CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD LAHONTAN REGION

2501 Lake Tahoe Blvd., South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

RENEWING GENERAL CONDITIONAL WAIVER OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR GRAZING OPERATIONS IN THE EAST WALKER RIVER WATERSHED (BRIDGEPORT VALLEY AND TRIBUTARIES) OF THE LAHONTAN REGION

Public Notice by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (Water Board) that the draft renewal of Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Grazing Operations in the East Walker River Watershed (Bridgeport Valley and Tributaries) NO. R6T-2023-TENT (Order) of the Lahontan Region is available to review and comment at following the Link or a copy may be sent upon request.

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/board decisions/tentative orders/

If adopted, the Order will regulate private landowners and their operators conducting grazing operations on private lands in the Bridgeport Hydrologic Area (HU No. 630.30).

Project Information

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Permit Applicants	Bridgeport Valley Enrollees
Name of Project	Bridgeport Grazing Waiver
Permitee/Facility Address	Private lands in the Bridgeport Hydrologic Area
Discharge Point	Discharges to East Walker River above Bridgeport
	Reservoir in the Bridgeport Valley, and the East Walker
	Tributaries Hydrologic Area (HU No. 630.40), which
	consists of Clearwater Creek, Virginia Creek, Green
	Creek, Long Valley Creek, Summers Creek, Swauger
	Creek, and Robinson Creek.
Discharge Description	Alpine Streams
Receiving Waters	Bridgeport Hydrologic Area and the East Walker
_	Tributaries Hydrologic Area

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Lahontan Water Board) will receive written comments on renewal of Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Grazing Operations in the East Walker River Watershed (Bridgeport Valley and Tributaries). Written comments must be received no later than **5:00 pm on December 22, 2022.** Written comments may be submitted electronically, via email, with the subject "Comments on Renewed Bridgeport Grazing Waiver" to lahontan@waterboards.ca.gov, or submitted in hard copy to 2501 Lake Tahoe Boulevard, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150, to the attention of Mo Loden.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Lahontan Water Board) will hold a public hearing to receive public comments and

consider renewal of the Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Grazing Operations in the East Walker River Watershed (Bridgeport Valley and Tributaries).

This notice also sets forth the procedures and processes the Lahontan Water Board will use at this proceeding and contains important deadlines.

The Lahontan Water Board will hold a public hearing and consider adoption of the Waiver, as follows:

DATE: March 1, 2023

TIME: 09:00 a.m. (Tentative start time)

PLACE: Lahontan Water Board Annex, Hearing Room

971 Silver Dollar Avenue South Lake Tahoe. CA 96150

and

Video/teleconference

This public meeting is currently scheduled to take place in-person and via video and teleconference, but the format may be changed in the future. Any person wishing to obtain information about changes to the date, time, location, or format of the meeting should visit the Board's website at

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/board info/remote meeting/).

The final meeting agenda will be available on the Board's website at least 10 days before the meeting. The agenda will provide the location and format of the meeting, the anticipated date the hearing will be held for this item, and the anticipated order of all agenda items; however, the Board may consider agenda items out of their listed order. The agenda materials may also include staff revisions to the proposed order.

Advanced Zoom registration is required to participate telephonically or by computer. The deadline to submit a Virtual Speaker Card is February 27, 2023 by 5 pm. Procedures for viewing and/or participating in the hearing, including for submitting Virtual Speaker Cards for individuals who want to provide oral comments are available on the Lahontan Water Board's website at

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/board info/remote meeting/) and are also available in the agenda for the meeting or by contacting the Lahontan Water Board's office. Questions regarding such procedures should be directed to the Lahontan Water Board at (530) 542-5400.

Participants in this proceeding are identified as either "Parties" or "Interested Persons." Designation as a Party is not necessary to participate in this proceeding. Both interested Persons and Parties will have the opportunity to present oral comments. Both Interested Persons and Parties may be asked to respond to clarifying questions from the Lahontan Water Board members, counsel, or staff, or others, at the discretion of the of the Board.

The designated parties for this hearing is El Dorado County, Placer County, and the City of South Lake Tahoe the Bridgeport Ranchers Organization (BRO). Parties to the hearing may present evidence or, cross-

examine other parties' witnesses (if any are called). Parties are subject to cross-examination about any evidence they present.

Interested persons include any person or organization that is interested in the outcome of the hearing, but who has not been designated as a party. Interested persons may present oral comments at the hearing, but they may not present evidence. Oral comments include policy statements and/or arguments about the appropriateness, wisdom, or utility of the proposal before the Lahontan Water Board. Interested persons are not subject to cross-examination and may not cross-examine witnesses.

All designated parties and interested persons may speak at the Lahontan Water Board meeting. Oral comments should avoid repeating previous comments to allow all persons time to be heard. Interested persons with similar concerns or opinions are encouraged to choose one representative to speak and are encouraged to coordinate their presentations with each other. Oral comments will be limited to five (5) minutes each. Any person may ask for additional time for their oral comment by sending a request with a justification supporting the request and the requested amount of time to the Board Clerk, Katrina Fleshman at RB6-Lahontan@waterboards.ca.gov or by contacting her directly at (530) 542-5414 by 5:00 p.m. by February 14, 2023. Please indicate in the subject line "Bridgeport Grazing Waiver." Interested persons requesting additional time will be advised prior to the date of the hearing of the amount of time they will be allocated. The decision to grant or deny additional time will be based upon the complexity and the number of issues under consideration, the extent to which entities and persons have coordinated, the number of interested persons anticipated, the extent to which entities and persons have identified unique interests, and the time available for the hearing. It is the Lahontan Water Board's intent that reasonable requests be accommodated." Interested persons requesting additional time will be advised prior to the date of the hearing of the amount of time they will be allocated. The decision to grant or deny additional time will be based upon the complexity and the number of issues under consideration, the extent to which entities and persons have coordinated, the number of interested persons anticipated, the extent to which entities and persons have identified unique interests, and the time available for the hearing. It is the Lahontan Water Board's intent that reasonable requests be accommodated.

Participants requesting to use a PowerPoint presentation during the public hearing must email the file, in .ppt format, to RB6-Lahontan@waterboards.ca.gov with a copy to katrina.fleshman@waterboards.ca.gov, and be received by 5:00 p.m. on February 14, 2023. Please indicate in the subject line "Bridgeport Grazing Waiver." Except at the discretion of the Regional Water Board Chair, written material received after the above date will not be accepted. If the Chair chooses to accept late written material, that material will not be incorporated into the administrative record if doing so would prejudice the Permittee or the Regional Water Board staff. The Chair may choose to modify this rule upon a showing of severe hardship (California Code of Regulations, Title 23, sections 648.1 and 648.4).

The proceeding before the Lahontan Water Board generally will be conducted in the following order:

- 1. Opening statement by the Chair summarizing the subject matter and purpose of the hearing
- 2. Administration of oath to persons who intend to testify
- 3. Water Board staff presentation
- 4. Questions from the Water Board members to staff or counsel
- 5. Designated parties' presentations
- 6. Questions from the Water Board members, counsel, or staff to designated parties
- 7. Interested persons' comments
- 8. Questions from the Water Board members, counsel, or staff to designated parties or interested persons
- 9. Questions from the Water Board members to staff or counsel
- 10. Deliberations
- 11. Water Board decision

Document Availability: The Waiver and corresponding information are available on:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/board decisions/tentative orders/

Copies of any documents can also be obtained by contacting the Lahontan Water Board's office at (530) 542-5400 or visiting the office at 2501 Lake Tahoe Blvd., South Lake Tahoe weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

The Final Meeting Agenda

<u>Board Meeting Schedule - 2023 | Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board</u> (ca.gov) will be available at least 10 days before the meeting.

The Procedures Governing Lahontan Water Board Meetings (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws-regulations/) may be found at Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Section 647 et seq. and are available upon request. Hearings before the Lahontan Water Board are not conducted pursuant to Government Code section 11500 et seq.

Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to send an email to: RB6-Lahontan@waterboards.ca.gov with the subject line "Special accommodation for Board Meeting," or call (530) 542-5400 at least five working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or by voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Questions may be directed to Mo Loden at the Lahontan Water Board Office, at (530) 542-5450 or Mo.Loden@Waterboards.ca.gov.

MARY FIORE-WAGNER

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SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST, SUPERVISOR, NON-POINT SOURCE UNIT

DATE: November 15, 2022