

# Invasion Impacts and Innovation in the North American Great Lakes



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**Innovation Summit**  
**Vision + Science + Technology = Solutions**  
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# Invasive species

Problem:  
Harm > Benefit



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# Small beginnings... great impact



photo: Brisbane City Council

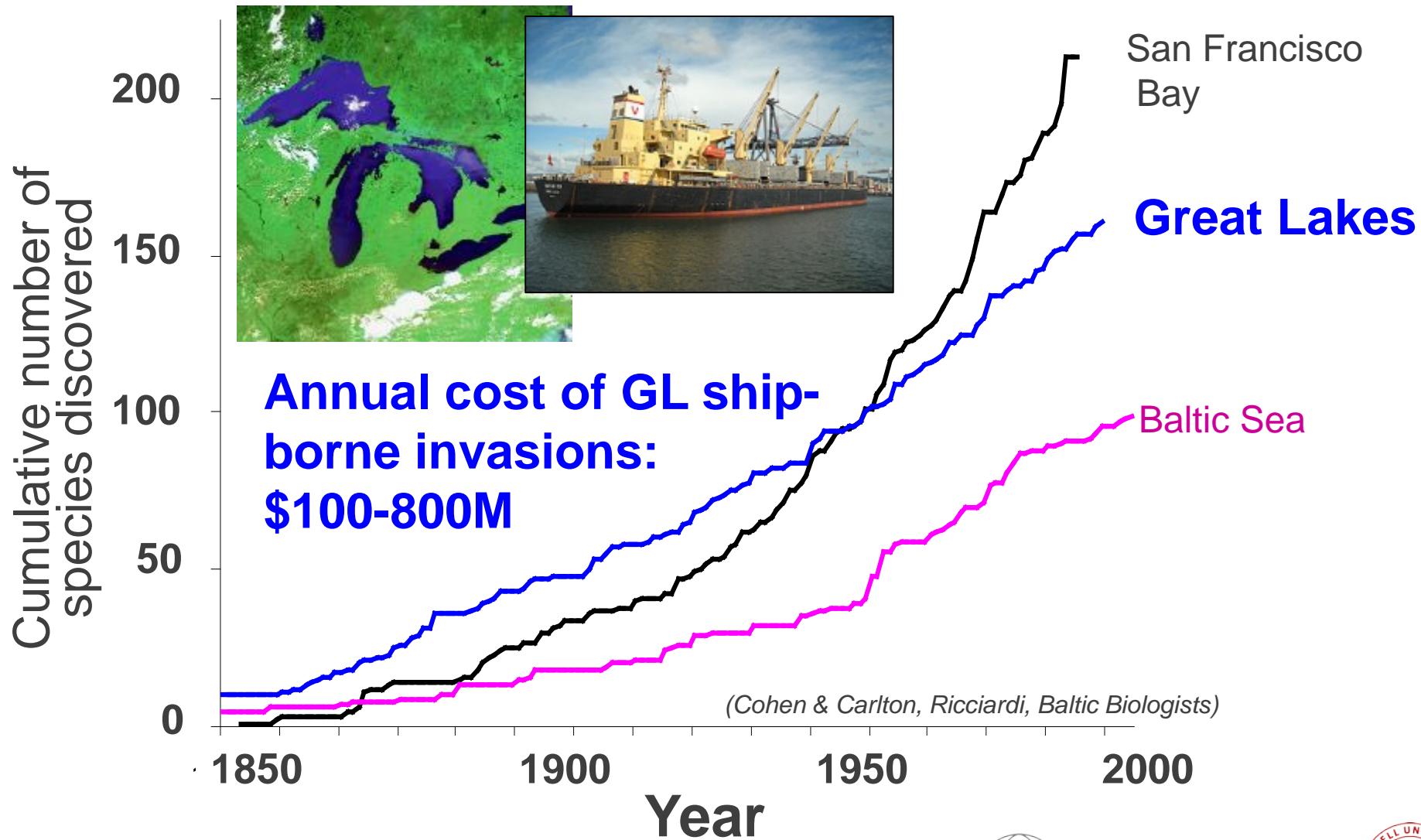
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# Nonindigenous species in aquatic ecosystems



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# Dreissenid mussels



photo: Jim Carlton



photo: D. Ramirez



arrive from  
Eurasia



photo:  
M. McCormick, NOAA



photo: Kim Martin, USFWS



photo: TownePost Network

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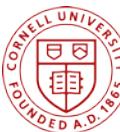
# Dreissenid mussels



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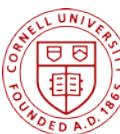
# Asian carps: imminent threat to Great Lakes . . .



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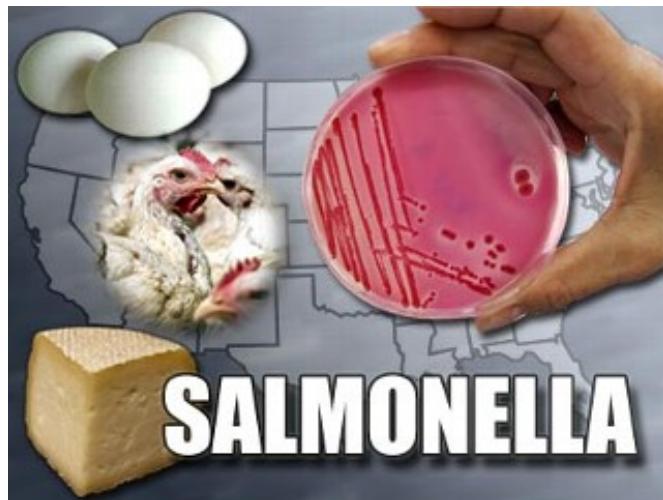
# Aggregate costs of invasive species



- **Annual damages (\$B 2015):** US \$146; Canada \$31;  
Sweden \$1; EU \$19; China \$14; SE Asia \$34
- **Challenges:** exponential increase, apparently irreversible
- **Typical policy approach:** external costs not internalized;  
suffer, react, adapt;
- **Solutions:** innovative policy, science, technology

# Risk-based management is common, effective, and cost effective

- Pharmaceutical safety
- Food safety
- Infectious disease



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# Lessons from invasive pathogen: SARS

We



# Invasive species solutions

Problem:

Harm > Benefit

Solution:

Improve policy, use recent science and technology to improve:

- Prevention via species profiling
- Surveillance programs
- Eradication of new invasions
- Slowed invasion spread
- Control of populations

Lodge et al. 2016.

Annual Rev. Environment & Resources:

[http://arjournals.annualreviews.org/eprint/JnVyUqX9Bp8kC2Ny5Wqa/  
full/10.1146/annurev-environ-110615-085532](http://arjournals.annualreviews.org/eprint/JnVyUqX9Bp8kC2Ny5Wqa/full/10.1146/annurev-environ-110615-085532)



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# Prevention: Species profiling



Photo: N. Monks  
Royal Plec  
*Panaque nigrolineatus*



Photo: D. Vereeken  
Oscar  
*Astronotus ocellatus*



Photo:  
Silver Arowana  
*Osteoglossum bicirrhosum*



Photo: K. Jakubec  
Red Bellied Piranha  
*Pygocentrus nattereri*



Photo: F. Slattery  
Zebra Tilapia  
*Tilapia buttikoferi*



Photo: National Park Service  
Arctic Grayling  
*Thymallus arcticus*



Photo: D. Vereeken  
Siamese Fighting Fish  
*Betta splendens*



Photo: Marine Discovery  
Red Shiner  
*Cyprinella lutrensis*



Photo: USFWS  
Westslope Cutthroat Trout  
*Oncorhynchus clarkii*



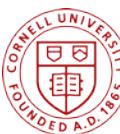
Photo: V. Litvinov  
Florida Gar  
*Lepisosteus platyrhincus*

Statistical modeling

Distinguish harmful from benign

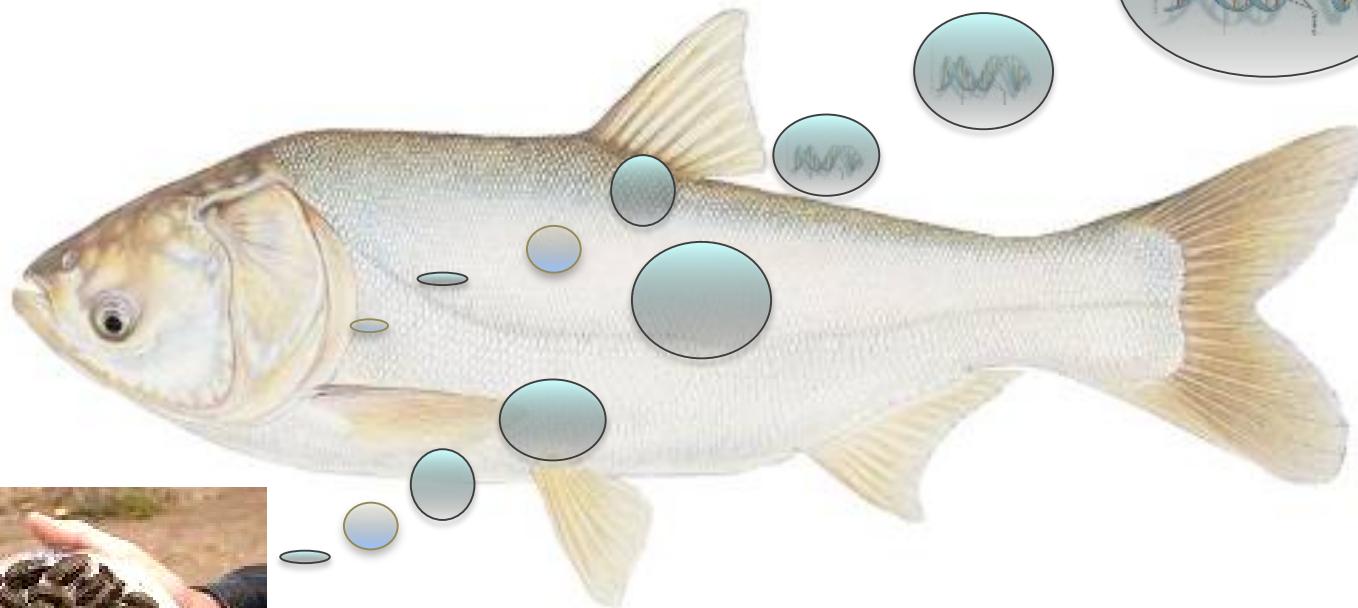


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# Surveillance: eDNA

- create a baseline for species occurrence
- monitoring imperiled species
- surveillance for invasions



- greater geographic coverage
- less time
- extract increasing information from eDNA

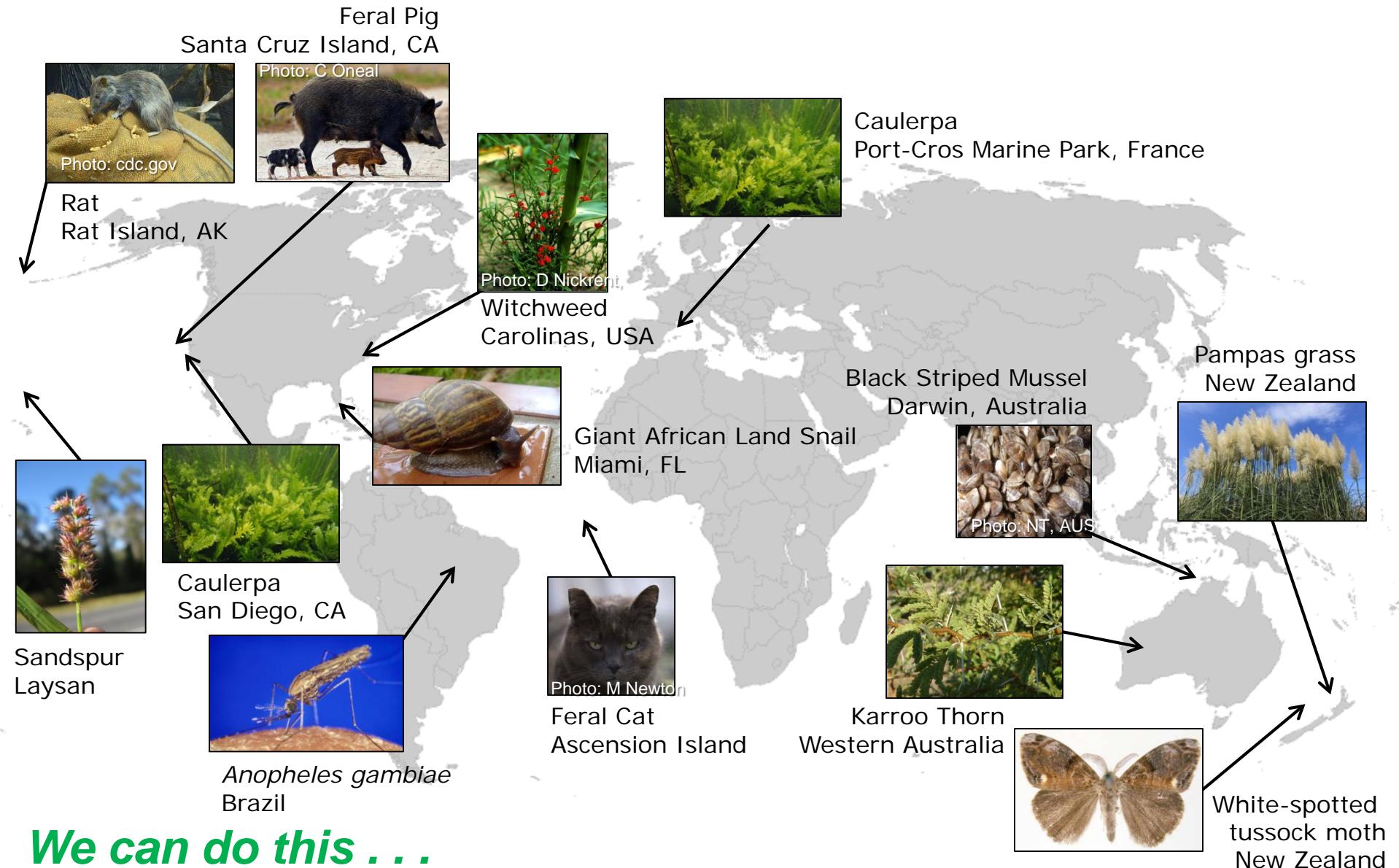
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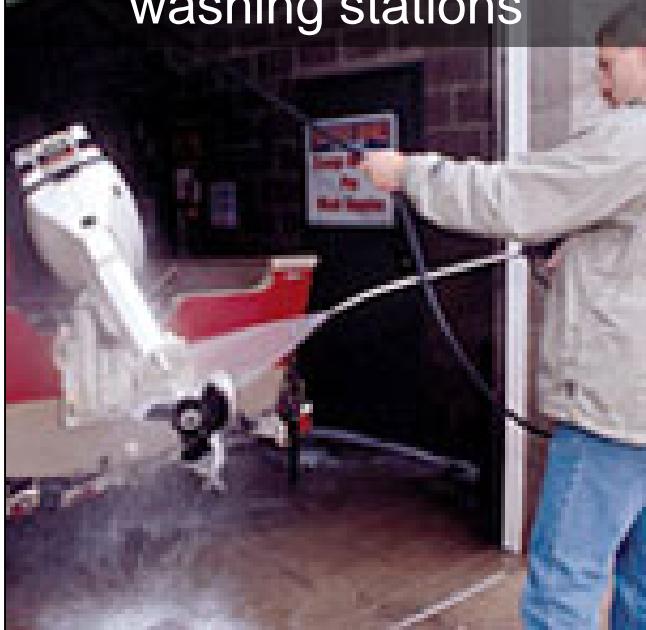
# Eradication (not just for islands)



# Slow the spread



Inspection and boat  
washing stations



Ballast water  
treatment system



Electric barriers to  
fish invasion

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# Control



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# Invasive species solutions

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Making solutions sustainable by monetizing net benefits:

The net economic benefits delivered by solutions = business opportunity

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