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Lahontan Regional Water Board orders Developer to Pay \$60,000 for Water Code Violations

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The Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Lahontan Regional Water Board) has issued an administrative civil liability complaint of \$60,000 against the Arimol Group, Inc., the developer of a housing project in the Lake Arrowhead watershed of San Bernardino County.

The penalty was imposed because the company committed several violations associated with unauthorized discharges of earthen fill materials to streams, two natural springs, and a meadow within the Lake Arrowhead watershed.

The Lahontan Regional Water Board imposed the maximum penalty associated with six discharge violations.

In addition to imposing the monetary penalty, the Lahontan Regional Water Board is requiring the Arimol Group, Inc. to repair the damage and restore the natural springs, streams and meadow around the site.

Further enforcement actions may be pursued by the Lahontan Regional Water Board if restoration work is not completed.

"We need to send a message to all individuals that unauthorized bulldozing of creeks and springs is a significant violation of state law and the public trust and will not be tolerated," said Lahontan Regional Water Board Assistant Executive Officer Lauri Kemper.

Lahontan Regional Water Board Vice Chair Peter Pumphrey said, "This piece of property needs to be restored as soon as possible and as much as possible to its original condition."

The Lahontan Regional Water Board is a State of California office within the State Water Resources Control Board, an agency of the California Environmental Protection Agency. The Lahontan Water Board protects and restores water quality in California east of the Cascade and Sierra Nevada crests from the Oregon border through the Mojave Desert.

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