# Invasive Species Prevention and ballast management changes in the lower Columbia River

COLUMBIA RIVER ESTUARY WORKSHOP ASTORIA, OR



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• At least 55 aquatic NIS established in lower CRE (Sytsma et al. 2004).

SFB

LA/LB

LCR

modified from Simkanin et al. 2010 (Mar.Poll. Bull.)

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PS

 Targeted studies reveal NIS presence and potential ecological affects, but more research is needed (Cordell et al. 2007, Bollens et al. 2012, Breckenridge et al. 2014).



#### **Ballast Water**



Source: International Maritime Organization







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#### **Current Management Status**



#### Oceanic Ballast Water Exchange (BWE)









#### **Management Status\* of Discharged Ballast**

#### (Columbia River - 2013)

\* - as reported by vessel operator on required ballast water reporting form.





#### **Future: Ballast Discharge Standards**

Organism Size Class	International / U.S. Federal Discharge Standard (D-2)	California Ballast Discharge Performance Standard <sup>[1]</sup>
> 50 μm	< 10 viable	No detectable living
in minimum dimension	organisms per cubic meter	organisms
10 – 50 μm	< 10 viable	< 0.01 living organisms
in minimum dimension	organisms per ml	per ml
< 10 μm in minimum dimension		$< 10^3$ bacteria/100 ml $< 10^4$ viruses/100 ml
Escherichia coli	$< 250  m cfu^{[2]}/100  m ml^{[4]}$	$< 126 \ cfu^{[2]}/100 \ ml^{[4]}$
Intestinal enterococci	$< 100 \text{ cfu}^{[2]}/100 \text{ ml}^{[4]}$	$< 33 \ cfu^{[2]}/100 \ ml^{[4]}$
Toxicogenic <i>Vibrio</i> <i>cholerae</i> (01 & 0139)	< 1 cfu <sup>[2]</sup> /100 ml or < 1 cfu <sup>[2]</sup> /gram wet weight zooplankton samples	< 1 cfu <sup>[2]</sup> /100 ml or < 1 cfu <sup>[2]</sup> /gram wet weight zoological samples

<sup>[1]</sup> Final discharge standard for California, beginning January 1, 2020, is zero detectable living organisms for all organism size classes

<sup>[2]</sup> Colony-forming-unit ó a measure of viable bacterial numbers



Federal implementation <u>timeline:</u>

Effective 2014 for new build vessels;

For existing vessels, effective January 2016 (following 1<sup>st</sup> drydock)



#### Oregon Task Force on Shipping Transport of Aquatic Invasive Species

- Established by 2001 State Legislature; renewed in 2013.
- <u>Purpose</u>: to study and make recommendations for combating the introduction of non-indigenous species associated with commercial shipping-related activities in Oregon.
- <u>Members</u>: Represent a diversity of stakeholder interests.



#### DEQ Department of Environmental Quality

# Task Force Recommendations to 2015 Oregon Legislature

- 1. Increase vessel arrival fee and General Fund support to sustain current level of ballast program activity efforts by DEQ.
- 2. Distribute penalty collections to the statewide Invasive Species Control Account (rather than General Fund).
- 3. Establish prevention requirements for vessels entering Oregon waters with *±mptyqballast* tanks.
- 4. Support efforts to fund non-indigenous species survey and monitoring efforts in Oregon waters.
- 5. Consider vessel biofouling management regulations based on policy developments in neighboring states.
- 6. Continue to require BWE (in addition to BWT) for a subset of high-risk vessel arrivals to Oregon waters.



Based on Ruiz and Reid 2007, J. Cordell (unpublished), and Briski et al. 2013



## In conclusion.....

- 1. Ballast management regulatory landscape will continue to be highly dynamic for next 5+ years.
- 2. One size fits all strategy is a noble goal; but not always a good fit.
- 3. Biology matters.
- 4. Adaptive Management dependent upon best-available science and best-available technology.
- 5. Enforcement and compliance verification is critical.
- 6. Status of NIS in CRE? . need periodic surveys and greater understanding of ecological impacts.



#### **Oregon Ballast Water Management Program**

## Questions or Comments?

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Photo credit: B. Bjorndal