

Shipping Transport of Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force



State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality

Land Quality Division Emergency Response Program

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Background

Recognizing the continued potential economic and ecological threats from aquatic invasive species, the 2013 Oregon Legislature passed SB 116, reestablishing the task force charged with studying and making recommendations for preventing the shipping-related introduction of aquatic invasive species.

In addition to investigating emerging issues and opportunities to promote ballast water management regulatory consistency among West Coast states, the task force will consider other shipping-related risks, such as biofouling, that could transport aquatic invasive species into Oregon waterways. Previous reports from this task force are available from the website listed below.

Task force organization

DEQ's director appoints members to the Task Force to achieve equitable representation from the maritime industry, environmental and academic communities, relevant federal agencies and the states of Washington and California.

Appointed task force members for 2013-14 are:

- Jas Adams, OR Dept. of Justice
- Jeff Bachman, ODEQ (WQ/OCE)
- Rick Boatner, ODFW
- Ralph Breitenstein, Hatfield Marine Science Center
- Nicole Dobroski, California State Lands Commission (alt: Chris Scianni)
- Robyn Draheim, USFWS
- Michelle Hollis, Port of Portland
- Frank Holmes, Western States Petroleum Association
- Ross McDonald, Sause Bros.
- Hans Meere, EGT LLC
- Amanda Hanson, Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership
- Michael Pearson, USCG
- Allen Pleus, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (alt: Gary Gertsen)
- Mark Sytsma, Portland State University
- Kate Mickelson, Columbia River Steamship Operators Association
- Brett VandenHeuvel, Columbia Riverkeepers
- Dick Vander Schaaf, The Nature Conservancy
- Rian Hooff, ODEQ (ex-officio)

In addition, the Oregon Senate President and Speaker of the Oregon House of Representatives appoint two members from the Oregon Legislature to serve in an advisory capacity to the task force. The 2013/14 legislative advisors are:

- Sen. Arnie Roblan (Dist. 5)
- Rep. Caddy McKeown (Dist. 9)

Objectives and responsibilities

SB 116 (2013) directs the Shipping Transport of Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force to study and make recommendations on:

- combating the introduction of aquatic non-indigenous species associated with shipping-related transport into Oregon waters;
- funding mechanisms to support and maintain prevention efforts;
- developing potential changes to ballast water regulations that may address: shipping industry compliance, treatment technology advances, water quality discharge standards, compatibility with other pertinent laws, and new techniques or regulations that may reduce the risk of aquatic invasive species invasions; and

The task force completed a report on its findings and recommendations to the Oregon Legislature in May 2014. The report is available at the web link listed below.

Information and meeting schedule

DEQ anticipates bimonthly meetings of the task force beginning in autumn 2013. For more information about this task force, visit the DEQ Web link:

www.deq.state.or.us/lq/cu/emergency/staistaskforce.htm

Alternative formats

Alternative formats of this document can be made available. Contact DEQ's Office of Communications & Outreach, Portland, at (503) 229-5696 or call toll-free in Oregon at 1-800-452-4011, ext. 5696.

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