Zebra Mussels

Range - Native to the Caspian and Black Sea drainages

Size and Color - Microscopic larvae to ~1.5 inches, triangularly-shaped, color ranges from tan to cream to dark brown with light and dark bands

Habitat – Indigenous to lakes, found in rivers and streams

Turbid water minimizes Zebra mussel populations
Reproduction

- Adult female releases up to a million eggs in a year and lives 2-5 years.
- Veligers are the larval form, float freely for several weeks and settle onto underwater objects where they grow.
Nonindigenous Aquatic Species
Zebra Mussels in Texas

Zebra Mussel Status - Aug 2017

Water Body Classification
- Infested (Reproducing Population)
- Positive (Multiple Detections)
- Suspect (One Verified Detection)
- Inconclusive
- Undetected/Negative

River Basin
- Brazos
- Brazos-Colorado
- Canadian
- Colorado
- Colorado-Lavaca
- Cypress
- Guadalupe
- Lavaca
- Lavaca-Guadalupe
- Neches
- Neches-Trinity
- Nueces
- Nueces-Rio Grande
- Red
- Rio Grande
- Sabine
- San Antonio
- San Antonio-Nueces
- San Jacinto
- San Jacinto-Brazos
- Sulphur
- Trinity
- Trinity-San Jacinto

Infested Lakes: Belton, Bridgeport, Canyon, Dean Gilbert, Eagle Mountain, Lewisville, Randell, Ray Roberts, Stillhouse Hollow, Texoma, Travis
Positive Lakes: Austin, Fishing Hole, Lavon, Livingston, Waco, Worth
Suspect Lakes: Fork, Ray Hubbard
Zebra Mussels in Texas

- Infested Lakes
  - Belton, Bridgeport, Canyon, Dean Gilbert, Eagle Mountain, Lewisville, Ray Roberts, Randall, Stillhouse Hollow, Texoma, Travis
- Positive for Zebra mussels
  - Austin, Lavon, Livingston, Waco, Worth, Fishing Hole Lake

Amy Benson - U.S. Geological Survey
Zebra mussel Impacts
Biological Impacts

- Native mussels
- Water clarity
- Species Diversity
Recreational Impacts

- Boats, trailers
- Fishing
- Marinas
- Swimming
Economic Impacts

- Utilities
- Recreational
- Biological
What You Can Do

- Clean, Drain, Dry
- http://www.100thmeridian.org/emersion.asp drying time estimator
- Fishing bait
Next Steps

• Meeting with other agencies, entities
• Signage
• Monitoring
Questions