

**DEPARTMENT OF BOATING AND WATERWAYS**

2000 EVERGREEN STREET, SUITE 100  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95815-3888  
(888) 326-2822  
www.dbw.ca.gov



To: Boating and Waterways Commission Members  
From: Department of Boating and Waterways, Legislative Unit  
Subject: LEGISLATIVE REPORT, March 14, 2012

This report was prepared on February 27, 2012.

**ASSEMBLY BILLS**

**AB 977 (Harkey) Harbors and ports: loans: OC Dana Point Harbor.** This bill would require the department to extend until June 30, 2016, all phases of certain loan contracts between the department and the County of Orange, OC Dana Point Harbor. The author has stated that this will be a two-year bill that won't be pursued until 2012.

Sponsor: Author

Status: Dead

Department Position: No approved position

**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 Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee, likely to be heard in April

Department Position: No approved position

**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: In Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife and Local Government Committees

Department Position: No approved position

**AB 2443 (Williams) Vessels: registration fee: mussels.** This bill, beginning July 1, 2013, would authorize a county to assess a fee in an unspecified amount on a vessel registered in that county. The bill would require funds from the fee to be used to establish and operate a dreissenid mussel monitoring, inspection, and eradication program in the county.

Sponsor: County of Santa Barbara

Status: May be acted upon on or after March 25

Department Position: No approved position

## **SENATE BILLS**

**SB 623 (Kehoe) Vessels: marine antifouling paint.** This bill would require the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) to determine, as specified, the acceptable leach rate for copper antifouling paints. This bill would, on or after January 1, 2015, prohibit 1) the sale of a new recreational vessel with copper antifouling paint that is not low-leach rate and 2) the use on or application to a recreational vessel of copper antifouling paint that is not low-leach rate. This bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), by January 1, 2019, to determine whether use of low-leach rate copper antifouling paints is sufficient to meet water quality objectives, as specified. If not, this bill would require a ban on the use and application of antifouling paint (copper is not specified) one year after the finding. This bill would require the Department of Boating and Waterways (DBW), no later than January 1, 2013, to convene an advisory committee to develop signage for voluntary use by marinas and other information about in-water hull cleaning methods and the effects of antifouling paint on water quality.

Sponsor: San Diego Unified Port District, San Diego Coastkeeper

Status: Dead

Department Position: No approved position

**SB 1251 (Evans) Invasive aquatic species: quagga mussels.** This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to require the Department of Fish and Game to develop a new statewide quagga mussel prevention and management plan dependent on criteria, including, but not limited to, inspection protocols and the tracking of vessels. According to the author, this bill is likely to be amended to propose a stakeholder planning

process for making recommendations to the Legislature on management of all aquatic invasive species, with possible funding from the Ocean Protection Council.

Sponsor: Author

Status: May be acted upon on or after March 25

Department Position: No approved position

## **FEDERAL BILLS**

**H.R. 7 (Mica) American Energy and Infrastructure Jobs Act of 2012.** This bill includes reauthorization of funding for several federal programs, including the Sportfishing and Recreational Boating Safety Act of 2012, which provides grants to state boating law administrators for boating safety and education programs. California receives several million dollars annually from this fund.

Sponsor: Author, 1 co-sponsor

Status: 02/15/2012 Rule H. Res. 547 passed House

Department Position: No approve position

**H.R. 104 (Boustany) Realize America's Maritime Promise (RAMP) Act.** This bill would ensure that Harbor Maintenance Taxes credited to the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund are appropriated for harbor maintenance dredging.

Sponsor: Author, 175 co-sponsors

Status: Subcommittee hearings held 07/08/2011

Department Position: No approved position