

# Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission

## STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** November 30, 2017

**TO:** Chairman and Members, Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (“NNWPC”)

**FROM:** Jim Smitherman, Water Resources Program Manager

**SUBJECT:** Workshop to review the Action Items listed in the 2016-2035 Regional Water Management Plan, and projects and studies listed in the Western Regional Water Commission (“WRWC”) Fiscal Year (“FY”) 2016-2017 Tentative Budget; discussion of priorities for ongoing and future projects and studies, possible recommendation to the WRWC, and possible direction to staff.

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### **SUMMARY**

The 2016-2035 Regional Water Management Plan (“RWMP”) adopted by the WRWC in June 2017, included a list of Action Items, shown in Table 9-2 (attached), intended to provide guidance to the NNWPC and the WRWC, and form the basis for annual work plans until the next RWMP update, due in January 2021. New information may result in the need to add, delete or revise certain Action Items, as may be appropriate from time to time.

This item provides the NNWPC an opportunity to review the RWMP’s Goals and Objectives, and the Action Items in Table 9-2, to evaluate their alignment with the FY 2017-18 projects budget and discuss priorities for FY 2018-19. Priority recommendations may be forwarded to the WRWC as part of the FY 2018-19 Tentative Budget, which staff will begin preparing in January 2018.

### **BACKGROUND**

On April 6, 2016, the NNWPC held a workshop to review the projects and studies listed in the WRWC FY 2016-2017 Tentative Budget and discuss priorities for ongoing and future projects and studies. The results are attached.

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Attachments

TABLE 9-2 WRWC/NNWPC PROPOSED ACTION PLAN

	Action Item	Cross Reference	Category	Location	Subject	Proposed Action Item	Lead Agency	Coordinating Agencies
	-a-	-b-	-c-	-d-	-e-	-f-	-g-	-h-
1	9.1.1.C		MWR	CTM	Cloud Seeding Program	Participate in the Desert Research Institute (“DRI”) cloud seeding program for the Lake Tahoe basin and the Truckee River basin, and coordinate with DRI’s efforts to continue the cloud seeding program statewide.	DRI	TMWA
2	9.1.1.D				Water Resources Planning	Adopt the TMWA 2035 WRP into the 2016 Regional Water Plan	WRWC	TMWA
3	9.2.A		CON	ALL	RWMP conservation chapter update	Revise Chapter 7 and “Base Case” conservation for consistency with the TMWA 2035 Water Resource Plan, Chapter 5, which is tied to drought, Floriston Rates and TROA.	NNWPC, WRWC	TMWA, Reno, Sparks, WC
4	9.2.B				Technical support for Water For The Seasons program	Support and participate in the Water For The Seasons program, led by UNR, which investigates climate variability and potential water supply risks.	UNR	Reno, Sparks, WC TMWA
5	9.3.1.A	9.5.D	WW	CTM STM	Near-Term Effluent Management Strategy Development	Continue development of near-term regional strategies to manage effluent and reduce nitrogen loading to the Truckee River, which may include additional treatment, expanded distribution of effluent within or outside the TMSA, and expanded uses which may include aquifer recharge and indirect potable reuse.	Reno, Sparks, WC, TMWA	WRWC
6	9.3.1.B	9.3.1.A			Expanded Use of Reclaimed Water	Pursue connection of additional reclaimed water users to the existing systems in Sparks and Reno, consistent with regional water quality and water rights considerations, and continue investigating the feasibility of expanded uses of reclaimed water	Reno, Sparks, WC	TMWA WRWC
7	9.3.1.C 9.3.2.C	9.3.1.A			Regional Integrated Solutions Between TMWRF and STMWRF	Continue evaluating the merits of regional integrated solutions between TMWRF and STMWRF for wastewater treatment and effluent reuse and disposal, including funding considerations. .	Reno, Sparks, WC	TMWA
8	9.3.3.A 9.3.4.A	9.3.1.A	WW	S/LV, CS	Regional Integrated Solutions Between RSWRF and CSWRF	Continue to evaluate the merits of regional integrated solutions between RSWRF and CSWRF for the treatment and disposal of wastewater, including funding considerations.	WC, Reno	
9	9.3.3.B	9.3.1.A			Effluent ASR Regulations	Continue to work with NDEP on reclaimed water groundwater augmentation feasibility/demonstration efforts, including additional groundwater modeling assessments of aquifer storage and recovery.	WC, Reno	TMWA, Sparks, WRWC

Categories:

MWR - Municipal Water Resources  
CON - Water Conservation  
WW - Wastewater Management  
SW - Storm Water  
SEP - Septic Systems and Water Quality  
SWMP - Storm Water Management Program  
WR - Water Rights  
LUP - Land Use Planning

Locations:

TM - Truckee Meadows  
CTM - Central Truckee Meadows  
STM - South Truckee Meadows  
S/LV - Stead/Lemon Valley  
CS - Cold Springs  
SS - Spanish Springs  
LTR - Lower Truckee River  
ALL - All Areas

Agencies:

TMWA - Truckee Meadows Water Authority  
WC - Washoe County  
Reno - City of Reno  
Sparks - City of Sparks  
WC - Washoe County  
WCDHD - Washoe County District Health Department  
TMRPA - Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency  
TRFMA - Truckee River Flood Management Agency

BOR - Bureau of Reclamation  
DRI - Desert Research Institute  
SV - Sun Valley General Improvement District  
STM - South Truckee Meadows General Improvement District

**TABLE 9-2 WRWC/NNWPC PROPOSED ACTION PLAN (con't)**

	Action Item	Cross Reference	Category	Location	Subject	Proposed Action Item	Lead Agency	Coordinating Agencies
	-a-	-b-	-c-	-d-	-e-	-f-	-g-	-h-
10	9.3.6.A		SEP	ALL	Public Engagement to Help Manage/Mitigate Domestic Well and Septic System Issues	Continue to provide guidance to owners of septic systems and domestic wells on how to manage/mitigate domestic well water with elevated levels of nitrate.	WC, Reno	TMWA, WCDH, WRWC, Sparks
11	9.4.A		SWMP	TM	SWMP Update	Continued SWPCC communication with NDEP as necessary to address changes/updates to the NPDES Storm Water Discharge Permit.	Reno Sparks, WC	WRWC
12	9.4.B				Watershed Management Plan Update	Support the update of the Watershed Management Plan such that it can be used to support applications for 319h grants to help fund future watershed projects.	Reno Sparks, WC	TMWA, WRWC
13	9.5.C		WR	ALL	Water Rights Recovery	Continue the analysis and development of non-structural measures to improve Truckee River water quality, enable increased TMWRF discharges to the Truckee River, and ensure the future sustainability of the river.	WC, Reno, Sparks	TMWA, WRWC
14	9.5.E	9.3.1.A 9.3.1.D 9.3.2.B			Expand Reclaimed Water Resources Benefits	Develop cooperative management strategies among local governments, reclaimed water providers and water purveyors that maximize the benefits of available reclaimed water resources to the Truckee Meadows community.	WC, Reno, Sparks	TMWA, WRWC
15	9.5.F				Monitor Plan Area Growth Projections	Monitor existing and future water demand and planning area growth projections, and develop plans to resolve any major discrepancies in consideration of available water resources and geographic constraints.	TMWA, WC, NNWPC	TMRPA, WRWC
16	9.6.A		LUP	ALL	Strengthen Linkages between TMRP and RWP	Continue working with TMRPA staff to strengthen appropriate linkages between the Regional Plan and the Regional Water Plan.	WRWC, TMRPA	
17	9.6.B				Review TMSA Boundaries and Revise Facility Plans	Review areas within the TMSA Boundary for gaps in facility planning and develop a plan to respond to changes in land use and the TMSA that affect current facility plans.	Reno, Sparks, TMWA, WC,	TMRPA, WRWC
18	9.6.C				Future Water Demands and Wastewater Flows	Coordinate with other entities on the development of a GIS parcel based tool that can be used to estimate potential water demands and wastewater flows based on approved land use.	WRWC, TMRPA	Reno, Sparks, WC, TMWA
19	9.6.D				Future Water Demands and Wastewater Flows	Coordinate with local land use planning agencies to address rural groundwater basin imbalances.	WC	TMWA, WRWC

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DRI - Desert Research Institute  
SV - Sun Valley General Improvement District  
STM - South Truckee Meadows General Improvement District

**April 2016 Priority Ranking by Category and Project**

<b>Category/Projects</b>	<b>Total Votes (T)</b>	<b>Number of Projects (N)</b>	<b>Priority Ranking (T/N)</b>
<b>Regional Wastewater Planning</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8.7</b>
<i>N &amp; P Reduction in Watershed</i>	13		
<i>Water Quality Standards and TMDL Review, and Compliance</i>	9		
<i>Septic System Mitigation Planning</i>	4		
<b>Regional Reclaimed Water Planning</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6.5</b>
<i>Integrated Wastewater and Reclaimed Water System Planning</i>	8		
<i>Bedell Flat Infiltration</i>	5		
<b>Regional Storm Water Planning</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6.0</b>
<i>Watershed Management Plan Update</i>	7		
<i>NPDES Storm Water Quality Management Program</i>	6		
<i>NPDES Storm Water Permit Update</i>	5		
<b>Regional Water Planning</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3.8</b>
<i>Climate Variability Data Assessment</i>	5		
<i>TROA 6700 AF Water Rights Requirement</i>	5		
<i>Restoration Investments in the Truckee Watershed</i>	5		
<i>Regional Precipitation Monitoring</i>	2		
<i>Highland Canal Water Quality Project</i>	2		
<b>Regional Conservation Planning</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3.4</b>
<i>Cloud Seeding Monitoring</i>	5		
<i>Water Usage Review Program</i>	5		
<i>Cloud Seeding</i>	4		
<i>Washoe ET Project</i>	2		
<i>Certified Landscape Technician Program</i>	1		
<b>Regional Flood Planning</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**April 2016 Priority Ranking by Project**

<b>Projects</b>	<b>Total Votes</b>
<i>N &amp; P Reduction in Watershed</i>	13
<i>Water Quality Standards and TMDL Review, and Compliance</i>	9
<i>Integrated Wastewater and Reclaimed Water System Planning</i>	8
<i>Watershed Management Plan Update</i>	7
<i>NPDES Storm Water Quality Management Program</i>	6
<i>Bedell Flat Infiltration</i>	5
<i>NPDES Storm Water Permit Update</i>	5
<i>Climate Variability Data Assessment</i>	5
<i>TROA 6700 AF Water Rights Requirement</i>	5
<i>Restoration Investments in the Truckee Watershed</i>	5
<i>Cloud Seeding Monitoring</i>	5
<i>Water Usage Review Program</i>	5
<i>Septic System Mitigation Planning</i>	4
<i>Cloud Seeding</i>	4
<i>Regional Precipitation Monitoring</i>	2
<i>Highland Canal Water Quality Project</i>	2
<i>Washoe ET Project</i>	2
<i>Certified Landscape Technician Program</i>	1
<b>Total</b>	93