

# THE MAYFLY PROJECT

## PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE AQUATIC SPECIES

### What Are Invasive Species?

Invasive species are plants, animals, insects or diseases that are not native to Colorado and have harmful negative effects on the economy and environment. They are introduced accidentally or intentionally outside of their native range. Because they are not native, they have no natural competitors or predators. Without these checks and balances, the invaders are able to reproduce rapidly and out-compete native species. Invasives have harmful effects on natural resources and disrupt our use of land and water in

### How can we as Anglers Prevent the Spread of Invasive Species?

Keep your angling gear free of mud, plants and organic debris between each and every use. Unknowingly moving a species from one body of water to another, even within different stretches of the same river, can start a domino effect of invasion causing irreversible ecological damage.

Anglers should scrub the bottom of boots or waders with a brush and remove all mud, plants, and organic materials in between each and every use.

### Anglers should then perform ONE of the following options before going into the next body of water:

- 1) Submerge waders and gear in a large tub filled with a mixture of 6 ounces per gallon quaternary ammonia-based institutional cleaner (such as Super HDQ Neutral) and water for at least 10 minutes, scrubbing debris from the gear, and visually inspecting the gear for snails before rinsing. Follow all precautionary label instructions! Rinse water must be from a New Zealand mudsnail-free source (to avoid re-infection), and the chemical bath must be properly disposed of, away from the water body.
- 2) Spray or soak waders and gear with 140° Fahrenheit water for at least 10 minutes.
- 3) Dry your waders and equipment completely for a minimum of 10 days in between each use (remember that mudsnails can survive several days out of water).
- 4) Place waders and boots in a freezer overnight between use.