

Prevent the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species

TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT BC'S WATERWAYS!

F. Cornish

CLEAN
DRAIN
DRY



Impacts of Aquatic Invasive Species

Economic Impacts

Decrease real estate values; increase boat and industry repair and maintenance costs (e.g. clog water intakes and foul navigation structures); extremely costly to control/eradicate.

Environmental Impacts

Displace native plant and fish species; reduce desirable wildlife habitat; alter wetland and shoreline structure; decrease fish populations; increase soil sedimentation; clog stream channels.

Social Impacts

Degrade water quality; impede swimmers and boat traffic; cause health problems such as stomach illness, contact injuries and allergies.

Determining Level of Risk for Invasive Mussels

Invasive mussels are spread by contaminated boats, trailers and equipment. The level of risk associated with an individual watercraft can be determined as follows:

High Risk Watercraft/Equipment:

are those that have been in water in the past 30 days in any state or province known or suspected of having invasive mussels.

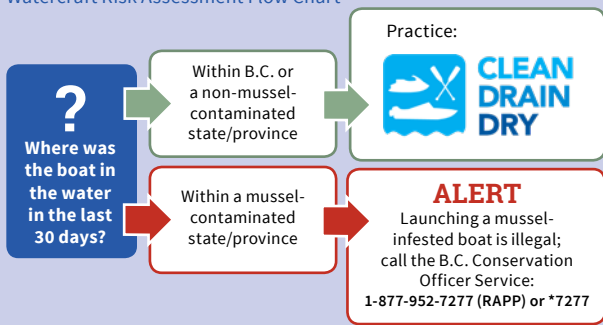
Contact the B.C.
Conservation Officer
Service:

1-877-952-7277 (RAPP)

Low Risk Watercraft/Equipment: are those that have only been used within B.C. or other non-mussel-contaminated states or provinces within the past 30 days.

Prevention And Early Detection Are Key!

Watercraft Risk Assessment Flow Chart



CLEAN DRAIN DRY

All watercraft launching into B.C. waters should follow **CLEAN, DRAIN, DRY** to avoid the spread of invasive species. This applies to all watercraft shown in green in the flow chart above.



CLEAN

plants, animals and mud from your boat and gear



DRAIN

all water from your boat and gear onto land



DRY

all parts of your boat and gear completely

Report Potential Invasive Mussel Sightings

High Risk Watercraft/Equipment have been in water in a mussel-contaminated state or province in the last 30 days.

Trained provincial personnel will inspect the watercraft or verify the sighting and proceed with decontamination if necessary.

Do not attempt to decontaminate the watercraft yourself.

To learn which states and provinces are contaminated with invasive mussels, visit www.gov.bc.ca/invasive-species



Invasive mussels: Government of British Columbia

REPORT INVASIVE MUSSELS TO THE

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

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

Download the Report-Invasives B.C. app!



Developed in partnership with Province of BC



BCINVASIVES.CA

ALERT – NOT YET IN B.C.

J. Leekie

FRESHWATER ***Zebra Mussels**
(*Dreissena polymorpha*)

- Small (10 mm-3 cm) freshwater mussels that can attach to hard surfaces and rapidly colonize.
- Mottled gray or striped shells resemble a propeller blade and are found in thick clusters.

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

ALERT – NOT YET IN B.C.

Ministry of Environment

FRESHWATER ***Quagga Mussels**
(*Dreissena bugensis*)

- Are prohibited alive or dead under B.C.'s Controlled Alien Species Regulation: www.gov.bc.ca/invasive-species

ALERT – NOT YET IN B.C.

W. Haller

FRESHWATER
Brazilian Elodea
(*Egeria densa*)

- Bushy perennial that spreads from small fragments.
- Dense mats can grow over 4 metres deep and choke out native plants.
- Leaves in whorls of 4.

**ALERT – NOT YET IN B.C.**

D. Moorhead

FRESHWATER
Hydrilla
(*Hydrilla verticillata*)

- Forms dense mats that interfere with recreation and destroy fish and wildlife habitat.
- Leaves in whorls of 5.

ALERT – NOT YET IN B.C.

J. Tomelleri

FRESHWATER
Northern Snakehead
(*Channa argus*)

- Can grow up to 100 cm and weigh up to 8 kg.
- Golden tan to pale brown in colour with dark blotches.
- Anal fin is almost as long as the dorsal fin.

ALERT – NOT YET IN B.C.

Olden & Larson

FRESHWATER
Rusty Crayfish
(*Orconectus rusticus*)

- Large smooth claws and body is grayish-green to reddish brown with black bands at the tips of the claws.
- May have rust coloured spot on sides of body/carapace.

INVASIVE - IN B.C.

Amy Benson, USGS

FRESHWATER
Asian Clam
(*Corbicula fluminea*)

- Freshwater clam; 5 cm long; self-fertilize and reproduce in large colonies that can clog waterways and pipes.
- Green-yellow outer shell, thick ridges, inside lightly purple.

INVASIVE - IN B.C.

T. Knepp

FRESHWATER
Northern Pike
(*Esox lucius*)

- Native to Northern B.C., invasive to Southern B.C.
- Elongated body; bluish to greenish-grey with horizontal rows of light irregular spots on sides.

INVASIVE - IN B.C.

R. Old

FRESHWATER
Parrot Feather
(*Myriophyllum aquaticum*)

- Sticks above water surface up to 30 cm, resembling small fir trees.
- Feather-like leaves arranged in whorls of 4-6.
- Easily transported on boat trailers.

INVASIVE - IN B.C.

A. Fox

FRESHWATER
Eurasian Watermilfoil
(*Myriophyllum spicatum*)

- Submersed, rooted to bottom and forms dense mats at surface.
- Leaves are 5 cm long and arranged in 3-6 whorls around stem.
- Mature leaves arranged in 14-24 leaflet pairs.

INVASIVE - IN B.C.

J. Leekie

RIPARIAN
Knotweeds
(*Fallopia* or *Polygonum* spp.)

- Hollow bamboo-like stems. Branches have zig-zag pattern.
- Leaves are heart or triangular-shaped, or elongated and tapered.
- Spreads rapidly.

INVASIVE - IN B.C.

J. Craig

RIPARIAN
Yellow Flag Iris
(*Iris pseudacorus*)

- Showy yellow flowers with leaves that fold and clasp the stem at the base.
- Grows to 1.5 metres tall.
- Commonly available horticultural species.

INVASIVE - IN B.C.

C. de la Salle

MARINE AND SHORELINE
Cordgrass/Spartina
(*Spartina* spp.)

- Present on B.C.'s Pacific coast.
- Grows to 1.3 metres high with bright grayish-green round, hollow stems.

INVASIVE - IN B.C.

M. Herborg

MARINE AND SHORELINE
European Green Crab
(*Carcinus maenas*)

- Mottled dark green to brown; underside yellow, orange, red or green. Body/Carapace 6-10 cm.
- Set of five triangular shaped spines on either side of the eyes.