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# Memo

**To:** Southern Interior Local Government Association

**From:** District of Sicamous Council

**Date:** February 22, 2021

**Re:** Certified Resolution 21-047  
Asian clams (*Corbicula fluminea*) worthy of Controlled Alien Species Regulation

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Asian clams (*Corbicula fluminea*) are not native to Canada, however a recent study conducted by the Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society (CSISS), discovered live Asian clams in Shuswap Lake. According to the Invasive Species Council of BC, the species has also made its way to southern Vancouver Island and river systems in the Lower Mainland including the Fraser River, Pitt River, and Coquitlam River.

After the CSISS study was brought to the attention of the District of Sicamous Council, research demonstrated that Asian clams, which can self-fertilize and reproduce rapidly, have the capacity to disrupt natural biodiversity and ecosystems, negatively impact native species by competing for sustenance and space, cause biofouling to water treatment systems, alter water chemistry, and reduce the quality of drinking water.

Further inquiry determined Asian clams are not scheduled within the Controlled Alien Species Regulation under the Wildlife Act which controls "alien animals that pose a risk to the health or safety of people, property, wildlife or wildlife habitat." Council argues that Asian clams pose such risks with environmental, social, and economic consequences for waterways and communities provincewide.

Therefore, Council pursued and adopted Resolution 21-047 which calls on B.C. Government to use its authority to designate Asian clams as an Aquatic Invasive Species under the Controlled Alien Species Regulation.