

MEMORANDUM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
County of Placer

TO: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE: September 23, 2008

FROM: KEN GREHM / PETER KRAATZ

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF THE TAHOE SIERRA INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER
MANAGEMENT PLAN/EXECUTION OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

ACTION REQUESTED / RECOMMENDATION

1. Adopt a Resolution adopting the Tahoe Sierra Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Plan dated July 19, 2007, and
2. Authorize the Chairman to execute the Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on behalf of the County.

BACKGROUND / SUMMARY

The purpose of the Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan is to coordinate water quality and management efforts between jurisdictions within a regional watershed. Numerous public agencies, special districts, and other parties have approved the Plan and have entered into a MOU in conjunction with the Plan to coordinate strategies to improve water quality and improve local water security. Execution of the MOU does not abridge any decision-making authority of the County, obligate the County to expend funds or commit it to any course of action. A copy of the MOU is attached hereto.

The approval of the resolution will allow Placer County to apply for state grant funds under Proposition 84. A significant amount of funding from this proposition is limited to organizations participating in the Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan process.

Projects may include erosion control, river recreational access, stream environmental zone restoration, flood control, and water quality improvements. The Plan would apply to projects located in the Lake Tahoe Basin watershed as well as all other areas in Placer County east of the Sierra Crest.

ENVIRONMENTAL

The Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to guidelines Section 15262 exempting planning studies identifying potential projects, programs, and policies for future actions subject to approval, which would protect natural resources and the environment.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no cost to Placer County associated with the adoption of the Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan.

Attachments:

Resolution
Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan MOU

A copy of Tahoe Integrated Regional Water Management Plan is on file for review with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

**Before the Board of Supervisors
County of Placer, State of California**

In the matter of: A RESOLUTION ADOPTING
THE TAHOE SIERRA INTEGRATED REGIONAL
WATER MANAGEMENT (IRWM) PLAN AND
AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE
THE TAHOE SIERRA IRWM PLAN
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Reso. No:.....

The following RESOLUTION was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors
of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held _____,

by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

Attest:
Supervisors
Clerk of said Board

Chairman, Board of

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer,
State of California, that this Board:

- (1) Approves and adopts the Tahoe Sierra Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Plan, dated July 19, 2007, allowing Placer County to apply for state grant funds under Proposition 84, and
- (2) Authorizes the Chairman to execute the Memorandum of Understanding regarding the Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan on behalf of the County of Placer.

460

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, Placer County

Regarding the Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan
(Integrated Regional Water Management Plan)

April 28, 2007

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 Proposition 50, the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002, which was passed by California voters in November 2002. It amended the California Water Code (CWC) to add, among other articles, § 79560 et seq. authorizing the Legislature to appropriate \$500 million for Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) projects. The intent of the IRWM Grant 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. The IRWM Grant Program is administered jointly by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and is intended to promote an integrated and regional approach to water management.

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.

The Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan integrates approximately a dozen water plans including the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency Regional Framework, Truckee River Coordinated Watershed Management Strategy and the South Tahoe Urban Water Management Plan.

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;

- Implementing non-point source (NPS) pollution plans.

The Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan is included as Appendix B.

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;
- Communicate the best available information to decision makers, stakeholders and the public

As an early step toward implementing of the Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan, the agencies listed here under the aegis of the Tahoe Resource Conservation District, will apply for a grant from the State of California Prop 50/Chapter 8. The implementation projects as chosen by all the agencies are listed in Section G and H of the IRWMP. It is expected the signatories of this MOU will apply for additional funding under future State and Federal programs.

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 one year 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.

"COUNTY"
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF PLACER

By: _____
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Date: _____

464