May 14, 2020

To: Potentially Affected Public Agencies

Subject: Aquatic Plant Management on Clear Lake for the 2020 season

This letter is to notify you of the Lake County Water Resources intention to have aquatic herbicides/algaecides applied to Clear Lake for aquatic plant management in 2020. The State Water Resources Control Board is permitting this activity through Water Quality Order No. 2013-0002-DWQ General Permit No. CAG990005 Statewide General National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for Residual Aquatic Pesticide Discharges to Waters of the United States from Algae and Aquatic Weed Control Applications. This notification is a requirement of the permit. All aquatic plant management on Clear Lake is based on the NPDES permit and the associated Clear Lake Integrated Aquatic Plant Management Plan (CLIAPMP), August 1, 2004. The CLIAPMP Monitoring and Reporting Plan and the CLIAPMP Quality Assurance Plan were revised to conform to the 2013 NPDES permit. Until further notice, this permit expires November 30, 2020.

Aquatic herbicides/algaecides approved in 2020 to be used within the Clear Lake Integrated Aquatic Management Program are: triclopyr, endothall, diquat, flumioxazin, and sodium carbonate peroxyhydrate. Copper-based herbicides are not permitted for private permit use at this time and strong internal review will be utilized before approved use of 2,4-D and glyphosate.

During 2018-2019 the nuisance aquatic plants most commonly found and controlled in Clear Lake include but are not limited to: native sago pondweed (Stuckenia pectinata), invasive curlyleaf pondweed (Potamogeton crispus), invasive creeping water primrose (Ludwigia peploides), native coontail (Ceratophyllum demersum), native pacific mosquitofern (Azolla filiculoides), and the highly invasive hydrilla (Hydrilla verticillata). Hydrilla is a CA Department of Food and Agriculture “A” rated pest that has a state mandated (state funded) eradication program in place on Clear Lake with a separate NPDES permit.

With the approval of the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife, aquatic herbicides will be applied to Clear Lake in June and continue (with approval) periodically through October. Water use restrictions or precautions are the responsibility of the licensed aquatic herbicide applicators.

Do not hesitate to contact me at any time if you have any questions or comments.

Angela De Palma-Dow, Invasive Species Program Coordinator
p: 707-263-2344, e: Angela.depalma-dow@lakecountyca.gov