



California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways  
**Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program**

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Questions and Answers from the 2025 QZ Grant Presentation

	Questions	Answers
1	Can you provide the weblink for the rack card in the chat?	<a href="https://dbw.parks.ca.gov/pages/28702/files/241219_Mussels%20Rack%20Card_ADA.pdf">https://dbw.parks.ca.gov/pages/28702/files/241219_Mussels%20Rack%20Card_ADA.pdf</a> If you would like an editable version (to add your agency's logo) contact the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) at <a href="mailto:invasives@wildlife.ca.gov">invasives@wildlife.ca.gov</a>
2	Could you please repeat as to why staff time would not be reimbursable?	Depending on the nature of the work being performed for the project, staff time is reimbursable, if it is Division of Boating and Waterways QZ Grant approved line-item in your budget. Typical examples include: inspections, ramp monitors, Early-Detection Mussel Monitoring (EDMM), consultants preparing Prevention Plans, etc.  Staffing will not be reimbursed for time spent enforcing the State's or a local mussel sticker by a law enforcement officer, or personnel time enforcing a local mussel sticker by any level of staff.
3	When grant applications are being reviewed, does CDFW account for a lakes risk of infection for QZ mussels? Is there a grant round being prepared for golden mussels?	Question One: Yes, CDFW does account for the reservoirs risk of infestation of quagga and zebra mussels. Because of how the statutes and regulations for our program are written, our program is not currently set up to provide funding for golden mussel work.  Question Two: Our grant is only for dreissenid mussels. Hopefully there will be grant funding for golden mussel work from other sources in the future.
4	If we have multiple designated sites throughout our reservoir banding and inspecting but they are private HOA - could we request grant funding for equipment and staffing	This grant does not allow for the purchases of equipment for contractors or consultants, it is for the grantee. However, the equipment being purchased can be utilized by contractors to do the work of the project, so long as the equipment remains owned by the grantee. Reimbursement of equipment is allowed if part of an approved budget item in the grant agreement. The grantee shall maintain control of all equipment pursuant to the grant agreement requirements. As far as banding materials are concerned for an HOA-run launch ramp at your reservoir: we recommend that you call that out as a separate line-item in your application and describe your agency's management role infestation



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	for their sites such equipment such as IPADs for them	prevention with that HOA, and the interagency review team will take it into consideration during review.
5	Is it allowed to purchase a decontamination station, and then hire a contractor that will utilize the decontamination station, but charge for decontamination of boats as a service?	<p>Yes, if the decontamination station is an approved line-item listed in the executed grant agreement, it is eligible for reimbursement. Staff time, whether it be in-house or by contractors to operate the equipment and conduct inspections, is also eligible. There is a \$400,000 limit to a Tier 2 application. Conversely, your agency can also hire contractors to work at the decontamination station and fund the work by charging boaters for the personnel time to run the inspection service.</p> <p>A friendly reminder, boaters provide the funding for this grant program through their purchase of the Mussel Fee Sticker, therefore these Tier 2 implementation grants are meant to offset costs to boaters for implementation work.</p>
6	The important dates slide states 2-year grant term begins in august, but the 2023 grant term ends in October 2025. If awarded the 2025 grant will there be overlapping reporting and payment requests?	<p>Yes, there may be a few months of overlap, which is okay. As long as the reservoir is not in the first year of a QZ Grant already, eligible agencies can reapply for that same reservoir.</p> <p>If eligible applicants have a different reservoir, they can consider including that one in this year's cycle.</p>
7	So, for a federal agency with multiple lakes, each lake was going to be submitted separately because each lake has different risks - is that allowed?	<p>It depends on if you want to apply for a Tier 1 vs a Tier 2 grant. For Tier 1 (planning project): There is no limit to the number of reservoirs that can be included in one application, as long they are not infested with QZ, are accessible by the public for recreation, and your agency has management/ownership rights. However, please keep EDMM costs in mind when applying for a Tier 1 grant because monitoring would be required for each reservoir that is included in the application. The funding limit for a Tier 1 application is \$200,000.</p> <p>If your agency already has a California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) approved prevention plan dated 2016 onwards, you may apply for Tier 2 (implementation) grants. However, Tier 2 grants are limited to two reservoirs per application and the projects must</p>



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		<p>be the same at each reservoir listed in the application. The funding limit for a Tier 2 application is \$400,000.</p> <p>Please note that only reservoirs, as defined by the California Water Code, Division 3, Part 1, Chapter 1, Section 6004.5, can be funded.</p>
8	<p>Could an eligible applicant submit two applications for two different reservoirs?</p> <p>Could two eligible applicants submit separate applications for the same reservoir?</p>	<p>Yes, however, it is important to note that funding might be limited if the grant application period is competitive. The applicant must assign priority within the Online Grant Application System (OLGA) for each application, when submitting more than one application.</p> <p>See question 7 for a discussion on how many reservoirs can be included in one application.</p> <p>No, only one of the applications would be considered for award. For a Tier 2 (implementation) grant, the funding limit is \$400,000. Two eligible applicants may want to coordinate, with one submitting the application/becoming the grantee, and the other being the subcontractor conducting a portion or most all of the work for the grantee.</p>
9	<p>Please provide link the reservoir restrictions list and how to report an update.</p>	<p>The Watercraft Inspections in CA and Vessel Restrictions list is on our webpage at: <a href="https://dbw.parks.ca.gov/inspections">https://dbw.parks.ca.gov/inspections</a></p> <p>Please email any updates to us at: <a href="mailto:QZGrant@parks.ca.gov">QZGrant@parks.ca.gov</a></p> <p>This is a very important resource for boaters, and we very much appreciate any help keeping this resource up-to-date!</p>
10	<p>Today's presentation will be posted to the QZ Grant webpage? When if so?</p>	<p>Approximately a week from the presentation.</p>
11	<p>How has the application process changed, if at all?</p>	<p>The application process has remained the same in the last several years.</p>



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12	<p>Our agency operates a hydroelectric plant and holds the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license for the reservoir. We are looking to apply for grant funding but would like to clarify who should be the grantee?</p>	<p>We advise you to take a look at our <a href="https://dbw.parks.ca.gov/QZgrant">sample ownership/management authority information</a> document listed on our <a href="https://dbw.parks.ca.gov/QZgrant">webpage</a> (https://dbw.parks.ca.gov/QZgrant). This document provides examples of acceptable ownership/management documentation. (A FERC license is listed on our document as acceptable documentation.)</p> <p>When applicants provide the documentation, we require a notation of what page # and a physical highlight, within the documentation, of where the answer can be found (i.e. do not ask us to hunt for the information within your documentation).</p>
13	<p>We have a CDFW-accepted prevention plan dated 2019 and we are currently working with CDFW to make minor updates specific to our reservoir based on their recommendations. Would this updated plan be sufficient for applying for Tier 2 grant funding?</p>	<p>Yes, if it is a CDFW accepted Prevention Plan dated after 2016, and you have a CDFW letter of approval, this would be considered sufficient for applying for a Tier 2 grant. (These two documents must be uploaded into OLGA with your application.)</p>



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14	Can the following be considered reimbursable costs: having a boat ranger for an extended season, staffing our gatehouse during the off season, and mussel dogs?	<p>Staff will not be reimbursed for time spent enforcing the State's or a local mussel sticker by a law enforcement officer, or personnel time enforcing a local mussel sticker by any level of staff.</p> <p>Regarding a boat ranger, it depends on what they would be doing. We would not fund this position if the work were related to the above mentioned, but if they were doing other mussel prevention activities such as inspections or as a ramp monitor, this time is eligible.</p> <p>Regarding staffing a gatehouse during an off season, it depends on what the staff would be doing. If they are doing inspections, for example, then it would be a fundable task. However, during off season this might be considered a lower priority in a competitive year. We recommend you include this time as a separate task and line-item in the application, so that the interagency review team can consider it.</p> <p>Canine inspections are fundable tasks.</p>
15	If materials, like boat seals and wires, were purchased prior to grant award, can materials cost be submitted for reimbursement?	No, DBW can only reimburse for approved materials and supplies listed in an executed Grant Agreement which are purchased during the performance period which is the grant term.
16	If OLGA was used for 2023 QZ grant submittal, does our agency need to reregister and create a new user profile?	No, if your agency has applied for a grant through DBW or Parks' Off Highway Vehicles (OHV) Division, your agency is already registered. Please see Step 3 "Register Your Agency" of the Step-By-Step Instructions found on the <a href="#">Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program website</a> .
17	If you are awarded a grant, are you required to leave your water(s) open for recreation?	Ideally yes, your waters will remain open and accessible for recreation for the full two-year grant term and beyond. We have seen cases where unexpected and exceptional circumstances occurred after the grant term has started. If you already know that your reservoir will be closed, especially during boating season, please describe this situation in your application for the interagency team to consider. If you are awarded a grant for work



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		to be done at your reservoir (such as inspections or decontaminations) this work will only be reimbursable as long as the reservoir stays open to the public and the work is being performed. If the work is not being performed, then DBW will not be reimbursing for any work either.
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