No trends data

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PROCEEDINGS OF A WORKSHOP:

Biological Invasions in Aquatic Ecosystems: Impacts on Restoration and Potential for Control

AT THE

California-Nevada Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
32nd Annual Conference: The Science of Restoration

April 25, 1998

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Biological invasions are increasingly recognized as a major threat to biological diversity and ecosystem integrity. Recent studies have found that invasions are a key factor contributing to the imperilment, endangerment or extinction of native plants and animals, ranking in most studies second only to habitat loss and alteration and well above pollution and over-harvesting (Cohen 2002). In the western United States, biologists consider invasion to be the most important threat to aquatic organisms (Richter *et al.* 1997).

The papers and abstracts that follow are based on presentations made at a session of the 1998 Annual Conference of the California-Nevada Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. They explore how the effects of invasions pose problems for the restoration of aquatic ecosystems in California, and how a variety of approaches may offer hope for preventing or controlling invasions in some cases. They cover habitats from freshwater to estuarine to marine, and address a broad range of exotic organisms from plants to invertebrates and fish. Three presentations discussed, from different perspectives, an exotic parasite that was accidentally imported into California, released into the environment, and became established at one site from which it was ultimately eradicated. More such success stories are needed.

Andrew Cohen
October 2002

Cohen, A. N. (2002) Success factors in the establishment of human-dispersed organisms. Pages 374-394 in: Bullock, J. M., R. E. Kenward and R. S. Hails (eds.) Dispersal Ecology, Blackwell Publishing, Oxford, for the British Ecological Society, London.

Richter, B. D., D. P. Braun, M. A. Mendelson and L. L. Master (1997) Threats to imperiled freshwater fauna. *Conservation Biology* 11: 1081-1093.

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