### **ITEM 6 - LATE REVISION**

## CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD LAHONTAN REGION

## MEETING OF NOVEMBER 9, 2022 SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, CA

#### **ITEM 6**

## SALT AND NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLANNING STRATEGY

\*\*Replace Bates page 6-24 and 6-25 with the attached PDF\*\*

ENCLOSURE	ITEM	BATES NUMBER
1	Water Board Staff Report -	6 - 24
	Section 5.2 SNMPs Previously Accepted by	
	the Lahontan Water Board	

- Available assimilative capacity based on observed trends and most recent water quality data, and
- Projects that are not reasonably foreseeable at the time of this data assessment but may not have been when the SNMP was prepared.

Stakeholders are required to provide monitoring data collected from SNMPs annually. Lahontan staff are working with State Water Board DWQ staff and staff from other regions to incorporate SNMP monitoring data into GeoTracker. GeoTracker will centralize data generated from SNMPs and create consistency across Regional Water Boards to allow for further analysis of monitoring data. The Regional Boards will evaluate the data generated from SNMPs every five years and use the results to update basin evaluations. State Water Board DWQ staff plan to assist the Regional Water Boards with this task by providing tools and technical assistance through the GAMA Program.

Lahontan staff will work with local stakeholders to update evaluations of the basins/subbasins covered by the <u>five SNMPs</u> previously accepted by the Lahontan Water Board to ensure that we meet the April 8, 2024 deadline identified in the <u>2018</u> <u>Recycled Water Policy Amendment</u>. Lahontan staff plan to reach out to the stakeholders responsible for collecting, compiling, and reporting the monitoring data for each of the previously accepted SNMPs by the end of November 2022 to request updated data assessments be completed and provided to Lahontan staff by <u>April 30</u>, <u>2023</u> January 1, 2024. The updated data assessments will then be reviewed by Lahontan staff with support from State Water Board DWQ. An update on the findings of the data assessment reviews will be presented to the Lahontan Water Board during the first quarter of 2024.

## 5.3 Proposed Alignment with DWR Groundwater Basins/Subbasins

Lahontan staff have identified a discrepancy between the basins/subbasins identified in the Basin Plan and the basins/subbasins defined by DWR in Bulletin 118, California's Groundwater. Table 2-2 of the Basin Plan lists 346 basins in the Lahontan Region, see Attachment 1. This compilation of 346 basins includes 238 un-named basins, numbers 6-108 through 6-345. The 2020 update of DWR's Bulletin 118, California's Groundwater lists 105 groundwater basins/subbasins for the Lahontan Region.

DWR identifies the boundaries the State's groundwater basins/subbasins, in accordance with <u>CWC §12924</u>. Aligning groundwater basins/subbasins of the <u>Basin</u> <u>Plan</u> with the DWR defined groundwater basins/subbasins of <u>Bulletin 118</u>, <u>California's</u> <u>Groundwater</u> would reduce the number of groundwater basins/subbasins requiring evaluation for salt and nutrient management planning. However, further evaluation is needed to determine consistency with current beneficial use protections and the consequences of the changes in other contexts.

The <u>2022 Triennial Review List</u> includes Groundwater Basin/Subbasin Alignment and Beneficial Use Designations is a Medium Priority project. A Low Priority project to Update Basin Plan Reference Documents that includes digitizing the plates that display and categorize groundwater basins and watersheds is also included in the <u>2022</u> <u>Triennial Review List</u>. These <u>2022 Triennial Review List</u> projects seemingly integrate with portions of this proposed SNMP Strategy and can be developed concurrently with elements of the proposed strategy.

# 6 Staff Recommendation

**Basin/subbasin evaluation and prioritization**: The Lahontan Water Board did not meet the <u>2018 Recycled Water Policy Amendment</u> timeline of April 8, 2021 for prioritizing basins for salt and nutrient management planning due to resource limitations. To facilitate current basin/subbasin evaluation for SNMP development, staff will implement a region-specific SNMP Strategy to evaluate and prioritize basins/subbasins of the Lahontan Region for salt and nutrient management planning. Lahontan staff expect to complete the basin/subbasin evaluation and prioritization process by June 30, 2023.

**Updated Data Assessments for existing SNMPs**: Updated The <u>2018 Recycled</u> <u>Water Policy Amendment</u> also directs Regional Water Boards to update basin evaluations of SNMPs accepted prior to April 8, 2019. Lahontan staff will reach out to the stakeholders responsible for the <u>five SNMPs</u> previously accepted by the Lahontan Water Board to request updated data assessments be completed and provided to Lahontan staff no later than January 1, 2024. Lahontan staff will work with the local stakeholders and State Water Board DWQ staff to update evaluations of the basins/subbasins to ensure that we meet the April 8, 2024 deadline identified in the <u>2018 Recycled Water Policy Amendment</u>.

Alignment of groundwater basins/subbasins: In addition, Lahontan staff recommend aligning the groundwater basins/subbasins of our Region with the groundwater basins/subbasins identified by DWR in <u>Bulletin 118, California's</u> <u>Groundwater</u>. Alignment with DWR-identified groundwater basins/subbasins will also facilitate consistency with SGMA implementation and collaboration with DWR.