

Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District Ruth Lake Community Services District

Joint Agency Aquatic Invasive Species Committee Charter Statement

COMPOSITION

The Joint Agency Aquatic Invasive Species Committee is an ad-hoc advisory group composed of the following representatives:

- a. Two Board members from the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District (HBMWD)
- b. Two Board members from the Ruth Lake Community Services District (Ruth Lake CSD)
- c. The General Manager of the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District and the Ruth Lake Community Services District
- d. Two representatives from the Ruth Lake Leaseholders Association (RLLA)
- e. A representative of the US Forest Service
- f. A representative of the CA Department of Fish and Game
- g. A representative from the local marine/boating community
<<assuming we can find someone who represents that group who is willing to participate>>

ROLE and PURPOSE of the COMMITTEE

This Committee is advisory in nature and shall have no decision-making authority. Any activity or recommendation from this committee requiring policy direction or action shall be presented to the Board of the HBMWD and the Board of the Ruth Lake CSD for formal consideration and approval at one of their regularly-scheduled meetings.

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Generally, the purpose of this Committee is to evaluate and address the emerging aquatic invasive species issue which is of interest and importance to both Districts. More specifically, the Committee's purpose is to:

- A) Understand and evaluate the impacts if the quagga or zebra mussel, or the New Zealand mudsnail are introduced into Ruth Lake. (Note – if additional invasive species become a threat in the future, they may be added for consideration)
- B) Evaluate recommended strategies or activities that are proposed by the State Department of Fish and Game, or other agencies, working to prevent the spread of these invasive species within the State
- C) Develop a “threat assessment” for Ruth Lake
- D) Develop a “Community Education Plan” aimed at educating and raising awareness within the local boating and angling community, and the community at-large
- E) Develop a “Monitoring Plan” to assess whether the invasive species may be present. (Note - DFG’s proposed program to place “quagga condos” and subsequently monitor them would be a key component)
- F) Develop a “Prevention Plan” which addresses the need for, timing of, and triggering events for actions aimed at preventing introduction of these invasive species into Ruth Lake. Examples of activities that may be considered, and at what point they should be triggered, are mandatory boat inspections, partial closure of boat launches, full closure of boat launches, full closure of the lake to recreational activity.
- G) Complete other appropriate activities identified over time.
- H) Explore options and make recommendations regarding enforcement of recommended prevention measures

In addition to the content areas outlined above, the Committee shall also explore and consider, and ultimately recommend, how to fund development of the plans and the implementation measures proposed in the plans.

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OPERATION of the COMMITTEE

At the first meeting, Committee members will select a Chair and Vice-Chair. The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be filled by one of the elected representatives from HBMWD and the Ruth Lake CSD. The Chair and Vice Chair shall not be from the same agency (in other words, one shall be from HBMWD and the other shall be from Ruth Lake CSD).

Meetings will be scheduled by staff at HBMWD or the Ruth Lake CSD, as needed and/or at the request of the Chair or Vice-Chair. Meeting agendas will be prepared by staff at HBMWD or Ruth Lake CSD (with direction from the Chair or Vice-Chair, and with input from any other Committee member). Meeting agendas will be distributed at least three days in advance of the meeting.

Representation of at least one Board member from HBMWD, one Board member from the Ruth Lake CSD, the General Manager from HBMWD, the General Manager from Ruth Lake CSD, one member from the RLLA, and any number and combination of other committee members, constitutes a quorum.

COORDINATION WITH OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

Any interested party, who so requests, will be apprised of the committee meetings and invited to attend. Currently, the identified interested parties are:

Wendy Reiss, Fifth District Supervisor, Trinity County
Pete Finnie, Chair, Trinity County Fish and Game Commission
Nancy Kaytis-Slocum, Secretary, Humboldt County Fish and Game Commission

Other interested parties will be included as requested or identified.