

Welcome to the Community Connections eNews! Here we highlight ISCBC news, invasive species news, and reporting highlights. This month we share an exciting update on BC's invasive hornets. Plus, learn about what our StrongerBC Action Teams have been up to, Invasive-Wise Education and Tourism, the Castlegar Fishing Derby, and more!



### **Funny of the Month**

What do trees wear to a pool party?

Swimming trunks!

### **ISCBC News**

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## StrongerBC Action Teams Help Tackle an Iris Invasion in Chilliwack

What do 732 bananas, 1,407,059 bees, and 35,365 tea bags have in common? They'd all weigh approximately 242 lbs, the same amount of Yellow flag iris (*Iris pseudacorus*) seed heads that were recently removed from Bell Slough in Chilliwack!

ISCBC's StrongerBC Abbotsford and Metro Vancouver Action Teams recently joined up with Watershed Watch Salmon Society and Fraser Valley Invasive Species Society to tackle this Yellow flag iris invasion.

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)



## When Dad Calls to Ask, 'Is Baby's breath Invasive?'

"On Saturday night I got an interesting text from my dad asking if Baby's breath (*Gypsophila*) is an invasive species..."

How do you respond when your friends or family ask about invasive species? How about when they encounter a situation that is high-risk for spreading invasives? One of our staff recently had this experience, and was able to remove a bag full of Baby's breath in their area before it had a chance to take root!

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)





## **Looking for Mid-Summer Fun for Kids? Attention Parents, Camp Counsellors, Kids Programmers, and more..**

The 'For Educators' page on the [bcinvasives.ca](https://bcinvasives.ca) website is full of engaging activities for school aged kids and youth to actively learn about invasive species. In cooperation with B.C. teachers, we have created comprehensive activities and educational resources readily available in our series of web-based Invasive-Wise Education lessons. Whether you want to keep young ones busy this summer or explore a curriculum based lesson, ISCBC can help. It is as easy as downloading a bingo card!

['HEALTHY HABITAT HERO'](#)  
[BINGO](#)

[INVASIVE-WISE GAMES AND](#)  
[ACTIVITIES](#)

Try this activity with your kids to let them connect to nature in their backyard and beyond!

Check out the selection of other download activity pages, booklets, and interactive games!



## Tourism Operators in BC!

Are you passionate about protecting our natural environment? Are you committed to being a leader in eco-certified tourism and sustainability? Check out our free Invasive-Wise Tourism program!

[INVASIVE-WISE TOURISM](#)

## Invasive Species News



Northern giant hornet

## Northern giant hornet: A New Name for BC's Invasive Hornets

"It is important for the scientific community to lead on naming conventions and terms of reference that are inclusive, respectful and put the science first."

Gail Wallin, ISCBC Executive Director

The invasive hornet *Vespa mandarinia*, previously referred to as the Asian giant hornet, received its official common name this week. It is now known as the 'Northern giant hornet' in the Entomological Society of America's (ESA) Common Names of Insects and Related Organisms List. The species' name was chosen to be more inclusive, and to reflect the hornet's native range.

[LEARN MORE](#)





Zebra mussels | Credit: Dave Britton

## **Zebra mussels: A Close Call for BC's Waters**

Stopping the spread and establishment of invasive species in BC relies on the collaboration of organizations and agencies across the country. In early July, BC's Conservation Officer Service intercepted and decontaminated a Zebra mussel infested barge headed for the Lower Mainland.

Zebra mussels anchor themselves to surfaces using strong threads and create large colonies that attached to docks, clog water pipes and damage boats. They may colonize shallow beaches, leaving otherwise pristine public spaces covered in sharp shells. This decontamination was a big win for BC's waters!

[\*\*LEARN MORE\*\*](#)



Brown marmorated stink bug

## **That Stinks! Help Us Collect Stink Bug Eggs**

A reminder to all observers and reporters! From June until the end of August, the BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food, and scientists at Agri-Food Canada are looking for collections of the invasive Brown marmorated stink bug (*Halyomorpha halys*) eggs.

Read on to learn how your observations will help control the spread of the Brown marmorated stink bug in BC.

[LEARN MORE](#)



## Event News

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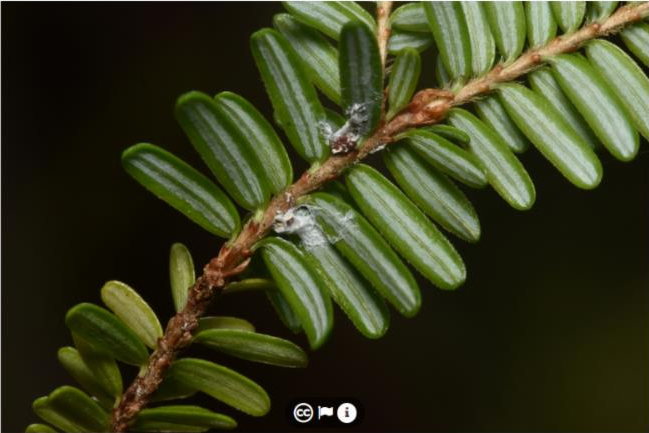
### **Castlegar Invasive Fishing Derby: It Takes a Community to Tackle Invasive Fish**

When anglers start to notice more invasive species in their favourite spots, it's time to take action. And that's exactly what's happening in the Kootenay Region. Registration is now open for the inaugural [Castlegar Invasive Fishing Derby](#) using the [MyCatch by Angler's Atlas app](#). The derby runs July 22-31, 2022 and the target species are invasive Walleye (*Sander vitreus*) and Northern pike (*Esox lucius*) in the Columbia River.

[LEARN MORE](#)

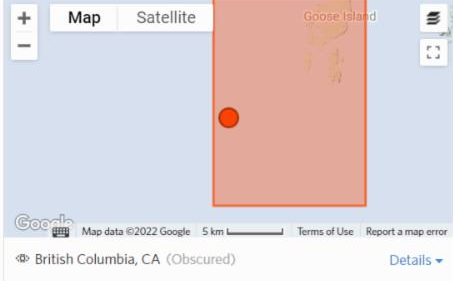
## Take Action

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (*Adelges tsugae*) Research Grade Follow



bradenjudson

Observed: June 2022 Submitted: July 2022



Map Satellite Goose Island

Map data ©2022 Google 5 km Terms of Use Report a map error

British Columbia, CA (Obscured) Details

### Reporting Highlight: Hemlock woolly adelgid (*Adelges tsugae*) reported on June 2022 in BC

Hemlock Woolly adelgid is an invasive sap-feeding insect that is native to Asia and attacks and kills hemlock trees by feeding on nutrient and water storage cells at the base of the needles. Through genetic testing, it has been confirmed that the western lineage of Hemlock woolly adelgid is different from the eastern lineage. While natural predators have kept this species from causing widespread damage to Western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*) trees, there is concern that there will be severe impacts on Western hemlock trees if the eastern strain was introduced. To prevent the spread, Buy Local Burn Local and report any sightings.

[BUY LOCAL BURN LOCAL](#)

[REPORT INVASIVES](#)

## Employment Opportunities

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### **Join ISCBC and Help Protect BC's Biodiversity**

Are you concerned about invasive species? Do you want to help protect BC's biodiversity? Do you want to work as part of a passionate team?

ISCBC is currently hiring for roles across BC. Check out our current job openings!

[JOIN ISCBC](#)



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Thank you for your ongoing support!

Gail Wallin  
Executive Director | Invasive Species Council of BC



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