

# List of Utah's Aquatic Invasive Species

## Pathogens and parasites

- o Whirling Disease (*Myxobolus cerebralis*)
  - Original distribution: In Europe in brown trout.
  - Invasive distribution: It is in the Western and North Eastern United States.
- o Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia
  - Original distribution: This species originated in Europe, the Pacific Ocean, and the Atlantic coast of North America.
  - Invasive distribution: Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River
- o Asian Tapeworm *Bothriocephalus acheilognathi*
  - Original distribution: This species is native to East Asia.
  - Invasive distribution: It is known in several areas of the United States. It appears to be well established in the lower Colorado River and the Hawaiian islands, and has recently been reported in the Great Lakes



wildlife.state.co.us



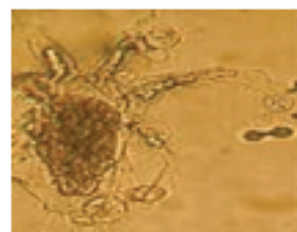
nas.er.usgs.gov



sci.sdsu.edu

## Fungus and Algae

- o Chytrid (*Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*)
  - Original distribution: South Africa
  - Invasive distribution: It is presently found in Australia; Africa; North, Central and South America; Europe; New Zealand; and Oceania. It is found across the United States, including across all of Utah.
- o Didymo (Rock Snot) (*Didymosphenia geminata*)
  - Original distribution: Northern Europe and northern North America
  - Invasive distribution: Scattered populations exist throughout the United States, including New England, the Mid-Atlantic Region, and the Western U.S.



frogsabound.org



cisr.ucr.edu

## Plants

- o Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*)
  - Original distribution: Native to U.S., but the more invasive strains originated in Europe
  - Invasive distribution: Distributed across the United States and is now common to wetland areas and canals throughout most of Utah and is known to inhabit all counties in Utah.



britannica.com

- o Tamarisk *Tamarix* spp.
  - Original distribution: Native to Asia and southeastern Europe
  - Invasive distribution: it is now found in 42 of the 48 continental states



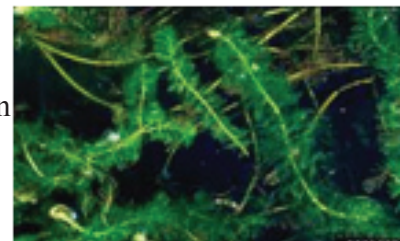
oregonlive.com

- o Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)
  - Original distribution: Eurasia
  - Invasive distribution: This plant is found from the northeast to the western United States and north into Canada. It currently inhabits 43 of the 48 contiguous states.



magicoflife.org

- o Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)
  - Original distribution: Native to Europe, Asia and northern Africa
  - Invasive distribution: Its presence is currently confirmed in 45 states and three Canadian Provinces



usanpn.org

- o Curly-leaf pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*)
  - Original distribution: Native to Eurasia, Africa and Australia
  - Invasive distribution: This species has spread throughout the United States and is now prevalent in the ponds and marshes of northern Utah.



urbanmonitoring.ca

## Mollusks

- o Asian Clam (*Corbicula fluminea*)
  - Original distribution: Southeastern Asia
  - Invasive distribution: it is found in 38 states and the District of Columbia



[nas.er.usgs.gov](http://nas.er.usgs.gov)

- o Red-rimmed Melania (*Melanoides tuberculatus*)
  - Original distribution: Northern Africa to southern Asia
  - Invasive distribution: confirmed in 12 western and southern states



[nas.er.usgs.gov](http://nas.er.usgs.gov)

## Dreissena Mussels

- o Quagga Mussel (*Dreissena bugensis*)
  - Original distribution: Dneiper River drainage of Ukraine
  - Invasive distribution: Currently distributed in all five Great Lakes, throughout the St. Lawrence River north to Quebec City, and in New York, Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and southwestern United States.
- o Zebra Mussel (*Dreissena. Polymorpha*)
  - Original distribution: The Black, Caspian and Azov seas
  - Invasive distribution: Europe and the Mississippi River drainage.
- o New Zealand Mudsnail (*Potamopyrgus antipodarum*)
  - Original Distribution: New Zealand
  - Invasive Distribution: Australia, Europe, Asia, and North America—now locally abundant in western rivers.



[seagrant.umn.edu](http://seagrant.umn.edu)



[fl.biology.usgs.gov](http://fl.biology.usgs.gov)



[esg.montana.edu](http://esg.montana.edu)

## Fish

- o Western Mosquitofish (*Gambusia affinis*)
  - Original distribution: native to the south-central United States and Mexico
  - Invasive distribution: pan-global distribution including most of the United States



[fishtankforum.co.uk](http://fishtankforum.co.uk)

- o Burbot (*Lota lota*)
  - Original distribution: Burbot are native to Alaska, Canada and the northern continental U.S., with their range extending as far south as Wyoming and northeastern Utah
  - Invasive distribution: populations are now established in Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, New Jersey, Ohio and Pennsylvania and various locations within Utah



[fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov)

- o Gizzard Shad (*Dorosoma cepedianum*)
  - Original distribution: Mississippi, Atlantic, and Gulf Slope drainages from Quebec to central North Dakota and New Mexico, and south to central Florida and Mexico
  - Invasive distribution: Established in many states



[esa.org](http://esa.org)

## Amphibians

- o North American Bullfrog (*Rana catesbeiana*)
  - Original distribution: Eastern United States, but historically absent from the Cape Cod archipelago and associated islands
  - Invasive distribution: 11 states



[georgiaencyclopedia.org](http://georgiaencyclopedia.org)

- o Green Frog (*Rana clamitans*)
  - Original distribution: eastern United States
  - Invasive distribution: 3 western states



[michigan.gov](http://michigan.gov)

- o Plains Leopard Frog (*Rana blairi*)
  - Original distribution: Southern Canada and the northern United States
  - Invasive distribution: 3 western states



[ndis.nrel.colostate.edu](http://ndis.nrel.colostate.edu)

## Reptiles

- o Red-Eared Slider (*Trachemys scripta elegans*)
  - Original distribution: the Mississippi valley from northern Illinois and Indiana to the northern Gulf of Mexico, west to Texas and east to western Alabama
  - Invasive distribution: 23 states, as well as areas in Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and other global locations.



[blog.nus.edu.sg](http://blog.nus.edu.sg)



# ***Utah's Most UN-Wanted***

*Potamopyrgus antipodarum*



Alias: New Zealand Mudsnail

**Why unwanted:** The New Zealand Mudsnail outcompetes native invertebrates for food and space because its population densities exceed 100,000 individuals per square meter. The Mudsnail can consume up to 75% of the gross primary production. This species has recently been seen biofouling, or accumulating in overwhelming numbers, in wetland areas.

**Description:** Small (<5mm) invasive, hydrobiid snail. It has an elongate, dextral shell that varies in color and typically has 5 to 6 whorls at maturity.

**Originally from:** New Zealand

**Sightings:** The New Zealand Mudsnail has been sighted in Australia, Europe, Asia and North America. In Utah, New Zealand Mudsnails are found in most of the major river drainages of the northern part of the state and in the Green River.

**Mode of Transport:** The New Zealand Mudsnail is known to spread through the commercial transport of aquaculture products, independent locomotion upstream, recreational equipment, and the alimentary canals of fish.

**Caution:** This invasive species typically occurs in systems with high primary productivity, constant temperatures and constant flow. Furthermore, it is able to adapt to a wide range of temperatures, salinities and substrates.

**What you can do:** Properly decontaminate any equipment used in the water through desiccation and freezing, or an appropriate cleaning solution.