

## **Memorandum of Understanding**

### **Among:**

**Alpine County, Alpine County Watershed Group, City of South Lake Tahoe, El Dorado County, Lake Tahoe Unified School District, Markleeville Water Company, Sierra Watershed Education Partnerships, South Tahoe Public Utility District, Squaw Valley Public Service District, Tahoe City Public Utility District, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, Tahoe Resource Conservation District, Tahoe Truckee Unified School District, Town of Truckee, Truckee River Watershed Council, UC Davis Tahoe Environmental Research Center, North Tahoe Public Utility District, Placer County, Washoe Tribe of California and Nevada, St. Joseph's Community Land Trust, California Tahoe Conservancy, Sierra County, Sierra County Friends of Squaw Creek**

### **Regarding the Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan**

**(Integrated Regional Water Management Plan)**

**Revised**

**January 22, 2013**

The signatories of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) recognize the value of coordinating water management, planning and implementation activities within the Tahoe Sierra region of Truckee, the Tahoe Region, and Alpine County.

The signatories represent a spectrum of public agencies, special districts, non-profit organizations and education institutions throughout the Tahoe Sierra region.

This MOU is in reference to the intent of the IRWM Program is to encourage integrated regional strategies for management of water resources and to provide funding, through competitive grants, for projects that protect communities from drought, protect and improve water quality, and improve local water security by reducing dependence on imported water.

This MOU facilitates the implementation of the Tahoe Sierra Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWM Plan), a set of coordinated strategies for management of water resources and for the implementation of projects that protect our Tahoe Sierra communities from drought, protect and improve water quality and improve local water security.

Water management goals within the Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan include but are not limited to:

- Supporting and improving local and regional water supply reliability;
- Reducing conflict between water users and resolving water rights disputes;
- Contributing measurably to the long-term attainment and maintenance of water quality standards;
- Eliminating or significantly reducing pollution in impaired waters;
- Restoring and protecting sensitive habitat areas;
- Implementing the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board Basin Plan; and
- Implementing non-point source (NPS) pollution plans.

The 2014 Revised Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan is included as Appendix B. All future revisions of the Tahoe Sierra IRWM will be undertaken with the full support of the partnership.

The signatories of this MOU will:

- Foster a collaborative water management planning environment;
- Promote integration of water management across geographies of the region;
- Recommend priorities for implementation projects;
- Cooperatively apply for and obtain funding for implementation projects;
- Revise and update the Tahoe Sierra IWRM Plan as needed; and
- Communicate the best available information to decision makers, stakeholders and the public.

The implementation projects as chosen by all the agencies are listed in Section G and H of the IRWMP. These projects have been evaluated and ranked in implementation order by all members of the Tahoe Sierra IRWM. It is expected the signatories of this MOU will apply for available funding under current and future State and Federal programs to implement these ranked projects.

This MOU does not abridge any decision-making authorities of any signatory.

The Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan and implementation guidelines developed under this MOU will not conflict with any legal obligation of any signatory, including those under contracts, licenses, permits, regulations and statutes.

This MOU is not an obligation of funds, and does not control or limit pursuit of funding for any future project of any signatory.

In the event the grant funding sought is received and prior to the execution of the grant agreement, the parties will establish a mutually acceptable structure for review of conditions of the agreement, project implementation, funding dispersal and accounting, and reporting responsibilities.

Any party to the MOU may end its participation by providing written notice to the other signatories at their normal business address.

We the undersigned adopt the Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan and will act to implement it to the best of our ability in compliance with applicable legal requirements.

Future signatories to this agreement are welcome, and past signatories to the original MOU are still viable unless written notice to end the participation of the agency has been received by the IRWM partnership.

**Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan**  
**Memorandum of Understanding**

**Signatory Page**

**Agency** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Responsible party/title for signature**

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date signed** \_\_\_\_\_