

Western Regional Water Commission

STAFF REPORT

DATE: January 12, 2022
TO: Chair and Members, Western Regional Water Commission (WRWC)
FROM: Kim Rigdon, Water Resources Program Manager
SUBJECT: Report, discussion, and possible direction to staff regarding chapters and schedule related to the drafting and presentation of the 2021-2040 Regional Water Management Plan

SUMMARY

The NNWPC is currently engaged in updating the 2021-2040 Regional Water Management Plan (RWMP) in accordance with the schedule accepted by the WRWC on February 17, 2020. The “Update Schedule” anticipated a complete draft would be developed by January 1, 2022, for the Western Regional Water Commission (WRWC) to review.

On September 1, 2021, the Water Resources Program Manager retired prior to the completion of the RWMP. The new Program Manager was appointed by the WRWC on October 20, 2021. Unfortunately, in addition to staff changes, the untimely loss of a planning team member delayed information needed for the completion of Chapters 4, 7, and 10 of the RWMP. Subsequently, staff is working to complete the draft chapters. The following is a summary of the draft chapter updates:

Draft Chapters 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 8 have been accepted by the NNWPC.

Chapter 4 “Wastewater and Effluent Management” is a key component of the 2021-2040 RWMP Update. Effluent management is a high-priority and the collaborative effort of the Regional Effluent Management Team (REMT), an informal working group comprised of staff from the WRWC/NNWPC, the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA), the City of Reno, the City of Sparks, and Washoe County. The REMT continues to collaborate to finalize effluent projections and management strategies, including the potential for long-term advanced water treatment technologies. Staff is working to draft Chapter 4 so that it will be comprehensive and reflect regional effluent management goals and priorities. Subsequently, additional time is necessary to complete Chapter 4 to accommodate further regional coordination.

Chapter 7 “Population Forecast and Projections of Water Demand, Peak Day Requirements and Wastewater Flow” has been drafted and accepted by the NNWPC as a work in progress with revisions currently under review. Staff received comments from TMWA, some of which will affect the Water Balance Map. Staff anticipates incorporating TMWA’s comments into the draft chapter and presenting it to the NNWPC in February 2022.

Chapter 9 “Cost and Financing” is a high-level analysis of costs associated with planned and recommended major facility improvement programs for water, wastewater, drainage, and flood management. Cost data are summarized from local government and utility five-year capital improvement programs (CIP). The chapter includes some major improvements anticipated beyond the five-year CIP timeframes for informational purposes, but because of a higher level of uncertainty, they are not included in the cost analysis. On December 1, 2021 a final draft with modifications was sent to the NNWPC and is currently under its review.

Chapter 10 “Issues and Action Plan” is a summary of regional water management plan issues, work performed in response to the issues, alternatives if developed, and work needed to respond to issues moving forward. Proposed action items are outlined for future work which guides the focus and activities of the WRWC for the next 5 years. Staff continues to collaborate with key partners working towards completion of Chapter 10.

DISCUSSION

More time is needed to complete the draft update to the 2021-2040 RWMP. Staff estimates that a review draft of Chapters 4 and 10 will not be available before April 2022 and a revised RWMP Update schedule has been included for consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff proposes the WRWC approve the revised RWMP Update Schedule.

KR:jp

Attachment: 2021-2040 Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan Update Schedule.

2021-2040 Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan Update Schedule

As of January 19, 2022

Chapter	2020												2021												2022											
	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov						
Chapter 1 - Regional Water Planning Policies and Criteria													*																							
Chapter 2 - Water Resources								*																												
Chapter 3 - Water Purveyors and Other Water Providers								*																												
Chapter 4 - Wastewater and Effluent Management																																				
Chapter 5 - Storm Water and Watershed-Based Water Quality Planning													*																							
Chapter 6 - Flood Management and Storm Water Drainage																		*																		
Chapter 7 - Population Forecast and Water Demand and Flow Projections																																				
Chapter 8 - Water Conservation Plan - Efficient Use of Water								*																												
Chapter 9 - Cost and Financing																																				
Chapter 10 - Issues and Action Plan																																				

Chapter undergoing Update	
Chapter under review for acceptance by NNWPC	
Package Plan	
Public Hearing on RWMP for approval by NNWPC	1
30-Day public review Period	2
Public Hearing on Adoption of the RWMP by WRWC	3
40-day Regional Planning Commission review for Consistency	4

Notes:

Final adoption requirements:

1. 10-day notice issued in advance of NNWPC Public hearing to recommend Plan update to the WRWC.
 2. Notice of public review of Plan at the County Clerks office and initiation of 30-day public review period.
 3. 10-day notice issued in advance of WRWC Public hearing to adopt plan.
 4. Following plan adoption commencement of 40-day review Regional Planning Commission for consistency.
- * Denotes Chapter in final draft phase accepted by NNWPC