Comment	Response
RECEIVED OCT 19 2012 By RWB **United States Department of the Interior** **Pacific Southwest Region** **FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE** Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office 1340 Financial Blvd., Suite 234 Reno, Nevada 89502 Ph: (775) 861-6300 ~ Fax: (775) 861-6301 October 17, 2012 File No. 2013-CPA-0001 Mr. Richard W. Booth TMDL/Basin Planning Unit California Regional Water Quality Control Board Lahontan Region 2501 Lake Tahoe Boulevard South Lake Tahoe, California 96150 Dear Mr. Booth: Subject: Comments on the Triennial Review of the Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region This letter transmits comments on the Triennial Review of the Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office. Our comments are based on information provided in a scoping letter sent via email by Ms. Amber Wike, dated August 17, 2012, requesting comments by October 19, 2012. On page 5 of Table 2 (2012 Triennial Review Topic List), the Susan River Site Specific Objectives are listed. The Susan River provides inflow to Honey Lake. The lands immediately around Honey Lake and the lake bottom, during low water years, provide habitat for the endangered Carson wandering skipper (CWS; *Pseudocopaeodes eunus obscurus*). While the relationship between water quality and CWS habitat is not fully understood, the Service is concerned with (1) possibly lowering water quality standards in the Susan River, and (2) the possible alternatives and their potential effects to the CWS and its habitat. On page 6 of Table 2, the incorporation of both the Antelope Valley and Mojave Basin salt and nutrient management plans into the Basin Plan is mentioned. As part of the description, the consideration of revising the groundwater objectives to account for expected changes in salt and nutrients is mentioned. How would these revisions impact beneficial uses? TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA	**USFW-1**: Project #15, Susan River Site Specific Objectives, is a moderate priority project for basin planning resources. If, and when, this project moves forward, Staff will consider the concerns about potential lowering of water quality standards in the Susan River and the possible alternatives and their potential effects to the Carson wandering skipper and its habitat. **USFW-2**: Project #9 and #10, Salt and Nutrient Management Plans for Antelope Valley and Mojave Basin, are currently in progress and are high priority for basin planning resources. Los Angeles County Sanitation District (LACSD) is evaluating the data to characterize the Antelope Valley groundwater basin. It is uncertain at this time whether revisions to groundwater objectives will be pursued, but any such revisions must evaluate potential effect on present and potential beneficial uses, and would be a separate action from the adoption of the Salt and Nutrient Management Plans, with an additional opportunity for comments. The Mojave Water Agency is leading the effort to develop a salt and nutrient management plan for the Mojave basin and is in a similar planning and assessment stage as LACSD. The majority of effort on these plans is performed by either LACSD, or Mojave Water Agency, or its contractors, and final proposals are not anticipated until 2014 or 2015.

Comment	Response
Mr. Richard W. Booth File No. 2013-CPA-0001 We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on the Water Quality Control Plan. If you have any questions, please contact me or Kerensa King at (775) 861-6300. Sincerely, for Edward D. Koch State Supervisor 2	

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