



# Media Release

## Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

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### Lahontan Water Board Accepts Lake Tahoe Nearshore Plan

#### For Immediate Release

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**South Lake Tahoe, CA** – The Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board announced that it has accepted at its Board meeting last night an updated plan to guide ongoing efforts to monitor, protect and improve nearshore conditions of Lake Tahoe.

“We are taking a proactive approach to understanding Lake Tahoe’s complex nearshore environment,” said Pete Pumphrey, Lahontan Water Board Chairman. “The key recommendations in this Plan will turn research findings into actions that improve water quality.”

The nearshore is the part of Lake Tahoe that residents and visitors interact with most. It extends from the shoreline out 350 feet into the lake, or to a depth of 69 feet, whichever is further.

The Lahontan Water Board has been working with agency and academic partners to better understand nearshore processes, track conditions, and evaluate whether management actions should be taken to address specific water quality issues. The Water Board’s efforts are organized around its recently updated [\*Nearshore Water Quality Protection Plan\*](#).

Nearshore algal growth is of particular public and agency concern, and the Lahontan Water Board continues to invest in targeted research and monitoring to learn about what drives algae conditions at Lake Tahoe.

The updated plan summarizes research to date and outlines future projects to further evaluate climate impacts, groundwater nutrient sources, and changes in the lake’s biology that influence when and where algae grows. The Lahontan Water Board has also invested in the first lake-wide aquatic plant survey and funded a comprehensive bacteria-monitoring project to ensure Lake Tahoe’s beaches are safe for public use.



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The Lahontan Water Board heard a staff presentation on the updated plan at its [March meeting](#) in South Lake Tahoe. This plan was last updated in 2014. The Lake Tahoe nearshore program is a [bi-state effort](#) between California and Nevada.

The Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board is a California state agency responsible for the preservation and enhancement of the quality of California's water resources in eastern California. For more information about the Lahontan Water Board visit its [website](#).

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