

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Yolo County, California

To: CAO ✓

CONSENT CALENDAR

Excerpt of Minute Order No. 26-61 Item No. 13, of the Board of Supervisors' meeting of July 21, 2026.

MOTION: Barajas. SECOND: Villegas. AYES: Barajas, Villegas. Frerichs, Vixie Sandy, Allen.

13.

Adopt resolution proclaiming a local state of emergency due to the Invasive Golden Mussel Infestation. (No general fund impact) (Webb)

Approved **Resolution No. 26-96** on Consent.



County of Yolo
www.yolocounty.gov

To: The Chair and Members of the Board of Supervisors

Consent-General Government 13.
County Administrator

Board of Supervisors

Meeting Date: 07/21/2026
Brief Title: Local Emergency due to the Invasive Golden Mussel Infestation
From: Michael Webb, County Administrative Officer, County Administrator's Office
Staff Contact: Sabrina Snyder, Senior Management Analyst, County Administrator's Office
Supervisory District Impact: Countywide

Subject

Adopt resolution proclaiming a local state of emergency due to the Invasive Golden Mussel Infestation. (No general fund impact) (Webb)

Recommended Action

Adopt resolution proclaiming a local state of emergency due to the Invasive Golden Mussel Infestation.

Strategic Plan Goal(s)



Collaborative Community



Sustainable Environment

Reason for Recommended Action/Background

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife recently confirmed the detection of invasive golden mussels in and around the Port of West Sacramento within Yolo County. The detections represent an established local source population, posing a significant threat to local water infrastructure, agricultural water deliveries, flood control facilities, natural resources, and economy. The City Manager of the City of West Sacramento and the Director of the Port of West Sacramento have each requested that the County proclaim a local emergency. The recommended action is also consistent with the regional response already underway—the County of San Joaquin, the County of Sacramento, and the City of Stockton having each proclaimed a local emergency with regard to the same infestation. Proclaiming a local emergency will enhance the County's ability to coordinate with State and federal agencies, pursue funding and technical assistance, and implement measures to protect critical infrastructure and reduce the impacts of the infestation.

The golden mussel reproduces prolifically, attaches to nearly any submerged surface, and forms dense colonies that clog water intakes, pipes, pumps, and conveyance systems while displacing native species. State agencies and invasive species experts have concluded that eradication of an established golden mussel population from open waters such as the Delta is not likely to be feasible or cost-effective, and the response must focus on containment, infrastructure protection, and mitigation.

Government Code section 8558(c) authorizes a county to proclaim a local emergency upon determining the existence of conditions of extreme peril to local communities that are, or are likely to be, beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the County. (Gov. Code § 8558(c). Appropriate conditions for a local emergency proclamation under state law include a “plant or animal infestation or disease.” The recitals in the attached resolution are structured to serve as the Board's findings that these statutory conditions are satisfied.

Section 8630 requires the Board to review the need for its continuation not less than once every 60 days until the emergency is terminated (Gov. Code § 8630(b)). If the Board adopts the attached Resolution, this item will return periodically for renewal.

Collaborations (including Board advisory groups and external partner agencies)

County Counsel, OES, City of West Sacramento, Port of West Sacramento.

Fiscal Information

No Fiscal Impact

Fiscal Impact of this Expenditure

Total cost of recommended action	\$0
Amount budgeted for expenditure	\$0
Additional expenditure authority needed	\$0
On-going commitment (annual cost)	\$0

Source of Funds for this Expenditure

General Fund	\$0
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Further explanation as needed

There is no fiscal impact associated with the requested action. Ratification of the declaration will support the County's ability to seek state and federal assistance with associated costs.

Attachments

Att. A. Resolution

Att. B. Presentation

Form Review

Inbox	Reviewed By	Date
County Counsel	Phil Pogledich	07/10/2026 11:24 AM
Mark Bryan	Mark Bryan	07/10/2026 11:41 AM
Michael Webb	Michael Webb	07/14/2026 02:16 PM
County Counsel	Phil Pogledich	07/14/2026 05:20 PM
Cindy Perez	Cindy Perez	07/15/2026 11:14 AM
Form Started By: Sabrina Snyder		Started On: 07/10/2026 10:45 AM
Final Approval Date: 07/15/2026		

**A RESOLUTION OF THE YOLO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
PROCLAIMING A LOCAL EMERGENCY DUE TO THE INVASIVE GOLDEN MUSSEL INFESTATION
IN THE SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA**

WHEREAS, Government Code section 8558(c) defines a “local emergency” as the duly proclaimed existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of a county, caused by conditions including, among others, “plant or animal infestation or disease,” which are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of that political subdivision and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat; and

WHEREAS, Government Code section 8630 authorizes the governing body of a county to proclaim the existence of a local emergency, and requires the governing body to review the need for continuing the local emergency at least once every 60 days until the local emergency is terminated; and

WHEREAS, Title 4, Chapter 1 of the Yolo County Code establishes the County’s emergency organization and recognizes the authority of the Board of Supervisors to proclaim the existence of a local emergency; and

WHEREAS, the golden mussel (*Limnoperna fortunei*) is a highly invasive freshwater/brackish bivalve native to East and Southeast Asia that was first detected in North America in October 2024 at the Port of Stockton in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, marking the first known occurrence of the species on the continent; and

WHEREAS, on December 11, 2024, the California Fish and Game Commission designated the golden mussel a restricted species under California law, making it unlawful to import, transport, or possess the species in California; and

WHEREAS, the golden mussel reproduces prolifically, spawns multiple times per year, releases large numbers of free-swimming larvae, and readily attaches to nearly any submerged surface, forming dense colonies that clog water intakes, pipes, pumps, and conveyance systems, reduce water flow, damage public and private infrastructure, and disrupt aquatic ecosystems by displacing native species; and

WHEREAS, the golden mussel tolerates a broader range of environmental conditions than the previously introduced quagga and zebra mussels, including waters with lower calcium concentrations, and invasive-species experts have concluded that eradication of the species from open waters such as the Delta is not likely to be feasible once the species is established, such that the response must focus on containment, infrastructure protection, and mitigation; and

WHEREAS, since its introduction the golden mussel has spread rapidly throughout the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and into connected water-conveyance systems, and other jurisdictions within the Delta region have already experienced documented impacts to critical infrastructure, including fouling of flood-control and water-supply facilities and reduced deliveries through mussel-encrusted agricultural irrigation systems; and

WHEREAS, on June 25, 2026, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) notified the County of Yolo, the County of Sacramento, and the City of West Sacramento that invasive golden

mussels had been found in and around the Port of West Sacramento—the northernmost detection of the species to date—following genetic confirmation of specimens by CDFW’s laboratory, with additional mussels located during follow-up surveys around the docks in Washington Lake; and

WHEREAS, CDFW has advised that the golden mussels found in and around the Port of West Sacramento are believed to originate from a source population within the vicinity, indicating the presence of the species within the territorial limits of Yolo County rather than an isolated introduction; and

WHEREAS, the Port of West Sacramento and the adjoining Sacramento River, Sacramento Deep Water Ship Channel, and Delta waterways lie within or along the borders of Yolo County and are integral to the County’s water supply, agricultural production, flood-control and drainage systems, navigation and commerce, and recreation, and the establishment and spread of golden mussels within these waters poses a serious and imminent threat to the County’s public infrastructure, economy, natural resources, and the health and safety of persons and property within the County, including the risk of further spread through interconnected water and flood control systems; and

WHEREAS, while the State of California has implemented a Golden Mussel Response Framework and continues to promote the “Clean, Drain, Dry” prevention protocol, those measures are directed principally at preventing further spread and do not fully address the protection of existing infrastructure and water systems in areas where the species has already become established; and

WHEREAS, the Delta operates within a State-regulated and State-managed water system, which constrains the County’s authority over the broader waterways while placing substantial operational and financial burdens on the County and other local agencies, thereby reinforcing the need for State leadership, technical assistance, coordination, and resource support; and

WHEREAS, the conditions caused by the golden mussel infestation are, or are likely to be, beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the County of Yolo alone, and require the combined forces of other local agencies and of State and federal government to effectively combat; and

WHEREAS, the County of San Joaquin (April 28, 2026), the County of Sacramento (June 16, 2026), and the City of Stockton (June 23, 2026) have each proclaimed a local emergency in response to the golden mussel infestation in the Delta, and a coordinated regional response is necessary to protect water supply reliability, public infrastructure, agriculture, and the environment throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, proclamation of a local emergency will enhance the County’s ability to coordinate with regional, State, and federal partners, to pursue funding, technical assistance, and mitigation resources, and to take such further action as may be necessary to protect public health, safety, and property, and there is no immediate net County cost associated with the proclamation itself;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, DETERMINED, AND ORDERED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Yolo as follows:

Section 1. Incorporation of Recitals. The Board finds that each of the foregoing recitals is true and correct and incorporates them herein as findings in support of this Proclamation.

Section 2. Proclamation of Local Emergency. Pursuant to Government Code section 8630, the Board hereby finds that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property exist within Yolo County as a result of the invasive golden mussel infestation described above, and proclaims the existence of a local emergency within the territorial limits of the County of Yolo, including within the City of West Sacramento, the Port of West Sacramento, and all other local governmental entities within the County's geographical limits.

Section 3. Duration of Local Emergency. The local emergency proclaimed herein shall be deemed to continue to exist until its termination is proclaimed by the Board of Supervisors.

Section 4. Sixty-Day Review. Pursuant to Government Code section 8630(b), the Board shall review the need for continuing this local emergency at least once every 60 days until the Board proclaims its termination, and shall proclaim termination at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant.

Section 5. Direction to the Director of Emergency Services. The Director of Emergency Services (County Administrator), or designee, is authorized and directed to coordinate with local, regional, State, and federal agencies to monitor, contain, and mitigate the golden mussel infestation, such as by working to prevent new introductions and secondary spread; to pursue funding, technical assistance, mitigation strategies, and infrastructure-protection resources; and to take such actions as are necessary to protect public health, safety, and property consistent with the County's emergency organization and applicable law.

Section 6. Emergency Contracting and Procurement Authority. To the extent necessary to respond to this local emergency, and pursuant to Public Contract Code section 22050 and Yolo County Code sections 2-5.1004 and 4-1.04, the Board finds that the emergency will not permit delay resulting from a competitive solicitation for bids and that prompt action is necessary to protect County infrastructure and water systems. The Board authorizes the Director of Emergency Services and the Purchasing Agent, or their designee, subject to the ratification and continuing review required by Public Contract Code section 22050, to procure the necessary equipment, services, and supplies and to enter into and administer emergency contracts to respond to the infestation without competitive bidding, and to suspend otherwise applicable contracting and purchasing limits, as necessary. In accordance with section 22050(c), the Board shall review emergency procurement actions at each regularly scheduled meeting thereafter until the action is terminated, and shall determine, by a four-fifths (4/5) vote, whether there is a need to continue the action.

Section 7. Fiscal Authority. The County Administrator, or designee, is authorized to apply for, accept, and administer any State or federal disaster, mitigation, or grant funding that may become available to offset current and future response and mitigation costs.

Section 8. Request for State Action. The Board respectfully requests that the Governor of the State of California proclaim a state of emergency, direct State agencies to provide assistance (including but not limited to the California Department of Water Resources, CDFW, and the State Water Resources Control Board), and support funding and resources to protect Delta infrastructure and water systems from the golden mussel infestation.

Section 9. Request for Federal Action. The Board respectfully requests assistance from federal agencies, including the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in addressing the golden mussel infestation and protecting affected infrastructure and waterways.

Section 10. Transmittal. The Clerk of the Board is directed to transmit certified copies of this Proclamation to the Governor of California, the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the California Department of Water Resources.

Section 11. Severability. If any provision of this Proclamation is held invalid, that invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions, which can be given effect without the invalid provision, and to this end the provisions of this Proclamation are severable.

Section 12. Effective Date. This Proclamation shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

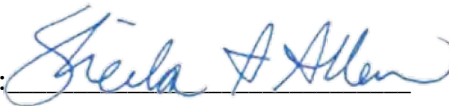
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Yolo this 21st day of July 2026, by the following vote:

AYES: Barajas, Villegas, Frerichs, Vixie Sandy, Allen.

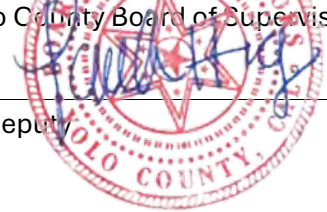
NOES: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None.

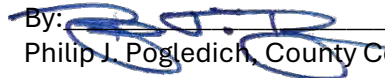
ABSENT: None.

By: 
Sheila A. Allen, Chair
Yolo County Board of Supervisors

Attest: Julie Dachtler, Senior Deputy Clerk
Yolo County Board of Supervisors

By: 
Deputy (Seal)

Approved to Form:

By: 
Philip J. Pogledich, County Counsel