

**DRAFT**

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## **32. Ballast Water**

### **Recommended Actions:**

Research to assess potential technologies for preventing introduction and spread of undesirable exotic species in the Lake Superior watershed via ballast water should be accelerated. Results of this research should be used to establish regulations for ballast water management.

### **Implementors:**

USCG, Canadian Coast Guard, USFWS, the maritime industry, Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Task Force, and public and private research institutions.

### **Actions Taken:**

7/95: HR 3360 (referenced in recommendations) did not get out of committee.

4/98: SPAD is working on a committee to determine an acceptable method to prevent transport of ANS in ballast water; no letter sent.

11/00: Seaway Port Authority: Since 1993 the EEZ, 200 mile perimeter, mid-ocean exchange has been highly effective (over 95% effective). A voluntary discharge has been effective in keeping ruffe from spreading in Lake Superior. Proposed legislative initiatives are on hold until next session. At this time the technology does not exist to filter out anything below 50 microns so Zebra Mussels cannot be controlled with filters. Testing is being done on new technology. What is most needed at this time is a set standard. See document: "Great Lakes Maritime Industry Voluntary Ballast Water Management Plan for the Control of Ruffe in Lake Superior Ports 1997".

### **Project Status:**

Project not completed, but there are one or more agencies currently working on it.