



## HUMBOLDT BAY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

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August 22, 2008

GENERAL MANAGER  
CAROL RISCHÉ

Ron Davis  
State Legislative Director  
Association of California Water Agencies  
910 K Street, Suite 100  
Sacramento, CA 95814-3577

Dear Mr. Davis:

The Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District Board of Directors considered ACWA's July 7<sup>th</sup> call for State Legislative proposals at their August 14, 2008 meeting. Our District, while not in a position to offer a specific legislative proposal at this time, believes that the emerging aquatic invasive species issue deserves consideration for a possible legislative proposal.

We are aware of recent (AB 1683) and currently-proposed (AB 2065) legislation in this area; however, additional legislation may be necessary to address this important issue. HBMWD does not have a specific proposal developed, but we offer the following ideas and suggest they be vetted and discussed more broadly with ACWA staff and member agencies who have an interest in this area:

### 1) Funding

Many water districts, including ours, are in the process of developing prevention plans and/or have already taken measures aimed at preventing the introduction of these aquatic invasive species into our lakes or reservoirs. If AB 2065 passes, vulnerability assessments, and prevention programs will be required. The cost of developing and implementing assessments and prevention programs will be significant state-wide, and particularly burdensome for smaller agencies. The cost of dealing with an infestation will be even more significant, as a number of agencies in southern California are unfortunately experiencing already. We suggest that ACWA convene a small work group to explore and consider funding mechanisms to address this invasive species issue, and determine if any warrant a legislative proposal.

### 2) State-wide Systems to Assist Water Agencies with Prevention Efforts

Following are several ideas that have been brought forth by representatives of agencies with whom we are working on our prevention plan:

- a. Via the boater registration process, develop a mechanism to identify where a boat (or other watercraft) are from. It was suggested that the County in which a boat is

registered be included on the registration sticker. This would not provide specific information as to which water body a boat has been in, but it would be a fairly quick and easy way to identify the geographic area of origin, from which an agency could tailor prevention measures.

- b. Distribute informational material to all registered boat owners via the State's boater registration process. Consider developing an affidavit that boat owners must sign and submit as part of the registration process .
- c. Distribute informational material with DFG-issued fishing licenses.
- d. Develop a boat tracking system to register where and when a boat has launched. This would be a significant undertaking state-wide, and may be cost prohibitive, but we believe it at least deserves consideration.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide input regarding legislative proposals. Also, we would like to thank and commend you and your staff for the tremendous work you do in Sacramento on behalf of member agencies.

Sincerely,



Carol Rische  
General Manager

Cc: Region 1 Member on ACWA State Legislative Committee  
HBMWD and Ruth Lake CSD Aquatic Invasive Species Committee  
Connie Stewart and Zuretti Goosby, Local Representatives