



A Message from your New AERF President Jim Schmidt

As a first order of business, I sincerely thank our outgoing AERF President, Joel Fruendt of Clarke Mosquito Control for his two years of service to the Foundation. Joel's background and experience in both mosquito control as well as aquatic plant management from an application services perspective has been and continues to be a valuable asset to the Foundation. We look forward to his guidance and input as our Past President and Director position.

The AERF started 2015 optimistically with nine returning Gold Sponsors plus pending commitments from two additional companies. This would expand our Board of Directors to eleven. We are equally encouraged by the contributions and support coming from all of the other six levels of Sponsorship. Increasing the diversity of Gold Sponsors (manufacturers, distributors & application companies) at the Board of Directors level as well as the other contributing sponsors provides the financial as well as technical resources needed to expand our efforts in supporting research and education on aquatic plant and water resource management. Thank you to all.

On a personal note, some of you may already be aware that I have retired from Applied Biochemists – A Lonza Business, effective April 4, 2015. I am proud to have spent my entire career at Applied Biochemists working in the aquatic plant management industry for 41 years. I am thankful for the many friendships and professional relationships I've had the privilege to establish over these years, and I intend to maintain in the years ahead. As for the immediate future, I look for this to be a transition rather than an abrupt end to my involvement. In early May, the AERF Board voted that I fulfill my term as President.

The AERF has a strong core of leadership and a long list of worthwhile commitments to support for this year and beyond. We have been engaged with various agencies and organizations to assist in challenging the Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) policy/definition that has been proposed for adoption by the U.S. EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The WOTUS policy will significantly expand jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act along with corresponding pesticide application reporting requirements under NPDES General Permits.

Realizing that compliance with the Endangered Species Act is likely to become an increasing challenge, the AERF has approved funding for an extensive research literature review on the impacts of aquatic invasive species and their management, both directly and indirectly on aquatic protected and endangered species. Our objective is to seek out the scientific evidence supporting the rationale that habitat improvement via invasive aquatic plant control programs can serve to benefit and protect Endangered Species.

We continue to focus upon sound science as the best approach to support or in some cases challenge regulatory decisions. The AERF has established itself as a trusted and readily available source of scientific information relating to aquatic plant management through efforts such as the recently released 3rd Edition of BIOLOGY AND CONTROL OF AQUATIC PLANTS – A Best Management Practices Handbook. Our Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and our affiliations with leading university scientists in plant science, environmental toxicology, fisheries, etc. have provided teams of experts to conduct comprehensive Symposia throughout the U.S. and beyond our borders into Canada. Realizing the sustainability of our discipline and industry is dependent upon the advancement

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WOTUS**Carlton Layne****Executive Director**

It's been thirteen months since the publication of the draft Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (CoE) proposed rule to "clarify" the definition of waters of the United States (WOTUS). This is essentially the same definition used by the CoE that prompted, in part, the *Rapanos v. United States*, 547 U.S. 715 (2006) case discussed in the last Newsletter. The agencies provided a tortured justification and explanation of the proposed rule which capitalized on the failure of the court to command a majority opinion. The agencies repeatedly extended the comment period on the proposed rule until by December 12th over 900,000 comments had been received and logged on the docket both for and against.

The old definition included relatively permanent, standing or continuously flowing bodies of water traditionally recognized as streams, oceans, rivers and lakes that were connected to traditional navigable waters. In addition, the old definition included wetlands adjacent to or abutting these water bodies if they contain a continuous surface water connection between the wetland and water body. The EPA promised "clarification" of the definition was accomplished by removing any mention of navigable waters, which interestingly remains in the Act itself, and then continued with the addition of heretofore unmentioned "other" and "neighboring" waters that have a biological, physical or chemical significant nexus to the traditional waters named above. It's unclear how this stated attempt at "clarification" will achieve the promised goal of reducing litigation. Time will tell I suppose.

When tallying the comments, the "fors" mostly applauded the proposed rule on the grounds that it was consistent with the intent of the Clean Water Act's mission to protect the WOTUS where ever they may be. The antis readily borrowed from or inadvertently paraphrased the Scalia opinion in the *Rapanos* case. The proposed rule, according to those who criticized it:

- Actually amends the Clean Water Act by removing "navigable waters" from the definition – an activity which is reserved to Congress alone;
- Ignores the fact that the question of a biological nexus was already decided in another U.S. Supreme Court case and was deemed to be unsupported by the statute;
- Expanded "adjacent" waters and wetlands to include new categories of "other waters" and "neighboring waters" and potentially entire regions and watersheds which is another expansion beyond the plain language of the statute unauthorized by Congress;
- Essentially eliminates the Waters of the State by incorporating them in the regional or watershed approach in the proposed definition; and
- Turns point sources identified in prior court decisions into WOTUS and the agencies cannot have it both ways.

Of course there were many other criticisms, but my allotted space doesn't allow for an extensive listing. EPA and the CoE have indicated they are prepared to issue a final rule with changes in the sections regarding ditches and ephemeral streams. In the meantime the EPA has changed the name of the proposed rule to the "Clean Water Rule". That should make everyone feel better. EPA projected the final rule should be published sometime around Memorial Day

Congress has stirred a bit and two bills are working their way through the system following several hearings by various committees.

H.R. 897, Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2015

This is the third time we've seen this bill. The first two efforts were passed by the House and cleared the Agriculture Committee in the Senate, but was never permitted by Senator Reid to come to the floor for a vote. H.R. 897 would prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and states authorized to issue permits under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) from requiring a permit for some discharges of

Schmidt Continued of our science in a world of growing technology, we are firmly dedicated to supporting the education of the next generations of aquatic plant scientists. These initiatives have included scholarship funding, financial support for students attending APMS meetings, assistance with Plant Camp for training FL teachers on biology and management of aquatic plants, just to name a few.

Here are some thoughts and observations as we start the 2015 season. Carlton and others have shared information on legislative actions, budget allocations, grant awards and other initiatives from an increasing number of states as well as the U.S. EPA directing funds and resources towards “Aquatic Invasive Species” (AIS). We all need to take a much closer look at where and how these monies are being spent. These programs list a wide range of funded activities including: education, training, protection, monitoring, research, control, management, eradication. Programs further define who can qualify for these funds (organizations, agencies, educational institutions, volunteer groups, etc.) and geographically where they can be spent. Two closely related factors of interest are the various and sometimes creative means by which states have funded these programs (taxes, license fees, special assessments, etc.) and the status of enforcement of existing AIS laws. I have suggested to the AERF Board that we spend some resources compiling and summarizing this information at both the state and Federal levels to identify opportunities where AERF might qualify to assist with and/or in some cases benefit from this funding to support our goals.

On behalf of the AERF, thank you all for your continued support. While our Bylaws require that only appointees from Gold Sponsors make up the AERF Board of Directors, I want to ensure all other Sponsors that the Board members serve as your delegates. Therefore, I encourage you to bring forth your ideas, issues and concerns for our consideration.

Social Media Update

Our social media coordinator, Brett Hartis, formerly of North Carolina State University, has recently been named Program Manager of the Tennessee Valley Authority’s Aquatic Plant Management Program. TVA has a long history of aquatic plant management dating back several decades, with water stewardship responsibilities across seven states, and active management programs in Alabama and Tennessee. Hartis will be overseeing management activities on various lakes, including Lake Guntersville, perhaps the most active program in the Tennessee Valley System where he will subsequently be located. “I am looking forward to both the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead” says Hartis. “TVA has a rich history of stakeholder driven aquatic plant management, and I am looking forward to working with various groups to best accomplish the overall mission of TVA”. Hartis will be taking the place of long time program manager and botanist, David Webb who recently retired from TVA.

Brett will continue to provide content, post information, and monitor the AERF social Facebook and Twitter social media outlets. For the foreseeable future, AERF will be suspending its Blog.

Please contact Brett at social@aquatics.org if you have any questions, suggestions, or would like to contribute to our social media.

T-Shirt Contest Re-boot!

We would like to thank everyone who submitted an entry to our t-shirt contest conducted last fall. We were unable to select a winning design from those entries. We decided we were a little too loose on our rules. You are invited to submit your design for an AERF t-shirt to Dave Petty (dpetty@aquatics.org). We are looking for a fun design, which can be text, graphic, or both. You do need to submit a finished concept, but it should be a developed idea with illustration. We will not consider entries that simply suggest a possibility or present a design and suggest changes. As before, don’t worry about your drawing skills. If need be, we will have a graphic designer work on the winning design as far as graphics and text style. Previous submitters are encouraged to resubmit your designs. The top 3 entries will receive a free t-shirt, and the winning design will also receive a \$150 Amazon gift card—yes we’ve tripled the top prize! You do not need to be an AERF sponsor to enter, so please pass this notice around. Our current deadline for entries is August 1, though we may extend that if need be.

Layne Continued pesticides. Specifically, public and private entities would no longer need to obtain an NPDES permit for certain discharges of pesticides if their use is authorized under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, or in cases where the discharge is regulated as a stormwater, municipal, or industrial discharge under the Clean Water Act. H.R. 897 was passed by the House and is now in the Senate.

H.R. 1732, Regulatory Integrity Protection Act of 2015

H.R. 1732 would require the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to withdraw the proposed rule published in the Federal Register on April 21, 2014, that defines the scope of waters protected by the Clean Water Act (CWA). Under the CWA, EPA and the Corps, along with the states, serve as co-regulators of activities affecting the nation's waters. The bill would require EPA and the Corps to develop a new proposed rule, taking into account public comments submitted for the April 21, 2014, proposed rule as well as the regulatory analysis for that proposed rule and a related EPA report issued in January 2015. This legislation also would direct EPA and the Corps to consult with state and local officials, stakeholders, and other interested parties to seek consensus on which waters and wetlands are covered by the CWA. Finally, H.R. 1732 would require EPA and the Corps to prepare a report for the Congress that responds to public comments filed on the April 2014 proposed rule and associated documents and that describes how the new proposed rule addresses such comments. The report also would have to explain how the new proposed rule addresses the advice and recommendations obtained from other parties, and it would have to include a comprehensive regulatory and economic analysis of the new proposed rule.

Either bill would be good for the aquatic plant management community. The Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Foundation (AERF) has worked hard to keep you well informed as to the issues and what is really at stake for our industry. We will continue to send you Action Alerts as the need arises and we hope and trust you will respond by letting your elected representatives and senators become aware of your position on these important pieces of legislation. The White House has stated that the president will veto these bills if they pass the Senate, so a veto-proof majority will be necessary, so please respond when notified.

Remember, the AERF is a §501(3)(c) nonprofit foundation and we survive and function entirely on your tax-deductible generosity. Please remember the work we do on your behalf when you are considering donations this year.

In Memorium

Judith "Judy" Ann Hinterman, July 23, 1966 – May 5, 2015, passed away after a long illness. Judy was the devoted wife and workmate of Richard Hinterman. She was active with Richard in his aquatic weed control business and later with Cygnet Enterprises, Inc. Always well attired and coifed, she was the consummate professional and lady in every way. Judy was fun to be around. She laughed easy and enjoyed telling stories about her and Richard's trips and exploits. I'll miss her smile and wink as she revealed some tidbit. Over the years, she played hostess to rave reviews at several AERF board and planning meetings. She even managed once to get me to enjoy a slice of rhubarb pie – of course I didn't know what it was because I do not like rhubarb pie. All who knew her will miss her.

Carlton

EPA Awards 15 Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grants Totaling Over \$8 Million to Combat Invasive Species

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced the award of 15 Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grants totaling more than \$8 million for projects to combat invasive species in the Great Lakes basin.

"These Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grants will be used to target aquatic and terrestrial invasive species in the Great Lakes basin," said Region 5 Administrator/ Great Lakes National Program Manager Susan Hedman. "The projects will also help to prevent the introduction of new invasive species that pose significant risks to the Great Lakes ecosystem."

No Place like the Freezing Cold: AERF Expert Panel Visits Alberta in the Dead of Winter to Provide Assistance to the New Alberta Aquatic Invasive Species Program

Kate Wilson

Provincial Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist
Alberta Environment & Sustainable Resource Development

Sometimes, it really is about who you know. I feel fortunate to see my circles intertwining again, from the Idaho panhandle to Gainesville, Florida and now to western Canada...what is the common link between all of these places? You guessed it, aquatic invasive species!

I am feeling grateful for this amazing opportunity to build an aquatic invasive species program for the province of Alberta, and it didn't take me long to realize that what I really needed was some help from those seasoned souls who have been through it all before. Who could I possibly call but Carlton Layne and the AERF crew?

Carlton and the infamous Dr. Bill Haller worked with me to convene an outstanding committee to 1) evaluate the first year of our aquatic invasive species program, and 2) provide recommendations for moving forward and ensuring a long-term sustainable program. We had a panel of five total, including Carlton and Bill, but also Tom Woolf, Don Stubbs, and Amy Ferriter. Don, Bill and Carltons' experience with aquatic herbicides, registration and reciprocity between the US and Canada came in handy, to say the least. And Tom's and Amy's vast

experience of building a prevention-focused comprehensive aquatic invasive species program was essential.

First of all, let's dispel that bothersome question that you have: yes, many invasive species can survive (and thrive in) the brutal darkness seven months a year that is winter in Alberta. To name a few, zebra and quagga mussels, flowering rush, carp, northern snakehead, hydrilla, cabomba and phragmites! While this may be true, the only aquatic invasive species we have detected to date are flowering rush and a wild goldfish, the Prussian carp. The focus of the program thus far has largely been on quagga and zebra mussels due to their proximity (detected in Manitoba in 2013) as well as their potential impact to



Alberta. On top of the ecological impacts (filter feeding, loss of biodiversity, changes to habitat), we estimate that an invasive mussel infestation would cost us over \$75 million annually if we "miss the boat." Ultimately, mussels provide an excellent (scary) poster child for the program but the focus is really on all aquatic invasive plants, invertebrates and fish.

In January 2015, the expert panel came to Alberta for a week to get a handle on the different program elements, which culminated in the first ever Alberta Aquatic Invasive Species Summit, a hugely successful event in Calgary, Alberta. We had nearly 150 guests, which included representation from provincial and municipal governments, the irrigation and hydropower industries, watershed and conservation groups, anglers as well as partners from British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Idaho, Montana, Washington DC, Georgia and Florida!

Prior to the Summit, the expert panel met with provincial pesticide policy experts as well as key stakeholders in the irrigation industry. They toured a potential watercraft inspection site and spent countless hours in Q and A sessions (sometimes over beer, it's true) with program leaders. All of this culminated in a myriad of thoughtful and strategic recommendations for the future direction of the program.

The Alberta aquatic invasive species program didn't exist prior to 2012. It was around that time that a small group of individuals who work on issues affecting the "Crown of the Continent Ecosystem," a beautiful and intact ecosystem that spans southwest Alberta, British Columbia and Montana. At that time, Alberta had very few controls in place to prevent harmful invasive species from being introduced. An aquatic invasive species prototype focusing on "two mussels and a weed" (zebra mussels, quagga mussels, and Eurasian watermilfoil) was initiated in this geographic area in 2012-2013. It was a highly successful effort that ultimately was expanded to a program with a province-wide and multi-taxa focus in 2013-2014. The Alberta aquatic invasive species program has five elements:

1. **Education & Outreach:** The focus of education has been the "Clean, Drain, Dry Your Boat" campaign. The emphasis is not on the issue or identification of aquatic invasive species, but how they are spread (primarily by trailered watercraft). Personal actions have a key role to play in the curbing of aquatic invasive species spread, and it really has to do with these three simple steps, every time a boat is removed from the water. We want to make these practices so commonplace that a social norm is created. Campaign materials include boat launch signs, billboards on major highways, radio spots, video/TV vignettes, print ads, articles and a whole lot of outreach. Coming soon: a new campaign targeting other vectors such as aquarium stores and customers, "Don't Let it Loose."
2. **Watercraft Inspections:** Since 2013, over 4000 boats have been inspected in Alberta. And thirteen mussel fouled-boats have been intercepted en route to or through Alberta. This is not a hypothetical situation, it is real. And the best means of mitigating the risk is to inspect traveling watercraft that pose the highest risk. Inspections also provide for an excellent face-to-face education opportunity with boaters. We are proposing a major expansion to this element of the program in the future. We are also now using mussel-sniffer dogs to augment the seasonal staff conducting inspections.
3. **Monitoring:** Prior to 2013 we did not monitor for any aquatic invasive species. Utilizing our existing surface water quality monitoring staff, we were able to monitor 55 lakes and reservoirs in 2013 for invasive mussels, and 73 in 2014. All results have come negative. We use the standards for mussel monitoring developed in the west. Moving forward, we would like to expand monitoring to a multi-taxa approach.
4. **Response & Control:** We have developed a 24/7 aquatic invasive species reporting line, protocols for inspection and decontaminating boats, and are now finalizing our invasive mussel rapid response plan. There is much work to do still on control options available for aquatic invasive species, but we have been working on conducting an herbicide trial on flowering rush this year, so hopefully it will serve as the precedent we need to move forward.
5. **Policy & Legislation:** While education is a key element of any aquatic invasive species program, policies and regulations are also necessary. As I am writing this article I am awaiting the passage of a Bill to amend the Fisheries (Alberta) Act, specifically to provide for a more robust aquatic invasive species program. The amendment would allow for mandatory watercraft inspections, provide enhanced authority to address all potential sources of introductions (watercraft, aquarium/pet industry, imports, aquaculture etc.), and create a prohibited species list (of 52 key species of concern including plants, invertebrates and fish). If this Bill passes, Alberta will become a leader in aquatic invasive species prevention and management in Canada. Stay tuned!

The program is led by the Alberta Ministry of Environment & Sustainable Resource Development but there are many partners that assist with program delivery, both across government and externally. We also work closely with the western states and provinces around us who share the same concerns about aquatic invasive species; there is an excellent web of support for this issue in the west – the last remaining "mussel free zone."

While the program has experienced great success and an atypically fast timeline (c'mon, we all know government has a reputation here) in the past two years, we are now challenged with maintaining this and

ensuring that the system is built in a way that is functional for the long term. That's where AERF's expert panel comes in! Over the course of a week (and many phone calls and reports), the panel came up with 33 recommendations for the Alberta aquatic invasive species program.

Program leaders found the recommendations to be both incredibly useful and right on the mark. The panel made recommendations on the five program areas as well as more general strategic ones, from exploring potential user-fee funding sources to pursuing a stand-alone invasive species act. They commended us for the work that has been conducted in the past two years, the excellent relationships that the program has been built upon, and the involvement of external stakeholders. But they also provided a critical eye and much needed third-party evaluation of where we need to go next.

The wealth of knowledge and experience that exists in this circle astounds me. There is so much value in working together and benefiting from the lessons learned and long history of the tightly-knit community that work on this important issue. I am grateful not only for the opportunity to make a difference in the world of aquatic invasive species, but also for who I know. A great big thanks to AERF and the panel members for making the trek to Alberta in January and providing the guidance and wisdom to ensure the system we put in place is sound and well-rounded. Until next time – the five year review!

AFBF Says WOTUS Rule Would Disregard Exemptions

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WASHINGTON, D.C., March 17, 2015 – The proposed Waters of the U.S. Rule, “unless dramatically altered,” will result in potential Clean Water Act liability and federal permit requirements for a tremendous number of commonplace and essential farming, ranching and forestry practices nationwide, according to the American Farm Bureau Federation.

In testimony today, AFBF General Counsel Ellen Steen told a House Agriculture subcommittee that the WOTUS rule will create enormous uncertainty and vulnerability for farmers and ranchers nationwide.

“It is impossible to know how many farmers, ranchers and forest landowners will be visited by [EPA] enforcement staff or will be sued by citizen plaintiffs’ lawyers – and it is impossible to know when those inspections and lawsuits will happen,” Steen said. “But what is certain is that a vast number of common, responsible farming, ranching and forestry practices that occur today without the need for a federal permit would be highly vulnerable to Clean Water Act enforcement under this rule.”

According to AFBF's general counsel, several statutory exemptions demonstrate a clear determination by Congress not to impose Clean Water Act regulation on ordinary farming and ranching activities. However, agency and judicial interpretations over the past several decades have significantly limited the agricultural exemptions that have traditionally insulated farming and ranching from Clean Water Act permit requirements.

“Much of the remaining benefit of those exemptions would be eliminated by an expansive interpretation of ‘waters of the United States’ to cover ditches and drainage paths that run across and nearby farm and pasture lands,” Steen testified. “The result would be wide-scale litigation risk and potential Clean Water Act liability for innumerable routine farming and ranching activities that occur today without the need for cumbersome and costly Clean Water Act permits.”

Steen explained that because ditches and ephemeral drainages are ubiquitous on farm and ranch lands – running alongside and even within farm fields and pastures – “the proposed rule will make it impossible for many farmers to apply fertilizer or crop protection products to those fields without triggering Clean Water Act ‘pollutant’ discharge liability and permit requirements.”

“A Clean Water Act pollutant discharge to waters of the U.S. arguably would occur each time even a molecule of fertilizer or pesticide falls into a jurisdictional ditch, ephemeral drainage or low spot – even if the feature is dry at the time of the purported ‘discharge,’” Steen told the subcommittee. For this reason, farmers’ options under the rule are limited.

According to Steen, “they can either continue farming, but under a cloud of uncertainty and risk, they can take on the complexity, cost and equal uncertainty of Clean Water Act permitting or they can try to avoid doing anything near ditches, small wetlands, or stormwater drainage paths on their lands. It’s a no-win situation for farmers and ranchers.”

Legislative Update

Jim Skillen

This year is a busy one for aquatic and invasive species issues in the state legislatures. Below is a summary of the various bills introduced to date.

Bill	Subject	Introduced	Status
AK HB 38	Aquatic Invasive Species Fund	1/21/2015	No Movement
AK HB 53	Use of Pesticides and Chemicals Near a Fish Habitat	1/20/2015	No Movement
CA AB 300	Safe Water and Wildlife Protection Act of 2015 Toxic Algae Blooms	2/12/2015	Passed Committee on Appropriations (8-0)
CA AB 350	Agricultural Pest Control Advisers (Must be Licensed)	2/17/2015	To Committee on Agriculture
CA AB 367	Clear Lake (\$2,400,000 for controlling and eradicating invasive species in Clear Lake)	2/17/2015	To Committee on Water, Parks & Wildlife
CA SB 223	Manage invasive aquatic plants in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta	2/13/2015	To Committee on Natural Resources
CO SB 119	Regulation of Pesticide Applicators	1/26/2015	Passed Senate (35-0)
HI HB 528	Invasive Species Council	1/23/2015	Failed First Crossover Deadline
HI SB 591	Invasive Species Council	1/23/2015	Failed First Crossover Deadline
HI HB 1456	Appropriates funds to the Hawaii invasive species council	1/29/2015	Failed First Crossover Deadline
HI SB 97	Appropriates funds to the invasive species council	1/21/2015	Failed First Crossover Deadline
HI SB 312	Appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture to fight invasive species	1/22/2015	Failed First Crossover Deadline
HI SB 544	Authorizes appropriations for watershed management; invasive species prevention	1/23/2015	Passed Senate on 3/12/2015; sent to the House
IA HB 289	Pesticide Applicators must increase financial responsibility from \$100,000 to \$1 million	2/17/2015	To Committee on Agriculture
IA SB 1190	Pesticide Applicators must increase financial responsibility from \$100,000 to \$1 million	2/17/2015	To Committee on Natural Resources
ID SB 1073	Removal and Movement of Noxious Weeds	2/13/2015	To the Governor (4/2/2015)
IL HB 1049	Amends the Exotic Weed Act	2/2/2015	To Executive Committee
IL HB 3815	Makes changes to license and registration fees; and the license and registration terms.	2/26/2015	To Committee on Agriculture
IN HB 1501	Extends the expiration date of the invasive species council from 7/1/2015 to 7/1/2023	1/20/2015	To the Governor (3/16/2015)
KS SB 134	Amendments to the Kansas noxious weed law	2/2/2015	To Committee on Agriculture
MA HB 763	Relates to invasive plants	1/16/2015	No Movement
MD HB 860	Aquatic Invasive Species; reduce the spread of aquatic invasive species from vessels	2/13/2015	Passed House on 3/23/2015; sent to the Senate
ME HB 64	Invasive Aquatic Plants; Provides funding in fiscal years 2014-15 and 2015-16	1/21/2015	Work Session Held (4/2/2015)
ME HB 146	Chapter 28: Notification Provisions for Outdoor Pesticide Applications is authorized	1/26/2015	Became Law on 3/29/2015
ME LR 209	Assists towns in eradicating milfoil and other invasive aquatic plants and nuisance species	1/14/2015	No Movement
ME LR 1631	Reduces milfoil infestations	1/15/2015	Assigned House Paper number 626 and LD 907 on 3/11/2015
MI SB 104	Aquatic Invasive Species; Authorizes local ordinances for treatment of aquatic invasive species	2/12/2015	To Committee on Natural Resources
MI SB 145	Exempts tangible personal property sold for use in the harvesting, handling, transformation, or packaging of aquatic vegetation	2/18/2015	To Committee on Finance
MN HB 184	Repeals aquatic invasive species prevention program requirements	1/15/2015	To Committee on Environment
MN SB 221	Repeals aquatic invasive species prevention program requirements	1/15/2015	
MN SB 230	Repeals aquatic invasive species prevention program requirements	1/20/2015	To Committee on Environment

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Bill	Subject	Introduced	Status
MN SB 235	Repeals aquatic invasive species prevention program requirements	1/20/2015	To Committee on Environment
MN HB 846	State Government; modifies fees and surcharges	2/12/2015	To Committee on Environment
MN HB 1065	Modifies requirements for aquatic invasives species trailer decal	2/19/2015	To Committee on Environment
MT HB 525	Revises aquatic invasive species funding laws	2/16/2015	Passed House; on to the Senate
MT D 2291	Revises invasive species laws; relates to fish and wildlife	1/17/2015	No Movement
MT D 2292	Revises invasive species laws; relates to fish and wildlife	1/17/2015	No Movement
MT HB 553	Authorizes check stations for Invasive Species	2/17/2015	Passed House; on to the Senate
NH HB 281	Defines exotic aquatic species of wildlife and adds to the duties of the exotic aquatic weeds and species committee	1/8/2015	Passed House; on to the Senate
NH HB 565	Allowed banning the use of boats on certain Waters with a confirmed exotic aquatic species infestation	1/8/2015	Failed
NJ SB 2694	Prohibits sale or planting of certain invasive plant species	1/13/2015	To Committee on Environment
NY SB 1626	Commercial Applicators of Pesticides can apply products at less than labeled rates	1/13/2015	To Committee on Environment
OR HB 2511	Directs State Marine Board to provide education to public about aquatic invasive species	2/2/2015	To Committee on Agriculture
OR SB 209	Makes Invasive Species Council appointment of State Invasive Species Coordinator mandatory	2/2/2015	Passed Senate; on to the House
OR SB 683	Makes overseeing pesticide applicator subject to sanctions for violations by business involving pesticide application	2/19/2015	To Committee on Environment
SC HB 3323	Makes changes to the South Carolina noxious weed act	1/15/2015	Passed Senate; on to the House
TN HB 63	Authorizes the commissioner of agriculture to impose civil penalties	1/15/2015	No Movement
TN HB 245	Implements commercial pesticide applicator re-certification fee.	2/3/2015	To Committee on Business
TN SB 73	Authorizes the commissioner of agriculture to impose civil penalties	1/15/2015	Passed Senate; on to the House
UT HB 897	Clarifies Congressional intent regarding the regulation of the use of pesticides in or near navigable waters.	2/11/2015	To Committee on Agriculture
UT SB 89	Aquatic Invasive Species Fee; fee on boats	1/26/2015	Signed by Governor
VA HB 2052	Repeals the Pest Control Compact	1/14/2015	Signed by Governor
WA SB 5769	Management of Noxious Weeds on State Lands	1/30/2015	Moving in Senate
WV HB 2308	Concerns Commissioner of Agriculture, fee structure for the Pesticide Control Act of 1990	1/26/2015	Failed
WV SB 213	Authorizes Agriculture Commissioner to promulgate legislative rule relating to Pesticide Control Act of 1990 fee structure	1/14/2015	Failed
WV SB 214	Authorizes Agriculture Commissioner to promulgate legislative rule relating to Plant Pest Act	1/14/2015	Failed
WY SB 6	Fee on Watercraft for Invasive Species	1/13/2015	Signed by Governor

Your Sponsorship Information

We recently found a few errors in our list of current Sponsors. Please check our website listing of 2015 Sponsors at <http://www.aquatics.org/members/members.html> to make sure you are listed. If you have submitted your 2015 Sponsorship donation and are not listed, please contact Carlton Layne or Dave Petty. If you haven't renewed your Sponsorship, or are interested in becoming a Sponsor, then please do so. There is a sponsorship form on the following page.

Your AERF Sponsorship is key to:

- ▶ maintaining critical efforts in education and outreach
- ▶ expanding partnerships with regulatory agencies
- ▶ building partnerships
- ▶ supporting high quality research
- ▶ attracting graduate students
- ▶ expanding an already diverse membership
- ▶ being a source for resource management agencies

To donate, join or renew your Sponsorship in the AERF please send the completed application form and payment to Treasurer, AERF, 1860 Bagwell Street, Flint, MI 48503-4406.

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Please use the following as a guide in the selection of the desired level of Sponsorship:

Of course, you are welcome to join AERF at any level and additional donations are appreciated.

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- Associate** and above is recommended for societies, federal and state agencies, aquatic resource management associations, applicators and consultants \$250
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Biology and Control of Aquatic Plants



A Best Management Practices Handbook: Third Edition

Lyn A. Gettys, William T. Haller and David G. Petty, editors

Sponsorship

The AERF respectfully requests that you consider sponsorship. AERF will continue to work on your behalf, and as a member, you will greatly benefit from our work on regulatory and research aspects of aquatic plant management. With changes in the regulatory environment now and in the future, it is essential to be involved and to support all the hard work of your AERF associates.

Please contact Carlton Layne for information on how you can best participate.

The AERF Mission

The Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Foundation is committed to sustainable water resources through the science of aquatic ecosystem management in collaboration with industry, academia, government and other stakeholders.

Strategic Goals

- Provide the public information concerning the benefits and value of conserving aquatic ecosystems including the aquatic use of herbicides and algaecides in the aquatic environment.
- Provide information and resources to assist regulatory agencies and other entities making decisions that impact aquatic plant management.
- Fund research in applied aquatic plant management at major universities.

Upcoming Events

Jul 12-15 APMS & SCAPMS, Myrtle Beach, SC
Sep 14-16 MSAPMS, Mobile, AL
Oct 5-8 FAPMS, Lake Beuna Vista, FL

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