

Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet FY 2016-2017

Timber Harvest

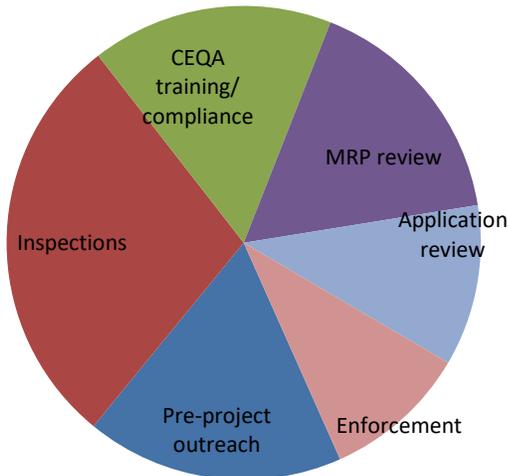
Overview

The Region's Timber Harvest Program resources are 2.5 PY from the State General Fund and the program uses a conditional waiver (Timber Waiver) to implement the State of CA Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program. The Timber Waiver applies to vegetation management projects that range from homeowner defensible space operations to local Fire Protection Districts' community protection plans, to large Wildland Urban Interface projects proposed by the CA Dept. of Parks and Recreation, the BLM, and the USFS. Commercial timber harvest conducted by small landowners, industrial timber companies, and the USFS are also covered under Timber Waiver categories. For commercial logging projects the State of CA has developed a Review Team process that involves the Water Boards, the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife, the CA Department of Conservation, and CalFire. The Review Team process satisfies the California Environmental Quality Act requirements, and CalFire is the lead agency.

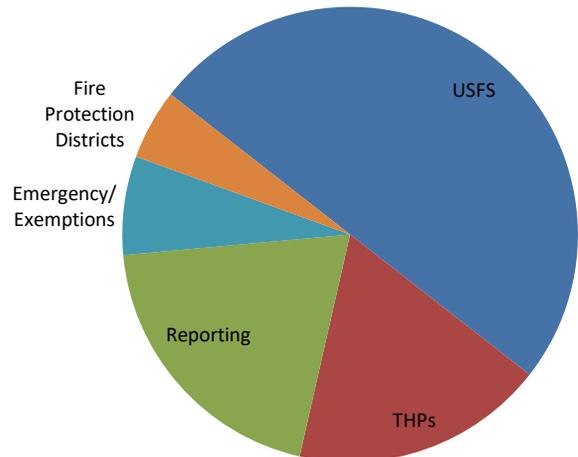
Key Efforts

Review applications to ensure proposed projects meet requirements of the Timber Waiver.
Conduct inspections of projects once harvesting has commenced.
Identify potential water quality problems and request corrective actions.
Review and track monitoring reports.

Staff Activities



Types



Accomplishments

Timber Waiver - Staff assisted approximately 25 applicants with planning, resolving technical challenges, and completing the Timber Waiver application. Through increased communication, staff increased compliance with the Timber Waiver.

Lake Tahoe Basin - Staff worked closely with the USFS Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) to ensure that the LTBMU's fourth annual operations plan for the South Shore Fuel Reduction Project met the Waste Discharge Requirements. During the 2016 field season, approximately 1054 acres were thinned by hand crews and 276 acres were mechanically treated. Staff participated in the interagency Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership initiative to restore and maintain the resilience of the forests, watersheds, recreational opportunities, and communities on Lake Tahoe's western shore.

Inyo and Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forests-Staff worked with USFS to review and guide herbicide use for control of invasive plants.

Lassen National Forest-The Lahontan Water Board is the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) lead for the Pine Creek Restoration Project near Eagle Lake on the Lassen National Forest. The project includes removal of old road and railroad grades that disturb the natural function of Pine Creek, removal of stock ponds from stream channels, and removal of timber encroaching on meadow and aspen habitat.

Statewide-Staff coordinated with CA Resources Agency (CalFire, CA Dept. Fish and Wildlife, CA Geological Survey) in implementing the requirements of AB 1492, the Timber Regulation and Restoration Program. Staff hosted a state wide workshop of State and Regional Water Board staff to foster team building and develop a consistent regulatory approach for timber harvest and forest management activities. Staff assisted in developing guidelines for ranking projects to receive Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Program grant funding. Staff participated in tree mortality task groups.

Performance targets for FY 2015-2016

	<u>Target</u>	<u>Completed</u>
Timber Harvest Inspections	25	26

Performance targets for FY 2016-2017 – Progress to date

	<u>Target</u>	<u>Completed</u>
Timber Harvest Inspections	20	21

Unaddressed Work

- Participation in collaborative efforts such as the Tahoe West Project and other forest initiatives is limited and does not meet stakeholder expectations.