

NEW ZEALAND MUD SNAIL

Potamopyrgus antipodarum
Hydrobiidae, the mud snail family

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FACTSHEET INFORMATION

Summary of Invasiveness

- New Zealand mud snails have the ability to travel easily and undetected to new waters.
- Can cover opening of shell with a flap enabling it to survive over land travel.
- Can reproduce asexually; a single specimen to create a new population.
- Outcompetes native snail species, compromising the environment they are introduced in to.

Diagnostic Characteristics

- Very small aquatic snail with an elongated shell.
- 5-6 right handed whorls.
- Usually less than 1/4 inch in length.
- Light to dark brown in color.

Introduction and Movement

- Native to New Zealand and introduced via aquaculture activities as well as through the movement of recreational and commercial equipment.
- Initially detected in the middle reaches of the Snake River, Idaho, in 1987.
- Can move during the transportation of raw water used in irrigation or fire control.
- Can also utilize birds as a vector between waterbodies.

Prevention Strategy

- To prevent accidental introductions, ensure that your watercraft and water related equipment is thoroughly cleaned, drained, and dry.
- When passing inspection stations during their hours of operations, make sure to stop for an inspection and decontamination.
- After visiting waters that are out of state, especially states with infested waters, ensure that your boat has been inspected or allowed dry time of at least 30 days prior to launching in Idaho waters.
- Always Remember To: **CLEAN • DRAIN • DRY**



DL Gustafson <http://www.wisg.org/database/image.asp?i=536&i=c=e>



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Robyn Draheim, USFWS-Pacific Region

Sources

- CABI Invasive Species Compendium: <https://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/43672>.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT: INVASIVESPECIES.IDAHO.GOV
TO REPORT INVASIVE SPECIES IN IDAHO, PLEASE CALL 1-877-336-8676.