

Quagga mussel discovery at Prineville Reservoir

Finding Summary

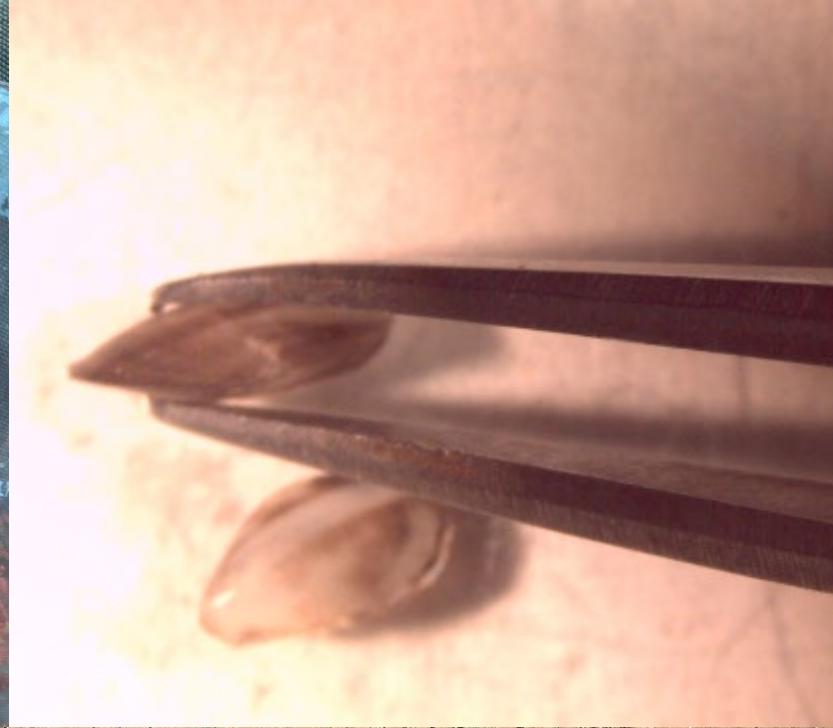


Keith DeHart
Oregon Department
of Fish and Wildlife



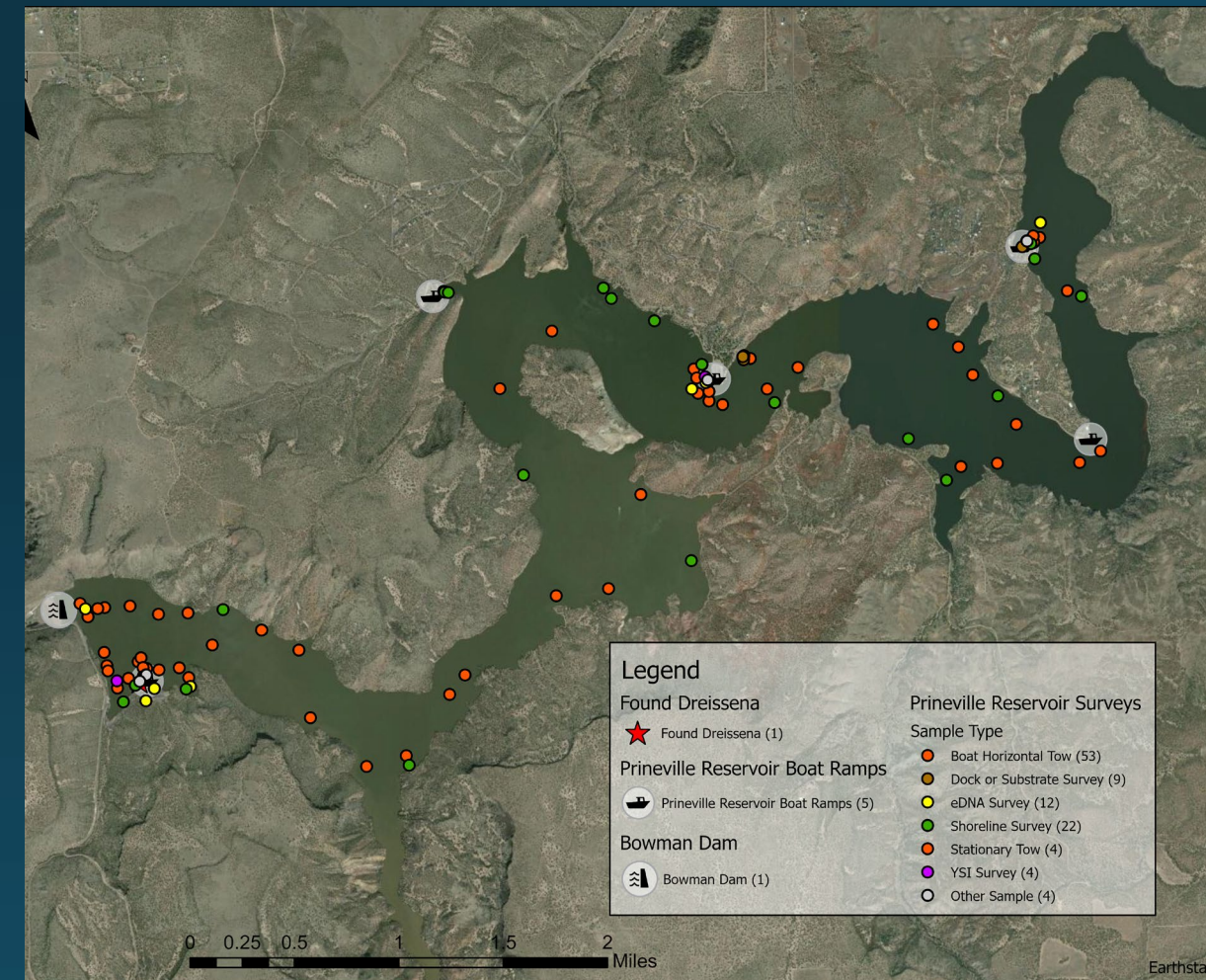
Timeline

- June 4th: Interception of quagga mussels on watercraft reported to only be used in Oregon waters.
- Report stated:
 - Boat purchased in 2022
 - No previous owner
 - Only lunched in Oregon waters
 - Mainly launches in Prineville
 - **Last Launch:** Prineville Sept 2025
 - **Past launches:** Lake Billy Chinook, Crescent, Lake of the Woods, Cultus, and Odell in 2024.
 - *Longest duration in water = 3 days at Crescent lake*
 - Often beaches boat during use



Saturday June 6, 2026: Morning Shoreline Survey of Powder House Cove

- Lone mussel found on shore near Powder Cove launch ramp 10am.
- Not attached, sitting loose on sand, 1m above waterline.
- Images sent, specimen preserved.
- No further detections have occurred.



Extensive monitoring continues at Prineville Reservoir and surrounding waterbodies.



Timeline

- **June 18:** Columbia River Basin MAC call
- **June 19 and June 22:** Additional sampling by CLR field crew.
- **June 23:** Public press release with interviews and further outreach to follow.
- **June 23 – 24:** USFWS dive team surveys. →



Dive Team visit

- June 23 – Started in Powder Cove, either side of boat ramp 5-30 ft depth. Next along dam 5-30ft depth
- June 24 – Dino Rock, large rock face extending down into the water. Depth 5-30ft.
- **Dive crew summary: "If there are mussels in Prineville, no sign of them was prevalent"**

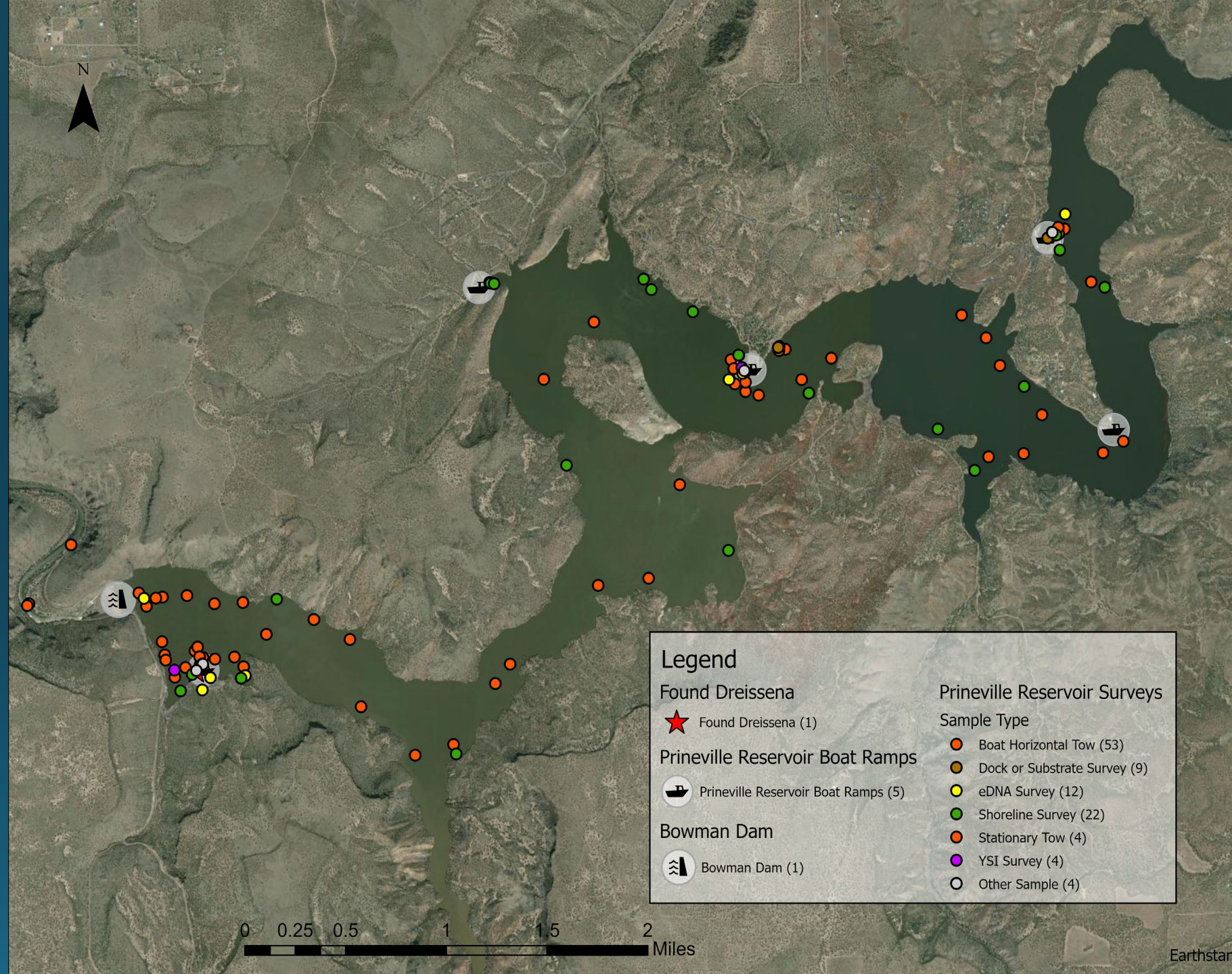
Timeline

- **June 29th**
- A local long-time Prineville visitor spotted an unusual mussel on beach above the waterline.
- Did not collect or photograph it.
- The reporter later identified the sighting as a Quagga after seeing news and online images.
- Reported finding to ODFW.
- ODFW biologist followed up and performed a shoreline walk in the area.
- Biologist found no evidence of Quagga.
- Citizen remained confident in Quagga ID after reviewing photos.



Results

- State Fisheries Genomics Lab *confirmed* collected samples were Quagga.
- Shoreline and structure surveys:
 - No adult or juveniles found.
- Veliger samples:
 - Negative for target.
- eDNA samples:
 - Negative for target.
- **Prineville Reservoir remains inconclusive for the presence of quagga mussels.**





Summer Survey Plan



Increased central Oregon sampling schedule



Biweekly visits through October



6-day sample trips covering high risk Oregon waterbodies



Shorelines
Pat downs
Tows
eDNA



Regular rotation of survey methods to cover all locations across all dates



WDFW offering ROV survey crew and K9 shoreline survey.



Primary focus on Prineville and LBC..



Abbreviated plan for other central Oregon locations

Keith DeHart

Aquatic Invasive Species Supervisor

503-947-6308

keith.b.dehart@odfw.oregon.gov

