

ATTACHMENT “F”

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

**WASTE DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS
AND
EXCEPTION CRITERIA
FOR PROJECTS WITHIN THE TRUCKEE RIVER HYDROLOGIC UNIT**

The *Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region* (Basin Plan) prohibits the discharge or threatened discharge, attributable to human activities, of solid or liquid waste¹ materials (including, but not limited to, soil, silt, clay, sand and other organic and earthen materials) to lands within the 100-year floodplain of the Truckee River or within the 100-year floodplain of any tributary² to the Truckee River. The Regional Board may grant exceptions to the prohibition for repair or replacement of existing structures provided that a loss of additional floodplain area or volume does not occur, and Best Management Practices and mitigation measures are used to minimize any potential soil erosion and/or surface runoff problems.

The Regional Board may also grant exceptions to the prohibition for the following types of new projects:

- (1) Projects solely intended to reduce or mitigate existing sources of erosion or water pollution, or to restore the functional value to previously disturbed floodplain areas.
- (2) Bridge abutments, approaches, or other essential transportation facilities identified in an approved county general plan.
- (3) Projects necessary to protect public health or safety, or to provide essential public services.
- (4) Projects necessary for public recreation.
- (5) Projects that will provide outdoor public recreation within portions of the 100-year flood plain that have been substantially altered by grading and/or filling activities which occurred prior to June 26, 1975.

¹ Waste includes earthen material placed in a water body or carried to waters by erosive forces. Construction activity involving ground disturbance within 100-year floodplain areas is generally considered to constitute a threat of discharge.

² Tributaries include: perennial surface waters (rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands) and ephemeral (seasonal) watercourses exhibiting evidence of the occurrence of flowing water, and having the potential to transport water and/or sediment to another water body, including, but not limited to, named and unnamed streams, wetlands, and lakes.

The Basin Plan allows an exception to the prohibitions for new projects only when the Regional Board makes all of the following findings:

- The project is included in one or more of the five categories listed above.
- There is no reasonable alternative to locating the project or portions of the project within the 100-year flood plain.
- The project, by its very nature, must be located within the 100-year flood plain. (The determination of whether a project, by its very nature, must be located in a 100-year flood plain shall not apply to projects in category (5), above, and shall be based on the type of project proposed, not the particular site proposed.)
- The project incorporates measures which will ensure that any erosion and surface runoff problems caused by the project are mitigated to levels of insignificance.
- The project will not individually or cumulatively with other projects, directly or indirectly, degrade water quality or impair beneficial uses of water.
- The project will not reduce the flood flow attenuation capacity, the surface flow treatment capacity, or the ground water flow treatment capacity from existing conditions. All 100-year flood plain areas and volumes lost as a result of the project must be completely mitigated by restoration of previously-disturbed floodplain within or as close as practical to the project site.³ The restored, new, or enlarged floodplain shall be of sufficient area and volume to more than compensate for the flood flow attenuation capacity, surface flow treatment capacity and ground water flow treatment capacity which are lost as a result of the project.

³ This finding will not be required for new projects necessary to protect public health and safety. For new projects necessary to provide essential public services, this finding will not be required when the Regional Board finds mitigation measures to be infeasible because the financial resources of the project proponent are severely limited.