN HELP DEFEND THE FRONT LINES!

The potential cost of an invasive mussel introduction into the Pacific Northwest has been estimated at more than \$500M annually. PNWER and regional partners have been supporting the Aquatic Plant Control Program watercraft inspection station matching program since it was first included in Water Resources Development Act in 2014. The program provides 1:1 match funding for watercraft inspection stations and related monitoring.

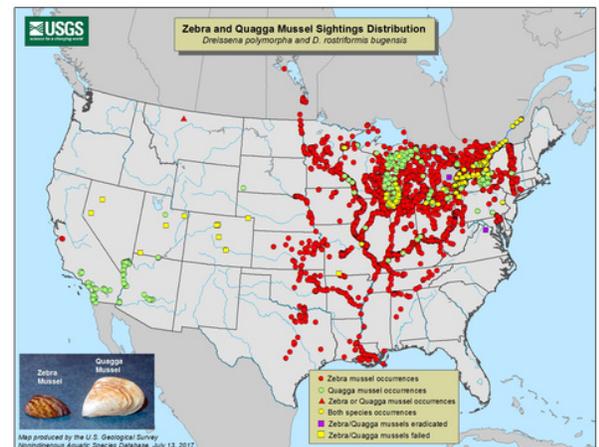
These matching funds allow for a doubling of current watercraft inspection effort in the Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington states, resulting in a reduced threat of a quagga mussel invasion to the region. We believe that if do not increase the number and operating hours of watercraft inspection stations that mussels will eventually populate the Columbia River Basin. Since 2017, between state and federal funds for the four state region has about \$38M for the Program.

The 2018 WRDA added more basins to the list of states that can apply for the funds. The number of eligible states increased from 4 to 16, encompassing most of the Western U.S. including and beyond the Columbia River Basin. The FY2020 appropriation was increased from \$6M to \$18M, and the allocation of funds is distributed by USACE Walla Walla District. PNWER and regional partners support the continued funding of this program and need your support.

## **3% INVESTMENT CAN HELP PREVENT A \$500,000,000 ANNUAL DISASTER!**

### PNWER Recommendation to the U.S. Administration

- PNWER actively advocates for the importance of aquatic invasive species (AIS) prevention, especially along the U.S.-Canadian border.
- We encourage increased collaboration with border enforcement to prevent the spread of invasive mussels across the border. This involves working with local, state, and provincial governments on a regional prevention and response strategy.
- Continue to support the U.S. ACE program supporting state efforts at the prevention of aquatic invasive species.



# WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

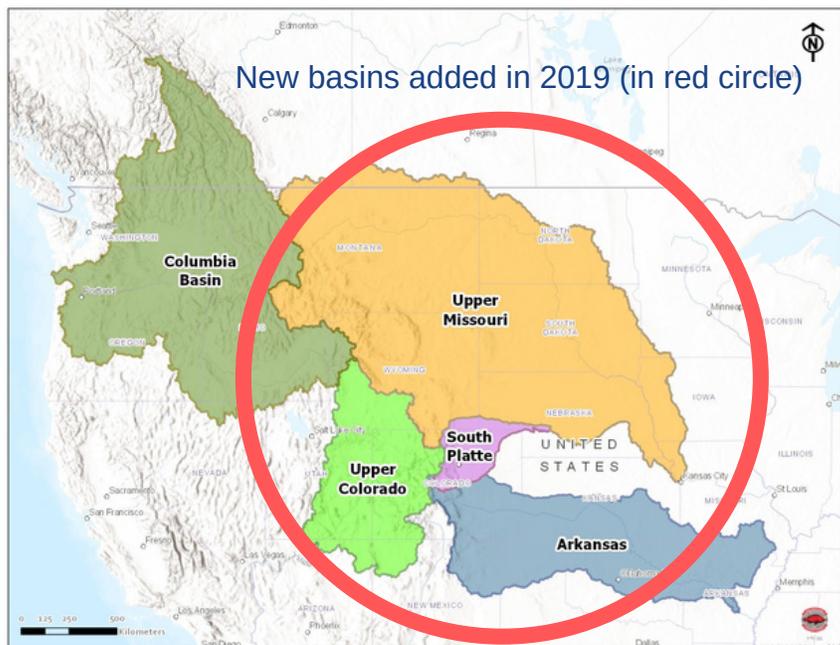
Invasive mussels have the destructive power to clog up hydroelectric facilities, dams, irrigation pipes, water treatment plants, and more. **The infestation of invasive quagga and zebra mussels in the Pacific Northwest region will result in a cost of \$500M annually to the region, and \$100M per year to Washington alone.** Every year, state-run watercraft inspection stations inspect thousands of boats entering the region. These state-run watercraft inspection stations have intercepted hundreds of contaminated boats, many originating from federally-managed water bodies, such as Lake Mead and Lake Powell in the Southwestern U.S. Prior to November 2016, the Pacific Northwest region remained one of the only regions in the U.S. without the presence of aquatic invasive quagga and zebra mussels.

# WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT, BUT MORE HELP IS NEEDED!

## **Timeline of how funding has been appropriated with your leadership:**

In 2015, Congress appropriated \$4M to the four Northwest States for watercraft inspection stations through the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) of 2014. In December 2016, Congress authorized early detection, rapid response, and monitoring through the Water Infrastructure Improvement for the Nation Act (WIIN) of 2016, and in April 2017, Congress appropriated \$5M to the four NW states. In 2018, \$6m was appropriated to the Columbia River Basin's NW states. In 2019, \$6M was appropriated via the Water Infrastructure Act, signed by the President in October 2018. We request that this level of preventative match funding for the Columbia River Basin states continue. The total U.S. Match Funding to date is \$35M.

	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total Match to date
Idaho	\$ 1,080,502	\$ 1,126,446	\$ 1,590,020	\$ 1,910,713	\$ 5,707,681
Washington	\$ 379,066	\$ 729,954	\$ 674,392	\$ 600,000	\$ 2,383,412
Oregon	\$ 538,223	\$ 650,766	\$ 703,199	\$ 574,748	\$ 2,466,936
Montana	\$ 2,046,183	\$ 2,237,569	\$ 2,198,395	\$ 2,080,729	\$ 8,562,876
					<b>total regional match \$ 19,120,905</b>



Thank you for supporting this critical funding to combat the spread of invasive mussels

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