

Mitigated Negative Declaration

This statement and attachments constitute the Mitigated Negative Declaration as proposed for adoption by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (Water Board) for the project described below.

Posting Date: April 12, 2013

To State Clearinghouse: April 12, 2013

Comment Period: April 12, 2013 – May 13, 2013

Proposed Adoption Date: June 19, 2013

Project Name: Angora Fire Trails and Stream Environment Zone Restoration Project

Staff Contact: Laurie Scribe (530) 542-5465
Lscribe@waterboards.ca.gov

Project Description: The U.S. Forest Service – Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) will realign the trail system and conduct Stream Environment Zone (SEZ) restoration in the area burned during the 2007 Angora Fire. Trail work includes decommissioning and/or restoration of 16.7 miles of trails, construction of 8.9 miles of new trail, and 15,130 square feet of trail removal from SEZs. Other SEZ restoration includes building 1,200 feet of new Angora Creek channel, placing large woody debris along 2 miles of Angora Creek, stabilizing an incised gully in the Gardner Mountain Meadow, and restoring the man-made Seneca Pond to a wetland complex.

The Water Board will regulate discharges from the Project by: (1) granting coverage under the Water Board's General Waste Discharge Requirements and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activity in the Lake Tahoe Basin; (2) granting exemptions to discharge prohibitions in the Lahontan Regional Board Water Quality Control Plan; and (3) issuing Clean Water Act 401 Water Quality Certification.

Project Location: The Lake Tahoe Region of California, El Dorado County

Environmental Finding: The project, as described in the attached CEQA Checklist, the LTBMU Environmental Assessment, the LTBMU Decision Notice/Finding of No Significant Impact, the LTBMU Draft Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan, and the Angora Creek Meadow-Channel Restoration Design Plans, incorporates design features and mitigation measures to reduce potentially significant impacts to the environment to less than significant levels.

Lead Agency: Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board
2501 Lake Tahoe Boulevard
South Lake Tahoe, California 96150
phone: (530) 542-5400 fax: (530) 544-2271

Other Agencies Whose Approval May be Required: The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency

Attachments:

- 1) CEQA Checklist
- 2) LTBMU Environmental Assessment for the Angora Fire Restoration Project
- 3) LTBMU Decision Notice/Finding of No Significant Impact
- 4) LTBMU Draft Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
- 5) Angora Creek Meadow-Channel Restoration Design Plans

How to Submit Comments: The Lead Agency invites comments on the proposal from all interested persons and parties. **Written comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on May 13, 2013.** Written comments should be addressed to the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board at the address/fax provided above. For more information contact: Laurie Scribe, (530) 542-5465, LScribe@waterboards.ca.gov