CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LAHONTAN REGION

MEETING OF NOVEMBER 4-5, 2015
BARSTOW

ITEM: **5**

SUBJECT: **EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

DISCUSSION: The Executive Officer's report includes the following:

ENCLOSURE:	ITEM:	BATES NUMBER:
1	Executive Officer's Written Report November	**5-5**
2	Standing Items	**5-25**
3	Notification of Spills	**5-29**
4	Notification of Closure of Underground Storage Tanks	**5-33**
5	Executive Officer's Written Report October including all enclosures	**5-37**

ENCLOSURE 1

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Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

November 2015

STATE AND REGIONAL

1. Bacteria Water Quality Objective Project - Semi-annual update

- Rich Booth

In the 2012 Triennial Review, one of the high priority Basin Planning projects was to determine whether bacteria site specific objectives were warranted. Staff presented a status report on the Bacteria Water Quality Objective (WQO) Project during the November 2014 Board meeting in Barstow and an Executive Officer's Report for the May 2015 Board meeting.

Our current standard applies to all water bodies and is the most stringent in the state at 20 fecal coliform per 100 milliliters. We have applied the standard equally to all beneficial uses since the standard isn't specifically linked to a particular beneficial use. The Board has supported staff's efforts to continue investigating bacteria concentrations and sources throughout our region. The Bacteria WQO Project is recommended to continue as a high priority project in the 2015 Triennial Review (Agenda Item #2 in the November 2015 Board meeting).

Bacteria information to State Board

Last year, staff completed a phase of bacteria data gathering and evaluation for waters throughout our region. These data confirmed staff's hypothesis that most of the surface waters of our region are of high quality and meet the current bacteria standard of the 30-day log mean of 20 fecal coliform per 100 milliliters. At the Board's request, these data and conclusions were transmitted to State Board along with support to maintain the high quality of the Lahontan Region's surface waters.

SNARL Bacteria Report

In March 2015, staff received a final report entitled "Assessment of Bacterial Water Quality in the Lahontan Region." Researchers at the Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Laboratory (SNARL), University of California, produced the report based on studies conducted from 2012 through 2014, under contract to the Lahontan Water Board.

Predictive modeling from the study suggested that if management measures are implemented to effectively address fecal inputs from livestock into streams, virtually all of the streams in the study

area (primarily Owens, Inyo, and Mono waterbodies) would meet the current 20 fecal coliform per 100 milliliter standard. The SNARL contract has been expanded to include other waterbodies in our region.

Future Considerations

Bacteria sampling efforts continue, but primarily for ambient water quality and for TMDL pathogen listing or de-listing purposes (e.g., Markleeville, Tallac, and Trout creeks). The next significant step in the Bacteria WQO Project is to determine our response to a potential State Board action that may require a state-wide bacteria standard of 100 (or 126) E. coli units per 100 milliliters (approximately equivalent to 85 or 110 fecal coliform) tied specifically to the REC-1 beneficial use (contact recreation like swimming).

Our staff continues to collaborate with State Board staff in their proposal. We are considering several options that would maintain our current standard (or its E. coli equivalent) at select water bodies while deferring to the anticipated statewide standard for other water bodies.

2. Climate Change Adaptation Update – *Douglas F. Smith*

The California Natural Resources Agency hosted a listening session on October 14, 2015, in Truckee to hear public comments on its draft plan, *Safeguarding California: Implementation Action Plans*. The draft plan, released for public review on October 9, 2015, presents the state's draft climate change adaptation activities organized into ten different sector-based implementation action plans: water, transportation, public health, forestry, energy, land use and community development, agriculture, oceans and coastal ecosystems, biodiversity and habitat, and emergency management.

The listening session was one of four held across the state to gather input on the draft plan. The California Governor's Office of Planning and Research and CalFire co-hosted the listening session with the Resources Agency. Staff from the Sierra Business Council's recently formed Sierra Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Partnership (Sierra CAMP) facilitated the workshop where approximately 30 people attended.

The Resources Agency emphasized that collaboration with the public is necessary for the plan to work. The executive summary in the draft report states,

> *"Climate disruption creates an unprecedented challenge that demands cooperation. While reducing greenhouse gas emissions will help California avoid the most harmful effects, we must also recognize that some impacts are now inevitable. Moving forward, we must come together to take meaningful action as we adapt to our changing reality. United, we can protect our homes, communities, and state, and continue to prosper."*

Following the Resources Agency's short presentation on the draft plan, several local representatives informed the audience of the efforts each has been implementing and planning. Water Board staff, Doug Smith, gave a brief recap of the input received at the Water Board's two climate change workshops and informed the audience of the three working groups the Water Board is forming to address floodplains and wetlands, infrastructure, and stormwater. The working groups will be reaching out for participation from agency representatives within the next few months to explore and prioritize

actionable goals. Other local presenters included the Town of Truckee Manager, Vice President of Public Relations at California Forestry Association, Legislative Coordinator at Sierra Nevada Conservancy, and the Manager of Sierra CAMP.

After all the presentations, the listening session opened up to receive comments from the public. A few common themes grew out of the comments voiced: the rural Sierra communities lack financial resources to plan and implement the needed adaptations; the forests are overstocked and are posing a significant fire risk; overstocked forests use water which could be saved if the trees were removed; and the rural communities need to be educated in the actions needed to combat climate change.

Public comments on the draft plan are due November 30, 2015. The draft plan can be accessed from this website: http://resources.ca.gov/climate/safeguarding/ and downloaded. The draft plan requires state agencies to report back by June 2016 on actions they are taking to make the plan a reality. The Lahontan Water Board is well underway on gathering public input and forming a plan for adapting to climate change. Expect to hear more updates as the three working groups begin reaching out locally.

3. Lahontan Water Board Guiding Principles –*Lauri Kemper*

At the March 2015 meeting, Board members discussed a list of Guiding Principles (enclosed) for the Lahontan Water Board. One member requested that Water Board staff be included in development of the Guiding Principles. Some minor suggestions and edits were offered by Board members and staff. Guiding Principles, as revised July 2015, are posted to the Water Board's website. When discussed later during a staff meeting, staff expressed support of the Water Board members' Guiding Principles and requested that staff also be able to develop its own guiding principles. Staff will be discussing and considering their own guiding principles at the upcoming all staff meeting at the end of October.

4. Salt and Nutrient Management Plans in the Lahontan Region – Semi-annual Update –*Cindy Wise*

The Board has requested regular updates on the progress of Salt and Nutrient Management Plan (SNMP) development. This item and the enclosed table summarize the status of the seven SNMP efforts underway in the Region and report on new information since my last status update to you in April 2015. These SNMP efforts focus on ten priority groundwater basins as determined by information in the State's Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment Program (GAMA.) Development of SNMPs by local stakeholders for every groundwater basin in the state by 2014 (with a possible two year time extension) is a requirement of the State's 2009 Recycled Water Policy. I have granted time extensions for the three SNMP groups (Antelope Valley, Indian Wells Valley, and Lahontan Basins) to provide them with additional time to prepare their plans.

The Antelope Valley SNMP was the first of the seven to be accepted by you in November 2014. We gave you a status update on the Mojave SNMP in June 2015; the draft final SNMP is scheduled to be considered by you at the November 2015 Board Meeting. I granted a second time extension request for the Indian Wells Valley SNMP and it is planned for completion by June 2016. Other SNMP

development is underway for the priority basins of Tahoe Valley, Martis Valley, Honey Lake Valley and Tehachapi Valley. These efforts are planned for completion in 2016. Currently, no SNMP development is underway for Owens Valley, a priority basin per GAMA. As resources allow, we will work with Owens Valley stakeholders to start a SNMP effort for the Owens Valley basin.

Thus, SNMPs have been or are being developed for 90 percent of the priority basins in the Region. The average percent of GAMA priority groundwater basins currently covered by completed or developing SNMPs across the state is also 90 percent.

Common challenges to SNMP development for all nine of the Regional Boards are incomplete, or lack of, monitoring well data and the absence of adequate participation in the process by local stakeholders. SNMP stakeholders are also interested in how the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requirements interface with SNMP development. SGMA was signed into law by the Governor in September 2014. Its overall purpose is for local agencies and stakeholders to coordinate groundwater basin management. It includes the requirement that local agencies manage their basins by forming Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs), then developing and implementing Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) or alternative plans. Thus, potential coordination of SNMPs and GSPs seems warranted as both types of plans have common goals of stakeholder involvement in groundwater protection and sustainable supply. State Board is planning a meeting with Regional Board staff early next year to share ideas about SNMP challenges and better coordination with SNMPs and GSPs.

5. State Water Board Adopts Resolution to Discontinue 5. 50 5. Discussion for Statewide Grazing Regulatory Action Project (GRAP) - *Douglas Cushman*

On September 16, 2015, the State Board adopted a resolution (enclosed) discontinuing the statewide GRAP and directing the Regional Boards to work collaboratively with individual property owners, livestock grazing operators, and other interested stakeholders to determine which actions, including regulatory actions and effective non-regulatory efforts for Best Management Practice (BMP) implementation, are best suited to protect water quality and the beneficial uses of waters from pollution.

The State Board based its decision largely on the regional differences in hydrology, topography, climate, and land use. In the resolution, the State Board directed the Regional Boards to consider prioritizing actions to address livestock grazing operations that cause or threaten impairment of water quality, and the Regional Boards should consider BMPs, where appropriate, and should consider establishing monitoring programs to evaluate the effectiveness of those BMPs. Finally, the resolution directed the Regional Boards to take actions they determine to be necessary to protect water quality and the beneficial uses of waters from pollution consistent with state and federal laws.

In its motion to adopt the resolution, the State Board directed its staff to work with academia and resource groups to update grazing BMPs and Ranch Management Plans and to report back to the Board in 12-16 months regarding the status of those efforts. State Water Board staff anticipates providing this update by January 2017.

6. Performance Targets Fiscal Year 14/15 – *Lauri Kemper*

The State Water Board anticipates releasing its web-based Performance Targets Report in late November 2015 highlighting accomplishments from Fiscal Year 14/15. The Report is designed to increase accountability and transparency by communicating to the public the Water Board's performance in protecting water quality. The Lahontan Region completed 326 inspections in FY 14/15, meeting or exceeding most of its targets (see table below). This table does not include the 47 inspections completed for 401 Certifications, and 3 Sanitary Sewer Overflow sites. Additionally, regular review of staff outputs has kept staff and managers informed in a timely manner allowing time to adjust workloads to complete target tasks. Considerable staff time was spent on enforcement matters and other permitting actions such as the issuance of 80 Water Quality Certification Orders, 10 Rescissions, 6 Adopted Orders and 3 NPDES Adopted Orders.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS COMPLETED

Region 6 (Lahontan)	**Facilities Regulated**	**Facilities Inspected**		
Program		Actual	Target	% Target
NPDES Major Individual	2	3	1	300%
NPDES Minor Individual	8	5	1	500%
NPDES Minor General Enrollees	10		0	
Stormwater Construction	319	88	66	133%
Stormwater Industrial	218	16	18	89%
Stormwater Municipal	5	4	5	80%
Waste Discharge to Land, Municipal Waste	90	44	42	105%
Waste Discharge to Land, Industrial Waste	0			
Waste Discharge to Land (All Other)	153	23	20	115%
Land Disposal Landfills	59	23	4	575%
Land Disposal All Other	36	28	12	233%
Timber Harvest	93	34	19	180%
Confined Animal Facilities	14	3	6	50%
All Other Programs	346			
TOTAL	1353	271		

NORTH

7. Leviathan Mine, Alpine County – *Chris Stetler*

Water Board staff continues coordinating with United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and Atlantic Richfield (AR) for the completion of current and proposed site work.

Settlement Agreement Activities:

Staff continued reviewing AR's 1st cost report for Remedial Investigations (RI) activities and Feasibility Studies (FS) activities. Staff also continued coordinating with State Water Board Division of Administrative Services (DAS) regarding cost report review procedures and responsibilities, and future funding for reviewing AR's subsequent quarterly cost reports. Water Board staff has until December 22, 2015 to dispute AR's claimed RI/FS costs in its 1st cost report.

Site Activities:

Water Board staff and contractors conducted the following site activities:

- The Water Board's pond water treatment contractor completed annual demobilization activities, including removing all non-permanent pond water treatment facilities, winterizing permanent facilities, and completing sludge sampling.
- Water Board staff conducted the 2015 year-end inspection of Water Board work areas with USEPA on October 9, 2015.
- Water Board staff assisted USEPA with its mine site tour for the Washoe Tribal Council on October 9, 2015.
- Water Board staff participated in the October 10, 2015 "Alpine Aspen Festival" sponsored by the Alpine Watershed Group and Friends of Hope Valley.

Review and Comment Activities:

Staff has reviewed or commented on the following documents/topics:

- Various USEPA and AR correspondence regarding proposed RI work (water quality and sediment characterization) in the vicinity of beaver dams and ponds on Leviathan Creek.
- Daily Field Reports by AR subcontractors for RI activities in the vicinity of beaver dams and ponds along Leviathan Creek.
- Proposed treatment of acidic drainage from the Channel Underdrain and Delta Seep by AR during the Limited Access Season (between October 1 and June 1).
- Proposed RI activities by AR at the River Ranch property (near the East Fork of the Carson River).
- Proposed RI activities by AR for the evaluation of an acidic pond adjacent to Leviathan Creek at the toe of the landslide.
- Draft Winter Mitigation and Communication Plan by USEPA.

8. Silver King Creek Paiute Cutthroat Trout Restoration Project Update, Alpine County - *Bruce Warden*

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) conducted the third consecutive annual late summer treatment of Silver King Creek with

rotenone the week of August 23-29, 2015, under the conditions of an NPDES permit. The rotenone treatment is to remove non-native fish (such as rainbow trout) from the creek prior to re-introduction of Paiute Cutthroat trout.

Water Board staff were present in the field during rotenone treatment to monitor for compliance with the NPDES permit requirements, and collected a total of ten water samples in the project area. All water samples were non-detect for rotenone at the lower project boundary. No purple color was observed at the two-mile downstream site, indicating that the permanganate neutralization station was successful. CDFW staff collected water samples according to permit monitoring and reporting program requirements and will submit a water quality monitoring report by November 1. 2015.

CDFW has been conducting the rotenone treatments in compliance with permit conditions and CDFW will determine if rotenone treatment will be needed next year.

9. Tahoe Science Conference
- Robert Larsen

The Tahoe Science Consortium hosted a three-day Tahoe Science Conference at the University of Nevada, Reno campus on September 21, 22, and 23, 2015. The conference theme – *Tahoe Science in the Changing Climate* –reflects current land management concerns and usefully framed the conference program. On the first day I participated in a plenary session to candidly discuss the role of science in past, present, and future decision making processes. I was joined by executives from partner agencies in the Tahoe basin including Jeff Marsolais (USFS Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit), Patrick Wright (California Tahoe Conservancy), Jim Lawrence (Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources), and Joanne Marchetta (Tahoe Regional Planning Agency). The executives collectively requested scientific research that is directly coordinated with agency needs to effectively guide complex policy-making decisions in the face of changing conditions.

Water Board staff attended sessions the following two days focused on "The Future of Environmental Restoration in The Lake Tahoe Basin" and on "Aquatic Ecosystem Science Informing Management Decisions". Assistant Executive Officer, Lauri Kemper participated in the aquatic ecosystem presentation, providing an overview of the Water Board's nearshore science and management actions. Other concurrent sessions explored forest ecology and fire, monitoring for extreme climate conditions, air quality, paleo climates, and drought, floods, and other climatic events.

A broad spectrum of Lake Tahoe resource management agency staff and academic researchers attended the conference. The Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act Funding has historically provided funding for the Tahoe Science Consortium, but those Act funds have been exhausted and new funding to support the Consortium has not been identified. While other entities may hold future gatherings similar to the Tahoe Science Conference, the Tahoe Science Consortium held its last Tahoe Science Conference.

10. State Board Workshop on Obtaining Prop 1 Funding for Stormwater Projects – *Tom Browne*

Staff attended a stormwater grant funding workshop Proposition 1 at the Orange County Water District in Fountain Valley on October 1, 2015, presented by staff from the State Water Board. The workshop was intended for cities, counties, non-profits, and their consultants on how to obtain funding for stormwater management funds, in particular, cities enrolled in the Phase II Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) permit (2013-0001-DWQ). As mentioned in the October 2015 report, staff have been working with Victorville, Apple Valley, Hesperia, and Barstow through the Mojave River Watershed Group on issues relating to compliance with the MS4 permit. State money in the form of dollar-for-dollar matching funds totaling $100 million came from the SB 985 Proposition 1 and implementation guidelines are spelled out in SB 985 (Pavley), which amends the Water Code to treat stormwater as a resource with multiple benefits, including groundwater recharge and river and reservoir augmentation. Of that $100 million, $20 million will be available for stormwater resource *planning*, and $80 million will be available for projects.

Grant rewards for stormwater resource *planning* and *project implementation* will be between $100,000 and $5 million per plan or project. A local agency must be able to come up with at least $100,000 from their own budget to get funding for their plan or for a given project, but if that local agency is a disadvantaged community, they can qualify for a reduced matching fraction.

The $20 million for planning will help cities prepare a stormwater management plan for their first time. Nearly all of the representatives in the room were from Region 4 (Los Angeles) or Region 8 (Santa Ana River), who already have a stormwater management plan in place. The Phase I Stormwater Program in larger cities and counties have more resources than the local agencies in Region 6 and have been working on their plans since the first MS4 permit Phase I requirements took effect. Hence, for the four small cities in our region, who don't yet have an integrated stormwater management plan, this will be the first task for which to apply for funds. The stormwater management plan must be coordinated with the Mojave River Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWP), which is authored by the Mojave Water Agency. Only cities that have a stormwater management plan will be eligible for the $80 million for project implementation. The Mojave Water Agency staff indicated it would likely take the lead to prepare a plan for the whole Mojave watershed.

State Board is still receiving comments on the draft funding guidelines and will release final guidelines on December 1 of this year. State Board Proposition 1 funds will be awarded in two phases, first in fiscal year 2015-2016 and again in fiscal year 2017-2018.

11. California City Development of Sewers and Septic System Plans - *Cephas Hurr*

Staff met with California City staff on September 22, 2015 regarding two topics: (1) City compliance with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding septic density criteria and (2) City's status on preparing their onsite system (septic system) Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) due May 13, 2016.

Septic density criteria — The Water Board and City entered into the MOU in 1989 to

implement the Basin Plan's septic criteria, particularly maximum density criteria of 2 equivalent dwelling units per acre. The City's MOU has a special requirement where the ½ acre density criteria are implemented on a zone basis rather than an individual lot or subdivision basis. This was because the City had subdivided land into lots with a density greater than 2 dwelling units per acre yet the lots were outside the sewage collection system service area. The City established 74 zones. When a zone reached an overall density of 2 equivalent dwelling units per acre, the City would extend the sewage collection system to serve that zone.

The City provided us with changes in density as a result of dwelling units added since the MOU was signed in 1989. According to the City, all zones still have densities less than 2 equivalent dwelling units per acre. There are three zones with an overall density between 80 percent and 90 percent of the MOU density criteria and three zones with an overall density between 70 percent and 80 percent of the MOU density criteria. These six zones are on the southwestern and northeastern portion of the City. All other zones have an overall density of less than 70 percent of the MOU density criteria.

The City stated that once a zone reaches an overall density of 2 dwelling units per acre, they may not, after consideration of available grants and loans, have the ability to finance extension of the sewage collection system to serve the zone. Instead, the City proposes to require new dwelling units to connect to the sewage collection system by using a grinder pump that discharges into a small diameter pressurized pipeline that does connect into the sewage collection system.

Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) - The City intends to prepare and implement their LAMP that will be separate from the County of Kern plan. The LAMP is due to the Water Board in May 2016. The City with consider coordinating the LAMP with the development of its regional Groundwater Sustainability Management Plan for the Fremont Valley.

12. El Nino Preparations in San Bernardino County

- Patrice Copeland

This winter is anticipated to be one of the worst El Nino storm events. In preparation for these storms, the County of San Bernardino Department of Public Works (County) held a multi-agency meeting on October 13, 2015. Agency staff in attendance included the County Sheriff's Department, County Fire Department, County Office of Emergency Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), and both Lahontan and Santa Ana Water Boards staff. During this meeting, the County presented a list of 38 critical flood control facilities that lack capacity due to sedimentation and vegetative growth, which increases the flood risk to the County's constituents, especially during the anticipated storm season. The County is requesting an emergency authorization from the permitting agencies present at the meeting in order to address these capacity needs by performing immediate preemptive clearing in the County's list of facilities to achieve a state of readiness in advance of the expected El Nino storms. Four of the 38 storm preparation projects are in the South Lahontan Region.

The County intends to request authorization to proceed under Regional General Permit 63 (RGP 63), which is a USACE permit authorizing repair and protection activities during emergency situations. The State Water Board has

pre-certified RGP 63 under section 401 of the Clean Water Act. Typically during an emergency, a Discharger would notify the USACE, and State and applicable Regional Water Board at least 48 hours prior to initiating emergency actions. Our agency requires that within three business days, the notification must be followed by submission of an Emergency Notification Form (Attachment D of the State Water Board's pre-certification of RGP-63), and the requisite fees (currently $200). However, the Water Boards do recognize that there may be situations where imminent threats to life or property occur, and a Discharger has not received a notice to proceed. During these situations, immediate actions may be taken provided that we are notified within one business day of the emergency, followed by the Emergency Notification Form submission and fees within three business days. This sentiment was echoed by all agency staff during the meeting.

One of the conditions that emergency actions must meet under RGP 63 is the definition of "emergency" and demonstrates an imminent threat to qualify for the certification. In addition, RGP 63 certification specifies that such emergency actions must satisfy one or more of the exemption criteria as defined by the CEQA Guidelines (Cal. Code of Regs., title 14, section 15269), and is limited only to sudden, unexpected emergency situations that 1) have occurred, or 2) have a high probability of occurring in the short term as a result of recently discovered factors or events not related to known or expected conditions. Additionally, the sudden, unexpected emergency situation must have the potential to result in an unacceptable hazard to life or a significant loss of property if corrective action is not undertaken within a time period less than the normal time needed to process an application under standard procedures (60 days after an application is deemed complete).

The County anticipates submission of their applications for the preemptive emergency work to all applicable agencies in three phases with Phase I beginning on October 19, 2015. Work is expected to begin immediately on October 22, 2015, to provide the necessary lead time to mobilize staff and the heavy equipment in order to accomplish all of the emergency activities within a reasonable time frame. Phase II and III applications are expected on October 28 and November 2, respectively. The schedule provided to agency staff during the meeting expects work on most projects to take days to weeks. Emergency work in the South Lahontan Region includes a total of four projects. USACE staff stated that they will be evaluating whether or not RGP 63 may be used for the requested purpose at this time. Should it be determined that RGP 63 cannot be used, Lahontan staff may be able to expedite work on any individual permit applications required for these projects.

13. Concern Regarding Schools at the Former George Air Force Base - *Todd Battey*

Water Board staff recently contacted the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), Cleanup Program Schools Evaluation & Brownfields Outreach Unit (Schools Unit) regarding possible pesticide contamination at two schools located at the former George Air Force Base in Victorville. The concern arose during staff's review of information from adjacent sites at the former GAFB (base).

Houses built at the base starting in 1961 had pesticides applied beneath and around the foundations for termite control, with additional applications of pesticide every few years. The pesticide dieldrin

has been detected just below the house foundations and in shallow soils around the foundations at concentrations above health-based screening levels. Dieldrin is also present in groundwater about 130 feet below the ground surface and this groundwater contamination is the focus of a Corrective Action Plan that is currently in review.

Two schools located across the street from the former housing area were built during the same time period as the former base houses and may have followed similar construction practices, which at the housing area included the application of pesticides. The two school properties were transferred to the Adelanto Unified School District in 1994. One of the schools is not currently occupied. The other school property is now leased by the School District to Excelsior Aviation, Medicine & Engineering Academy, a charter school for grades 7 to 12. Soils at the two school properties have not been tested for pesticides.

Water Board staff provided information to DTSC's Schools Unit in a September 30, 2015, letter because of the concern that the school properties have not been investigated to evaluate health risks from pesticides that may have been applied at the schools in the past. This information was referred to the Schools Unit because of their jurisdiction and expertise in matters of possible contamination at school sites. A representative of the DTSC Schools Unit contacted Water Board staff, in response to the letter and indicated they plan to pursue this issue, starting with a letter to the Adelanto School District and requesting a meeting. Water Board staff will continue to track this issue and will cooperate with DTSC and the Adelanto School District on any follow-up actions as appropriate.

Lahontan Water Board

Guiding Principles *(Revised July 2015)*

- Use available data and best science to assist in solution-oriented decision making.
- Build partnerships with stakeholders. Communicate and collaborate. Include affected parties in decision making.
- Provide technical assistance and education to regulated community and stakeholders, especially to disadvantaged communities.
- Address the highest priority water quality issues, such as protecting human health and ensuring safe drinking water, and the protection of all other beneficial uses of water.
- Train and empower Water Board staff in decision making.
- Apply appropriate regulation to achieve water quality protection, considering costs of compliance.
- Provide high quality customer service.

Salt/Nutrient Management Planning Progress Report

Region 6: Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

Date: October 15, 2015

Stakeholder Group	Membership	Lead Organization	Lead Group Contact	Basins Covered DWR 118 Bulletins	What Group has Done to Date: (including significant milestones)	Extension Status	Regional GW Monitoring Plan Development?	Approx. Date of SNMP Submittal to RWQCB	Approximate Date of SNMP Submittal for Peer Review	Economic Review	BPA expected as a result of this SNMP?	Is SNMP group collecting water quality data?	If collecting water quality data, where is it stored (GAMA, etc.)? Is the data publicly accessible?
Antelope Valley IRWM Group (Major)	Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association, Palmdale Water District	Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association	Matt Knudson (Palmdale Water District) (661) 947-4111x118 mknudson@palmdalewater.org	6-44 Antelope Valley	Salt/nutrient approach/concept presented to and accepted by Lahontan Regional Water Board. Time extension granted. Regional Board accepted completed SNMP in November 2014.	Time extension granted.	Regional Board accepted completed SNMP in November 2014 (included GW monitoring plan)	Submitted in November 2014	N/A as SNMP will not require a Basin Plan Amendment.	N/A as SNMP will not require a Basin Plan Amendment.	no	yes	Data is stored in GAMA and is publicly accessible.
Mojave IRWM Group (Major)	Mojave Water Agency (Note: some areas in Region 7 but Region 6 is lead)	Mojave Water Agency	Kirby Brill (760) 946-7008 kbrill@mojavewater.org	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	Salt/nutrient approach/concept presented to and accepted by Lahontan Regional Water Board. Status on SNMP development presented to the Regional Board at its June 2015 regular meeting. SNMP expected to be final and presented to the Regional Board in November 2015.		TBD	Nov-15	N/A as SNMP will not require a Basin Plan Amendment.	N/A as SNMP will not require a Basin Plan Amendment.	no	TBD	TBD
Tahoe Sierra IRWM Group (Major)	South Tahoe Public Utility District	South Tahoe Public Utility District	Lynn Nolan (530) 543-6215 lnolan@stpud.dst.ca.us	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	Part of IRWM (planning grant funds to update IRWM plan & includes SNMP plan development. SNMP development is underway with possible status presentation to the Regional Board in early 2016.		**TBD**	2016	N/A as SNMP is not expected to require a Basin Plan Amendment.	N/A as SNMP is not expected to require a Basin Plan Amendment.	N/A as SNMP is not expected to require a Basin Plan Amendment.	TBD	TBD
Inyo Mono IRWM Group (Major)	California Trout	California Trout	Mark Drew (760) 924-1008 mdrew@caltrout.org	6-12 Owens Valley	Part of IRWM; currently seeking funding to begin SNMP development.		TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Indian Wells Valley Group (part of Inyo Mono IRWM) (Major)	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	Indian Wells Valley Water District	Don Zbeda/Indian Wells Water Agency (760) 384-5555 don.zdeba@iwvwd.com	6-54 Indian Wells Valley	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. Time extension granted. A draft SNMP is under development with a possible status presentation to the Regional Board in 2016. A second time extension was granted until June 2016.	Time extension granted.		2016	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Lahontan Basins IRWM Group (Major)	Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District	Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District	Tim Keesey (530) 260-0934 info@honeylakevalleyrcd.us	6-4 Honey Lake Valley	• Part of IRWM (planning funds to update IRWM plan include SNMP). Time extension granted. SNMP development is underway with possible status presentation to the Regional Board in early 2016.	Time extension granted.		2016	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Fremont Basin IRWM Group (Major)	Department of Public Works, California City	Department of Public Works, California City	Michael Bevins (760) 373-7297 pwdir@californiacity.com	6-46 Fremont Valley; Tehachapi Valley East 6-45	• Potential draft plan completed and currently under review by the Regional Board. Possible status presentation to the Regional Board in early 2016.			2016	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 2015-0062

DISCONTINUATION OF DISCUSSIONS REGARDING A STATEWIDE GRAZING APPROACH AND DIRECT REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARDS TO DEVELOP REGIONAL APPROACHES

WHEREAS:

1. California contains more than 40 million acres of rangeland covering approximately 38 percent of the state's surface area, with approximately half in public, and half in private ownership.

2. Well-managed livestock grazing operations can provide benefits to the economy, California consumers, and the environment. Conversely, poorly-managed livestock grazing operations can cause water pollution and nuisance and impair the beneficial uses of water.

3. The nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards have different regulatory requirements to minimize the water quality impacts from livestock grazing, based on the unique hydrology, topography, climate, and land use in each region.

4. In 2014, the State and Regional Water Boards held public meetings to assess whether there could be improvements in efficiency and consistency by developing statewide standards for livestock grazing management, while recognizing regional differences. A wide range of valuable comments were submitted by stakeholders.

5. Existing non-regulatory efforts for implementation of best management practices (BMPs) were recognized as benefiting water quality, but were also acknowledged to need updating based on current information and evaluation for effectiveness with the assistance of all stakeholders, and the Regional Water Boards.

6. As part of this process, many commenters suggested that any livestock grazing management or regulatory strategy should take into consideration the regional differences in hydrology, topography, climate, and land use.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board therefore directs the following:

1. Discussions regarding a statewide approach to addressing the water quality impacts from livestock grazing are discontinued.

2. The Regional Water Boards should work collaboratively with individual property owners, livestock grazing operators, and other interested stakeholders to determine which actions, including regulatory actions and effective non-regulatory efforts for BMP implementation, are best suited to protect water quality and the beneficial uses of waters from pollution.

3. The Regional Water Boards should consider prioritizing actions to address livestock grazing operations that cause impairment, or have the likelihood to do so based on unique hydrology, topography, climate, and land use of that specific region.

4. After consideration of the unique hydrology, water quality impacts and cost of compliance, BMPs should be considered for use, where appropriate.

5. The Regional Water Boards should consider establishing monitoring requirements, including watershed-wide or regional monitoring programs, to assess the effectiveness of BMPs implemented under regulatory or non-regulatory actions.

6. The Regional Water Boards should take actions they determine to be necessary to protect water quality and the beneficial uses of waters from pollution consistent with state and federal laws. Actions may be regulatory or based on non-regulatory efforts for BMP implementation, or a combination of the two.

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 September 16, 2015.

AYE:	Vice Chair Frances Spivy-Weber Board Member Tam M. Doduc Board Member Steven Moore
NAY:	None
ABSENT:	Chair Felicia Marcus Board Member Dorene D'Adamo
ABSTAIN:	None

Jeanine Townsend

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board

Status of Actions for PG&E Hinkley Chromium Contamination October 2015

Enforcement

Proposed Cleanup and Abatement Order: On January 21, 2015, Water Board released for public comment a proposed Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO). The Water Board held public workshops in February and May to brainstorm ideas on potential consensus on issues raised during the earlier comment period. On July 8, the Water Board's Prosecution Team and PG&E released a redline-strikeout version of the CAO showing items where consensus on certain issues was reached. On September 1, the Water Board's Advisory Team released a draft CAO, which was discussed at a September 16 workshop during the Water Board meeting. The comment period on the draft CAO ended September 30.

The Water Board's advisors will review the comments received and made at the September 16 workshop and may make changes to the CAO. A new draft CAO will be made available by October 23 to be heard at the Water Boards' **November 4-5, 2015** meeting in Barstow. Note that this Board meeting date is one week earlier than normal due to Veteran's Day.

The September 1, 2015 draft CAO and public comments received on September 30 are available at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/water_issues/projects/pge/cao/.

Investigative and Reporting Orders

1. **Chromium Plume Boundary**: The 2nd quarter 2015 chromium plume map is posted on the Water Board website at: www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan, on the "PG&E Hinkley Chromium Cleanup" page, at the bottom of page. The 3rd quarter 2015 plume map is due at the end of October.
2. **Chromium Plume Containment:** In September, PG&E submitted a workplan proposing to continue hydraulic pilot test activities in the north area of the southern chromium plume. The purpose of the testing is to evaluate an alternate capture zone configuration south of the Desert View Dairy (DVD) for the chromium plume. This involves shutting down or reducing groundwater extraction north of the DVD and increased extraction south of the DVD to the railroad tracks. During the pilot test for winter 2015-16, PG&E is requesting relief from compliance with current capture metrics required in Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R6V-2008-0002A3. Water Board staff is still evaluating the workplan.
3. **Updated Draft Requirements for IRZs and Freshwater Injection System:** Water Board staff have written new draft requirements for PG&E's in-situ remediation zones (IRZs) and freshwater injection system. The new draft requirements set forth updated monitoring for these activities to incorporate the 2013 Environmental Impact Report monitoring and mitigation requirements, revise

groundwater monitoring for IRZs, set updated byproduct contingency thresholds, and remove redundant sampling. A 30-day public review and comment period ended on August 17, 2015. Comments received are currently being evaluated by Water Board staff. The Water Board's Executive Officer is expected to issue final requirements in late 2015, including responses to comments.

4. **Bioreactor Pilot Test:** PG&E's contractor continues to operate the bioreactor pilot test in the Central Area IRZ. The pilot test consists of two above-ground vessels (storage containers) in a fenced compound. Chromium contaminated groundwater is pumped into the first vessel where acetic acid (vinegar) and phosphoric acid are added to convert Cr6 to Cr3. Filters in the second vessel remove left over solid chromium, biomass, and byproducts, such as iron and manganese. Treated water is re-injected to groundwater in the IRZ area. Test results are expected in 2016.
5. **Agricultural Byproducts Study:** In July 2015, PG&E submitted a report assessing groundwater quality beneath agricultural treatment units (ATUs) for byproducts including total dissolved solids (TDS), uranium (U), and other radionuclides (gross alpha and gross beta). Data were presented for the Desert View Dairy, Ranch, Gorman North and South, Cottrell and Yang fields. A more limited dataset was also presented for the newly constructed southern ATUs (Community East and Fairview), located near the compressor station. The data indicates an association between current and/or historically farmed areas or dairy operations and levels of TDS, nitrate, U, and gross alpha above drinking water standards. Gross beta was not detected above its drinking water standard of 50 picocuries per liter. However, the report concludes that four quarters of data are not enough to determine the effects of recent remedial agricultural operations on receiving water quality, and proposes continued sampling for uranium byproducts on a semi-annually (twice yearly) basis. TDS and nitrate sampling will continue at the frequency required in the ATU WDRs and the accepted southern ATU monitoring plan. Water Board staff requested additional analysis from PG&E regarding water quality beneath the Desert View Dairy, and also required PG&E to submit a report proposing baseline levels of agricultural byproducts based on its existing data; this additional information has been submitted and is currently under review.

Status of Revised Chromium Background Study

US Geological Survey staff, led by Dr. Izbicki, continue timely progress on the background study. In the second quarter of 2015, significant field activities were completed as part of Task 4 (*Evaluation of local geological, hydrological, and geochemical conditions*). Much of the field work focused on the "western area", including collecting water quality and geophysical data from western area wells. Starting in third quarter 2015, planning, drilling, and well installation for six new monitoring wells near the Mojave River began. The new wells will help understand groundwater flow near the Mojave River. The project continues to move forward on schedule with a high-level of cooperation from all involved stakeholders. The next Technical Working Group meeting is scheduled for early November.

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ENCLOSURE 2

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CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LAHONTAN REGION

November 2015 STANDING ITEMS

The Water Board has requested that it be kept informed of the status of a number of issues. The following table lists the items, the reporting frequency and the dates the items are due.

ENTIRE BASIN		
ISSUE	**FREQUENCY**	**DUE DATE**
Lake Tahoe Nearshore	Semi-Annual	January 2016 July 2017
Status of Basin Plan Amendments	Semi-Annual	January 2016 July 2016
Status of Grants	Annually	March 2016
Caltrans Statewide General Permit/Tahoe Basin	Annually	July 2016
Tahoe Municipal Permit	Annually	July 2016
County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles - District No. 14	Annually	January 2016
County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles - District No. 20	Annually	January 2016
Status of Dairies	Semi-Annual	February 2016 September 2016
City of Barstow	Annually	September 2016
Pacific Gas & Electric Company	Each Southern Board Meeting	January 2016
Leviathan Mine	Semi-Annual	January 2016 July 2016
Salt & Nutrient Management Plans	Semi-Annual	November 2015 (EO Report Item 4) May 2016
Onsite Septic Tanks	Annually	June 2016
Bridgeport Grazing Waiver	Annually	June 2016
Bacteria Water Quality Objectives Project	Semi-Annual	November 2015 (EO Report Item 1) May 2016

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ENCLOSURE 3

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EO's Monthly Report
September 14, 2015 - October 15, 2015
Unauthorized Waste Discharges*

COUNTY: NEVADA

Discharger/Facility	Location	Basin	Regulated Facility?	Discharge Date	Discharge Volume	Description of Failure	Additional Details	Status
Big Rig /I80	Eastbound I80 west of Donner Lake interchange.	North	No	10/1/2015	100 gallons	Big rig roll over released 100 gallons diesel fuel onto paved surface.	Diesel fuel discharged to paved surface, drained to lined catch basin. No surface water affected.	Caltrans spill-response contractor contained and cleaned up spill.

COUNTY: SAN BERNARDINO

Discharger/Facility	Location	Basin	Regulated Facility?	Discharge Date	Discharge Volume	Description of Failure	Additional Details	Status
Victorville City/ Victorville SD CS	Manhole Number 143, 240 feet northwest of Happy Valley Lane and Royston Street	South	Yes	9/14/2015	11,000,000 gallons	Manhole blockage resulted in 11,000,000-gallon spill of raw sewage to drainage channel	Debris deposited into manhole by vandals caused raw sewage to spill from manhole into Turner Wash a tributary to Mojave River. Surface water body affected.	Unblocked manhole, spill cleaned up, 2000 gallons, returned to the system. Containment berms constructed in Turner Wash to contain spill.
Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority/Victor Valley Wastewater CS	Upper Narrows Pump Station, Desert Knolls Wash	South	Yes	9/18/2015	2,145 gallons	Equipment failure resulted in 2,145-gallon spill of raw sewage to Desert Knolls Wash tributary to Mojave River.	Emergency pump station #2 failure caused 2,145 gallons of raw sewage to spill from upstream metering station vault at Upper Narrows drainage channel. Surface water body affected (Mojave River).	Pump station repaired. Spill cleaned up, area disinfected.

*All discharges to surface waters are included in the report.
Discharges to land of less than 100 gallons are not included in the report.
Note: Spill report from 9/14/2015 were included for completeness.

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ENCLOSURE 4

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Summary of
No Further Action Required Letters Issued
September 16 - October 15, 2015
November 2015 EO Report

State of California
Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

The Executive Officer finds the release of petroleum products at the following sites poses a low threat to human health, safety, and the environment. Therefore, these cases were closed in accordance with the Water Quality Control Policy for Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closure (Resolution 2012-016). The Policy recognizes contaminant mass often remains after the investment of reasonable remedial effort and this mass may be difficult to remove regardless of the level of additional effort and resources invested. The establishment of the Policy is an effort to maximize the benefits to the people of the State of California through the judicious application of available resources.

Date Closure Issued	Site Name	Site Address	Case Number	Additional Information
September 28, 2015	Heartland Truck Stop	2250 West Main Street Barstow, San Bernardino County	6B3600474T	http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T0607100785
September 28, 2015	A&B Desert Truck Stop	2250 West Main Street Barstow, San Bernardino County	6B3601057T	http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T0607127838
September 28, 2015	Staub Energy Buk Plant	702-190 Johnstonville Road Susanville, Lassen County	T6S018	http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=SL0603506999
September 28, 2015	Lassen-Modoc Ranger Unit Headquarters	697-345 Highway 36 Susanville, Lassen County	6T0048A	http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T0603500009

Additional links:

General Policy information: http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/ust/lt_cls_plcy.shtml#policy081712

Copy of Policy: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2012/rs2012_0016atta.pdf

Implementation Plan http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2012/110612_6_final_ltcp%20imp%20plan.pdf

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ENCLOSURE 5

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Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

October 2015

NORTH

1. Leviathan Mine, Alpine County – *Hannah Schembri*

Water Board Staff continues coordinating with United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and Atlantic Richfield (AR) for the completion of current and proposed site work.

Settlement Agreement Activities

Staff is in the process of reviewing AR's first cost documentation submittal of Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) costs. The Water Board is responsible for paying 40 of RI/FS costs once the combined total of RI costs paid by AR after January 1, 2013 and FS costs paid by AR after January 1, 2014 exceeds $11 million.

Site Maintenance Activities

The Water Board's contractor continues to conduct routine site maintenance activities at Leviathan Mine involving site infrastructure and installing or maintaining temporary best management practices.

Review and Comment Activities

Staff has reviewed or commented on the following documents submitted by USEPA:

- On-Property Focused RI Work Plan Amendment 10, Revision 2 – Stream Sediment and Floodplain Soil Characterization in Beaver Dam/Pond Complex in On-Property Reach of Leviathan Creek and Transmittal of Final Amendment No. 10 – Revision 2
- Draft Final Reference Area FRI Work Plan and Technical Memorandum – Preliminary Investigations in Reference Study Areas
- Revised Data Quality Objectives for the On-Property and Reference Study Areas and Updated Cross-Reference Matrix Table
- Proposed RI/FS Schedule Administrative Order for RI/FS, CERCLA Docket No. 2008-18
- Rationale for Proposed 2015 Modifications to RI/FS Drilling Program
- Draft Technical Review of January 2015, East Fork Carson River Sediment Quality Triad Investigation and Response to Request for Sediment Quality Triad Memorandum

2. Lake Clarity Crediting Program Update – *Robert Larsen*

In July 2004 the Water Board received a United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Targeted Watershed Grant to evaluate market-based pollutant trading opportunities in the Lake Tahoe basin. The project paralleled the development of the Lake Tahoe TMDL, and ultimately provided an important method to link on-the-ground actions to quantified pollutant load reductions. The product, known as the Lake Clarity Crediting Program (Crediting Program), couples numeric modeling tools with field inspection methods to consistently account for activities taken to reduce pollutants in urban stormwater.

The 2011 NPDES stormwater permit relies on the Crediting Program to demonstrate compliance with the Lake Tahoe TMDL. The permit, which regulates runoff discharges from the City of South Lake Tahoe, El Dorado County, and Placer County, requires a ten percent fine sediment particle load reduction by the end of the permit term in 2016 and references the Crediting Program as the compliance assessment method.

Load reduction and condition assessment tools were developed independently, and initial users identified a number of possible enhancements to streamline administrative processes and improve the user experience. The identified stormwater tool improvement and integration opportunities were selected for funding through the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act in 2011. Contractors were hired in 2013, and following substantial stakeholder involvement the improvement project was completed in August 2015. This improvement and integration effort was paired with Crediting Program refinement work under the Lake Tahoe TMDL adaptive management effort, and shared with our partners on August 26, 2015.

The meeting highlighted the effective partnership between the Water Board, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, the consultant team, and the California and Nevada implementing agencies. El Dorado County and Nevada Department of Transportation representatives, acting on behalf of the implementing community, provided meaningful and productive feedback to guide the stormwater tool improvements and make decisions regarding project direction. The strong relationship between the representatives and the regulatory agencies provided for honest and productive dialogue that led to broad Crediting Program support.

In the coming months, local government partners will begin implementing the Crediting Program by registering water quality improvement actions into the online data base and setting expected conditions for roadways and treatment facilities. Water Board and permittee staff have also starting discussing the upcoming permit renewal, currently scheduled for late fall 2016. Staff will meet with elected officials, USEPA, and other stakeholders during permit development and will present an informational item to the Water Board in spring 2016 to review permit update status.

3. Status of PCE Groundwater Investigation, South Lake Tahoe, El Dorado County – *Lisa Dernbach*

The Water Board received $125,000 Cleanup and Abatement Account fund to conduct a tetrachloroethene or PCE groundwater investigation north of the 'Y' area in South Lake Tahoe. The contract is now in place. Staff is coordinating with the contractor to complete the workplan and implement the investigation, anticipated in late October.

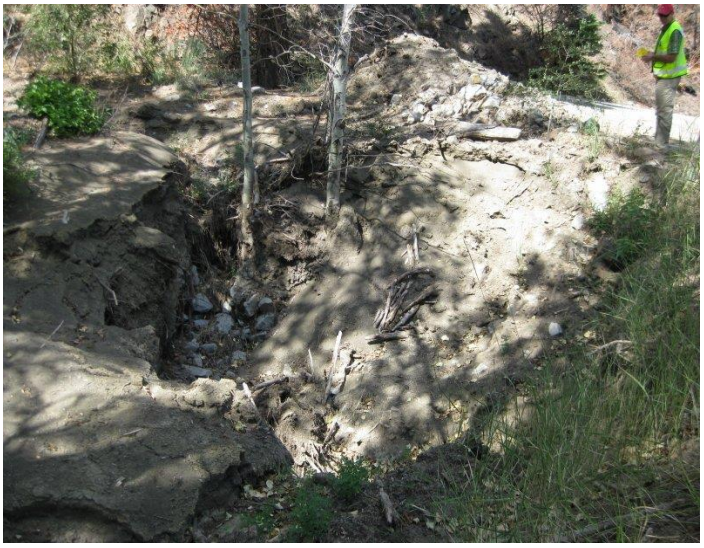
The investigation is expected to collect soil and groundwater samples from approximately 21 locations in the western portion of the city. Results of last year's private domestic well sampling have narrowed the area of likely PCE discharge(s) to a nine block area. Areas surrounding businesses that use or may have used the solvent will be targeted. Most sampling should occur along city street right-of-way. Where sampling on private property is needed to avoid boring along Highway 89 (Emerald Bay Road), letters requesting access will be issued to those property owners.

The Lukins Brother Water Company was able to meet water supply demands for nearly 1,000 customers this summer using a tie-in it has with the South Tahoe Public Utility District. However, costs for this water supply are high and Lukins has made getting its two affected municipal wells operating again, a priority. During this past summer, Lukins was able to obtain a grant from the Division of Drinking Water for pilot testing a wellhead treatment method for the two municipal wells affected by PCE. The results of pilot testing are expected to be released late fall.

4. Washington Fire Burn Area Emergency Response, Markleeville, Alpine County – *Brian Judge*

On June 19, 2015, a lightning strike caused the Washington Fire that spread rapidly for several days and burned roughly 18,000 acres of mixed vegetation types south and east of Markleeville. The Fire was 100 percent contained on July 31, 2015. Subsequent high intensity thunderstorms caused massive amounts of soil to erode, with significant discharge to Monitor Creek and the East Fork Carson River. Large debris flows in steep canyons caused road closures, clogged culverts, and new eroding watercourses all within the East Carson River Watershed and its tributaries.

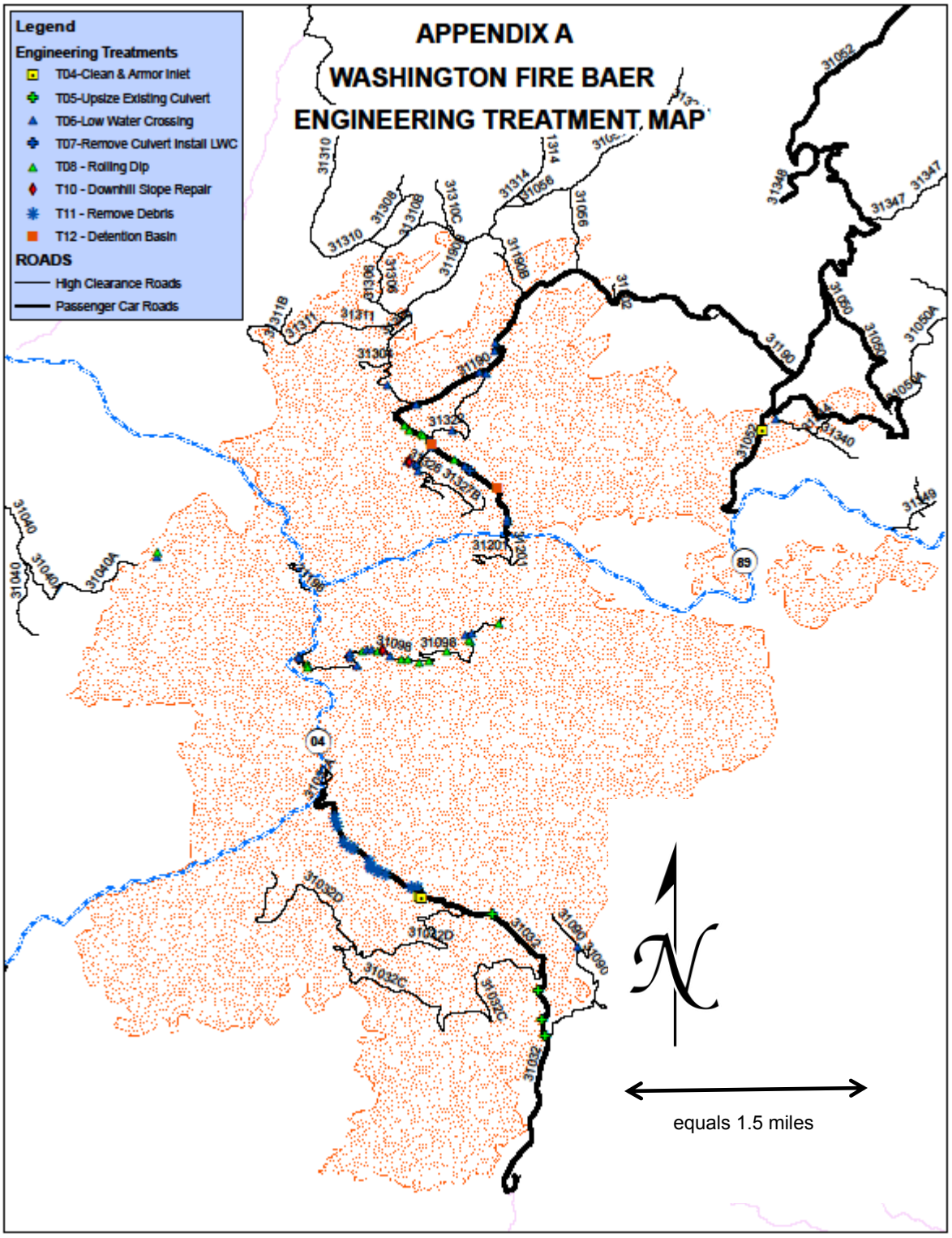
Caltrans has completed treatment along State Routes 4 and 89 that included removing debris, clearing culverts, and reestablishing road-side swales.



Culvert under Wolf Creek Road which was buried by the debris flow and subsequently caused flooding and erosion of the road bank and road shoulders

Accumulated debris along Wolf Creek Road piled in preparation for hauling

The Forest Service has prepared a BAER report that addresses forest visitor safety and water quality protection for the Washington fire area. Water Board staff reviewed the report, and visited the site on August 27, 2015. The fire resulted in a high risk to road infrastructure due to an increased threat of damage from flooding, debris flows, erosion and deposition. The Forest Service will protect water quality through construction of numerous surface stabilization and drainage improvements along existing Forest Service Roads (see map) that will reduce further erosion and water quality impacts associated with stormwater runoff. The treatments include armored low water ford crossings, rolling dips, detention basins, clear and armor culvert inlets, install larger culverts, and remove accumulated debris. The attached map shows areas of specific treatments prescribed for Forest Service roads within the burn area.


APPENDIX A
WASHINGTON FIRE BAER
ENGINEERING TREATMENT MAP
Legend
Engineering Treatments
T04-Clean & Armor Inlet
T05-Upsize Existing Culvert
T06-Low Water Crossing
T07-Remove Culvert Install LWC
T08 - Rolling Dip
T10 - Downhill Slope Repair
T11 - Remove Debris
T12 - Detention Basin
ROADS
High Clearance Roads
Passenger Car Roads
equals 1.5 miles

SOUTH

5. Ducommun Aerostructures – Interim Measures Cleanup Plan, El Mirage, San Bernardino County – *Thomas Browne*

Water Board staff attended a September 17, 2015 public meeting in El Mirage, hosted by the Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC). The purpose of the meeting was to announce the public comment period on the CEQA document for an Interim Measures Remediation Workplan (Workplan) to partially address groundwater contamination at Ducommun Aerostructures. The environmental document is available for public comment until October 4.

Ducommun manufactures aircraft parts for military and commercial use by a process of chemical milling. Parts made from aluminum, titanium, or steel alloys are spray-coated with a masking material and then dipped into large tanks of either sodium hydroxide (aluminum alloys) or mixed acids (titanium and steel alloys). The acids used have included hydrofluoric, hydrochloric, and nitric. Chemical milling of aircraft parts has been on-going since 1967 at this location. The Water Board and the DTSC are lead agencies overseeing cleanup.

The Water Board issued post-closure Waste Discharge Requirements in 1996 for the two closed waste impoundments a 1994 Cleanup and Abatement Order was issued to investigate the extent of contamination, perform a corrective action pilot study, and propose water quality protection standards for all constituents of concern. Later investigations found chlorinated solvents and chromium contamination coming from the processing building southeast of the impoundments. Elevated nitrate in groundwater is also present near the closed surface impoundments. With the DTSC as the lead agency for the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, most of the regulatory focus has been on containing the groundwater plume on site, removing chlorinated solvents in the vadose zone beneath the building, and investigating the extent of chlorinated solvent contamination off-site to the north. On two sides of the facility's former irrigated alfalfa fields are now dormant. An agricultural supply well located .33 of a mile north of the center of the chlorinated solvent plume was found this July to have trichloroethene at 2.7 ug/L; with a maximum concentration of 4.1 ug/L, seen since 2002.

The Workplan's latest revision dates back to 2007. The Workplan examines the geology of the site, describes the upper two groundwater zones, reports the lateral extent of contamination, compares the advantages and disadvantages of several in situ cleanup technologies, and recommends interim cleanup using hydraulic control and soil vapor extraction. The Workplan directs Ducommun to install one additional groundwater extraction well and continue groundwater extraction with

offsite disposal of extracted water. Nine new monitoring wells will be installed in the upper and lower groundwater zones. Bottled water deliveries will continue to two households to the east. Based on finding total chromium concentrations above the MCL (50 ug/L) in the wells in year 2000. It is not certain that elevated chromium levels are attributable to Ducommun. The El Mirage area is known to have naturally occurring total chromium above the MCL.

Both agencies and Ducommun acknowledge the need for further soil and groundwater investigations to establish the full nature and extent of contaminants at the site and develop and implement a final cleanup plan. As land uses have changed over time, the hydrogeological site conceptual model should be updated. The Workplan does not address remaining nitrate or fluoride contamination, and it does not ask for a feasibility study for in-situ groundwater remediation, which may be more cost-effective than plume containment by pumping. The survey for potential impacts to nearby private wells should be updated. Staff will work with the DTSC, the Phelan-Pinon Hills Community Service District, and Ducommun to ensure the effect of future groundwater pumping on the facility's contaminant plumes are understood.

6. **United States Fish and Wildlife Service Awards $16 Million in Grants to California, Including $1.3 Million to Acquire the Palisades Ranch in San Bernardino County** – *Jan M. Zimmerman*

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service announced the 2015 fiscal year awards for the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund (CESCF) on August 13, 2015. These grants are highly competitive and enable states to work with private landowners, conservation groups, and other government agencies to initiate conservation planning efforts and acquire and conserve habitat of threatened and endangered species. This year, $37.2 million in grants has been awarded to 20 states to support conservation planning and acquisition of vital habitat. Of that, $16 million was awarded to California for various projects across the state, including $1.3 million to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to fund the acquisition of the Palisades Ranch south of Helendale.

The Palisades Ranch encompasses approximately 2,000 acres, including nearly 3.5 miles of the Mojave River, and falls within a unique 15.2-mile stretch of the Mojave River where perennial water flows support a lush riparian ecosystem. Protection of these lands along this stretch of river is critical to at least 15 different federal- and state- listed species, including the federally endangered southwestern willow flycatcher and least Bell's vireo. Upland areas adjacent to the riparian habitat are

home to the federally threatened desert tortoise.

These acquisitions will maintain important habitat connectivity and support native species dispersal in the only major riparian habitat corridor in the western Mojave Desert region.

7. **Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Facilities, Owens Hydrologic Unit** – *Jan M. Zimmerman*

Water Board staff have been working with staff from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) towards development of a multi-year maintenance permit for their water conveyance facilities in the Owens Hydrologic Unit. As part of this process, LADWP is preparing an environmental document in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). In addition, LADWP is identifying facility locations, describing and categorizing "routine" maintenance activities, and developing mitigations to avoid and minimize impacts to environmental resources. The Water Board, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and other permitting agencies will use this CEQA document as the basis for taking a discretionary action. In the interim and until a long-term permit for maintenance is in place, staff continues to work with LADWP regarding their maintenance needs on a project-by-project basis.

LADWP manages several different types of waters (streams, canals, ditches, ponds, and reservoirs) in the Owens watershed, some are natural and others are man-made. These waters may be jurisdictional waters of the United States or waters of the state and are subject to regulation under Porter-Cologne and/or the Clean Water Act. Structures associated with these waters include measuring stations and flumes, intake and diversion structures, sand traps, spreading basins, spill gates, and culverts. LADWP's typical maintenance activities include excavation, clearing obstructions, reconstruction and replacement, and vegetation management to maintain water conveyance function.

To evaluate potential water quality effects associated with LADWP's activities, our staff has been observing demonstrations of various techniques for maintenance. On September 8, 2015, LADWP demonstrated vegetation management techniques in the Rawson Ponds and Rawson Canal in Bishop using two different boats, each equipped with a different cutting apparatus. The Harvester boat (scissor-type) cuts vegetation at or just below the water surface and is ideal for open water areas. The cut vegetation is drawn into and accumulates on the boat and is then transported to the shore for dewatering via a conveyor belt. The Swamp Devil boat (rotating-type) is smaller than the Harvester and best utilized in canals and shallower water. The Swamp Devil removes the majority of the vegetation by cutting and/or pulling the plants by the root-ball. The cut/pulled vegetation is then allowed to accumulate downstream and is removed from the water manually using an excavator or backhoe

equipped with a bucket strainer. Based on staff's observations, the benefits of the boats outweigh the short-term impacts, which appear to be a localized and temporary increase in turbidity. Staff intends to observe demonstrations of other techniques as the CEQA review progresses and as LADWP's maintenance needs allow.

8. Mojave River Watershed Group – *Jehiel Cass*

Staff meet periodically with the Mojave River Watershed Group, comprised of four Victor Valley entities (City of Hesperia, City of Victorville, Town of Apple Valley, and County of San Bernardino) covered under the statewide general Small MS4 (Separate Storm Sewer System) permit.

The Small MS4 permit requires receiving water monitoring to evaluate the effects of municipal stormwater runoff. An upstream sampling location was selected at the Mojave Forks Dam, southeast of Hesperia. Permission is sought from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for access to the sampling location. A downstream sampling location was selected at the Mojave Lower Narrows, northwest of Victorville. The group plans an October 2015 meeting with local architects, developers, engineers, and City staff to discuss high desert appropriate Low Impact Development practices and post-construction best management practices.

The group contracts with a consulting firm that conducts a public outreach program to local school assemblies, participates in local events, and maintains an active social media network.

Staff provided the group and the City of Barstow with the Proposition 1 grant funding guidelines and recommended they develop a Stormwater Resources Plan in order to request funding to address stormwater project needs.

Staff recommended to the California Stormwater Quality Association that the Cities of Barstow and Hesperia partner with the association which provides support in developing local ordinances to implement the Small MS4 permit under a Proposition 84 grant.

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Summary of
No Further Action Required Letters Issued
August 16 - September 15, 2015
October 2015 EO Report

State of California
Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

The Executive Officer finds the release of petroleum products at the following sites poses a low threat to human health, safety, and the environment. Therefore, these cases were closed in accordance with the Water Quality Control Policy for Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closure (Resolution 2012-016). The Policy recognizes contaminant mass often remains after the investment of reasonable remedial effort and this mass may be difficult to remove regardless of the level of additional effort and resources invested. The establishment of the Policy is an effort to maximize the benefits to the people of the State of California through the judicious application of available resources.

Date Closure Issued	Site Name	Site Address	Case Number	Additional Information
August 21, 2015	B-52 Market	3000 North Sierra Highway Rosamond, Kern County	6B1500996T	http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T0602999270
September 1, 2015	Chevron Service Station No. 9-0071	310 River Road Tahoe City, Placer County	6T0021A	http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T0606100320
August 31, 2015	Former Meadowbrook Dairy, Parcel 3	3890 El Mirage Road El Mirage, San Bernardino County	6B3620004T	http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T10000006094
September 3, 2015	Former Western Petroleum Bulk Plant	474-540 Commercial Road Susanville, Lassen County	T6S008	http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=SL0603561155
September 3, 2015	Former Shell Station	2425 Main Street Susanville, Lassen County	6T0260A	http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T0603500023
September 4, 2015	Private Residence	1502 North Street Susanville, Lassen County	T6S077	http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T10000006391
September 15, 2015	Former Black Gold Service Station	8157 Pearblossom Hwy East Littlerock, Los Angeles County	6B1900089T	http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T0603700235
September 15, 2015	CRM 76 Station	10041 Doner Pass Road Truckee, Nevada County	6T0406A	http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T10000007046

Additional links:

General Policy information: http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/ust/lt_cls_plcy.shtml#policy081712

Copy of Policy: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2012/rs2012_0016atta.pdf

Implementation Plan: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2012/110612_6_final_ltcp%20imp%20plan.pdf

EO's Monthly Report
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Unauthorized Waste Discharges*

COUNTY: LASSEN

Discharger/Facility	Location	Basin	Regulated Facility?	Discharge Date	Discharge Volume	Description of Failure	Additional Details	Status
Lassen County Road Dept.	Cottage Street and Hwy 36, Susanville	North	No	8/27/2015	250 gallons	Paint tote slid off truck resulting in 250-gallon discharge of water-based traffic paint to paved surface.	Paint tote tie down straps became loosened during transit allowing the tote to slide off the truck. No surface water affected.	The spill was contained, adsorbent applied, and spill was cleaned up.

COUNTY: NEVADA

Discharger/Facility	Location	Basin	Regulated Facility?	Discharge Date	Discharge Volume	Description of Failure	Additional Details	Status
Big Rig/I-80	Westbound I-80 at Overland Trail	North	No	9/8/2015	100 gallons	Big rig hit debris in the road on I-80 resulting in 100-gallon discharge of diesel fuel to paved surface.	No surface water affected.	Caltrans spill-response contractor applied adsorbent and clean up spill.

COUNTY: PLACER

Discharger/Facility	Location	Basin	Regulated Facility?	Discharge Date	Discharge Volume	Description of Failure	Additional Details	Status
Northstar Golf Course	Hole 12	North	No	9/1/2015	1 cup	Golf cart tipped over discharging less than 1 cup of battery acid to West Martis Creek.	Golfer attempted to cross West Martis Creek in golf cart. Golf cart tipped over releasing battery acid into West Martis Creek. Surface water affected.	Adsorbent booms deployed within the creek during the spill clean up.

*All discharges to surface waters are included in the report.
Discharges to land of less than 100 gallons are not included in the report.

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Unauthorized Waste Discharges*

COUNTY: SAN BERNARDINO

Discharger/Facility	Location	Basin	Regulated Facility?	Discharge Date	Discharge Volume	Description of Failure	Additional Details	Status
Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority/Victor Valley Wastewater CS	VVWRA Upper Narrows Temporary Pump Station Site#2	South	Yes	8/19/2015	1001 gallons	Sewer main blockage resulted in 1001-gallon raw sewage discharge to drainage channel.	Debris-Rags caused pumps to loose prime and 1001 gallons of sewage to spill from pump station wet well at Upper Narrows Effluent Site #2. Surface water body affected (Desert Knolls Wash).	Spill contained and wash cleaned up.
Lake Arrowhead Community Service/ Lake Arrowhead CSD/CS	27820 Greenway Dr., Lake Arrowhead	South	Yes	8/16/2015	100 gallons	Lateral line blockage resulted in 100-gallon raw sewage discharge to unpaved surface.	Root Intrusion in lateral line caused 100 gallons of sewage to spill from Lateral Clean Out (Public) at 27820 Greenway No surface water body affected.	Spill cleaned up, area disinfected.
Lake Arrowhead Community Service/ Lake Arrowhead CSD/CS	1026 Brentwood Dr., Lake Arrowhead	South	Yes	8/28/2015	500 gallons	Sewer main blockage resulted in 500-gallon raw sewage discharge to unpaved surface.	Root Intrusion in sewer main caused 500 gallons of sewage to spill from Manhole at 1026 Brentwood Dr to unpaved surface. No surface water body affected.	Spill cleaned up, area disinfected.
LUZ Solar Partners VIII and IX/SEGS 8&9 Three Surface Impoundments & Land Treatment Unit	4388 Harper Lake Rd, Hinkley	South	Yes	9/10/2015	100 gallons	Equipment failure resulted in the release of 100 gallons of heat transfer fluid to soil.	Failure of the double flex hose assembly resulted in the release of 100 gallons of heat transfer fluid to soil. No surface water affected.	Spill was contained, 20 yards of contaminated soil removed. Confirmation sampling results will be submitted.

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Discharges to land of less than 100 gallons are not included in the report.