



Protecting the Great Lakes from the Internet Trade of Aquatic Invasive Species



June 4, 2014 | Milwaukee, Wisconsin

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Great Lakes Commission





Presentation Outline

- Issue overview
- Project overview
- Status and progress to date
- Next steps
- Questions / discussion



Issue Overview

- Organisms in trade
 - Intentional and unintentional releases of live organisms that are bought or sold for use in aquariums, nurseries, water gardens, classrooms, aquaculture, as live bait, etc.
- Internet commerce facilitates trade in live organisms
- Complex issue and scope is poorly understood → limited management efforts



Fish world

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Home > Unusual Pets > YABBIE BLUE CLAW 5cm (Cherax destructor)

YABBIE BLUE CLAW 5CM (CHERAX DESTRUCTOR)



YABBIE BLUE CLAW 5cm (Cherax destructor)

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\$19.95 GST incl.

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 - Miscellaneous Plants
 - Sagittaria
 - Aquarium Moss
- Live Rock
- Plant Packs
- Pond Fish
- Saltwater Fish
- Saltwater Invertebrates



Green Cabomba - Cabomba caroliniana

★★★★★ (2)

That Fish Place - That Pet Place

Item # 208901 / Manufacturer Part # F8600360015

2ND DAY REQUIRE

Quantity	Price
1 - 2	\$2.99
3 - 5	\$2.84
6 - 11	\$2.69
12 - 24	\$2.54
25 +	\$2.39

1 ADD TO CART

IN STOCK

Additional shipping charges apply

- Description
- Specifications
- Reviews

Quantity discounts apply to all eligible freshwater match to create your very own custom plant pac

Green Cabomba (*Cabomba caroliniana*) has brig foliage. It is fast-growing and a good oxygenator for ponds or aquariums. This plant grows in long strands that can reach several feet in length.

Bunched plants are typically sold as cuttings that are bound together with a metal plant weight or rubber bands. These individual stalks can be planted by inserting the end of the stalk into the substrate, either individually or - with some plants - in groupings of several stalks. Most bunch plants do not have roots but may grow roots in time. They can be easily pruned by trimming the stalk at the desired height. The trimmings can then be planted as well if desired. Some bunched plants do not need to be planted and may be allowed to float on the water's surface.

Due to state restrictions, this plant cannot be shipped to Connecticut, Idaho, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, Vermont, Washington or Wisconsin.

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Brightwell Aquatics FlorinGro Nitrogen Supplement \$5.70



Flourite \$16.66



Project Overview

- **Funding:** FY12 Great Lakes Restoration Initiative EPA grant
- **Timeline:** Started October 1, 2012
- **Project Objectives:**
 - Develop and demonstrate software to assess the availability of invasive species via Internet sales
 - Provide information and management tools
 - Present information on the Internet marketplace, including risks and options for management



Pathway Assessment

Develop web monitoring system to identify available species & suppliers



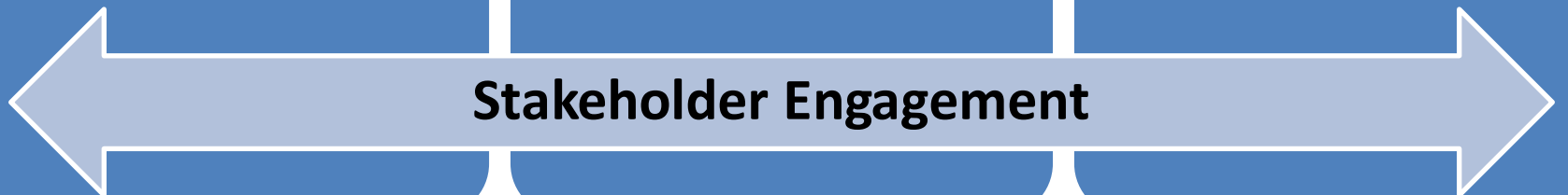
Outreach

Inform suppliers of regulations , potential risks, consumer “best practices”



Management

Share results; develop recommendations for future management; make system available



Stakeholder Engagement



Pathway Assessment

1. Develop a list of species of concern...

COMPLETE

2. Develop web monitoring system to identify available species and suppliers.... COMPLETE*

3. Analyze and summarize results... UPCOMING



Inform Management

1. Share the results
2. Develop recommendations for future management
3. Make software available for use
4. Ongoing operation and maintenance

(All are upcoming / future activities)



Conduct Outreach

1. Conduct a survey of potential users...

COMPLETE

2. Provide periodic project updates and opportunities for input... ONGOING

3. Inform suppliers of potential risks, regulations and best practices... UPCOMING



Progress to Date

- Webinars
 - Project introduction
 - Planning for outreach
- Workshop (Nov. 2013)
- Draft outreach materials
 - Build on existing messages, campaigns and resources



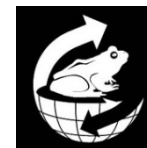
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www.Habitattitude.net

IMPORTANT TIPS FOR WATER GARDENERS

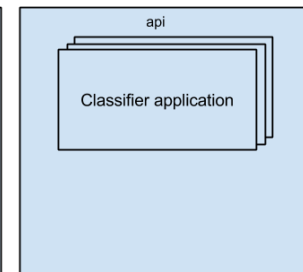
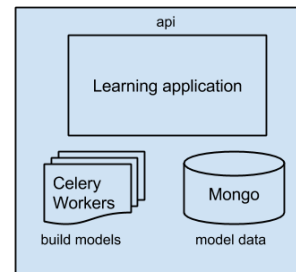
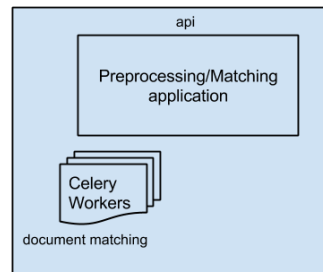
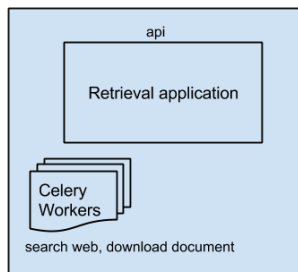
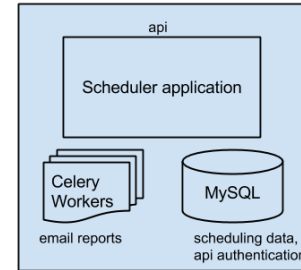
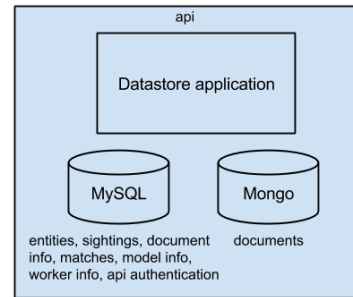
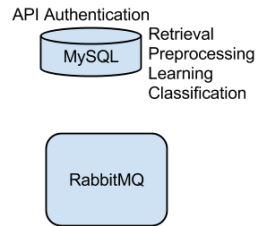
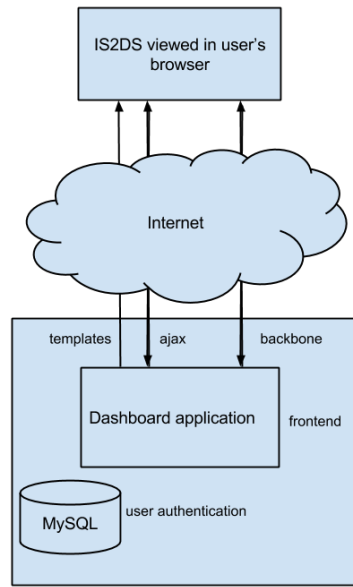
**YOU CAN HELP
PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT**

- **NEVER TRANSPLANT NON-NATIVE PLANTS** into lakes, streams, wetlands or stormwater ponds.
- **CHECK YOUR PLANT ORDERS** for unwanted, and potentially invasive, hitchhikers (seeds, plant fragments, snails, insects, or fish).
- **BE AWARE OF THE REGULATIONS** regarding possession, transport, or sale of non-native plants and animals.
- **LEARN HOW INVASIVE PLANTS SPREAD** - by seed, rhizome, or even tiny plant fragments.
- **RECOGNIZE** which plants and fish are potentially invasive in our climate zone.
- **PROPERLY COMPOST OR DISPOSE OF** unwanted plants or fish.

DO NOT RELEASE
any plants or animals to lakes or streams



Organisms in Trade
Guide to What's Right: Buying, Selling, and Owning Aquatic Plants and Animals





Next Steps

- Run IS2DS and summarize findings
- Use findings to conduct outreach and inform management
- Hold workshop to share findings and discuss management options and recommendations
- IS2DS “roll-out”
- Develop final report



Acknowledgments

- GLC staff...
Tim Eder, Christine Manninen, Guan Wang, Jeff McAulay, Margaux Valenti, Amanda Sweetman, Katherine Hollins
- Dr. Bing Liu, Technical Advisory, UIC
- RightBrain Networks...
Jamie Begin, Mike Gimbel, Matt Bussey, Michael Bommarito
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



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