



PUBLIC HEARING: CDFW INVASIVE MUSSEL RULEMAKING

*Sections 650, 672, 672.1, 672.2, Title
14, California Code of Regulations*

August 18, 2026, 1:00PM-2:00PM

PRESENTED BY:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Logistics and Opening Statements

CDFW Invasive Mussel Rulemaking: Public Hearing from 1:00PM to 2:00PM

- This hearing will be recorded to include in the Department's rulemaking record.
- The purpose of this public hearing is to receive comments on the Department's proposal to amend invasive mussel regulations, Sections 650, 672, 672.1, and 672.2, Title 14, California Code of Regulations.
- Attendees are automatically muted upon entry to the meeting.
- Verbal and written comments can be received at this hearing, however CDFW is not obligated to respond to comments during this hearing. Responses to clarifying questions will be provided.
- Complete responses to all comments will be included in the Final Statement of Reasons published at a later date.

Agenda

- Background
- Proposed Rulemaking Summary
- Proposed Rulemaking Timeline
- Open Public Comment Period



DWR; O'Neill Forebay public outreach sign

Background

- CDFW Invasive Species Program has managed Dreissenid mussels statewide since 2007
- Authority set by Fish and Game Code (FGC) Sections 2301 and 2302 and California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 14, Sections 672, 672.1, and 672.2
- “Dreissenid mussel” refers to mussels in family *Dreissenidae*:
 - Quagga mussel (*Dreissena bugensis*)
 - Zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*)
- Byssal threads enable them to attach to submerged surfaces, termed “biofouling”
- Large colonies of mussels have significant impacts on the environment, economy, and infrastructure



DWR; Quagga mussels growing on an artificial substrate in Pyramid Lake

Background

- Golden mussel (*Limnoperna fortunei*) was first detected in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta in October 2024
- Golden mussels have byssal threads and present the same impacts to California as Dreissenid mussels
- December 19, 2024: California Fish and Game Commission took emergency action to temporarily add Golden mussel to list of restricted animals (14 CCR 671)
- September 17, 2025: AB 149 Chaptered, amending FGC §2301 and 2302 and adding 2303
- October 8, 2025: Golden mussel permanently added to 14 CCR 671



DWR; Golden mussels on a buoy in O'Neill Forebay

Proposed Rulemaking: General

- This rulemaking is needed to update regulations to reflect current FGC
- Applicable to all sections and forms:
 - Replacing “Dreissenid” with “invasive”
 - Update CDFW mailing address



DWR; Golden mussels on a rope in the Port of Stockton

Proposed Rulemaking: Section 672

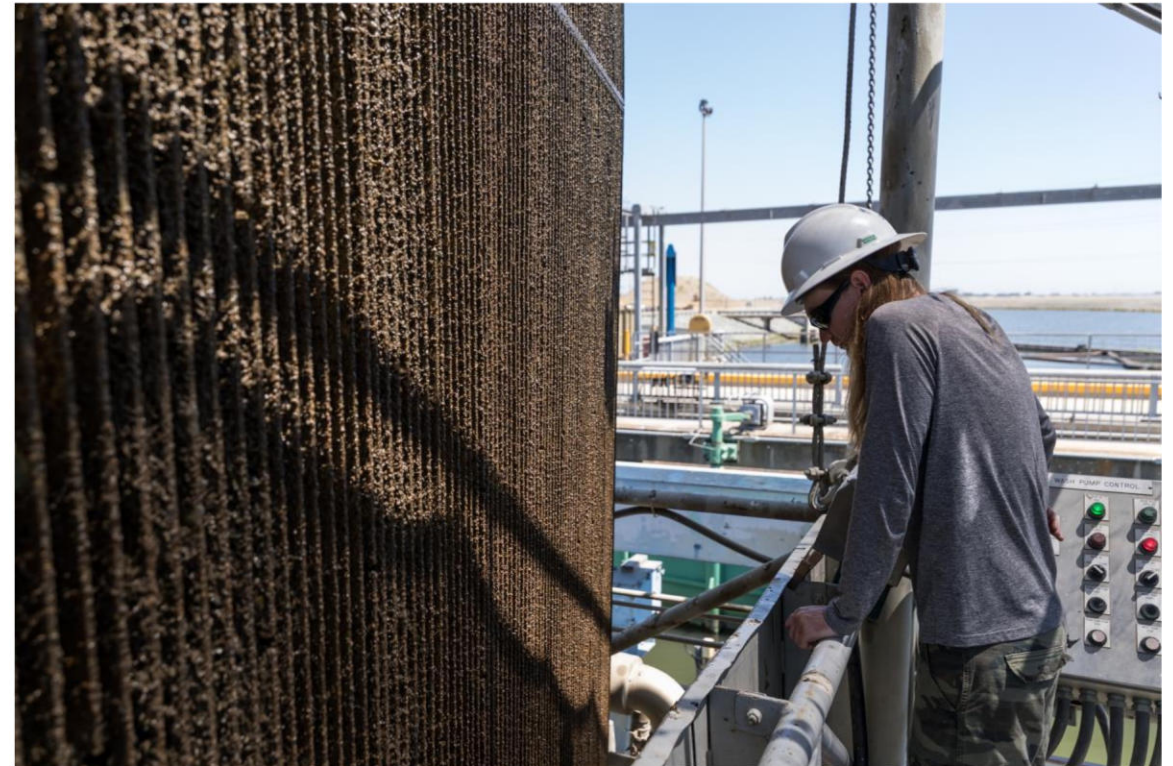
- Rename section and amend definitions
- Department maintain list of waterbodies where invasive mussels have been detected
- Prohibit possession, importation, shipping, or transportation, or placing, planting invasive mussels in any water within California
- Owner/operator of conveyance removed from any waterbody shall inspect and drain; report any mussel detection to CDFW
- Add cancellation option for dead invasive mussel permits



DWR; Golden mussel from Skinner Fish Facility

Proposed Rulemaking: Section 672.1

- Amend control plan deadlines
- Expand CDFW permit exemptions for activities and research under control plan
- Add criteria to be removed from list of waterbodies where invasive mussels have been detected
 - Five years, no detections
- Conveyances removed from infested water that have been in water for more than four consecutive nights shall be inspected by CDFW
 - Exception: stored onsite, not transported overland, and relaunch at same site



DWR; Golden mussels growing on louvers at Skinner Fish Facility

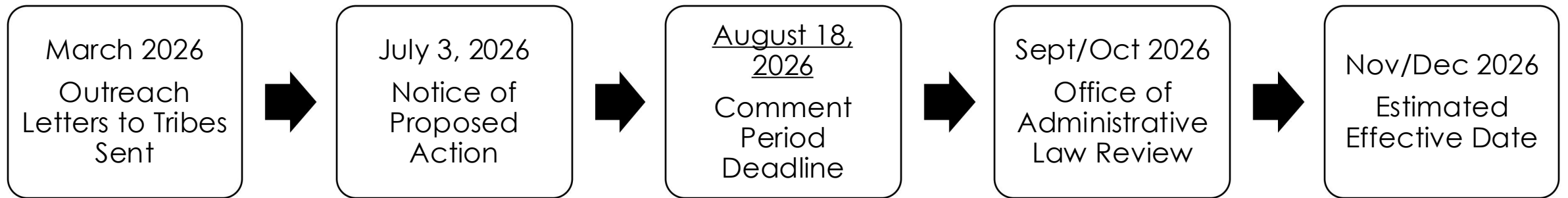
Proposed Rulemaking: Section 672.1 (cont.)

- Add “other parties” and “portions of FGC 2301 authority” to authority delegation
- Any quarantines issued by agencies or other parties must be sent to CDFW
- CDFW list of businesses that inspect or decontaminate conveyances to CDFW standard using accepted methods.
 - General Provisions
 - Requirements to be listed
 - Requirements to remain listed
 - Removal from list



DWR; Inspecting watercraft for invasive mussels

Proposed Rulemaking: Timeline



Open Public Comment Period

Verbal Comments

- Please use the “Raise hand” feature to enter queue (*9 by phone)
- You will be called upon when it is your turn to comment. Please unmute and provide your full name and affiliation, if applicable, when called upon (*6 by phone).
- Attendees are automatically muted upon entry to the meeting.

Written Comments

- Comments written in the “Chat” feature will be accepted and included in the Department’s rulemaking record. Please provide your full name and affiliation, if applicable.
- Email or mail comments must be received/post-marked by today, August 18.
- Email: Regulations@wildlife.ca.gov
- Mail:
California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Regulations Unit
Attn: Daphne Nandino
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090