



Ciências
ULisboa



UNIVERSIDADE
DE ÉVORA

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BIOLOGICAL INVASIONS 13TH EDITION



WORKSHOP #6

LIVING WITH THE PLAGUE: ZEBRA-MUSSEL MANAGEMENT IN INVADED SYSTEMS

The zebra-mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*) is a freshwater bivalve native to the caspian sea that has become invasive in many regions of the world. In Europe, its expansion initiated early in the XX century facilitated by the construction of navigation connections between river catchments. This species causes severe ecological and economic damage to the invaded systems, due to its ability to attach to any hard surface and attain very high densities. This leads to changes in the water quality, direct impact to native bivalves, and malfunctioning of hydraulic structures such as irrigation schemes, hydropower plants and others. Prevention is key to avoid the expansion of the species, but management is essential to minimize its impacts in the invaded systems. Many options have been used to try to reduce zebra-mussel population densities and its ability to attach to underwater surfaces, from physical approaches (variation of water depth, desiccation and raise of temperature), chemical (use of chlorine compounds) or biological (species-specific pathogens). This workshop aims to discuss different approaches used across the world by different stakeholders, their pros and cons, outcomes and implications to improve future management of the species.

TARGET AUDIENCE Applied science researchers, practitioners and technicians from public and private administration bodies of affected stakeholders (public water and biodiversity agencies, power companies, agriculture and aquatic sports and leisure, among others).

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DURATION 1/2-1 day

PERIOD Afternoon

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OTHER RESEARCHERS INVOLVED Pedro Anastácio (anast@uevora.pt)

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS 30-100

