

NEBRASKA INVASIVE NEWS NETWORK

SEPTEMBER 2009

UPCOMING CONFERENCES IN NEBRASKA

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1. The North American Weed Management Conference. Sept. 21-24, Kearney

Conference attendees can hear about and see the results of this 2-year effort and learn about future planned actions including what we should be doing to get ready for the next riparian plant invaders.

[Conference Info Here](#)

2. Platte River Basin Science & Research Symposium. Oct 14-15, Kearney

The latest in Platte River research and management efforts, including adaptive management, will be showcased. The symposium will cover topics from management from the physical sciences to the human dimensions aspects of economics, sociology, law and policy.

[Conference Info Here](#)

3. AIS-HACCP Workshop. Oct 14-15, Eugene T. Mahoney State Park.

Participants at the workshops will receive a training manual, companion video, CD, and other materials. Coursework is designed to train fish farmers, bait harvesters, and management agencies in the use of HACCP fundamentals to control the spread of AIS.

[Conference Info Here](#)

Other Conference Information: <http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/news/calendar.php>

Missed a Conference? Proceedings here: <http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/news/proceedings.shtml>

THE FUTURE OF ANGLING - HOW TO HELP

August 27, 2009 --

"Problems that look muddily abstract on a big scale take on color and texture when you talk about waters close to home." This quote has never been truer than it is today, particularly when it comes to the issue of

aquatic invasive species and the impacts they are creating on our natural aquatic systems and the fisheries they support. Read the full story to get the details.

["As one of the most challenging and complex environmental issues impacting our fisheries worldwide, aquatic invasive species are reducing game fish populations, fouling pristine waters and ruining recreational equipment, while making lakes and rivers unusable for all aquatic recreation users."](#)



Nebraska Invasive Species Project:
<http://snr.unl.edu/invasives>

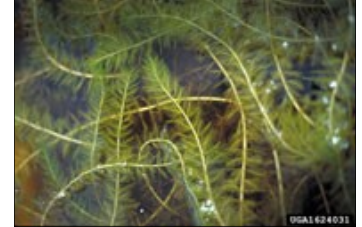
SWIMMING IN MILFOIL INVESTIGATED IN WASHINGTON STATE

August 27, 2009 – Some feel this could be a dangerous time to swim in our local rivers because of milfoil. It's the green, stringy plant found in a lot of our waterways. But can it make a person drown? After two drownings in

Franklin County this summer, there is speculation that milfoil could have been involved somehow. So today, the Franklin County Coroners Office, along with a company called Water Safety and Red Cross Lifeguards, put swimming in milfoil

to the test at Chiawana Park in Pasco. Read the following two articles to get the details.

1. [Swimming In Milfoil Investigated](#)
2. [Water Safety Experts](#)



Plant(s); Native to Africa, and Europe, invades lakes, ponds, and other water bodies throughout the United States. Alison Fox, University of Florida,

COOL TOOLS LET PUBLIC UPLOAD IMAGES, INFORMATION TO MASSIVE INTERACTIVE ONLINE BIODIVERSITY ENCYCLOPEDIA

August 25, 2009
The [Encyclopedia of Life](#) (EOL) has added interactive tools that allow the public to submit images and web content. EOL also facilitates public recognition and awareness of invasive species through detailed descriptions and

maps, helping to slow their global spread and enable more rapid and effective remedial measures.
Early warnings of invasive species
It is also expected to help map the present locations and move-

ments of human disease vectors such as crows and mosquitoes and the shifting ranges of species due to climate change.
[HORIZON Solutions Site.](#)



Sparganium erectum L.
Branched burred BioPix

NORTHWEST FEARS ABOUT INVASIVE MUSSELS AND THE END OF CHEAP POWER



Dreissena polymorpha
Zebra Mussel - USGS

August 27, 2009 – Highly invasive mussels are lurking on the Northwest's doorstep, threatening to gum up the dams that produce the region's cheap electricity, clog

drinking water and irrigation systems, jeopardize aquatic ecosystems and upset efforts to revive such endangered species as salmon. Despite efforts to stop them, the arrival of zebra and quagga mussels may

be inevitable. Some scientists say the mussels could arrive within five years. Others say the mussels' larvae already may be spreading undetected, though no one is sure whether they'll survive or thrive in the Northwest's rivers, streams and lakes.

VEGETATION CHANGES IN WATER BODIES MAY BE RAPID AND DRAMATIC



August 26, 2009 – The aquatic vegetation in water bodies around the world may change rapidly and dramatically due to climate change and other

human influences. New invasive species may form massive stands and smother everything else, but even native species may spread quickly in the changed conditions, e.g. due to eutrophication or water level regulation. Read the full story to get the details.

["Aquatic plants are excellent indicators of the status of water bodies. Due to their long life cycle, aquatic plants can give information on long-term changes. In Finland, water bodies are relatively clean, and the increase of aquatic vegetation is in general regarded as](#)

Mohammed Faisal, Michigan State University
DOI, USGS, Nonindigenous Aquatic Species.

VIRAL HEMORRHAGIC SEPTICEMIA VIRUS IN BASELINE LAKE AND LAKE ST. CLAIR

August 25, 2009 – The Department of Natural Resources today announced that it has confirmed the presence of Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia virus (VHSV) in samples of fish collected this spring in Baseline Lake in Washenaw County and in

Lake St. Clair. Baseline Lake becomes the second inland lake in Michigan in which VHSV is present. Read the full story to get the details. ["These are the first positive detections since 2007 in Michigan's waters," said Gary Whelan, fish production](#)

[manager for the DNR's Fisheries Division. "The fish that tested positive were collected this spring during routine surveillance efforts, and were confirmed positive by multiple laboratories."](#)



Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia Virus (VHS) is a deadly fish virus and an invasive species. [Learn More Here](#)

INVASIVE SALTCEDAR TRIGGERS LIVELY DEBATE AMONG WEED SCIENTISTS AND LAND MANAGERS

Lawrence, Kansas — August 24, 2009 – Saltcedar (*Tamarix spp.*) is an invasive plant that is crowding out native vegetation and dominating the shorelines of southwestern rivers and streams. But put a room full of weed scientists

and land managers together to discuss how to tame the aggressive plant and you'll trigger a lively debate about how – or even whether – it should be controlled. That was the experience during a recent symposium on the biological

control of invasive plants that was held in conjunction with the annual conference of the Western Society of Weed Science. [Read the entire debate Western Society of Weed Science](#)



Tamarix spp., Saltcedar—The Nebraska Weed Control Association

JUMPING CARP BREAKS WOMAN'S JAW IN ILLINOIS

August 24, 2009 --

There's a problem in the reservoirs of the Illinois River. The population of Asian carp, an invasive species, has exploded, and due in part to their habit of jumping from the water when boats approach, these fish have become a real nuisance.

Enter Chris Brackett of Brackett Outdoors, based in Mapleton, Illinois. Brackett has perfected a method of shooting leaping fish with a bow from a boat moving at high speed. Brackett and his team coined the term "extreme aerial bowfishing," and the sport is

catching on.

"During a recent DVD shoot, photographer Bill Conway happened to capture the following stills of Brackett's fiancée, Jodi Barnes, getting hit in the face with a flying carp."



'Extreme ariel bowfishing'
Photo Gallery by Bill Conway

NEW INVASIVE SPECIES FOUND IN ONEIDA LAKE



Hemimysis anomala
Cornell University Biological Field Station

August 24, 2009 -- Researchers at Cornell University Biological Field Station at Shackleton Point Friday announced the presence of a new, invasive species in Oneida Lake.

They said more than a dozen *Hemimysis anomala*, a small mysid shrimp, also known as

"bloody red shrimp," were identified by workers Thursday in the stomach of a white perch. It is not known what impact, if any, they will have on Oneida Lake's fishery or food chain. There's currently an ongoing study of their presence in the Great Lakes, but no conclusions have been drawn yet, said Lars

Rustam, director of the field station in Bridgeport.

"To my knowledge, this the first time this species has been identified in an inland lake in this country outside of the Great Lakes."

CANADIAN EXPERT SAYS STOP THE SPREAD OF 'ROCKSNOT'

August 17, 2009 -- Other jurisdictions have taken steps to restrict the type of footwear recreational fishermen wear in rivers to prevent the spread of the freshwater algae known as "rocksnot." *Didymosphenia geminata* is not dan-

gerous to humans, but it can affect fish and, in other countries, it has devastated trout runs, possibly by clogging of spawning beds. It was present in Canada in the late 1800s, but did not begin to cause problems until the early

1990s. It was present in the rivers of the Western U.S. by 2004, and it was first discovered east of the Mississippi River in 2005 in Tennessee. "...these blooms can clog water intakes and become a real nuisance."



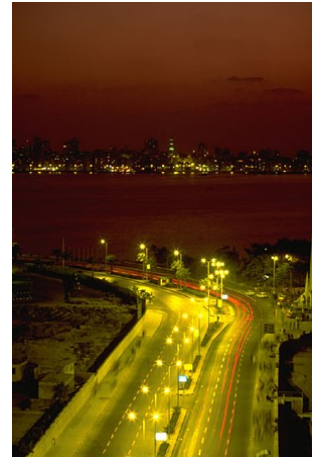
'Rocksnot' or *Didymo* can result in dense algal blooms that block sunlight and disrupt ecological processes, causing a decline in native plant and animal life . DOI. USGS. Fort Collins Science Center.

SICK FISH MAY GET SICKER

August 21, 2009 -- Entire populations of North American fish already are being affected by several emerging diseases, a problem that threatens to increase in the future with climate change and other stresses on aquatic ecosystems, according to a noted U.S. Geological Survey researcher at a talk Aug. 3 at the Wildlife Dis-

ease Association conference in Blaine, Wash. Click on the hotlink, scroll down and read the full story to get the details. ["Increased scientific recognition of fish diseases as a potential population-limiting factor in wild populations of fish is partly the result of the emergence of high-profile diseases such as whirling](#)

[disease in wild-spawning rainbow trout in the Rocky Mountain West, viral hemorrhagic septicemia in the North Pacific Ocean and the Great Lakes, and a fungal-like disease, ichthyophonus, in adult chinook salmon in the Yukon River."](#)



Caption describing picture or graphic.

ALGAE EATER

August 21, 2009 -- A ray of hope was cast on the community Wednesday with an algae mitigation demonstration by George Forni, II and his crew from Aquatic Environments, Inc. of Concord. Forni and two crewmen demonstrated equipment that may prove effective in addressing the burst of aquatic life that

has taken hold of Clear Lake this summer. Read the full story to get the details. ["Aquatic Environments, which is considering expanding its business to Lake County, provided the demonstrations free of charge. Forni said the Aquamog is available at a cost of \\$3,500 per day and the harvester runs](#)

[\\$1,500 per day. "I think this brings an additional set of tools to assist in the mitigation of these algae blooms," Francis said. "He's not charging us for these demonstrations; it's a really generous thing for him to do."](#)

["I think this brings an additional set of tools to assist in the mitigation of these algae blooms."](#)

NEW INVASIVE PEST THREATENS PENNSYLVANIA CORN

August 12, 2009 Western bean cutworm (WBC; Noctuidae: *Striacosta albicosta*) has historically been a pest of dry beans and corn in the Great Plains; however, for some unidentified reason it has been moving eastward. In 2000, it was detected in northwestern Iowa and by

2004 had reached southeastern Iowa and threatened the western edge of Illinois. It was detected in Indiana in 2005 and Wisconsin, Michigan, and Ohio in 2006. By now it has moved farther east and adults have been trapped in central Ohio (Wayne Co.; < 90 miles

from the western Pennsylvania border), and in Ontario (right across the lake from Erie County).

[Read more here:](#)



Western bean cutworm
Bob Wright, South Central Research & Extension Center
Ron Seymour, Extension Educator, Adams County, Nebraska

SPATIAL RISK ASSESSMENT OF INVASIVE SPECIES IMPACTS ON NATIVE SPECIES IN NEBRASKA

NE Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit and graduate student-Thad Miller: Potential habitats for eight invasive plant species were modeled, and combined with assessments of ecological impacts of each species in a regional risk assessment-framework to calculate

relative risk scores and uncertainty. Results indicate that *Rhamnus cathartica* (buckthorn) and *Elaeagnus angustifolia* (Russian olive) currently pose the greatest risks to endangered plants, whereas *Elaeagnus umbellata* (autumn olive) may pose the highest risk in the fu-

ture. *Elaeagnus angustifolia* currently presents the greatest risk to rare communities in the present and forecast scenarios.

[Read more here](#)



BULLFROG SEASON HAS BEGUN IN NEBRASKA



The invasive Bullfrog (*Rana catesbeiana*)
Photographs© Suzanne Collins-The Center for North American Amphibians and Reptiles

8/17/2009 - Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. LINCOLN, Neb. – Frogging is a late summer and early fall tradition enjoyed by fishermen wherever bullfrogs inhabit ponds, marshes, streams, and lakes. Nebraska's bullfrog season opened Aug. 15 and runs through Oct. 31. Bullfrogs may be taken by hand, hand net or

hook and line. The bag limit is eight frogs per person. The frogs must measure 4½ inches from snout to vent or be released. Artificial lights may be used to capture them. Nebraska law allows froggers to transport their catch alive or gutted, but the bullfrog's body must be left intact during transport.

A 2009 Nebraska fishing permit is required to take bullfrogs.

[Nebraska Game & Parks Commission](#)

INVASIVE BEETLE MOVES CLOSER TO NEBRASKA

Aug 7, 2009, **OMAHA, Neb.** – A non-native insect responsible for the decline of native ash trees has been reported one step closer to Nebraska, according to the University of Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and National Resources. The IANR experts identified the bee-

tle, known as emerald ash borer, in Missouri. The insect is bright, metallic green with a flat back. Adults typically are one-half inch long. That discovery "demonstrates that the insect is able to travel on infested firewood and establish itself long distances from other

known populations," said Nebraska Forest Service program leader Eric Berg. In Nebraska, there are about 2.2 million ash trees planted in towns and cities. In some Nebraska communities, the tree comprises 20 to 30 percent of the total tree resource.

[Read more...](#)



David Cappaert, Invasive.org

POLICY

*** Arizona - [HB 2157 - Aquatic Invasive Species Program](#)**
 Governor signed Jul 10, 2009
 Allows the Arizona Game and Fish Director (Director) to create an aquatic invasive species program. The bill establishes prohibitions, penalties and the Aquatic Invasive Species Fund.
*** Idaho - [HB 213 - Vessels \(PDF | 54 KB\)](#) / [Bill Status](#)**
 Governor signed into law and effective Apr 8, 2009
 Amends existing law relating to vessels to provide for additional

fees for specified vessels, to provide for stickers, to provide for collection and deposit of fees in the [Idaho Invasive Species Fund](#) and to provide exceptions.
*** Idaho - [SCR 109 Quagga Mussels - Zebra Mussels](#)**
 Signed Apr 14, 2009 Stating findings of the Legislature resolving that a condition of extreme peril exists in and around the water bodies of the state of emergency exists within the state of Idaho and

asking that deficiency warrant funding authorized by the Idaho Invasive Species Act of 2008 be used by the Idaho State Department of Agriculture for personnel, equipment and facilities for the performance of any and all activities associated with quagga and zebra mussel prevention, development and implementation of incident response Idaho; proclaiming that a state of plans and interagency agreements.
*** Montana - [SB 334 - Montana Aquatic Invasive Species Act \(PDF | 47 KB\)](#)**
 Signed by Governor Schweitzer on May 4, 2009

*** Oregon - [HB 2220 - Relating to aquatic invasive species: creating new provisions: amending ORS 830.990: appropriating money: and declaring an emergency \(June 30, 2009; PDF | 26 KB\)](#)**
 Protecting Oregon against Aquatic Invasive Species : Giving explicit authority to the Department of Fish and Wildlife, State Marine Board, and Department of Agriculture to inspect vessels and clean or recommend cleaning of vessels contaminated with aquatic invasive species. The bill also imposes a civil penalty on individuals that knowingly transport aquatic invasive species within the state.

*** Nebraska [LB 582](#)**: This bill establishes the Nebraska Invasive Species Advisory Committee. The purpose of the **Nebraska Invasive Species Advisory Council** is to coordinate invasive species management and research across the State for the prevention and detection of invasive plant and animal species.

COMMENT PERIOD ON NATIONAL AQUATIC HEALTH PLAN

August 26, 2009
[USDA Announces Comment Period on National Aquatic Health Plan for the United States](#) (Aug 21, 2009)
 USDA. *Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service*

Get involved.
 Know the policy and management actions in your area.

Phytophthora disease of alders:
 APHIS is issuing a Federal Order to prohibit the importation from all countries of *Alnus* spp. plants for planting (excluding seed) because they are hosts of *Phytophthora alni* Brasier &

S.A. Kirk 2004. To prevent the introduction and dissemination of this harmful plant pathogen into the United States, this Federal Order will be implemented beginning July 6, 2009.

[Read the document](#)



Phytophthora alni is a recently hybridized soil and waterborne pathogen causing root and collar rot of species of the genus *Alnus* (alder). Once introduced, the pathogen spreads naturally with streams, floods, and other

The Nebraska Invasive Species Project

The Nebraska Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit, along with partners both state-wide and nationally, have joined together to provide information to the public and private sector on invasive species issues. This information includes basic invasive species biology, monitoring and management methods, and actual and potential impacts and risks of invasive species throughout the state.

NISP Monitoring Mapping Risk & Management

NEBRASKA INVASIVE SPECIES PROJECT

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HOW YOU CAN HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INVASIVES



Gardeners—Plant Native...If you don't know, don't grow it! Native plants often require less water!

Boaters and Fishermen Don't dump your bait buckets into the water supply. Drain and clean your boat and equipment.



Burn it where you buy it!
Never transport firewood—it can harbor harmful insects like the Emerald Ash Borer.
Pet Owners—never release your pets into the wild. They can release exotic diseases and damage habitats.

GET INVOLVED!!!
Stay informed, share your knowledge with others. You are our first line of defense.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 582

...TO CREATE THE NEBRASKA
INVASIVE SPECIES
ADVISORY COUNCIL

The purpose of the *Nebraska Invasive Species Advisory Council* is to coordinate invasive species management and research across the State for the prevention and detection of invasive plant and animal species.

Through a coordinated effort, we intend to provide land managers with the information needed to utilize funding and resources more effectively and efficiently. Our goal is to minimize the effects of harmful invasive species on Nebraska's citizens and ensure the economic and environmental well-being of the state.

Nebraska Invasive Species Project:

<http://snr.unl.edu/invasives>