

## **Montana AIS Regulations**

### **Mont. Admin. R. Tit. 12, Ch. 5, Subch. 7 (Aquatic Invasive Species Management Area Restrictions)**

#### **R. 12.5.701 (Identified Contaminated Bodies of Water**

(1) The department will identify bodies of water within any Department of Agriculture designated Eurasian watermilfoil management area as contaminated with Eurasian watermilfoil.

(2) The department has identified the following bodies of water as contaminated with Eurasian watermilfoil:

- (a) Fort Peck Reservoir;
- (b) Fort Peck Dredge Cut Ponds;
- (c) Jefferson River;
- (d) Missouri River:
  - (i) from Fort Peck Dam to the mouth of the Milk River;
  - (ii) from the confluence of the three forks of the Missouri River to the headwaters of Canyon Ferry Reservoir; and
- (e) Toston Reservoir.

#### **R. 12.5.702 Restrictions within Identified Contaminated Bodies of Water**

(1) The prohibitions of 80-7-1010, MCA apply to the bodies of water identified as contaminated in ARM 12.5.701 except:

- (a) possession of bait animals, dead or alive, is approved when allowed per fishing regulations;
- (b) transportation of aquatic bait animals is approved from contaminated bodies of water in water from a noncontaminated source when allowed per fishing regulations; and
- (c) transportation of live fish is approved from contaminated bodies of water in water from a noncontaminated source, when allowed per fishing regulations.

(2) Upon departure of a contaminated body of water all vessels and equipment, including bait buckets, must be free of Eurasian watermilfoil.

#### **R. 12.5.703 Bodies of Water not Identified as Contaminated within an Eurasian Watermilfoil Management Area**

(1) Any body of water not identified as contaminated within the boundaries of a Department of Agriculture designated Eurasian watermilfoil management area are subject to the regulations outlined in the current published fishing regulations.

**Mont. Admin. R. Tit. 12. Ch. 6, Subch. 22 (Exotic Wildlife)**

**R. 12.6.2215 List of Prohibited Species**

- (1) The following amphibians are classified as prohibited species:
- (a) African clawed frog - *Xenopus laevis*; and
  - (b) North American bullfrog - *Rana catesbeiana*.
- (2) The following crustaceans are classified as prohibited species:
- (a) Rusty crayfish - *Orconectes rusticus*.
- (3) The following fish are classified as prohibited species:
- (a) Bighead carp - *Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*;
  - (b) Black carp - *Mylopharyngodon piceus*;
  - (c) Eurasian Ruffe - *Gymnocephalus cernuus*;
  - (d) Grass carp - *Ctenopharyngodon idella*;
  - (e) Round goby - *Neogobius melanostomus*;
  - (f) Silver carp - *Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*;
  - (g) Snakehead fish - genera *Channa* and *Parachanna* (29 species);
  - (h) Walking catfish - *Clarias batrachus*;
  - (i) White perch - *Morone Americana*; and
  - (j) Zander (European pikeperch) - *Sander lucioperca*.
- (4) The following mammals are classified as prohibited species:
- (a) African Soft Fur Rat/Natal Rat - *Mastomys natalensis*/*Natal multimammate mouse*;
  - (b) Argali Sheep - *Ovis ammon*;
  - (c) Brush-tailed possum - *Trichosurus vulpecula*;
  - (d) Nutria - *Myocastor coypus*;
  - (e) Cebidae family (new world primates);
  - (f) Cercopithecidae family (old world monkeys);
  - (g) Hyaenidae family (hyenas);
  - (h) Hylobatidae family (gibbons);
  - (i) Natal Rat/African Soft Fur Rat - *Natal multimammate mouse*/*Mastomys natalensis*;
  - (j) Pongidae family (apes);
  - (k) Short-tailed opossum - *Monodelphis domestica*;
  - (l) Small spotted genet - *Genetta genetta*;
  - (m) Southern flying squirrel - *Glaucomys volans*;
  - (n) Transcaspian ural sheep - *Ovis aries vignei*; and
  - (o) Virginia opossum - *Didelphis virginiana*.
- (5) The following mollusks are classified as prohibited species:
- (a) New Zealand mudsnail - *Potamopyrgus antipodarum*;

- (b) Quagga mussel - *Dreissena bugensis*; and
- (c) Zebra mussel - *Dreissena polymorpha*.

(6) The following reptiles are classified as prohibited:

- (a) African rock python - *Python sebae*;
- (b) Alligatoridae family;
- (c) Amethystine python - *Morelia amethystina*;
- (d) Boomslang - *Dispholidus typus*;
- (e) Burrowing asps (all species in family Atractaspidae);
- (f) Coral snakes (all species in family Elapidae);
- (g) Cobras (all species in family Elapidae);
- (h) Crocodylidae family;
- (i) Green Anaconda - *Eunectes marinus*;
- (j) Indian python (including the Burmese python) - *Python molurus*;
- (k) Kraits (all species in family Elapidae);
- (l) Mambas (all species in family Elapidae);
- (m) Pit vipers and true vipers (all species in family Viperidae except species indigenous to Montana);
- (n) Red-eared slider - *Trachemys scripta elegans*; and
- (o) Reticulated python - *Python reticulatus*.

(7) The following birds are classified as prohibited:

- (a) California quail - *Callipepla californica*; and
- (b) Gambel's quail - *Callipepla gambelii*.

**Mont. Admin. R. Tit. 12, Ch. 11, Subch. 3 (Boating Regulations)**

**R. 12.11.341. Aquatic Invasive Species Inspection Stations**

- (1) Vessels approaching a department-operated inspection station must stop as directed.
- (2) Vessels intended for launching on any water in Montana are subject to inspection for aquatic invasive species.
- (3) Areas subject to the search include but are not limited to:
  - (a) the exterior of the vessel;
  - (b) livewells;
  - (c) bait buckets;
  - (d) ballast tanks;
  - (e) bilge areas; and
  - (f) trailer transporting vessel.
- (4) Any vessel at an inspection station found with invasive species, or containing residual water and has been in infested water in the last 30 days, will be decontaminated by AIS staff as arranged by the department. Infested waters contain microscopic AIS species including zebra mussels, *Dreissenia polymorpha*, and quagga mussels, *Dreissenia bugensis*, and are identified on

the map titled “Mussel-Infested States and Waterbodies” available at [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov). AIS staff shall refer to the map or to the most current known information.

(5) Decontamination methods on vessels subject to (4) may include hot water washing, hot water flushing, and drying time, including interior portions of complex engine systems and pumps. A decontamination order may be issued that requires a drying period as directed by the department. The drying time will depend on weather conditions. During the drying period, the department may lock the vessel to the trailer to prevent launching. The department will be responsible for arranging the time and location to unlock the vessel when the drying time is complete. It is prohibited for anyone other than authorized department staff to remove the lock during the drying time. The vessel must pass a second inspection prior to launching in Montana waters in order to be considered decontaminated.

**R. 12.11.342. Removal of Vegetation and Plugs**

(1) Upon removing a vessel from any surface waters and before leaving the associated boat launch or parking area, all aquatic vegetation must be removed from the vessel, trailer, and equipment.

(2) Upon removing a vessel from any surface waters and before leaving the associated boat launch or parking area, any drain plug, bailer, valves or other device that prevents water drainage from bilges, ballasts or livewells must be removed except where otherwise provided in current published fishing regulations. If the vessel does not have a plug, reasonable measures must be taken to dry or drain all compartments or spaces that hold water. Reasonable measures include emptying bilges, application of absorbents, and ventilation. The following are exempt:

- (a) Emergency response vehicles and equipment engaged in emergency response activities; and
- (b) Marine sanitary systems, closed engine cooling systems, and containers of drinking water.