

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
STATE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

LCB FILE NO. R148-24I

**THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT IS THE INITIAL DRAFT REGULATION PROPOSED
BY THE AGENCY SUBMITTED ON 06/20/2024**

PETITION P2024-17 – 06/17/2024 (LAKE TAHOE)

**PROPOSED PERMANENT REGULATION OF THE
NEVADA STATE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

AUTHORITY: §§1-318, NRS 445A.425 and 445A.520.

A PERMANENT REGULATION relating to water quality; making various changes in provisions that establish standards for water quality; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

PETITION 2024-17 Changes to the Nevada Administrative Code revising the Nevada water quality regulations to add a footnote to the “Aesthetic” beneficial use on NAC 445A.1626 designating a Tier 3 level of antidegradation protection for Lake Tahoe (per R113-22 the decision as to what level of antidegradation can only be determined by the State Environmental Commission).

Proposed Revisions:

The proposed updates to the NAC are shown below with *additions in blue bold-italics* text and omissions in shown in red ~~strikethrough~~ text, bound by brackets:

Standards for Surface Water Quality

NAC 445A.1626 Truckee Region: Lake Tahoe. (*NRS 445A.425, 445A.520*) The limits of this table apply to the body of water known as Lake Tahoe [~~for its existing sampling points~~]. [~~This segment of~~] Lake Tahoe is located in Carson City and Douglas and Washoe Counties.

STANDARDS OF WATER QUALITY
Lake Tahoe

PARAMETER	REQUIREMENTS TO MAINTAIN EXISTING HIGHER QUALITY	WATER QUALITY CRITERIA TO PROTECT BENEFICIAL USES	Beneficial Uses ^a											
			Livestock	Irrigation	Aquatic	Contact	Noncontact	Municipal	Industrial	Wildlife	Aesthetic ⁱ	Enhance	Marsh	
Specific Electrical Conductance $\mu\text{mhos/cm}@20^{\circ}\text{C}$		\leq A-95.0 Avg. \leq S.V. 105.0							*					
E. coli - cfu/100 mL ^g		\leq S.V. 126.0				*								
Coliform Organisms - MPN/100 mL		f				*								
Toxic Materials		h												

* = The most restrictive beneficial use.

X = Beneficial use.

^a Refer to [NAC 445A.122](#) and [445A.1622](#) for beneficial use terminology.

^b Maximum allowable increase in temperature above water temperature at the boundary of an approved mixing zone, but the increase must not cause a violation of the single value standard.

^c The mean annual algal growth potential at any point in the lake must not be greater than twice the mean annual algal potential at a limnetic reference station and using analytical methods determined jointly with the Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX.

^d To minimize turbidity levels in Lake Tahoe and tributary streams and control erosion:

¹ The discharge of solid or liquid waste materials including soil, silt, clay, sand and other organic and earthen materials to Lake Tahoe or any tributary thereto is prohibited.

² The discharge of solid or liquid waste materials including soil, silt, clay, sand and other organic and earthen materials to lands below the high water rim of Lake Tahoe or along any tributary to Lake Tahoe in a manner which will cause the discharge of the waste materials to Lake Tahoe or any tributary thereto is prohibited.

³ The placement or man-made disturbance of material below the high water rim of Lake Tahoe or along any tributaries to Lake Tahoe in a manner which will cause the discharge of solid or liquid waste materials including soil, silt, clay, sand and other organic and earthen materials to Lake Tahoe or any tributary thereto is prohibited.

^e The vertical extinction coefficient must be less than 0.08 per meter when measured at any depth below the first meter. Turbidity must not exceed 3 NTU at any point of the lake too shallow to determine a reliable extinction coefficient.

^f A density not greater than the values shown in the following table:

	Median	Maximum
Undeveloped Lake Front Areas		
10 yards offshore	5.0	32.0
100 yards offshore	3.0	15.0
Developed Lake Front Areas		
10 yards offshore	240.0	700.0
100 yards offshore	15.0	64.0
Directly Influenced by Streams		

10 yards offshore	240.0	700.0
100 yards offshore	32.0	240.0

g The single value must not be exceeded in more than 10 percent of the samples collected within any 30-day period.

h The water quality criteria for toxic materials are specified in [NAC 445A.1236](#).

i *Lake Tahoe has been designated by the Commission to have a Tier 3 level of antidegradation protection.*

(Added to NAC by Environmental Comm'n by R160-06, eff. 8-26-2008; A by R102-16 & R109-16, 12-19-2017)