

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

**MEETING OF JANUARY 14 AND 15, 2009
Truckee**

ITEM: 1

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

DISCUSSION: The Executive Officer's report includes the following:

- Enclosure 1: Report on Status of Standing Items (January 2009)
- Enclosure 2: Executive Officer's Written Report (December 2008 - January 2009)
- Enclosure 3: Notification of Spills
- Enclosure 4: Notification of Closure of Underground Storage Tank Cases (Pursuant to Article 11, Division 3, Chapter 16, Title 23, California Code of Regulations)

01-0001

ENCLOSURE 1

Report on Status of Standing Items (January 2009)

01-0002

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

REPORT ON STATUS OF STANDING ITEMS

January 2009

The Regional Board has requested that it be kept informed of the status of a number of issues. The following table lists the items, the reporting frequency and where the report can be found.

ISSUE	REPORT FREQUENCY	STATUS/COMMENT
Timber Policy Update	January 2009	EO Report Item No. 3
City of Barstow	Quarterly in the South	Due April 2009 Board Meeting
Searles Valley Minerals Operations - Compliance Status	Semi-Annual	Due May 2009 Board Meeting
Mojave River/El Mirage Dairies	Semi-Annual	Due April 2009 Board Meeting
County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles - District No. 14	Semi-Annual	Due April 2009 Board Meeting
County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles - District No. 20	Semi-Annual	Due April 2009 Board Meeting
Status of Basin Plan Amendments	Semi-Annual	Due April 2009 Board Meeting
Status of Grants	Semi-Annual	Due April 2009 Board Meeting
Wetland Restoration Mitigation - Mono County	Annually	Due May 2009 Board Meeting
Caltrans Statewide General Permit/Tahoe Basin	Annually	Due March 2009 Board Meeting
Tahoe Municipal Permit	Annually	Due July 2009 Board Meeting

01-0003

ENCLOSURE 2

Executive Officer's Written Report (December 2008 – January 2009)

01-0004



EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

December 2008 - January 2009

NORTH BASIN

1. **USEPA- Federal Fiscal Year 2008
National Leaking Underground
Storage Tank (LUST) Program Update
(Brian Grey)**

Each federal fiscal year, USEPA provides a progress update of the LUST program in California and nationally. Below is a summary of the key findings in the USEPA's LUST program progress report for the 2008 federal fiscal year:

All California Regions

- Closure rate in California is significantly slower than the national average- 7% vs. 11%
- Cost per cleanup is significantly higher in California than nationally- over \$400,000 vs. \$127,000

Lahontan Water Board (Region 6)

- Regional Board lead cases closed within last four years as percentage of total cases – Tahoe=28.8%; Victorville=25.7%; Average of all Regional Boards=17.1%
- Average cost per cleanup- Tahoe=\$472,995; Victorville=\$315,853; Average of all Regional Boards=\$290,588

- Average age of cases in the UST Cleanup Fund (years) - Tahoe=14.6; Victorville=10.4; Average of all Regional Boards=14.4

- Distribution of Open Cases in California- Tahoe=1.3%; Victorville=2.7%

Based on the findings in the report, the USEPA provided the following "Suggested Program Goals":

- Decrease age of open cases
- Increase electronic submittal of information compliance
- Increase the efficiency in use of state cleanup funds
- Improve Geotracker data quality
- Eliminate dormant cases
- Reduce the carbon footprint of cleanup process

The USEPA report indicates that the Lahontan Water Board has been successful in administering the LUST program. During the previous four years, the Lahontan Water Board has closed the highest percentage of cases statewide with the exception of the San Diego region. The high closure rate in the last four years is especially noteworthy since the Lahontan Water Board is consistently among the most stringent in enforcing its Basin Plan.

This suggests that Lahontan Water Board staff are effectively working with responsible parties to conduct efficient corrective actions. Although the Region 6 Tahoe cost per cleanup is the highest in the state, the average costs are skewed by the numerous MTBE cleanups in the South Lake Tahoe area to protect South Tahoe Public Utility District's and Lukin Brother's Water District municipal supply wells.

Board Staff's current LUST work plan is consistent with the goals identified by the USEPA. Staff is diligently working toward the goals identified in the USEPA's report and the Lahontan Water Board's LUST work plan.

2. **Desert View Dairy Groundwater Pollution, Hinkley - Lisa Dernbach**

Groundwater beneath and downgradient of the Desert View Dairy in Hinkley has been polluted with nitrate and salts above the drinking water standards. Up to 240 milligrams per liter nitrate as NO_3 have been detected in domestic wells on five off-site properties; the drinking water standard for nitrate as NO_3 is 45 milligrams per liter. As a result, on November 10, 2008, I issued a cleanup and abatement order to the responsible parties of the Dairy, including the operator, Paul Ryken, the current land owner, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, a former land owner, K&H Van Vliet Children LLC, and two former operators, Flameling Dairy and the Nick Van Vliet Estate.

The Order requires the parties to provide an alternate water supply to affected residents and to issue notices to other nearby residents threatened by the groundwater pollution. The parties have complied with both requirements. The Order also requires quarterly monitoring to evaluate nitrate levels over time and to

determine if other properties are being adversely affected. Quarterly monitoring is planned to occur before the end of the year and the monitoring report is due by January 31, 2009. On December 9, 2008, Paul Ryken and the Nick Van Vliet Estate petitioned the Order to the State Water Board and asked for a stay of the requirements for monitoring and reporting. The Flameling Dairy also filed a petition with the State Water Board, but they asked that their petition be held in abeyance because others were complying with the Order.

3. **Water Board Staff host region-wide workshops and invite comment on the initial draft of the Revised Timber Waiver – Andrea Stanley**

On November 5, 2008, Water Board staff distributed a working draft of the revised Timber Waiver for an informal 30-day review. Water Board staff coupled this early review with a number of informal workshops in Susanville, Truckee, Kings Beach, Bishop, and San Bernardino. At these workshops Water Board staff presented the draft and discussed implications, concerns, and recommendations from the regulated and interested public. Meeting attendees included representatives from the U.S. Forest Service, Fire Protection Districts, Fire Safe Councils, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Commercial Timber Industry, California Department of Fish and Game, California State Parks, California Tahoe Conservancy, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, local government entities, US EPA, Sierra Forest Legacy, and the League to Save Lake Tahoe.

Water Board staff are currently making modifications to the draft Timber Waiver based on feedback received during the informal comment period, and are completing the required environmental analysis. I anticipate the official CEQA

comment period to begin at the end of December upon distribution of the proposed Timber Wavier and environmental document. I plan to ask the Water Board to consider adoption of the revised waiver at its March 11-12, 2009 regular meeting.

4. **Proposition 84 Agricultural Water Quality Grant Program – Carly Nilson**

The State Board approved nearly \$14 M of Proposition 84 bond funds for agricultural projects around the state of California. Lahontan Water Board received \$1 M of these funds for the project *Bacterial Source Tracking (BST), Grazing Management Practice (GM) Implementation and Assessment for Watersheds in the Lahontan Region*.

Board staff posted the Request for Qualifications on the Lahontan Water Board website with a deadline of January 30, 2009 for submittals. The tentative deadline to select the grantee is February 27, 2009 and the project is expected to be underway by April 1, 2009. These grant funds are being solicited to public agencies and non-profit organizations that will work with landowners in providing grazing management practices.

Once the project is initiated in April, the first year will involve identifying the sources of bacteriological water quality impairments. Waterbodies targeted will include those 303(d)-listed for bacteria, waterbodies not yet listed as impaired but have potential water quality impairments from bacteria, waterbodies where there might be multiple bacteria sources, and waterbodies where public complaints have been registered concerning potential bacteriological pollution.

The second, third, and fourth year will constitute the implementation of grazing management practices and the evaluation of the effectiveness of the management

practices. This is a great opportunity for ranchers (landowners and operators) to protect water resources with primary funding from the state through the Water Board. The expected project end date is March 31, 2013.

5. **Lahontan Staff Presentations at Stormwater Enforcement Workshops - Bruce Warden**

The Water Board Training Academy held two Stormwater Enforcement Workshops this fall. Presenters and attendees were from the Water Board, Cal EPA, California Department of Fish and Game, California District Attorneys Association and the US EPA. Some key topics included:

- Access, Entry, and Warrants
- Water Board Enforcement Legal Perspectives
- Report Writing – A Prosecutor's Perspective
- Cal DFG Permitting and Enforcement
- US EPA Stormwater Enforcement
- Water Quality Sampling for Stormwater Enforcement
- Stormwater Inspections
- Stormwater Hydrology
- Industrial Annual Report Enforcement

The training was developed by John Steude, Lahontan staff on loan to a CalEPA enforcement task force, in collaboration with State Water Board staff. In addition to facilitating the workshops, John made presentations on elements of stormwater violations and interviewing dischargers. Bruce Warden, Lahontan staff, presented a section on Water Quality Sampling for Stormwater Enforcement. The talk was so well received that Dr. Warden has been requested by staff and management to present an expanded follow-up training session on water quality sampling to Lahontan staff.

One of the most outstanding features of the workshop was the direct information sharing between attorneys and technical staff and between technical staff of all agencies in attendance. An outcome of this workshop will be greater collaboration between attorneys and technical staff and between technical staff of different agencies, leading to more effective enforcement of water code violations.

6. **Lake Tahoe TMDL Management System Proposal** - Hannah Schembri

The US EPA submitted a proposal for funding the development and first year-of operations for the Lake Tahoe TMDL Management System. The US EPA wrote the proposal in partnership with TMDL staff from the Lahontan Water Board and Nevada Division of Environmental Protection. This project will help fulfill the federal funding share of the Environmental Improvement Project (EIP) from the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA) Round 10 Capital Projects.

The Lake Tahoe TMDL Management System will be the primary guidance for implementing the Lake Tahoe TMDL and reporting information to the public about water quality improvement. The management system will: 1) ensure scientific and monitoring findings are incorporated into models and policies; 2) inform the public about how capital investments and maintenance practices are resulting in benefits to lake clarity; and, 3) establish the venue for determining what innovations should be widely implemented to improve project effectiveness.

This project will bring together the parties involved in implementing the TMDL to define a set of operations to coordinate monitoring, reporting, policy, and decisions. The project includes building operational tools (online public reporting

and activity tracking systems) and developing reporting templates (synthesis of findings report and management recommendations memos). Finally, this project will facilitate product development and interagency and stakeholder communications through the first full year of operations.

The proposal is based on the "Plan-Do-Check-Act" cycle and includes elements of both continuous improvement and adaptive management. The management system structures communication between agency policy makers and researchers to identify areas of uncertainty and systematically incorporate scientific findings into management decisions. The continual improvement portion of the cycle for the TMDL focuses on tracking and evaluating program and project implementation and regulatory compliance to understand the effectiveness of policy implementation. These practices will enable the agencies to report load reductions and credit production relative to TMDL milestones.

Without a defined system, the Lake Tahoe TMDL program will be unable to effectively track load reduction progress from the forested uplands, stream channel, or atmospheric source categories. Significant reductions in fine sediment particle and nutrient loads must occur across all source categories to ultimately restore Lake Tahoe's historic clarity.

7. **Swiss Mart Gas Station, El Dorado County** - Lisa Dernbach

Following 10 months of violations, the owner and operator of the Swiss Mart Gas Station in South Lake Tahoe have come into compliance with a cleanup and abatement order I issued in December 2007. The Order required the responsible parties to take the following actions: (1) provide an alternate water supply to the

affected domestic well owner, (2) identify and stop the source of the release, (3) conduct groundwater monitoring and submit technical reports, (4) conduct interim remediation to contain plume migration, (5) investigate the extent of the discharge, and (6) propose clean up of contamination in soil and groundwater. The responsible parties for the site are Sarbjit S. Kang and the Kang Property, Incorporated.

From the onset, the responsible parties did not comply with the Order, despite repeated contacts by Board staff. This included failure to provide alternate water supply to the residents of a home having a domestic well with levels of benzene above the drinking water standard. Notices of Violation were issued informing the responsible parties of potential additional enforcement action if violations continued.

In August, the Water Board started receiving overdue technical reports. Of the ten technical reports required in the Order, only one was submitted by the listed deadline. On the positive side, recent groundwater monitoring reports show contamination levels have decreased significantly and only low levels of petroleum hydrocarbons below drinking water standards remain at the site. By October, the parties were in compliance with all requirements in the Order.

8. **Lake Tahoe TMDL Implementation Tools** – Robert Larsen

As Water Board staff work to complete the Lake Tahoe TMDL document, consultant teams are developing a number support tools to facilitate TMDL implementation. These tools will provide the framework for estimating urban upland pollutant load reductions, tracking progress toward meeting TMDL milestones, and regulating municipal stormwater dischargers.

The Water Board has contracted with Environmental Incentives, LLC to create a water quality crediting program to link water quality improvement projects and related actions within the urban landscape to load reduction estimates. The crediting program is intended to provide implementation flexibility, encourage effective and innovative practices, foster cooperative water quality improvement efforts, and provide a consistent methodology to assess Municipal NPDES Storm Water Permit compliance.

Northwest Hydraulics, Inc. is working under contract with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to develop the Pollutant Load Reduction Model that will provide a user-friendly tool to evaluate pre- and post-project pollutant loads. Once complete, the model will offer implementing agencies a convenient and simple desktop modeling tool to evaluate load reduction opportunities and conduct more detailed alternative analyses.

Two Rapid Assessment Methodology projects are underway to develop standardized, defensible and low-cost protocols to link the physical condition of roadways and water quality treatment features to water quality impacts and/or improvements. The Roads methodology is intended to assess relative urban roadway conditions with respect to pollutant accumulation and pollutant transport risk. An Operations and Maintenance methodology will evaluate the relative operational condition of conveyance and treatment BMPs to help identify the urgency of needed maintenance actions.

Finally, a Load Reduction Tracking and Accounting system will produce a comprehensive database to track actual pollutant load reductions from the four primary pollutant sources, account for water quality credit generation and

maintenance, and link credits to fine sediment particle and nutrient load reductions. The Tracking and Accounting system will allow Water Board staff to adaptively manage urban upland load reduction estimates over time to ensure the most accurate assessment of TMDL progress.

9. **Caltrans Sheet Flow Treatment Mapping, Lake Tahoe Watershed - Bud Amorfini**

The current Caltrans statewide National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit (Permit) requires treating all roadway runoff in the Lake Tahoe watershed by infiltrating the 20-year, 1-hour storm runoff from all impervious surfaces or otherwise treating the wastes to meet numeric effluent limits established for storm water discharges. In contrast, the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) approach being developed for Lake Tahoe focuses on a strategy to prioritize and treat discharges where pollutant loading to Lake Tahoe and its tributaries is the greatest. Staff has encouraged Caltrans District 3 to develop a strategy that is consistent with the TMDL approach and is simultaneously working with the State Water Board to revise the Permit to reflect the TMDL approach. (The State Water Board plans to reissue the Permit sometime in 2009.)

In the interim, Caltrans District 3 initiated a study along State route 89 on the west shore. The study is called NEAT or natural environment as treatment and involved mapping to identify roadway segments in three categories: (1) segments where it may be effective to maintain existing conditions (segments with sheet flow runoff, or no direct hydraulic connection to surface waters based on distance to surface waters, soil and vegetation conditions, and slope); (2) segments that can be modified to create conditions equivalent to category (1)

above; and (3) segments that will require engineered treatment such as infiltration basins and treatment vaults to get the necessary pollutant reductions (areas of concentrated, or direct runoff to surface waters, or with large pollutant loads without other attenuating factors). Results of the study will be used to determine where there are opportunities for natural treatment versus areas where engineered treatment is needed to meet water quality goals.

Final work products are expected in January 2009 and will include map files that can be accessed through the internet and used by both Caltrans District 3 designers and Water Board staff. Initial results reviewed by staff identify potentially significant cost savings by avoiding work in areas where low pollutant loading to surface waters is expected and focusing treatment design activities on higher-priority areas. This is in keeping with the above-mentioned TMDL approach that is intended to produce the greatest pollutant reduction per invested dollar.

10. **Alpine County Studies Groundwater Monitoring for South Tahoe Public Utility District Wastewater Recycling Areas - Rob Tucker**

The South Tahoe Public Utility District (District) disposes of all the treated wastewater generated in El Dorado County portions of the Lake Tahoe watershed by recycling the wastewater for agricultural use in neighboring Alpine County. Alpine County conducts independent oversight activities to evaluate the effects of the wastewater recycling on surface water, ground water, and soil resources in Alpine County. On November 17, 2008, the District Contract Commission for Alpine County (Commission) held a public meeting to discuss a report produced by its contractor, Alisto Engineering Group

(Alisto), that evaluated the adequacy of the current groundwater monitoring conducted by the District to monitor the potential impacts of recycled water use on water quality in existing and future land application areas.

The District treats wastewater from the South Lake Tahoe area and pipes it to Harvey Place Reservoir in Alpine County for storage. Several ranchers use the water to flood irrigate their fodder crops and pastures during the growing season. The District is subject to waste discharge requirements from the Water Board that include requirements to monitor the groundwater for potential impacts to water quality.

The purpose of the meeting was to determine if the Commission would accept Alisto's report. Alisto centered its study on the groundwater hydraulics. Alisto compiled reports and data on the wastewater application program, surveyed existing groundwater monitoring wells to establish elevations, collected four quarters of water-level data, evaluated historic water levels and visually inspected all the monitoring wells. From the data collected and reviewed, Alisto found the groundwater for the Diamond Valley, Wade Valley, and South Carson Valley are hydraulically connected. They also reported that, though the valleys are hydraulically connected, there are an insufficient number of monitoring wells to reliably characterize the groundwater gradient and flow direction. "Because of this limitation in the current monitoring network, it is likely that the groundwater quality data collected for this area is also not sufficient to properly evaluate the impact of the present and future discharges of recycled wastewater on groundwater quality within the project area." Alisto's presentation summary to the Commission was that the current monitoring of the groundwater is inadequate to monitor flow conditions and

quality. Recommendations from Alisto included installation of 10 additional monitoring wells in Carson and Wade Valleys, and 17 additional wells in Diamond Valley. The District currently samples 21 wells in Alpine County on a monthly basis.

The Commission accepted the report and then deliberated on actions it could take to get the District to begin implementing the recommendations in the report. District staff reminded the Commissioners that the Water Board requires the District to monitor certain monitoring wells. Water Board staff requested the Commission consider waiting to take action with respect to the report to allow Water Board staff to review it and consider the recommendations. Water Board and District staff agreed to meet again with the Commission in March 2009 to discuss any changes that the Water Board staff would recommend to District monitoring requirements. (Staff will likely support implementing certain recommendations in the report.) The Commission postponed further action in the matter.

***11. State Water Board Workshop in Susanville on Draft Statewide Regulations for Onsite Waste Treatment Systems, Lassen County - Rob Tucker**

The State Water Board staff held an evening workshop on December 11, 2008, on draft statewide regulations for septic tanks and other onsite waste treatment systems (OWTS). Similar workshops are being held around the State. State Board member Charles Hoppin attended with staff James Giannopoulos, Todd Thompson, and Ted Cobb. An estimated 200 persons attended the meeting.

The evening started with a presentation by Mr. Giannopoulos, who asserted that probably over 90 percent of the septic

systems are failing from the standpoint that they are adversely affecting the groundwater quality. Mr. Giannopoulos acknowledged that most local agency health directors would provide substantially lower failure estimates based on human health or nuisance considerations. Mr. Giannopoulos indicated that problems identified with septic systems in Southern California are what stimulated the legislature to mandate that the State Water Board adopt the proposed statewide regulations. The notion that a Southern California problem was why regulations were being required to be produced did not go over well with the rural Northern California audience.

Proposed requirements for new OWTS were presented and include the following: 1) a qualified professional must perform a site assessment prior to construction, 2) the septic system must have an effluent filter device to retain excess solids, 3) a three-foot minimum soil depth to groundwater or impermeable layer must exist, 4) a two-foot minimum soil depth must exist for disposal with supplemental treatment, 5) septic systems with pumps must have malfunction alarms and emergency capacity to store waste for 24 hours, and 6) new and/or replaced systems must have operation and maintenance manuals for property owners. The draft regulations include requiring current septic tank owners to have their septic tanks inspected by a qualified individual every five years for solids build up and, if they have an onsite drinking water well, requirements to test the groundwater and submit the test results to the State Water Board for a statewide database.

Testimony was heard until everyone had a chance to speak. The overriding response from the crowd was that they did not support the proposed statewide standards. Several speakers brought up the worst-case-scenario of having to

install or replace existing systems with small treatment plant systems (costing from \$35,000 to \$45,000). These "supplemental systems" would be required for a new septic system that is located within 600 feet of a 303(d) listed surface water designated impaired from septic system effluent. The supplemental systems must provide additional treatment and better quality effluent being discharged into the subsurface.

The four County health agencies (Lassen, Plumas, Modoc and Sierra) had representatives present and gave similar statements opposing the draft regulations as unneeded, indicating they were too standardized and do not take into account local conditions. The regulations will be costly and do not provide needed flexibility.

On February 9, 2009, after the workshops around the State are completed, the State Water Board will hold a hearing to consider adopting the draft regulations for OWTS and the associated environmental impact report. Lahontan Water Board Staff is considering whether to proceed with renewing the current Lahontan OWTS waiver policy which will expire in June 2009, or wait for the new State Board regulations.

12. ***Sewage Spill in Lassen County - Rob Tucker***

On December 2, 2008, the Susanville Sanitary District (District) responded to a complaint of sewage odors at Sleepy Hollow Mobile Home Park in Susanville. The District found untreated sewage spilling out of a manhole near the mobile home park and flowing onto wetlands below the high water mark of Barry Reservoir. Barry Reservoir is an impoundment on Barry Creek, a tributary to the Susan River, used to irrigate a ranch and was dry at the time of the spill. The District removed a traffic cone

vandals had placed into the collection system to block the flow, and restored collection system flow. It is unclear how long the blockage was in place.

The spill was not reported to the State Office of Emergency Services (OES) by the District in the manner required by law. This is a potentially significant violation because clean up and agency response coordination was likely impeded. The spill was reported to the Water Board and the County Health Department and by then the District had been using portable pumps to pump liquids back into the sewer system and had started removing the solid debris.

The District has provided a spill report for staff review. The amount spilled was estimated by the District, after review of influent flow records, at approximately one million gallons, most of which soaked into the soil. The District has not yet provided its estimate of the amount of liquids it recovered and placed back into the collection system. Approximately 20 cubic yards of solids were removed from the spill area.

Staff is currently reviewing the information and evaluating the violations; additional information may be requested. The District has plans to replace the manhole cover with one that bolts down to deter further vandalism. Liability for spills is generally not pursued in cases of vandalism, and the District is taking voluntary measures to secure the manhole cover. However, Staff may consider pursuing enforcement for the reporting violation after reviewing all the facts.

13. ***New Interagency Group to Address Aquatic Invasive Species*** — Thomas Suk

In an effort to tackle increasing problems caused by aquatic invasive species (AIS),

the California Resources Agency has formed the "California Agencies Aquatic Invasive Species Team" (CAAIST). The CAAIST (pronounced "cased") will meet 3-4 times per year to coordinate actions among all state agencies to implement the new *California Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan* ("the AIS Plan"). The AIS Plan went through public hearings and was signed by Governor Schwarzenegger in January 2008, and approved shortly thereafter by the federal Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force. The federal approval made some federal funds available to California for addressing AIS issues.

The CAAIST was formed by The Resources Agency and is staffed with 2-3 dedicated staff at the Dept. of Fish and Game's Sacramento headquarters. Staff attended the kick-off meeting of the CAAIST on December 1. The State Water Board, most Regional Water Boards, and most other involved agencies were represented.

The leaders of the CAAIST (i.e., CDFG staff) asked all agencies in attendance if they could commit staff time, money, and/or contractors to achieve the 100+ goals of the AIS Plan. The Water Board representatives all expressed their inability to commit resources to the CAAIST at this time, due to our tremendous workloads and multiple competing priorities. The CDFG/Resources reps then asked that the Water Boards consider utilizing SEPs and/or the CAA to address AIS education, prevention, control, etc., citing the need to implement the governor's new AIS Plan.

To achieve the goals of the AIS Plan, The Resources Agency intends to form seven "management committees" under the CAAIST to formulate specific state agency responses to AIS and to implement the AIS Plan. These committees would be comprised of state agency personnel only.

The committees are: 1) Coordination and Collaboration; 2) Early Detection and Monitoring; 3) Rapid Response & Eradication; 4) Long-Term Control; 5) Education & Outreach; 6) Research; and 7) Laws & Regulations.

The Resources Agency also intends to form a larger "workgroup" under the CAAIST that will include multiple stakeholders, such as federal agencies (i.e., USFS, NPS, NOAA, USGS, USFWS, etc.), research institutions (i.e., UC, CSU, SFEI, etc.), and NGO stakeholders (i.e., CA Invasive Plant Council, Pet Industry Council, CalTrout, Nature Conservancy, CoastKeepers Alliance, Agricultural Commissioners Association, etc.). This multi-stakeholder group would be called the "Aquatic Invasive Species Working Group" (AISWG), and it would "advise" the CAAIST and perhaps produce some consensus actions that could be implemented by its many members. The Resources Agency envisions that both standing and *ad hoc* committees would be formed under the AISWG to do most of the work. The AISWG may have committees similar or identical to the seven "management committees" listed above. The State Water Board's representative asked why there will be "duplicative" committees under both the CAAIST and the AISWG; the response was that The Resources Agency believes there is a need for both a state agency group to determine state priorities and policies, and a separate "stakeholder" group where the various interests can express their positions and perhaps achieve some consensus, but not delay the needed state agency discussions.

At this time, I do not intend to commit our staff to any of the committees. We will attend the overarching CAAIST meetings 3-4 times per year to stay informed, and continue to work as necessary on local/regional AIS issues such as millfoil, corbicula, New Zealand mudsnail, fish

removals, etc. We do not have time (absent new funding) to participate substantially in these new statewide AIS efforts.

The AIS Plan is available on-line at:
<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/invasives/>

14. **Proposition 84 Agricultural Water Quality Grant Program – Carly Nilson**

The State Board approved nearly \$14 M of Proposition 84 bond funds for agricultural projects around the state of California. Lahontan Water Board received \$1 million of these funds for the project *Bacterial Source Tracking (BST), Grazing Management Practice (GM) Implementation and Assessment for Watersheds in the Lahontan Region*. The Request for Qualifications is currently posted on the Lahontan Water Board website with a deadline of January 30, 2009 for submittals. These grant funds are for public agencies or non-profit organizations that will work with landowners in providing grazing management practices. Once the project is initiated, the first year will involve identifying the sources of bacteriological water quality impairments. Waterbodies targeted will include 303(d)-listed for bacteria, waterbodies not yet listed as impaired but have potential water quality impairments from bacteria, and waterbodies where public complaints have been registered concerning potential bacteriological pollution. In the second, third and fourth year, grazing management practices will be implemented and the effectiveness of the management practices will be evaluated. This is a great opportunity for ranchers (landowners and operators) to protect water resources with primary funding through the Water Board.

SOUTH BASIN

15. Mojave River Watershed Storm Management Program – Brianna Bergen

The City of Victorville, the City of Hesperia, the Town of Apple Valley, and San Bernardino County conducted the Fourth Annual Public Workshop on November 6, 2008, to update the community about stormwater programs and related activities over the past year. A focused effort has been made at “do-it-yourself” centers such as Home Depot and Lowes, and stores such as Target, to educate the public regarding how to properly handle wastes that might otherwise be discharged to a storm drain. Fliers have been distributed at these local businesses providing information on reduced watering of landscaping, or alternatives to landscaping that require watering, such as replacing grass lawns with drought-tolerant native plants. As a result of the public outreach, two local schools independently organized trash pick-up days. In addition to public outreach, the following activities are also being implemented to increase the quality of storm water.

- The cities and county have also increased the training of their employees to conduct more efficient storm water inspections.
- The City of Hesperia now requires basins, either retention or detention basins, as part of the post-construction best management practices (BMPs) prior to approval of any new development.
- Street sweeping activities and litter collection have led to the proper disposal of several tons of trash that might have otherwise been introduced to the storm drain system.

The meeting concluded with a brief discussion of potential implications of the new storm water construction permit, including new requirements for construction sites, specifically potential changes in the application process and requirements for Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans.

16. San Bernardino County System Wide Maintenance Permit - Mary Dellavalle

San Bernardino County has consulted with the State Board and the Lahontan Water Board for a long-term dredge and fill permit for routine maintenance at existing flood control facilities and road culverts throughout the entire county. San Bernardino County is proposing a multi-region, system-wide permit to streamline the permitting process that should be more efficient and cost effective than applying for multiple permits for maintenance at its various facilities. The proposed system-wide permit would include all County owned facilities in the Colorado River, Santa Ana and Lahontan Regions except along the Mojave River. The Mojave River will be covered under a separate individual permit in order to address concerns specific to the Mojave River.

San Bernardino County presented data on its flood control facilities at a multi-agency meeting on October 30, 2008. San Bernardino County maintains more than 8,000 road culverts and 1,000 flood control facilities that include basins, channels, and natural waters. Regulatory permitting for the flood control maintenance involves a number of Federal and State agencies often involving a number of overlapping jurisdictional boundaries. Some of the facilities require 404/401 permits through US Army Corps of Engineers and other

facilities are non-jurisdictional waters of the State that will require permitting through Waste Discharge Requirements.

Water Board staff will be working with staff from San Bernardino County and other agencies to define what is considered to be "routine maintenance" in natural water ways. Dredging, channeling, altering of stream shape, clearing of vegetation, and adding hardscape to streams and other waters can result in increased erosion and degradation of the following stream functions:

- Flood plain and holding capacity during storm peaks;
- Capacity to buffer the flashiness of floods;
- Capacity to slow the velocity of flood waters;
- Capacity to reduce floodwater volume,
- Loss of ground water recharge;
- Loss of water cleaning capacity;
- Drop in flood plain water table;
- Loss of habitat value, and
- Chronic loss of wetland function.

Staff will work with the involved agencies to address these issues as part of review of the system-wide permit application.

**17. Godde Hill Road Drainage Basin -
Douglas Feay and Patrice Copeland**

In October 2008, the Water Board received and investigated a complaint regarding dumping of oil in a stormwater retention basin located next to the California Aqueduct in the City of Palmdale. The complainant witnessed a truck dumping what looked like thick oil onto the ground at the bottom of the stormwater basin. City of Palmdale emblems were affixed to the truck. Approximately two weeks earlier, the complainant had noticed two large, dark

colored, trash-strune areas (each approximately 50X50 feet) located in the same stormwater basin. The complainant had contacted the local police department but was not satisfied with the response and then notified the Antelope Valley Press, who notified Water Board staff about this complaint.

Water Board staff contacted the City of Palmdale, Public Works Department, to discuss this complaint. City staff admitted that public works employees routinely discard unused asphalt emulsion in stormwater basins, as well as liquid/solid wastes vacuumed from dry wells and catch basins. In addition, public works employees also used diesel fuel to clean the asphalt emulsion from equipment in the stormwater basins. Water Board staff met with City staff and the City's consultant and conducted an inspection at the Godde Hill stormwater basin.

On November 4, 2008, I issued a 13267 Order requiring the City of Palmdale to submit a Soil Investigation/Cleanup Work Plan by November 6, 2008; a Soil Investigation Report by December 5, 2008; and a Historic Discharge Report by December 5, 2008. Water Board staff reviewed and accepted the Cleanup Work Plan, which was submitted on time. During the soil investigation, which occurred from November 12 to 13, 2008, the City of Palmdale removed 327 tons of debris and excavated 250 cubic yards of contaminated soil. Affected areas were excavated to a depth of one foot below the ground surface and confirmatory soil samples were taken at that depth to verify that all contaminated soil was removed. Water Board staff is currently receiving the Soil Investigation Report. The Historic Discharge Report has yet to be submitted.

18. **Antelope Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan** – Patrice Copeland

Over the past two years, member agencies of the Antelope Valley Regional Water Management Group have met and developed an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP). The purpose of the IRWMP is to develop a watershed-based approach for addressing water supply, water quality, flood control, land use, and environmental resource management as related to the Antelope Valley.

Water Board staff attended a meeting on December 10, 2008. During this meeting, member agency representatives and interested stakeholders discussed the group's draft revised Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which will likely be finalized by January 2009. The MOU is necessary to sustain the IRWMP and assist the group with its plans to apply for grant funding of water-related projects in the Antelope Valley. To this end, the group decided to re-form its technical committee to aid in selecting and prioritizing one or two projects to submit to the State for Proposition 84 grant funds to meet the long-term water supply needs of the region. To qualify, the projects must be implementation projects, not just plans or studies. Proposition 84 guidelines are expected to be released early 2009. In addition, the group discussed its intent to develop a Salt Management Plan to assist the region in managing salts and nutrient loading in the Antelope Valley; this will be a cooperative effort, and grants for this project may also be available. Water conservation coalition and website information sub-committees also reported to the group. The next Antelope Valley Regional Water Management Group meeting is planned for January 21, 2009.

ENCLOSURE 3

Notification of Spills (Unauthorized Waste Discharges)

01-0018

EO'S Monthly Report
10/16/08 - 11/15/08
Unauthorized Waste Discharges

COUNTY SAN BERNARDINO

Discharger/Facility	Location	Basin	Regulated Facility	Substance Discharged	Spill Date	Discharge Volume	Description of Failure	Discharge To	Status
Cemex / Apple Valley Quarry	25220 Black Mountain Quarry Road, Apple Valley	<input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	Diesel	10/16/2008	100 gallons	Drill rig working near a bulldozer lowered its boom to change locations and collided with the bulldozer's diesel tank.	Ground	Clean-up complete. No further action recommended.
Adelanto / Adelanto Lift Station	Adelanto Lift Station off Musrat Rd., Adelanto	<input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	Domestic Waste Water	10/17/2008	3,000 gallons	Debris jammed the pump, the level sensor malfunctioned, the domestic waste water exceeded the maximum level in the lift station and spilled to the ground.	Ground	Dirt conatinated with waste wat was removed. Pump station level sensor repaired. No further action recommended.
City of Victorville / Sanitary Sewer	La Paz Drive between Hughes and Pebble Beach, Victorville	<input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	Sewage	11/12/2008	1000 gallons	A foreign object created a blockage which caused overflow onto La Paz Drive and into the adjacent wash. The blockage was removed and the overflow was stopped.	Ground	Disinfectant was applied to the ar and the fluid that was on the stree was cleaned up. Some waste wat soaked into the ground. No furthe action recommended.
McDonnell Construction / Silverwood Lake	Silverwood Lake loading dock	<input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> N	Bagged Ready-Mix Cement	11/13/2008	5 pallets	While loading a barge at the loading dock, the barge tilted and released five pallets of bagged ready-mix cement into 10-15 feet of water at the launch ramp. Each bag contained 30 pounds of dry cement, and each pallet contained 60 bags. Some of the bags were broken open while others remained intact.	Silverwood Lake	Some product was removed with a front loader, but the remaining material is located too deep for removal with conventional equipment. Alternative removal methods are being discussed. The park ranger observed no apparent stress to aquatic communities in th vicinity of the release. The incident is pending further investigation wi the park service. An NOV was issued January 9, 2009.

01-0015

EO'S Monthly Report
 11/16/08 - 12/15/08
 Unauthorized Waste Discharges

COUNTY: KERN

Discharger/Facility	Location	Basin	Regulated Facility	Substance Discharged	Spill Date	Discharge Volume	Description of Failure	Discharge To	Status
Department of the Air Force / Edwards Air Force Base	Hangar 151, Edwards Air Force Base	<input type="checkbox"/> S	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	Hydraulic Fluid (SkyDrol)	11/16/2008	20 gallons	40 gallons were released from an aircraft wing onto the hangar floor. This volume drained to a concrete containment trench and was later washed down into a collection sump. The remaining amount occurred when a hose breached. About 20 gallons were released to the soil outside of the hangar.	ground	Soil was excavated and removed for appropriate disposal. Cleanup complete. No further action recommended.

COUNTY: LASSEN

Discharger/Facility	Location	Basin	Regulated Facility	Substance Discharged	Spill Date	Discharge Volume	Description of Failure	Discharge To	Status
Susanville Sanitary District	Manhole H4 in open field adjacent to Hwy 139	<input type="checkbox"/> N	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	Raw sewage	12/1/2008	1,000,000 gallons	A traffic cone was dropped in a manhole by vandals.	Ground; Barry Reservoir	The District hired a contractor to pump liquids back into the sewer. Contractor was on site for 4-5 days. 20 cubic yards of solids were removed. District is purchasing a locking manhole cover to replace the current one. Fish & Game inspected the area and requested no disinfectants be used. The EO's Report contains further details.

01-0020

Discharger/Facility	Location	Basin	Regulated Facility	Substance Discharged	Spill Date	Discharge Volume	Description of Failure	Discharge To	Status
City of Adelanto / Adelanto Public Utility Authority	Jonathan Street and Bartlett Avenue, Adelanto	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sewage	11/16/2008	1,925 gallons	Vandals placed material in manhole. This obstruction promoted the sewage back-up and overflow of the manhole at the intersection of Jonathan Street and Bartlett Avenue.	Ground	The area was flushed with water from the nearest hydrant and vacuumed with a vac-truck. No further action recommended.
City of Adelanto / Adelanto Public Utility Authority	Jonathan Road & Bartlett Avenue, Adelanto	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sewage	11/24/2008	300 gallons	An obstruction at the manhole at the intersection of Jonathan Road and Bartlett Avenue caused sewage accumulation and overflow through the lid of the manhole.	Ground	The area was flushed, vacuumed, and swept. The city is looking in methods to better secure the manhole. No further action recommended.
BNSF / BNSF Railyard Industrial Wastewater Treatment Facility	200 North H Street, Barstow	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oil & Water	12/4/2008	Approx. 20,000 gallons	A blockage in two filter tanks of the industrial wastewater treatment system caused approximately 20,000 gallons of oil and water to spill over the tops of the tanks to a containment structure, onto a paved surface, and onto the ground.	Ground	BNSF's Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plant was shut down. Filter Recycling Company (contractor) cleaned up the spill, tanks, sewer, and Barstow Waste Water Treatment Facility. San Bernardino County Fire Department, Hazardous Materials Division Certified Unified Program Agency is the lead for the cleanup.
PG&E / Compressor Station	35863 Fairview Road, Hinkley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cooling tower water	12/4/2008	100 gallons	A circuit breaker tripped electrical power to a sump controller, releasing approximately 100 gallons of cooling tower water containing a molybdenum-based corrosion inhibitor. The pump continued and overflowed to a spill containment structure. PG&E recovered 10-15 gallons, but the remaining portion percolated into the ground within a 6-foot diameter area. Crews removed contaminated soil to a depth of approximately 4 feet below ground surface and replaced with clean fill dirt.	Ground	The power was restored, and free standing water was collected and returned to the system. Soil samples were collected and cleanup and remediation began the same day. Technical maintenance personnel are working to determine why the controller's circuit breaker tripped. An NOV was issued January 9, 2009.

01-0021

Discharger/Facility	Location	Basin	Regulated Facility	Substance Discharged	Spill Date	Discharge Volume	Description of Failure	Discharge To	Status
VVWRA / Manholes	Corner of I and E Avenues, Hesperia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	Sewage	12/15/2008	1000 gallons	Too much rain caused an overflow of the VVWRA trunk line sewer system. The overflow from three manholes entered the storm drain system that discharges to an ephemeral wash tributary to the Mojave River. The Mojave River is 3/4 mile away from the spill.	Storm drain	Sewer checked for blockage and none found. An NOV was issued December 31, 2008.

01-0022

ENCLOSURE 4

Notification of Closure of Underground Storage Tank Cases

01-0023

CASE CLOSURE REPORT November 2008

State of California
Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

Date Closure Issued	Site Name	Site Address	Case Number	Case Type	Remaining Groundwater Concentrations above Water Quality Objectives (in ug/L)	Remaining Soil Concentrations (in mg/Kg)	Distance from Site to Nearest Receptor	Remedial Methods Used
October 24, 2008	Former Bridgeport Texaco	76773 Main Street, Bridgeport	6T0168A	UST	2.5 benzene	985 TPHg (1993 sampling)	~450 feet south	Excavation, Oxy- Release Coumpound, Oz Sparging, Monitored Natl Attenuation
October 28, 2008	Steve's Auto and Truck Parts	555 South Main Strest, Bishop	6B1400287T	UST	None	0.006 Benzene	Unknown	Excavation

Notes:
 TPHd = Total petroleum hydrocarbons quantified as diesel
 TPHg = Total petroleum hydrocarbons quantified as gasoline
 TRPH- Total Recoverable Petroleum Hydrocarbons
 NS-Not sampled
 NA-Not Applicable

01-0024

CASE CLOSURE REPORT December 2008

State of California
Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

Date Closure Issued	Site Name	Site Address	Case Number	Case Type	Remaining Groundwater Concentrations above Water Quality Objectives (in ug/L)	Remaining Soil Concentrations (in mg/Kg)	Distance from Site to Nearest Receptor	Remedial Methods Used
November 20, 2008	June Mountain Ski Area	3819 Highway 158, June Lake	6B2601022T	UST	None	71 TPHg, 670 TPHd	-225 feet west-northwest	Excavation
December 4, 2008	Eastern Sierra Motors	1440 North Highway 6, Bishop	6B1400912T	UST	NS	340 TPHd	>500'	Excavation
December 12, 2008	Hyrcko Property	471-120 Circle Drive, Susanville	6T0391A	UST	None	2700 TPHd	~2,000'	Excavation

Notes:
 TPHd = Total petroleum hydrocarbons quantified as diesel
 TPHg = Total petroleum hydrocarbons quantified as gasoline
 TRPH- Total Recoverable Petroleum Hydrocarbons
 NS-Not sampled
 NA-Not Applicable

01-0025