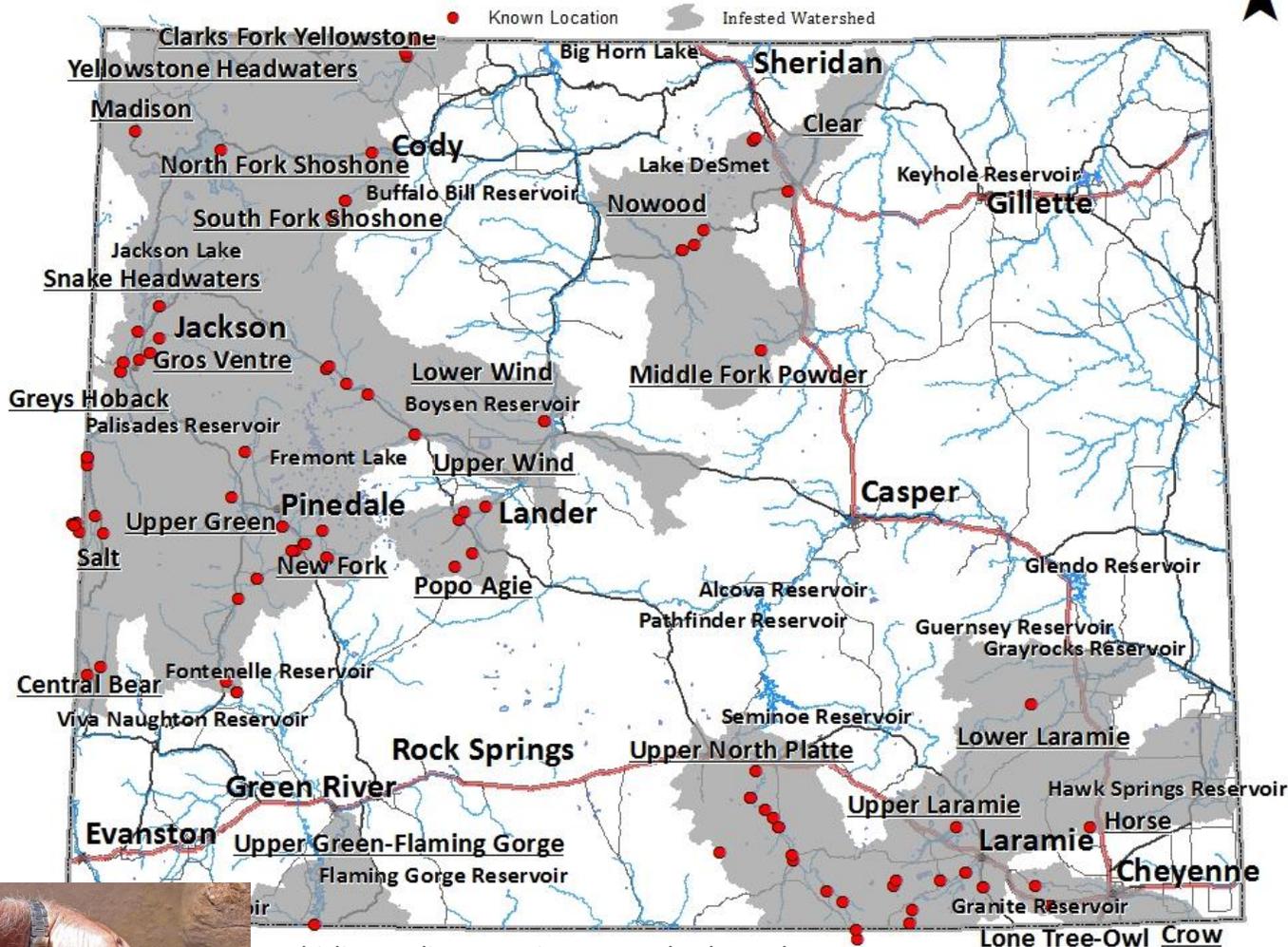
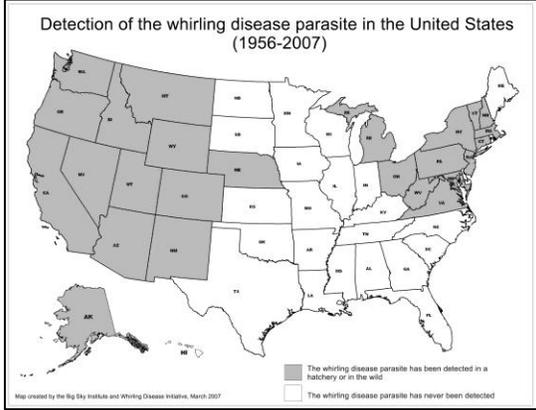


Whirling Disease Wyoming Distribution



Whirling disease is caused by the microscopic parasite, *Myxobolus cerebralis* and was introduced from Europe in the 1950's. The parasite has a two-host life cycle, infecting both Salmonids and a common aquatic worm, *Tubifex tubifex*. The parasite infects cartilage tissue of Salmonids and may cause a blackened tail, deformities of the head and spine, whirling behavior, and death of the fish. Whirling disease has been associated with fishery losses and high economic costs. The disease is known to occur in 23 states including Wyoming. A fish health inspection report is required for fish importation to help prevent whirling disease spread. The parasite is spread through movement of infected fish and through water or mud containing the parasite spores. Affected watersheds in Wyoming are underlined on the map above.



If you are using whirling disease infested waters please remember to:

- ✓ **DRAIN** all water from your gear and equipment. This includes all types of watercraft, waders, boots, clothing, buckets – anything that comes into contact with the water.
- ✓ **CLEAN** all equipment and gear of plants, mud and debris. *Never move a plant or animal from one location to another.*
- ✓ **DRY** everything thoroughly. In Wyoming we recommend drying for 5 days in the summer, 18 days in the spring or fall, or 3 days at freezing temperatures.