

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
LAHONTAN REGION**

**MEETING OF MARCH 12-13, 2014  
BARSTOW**

**ITEM:** 9

**SUBJECT: SALT AND NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLANS (SNMPs) –  
UPDATE ON STATUS AND A DISCUSSION OF  
PROCESSES FOR REVIEW OF THE SNMPs AND TO  
GRANT EXTENSIONS TO SUBMITTAL DEADLINE**

**CHRONOLOGY:**

- February 2009 Recycled Water Policy Adopted by the State Water Board; Policy includes the requirement that a SNMP is developed for every groundwater basin in the State by May 2014 (with a possible two year time extension)
- October 2011 Staff presented to the Regional Board a background of the Recycled Water Policy, SNMPs and RB6 Strategy along with an overview of the scope and schedule for the Antelope Valley SNMP
- January 2012 Staff presented to the Regional Board the scope and schedule for the Mojave SNMP
- March 2013 Executive Officer presented to the Regional Board an update on the status of the Region's SNMPs

**BACKGROUND:** The Recycled Water Policy establishes goals to manage a sustainable water supply through increased use of recycled water, enhanced stormwater management, and improved water conservation efforts. One of the key elements of the Policy is the requirement to develop a SNMP for every groundwater basin within California by May 2014. With demonstrated progress, an extension of two years may be granted by the Regional Board or its Executive Officer.

The development of the SNMP is to be driven, controlled, and funded by local stakeholders with participation by the Water Boards. The purpose of the SNMP is to evaluate the potential for salt and nutrient increases from all sources and to develop a management plan to protect groundwater from accumulating salts and nutrients at concentrations that would degrade the quality of groundwater and limit its

beneficial uses. Once developed, a SNMP could serve as a roadmap to manage salt and nutrient loading within a basin. As appropriate, the Water Board will incorporate all or parts of the various SNMPs into its Basin Plan.

State Water Board staff has identified ten groundwater basins in the Lahontan Region as priorities for development of SNMPs. The overall strategy in the Region is to work with its seven Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Groups to address the priority groundwater basins on a watershed scale for activities and stressors. Collaboration with the IRWMs is sensible as the overall IRWM framework provides a watershed-based approach for addressing water supply, water quality, flood control, land use, and environmental resource management. Basins not identified as priorities will be addressed in groups by IRWM Groups and/or Regional Board staff as appropriate and as resources allow. The status of the IRWM Groups in developing SNMPs for the ten priority basins is summarized in Enclosure 1.

To date, two IRWM Groups have presented to the Regional Board the scope and content of their SNMPs to get concurrence from the Board before continuing to develop the draft plans. Other IRWM Groups have requested this same opportunity.

Extensions to the May 2014 deadline for completion of the SNMPs will be necessary for all ten of the priority groundwater basins. Staff has developed a process for consideration of these time extensions. Staff has also developed a process for a team evaluation of draft SNMPs as they are submitted for review.

**DISCUSSION:**

Staff will present an update on the status of SNMP development for the priority basins in the Region, the proposed process for staff review of the SNMPs, and the proposed process to grant extensions to the submittal deadline. The Water Board will not be asked to take any formal action.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

No Action. This is an informational item only. The Water Board may provide direction to staff.

Enclosure	Item	Bates Number
1	Summary Table of SNMPs for Lahontan Region	9-5

# **ENCLOSURE 1**

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**Salt/Nutrient Management Planning**  
**Lahontan Region**  
**Status as of February 2014**

Stakeholder Group	Antelope Valley IRWM Group	Mojave IRWM Group	Tahoe Sierra IRWM Group	Inyo Mono IRWM Group	Indian Wells Valley Group (part of Inyo Mono IRWM)	Lahontan Basins IRWM Group	Fremont Basin IRWM Group
<b>Membership</b>	Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association, Palmdale Water District	Mojave Water Agency  (Note: some areas in Region 7 but Region 6 is lead)	South Tahoe Public Utility District	California Trout	Indian Wells Valley Cooperative Groundwater Management Team -- Indian Wells Valley Water District, Naval Air Weapons Station, Searles Valley Minerals, City of Ridgecrest, BLM, Inyokern CSD, Kern Co, Kern Co Water Agency, Eastern Kern Co Airport District	Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District	Department of Public Works, California City
<b>Lead Organization</b>	Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association	Mojave Water Agency	South Tahoe Public Utility District	California Trout	TBD - likely Indian Wells Valley Water District or City of Ridgecrest	Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District	Department of Public Works, California City
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<b>Basins Covered DWR 118 Bulletins</b>	6-44 Antelope Valley	6-40 Lower Mojave River Valley 6-41 Middle Mojave River Valley 6-42 Upper Mojave River Valley R7 basins Lucerne Valley, Johnson Valley, and Morongo	6-5 Tahoe Valley 6-5.01 Tahoe Valley South 6-5.02 Tahoe Valley West 6-5.03 Tahoe Valley North 6-67 Martis (Truckee Valley) 6-6 Carson Valley 6-108 Olympic Valley	6-12 Owens Valley	6-54 Indian Wells Valley	6-4 Honey Lake Valley	6-46 Fremont Valley, 6-45 Tehachapi Valley East
<b>What Group has Done to Date: (including significant milestones)</b>	• Salt/nutrient approach/concept presented to and accepted by Lahontan Regional Water Board October 2011 • Draft SNMP completed; CEQA document under preparation; Draft plan submitted. Regional Board staff comments provided. Final plan expected to be completed in 2014.	Salt/nutrient approach/concept presented to and accepted by Lahontan Regional Water Board January 2012 ; 2nd draft plan completed in Dec 2013. Final plan expected to be completed in 2014.	Update IRWM plan including SNMP component is underway with completion expected late in 2014.	Currently seeking funding to begin SNMP development for the other priority basins in the IRWM region.	• The Indian Wells Valley Cooperative Groundwater Management Team decided to develop its own SNMP as a subset of the Inyo Mono IRWM group's effort • A draft SNMP was submitted to Regional Board staff in Feb 2014.	Consultant began IRWM and SNM plans preparation in Jan 2014.	• Potential draft plan completed in Sept 2010 and currently under review by the Regional Board.