



EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT
October 1, 2025 – October 31, 2025

Contents

1. Personnel Report — <i>Sandra Lopez</i>	1
2. Pacific Gas and Electric Company Site Tour for the University of San Diego — <i>Amanda Lopez</i>	2
3. Update on Regional PCE Contamination Efforts in South Lake Tahoe — <i>TJ</i> <i>Middlemis-Clark</i>	4
4. 2025 Lake Tahoe Litter Summit — <i>Mo Loden & Ed Hancock</i>	5
5. Rebuilding Our Eastern California Cannabis Unit — <i>Jan Zimmerman</i>	6
6. Leviathan Mine Superfund Site, Alpine County — <i>Leviathan Unit</i>	7
7. Use of Emergency Cleanup and Abatement Account Funding for Heating Oil Tank Release — <i>Brian Grey</i>	12

1. Personnel Report — *Sandra Lopez*

New Hires

- Michael Perez, Senior Water Resources Control Engineer, Eastern California Cannabis Unit, Victorville

Vacancies

- Supervising Engineering Geologist, Victorville. This position will manage the Victorville office. It will plan, organize, manage, coordinate, and report the work of the Protection, Restoration, and Sustainability Division (former South Lahontan Basin Division).
- Executive Assistant (Associate Governmental Program Analyst), South Lake Tahoe or Victorville. This position is responsible for providing timely and professional analytical assistance to the public and Executive staff within the Board, by phone, email, mail and in person. The AGPA is required to work

independently, communicate effectively, manage multiple tasks, formulate recommendations, apply a high level of analytical thinking and problem solve.

- Water Resource Control Engineer, Victorville. This position will provide oversight of cannabis cultivation projects under the statewide Cannabis General order, will assist in the review of engineering and technical reports, and will assist others in the Unit.
- Environmental Scientist, Victorville. This position will provide oversight of cannabis cultivation projects under the statewide Cannabis General order and will assist the Unit in conducting correlations between cannabis discharges and impacts to water quality and/or the environment.

2. Pacific Gas and Electric Company Site Tour for the University of San Diego — *Amanda Lopez*

On October 23, 2025, professor Dr. Beth O'Shea and a group of eleven students from the University of San Diego (USD) visited the Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) Hinkley Chromium Cleanup Site for a site tour. The USD students were a combination of undergraduate and graduate students in the Environmental and Ocean Sciences Department. PG&E representatives Iain Baker, Margy Gentile, Isaac Wood, Keith Widener, and Jessica Balders, along with Water Board staff Christina Guerra and Amanda Lopez, were present for the site tour and were available to answer questions.

The site visit began in PG&E's Hinkley Community Building with Iain Baker, PG&E's Environmental Remediation Director, introduced the PG&E site and site history (Photo 2.1). Following the introduction, Margy Gentile with Arcadis, provided a presentation on the science behind PG&E's remediation systems.

The group toured the In-situ Reactive Zone infrastructure, including an injection well, Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA), ethanol dosing shed, and ethanol tank. The students then visited the hilltop across from the agricultural treatment units (ATUs) for an overview of the size of the site, the ATUs, and plume extent from the compressor station. The final stop was at the Desert View Dairy West ATU to see the low energy precision application (LEPA) system (Photo 2.2). The group returned to the PG&E Community Building for a question-and-answer session.

In the afternoon, the students arrived at the Independent Review Panel (IRP) Office to hear a short presentation from the IRP Manager, Dr. Raudel Sanchez, on the United States Geological Survey Background Study and services provided by the IRP to the community (Photo 2.3). Three community members joined the group and recounted their experiences as community members affected by the hexavalent chromium release. Water Board staff provided a high-level overview of the regulatory aspect of the site. Prior to departing, students had the opportunity to seek career advice and ask questions of Water Board staff and the IRP team.



Photo 2.1: Iain Baker PG&E's Environmental Remediation Director provides an overview of the PG&E Hinkley site history to USD students.



Photo 2.2: Iain Baker provides an explanation of the LEPA system to USD students



Photo 2.3: IRP manager Dr. Raudel Sanchez discusses the role of the IRP and community support provided by the IRP team

3. Update on Regional PCE Contamination Efforts in South Lake Tahoe — TJ Middlemis-Clark

Brian Grey, Water Board Engineering Geologist, presented at a recent groundwater management meeting in South Lake Tahoe. The meeting was named Regionally-Focused 2025 Countywide Plenary for Water — Tahoe Basin, and held on October 23, 2025, at the South Tahoe Public Utility District. El Dorado Water Agency (EDWA) coordinated the meeting. The agency invited Water Board staff to present on the regional tetrachloroethene (PCE) contamination in the South Lake Tahoe area.

Brian's presentation discussed PCE's chemical properties, including its volatility and persistence in groundwater systems. He also described the state-funded soil and groundwater investigations. Finally, Brian explained the ongoing role of the Lahontan Water Board in regulating and ensuring the cleanup of contaminated sites.

Rebecca Guo, General Manager of the El Dorado Water Agency (EDWA), expressed gratitude for the Lahontan Water Board's efforts in addressing the PCE contamination. She acknowledged the progress made in monitoring and remediation and the collaborative strategies to protect local water quality and public health. EDWA staff's appreciation underscores the value of continued cooperation between agencies and stakeholders.

4. 2025 Lake Tahoe Litter Summit — Mo Loden & Ed Hancock

On October 2, 2025, Water Board staff Mo Loden and Ed Hancock attended the third annual Lake Tahoe Litter Summit at the Thunderbird Lodge on Lake Tahoe's east shore. Hosted by [Clean Up The Lake](#), the event brought together community leaders, nonprofits, government agencies, and scientists to review recent work focused on reducing litter in the Lake Tahoe Basin and develop new strategies to tackle the Basin's ongoing litter issues.

Throughout the day, presenters shared research findings and discussed strategies for litter prevention.

Presentations from Clean Up The Lake, the Sierra Nevada Alliance, the League to Save Lake Tahoe (Keep Tahoe Blue), and Eco Clean Solutions sparked thoughtful dialogue and highlighted the important work these organizations complete to reduce litter impacts. Clean Up The Lake, for example, focuses on removing underwater litter around Lake Tahoe's shore and has removed over 88,000 pounds of trash since 2018, including over 14,000 aluminum cans and over 1,200 tires. The League to Save Lake Tahoe leads the Tahoe Blue Beaches program to coordinate beach cleanups and facilitate beach stewardship, focusing on education, engineering (such as provision of bathroom facilities, trash cans, signage), and enforcement. The Blue Beach program has seen as much as a 97% reduction in trash as some of their target beaches, although much work remains to be done to reduce litter in the Basin.

The second portion of the summit involved small group breakout sessions that encouraged practical and collaborative approaches to a variety of litter issues. Breakout groups focused on topics such as improving the [Lake Tahoe Ambassador Program](#), more effectively deploying the [Water Bottle Filling Station Grant Program](#), strengthening a support network for coordinating litter cleanups, and identifying and developing new funding sources to support litter reduction efforts. The breakout sessions were an excellent opportunity to share knowledge, network between organizations, and tap into a variety of expertise with a common goal of problem solving and fostering ongoing litter protection for Lake Tahoe. Following the breakout sessions, Summit attendees reconvened for an informal networking session in the Thunderbird Lodge's great room.

The 2025 Tahoe Litter Summit presented Water Board staff with opportunities to stay up to date with on-the-ground efforts targeting litter reduction and removal, participate in development of community-led litter solutions, and identify opportunities to support effective litter prevention projects. The Summit was useful both for staff working on Lake Tahoe water quality issues and for staff who administer grant opportunities, providing those staff with opportunity to build new and strengthen existing partnerships with external organizations.



Photo 4.1: Lake Tahoe Litter Summit 2025 welcome sign. Photo by Ed Hancock

5. Rebuilding Our Eastern California Cannabis Unit — *Jan Zimmerman*

The Eastern California Cannabis Unit (Cannabis Unit) operates in the California Water Board's Lahontan Region (Region 6) and Colorado River Basin Region (Region 7), covering approximately 60,000 square miles (38.4 million acres) of eastern California from Oregon to Mexico. Cannabis program staff are responsible for two broad areas of program implementation: (1) regulating licensed cannabis cultivation operations, and (2) working with law enforcement partners to tackle the proliferation of illicit cannabis grows. Over the years, the cannabis program has taken several budget cuts due to lower-than-expected permittee enrollments. By the end of 2024, our program dwindled down to two technical staff and a part-time supervisor.

The first half of 2025 has been particularly challenging for cannabis program staff. In early 2025, the program was put on hold through the budget letter exercises and the abolishment of three cannabis positions, including the two existing cannabis technical staff, which we had to redirect to vacant positions within the organization. Around that same time in early 2025, we received confirmation that a Budget Change Proposal for a Senior Water Resource Control Engineer (WRCE) (a dedicated supervisor for the Cannabis Unit) was still a go and that we could start recruiting for that position July 1, 2025.

In April 2025, we received news that two of the abolished cannabis positions (WRCE and Environmental Scientist) were being returned to the Cannabis Unit as part of a statewide return of 32 positions to the state-wide cannabis program. It turns out that Division of Finance crunched the numbers and realized there was enough fee-based funding to bring these positions back.

We began recruiting for a Senior WRCE supervisor for the Cannabis Unit in July 2025 and redirected (moved) the position from the North Basin Regulatory and Cleanup Division in South Lake Tahoe to the Protection, Restoration, and Sustainability Division (formerly South Lahontan Basin Division) in Victorville. The hiring team selected Michael Perez, his first day on the job was October 20, 2025. Michael brings more than 20 years of experience with the Water Boards, working in many of the water quality programs including Dairies and Confined Animal Facilities, Total Maximum Daily Loads, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, and Waste Discharge Requirements. Most recently, Michael was the Enforcement Coordinator in Region 7 where he was also involved in cannabis enforcement cases. His knowledge of the Water Board programs will be invaluable in his role as supervisor for the Cannabis Unit. Michael's initial task is to recruit and hire a WRCE and Environmental Scientist and to start rebuilding the Cannabis Unit.

Redirecting the Cannabis Unit to Victorville was a strategic decision aimed at positioning the cannabis resources closer to cultivation sites, better aligning resources with programmatic and operational needs, and preparing for future growth. The Victorville office is centrally located relative to most active cannabis cultivation permits, which will streamline operations and improve efficiency in responding to regulatory needs. Region 6 has 170 permitted sites, with 95% of these within a 2-hour drive from Victorville. Similarly, 90% of the 160 permitted sites in Region 7 are within a 3-hour

driving distance from Victorville. This proximity will enable more frequent site inspections, facilitate staff involvement in warrant searches for illicit cannabis grows, reduce travel time to and from the office, and enhance work-life balance for program staff.

6. Leviathan Mine Superfund Site, Alpine County — *Leviathan Unit*

Water Board staff continue cleanup, monitoring, and maintenance work at Leviathan Mine (Site) that started in the 1980s. This work involves coordinating with United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Atlantic Richfield Company (ARC), project stakeholders, and government partners.

Extensive background on the Leviathan Mine Superfund Site has been provided in previous EO Report articles and in Board presentations. The most recent EO Report article was published in [April 2024](#) and a Board presentation occurred at the [November 2024 Board Meeting](#). This update focuses on the work completed and challenges encountered since those updates.

Pond Water Treatment

The Water Board began conducting pond water treatment operations in 1999. Since then, approximately 212 million gallons of pond water have been neutralized and discharged to Leviathan Creek. As shown in Figure 6.1, seasonal treatment volumes have varied significantly from less than one million gallons to more than 28 million gallons. These fluctuations are driven by various factors such as the volume of acid mine drainage captured and stored in the pond system, direct precipitation (rain or snow), and evaporation rates. Because the Water Board pays their treatment contractors based on the number of gallons treated, this variability makes annual budgeting challenging (see Funding Challenges section for more information).

Early Season Treatment

During 2025 water year, the Site received slightly greater than average precipitation. However, the storage capacity in the pond system remained sufficient for acid mine drainage inflows throughout the winter and spring months. As a result, early season treatment was unnecessary.

Summer Treatment

In 2025, the Water Board's summer treatment operations treated approximately 4.5 million gallons of acid mine drainage and direct precipitation (collectively referred to as pond water) contained in the storage ponds. This is less than the average volume treated over the past 26 treatment seasons. As shown in Figure 6.1, the average volume treated since operations began in 1999 is approximately eight million gallons.

Mobilization for summer treatment began in mid-June 2025, with treatment operations occurring from June 23 to July 13, 2025. Analytical results of compliance samples

collected during treatment demonstrated that the treated effluent discharged to Leviathan Creek met USEPA discharge criteria.

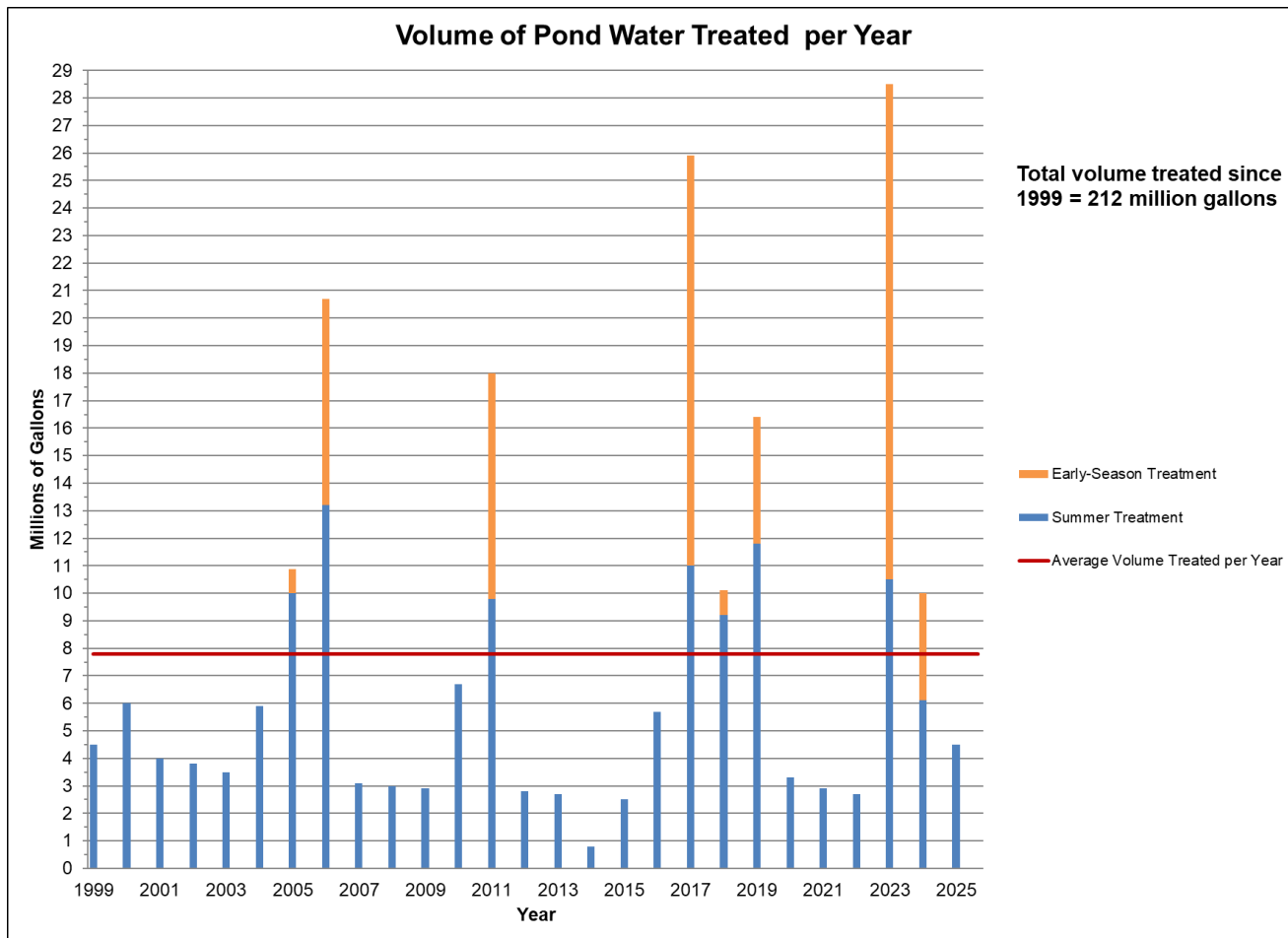


Figure 6.1: Water Board's pond water treatment volumes per year

Site Maintenance

Water Board staff and contractors have conducted maintenance activities at the Site since 1985. In 2025, the following Site maintenance activities were conducted:

- removed sediment from concrete stormwater diversion channels
- replaced silt fence in the Pit and Pond 1 areas
- sealed cracks in asphalt roadways
- installed a new utility water line for treatment system
- repaired perimeter fencing in high priority areas
- inspected the Site for noxious weeds
- installed a new generator enclosure
- investigated and removed a damaged corrugated metal pipe sleeve and PVC pipe in the access road

Surface Water Flow and Stage Monitoring

Under contract with the Water Board since 1998, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) continued to implement the surface water flow and stage monitoring program at the Site. Flow and stage data collected at these stations are transmitted via satellite and published online through the USGS National Water Information System. These data are readily available to the Water Board for remote monitoring, and are also accessible to the USEPA, ARC, stakeholders, and the general public.

During the 2025 season, USGS maintained and calibrated flow monitoring equipment at 11 existing stations, installed a new continuous flow monitoring station on lower Aspen Creek above Leviathan Creek, and replaced flow monitoring and telemetry equipment at select monitoring stations.

Long-term Remedial Actions

USEPA placed Leviathan Mine on the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) National Priorities List on May 11, 2000. This action made the Site a federal Superfund site. As such, long-term remedial action work at the Site must follow the Superfund process outlined in Figure 6.2.

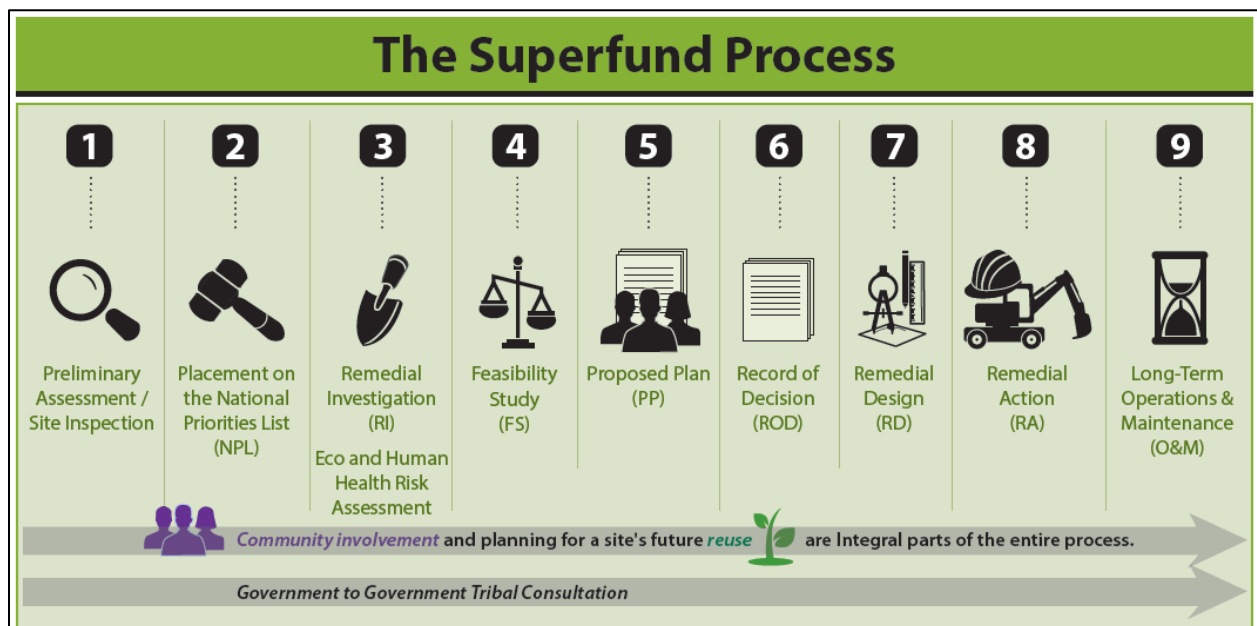


Figure 6.2: The Superfund Process

Activities conducted since the last EO Report and Board presentation, as well as those anticipated in the future associated with the Superfund Process, include the following:

Step 3

- USEPA to provide comments and direction to ARC on the Draft 2024 Remedial Investigation Report, Draft 2024 Baseline Human Health Risk Assessment Report, and Draft 2024 Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment Report.
- Water Board staff provided comments to USEPA on these reports in 2024.

Step 4

- ARC submitted a Revised Focused Feasibility Study for Collection and Treatment of Acid Drainage Discharges to Surface Water (Revised 2025 FFS) on July 31, 2025.¹
- Water Board staff, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, and Desert Research Institute submitted comments on ARC's Revised 2025 FFS on September 24, 2025.
- USEPA expected to provide comments and direction to ARC on the Revised 2025 FFS in late 2025 or early 2026.

Step 5

- During 2026 or 2027, Water Board staff anticipate USEPA will select the preferred remedial alternatives outlined in the Revised 2025 FFS in a Proposed Plan for public comment. Remedial alternatives selected will address the collection and treatment of acid mine drainage discharges, management of treatment residuals, and infrastructure improvements.

Settlement Agreement Activities

RI/FS Credit

Water Board staff continue to review Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) related expenses incurred by ARC for future reimbursement, in accordance with the 2015 Settlement Agreement. Following the review of the second quarter 2024 expenses, Water Board and ARC agreed that ARC had spent a total of \$66.7 million on RI/FS activities. As a result, the Water Board currently owes ARC \$22.2 million in credit for reimbursable RI/FS related charges. The [August 2022](#) EO Report explains the details of the cost allocation terms outlined in the 2015 Settlement Agreement with ARC.

Potential Property Transfer

As introduced in the [November 2024 Board Meeting](#) presentation, the State of California has statutory authority to transfer the Leviathan Mine property ([California Government Code § 14673.12](#)) and ARC has expressed an interest in purchasing the property.

¹ The Revised 2025 FFS has been submitted by ARC to address U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) May 22, 2023 and December 12, 2024 comments and direction on the August 6, 2021 *Focused Feasibility Study for OU-1 Mine-Influenced Groundwater and Metals in Surface Water*.

Currently, the Water Board's Office of Chief Counsel (OCC) staff are working with the Department of General Services (DGS) to transfer the title to ARC.

Accompanying the property transfer efforts, Water Boards technical and legal staff and outside legal counsel are engaged in confidential settlement discussions concerning a possible amendment to the existing 2015 Settlement Agreement with ARC. If a settlement is reached, this amendment will define roles, responsibilities, and cost sharing arrangements for the Water Board and ARC if the property transfer is finalized. While specific terms are confidential and remain under negotiation, ARC would likely assume responsibility for designing, constructing, and operating the remedial actions, along with other responsibilities currently held by the State and Regional Board under the 2015 Settlement Agreement. The State and Regional Board would retain financial responsibility for a portion of the investigation, response, and remedial actions, consistent with the 2015 Settlement Agreement. Additionally, the Water Board will retain its regulatory role as a support agency and temporarily maintain responsibility for running the current treatment systems. Finally, USEPA would remain the lead agency under CERCLA for investigation and response actions at the Site.

The Water Board and ARC anticipate finalizing the property transfer and corresponding 2015 Settlement Agreement amendment in 2026.

Funding Challenges

Summer Treatment System Improvements Project

In fiscal year (FY) 2024-25, the Water Board obtained \$3.5 million for summer treatment system upgrades. The requested funds were based on design and estimate developed in collaboration with DGS. Water Board staff anticipated getting bids in late fall 2024, but work was delayed due to weather conditions. A bid walk for the construction improvements was held on June 18, 2025. One bid was received for \$3.7 million. This bid exceeded the project's total budget. As a result, the Water Board were unable to initiate the planned upgrades.

Water Board staff are now evaluating alternative approaches to maintain the functionality of the summer treatment system. Staff will need to keep the system operational until a new water treatment remedy is implemented. The exact timeline for this is unknown; however, the Water Board will likely need to operate the summer treatment system for the next five to ten years.

Summer Treatment System Operations

The Water Board currently receives less funding for summer treatment than the actual average annual cost. The current annual funding allotment was established in FY 2014-15 and has not changed since. The cost to treat acid mine drainage and conduct routine Site maintenance from FY 2014-15 to FY 2025-26 has nearly doubled, and the funding received no longer covers current costs for treatment and maintenance.

In FY 2024-25, Water Board staff requested additional funding to augment the General Fund allocation for summer treatment and routine Site maintenance. This request was denied, and the current funding allocation remains inadequate to meet the requirements of the USEPA Order.

Water Board staff are pursuing additional funding to address this gap. Without adequate financial resources, the Water Board risks noncompliance with the USEPA Order, potentially triggering enforcement action by the USEPA.

Financial Obligations to ARC

In consultation with the Department of General Services and the Department of Finance, the Water Board will be pursuing multi-year funding allotments to reimburse ARC. The funding will ensure the timely and effective implementation of future investigation, response, and remedial actions at the Site.

Additionally, the Water Board is addressing the outstanding credit owed to ARC as allowed under the existing 2015 Settlement Agreement. The current credit is estimated to be approximately \$22 million (see RI/FS Credit section). Given the Water Board's current role as a responsible party at the Site, early engagement and establishing structured funding mechanisms are essential to ensure accountability and continuity of work at the Site.

7. Use of Emergency Cleanup and Abatement Account Funding for Heating Oil Tank Release — *Brian Grey*

The following article describes Water Board staff efforts to mitigate threats to human health and the environment from a heating oil spill. The responsible party was unable to clean up the spilled heating oil or remove the source without significant assistance. Water Board staff conducted initial response, acquired Cleanup and Abatement Account funds to pay for cleanup, and obtained a contractor to complete the work.

Incident Summary

A residential heating oil tank overflowed during the winter of 2024-25. The exact date of the overflow is unknown. Water Board staff received notification on February 1, 2025 from the California Office of Emergency Services (OES) spill report system. The heating oil tank had overflowed during a rain event when water displaced the tank contents through a faulty cap.

The initial discharge overflowed from a property on East River Park Drive onto an adjacent property and into El Dorado County's stormwater conveyance system. The heating oil was transported through drainage swales, culverts, and drop inlets. An example of what the discharge looked like in a swale is shown in Photo 7.1. The discharge ran along East River Park Drive, Beaver Brae Drive and Portal Drive for approximately 1,400 feet. This pathway is shown as a map in Figure 7.1. An unknown, but assumed small, volume of heating oil entered the South Upper Truckee River.



Photo 7.3: The brown liquid in the middle of the photo is representative of the heating oil as observed soon after the spill.

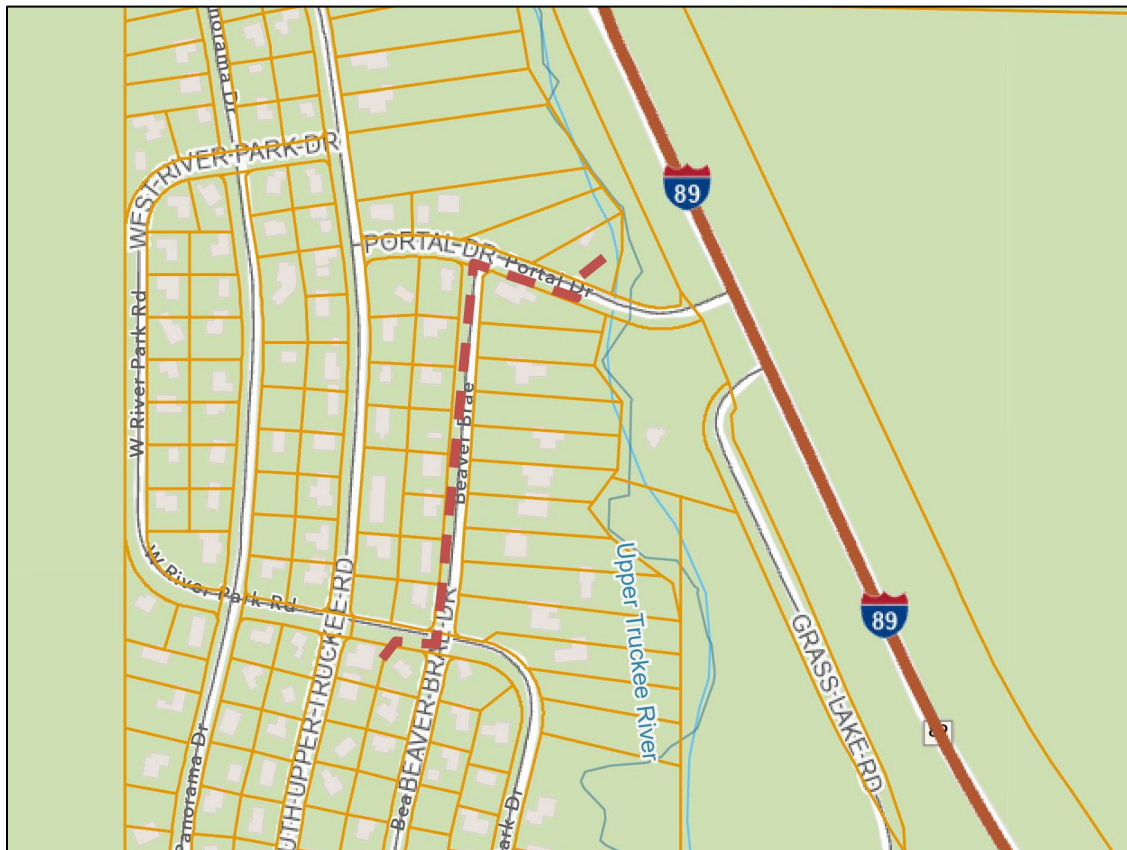


Figure 7.1: The dashed red line shows the approximate northerly path of heating oil overland flow in Christmas Valley, South Lake Tahoe area.

The storm event included approximately 3 inches of rain in less than 48 hours followed by freezing conditions and approximately 12 inches of snowfall. Several more snowstorms occurred during the following weeks. The volume of release remained unknown but was estimated by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and Water Board staff to be in the hundreds of gallons. The volume, contents, and integrity of the tank also remained unknown at the time of the release.

The El Dorado County Environmental Management Department performed initial response actions. Actions consisted of absorbent pad and boom placement in the drainage swales, culverts and drop inlets. Additional interim remedial actions were also conducted between storm events by a neighbor. These subsequent interim remedial efforts focused primarily on removing visually stained and odorous snow and soil in the vicinity of the tank, at culverts and downgradient of the drop inlet near the South Upper Truckee River. A mixture of heating oil and water also remained in the tank following the initial abatement actions.

El Dorado County conducted soil sampling following the initial response actions. The soil sample results indicated heating oil concentrations remained greater than residential environmental screening levels intended for protection of public health, water quality and the environment. Visual and odor observations also indicated soil contamination remained in the vicinity of the tank and within the stormwater conveyance system.

The South Upper Truckee River remained threatened by the heating oil in the tank, and residual soil contamination located in the vicinity of the tank, and the stormwater conveyance system. Additional discharge was likely during future storm events. South Tahoe Public Utility District's South Upper Truckee Well #1 is also located appropriately 3,000 feet downgradient (north) of the residence where the release occurred.

El Dorado County Environmental Management received multiple public complaints at the time of release and continued receiving complaints from neighbors in the vicinity of the tank and the stormwater conveyance system after the initial cleanup actions. The complaints indicated a nuisance condition due to odor and the potential for direct contact exposure. A neighbor was specifically concerned about human health effects for direct contact and odor due to the discharge in the drainage ditch in front of their property.

El Dorado County Environmental Management, Water Board, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) staff conducted site inspections during and following the snowmelt (late April). El Dorado County staff also performed an additional sampling event. The results of the site inspections and sample results indicated threats to human health and the environment remained and additional action was needed.

Agency Coordination and Cleanup and Abatement Account Funding

El Dorado County Environmental Management, CDFW, and the Water Board responded to the spill and conducted interim remedial actions. El Dorado County Environmental Management acted as the lead agency initially by communicating with

the homeowner where the release occurred, collecting samples, and responding to the public complainants.

Following the initial response and interim remedial actions CDFW and Water Board staff informed the property owner of the heating oil tank of requirements to fully clean up the unauthorized release. To assist the property owner, CDFW contacted a contractor to obtain a cost estimate to perform the additional cleanup. Once the property owner was presented with the cost estimate (approximately \$76k), the property owner demonstrated they did not have the financial means to respond to the incident. The various agencies discussed options to affect cleanup and evaluated potential funding sources. Water Board staff determined the State Water Board's Cleanup and Abatement Account (CAA) was the most viable option. By the beginning of May 2025, Water Board assumed the role of the lead agency, opened a Site Cleanup Program case and applied for Tier 1 CAA funding.

Water Board staff received approval of their Tier 1 CAA funding request in late May 2025. Tier 1 CAA funding is for "Emergency projects that require immediate action to mitigate a significant threat to the environment or a threat to public health and safety where there has been no viable RP identified, or where the viable RP is unwilling or unable to adequately respond to the emergency". Water Board staff coordinated with the Division of Financial Assistance, Division of Administrative Services, the Office of Chief Counsel, and the contractor to receive the CAA funds, develop a contract, and implement the project. Water Board staff notified the property owner that a lien may be placed on their property to recover the expended CAA funds.

Cleanup and Abatement Account Cleanup Project

Water Board staff finalized the contract with the cleanup contractor at the beginning of September 2025 and implemented further cleanup activities. The scope of work included:

- 1) Permanently decommissioned the heating oil tank and removed associated piping
- 2) Performed an initial characterization
- 3) Excavated contaminated soil in the vicinity of the UST and within the stormwater conveyance system
- 4) Hydro-jetted and vacuumed stormwater conveyance features, including drainage swales, culverts, drop inlets, and piping
- 5) Collected confirmation samples
- 6) Conducted UST backfilling and site restoration

An environmental remediation contractor completed the project in late September 2025. The contractor discovered one 550-gallon heating oil tank and removed it from the property. Approximately 40 cubic yards of contaminated soil were excavated from the UST vicinity and stormwater conveyance system and properly disposed. This volume is approximately equivalent to approximately 10 commercial trash dumpsters. The cleanup contractor collected confirmation samples after cleanup activities to determine what

level of residual contamination may remain in areas where contaminated soil was removed. The confirmation soil sample results and the final report are pending.

Water Board staff will provide a 60-day public notification period prior to issuing a No Further Action Required letter for the Site Cleanup Program case. Staff have been in contact with the original complainants and various neighbors to discuss the project and evaluate potential remaining concerns. The comments received indicate gratitude for project update and completion given the release timeframe. Water Board staff plan continued follow-up with El Dorado County to evaluate potential improvement to their illicit discharge stormwater response actions.