

Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet FY 2014 -15

Basin Planning

Overview

The Lahontan Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) is the fundamental water quality protection plan for the Region. The Basin Plan contains the beneficial uses and water quality objectives to protect those beneficial uses. The Basin Plan also outlines plans to achieve water quality objectives.

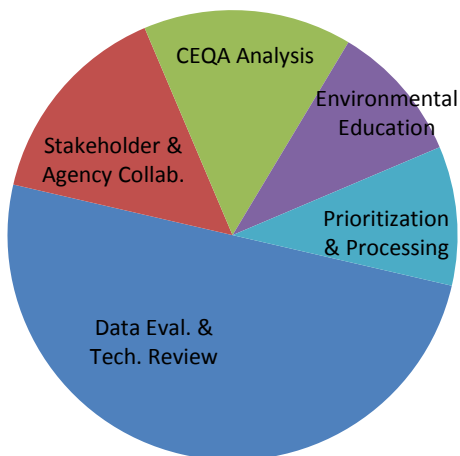
Funding for the Basin Planning program is from the Waste Discharge Permit Fee account, which has allocated 5.8 PY to complete both Basin Planning and TMDL program work. Based on the work planned for this fiscal year, about 2 PY is estimated to be needed for Basin Planning work and the remainder will be used for TMDL program work.

Goals

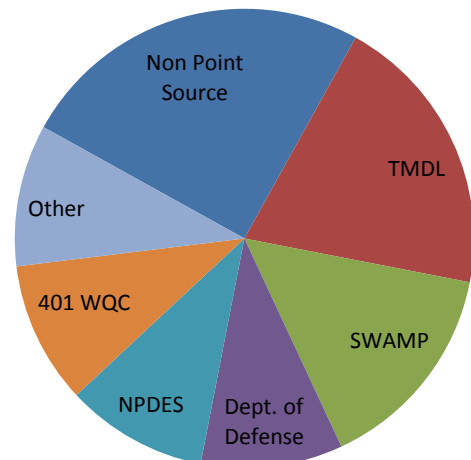
The goal of the Basin Planning staff is to maintain the Basin Plan as an effective protection plan. Staff periodically reviews the Basin Plan and its water quality standards, and proposes amendments for Board adoption that maintain its effectiveness.

Additional goals that support the overall Program include outreach and water quality education, and active support in statewide programs on planning issues that affect the Lahontan Region.

Staff Activities



Participating Programs



Accomplishments

Priority Planning Projects

- Secured a contract using funds from the newly created Lake Tahoe Science and Lake Improvement Account towards nearshore biological monitoring efforts and monitoring of pollutant inputs to the nearshore.
- Secured \$200,000 in State Water Board discretionary grant funds for evaluating nearshore hotspot. Contracted with USGS to determine the cause of increased periphyton growth in the northwest portion of Lake Tahoe. The investigation is scheduled to commence in summer 2015.
- Adopted the China Lake Basin Plan Amendment, which removed the MUN beneficial use from groundwaters beneath the Naval Air Weapons Station allowing the Navy to complete its groundwater remediation plans.
- Completed preliminary evaluation of bacteria data toward revision of Water Quality Objectives in coordination with State Board.
- Continued work to assess and correct bacteria water quality impairments including grazing management practices grants, laboratory support, bacteria monitoring, data evaluation
- Funded successful small scale barrier deployment in Emerald Bay to control invasive Asian clam infestation.

Outreach and Public Education

- South Tahoe Environmental Education Coalition, Wonders of Water, Trees are Terrific, Outdoor Explore, Tahoe Basin Watershed Education Summit - basinwide planning for environmental education activities that reach over 1500 students in the Lake Tahoe Unified School District.
- Environmental Outreach Community events – Earth Day, Snapshot Day, South Lake Tahoe Boys & Girls Stream Team, World Waterday Panel, Rangeland Summit, Lassen County Farm Day.

Performance targets for FY 13/14

<u>Target Description</u>	<u>Targets</u>	<u>Targets Met</u>
# of Use Attainability Analysis Adopted	0	0
# of Water Quality Objectives Adopted	2	1*

*Single action to adopt two WQOs-BPA to update and clarify the Basin Plan and incorporation of OTWS Policy in April 2014. China Lake BPA postponed to FY 14/15.

Performance targets for FY 14/15 – Progress to date

<u>Target Description</u>	<u>Targets</u>
# of Use Attainability Analyses Adopted	0
# of Water Quality Objectives adopted	2**

** Lahontan Water Board to consider adoption of China Lake Basin Plan Amendment in Feb. 2015; Consideration of Site-Specific Objectives for Hot Creek Fish Hatchery postponed to FY 15-16