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Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: 2019060152

Project Title: TAHOE KEYS LAGOONS AQUATIC WEED CONTROL METHODS TEST

Lead Agency: Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

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Project Location: South Lake Tahoe (*City*) El Dorado County (*County*)

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

The proposed Project is a three-year program to test the use of multiple methods, independently and in combination, to control three target aquatic weeds: Eurasian watermilfoil, curly-leaf pondweed, and coontail. The Project will include large-scale treatment methods for addressing target aquatic weeds using aquatic herbicides and/or large-scale ultraviolet light and localized treatment methods for addressing target aquatic weeds, including ultraviolet light spot treatments, bottom barriers, diver-assisted suction and diver hand pulling techniques. The Project will also integrate measures to enhance water quality, prevent the spread of target aquatic weeds to new areas and from re-infesting previously treated areas, and minimize the formation of hazardous algal blooms.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

Herbicide Applicator Exposure and Health, Detectable Concentrations of Herbicides and Degradants in Receiving Waters, Introduction of Toxic Substances into the Environment, Short-term Increases in Aluminum Concentrations, Harmful Algal Blooms, Changes in Dissolved Oxygen Concentrations, Increases in Total Phosphorus Concentrations, Increases in Lagoon Water Total Nitrogen, Effects on Non-Target Aquatic Macrophyte Species, Effects on Sensitive Aquatic Macrophyte Species, Changes in Aquatic Macrophyte Community Composition, Effects Associated with the Introduction or Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species. ALL LESS THAN SIG. W/MITIGATION - Use Qualified Applicator License (QAL) holders trained to use proper personal protective equipment and follow product label specifications. Implement spill prevention and response plan to minimize and contain any spills during herbicide mixing and application. Deploy aeration technologies at each herbicide test site to increase aerobic microbial degradation of herbicide active ingredients. Implement BMPs to minimize sediment disturbance. Deploy turbidity curtain barriers to isolate test areas and prevent migration of disturbed sediment beyond boundaries of test sites. Implement treatment of de-watering effluent and discharge effluent in compliance with aluminum water quality criteria. Implement leak-detection program for of dredge spoils storage areas and transport. Optimize timing and size of treatments to reduce impacts. Deploy aeration technologies. Spring macrophyte surveys to adjust testing to avoid effects on sensitive macrophyte species, better target dense beds of target species and avoid native plant communities and adverse changes in macrophyte community composition. Continue existing watercraft inspection program. Clean and inspect all in-water equipment to min. spread.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

1) The need for long-term aquatic weeds control and the prevention of further dispersal of fragments into Lake Tahoe, especially under the No Action Alternative.
2) The use of herbicides in the waters of Lake Tahoe and the Tahoe Keys, including a test of aquatic herbicide for comparison to other aquatic weed treatment options.
3) A desire to test non-herbicidal treatments to control aquatic weeds (addressed in Action Alternative 1).
4) A desire to test modifications to the Tahoe Keys lagoons as a means to control aquatic weeds (addressed in Action Alternative 2).
5) The long-term costs of aquatic weeds management, and of inaction to control weeds.
6) The potential for harmful algal blooms (HABs) to occur, resulting in the presence of cyanotoxins.
7) The need to preserve and improve water quality and protect the aquatic biology and ecology of Lake Tahoe and the Tahoe Keys.
8) The need for a full and complete antidegradation analysis to address all potential effects of herbicides.
9) Effects of aquatic weeds on recreational boating.
10) The need to meet regulatory requirements in permitting tests of aquatic weeds control methods.
11) A desire to assure review by qualified, independent experts
12) The need to avoid any potential impact on drinking water quality or the brand of water purveyors sourcing Lake Tahoe water.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

STATE RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES
California Air Resources Board
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
California Office of Historic Preservation

STATE TRUSTEE AGENCIES
California State Lands Commission

OTHER INTERESTED AGENCIES
United States Army Corps of Engineers
United States Environmental Protection Agency
USDA Forest Service
USDOI Bureau of Reclamation
USDOI Fish and Wildlife Service