



Office of the Minister

ALBERTA ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTED AREAS

Fisheries (Alberta) Act
R.S.A. 2000, c. F-16

MINISTERIAL ORDER 14/2025

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES MANDATORY SUBJECT WATERCRAFT INSPECTIONS ORDER

I, Rebecca Schulz, Minister of Environment and Protected Areas, pursuant to section 32(2) of the *Fisheries (Alberta) Act*, make the Aquatic Invasive Species Mandatory Subject Watercraft Inspections Order set out in the attached Appendix.

DATED at Edmonton, in the Province of Alberta, this 12th day of May, 2025.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Rebecca Schulz", written over a horizontal line.

Honourable Rebecca Schulz
Minister

APPENDIX

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES MANDATORY SUBJECT WATERCRAFT INSPECTIONS ORDER

WHEREAS section 1(4) of the Act states that invasive species are considered to be a threat to the ecology and the economy of Alberta and the overall purposes of the provisions in the Act relating to invasives species are to facilitate and enhance the detection, suppression, elimination and, at least, prevention of the spread, of aquatic invasive organisms in Alberta;

WHEREAS I believe on reasonable grounds that subject watercraft entering Alberta from Alberta's eastern and southern borders are high-risk to harbour aquatic invasive organisms, including but not limited to Zebra Mussel, Quagga Mussel and Golden Mussel, thereby providing a means for those invasive organisms to enter water in Alberta;

AND WHEREAS I believe on reasonable grounds that it is in the public interest to order under section 32(2) of the Act the inspection of all subject watercraft entering Alberta from Alberta's eastern and southern borders to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive organisms;

THEREFORE I establish this Order, being the *Aquatic Invasive Species Mandatory Subject Watercraft Inspections Order*.

1(1) In this Order,

- (a) "Act" means the *Fisheries (Alberta) Act*;
- (b) "subject watercraft" means any boat, vessel, ship, craft, barge, dock or wharf designed or capable of being used in water, as well as any trailer transporting or drawing these things, but does not include:
 - i. any watercraft entering Alberta at the request of the Government of Alberta to assist in an emergency response, and
 - ii. any inflatable self-propelled water toy that is not being used for navigation in water.

(2) Definitions in the Act apply in this Order.

2 Any person entering Alberta from Alberta's eastern or southern border, as shown on the map below, with a subject watercraft, between June 1 and September 30 in 2025 and May 1 and September 30 in any following year, shall report to a watercraft inspection station established by the Minister and submit to a mandatory inspection of the subject watercraft

- (a) before the subject watercraft enters any water in Alberta, including, but not limited to, bodies of water, rivers, streams, watercourses, lakes, wetlands, reservoirs and stormwater management facilities, and
- (b) no later than 7 days after the subject watercraft enters Alberta.

- 3 Any person who is required to submit to an inspection under this Order and is using or transporting the subject watercraft shall present proof of inspection to an official upon request.
- 4 If a person fails to submit to an inspection of a subject watercraft as required under this Order, a fishery officer or fishery guardian may seize or detain the subject watercraft until an inspection has been completed.

