

# STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS

Aquatic nuisance species pose a serious threat to the recreational and natural resources of Lake Tahoe.



Aquatic weeds and invasive mussels spread by hitchhiking on boats, trailers and equipment



## Why Should I Care?

- ⊗ EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL and CURLYLEAF PONDWEED grow in thick mats in marinas, clogging motors and making swimming dangerous.
- ⊗ Plant fragments left on boats can regenerate into new plants.
- ⊗ ZEBRA/QUAGGA MUSSELS increase drag on the hull, jam steering, and clog intake pipes. They are the size of a fingernail and larvae are invisible in bilge water.
- ⊗ ZEBRA/QUAGGA MUSSELS cause structural damage to piers and docks.
- ⊗ ZEBRA/QUAGGA MUSSELS can survive thirty days out of water in the Tahoe Basin due to low humidity.

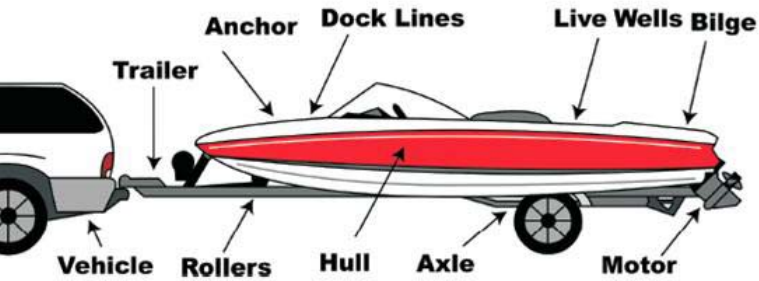
See reverse for clean boating tips!

Call

1-888-TAHO-ANS

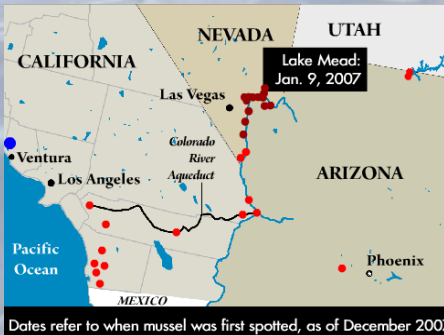
to report Quagga or Zebra mussels  
or for more information

Check all of these places for hitchhikers:



**Stop the spread!**  
**Clean. Drain. Dry.**

- CLEAN** the hull with pressurized water, removing all dirt, plant and animal material from your boat motor, live wells, trailer, anchors, fishing gear and dive gear.
- DISPOSE** of foreign matter above the waterline on dry land or in a trash can.
- DRAIN** the water from your boat motor, live well and bilge on land before you leave the immediate area.
- FLUSH** the boat, motor and bilges with hot water.



Dates refer to when mussel was first spotted, as of December 2007

Quagga mussels  
have been found  
in CA and NV.  
Don't let them  
come to  
Lake Tahoe!

Learn more about aquatic nuisance species online at:

[www.100thmeridian.org](http://www.100thmeridian.org)

[www.tahoercd.org/AquaticInvasives.php](http://www.tahoercd.org/AquaticInvasives.php)