

[Kelowna](#) posted April 15, 2015 by [Anita Sthankiya](#)

Concerned Vernon Filmmaker Asks the Government to Protect B.C.'s Waters

A Vernon filmmaker is asking the provincial government why they don't care about the beautiful lakes that are the backbone to many communities in B.C.



The invasive mussels take over everything once they enter the water (Photo Credit: Brynne Morrice/Screen Grab)

Actor and filmmaker Brynne Morrice has produced the visually stunning short documentary, [Mussel Threat](#), that illustrates just how dangerous invasive mussels could be in our waters. Morrice, who now lives in New York, was born and raised in Vernon and took it upon himself to spread the message about zebra and quagga mussels. His interest was sparked after he saw a billboard that was part of the [Okanagan Basin Water Board's WaterWise campaign](#).

Morrice [launched a Kickstarter campaign](#) to raise funds to produce a documentary to bring the issue to the attention of not only the community, but the provincial government. In just three days Morrice reached his goal of \$3,000 and in less than a month he reached his stretch goal of \$5,000. With the money donated from the community, Morrice set out to do what he does best, tell a story in a frank and clear way with a straightforward message. There's no confusion as to what Morrice is working to achieve, action by the provincial government to protect B.C. waters



The invasive mussels take over everything once they enter the water (Photo Credit: Brynne Morrice/Screen Grab)

“It is a very short film, it is designed for people to watch on their phone, on their laptop,” explains Morrice. “I’ll be spending a lot of time making phone calls, sending emails, and trying to create a snowball effect. I will do my best to make sure it gets in front of as many people as possible in B.C.”

Morrice says that currently the B.C. government is doing the minimum to protect our waters and he hopes that they will watch this video and do the maximum, which would be to put permanent inspection stations at our borders to check every boat that comes into the province.

“Our communities are built on lakes and rivers, that’s where they are and those are very strong reasons for our government to take action,” states Morrice. “It would be devastating if this infestation happens.”

On March 31st the government announced \$1.3 million in funding to help protect B.C. from the mussels, which includes three roving inspection stations to stop some of the boats entering the province. But it's not nearly enough says Morrice.

The powerful documentary shows exactly what will happen if the mussels enter B.C.’s waters and the devastation it has caused in other communities. With a simple goal of getting the province to start paying attention and make an effort to protect these communities and the province, Morrice hopes the film will be shared and viewed by as many people as possible.