## STATE OF CALIFORNIA CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

#### ORDER WR 2022-0164

In the matter of the petitions
for extensions of time and petitions for change of
Trimont Land Company and Northstar Community Services District
for water-right Permits 15905, 15906, 16618, and 16619 (Applications A022822,
A022823, A023851, and A023849), which authorize diversions and use of water
from Unnamed Streams, Unnamed Springs, Sawmill Flat Springs, West Martis
Creek and Martis Creek in Placer County.

**COUNTY: Placer** 

STREAM SYSTEM: Truckee River

ORDER ON PETITIONS FOR EXTENSION OF TIME AND PETITIONS FOR CHANGE

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#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This matter came to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board or Board) as a proposed order prepared and transmitted by the Presiding Hearing Officer of the Board's Administrative Hearings Office (AHO), pursuant to Water Code section 1114, subdivision (c)(1). Pursuant to Water Code section 1114, subdivision (c)(2)(A), the Board adopts the AHO's proposed order in its entirety.

As described in this order, the State Water Board grants the petitions for extensions of time and petitions for change (collectively, the Petitions) of Trimont Land Company (Trimont) and Northstar Community Services District (Northstar CSD) (collectively, the Petitioners) for water-right Permits 15905, 15906, 16618, and 16619 (Applications 22822, 22823, 23851, and 23849) (the Permits).

#### 2.0 BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Trimont and Northstar CSD's Water-Diversion and Conveyance Facilities

The attached Figure 1 shows the locations of the authorized points of diversion for the Permits and the associated collection facilities.<sup>2</sup>

As shown on this map, the authorized points of diversion for Permits 15906, 16618 and 16619 all are located in West Martis Creek watershed. The diversion facilities associated with these permits are: (a) Reservoir A, (b) Sawmill Flat Springs Collection System, and (c) Big Springs Collection System. (See Fig. 1.) Reservoir A, sometimes referred to as "Sawmill Flat Reservoir," is located on West Martis Creek and has a storage capacity of 180 acre-feet (af). (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 13, p. 2.) The Sawmill Flat Springs Collection Gallery is located on West Martis Creek upstream of Reservoir A. It consists of a network of perforated and corrugated metal pipes that assist in transporting surface and sub-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Trimont holds Permit 15905. Northstar CSD holds Permit 15906. Petitioners jointly hold Permits 16618 and 16619.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The attached Figure 1 is a copy of exhibit Trimont-Northstar 6. The administrative record the AHO prepared for this matter contains a Hearing Documents folder, and, within that folder, a Trimont-Northstar exhibits sub-folder.

surface water to the Sawmill Flat Manhole. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 10, p. 5.) Water diverted at this manhole can be transported to Reservoir A, the Big Springs Cistern or Northstar CSD's water treatment plant. (*Ibid.*) The Big Springs Collection Gallery and related facilities are located on an unnamed tributary to West Martis Creek. (See Fig. 1.) Water diverted by these facilities is conveyed to the Big Springs Cistern. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 10, pp. 4-5.) The Northstar Pump House is adjacent to the Big Springs Cistern. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 6.) This pump house can convey water to locations throughout the Northstar system. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 10, p. 4.)

The Trimont Water Company (Trimont WC) and its successors constructed these facilities during 1969-1982, at a total cost of \$2,894,000. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 1, p. 3:21-23; exh. Trimont-Northstar 21, p. 12.) Trimont and Northstar CSD operate these facilities as a single unit, and use the water diverted and stored by them for irrigation, municipal, domestic and recreation purposes within the boundaries of the district and the Northstar California Resort (Northstar). (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 2, p. 2,  $\P$  4; p. 4,  $\P$  12.)

The authorized point of diversion for Permit 15905 is at the dam for proposed Reservoir B, which would be located on Martis Creek.<sup>3</sup> Reservoir B has not been constructed. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 1, pp. 9-10.) Reservoir B and related surface water facilities remain in Trimont's long-term plans, and Reservoir B will add necessary additional water supply and storage for the water system when needed to supply additional demands associated with further build-out at Northstar. (*Ibid.*)

## 2.2 Truckee-Carson-Pyramid Lake Water Rights Settlement Act and Truckee River Operating Agreement

After decades of conflicts regarding the interstate waters of the Lake Tahoe and Truckee and Carson Rivers, Congress enacted the Truckee-Carson-Pyramid Lake Water Rights Settlement Act (Settlement Act) in 1990. (Pub. Law 101-618, tit. II, 104 Stat. 3294-3324 (1990).)

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Martis Creek is located to the west of West Martis Creek. (See Fig. 1.)

Section 204 of the Settlement Act allocated the waters of the Carson and Truckee Rivers and Lake Tahoe between California and Nevada. (*Id.*, § 204, 104 Stat. 3296-3304.) For all uses of water from natural sources within the Lake Tahoe Basin, including groundwater, the Settlement Act allocates 23,000 acre-feet per year (af/yr) to California and 11,000 af/yr to Nevada. (*Id.*, § 204, subd. (b)(1), 104 Stat. 3297.) For waters in the Truckee River Basin, the Settlement Act allocates 32,000 af/yr of water from all natural sources, including both surface water and groundwater, to California, subject to the condition that total annual diversions of surface water supplies may not exceed 10,000 af/yr, and subject to priorities for some specified rights of use in Nevada. (*Id.*, § 204, subd. (c)(1), 104 Stat. 3300-3303.)

Section 205 of the Settlement Act directed the Secretary of the Interior to negotiate an operating agreement with Nevada and California, after consultation with other parties that might be designated by the Secretary or either of the two states. (*Id.*, § 205, subd. (a)(1), 104 Stat. 3304-3305.)

On September 6, 2008, the United States, California, Nevada and several other entities executed the Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA). (2008-09-06 Truckee River Operating Agreement.)<sup>4</sup> TROA article six contains detailed provisions and procedures regarding the allocation and accounting of the waters of the Lake Tahoe and Truckee River Basins. (Id., pp. 6-1 – 6-28.) TROA section 6.E.2 provides that the diversion and use of water by California water users in the Truckee River Basin shall not result in total

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Unless otherwise indicated, citations in this order are to files in the administrative record the AHO has prepared for this matter. Each filename contains the date of the document, followed by a brief description. Besides background documents like TROA and the Settlement Act, the administrative record also contains pdf files of some of the documents in the Board's Division of Water Rights Records Unit's paper files for water-right Applications 22822, 22823, 23851, and 23849. The administrative record contains a separate folder for the Records Unit files for each application.

Besides the United States, California and Nevada, the other parties to TROA are: Truckee Meadows Water Authority, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Washoe County Water Conservation District, City of Reno, City of Sparks, City of Fernley, Washoe County, Sierra Valley Mutual Water Company, Truckee Donner Public Utility District, North Tahoe Public Utility District, Carson-Truckee Water Conservancy District, and Placer County Water Agency. (TROA, p. R-1.)

California Truckee River Total Depletion, as that term is defined in TROA, of more than 17,600 af/yr. (*Id.*, p. 6-19.)

## 2.3 Water-Right Applications A022822, A022823, A023851, and A023849, and Permits 15905, 15906, 16618, and 16619

#### 2.3.1 Applications A022822 (Permit 15905) and A022823 (Permit 15906)

On June 16, 1967, Trimont WC filed water-right Applications A022822 and A022823. (1967-06-16 A022822; 1967-06-16 A022823.) The copies of these applications in the Board's Division of Water Rights (Division) Records Unit files indicate that the applicant filed amended applications on February 23, 1968. (*Ibid.*)

On June 19, 1969, the State Water Board adopted water-right Decision 1342. Decision 1342 described these applications, concluded that sufficient water was available to justify issuing permits on these applications, and ordered that the permits be issued, with specified conditions. (Decision 1342, pp. 1-9.)

On October 28, 1969, the Division issued water-right Permit 15905 on Application A022822 and water-right Permit 15906 on Application A022823. (1969-10-28 water-right Permit 15905; 1969-10-28 water-right Permit 15906.) The Division listed Trimont WC as the permittee in both permits. (*Ibid.*)

Permit 15905 lists an "Unnamed Stream," tributary to Martis Creek, as the source of water. (1969-10-28 water-right Permit 15905, p. 1, ¶ 1.) This permit authorizes direct diversions of water at rates up to 1.33 cubic-feet per second (cfs), from January 1 through December 31 of each year, and collection of up to 530 af/yr to water to storage between October 1 of each year and April 30 of the succeeding year. (*Id.*, p. 2, ¶ 5.) This permit lists the "service area of the Trimont Water Company as shown on map filed with the State Water Resources Control Board" as the authorized place of use. (*Id.*, p. 1, ¶ 4.) The AHO's notice of petitions stated that this map is the June 17, 1967 map in the administrative record for Application A022822. (2020-11-06 Notice of Petitions, p. 2.)

Permit 15906 lists West Martis Creek and Sawmill Flat Springs as the sources of water. (1969-10-28 water-right Permit 15906, p. 1, ¶ 1.) This permit authorizes direct diversions

of water at rates up to 0.3 cfs, and the collection of up to 88 af/yr of water to storage, with the same authorized diversion seasons as those in Permit 15905. (*Id.*, p. 2, ¶ 5.) This permit specifies a maximum rate of diversion to offstream storage of 1.35 cfs. (*Ibid.*) This permit states that a service area of 16,352 acres in various specified sections is the authorized place of use. (*Id.*, p. 1, ¶ 4.) The AHO's notice of petitions stated that the June 17, 1967 map in the administrative record for Application A022823 shows the authorized place of use. (2020-11-06 Notice of Petitions, p. 3.) On October 29, 1971, the Division issued an order changing the authorized points of diversion in Permit 15906. (1971-10-29 order allowing change in points of diversion.)

Each permit specifies recreational and municipal as the authorized purposes of use. (1969-10-28 water-right Permit 15905, p. 1,  $\P$  3; 1969-10-28 water-right Permit 15906, p. 1,  $\P$  3.)

In Decision 1342, the Board concluded that the December 1, 1985 deadline for applying water to beneficial use was appropriate because, if Trimont WC did not proceed with the proposed development within a reasonable period of time, the amounts of water covered by the two permits should be released for appropriation by others. (Decision 1342, p. 4, ¶ 8.) In this discussion, Decision 1342 referred to the proposed interstate compact between California and Nevada, which would have limited water use within the California part of the Truckee River Basin to 10,000 af/yr. (*Id.*, pp. 3-4, ¶¶ 4, 8; see Wat. Code, § 5976, art. VI.B.1.)<sup>5</sup>

As ordered by Decision 1342, each permit contains a term requiring complete application of the water to be diverted under the permit to the proposed use on or before December 1, 1985. (1969-10-28 water-right Permit 15905, p. 2, ¶ 9; 1969-10-28 water-right Permit 15906, p. 2, ¶ 9.) Each permit contains a term stating that no extensions of time beyond December 1, 1985 to complete application of the water to the proposed use shall be

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Both California and Nevada approved this compact (Wat. Code §§ 5975-5976; Nev. Rev. Stat. § 538.600), but Congress never approved it, so it never went into effect (see U.S. Const., art. I, § 10, cl. 3).

allowed without a hearing before the State Water Board. (1969-10-28 water-right Permit 15905, p. 2, ¶ 10; 1969-10-28 water-right Permit 15906, p. 2, ¶ 10.)

#### 2.3.2 Applications A023849 (Permit 16619) and A023851 (Permit 16618)

On August 19, 1971, Trimont WC filed water-right Applications A023849 and A023851. (1971-08-19 A023849; 1971-08-19 A023851.) The Division's public notice of these two applications stated that Trimont WC proposed to revise its project authorized under water-right Permits 15905 and 15906 so that applicant's three direct diversions and two storage reservoirs could be operated as part of a single project under which water could be taken in varying amounts from one or more of the sources in the manner most desirable from time to time. (1972-10-12 Notice of A023849, A023850, A023851.)<sup>6</sup> The Division's notice stated that it was intended that total diversions under the permits that would be issued on new applications and under the two existing permits would be limited to total direct diversions of 2.5 cfs, total collection to storage of 710 af/yr, and total direct diversion and collection to storage of 1,206 af/yr. (*Ibid.*)

On February 21, 1974, the Division issued water-right Permit 16618 on Application A023851 and water-right Permit 16619 on Application A023849.

Permit 16618 lists "Unnamed Springs," tributary to an "Unnamed Stream" that is tributary to Martis Creek, as the source of water. (1974-02-21 water-right Permit 16618, p. 1, ¶ 1.) This permit authorizes direct diversions of water at rates up to 2.5 cfs, from January 1 through December 31 of each year. (*Id.*, p. 2, ¶ 5.) This permit specifies municipal as the authorized purpose of use. (*Id.*, p. 1, ¶ 3.) This permit states that a service area of 16,352 acres in various specified sections is the authorized place of use. (*Id.*, p. 1, ¶ 4.) The AHO's notice of petitions stated that the August 3, 1972 map in the administrative

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The Division's October 12, 1972 notice listed a third application, Application A023850, but stated that the applicant had requested cancelation of that application, subject to approval of Applications A023849 and A023851. (1972-10-12 Notice of A023849, A023850, A023851.) The Division's eWRIMS database does not list any water-right permit for Application A023850.

record for Application A023851 shows the authorized place of use for Permit 16618. (2020-11-06 Notice of Petitions, p. 5.)

Permit 16619 lists "Unnamed Stream," tributary to West Martis Creek, and West Martis Creek, as the sources of water. (1974-02-21 water-right Permit 16619, p. 1, ¶ 1.) This permit authorizes direct diversions of water at rates up to 2.2 cfs, from January 1 through December 31 of each year, and collection to storage of water at rates up to 180 af/yr, between October 1 of each year and May 31 of the following year. (*Id.*, p. 2, ¶ 5.) This permit specifies recreational and municipal as the authorized purposes of use. (*Id.*, p. 1, ¶ 3.) This permit states that a service area of 16,352 acres in various specified sections is the authorized place of use. (*Id.*, p. 1, ¶ 4.) The AHO's notice of petitions states that two maps dated September 17, 1971 in the administrative record for Application A023849 show the authorized place of use. (2020-11-06 Notice of Petitions, p. 4.)

Permits 16618 and 16619 each contain limits of 2.5 cfs on the total direct diversions, 710 af/yr on the total collections to storage, and 1,206 on the total direct diversions plus collection to storage that be made under Permits 15905, 15906, 16618 and 16619. (1974-02-21 water-right Permit 16618, p. 2, ¶ 5; 1974-02-21 water-right Permit 16619, p. 2, ¶ 5.)

Like Permits 15905 and 15906, Permits 16618 and 16619 each contain a term requiring complete application of water diverted under the permit to the proposed use on or before December 1, 1985, and a term providing that no extensions of this deadline shall be allowed without a hearing before the State Water Board. (1974-02-21 water-right Permit 16618, p. 2, ¶¶ 6, 9; 1974-02-21 water-right Permit 16619, p. 2, ¶¶ 6, 9.)

#### 2.3.3 Assignments of Interests in Permits; Creation of Northstar CSD

Between 1972 and 1985, Trimont WC and its successor, Fiberboard Corp., assigned various interests in Permits 15906, 16618 and 16619 to Placer County, for the County to use to provide water service to Northstar residents through a county service area. (See exh. Trimont-Northstar 1, p. 3: 13-18; exh. Trimont-Northstar 2, p. 3, ¶ 6; exh. Trimont-Northstar 21, pp. 1, 4.) After Trimont WD and Fiberborad Corp. made these assignments,

the County had the right to appropriate up to 600 af/yr under Permits 15906, 16618 and 16619 for use in the County's service area. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 1, p. 3:18-19.)

Northstar CSD was formed in 1990 to provide domestic, municipal and recreational water service, and to assume from Placer County the responsibility for providing various public services, including water service, to the Northstar community. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 2, pp. 2-3,  $\P\P$  3, 7.) In 2012, when Northstar CSD discovered that State Water Board records did not show the district as the co-owner of Permits 16618 and 16619, the district and the County coordinated to formally transfer the County's interests in these permits to the district. (*Id.*, p. 4,  $\P$  9; see exh. Trimont-Northstar 1, p. 3:19-20.)

As a result of these assignments and transfers, Trimont now is the sole permittee for Permit 15905, Northstar CSD is the sole permittee for Permit 15906, and Trimont and Northstar CSD are joint permittees for Permits 16618 and 16619.

## 2.4 Petitions for Extensions of Time and Petitions of Changes in Authorized Points of Diversion, Places of Use and Purposes of Use

Petitioners and their predecessors filed various petitions in 1985, 1990 and 2018 for extensions of the 1985 deadlines in all four Permits for applying water to beneficial use. (These petitions are referred to as "petitions for extensions of time.") (2020-11-06 Notice of Petitions, pp. 5-7.) Together, these petitions seek extensions of the December 1, 1985 deadlines in these permits for applying water to beneficial use to December 31, 2028. (*Ibid.*)

Petitioners and their predecessors filed various petitions in 1972, 1977 and 2018 to change the authorized points of diversion in Permits 15905, 15906 and 16619. (*Id.*, pp. 5-7.) Petitioners also filed petitions in 1972 to change the authorized places of use in Permits 15905 and 15906, and they filed petitions in 2018 to change the authorized places of use in all four Permits, and to add snowmaking to the authorized purposes of use in all four Permits. (*Ibid.*) The attached Figure 2, which is revised exhibit Trimont-Northstar 11, shows the requested new authorized place of use for all four Permits for

municipal, recreational and snowmaking purposes of use, and the requested new authorized place of use for irrigation of golf course lands.

#### 2.5 Assignment of Petitions to AHO; AHO Pre-Hearing Proceedings

On May 1, 2020, Erik Ekdahl, the Division's Deputy Director, sent a memorandum to Eileen Sobeck, the Board's Executive Director, proposing to transfer the petitions pending on the Permits to the AHO. (2020-05-01 E. Ekdahl memorandum to E. Sobeck.)

Ms. Sobeck then issued a memorandum to Alan Lilly, the AHO's Presiding Hearing Officer, assigning the Petitions to the AHO. (2020-05-01 E. Sobeck memorandum to A. Lilly.)

On November 6, 2020, the AHO issued a Notice of Petitions for Changes and Extensions of Time. (2020-11-06 Trimont-Northstar petitions notice.) This notice explained that, due to disputes and uncertainties regarding rights to the interstate waters of the Lake Tahoe and Truckee River Basins, the State Water Board had held all proceedings concerning water-right permits and licenses in these basin in abeyance while the proceedings that ultimately resulted in the Settlement Act and TROA were pending. (*Id.*, p. 1.) The notice described the Executive Director's assignment of these petitions to the AHO, and stated that, after the deadline for filing protests to the Petitions had passed, the AHO would conduct its proceedings. (*Id.*, pp. 1-2.) The notice described the Permits (*id.*, pp. 2-5), and the requested changes in the pending petitions (*id.*, pp. 5-7). The notice stated that any person or entity could file a protest to any of the petitions, and specified a December 18, 2020 deadline for filing protests. (*Id.*, pp. 7-8.)

On December 18, 2020, Adam Nickels, Regional Resource Manager of the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) filed a letter with the AHO. (2020-12-18 A. Nickels (Bureau of Reclamation) ltr. to AHO.) That letter stated that Reclamation did not intend to submit a protest to the Petitions, that Reclamation intended to emphasize the importance of adherence to applicable provisions of the Settlement Act and TROA, and that Reclamation requested that any rights issued on Applications A022822, A022823, A023849 and A023951 be conditioned in accordance with the Settlement Act and TROA. (*Id.*, p. 1.)

No person or entity filed any protest to the Petitions.

On March 24, 2021, the AHO issued its Notice of Pre-Hearing Conference and Hearing. (2021-03-24 notice of pre-hearing conference and hearing (Trimont-Northstar.) The hearing notice confirmed that a representative of Reclamation had filed a comment letter, and that no person or entity had filed a protest. (*Id.* at p. 5.) The notice stated that the hearing on the Petitions was scheduled to begin on May 20, 2021.

The AHO held the pre-hearing conference on May 5, 2021, and then issued a pre-hearing conference order. (2021-05-05 Pre-Hearing Conference Order (Trimont-Northstar). Responding to Trimont and Northstar's request, this order re-scheduled the hearing to begin on August 6, 2021 and listed the following hearing issues:

- 1) Should Trimont's and Northstar CSD's change petitions and petitions for extensions of time be granted?
  - a) Are the elements of California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 844, satisfied for the pending petitions of extensions of time?
  - b) Would the State Water Board's approval of the change petitions and petitions for extensions of time result in injury to any other legal user of water?
  - c) Would the State Water Board's approval of these petitions unreasonably affect any fish, wildlife or any other instream beneficial use?
  - d) Would the State Water Board's approval of these petitions be in the public interest?
  - e) Would the State Water Board's approval of these petitions cause the initiation of any new water-right?
  - f) What is the status of Trimont's and Northstar CSD's actions to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") for these petitions?
- 2) If these change petitions are granted, then what new terms or conditions, if any, should be added to Permits 15905, 15906, 16618 and 16619 when the petitions are granted?
  - a) If these change petitions are granted, then what new terms or conditions, if any, should be added to these permits so that they will comply with the applicable provisions of the Settlement Act and TROA?

(*Id.*, pp. 1-2.)

On June 28, 2021, the AHO issued a memorandum to the parties. (2021-06-28 AHO memo to Trimont and Northstar.) This memorandum transmitted drafts of amended water-right Permits 15905, 15906, 16618, and 16619 the AHO had prepared, and asked Trimont and Northstar to submit comments on them in the exhibits and written proposed testimony they would be submitting for the AHO hearing. (Id, p. 1.) This memorandum also listed several questions regarding the AHO's drafts of the amended Permits, and asked the parties to submit answers to them with the parties' exhibits and written proposed testimony. (Id., pp. 1-2.)

One of these questions noted that Trimont historically had used some of the water diverted under Permits 15906, 16618 and 16619 for golf course irrigation,<sup>7</sup> pointed out that irrigation was not listed as an authorized purpose of use in any of these permits or Permit 15905 but the change petitions for these permits indicated that some water may continue to be diverted under these permits for golf course irrigation, and asked Trimont and Northstar if they wanted to add irrigation as an authorized purpose of use in any of these permits. (Id, p. 2,  $\P$  7.)

#### 2.6 AHO Hearing

The AHO held hearings in this matter on August 6, October 27 and December 3, 2021. Trimont called three witnesses, Deirdra. Walsh, Robert Wagner and Diane Wagner.

Ms. Walsh, Northstar California Resort's general manager, testified during the August 6 hearing about the processes that led to the issuance of the Permits, the development of the diversion works and associated infrastructure, the pending petitions for extensions of time and change petitions, and Trimont and Northstar's historical and planned water use. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 1.) Ms. Walsh testified that Trimont requested that irrigation be added as an authorized purpose of use in Permits 15905, 16618 and 16619.

(Exh. Trimont-Northstar 1, pp. 15:27-28, 17:3-4, 17:24-25.) During the October 27

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Attachment A to its 1985 petition for extension of time stated that water use for golf course irrigation ranged from 163.7 to 215.0 af/yr between 1980 and 1984. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 21, pp. 6-7.)

hearing, Ms. Walsh testified about Trimont's plans for construction of the Reservoir B described in Permit 15905. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 36.)

Mr. Wagner, a registered civil engineer, testified during the August 6 hearing about the engineer's map (exh. Trimont-Northstar 11) he prepared for the Petitions. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 3.)

Ms. Wagner, a water resources specialist, testified during the August 6 hearing about the Northstar water system, the purposes of Petitioners' water-right change petitions, and the availability of water for diversion and use under the Permits, considering the Settlement Act and TROA. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 8.) Ms. Wagner provided detailed technical memoranda regarding the Northstar water system infrastructure, Sawmill Flat Reservoir, and her water availability analysis. (Exhs. Trimont-Northstar 10, 13 &14.)

During the October 27 hearing, in response to questions from the AHO hearing officer, Ms. Wagner testified about the details of historical diversions and use under the Permits and the relationships between proposed maximum diversions and use under the Permits and California's allocations under the Settlement Act and TROA. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 38, pp. 1-6; exh. Trimont-Northstar 39.) During the December 3 hearing, Ms. Wagner testified about the Truckee River Ranger Station precipitation station that is referred to in term 17 of water-right Permit 15905. (Exhs. Trimont-Northstar 44; Trimont-Northstar 45.)

Northstar CSD called one witness, Eric Martin, Northstar CSD's district engineer. During the August 6, 2021 hearing, Mr. Martin testified about the history of the formation of Northstar CSD and the Permits, the development of Northstar CSD's water system, historical amounts of water diverted under the Permits, and projected future amounts of diversions. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 2.) Mr. Martin testified that some water diverted under all four Permits is used for golf course irrigation. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 2, pp. 5-6, ¶ 17.)<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Because no water is being diverted under Permit 15905 (see section 3.1.2), we assume that Mr. Martin intended to state that some water diverted under Permits 15906, 16618

#### 2.7 California Environmental Quality Act Documents

During August 6 hearing, Ms. Wagner testified about the California Environment Quality Act (CEQA) documents Northstar CSD had prepared for the Northstar Mountain Master Plan and the Northstar water system. (Exhs. Trimont-Northstar 8, pp. 11-12.) These CEQA documents included the 2004 Northstar Mountain Master Plan Update Final Environmental Impact Report (2004 NMMP FEIR), which Northstar CSD certified in 2004. (Exhs. Trimont-Northstar 8, pp. 11-12; Trimont-Northstar 16-18.) After certifying this Final EIR, Northstar CSD approved the Master Water Plan Update project described in the Final EIR on July 20, 2004. (Exhibit Trimont-Northstar 16.)

During the October 27 hearing, Ms. Wagner testified that Northstar CSD had decided to prepare a CEQA addendum to the 2004 NMMP FEIR. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 38, p. 7, ¶ 24.) During the December 3 hearing, Mr. Martin testified that Northstar CSD's Board of Directors considered and discussed this CEQA Addendum during the Board's November 17, 2021 meeting. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 46, p. 1, ¶ 4.)

This CEQA Addendum discussed the project described in the 2004 NMMP FEIR and the proposed modifications to this project. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 47, pp. 4-6.) The Addendum described the Permits and the petitions to amend the Permits. (*Id.*, pp. 5-6.) After discussing the history of the Permits, the Settlement Act and TROA, and the details of the Permits and the pending change petitions and petitions for extensions of time (*id.*, pp. 6-12), the Addendum analyzed the proposed changes to the Permits and concluded that these changes did not meet any of the criteria in CEQA Guidelines section 15162 that would have required Northstar CSD to prepare a subsequent EIR, and that the changes met the provisions of CEQA Guidelines section 15164 for preparing a CEQA Addendum to the 2004 NMMP FEIR (*id.*, pp. 12-17).

Mr. Martin testified that Northstar CSD's Board of Directors approved Resolution No. 21-17, which adopted this CEQA Addendum. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 46,

and 16619 is used for golf course irrigation. (Unless the context indicates otherwise, references in this order to "section" are to sections of this order.)

pp. 1-2, ¶ 5; see exh. Trimont-Northstar 48.) Northstar CSD filed a CEQA Notice of Determination for this Addendum with the Placer County Clerk and the State Office of Planning and Research on November 19, 2021. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 49.)

#### 2.8 AHO Post Hearing Proceedings

On March 1, 2022, the AHO issued a notice extending the March 2, 2022 deadline for the AHO to prepare its proposed order in this matter to April 1, 2022. On April 1, 2022, the AHO issued a Notice of Draft Proposed Order and circulated its draft proposed order for this matter. The AHO's notice directed the parties to submit comments by May 2, vacated the prior submission of the matter to the AHO and stated that the matter would be deemed re-submitted on May 2, 2022. Petitioners submitted a revised exhibit Trimont-Northstar 11 on May 2, and advised the AHO that they did not have any comments on the draft proposed order. After considering revising the draft proposed order, the AHO transmitted its proposed order to the Clerk of the Board on June 14, 2022.

#### 3.0 DISCUSSION

#### 3.1 Petitions for Extensions of Time

Water Code sections 1395-1396 provide that construction work on the project covered by a water-right permit shall begin within the time specified in the permit, and thereafter be prosecuted with reasonable diligence, in accordance with the Division 2 of the Water Code (sections 1000-5976) and the State Water Board's rules and regulations. Water Code section 1397 provides that the construction work shall be completed and the water applied to beneficial use in accordance with these statutes and regulations and the terms of the permit. Water Code section 1398, subdivision (a), authorizes the State Water Board, for good cause shown, to extend any of the deadlines specified in the permit for beginning and completing construction work and applying water to beneficial use.

The applicable Board regulation provides that the Board will grant water-right petitions for extensions of time only upon such conditions as the Board determines are in the public interest, and upon a showing that: (a) due diligence has been exercised, (b)

failure to comply with the previous time requirements was occasioned by obstacles which could not be reasonably avoided, and (c) satisfactory progress will be made if an extension of time is granted. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 844.) This regulation states that "[l]ack of finances, occupation with other work, physical disability, and other conditions incident to the person and not to the enterprise will not generally be accepted as good cause for delay." (*Ibid.*)

As discussed in section 2.4, Trimont, Northstar CSD and their predecessors filed petitions for extensions of time for all four Permits in 1985, 1990 and 2018. Together, these petitions seek extensions of the December 1, 1985 deadlines in these permits for applying water to beneficial use to December 31, 2028.

#### 3.1.1 Petitions for Extensions of Time for Permits 15906, 16618 and 16619

Trimont WC and its successors constructed the Northstar water system facilities described in section 2.1 during 1969-1982 at a total cost of \$2,894,000. (Section 2.1; exh. Trimont-Northstar 1, p. 3:21-23; exh. Trimont-Northstar 21, p. 12.)

Ms. Walsh testified that the diversion works for Permits 15906, 16618 and 16619 were completed during 1972 and 1982. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 1, pp. 3:28, 4:19-21.) She testified that water use at Northstar increased as build-up occurred, and that 56.4 percent of the planned dwelling units at Northstar have been completed and occupied. (*Id.*, pp. 5:11; 7:26-27.)

Trimont expects development to continue to occur over the next decade and anticipates that the entire 1,206 af/yr authorized for diversion and use under all four Permits will be placed to beneficial use if the State Water Board grants the pending petitions for extensions of time. Trimont plans to continue to add and expand ski trails, as described in the 2017 Northstar Mountain Master Plan, including about 143 acres of infill ski trail widening, 150 acres of new ski trails, and 90 acres of "program level" ski trails. With these developments, about 300 acres of new snowmaking coverage is expected, and Trimont has planned additional snowmaking facilities and upgrades to accompany the ski trail expansions. There is no evidence in the record that any other substantial additional construction is contemplated or required for Trimont and Northstar CSD to divert and

beneficially use all of the water that will be available for diversion by these facilities under Permits 15906, 16618 and 16619.

Mr. Martin testified that 57.3 percent of the 3,739 condominium and single-family dwelling units within the Northstar California Resort have been completed and occupied, and that development is ongoing, although the rate of development has been slower than that envisioned when the Permits were issued. (Exh Trimont-Northstar 2, p. 5, ¶ 14.) He testified that Northstar CSD expects that the entire 1,206 af/yr eventually will be put to beneficial use. (*Ibid.*)

Considering these facts, we conclude that Petitioners have satisfied the three elements in the State Water Board regulation regarding extensions of time for Permits 15906, 16618 and 16619. (Cal. Code Regs, tit. 23, § 844.) Petitioners have exercised due diligence by constructing most of the facilities necessary to divert, treat and convey the water authorized for diversion and use under these three permits. Petitioner's failures to complete all the necessary construction and application of all the water authorized for diversion and use under these permits to beneficial use by the December 1, 1985 deadline were occasioned by obstacles that could not reasonably be avoided, primarily the slower-than-anticipated development rate for Northstar. Petitioners have demonstrated that satisfactory progress will be made if extensions to December 31, 2028 are granted, through additional developments of snowmaking facilities, construction of more dwelling units, and associated increases in water demands and use.

#### 3.1.2 Petition for Extension of Time for Permit 15905

As discussed in sections 2.1 and 2.3.1, the Division issued water-right Permit 15905 in 1969, and Trimont and its predecessors have not constructed the Reservoir B described in the permit or any of the other facilities necessary to divert or use water under the permit.

During the August 6, 2021 hearing, Ms. Walsh testified that there are two primary reasons why Trimont has not yet constructed Reservoir B and the other related facilities. First, Trimont has not constructed these facilities because water supplies diverted from other sources under Permits 15906, 16618 and 16619 and groundwater supplies have been

sufficient to support the improvements that have been constructed at Northstar. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 1, pp. 4:21-23, 7:21-23; 9:27-28.) Second, Trimont has not undertaken any substantial work regarding these facilities because the State Water Board has not acted on the pending petitions for extensions of time for Permit 15905. (*Id.*, p. 3:23-25.)

Ms. Walsh testified that, once additional information is known regarding the Board's actions on these petitions, Trimont intends to work diligently to research and plan the infrastructure necessary to divert and use water under Permit 15905. (*Id.*, p. 3:25-28.) She testified that the water supplies that will be produced by these facilities are likely to be needed to meet peak delivery water demands at Northstar's full build-out. (*Id.*, p. 9:23-24.)

During the October 27 hearing, Ms. Walsh provided additional details regarding proposed Reservoir B. She re-iterated that Trimont's anticipated total water demand at Northstar's build-out will require water supplies beyond those available from existing surface water and groundwater supplies, and that the storage capacity of Reservoir B will be necessary for Trimont's snowmaking system to meet peak demands. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 36, p. 2:3-25.) She also explained in more detail why Trimont has delayed Reservoir B construction until the State Water Board rules on the pending petitions for extensions of time for Permit 15905. (*Id.*, pp. 2:27-28, 3:1-5.)

Ms. Walsh testified that Trimont has hired Auerbach Engineering to help develop Reservoir B, and that, if the Board grants the petitions for extensions of time for Permit 15905, Trimont intends to proceed with Auerbach Engineering's proposed feasibility study. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 36, p. 3:21-25.) Auerbach Engineering's proposal describes proposed site reconnaissance, land surveys and mapping, civil engineering related to dam construction access and a proposed transmission pipeline, geotechnical engineering related to the dam site and potential borrow areas, environmental and CEQA analyses, stream flow gaging, and development of a watershed yield model. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 37, pp. 8-23.) Under its anticipated project schedule, the feasibility study will be completed by the end of 2023, the preliminary design will be completed by June 2024, environmental review will be completed by the end of 2025, permitting will be

completed by June 2026, and construction will be completed by the end of 2028. (*Id.*, p. 25.)

Water Code section 1475 provides that, where a reservoir is proposed to be constructed for a system in which water is to be used under appropriations of water and rights held by the owner of the reservoir site, "the reservoir, appropriations and rights shall, in the discretion of the [B]oard, constitute a single enterprise unit, and work of constructing the reservoir or work on any of the appropriations shall, in the discretion of the [B]oard, be sufficient to maintain and preserve all applications for appropriation and rights thereunder." In Order WR 82-5, the Board stated that Water Code section 1475 "gives the Board discretion to determine whether progress toward the development of water under one project that may be viewed as a part of a single enterprise, shall preserve the right to develop water for all applications being a part of the enterprise." (Order WR 82-5, p. 3.)

As discussed in section 3.1.1, Trimont, Northstar CSD and their predecessors have exercised diligence regarding the planning and construction of the facilities necessary to divert and use water under Permit 15906, 16618 and 16619. Because Trimont, Northstar CSD and their predecessors have staged their planning and construction of facilities to divert and use water under all four Permits as part of an overall plan of development, we conclude that their overall diligence for this plan of development is sufficient to satisfy the diligence requirement for the petitions for extensions of time for Permit 15905.

Petitioner's failures to complete all of the necessary construction and application of all of the water authorized for diversion and use under all four Permits to beneficial use by the December 1, 1985 deadline were occasioned by obstacles that could not reasonably be avoided, primarily the slower-than-anticipated development rate for the Northstar California Resort. Also, we agree with Trimont that it was reasonable for Trimont to delay development of Reservoir B until the issues regarding overall allocations of water in the Lake Tahoe and Truckee River Basin could be resolved and the Board could act on the pending petitions for extensions of time.

Trimont has demonstrated that satisfactory progress, through construction of Reservoir B and related facilities, additional developments of snowmaking facilities, construction of more dwelling units, and associated increases in water demands and use, may be made if extensions to December 31, 2028 are granted for Permit 15905.

Considering these facts, we conclude that Trimont has satisfied the three elements in the State Water Board regulation regarding cause for extensions of time for Permit 15905. (Cal. Code Regs, tit. 23, § 844.)<sup>9</sup>

#### 3.1.3 Effects on California's Allocations Under Settlement Act

Decision 1342 ordered that the permits to be issued on Applications A022822 and A022823 contain terms directing that complete application of water to the proposed uses by made by December 1, 1985, and that no extensions of this deadline shall be allowed without a hearing before the Board. (Decision 1342, p. 7, ¶¶ 6-7; see section 2.3.1.) Discussing the 10,000 af/yr limitation on water use within the California portion of the Truckee River Basin in the proposed California-Nevada Compact, Decision 1342 indicated that the reason for these permit terms was that, if the applicant did not proceed with the proposed development within a reasonable time, then the requested amount of water should be released for appropriation by others. (Decision 1342, p. 4, ¶ 8.)

Given this background, it is appropriate for us to consider the potential effects of granting Petitioners' petitions for extensions of time on the allocations of water to all California water users under the Settlement Act and TROA.

Ms. Wagner testified that the maximum reported total diversions under Permits 15906, 16618 and 16619 through 1985 was 500.8 acre-feet (af) in 1985. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 38, p. 4, ¶ 12; exh. Trimont-Northstar 39, p. 7, table 5.) If we were to deny the pending

and related facilities and starts using them to divert and use water.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The annual permittee progress reports for Permit 15905 list non-zero diversion and use amounts for each year between 2001 and 2019. (See A022822, Annual Progress Reports.) Although we conclude that the proposed facilities contemplated for diversions and use under Permit 15905 are part of an overall plan of development, Trimont should not report any diversions or use under this permit until Trimont constructs Reservoir B

petitions for extensions of time and direct the Division to issue water-right licenses to replace the Permits, then these licenses could limit total diversions under them to this 500.8 af/yr amount. On the other hand, if we grant the pending petitions, then Petitioners will have rights to increase their total annual direct diversions and collection to storage under all four Permits to 1,206 af/yr. (See section 2.3.2.) Thus, the maximum increase in total diversions and collections to storage under the Permits that may occur if we grant the pending petitions for extensions of time, compared the potential annual limit that would occur if we were to deny the petitions, is 705.2 af/yr. (1,206 af/yr – 500.8 af/yr = 705.2 af/yr.)

Ms. Wagner testified that the maximum reported total diversions under Permits 15906, 16618 and 16619 since 1985 was 838.22 af in 2018. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 38, pp. 2-3,  $\P$  6; exh. Trimont-Northstar 39, app. B.)<sup>10</sup> Thus, if we grant the pending petitions for extensions of time, then Petitioners' total diversions and collections to storage under the Permits may increase from the maximum historical annual use amount of 838.22 af by 367.78 af/yr to 1,206 af/yr. (1,206 af/yr – 838.22 af/yr = 367.78 af/yr.)

To determine the percentages of the Settlement Act and TROA allocations to California water users in the Truckee River Basin (see section 2.2.) that currently are being used by Petitioners and all California water users, Ms. Wagner compiled data from the California Department of Water Resources Annual Inventory of Water Use, Lake Tahoe & Truckee River Basins reports for 2016-2019 (DWR reports). (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 38, p. 4, ¶ 13; exh. Trimont-Northstar 41, p. 1.)

The DWR reports indicate that total annual surface-water use in the California part of the Truckee River Basin ranged from 310.0 af to 516.0 af during 2016-2019, and that, of these amounts, Petitioners' total annual water use ranged from 245.1 af to 416.9 af. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 41, p. 3, table 1.) These total annual use amounts were 3.1 to 5.2

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> For 2018, Trimont and Northstar CSD also reported use of 375.59 af of groundwater, for total surface water and groundwater use of 1,213.81 af. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 39, app. B.)

percent of the 10,000 af/yr surface-water allocation to California water users, and Petitioner's amounts were 2.5 to 4.2 percent of this allocation. (*Id.*; exh. Trimont-Northstar 38, pp. 4-5, ¶ 15.)

Total annual depletions attributed to surface-water use in the California part of the Truckee River Basin ranged from 134.4 af to 282.2 af during 2016-2019, and, of these amounts, annual depletions attributed to Petitioners' total water use ranged from 98.7 af to 211.2 af. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 41, p. 4, table 2.) These total annual depletion amounts were 0.8 to 1.6 percent of the 17,600 af/yr total allowed depletion for California water users, and Petitioner's amounts were 0.6 to 1.2 percent of this total allowed depletion. (*Id.*; exh. Trimont-Northstar 38, pp. 4-5, ¶ 15.)

Ms. Wagner estimated that, if Petitioners' diversions were to increase to 1,206 af/yr, then total annual surface-water diversions in the California part of the Truckee River Basin could be as high as 1,270.9 af/yr, which would be 12.7 percent of California's 10,000 af/yr allocation. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 38, p. 5, ¶ 17; exh. Trimont-Northstar 41, p. 6, table 3.) Of this amount, Petitioners' diversions of 1,206 af/yr would be 12.1 percent of California's allocation. (*Ibid.*) With Petitioners' diversions at this annual rate, total annual depletions attributed to surface-water use could be as high as 523.9 af/yr, which would be 3.0 percent of the 17,600 af/yr total allowed depletion, and Petitioner's amounts would be 2.8 percent of this total amount. (*Id.*; exh. Trimont-Northstar 38, p. 5, ¶ 18; exh. Trimont-Northstar 41, p. 7, table 4.)

Ms. Wagner also estimated how water use under the total allocation of 32,000 af/yr to California surface-water and groundwater users in the Truckee River Basin during 2016-2019 would have been affected if Petitioners' diversions had been at 1,206 af/yr during these years. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 38, pp. 5-6, ¶ 19; exh. Trimont-Northstar 41, p. 8, table 5.) She estimated that total water use ranged from 7,882.0 af to 8,529.0 af during these years, and that, if Petitioners had been diverting 1,206 af/yr during these years, then total water use would have ranged from 8,457.5 to 9,055.9 af/yr. With these additional diversions, total California water use would have increased to 26 to 28 percent of the 32,000 af/yr allocation. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 41, p. 8, table 5.)

These estimated annual amounts of total surface-water use, total depletions associated with surface-water diversions and total water use (surface water plus groundwater) all are substantially less than the corresponding total amounts authorized by the Settlement Act and TROA.

#### 3.1.4 Conclusions Regarding Petitions for Extensions of Time

Considering the discussions in sections 3.1.1 through 3.1.3, we conclude that the criteria in California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 844 are satisfied, and that granting the petitions would not cause diversions or consumptive use by California water users in the Truckee River watershed to exceed the allocations in the Settlement Act and TROA. Also, granting the petitions for the municipal-use portions of the Permits held by Northstar CSD would be consistent with the policy stated in Water Code section 106.5 that the rights of municipalities to acquire and hold water rights should be protected to the fullest extent necessary for existing and future uses. (See Order WR 2000-0013, pp. 12-13 ("A municipality . . . is to be afforded some latitude in putting water to beneficial use, because the municipality must be able to plan for, and meet, the needs of its existing and future citizens.")

#### 3.2 Change Petitions

## 3.2.1 Would the State Water Board's approval of the change petitions and petitions for extensions of time result in injury to any other legal user of water?

Water Code section 1702 provides that, before the State Water Board may grant a petition to change the point of diversion, place of use, or purpose of use in a water-right permit, "the petitioner shall establish, to the satisfaction of the board, and it shall find, that the change will not operate to the injury of any legal user of the water involved."

In *Barnes v. Hussa* (2006) 136 Cal.App.4th 1358, the court discussed how changes in place of use in appropriative rights may impact other legal users of water:

Injury from a change in place of use generally occurs when use at the new location results in the appropriator using a greater amount of water than he was

entitled to [citation] or when use at the new location reduces return flows to the watercourse, thus reducing the amount of water available for diversion by downstream users [citation].

(*Id.*, p. 1369)

Petitioners' requested changes in points of diversion, place of use and purpose of use are briefly discussed in section 2.4 and are discussed in more detail in the AHO's notice of petitions. (2020-11-06 Trimont-Northstar petitions notice, pp. 5-6.) The requested changes are just to add new authorized points of diversion in the same general area as the currently authorized points of diversion. Similarly, the requested changes in place of use are so the authorized places of use in all four Permits will be the same. (*Id.*, pp. 5-7.)

The requested changes in purposes of use in the Petitions are to add snowmaking. During the AHO's pre-hearing process, the AHO asked the Petitioners if they also wanted to add irrigation to the authorized places of use. (See section 2.5.) During the AHO hearing, both Ms. Walsh and Mr. Martin testified that Petitioners want the State Water Board to make this addition. (See section 2.6.) Some water diverted under Permits 15906, 16618 and 16619 currently is used for snowmaking and golf course irrigation. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 1, p. 5:11-13; exh. Trimont-Northstar 2, pp. 5-6, ¶ 17.)

No one filed a protest to the Petitions, and there is no evidence in the record that any of these requested changes in points of diversion, places of use or purposes of use would operate to the injury of any legal user of the water involved. Also, even if we approve these changes and, as a result, Petitioners' total direct diversions and collections to storage increase to the maximum authorized rate of 1,206 af/yr, total diversions and total depletions by all California water users in the Truckee River Basin still will be substantially less than the limits specified in the Settlement Act and TROA (see section 3.1.4), so these increases are not likely to affect the rights of other California water users under these allocations.

## 3.2.2 Would the State Water Board's approval of the change petitions and petitions for extensions of time unreasonably affect any fish, wildlife or any other instream beneficial use?

Although Water Code section 1702 does not explicitly refer to the effects of changes to water-right permits on fish, wildlife, or other beneficial instream uses, the Board considers such effects when evaluating water-right change petitions. (Decision 1651, p. 17, fn. 12 [citing Order WR 2009-0033, p. 6, fn. 4].)

Section 4.9 of Northstar CSD's 2004 Master Water Plan Update Draft EIR contains extensive descriptions of the biological resources in the project area, and extensive analyses of the proposed project's potential impacts on these resources. (Exhibit Trimont-Northstar 17, pp. 276-298.) The Draft EIR concludes that, with implementation of the specified mitigation measures, all of these impacts will be less than significant. (*Id.*, p. 298.) The 2004 NMMP FEIR for this project did not change any of these conclusions. (Exhibit Trimont-Northstar 18.)

Northstar CSD's November 2021 Addendum to the 2004 FEIR discussed the modifications to the 2004 Master Water Plan project for the Petitions and concluded that the changes would not result in any new significant environmental effects or substantially increase the severity of any previously identified effects. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 47, pp. 1, 5-6, 17.)

There is no evidence in the administrative record that the Board's approval of the Petitions would unreasonably affect any fish, wildlife, or other beneficial instream uses.

## 3.2.3 Would the State Water Board's approval of these petitions cause the initiation of any new water-right?

It is a fundamental principle of California water right law that "a right cannot be so changed that it in essence constitutes a new right." (Order WR 2009-0061, p. 5, citing Cal. Code, Regs., tit. 23, § 791(a).) Changes that may constitute a new right include expansions of the right "to appropriate a greater amount of water, to increase the season of diversion, or to use a different source of water." (*Id.*, at pp. 5-6.) "The common feature among the

changes that have been found to constitute the creation of a new right, as opposed to a change in an existing right, is that the changes that initiate a new right increase the amount of water taken from a water source at a given time." (*Id.* at p. 6.)

The Petitions do not request any changes to the Permits that would increase maximum total authorized rate for direct diversions and collection to storage of 1,206 af/yr or that would change the sources of water from which the Permits authorize diversions. Our granting the Petitions therefore would not initiate any new water right.

## 3.2.4 If these change petitions are granted, then what new terms or conditions, if any, should be added to the Permits when the petitions are granted?

Water Code section 1704, subdivision (a), authorizes the Board, after a hearing, to "approve with conditions" a petition to change a water-right license.

On June 28, 2021, the AHO issued a memorandum to the parties, which transmitted the drafts of amended water-right Permits 15905, 15906, 16618, and 16619 the AHO had prepared, and asked Petitioners to submit comments on them in the exhibits and written proposed testimony they would be submitting for the AHO hearing. (2021-06-28 AHO memo to Trimont and Northstar, p. 1.) This memorandum also listed several questions regarding the AHO's drafts of the amended Permits, and asked the parties to submit answers to them with the parties' exhibits and written proposed testimony. (*Id.*, pp. 1-2.)

Because Reservoir B would be constructed on Martis Creek, Martis Creek is listed as the source of water in amended Permit 15905.

As discussed in section 2.6, water currently is being diverted under Permits 15906, 16618 and 16619 to for golf course irrigation, and Petitioners plan to divert water under all four Permits in the future for this purpose. No one has objected to the addition of this purpose of use to these permits. The attached amended permits include irrigation as an authorized purpose of use, and the golf course is depicted on the attached maps as the authorized place of use for this irrigation.

We conclude we should delete term 15 of Permit 16618 and term 21 of Permit 16619. This term provides:

No water shall be appropriated until permittee has established a permanent organization which will, to the Board's satisfaction, properly operate and maintain the permittee's water supply system.

This term no longer is necessary for these permits, because Northstar CSD now is a copermittee and operates the facilities that divert and convey water under these permits for municipal purposes.

Trimont is the sole permittee for Permit 15905, and the facilities to divert and convey water under this permit have not been constructed. If these facilities are constructed, then water diverted under this permit may be used for municipal purposes by Northstar CSD, or for some or all of the other authorized purposes of use by Trimont. To address these possible future uses, the following term should be included in this permit:

No water may be diverted under this right for municipal purposes until right holder has entered into an agreement with Northstar Community Services District for the dedication of designated amounts of water to be diverted under this right for delivery to the District for municipal purposes within the authorized place of use. This term does not apply to diversions of water under this permit by right holder for other purposes of use.

Term 16 of Permit 15906 and term 17 of Permit 16619 required permittee to obtain approval from the Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams, for the plans and specifications for the dam that would be constructed to store water under these permits. The Division of Safety of Dams issued a certificate of approval of this dam (the Reservoir A dam) in 1973, (exh. Trimont-Northstar 13, p. 5), so this term should be deleted from these permits.

The amended permits each contain a new term specifying that the permit is subject to all applicable provisions of the Settlement Act and TROA, and new terms implementing the applicable provisions of TROA sections 6.C.2(b)(1) and 6.C.3(b). These TROA sections provide that the State Water Board shall include such terms in changes to existing water-right permits for diversions in the California part of the Truckee River Basin.

#### 3.3 CEQA compliance

Northstar CSD certified the 2004 NMMP FEIR in 2004. (Section 2.7; exh. Trimont-Northstar 8, pp. 11-12; exh. Trimont-Northstar 16-18.) On November 17, 2021, Northstar CSD approved a CEQA Addendum to the 2004 NMMP FEIR, which discussed the project described in the 2004 NMMP FEIR and the proposed modifications to this project due to the Petitions. (Exh. Trimont-Northstar 47, pp. 4-6.) After discussing the history of the Permits, the Settlement Act and TROA, and the details of the Permits and the pending change petitions and petitions for extensions of time (*id.*, pp. 6-12), the Addendum analyzed the proposed changes to the Permits that would occur if we grant the Petitions and concluded that these changes did not meet any of the criteria in CEQA Guidelines section 15162 that would have required Northstar CSD to prepare a subsequent EIR, and that the changes met the provisions of CEQA Guidelines section 15164 for preparing a CEQA Addendum to the 2004 NMMP FEIR (*id.*, pp. 12-17).

For purposes of considering whether to approve the Petitions, the State Water Board is a responsible agency under CEQA. (See Pub. Resources Code, § 21069.) In deciding whether and how to approve a project, a CEQA responsible agency must consider the environmental effects of the project as disclosed in the environmental documentation prepared by the CEQA lead agency. (CEQA Guidelines, § 15096, subd. (f).) Here, Northstar CSD is the CEQA lead agency. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21067.) Except under limited circumstances when a responsible agency may assume lead agency status or prepare subsequent CEQA documentation, a CEQA responsible agency must presume that the conclusions reached by the CEQA lead agency in its CEQA documentation regarding the environmental effects of the proposed project are adequate, or challenge the lead agency's CEQA action in court. (CEQA Guidelines, § 15096, subds. (e) & (f).)

As required by CEQA Guidelines section 15096, subdivisions (a) and (f), we have considered Northstar CSD's 2004 NMMP FER and 2021 CEQA Addendum and the environmental effects described in those documents. Exercising our independent judgment, we conclude that these CEQA documents are adequate for our actions in this

order. Considering those documents and the other evidence described in this order, we have decided to take the actions described in this order.

#### 4.0 CONCLUSIONS

- We grant Petitioners' petitions for extensions of time and to change water-right Permits 15905, 15906, 16618 and 16619. Attachments A through D contain copies of the new amended permits, with the changes and new terms discussed in this order.
- 2. Our granting these petitions will not operate to the injury of any other legal user of the water involved, will not unreasonably affect fish, wildlife or other instream beneficial uses or any other public trust values, will be in the public interest, and will not initiate any new water rights.

#### ORDER

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. Trimont and Northstar CSD's Petitions for Extensions of Time and Petitions for Change for Permits 15905, 15906, 16618, and 16619 are granted.
- The Deputy Director for the Division of Water Rights shall issue amended
   Permits 15905, 15906, 16618, and 16619 in the forms in Attachments A through
   D.
- 3. The Deputy Director for the Division of Water Rights shall prepare and file a CEQA Notice of Determination for this order.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned, Clerk to the Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an order duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on July 19, 2022.

AYE: Chair E. Joaquin Esquivel

Vice Chair Dorene D'Adamo Board Member Laurel Firestone Board Member Nichole Morgan

NAY: None

ABSENT: Board Member Sean Maguire

ABSTAIN: None

Jeanine Townsend

Clerk to the Board

#### FIGURES AND APPENDICES

Figure 1 – Map Showing Water Conveyance Facilities (exh. Trimont-Northstar 6)

Figure 2 – Engineer's map for Trimont and Northstar Change Petitions (exh. Trimont-Northstar 11 (revised))

**APPENDIX A – New Amended Water-Right Permit 15905** 

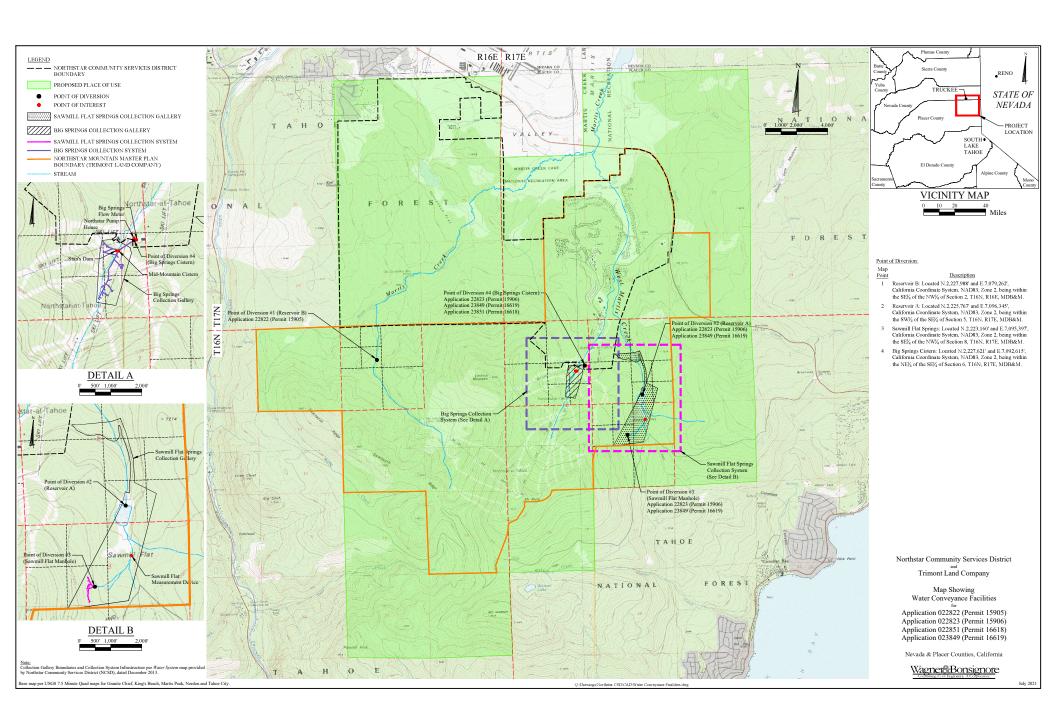
**APPENDIX B – New Amended Water-Right Permit 15906** 

**APPENDIX C – New Amended Water-Right Permit 16618** 

**APPENDIX D – New Amended Water-Right Permit 16619** 

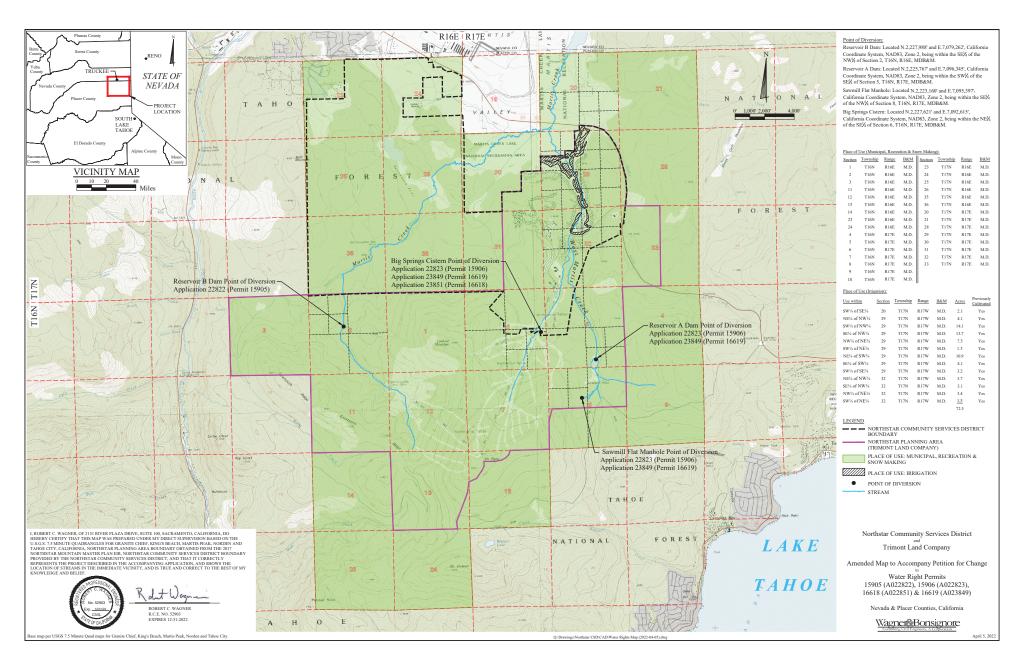
### FIGURE 1

# Map Showing Water Conveyance Facilities (exh. Trimont-Northstar 6)



### FIGURE 2

Engineer's map for Trimont and Northstar Change Petitions (exh. Trimont-Northstar 11 (revised)



## **APPENDIX A**



# STATE OF CALIFORNIA CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

#### **DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS**

# AMENDED PERMIT TO APPROPRIATE WATER

APPLICATION 22822

**PERMIT 15905** 

Permittee: Trimont Land Company

P.O. Box 129

Truckee, CA 96160

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) authorizes the diversion and use of water by the permittee (right holder) in accordance with the limitations and conditions in this permit and SUBJECT TO PRIOR RIGHTS. The priority of the rights associated with this permit (right) dates from **June 16**, **1967**.

This permit supersedes all permits previously issued on **Application 22822**.

### Right holder is hereby authorized to appropriate water as follows:

1. Source of water: Martis Creek

tributary to: Truckee River

within the County of Placer.

2. Location of point of diversion:

By California Coordinate System of 1983 in Zone 2	40-acre subdivision of public land survey	Section	Township	Range	Base and Meridian
Reservoir B Dam North 2,227,988 feet and East 7,079,262 feet	SE¼ of NW¼	2	16N	16E	MDB&M

3. Purposes of use:	4. Place of use sections:
Municipal	Sections 1-3, 11-14, and 23-24 of T16N, R16E, MDB&M
Irrigation	Sections 4-9 and 18 of T16N, R17E, MDB&M
Recreational	Sections 23-26 and 35-36 of T17N, R16E, MDB&M and
Snowmaking	Sections 20-21 and 28-33 of T17N, R17E, MDB&M

The authorized point of diversion and places of use for municipal, irrigation, recreation and snowmaking are shown on a map dated April 5, 2022, a copy of which is attached to this permit.

5. The water appropriated shall be limited to the quantity which can be beneficially used and shall not exceed 1.33 cubic feet per second (cfs) by direct diversion to be diverted from January 1 to December 31 of each year and 530 acre-feet per year (af/yr) by storage to be collected from October 1 of each year to April 30 of the succeeding year. The total amount of water to be taken from the source (direct diversion plus collection to storage) shall not exceed 890 af/yr.

(000005F)

6. No water shall be collected to storage outside of the specified season to offset evaporation or seepage losses or for any other purpose.

(00000051)

7. The equivalent of the instantaneous diversion rate continuous flow allowance described in the preceding term for any 30-day period may be diverted in a shorter time provided there is no interference with other rights or instream beneficial uses, and provided further that all terms or conditions protecting instream beneficial uses are observed.

(0000027)

- 8. Construction work and complete application of the water to the authorized use shall be prosecuted with reasonable diligence and completed by December 31, 2028.

  (0000009)
- 9. Upon a judicial determination that the place of use under this permit or a portion thereof is entitled to the use of water by riparian right or pre-1914 appropriative right, the right so determined and the right acquired under this permit shall not result in a combined right to the use of water in excess of that which could be claimed under the larger of the two rights.

(0000021C)

10. No water may be diverted under this right for municipal purposes until right holder has entered into an agreement with Northstar Community Services District for the

dedication of designated amounts of water to be diverted under this right for delivery to the District for municipal purposes. This term does not apply to diversions of water under this right by right holder for other purposes of use.

- 11. Permittee shall install and maintain an outlet pipe of adequate capacity in the dam for storage of water under this right as near as practicable to the bottom of the natural stream channel, or provide other means satisfactory to the State Water Resources Control Board, so that water entering the reservoir which is not authorized for appropriation under this right can be released into the downstream channel. Before storing water in the reservoir, permittee shall file with the Division of Water Rights evidence which substantiates that the outlet pipe, or alternative facility, has been installed in the dam. Evidence shall include photographs showing completed works or certification by a registered Civil or Agricultural Engineer.

  (0050043B)
- 12. If the dam for the reservoir described in the preceding term will be of such size as to be within the jurisdiction of the Department of Water Resources as to safety, construction of the dam shall not be commenced until the Department of Water Resources has approved the proposed dam's plans and specifications, and right holder has filed written documentation of this approval with the Division of Water Rights.

(0360048)

13. In accordance with the requirements of Water Code Section 1393, permittee shall clear the site of the proposed reservoir of all structures, trees, and other vegetation that would interfere with the use of the reservoir for water storage and recreational purposes.

(0120050A)

14. To maintain the fishery in Martis Creek below the point of diversion under this right, permittee shall bypass the following flows: (a) during a normal year, a minimum of 1.0 cfs or the natural flow, whichever is less, year-round; (b) during a dry year, a minimum of 0.66 cfs or the natural flow, whichever is less, year-round; and (c) during a critically dry year: during the period from November 1 of each year to May 31 of the succeeding year, a minimum of 0.66 cfs or the natural flow, whichever is less; during July, August, and September, the natural flow; and, during June and October, a minimum of 0.33 cfs or the natural flow, whichever is less.

A dry year is defined as a year when, by May 31, recorded precipitation at the Truckee ranger station for the period beginning July 1 of the preceding year has not exceeded 18 inches. A critically dry year is defined as a year when, by May 31, recorded precipitation at the Truckee ranger station for the period beginning July I of the preceding year has not exceeded 15 inches. If the Truckee ranger station no

longer measures precipitation, then right holder shall use precipitation data from the closest available station and advise the Division of Water Rights in writing of the change.

(0140060)

15. No water shall be diverted or stored under this right unless right holder is recording the bypass flows required by this right. This recording shall be conducted using a device, satisfactory to the Deputy Director for Water Rights. The device shall be capable of continuous recording of the instantaneous rate of water bypassed and shall be properly maintained.

Right holder shall provide the Division of Water Rights with evidence that the device has been installed with the first annual report submitted after device installation. Right holder shall provide the Division of Water Rights with evidence that substantiates that the device is functioning properly every five years after device installation as an enclosure to the current annual report or whenever requested by the Division of Water Rights. Evidence required by this condition shall include current photographs of the system in place and a statement, signed by the right holder, certifying that the system is still operating as designed.

Right holder shall maintain a record of all bypassed flows under this right that includes the date, time, and the rate of bypassed flow at time intervals of one hour or less. Right holder shall submit such records with the annual reports required for this right or whenever requested by the Division of Water Rights.

(0060062D)

- 16. No water shall be diverted or used under this right for commercial or applicable personal medical use cannabis cultivation unless the water right holder is in compliance with all applicable conditions, including the numeric and narrative instream flow requirements, of the current version of the State Water Board's Cannabis Cultivation Policy Principles and Guidelines for Cannabis Cultivation. (0000120)
- 17. This right is subject to all applicable provisions of the Truckee-Carson-Pyramid Lake Water Rights Settlement Act (Pub. Law 101-618, tit. II, 104 Stat. 3294-3324) and the September 6, 2008 Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA).
- 18. Right holder shall not directly divert or collect to storage during any month more than 25 percent of the total amount of water allowed to be diverted during each year under this right. (TROA, pp. 6-5 6-6, §§ 6.C.2(b)(1) & 6.C.2(b)(2).)

- 19. Diversions of water to storage under this right and re-diversions of water stored under this right shall be consistent with the following provisions of TROA, pp. 6-8 6-9, § 6.C.3(b) (with all terms with initial capitals and **bold** as defined in TROA (see TROA, pp. D-1 D-11)):
  - (1) Storage shall be only for **Municipal and Industrial Use**, provided that this limitation shall not prevent or preclude incidental recreation use resulting therefrom;
  - (2) Right holder shall not divert water to storage under this right when there is insufficient Floriston Rate Water to maintain Floriston Rates or Reduced Floriston Rates, except for: (i) diversions made from November 1 through May 15 solely for the purpose of snowmaking, or (ii) diversions for replenishment of water previously diverted, but subsequently used for fire suppression purposes;
  - (3) Right holder shall limit the maximum diversion to storage in any one month under this right to no more than 25 percent of the total amount of water permitted to be diverted each year under this right; and
  - (4) Diversions to storage and re-diversion of stored water to beneficial use shall not adversely affect maintenance of **Minimum Releases** or **Enhanced Minimum Releases** from reservoirs as provided in **Article Nine**.

### THIS RIGHT IS ALSO SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

A. Right holder is on notice that: (1) failure to timely commence or complete construction work or beneficial use of water with due diligence, (2) cessation or partial cessation of beneficial use of water, or (3) failure to observe any of the terms or conditions of this right, may be cause for the State Water Board to consider revocation (including partial revocation) of this right. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 850.)

(0000016)

B. Right holder is on notice that when the State Water Board determines that any person is violating, or threatening to violate, any term or condition of a right, the State Water Board may issue an order to that person to cease and desist from that violation. (Wat. Code, § 1831.) Civil liability may be imposed administratively by the State Water Board pursuant to Wat. Code, § 1055, or may be imposed by the superior court. The Attorney General, upon the request of the board, shall petition the superior court to impose, assess, and recover those sums. (Wat. Code, § 1846.)

(0000017)

C. Right holder is not authorized to make any modifications to the location of diversion facilities, place of use or purposes of use, or make other changes to the project that do not conform with the terms and conditions of this right, prior to submitting a change petition and obtaining approval of the State Water Board.

(0000018)

D. Once the time to develop beneficial use of water ends under this permit, right holder is not authorized to increase diversions beyond the maximum annual amount diverted or used during the authorized development schedule prior to submitting a time extension petition and obtaining approval of the State Water Board.

(0000019)

E. The amount of water for consideration when issuing a license shall be limited to only the amount of water diverted and applied to beneficial use in compliance with the terms and conditions of this right, as determined by the State Water Board. (Wat. Code, § 1610.)

(0000006)

F. Right holder shall measure the amount of water beneficially used under this right using devices and/or methods satisfactory to the Deputy Director for Water Rights. In order to demonstrate compliance with the beneficial use monitoring

requirements of this right, right holder shall provide evidence that the devices and/or methods are functioning properly, in a manner satisfactory to the Deputy Director of Water Rights, within thirty days of first use of the device and/or method, with the reports required by chapter 2.8, division 3, title 23, California Code of Regulations, and whenever requested by the Division of Water Rights.

(0000015)

G. Right holder shall comply with the reporting requirements as specified in the terms of this right or any reporting requirements by statute, order, policy, regulation, decision, judgment, or probationary designation. The more stringent requirement shall control in each instance where there is conflict or inconsistency between the requirements.

Right holder shall comply with the reporting requirements of chapter 2.7, division 3, title 23, California Code of Regulations.

Right holder shall promptly submit any reports, data, or other information that may reasonably be required by the State Water Board, including but not limited to documentation of water diversion and beneficial use under this right, and documentation of compliance with the terms and conditions of this right.

(0000010)

- H. Right holder shall grant, or secure authorization through right holder's right of access to property owned by another party, the staff of the State Water Board, and any other authorized representatives of the State Water Board the following:
  - Entry upon property where water is being diverted, stored, or used under a right issued by the State Water Board or where monitoring, samples and/or records must be collected under the conditions of this right;
  - 2. Access to copy any records at reasonable times that are kept under the terms and conditions of a right or other order issued by State Water Board;
  - 3. Access to inspect at reasonable times any project covered by a right issued by the State Water Board, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated by or required under this right; and,
  - 4. Access to photograph, sample, measure, and monitor at reasonable times for the purpose of ensuring compliance with a right or other order issued by State Water Board, or as otherwise authorized by the Water Code.

(0000011)

I. This right shall not be construed as conferring right of access to any lands or facilities not owned by right holder.

(0000022)

J. All rights are issued subject to available flows. Inasmuch as the source contains treated wastewater, imported water from another stream system, or return flow from other projects, there is no guarantee that such supply will continue.

(0000025)

K. This right does not authorize diversion of water dedicated by other right holders under a senior right for purposes of preserving or enhancing wetlands, habitat, fish and wildlife resources, or recreation in, or on, the water. (Wat. Code, § 1707.) The Division of Water Rights maintains information about these dedications. It is right holders' responsibility to be aware of any dedications that may preclude diversion under this right.

(0000212)

L. No water shall be diverted or used under this right, and no construction related to such diversion shall commence, unless right holder has obtained and is in compliance with all necessary permits or other approvals required by other agencies. If an amended right is issued, no new facilities shall be utilized, nor shall the amount of water diverted or used increase beyond the maximum amount diverted or used during the previously authorized development schedule, unless right holder has obtained and is in compliance with all necessary requirements, including but not limited to the permits and approvals listed in this term.

Right holder shall prepare and submit to the Division of Water Rights a list of, or provide information that shows proof of attempts to solicit information regarding the need for, permits or approvals that may be required for the project. At a minimum, right holder shall provide a list or other information pertaining to whether any of the following permits or approvals are required: (1) lake or streambed alteration agreement with the Department of Fish and Wildlife (Fish & G. Code, § 1600 et seq.); (2) Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams approval (Wat. Code, § 6002); (3) Regional Water Quality Control Board Waste Discharge Requirements (Wat. Code, § 13260 et seq.); (4) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act section 404 permit (33 U.S.C. § 1344); and (5) local grading permits.

Right holder shall, within 30 days of issuance of any permits, approvals, or waivers, transmit copies to the Division of Water Rights.

(0000203)

M. Urban water suppliers shall comply with the Urban Water Management Planning Act (Wat. Code, § 10610 et seq.). An "urban water supplier" means a supplier, either publicly or privately owned, providing water for municipal purposes either directly or indirectly to more than 3,000 customers or supplying more than 3,000 acre-feet of water annually. All Urban Retail Water Suppliers shall also comply with the provisions in Water Code § 10609.20, §10609.22, and §10609.24. An "urban retail water supplier" means a water supplier, either publicly or privately owned, that directly provides potable municipal water to more than 3,000 end users or that supplies more than 3,000 acre-feet of potable water annually at retail for municipal purposes.

Agricultural water users and suppliers shall comply with the Agricultural Water Management Planning Act (Act) (Water Code, § 10800 et seq.). Agricultural water users applying for a permit from the State Water Board are required to develop and implement water conservation plans in accordance with the Act. An "agricultural water supplier" means a supplier, either publicly or privately owned, supplying more than 10,000 acre-feet of water annually for agricultural purposes. An agricultural water supplier includes a supplier or contractor for water, regardless of the basis of right, which distributes or sells for ultimate resale to customers.

(0000029D)

N. Pursuant to Water Code sections 100 and 275 and the common law public trust doctrine all rights and privileges under this right, including method of diversion, method of use, and quantity of water diverted, are subject to the continuing authority of the State Water Board in accordance with law and in the interest of the public welfare to protect public trust uses and to prevent waste, unreasonable use, unreasonable method of use, or unreasonable method of diversion of said water.

The continuing authority of the State Water Board may be exercised by imposing specific requirements over and above those contained in this right with a view to eliminating waste of water and to meeting the reasonable water requirements of right holder without unreasonable draft on the source. Right holder may be required to implement a water conservation plan, features of which may include but not necessarily be limited to (1) reusing or reclaiming the water allocated; (2) using water reclaimed by another entity instead of all or part of the water allocated; (3) restricting diversions so as to eliminate agricultural tailwater or to reduce return flow; (4) suppressing evaporation losses from water surfaces; (5) controlling phreatophytic growth; and (6) installing, maintaining, and operating efficient water measuring devices to assure compliance with the quantity limitations of this right and to determine accurately water use as against reasonable water requirements for the authorized project. No action will be taken

pursuant to this paragraph unless the State Water Board determines, after notice to affected parties and opportunity for hearing, that such specific requirements are physically and financially feasible and are appropriate to the particular situation.

The continuing authority of the State Water Board also may be exercised by imposing further limitations on the diversion and use of water by right holder in order to protect public trust uses. No action will be taken pursuant to this paragraph unless the State Water Board determines, after notice to affected parties and opportunity for hearing, that such action is consistent with California Constitution, article X, section 2; is consistent with the public interest; and is necessary to preserve or restore the uses protected by the public trust.

(0000012)

O. The quantity of water diverted under this right is subject to modification by the State Water Board if, after notice to right holder and an opportunity for hearing, the State Water Board finds that such modification is necessary to meet water quality objectives in water quality control plans which have been or hereafter may be established or modified pursuant to Division 7 of the Water Code. No action will be taken pursuant to this paragraph unless the State Water Board finds that (1) adequate waste discharge requirements have been prescribed and are in effect with respect to all waste discharges which have any substantial effect upon water quality in the area involved, and (2) the water quality objectives cannot be achieved solely through the control of waste discharges.

(0000013)

P. This right does not authorize any act which results in the taking of a candidate, threatened or endangered species or any act which is now prohibited, or becomes prohibited in the future, under either the California Endangered Species Act (Fish & G. Code, § 2050 et seq.) or the federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. § 1531 et seq.). If a "take" will result from any act authorized under this right, right holder shall obtain any required authorization for an incidental take prior to construction or operation of the project. Right holder shall be responsible for meeting all requirements of the applicable Endangered Species Act for the project authorized under this right.

(0000014)

This right is issued and right holder is subject to the following provisions of the Water Code:

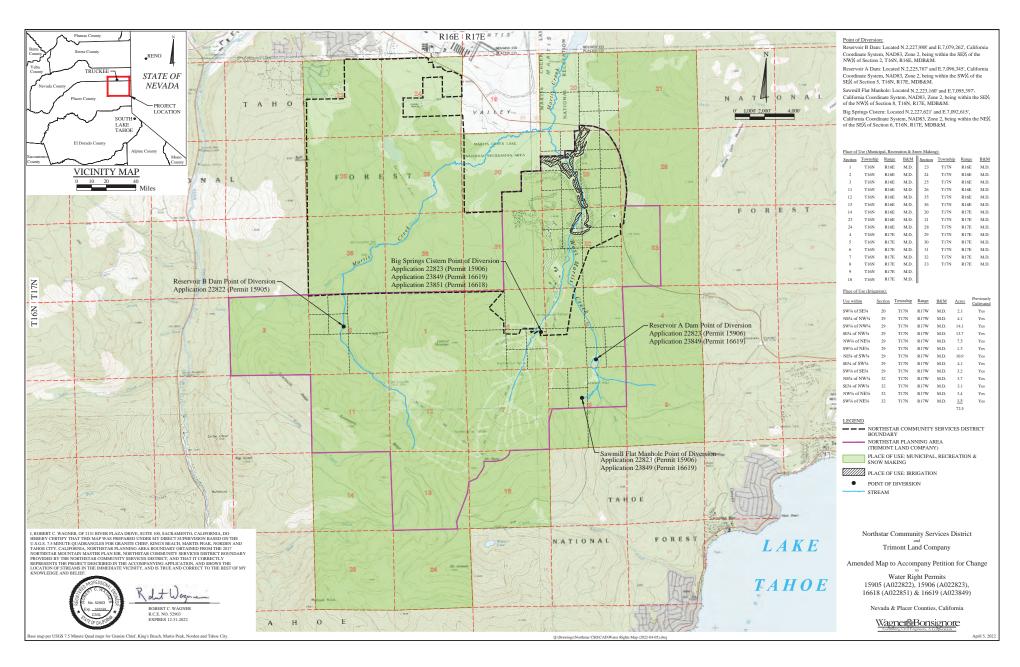
Section 1390. A permit shall be effective for such time as the water actually appropriated under it is used for a useful and beneficial purpose in conformity with this division (of the Water Code), but no longer.

Section 1392. Every permittee, if he accepts a permit, does so under the conditions precedent that no value whatsoever in excess of the actual amount paid to the State therefor shall at any time be assigned to or claimed for any permit granted or issued under the provisions of this division (of the Water Code), or for any rights granted or acquired under the provisions of this division (of the Water Code), in respect to the regulation by any competent public authority of the services or the price of the services to be rendered by any permittee or by the holder of any rights granted or acquired under the provisions of this division (of the Water Code) or in respect to any valuation for purposes of sale to or purchase, whether through condemnation proceedings or otherwise, by the State or any city, city and county, municipal water district, irrigation district, lighting district, or any political subdivision of the State, of the rights and property of any permittee, or the possessor of any rights granted, issued, or acquired under the provisions of this division (of the Water Code).

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

Erik Ekdahl, Deputy Director Division of Water Rights

Dated:



## **APPENDIX B**



# STATE OF CALIFORNIA CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

**DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS** 

# AMENDED PERMIT TO APPROPRIATE WATER

**APPLICATION 22823** 

**PERMIT 15906** 

Permittee or Northstar Community Service District

Right Holder: 900 Northstar Drive

Truckee, CA 96161

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) authorizes the diversion and use of water by the permittee (right holder) in accordance with the limitations and conditions in this permit and SUBJECT TO PRIOR RIGHTS. The priority of the rights associated with this permit (right) dates from **June 16**, **1967**.

This permit supersedes all permits previously issued on **Application 22823**.

### Right holder is hereby authorized to appropriate water as follows:

1. Sources of water: (1) West Martis Creek, (2) Sawmill Flat Springs, and (3)

**Big Springs** 

tributary to: (1) Martis Creek thence Truckee River; and

(2)(3) West Martis Creek thence Martis Creek thence

Truckee River.

within the County of Placer.

### 2. Locations of points of diversion:

By California Coordinate System of 1983 in Zone 2	40-acre subdivision of public land survey	Section	Township	Range	Base and Meridian
(1) Reservoir A Dam North 2,223,245 feet and East 7,095,362 feet	SW1/4 of SE1/4	5	16N	17E	MDB&M
(2) <u>Sawmill Flat Manhole</u> North 2,225,788 and East 7,094,862	SE1/4 of NW1/4	8	16N	17E	MDB&M
(3) <u>Big Springs Cistern</u> North 2,228,088 feet and East 7,092,762 feet	NE1/4 of SE1/4	6	16N	17E	MDB&M

3. Purposes of use:	4. Place of use sections:
Municipal	Sections 1-3, 11-14, and 23-24 of T16N, R16E, MDB&M
Irrigation	Sections 4-9 and 18 of T16N, R17E, MDB&M
Recreational	Sections 23-26 and 35-36 of T17N, R16E, MDB&M and
Snowmaking	Sections 20-21 and 28-33 of T17N, R17E, MDB&M

The authorized points of diversion and places of use for municipal, irrigation, recreation and snowmaking are shown on a map dated April 5, 2022, a copy of which is attached to this permit.

5. The water appropriated under this right shall be limited to the quantity which can be beneficially used and shall not exceed **0.3 cubic foot per second (cfs)** by direct diversion from January 1 to December 31 of each year and **88 acre-feet per year** by storage to be collected between October 1 of each year and April 30 of the succeeding year.

(000005F)

- 6. The maximum rate of diversion to offstream storage shall not exceed 1.35 cfs. (0000005J)
- 7. No water shall be collected to storage outside of the specified season to offset evaporation or seepage losses or for any other purpose.

(00000051)

- 8. The equivalent of the instantaneous continuous flow allowance described in the preceding term for any 30-day period may be diverted in a shorter time provided there is no interference with other rights or instream beneficial uses, and provided further that all terms or conditions protecting instream beneficial uses are observed.

  (0000027)
- 9. Construction work and complete application of the water to the authorized use shall be prosecuted with reasonable diligence and completed by December 31, 2028.

(0000009)

10. Upon a judicial determination that the place of use under this permit or a portion thereof is entitled to the use of water by riparian right or pre-1914 appropriative right, the right so determined and the right acquired under this permit shall not result in a combined right to the use of water in excess of that which could be claimed under the larger of the two rights.

(0000021C)

11.Permittee shall install and maintain an outlet pipe of adequate capacity in the dam for storage of water under this right as near as practicable to the bottom of the natural stream channel, or provide other means satisfactory to the State Water Board, so that water entering the reservoir which is not authorized for appropriation under this right can be released into the downstream channel. Permittee shall furnish to the Division of Water Rights evidence which substantiates that the outlet pipe, or alternative facility, has been installed in the dam. Evidence shall include photographs showing completed works or certification by a registered Civil or Agricultural Engineer.

(0050043B)

12. In accordance with the requirements of Water Code Section 1393, permittee shall clear the site of Reservoir A of all structures, trees, and other vegetation that would interfere with the use of the reservoir for water storage and recreational purposes.

(0120050A)

13. The reservoir shall be kept open to the public for recreational use, subject to reasonable charge for any services and facilities that are provided by the permittee. Failure to allow the public access may result in revocation of the permit or reduction in the amount of water that may be stored.

(0030045)

14. In compliance with Fish and Game Code section 5943, subdivision (a), permittee shall accord to the public, for the purpose of fishing, the reasonable right of access

to the waters impounded by the dam described in the preceding term during the open season for taking fish, subject to regulations of the Fish and Game Commission.

(0030064)

- 15. No water shall be diverted or used under this right for commercial or applicable personal medical use cannabis cultivation unless the water right holder is in compliance with all applicable conditions, including the numeric and narrative instream flow requirements, of the current version of the State Water Board's Cannabis Cultivation Policy Principles and Guidelines for Cannabis Cultivation. (0000120)
- 16. This right is subject to all applicable provisions of the Truckee-Carson-Pyramid Lake Water Rights Settlement Act (Pub. Law 101-618, tit. II, 104 Stat. 3294-3324) and the September 6, 2008 Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA).
- 17. Right holder shall not directly divert or collect to storage during any month more than 25 percent of the total amount of water allowed to be diverted during each year under this right. (TROA, pp. 6-5 6-6, §§ 6.C.2(b)(1) & 6.C.2(b)(2).)
- 18. Diversions of water to storage under this right and re-diversions of water stored under this right shall be consistent with the following provisions of TROA, pp. 6-8 6-9, § 6.C.3(b)(with all terms with initial capitals and **bold** as defined in TROA (see TROA, pp. D-1 D-11)):
  - (1) Storage shall be only for **Municipal and Industrial Use**, provided that this limitation shall not prevent or preclude incidental recreation use resulting therefrom;
  - (2) Right holder shall not divert water to storage under this right when there is insufficient Floriston Rate Water to maintain Floriston Rates or Reduced Floriston Rates, except for: (i) diversions made from November 1 through May 15 solely for the purpose of snowmaking, or (ii) diversions for replenishment of water previously diverted, but subsequently used for fire suppression purposes; and
  - (3) Diversions to storage and re-diversion of stored water to beneficial use shall not adversely affect maintenance of **Minimum Releases** or **Enhanced Minimum Releases** from reservoirs as provided in **Article Nine**.

### THIS RIGHT IS ALSO SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

A. Right holder is on notice that: (1) failure to timely commence or complete construction work or beneficial use of water with due diligence, (2) cessation or partial cessation of beneficial use of water, or (3) failure to observe any of the terms or conditions of this right, may be cause for the State Water Board to consider revocation (including partial revocation) of this right. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 850.)

(0000016)

B. Right holder is on notice that when the State Water Board determines that any person is violating, or threatening to violate, any term or condition of a right, the State Water Board may issue an order to that person to cease and desist from that violation. (Wat. Code, § 1831.) Civil liability may be imposed administratively by the State Water Board pursuant to Wat. Code, § 1055, or may be imposed by the superior court. The Attorney General, upon the request of the board, shall petition the superior court to impose, assess, and recover those sums. (Wat. Code, § 1846.)

(0000017)

C. Right holder is not authorized to make any modifications to the location of diversion facilities, place of use or purposes of use, or make other changes to the project that do not conform with the terms and conditions of this right, prior to submitting a change petition and obtaining approval of the State Water Board.

(0000018)

D. Once the time to develop beneficial use of water ends under this permit, right holder is not authorized to increase diversions beyond the maximum annual amount diverted or used during the authorized development schedule prior to submitting a time extension petition and obtaining approval of the State Water Board.

(0000019)

E. The amount of water for consideration when issuing a license shall be limited to only the amount of water diverted and applied to beneficial use in compliance with the terms and conditions of this right, as determined by the State Water Board. (Wat. Code, § 1610.)

(0000006)

F. Right holder shall measure the amount of water beneficially used under this right using devices and/or methods satisfactory to the Deputy Director for Water

Rights. In order to demonstrate compliance with the beneficial use monitoring requirements of this right, right holder shall provide evidence that the devices and/or methods are functioning properly, in a manner satisfactory to the Deputy Director of Water Rights, within thirty days of first use of the device and/or method, with the reports required by chapter 2.8, division 3, title 23, California Code of Regulations, and whenever requested by the Division of Water Rights.

(0000015)

G. Right holder shall comply with the reporting requirements as specified in the terms of this right or any reporting requirements by statute, order, policy, regulation, decision, judgment or probationary designation. The more stringent requirement shall control in each instance where there is conflict or inconsistency between the requirements.

Right holder shall comply with the reporting requirements of chapter 2.7, division 3, title 23, California Code of Regulations.

Right holder shall promptly submit any reports, data, or other information that may reasonably be required by the State Water Board, including but not limited to documentation of water diversion and beneficial use under this right, and documentation of compliance with the terms and conditions of this right.

(0000010)

- H. Right holder shall grant, or secure authorization through right holder's right of access to property owned by another party, the staff of the State Water Board, and any other authorized representatives of the State Water Board the following:
  - Entry upon property where water is being diverted, stored or used under a right issued by the State Water Board or where monitoring, samples and/or records must be collected under the conditions of this right;
  - 2. Access to copy any records at reasonable times that are kept under the terms and conditions of a right or other order issued by State Water Board;
  - Access to inspect at reasonable times any project covered by a right issued by the State Water Board, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated by or required under this right; and,
  - 4. Access to photograph, sample, measure, and monitor at reasonable times for the purpose of ensuring compliance with a right or other order issued by State Water Board, or as otherwise authorized by the Water Code.

(0000011)

I. This right shall not be construed as conferring right of access to any lands or facilities not owned by right holder.

(0000022)

J. All rights are issued subject to available flows. Inasmuch as the source contains treated wastewater, imported water from another stream system, or return flow from other projects, there is no guarantee that such supply will continue.

(0000025)

K. This right does not authorize diversion of water dedicated by other right holders under a senior right for purposes of preserving or enhancing wetlands, habitat, fish and wildlife resources, or recreation in, or on, the water. (Wat. Code, § 1707.) The Division of Water Rights maintains information about these dedications. It is right holders' responsibility to be aware of any dedications that may preclude diversion under this right.

(0000212)

L. No water shall be diverted or used under this right, and no construction related to such diversion shall commence, unless right holder has obtained and is in compliance with all necessary permits or other approvals required by other agencies. If an amended right is issued, no new facilities shall be utilized, nor shall the amount of water diverted or used increase beyond the maximum amount diverted or used during the previously authorized development schedule, unless right holder has obtained and is in compliance with all necessary requirements, including but not limited to the permits and approvals listed in this term.

Right holder shall prepare and submit to the Division of Water Rights a list of, or provide information that shows proof of attempts to solicit information regarding the need for, permits or approvals that may be required for the project. At a minimum, right holder shall provide a list or other information pertaining to whether any of the following permits or approvals are required: (1) lake or streambed alteration agreement with the Department of Fish and Wildlife (Fish & G. Code, § 1600 et seq.); (2) Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams approval (Wat. Code, § 6002); (3) Regional Water Quality Control Board Waste Discharge Requirements (Wat. Code, § 13260 et seq.); (4) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act section 404 permit (33 U.S.C. § 1344); and (5) local grading permits.

Right holder shall, within 30 days of issuance of any permits, approvals or waivers, transmit copies to the Division of Water Rights.

(0000203)

M. Urban water suppliers shall comply with the Urban Water Management Planning Act (Wat. Code, § 10610 et seq.). An "urban water supplier" means a supplier, either publicly or privately owned, providing water for municipal purposes either directly or indirectly to more than 3,000 customers or supplying more than 3,000 acre-feet of water annually. All Urban Retail Water Suppliers shall also comply with the provisions in Water Code § 10609.20, §10609.22, and §10609.24. An "urban retail water supplier" means a water supplier, either publicly or privately owned, that directly provides potable municipal water to more than 3,000 end users or that supplies more than 3,000 acre-feet of potable water annually at retail for municipal purposes.

Agricultural water users and suppliers shall comply with the Agricultural Water Management Planning Act (Act) (Water Code, § 10800 et seq.). Agricultural water users applying for a permit from the State Water Board are required to develop and implement water conservation plans in accordance with the Act. An "agricultural water supplier" means a supplier, either publicly or privately owned, supplying more than 10,000 acre-feet of water annually for agricultural purposes. An agricultural water supplier includes a supplier or contractor for water, regardless of the basis of right, which distributes or sells for ultimate resale to customers.

(0000029D)

N. Pursuant to Water Code sections 100 and 275 and the common law public trust doctrine all rights and privileges under this right, including method of diversion, method of use, and quantity of water diverted, are subject to the continuing authority of the State Water Board in accordance with law and in the interest of the public welfare to protect public trust uses and to prevent waste, unreasonable use, unreasonable method of use, or unreasonable method of diversion of said water.

The continuing authority of the State Water Board may be exercised by imposing specific requirements over and above those contained in this right with a view to eliminating waste of water and to meeting the reasonable water requirements of right holder without unreasonable draft on the source. Right holder may be required to implement a water conservation plan, features of which may include but not necessarily be limited to (1) reusing or reclaiming the water allocated; (2) using water reclaimed by another entity instead of all or part of the water allocated; (3) restricting diversions so as to eliminate agricultural tailwater or to reduce return flow; (4) suppressing evaporation losses from water surfaces; (5) controlling phreatophytic growth; and (6) installing, maintaining, and operating efficient water measuring devices to assure compliance with the quantity limitations of this right and to determine accurately water use as against reasonable water requirements for the authorized project. No action will be taken

pursuant to this paragraph unless the State Water Board determines, after notice to affected parties and opportunity for hearing, that such specific requirements are physically and financially feasible and are appropriate to the particular situation.

The continuing authority of the State Water Board also may be exercised by imposing further limitations on the diversion and use of water by right holder in order to protect public trust uses. No action will be taken pursuant to this paragraph unless the State Water Board determines, after notice to affected parties and opportunity for hearing, that such action is consistent with California Constitution, article X, section 2; is consistent with the public interest; and is necessary to preserve or restore the uses protected by the public trust.

(0000012)

O. The quantity of water diverted under this right is subject to modification by the State Water Board if, after notice to right holder and an opportunity for hearing, the State Water Board finds that such modification is necessary to meet water quality objectives in water quality control plans which have been or hereafter may be established or modified pursuant to Division 7 of the Water Code. No action will be taken pursuant to this paragraph unless the State Water Board finds that (1) adequate waste discharge requirements have been prescribed and are in effect with respect to all waste discharges which have any substantial effect upon water quality in the area involved, and (2) the water quality objectives cannot be achieved solely through the control of waste discharges.

(0000013)

P. This right does not authorize any act which results in the taking of a candidate, threatened or endangered species or any act which is now prohibited, or becomes prohibited in the future, under either the California Endangered Species Act (Fish & G. Code, § 2050 et seq.) or the federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. § 1531 et seq.). If a "take" will result from any act authorized under this right, right holder shall obtain any required authorization for an incidental take prior to construction or operation of the project. Right holder shall be responsible for meeting all requirements of the applicable Endangered Species Act for the project authorized under this right.

(0000014)

This right is issued and right holder is subject to the following provisions of the Water Code:

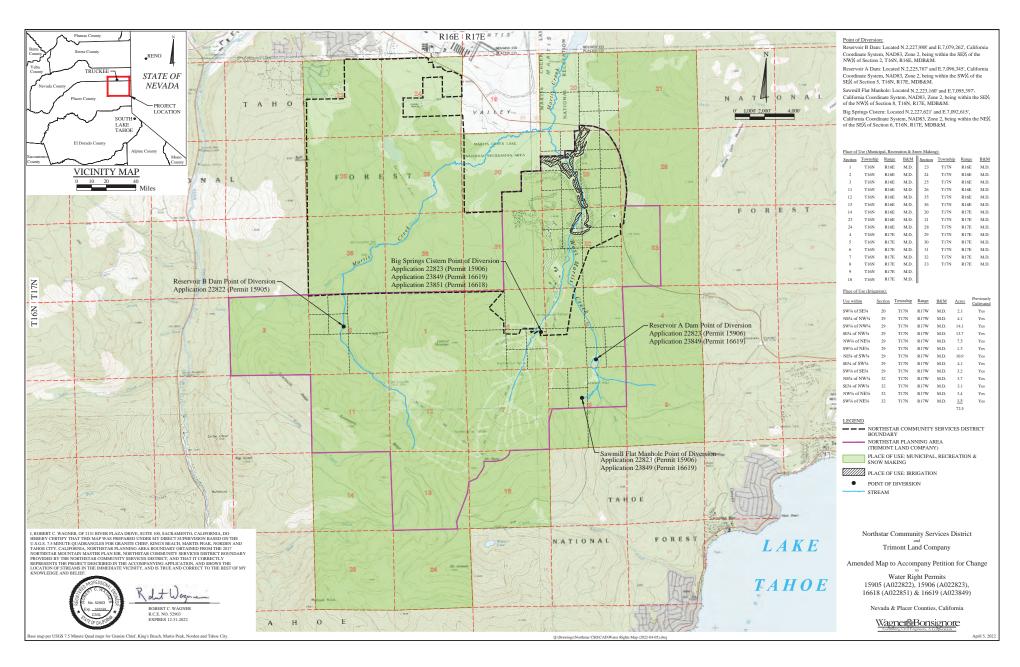
Section 1390. A permit shall be effective for such time as the water actually appropriated under it is used for a useful and beneficial purpose in conformity with this division (of the Water Code), but no longer.

Section 1392. Every permittee, if he accepts a permit, does so under the conditions precedent that no value whatsoever in excess of the actual amount paid to the State therefor shall at any time be assigned to or claimed for any permit granted or issued under the provisions of this division (of the Water Code), or for any rights granted or acquired under the provisions of this division (of the Water Code), in respect to the regulation by any competent public authority of the services or the price of the services to be rendered by any permittee or by the holder of any rights granted or acquired under the provisions of this division (of the Water Code) or in respect to any valuation for purposes of sale to or purchase, whether through condemnation proceedings or otherwise, by the State or any city, city and county, municipal water district, irrigation district, lighting district, or any political subdivision of the State, of the rights and property of any permittee, or the possessor of any rights granted, issued, or acquired under the provisions of this division (of the Water Code).

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

Erik Ekdahl, Deputy Director Division of Water Rights

Dated:



### **APPENDIX C**



# STATE OF CALIFORNIA CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

**DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS** 

# AMENDED PERMIT TO APPROPRIATE WATER

**APPLICATION 23849** 

**PERMIT 16619** 

Permittee or Right Holder:

Northstar Community Service District

900 Northstar Drive

Truckee, CA 96161

**Trimont Land Company** 

P.O. Box 129

Truckee, CA 96160

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) authorizes the diversion and use of water by the permittee (right holder) in accordance with the limitations and conditions in this permit and SUBJECT TO PRIOR RIGHTS. The priority of the rights associated with this permit (right) dates from **August 19**, **1971**.

This permit supersedes all permits previously issued on Application 23849.

### Right holder is hereby authorized to appropriate water as follows:

1. Sources of water: (1) West Martis Creek, (2) Sawmill Flat Springs; and (3)

**Big Springs** 

tributary to: (1) Martis Creek thence Truckee River; and

(2) and (3) West Martis Creek thence Martis Creek

thence Truckee River

within the County of Placer.

### 2. Locations of points of diversion:

By California Coordinate System of 1983 in Zone 2	40-acre subdivision of public land survey	Section	Township	Range	Base and Meridian
(1) Reservoir A Dam North 2,223,245 feet and East 7,095,362 feet	SW1/4 of SE1/4	5	16N	17E	MDB&M
(2) <u>Sawmill Flat Manhole</u> North 2,225,788 and East 7,094,862	SE¼ of NW¼	8	16N	17E	MDB&M
(3) <u>Big Springs Cistern</u> North 2,228,088 feet and East 7,092,762 feet	NE1/4 of SE1/4	6	16N	17E	MDB&M

3. Purposes of use:	4. Place of use sections:
Municipal	Sections 1-3, 11-14, and 23-24 of T16N, R16E, MDB&M
Irrigation	Sections 4-9 and 18 of T16N, R17E, MDB&M
Recreational	Sections 23-26 and 35-36 of T17N, R16E, MDB&M and
Snowmaking	Sections 20-21 and 28-33 of T17N, R17E, MDB&M

The authorized points of diversion and places of use for municipal, irrigation, recreation and snowmaking are shown on a map dated April 5, 2022, a copy of which is attached to this permit.

5. The water appropriated under this right shall be limited to the quantity which can be beneficially used and shall not exceed **2.2 cubic feet per second (cfs)** by direct diversion from January 1 to December 31 of each year and **180 acre-feet per year (af/yr)** by storage to be collected between October 1 of each year to May 31 of the succeeding year.

(0000005A)

6. The total quantity of water diverted under this right and the rights pursuant to Application 22822 (Permit 15905), Application 22823 (Permit 15906), and Application 23851 (Permit 16618) shall not exceed **710 af/yr** by diversion to storage, and a total combined amount of water taken from the source (direct diversion plus collection to storage) of **1,206 acre-feet per water year** between

October 1 of each year to September 30 of the succeeding year.

(000005Q)

7. The maximum total instantaneous rate of direct diversion under this right and the rights pursuant to Application 22822 (Permit 15905), Application 22823 (Permit 15906), and Application 23851 (Permit 16618) shall not exceed **2.5 cfs**.

(0000005S)

8. No water shall be collected to storage outside of the specified season to offset evaporation and seepage losses or for any other purpose.

(00000051)

9. The maximum rate of diversion to offstream storage under this right and the rights pursuant to Application 22823 (Permit 15906) and Application 23851 (Permit 16618) shall not exceed 1.35 cfs.

(0000005J)

- 10. Construction work and complete application of the water to the authorized use shall be prosecuted with reasonable diligence and completed by December 31, 2028.

  (0000009)
- 11. Upon a judicial determination that the place of use under this permit or a portion thereof is entitled to the use of water by riparian right or pre-1914 appropriative right, the right so determined and the right acquired under this license shall not result in a combined right to the use of water in excess of that which could be claimed under the larger of the two rights.

(0000021C)

11.Permittee shall install and maintain an outlet pipe of adequate capacity in the dam for storage of water under this right as near as practicable to the bottom of the natural stream channel, or provide other means satisfactory to the State Water Board, so that water entering the reservoir which is not authorized for appropriation under this right can be released into the downstream channel. Permittee shall furnish to the Division of Water Rights evidence which substantiates that the outlet pipe, or alternative facility, has been installed in the dam. Evidence shall include photographs showing completed works or certification by a registered Civil or Agricultural Engineer.

(0050043B)

12. In accordance with the requirements of Water Code Section 1393, permittee shall clear the site of Reservoir A of all structures, trees, and other vegetation that would interfere with the use of the reservoir for water storage and recreational purpose.

(0120050A)

13. The reservoir shall be kept open to the public for recreational use, subject to reasonable charge for any services and facilities that are provided by the permittee. Failure to allow the public access may result in revocation of this permit or reduction in the amount of water that may be stored.

(0030045)

14. In compliance with Fish and Game Code section 5943, subdivision (a), permittee shall accord to the public, for the purpose of fishing, the reasonable right of access to the waters impounded by the dam described in the preceding term during the open season for taking fish, subject to regulations of the Fish and Game Commission.

(0030064)

- 15. No water shall be diverted or used under this right for commercial or applicable personal medical use cannabis cultivation unless the water right holder is in compliance with all applicable conditions, including the numeric and narrative instream flow requirements, of the current version of the State Water Board's Cannabis Cultivation Policy Principles and Guidelines for Cannabis Cultivation. (0000120)
- 16. This right is subject to all applicable provisions of the Truckee-Carson-Pyramid Lake Water Rights Settlement Act (Pub. Law 101-618, tit. II, 104 Stat. 3294-3324) and the September 6, 2008 Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA).
- 17. Right holder shall not directly divert or collect to storage during any month more than 25 percent of the total amount of water allowed to be diverted during each year under this right. (TROA, pp. 6-5 6-6, §§ 6.C.2(b)(1) & 6.C.2(b)(2).)
- 18. Diversions of water to storage under this right and re-diversions of water stored under this right shall be consistent with the following provisions of TROA, pp. 6-8 6-9, § 6.C.3(b)(with all terms with initial capitals and **bold** as defined in TROA (see TROA, pp. D-1 D-11)):
  - (1) Storage shall be only for **Municipal and Industrial Use**, provided that this limitation shall not prevent or preclude incidental recreation use resulting therefrom:
  - (2) Right holder shall not divert water to storage under this right when there is insufficient Floriston Rate Water to maintain Floriston Rates or Reduced Floriston Rates, except for: (i) diversions made from November 1 through May 15 solely for the purpose of snowmaking, or (ii) diversions for replenishment of water previously diverted, but subsequently used for fire suppression purposes; and
  - (3) Diversions to storage and re-diversion of stored water to beneficial use shall not adversely affect maintenance of **Minimum Releases** or **Enhanced Minimum Releases** from reservoirs as provided in **Article Nine**.

#### THIS RIGHT IS ALSO SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

A. Right holder is on notice that: (1) failure to timely commence or complete construction work or beneficial use of water with due diligence, (2) cessation or partial cessation of beneficial use of water, or (3) failure to observe any of the terms or conditions of this right, may be cause for the State Water Board to consider revocation (including partial revocation) of this right. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 850.)

(0000016)

B. Right holder is on notice that when the State Water Board determines that any person is violating, or threatening to violate, any term or condition of a right, the State Water Board may issue an order to that person to cease and desist from that violation. (Wat. Code, § 1831.) Civil liability may be imposed administratively by the State Water Board pursuant to Wat. Code, § 1055, or may be imposed by the superior court. The Attorney General, upon the request of the board, shall petition the superior court to impose, assess, and recover those sums. (Wat. Code, § 1846.)

(0000017)

C. Right holder is not authorized to make any modifications to the location of diversion facilities, place of use or purposes of use, or make other changes to the project that do not conform with the terms and conditions of this right, prior to submitting a change petition and obtaining approval of the State Water Board.

(0000018)

D. Once the time to develop beneficial use of water ends under this permit, right holder is not authorized to increase diversions beyond the maximum annual amount diverted or used during the authorized development schedule prior to submitting a time extension petition and obtaining approval of the State Water Board.

(0000019)

E. The amount of water for consideration when issuing a license shall be limited to only the amount of water diverted and applied to beneficial use in compliance

with the terms and conditions of this right, as determined by the State Water Board. (Wat. Code, § 1610.)

(0000006)

F. Right holder shall measure the amount of water beneficially used under this right using devices and/or methods satisfactory to the Deputy Director for Water Rights. In order to demonstrate compliance with the beneficial use monitoring requirements of this right, right holder shall provide evidence that the devices and/or methods are functioning properly, in a manner satisfactory to the Deputy Director of Water Rights, within thirty days of first use of the device and/or method, with the reports required by chapter 2.8, division 3, title 23, California Code of Regulations, and whenever requested by the Division of Water Rights.

(0000015)

G. Right holder shall comply with the reporting requirements as specified in the terms of this right or any reporting requirements by statute, order, policy, regulation, decision, judgment or probationary designation. The more stringent requirement shall control in each instance where there is conflict or inconsistency between the requirements.

Right holder shall comply with the reporting requirements of chapter 2.7, division 3, title 23, California Code of Regulations.

Right holder shall promptly submit any reports, data, or other information that may reasonably be required by the State Water Board, including but not limited to documentation of water diversion and beneficial use under this right, and documentation of compliance with the terms and conditions of this right.

(0000010)

- H. Right holder shall grant, or secure authorization through right holder's right of access to property owned by another party, the staff of the State Water Board, and any other authorized representatives of the State Water Board the following:
  - Entry upon property where water is being diverted, stored or used under a right issued by the State Water Board or where monitoring, samples and/or records must be collected under the conditions of this right;
  - 2. Access to copy any records at reasonable times that are kept under the terms and conditions of a right or other order issued by State Water Board;
  - 3. Access to inspect at reasonable times any project covered by a right issued by the State Water Board, equipment (including monitoring and control

equipment), practices, or operations regulated by or required under this right; and,

4. Access to photograph, sample, measure, and monitor at reasonable times for the purpose of ensuring compliance with a right or other order issued by State Water Board, or as otherwise authorized by the Water Code.

(0000011)

I. This right shall not be construed as conferring right of access to any lands or facilities not owned by right holder.

(0000022)

J. All rights are issued subject to available flows. Inasmuch as the source contains treated wastewater, imported water from another stream system, or return flow from other projects, there is no guarantee that such supply will continue.

(0000025)

K. This right does not authorize diversion of water dedicated by other right holders under a senior right for purposes of preserving or enhancing wetlands, habitat, fish and wildlife resources, or recreation in, or on, the water. (Wat. Code, § 1707.) The Division of Water Rights maintains information about these dedications. It is right holders' responsibility to be aware of any dedications that may preclude diversion under this right.

(0000212)

L. No water shall be diverted or used under this right, and no construction related to such diversion shall commence, unless right holder has obtained and is in compliance with all necessary permits or other approvals required by other agencies. If an amended right is issued, no new facilities shall be utilized, nor shall the amount of water diverted or used increase beyond the maximum amount diverted or used during the previously authorized development schedule, unless right holder has obtained and is in compliance with all necessary requirements, including but not limited to the permits and approvals listed in this term.

Right holder shall prepare and submit to the Division of Water Rights a list of, or provide information that shows proof of attempts to solicit information regarding the need for, permits or approvals that may be required for the project. At a minimum, right holder shall provide a list or other information pertaining to whether any of the following permits or approvals are required: (1) lake or streambed alteration agreement with the Department of Fish and Wildlife (Fish & G. Code, § 1600 et seq.); (2) Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety

of Dams approval (Wat. Code, § 6002); (3) Regional Water Quality Control Board Waste Discharge Requirements (Wat. Code, § 13260 et seq.); (4) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act section 404 permit (33 U.S.C. § 1344); and (5) local grading permits.

Right holder shall, within 30 days of issuance of any permits, approvals or waivers, transmit copies to the Division of Water Rights.

(0000203)

M. Urban water suppliers shall comply with the Urban Water Management Planning Act (Wat. Code, § 10610 et seq.). An "urban water supplier" means a supplier, either publicly or privately owned, providing water for municipal purposes either directly or indirectly to more than 3,000 customers or supplying more than 3,000 acre-feet of water annually. All Urban Retail Water Suppliers shall also comply with the provisions in Water Code § 10609.20, §10609.22, and §10609.24. An "urban retail water supplier" means a water supplier, either publicly or privately owned, that directly provides potable municipal water to more than 3,000 end users or that supplies more than 3,000 acre-feet of potable water annually at retail for municipal purposes.

Agricultural water users and suppliers shall comply with the Agricultural Water Management Planning Act (Act) (Water Code, § 10800 et seq.). Agricultural water users applying for a permit from the State Water Board are required to develop and implement water conservation plans in accordance with the Act. An "agricultural water supplier" means a supplier, either publicly or privately owned, supplying more than 10,000 acre-feet of water annually for agricultural purposes. An agricultural water supplier includes a supplier or contractor for water, regardless of the basis of right, which distributes or sells for ultimate resale to customers.

(0000029D)

N. Pursuant to Water Code sections 100 and 275 and the common law public trust doctrine all rights and privileges under this right, including method of diversion, method of use, and quantity of water diverted, are subject to the continuing authority of the State Water Board in accordance with law and in the interest of the public welfare to protect public trust uses and to prevent waste, unreasonable use, unreasonable method of use, or unreasonable method of diversion of said water.

The continuing authority of the State Water Board may be exercised by imposing specific requirements over and above those contained in this right with a view to eliminating waste of water and to meeting the reasonable water requirements of right holder without unreasonable draft on the source. Right

holder may be required to implement a water conservation plan, features of which may include but not necessarily be limited to (1) reusing or reclaiming the water allocated; (2) using water reclaimed by another entity instead of all or part of the water allocated; (3) restricting diversions so as to eliminate agricultural tailwater or to reduce return flow; (4) suppressing evaporation losses from water surfaces; (5) controlling phreatophytic growth; and (6) installing, maintaining, and operating efficient water measuring devices to assure compliance with the quantity limitations of this right and to determine accurately water use as against reasonable water requirements for the authorized project. No action will be taken pursuant to this paragraph unless the State Water Board determines, after notice to affected parties and opportunity for hearing, that such specific requirements are physically and financially feasible and are appropriate to the particular situation.

The continuing authority of the State Water Board also may be exercised by imposing further limitations on the diversion and use of water by right holder in order to protect public trust uses. No action will be taken pursuant to this paragraph unless the State Water Board determines, after notice to affected parties and opportunity for hearing, that such action is consistent with California Constitution, article X, section 2; is consistent with the public interest; and is necessary to preserve or restore the uses protected by the public trust.

(0000012)

O. The quantity of water diverted under this right is subject to modification by the State Water Board if, after notice to right holder and an opportunity for hearing, the State Water Board finds that such modification is necessary to meet water quality objectives in water quality control plans which have been or hereafter may be established or modified pursuant to Division 7 of the Water Code. No action will be taken pursuant to this paragraph unless the State Water Board finds that (1) adequate waste discharge requirements have been prescribed and are in effect with respect to all waste discharges which have any substantial effect upon water quality in the area involved, and (2) the water quality objectives cannot be achieved solely through the control of waste discharges.

(0000013)

P. This right does not authorize any act which results in the taking of a candidate, threatened or endangered species or any act which is now prohibited, or becomes prohibited in the future, under either the California Endangered Species Act (Fish & G. Code, § 2050 et seq.) or the federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. § 1531 et seq.). If a "take" will result from any act authorized under this right, right holder shall obtain any required authorization for an incidental take prior to construction or operation of the project. Right

holder shall be responsible for meeting all requirements of the applicable Endangered Species Act for the project authorized under this right.

(0000014)

This right is issued and right holder is subject to the following provisions of the Water Code:

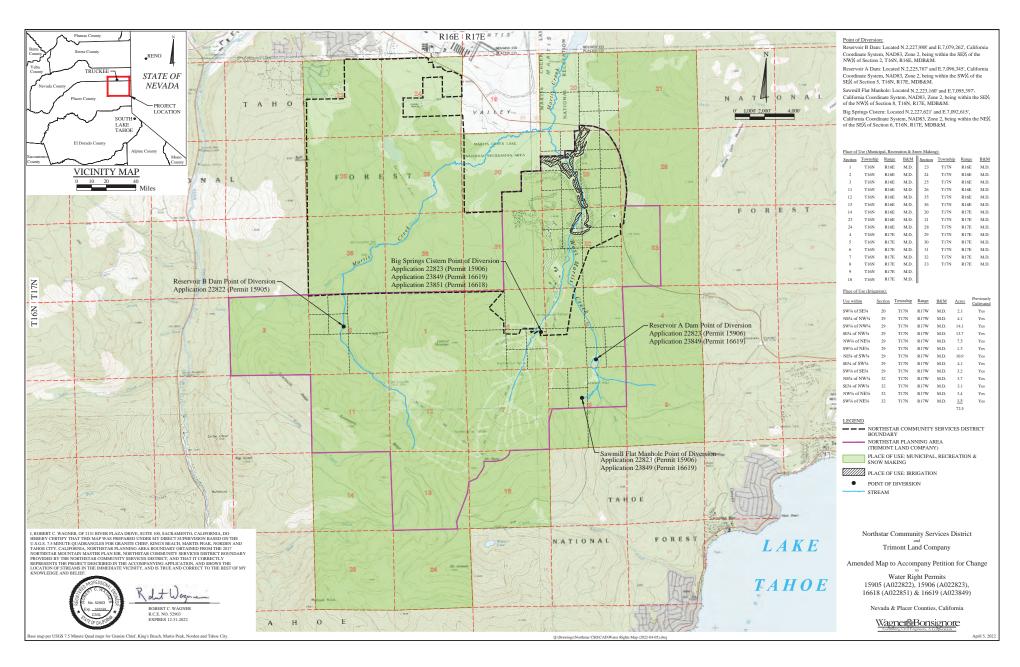
Section 1390. A permit shall be effective for such time as the water actually appropriated under it is used for a useful and beneficial purpose in conformity with this division (of the Water Code), but no longer.

Section 1392. Every permittee, if he accepts a permit, does so under the conditions precedent that no value whatsoever in excess of the actual amount paid to the State therefor shall at any time be assigned to or claimed for any permit granted or issued under the provisions of this division (of the Water Code), or for any rights granted or acquired under the provisions of this division (of the Water Code), in respect to the regulation by any competent public authority of the services or the price of the services to be rendered by any permittee or by the holder of any rights granted or acquired under the provisions of this division (of the Water Code) or in respect to any valuation for purposes of sale to or purchase, whether through condemnation proceedings or otherwise, by the State or any city, city and county, municipal water district, irrigation district, lighting district, or any political subdivision of the State, of the rights and property of any permittee, or the possessor of any rights granted, issued, or acquired under the provisions of this division (of the Water Code).

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

Erik Ekdahl, Deputy Director Division of Water Rights

Dated:



### **APPENDIX D**



# STATE OF CALIFORNIA CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

#### **DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS**

# AMENDED PERMIT TO APPROPRIATE WATER

**APPLICATION 23851** 

**PERMIT 16618** 

Permittee or Right Holder:

Northstar Community Service District

900 Northstar Drive

Truckee, CA 96161

**Trimont Land Company** 

P.O. Box 129

Truckee, CA 96160

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) authorizes the diversion and use of water by the permittee (right holder) in accordance with the limitations and conditions in this permit and SUBJECT TO PRIOR RIGHTS. The priority of the rights associated with this permit (right) dates from **August 19**, **1971**.

This permit supersedes all permits previously issued on **Application 23851**.

### Right holder is hereby authorized to appropriate water as follows:

1. Source of water: **Big Springs** 

tributary to: Unnamed Stream thence West Martis Creek thence

**Martis Creek thence Truckee River** 

within the County of Placer.

### 2. Location of point of diversion:

By California Coordinate System of 1983 in Zone 2	40-acre subdivision of public land survey	Section	Township	Range	Base and Meridian
Big Springs Cistern North 2,228,088 feet and East 7,092,762	NE1/4 of SE1/4	6	16N	17E	MDB&M

3. Purpose of use:	4. Place of use sections:
Municipal	Sections 1-3, 11-14, and 23-24 of T16N, R16E, MDB&M
Irrigation	Sections 4-9 and 18 of T16N, R17E, MDB&M
Recreational	Sections 23-26 and 35-36 of T17N, R16E, MDB&M and
Snowmaking	Sections 20-21 and 28-33 of T17N, R17E, MDB&M

The authorized point of diversion and places of use for municipal, irrigation, recreation and snowmaking are shown on a map dated April 5, 2022, a copy of which is attached to this permit.

5. The water appropriated under this right shall be limited to the quantity which can be beneficially used and shall not exceed **2.5 cubic feet per second (cfs)** by direct diversion from January 1 to December 31 of each year.

(0000005F)

6. The total quantity of water diverted under this right and the rights pursuant to Application 22822 (Permit 15905), Application 22823 (Permit 15906), and Application 23849 (Permit 16619) shall not exceed **710 acre-feet per year** by diversion to storage, and a total combined amount of water taken from the source (direct diversion plus collection to storage) of **1,206 acre-feet per water year** between October 1 of each year and September 30 of the succeeding year.

(0000005Q)

7. The maximum total instantaneous rate of direct diversion under this right and the rights pursuant to Application 22822 (Permit 15905), Application 23851 (Permit 16618), and Application 23849 (Permit 16619) shall not exceed **2.5 cfs**.

(0000005S)

- 8. Construction work and complete application of the water to the authorized use shall be prosecuted with reasonable diligence and completed by December 31, 2028.

  (0000009)
- 9. Upon a judicial determination that the place of use under this permit or a portion thereof is entitled to the use of water by riparian right or pre-1914 appropriative right, the right so determined and the right acquired under this license shall not result in a combined right to the use of water in excess of that which could be claimed under the larger of the two rights.

(0000021C)

- 10.No water shall be diverted or used under this right for commercial or applicable personal medical use cannabis cultivation unless the water right holder is in compliance with all applicable conditions, including the numeric and narrative instream flow requirements, of the current version of the State Water Board's Cannabis Cultivation Policy Principles and Guidelines for Cannabis Cultivation. (0000120)
- 11. This right is subject to all applicable provisions of the Truckee-Carson-Pyramid Lake Water Rights Settlement Act (Pub. Law 101-618, tit. II, 104 Stat. 3294-3324) and the September 6, 2008 Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA).
- 12. Right holder shall not directly divert or collect to storage during any month more than 25 percent of the total amount of water allowed to be diverted during each year under this right. (TROA, pp. 6-5 6-6, §§ 6.C.2(b)(1) & 6.C.2(b)(2).)

### THIS RIGHT IS ALSO SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

A. Right holder is on notice that: (1) failure to timely commence or complete construction work or beneficial use of water with due diligence, (2) cessation or partial cessation of beneficial use of water, or (3) failure to observe any of the terms or conditions of this right, may be cause for the State Water Board to consider revocation (including partial revocation) of this right. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 850.)

(0000016)

B. Right holder is on notice that when the State Water Board determines that any person is violating, or threatening to violate, any term or condition of a right, the State Water Board may issue an order to that person to cease and desist from that violation. (Wat. Code, § 1831.) Civil liability may be imposed administratively by the State Water Board pursuant to Wat. Code, § 1055, or may be imposed by the superior court. The Attorney General, upon the request of the board, shall petition the superior court to impose, assess, and recover those sums. (Wat. Code, § 1846.)

(0000017)

C. Right holder is not authorized to make any modifications to the location of diversion facilities, place of use or purposes of use, or make other changes to the project that do not conform with the terms and conditions of this right, prior to submitting a change petition and obtaining approval of the State Water Board.

(0000018)

D. Once the time to develop beneficial use of water ends under this permit, right holder is not authorized to increase diversions beyond the maximum annual amount diverted or used during the authorized development schedule prior to submitting a time extension petition and obtaining approval of the State Water Board.

(0000019)

E. The amount of water for consideration when issuing a license shall be limited to only the amount of water diverted and applied to beneficial use in compliance with the terms and conditions of this right, as determined by the State Water Board. (Wat. Code, § 1610.)

(0000006)

F. Right holder shall measure the amount of water beneficially used under this right using devices and/or methods satisfactory to the Deputy Director for Water

Rights. In order to demonstrate compliance with the beneficial use monitoring requirements of this right, right holder shall provide evidence that the devices and/or methods are functioning properly, in a manner satisfactory to the Deputy Director of Water Rights, within thirty days of first use of the device and/or method, with the reports required by chapter 2.8, division 3, title 23, California Code of Regulations, and whenever requested by the Division of Water Rights.

(0000015)

G. Right holder shall comply with the reporting requirements as specified in the terms of this right or any reporting requirements by statute, order, policy, regulation, decision, judgment or probationary designation. The more stringent requirement shall control in each instance where there is conflict or inconsistency between the requirements.

Right holder shall comply with the reporting requirements of chapter 2.7, division 3, title 23, California Code of Regulations.

Right holder shall promptly submit any reports, data, or other information that may reasonably be required by the State Water Board, including but not limited to documentation of water diversion and beneficial use under this right, and documentation of compliance with the terms and conditions of this right.

(0000010)

- H. Right holder shall grant, or secure authorization through right holder's right of access to property owned by another party, the staff of the State Water Board, and any other authorized representatives of the State Water Board the following:
  - Entry upon property where water is being diverted, stored or used under a right issued by the State Water Board or where monitoring, samples and/or records must be collected under the conditions of this right;
  - 2. Access to copy any records at reasonable times that are kept under the terms and conditions of a right or other order issued by State Water Board;
  - 3. Access to inspect at reasonable times any project covered by a right issued by the State Water Board, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated by or required under this right; and,
  - 4. Access to photograph, sample, measure, and monitor at reasonable times for the purpose of ensuring compliance with a right or other order issued by State Water Board, or as otherwise authorized by the Water Code.

(0000011)

I. This right shall not be construed as conferring right of access to any lands or facilities not owned by right holder.

(0000022)

J. All rights are issued subject to available flows. Inasmuch as the source contains treated wastewater, imported water from another stream system, or return flow from other projects, there is no guarantee that such supply will continue.

(0000025)

K. This right does not authorize diversion of water dedicated by other right holders under a senior right for purposes of preserving or enhancing wetlands, habitat, fish and wildlife resources, or recreation in, or on, the water. (Wat. Code, § 1707.) The Division of Water Rights maintains information about these dedications. It is right holders' responsibility to be aware of any dedications that may preclude diversion under this right.

(0000212)

L. No water shall be diverted or used under this right, and no construction related to such diversion shall commence, unless right holder has obtained and is in compliance with all necessary permits or other approvals required by other agencies. If an amended right is issued, no new facilities shall be utilized, nor shall the amount of water diverted or used increase beyond the maximum amount diverted or used during the previously authorized development schedule, unless right holder has obtained and is in compliance with all necessary requirements, including but not limited to the permits and approvals listed in this term.

Right holder shall prepare and submit to the Division of Water Rights a list of, or provide information that shows proof of attempts to solicit information regarding the need for, permits or approvals that may be required for the project. At a minimum, right holder shall provide a list or other information pertaining to whether any of the following permits or approvals are required: (1) lake or streambed alteration agreement with the Department of Fish and Wildlife (Fish & G. Code, § 1600 et seq.); (2) Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams approval (Wat. Code, § 6002); (3) Regional Water Quality Control Board Waste Discharge Requirements (Wat. Code, § 13260 et seq.); (4) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act section 404 permit (33 U.S.C. § 1344); and (5) local grading permits.

Right holder shall, within 30 days of issuance of any permits, approvals or waivers, transmit copies to the Division of Water Rights.

(0000203)

M. Urban water suppliers shall comply with the Urban Water Management Planning Act (Wat. Code, § 10610 et seq.). An "urban water supplier" means a supplier, either publicly or privately owned, providing water for municipal purposes either directly or indirectly to more than 3,000 customers or supplying more than 3,000 acre-feet of water annually. All Urban Retail Water Suppliers shall also comply with the provisions in Water Code § 10609.20, §10609.22, and §10609.24. An "urban retail water supplier" means a water supplier, either publicly or privately owned, that directly provides potable municipal water to more than 3,000 end users or that supplies more than 3,000 acre-feet of potable water annually at retail for municipal purposes.

Agricultural water users and suppliers shall comply with the Agricultural Water Management Planning Act (Act) (Water Code, § 10800 et seq.). Agricultural water users applying for a permit from the State Water Board are required to develop and implement water conservation plans in accordance with the Act. An "agricultural water supplier" means a supplier, either publicly or privately owned, supplying more than 10,000 acre-feet of water annually for agricultural purposes. An agricultural water supplier includes a supplier or contractor for water, regardless of the basis of right, which distributes or sells for ultimate resale to customers.

(0000029D)

N. Pursuant to Water Code sections 100 and 275 and the common law public trust doctrine all rights and privileges under this right, including method of diversion, method of use, and quantity of water diverted, are subject to the continuing authority of the State Water Board in accordance with law and in the interest of the public welfare to protect public trust uses and to prevent waste, unreasonable use, unreasonable method of use, or unreasonable method of diversion of said water.

The continuing authority of the State Water Board may be exercised by imposing specific requirements over and above those contained in this right with a view to eliminating waste of water and to meeting the reasonable water requirements of right holder without unreasonable draft on the source. Right holder may be required to implement a water conservation plan, features of which may include but not necessarily be limited to (1) reusing or reclaiming the water allocated; (2) using water reclaimed by another entity instead of all or part of the water allocated; (3) restricting diversions so as to eliminate agricultural tailwater or to reduce return flow; (4) suppressing evaporation losses from water surfaces; (5) controlling phreatophytic growth; and (6) installing, maintaining, and operating efficient water measuring devices to assure compliance with the quantity limitations of this right and to determine accurately water use as against reasonable water requirements for the authorized project. No action will be taken

pursuant to this paragraph unless the State Water Board determines, after notice to affected parties and opportunity for hearing, that such specific requirements are physically and financially feasible and are appropriate to the particular situation.

The continuing authority of the State Water Board also may be exercised by imposing further limitations on the diversion and use of water by right holder in order to protect public trust uses. No action will be taken pursuant to this paragraph unless the State Water Board determines, after notice to affected parties and opportunity for hearing, that such action is consistent with California Constitution, article X, section 2; is consistent with the public interest; and is necessary to preserve or restore the uses protected by the public trust.

(0000012)

O. The quantity of water diverted under this right is subject to modification by the State Water Board if, after notice to right holder and an opportunity for hearing, the State Water Board finds that such modification is necessary to meet water quality objectives in water quality control plans which have been or hereafter may be established or modified pursuant to Division 7 of the Water Code. No action will be taken pursuant to this paragraph unless the State Water Board finds that (1) adequate waste discharge requirements have been prescribed and are in effect with respect to all waste discharges which have any substantial effect upon water quality in the area involved, and (2) the water quality objectives cannot be achieved solely through the control of waste discharges.

(0000013)

P. This right does not authorize any act which results in the taking of a candidate, threatened or endangered species or any act which is now prohibited, or becomes prohibited in the future, under either the California Endangered Species Act (Fish & G. Code, § 2050 et seq.) or the federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. § 1531 et seq.). If a "take" will result from any act authorized under this right, right holder shall obtain any required authorization for an incidental take prior to construction or operation of the project. Right holder shall be responsible for meeting all requirements of the applicable Endangered Species Act for the project authorized under this right.

(0000014)

This right is issued and right holder is subject to the following provisions of the Water Code:

Section 1390. A permit shall be effective for such time as the water actually appropriated under it is used for a useful and beneficial purpose in conformity with this division (of the Water Code), but no longer.

Section 1392. Every permittee, if he accepts a permit, does so under the conditions precedent that no value whatsoever in excess of the actual amount paid to the State therefor shall at any time be assigned to or claimed for any permit granted or issued under the provisions of this division (of the Water Code), or for any rights granted or acquired under the provisions of this division (of the Water Code), in respect to the regulation by any competent public authority of the services or the price of the services to be rendered by any permittee or by the holder of any rights granted or acquired under the provisions of this division (of the Water Code) or in respect to any valuation for purposes of sale to or purchase, whether through condemnation proceedings or otherwise, by the State or any city, city and county, municipal water district, irrigation district, lighting district, or any political subdivision of the State, of the rights and property of any permittee, or the possessor of any rights granted, issued, or acquired under the provisions of this division (of the Water Code).

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

Erik Ekdahl, Deputy Director Division of Water Rights

Dated:

