Citizen Science
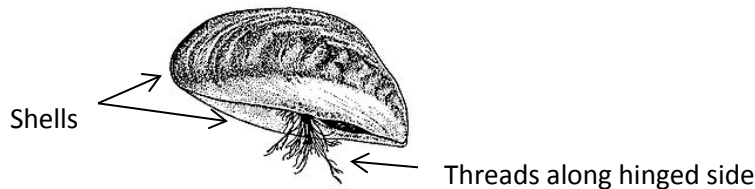# Quagga/Zebra Mussel Survey

What waterbody should I survey?
Any area with freshwater, including lakes, rivers, streams, ponds, canals, and everything in between. Visit one or many – the more the better! (Ask permission if it is not open to the public.)

Where should I look?
Along the **shoreline** focusing on hard surfaces such as rocks, wood, and cement. If present, examine **docks** where they meet the water and just below the water. Where safe, and practical pull **ropes** and **buoys** to examine.

How do I tell if it's a quagga mussel?
Quaggas have 2 smooth, D-shaped shells joined along one edge. Along this hinged edge, there may be a cluster of threads used to attach to surfaces. Quagga mussels are the only 2-shelled organism that attaches to surfaces, but they can also be found unattached if they have been knocked off a surface. They usually have alternating light and dark brown stripes, but can also be solid light brown or dark brown. They are usually less than 5 centimeters long.

Shells

Threads along hinged side

Quagga mussel

Other organisms often mistaken for quagga mussels

Asian clam (2 shells, but no threads)

Snail (only 1 shell)

Limpets (only 1 shell)

Photos
To give a reference for its size, place organisms you are photographing next to this (centimeter) scale or some other common object like a pen or key. Take your picture as close to it as possible, while keeping it in focus. If your picture is blurry, try refocusing or moving your camera a little further away.

Quagga/Zebra Mussel Survey Field Datasheet

Name: _____   Email: _____   Telephone number[*]: (_____)_____

Date	Location						Results			
	County	Waterbody	Site(s)[1]	GPS Coordinates[*]	Description of area(s) surveyed[2]	Approximate distance surveyed (in feet)	Quagga observed? (Yes/No)	Photo (Yes/No)[*]	Other invasive species observed? (Yes/No) If 'yes,' what?	Photo (Yes/No)[*]

[*]Optional information
[1]Name of marina, launch ramp, cove, bridge crossing, etc., or description of location relative to significant landmarks (e.g., half-way between Jim's Marina and the dam). If multiple sites are surveyed list them all.
[2] (e.g., dock, sand beach, rocks, dirt, etc.)

Notes: