

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-0003**

APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE LAHONTON REGION TO REMOVE THE REGIONWIDE BACTERIA WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES AND INSERT DISCUSSION OF THE STATEWIDE REC-1 BACTERIA PROVISIONS

WHEREAS:

1. On June 28, 2023, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (Lahontan Water Board) adopted [Resolution No. R6T-2023-0025](#) with Enclosure, and amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region (Basin Plan) to remove the regionwide bacteria water quality objectives and insert discussion of the statewide REC-1 Bacteria Provisions.
2. The Amendment modifies the Basin Plan to remove the regionwide narrative water quality objective for coliform bacteria and remove the regionwide numeric water quality objective for fecal coliform in Chapter 3 (Water Quality Objectives) and Chapter 5 (Water Quality Standards and Control Measures for The Lake Tahoe Basin), and the fecal coliform water quality objective specific to the Susanville hydrologic unit in Chapter 3. The Amendment modifies the Basin Plan to remove reference to these water quality objectives in Chapter 2 (Present and Potential Beneficial Uses) and Chapter 4 (Implementation). The Amendment modifies the Basin Plan to insert reference to Part 3 of the Inland Surface Waters Enclosed Bays and Estuaries Plan, Bacteria Provisions, in Chapter 3 and Chapter 5 of the Basin Plan. The Amendment modifies the Basin Plan for the discussion of methods of analysis and sampling methods for the Bacteria Provisions, removing those applicable to the fecal coliform objective, in Chapters 3 and 5.
3. Pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.5, the Natural Resources Agency has approved the Water Board basin planning process as a “certified regulatory program” that adequately

satisfies the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq.) requirements for preparing environmental documents. (Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14, §15251, subd. (g); Cal. Code Regs. tit. 23, §3777.)

4. The Lahontan Water Board adopted the Basin Plan amendment pursuant to the “Necessity” standard of the Administrative Procedures Act, Government Code section 11353, subdivision (b).
5. The Lahontan Water Board found the Basin Plan amendment is consistent with the Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality of Waters in California (State Water Board [Resolution No. 68-16](#)), and the federal Antidegradation Policy (40 C.F.R. § 131.12), in that it does not allow degradation of water quality, but requires restoration of water quality and attainment of water quality standards.
6. The State Water Board finds that the Basin Plan amendment is in conformance with Water Code section 13240, which specifies that Regional Water Quality Control Boards may revise Basin Plans, and section 13242, which requires a program of implementation for achieving water quality objectives.
7. A Basin Plan amendment does not become effective until approved by the State Water Board and until the regulatory provisions are approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL). Changes to water quality standards must also receive approval from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Approves the Basin Plan amendment adopted under Lahontan Water Board Resolution No. R6T-2023-0025.

2. Authorizes and directs the Executive Director or designee to submit the Basin Plan amendment adopted under Lahontan Water Board Resolution No. R6T- 2023-0025, as approved, and the administrative record for this action to OAL and to the U.S. EPA for approval.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Clerk to the Board does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on January 17, 2024.

AYE: Chair E. Joaquin Esquivel
Vice Chair Dorene D'Adamo
Board Member Sean Maguire
Board Member Laurel Firestone
Board Member Nichole Morgan

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None



Courtney Tyler
Clerk to the Board