



**PREVENTION
is the ONLY
SOLUTION.
IT'S UP TO
YOU!**

Flathead Lake is one of the cleanest large lakes in the world. It is the crown jewel of the Crown of the Continent, and invasive mussels could ruin it. Let's work together to protect and preserve this rare and priceless part of our collective heritage.



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**KEEP FLATHEAD LAKE
FREE OF
INVASIVE MUSSELS**

- ▶ CLEAN.
- ▶ DRAIN.
- ▶ DRY.

YOUR BOAT



Invasive Mussels Would Ravage the Lake Environment

Zebra and quagga mussels devastate native species by stripping the food web of plankton, and that has a cascading effect throughout the ecosystem. Lack of food causes populations of native trout, whitefish and native mussel species to plummet.

Invasive mussels typically cause harmful algal blooms and permanently alter water quality in a way that impacts aquatic life and even human health.

\$1.5
Billion

Lake front property along Flathead Lake is currently valued at 6 to 8 billion dollars. Invasive mussels would cause a 13 to 19% drop in property values within 3 years (a \$1.5 billion drop).

Tiny, razor-sharp shells would coat and clog every hard surface of the lake – rocks, boats, docks & dams.

\$95
Million/Yr

Impacts to tourism, hydropower, and infrastructure (irrigation systems, power facilities, and municipal water supply and treatment) could cost more than \$95 million a year.



Once established, invasive mussels will be here forever. They are virtually impossible to remove. The ONLY solution is PREVENTION.



Clean

Clean off all plants, animals, and mud from your watercraft (canoe, kayak, boat) and equipment (boots, waders, fishing gear). Use a high pressure washer or available power washing stations. If you use your own high pressure washer or a car wash, make sure the water goes into a contained-water holding area. Rinse with very hot water (140 °F).

Drain

Drain onto land all water from bait buckets, live wells, pumps, motor, bilges, and remove drain plugs. Eliminate all water BEFORE LEAVING an area where you have had your boat and trailer.



MISSOURI
RIVER

Dry

Dry all items completely before launching the watercraft into another body of water. Allow at least five days for your boat, trailer, and equipment to completely dry before launching into other waters.

YOU

The future of Flathead Lake, the Crown Jewel of the Crown of the Continent, is up to us. You can help ensure the lake's future by preventing invasive mussels from reaching the lake.

In November 2016, state officials announced the first documented presence of zebra and quagga mussels in Montana, after positive tests at sites in the Missouri River system.