

## **ARTICLE 11. AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES**

### **R12-4-1101. Definitions**

In addition to the definitions provided under A.R.S. §§ 5-301 and 17-255, the following definitions apply to this Article, unless otherwise specified:

“Aquatic invasive species” means those species listed in Director’s Order 1.

“Certified agent” means a person who meets Department standards to conduct inspections authorized under A.R.S. § 17-255.01(C)(1).

“Conveyance” means a device designed to carry or transport water. Conveyance includes, but is not limited to, dip buckets, water hauling tanks, and water bladders.

“Equipment” means an item used either in or on water; or to carry water. Equipment includes, but is not limited to, trailers used to launch or retrieve watercraft, rafts, inner tubes, kick boards, anchors and anchor lines, docks, dock cables and floats, buoys, beacons, wading boots, fishing tackle, bait buckets, skin diving and scuba diving equipment, submersibles, pumps, sea planes, and heavy construction equipment used in aquatic environments.

“Operator” means a person who operates or is in actual physical control of a watercraft, vehicle, conveyance or equipment.

“Owner” means a person who claims lawful possession of a watercraft, vehicle, conveyance, or equipment.

“Person” has the same meaning as defined under A.R.S. § 1-215.

“Release” means to place, plant, or cause to be placed or planted in waters.

“Transporter” means a person responsible for the overland movement of a watercraft, vehicle, conveyance, or equipment.

“Waters” means surface water of all sources, whether perennial or intermittent, in streams, canyons, ravines, drainage systems, canals, springs, lakes, marshes, reservoirs, ponds, and other bodies or accumulations of natural, artificial, public or private waters situated wholly or partly in or bordering this State.

### **R12-4-1102. Aquatic Invasive Species; Prohibitions; Inspection, Decontamination Protocols**

**A.** A person shall not, unless authorized under Article 4:

1. Possess, import, ship, or transport into or within this State an aquatic invasive species, unless authorized by the Director.
2. Sell, purchase, barter, or exchange in this State an aquatic invasive species.
3. Release an aquatic invasive species into waters or into any water treatment facility, water supply or water transportation facility, device or mechanism in this State.

**B.** Upon removing a watercraft, vehicle, conveyance, or equipment from any waters listed in Director’s Order 2 and before leaving that location, a person shall:

1. Remove all clinging materials such as plants, animals, and mud.
2. Remove any plug or other barrier that prevents water drainage or, where none exists, take reasonable measures to drain or dry all compartments or spaces that hold water.  
Reasonable measures include, but are not limited to, emptying bilges, application of absorbents, or ventilation.

**C.** Before transporting a watercraft, vehicle, conveyance, or equipment to any waters located within or bordering this State from waters or locations where aquatic invasive species are suspected or known to be present, as listed in Director’s Order 2, a person shall comply with

the mandatory conditions and protocols identified in Director's Order 3 for decontamination of watercraft, vehicles, conveyances, and equipment.

- D.** Department employees, certified agents, and Arizona peace officers authorized under A.R.S. § 17-104 may inspect a watercraft, vehicle, conveyance, or equipment for the purposes of determining compliance with A.R.S. § Title 17, Chapter 2, Article 3.1 and this Section.
- E.** If the presence of an aquatic invasive species is documented or suspected on or in a watercraft, vehicle, conveyance, or equipment, a Department employee or any Arizona peace officer may order the person to decontaminate or cause to be decontaminated such watercraft, vehicles, conveyances, and equipment using the mandatory protocols described in Director's Order 3.
- F.** The following Director's orders are available at any Department office and online at [azgfd.gov](http://azgfd.gov):
  1. Director's Order 1 - Listing of Aquatic Invasive Species for Arizona,
  2. Director's Order 2 – Designation of Waters or Locations Where Listed Aquatic Invasive Species are Present, and
  3. Director's Order 3 – Mandatory Conditions on the Movement of Watercraft, Vehicles, Conveyances, or Other Equipment from Listed Waters Where Aquatic Invasive Species are Present.
- G.** This Section does not apply to owners and operators exempt under A.R.S. § 17-255.04.