

Most Unwanted AIS

ZEBRA MUSSELS

Dreissena polymorpha

A SERIAL INVASIVE SPECIES THAT TARGETS CLEAN, CLEAR WATER!

WHAT TO LOOK FOR:
Juveniles feel like sandpaper on surfaces.

Adults mussels are between ½ to 2" in size, striped, solid brown or yellow in color, and can stand up when their shells are placed on their flattened underside.

LAST KNOWN LOCATION:
Tiber and Canyon Ferry Reservoirs, Montana

MODUS OPERANDI:

Zebra mussels grow fast and filter up to 1 liter of water per day. These mussels remove the phytoplankton from the water, leaving little food for zooplankton and fish. Adult females can produce up to 40,000 to 1 million eggs per season.

HIDEOUT:

These clingy mussels thrive on any stable natural or man-made surface in freshwater.

ARMED WITH BYSSAL THREADS

that allow them to attach to any solid surface and **PLANKTONIC LARVAE** that can spread easily!

DANGEROUS TO ALL freshwater ecosystems, barefeet, watercraft, fisherman, farmers, and local businesses!

TIPS FOR CAPTURE AND PREVENTION:

Clean, drain, and dry all items exposed to freshwater habitats.

IF FOUND:

Contact your local Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks office!

