

# Invasive-mussels plan gets nod

Posted: Monday, March 1, 2010 11:30 pm

Wyoming would establish a boat inspection and decontamination program to try to prevent exotic mussels from being introduced in state waters under a bill that's advancing in the state Senate. The Senate gave preliminary approval to House Bill 18, which would allocate \$1.5 million to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

The bill calls for the department to hire a biologist to oversee the program. It would enable peace officers to impound boats infected by mussels, or when a person refuses to allow inspection of his boat.

Zebra mussels and other exotic mussels have been found in reservoirs in Colorado, Utah and Nevada. They breed quickly and can jam up waterworks and hurt fisheries.