

Aquatics Program



Accomplishments 2011-2012

Partners:

- Clearwater Resource Council
- Swan Ecosystem Center
- Clark Fork Coalition
- Blackfoot Challenge
- Flathead Basin Commission
- Trout Unlimited
- Hellgate Hunters & Anglers
- Missoula County Commission
- MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks
- MT DNRC
- MT Department of Agriculture
- MSU-Extension
- BLM
- Forest Service Region 1
- Lolo National Forest
- Schutter Diagnostic Lab
- Outfitters
- Lake-side Homeowners Associations
- Concerned citizens

- Surveyed and monitored 30 of our highest priority lakes - *No AIS*
- Surveyed Missoula County's 18 fishing access sites - *curly leaf pondweed found on Bitterroot and Clark Fork Rivers*
- Updated our weed plan to include aquatic plant management & incorporated aquatic interests into our weed board membership
- Sponsored aquatic weed id education events in Swan & Clearwater watersheds
- Organized Rapid Response Exercise to bring western MT stakeholders together for organized response
- Working with Western MT stakeholders to prioritize the susceptibility of Western MT waterbodies
- Partnering with researchers to develop genetic markers for aquatic invasive plants for innovative *Environmental-DNA* monitoring
- Partnering with MSU-Extension to develop identification key for aquatic plants of Montana