

Keith B.

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 94-62

AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OR HIS DESIGNEE,
TO ACCEPT A CLEAN WATER ACT (CWA)
SECTION 104(b)(3) GRANT FOR \$368,060
TO FUND TWO REGIONAL WETLANDS PROTECTION PROGRAMS

WHEREAS:

1. Wetlands serve an increasingly vital role in insuring achievement of water quality standards and bolstering the overall environmental and economic health of State watersheds through nutrient production, natural flood and erosion control, ground water recharge, reduction and removal of toxic components, improvement of aesthetics, and maintenance of habitats for fish, wildlife, and recreation and commercial activities.
2. Governor Wilson issued Executive Order W-59-93, including the goal of achieving no overall net loss and the long-term gain in the quantity and quality of State wetlands.
3. The State Policy will initially recognize regional efforts to (a) coordinate wetlands protection with economic activities and (b) specifically investigate the substitution of an effective and timely State regulatory program for the CWA Section 404 Dredge/Fill Permit Program in the San Francisco Bay area.
3. Congress has appropriated wetlands protection funds in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 1994 to help states develop or enhance regional wetland protection programs. Funds will be disbursed by EPA under CWA Section 104(b)(3).
4. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) staff, acting for the San Francisco Bay and Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board staffs, has submitted proposals to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) for two regional wetlands protection programs to be funded by a FFY 1994 CWA Section 104(b)(3) grant.
5. A notice of intent has been submitted to the State Clearinghouse advising it of the SWRCB's application for the FFY 1994 CWA Section 104(b)(3) funds.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

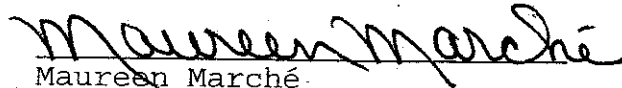
The SWRCB authorizes the Executive Director, or his designee, to:

1. Accept a CWA Section 104(b)(3) grant in the amount of \$368,060 from USEPA for two regional wetlands protection programs, if offered;

2. Negotiate subsequent amendments to the two workplans not affecting the total grant amount; and
3. Negotiate and execute contracts and amendments in accordance with the program workplans.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Administrative Assistant to the SWRCB, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on July 21, 1994.



Maureen Marché

Administrative Assistant to the Board

REVISED WORKPLAN
WETLANDS PROTECTION PROJECT

- I. PROJECT TITLE: Implementation of the Regional Wetlands Management Plan: PART 2
- II. APPLICANT: San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board
- III. PROJECT PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES:

The purpose of this proposal is to complete work planned and initiated under grants awarded in FFY-92 and FFY-93. The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (SFBRWQCB) is currently developing a Regional Wetlands Management Plan (RWMP) that will provide the framework for coordinating and integrating wetlands planning and regulatory activities in the San Francisco Bay region. Under the current proposal, the SFBRWQCB would undertake a one year pilot regulatory program, as specified by the regulatory portion of the RWMP. The objective of the pilot program is to develop a regulatory approach that will enhance permitting efficiency for dredge and fill activities in the SF Bay region. Although the exact scope and nature of the pilot program have not been determined, it is likely that the SFBRWQCB will undertake some CWA Section 404 permitting activities currently performed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The pilot program will, thus, provide a solid basis for evaluating the effectiveness of uniting Section 404 permitting and Section 401 certification activities within one state agency that uses a watershed management approach. An evaluation of the results of the pilot program will be used to develop a long-term regulatory strategy that will not only enhance permitting efficiency, but also promote attainment of wetlands conservation goals outlined in the State of California Wetlands Conservation Strategy (August 23, 1993).

IV. BACKGROUND

The current framework for administering CWA Section 404 and 401 wetland regulations is inefficient and haphazard with respect to permit issuance and wetlands protection. This is due to the procedural complexity of the existing permitting system, as well as a lack of wetland planning efforts. Recently, Governor Wilson issued the California Wetlands Conservation Policy (August 23, 1993) which outlines goals for reducing procedural complexity in the administration of State and Federal wetlands programs, while achieving no overall net loss and a long-term net gain in the quantity, quality, and permanence of wetlands acreage and values in California. The Policy names Region 2's ongoing pilot effort to develop a pilot regulatory program as one of three geographically based regional strategies which, if implemented, will help achieve the goals and objectives of the state's policy.

V. PROJECT TASKS.

TASK 1. Implement Training Plan

Training of existing staff is ongoing, and plans for additional training are being developed, under 1992-93 funding. Training activities for existing and new staff, under the current proposal, will include 1) monthly RWQCB technical staff training sessions, 2) conferences and workshops, as needed, to address deficiencies, 3) short-term assignments to work at other agencies to develop specific skills (e.g., USACE, USEPA), 4) collaborative work with USACE and USEPA on specific wetland fill cases to develop specific expertise. In the area of enforcement, training activities will improve expertise in the use of field investigation and aerial surveillance techniques to determine compliance with permit conditions and detect illegal wetland fills.

Each of the three staff supported under this grant will be intensively trained for approximately three months prior to the 1 year permitting phase of the program, and will receive additional training throughout the program.

Deliverable: Summary of staff training activities in quarterly and final reports

Start Date: 7/1/94

Due Dates: 10/1/94, 1/1/95, 4/1/95, 7/1/95 (quarterly reports)
12/1/95, 12/31/95 (draft and final reports)

Allocated 1994 funding: .8 PY

TASK 2. Perform Permitting/Enforcement Activities, as Specified by the RWMP

Certain types of dredging and wetlands fill permits will be processed by Regional Board staff, using CWA 404(b)(1) and 401 review procedures. Permitting decisions will be made by the Regional Board using their public hearing process. The types of permitting activities undertaken by the RWQCB, and procedures for dispute resolutions will be defined by a general permit or procedural agreement with the USACE and USEPA, developed under Task 1. The USACE will retain oversight of the permitting process. The duration of the permitting phase of the pilot program will be 1 year.

In addition, staff of the pilot program will perform activities in areas of wetlands enforcement, inspection and monitoring.

We expect these activities to be performed by 3 staff over a 1 year period.

Deliverable: Summaries of permitting progress in quarterly and final reports

Start Date: 11/1/94

VI. BUDGET - Phase IV Wetlands Grant

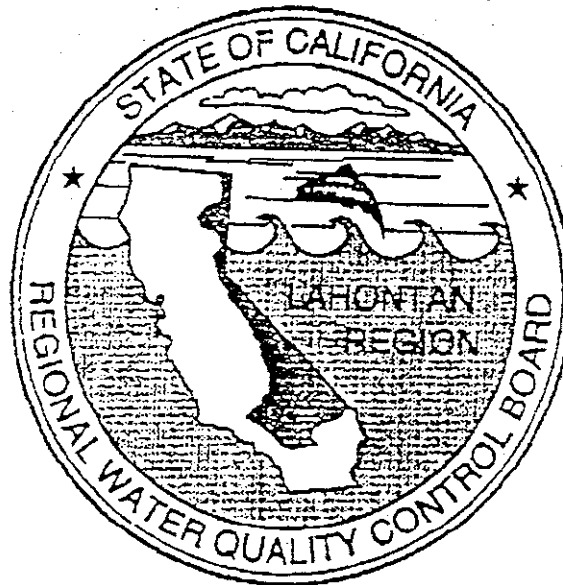
A. Personnel	PY's	FEDERAL (75%)	STATE (25%)
Environmental Specialist II	2.5	85,040	
Environmental Specialist III	0.7		28,652
B. Benefits (30% of Personnel)		25,512	8,596
E. Total Personnel + Benefits		110,552	37,248
F. Indirect (.8091 X (Personnel + Benefits))		89,448	29,869
G. Grand Total		<u>200,000</u>	<u>67,117</u>

VII. BUDGET ALLOCATED BY TASK

TASKS	START-END DATES	SFY94-95 FUNDING	SFY95-96 FUNDING	TOTAL FUNDING
1. Implement Training Plan	7/1/94 - 6/30/95	68,764 (0.5 ESII PY + 0.3 ESIII PY)		68,764
2. Perform Permitting/ Enforcement Activities	7/1/94 - 10/30/94	137,589 (1.6 ESII PY + 0.1 ESIII PY)	32,000 (0.4 ESII PY)	169,589
3. Prepare Quarterly Progress Reports	7/1/94 - 6/30/95	9,588 (0.1 ESIII PY)		9,588
4. Evaluate Program and Prepare Final Report	7/1/95 - 12/31/95		19,176 (0.2 ESIII PY)	19,176
TOTAL FUNDING		215,941	51,176	\$267,117

Workplan

Development of Specific Plans and Policies to Avoid or Mitigate
the Impacts of Future Development in Certain Mono County Wetlands
(Long Valley and June Lake Areas)



State of California
Regional Water Quality Control Board
Lahontan Region

January 1994

Contact: Cindy Wise (916) 542-5408

TITLE

Development of Specific Plans and Policies to Avoid or Mitigate the Impacts of Future Development in certain Mono County Wetlands (Long Valley and June Lake Areas) -- See maps in Appendix A

APPLICANT

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
2092 Lake Tahoe Blvd.
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
phone: (916) 542-5400
fax: (916) 544-2271

The Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board is the primary California state agency responsible for the protection of beneficial uses and quality of surface and ground waters (including wetlands) within the Lahontan Region. The Lahontan Region extends from the Oregon border to the northern Mojave Desert, and includes all of California east of the Sierra Nevada crest.

The Lahontan Regional Board is a nine-member decision making body appointed by the Governor. The Board holds regular meetings, typically monthly at different sites throughout the Region. Its day-to-day work is carried out by a technical and administrative support civil service staff under an Executive Officer appointed by the Board. There are two Regional Board offices, at South Lake Tahoe and Victorville.

Project Manager: Cindy Wise will serve as the Project Manager. Ms. Wise holds a Master's Degree in Natural Resources from Humboldt State University (HSU), in addition to undergraduate degrees in biological sciences (U.C. Irvine) and environmental engineering (HSU). She has seven years of experience with the Regional Board in its Planning and Toxics Unit, primarily in basin planning, and in wetlands protection issues.

PROJECT PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

Purpose: Through the development of a coordinated regulatory program with Mono County, the purpose of the proposed project is to avoid or mitigate the impacts of future development in certain Long Valley and June Lake area wetlands. (Long Valley, McGee Creek, Hilton Creek/Crowley Lake, Aspen Springs; June, Gull, Silver and Grant Lakes).

SAMP and GP are in place, the Regional Board will amend its Basin Plan to incorporate the SAMP and GP, as well as other relevant portions of the Bridgeport Wetlands Policies.

The Regional Board staff considers the process used in the Bridgeport Valley as a model for other areas in Mono County, with potential application as a model for the entire Region. Of all the thirteen counties in the Region, Mono County is the only one entirely within the Region. Also, Mono County contains significant acreages of wetlands, many with high resource values. Thus, it was the ideal county for the Regional Board to begin working with to develop a coordinated regulatory program for wetlands protection.

The Long Valley and June Lake areas are targeted as the next focus in the development of the Mono County wetlands program. Wetlands in these areas, in addition to providing valuable wildlife habitat and scenic beauty, also protect the water quality of downstream water bodies by filtering out sediments, nutrients, and other contaminants. The Long Valley and June Lake areas have the highest potential for future development on wetlands and subsequent impacts on downstream water quality. These areas contain many small private parcels in potential wetland areas. Development on the individual parcels may not result in significant impacts to wetlands or to water quality, however, the cumulative impact of development on those individual parcels may be significant.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

General: The project proposed for 1994 grant funding consists of two main parts: 1) an identification and delineation of wetlands in and around the communities of Long Valley and June Lake ; and 2) development of specific policies to avoid or mitigate the impacts of future development on wetlands. The project is needed to establish baseline information and conditions against which the impacts of future development projects can be evaluated. Based upon the wetland maps and mitigation measures identified in Part 1 of the proposed project, the Regional Board will work with Mono County and a Technical Advisory Committee to develop specific mitigation policies and plans to address wetland protection concerns and community development issues (Part 2). The proposed project is a vital component of the Regional Board's ongoing efforts to work with Mono County in the development of wetlands protection policy components to amend to its Basin Plan as well as to Mono County's General Plan.

agreement.

Start Date: August 1, 1994
Completion Date: June 30, 1996
Allocated Funds: \$ 14,400

Subtask 1.4 -- Grant Administration

Description: Manage the project in accordance with grant guidelines; prepare quarterly reports; review project invoices and distribute grant funds; prepare draft and final project reports; attend U.S. Environmental Protection Agency wetlands conferences

Deliverables/Products: quarterly reports; draft and final reports.

Milestones: quarterly reports; draft report; final report
Start Date: July 1, 1994
Completion Date: June 30, 1996
Allocated Funds: \$ 12,170

TASK 2 -- WETLANDS DELINEATION STUDY AND ASSESSMENT OF BASELINE CONDITIONS

Subtask 2.1 -- Research and Review Available Literature

Description: Research and review available literature and other information on wetlands in the Long Valley and June Lakes areas

Deliverables/Products: Background information to use in wetland study and to include in final delineation report.

Milestones: Completed literature survey.

Start Date: August 1, 1994
Completion Date: October 1, 1994
Allocated Funds: \$ 4,893

Subtask 2.2 -- Refine Potential Study Areas

Description: Survey study areas to identify specific areas to map, with a focus on those areas with highest potential for future development.

Deliverables/Products: Background information to use in wetland study and to include in final delineation report.

Milestones: Description of project study site and rationale for selection.

Start Date: August 1, 1994
Completion Date: October 1, 1994

Deliverables/Products: Revised Report.
Milestones: Completed revisions to report.
Start Date: December 1, 1995
Completion Date: January 1, 1996
Allocated Funds: \$ 6,393

TASK 3 -- MANAGEMENT POLICIES

Subtask 3.1 -- Draft Wetland Protection/Mitigation Policies for Long Valley and June Lake areas, including implementation schedule

Description: Develop wetland protection and mitigation policies based upon the results of Task 2; develop implementation schedule.
Deliverables/Products: Draft Policies.
Milestones: Completed Draft Policies.
Start Date: December 1, 1995
Completion Date: March 1, 1996
Allocated Funds: \$ 5,600

Subtask 3.2 -- Review Wetland Protection/Mitigation Policies and Implementation schedule with WTAC and Local Community Planning Groups; revise as needed.

Description: Provide opportunities for input on the policies from the WTAC and from local planning groups.
Deliverables/Products: Revised policies and implementation schedule.
Milestones: Public comments to consider when revision draft policies and implementation schedule; revised policies and implementation schedule.
Start Date: December 1, 1995
Completion Date: February 1, 1996
Allocated Funds: \$ 2,250

Subtask 3.3 -- Incorporate Wetland Protection/Mitigation Policies into Mono County General Plan and into Regional Board Basin Plan

Description: Include wetland protection and mitigation policies into the Mono County General Plan and into the Regional Board's Basin Plan.
Deliverables/Products: Amended General Plan, amended Basin Plan.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

(assuming project start date of July 1, 1994)

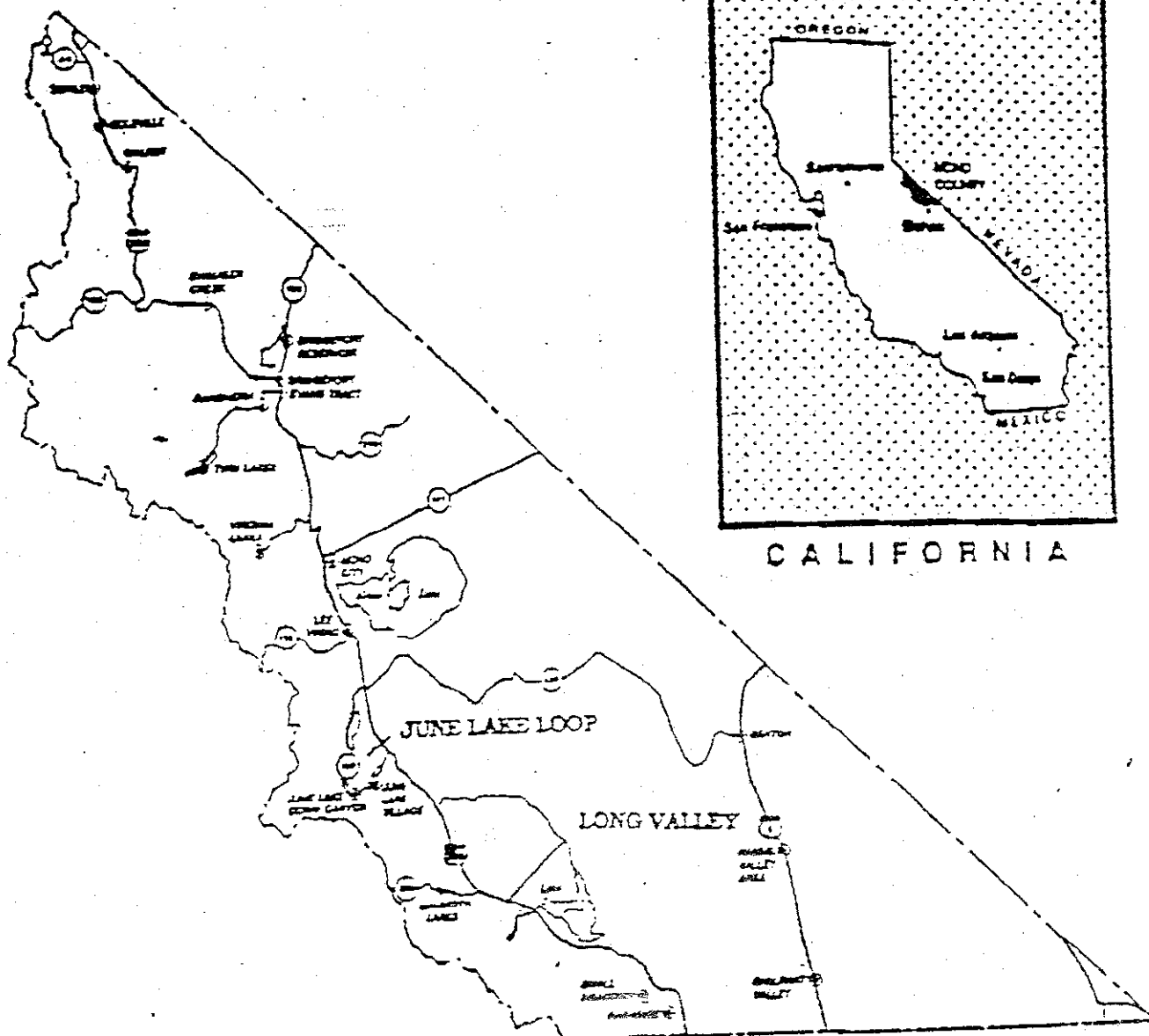
<u>Task/Subtask</u>	<u>Deliverables/Products</u>	<u>Completion Date</u>
1.4	Quarterly Report	7/15/94
1.3	Prepare Interagency Agreement	8/1/94
1.1	Establish WTAC	9/1/94
1.4	Quarterly Report	10/15/94
2.1	Literature Review	10/1/94
2.2	Select Study Areas	10/1/94
1.2	Public Meeting	10/31/94
1.4	Attend USEPA Wetlands Conference	11/30/94
1.4	Quarterly Report	1/15/95
1.4	Quarterly Report	4/15/95
1.4	Quarterly Report	7/15/95
2.3	Survey and Assessment	10/1/95
2.4	Wetlands Maps	10/1/95
1.4	Quarterly Report	10/15/95
2.5	Draft Wetland Report	11/1/95
1.4	Attend USEPA Wetlands Conference	11/30/95
1.2	Public Meeting	12/1/95
2.6	Revised Wetland Report	1/1/96
3.1	Draft Protection/Mit. Policies	1/1/96
1.4	Quarterly Report	1/15/96
3.2	Revised Policies	3/1/96
1.4	Quarterly Report	4/15/96
1.4	Draft Final Project Report	4/15/96
1.2	Public Meeting	5/15/96
1.4	Final Project Report	6/1/96
1.4	Quarterly Report	7/15/96
1.2	Public Hearings	8/31/96
3.3	Incorporate into County General Plan and into Regional Basin Plan	9/30/96

FISCAL YEAR BUDGET BREAKDOWN

<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1994-1995</u>	<u>State¹</u>	<u>Local</u>	<u>Federal</u>
Staff	21469	9430	-
Interagency Agreement			40125
Travel			1260
Totals	21469	9430	41385

<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1995-1996</u>	<u>State¹</u>	<u>Local</u>	<u>Federal</u>
Staff	21469	9430	-
Interagency Agreement			40125
Travel			1260
Totals	21469	9430	41385

¹ State matching funds are provided from Basin Planning, PCA No. 402-01 - for both fiscal years.

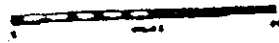


CALIFORNIA

MONO COUNTY



FIGURE 1
VICINITY MAP



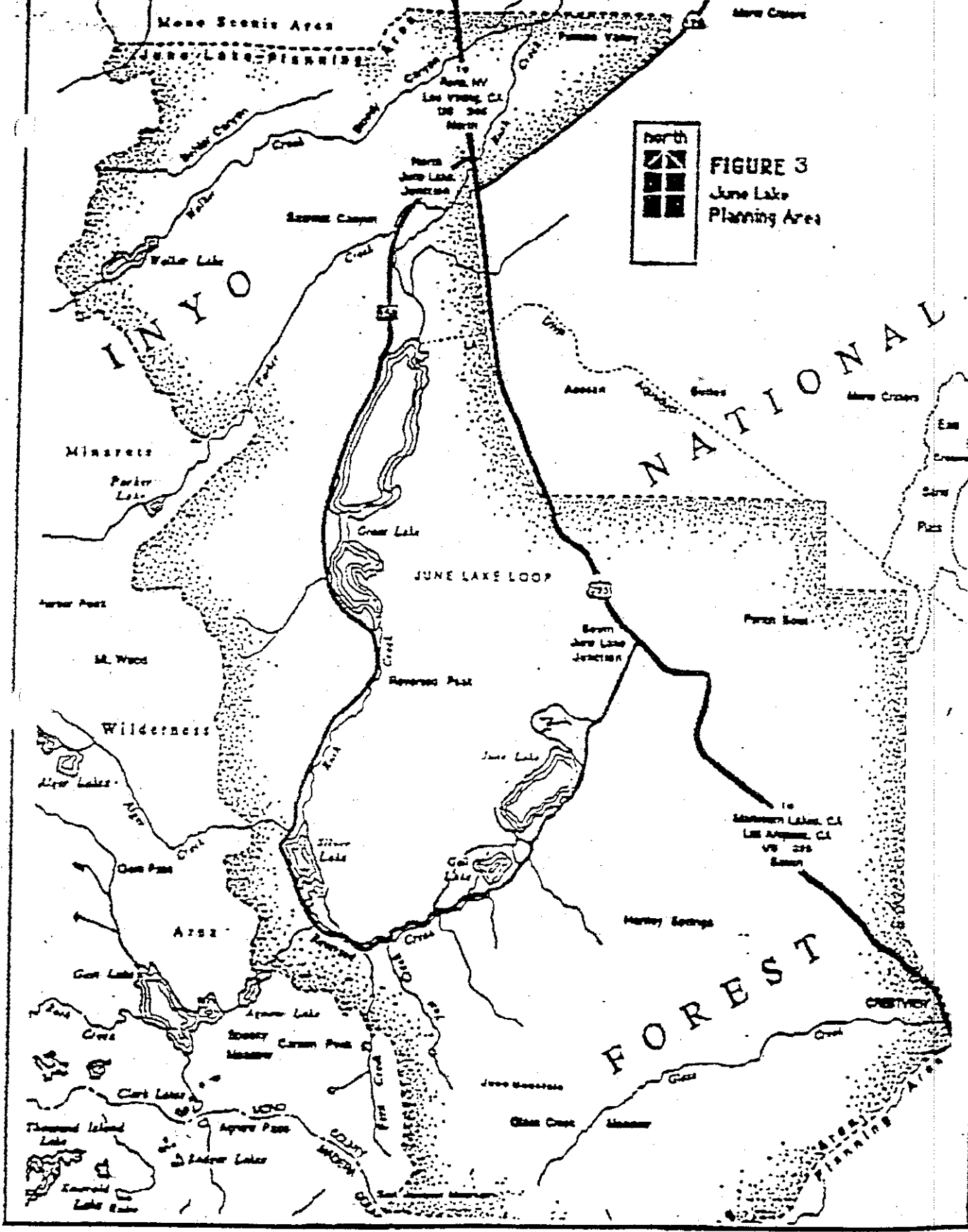


FIGURE 3
June Lake
Planning Area