

DRAFT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

WHEREAS, zebra and quagga mussels are an exotic nuisance species with the potential to render water delivery and water based utilities useless, and can permanently alter the composition and functioning of freshwater ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, zebra and quagga mussels are not readily detected and spread easily by attaching themselves to boats, personal watercraft and related equipment; and

WHEREAS, once zebra and quagga mussels are introduced into a water body, they cause great expenditure of public dollars in ongoing and year round cleaning and removal of colonies from water delivery systems; and

WHEREAS, the Sonoma County Water Agency, OTHERS are members of the North Coast Regional Consortium ("Consortium"); and

WHEREAS, the Consortium desires to minimize the risk of mussel infestation while simultaneously maintaining access to recreational boating and has determined that these goals can be accomplished by a coordinated regional approach to prevent the boating-related spread of zebra and quagga mussels; and

WHEREAS, the Consortium has created the North Coast Consortium Zebra and Quagga Mussel Coordinated Prevention Plan; and

NOW THEREFORE THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

1. Best Efforts

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to establish that each party to this MOU shall use their best efforts to comply with those portions of the North Coast Consortium Zebra and Quagga Mussel Coordinated Prevention Plan that are applicable to their agency's operations.

2. Term

This MOU shall be effective for a period commencing February 24, 2012 following approval by all parties and shall expire in 5 years on December 31, 2017.

3. Termination for Convenience

Any party may terminate their participation in this MOU at any time by providing thirty (30) days written notice to all other parties.

In witness whereof, the parties hereto have executed this MOU as of the dates written below.

FOR SONOMA COUNTY WATER AGENCY

GRANT DAVIS
GENERAL MANAGER

OTHERS