

Ballast Water Program Overview

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

25 October 2023

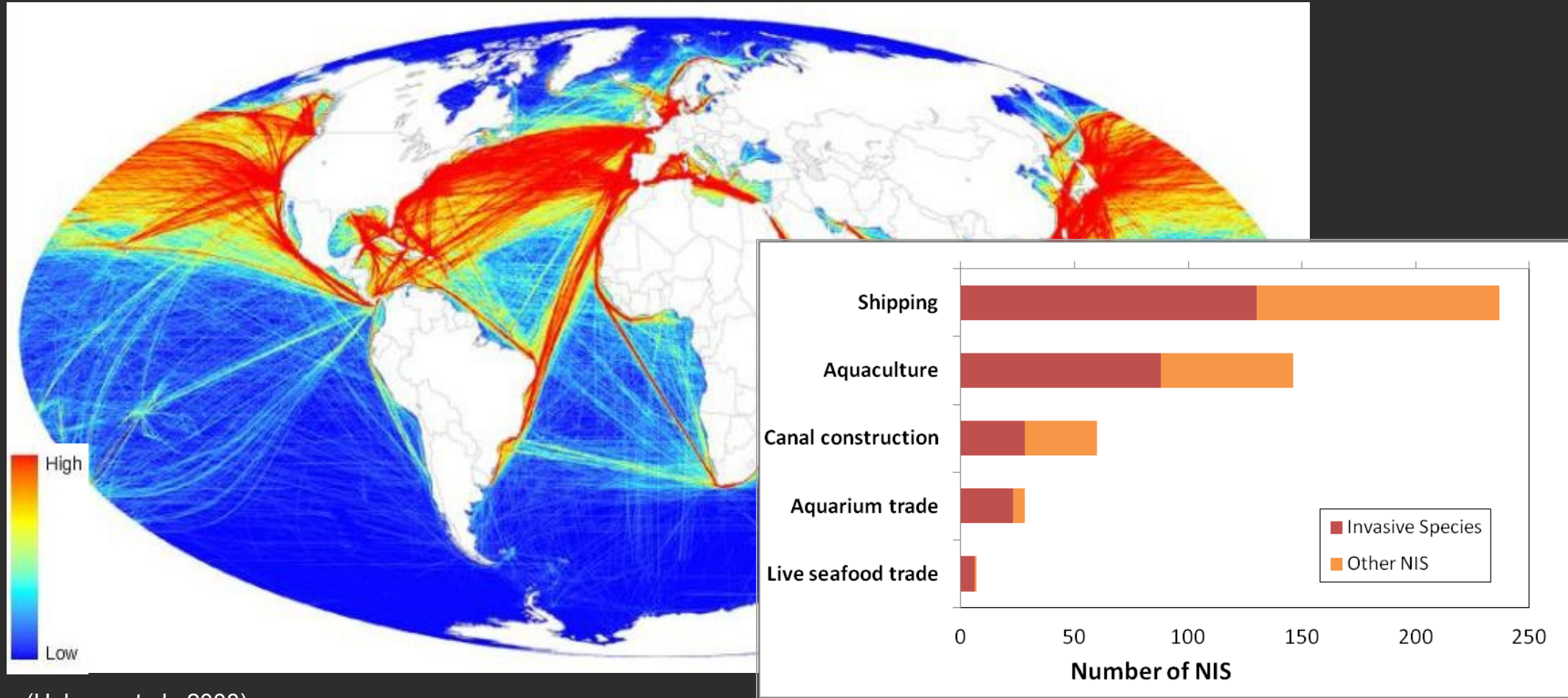
COBALT Presentation

Invasive Species Concerns - Global



© Christian Sardet/CNRS/Tara Expéditions

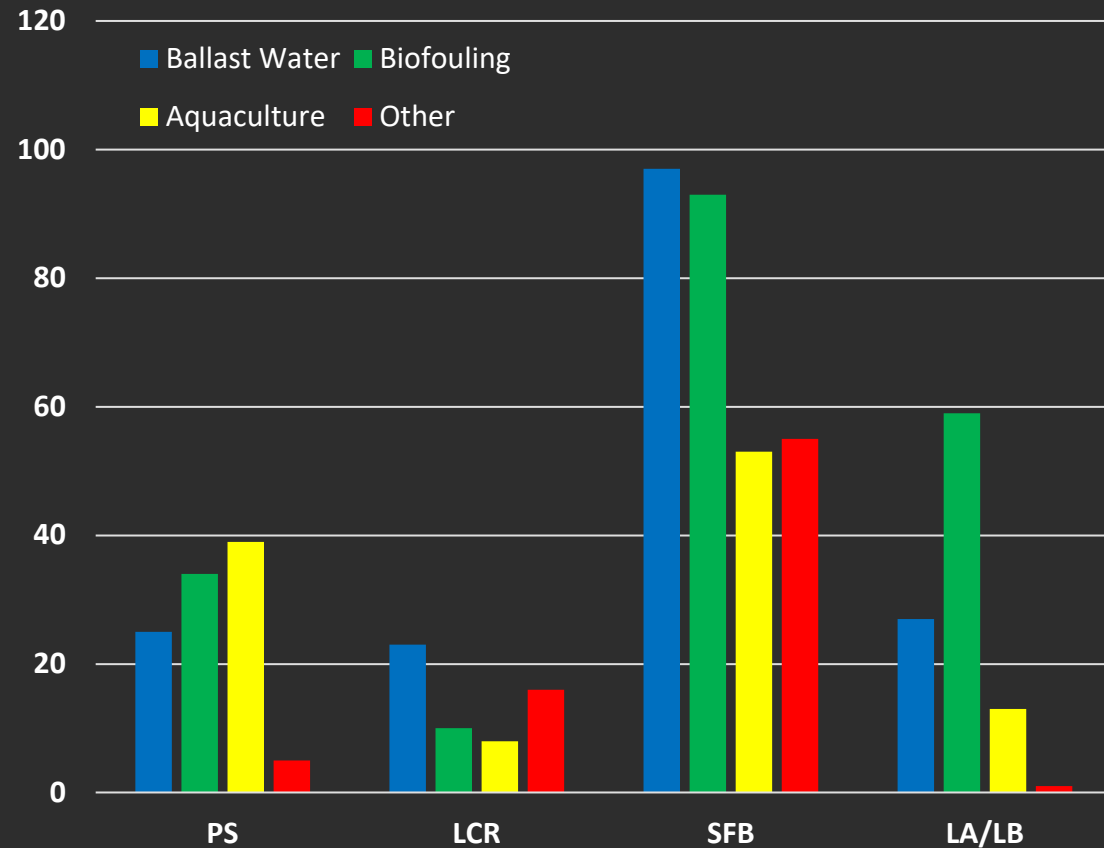
Invasive Species Concerns - Global



(Halpern et al., 2008)

(Modified from Molnar et al., 2008)

Invasive Species Concerns - Oregon



modified from Simkanin et al. 2010

- At least 55 aquatic NIS established in lower CRE
 - Sytsma et al. 2004
- Targeted studies reveal NIS presence and potential ecological effects, but more research is needed
 - Cordell et al. 2007
 - Bollens et al. 2012
 - Breckenridge et al. 2014
 - Emerson et al. 2015

Oregon Ballast Water Program

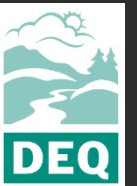
- Regulations established in 2001, DEQ program in 2007
- Initially 1.0 FTE, increased to 1.5 in 2012 with new fee (currently \$88/arrival)
- Supported by 50/50 cost share between fee and GF allocation



Oregon Ballast Water Program

Program activities include:

- Monitoring vessel arrivals and pre-arrival reporting compliance
- Outreach and technical support
- Vessel inspections and compliance verification sampling
- Enforcement actions
- Policy development and stakeholder engagement



Oregon Ballast Water Program

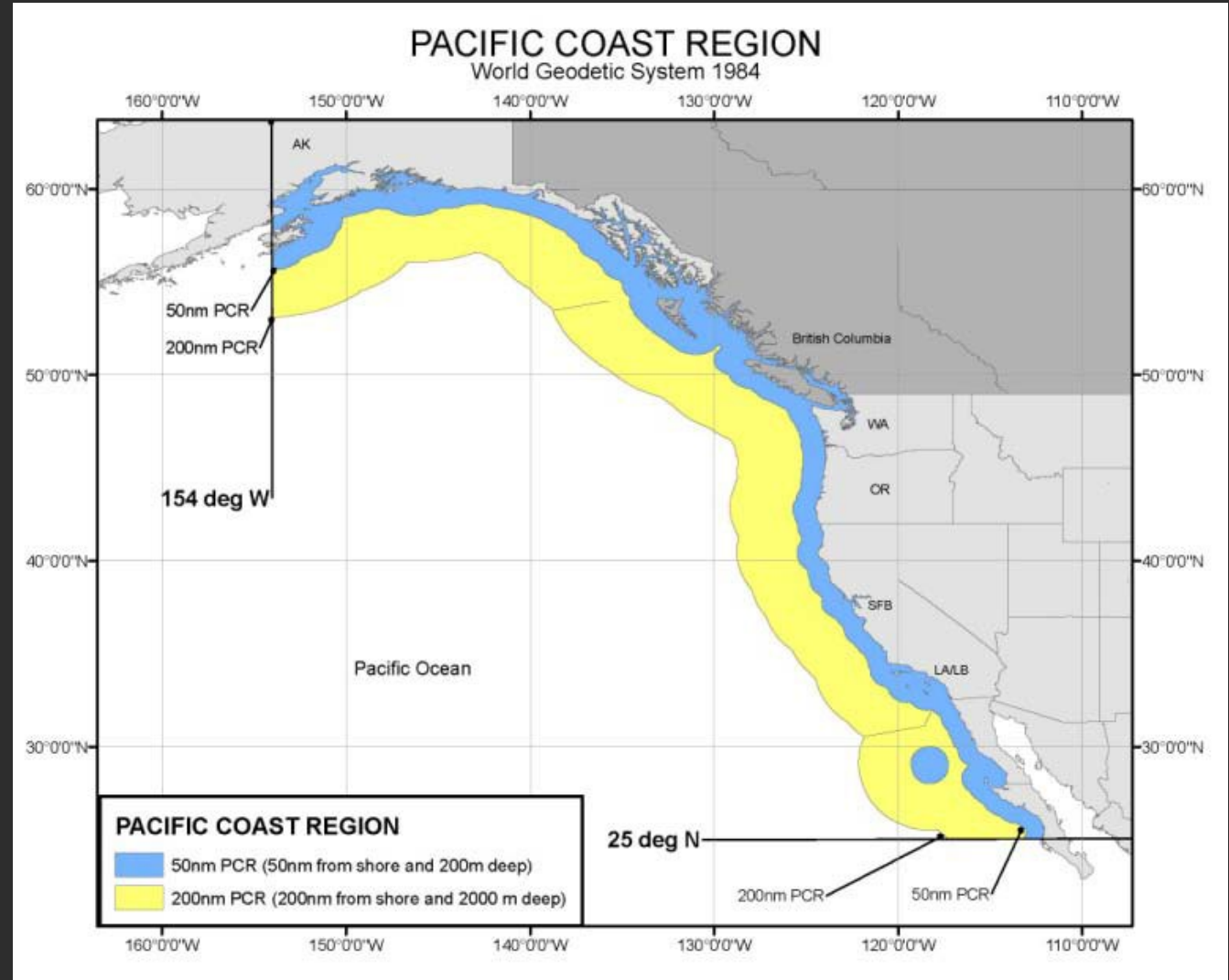
Statutory requirements (ORS 783.620-640; 783.990-992)

- Regulated Vessels
- Management requirements for discharged ballast
- Exemptions
- Penalty Issuance Authority



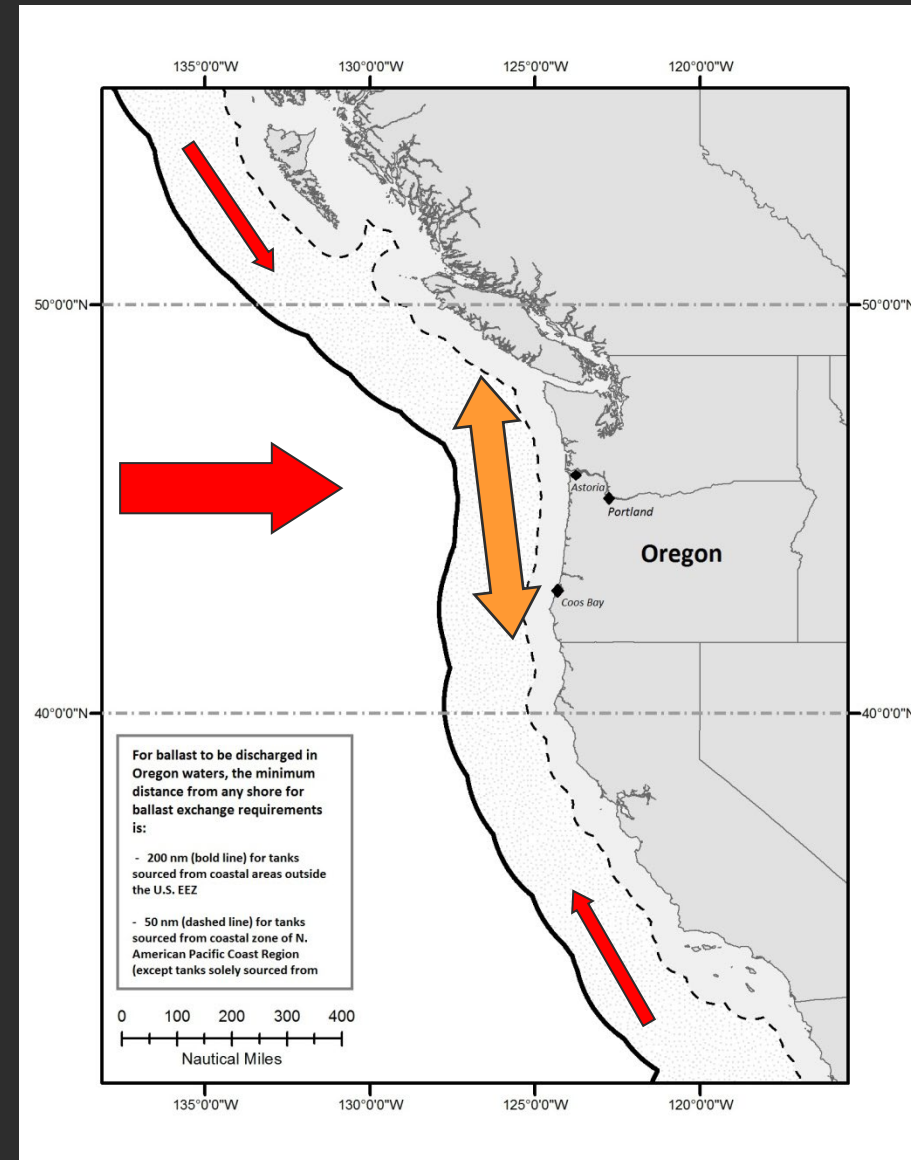
Compliant Discharges

- Mid-ocean source
- Mid-ocean exchange
- Compliant treatment
- Exchange + Treatment
 - 18 ppt → 30 ppt



Compliant Discharges

- Coastal exchange
- Common water
- Compliant treatment
- Municipal water



Exempt Discharges

- Safety exemption
- Military/federal vessels



Photo: Jacob Sisco

Reporting/Recordkeeping

- Vessels must:
 - submit a report of Ballast Management
 - at least 24 hours prior to entering waters of the state
- Ship owners must:
 - develop a vessel-specific BW management plan
 - maintain a shipboard ballast water handling log



Inspections

- DEQ conducts targeted and random vessel inspections
- Major violations may be subject to civil and criminal penalties
- Minor violations may be eligible for expedited enforcement offers



Photo credit: B. Bjorndal

Inspections

Vessel Boarding

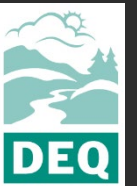
1. Outreach & Technical Service
2. Audit of Shipboard Records
3. Compliance Verification via Sampling of Ballast water salinity
4. Assist with Corrective Action



Photo credit: B. Bjorndal

Vessel Incidental Discharge Act

- VIDA meant to streamline patchwork of federal, state, and local requirements for commercial vessels
- Signed into law December 2018
 - EPA: develop national discharge standards (Dec. 2020)
 - USCG: develop implementing regulations (Dec. 2022)
- VIDA in effect when USCG regulations are enforceable
 - Currently: 2013 Vessel General Permit in effect until ~2027



Contacts

Josh Emerson, Program Coordinator

Joshua.Emerson@deq.oregon.gov

503.229.6865

Cassandra Carlson, Inspector

Cassandra.Carlson@deq.oregon.gov

503.926.1524

Ballast.Water@deq.oregon.gov



<https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/Pages/Ballast-Water.aspx>

