

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

**MEETING OF MARCH 13-14, 2019  
SOUTH LAKE TAHOE**

**ITEM 11**

**DISCUSSION OF LAHONTAN WATER BOARD PRIORITIES AND  
ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**\*\*Please replace the following 8 Program Fact Sheets that were missing percentages in the pie charts.**

<b>ENCLOSURE</b>		<b>BATE STAMP</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Timber Harvest</b>	<b>11 - 25</b>
	<b>Basin Planning</b>	<b>11 - 31</b>
	<b>Cannabis</b>	<b>11 - 33</b>
	<b>Department of Defense</b>	<b>11 - 35</b>
	<b>Nonpoint Source Pollution Control</b>	<b>11 - 45</b>
	<b>Site Cleanup</b>	<b>11 - 47</b>
	<b>Storm Water</b>	<b>11 - 49</b>
	<b>Total Maximum Daily Load</b>	<b>11 - 53</b>



# Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet FY 2018-2019

## *Timber Harvest*

### Overview

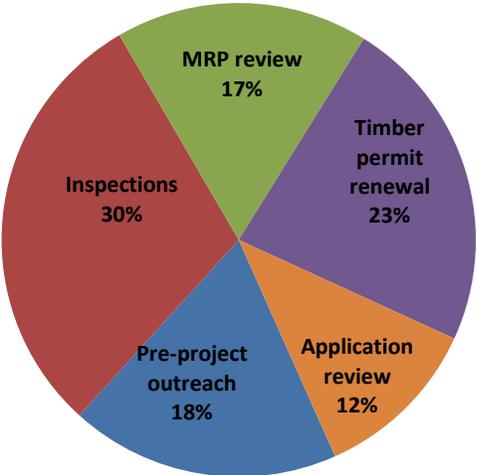
The Region’s Timber Harvest Program resources are 3.5 PY from the State General Fund and the State’s lumber product assessment fund. The program uses a conditional waiver (2014 Timber Waiver) to implement the Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program. The 2014 Timber Waiver applies to vegetation management 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 California Department 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 2014 Timber Waiver categories.

For commercial logging projects, the State has developed a Review Team process that involves the Water Boards, the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), the CA Geological Survey (CGS), and CalFire. The Review Team process satisfies the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements with CalFire as the lead agency.

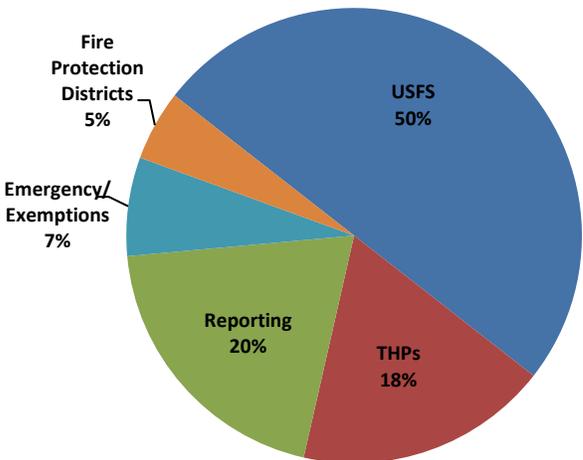
### Key Efforts

- Review proposed projects to ensure compliance with 2014 Timber Waiver requirements.
- Conduct inspections of active and completed harvesting projects.
- Identify potential or existing water quality problems and request corrective actions.
- Review and track Timber Waiver monitoring reports.
- Provide outreach to entities with projects in the planning phase.

### Staff Activities



### Types



## Accomplishments

**Timber Waiver Outreach and Renewal Efforts** - Staff coordinated with Cal Fire, TRPA, USFS LTBMU, California Tahoe Conservancy, Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team, timber industry representatives, and other stakeholders regarding planned renewal of the expiring 2014 Timber Waiver. Renewing the 2014 Timber Waiver will provide staff time to develop a revised timber harvest and vegetation management regulatory strategy and conduct broad stakeholder outreach, especially with statewide focus on wildfire prevention.

**Lake Tahoe Basin** - Under the USFS LTBMU's South Shore Fuel Reduction Project, during the 2018 field season, the LTBMU thinned by hand crews approximately 217 acres and mechanically treated 167 acres. Staff also worked with the LTBMU on the Restoration of Fire Adapted Ecosystems Baldwin Meadow Project where 34 acres were thinned by hand crews, 47 acres were mechanically treated, and 68 acres were treated by prescribed burning.

**Statewide** - Staff coordinated with State Water Board, CalFire, CDFW, and CGS in implementing AB 1492, the Timber Regulation and Restoration Program. Staff are part of the newly formed statewide Emergency Response Technical Working Group to to develop and implement Water Board action plans during and after catastrophic fire events.

**CaITREES**- CalFire has developed a new on-line system for timber harvest permitting. The California Timber Regulation and Environmental Evaluation System (CaITREES) streamlines the submission and review processes for timber harvest documents. CaITREES is being rolled out in phases and Review Team agencies (State and Regional Water Boards, CDFW , and CGS) are already using CaITREES to review timber harvest documents uploaded by CalFire staff.

## Performance targets for FY 2017-2018

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

## Performance targets for FY 2018-2019 – Progress to date

	<u>Target</u>	<u>Completed</u>
Timber Harvest Inspections	25	24

**Unaddressed Work**- Development of state-wide permit for vegetation management within utility line corridors.



# Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet FY 2018-19

## *Basin Planning*

### Overview

The Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region (Basin Plan) contains the water quality objectives to protect identified beneficial uses. The Basin Plan also outlines control measures to achieve water quality objectives. The Water Board sets planning priorities in its Triennial Review, most recently adopted in November 2018.

Funding for the Basin Planning Program is from the state Waste Discharge Permit Fee account, which has allocated 4.3 PY to complete both Basin Planning and TMDL program work. 1.2 PY are identified for Basin Planning work in FY 18-19.

### Key Efforts

2018 Triennial Review priority projects being worked on include:

- The Lake Tahoe Shoreline Basin Plan Amendment to remove the prohibition on pier development in fish habitat is scheduled for consideration before the Water Board in March 2019.
- The Mojave Surface Water Basin Plan Amendment is scheduled for consideration at the June 2018 Water Board meeting. The amendment proposes to update beneficial uses in the Mojave River and tributaries to accurately reflect conditions on the ground and provide protections for existing beneficial uses and water quality.
- The Mojave Groundwater Objectives Project will include development of a draft staff report with recommended groundwater quality objectives and stakeholder workshops. The project will focus on the upper Mojave groundwater sub basin and will subsequently address the middle and lower sub basins.
- Participation in State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Standards Unit project to address nutrients with a biostimulatory substances objective and develop guidance or a numeric objective for biological integrity, which will be a higher priority for State Water Board now that the REC-1 Bacteria Objectives project is complete.

Other Triennial Review priorities scheduled for staff to work on include Tribal and Subsistence Beneficial Use Designations, Evaluating Bacteria Objectives, Evaluating Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Plan recommendations, and the Truckee River Embedded/Deposited Sediment Objective Project.

## Key Accomplishments

### Mojave River Watershed

Conducted CEQA Scoping meeting for Surface Water Basin Plan Amendment in April 2018 and initiated AB 52 Tribal Consultation beginning in May 2018. Conducted information workshop at January 2019 Water Board meeting and circulated a Draft Staff Report and CEQA document for public comment.



### State Water Board Standards Projects

Continued tracking the State Water Board Standards Unit's project to develop a biostimulatory substances objective and develop guidance or a numeric standard for biological integrity.

**Lake Tahoe Pier Prohibition Removal** – Scoping completed in November 2018, Draft Staff Report and CEQA circulated in early 2019.

**Climate Change Adaptation Planning** - Staff continued work towards development of a Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Plan, expected completion later in 2019.

**2018 Triennial Review** - Adopted by Water Board in November 2018 and transmitted to USEPA and State Water Board in February 2019.

## Performance Targets FY 17/18

<u>Target Description</u>	<u>Targets</u>	<u>Achieved</u>
# of Basin Plan Amendments Adopted	0	0

## Performance Targets FY 18/19

<u>Target Description</u>	<u>Targets</u>	<u>Achieved</u>
# of Basin Plan Amendments Adopted	1	0*

\*Two proposed Basin Plan Amendments, Lake Tahoe Pier Prohibition Removal and Mojave River Surface Water Beneficial Use, are currently scheduled for Water Board consideration at the March 2019 and June 2019 Board meetings, respectively.

The header image shows a scenic view of a mountain range under a blue sky with light clouds. In the foreground, there are some trees and a person walking on a path. The text is overlaid on this image.

# Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet FY 2018-19

## *Cannabis Regulatory Program*

### Overview

The purpose of the Cannabis Regulatory Program is to provide a mechanism for the Water Boards to permit the diversion of water and discharge of waste associated with cannabis cultivation activities to protect our water resources. Cannabis cultivation industry in California has grown and is often located in sensitive environmental areas that have the potential to significantly impact water quality.

In June 2017, the Governor signed into law a unified code of regulations for medical and adult use of cannabis. In October 2017, the State Water Board adopted the Cannabis Cultivation Policy - Principles and Guidelines for Cannabis Cultivation (Cannabis Policy) and General Waste Discharge Requirements and Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Waste Associated with Cannabis Cultivation Activities (Cannabis General Order) which implements the Cannabis Policy.

Given the scope and unique circumstances of regulating a formerly illegal industry unaccustomed to government regulation, the keys to developing and implementing an effective program are: (1) a clear and simplified process for permittees to enroll in the Cannabis General Order; (2) enforcement against cultivators that evade or do not comply with the permit requirements, and (3) interagency coordination.

The Eastern California Regional Cannabis Unit (housed at the Lahontan Water Board) provides program implementation for both the Lahontan and the Colorado River Basin Water Boards. The unit covers all eastern California, from the Oregon border to the Mexican border (approximately one-third of the area of the State of California). The unit received an additional four PYs this fiscal year for a total of six PYs.

### Key Efforts

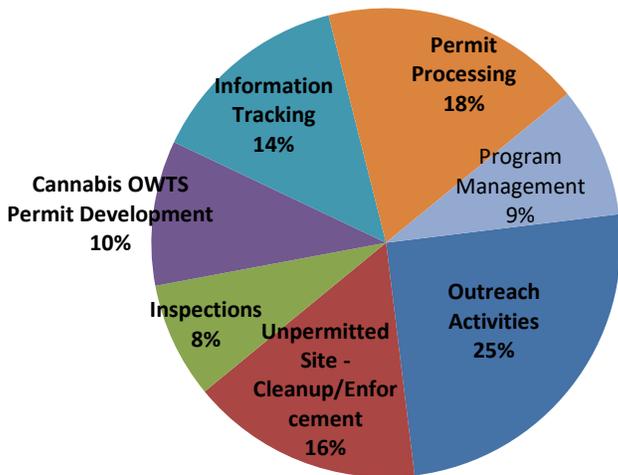
The Cannabis Regulatory Program is focused on continuing to expand the program throughout the state, and for the program to become fee supported. The program implements measures that help achieve Action 4 (Protect and Restore Important Ecosystems) and Action 6 (Expand Water Storage Capacity and Improve Groundwater Management) of the California Water Action Plan.

Within the Lahontan region, cultivation is largely concentrated within the communities of Lancaster, California City, and Adelanto. Indoor cultivation is predominant in these areas. Inyo and Mono Counties have finalized cannabis cultivation requirements, and outdoor cultivators are locating within the Walker River and Stewart Valley areas. Nevada County is developing ordinances allowing additional cultivation within unincorporated areas, and the City of South Lake Tahoe is completing its ordinances for cultivation and distribution. Key efforts this fiscal year include:

- Provide outreach to local governments, permittees, and stakeholders.
- Develop a strategy to address unauthorized cultivation on public and private lands.
- Address onsite disposal of wastewater associated with cannabis cultivation and small domestic systems.
- Evaluate water quality impacts from regulated and unregulated cannabis cultivation.
- Expand the Cannabis Identification and Prioritization System (CIPS) throughout the Unit's area.

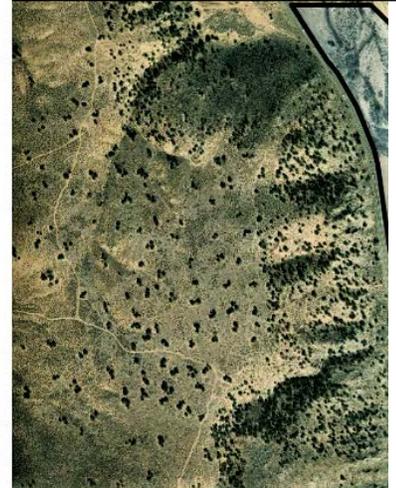
- Process permit applications.
- Inspect permitted facilities and provide compliance assistance.
- Develop electronic data collection form with GIS interface.
- Coordination and collaboration for cannabis cultivation on or near tribal properties.

### Staff Activity by Program Tasks



- Cultivation Related Waste, Refuse, and Doi  
Cultivation\_Related\_Waste\_Refuse\_and\_Domestic\_V
- Soil Disposal and Spoils Management  
Soil\_Disposal\_and\_Spoils\_Management
- Roads and Drainage  
Roads\_and\_Drainage
- Riparian and Wetland Protection and Man  
Riparian\_and\_Wetland\_Protection\_and\_Management
- Land Development, Erosion Control, and C  
Land\_Development\_Erosion\_Control\_and\_Drainage
- Indoor Cultivation  
Indoor\_Cultivation
- Fertilizers, Pesticides, and Petroleum Prod  
Fertilizers\_Pesticides\_and\_Petroleum\_Products
- Cultivation\_Parcel  
Cultivation\_Parcel

Sample Electronic Inspection Data Form for Tilth Farms, Walker, CA



### Accomplishments

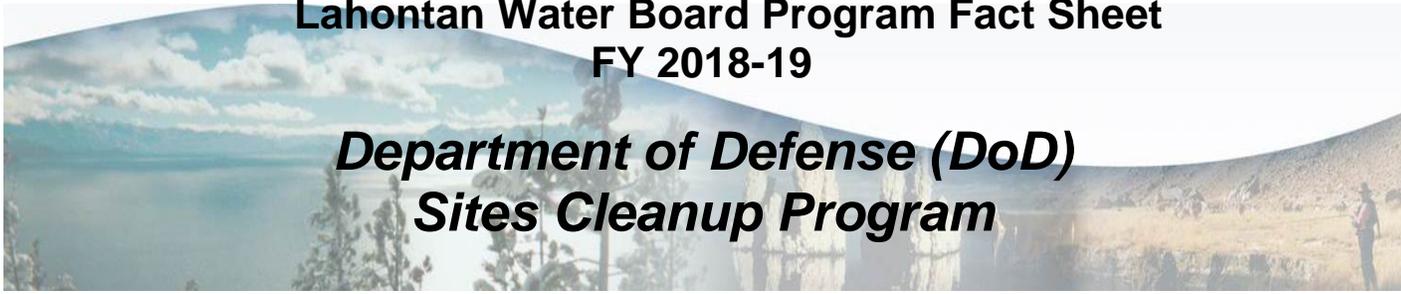
- Issued approximately 200 Permits.
- Conducted outreach workshops in Adelanto, Palm Desert, and Needles.
- Developed statewide tablet-based inspection form prototype, linking site GPS coordinates.
- Hosted first regional Cannabis Roundtable in October 2018.
- Provided CEQA review of 35 individual projects and county cannabis ordinances.

### No Performance Targets Established

Performance targets will be established in coordination with other State and Regional Water Board efforts next year.

### Unaddressed Work

Over 1,000 illegal sites are estimated to exist within the Eastern Cannabis Unit area (based upon local law enforcement sources), primarily on public lands in remote mountainous areas. A key effort is to develop a strategy to address this issue in coordination with public land partners. However, funding to provide appropriate enforcement and site cleanup associated with these sites is currently not available.



# Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet FY 2018-19

## *Department of Defense (DoD) Sites Cleanup Program*

### Overview

The DoD program addresses cleanup and abatement of contaminated sites from historic activities at military facilities. The Water Board's oversight work is conducted under the Defense and State Memorandum of Agreement (DSMOA), which specifies the current and planned restoration efforts and provides for cost recovery for regulatory oversight. There are approximately 6.6 PYs assigned to DoD work this FY. We oversee eight military facilities in the Lahontan Region where there are over 500 active cleanup cases under the DoD program. Most of the cases consist of solvent or petroleum releases and waste disposal to land. Other contaminants include perchlorate, nitrate, metals, munitions-related chemicals, and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

### Key Efforts

Program priority is the protection of human health and the environment. This is achieved by remediation of soil and groundwater and reducing human and ecological exposure to contaminants. Some DoD facilities are proposing remedies that focus on land use controls instead of restoration of groundwater quality.

Major staff efforts include:

- **George Air Force Base (AFB):** Working to implement active groundwater remediation and restoration of groundwater and to characterize and remediate munitions sites.
- **Edwards AFB:** Working to resolve disputes related to decision documents, refining conceptual site models, and ensuring investigations provide a robust basis for decisions.
- **China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS):** Navy requested halt of State oversight work in October 2018, citing a need for partnering meetings between State and Navy. These efforts have not yet been initiated. Water Board staff still performing oversight and working to resolve issues and to move forward.
- **Sierra Army Depot (SIAD):** Ensure groundwater contaminants of concern are characterized. Evaluate active remediation at TCE hot spots and monitored natural attenuation. Army has conducted an indoor vapor intrusion study and is evaluating five new sites.
- **Marine Corps Logistics Base (MCLB), Barstow:** Nebo and Yermo: Completing a revised decision document (Explanation of Significant Difference [ESD]) for removal of lead, PCBs, and PAH-contaminated soils from a former trap and skeet range. Removal is scheduled for April 2019. Additional PFAS soil and groundwater sampling completed November 2018.
- **Ft. Irwin National Training Center (Ft. Irwin NTC):** Reviewing feasibility study for a landfill and results of a soil vapor extraction (SVE) study. Evaluating sites related to munitions and soil/groundwater contamination.
- **Air Force Plant 42 (AFP 42):** Restarted groundwater pump and treat system and continue operation of Site 29 SVE system to remediate TCE-impacted soil and groundwater.
- Providing regulatory and technical oversight for ongoing efforts by all DoD branches to evaluate sites for presence of PFAS. State Board taking lead on statewide PFAS issues.

## Accomplishments

**Soil and Groundwater Remediation:** George AFB is preparing a pilot study using in-situ groundwater technology to remediate TCE from groundwater. In-situ system operating at Sierra Army Depot appears successful in remediating TCE hotspots in groundwater. AFP 42 restarted a groundwater pump and treat system and continued operation of an SVE system.

**Removal Actions:** George AFB removed PAH-contaminated soil.

**Five Year Reviews:** Completed three Five-Year Reviews: AFP 42, Ft. Irwin NTC, and Edwards AFB.

**Investigations:** Installed additional wells at Edwards AFB to assess plume stability. Installed additional wells at MCLB Barstow to characterize plumes at two sites. Initial PFAS sampling was conducted at AFP 42, MCLB Barstow, Edwards AFB, George AFB, and China Lake NAWS.

**Decision Documents:** Reviewed several ESDs that modify or change the remedial approach agreed to in previous Records of Decisions (RODs). One ESD at MCLB, one at Edwards AFB, and two at George AFB. Two ESDs are in the review process: MCLB Barstow and Edwards AFB.

**PFAS:** The Air Force (AFP 42, Edwards AFB, George AFB) and Navy (MCLB Barstow) continue sampling soil and groundwater at suspected PFAS source areas. New data is being used to expand PFAS investigations at each base. China Lake NAWS is preparing a work plan to conduct additional sampling in the near future. The Army is starting the preliminary assessment phase.

## Performance Targets for Fiscal Year 2017-2018

	<u>Target</u>	<u>Achieved</u>
DoD Sites New into Active Remediation	2	0*

\*Delayed until FY 2018-2019

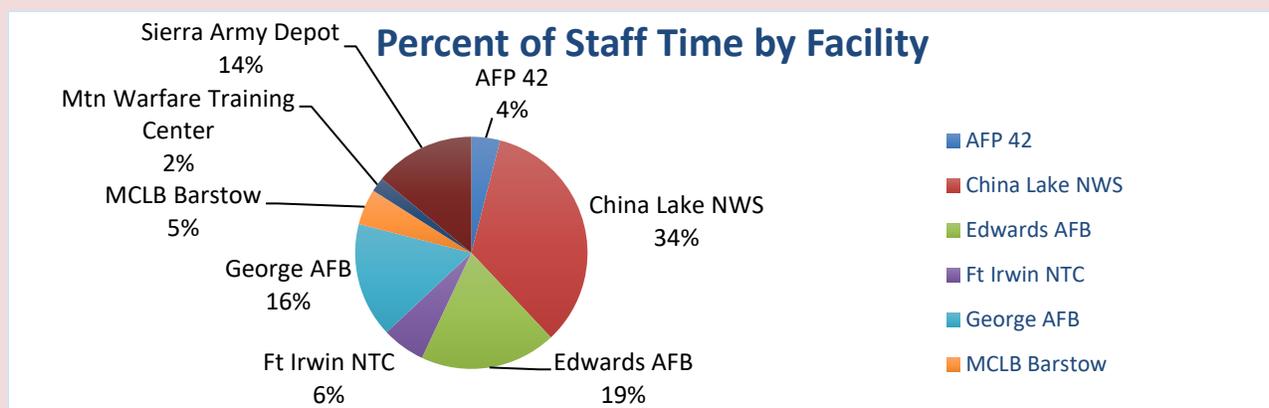
## Performance Targets for Fiscal Year 2018-2019

	<u>Target</u>	<u>Achieved</u>
DoD Sites New into Active Remediation	2	0*

\*On schedule to meet these targets this fiscal year.

## Unaddressed Work

- Work at some sites is stalled due to informal and formal disputes for a variety of reasons related to active remediation, minimal site characterization, streamlined risk assessments, unwillingness to incorporate State regulations into remedial strategies, and DoD contracting issues.
- No resources to address statewide PFAS investigation requirements issued by State Board



# Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet FY 2018-19

## Nonpoint Source Pollution Control

### Overview

The NPS Program purpose is to protect unimpaired waterbodies and restore waters impacted by NPS pollution. Restoration and fire fuels reduction on forested lands and grazing management are high priorities. The Federal Clean Water Act Section 319(h) allocation this fiscal year is 2.0 PYs with an additional \$2,812,029 in grant support to local technical assistance projects. The NPS Program implements the statewide California Nonpoint Source Program Implementation Plan 2014-2020 and is consistent with the statewide Policy for Implementation and Enforcement of the Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program.

### Key Efforts

The NPS Program focuses on preventing adverse impacts to water quality due to wildfire and livestock grazing; implementing grants and issuing permits supporting watershed restoration efforts, and stakeholder outreach.

#### Federal Lands Management Activities

- Review and comment on project NEPA documents; issue permits for project activities.
- Develop a draft Federal Lands Nonpoint Source Permit.

#### Grazing Activities in Bridgeport Valley and Eagle Lake watersheds

- Engage with Bridgeport ranchers and other stakeholders to develop watershed-based approach.
- Work with Eagle Lake stakeholders to assess and limit grazing impacts.

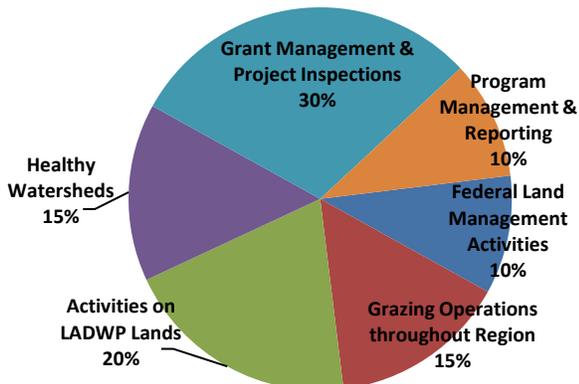
#### Grazing Activities on Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) Lands

- Work with LADWP to draft permit to cover grazing activities while protecting water quality.

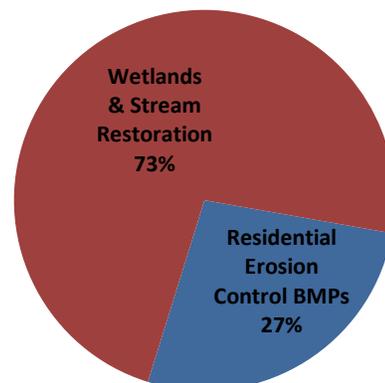
#### Identifying and Protecting Healthy Watersheds

- Continue work on a Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategy, involving 1) partnerships with land management agencies to develop more climate change resilient, landscape scale projects and planning, 2) incident response and monitoring of harmful algal blooms, and 3) multi-agency collaboration on emergency response preparedness for climate-related events.
- Update fuels management regulatory document(s) consistent with Governor's executive orders.
- Conduct environmental education and outreach activities to help stakeholders better understand their role in protecting the state's water resources when conducting NPS-related activities.

Staff Activity by Program Tasks



Types of Technical Assistance Grants



## Accomplishments

### Grants

- Two 319h grant projects were completed during the past year:
  - *Accelerated BMP Implementation in the Lake Tahoe Basin*
  - *Truckee River Voluntary BMP Retrofit Program*
- Two new 319h grant projects have started implementation this year:
  - *Reducing Sediment in Squaw Creek through Meadow Restoration*
  - *Truckee River Tributaries Sediment Reduction*

### Regulatory and Compliance

- Provided oversight and inspections of major stream restoration on Upper Truckee River.
- Issued water quality certification orders and conducted compliance inspections for forest, meadow, and stream restoration projects.
- Renewed the 2014 Timber Waiver and continued outreach with stakeholders to update the Region's Timber Harvest and Vegetation Management regulatory document.

### Federal Lands Nonpoint Source Permit

- Partnered with Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board to conduct BLM and USFS BMP development, implementation and effectiveness inspections throughout both regions.

## No Performance Targets Established

Though no formal performance targets are established for the NPS Program, each Region and the State Water Board are required to submit an annual report and two semi-annual reports to US EPA to report on activities funded from the federal Clean Water Act 319(h) program.

## Unaddressed Work

- Development of a regulatory mechanism for grazing activities on private lands.
- Development of a regulatory mechanism for native surface road maintenance, closure and repair.

# Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet FY 2018-19

## Site Cleanup Program (SCP)

### Overview

The Site Cleanup Program (SCP) focuses on investigation and cleanup of pollutants (other than petroleum releases associated with underground tanks) discharged to soils, groundwater, and surface waters. Typical cleanup sites include industrial facilities such as chemical milling plants, power plants, sawmills, dry cleaners, and aboveground storage tanks. The types of pollutants encountered at SCP sites can include fertilizers, fuels, heavy metals, nutrients, salts such as perchlorate, and solvents.

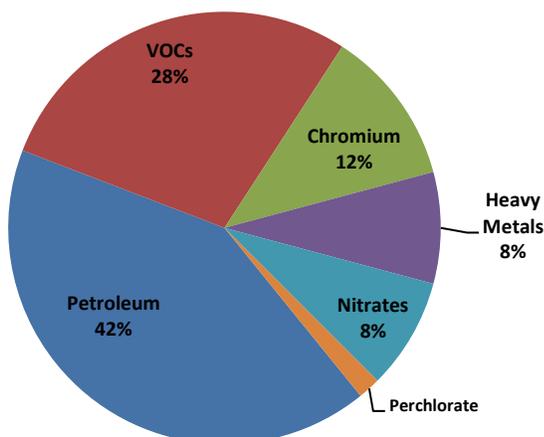
A total of 21 SCP cases are in the cost recovery program where the responsible party (RP) reimburses staff costs for regulatory oversight (approximately 1.8 PYs). SCP cases *not* in cost-recovery are funded through the state General Fund (0.70 PY) this fiscal year.

The Site Cleanup Subaccount Program (SCAP), established by Underground Storage Tanks: Hazardous Substances: Petroleum: Groundwater and Surface Water Contamination (SB 445 [Hill, 2014]), provides funds that allows the State Water Board to issue grants to regional water boards or outside parties for projects that remediate the harm or threat of harm to human health, safety, or the environment caused by surface or groundwater pollution where no responsible parties are financially capable to clean up a site. We were allocated 0.70 PY through SB 445 this fiscal year under SCAP funds.

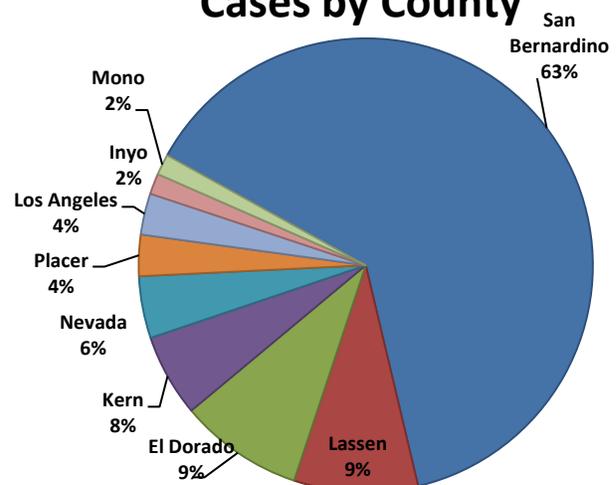
### Key Efforts

- Ensuring PG&E compliance of 2015 Cleanup Order for hexavalent chromium remediation in Hinkley and completion of the Chromium Background Study.
- Using SB 445 grant funds awarded from State Board's SCAP account, staff will oversee a pilot study at the source area to help remediate Barstow perchlorate. SB 445 grant funds are also being utilized to investigate regional solvent pollution in the South Lake Tahoe Y area and hydrocarbon impacts in Termo (Lassen County).

### Contamination Types



### Cases by County



## Accomplishments for Selected Projects

### **PGE Hexavalent Chromium, Hinkley**

The USGS revised chromium background study remains on schedule with continued community support. USGS background study is anticipated to be completed late-2019. PG&E continues to employ an adaptive management approach for the remedial systems. Remedial actions are refined based on data gathered from investigations and remedial systems. Overall, plume contraction is occurring, and monitoring data generally continue to support decreasing chromium trends, to comply with cleanup targets set in the 2015 CAO.

### **Lake Tahoe Laundry Works, South Lake Tahoe**

In late 2018, the Responsible Party began an intense investigation to delineate the lateral and vertical extent of contamination originating from the site and an evaluation of the site's contribution to regional groundwater contamination. Board staff are currently overseeing field work. On-site remediation is on-going.

### **Mountain Pass Mine and Mill**

MP Mine Operations (MPMO) submitted a new Feasibility Study to evaluate cleanup at the site in September 2018. Board staff is expecting a revised version in April 2019 to address Board staff comments. The Feasibility Study will include cost estimates.

### **Nitrate Plume, Barstow**

The City of Barstow continues quarterly monitoring of groundwater in residential and monitoring wells and currently provides bottled water to eight residences.

### **Perchlorate Plume, Barstow**

Board staff continue quarterly monitoring of wells; replacement bottled water provided to five affected homes. Aptim was the contractor selected to conduct the source area treatability study, under Board staff guidance, with \$2.67 grant award; cost estimates and planning documents were prepared/approved, and work is scheduled to begin Spring 2019.

### **Nuway Cleaners, Victorville**

State Board awarded the City of Victorville \$1.46 million dollars of Senate Bill 445 funding for cleanup of PCE through SCAP. Joint Executive Team (JET) kick-off meeting was held on December 12, 2018. The JET team consists of members from Lahontan, State Board, and City of Victorville.

#### Performance targets for fiscal year 2017/2018

	<u>Target</u>	<u>Completed</u>
Case Closures	6	6
Cases into Active Remediation	0	1

#### Performance targets for fiscal year 2018/2019 – Progress to date

	<u>Target</u>	<u>Completed</u>
Number of Cases Closed	4	2
Number of Cases into Active Remediation	0	0

#### Unaddressed Work and Challenges

- Staff has identified one position annually of unaddressed work at several sites that have limited water board oversight but require additional time to hasten cleanup efforts to restore drinking water supplies.
- SB 445 program is significantly underfunded at 0.7 PYs for current responsibilities, priorities, and staff assignments. Current staff assignment being funded by SCAP currently include Barstow Perchlorate, South Tahoe Y area, and Termo Store.



# Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet

## FY 2018–2019

### Storm Water

## Overview

The Storm Water Program permits discharges of pollutants in storm water runoff to waters of the United States under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) in two main program areas: Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s, Phases I and II), and Industrial. Construction activities are a major Industrial category, among other heavy and light industries. General permits are used to reduce pollutants from reaching surface waters by requiring specified control measures for:

- Pollutants in storm water and non-storm water, including sediment
- Preventing exposure of pollutant sources to storm water
- Preventing alterations to hydrology affecting sediment loads in local waters
- Pollutants in discharges from construction and roadways/operations

**Phase I MS4s:** Four in the Lake Tahoe basin, including Caltrans (a state-wide Phase I MS4).

**Phase II (Small) MS4s:** Placer County, Town of Truckee, and in the Mojave River basin: Adelanto, Apple Valley, Barstow, Hesperia and portions of San Bernardino County (Spring Valley Lake, Mountain View Acres, Oak Hills and Phelan). Non-traditional Small MS4s are also regulated and include facilities such as military bases, public campuses, prisons and hospital complexes.

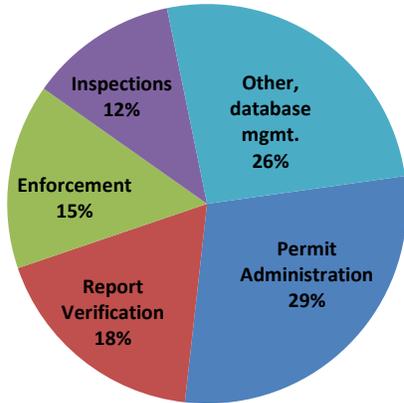
**Industrial and Construction:** In 2018: 225 industrial sites and approximately 376 construction sites. Approximately 2.5 PYs funded, including Lake Tahoe MS4 and TMDL funding.

## Key Efforts

Maintain effective programs across the Region by:

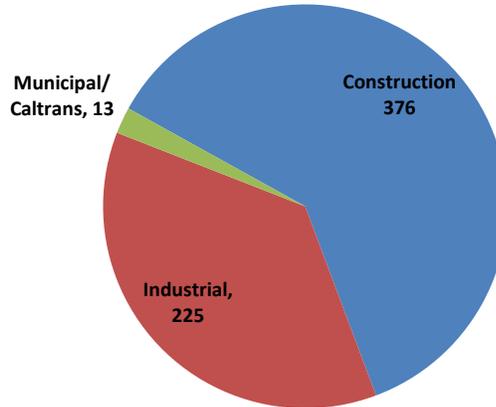
- Reviewing environmental documents, advising permittees on requirements and storm water pollution prevention through Low Impact Development and similar methods.
- Reviewing monitoring reports and conducting compliance inspections.
- Working with municipalities under MS4 permits to control pollutants. Reviewing monitoring/reporting requirements, including implementation of new statewide trash control requirements.

## Staff Activities



## Permittee Types

(Number of permits, not work efforts)\*



### Accomplishments

- Verified compliance with General Permits for Victorville-area and Lake Tahoe MS4s and Industrial sites, and for Lake Tahoe Marinas.
- Oversaw compliance assurance actions related Statewide General Industrial Permit enrollees.
- Completed enforcement actions to address failures with meeting annual reporting requirements in the Construction and Industrial programs.
- Reviewed submittals related to Lake Tahoe MS4 trash requirements.

### Performance Targets for Fiscal Year 2017 – 2018

	Target	Performed
Construction site Inspections:	35	35
Industrial facility Inspections:	18	18
MS4-Phase I/II Audits/Inspections	5	5

### Performance Targets for Fiscal Year 2018 – 2019

	Target	Progress to Date
Construction site Inspections:	75	37
Industrial facility Inspections:	18	4
MS4-Phase I/II Audits/Inspections	8	0

### Unaddressed Work

- Unable to assess penalties for lack of reports, and late or deficient reports
- Unknown number of facilities are not enrolled in the permits where permits apply = “non-filers”
- Unable to completely address municipal program deficiencies in South basin with respect to permit compliance and implementing Low Impact Development practices to maintain natural hydrology and watershed resiliency



# Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet FY 2018-19

## *Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)*

### Overview

The TMDL Program addresses impaired waters of the Region. The TMDL Program resources are a combination of funds from the state's Waste Discharge Permit Fee account and federal TMDL development program (Clean Water Act §106 funds). The state funds 4.3 PY shared between the TMDL and Basin Planning programs. Federal program funds provide 1.2 PY for TMDL development. TMDL staff assesses waterbodies for water quality impairments, determines possible sources, types and magnitude of impairments, and prepares plans to restore beneficial uses of the impaired waterbodies through TMDLs and other means.

In 2013, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) announced a new collaborative framework for implementing the Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 303(d) program called the Vision. The Vision prioritizes water quality outcomes over TMDL development, and encourages the use of alternatives to traditional TMDLs when appropriate to address an impairment. Staff committed to address impairments in two waterbodies by 2022 as part of the USEPA Vision effort. The two waterbodies are the West Fork Carson River (multiple pollutants including pathogens) and Bishop Creek (pathogens).

### Key Efforts

#### **USEPA Vision Projects –**

- **Bishop Creek** Staff will continue to analyze bacteria data from Water Board and stakeholder monitoring efforts, and then determine additional data gathering needs. Formal outreach efforts with key partners and stakeholders will begin, as will evaluation of opportunities for implementation measures. The Inyo County Department of Environmental Health has a public health posting regarding high bacteria levels.
- **West Fork Carson River** Staff will continue data analysis and determining opportunities for implementation measures. Formal outreach with key partners and stakeholders will begin. Staff will develop a project website and establish a Lyris email subscription list. Staff will write draft sections of a 9-Element Watershed Plan.

**2018 Integrated Report** [303(d)/305(b) List] – Staff will finalize water quality assessment decisions, which determines which waterbodies are placed on the Clean Water Act §303(d) Impaired Waters List. Staff will prepare a staff report for public distribution, and present the Integrated Report to the Water Board for consideration.

**Implement** adopted TMDLs through permits and support of grant-funded projects.

## Key Accomplishments

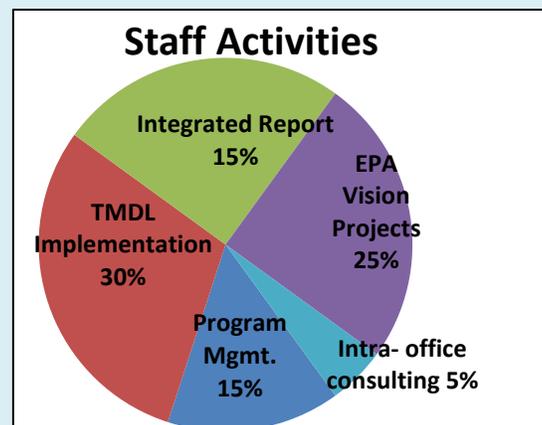
### TMDL Vision Projects

- **Bishop Creek (pathogens)**  
Staff developed a public participation plan and a project website ([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahtontan/water\\_issues/programs/tmdl/bishopcreek.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahtontan/water_issues/programs/tmdl/bishopcreek.html)). Staff drafted conceptual watershed models to illustrate potential sources of and locations with high pathogen levels, researched implementation measures, and engaged partners.
- **West Fork Carson River (nitrate, total nitrogen, total phosphorus, sulfates, TDS, turbidity, fecal coliform)** Staff continued engagement with stakeholders, and developed a strategy for establishing a 9-Element Watershed Plan. As part of the Integrated Report, the river was re-segmented for purposes of water quality assessment, with the segmentation determined based on predominant land use (public lands headwaters and dispersed recreation; canyon segment; agriculture and private lands). Staff also developed an outreach strategy and began data analysis. Staff presented its planned approach for the West Fork Carson Vision Project during the Carson River Forum (April 2018) and the “Get on the Bus” Watershed Tour (October 2018). In coordination with SWAMP staff, a headwaters bioassessment site was established.

**Integrated Report** – Staff manually developed 564 new Lines of Evidence (LOE) based on data for waterbody-pollutant combinations and performed quality control efforts for 4,150 electronically and manually produced LOEs. Staff evaluated these LOEs to develop over 2,100 assessment decisions.

**Heavenly Creek TMDL** – Staff engaged with representatives from Heavenly Ski Resort to update the project’s Quality Assurance Program Plan to ensure that the data could be used in 303(d) assessments and a future delisting from the Impaired Waters List.

**TMDL Program Website** was updated to a more modern and accessible format.



## Performance Targets FYs 2017-18 and 2018-19 (unchanged between FYs)

<u>Target Description</u>	<u>Targets</u>	<u>Achieved</u>
# of pollutant/waterbody combinations addressed	0	0
# of TMDLs (or TMDL alternatives) adopted	0	0

## Unaddressed Work

- 119 impaired water body 303(d) listings are prioritized, but unaddressed
- Formulating Natural Source Exclusions Policy
- Impairment verification/determine validity of 303(d) listings for TDS