

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date:

Action:

Meeting Dates:

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Urges Congress to ensure continued appropriation of funds to enhance aquatic invasive species prevention efforts and to implement Water Resources Reform and Development Act.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Aquatic invasive species, including dreissenid mussels such as quagga mussels and zebra mussels, cause irreparable ecological damage to many waters in the United States. The estimated cost of efforts to prevent and control the spread of dreissenid mussel populations since their arrival in North America in the late 1980s exceeds \$5 billion. Dreissenid mussels have not yet been detected in the waters of the Pacific Northwest. The Water Resources Reform and Development Act (Act) was signed into law on June 10, 2014. The Act authorized \$20 million for the Secretary of the Army to establish watercraft inspection stations in the Columbia River Basin to prevent the introduction of dreissenid mussels and other aquatic invasive species. The act also authorized \$4 million in the 2016 fiscal year budget for the Army Corps of Engineers for watercraft inspection.

Senate Joint Memorial 201 urges Congress to continue appropriating funds to enhance aquatic invasive species prevention efforts and to implement the Water Resources Reform and Development Act