

Table 4 – Draft 2018 Triennial Review Proposed Topics (Prioritized August 22, 2018) - Descriptions and Status (Updates since July workshop shown in ~~strikeout~~/underline).

Priority	Topic	Description	Status
1	Revise Water Quality Objectives for Bacteria	<p>The current objective of 20 colony forming units of fecal coliform per 100 ml in the Lahontan Basin Plan applies to all surface waters in the region and is the most stringent objective in the state of California.</p> <p>Water Board staff to propose recommendations to the Water Board following that consider <u>evaluation of ongoing field sampling in the Lahontan Region, and federal criteria for recreational waters, and the results of State Water Board efforts to develop a the</u> statewide objective for the REC-1 beneficial use <u>adopted by the State Water Board (Resolution 2018-00XX) on August 7, 2018, and other factors, as identified.</u></p>	Continued from 2015 Triennial Review List
2	Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategy Implementation	The Water Board is currently developing a Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategy that could include basin planning activities related to watershed resiliency, critical groundwater recharge areas, and floodplain areas. Water Board staff to review direction regarding basin planning activities provided by the Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategy, upon its adoption, and then develop appropriate course of action.	New project proposal

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3	Source Water Protection	There are multiple efforts to enhance source water protection at the state and regional level that Water Board staff continue to monitor, and in some situations, participate in. As these efforts continue to proceed, Water Board staff will identify potential basin planning activities necessary to further improve source water protection within the Lahontan Region. Such activities could include, but not be limited to, revising the Basin Plan to further encourage restoration and enhancement of headwater environments, and actions that facilitate implementing such activity (e.g., streamlined regulatory process for qualifying habitat restoration projects).	New project proposal
4	Protecting and Enhancing Watershed Resiliency (Riparian Protection Policy)	Revise Basin Plan to include specific implementation measures to protect all beneficial uses of ground and surface waters from the effects of hydromodification. Specific emphasis is needed on protecting desert surface waters, including measures to control or prevent excessive erosion of soft soils and subsequent down stream sediment deposition that adversely impacts aquatic and wildlife habitats. Staff will consider the effects of climate change that may produce more frequent and more severe flood events. Other enhancements could include improving meadows and floodplains to increase groundwater storage and improve flood attenuation.	Continued from 2015 Triennial Review List

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5	Mojave River Surface Water Beneficial Use Revisions	<p>The 2015 Triennial Review combined multiple projects into four Mojave River tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adding BIOL to specific reaches of the River • Re-evaluate COLD for portions of the River • Establish objective for the floodplain aquifer • Establish groundwater quality site specific objectives for certain Mojave sub-basins <p>This project combines the first three items. In addition, staff found while investigating BIOL that it is appropriate to also designate RARE at some Mojave sites. BIOL beneficial use will increase protection of the most important source of water and wildlife habitat in the high desert area. RARE will be applied to these sites where research shows the presence of listed species. COLD is proposed for removal where research shows it has never been an existing use and does not presently exist. Instead of establishing objectives for the floodplain aquifer, the project will clarify where to apply existing standards for that effluent dominated reach downstream of VVWRA operations and upstream of Barstow.</p>	<p>Continued from 2015 Triennial Review List.</p> <p>The project proposes to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add BIOL and RARE to specific reaches of the River and its tributaries • Develop a Use Attainability Analysis to remove COLD designation for portions of the River • Amend the Implementation chapter to clarify use of existing objectives for purposes of permitting in a portion of the river <p>The project is scheduled for Water Board consideration in May or June 2019.</p>

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<p>6</p>	<p>Site-Specific Water Quality Objectives for Mojave Ground Water Sub-basins</p>	<p>Interested parties, especially authors of Salt & Nutrient Management Plans required by State Water Board’s Recycled Water Policy, are assessing the assimilative capacity in portions of the Mojave groundwater basin for Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) and nitrogen. The Taste and Odor Threshold for drinking water is the Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level for TDS and is the current applicable Water Quality Objective (WQO). Where TDS and nitrogen concentrations exceed WQOs, or are projected to exceed WQOs, Water Board staff will evaluate whether more control measures are needed and/or whether it is appropriate to consider site-specific objectives for portions of the Mojave groundwater basin.</p> <p>Additionally, some stakeholders are interested in preserving higher quality groundwater and support development of more protective groundwater sub-basin objectives to limit discharges of TDS and nitrogen. (Perhaps using Region 8’s “Groundwater Management Zones” with “maximum benefit objectives” as a model for Region 6.) This project would focus on the Mojave groundwater Basin and sub-basins.</p> <p>Staff will use available data to evaluate groundwater quality, assimilative capacity, effects of climate change, and the ability to maintain higher quality waters for specific groundwater sub-basins. Staff will evaluate the data and recommend whether it is appropriate to set specific WQOs. The Resource Needs estimate does not include producing a basin plan amendment.</p>	<p>Continued from 2015 Triennial Review List.</p> <p>An initial examination of groundwater protection needs in the Mojave Basin and sub-basins was completed November 2017. Further investigation and analysis are ongoing and necessary to develop recommendations related to establishing groundwater quality site-specific objectives.</p>
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7	Remove the Prohibition on New Pier Construction in Fish Spawning Habitat at Lake Tahoe	<u>The prohibition on shoreline development in fish spawning habitat is a remnant of previous land use restrictions and the associated 208 Plan. Once TRPA amends its Code of Ordinances, the Water Board Basin Plan will be inconsistent with the updated regional land use regulation. With the pending amendment to TRPA's Code of Ordinances and a proposed amendment to the Water Board Basin Plan in place, new pier construction projects at Lake Tahoe will continue to receive sufficient review, oversight, and appropriate mitigation measures to ensure adequate fish habitat and water quality protection.</u>	<u>New project proposal</u> <u>This project is already underway. CEQA Scoping will be conducted at the September 2018 Water Board meeting. The project is on schedule for Water Board consideration at the January 2019 Board meeting.</u>
8	Revise Chapter 3 Language on Determining Compliance with Water Quality Objectives currently expressed as "means of monthly means" to "annual means". (Means of Monthly Means)	The proposed revisions would change water quality objectives expressed as "means of monthly means" to annual means and define minimum sample numbers and sampling frequencies for determining compliance with objectives. This could avoid the need for new Clean Water Act Section 303(d) listings based on very small sample numbers, and facilitate delisting.	Continued from 2015 Triennial Review List

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9	Tribal Beneficial Uses	Add the Tribal Cultural, Tribal Subsistence Fishing, and Subsistence Fishing beneficial uses (CUL, T-SUB, SUB) to the Basin Plan. These beneficial uses were created by State Water Board with the adoption of mercury objectives. State Water Board Resolution No. 2017-0027 provides guidance to the Regional Boards for incorporating these beneficial uses into the Basin Plan. Designating these beneficial uses would require the Water Board to conduct outreach to California recognized tribal governments to determine waterbodies to designate, supported by appropriate evidence or tribal claims. Additionally, the Water Board would conduct outreach to appropriate organizations (counties, DFW, etc.) about non-tribal subsistence fishing activities and determine waterbodies to designate with this beneficial use.	New project proposal
10	Review New Scientific Information to Evaluate the Need for Changes to the Water Quality Objectives for Nearshore Areas of Lake Tahoe	<p><u>Evaluate research findings, including the effects of climate change, and begin collecting data to establish baseline and assess trends using agreed upon nearshore assessment indicators as a first step to evaluating the need for new nearshore water quality standards and determining the most appropriate standards.</u></p> <p><u>Activities include staff evaluation of research findings, interagency coordination, public meetings, stakeholder outreach, and contract management (including developing scopes of work for indicator monitoring, causal assessments, and understanding nearshore processes).</u></p>	<p><u>Continued from 2015 Triennial Review List.</u></p> <p><u>No basin planning work is anticipated for the 2018 Triennial Review cycle.</u></p>

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11	Biological Indicators	<p>Develop narrative and/or numeric biological objectives (i.e., biocriteria) to protect the biological integrity of the Region’s surface waters. This may include development of new objectives, applying a California Stream Condition Inventory score (CSCI), and/or revising and/or expanding the applicability of the Basin Plan’s current narrative objectives for “Nondegradation of Aquatic Communities and Populations” (which currently apply only to wetlands).</p> <p>The State Water Board has an active project entitled the Biostimulatory Substances Objective and Program to Implement Biological Integrity which, in part, seeks to establish biological indicators for use statewide. The San Diego Regional Water Board is developing biological indicators for that region, which may be instructional for developing region specific biological indicators in the Lahontan Region. SWAMP staff is currently adding to the bioassessment monitoring library of the Lahontan Region.</p>	Continued from 2015 Triennial Review List

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12	Region-Wide Approach to TDS Water Quality Objectives for Surface Waters	<p>Site specific TDS objectives for surface water were developed based on limited samples and protect/maintain high quality water but are typically more stringent than needed to protect beneficial uses. Development of the original TDS objectives did not consider the effects of a changing climate on water quality objectives (WQOs).</p> <p>Two possible options are proposed:</p> <p>(A) Adopt a regionwide TDS WQO that would supersede the existing site specific objectives.</p> <p>(B) Adopt new site specific objectives for TDS that are based on protection of beneficial uses, and adopt a more stringent value, if applicable that is based on new data, for maintaining high quality water.</p>	Continued from 2015 Triennial Review List

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13	Susan River Site-Specific Objectives	<p>Develop revised objectives for sections of the Susan River and its tributaries downstream of Susanville’s Community Services District (District). The WQO for TDS is 185 mg/L and is not associated with any beneficial use at Litchfield. Altering the numeric objective of TDS and other constituents could still be protective of beneficial uses (Drinking water standard for TDS is 500 to 1,000mg/L).</p> <p>Staff will need to involve the District, current downstream agricultural users, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife in evaluating alternatives including: site specific objectives, increased treatment, increased land disposal capacity, conducting Use Attainability Analysis and removing uses, establishing or ensuring minimum flows in Susan River and its tributaries in light of possible effects from climate change.</p>	Continued from 2015 Triennial Review List
14	Evaluate Revising TDS and Sulfate Water Quality Objectives for Leviathan and Bryant Creeks	<p><u>Water quality standards consist of water quality objectives, beneficial uses, and non-degradation. This project will evaluate current water quality objectives for sulfate and TDS in Leviathan and Bryant creeks to determine if existing objectives are appropriate for the sites. The project will evaluate the objectives in consultation with the USEPA, Atlantic Richfield Company, and interested parties/stakeholders within the context of CERCLA.</u></p>	<u>New project proposal</u>
15	Revise Hot Creek Water Quality Objectives	<p>Develop revised objectives for Hot Creek (Owens River HU) based on changes in water quality related to increased constituent levels emanating from the natural groundwater flows entering the creek. This effort would assist the Department of Fish and Wildlife in complying with its permit requirements for the Hot Creek Hatchery.</p>	Continued from 2015 Triennial Review List

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16	Adopt or Revise Site-Specific Water Quality Objectives for Fish Springs in the Owens Valley to Facilitate NPDES Permitting for a State Fish Hatchery.	The Department of Fish and Wildlife operates Fish Springs hatchery in the Owens Valley where source water is groundwater and the discharge from the hatchery forms Fish Springs Creek. The Basin Plan currently has an objective for Fish Springs Creek above the hatchery; however, water no longer exists at that location. Water Board proposes removing this objective from the Basin Plan and setting an objective for Fish Springs Creek below the hatchery. This effort may involve gathering additional water quality information	Continued from 2015 Triennial Review List
17	Evaluate New or Revised Section 304(a) Recommended Criteria for Incorporation into the Basin Plan as Water Quality Objectives	Revisions to the federal Water Quality Standards (WQS) regulations at 40 C.F.R. Part 131 direct states and authorized tribes to consider for adoption as water quality objectives, new or updated CWA section 304(a) water quality criteria recommendations published by the USEPA since May 30, 2000 during their next triennial review.	New project proposal
18	Instream Flow Criteria	The Water Board has the authority to regulate minimum flows to protect beneficial uses. In November 2017, the Water Board hosted a workshop with presentations from Region 1 staff and State Water Board Cannabis Unit staff discussing the development and use of instream flow criteria. State Water Board staff indicated that draft language would be ready for public distribution some time in 2019 or 2020. This project would prioritize staff to engage with the State Water Board efforts and consider developing general (likely narrative) or site-specific flow criteria. This project may also be influenced by the Lahontan Water Board's Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategy.	Continued from 2015 Triennial Review List

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19	Biotic Ligand Model for Copper	Incorporate the USEPA national criteria for copper into water quality standards program using the Biotic Ligand Model.	Continued from 2015 Triennial Review List
20	Eagle Lake “Building Moratorium”	Amend the Basin Plan to lessen restrictions on building density for septic systems. This topic may be addressed by incorporating State Water Board’s new Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems Policy.	Continued from 2015 Triennial Review List
21	Clarify Lahontan Water Board Policy on Package Plants	<p>The current Basin Plan indicates all package plants will be regulated under Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs). Los Angeles County (and potentially other counties and local municipalities) believes small aerated package plants are considered “alternative” systems and are authorized under their local authority and do not require additional authorization from the Water Board.</p> <p>Clarification on the applicability and specific authorization is necessary and may result in a Basin Plan amendment, clarification memo, or through Water Board approvals of Local Area Management Plans</p>	Continued from 2015 Triennial Review List
22	Revise PCPs Water Quality Objectives	The USEPA recommends a revision of water quality objectives for pentachlorophenol (PCPs), where appropriate. The USEPA believes existing objectives are not sufficiently protective of early life stages of salmonids.	Continued from 2015 Triennial Review List
23	Remove Two Beneficial Uses from Piute Ponds Wetlands	This topic would involve removal of Groundwater Recharge (GWR) and Agricultural Supply (AGR) beneficial uses from the Piute (also known as Paiute) Ponds and wetlands in the Amargosa Creek watershed eastern Los Angeles County. The ponds and wetlands are maintained with effluent from the Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 14 (Lancaster) wastewater treatment facilities.	Continued from 2015 Triennial Review List

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24	Editorial Revisions, Factual Corrections, and Incorporation of Adopted State Water Board Policies	<p>Miscellaneous corrections and improvements, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correcting the incorrect square mile number for the size of the region • Features that are in the wrong watershed • Consistent use of terms • Correct references to new policies and plans <p>Consider a format change from two to one column of text, similar to Region 5. Some of these actions may be incorporated into larger amendments for purposes of resource efficiency.</p>	Continued from 2015 Triennial Review List
25	Program Manager	The Basin Planning Program Manager participates in State/Regional Water Board Roundtable activities, and workplan development, provides information to the public, etc.	The Program Manager's duties are ongoing.
26	2021 Triennial Review	Prepare the 2021 Triennial Review staff report and priority list. Host scoping meetings and hearings, as necessary, for Water Board consideration.	To complete in November 2021
27	Miscellaneous Work that will not Directly Result in Basin Plan Amendments	Staff resources are needed for work such as: coordination with other states, other agencies, and Native American tribes regarding water quality standards; development and management of contracts related to planning; staff training, coordination with stakeholders involved with aquatic invasive species, etc.	Miscellaneous planning related work is ongoing.