Aquatic Invasive Species Program Code Amendments

Governing Board

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Background

- Original AIS Code amendments adopted in 2007
- Adaptive management philosophy
  - Multiple amendments to respond to new threats or lessons learned
- Protocols make it easy to comply, balanced with sufficient deterrents

Justification

- Situations resulting in amendments
  - Attempts to launch
    - Launching over a beach
    - Multiple attempts at ramps
  - Theft of program materials
  - Clarity of “inspection prior to launch”

Justification

- Prevent inter-basin spread of existing AIS
  - Drain plug rule
- Resulting technical clean-up

Code Amendment Language

63.4.1. Prohibition

The following actions are prohibited:

C. The launching, or the attempt to launch, of any motorized watercraft into the waters of the Lake Tahoe region without an inspection by TRPA or its designee, to detect the presence, and prevent the introduction of, aquatic invasive species. Non-motorized watercraft and seaplanes are subject to inspection and are included in this provision if determined necessary by TRPA or its designee.

Code Amendment Language

63.4.1. Prohibition

The following actions are prohibited:

E~~D~~. The alteration ~~or~~ modification or unauthorized use of any inspection seal or other device used by TRPA or its designee to indicate that a watercraft or seaplane last entered the waters of the Lake Tahoe region.

Code Amendment Language

63.4.2. Watercraft Inspections and Decontamination

B~~C~~. All Watercraft and seaplanes subject to inspection and/or decontamination pursuant to subparagraphs 63.4.1.C and 63.4.2.B ~~B25.1.1.B~~ shall be permitted to enter the waters of the Lake Tahoe region only if: (a) the inspection and/or decontamination is performed and completed by an individual trained and certified pursuant to TRPA standards and requirements for aquatic invasive species inspection and decontamination, and (b) following inspection and/or decontamination, the launch or landing, as appropriate, is authorized by an inspector trained and certified pursuant to TRPA's standards and requirements for aquatic invasive species inspections.

Code Amendment Language

63.4.2. Watercraft Inspections and Decontamination

G. Once a watercraft leaves a water body, watercraft drain plugs shall be *removed in an area designated by the launch facility's staff who is trained and certified pursuant to TRPA's standards and requirements for aquatic invasive species inspection*, to allow for any water within the watercraft to drain prior to transport over land.

Code Amendment Language

63.4.1. Prohibition

D~~C~~. The provision of inaccurate or false information to the TRPA or persons designated to conduct inspections pursuant to subsection 63.4.1.C ~~63.4.2~~.

63.4.2. Watercraft Inspections and Decontamination

~~A. All motorized watercraft shall be inspected by TRPA or its designee prior to launching into the waters of the Lake Tahoe region to detect the presence, and prevent the introduction of, aquatic invasive species. Non-motorized watercraft and seaplanes may be subject to an inspection prior to entering the waters of the Lake Tahoe region if determined necessary by the TRPA or its designee.~~

A~~B~~. All watercraft and seaplanes inspected pursuant to subparagraph 63.4.1~~2.A~~C shall be subject to decontamination if determined necessary by the TRPA or its designee.

Code Amendment Language

63.4.2. Watercraft Inspections and Decontamination

C~~D~~. Inspections and decontaminations performed pursuant to Section 63.4 shall be subject to a fee related to the costs of performing such services and other Watercraft inspection program costs. The TRPA Governing Board shall review and approve the fee amount and structure annually.

D~~E~~. An owner and/or operator of a boat ramp (excluding Marine Railway Systems) or other boat launch facility shall close any ramp or facility if the provisions of subparagraph 63.4.2.~~A~~ C are not met in order to prevent the launching of motorized watercraft.

E~~F~~. Any watercraft or seaplane entering the waters of the Lake Tahoe region in violation of Chapter 63: Fish Resources shall be removed from those waters immediately.

F~~G~~. Any individual who launches watercraft in violation of Section 63.4 may be held responsible for the costs expended by the TRPA or its designee for response and mitigation of impacts.

Questions and Recommendation

- Questions, Discussion…
- Staff Recommendation:
  - A motion to approve the Required Finding (Attachment A), and the proposed adopting Ordinance (Attachment B).
  - Four affirmative votes from each state is required for adoption.