



El Dorado Irrigation District

2025 Boating Restrictions at Sly Park Recreation Area to Prevent Invasive Mussel Introduction

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Why is EID implementing boat launch restrictions at Jenkinson Lake?

The District is taking an active approach to protect our local water supplies from the threat of golden mussels, an invasive species recently detected in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. These mussels reproduce rapidly and damage water infrastructure by clogging pipelines and treatment systems. Boat launch restrictions are a precautionary measure to prevent their introduction into our water supply.

2. What are golden mussels, and why are they a concern?

Golden mussels are small freshwater mussels that reproduce rapidly, attaching to hard surfaces, which can clog intake pipes, filters, and other water infrastructure. Unlike other invasive mussels, golden mussels can survive in a wide range of environmental conditions, including water with low calcium levels, such as Jenkinson Lake, located at Sly Park Recreation Area (SPRA).

3. When did the new boat launching restrictions go into effect?

Beginning April 21, 2025, boaters have been required to either show proof of inspection and decontamination from an EID-approved station or complete a 30-day quarantine period with an EID-issued seal. (See question 4 for approved locations.)

4. Where are EID-approved decontamination locations?

Currently, EID only accepts proof of decontamination and inspection from the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency. For current information on their Program, visit [TahoeBoatInspections.com](https://www.tahoeregionalplanningagency.com/BoatInspections). ***Please visit their website for the latest information on current and seasonal hours.***

Please refer to the District's dedicated webpage at [EID.org/Boating](https://www.eid.org/Boating) for additional locations that may be added in the future.

5. What boats/watercraft are affected by the restrictions?

The restrictions apply to all trailered or motorized boats and sailboats.

Exempt (Not affected):

- Non-motorized watercraft (e.g., kayaks, canoes, paddleboards) that are determined to be clean, drained, and dry.

6. What are my options for launching a motorized boat at SPRA after April 21?

You must either:

- Show an intact seal and receipt from an approved inspection/decontamination station, or
- Complete EID's 30-day quarantine program and have a valid and intact red quarantine seal attached to your boat by EID staff.

7. What is the 30-day quarantine protocol?

The 30-day quarantine ensures any invasive mussels or larvae die off before a boat is launched.

Here is how it works:

- Bring your boat to SPRA to have a red quarantine seal applied by EID Staff.
 - You do not need an appointment to obtain a red quarantine seal.
- After completion of a 30-day quarantine (or verification of decontamination), boats that last launched at SPRA may be sealed before exiting and may re-enter without additional quarantine if the EID seal remains intact.

8. Where and when can I get a quarantine seal?

Red quarantine seals will be issued at:

- SPRA Entrance Station:
4771 Sly Park Rd, Pollock Pines
Daily: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

9. How much does it cost to get a quarantine seal?

Currently, there is no cost to obtain a quarantine seal.

10. What if I launch my boat at another lake after launching at SPRA?

If your EID-issued seal is broken, removed, or no longer intact, your boat must either:

- Be re-sealed with a red tag and be quarantined for 30 days, or
- Be inspected and decontaminated at an approved station and return with a valid seal and receipt.

11. What if I have a mooring slip at SPRA?

Boaters with a mooring slip who did not launch and moor their boat at SPRA prior to April 21 are subject to the same quarantine process as all other boaters. Please note that should you remove your boat from SPRA, future launches will be subject to the then-current restrictions.

12. What if I want to avoid the quarantine process?

You can take your boat to an approved boat inspection and decontamination station, as identified in question 4 above, to receive a boat decontamination. If your boat has a valid, intact seal and documentation from that station, you may launch at SPRA.

13. How will I know if my non-motorized boat (e.g., kayak, canoe, paddleboard) is considered “Clean, Drain, and Dry”?

EID staff may perform visual inspections of non-motorized watercraft. Boats must show no standing water, no visible mussels or other invasive species, including aquatic vegetation, and no mud or moisture in any compartments. Boats that do not pass a visual check may be denied access or asked to quarantine.

14. What if my non-motorized boat is on a trailer?

Trailers will be inspected and must be clean, drained, and dry. Any dirty trailers that have the potential to be transporting invasive species will be turned away, similar to how potentially infested boats are treated.

15. Will boating fees be impacted?

EID periodically reviews all its fees to ensure operational costs are covered. The additional program costs will be evaluated, which may require fee adjustments in the future to reflect the additional resources required to implement the Program.

16. Will the Program change over time?

EID anticipates that the Program will continue to be refined over time as additional information from our partner agencies regarding the invasive mussels becomes available and we continue to coordinate with other regional water managers.

17. Where can I get more information?

Please go to EID’s dedicated webpage, EID.org/Boating, for more information, resources, and updates as they become available.

18. Do I need a tag to access Caples and/or Silver Lakes?

At this time, there are no launching restrictions at either reservoir. Due to water quality conditions that are less conducive to the establishment of golden mussels, control efforts at these locations are focused on outreach and education. Boaters can expect to see posted materials and may interact with District staff while accessing the reservoirs. As additional guidance from state and federal authorities becomes available, existing access procedures are subject to change without notice to protect the District’s drinking water supplies.

19. If I launch at Caples and/or Silver Lakes, can I also launch at Sly Park/Jenkinson Lake?

Boaters who launch at Caples and/or Silver Lakes—or any other reservoir—must have an EID-installed quarantine tag placed on their boat for 30 days before launching at Sly Park/Jenkinson Lake.