

Montana Aquatic Invasive Species Act Agreement  
Between Department of Agriculture and Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
July 2009

The Department of Agriculture (MDA) and Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) will work together to achieve the goal of implementing the Montana Aquatic Invasive Species Act. This agreement outlines the initial actions and associated funding and reporting for each agency, FWP will continue to operate the existing Statewide Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Program that has been in place for the past five years; funds from MDA will be managed under the existing FWP ANS Program to expand program activities and public outreach.

### AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES

#### FWP SHALL:

Conduct Boat Inspections and Provide Early Detection

During FY 2010 FWP agrees to operate additional boat inspections and an increased early detection-monitoring program at high priority waters listed in the table below. MDA funds are necessary for seasonal employees to operate the check stations and for the equipment (boat washers), travel costs (vehicles, mileage, per diem) and supplies to accomplish program goals.

Seasonal Technicians will be used primarily for boat inspections and with some early detection monitoring at high priority waters. Below are estimated hours that would be spent at each waterbody. Additional waterbodies may be added if necessary with hours being decreased at other waterbodies. To maximize efficiency, crews will work among different bodies of water.

High Priority Waters West of the Divide	Estimated hours FY2010
Flathead lake and other Flathead basin and subbasin waters	1000
Georgetown lake	300
Lake Kookanusa and Kootenai River	300
High Priority Waters East of the Divide	
Fort Peck reservoir	1000
Canyon Ferry, Holter and Hauser reservoirs	1000
Nelson, Fresno, and Tiber reservoirs	1000
Missouri river	200
Madison river and flatwater	300
Yellowstone river	300
Bighorn river and flatwater	300
Tongue river and flatwater	300

Waters are prioritized based on their risk of introduction and establishment of aquatic invasive species. To determine their risk angler use, risk from boater movements, waterbody size and use, water quality, and other vectors such as bait use are all considered. Bodies of water that are larger, receive boats frequently that have been in infested waters, have power generation facilities, allow the use of live minnows, have suitable water quality and are heavily used by anglers are considered to be of highest risk. Fort Peck Reservoir, Canyon Ferry Reservoir and Flathead Lake are the three bodies of water at highest risk.

Budget FY2010 Total: \$147,202

Personal services: \$78,000

- Seasonal Technicians
  - Salary: 6,000 hours @ 11.50/hr \$69,000
  - Benefits: \$1.50/hr \$9,000

Equipment: \$10,562

Boat Washer repairs and upgrades \$10,562

Operations: \$58,640

- Temporary signage for boat ramps and fishing access sites \$834  
(600 temporary color laminated signs)
- Travel expenses for seasonal field crews \$48,000  
(mileage, lodging, per diem, vehicle rental or purchase)
- Outreach materials \$4,000  
(permanent signs, print costs, etc.)
- Field supplies for early detection/monitoring crews \$3,806  
(nets, preservative, jars)
- Laboratory supplies for sample processing \$2,000

**MDA SHALL:**

Reimburse FWP for the expenses identified in the budget above for FY10.

MDA will arrange to purchase for Portable boat wash units (4 units)

- Diesel generated hot water, high-pressure units without recirculation/containment abilities (\$15,000 each, estimated cost) \$60,000

MDA will contract for a Statewide Strategic Outreach Campaign \$40,000

**MDA and FWP SHALL:**

Work together to produce a Public Service Announcement or similar outreach product by or before September 2009.

## REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Both departments will provide reports that detail the activities performed under the Act and the results of these aquatic invasive species activities.

FWP will provide MDA and MDA will provide FWP with summery activity reports covering the previous four months on July 1<sup>st</sup>, November 1<sup>st</sup>, and March 1<sup>st</sup>.

All data collected by either department on aquatic invasive species will be available to the other department.

Yearly reports for budgeting and legislative purposes involving invasive species will also be shared between the two agencies.

## MODIFICATIONS

Modifications to this agreement shall be made in writing and by agreement from both parties.

## COMMENCEMENT/EXPIRATION DATE

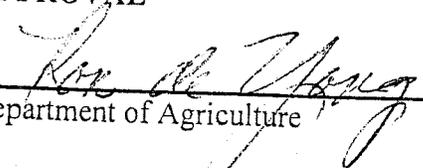
This agreement is executed as of the date of the last signature and is effective through June 30, 2010 at which time it will expire.

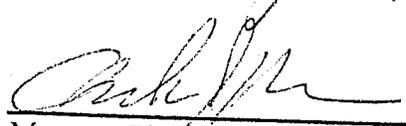
## PRINCIPAL CONTACTS

MDA: Donna Rise  
406-444-9461

FWP: Eileen Ryce  
406-444-2448

## APPROVAL

  
Department of Agriculture \_\_\_\_\_ Date 7/16/09

  
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks \_\_\_\_\_ Date 7/16/09