

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE  
COUNTY OF AMADOR, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

IN THE MATTER OF:

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR DECLARE )        RESOLUTION NO. 11-125  
A STATEWIDE EMERGENCY RESULTING FROM )  
INFESTATION OF DREISSENID MUSSELS INTO THE )  
WATER BODIES OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA )

WHEREAS, the quagga mussel and zebra mussel, (collectively referred to as Dreissenids) are among the most devastating invasive species to invade North American fresh waters; and

WHEREAS, the Dreissenids first arrived from Europe in the 1980's and spread to many water bodies in the eastern and midwestern United States and have now been found in several of the western states; and

WHEREAS, the arrival of quagga and zebra mussels in a region creates severe ecological and economic impacts because, once established, these mussels can clog water intake and delivery pipes, infest hydro power infrastructure, adhere to boats and pilings, foul recreational beaches and damage and forever change fisheries; and

WHEREAS, the Dreissenids have now infiltrated the State of California, having been found in San Diego County, Riverside county, San Bernardino County, San Benito County, and Orange County; and

WHEREAS, over eighty percent (80%) of the water used by farms, businesses and the 38 million strong population of California originates in rural northern California counties making preventing the infestation of these headwaters of paramount importance; and

WHEREAS, efforts to date have not stopped the mussels' advance once in a water system. The primary methods of advance between water systems is by water flow (connected waterways) and trailered watercraft (non-connected waterways) and that advance has not been stopped by present methods, only slowed; and

WHEREAS, although these mussels are making inexorable progress into the water bodies of California, there is still the opportunity to prevent significant damage if coordinated and extensive action is taken immediately. Without increased and immediate action, these mussels will cause irreparable ecological and economic damage to California water bodies and long-term costs could be in the billions.

WHEREAS, while the County of Amador is willing to take local action to prevent the infestation of these mussels in Amador County water bodies, a uniformly applied strategy of containment and prevention formulated at the State and Federal levels is necessary; and

WHEREAS, even counties in this State without recreational water bodies are at risk from the impacts of the destruction of water systems and the sever harm to the environment caused by these mussels; and

WHEREAS, both the State and Federal governments must provide the necessary enforcement authority and funding to all local jurisdictions in California for the implementation of such a strategy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

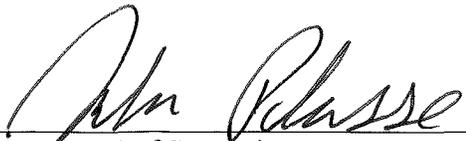
1. The Amador County Board of Supervisors does hereby formally entreat the State of California to declare a statewide State of Emergency due to the infestation of Dreissenid mussels into the water bodies of the State of California and that the Governor request a similar Presidential Proclamation.
2. The Amador County Board of Supervisors requests that the State take the following action in furtherance of the prevention of Dreissenid mussels into California water bodies:
  - a. Enact legislation to allow local jurisdictions the same enforcement powers and authority as the State Department of Fish and Game to tag and quarantine boats which present a particular source of possible infestation, such as boats coming from out-of-state or coming from diseased lakes and water bodies within the State of California.
  - b. Increase prevention funding through mechanisms such as enacting legislation to increase State Department of Motor Vehicles registration fees for all water craft. Require that the monies accrued from such an increase be utilized solely and only for the prevention of Dreissenid mussels in California water bodies.
  - c. Implement a statewide program which acknowledges watercraft as a vector for disease, identifies and imposes a thirty-day quarantine on those watercraft which cannot be adequately decontaminated due to their configuration and/or type.
  - d. Encourage collaboration among all local jurisdictions and the State Department of Fish and Game and include in the statewide program a mechanism whereby the local jurisdictions share not only in the enforcement authority of the Department of Fish and Game but all sources of funding as well.
  - e. Include in the statewide program an aggressive educational component to ensure that the dangers of infestation by these mussels are well-understood by all who seek to enjoy and/or benefit from the water bodies of this State.
  - f. Enact legislation to require any local jurisdiction that has been infested with Dreissenids must impose a thirty-day quarantine on all water craft leaving those jurisdictions, including the banding of watercraft to trailers.
  - g. Maintain high mussel awareness and 24/7 coverage at all existing State border inspection stations. Establish inspection stations on major south to north roadways (c.g. US 101, 99, I-5, 395) within the State of California.

The foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Amador at a regular meeting thereof, held on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of September 2011, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors John Plasse, Richard M. Forster, Louis D. Boitano  
Theodore F. Novelli, and Brian Oneto

NOES: Noes

ABSENT: Noes

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

JENNIFER BURNS, Clerk of the  
Board of Supervisors, Amador County,  
California

  
\_\_\_\_\_