



# Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel

Resource Digest – March 2, 2005  
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**Index**

**A. News From the Northeast**

**Next NEANS Panel Meeting**

**Sightings**

Black crappie found in pond in Maine

**Other headlines from around the region**

New England Wildflower Society encourages use of native plants

Zebra mussels cause “musty” water in Rochester area

Scientists keep tabs on the Chinese mitten crab in the St. Lawrence

Controlling milfoil in Little Sebago Lake, ME

**B. Coming Soon to a Watershed Near You**

NASA joins the National Invasive Species Council

Invasive species receive media coverage from National Geographic

Zebra mussels continue to march west

Oyster battle roars on in mid-Atlantic

New strain of Eurasian water milfoil discovered

Exotic vs. native salmon: is it safer to farm exotic fish?

Continued debate regarding invasive species

**C. Policy and Legislation**

Michigan introduces new invasive species legislation

Comment period continues on Coast Guard’s NOBOB management

**D. Reports, Publications, and Web-based Resources**

**Publications**

Beachcomber’s Companion Cards

New edition of AIS-HACCP manual and CD

**Select publications from the scientific literature**

**Web-based Resources**

2003 ballast reports available at NBIC

Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers! adds New Hampshire ANS information

**E. Upcoming Conferences and Events**

AIS-HACCP Training Workshop

Invasive Species: Their Ecological Impacts and Alternatives for Control

International Invasive Sea Squirt Conference (IISSC)

Early Detection and Rapid Response Legislation in the Northeast

Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel Meeting

Biological Invasions in Inland Waters

Are Your Natives Restless? Holistic Strategies for Conserving Freshwater Mollusks during

Exotic Species Invasions

River and Lake Restoration: Changing Landscapes  
8th International Conference on the Ecology and Management of Alien Plant Invasions  
14th International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species

**F. Other**

**Funding opportunities**

MassWildlife Provides Grant Opportunity: Landowner Incentive Program  
National Research Initiative: Animal and Plant Biosecurity  
Program of Research on the Economics of Invasive Species Management  
Native Plant Conservation Initiative

**Other opportunities**

Volunteer research opportunity  
Hudson River summer research fellowships

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**A. News From the Northeast**

**Next NEANS Panel Meeting**

The May 2005 NEANS Panel meeting will be held May 4-5, 2005, at the Urban Forestry Center (UFC) in Portsmouth, NH. The UFC website can be found at [http://www.nhdf.org/info\\_plan\\_bureau/fi&p\\_ufc.htm](http://www.nhdf.org/info_plan_bureau/fi&p_ufc.htm). A group rate has been arranged at the Comfort Inn. To reserve a room, call 800.552.8484 and ask for the "NEANS Panel" room block (deadline is April 15, 2005). RSVP for the meeting to Michele Tremblay at [mlt@naturesource.net](mailto:mlt@naturesource.net) no later than April 15, 2005

**Sightings**

**Black crappie found in pond in Maine**

An illegally stocked black crappie (*Pomoxis nigromaculatus*) was found in Norton's Pond, ME, in January. While the black crappie has become established in other areas in Maine, it appears that this is the first confirmed sighting in this particular waterway. For more information, see <http://waldo.villagesoup.com/Sports/Story.cfm?StoryID=30656>

**Other headlines from around the region**

**New England Wildflower Society encourages use of native plants**

The New England Wild Flower Society is encouraging the use of native plants in gardening by publishing a native seed catalog and by selling nursery plants. For more information, see <http://www.newfs.org/nursery.htm>

**Zebra mussels cause "musty" water in Rochester area**

Rochester city officials speculate that a three-month period of unpleasant drinking water last summer was related to the decomposition of a large numbers of zebra mussels in Hemlock Lake. For more on this story, see <http://www.democratandchronicle.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20050219/NEWS01/502190308&SearchID=73200031762652>

**Scientists keep tabs on the Chinese mitten crab in the St. Lawrence**

Biologists are asking citizens to keep an eye out for the Chinese Mitten Crab, *Eriocheir sinensis*, which has the potential to invade the Great Lakes system. A single Chinese mitten crab was found in the St. Lawrence River last fall. To learn more, go to [http://glrc.org/story.php3?story\\_id=2545](http://glrc.org/story.php3?story_id=2545)

### **Controlling milfoil in Little Sebago Lake, Maine**

The Little Sebago Lake Association hopes to start a management plan for milfoil in the lake this summer. The target, a hybrid version of variable-leaf milfoil, *Myriophyllum heterophyllum*, was first found in the lake in 1999. The association is having difficulty finding funds required for the management of the species. For more information, see <http://pressherald.maintoday.com/news/state/050214milfoil.shtml>

## **B. Coming Soon to a Watershed Near You**

### **NASA joins the National Invasive Species Council**

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has joined twelve other cabinet agencies on the National Invasive Species Council (NISC). NASA's technological expertise in areas such as remote sensing and forecasting will provide invaluable assistance to the work of the Council. To see the official announcement, go to

<http://www.invasivespecies.gov/docs/nisc/nasastakeholder.doc>

For more information on NASA's invasive species research, go to

<http://InvasiveSpecies.gsfc.nasa.gov>

### **Invasive species receive media coverage from National Geographic**

National Geographic has produced both print and television pieces on invasive species. The first episode of the series "Strange Days on Planet Earth," premiering on April 20 on PBS, will focus on invasive species. Also, the March issue of the National Geographic magazine features a story titled "Attack of the Alien Invaders." For more information, please see <http://www.pbs.org/strangedays> and

<http://magma.nationalgeographic.com/ngm/0503/feature5/index.html>

### **Zebra mussels continue to march west**

The zebra mussel, *Dreissena polymorpha*, is continuing to spread westward in the US. It has recently been found in Disney, OK and may also be in southwestern MO. See the reports at

[http://www.joplinglobe.com/story.php?story\\_id=163804&c=87](http://www.joplinglobe.com/story.php?story_id=163804&c=87)

[http://www.joplinglobe.com/story.php?story\\_id=165637&c=87](http://www.joplinglobe.com/story.php?story_id=165637&c=87)

### **Oyster battle roars on in mid-Atlantic**

The debate continues on the introduction of the Chinese oyster *Crassostrea ariakensis* to the Chesapeake Bay. Chesapeake Bay stakeholders continue to push for introduction, but many others, including neighboring states, are concerned about the unintended consequences. Recent stories on this debate can be found at

[http://www.timesdispatch.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=RTD%2FMGArticle%2FRTD\\_BasicArticle&c=MGArticle&cid=1031780451893&path=!news&s=1045855934842](http://www.timesdispatch.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=RTD%2FMGArticle%2FRTD_BasicArticle&c=MGArticle&cid=1031780451893&path=!news&s=1045855934842)

<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/dnrnews/pressrelease2005/012505a.html>

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A37099-2005Jan26.html>

### **New strain of Eurasian water milfoil discovered**

Researchers in Wisconsin believe they have found a new, hybrid strain of the Eurasian water milfoil *Myriophyllum spicatum*. This strain may be difficult to identify, as it differs morphologically from other milfoil species, and there are concerns as to how it will respond to chemical control technologies. For more information, see

<http://www.fishingclub.com/document.asp?dID=6990>

### **Exotic vs. native salmon: is it safer to farm exotic fish?**

Dr. Ian Fleming, a professor of aquaculture at Memorial University in Newfoundland, Canada, claims that it may be safer to farm exotic species of salmon rather than native species. Since farmed fish are genetically different from wild fish, he argues that interbreeding of wild and escaped farm fish could be detrimental to the species. To read more on the topic, go to [http://www.eurekaalert.org/pub\\_releases/2005-02/nsae-fff021605.php](http://www.eurekaalert.org/pub_releases/2005-02/nsae-fff021605.php). A large release of farmed salmon in Scottish waters may prove an example of Dr. Fleming's theory. To read more on the recently released fish, go to <http://business.scotsman.com/agriculture.cfm?id=202452005>

### **Continued debate regarding invasive species**

As we continue our fight against invasive species, it may be useful to keep in mind the opinions of those that are opposed to invasive species management for a variety of reasons, particularly the restriction of sport-fishing and the threat to private property rights. The following is a compilation of recent news reports on the issue.

#### **Anglers' rights vs. ecosystem protection**

Japan's ban on the release of nonindigenous species, including popular sport fish, has anglers concerned.

<http://www.yomiuri.co.jp/newse/20050218wo39.htm>

#### **Campaign to save the snakehead**

A Utah county commissioner is trying to teach Washington D.C. a lesson about endangered species by trying to list the snakehead, thereby limiting access to the Potomac River.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A19918-2005Feb12.html>

#### **Caution needed on "invasive species" control**

An editorial in the Yuma Sun expresses concerns over the definition of "invasive" and worries about the consequences of invasive species control on property rights.

[http://sun.yumasun.com/artman/publish/articles/story\\_14534.php](http://sun.yumasun.com/artman/publish/articles/story_14534.php)

#### **The purpose of invasive species**

This editorial questions the difference between native and non-native species.

<http://www.eco.freedom.org/el/20050202/beers.shtml>

## **C. Policy and Legislation**

### **Michigan introduces new invasive species legislation**

In response to threats from new invaders such as the Emerald Ash Borer and Eurasian water milfoil, Michigan state senators have introduced a new bill that would significantly improve protection against invasive species for the state. The full story can be found at

<http://www.cheboygannews.com/articles/2005/02/21/news/news2.txt>

### **Comment period continues on Coast Guard's NOBOB management**

The Coast Guard continues to seek comments on how to improve ballast water management strategies for vessels entering the Great Lakes that declare no ballast onboard (NOBOB). A public meeting will be held in Cleveland, OH, on May 9, 2005. To see the federal register notice, go to

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20051800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2005/05-378.htm>

## **D. Reports, Publications, and Web-based Resources**

### **Publications**

#### **Beachcomber's Companion Cards**

Beachcomber's Companion cards are now available from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. These cards include information on 50 Atlantic coast marine invertebrates, including the non-native Green crab (*Carcinus maenas*), Asian shore crab (*Hemigrapsus sanguineus*), and common periwinkle (*Littorina littorea*). For more information, go to <http://www.beachcomberscompanion.net>.

Web-only invertebrate cards, including other non-natives, will soon be added to the website.

#### **New edition of AIS-HACCP manual and CD**

The December 2004 edition of the "AIS-HACCP: A preventative system to control the spread of invasive species" manual and CD are now available. To obtain a copy, contact Douglas Jensen at 218.726.8712 or [djensen1@d.umn.edu](mailto:djensen1@d.umn.edu).

#### **Select publications from the scientific literature**

Clavero, M. and E. García-Berthou. 2005. Invasive species are a leading cause of animal extinctions. *Trends in Ecology & Evolution*. 20(3): 110.

Hierro, J.L., J.L. Maron, and R.M. Callaway. 2005. A biogeographical approach to plant invasions: the importance of studying exotics in their introduced and native range. *Journal of Ecology*. 93(1): 5-15.

Pertola, S., H. Kuosa, and R. Olsonen. 2005. Is the invasion of *Prorocentrum minimum* (Dinophyceae) related to the nitrogen enrichment of the Baltic Sea? *Harmful Algae*. 4(3): 481-492.

Saltonstall, K., P.M. Peterson, and R.J. Soreng. 2005. Recognition of *Phragmites australis* subsp. *americanus* (Poaceae: Arundinoideae) in North America: evidence from morphological and genetic analyses. *Sida, Contributions to Botany*. 21(2): 683-692.

#### **Web-based Resources**

##### **2003 ballast reports available at NBIC**

Ballast water data from the 2003 reports have been added to the database of the National Ballast Information Clearinghouse website at <http://invasions.si.edu/nbic/index.html>

##### **Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers! adds New Hampshire ANS information**

The Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers! website has begun to add state-specific information on aquatic nuisance species. Along with Missouri and South Carolina, information on New Hampshire is now available at <http://www.protectyourwaters.net/states/nh.php>

#### **E. Upcoming Conferences and Events**

March 29-30, 2005 – Lamar, PA, USA

##### **AIS-HACCP Training Workshop**

Sponsored by Pennsylvania Sea Grant and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

<http://haccp-nrm.org/documents/workshopannouncement.pdf>

April 19-20, 2005 – Reno, NV, USA

##### **Invasive Species: Their Ecological Impacts and Alternatives for Control**

This symposium is sponsored by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) International.

<http://www.astm.org/cgi-bin/SoftCart.exe/SYMPOSIA/index.html?L+mystore+ohgo8514+1103584440>

April 21-22, 2005 – Woods Hole, MA, USA

**International Invasive Sea Squirt Conference (IISSC)**

A conference on the biology, biogeography, and ecology of invasive ascidians (Subphylum Tunicata (Urochordata), Class Ascidiacea.) Sponsored WHOI Ocean Life Institute, NOAA Northeast Fisheries Science Center, MIT Sea Grant, WHOI Sea Grant, and the Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species (NEANS) Panel. For more information, contact Mary Carman at 508.289.2987 or [mcarman@whoi.edu](mailto:mcarman@whoi.edu).

May 3, 2005 – Portsmouth, NH, USA

**Early Detection and Rapid Response Legislation in the Northeast: A Workshop  
Sponsored by the Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel**

For more information, contact Susy King at [sking@neiwppcc.org](mailto:sking@neiwppcc.org) or 978.323.7929.

May 4-5, 2005 – Portsmouth, NH, USA

**Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel Meeting**

Details will be posted at <http://www.northeastans.org/meetings.htm>

May 5-6, 2005 – Florence, Italy

**Biological Invasions in Inland Waters**

Hosted by the University of Florence.

[http://www.dbag.unifi.it/INWAT\\_FirstCircular.pdf](http://www.dbag.unifi.it/INWAT_FirstCircular.pdf)

May 15-18, 2005 – St. Paul, MN, USA

**Are Your Natives Restless? Holistic Strategies for Conserving Freshwater Mollusks  
during Exotic Species Invasions**

Hosted by the Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society and the Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee.

<http://ellipse.inhs.uiuc.edu/FMCS/symposium/>

July 12-14, 2005 – Portland, ME, USA

**River and Lake Restoration: Changing Landscapes**

Hosted by the Universities Council on Water Resources and the National Institutes for Water Resources. One planned topic is the control and management of invasive species.

<http://ucowr.siu.edu/05CoP.pdf>

September 5-12, 2005 – Katowice, Poland

**8th International Conference on the Ecology and Management of Alien Plant Invasions**

[http://www.emapi.us.edu.pl/invite\\_ok.php](http://www.emapi.us.edu.pl/invite_ok.php)

Spring, 2006 – FL, USA

**14th International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species**

The Technical Program Committee invites submission of 500 to 750-word abstracts of proposed presentations and posters relevant to the focus of the conference. Abstracts are due May 31, 2005.

<http://www.icaais.org/>

## **F. Other**

### **Funding opportunities**

#### **MassWildlife Provides Grant Opportunity: Landowner Incentive Program**

The Massachusetts Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) will reimburse private landowners with up to 75% of the cost to manage lands to improve habitat for declining wildlife species across the Commonwealth. Private landowners such as land trusts, sportsmen's clubs, farmers, working forest landowners, and individuals may apply for this funding. State and municipal agencies are not eligible. Invasive plant control may be a component of the project. Applications must be submitted by March 15, 2005. More information is available at [http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/dfw\\_lip.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/dfw_lip.htm).

#### **National Research Initiative: Animal and Plant Biosecurity**

The Animal and Plant Biosecurity program aims to establish investigator collaboration on animal and plant diseases and pests of high economic impact that are currently endemic in the U.S., or that are future threats due to accidental or intentional introduction through bioterrorism attacks. Letters of intent are due May 2, 2005, and final proposals are due June 15, 2005. More information can be found at <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/fundview.cfm?fonum=1074>

#### **Program of Research on the Economics of Invasive Species Management**

USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS) Program of Research on the Economics of Invasive Species Management (PREISM) is seeking proposals that focus on applied economic research and/or decision support system development that has direct implications for USDA programs, policies, and decision making concerning invasive species. Proposals are due April 29, 2005. More information can be found at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/InvasiveSpecies/>

#### **Native Plant Conservation Initiative**

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, in partnership with the Plant Conservation Alliance, has announced a Request for Proposals for the 2005 Native Plant Conservation Initiative (NPCI). Grants will be provided to nonprofit organizations and agencies to promote the conservation of native plants. There is a strong preference for "on-the-ground" projects that involve local communities and citizen volunteers in the restoration of native plant communities. Pre-proposals are due August 15, 2005. For more information, see <http://www.nfwf.org/programs/npci.htm>

### **Other opportunities**

#### **Volunteer research opportunity**

Dr. Brian Leung and Mr. David Delaney, invasion biologists at McGill University in Montreal, Canada, are still looking for volunteers for their monitoring project. They are looking for teachers and student researchers in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Hampshire and Maine to assist in monitoring two invasive species – the European green shore crab (*Carcinus maenas*) and the Asian shore crab (*Hemigrapsus sanguineus*). By participating, students and volunteers will experience working as a team to research and record standardized data and answer scientific questions--and their work will be used in current research. For more information, contact David Delaney at [david.delaney@elf.mcgill.ca](mailto:david.delaney@elf.mcgill.ca) or 514.398.6175. More information about the research is available at <http://www.biology.mcgill.ca/faculty/leung/invasivetracers/>.

**Hudson River summer research fellowships**

Tibor T. Polgar Fellowships program offers summer fellowships of \$3,800 to provide support for graduate or undergraduate students to conduct research on the Hudson River. Objectives include the gathering of important information on all aspects of the river and to train students in conducting estuarine studies and public policy research. Limited research funds are also provided. For more information, see <http://www.hudsonriver.org/polgar.htm>