



BC Invasive Mussel Defence Program Status Report

CLEAN DRAIN DRY

Reporting Period August 30-September 27, 2016



To date, 17 mussel fouled watercraft have been intercepted.

Program Operations

Watercraft Inspection Stations

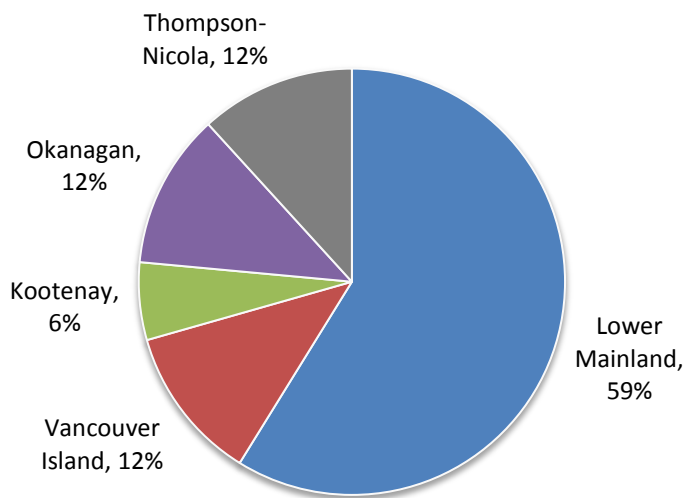
As of September 27th 2016 just over 24,100 watercraft have been inspected and the crews have interacted with approximately 48,500 people to promote Clean, Drain, Dry. The watercraft inspected to date have been identified as traveling into B.C. from 55 different provinces, territories and states.

Of the total watercraft inspected 673 have been identified as coming from a high risk province or state, 90 watercraft have been issued Decontamination Orders, and 68 watercraft have been issued quarantine periods to meet the required 30 day drying time. Of the total watercraft inspected, 17 were confirmed to have adult invasive mussels.

Of the mussel fouled boats 14 were coming from Ontario, 1 from Lake Winnipeg, Manitoba, 1 from Lake Michigan, and 1 from Lake Mead, Nevada. Of the 17 mussel fouled boats, 9 were commercially hauled.

Of the 17 mussel fouled boats, 10 had been through an inspection station in another jurisdiction and BC received advanced notification of its arrival. This demonstrates the efficacy of the joint perimeter defence approach towards protecting the western provinces and states from these invasive mussels.

The destination of the mussel fouled boats by region was highest for the Lower Mainland/South Coast with 11 boats (59%), followed by the Thompson Nicola, Okanagan and Vancouver Island regions at 2 boats each (12%), and the Kootenay region with 1 mussel fouled boat (6%).



Destination of mussel fouled boats intercepted to date.

Lake Monitoring

To date a total of 85 water samples from 31 different lakes have been received for early detection monitoring. Analysis has been completed on 36 samples, and all have come back negative for zebra and quagga veligers.

Program Effectiveness

It is estimated that inspection crews have interacted with approximately 48,500 people to date to promote the message of Clean, Drain and Dry.

To date a total of 400 people without boats have voluntarily stopped at the watercraft inspection stations to get more information about Invasive Mussels and other Aquatic Invasive Species.

The number of vehicles that fail to report at an inspection station is being recorded for every shift at each inspection station as a measure of compliance. To date, the average compliance rate for watercraft stopping at inspection stations for the 2016 season is 81%. This represents an increase in compliance by 9% from the 2015 pilot season average of 72%, and is above the compliance rates for similar programs in other jurisdictions.

To date a total of 46 tickets and 36 warnings have been issued to motorists for failing to stop at a watercraft inspection station.

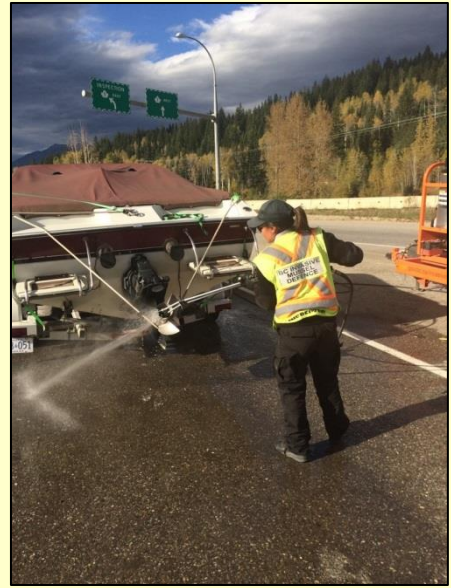
Highlights

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) has a blog posting on the [TranBC website](#) which highlights the Invasive Mussel Defence Program. Please share this widely with others,

The Chilliwack inspection crew and Program Coordinator Martina Beck attended the Mosquito Creek Boat Show in North Vancouver from September 9th-11th. This was an excellent opportunity to interact and educate the local boating community and boating industry in the Lower Mainland region. It is estimated that the crew interacted with approximately 241 people over the course of the three day event.

A total of 641 boats were inspected over the Labor Day Long weekend between Friday Sep 2nd and Monday Sep 5th.

The Program is working with the Province of Alberta to raise awareness of Whirling Disease outbreak in Banff National Park. Please stay tuned for further updates.



82% of the mussel fouled boats intercepted to date have come from Ontario



Chilliwack mussel inspectors at the Mosquito Creek boat show in North Vancouver.

Key Upcoming Dates

Oct 8-10th 2016 – Thanksgiving weekend, final long weekend of the season.

Oct 15th 2016 – All inspection stations will close operations.

Oct 19-21st 2016 - Western Regional Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species (Jackson, WY)

Dec 6/7th - 100th Meridian Initiative Columbia River Basin Team Meeting (Portland, OR)

Dec 2016 – Year end report complete for 2016 season.

Jan-Feb 2017 – Hiring of mussel inspectors for 2017 season

March 2017 – Training of mussel inspectors for 2017 season.



Invasive mussels found on a boat coming from Ontario intercepted at the Golden inspection station on September 23rd 2016.



Crews continue to see all types of unique watercraft being transported in the Province.