

Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission

STAFF REPORT

DATE: July 29, 2022

TO: Chairman and Members, Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (NNWPC)

FROM: Kim Rigdon, Water Resources Program Manager

SUBJECT: Action, discussion, and direction to staff to advance a recommendation to the Western Regional Water Commission (WRWC) to make a determination on the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency (TMRPA) 2022-2042 Consensus Forecast.

SUMMARY

The TMRPA has prepared the draft 2022-2042 Washoe County Consensus Forecast and submitted it to staff for comparison with the estimated population that can be supported by the sustainable water resources as set forth in the RWMP. The comparison consists of 4 parts: the 20-year population projection for Washoe County provided in the draft Consensus Forecast, the sustainable water resources estimate in the adopted RWMP, a 20-year water demand projection based on the Consensus Forecast, provided by the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA), and a comparison of the water demand projection to the sustainable water resources estimate set forth in the RWMP.

The draft 2022-2042 Consensus Forecast projects that the total population in Washoe County will grow from 489,180 to 587,479 in 2042, increasing by approximately 100,000 persons. TMWA's 2020 Water Resources Plan (2020 WRP) includes a water demand projection of 96,000 acre-feet annually (afa) in 2040. For areas outside of the TMWA service boundaries, the 2010-2040 RWMP estimates the 2040 water demand will be 12,000 afa. Therefore, the total projected water demand for Washoe County is 108,000 afa.

The 2021-2040 RWMP includes an estimate of potentially available, sustainable water resources of approximately 192,988 afa. In addition, staff reported in 2020 that approximately 143,800 afa of the sustainable water resources are potentially available with no additional water importation.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

- The draft 2022-2042 Washoe County Consensus Forecast projects a 2042 population of 587,479.
- The draft 2021-2040 RWMP includes an estimate of potentially available, sustainable water resources of approximately 192,988 acre feet per year and staff estimates 143,800 afa without additional importation.
- The projected water demand for 2040 is 108,000 afa.

By this comparison, the draft 2022-2042 Washoe County Consensus Forecast population for 2042 is significantly less what the sustainable water resources identified in the RWMP can support, even without additional water importation.

BACKGROUND

In January 2010, the Regional Planning Governing Board (RPGB) adopted certain amendments to the Truckee Meadows Regional Plan (Regional Plan), and the RPGB Regulations on Procedure, identifying the NNWPC and the WRWC as the entities to perform a comparison, prior to the adoption of the Consensus Forecast, of the draft Washoe County Consensus Forecast and the estimated population that can be supported by the sustainable water resources as set forth in the RWMP. In April 2014, the TMRPA assumed the responsibility for preparing and publishing the Consensus Forecast. The RPGB Regulations on Procedure were amended at that time to reflect this change, and to make minor adjustments to the data sources and time frames for compilation and distribution of draft and final versions of the forecast.

According to the amended RPGB Regulations on Procedure, the NNWPC, upon receiving the draft consensus forecast document, will compare the draft population forecast with the estimated population that can be supported by the sustainable water resources as set forth in the RWMP and advance a recommendation for consideration to the WRWC. The WRWC will then make a determination based on the NNWPC's recommendation concerning the comparison described above and inform Reno, Sparks, Washoe County, and the TMRPA as to its finding. In addition, the RPGB Regulations on Procedure state that if the WRWC determines the draft Consensus Forecast is less than or equal to the estimated population that can be supported by the sustainable water resources identified in the RWMP, the WRWC will submit the draft Consensus Forecast to Reno, Sparks, Washoe County, and the TMRPA with a finding that the forecasted population can be supported by the sustainable water resources as set forth in the RWMP.

Since 2010, the NNWPC has made the comparison and advanced a recommendation to the WRWC as to whether the Consensus Forecast population can be supported by the sustainable water resources identified in the RWMP (see Attachment 10a). The WRWC approved the NNWPC's recommendations and found that the draft Consensus Forecast population was less than the estimated population that can be supported by the sustainable water resources set forth in the RWMP, and directed staff to inform Reno, Sparks, Washoe County, and the TMRPA that the forecasted population can be supported by the sustainable water resources as set forth in the RWMP.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff proposes the NNWPC advance a recommendation to the WRWC to make a determination that the draft Consensus Forecast population for 2042 is less than the estimated population that can be supported by the sustainable water resources set forth in the RWMP, and a finding that the forecasted population can be supported by such water resources.

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2010 Consensus Forecast Review		2012 Consensus Forecast Review	
2010 Population	434,519	2012 Population	425,930
2030 Population	<u>590,533</u>	2032 Population	<u>560,772</u>
RWMP Sustainable Water Resources (afa)	183,250	2011-2030 RWMP Sustainable Water Resources (afa)	183,250
2030 Water Demand Projection (afa)	<u>(142,000)</u>	2030 Water Demand Projection (afa)	<u>(142,000)</u>
Sustainable WR > Demand (afa)	41,250	Sustainable WR > Demand (afa)	41,250
<i>Water Demand based on TMWA "2010-2030 Consensus Forecast Population and Building and Water Use Projections"</i>		<i>2032 Pop Est. < 2030, therefore no new water demand projection was requested.</i>	

2014 Consensus Forecast Review		2016 Consensus Forecast Review	
2014 Population	442,123	2016 Population	450,747
2034 Population	<u>563,779</u>	2036 Population	<u>548,159</u>
2011-2030 RWMP Sustainable Water Resources (afa)	183,250	2011-2030 RWMP Sustainable Water Resources (afa)	183,250
2030 Water Demand Projection (afa)	<u>(142,000)</u>	2036 Water Demand Projection (afa)	<u>(116,000)</u>
Sustainable WR > Demand (afa)	41,250	Sustainable WR > Demand (afa)	67,250
<i>2034 Pop Est. < 2030 & 2032, therefore no new water demand projection was requested.</i>		<i>2036 Population < 2034 Population TMWA updated water demand estimate methodology.</i>	

2018 Consensus Forecast Review		2020 Consensus Forecast Review	
2018 Population	451,923	2020 Population	469,801
2038 Population	<u>558,746</u>	2040 Population	<u>569,385</u>
2016 RWMP Sustainable Water Resources (afa)	190,500	2016 RWMP Sustainable Water Resources (afa)	190,500
2038 Water Demand Projection (afa)	<u>(111,875)</u>	2040 Water Demand Projection (afa)	<u>(114,100)</u>
Sustainable WR > Demand (afa)	78,625	Sustainable WR > Demand (afa)	76,400
<i>RWMP Update for Sustainable Water Resources Updated TMWA 2036 water demand projection to include water loss and adjusted domestic well water demand calculations.</i>		<i>Water Demand Projection not requested, staff recommended increase of 2% in alignment with 2040 Consensus Forecast Population 2% increase.</i>	

2022 Consensus Forecast Review	
2022 Population	489,180
2042 Population	<u>587,479</u>
2021 RWMP Sustainable Water Resources (afa)	192,988
2040 Water Demand Projection (afa)	<u>(108,000)</u>
Sustainable WR > Demand (afa)	84,988
<i>RWMP Update for Sustainable Water Resources TMWA 2020-2040 WRP update for Water Demand</i>	

Notes:

acre feet annually (afa)

2013, 2014 and 2015 drought impacts to water demand

2015 WC DWR merger with TMWA updated water demand estimate methodology