



Arizona Game and Fish Department Aquatic Invasive Species Decontamination Procedures

Revised April, 2011

DAY USERS: Any watercraft, boats, vehicles, conveyances, or other equipment that have been in or on aquatic invasive species (AIS) listed waters for 5 days or less.

Day use watercraft, boats, vehicles, equipment, or conveyances have the potential to carry live larval invasive species (such as quagga veligers) to other uninfected waters. To clean/decontaminate your watercraft, boat, vehicle, equipment, or conveyance, the following steps should be taken:

Day Use Decontamination Procedures:

Step 1. *Before Leaving the Vicinity of the AIS Listed Water*, **clean/remove** any clinging material such as plants, animals and mud from anchor, boat, motor, and trailer.

Step 2. *Before Leaving the Vicinity of the AIS Listed Water*, **remove the plug** (if applicable) and **drain the water** from the bilge, live-well and any other compartments that could hold water. Drain water from engine and engine cooling system(s).

Step 3. Ensure watercraft, vehicle, equipment, or conveyance are allowed to **dry completely**.

IF USING BOAT AGAIN IN LESS THAN FIVE DAYS FROM PREVIOUS USE:

Step 4. Replace bilge drain plug and disinfect the bilge by pouring in not less than one gallon of vinegar; the vinegar can be drained from the bilge upon arrival at home (vinegar can be reused several times).

NOTES:

- It is unlawful to transport live quagga or zebra mussels under Arizona Revised Statutes §17-309 and §17-255.02, Arizona Game and Fish Commission Order 42, and Arizona Administrative Code (Arizona Game and Fish Commission) Rule R12-4-406. Any violations of these statutes may result in a citation and/or quarantine.
- Procedures are based on standards set forth by the Western Regional Panel of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force and 100th Meridian Initiative recommendations for the abatement of aquatic invasive species.



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LONG TERM USERS AND MOORED BOATS: Any watercraft, boats, vehicles, equipment, or conveyances that have been in or on aquatic invasive species (AIS) listed waters for more than 5 days.

Watercraft, boats, equipment, or conveyances that have been moored in quagga/zebra mussel listed AIS waters for longer than five days will likely be heavily contaminated with larval mussels. Watercraft that have been moored longer (weeks or months) will be heavily contaminated with attached adult mussels. Typically these boats/vessels are very large with many through hull fittings and internal equipment that resists even the most meticulous decontamination effort. **Therefore, mandatory decontamination procedures for these vessels must include minimum dry times.**

To disinfect visible attached muscles from your watercraft, vehicle, equipment, or conveyance, the following steps shall be taken before leaving the AIS listed water or at a location approved in advance by the Arizona Game and Fish Department:

Long Term Moored Boat Decontamination Procedures:

- Step 1. **Clean/remove** any clinging material such as plants, animals and mud from anchor, boat, motor, equipment and trailer.
- Step 2. **Remove the plug** (if applicable) and **drain the water** from the bilge, live-well and any other compartments that could hold water. Drain water from engine and engine cooling systems(s).
- Step 3. **Physically remove all visible attached mussels** from boat surfaces, motors, impellers, outdrives, rudders, anchor(s) and through hull fittings.
- Step 4. **Flush engine and cooling system** and any other through hull fittings **with hot water** that is exiting those areas at 140 degree Fahrenheit for ten to thirty seconds.
- Step 5. **Keep the boat out of the water and dry (desiccation)** all areas of the boat, including bilge, through hull fittings and engine, for a **minimum of 18 consecutive days during the months of November through April** and **7 consecutive days from May through October.**
- Step 6. **Completely fill out and file** the required Aquatic Invasive Species Boating Inspection Report (AISBIR). This form can be downloaded at www.azgfd.gov/ais.

NOTES:

- It is unlawful to transport live quagga or zebra mussels under Arizona Revised Statutes §17-309 and §17-255.02, Arizona Game and Fish Commission Order 42, and Arizona Administrative Code (Arizona Game and Fish Commission) Rule R12-4-406. Any violations of these statutes may result in a citation and/or quarantine.
- Procedures are based on standards as set forth by the Western Regional Panel of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force and 100th Meridian recommendations for the abatement of aquatic invasive species. Per the 100th Meridian Quarantine Estimator, Arizona desiccation/dry times have been identified for central and western Arizona desert areas. **Dry time begins when the boat is completely dry, not when the boat is pulled from the water.**