

Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet FY 2016-17

Site Cleanup Program (SCP)

Overview

The Site Cleanup Program (SCP) focuses on investigation and cleanup of pollutants (other than petroleum releases associated with underground tanks) released to soils, groundwater, surface waters, and sediments. Typical cleanup sites include industrial facilities such as chemical milling plants, power plants, sawmills, dry cleaners, and aboveground storage tanks. The types of pollutants encountered at SCP sites can include fertilizers, fuels, heavy metals, nutrients, salts such as perchlorate, and solvents.

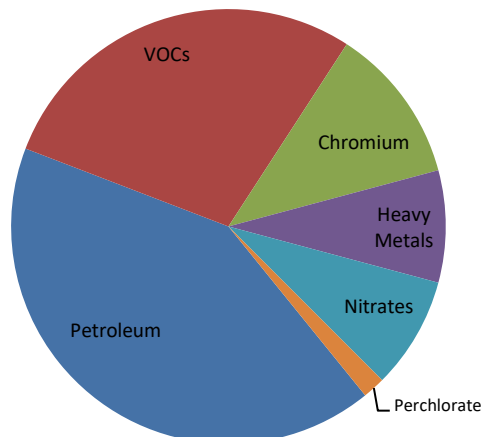
A total of 19 SCP cases are in the cost recovery program where the responsible party (RP) covers staff costs for providing oversight (approximately 2.7 positions this year). SCP cases *not* in cost-recovery are funded through the state General Fund, which has allocated 0.56 PY this fiscal year.

The Site Cleanup Subaccount Program (SCAP), established by Underground Storage Tanks: Hazardous Substances: Petroleum: Groundwater and Surface Water Contamination (SB 445 [Hill, 2014]), provides funds that allows the State Water Board to issue grants to regional water boards or outside parties for projects that remediate the harm or threat of harm to human health, safety, or the environment caused by surface or groundwater pollution where no responsible parties are financially capable to clean up a site. We were allocated 0.42 PY through SB 445 this fiscal year for review and/or implement investigation or remediation of these cases.

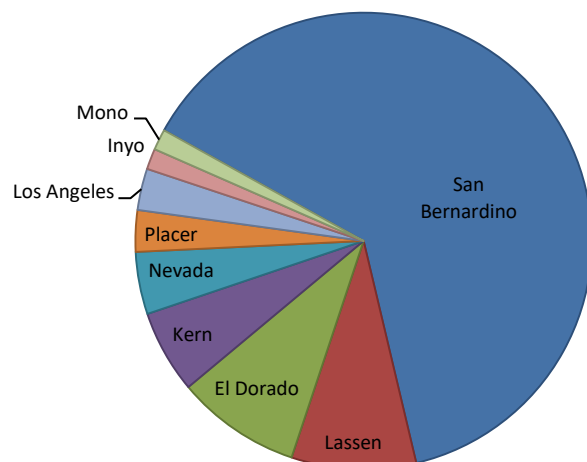
Key Efforts

- Ensuring PG&E compliance of 2015 Cleanup Order for hexavalent chromium remediation in Hinkley and completion of the Chromium Background Study.
- Using \$2.67 million in grant funds awarded from State Board's SCAP account, staff will oversee a pilot study at source area to remediate Barstow perchlorate.
- Developing requests for state board funding to conduct groundwater investigations for South Tahoe Y and City of Victorville Old Town areas. Staff will evaluate data to determine status of plumes and appropriate remediation.

Contamination Types



Cases by County



Accomplishments for Selected Projects

PGE Hexavalent Chromium, Hinkley

The USGS revised chromium background study remains on schedule with strong community support. Board staff manages this 5-year long, \$5.5 million study under contract with the State Water Board, funded by PG&E. Agricultural chromium treatment fields continue operations. In 2017, PG&E will install 10 new in-situ wells to enhance treatment near chromium source area to meet targets set in 2015 CAO.

Lake Tahoe Laundry Works, South Lake Tahoe

Groundwater remediation continues to reduce solvent levels onsite. Water Board staff drafted a CAO requiring additional offsite investigation. Additional onsite remediation is planned for 2017 using ex-situ treatment.

Mountain Pass Mine and Mill

Molycorp Minerals LLC (Molycorp) has been in Chapter 11 Bankruptcy since June 2015. A Trustee is managing the site during bankruptcy. Limited resources are focused on permit compliance, state fees, groundwater monitoring, and groundwater remediation costs. Molycorp proposed July 1, 2017 to provide a revised Feasibility Study.

Nitrate Plume, Barstow

The City of Barstow provides 10 residences with replacement bottled water, is collecting soil samples from the North Field, and plans to construct a pilot treatment system funded by a grant from the California Energy Commission to help remediate nitrates.

Perchlorate Plume, Barstow

Staff continued quarterly monitoring of wells; replacement bottled water was provided to 3 affected homes. A grant of \$2.67 million to conduct a pilot scale treatability study at the perchlorate source area was awarded by the State Board in December 2016 and will include extraction wells, infiltration galleries, and a treatment system to remove perchlorate from the soil and groundwater. A contract is expected to be awarded in FY16/17, with work to begin during FY17/18.

Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI), Susanville

SPI submitted a corrective action plan (CAP) for Former Susanville Sawmill and Cogeneration Facility proposing final remedies. Staff provided comments on the CAP and requested a monitored natural attenuation plan to support the proposed alternative. Future actions will include natural attenuation monitoring, development of deed restrictions, closure of a surface impoundment, and rescission of the existing WDRs.

Performance targets for fiscal year 2015/2016

	<u>Target</u>	<u>Completed</u>
• Number of Cases Closed	9	8
• Number of Cases into Active Remediation	0	1

Performance targets for fiscal year 2016/2017 – Progress to date

	<u>Target</u>	<u>Completed</u>
• Number of Cases Closed	9	5
• Number of Cases into Active Remediation	0	0

Unaddressed Work

- Staff has identified one position annually of unaddressed work at several sites that have limited water board oversight but require additional time to hasten cleanup efforts to restore drinking water supplies.