

Safeguarding the West and Other Invasive Species Updates

COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN TEAM MEETING

JUNE 5, 2019

HILARY SMITH, US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BRYAN HORSBURGH, US BUREAU OF RECLAMATION



Invasive Species Investments Fiscal Year 2019 and 2020

- ▶ FY2019 Continuing Resolution \$113M
(FY2019 Enacted #s in progress)
 - ▶ ~\$13.3M Quagga/Zebra Mussels

- ▶ FY2020 President's Budget \$105M
 - ▶ ~\$10.8M Quagga/Zebra Mussels
 - ▶ +\$1M for BLM to address mussels in Lower Colorado River
 - ▶ +\$5M for USFWS Refuge Program for Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR)



National Environmental Policy Act Categorical Exclusions (CE)

- ▶ Potential scope
 - ▶ Actions that include rapid response to newly detected aquatic and terrestrial invasive species (including pathogens), or control and management of established populations, by implementing physical, chemical, or biological measures that may be combined as an integrated pest management approach.
- ▶ DOI-wide Work Group
- ▶ Timeline
 - ▶ Summer 2019: Document Review and CE language development
 - ▶ Fall 2019-Summer 2020: Internal and External Review and Clearance



Early Detection and Rapid Response

- ▶ FY19 Omnibus referred to 115th Senate Report Direction

Invasive Species. —The Committee recognizes the critical importance of early detection and rapid response [EDRR] of invasive species as a strategy to mitigate the threats and impacts of invasive species and expects the Department of the Interior and the Forest Service to prioritize EDRR and control of invasive species that imperil endangered, threatened, or candidate species. In particular, the Committee supports efforts to prioritize EDRR in areas with large populations of invasive species.

Within 180 days of the date of enactment of this act, the agencies shall provide the Committee with a report on their efforts to prioritize EDRR as part of their expected program of work for fiscal year 2019, including detail on how the agencies plan to protect specific native species and natural resource values on public lands across the Nation.



Incident Command System (ICS)

- ▶ FY19 Omnibus referred to 115th House Report Direction

The Committee directs the Secretary of the Interior, in cooperation with the Chief of the Forest Service, through the Secretary of Agriculture, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers/Civil Works, to work with the Western Governors Association and individual western governors to develop a joint Federal/State incident command system that would allow for cooperative and rapid response to new detections of invasive mussels in the West. Such incident command system must address appropriate division of labor between Federal and State governments, identify pre-arranged mechanisms for the Federal/State partners to fund rapid response actions, and address in advance any necessary environmental compliance requirements that might be associated with a predictable range of rapid response actions. The Committee expects a report on the creation of such an incident command system within 180 days of enactment of this Act.



Incident Command System (ICS)

- ▶ Formed Federal Committee (DOI, NISC Secretariat, ANSTF Executive Secretary, USDA USFS, and USACE); other federal participants are invited to participate / WGA opted out – sent letter with recs
- ▶ Focus on rapid response, of which ICS is a tool, and enhancing capacity, including efficiency for environmental compliance and funding
- ▶ Build on existing efforts (e.g., Columbia River Basin Rapid Response Plan and ESA Manual, WRP and QZAP, NISC EDRR Assessments, ANSTF Strategic Plan)



John D. Dingell Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act

Passed 3/06/2019 Enacted 3/12/2019

▶ **Section 7001, Subsec. 10**

- ▶ **Strategic Plan:** Develop plan to achieve a substantive annual net reduction, developed in coordination with states and in consultation with federally recognized Indian Tribes
- ▶ **Efficiency:** Select cost-effective methods and perform comparative economic assessments and pursue expedited actions
- ▶ **Funding Allocations:** No less than 75% for on-the-ground control and management; not more than 15% for investigations, development activities, and outreach and public awareness efforts; not more than 10% for administrative costs
- ▶ **Reporting:** Report on use of funds and percentage of funds for FY20 and FY 21
- ▶ **Terms and Conditions:** Contracts and cooperative agreements will include MOU with various provisions (e.g., nature of partnership, activities to be conducted, prioritized species)



John D. Dingell Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act (S47)

▶ **Section 7001, Subsec. 10**

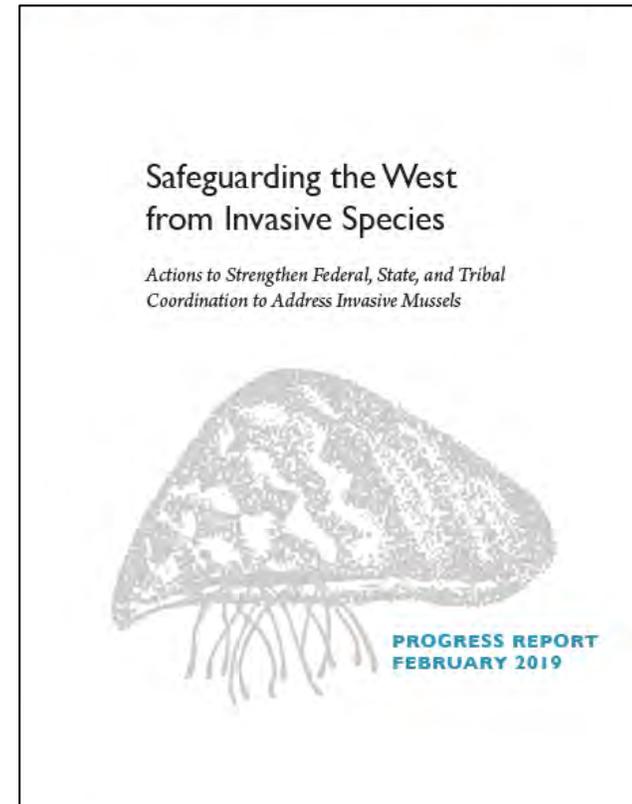
▶ **Theodore Roosevelt Genius Prize for Management of Invasive Species**

- ▶ Prize Competition to 1) encourage technological innovation with the potential to advance the mission of the USFWS and 2) award 1 or more prizes annually for a technological advancement that manages invasive species
- ▶ Establish a Management of Invasive Species Technology Advisory Board
- ▶ Consult with federal and nonfederal stakeholders
- ▶ Enter into agreement with National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to administer
- ▶ Submit report not later than 60 days after the date on which a cash prize is awarded
- ▶ Authority terminated on 12/31/2023



Safeguarding the West

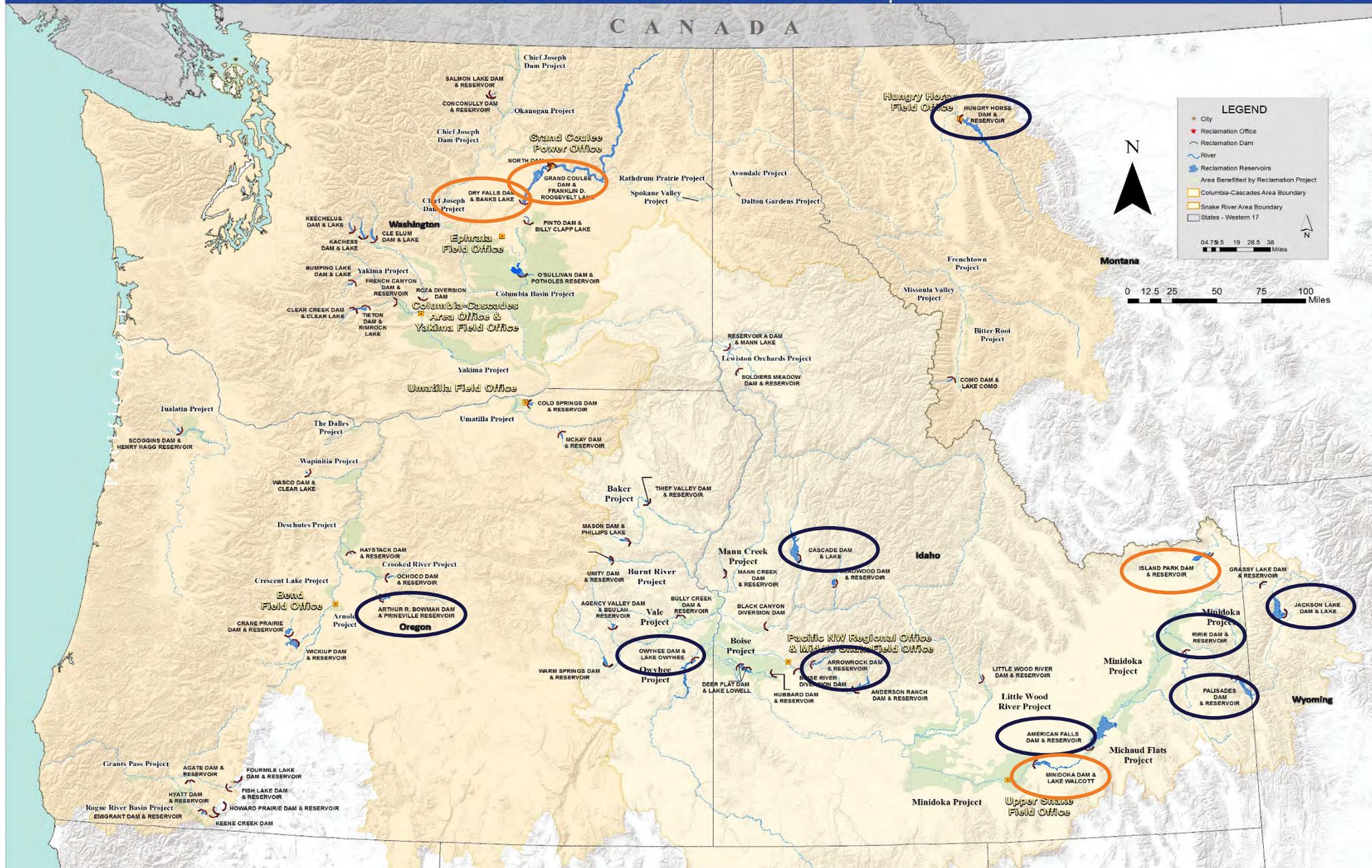
- ▶ Progress Report, February 2019
- ▶ Invested at least \$13.8 M in FY2018
- ▶ 6 bureaus
- ▶ 32 completed actions; 4 changed focus; 1 on hold; and 16 in progress
- ▶ Monthly internal coordination calls; monthly calls with Western Governors' Association (WGA)
- ▶ DOI Bureau Mussels Funding Leads Coordination
- ▶ Planning committee for WGA Mussels Leadership Forum for August event



2019 Facility Vulnerability Assessments

- ▶ BOR Technical Services Center Contractor
- ▶ Grand Coulee, Banks Lake, Island Park, Lake Walcott
- ▶ Facility visits scheduled for summer 2019
 - ▶ Final reports expected fall 2019
- ▶ Concludes assessments on high priority facilities





2019

2018

2019 Partner Funding

- ▶ Received 13 funding requests totaling \$1.34M
- ▶ Spend plan submitted to BOR Policy Office for approval
 - ▶ State submissions
 - ▶ Consistency with Safeguarding the West
- ▶ 8 projects totaling \$922k selected for funding
- ▶ 4 Prevention, 3 Early Detection, 1 Education/Outreach
- ▶ Currently working with partners to establish grant agreements



Assistance to Washington

- ▶ Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife
 - ▶ Watercraft Inspection Stations (\$243k)
 - ▶ Clean-Drain-Dry-Dispose (CD3) systems (\$142k)
 - ▶ Monitoring activities at high-risk waterbodies (\$90k)



Assistance to Oregon

- ▶ Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife
 - ▶ Education and Outreach Material (\$92k)
- ▶ Oregon State Marine Board
 - ▶ Extended hours at selected inspection stations (\$60k)



Assistance to Montana

- ▶ Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks
 - ▶ Funding for Anaconda inspection station (\$140k)



Assistance to Colville Confederated Tribes

- ▶ Establish an AIS program (\$90k)
 - ▶ Increased participation in Regional AIS issues
 - ▶ Field training and monitoring
 - ▶ Equipment purchase
 - ▶ Washdown station management



Assistance to Portland State University

- ▶ Center for Lands and Reservoirs (\$65k)
 - ▶ Mussel surveys at high priority reservoirs in the NW
 - ▶ Coordinate sampling locations with relevant agencies



Questions & Contact Information

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