



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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NEWS RELEASE

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Water Quality Award Presented to Tahoe Group

LAKE TAHOE — The Tahoe Water Suppliers Association (TWSA), has been recognized by the State of Nevada for its protection of the water quality of Lake Tahoe, a primary source of drinking water for the region.

The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) presented its Wendell McCurry Excellence in Water Quality Award to TWSA at the group's quarterly meeting last week. The award recognizes TWSA's efforts in water quality protection and water conservation education; its service as host of the 2005 Lake Tahoe Drinking Water Forum; and the group's active role in working with other organizations and agencies in the Tahoe Basin concerning water quality issues.

Those efforts included its contribution to the draft Lake Tahoe Shorezone Ordinance amendments to allow for the inclusion of a ¼-mile buffer zone around drinking water intakes; its participation in the Pathway 2007 Forum; its contribution to the revision of the Lake Tahoe Basin Spill Reporting Response Plan; and its recent agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to create a Surface Water Risk Assessment Tool. The latter will help public water systems assess the risk to their source water during spill incidents and allow them to make informed decisions about the use of their source water during such incidents.

The award is presented annually in honor of long-time NDEP employee, Wendell McCurry, to commemorate his dedication water quality throughout Nevada.

TWSA is a Lake Tahoe-based partnership comprised of eight California and Nevada municipal water agencies. Information on TWSA may be obtained by contacting Madonna Dunbar, executive director, at 775.832.1212, or madonna_dunbar@ivgid.org.

Interested parties may also visit NDEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water website at <http://www.ndep.nv.gov/bsdw/index.htm>.