

FOCA 'Lunch-n-Learn' Webinar: New Invasive Species and Watercraft Regulations in Ontario



with speaker: Jeremy Downe, Senior Invasive Species Policy/Program Advisor
Ontario Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry

Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 12 noon

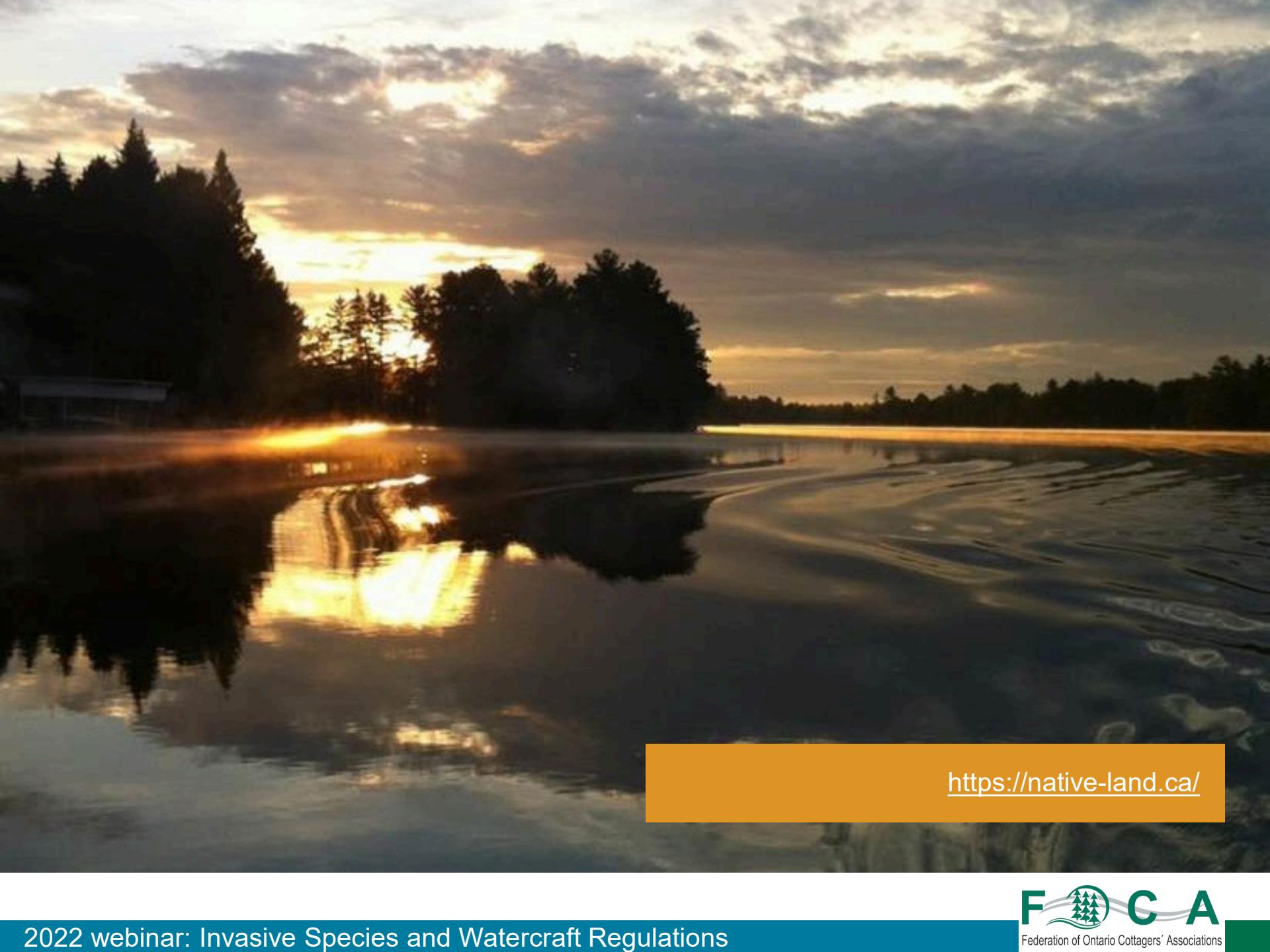
Welcome Notes

- the event will begin at 12:00pm
- this event is being recorded
- you will receive a link to the recording later
- you are muted; post questions in Zoom "Chat"



Introduction & Technical Notes

Deanna Forgie
FOCA Programs Coordinator
programs@foca.on.ca



<https://native-land.ca/>



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Wednesday, March 9, 2022
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feature speaker:

Jeremy Downe

Senior Invasive Species
Policy/Program Advisor

Ontario Ministry of Northern Development,
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Quick poll...

Where is your waterfront property located?



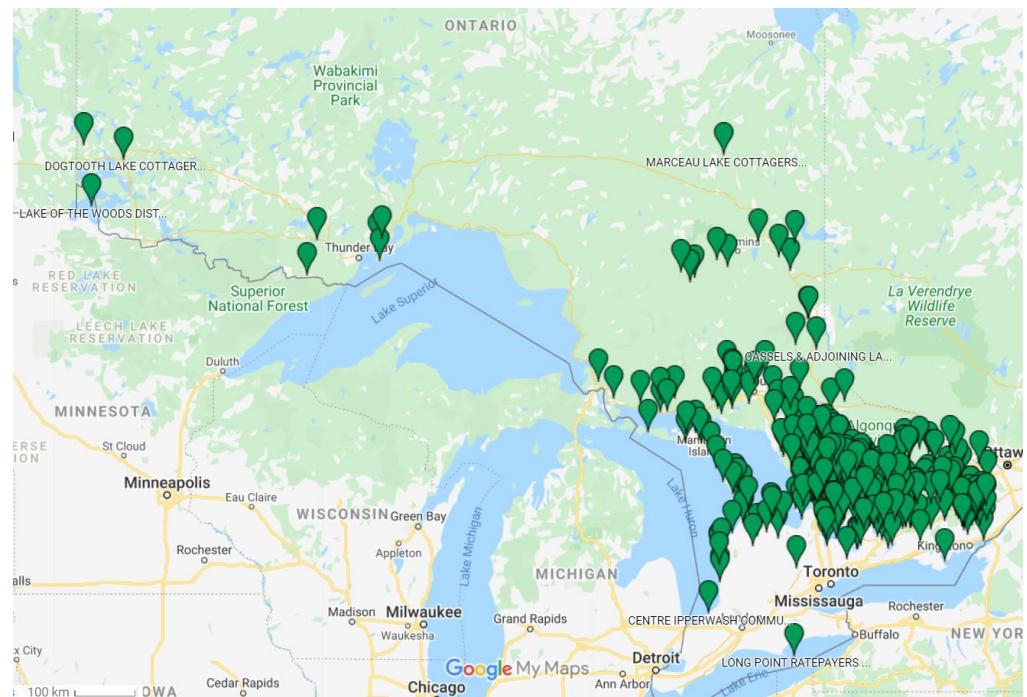
FOCA is: the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations

60 years

525 associations

50,000 families

If you're in a
Member Association,
YOU are a
FOCA member!



<https://foca.on.ca/list-of-associations/>

FOCA Member Benefits include...

Key service offerings for your Association:

- Free attendance or Member price on FOCA webinars and in-person seminars
- Policy updates & government advocacy on province-wide rural issues
- Articles, signs, fact sheets, videos and brochures on hot topics (septic systems, invasives, short term rental...)
- Members-only web login for access to detailed governance support, rural road information & many more resources!
- Member discount on liability insurance through the FOCA Insurance Program administered by Cade Associates
- “Legal Helpline” for the Association

Plus, offers & discounts for all your Member families:

Action First Aid
Improving People in ONTARIO

Cade Associates
Insurance Brokers Limited

THE CANADIAN CANOE MUSEUM
LE MUSÉE CANADIEN DU CANOT

CottageFirst Insurance

Membership

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FOCA MEMBERS - SPECIAL SUBSCRIPTION OFFER

SAVE UP TO 55% OFF COVER PRICE

<https://foca.on.ca/benefits/>

Need the Member Web Login? email: info@foca.on.ca

FOCA's Strategic Priorities



Promoting Healthy Lands,
Lakes and Rivers



Serving Lake and
Road Associations



Advocating for
Responsive Government



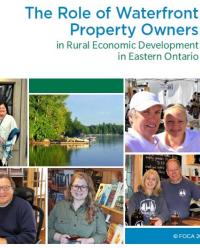
Championing Affordable
and Safe Rural Living



Building Organizational Capacity
& Strategic Partnerships

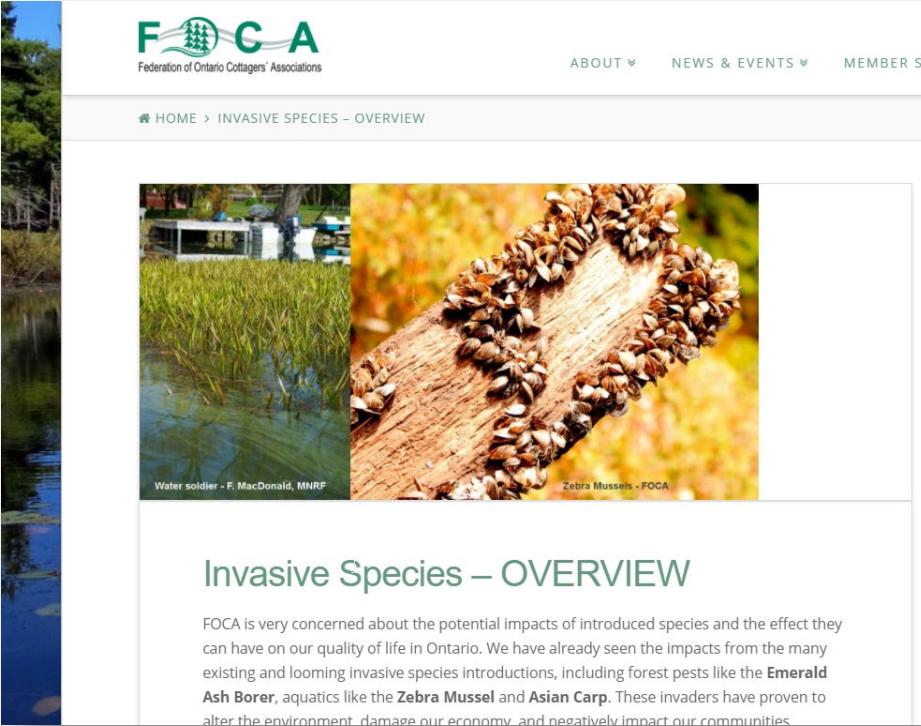


Fostering Community
in Rural Ontario



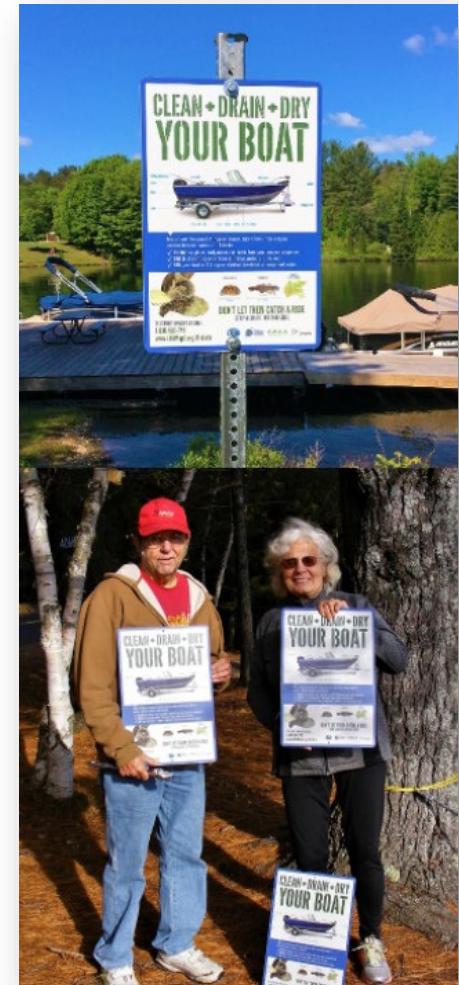
<https://foca.on.ca/about/our-work/>

Invasive Species Education



The screenshot shows the FOCA website's 'Invasive Species – OVERVIEW' page. The header includes the FOCA logo and navigation links for 'ABOUT', 'NEWS & EVENTS', and 'MEMBER SE'. Below the header, a breadcrumb navigation shows 'HOME > INVASIVE SPECIES – OVERVIEW'. The main content features two images: one of aquatic plants ('Water soldier') and another of zebra mussels ('Zebra Mussels'). A large section titled 'Invasive Species – OVERVIEW' contains a paragraph about the potential impacts of introduced species like the Emerald Ash Borer and Asian Carp.

<https://foca.on.ca/invasive-species/>



New invasive species and watercraft regulations in Ontario

Jeremy Downe

New Invasive Species and Watercraft Regulations

March 9th, 2022

Invasive Species Act - Regulatory Tools



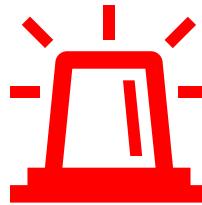
Species

Prohibited

- No person shall - Bring into Ontario, deposit, release, possess, transport, propagate, buy, sell, lease or trade

Restricted

- No person shall bring an invasive species into Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves; or deposit or release in Ontario
- Additional prohibitions may be applied through regulation



Temporary Designation

The Minister may make an order to temporarily designate an invasive species under the Act for up to **two years**.



Carriers (Pathway)

Plant, an animal or organism, or any part of, or product derived from, a plant, an animal or organism, or any other thing, that is capable of being a host to an invasive species

Conveyance or other thing that is capable of facilitating the movement of an invasive species from one place to another.



Invasive Species Control Areas (Regulation)

Apply measures to prevent the introduction or control the spread of one or more invasive species.

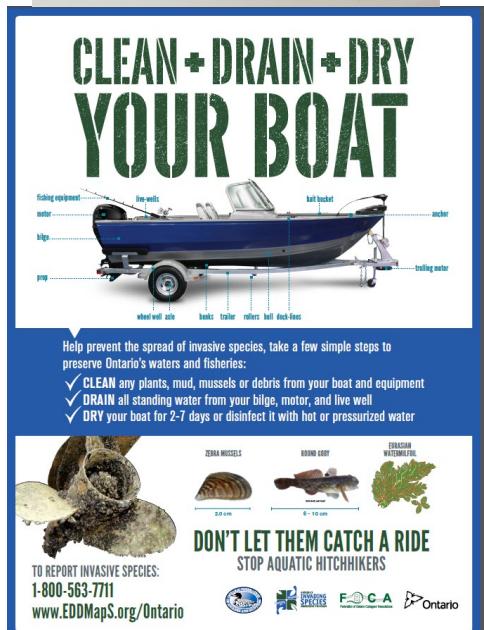
New Invasive Species Act Regulations: January 1, 2022

Prohibited	Restricted	Carrier (Pathway)	Additional information:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tench• Prussian Carp• Marmorkreb (Marbled crayfish)• Red Swamp Crayfish• New Zealand Mudsnail• Mountain Pine Beetle	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yellow Floating Heart• Carolina Fanwort• European Frogbit• Bohemian Knotweed• Giant Knotweed• Himalayan Knotweed• Pigs	Overland transport of watercraft and watercraft equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• https://www.ontario.ca/page/managing-invasive-species-ontario• Environmental Registry Decision Notice: https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-3465• Ontario regulation 354/16: https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/160354



Watercraft Pathway: Education efforts

- For over 25 years, the Ministry has been working with partners to encourage boaters to decontaminate their boats when transporting them between waterbodies.
- Starting with Zebra Busters in the early 1990's, various organizations have been educating boaters and anglers about invasive species risks and preventative actions.
- “Clean, Drain, Dry” messages are promoted in Ontario through social media, advertising and signage.



Why regulate watercraft and watercraft equipment?

Reduce the introduction, spread and impacts of aquatic invasive species

- The overland movement of watercraft is a widely accepted pathway for the spread of aquatic invasive species to new waterbodies.
- Despite on-going education efforts, reports of new aquatic invasive species occurrences continue.

Current methods are effective, participation needs improvement

- Established Best Management Practices such as those encouraged through “Clean, Drain, Dry” campaigns are effective at reducing the movement of aquatic invasive species.
- Not all watercraft operators are applying these practices.

Invasive zebra mussel larva found in lake that supplies Winnipeg drinking water



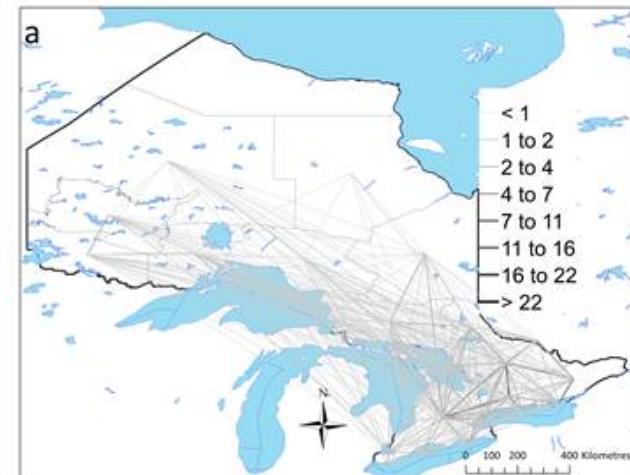
[Manitoba, Ontario governments join forces to investigate Shoal Lake discovery](#)

CBC News - Posted: Apr 29, 2019 2:52 PM CT | Last Updated: April 29, 2019



Zebra mussels washed up on Victoria Beach on Lake Winnipeg last year. (Submitted)

Credit: CBC News



Regulation: Watercraft and Watercraft equipment

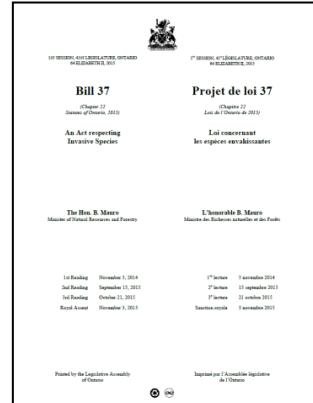
Ontario Regulation 354/16

14. (1) For the purposes of section 6 of the Act, the following are prescribed as carriers to which the Act applies that are capable of facilitating the movement of invasive species from one place to another:

1. Watercraft
2. Watercraft equipment

Definitions:

- “watercraft” means any conveyance used or designed for navigation on water, including a motorboat, rowboat, canoe, punt, sailboat or raft
- “watercraft equipment” means any thing that is used to aid in the operation, movement or navigation of a watercraft including ropes, fenders or anchors



Leaving the lake, river, etc.

(2) A person shall not transport watercraft or watercraft equipment overland unless,

- (a) any drain plugs or other devices used to control drainage have been **removed or opened** to allow water to drain out of the watercraft or watercraft equipment;
- (b) **reasonable measures** have been taken to remove any aquatic plants, animals or algae from the watercraft, watercraft equipment and any vehicle or trailer used to transport the watercraft or watercraft equipment overland.

(3) Clause (2) (a) does not apply in respect of drain plugs or other devices used to control drainage of water in,

- (a) drinking water systems, marine sanitary systems or closed engine cooling systems; or
- (b) a livewell, if the person transporting the livewell overland is transporting live fish in the livewell pursuant to a licence to transport live fish issued under the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997*.



Heading to the lake, river, etc.

Prior to arriving at the launch site

(4) ...a person transporting a watercraft or watercraft equipment overland to a body of water shall, **prior to reaching a launch site** for the body of water, ensure the watercraft, watercraft equipment and any vehicle or trailer used to transport the watercraft or watercraft equipment does not have an aquatic plant, animal or algae attached to it.



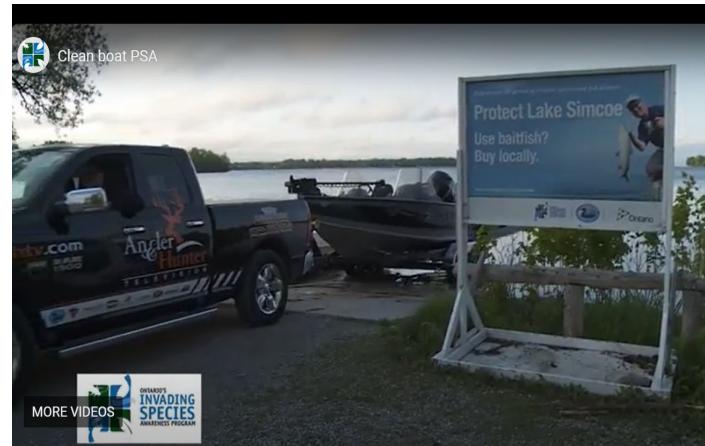
Launching the watercraft

(5) **No person shall place** a watercraft, watercraft equipment or any vehicle or trailer used to transport a watercraft into any body of water if the watercraft, watercraft equipment, vehicle or trailer has an aquatic plant, animal or algae attached to it.



Education and Compliance

- NDMNRF is working with partners including the OFAH, FOCA, Boating Ontario and the Invasive Species Centre to increase public awareness of the new rules and share information to support compliance.
- Updates are being made to the Ontario.ca Invasive Species website.
- Education efforts are planned for the 2022 boating/angling season to increase awareness of the new rules.
- Fines (Tickets) have been set and range from \$100 to \$350.
 - Conservation Officers have the discretion to charge a person and issue a summons to court rather than a ticket and have the person appear before a judge where higher penalties can be applied.



OFAH: www.invasivespecies.com/pathways/boating/



www.ontario.ca/page/invasive-species-ontario



Questions?

Contact:

Jeremy Downe

Senior Invasive Species Policy/
Program Advisory - NDMNRF

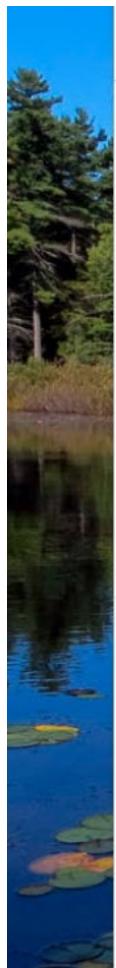
jeremy.downe@ontario.ca

or

invasive.species@ontario.ca

Image: Kirk Doughty

Got questions? search on foca.on.ca



While you're there, join over 15,000 FOCA Alert subscribers!

info@foca.on.ca



Thank You!



Upon exit, you'll be directed to a post-event summary, or scan this QR code now