

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
JUNE 15, 2010**

ITEM 5

SUBJECT

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO ALLOCATE AN ADDITIONAL \$588,720 FROM THE CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ACCOUNT (CAA) TO CONTINUE TO IMPLEMENT ASIAN CLAM CONTROLS (PROJECT) IN LAKE TAHOE (LAKE)

DISCUSSION

The Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Lahontan Water Board) is requesting an additional \$588,720 from the CAA to continue to fund implementation of the Project. Asian Clam (*Corbicula fluminea*) is a non-native freshwater bivalve that has established in the Lake and has the potential to cause serious adverse water quality impacts. It has been observed in the Lake at very low densities since 2002, but recently (April 2008) populations have been discovered in much higher, but patchy, densities in the southern portion of the Lake. The Lahontan Water Board is proposing two projects: 1) complete a detailed survey to delineate the extent of the Emerald Bay Asian Clam infestation at the conclusion of the breeding season in fall 2010 and 2) complete a pilot study of eradication methods in Emerald Bay in summer 2011. To date, \$200,000 in funding through the CAA were provided to the Lahontan Regional Board for the Project.

The primary goals of the Project are to:

- Complete a detailed survey to delineate the extent of the Emerald Bay Asian Clam infestation at the conclusion of the breeding season in fall 2010; and
- Complete a pilot study of eradication methods in Emerald Bay within an area of varied bathymetry as compared to the 2009 pilot project in other locations of the Lake in summer 2011.

The requested allocation is consistent with the purposes of Water Code Section 13442. Section 13442 provides that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) may order moneys to be paid from the CAA to a public agency with authority to cleanup or abate the effects of a waste in order “to assist it in cleaning up the waste or abating its effects on the waters of the state.”

POLICY ISSUE

Should the State Water Board approve funding an additional \$588,720 from the CAA to continue to implement the Project?

FISCAL IMPACT

As of April 21, 2010, the uncommitted CAA balance is estimated to be no less than \$8.5 million according to the most current data.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

Yes, the Lahontan Water Board.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The State Water Board should approve funding an additional \$588,720 from the CAA to continue the Project.

State Water Board action on this item will assist the Water Boards in reaching Goal 4 of the Strategic Plan Update: 2008-2012, to comprehensively address water quality protection and restoration, and the relationship between water supply and water quality, and describe the connections between water quality, water quantity, and climate change, throughout California's water planning processes.

DRAFT

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2010-

ALLOCATE AN ADDITIONAL \$588,720 FROM THE
CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ACCOUNT (CAA) TO CONTINUE TO IMPLEMENT
ASIAN CLAM CONTROLS (PROJECT) IN LAKE TAHOE (LAKE)

WHEREAS:

1. The Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Lahontan Water Board) is requesting an additional \$588,720 from the CAA to continue to fund implementation of the Project;
2. Asian Clam (*Corbicula fluminea*) is a non-native freshwater bivalve that has established in the Lake and has the potential to cause serious adverse water quality impacts. It has been observed in the Lake at very low densities since 2002, but recently (April 2008) populations have been discovered in much higher, but patchy, densities in the southern portion of the Lake;
3. The Lahontan Water Board is proposing two projects: 1) complete a detailed survey to delineate the extent of the Emerald Bay Asian Clam infestation at the conclusion of the breeding season in fall 2010 and 2) complete a pilot study of eradication methods in Emerald Bay in summer 2011; and
4. The requested allocation is consistent with the purposes of Water Code Section 13442. Section 13442 provides that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) may order moneys to be paid from the CAA to a public agency with authority to cleanup or abate the effects of a waste "to assist it in cleaning up the waste or abating its effects on the waters of the state."

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Approves funding an additional \$588,720 from the CAA to the Lahontan Regional Board to continue to implement the Asian Clam Controls Project; and
2. Shall revert to the CAA any unexpended funds as of June 20, 2012, unless the Deputy Director or Assistant Deputy Director of the Division of Financial Assistance authorizes an extension. The funds will be available until June 30, 2012.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Clerk to the Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Board held on June 15, 2010.

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board