

Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission

STAFF REPORT

DATE: October 1, 2020

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

FROM: Chris Wessel – Interim Water Resources Program Manager

SUBJECT: Presentation and discussion regarding 2020 Integrated Source Water and 319(h) Watershed Protection Plan for Public Water Systems and the Truckee River in the Truckee Meadows, and possible direction to staff.

SUMMARY

NNWPC staff has been coordinating with the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), Resource Concepts, Inc. (RCI), and other local agencies to complete the 2020 Integrated Source Water and 319(h) Watershed Protection Plan for Public Water Systems and the Truckee River in the Truckee Meadows. The WRWC approved participation in NDEP’s Integrated Source Water Protection Program (ISWPP) with concurrent update and development of a Truckee River watershed management plan in January 2017.

Plan implementation will support cooperative stewardship to preserve and improve the quality of both surface water and ground water for communities in the Truckee Meadows and throughout Washoe County. The plan is part of a voluntary effort jointly supported by the NDEP Bureau of Water Quality Planning 319 Nonpoint Source Management Program and NDEP ISWPP.

Presenters Kim Rigdon and Birgit Widegren from NDEP and Lynn Zonge and Jill Sutherland from RCI will discuss the key components of the plan, including the source water protection areas, project profiles, and watershed descriptions. The plan is available via this [online viewer](#) link managed under the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency.

BACKGROUND

In 2016 the One Truckee River Plan identified water quality priorities, including engaging NDEP financial resources for continued planning. At their January 2017 meeting the WRWC agreed to participate in the ISWPP planning effort, which is a voluntary, county-wide approach designed to help communities develop and implement a local plan that protects their ground and surface water quality. NDEP contracted with a technical service provider, Resource Concepts, Inc., to assist in source water protection and watershed protection management planning. The program was developed to help identify sensitive water resources in Washoe County and activities that could cause contamination, then work with stakeholders to help set goals, procure resources, develop and implement a locally driven source water/watershed protection plan.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with support for this program.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the NNWPC make a recommendation to accept the report.

CW:jp