POLICIES TO PREVENT THE INTRODUCTION AND SPREAD OF NON-NATIVE SPECIES

MTS stakeholders in Canada and the United States have developed new policies, partnerships, and technologies to prevent the introduction of new non-native species, or the spread of existing non-native species. Oceangoing ships entering the Maritime Transportation System (MTS) from foreign ports have the potential to introduce non-native species through transfer of ballast water, which is used to help stabilize unloaded or partially-loaded vessels. At the same time, ballast water transfers from vessels operating within the MTS could accelerate the spread of existing non-native species between different areas of the MTS.

Efforts to reduce the introduction and spread of non-native species include:

- A stringent joint Canada -- U.S. inspection program
- Protective MTS-specific requirements
- Compliance with international agreements
- Harmonization of U.S. regulations
- Evaluation and development of ballast water treatment systems
- Revisions to Canadian Ballast Water Regulations

CLICK HERE TO VIEW INVESTMENTS IN BALLAST WATER ACTIONS.