



**Northeast Aquatic
Nuisance Species Panel**
Resource Digest – January 26, 2005
Volume 4, Issue 1

Please send items and postings for the NEANS Panel Digest to Susan.Park@state.ma.us

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Index

A. News From the Northeast

Sightings

NO Eurasian Water milfoil in Rhode Island

Other headlines from around the region

Rogers Lake (CT) considers herbicide permit for weed control (1/4/05)

Maine fish farmer charged with cultivating non-native fish (12/28/04)

Adirondack Council requests funds to manage invasives (12/19/04)

Connecticut plant ban receives publicity during holidays (12/19/04)

B. Coming Soon to a Watershed Near You

Habitattitude looking for partners (1/15/04)

Invasive Species: Their Threat to MPAs, and How Practitioners Are Responding

C. Policy and Legislation

Coast Guard seeks to improve ballast water regulations on Great Lakes

Law prohibits dumping of aquarium organisms in Iowa (1/17/05)

D. Reports, Publications, and Web-based Resources

Reports

Ballast Water Exchange: Exploring the Feasibility of Alternate Ballast Water Exchange Zones in the North Atlantic

Invasive Plants of the Eastern United States: Identification and Control

Fire as a Tool for Controlling Nonnative Invasive Plants

The Western Regional Panel reprints its "Threats to the West" brochure

Select publications from the scientific literature

E. Upcoming Conferences and Events

Fletcher Foundation Distinguished Lecture Series on Invasive Species and the Public Good

Weed Science 2005

Fishermen and Scientists Research Society Annual Conference 2005

Sixth Annual National Invasive Weeds Awareness Week (NIWAW VI)

70th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference -- Special Session 6:

Stemming the Tide of Nonnative Invasive Plants

Invasive Species: Their Ecological Impacts and Alternatives for Control

International Invasive Sea Squirt Conference (IISSC)

Biological Invasions in Inland Waters

Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council 20th Annual Symposium

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

River and Lake Restoration: Changing Landscapes

- 4th International Marine Bioinvasions Conference
- 2nd New England Invasive Plant Summit
- 14th International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species

F. Other

Funding opportunities

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service announces CPI grants for 2005
MassWildlife Provides Grant Opportunity: Landowner Incentive Program
Vermont Aquatic Nuisance Control Grant-in-Aid Program
National Research Initiative: Animal and Plant Biosecurity

Volunteer opportunities

Invasive Plant Atlas of New England (IPANE) Seeks Volunteers

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A. News From the Northeast

Sightings

NO Eurasian Water milfoil in Rhode Island

In the last issue of the digest (vol. 3, issue 9), it was reported that Maine was the last of the lower 48 states to report Eurasian Water milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*). However, Lisa Gould of the Rhode Island Invasive Species Council reports that Rhode Island has yet to have a confirmed report of the species, although there have been reports of Variable Milfoil, *Myriophyllum heterophyllum*, in the state. For more information, go to http://www.riwps.org/PlantLibrary/invasives/invasivelist_winter2001.html

Other headlines from around the region

Rogers Lake (CT) considers herbicide permit for weed control (1/4/05)

The Rogers Lake Authority is discussing the possibility of applying for a permit to control weeds in Rogers Lake using an herbicide. The group wishes to apply for a state permit to apply Diquat to control aquatic plants on the lake this coming summer. The proposal has generated much discussion from both sides. For more on this story, go to: <http://invasives.eeb.uconn.edu/pipermail/neinvasives-discuss/2005-January/000092.html>

Maine fish farmer charged with cultivating non-native fish (12/28/04)

The Stewarts of Washington, ME, have had to put their new fish farming operation on hold while the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife investigate charges including importing fish without a permit. <http://camden.villagesoup.com/Community/Story.cfm?StoryID=29443>

Adirondack Council requests funds to manage invasives (12/19/04)

The Adirondack Council, the largest group solely devoted to the environment of the 6-million-acre Adirondack Park, recognizes invasive species as a major problem for the park and hopes that the federal government will appropriate funds to deal with the problem. For more information, see <http://www.syracuse.com/news/poststandard/index.ssf?/base/news-0/1103372106315631.xml>

Connecticut plant ban receives publicity during holidays (12/19/04)

The Star-of-Bethlehem plant (*Ornithogalum umbellatum*) is a popular ornamental during the holiday season. It is also banned for sale in the state of Connecticut as a noxious weed. The ban has caused some controversy and confusion in the state. While the original news

article is no longer available on-line, you can read more about this plant at <http://invasives.eeb.uconn.edu/ipane/index.htm>

B. Coming Soon to a Watershed Near You

Habitattitude looking for partners (1/15/04)

The Habitattitude program is actively seeking participation from aquatic product manufacturers and retail outlets, aquarium hobbyists societies and clubs, federal resource management agencies, state agencies, universities and others that are interested in promoting environmentally responsible behaviors. Please sign up for this partnership effort at: <http://www.habitattitude.net/partner/>

Invasive Species: Their Threat to MPAs, and How Practitioners Are Responding

An article in the most recent edition of MPA News (Vol. 6, No. 6, December 2004/January 2005) describes the issue of invasive species and marine protected areas. <http://depts.washington.edu/mpanews/MPA59.htm>

C. Policy and Legislation

Coast Guard seeks to improve ballast water regulations on Great Lakes

The Coast Guard is seeking 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>

For more information, see the following news articles:

<http://www.startribune.com/stories/462/5199406.html>

<http://www.newsday.com/news/local/state/ny-bc-ny--invasivespecies0118jan18,0,2738998.story?coll=ny-region-apnewyork>

Law prohibits dumping of aquarium organisms in Iowa (1/17/05)

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources says an expanded law covering what are called "aquatic invasive species" went into effect on January 12. It is now illegal to transport, possess, purchase, or sell a whole list of species that have been defined as aquatic invasives.

<http://www.radioiowa.com/gestalt/go.cfm?objectid=1831A51F-1750-4554-B8D129AE69DFBBEA>

D. Reports, Publications, and Web-based Resources

Reports

Ballast Water Exchange: Exploring the Feasibility of Alternate Ballast Water Exchange Zones in the North Atlantic

This workshop focused on identifying alternate ballast water exchange zones in the North Atlantic for coastwise traffic within the EEZ that would minimize risk for introducing aquatic invasive species to coastal ecosystems. The resulting joint consensus forged at the conference serves as a working document for consideration within the respective government agencies and between the two countries. The report, edited by Judith Pederson (MIT Sea Grant College Program), is available on CD-ROM; there are a limited number of books available for \$45. To order, go to:

<http://web.mit.edu/seagrant/pubs/order.html>

Invasive Plants of the Eastern United States: Identification and Control

This guide is available on the Internet or on a free CD-ROM. It includes information on a variety of invasive plants found in the eastern United States, including some aquatic species. The guide can be found at: <http://www.invasive.org/eastern/>

Fire as a Tool for Controlling Nonnative Invasive Plants

This review, by Peter M. Rice of the University of Montana, "focuses on the intentional use of fire, alone or integrated with other methods, to control exotic plants in North America." The review can be found at: http://www.weedcenter.org/management/burning_weeds.pdf

The Western Regional Panel reprints its "Threats to the West" brochure

The WRP brochure, Threats to the West, has been reprinted and is now available for you to distribute. To receive a box of the brochures (each box holds 500), contact Tina Proctor at (303) 236-4515 or bettina_proctor@fws.gov. To see the brochure, go to the WRP web site, <http://answest.fws.gov/>, and click on Documents.

Select publications from the scientific literature

Conroy, J.D. and D.A. Culver. 2005. Do Dreissenid mussels affect Lake Erie ecosystem stability processes? *American Midland Naturalist*. 153: 20-32.

Drake, J.M. 2005. Risk analysis for invasive species and emerging infectious diseases: concepts and applications. *American Midland Naturalist*. 153: 4-19.

Glasby, T.M., R.G. Creese, and P.T. Gibson. 2005. Experimental use of salt to control the invasive marine alga *Caulerpa taxifolia* in New South Wales, Australia. *Biological Conservation*. 122(4): 573-580.

Grosholz, E.D. 2005. Recent biological invasion may hasten invasional meltdown by accelerating historical introductions. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. 102: 1088 - 1091.

Piero, G. 2005. Eradications of invasive alien species in Europe: a review. *Biological Invasions*. 7(1): 127 - 133.

Provan, J., S. Murphy, and C.A. Maggs. 2005. Tracking the invasive history of the green alga *Codium fragile* ssp. *tomentosoides*. *Molecular Ecology*. 14(1): 189-194.

Thibaut, T., A. Meinesz, and P. Coquillard. 2004. Biomass seasonality of *Caulerpa taxifolia* in the Mediterranean Sea. *Aquatic Botany*. 80(4): 291-297.

Weber, E. and D. Gut. 2004. Assessing the risk of potentially invasive plant species in central Europe. *Journal for Nature Conservation*. 12(3): 171-179.

Weigle, S.M., D.L. Smith, J.T. Carlton, and J. Pederson. 2005. Assessing the risk of introducing exotic species via the live marine species trade. *Conservation Biology*. 19(1): 213-223.

Welk, E. 2004. Constraints in range predictions of invasive plant species due to non-equilibrium distribution patterns: Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) in North America. *Ecological Modelling*. 179(4): 551-567.

E. Upcoming Conferences and Events

January 24 - March 28, 2005 – New Haven, CT, USA

Fletcher Foundation Distinguished Lecture Series on Invasive Species and the Public Good

A weekly lecture series on invasive species held at Yale University. The schedule can be found at: <http://research.yale.edu/gisf/events/index.html#invasive>

February 7-10, 2005 – Honolulu, HI, USA

Weed Science 2005

The annual meeting of the Weed Science Society of America.

<http://www.wssa.net/society/05mtngbrochure.pdf>

February 25-26, 2005 – Truro, NS, Canada

Fishermen and Scientists Research Society Annual Conference 2005

<http://www.frsr.ns.ca/events/ac2005.html>

February 27-March 4, 2005 – Washington, DC, USA

Sixth Annual National Invasive Weeds Awareness Week (NIWAW VI)

Sponsored by the Invasive Weed Awareness Coalition.

http://www.nawma.org/niwaw/niwaw_index.htm

March 16-19, 2005 – Arlington, VA, USA

70th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference

Special Session 6: Stemming the Tide of Nonnative Invasive Plants

<http://www.wildlifemanagementinstitute.org/pages/TOC.html?142,178>

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

[bin/SoftCart.exe/SYMPOSIA/index.html?L+mystore+ohgo8514+1103584440](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.

May 5-6, 2005 – Florence, Italy

Biological Invasions in Inland Waters

Hosted by the University of Florence.

<http://www.dbag.unifi.it/inwat/>

May 9-11, 2005 – Key West, FL, USA

Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council 20th Annual Symposium

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

May 15-18, 2005 – St. Paul, MN, USA

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

Sponsored 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>

August 23-26, 2005 -- Wellington, New Zealand

4th International Marine Bioinvasions Conference

<http://www.vuw.ac.nz/conted/marine/mbic.html>

September 16-17, 2005 – Framingham, MA, USA

2nd New England Invasive Plant Summit

For more information and to download abstracts from the 2003 Summit, visit the website:

<http://www.ipane.org> or contact Cynthia Boettner, NIPGro Coordinator,

Cynthia_Boettner@fws.gov, 413-863-0209 x6.

Spring 2006 – Florida, USA

14th International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species

Watch <http://www.icaiss.org/index.html> for more information.

F. Other

Funding opportunities

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service announces CPI grants for 2005

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is requesting proposals for its 2005 Conservation Partnership Initiative (CPI) grant program. Under CPI, funds are awarded to State and local governments and agencies; Indian tribes; and non-governmental organizations that have a history of working with agricultural producers. One of the program's conservation priorities is invasive species. Proposals are due February 17, 2005. For more information, go to <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/cpi/>

MassWildlife Provides Grant Opportunity: Landowner Incentive Program

MassWildlife has received \$2 million dollars from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to implement the Massachusetts Landowner Incentive Program (LIP). This program 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. Informational meetings to learn more about the program will be offered in January. Applications must be submitted by March 15, 2005. Grant application criteria and other details are available on MassWildlife's LIP webpage at http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/dfw_lip.htm.

Vermont Aquatic Nuisance Control Grant-in-Aid Program

The Grant-in-Aid Program provides financial assistance to municipalities and agencies of the state for aquatic nuisance control programs. Applications are due on March 2, 2005. More information can be found at:

http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/waterq/lakes/docs/lp_grantsinaid-guide.pdf

National Research Initiative: Animal and Plant Biosecurity

This program area will help agricultural producers and professionals implement strategies to better safeguard American agriculture from animal and plant diseases and pest losses. It will 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>

Volunteer opportunities

Invasive Plant Atlas of New England (IPANE) Seeks Volunteers

IPANE and the New England Wild Flower Society (NEWFS) are seeking citizen volunteers to help gather data on invasive plant species in their local area. The information gathered by volunteers is submitted via the IPANE website to a regional database. All data collected are available on-line in map and text form. The gathered information is then used for predictive ecological research and planning rapid response and control efforts. All necessary training is provided. In addition to training, volunteers receive weekend workshops and educational courses provided by project staff at no charge. If you are interested in participating or learning more please visit the IPANE website at

<http://www.ipane.org> or contact Chris Mattrick at 508-877-7630 ext. 3203 or via e-mail at cmatrick@newfs.org