

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
LAHONTAN REGION  
MEETING OF MAY 11-12, 2016  
SOUTH LAKE TAHOE**

<b>ITEM 3</b>	
<b>EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT</b>	

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# **ENCLOSURE 1**

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## EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT • MAY 2016

### *State and Regional*

#### **1. International Conference on Soil, Water, Energy, and Air**

- Brian Grey, Alonzo Poach, Tom Gavigan

The 26<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference on Soil, Water, Energy, and Air presented by the Association for Environmental Health and Sciences Foundation was held in March in San Diego and attended by Victorville and South Lake Tahoe staff. Over 200 presenters, 11 workshops, and 50 exhibitors exchanged information about technological advances, case studies, and recent changes to environmental guidance documents. Topics spanned environmental forensics, petroleum and chlorinated compound risk, vapor intrusion, site characterization, and risk evaluation. Poster presentations and an exhibition hall featuring vendor booths and equipment demonstrations augmented the platform and workshop sessions. The following highlights a few of the conference topics.

- Staff participated in a dense non-aqueous phase liquid (DNAPL) workshop given by the Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council (ITRC). ITRC is a coalition of regulatory personnel and industry leaders looking to expand technical knowledge and expedite quality regulatory decisions. ITRC presenters shared case studies and introduced free tools and reference materials. This information helps staff stay current on emerging technologies and quality reference materials when evaluating cleanup proposals.
- Case studies illustrated how characterization of petroleum free product can help inform appropriate site management strategies. Evaluating the practicability and need for free product removal can be a challenge for staff. One case study presented a quantifiable method to evaluate free product biodegradation using carbon dioxide flux measurements. The case study showed 100 times more free product was being naturally biodegraded than was being physically recovered, and served as a basis to evaluate the relative benefit of the active remediation effort.
- Vapor intrusion was a major topic at the conference. Information ranged from recent guidance document updates to the effects of building construction and ventilation systems on vapor intrusion. A case study presented real time data collection of indoor air samples. The study showed the variability of indoor air

VOC concentrations throughout the day and the need for a complete picture to best evaluate potential exposure.

## **2. Personnel Report - *Eric Shay***

### New Hires – None

Vacancies – We are currently recruiting for a Seasonal Clerk position in our Victorville office.

Departures – Sue Genera, Executive Assistant, has accepted a new position and her last day is April 29, 2016.

## **3. Bacteria Water Quality Objectives Project – Semi-Annual Update**

*- Dan Sussman & Mary Fiore-Wagner*

### Background

Item four on the 2015 Triennial Review Priority list is the revision of the water quality objectives for bacteria. Based on the results of ongoing field sampling in the Lahontan Region, revisions to federal criteria for recreational waters and a proposed State Water Board policy to incorporate the use of *E. coli* as an indicator, revisions to the Lahontan Basin Plan may be proposed. The current Lahontan Region objective is 20 coliform forming units (cfu) of fecal coliform per 100 milliliters (ml).

### State Board Bacteria Objective

This summer State Board anticipates releasing its draft bacteria water quality objective using *E. coli* as an indicator instead of fecal coliform, as *E. coli* has been found to be the most reliable indicator organism in all fresh waters. The water quality objective will be specific to the REC-1 (Water Contact Recreation) beneficial use. The draft objective, based on a 2012 USEPA recommendation, will be higher than the fecal coliform objective in the Lahontan Basin Plan.

It is not yet clear how we will be asked to apply the new water quality objective in the Lahontan Region, as our Region's current objective is not explicitly linked to a beneficial use. Staff will review the State Board proposal when released and develop a strategy to comply with State Board direction while still maintaining protection of the Region's many high quality waters.

### Microbial Source Tracking

The Water Board continues to contract with researchers at the Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Laboratory (SNARL) to assess bacteria in the Region's waters and determine bacteria sources using Microbial Source Tracking (MST) techniques. In March, staff received a draft final report of a study that provides a description of the fecal indicator bacteria concentrations in impaired streams in Mono and Inyo Counties. The report uses MST to identify relative contributions of humans versus ruminants (including cattle) and analyzes a fecal indicator bacteria dataset collected by staff across the region.

The Water Board is entering into a new contract with SNARL which will continue to identify the source(s) of the bacteria in impaired surface waters within the Lahontan Region. Identifying the sources of fecal contamination is a necessary step when developing effective remedial strategies to address these impairments. The forthcoming contract work will collect information and assist the Water Board in identifying the natural and anthropogenic source(s) of bacteria in surface water bodies that have been shown to exceed standards for fecal indicator bacteria.

Under the new contract, SNARL's principal investigator will (1) utilize both traditional and modern methods for measuring various bacterial indicators in surface water, and (2) apply statistical analysis to landscape-scale variables and site-specific data to determine the primary drivers of fecal indicator bacteria concentrations.

Unlike previous contracts with SNARL, which focused largely on 303(d) listed water bodies in Mono and Inyo Counties, for this contract Lahontan staff plan to investigate some bacteria impaired water bodies in the northern Lahontan Region (Modoc County). Limited sampling of creeks in the Modoc National Forest by SWAMP staff and UCD contractors indicate elevated levels of bacteria in these areas. Additional MST in these water bodies will help focus on the bacteria sources.

The contract work will also expand the range of assays that are applied for purposes of identifying bacteria sources. Similar to previous contracts, human and ruminant assays will be tested, but beaver, other wildlife, and avian assays will also be applied to further determine bacteria sources if it is found that the bacteria contribution from human and/or ruminant sources is limited.

#### **4. Confined Animal Facility Meeting with Resource Conservation Districts** – *Ghasem Pour-ghasemi*

In April, at the request of the Resource Conservation Districts (RCD), the Assistant Executive Officer and Victorville staff attended an RCD meeting that included Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff, approximately 7 people from the RCD, and a representative from the Confined Animal Facilities (CAFs). There were many comments and concerns expressed regarding the proposed CAF General Order and its economic impact on the industry. The group also discussed the upcoming formation of a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). It was suggested that adequate time be given for the TAC to compile existing water quality data. There were additional suggestions to invite UC Extension farm advisors and local nutrient management experts to the TAC. The first TAC meeting is tentatively planned for Friday, May 6, 2016. Topics include nutrient balance for high desert application, performance monitoring, and groundwater monitoring wells.

#### **5. The Water Boards' Open Data Initiative - Kelly Huck**

On March 18, 2016 the Office of Information Management and Analysis (OIMA) hosted the California Water Boards' Data Fair. This event provided a forum aimed to enhance the availability and integration of the Water Boards' key datasets. The TMDL/Basin Planning unit relies heavily on information provided by the CEDEN (California Environmental Data Exchange Network) database to drive day-to-day work activities

and also to set long term monitoring, assessment and planning goals. Staff attended this fair to keep informed of any changes or improvements being made to the CEDEN database, learn about other statewide databases and to meet the dataset stewards.

As of April 2016, datasets from CEDEN, SMARTS (Stormwater Multiple Application and Report Tracking System) and CIWQS (California Integrated Water Quality System Project) can all be accessed from one website. This is the first step OIMA is taking to centralize all of the Water Boards' datasets. The open data platform will be a great resource for the general public and stakeholders to find information and build confidence in our agency's transparency.

Currently the Open Data Initiative is in its pilot stages, but OIMA is hopeful that the amount of data and accessibility of the user interface will continue to grow. Future phases of the Open Data Initiative will include adding more datasets and the development of supplemental tools for enhanced data access, integration, and visualization. The long term goal of OIMA is to integrate datasets from different agencies, states and federally. Eventually, with access to larger sets of data, our agency could use this tool to identify water quality issues or determine waters in need of data collection resources. This could help drive our monitoring efforts, determine TMDL needs and increase collaboration with other agencies and non-profits.

## **6. Salt and Nutrient Management Plans (SNMP) in the Lahontan Region**

*-Cindy Wise and Bruce Warden*

The Water Board has requested regular updates on the progress of Salt and Nutrient Management Plan (SNMP) development. This item (and the table that follows it) summarizes the status of the SNMP efforts underway in the Region and reports on new information since the last status update in October 2015. Development of SNMPs by local stakeholders for every groundwater basin in the state by May 2014 (with two year time extension possible) is a requirement of the state's 2009 Recycled Water Policy.

Our SNMP efforts focus on ten groundwater basins determined to be priority basins by information from the state's Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment (GAMA) Program. The ten priority basins are listed below, along with a brief statement on the status of SNMP development for each basin. More detailed status information is in the table that follows. (Note: These are ten priority basins of the more than 345 groundwater basins and sub-basins named in our Region.)

- Honey Lake Valley - draft plan completed in December 2015; staff review underway
- Tahoe Valley – preliminary draft plan (technical memo) completed in December 2015; staff review underway
- Martis Valley – no significant SNMP actions yet initiated
- Owens Valley - no significant SNMP actions yet initiated
- Indian Wells Valley – plan development underway with draft SNMP expected by the end of 2016. An information item on the Indian Wells Valley SNMP is scheduled for the June 2016 Water Board meeting.

- Tehachapi Valley East – draft plan completed in February 2010; staff review underway
- Antelope Valley – final SNMP accepted by the Board in November 2014
- Mojave (Upper Mojave River Valley, Middle Mojave River Valley, Lower Mojave River Valley) - final SNMP for these three basins accepted by the Regional Board in February 2016

Thus, SNMP efforts are underway or completed in eight of our ten priority basins, addressing 78% of our priority basin acreage.

SNMP development is underway for other basins in the region. Staff is currently reviewing the final SNMP prepared by the Fort Irwin National Training Center, U.S. Army for the Langford Valley Basin, Irwin Subbasin of the Langford Valley Basin and the Bicycle Valley Basin. Staff plans to present the final SNMP to the Board in September 2016 for acceptance.

SNMP Forum - Staff participated in a forum in March 2016 designed to provide an opportunity for State and Regional Water Board staff to share SNMP progress to date and to discuss ideas on how to address SNMP challenges as the Recycled Water Policy's May 2016 due date for completion of SNMPS approaches. Some of the workshop discussion focused on:

- Basin Plans and SNMPS - Some Regions amended Basin Plans for non-regulatory SNMPS while others only amended for changes in water quality standards.
- Time Extensions – Since SNMPS are due by May 2016, consensus direction from State Board staff attending the SNMP forum was to allow local agencies responsible for SNMP development adequate time to continue efforts and complete SNMPS. There may be future, formal State Board action or other direction promoting continuation of SNMP efforts.
- Funding – Use of the Green Projects loan forgiveness provision of the Clean Water State Revolving Fund could provide a source of funds that may help incentivize SNMP development for those priority groundwater basins where no significant actions are underway or assist self-funded local agencies that have begun SNMP development.
- Coordination - There are opportunities for coordination of SNMP development with other groundwater efforts such as development of Groundwater Sustainability Plans as required by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and in the development of Local Area Management Plans (LAMPs) as required by Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS) Policy.
- Antidegradation Policy - Guidance is needed on how to apply this policy to groundwater.

- Electronic Content Management (ECM) – Guidance is needed to provide consistent management of SNMP elements and interface with Geotracker GAMA.
- SNMP Development for other Groundwater Basins – A process is needed to address the requirement of SNMPS for all groundwater basins (those not initially identified as priority.)
- Stakeholder Incentives for Completion of SNMPS – Potential incentives were discussed such as formal recognition of efforts to date and potential sources of funds.

State Water Board staff will be taking the lead on capturing ideas from the SNMP forum and implementing some of them in coordination with SNMP Regional Board staff.

## **7. The 2016 Inland Science and Engineering Fair - Jeff Fitzsimmons**

Jeff Fitzsimmons, Engineering Geologist from our Victorville office, volunteered his services this year as a judge for the 2016 Inland Science and Engineering Fair held at the Bourns Technology Center in Riverside. The science fair is open annually to 4th through 12th grade students attending schools in districts from Riverside, Inyo, Mono, and San Bernardino counties. Nearly 800 projects spanning 22 categories of science and engineering were judged by teams consisting of educators, parents, and volunteers from science and industry. Judges were provided assignments respective to their fields of expertise. Mr. Fitzsimmons was assigned to a team judging the categories of earth, planetary, and environmental sciences. Two projects from each category were awarded first-place "gold" awards and provided the opportunity to advance to the California State Science Fair, which is planned for May 22 and 23, 2016 in Los Angeles.

Students were on hand to present their project posters and discuss their results with fellow science fair participants and judges. Knowledge and application of the scientific method were expressed by the students through their poster boards, project notebooks, and discussion with the judges. Judges were asked to evaluate the originality, completeness, comprehension, clarity, effort, and motivation for each project. Topics presented within the categories of earth, planetary, and environmental sciences varied greatly. Some of these topics included: municipal park drinking fountain water quality; pond, creek, river, and ocean water quality; stormwater filtration systems; water conservation; drought tolerance of lawns; plant growth with contaminated and reclaimed water; conductivity of soil types; evidence supporting the Anthropocene epoch; and environmental awareness through education.

The Inland Science and Engineering Fair is an excellent forum for outreach to future scientists, educators, and the public. Water Board staff participation at such events serves to increase public awareness of water quality, to help build and maintain relationships, and to provide a forum that provides students the opportunity to interact with professional scientists, ask questions, and seek guidance for improving their projects.

## **8. Update on the Bankruptcy Proceedings for Molycorp Minerals, LLC, Mountain Pass Mine, San Bernardino County – Christy Hunter and Kim Niemeyer**

Since late June 2015, when Molycorp Minerals, LLC, and several of its affiliated entities (collectively 'Molycorp Debtors'), filed for Bankruptcy with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court (Court) in the District of Delaware, the Court has conducted a series of hearings on reorganization plans to settle the debtors' obligations under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. Most recently, in April 2016, the Molycorp Debtors filed a motion to convert their chapter 11 cases to cases under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code

(Conversion Motion). The Court issued a deadline of April 12, 2016, for filing of objections to this requested relief by the Molycorp Debtors and the Water Board filed a timely objection. A hearing to consider the Conversion Motion was held on April 13, 2016.

An objection to the motion was filed by the entities holding surety bonds for the mine (collectively referred to as the Sureties), the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, the Water Board, and the County of San Bernardino. Concern was raised that converting the bankruptcy to a Chapter 7 would result in liquidation of existing assets and dissolution of Molycorp Minerals, which would be inconsistent with the need to maintain the ongoing cleanup and closure actions at the site, and thus contrary to the public interest. County, state, and federal officials have expressed concerns about reclamation and cleanup assurances for Molycorp Minerals.

On April 13<sup>th</sup>, the court ordered the U.S. Trustee to appoint a chapter 11 trustee to take over the Mountain Pass facility. Molycorp Minerals will, therefore, remain in chapter 11 and in possession until the closing of the sale. When the sale closes, the court will enter another order appointing the trustee. The court allowed Molycorp Minerals to transfer its mineral rights, some intellectual property, and some equity interests in subsidiaries, all of which property was encumbered by substantial liens, to creditors in exchange for \$4 million in cash. The cash is earmarked to fund the liquidation of Molycorp Minerals: about \$2 million of it will go to employees who are being laid off, and the rest will fund either a liquidating chapter 11 case, or a chapter 7 case.

The Water Board is being represented by the Attorney General's office in this matter, and will continue to stay active in the bankruptcy to ensure that sufficient funds are available, whether as a result of the bankruptcy process or state court action, for oversight for the necessary reclamation/closure of mine waste units and operation of the ongoing treatment systems for the contaminated groundwater as a result of historical leaking mining waste units. Based on a recent Feasibility Study report, cleanup of the groundwater will require in excess of 45 years. Cleanup costs could be in excess of \$30 million; currently only about \$8 million in Financial Assurance Bonds have been set aside for cleanup. Water Board staff requested revised Financial Assurance documents by April 27, 2016.

Other agencies holding bonds for the mine site include:

- a. County of San Bernardino – Mine Reclamation Bonds held = approximately \$14 million
- b. CalRecycle – small closed municipal landfill post-closure Bond held = \$500,000
- c. Cal Dept of Pub Health, Rad Health – Decommissioning of rad material – Bond held = \$1,125,000

Court documents have been posted to the Prime Clerk website, case 15-11357.

## **9. Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority – Project Status Report**

– John Morales

The Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority (VVWRA) is of completing major milestones that will benefit the high desert region as a whole. The VVWRA is achieving provide water conservation projects and energy savings and improved operation efficiency. Four major improvements are as follows: 1) Apple Valley Sub-Regional Plant, 2) Hesperia Sub-Regional Plant, 3) The Aeration Basin Energy Efficiency Project. 4) The Upper Narrows Pipeline Replacement Project, and Sub-Regional Treatment Plant

Currently, operational testing is in progress at the Apple Valley and Hesperia sub-regional wastewater treatment plants. According to the schedule, the Hesperia sub-regional plant will become fully operational by May 2017 and the Apple Valley plant by October 2017. When fully operational, each site will be capable of producing one million gallons per day of recycled water. The sub-regional plants will treat the wastewater to tertiary disinfected standards that will allow the treated water to be used for irrigation, thus conserving potable water.



Aerial view of Hesperia Sub-Regional Plant – VVWRA photo

### **Regional Treatment Plant Aeration Basin Upgrade**

The aeration basin efficiency upgrade project at the main regional plant in Victorville is essentially complete except for miscellaneous tasks such as painting. The upgrades include new air diffusers installed at the bottom of the aeration basins and new piping to provide a more efficient and reliable source of oxygen. The new fine bubble diffusers that were installed allow more efficient transfer of oxygen due to the smaller air bubbles generated. Additional drop-legs were also installed as part of the new diffuser system to provide additional air and thus avoid anoxic zones in the basins where not desired. This will increase the nitrification and de-nitrification processes that will reduce effluent total nitrogen concentrations. The upgrade will also reduce the operational energy costs by reducing the air demand. VVWRA has met all of the requirements specified in the Water

Board's Time Schedule Order. After reviewing the project close-out report due in May, staff anticipate recommending the Board terminate the Order.



Main regional plant aeration basin in operation - VVWRA photo

#### Upper Mojave Narrows Pipeline Replacement Project

The Upper Mojave Narrows Pipeline Replacement Project is on its way to completion as well. All of the tie-ins have been completed except the tie-in for the City of Hesperia flow into the Town of Apple Valley flow. This tie-in is expected to be completed by the end of June 2016. The siphon beneath the Mojave River has been completed as well as the boring through the mountain, and has become operational. When completed, the VVWRA interceptor trunk line will bypass the Upper Narrows where a major pipeline break occurred in 2010 and 42 million gallons of raw sewage was released into the Mojave River. VVWRA has completed actions required by the Administrative Civil Liability order associated with this event and staff will notify VVWRA that the terms of the settlement agreement and stipulation have been met.

Salt/Nutrient Management Planning Progress Report								
Region 6: Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board								
Date: April 2016								
Stakeholder Group	Antelope Valley IRWM Group	Mojave IRWM Group	Tahoe Sierra IRWM Group	Inyo Mono IRWM Group	Indian Wells Valley Group (part of Inyo Mono IRWM)	Lahontan Basins IRWM Group	Fremont Basin IRWM Group	Fort Irwin National Training Center, U.S. Army
<b>Membership</b>	Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association, Palmdale Water District	Mojave Water Agency (Note: some areas in Region 7 but Region 6 is lead)	South Tahoe Public Utility District	California Trout	Indian Wells Valley Cooperative Groundwater Management Team -- Indian Wells Valley Water District, Naval Air Weapons Station, Searles Valley Minerals, City of Ridgecrest, BLM, Inyokern CSD, Kern Co, Kern Co Water Agency, Eastern Kern Co Airport District	Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District	Department of Public Works, California City	Fort Irwin National Training Center
<b>Lead Organization</b>	Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association	Mojave Water Agency	South Tahoe Public Utility District	California Trout	Indian Wells Valley Water District	Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District	Department of Public Works, California City	Department of Public Works, Fort Irwin National Training Center
<b>Lead Group Contact</b>	Matt Knudson (Palmdale Water District) (661) 947-4111x118 mknudson@palmdalewater.org	Kirby Brill (760) 946-7008 kbrill@mojavewater.org	Lynn Nolan (530) 543-6215 lnolan@stpub.dst.ca.us	Mark Drew (760) 924-1008 mdrew@caltrot.org	Don Zbeda/Indian Wells Water Agency (760) 384-5555 don.zdeba@iwwd.com	Tim Keesey (530) 260-0934 info@honeylakevalleyrod.us	Michael Bevins (760) 373-7297 pwdir@californiacity.com	Chris Woodruff (760) 380-3739 www.irwin.army.mil
<b>Basins Covered DWR 118 Bulletins (RB6 Priority Basins for SNMP development shown in bold)</b>	<b>6-44 Antelope Valley</b>	<b>6-40 Lower Mojave River Valley</b> <b>6-41 Middle Mojave River Valley</b> <b>6-42 Upper Mojave River Valley</b> R7 basins Lucerne Valley, Johnson Valley, and Morongo	<b>6-5 Tahoe Valley</b> <b>6-67 Martis (Truckee Valley)</b> 6-6 Carson Valley 6-108 Olympic Valley	<b>6-12 Owens Valley</b>	<b>6-54 Indian Wells Valley</b>	<b>6-4 Honey Lake Valley</b>	<b>6-46 Fremont Valley</b> <b>6-45 Tehachapi Valley East</b>	6-36 Langford Valley 6-36.02 Irwin Subbasin of Langford Valley 6-25 Bicycle Valley
<b>What Group has Done to Date: (including significant milestones)</b>	Salt/nutrient approach/concept presented to and accepted by Lahontan Regional Water Board. Time extension granted. Regional Board accepted completed SNMP in November 2014. The Antelope Valley IRWM group met on October 28, 2015, in Palmdale to discuss the status of IRWM projects and upcoming grant funding proposals.	Salt/nutrient approach/concept presented to and accepted by Lahontan Regional Water Board. Status on SNMP development presented to the Regional Board at its June 2015 regular meeting. On December 8th, 2015 the Mojave Water Agency submitted its final Salt Nutrient Management Plan (SNMP) to both the Lahontan and Colorado Water Boards. The SNMP covers the agency's service area which includes the Mojave and Morongo groundwater basins located in both regions, respectively. The SNMP was accepted by the Lahontan Water Board in February 2016.	Part of IRWM (planning grant funds to update IRWM plan & includes SNMP plan development. A draft SNMP is completed and is being reviewed by Regional Board staff. A possible status presentation to the Regional Board in late 2016.	Part of IRWM; currently seeking funding to begin SNMP development.	The Indian Wells Valley Cooperative Groundwater Management Team decided to develop its own SNMP as a subset of the Inyo Mono IRWM group's effort. Time extension granted. A draft SNMP is under development with a possible status presentation to the Regional Board in 2016. A second time extension was granted until June 2016. Water Board staff held three teleconferences with Indian Wells Valley (IVP) SNMP technical advisory committee (TAC) members October-December, 2015 and reviewed and commented on the first draft SNMP submitted by the IVP TAC, pointing out sections of the SNMP that are required by the recycled water program, and suggesting other changes and additions recommended by State Water Board guidance documents.	• Part of IRWM (planning funds to update IRWM plan include SNMP). Time extension granted. A draft SNMP is completed and is being reviewed by Regional Board staff. A possible status presentation to the Regional Board in late 2016.	Potential draft plan completed and currently under review by the Regional Board. Possible status presentation to the Regional Board in late 2016.	A final SNMP is completed and is being reviewed by Regional Board staff. The Army is tentatively scheduled to present its final SNMP to the Water Board for acceptance in September 2016.

## **ENCLOSURE 2**

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**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY  
CONTROL BOARD  
LAHONTAN REGION**

**2016 STANDING ITEMS**  
**April**

The Water Board has requested that it be kept informed of the status of a number of issues. The following table lists the items, the reporting frequency and the dates the items are due.

<b>ENTIRE BASIN</b>		
<b>ISSUE</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>DUE DATE</b>
Lake Tahoe Nearshore	Semi-Annual	July 2016 January 2017
Status of Basin Plan Amendments	Annually	July 2016
Status of Grants	Annually	April 2016 (EO Item 2)
Caltrans Statewide General Permit/Tahoe Basin	Annually	July 2016
Tahoe Municipal Permit	Annually	July 2016
County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles – Dist. No. 14	Annually	February 2017
County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles – Dist.t No. 20	Annually	September 2016
Status of Dairies	Semi-Annual	September 2016 February 2017
City of Barstow Nitrate/Orphan Perchlorate	Annually	September 2016
Pacific Gas & Electric Company	Southern Board Meetings	September 2016
Leviathan Mine	Semi-Annual	July 2016 January 2017
Salt & Nutrient Management Plans	Annually	May 2016
Onsite Septic Tanks	Annually	June 2016
Grazing Update	Annually	June 2016
Bacteria Water Quality Objectives Project	Semi-Annual	May 2016 November 2016

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## **ENCLOSURE 3**

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**COUNTY: EL DORADO**

Discharger/Facility	Location	Basin	Regulated Facility?	Discharge Date	Discharge Volume	Description of Failure	Additional Details	Status
Unknown/Tahoe Keys Marina	2435 Venice Blvd., South Lake Tahoe	North	Yes	4/11/2016	Unknown	An oil sheen was observed on the water at the Tahoe Keys Marina (Tahoe Keys Property Owners Assoc. lot storm water runoff area/southwest portion of marina).	Water Board staff's investigation identified three petroleum sources that likely contributed to the sheen. 1) Boat owner dropped a used oil filter into marina waters; 2) Sail boat bilge water discharge; and 3) parking lot storm water runoff containing oil from leaking tugboat.	Tahoe Keys Property Owners Assoc. hired Clean Harbors to clean up oily sheen. Clean Harbors reported removing an estimate 30 gallons of petroleum over a four-day period. Water Board investigation continues.

**COUNTY: INYO**

Discharger/Facility	Location	Basin	Regulated Facility?	Discharge Date	Discharge Volume	Description of Failure	Additional Details	Status
Bishop Paiute Tribe/Bishop Paiute Tribe CS	Near the corner of See Vee Lane and Diaz Lane, Bishop	South	No	3/14/2016 - 3/24/2016	700,000 gallons	Mainline blockage caused 700,000-gallon raw sewage discharge, 90,000 gallons of which entered South Fork Bishop Creek.	Grease, roots, and debris caused sewage to spill from a manhole to the ground. The sewage flowed approximately 1,500 feet across Tribal land before entering the creek.	Cleared the blockage, and cleaned up the affected area. Bacteria sampling showing decreasing trend with levels below typical summer conditions, but still above Lahontan and Tribal bacterial standards.

**COUNTY: LOS ANGELES**

Discharger/Facility	Location	Basin	Regulated Facility?	Discharge Date	Discharge Volume	Description of Failure	Additional Details	Status
City of Lancaster/City of Lancaster CS	5th Street East and Avenue J-12, Lancaster	South	Yes	3/20/2016	30,000 gallons	Mainline blockage caused 30,000-gallon raw sewage discharge to paved roadway and adjacent curb/gutter area.	Grease caused sewage to spill from a manhole to paved surface. No surface waters affected.	Cleared blockage, returned 30,000 gallons to sanitary sewer system, and cleaned up affected area. Added affected mainline section to City's preventative maintenance program.

## **ENCLOSURE 4**

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**Summary of  
No Further Action Required Letters Issued  
March 16 - April 15, 2016  
May 2016 EO Report**  
 State of California  
 Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

The Executive Officer finds the release of petroleum products at the following sites poses a low threat to human health, safety, and the environment. Therefore, these cases were closed in accordance with the Water Quality Control Policy for Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closure (Resolution 2012-016). The Policy recognizes contaminant mass often remains after the investment of reasonable remedial effort and this mass may be difficult to remove regardless of the level of additional effort and resources invested. The establishment of the Policy is an effort to maximize the benefits to the people of the State of California through the judicious application of available resources.

Date Closure Issued	Site Name	Site Address	Case Number	Additional Information
No closure letters were issued between March 16 and April 15.				

**Additional links:**

General Policy information: [http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/ust/lcls\\_plcy.shtml#policy081712](http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/ust/lcls_plcy.shtml#policy081712)

Copy of Policy: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/resolutions/2012/rs2012\\_0016alta.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2012/rs2012_0016alta.pdf)

Implementation Plan [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/resolutions/2012/110612\\_6\\_final\\_ltcp%20imp%20plan.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2012/110612_6_final_ltcp%20imp%20plan.pdf)

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## **ENCLOSURE 5**

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## EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT • APRIL 2016

### *State and Regional*

#### **1. 100 Percent Compliance with the Fall Implementation Timber Waiver Monitoring Report Requirements– Jim Carolan**

Fall Implementation Monitoring Reports, which describe activities conducted on Timber Waiver enrolled projects during that year's non-winter operating season, are due to the Water Board by January 15 for the duration of project activities. Forensic, Effectiveness, and Winter Implementation (if applicable) Monitoring Reports are due to the Water Board by June 15. All required Fall Implementation Monitoring Reports, representing 69 projects, were submitted on time. No water quality violations were noted in any of the monitoring reports. Project implementers may also report non-operation/suspension of monitoring if no operations were conducted during the year. For the 2015 operations season 31 of the 69 Timber Waiver projects were not in operation. Water Board staff's regular communication with project implementers helped achieve the successful compliance.

Fall implementation monitoring is a visual monitoring of timber harvest and vegetation management area. Project implements inspect roads, stream crossings, log landings, etc. to ensure all management practices designed to prevent sediment delivery and protect water quality are in place and secure prior to the winter period.

The high number of projects not in operation is largely due to harvesting of salvage logs from burned areas in California. Salvage logs from burn areas must be harvested within the first two years of the fire for the logs to have merchantable value. Lumber mills in California are currently processing the significant supply of salvage logs from large wildfires such as the Rim Fire (near Yosemite) and King Fire (west of Lake Tahoe basin). Although Water Board staff continues to process new Timber Waiver applications for fuel reduction and forest restoration in unburned areas, the number of applications is slightly less than usual. The reduced number of projects has allowed Water Board timber program staff to improve administrative processes and conduct outreach with project implementers to ensure water quality is being protected. This additional outreach and communication is likely partly responsible for the 100% compliance with the Timber Waiver monitoring requirements.

#### **2. Status of Grant Activities from March 2015 to March 2016 -Cindy Wise**

This is an annual update to the Board of the main grant/loan program activities in our region, followed by a table of the local technical assistance projects that are currently managed by Regional Water Board staff.

Regional and State Water Board staff coordinate to implement the Water Boards' financial assistance programs to help local agencies prevent or clean up pollution of the state's water and provide safe drinking water. Low-interest loan and grant funding is available for watershed

protection projects, nonpoint source pollution control projects, and construction of facilities for municipal sewage treatment, water recycling and public water supply.

#### Proposition 1 Water Quality, Supply and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Prop 1)

Prop 1 authorized \$7 billion in general obligation bonds for water projects including surface and groundwater storage, ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration, and drinking water protection. The State Water Board will administer some of the Prop 1 funds for five programs with a rollout of the bond funds over a ten year period starting in FY 15/16. State Water Board staff will manage all the grant projects funded from these five programs. The five programs are:

- Small Community Wastewater (\$260M)
- Water Recycling (\$625M)
- Drinking Water (\$260M)
- Storm Water (\$200M)
- Groundwater Sustainability (\$800M)

Applications for funding are currently being accepted for groundwater quality, technical assistance for small disadvantaged communities, storm water and water recycling projects. Regional Water Board staff coordinates with State Water Board staff in the administration of the bond funds by participating in the development of grant solicitation guidelines and providing input to inform the project funding decisions.

#### Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Program

The CWSRF program provides low-interest loans for the construction of wastewater and water recycling facilities, municipal landfill treatment systems, implementation of nonpoint source projects and programs, and storm water treatment projects. It is funded by federal grants, state bond funds, local match funds, repayments, and revenue bonds. The State Water Board maintains a Project List (List) that reflects projects interested in CWSRF financing. The List is included in the IUP. A project must be on the List to receive financing, but the List does not guarantee financing or the order of financing.

The IUP includes a forecast of a subset of projects from the List for which financing may be available in the fiscal year provided that all other application requirements are completed. The IUP financing forecast includes over \$152M in financing for nine projects in our region:

- South Tahoe Public Utility District (STPUD) – *Diamond Valley Ranch Irrigation Improvements* (\$7,014,139)
- STPUD – *Luther Pass Pump Station Power Upgrades* (\$3,682,250)
- STPUD – *Pump Stations Scada System Upgrades* (\$3,861,868)
- STPUD – *Treatment Plant Generator Upgrades* (\$3,730,384)
- STPUD – *Aeration Basin 2 Rehabilitation* (\$1,527,725)
- STPUD – *Treatment Plant Primary Clarifier Rehabilitation* (\$1,394,607)
- Hesperia Water District – *Reclaimed Water Pipeline Distribution System* (\$9,537,937 with estimated additional \$5,135,813 funding from Prop 1)
- Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority – *Oro Grande Interceptor Replacement Project* (\$6,600,000)
- Palmdale Water District – *Palmdale Regional Groundwater Recharge and Recovery Project* (\$115,000,000 with estimated additional funding of \$15,000,000 from Prop 1)

The CWSRF Program accepts project applications on a continuous basis and the project priority list included in the annual business plan can be amended as necessary. State Water Board staff manages all CWSRF projects.

#### Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program

In July 2014, the administration of the Drinking Water Program (DWP) was transferred from the Department of Public Health to the State Water Board and is now called the Division of Drinking Water (DDW). Administration of the DWSRF was also transferred to the State Water Board's DDW. Similar to the CWSRF, the DWSRF program provides low-interest loans to assist public water systems in financing the cost of drinking water infrastructure projects needed to achieve or maintain compliance with the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requirements and to further the public health objectives of the SDWA. The State Water Board maintains a Project List (List) that reflects projects interested in DWSRF financing.

The IUP financing forecast includes over \$25M in financing for these three projects in our Region:

- Tahoe City Public Utilities/McKinney Quail-West Lake Tahoe Regional Water Treatment Plant (\$500,000)
- Markleeville Water Company-Water Line Replacement (\$5,678,237)
- STPUD –Water Meter Installation Phases 2-5 (\$18,921,500)

The DWSRF Program accepts project applications on a continuous basis and the project priority list included in the IUP can be amended as necessary. State Water Board staff manages all DWSRF projects.

#### Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Grant Program

The IRWM Grant Program provides grants for projects intended to promote and practice integrated regional management of water for both quality and supply. To be eligible for IRWM grant funds, IRWM geographic regions must be approved by CA Department of Water Resources (DWR.) In coordination with Regional Water Board staff, DWR has approved six IRWM groups in the Lahontan Region - Lahontan Basins, Tahoe-Sierra, Inyo-Mono, Fremont, Antelope Valley and Mojave. Since the inception of the IRWM program, over \$71M in IRWM grants have been awarded in the Lahontan Region.

Prop 1 includes \$510M for water conservation, water-use efficiency and storm water management projects statewide that implement an approved IRWM. Of that amount, \$24.5M is earmarked for future IRWM projects in the Lahontan Region. Regional Water Board staff continues to participate in IRWM groups and may coordinate with DWR staff on project review and selection. DWR staff will manage all IRWM project grants.

#### Proposition 84 Storm Water Grant Program

The Proposition 84 Storm Water Grant Program (SWG) includes approximately \$82M in grant funds for planning and implementation projects that reduce and prevent pollution of rivers, lakes, and streams from storm water. From this program, three planning and implementation projects were selected for funding in the Lahontan Region, are currently underway, and are being managed by State Water Board staff with input from Regional Water Board staff, as needed. These projects are:

- Tahoe Resources Conservation District - *Catchment-scale Storm Water Monitoring, Model Validation and Load Estimation to Meet TMDL Requirements in the Lake Tahoe Basin* (\$760,000)
- City of South Lake Tahoe - *Sierra Tract Erosion Control Project, Phase 3&4* (\$2,811,164)
- Placer County - *Lower Chipmunk and Outfall Water Quality Improvement Project* (\$1,715,532)

#### Proposition 84 Agricultural Water Quality Grant Program

The State Water Board's Agricultural Water Quality Grant Program (AWQGP) includes approximately \$13.7M in Proposition 84 bond funds. Projects funded from the AWQGP include \$1M for a Lahontan Region project titled *Grazing Management Practice Implementation and Assessment in One or More Targeted Watersheds in the Lahontan Region (Walker River, Carson River, Susan River and Owens River)* aka "Rivers and Ranches" grant. The grant is managed by Regional Water Board staff and is now nearing completion. Tasks of this grant include grazing management practice (MP) education and outreach, five grazing MP implementation projects (on a cost-sharing basis with ranchers), and water quality monitoring and analyses to assess the effectiveness of grazing MPs and for bacteria source identification. The Rivers and Ranches grant will be completed by the end of 2016. A field tour for the Board is planned for May 2016.

#### 319 Nonpoint Source Implementation Grant Program

This is the federal grant program for nonpoint source pollution control projects. As shown in the table below, our staff currently manages five 319 Nonpoint Source grants with an additional pending sixth grant for a total of \$1,901,678. The next statewide solicitation to award approximately \$4M in implementation projects will begin in August 2016. Projects selected for funding from this solicitation will also be managed by Regional Water Board staff.

### OTHER GRANT INFORMATION

#### Grants Roundtable Meetings

This forum continues to meet at least quarterly to discuss grant-related issues. It includes at least one staff representative from each Regional Water Board and staff from the State Water Board. This roundtable last met in February 2016 to discuss improvements to the 319 Nonpoint Source Grant solicitation process.

#### Funding Fairs

The California Financing Coordinating Committee (CFCC) is made up of several state and federal funding agencies including the State Water Board. The CFCC conducts free Funding Fairs statewide each year to educate the public and potential customers about the different member agencies, and the financial and technical resources available. The 2016 Funding Fairs are scheduled to be held monthly from April to September at six locations throughout the state with a webcast option offered at the September event.

## GRANT PROJECTS CURRENTLY MANAGED BY REGIONAL WATER BOARD STAFF

Fund	Title	Recipient	Amount
319 Nonpoint Source	Lake Forest Water Quality Improvement Project	Placer County	\$750,000
319 Nonpoint Source	Truckee River Voluntary BMP Retrofit Program	Truckee River Watershed Council	\$295,183
319 Nonpoint Source	Accelerated Best Management Practice Implementation in the Lake Tahoe Basin	Tahoe Regional Planning Agency	\$300,000
319 Nonpoint Source	Truckee River Tributaries Sediment Source Assessment	Truckee River Watershed Council	\$101,560
319 Nonpoint Source	Upper Truckee River and Marsh Restoration Project Water Quality Assessment	California Tahoe Conservancy	\$154,935
319 Nonpoint Source	Main Stem Truckee River Sediment Reduction	Truckee River Watershed Council	\$300,000 (pending)
Proposition 84 Agricultural Water Quality	Grazing Management Practice Implementation and Assessment in One or More Targeted Watersheds in the Lahontan Region	Sierra Business Council	\$1,000,000
<b>Total of Current Projects:</b>			<b>\$2,901,678</b>

### **3. Personnel Report – Eric Shay**

New Hires – None

Vacancies – We are currently recruiting for a Seasonal Clerk position in our Victorville office.

Departures

Natalia Marzec, a Volunteer for the North Basin Regulatory Unit, has ended her six months of service in order to pursue other work opportunities. As a Volunteer she learned about wastewater treatment facilities and waste discharge requirements, and assisted senior staff with reviewing the associated self-monitoring reports for approximately one dozen facilities by identifying report deficiencies and minor violations.

Crista McCauley, a Seasonal Clerk in the Victorville Administrative Unit, left State service on March 4, 2016. Crista has taken a position with the San Bernardino County Special Districts Department of Water and Sanitation. During her tenure, Crista archived over 500 boxes of state records, assisted with the floor plan of the new office, and was the main person for uploading external documents into the ECM paperless office filing system.

#### **4. Source Water Protection Workshop - Rob Tucker and Cindy Wise**

On March 1, 2016, the Division of Drinking Water held an internal Water Board/USEPA Source Water Protection Workshop. The workshop focused on current State and Regional Board activities that support source water assessment and protection. The outcome from the Workshop will be an action plan that identifies how the Division of Drinking Water, Division of Water Quality, Division of Water Rights, and the Regional Water Boards can better coordinate to provide integrated water quality management as called for in the Drinking Water Programs' Transition Task Force Report, the Safe Drinking Water Plan, and the Non-Point Source Program Implementation Plan. Staff attended the first day of the Workshop. For day two, a smaller sub-group was invited to work on compiling information from day one into a draft action plan.

During the beginning of the workshop, State Water Board staff shared examples of Division of Water Quality and Division of Drinking Water program efforts to protect public health or sources of drinking water. This was followed by examples from the Regional Water Boards. Our staff provided information on our ongoing bacteria surveys of surface waters and collaboration on public health issues with the Paiute Tribe Inyo Placer Counties. Staff highlighted accomplishments at Eagle Lake to protect groundwater supplies by requiring sewers for two communities with high density housing and a minimum size 20 acre parcel for new septic tank and leach fields. Staff described our work with water purveyors in South Lake Tahoe to protect municipal water supply wells from contaminated groundwater.

The last presentation of the day was from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and its perspective on implementing source water protection measures. Oregon's DEQ started to market source water protection measures by emphasizing that the actions were being done to protect public health by protecting the drinking water source. DEQ emphasized that the public seemed to support its efforts to protect water for public health more strongly when the protection was for other environmental standards (e.g., protections for aquatic habitat which may be more stringent than those for public health.)

After all of the presentations, there was a session to solicit ideas, proposals and actions the State Water Board could consider in order to better coordinate integrated water quality management for source water protection. Some of the ideas discussed in the session were:

- Improved sharing of databases and other information between all State Water Board Divisions and the Regional Water Boards;
- Including Division of Drinking Water staff as part of Division of Water Quality regular program roundtable meetings;
- Coordinating implementation of State Water Board's Resolution No. 2016-0010 *Adopting the Human Right to Water as a Core Value and Directing its Implementation in Water Board Programs and Activities* between all three State Water Board Divisions and the Regional Water Boards with close attention to source water protection; and
- Revisit features of past watershed protection programs (such as the Watershed Management Initiative) for their important source water protection elements.

The sub-group working on day two of the Workshop will consider these and all other information from the session as it drafts the action plan. State Water Board staff is compiling the workshop summary notes and will then send out the notes to all workshop participants for their review and comment. The notes will form the basis of the draft action plan. A draft will be ready for State and Regional Water Board management review and discuss this summer.

## 5. Water Board staff attended Sierra Meadows Workshop – Brian Judge



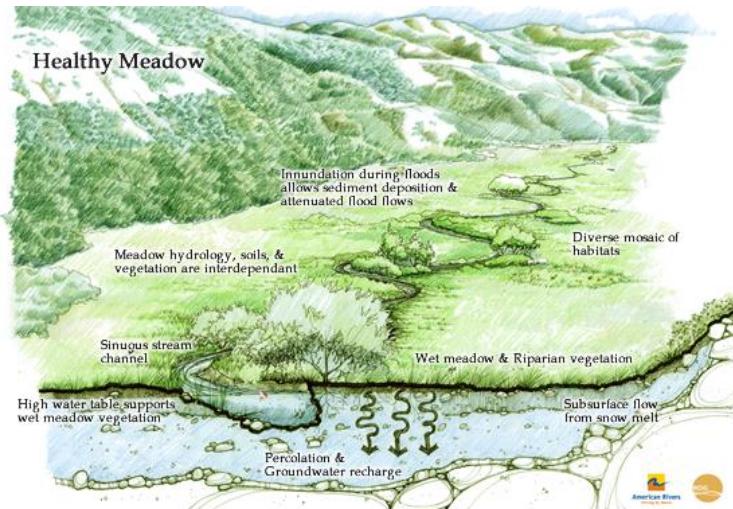
recreation activities.

The purpose of the workshop was to continue to build a broader meadows partnership with a focus on: (1) how meadow restoration affects greenhouse gas dynamics and the potential for developing “carbon credits”, and (2) development of a Sierra Meadow Strategy and Prioritization Framework necessary to increase the pace and scale of meadow restoration in the greater Sierra Nevada region.

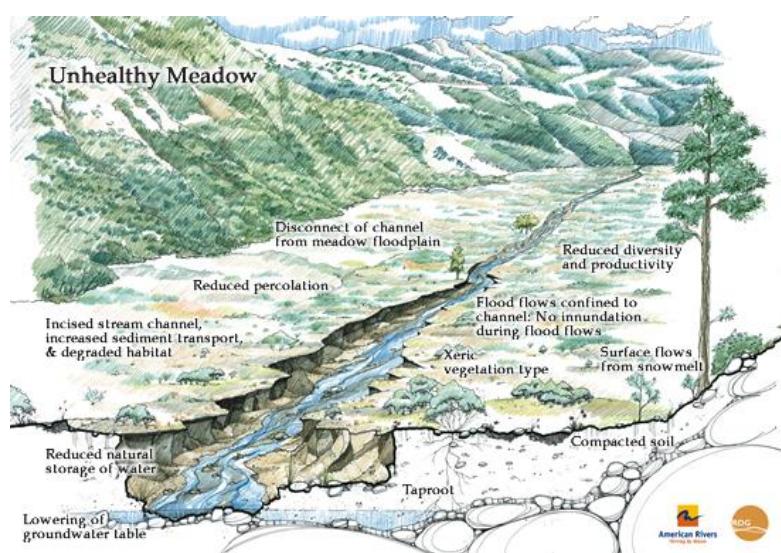
The first day's discussions and presentations focused on updates on the research being done to quantify the potential carbon sequestration of restored meadow systems as well as a proposed road map towards carbon accreditation. Days two and three were dedicated to continuing work

In February 2016 staff attended the Sierra Meadows Workshop organized by California Trout, the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, and the CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife, in Calistoga. There were approximately 70 workshop attendees representing more than 20 different State and federal agencies, academia, non-profit environmental conservation groups, and private consulting firms.

Many meadows in the Sierra Nevada are in a degraded state due to current and past grazing, logging, mining, grazing, railroads, roads, and



on a proposed Sierra Strategy and Prioritization document to provide a conservation and restoration framework for practitioners, land-managers, funders, and policy-makers.



Outcomes of the workshop include (1) an understanding of current projects involving green house gas emission research in combination with restoration, (2) the process of, and barriers to,

payment for ecosystem services in meadows, (3) direction for completion of the Strategy and Prioritization document and (4) the decision to move efforts forward as the Sierra Meadows Partnership. The workshop attendees were very supportive of continuing and increasing momentum for meadow restoration in the Sierra Nevada along with the strengthening of ongoing partnerships.

### 6. Truckee River Basin Water Group Tackles TROA Monitoring - Alanna Misico

At the February meeting of the Truckee River Basin Water Group (TRBWG) the agenda focused on determining the monitoring needs on the Truckee River and its tributaries. The TRBWG is a multi-agency work group that meets monthly to discuss projects that are currently underway as well as proposed projects in the Truckee River Basin in relation to the Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA). TROA was implemented on December 1, 2015 after 27 years in the making. The agreement between the State of California, the State of Nevada, the US Federal government, the Truckee Meadows Water Association and the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe allows for improved distribution of water and retaining more water in upstream reservoirs to enhance recreation, including boating and fishing.



Currently, TRBWG is working to identify what data and monitoring is needed to ensure the TROA objective of "No Negative Impact". Monitoring efforts in the Truckee River Watershed are being compiled to determine what exists, what is currently proposed, and what monitoring is still needed. The draft Biological Resource Monitoring Plan (BRMP) for the Truckee River Watershed includes bioassessment, fish monitoring, geomorphic mapping, sediment typing of tributaries, and water chemistry. Due to funding shortages most monitoring activities

are irregular. Temperature and turbidity monitoring seem to be of the most interest to TRBWG at this time. Department of Water Resources (DWR) is awaiting approval of nine near-continuous monitors which they plan to have up and running by this summer. These continuous monitors will most likely be used on tributaries to the Truckee River and will provide measurements of temperature, turbidity, pH, dissolved oxygen and electrical conductivity.

The Truckee River Watershed Council (TRWC) currently performs bioassessment on several tributaries to the Truckee River every 2-5 years. TROA proposes annual monitoring on Prosser Creek below Prosser Dam, Little Truckee River below Stampede Dam, Donner Creek at Hwy 89, upper Little Truckee River above Stampede, and Independence Creek. Estimated cost per site is \$12,000 per year. Bioassessment monitoring on the main-stem of the Truckee River is infrequent at this time. TROA proposes semi-annual monitoring at 10 locations on the main-stem. The proposed site locations are located below tributaries. Estimated cost is \$25,000 per year. Volunteers can be used to collect bioassessment data on the tributaries; however, due to safety concerns they cannot be used to collect data on the main-stem of the Truckee River.

Last year the TRWC and David Herbst from UCSB-Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Laboratory requested the Water Board consider adopting a standard for deposited/embedded sediment for the Truckee River. TROA monitoring results may provide beneficial information to the Water Board in addressing this request. The TRWC-Herbst request was prioritized below the line in

the 2015 Triennial Review. Staff also anticipates that TROA monitoring efforts may be used to conduct future assessments of the status of the Truckee River as part of the Integrated Report (IR) process.

## South Lahontan Region

### 7. Former George Air Force Base, San Bernardino County, Follow-up Meeting Regarding Executive Officer Letter on Proposed Monitored Natural Attenuation Remedies for Groundwater Sites - Linda Stone

On January 8, 2016, the Executive Officer sent a letter informing the Air Force that its proposed monitored natural attenuation (MNA) remedies for the four major groundwater sites at George Air Force Base (GAFB) do not meet State and Federal requirements for restoration of water quality and guidance on the use of MNA. Groundwater contamination at GAFB extends over 1,800 acres and impacts or threatens a regional water supply aquifer. The estimated cleanup timeframes using MNA at these sites ranges from hundreds to thousands of years.

The January 2016 letter requested that the Air Force meet with Water Board staff to discuss the use of active groundwater remediation technologies and additional source control measures. This meeting was held on March 3, 2016 and included staff from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the State Water Board. The focus of the meeting was the development of a process to resolve Water Board concerns regarding regulatory-acceptable groundwater remedies at GAFB. The Water Board's recent *Report on Evaluation and Implementation of MNA in the Lahontan Region* was also discussed. The outcome of the meeting was that the attendees agreed on a schedule of site-specific meetings to discuss remediation options. Meetings for three of the groundwater sites were scheduled for April, May, and July. Meetings on the fourth site, a large petroleum release from the bulk fuel system, will be scheduled after the Air Force has reviewed a recent Water Board comment letter on that site. Water Board staff will continue to stress the need to implement effective remedies that comply with regulatory requirements, are protective of human health and the environment, and that will restore and protect the beneficial uses of groundwater in a reasonable timeframe. However, it is not clear if the Air Force is willing to vary from its stated preference for the selection of MNA at the GAFB sites.

### 8. 10150 Apache Road, LLC, Adelanto – Unauthorized Discharge – John Morales

On February 25, 2016, Water Board staff received a call from the San Bernardino County Fire Department, Hazardous Materials Division, requesting staff assistance with a reported illegal chemical dumping from a warehouse located in the City of Adelanto. The County of San

Bernardino, Office of the District Attorney led the facility investigation while Water Board staff and fire personnel collected samples from various locations of the unauthorized discharge.



The illegal dumping was identified by surveillance, from a neighboring industry that reported the incident as workers dumped the chemical onto the concrete driveway in the middle of the night. The unauthorized discharge flowed onto asphalt and into the desert via a concrete V-ditch. Evidence by surveillance of the unauthorized discharge began on February 22, 2016 from midnight to approximately five in the morning. These illegal discharge activities continued on the next day, at approximately the same times.

At this point, it is unknown whether to classify the substance as a hazardous waste since the sampling results along with the report from the County are pending.

Soil cleanup has been completed by a contractor that was hired by the owner to remove contaminated soil and pressure-wash paved areas. Both the contaminated soil and the wash water are in the process of being removed and properly disposed. This documentation, along with sample results will be delivered to the Water Board as soon as they become available. Staff has shared our analytical data with the County.



## **9. Barstow Soapmine Road Neighborhood Meeting - *Cindi Mitton and Jehiel Cass***

Water Board staff, as well as 25 residents, attended a neighborhood meeting on March 16, 2016 organized by Soapmine Road resident Christina Byrne regarding the groundwater affected by perchlorate and nitrate. This followed a public meeting in February 2016 where Board staff described our current understanding of the two groundwater plumes, the actions taken to date to investigate those plumes, and solicit public concerns and ideas to address resulting polluted groundwater. At the February public meeting, an organization called Cal Rural was introduced to the community to help explore options of forming a legal entity that could apply for and receive grant funds to pursue a permanent drinking water supply solution.

There were comments expressed about how long it has taken for the City of Barstow to clean up the nitrate in groundwater. There was skepticism about the extension the City was granted by the Water Board to re-evaluate its nitrate cleanup plan to consider how to address the perchlorate. There was much discussion by the community as to whether pursuing a public water supply was desirable. Staff explained the Water Board's role to oversee the nitrate groundwater cleanup required by the City of Barstow and to pursue grant funding to conduct perchlorate cleanup as there is no viable responsible party for that problem.

Staff clarified that the Water Board's role is different from Cal Rural, which is doing a feasibility study for potential legal entities based on future community input. Residents raised concern about potentially being forced to have piped water and fees. Cal Rural will separately hold its own public meeting around May or June, 2016. We encouraged the residents to make their comments and concerns known to Cal Rural directly.

## **10. Investigation of Emerging Contaminants at Department of Defense Sites - *Alonzo Poach***

The Department of Defense (DOD) initiated a directive to all branches of the military to assess Perflourinated Compounds (PFC) associated with firefighting, fire suppression and fire training activities at military bases nationwide. The DOD is currently investigating sites for releases associated with aqueous film-forming foams (AFFF) (e.g. training areas, crash sites, etc.). Staff expects various work plan documents in the near future for many of the DOD facilities within our Region for assessing potential PFC impacts to soil, groundwater and surface waters. Staff will be working with the DOD on this effort.

PFCs are found in fire suppression foams or AFFF. AFFF is used both by the DOD and in private industry to aid in extinguishing difficult fires that may involve petroleum or other flammable liquids. The Military has used AFFF in fire training exercises at various DOD

facilities since the early-1970s and it is still in use today. Initial studies have indicated that PFCs may present a risk to human health and the environment because they are persistent and resist degradation in the environment. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), DOD, and Department of Energy are currently funding research on what health effects may be attributed to exposure to PFCs. Currently, there are no maximum contaminant levels established for PFCs in drinking water, but the USEPA has established Provisional Health Advisories for two of the most common groups of PFCs.

## **11. Meeting Regarding School Properties at the Former George Air Force Base – Todd Battey**

Water Board staff hosted a meeting on March 2, 2016 with representatives from Adelanto Elementary School District (AESD), Water Board, and the Department of Toxics Substances Control (DTSC) regarding school properties at the former George Air Force Base (GAFB). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss next steps and potential funding to investigate concerns of past pesticide use at the school sites. After a thorough discussion of the site history and relevant information, the AESD representatives indicated they are interested in making sure students and faculty are not at risk, but need to discuss with their attorneys prior to applying for grants or other funding for soil sampling.

DTSC staff summarized the history of dieldrin use at schools in the U.S. (generally legally used for pest control from the 1950s to the early 1980s, then banned) and history of the school properties at the former George Air Force Base (base closed in 1992, school properties transferred in 1995). AESD representatives clarified that there are two school properties that are leased by AESD from the Air Force. Excelsior Charter High School currently occupies the former Shepard Middle School property and the former George Elementary School property is unoccupied.

The group also discussed the history of restoration work at the former GAFB housing area located across the street from the school properties. Dieldrin was detected in groundwater and shallow soils at the housing area after the school properties were transferred. The Air Force plans to collect additional soil and groundwater samples at the housing area before selecting a remedial alternative for dieldrin. Soil at the school properties has not yet been tested for dieldrin. While there has not been sampling and there is no direct evidence of dieldrin or other pesticides at the two school properties, DTSC indicated that dieldrin is generally detected at school properties where dieldrin was used in the 1950s to 1970s. The DTSC Schools Unit works with schools using grant funding to conduct soil sampling at the schools. If funded, soil sampling could occur in 2016.

## **12. Progress of the Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer Program in City of Victorville**

*– Tom Browne*

The Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer (MS4) program, enforced through statewide General Order 2013-0001-DWQ, covers four cities and a small portion of San Bernardino County: Victorville, Apple Valley, Hesperia, and Barstow. Staff conducted MS4 program audits of Victorville in 2012 and Hesperia in 2014 and found some deficiencies. As a result, staff has devoted considerable time working closely with Victorville and Hesperia city staff to bring their MS4 programs into compliance.

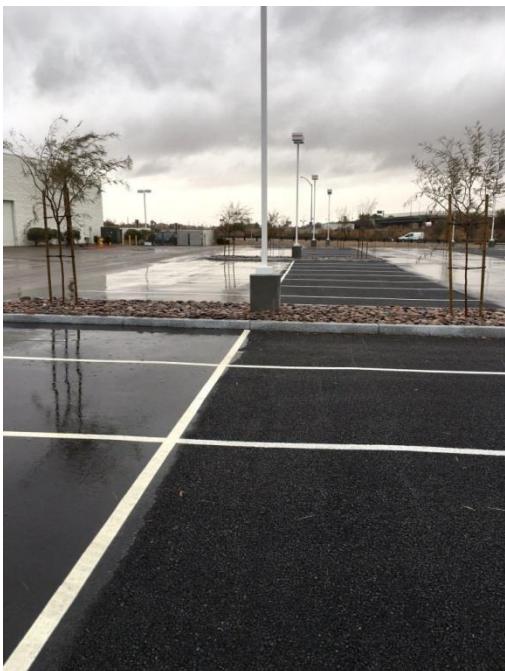
Both cities have made considerable improvements in their MS4 programs. Each city has hired a full-time staff person whose major responsibility is bringing their cities into compliance with the order: Carlos Seanez, PE, a civil engineer in Victorville's Engineering Department, and Matt Yeager, a management analyst in Hesperia's Planning Services Development Department.

Board staff meets monthly with of the Mojave River Watershed Group to discuss challenges to options for erosion control, and how to protect the Mojave River watershed using the MS4 program.

We have presented the group with areas of our greatest concern that we hope will be addressed through new city ordinances, Low Impact Design elements for new projects, and diligent enforcement. Staff's major concerns are hydromodification effects in ephemeral stream beds, severe erosion caused by poor design, and pollution prevention.

Victorville approved a new stormwater ordinance last year. A good example of how this ordinance is improving stormwater quality and reducing hydromodification is evident in a 40-acre, 147-lot new development currently under review by Water Board staff. This development was originally approved by Victorville in 2005 with 226 single family homes. The project plan did not include a stormwater detention or infiltration basin. The economy declined in 2008 and

the project was never started. The project proponent re-applied to develop the same 160 acres this year. However, the City's standards have changed and the project proponent has had to make the following changes: (1) including a 2-acre detention/infiltration basin with stormwater, aesthetic, and community value; (2) prohibiting grass turf at new houses; (3) requiring front sides of lots to have no more than 50% impervious surface; (4) ensuring front yards have drought tolerant vegetation, and (5) rock-scaping designs with permeable fabric (not plastic) that promote infiltration and preclude barren lots that wash sediment into city streets during rain storms.



For new commercial projects, porous concrete and asphalt/concrete "is being pushed on all residential and commercial developers," says planner Alex Jauregui of the City of Victorville. The accompanying photograph shows asphalt/concrete (right side) in contrast to standard asphalt (left side).

**Summary of  
No Further Action Required Letters Issued  
February 16 - March 15, 2016  
April 2016 EO Report**

State of California  
Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

The Executive Officer finds the release of petroleum products at the following sites poses a low threat to human health, safety, and the environment. Therefore, these cases were closed in accordance with the Water Quality Control Policy for Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closure (Resolution 2012-016). The Policy recognizes contaminant mass often remains after the investment of reasonable remedial effort and this mass may be difficult to remove regardless of the level of additional effort and resources invested. The establishment of the Policy is an effort to maximize the benefits to the people of the State of California through the judicious application of available resources.

Date Closure Issued	Site Name	Site Address	Case Number	Additional Information
February 24, 2016	Former Midas Muffler	2709 Lake Tahoe Boulevard South Lake Tahoe, El Dorado County	6T0404A	<a href="http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T10000003644">http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T10000003644</a>
March 4, 2016	Avenue I Mobil	849 East Avenue I Lancaster, Los Angeles County	6B1920029T	<a href="http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T10000007666">http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T10000007666</a>
March 14, 2016	Former Shureen Property	3201 West Avenue L Lancaster, Los Angeles County	6B1920030T	<a href="http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T10000008189">http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T10000008189</a>

**Additional links:**

General Policy information: [http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/ust/ltr\\_cls\\_plicy.shtml#policy081712](http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/ust/ltr_cls_plicy.shtml#policy081712)

Copy of Policy: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/resolutions/2012/rs2012\\_0016atta.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2012/rs2012_0016atta.pdf)

Implementation Plan [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/resolutions/2012/110612\\_6\\_final\\_ltcp%20imp%20plan.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2012/110612_6_final_ltcp%20imp%20plan.pdf)

COUNTY: SAN BERNARDINO								
Discharger/Facility	Location	Basin	Regulated Facility?	Discharge Date	Discharge Volume	Description of Failure	Additional Details	Status
Hesperia City/City of Hesperia CS	Manhole at Main Street west of Pyrite Ave., Hesperia	South	Yes	3/4/2016	8,800 gallons	Manhole blockage caused 8,800-gallons of raw sewage to discharge to paved surface and then to drainage channel tributary to Mojave River.	Construction debris caused sewage to spill from manhole onto paved surface and then to a drainage channel, tributary to the Mojave River.	Cleared blockage, returned 200-gallons to the sanitary sewer system, cleaned up affected area.