

### LAKE OF THE PINES ASSOCIATION POLICIES & PROCEDURES

# **Aquatic Invasive Species**

### **Problem Statement:**

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) that threaten our nation's waterways are established in California and Nevada. If unchecked, they will infest Lake of the Pines. Consequences of an invasion of Quagga/Zebra mussels are documented and extremely expensive to eradicate.

[California Department of Water Resources tracks the extent of the infestation of Quagga mussels in the state. As of January 2013, 27 lakes and waterways in the state have reported Quagga mussels. The farthest north is in San Benito County. Weed Patch and Lahontan reservoirs in Nevada are also reporting mussels. In August of 2012 two contaminated boats were inspected and quarantined trying to enter the Tahoe basin. Only strict inspection policies around Lake Tahoe kept these mussels out of the lake.]

#### **Objective:**

Keep AIS such as Quagga and Zebra mussels out of Lake of the Pines.

#### **Process overall:**

Any trailered watercraft (called a "boat" for this policy) cleared for operation on Lake of the Pines and remaining within the gates, does not need to be AIS inspected. When a person brings a boat into Lake of the Pines to put it on the water, he must have an AIS Cable Tag connecting the boat to the trailer demonstrating that the boat has been inspected or otherwise has not been subjected to AIS contamination on another waterway.

# **Procedures:**

- 1) Boats leaving LOP
  - a. All members taking their boats out of LOP have the option of having an AIS Cable Tag attached to their boat and trailer by Public Safety.
    - i. Boats taken out of LOP for fuel, service or storage, for example, should obtain an AIS Cable Tag upon leaving to avoid inspection upon returning.
    - ii. Boats taken out of LOP to use on another lake, do not need to obtain an AIS Cable Tag as they will need to be inspected and cleaned or quarantined upon return.
  - b. This AIS Cable Tag will be serialized and logged in the LOP records (ABACUS) by Public Safety at the gate prior to the boat leaving LOP.

- 2) Boats entering LOP (all watercraft on trailers must enter through the guest lane)
  - a. If the boat has an intact AIS Cable Tag from an authorized cleaning station with supporting Cleaning Station Inspection Certificate (CSIC) or an intact LOP AIS Cable Tag, the owner is cleared to launch the boat as soon as he has the proper LOP decals affixed.
    - b. If the boat does not have an AIS Cable Tag from an authorized cleaning station or an intact AIS Cable Tag, the owner has three options:
      - i. To clear the boat for use on LOP, the owner can take the boat to the nearest authorized inspection and cleaning station, have the boat inspected, have an AIS Cable Tag attached and obtain a CSIC.
      - ii. If the boat owner does not wish to have an inspection and wants to use it on LOP, the boat must be drained and dry then quarantined for the number of days indicated in the chart below for the LOP region.

**Quarantine Period in Days Depending on the Month of Entry** 

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
30	30	30	20	20	20	10	10	20	20	30	30

- iii. All LOP decals will be removed. A Quarantine AIS Cable Tag will be attached. Public Safety will issue a certificate to the boat owner indicating when boat decals can be issued. At the end of the quarantine period, the boat should be returned to Public Safety to confirm the Quarantine AIS Cable Tag is in place and to issue decals.
- iv. The owner not desiring to use the boat on LOP will have all LOP decals removed and is not allowed to launch the boat on LOP.
- v. Brand new boats entering the gate are subject to the provisions of this section.
- 3) First year Implementation
  - a. If a member's boat is located inside Lake of the Pines no action required.
  - b. If a member's boat is located outside Lake of the Pines and has no intact AIS Cable Tag, LOP boat owners can secure one in three ways:
    - i. Owner to notify Public Safety who may attach the AIS Cable Tag to the boat and trailer at its storage location. Tags are assigned and installed on the boat/trailer by the LOP-authorized individual, traveling to the member's boat for a fee to cover the cost of travel and labor. Existing decals will be removed. Decals may be issued for the boat at the end of the 30-day quarantine period that began with installation of the Quarantine AIS Cable Tag.
    - ii. The owner can bring the boat to LOP and have an AIS Cable Tag attached at the gate, then follow the quarantine period process described in 2.b.ii. above.
    - iii. Owner can secure a CSIC and AIS Cable Tag by taking the boat to the nearest authorized inspection and cleaning station.
- 4) Twenty-Four Hour Check-Out
  - a. Members will be allowed to "check-out" their boats to visit nearby lakes and waterways provided they stop at the LOP security gate and notify Public Safety. Members must return the boat within 24 hours of check out time. Upon return they will

be provided information on Clean, Drain and Dry procedures prior to re-launching their boat in LOP. Members who return to LOP within 24 hours with their boat will not be subject to a quarantine period.

- b. Power boats taken outside of LOP for longer than 24 hours will be subject to the existing LOP AIS policy.
- c. Any member taking their boat out of LOP for greater than 24 hours must stop at the front gate and have Public Safety install boat lanyard to void the cleaning requirement or LOP quarantine period.
- d. Members may take boat out for re-fueling provided they sign boats out at front gate office.

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