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Lake Mead National Recreation Area

Update on Quagga Program

Lake Mead Concessioner,

As you know Lake Mead NRA is infested with quagga mussels, an aquatic invasive species. We at NPS realize there have been changes and inconsistencies in our requirements and policies for inspecting and washing boats over the past few years. This letter is meant to update all Lake Mead Concessioners on our current policy for inspecting and washing boats leaving the park.

If a watercraft has been in Lakes Mead or Mohave for five days or less, the owner simply is required to clean drain, and dry their watercraft and all equipment that came into contact with water. If the watercraft was in Lake Mead or Mohave for more than five days, slipped or moored then they are required to have the vessel inspected. Owners with slipped boats/watercraft must notify you (the marina) 72 hours prior to leaving the slip, if the watercraft is going to be leaving the park, to schedule an inspection and hotwater wash to remove all visible mussels. At the completion of each inspection/ was, fax completed inspection/ wash form to proper agencies: Arizona Game and Fish Department of Nevada Department of Wildlife and National Park Service Quagga Mussel Coordinator.

Boat owners are subject to state and federal penalties for knowingly transporting quagga mussels across state lines and from infested to un-infested waters. It is the responsibility of the marina to have a certified inspector on staff to properly inspect and wash boats. If mussels are present and the owner refuses wash or attempts to leave before completion of wash, do not confront them; contact NPS Dispatch to report the incident. Also, if a slip renter/owner vacates a slip without notification, simply complete an inspection for, indicate when the vessel was last seen and probable destination of the vessel; fax completed inspection form.

It should be stated in all slip contracts that once removed from a slip and prior to exiting Lake Mead National Recreation Area, vessels must undergo an inspection and hot-water wash by a certified inspector to remove all visible mussels.

We appreciate your cooperation with the effort to prevent further spread of quagga mussels in the United States.

Sincerely,

Lake Mead National Recreation Area



Authorized
Concessioner