

Keep these **AQUATIC INVADERS** **OUT** of the Situk



Photo: Biosecurity New Zealand



Photo: Alaska Dispatch News



Photo: Fairbanksweeds.org

Species: **Didymo** ("Rock Snot")

Identification: Ranges in color from white to brownish yellow. Looks smooth but feels rough to the touch.

Status: Didymo ("Did-ee-mo") is native to Alaska. It has not been detected in the Situk, but could be present in streams around Yakutat. When introduced into a new system, Didymo can form large "nuisance mats. Alaska and other states have made the use of felt-soled waders illegal- a measure to prevent the spread of invasives such as Didymo.

Species: **Elodea**

Identification: Grows in tangled masses. Stem is lighter green than leaves. Unlike native species, leaves arranged in whorls of 3 (occasionally 4). Individual plants vary depending on growing conditions.

Status: Elodea has not yet been found in Yakutat, but elodea has invaded other parts of Southeast Alaska including Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Cordova. Elodea can survive freezing, and can spread when broken. This makes it extremely invasive.

CLEAN



DRAIN



DRY

Wash and dry all of your gear before moving between waters!

Both Didymo and Elodea have the potential to invade the Situk River and impact native fish populations statewide. They can degrade salmon spawning habitat, reduce boating and other recreational opportunities, and financially impact businesses associated with water-related activities.

These invasive species spread to new locations and water bodies through tiny plant fragments carried by float planes, boats, trailers, and especially boots and waders. Please help to make sure these invasives do not end up here: wash your gear *before and after* visiting the Situk to prevent spread of invasives!



**STOP AQUATIC
HITCHHIKERS!**

Prevent the transport of nuisance species.
Clean all recreational equipment.
Particularly waders boots.
www.ProtectYourWaters.net

