

From: QZGrant@Parks <QZGrant@parks.ca.gov>

Sent: Monday, July 14, 2025 3:57 PM

To: Pawan Upadhyay <Pawan.Upadhyay@lakecountyca.gov>

Cc: Rodriguez, Michael@Parks <Michael.Rodriguez@parks.ca.gov>; Giles, Timothy@Parks <Timothy.Giles@parks.ca.gov>; Vang, Brandy@Parks <Brandy.Vang@parks.ca.gov>; Hard, Edward@Parks <Edward.Hard@parks.ca.gov>; Jensen, Thomas@Wildlife <Thomas.Jensen@Wildlife.ca.gov>; Montalvo, Angie@Wildlife <Angie.Montalvo@wildlife.ca.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] 2025 Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant - Lake County Watershed Protection District

Dear Mr. Upadhyay,

Thank you for submitting a 2025 Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant application. We regret to inform you; your application will not be funded. Please see the attached letter.

If you have any questions, you may address those to QZGrant@parks.ca.gov

Thank you,

Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program Team

Michael Rodriguez – Environmental Scientist

Timothy Giles – Park and Recreation Specialist

Brandy Vang – Environmental Services Intern

Cara Roderick – Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisory)

California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways

Mailing Address: PO Box 942896, AIS/QZ Unit, Floor 12

Sacramento, CA 94296



From: QZGrant@Parks <QZGrant@parks.ca.gov>

Sent: Thursday, July 24, 2025 7:58 AM

To: Pawan Upadhyay <Pawan.Upadhyay@lakecountyca.gov>

Cc: Giles, Timothy@Parks <Timothy.Giles@parks.ca.gov>; Hard, Edward@Parks <Edward.Hard@parks.ca.gov>; Rodriguez, Michael@Parks <Michael.Rodriguez@parks.ca.gov>; Vang, Brandy@Parks <Brandy.Vang@parks.ca.gov>; Jensen, Thomas@Wildlife <Thomas.Jensen@Wildlife.ca.gov>; Montalvo, Angie@Wildlife <Angie.Montalvo@wildlife.ca.gov>; Corey Hustead <Corey.Hustead@lakecountyca.gov>; Jacqueline Storrs <Jacqueline.Storrs@lakecountyca.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: (Request for Reconsideration) 2025 Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant - Lake County Watershed Protection District

Hello Pawan,

Thank you for reaching out to us with your request. We understand that funding from the QZ Grant Program has been critical in supporting your county-wide invasive mussel prevention efforts, and we sincerely appreciate your continued commitment to this important work.

This year was an exceptionally competitive grant year, the request in funding was almost \$4.9M and we only had \$2M available to award. Unfortunately, due to the limited funding available for this grant cycle we had to make very careful and difficult decisions during the selection process. Applications that were submitted incomplete were not advanced for further consideration.

If you would like to submit a formal appeal, please refer to Section 6.3, *Award of Funding Appeal Process*, in the **Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program Guidelines**. This document can be found on our grant program webpage under *Applicant Materials*. Please see the following link:

https://dbw.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=28822

We appreciate your agency's prevention efforts, both past and ongoing, and encourage you to apply again when the next opportunity becomes available.

Sincerely,

Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program Team

Michael Rodriguez – Environmental Scientist

Timothy Giles – Park and Recreation Specialist

Brandy Vang – Environmental Services Intern

Cara Roderick – Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisory)

California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways

Mailing Address: PO Box 942896, AIS/QZ Unit, Floor 12

Sacramento, CA 94296



From: Pawan Upadhyay

Sent: Wednesday, July 23, 2025 2:19 PM

To: QZGrant@Parks <QZGrant@parks.ca.gov>; Giles, Timothy@Parks <Timothy.Giles@parks.ca.gov>; Hard, Edward@Parks <Edward.Hard@parks.ca.gov>

Cc: Rodriguez, Michael@Parks <Michael.Rodriguez@parks.ca.gov>; Vang, Brandy@Parks <Brandy.Vang@parks.ca.gov>; Jensen, Thomas@Wildlife <Thomas.Jensen@Wildlife.ca.gov>; Montalvo, Angie@Wildlife <Angie.Montalvo@wildlife.ca.gov>; Corey Hustead <Corey.Hustead@lakecountyca.gov>; Jacqueline Storrs <Jacqueline.Storrs@lakecountyca.gov>

Subject: RE: (Request for Reconsideration) 2025 Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant - Lake County Watershed Protection District

Dear Timothy and Edward,

Thank you for your notice regarding the 2025 Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program. While we understand the importance of adhering to all grant submission requirements, we respectfully request your reconsideration of our application titled *Clear Lake Mussel Prevention Project*, submitted by the Lake County Watershed Protection District.

We acknowledge the absence of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Prevention Plan Acceptance Letter in our application. Unfortunately, this oversight occurred during the final stages of submission and was not reflective of the completeness or readiness of our prevention plan. Our CDFW-approved plan has been in place and

actively implemented, and we are prepared to submit the acceptance documentation immediately upon request (also attached here).

The funding for this project is critical to sustaining our county-wide invasive mussel prevention program. Without this support, the long-standing efforts to protect Clear Lake—a high-risk and high-value waterbody—from quagga and zebra mussel infestation face serious disruption. The absence of consistent inspection and decontamination services could result in regional ecological and economic harm, with broader implications for downstream water systems and state-managed resources.

We ask for the opportunity to remedy the submission gap and provide the missing CDFW letter. If reconsideration of our application is not possible at this time, we would appreciate any opportunity for provisional support or eligibility for emergency funding, as the potential program impacts extend beyond local boundaries and could undermine state-level prevention efforts.

Thank you again for your ongoing partnership and support. Please let us know if there is any way our agency may work with DBW to ensure continuity of this essential program.

Pawan Upadhyay, PhD

Director

Lake County Water Resources Department

Lake County Watershed Protection District

Pawan Upadhyay, PhD

Water Resources Director

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