

Feds want ideas on how to eliminate invasive mussels

Invasive mussels are marching into new territory, threatening water bodies across the West. Quagga and zebra mussels, which alter the underwater food chain and damage infrastructure, have been detected in Colorado and Montana in recent months.

They have yet to reach Lake Tahoe.

Until now, federal and state agencies have relied on awareness campaigns and boat inspections to warn recreationalists about the harmful impacts of infestation. Now they're taking a new approach to prevent their destructive spread: crowdsourcing.

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation is offering a \$100,000 prize for the best suggestion on how to stop the spread of invasive mussels in large bodies of water that is cost-effective and environmentally sound. Ideas must be **submitted by Feb. 28.**