

Quagga and Zebra Mussel Prevention



2025-2027 Funding Request

**State investment:
\$1.81 million annually
[ongoing]**

**State dependent federal investment: \$1.81 million annually
[ongoing]**

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Quagga and zebra mussels pose an imminent threat to Washington's health, economy, and environment. Long-term mitigation and management costs of infestation are expected to exceed \$100+ million annually, disrupting hydropower production, agriculture, tourism, water supply, and fisheries including billions in investments in salmon recovery in the Columbia River Basin, freshwater ecosystems, and fish and wildlife resources. Recent discovery of quagga mussels in the Snake River underscores the urgent need to maintain current prevention measures, response planning, and readiness activities. Swift and decisive action is crucial to prevent invasive mussels from establishing in Washington.



Prevention and readiness actions requested by the Legislature in Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 require ongoing funding. This request allows for the maintenance of prevention, monitoring, and response planning efforts in partnership with tribal, state, and local agencies and the public resulting from the state's initial

investment. Additionally, state investment qualifies WDFW for \$1.81 million in funding from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's Aquatic Plant Control (APC) Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination (WID) cost-share program, which requires a 50% cost-share of non-federal funds.

Idaho's recent detection of quagga mussels in the Snake River, despite implementation of a treatment plan after initial detection in 2023, demonstrates the importance of continual monitoring efforts. Free-floating mussel larvae can travel downstream from the detection site and into Washington within one week. Invasive mussels can also spread through human activity such as movement of aquatic construction equipment or recreational boats. The Snake River is a popular destination for Washington boaters, increasing the possibility of invasive mussel transportation. Since 2020, more than 248,000 watercraft have been inspected at Washington's borders, intercepting 121 invasive mussel fouled vessels. In early 2025, WDFW intercepted the largest volume of invasive mussels on record due in part to the legislature's initial FY2025 investment.

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Fiscal Summary

Total 2025-2027:

- \$3.62 state legislative investment
- \$3.62 federal cost-share

Budget Estimate:

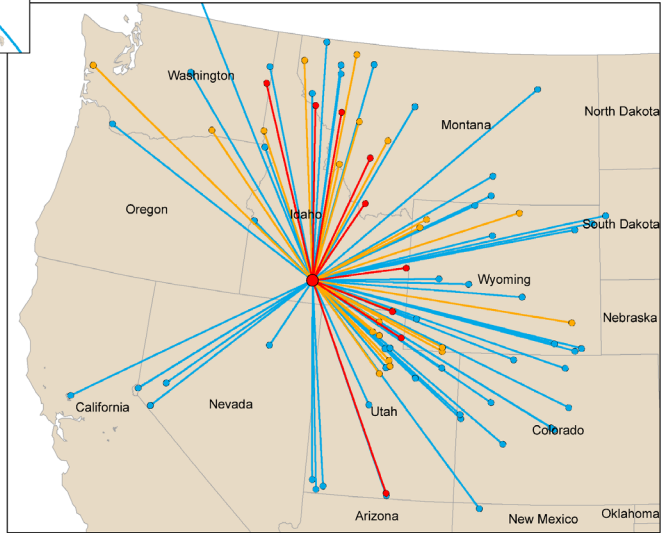
- Prevention: \$4,841,600
- Readiness: \$1,210,400
- Outreach, education, and public engagement: \$764,000
- Local government and tribal capacity building: \$424,000



Boat Inspections Where Snake River Was Last Water Visited: 2022 - 2023

- Snake River
- Number of Boats:
- 1 - 9
- 10 - 49
- 50 - 279

Location	State	Count
Dillon	MT	279
Evanston POE	WY	279
Hay 89 Garden City	UT	161
Spokane	WA	104
Ravalli	MT	86
Anaconda	MT	83
Alpine POE	WY	66
Lake Powell	UT	60
St. Regis	MT	57
Sula	MT	46
Clearwater Junction	MT	43
Bear Lake	UT	40
Flaming Gorge	UT	36
Pasco	WA	35
Pineview Reservoir	UT	33
Grant	WY	28
Glacier National Park	MT	26
Troy Rest Area	MT	23
Bridge Bay	WY	21
Hwy 40 Daniels POE	UT	20
Clarkston	WA	17
Cle Elum Eastbound	WA	17
Helena Highway 12	MT	14
Hyrum Reservoir	UT	14
Utah Lake	UT	13
Jordanelle Reservoir	UT	12
Willard Bay	UT	12
Lewis Lake	WY	11
Sheridan Rest Area	WY	10
Anvil Draw	WY	10



Map Produced by CPWANS Program 9/29/2023



Quagga and zebra mussel prevention is vital to protecting Washington’s human health, economy, culture, and environment. If unsuccessful or not feasible, the Department must have ample early detection monitoring practices in place to detect the first case of establishment and take swift action to eradicate them. This package provides ongoing investment to maintain prevention and response readiness efforts necessary to address this imminent threat.

