

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Syllas Cranor, SLO County Water Resources Engineer

DATE: May 6, 2009

SUBJECT: Agenda Item #4.e: Invasive Mussels

The District has changed aspects of the invasive mussel reporting procedure to improve the quality of the reports and to better accommodate the schedules of staff.

The timing of the invasive mussel reporting procedure historically resulted in reports that included the end of one month and beginning of the next month, rather than containing a complete month. In part, this is because the invasive mussel reports are due before the end of each month for inclusion in the WRAC agenda package. Shifting the timing of the reporting process will result in reports that reflect a complete month, rather than parts of two months.

Shifting the timing of the reporting procedure will also help accommodate staff schedules. Monitoring site inspectors occasionally need a bit more time to complete the monitoring. The revised timing will also help ease the end of the month scramble to get the reports together, and will offer staff better flexibility during this time.

District staff has shifted the timing of the invasive mussel reporting in the following manner, effective immediately:

- Vessel inspection reports will be due to staff at the Water Quality Lab by the 7th of each month for previous month.
- Staff at the Water Quality Lab will package the vessel inspection and the monitoring site inspection reports, and send them to staff in the Water Resources Unit by 10th of each month.
- Staff in the Water Resources Unit will post the vessel inspection and the monitoring site inspection reports online and email the reports to the invasive mussel notification list by the 15th of each month.

Please note: There are no new changes to the vehicle inspections, monitoring site inspections, or actions taken in response to the inspections.

It is also proposed that the invasive mussel reports are no longer included in the WRAC agenda package. At the time WRAC agenda packages are distributed, invasive mussel reports are almost one (1) month old. In an effort to distribute timely information, District staff are offering individuals and agencies the following options:

- **Download the Invasive Mussel Reports Online:** Monthly reports will be available on the District's website www.SLOCountyWater.org. The reports will be posted by the 15th of each month for the previous month.
- **Join the Invasive Mussel Notification email List:** Individuals on the invasive mussel notification email list receive the reports and other mussel-related information on a monthly basis. Please contact Syllas Cranor at scrantor@co.slo.ca.us or 805-781-2552 to have your email address added to the distribution list.

**San Luis Obispo County Regional Invasive Mussel Monitoring Program
Monthly Summary Report for April 2009**

Monitoring Site Inspections

Reservoir	Agency	No. of sites	Were all sites inspected?	Any confirmed positives?
Lopez Lake	CDFG	1	Yes	No
Lopez Lake	SLO Co. PWD	3	Yes	No
Lopez Terminal	SLO Co. PWD	1	Yes	No
Salinas	CDFG	1	No	---
Salinas	SLO Co. PWD	2	Yes	No
Cayucos	Whale Rock Reservoir	1	Yes	No
Nacimiento	CDFG/Mo. Co. Parks	1	Yes	No
Nacimiento	SLO Co. PWD/OSCA	1	Yes	No
Nacimiento	HRCSD/SLO Co. PWD	1	Yes	No
Nacimiento	Mo. Co. Parks/SLO Co. PWD	1	Yes	No
Nacimiento	Mo. Co. Parks/MCWRA	2	No	---
San Antonio	Mo. Co. Parks	3	Yes	No
Lake Cachuma	SB Co. Parks	10	Yes	No
Information compiled on 4/29/09				

Notes from April 2009

1. At Lake San Antonio, Monterey County Parks discontinued inspection of the CDFG site due to accessibility issues, but added two new sites, increasing the total number of sites at Lake San Antonio from 2 to 3.
2. Fewer non-local vessels expected at Nacimiento this summer compared to other years due to low lake level.

General notes on monitoring site inspections

1. A site inspection may include inspection of an artificial substrate and/or a surface survey (docks etc). At some sites a fairly extensive inspection is performed, at others it may be more limited.
2. For more information about invasive mussel monitoring at Lake Cachuma contact Liz Mason-Gaspar, Park Naturalist, Santa Barbara County Parks Department, 805-688-4515, lmason@co.santa-barbara.ca.us.

San Luis Obispo County Regional Invasive Mussel Monitoring Program Monthly Summary Report for April 2009

Monitoring Site Inspections

Reservoir	Agency	No. of sites	Were all sites inspected?	Any confirmed positives?
Lopez Lake	CDFG	1	Yes	No
Lopez Lake	SLO Co. PWD	3	Yes	No
Lopez Terminal	SLO Co. PWD	1	Yes	No
Salinas	CDFG	1	No	---
Salinas	SLO Co. PWD	2	Yes	No
Cayucos	Whale Rock Reservoir	1	Yes	No
Nacimiento	CDFG/Mo. Co. Parks	1	Yes	No
Nacimiento	SLO Co. PWD/OSCA	1	Yes	No
Nacimiento	HRCSD/SLO Co. PWD	1	Yes	No
Nacimiento	Mo. Co. Parks/SLO Co. PWD	1	Yes	No
Nacimiento	Mo. Co. Parks/MCWRA	2	No ⁽¹⁾	---
San Antonio	Mo. Co. Parks	3 ⁽²⁾	Yes	No
Lake Cachuma	SB Co. Parks	11	Yes ⁽³⁾	No

Information compiled on 4/30/09

Notes from April 2009

- Two sites at Nacimiento not inspected due to temporary unavailability of inspector. Inspection of these sites will resume in May.
- At Lake San Antonio, Monterey County Parks discontinued inspection of the CDFG site due to accessibility issues, but added two new sites, increasing the total number of sites at Lake San Antonio from 2 to 3.
- One artificial substrate was missing at Lake Cachuma. However, all ten other artificial substrates were inspected along with an extensive surface survey.

Other Notes

- Fewer non-local vessels expected at Nacimiento Reservoir this summer compared to other years due to low lake level.

General notes on monitoring site inspections

- A site inspection may include inspection of an artificial substrate and/or a surface survey (docks etc). At some sites a fairly extensive inspection is performed, at others it may be more limited.

2. For more information about invasive mussel monitoring at Lake Cachuma contact Liz Mason-Gaspar, Park Naturalist, Santa Barbara County Parks Department, 805-688-4515, lmason@co.santa-barbara.ca.us.

**SUMMARY OF AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES BOAT INSPECTIONS
LOPEZ LAKE RECREATION AREA**

Period: April 1st through April 30, 2009

Boats Entering Park	713
Total Inspected	270
Decontaminated	21
Returning tag	443
Rejected	7

Returning Tags: Boats with Lopez Lake or Santa Margarita Lake wire clear tag attached to boat and trailer. These boats have not been removed from trailer since last visit to lake and are not subject to inspection or decontamination.

Rejected boats are not permitted to enter the park and are not counted in the “Boats Entering Park” category.

Reasons for rejection:

Water in bilge/hull	4
Water in live well/bait tank	0
Internal ballast system	3
Debris on boat hull	0
Refused inspection	0

As of 4/24/09 no mussel species have been located on any vessel entering Lopez Lake.

Information compiled directly from boat inspection forms.

Prepared by Don Melin, Supervising Ranger- Lopez Lake Recreation Area
May 8th, 2009.

INVASIVE MUSSEL PREVENTION REPORT
Santa Margarita Lake Recreation Area
San Luis Obispo County Parks

Period March 24 through March 31, 2009

Vessel entry	275
Decontaminations	3
Returning tags	222
Non-caution zone vessels <i>inspected/no decon required</i>	51
Rejected (disallowed entry) <i>Table below for breakdown</i>	0
Cabled at time of exit	253

Reasons for rejection:

Water in bilge/hull/ engine	0
Water in live well/bait tank	0
Internal ballast system	0
Debris on boat hull	0
Refused inspection	0

categories defined

Vessel entry: total vessels entering facility, summation of decontaminations and returning tags.

Decontaminations: +140 degree (F) water application to trailer, tow vehicle rear-end, vessel hull and internal vessel areas as required.

Returning tags: vessels with Santa Margarita Lake, Lopez Lake or Cachuma Lake stamped and sealed wire clear tag attached to vessel and trailer (ensures location of prior use). Not subject to decontamination procedure, only thorough inspection.

Rejected: these vessels are not permitted to enter the park due to unacceptable condition, and are not counted in the "Vessel entry" category.

Cabled at time of exit: stamped and sealed wire clear tag attached to vessel and trailer for re-entry at future date.

As of 3/31/09 no mussel species found at Santa Margarita Lake Inspection Station.
 Prepared by Santa Margarita Lake Recreation Area Staff, May 5, 2009.
 Submitted: to Lisa Wallender & Courtney Howard, 5-5-09 via email.

NOTE: Effective 2/12/09 new inspection/decontamination protocols were implemented at Santa Margarita Lake which do not require each non-tagged/non-caution zone vessel to be decontaminated, only thoroughly inspected.

INVASIVE MUSSEL PREVENTION REPORT
Santa Margarita Lake Recreation Area
San Luis Obispo County Parks

Period April 1 through April 30, 2009

Vessel entry	1066
Decontaminations	1
Returning tags	785
Non-caution zone vessels <i>inspected/no decon required</i>	280
Rejected (disallowed entry) <i>Table below for breakdown</i>	3
Cabled at time of exit	882

Reasons for rejection:

Water in bilge/hull/ engine	2
Water in live well/bait tank	1
Internal ballast system	0
Debris on boat hull	0
Refused inspection	0

categories defined

Vessel entry: total vessels entering facility, summation of decontaminations and returning tags.

Decontaminations: +140 degree (F) water application to trailer, tow vehicle rear-end, vessel hull and internal vessel areas as required.

Returning tags: vessels with Santa Margarita Lake, Lopez Lake or Cachuma Lake stamped and sealed wire clear tag attached to vessel and trailer (ensures location of prior use). Not subject to decontamination procedure, only thorough inspection.

Rejected: these vessels are not permitted to enter the park due to unacceptable condition, and are not counted in the "Vessel entry" category.

Cabled at time of exit: stamped and sealed wire clear tag attached to vessel and trailer for re-entry at future date.

As of 4/30/09 no mussel species found at Santa Margarita Lake Inspection Station.
 Prepared by Santa Margarita Lake Recreation Area Staff, May 5, 2009.
 Submitted: to Lisa Wallender & Courtney Howard, 5-5-09 via email.

NOTE: Effective 2/12/09 new inspection/decontamination protocols were implemented at Santa Margarita Lake which do not require each non-tagged/non-caution zone vessel to be decontaminated, only thoroughly inspected.

San Luis Obispo County Regional Invasive Mussel Monitoring Program Monthly Summary Report for May 2009

Monitoring Site Inspections

Reservoir	Agencies	No. of sites	Were all sites inspected?	Any confirmed positives?
Lopez Lake	SLO Co. PWD/CDFG/SLO Co. Parks	1	Yes	No
Lopez Lake	SLO Co. PWD/SLO Co. Parks	3	Yes	No
Lopez Terminal	SLO Co. PWD	1	Yes	No
Salinas	CDFG/SLO Co. Parks	1	No ⁽¹⁾	---
Salinas	SLO Co. PWD/SLO Co. Parks	2	Yes	No
Whale Rock	SLO Co. PWD/City of SLO	1	Yes	No
Nacimiento	SLO Co. PWD/OSCA	1	Yes	No
Nacimiento	HRCSD/SLO Co. PWD	1	Yes	No
Nacimiento	Mo. Co. Parks/CDFG	1	Yes	No
Nacimiento	Mo. Co. Parks/SLO Co. PWD	1	Yes	No
Nacimiento	Mo. Co. Parks/MCWRA	2	Yes	No
San Antonio	Mo. Co. Parks	3	Yes	No
Lake Cachuma	SB Co. Parks	11	Yes	No
Information compiled on 06/02/09.				

Notes from May 2009

1. CDFG artificial substrate at Salinas Reservoir is missing and likely will not be replaced due to problems with this particular location.

General notes on monitoring site inspections

1. A site inspection may include inspection of an artificial substrate and/or a surface survey (docks etc). At some sites a fairly extensive inspection is performed, at others it may be more limited.

2. For more information about invasive mussel monitoring at Lake Cachuma contact Liz Mason-Gaspar, Park Naturalist, Santa Barbara County Parks Department, 805-688-4515, lmason@co.santa-barbara.ca.us.

**SUMMARY OF AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES BOAT INSPECTIONS
LOPEZ LAKE RECREATION AREA**

MAY 2009

Boats Entering Park	1324
Total Inspected	532
Decontaminated	11
Returning tag	792
Rejected	14

Returning Tags: Boats with Lopez Lake or Santa Margarita Lake wire clear tag attached to boat and trailer. These boats have not been removed from trailer since last visit to lake and are not subject to inspection or decontamination.

Rejected boats are not permitted to enter the park and are not counted in the “Boats Entering Park” category.

Reasons for rejection:

Water in bilge/hull	10
Water in live well/bait tank	1
Internal ballast system	3
Debris on boat hull/other area	0
Refused inspection	0

As of 6/1/09 no mussel species have been located on any vessel entering Lopez Lake.

Information compiled directly from boat inspection forms.

Prepared by Don Melin, Supervising Ranger- Lopez Lake Recreation Area
June 1st, 2009.

INVASIVE MUSSEL PREVENTION REPORT
Santa Margarita Lake Recreation Area
San Luis Obispo County Parks

Period May 1 through May 31, 2009

Vessel entry	934
Decontaminations	4
Returning tags	692
Non-caution zone vessels <i>inspected/no decon required</i>	238
Rejected (disallowed entry) <i>Table below for breakdown</i>	1
Cabled at time of exit	803

Reasons for rejection:

Water in bilge/hull/ engine	1
Water in live well/bait tank	0
Internal ballast system	0
Debris on boat hull	0
Refused inspection	0

categories defined

Vessel entry: total vessels entering facility, summation of decontaminations and returning tags.

Decontaminations: +140 degree (F) water application to trailer, tow vehicle rear-end, vessel hull and internal vessel areas as required.

Returning tags: vessels with Santa Margarita Lake, Lopez Lake or Cachuma Lake stamped and sealed wire clear tag attached to vessel and trailer (ensures location of prior use). Not subject to decontamination procedure, only thorough inspection.

Rejected: these vessels are not permitted to enter the park due to unacceptable condition, and are not counted in the "Vessel entry" category.

Cabled at time of exit: stamped and sealed wire clear tag attached to vessel and trailer for re-entry at future date.

As of 5/31/09 no mussel species found at Santa Margarita Lake Inspection Station.
 Prepared by Santa Margarita Lake Recreation Area Staff, June 4, 2009.
 Submitted: to Lisa Wallender & Courtney Howard, 6-4-09 via email.

NOTE: Effective 2/12/09 new inspection/decontamination protocols were implemented at Santa Margarita Lake which do not require each non-tagged/non-caution zone vessel to be decontaminated, only thoroughly inspected.