



February 24, 2009

To Friends and Customers of Crowley Lake Fish Camp:

Subject: 2009 Quagga Mussel Prevention Program

We know that thousands of people enjoy Crowley Lake Reservoir each year for its excellent fishing and other boating-related activities, and we understand how important Crowley's fishery is to the local Eastern Sierra economy. The quagga mussel is a very serious threat to Crowley's fishery; having devastated the Great Lakes fisheries and currently threatening the Colorado River fishery as well. Therefore, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) and Crowley Lake Fish Camp (CLFC) will continue mandatory inspections of all boats, kayaks, and canoes for invasive mussels before entering Crowley Lake in order to protect the lake's ecology.

Early in 2007 these invasive mussels were found in the Colorado River system. They have since spread through the Metropolitan Water District's Colorado River Aqueduct to reservoirs in Southern California. Currently fifteen reservoirs in San Diego and Riverside Counties, as well as a small reservoir in San Benito County have been infested by these aquatic invaders. Many of the infested reservoirs have been closed to public access and additional non-infested waterbodies in southern California are instituting mandatory inspections and quarantine periods as well.

Boats traveling from infested waterways are believed to be the most common way these invasive mussels spread. If you have recently launched your boat in an infested water body please follow the instructions below and wait at least two weeks before coming to Crowley Lake. There is currently no way to eradicate these invasive mussels, so preventing them from becoming established is key.

All boats planning to launch at Crowley Lake must enter through the main gate at the South Landing and must be inspected. No boat access will be available at any other area of Crowley Lake. Boats showing signs of contamination with invasive mussels, or found to contain any water or debris that could harbor invasive mussels will not be allowed to launch into Crowley Lake. Frequent users of Crowley Lake can arrange with Crowley Lake Fish Camp to store their boat on-site. LADWP and CLFC have instituted a "seal locking system" for repeat users. If your inspection seal is still in place from the 2008 fishing season, you **DO NOT** need to re-inspect. Boat owners may have their boat inspected and receive an *Inspection Certification* prior to arriving at Crowley Lake's South Landing at these locations:

1. March 2, through October 30, 2009 the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power offers inspections at their office located at 300 Mandich Street, Bishop CA 93514, Monday through Friday, 8:00 to 3:00. In addition, boats can be inspected after 3:00 pm by appointment using the LADWP phone number noted below.
2. April 22, and 23, 2009 from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm and **April 24, 2009 from 7:00 am to 10:00 pm at the Bishop VONS/KMART** parking lot at the corner of Main Street (SR 395), Wye Road and SR 6.
3. Beginning April 22, 2009 at Crowley Lake's South Landing:
April 22, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm; April 23 through the duration of fishing season 7:00 am – 7:00 pm.
There will not be night inspections at Crowley.

Only pre-inspected boats will be allowed to enter the gate or launch at Crowley Lake after 7:00 pm on April 24. Inspections will resume at 7:00 am on fishing opening day. Pre-inspected boats may use the pre-paid line at the main gate at South Landing of Crowley Lake to expedite entry.

If you are planning on launching a boat into Lake Crowley please keep the following in mind:

- All boat owners are required to fill out a written questionnaire concerning the boat's past use
- All boats will be thoroughly inspected
- All boats and trailers must be CLEAN and DRY or they will be denied access
- All DRAIN PLUGS must be pulled or opened prior to boat transport that day
- All vehicles towing boats will be required to have a visible Inspection Certification during boat launching at Crowley Lake

Boat owners can take the following actions to help prevent the further spread of invasive mussels whenever moving a boat to a new water body:

- Inspect boats and trailers thoroughly, and remove any trash, mussels or aquatic weeds before leaving any water body.
- Mussels and other items removed from the boat should be properly disposed of in a trash container.
- Drain water from the motor, live-well, bilge and transom wells, and any other water from the boat and equipment before leaving any water body.
- Wash boats, trailers and equipment thoroughly with a pressurized power sprayer and hot water.
- Rinse live-wells, bilge and cooling systems with 140°F hot water or a 6% chlorine bleach solution
- Dry boats, motors, trailers and equipment thoroughly in the hot sun for at least two weeks before using them again.

Boat owners should be aware there may be an extended wait in order to enter Crowley Lake Reservoir due to these important protective measures. The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and Crowley Lake Fish Camp employees appreciate the cooperation of boat owners and will work to expedite the inspection and certification process.

For more information contact LADWP at (760) 873-0409 or www.LADWP.com/mussels or Crowley Lake Fish Camp at (760) 935-4043.