GRAZING REGULATORY ACTION PROJECT (GRAP)

State Water Resources Control Board
Regional Water Quality Control Boards

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/nps/grap.shtml

Rustici Rangeland Science Symposium
Informational Update

Patty Kouyoumdjian Executive Officer
Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board
The Water Boards
State Water Resources Control Board & Nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards

Primary responsibility for coordination and control of water quality

Mandate to address all discharges of waste
Grazing Regulatory Action Project (GRAP)

Enhance environmental benefits from grazing, protect beneficial uses of surface and groundwater & address water quality impacts related to livestock grazing.

Improve existing Regional Board efforts

4 focused listening sessions and 3 regional workshops
The Water Boards are mandated to enforce:

- Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act
- Federal Clean Water Act

• Address discharges of waste
• Address impaired waters
• Protect high quality waters
General Statewide Policy Goals

• Reasonable Protection of water quality
• Efficiency
• Consistency
• Level Playing Field
• Regulatory Certainty
Tools

• Basin Plans

• Waste Discharge Requirements

• Waivers of Waste Discharge Requirements

• Nonpoint Source Policy

• TMDLs
## Tools Currently Used

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional Board</th>
<th>Number of Impaired Waters</th>
<th>Number of Listings</th>
<th>Regulatory and Other Tools Currently Used to Address Grazing-Related Water Quality Impacts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>TMDLs</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>178</td>
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</table>
**Impaired Waters**
subset of overall 303(d) list with livestock grazing as possible source

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional Board</th>
<th>Number of Impaired Waters</th>
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<th>Estimated Size Affected</th>
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<td>Miles of Rivers or Streams</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>11,128</td>
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What Stakeholders Said

- Statewide program not needed, return to regional approach
- No clear nexus of grazing to 303(d) listings
- Concern about new fees with GRAP
- Grazing on public lands not well monitored or inspected
- Ranchers are good land stewards and use successful BMPs
- RMAC/UC Extension short courses and Ranch Water Quality Management Plans approach effective
- Not needed where water quality standards being met
- Conversion of rangeland to other uses if regulated
- More localized meetings with ranchers needed
- Benefits of grazing should be recognized
- Need to collaborate with UC Cooperative Extension and NRCS rangeland science experts
- Duplicative regulation (ILRP and CAFOs)
- Alpine meadows should be protected and grazing at high elevations limited
(continued)

- Climate change should be considered
- Scientific papers can be biased-need peer review
- Pack stations, wildlife and horses are problems
- Public access to monitoring information & locations
- Statewide bacteria standard should be adopted
- BMPs not uniformly used or always effective
- Riparian vegetation and bank damage not addressed
- Focus on areas with water quality problems only
- Grazing helps with invasive species and fuels reduction
- Examine existing Regional Board tools for improvement
- Update existing BMPs and fund more training
- Use RCDs and universities to help ranchers with compliance
- Change name of GRAP
Next Steps

- Update website
- Develop options
- Collaborate with stakeholders
The State and Regional Water Boards’ Executive Sponsors for GRAP:

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