

# AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES OUTREACH: ZEBRA & QUAGGA MUSSEL PREVENTION

Columbia Shuswap Region  
British Columbia, Canada

ICAIS MONTREAL 2019

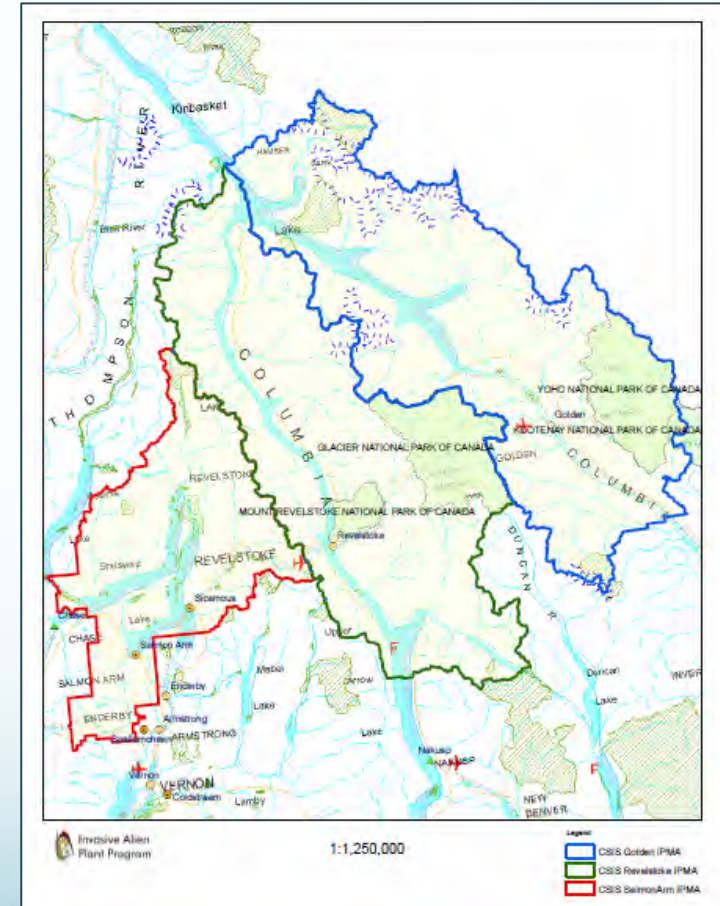
Robyn Hooper & Erin Vieira



# Presentation overview:

- Introductions
- Invasive Mussels
- Components of prevention
- Summary of Challenges and Opportunities

# The Columbia Shuswap Region, British Columbia traditional territory of the Secwepemc, Ktunaxa, and Syilx First Nations

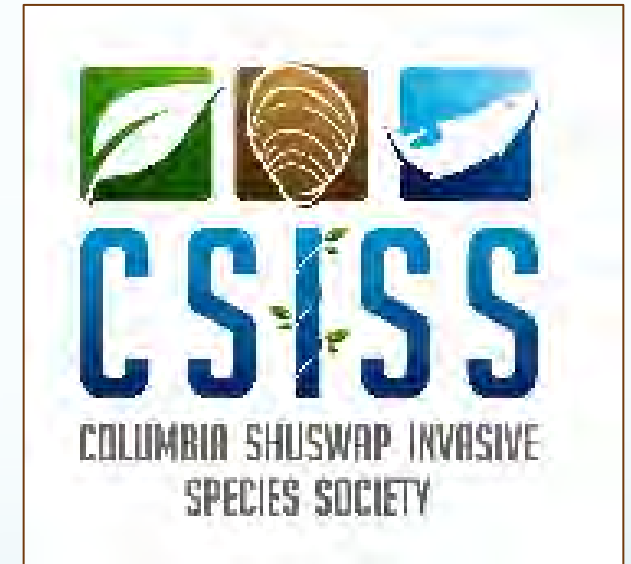




- Collaborative partnership
- Mandate is to **enhance, protect, and advocate for water quality in the Shuswap watershed.**

# Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society

- Non profit society
- 1 of 12 regional groups in BC
- Mandate is to **prevent the spread of invasive species through education, partnership building, and direct management and treatment of invasive species**





# Invasive Mussels: Zebra and Quagga



“One of the most destructive aquatic species ever to have invaded North American freshwater”

# Invasive Mussel impacts





# Invasive Mussel impacts





# Invasive Mussel impacts



# Invasive Mussel impacts



# Coordination, Collaboration & Advocacy





# Education & Outreach





# Education & Outreach

shuswapwater.ca

## BRINGING A WATERCRAFT TO BC?

To avoid accidentally introducing invasive Zebra and Quagga mussels to BC *you must:*

- ❗ **Spread the Word. Protect our Waters.**  
**Clean** ALL watercraft, trailers and equipment including waders and fishing gear.  
**Drain** all compartments and items holding water (such as bilge, wells and buckets) onto dry land.  
**Dry** all items completely before launching into another body of water.
- ❗ **STOP at Watercraft Inspection Stations as you pass them in your travels.**  
Inspection is required by law.

#DONTMOVEAMUSSEL

## Bringing a boat to BC?

# Watercraft inspection

stops the spread of invasive mussels

 SHUSWAP watershed council

To learn more, visit [shuswapwater.ca](http://shuswapwater.ca)

#DONTMOVEAMUSSEL

## ! Transporting invasive species—such as zebra and quagga mussels—IS ILLEGAL IN BC

### WHY DO WE CARE?

If zebra and quagga mussels are accidentally brought to the Shuswap, they will:

- Cling to and colonize on boats, docks, pipes, ropes, and anything else under water
- Ruin beaches with their foul smelling and razor sharp shells
- Deteriorate water quality, and contribute to algal blooms

*That's just the start. Their impacts will cost us millions of dollars per year!*

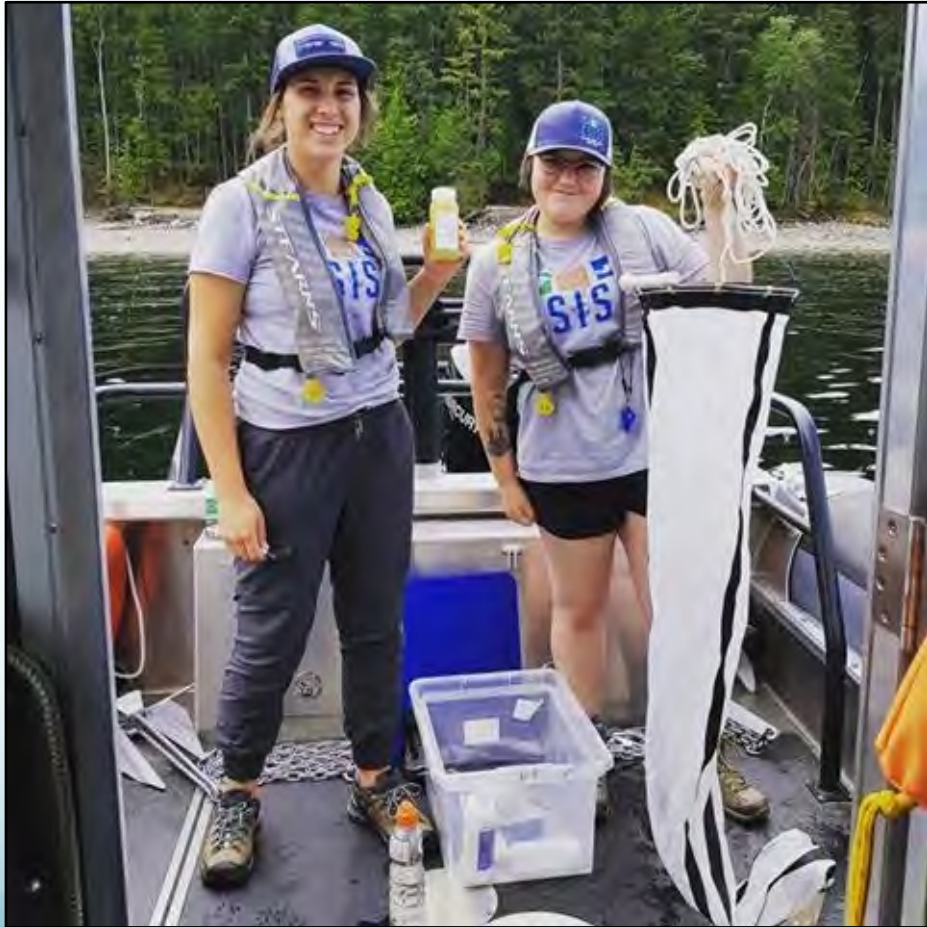
### CLEAN + DRAIN + DRY YOUR WATERCRAFT

#DONTMOVEAMUSSEL

#DontMoveAMussel



# Management and Response

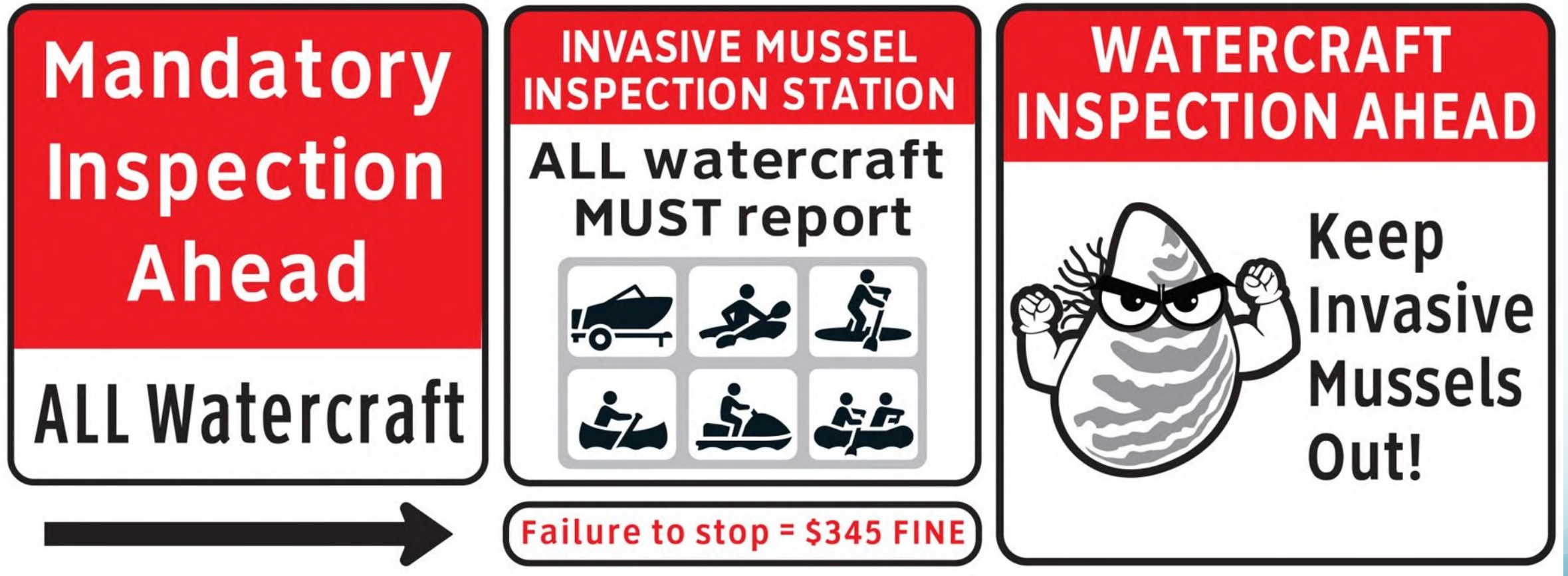




# Watercraft Inspection – Province of BC



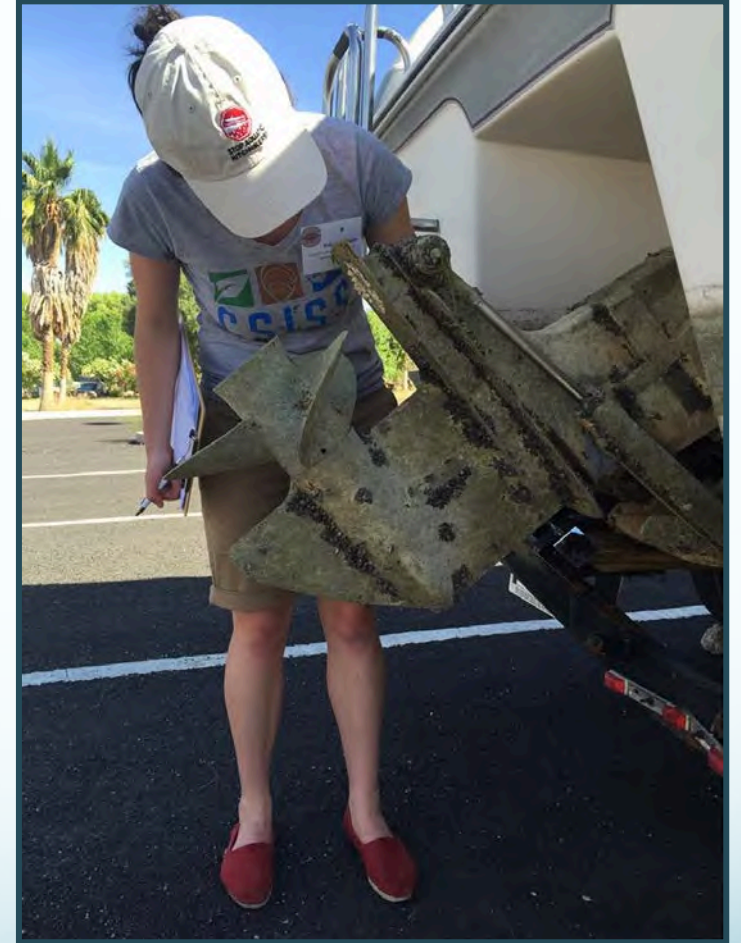
# Watercraft Inspection – Province of BC





# In Summary

- Collaboration is key!
- Need for increased and continued:
  - Prevention via watercraft inspection
  - Communication
  - Work across borders
  - Regulation and enforcement
  - Support for educational prevention programs
  - Watch for new pathway of introduction





# Questions?

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