

Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee

Project Completion Report

FY 2008

Unit: Grand Teton National Park
Project Name: Protect the Upper Snake River Watershed from Aquatic Nuisance Species
Project Description: This project proposes to: 1) establish close collaboration with neighboring Bridger-Teton National Forest; 2) share educational materials and experience developed after a 2-year pilot ANS program in Grand Teton NP. The most vital element in the success of a program to protect the Upper Snake River watershed from aquatic nuisance species (ANS) includes increased educational efforts and an adequate control of the access points into the waters of Greater Yellowstone Area (GYA). Although seeming to be a daunting task, the interagency approach that employs somewhat consistent control measures has advantages and cost efficiencies. The program emphasis should continue to be prevention, and to take preventative action now while ANS is still a relatively small problem, and not wait for it to be established in aquatic systems, or worse, at population levels that are impacting native species. The priority for the next five years should be education and decontamination of watercraft and angler equipment in the GYA.
GYCC Funding Received: \$10,000
Status of the Project: Complete
Products that can be shared across the GYA: (GIS data layers, maps, new protocols and methods) ANS Self-Certification packet implemented at GRTE July 2008 Regional map of ANS infestations “Don’t Move a Mussel” DVD
Project results: (Information worth sharing on methods, results, partnerships, etc) During the summer of 2008, GRTE collaborated with the Bridger Teton National Forest to distribute education brochures and programs related to aquatic nuisance species. Over 300 visitors were contacted at park marinas and launch ramps in GRTE. In July 2008, GRTE implemented a Self-Certification policy for watercraft. Two public showings of the “Don’t Move a Mussel” video were conducted by park and forest staff. BTNF and GRTE co-sponsored a 2-day conference at the AMK Ranch in GRTE.
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Report Date: 28 January, 2009
Submit to Virginia Kelly: vkelly@fs.fed.us 406-587-6704. Contact Virginia with questions.

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