

West Fork Carson River Vision Project



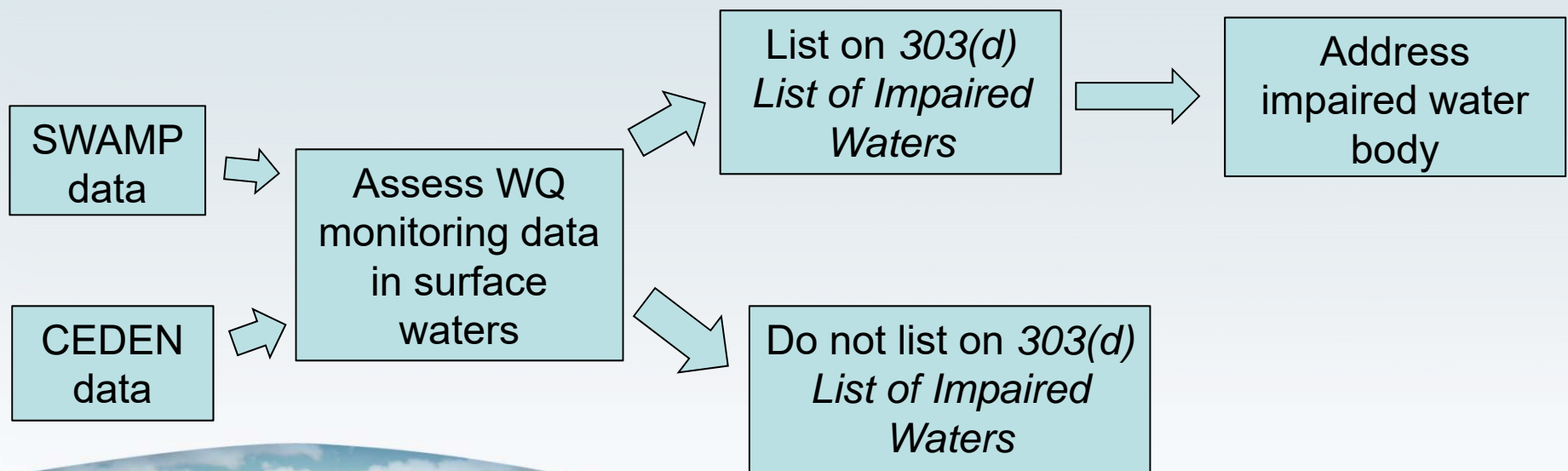
Cindy Wise

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Lahontan Regional Water Quality
Control Board



Determining Water Quality Impairments



West Fork Carson River 2012 303(d) Listings

Segment	2012 303(d) Listings for Impairment	Beneficial Uses Impaired
Carson River, West Fork (Headwaters to Woodfords)	Chloride, Nitrate, Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Sulfates, Total Dissolved Solids, Turbidity	Cold Freshwater Habitat
Carson River, West Fork (Woodfords to Paynesville)	Chloride, Fecal Coliform, Nitrate, Nitrogen, Sulfates, Total Dissolved Solids, Turbidity	Cold Freshwater Habitat and Water Contact Recreation
Carson River, West Fork (Paynesville to State Line)	Fecal Coliform	Water Contact Recreation



The Vision



- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced ***The Long-Term Vision for Assessment, Restoration, and Protection under the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) Program*** in December 2013
- States expected to develop strategies to implement their CWA 303(d) Program to meet their overall water quality goals and individual State priorities
- Not rule or regulation



Key Steps in the Vision

(from US EPA Vision Update 2017 presentation)

Choosing Priorities and Assessing Baseline Conditions

- **“Prioritization”** - States choose priority waters to address with TMDLs and other projects by 2022
- **“Assessment”** - States assess these priority waters

Considerations for use of other tools to achieve WQ standards

(expected that TMDLs remain most effective tool in the majority of cases.)

- **“Protection”** - States identify approaches and priorities to protect healthy waters
- **“Alternatives”** - In addition to TMDLs, alternative approaches that incorporate adaptive management to implement priority watershed/waterbody actions to achieve WQ goals.

Work with partners to realize environmental results

- **“Engagement”** - States engage public and other stakeholders to improve and protect water quality
- **“Integration”** - Coordinating CWA programs and others to achieve water quality goals



Where are we in the process?

(from US EPA Vision Update 2017 presentation)

Assess and Prioritize Waters to Achieve State's Overall Water Quality Goals
(by pollutants, waterbodies, watersheds, etc.)

2015



Develop a Plan to Meet Watershed Water Quality Goals
(TMDLs, TMDL Alternatives, Watershed Based Plans, etc.)

2022



Engage Stakeholders to Implement the Plan
(NPDES, Nonpoint Source Implementation and Enforcement)

2022 and
beyond

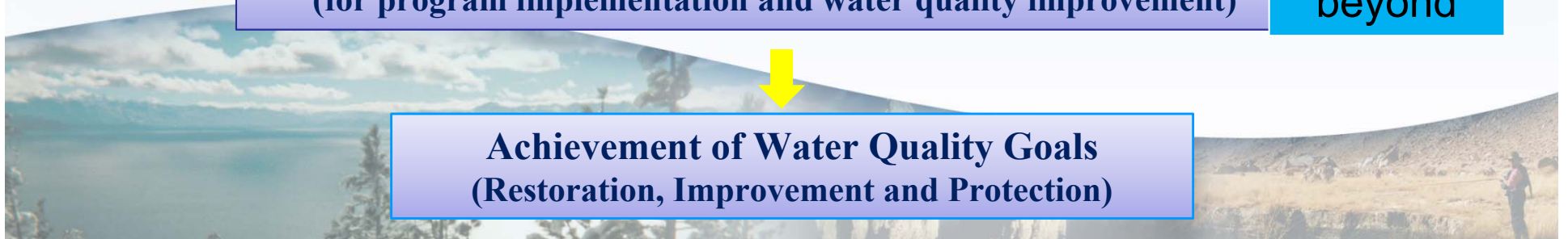


Monitoring and Adaptive Management
(for program implementation and water quality improvement)

2022 and
beyond

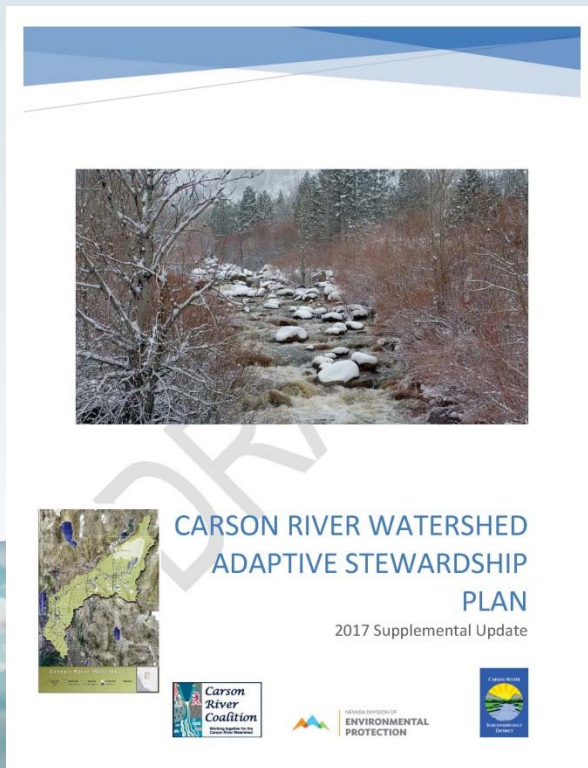


Achievement of Water Quality Goals
(Restoration, Improvement and Protection)

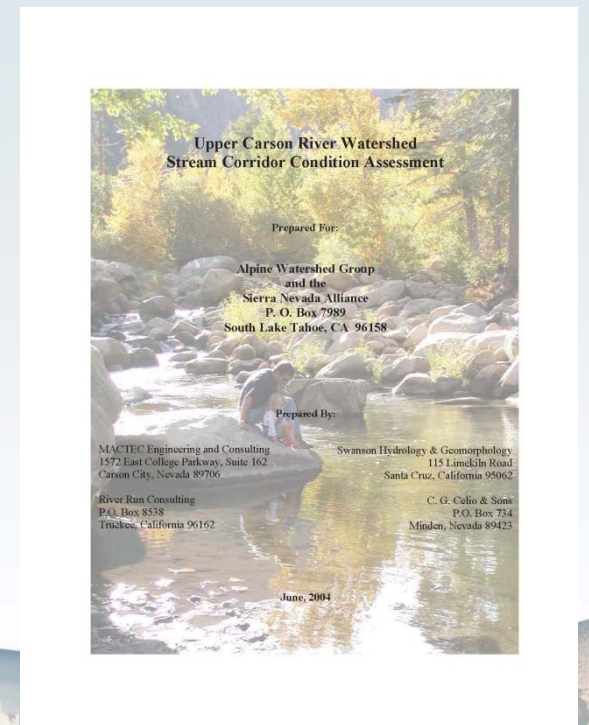


What information is already available about the West Fork Carson River?

CWSD Carson River Adaptive Stewardship Plan



Upper Carson River Watershed Stream Corridor Condition Assessment



Our “Vision” for West Fork Carson River

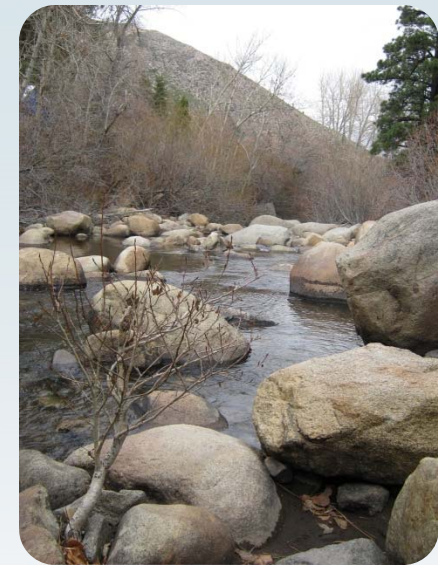
TMDL
Alternative –
USEPA 9
Element
Watershed
Plan

- a. • Identify causes and sources of pollution
- b. • Estimate load reductions expected
- c. • Describe management measures and targeted critical areas
- d. • Estimate technical and financial assistance needed
- e. • Develop an information and education component
- f. • Develop a project schedule
- g. • Describe interim, measurable milestones
- h. • Identify indicators to measure progress
- i. • Develop a monitoring component



Next Steps

- Evaluate new data as part of 2018 Integrated Report cycle
- Identify potential sources and management measures
- Stakeholder involvement



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