

# STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

## PROCLAMATION

### AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES AWARENESS WEEK MAY 5-11, 2024

WHEREAS, aquatic nuisance species (ANS) in North Dakota may threaten the environment, public health, property and the economy; and

WHEREAS, aquatic nuisance species in North Dakota remain limited, but there has been an increase in distribution over the last 10 years; and

WHEREAS, public health concerns, harm to recreational fisheries, negative impacts on communities, mitigation costs and adverse effects on water supplies can be greatly reduced if appropriate preventative measures are taken by water recreationists, pet owners, municipalities, private contractors and waterfront property owners; and

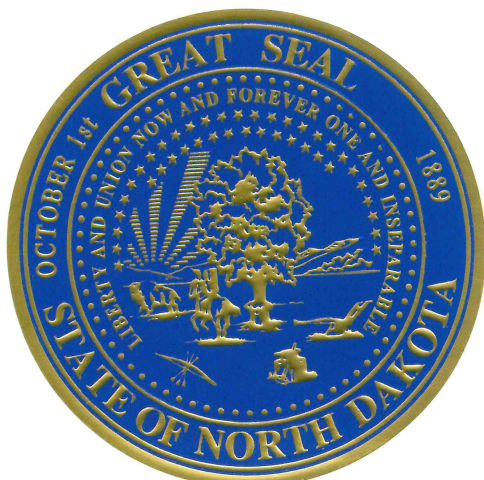
WHEREAS, residents, tourists and contractors utilizing watercraft are encouraged to clean, drain and dry all equipment every time to follow best practices and prevent the spread of ANS; and

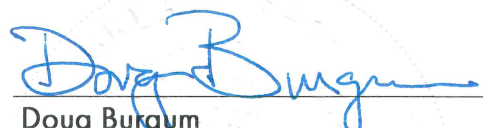
WHEREAS, docks, lifts and other water-based equipment should be thoroughly inspected for ANS and dried before transport between waterbodies; and

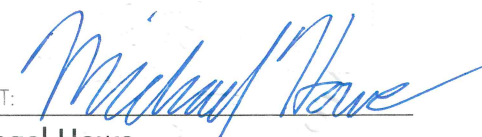
WHEREAS, further information and guidance during Aquatic Nuisance Species Awareness Week is provided in collaboration by the departments of Game and Fish, Water Resources, Agriculture, Commerce, Parks and Recreation, Environmental Quality and members of the North Dakota Aquatic Invasive Species Committee, due to their shared interest in keeping North Dakota waters ANS free; and

WHEREAS, Aquatic Nuisance Species Awareness Week is intended to further educate North Dakotans on the potential risk to public health, property and the economy from the negative impacts associated with ANS, to encourage the public to implement preventative measures to control the spread of invasive species and to empower communities to demonstrate best practices among all citizens of North Dakota to protect our water resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim  
May 5-11, 2024, **AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES AWARENESS WEEK** in the  
State of North Dakota.



  
Doug Burgum  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:   
Michael Howe  
SECRETARY OF STATE