

Casitas Municipal Water District
RECREATION COMMITTEE
Agenda
Brennan/Kaiser

January 13, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.

This meeting will be conducted in person at the District Office and also
via teleconference.

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/96751747493?pwd=QXVtK0ZmOVFISDJpVi9pNlVvM1VyUT09>
Meeting ID: 967 5174 7493 Passcode: 181130

To participate or listen to the meeting via telephone
please call (888) 788-0099 or (877) 853-5247
Enter Meeting ID: 967 5174 7493# Passcode: 181130#

1. Roll Call
2. Public comments.
3. Board/Management Comments.
4. Review a request from Casitas Rowing regarding an exemption from Casitas MWD's invasive mussel control program requirements at Lake Casitas.
5. Review of Recreation Area Report for November 2025.
6. Verbal report and discussion of the installation of No Parking signs on Santa Ana Road north of Highway 150.
7. Review of Incidents and Comments.

Right to be heard: Members of the public have a right to address the Board directly on any item of interest to the public which is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. The request to be heard should be made immediately before the Board's consideration of the item. No action shall be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda unless the action is otherwise authorized by subdivision (b) of ¶54954.2 of the Government Code.

If you require special accommodations for attendance at or participation in this meeting, please notify our office 24 hours in advance (805) 649-2251 ext. 113. (Govt. Code Section 65954.1 and 54954.2(a). Please be advised that members of the Board of Directors of Casitas who are not members of this standing committee may attend the committee meeting referred to above only in the capacity of observers, and may not otherwise take part in the meeting. (Govt. Code Sections 54952.2(c)(6)

Quarantine Rowing Shell Exemption



Creator
eric gillett



Created
Nov 14, 2025, 12:44



Last updated
Nov 18, 2025, 12:13



Casitas Rowing | Lake Casitas Concessionaire

265 Bayview Ave, Ventura, CA 93003

Contact: Wendy Gillett, Club Director [wendy@casitasrowing.org] [805-258-8622]

Date: November 18, 2025

To: Lake Casitas Recreation Area Management

Subject: Proposal for Conditional Quagga Mussel Quarantine Exemption for Rowing Shells

Casitas Rowing fully supports the District's mission to protect Lake Casitas from invasive species. We share your concerns and propose a science-based, low-risk protocol that maintains lake integrity while restoring reasonable access for our club.

Precedent in California Water Systems

- Rowing shells enter numerous California lakes (e.g., Lake Cachuma) without 35-day quarantine.
 - Other districts differentiate risk by **last-waterway declaration** rather than blanket quarantine.
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Why Rowing Shells Present Negligible Risk

- Removed from water daily; never stored in the lake / river / bay.
- No motors, bilges, or ballast tanks.
- Cleaned / wiped down after every use.
- Teams bring only shells to regattas — **motorized coaching launches do not travel to races.**

Proposed Exemption Protocol

1. **Certified Inspector** – Casitas Rowing will maintain one or more staff members certified in quagga inspection and trained on District-approved steam decontamination.
2. **30-Day Declaration Form** – Every returning boat trailer submits an online/paper form listing waterways used. Boats from “high-risk” waters receive **mandatory steam cleaning** by club staff **before** lake arrival.
3. **Pre-Arrival Verification** – Club inspector signs affidavit confirming all boats are clean, dry, and inspected. Casitas Officers / Rangers may perform secondary checks.
4. **Equipment Investment** – Club will purchase a portable industrial steam cleaner for immediate post-regatta decontamination when required.

Typical Regatta Waters

Venue	Water Type	% of Our Events
Long Beach Marine	Salt	50 %
San Diego Mission Bay	Salt	20 %
Newport Harbor	Salt	20 %
Lake Natoma	Fresh	10 %

We are proud partners in protecting this irreplaceable resource and will never jeopardize our privilege to row on Lake Casitas.

Respectfully,

Wendy Gillett | Club Director, Casitas Rowing

1. Rowing club staff member to be certified as a quagga mussel inspector, and trained on decontamination steam cleaning:

Eric Gillett has been in the marine industry for over 4 decades. He grew up on sail boats in Sausalito California sailing the west coast, and been involved in water activities his whole life ranging from water skiing, is a certified diver, and involved in all sports water related like water polo, swimming and rowing on an elite level competing for TEAM USA internationally. He has been a boat designer fabricating hulls from concept to launching that were 3 to 30 meters in length. He intimately understands rowing shell hull design and their strengths and weaknesses. For 30 years now he has been working with team sports helping today's youth grapple with the ethical challenges that are presented to them on a daily basis. "There is unfortunately no place for people anymore in the middle of the road" says Gillett, "We need to pick a side and lean in. Doing the right thing takes courage, discipline, patience, and personal sacrifice. We need to protect our parks and drinking water reservoirs." Integrity matters and Casitas Rowing is equally as invested at wanting to keep the lake safe from invasive species moving forward.

2. Photo attached below of typical rowing shells on a trailer (clean & dry):



CASITAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
LAKE CASITAS RECREATION AREA

DATE: January 9, 2025

TO: Recreation Committee

FROM: Michael Flood, General Manager

SUBJECT: Monthly Report for the Recreation Area for November 2025

Visitation Numbers

The following is a comparison of visits for Nov 2025

	Nov 2025	Nov 2024	Oct 2025
Visitor Days	48,644	48,108	65,960
Camps	3,520	3,000	4,170
Cars	12,161	12,027	16,490
Boats	105	84	106
Kayaks & Canoes	1	7	2

Visitor Day Totals for Fiscal Year through Nov 2025	
2024/2025	466,956
2025/2026	462,180
Difference	4,776
%Change	(1.028%)

The formulas for calculating the above attendance figures derived from the daily cash reports are as follows:

Visitor Days = Daily vehicles + 30-minute passes X 3 + café passes + attendance at special events + annual vehicle decals + replacement decals + campsites occupied + extra vehicles X 4

Camps = Campsites occupied + extra vehicles

Cars = Daily vehicles + 30-minute passes X 3 + café passes + attendance at special events + annual vehicle decals + replacement decals + campsites occupied + extra vehicles

Boats = Daily boats + overnight boats + annual decals + replacement decals

Kayaks & Canoes = Daily kayaks and canoes + overnight kayaks and canoes + annual kayaks and canoes

Below is the November 2025 Lake Casitas Recreation Area Summary of events, projects, and financials.

❖ **Day Use and Campgrounds:**

- There was a slight increase in visits and camping from last year.

❖ **Fishing Tournaments:**

- No ABA Tournaments in the month of November.

❖ **Boating:**

- 808 tags were issued.
- 22 scheduled boat inspections.
- 10 vessels passed inspection and placed into quarantine.

❖ **Maintenance:**

- Cabin Oak at Fox campground was completed.



- Park Exit Lane was completed.



❖ **Casitas Water Adventure:**

- Recruitment operations at schools continue.
- CWA Pumps pulled for services and repairs.
- CWA Event / Training Center was completed.



❖ **Updates:**

- Casitas Rowing Club update.
- Bait and tackle to remove old boat docks.
- CWA scheduling LG trainings.

Revenue Reporting

The unaudited Fiscal Year 25/26 figures for the month of August increased by 12.89% from the prior FY year. Per the District’s Financial Summary, generated by the Chief Financial Officer.

