

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION



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ZEBRA AND QUAGGA MUSSEL PREVENTION PROGRAM

If your vessel has been at any of the following infested bodies of water within the last thirty days, you may not launch at any body of water under the jurisdiction of Stanislaus County due to the potential contamination with the Quagga or Zebra Mussel. You are asked to comply with the Mussel Free Certification Prevention Program. If you knowingly transport or enter any body of water with a contaminated vessel, there could be a potential \$10,000 fine for this violation. Random inspections of your vessel and trailer may be conducted.

Known infested waters include bodies of water within San Bernardino County, Riverside County, San Diego County, San Benito County, Imperial County, and Orange County. For a complete list of specific infested bodies of waters, please go to the websites listed below. High-risk areas where one mussel species has been documented are within California counties south of the Tehachapi Mountains or any waters outside of California. Please check the web for the most current infested areas.



For more information, visit www.dfg.ca.gov/quaggamusel or www.protectyourwaters.net

Zebra Mussel-Free Certification

Save Time and Self-Certify

You are asked to comply with the Parks and Recreation

Department's Quagga/Zebra Mussel Prevention Program before you launch your boat into any body of water within Stanislaus County. For most boaters, this will be a simple process.

Here is what you need to do before you can launch your boat:

- Look at the questions on the *Zebra Mussel-Free Certification Process*.
- If your answers to these questions tell you to get your boat professionally decontaminated before launching, you must do so.
- If your boat is ready to launch now, just complete the *Mussel Free* self-certification statement. **Be sure to display the certificate on your dashboard at all times while your vehicle and boat trailer are at or entering the park or at any launch area.** You can use the certificate all year, but you must ensure that your boat is clean each time you launch. Don't let Zebra/Quagga mussels hitchhike on your boat.

In January 2007, Quagga mussels were discovered in San Benito County, select southern California counties and on vessels from outside of California. Zebra and Quagga mussels have already invaded much of the Eastern U.S.

Fortunately, our reservoir is free of Zebra and Quagga mussels. It depends on you and all of us to keep it this way.

Zebra and Quagga mussels can spread by sticking on to your boat while you travel between waters, however, they cannot live out of the water for long periods of time. Simply washing boats and equipment and allowing it to fully dry is an effective way to reduce the risk of spreading these aquatic hitchhikers.

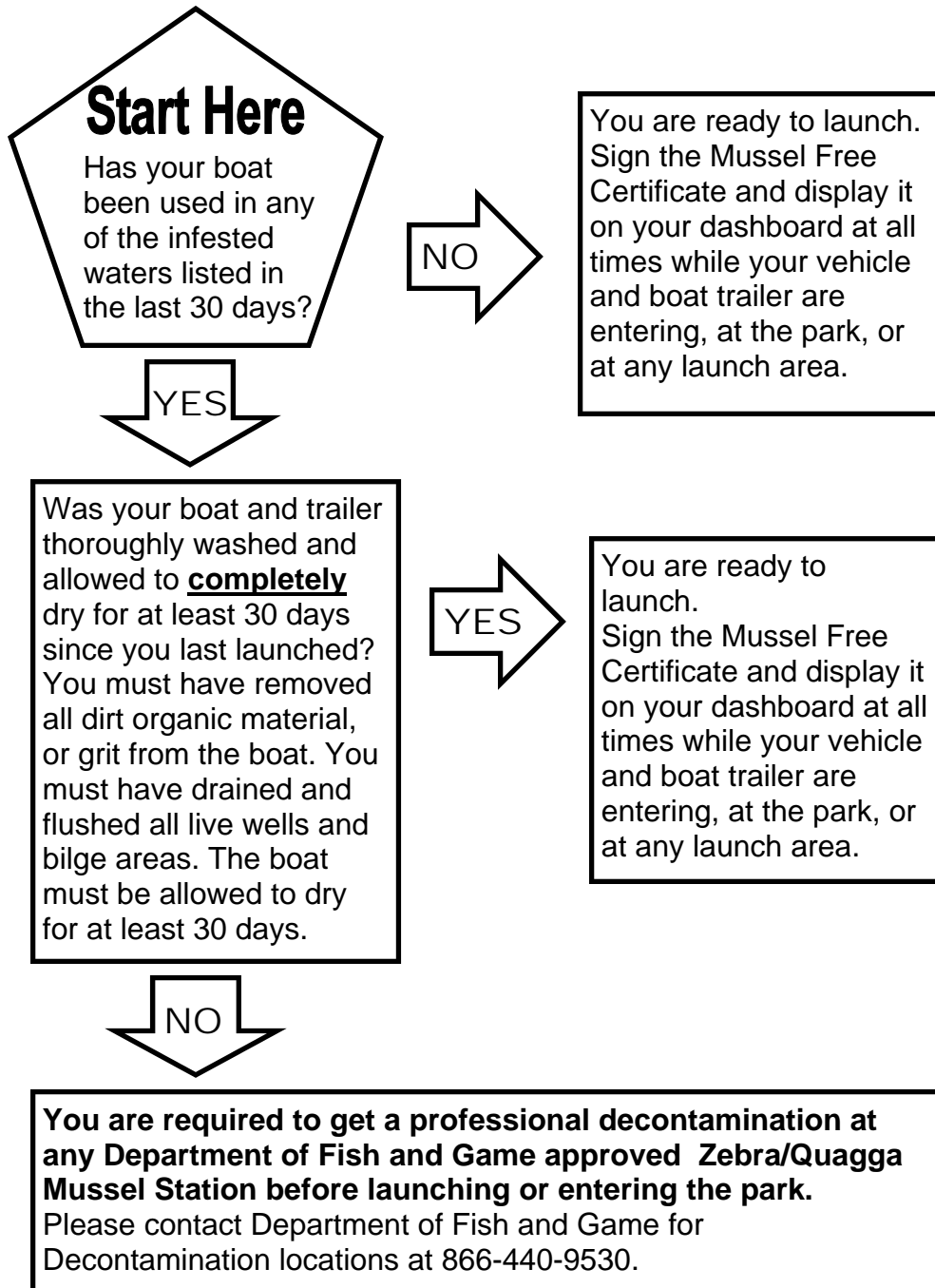
Zebra and Quagga mussels and other harmful plants and animals may be hiding under your trim tabs, in your engine, or even on our anchor chain. Zebra and Quagga mussels are microscopic in their earliest life stages, making them impossible to detect with a visual inspection.

Zebra and Quagga mussels have the potential to:

- Disrupt the food chain and fishing
- Foul facilities like docks and ramps
- Encrust boats and clog engines

Zebra Mussel-Free Certification PROCESS

Save Time and Self-Certify



Zebra and Quagga Mussel Prevention Program

This Certificate Must Be Placed
On Your Dashboard

MUSSEL FREE

Failure to display this certificate on the dashboard of your vehicle while parked with an empty boat trailer may result in a citation.

Zebra and Quagga Mussels Pose a Major Threat to our reservoirs and waterways.

Mussels in any lake could:

- Disrupt the food chain and fishing
- Foul facilities like docks and ramps
- Encrust boats and clog engines
- Litter beaches with sharp smelly shells

These invasive species from Eastern Europe are spreading at a fast rate across the United States. They are transported to new areas attached to boats or harbored in tiny amounts of water.

I affirm that my vessels do not threaten this reservoir or waterway with Zebra or Quagga Mussels.

Please check one:

_____ Boat not used in last 30 days in infested waters

_____ Boat washed and allow to completely dry for at least 30 days

Signature: _____

Date: _____

**THANK YOU FOR PROTECTING OUR
RESERVOIRS AND WATERWAYS!**