

# The Great Lakes New Zealand Mud Snail (NZMS) Collaborative

Meeting Minutes

**November 1, 2019**

11am-1pm

Location: Skype Call-in

337 Dodge Hall,

Oakland University

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11:00 AM – Introductions made

- Kyle Mosel is a new member, working with Maureen Ferry at WI DNR
- Theresa Thom is a new member from the USFWS – Pacific Northwest Region

### **Updates on Collaborative Partner Activities**

- NZMS Collaborative Partnership
  - Specification and modification of collaborative and agency goals
- Collaborative goals and member roles
  - Documentation available on collaborative website
    - Broad, to be further developed by agencies needs/directions
    - Send copy to Samantha of goals
  - (T. Campbell) suggestion to borrow a needs-assessment template from other collaboratives
    - Quick survey, 10-15 minutes
    - Arrange separate call with T. Campbell, L. Nathan, S. Tiegs, and any others wanting to be involved in this process
- Website
  - Open to suggestions for additional content and updates

### **Regional Outreach and Education**

- (S. Tiegs) Oakland University
  - Decontamination Instructional video
    - Video about to be completed
    - Share video link when it is posted on Youtube, advertisement to TU chapters
  - Field Pamphlets
    - Contains info on NZMS identification, distribution, and decontamination on waders
    - 5,000 copies printed; accordion-style, easy to bring into field

- Approach fly fishing shops to pass out to fly fishers
  - (J. Latimore) wants copies for outreach with angling groups. Get into contact with S. Tiegs.
- (T. Campbell) University of Wisconsin
- Regional AIS material
    - General AIS outreach materials, not NZMS-specific. Materials aiming for general protection of natural, aquatic resources
    - “Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers” signage in wading areas. Front/back card.
    - Leaving out information regarding chemical information, due to states’ differing approaches to decontamination
    - Final documents are available for ordering, potential to adjust for specific messages
  - Developing 30-second outreach video
    - Grant money to develop video and available for advertising
  - Student analyzing introduction-outreach pathway assessment, randomized survey towards wading anglers
    - (S. LeSage) Specific to NZMS or general clean-drain-dry?
- Fall/Winter Webinar Series
- Scheduling in progress
  - Monthly or bi-monthly webinar based on speaker interest
  - Could cover a range of topics: local projects, agency efforts, etc. concerning NZMS
  - (T. Campbell) Has Zoom account available for Webinar

## **2019 Outreach/Monitoring**

- (J. Geist) Trout Unlimited
- Has given presentations concerning NZMS generally and specifically in Michigan inland waterways.
  - TU blog posts and articles on websites keep constituents current on NZMS status. Emphasizing with MyCorps program to ensure NZMS monitoring

- (M. Ferry) side-bar to connect with TU contacts/resources.
- (M. Ferry) Wisconsin DNR
  - Citizen monitoring coordinators to develop monitoring techniques. UW-EXT volunteers trained to collect water samples, additional monitoring for a subset of invasive species.
    - Must assure volunteers properly decontaminate equipment. Currently use hand-held steam cleaners on equipment and clothes. Availability of car battery to operate.
  - Developing quantitative protocol, ability to detect new populations.
    - Transect numbers being set up for eight different habitat types. Volunteers out with waders and nets, check on shore for presence.
    - (J. Latimore) Requests draft of protocol to view
  - Monitoring 50 sites in south-central region of WI, using eDNA to survey, detecting presence or absence. Preliminary results for 2019.
    - eDNA using 5L of water to filter. Do not need triplicates at each site since they were getting same results. Similar to what K. Mosel saw with Asian carp project.
    - (K. Mosel and S. Tiegs) Q-PCR good for detecting presence or absence, not as well for quantifying populations.
  - Biologist in Pittsburg, collections with kicknet and Hess sampler for NZMS and macroinverts. Long-term trend data for macro, habitat, water, and NZMS data. Flow, temp, and eDNA, fish samples via electro-shocker. Q-PCR (8 sites)
- (S. Tiegs) Oakland University
  - Quarterly eDNA sampling has not located any more contaminated sites since last update.
    - eDNA methods tailored to volunteers and citizen scientists.
    - 1L of water to filter, RNA-later solution, ship to lab.
  - Hess sampling revealing general increase in abundance within the Au Sable at established sites
    - eDNA not as effective in detecting low densities of NZMS. Examining Hess samples of potential sites

- (T. Thom) Inquiry about agency coordination to ensure sampling coverage
  - Establishing a shared database? Edmaps.
    - (M. Ferry) WI submits data to USGS database, many states use Ed Maps, Michigan does not. Ed maps also shows negative locations.
  - (J. Geist) Michigan coordination during the field season. Maybe integrate shared database into the website over time. NAS database
- (L. Nathan) Michigan DNR
  - Fisheries program across state.
  - 19 efforts waiting for data from field crews. Will update with data.
  - 20 reports, no new NZMS locations.
  - Two locations in Boardman and Manistee rivers. Share results of data locations.
- (S. LeSage) Michigan EGLE
  - Routine monitoring being conducted: qualitative surveys, ID, and counts. Not NZMS-specific. No new detections.

## **Society for Freshwater Science (Madison, WI; June 7-12th) – Pre-conference NZMS**

### **Workshop**

- Date – Tentatively June 6<sup>th</sup>,
  - Half-day workshop
  - If travel budgets are limited, might be able to reach out for collaborative budget to assist with attendance
- Speakers and presentations relevant to NZMS research, monitoring, and management
- Involvement and interest
  - Reach out to be involved or suggest topics
  - Attendance:
    - S. Tank likely to know by January
    - J. Latimore plans to attend
    - L. Nathan hopeful to attend
    - Wisconsin folks plan on attending
    - T. Campbell unlikely to attend but can assist with planning

- Arrange a skype-in for those whom cannot attend.
- Examine places outside the Terrace to arrange a meeting space.
- Suggestion to move meeting date, as Sunday afternoon is not a popular time.
- Suggestion for a special session instead of a workshop – Wednesday afternoon
  - Deadline passed in October, see if connections are possible
  - Examine space availability then examine workshop v special sessions
  - See if there are any prominent talks that would require people to miss the session.
  - (S. Tiegs) to inquire with conference organizers, will send update to the group
- (T. Thom) difficulty getting federal approval, search for non-federal commitments, caps on number of federal employees whom can attend.
- Possible other option for future to do a multi-day training, specific for NZMS.
  - Fisheries biologists familiar with the approach

### **Finishing Partner Updates**

- (J. Geist) Delaware river basin in NJ, Musconetcong River has a growing NZMS population in an 8-mile sampling area. Watershed council interested in joining collaborative to learning information. Not much management in that region concerning NZMS

### **Future Efforts/Actions**

- T. Campbell and L. Nathan working to form a collaborative-needs assessment
- Examine integrating data into shared database
- Create listserv for reaching collaborative members between meetings.
- Next meeting in spring for information sharing.
  - Specifically-focused meetings between now and spring.
- Plan on receiving updates as far as the webinar series, and/or reaching out to coordinate speakers for webinar series.
- T. Thom will check on NZMS in the John-Day river for S. Tiegs, lots of invasive species work in that area. Inquiring about parasites in NZMS in that region as a biological control

1 PM—Meeting adjourns