

# NEW YORK FISH & AQUATIC INVERTEBRATE INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM

Scientific name: Corbicula fluminea  
 Common names: Asian Clam, Golden Clam, Good Luck Clam  
 Native distribution: C. fluminea is native to southeastern China, Korea, southeastern Russia, and the Ussuri Basin (ISSG 2013)  
 Date assessed: 1/26/2013, 1/30/2013  
 Assessors: E. White  
 Reviewers: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Form version date: 3 January 2013

**New York Invasiveness Rank: HighHigh** (Relative Maximum Score 70.00-80.00)

| Distribution and Invasiveness Rank (Obtain from PRISM invasiveness ranking form) |                      |                         |
|--|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Status of this species in each PRISM:  | Current Distribution | PRISM Invasiveness Rank |
| 1 Adirondack Park Invasive Program   | Not Assessed         | Not Assessed            |
| 2 Capital/Mohawk   | Not Assessed         | Not Assessed            |
| 3 Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership                                 | Not Assessed         | Not Assessed            |
| 4 Finger Lakes   | Not Assessed         | Not Assessed            |
| 5 Long Island Invasive Species Management Area                                   | Not Assessed         | Not Assessed            |
| 6 Lower Hudson   | Not Assessed         | Not Assessed            |
| 7 Saint Lawrence/Eastern Lake Ontario  | Not Assessed         | Not Assessed            |
| 8 Western New York   | Not Assessed         | Not Assessed            |

| Invasiveness Ranking Summary<br>(see details under appropriate sub-section) |   | Total (Total Answered*)<br>Possible           | Total           |
|---|---|---|-----------------|
| 1   | Ecological impact                               | 30 (10)                                       | 7               |
| 2   | Biological characteristic and dispersal ability | 30 (30)                                       | 20              |
| 3   | Ecological amplitude and distribution           | 30 (26)                                       | 20              |
| 4   | Difficulty of control                           | 10 (10)                                       | 7               |
|   | Outcome score                                   | 100 (76) <sup>b</sup>                         | 56 <sup>a</sup> |
|   | Relative maximum score †                        |   | 73.68           |
|   | New York Invasiveness Rank §                    | HighHigh (Relative Maximum Score 70.00-80.00) |                 |

\* For questions answered “unknown” do not include point value in “Total Answered Points Possible.” If “Total Answered Points Possible” is less than 70.00 points, then the overall invasive rank should be listed as “Unknown.”  
 † Calculated as 100(a/b) to two decimal places.  
 § Very High >80.00; High 70.00–80.00; Moderate 50.00–69.99; Low 40.00–49.99; Insignificant <40.00

### A. DISTRIBUTION (KNOWN/POTENTIAL): Summarized from individual PRISM forms

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| A1.1. Has this species been documented in NY? (reliable source; voucher not required) |  |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   | Yes – continue to A1.2   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  | No – continue to A2.1; Yes <input type="checkbox"/> NA; Yes <input type="checkbox"/> USA |  |
| A1.2. In which PRISMs is it known (see inset map)?                                    |  |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   | Adirondack Park Invasive Program   |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   | Capital/Mohawk   |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   | Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership   |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   | Finger Lakes   |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   | Long Island Invasive Species Management Area   |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   | Lower Hudson   |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   | Saint Lawrence/Eastern Lake Ontario  |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   | Western New York   |  |

Documentation:  
 Sources of information:

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(The Nature Conservancy 2013, U.S. Geological Survey 2013)

A2.0. Is this species listed on the Federal Injurious Fish and Wildlife list?

- Yes – the species will automatically be listed as Prohibited, no further assessment required.  
 No – continue to A2.1

A2.1. What is the likelihood that this species will occur and persist given the climate in the following PRISMs? (obtain from PRISM invasiveness ranking form and/ or Climatch score)

- Very Likely            Adirondack Park Invasive Program  
 Very Likely            Capital/Mohawk  
 Very Likely            Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership  
 Very Likely            Finger Lakes  
 Very Likely            Long Island Invasive Species Management Area  
 Very Likely            Lower Hudson  
 Very Likely            Saint Lawrence/Eastern Lake Ontario  
 Very Likely            Western New York

Documentation:

Sources of information (e.g.: distribution models, literature, expert opinions):

***If the species does not occur and is not likely to survive and reproduce within any of the PRISMs, then stop here as there is no need to assess the species.***

A2.2. What is the current distribution of the species in each PRISM? (obtain rank from PRISM invasiveness ranking forms)

|  | Distribution |
|--|--------------|
| Adirondack Park Invasive Program               | Not Assessed |
| Capital/Mohawk                                 | Not Assessed |
| Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership | Not Assessed |
| Finger Lakes                                   | Not Assessed |
| Long Island Invasive Species Management Area   | Not Assessed |
| Lower Hudson                                   | Not Assessed |
| Saint Lawrence/Eastern Lake Ontario            | Not Assessed |
| Western New York                               | Not Assessed |

Documentation:

Sources of information:

A2.3. Describe the potential or known suitable habitats within New York. Natural habitats include all habitats not under active human management. Managed habitats are indicated with an asterisk.

- | Aquatic Habitats  | Wetland Habitats                                    | Upland Habitats                                |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marine                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Salt/brackish marshes      | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultivated*           |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Salt/ brackish waters     | <input type="checkbox"/> Freshwater marshes         | <input type="checkbox"/> Grasslands/old fields |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Freshwater tidal                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Peatlands                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Shrublands            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rivers/streams            | <input type="checkbox"/> Shrub swamps               | <input type="checkbox"/> Forests/woodlands     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natural lakes and ponds   | <input type="checkbox"/> Forested wetlands/riparian | <input type="checkbox"/> Alpine                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vernal pools                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Ditches*                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Roadsides*            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reservoirs/ impoundments* | <input type="checkbox"/> Beaches/or coastal dunes   | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural*             |

Other potential or known suitable habitats within New York:

Documentation:

Sources of information:

(Robinson and Wellborn 1988, Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) 2013, U.S. Geological Survey 2013)

## **B. INVASIVENESS RANKING**

### *1. ECOLOGICAL IMPACT*

1.1. Impact on Ecosystem Processes and System-wide Parameters (e.g., water cycle, energy cycle,

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nutrient and mineral dynamics, light availability, or geomorphological changes (erosion and sedimentation rates).

- A. No perceivable impact on ecosystem processes based on research studies, or the absence of impact information if a species is widespread (>10 occurrences in minimally managed areas), has been well-studied (>10 reports/publications), and has been present in the northeast for >100 years. 0
- B. Influences ecosystem processes to a minor degree, has a perceivable but mild influence 3
- C. Significant alteration of ecosystem processes 7
- D. Major, possibly irreversible, alteration or disruption of ecosystem processes 10
- U. Unknown

Score 7

**Documentation:**

Identify ecosystem processes impacted (or if applicable, justify choosing answer A in the absence of impact information)

*C. fluminea* affect water quality negatively during mass mortality events and excretion causes growth of nuisance algae and macrophytes (Menninger n.d., Phelps 1994). Phelps (1994) suggested that *C. fluminea* triggered system-level changes in biota of one system.

**Sources of information:**

(Menninger n.d., Phelps 1994)

1.2. Impact on Natural Habitat/ Community Composition

- A. No perceived impact; causes no apparent change in native populations 0
- B. Influences community composition (e.g., reduces the number of individuals of one or more native species in the community) 3
- C. Significantly alters community composition (e.g., produces a significant reduction in the population size of one or more native species in the community) 7
- D. Causes major alteration in community composition (e.g., results in the extirpation of one or several native species, reducing biodiversity or change the community composition towards species exotic to the natural community) 10
- U. Unknown

Score U

**Documentation:**

Identify type of impact or alteration:

This species is known to deplete phytoplankton and sediment particles that are important food sources for native species, impact water quality negatively during mass die-offs, and ingest large numbers of native bivalve larvae and juveniles, but these roles in affecting native bivalves is unresolved (Strayer 1999). Strayer (1999) suggests that there is good evidence that *Corbicula* can have strong effects on other bivalves, but it is not clear which mechanisms in these interactions causes these effects and studies are needed on the density and recruitment of native bivalves before and after *Corbicula* invasion before this can be determined. Menninger (n.d.) indicates that the spent shells of *C. fluminea* can promote the growth of zebra mussels, which prefer a hard substrate. The degree of impact is uncertain and appears to vary from B to C depending on the site.

**Sources of information:**

(Menninger n.d., Strayer 1999)

1.3. Impact on other species or species groups, including cumulative impact of this species on other organisms in the community it invades. (e.g., interferes with native predator/ prey dynamics; injurious components/ spines; reduction in spawning; hybridizes with a native species; hosts a non-native disease which impacts a native species)

- A. Negligible perceived impact 0
- B. Minor impact (e.g. impacts 1 species, <20% population decline, limited host damage) 3
- C. Moderate impact (e.g. impacts 2-3 species and/ or 20-29% population decline of any 1 species, kills host in 2-5 years, ,) 7
- D. Severe impact on other species or species groups (e.g. impacts >3 species and/ or ≥30% population decline of any 1 species, kills host within 2 years, extirpation) 10

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U. Unknown

Score

Documentation:  
 Identify type of impact or alteration:  
 This species is known to deplete phytoplankton and sediment particles that are important food sources for native species, impact water quality negatively during mass die-offs, and ingest large numbers of native bivalve larvae and juveniles, but these roles in affecting native bivalves is unresolved (Strayer 1999). Strayer (1999) suggests that there is good evidence that *Corbicula* can have strong effects on other bivalves, but it is not clear which mechanisms in these interactions causes these effects and studies are needed on the density and recruitment of native bivalves before and after *Corbicula* invasion before this can be determined. Menninger (n.d.) indicates that the spent shells of *C. fluminea* can promote the growth of zebra mussels, which prefer a hard substrate. The degree of impact is uncertain and appears to vary from B to C depending on the site. It certainly has an impact on phytoplankton and sediment particles.  
 Sources of information:  
 (Menninger n.d., Strayer 1999)

Total Possible   
 Section One Total

## 2. BIOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS AND DISPERSAL ABILITY

2.1. Mode and rate of reproduction (provisional thresholds, more investigation needed)

- A. No reproduction (e.g. sterile with no sexual or asexual reproduction) 0
- B. Limited reproduction (e.g., intrinsic rate of increase <10%, low fecundity, complete one life cycle) 1
- C. Moderate reproduction (e.g., intrinsic rate of increase between 10-30%, moderate fecundity, complete 2-3 life cycles) 2
- D. Abundant reproduction (e.g., intrinsic rate of increase >30%, parthenogenesis, large egg masses, complete > 3 life cycles) 4
- U. Unknown

Score

Documentation:  
 Describe key reproductive characteristics:  
*Corbicula fluminea* has high fecundity and they can reproduce 2 times per year, with a single individual capable of starting a new population (Menninger n.d.).  
 Sources of information:  
 (Menninger n.d., Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) 2013)

2.2. Migratory behavior

- A. Always migratory in its native range 0
- B. Non-migratory or facultative migrant in its native range 2
- U. Unknown

Score

Documentation:  
 Describe migratory behavior:  
 No migratory behavior noted in the literature.  
 Sources of information:

2.3. Biological potential for colonization by long-distance dispersal/ movement (e.g., veligers, resting stage eggs, glochidia)

- A. No long-distance dispersal/ movement mechanisms 0
- B. Adaptations exist for long-distance dispersal, but studies report that most individuals (90%) establish territories within 5 miles of natal origin or within a distance twice the home range of the typical individual, and tend not to cross major barriers such as dams and watershed divides 1
- C. Adaptations exist for long-distance dispersal, movement and evidence that offspring often 2

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disperse greater than 5 miles of natal origin or greater than twice the home range of typical individual and will cross major barriers such as dams and watershed divides

U. Unknown

Score

Documentation:  
Identify dispersal mechanisms:  
Water currents spread juveniles throughout a water body (ISSG 2013).  
Sources of information:  
(Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) 2013)

2.4. Practical potential to be spread by human activities, both directly and indirectly – possible vectors include: commercial bait sales, deliberate illegal stocking, aquaria releases, boat trailers, canals, ballast water exchange, live food trade, rehabilitation, pest control industry, aquaculture escapes, etc.)

- A. Does not occur 0
- B. Low (human dispersal to new areas occurs almost exclusively by direct means and is infrequent or inefficient) 1
- C. Moderate (human dispersal to new areas occurs by direct and indirect means to a moderate extent) 2
- D. High (opportunities for human dispersal to new areas by direct and indirect means are numerous, frequent, and successful) 4
- U. Unknown

Score

Documentation:  
Identify dispersal mechanisms: A number of vectors are described as means of *C. fluminea* spread: attachment to boats, carried in ballast water of ships, use as fishing bait, release from aquarium trade (ISSG 2013).  
Sources of information:  
(Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) 2013)

2.5. Non-living chemical and physical characteristics that increase competitive advantage (e.g., tolerance to various extremes, pH, DO, temperature, desiccation, fill vacant niche, charismatic species)

- A. Possesses no characteristics that increase competitive advantage 0
- B. Possesses one characteristic that increases competitive advantage 4
- C. Possesses two or more characteristics that increase competitive advantage 8
- U. Unknown

Score

Documentation:  
Evidence of competitive ability: *C. fluminea* are known to be less tolerant to oxygen and temperature extremes than native mussels and prone to mass die-offs (Menninger n.d.); however, they do have some salinity tolerance (up to 13 ppt for short periods), unlike many native freshwater mussels (ISSG 2013).  
Sources of information:  
(Menninger n.d., Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) 2013)

2.6. Biological characteristics that increase competitive advantage (e.g., high fecundity, generalist/broad niche space, highly evolved defense mechanisms, behavioral adaptations, piscivorous, etc.)

- A. Possesses no characteristics that increase competitive advantage 0
- B. Possesses one characteristic that increases competitive advantage 4
- C. Possesses two or more characteristics that increase competitive advantage 8
- U. Unknown

Score

Documentation:  
Evidence of competitive ability: *C. fluminea* is hermaphroditic and does not need to rely on host fish for reproduction; they have high fecundity (Menninger n.d., ISSG 2013). Whether they negatively impact native populations of mussels is yet to be determined and more studies on competition with native mussels are needed (Strayer 1999).  
Sources of information:

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(Menninger n.d., Strayer 1999, Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) 2013)

2.7. Other species in the family and/ or genus invasive in New York or elsewhere?

- |    |         |   |
|----|---------|---|
| A. | No      | 0 |
| B. | Yes     | 2 |
| U. | Unknown |   |

Score 0

Documentation: No  
Identify species:

|                   |    |
|-------------------|----|
| Total Possible    | 30 |
| Section Two Total | 20 |

### 3. ECOLOGICAL AMPLITUDE AND DISTRIBUTION

3.1. Current introduced distribution in the northern latitudes of USA and southern latitude of Canada (e.g., between 35 and 55 degrees).

- |    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
| A. | Not known from the northern US or southern Canada.   | 0 |
| B. | Established as a non-native in 1 northern USA state and/or southern Canadian province.   | 1 |
| C. | Established as a non-native in 2 or 3 northern USA states and/or southern Canadian provinces.  | 2 |
| D. | Established as a non-native in 4 or more northern USA states and/or southern Canadian provinces, and/or categorized as a problem species (e.g., “Invasive”) in 1 northern state or southern Canadian province. | 3 |
| U. | Unknown  |   |

Score 3

Documentation:  
Identify states and provinces: AL, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, IA, KY, KS, LA, MI, MN, MO, MS, NE, NV, NJ, NM, NY, OH, NC, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, UT, VA, WA, WV, WY, Puerto Rico and Hawaii  
LO, FL, TX may be south of 35 latitude.  
Sources of information:  

- See known introduced range at [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov), and update with information from states and Canadian provinces.

(U.S. Geological Survey 2013)

3.2. Current introduced distribution of the species in natural areas in the eight New York State PRISMs (Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management)

- |    |                                   |   |
|----|-----------------------------------|---|
| A. | Established in none of the PRISMs | 0 |
| B. | Established in 1 PRISM            | 1 |
| C. | Established in 2 or 3 PRISMs      | 3 |
| D. | Established in 4 or more PRISMs   | 5 |
| U. | Unknown                           |   |

Score 5

Documentation:  
Describe distribution:  
This species has been documented in at least one location in all NYS PRISMs.  
Sources of information:  
(The Nature Conservancy 2013, U.S. Geological Survey 2013)

3.3. Number of known, or potential (each individual possessed by a vendor or consumer), individual releases and/ or release events

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| A. | None  | 0 |
| B. | Few releases (e.g., <10 annually).                    | 2 |
| C. | Regular, small scale releases (e.g., 10-99 annually). | 4 |
| D. | Multiple, large scale (e.g., ≥100 annually).          | 6 |
| U. | Unknown   |   |

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Score

**Documentation:**

Describe known or potential releases:

I did not find specific reference to the number of release events, but this is probably either C or D due to the multiple vectors of introduction possible.

Sources of information:

3.4. Current introduced population density, or distance to known occurrence, in northern USA and/ or southern Canada.

- A. No known populations established. 0
- B. Low to moderate population density (e.g.,  $\leq 1/4$  to  $< 1/2$  native population density) with few other invasives present and/ or documented in 1 or more non-adjacent state/ province and/ or 1 unconnected waterbody. 1
- C. High or irruptive population density (e.g.,  $\geq 1/2$  native population density) with numerous other invasives present and/ or documented in 1 or more adjacent state/ province and/ or 1 connected waterbody. 2
- U. Unknown

Score

**Documentation:**

Describe population density:

Populations have been described as dense and they are present in 38 adjacent states.

Sources of information:

(Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) 2013, U.S. Geological Survey 2013)

3.5. Number of habitats the species may invade

- A. Not known to invade any natural habitats given at A2.3. 0
- B. Known to occur in 2 or 3 of the habitats given at A2.3, with at least 1 or 2 natural habitat(s). 2
- C. Known to occur in 4 or more of the habitats given at A2.3, with at least 3 natural habitats. 3
- U. Unknown.

Score

**Documentation:**

Identify type of habitats where it occurs and degree/type of impacts:

It is known from lakes/ponds and streams as well as brackish habitats throughout its non-native range.

Sources of information:

(Robinson and Wellborn 1988, Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) 2013, U.S. Geological Survey)

3.6. Role of anthropogenic (human related) and natural disturbance in establishment (e.g. water level management, man-made structures, high vehicle traffic, major storm events, etc).

- A. Requires anthropogenic disturbances to establish. 0
- B. May occasionally establish in undisturbed areas but can readily establish in areas with natural or anthropogenic disturbances. 2
- C. Can establish independent of any known natural or anthropogenic disturbances. 3
- U. Unknown.

Score

**Documentation:**

Identify type of disturbance:

It is known to establish in disturbed habitats, but is not limited to these habitats.

Sources of information:

(Robinson and Wellborn 1988, Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) 2013, U.S. Geological Survey)

3.7. Climate in native range (e.g., med. to high,  $\geq 5$ , Climatch score; within 35 to 55 degree latitude; etc.)

- A. Native range does not include climates similar to New York (e.g.,  $< 10\%$ ). 0

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- B. Native range possibly includes climates similar to portions of New York (e.g., 10-29%) 4
- C. Native range includes climates similar to those in New York (e.g.,  $\geq 30\%$ ) 8
- U. Unknown.

Score

**Documentation:**

Describe known climate similarities:

62% of NY stations are >5 in Climatch

Sources of information:

(Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forestry (ADAFF) 2013)

Total Possible   
Section Three Total

### 4. DIFFICULTY OF CONTROL

4.1. Re-establishment potential, nearby propagule source, known vectors of re-introduction (e.g. biological supplies, pets, aquaria, aquaculture facilities, connecting waters/ corridors, mechanized transportation, live wells, etc.)

- A. No known vectors/ propagule source for re-establishment following removal. 0
- B. Possible re-establishment from 1 vector/ propagule source following removal and/ or viable <24 hours. 1
- C. Likely to re-establish from 2-3 vectors/ propagule sources following removal and/ or viable 2-7 days. 2
- D. Strong potential for re-establishment from 4 or more vectors/ propagule sources following removal and/or viable >7 days. 3
- U. Unknown.

Score

**Documentation:**

Identify source/ vectors: A number of vectors are described as means of *C. fluminea* spread: attachment to boats, carried in ballast water of ships, use as fishing bait, release from aquarium trade (ISSG 2013). Also, larvae can travel for distances in the water column.

Sources of information:

(Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) 2013)

4.2. Status of monitoring and/ or management protocols for species

- A. Standardized protocols appropriate to New York State are available. 0
- B. Scientific protocols are available from other countries, regions or states. 1
- C. No known protocols exist. 2
- U. Unknown

Score

**Documentation:**

Describe protocols: Management resources are available for CT and Lake Tahoe, as well as a decision support tool kit for aquatic invasives (ISSG and Wittmena et al. 2008).

Sources of information:

(Wittmann *et al.* 2008, Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) 2013)

4.3. Status of monitoring and/ or management resources (e.g. tools, manpower, travel, traps, lures, ID keys, taxonomic specialists, etc.)

- A. Established resources are available including commercial and/ or research tools 0
- B. Monitoring resources may be available (e.g. partnerships, NGOs, etc) 1
- C. No known monitoring resources are available 2
- U. Unknown

Score

**Documentation:**

Describe resources:

Management resources are available for CT and Lake Tahoe, as well as a decision support tool kit for aquatic invasives (Wittmann et al. 2008, ISSG 2013).

Sources of information:

(Wittmann *et al.* 2008, Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) 2013)



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### 4.4. Level of effort required

- A. Management is not required. (e.g., species does not persist without repeated human mediated action.) 0
- B. Management is relatively easy and inexpensive; invasive species can be maintained at low abundance causing little or no ecological harm. (e.g., 10 or fewer person-hours of manual effort can eradicate a local infestation in 1 year.) 1
- C. Management requires a major short-term investment, and is logistically and politically challenging; eradication is difficult, but possible. (e.g., 100 or fewer person-hours/year of manual effort, or up to 10 person-hours/ year for 2-5 years to suppress a local infestation.) 2
- D. Management requires a major investment and is logistically and politically difficult; eradication may be impossible. (e.g., more than 100 person-hours/ year of manual effort, or more than 10 person hours/year for more than 5 years to suppress a local infestation.) 3
- U. Unknown

Score 

|   |
|---|
| 3 |
|---|

**Documentation:**

Identify types of control methods and time required:

Eradication is unlikely and containment and prevention of spread is the emphasis in control methods (Menninger n. d.). *Corbicula fluminea* populations have been also controlled by a variety of mechanical and chemical methods, while people are moving away from chemical control methods (ISSG 2013). Fish predation can prevent them from establishing in high densities (Robinson and Wellborn 1988).

Sources of information:

(Menninger n.d., Robinson and Wellborn 1988, Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) 2013)

|                    |    |
|--------------------|----|
| Total Possible     | 10 |
| Section Four Total | 7  |

|                                      |    |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| <b>Total for 4 sections Possible</b> | 74 |
| <b>Total for 4 sections</b>          | 56 |

### C. STATUS OF GENETIC VARIANTS AND HYBRIDS:

At the present time there is no protocol or criteria for assessing the invasiveness of genetic variants independent of the species to which they belong. Such a protocol is needed, and individuals with the appropriate expertise should address this issue in the future. Such a protocol will likely require data on cultivar fertility and identification in both experimental and natural settings.

Genetic variants of the species known to exist:

Hybrids (crosses between different parent species) should be assessed individually and separately from the parent species wherever taxonomically possible, since their invasiveness may differ from that of the parent species. An exception should be made if the taxonomy of the species and hybrids are uncertain, and species and hybrids can not be clearly distinguished in the field. In such cases it is not feasible to distinguish species and hybrids, and they can only be assessed as a single unit.

Hybrids of uncertain origin known to exist:

#### References for species assessment:

- Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forestry (ADAFF). 2013. Climatch Mapping Tool [Online]. Available: <http://adl.brs.gov.au:8080/Climatch/>. [Accessed: 23-Jan-2013].
- Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG). 2013. Global Invasive Species Database. [Online]. Available: <http://www.issg.org/database/species/ecology.asp?si=217&fr=1&sts=sss&lang=EN>. [Accessed: 11-Jan-2013].

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- Menninger, H. (n.d.). The Asian Clam, *Corbicula Fluminea*: A Brief Review of the Scientific Literature. Vital Signs. Available at: <http://vitalsignsme.org/sites>
- Phelps, H. L. 1994. The Asiatic clam (*Corbicula fluminea*) invasion and system-level ecological change in the Potomac River estuary near Washington, DC. *Estuaries and Coasts* 17:614–621.
- Robinson, J. V., and G. A. Wellborn. 1988. Ecological resistance to the invasion of a freshwater clam, *Corbicula fluminea*: fish predation effects. *Oecologia* 77:445–452.
- Strayer, D. L. 1999. Effects of alien species on freshwater mollusks in North America. *Journal of the North American Benthological Society*:74–98.
- The Nature Conservancy. 2013. iMapInvasives: An Online Mapping Tool for Invasive Species Locations [Online]. Available: [iMapInvasives.org](http://iMapInvasives.org). [Accessed: 03-Jan-2013].
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