

February 3, 2012

Public Comment  
Pesticide Prohibition BPA  
Deadline: 3/1/12 by 12:00 PM

Jeanine Townsend  
Clerk, State Water Board



Subject: Comment Letter-Pesticide Prohibition Basin Plan Amendment

Dear Ms. Townsend

I am a resident of South Lake Tahoe (Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association) and my wife and I are urging the State Water Board to pass this important amendment.

Non-chemical methods (harvesting, mats and hand picking of aquatic weeds) of controlling invasive weeds have not worked in Lake Tahoe. In fact the problem is getting worse. We support the Lahontan Water Control Board and the Lahontan Staff for the vision in proposing exemptions to the prohibition of aquatic herbicides in Lake Tahoe. We now trust that the State Water Board will pass this important amendment before invasive species are not controllable. We are convinced that the careful and limited use of herbicides to control invasive aquatic weeds in the Tahoe Keys is not only prudent, but vital and essential. If the spread of invasive and nuisance weed species is to be controlled and reversed, it must be done now, while this problem is controllable.

The Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association has invested considerable financial and manpower resources to control the weeds through mechanical weed harvesters, but this removes the weeds only to a 5 foot depth. Thus, this method has only limited success. The weeds degrade water quality by increasing water temperature and providing habitat for non-native warm water fish. Because of the known adverse impacts, it is in the best interests of the State Water Board to preserve and improve the water quality by allowing careful, controller use of all proven methods to control aquatic weeds.

Please allow us to employ every reasonable and proven tool available to control the invasive species in Lake Tahoe.

We thank the State Water Board for their effort and courage in passing this amendment.

Sincerely,

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature is "Richard Jacquet" and the second is "Peggy B. Jacquet".

Richard & Peggy Jacquet  
425 Emerald Drive  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150