

Good Morning PNWER!

Aquatic Invasive Species

Welcome

Overview

Action Item Status

Kate Wilson, Montana Dept. of Natural Resources & Conservation/UC³
406-542-4282 kate.Wilson@mt.gov



Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region

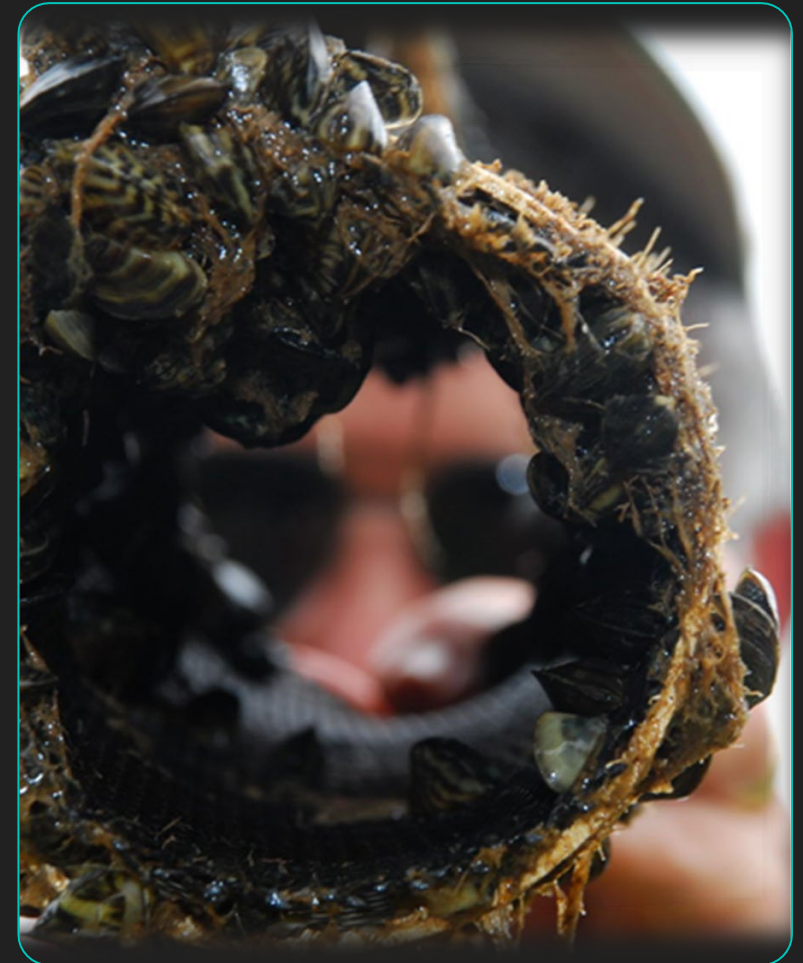
Why We Care

○ Invasive Species Worldwide

- Major impacts to biodiversity
- Second only to habitat loss
- Economic losses
- Trade and transport

○ Invasive zebra/quagga mussels in the west

- Scare the crap out of everyone
- Infested waters getting closer!
- Increased participation across PNWER region
- Ballast water research
- State/provincial funding vs. federal



Estimated Annual Costs of an Invasive Mussel Infestation

- Irrigated Agriculture: pumps, pipes, screens, sprinklers
- Hydroelectric facilities
- Drinking/waste water facilities
- Golf courses
- Fish hatcheries
- Water based recreation/tourism
- Property values & lost revenues (shoreline)



Jurisdiction	ESTIMATED ANNUAL COSTS
Columbia River Basin	\$500 million (hydro only)
Idaho	\$95 million (ag impacts not included)
Alberta, Canada	\$75 million
Ontario, Canada	\$75-91 million (actual costs quantified)
New! Montana	\$234 million

Funding: State Comparisons

○ State funding mechanisms vary widely – general fund to user fees

- Program costs: \$600k - \$6M
- Watercraft fees: From 0 – 97% of total program costs
- Watercraft fees: \$2-\$25 resident; \$12-\$50 non-resident
- BC & MT: Only jurisdictions currently taxing water industry (hydro)

State	Total AIS Budget	Water-craft fee revenue	Water-craft fee % of budget	Resident motorized	Non-resident motorized	Resident non-motorized	Non-resident non-motorized	Other sources
CA	\$5.98M	\$2.8M	47%	\$8	N/A	N/A	N/A	
CO	\$4M	~\$2.4M	60%	\$25	\$50	N/A	N/A	
ID	\$5.4M	\$1.2M	22%	\$10	\$30	\$7	\$7	
NV	\$600k-750k	\$210-262k	35%	\$12	\$12	\$5	\$5	
OR	\$810k	\$750-846k	~97%	\$2.50	\$20	\$5	\$5	
WA	\$1.2M	~\$1.15M	~96%	\$2	\$20	N/A	N/A	Seaplanes
WY	\$1.35M	~\$650k	~48%	\$10	\$30	\$5	\$15	
UT	\$2.867M	~\$650k	~23%	\$10	N/A	N/A	N/A	
MT	\$5.3M			N/A	\$30	N/A	\$10	Anglers fee, hydro fee, Boat Tax, General Fund



Legislative Panel Questions

- What do you think PNWER can do to help make aquatic invasive species a higher legislative issue/concern for your government?
- What is the biggest barrier in your jurisdiction to increasing the focus and funding of government on aquatic invasive species?
- Has your jurisdiction considered a user fee-based system to assist with aquatic invasive species prevention costs?
- Do you feel that you had adequate support from the federal government to protect the waters of your jurisdiction from aquatic invasive species introductions?

Kate Wilson, Montana Dept. of Natural Resources & Conservation
406-542-4282 kate.Wilson@mt.gov

CLEAN. DRAIN. DRY.



Good Afternoon PNWER!

Invasive Species

Kate Wilson, Montana Dept. of Natural Resources & Conservation/UC³
406-542-4282 kate.Wilson@mt.gov



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

2019 Action Items – Status Update

1. Advocate for increased invasive species federal funding for jurisdictions within PNWER, and modifications to existing programs, legislation and policies

- USA: Advocate for continuation of WRDA Funding (match)
- CANADA: Advocate for increased federal funding
 - Auditor General's Report on Federal AIS Program addresses resourcing levels



Funding – Federal (WRDA)

- WRDA – PNWER advocacy appreciated
- Positive examples in inspections and monitoring
 - More watercraft inspections/capacity
 - Monitoring efforts increased across CRB
- Fifty percent match difficult from some jurisdictions
- Missouri River language addition proposed (FY20):

‘Watercraft Inspection Stations.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall establish, operate, and maintain new or existing watercraft inspection stations—

- to protect the Columbia River Basin; and
- to protect the Upper Missouri River Basin, South Platte & Arkansas Basins.’
- \$15M proposed for watercraft inspections; \$3M proposed for mussel monitoring



WRDA 2019 – Watercraft Inspections

State /Agency	Cost Share Requested
Idaho State Department of Agriculture	\$1,543,164
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$400,000
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$609,054
Montana Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks	\$1,999,979
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission	\$43,640
TOTAL ALLOCATION TO CRB STATES	\$4,595,837



WRDA 2019 – Monitoring



State /Agency	Cost Share Requested
Idaho State Department of Agriculture-	\$46,856
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$182,005
Washington State University	\$157,956
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$19,135
Portland State University	\$55,616
Montana Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks	\$231,783
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission	\$26,736
TOTAL ALLOCATION TO CRB STATES	\$720,087

WRDA 2019 Flowering Rush



- USACE is still working on the needed NEPA EA (Aug-Dec)
- PSMFC requested new language in the FY 2020 Senate Energy and Water Appropriations: *'Of the funding recommended for the Aquatic Plant Control Program, \$1,000,000 shall be for activities for **monitoring, surveys** and the control of flowering rush **in all the waters in the states in the Columbia River Basin**'* (fed included)
- The Senate is behind this year on their appropriations bill

State /Agency	Cost Share Requested <i>DRAFT</i>
Washington Department of Agriculture (Fiscal Agent) / Washington Department of Ecology (Technical Oversight).Yakima River; Pend Oreille River; Columbia River at Orondo; Silver Lake	\$138,739
Montana: Salish Kootenai College, University of Montana	\$31,772
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission	\$4,016
TOTAL ALLOCATION TO CRB STATES	\$174,527

2019 Action Items – Status Update

2. Inform state, provincial and territorial officials and lawmakers of high priority invasive species and pathways

BOTH COUNTRIES:

- Priority species and pathways set
- Priorities for capital visits established with agency leads
- Advocate for priorities/action items of working group



2019 Action Items – Status Update

3. Request letter from PNWER Executive Committee to the Northwest Power & Conservation Council (NWPPCC) regarding the need and potential for **additional economic analysis of invasive species to be developed**

- Letters from PNWER, WISC, OISC, Office of Salmon Recovery submitted
- WISC provided testimony for need
- NWPPCC completed economic review (and science review)



2019 Action Items – Status Update

4. Support cross border Northern Pike Committee planning and key action items

- 'Early detection and rapid suppression efforts are cost-effective and paramount for eradicating this species or slowing its spread compared to the cost-effectiveness of efforts after the pike are established' (ISRP 2019-1)
- NWPCC working on web-based policy/education tool
- NWPCC working on including Canadian data/partners
- Potential for cross-border Northern pike meeting at winter NWPC meeting



Action Item suggestions for Discussion

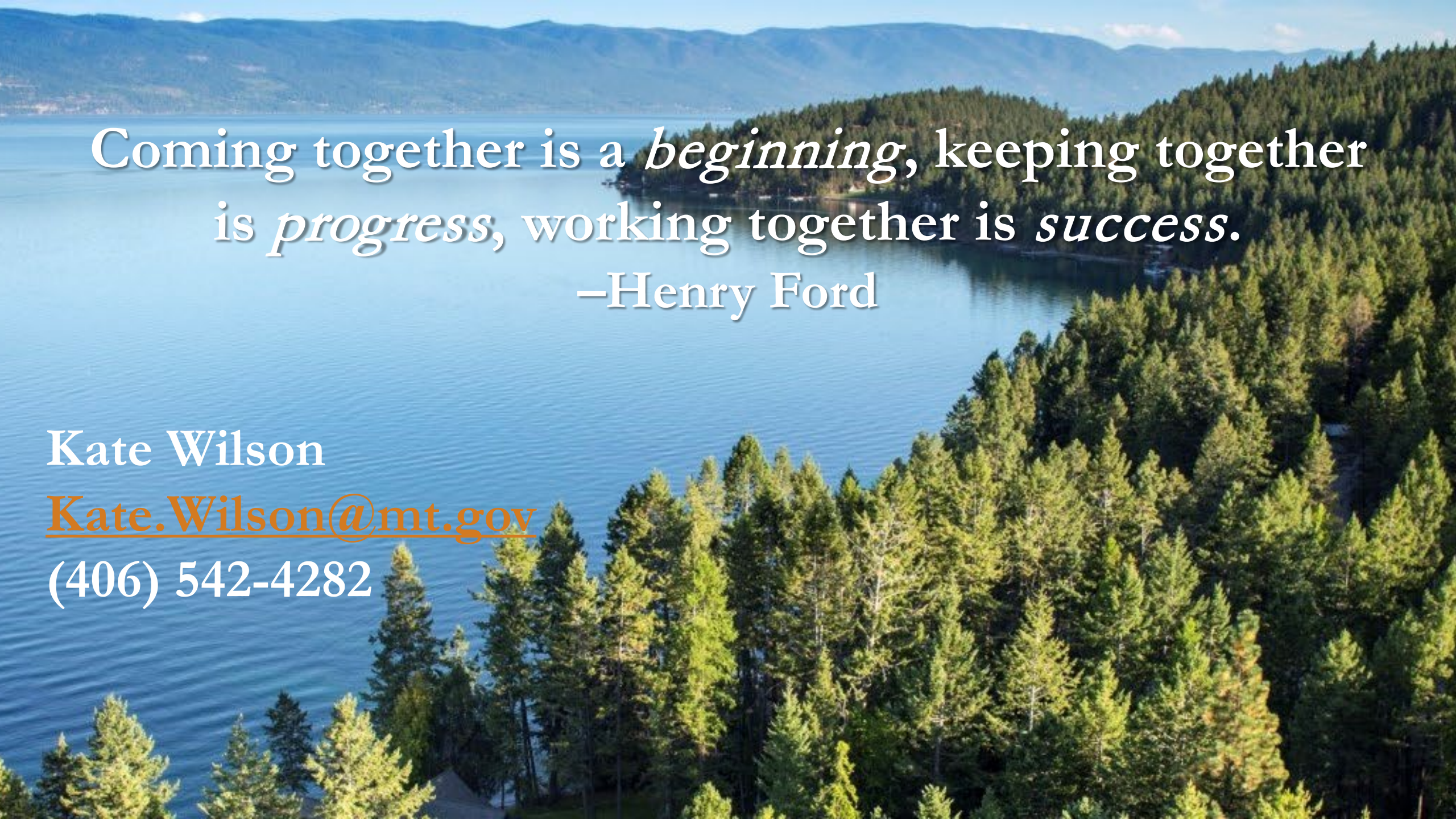
- MT FWP: **Boat movement from infested waters in the Midwest** (Great Lakes and St Lawrence Governors & Premiers/PNWER connection)
- BC Okanogan Water Board: The region should collaborate and make sure that both **CBP and CBSA have the best materials for border agents when boats come to the border**. If possible, consider a simple **online training** about why AIS is important that could be collaboratively done.
- BC Okanogan Water Board: **Resources be prioritized for prevention over response planning**, although regional response planning is important.
- BC Okanogan Water Board: PNWER should **work with area universities to document the effectiveness of K9 inspections** for quagga/zebra mussel prevention.

Action Item Suggestions for Discussion (cont)

- OR DFW: Watercraft inspectors **employee housing** at remote federal infested waterbodies, could this also include (employees for) state inspection stations?
- OR DFW: How do we recruit the number of employees needed and **keep employees at remote infested waterbodies?**
- ID: **Establish WRDA Funding Committee comprised of 2 legislators (each party) from each state** to make recommendations on priorities for AIS inspections & monitoring. Advocate for continued funding to AIS prevention in Columbia River Basin states.
- BC: **Recognize role of industry in AIS support** (e.g. hydro, irrigation, boating/angling industry)
- WISC: Investigate and potentially lead additional **cross-border agreements, training opportunities, drills and exercises**

Action Item Suggestions for Discussion (cont)

- WISC: **Regional transboundary agreement/declaration of cooperation re: feral swine**
- WISC: PNWER partner with WA to hold **webinar on Urban Forest Pest Readiness Project** (new potential model for region)
- WISC: PNWER to **continue cross-border northern pike committee** but also expand scope to **cross-border invasive fish committee**
- WISC: PNWER to write letters to US & CAN about **need for increased research and suppression funding for invasive fish**
- AB: PNWER to advocate for **waiving registration fees associated with potash** as molluscicide



Coming together is a *beginning*, keeping together
is *progress*, working together is *success*.
—Henry Ford

Kate Wilson

Kate.Wilson@mt.gov

(406) 542-4282