



EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT
May 1, 2026 – May 31, 2026

Contents

1. Personnel Report – *Sandra Lopez*..... 1
2. 2nd Advancing Restoration Interagency Summit – *Meghan Walsh*..... 2
3. Earth Day 2026 Tribal Outreach – *Lorien Sanders, Anna Garcia, Danny McClure, and Eli Balderas*..... 4
4. 1st Quarter of 2026 Violations and Unauthorized Discharge Report and Other Enforcement Actions – *Shelby Barker* 7

1. Personnel Report – *Sandra Lopez*

New Hires

- Alison Cherko, Analyst I, Administrative Unit, South Lake Tahoe. This position will provide support for technical and administrative staff, ensure documents comply with accessibility standards, assist with process improvements, prepare agenda items and staff documents for distribution, and provide administrative support at regional board meetings held throughout the region.
- Kylie Beaujean, Analyst I, Administrative Unit, Victorville. This position will provide support for technical and administrative staff, ensure documents comply with accessibility standards, assist with process improvements, prepare agenda items and staff documents for distribution, and provide administrative support at regional board meetings held throughout the region.
- Omar Orozco, Water Resource Control Engineer, Cannabis Unit, Victorville. This position will provide oversight of cannabis cultivation projects under the statewide Cannabis General order, will assist in the review of engineering and technical reports, and will assist others in the Unit.

Vacancies

- Environmental Scientist, Nonpoint Source Unit, South Lake Tahoe. This position will help protect water quality in the Lahontan Region by leading implementation of the region's Nonpoint Source (NPS) Program. This includes NPS program management, Clean Water Act section 319 grants management, and implementation of permits and programs to manage impacts from rangeland and grazing operations.
- Environmental Scientist, Forestry/Dredge & Fill Unit, South Lake Tahoe. This position will draft permits, provide technical expertise, evaluate and assist in the drafting of environmental documents. Evaluate and regulate the impacts of logging operations and other forest practices on the quality and beneficial uses of water. Coordinate with the federal land management agencies (US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management) and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection in reviewing Timber Harvest Plans (THPs), Working Forest Management Plans (WFMPs), Non-Industrial Timber Management Plans (NTMPs), utility corridor vegetation management plans, and timber harvest exemptions.
- Engineering Geologist, Department of Defense/Site Cleanup Program Unit, Victorville. This position will oversee site investigations and cleanups at Department of Defense facilities and individual Site Cleanup sites.
- Regional Administrative Officer, Administrative Unit. This position oversees the Administrative Unit and provides supervision of various administrative functions, including business services, personnel, budgets, contracts, procurement, Public Records Act requests, records management, facilities and equipment maintenance, fleet, health and safety, training, document accessibility for digital information, and overall regional administrative operations.

2. 2nd Advancing Restoration Interagency Summit – *Meghan Walsh*

The 2nd Advancing Restoration Interagency Summit (summit), hosted by the California Landscape Stewardship Network, was held at the Flamingo Resort and Spa in Santa Rosa on March 10 & 11, 2026. Two members of the Forestry/Dredge & Fill Unit-supervisor Bryan Talmadge and Meghan Walsh- attended the summit on behalf of Lahontan Water Board and had the opportunity to network with the other attendees which included staff from California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), State and other Regional Water Boards, as well as Division of Water Rights. Event facilitators included representatives from several non-profit organizations, including League to Save Lake Tahoe, as well as a local Resource Conservation District. The summit continued the work initiated at the [first summit in 2022](#) surrounding “cutting the green tape” initiatives, an effort to streamline regulatory processes for restoration projects.

The summit began with a panel of CDFW and Water Board staff, who reflected on the progress made since the first summit and identified remaining opportunities to improve permitting for environmentally beneficial projects. Attendees then participated in group

exercises to evaluate successes, challenges, and future opportunities, in cutting the green tape. Inter- and intra-agency teams simulated restoration permitting scenarios and identified the appropriate permitting tools and discussed the themes of risk, support, and process to highlight priorities, approaches and actionable next steps.

A highlight of the summit was engaging with interagency leadership. Staff representatives relayed key needs, requests, recommendations, and ideas to leadership which included: Wade Crowfoot, Secretary for Natural Resources at CNRA; Meghan Hertel, Director of CDFW; Karen Mogus, Chief Deputy Director at the State Water Board; and Madeline Drake, Asst. Secretary for Biodiversity & Habitat at CNRA. Leadership responded with reflections, feedback, and their own ideas for next steps to keep the work and conversation moving forward. The summit concluded with both attendees and leadership sharing how they would commit to advancing cutting the green tape efforts.

Overall, the summit emphasized that in order to advance restoration agencies need to increase risk tolerance, be creative and explore options on how to increase efficiency in permitting restoration projects and collaborate early and often. The discussion surrounding “risk” focused on project-related impacts but also acknowledged concerns around staff reputations and working relationships when projects encounter challenges. If leadership also adopts a higher tolerance for risk and shows staff support when projects do not go as planned, then technical staff may feel more comfortable embracing a higher-risk mindset.

All Water Boards staff shared ideas about how to appropriately update general orders so that they better serve as streamlined restoration permitting pathways with State Board specifically committed to updating the general order for Small Habitat Restoration Projects to allow for a larger amount of restoration projects to qualify for its use. Lahontan Water Board staff committed to actions at the summit that can be implemented in the next year to increase efficiency in restoration permitting, including reaching out to other Regional Water Boards for guidance documents that assist in implementing more complex “cutting the green tape” tools. The Lahontan Water Board will share and apply lessons from the summit to continue improving restoration permitting within the Lahontan region.

If you would like additional information on the summit, below is a link to the summary provided by the summit host, California Landscape Stewardship Network.

[2nd Interagency Summit on Advancing Restoration Summary Report](#)



Photo 2.1: Attendees of the 2nd Advancing Restoration Interagency Summit, March 11, 2026.

3. Earth Day 2026 Tribal Outreach – *Lorien Sanders, Anna Garcia, Danny McClure, and Eli Balderas*

Bishop Paiute Tribe’s Earth Day and Spring Market

Lahontan Water Board staff, Lorien Sanders and Anna Garcia, participated in the [Bishop Paiute Tribe’s Earth Day and Spring Market](#) event on April 19, 2026. The event was hosted by the [Bishop Paiute Tribe Environmental Management Office](#) and the [Owens Valley Paiute Shoshone Cultural Center](#). The outdoor gathering took place at the [Owens Valley Paiute Shoshone Cultural Center](#) in Bishop, California, and featured information tables, live music, raffles, and family friendly activities.



Photo 3.1: Members of the public enjoying the information and vendor booths at the Bishop Paiute Tribe’s Earth Day and Spring Market, April 19, 2026.

At the Lahontan Water Board information table, staff engaged with the public and provided information on the Lahontan Water Board's role in protecting water quality, identifying and reporting harmful algal blooms (HABs), and our draft Racial Equity and Environmental Justice Action plan currently under development. For the kids, staff handed out algae coloring books, Water Board bookmarks, and Water Board [activity worksheets](#). Staff also participated in the reservation roadside cleanup activities held that morning, before the Earth Day event started.

Other agencies that hosted information tables at the event included the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Los Angeles Department of Water & Power (LADWP), the Mono Lake Committee, Caltrans, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and Sierra Forever. Several local artisans and vendors also hosted booths at the event. It was a wonderful day of conversations, collaboration, and community.



Photo 3.2: Lahontan staff, Lorien Sanders speaking with guests at the Lahontan Water Board booth during the Bishop Paiute Tribe's Earth Day and Spring Market, April 19, 2026.

Wá·šiw Earth Day

On May 2nd, 2026 staff hosted a table at the Washoe Environmental Protection Department's Wá·šiw Earth Day. The event took place at Stewart's Community Gym in Carson City, NV and was attended by the Tribal community in addition to local, state, and federal agencies.



Photo 3.3: Lahontan staff Eli Balderas demonstrating the watershed model to guests at the May 2026 Wá-šiw Earth Day event.

Staff used a watershed model to illustrate how water moves across urban and rural landscapes, and how pollutants can enter surface waters. Staff also provided materials including a general Water Boards brochure, information about harmful algal blooms (HABs), a flyer discussing racial equity efforts at the Lahontan Water Board, and children’s coloring books, stickers, and bookmarks.



Photo 3.4: The Lahontan Water Board booth at the May 2026 Wá-šiw Earth Day event. On display are stickers, coloring books, bookmarks, and Water Board informational handouts.

Some of the other agencies and organizations that participated with their own tables included the League to Save Lake Tahoe, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, and Sierra State Parks Foundation, providing staff an opportunity to network. Staff enjoyed connecting with these groups, getting to know the Washoe Tribal community, and sharing their passion for water quality with others.

4. 1st Quarter of 2026 Violations and Unauthorized Discharge Report and Other Enforcement Actions – *Shelby Barker*

There were 25 violations alleged in the first quarter of 2026. The violations consisted of 1 sanitary sewer overflow, 1 unauthorized discharge at an unregulated site, 2 deficient reporting, 5 deficient monitoring, 16 exceedances of effluent limits, and 10 late reports.

The unauthorized discharge occurred on January 3, 2026 when a tractor trailer lost control in the snow and hit a guardrail on the I-80 in Truckee. One of the saddle tanks was ruptured in the accident and approximately 35 gallons were discharged to a seasonal ditch that flows to the Truckee River. California Department of Transportation conducted cleanup operations.

San Bernardino County staff identified the sanitary sewer overflow on February 19, 2026, while conducting an inspection in Trona. The staff identified a broken sewer line and approximately 10,000 gallons of sewage discharged to the ground. No waterways were affected. Contractors cleaned up the release and San Bernardino County Special Districts submitted a spill report to Lahontan Water Board staff.

Enforcement actions listed in the attached table are initial responses only. Additional enforcement actions may be taken as needed to protect water quality and environmental health within the region.

No formal enforcement actions were finalized during the first quarter 2026 reporting period.

First Quarter 2026 Violations and Unauthorized Discharges Report

Program Category	Priority Violation	County	Responsible Party	Facility	WDID	Violation Type/ Violation Description	Corrective Action	Initial Enforcement Action
Land Disposal	B	Inyo	DV Natural Resources	Briggs Mine Project	6B149411001	Late Report Fourth quarter 2025 Monitoring Report was due on January 30, 2026, but it has not been turned in. Violates Board Order R6V-2020-0031 Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) IV.A. Monitoring Reporting Schedule.	Submit reports on time consistent with deadline requirements in the permit.	Notice of Violation
						Late Report 2025 Annual Monitoring Report was due on January 30, 2026, but it has not been turned in. Violates Board Order R6V-2020-0031 MRP IV.A. Monitoring Reporting Schedule.		Notice of Violation
		Modoc	Modoc Cnty	Fort Bidwell SWDS	6A250008000	Deficient Monitoring Failing to maintain a Title 27 compliant detection monitoring program. Violation of Board Order R6T-2009-0023, Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) section II.B.	Water Board staff are working with Modoc County to ensure that a Title 27 compliant monitoring network is installed and the groundwater aquifer will be monitored.	Notice of Violation
						Deficient Monitoring Failed to conduct inspections and collect purge stabilization parameters during the first and second 2025 semi-annual monitoring events. Violation of Board Order R6T-2009-0023, MRP II.A.1.d and II.B.3.	Groundwater wells are required to be inspected semi-annually, and the purge stabilization parameters are required to be collected semi-annually during each sampling event.	
Deficient Reporting Failed to report aquifer characteristics, 5-yr constituents of concern (COC) monitoring data, corrective measures to correct violations, and financial assurance information during the 2025 reporting period. Violation of Board Order R6T-2009-0023, MRP II.B.2., MRP II.B.5, MRP IV.A.2.d, WDR V.B, MRP IV.E.	The aquifer characteristics are required to be collected semi-annually, the most recent 5-year COC sampling data is required to be included in each report, a discussion related to violations including a detailed time schedule for correction must be included, and the amount of financial assurance to implement a Known and Reasonably Foreseeable Release to groundwater and conduct post-closure monitoring is required.							
				Lake City SWDS Old	6A257555001	Deficient Reporting Failed to conduct statistical analysis for several constituents of concern and failed to report all 5-Year COC monitoring results in the 2025 annual monitoring report. Violation of Board Order R6T-2009-0022, WDR III.B, MRP III.B, MRP II.B.5, and MRP IV.A.2.d.	Corrective actions include conducting statistical analysis for metals and reporting the results of the analysis and all 5-Yr COC monitoring results in each annual report.	Staff Enforcement Letter

First Quarter 2026 Violations and Unauthorized Discharges Report

Program Category	Priority Violation	County	Responsible Party	Facility	WDID	Violation Type/ Violation Description	Corrective Action	Initial Enforcement Action
National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permits	B	Alpine	Ca Dept of Parks & Rec Sacramento	Grover Hot Springs	6A020110801	Late Report Second Semiannual 2025 self-monitoring report (SMR) is past due (due 1/15/2026).	Discharger to submit reports in a timely manner to return to compliance.	To Be Determined
		Lassen	Susanville SD	Susanville Sanitary District WWTP	6A181554001	Effluent Exceedance Total Coliform 7-Day Median limit is 23 Most Probable Number (MPN)/100 milliliter (mL) and reported value was 33 MPN/100 mL at EFF-002.	Discharger verified that the sample was taken cleanly and all precautions were taken, that the sample point was clean, and that the UV lights are operating properly.	Oral Communication
						Deficient Monitoring EFF-002 total dissolved solids (TDS) sample was missing for first quarter 2026.	Chain-of-custody error occurred during lab transition. Discharger has corrected the chain-of-custody for future quarterly samples.	
Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO)	B	San Bernardino	San Bernardino Cnty Special Districts	CSA 82 CS (Trona & Pioneer Point)	6SSO11168	Sanitary Sewer Overflow While San Bernardino County staff were conducting an inspection, the discovered a broken pipe that spilled 10,000 gallons of sewage onto the ground. No surface water affected.	Contractor cleaned up area. A spill report will be due within 10 business days of spill occurrence.	Oral Enforcement
						Late Report Certified spill report for Spill Event ID 905545 was submitted 5 days late on 3/11/2026.	Report has been submitted. In the future, discharger should submit reports on time.	No Enforcement

First Quarter 2026 Violations and Unauthorized Discharges Report

Program Category	Priority Violation	County	Responsible Party	Facility	WDID	Violation Type/ Violation Description	Corrective Action	Initial Enforcement Action
WDR - Municipal Wastewater	B	Lassen	Spalding Community Service District	Spalding Tract Sewer System	6A180506011	<p>Deficient Monitoring Report was missing: IV.B.1. "The total volume of wastewater flow to the Facility for each month, in thousands of gallons and in cubic feet." IV.B.2. "The average daily flow received...for each month, in thousands of gallons per day..." IV.B.4. "The total pan evaporation of water during each month based on the measured and computed daily evaporation rates in test pans." IV.B.3. "The minimum freeboard...measured each month in each surface impoundment. If an evaporation pond does not contain wastewater, indicate that it is empty." IV.B.5. "A total monthly water balance...reporting the amount of effluent received, the volume of liquid evaporated and the total volume of liquid stored in the ponds at the beginning and end of each month based on gauged pond level measurements." IV.B.6. "The total number of service connections and...new service connections during the monitoring period." IV.B.8. "A review, analysis and certifying statement that the groundwater monitoring data has not shown a statistically significant increase in any of the monitored constituents...If the certification cannot be provided because an increase is detected, then the Discharger is required to notify the Water Board..." IV.B.10. "Reports of monthly visual inspections of the evaporation ponds..." pursuant to requirements provided in the permit.</p>	Discharger must monitor and report all information required in the permit to return to compliance.	Staff Enforcement Letter

First Quarter 2026 Violations and Unauthorized Discharges Report

Program Category	Priority Violation	County	Responsible Party	Facility	WDID	Violation Type/ Violation Description	Corrective Action	Initial Enforcement Action
WDR - Municipal Wastewater (Continued)	B	Lassen	Spalding Community Service District	Spalding Tract Sewer System	6A180506011	Deficient Monitoring The following were missing: V.A.1. "Graphical and tabular presentation of all monitoring data obtained for the previous years and a trend analysis of the data." Partially missing: The only graphical presentation is monthly flows to ponds for year 2025. Missing V.A.6. "A report on predicted storage capability for the next year. Using the storage capacity available on December 31 and the previous-year influent flow or the estimated flow in the Report of Waste Discharge (which ever is greater), a seasonal precipitation of 32 inches, and the previous-year evaporation rates, determine the expected monthly storage capacity and elevations of the effluent in the evaporation ponds for each month for the next (current) year..." Partially missing V.A.7. ""Provide the total estimated annual evaporation (in million gallons) that occurred...during the monitoring period, with supporting documentation and/or computations..." The total estimated annual evaporation was submitted. However, with no supporting documentation and/or computations. Missing V.A.8. "The Facility design capacity is based on an expected occupancy with all planned sewer connections. On an annual basis, determine and report whether flows based on occupancy, as projected in the report of waste discharge, differ from the actual flows...in million gallons (MG)..." V.B. Evaporation Pond Metals Monitoring. "Shall be conducted on a five-year cycle." Upon previous conversation, the evaporation pond metals monitoring was to be scheduled for 2025 and submitted in the Annual 2025 report. Missing V.C. Sludge Reporting. "The Discharger shall report annually the amount of sludge accumulated in the ponds by both total volumes and the percentage of the total storage capacity."	Discharger must monitor and report all information required in the permit to return to compliance.	Staff Enforcement Letter
WDR - Municipal Wastewater (Continued)	B	Lassen	CA Dept of Trans D2	Honey Lake Safety Roadside Rest Area	6A181412005	Late Report Fourth quarter 2025. Due February 1 and submitted February 27. Late Report Report was due February 15 and was submitted February 27	Discharger's rep has taken responsibility and taken steps to ensure timely submittal in the future. Delay was caused by outside factors which have since been safeguarded against to prevent late submission.	To Be Determined

First Quarter 2026 Violations and Unauthorized Discharges Report

Program Category	Priority Violation	County	Responsible Party	Facility	WDID	Violation Type/ Violation Description	Corrective Action	Initial Enforcement Action		
		Mono	US Marine Corps (USMC) Coleville	USMC-MWTC WWTC	6A260154101	Late Report Fourth quarter 2025 was submitted 32 days late on February 16, 2026. USMC staff let us know in advance that the report was going to be submitted late due to lab paperwork errors.	USMC staff notified the Water Board in advance that the report would be submitted late due to laboratory errors.	Staff Enforcement Letter		
						Late Report Annual 2025 report was submitted 51 days late on March 22, 2026 (due January 30, 2026).				
		San Bernardino	Baker CSD	Baker WTF	6B360100001	Late Report Failed to submit the 2025 Annual Monitoring Report. Violation of section II.B of the MRP.	Reports are be submitted on time per deadlines provided on the permit.	Notice of Violation		
			US Marine Corps Barstow Logistic Base	Yermo Domestic WTF	6B360702003	Late Report Submitted quarterly SMR 11 days late. Violated Board Order No. R6V-6-01-42 MRP Section II.A.2.B.	Discharger to submit report on time.	Notice of Violation		
			US Navy Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake	Salt Wells Propul. Labs	6B360703021	Effluent Exceedance Flow Daily Maximum limit is 0.021 million gallons per day (MGD) and reported value was 0.023446 MGD.	Access to the building was limited over the weekend, Salt Wells maintenance team was able to repair and reset the valve Monday morning February 23, 2026.	Oral Communication		
		Effluent Exceedance Flow Daily Maximum limit is 0.021 MGD and reported value was 0.025330 MGD.								
		Effluent Exceedance Flow Daily Maximum limit is 0.021 MGD and reported value was 0.027414 MGD.								
		Effluent Exceedance Flow Daily Maximum limit is 0.021 MGD and reported value was 0.025151 MGD.								
		WDR - Non-Municipal	B	Nevada	Tahoe Donner POA	Tahoe Donner Ski Area	6A290009500	Effluent Exceedance TDS 10 Sample 90th Percentile limit is 80 milligram per liter (mg/L) and reported value was 83.50 mg/L.	Discharger to develop a Pollution Prevention Plan to return to compliance with the permit.	Staff Enforcement Letter
		Unauthorized Discharges - Unregulated Facilities (spills less than 100 gallons are not listed unless surface water was impacted)	B	Placer	Unknown	Lat: 39.384162, Long: -120.083171	Not Applicable	Unauthorized Discharge A tractor-trailer spun out in the snow and struck the guardrail. During the collision, the onboard saddle tank was punctured. The tank had a 100-gallon capacity and was approximately three-quarters full. Approximately 35 gallons of diesel fuel was released and entered a seasonal ditch that flows into the Truckee River.	Caltrans was on scene and conducted cleanup operations.	Oral Communication