

# Alaska State Legislature

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### CSHB 38 Sectional Analysis Version29-LS0226\H

Please note that a sectional analysis of a bill or resolution should not be considered an authoritative interpretation of the measure itself.  
The legislation is the best statement of its contents.

Section 1. – Amends AS 16.05 Fish and Game Code and Definitions by adding a new section giving new authority and direction to the Department of Fish and Game to respond to aquatic species invasions.

- a. – Consistent with applicable laws, allows for use of chemical, biological, mechanical or physical methods in responding to aquatic invasives.
- b. Gives the Department of Fish and Game permission to apply for suspension of or exemption of environmental regulations in responding to invasions of aquatic species.
- c. Gives the Department direction to prioritize the response over other activities they manage such as opening or closing a season.
- d. Directs each state department, agency and institution to cooperate with the lead agency in responding to an invasion.
- e. Hold harmless language for the state and employees shall be included on all state leases and permits for actions under this section that affect private property of the lessee.
- f. Directs the department to respond to freshwater invasive species in a manner that has the least harm to noninvasive fish.
- g. Directs the department to give reasonable notice to affected property owners and consider the potential effects of the response on private property.
- h. Establishes an invasive species response fund within the general fund. Money appropriated to the fund does not lapse.
- i. Defines aquatic invasive species as those species that are introduced to an environment they are not native to and whose introduction is likely to cause economic or environmental harm.