



Stop the Invasion of Zebra and Quagga Mussels

Invasive mussels are spreading at an alarming rate across the United States. Zebra and quagga mussels are transported between bodies of water on boats, trailers, bait buckets and other equipment that comes in contact with the water.



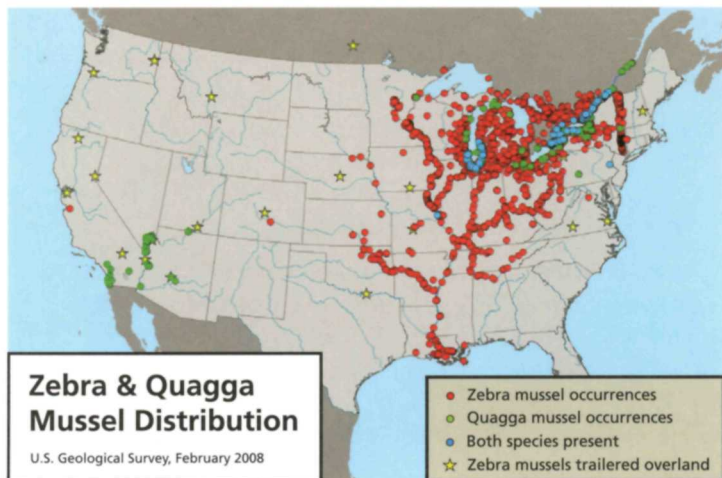
Quagga Mussels (NPS Photo)



Zebra Mussels (USFWS Photo)

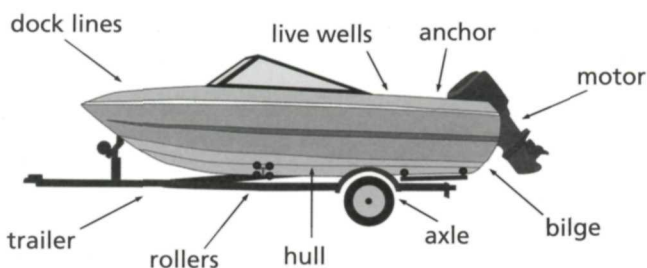
- Zebra and quagga mussels are the only freshwater bivalves in North America that encrust hard surfaces.
- They may be microscopic or up to two inches long, and commonly have alternating light and dark stripes and razor sharp shells.
- An adult female can release up to 1,000,000 eggs each season. Colonies in infested waters have been found to contain 700,000 mussels in just one square meter of water.

IT IS A FEDERAL AND STATE OFFENSE TO TRANSPORT OR RELEASE ZEBRA OR QUAGGA MUSSELS.



Blue Mesa Reservoir needs your help to remain free of invasive mussels.

Before Launching... Before Leaving...
Inspect Everything!



Invasive mussels in Blue Mesa Reservoir could:

- Disrupt fishing by reducing food sources for kokanee salmon and other fish
- Damage or destroy your boat by encrusting steering equipment and clogging the engine's cooling system
- Litter the shore with razor sharp, odor-producing shells that may carry harmful bacteria.
- Clog downstream agricultural and municipal water intake facilities

There will be no cost effective or environmentally safe way to eliminate invasive mussels if they become established in Blue Mesa Reservoir.

Please report any sightings to a park ranger or call the National Aquatic Nuisance Species Hotline: 1-877-STOP-ANS (1-877-786-7267)



**STOP AQUATIC
HITCHHIKERS!™**

Prevent the transport of nuisance species.
Clean all recreational equipment.
www.ProtectYourWaters.net

REQUIRED CERTIFICATION

All watercraft on Blue Mesa Reservoir need to be certified as Zebra and Quagga mussel-free. This is a self-certification process and is required before launching your watercraft onto Blue Mesa Reservoir pursuant to 36 CFR 1.5 (a) (2).

Instructions for mussel-free certification can be found at the Elk Creek Visitor Center, Lake Fork Visitor Center, Elk Creek Campground Kiosk, or online at: www.nps.gov/cure

Questions? Please call 970-641-2337 extension 205