Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet
FY 2015-16

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 control measures to achieve water quality objectives.

Periodically, the Water Board considers amendments to the Basin Plan. Each amendment is subject to an extensive public review process. At a public hearing, the Water Board may act to adopt the amendment. Adopted amendments are subject to approval by State Board. In most cases, the Office of Administrative Law and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency must approve the amendment as well.

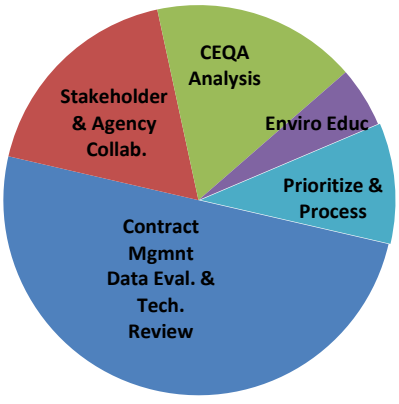
Funding for the Basin Planning program is from the state Waste Discharge Permit Fee account, which has allocated 3 PY to complete both Basin Planning and TMDL program work. Based on the work planned for this fiscal year, about 1.25 PY is identified for Basin Planning work and the remainder will be used for TMDL program work and to support Basin Planning work associated with other participating programs (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System and 401 Water Quality Certification).

Goals

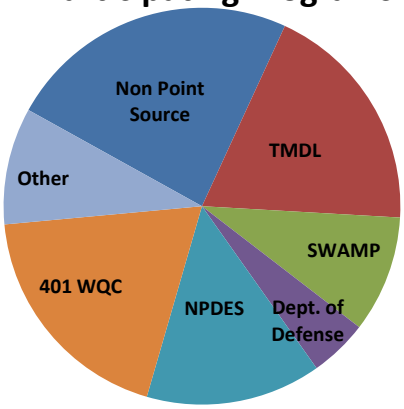
The goal of the Basin Planning program is to maintain the Basin Plan as an effective water quality protection and restoration plan. During FY 16/17 the Lahontan Water Board will focus on completing and making progress toward projects listed on the 2015 Triennial Review priority list: Projects include revising the bacteria water quality objectives, considering revised beneficial uses and objectives for surface and ground waters in the Mojave Hydrologic Unit, conducting monitoring and investigation to characterize changes in Tahoe's nearshore, evaluate minimum flow requirements for Squaw Creek, and evaluate statistical methods for some objectives (replace means of monthly means with annual averages where appropriate). Additionally, staff as part of Climate Change working groups will consider riparian protection policies.

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

Staff Activities



Participating Programs



Accomplishments

Priority Planning Projects

- Water Board approval of the 2015 Triennial Review priority list.
- Began Lake Tahoe Interagency Monitoring Program effort to quantify tributary inputs to the Lake Tahoe nearshore from Ward and Blackwood Creeks and hot spot investigation of nearshore environment near mouth of Ward Creek
- Overseeing Nearshore Resource Allocation Plan to help direct and prioritize SB630 project funding needs to answer key management questions.
- Continuing efforts to identify the natural and anthropogenic source(s) of bacteria in surface water bodies, including Bishop Creek and Owens River watershed. Traditional (E. coli and fecal tests) and modern methods (quantitative polymerase chain reaction) will be employed.
- Continued work to implement grazing management practices grants, laboratory support and bacteria monitoring, data evaluation, and coordination with State Board policy makers.

Outreach and Public Education

- South Tahoe Environmental Education Coalition, Wonders of Water, Outdoor Explore, Tahoe Basin Watershed Education Summit - 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 14/15

Target Description	Targets	Achieved
# of Water Quality Objectives Adopted	2	1*

*China Lake BPA approved by OAL on January 14, 2016. SSO for Hot Creek postponed.

Performance targets for FY 15/16 – Progress to date

Target Description	Targets
# of Water Quality Objectives Adopted	0

This spring we will begin evaluating appropriate statistical methods (e.g. replace Means of Monthly Means for Water Quality Objectives with annual averages, where appropriate) tentatively scheduled for 2017.

Unaddressed Work

Triennial Review List adopted by Board in 2015 identifies several basin planning projects that are not assigned because of lack of resources in the Basin Plan program: establishing revised site specific objectives for several surface waters including Hot Creek, developing biological objectives, removing pier prohibition in Lake Tahoe Spawning Habitat, addition of new beneficial uses for subsistence fishing and cultural resources, and several other projects requested by the public, the regulated community or USEPA.

Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet
FY 2015-16

Department of Defense (DoD) Sites Cleanup Program

Overview

The goal of the DoD program is to address the cleanup of pollutants at military facilities. Each military facility implements an *Installation Restoration Program* for the purposes of cleaning up past discharges to protect health and the environment. The program is accomplished through the use of the Defense and State Memorandum of Agreement (DSMOA). This agreement between the State and the DoD describes anticipated work, billing and cost recovery by the state for the work, and tracking of progress.

Water Board accomplishes work at the sites by:

- Reviewing and commenting on technical reports covering site characterization and remedial actions;
- Participating in public outreach and education through public meetings such as the community Restoration Advisory Boards;
- Focusing on achieving site cleanup in compliance with Water Quality requirements; and
- Tracking of cleanup progress and oversight costs through the GeoTracker and Daily Log data systems.

We review DoD work for the purpose of:

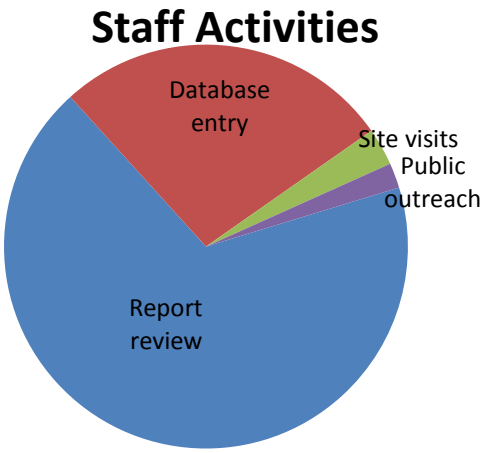
- Identifying Water Board requirements for each site/proposed action (called Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements – ARARs);
- Ensuring site investigations and cleanup decisions comply with State laws, regulations and policies;
- Concurring with DoD decision documents if action complies with State requirements; and
- Completing CEQA if State lead agency.

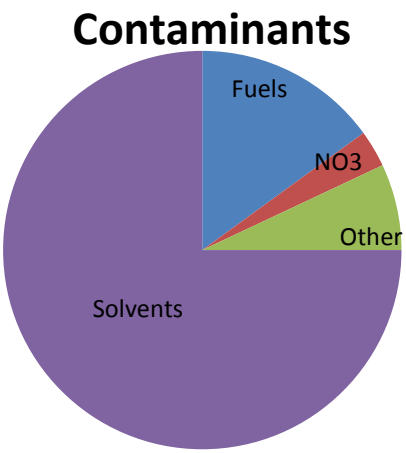
Information is shared with the public primarily by updates to the program website maintained by State Board, data entered into GeoTracker, and through public meetings held by the facilities.

Goals

Program priorities are human health protection by controlling exposure to contaminant sources, controlling plume movement and restoring groundwater quality for beneficial uses. The DoD has set aggressive goals for the bases to complete work and close sites. At many sites, the DoD is developing remedies that focus on risk management rather than groundwater remediation, resulting in lengthy restoration of groundwater, residual contamination requiring future land use controls.. Water Board staff evaluate the proposed remedies and are requesting more aggressive cleanup plans at several sites to restore groundwater quality and beneficial uses more quickly.

There are 576 active cleanup sites in the DoD program. These sites include primarily solvent and petroleum contamination. Contamination from pesticides, metals, fuels, nitrate and pyrotechnic chemicals are also found. Sites are located at the following facilities: ● George Air Force Base (GAFB), Victorville ● Edwards Air Force Base (EAFB), Lancaster ● China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station (CLNAWS), Ridgecrest ● Air Force Plant No. 42 (AFP 42), Palmdale ● Fort Irwin National Training Center (Ft. Irwin NTC), Barstow ● Marine Corps Logistics Base - Yermo and Nebo Annexes (MCLB), Barstow ● Sierra Army Depot (SIAD), Susanville ● Bridgeport Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center (Bridgeport MWTC), Bridgeport. There are approximately 6.6 PYs assigned to DoD work this FY.





Accomplishments

- Three Records of Decision (RODs) for implementing remedial actions at GAFB OU-5
- Closed 4 UST cases – each case may cover several co-located tanks
  - Site OT081, Railroad Fueling System (GAFB)
  - OWS 789-S1, AGE Wash Rack (GAFB)
  - Plant Site 5 UST T5-20 (AFP42)
  - Plant Site 5 UST T5-24 (AFP42)
- Completed work with Navy staff to support de-designation of specific groundwater beneficial uses designated in the Basin Plan where appropriate for certain groundwater basins naturally high in total dissolved solids (CLNAWS).
- Ongoing work with DoD staff and local agency staff regarding land use restrictions that are needed as part of remedy implementation.
- No Further Action letter, dated February 5, 2015 for IRP Site 21 (CT4 Disposal Area).
- GAFB is proposing several monitored natural attenuation remedies for groundwater at its sites. Water Board sent a letter from Executive Officer to the Air Force stating that the time required for the remedies to restore groundwater was unacceptable. Discussions are underway.
- Water Board conducted workshops on use of Monitored Natural Attenuation and accepted guidance document in March 2016

Performance measures for this year – Progress to date

Number of sites closed: 5

Unaddressed Work

- All DoD facilities are evaluating for the presence of emerging chemicals of perfluorinated compounds (PFC) in soil and groundwater at several sites. Approximately 17 sites recommended for further investigation activities at EAFB and likely dozens more at other facilities.
- Non-CERCLA site report review have not been completed in order to review reports submitted under Performance-Based Contracts that have strict review timelines established within the Federal Facility Agreements.

Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet
FY 2015-2016
Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification (Dredge and Fill)

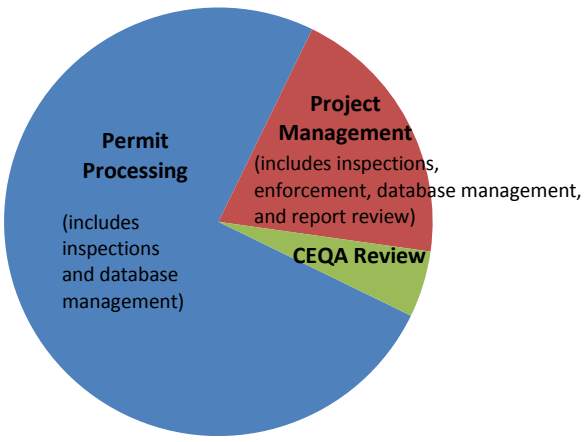
Overview

This Program regulates discharges of fill and dredged material to all waters of the State, including waters of the U.S. under Clean Water Act (CWA) section 401 and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. Additional protections are provided for wetlands, special aquatic sites and headwaters because these waterbodies have high resource value, are vulnerable to filling, and are not protected by other programs. The Program encourages watershed-level analysis and protection, because some functions of wetlands, riparian areas, and headwater streams—including pollutant removal, flood water retention, and habitat connectivity—are expressed at the watershed or landscape level. The core of the Program's protection strategies is impact avoidance first, followed by minimization, and then mitigation to compensate for impacts and ensure no net loss of water resources. The 401 program was allotted an addition position beginning in July 2014, so the Program is now operating with 1.8 PYs.

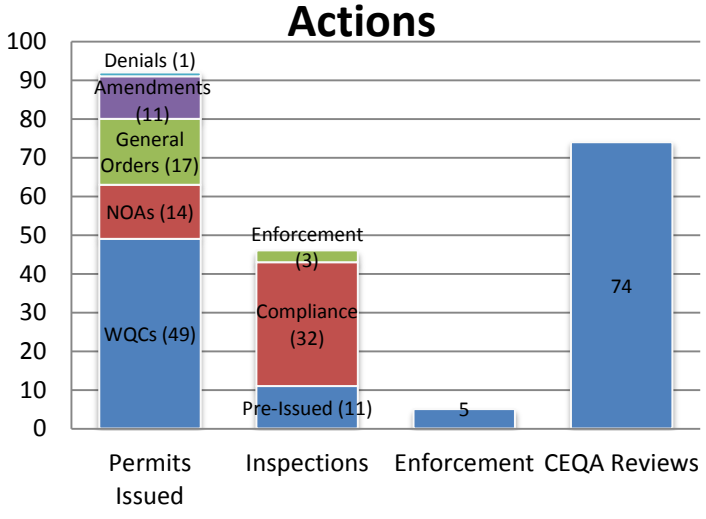
Goals

- Require applicants propose the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative (LEDPA) for their project, avoid and minimize impacts, and provide mitigation for unavoidable impacts, such that no net loss in function and values of specific waterbody types is achieved.
- Provide conditions in the certification that are enforceable and able to be tracked in CIWQS for efficient compliance and enforcement.
- Provide comments on environmental documents to ensure requirements of the dredge and fill program, including LEDPA, 404(b)(1) guidelines (i.e., avoidance, minimization, mitigation), and jurisdictional issues are clearly explained and taken into consideration
- Inspect for compliance with Order and enforce for non-compliance.
- Continue to engage in bimonthly Dredge and Fill Program Roundtables, including development of performance measures, metrics, and targets for the Program.
- Continue to assist and engage in discussions with State Board and USEPA on the statewide Wetland and Riparian Area Protection Policy (WRAPP) including pilot project on the Upper Truckee River for development of state-wide water quality standards for wetlands.

Staff Time



Actions



Accomplishments

- Issued 92 dredge and/or fill permits, denials or amendments (includes 49 WQCs, 14 NOAs for impacts to State waters, 11 amendments, 17 General Orders coverage, and 1 Denial).
- Performed 45 inspections (3 enforcement, 32 compliance, and 11 pre-requirement).
- Completed 5 informal enforcement actions for non-compliance with permit conditions. Staff is currently overseeing the resolution of these issues.
- VVL Staff continue to work with LADWP staff toward a long-term, multi-year 401 WQC for their facilities in Inyo and Mono counties. In-person meetings are held quarterly to discuss planned maintenance needs and permits are issued on an as-needed basis.
- VVL Staff continue to participate on Interagency Review Teams with USACE and other regulatory agencies towards the approval of the Petersen Ranch Mitigation Bank in the Antelope watershed and the Mojave River Watershed Mitigation Bank in the Mojave watershed.
- VVL Staff presented an update on Renewable Energy in the South Lahontan Region at the February 2016 Board Meeting.
- Successfully negotiated a Supplemental Environmental Project with LADWP to provide funding to the USFS to implement four restoration projects in Inyo National Forest, Mono County.
- Continuing to work with TRPA, USEPA and San Francisco Estuary Institute on USEPA Wetland Grant on the use of EcoAtlas. Held one workshop in November and 2 other EcoAtlas demonstrations in December 2015 and February 2016. Several projects are in the process of being uploaded into EcoAtlas. Latest SEZ map is being uploaded to EcoAtlas and the EIP Reporting Tool will soon be integrated into EcoAtlas. One more workshop will be held in Spring.
- Reviewed and commented on 74 environmental documents.

Performance targets for this year – Progress to date

- State Board is still working on establishing performance targets for this program. State Board, in collaboration with the regional boards, is currently working on the development of a set of statewide performance targets for the Program.

Unaddressed Work

- More than half of the permitted sites each year do not get inspected.
- Outreach and education is limited.
- Protection and adequate regulation of impacts to waters of the state where no waters of the U.S. are designated is unaddressed in many cases.
- Limited opportunities and resources to ensure mitigation projects are successful; including use of in-lieu fees and mitigation banks.
- Identification of priority functions and values of waters in region requiring protection and impact avoidance where possible.
- Expansion of basin plan prohibitions or policies to protect floodplains and riparian areas
- Increased workload for alternative energy projects and El Nino Preparedness Projects
- Development of new rapid assessment tools for episodic streams

Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet
FY 2015-16
Enforcement

Overview

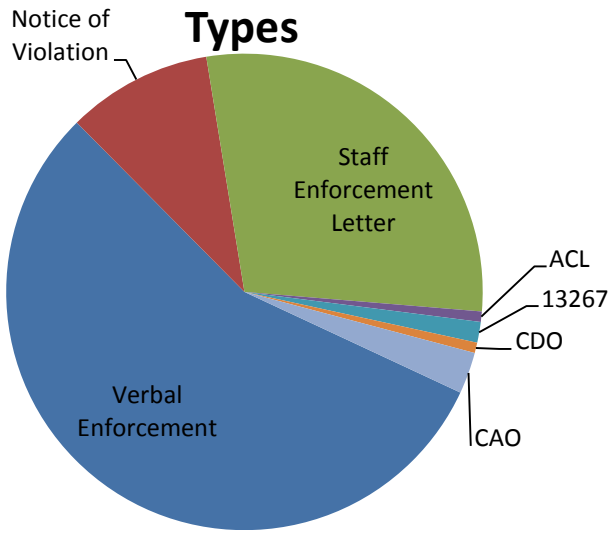
The Enforcement Program's primary responsibilities are:

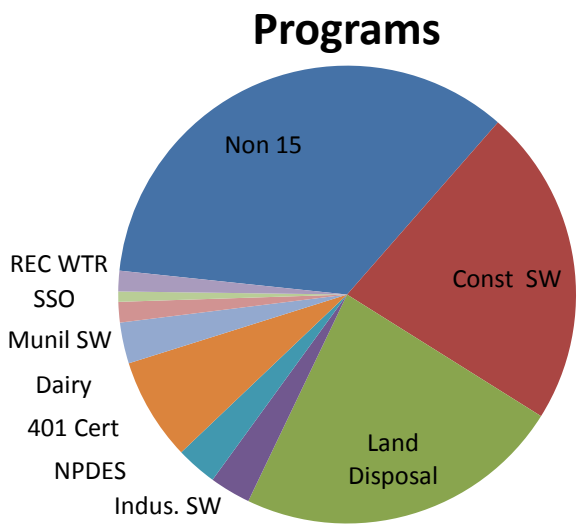
- Evaluating and prioritizing violations of water quality protection laws, regulations, and permits.
- Effectively initiating and following through on enforcement actions/strategies intended to reestablish compliance, to address environmental damage, and to deter future violations.
- Coordinating with other Regional Water Boards and the State Water Board in pursuing multi-region or state-wide enforcement actions; and to improve consistency and effectiveness.

These actions are conducted under federal and state law, and the State Water Board's Water Quality Enforcement Policy, with one allocated position and with resources from other programs.

Goals

- Enforce against violations that have adversely affect groundwater quality. Emphasis is placed on providing safe drinking when necessary, eliminating the pollutant source, and then cleanup. Examples include dairies, wastewater treatment facilities, PG&E Hinkley station, dry cleaners, and gas stations.
- Continue an effort initiated in FY 2014/2015 to compel compliance with the annual reporting requirements for the NPDES Industrial and Construction Storm Water Programs. The annual reports provide information on a Discharger's BMPs, discharge quality, and corrective actions. Improving submittal rates and taking enforcement actions on non-compliant sites should result in significant storm water quality improvements.
- Enforce against violations where the violations are creating adverse impacts to surface water quality and beneficial uses. Examples include unauthorized discharges of sewage, hazardous waste, and dredged and/or fill materials to creeks, springs, rivers, lakes, and wetlands.
- Implement action items identified through the Water Board's Enforcement Subcommittee that are intended to improve program efficiency and effectiveness.





Accomplishments

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Lee Vining Creek Diversion Structure Project: Water Board approved a Settlement Agreement containing a monetary penalty and a supplemental environmental project to complete 4 restoration projects on the Inyo National Forest.

Lake Tahoe Laundry Works Stipulated Agreement: Water Board staff reached agreement with Lake Tahoe Laundry Works to reimburse a property owner for costs to connect to community water system in South Lake Tahoe, after PCE concentrations in private supply well exceeded drinking water standard.

Spalding Tract Onsite Wastewater Systems: Water Board staff issued Administrative Civil Liability Complaint to final recalcitrant property owner for failure to abandon septic system or connect to community sewer in compliance with the Board's Basin Plan prohibition for the Eagle Lake basin.

Arimol-Serenity Lodge: Water Board staff continues to oversee surface water restoration and mitigation, in accordance with Cleanup and Abatement Order requirements. Arimol implemented onsite creek and willow wetland restoration activities in 2014. Water Board staff has approved the Phase 2 Restoration and Mitigation Plan in cooperation with California Department of Fish and Wildlife to be completed by 2021 along with a permanent conservation easement.

Crystal Geyser Olancha: Water Board staff continues to require discharger to adequately characterize the current discharge and delineate impacts from past discharges. A Report of Waste Discharge was received and Water Board staff has required additional information. Permit anticipated late 2016.

Dairies: Water Board staff required the property owners of the former N&M Dairy to implement the terms of the Settlement Agreement and Cleanup and Abatement Order adopted December 12, 2013. The property owners paid the SEP portion of the ACL liability this year because they were unable to complete the conservation easement. Water Board staff continues to work with other dairies to address groundwater nitrate/TDS pollution due to past and ongoing dairy waste discharge practices, including ensuring compliance with replacement water orders.

Supplemental Environmental Project Program: Staff has been working with several watershed groups and partnerships to implement the Water Board's SEP program by entering into agreements to identify and implement potential SEP projects. The pilot project with Truckee River Watershed Council is underway. An agreement with Mojave IRWM Support Group was accepted February 2016

Pacific Gas and Electric, Hinkley Compressor Station: Water Board adopted updated comprehensive Cleanup and Abatement Order requiring cleanup of hexavalent chromium by set dates and requiring technical assistance to residents.

Performance targets – Progress to date

- **Mandatory Minimum Penalties** – **Performance target is to address 100 percent of MMP violations within 18 months discovery.**

Water Board staff is working to resolve violations subject to MMPs at four facilities. Susanville WWTP, VVWRA WWTP, Hot Creek Hatchery, and Fish Springs Hatchery. Staff anticipates resolving all MMP violations at each of these facilities by the end of July 2016.

- **Priority 1 Violations** – **Performance target is to take formal enforcement action against 100 percent of Priority 1 Violations within 18 months of discovery.**

All Priority 1 violations identified in the past 18 months have been or continue to be addressed by formal enforcement actions.

Unaddressed Work

Quarterly Violations Reports indicate all violations and identify violations where no enforcement action has been taken.

In most programs, only a small percentage of regulated facilities get inspected, and therefore many violations are not observed and unreported.

There are an unknown number of facilities and construction projects that have failed to obtain permits from the Water Board and may be impacting water quality.

Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet
FY 2015-2016

Land Disposal

Overview

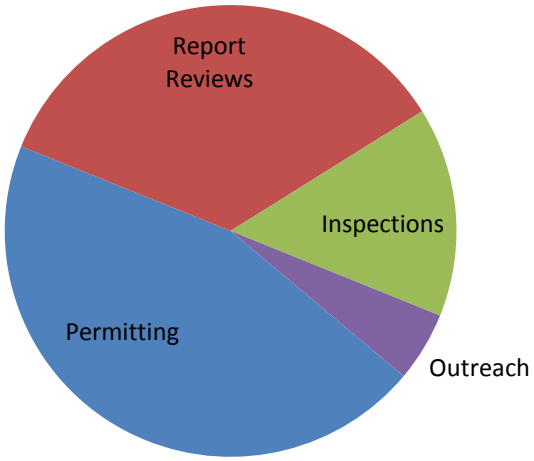
The purpose of the Land Disposal Program is to regulate facilities which discharge waste to land that may negatively impact water quality in an effort to ensure they are operated in a manner which protects water quality, in accordance with California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 27 and the California Water Code. The program covers landfills, mines, composting operations, cement plants, land treatment units, and other facilities governed by CCR, title 27. Currently, about three positions within the Lahontan Region are dedicated to this program.

Goals

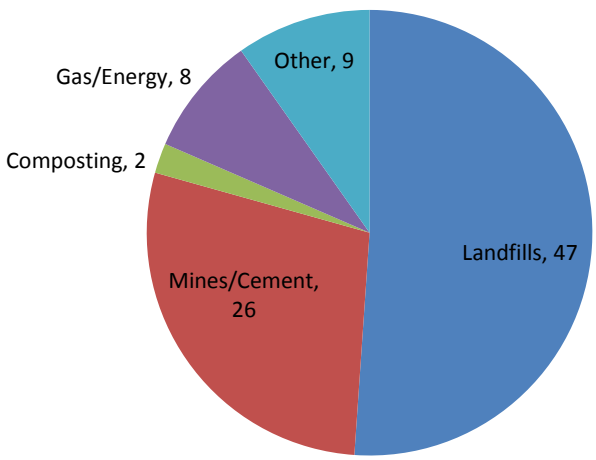
Program goals include:

- Collaborate with State Water Resources Control Board, Cal Recycle, and representatives in the industry to implement the newly adopted General Waste Discharge Requirements for Composting Operations, Order No. 2015-0121-DWQ.
- Collaborate and coordinate with Cal Recycle for the continued regulatory oversight of landfill facilities to ensure protection of groundwater and the environment.
- Review monitoring reports and other technical documents for landfills and other land disposal facilities to ensure water quality is protected.
- Ensure financial assurance documents and instruments are current and sufficient to account for current costs of closure, post closure, and corrective actions, as applicable, for all land disposal facilities.
- Respond to discharger requests for new and revised waste discharge requirements related to new or modified operations at landfills and other land disposal facilities.
- Respond to discharger requests to rescind waste discharge requirements for closed mines and other land disposal facilities.
- Inspect all Threat to Water Quality (TTWQ) 1 land disposal facilities annually; inspect all TTWQ 2 and 3 land disposal facilities bi-annually.
- Continue to provide outreach to the regulated communities and the general public.

Staff Activities



Facilities



Accomplishments

- Revised Emergency Debris Waiver to address debris management and disposal from wildfire, floods, and other disasters. Reviewed debris characteristics and approved debris management plan for household hazardous waste removal from Round Fire cleanup efforts
- Completed 45% of targeted inspections as of January 13, 2015.
- Reviewed technical and monitoring reports to ensure compliance with existing permits.
- Reviewed financial assurance documentation in an effort to bring facilities into compliance with financial assurance requirements.
- Revised waste discharge requirements for U.S. Borax Mine in Boron to allow additional discharge capacity and to convert Toxic Pits Cleanup Act-exempt ponds to CCR, title 27 surface impoundments.
- Revised waste discharge requirements for the Boron Landfill.
- Drafted tentative revised waste discharge requirements for American Organics Victor Valley Regional Composting Facility to be in compliance with CCR, title 27.
- Continue public outreach regarding issues such as composting and other land disposal facilities, including meetings with CalRecycle and the local enforcement agencies.
- Continue to work with facilities that are going through bankruptcy procedures to ensure monitoring requirements are still being met.

Performance targets for FY 14-15

	Target	Achieved
• # of Land Disposal Permits Landfills Updated:	1	0
• # of Land Disposal Permits All Other Updated:	2	2
• # of Land Disposal Landfills Inspected:	4	23
• # of Land Disposal All Other Facilities Inspected:	12	28

Performance targets for FY 15-16

	Target	Progress to date
• # of Land Disposal Permits (Landfills) Updated:	3	1
• # of Land Disposal Permits (Other Facilities) Updated:	2	1
• # of Landfills Inspected:	23	9
• # of Other Land Disposal Facilities Inspected:	22	11

Unaddressed Work

- Approximately half of the landfills and other facilities do not get inspected each year
- Reports do not get reviewed for landfills and other facilities with low threat to water quality
- Approximately nine facilities require revised monitoring programs or permits to address closure conditions, corrective action plans or other changes in facility operations
- Unknown water quality impacts from abandoned mines or other historical industries

Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet
FY 2015-2016

Leviathan Mine

Overview

The State of California owns the Leviathan Mine property, which is on the federal list of the most polluted sites in the nation (National Priorities List). The purpose of the Water Board's Leviathan Mine program:

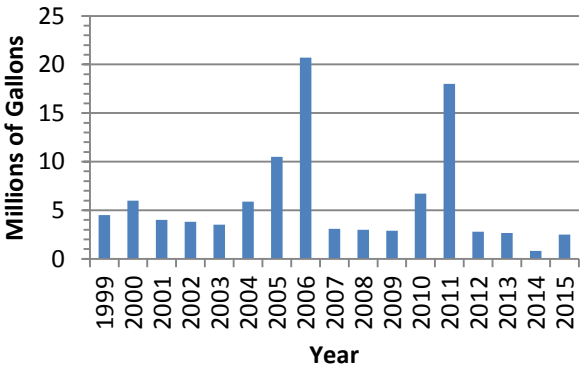
- Abate discharges of acid mine drainage (AMD) to Leviathan Creek from areas of the Leviathan Mine Superfund Site that the Water Board manages.
- Maintain the Water Board's pollution abatement infrastructure at the Site.
- Comply with USEPA Orders regarding the Site.
- Provide review and comment on cleanup activities and Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study (RI/FS) activities proposed and carried out by Atlantic Richfield (AR) to comply with USEPA Orders.
- Develop and implement a final remedy for the Site that is protective of human health and the environment.

The Water Board is currently implementing the program with 4.6 positions and $1.4 million in contract funds annually.

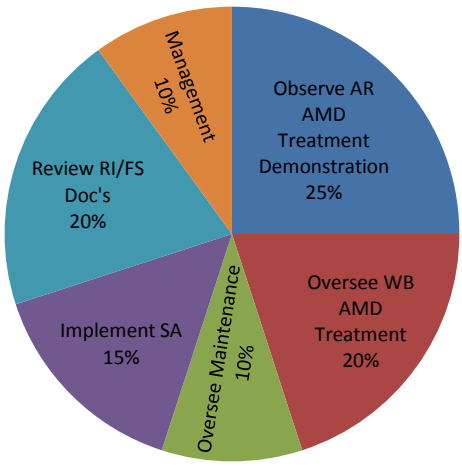
Goals

- Prevent overflow of untreated AMD from storage ponds by treating stored AMD during summer treatment campaigns and, if needed, with spring treatment.
- Achieve USEPA discharge criteria for discharges of treated AMD.
- Ensure RI/FS adequately describes the nature and extent of mine waste deposited at and discharges from the Site, evaluate the risk to human health and the environment from that waste, and evaluate reasonable alternatives for reducing the risk to acceptable levels.
- Design and implement a remedy that restores and protects water quality and the environment to the extent feasible.

Treatment Volume



Staff Activities



Accomplishments

- Finalized the Settlement Agreement with AR, March 2015.
- Removed and disposed sludge generated by AMD treatment process during 2014.
- Treated AMD to meet EPA's discharge criteria and create storage capacity for subsequent winter and spring months.
- Removed accumulated sediment from storm water control ditches.
- Developed El Nino Contingency Plan at USEPA direction
- Reported to EPA on year's activities – January 2016.
- Prepared road use plan for US Forest Service – scheduled for completion April 2016.
- Reviewed and commented on over 70 RI/FS work plans and reports prepared by AR.
- Coordinate with AR on site activities – ongoing.

Performance targets for next year (2016)

- Oversee construction of AMD conveyance systems and Interim Combined Treatment demonstration by AR – summer 2016
- Remove and dispose sludge generated by AMD treatment process in 2015.
- Treat stored AMD to create storage capacity for subsequent winter and spring months.
- Conduct site maintenance – scope to be determined.
- Report to EPA on year's activities – scheduled for completion February 2017.
- Prepare Work Plan for 2017 field season – scheduled for completion March 2017.
- Prepare road use plan for US Forest Service – scheduled for completion April 2017.
- Review and comment on RI/FS work plans and reports prepared by AR – ongoing.
- Coordinate with AR on site activities – ongoing.

Unaddressed Work

- Participate in Natural Resource Damage Assessment negotiations with Washoe Tribe and state and federal fish and wildlife agencies
- Inspect and oversee AR's construction of conveyance systems and Interim Combined Treatment
- Invoice Reviews and expedited report reviews to meet USEPA's timeline for RI/FS

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FY 2015-2016

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

Overview

The State of California implements the federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System program under authorization by the U.S. EPA, except for the wastewater treatment plant biosolids component. All facilities discharging pollutants (except storm water) from any point source into waters of the United States must obtain a permit. Major permits cover facilities discharging greater than 1 million gallons per day: Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority and Susanville Consolidated Sanitary District (CSD). Eight minor permits cover smaller discharge volumes. General Permits issued by both the State and Regional Boards cover numerous broad categories of similar discharges. This program is funded for 1.2 PYs.

Goals

The program goals are to ensure that:

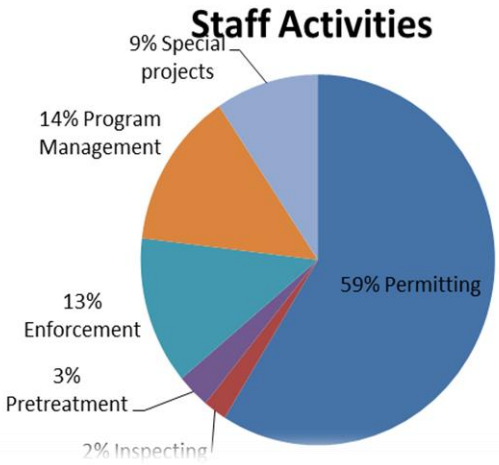
- Surface water quality objectives are met and beneficial uses are not impaired.
- Numerical and narrative effluent limitations contained in permits are satisfied.
- Permits are written for all discharges into waters of the United States and keep a minimum of 90 percent of all permits current/updated.
- Cost of Compliance - Review existing and new monitoring programs to ensure the required sampling and analysis provides enough information to determine compliance while attempting to minimize the number of required samples and analysis.

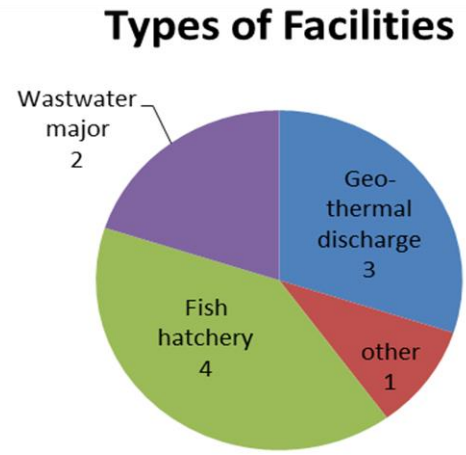
NPDES permits are only valid for five years. A program priority is to continually keep permits current. During FY 2015-16, staff planned to have two NPDES permits updated, both of which should be accomplished early next fiscal year.

This year there is a new requirement for all permit holders to transition to submitting their self-monitoring reports directly into the state's electronic database - CIWQS. This requirement is being done in conjunction with the requirement to submit detection monitoring reports to USEPA. Dischargers will only need to submit their data into CIWQS and the reports will be downloaded to USEPA.

Water Board staff notified known vector control districts of Basin Plan amendment now in effect allowing use of aquatic pesticides in water with valid State Board General Permit. Water Board to notify other known or likely users of aquatic pesticides and require information for Board to consider prohibition exemptions and permitting.

Water Board staff had planned to start facilitating a working group in the Susan River area to discuss future disposal options and/or need for Basin Plan changes to accommodate Susanville Consolidated Sanitary District discharges. The first of several meetings will be scheduled for late spring 2016, and continue into the following fiscal year.





Last Year's Performance Targets FY 14 -15

For the NPDES program, the Region met all inspection requirements and updated three minor wastewater permits.

Performance Targets for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 – Progress to Date

	Target	Progress to Date
Majors Facilities Inspected:	1	0
Minor Facilities Inspected:	1	2
Major Permits Renewed:	0	0
Minor Permits Renewed:	2	0

Grover Hot Springs permit renewal is anticipated mid-2016; and Mojave Fish Hatchery permit renewal is scheduled for Fall. However the General NPDES Permit for Treated Groundwater discharges will be updated this fiscal year, which is not reflected in the Performance Targets.

Unaddressed Work

- Permit renewal for Hot Creek Hatchery is pending development of Site-Specific Objectives- a Basin Planning project with insufficient resources
- Permit renewals for this year are delayed due to other enforcement and permitting priorities.
- Need to collaborate with Susanville CSD and other stakeholders to evaluate non-surface water discharge options such as storage and increased recycled water use (e.g. irrigation); and ensure minimum flows in Susan River and protection of fish habitat.
- Enforcement Actions for discharges from sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs). Review of reports and plans required by SSO Permits.
- Request information on aquatic pesticide uses. Evaluate and prepare resolutions and permits for Water Board's consideration of granting prohibition exemptions.
- Consideration of fireworks permit and other Trash policy implementation requirements

Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet
FY 2015-16

Nonpoint Source Pollution Control (NPS)

Overview

The purpose of the Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program (NPS Program) is to restore waters impacted by NPS pollution and protect unimpaired waterbodies. The primary causes of NPS pollution impairment or threat in the Region are from forest roads, urban runoff, hydro-modification, abandoned mines, and grazing. Restoration on forested lands and grazing are high priorities in the NPS Program while pollution from urban runoff, hydromodification, timber, fuels management and abandoned mines are primarily addressed through other programs. Federal resources under the Clean Water Act 319(h) program allocate 1.6 PY for the NPS work. Staff resources are focused on total maximum daily load (TMDL) implementation priorities.

The Region's NPS Program in part implements the statewide ***California Nonpoint Source Program Implementation Plan 2014-2020,*** and is consistent with the statewide ***Policy for Implementation and Enforcement of the Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program***.

Goals

The NPS Program is focusing on implementing grants and regulatory actions to prevent adverse impacts due to livestock grazing; supporting watershed restoration efforts and effectively interacting with stakeholders. For FY15-16, NPS Program goals include:

Grazing Management

- Implement the Grazing Waiver for Bridgeport Valley/East Walker River Watershed.
- Support implementation of grazing management practices to improve water quality in impaired waterbodies.
- Monitor implementation of grant-funded projects to improve grazing management

Restoration Projects on Forested Lands

- Permit, review and inspect projects to prevent soil erosion and discharge to surface waters, stream course damage, compaction or removal of riparian soil and vegetation, and soil and plant loss in wetlands.

Implementation of Actions Identified in Adopted TMDLs

- Support TMDL implementation activities specified in the Lake Tahoe, Truckee River, Squaw Creek, Heavenly Valley Creek, and Blackwood Creek TMDLs through technical assistance grants.

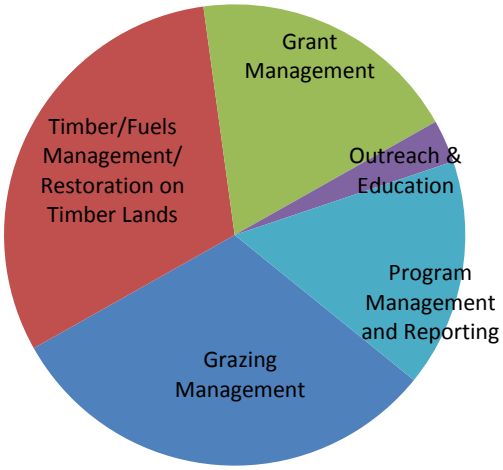
Identifying and Protecting Healthy Watersheds

- Conduct environmental education and outreach activities to help educate youth and all Californians about the importance of water quality, and to help them better understand their role in protecting the state's rivers, lakes, streams and coastal waters.

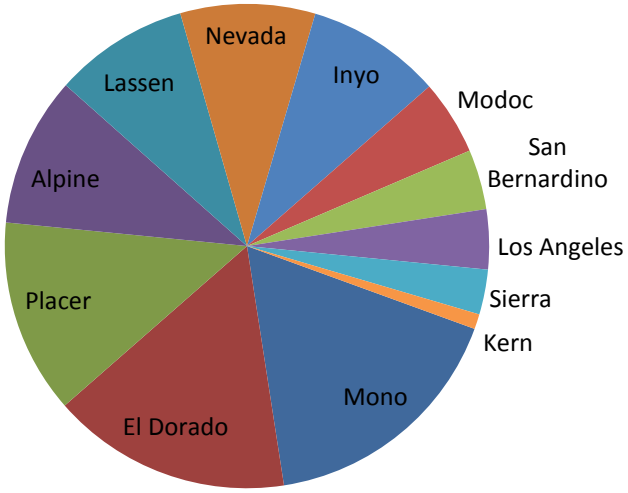
Implementation of the Timber Waiver on Federal Lands

- Review and inspect timber harvest projects for compliance with the Timber Waiver.

Staff Activity by Program Tasks



Staff Activity by County



Accomplishments

- Continued implementation of Proposition 84 Agriculture Water Quality Grant (aka “Rivers and Ranches” grant) by coordinating with University of California partners to provide monitoring and technical expertise; continued coordination with ranch partners to implement six different projects using over $350k in grant funds specifically for water quality improvements.
- Managed ten technical assistance grant projects that implement adopted TMDLs (including completion of three projects).
- Provided oversight and inspections of a major stream restoration and stabilization project on the Upper Truckee River.
- Reviewed eight environmental documents and conducted inspections at 22 timber and vegetation management and restoration project sites on federal forest lands to ensure compliance with the timber waiver.
- Issued two water quality certification permits for forest restoration projects.
- Participated in the South Tahoe Environmental Education Coalition to provide water quality activities to all campuses in the Lake Tahoe Unified School District (LTUSD) including the Annual Watershed Education Summit in Blackwood Canyon (with LTUSD, North Tahoe, and Truckee high school students.)

No Performance Targets Established

Though no formal performance targets are established for the NPS Program, each Region and the State Water Board are required to submit an annual report to US EPA to report activities under the federal Clean Water Act 319(h) program.

Unaddressed Work

- Annual outreach efforts with each National Forest in the Lahontan Region.
- Development of a regulatory mechanism for grazing activities remainder of region.
- Active and completion inspections for timber and stream restoration projects.
- Develop permit for non-point source activities on federal lands

Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet
FY 2015-16
Site Cleanup Program (SCP)

Overview

The Site Cleanup Program (SCP) focuses on investigation and cleanup of pollutants (other than petroleum releases associated with underground tanks) released to soils, groundwater, surface waters, and sediments. Typical cleanup sites include soil and groundwater cleanups at large industrial facilities such as chemical milling plants, power plants, and sawmills, along with smaller facilities like dry cleaners and aboveground storage tanks. The types of pollutants encountered at SCP sites are diverse and include fertilizers, fuels, heavy metals, nutrients, salts such as perchlorate, and solvents.

A total of 18 SCP cases, such as PG&E Hexavalent Chromium in Hinkley, are in the cost recovery program where the responsible party (RP) covers staff costs for providing oversight (approximately 3 positions this year). SCP cases *not* in cost-recovery are funded through the state General Fund, which has allocated 0.85 PY this fiscal year.

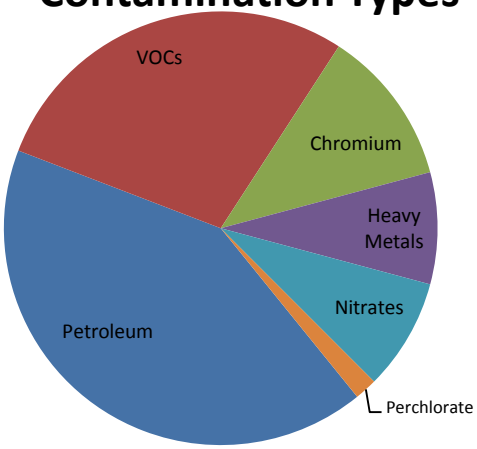
The Site Cleanup Subaccount Program (SCAP), established by SB 445 (Hill, 2014), provides new funds that allows the State Water Board to issue grants to regional water boards or outside parties for projects that remediate the harm or threat of harm to human health, safety, or the environment caused by surface or groundwater pollution where no responsible parties are financially capable to clean up site. We were directed to allocate 20% of our cost recovery positions to review and/or implement investigation or remediation at these cases and this position re-allocation of 0.75 PY was funded through SB 445 this fiscal year.

Goals

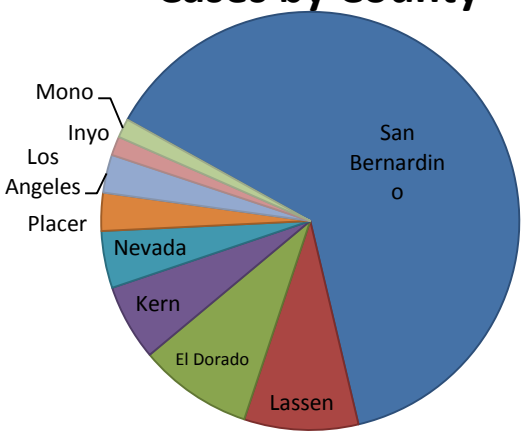
The primary goal of the SCP is to direct and provide oversight of site investigation and cleanup activities to restore and protect water quality, human health, and the environment. Ensuring PG&E compliance of 2015 Cleanup Order for Hexavalent Chromium remediation in Hinkley and completion of Chromium Background Study is the highest SCP priority and approximately 2 PYs are allocated to it.

General funded SCP case work is distributed based upon threat to water quality, the environment, and human health. There are insufficient hours for staff to work on all SCP sites each year. A continuing goal of the SCP program is to enroll dischargers in the cost recovery program to provide a funding mechanism to work on these cases, however, insufficient position authority does not allow appropriate staffing levels at this time.

Contamination Types



Cases by County



Accomplishments

PGE Hexavalent Chromium, Hinkley

A new CAO, adopted November 2015, requires PG&E to reach specific milestones by certain deadlines. In March 2015, the USGS began the revised chromium background study; this is on schedule with strong community support. Board staff manages this 5-year long, $5.5 million USGS study under contract with the State Water Board, funded by PG&E. The $1.8 million Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) for a drinking water system at the Hinkley School was completed more than two years ahead of schedule (mid-2015). Two agricultural chromium treatment fields were constructed and began operation during 2015 summer/fall. Updated monitoring/operating requirements to allow expanded in-situ remediation are expect to be issued as final documents in early 2016.

D Street Solvents, Victorville

SCAP funds were used to assess the PCE/TCE solvent plume along C & D streets in downtown Victorville; no RP or sources have been identified. Staff will evaluate data to determine status of the plume and appropriate remediation.

Lake Tahoe Laundry Works, South Lake Tahoe

Groundwater remediation continues to reduce solvent levels. Alternate water supply was supplied under a stipulated agreement to two private properties (summer 2015).

Mountain Pass Mine and Mill

Molycorp Minerals LLC (Molycorp) filed for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy on June 25, 2015. Consequently, Molycorp requested additional time to comply with CAO R6V-2014-0062 to clean up past releases of salts, nitrates, radionuclides, and metals to soils and groundwater. The Executive Officer granted the extension and required a time schedule of actions.

Nitrate Plume, Barstow

The City of Barstow (City) was granted a 2-year extension until November 2017, allowing time to adjust plans to focus on removal of the source of nitrate pollution and design groundwater remediation of nitrate with consideration of areas with commingled perchlorate contamination.

Oro Grande Cement Facility Hexavalent Chromium Release, Oro Grande

CalPortland Cement Company purchased this facility. Former owner, Riverside Cement, completed second phase of an evaluation monitoring program for hexavalent chromium to groundwater, including a bench-scale treatment study and proposed groundwater contingency measures for offsite migration of hexavalent chromium in groundwater. CalPortland will be further developing groundwater contingency measures as well as a corrective action plan.

Palmdale Water Reclamation Plant, Palmdale

To enable better plume containment and further assist with this cleanup, Staff directed the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, District 20, and the City of Los Angeles World Airports to: 1) shift groundwater extraction to the northwest and 2) assess human health risk to residential wells north of the plume.

Perchlorate Plume, Barstow

Funded by the Division of Drinking Water, California Rural Water Association and Mojave Water Agency are evaluating how to form an entity to manage grant monies and provide a safe source of drinking water to area residents affected by perchlorate/nitrate pollution in northeast Barstow. Board staff continues to conduct routine sampling of City of Barstow monitoring wells and private residential wells to monitor movement of perchlorate contamination in the Mojave River area near I-15. Board staff has submitted a pre-application to State Board for SCAP and Proposition 1 funds for this cleanup.

Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI), Susanville

SPI submitted a corrective action plan (CAP) for Former Susanville Sawmill and Cogeneration Facility proposing final remedies. SPI operated the soil treatment unit, conducted verification groundwater monitoring, and conducted site-wide groundwater monitoring. Future actions will include continued verification groundwater monitoring, a deed restriction evaluation, closure of a surface impoundment, and rescission of the existing WDRs.

Tahoe Meadows, South Lake Tahoe

SCAP funds were accessed to continue semiannual sampling/reporting of domestic wells. For the first time in eight years, water supply for every residence in Tahoe Meadows met drinking water standards.

Performance targets for fiscal year 2014/2015

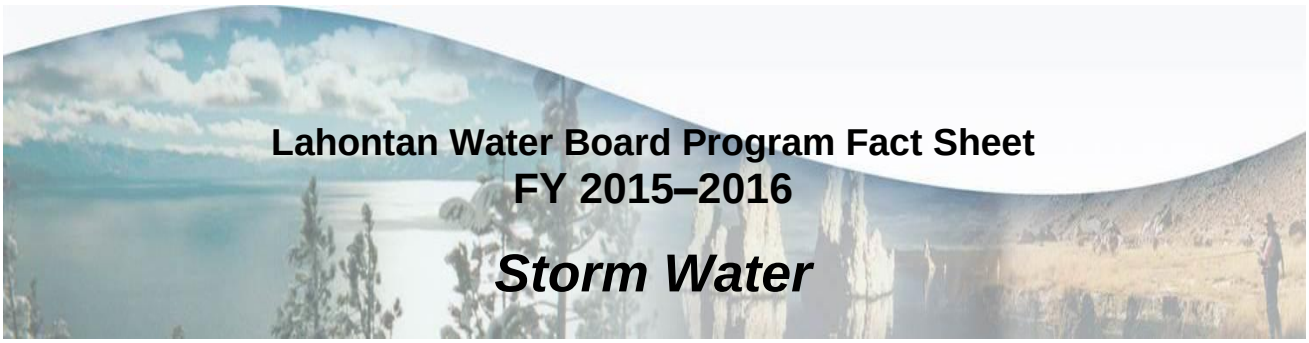
	Target	Completed
• Number of Cases Closed	9	14
• Number of Cases into Active Remediation	0	0

Performance targets for fiscal year 2015/2016 – Progress to date

	Target	Completed
• Number of Cases Closed	9	7
• Number of Cases into Active Remediation	0	1

Unaddressed Work

- Staff has identified one position annually of unaddressed work at several sites that have limited water board oversight but require additional time to hasten cleanup efforts to restore drinking water supplies.
- Several sites likely meet closure criteria and evaluations and public noticing is required before no further action letters can be issued.



Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet
FY 2015–2016
Storm Water

Overview

The Storm Water Program permits discharges of pollutants in storm water runoff to waters of the United States under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System in two main program areas: Phase I and II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) and Industrial; construction is a major Industrial category. A general permit approach is used to reduce pollutants from reaching surface waters by requiring specified control measures for:

- Discharges of pollutants in storm water and non-storm water, including sediment
- Preventing exposure of pollutant sources to storm water
- Preventing alterations to hydrology affecting sediment loads in local waters
- Erosion and pollutant discharges from construction and roadways/operations

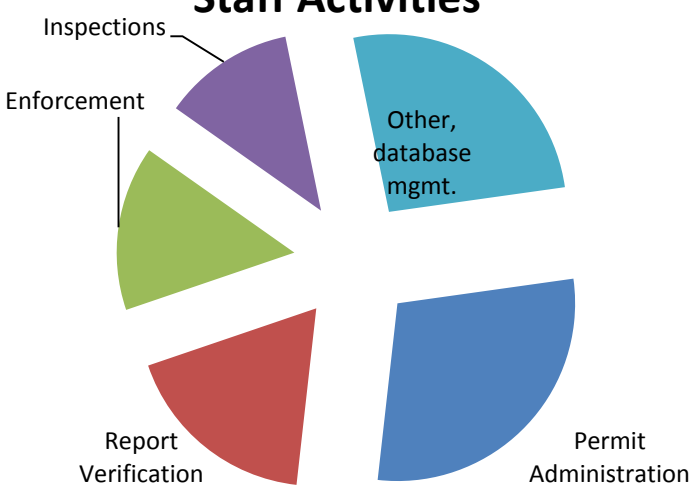
Phase I MS4s: Four in the Lake Tahoe basin, including Caltrans-Lake Tahoe.
Phase II (Small) MS4s: Caltrans, Placer County, Truckee, and in the Mojave River basin: Adelanto, Apple Valley, Barstow, Hesperia and portions of San Bernardino County (Spring Valley Lake, Mountain View Acres, Oak Hills and Phelan).
Industrial and Construction: Approximately 215 industrial and 385 construction sites Approximately four positions allocated, including Lake Tahoe MS4 and TMDL funding.

Goals

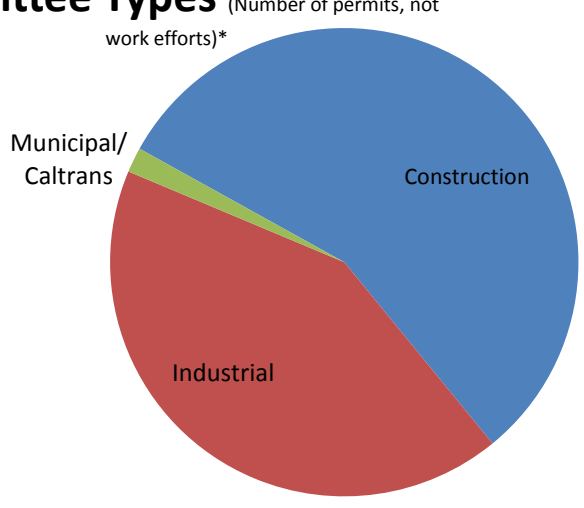
Maintain effective programs across the Region by:

- Commenting on environmental documents, advising on permit requirements and storm water pollution prevention through Low Impact Development and similar methods.
- Conducting inspections, reviewing monitoring reports, conducing outreach and taking enforcement as extremely-limited staff resources allow.
- Working with municipalities implementing MS4 permits and monitoring requirements.
- Writing permits or assisting State Water Board staff in permit development.

Staff Activities



Permittee Types (Number of permits, not work efforts)*



Accomplishments FY 2015-2016

- Staff implemented the reissued Statewide General Industrial Permit effective July 1, 2015; oversaw compliance assurance actions related to required re-enrollment by dischargers.
- Staff initiated enforcement actions to address chronic failures to meet annual reporting requirements by many in the Construction and Industrial programs.
- 5-Year Reissuances: Staff developed for Board consideration later in 2016 a revised Tahoe General Construction Permit and a revised Tahoe Marina General Industrial Permit.

Staff began work toward developing additional program requirements to implement low impact development principles throughout the region and consider improving requirements for storm water discharges to surface waters of the State that are not Waters of the U.S.

Performance Targets for Fiscal Year 2014 – 2015

	Target	Performed
Construction sites:	80	88 (56 sites)
Industrial facilities:	20	32
MS4-Phase II Audit	6	4

Performance Targets for Fiscal Year 2015 – 2016

	Target	Progress to Date
385 Construction sites	49	26
215 Industrial facilities	18	10
MS4 Phase I Audit	1	0
MS4 Phase II Audit	1	0

Unaddressed Work

- Over 85% of the sites in the program go un-inspected.
- Penalties for lack of reports or late reports are not assessed.
- Deficient reporting is unaddressed.
- Unknown number of facilities are not enrolled in the permits
- Identification of waters of the U.S. subject to NPDES permitting
- Education of municipal public works and planning staff on importance of implementing low impact development practices and maintaining natural hydrology and watershed resiliency.
- Coordination and collaboration with municipalities
- Over 80% of Storm Water Management and Pollution Prevention Plans are not reviewed.

Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet
FY 2015-16
Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP)

Overview

The Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) is a statewide monitoring effort designed to assess the conditions of surface waters throughout the State of California. The program is funded by the Waste Discharge Permit Fee (WDPF) "monitoring surcharge." Funds support one full time position and contractors to conduct monitoring and analyses.

"Ambient" monitoring considers all surface waters of the State. SWAMP does not focus on regulated facilities or known problems — it seeks to monitor the status and trends in water quality for all surface waters (lakes, streams/rivers, wetlands, coastal waters).

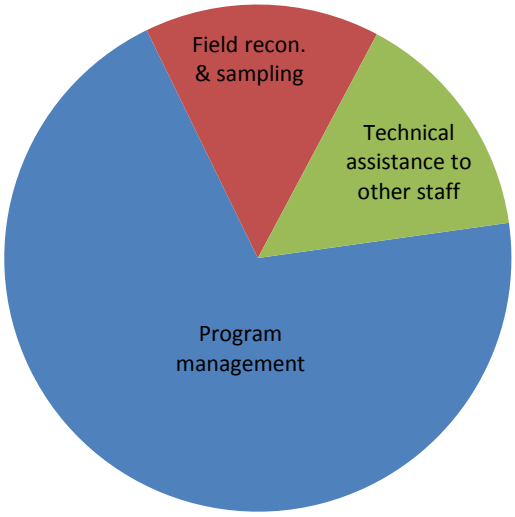
SWAMP has two primary components: 1) "regional" monitoring led by the Regional Water Boards; and 2) statewide surveys led by the State Water Board. SWAMP also supports the development, deployment, and maintenance of a statewide database — the California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN) — to permanently store surface water monitoring data collected by all entities throughout California.

Goals

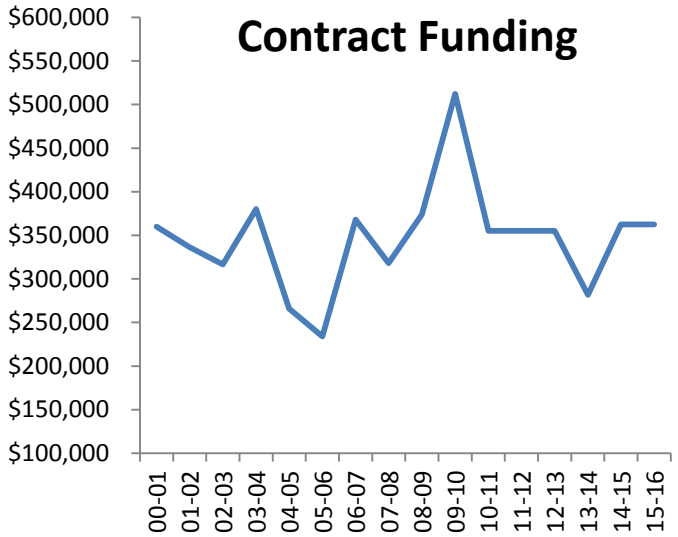
- Compare ambient water quality at selected sites to the water quality objectives contained in the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region* (Basin Plan) and the "California Toxics Rule."
- Develop and implement tools to assess the biological integrity of the Region's streams and rivers based on in-stream benthic macroinvertebrate and algae assemblages.
- Provide data on fish contaminants as needed by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (Cal-OEHHA) to develop "Safe Eating Guidelines" for at-risk waterbodies (e.g., Donner Lake, Silverwood Lake, Little Rock Reservoir, Topaz Lake, etc.).
- Assist other regional board programs to answer water quality questions by providing water quality data; provide long-term trend data to evaluate changes in water quality and the effects of climate change.

SWAMP contractors collecting samples and recording data

Staff Activities



Contract Funding



SWAMP Contract Funding at Region 6
SWAMP's relies on contractors to collect & analyze samples, assess results, and produce reports. The available contract funding varies widely from year to year, requiring adjustments in projects and makes long-term planning highly uncertain.

Accomplishments

- Produced 178 chemical and 32 bacteria results and took 738 field measurements. The data are made available in the California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN), and assessed in the State Water Board's "Integrated Report" (i.e., Clean Water Act Section 303(d)/305(b) assessment).
- Maintained a user-friendly public webpage that provides easy access to SWAMP reports and data, at: www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/water_issues/programs/swamp
- Over 90% of the data assessed for the 2012 Integrated Report was SWAMP data.
- During 2015, the Region's SWAMP staff also: **1)** created the study design for toxicity sampling in the Susan River projected for spring 2016; **2)** collected bacteria samples for microbial source tracking **3)** provided the results of bacteria monitoring to county health officers and other stakeholders in Bishop; and **4)** coordinated with the Region's TMDL Unit to adjust SWAMP sampling to obtain data needed to address impairments at 303(d)-listed water bodies.

Performance targets for FY 2015-16

To ensure that SWAMP results are timely and easily accessible to Water Board staff and the public:

1) Make available on CEDEN at least 50% of SWAMP-funded data within one year of sample collection
2) Make available on CEDEN at least 95% of data within two years of sample collection. This includes completion of laboratory analyses, rigorous quality assurance checks (i.e., data verification and validation), and data transfer.

The Region's SWAMP program has met its performance targets for all prior years, and expects to continue meeting the targets going forward.

Unaddressed Work

- Statewide SWAMP Assessment Programs limited by insufficient and inconsistent funding.
- Regional sampling of harmful algal blooms, pending SWRCB protocols in 2017.
- Regular assessments needed for 25% of our major surface waters, as well as more tributary monitoring. Also, more sampling events per site (ten sampling events per site/annually recommended).
- Dedicated watershed coordinator, including citizen monitoring.
- Focused data collection to determine effects of climate change. Additional sampling in headwaters to assess long term changes in water quality and flows to protect state's water supply.
- No work is being done to assess minimum flows needed to maintain beneficial uses.
- No monitoring of constituents of emerging concerns (e.g. pharmaceuticals).

Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet
FY 2015-2016

Timber Harvest

Overview

The Region's Timber Harvest Program resources are 2.5 PY from the State's General Fund and 1 PY from the Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Fund. The program uses a conditional waiver (Timber Waiver) to implement the State of CA Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program. The Timber Waiver applies to vegetation management projects that range from homeowner defensible space operations to local Fire Protection Districts' community protection plans, to large Wildland Urban Interface projects proposed by the CA Dept. of Parks and Recreation, the BLM, and the USFS. Commercial timber harvest conducted by small landowners, industrial timber companies, and the USFS are also covered under the Timber Waiver categories.

The Timber Waiver structures the enrollment conditions and implementation and monitoring requirements based on levels of increasing potential risk to water quality. The primary impacts to water quality from timber harvesting are sedimentation from disturbed land and solar/thermal heating of surface waters after vegetation is removed.

For commercial logging projects the State of CA has developed a Review Team process that involves the Water Boards, the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife, the CA Department of Conservation, and CALFire. The Review Team process satisfies the California Enviornmental Quality Act requirements, and CALFire is the lead agency.

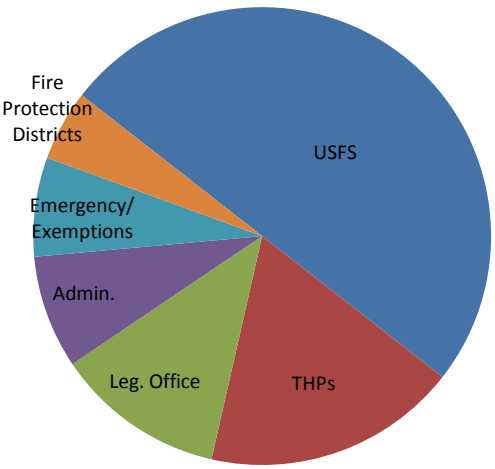
Goals

Timber Harvest Program staff work closely with project implementers to ensure proposed projects meet all requirements of the Timber Waiver. Staff conduct inspections of projects once harvesting has commenced.

Timber Waiver enrollment, site inspections, and monitoring reporting requirements are all tracked in the CIWQS database. Staff strive to have a sufficient field presence to identify and correct potential water quality problems.

Staff Activities

Types



Accomplishments

Timber Waiver
Staff conducted pre-project consultations to assist applicants with planning, resolving technical challenges, and completing the Timber Waiver application. Through increased communication, staff significantly increased compliance with the Timber Waiver Monitoring Report Requirements.

Lake Tahoe Basin
Staff worked closely with USFS Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) to ensure that the LTBMU's fourth annual operations plan for the South Shore Fuel Reduction Project met the Board's Waste Discharge Requirements.

Staff assisted LTBMU staff in preparing a joint NEPA-CEQA document for the Taylor Tallac Restoration Project, a multi-resource project that addresses forest and watershed health issues.

Staff continue to participate in the multi-agency Tahoe Forest Fuels Team, and offered permitting guidance for Wildland Urban Interface fuel reduction projects conducted by local fire districts.

Tahoe National Forest
Staff worked closely with USFS staff on the Jammer Chair and Dry Creek Restoration Projects.

Modoc National Forest
Staff conducted outreach in December 2015 with newly hired Modoc National Forest personnel on the Timber Waiver and water quality protection in project planning and implementation.

Inyo and Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forests
Staff coordinated with Forest Service personnel involved with restoration efforts associated with the Round and Washington fires.

Statewide
Staff coordinated with colleagues from the CA Resources Agency (CalFire, CA Dept. Fish and Wildlife, CA Geological Survey) in implementing the requirements of AB 1492, which regulates forest activities in CA.

Performance targets for FY 2014-2015

	Target	Completed
Timber Harvest Inspections	20	33

Performance targets for FY 2015-2016 – Progress to date

	Target	Completed
Timber Harvest Inspections	25	15

Unaddressed Work

- Active and completion inspection of regulated projects
- Annual outreach visits with all National Forests in the region
- Engagement with non Tahoe Basin Fire Safe Councils for activities conducted under "no notification" Timber Waiver categories
- Inspection of sites under Governor's Executive Order exempting dead and dying tree removal from permits

Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet
FY 2015-16

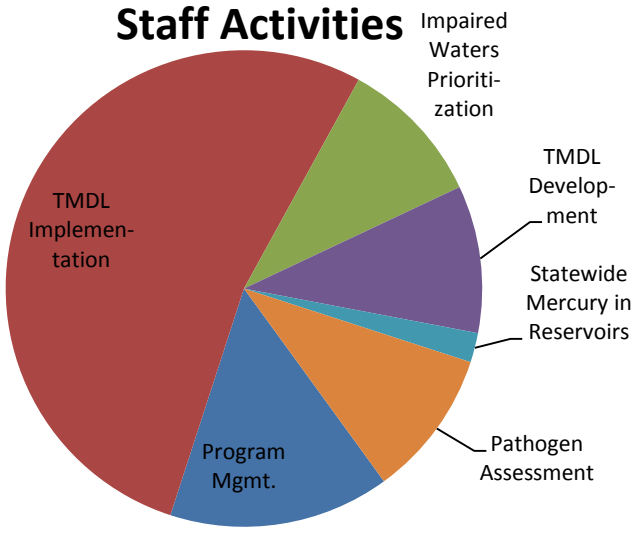
Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

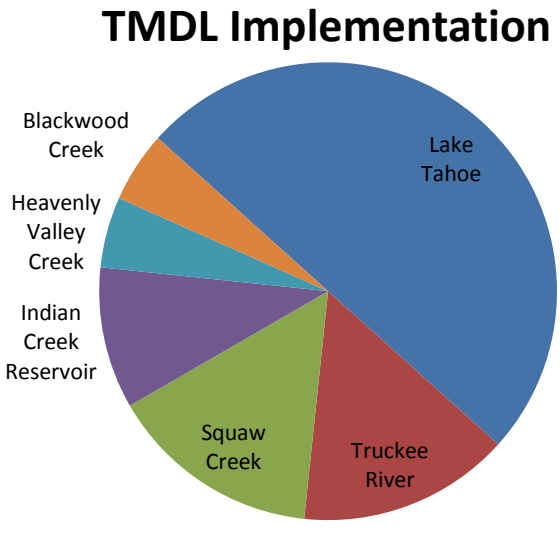
Overview

The TMDL Program addresses impaired waters of the Region and satisfies Clean Water Act Section 303 and 305 requirements. The TMDL Program resources are a combination of funds from the state's Waste Discharge Permit Fee account and federal TMDL development program. The state funds 2.5 PY for TMDL and Basin Planning work and the federal program funds 1.0 PY for TMDL development. TMDL staff assesses waterbodies for water quality impairments, determines possible sources, types and magnitude of impairments, and prepares plans to restore beneficial uses of the impaired waterbodies through TMDLs and other means.

Goals

The TMDL Program's goals include 1) implement adopted TMDLs and provide updates on implementation efforts, 2) identify impairments with one pollutant source that can be addressed with a single regulatory action, 3) group impaired waters with similar sources to more efficiently address the impairments, and 4) develop TMDLs to restore beneficial uses to waterbodies in the Region whose water quality objectives are impacted by a controllable pollutant.





Accomplishments

Lake Tahoe TMDL Implementation
2015 marked the second year of implementing the Lake Tahoe TMDL Management System which includes the annual TMDL Performance Report, the 2015 Findings and Recommendations Memo and the 2016 Annual Strategy. The Performance Report summarizes pollutant load reduction activities in the non-urban source categories and identifies urban-source pollutant load reduction requirements. In addition, the Lake Clarity Crediting Program was refined in August 2015 and the Crediting Program Handbook was updated, presented to the TMDL stakeholders in December, and approved by Water Board and Nevada Division of Environmental Protection executives.

2012 Integrated Report
The USEPA approval, dated July 30, 2015, adds Topaz Lake to the impaired water body list for mercury. Staff has requested funds to conduct fish tissue analysis at Topaz Lake, as well as Mammoth Creek and Palmdale Lake.

Prioritizing Listed Water Bodies
Staff presented guidelines prioritizing listed waters to the Water Board in July 2015. Prioritization emphasized protection of human health, protection of disadvantaged communities and addressing waters with data sufficient to develop a TMDL or TMDL alternative. Staff used these guidelines to select the West Fork Carson River and Bishop Creek water quality issues for its USEPA TMDL Vision commitments.

Impairment Verification
Staff collected monthly water quality samples to verify impairments pursuant to the Prioritization Guidance. Efforts focus on multiple nutrient and TDS listings at: Susan River, Mammoth Creek, Rock Creek, the East Fork Carson and West Walker Rivers.

Bacteria Source Identification
Completed phase 1 contract study and shared results with Bishop Creek stakeholders.

Performance targets for fiscal year 2014-15

Target Description	Targets	Achieved
# of pollutant/waterbody combinations addressed	0	0*
# of TMDLs (or TMDL alternates) adopted	0	0

*USEPA Approval of the integrated report included Category 4B designation addressing the fecal coliform listing of two segments of Robinson Creek and the East Walker River above Bridgeport Reservoir.

Performance targets for fiscal year 2015-16**

Target Description	Targets	Achieved to Date
# of pollutant/waterbody combinations to address	0	0
# of TMDLs (or TMDL alternate) to adopt	0	0

**To comply with the new USEPA TMDL Vision, Water Board staff committed to addressing water quality concerns in Bishop Creek (pathogens) and the West Fork Carson River (nutrients, turbidity, TDS) by 2022.

Unaddressed Work

- Consideration of new bioassessment monitoring protocols for Squaw Creek
- Eagle Lake nitrogen and phosphorus listings
- Truckee River TMDL target assessment and potential revision
- Additional fish tissue analyses
- Investigating mercury sources at several water bodies with impairments

Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet
FY 2015-16

Underground Storage Tank (UST)

Overview

The UST program protects public health and safety and the environment from releases of petroleum and other hazardous substances from UST systems. The program is administered by the State Water Board and consists of four program elements: leak prevention, cleanup, enforcement, and tank tester licensing. The Region receives approximately 3.0 PYs for FY 15/16 to oversee the cleanup element of the UST program. Approximately 85% of the funding is provided through the Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund and the remaining 15% is provided by the federal government.

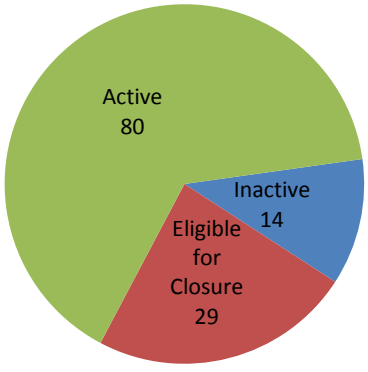
On July 1, 2015, there were 94 open Water Board lead UST cleanup cases in the region. Due to the maturity of the program, most high threat cases have been addressed and the remaining caseload is made up primarily of legacy cases and is shrinking. Of the 94 open cases, 29 were identified as "Open- Eligible for Closure" and 14 were inactive. Inactive cases where there is a potential threat to human health or the environment or responsible parties are not responsive may be nominated to the Emergency, Abandoned, and Recalcitrant (EAR) program.

Goals

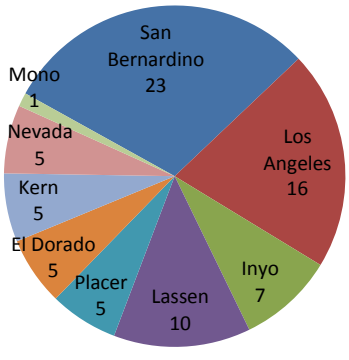
The highest priority for the UST Program is to continue to implement the "Plan for Implementation of Low Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closure Policy and Additional Program Improvements". The focus of the work is to identify and close UST cases meeting Policy criteria, aggressively work on the remaining high-threat cases, and identify impediments to closure at the remaining cases.

On September 25, 2015, the Governor signed Senate Bill 445 (SB 445) into law. SB 445 extended the UST Cleanup Fund sunset date to January 1, 2026, made significant changes to the UST Cleanup Fund, and established the Expedited Cleanup Account Program (ECAP). Staff provided a list of candidate sites for the both the EAR and ECAP programs to the State Board. Staff expects to provide technical and contract assistance to both of these programs during the upcoming fiscal year in an effort to further reduce the number of open UST sites within the region.

Case Status



Cases by County



Accomplishments (March 2015 to Present)

- Completed Policy checklists in Geotracker for all open cases
- Completed Path to Closure Plans in Geotracker for all open cases
- Responded to work plans and case closure requests within 60 days over 90% of the time
- Nominated ten cases for the ECAP pilot project
- Nominated six cases to the EAR Program
- Evaluated impediments to closure identified in Path to Closure Plans and prioritized cases where drinking water wells are threatened, sources of free product are still in place, and where corrective action is necessary to protect human health and the environment
- Presented a UST Program Workshop to the Lahontan Regional Board in May 2015

Performance Targets and Measures

Summary of Performance targets for FY 14-15

- Number of cases closed: 32 Completed: 26
- Number of cases into active remediation*: 0 Completed: 7

Performance targets for FY 15-16 and progress to date

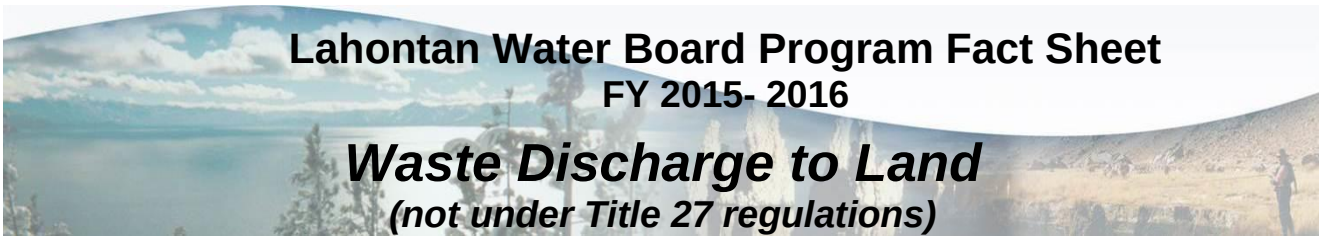
- Number of cases closed: 25 Completed to date: 20
- Number of cases into active remediation*: 0 Completed to date: 4
  (This target reflects the number of cases that have progressed from investigation to active remediation during the year.)

Summary of Performance measures for FY 14-15 compared to statewide performance

- Active/closed – percentage of cases closed
  Region 6- 20.3% Regional Board range- 10% to 25%
- Active Remediation – percentage of open cases in active remediation
  Region 6- 15% Regional Board range- 15% to 40%
- Human Health Exposure – percentage of cases where human health exposure is controlled
  Region 6- 61% Regional Board range- 22% to 72%
- Groundwater Migration – percentage of cases where groundwater contaminant migration is controlled
  Region 6- 51% Regional Board range- 19% to 62%

Unaddressed Work

Investigation and cleanup at approximately nine EAR sites will take years and require significant staff resources since there are no responsible parties and Water Board staff develops and manages contracts, overseeing all aspects of investigation, property access and cleanup.



Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet
FY 2015- 2016

Waste Discharge to Land
(not under Title 27 regulations)

Overview

The Waste Discharge to Land Program authorizes and regulates actions or discharges of waste that pose a threat to waters of the state (waters of the state includes both ground and surface water). This is the oldest state water quality control program and is performance-based. The program primarily covers regulation of wastewater (sewage) treatment facilities, but the program also covers facilities such as ski areas, golf courses, parking lots, and dairies and their associated waste discharges to land. The waste discharges covered by this program are not subject to the requirements of California Code of Regulation, title 27 requirements nor the Clean Water Act. Currently, the Water Board has about seven full-time positions working within this program.

Dischargers submit a report of waste discharge and staff prepares Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for consideration by the Water Board to adopt. The Water Board may establish numeric and/or narrative effluent and receiving water limits to protect beneficial uses of the receiving water that are included in the Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region (Basin Plan). The Water Board may adopt WDRs for new discharges of waste after receiving a complete report of waste discharge. Also, the Water Board has the authority to adopt/impose WDRs for existing discharges of waste.

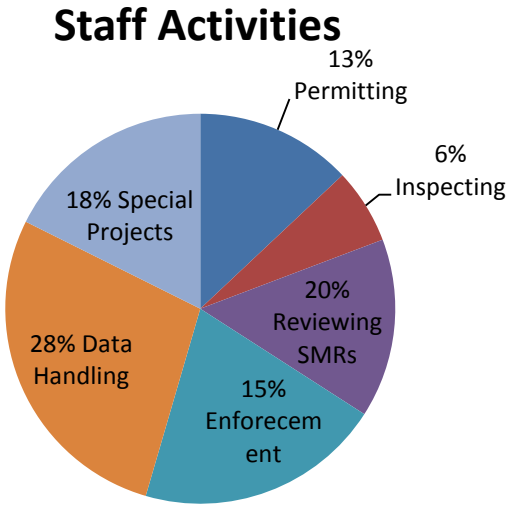
Goals

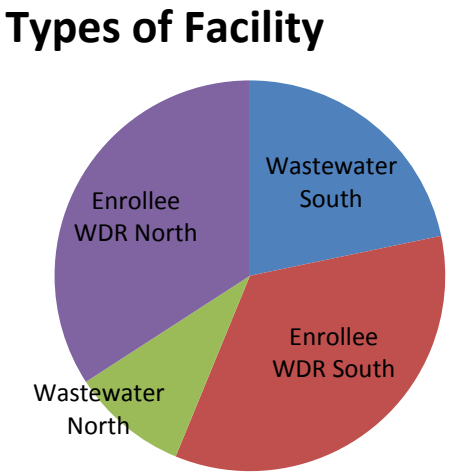
The purpose of the program is to protect ground or surface water from unreasonable degradation and pollution and to prevent nuisance. The current priority goal is focused on dischargers who are polluting or threatening to pollute groundwater. The Water Board is revising WDRs, issuing enforcement orders, and ensuring progress is made to upgrade treatment facilities, install groundwater remediation systems, and improve waste management activities (e.g., manure application to crops at agronomic rates) to reverse the trend of receiving water degradation. Recent WDRs for sewage treatment facilities have included effluent limitations for total nitrogen to protect groundwater from nitrate pollution. Discharges associated with new or updated WDRs are being specifically evaluated with respect to the State Water Board's Antidegradation Policy, Resolution 68-16. The wastewater facilities range from 1,500 gallons per day to 15 million gallons per day. Other facilities include 1) ski resorts and golf courses, 2) confined animal feeding operations, 3) small construction projects, 4) onsite septic tanks managed by local agencies, 5) dredge/fill projects affecting only waters of the state, and 7) recycled water.

Program Changes

The State Water Board Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) Policy established the Local Agency Management Plans (LAMP) development and adoption process, and the Policy assigned four (4) County LAMPs for Water Board review and approval. Staff has met with the counties and anticipates receiving LAMPs later this year. Addtionally, the Water Board may have up to eight (8) municipalities producings for review. The LAMPs will be presented to the Board for acceptance following review.

The State Water Board's OWTS Policy also required the Water Board regulate OWTS designed for 10,000 gallons or receive wastewater primarily from RVs.





WDR Enrollee North and South cover a number of General WDRs, including sanitary sewer collection systems.

Performance Targets for Fiscal Year 2014 – 2015

	Target	Completed
Inspections	62	67
Permits updates or new WDRs	7	4

Performance Targets for Fiscal Year 2015 – 2016

	Target	Progress to Date
Inspections:	53	23
Individual WDRs (Permits)	7	2

Two WDRs have been accomplished, two more are pending and three WDRs were placed under the General WDRs using the State Board's General Orders.

Unaddressed Work

Unknown number of RV parks or facilities with greater than 10,000 gallons per day with Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) that need to be regulated by the Water Board. No schedule to identify these facilities.
Approximately 114 individual WDRs that need to be reviewed and considered for updating.
There are 15 reclamation WDRs that should be reviewed/updated consistent with recycled water policy.
New recycled water projects being proposed.
Irrigated lands – 220,000 acres unregulated.

Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet
FY 2015-2016

Organizational Improvement

Overview

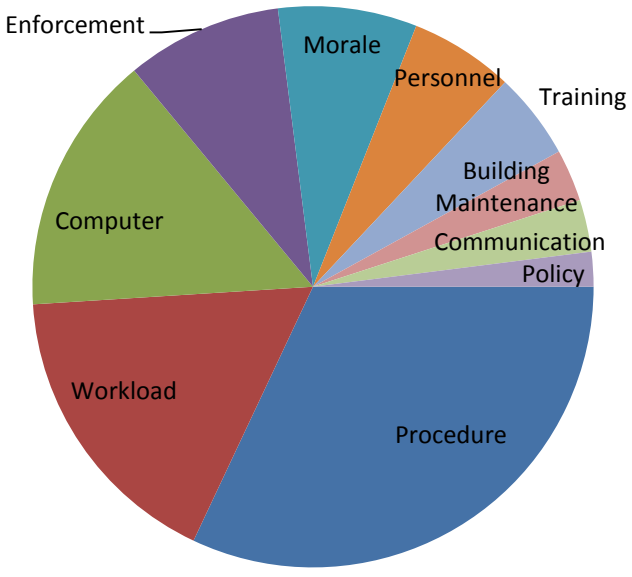
The Purpose of Organization Improvement is to promote continuous internal improvement so we are more efficient in using our resources to enhance and protect water quality.

Background. In the Spring of 2012, the Executive Officer requested staff provide ideas on how our organization could operate more efficiently both internally and externally. Staff provided over 100 ideas that spanned the ten Improvement Categories listed below. Most of the comments focused on improving our internal workings. The ideas were further considered by small working groups at the All Staff Training held in both 2012 and 2013. At the March 2013 Board meeting, staff summarized progress to date including formation of an internal organizational improvement team and an All About Attitude committee, and recognized that additional work is to be completed in the coming years.

Goals

- Improve our organization by ensuring our processes are effective and streamlined.
- Recognize and cultivate the nexus between smooth internal processes and external success.
- Create, organize, and address a compendium of staff ideas (comments, concerns, suggestions) and establish a process for receiving new ideas.
- Disseminate the status of addressing concerns and implementing suggestions.
- Build professional capacity by providing ongoing training.
- Foster relationships which are more collaborative both externally and internally.

Improvement Categories



Accomplishments

- Implemented an online suggestion box so staff can submit ideas for improvement.
- Conducted regular monthly review of the suggestions by the management team and steps to implement viable ideas. The e-suggestion box is accessible for viewing by any staff to check on status of submitted ideas. Teams are often identified to address suggestions.
- Supported on-going staff training and workshops.
- Held a two-day, face-to-face, internal workshop on collaborative communication with all staff from the three office buildings
- Held supervisory and management training on improving hiring and supervisory skills.

Objectives

- Improve how we communicate both internally and externally
- Enhance professional performance by providing (1) focused technical workshops, (2) All Staff Trainings, and (3) training to improve staff development and communication.
- Improve storage and retrieval of records by continuing to convert to Electronic Content Management (paperless office).
- Revisit our priorities and accomplishments annually and present to Water Board
- Develop an internal structure for identifying needed internal policies or elevating policies that require State Board consideration.
- Organize and prioritize ideas to implement through work groups.

Unaddressed Work

- Web Improvement Team has identified several ideas to improve and update both our public and internal webpages.
- At Fall All Staff meeting several suggestions for protocols to improve communication were identified. Some ideas are for improved interpersonal communications, others relate to internal processes to complete work more efficiently and effectively.
- Improved organization of electronic documents and removal of duplicate files.