



Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations

- The objective of the *Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations* is to provide a suite of regulatory tools that can be used to prevent new introductions and manage spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS).
 - Focus on high-risk species and geographic areas.
 - Provide tools to provincial/territorial governments to act to address AIS in jurisdictions where they manage the fishery.

Prohibitions:

- The Regulations prohibit import, transport, possession and/or release of species listed in Part 2 of the Schedule, in specific geographic areas and under specific conditions.
 - Exemptions may be granted for AIS control, scientific research or education.
 - The initial list of prohibited species is limited to:
 - Asian Carps (four species);
 - invasive fish already listed in the *Ontario Fishery Regulations*;
 - prohibited species as listed in the *Manitoba Fishery Regulations*, and;
 - zebra and quagga mussels.
 - This list may be expanded in the future through regulatory amendments.
- A second list of species is also contained in the Regulations (Part 3 of the Schedule). These 14 species are not subject to prohibitions relating to their import, transport, possession or release in specific geographic areas, but may be subject to control and eradication activities in areas where they are not indigenous and may cause harm.
- The Regulations also contain a general prohibition against the unauthorized introduction of any aquatic species (i.e. listed or unlisted) where it is not indigenous.

Control and Eradication:

- Fishery Officers will be able to direct people to take certain actions to prevent the introduction or control the spread of all listed species where they are prohibited or where they are not indigenous and may cause harm.
- In addition, Fishery Officers will be able to direct people to cease activities that may lead to the introduction of any aquatic species where it is not indigenous.
- Prescribed Ministers will be able to authorize the deposit of deleterious substances, under specific conditions, to control or eradicate AIS in their jurisdictions. They will also be able to direct the use of deleterious substances to control listed species.
 - Ministers must consider alternative measures and impacts before authorizing deposits.
 - Deposit of deleterious substances made in aquaculture will be exempted from the application of the Regulations if they are otherwise authorized under the *Fisheries Act* (e.g. under the proposed *Aquaculture Activities Regulations*).



Compliance and Enforcement:

- Provincial/territorial departments will play a significant role in administering and enforcing the Regulations in areas where they manage the fishery.
- The Regulations can be enforced by federal Fishery Officers and by provincial enforcement officers designated as Fishery Officers under the *Fisheries Act*.
- Most of the regulation applies to a limited number of species (the listed species) which are subject to prohibitions and control powers. Most of these species are managed by provinces.
- Enforcement powers contained in the Regulations are enabling and can be used to address high-risk species, geographic areas, and activities.