

Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission

STAFF REPORT

DATE: February 28, 2019

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

FROM: Jim Smitherman, Water Resources Program Manager, Western Regional Water Commission (“WRWC”)

SUBJECT: Report on development of the Regional Effluent Management Planning Guidance Document, including regional, agency, and facility goals, and overview of facility capacities; and possible direction to staff.

SUMMARY

In March 2018, the WRWC approved a recommendation from the NNWPC for approval of a scope of work, and funding in an amount not to exceed \$561,000 from the Regional Water Management Fund (“RWMF”) over three fiscal years, for the development of a Regional Effluent Management Planning Guidance Document.

In July 2018, the WRWC entered into an interlocal agreement with the Nevada System of Higher Education, on behalf of the UNR Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, to develop the Guidance Document. The Nevada Water Innovations Institute (“NWII”), within the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, retained Jeff Curtis, Ph.D., for the project. He has been working closely with staff and the Regional Effluent Management Team (“REMT”) on the initial project tasks, which include the following:

Task 1: Establish Effluent Management Goals. The purpose of this task is to identify short-term and long-term regional effluent management goals, shared / common community goals, agency-specific goals, and facility-specific goals.

Task 2: Document Planning Resources. The purpose of this task is to identify and inventory available support personnel and planning resources. The Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency’s regional growth projections, , the Regional Water Management Plan, the Truckee Meadows Water Authority’s Water Resource Plan, and individual water reclamation facility flow projections and master plans are examples of current, relevant information.

Task 3: Effluent Management Constraints. The purpose of this task is to identify current and future management constraints, such as: water rights; the Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA); the Water Quality Settlement Agreement (WQSA); the total maximum daily load for nitrogen discharged to the Truckee River (TMDL); regulatory discharge permits; interlocal agreements; infrastructure limitations; geographic constraints; public perceptions; and, financial considerations.

Dr. Curtis will provide the NNWPC with a status report on the development of the Regional Effluent Management Planning Guidance Document.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the NNWPC accept the report and provide appropriate direction to staff, if any.

JS:jp