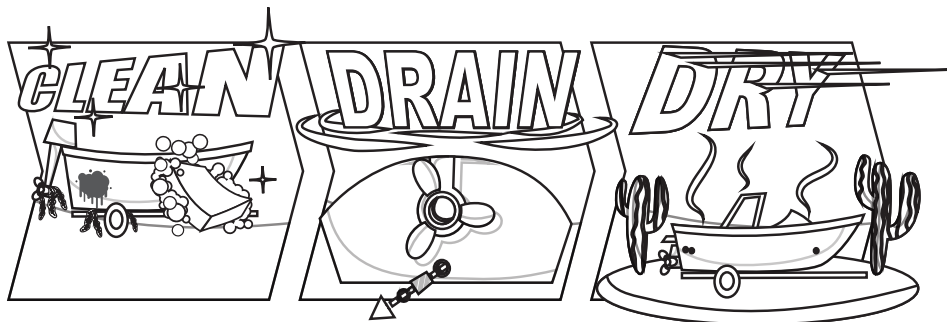
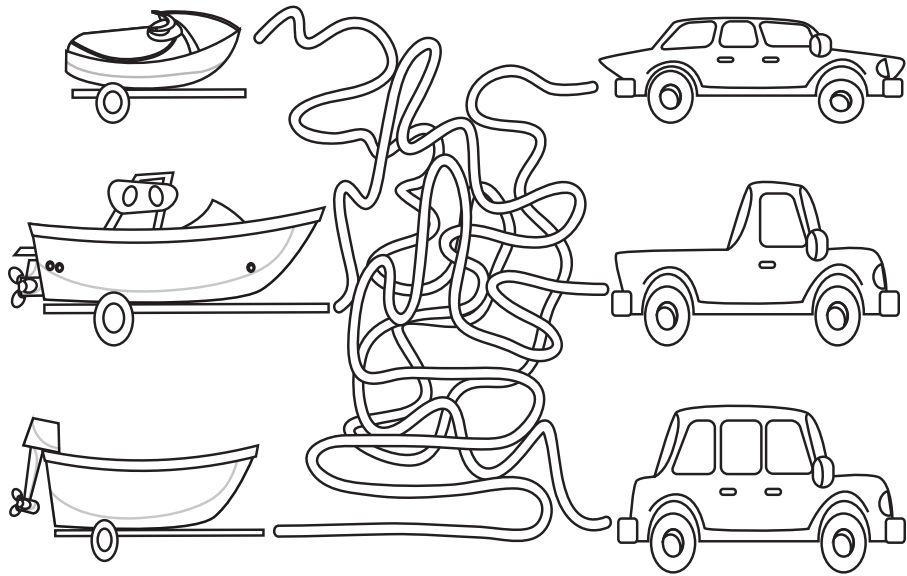


CRAZY MAZE!

CAREFULLY TRACE THE LINE FROM THE WATERCRAFT TO SEE WHICH CAR IT BELONGS TO!



CLEAN. DRAIN. DRY.
CleanDrainDryMT.com

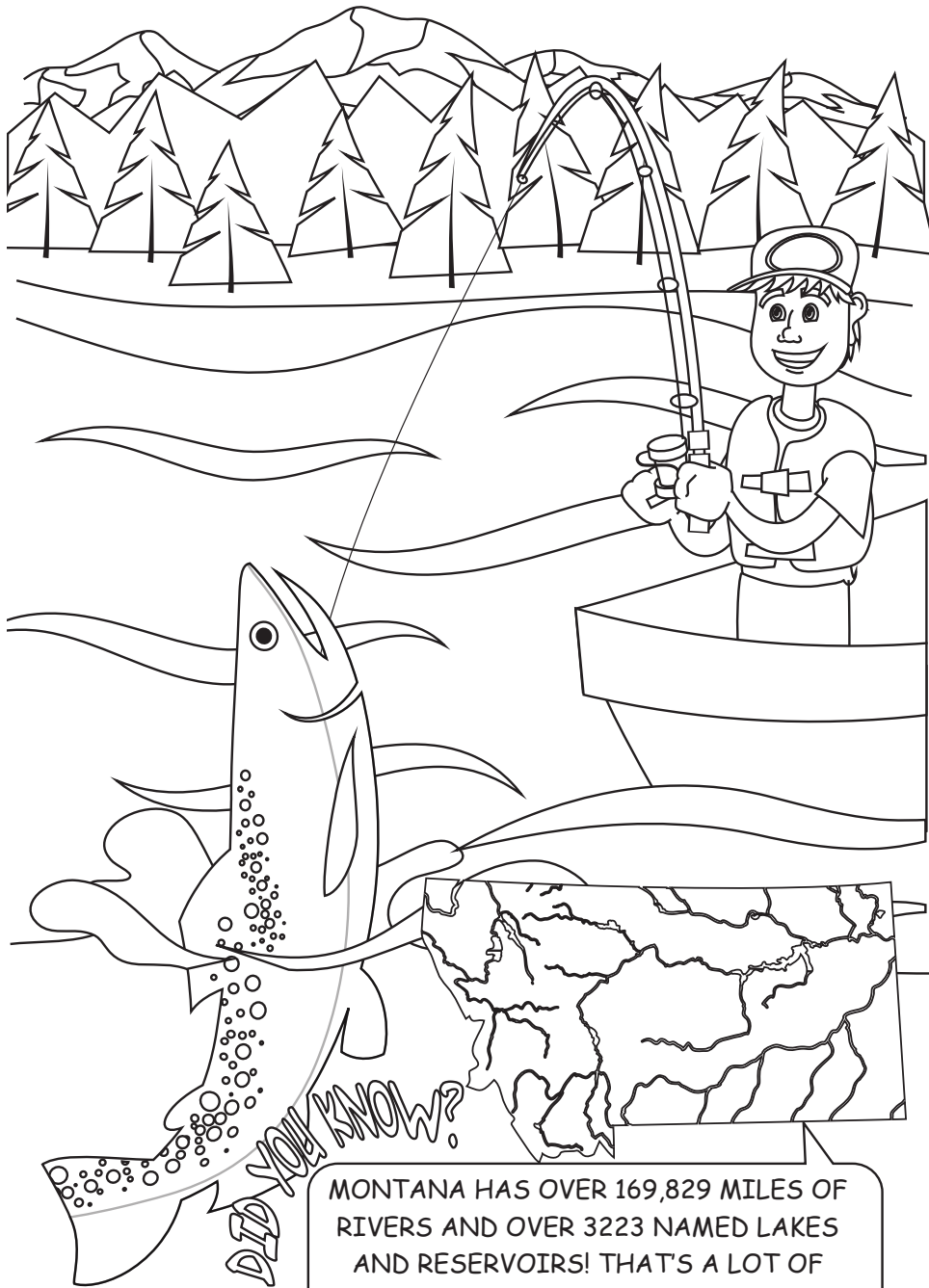


INVASIVE MUSSELS IN MONTANA



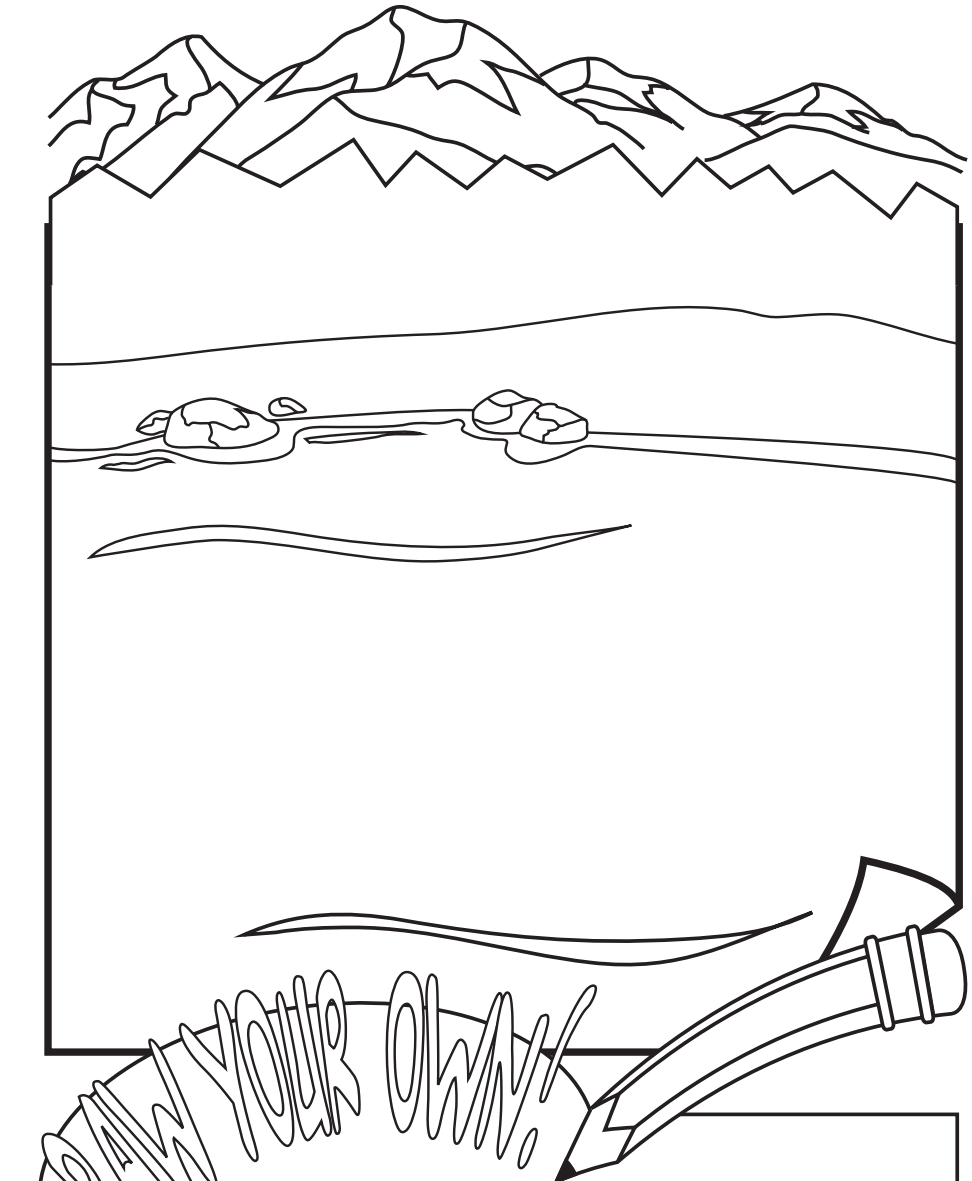
MONTANA FISH,
WILDLIFE & PARKS

created by: 
WILD IDEA
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT & DESIGN
KYREN ZIMMERMAN © Wild Idea 2017



DID YOU KNOW?

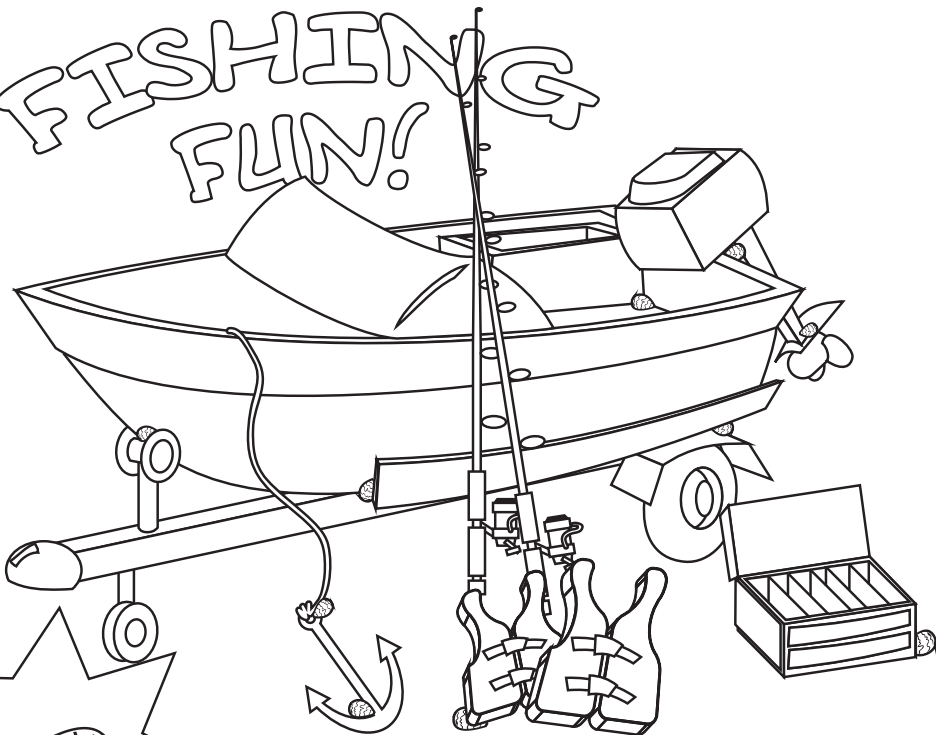
MONTANA HAS OVER 169,829 MILES OF RIVERS AND OVER 3223 NAMED LAKES AND RESERVOIRS! THAT'S A LOT OF PRISTINE AREAS FOR FISHING, SWIMMING AND BOATING!



DRAW YOUR OWN!

MONTANA'S RIVERS AND LAKES ARE AVAILABLE FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY! WHETHER YOU LIKE FISHING, CAMPING, BOATING OR SWIMMING. USE THIS PAGE TO DRAW YOUR FAVORITE THING TO DO ON MONTANA'S WATERWAYS!

FISHING FUN!



SEE IF YOU CAN SPOT ALL 10 INVASIVE MUSSELS HIDDEN IN THE FISHING EQUIPMENT ABOVE!

I A D M C G T T F K L N U I P S U I W
 D N J H Y I E R S O M J N D W A F N P
 W O V L I H W Y B R K E U A P F A S L
 A Y B A I T A O O E U T A P L O D P S
 K T H M S S E G A K Y S E E D N B E A
 E H F S W I P M T A N K B R L I T C U
 B I S F Y P V A P E G I S T R O U T A
 O P Y D I W T E J Y B C L O N S T I A
 A F S A T S U N M W T E R Y K E A O D
 R I N D G F H K G R R I V E R I V N A
 D N V P S O A I C T I S S E L B W A N
 M Y G Z E B O F N A G A M U S S E L M
 T H A M A G T W V G D O V R H I L B A
 D R A I N P L U G O N H A L S T I A L
 U S G A T R U L S L I F E J A C K E T
 V A B Y S S A L P W T N G S N H S L D

BYSSAL
 INVASIVE
 MUSSEL
 INSPECTION
 LIFE JACKET
 BOAT
 TROUT
 FISHING
 RIVER
 BAIT
 WAKE BOARD
 DRAIN PLUG
 JET SKI

MONTANA'S WATERS ARE AT RISK!

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES ARE NON-NATIVE PLANTS AND ANIMALS THAT CAN DAMAGE MONTANA'S LAKES AND RIVERS BY DISRUPTING FOOD CHAINS AND DESTROYING HABITAT FOR AQUATIC WILDLIFE!


ZEBRA AND QUAGGA MUSSELS ARE THE GREATEST DANGER TO MONTANA'S NATURAL FRESHWATER RESOURCES!



CURLY LEAF PONDWEED

EURASIAN WATER MILFOIL

AQUATIC INVASIVE WEEDS ARE PRESENT IN MONTANA! THEY GROW VERY FAST, CROWD OUT NATIVE HABITAT AND SPOIL RECREATION AREAS!



WHAT IS A ZEBRA MUSSEL?

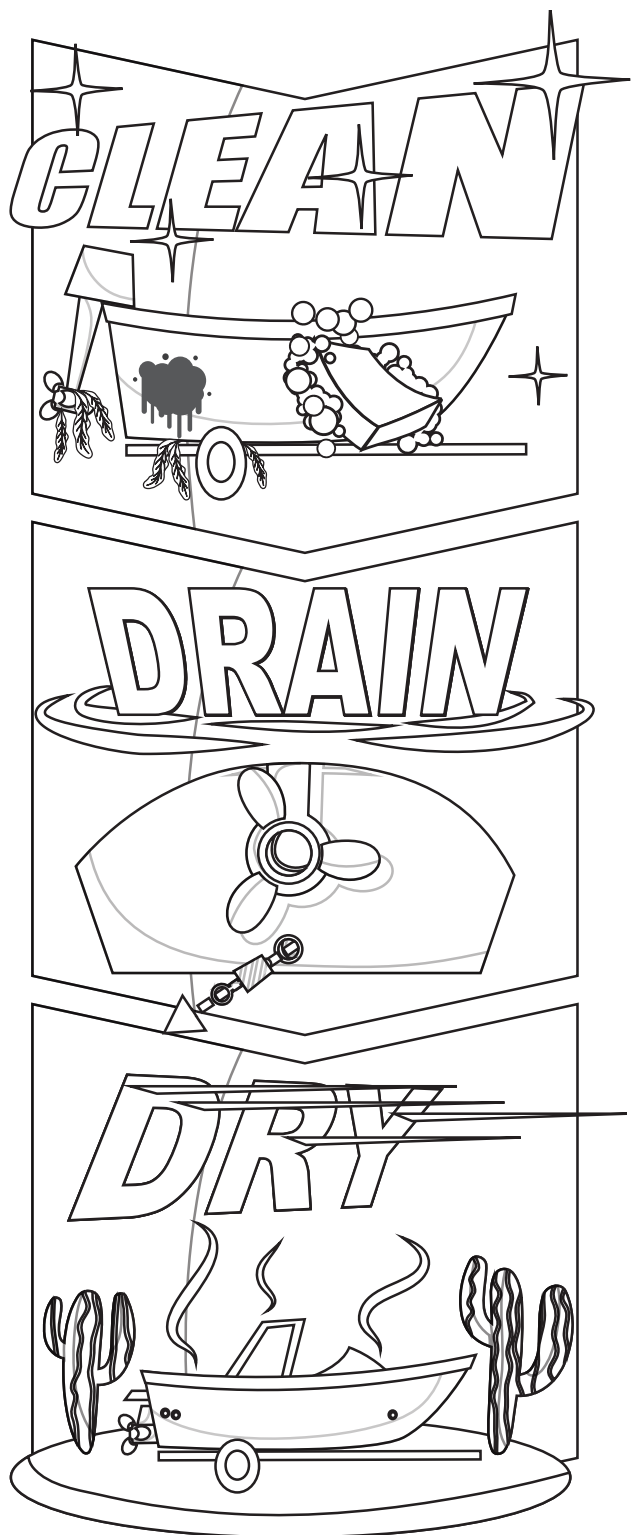
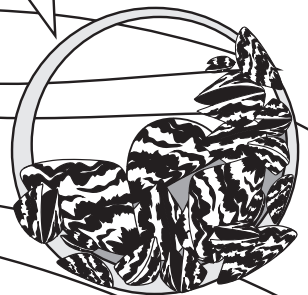
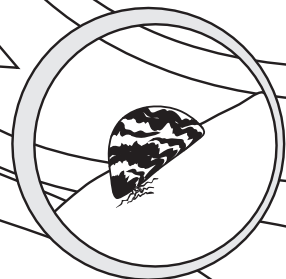
ZEBRA AND QUAGGA MUSSELS ARE SMALL, FRESHWATER CLAMS, THEY ARE NON-NATIVE TO THE UNITED STATES AND ARE IMPACTING WATER SYSTEMS AROUND THE COUNTRY!



FEMALES CAN LAY UP TO 40,000 EGGS. WHICH HATCH INTO MICROSCOPIC VELIGERS

MORE AND MORE MUSSELS GROW ON TOP OF EACH OTHER FORMING THICK CLUSTERS!

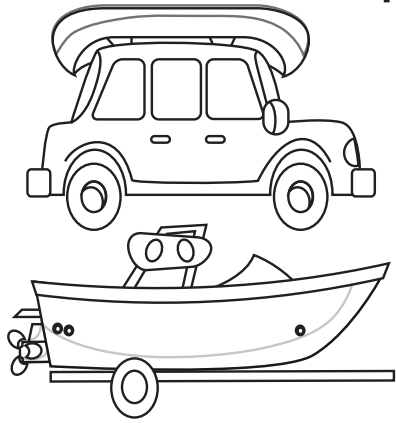
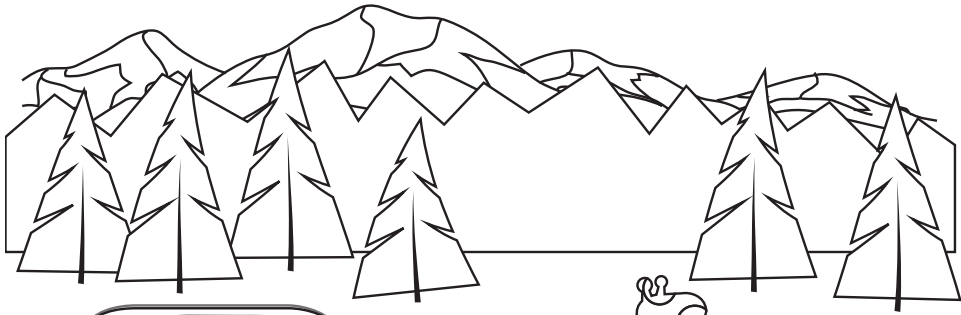
AS THEY GROW, THEY DEVELOP SHELLS. USING THEIR BYSSAL THREADS THEY ATTACH TO ALMOST ANYTHING



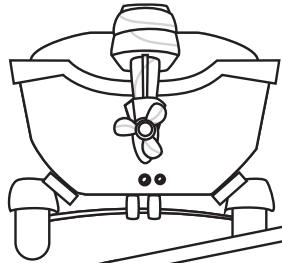
EVERY TIME YOU LEAVE A LAKE OR RIVER CLEAN ALL BOATING GEAR. BE SURE TO WASH AWAY ANY MUD OR PLANTS STUCK ON YOUR BOAT OR TRAILER

STANDING WATER CAN TRANSPORT MICROSCOPIC MUSSEL VELIGERS. REMOVE ALL PLUGS FROM BILGE, BALLAST OR LIVE WELLS TO DRAIN ALL THE WATER INSIDE

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES NEED WATER TO SURVIVE, THOROUGHLY DRYING RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT AFTER EACH USE CAN KEEP INVADERS FROM SPREADING



**WATERCRAFT
INSPECTION STATIONS
ARE NECESSARY TO
MAKE SURE BOATS
COMING INTO MONTANA
ARE CLEAN OF MUSSELS
AND OTHER INVASIVE
SPECIES!**



**SOME
STATIONS
EVEN HAVE
SPECIAL DOGS
TO HELP
CHECK BOATS!**

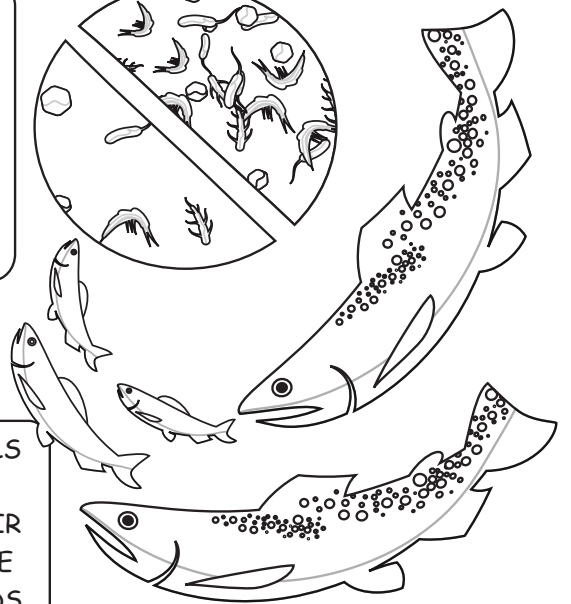


HOW MUSSELS IMPACT WILDLIFE

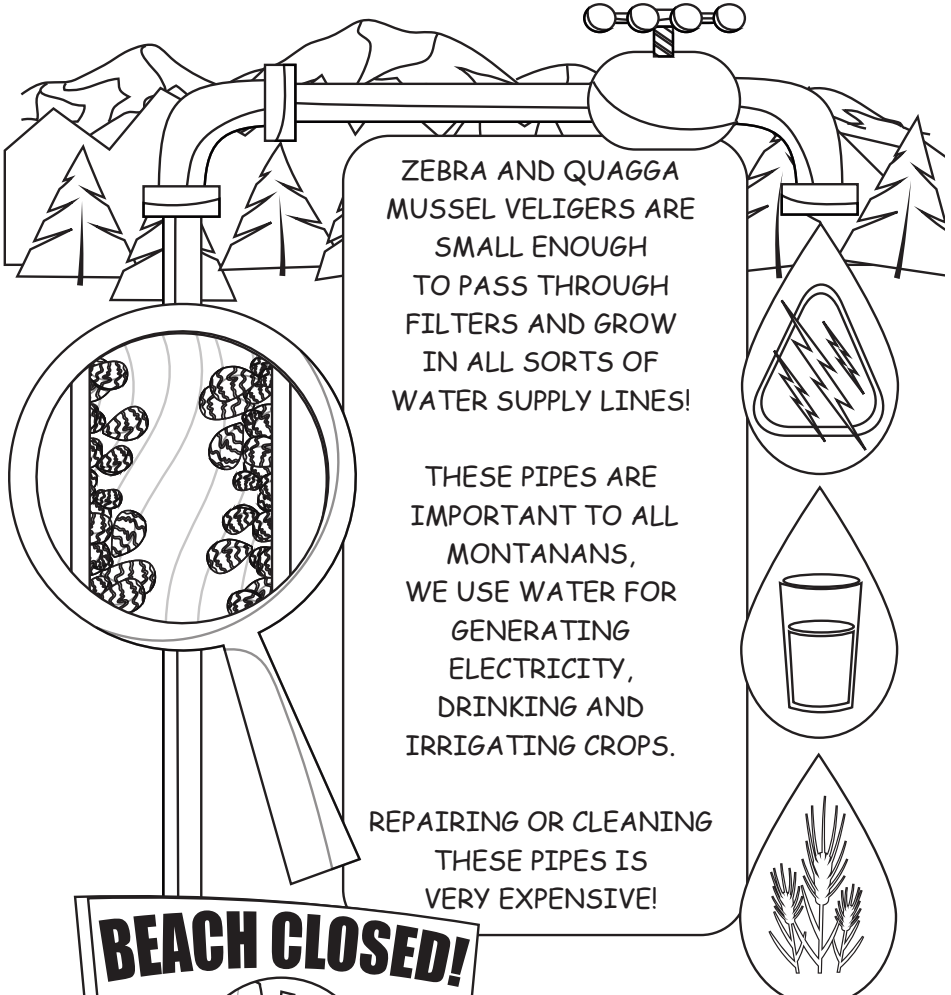
**INVASIVE MUSSELS
ARE HUNGRY! THEY
EAT MICROSCOPIC
PLANTS AND INSECTS,
LEAVING LESS FOOD
FOR MONTANA'S FISH**



**INVASIVE MUSSELS
ATTACH ONTO
EVERYTHING! THEIR
SHARP SHELLS ARE
HARMFUL TO BIRDS
AND AQUATIC
WILDLIFE**



HOW MUSSELS IMPACT PEOPLE




ZEBRA AND QUAGGA MUSSEL VELIGERS ARE SMALL ENOUGH TO PASS THROUGH FILTERS AND GROW IN ALL SORTS OF WATER SUPPLY LINES!

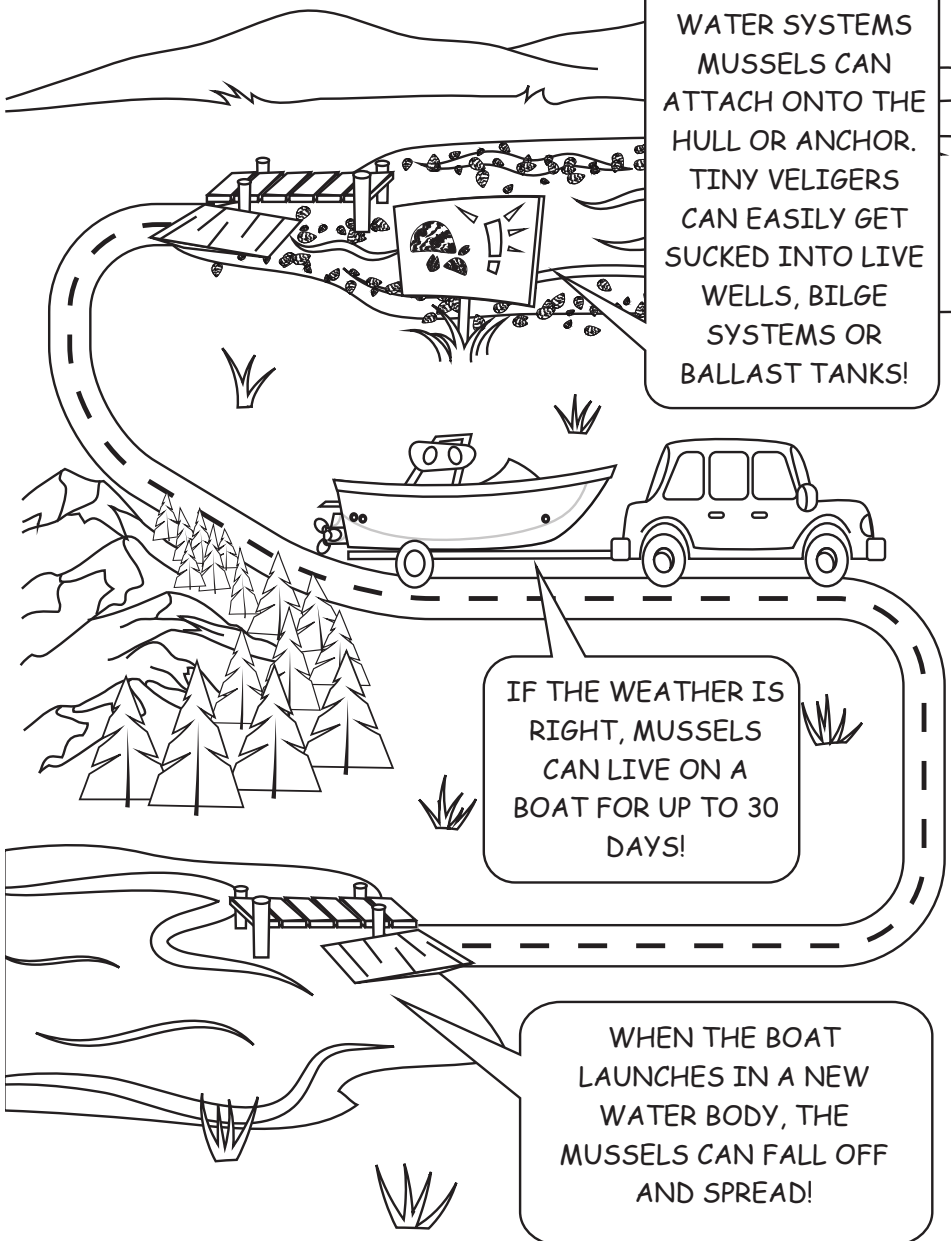
THESE PIPES ARE IMPORTANT TO ALL MONTANANS, WE USE WATER FOR GENERATING ELECTRICITY, DRINKING AND IRRIGATING CROPS.

REPAIRING OR CLEANING THESE PIPES IS VERY EXPENSIVE!

BEACH CLOSED!



SHARP MUSSEL SHELLS ON THE BEACH OR RECENT CONTAMINATION CAN CLOSE ACCESS TO POPULAR SWIMMING AND FISHING SPOTS



IF A BOATER LAUNCHES IN CONTAMINATED WATER SYSTEMS MUSSELS CAN ATTACH ONTO THE HULL OR ANCHOR. TINY VELIGERS CAN EASILY GET SUCKED INTO LIVE WELLS, BILGE SYSTEMS OR BALLAST TANKS!

IF THE WEATHER IS RIGHT, MUSSELS CAN LIVE ON A BOAT FOR UP TO 30 DAYS!

WHEN THE BOAT LAUNCHES IN A NEW WATER BODY, THE MUSSELS CAN FALL OFF AND SPREAD!