



**TWSA BOARD MEETING
PACKET
For 8/26/2020**

Refer to RED page numbers in the TOP left corner.

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TWSA Fall 2020 Virtual Board Meeting
Wed., Aug. 26, 2020 - 12:00 PM - 2:30 PM (PDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/293061813>

You can also dial in using your phone.
United States (Toll Free): 1 866 899 4679
United States: +1 (571) 317-3116

Access Code: 293-061-813



NOTICE OF MEETING:

The next regular meeting of the Tahoe Water Suppliers Association (TWSA) is:
Virtual meeting via GO TO MEETING

(NOTE: TIME DIFFERENCE – this meeting only)

TWSA Fall 2020 Virtual Board Meeting
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United States: [+1 \(571\) 317-3116](tel:+15713173116)

Access Code: 293-061-813

Agenda

- A. Introduction of Guests**
- B. Presentations – none scheduled**
- C. Public Comment** Conducted in accordance with Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) Chapter 214.020 and limited to a maximum of 3 minutes in duration.
- D. Approval of Agenda** for the August 26, 2020 TWSA Board Meeting
- E. Approval of Minutes** for the June 10, 2020 TWSA Board meeting
- F. Reports**
 - a. **Staff Reports** (Outreach, Events, Projects)
 - b. **Current budget** - see attached and Open Gov link for current budget and expenses:
https://inclinevillageidnv.opengov.com/transparency#/13549/accountType=revenuesVersusExpenses&embed=n&breakdown=types¤tYearAmount=cumulative¤tYearPeriod=years&graph=bar&legendSort=coa&month=10&proration=false&saved_view=128547&selection=CB5BA873E200D4E06EB4E08C133688F5&projections=null&projectionType=null&highlighting=null&highlightingVariance=null&year=2020&selectedDataSetIndex=null&fiscal_start=2018&fiscal_end=latest
 - c. **TWSA Chair Report**
- G. General Business** (for possible action):
 - a. TKPOA Control Methods Test – DEIR comment letter review
 - b. Clean Up the Lake Sponsorship – project update
 - c. COVID-19 operations roundtable discussion
- H. Purveyor Updates**
- I. Public Comment**
- J. Adjournment**

2020 TWSA Board Meetings – First Wednesdays, quarterly, held from 12 to 4 pm on:

- Virtual until further notice
- Dec. 2

TWSA Board of Directors

Suzi Gibbons (Chair)	North Tahoe Public Utility District
Andrew Hickman	Round Hill General Improvement District
Richard Robilliard; Phil Ritger (alternate)	Douglas County Systems
Patrick McKay; Mike McKee (alt.)	Edgewood Water Company
Cameron McKay	Glenbrook Water Cooperative
Joseph Pomroy; Bob Lochridge (alt.)	Incline Village General Improvement District
Cameron McKay; Brandon Garden (alt.)	Kingsbury General Improvement District
Nakia Foskett	Lakeside Park Association
Kim Boyd; Tony Laliotis (alt.)	Tahoe City Public Utility District
Shelly Thomsen; Lynn Nolan (alt.)	South Tahoe Public Utility District

For more information, please contact: Madonna Dunbar, TWSA Executive Director
 1220 Sweetwater Road, Incline Village, Nevada 89451
 (775) 832-1212 office / (775) 354-5086 cell /email: mod@ivgid.org

Certification of posting of agenda = Physical Posting Suspended - Covid-19 restrictions. _Online posting and email delivery of notice provided.

In compliance with State of Nevada Executive Department, Declaration of Emergency Directive 006, 016 and 018, this meeting is closed to the public and attendance is limited to members of the Board of Trustees and essential staff. Public comment is allowed and the public is welcome to make their public comment either via e-mail (please send your comments to mod@ivgid.org by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, August 25,, 2020) or via telephone (775-354-5086) on the day of the meeting).

By, Madonna Dunbar, Executive Director, TWSA

Notes:

Items on the agenda may be taken out of order; combined with other items; removed from the agenda; moved to the agenda of another meeting; moved to or from the Consent Calendar section; or may be voted on in a block. Items with a specific time designation will not be heard prior to the stated time, but may be heard later. Members of the public who are disabled and require special accommodations or assistance at the meeting are requested to call IVGID at 832-1212 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

TWSA agenda packets are available at the TWSA website www.TahoeH2O.org or the TWSA office at 1220 Sweetwater Road, Incline Village, Nevada 89451.



The regular meeting of the Tahoe Water Suppliers Association (TWSA) was held on
Wednesday, June 10, 2020, noon to 4 pm
GoToMeeting web conference

MINUTES

(RED=MOTION/ACTION TAKEN)

A. Introduction of Guests

No guests present

B. Presentations

No presentations provided

Roll Call Members in Attendance: Suzi Gibbons, Cameron McKay, Brandon Garden, Kim Boyd, Patrick McKay, Nakia Foskett, Joe Pomroy, Richard Robillard, Lynn Nolan.

TWSA Staff in attendance: Madonna Dunbar and Sarah Vidra

Regulators: Reginald Lang (NDEP)

C. Public Comment Conducted in accordance with Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) Chapter 214.020 and limited to a maximum of 3 minutes in duration.

No public comment given.

D. Approval of Agenda for the June 10, 2020 TWSA Board Meeting

Motion to approve agenda as submitted made by Cameron McKay, second by Nakia Foskett, all in favor; motion carried.

E. Approval of Minutes for the March 11, 2020 TWSA Board Meeting

Motion to approve agenda as submitted made by Nakia Foskett, second by Cameron McKay, all in favor; motion carried.

F. Reports

a. Staff Reports (Outreach, Events, Projects)

- Staff highlighted several activities from the quarter; a full activity report is available in the board packet.
- NDEP 319 (h) Pilot Project to Reduce Source Water Plastic Pollution at Lake Tahoe is moving forward with postponed deliverables due to Covid-19 impacts. The project is teaming with Raley's Incline Village and Klean Kanteen for reusable bottle sales in the bottled water aisle. The Executive Director shared with the board the creative materials for the campaign as well as an update on work done by team members to date.
- Water Fill Station Grant and the cigarette butt box projects are still taking place.
- Staff presented the Board with the preliminary statistics for the 20th annual Snapshot Day event held on Saturday, May 30, 2020 and was hosted by the League to Save Lake Tahoe. The League coordinated the sample analysis for 34 Lake Tahoe tributary streams and creeks. TWSA staff was able to provide 8 volunteers to cover 8 North Lake Tahoe sites, that would have been missed without the continued program support efforts of The League.

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- b. **Current budget** - see Open Gov link for current budget and expenses:
See Open Gov link for current budget and expenses. Estimated \$30 K remaining for FY 19-20.

- c. **TWSA Chair Report**

Due to impacts of COVID-19 the Chair has no update. Board discussed the upcoming Tahoe Summit, to be hosted by NV’s Catherine Cortez Maesto on Tuesday, August 25, 2020, virtually.

G. General Business (for possible action):

- a. TKPOA Application/AIS Plan - General informational update CEQA EIR release; sub-committee reactivation; Public comment period live mid-June to mid-August.

The process of Environmental Documentation continues with the TKPOA and regulators for the Control Methods Test. The draft EIR/EIS is scheduled to be released on July 6, 2020 with a 60-day comment period. The anti-degradation analysis will be released as a separate document; TWSA staff believes that it will be later in July 2020. The TWSA consultant WQTS will be available to review the Draft document with a four-week turnaround time on comments back to the TWSA.

Public meetings will be held via virtual meeting. Schedule provided to the public after agenda and packet publication. Board members are encouraged to attend one or all of the meetings.

<https://tahoekeysweeds.org/virtual-public-engagement-opportunities-due-to-covid-19/>

Board discussed the TWSA submittal for the DEIR/EIS included taking a position vs providing comment on a draft document. TWSA will submit comment on the draft document as drafted by the subcommittee and approved by Board to ensure inclusion/opportunity for future action.

Schedule of Public Meetings		
Release DEIS/DEIR, 60-day Public Comment Period begins	July 6, 2020	
Public webinar: TRPA Board Meeting	July 22, 2020	Time TBA
Public Webinar: Project Overview, Q&A	August 11, 2020	Time TBA
Public Webinar: TRPA Advisory Planning Commission Meeting	August 12, 2020	Time TBA
End of 60- Day public comment period	September 3, 2020	

The TWSA AIS subcommittee will reconvene on July 15, 2020 including the following TWSA Board Members and Staff: Suzi Gibbons, Cameron McKay, Nakia Foskett, Kim Boyd and TWSA Staff.

The chair requested a bulleted summary of “where we are now” to exclude history of TKPOA, and focus on where we are in the environmental review process.

- b. Clean Up the Lake Sponsorship – project update

The large-scale cleanup will be done in 2021, but NDEP has funded a part of the project for implementation for summer 2020 from Crystal Bay to Sand Harbor State Park.

The new proposal from ‘Clean up the Lake’ is a Drink Tahoe Tap focused fundraising campaign in 2020. They would hold a ‘Drink Tahoe Tap Challenge’ to collect donations that TWSA will match.

Motion that TWSA provides a matching funds grant to ‘Clean Up The Lake’ (501(c)3 non-profit organization) in the amount of, up to \$5K, in accordance to the letter submitted to TWSA made by Joe Pomroy, second Lynn Nolan, motion carried.

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c. Annual Goals* Review

The Board reviewed and discussed the goal for 2020-2020. All new projects including the NDEP Microplastic plastic project are in line with current goals. Motion to accept goals as presented made by Cameron McKay, second Kim Boyd, motion carried. (Goals provided at end of minutes).

d. Urban-Wildlands Fire Partnership update

Funding Verbal update provided by Lynn Nolan.

- California Tahoe Conservancy, paying \$250,000 for a vulnerability assessment on defensible space at water and waste-water infrastructure. US Forest Service to plan projects and conduct fuels removal.
- Lake Tahoe Restoration Act (FY 19-20), Cave Rock \$500K water infrastructure, \$500K fuels reduction for critical infrastructure protection. Sites being treated must have a federal nexus.
- AWWA Government Affairs & Farm Bill, private and public forest lots are considered agricultural, pursuing contacts for a second phase of critical infrastructure protection fuels reduction.

e. COVID-19 Roundtable Discussion

Verbal updates provided. The Board discussed impacts to their districts/agencies from COVID-19, including request information from regulators. Topics included impact to revenue, CIP, materials cost, delays in supply chain, and staffing. Highlights from purveyors are listed below.

IVGID - no loss of revenue reported, no assistance programs for residential and commercial customers. Bids for CIP projects are getting multiple responses with costs as low as five (5) years ago. Badger water meters have been difficult to acquire, as well as PPE, both issues have resolved at this time. Biggest issue being managing workforce with the designation of essential vs. non-essential with minimal guidance at the beginning. IVGID essential workers were separated, Treatment and Pipeline, with reduced workweeks for Wngineering and Administration. Revenue impacts include a postponed 5% rate increase until July 2020. All late charges and disconnection were suspended. Office not open to public.

KGID- the district is anticipating revenue loss from casino closing both on the water and sewer sides. KGID had no staffing issues. Equipment and supplies were not a problem. KGID is not shutting off customers for non-payment, and there will be no late fee if paid by June 30, 2020.

LPA – with the small nature of LPA - no impacts to staffing, with no lost wages. Staff is staggering schedules, and implemented new SOP for entering and exiting the water plant. No issues with chemical supply. PPE was challenging to supply masks and gloves. Revenue loss, a few hotels have entered into forbearance agreements, but no significant impacts.

TCPUD- Staffing was not largely effected, no furloughs or layoffs. Strict essential staffing environment and staggered at the beginning. Normal utility crew schedule now, with a transition of employees back into the office on a staggered schedule. The majority of staff immediately started working from home, and those who are working remotely continue to do so when possible. The district rented additional vehicles, and portable workspaces to keep social distancing. Customer Service Requests are increasing as projects start to roll out.

Customer rate relief policy includes suspended late fees and penalties, and no shutoff for non-payment. TCPUD has a commercial sewer rate relief for 50% of the sewer rate for three months. The revenue loss is due to the rate relief of about \$200K. The office is not open to the public.

STPUD – 90 to 95% of staff in Engineering and Administration, went to working remotely and will continue to do so. The office is not open to the public. The crew did a modified on-call schedule, taking turns going out, and paying employees when they were not working, this will continue for another 12 weeks. STPUD expects to see a large revenue loss due to suspension of late fees and penalties for two quarters so far with more projected. Commercial customer sewer and water relief program due to the sever impacts/closures. With South Tahoe being a 100% disadvantaged community the challenge will be getting customers caught back up, there will be no shutoffs. There were no supply issues for PPE or other required equipment.

Douglas County- Engineering and Administration staff are working remote, with a rotation into the office week by week. Operator crews were rotating between days without working together. PPE and cleaning SOPS including non-entry for vendors. Not sharing of vehicles to promote social distancing. The County Commission and the Board made staffing decisions. Staff who are able to work from home still are. There are significant impacts to CIP projects due to vendor travel restrictions. The Cave Rock Water Pipeline Project has not been impacted. Revenue impacts include waiving late fees, and no shutoffs order. There haven't been a significant number of accounts requesting differed payment.

NTPUD – Everyone but staggered office staff was working remotely. The crew was paid to be home, they are currently back full time with staggered schedules. The District is focusing on social distancing. The office is closed to the public, but appointments can be made for plan review and payment. Engineering and Administrative support staff continues to work from home. Customer Service Request have increased and staff is back in the office. NTPUD purchased and issued cloth masks to wear in the office around people, with disinfection machines. There were no PPE shortages gloves, N95 masks, and staff is using the proper PPE that the job requires. Revenue impacts include a customer rate relief programs based on qualifications for up to one month of deferment for residential customers, and a base rate reprieve for commercial customers.

H. Purveyor Updates

Douglas County – CMAR project at Cave Rock for a \$15M three year project to replace and expand the microfiltration skid, upgrading booster pump stations and replacing 15 feet of pipe in the Cave Rock System and ZWOD PLC upgrades.

STPUD - The District is working on CIP projects done with delays with state funding, contractor availability and staffing.

TCPUD – West Lake Tahoe Regional Water Treatment Plant bid delayed until fall 2020, with construction in 2021. TCPUD is in the process of receiving a State Water Revolving Fund loan for fall 2020. Master plans for acquired systems from 2018, and the distribution replacement project will be completed in 2020.

LPA – Finished skid pump project and placement of new turbidity meters. LPA will be looking into replacing the main PLC in the fall. Staff is spending time preparing a leak detection and valve-exercising program, as well as looking into hydrant flushing/flow testing.

KGID – two major projects. A waterline replacement on Juniper Street and another waterline replacement with service line replacements. KGID was hit with ransomware in March; everything is back up and running at this time. There was no loss of public information.

Glenbrook – No big projects for 2020. Glenbrook did have a May water production 1/3rd higher than any previous May.

NDEP – Sanitary surveys are on hold. Please respond to last year’s sanitary survey if you have not.

IVGID – IVGID crews have been doing 15 line locates a day for new construction or remodels, which is the normal 45 day average for those customer service requests. Project Bids for a 1400 feet of water main replacement with 9 bids received around \$500k (+/-) \$50K; for mobilization, erosion control, pavement repair, fire hydrants, meter pits, PRVs, service lines, and the water main \$300/foot. Bid and award for exterior improvements on 3 more water tanks for safety upgrades to ladders and platforms, to complete all 13 tanks.

NTPUD – Kingwood West Water Tank project is under construction, bid prices have been favorable. During the cleaning several pinhole issues were found, it is the oldest tank that has not be rehabilitated, it could be \$100K change order for a special thicker coating on the inside vs. welding all the pinholes. Design phase will start for Lake Vista Road project to provide more water pressure to meet fire hydrant requirements. The District is starting an utility easement clearing project for \$100k/year, customers are upset about easement access, marking will be done as part of the project for customer education. With FEMA funding the district is working on a fuels project.

I. Public Comment

No public comment given

J. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Cameron McKay, second by Nakia Foskett, all in favor motion passes Meeting Adjourned at 2:35pm.

2020 TWSA Board Meetings – First Wednesdays, quarterly, held from 12 to 4 pm on:

- Sept. 2 (GoToMeeting)
- Dec. 2 (Edgewood-TBD)

*** TWSA Board and Organizational Goals:**

The TWSA Board conducts annual goal setting and review.

Below are the Goals reviewed and approved at the June 2020 TWSA Board meeting.

1. Continue and increase emphasis on extensive education and outreach on focus topics of source water protection and the value of municipal tap water.

Current active projects include:

- Drink Tahoe Tap Water Refill Network
- Drink Tahoe Tap Water Bottle Refill Station Grant Program
- Dog Waste Station Project
- Cigarette Butt Bin Project
- Micro-Plastics / Drink Tahoe Tap Education Grant
- Litter (land and water) Trash Cleanups
- Water Efficiency Education

2. Continue outreach and advocacy efforts for federal infrastructure funding, especially for fire flow capacity.

3. Continue a strong communication relationship with Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA), Nevada Department of Environmental Protection (NDEP), Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (LRWQCB) and other regulatory agencies on source water protection.

4. Maintain and improve project review / involvement process with TRPA, NV State Lands, Lahontan Water Board and other planning/regulatory agencies.

Current active projects include:

- Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Management Programs (threats/prevention programs, treatment methods, Integrated Weeds Management Plan)
- Groundwater Contamination at the ‘Y’ / PCE Plume Project
- Tahoe Regional Planning Agency Shoreline Plan and Project Reviews
- Nevada State Lands notifications on occupancy of lake bottom
- Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA)
- Ongoing federal and state regulatory updates

5. Utilize regional studies/projects to determine how they affect source water quality. Continue to work with LTWIP as appropriate.

Mission Statement

“The mission of the Tahoe Water Suppliers Association is to develop, implement and maintain an effective watershed control program in order to satisfy recommendations in watershed sanitary surveys, advocate for the protection of Lake Tahoe as a viable source of drinking water, and to satisfy additional state and federal requirements.” - adopted in June 2008.

MEMORANDUM

TO: TWSA Board
CC: Suzi Gibbons, TWSA Chair
FROM: Madonna Dunbar, IVGID Resource Conservationist
SUBJECT: TWSA – Q3 - 2020 Activities / Events
DATE: AUGUST 17, 2020

On-site events have been cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Staff has been heavily engaged in reading and researching the released Tahoe Keys Controls Methods Test environmental review documents (CEQA/NEPA).

A Tahoe Keys Integrated Weeds Stakeholder Management Plan (mediated) workgroup was held on July 7, followed by a series of multiple virtual public workshops. Staff attended many of the workshops online. Staff prepared and distributed background / summary material for the re-convening sub-committee. Website of current information is: <https://tahoekeysweeds.org>.

Staff facilitated the TWSA AIS Sub-Committee meetings on 7/15 and 7/30 via GoToMeeting. Draft comments on the Tahoe Keys Control Methods Test CEQA documents were prepared for TWSA Board review.

Staff coordinated with “Virtual Vibes - Music on the Beach” (a program of the North Tahoe Business Association) to screen the Drink Tahoe Tap Video during the summer 2020 online performances. Drink Tahoe Tap is also a Klean Kanteen reusable tumbler co-sponsor for the series. <https://northtahoebusiness.org/music-on-the-beach>

Staff coordinated with “Backyard Boogie – the Best of Concerts on Commons Beach” (a program of the Tahoe City Downtown Association) to screen the Drink Tahoe Tap Video during the summer 2020 online performances. <https://concertsatcommonsbeach.com/>

The TWSA's AWWA national award press release was issued on 7/6/2020: <https://sourcewatercollaborative.org/highlights/member-awwa-recognizes-three-water-systems-with-2020-exemplary-source-water-protection-awards/>

Staff, submitted the second quarterly grant report for the 2-year NDEP 319h Grant. This grant supports an educational campaign on reducing micro-plastics pollution.

In collaboration with the Tahoe Center for Environmental Sciences, Take Care, and Raley's – the project hit major milestones.

Staff documented the following actions:

- 1) finalized the branding/design/production for Take Care / Drink Tahoe Tap / Kleen Kanteen water bottles,
- 2) bottles have been put on sale/display in Raley's Incline Village, with plans for to other stores,
- 3) Raley's is posting Drink Tahoe Tap / Take Care / reduce single use bottle messaging,
- 4) staff executed a trademark license agreement,
- 5) coordinated web development and social media actions for the campaign (www.drinktahoetap.org),
- 7) developed press materials for the campaign,
- 6) hosted 2 in-store media events on July 1/2,
- 8) coordinated a new micro-website featuring the new graphics and outreach messaging posted at www.DrinkTahoeTap.org .
- 9) garnered national product placement; 80 of the new bottles (to be filled with Tahoe Tap) were donated by Raley's for VIP/Celebrity use at the 2020 American Century Golf Championship at Edgewood (broadcast without spectators) in July.
- 10) had media coverage on KOLO 8:
<https://www.kolotv.com/2020/07/02/raleys-working-with-tahoe-organizations-and-uc-davis-to-reduce-plastic-waste/>
- 11) Sierra Sun: <https://www.sierrasun.com/news/environment/microplastic-cleanup-research-continues-at-lake-tahoe/>
- 12) Tahoe Daily Tribune: <https://www.tahoedailytribune.com/news/microplastic-cleanup-research-continues-at-lake-tahoe/?fbclid=IwAR0ZrNliqsQD21ULLd0GsJrFmsEffgh3r2lg8wG7EQQS01oMkzxNnuQ QaTk>
- 13) Chris Buckley's story for KTVN.
<https://www.ktvn.com/story/42349550/incline-village-raleys-encourages-customers-not-to-buy-plastic-water-bottles-as-part-of-new-initiative>

Staff monitored the monthly TRPA Shorezone Project Review Committee Project Application Meetings.

Staff had been in correspondence with the AWWA Government Affairs Office on potential fuels reduction/infrastructure/sourcewater protection funding sources. This project is now on-hold.

Staff prepared a summary of the current Fire Partnership fuels reduction projects and identified remaining needs. Staff conducted research on this project relative to the 2019 Farm Bill Sourcewater Protection funding options.

A Drink Tahoe Tap ad is running in the (summer) Tahoe.com regional publication.

Staff initiated the TWSA/Tahoe Fund Water Bottle Filling Station Grant Program (2019-20) on Aug. 1. Tahoe Fund has provided a \$10K match for the project.

To date, 7 grants have been issued with 10 applications active.

Media coverage: <https://www.kolotv.com/content/news/Tahoe-business-owners-could-add-water-refill-station-inside-stores--525119571.html>

Staff reached out to all applicants to stay in contact with interested entities.

Water station event use has been temporarily stopped due to Covid-19 crisis. Staff has prepared a BMP factsheet of enhanced sanitation practices for station maintenance.

Work is also being conducted to bolster the number of available refill stations on the Tap App which will also help advertise newly installed units. Details are posted at www.TahoeH2O.org

A dispenser donation was made to the Reno Initiative for Shelter and Equality (RISE) so they can provide non-bottled water for their client food / service distribution.

Donated were:

- 1 Blue Insulated Cambro Dispenser
- 1 blue rolling 8 gallon refill jug
- 300 refillable blue, polycarbonate bike bottles.

Staff is monitoring the bi-weekly Tahoe Care Marketing and Outreach meetings.

The 'Cigarette Bin Collection Project' initiated between TWSA, League to Save Lake Tahoe and Keep America Beautiful (KAB) began region-wide bin distribution/installation in June 2019. More than 110 bins are installed now in the Basin. More than 8,000 butts have been recorded for collection (this is from a portion of the distributed containers). KAB has provided 250 metal cigarette filter collection bins to IVGID Waste Not (for TWSA) for distribution and use within the Tahoe Basin. Project is ongoing.

**INCLINE VILLAGE GENERAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF OPERATING SOURCES AND USES**

TAHOE WATER SUPPLIERS ASSOCIATION

CURRENT YEAR TO BUDGET COMPARISON

For fiscal year 2020, 07/01/2019 - 06/30/2020

GL Account Number	GL Account Description	Current Month Budget	Current Month Actual	Month Budget Variance	Current YTD Budget	Current YTD Actual	YTD Budget Variance	Total Budget	Remaining Budget
	OPERATING SOURCES								
200-28-990-4417	Service & User Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	199,200.00	159,200.00	-40,000.00	199,200.00	-40,000.00
	Sales and Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	199,200.00	159,200.00	-40,000.00	199,200.00	-40,000.00
	TOTAL OPERATING SOURCES	0.00	0.00	0.00	199,200.00	159,200.00	-40,000.00	199,200.00	-40,000.00
	OPERATING USES								
200-28-990-5010	Regular Earnings	4,009.92	4,448.30	-438.38	48,787.00	51,906.67	-3,119.67	48,787.00	-3,119.67
200-28-990-5020	Other Earnings	0.00	0.00	0.00	648.00	0.00	648.00	648.00	648.00
	Salaries and Wages	4,009.92	4,448.30	-438.38	49,435.00	51,906.67	-2,471.67	49,435.00	-2,471.67
200-28-990-5050	Taxes	310.85	321.30	-10.45	3,781.78	3,837.47	-55.69	3,781.78	-55.69
200-28-990-5100	Retirement Fringe Ben	702.89	703.28	-0.39	8,552.26	8,384.46	167.80	8,552.26	167.80
200-28-990-5200	Medical Fringe Ben	1,138.07	809.99	328.08	13,657.50	9,303.84	4,353.66	13,657.50	4,353.66
200-28-990-5250	Dental Fringe Ben	98.53	68.23	30.30	1,181.92	818.76	363.16	1,181.92	363.16
200-28-990-5300	Vision Fringe Ben	10.48	8.07	2.41	125.32	96.84	28.48	125.32	28.48
200-28-990-5400	Life Ins Fringe Ben	13.13	3.48	9.65	158.00	41.76	116.24	158.00	116.24
200-28-990-5500	Disability Fringe Ben	20.12	19.68	0.44	241.00	246.83	-5.83	241.00	-5.83
200-28-990-5600	Unemployment Fringe Ben	60.88	56.54	4.34	741.15	675.74	65.41	741.15	65.41
200-28-990-5700	Work Comp Fringe Ben	97.54	103.56	-6.02	1,186.83	1,234.70	-47.87	1,186.83	-47.87
	Employee Fringe	2,452.49	2,094.13	358.36	29,625.76	24,640.40	4,985.36	29,625.76	4,985.36
	Total Personnel Cost	6,462.41	6,542.43	-80.02	79,060.76	76,547.07	2,513.69	79,060.76	2,513.69
200-28-990-6030	Professional Consultants	0.00	0.00	0.00	50,000.00	0.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
	Professional Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	50,000.00	0.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
200-28-990-7010	Advertising - Paid	1,000.00	5,975.00	-4,975.00	12,500.00	13,644.34	-1,144.34	12,500.00	-1,144.34
200-28-990-7405	Office Supplies	116.63	149.99	-33.36	1,400.00	279.97	1,120.03	1,400.00	1,120.03
200-28-990-7415	Operating	2,358.37	3,500.00	-1,141.63	28,300.00	34,227.78	-5,927.78	28,300.00	-5,927.78
200-28-990-7460	Postage	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	42.12	157.88	200.00	157.88
200-28-990-7470	Printing & Publishing	791.63	63.00	728.63	9,500.00	7,448.53	2,051.47	9,500.00	2,051.47
200-28-990-7680	Training & Education	833.37	0.00	833.37	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
200-28-990-7685	Travel & Conferences	150.00	0.00	150.00	2,500.00	1,922.65	577.35	2,500.00	577.35
	Services and Supplies	5,250.00	9,687.99	-4,437.99	64,400.00	57,565.39	6,834.61	64,400.00	6,834.61
200-28-990-7840	Telephone	135.00	48.00	87.00	540.00	192.00	348.00	540.00	348.00
	Utilities	135.00	48.00	87.00	540.00	192.00	348.00	540.00	348.00
200-28-990-7980	Central Services Allocation Cs	500.00	500.00	0.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00	0.00
	Central Services Cost	500.00	500.00	0.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00	0.00
	TOTAL OPERATING USES	12,347.41	16,778.42	-4,431.01	200,000.76	140,304.46	59,696.30	200,000.76	59,696.30
	OPERATING SOURCES(USES)	-12,347.41	-16,778.42	-4,431.01	-800.76	18,895.54	19,696.30	-800.76	19,696.30

From: Robb, Diana C.

Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2020 10:21 AM

To: Dunbar, Madonna

Cc: Pommerenck, Lori A.

Subject: TWSA Year End Financials

Attachments: 6.30.2020 TWSA Statement of Operating Sources and Uses.xlsx

Hi Madonna,

See attached for the Statement of Operating Sources and Uses.

The revenue we will defer for the fiscal year ending 6/30/2020 will be \$18,895.54

Total deferred revenue to date for TWSA will end up at \$167,925.85
(beginning balance of \$149,030.31 plus FYE 6/30/2020 deferral of \$18,895.54).

Can you please provide me a write up of what we are using this balance for and when? It is likely something the auditors will ask for. Thank you!

Let me know any questions.

Diana Robb

Accountant

Incline Village General Improvement District

893 Southwood Boulevard, Incline Village, NV 89451

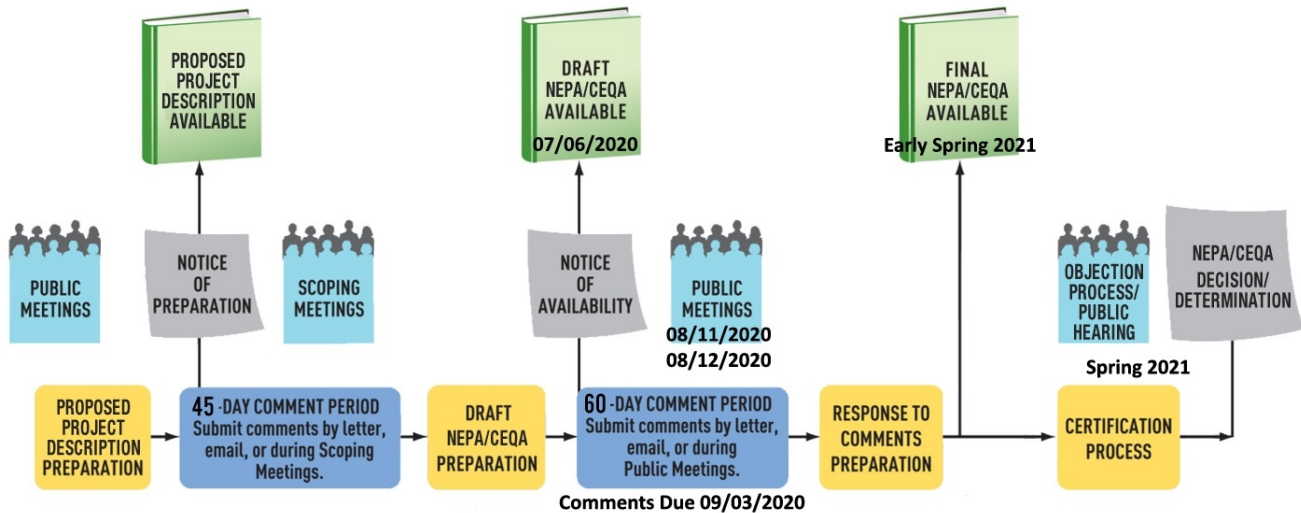
P: 775-832-1398

F: 775-832-1249

dcr@ivgid.org

<http://ivgid.org>

Tahoe Water Suppliers Association Staff Summary



Tahoe Keys Lagoons Aquatic Weed Control Methods Test (CMT) Draft Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement (DEIR/EIS)

Lead Agencies: Lahontan RWQCB & TRPA

Notice of Availability: June 17, 2019

Comment Period: July 6, 2020-September 3, 2020

Public Meetings: Aug. 11, 2020 & Aug. 12, 2020

Full Document: https://tahoekeysweeds.org/environmental_analysis/

Executive Summary

The Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association (TKPOA) is seeking approval for an exemption to the Basin Plan Amendment on the prohibition of herbicide use in Lake Tahoe, as represented in the 2018 Aquatic Pesticide Application Plan (APAP). The goal of the project is to reduce aquatic weed biomass by 75% to improve water quality and recreation for beneficial use. The Lead Agency (Lahontan) is requiring full environmental review (CEQA) of the proposed project, due to the proposed discharge of aquatic herbicides into receiving waters of the Tahoe Keys Lagoons, a Tier III Outstanding National Resource Water (ONRW Tier III) for ecological and recreational value. After designation of the Tahoe Keys Lagoons as the greatest threat to the environmental health of Lake Tahoe, the TRPA has secured federal funding through the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act (\$3M) to facilitate a solution to the aquatic weed problem at the Tahoe Keys Lagoons. As part of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process, the TKPOA has worked with regulators and stakeholders to produce a proposed project for herbicide use, and after an initial public scoping process, three additional project alternatives. The proposed project and three alternatives underwent review by independent third party consultants chosen by the lead agencies, collaboratively producing the DEIR/EIS. As required by the (CEQA) Process, the DEIR/EIS is not recommending a project action to the lead agencies; it is providing the necessary information for informed decision making, with the required designation of an Environmentally Superior Alternative. The DEIR/EIS has chosen a project alternative as the **Environmentally Superior Alternative, Action Alternative 1 (Testing of Non-Herbicide Methods Only)**. The Proposed Project, Action Alternative 2 (Tahoe Keys Dredge and Replace Substrate), and the No-Action Alternative would have unavoidable impacts on recreational boating that would not occur under Action Alternative 1 (Testing of Non-Herbicide Methods Only). Additionally, the permitting process for the proposed project requires an Antidegradation Analysis, to be released in the fall of 2020, as part of the Draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

The DEIR/EIS has found that the proposed project and the alternative actions will have **no significant impact** to Environmental Health, Aquatic Biology, Utilities, and all reviewed objectives, that cannot be avoided with mitigation measures including early treatment, real time monitoring, pretreatment surveys, and containment. The non-action alternative has been found to have **potentially significant unavoidable impact** due to the increase infestation of aquatic weeds from the Tahoe Keys Lagoons throughout greater Lake Tahoe.

Project Details (Proposed Project)

The proposed project is a 2 phase, 3 year Control Methods Test (CMT) with a goal of 75% plant biomass reduction. Year 1 includes the testing of Group A Methods: two herbicides, in standalone test sites plus combination UV-C & Herbicide test sites. Additionally, the proposed project will include testing of UV-C Light, LFA, and no action. Years 2/3 will include testing of mechanical methods (Group B) with no herbicide use.

Year One – 2021

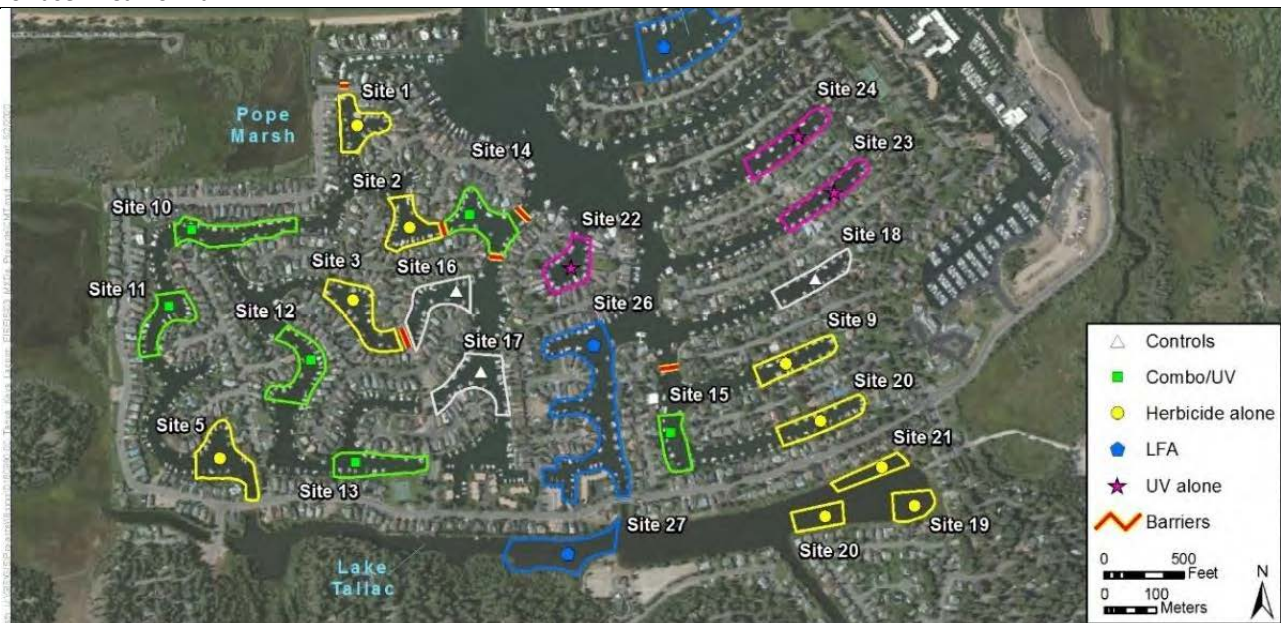
Group A West Lagoon- 21 Test Sites total. Triplicate use of methods (selection condition dependent).

- 6 herbicide-only (3 sites for 2 herbicides)
- 3 UV-C Light only
- 6 combination Herbicide and UV-C Light
- 3 LFA-only
- 3 Control
- 3 (herbicides only) Lake Tallac

Proposed Group A Treatment Site Details.

Table 2-3 Proposed Test Herbicide Application Treatment Site Details. Site Number/Treatments	Application Rate (ppm)	Plot Size (acres)	Actual Herbicide/ Zone Size (acres)
1 Herbicide (Endothall)	5	1.5	1.5
2 Herbicide (ProcellaCOR*)	0.003	1.5	1.5
3 Herbicide (ProcellaCOR*)	0.003	2.1	2.1
5 Herbicide (Endothall)	5	2.2	2.2
8 Herbicide (Endothall)	5	1.6	1.6
9 Herbicide (ProcellaCOR*)	0.003	1.5	1.5
10 Combo Herb/Ultraviolet (Endothall)	5	2.0	0.7
11 Combo Herb/ Ultraviolet (ProcellaCOR*)	0.003	1.6	0.5
12 Combo Herb/ Ultraviolet (ProcellaCOR*)	0.003	1.9	0.7
13 Combo Herb/ Ultraviolet (Endothall)	5	1.7	0.6
14 Combo Herb/ Ultraviolet (Endothall)	5	2.0	0.7
15 Combo Herb/ Ultraviolet (ProcellaCOR*)	0.003	1.2	0.4
16 Control	N/A	1.8	0.0
17 Control	N/A	2.2	0.0
18 Control	N/A	1.5	0.0
19 Herbicide (Endothall)	2 to 5	1.0	1.0
20 Herbicide (Endothall)	2 to 5	1.0	1.0
21 Herbicide (Endothall)	2 to 5	0.9	0.9

Notes: *Triclopyr at an application rate of 2.5 ppm would be substituted for ProcellaCOR if ProcellaCOR is not approved for use in California.



SOURCE: DigitalGlobe, 2016

Tahoe Keys Lagoons Restoration Program EIR/EIS, D180990

Herbicide Only (10.4 acres in Lagoons, 2.9 acres in Lake Tallac)

The DEIR/EIS reviewed the environmental impacts of three aquatic herbicide. If the proposed project is executed only two herbicides will be used, Endothall and Florpyrauxifen-benzyl or Triclopyr.

Proposed Herbicides, Application Rates, and Application Methods. Herbicide* Active Ingredient (Product Name)	USEPA Reg. No.	Maximum Allowable Rate (ppm)	Application Method (s)	Target Plants per Product Labeling
Endothall (Aquathol K) Contact-type	USEPA Reg. No. 70506- 176	5.0	Drop hoses	Eurasian watermilfoil Coontail Curlyleaf pondweed
Triclopyr (Renovate 3 [liquid] or OTF [granular])	USEPA Reg. No. 67690-42	2.5	Drop hoses (liquid) or granular spreader (solid)	Eurasian watermilfoil
Florpyrauxifen-benzyl (ProcellaCOR)	USEPA Reg. No. 67690-80	0.003	Drop hoses	Eurasian watermilfoil Coontail
*No adjuvants (i.e., additives to enhance herbicide activity) would be used. Only products approved for use in California would be used.				

Containment- Double Turbidity Curtains, Applicator Control, Monitoring and Reporting Program described in the 2018 Aquatic Pesticide Application Plan (APAP).

Ultraviolet Light C (UV-C) Stand Alone (4.9 acres)

“The current proposed methodology includes initial ultraviolet light treatments in May and June with the array two to three feet off the lagoon bottom, to stunt growth when the plants are small. A second treatment would occur in July and August, and in the case of curlyleaf pondweed, would target irradiating the crowns of the plants causing mortality before they drop turions. A final round of treatments could occur in September and October, as needed.” (TKPOA CMT, page 2-19)

“The total area proposed for stand-alone tests of ultraviolet light in the CMT is 4.9 acres, which represents less than three percent of the total surface area of the 172-acre lagoon system. Based on the Lakeside Marina and Beach testing and using an average time of 15 minutes for treatment and repositioning of the light array, approximately 640 square feet could be treated per hour and one acre could be treated in 68 hours, using the existing eight-foot by 20-foot array. This information was used to project how long UV light treatment might take for the proposed testing:

- Coverage using the existing ultraviolet light boat would require four to five days of operation at ultraviolet light-only test site. Continuous operations for seven days per week could accomplish a single round of treatment at all three test sites in approximately three weeks using the existing ultraviolet light boat, assuming no down time for cleaning, maintenance, and other activities.
- To complete two rounds of ultraviolet light treatment during the active growing season for target aquatic weeds at all ultraviolet light test sites, including the six ultraviolet light/herbicide test sites described in Section 2.3.5, it is assumed that a mid-sized ultraviolet boat with a 320 square-foot light array would need to be deployed in addition to the existing small ultraviolet boat.
- Working together the two boats could complete one round of treatment in approximately 270 operating hours, or about seven weeks using a normal work schedule.
- Given the plan for two or three rounds of ultraviolet light treatment, it is likely that the two boats could need to work continuously from late May until October if a third round is necessary based on results from the first two rounds.” (TKPOA CMT, Page 2-21)

Laminar Flow Aeration (LFA) – Stand Alone (12.8 acres)

“Three test sites would be treated with LFA. LFA treatment would involve the temporary installation of five to 10 ceramic air diffusers on the bottom of the channel at each treatment site, together with weighted airlines. The diffusers and airlines would be connected to a land-based electrically powered air compressor, which would be placed in a sound-reducing cabinet. TKPOA was issued permits by TRPA, the Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Lahontan Water Board to install a six-acre LFA project at Site 26 in the south-central part of the West Lagoon (Figure 2-4) in April 2019. Two additional smaller test sites are planned to begin operation in the spring of 2021, for a total of 12.8 acres of LFA operation during the CMT.

The LFA test would not disrupt existing recreation uses in the Tahoe Keys since all equipment would be located on the bottom of the channel (except for air compressors that would be located within utility enclosures). No modifications to existing uses or structures are proposed, and no barriers would be used to isolate the LFA treatment areas.” (TKPOA CMT, page 2-22)

Herbicide & UV-C Light combined (10.4 acres)

TKPOA will test three combined Herbicide and UV-C light sites. The combination of the two group A methods “sites would be used to study the efficacy of combining ultraviolet light treatments applied in linear, unobstructed reaches, with herbicide treatments applied in the relatively narrow zone between the dock footprints and the shorelines. The objective of this combination is to optimize ultraviolet light exposure efficiency by combining it with the application of herbicides in generally “obstructed” areas.” (TKPOA CMT, Page 2-22)



Year 2 & 3 (2022-2023)

Group B West Lagoon – methods to be used; Diver-Assisted suction/Hand Pulling, Bottom Barriers (with or without hot water, steam or acetic acid injections), Localized spot treatment with ultraviolet light, localized suction dredging. The Group B method to be used will be dependent on the results of the Group A treatment, the size of the infestation and limitations and constraints to the method type based on lagoon morphology or physical obstructions.

“Group B methods would be implemented following the testing of Group A methods, depending on the target aquatic weeds present, size of infestation, and location of infestation. Where the target plant biovolume reduction does not achieve the 75% reduction goal for Group A methods, that site would be considered a failed test and Group B follow-up maintenance would not be performed. Group B methods are included in the CMT to evaluate their ability to provide sustainable, long-term maintenance options that preclude the need for repeated use of herbicides or other Group A methods. During the Spring of the year following Group A testing at each site, hydroacoustic and macroinvertebrate surveys would be performed to determine the size of the remaining infestation. Group B methods would be implemented during the years following Group A tests.” (TKPOA CMT, page 2- 23/24)

Alternative 1 (Testing of non-herbicide methods only):

Action Alternative 1 would proceed only with tests of non-herbicide methods of aquatic weed control. Under this alternative, no treatments with herbicides would be conducted, and other elements of the test program (i.e., ultraviolet light, LFA, and Group B methods) would be as described above for the Proposed Project. This alternative was identified as the environmentally superior alternative (Section 5.7).

Year One – (2021)

- UV-C Light – Stand Alone Test as described in the proposed project
- LFT – Stand Alone test as described in the proposed project

Year 2 & 3 (2022-2023)

- Group B maintenance as described in the proposed project

Alternative 2 (Tahoe Keys dredge and replace substrate)

Action Alternative 2 responds to comments received during public scoping and would consist of hydraulic dredging (i.e., wet excavation or suction dredging) of the bottom layers of organic material and sediment to remove the roots and turions of aquatic weeds at three test sites in the Tahoe Keys lagoons, followed by placement of a new layer of bottom sediment (e.g., coarse sand or gravel). (TKPOA CMT, Page ES-7)

No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative considers the long-term consequences to the Tahoe Keys lagoons and Lake Tahoe of undertaking no new weed control activities in the Tahoe Keys lagoons. Under this alternative only current control methods would be employed by TKPOA and individual property owners (e.g., voluntary use of bottom barriers, the existing LFA project, mechanical harvesting, and weed fragment control). Because herbicide and ultraviolet light applications would not be tested under this alternative, it is assumed that these methods for target aquatic weed control would not be used in the foreseeable future under a No Action Alternative. (TKPOA CMT, Page ES-7)

TWSA Staff Draft EIR/EIS Highlights for Purveyors

No Finding of significant impact to all objectives from proposed project, alt. 1, Alt. 2

- Detectable Concentrations of Herbicides and Degradates in Receiving Waters.** The potential impact of detectable concentrations of herbicides and degradates in receiving waters will be **less than significant** for the Proposed Project, given the timing and limited extent of application. A spill response plan would also be employed, and double turbidity curtains would be used to prevent movement of herbicides toward the West Lagoon connecting channel. LFA or other aeration technology will be used at test sites to accelerate the degradation of herbicide active ingredients and degradates.
- Protection of Drinking Water Supplies.** This issue would have **less than significant** effects for the Proposed Project, given measures to contain the herbicide applications with double turbidity curtains to prevent movement of active ingredients toward the West Lagoon connecting channel and Lake Tahoe. Dye tracing and well monitoring will document herbicide movement, and existing or mobile carbon filtration systems would be activated to remove herbicide residues if they reach wells.
- Effects on Water Supply (Utilities).** No impact to this issue would occur under the Proposed Project or any of the alternatives. **No significant unavoidable environmental effects would occur** for this issue under the Proposed Project and Action Alternatives. Though the degree of potential significance is speculative, the No Action Alternative could result in a potentially significant turbidity-related impact if intakes are located in shallow waters where habitat could support uncontrolled growth of aquatic weeds.

Significant impact of non-action alternative

Environmental Health: As aquatic weed infestations persist and grow in the Tahoe Keys lagoons, conditions may become increasingly favorable for HABs. Past detections of cyanotoxins have reached caution levels at Tahoe Keys, and continuation of the existing programs to monitor and warn people at Tahoe Keys when cyanotoxins are present may continue to be effective in protecting against any additional risks of exposure to cyanotoxins. However, the conditions that cause cyanobacteria to produce cyanotoxins are not well understood, and it is uncertain whether concentrations of these toxins would increase in the future. Given this uncertainty, the impact of HABs may present a **potentially significant unavoidable impact** of the No Action Alternative.

Aquatic Biology: The No Action Alternative is expected to lead to expansion of aquatic weed growth in the lagoons and in other nearshore areas of Lake Tahoe, particularly with continued spread of curlyleaf pondweed infestations. Therefore, **significant and unavoidable** impacts would be expected (1) in aquatic macrophyte community composition, (2) in the expansion of curlyleaf pondweed, (3) to further degrade habitat conditions for the larger aquatic BMI community, similar to that for the Tahoe Keys lagoons, and (4) to further degrade habitat conditions for special status fish species and native or recreationally important game fish species, potentially blocking access to spawning habitat.

Built/Human Environment: Long-term **significant unavoidable impacts** to recreational boating could accumulate for this issue under the No Action Alternative, if the continued harvesting of aquatic weeds as currently practiced by the TKPOA is ineffective in preventing the spread of the weeds to Lake Tahoe.

Mitigation Measures (feasible, measurable and specific)

Mitigation measures for the proposed project are provided in the 2018 Aquatic Pesticide Application Plan (APAP), the draft EIR provides the following mitigation measures:

- Applicator qualifications
- Spill response plan
- Dye tracing
- Well monitoring and contingencies
- West Channel monitoring and contingencies
- Public outreach
- Carbon filtration contingency (wells only)
- Double turbidity curtain barriers
- Best management practices
- Timing and size of treatments
- Aeration

ONRW Tier III Status References

The following federal, state, and local regulatory requirements are listed in the Draft EIR for projects in an ONRW Tier III water.

Federal

- **USEPA Antidegradation Policy:** The Tier III designation of Lake Tahoe (including the West and East lagoons) under the State and federal Antidegradation Policies requires that states may allow some limited activities that result in temporary and short-term changes to water quality, subject to protection of beneficial uses. These changes would not be allowed to adversely affect existing uses or alter the essential character or special uses for which Lake Tahoe was designated as an ONRW. As discussed in Section 1.4.1.1, if detectable concentrations of applied aquatic herbicide active ingredients or select degradation byproducts are present longer than “weeks to months, not years” the discharges would be assessed to cause long-term water quality degradation. The LWB has discretion in determining the allowable time frames for what constitutes long-term and short-term existing water quality degradation within the “weeks to months, not years” guidance from USEPA.

State

- **California’s antidegradation policy** is in State Water Board Resolution 68-16, which incorporates the requirements of the federal antidegradation policy. The requirements for an exemption to the prohibition apply both to proposed aquatic herbicide testing in the West Lagoon, which is part of the Tier Three designation of Lake Tahoe as an ONRW, and to herbicide testing in Lake Tallac, which has Tier Two protection under the antidegradation regulations. If approved for use, detectable concentrations of herbicide active ingredients and degradates above background would be allowed within treatment areas only for a short-term period (i.e., weeks to months, not years). This requirement is described in Section 1.4. In receiving waters outside of treatment areas, short-term detectable concentrations of herbicide active ingredients and degradates are only allowable if beneficial uses are protected and maintained.

Local

- **Obstruction of Direct Access to Lake Tahoe for Recreational Boating.** Lake Tahoe offers an exceptional recreational experience as a unique alpine lake known worldwide for the clarity and purity of its outstanding blue waters. The Lake was designated an Outstanding National Resource Water (ONRW) by the State of California and the USEPA in 1980. The recreational quality of Lake Tahoe was a primary attraction in developing the Tahoe Keys, and in the ongoing use of the Lake. The Keys is a boat-oriented development, and much of the recreation use enjoyed by Tahoe Keys property owners and their guests

is mediated by direct access to Lake Tahoe for boat use. The primary potential impact of the Proposed Project and Action Alternatives on recreation occurs through its effects on boat access and displacement of use to nearby marinas and other facilities.

Filtration Exemption References

Issue UT-1: Effects on Water Supply. A primary concern raised by water purveyors sourcing Lake Tahoe has been the potential to affect the quality of water taken at their drinking water intakes, such that they would no longer qualify for the filtration exemption. Of the six treatment requirements listed in Table 3.4.2-1, the only one that could be affected by the Proposed Project would be turbidity. The Proposed Project has no potential to influence microbial contamination or trihalomethanes in Lake Tahoe. This analysis of potential impacts also considers the potential for herbicides or degradates to reach water intakes in detectible concentrations, such that drinking water sourced at these intakes would be rendered contaminated or unsuitable for human use.

No mitigation would be required beyond that proposed for water quality (Section 3.3.4) and designed as part of the Proposed Project, as no impacts to utilities would occur. TKPOA has proposed contingency plans, including monitoring and alert systems (TKPOA 2018e; see also the IEC/IS), that would be implemented if necessary, to remove herbicides and other chemicals to treat the potable water before distribution. The negligible potential for impact forestalls the need for other mitigation.

No significant unavoidable impacts to utilities would occur.

Environmentally Superior Alternative (Requirement & How chosen)

CEQA Guidelines 15126.6 address Alternatives to the Proposed Project, stating that *“an EIR shall describe a range of reasonable alternatives to the project, or to the location of the project, which would feasibly attain most of the basic objectives of the project but would avoid or substantially lessen any of the significant effects of the project, and evaluate the comparative merits of the alternatives,”* and further, *“The range of potential alternatives to the proposed project shall include those that could feasibly accomplish most of the basic objectives of the project and could avoid or substantially lessen one or more of the significant effects.”*

Sections 15126.6(a) and 15126.6e(2)) require that an EIR’s analysis of alternatives identify the “environmentally superior” alternative among all of those considered. In addition, if the No-Project Alternative is identified as the environmentally superior alternative, then the EIR must also identify the environmentally superior alternative among the other alternatives. Under CEQA, the goal of identifying the environmentally superior alternative is to assist decision makers in considering project approval. CEQA does not require an agency to select the environmentally superior alternative (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15042–15043).

In this case, the No Action Alternative is not the environmental superior alternative; in fact, as shown in Table 5-1, it would have the greatest potentially significant unavoidable impacts of the four alternatives considered.

Action Alternative 1 (Testing of Non-Herbicide Methods Only) was selected as an alternative that might reduce the potentially significant effects of the Proposed Project by avoiding the application of herbicides.

Action Alternative 2 (Tahoe Key Dredge and Replace Substrate) was selected after scoping as an alternative suggested by stakeholders that also might reduce impacts by avoiding the application of herbicides.

As shown in Table 5-1, both the Proposed Project and Action Alternative 2 would have potentially significant unavoidable impacts on recreational boating. In addition, although the Proposed Project and both Action Alternatives mitigate all other identified environmental issues to less than significant, both the Proposed Project and Action Alternative 2 entail activities (application of herbicides and the dredging, dewatering and disposal of

sediment) that would not occur under Action Alternative 1. Although mitigated, these additional activities entail some measure of potential risk and reduced impact. For all these reasons, Action Alternative 1 is the environmentally superior alternative.

Benthic Macro Invertebrates

Effects on the Aquatic Benthic Macroinvertebrate Community. Implementation of the Proposed Project or Action Alternatives would not be expected to result in a substantial change or reduction in the diversity or distribution of the aquatic BMI community and this impact would be less than significant. Continued spread of aquatic invasive weeds under the No Action Alternative has the potential to further change the plant community composition in deeper water areas of the lagoons, and also further spread in nearshore areas of Lake Tahoe proper. This would be expected to further degrade conditions for aquatic BMIs, similar to that for the Tahoe Keys lagoons. If the continued spread of aquatic invasive weeds goes unchecked under the No Action Alternative, the resulting changes to the BMI community composition could be significant.

Competiveness & Regrowth of Curlyleaf Pondweed

Competitive Exclusion of Aquatic Macrophytes Due to Increased Growth of Curlyleaf Pondweed. Given the small areas proposed for testing aquatic herbicides under the Proposed Project, and the ability to adjust test site locations to avoid areas dominated by native plant communities, changes or reduction in the diversity or distribution of the non-target macrophyte community or increased growth of curlyleaf pondweed would be less than significant.



1220 Sweetwater Road
Incline Village, Nevada 89451
775-832-1212

TWSA Members:

Cave Rock Water System
Edgewood Water Company
Glenbrook Water Cooperative
Incline Village GID
Kingsbury GID
Lakeside Park Association
North Tahoe PUD
Round Hill GID
Skyland Water Company
South Tahoe PUD
Tahoe City PUD
Zephyr Water Utility

(Draft)

8/28/2020

To be submitted via tahoekeysweeds@trpa.org on August 28, 2020

To the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Water Board and Tahoe Regional Planning Agency,
Re: Tahoe Water Suppliers Association (TWSA) Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) / Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) / {Tahoe Keys Target Aquatic Weed Control Methods Test - Draft Joint TRPA Environmental Impact Report, TRPA File # EIPC 2018-0011, Tahoe Keys, City of South Lake Tahoe, CA Project Number 510-101-00}

Dear Agency Members,

On behalf of the Tahoe Water Suppliers Association (TWSA) Board of Directors, we submit the following comments on the DEIR:

Statements on Proposed Project and Alternatives:

1. The TWSA Board continues to support the testing of non-herbicide methods before chemical treatment is considered. The US EPA and Californian EPA both recognize Lake Tahoe as an "Outstanding National Resource Water, Tier 3. (ONRW). There are only two ONRWs within the State of California. The State of Nevada has classified Lake Tahoe as "A Water of Extraordinary Aesthetic or Ecological Value". These designations warrant the thorough testing of non-chemical methods to precede any herbicide testing. The introduction of herbicides (even as a 'one-time' test) into Lake Tahoe, as a Tier 3 Outstanding National Resource Water with 6 filtration exempt water systems (out of 60 nationally), is not appropriate at this time, before non-chemical methods have been tested on a larger scale.
2. We Support (5.7) Action Alternative 1 (AA1 = non-herbicide tests only) which was identified as the "environmentally superior alternative" in the CEQA DEIR.
TWSA historical comments have long supported this approach, now clearly defined in the DEIR. Larger scale, well designed, well conducted and properly monitored, non-chemical tests should be tested for (at least) the 3 years proposed.
3. We Support Action Alternative 2 (dredge and replace substrate). TWSA early comments supported this non-chemical alternative, coupled with monitoring and mitigation for turbidity. Strategic site selection will be necessary to avoid disturbing alum concentrations in the

sediment, along with strong mitigation and monitoring protocols. Dredging and substrate replacement offer a long-term corrective action on the physical conditions of the lagoons, conditions that support plant growth due to years of nutrient and sediment deposition.

Comments on Drinking Water Concerns Analysis in the DEIR:

4. TWSA acknowledges the in-depth investigation of 'fate and transport' concerns for the surface water treatment operators with emphasis on understanding potential impacts to the filtration exempt water purveyors. These concerns were identified in Issues UT- 1 (Utilities) and EH 3 (Environmental Health). The detailed analysis on Protection of Filtration Exemption Status is discussed in the Built/Human Environment section (pgs. 3.4-10 to 14). * Excerpts are referenced at end of this letter.

The overall evaluation determined in the DEIR/DEIS is that the Lake Tahoe drinking water intakes are not at risk, due the containment measures proposed, monitoring and detection program outlined, and in the end, the volume of water in Lake Tahoe between the treatment areas and the intakes. The TWSA Board is not totally comfortable with the determination that, in the end, dilution will protect the lake source intakes. Yes, 39 trillion gallons of water provides an excellent dilution safety factor. However, there are key pieces of key information in the pending anti-degradation analysis that must be co-evaluated.

Questions and Concerns:

5. We strongly feel that more information is needed in the DEIR on implementation for Group B methods. Working out the details now, on Group B logistics, is critical to the success of the entire testing program. The flow charts provide a decision-making matrix, but an actual operational / implementation plan has not been provided.
6. Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) is reserved as a Group B option. We suggest that DASH be considered on a larger scale (reconsider in Group A category). The DASH method is highly selective and effective. Divers manually removes the entire plant which reduces concerns over re-growth or nutrient loading from plant die-off. This method has been successfully used in Emerald Bay in past control work. Squam Lake, New Hampshire uses this method exclusively to manage 50 acres of milfoil, using an AmeriCorps natural resources training program. The Tahoe RCD is working successfully with this method currently on Lake Tahoe locations.
7. We still maintain some concerns about the potential failure of turbidity curtains to contain herbicides within the treatment sites. To provide additional protections at any potential herbicide site, we suggest an emergency portable water treatment plan be prepared for the treatment sites (not just TK wells) in the mitigation and emergency response plan. The current contingency plan referenced in the DEIR, addresses potential issues at the drinking water wells, only. (Carbon Filtration Contingency EH-3f).

- Emergency carbon-filter treatment of the water should be a ready-to-implement mitigation for treatment site use, in the case of containment failure. Details are needed on how this equipment would be accessible and this mitigation performed.
8. PhosLock has been added for evaluation for sequestering Phosphorous (K) out of the water column and the sediment. We feel this should be investigated further. It has strong potential for capturing and removing K from biomass die-off.
 9. We support the added mitigation of Laminar Flow Aeration (LFA) to all treatment sites for increasing oxygen levels, reducing nutrient reduction and offering mitigation against potential harmful algal blooms. LFA holds great potential to improve water quality conditions in the Tahoe Keys and should be used extensively.
 10. TWSA has concerns that the herbicides selected will have limited effect on all three species of concern (Issue AQU-2). Chemical removal of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) may offer Curlyleaf Pondweed (CP) an unintended competitive advantage. This is a major uncertainty with proposed chemical treatment.

Endothall = non-selective, kills all 3 target plants, but is contact type only, not systemic
 Triclopyr = selective, systemic; kills EWM and CP - but not Coontail
 Procelleacor (Florpyrauxifen-benzyl) selective, systemic; possible only kills EWM

“AQU-2: Competitive Exclusion of Aquatic Macrophytes Due to Increased Growth of Curlyleaf Pondweed. Based on manufacturer’s labels, only one of the three aquatic herbicides being considered for the CMT (endothall), is labeled for the control of curlyleaf pondweed. However, other studies suggest that florpyrauxifen-benzyl can also control curlyleaf pondweed (Anderson 2020, Heilman per. Comm.; Heilman and Getsinger 2018). Application of herbicides that are not effective in controlling curlyleaf pondweed (e.g., triclopyr) could provide this invasive species with a competitive advantage and result in its increased growth within treatment areas. Recent surveys by TKPOA have found that curlyleaf pondweed is growing at deeper depths in the lagoons. This information was used to evaluate how control measures might result in increased growth of curlyleaf pondweed, in particular, by applying herbicides that may not selectively target the species. It was assumed that pre-treatment surveys would be effective in selecting the appropriate herbicide based on species composition, and reduce the likelihood that curlyleaf pondweed density could increase due to competitive exclusion. (pgs. 3.3.5-2; 3.3.5-21)”

11. Procelleacor (Florpyrauxifen-benzyl) is still pending CA EPA approval.
 TWSA feels it is inappropriate to consider an unapproved product in this CEQA DEIR/DEIS.
12. Coontail, considered a ‘nuisance native’, is non-rooting and free floating. More consideration should be directed towards aggressive harvesting/mechanical removal of this native plant.
 Mechanical removal would directly reduce nutrient loading to the water column by removing the plants entirely.

13. There has been a positive shift in plan development from years past. This plan now recognizing the impact of nutrient cycling and a need for water quality mitigation of existing conditions, with a goal to oxidize nutrients in the water column and avoid potential algae blooms. Breaking the nutrient loading cycle is a key strategy in controlling plant growth, and we appreciate the in-depth study done to analyze and rank loading sources. The research identified water column loading from the plants (during die-off) as the primary source of water borne nutrients; with storm-water designated a secondary source.
14. Critical pieces in the regulatory decision-making process (Anti-Degradation policy) are still pending. This project's decision approval or rejection hinges on a precedent setting judgement in national and state anti-degradation policy and ONRW protection. Delayed release of this information is making commenting on the DEIR more difficult.
15. Cost information is another key item missing for overall decision. There are no costs presented for any methods. Cost analysis is necessary to determine approach. We feel the cost for CEQA DEIR/DEIS analysis should be heavily pro-rated towards the cost of herbicides. Information presented by agency staff, in public meetings, has acknowledged the herbicide component of the proposed project as the piece that triggered the need for full CEQA analysis; all other methods require less intensive review.
16. Per anti-degradation guidance, the Non-Point Source Plan should be augmented with additional storm-water and fertilizer management improvements to reduce land-based, non-point source loading. Such enhancements could include: Nitrogen fertilizer restrictions, requiring buffer strips with a 'turf setback' zone (removing turf to edge of water landscaping), and the addition of storm drain inlet filters. Storm water was identified as the second major contributor to water column nutrient loading in the DEIR. The Keys water conditions are a result of ongoing, unmitigated conditions from land-based activities. It is clearly stated in anti-degradation policy that all cost-effective and reasonable BMP's must be in place before the State authorizes degradation of high quality waters.

40 CFR § 131.12 (2) - Antidegradation policy and implementation methods: "Where the State intends to provide for development, it may decide under this section, after satisfying the requirement for intergovernmental coordination and public participation, that some lowering of water quality in "high-quality waters "is necessary to accommodate important economic or social development. Any such lower water quality must protect existing uses fully, and the State must assure that the highest statutory and regulatory requirement for all new and existing point sources and all cost-effective and reasonable BMPs for nonpoint source control are being achieved on the waterbody. We interpret Section 131.12(a)(2) as REQUIRING States to adopt an anti-degradation policy that includes a provision that will assure that all cost-effective and reasonable BMPs established under State authority are implemented for nonpoint sources before the State authorizes degradation of high quality waters by point sources (see USEPA,1994a.)"

<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2014-10/documents/handbook-chapter4.pdf> (pg. 9)

“The comparative lack of water clarity in the lagoons can be attributed to resuspension of fine sediments accumulated from aquatic plant decomposition and storm-water, internal cycling of nutrients, shallow and warmer waters that support more algal growth, and limited circulation with and dilution from lake Tahoe waters.” (DEIR pg. 3.3.4-12)

- 17.** A requested analysis on the socio-economic impacts to the DRINK TAHOE TAP® brand was determined outside the scope of this DEIS. (Pg. 3.1-15) The DRINK TAHOE TAP® brand has been under development for more than 10 years regionally and currently receives broad community support. The introduction of herbicides may have a strong impact on consumer confidence in the tap water, despite the precautions and mitigations. Tahoe Tap is an award winning, very high quality tap water. We are under the assumption that this question is being evaluated as part of anti-degradation analysis? The international brand, Evian Water, was recently negatively impacted by the detection of an EU banned fungicide, chlorothalonil, in their protected spring source.
- 18.** Turning off wellheads and providing bottled water as a mitigation for potentially impacted TKPOA wellheads is not agreeable or sustainable. This mitigation ignores the other household water needs for residents.

19. Edits/Corrections:

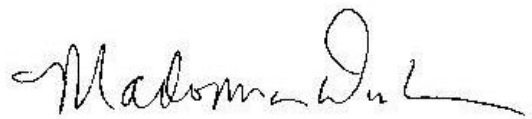
DEIR pg. 3.2-5 – LPA is listed a filtration exempt; they are a filtering purveyor.
 DEIR pgs. 3.14.12-13, Glenbrook should be Kingsbury
 Other edits were previously submitted.

Additional Comments:

- 20.** In addition to this letter, the Tahoe Water Suppliers Association has commissioned an independent review of this CEQA DEIR/DEIS by Water Quality & Treatment Solutions Inc. The consultant comments are attached here, and we wish these submitted as part of our formal record.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Respectfully Submitted on behalf of the Tahoe Water Suppliers Association Board,



Madonna Dunbar, TWSA Executive Director



Suzi Gibbons, TWSA Board Chair

Reference: DEIS excerpts on drinking water analysis:

Issue UT 1: Effects on Water Supply – Due to dilution, no detectable concentrations of herbicides or degradants attributable to the test program would occur at drinking water intakes, and therefore no impact would occur and no mitigation is required. TKPOA has proposed contingency plans, including monitoring and alert systems to be implemented if necessary to remove herbicides and treat the potable water before distribution.” (pg. ES-24).

EH-3: Protection of Drinking Water Supplies. Although even minimal dilution would prevent concentrations exceeding drinking water criteria from reaching drinking water supplies, degradation would occur if concentrations of active ingredients and chemical degradants of herbicides proposed for testing were detectable in or near the locations of potable water intakes. The potential for detectable concentrations at drinking water supply intakes is a function of the potential for transport of chemicals to these locations, the environmental fate and persistence of each herbicide proposed for testing, and the maximum allowable application rates for the proposed herbicides.(pg. ES10)

Issue UT-1: Effects on Water Supply. Effects could occur if herbicide residues and degradants reached water supply intakes on Lake Tahoe, and led to the loss of filtration exemption for purveyors drawing from the lake. An impact could occur if turbidity increased in nearshore shallows near drinking water intakes as a result of the dieback and decay of aquatic weeds. (pg.ES-24)

“the IEC/IS found that surface water intakes are not located is sufficient proximity to the Tahoe keys lagoons to be affected.” (page 3.1-19)

“potential changes in lagoon water quality are not expected to be measurable in the greater Lake Tahoe, and consequent environmental health effects would not be distinguishable either.” (page 3.2-1)

“Thus, the distance from the proposed test sites to existing drinking water intakes, together with the isolation of herbicide tests behind barriers within the Tahoe Keys (coupled with monitoring to assure that residuals are well below levels that would be required to meet drinking water standards even if purveyors intakes were within the lagoons themselves), would be well more than sufficient to assure that the potential for any herbicides or degradates of concern to affect drinking water is negligible. There would be no impact to Issue UT-1.” (pg. 3.4-14)

Federal USEPA antidegradation policy ONRW III discussion: “...given the dilution factor of the volume of water in the Tahoe Keys and Lake Tahoe, no exceeding of drinking water standards is anticipated to occur”. (pg. 3.2-3).

**TAHOE KEYS LAGOONS AQUATIC WEED CONTROL METHODS TEST
DRAFT EIR/EIS REVIEW**

PREPARED FOR:

TAHOE WATER SUPPLIERS ASSOCIATION

PREPARED BY:

WATER QUALITY & TREATMENT SOLUTIONS, INC.

CHAMBERS GROUP



AUGUST 2, 2020

Procedural Review

The El Dorado County Clerk currently has no record, and is not able to confirm, if the Notice of Availability/Notice of Completion had been submitted and circulated to the El Dorado County Clerk (per phone call on 7/30/2020). If the notice has not been posted, the project has not complied with CEQA Guidelines 15072 (d) that states the following:

“The county clerk of each county within which the proposed project is located shall post such notices in the office of the county clerk within 24 hours of receipt for a period of at least 20 days.”

EIS/EIR Review

Executive Summary

As noted in the Executive Summary, this EIR/EIS only analyzes the test of a variety of control methods, and another environmental analysis would be required for any future implementation of a full-scale aquatic weeds control program. If this is the case, future full-scale weeds control should be analyzed as a cumulative project.

The Executive Summary should indicate the total acreage of the lagoon areas that would be treated. The Executive Summary could include information from Table 2-1 to give the reader a better idea of acreage involved for the Proposed Project and alternatives. Section ES 3.2 would be an appropriate section to add this information.

Section ES 3.2 indicates that the Group B follow up methods would only be used if a Group A test method achieved 75% reduction of non-native species. Recommend that the percent reduction of a Group A test method be noted and recorded, but no matter what percent reduction was achieved the Group B methods should be employed at all test sites. This could provide data for a more complete evaluation of initial and follow up methods.

Based on the fact that an Exemption Application was submitted to the Lahontan RWQCB for the application of pesticides, the information included in the Antidegradation analysis would have been helpful to include in the EIR/EIS.

We recognize that Action Alternative 1 was identified as the Environmentally Superior Alternative, and that the No Action Alternative (NAA) is the only alternative that may have potentially significant unavoidable impacts. (Typo on page ES-8 calls it the NOA; it should be the NAA).

Table ES-1:

For mitigation listed for EH-2, EH-3d: It would be helpful if a description of what is considered a detectable concentration of an herbicide be added in these sections. How would this be measurable in the mitigation?

EH-3d West Channel monitoring and contingencies (page ES-11). States “If herbicides are detected within the West Channel, additional monitoring stations would be sampled outside the Tahoe keys in Lake Tahoe and monitoring would continue south and north of the channel. Recommend if herbicides are tested, the monitoring plan should specify that the laboratory be required to Rush turn-around-time for results, and not wait the full holding time.

EH-3b states “If herbicides are detected in nearby wells, contingency plans include shutting off the wells and distributing water to all users until residues are no longer detected in the samples.” This is repeated in EH-3d. If shut off the water supply, people cannot flush toilets and they cannot stay in their homes. Appropriate response would be that TKPOA issue a notice to residents not to drink the water and supply drinking water (bottled water) to the residents.

For Mitigation Measure EH-5a, we recommend that the measure be revised to provide examples of BMPs that would be used to minimize sediment disturbance and turbidity. As written, it is unclear how this measure would reduce impacts.

For Mitigation Measure EH-5b, what would be the response if during testing aluminum levels do not comply with water quality criteria?

For mitigation listed for EH-6: Include the date range for spring surveys (as described in Section 3.2.2, page 3.2-17). The mitigation also states that the treatment areas would be as small as possible. Since the draft EIR/EIS includes pre-determined sizes for the test sites (Section 2), it would help to clarify what rationale was used to determine “small size” to better understand the mitigation.

EH-6 HABs. Based on previous occurrence of HABs and cyanotoxins, and the potential occurrence of HABs in response to the proposed CMT, the mitigation proposed appears limited to minimizing the treatment areas and use of LFA. Would the TKPOA want to apply an aquatic algaecide, (i.e., use another chemical to reduce algal counts)? Use of treatment could lyse cyanobacterial cells releasing increasing amounts of cyanotoxins. No details are provided regarding the frequency of monitoring for increases in algal counts and testing for cyanotoxins and what would be the response to occurrence of HAB or detection of elevated cyanotoxins.

For mitigation listed for ER-1: Provide the specific restrictions (such as speed limits and what are defined as travel restrictions).

For mitigation listed for AQU-5: It is unclear how and why mitigation would result in Group A methods to not substantially change or reduce the diversity of the aquatic community.

Some mitigation measures identify which action alternatives they apply to and some do not. We recommend that each measure indicate which action alternative(s) it would apply to.

WQ-5a states: “Herbicide applications would occur in the late spring when target weed species are in their early stages of growth and plant biomass in minimal and the timing would be adjusted based on pre-application macrophyte survey.” Response: given that the lagoons have exceeded water quality objectives for several constituents, this mitigation seems vague in terms of “minimal” biomass and potential impacts on water quality.

UT-1 Effects on Water Supply states “Due to dilution no detectable concentration of herbicides or degradants attributable to the test program would occur at drinking water intakes, and therefore no impact would occur and no mitigation is required. TKPOA has proposed contingency plans, including monitoring and alert systems to be implemented if necessary, to remove herbicides and other chemicals to treat the potable water before distribution.” Response: Given the time it would take to mobilize and install additional treatment (as described on page 3.2-16, Section EH-3f Carbon filtration contingency) to remove synthetic organic herbicides before drinking water is served, the treatment technology should be onsite and installed ready to operate, if needed.

Throughout Table ES-1, many mitigation measures are missing mitigation numbers/labels; this makes it difficult to track impacts and mitigation throughout the document. The lack of labels also makes it difficult to determine which measures are mitigation and which are design features or “resource protection measures.”

Section 1.0: Introduction

Figure 1-2 notes areas in Lake Tahoe that had infestations that were previously treated; an explanation and description of what methods were used elsewhere in Lake Tahoe would be helpful to include in the EIR/EIS, as it seems the aquatic weeds were successfully treated in these areas. Could this analysis help provide insight as to why TKPOA believe non-herbicide methods have been unsuccessful in the Keys?

The Purpose & Need notes controlling the spread of nonnative target aquatic weeds; however, the introduction mentions that coontail is a native plant. Would this “undesirable native plant” also be targeted in the CMT? Should this be noted in the Purpose & Need?

The Federal Requirements section notes the need for a complete Antidegradation Analysis; however, this was not included in the EIR/EIS analysis.

Section 2.0 Project Description and Alternatives

Earlier the document defines CMT as Control Methods Test; however, in the Project Description it is defined as a Comprehensive Methods Test. Make sure this is clarified and consistent throughout document.

The fact that most of the treatment sites are located further from the West Channel entrance, and the closest treatment site is for LFA, in combination with the double

turbidity curtain barriers, provides greater confidence that water quality in the waters of Lake Tahoe would largely be protected.

Page 2-4, Figure 2-3, recommend that the document provide the rationale for using 0.3 acre as the trigger for determining what Group B follow up would be employed.

Page 2-6 states “In determining whether an alternative was infeasible due to legal factors alternative screening considered the antidegradation policy and prohibition exemption criteria outlined in the LWB Basin Plan, including the potential to violate any water quality objective; the potential to cause long-term degradation of water quality and the ability to limit any short-term degradation of water quality to the shortest possible time and confine it to the smallest area necessary for success.” How was feasibility determined when the antidegradation analysis has not been completed?

Page 2-7, discusses non-chemical control methods and states “...their success in the Tahoe Keys has been shown to be short-term and recolonization is common.” Why does this eliminate non-chemical means? Has TRPA and LHRWQCB reviewed the design of previous studies conducted by the TKPOA? Did these studies include appropriate, timely follow up and if not, was recolonization inevitable? The CMT appropriately includes follow up treatment for the proposed project as well as the two alternatives.

Page 2-9 indicates that “mechanical harvesting would continue to be performed at all sites (both test and control sites) during the testing period. There should be no use of mechanical harvesting in test and control sites. The use of mechanical harvesting could confuse results of testing and offers no benefit to protect water quality.

Page 2-15 states “...all aquatic herbicides may be applied at rates that are below the maximum concentrations allowed by the product registration, yet are anticipated to produce desired efficacy based on mesocosm studies...However, maximum allowable rates may be used to ensure the best efficacy results are obtained at a pilot scale.” Table 4 in the TKPOA’s APAP (Appendix C) indicates that the proposed application rate for endothall would be 2.0 mg/L (below the maximum allowable rate of 5.0 mg/L) and the proposed application rate for triclopyr would be 1.0 mg/L (below the maximum allowable application rate of 2.5 mg/L). These values are not consistent with the application rate (in mg/L) for endothall and triclopyr presented in Tables 2-2 and 2-3 (page 2-16).

Page 2-22, second paragraph, last sentence is missing the words “cause of the” after “the” and before “decrease.”

Page 2-23, Figure 2-6 presents an example of the layout for a combination herbicide and UV light treatment site. If herbicides are approved for use, samples for the herbicide should be collected within the UV light treatment area to understand potential drift of herbicides into the UV light area.

Page 2-25, states “contingency plans described in the APAP include shutting off the wells and distributing water to all users until residues are no longer detected in samples.” As

indicated in earlier comment, if shut off the water supply, people can't flush toilets, and they can't stay in their homes. A more appropriate response would be to notify residents not to drink the water until further notice.

Page 2-25, footnote #5, it should be clarified that there is no drinking water standard for triclopyr. Information that is included in the EIR/EIS is taken from the label for triclopyr. There is, however, a drinking water Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for endothall. To establish the MCL, the regulatory agency (in this case the US Environmental Protection Agency) must follow the Administrative Procedures Act including opportunities for public review and comment. If the MCL for endothall were exceeded that is a violation of a drinking water standard and would require public notification including posting the notice in the local newspaper. The violation would have to be included in the annual Consumer Confidence Report distributed to all customers of the water system. That would not be required under the Safe Drinking Water Act if exceeded the drinking water label value for triclopyr.

Page 2-38, Section 2.6.1 states "Mechanical harvesting has been underway in Tahoe Keys since the 1970s yet has not been effective at reducing aquatic weed populations and has accelerated the weed infestation because the machines produce weed fragments that can propagate new plants." If mechanical harvesting has been used for 50 years and has caused exceedances of water quality objectives and failure to protect beneficial uses why has mechanical harvesting been allowed to continue...while dismissing other non-herbicide technologies based on limited information? Furthermore, Section 1.1.3.1 includes a quote from the TKPOA that "until the 1980s" the Keys were largely clear and free of invasive weeds. That seems to contradict the statement on page 2-38 that mechanical harvesting has been underway since the 1970s.

Section 3.0 Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences

Section 3.2 – Environmental Health

Under Section 3.2.1, Mitigation and Resource Protection Measures, it is very difficult to determine which of these are mitigation measures and which are resource protection measures (and how these are, in turn, related to the impact issues listed in ES-1). Since mitigation measures are only required to reduce potentially significant impacts, it is important for the reader to understand which of these are preventative measures versus which ones are mitigation measures intended to reduce or minimize impacts. For example, are the double turbidity curtain barriers a part of the Proposed Project design, a Resource Protection Measure, or Mitigation? For EH-5a, what kind of Best Management Practices (BMPs) would be implemented? Provide some examples so that it is clear what the applicant will do to minimize sediment disturbance.

As discussed in CEQA Guidelines 15126.4 (a) (1) (A) "The discussion of mitigation measures shall distinguish between the measures which are proposed by project proponents to be included in the project and other measures proposed by the lead, responsible, or trustee agency or other persons which are not included but the lead agency

determines could reasonably be expected to reduce adverse impacts if required as conditions of approving the project. This discussion shall identify mitigation measures for each significant environmental effect identified in the EIR. In addition, under 15126.4 (a) (3), "Mitigation measures are not required for effects which are not found to be significant." Without the clarification of whether these listed measures are Mitigation, part of the Proposed Project, or are Resource Protection Measures, it is unclear if these discussions are in compliance with these sections of the CEQA Guidelines.

EH-6, page 3.2-5 Harmful Algal blooms (HABs). Page 3.2-5. For completeness the discussion should mention that the US Environmental Protection Agency has issued Drinking Water Health Advisories for microcystins and cylindrospermopsin for children under the age of six.

Page 3.2-10, states Compounds with "acute values >100 ppm are classified as "practically non-toxic" (the best possible rating)." The inclusion of the parenthetical "best possible rating" seems to indicate a bias, rather than just leaving the description with the regulatory agency's description: "practically non-toxic." Recommend that the "best possible rating" and "second best classification" be deleted.

EH-3f, page 3.2-16 indicates that a mobile filtration system would also be available to pump and treat water at wells where exceedances are detected above drinking water standard concentrations. If endothall or triclopyr are detected (not just above the MCL for endothall) the water should be treated and residents/homeowners should be notified that herbicides were detected. Otherwise asking the residents to drink the excess herbicide.

Page 3.4-10 Under the section heading "State," there is a statement that DPH establishes drinking water standards for contaminants. That is not correct. Drinking water standards in California are established by the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water (DDW).

Section 3.3 – Natural Environment

Under 3.3.1 Earth Resources Mitigation and Resource Protection Measures, similar to the comment above, it is very unclear which of these items are intended to be mitigation that reduces potentially significant impacts discussed for Action Alternative 2. Is the replacement of docks or bulkheads mitigation that is tied to performance criteria? How would there be assurances that this would be implemented. Similarly, the following language is unclear and does not appear to be fully enforceable or provide potential impacts that would ensure that performance standards would be achieved, "Mitigation and resource protection measures would address any the potential effects of spills in the dredge handling area at the WTP would by installing containment barriers and impermeable layers. The effects of spill in transport would be remediated by clean-up operation."

Under 3.3.3 Hydrology, Mitigation and Resource Protection Measures, the “mitigation” discussed is unclear and possibly unenforceable. The supposed mitigation language discusses limiting routing of treated dewatering effluent to Lake Tallac to only the late summer/early fall months. However, the mitigation measure needs to be more specific. What months would this entail? How would this measure quantitatively reduce impacts to below thresholds?

Under the 3.3.4 Water Quality introduction, the statement is made that the “potential changes in lagoon water quality from testing aquatic weed control methods are not expected to be measurable in the greater Lake Tahoe,” however, no reasoning beyond the size differential between the lagoons and the lake is given for this statement. This statement requires substantiation. In addition, there are some inconsistencies in labeling items as Issue 3, or Issue WQ-3, etc. Consistency in naming throughout the section on whether it is a mitigation, an Impact Issue, etc. would help navigate the document.

Under Section 3.3.4 Potentially Impacts, discussion of dissolved oxygen, total phosphorus, and total nitrogen, general statements are made that the effects on overall conditions are expected to have a less than significant impact. However, no numbers or data are given to substantiate this claim or to show how the Proposed Project or alternatives would have the potential to impact these levels.

Under Section 3.3.4 Proposed Project Mitigation and Resource Protection Measures, it is unclear which of these are mitigation versus protection measures. For example, on page 3.3.4-57, in the second paragraph – some sections of the document indicate less than significant with mitigation but do not state what mitigation needs to be implemented. Edits should be made to make clear what significant impacts the mitigation measures are reducing versus which measures are project features, and which mitigation is required for which activities.

Under Section 3.3.4 Alternative 2 Potential Impacts, the discussion notes that “If rigorous implementation of spill control and containment plans and treatment of any dredge spoil dewatering effluent meets turbidity limits, these potential impacts are expected to be less than significant with mitigation.” This statement has numerous unknowns. The requirement of meeting the control and containment plans as well as details regarding treatment should be part of the mitigation measures. The specific mitigation measures that will reduce these impacts and how they will reduce impacts to below levels of significance should be outlined.

Under Section 3.3.4 Alternative 2 Mitigation and Resource Protection Measures, for Issue WQ-2, all the items discussed should be individual mitigation measures (or resource protection measures) so that it can be tracked in the MMRP for who is responsible for enforcing compliance with each measure and what the performance criteria would be, where appropriate.

Under Section 3.3.5 Aquatic Biology and Ecology, Proposed Project Mitigation and Resource Protection Measures, since none of the issue areas seem to have any significant

impacts, this section should be clear about what these measures are intended to do. Are they part of the project description, to include surveys and potential adjustments to treatment locations based on results? In addition, measure are provided in Table ES-1, which included mitigation measures. However, since there are no significant impacts, it is not clear why these measures are needed.

Under section 3.3.6 Terrestrial Biology and Ecology, Proposed Project Mitigation and Resource Protection Measures, the description of MM-BIO-1 is how each mitigation measure should be indicated throughout the EIS/EIR. This measure describes the mitigation, how it will reduce impacts, what will be required of which entity, and specific actions required to be taken. In addition, the labeling of the mitigation measure is helpful and can be a way to refer to which mitigation measure(s) will reduce impacts in the impacts discussions; this labeling should be used universally for each mitigation measure.

Section 3.4 – Built/Human Environment

Under Section 3.4.3, the Traffic discussion includes a mention of “speed limits and travel restrictions” similar to what is listed as mitigation language in ES-1 for Earth Resources. However, these should be clearly outlined here as well, if it is being included as a mitigation or resource protection measure. For example, what will the speed limits be? Or what would the travel restrictions include?

Under Section 3.4.3, the Traffic discussion does not mention SB 743 or Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) thresholds or impacts, which is a new requirement of traffic analysis in CEQA. Action Alternative 2 should at least contain an explanation of how truck trips are not included in this type of analysis. Although we do not expect these impacts to be significant, the lack of discussion of VMT impacts is a concern in terms of the completeness of the analysis.

Under Section 3.4.4 Noise, for Alternative 2, the noise levels of the equipment that is used for dredging activities is not mentioned or quantified, only that it would be similar to ambient noise levels. Without understanding what the ambient noise levels are and what the noise of the dredging equipment would be, the statement is not substantiated that noise levels at the nearest sensitive receptors would be less than significant with mitigation.

Under Section 3.4.5 (Cultural Resources), under Methods and Assumptions, is CR-1 an applicant proposed measure or Resource Protection Measure? It is unclear what it means to have this type of measure in the methods and assumptions section since it is almost written like a mitigation measure.

Under Section 3.4.6 Recreation, Action Alternative 2, Resource Protection Measures, this section identifies what measures would be implemented but should clearly state if this is a mitigation. This reference is not provided in the language above or on the ES table. The section should clearly state how the mitigation would address the impacts under Alternative 2.

Section 4.2 Environmental Health (Cumulative Impacts)

Under the Proposed Project, Issue EH-5, the discussion assumes that for aluminum concentrations, “fish and other aquatic life are generally able to swim away and avoid exposure.” While fish could be expected to leave an area during a period of test activities, there is little evidence provided in the discussion that substantiate that fish would stay away, and the possibility that they could return to an area still impacted by elevated levels of aluminum.

Section 4.4 Built/Human Environment

Under Section 4.4.4 Traffic and Transportation, Alternative 2, this section calls out that with mitigation implemented, Alternative 2 is not anticipated to have significant traffic impacts. What mitigation is this referring to and how would the mitigation address the cumulative traffic effects?

Section 5.1 Summary of Significant Effects and Measures or Alternatives to Reduce or Avoid Effects

The summary of effects should point to labeled mitigation measures (similar to what was included in Section 3.3.6) for easier reference throughout the document. As written, it is unclear which are mitigation measures to reduce significant impacts and which are project measures already in place to avoid impacts. The identification of mitigation measures would also make the discussion clearer in terms of which issue areas would have less than significant impacts, and which would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

Section 5.7 Environmentally Superior Alternative

For Table 5-1, Alternatives Comparison, although this is helpful information, the comparison of impacts usually involves an identification if, for example Alternative 1 would have “reduced” or “increased” impacts in comparison to the proposed project. As is, the table only identifies if there are significant, unavoidable effects, growth-inducing effects, or irreversible/irretrievable effects; but there is no real comparison between the alternatives. The only thing made clear is that the No Action Alternative is the only one that has potentially significant unavoidable effects. The table also has sections that are highlighted under the No Action Alternative/Potentially significant unavoidable effects continue for long term. It is unclear what the highlight means for that resource area.

Section 6.0 Compliance, Consultation, and Coordination

In Section 6.1.4, Federal Antidegradation Policy, the discussion mentions that certain project components (aquatic herbicides, injection of acetic acid) would be subject to antidegradation policies; however, it cannot be determined at this time how the project or chosen alternative would comply with the Federal Antidegradation Policy.

In section 6.1.4, it states if detectable concentrations of applied aquatic herbicide active ingredients or select degradation byproducts are present longer than “weeks to months,

not years” the discharges would be assessed to cause long-term water quality degradation. Has the same criteria been applied to the decades of mechanical harvesting, has mechanical harvesting been assessed to cause long-term water quality degradation?

Section 6.1.5, page 6-5. Section on the Safe Drinking Water Act. The last sentence directs the reader to section 5.2.8 and the Porter Cologne Water Quality Control Act. Porter-Cologne has nothing to do with drinking water regulations. Recommend the last sentence be deleted. California’s drinking water legislation is the State’s Safe Drinking Water Act, that gives the State the authority to regulate drinking water and to set and enforce drinking water standards.

Appendix E

Page E-5 discusses problems with background herbicide monitoring and presents the reason as to why no testing was conducted. “...it would [be] best to wait and collect the baseline samples shortly before herbicide applications, if approved.” Given the environment and uses in the Tahoe Keys, recommend that testing and reporting be required for a wide array of synthetic organics (not just herbicides) in Tahoe Keys, whether or not the use of herbicides is approved.

Recommended Edits to Appendix E

Figure 8, page E-18, the legend needs to be fixed. Currently cannot tell which line/symbol is bottom and which represents surface location. The Y-axis units should indicate °C, and not just C.

Pages E-18 and E-19, Figures 8 and 9 are poor quality reproductions. Is it possible to replace these figures with better quality/higher resolution figures?

Top of page E-31, states that 90th percentile values exceed the 0.15 mg/L numerical water quality objective for total nitrogen, and that “10% of the samples from each location exceeded the criterion.” The footnote to Table 13 indicates that because of the small number of samples at each depth, the 90th percentile value and the maximum are equivalent. Recommend that the text drop the statement that 10 percent of the samples exceeded the criterion.

Page E-32, Figure 14. Recommend that the range of values for the y-axis be changed from 0 to 8 mg/L, to 0 to 2 mg/L, in order to better observe results.

For Figures 17 and 18, recommend that the y-axis scale be changed from 0 to 8 mg/L to 0 to 2 mg/L in order to better present the results. If needed, add information to the legend regarding 8.0 mg/L. The quality of both figures is poor. Recommend replace them with better quality figure.

Figure 19, page E-39. Recommend that two sets of figures be prepared. For locations E1, E2, E3 W4, W5 W6, W7 and W8 change the y-axis scale from 0.00 to 0.30 mg/L to 0.00 to 0.10 mg/L to improve presentation of the results. For the remaining figures leave the y-

axis range as currently indicated. Add text to the discussion to alert the reader to the differences in the y-axis scales in the two sets of figures.

Figure 23, page E-50. Recommend that the legend be fixed, cannot tell which are bottom and which are surface location results.

Figure 24, page E-51. Recommend replace poor quality figure with one of better quality.

Figure 25, page E-56. Recommend that the legend be fixed, cannot tell which are bottom and which are surface location results.

Figure 26, page E-57. Recommend that the legend be fixed, cannot tell which are bottom and which are surface location results.

Page E-68. The discussion of pH figures includes parenthetical phrase “became more acidic” with increasing water depth. With the exception of the Lake Tallac locations, few recorded results at the various locations would be considered acidic...but in general the pH at the various lagoon locations moved towards a neutral pH with increasing depth. Recommend deleting the phrase “became more acidic” and replace it with “decreased towards a neutral pH.” Also, the figures appear to indicate significant seasonal differences in pH that could be included in the discussion.

Figure 30, page E-72. Need to fix the legend.

Figure 31, page E-73. Replace figure with better quality figure.

Lahontan RWQCB Basin Plan Review

Based on review of the “Proposed Waste Discharge Prohibition and Exemption Criteria Language Pesticide Basin Plan Amendment,” we noted that the Regional Board may consider application of pesticides in the cases of “public interest because they protect public health and safety or provide ecological preservation.” One of the exemptions is for “control of aquatic invasive species or other harmful organisms under emergency or non-emergency situations (e.g., control of harmful cyanobacteria blooms affecting a drinking water supply, control of aquatic invasive species interfering with safe navigation).” As noted in the exemption criteria, if the Water Board decides to approve an exemption and issue a permit, Water Board staff would propose numeric limits for each aquatic pesticide project, and requirements are intended to ensure that project design and implementation will not unreasonably affect beneficial uses. In addition, “if an aquatic pesticide project is allowed to occur, the Regional Board must find that the discharge complies with the antidegradation policies, and water quality objectives are restored within the treatment area, within the shortest time reasonably possible after the application event.”

This will be something to note once the Antidegradation Analysis is provided for review.



State Water Board addresses microplastics in drinking water to encourage public water system awareness

First in Nation Effort Begins Multi-Year Process Toward the Study and Monitoring of Public Water Supplies

June 16, 2020

Contact: Blair Robertson
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SACRAMENTO -- The State Water Board is leading an ambitious international effort to standardize methods for monitoring microplastics in drinking water, surface water, sediment and fish tissue. In a critical first step to further the understanding of microplastics in our drinking water and the environment, the Board today adopted an official definition of "[microplastics](#)" in drinking water.

The definition sets the foundation for a long-term approach to studying this ubiquitous contaminant, which recently has come into mainstream awareness as a major environmental challenge. Researchers believe further monitoring and study of microplastics in drinking water supplies and its implications for public health and safety are imperative.

"The science, research and understanding of microplastics is fast moving," said E. Joaquin Esquivel, chair of the State Water Board. "This first, but critical step, in establishing a definition of microplastics in drinking water will provide the basis for further investigation and work at the Water Boards. Plastic pollution is a challenge throughout our watersheds, from large plastics such as bottles, bags, and other refuse, to microscopic pieces that this definition attempts to better define. We must find ways to comprehensively address the problem, and the Water Board looks forward to guiding the discussion on how best to do so."

Microplastics are plastic particles less than 5 millimeters in length - a size that has long concerned scientists due to its potential ingestion by animals. Many of these particles are much smaller and can only be seen through a microscope. While other state, national and international agencies have defined microplastics, California's definition is the first to focus specifically on microplastics in drinking water.

Today's State Water Board action is in response to [Senate Bill 1422](#), legislation passed in 2018 that required Board adoption of a definition of microplastics in drinking water by



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

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July 1 of this year. Specifically, the bill mandates establishment by July 1, 2021, of a standard methodology that requires four years of testing and reporting the results, including public disclosure of the findings.

As a result of the legislation related to microplastics in drinking water, as well as [Senate Bill 1263](#) that requires adoption of a Statewide Microplastics Strategy to protect coastal waters, the State Water Board is collaborating with the Ocean Protection Council and the Southern California Coastal Water Research Program to lead an ambitious, international effort to standardize [methods for monitoring microplastics](#) in drinking water, surface water, sediment and fish tissue. Experts will convene to better understand the human health and ecological effects. For more information, please visit the State Water Board's Division of Drinking Water Program's [resources page](#).

The State Water Board's [mission](#) is to preserve, enhance and restore the quality of California's water resources and drinking water for the protection of the environment, public health and all beneficial uses, and to ensure proper water resource allocation and efficient use for current and future generations.

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