



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
Mid-Pacific Regional Office  
2800 Cottage Way  
Sacramento, California 95825-1898

IN REPLY  
MP-140  
REFER TO:  
PRJ-1.10

FEB 08 2008

Honorable Elton Gallegly  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Gallegly:

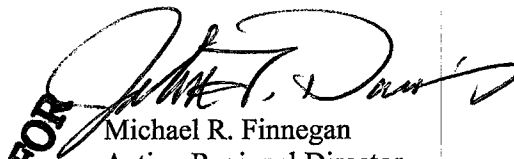
I am responding to your January 16, 2008, letter on behalf of Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Robert Johnson. In your letter, you requested Reclamation's assistance in stopping the spread of the invasive quagga mussel. As you noted, the quagga can degrade water supply and quality, harm watershed habitats and endangered species, and negatively affect recreational activities and facilities.

Reclamation and our recreational managing partners are very concerned about the potential adverse consequences the quagga presents to both operational facilities and water supply. We have had a number of discussions regarding quagga infestation preventative measures with members of the Casitas Municipal Water District, the Cachuma Conservation Release Board, and the County of Santa Barbara.

Reclamation understands that preventative measures are currently being instituted at both Lake Casitas and Lake Cachuma. Prior to watercraft entry, mandatory inspections are taking place, and owners must confirm that their watercraft have not recently visited known infected quagga waters. Although each of these entities has certain unique interests, they are proactively approaching this serious matter in considering and developing alternatives to address the quagga invasion.

While the solution to this complex matter is a work in progress, Reclamation will continue to do what we can to assist all concerned in developing and implementing measures that are mutually acceptable. Should you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 916-978-5000.

Sincerely,

  
FOR  
Michael R. Finnegan  
Acting Regional Director

cc: Honorable Elton Gallegly  
Member, United States House of Representatives  
2829 Townsgate Road, Suite 315  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91361-3018

Continued on next page.

cc: Continued from previous page.

Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
Ranking Minority Member, Subcommittee on Water and Power  
House Committee on Natural Resources  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Mr. Russ Bagerly  
President  
Casitas Municipal Water District  
1055 Ventura Avenue  
Oakview, CA 93022

Mr. Roger E. Orr  
President  
United Water Conservation District  
106 North 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Santa Paula, CA 93060

Ms. Jan Abel  
President  
Cachuma Conservation Release Board  
3301 Laurel Canyon Road  
Santa Barbara, CA 93105