**Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet**

**FY 2017-2018**

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| ***Timber Harvest*** |
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| **Overview**  **The Region’s Timber Harvest Program resources are 3.5 PY from the State General Fund and the State’s lumber product assessment fund. The program uses a conditional waiver (2014 Timber Waiver) to implement the Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program. The Timber Waiver applies to vegetation management projects that range from homeowner defensible space operations to local Fire Protection Districts’ community protection plans, to large Wildland Urban Interface projects proposed by the California Department. of Parks and Recreation, the BLM, and the USFS. Commercial timber harvest conducted by small landowners, industrial timber companies, and the USFS are also covered under Timber Waiver categories.**  **For commercial logging projects the State has developed a Review Team process that involves the Water Boards, the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife, the CA Department of Conservation, and CalFire. The Review Team process satisfies the California Environmental Quality Act requirements, and CalFire is the lead agency.** |
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| **Key Efforts**  **Review proposed projects to ensure that Timber Waiver requirements are adhered to.**  **Conduct inspections of active and completed harvesting projects.**  **Identify potential or existing water quality problems and request corrective actions.**  **Review and track Timber Waiver monitoring reports.**  **Provide outreach to entities with projects in the planning phase.**  Through increased communication, staff increased compliance with the Timber Waiver**.** |

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| **Accomplishments**  **Timber Waiver outreach and enforcement actions -** Staff coordinated with Caltrans, Cal Fire, TRPA, USFS LTBMU, and other Tree Mortality Task Force staff regarding 2014 Timber Waiver enrollment and implementation details for  Caltrans’s Hazardous Tree Assessment & Removal Process efforts in the Tahoe Basin. Staff **conducted an informational tour of t**he UC Berkeley Sagehen Creek Field Station to facilitate a dialogue between forest managers and **the Association of California Insurance Companies**. Staff issued a Notice of Violation (NOV) to the USFS LTBMU for poor burn fuel storage and management that resulted in the development of written fuel handling protocols and staff training. Staff also issued an NOV to a Lassen County Timber Waiver project for road construction, road abandonment, and crossing modification activities that resulted in sediment delivery to a fish bearing stream, which have now been corrected.  **Lake Tahoe Basin -** Staff worked with the USFS LTBMU to ensure that the LTBMU’s fifth annual operations plan for the South Shore Fuel Reduction Project met the Waste Discharge Requirements. During the 2017 field season, approximately 511 acres were thinned by hand crews and 275 acres were mechanically treated. Staff also worked with the LTBMU on the Carnelian Fuels Reduction and Healthy Forest Restoration Project.  During the 2017 field season, approximately 501 acres were thinned by hand crews and 625 acres were mechanically treated.  Staff participated in the interagency Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership initiative to restore and maintain the resilience of the forests, watersheds, recreational opportunities, and communities on Lake Tahoe’s western shore.  **Statewide -** Staff coordinated with State Water Board, CA Resources Agency (CalFire, CA Dept. Fish and Wildlife, CA Geological Survey) in implementing the requirements of AB 1492, the Timber Regulation and Restoration Program. **Staff is engaged in a newly formed statewide Emergency Response Technical Working Group to to develop and implement Water Board action plans during and after catastrophic fire events.** |
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| **Performance targets for FY 2016-2017**  **Target Completed**  **Timber Harvest Inspections 20 30** |
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| **Performance targets for FY 2017-2018 – Progress to date**  **Target Completed**  **Timber Harvest Inspections 20 14** |

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| **Unaddressed Work**  **Coordination with the State Water Board and other Regional Water Boards on the development of state-wide permit for utility line corridors.** |