

LAKE TAHOE TMDL PROGRAM 2014 STRATEGY & CURRENT THEMES

The TMDL Strategy provides consistent direction to inform the prioritization of day-to-day activities and communications by the TMDL Program Managers, so that they can motivate implementation of effective actions to restore Lake Tahoe clarity.

Long-Term Goal

Guide implementation of cost effective load reduction measures to reverse clarity loss of Lake Tahoe:

- Achieve 80 ft Clarity Challenge by 2026. Then achieve 100ft clarity standard.

5-Year Milestone Objectives *(through 2016 updates)*

- Work to secure sustained funding for implementation through 2021.
- Full Lake Clarity Crediting Program implementation including: 1) functional tools, 2) all urban jurisdictions register catchments, perform inspections and declare credits, and 3) all urban jurisdictions achieve credit targets associated with the 10% load reduction milestone.
- Full TMDL progress reporting for all source categories included in the TMDL implementation plan addressing the context of lake clarity status.
- Full TMDL Management System cycle accomplished without contractor support.
- Solicit, document and be responsive to input from all stakeholders.

Annual Objectives & Actions *(through end of TMDL MS pilot in 2014)*

- Maintain focus on the urban source category. Jurisdictions are familiar with and accept the Crediting Program and Tools and start registering catchments and performing initial inspections.
- Complete SLRPs and Nevada agreements.
- Complete action plan for Tools Improvement Project, so that basic functions of Tools work and there are no technical barriers to registering catchments, performing inspections and declaring and awarding credits.
- Complete pilot of TMDL Management System including: 1) define non-urban Performance Measures, 2) create initial information needs, findings and program improvements lists that can be easily refined in the future, 3) track and report progress (and impediments) from all sources, and 4) consider and address major problems and issues, which may consist of categorizing for future resolution.

Current Themes *(External talking points to drive focus and motivate action)*

- Accounting for urban load reduction implementation activities is the current focus of the Lake Clarity Crediting Program. TMDL Program Managers will consider crediting for non-urban activities once all urban jurisdictions have demonstrated familiarity with Crediting Program protocols through application of the associated tools and registration of catchments and actions sufficient to achieve the 10% load reduction milestone.
- Get familiar with the tools and start using Tools to setup roadway and BMP classifications.
- Roadways are the largest source and operations and maintenance are cost-effective opportunities to achieve load reductions. Demonstrating reductions from roadways is key to securing additional funding.
- All stakeholders will have the ability to provide input to the adaptive management of TMDL implementation. TMDL Program Managers are committed to documenting and being responsive to this input.
- The Tools Improvement Project is intended to make implementation of the Crediting Program reasonable and useful for urban jurisdictions.
- The TMDL Program Managers continue to support pollutant controls in all source categories. The TMDL Program will track and report performance measures and evaluate implementation progress from forests, streams and atmospheric deposition.