

# **Appendix H Public Participation and Outreach**

## **Newlands Project Planning Study Special Report**

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Mid-Pacific Region  
Lahontan Basin Area Office**



**U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation**

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Attachment 1 – Meeting Material

Attachment 2 – Written Comments

## Abbreviations and Acronyms

cfs	cubic feet per second
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
HDPE	High Density Polyethylene
M&I	municipal and industrial
NDEP	Nevada Department of Environmental Protection
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge
OCAP	Operating Criteria and Procedures
Reclamation	U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation
ROD	Record of Decision
Study	Newlands Project Planning Study
TCID	Truckee-Carson Irrigation District
TDS	total dissolved solids
TROA	Truckee River Operating Agreement
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

# Appendix H

## Public Participation and Outreach Report

This document serves as a record of outreach and engagement by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) in support of the Newlands Project Planning Study (Study). It contains:

- Summary notes from meetings with the public and with agencies and stakeholders, including attendee lists and comments and questions received during the meetings.
- Presentations, handouts, and other material developed for and used in public meetings ([Attachment 1](#)).
- Written comments received by Reclamation during the course of the Study ([Attachment 2](#)).

## **Meeting Summaries**

### **Public and Agency Meetings, August 2011**

Reclamation hosted a series of meetings with the public and agencies in Nevada from August 22 to 25, 2011. The purpose of the meetings was to introduce the Newlands Project Planning Study and collect information and input for use by the Study Team as they evaluated a list of measures and formulated alternatives.

This section of the document contains summary information related to the 2011 meetings, including locations, attendee lists and public questions and comments. The material presented at these meetings is included in Attachment 1 to this document.

***Fernley, Nevada***

The Fernley public meeting was held on August 22, 2011, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Fernley City Council Chambers, 595 Silver Lace Boulevard, Fernley, Nevada 89408.

The meeting included a presentation by the Study Team and an open house where attendees could interact with members of the Study Team. The presentation and all other meeting material is found in Attachment 1.

**Table H-1. Attendees at the Fernley Public Meeting on August 22, 2011**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization or Affiliation (if given)</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization or Affiliation (if given)</b>
Betty Aleck	Fernley Leader	RaeMerle Larason	
Tim Ballard	Truckee-Carson Irrigation District	Julie Lingonfelter	Water User
Karyn Bennett	Friends of the Historic Truckee Canal	Mike Lowry	
Larry Biral		Dan McCassie	
John Buzzone	Washoe County	Stephen McKay	U.S. Navy
Ashley Carrigan	U.S. Senator Dean Heller	William McKnight	
Ted Davey		Eddie Miller	Water User
Rick Depaoli		Jo Moon	
Sandy Depaoli		Dwight Orton	
Roy Edgington	Fernley City Councilman, Ward 3	Jim Richards	
Jane Enhilder	Friends of the Historic Truckee Canal	Julie Scott	
Ben Y. Fauliso		Pat Spracklin	
Russ Fenette		Fred Turnier	Fernley City Manager (Interim)
Naomi Flowers		Ann B. Windle	
Robert Flowers		Lanny Yuni	
Mickey Flynn		Dave Zimmerman	
Lynda Freeman	Friends of the Historic Truckee Canal	Dennis Zubieta	
Robert Garrison		Harvey Edwards*	Reclamation
Brad Goetsch	Churchill County Manager	Terri Edwards*	Reclamation
LeRoy Goodman	Mayor of Fernley	Pete Lucero*	Reclamation
Kathleen E. Gurnee		Donna Potter*	Reclamation

**Table H-1. Attendees at the Fernley Public Meeting on August 22, 2011 (contd.)**

Name	Organization or Affiliation (if given)	Name	Organization or Affiliation (if given)
Dick Harriman	Truckee-Carson Irrigation District	Jeff Rieker*	Reclamation
Richard Jackson		Craig Moyle*	MWH
Carl Johnson		Ryan Murdock*	MWH
Mrs. Carl Johnson		Jeff Payne*	MWH
Kim Koht		Alex Tollette*	MWH
Loni Kourshi			

Note:

\*Members of the Study Team or meeting staff.

**Questions and Comments** While a question/comment period was not planned, members of the public requested such an opportunity. The following list of questions and comments were recorded during the presentation.

- How does the study define “viability”?
- Does the viability measurement take into account the ability to pay for M&I water use?
- Who commissioned the study?
- Why not use the funds paying for the study to fix the Truckee Canal instead?
- The Truckee Canal delivers Claim 3 water under the Orr Ditch Decree. Congress created the Bureau of Reclamation to maintain viability of the Newlands Project. The study should disregard the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe’s comments; they don’t have any authority in this project.
- Why are you meeting with the Tribes to discuss the study?
- Why does the federal government allow water rights to be sold out of the project?

***Nixon, Nevada***

The Nixon public meeting was held on August 23, 2011, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council Chambers, 208 Capitol Hill, Nixon, NV, 89424.

The meeting included a presentation by the Study Team, a question/comment period, and an open house where attendees could interact with members of the Study Team. The presentation and all other meeting material is found in Attachment 1.

**Table H-2. Attendees at the Nixon Public Meeting on August 23, 2011**

Name	Organization or Affiliation (if given)	Name	Organization or Affiliation (if given)
Olin Anderson	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	Walter Winder	Truckee-Carson Irrigation District Deputy Project Manager
Gordon Frazier	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	Mervin Wright, Jr.	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council Vice Chair
BJ Harry	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	Harvey Edwards*	Reclamation
John Jackson	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Director of Water Resources	Terri Edwards*	Reclamation
Rusty Jardine	Truckee-Carson Irrigation District Project Manager	Donna Potter*	Reclamation
Cindy Jones		Craig Moyle*	MWH
Karole McQueen	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	Ryan Murdock*	MWH
Terri Svetich	S3 Concepts	Jeff Payne*	MWH
Richard Svetich	S3 Concepts	Alex Tollette*	MWH
Duane Wasson	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe		

Note:

\*Members of the Study Team or meeting staff.

**Questions and Comments** A question/comment period was included for this meeting due to the high level of interest among attendees during the previous public meeting in Fernley. The following list of questions and comments were recorded during the meeting, with speakers identified if possible.

*Olin Anderson*

- Can people apply for water rights from the Truckee Canal?
- The alternative formulation process seems to address the Truckee Canal as one unit, but you could actually treat different reaches differently. Is that part of the alternative development options?

- Demand management is one of your most powerful tools for reducing waste. Would increasing project delivery efficiency include modifications to Derby Dam, such as automation?

*BJ Harry*

- If there's a decreasing need for agricultural water, why do you need to keep investing in the project?
- When the project was constructed, there was no requirement to conduct an environmental review or prepare an environmental impact statement. When/how was an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) completed for the project? Its environmental effects should be noted somewhere.
- Dry and wet years result in different demands on the Truckee River. Will the study look at those types of influences on the canal's use?
- The ultimate goal is to serve the water users. During dry years, it's more difficult and the Tribe will challenge the amount of water that will come down the river to meet beneficiaries of the project.
- What does it mean for "decision-makers" to decide using this study?
- Where would funding come from to implement one of the alternatives?

*John Jackson*

- Is the study going to address/consider how alternatives would affect shortages to Pyramid Lake?

*Rusty Jardine*

- How long will the special report be? Will it be as long as an EIS?

*Richard Sveitch*

- Will the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' project to deal with problems at Martis Creek Dam have any impacts on this study? The alternatives they're considering might have impacts on flows in the Truckee River. I believe they have six alternatives and will be making a decision next summer.

*Terri Sveitch*

- How would increasing storage at Lahontan Dam affect flows to Pyramid Lake?

*Walter Winder*

- The Operating Criteria and Procedures (OCAP) for the Newlands Project drives how much water is diverted from the Truckee River. And that's based on the amount that's in Lahontan Reservoir. So, adding more storage in Lahontan would increase carryover year-to-year and

reduce diversions into the Truckee Canal in years following those when carryover occurred. This year is prime example: we haven't diverted from the Truckee Canal into Lahontan since November 2010.

*Mervin Wright, Jr.*

- How was the risk analysis completed to evaluate a range of flow options in the Truckee Canal?
- It seems as if you're already pretty far into the study. How can anything we say change or affect it?
- Everyone with a water right is entitled to use it. How they use it is what I'm interested in. The Newlands Project has an entitlement and Reclamation has a responsibility to serve it. Our interest is to make sure Reclamation is most prudent in how rights are served. And second, that we don't get into a scenario where more water is being delivered than is needed to serve those rights.
- We would support efforts to increase flow to Lahontan Reservoir through enforcing the Alpine Decree in the Upper Carson River. How much will you focus on that issue during the study?
- Please include in the special report a clear explanation of why a measure or alternative isn't carried forward for further analysis.
- Does each reach of the Truckee Canal have different characteristics, such as soil type and seepage rates?
- When it comes to increasing storage at Lahontan Dam, I wouldn't want to change the storage targets in OCAP with the intent to store more water in Lahontan Dam, but with the side effect of allowing increases in Truckee River diversions (because more storage space is available).

*Unidentified Attendees*

- How long is the Truckee Canal, and is it the same size/capacity throughout?
- How much of Truckee Canal is considered high-risk, and would the canal be lined primarily in these areas?
- Are the property owners who were flooded during the Truckee Canal breach receiving compensation, such as from a settlement fund? Who is paying for this?
- Which alternatives look best, at this point?
- Who are the decision-makers?

- Once findings are finalized, will that be summarized in a public document?

**Fallon, Nevada**

The Fallon public meeting was held on August 25, 2011, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Churchill County Commissioners’ Chambers, 155 North Taylor Street, Suite 145, Fallon, Nevada 89406.

The meeting included a presentation by the Study Team, a question/comment period, and an open house where attendees could interact with members of the Study Team. The presentation and all other meeting material is found in Attachment 1.

**Table H-3. Attendees at the Fallon Public Meeting on August 25, 2011**

Name	Organization or Affiliation (if given)	Name	Organization or Affiliation (if given)
Carmen Bell	Bell Ranch	Pam Mittas	
Karyn Bennett	Friends of the Historic Truckee Canal	Ann B. Pawson	Farmer
Holly Bute	Landowner	Ed Rybold	NAS Fallon
Donny Christiansen	Churchill County	Ernie Schank	Truckee-Carson Irrigation District President
Gary Cottle	NAS Fallon	Stan Shumaker	
John Dirickson	NAS Fallon	David Stix, Jr.	Truckee-Carson Irrigation District Board Member
Charles Donohue	Nevada Division of State Lands	Terri Svetich	S3 Concepts
Carl Ergniaga	Landowner	Richard Svetich	S3 Concepts
Marcia Ernst		Michael Ward	Landowner
Norm Frey	Churchill County	Debora Waxer	NAS Fallon
Michael Goddard	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Dean Weishauph	Farmer
Brad Goetsch	Churchill County Manager	Walter Winder	Truckee-Carson Irrigation District Deputy Project Manager
Dick Harriman	Truckee-Carson Irrigation District Vice President	Rod Windle	
David Hollingsworth		Harvey Edwards*	Reclamation
Sidney Imeson	Skip’s Place LLC	Terri Edwards*	Reclamation
Eleanor Lockwood	Churchill County Planning Director	Pete Lucero*	Reclamation

**Table H-3. Attendees at the Fallon Public Meeting on August 25, 2011 (contd.)**

Name	Organization or Affiliation (if given)	Name	Organization or Affiliation (if given)
Jean Lottin		Kenneth Parr*	Reclamation
Charlotte Louis	Churchill County Planning Commissioner	Donna Potter*	Reclamation
Stuart Mackie	Mackie Farms	Jeff Rieker*	Reclamation
Sue Mackie	Mackie Farms	Craig Moyle*	MWH
Larry Miller	Farmer	Ryan Murdock*	MWH
Margaritte Miller	Farmer	Jeff Payne*	MWH
John D. Miller	Farmer	Alex Tollette*	MWH

Note:

\*Members of the Study Team or meeting staff.

**Questions and Comments** A question/comment period was included for this meeting due to the high level of interest among attendees during the previous public meeting in Fernley. The following list of questions and comments were recorded during the meeting, with speakers identified if possible.

*Charles Donohue*

- Have you been able to quantify groundwater storage? That's a critical element to understanding the effect of lining the Truckee Canal, for instance.

*Norm Frey*

- I agree with Ernie. We need to help our congressional leaders understand the history of the project and its contracts when we lobby them for fixes to for the Truckee Canal.
- In the 1990s, Al Olson from Reclamation analyzed different flow regimes in the Truckee Canal. He talked to the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District, the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, and others. He determined that a few of the options your study is looking at aren't viable. Do you have access to his body of work? You should look into it because this study is retreating some of the same ground.

*Brad Goetsch*

- Since the Study Team doesn't have the institutional or personal history with the project that many of the people in this meeting do, they need specific advice and information about what's possible.

*Dick Harriman*

- When are our comments going to be available publicly? Usually, agencies don't make these available in time for us to respond with further or clarifying information. This is important in this case, because the Study Team doesn't have the institutional knowledge we do. We need to provide you information again in another forum.

*David Hollingsworth*

- I'm puzzled by the breadth or scope of the study. I thought that you had to determine how to repair the Truckee Canal to full service. Instead, this is about how to restore water to farmers who will lose it when the canal isn't repaired. You've broadened the scope so much that you've lost sight of what has to be done to get the canal working again.

*Stuart Mackie*

- Why are the farmers of Fallon having to pay for what Fernley did when the city council voted down the wall that was proposed to be built around the community?
- The Kerry act of 1895 says none of the properties to be irrigated can ever be subdivided to less than 40 acres. Why did that change?
- Reno, Sparks, and Washoe County have one acre foot of dedication. The average person uses one-third-to-one-half of an acre foot. Of that, Chalk Bluff pulls every bit of water that comes through there. When we take our water, we have to tell you how much we use. But they're taking one-half of everyone's water (twice as much as comes into the project from the Truckee River) that could be added to supplies through the Truckee Canal.
- If the Truckee Canal goes through Storey county, why aren't they included in these meetings?

*Larry Miller*

- You mention the Alpine Decree and lining canals in the Carson Division. The 3.5 feet of duty on bottom-lands is insufficient for meeting alfalfa demands, however it was adopted because of the testimony of Clair Mahana during the Alpine Decree adjudications, which noted that the relatively shallow groundwater table would make up the difference. That groundwater table is dependent upon the historical high seepage rates from Newlands canals. Changes to canal efficiencies could change the availability of groundwater, and thus violate assumptions made to justify 3.5 feet of duty to some bottomland irrigators. One consequence could be a change in the categorization of some bottomlands to bench lands, thus increasing the demand for water. Otherwise, the assumptions within the Alpine Decree need revisitation.

*Ernie Schank*

- A University of Nevada, Reno, study from around 2000 looked at how money flowed in and out of this community. Agricultural dollars multiply 3.14 times, which was the largest multiplier in this community. This community can't live without the Truckee Canal.
- Don Glaser made a statement to the Reclamation Commissioner that every other project of the same era as Newlands has had some type of major rehab provided by the United States, but that this project never has. But, I reminded him that in 1969-70 the water users entered into a contract with the U.S. that included a nine-point agreement to turn over a property in Lake Tahoe valued at \$6 million in 1980, do away with winter power generation, and reduce the project acreage from 86,000 acres to 73,800 acres. We did this in exchange for getting a major rehabilitation of this project, a portion of which was supposed to have been provided in 1926 contract. The Truckee Canal was supposed to handle 1,200 cubic feet per second (cfs) and it never did. As we look at reimburseability and payment, those facts must be considered.
- Three changes to OCAP could help avoid future shortages at a Truckee Canal capacity restriction of 350 cfs: making changes to OCAP to increase end-of-November storage targets at Lahontan from 40,000 acre feet to 100,000 acre feet; changes in the water rights for wetlands that allow Fish and Wildlife Service to take water for Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge earlier in the year; and, making changes to OCAP to allow Fernley to take water for municipal and industrial (M&I) users throughout the year.

*David Stix, Jr.*

- Safety is obviously the point of the “no capacity” option. How would the contractor you've hired satisfy reliability or viability?
- Please explain what you mean by “can it pay for itself.” Also, talk a bit about how M&I uses authorized in Public Law 101-618 and groundwater recharge elements relate to reliability and viability.

*Unidentified Attendees*

- What is considered “safe”?
- What is the economic impact to farmers?
- What is “upper Truckee River storage”—does that mean Donner Lake?
- Is the Bureau of Reclamation going to come up with something we, as farmers, can't accomplish to make the Truckee Canal safe? We just floated a \$5 million bond; we can't afford more fixes.

- Your Study Team needs to look at the history of this community. We need the Truckee Canal in order to survive here.

### ***Agency Meetings***

Also during the week of August 22, 2011, Reclamation held a series of meetings with a number of public agencies and tribes in the primary and extended study areas. Much like the public meetings, the purpose of the meetings was to introduce the Newlands Project Planning Study and collect information and input for use by the Study Team as they evaluated a list of measures and formulated alternatives.

Below is brief summary information for the 2011 agency meetings, including locations and attendees. The material presented at these meetings was the same as the material presented in the public meetings, and is included in Attachment 1 to this document.

**Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe** The Study Team met with the Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe on August 22, 2011, at the tribal headquarters. Attendees from the tribe included Alvin Moyle, Jacqueline Allen, Rodney Austin, Tom Barton, Lillie Bright, Herman Dixon, and Mitch Wright. Study Team attendees included Harvey Edwards (Reclamation) and Jeff Payne (MWH).

**City of Fernley** The Study Team met with the City of Fernley on August 22, 2011, at the Fernley City Hall in Fernley, Nevada. City of Fernley attendees included Fred Turnier, Interim City Manager, Kathy Bennett, Fernley Public Works engineer, and Derek Starkey, Fernley Public Works engineer. Study Team attendees included Harvey Edwards (Reclamation), Terri Edwards (Reclamation), Donna Potter (Reclamation), Jeff Rieker (Reclamation), Jeff Payne (MWH), Craig Moyle (MWH), Ryan Murdock (MWH), and Alex Tollette (MWH).

**TCID** The Study Team met with Truckee-Carson Irrigation District (TCID) on August 23, 2011, at TCID offices in Fallon, Nevada. TCID attendees included Rusty Jardine, Project Manager and General Counsel, and Walt Winder, Deputy Project Manager. Study Team attendees included Harvey Edwards (Reclamation), Jeff Payne (MWH), Craig Moyle (MWH), Ryan Murdock (MWH), and Alex Tollette (MWH).

**Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe** The Study Team met with consultants to the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe on August 24, 2011, at the offices of Wolf, Rifkin, Shapiro, Schulman & Rabin, LLP, in Reno, Nevada. Attendees included Ali Shahroody (Stetson Engineering) and Don Springmeyer (Wolf, Rifkin, Shapiro, Schulman & Rabin). Study Team attendees included Harvey Edwards (Reclamation), Jeff Payne (MWH), Ryan Murdock (MWH), and Alex Tollette (MWH).

**Churchill County** The Study Team met with Churchill County on August 25, 2011, at the Churchill County Administrative Building in Fallon, Nevada. Churchill County attendees included Brad Goetsch, County Manager, and Eleanor Lockwood, Planning Director. Study Team attendees included Harvey Edwards (Reclamation), Jeff Payne (MWH), Ryan Murdock (MWH), and Alex Tollette (MWH).

**USFWS** The Study Team met with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) on August 25, 2011, at the Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Office in Fallon, Nevada. USFWS attendees included Richard Grimes, from the Division of Realty, and Mike Goddard and Carl Lunderstat, from the Division of Refuges. Study Team attendees included Harvey Edwards (Reclamation), Jeff Payne (MWH), Ryan Murdock (MWH), and Alex Tollette (MWH).

### Agency Meeting, October 2012

During the Study alternatives formulation and selection process, Reclamation invited representatives from Churchill County, Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe, City of Fernley, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Stetson Engineers, TCID, and USFWS to attend a meeting of the Study’s Project Management Team on October 4, 2012. Although the Project Management Team meetings were usually internal meetings for the Study Team, Reclamation recognized this as an opportunity to update stakeholders on Study progress and receive their feedback on preliminary alternatives described in Chapter 4. Attendees at this meeting are included in Table H-4.

**Table H-4. Attendees at the Agency Meeting on October 4, 2012**

Name	Organization or Affiliation (if given)
Wayne Burke	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
Nancy Hoffman	USFWS
Carl Lunderstadt	USFWS
John Jackson	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
Rusty Jardine	TCID
Terri Pereira	Churchill County
Ali Shahroody	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe/Stetson Engineers
Paul Taggart	City of Fernley
Shari Whalen	City of Fernley Public Works Department
Walter Winder	TCID
Mervin Wright	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
Lee Berget	Reclamation
Harvey Edwards	Reclamation
Terri Edwards	Reclamation
Kenneth Parr	Reclamation
Rob Scanland	Reclamation
Tom Scott	Reclamation
Ryan Murdock	MWH
Jeff Payne	MWH
Alex Tollette	MWH

The agencies were also provided a working draft copy of the Draft Special Report for review; written comments were requested by October 31, 2012. Reclamation received five sets of written comments from agencies. The Study Team used input gleaned from the discussion with the agencies during the Project Management Team meeting and the written comments to select the Study alternatives that are evaluated and described in Chapter 5. The rationale for selecting the Study alternatives appears in Chapter 4.

### Public Meetings, January 2013

Reclamation hosted a series of meetings with the public and agencies in Nevada from August 22 to 25, 2011. The purpose of the meetings was to introduce the Newlands Project Planning Study and collect information and input for use by the Study Team as they evaluated a list of measures and formulated alternatives.

This section of the document contains summary information related to the 2011 meetings, including locations, attendee lists and public questions and comments. The material presented at these meetings is included in Attachment 1 to this document.

#### ***Nixon, Nevada***

The Nixon public meeting was held on January 29, 2013, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council Chambers, 208 Capitol Hill, Nixon, Nevada 89424.

The meeting included a presentation by the Study Team and a question-and-answer period. The presentation and all other meeting material are found in Attachment 1. Attendance is shown in Table H-5.

**Table H-5. Attendees at the Nixon Public Meeting on January 29, 2013**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization or Affiliation (if given)</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization or Affiliation (if given)</b>
Susan Albright	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Department of Water Resources	Chris Mixson	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
Olin Anderson	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Environmental Department	John Mosley	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
Edna Benner	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	Donna Marie Noel	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Department of Water Resources
Mary Conelly	U.S. Sen. Harry Reid	Gene Paul	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Department of Water Resources
Roy Edgington	Fernley City Council	Tanda Roberts	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
Fannie Ely	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	Michelle Ruize	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe

**Table H-5. Attendees at the Nixon Public Meeting on January 29, 2013 (contd.)**

Name	Organization or Affiliation (if given)	Name	Organization or Affiliation (if given)
Lynell Garfield-Qualls	City of Reno	Denise Shaw	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Fisheries
Sen. Don Gustavson	Nevada State Legislature	Willie Steve	Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe, Wetlands
Beverly Harry	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Environmental Department	Nancy Vucinich	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Fisheries
Bill Hauck	Truckee Meadows Water Authority	Walter S. Winder	Truckee-Carson Irrigation District
Daphne Hooper	City of Fernley	Lee Berget	Reclamation*
John Jackson	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	Harvey Edwards	Reclamation*
Terence James	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Vice-Chair	Kenneth Parr	Reclamation*
Rusty Jardine	TCID	Ryan Murdock	MWH*
Albert John	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Fisheries	Jeff Payne	MWH*
Elwood Lowery	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Chair	Alex Tollette	MWH*
Tim Loux	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service		

Note:

\*Members of the Study Team.

**Question-and-Answer Session** Questions and comments from the meeting attendees, and responses from the Study Team, are included below.<sup>1</sup> Following the question-and-answer session, the Study Team also made themselves available for follow-up questions one-on-one or in small groups.

*Beverly Harry:* You talked about having several alternatives, but the Truckee Canal seems to have had a patchwork of alternative fixes. If a construction option is chosen for the canal, that choice should be implemented throughout the whole canal. Seepage should not be allowed throughout the whole canal. I don't know what the conveyance was conceived of in 1905, but as time has gone by there has been increased conveyance. So, when you look at the capacities, you should look at the original design for the canal in 1905. The second question I have is whether the team looked at water quality parameters to supply some type of indicator to show that the canal is not running appropriately, say due to increased turbidity or sedimentation. Maybe the

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<sup>1</sup> As the session was not recorded in the level of detail that would be found in an official transcript, the remarks presented do not reflect a verbatim record of the discussion. However, every attempt has been made to capture the intent and sentiment of the speakers as accurately as possible.

Stillwater tribe should be concerned about the water that goes to their area. I want to make sure the integrity of the project remains high throughout the canal.

*Kenneth Parr:* The canal was originally designed for around at least 1,100 cfs, and it has deteriorated. In the future, flows could be reduced to 150 cfs. Water quality was not addressed in this Study and report but would be addressed in a decision making process.

*Beverly Harry:* The Nevada Department of Environmental Protection is going through environmental standards for Lahontan Reservoir, and this needs to be met. I'm not sure if this is related to turbidity.

*Kenneth Parr:* We are following that process with Nevada Department of Environmental Protection (NDEP).

*Mary Conelly:* Kenneth, I know this is a process for preliminary study, then decision making, and then budgeting. Does Desert Terminal Lakes apply to this? Does it meet the criteria for Desert Terminal Lakes program funding?

*Kenneth Parr:* Currently there are no additional funds for Desert Terminal Lakes right now. If a farm bill is passed with Desert Terminal Lakes money, this could be a good use of those funds.

*Mary Conelly:* On Table 6-3, what does "Truckee River Environmental Users" mean?

*Jeff Payne:* We used this as a surrogate for benefits to the lower stretches of the river.

*Albert John:* When you arrived at 350 cfs, how did you determine that this was a safe flow?

*Harvey Edwards:* We looked at Truckee Canal elevations and determined that with an emergency action plan, an operating plan, etc., in place, 350 cfs would be safe temporarily. It was allowed for a short-term basis, but must be reevaluated.

*Albert John:* Was that after or before the recent repairs to the Truckee Canal?

*Harvey Edwards:* Before.

*Chris Mixson:* This document was provided January 17, and I don't know where the February 14 deadline comes from. I'm not sure if the tribe will be able to meet it.

*Elwood Lowery:* On Table 6-1, where do you get the data from and where does the difference come from for alternatives when it comes to flow to Pyramid Lake?

*Jeff Payne:* We simulated these numbers using a computer model named RiverWare that's been developed by regional stakeholders. We simulated the ability to divert water through the Truckee Canal. The balance is what goes past Derby Dam in the Truckee River.

*Elwood Lowery:* So these are not true figures?

*Jeff Payne:* This is a model. A simulation. What is useful here is that the 250 cfs alternatives have a higher flow to Pyramid Lake relative to other alternatives. The figures are to help with comparison, because the relative values matter.

*Michelle Ruize:* The Pre-Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA) planning model is what you're using? What happens after TROA?

*Jeff Payne:* We wouldn't expect large changes. TROA isn't implemented yet and the TROA model isn't even complete. But the TROA analyses indicate Newlands will be relatively unaffected, so we don't expect it to change the performance of the alternatives.

*Kenneth Parr:* I worked on the TROA EIS/Environmental Impact Report (EIR), and TROA will not provide less water to Pyramid Lake when it is implemented. Our findings and the TROA Record of Decision (ROD) indicated that there will be an increase in inflow to Pyramid Lake when TROA is implemented.

*Walt Winder:* Why was the cement bentonite cutoff wall left out?

*Harvey Edwards:* It was not selected because it performs the same as High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) option but at a higher cost. It could be substituted.

*Donna Noel:* If you lined the Truckee Canal, what is the change in flow from the Wadsworth gage to the first turnout that could be attributed to seepage? How does seepage change the flow?

*Jeff Payne:* Our expectation is that the lining option would reduce much seepage loss in Fernley reach of the Truckee Canal by approximately 85 percent. You would probably see a decrease in diversions from the Truckee River, but performance would depend on a lot of things. The gains may go to Pyramid Lake, or perhaps not – perhaps Lahontan meets its targets earlier.

*Albert John:* Does this have to do with the courts and the 2008 Truckee Canal breach?

*Harvey Edwards:* The Study was authorized by Congress after the breach to determine what the appropriate fix is.

*Albert John:* The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is supposed to be doing a lot of work on the Truckee River and it's been stopped. Will this project be put in front of those projects?

*Harvey Edwards:* This project will not go through the Corps.

*Albert John:* We want to purchase water rights, and it's becoming a critical issue. So, we want to make sure we have our projects completed before others.

*Elwood Lowery:* Whose seepage study are you using in the model?

*Harvey Edwards:* Fernley is doing a seepage study. We're using other information for the model, but we have incorporated some of their findings.

*Olin Anderson:* I understand that you're not giving a recommendation. Do you have to go to the multi-headed negotiation process to determine the best alternative to move forward?

*Harvey Edwards:* Reclamation will be involved and may have to lead the next steps, but that's basically right.

*Olin Anderson:* Will you use the planning criteria you presented to describe the cost and benefit both in physical outcomes and political outcomes?

*Harvey Edwards:* Each agency will have its own position on those. The selection of an alternative may be a political decision, and not based on what is most economical.

*Olin Anderson:* If you can provide your results in a digestible format for lawmakers, that would be helpful. Table 6-3 is vague.

*Jeff Payne:* Table 6-1 provides cost and average flows to different stakeholders. We based table 6-3 on comments we received. It could be refined, but only really with direct participation of stakeholders to ensure their specific concerns and positions are characterized accurately.

*Beverly Harry:* When the Newlands Project was built, seepage was not an issue because the City of Fernley wasn't there. How did that seepage change into a water right?

*Harvey Edwards:* We consider that seepage water to be an unauthorized delivery from the Truckee Canal. The Nevada State Engineer has determined that nothing compels an entity to apply surface water to an area of land to satisfy recharge. We will have to describe the impacts to the city if the canal is lined.

*Kenneth Parr:* The seepage is Project water. It's also an incidental benefit to the City of Fernley. We have to evaluate those impacts in an environmental document.

*Harvey Edwards:* Project water users are paying for the cost of this water through the inefficiencies. We have identified alternatives that take away that seepage. It's an environmental concern to be noted. Fernley's dependence on recharge has not determined selection of alternatives for the Study.

*Beverly Harry:* We have impacts to the Truckee River from total dissolved solids from the City of Fernley's groundwater. There are impacts. As that groundwater is continually fed, the flows degrade water quality in the Truckee River. Application of water seeps into the aquifer and then flows back into the river.

*Jeff Payne:* In the future condition for this Study, agriculture in Truckee Division is expected to decrease. So I would expect based on the correlation that total dissolved solids loading may decrease also.

*Beverly Harry:* The Bureau should study how total dissolved solids impacts to the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe would change based on the alternatives.

*Harvey Edwards:* We will probably have to look at that when and if an environmental document is produced.

*Olin Anderson:* Was recoupment considered in the Study? Has anyone looked at efficiencies in the Truckee River system, which counts back to the recoupment?

*Harvey Edwards:* Not specifically, but implementation could consider recoupment. Some alternatives lend themselves to it or are compatible with it. A long-term efficiency improvement in the Project could support recoupment.

*Kenneth Parr:* Under OCAP, efficiencies created by TCID become incentive credits. TCID can do what they want with this water: park it in Lahontan Reservoir, apply it toward recoupment credits, etc. So, the district will have to decide.

### ***Fernley, Nevada***

The Fernley public meeting was held on January 29, 2013, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Fernley City Council Chambers, 595 Silver Lace Boulevard, Fernley, Nevada 89408.

The meeting included a presentation by the Study Team and a question-and-answer period. All meeting material is found in Attachment 1. Attendance is shown in Table H-6.

**Table H-6. Attendees at the Fernley Public Meeting on January 29, 2013**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization or Affiliation (if given)</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization or Affiliation (if given)</b>
Betty Aleck	Fernley Leader	Marlene Olsen	
Michael Bement	Compass Rose Ranch	Dwight Orton	
Debra Bement	Compass Rose Ranch	Robert Pearson	
Karyn Bennett	Friends of the Historic Truckee Canal	Keith Pennes	Friends of the Historic Truckee Canal
John Bremmor		Jim Pringle	
Myron Burdette		H. R.	
Mike Clement		Joe Riehland	
MW Cohen	Water User	Julie Scott	
Rick Depaoli		Daniel Sharp	
Sandy Depaoli		Russ Short	
Kenneth Depaoli		Pat Spracklin	
Charley Dickerson	Truckee-Carson Irrigation District	David Stix, Jr.	Truckee-Carson Irrigation District
Marie Duncan	Water User	Richard Svetich	S3 Concepts
Roy Edgington	Fernley City Council	Terri Svetich	S3 Concepts
Lynda Freeman	Friends of the Historic Truckee Canal	Shari Whalen	City of Fernley
John Freeman		Ann B. Windle	Friends of Historic Truckee Canal
LeRoy Goodman	Fernley City Council	Rod Windle	Friends of Historic Truckee Canal
John Grove		David Wolf	
Karen Howell		Garth Young	
T. J.		Kay Young	
Richard Jackson		Dave Zimmerman	
Kevin Jeakins		Lee Berget*	Reclamation
Vida Keller	Lyon County Board of Commissioners	Harvey Edwards*	Reclamation
Scott Keller	Silver Springs Advisory Board	Kenneth Parr*	Reclamation
Carol Kolvet		Craig Moyle*	MWH
Stuart Mackie	Mackie Farms	Ryan Murdock*	MWH
Sue Mackie	Mackie Farms	Jeff Payne*	MWH
Greg Morrison	Taggart & Taggart	Alex Tollette*	MWH
Joe Mortensen	Lyon County Board of Commissioners		

Note:

\*Members of the Study Team.

**Question-and-Answer Session** Questions and comments from the meeting attendees, and responses from the Study Team, are included below.<sup>1</sup> Following the question-and-answer session, the Study Team also made themselves available for follow-up questions one-on-one or in small groups.

*Stuart Mackie:* I have an orchard at Hazen. We have found that the Truckee Meadows dedicated thousands of gallons of water to Reno, but none of it is returned to the Truckee River. I was wondering if you know about this and where that water goes. This water doesn't flow back into the river. The biggest problem I have is that when Pelcygar was kicked off after working with the Indians to purchase Truckee River water rights, the state of Nevada didn't recognize the paperwork he produced because he didn't have a license. Yet all of his documents were signed as if he was an attorney.

*Harvey Edwards:* This Study focused on safety and water supply reliability. I can't really speak to your question, because it doesn't seem to be related.

*John Grove:* I was wondering if you knew how much the Truckee Canal contributes to the City of Fernley's water supply.

*Harvey Edwards:* Our Study didn't develop numbers for that, but the City of Fernley has conducted a study on it, and the results are included in some of the analysis.

*John Grove:* How much recharge comes off of seepage from the Truckee Canal versus from land application by agriculture?

*Jeff Payne:* We received this information from Fernley. Fernley estimates the city's buildout is above what is estimated in the 2008 Water Master Plan for 2028. In our Study's future condition, about 18,000 acre-feet per year is demanded by the City of Fernley. Approximately half is satisfied through groundwater. We also assume the city will be taking delivery of all of its Project surface water rights. To meet the city's needs, they would need the surface water and groundwater volumes. This is reported in Table 6-1.

*John Grove:* There has already been an impact to the community of Fernley. Private wells are drying up. Of the alternatives, do you have a favorite plan?

*Craig Moyle:* This isn't a decision document, so it's not up to us to pick one at this phase.

*David Stix:* On Table 6-1, note 9 is on groundwater recharge. This may sound like a minor issue, but it really only speaks to the city's public wells. Can you

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<sup>1</sup> As the session was not recorded in the level of detail that would be found in an official transcript, the remarks presented do not reflect a verbatim record of the discussion. However, every attempt has been made to capture the intent and sentiment of the speakers as accurately as possible.

incorporate domestic and other private well owners, such as private commercial owners, in the future demand?

*Jeff Payne:* Perhaps. Is it included in Fernley's 2008 Water Master Plan?

*David Stix:* Not right now. Maybe in the future.

*John Freeman:* Can you define what a "Truckee River Environmental User" is in Table 6-3?

*Harvey Edwards:* This group includes the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe and other interests that want to maximize flows in the Truckee River.

*Jeff Payne:* In the report we're trying to be soft on this issue because we're basing the acceptability on comments we've received from stakeholders. By including "Truckee River Environmental Users," we're trying to show how well alternatives perform based on average annual flows in Truckee River.

*Dave Wolf:* I understand the Stillwater tribe has an interest in having flow in the Truckee Canal. Would they be considered a cost-share partner?

*Harvey Edwards:* We didn't look at the Fallon tribe as being a cost-share partner, because they are considered as a Project water rights holder that will receive water like other Project users.

*Jeff Payne:* It is important to understand that there isn't necessarily a tradeoff between flows in the lower Truckee River and flows in the Truckee Canal. It depends on where you're getting water from. The Study wasn't intended to assess where it's possible to preserve all rights and improve performance for Pyramid Lake, but we did note how flows in the lower Truckee River might be change based on the alternative.

*Harvey Edwards:* You have to avoid an "us-versus-them" mentality when it comes to finding funding for these alternatives. Without a partnership, the money's not likely there.

*Shari Whalen:* "Truckee River Environmental Users" appear to be the only ones who don't like Alternative 600, based on the fact that it leaves the lowest flows in the Truckee River of all the alternatives. However, there is more than one way to look at benefits for the environment related to the Truckee River – flows are not the only way to look at benefits.

*Jeff Payne:* It is true that there are multiple ways to look at environmental benefits for the lower Truckee River. We have only reported on flows in the Truckee River, since our focus was on benefits for the Newlands Project rather than for outside users or interests.

*Shari Whalen:* Did you look at alternatives other than fallowing crops? In the Walker River Basin they're doing crop conversion – did you look at that?

*Jeff Payne:* We looked at retirement and crop conversion as some of the measures to potentially include in alternatives. Crop conversion gets pretty expensive, especially when you take into account that a community's agricultural economy is geared toward production of certain types of crops. The Walker River Basin program may not be a repeatable program for the Newlands Project.

*Myron Burdette:* You looked back to a 1994 study for the Carson Division lining. Did you update the cost of lining, and cost of material?

*Harvey Edwards:* The cost is updated to 2012, but the technical measures were the same.

*Jeff Payne:* The Carson Division lining option does use a concrete liner because that was what the 1994 study proposed, but there may be cheaper materials and methods available.

*Mike Bement:* Are stakeholders listed in the document and are their positions weighted?

*Jeff Payne:* We have identified those who might be interested in partnerships. Because we're not selecting an alternative, we haven't given preference or weighting to certain groups.

*Debra Bement:* Who is the final determiner of which alternative is selected?

*Harvey Edwards:* Reclamation will document the decision for an alternative in a Record of Decision.

*Kenneth Parr:* Reclamation cannot go directly to Congress to lobby for selection or funding of an alternative – this is illegal. Once we have a preferred alternative, there are two options: One is to fund it through Reclamation's three-year budget cycle. This would have to be reimbursed by local partners. The second option is for someone other than Reclamation to go to Congress and tell them to fund the project but also make it non-reimbursable.

*Debra Bement:* Do we need to get the stakeholders together to go to Congress for funding?

*Kenneth Parr:* I would like to see the constituent groups come together for a mutually agreeable preferred alternative that we can include in Reclamation's budget at the same time the non-Federal stakeholders can go to Congress. Throughout the Study, we have been consulting with all of these stakeholders to help us develop these ideas in the Draft Special Report. Those we've consulted with are listed in chapter 8 of the report.

*Ken Depaoli:* The cheapest cost fix is for the 600 cfs alternative. Did you consider flooding on the Truckee River and taking water off through the Truckee Canal? You also show no differences in the flow down river.

*Jeff Payne:* Flow down river is relatively the same. The bottom of Table 6-1 shows the differences in flow in the lower Truckee.

*Harvey Edwards:* This is a matter of perspective. The Truckee Canal is small relative to the Truckee River. If Truckee River flows are high, flows into the Truckee Canal won't significantly reduce flood flows.

*Ken Depaoli:* What was canal designed for originally?

*Harvey Edwards:* In the Fernley reach, it was designed for about 900 cfs. In the stretch of canal before you reach the old Pyramid check, it was designed for 1500 cfs. Then, in the Fernley Reach it drops down to 900 cfs. But this was sized for a project of 270,000 acres.

*Ken Depaoli:* Did you look at a 900 cfs flow?

*Harvey Edwards:* We compared the 600 cfs and 900 cfs flows, and found them to offer the relatively same level of reliability. 900 cfs only provides the ability to capture periodic peak flows.

*Joe Riehland:* Is there an equal opportunity from each side for the partners, or is there more money from some of them?

*Harvey Edwards:* No one knows the answer to that right now. Determining that would come after we look at the benefits of a selected alternative and look at cost-sharing of partners.

*Joe Riehland:* We're a small amount of people here. Downriver on the Truckee... the government is already there. The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe is already in front of Congress. They get funding anyway.

*Robert Pearson:* Will any of the partners have more of an influence on the alternative that is chosen, or are you [Reclamation] selecting the alternative?

*Harvey Edwards:* It's likely that there is no partner who can do it on their own – also, if one potential partner, such as TCID, could do it on their own, other partners in the region may not like what happens as a result. So, others may also want to be involved in the process, to ensure the outcome is acceptable to them.

*Roy Edgington:* \$3 million per year is what Alternative 600 costs. That's half our [TCID's] annual budget, and we spend all of it. You only have named three entities that will pay for it. That's ludicrous. From my perspective, there's a lot more work to be done. For any of the choices, there has to be assistance from the Federal government. Also, I don't see participation from up-river users, and

that's a concern for me. We did see some upriver interests at the Nixon meeting earlier today. That was good, because if you ask us for \$3 million, we'll be hard-pressed. Unless it comes from TCID, the City of Fernley, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, and the Federal government.

*Stuart Mackie:* Is anyone paying on that flood that happened in 2008? Davey [Stix] turned down the wall that was proposed for fixing the situation. No one's paying for that. I know the engineer that proposed it, and Davey turned it down. The engineer said he'd pay for it, but Davey told him no. Also, is there any money that Fernley is paying for on this canal, since they're the ones that caused this thing to be dropped?

*Harvey Edwards:* We've identified Fernley as beneficiary in this report because of safety. We haven't determined cost-sharing portions.

*Shari Whalen:* I haven't gone through the revised draft fully yet. I think the consultants did a really good job of coming through and understanding the issues here. I can tell our comments have been considered in this draft, and I want to thank you for this.

***Fallon, Nevada***

The Fallon public meeting was held on January 30, 2013, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Churchill County Commissioners' Chambers, 155 North Taylor Street, Suite 145, Fallon, Nevada 89406.

The meeting included a presentation by the Study Team and a question-and-answer period. All meeting material is found in Attachment 1. Attendance is shown in Table H-7.

**Table H-7. Attendees at the Fallon Public Meeting on January 30, 2013**

Name	Organization or Affiliation (if given)	Name	Organization or Affiliation (if given)
John Buzzone	Washoe County	Larry Pruit, Jr.	
John Dirickson	NAS Fallon	Kate Rutan	Truckee-Carson Irrigation District
Roy Edgington	City of Fernley	Glenn Twitchell	
Joe Gomes		Sally Vance	Reclamation
Sidney Imeson	Skip's Place LLC	Walter Winder	Truckee-Carson Irrigation District
Edwin James, P.E.	Carson Water Subconservancy District	Lee Berget*	Reclamation
Michael Johnson	Churchill County Planning Department	Harvey Edwards*	Reclamation
Chad Larkin		Kenneth Parr*	Reclamation
Eleanor Lockwood	Churchill County	Craig Moyle*	MWH
Roger Mills		Ryan Murdock*	MWH
Bob Oakden		Jeff Payne*	MWH
Pete Olson		Alex Tollette*	MWH
Terri Pereira	Churchill County Planning Department		

Note:

\*Members of the Study Team.

**Question-and-Answer Session** Questions and comments from the meeting attendees, and responses from the Study Team, are included below.<sup>1</sup> Following the question-and-answer session, the Study Team also made themselves available for follow-up questions one-on-one or in small groups.

*Pete Olson:* How did you arrive at 600 cfs and 350 cfs being the same? We had 900 cfs in the Truckee Canal in the past.

*Harvey Edwards:* 900 cfs was based on previous acreage planned for the Newlands Project. 900 cfs only pulled off storm surges. The cost to fix the canal to each of these flow-stages is essentially the same; driving the sheet piling goes down to the same depth.

*Pete Olson:* How do you go to 600 cfs and say there's no impact, and then down to 350 cfs with no impact? The canal must grab the water as it goes by, not year-round. That's in OCAP.

*Jeff Payne:* In our Study, there is a slight decrease in Project demand in the future from the current conditions. That contributes somewhat to the similarities

<sup>1</sup> As the session was not recorded in the level of detail that would be found in an official transcript, the remarks presented do not reflect a verbatim record of the discussion. However, every attempt has been made to capture the intent and sentiment of the speakers as accurately as possible.

in performance among 900, 600, and 350 cfs. Based on the modeling we did, the availability of water supply in those higher cfs flow-stages provides very little benefit to the Project, as it turns out. We modeled it to test this and found that you can meet the water demands of the Project at 350 cfs and 600 cfs.

*Pete Olson:* Would the 350 be an absolute cap, then? We have to run the canal below 350 right now in case a surge occurs. Did you model that?

*Jeff Payne:* The modeling assumes the canal is filled to a 350 cfs flow-stage.

*Lee Berget:* The 350 cfs stage restriction would be reevaluated because of the safety conditions.

*Roger Mills:* I was a member of the team doing negotiations. We're going the wrong direction. You've bought land in Fallon to give to the Pyramid tribe. For the negotiations, one of the things the government came up with was that we had to maintain the level of total dissolved solids in Pyramid Lake for as long as 200 years. We are not looking at a practical solution for Pyramid Lake or for Fallon; we would need all the water in the Truckee River to meet those total dissolved solids (TDS) requirements. There has never been a study about desalinating to take those solids out, so we decrease dilution needs at Pyramid Lake and keep the water good.

*Harvey Edwards:* The Study was on safety and reliability of the Project but not water quality. However, we have captured your comment for the Study record.

*Bob Oakden:* Did you take into account the 2012 repairs by TCID?

*Harvey Edwards:* The Study identifies that this work was completed by TCID and notes that it satisfied part of the safety objective. These repairs achieve some of the required actions that are in the Corrective Action Study.

*Bob Oakden:* If we put the canal up to 600 cfs, how much will that raise the canal's water elevation from where it is now in feet, inches, etc.?

*Jeff Payne:* Due to roughness and elevation changes in the canal, it's not going to be the same throughout. Appendix A includes a figure that shows how the elevation changes in the canal, which I will review with you after the question-and-answer session is over.

*Walt Winder:* I have several questions regarding the HDPE product. Has it been used elsewhere?

*Harvey Edwards:* I believe it has. I can follow up on that for you.

*Walt Winder:* If we are using the HDPE product as a rodent barrier, has it been tested against rodents?

*Harvey Edwards:* I am not sure if it has been tested against rodents, but it is very strong. It probably ranks higher than a cement-bentonite cutoff wall.

*Walt Winder:* What technical evaluations have been done regarding soil bonding to surface of HDPE, if the HDPE is being pile driven?

*Harvey Edwards:* The Corrective Action Study looks at characteristics of HDPE for this use. But right now we're trying to figure out what will make canal safe. Additional studies may help identify other technologies that could be as effective.

*Walt Winder:* Was any weight given to the value of water conserved through increased efficiency, such as would result from lining? I think your analysis on that is a little short.

*Jeff Payne:* The Study focused on increasing value of water supply to Project water users. We assumed that efficiency gains would stay within the Project and go toward meeting the water supply needs of water rights holders. Increased flows in the lower Truckee River are reported as an outcome only of alternatives that first intend to meet the needs of the Project.

*Ed James:* Your report is interesting and well-written. I'm concerned about the deadline for receiving comments by February 14. I may not be able to get my board's comments by that time. Also, some of your numbers and figures don't add up. I would also like to submit a few comments regarding recreation in Lahontan. In the future, there will be demands on the system that will change with hydrology. If you start to harden your water demands (by fallowing, etc.), in the future there may be a need for those water – but you've already limited your opportunities to take it.

*Kenneth Parr:* Is that an official request for extension?

*Ed James:* Yes.

*Harvey Edwards:* There are a lot of assumptions in the Study, and each stakeholder will bring a different perspective to them.

*Pete Olson:* I took a look at your analysis and I have a problem with saying that 250.a and others that include fallowing have the ability to meet Study objectives. In fact, they don't meet all water rights. There is a huge impact to this region generally, here and upstream, from agriculture; I think you've tried to look at that. Regarding the 600 column on your stoplight table – it shows that Truckee River Environmental Users don't like the alternatives until Churchill County dries up and does away. I think you're spot on with that. But just because the Truckee Canal breach presented you with an opportunity to examine the size of the canal doesn't mean you have an opportunity to disrupt water rights of this community. We have to preserve the 600 cfs to preserve this community. The flows have been much higher in the past – I have a hard time

getting past the fact that you're equating 600 cfs with 900 cfs. Nonetheless, I believe the 600 cfs one is the correct alternative. I'm also concerned about the cost and the analysis that was done to reach that \$40 million figure for the HDPE cutoff wall. At one time, we looked at a "quick and dirty" option of a low density cutoff wall and the cost wasn't even near that.

*Harvey Edwards:* Well, meeting the safety objective is not just lining the canal or installing an HDPE cutoff wall. It's more than that. The Study does identify how much canal needs to be lined, fitted with a cutoff wall, etc., but we also did a hydrology study that identifies where there is a need for cross drainage, replacing check structures, installing new structures, and raising the embankment, among other things. So it's not just lining or cutoff wall. The performance of both lining and the cutoff wall is the same for safety. As far as funding goes, the Study identifies that currently TCID may have the ability pay that would allow them to go at it alone to implement one of the safety fixes. However, if prices for commodities go down, that may change. What we're saying is that if you want Federal funding for a certain alternative, and the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe or other stakeholders don't want Federal funding for that alternative, you may not get very far in the request.

*Kenneth Parr:* We did the best we could to cost this out and we need to figure out how to partner with others to pay for it.

*Michael Johnson:* If you line the Truckee Canal or other canals in the Project, you're just trying to make sure you're getting the water to Lahontan. For 100 years, this system has also been supplying groundwater – incidental or not – for Churchill County and Fernley. You're not considering this, but it supplies the water for this community via groundwater.

*Harvey Edwards:* Throughout the Study, we have talked to Churchill County and Fernley and heard those comments. In the report, we identify this as a concern that would have to be taken into consideration. This is not an exhaustive document. But we identify hurdles associated with the alternatives that would need to be considered in the future.

*John Buzzone:* If you're delivering at 350 cfs versus 600 cfs, you'll have to divert twice as long to achieve the same amount. If you're trying to achieve the lower flow long term reliability, you need to be looking at upstream storage.

## Public Comments

Reclamation received more than 30 sets of written comments from the public, agencies, tribes, and other regional stakeholders during the Study process and in response to public review of the Draft Special Report. Table H-8 contains the list of individuals who submitted written comments to Reclamation; several written comments were also received from anonymous individuals, and those comments are not reflected in this list. All written comments are included in Attachment 2.

**Table H-8. Written Comments Received During the Study**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization or Affiliation (if given)</b>	<b>Comment Date</b>
Tim Ballard	TCID	August 22, 2011
Venus Bevins		August 24, 2011
Holly Bute	Resident/Swingle Bench	August 25, 2011
Cohen Clements	Water Rights Owner	February 14, 2013
Mike Clements	Water Rights Owner	February 14, 2013
Charlie Donohue	NDSL	August 25, 2011
Jane Enhilder	Friends of the Truckee Canal	August 22, 2011
Lynda Freeman		September 30, 2011
Kris Hanneman		August 24, 2011
John W. Jackson	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Department of Water Resources	February 28, 2013
Rusty Jardine	TCID	October 10, 2012
Rusty Jardine	TCID	February 27, 2013
Grace Klise		August 24, 2011
Loni Kowalski		August 24, 2011
Loni Kowalski		September 9, 2011
Eleanor Lockwood	Churchill County	August 25, 2011
Eleanor Lockwood	Churchill County	February 21, 2013
Carl Lunderstadt	USFWS	October 10, 2012
Eddie Miller	Water User	August 22, 2011
John Mosely	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Environmental Department	February 28, 2013
Randy Pahl	Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Division of Environmental Protection	February 20, 2013
Ann B. Pawson	Farmer	August 25, 2011

**Table H-8. Written Comments Received During the Study (contd.)**

Name	Organization or Affiliation (if given)	Comment Date
Terri Pereira	Churchill County	October 15, 2012
John B. Rhodes	Western Regional Water Commission	February 14, 2013
Ernest Schank	Carson Water Subconservancy District	February 20, 2013
Ali Shahroody	Stetson Engineers, Inc.	October 31, 2012
Michael Ward	Landowner	August 25, 2011
Shari Whalen	City of Fernley Public Works Department	November 19, 2012
Shari Whalen	City of Fernley Public Works Department	February 28, 2013
David Wolf	Water Rights Owner	February 14, 2013
Dave Zimmerman		October 13, 2011

### **Public Review of the Draft Special Report**

From January 17, 2013, to February 28, 2013, Reclamation invited members of the public and agencies to review the Draft Special Report. Reclamation received 11 sets of written comments during the review period, which appear in Attachment 2.

Many comments include positions of the commenters that need to be included in the discussion and selection of an alternative to be implemented. This includes endorsement of Study findings, exception to Study findings or assumptions, and other considerations. Other comments provided important corrections to the document.

The comments received prompted the following changes to the Special Report:

- Corrections to Chapter 3 related to water quality in the primary and extended study areas.
- Revisions to Chapter 5 related to extent of consultation, permits, and compliance required under the Clean Water Act and State or other regulations.
- Addition to Chapter 6 of important considerations for future study noted by commenters, including potential effects of various alternatives, assumptions related to Project acreage and future demand, and other concerns brought up by the public, agencies, and tribes.

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# **Appendix H Public Participation and Outreach Report**

## **Attachment 1: Meeting Material**

**Newlands Project Planning Study  
Special Report**

*Prepared by*

**Bureau of Reclamation  
Mid-Pacific Region  
Lahontan Basin Area Office**



**U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation**

**April 2013**

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## **Attachment 1: Meeting Material**

This attachment to Appendix H contains the public information material and other products used in support the public meetings for the Newlands Project Planning Study.

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## August 2011 Public Meetings

Reclamation produced the following material in support of the public meetings held from August 22-25, 2011:

- News release
- Announcement mailer
- Newspaper advertisements
- Agenda
- Presentation
- Study fact sheet
- Project maps
- Preliminary Measures List
- Comment cards
- Display posters

This material is contained in the pages which follow.

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**Mid-Pacific Region  
Sacramento, CA**

MP-11-107

Media Contact: Pete Lucero, 916-978-5100, [plucero@usbr.gov](mailto:plucero@usbr.gov)

For Release On: August 11, 2011

## **Reclamation Schedules Public Meetings to Discuss the Newlands Project Planning Study**

The Bureau of Reclamation will host three public meetings in August to discuss the Newlands Project Planning Study (Study). The Study will investigate a range of potential alternatives to serve Newlands Project (Project) water rights and reduce public safety risks associated with operating the Truckee Canal. The meetings will occur in Fernley, Nixon and Fallon—three communities within or near the Project.

Each meeting will begin with a presentation followed by an open house during which attendees can review Study information and interact one-on-one with Study team members. During the meeting, Reclamation will present information and receive public feedback on the Study's objectives and purpose, outline steps in the planning process and discuss an initial list of actions that could be combined to form alternative plans for safely serving people, communities and lands that rely on Truckee or Carson River water delivered by the Project.

Meeting dates, times and locations are:

### **Fernley**

Monday, August 22, 6 - 8 p.m., Fernley City Council Chambers, 595 Silver Lace Boulevard

### **Nixon**

Tuesday, August 23, 6 - 8 p.m., Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council Chambers, 208 Capitol Hill

### **Fallon**

Thursday, August 25, 6 - 8 p.m., Churchill County Commissioners' Chambers, 155 N. Taylor Street, Suite 145

The Study was motivated by a January 2008 breach of the Project's Truckee Canal that flooded nearly 600 properties in the city of Fernley and led to restrictions on the amount of water the canal may convey. The Study is a federal effort to investigate options for safely serving Project water rights, and will culminate in a special report to help guide decisions about the Project's future.

Originally known as the Truckee-Carson Project, the Project is one of Reclamation's oldest irrigation projects. Since 1903, it has served water users in the Truckee and Carson River Basins for agricultural and, increasingly, other purposes. Operation and maintenance of Project facilities is performed by the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District under a contract with Reclamation. For information about the Project, please visit <http://www.usbr.gov/mp/lbao/>.

If special accommodations are needed or for additional information, please contact Donna Potter with Reclamation's Public Affairs Office at 916-978-5103 (TTY 916-978-5608) or [lpotter@usbr.gov](mailto:lpotter@usbr.gov).

###

Reclamation is the largest wholesale water supplier and the second largest producer of hydroelectric power in the United States, with operations and facilities in the 17 Western States. Its facilities also provide substantial flood control, recreation, and fish and wildlife benefits. Visit our website at <http://www.usbr.gov>.

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# Advertisement Appearing in the Lahontan Valley News and Fallon Eagle Standard (Fallon, NV)

## RECLAMATION SCHEDULES PUBLIC MEETINGS TO DISCUSS THE NEWLANDS PROJECT PLANNING STUDY

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# Advertisement Appearing in the Nevada Appeal (Carson City, NV)

Wednesday, August 10, 2011

nevadaappeal.com **LOCAL** • A3

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

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# Advertisement Appearing in the Reno Gazette-Journal (Reno, NV)

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# **Newlands Project Planning Study**

**Public Meetings  
August 22-25, 2011**

## **Agenda**

**6:00 Welcome**

**6:10 Study Team Presentation**

Introductions

Overview of the Newlands Project Planning Study

Planning Study Process

**7:00 Open House**

*Stations:*

Agenda and Study Area Map

Study Authorization and Context

Planning Approach and Alternatives Formulation

Study Measures and Examples

**8:00 Adjourn**

**RECLAMATION**  
*Managing Water in the West*



**Newlands Project  
Planning Study  
Public Meetings**

**August 22-25, 2011**



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation

## Agenda

- Introductions
- Overview of the Newlands Project Planning Study
- Planning Study Process
- Open House

**RECLAMATION**

## Goals for Today's Meeting

- Explain the focus of the planning study.
- Begin discussing how results from the Study could be used.
- Describe how the study will consider potential actions (measures) in the development of alternatives.
- Receive input on the list of measures being considered for use in the study.

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## Newlands Project Background

- Federal irrigation project started under the Bureau of Reclamation in 1903.
- Serves water rights in the Truckee and Carson basins.
  - Truckee Division: 2,000 acres
  - Carson Division: 55,000 acres
- Operated and maintained by the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District (TCID) under contract with Reclamation since 1926.

**IRRIGATED  
HOMESTEAD  
LANDS**

**Now Open to Entry under  
the Truckee-Carson Project  
in Churchill County**

75 Choice 40- and 80-acre Farms lying near or Fallon open to entry  
September 22, 1914

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**THE LAND IS FREE.**

Water Rights Available by the U. S. Reclamation Service at \$50 per acre, payable in 10 installments in 20 years, without interest. First installment of \$100 per acre, payable at date of sale. Other payments due 5 years later.

Residence on the land 7 months a year for three years necessary to secure title.

Cultivation of 1/4 of irrigable area in 3 years and 1/2 in 5 years is required.

Water Supply under the Great Laramian Aquifer is permanent and assured.

Land is Private Ownership, with all normal water rights, under the jurisdiction of the U. S. Reclamation Service. All year there has been no reduction of land values.

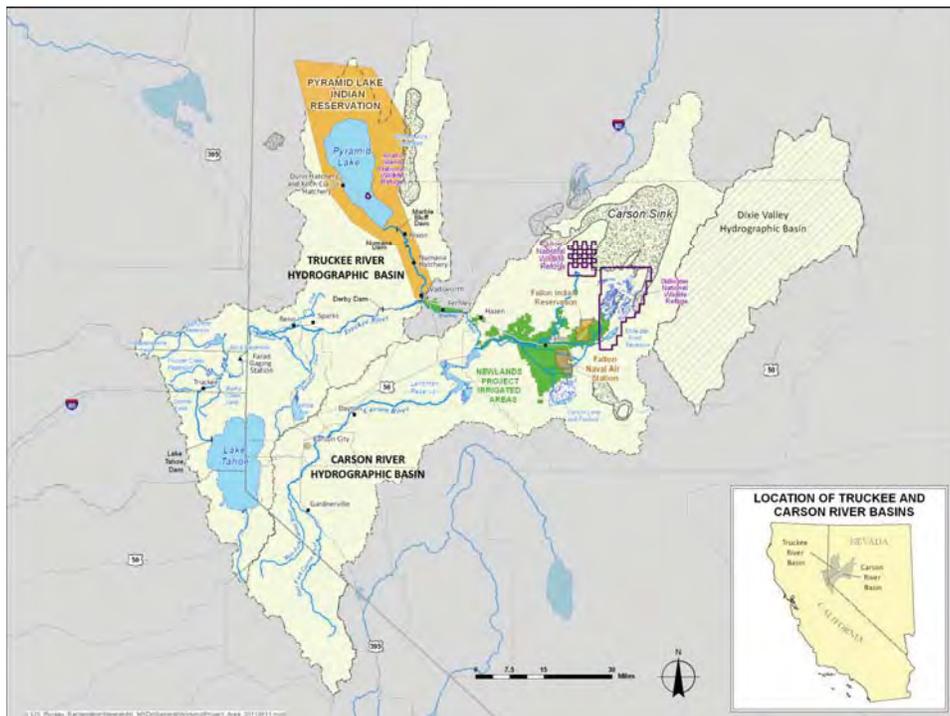
**CHURCHILL COUNTY**

Is one of the best sections in the State for farming, stock raising, fruit growing, sugar beet and other general farming. There is full title under the new laws which will secure and secure new settlers available and available. There is no more opportunity than to become and take possession of the land in the new section.

**The Opportunity of a Lifetime for the homesteeker exists  
RIGHT NOW in Churchill County. For further information  
Contact us at:**

**Project Manager U. S. Reclamation Service  
or Sec. Churchill County Chamber of  
Commerce, Fallon, Nev.**

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## A Century of Changes

- The Newlands Project's complexion has changed from exclusively serving irrigated crops to also serving wetlands and municipal users.
- Health of ecosystems in the lower Truckee River and at Pyramid Lake has increased attention on Truckee River water diversions.
- Urbanization – converting agricultural land along the Truckee Canal to residential neighborhoods – has increased the risks of operating the Project.
- These changes, in combination with aging facilities, complicate the operation and maintenance of the Project.

RECLAMATION

## Fernley in 1948



RECLAMATION

## Fernley in 2008



RECLAMATION

## Truckee Canal Breach

- **January 5, 2008, at around 4 am, 50 feet of the Truckee Canal's embankment collapsed.**
  - 590 properties in Fernley were flooded, most to depths of 1-to-4 feet.
  - No fatalities occurred.
- **Project operations were halted immediately, and the breach was sealed by 4 pm.**



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## Project Challenges Following the Breach

- The Truckee Canal breach in 2008 revealed additional concerns about risks to public safety and property from operating the Truckee Canal.
- Public safety concerns have led to significant canal conveyance restrictions for the Truckee Canal.
- In the long-term, canal conveyance restrictions may reduce the water supply reliability and/or viability of the Newlands Project.

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## Study Purpose and Authorization

- Identify plans for the Newlands Project that serve water rights safely, and also maintain the reliability of water supplies and the viability of the Project.
- 2009 Federal Omnibus Appropriations Act: Funding to “determine the full extent of rehabilitation needed for the canal to resume flows above 350 cubic feet per second.”
  - Assess the canal’s problems and risks.
  - Develop canal risk reduction alternatives.
  - Conduct a planning study to investigate Project alternatives.

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## Objectives for the Planning Study

Develop a range of alternatives focused on delivering water to the diverse blend of Newlands Project water rights holders in a way that...

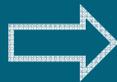
- ✓ Provides safety for people and property adjacent to the Truckee Canal;
- ✓ Provides a reliable water supply; and
- ✓ Maintains the viability of the Project.

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## Ongoing Studies & Future Decisions

Federal, State and Local Agency Coordination

Truckee Canal  
Risk  
Assessments



Newlands  
Project  
Planning Study



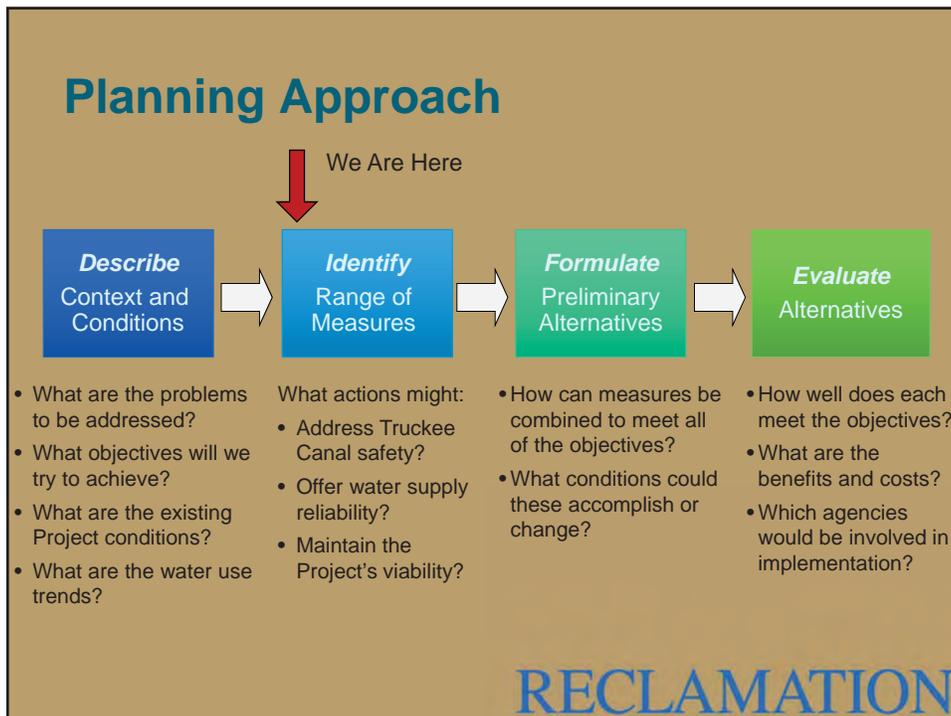
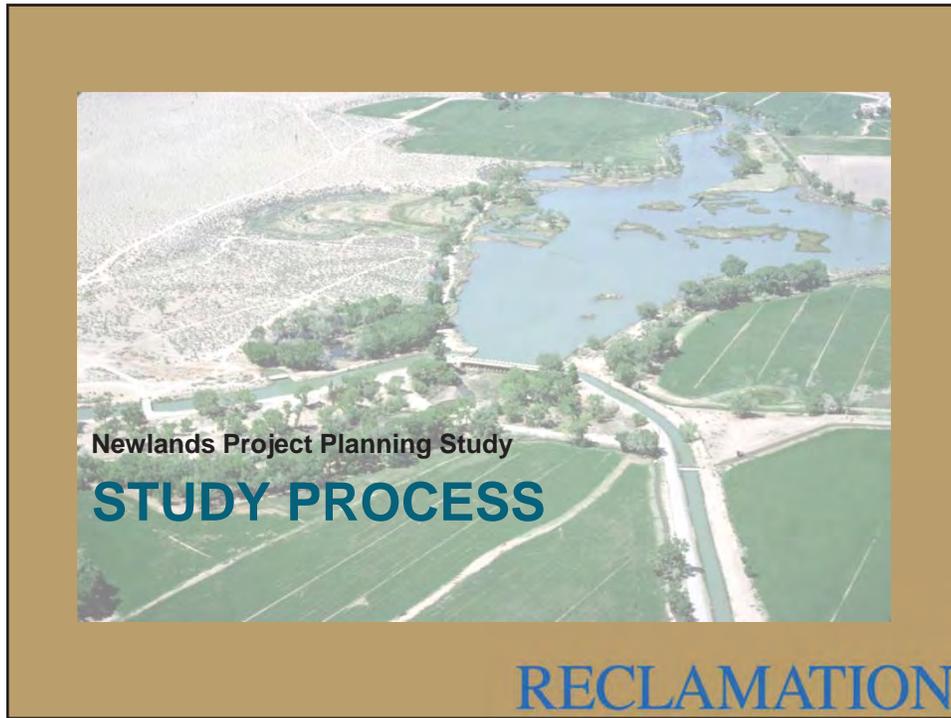
Next  
Steps

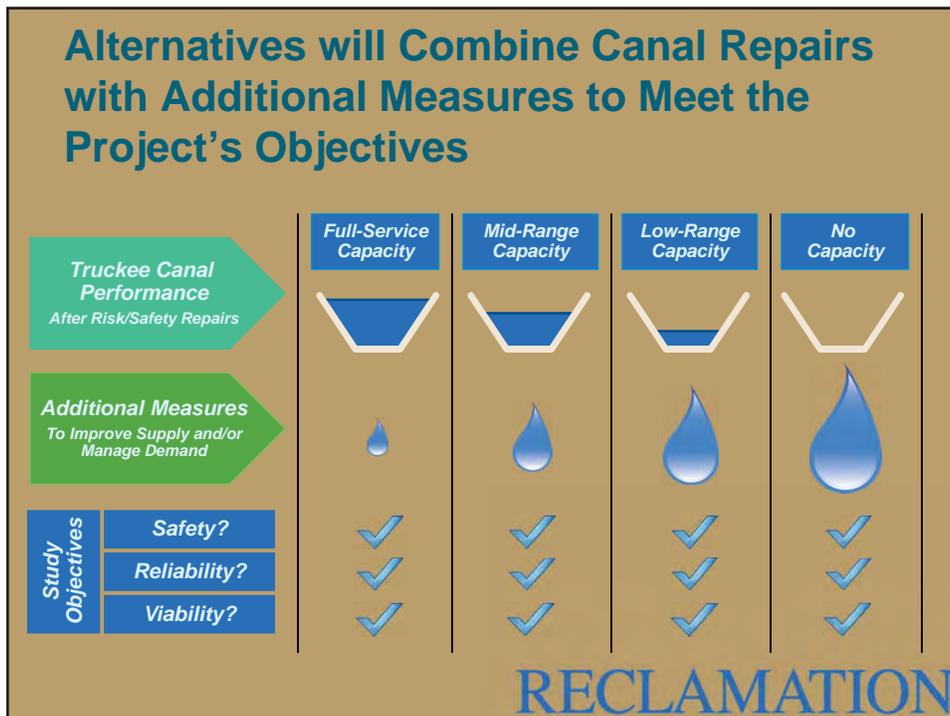
- Identify the risks of operating Truckee Canal across a range of canal capacities (from no-flow to full-service).
- Formulate plans for reducing risks to acceptable levels across a range of canal capacities.
- Estimate the costs of each risk-reduction plan.

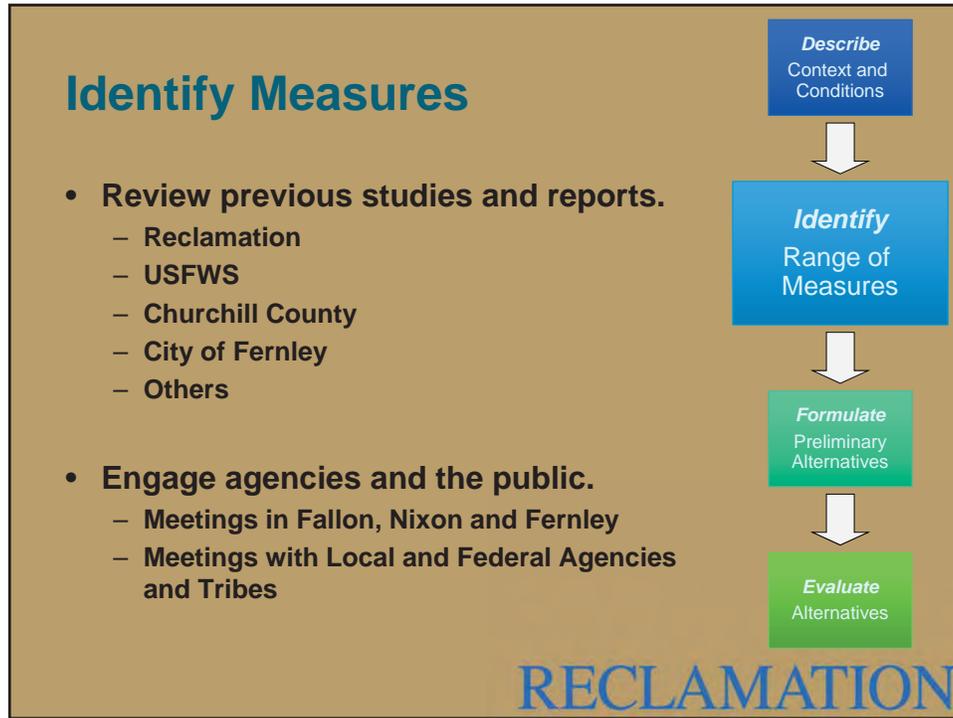
- For a range of canal capacities (from no-flow to full-service), formulate alternatives for serving Newlands water rights reliably and maintaining Project viability.
- Provide a comparison between the alternatives developed, including environmental effects and economic benefits.
- Identify potential cost-share partners for each alternative.

- TO BE DETERMINED.**
- Could include:
- Local, State, District, or Tribal plans for meeting objectives.
  - Federal decision process to select preferred alternative.

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## Example of Supply Improvement

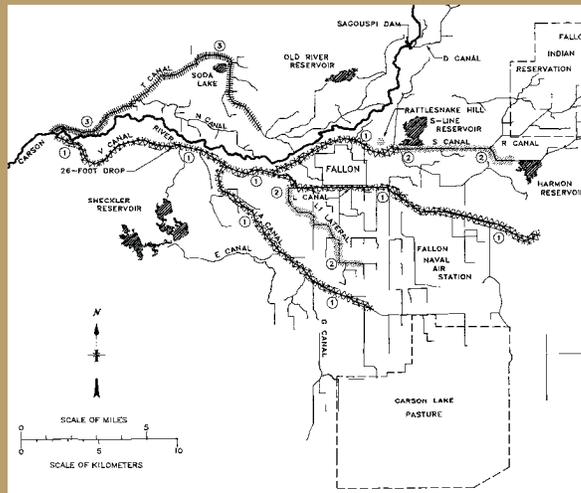
Structural improvements to flashboards on Lahontan Dam would increase the storage capacity of Lahontan Reservoir.



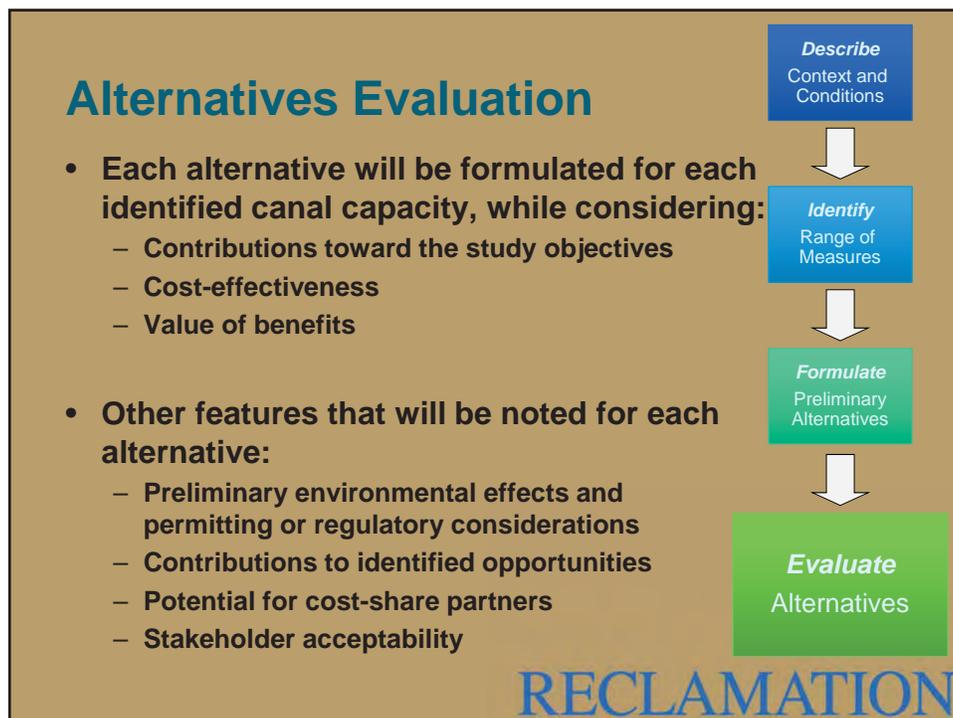
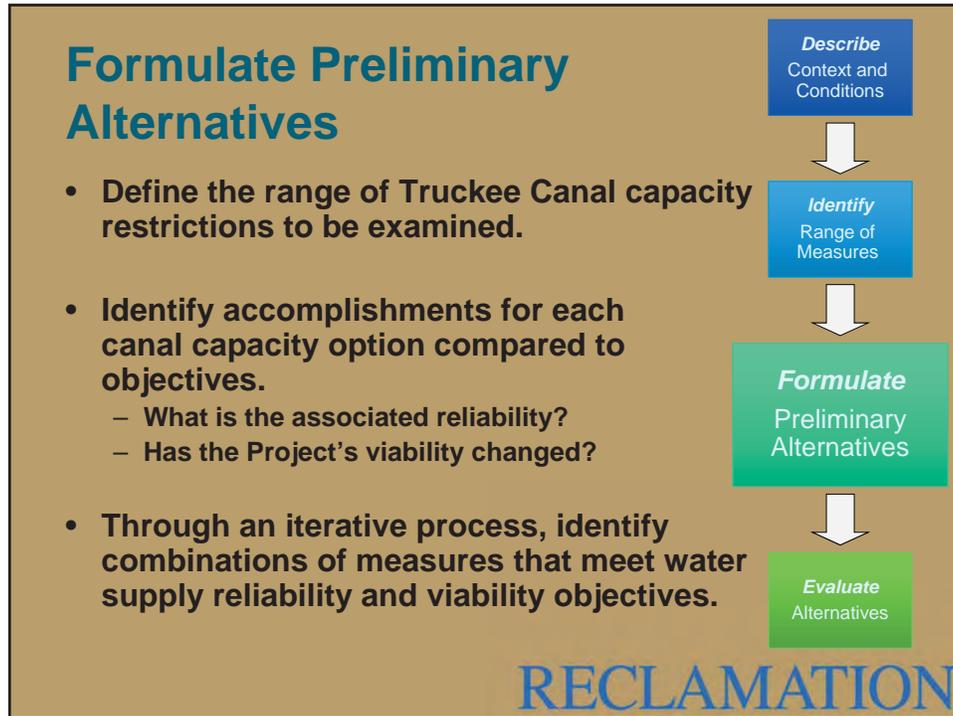
RECLAMATION

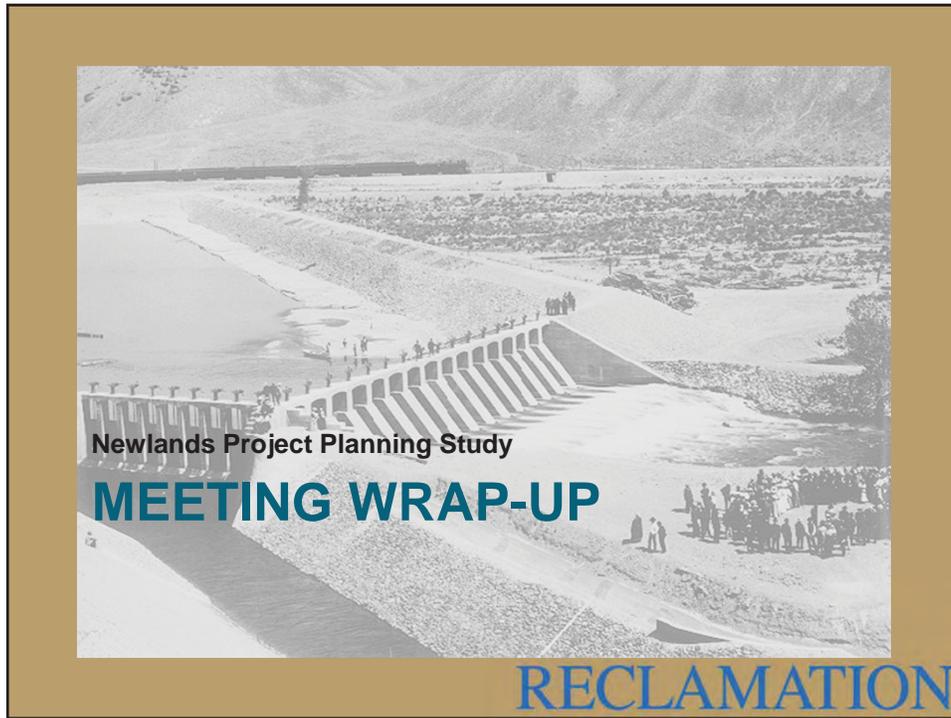
## Example of Demand Management

- Previous studies have demonstrated that reducing losses also reduces reliance on Truckee Canal deliveries
- The 1994 Newlands Project Efficiency Study (right) evaluated lining the most inefficient Carson Division canals and laterals



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## Study Outcomes and Schedule

- **Newlands Project Special Report will summarize findings of the Study.**
  - Not a “decision document” for federal action.
  - Intended to help local, State or Federal decision-makers guide the Project’s future.
- **Schedule of Work and Milestones**

– Field Investigations	2010
– Risk Analyses	2011
– Planning Study	2011-12
– Initial Public Meetings	Summer 2011
– Presentation of Findings	Summer 2012
– Special Report	Fall 2012



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## For Additional Information

Lahontan Basin Area Office Website:  
<http://www.usbr.gov/mp/lbao/>

Harvey Edwards, Project Manager  
(hedwards@usbr.gov)

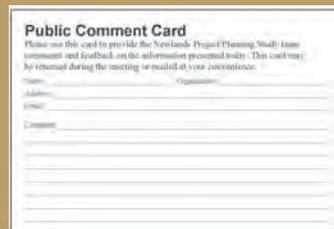
Donna Potter, Public Affairs Specialist  
(lpotter@usbr.gov)

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## OPEN HOUSE SESSION

- What are your ideas or concerns regarding the Newlands Project Planning Study?
- Are there additional measures for meeting the Study objectives that have not been identified?

Please submit comments in writing so that they may be included as part of the study



**Public Comment Card**  
Please use this card to provide the Newlands Project Planning Study team comments and feedback on the information presented today. This card may be returned during the meeting or mailed at your convenience.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

RECLAMATION

## Newlands Project Planning Study

The Newlands Project Planning Study (Study) will investigate a range of potential alternatives to serve Newlands Project (Project) water rights holders and reduce public safety risks associated with operating the Truckee Canal. The Study arose from a January 2008 breach of the Project's Truckee Canal that flooded nearly 600 properties in the city of Fernley and led to restrictions on the amount of water the canal may convey. Currently, the canal is limited to a maximum of 350 cubic feet per second (cfs), but prior to the breach, it had conveyed flows up to 900 cfs. In the future, this restriction could exacerbate the shortages that Project users experience.

The Study is a federal effort to investigate options for safely serving Project water rights, and will culminate in a special report to help guide decisions about the Project's future.

### Project Background

Originally known as the Truckee-Carson Project, the Newlands Project is one of Reclamation's oldest irrigation projects. Since 1903, it has served water users in the Truckee and Carson River Basins in northwest Nevada for agricultural and, increasingly, other purposes. Many rights in the Truckee Division are now exercised by municipal and industrial users, while the Carson Division now supports thousands of acres of Lahontan Valley wetlands. In total, the Project serves about 57,000 acres of irrigated land.

Sources of Project water include the Carson River and Truckee River. Primary Project facilities include Lake Tahoe Dam, Derby Dam, the Truckee Canal, Lahontan Dam and Reservoir, Carson Dam, and a network of canals that serve the Carson Division. (See Study area map, back page.) Operation and maintenance of Project facilities is performed by the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District under a contract with Reclamation.

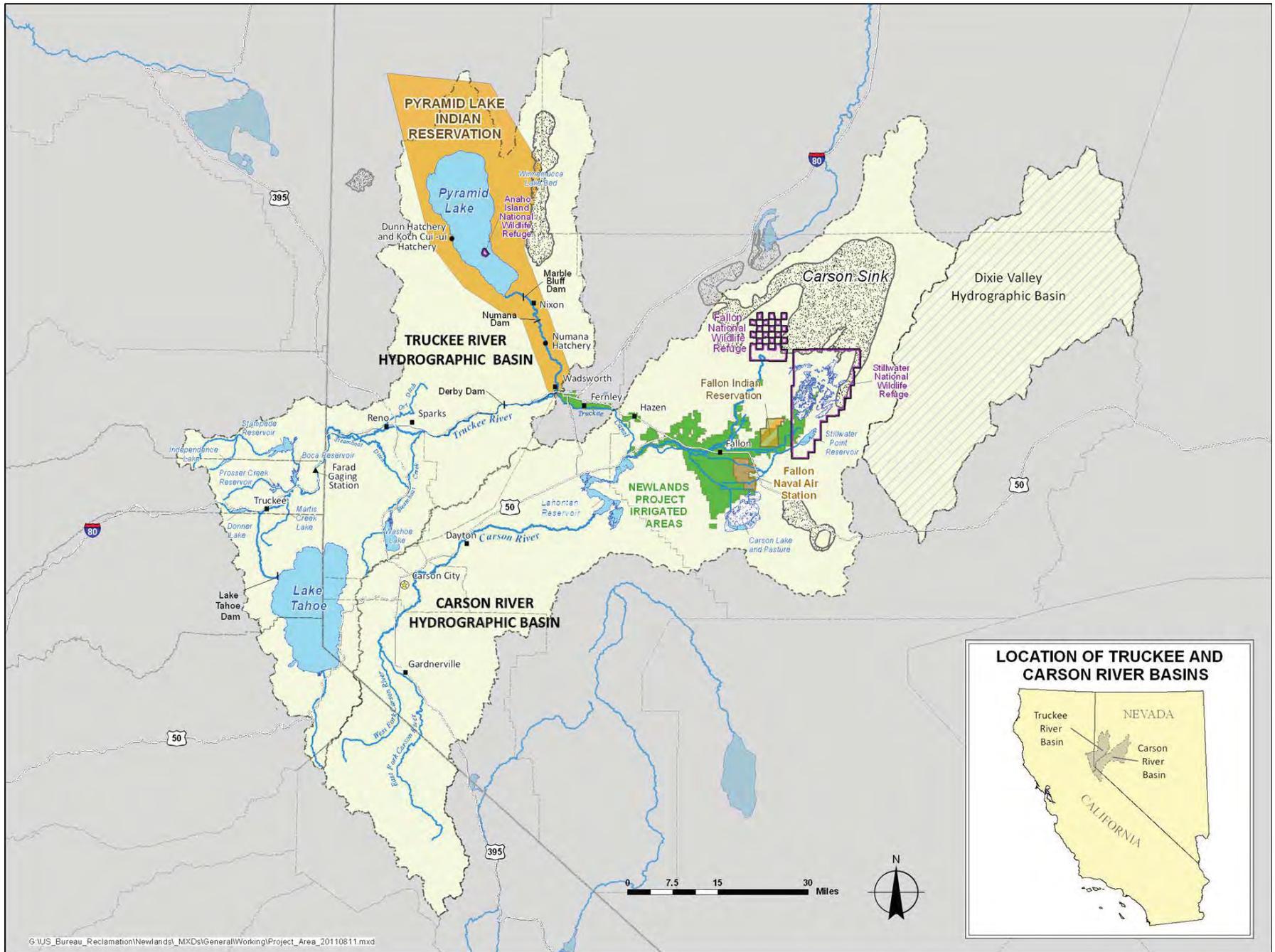


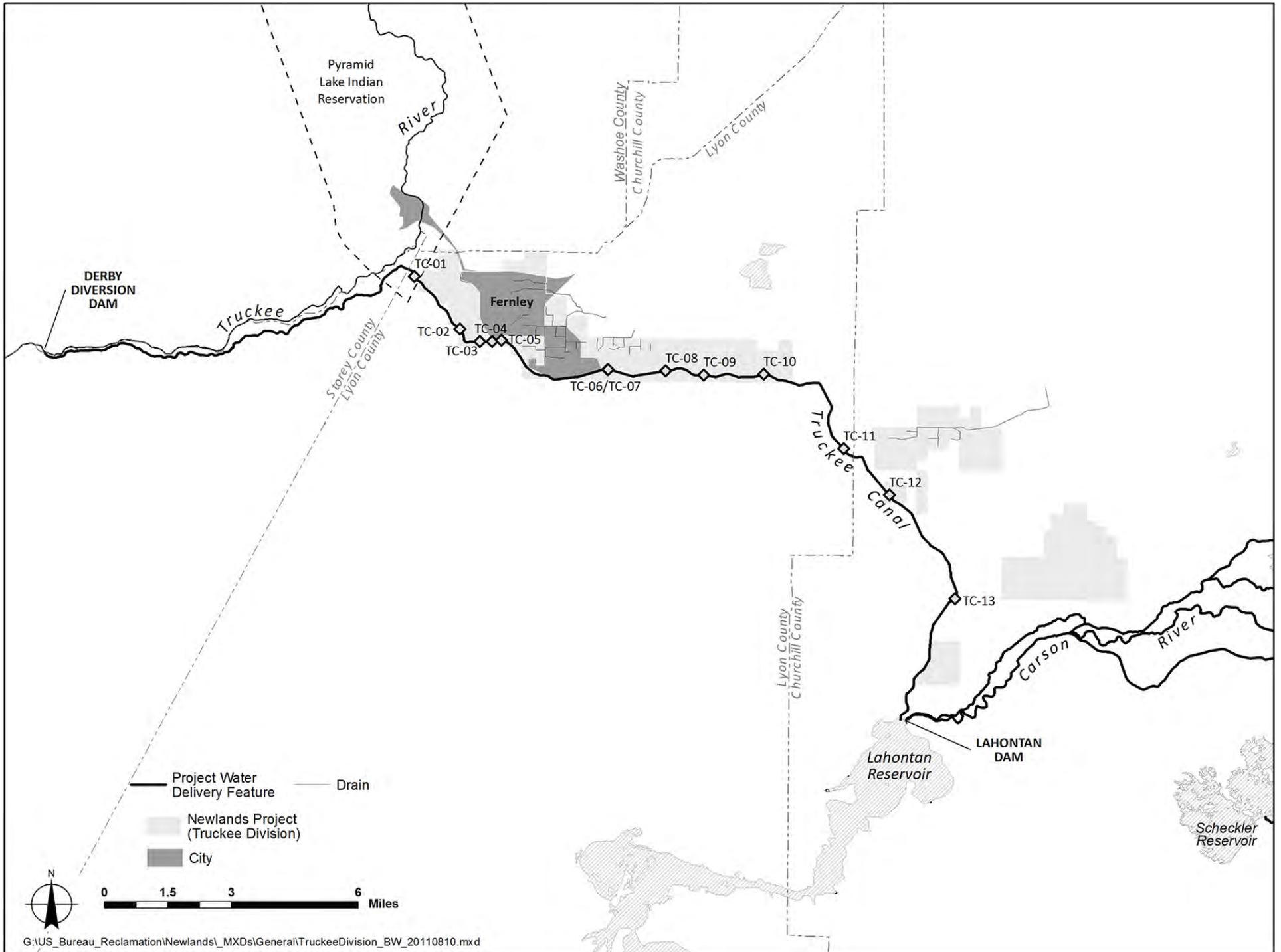
**Derby Dam diverts water from the Truckee River into the Project's Truckee Canal approximately 32 miles east of Reno.**

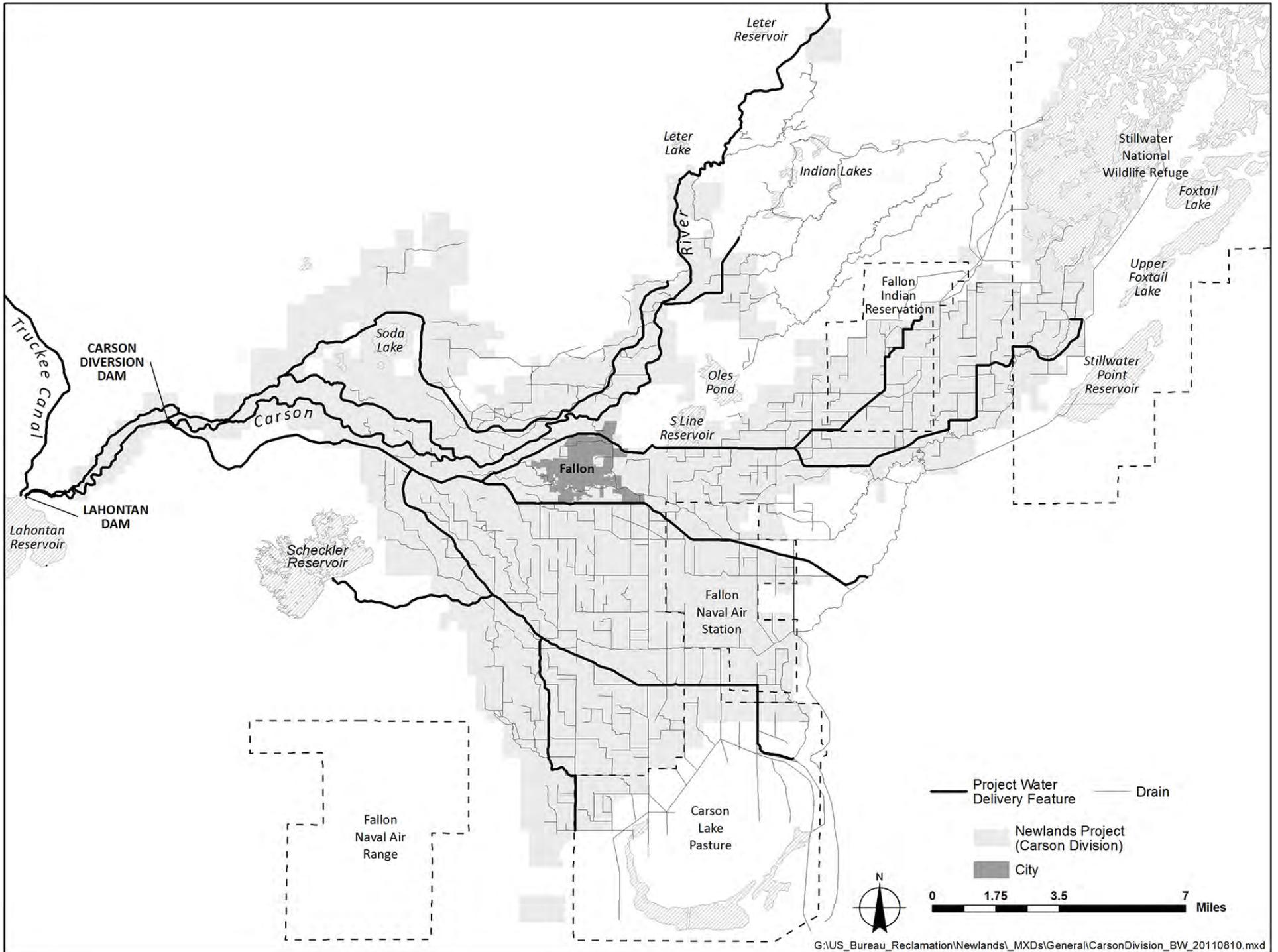
### Study Process

The planning study's central task is to formulate and evaluate a set of alternatives to meet the objectives of resolving problems with the Truckee Canal and serving Project water rights. Each alternative will be built around a potential Truckee Canal capacity restriction to address the safety objectives, and will also include a blend of additional measures to help achieve water supply reliability and Project viability. Truckee Canal capacities investigated could range from 0 cfs to the full-service conveyance before the breach. Reclamation will host public meetings in Fernley, Nixon, and Fallon, Nevada—key locations in the Study area—to provide information and progress updates, and to obtain feedback to be used in the alternatives development process.

For further information on the Newlands Project and the Study, please visit <http://www.usbr.gov/mp/lbao/>.







## Preliminary Measures List

### Newlands Project Planning Study

In addition to Truckee Canal rehabilitation, the following actions could be pursued to improve the availability or reliability of water supplies for the Newlands Project. This list is not exhaustive, and the Newlands Project Planning Study team welcomes additional ideas. None of these measures have been evaluated at this time. All measures will be screened against considerations such as public acceptability and environmental considerations during the alternatives formulation process.

### Supply Improvement Measures

#### Increase Truckee Canal Inflow to Lahontan Reservoir

Serve Truckee Division from Alternate Diversions - *includes actions such as developing a river intake for diversion of surface water rights, and development of pipelines or local groundwater projects to serve agricultural lands in the Truckee Division.*

Reduce Seepage from Truckee Canal or Laterals - *includes actions such as lining or converting the Truckee Canal or its laterals to a pipeline in order to reduce seepage losses.*

#### Increase Carson River Storage

Increase Lahontan Dam Storage – *includes actions such as retrofitting the flash-boards at Lahontan Dam to allow for surcharging.*

Build New Reservoirs – *includes actions such as building reservoirs in the Carson River basin to store water and reduce reservoir losses from spill during surplus conditions.*

#### Increase Carson River Inflow to Lahontan Reservoir

Stricter Enforcement of Carson River Water Rights – *includes actions such as more stringent monitoring and enforcement of the Alpine Decree to increase the efficiency of water use on the upper Carson River.*

#### Develop Alternative Sources

Local Groundwater Improvements – *includes actions such as seeking the development of local groundwater rights to augment water supplies.*

Agricultural Drain-Water Re-Use – *includes actions such as increasing the use of drain water to reduce demands for supplies from Lahontan Reservoir and the Truckee Canal.*

Import Groundwater – *includes actions such as importing water from Dixie Valley to augment water supplies in the Carson Division during dry conditions.*

#### Access Upper Truckee River Storage

Deliver Donner Lake Water - *allows for delivery of TCID supplies in Donner Lake to Lahontan Reservoir through the Truckee Canal.*

Store Water in Upstream Truckee River Reservoirs – *allows for storage of Newlands Project water in upper Truckee River reservoirs.*

*Please use the comment cards and/or map handouts to provide the Study team input and recommend additional ideas for consideration.*

## Demand Management Measures

### Increase Project Delivery Efficiency

Automate Canal and Drain Structures – *includes actions such as installing SCADA controls on central distribution structures to improve the precision and timeliness of water deliveries.*

Reduce Seepage from Carson Division Canals or Laterals – *includes actions such as lining or replacing canals, laterals with pipelines to reduce seepage losses.*

Meter Deliveries – *includes actions such as installing water meters on turn-outs to improve the efficiency of water deliveries.*

Drain Canals in Non-irrigation Season – *involves reducing water stages in all canals during the non-irrigation season to reduce seepage losses.*

### Improve On-Farm Efficiencies

Improve On-Farm Technology – *includes programs to supplement technological improvements, such as laser-leveling fields, for irrigators within the Project.*

Subsidize Crop Conversions – *includes programs to assist with the conversion of current crops to alternative crops with lower water demands and agreements to allow the difference in demand to go unclaimed, thus reducing the total demand of the Newlands Project.*

Shorten Irrigation Season – *includes actions such as reducing the allowable irrigation season, therefore reducing the total annual demand for water.*

### Transfer, Idle or Retire Rights

Crop Insurance Programs – *includes insurance programs to assist with periods of drought when supplies are reduced or unavailable.*

Drought-Year Fallowing Programs – *includes programs to identify farms with willingness to fallow crops during drought years, thus reducing the total demand in dry conditions.*

Strategic Land Consolidation or Buy-Out Programs – *includes identifying portions of the Newlands Project on the least efficient canals and laterals and providing economic incentives to re-locate or otherwise retire those lands from service, thus increasing the efficiency of the Project.*

Transfer or Lease Water Rights – *includes actions such as transferring or leasing water rights from the Carson Division to water users within the Truckee River basin, thus reducing the overall demand for water by the Newlands Project.*

### Restructure Fees and Prices

Community Rotation System/Group Deliveries by Area – *includes actions such as rotating water rights within a particular community during dry years.*

Base Pricing or Fees on Use – *includes changing the basis for fees to consider the volume of water delivered, thus creating economic incentives for on-farm efficiency.*

Base Pricing or Fees on Delivery Costs – *includes changing the basis for fees to include the cost of water deliveries to each user, thus creating economic incentives to retire lands along the least efficient conveyances in the Newlands Project.*

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**August 2011**

## Public Comment Card

Please use this card to provide the Newlands Project Planning Study team comments and feedback on the information presented today. This card may be returned during the meeting or mailed at your convenience. Please print.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Comment \_\_\_\_\_

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Four horizontal lines for address entry.

Place  
Stamp  
Here

Bureau of Reclamation  
2800 Cottage Way, MP-140  
Sacramento, CA 95825

Four horizontal lines for address entry.

Place  
Stamp  
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# Welcome

## Newlands Project Planning Study Public Meetings

August 22-25, 2011

### AGENDA

**6:00 Welcome**

**6:10 Study Team Presentation**

Introductions

Overview of the Newlands Project Planning Study

Planning Study Process

**7:00 Open House**

STATIONS:

Agenda and Study Area Map

Study Authorization and Context

Planning Approach and Alternatives Formulation

Study Measures and Examples

**8:00 Adjourn**

# Study Authorization

2009 Federal Omnibus Appropriations Act:  
Funding to “*determine the full extent of rehabilitation needed for the canal to resume flows above 350 cubic feet per second.*”

- Assess the canal’s problems and risks.
- Develop canal risk reduction alternatives.
- Conduct a planning study to investigate Project alternatives.

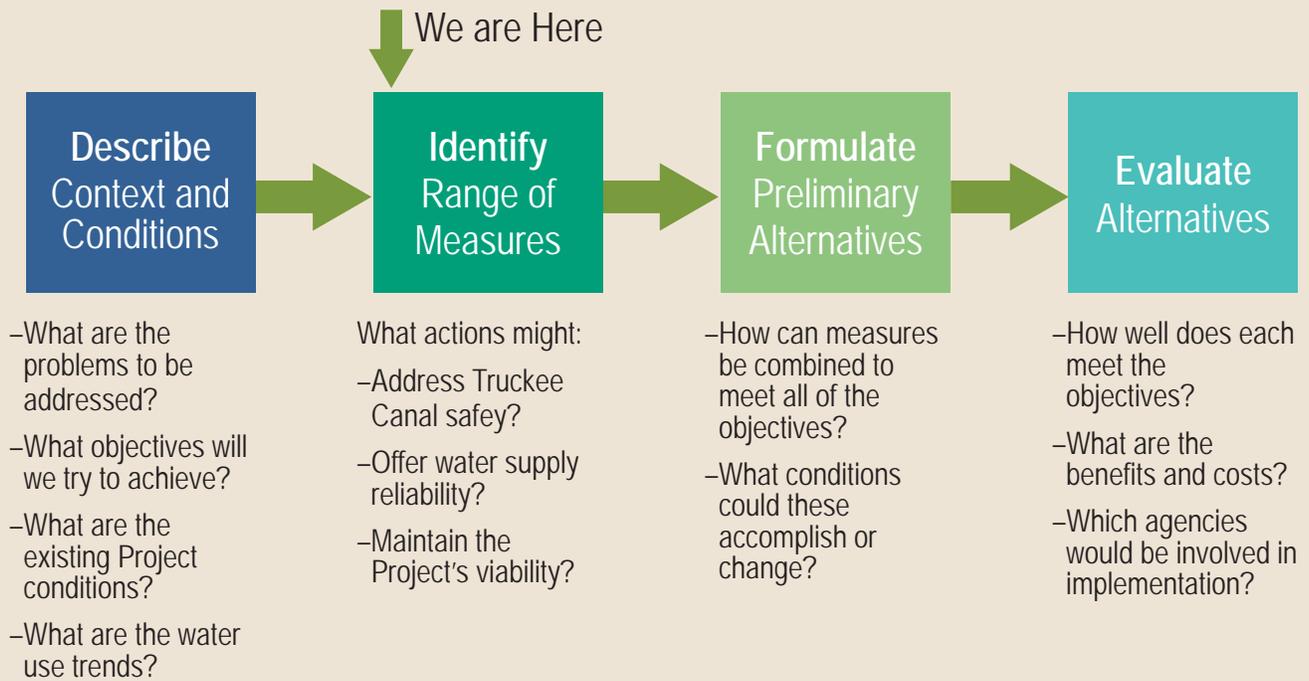


Fernley, Nevada 1948



Fernley, Nevada 2008

# Planning Approach



## Alternatives Formulation



# Examples of Measures

## Supply Improvement – Add flashboards/use spillway surcharging at Lahontan Dam

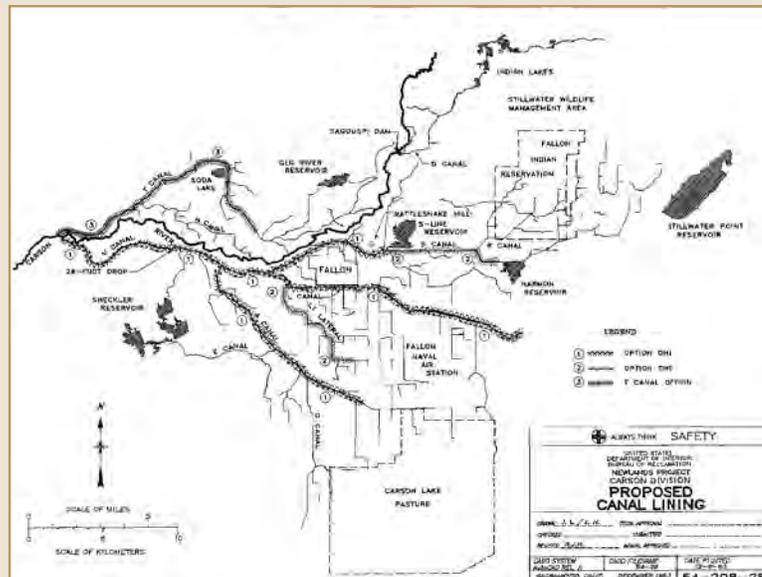
Structural improvements to flashboards on Lahontan Dam would increase the storage capacity of Lahontan Reservoir.



## Demand Management – Line canals and laterals

Previous studies have demonstrated that reducing losses also reduces reliance on Truckee Canal deliveries.

The 1994 Newlands Project Efficiency Study (right) evaluated lining the most inefficient Carson Division canals and laterals.



# Ongoing Studies and Future Decisions

## Federal, State, and Local Agency Coordination



Truckee Canal  
Risk Assessments



Newlands Project  
Planning Study



Next  
Steps

- Identify the risks of operating Truckee Canal across a range of canal capacities (from no-flow to full-service).
- Formulate plans for reducing risks to acceptable levels across a range of canal capacities.
- Estimate the costs of each risk-reduction plan.

- For a range of canal capacities (from no-flow to full-service), formulate alternatives for serving Newlands water rights reliably and maintaining project viability.
- Provide a comparison between the alternatives developed, including environmental effects and economic benefits.
- Identify potential cost-share partners for each alternative.

**TO BE DETERMINED.**

Could include:

- Local, State, District, or Tribal plans for meeting objectives.
- Federal decision process to select preferred alternative.

# Study Objectives

Reduce the risk to nearby communities from Project operations.

- Truckee Canal safety

Satisfy Newlands Project water rights.

- Water supply reliability
- Project viability



Derby Dam Dedication, 1905



Derby Dam, Present Day

# Preliminary Measures List

## Supply Improvement

In addition to Truckee Canal rehabilitation, the following actions could be pursued to improve the availability or reliability of water supplies for the Newlands Project. This list is not exhaustive, and the Newlands Project Planning Study team welcomes additional ideas. None of these measures have been evaluated at this time. All measures will be screened against considerations such as public acceptability and environmental considerations during the alternatives formulation process. Demand Management measures are also being identified.

### Increase Truckee Canal Inflow to Lahontan Reservoir

#### Serve Truckee Division from Alternate

*Includes actions such as developing a river intake for diversion of surface water rights, and development of pipelines or local groundwater projects to serve agricultural lands in the Truckee Division.*

#### Reduce Seepage from Truckee Canal or Laterals

*Includes actions such as lining or converting the Truckee Canal or its laterals to a pipeline in order to reduce seepage losses.*

### Increase Carson River Storage

#### Increase Lahontan Dam Storage

*Includes actions such as retrofitting the flash-boards at Lahontan Dam to allow for surcharging.*

#### Build New Reservoirs

*Includes actions such as building reservoirs in the Carson River basin to store water and reduce reservoir losses from spill during surplus conditions.*

### Increase Carson River Inflow to Lahontan Reservoir

#### Stricter Enforcement of Carson River Water Rights

*Includes actions such as more stringent monitoring and enforcement of the Alpine Decree to increase the efficiency of water use on the upper Carson River.*

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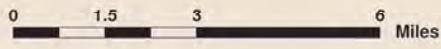
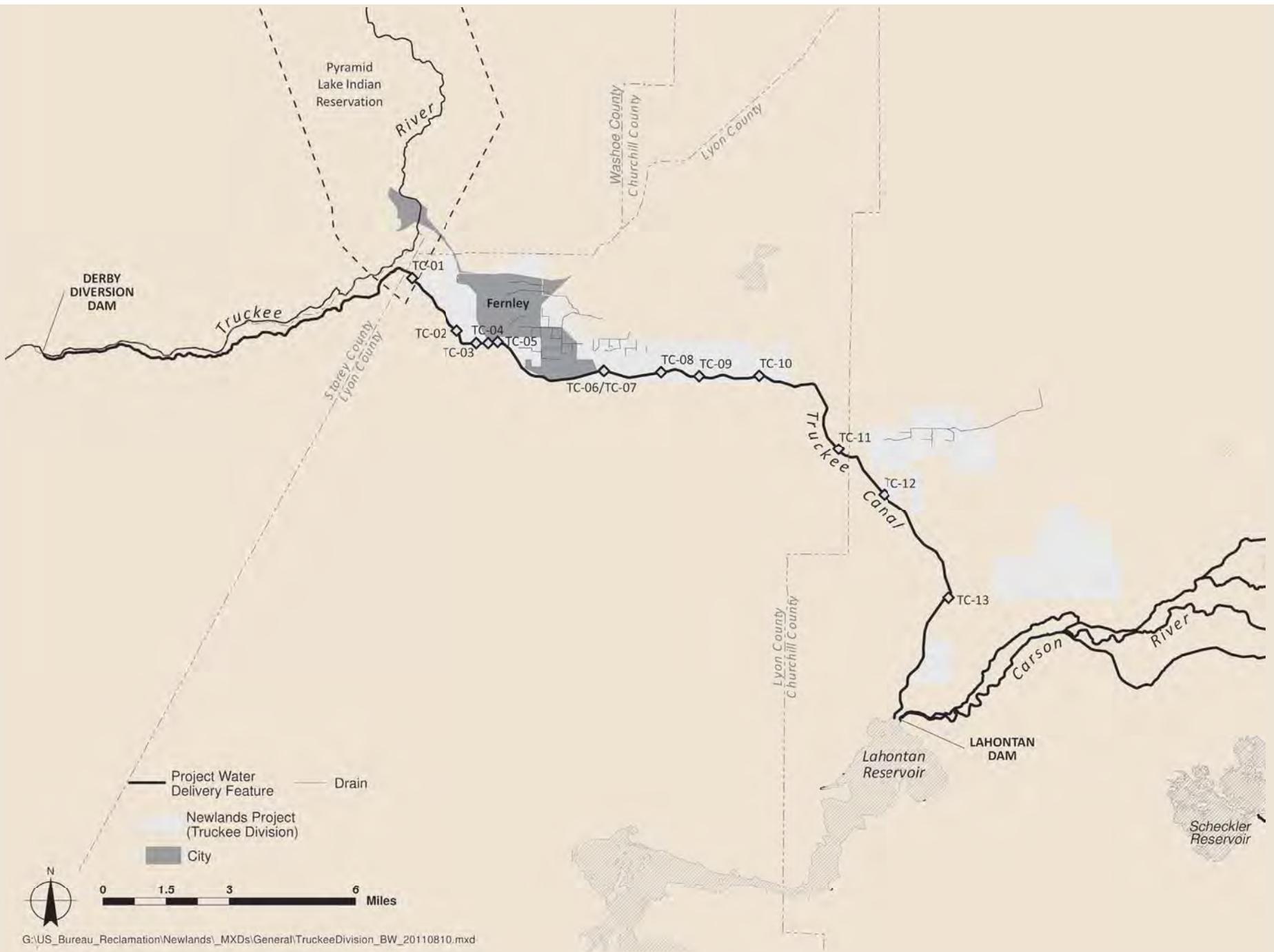
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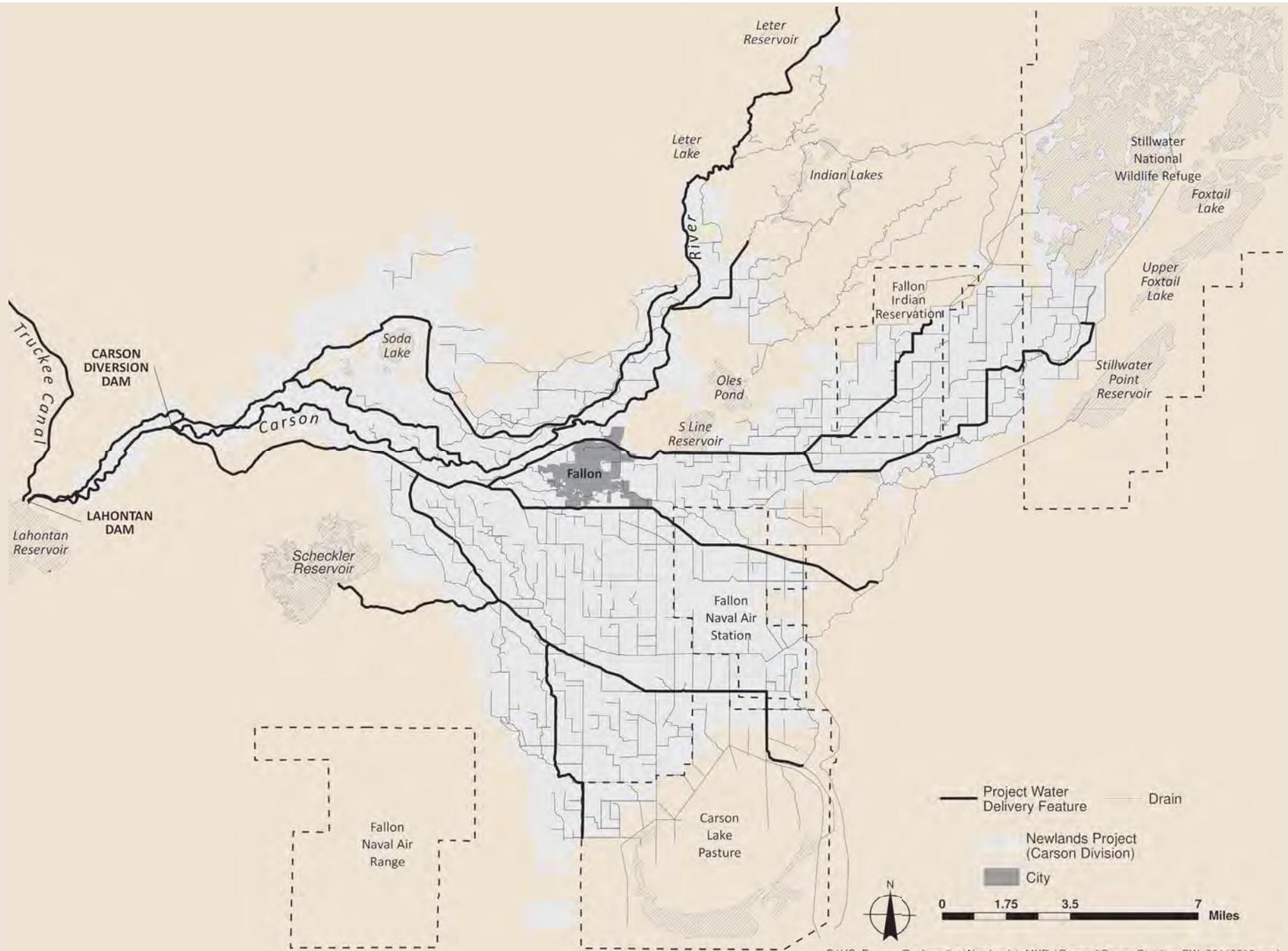
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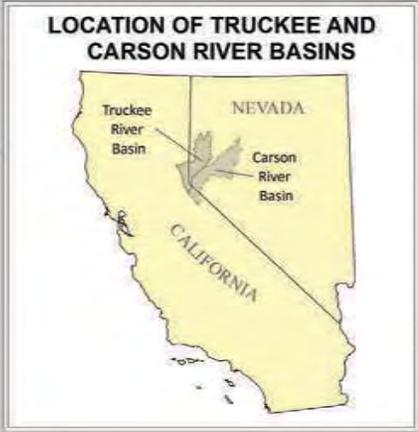
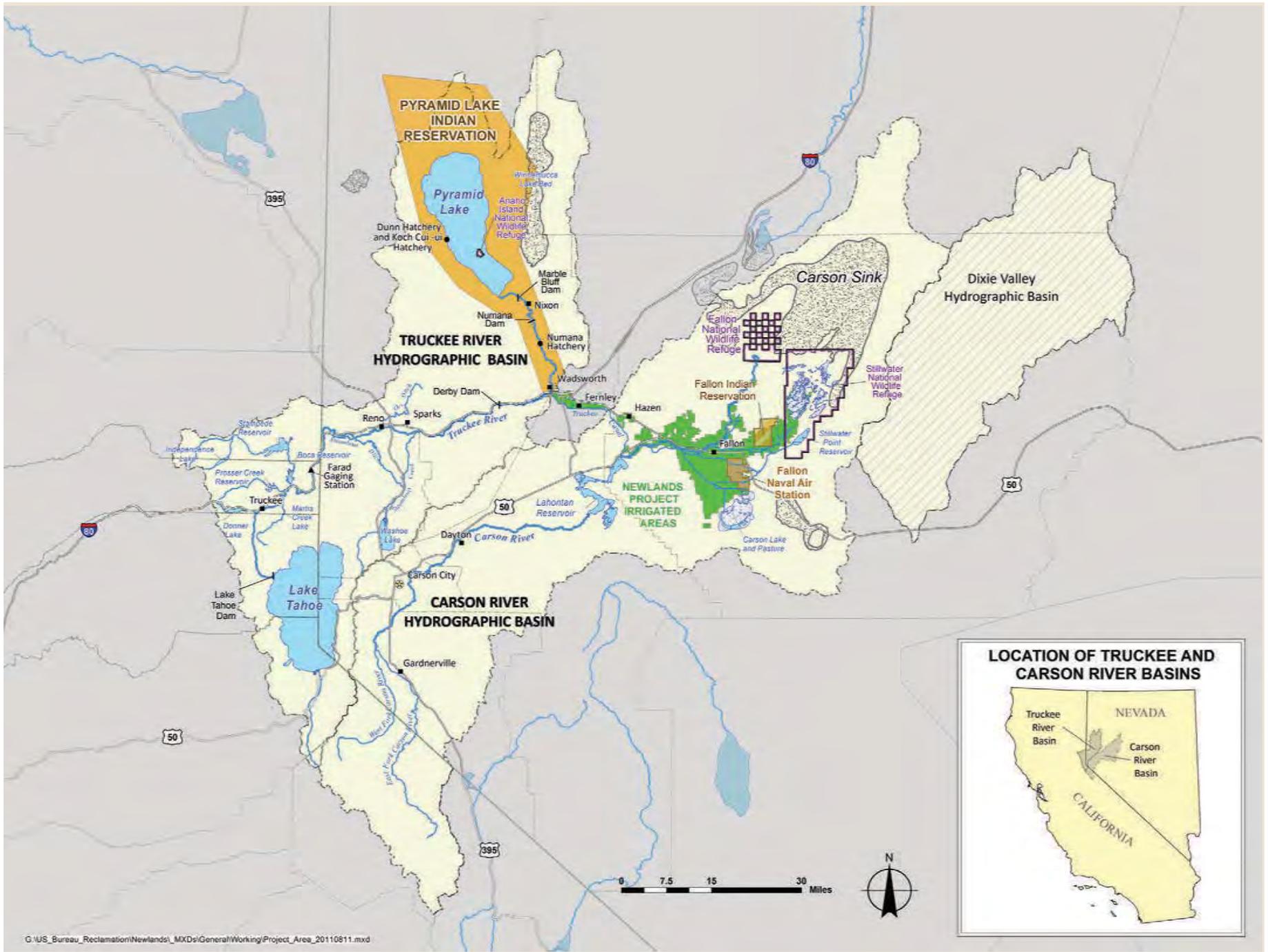
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## January 2013 Public Meetings

Reclamation produced the following material in support of the public meetings held on January 29 and 30, 2013:

- News release announcing public meetings and public comment period
- News release extending public comment period by two weeks
- Agendas
- Presentation
- Study fact sheet
- Selected Tables from Chapter 6
- Comment cards
- Display posters

This material is contained in the pages which follow.

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