

# NOT WANTED



## Zebra Mussel Outlaws

### Threats to the West ~ Why Be Concerned?

Zebra mussels cause devastating impacts on municipal water systems, recreation and fisheries. Currently, they are widespread in Eastern USA and as far west as Oklahoma. We don't want these outlaws in California where they would rapidly reproduce and cause millions of dollars in damage to our water resources and recreation. We need your help to stop these mussels from entering our lakes, rivers and streams.

### HOW COULD THESE OUTLAWS 'RIDE' HERE?



Attach to boat hulls and motors.

On infested recreational boats and commercial boat haulers from infested waters like the Mississippi River and Great Lakes.

### HOW CAN WE ARREST THE SPREAD?

**Learn** how to identify zebra mussels (see sidebar).

**Remove** all aquatic plants and animals from boat, motor, trailer, and equipment.

**Drain** water from livewells, bilge, and motor.

**Dispose** of unwanted live minnows and worms in the trash.

**Rinse** boat and equipment with high pressure or hot water, especially if moored for more than a day, OR

**Dry** everything for at least 5 days.

**Never** launch watercraft with a suspected infestation.

**Report** sightings on watercraft or in a lake or river – note location, place mussel in a sealed container with rubbing (isopropyl) alcohol, and call the Zebra Mussel Watch Hotline, 1-888-840-8917.



Found only in freshwater. Small barnacle-like clams with dark and light colored stripes.



Cost millions of dollars each year to control in power plants and water delivery systems.



Cover crayfish and clams, and outcompete native species for food and habitat.

### VOLUNTEER FOR A POSSE

Early detection is key to preventing and mitigating impacts of zebra mussels. If you would like to help as a volunteer monitor to protect your lake or river, please contact:

Zebra Mussel Watch Program  
1 (888) 840-8917 (toll free)  
mussel@water.ca.gov