



23RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

Meeting challenges with innovation

In-person conference with virtual components

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Submission deadline: **Monday, September 18, 2023**



May 12-16, 2024

Halifax Convention Centre
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada



The conference is co-hosted by Dalhousie University and Nova Scotia Fisheries & Aquaculture, with the support of Canada's Invasive Species Centre, the ICAIS Secretariat.



The **International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species** is the most comprehensive international forum to address new and emerging issues related to aquatic invasive species (AIS) in freshwater, marine and estuarine environments.

ICAIS provides an international platform for the presentation of research to advance global action to limit the introduction and spread of AIS worldwide and serves as a catalyst for international collaboration on research and management projects.

Through knowledge sharing and networking, ICAIS connects those involved in science and policy with practitioners and industry professionals on the front lines of AIS prevention and management.

ICAIS 2024 International Scientific Committee

Committee Co-Chairs

Sarah Stewart-Clark, Dalhousie University

Jason LeBlanc, Nova Scotia Fisheries and Aquaculture

Deborah Sparks, Invasive Species Centre – ICAIS Secretariat, Canada

Honorary Conference Chair

Hugh MacIsaac

Canada Research Chair in Aquatic Invasive Species,
University of Windsor

Committee Members

Europe

Ana-Cristina Cardoso, European Commission, Joint Research Centre, Italy

Ross Cuthbert, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Arjan Gittenberger, GiMaRIS, The Netherlands

Frances Lucy, Institute of Technology Sligo, Ireland

Leo Nagelkerke, Wageningen University, Aquaculture & Fisheries Group,
The Netherlands

Helen Roy, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, UK

Sander Smolders, Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management,
The Netherlands

Elena Tricarico, University of Florence, Italy

Hugo Verreycken, INBO, Belgium

Americas

Sarah Bailey, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Canada

Alejandro Botolus, Grupo de Ecología en Ambientes Costeros,
IPEEC-CONICET, Argentina

Jeff Brinsmead, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Canada

Sam Chan, Oregon Sea Grant, USA

Rebecca D'Orazio, Invasive Species Centre, Canada

Patrick Kocovsky, U.S. Geological Survey

Paige Kuczmarski, Alberta Invasive Species Council, Canada

Alison Morris, Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, Canada

Stephen Phillips, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, USA

Tera Shewchenko, Invasive Species Centre, Canada

South Africa

John Measey, DSI-NRF Centre of Excellence for Invasion Biology,
Stellenbosch University, South Africa

Call Out to Students and Early Career Professionals

ICAIS 2024 will be the premier scientific conference on aquatic invasive species issues and will offer several unique professional development opportunities for students and early career professionals, including:

- ◆ Networking with world-renowned experts and peers in both structured and informal settings
- ◆ Career development opportunities for students and early career researchers
- ◆ Recognition and awards for top student presentations judged by a panel of academic experts
- ◆ Return of the ICAIS Oyster Program bursaries

Call for Abstracts of Oral and Poster Presentations

The theme of ICAIS 2024 is **Meeting Challenges with Innovation**, to explore AIS prevention and management through innovations in research, technology, communication, partnerships, strategies and policy.

Topics to be addressed during ICAIS 2024 include:

Innovative management tools in detection, prevention, risk assessment and mitigation

- ◆ Genomics
- ◆ CRISPR
- ◆ AI and machine learning
- ◆ Modelling
- ◆ Disruptive technologies
- ◆ Satellite imaging

Social sciences/psychology

- ◆ Societal impacts
- ◆ Indigenous ways of knowing
- ◆ Human behaviour as a driver of species invasions
- ◆ Effective communication of AIS messaging
- ◆ Sportfishing and anglers – social dimensions on the landscape
- ◆ Economic impacts
- ◆ Community science

- ◆ Education – public schools, media, general public, government
- ◆ Environmental racism
- ◆ Community-based social marketing, behavioural marketing, and social economics

Policy

- ◆ International approaches to policy
- ◆ Interdisciplinary approaches to policy including industry and Indigenous knowledge integration
- ◆ Biosecurity
- ◆ Closing loopholes
- ◆ United Nations sustainable development goals
- ◆ Policy on bait
- ◆ Organisms-in-trade, including national perspectives on zebra mussels in moss ball products

Industry adaptations

- ◆ Shipping
- ◆ Aquaculture and fisheries
- ◆ Sportfishing

Geography and migration

- ◆ Species movement
- ◆ Vectors
- ◆ Range expansions
- ◆ The Arctic and Northwest Passage
- ◆ Storms as drivers for AIS introductions
- ◆ Pollution as drivers for AIS introductions

Environmental and ecosystem impacts

- ◆ Ecosystem resilience
- ◆ Food web disruption
- ◆ Biological invasion synergies

- ◆ Risk for pathogen spread along invasion routes

- ◆ Innovations in response and control methods

- ◆ Climate and invasive species intersections

Rising threat species, and Atlantic Canada-focused species (list is not exhaustive)

- ◆ *Spartina alterniflora*
- ◆ Tunicates
- ◆ Pickerel
- ◆ Goldfish
- ◆ Carps
- ◆ Zebra mussels
- ◆ Crabs
- ◆ Microorganisms

The International Scientific Committee invites the submission of 300-word abstracts for oral and poster presentations addressing invasive species issues in freshwater, marine and estuarine environments, with preference given to the topics listed above. The language of the conference is English. Abstract submissions pertaining to a commercially-oriented products or services cannot reference brand names and must include at least one co-author representing academia.

Submitted abstracts will be peer-reviewed and selected for presentation based on the quality and rigor of the abstract, novelty, and relevance to ICAIS themes and objectives. At least one of the authors listed on abstracts must register and pay the applicable fee to participate in the conference and make their presentation in-person on-site or provide a pre-recorded file for virtual presentation.

Call for Special Sessions and Workshops

The International Scientific Committee welcomes the submission of outlines of proposed special interest sessions and workshops pertaining to the subject matter of the conference.

Outlines must include:

- ◆ Title for the session or workshop
- ◆ Names and email address for the primary organizers
- ◆ 300-word maximum description of what will be covered, who will present, and the amount of time requested.

Outlines must be submitted online and the submission portal will open June 2, 2023. The deadline for submissions is Monday, September 18, 2023.

Conference Proceedings

IC AIS is cooperating with the International Association for Open Knowledge on Invasive Species (**INVASIVESNET**) for publication of ICAIS 2024 conference proceedings in special issues of the INVASIVESNET open access journals Aquatic Invasions (for academic papers) and Management of Biological Invasions (for applied papers). Full research articles based on presentations made during ICAIS 2024 can be submitted for consideration.

For more information about these open access journals please visit the **INVASIVESNET** website.

Abstract Preparation and Submission

Abstracts must be submitted online and according to the formatting guidelines. The submission portal will open June 2, 2023 and the deadline for submissions is **Monday, September 18, 2023**.

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Information Contact

For everything you need to know about ICAIS, go to www.IC AIS.org or contact the Conference Administrator.

IC AIS Conference Administrator

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Conference Secretariat



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