



California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Recommendations for Quarantining and Monitoring Aquarium

Beginning from the date of potential zebra mussel introduction, for 6 consecutive months:

- Any live plants removed from the tank should be frozen and disposed, and not traded or sold to other aquarists.
- Animals from the tank should not be sold or traded.
- The tank and all contents (decorations, filters, gravel) should be completely dried, or chemically disinfected, before selling or trading.
- The tank should be closely inspected at least once a week for mussels. If mussels are found they should be removed, frozen, and disposed of in the municipal trash.
- A record of inspections should be maintained. A template is available on CDFW's website.
- When no mussels are found for 6 consecutive months the quarantine can be lifted.

Guide to [Distinguishing Zebra and Quagga Mussels From Other Organisms](#)

For additional information and guidance, call CDFW's Invasive Mussel Hotline at 866-440-9530.