

# Water Quality Report Card

<b>Regional Water Board:</b>	Lahontan, Region 6
<b>Beneficial Uses Affected:</b>	COLD, SPWN, WILD
<b>Implemented Through:</b>	NPDES Permit, Stakeholder Actions
<b>Effective Date:</b>	July 11, 2008
<b>Attainment Date:</b>	2028

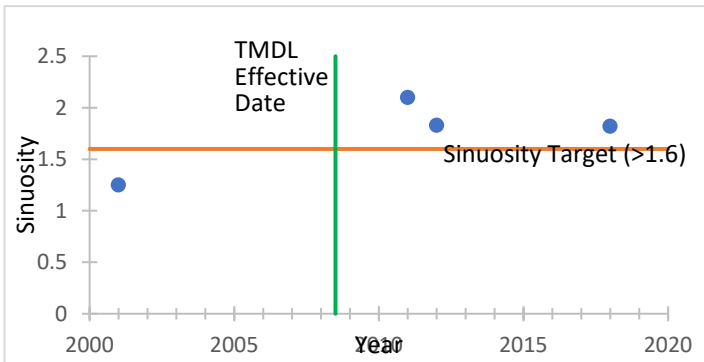
## Sediment in Blackwood Creek

<b>STATUS</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conditions Improving
<b>Pollutant Type:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Point Source <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nonpoint Source <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legacy
<b>Pollutant Source:</b>	Grazing Logging Gravel Mining

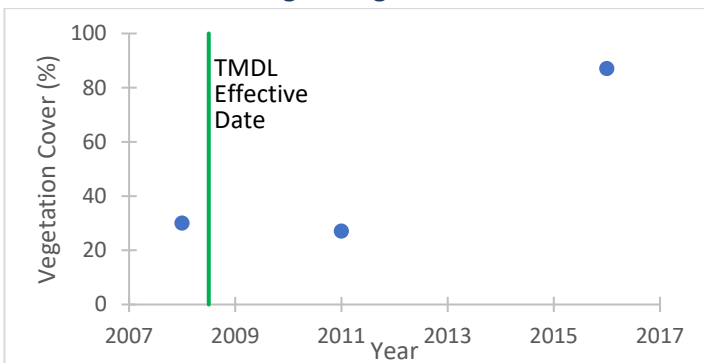
### Water Quality Improvement Strategy

Blackwood Creek Watershed was first listed as impaired due to sediment on the 1988-1989 Clean Water Act 303(d) List. Starting in the late 1800s, the watershed was used for sheep and cattle grazing, timber harvesting, and gravel pit mining, all of which caused sediment impairment to the creek. In-stream gravel mining in the 1960s modified the creek channel and caused an excess of sediment, which led to bedded sediment pollution. To address the impairment, Region 6 developed the Total Maximum Daily Load ([TMDL for bedded sediment in Blackwood Creek](#)). The TMDL is implemented through restoration projects by the US Forest Service, which are subject to an National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ([NPDES](#)) permit. The projects focus on restoring upland conditions and in-stream habitat by increasing vegetation cover and removing or stabilizing large areas of excessive sediment impairing the creek channel.

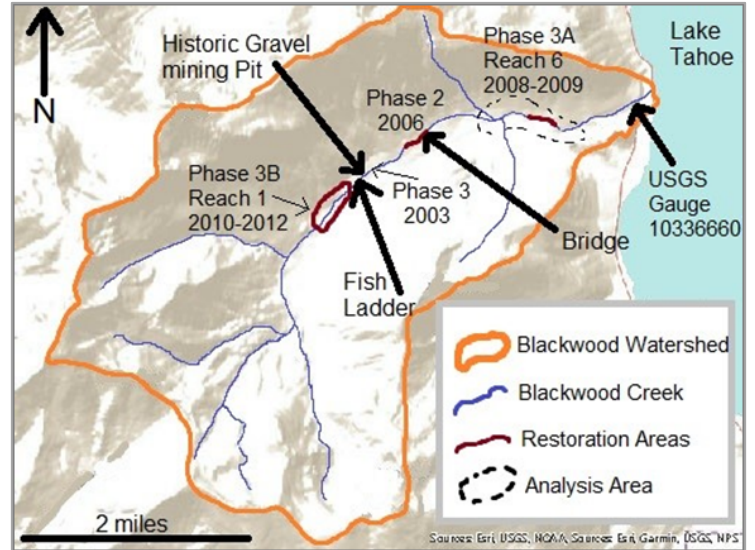
### Sinuosity of Stream Channel in Reach 6



TMDL Target: Vegetative Cover



### Blackwood Creek Watershed Map



### Water Quality Outcomes

- Monitoring of restored Reach 6 shows that sinuosity increased between 2001 and 2011 and exceeded the TMDL sinuosity target in 2018.
- Restored Reach 6 exhibits improved channel stability and exceeded the TMDL bank stabilization target in 2018.
- Installation of log jams and boulder structures stabilized eroding banks, encouraged sediment deposition, and provided habitat for fish and wildlife.
- Stream and floodplain vegetation have shown an increasing trend, with coverage of 87%.
- In 2017, high flows with a peak of 2470 CFS ([USGS Gage #10336660](#)), mobilized woody material and sediment, and redeposited materials downstream, increasing the overall health of the watershed.

### TMDL Target: % Stable Banks

