

Quagga and Zebra Mussel Eradication and Control Workshop

February 1-2, 2012

San Diego, California



**California Sea Grant Extension
and
University of California Cooperative Extension**

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In an ongoing effort to reduce the impact of invasive quagga and zebra mussels in coastal urban, agricultural and natural water systems of the west, the California Sea Grant Program and the University of California Cooperative Extension hosted a free workshop on eradication and control strategies for these pests.

The goal of the workshop was to prepare managers for implementing eradication/control strategies in small water bodies and irrigation canals (not facilities). The workshop provided a networking opportunity for managers from both uninfested and mussel- infested waters to share experiences in eradication and control of mussels and other nonnative invasive species. Participants also discussed potential ways to work as a regional team and shared their on-the-ground knowledge and experiences of these aquatic invasive species.

Presentations and discussions covered the following topics:

- Hand and Mechanical Removal
- Tarping
- Chemical Control
- Molluscicides (Zequanox)
- Fish Biocontrol
- UV Light and Seismic Technologies
- pH Manipulation
- Integrated Pest Management

In addition to reviewing the overall efficacy of each strategy, presentations covered practical aspects of implementation including: required training, equipment and permits, implementation timelines, and potential collaborators..

Field trip to lake Murray and El Capitan lake:

Workshop attendees visited Lake Murray, where quagga mussel infestations have remained low, and they conducted a short early detection training there. Participants then visited El Capitan lake, where the mussel infestations have increased substantially, and they watched control strategy demonstrations including, tarping techniques with Lars Anderson and hand removal with Sandra Nierzwicki-Bauer.

We hope that the knowledge and experience gained through the workshop and the associated materials will assist managers in taking a proactive approach towards preparing for and implementing eradication/control strategies when they are required.