

DRAFT
Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
Regarding the Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan
(Integrated Regional Water Management Plan)
Revised
January 30, 2014,

1. Purpose of MOU

The signatories of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) recognize the value of coordinating water management, planning and implementation activities within the Tahoe Sierra Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Region (Region) which includes the Truckee River watershed including the Tahoe Region, and the Carson River watershed all of which are contained in portions of Alpine, El Dorado, Placer, Sierra, and Nevada Counties as shown on Exhibit A.

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.

2. Goals of IRWM Plan

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

- Aligning with ongoing IRWM requirements
- 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;
- Coordinate with the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board Basin Plan;
- Implementing non-point source (NPS) pollution plans.

The 2014 Revised Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan can be found at (<http://tahoesierrairwm.com/>). All future revisions of the Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan will also be posted at this location.

The implementation projects as chosen by all the agencies are listed in the IRWM Plan. 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. Stakeholders and project proponents will be invited at least once every two-years to submit additional projects for consideration to be included in the IRWM Plan or provide updates to projects already included in the IRWM Plan, without formal amendment of the IRWM Plan.

3. Mutual Understandings

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.

It is expected that signatories to this MOU will contribute staff time necessary to meet the goals of this MOU.

4. Withdrawal from the MOU

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

5. Signatories to the MOU

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

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 IRWM Plan as needed;
- Communicate the best available information to decision makers, stakeholders and the public

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 partnership lead.

This MOU may be executed by submittal of individual signature pages that when combined, shall constitute a single instrument. The signatories to this MOU represent that they have the authority to bind their respective agency to this MOU.

1. Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan

Memorandum of Understanding

Signatory Page

Agency _____

Responsible party/title for signature

Signed _____

Date signed _____

Exhibit A- Map of Region