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FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA 2014 OUTSTANDING SCIENTIFIC PAPER OF THE YEAR AWARD

In September 2015 (http://intra.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/loop-courant/nat/2015/20150821/20150821_4_e.htm), DFO employees were asked to nominate a paper authored by a Science colleague for the 2014 DFO Outstanding Science Paper of the Year Award. This award recognizes the best innovative science paper that advances a field of study of relevance to the Department.

After reviewing 15 remarkable submissions, the selection panel has chosen a winner: "Bycatch, bait, anglers, and roads: quantifying vector activity and propagule introduction risk across lake ecosystems". The study was co-authored by Dr. D. Andrew R. Drake (lead author) and Dr. Nicholas E. Mandrak, and published in *Ecological Applications*. (<http://www.esajournals.org/doi/abs/10.1890/13-0541.1>)

Drs. Drake and Mandrak developed a model to quantify the unintentional role that live-bait anglers play in the spread of aquatic invasive species. Aquatic invasive species is an issue of great importance to our Department and to Canadians as they threaten the productivity of Canada's fisheries in both freshwater and marine environments. The comprehensive study introduced a unique modeling approach and analysis that could help guide DFO's decisions in managing this issue for many years to come.

The Science Executive Committee wishes to congratulate Drs. Drake and Mandrak and to thank all DFO authors for continuing to publish outstanding science on behalf of the Department. We look forward to launching the contest for 2015 DFO Outstanding Science Paper of the Year Award in the spring.

Trevor Swerdfager, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ecosystems and Oceans Science.

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Please address any concerns or questions relating to the content of this message to Darlene Smith at 613-991-1284.

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