

**STATE OF WYOMING**  
***State-Specific Boating Safety Requirements***

**SL 1. Law Enforcement Authority**

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department law enforcement officers enforce the state boating regulations and may also authorize any peace officer of the State or any of its political subdivisions to enforce the provisions of the boating law and regulations. The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) also has enforcement authority on all federally controlled waters.

**SL 2. Age Restrictions**

Boat operators in Wyoming must be at least 16 years old; this includes personal watercraft (PWC) such as "Wave Runners" or "Jet Skis." Persons under 16 years of age can operate a boat if an adult 18 years of age or older accompanies them and the adult is responsible for the safe operation of the watercraft.

**SL 3. Boater Safety Education Requirements**

There are no mandatory boating education requirements in Wyoming at this time. It is highly recommended however, that boat operators take a boating safety course in order to familiarize themselves with navigation and boat operation. Once a National Association of State Boating Law Administrator (NASBLA)-approved course has been completed successfully, the boat operator may be eligible for an insurance discount.

**SL 4. Vessel Registration**

All motorized vessels must be registered in Wyoming. All numbers assigned to motorized watercraft in the state will consist of three (3) parts. The first part has two letters "WY" signifying the state of registration and is named the prefix; the second part consist of not more than four (4) Arabic numerals; and the third part, the suffix, of not more than two (2) capital letters, but "I", "O" and "Q" cannot be used because of their similarity to Arabic numerals. Numbers assigned to motorized watercraft dealers will have the letters "DL" as the suffix.

Upon payment of the motorized vessel registration fee, each applicant will receive a registration certificate and two (2) decals valid for one year. One (1) decal must be displayed on each side of the front half of the hull. All registration numbers must be displayed on the vessel according to federal regulations.

**SL 5. Maximum Loading and Horsepower**

The State of Wyoming does not have any maximum loading and horsepower requirements that are in addition to federal regulations. To review federal regulations, refer to the section on Capacity Plates included in Chapter 1 of this course.

*The following information was approved by NASBLA and is included in Chapter 1 of the Boater101 Course:*

*Capacity Plates*

*It is required for all mono-hull boats under 20 feet built on or after November 1, 1972 to have a capacity plate approved by the USCG. In addition some manufacturers voluntarily install capacity plates on boats larger than 20 feet. This plate must be visible from the operator's station. The capacity plate lists a safe motor size, the maximum number of persons to be carried onboard, and the total weight the boat can carry including persons, motor, and gear. When operating your boat be sure to adhere to the restrictions listed on the capacity plate. Not only is it dangerous to overpower or overload a small boat, since they can swamp or capsize more easily, but it is also illegal. In many states, there are fines and penalties for*

*exceeding capacity recommendations, including carrying more than the maximum number of people.*

*On boats with no capacity information label, use the following formula to determine the number of persons your vessel can safely carry in good weather conditions:  
PERSONS (average 150 lbs. each) = Length (ft) x width (ft) divided by 15*

## **SL 6. Equipment and Lighting Requirements**

The USCG sets minimum safety standards for vessels and associated equipment. To meet these standards, some of the equipment must be USCG-approved. All boats operating on Wyoming waters must carry and, if required, have in operation, acceptable personal flotation devices (PFDs), visual distress signals, fire extinguishers, sounding devices, backfire flame arrestor, ventilation systems, and navigation lights as required by federal law. If a boat manufacturer installs the safety equipment, it should not be assumed that the vessel is properly equipped at time of purchase. Boat owners are responsible for ensuring that his or her vessel meets USCG regulations in accordance with vessel size and the waters in which the vessel is being operated. To review the federal requirements for safety equipment, refer to Chapter 2 of this course.

It is the responsibility of the operator of the vessel to ensure that all required safety equipment is onboard the vessel during operation.

### **Backfire Flame Arrestors**

In the State of Wyoming, every gasoline engine installed in a motorized watercraft after April 25, 1940, except outboard motors, must be equipped with an efficient means of backfire flame control. Backfire Flame Arrestors installed before November 19, 1952, must be in good and serviceable condition. All Backfire Flame Arrestors installed after November 19, 1952 must be in good and serviceable condition and meet the more stringent requirements listed below. The following are acceptable means of backfire flame control for gasoline engines:

- A backfire flame arrester approved by the USCG. The flame arrester must be suitably secured to the air intake with flame tight connections;
- An engine air and fuel intake system that provides adequate protection from propagation of backfire flame to the atmosphere equivalent to that provided by an approved flame arrester. A gasoline engine that has such an air and fuel intake system and which is to be operated without a USCG-approved flame arrester must be labeled to meet requirements of the U.S. Coast Guard; and,
- Any attachment to the carburetor or location of the engine air intake by means of which flames caused by engine backfire can be dispersed to the atmosphere outside the motorized watercraft so as to avoid endangering the motorized watercraft, persons on board, nearby watercraft or structures. All attachments must be of metal with flame-tight connections and firmly secured to withstand vibration, shock and engine backfire. These types of installations do not require formal USCG approval but must be accepted by law enforcement officers on the basis of this regulation.

### **Navigation Lights**

Any vessel when underway on the waters of the State from sunset to sunrise must carry and exhibit the required lights.

#### Vessels Class A or B

Any motorized vessel class A or B must carry the following lights:

- A bright white light aft to be visible three hundred sixty degrees (360°) all around the horizon; and,
- A combined lantern in the front of the vessel and lower than the white light aft, showing green to starboard and red to port, so fixed as to show the light from directly

ahead to twenty-two and five tenths degrees (22.5°) aft the beam on their respective sides.

#### Vessels Class C or D

Every motorized watercraft of classes C or D must exhibit the following lights:

- A bright white light in the front of the vessel as near the bow at the center axis as practicable, so constructed as to show an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of two hundred twenty-five degrees (225°), and fixed to show the light one hundred twelve and five tenths degrees (112.5°) on each side of the vessel; from directly ahead to twenty-two and five tenths degrees (22.5°) aft the beam on either side;
- A bright white light aft to show three hundred sixty degrees (360°) all around the horizon and higher than the white light forward; and,
- On the starboard side, a green light constructed to show an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of one hundred twelve and five tenths (112.5°) degrees, and fixed to show the light from directly ahead to twenty-two and five tenths degrees (22.5°) aft the beam on the starboard side. On the port side, a red light constructed to show an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of one hundred twelve and five tenths degrees (112.5°), and fixed as to show the light from directly ahead to twenty-two and five tenths degrees (22.5°) aft the beam on the port side. Each light must be fitted with inboard screens of sufficient height set to prevent light from being seen across the bow.

Every white light must be visible at a distance of at least two (2) miles and every colored light at a distance of one (1) mile.

#### Sailboats

Sailboats, when propelled by sail alone, must exhibit the following lights:

- On the starboard side, a green light and on the port side a red light to show an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon from directly ahead to twenty-two and five tenths degrees (22.5°) aft the beam.
- A white light located at the stern of the vessel to show the light sixty-seven and five tenths degrees (67.5 °) from aft on each side of the watercraft.

Sailboats must also carry a lantern or flashlight ready at hand to show a white light in enough time to avoid a collision, if necessary.

#### Hand-Propelled Vessels

All hand-propelled watercraft operated between sunset and sunrise must carry a lantern or flashlight ready at hand to show a white light in enough time to avoid a collision, if necessary.

#### Anchored Vessels

All watercraft at anchor between sunset and sunrise, unless anchored at a designated site such as a marina, shoreline, etc., must display a white light in the front of the watercraft or where it can best be seen to show all around the horizon and visible for two (2) miles.

#### **Ventilation Systems**

All motorized vessels, except open boats, must have at least two (2) ventilator ducts, fitted, with cowls or their equivalent for the efficient removal of explosive or flammable gases from the bilges of every engine and fuel tank compartment. There must be at least one (1) exhaust duct installed so as to extend from the open atmosphere to the lower portion of the bilges and at least one (1) intake duct installed so as to extend to a point at least midway to the bilge or at least below the level of the carburetor air intake. The cowls must be located and trimmed for maximum effectiveness to prevent displaced fumes from being recirculated.

#### **Sound Producing Devices**

### Vessels Class A and B

Vessels in these classes must be equipped with a mouth, hand or power operated device capable of producing a blast of two (2) seconds or more duration and audible for at least one-half (1/2) mile.

### Vessels Class C

Vessels in this class must be equipped with a hand or power-operated device capable of producing a blast of two (2) seconds or more duration and audible for at least one (1) mile.

### Vessels Class D

Vessels in this class must be equipped with a power-operated device capable of producing a blast of two (2) seconds or more duration and audible for a distance of at least one (1) mile.

## **Personal Flotation Devices**

All vessels must carry a USCG-approved wearable personal flotation device of a suitable size for each person on board. All USCG-approved personal flotation devices must be readily accessible, in good, serviceable condition and cannot be waterlogged, torn, or have straps broken or missing.

Vessels sixteen (16) feet and over in length must have a minimum of one (1) USCG-approved throwable device, ring buoy or buoyant cushion on board the watercraft, in addition to the requirements stated above.

Vessels of 40 feet and more in length must be equipped with only PFDs and throwable devices approved by the U.S Coast Guard.

### **Mandatory PFD Usage**

When you are boating on federally controlled waters within the state of Wyoming, all children under the age of 13 must wear a USCG-approved PFD while on a recreational vessel that is underway unless they are in an enclosed cabin or below deck. Currently this regulation applies to the Flaming Gorge Reservoir and Yellowtail Reservoir. Although there is not a mandatory PFD usage requirement in Wyoming for state-controlled waters, PFDs must be easily accessible and the appropriate size.

## **Fire Extinguishers**

All vessels operated on the waters of the State of Wyoming must adhere to the federal requirements regarding the number of fire extinguishers to be carried on each vessel. If a vessel has one or more of the following conditions, it must carry fire extinguishers onboard:

- Inboard engines;
- Closed compartments under seats wherein portable fuel tanks may be stored;
- Double bottoms not sealed to the hull or which are not completely filled with flotation materials;
- Closed living spaces;
- Closed stowage compartments in which combustible material are stored; and/or,
- Permanently installed fuel tanks.

All fire extinguishers must be USCG-approved and must be in serviceable condition. To review federal fire extinguisher requirements, refer to Chapter 2 of this course.

## **SL 7. Marine Sanitation Devices**

Wyoming law prohibits discharge of any sewage, treated or untreated, into the state's freshwaters. Recreational vessels with installed toilet facilities must have onboard an operable marine sanitation device (MSD). All installed devices must be USCG certified. Type III MSDs must have the "Y"-valve secured to prevent waste from being discharged into the water.

Wyoming has no specific regulations regarding Marine Sanitation Devices that are in addition to federal laws. Vessel operators in the State of Wyoming must obey all federal regulations regarding MSDs.

### **SL 8. Muffling Devices**

To reduce noise, motorboat engines must be equipped with a muffler or other method of noise suppression device. Installed mufflers can not have any type of cut-out or bypass and may not be modified to reduce or eliminate the effectiveness of noise suppression.

### **SL 9. Boating Accidents**

If a boat is involved in an accident, the operator must give necessary assistance to the other vessel and passengers, as long as it will not personally endanger the operator, his or her passengers, crew or the vessel. The operator of a vessel involved in an accident must also render practical assistance to the victims and give his/her name, address, and vessel identification to the injured person or owner of the damaged property.

A vessel operator involved in a boating accident must submit an accident report form within 10 days to the office of the State Boating Law Administration for any accident in which:

- A person dies within 24 hours.
- A person loses consciousness or receives medical treatment beyond first aid.
- Property damage is more than \$500
- A person disappears from the vessel in circumstances that indicate injury or death.

A boating accident report may be obtained at any boat registration office. In case of death or disappearance, the owner or operator of a boat must contact the Wyoming Game and Fish Department or the local authority immediately.

### **SL 10. Vessel Speed Restrictions**

Areas within one hundred (100) feet of a drifting, trolling or anchored watercraft or person(s) in the water are considered to be no-wake zones. It is unlawful to operate a motorized vessel at a speed that causes a wake within these areas. No person may operate a vessel at a speed that can cause danger of injury to life or limb or damage to property.

### **SL 11. Mooring to Markers or Buoys**

No buoys, markers, and/or regulatory signs can be placed upon the waters of the State without prior approval of the Game and Fish Department, with the exception of a Divers-Down flag.

It is unlawful to moor or attach a vessel to a beacon, light, buoy (except a mooring buoy) or any other navigational aid installed on public waters by proper authorities. It is also unlawful to tamper with, move, displace, damage or destroy any navigational aid.

### **SL 12. Reckless and Careless Operation**

It is unlawful to operate a vessel in a careless or reckless manner. Reckless and careless operations include:

- Operating any vessel in a manner that interferes with the free and proper use of the waters.
- Exceeding manufacturer capacity plate specifications.
- Operating under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Operating a vessel within 100 feet of a buoyed divers-down flag.
- Weaving your vessel through congested waterway traffic or swerving at the last possible moment in order to avoid collision.
- Spraying or attempting to spray another person, vessel or structure with the wake of your vessel.

Careless operation: Any person who operates any watercraft in a careless or heedless manner so as to be indifferent to the person or property of another person, or at a rate of speed greater than will permit him in the exercise of reasonable care to bring the watercraft to a stop within the assured clear distance ahead, is guilty of the crime of careless operation

Reckless operation: Any person who shall operate any watercraft in such a manner as to endanger the life or limb, or damage the property of, another person, shall be guilty of the crime of reckless operation.

Bow riding or riding on gunwales is prohibited unless the vessel is equipped with the proper guards or railing to prevent passengers from being lost overboard.

### **SL 13. Interference with Navigation**

It is unlawful to:

- Anchor a vessel in the traveled portion of a river or channel that will prevent or interfere with any other passing vessel.
- Obstruct a boat ramp, pier, wharf or access to any facility.
- Obstruct or mark the waters of Wyoming in a way that may endanger the operation of watercraft or conflict with the marking system prescribed by the State of Wyoming.
- Operate or otherwise position a vessel, other object or any person in a way that would obstruct or impede the normal flow of traffic on the lakes of this state.

### **SL 14. Boating Under the Influence**

In Wyoming, it is unlawful for anyone to operate a boat while intoxicated; i.e., operating a vessel while intoxicated due to alcohol or any combination of alcohol, controlled substance or drugs. A person is considered to be under the influence if his/her alcohol concentration is 0.10% or more. In addition, there is no presumption for boaters who have alcohol concentrations from 0.05% to 0.10% so an operator can and may be arrested even if he or she has an alcohol concentration lower than 0.10%. If a law enforcement officer observes an operator who is incapable of safely operating a vessel or who fails a Standardized Field Sobriety Test, the operator will be arrested, regardless of alcohol concentration.

### **SL 15. Mandatory Violator Education**

At this time, the State of Wyoming has no regulations concerning mandatory violator education.

### **SL 16. PWC Regulations**

It is unlawful for a person operating a PWC in Wyoming to cross or jump the wake of another vessel when within one hundred (100) feet of the vessel creating the wake. It is also illegal to operate a PWC unless the watercraft is equipped by the manufacturer with a "kill switch". The kill switch must be attached via a lanyard to the operator of the PWC when it is underway in such a manner that in the event the operator is ejected from the PWC the engine must stop.

### **SL 17. Water Ski Regulations**

To alert other vessel operators of water skiing in the area, operators of vessels pulling a person on water skis must display a fluorescent orange flag, at least twelve (12) inches x twelve (12) inches in size, above the vessel anytime the person(s) towed on water-skis, water sport toys, or other devices are down in the water. The operator of the vessel must ensure the flag is displayed in such a manner that it is visible three hundred sixty degrees (360°) around the motorized watercraft and the person in the water.

Water skiing is prohibited in Wyoming from one hour after sunset until one hour prior to sunrise. In addition to the operator, the towing vessel must have an observer on board to

continuously observe the person being towed or be equipped with a wide-angle rearview mirror so that the operator can observe the person being towed.

### **SL 18. Divers-Down Flag**

Federal navigation rules require vessels restricted in the ability to maneuver to display appropriate day shapes or lights. To meet this requirement, recreational vessels engaged in diving activities may exhibit a rigid replica of the international code flag "A" or a "Divers-Down" flag not less than one meter in height, or at night, display navigation lights 360 degrees red on top, white in middle and red on the bottom. Scuba divers, skin divers and snorkelers must mark their diving area by means of a diver's down flag.

In Wyoming two (2) flags are used to indicate the presence of a person engaged in diving in the immediate area. The official flag, Alpha, which is blue and white is internationally recognized for all diving operations. The second flag is the red flag with a white diagonal stripe. No person can operate or permit the operation of any motorboat at a speed greater than a no wake speed on Wyoming waters within 100 feet of a Divers-Down flag.

### **SL 19. Liveries (Rental Agencies)**

All liveries should provide renters with information on rules, laws, and basic navigation and boating safety for the state in which the rented vessel is operated. In the state of Wyoming boat owners are permitted to keep the vessel registration at their place of business instead of onboard the vessel if the vessel is rented for one day or less as long as it is readily available for inspection. Liveries are responsible for equipping the rented boat with a PFD of the appropriate size for every passenger.

### **SL 20. Other State-Specific Regulations**

#### **Restricted Use of the Waters of the State of Wyoming**

The use of **motorized vessels** is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year except as otherwise provided. Emergency, search and rescue, enforcement and Wyoming Game and Fish Department administrative watercraft are exempt.

- Bearpaw Lake in Teton County;
- Bradley Lake in Teton County;
- Emma Matilda Lake in Teton County;
- Kemmerer City Reservoir in Lincoln County;
- Leigh Lake in Teton County;
- North Crow Reservoir in Laramie and Albany Counties;
- North Platte River upstream from the Saratoga Inn bridge in the town of Saratoga to the Colorado State line in Carbon County (The owners or agricultural lessees of property immediately adjacent to the North Platte River or their agents may utilize motorized watercraft to carry out agricultural practices.);
- South Worland Pond (Golf Course Pond) in Washakie County;
- String Lake in Teton County;
- Taggart Lake in Teton County;
- Two Ocean Lake in Teton County; and
- West Ten Sleep Lake in Big Horn County.

The use of **Personal Watercraft** is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year except as otherwise provided:

- All waters in Grand Teton National Park in Teton County;
- Green River Lakes in Sublette County;
- New Fork Lakes in Sublette County; and

Soda Lake in Sublette County on the Soda Lake Wildlife Habitat Management Area.

The use of **internal combustion engines in motorized watercraft** is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year except as otherwise provided. Emergency, search and rescue, enforcement and Wyoming Game and Fish Department administrative watercraft are exempt.

A&M Reservoir in Sweetwater County;  
Absaraka Lake in Laramie County;  
Beck Lake Recreation Area including Beck Lake, New Cody Reservoir and Markham Reservoir in Park County;  
Black Hills Power and Light Osage Pond in Weston County;  
Bryan Stock Trail Pond in Natrona County;  
Burlington Reservoir in Natrona County;  
Cook Lake in Crook County;  
Dollar Lake in Sublette County;  
Edness Kimball Wilkins State Park including all ponds within the Park in Natrona County;  
Festo Lake in Platte County;  
Fiddlers Lake in Fremont County;  
Fish Lake in Fremont County;  
Gillette Fishing Lake in Campbell County;  
Johnson Creek Reservoir in Albany County;  
Lake Alice in Lincoln County;  
Leazenby Lake in Albany County;  
Lake of the Woods in Fremont County;  
Little Soda Lake in Sublette County;  
Lower North Crow Reservoir (North Crow Diversion Reservoir) in Laramie County;  
Lucky Pond (Chittim Reservoir) in Fremont County;  
Medicine Bow National Forest including all lakes within the boundaries of Medicine Bow National Forest, except Sand Lake, Turpin Reservoir, Lake Owen, Rob Roy Reservoir and Hog Park Reservoir, in Carbon and Albany Counties;  
Middle Piney Lake in Sublette County;  
Murphy Lake in Lincoln County;  
Naughton Plant Pond in Lincoln County;  
North Piney Lake in Sublette County;  
Pelham Lake in Fremont County;  
Rawlins City Reservoir in Carbon County;  
Rock Creek Reservoir in Fremont County;  
Sand Mesa Reservoirs No. 1 and 2 in Fremont County;  
Sibley Lake in Sheridan County; <Removed from motorized section.>  
Snake River from West Table boat ramp to Sheep Gulch boat ramp in Lincoln County;  
Soda Lake, on Soda Lake Wildlife Habitat Management Area, in Sublette County shall be closed from May 10 through May 31 to the use of internal combustion motorized watercraft;  
South Springer Reservoir in Goshen County;  
Swamp Lake in Park County;  
Tie Hack Reservoir in Johnson County;  
Upper and Lower Jade Lakes in Fremont County;  
Upper North Crow Reservoir in Laramie and Albany Counties;  
Walker Jenkins Lake in Carbon County;  
Western Nuclear Pond in Fremont County; and,  
Wind River Lake in Fremont County.

**The use of any type watercraft is prohibited** on the following waters throughout the calendar year, except as otherwise provided. Emergency, search and rescue, enforcement and Wyoming Game and Fish Department administrative watercraft are exempt.

Grayrocks Reservoir to include only that area between the regulatory buoys and the spillway in Platte County;  
Healy Reservoir in Johnson County;  
Jim Bridger Pond to include only that area inside the pumphouse booms in Sweetwater County;  
North Platte River to include only that area between Glendo Dam and Glendo Powerplant in Platte County;  
Ranchester City Reservoir in Sheridan County; and  
Wheatland Reservoir No. 3 Canal from the headgate in Reservoir No. 2 to the mouth in Reservoir No. 3 in Albany County.

The use of **motorized watercraft powered by a motor in excess of fifteen (15) horsepower is prohibited** on the following waters throughout the calendar year, except as otherwise provided. Emergency, search and rescue, enforcement and Wyoming Game and Fish Department administrative watercraft are exempt.

Crystal Reservoir in Laramie County;  
Deaver Reservoir in Park County;  
Jim Bridger Pond in Sweetwater County;  
Muddy Guard Reservoirs in Johnson County;  
Newton Lakes Recreational Area including East and West Newton Lakes in Park County;  
Packers Lake in Goshen County;  
Park Reservoir in Johnson and Sheridan Counties;  
Renner Reservoir in Washakie County;  
Sloans Lake in Laramie County;  
Turpin Reservoir in Carbon County; and  
Harrington Reservoir in Big Horn County.

The use of motorized watercraft powered by a motor greater than ten (10) horsepower is prohibited on the following waters throughout the calendar year, except as otherwise provided. Emergency, search and rescue, enforcement, Wyoming Game and Fish Department administrative watercraft and other watercraft authorized by Grand Teton National Park are exempt.

Jenny Lake in Grand Teton National Park in Teton County.

## **SL 21. Environmental Awareness**

### **Illegal Fish Transport**

The illegal introduction of fish into Wyoming's waters can destroy fisheries and affect the natural balance of the lake's ecosystem. It is very important to prevent the transportation and introduction of fish from one body of water to another because it can result in fewer fishing opportunities for everyone. The harmful effects of introduced species include:

Compete with existing species, which changes the kinds and number or size of fish resulting in less desirable fish for the angler;  
Increase management cost to restore the fishery, ultimately costing the angler more money;  
Carry and spread new diseases and parasites; and

Hybridize with established species resulting in a poor quality fishery.

Wyoming's fisheries have been negatively impacted by the illegal introduction of fish species such as carp, shiners, suckers, walleye, rainbow, trout and yellow perch.

Due to the significant threat introduced fish species pose to fisheries, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department is increasing enforcement of the laws concerning transportation and introduction of species to new waters. This offense is a misdemeanor that carries a considerable fine and possible jail time. It is unlawful to plant or release fish or eggs without the consent and supervision of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department and to transport live fish or live fish eggs from the water of capture.

Report any unlawful actions you see or hear about as soon as possible to Wyoming's 24-hour STOP Poaching Hotline: 800-442-4331. General questions regarding hunting, fishing and boating should be directed to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department at (307) 777-4600 during normal business hours (M-F, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM).

### **Aquatic Nuisance Species in Wyoming**

Another threat that threatens fisheries in the state of Wyoming is aquatic nuisance species. Two important aquatic nuisance species have been identified; a parasite *Myxobolus cerebralis* and the New Zealand mudsnail.

*Myxobolus cerebralis*: This parasite causes an infection known as whirling disease. Whirling disease attacks cartilage of young fish such as salmon and trout, resulting in deformities and often death. This parasite was first discovered in Wyoming in 1988 and now infects the Yellowstone, Wind-Big Horn, Green, and Snake River basins. Whirling disease can cause serious declines in some trout and salmon populations, although none documented in Wyoming to date.

New Zealand Mudsnail: This aquatic nuisance species impacts the food chain of native trout and alters the physical characteristics of the streams themselves. It has been recently identified outside Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming in the Snake River.

Other aquatic nuisance species that threaten Wyoming include introduced fish species, the zebra mussel and rusty crayfish.

You can help to stop the spread of unwanted nuisance species by:

- Cleaning all material from boat hull and trailer.
- Draining your vessel's live well and motor, flush the live well and cooling system with hot water (140° F).
- Refraining from dumping any live fish into any waters.

### **Additional Information**

For more information on Wyoming boating law refer to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department at <http://gf.state.wy.us/fish/boating/index.asp>, Wyoming Watercraft Regulations and Statutes, Title 41 – Water, Chapter 13 - Watercraft at <http://legisweb.state.wy.us/statutes/titles/Title41/T41CH13.htm>; and on the Department web page <http://gf.state.wy.us/admin/regulations/index.asp> under chapter 22.