

From: Berry, Patrick
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2012 8:56 PM
To: MacLean, Alex; Allen, Susan
CC: Markowitz, Deb
Subject: FW: fyi - interstate relations and invasive species

Alex and Sue,

Please be aware that the invasive spiny water flea that was recently found in the Champlain canal is becoming a bigger inter-state issue that has been a long time concern of Senator Leahy. I would not be surprised if the Governor was asked his position on the issue sometime very soon, so please let me know if, how, or when you'd like more information.

Pat

Commissioner Patrick H. Berry
Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department

From: Berry, Tom (Leahy) [Tom_Berry@leahy.senate.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2012 5:06 PM
To: Berry, Patrick
Subject: RE: fyi - interstate relations and invasive species

He is likely to be a little more vocal on it in coming days and I'll keep you in the loop as we hone the message.

From: Berry, Patrick [mailto:Patrick.Berry@state.vt.us]
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2012 4:47 PM
To: Berry, Tom (Leahy)
Subject: RE: fyi - interstate relations and invasive species

Thanks for the quick reply. It would be helpful to get a sense of Senator Leahy's message on this issue.

Commissioner Patrick H. Berry
Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department

From: Berry, Tom (Leahy) [Tom_Berry@leahy.senate.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2012 4:40 PM
To: Berry, Patrick
Subject: RE: fyi - interstate relations and invasive species

The New York Canal Corporation and New York state could certainly do more to address this problem, we've had money cued up for years, thanks to Senator Leahy, and they have been unable and/or unwilling to get moving on it. Now whatever we do is likely to be too little/too late for the spiny water flea. What's next, round gobbie, quaga mussel?

We also will reach out to the head of the Army Corps of Engineers – they too have the funding and authority to move on this.

From: Berry, Patrick [<mailto:Patrick.Berry@state.vt.us>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2012 4:32 PM
To: Berry, Tom (Leahy)
Subject: RE: fyi - interstate relations and invasive species

Tom, sorry for the late reply on this and your email yesterday. From what I understand (even prior to yesterday's email), New York will not (or cannot) close the canal. That begs the question: any idea what we can do about this problem before it's too late. I plan to do a little more research and contact the Governor's office.

Commissioner Patrick H. Berry
Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department

From: Berry, Tom (Leahy) [Tom_Berry@leahy.senate.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2012 11:50 AM
To: Berry, Patrick
Subject: fyi - interstate relations and invasive species

I've been looking into the canal/invasive species issues in the mid-west, reaction to the spiny water flea threat. Have confirmed that five of the eight Great Lakes states are party to the Federal lawsuit seeking to close the Chicago canal feeding into Lake Michigan. They are Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Pennsylvania. New York is not a party to the lawsuit. Illinois and Indiana, obviously are not party either.

The lawsuit is in federal district court, specifically, the northern district of Illinois, in Chicago. It has lost a few times at the Supreme Court—dismissed without comment.