



New Zealand Mudsail Rapid Response

Project Number	01.03.01.0042		
Action Priority	Prevent, Control, or Eradicate Aquatic Invasive Species		
Implementers	Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Nevada Tahoe Resource Team – Nevada Department of Wildlife, Tahoe Resource Conservation District, Tahoe Water Suppliers Association, U.S. Forest Service - Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, UC Davis Tahoe Environmental Research Center		
Supporting Agencies	Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service		
Primary Contact	Emily Justice (ejjustice@trpa.gov)		
Stage	Implementation	Duration	2023 - 2025
Total Project Cost	\$550,000	Funding Request	\$0

Aquatic Invasive Species Program ➤ Prevent, Control, or Eradicate Aquatic Invasive Species

On 9/6/2023, invasive New Zealand mudsnails (NZMS) were discovered in areas off the South Shore by divers conducting aquatic invasive plant monitoring. Following rapid response protocols under the federally approved Lake Tahoe Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan, TRPA convened an incident team comprised of staff from TRPA, Tahoe RCD, and partner experts and began rapid response actions: delineation, tracking spread, updating prevention procedures, expanded outreach and education, and researching management options. A technical advisory committee was formed to provide expertise. Actions to track and prevent spread have been incorporated into AIS program protocols.

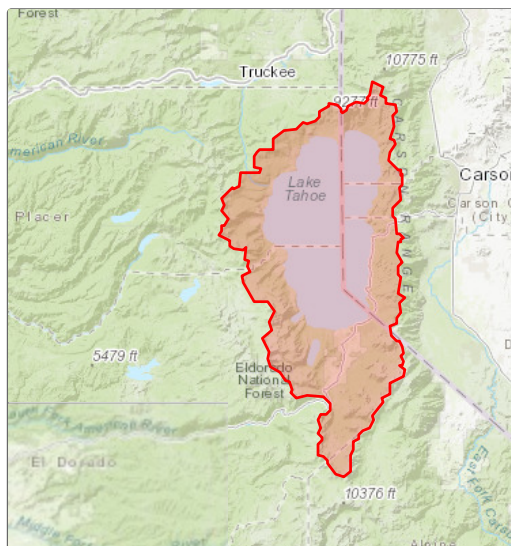
Targeted Performance Measures

- Acres of Invasive Species Inventoried
- New Invasive Species Locations Detected
- Watercraft Inspections for Invasive Species

Threshold Categories

- Fisheries
- Water Quality

Location



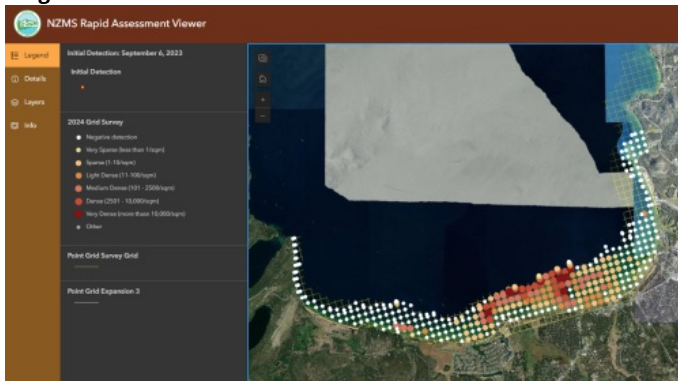
Invasive New Zealand mudsnails on algae in Lake Tahoe.

Targeted Funding

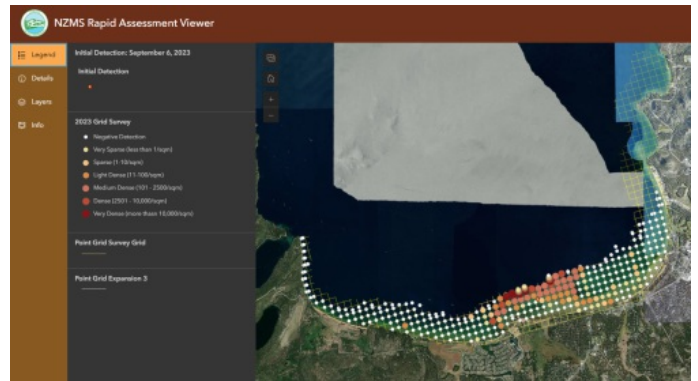
- Secured Funding: Lake Tahoe Restoration Act (TRPA), \$150,000
- Secured Funding: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), \$100,000
- No Funding Source Identified

Photos

During



2024 Grid survey for New Zealand mudsnail.



2023 Grid Survey for New Zealand mudsnail.



Roving Inspector educating beach goers and paddlers.



eDNA collection



Invasive New Zealand mudsnails from Lake Tahoe under a microscope.



New Zealand mudsnail size is about the size of a grain of rice.