

**Water Quality
Control Plan**
for the
Lahontan Region



**State of California
Regional Water Quality Control Board
Lahontan Region**

WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE LAHONTAN REGION

NORTH AND SOUTH BASINS



Plan effective March 31, 1995, including amendments effective August 1995 through September 22, 2021.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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PREFACE

This *Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region* (Basin Plan) incorporates language from and replaces three earlier plans: the Lahontan Regional Board's 1975 North and South Lahontan Basin Plans, as amended through 1991, and the State Water Resources Control Board's 1980 *Lake Tahoe Basin Water Quality Plan*, as amended through 1989. The earlier plans were combined into a single plan which was adopted by the Lahontan Regional Board in November 1994 and which took effect upon approval by the California Office of Administrative Law in March 1995. The current Basin Plan also incorporates important provisions of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency's *Water Quality Management Plan for the Lake Tahoe Region*. This Basin Plan was prepared almost entirely by Regional Board staff, using an interdisciplinary approach (see List of Preparers, Appendix A).

The plan is in looseleaf format to facilitate future revisions. Amendments to date are listed on the "Record of Amendments" page near the front of the plan. Copies of this plan and of future amendments will be distributed to county libraries throughout the Lahontan Region, to the State Library, and to university libraries or water resources archives. The plan is available in electronic form through the Lahontan Regional Board's Internet homepage at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan> and future draft amendments will also be made available on the Internet. The plan can also be purchased in computer disk format. The Basin Plan and related documents may be examined at the Regional Board's offices during normal business hours.

Public participation is an important part of the Basin Plan update process. Responses to public comments are part of the administrative record. The Regional Board maintains and periodically updates mailing lists of persons, agencies, and organizations interested in receiving notices of public hearings and workshops for future Basin Plan amendments.

To be added to the Basin Plan mailing list, or for information on purchasing a paper or disk copy of the plan, contact either office of the Lahontan Regional Board.

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Record of Amendments to the 1995 Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region

Subject	Date Adopted by Regional Board	Regional Board Resolution No.	Date in Effect*
1. Amendments revising boundaries of and language related to Cady Springs septic system prohibition area in Lassen County, and making miscellaneous editorial changes.	4/21/95	6-95-54	8/14/95
2. Amendments including miscellaneous editorial changes, delegation of authority regarding Lake Tahoe and Truckee River watershed prohibition exemptions, revision of regionwide industrial waste discharge prohibition, and changes to beneficial uses of waters of Searles HA	7/12/00	6-00-66	5/3/02
3. Amendments removing the Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN) beneficial use designation from nine surface water bodies	7/12/00	6-00-67	4/29/02
4. Amendments adding introductory language for a new Section 4.13, and incorporating a sediment TMDL and implementation program for Heavenly Valley Creek	1/11/01	6-01-03	9/30/02
5. Amendments incorporating a phosphorus TMDL and implementation program for Indian Creek Reservoir	7/24/02	R6T-2002-0047	7/1/03
6. Amendments to Section 4.1 revising waste discharge prohibition criteria for the Mojave River Hydrologic Unit	9/10/03	R6V-2003-0049	3/24/04
7. Amendments removing the Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN) beneficial use designation from surface waters of Owens Lake	7/14/05	R6S-2005-0021	12/21/05

* Basin Plan amendments approved by the Regional Board do not take effect until approved by the State Water Resources Control Board and the California Office of Administrative Law. If an amendment involves adopting or revising a standard which relates to surface waters, it must also be approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) [40 CFR Section 131.21].

	Subject	Date Adopted by Regional Board	Regional Board Resolution No.	Date in Effect*
8.	Amendments to Chapters 4 and 5 clarifying waste discharge prohibitions	4/12/06	R6T-2006-0015	5/18/07
9.	Amendments incorporating a sediment TMDL and implementation plan for Squaw Creek	4/13/06	R6T-2006-0017	7/27/07
10.	Amendments to Chapter 3 replacing water quality objectives for Percent Sodium in the Carson and Walker River watersheds with new objectives for Sodium Adsorption Ratio	10/12/06	R6T-2006-0047	2008
11.	Amendments revising standards for surface waters downstream of Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 14 (Lancaster) wastewater discharge to Amargosa Creek in the Antelope Hydrologic Unit	11/29/07	R6T-2007-0036	9/4/09 by Office of Administrative Law (USEPA approval not required)
12.	Amendments incorporating a sediment TMDL and implementation plan for the Middle Truckee River watershed	5/14/08	R6T-2008-0019	9/16/09
13.	Amendments incorporating a sediment and nutrients TMDL and implementation plan for Lake Tahoe	11/16/10	R6T-2010-0058	8/16/11
14.	Amendment to replace the regionwide pesticide water quality objective with a regionwide waste discharge prohibition on pesticides with exemption criteria for aquatic pesticide applications	12/7/2011	R6T-2011-0102	9/6/2012 By Office of Administrative Law 9/10/2015 By USEPA

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Subject	Date Adopted by Regional Board	Regional Board Resolution No.	Date in Effect*
15. Amendments to clarify the antidegradation policy, adding mixing zones provisions, revising certain waste discharge prohibitions, and amending Chapter 5 – Water Quality Control Measures for the Lake Tahoe Basin	4/9/2014	R6T-2014-0027	10/1/2014 By Office of Administrative Law 9/10/2015 By USEPA
16. Amendments to remove Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN) beneficial use designation from ground waters within the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, Kern, Inyo, and San Bernardino Counties and amending Chapter 2 – Beneficial Uses	2/11/2016	R6V-2015-0005	1/14/2016 By Office of Administrative Law
17. Amendment to remove the prohibition on new pier construction in sensitive areas along the California side of Lake Tahoe	3/13/2019	R6T-2019-0010	10/29/2019 By Office of Administrative Law
18. Amendment to modify the beneficial uses for the Mojave River and its tributaries and other minor revisions	3/3/2019	R6T-2019-0246	3/3/2020 By Office of Administrative Law
19. Amendment to add definitions for three new beneficial uses: Tribal Traditional Culture (CUL), Tribal Subsistence Fishing (T-SUB), and Subsistence Fishing (SUB).	5/18/2021	R6T-2020-0057	9/22/2021 By Office of Administrative Law
20. Amendment to clarify beneficial use designations for the Mojave River, update Site Cleanup, Land Disposal and Bishop Underground Tank policy sections and other editorial revisions	6/8/2022	R6T-2022-0021	4/5/2023 By Office of Administrative Law

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