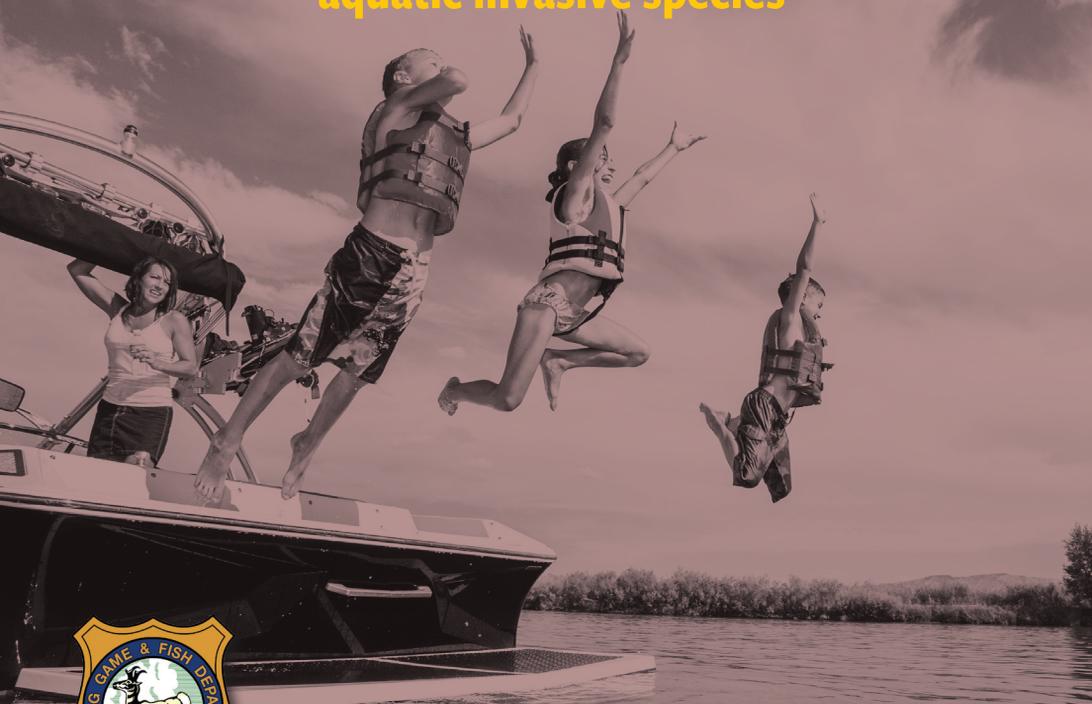




CLEAN DRAIN DRY

Protect your waters from
aquatic invasive species



WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
CONSERVING WILDLIFE - SERVING PEOPLE



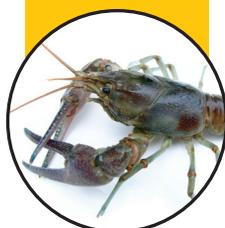
Zebra/Quagga Mussel



Asian Carp



Invasive Plants



Rusty Crayfish

What are AIS?

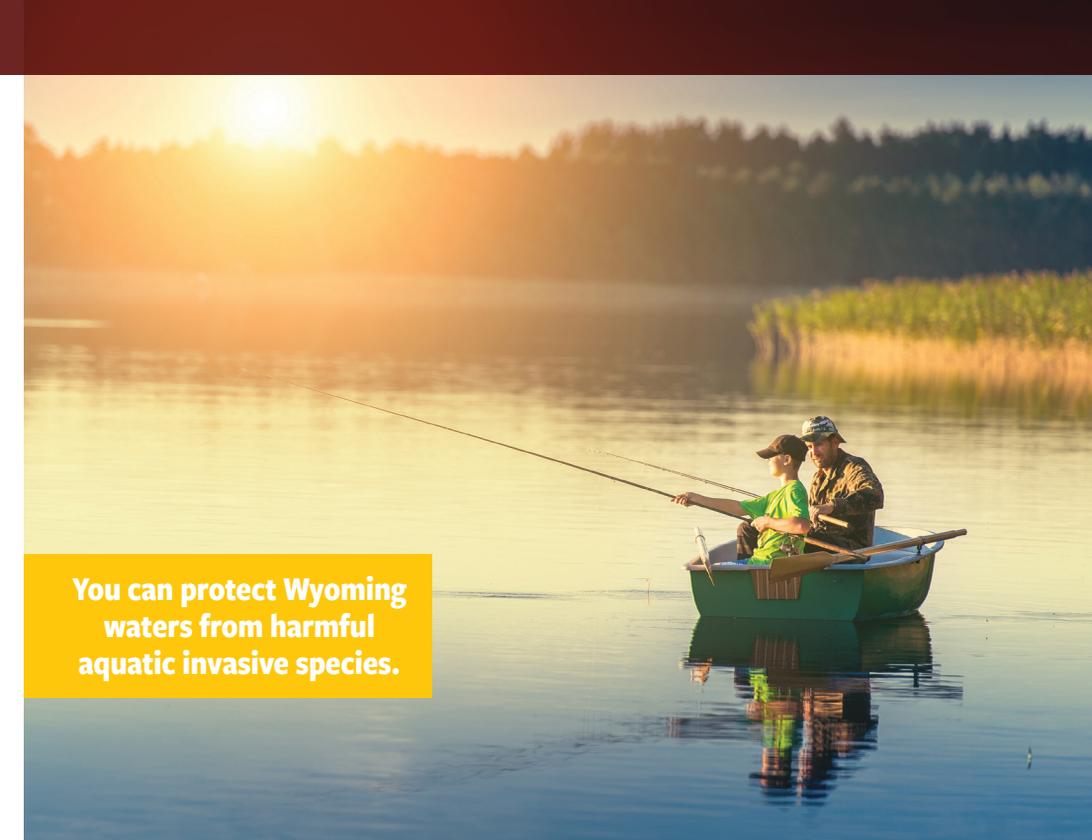
Aquatic invasive species (AIS) are organisms that are not native and cause significant harm to an ecosystem when introduced. Harmful impacts can occur to municipal water supplies, recreation, agriculture, aquaculture, and other commercial activities.

Aquatic invasive species, including amphibians, crustaceans, fish, plants, and mollusks are currently present in Wyoming, most notably the New Zealand mudsnail and Asian clam. While these species cause problems and need to be controlled, the most significant known threat to Wyoming is from zebra and quagga mussels based on their proximity and demonstrated impacts in neighboring states.



How are they moved?

These species are often called “aquatic hitchhikers” because they can hitch a ride on your equipment, boats, and clothing used in the water and can be moved on these items from one body of water to another. Zebra and quagga mussels can actually attach to boats and equipment and travel thousands of miles to a new water. Aquatic diseases and invasive mussel larvae are microscopic and can be transported in water stored in boats or gear. Invasive plants can become entangled in boat motors and other gear and start new populations when a small piece of the plant is moved to a new water.



You can protect Wyoming waters from harmful aquatic invasive species.

What are the impacts?

Many of these species permanently change stream and lake ecology, negatively affecting native species and our prized sport fisheries. Quagga and zebra mussels remove plankton from the water. Plankton are the primary food source for forage fish which are an important food source for many sport fishes. In addition, zebra and quagga mussels can attach to your boat and equipment and cause damage. These species can impact power plants, municipalities, irrigation systems, and other water users. They impede water delivery and increase maintenance costs by clogging pipes, pumps, turbines, and filtration systems--costs that are all passed on to the consumer.



Clogged pipes



Covered propeller



Weed-infested waters



Dock damage

Rules for boats

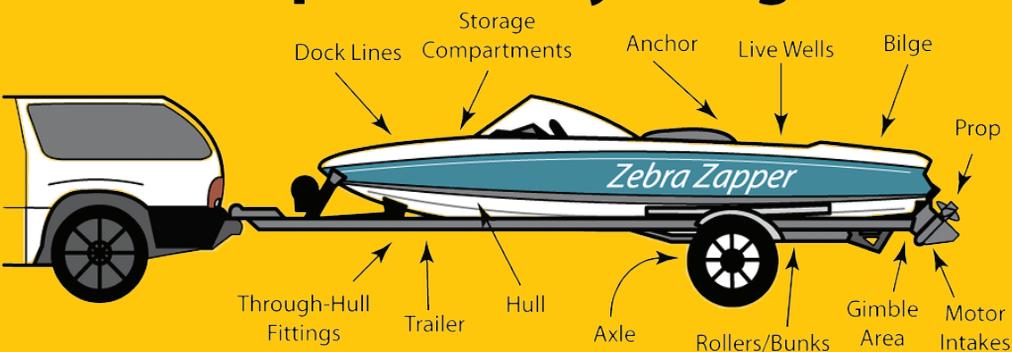
From March through November, all watercraft (motorboats, kayaks, canoes, rafts, drift boats) **MUST** be inspected for Aquatic Invasive Species before launch, if they are transported into Wyoming.

During ALL months of the year, any watercraft that has been in a water positive for zebra/quagga mussels within the last 30 days, is required to undergo a mandatory inspection by an authorized inspector prior to launching in Wyoming.

All boaters must stop at established check stations on their route of travel. Check stations are established at ports of entry, major routes of entry to a water, or at boat ramps and are set-up to ensure watercraft are Clean, Drain and Dry before launching. Inspections are also available at Wyoming Game and Fish Department Regional Offices during normal business hours and at private locations throughout the state.

All watercraft must have a current year Wyoming AIS decal prior to launching. Non-motorized inflatable watercraft 10 feet and less in length and all types of paddle boards are the only watercraft exempt from this requirement. Decals are available online, at regional offices, and at automated license vendors.

Before Leaving & Before Launching... **Inspect Everything!**



Boaters are required to drain all water from watercraft when leaving a water, including the ballast tanks, bilge, live wells and motor.

Boaters must also remove visible plants from the watercraft and trailer.

Containers may be used to transport legal live baitfish and should be free of aquatic plants.

Bilge and ballast tank plugs and other barriers must be removed from watercraft and remain open during transport within Wyoming to allow compartments to fully drain and dry.



Before you fish or move to another water, always remember to Clean, Drain, Dry.

Fishing without a boat?

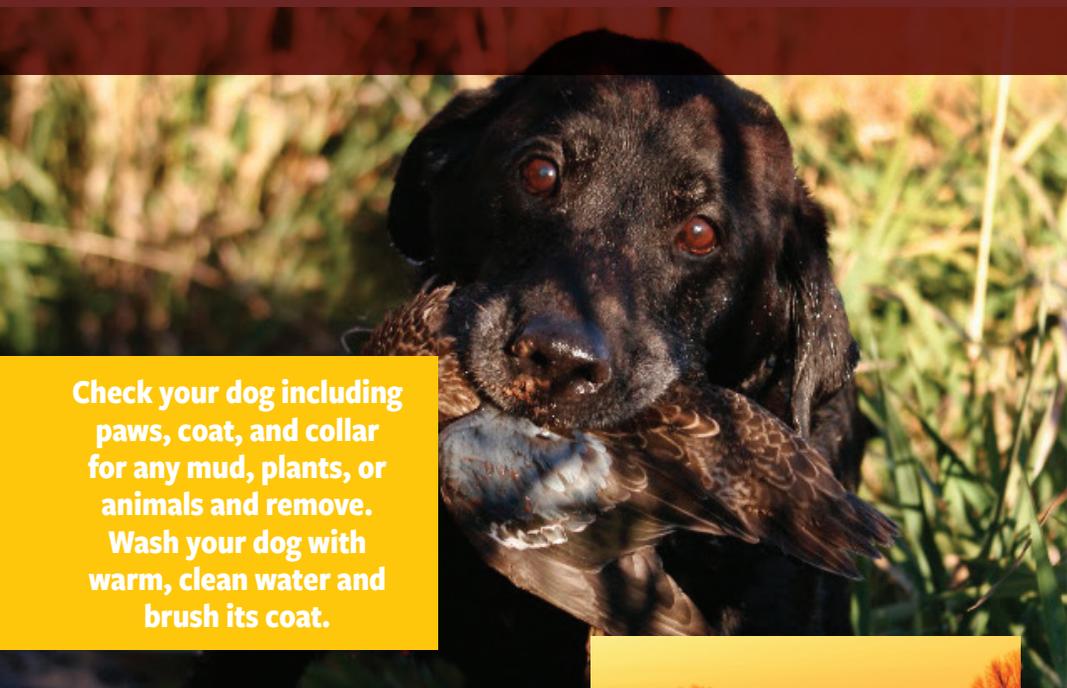
Aquatic invasive species, such as New Zealand mudsnail, Asian clam, and silver carp, can all be spread by anglers. These species either attach to wading boots and are moved to a new water, or are spread when bait fish are moved from one water to another. To prevent the spread of AIS on your fishing gear, always follow these steps:



CLEAN all plants, mud, and debris from watercraft, gear, and equipment.

DRAIN all water from gear and equipment. Remove all bilge, live-well and ballast plugs and leave out during travel. Leave wet compartments open to dry.

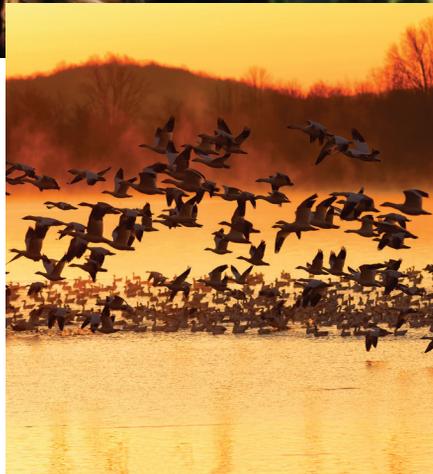
DRY everything thoroughly.



Check your dog including paws, coat, and collar for any mud, plants, or animals and remove. Wash your dog with warm, clean water and brush its coat.

Waterfowl hunting?

Any activity in or around water can potentially spread AIS. When waterfowl hunting, be sure to Clean all plants, mud, and debris from anything that came in contact with water, Drain all water from your boat, hunting gear, and decoys, Dry all of your gear thoroughly. Also take care to check your dog for any invasives that may have hitched a ride and wash and brush its coat.



Transporting water?

Before and after working in or around water, follow these simple steps:

- Avoid transferring water between drainages or between unconnected waters.
- Conduct work from upstream to downstream.
- Avoid sucking organic and bottom material into water intakes.
- Avoid obtaining water from multiple sources. Use potable water when possible.

What can you do to help?

Follow this simple protocol

Clean, Drain and Dry all gear, equipment, or boats when you leave a water.

- **CLEAN** all plants, mud, and debris from gear and equipment. Never move a plant or animal from one location to another.

- **DRAIN** all water from your gear and equipment. This includes all types of watercraft, waders, boots, clothing, buckets — anything that comes into contact with the water. Leave wet compartments open to dry.

- **DRY** everything thoroughly. In Wyoming, we recommend drying for 5 days in the summer, 18 days in the spring or fall, or 3 days of freezing.

Spread the message

Share what you know about the harmful impacts of Aquatic Invasive Species and ways to prevent their spread with others who use Wyoming's water resources. Ongoing support from water users of all types is critical to prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species.

Be a good observer

If you see any suspicious plant or animal on your equipment, or notice something while you are enjoying Wyoming's outdoors that you think may be invasive, please let us know. You can report a sighting at ReportAIS@wyo.gov or 1-877-WGFD-AIS.



CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact the Wyoming Game and Fish Department if you see any invasive species on your equipment or in Wyoming waters.

Also, call the department for information on getting your watercraft inspected.

1-877-WGFD-AIS (1-877-943-3247)

wgfd.wyo.gov/AIS



**CLEAN
DRAIN
DRY**

