

PREFACE

The current 1988 Handbook of Best Management Practices (BMP Handbook) is Volume II of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency's Water Quality Management Plan for the Lake Tahoe Region (208 Plan). The BMP Handbook assists in the implementation of federal Clean Water Act (CWA) mandates by providing technical and planning guidance to landowners, private businesses, agencies, and jurisdictions for water quality improvement projects.

This Final Draft BMP Handbook is a proposed update to the existing 1988 BMP Handbook. At Lake Tahoe, a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) has been developed through a collaborative effort between the regulatory agencies, science community, and local jurisdictions charged with developing and implementing the TMDL. The proposed revisions in this Final Draft BMP Handbook attempt to incorporate relevant information from the recently published Lake Tahoe TMDL Technical Report and the Lake Tahoe TMDL Pollutant Load Reduction Opportunity Report by the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board and Nevada Division of Environmental Protection related to reducing Lake Tahoe pollutants of concern (namely fine sediments, phosphorus, and nitrogen) into Lake Tahoe.

STAKEHOLDER INPUT AND BMP HANDBOOK REVISIONS

Stakeholder input regarding the usability and information contained in this BMP Handbook is greatly encouraged. TRPA is seeking stakeholder input for the BMP Handbook from June 1 to August 1, 2011. The proposed Final Draft BMP Handbook is available at www.tahoebmp.org and input is accepted on the website. Additionally, input may be emailed to jchoy@trpa.org (Subject: Final Draft BMP Handbook Input) or mailed to TRPA (Attn: Janny Choy, Stormwater Management Program) at TRPA, P.O. Box 5310, Stateline, NV 89449.

After the stakeholder input period ends, pertinent changes will be made to the Final Draft BMP Handbook. A Final BMP Handbook is expected to be presented to the TRPA Governing Board at the end of 2011.

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

DISCLAIMER

The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) Best Management Practices (BMP) 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 Load 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 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 as needed, depending on the type of control measure and site conditions. BMPs and their maintenance are ultimately the responsibility of the landowner.