

Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission

STAFF REPORT

DATE: March 31, 2022
TO: Chairman and Members, Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (NNWPC)
FROM: Jim Smitherman, Water Resources Consultant
SUBJECT: Report and discussion on the draft update to Chapter 4 “Wastewater and Effluent Management Planning” for the 2021-2040 Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan (RWMP).

SUMMARY

The draft update of Chapter 4 “Wastewater and Effluent Management Planning” for the 2021-2040 RWMP consists of sections generally describing wastewater service providers, water reclamation facilities (WRFs), environmental control and pretreatment programs, effluent management practices and regional effluent management efforts, and studies and programs to address certain areas served by septic systems.

Section 4.1 Wastewater Service Providers is largely unchanged from the 2016 version of the RWMP. The first paragraph is revised to provide regional context and the addition of a map developed by TMRPA showing jurisdictional boundaries within service areas is suggested. Section 4.1 briefly describes the services and service areas of Reno, Sparks, Sun Valley GID and Washoe County. Figure 4-1 is a map showing service areas and infrastructure locations, which needs to be updated.

Section 4.2 Water Reclamation Facilities has been re-written to include the present status of each of the 5 regional WRFs including ownership, location, capacity, treatment processes, facility planning and environmental control and pretreatment programs. This section now includes a description of the Regional Wastewater Source Water Quality Control Program.

Section 4.3 Regional Effluent Management Planning is being re-written to include the latest information on regional effluent management efforts. Descriptions of the proposed Palomino Farms Sustainable Water Resources Feasibility Study and the Long Valley Creek effluent discharge study appear as subsections. A description of the Regional Effluent Management Guidance Document is being developed for inclusion as a subsection. In addition, descriptions of OneWater Nevada, the Advanced Purified Water Program at American Flat and the pipeline project to supply TMWRF reclaimed water to Tahoe Reno Industrial GID are being developed.

Section 4.4 Septic Systems is unchanged from the 2016 RWMP. It focuses on areas having high densities of septic systems, studies to understand the effects to water quality and mitigation measures.

A draft updated chapter is attached for the NNWPC’s review and comment. Notes from the update team are in red.

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