The New Zealand mudsnail (*Potamopyrgus antipodarum*) is native to mainland New Zealand and adjacent small islands. It was probably introduced into the United States through transoceanic ships or transported with live game fish. The species was first discovered in the Snake River, Idaho in 1987 and has since spread to a total of 21 states. The mudsnail is parthenogenic (female clones) and densities have been recorded over 300,000 per square meter. Impacts of introduction include outcompeting native species and altering water chemistry.

Currently, populations in Wyoming occur in Yellowstone National Park (Madison, Firehole, Gibbon, Gardner rivers, Nez Perce Creek), Grand Teton National Park (Polecat Creek and the Snake River), Lake Cameahwait (Bass Lake) and in the Bighorn, North Platte, Salt, Shoshone, and Snake rivers. A new population was found at the Batemans boat ramp on the Salt River in 2020.

New Zealand mudsnail are spread by fish and birds, natural downstream dispersal, upstream through rheotactic behavior, and by humans on fishing gear.

If you are using New Zealand mudsnail infested waters please remember to:

- **CLEAN** all equipment and gear of plants, mud and debris. *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.
- **DRY** everything thoroughly. In Wyoming we recommend drying for 5 days in the summer, 18 days in the spring or fall, or 3 days at freezing temperatures.

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