

**DEPARTMENT OF BOATING AND WATERWAYS**

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To: Boating and Waterways Commission Members  
From: Department of Boating and Waterways, Legislative Unit  
Subject: LEGISLATIVE REPORT, May 23, 2012

This report was prepared on May 7, 2012.

**ASSEMBLY BILLS**

**AB 1540 (Buchanan) Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta: invasive weeds: South American Spongeplant.** This bill would amend existing law that designates the DBW as the lead agency for cooperating with federal and other public agencies on control of the nonnative, invasive aquatic weeds *Egeria densa* and water hyacinth in the Delta, its tributaries, and the Suisun Marsh. This bill would add South American Spongeplant (*Limnobium laevigatum*) to the list of plants authorized for control under this statute.

Sponsor: Author

Status: In Senate 04/30/2012

Department Position: Neutral

**AB 1686 (Jeffries) Waterways: Lake Mathews.** This bill would require DBW to allow public access, as prescribed, to Lake Mathews, a reservoir in Riverside County, for the purposes of boating, fishing, and hiking, including access by nonmotorized bicycles. The bill would prohibit body contact with the lake, and limit the type of boats and fuel permitted on the lake. The bill also would allow the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California to develop, fund, and operate any necessary infrastructure; limit the number of boats on the water and persons accessing the recreational area of the lake; establish a fee for access to recreational, boating, and parking areas of the lake; and establish a speed limit for all boats on the water.

Sponsor: City of Riverside

Status: Dead 04/27/2012

Department Position: No approved position

**AB 2443 (Williams) Vessels: registration fee: mussels.** As amended 5/3/12, this bill would enact an increase not to exceed ten dollars annually in boat registration fees and would deposit the revenues into a new Quagga and Zebra Mussel Prevention Account in the General Fund. Eighty-five percent of total revenues from the fee would be made available for local assistance grants under a new statewide program to be administered by

the Department of Boating and Waterways; the grants would pay for dreissenid mussel inspection and prevention programs at reservoirs that allow boating and fishing recreation. Fifteen percent of total revenues from the fee would also go to the Department of Fish and Game for its dreissenid mussel prevention efforts.

Sponsor: County of Santa Barbara

Status: In Assembly Appropriations Committee 05/03/2012

Department Position: No approved position

### **SENATE BILLS**

**SB 1251 (Evans) Ocean Protection Council: Aquatic Invasive Species Working Group.** As amended 5/1/12, this bill would require the Ocean Protection Council (OPC) and the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) to enter into a memorandum of agreement to jointly establish an Aquatic Invasive Species Working Group. This bill would require that the chair and specified members be appointed by the Secretary of Natural Resources. The working group would be required to develop and submit to the Legislature by 1/1/14 a report with recommendations for future legislation to manage aquatic invasive species in the state.

Sponsor: Author

Status: In Senate Appropriations Committee 05/01/2012

Department Position: No approved position

### **FEDERAL BILLS**

Nothing to report