

Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet FY 2014-2015

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

Overview

The State of California implements the federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System program under authorization by the U.S. EPA, except for the wastewater treatment plant biosolids component. All facilities discharging pollutants (except storm water) from any point source into waters of the United States must obtain a permit. The NPDES storm water program is separately managed. Major permits cover facilities discharging greater than 1 million gallons per day. Minor permits cover smaller volume discharges. General Permits issued by both the State and Regional Boards cover numerous broad categories of similar discharges. Less than two full-time positions are dedicated to this program.

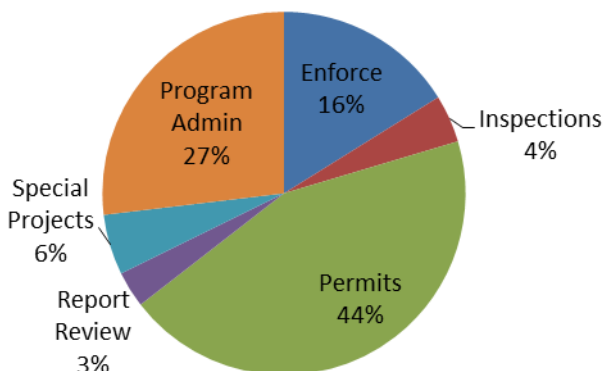
Goals

The program goals are to ensure that:

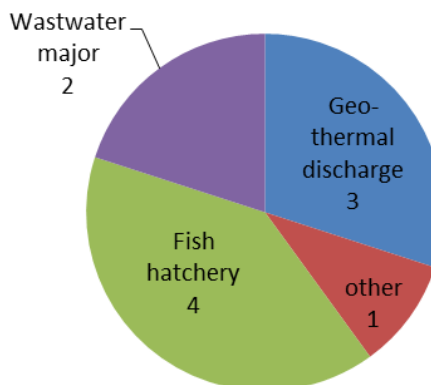
- Surface water quality objectives are met and beneficial uses are not impaired.
- Numerical and narrative effluent limitations contained in permits are satisfied.
- Permits are written for all discharges into waters of the United States and keep a minimum of 90% of all permits current/updated.
- Cost of compliance and review the sampling and analysis that is required and attempt to minimize the number of samples needing to be collected and analyzed, but maintain enough information to determine compliance with permit requirements.

NPDES permits are only valid for five years. A program priority is to continually keep permits current. During FY 2014-15, staff intend to update three minor facility permits. Water Board staff plan to facilitate a working group in the Susan River area to discuss future disposal options and/or need for Basin Plan changes to accommodate Susanville Consolidated Sanitary District discharges into the future.

Staff Activities



Types of Facilities



Last year Performance Targets FY 13-14

For the NPDES program, the Region met all the inspection requirements and updated one Major Wastewater Permit (Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority Facility). The only category that did not meet its target was for a minor permit update. The staff did update one general NPDES permit, which did not count toward the minor permit update target.

Projects implemented

- Hot Creek Hatchery – Dischargers dredged settling ponds to improve effluent quality.

Performance targets for this fiscal year 2014-2015 – Progress to date

	Target	Progress to Date
Majors Facilities Inspected: 1 of 1	1	1
Minor Facilities Inspected: 3 of 1	1	3
Major Permits Renewed: 0 of 0	0	0
Minor Permits Renewed: 1 of 3	3	1

For the Minor Permits, one permit is out for public comment and scheduled for renewal in March 2015. The third minor draft permit is being developed and is tentatively scheduled for renewal at the Water Board's June 2015 meeting.