



Media Release

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

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Draft Permit Aims to Prevent Aquatic Weed Infestation in Tahoe Keys

For Immediate Release
June 5, 2014

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Invasive aquatic weeds are choking many waterways within the 372 acres of the Tahoe Keys and these weeds, such as Milfoil and Curlyleaf Pondweed, compete with native species and present persistent navigation and swimming nuisances.

On June 3, the Lahontan Water Board in South Lake Tahoe released a draft permit for a 30-day public review, which aims to reduce and prevent the aquatic weed infestation. The permit would require the Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association to perform various land-based tasks to prevent nutrients and sediment from entering the waterways.

Such tasks include outreach and education, fertilizer and irrigation management, and promoting the retrofit of all properties with best management practices. The draft permit also will allow the homeowners' association to lay bottom barriers over the invasive aquatic weeds. Bottom barriers have been shown to effectively suffocate and eradicate the prolifically growing weeds.

The Lahontan Water Board is accepting comments on the draft permit until July 3, 2014 at noon, and has tentatively scheduled a public hearing at the Water Board's regular meeting on July 16-17 in South Lake Tahoe.

For more information or questions about the proposed permit, please contact Doug Smith at DFSmith@waterboards.ca.gov Phone: (530) 542-5453