

PREFACE

The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) Best Management Practices (BMP) Handbook provides technical and planning guidance to landowners, private businesses, agencies, and jurisdictions for water quality improvement projects. The Handbook is offered to help meet the standards set forth in the TRPA Code of Ordinances and for reducing pollutants of concern identified in the Lake Tahoe Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) as set forth by the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection and the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board.

This Handbook should be used as a general guidance document to aid with site analysis, BMP design, and long-term maintenance of stormwater quality control measures. Because not all of the control practices noted in this Handbook are necessary or even appropriate for all sites, individual site conditions must be considered when projects are designed. TRPA makes no claims that this BMP Handbook is all inclusive. On the contrary, there are BMP technologies that, while not currently a part of this BMP Handbook, can be effectively designed and employed in the Lake Tahoe Region to fulfill environmental regulations.

BMP HANDBOOK REVISIONS

The science, research, and technology of stormwater quality management are evolving and new innovative control measure technologies are regularly being introduced and revised. Therefore, the TRPA BMP Handbook will be reviewed and updated periodically as new information becomes available with regards to BMP design, installation, effectiveness, and maintenance. Users of this BMP Handbook are responsible for ensuring that they are referencing the most current edition by checking tahoebmp.org, trpa.org, or by contacting the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency.

At Lake Tahoe, TMDLs have been developed through a collaborative effort between TRPA, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the States of California and Nevada, other regulatory agencies, the science community, and local jurisdictions. The revised BMP Handbook incorporates relevant information from the Lake Tahoe TMDLs related to reducing Lake Tahoe's pollutants of concern (namely, fine sediments, phosphorus, and nitrogen).

DISCLAIMER

TRPA and the contributing agencies do not claim any responsibility for any loss, damage, or injury resulting from the use of this Handbook, including errors or omissions that might contribute to non-performance or failure of the stormwater quality control measures. Many of the BMPs described in this BMP Handbook must be designed by, or under the supervision of, a licensed professional civil or hydrological engineer and/or other specialists, depending on the type of control measure and site conditions. BMPs and their maintenance are ultimately the responsibility of the landowner.