

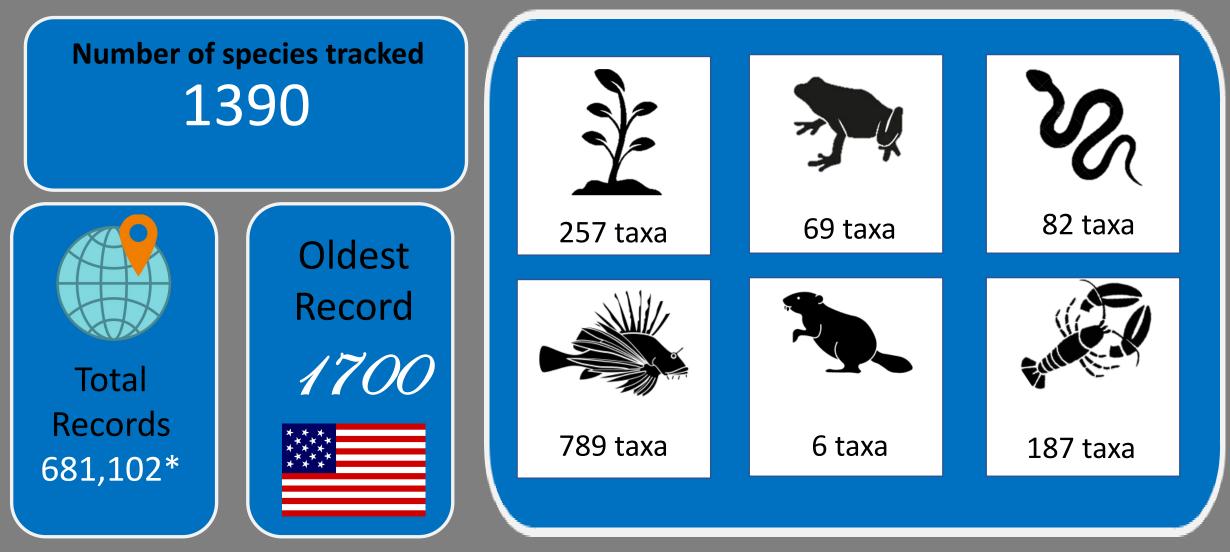
USGS Nonindigenous Aquatic Species (NAS) Spring Update: New Species Occurrences in the Gulf States

### **Cayla Morningstar**

USGS, Wetland and Aquatic Research Center

GSARP June 2022

# **USGS Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database**



\*May 26 2022

# **USGS Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database**



### **New Species Alerts:** Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 2021- June 22 2022



Quagga mussel (Dreissena rostriformis bugensis) New to Texas

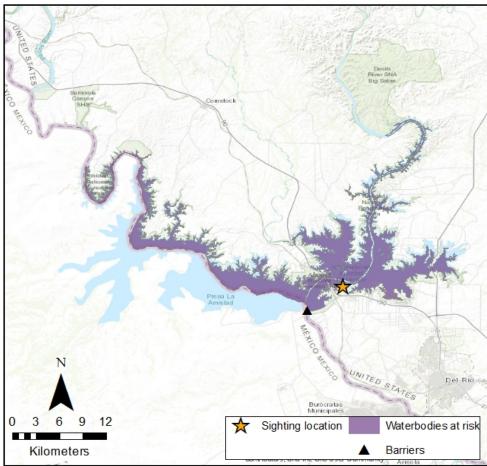






Data Disclaimer: These data are preliminary or provisional and are subject to revision. They are being provided to meet the need for timely best science The data have not received final approval by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and are provided on the condition that neither the USGS nor the U.S. Government shall be held liable for any damages resulting from the authorized or unauthorized use of the data.

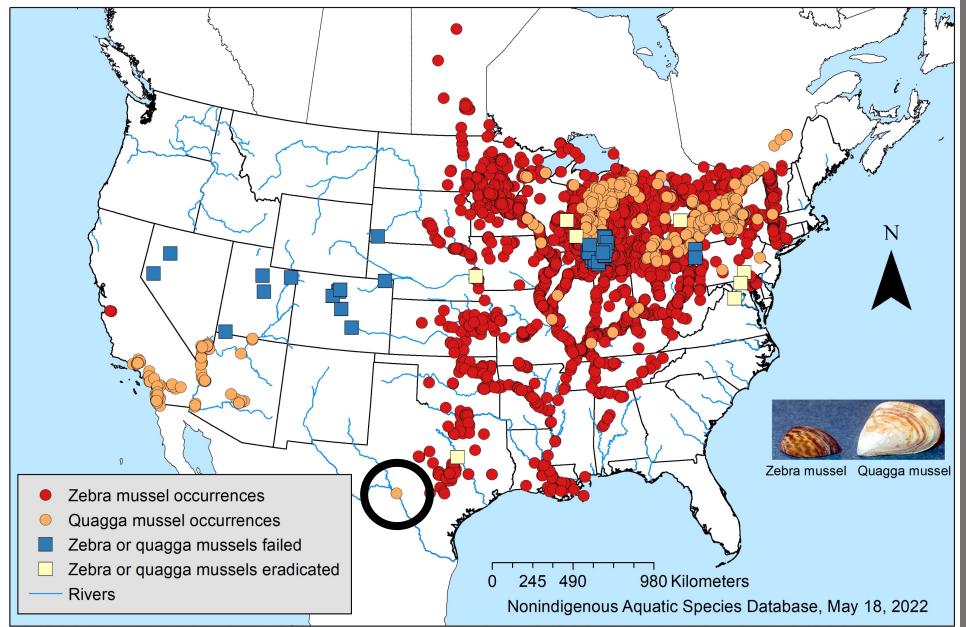
### NAS Alert Risk Mapper (ARM)



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# **USGS** Zebra and Quagga Mussel Sightings



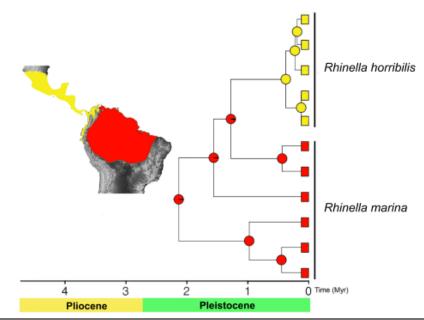


# A new(ish) species in Florida Mesoamerican Cane Toad (*Rhinella horribilis*)

- *Rhinella marina* split; *R. horribilis* northern population based on skull morphology and genetics (2016)
- Three specimens of *R. horribilis* in Polk Co., FL (Aug. 2021); no radiographed individuals were identified as *R. marina*
- Further research needed for relative distribution of *R. horribilis* and *R. marina* in FL.



*Rhinella horribilis ;* Polk Co., FL. Aug. 17, 2021 FLMNH Cat# 192727



Bessa-Silva et al. 2020.



(Mastacembelus favus)

# \*\*Waiting for taxonomic confirmation



Actual Specimen

- Popular aquarium fish
- Status unknown (2 found)
- Resampling recovered no more specimens



#### **Actual Specimen**

## **Fish Slam Bioblitz**

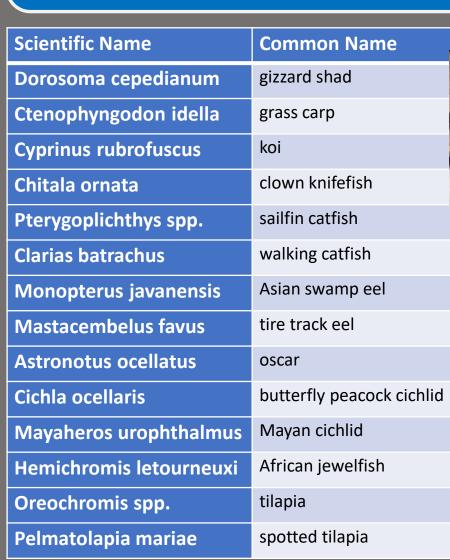






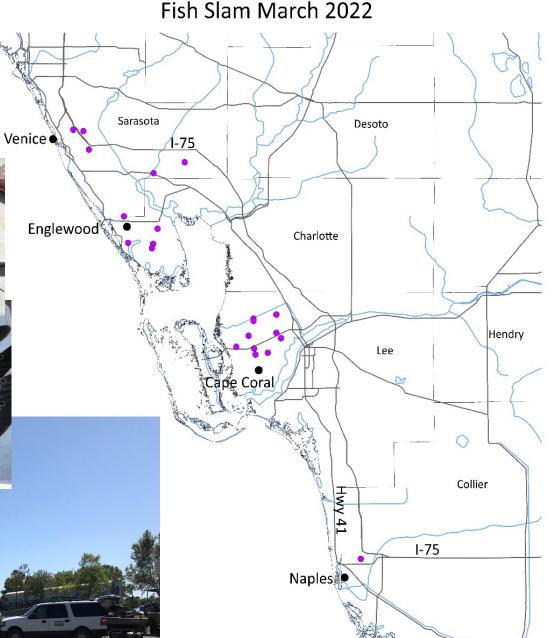








Multiagency electrofishing flotilla



Map created by Mary Brown, USGS

# Southeast Fish Slam Bioblitz?

### Great way to..

- Uncover new species before large population establishment
- foster collaboration with other biological agency partners & share information
- spread awareness— the press often shows, citizen scientists
- ensure important specimens enter museums

### Not just electroshocking fish....

-Often include "<u>Fish Chat</u>", a small, **conference-like forum** to share research, management efforts, ask questions, foster collaboration -Record **other nonnative species**, such as plants and invertebrates -Helps managers sample areas they might not have time or manpower to sample





Schofield, P.J., 2020. Expert bioblitzes facilitate non-native fish tracking and interagency partnerships. *Management of Biological Invasions*, *11*(1), p.139.

# NAS Flood and Storm Tracker (FaST) Maps

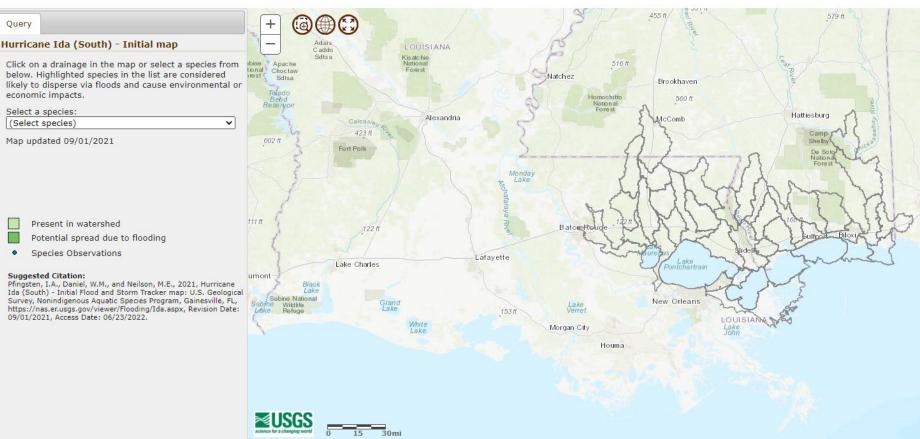
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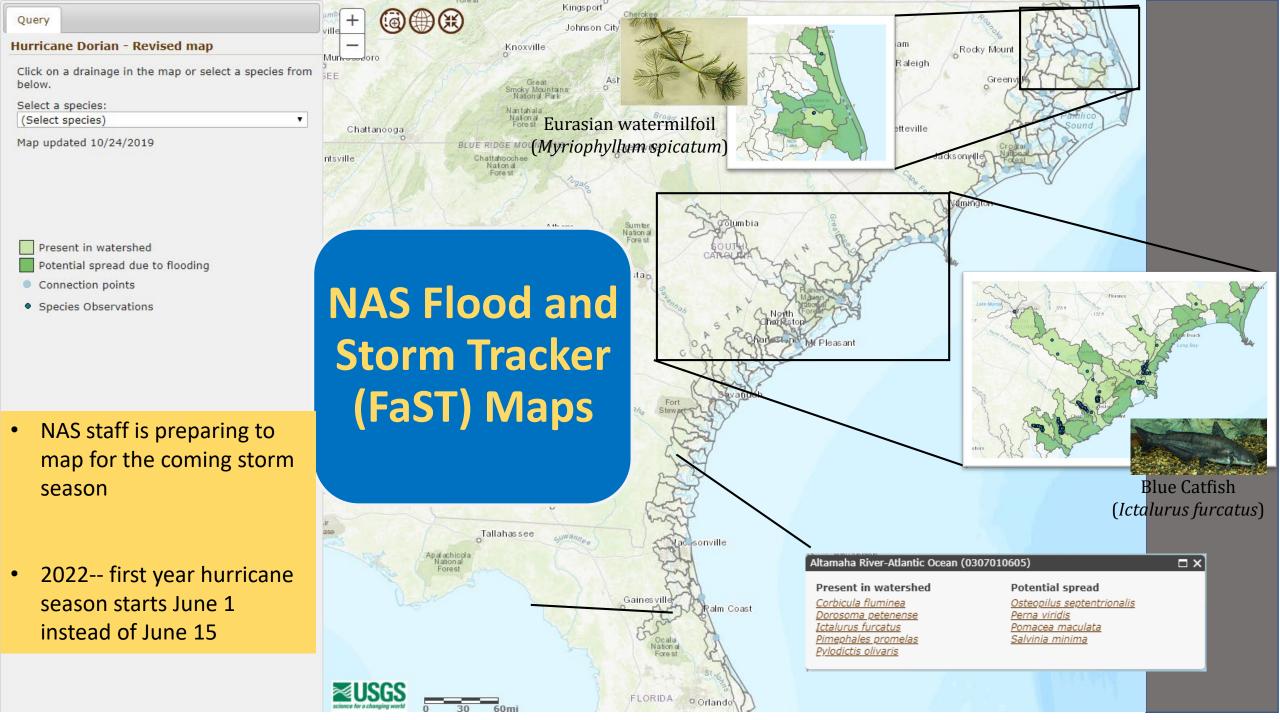




• NAS staff is preparing to map for the coming storm season

• 2022 first year hurricane season starting June 1 instead of June 15

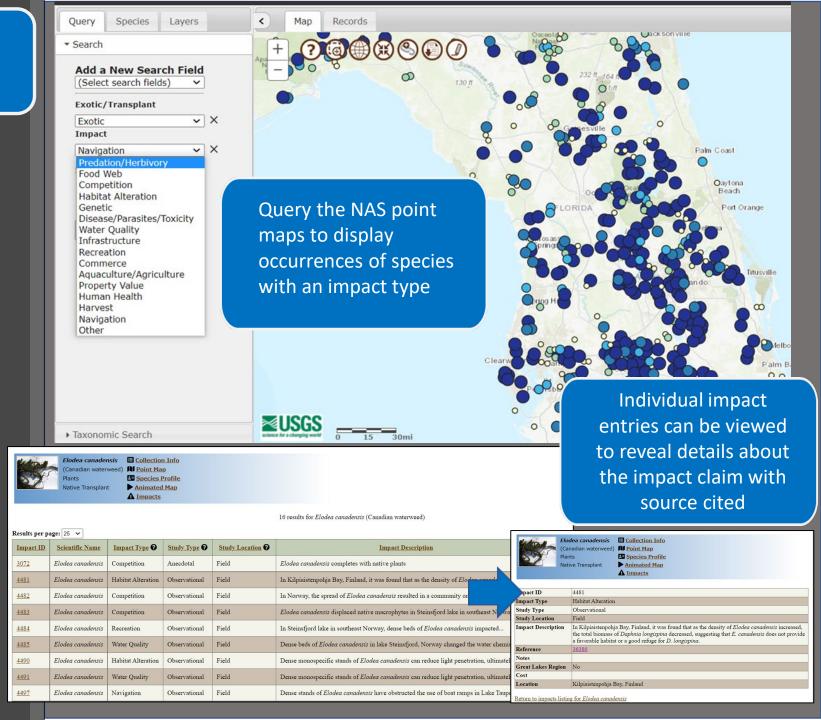




### **NAS Impact Tables**

Ecological	Economic
Predation/Herbivory	Infrastructure
Competition	Recreation
Habitat Alteration	Aquaculture/Agriculture
Water Quality	Property Value
Food Web	Human Health
Genetics	Harvest
Disease/Parasite/Toxicity	Commerce
	Navigation

- Existing impact tables continue to grow as new publications and news articles come out
- NAS staff continues to complete impact tables for new species





### **Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database Team**





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