

DPC May 19, 2016 meeting – Agenda Item 8 (Division of Boating and Waterways Invasive Aquatic Weed Control Efforts)

AGENDA ITEM 8: **Division of Boating and Waterways Delta invasive aquatic weed control efforts**

Prepared by: Erik Vink

Presented by: Lynn Sadler (California State Parks - Division of Boating and Waterways)

Requested Action: **Receive report on Division of Boating and Waterways aquatic weed control efforts**

Background: State law designates the California State Parks - Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) as the lead state agency to cooperate with other State, local and federal agencies in controlling water hyacinth, egeria densa and curly leaf pondweed in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, its tributaries, and the Suisun Marsh. These invasive aquatic weeds have a negative impact on the Delta’s ecosystem as they displace native plants, block light needed for photosynthesis, reduce the amount of dissolved oxygen in the water, and deposit silt and organic matter several times the normal rate. These aquatic invasive weeds are known to form dense mats of vegetation creating safety hazards for boaters, obstructing navigation channels, marinas and irrigation systems. The water hyacinth problem became especially pronounced in 2014 and 2015 and continues to the present time.

The Commission will hear from Lynn Sadler, Deputy Director of the Division of Boating and Waterways, about the plans for aquatic weed treatment in the Delta in 2016.