

**STATE OF MONTANA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 18-2016**

---

**EXECUTIVE ORDER PROCLAIMING AN INVASIVE SPECIES EMERGENCY TO  
EXIST IN THE STATE OF MONTANA**

---

**WHEREAS**, invasive *Dreissenid* mussel larvae, commonly referred to as zebra and quagga mussels, have been detected in bodies of water in the State of Montana;

**WHEREAS**, the existence and spread of invasive *Dreissenid* mussels within waters of the State of Montana poses a significant threat to the natural resources of the state;

**WHEREAS**, invasive aquatic species comprise a grave threat to the waters and economic resources within the State of Montana, and such introduced species are best controlled when experts take management measures quickly after their introduction is discovered;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks and the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation both have responsibility for control, containment, and prevention of introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species;

**WHEREAS**, the coordination of a rapid response effort to address this issue is of utmost importance to the State of Montana;

**WHEREAS**, response resources from these and other agencies are currently working on management strategies;

**WHEREAS**, under these conditions, the Directors of both agencies have the authority to direct the personnel within their departments to commit time, personnel, funding and resources to meet the requirements and contingencies that may arise from this emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor has authority under Mont. Code Ann. 80-7-1013(1) to declare an invasive species emergency and may spend funds to meet needs that arise from this emergency pursuant to Mont. Code Ann. 10-3-302 and 312, and take other necessary action.

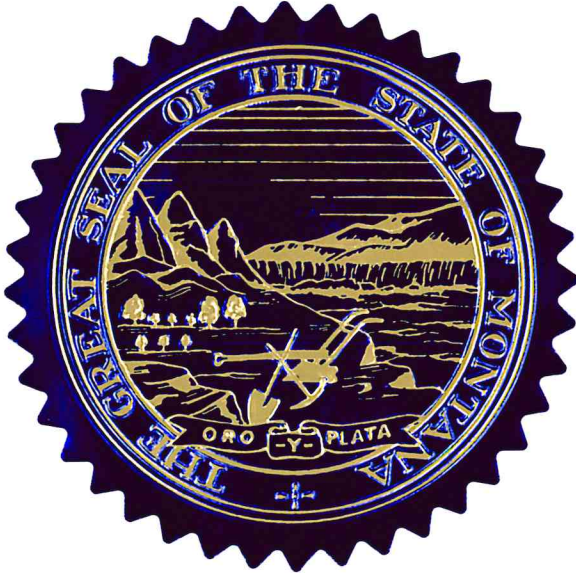
**NOW, THEREFORE, I, STEVE BULLOCK**, Governor of the State of Montana, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor under the Constitution and the laws of the State of Montana, do hereby declare that an invasive species emergency exists, as defined in Mont. Code Ann. 80-7-1013, and direct as follows;

- 1) The Directors of the Departments of Fish, Wildlife and Parks and Natural Resources and Conservation shall develop an Incident Management Organization to manage the State of Montana's response to this Invasive Species Emergency; and

- 2) All Directors of other Departments of the State of Montana shall fully cooperate with the Incident Management Organization.

This Order is effective immediately.

GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana this 30 day of November, 2016.



STEVE BULLOCK, Governor

ATTEST:

LINDA MCCULLOCH, Secretary of State

*For:*