



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Lahontan Region



Alan C. Lloyd, Ph.D.

Agency Secretary

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Arnold Schwarzenegger

Governor

October 6, 2005

To Interested Parties:

SCOPING MEETING FOR PROPOSED BASIN PLAN AMENDMENTS TO CHANGE SODIUM-RELATED STANDARDS FOR WATERS IN THE CARSON AND WALKER RIVER WATERSHEDS

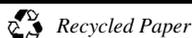
The Lahontan Water Board expects to consider amendments to Chapter 3 of the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region* (Basin Plan) to revise sodium-related standards for the protection of irrigation water quality in the Carson and Walker River watersheds in Alpine and Mono Counties. A summary of the proposed amendments is enclosed for your reference.

Staff's tentative schedule for the Basin Plan amendments and supporting documents calls for release of public drafts by early February 2006, and a public hearing at the Lahontan Water Board's May 2006 meeting. Board action would be considered following the hearing. Supporting documents for the plan amendments will include a technical staff report and a draft California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) environmental document. The Lahontan Water Board's planning program has been certified by the Secretary for Resources pursuant to Section 21080.5 of CEQA as being "functionally equivalent" to preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). This certification allows the Board to prepare short environmental documents rather than detailed EIRs for Basin Plan amendments.

CEQA Section 21083.9 requires scoping meetings for projects of statewide, regional or areawide significance. A scoping meeting for this project has been scheduled on the afternoon of November 7, 2005 at Turtle Rock Park in Markleeville, California. The meeting will involve a staff presentation on the proposed amendments and an opportunity for questions and comments from the public. Please see the enclosed notice for additional information. CEQA trustee agencies and other interested parties may also submit written comments on the scope and content of the environmental document to the attention of Judith Unsicker via mail to the address above, via fax transmission to (530) 542-5470, or via email to junsicker@waterboards.ca.gov. **Written comments must be received by November 10, 2005** in order to be considered in preparation of the public draft environmental document.

Copies of the public draft plan amendments and supporting documents will be made available on the Lahontan Water Board's Internet web page at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan> by the start of the public review period. The existing Basin Plan is also available online at the address above.

California Environmental Protection Agency



Please contact Judith Unsicker at the telephone number or email address above if you have any questions about the proposed amendments or the plan amendment process.

[original signed by:]

Chuck Curtis, Manager
Planning and Toxics Division

Enclosures

cc (w/enclosures): Joanna Jensen, Division of Water Quality, SWRCB

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED BASIN PLAN AMENDMENTS

Background

Water quality standards in California include designated beneficial uses, narrative and numeric water quality objectives to protect those uses, and a nondegradation policy.

The term “water quality objectives” is analogous to the federal term “water quality criteria.” Most of the surface waters of the Carson and Walker River watersheds are designated for the Agricultural Supply (AGR) beneficial use. This use is defined in Chapter 2 of the Lahontan Basin Plan as: “*Beneficial uses of waters used for farming, horticulture, or ranching, including, but not limited to, irrigation, stock watering, and support of vegetation for range grazing.*”

The concentration of sodium in irrigation water in relation to the concentrations of other constituents such as calcium, magnesium, and potassium is of concern. Relatively high concentrations sodium can have adverse impacts on soil structure, affecting the availability of soil water to crops. Excess sodium can also be toxic to plants, and some crops are more sensitive to sodium than others. Sources of sodium in the Carson and Walker River watersheds include natural weathering of rocks and soils, geothermal inputs from hot springs, and human sources such as road salt, agricultural drainage, and wastewater disposal to land..

Chapter 3 of the Lahontan Basin Plan contains numerical water quality objectives for “Percent Sodium” to protect water quality for irrigation in the Carson and Walker River watersheds. (See the attached Tables 3-13 and 14, and the associated maps. These tables are from an in-progress reprinted edition of the Basin Plan, and include some format changes from the originals.) The Percent Sodium objectives were originally adopted in 1975, and those for the West Fork Carson River were modified in 1984. They are based on historic background water quality for these watersheds. The formula for calculating Percent Sodium is shown in the footnotes to the attached tables.

The proposed plan amendments would replace water quality objectives for Percent Sodium with objectives for Sodium Adsorption Ratio (SAR). SAR is calculated as: Na divided by the square root of the quantity $[(Ca + Mg)/2]$, where Na = sodium; Ca = calcium, and Mg = magnesium. All constituent concentrations are expressed as milliequivalents per liter. As a ratio, SAR has no units. Because they are calculated differently, Percent Sodium and SAR are not directly comparable.

Project Description

If the proposed amendments are approved, the water quality objectives for Percent Sodium and related footnotes would be deleted from Basin Plan Tables 3-14 and 3-15. Water quality objectives incorporating the following SAR values would be added to Chapter 3 for specific surface water bodies. Each SAR value would apply to the entire water body including tributary surface waters in California. The formula for calculating SAR (above) would also be cited in connection with the new objectives. Language would also be added to the Basin Plan to specify that higher SAR values may occur locally in waters influenced by natural (e.g., geothermal) sources, and that such values will not be considered to be in violation of the objectives.

Water Body Name	Proposed SAR Objective (Annual Mean)
West Fork Carson River	1
East Fork Carson River	2
Bryant Creek	1
West Walker River	2
Topaz Lake	2
East Walker River	2

The proposed SAR objective values are based on the threshold level for adverse sodium impacts from irrigation water in the peer-reviewed scientific literature¹ and on the State of Nevada’s “Requirements to Maintain Existing Higher Quality” standards for some of the affected waters². The literature indicates that SAR values less than 3 in irrigation water are protective of even sodium-sensitive crops. Available monitoring data show that historic water quality at state line stations is better than or equal to the proposed California objectives. (When water quality is better than that required by standards, California’s Nondegradation Policy requires that this quality be maintained unless specific findings are made.) All of the proposed objectives would be compatible for Nevada’s standards for downstream waters.

The new SAR objectives would be implemented through the Lahontan Water Board’s existing permitting and enforcement authority for point and nonpoint source discharges. No new implementation measures are proposed as part of the plan amendments. The amendments would include additional editorial (non-regulatory) changes.

Purpose of and Need for Amendments

Percent Sodium is no longer widely used as a criterion for irrigation water. The proposed change to SAR would modernize water quality objectives for the Carson and Walker River watersheds, and make them more compatible with Nevada’s standards. If approved, the proposed amendments would also allow two segments of the West Fork Carson River to be removed from the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list of waters requiring Total Maximum Daily Loads.

Environmental Impacts

Approval of the proposed amendments will not have any direct adverse environmental impacts (defined as physical changes in the environment). The new SAR objectives will be reflected in

¹ Ayers, R.S. and D.W. Westcot, 1985. Water quality for agriculture. FAO Irrigation and Drainage Paper 29 Rev. 1. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome, 1985 (reprinted 1989, 1994). Available on the Internet at: <http://www.fao.org/DOCREP/003/T0234E/T0234E00.htm>

² Nevada Administrative Code Chapter 445a. See <http://ndep.nv.gov/nac/445a-118.pdf>

new and revised Lahontan Water Board permits and enforcement orders for discharges to the affected waters (e.g., reclamation requirements for irrigation with recycled water in the Carson Valley, and stormwater permits for Caltrans). Significant indirect and cumulative environmental impacts might occur if large increases in sodium concentration over current levels were permitted. However, such impacts will not occur because the new SAR objectives, and the existing objectives for Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) will effectively prohibit significant increases in sodium concentrations. (See the attached tables for the TDS objectives applicable to the Carson and Walker River watersheds; these objectives are not proposed for change.)

The following environmental checklist concludes that the proposed amendments will not have significant direct or indirect impacts.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS- Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?				X
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				X
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?				X
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?				X
II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES- Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				X
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				X
	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or				X

nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?				
III. AIR QUALITY- Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?				X
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?				X
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?				X
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?				X
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?				X
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES -- Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	..			X
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?				X
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				X
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?				X

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				X
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				X
V. CULTURAL RESOURCES -- Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5?				X
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?				X
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?				X
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?				X
VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS -- Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.				X
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?				X
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?				X
iv) Landslides?				X
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?				X
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?				X

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?				X
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?				X
VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS -- Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?				X
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?				X
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				X
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				X
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				X
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				X
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				X
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?				X

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VIII. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY -- Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?				X
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?				X
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?				X
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?				X
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?				X
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?				X
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?				X
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?				X
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				X
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?				X

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING - Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?				X
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?				X
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?				X
X. MINERAL RESOURCES -- Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?				X
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?				X
XI. NOISE -- Would the project result in:				
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?				X
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?				X
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				X
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				X
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				X
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				X

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XII. POPULATION AND HOUSING -- Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				X
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X
XIII. PUBLIC SERVICES				
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
Fire protection?				X
Police protection?				X
Schools?				X
Parks?				X
Other public facilities?				X
XIV. RECREATION				
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				X
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				X

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XV. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC -- Would the project:				
a) Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?				X
b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?				X
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?				X
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				X
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?				X
f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?				X
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?				X
XVI. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS -- Would the project				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?				X
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				X
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				X
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?				X
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				X

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?				X
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?				X
XVII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?				X
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?				X
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?				X

Table 3-14
WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES FOR CERTAIN WATER BODIES
EAST & WEST FORK CARSON RIVER HYDROLOGIC UNITS

See Fig. 3-7	Surface Waters	Objective (mg/L except as noted) ⁴								
		TDS	Cl	SO ₄	Total P	B	% Na	Total N	TKN	NO ₃ -N
1	West Fork Carson River at Woodfords ¹	55	1.0	2.0	0.02	0.02	20	0.15	0.13	0.02
2	West Fork Carson River at Stateline ¹	70	2.5	2.0	0.03	0.02	20	0.25	0.22	0.03
3	Indian Creek Res. ¹	305	24	-	0.04	-	-	4.0	-	-
4	East Fork Carson River ²	80	4.0	4.0	0.02	0.12	25	0.20	-	-
		100	6.0	8.0	0.03	0.25	30	0.30	-	-
5	Bryant Creek Basin ^{2,3}	140	15	35	0.02	0.20	-	0.20	-	-
		200	25	50	0.03	0.50	50	0.30	-	-

¹ Values shown are mean of monthly mean for the period of record.

² Annual average value/90th percentile value.

³ In addition, the following numerical water quality objectives shall apply specifically to surface waters of the Bryant Creek Basin:

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Maximum Value (mg/l except as noted)</u>
Turbidity (NTU)	15
Alkalinity, total as CaCO ₃	70 (minimum)
Acidity, total as CaCO ₃	10
Dissolved Iron	0.5
Manganese	0.5
Color, PCu	15
Aluminum	0.1
Copper	0.02
Arsenic	0.05

⁴ Objectives are as mg/L and are defined as follows:

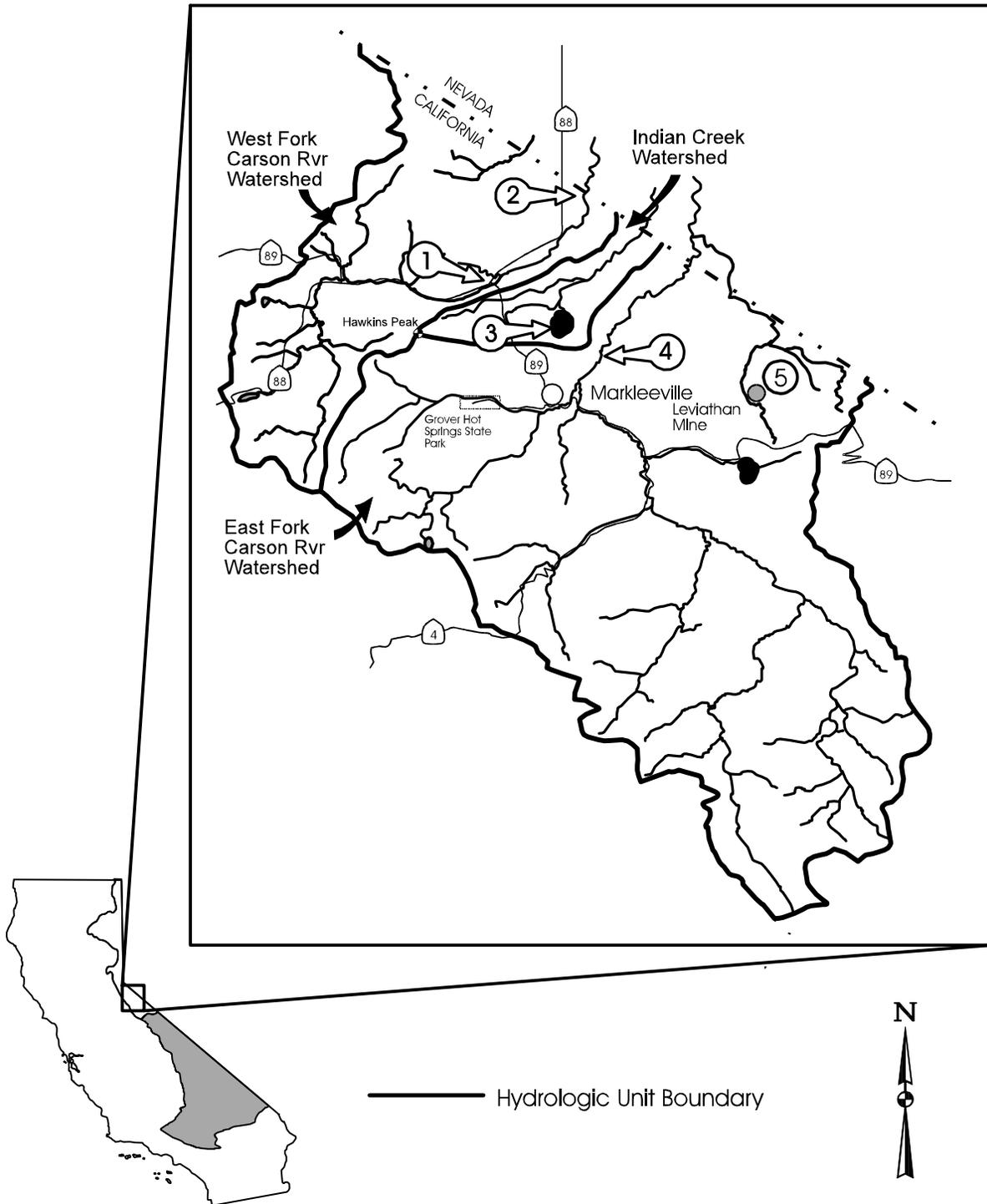
B	Boron	NO ₃ -N	Nitrogen as Nitrate
Cl	Chloride	TKN	Nitrate, Total Kjeldahl
N	Nitrogen, Total	P	Phosphorus, Total
% Na	Sodium, Percent		

$$\frac{(Na \times 100)}{Na + Ca + Mg + K} = \%Na$$

Na, Ca, Mg, and K expressed as milliequivalents per liter (meq/L) concentrations.

SO ₄	Sulfate
TDS	Total Dissolved Solids (Total Filterable Residue)

Figure 3-7
WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES FOR CERTAIN WATER BODIES
CARSON RIVER HYDROLOGIC UNITS



**Table 3-15
WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES FOR CERTAIN WATER BODIES
WEST & EAST WALKER RIVER HYDROLOGIC UNITS**

See Fig. 3-8	Surface Waters	Objective (mg/L except as noted) ^{1,2}						
		TDS	Cl	SO ₄	% Na	B	Total N	Total P
1	Topaz Lake	$\frac{90}{105}$	$\frac{4}{7}$	-	$\frac{25}{30}$	$\frac{0.10}{0.20}$	$\frac{0.10}{0.30}$	$\frac{0.05}{0.10}$
2	West Walker River at Coleville	$\frac{60}{75}$	$\frac{3.0}{5.0}$	-	$\frac{25}{30}$	$\frac{0.10}{0.20}$	$\frac{0.20}{0.40}$	$\frac{0.01}{0.02}$
3	East Walker River at Bridgeport	$\frac{145}{160}$	$\frac{4.0}{8.0}$	-	$\frac{30}{35}$	$\frac{0.12}{0.25}$	$\frac{0.50}{0.80}$	$\frac{0.06}{0.10}$
4&5	Robinson Creek & all other tributaries above Bridgeport Valley	$\frac{45}{70}$	$\frac{2.0}{4.0}$	-	-	-	$\frac{0.05}{0.10}$	$\frac{0.02}{0.03}$

¹ Annual Average value/90th Percentile Value

² Objectives are as mg/L and are defined as follows:

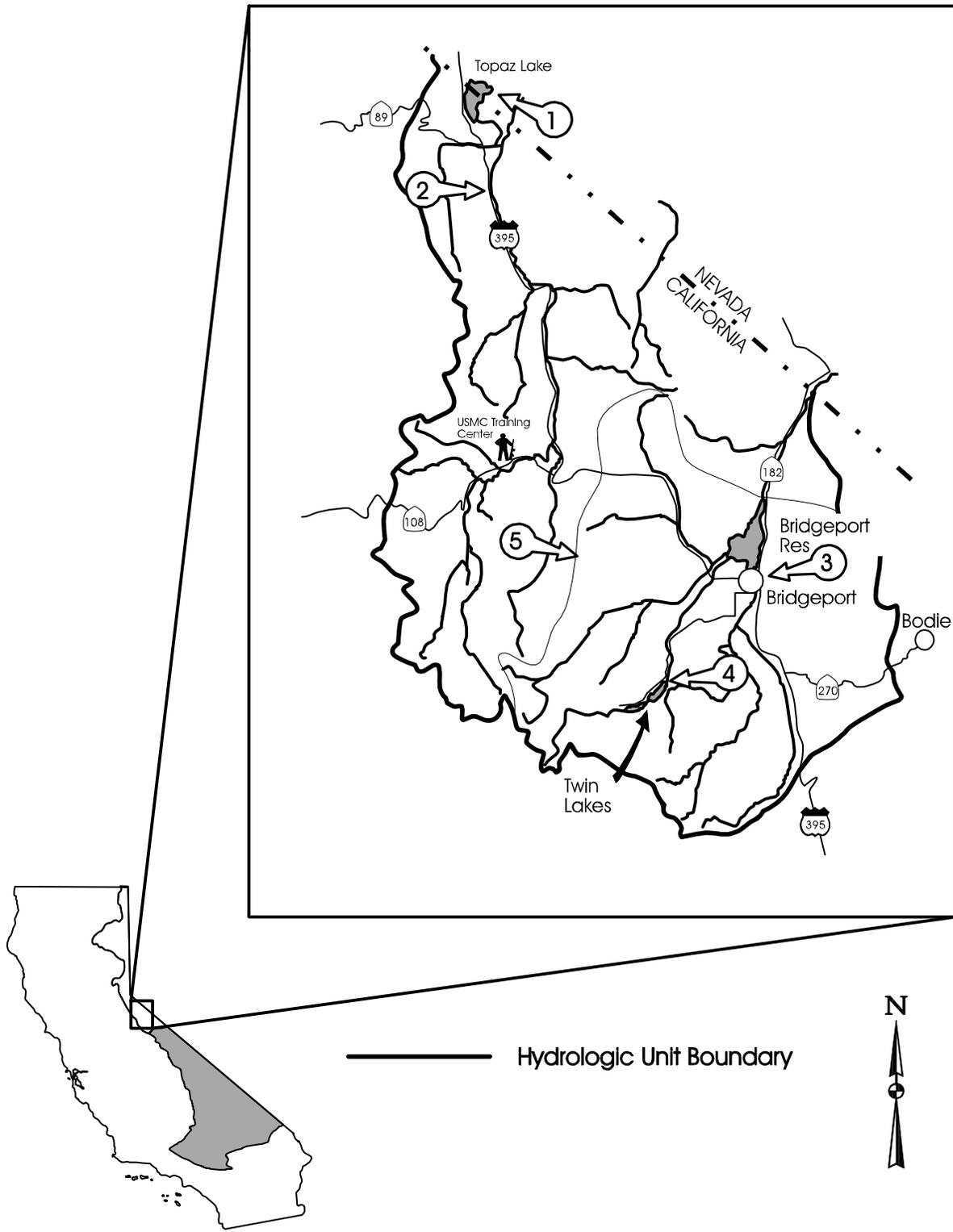
B Boron
 Cl Chloride
 N Nitrogen, Total
 P Phosphorus, Total
 % Na Sodium, Percent

$$\frac{(Na \times 100)}{Na + Ca + Mg + K} = \%Na$$

(Na, Ca, Mg, K expressed as milliequivalents per liter or meq/L concentrations)

SO₄ Sulfate
 TDS Total Dissolved Solids (Total Filterable Residue)

Figure 3-8
WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES FOR CERTAIN WATER BODIES
WALKER RIVER HYDROLOGIC UNITS



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

2501 Lake Tahoe Boulevard
South Lake Tahoe CA 96150
(530) 542-5400

NOTICE OF CEQA SCOPING MEETING

In the Matter of Proposed Amendments
To the Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (Regional Board) staff will hold a CEQA scoping meeting pursuant to California Public Resources Code section 21083.9, as amended by AB 1532 to receive comments on the appropriate scope and content of the “functionally equivalent” environmental document to be prepared pursuant to Section 21080.5 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The proposed amendments would involve

- Changes to Chapter 3 of the Water Quality Control Plan to replace existing numerical water quality objectives for Percent Sodium for surface waters of the Carson and Walker River watersheds with new objectives for Sodium Adsorption Ratio (SAR)
- Miscellaneous editorial changes.

The **scoping meeting** will be held:

DATE: Monday, November 7, 2005

TIME: 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Turtle Rock Park
17300 Highway 89
Markleeville CA 96120

(Turtle Rock Park is about two miles north of Markleeville.) Any person who is disabled and requires special accommodations to participate in the scoping meeting, please contact Laurie Applegate at (530) 542-5414 no later than 10 days before the scheduled meeting.

[original signed by]
CHUCK CURTIS, Manager
Planning and Toxics Division

Date: October 6, 2005