

Invasive Mussels: Expensive Damage!

When zebra or quagga mussels invade our local waters they clog power-plant and public-water intakes and pipes. Routine treatment is necessary and very expensive! This leads to increased utility bills. If you use water and electricity, then you do not want zebra/quagga mussels!

Zebra mussels in a cut-away pipe

Zebra mussels blocking a pipe



Zebra/Quagga Mussels May Use Your Boat to Invade Additional Waters!

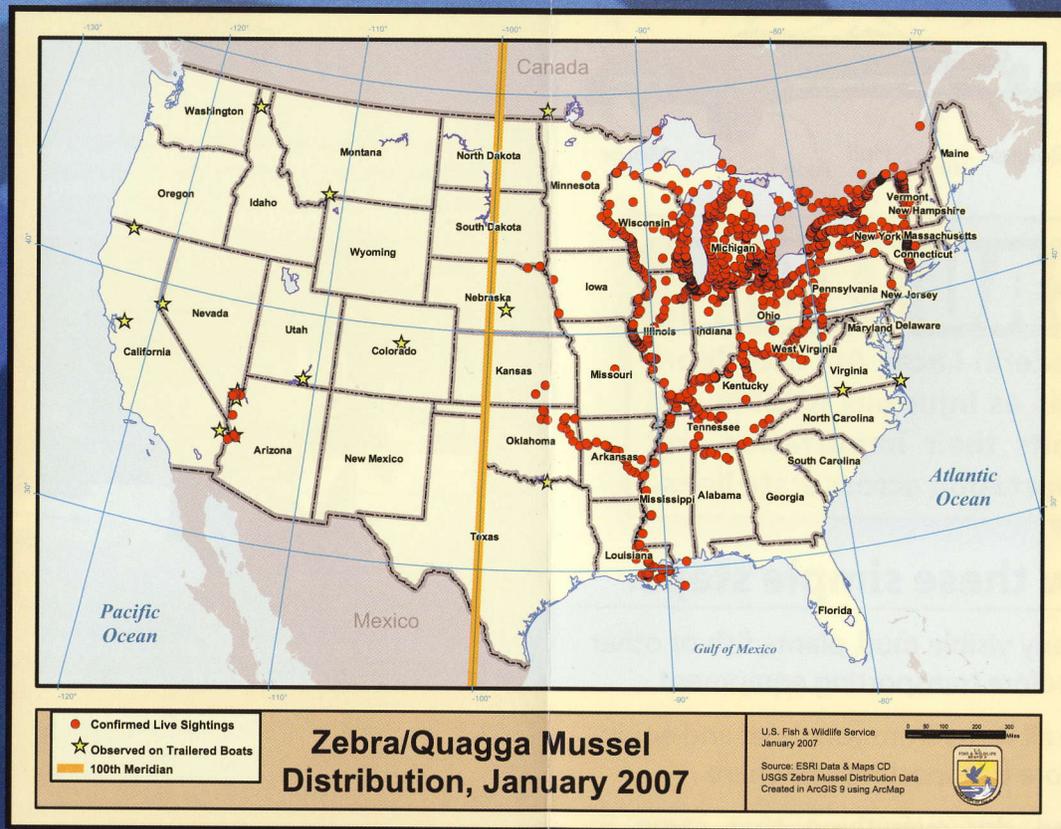
If your boat has been in infested waters, it could be carrying invasive mussels. The primary way that these mussels can spread to new habitats is on boats trailed by the public or by commercial haulers. Zebra and quagga mussels attach to boats and aquatic plants carried by boats. They also commonly attach to bait buckets and other aquatic recreational equipment. You could unintentionally transport microscopic larvae in water held in your live well, bilge, or bait bucket. An adult female zebra mussel can release up to 1,000,000 eggs each season. Please take the precautions outlined in this brochure to help reduce the chance that zebra or quagga mussels will spread to uninfested areas.



Before Zebras Mussels

After Zebra Mussels

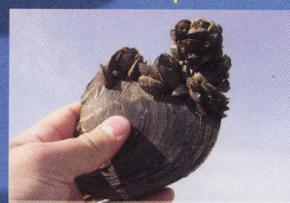
To prevent the spread of aquatic nuisance species such as zebra and quagga mussels, a comprehensive prevention partnership called the 100th Meridian Initiative has been developed to include state and federal agencies as well as private industries and user groups. Contact your state's natural resources agency, wildlife department, and/or watercraft registration office about the 100th Meridian Initiative and local efforts to prevent the spread of aquatic nuisance species by boats.



Zebra/Quagga Mussels Harm Native Aquatic Life



Zebra mussels on a crayfish



Zebra mussels on a native mussel

Zebra/Quagga Mussels Encrust Any Hard Surface



Zebra mussels on a beer can



Zebra mussels on a fishing lure

Freshwater Zebra/Quagga Mussels!

Zebra and quagga mussels are the only freshwater bivalves in North America that encrust hard surfaces.

They are invasive species from the Black and Caspian Sea Drainages in Eurasia.

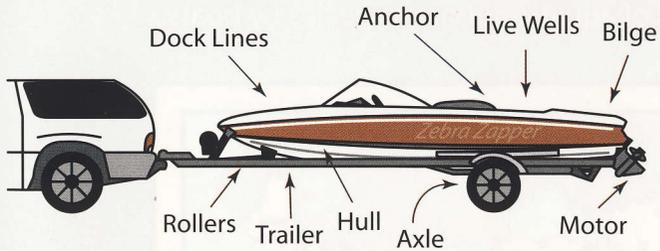
They may be microscopic or up to two inches long.

They commonly have alternating light and dark stripes, hence the common name "zebra" mussels.

They usually attach in clusters and have razor-sharp shells that can cut your hands and feet.

Before Launching...
Before Leaving...

Inspect Everything!



CAUTION

The Federal Lacey Act lists Zebra Mussels as injurious wildlife and prohibits their importation and transportation across state lines.

Follow these simple steps:

- * Remove any visible mud, plants, fish or other animals before transporting equipment
- * Eliminate all water from your boat and equipment before transporting anywhere
- * Clean and dry everything that came in contact with water (including boats, trailers, equipment, clothing, dogs, etc.)
- * Never release plants, fish or other animals into a body of water unless they came from that same body of water

Zebra mussels encrusting a fishing rod



Zebra and quagga mussels are invasive freshwater mollusks (clams) that infest waters in large numbers, attaching to any hard surface.

Zebra mussels encrusting a boat motor



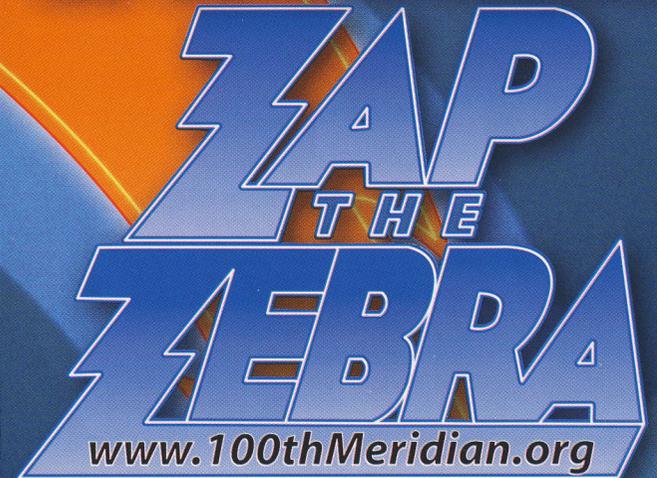
Zebra and quagga mussels are a nuisance for anglers and boaters. They can ruin your equipment, clog cooling systems in motorboats, foul hulls and jam the centerboard wells under sailboats.

In Western States You May also
Report Zebra/Quagga Mussel Sightings to
**Bonneville Power Administration's
Crime Witness Hotline
1-800-437-2744**



IMAGE CREDITS: Zebra mussels encrusting a fishing rod and Zebra mussels on a fishing lure by Marc Murrell, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks • Zebra mussels, Zebra mussels on a beer can, Zebra mussels on a native mussel, Bait bucket: Before and After, Inspect Everything! and Zebra Mussel Distribution Map: July 2006 by David Britton, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service • Zebra mussels in a cut-away pipe by Don Schlosser, Great Lakes Science Center, National Biological Service • Zebra Mussels in a Pipe by Craig Czarnecki, Michigan Sea Grant • Zebra mussels encrusting a boat motor by Steve Krynock - MAP: Distribution Map is based on data compiled by the U.S. Geological Survey available at www.NationalAtlas.gov • **DESIGN:** The design of this brochure is a modified version of an original design provided by Boat U.S. Clean Water Trust and ION Media DC.

100th Meridian Initiative



Please report any sightings by
calling our National Hotline:

1-877-STOP-ANS

1-877-786-7267

Quagga Mussels



Zebra Mussels



**STOP AQUATIC
HITCHHIKERS!**

www.ProtectYourWaters.net