

Interagency Agreement (IAA) to Fund Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination Data Sharing System and Watercraft Inspection Training

In 2017, the Department of the Interior (DOI) spearheaded an effort to unite bureaus in order to coordinate and optimize our efforts to prevent, contain, and control quagga and zebra mussels. A component of this effort was to examine ongoing efforts that benefit multiple bureaus and have been deemed by bureaus and partners as high priority across the western states. Once those projects are identified, the goal is to leverage resources across DOI bureaus to cost-share and fund these efforts that are programmatic, in need of sustained support, and essential to containment and prevention of mussels.

Coordinated, systematic, and region-wide watercraft inspection and decontamination training is integral to the containment of infested waters, and prevention of un-infested waters. Additionally, the Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination Data Sharing System is an efficient and effective communication tool that benefits the United States and is used at more than 200 locations across the West. Consequently, bureaus identified these projects as excellent opportunities to demonstrate our ability to pool and leverage resources to support these vital efforts.

Bureaus that are included within this agreement are The US Fish and Wildlife Service (The Service), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the National Park Service (NPS). Each Bureau agrees with the terms laid out within this agreement.

Federal agencies have invested in protecting the West from quagga and zebra mussels for two decades. Many of the efforts and protocols referenced in this document are a result of those federal dollars and collaborative partnerships. These include the WID training standards, UMPS, QZAP, Building Consensus and the westernais webpage (please add others). Establishing this framework for funding items that benefit the western landscape ensures the continued success of those investments.

Scopes of Work:

“Regional Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination (WID) Data Sharing System: Maintenance, User Support, Hosting, and Monthly Operational Enhancements”

Purpose and Need:

To maintain the central communication and alert system for the western United States to prevent spread of zebra and quagga mussels on recreational watercraft, and to continue facilitating improved communications resulting in increased resource protection, increased operational efficacy of field stations, and improved customer service for boaters and anglers. The Regional WID Data Sharing System (System) helps to reduce the risk of zebra or quagga mussels, or other aquatic invasive species (AIS), being introduced into new waters via recreational watercraft by providing faster communication among managing jurisdictions.

In alignment with the highest priority action items in the Quagga Zebra Action Plan (QZAP), the System is being deployed at highly infested containment waters and prevention waters, offices, and roadside stations with the permission and cooperation of the managing agency. The System provides timely watercraft movement notices from infested waters to destination jurisdictions, with the capacity to share information through multiple agencies to the destination. In many cases, these entities are receiving federal funding for WID activities (e.g. Arizona Game and Fish Dept., Nevada Division of Wildlife at Lake Mead or Utah Division of Wildlife Resources at Lake Powell).

The System benefits all jurisdictions currently working on implementing the QZAP and other plans such as the Phoenix Action Plan (Western Regional Panel (WRP), Building Consensus (WRP), and Safeguarding the West from Invasive Species (DOI). The System may also benefit eastern states in the future. The System is in alignment with regional 100th Meridian training standards implemented by the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC), that the PSMFC developed utilizing federal funding.

What is the Regional WID Data Sharing System?

The Regional WID Data Sharing System (System) is currently used at more than 200 locations across the West. The purpose of the System is to record information related to WID electronically and to share information in a timely manner across jurisdictions to aid collaborative efforts to prevent the spread of zebra and quagga mussels and other AIS.

The System consists of a mobile application, website and a shared database hosted on a private server. The mobile application is compatible on all iOS and Android devices. This reduces the operating costs for mobile data collection and data entry while increasing accuracy. It provides for improved reliability in data collected in the field at WID stations, in addition to rapid query capacity for on-demand reporting.

The System is password protected and not publicly available. No personal information is stored within the System. Lead agencies are able to customize the user interface of the mobile application in alignment with both western regional standards and state or local laws, regulations, and priorities.

Current Uses:

The System is used for watercraft inspection and decontamination station data entry, viewing, editing, querying, and reporting of data. An included risk assessment tool shows where boats are moving after launching in mussel-infested waters and sends an alert to the next known destination. With the benefits of data sharing proving to be abundant, the states of Arizona, Nevada and Utah have been using the System to send out timely electronic alerts of watercraft leaving infested waters. This increased timely communication has directly increased the number of infested watercraft being intercepted within the western region before launching in un-infested waters.

System Users:

The System was developed, and is owned and operated, by Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW). The states of Arizona, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming as well as the Lake Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, Solano County Water Agency, Mussel Dogs, and TiGE are now employing the Regional WID Data Sharing System as their primary form of data collection and management. The National Park Service, additional states, and other entities are likely to collaborate and join.

It is expected that this System will become industry standard for entities performing WID. As users increase, this system will continue to improve communications among jurisdictions to enable field staff and managers to accurately focus resources towards effective risk mitigation related to the prevention and containment of quagga and zebra mussels.

Constraints:

The success of this program is largely dependent on the input and participation of AIS Coordinators and jurisdictions responsible for operating WID stations.

System Governance

CPW manages and operates the System through a private industry contract, typically utilizing federal grant dollars. The data itself is the property of the state agency that input the information. CPW leads a Governance Committee, consisting of lead agencies, charged with evaluating and prioritizing user requests, proposed changes and enhancements. The Governance Committee also works collaboratively to determine the viability and usefulness of new technologies.

DELIVERABLE ITEMS:

1. Application Hosting
2. Help Desk
3. System Management, Developer, SQL DBA
4. Testing and QA/QC

“Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination Training”

In the past six years, inspectors at state-agency-managed watercraft inspection stations have intercepted thousands of contaminated watercraft in the western United States. The vast majority of these intercepted boats came from the Lower Colorado River drainage and the Great Lakes. In the past 10 years, state-run watercraft inspection programs expanded to every state in the far West. The expansion of inspection programs has increased the need to have trained inspection station program staff and managers as well as regionally adopted protocols and standards to guide watercraft decontaminations. To serve these needs the PSMFC began the Watercraft Inspection Training (WIT) program in 2006. To date, more than 125 WIT Level I, II, III and IV training classes have been conducted in 19 Western states (and British Columbia) involving thousands of participants (and those that are trained by PSMFC at the Level II and III courses

have themselves trained thousands more). The purpose of this program is to teach inspectors watercraft inspection and decontamination techniques and methods utilizing the "Uniform Minimum Protocols and Standards for Watercraft Interception Programs for Dreissenid Mussels in the Western United States (UMPS III)."

Project Goals and Objectives:

- To reduce the threat of dreissenid mussel and other AIS infestations in the western United States from trailered watercraft and other vectors.
- To teach inspectors technical information on watercraft inspection and decontamination techniques through the WIT classes utilizing the "Uniform Minimum Protocols and Standards for Watercraft Interception Programs for Dreissenid Mussels in the Western United States," as well as regionally accepted training curriculum and technical manuals.
- To serve as a technical resource, including through utilization of westernais.org, for watercraft inspection and decontamination programs and personnel and provide a centralized repository for information collected on watercraft decontamination standards and protocols.
- To address the relevant priority action items and processes as identified in the "Quagga-Zebra Mussel Action Plan for Western U.S. Waters," "Safeguarding the West from Invasive Species," and "Building Consensus in the West."

Methods:

PSMFC will teach WIT I, WIT III and WIT IV classes, maintain WIT Website and update class materials as described below.

WIT Website and Class Materials: All WITs utilize the document "Uniform Minimum Protocols and Standards for Watercraft Interception Programs for Dreissenid Mussels in the Western United States" (UMPS III). Advanced trainings also utilize the Colorado Boat Compendium for ANS Inspectors and the Tahoe Boat Book. The PSMFC manages the WIT website contains additional training videos (available [here](#)) and other WIT teaching resources (refer to <http://www.westernais.org/> and the "Training" tab for these documents). WIT class descriptions, on-line registration, and hosting requirements are also available on the website.

WIT Class Description and Staffing: PSMFC has a lead trainer for all WIT trainings. Numerous state, federal and tribal agency staff also assist in trainings and provide the needed meeting and field facilities to conduct decontaminations. Training descriptions are as follows:

1. **WIT Level I:** This training gives a thorough overview of the species and problems caused, and includes information on outreach and education programs, basic mussel biology, distribution, transport vectors, mussel impacts and focuses on how to inspect for and decontaminate trailered watercraft suspected of having zebra or quagga mussels on-board. WIT I classes are always coordinated (co-sponsored) with local, state, and/or

federal natural resource agencies and are sometimes incorporated into existing conferences/workshops and tradeshows. *Class Size: 10-50.*

2. **WIT Level II:** This course focuses on actual field inspection of various types of watercraft leaving the lake which may or may not be contaminated with quagga mussels and the decontamination of those watercraft requiring it. The instruction includes the use of portable temperature controlled power wash units and a large permanent multi-station self-contained power wash systems. The majority of Level II classes are delivered over two days (12 hours) at Lake Mead National Recreation Area. However classes are also held at other locations such as Castaic Lake, CA, Lake Havasu, AZ, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (Lake Powell), Kalispel, MT, Big Bear Lake, CA, and Lake Lewis and Clark, SD). *Class size: 10-25.*
3. **Watercraft Inspection Training III:** This advanced "train the trainer" course (Level III training) is offered to WIT II graduates. This course is appropriate for state and federal AIS Coordinators, and WID Site Supervisors, including local/state/federal governments, marinas and concessionaires. *Class Size: 3-8.*
4. **Watercraft Inspection Training IV (Advanced Decontamination):** Advanced Decontamination Training covers: Advanced skills and knowledge on various watercraft and propulsion systems, including very complex watercraft systems and components. Review and discussion of the standard protocols used in the field for decontaminations. *Class Size: 10-25.*

DELIVERABLE ITEMS:

Timeline:

WIT Level II, III and IV classes are generally held September 1 – June 15 due to climate limitations (Lake Mead) and field season consideration of inspection staff. PSMFC anticipates further trainings in the Plains States in the coming years. WIT Level I classes are held throughout the year. Below is a three-year estimate of when and where trainings will occur (by type) based on past trainings. The 2020 WIT II and WIT III trainings are already scheduled. [Note: Class schedules are usually finalized three months prior to the Fall and Winter/Spring seasonal classes)].

WINTER/SPRING 2020

WIT I

May – TBA (Texas)
June – TBA (California)

WIT II

January 14-15, 2020 – Lake Mead
February 11-12, 2020 – Lake Mead
March 10-11, 2020 – Lake Mead

WIT III
January 28-30, 2020 – Lake Mead

WIT IV
April/ May TBA (New Mexico)

SUMMER 2020

WIT II
June/July TBA (South Dakota/Nebraska)

FALL 2020

WIT II
November 17-18, Lake Mead

WIT III
September 15-17, Lake Mead

WINTER/SPRING 2021

WIT I
May –TBA (Texas)
June – TBA (California)

WIT II
January TBA – Lake Mead
February TBA – Lake Powell
March TBA – Lake Mead

WIT III
January TBA – Lake Mead

WIT IV
April/ May TBA (Lake Powell)

SUMMER 2021

WIT II
June/July TBA (Kansas)

FALL 2021

WIT II

November TBA, Lake Mead

WIT III

September TBA, Lake Powell

WINTER/SPRING 2022

WIT I

May -TBA (Texas)

June - TBA (California)

WIT II

January TBA - Lake Mead

February TBA - Lake Powell

March TBA- Lake Mead

WIT III

April TBA - Lake Mead

WIT IV

April/ May TBA (New Mexico)

SUMMER 2022

WIT II

June/July TBA (South Dakota/North Dakota)

FALL 2022

WIT II

November TBA, Lake Mead

WIT III

September TBA, Lake Mead

WINTER/ SPRING 2023 - FALL 2024:

PSMFC anticipates following the same schedule as laid out in 2020-2022 with 2-3 WIT I, 4-5 WIT II, and one WIT III and one WIT IV to be held at locations and times to be determined. PSMFC will provide an updated class schedule list to the USFWS Legacy Region II AIS coordinator as it develops in these "out" years.

Agreement Amount: In order to maintain the Data Sharing System and continue Watercraft Inspection Training, the Bureaus can contribute *up to* \$250,000 annually. Bureaus have the

flexibility to contribute variable dollar amounts each fiscal year. The Bureaus will coordinate with each other to ensure that the aggregate need for each fiscal year is funded. Bureaus may contribute multiple years of funding constrained by the total 5-year ceiling of \$1,250,000.00.

Contact Information:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Barak Shemai, barak_shemai@fws.gov (505) 248-6593

Bureau of Land Management, Elroy H. Masters, emasters@blm.gov (602) 417-9346

National Park Service, John Wullschleger, john_wullschleger@nps.gov (970) 225-9965

Bureau of Reclamation, Jolene Trujillo, jtrujillo@usbr.gov (303) 445-2903

Responsibilities of each Party:

Authority: The Economy Act of 1932, as amended (31 U.S.C. 1535)

Modification and Dispute/Termination Procedures:

Either party may propose modifications to this agreement. This agreement is binding when the Service Contracting Officer signs it. Requests for extension of the period of performance must be sent to the Contracting Officer 60 days before the last day of the period of performance. After the agreement expires, the Contracting Officer will not grant requests for extension. Other modification requests must be sent to the Contracting Officer no less than 30 days before required execution.

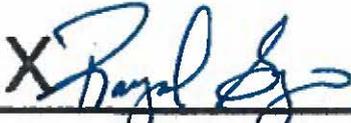
If a disagreement arises on the interpretation of the provisions of this agreement, or amendments or revisions to the agreement that the parties cannot resolve at the operational level, each party must state in writing the area(s) of disagreement and give the statement to the other party for consideration. If the parties do not reach agreement on interpretation within 30 days, they must send the written description of the disagreement to their respective higher officials for appropriate resolution.

The Buyer may cancel or terminate the agreement with written notice. If the Buyer cancels or terminates this agreement, the Buyer is liable only for payment for services rendered before the effective date of the cancellation or termination.

Period of Performance: The PoP shall be from February 1st, 2020 – January 31th, 2025

Funding: The funding mechanism for this agreement shall be the standard DOI IAA form 3-2368. Each bureau shall establish one per year for their specific yearly funding and acquire all the necessary signatures.

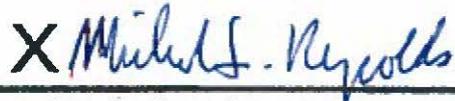
Billing will be Monthly through the IPAC system as in accordance with DOI policy.

X  2/14/2020
Bureau of Land Management

RAYMOND SKAZO, STATE Director
Name and Title

X CYNTHIA WEISHAPL
Digitally signed by CYNTHIA WEISHAPL
Date: 2020.02.24 13:31:10 -07'00'
Bureau of Reclamation

Name and Title

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National Park Service

Michael T. Reynolds, Regional Director
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X 
US Fish and Wildlife Service

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