



Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet FY 2016-17

Basin Planning

Overview

The Lahontan Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) is the water quality protection plan for the Region. The Basin Plan contains the beneficial uses and water quality objectives to protect those beneficial uses. The Basin Plan also outlines control measures to achieve water quality objectives.

The Water Board sets planning priorities in its Triennial Review last adopted in December 2015.

Funding for the Basin Planning program is from the state Waste Discharge Permit Fee account, which has allocated 4.3 PY to complete both Basin Planning and TMDL program work; 2 PY are identified for Basin Planning work.

Key Efforts

Staff is making progress on projects that are identified as management priorities or listed on the 2015 Triennial Review priority list. These efforts include:

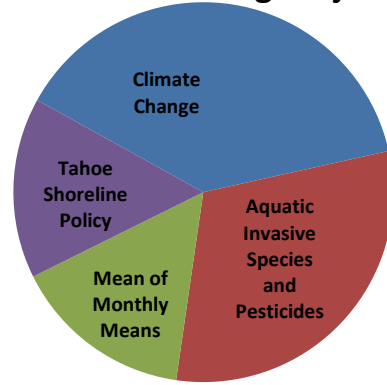
- The Climate Change Adaptation project, which includes two Basin Planning staff as workgroup leads/co-leads, to develop a climate change strategy, including recommended changes to the Basin Plan
- Technical and policy input for TRPA's Lake Tahoe Shoreline Ordinances
- Participation in State Board Standards Unit projects with potential to affect the Lahontan Region:
 - Bacteria water quality objectives, specific to water contact recreation protection
 - Mercury provisions (including new tribal and subsistence beneficial uses)
 - Biostimulatory substances objectives project
- Outreach, supporting disadvantaged communities and Human Right to Water

Other Triennial Review priorities will be assigned based on outcome of Climate Change strategy, including riparian protection policy, establishing minimum stream flow requirements, recommending site specific objective changes for Mojave River, Hot Creek and possibly Truckee River (evaluating mean of monthly means objectives), and developing 2018 Triennial Review.

Staff Activities



Basin Planning Projects



Accomplishments

Mean of Monthly Means Project - Replacing mean of monthly means with annual averages is a Triennial Review priority, but lacked a documented rationale. Investigated the history, origin, and intent and are developing a recommendation.

Pesticide Prohibition Exemption Process - With USEPA approval of the pesticide prohibition in late 2015, staff educated multiple parties on the Basin Plan requirements and provided assistance to regulatory staff in addressing prohibition exemption inquiries.

Aquatic Invasive Species Workgroup – Ongoing participation in Tahoe aquatic invasive species work groups.

Lake Tahoe Shoreline Ordinance – Advised TRPA staff. Project will result in pier prohibition changes in Basin Plan.

Climate Change Survey and outreach - Survey results evaluated for draft strategy.

Performance targets FY 15/16 and 16/17

<u>Target Description</u>	<u>Targets</u>	<u>Achieved</u>
# of Water Quality Objectives Adopted	0	0

Unaddressed Work

Triennial Review List adopted by Board in 2015 identified several basin planning projects not currently assigned:

- Establish or revise site specific objectives for numerous surface waters
- Biological Indicators
- Region-wide approach to TDS objectives in surface waters
- Mojave Beneficial Uses and Numeric Objectives
- Survey of surface waters to identify those needing in-stream flow requirements for protecting beneficial uses
- Squaw Valley groundwater withdrawal & in-stream flow impacts