



**TAHOE
REGIONAL
PLANNING
AGENCY**

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Stateline, NV 89449-5310

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT

Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
Seeks Bids for Emerald Bay Asian
Clam Control Project

September 5, 2012

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LAKE TAHOE AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM

EMERALD BAY ASIAN CLAM CONTROL PROJECT

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

BACKGROUND:

Lake Tahoe is a magnificent body of water that is threatened by environmental degradation. The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) is charged with protecting this national treasure for the benefit of current and future generations. As part of this charge, TRPA works with partner agencies to control Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) in the Lake Tahoe Region. The establishment of Asian clam (*Corbicula fluminea*) in Emerald Bay threatens native plant and animal communities, fishing and recreation opportunities, and water quality in Emerald Bay State Park.

The Asian Clam Working Group, with direction from the multi-agency Lake Tahoe Aquatic Invasive Species Coordination Committee, currently implements clam control and research efforts at Lake Tahoe to address the threat of environmental degradations from infestation and establishment of Asian clam. The working group membership includes TRPA, Tahoe Resource Conservation District, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service – Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, California Department of Parks and Recreation, California Department of Fish and Game, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, Nevada Department of Wildlife, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, the League to Save Lake Tahoe, general improvement districts, local businesses, and private land owners. The Asian clam working group partners will designate a *project facilitator* for this project that will be responsible for representing the interests of the various program partners. The TRPA is distributing this request for proposal as part of its role as fiscal agent for the Lake Tahoe Region Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan.

Successful control of aquatic invasive species in Lake Tahoe will require exhaustive and repeated treatment efforts of infestations to simultaneously reduce large source populations and eradicate small, satellite infestations. This Project is intended to initiate the eradication of a discrete population of Asian clam in Emerald Bay, as prioritized by the AIS Coordination Committee under the Lake Tahoe Region Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan.

The purpose of this Request for Proposals is to identify a contractor that can accomplish the construction-related tasks associated with the 2012-2013 effort to control Asian clam in Emerald Bay, California.

Funding has been secured to specifically address the control of Asian clam in Emerald Bay through the State of California Cleanup and Abatement Account (Proposition 299) and the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA). These funds are administered by the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, respectively, to the TRPA.

PUBLIC RECORDS

The documents submitted in response to this request for proposal may be public record pursuant to the financial policy manual and public records policy in the TRPA Rules of Procedure. Restrictions on any information submitted will render a bid non-responsive.

The Agency assumes no contractual obligation to enforce any exemption on behalf of a respondent to the RFP.

RFP COORDINATOR:

Upon release of this RFP, all communications concerning this proposal request should be directed to the RFP Coordinator listed below. Unauthorized contact regarding this RFP may result in disqualification. Any oral communications will be considered unofficial and non-binding to the Agency. The respondent should rely only on written statements issued by the RFP Coordinator.

Patrick Stone, AIS Control Project Manager
Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
128 Market Street
PO Box 5310
Stateline, NV 89449
775.589.5213
pstone@trpa.org

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL SCHEDULE:

The Agency anticipates the following schedule, which is subject to change:

Date of Announcement:	September 5, 2012
Questions/Inquiries Accepted:	September 12, 2012
Response to Questions Announcement:	September 15, 2012
Deadline for Proposal Submissions:	September 24, 2012
Proposals Opened:	September 24, 2012
Interviews:	September 26-27-20, 2012
Notification of Award:	September 28, 2012

Late proposal submissions will not be considered and will be returned unopened to the sender.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THE RFP:

Requests for clarification or additional information must be made in writing to the RFP Coordinator, Patrick Stone, prior to the date specified in the RFP Schedule. Written responses to all requests will be posted at: <http://www.trpa.org/default.aspx?tabindex=13&tabid=121>

Any verbal communication with the RFP Coordinator or a staff member of the Agency concerning this RFP shall not be considered binding on the Agency and shall in no way alter a specification, term, or condition of the RFP.

The RFP Coordinator will be unable to respond to requests for additional information or clarification received after 4:00pm PST, September 5, 2012.

RFP AMENDMENTS:

In the event of a material modification, all known and/or potential bidders will be notified of an amendment to the RFP as determined by the Agency's receipt of a completed RFP Acknowledgment Form. If deemed necessary by the Agency, bidders will be given an opportunity to modify their proposal in the specific areas that are affected by the modification.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION:

Each bidder must submit three (3) copies of their proposal. In addition, one electronic copy of the proposal and any supporting documentation (Microsoft Word or PDF) must be submitted on CD-ROM or portable digital storage device.

The complete proposal package must be submitted in a sealed envelope, plainly marked "**Emerald Bay Asian Clam Control RFP Response**" and "**DO NOT OPEN – Sealed Bid Enclosed**", name and contact information of bidder, and addressed to the attention of Patrick Stone, AIS Control Project Manager as follows:

Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
Attention: Patrick Stone, AIS Control Project Manager

Physical Address (FedEx/UPS Delivery):
128 Market Street
Stateline, NV 89449

Mailing Address (US Mail only):
P.O. Box 5310
Stateline, NV 89449-5310

Bidders accept all risk of late delivery of mailed proposals regardless of fault. Late proposal submissions will not be considered. Also, facsimile and other electronically transmitted proposals will not be considered.

All proposals and accompanying documentation become the property of the Agency and will not be returned.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- The Agency reserves the right to amend the RFP schedule or issue amendments to the RFP at any time. The Agency also reserves the right to cancel or reissue the RFP, to reject any or all proposals, to waive any irregularities or informalities in the selection process, and to accept or reject any item or combination of items. The Agency reserves the right to request clarification of information from any bidder or to request supplemental material deemed necessary to assist in the evaluation of the proposal. The Agency reserves the

right to effect any agreement deemed by the Agency to be in its best interest. This RFP does not obligate the Agency to accept or contract for any expressed or implied services.

- In the event that the bidder to whom any services are awarded does not execute a contract within thirty (30) calendar days after Agency approval, the Agency may give notice to such bidder of intent to award the contract to the next most qualified bidder or to call for new proposals and may proceed to act accordingly.
- The Agency will not reimburse any bidder for any of the costs involved in the preparation and submission of responses to this RFP or in the preparation for and attendance at subsequent interviews.
- Bidder shall thoroughly examine and be familiar with these specifications. The failure or omission of any bidder to receive or examine this document shall in no way relieve any bidder of obligations with respect to this proposal or the subsequent contract.
- Bidder must certify to the best of its knowledge and belief that it and its principals are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any federal department or agency.
- Selected consultant(s) will be expected to sign the **TRPA Consultant Services Agreement** listed on <http://www.trpa.org/default.aspx?tabindex=13&tabid=121>.
- All subcontractors, if any, used by the selected consultant will require prior written consent of the Agency and will be subject to all provisions stipulated in the **TRPA Consultant Services Agreement**.
- This contract will be funded by federal and state grant awards and is subject to federal and state grant award requirements including, but not limited to, cost principles and administrative regulations.
- The executed contract may be terminated by the Agency in the event the successful bidder:
 - o Fails to meet delivery schedules;
 - o Otherwise fails to perform in accordance with this contract;
 - o Becomes insolvent and/or files for protection under the bankruptcy laws.

The vendor shall be entitled to just and equitable compensation for any satisfactory work completed through the termination date. Under no circumstances will any damages be paid as a result of the termination of this contract. If the Agency exercises the right to terminate the contract early, the vendor may be prohibited from submitting future proposals to the Agency for a specified period.

LAKE TAHOE AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM

EMERALD BAY ASIAN CLAM CONTROL PROJECT

SECTION 2: SCOPE OF SERVICES

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Control of aquatic invasive species implies maintaining populations at a small enough size and density to prevent further growth or spread of the infestation. Eradication indicates the elimination of all life stages of a species. While eradication is often less achievable, it is the objective of this project because the nature of the species, size of the infestation, and physical site conditions make eradication feasible. Often the methods, or *treatments*, used to control aquatic invasive species are the same as those to eradicate them; however, the intensity of management varies greatly from control to eradication.

A multitude of studies have been conducted at Lake Tahoe and abroad to determine the effectiveness of various treatment and control methods for Asian clam infestations. Examples of tools that have been deployed at Lake Tahoe with varying success are mechanical dredging and placement of bottom barriers.

The Asian clam working group estimates that 5 acres of the known infestation can be treated from Fall 2012 to Fall 2013 using rubber bottom barriers that restrict the availability of oxygen and nutrients. Similar treatments will be repeated in future years as necessary and as resources allow; however, the scope of this project and RFP are limited to 5 acres of treatment with rubber bottom barriers for one year.

OBJECTIVES:

The ultimate objective of Asian clam control efforts at the mouth of Emerald Bay is to eradicate the discreet infestation in order to mitigate or avoid adverse environmental impacts. This objective will be accomplished through repeated implementation of effective treatment techniques.

The objective of this Project is to treat 5 acres of the Asian clam infestation at Emerald Bay through effective installation, maintenance, and removal of rubber bottom barriers augmented with organic material. Additional treatments of the Asian clam infestation at Emerald Bay would occur under future projects.

SCOPE:

The uniqueness of the substrate type, boating activities, water currents, and weather patterns has been examined to determine the best strategy for treating the infestation at the sill of Emerald Bay. Proposals should include a strategy to efficiently apply established approaches and to support project evaluation and adaptive management through team organization.

The successful proposal(s) will demonstrate the ability to complete each of the tasks described below. Implementation of the Project is anticipated to require efficient management and operation of

one field crew, including underwater scuba-diving, watercraft and equipment operation, material transport, and data collection.

Task 1: Project Management

The Project will require effective project management. Essential project management duties for this project include team organization, policy integration, task or subtask evaluation, reporting, permit compliance, and budget management. Proposals should demonstrate experience and efficiency in performing management duties for similar project efforts.

Subtask 1A: Attend Meetings

Bi-weekly project management meetings will be held at a convenient location or by phone conference. The purpose of these meetings will be to provide progress/status reports, discuss project challenges, and provide administrative-level direction or decisions. In addition to project managers and site/team supervisors, these meetings will be attended by project facilitators with the authority to provide project direction as working group representatives. It is anticipated that major project challenges will be addressed at these meetings.

Special meetings will be held for all selected parties as determined necessary by project facilitators or project management. Such meetings may be necessary when project challenges require discussion beyond the scope of the bi-weekly meeting or when a summary presentation would facilitate rapid project evaluation.

TRPA has facilities available to support bi-weekly and special meetings at the main office in Stateline, Nevada. Other facilities located around the Tahoe Basin may be available through program partners upon request.

Subtask 1B: Coordinate with Project Facilitators

In addition to bi-weekly meetings, the project management team will be responsible for coordinating with the project facilitators as needed. The project facilitators will likely include one staff member from California Department of Parks and Recreation and one staff member from Tahoe RCD. Project management will be responsible for communicating project challenges, safety concerns, or significant decisions to TRPA and project facilitators in a timely manner. This task will typically entail regular email or phone call correspondence to discuss project details. It is anticipated that minor project challenges will be addressed at this level of communication.

Subtask 1C: Supervise Field Crew

Project management will provide for and organize supervision of construction crews for each project activity. Supervision must include implementation of necessary safety measures, such as described in the "Special Considerations" section below. Project management will be responsible for ensuring safety plans, on-site coordination, and documentation is implemented correctly. Proposals should include project management and team organization that address the need for on-site supervision.

Task 1 Deliverables:

- *Efficient Management and Use of Project Resources*
- *Bi-weekly Progress Reports, provided at bi-weekly meetings*
- *On-site Supervision and Quality Control*

Task 2: Installation: Transport, Install, and Maintain Bottom Barriers at Emerald Bay

This task will be conducted under the supervision of TRPA, the designated project facilitator, and the project manager as described above. This task will also be implemented under the direction of the science advisory and engineering team. Therefore, project coordination and adaptive management

will be essential elements of the installation task. Proposals should consider the size and location of the Emerald Bay infestation to determine capacity needs and to address an adaptive approach. The location and extent of the Asian clam infestation at Emerald Bay, based on 2011 survey results, is displayed in Appendix A. Photographs of barrier materials, barrier deployment, and a rolling mechanism are also provided in Appendix A. A video of woven fiber roll deployment underwater is available at <http://youtu.be/wmBHSKNwZKo>.

Subtask 2A: Transport materials from land to Emerald Bay field site

Approximately 240 sheets of 10-foot wide by 100-foot long 45 mil. black rubber (reinforced EPDM pond liner), an associated area of woven aspen fiber (Cortex erosion control material, 8-feet wide by 90-feet long), and approximately 5,500 pieces of 10-foot long #5 rebar will be transported from dry storage in Stateline, Nevada to the field site in Emerald Bay, California. Each sheet of rubber and each sheet of woven fiber will be individually rolled and stored in a commercial unit with access via a 10-foot utility door. Each barrier roll measures 10 feet long with a rolled diameter of 9 inches and weighs approximately 300 pounds. Each woven fiber roll measures 8 feet long with a rolled diameter of 12 inches and weighs approximately 70 pounds.

Transport for this project will entail moving the materials from the TRPA storage unit at 128 Market Street in Stateline, Nevada to an adequate boating facility; transfer of the material from land vehicle to water vessel; and moving the material by boat from the boating facility to Emerald Bay. Project materials will likely be transported to the field site in several batches, such as weekly rather than all at once, because space for staging at the field site is limited.

Subtask 2B: Install bottom barriers

The rubber barrier material, organic woven fiber material, and associated rebar will be lowered to the lake bottom from the side of a work platform (e.g. barge) using a winch, backhoe, or other appropriate equipment. The materials will be lined up along the edge of the delineated field site. Float bags may be used to secure the rubber bottom barrier material underwater and to reduce the weight of each rubber barrier roll. The organic material and rubber barriers will be rolled out underwater by divers, with the organic material sealed underneath the rubber material. After the rubber barriers and fiber sheets are rolled out, the edges of each barrier will be weighted with rebar and staked down where necessary. It is estimated that approximately 4 divers per day for up to 25 days is required for this task. Shorter dives or reduced daily work schedules that would increase the number of days required to complete the work may be necessary to avoid high visitor-use periods or hazardous weather conditions.

Subtask 2C: Monitor bottom barriers and repair as needed

While deployed, the barriers will be periodically observed by TRPA from watercraft to monitor the condition of barriers and rebar. If a barrier or barriers move, billow, separate, or otherwise become ineffective for Asian clam control, dive crews will be dispatched to repair the barriers. It is estimated that this task will require 2 to 3 divers for up to 5 days to repair barriers.

Task 2 Deliverables:

- *Transport bottom barriers, organic material, and weight to Emerald Bay.*
- *Deploy and install effectively within the delineated infestation area at the sill of Emerald Bay*
240 bottom barriers augmented with organic material.
- *Monitor and repair bottom barriers at Emerald Bay as needed to maintain an effective application.*

Task 3: Removal: Remove, Clean, and Transport Bottom Barriers from Emerald Bay

Subtask 3A: Remove bottom barriers

After approximately one year, the bottom barriers and all associated materials will be removed from the lake bottom. The initial step in this process is to remove all weights from the treatment site and lift them to the barge using a crane, winch, or other equipment. The next step is the removal of each rubber barrier sheet. A diver will attach the edges of each sheet to a rolling system that will be operated from the barge. The rolling system will roll the sheet up as it is pulled up from the bottom of the lake in order to reduce the diver labor necessary. Finally, divers will remove the woven organic material that was placed beneath the barriers. This material will be rolled by divers on the lake bottom and the rolls will then either be floated to the top using diver float bags, or hoisted to the deck of the work platform by crane or winch. It is estimated this task will take 15 days with 4 divers. Shorter dives or reduced daily work schedules that would increase the number of days required to complete the work may be necessary to avoid high visitor-use periods or hazardous weather conditions.

Subtask 3B: Clean bottom barriers

Each bottom barrier will be cleaned at the field site immediately upon removal in order to decontaminate the barriers of all organic debris, Asian clams, or other aquatic invasive species. If necessary, additional decontamination procedures may be performed at a dry location. All equipment must also be adequately decontaminated at each critical control point according to project Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) plan. Implementation of the HACCP procedures will be the responsibility of the selected contractor, see Special Considerations below.

Subtask 3C: Delivery of materials from land to Emerald Bay field site

All the black rubber sheets and rebar will be documented and transported from the field site in Emerald Bay, California to dry storage in Stateline, Nevada or other location as determined by TRPA. The woven organic material will be disposed of at an appropriate refuse collection or composting facility. Each sheet of rubber will be individually rolled and secured for storage. Materials will be transferred from the boat or barge to the land-transportation vehicle at an approved boating facility. Materials will likely be transported to the dry storage location and disposal site in several batches, rather than all at once, because space for staging at the field site will be limited.

Task 3 Deliverables:

- *Remove all bottom barriers, organic material, and weights from the Emerald Bay site;*
- *Clean and/or decontaminate all bottom barrier materials; and*
- *Transport project materials to dry storage site, disposal facility, or other site as determined by the TRPA project manager.*

Task 4: Permit Compliance

The Project has been permitted through several authorizing agencies, including U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, California State Lands Commission, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, California Department of Fish and Game, and TRPA. As a condition of these permits, the Project will include water quality monitoring in order to ensure Project impacts do not exceed permit conditions. Selected parties will be responsible for conducting water quality monitoring, sample collection and analysis, and compliance reporting according to permit requirements. Monitoring will include turbidity (a turbidimeter is available, see Special Considerations below), temperature, time of observation, and description of project activity. An example water quality monitoring plan is provided in Appendix B.

Task 3 Deliverables:

- *Turbidity and water quality monitoring as described in permit requirements; and*
- *Water quality monitoring reports submitted to project management and project facilitators within 30-days of activity; reports will document and summarize all data collected.*

Task 5: Reporting

Selected parties will be responsible for providing brief written reports on the project progress, challenges encountered, and solutions developed through the course of project implementation. On-site supervisors will record daily activities and provide progress reports to project management. Project management will provide bi-weekly progress reports, task-specific summary reports, and a final project report to TRPA and the Asian Clam Working Group. Project management will be responsible for identifying reporting responsibilities and structure as part of project initiation. Proposals should demonstrate an understanding of the reporting responsibilities for this project.

Task 4 Deliverables:

- *Bi-weekly progress reports;*
- *Two summary reports submitted to TRPA within 30-days of completing Task 2: Installation and within 30-days of completing Task 3: Removal;*
- *Draft Project Report submitted to TRPA by November 15, 2013; and*
- *Final Project Report submitted to TRPA by December 15, 2013.*

PROJECT SCHEDULE:

Contracts Awarded	September 2012
Management and Coordination (Task 1)	September 2012 – December 2013
Barrier Installation (Task 2 & 4)	October – November 2012
Barrier Removal (Tasks 3 & 4)	September – October 2013
Reporting (Task 5)	October 2012 – December 2013
Final Report Due (Task 5)	January 15, 2014

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Equipment

The contractor will be responsible for providing equipment necessary for implementing the Project. Necessary equipment will likely include the following:

- Barge or floating work platform large enough to stage, deploy, and recover bottom barriers;
- Lifting and lowering mechanism such as a heavy-duty winch, excavator, or back-hoe;
- Flatbed truck or trailer with lift-arm, forklift, or an equivalent for transporting barriers;
- Diving equipment including air-supply system and/or SCUBA tanks; and
- Diver-safety flags, buoys, and/or markers.

In addition, the Working Group maintains several equipment items that will be available for contractor use in this Project. Available equipment will include the following:

- (1) Barrier-rolling mechanism (Appendix A),
- (1) Barrier deployment mechanism for lowering rolls to lake bottom (Appendix A),
- (4) Dive safety buoys, and
- (1) HACH 2100P Turbidimeter for monitoring water turbidity.

Proposals must address equipment needs and company/agency contributions.

Special Qualifications

Professional under-water diving at Lake Tahoe requires specialized skills and qualifications. In addition, under-water-diving for this Asian clam control effort will require site-specific safety and diver-support planning. Table 1 provides a summary of desired experience, qualifications, diver certifications, and other pertinent information that should be provided in proposals.

Table 1. Special Qualifications, Certifications, and Other Information

Special Qualifications	Diver Certifications	Pertinent Information
Experience in Scientific Research Experience in Aquatic Plant Control Diver Safety Plan Emergency First Responder	Commercial Altitude Diver Dry Suit Diver Rescue Diver	Years of commercial or professional diving experience Proof of Liability Insurance (Bodily personal injury and property damage with minimal acceptable coverage of \$1 million)

Hazard Assessment and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Plan

The contractor will be responsible for implementing a hazard analysis and critical point plan (HACCP Plan) according to U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service guidelines, available at <http://haccp-nrm.org>. The Asian Clam Working Group has developed a standard HACCP for control projects using bottom barriers to treat Asian clam. The purpose of this HACCP planning is to identify critical points for controlling the potential spread of invasive species and other environmental hazards. Critical control points for this project include prior to arriving at a site or prior to moving from one infestation to another. Standard procedures for decontaminating personnel and equipment will be identified for each critical control point. The contractor will be responsible for implementing mandatory decontamination procedures; however, these procedures are relatively simple and easy for anyone to perform.

MINIMUM REQUIRED PROPOSAL CONTENTS:

Proposals should be prepared simply and economically, providing a straight-forward, concise description of bidder capabilities to satisfy the requirements of this request. Special bindings, colored displays, promotional materials, etc., are not desired. Emphasis should be placed on completeness and clarity of content. All proposal responses should address the following matters:

1. Definition of the Project: Indicate your understanding of the Project objectives and of aquatic invasive species control at Lake Tahoe.
2. Project approach: Describe how the Project will be managed, implemented, and evaluated to accomplish the objectives and requirements outlined in this request.

The project approach should not exceed three (3) pages, as written in Arial size 11 font, and page margins not to be less than 1" on all sides.
3. Team Organization: Describe how the project team will be organized to facilitate effective management, implementation, and evaluation.
4. Qualifications and Experience: Provide a summary of company and project team qualifications related to AIS control or related services. Describe examples of past experience pertinent to the barrier installation and removal effort. Refer to Special Qualifications section for diver safety qualifications and/or certifications.
5. Schedule and Cost: Provide an itemized cost estimate based on the Tasks described in Scope of Work section. Adequate cost estimates will address the needs of an adaptive implementation approach, such as with a "per area" or "per time" estimate. However, all proposals must include a total estimated cost that does not exceed \$350,000.

It should be noted the Agency's evaluation process is not designed to simply award the contract to the lowest cost proposer. Rather, it is intended to help the Agency select the vendor with the best combination of attributes including cost.

6. References: Provide a minimum of three (3) client references of similar sized and/or governmental accounts which the bidder has served in a similar capacity over the past two years and/or is currently serving. Provide a contact person, telephone number, and email address for each reference customer.

The References section should not exceed one (1) page, as written in Arial size 11 font, and page margins not to be less than 1" on all sides.

Client recommendation submissions in response to this section are welcomed and should be included in the Attachments section. Client recommendation submissions should not exceed one (1) page in length, as written in Arial size 11 font, and page margins not to be less than 1" on all sides

NOTIFICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS:

The selection process will be completed within 2 weeks following the submission deadline. The process for selecting the Applicant is as follows:

1. General proposal evaluation criteria will include content of the proposal, project approach and understanding, qualifications, references, cost, service availability, and timing.
2. An initial screening of applicants will determine level of knowledge, experience, and qualifications. Only responses from qualified applicants will be evaluated further.
3. Qualified applicants may be invited to an interview. The interview will include, but is not limited to, a brief presentation on project approach and understanding, followed by questions relating to the qualifications and previous experience of the applicant, proposed project scope, management organization, and personnel that will perform specific tasks. It is possible the selection of a consultant will be based solely on the written response.
4. The applicant selected will be notified and asked to submit a final scope of work to TRPA based on the RFP, the consultant's proposal for services, interview discussions if any, and project specifications. Should the applicant and TRPA be unable to agree to the terms of a contract, TRPA will reserve the right to disqualify the consultant and select another qualified applicant. Should this process not results in the hiring of a consultant, the RFP may be reissued.
5. TRPA agrees to, and will require of the applicant if making use of subcontracts, make a "good faith" effort to contract with minority firms, women's business enterprises and labor surplus area firms. Accordingly, TRPA strongly encourages MBE, WBE, and SBE to apply to this RFP.

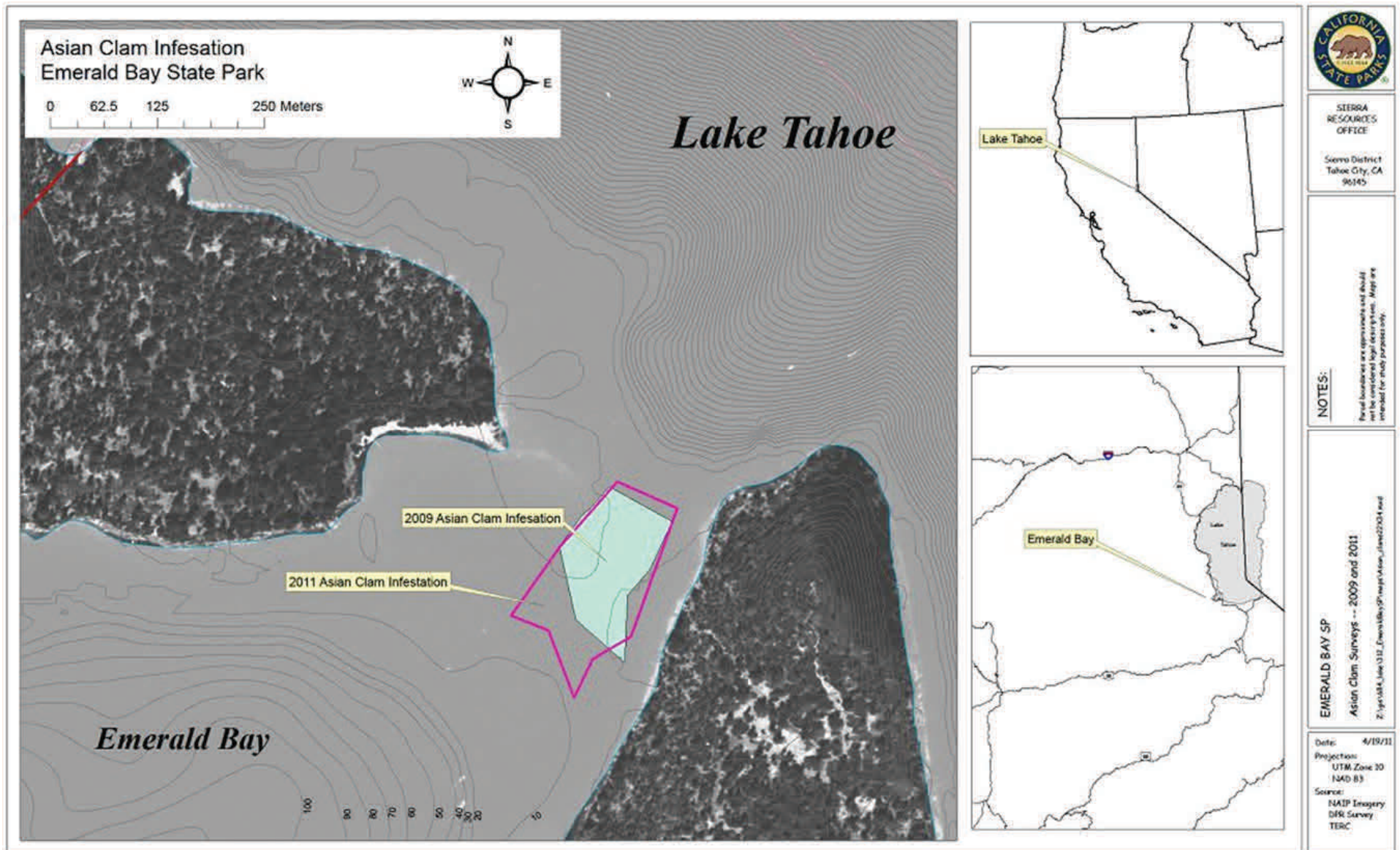
The grantee reserves the right to award any part of or the whole proposal to one or multiple companies. TRPA will contract with the party or parties that will best accomplish the project objectives for the best value and in the best interests of the Aquatic Invasive Species Management Program.

APPENDICES

- A. Project Location and Photographs
- B. Asian Clam Control Monitoring Plan – Emerald Bay

APPENDIX A

Project Location and Photographs



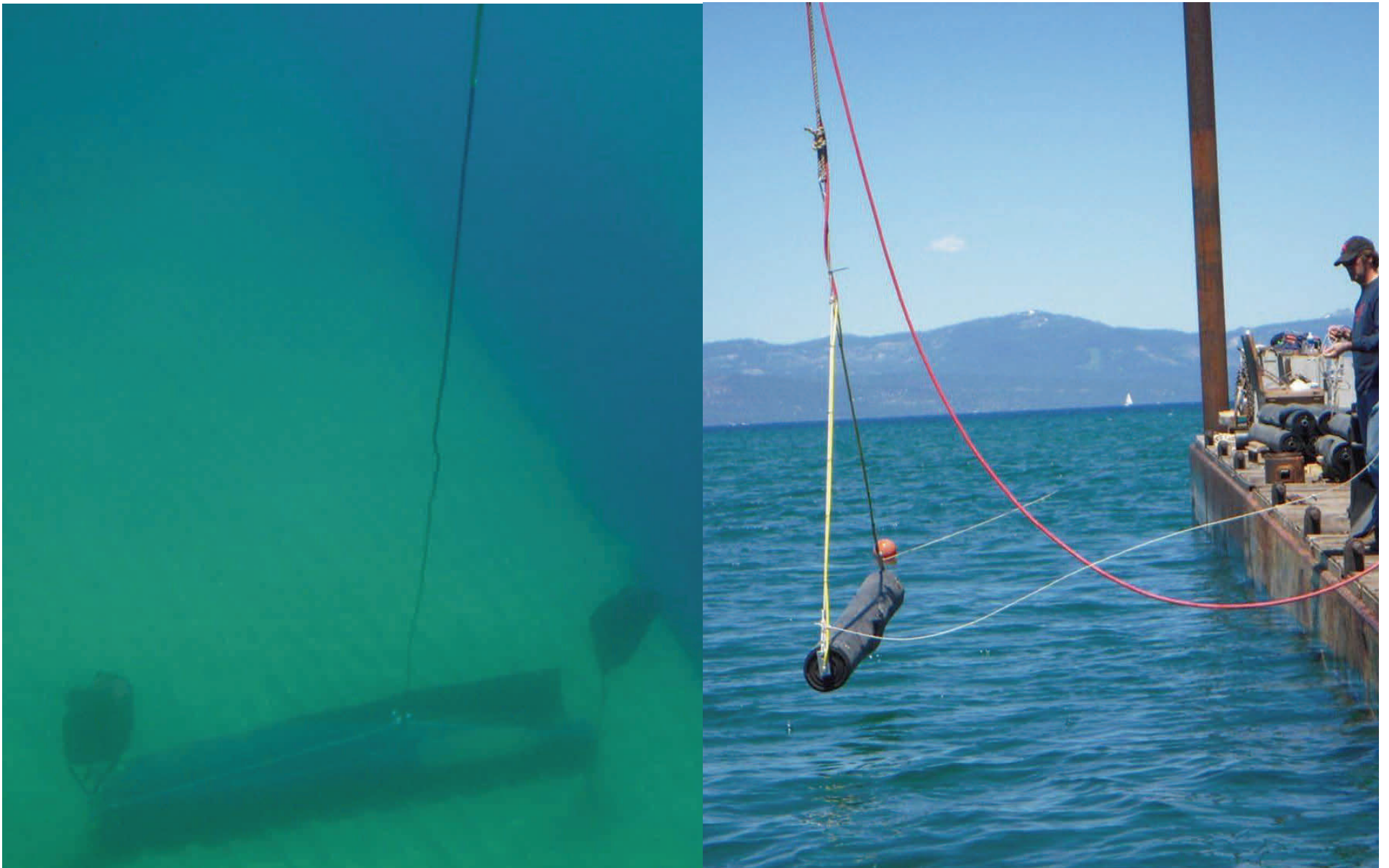
Project Location



Photograph of Project Location



Photographs of Project Materials



Photographs of Lowering Mechanism

APPENDIX B

Asian Clam Control Monitoring Plan – Emerald Bay

Asian Clam Control Monitoring Plan – Emerald Bay

July 2012

Prepared for Permitting Compliance for

Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) and

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

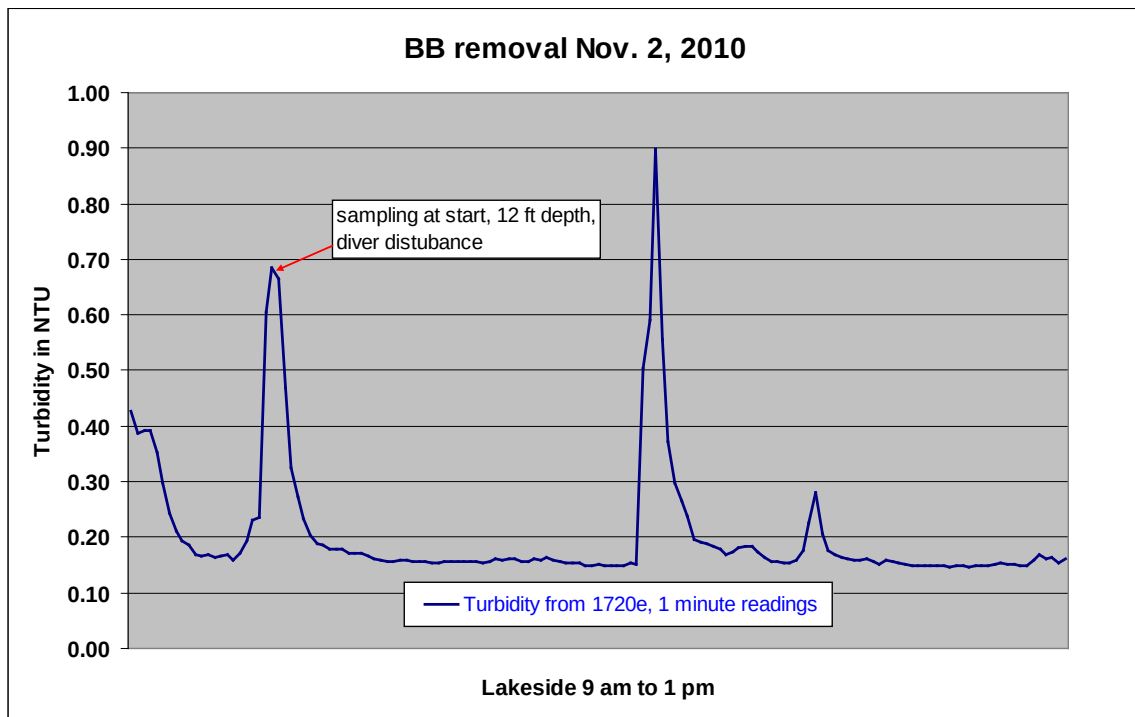
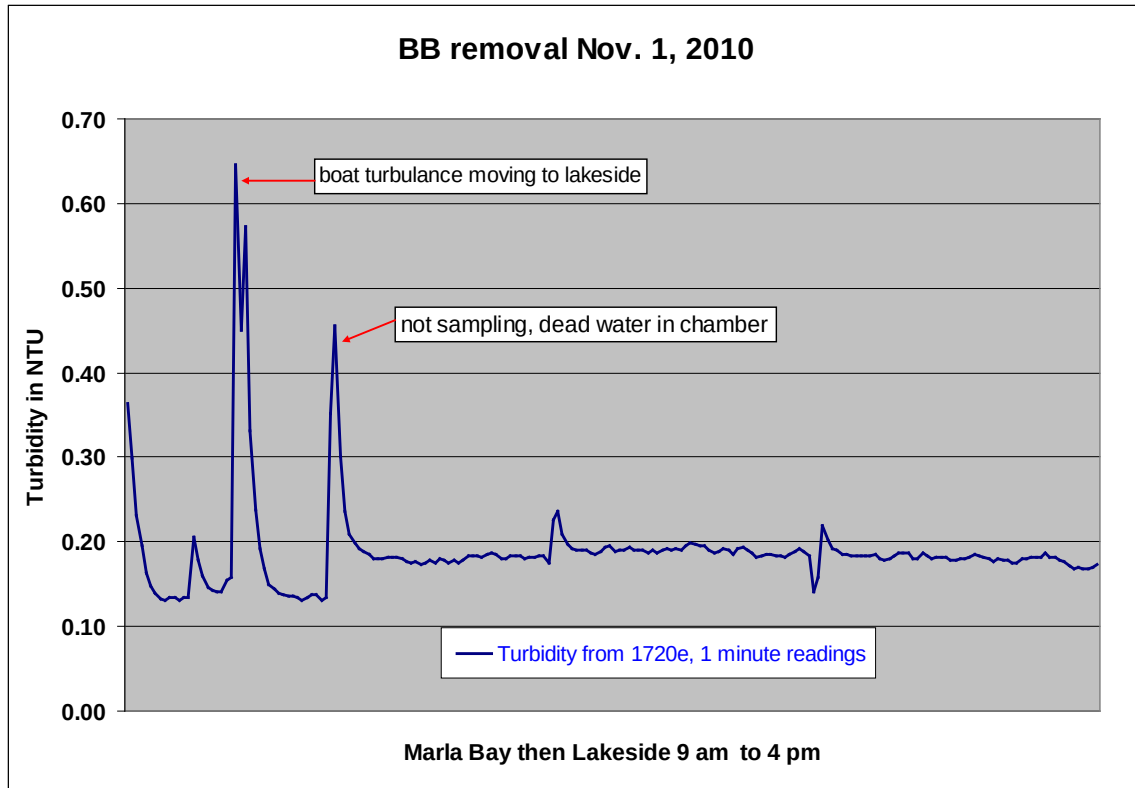
The purpose of this monitoring plan is to provide information for regulatory compliance. A brief summary of a similar project description is reproduced: In the fall of 2010 two sites within Lake Tahoe (Marla Bay and near the Lakeside Marina) large scale (1/2 acre plots) experimental applications of 45 mil, rubber pond liner sheets were placed over Asian clam beds. These rubber bottom barriers created a zero dissolved oxygen (anoxic) environment underneath the sheet, and after an approximate 30-day period at peak summer lake temperatures (16-19 °C) caused Asian clam and other benthic macroinvertebrate mortality. This experiment tested the logistics and feasibility of applying rubber barriers on a large, management-level scale. Given the success of the this project, combined with recent experiments in the mouth of Emerald Bay, the Asian Clam Working Group has proposed a larger-scale project targeting an Asian clam population at the mouth of Emerald Bay.

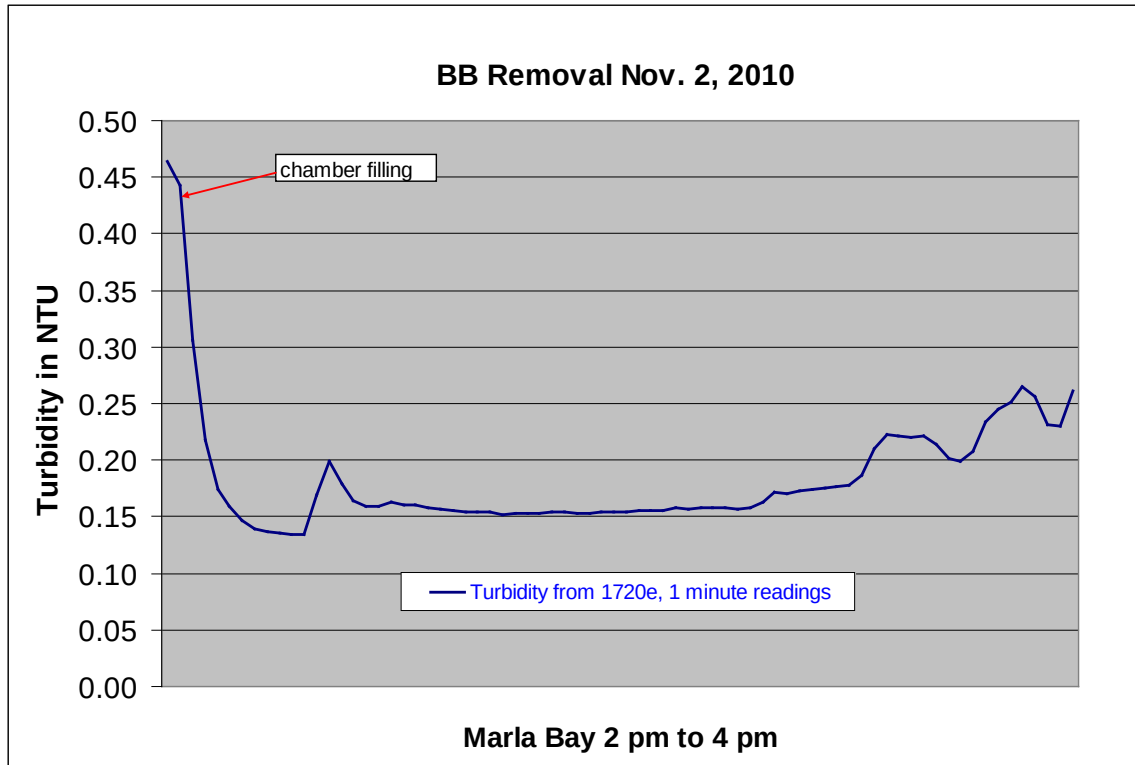
Water quality monitoring is required to determine and mitigate any potential water quality disturbances associated with this activity. The objectives are to determine any detrimental water quality impacts from barrier placement and removal in terms of elevated turbidity. Turbidity is measured in Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU) and regulations require that turbidity during project operations may not exceed 3.0 NTU.

Monitoring Approach Rationale:

The majority of disturbance from the placement and removal of bottom barriers (both permeable and rubber) is substrate disturbance from both diver's movements and the barriers themselves. Previous bottom barrier water quality monitoring results indicate that turbidity is a localized and temporary disturbance. For the purposes of this project, the largest potential disturbance will be during removal of the barriers. Sample monitoring results from the 2010 Asian Clam project (see Figure 1 below) yielded turbidity levels not exceeding 0.9 NTU during removal of a total of twenty 10' x 100' barriers. In addition, the substrate near the mouth of Emerald Bay at the location of the Asian clam population is coarse, mixed with cobbles and disturbance is expected to be minimal. For these reasons and given what we know about the disturbance from bottom barrier installation and removal, we propose taking pre-, mid- and post-activity turbidity samples.

Figure 1: Sample results from the 2010 Asian Clam Control Project

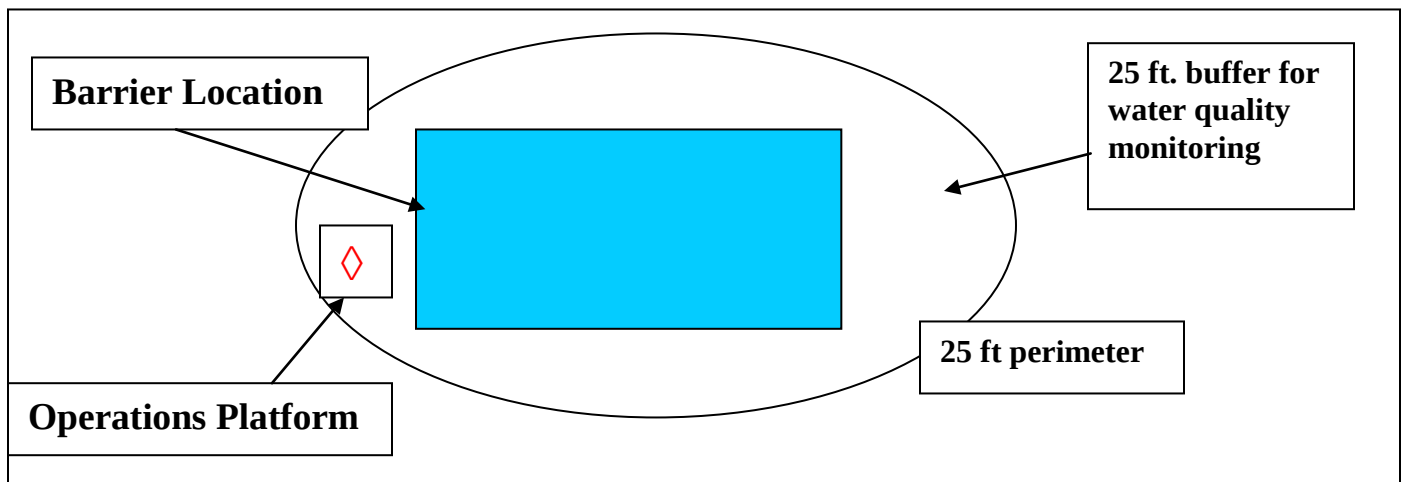




Narrative Monitoring Description:

The monitoring approach will establish an approximately 25 foot perimeter around the project site. It is at or near the edge of this 25 foot perimeter that turbidity samples will be taken. Turbidity measurements will be taken by a hand-held turbidity monitor (Hach 2100Q or equivalent) before, during, and after project activity.

Project site description:



The major field actions to occur during this project:

1. field delineation of the project area site
2. baseline condition sample collection
3. delivery of rubber pond liner materials from land to field site
4. placement of rubber pond liner material at field site (underwater)
5. deployment of monitoring equipment
6. monitoring and repair of benthic barriers during deployment time
7. monitor clam population size structure during benthic barrier deployment
8. removal and decontamination of the barrier material
9. post-treatment condition sampling

Barrier Installation Monitoring –

Monitoring for the installation activity will consist of turbidity sampling from a hand-held turbidity monitor. Sampling will occur 30-60 minutes prior to activity. A minimum of 3 samples will be taken within the 25 ft perimeter.

Barrier Removal Monitoring –

Monitoring for the removal activity will consist of turbidity sampling from a hand-held turbidity monitor. Sampling will occur 30-60 minutes following removal activity. A minimum of 3 samples will be taken within the 25 ft perimeter.

In addition to quantitative turbidity sampling, visual observations will record any significant disturbance (suspended plume), cause of disturbance (if known) and additional turbidity sampling using the hand-held turbidity monitor will be taken until the plume has dissipated. During this time, if the average of turbidity samples taken exceeds 3.0 NTU all underwater activity will cease until turbidity measurements return to acceptable levels.