Lake Tahoe TMDL Update

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Lahontan Region

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Core TMDL Questions…and Answers

What pollutants are causing Lake Tahoe's clarity loss?

How much of each pollutant is reaching Lake Tahoe?

How much of each pollutant can Lake Tahoe accept and still achieve clarity goals?

Draft Lake Tahoe TMDL Technical Report

What are the options for reducing pollutant inputs to Lake Tahoe?

Lake Tahoe TMDL Pollutant Reduction Opportunity Report

What strategy should we implement to reduce pollutant inputs to Lake Tahoe?

Integrated Water Quality Management Strategy Report

Recommended Implementation Strategy Review

Continue stream restoration efforts

Focus on discrete disturbance in undeveloped areas

Emphasize dust control measures to address atmospheric fine sediment particle inputs

Implement innovative practices, policies, and operations and maintenance programs to treat urban stormwater

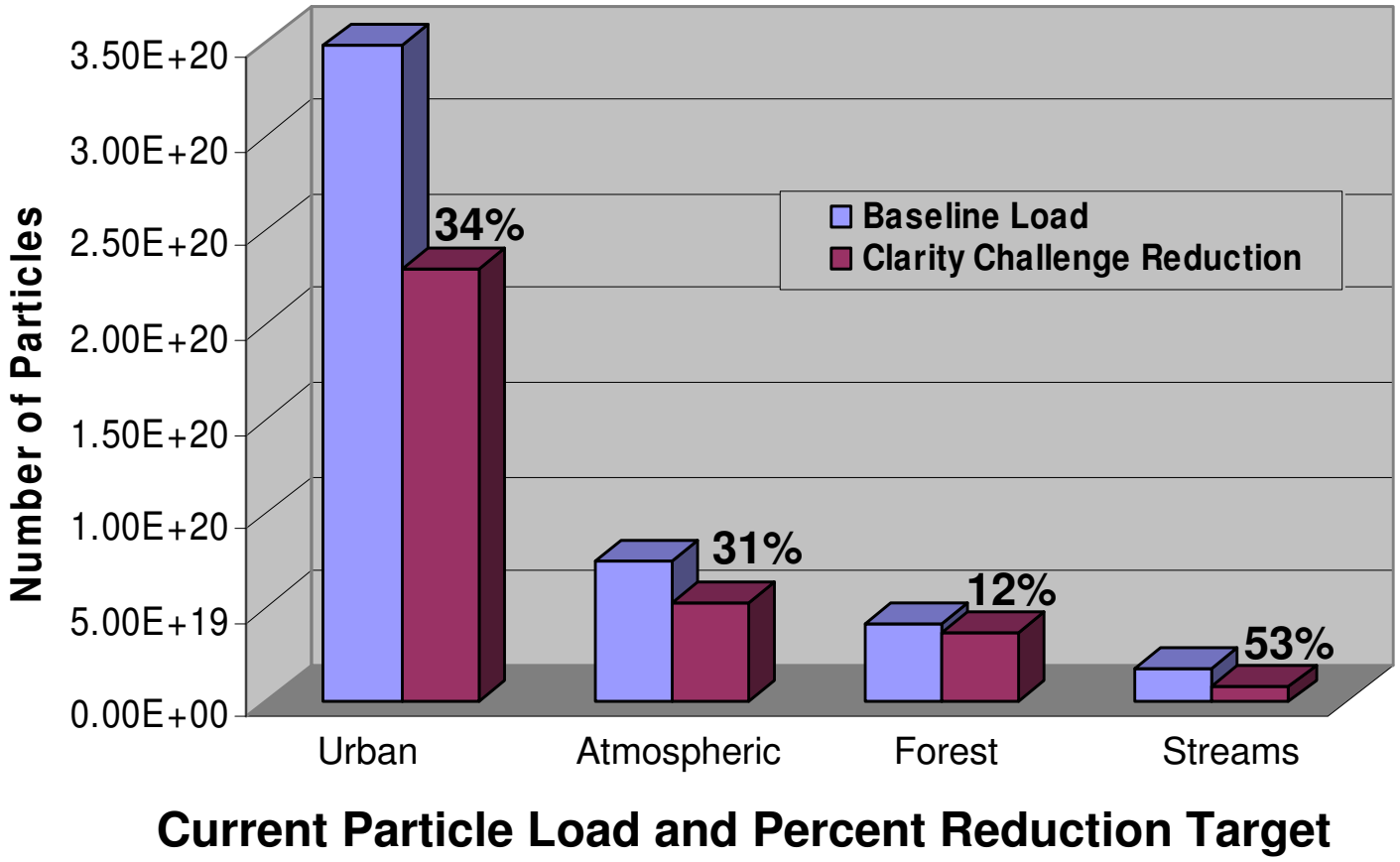
Recommended Strategy

Percent Reduction of **Basin-wide** Particle Load

Pollutant Source Category	Recommended Strategy Load Reduction
Forest Uplands	1.0%
Stream Channel	1.8%
Atmospheric Deposition	4.6%
Urban Uplands	24.5%

Recommended Strategy

Particle Load Reductions by Source Category



Current Particle Load and Percent Reduction Target

Pollutant Load Allocations and TMDL Implementation

- Focus on achieving the Clarity Challenge within 20 years
- Follows Recommended Strategy
- Includes load reduction milestones to chart progress
- Base permit load reduction targets on TMDL milestones

Urban Load Regulatory Approach

Jurisdiction specific load allocations for urban sources

California: NPDES Permits, waste load allocations, and annual targets

Nevada: Memoranda of Implementation, load allocations, and annual targets

Lake Tahoe TMDL – What Next?

Draft TMDL

Draft Basin Plan Amendment

State of CA Peer Review

Agency and Public Review

TMDL Adoption

Lake Clarity Crediting Program

Funded by US EPA Watershed Initiative Grant

Consultant team led by Environmental Incentives, LLC

Supported/informed by in-basin advisors

Program to support implementation – LCCP not part of TMDL document

Lake Clarity Crediting Program Overview

Link actions and activities in the urban landscape to fine sediment particle load reductions

Provide consistent load reduction estimates

Create a standard metric to track implementation progress

Share risks related to uncertainty and provide structure for adaptive management

Lake Clarity Crediting Program Goals

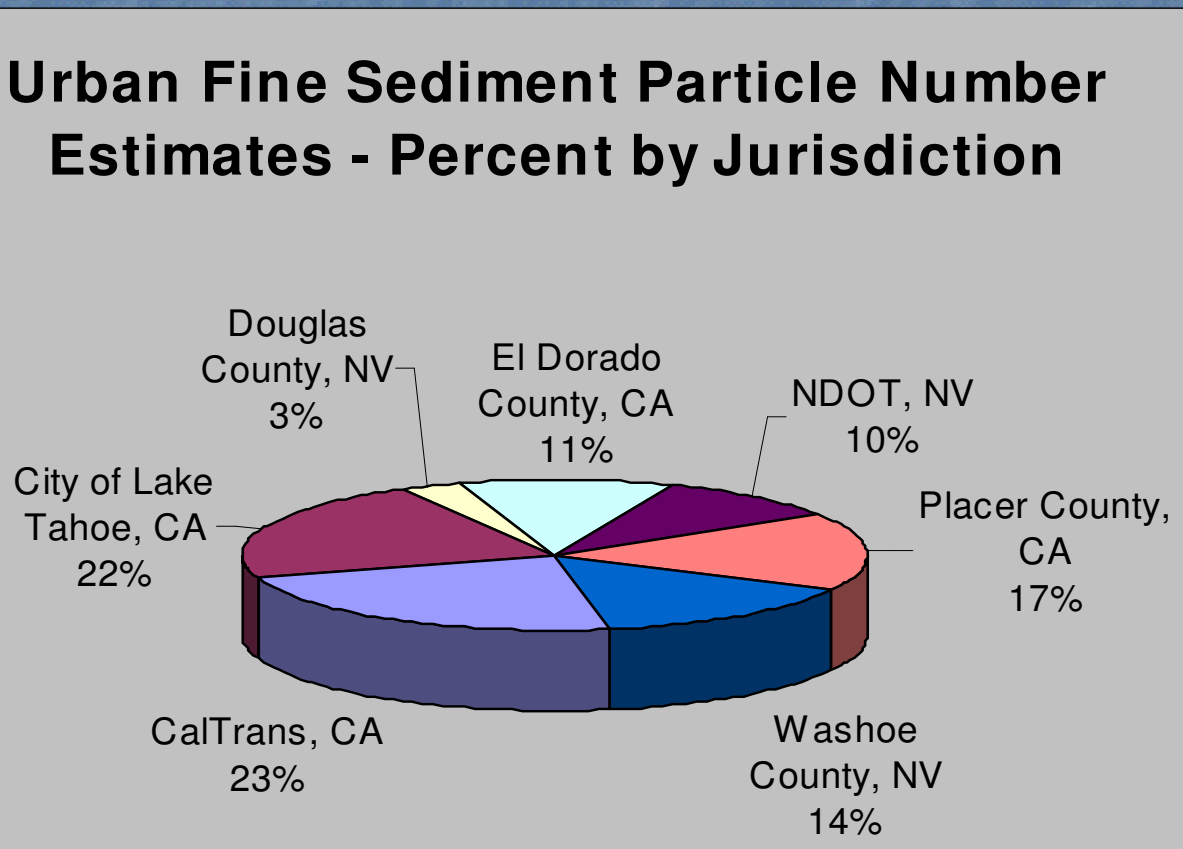
- Motivate effective actions to improve lake clarity
- Create incentives for innovation
- Allow implementation flexibility
- Facilitate multi-jurisdictional cooperation
- Define permit and MOI requirements & assess progress towards meeting load reduction milestones

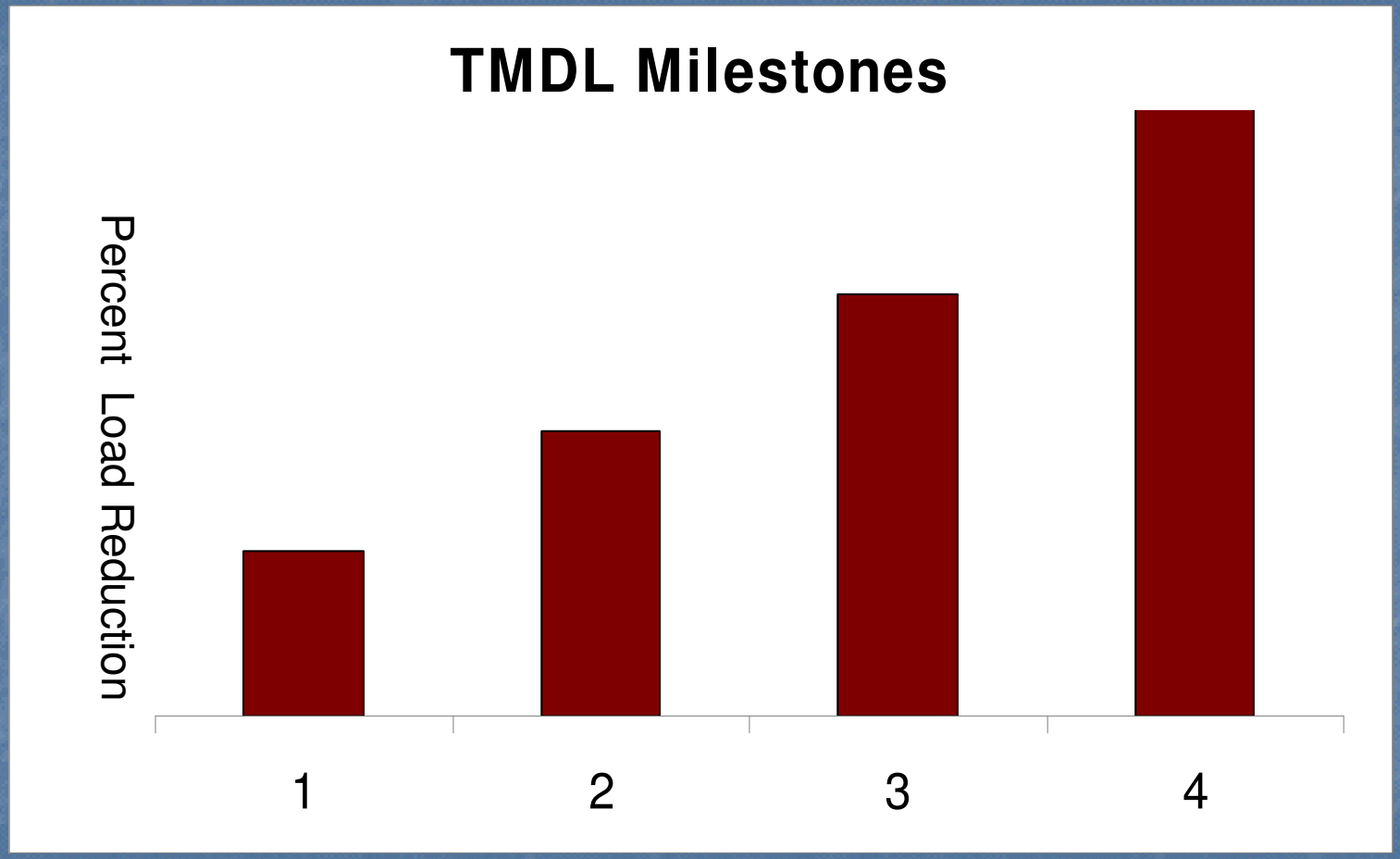
Lake Clarity Crediting Program Transition Plan

- "Beta" test the LCCP
  - Estimate load reductions since 2004
  - Use estimation tools to assess credit potential
- Draft NPDES Permits and MOIs
  - Define appropriate load reduction targets
  - Refine LCCP and estimation methods based on beta test feedback
- Adopt Permits and MOIs
  - Include credit targets and incorporate LCCP by reference

Questions?

Urban Particle Loads – How the 72% is Distributed




TMDL Milestones
Percent Load Reduction
1
2
3
4