

# HELP **STOP** THE SPREAD OF DIDYMO



Photo: Atlantic Salmon Federation on Google images

## DIDYMO aka "Rock Snot"

Didymo (*Didymosphenia geminata*) is a type of invasive algae that attaches to plants, rocks, and other hard substrates in rivers and streams. Also called "rock snot" due to its slimy appearance, Didymo can produce thick mats that cover stream beds—making swimming, fishing, and other water activities undesirable. People, including fishermen, are thought to be the main way that Didymo is being spread from one place to another. Recreational equipment, including clothing, can become contaminated and encourage the spread of Didymo if not cleaned properly before being used in another body of water. **It only takes one drop of water!**

Didymo has been documented in several locations along the Trinity River from Trinity Dam to Helena. Land managers are concerned that Didymo could become established in other Forest Service tributaries, potentially altering the natural ecosystem. Didymo has extraordinary capacity to negatively impact river and stream ecosystems. It attaches to submerged substrate on stream beds by excreting a stalk that is resistant to degradation by bacteria and fungi.

### Inspect

Clothing, shoes, waders, and all gear. Remove all mud and debris.

### Clean

Dish soap 1 cup per gallon water  
Bleach 1/2 cup per gallon water  
Table salt 1 cup per 1.25 gallons water

### Dry/Freeze

**FREEZE** gear until frozen solid and completely dry or **DRY** for minimum of 48 hours.



If you think you have seen a Didymo bloom, please report it to the Weaverville Ranger Station.

Weaverville Ranger Station  
360 Main Street  
Weaverville, CA 96093  
[www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us)

# PROTECT OUR RIVERS & STREAMS

## STOP THE SPREAD OF

## **DIDYMO** AKA “ROCK SNOT”

### Follow These Steps:

**1. INSPECT** Clothing, shoes, waders, and all gear. Remove all mud and debris that has been in the water.

**2. CLEAN** Gear with hot water and **ONE** of the following:

- *Dish soap: 1 cup per gallon water*
- *Bleach: 1/2 cup per gallon water*
- *Table salt: 1 cup per 1.25 gallons water*

**SCRUB** non-absorbent items thoroughly with one of the solutions. **SOAK** clothes, waders, and absorbent items in **HOT** soapy or salty water for 30 minutes, then rinse.

**3. DRY** DRY completely for at least 48 hours. or **FREEZE** gear until frozen solid and completely dry.

**4. REPORT** If you think you have seen a Didymo bloom, please report it. Write a brief description of what you saw and where. If possible, take GPS coordinates. Drop off your information at a Weaverville Ranger Station.



**IT ONLY TAKES ONE DROP OF WATER**