

Department of Natural Resources

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE Plant Materials Center

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The recent quarantine for five aquatic invasive plants **DOES NOT** prohibit the use of boats, float planes or other recreational activity. It **DOES** prohibit the importation, sale and intentional transport of quarantined species. To help protect Alaska's pristine waterways, always clean, drain, and inspect your recreational equipment and follow these guidelines to prevent further spread:

- **Boaters:** avoid disturbing heavily vegetated areas by not motoring through them.
 - <u>Decontaminate your equipment</u>: CLEAN, DRAIN, DRY!
 - Clean: Carefully inspect and remove any visible aquatic plants/fragments from your boat and trailer before leaving the water body.
 - Drain: Allow water to drain from live wells, bilge tanks, and dispose of water from all tanks that hold lake/stream water, including coolers, before launching at your next site.
 - Dry: Allow your boat, trailer, and all equipment time to dry <u>completely</u> before you <u>go to</u> <u>another water body.</u>
- <u>Float planes</u>: <u>Before entering</u> the aircraft remove visible plants and pump water from floats. <u>Before takeoff</u> don't taxi through heavy plant growth; raise and lower rudders. <u>After takeoff</u> raise and lower rudders to free plant fragments while over the waters you are leaving or over land.

All Alaskan's can support eradication efforts by:

- Educate yourself and others about invasive species: Learn about your local aquatic habitats and the organisms they support. Learn about invasive species that threaten your local areas and share information with others so that you can report unwanted invaders.
- Report sightings: Note location (GPS or mark on map) and water depth/clarity. <u>Take a specimen</u> (photo at a minimum). Take as much of the entire plant as you can, including the tiny flower on a long thin stalk if present. Put the sample in a zip lock bag, book, or wax paper and store in a cool place. <u>Call</u> the Alaska Department of Fish and Game invasives species hotline: **1-877-INVASIV.** It's critically important to figure out where Elodea is so we can help prevent it from spreading further. We need you on the lookout this summer!
- **Teachers, students & aquarium hobbyists:** Don't Let it Loose! Don't dump your aquarium into waters of the state- it is illegal to introduce nonnative fish and plants into Alaska waters.