

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

**MEETING OF APRIL 26-27, 2023
BARSTOW, CA**

ITEM 6

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

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ENCLOSURE 1



EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

January 1, 2023 – January 31, 2023

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1. Personnel Report – *Sandra Lopez*

Promotions

- Trevor Miller, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, Forestry/Dredge & Fill Unit, South Lake Tahoe. This position will perform Senior level activities and provide engineering expertise associated with managing the activities of the Forestry/Dredge & Fill Unit. The incumbent will supervise and direct the work of five professional technical staff, oversee staff development, perform recruitment of new staff, conduct performance evaluations, and track program budgets, as well as a variety of other duties.

Transfers

- Todd Battey, Engineering Geologist, Cleanup/Site Investigation & Enforcement Unit, South Lake Tahoe. This position will oversee/direct site investigation and cleanup activities at various sites, such as underground storage tank sites, dry cleaner sites, mines, landfills, and Department of Defense sites.

New Hires

- Lauder Fairchok, Water Resource Control Engineer, Regulatory and Enforcement Unit, South Lake Tahoe. This position will work with the stormwater program, the Waste Discharge Requirement non-15 program and the point source National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Program.

- Eli Balderas, Scientific Aid, Forestry/Dredge & Fill and Non-Point Source Units, South Lake Tahoe. This position will evaluate water quality data and assess compliance with water quality orders and permits associated with grazing, restoration, timber, and forestry activities.

Vacancies

- Water Resource Control Engineers (two positions), Wastewater & Agricultural Unit, Victorville. This position provides regulatory oversight of projects involving discharges to groundwater or surface waters and projects intended to restore and/or enhance water quality in the Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs), National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), and Site Cleanup Programs.
- Environmental Scientist, Land Disposal Unit, Victorville. This position will provide regulatory oversight of dredge and fill permitting and compliance of Caltrans projects regionwide.
- Engineering Geologist, Land Disposal Unit, Victorville. This position will oversee waste discharges to land and site investigation/cleanup at various types of regulated and unregulated facilities including landfills, mines, composting facilities, cement plants, and site clean-up sites.
- Office Technician (Typing), Victorville. This position will assist in proofreading and editing staff documents, engage with staff and the public at the front office desk, provide support to technical and administrative staff, ensure documents comply with accessibility standards, and provide administrative support at regional board meetings held throughout the region.
- Office Technician (Typing), South Lake Tahoe. This position will assist in proofreading and editing staff documents, engage with staff and the public at the front office desk, provide support to technical and administrative staff, ensure documents comply with accessibility standards, and provide administrative support at regional board meetings held throughout the region.
- Water Resource Control Engineer, Cannabis Unit, Victorville. This position provides regulatory oversight of cannabis cultivation projects under the statewide Cannabis General order.
- Engineering Geologist, Forestry/Dredge & Fill Unit, South Lake Tahoe. This position will provide geologic and hydrogeologic expertise for the Forestry Dredge and Fill Unit. The incumbent will evaluate and regulate the impacts of logging operations and other forest practices on the quality and beneficial uses of water. They will also review and regulate proposed projects that may affect water quality of waters of the state to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region (Basin Plan), Porter-Cologne

Water Quality Control Act, the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA), and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

- Environmental Scientist, Planning & Assessment Unit, South Lake Tahoe. This position will work on Basin Plan amendments, help assess waters as part of the Integrated Report, and work to develop TMDLs or alternative restoration plans.
- Scientific Aids (two positions), Regulatory & Enforcement Unit, South Lake Tahoe. This position supports staff primarily through review of submitted self-monitoring reports, along with other special projects.
- Engineering Geologist, Department of Defense Site Cleanup Unit, Victorville. This position will oversee site investigations and cleanups at Department of Defense sites in the South Lahontan area and respond to spills and complaints, as necessary.
- Water Resource Control Engineer, Cleanup/Site Investigation & Enforcement Unit, South Lake Tahoe. This position will oversee/direct site investigation and cleanup activities at various sites, such as underground storage tank sites, dry cleaner sites, mines, landfills, and Department of Defense sites.

2. Lahontan Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program's 20-Year Water Quality Review and Program Recommendations – *Kelly Huck*

Water Board staff collaborated with San Francisco Estuary Institute-Aquatic Science Center (SFEI-ASC) to compile, summarize, and reflect on the program's extensive water quality dataset. This 20-year water quality monitoring status and trends Report for the Lahontan Water Board's Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (Regional SWAMP) provides an overview of the environmental settings across the Region to give the reader a sense of the diverse ecological landscape, land uses, distribution and abundance of aquatic resources, and fire history. It includes a retrospective analysis of the Regional SWAMP's ongoing targeted water quality monitoring results (2000 - 2021) and concludes by presenting suggestions for future monitoring changes to improve efficiencies, and address some of the recommendations listed in the Core Program Review presented to the Board at the July 2019 Board meeting.

Prior to the Core Program Review, data was primarily collected through targeted monitoring designed to answer the question, "Are the streams within the Lahontan Region meeting chemical and physical water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan?" Therefore, the Report examines what proportion of water quality results are exceeding the Basin Plan's site-specific objectives and water quality objectives. Analysis shows that most of the Basin Plan water quality exceedances in the Region were seen in Oxygen Saturation (40% of the results exceeded), Total Dissolved Solids (over 60% of the results exceeded), and Total Phosphorus (nearly 40% of the results exceeded). The Report describes where many of these exceedances take place as well as descriptions of other analytes sampled through the years.

The Report also analyzes if there are any statistically significant upward or downward trends in water quality conditions over time, and if so, at what sampling locations. The Report includes 46 monitoring stations with anywhere between 6-35 parameters at each location. The results of the statistical tests for trends for all stations and parameters indicated that less than 1% of the station/parameter pairs evaluated show significant monotonic upward or downward trends between 2000 and 2021. That is, only 14 stations and 12 parameters indicated potential trends at significance levels (p-values) of <0.05. This finding is not too surprising since there have not been significant ecological or anthropogenic changes at or near the specific targeted monitoring stations in the program and given that some parameter concentrations have a wide range of variation over time.

The table below summarizes what water quality exceedances are changing over time at a specific waterbody. An up or down arrow indicates an upward or downward change over time. An upward or downward trend could mean improvement or degradation depending on the parameter and objective. A sideways arrow indicates no change. Blanks indicate no results, and a dot indicates not enough data to evaluate trends over time in the HU.

Region	Basin Plan HU	pH	Total Oxygen, Dissolved	Total Oxygen, Saturation	Dissolved Total Dissolved Solids	Total Turbidity	Coliform, Fecal	E. coli	Total Nitrogen, Total	Total Nitrogen, Total Kjeldahl	Dissolved Ortho-Phosphate as P	Total Phosphorus as P	Dissolved Chloride	Dissolved Fluoride	Dissolved Sulfate	Dissolved Boron
Modoc	Surprise Valley	→	↓	↓	↓		↓	→	↓				↓			↑
	Susanville	↓	↓	↓	↓		→	→	↑			↑	↑		↑	↑
Truckee / Tahoe	Little Truckee River	.	.	.	.	.	→	→	.	.		.	.		.
	Truckee River	→	→	↓	↓	↑	→	→	↑	↑		↑	↓		↓	→
	Lake Tahoe	.	.	.	.	.	→	→	.			.			.
Eastern Sierra (North)	Carson River	→	→	↓	↓	→	→	→	↑	→		↓	→		↓	↓
	Walker River	↓	→	↑	↑		↑	↑	↓			↓	→			↑
Eastern Sierra (South)	Owens	→	↓	↓	↓		↓	→	↑		→		↑	↓	↑	↑
Mojave Desert	Mojave	→	↑	→	→		.	.	↑		→		↑	↓	→	↑

Program Recommendations:

Based on the 20-year retrospective water quality status and trends analyses, the Report concludes with a list of recommendations for program improvement. Some recommendations are specific and actionable, while others provide guidance for further development by engaging a focused workgroup or a formalized technical advisory committee that could be established to advise the program on an ongoing basis.

Included below are some key recommendations for the Regional SWAMP's ongoing water quality monitoring effort (additional recommendations are included in the final report):

- Review the current parameter list and determine if all are necessary.
- Determine water quality and ecological health of intermittent and ephemeral streams.
- Consider continuous monitors for multiple physical water quality parameters including streamflow.
- Review the Long-term monitoring station locations and consider if changes are warranted.
- Convene an advisory group to advise on Regional SWAMP adjustments and a watershed approach to watershed health assessment for the Region. A workgroup or committee process would provide a forum for cross-program coordination and help identify collaborative monitoring opportunities that could be integrated into the Regional SWAMP.

Considering the guidance outlined in the Report, SWAMP staff plans to form a workgroup to determine how to review and prioritize some of the program recommendations listed in the Final Report. Staff will also review the current management and monitoring questions and update them to focus on current program goals. The workgroup will develop an updated monitoring plan that will be peer reviewed and thoroughly vetted, ensuring all modern program goals are met and align with regional goals. The Line of Sight Matrix will be used to help prioritize future monitoring efforts. The [Final Report](#) will eventually be moved to the Regional SWAMP website under [Available Reports](#) once an ADA-compliant PDF of the report is complete.

3. Critical Minerals in California, Building the Supply Chain for Tomorrow – *Christina Guerra*

Lahontan Water Board staff, Christina Guerra, Engineering Geologist, attended a seminar entitled *Critical Minerals in California, Building the Supply Chain for Tomorrow* on January 18, 2023, hosted by the University of California, Riverside (UCR), sponsored by the California Employment Training Panel, and held at the UCR Palm Desert Campus in Palm Desert.

A critical mineral, as federally defined, is a mineral identified by the Secretary of the Interior as the following: 1) a non-fuel mineral or mineral material essential to economic and national security; 2) that has a supply chain vulnerable to disruption; 3) that serves as an essential function in the manufacturing of a product; and 4) whose absence would have significant consequences for our economy or national security. There are currently 50 federally designated critical minerals. Of the 50, the United States is import reliant on 29 of these minerals. The 2022 United States Geological Survey (USGS) Minerals Commodity Survey noted that California had resource potential for 34 of the 50 critical minerals. Currently or recently produced minerals in California include boron, cerium, dysprosium, lanthanum, lithium, manganese, neodymium, praseodymium, tungsten, yttrium, and terbium. Within Region 6, several of the globally leading minerals are extracted or mined and include rare earth elements (REE), boron, and lithium. Global demand for critical minerals continues to increase; in the United States, demand is expected to be driven by climate goals, national defense, and domestic supply. However, it is expected that demand for use of critical minerals, specifically in clean energy and transportation technologies, will grow at a greater rate.

Because there is a collective demand for critical minerals, interest is not only expected to peak in production but also research and development, recycling, and geological surveying. To combat our reliance on the import of critical minerals, the United States has established significant support and incentive initiatives. Some of the significant initiatives are the Federal Inflation Reduction Act, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and the CHIPS and Science Act, and all include funding for capital ventures such as production, processing, infrastructure, research, and development. Most if not all the federally funded support and incentive initiatives include stipulations focused on ensuring benefits support an equitable and inclusive economy, particularly disadvantaged and tribal communities. California has also allocated billions of dollars towards energy reliability, clean energy, infrastructure, processing, manufacturing, and research investments. Key programs that aid in the dissemination of funding include the Climate Innovation Program, Energy Innovation Center, California Competes, State Small Business Credit Initiative, and Community Economic Resilience Fund.

Critical mineral mines in the Lahontan Region are seeking federal incentive funding for production and research. The U.S. Department of Defense has awarded MP Materials Corporation \$9.6 million (2020) and \$35 million (2022) in contracts to support the construction of a commercial scale processing facility for REE mined at Mountain Pass. Rio Tinto – U.S. Borax (USB) is continuing in their efforts to move their Lithium Pilot Scale Plant to full scale. However, with lithium production and research booming, USB needs to ensure that they will remain competitive in the market with a lithium product low in impurities. Therefore, USB is scaling back the Lithium Pilot Scale Plant and reverting to a study phase. Although boron is an identified critical mineral, USB has found it challenging to seek and be awarded federal support due to their export of boron to the world market. Turkey is the leading global producer of boron with the ability to operate at a fraction of the cost it takes USB to operate the facility in Boron.

The seminar provided a broader perspective on the need for critical minerals and the challenges that mining operations within the Lahontan Region are undertaking. There

are six new critical mineral sites in the Lahontan Region specifically for the critical mineral lithium (Figure 3.1): one site is located near Barstow; one site is located near Newberry Springs; two sites in the Panamint Valley; and two sites are located southeast of and outside of Death Valley National Park. The Water Board has not issued waste discharge requirements for these six sites, and it is currently not known what stage of planning or operation these mineral extraction projects are at; no additional information was provided at the seminar. However, Water Board staff plan to research these sites, perform inspections as warranted, and request reports of waste discharge from the owners and operators if a discharge of waste that could harm water quality is proposed.



Figure 3.1 – Location of critical mineral sites in the High Desert (Region 6) and Imperial Valley (Region 7). Permitted Lahontan Region sites: U.S. Borax Mine, Inc. (boron), 5E Advanced Materials (formerly Fort Cady Minerals, boron), and MP Materials Corporation (REE). There are six additional lithium sites not permitted under Water Board orders within the Lahontan Region. Source: Critical Minerals in California Building the Supply Chain for Tomorrow, Agenda, January 18, 2023)

4. Standing Item - 3rd Quarter 2022 Violations Report – *Shelby Barker*

There were 18 violations documented for the third quarter of 2022. Most of the violations were related to stormwater runoff and surface water protection. Violations consisted of 1 basin plan prohibition, 1 deficient monitoring, 2 unauthorized discharges, 8 deficient or insufficient stormwater pollution prevention plan and associated records keeping or implementation, 4 late reports, and 2 effluent limit concentration exceedances.

The unauthorized discharges occurred in 2 different surface waters. First, harvesting equipment released 10 gallons of hydraulic fluid into the surface waters at the Tahoe Keys lagoons. Second, components of a failing access bridge collapsed into the Truckee River. Water Board staff issued an emergency cleanup and abatement order for the basin plan prohibition violation caused by the unauthorized discharge into the Truckee River.

Enforcement actions beyond those listed in the attached table may be taken as needed to protect water quality and environmental health within the region.

3rd Quarter 2022 Violations Table (July 1 to September 30)

Program Category	Priority	County	Responsible Party	Facility	WDID	Violation Description	Corrective Action	Enforcement Action
Stormwater - Industrial	B	El Dorado	Tahoe Keys POA	Tahoe Keys POA	6A090089000	Unauthorized discharge of hydraulic fluid from harvesting equipment	Absorbent socks were deployed. Discharger required to submit a Spill Report documenting clean up efforts.	Staff Enforcement Letter
Stormwater - Construction	B	Inyo	Caltrans District 9	Olancho Cartago 4 Lane	6B14C396425	Deficient BMP implementation	Implement missing BMPs	Staff Verbal
	B	Nevada	Caltrans District 3	1H18U4 Truckee Rehab	6A29C397037	No SWPPP documentation onsite; Deficient BMP implementation	Keep SWPPP on site; Implement missing BMPs	Staff Enforcement Letter
	B					Deficient BMP implementation	Implement missing BMPs	Notice of Violation
	B					Deficient BMP implementation	Implement missing BMPs	Notice of Violation
	B		Stonebridge Properties LLC	Coldstream Planned Community 1 Development	6A29C384432	Deficient SWPPP and Record keeping, Deficient BMP implementation	Comply with SWPPP and record keeping requirements; Implement missing BMPs	Staff Enforcement Letter
	B					Deficient SWPPP and Record keeping, Deficient BMP implementation	Comply with SWPPP and record keeping requirements; Implement missing BMPs	Staff Enforcement Letter
	B		Town of Truckee	Coldstream Road Roundabout	6A29C394396	Deficient SWPPP and Record keeping, Deficient BMP implementation	Comply with SWPPP and record keeping requirements; Implement missing BMPs	Staff Enforcement Letter
	B		Basile Management Practice	The Elements at Coldstream	6A29C390539	Missing spill response plan onsite; Deficient BMP implementation	Keep Spill Reponse Plan on site; Implement missing BMPs	Staff Enforcement Letter
	B	San Bernardino	Frontier Communities	Diamond Ridge IV	6B36C394940	Deficient BMP implementation	Implement missing BMPs	Staff Verbal
	B	Placer	North Tahoe Prop LLC	1615 River Road	6A31C393760	Construction stormwater violations associated with failing 1615 River Rd. access bridge; unauthorized discharge of bridge debris	Repair access bridge; Remove bridge debris from the River	Staff Enforcement Letter
Enforcement - CAO	B	Placer	North Tahoe property LLC	1615 River Road	6A312009005	Basin Plan Prohibition and discharge of failing bridge components	Repair access bridge; Remove bridge debris from the River. Work has been completed.	Issued emergency CAO
Wastewater Treatment Facilities	B	Mono	Mammoth Mountain Ski Area LLC	Mammoth Mtn Ski Area WTF	6B261026001	Late Report	Discharger to submit reports on time	Staff Verbal
	B			June Mtn Ski Area Chalet	6B268090001	Late Report	Discharger to submit reports on time	Notice to Comply
	B		USDA Forest Service Inyo NF Bishop	Rock Creek Area WTP	6B260705002	Late Report	Discharger to submit reports on time	Notice to Comply
	B					Late Report	Discharger to submit reports on time	Notice to Comply
	B	San Bernardino	Man Pyo Hong	Downtown Burger, Phelan	6B369212001	Effluent limit for BOD	Evaluating if they can be connected to a nearby wastewater system	Staff Verbal
	B					Effluent limit for MBAS	Evaluating if they can be connected to a nearby wastewater system	Staff Verbal
Dredge and Fill	B	Nevada	Town of Truckee	Trout Creek Restoration Reach 4 and 5	6A292103003	Deficient monitoring - Failure to monitor turbidity as required	Improve communication with all parties to ensure compliance with monitoring requirements	Staff Verbal

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

ATTACHMENT "A"

EXECUTIVE OFFICER ACTION ITEMS

January 1, 2023, to January 31, 2023
Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

DOCUMENT

DATE

NO FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED¹

No Further Action Required for Donner Park 76, 12373 Donner Pass Road, Truckee	1/10/2023
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EXEMPTIONS

Pending Action for Board Order No. R6T-2003-0004 Notice of Applicability and Exemption to Waste Discharge Prohibition(s) for the 123096 Holdings LLC Pier Repair/Rebuild Project	1/03/2023
Pending Action for Board Order No. R6T-2023-XXXX, Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification and Exemption to Waste Discharge Prohibitions 3.6 & 4.1-18, 1 for the 10-1L520 Culvert Replacement Project	1/06/2023

BOARD ORDERS

NONE	N/A
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401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATIONS

Notice of Applicability: Order For Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification For Small Habitat Restoration Projects, File Number Sb12006gn, Hulsman Ranch Project	1/20/2023
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WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

Notice of Applicability For General Waste Discharge Requirements For Small Construction Projects, Including Utility, Public Works, And Minor Streambed/Lakebed Alteration Projects, Board Order R6t-2003-0004, Hunyady Pier	1/20/2023
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¹ 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.

DOCUMENT**DATE**

Notice Of Termination – Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements, EGH Holding, LLC Golden Bloom	1/26/2023
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MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS

NONE	
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Additional links:

[General Policy information](#)

[Copy of Policy](#)

[Implementation Plan](#)

UNAUTHORIZED DISCHARGE REPORT
JANUARY 1, 2023 - JANUARY 31, 2023

Responsible Party	Location of Occurrence	Regulated Facility	Basin N/S?	Date of Occurrence	Volume of Occurrence	Violation Description	Comments	Status
COUNTY: INYO								
Unknown/Traffic Accident	Near Tuttle Creek Road and Thundercloud Lane.	NO	S	1/6/2023	5 gallons	Traffic accident led to antifreeze release of 5 gallons into a neighboring creek	The spill was stopped, but it did flow into a nearby creek. Booms were deployed and vehicle was removed.	Bishop CHP forwarded the spill to Fish and Game and DWP, cleanup and containment was already completed by contractors by the time of reporting.
COUNTY: KERN								
U.S. Borax Mine/Rio Tinto	14486 Borax Road Boron, Ca 93516	YES	S	1/4/2023	3,470 gallons	A contractor working near EXT 2 notified K. Jeffrey, Process Engineer, that there was a discharge at the EXT Header. The cause of the discharge was a leak from a pipe that leads to the header.	No surface water was affected.	Repairs completed on equipment.
U.S. Borax Mine/Rio Tinto	14486 Borax Road Boron, Ca 93516	YES	S	1/7/2023	1,000 gallons	The pipe leading from Vault 3, from Primary Process to R-Ponds failed causing 1,000 gallons to discharge to ground/soil.	Pipe was repaired 1/7/2023. Soil from uncovering pipeline was excavated and area was backfilled with clean fill. Excavated soil disposed of in BAP. No surface water was affected.	No further Action.
COUNTY: SAN BERNARDINO								
City of Barstow	Barstow CS,301 Montara Road	YES	S	1/7/2023	4,500 gallons	Debris from Construction caused 4,500 gallons of sewage to spill from Manhole at 301 Montara Road to an unpaved surface.	No surface water body was affected.	Spill was cleaned-up and contained. Returned a portion of the spill to the Sanitary Sewer System and flow was restored.

*All discharges to surface waters are to be included in this report.

**Discharges of less than 100 gallons to land are not to be included in this report.

ENCLOSURE 2



EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Covers February 1, 2023 – February 28, 2023

Contents

1. Personnel Report – <i>Sandra Lopez</i>	1
2. California Abandoned Mine Lands Regulators – <i>Christina Guerra</i>	2

1. Personnel Report – *Sandra Lopez*

New Hires

- Jeremy Feinberg, Engineering Geologist, Forestry/Dredge & Fill Unit, South Lake Tahoe. This position will provide geologic and hydrogeologic expertise for the Forestry Dredge and Fill Unit. The incumbent will evaluate and regulate the impacts of logging operations and other forest practices on the quality and beneficial uses of water. Start date February 21, 2023.
- Sheryl Bilbery, Environmental Scientist, Planning & Assessment Unit, South Lake Tahoe. This position will work on Basin Plan amendments, help assess waters as part of the Integrated Report, and work to develop TMDLs or alternative restoration plans. Start date March 2, 2023.
- Tiara Crucius, Engineering Geologist, Land Disposal Unit, Victorville. This position will oversee waste discharges to land and site investigation/cleanup at various types of regulated and unregulated facilities including landfills, mines, composting facilities, cement plants, and site clean-up sites. Start date March 2, 2023.

Vacancies

- Water Resource Control Engineer, Wastewater & Agricultural Unit, Victorville. This position provides regulatory oversight of projects involving discharges to groundwater or surface waters and projects intended to restore and/or enhance water quality in the Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs), National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), and Site Cleanup Programs.

- Environmental Scientist, Land Disposal Unit, Victorville. This position will provide regulatory oversight of dredge and fill permitting and compliance of Caltrans projects regionwide.
- Staff Services Analyst (General), Victorville. This position will provide support to technical and administrative staff, ensure documents comply with accessibility standards, assist with process improvements, prepare agenda items and staff documents for distribution, and provide administrative support at regional board meetings held throughout the region.
- Staff Services Analyst (General), South Lake Tahoe. This position will provide support to technical and administrative staff, ensure documents comply with accessibility standards, assist with process improvements, prepare agenda items and staff documents for distribution, and provide administrative support at regional board meetings held throughout the region.
- Water Resource Control Engineer, Cannabis Unit, Victorville. This position provides regulatory oversight of cannabis cultivation projects under the statewide Cannabis General order.
- Scientific Aids (two positions), Regulatory & Enforcement Unit, South Lake Tahoe. This position supports staff primarily through review of submitted self-monitoring reports, along with other special projects.
- Engineering Geologist, Department of Defense Site Cleanup Unit, Victorville. This position will oversee site investigations and cleanups at Department of Defense sites in the South Lahontan area and respond to spills and complaints, as necessary.
- Water Resource Control Engineer, Cleanup/Site Investigation & Enforcement Unit, South Lake Tahoe. This position will oversee/direct site investigation and cleanup activities at various sites, such as underground storage tank sites, dry cleaner sites, mines, landfills, and Department of Defense sites.
- Water Resource Control Engineer, Regulatory and Enforcement Unit, South Lake Tahoe. This position will be the lead contact for several facilities under state Waste Discharge Requirements for discharges to land and surface water. This includes wastewater treatment facilities, stormwater, industrial, and construction sites.

2. California Abandoned Mine Lands Regulators – *Christina Guerra*

In November 2021, the National Hardrock Abandoned Mine Lands Program (NHAMLP) was created with the passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. In response to the NHAMLP, the California Department of Conservation, Division of Mine Reclamation (DMR) began coordinating with the State Water Resources Control Board, the Regional Water Quality Control Boards, and the Department of Toxic Substances Control to initiate the California Abandoned Mine Lands Regulators (Group) in 2022. The purpose and goals of the Group are to

establish coordination and collaboration for information sharing, inform and influence legislation and NHAMLP, develop a prioritization approach that meets the agencies' short- and long-term goals for abandoned mine lands (AML), assists with municipalities and non-responsible party landowners in addressing AML, and assists agencies that don't have an AML program.

To guide NHAMLP development, the Interstate Mining Compact Commission (IMCC) reached out and began coordinating with states and tribes, through the National Association of Abandoned Mine Lands Programs (NAAML) organization, to which DMR is the coordinating contact agency for California. Two initial opportunities were identified for the Group to efficiently influence the development of NHAMLP and advocate for funding through IMCC. The Department of Interior requested general input from California AML regulators to inform a federal Interagency Working Group that is considering changes to the mining regulations, laws, and permitting process, and the United States Geological Survey (USGS) requested input on the development of a national hard rock database. The Group provided input to the USGS and IMCC in August and September 2022, respectively. The Group currently is working to update lists of California AML that would represent the agencies' assessment of priority sites for environmental, human health, and safety hazards, and will be provided to the California State Legislature. Also, federal funding is expected to remain the same for the current federal fiscal year, with most funding going toward developing the federal program for AML. Some funding will be available to states and tribes in 2023 through grant application. To that end, the Group is also working to identify projects in the state that may be ready for physical hazard remediation in order to seek grant funding.

Lahontan Water Board staff Jan Zimmerman, Senior Engineering Geologist, and Christina Guerra, Engineering Geologist, participate with the Group along with staff from the State Water Board and the Central Valley Regional Board. Based on AML databases developed by other agencies, Water Board staff are aware that many AML sites are located within the Lahontan Region. However, the Region lacks the resources to locate and investigate the potential environmental hazards these sites may pose to human health and water resources. With continued participation in the Group, we anticipate acquiring a better understanding of AML sites within the Region and of potential funding sources that may be available in the future.

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

ATTACHMENT "A"

EXECUTIVE OFFICER ACTION ITEMS

February 1, 2023, to February 28, 2023
Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

DOCUMENT

DATE

NO FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED¹

No Further Action Required and Rescission of Regulatory Orders for Tahoe Tom's Gas Station, 4029 Lake Tahoe Boulevard, South Lake Tahoe	2/8/2023
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EXEMPTIONS

Pending Action for Notice of Applicability and Exemption to Waste Discharge Prohibitions for the Truckee River Bank Stabilization and Access Improvements Project	2/27/2023
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BOARD ORDERS

NONE	N/A
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401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATIONS

NONE	N/A
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WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

Complete Report of Waste Discharge Accepted, Monopine Cell Tower, 1857 Hekpa Drive, El Dorado County	2/3/2023
Complete Report of Waste Discharge Accepted, Monopine Cell Tower, 8177 Speckled Avenue, Placer County	2/3/2023
Complete Report of Waste Discharge Accepted, Monopine Cell Tower, 7101 Wilson Avenue, El Dorado County	2/3/2023
Notice of Applicability for General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Construction Projects, Including Utility, Public Works, and Minor Streambed/Lakebed Alteration Projects, Board Order No. R6T-2003-0004, McNeil Pier	2/7/2023

¹ 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.

DOCUMENT**DATE**

Notice of Termination – Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements, California Biotechnology Center, San Bernardino County	2/8/2023
Response to Report of Waste Discharge, Guillian/Verizon Cell Tower Project, 1360 Ski Run Boulevard, South Lake Tahoe, CA, El Dorado County, Assessor's Parcel Number 025-580-007, and the Tower Located at 1275 Meadow Crest Drive, South Lake Tahoe	2/21/2023
Complete Report of Waste Discharge Accepted, Monopine Cell Tower, Angel's Roost, Heavenly Ski Resort, 1636 Sherman Way	2/21/2023
Notice Of Termination – Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements, High Desert Cultivation Center LLC APN 3132-016-028	2/23/2023
Notice Of Termination – Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements, High Desert Cultivation Center LLC APN 3126-017-038	2/23/2023

MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS

City of Victorville Supplemental Environmental Project Amendment; Settlement Agreement and Stipulation for Entry of Board Order No. R6V-2020-0001	2/22/2023
Request for U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. Epa) Approval of An Amendment To The Water Quality Control Plan For The Lahontan Region (Basin Plan) To Clarify Mojave River Beneficial Use Designations, Update Site Cleanup, Land Disposal And Bishop Underground Tank Policy Sections And Other Editorial Revisions	2/24/2023

Additional links:

[General Policy information](#)

[Copy of Policy](#)

[Implementation Plan](#)

UNAUTHORIZED DISCHARGE REPORT
FEBRUARY 1, 2023 TO FEBRUARY 28, 2023

ATTACHMENT "B"

Responsible Party	Location of Occurrence	Regulated Facility	Basin N/S?	Date of Occurrence	Volume of Occurrence	Violation Description	Comments	Status
COUNTY: SAN BERNARDINO								
City of Barstow	Barstow CS,1477 Riverside Drive	YES	S	2/1/2023	425 gallons	Roots caused 425 gallons of sewage to spill from Manhole at 1477 Riverside Drive.	No surface water body was affected.	A small berm was built to contain flow in a desert area. Line Repaired.

*All discharges to surface waters are to be included in this report.

**Discharges of less than 100 gallons to land are not to be included in this report.

ENCLOSURE 3

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

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT
2023 STANDING ITEMS**

The Water Board has requested regular reports on a number of programs and projects. The following table lists these standing reports, the reporting frequency and the dates the items are due.

ISSUE	FREQUENCY	DUE DATE
Cannabis Update	Annual	September
Grazing Update	Annual	November
Onsite Septic Systems	Annual	April
Salt & Nutrient Management Plans	Annual	April
Status of Triennial Review Projects	Annual	August
Status of Dairies	Annual	February – April Agenda presentation, Item #8
Status of Grants	Annual	June
City of Barstow Nitrate	Annual	June
City of Barstow Orphan Perchlorate	Annual	June
Lake Tahoe Water Quality	Annual	July
Leviathan Mine	Annual	April
Harmful Algal Blooms	Annual	November
Pacific Gas & Electric Company	Annual	June (informational item)
Quarterly Violations Report	Quarterly	January (3 rd quarter) April (4 th quarter) July (1 st quarter) October (2 nd quarter)

*Water Board staff presentation