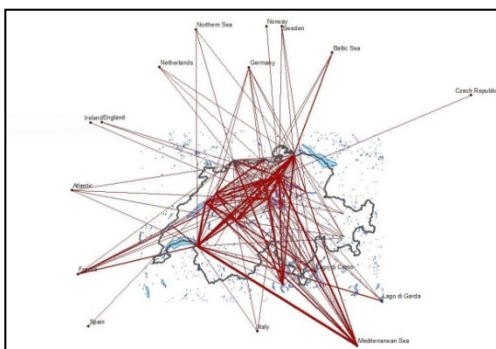


Stowaways on transported boats

Weissert concludes that, before being transported, boats should be thoroughly cleaned or allowed to dry for several days. This is particularly important in view of the risk of another invasive species spreading across Switzerland: genetic material from the quagga mussel – known to be advancing up the Rhine – has just been detected by Eawag scientists in Basel for the first time. Both of these mussel species can crowd out native species and give rise to high maintenance costs if they clog cooling systems or water intake pipes. Water suppliers are particularly concerned about the quagga mussel which, unlike the zebra mussel, can thrive at the depths from which cold water is withdrawn from lakes.



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