4.13 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

This section describes the existing infrastructure related to water, wastewater, storm water drainage and solid waste disposal in Truckee. Potential impacts from the 2025 General Plan to the provision of these services are also discussed. The following is organized according to type of utility, with existing conditions, standards of significance and analysis of project- and specific cumulative impacts analyzed individually.

A. Water Service

This section provides a general description of the regulatory setting addressing existing water services and infrastructure, and supply and demand in the Town of Truckee.

1. Regulatory Setting

This section describes the federal, State and local regulations that provide for protection and management of water resources and services in the United States and California.

a. Federal and State Regulations

There are federal and State regulations that affect water services in Truckee.

i. Safe Drinking Water Act

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) authorizes the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to set national standards for drinking water, called the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations, to protect against both naturally-occurring and man-made contaminants. These standards set enforceable maximum contaminant levels in drinking water and require ways for all water providers in the United States to treat water to remove contaminants for all water providers in the United States, except for private wells serving fewer than 25 people. In California, the State Department of Health Service conducts most enforcement activities. If a water system does not meet standards, it is the water supplier's responsibility to notify its customers.

ii. SB 610 and SB 221

Senate Bill 610 (SB 610) and Senate Bill 221 (SB 221) amended State law to ensure better coordination between local water supply and land use decisions, and ensure adequate water supply for new development. Both statutes require that detailed information regarding water availability be provided to City/Town and County decision-makers prior to approval of large development projects.[1]

iii. Urban Water Management Planning Act

Through the Urban Water Management Act of 1983, the California Water Code requires all urban water suppliers within California to prepare and adopt an Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) and update it every five years. This requirement applies to all suppliers providing water to more than 3,000 customers or supplying more than 3,000 acre-feet of water annually. The Act is intended to support conservation and efficient use of urban water supplies at the local level. The Act requires that total projected water use be compared to water supply sources over the next 20 years in five year increments, that planning occur for single and multiple dry water years and that plans include a water recycling analysis that incorporates a description of the wastewater collection and treatment system within the agency's service area along with current and potential recycled water uses.[2] The Truckee Donner Public Utility District (TDPUD) adopted its first UWMP in November 2005.[3]

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[1] California Department of Water Resources, http://www.owue.water.ca.gov/Guidebook_101003.pdf, accessed April 6, 2006.

[2] Department of Water Resources, Urban Water Management Planning Program website: http://www.owue.water.ca.gov/urbanplan/index.cfm, accessed March 22nd, 2006.

[3] Truckee Donner Public Utility District Urban Water Management Plan, adopted November 2005. Prepared by Neil Kaufman, Water System Engineer.

iv. Groundwater Management Act

The Groundwater Management Act of the California Water Code (AB 3030) provides guidance for applicable local agencies to develop a voluntary Groundwater Management Plan (GMP) in State-designated groundwater basins. GMPs can allow agencies to raise revenue to pay for measures influencing the management of the basin, including extraction, recharge, conveyance, facilities' maintenance and water quality.[4] The TDPUD adopted a GMP for the entire Martis Valley Groundwater Basin in 1998. Since that time, additional studies have been conducted to better inform TDPUD, Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) and the Northstar Community Services District (NCSD), who are all dependant on the Martis Valley Basin for water supply, about the status of the basin's capacity.[5] The outcome of the most recent evaluation by Nimbus Engineering in 2001 concluded that available water in the basin was adequate to serve the projected buildout of the service area.[6] According to the report, the sustainable yield of the groundwater basin was set at 24,000 acre-feet per year (AFY) for all withdrawals.[7]

b. Local

In addition to State and federal plans and regulations that address the provision of water to the community, the following local measures have been adopted by the TDPUD.

i. Water Facilities Fees Ordinance

Effective June 2005, the Water Facilities Fee Ordinance was passed by the TDPUD Board of Directors to finance public water system facilities needed

[4] California Department of Water Resources Website: http://www.groundwater.water.ca.gov/water_laws/ab3030_gma/index.cfm.

[5] Neil Kaufman, Water System Engineer, Truckee Donner Public Utility District. Personal Communication with Shay Boutillier, DC&E, March 14, 2006.

[6] Truckee Donner Public Utility District *Urban Water Management Plan*, adopted November, 2005.

[7] Truckee Donner Public Utility District *Urban Water Management Plan*, adopted November, 2005.

to serve new development and to reduce the impacts of additional demands on the existing water system caused by new development.

ii. Water Connection Fees Ordinance

Effective June 2005, the Water Connection Fee Ordinance was passed by the TDPUD Board of Directors to reimburse the District for the actual administrative, material and labor costs of connecting to the water system.

2. Existing Setting

Water service in Truckee is provided by the TDPUD, a non-profit utility providing electric and water service since 1927.[8] The District operates three water systems in the Truckee area: the Hirshdale System, Truckee System and Lahontan System. The Lahontan System, however, is owned by the Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) and is operated by the TDPUD under contract to PCWA.[9] Two additional water systems owned and operated bu other districts, the Glenshire and Donner Lake systems, operate in the Truckee area. Projects that began in 2005 and currently underway will combine all these systems into a single entity under TDPUD.[10]

a. Water Supply

The TDPUD acquires its water from the Martis Valley Groundwater Basin. The basin is a low-lying area of approximately 57 square miles that is completely contained within a larger watershed of approximately 167-square miles. The basin has a total subsurface storage volume of 484,000 acre-feet and is made up of three aquifers composed of sediments and volcanic deposits nearly 1,000 feet thick.[11] Infiltration from surface water and precipitation supplies the upper unconfined aquifer system, which in turns feeds adjacent

[8] Truckee Donner Public Utility District , http://www.tdpud.org/index.cfm, accessed February 22, 2006.

[9] Truckee Donner Public Utility District, *Urban Water Management Plan*, adopted November 2005. Prepared by Neil Kaufman, Water System Engineer.

[10] 2004 Truckee Donner Public Utility District *Water System Master Plan*

[11] Truckee Donner Public Utility District *Urban Water Management Plan*, adopted November, 2005.

wetland areas. Annual groundwater recharge depends heavily on snowmelt in the late spring and early summer from April through June.[12] The basin-wide annual recharge is estimated at 29,165 AFY. Based on recent studies of the groundwater basin, available water was estimated to be adequate to serve the projected buildout of the TDPUD service area and the Town of Truckee.[13] Given the total subsurface storage and sustainable yield of 24,000 AFY, there is enough available water in the basin for the next 20 years of service even if no recharge occurred.[14]

b. Water System Master Plan

The TDPUD contracted with Sauers Engineering, Inc. to prepare a Water System Master Plan spanning 1995 to 2015. The aim of the plan was to assist the District in identifying existing deficiencies in capacity and service; budgeting for correction of these deficiencies; anticipating areas where growth is likely to occur that is consistent with the Town of Truckee, Nevada County and Placer County General Plans; identifying system improvements necessary to serve such growth; and, analyzing the District's current facilities fee and setting future facilities fees.[15]

c. Water Service and Facilities

The TDPUD maintains approximately 195 miles of transmission, distribution and service pipeline.[16] The District also maintains 1,530 main line valves, 870

[12] Pacific Municipal Consultants *Old Greenwood Planned Development Draft Environmental Impact Report (SCH# 2001102077)*. February, 2002.

[13] Mike Vaughan, Town of Truckee Public Works Division. Personal Communication with Shay Boutillier on March 3rd, 2006.

[14] Truckee Donner Public Utility District *Urban Water Management Plan*, adopted November, 2005.

[15] Truckee Donner Public Utility District *Water System Masterplan 1995-2015*, prepared by Sauers Engineering, Inc., adopted March 19th, 1997. Updated in January of 2001, and again in June of 2004.

[16] Truckee Donner Public Utility District, *Urban Water Management Plan*, adopted November, 2005.

fire hydrants, 130 air release valves, 100 blow-off valves and 20 pressure reducing stations.[17]

Because elevations throughout Truckee vary so greatly, water is stored in tanks that are strategically placed throughout the community and is transported to higher elevations areas through a series of pump stations.[18] The TDPUD currently maintains 12 wells, 36 storage tanks and 28 pumping stations, to serve approximately 11,500 water customers in 48 pressure zones.[19] The total production capacity of the active potable water wells is approximately 13.8 million gallons per day (mgd).[20]

d. System Capacity and Improvements

Current water production in Truckee averages 6.64 mgd, with a peak of 12.61 mgd that occurred on July 18, 2004. Maximum potable water demand for the TDPUD is 12.61 mgd, with maximum demand estimated to be 25.46 mgd at buildout of the General Plan. Growth projections of the region indicate that the existing service area will reach buildout conditions in the year 2027.[21] In order to meet this future demand, a total of eight new wells, at a capacity of 1,500 gallons per minute (gpm) each, will be required to provide adequate capacity.[22] In order to address limitations in storage and transmission, the TDPUD has identified the need for a series of improvements, including the

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[17] Truckee Donner Public Utility District *Water System Masterplan 1995-2015*, prepared by Sauers Engineering, Inc., adopted March 19th, 1997. Updated in January of 2001, and again in June of 2004.

[18] Truckee Donner Public Utility District, http://www.tdpud.org/index.cfm, accessed February 22, 2006.

[19] Truckee Donner Public Utility District, *Urban Water Management Plan*, adopted November, 2005.

[20] Truckee Donner Public Utility District, *Urban Water Management Plan*, adopted November, 2005.

[21] Truckee Donner Public Utility District, *Urban Water Management Plan*, adopted November, 2005.

[22] *Water Master Plan Update,* prepared by the Truckee Donner Public Utility District, January 2001.

construction of new wells, additional storage facilities, two new major transmission pipelines and an upsizing of existing pipelines in some areas.[23]

3. Standards of Significance

The proposed 2025 Truckee General Plan would have a significant impact on water service if it would:

- Have insufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing and identified entitlements and resources.
- Require or result in the construction of new water facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects.

4. Impact Discussion

Goals, objectives, policies and actions in the 2025 General Plan call for the provision of an adequate supply of water; the maintenance of water infrastructure; coordination between land use planning and water facilities and service; and, the promotion of water conservation measures. These goals, objectives, policies and actions, combined with improvements foreseen in the 2005 Urban Water Management Plan, would prevent significant impacts from occurring to Truckee's water supply during buildout of the General Plan.

a. Water Supply

Based on recent studies of the Martis Valley Groundwater Basin, available water is estimated to be adequate for the next 20 years, under implementation of the 2025 General Plan.[24] Given the total subsurface storage and sustainable yield of 24,000 AFY, there would be enough water available to serve projected buildout of the TDPUD service area, which includes the Town of Truckee. This would occur even if no recharge occurred, however, since re-

[23] *Water Master Plan Update,* prepared by the Truckee Donner Public Utility District, January 2001.

[24] Mike Vaughan, Town of Truckee Public Works Division. Personal Communication with Shay Boutillier on March 3, 2006.

charge would in fact contribute additional water to the groundwater basin, actual water supplies would be available beyond this 20-year horizon.[25]

b. Water Infrastructure

As noted previously in this section, the District currently lacks the water storage capacity needed to meet the demands under the projected buildout of the service area. However, plans for construction of new wells and other facilities improvements will allow the TDPUD to address capacity effectiveness and meet future water demands at buildout of the General Plan.[26] The planned improvements needed to accommodate growth in the entire TDPUD service area would be subject to environmental review during the design and implementation phase.

5. Cumulative Impact Discussion

The TDPUD's planning for future water supply takes into account cumulative demand within its entire service area. As noted above, there would be a less than significant impact to water supply under buildout of the Truckee 2025 General Plan in combination with other projected growth, and no significant impact was identified in regard to the construction of new and expanded facilities. Given that implementation of the 2025 General Plan would cause *less than significant* impacts on water supply or the provision of water supply services, the Plan would not result in or contribute to any cumulative impacts.

6. Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Since *less than significant* impacts related to water infrastructure or provision of water services were identified as a result of the 2025 General Plan, no mitigation measures are required.

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[25] Truckee Donner Public Utility District, *Urban Water Management Plan*, adopted November, 2005.

[26] *Water Master Plan Update* Prepared by the Truckee Donner Public Utility District, January 2001.

B. Wastewater

The following provides a description of wastewater service in Truckee, including applicable regulatory programs, existing wastewater services and infrastructure, and supply and demand conditions within the Town.

1. Regulatory Framework

The following programs, policies and regulations direct the collection, treatment, and disposal of wastewater in Truckee.

a. Porter Cologne Water Quality Control Act (State of California)

In response to the deterioration of water quality of Lake Tahoe and the Truckee River, the Porter Cologne Water Quality Control Act was adopted in the State of California in 1969. The Porter Cologne Act mandated that all sewage be exported from the Tahoe Basin and all existing treatment facilities be replaced. The Tahoe-Truckee Sanitation Agency was formed on May 1, 1972 to comply with this Act and provide sewage treatment for five collection districts. The five districts are the Tahoe City Public Utility District, the North Tahoe Public Utility District, the Squaw Valley County Water District, the Alpine Springs County Water District, and the Truckee Sanitary District, which provide sewage collection services for the Town of Truckee.[27]

b. Sanitary District Act

As part of the California Health and Safety Code section 6400 et seq, the Sanitary District Act of 1923 was created with the purpose for any area in a county, or in two or more counties within the same natural watershed area to acquire, construct and operate garbage dumps and garbage disposal systems, sewerage systems, drainage works, and water reclamation and distribution systems[28]

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[27] Tahoe-Truckee Sanitation Agency, http://63.150.38.132/jsp/content.jsp?menuid=53, accessed March 19, 2006.

[28] California Health & Safety Code, Div. 6, Pt. 1, §§ 6400-6830: Derived from 1923:250:498. "Sanitary District Act of 1923."

c. Truckee Sanitary District Code

The Truckee Sanitary District Code (TSD) outlines policies, provisions, regulations, fees and charges related to service, installation, inspection and maintenance of sanitary sewer facilities.

2. Existing Wastewater Facilities

a. Tahoe-Truckee Sanitation Agency

The Tahoe-Truckee Sanitation Agency (TTSA) provides sewage treatment services to the Town of Truckee. TTSA is committed to a policy of energy and natural resource conservation, with the goal of discharging treated wastewater in the Truckee River corridor in such a manner as to retain the integrity of ground and surface waters, while ensuring that the quality of water downstream is not diminished.[29]

Collected sewage from Truckee is conveyed to the TTSA Water Reclamation Plant (WRP), which is adjacent to the Truckee River and the Truckee-Tahoe Airport. This tertiary treatment plant serves the Town of Truckee and much of the California portion of Lake Tahoe. The TTSA WRP also receives effluent from the North Tahoe Public Utility District, the Tahoe City Public Utility District, Alpine Springs County Water District and Squaw Valley Public Service District. The TTSA WRP is sized primarily to treat the maximum sewage flows that occur during summer periods with the influx of seasonal residents and visitors.

Currently, TTSA is upgrading and expanding its existing facilities to increase handling capacity to 9.6 mgd, which will be adequate to meet projected buildout demands of the service area in 2025. Expansion of the WRP is underway with expected completion by the end of 2006, however, full capacity should be in place prior to that time.[30]

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[29] Tahoe-Truckee Sanitation Agency, http://63.150.38.132/jsp/content.jsp?menuid=53, accessed March 19, 2006.

[30] Tom Rinne, Tahoe-Truckee Sanitation Agency, Personal Communication with Shay Boutillier, March 22, 2006.

b. Truckee Sanitary District (TSD)

The Truckee Sanitary District (TSD) currently operates under the Sanitary District Act of 1923. The TSD services an area of approximately 38-square miles through the operation and maintenance of a wastewater collection system that includes over 300 miles of sewer pipelines and related appurtenances. Once collected, wastewater is transported to the TTSA's WRP.[31]

c. Private Septic Systems

Throughout Truckee, various dwelling units depend upon a septic tank/leach field system to treat their household wastewater. Septic tanks are waste management systems that require regular maintenance for systems to function properly. Routine maintenance can help prevent problems such as insufficient breakdown of waste-matter and sludge buildup that can block the system's outlet pipe and clog the drain.

3. Standards of Significance

The proposed 2025 Truckee General Plan would have a significant impact on wastewater service if it would:

- Require or result in the construction of new wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects.
- Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the City that it has inadequate capacity to serve the 2025 General Plan's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments.
- Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board.

[31] Pacific Municipal Consultants *Old Greenwood Planned Development Draft Environmental Impact Report (SCH# 2001102077)*. February, 2002.

4. Impact Discussion

The following provides an analysis of the potential impact of the 2025 Truckee General Plan on the provision of wastewater treatment services in Truckee.

a. Wastewater Capacity

With the implementation of the 2025 Truckee General Plan, additional growth would occur that would require additional wastewater treatment capacity. Currently, TTSA is upgrading and expanding their existing facilities to increase handling capacity to be adequate to meet the projected buildout demands of the service area in 2025.[32] Given this, *less-than-significant* impacts related to wastewater treatment capacity are expected.

Development occurring under the 2025 General Plan could result in additional residential uses that employ septic tanks as a means of wastewater disposal. However, based on policies in the General Plan, the majority of the new development would utilize new or improved Town based infrastructure. The General Plan Land Use Element calls for land development to be coordinated with provision of services and infrastructure. Policy P4.3 states that rezoning and development permits should be approved only when adequate services are available and requires that sewer service be provided for all new residential subdivisions creating more than four lots. Existing legal lots and new subdivisions of four or fewer lots in areas currently without sewer may be developed with residential uses using septic systems with the approval of the appropriate health and environmental agencies. Such lots may be required to establish connections to the sewer system if they are located in close proximity to existing or future sewer lines.

b. Wastewater Treatment

As mentioned in the water quality section of Chapter 4.7 Hydrology and Water Quality, impaired reaches of the Truckee River exist within the vicin-

[32] Tom Rinne, Tahoe-Truckee Sanitation Agency, Personal Communication with Shay Boutillier, March 22, 2006.

ity of Truckee.[33] According to the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (LRWQCB), the Truckee River is on the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list of impaired water bodies for elevated levels of sedimentation, iron and phosphorus and RWQCB's "Watch List" for chloride and total dissolved solids (TDS).[34] However, it is believed that this impairment is a result of exposure to pollutants and sedimentation generated from human activity and development rather than impacts from sewage treatment. Given that expansion of TTSA facilities will be required to comply with LRWQCB permitting requirements, implementation of the 2025 General Plan would not result in the exceedence of LRWQCB water treatment requirements.

5. Cumulative Impact Discussion

Future regional growth would result in increased demand for wastewater services in the Truckee and Lake Tahoe region. However, only growth within the TTSA and TSD service districts would contribute to a potential need for these agencies to construct additional wastewater facilities. The above analysis took into account all future growth within the TTSA and TSD service district and identified *less than significant* impacts. Therefore, the Plan would not contribute to a significant cumulative impact associated with wastewater services.

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[33] Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, *Comments on Martis Valley Community Plan Update Draft Environmental Impact Report, Placer County,* as found on the LRWQCB website: http://www.sierrawatch.org/dp_lahontan.php, accessed February 27, 2006.

[34] Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list of impaired water bodies: http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/tmdl/docs/2002reg6303dlist.pdf, accessed February 27, 2006. "Impaired" refers to water bodies that do not or are not expected to meet water quality standards despite compliance with NPDES permits.

Pacific Municipal Consultants, *The Northside Draft Environmental Impact Report,* Prepared for Placer County, December 2005.

6. Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Since *less than significant impacts* related to sewer infrastructure and treatment requirements were identified as a result of the 2025 General Plan, no mitigation measures are required.

C. Storm Water

The Town of Truckee is the responsible agency for storm water collection, drainage, and disposal in Truckee. The applicable regulations, existing drainage system, and future demand for storm water drainage systems are discussed in this section.

1. Regulatory Framework

There are several federal, State, regional and local regulations and regulatory agencies related to storm water drainage within the Town of Truckee. Section 4.8: Hydrology and Water Quality of this EIR discusses the majority of these in detail.

a. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program

As mentioned in Section 4.8: Hydrology and Water Quality, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is responsible for implementing the Clean Water Act (CWA) and does so through issuing NPDES permits to Cities and Counties through regional water quality control boards. Federal regulations allow two permitting options for storm water discharges - individual permits and general permits. The California SWRCB elected to adopt a statewide general permit (Water Quality Order No. 2003-0004-DWQ) for Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4s) operators covered under the CWA to efficiently regulate storm water discharges under a single permit. Permitees must meet the requirements in Provision D of the General Permit, which require development and implementation of a Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP) with the goal of reducing the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable. Currently, the Town of Truckee is not subject to NPDES permit requirements because of its size, however with fu-

ture growth compliance will be necessary and the Town is planning accordingly. Through the collection of a facilities impact fee, the Town is raising money to complete an inventory of the current drainage system to better assess whether it will be adequate to meet future NPDES requirements.[35]

2. Existing Setting

Storm water collection within the Town of Truckee's residential, commercial and industrial areas occurs through a mix of culverts, drainage easements along property lines, and roadside ditches that eventually discharge into the Truckee River and/or Trout Creek.[36] A formal storm drainage system exists within the Town's Downtown District that discharges into the Truckee River.[37] The Town's Department of Public Works is responsible for maintenance of over 283 miles of drainage ditches, which involves culvert cleaning, trimming of roadside shrubs and trees, and reestablishing drainage ditches on a continuing basis.[38]

Although existing and new Town facilities, as well as new development, are required to treat storm water runoff, much of the drainage from urban and industrial development does not undergo treatment prior to its eventual discharge into the Truckee River.[39] The Truckee River is currently listed as impaired due to sediment. The Town enforces regulations to ensure that water quality of the municipal storm water discharge is in compliance with the Regional Water Quality Control Board's Truckee River Hydrologic Unit Project Guidelines. The Town of Truckee's Municipal Code regulates activities

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[35] Pat Perkins, Senior Town Engineer for the Town of Truckee, Personal communication with Shay Boutillier, DC&E, March 28, 2006.

[36] Town of Truckee, *Draft Downtown River Revitalization Strategy*, 2005. Town Council Resolution No. 2005-52.

[37] Mike Vaughan, Town of Truckee Public Works Division, Personal Communication with Shay Boutillier on March 3, 2006.

[38] Town of Truckee Department of Public Works, http://www.townoftruckee.com/public.html, accessed March 9, 2006.

[39] Town of Truckee *Draft Downtown River Revitalization Strategy*, 2005. Town Council Resolution No. 2005-52.

influencing the quality of municipal storm water including ground disturbing activities and construction, and requires permanent erosion and surface runoff control measures for development projects.[40]

3. Standards of Significance

The proposed 2025 Truckee General Plan would have a significant impact on the storm water collection, drainage, and disposal system if it would:

- Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects.

4. Impact Discussion

As development would occur as permitted under the 2025 General Plan, there would be a need for additional storm water drainage facilities to collect and dispose of runoff from urban uses. Section 4.7: Hydrology and Water Quality describes in detail the policies contained in the 2025 General Plan to ensure that adequate storm water facilities are provided by new development such as Safety Element Policy P2.3, which requires that storm water drainage systems be incorporated into development projects and Land Use Element Policy P4.2 which states that the Town should cooperate with special districts to plan for and identify suitable future sites for needed facilities and infrastructure.

The specific environmental impact of constructing new storm water facilities to support the 2025 General Plan cannot be determined at the programmatic level of analysis in this EIR. However, as specific projects requiring storm water drainage become identified in the future, additional project-specific, second-tier environmental analysis would be completed pursuant to CEQA. As a result, *less-than-significant impacts* on the provision of storm water collection, drainage, and disposal services are expected from implementation of the 2025 General Plan.

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[40] Town of Truckee Municipal Code, http://www.townoftruckee.com/DCCh030.html, accessed February 28, 2006.

5. Cumulative Impact Discussion

As development proceeds within the Town of Truckee, impervious surfaces would increase, as would the amount of pollutants in runoff, thereby increasing storm water drainage rates and potentially impacting surface and groundwater quality. However, project-level water quality impacts to water resources would be reduced to a less-than-significant level by implementing BMPs in accordance with the NPDES and other applicable regulations, as well as implementation of the water quality policies contained in the proposed General Plan. New development within the region would also result in an increase in runoff. Regional development would be required to comply with regional, State and federal regulations addressing storm water runoff and water quality. These regulations would reduce the potential for a cumulative water quality impact to a *less-than-significant level*.

6. Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Since *less than significant impacts* related to storm water facilities were identified as a result of the 2025 General Plan, no mitigation measures are required.

D. Solid Waste

This section addresses the generation and disposal of solid waste, and the potential impact of the Town of Truckee 2025 General Plan on this service.

1. Regulatory Framework

The State of California is a national leader in establishing regulations for waste management.

a. California Integrated Waste Management Act

California's Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB939) set a requirement for Cities and Counties throughout the State to divert 50 percent of all solid waste from landfills by January 1, 2000, though source reduction, recycling, and composting. To help achieve this, the Act requires that each

City and County prepare and submit a Source Reduction and Recycling Element. AB 939 also establishes the goal for all California counties to provide at least 15 years of on-going landfill capacity. As part of the California Integrated Waste Management Board's Zero Waste Campaign, regulations affect what common household items can be placed in the trash. As of February 2006, household materials including, but not limited to, fluorescent lamps and tubes, batteries, electronic devices and thermostats that contain mercury are no longer permitted in the trash.[41]

b. Citizens Waste Management Advisory Committee

The Town of Truckee established the Citizens Waste Management Advisory Committee (CWMAC) in January of 1999 to serve in an advisory role to help Truckee meet the State-mandated 50 percent recycling goal by the year 2000. The committee is comprised of thirteen local residents and the Assistant to the Town Manager and works with the Town's hauler to promote recycling, source reduction, reuse, composting, used oil recycling and the proper use, storage and disposal of household hazardous waste to the people of Truckee. The Committee runs the "Keep Truckee Green" program, which keeps up to date on the California Integrated Waste Management Board's Zero Waste Campaign. In response to new regulations as of February, 2006, common household materials and certain types of hazardous materials containing mercury, heavy metals, or corrosive chemicals are required to be recycled at the Eastern Regional Landfill.[42]

2. Existing Setting

Solid waste removal and recycling services for the Town of Truckee are provided by the Tahoe - Truckee Sierra Disposal (TTSD) Company. Two separate bodies make up the TTSD: Tahoe Truckee Disposal and the Eastern Regional Landfill Material Recovery Facility (MRF). Tahoe Truckee Disposal is responsible for collecting household waste and recyclables and the MRF is a

[41] California Integrated Waste Management Board's Zero Waste Campaign website: http://www.zerowaste.ca.gov/, accessed March 21, 2006.

[42] Town of Truckee, http://www.townoftruckee.com/, accessed March 9, 2006.

recycling center for household and construction materials that acts as a transfer station for household waste. Incoming solid waste is either recycled or transported to the Lockwood Regional Landfill in Storey County, Nevada. This 1,535-acre site has a 60-year capacity to accommodate the buildout projections for the TTSD's service area. Currently, TTSD is in its ninth year of an 80-year contract for disposal services at the landfill.[43]

Tahoe Truckee Disposal is the collection division of TTSD and operates close to 40 vehicles to collect waste. TTD uses a combination of rear mounting bin pick up trucks for single-family residences and low-density areas, and front loader garbage trucks for commercial and multi-family areas. Funding for solid waste collection comes from collection fees.

TTSD handles approximately 60,000 tons of waste per year and is operating at 50 percent of their total capacity of 120,000 tons per year. In 2002, the outfit expanded the MRF facility and transfer station to increase capacity by 100 percent. TTSD plans on continuing to expand their services to accommodate the growth and increasing needs of their service area.[44]

3. Standards of Significance

The proposed 2025 General Plan would have a significant impact related to solid waste disposal if it would not:

- Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs.
- Comply with federal, State and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste.

[43] Pacific Municipal Consultants, *Old Greenwood Planned Development Draft Environmental Impact Report (SCH# 2001102077)*, February, 2002.

[44] Ron Ratto, Engineer, Tahoe-Truckee Sierra Disposal (TTSD), Personal Communication with Shay Boutillier, DC&E, on March 21, 2006

4. Impact Discussion

As the Town of Truckee grows under the 2025 General Plan, there would be an increased generation of solid waste. As stated previously, waste that is not recycled gets transported to the Lockwood Regional Landfill in Storey County, Nevada, which would have sufficient capacity to accommodate the buildout projections for the TTSD's entire service area.[45] Since there is adequate long-term capacity at the landfill serving the Town, there would be a *less-than-significant* impact with regard to solid waste.

In addition, the Town of Truckee's Citizens Waste Management Advisory Committee (CWMAC) continues to help Truckee meet the State-mandated 50 percent recycling goal. The Town of Truckee 2025 General Plan also includes policies to encourage recycling and waste diversion to minimize the amount of solid waste generated by residents and businesses. Policy P4.2 in the Land Use Element states that the Town should cooperate with special districts to plan for and identify suitable future sites for needed facilities, including utilities infrastructure such as solid waste disposal, so that the local population can be safely and efficiently served, while minimizing potential environmental impacts.

As stated previously, TTSD plans on continuing to expand their services to accommodate the growth and increasing needs of their service area.[46] Given this, TTSD will be able to accommodate solid waste service needs from implementation of the 2025 General Plan.

[45] Pacific Municipal Consultants, *Old Greenwood Planned Development Draft Environmental Impact Report (SCH# 2001102077,)*. February, 2002.

[46] Ron Ratto, Engineer, Tahoe-Truckee Sierra Disposal (TTSD),. Personal Communication with Shay Boutillier, DC&E, on March 21, 2006

5. Cumulative Impact Discussion

Growth within the Town of Truckee would contribute to an increase in need for solid waste disposal service. As discussed above, the Lockwood Regional Landfill currently has a 60-year capacity. The cumulative population growth within the Town was considered when evaluating the lifespan of the facility and planning for future expansions. As a result, it can be concluded that there would be adequate capacity to support regional increases in population, resulting in *less-than- significant* cumulative impacts.

6. Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Since *less than significant impacts* related to solid waste services were identified as a result of the 2025 General Plan, no mitigation measures are required.