

# MEMORANDUM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
County of Placer

TO: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DATE: January 6, 2015  
FROM: KEN GREHM / PETER KRAATZ  
SUBJECT: RENEW THE TAHOE SIERRA INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT  
PLAN - EXECUTION OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

---

## ACTION REQUESTED / RECOMMENDATION

1. Adopt a Resolution adopting the renewed Tahoe Sierra Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Plan, updated July 2014. There is no net County cost.
2. Authorize the Chair 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 approved the original plan in 2007 to set goals, coordinate strategy and propose a project list for improved water quality and local water security. The Board of Supervisors first adopted the July 19, 2007 Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan and MOU on September 23, 2008 (Resolution No. 2008-288).

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. The attached MOU, revised December 2014, outlines the updated interagency agreement. Adoption of the current Resolution will allow Placer County to apply for state grant funds, as required. A significant amount of funding from California propositions are limited to organizations participating in the IRWM Plan process. Projects may include erosion control, river recreational access, stream environmental zone restoration, flood control, and water quality improvements. The Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan specifically applies to projects located in the Lake Tahoe Basin watershed and Placer County east of the Sierra Crest.

## ENVIRONMENTAL

The Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan is not subject to 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.

## 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 the July 2014 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  
RENEWED TAHOE SIERRA INTEGRATED  
REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT (IRWM) PLAN  
(DATED JULY 2014) AND AUTHORIZING THE  
CHAIR 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 on \_\_\_\_\_ by the following vote on roll call:**

**Ayes:**

**Noes:**

**Absent:**

**Signed and approved by me after its passage.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chair, Board of Supervisors**

**Attest:  
Clerk of said Board**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**WHEREAS, the County of Placer recognizes the value of coordinating water management planning and implementation activities within the Tahoe region; and**

**WHEREAS, the signatories to the Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan represent a spectrum of public agencies, special districts, non-profit organizations, and educational institutions throughout the Tahoe Sierra region; and**

**WHEREAS, the Memorandum of Understanding facilitates the implementation of the Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan; fosters a collaborative water management planning environment; promotes integration of water management across regional geographies; recommends priorities for project implementation; cooperatively apply for funding for implementation projects; and communicate the best available information to decision makers, stakeholders, and the public; and**

**WHEREAS, the County of Placer adopts the Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan and will act to implement it to the best of the County's ability in compliance with applicable legal requirements.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, 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 renewed Tahoe Sierra Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Plan, dated July 2014, allowing Placer County to apply for state grant funds, as required.**
- (2) Authorizes the Chair to execute the Memorandum of Understanding regarding the Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan on behalf of the County of Placer.**

## Memorandum of Understanding

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

Revised December 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 which includes the Truckee River watershed, the Tahoe Basin, and the Carson River watershed, all of which are contained in portions of Alpine, El Dorado, Placer, Sierra, and Nevada Counties.

This MOU is in reference to the intent of the Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan and is to encourage integrated regional strategies for management of water resources and to provide a mechanism to apply for 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 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 TAHOE SIERRA IRWM PLAN

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

- Aligning with ongoing Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan 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.
- Coordinating 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 Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan. These projects have been evaluated and ranked in implementation order by all members of the Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan. 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 Tahoe Sierra IRWM Plan, without formal amendment of the Plan.

### 3. MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING

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

The signatories to this MOU represent a spectrum of public agencies, special districts, nonprofit organizations, and educational institutions throughout the Tahoe Basin.

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 MOU 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

"COUNTY"  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF PLACER

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, Board of Supervisors

Date: \_\_\_\_\_