



Truckee River Watershed Council

Collaborative solutions to protect, enhance and restore the Truckee River Watershed

Utilizing Bioassessments and Citizen Science for Stewardship in the Truckee River Watershed

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programs

CWQMC Webinar 1/26/2017

Presentation outline

- Truckee River Watershed
- TRWC Monitoring Goals
- TRWC Monitoring Elements
- TRWC Monitoring Findings
- Lessons Learned

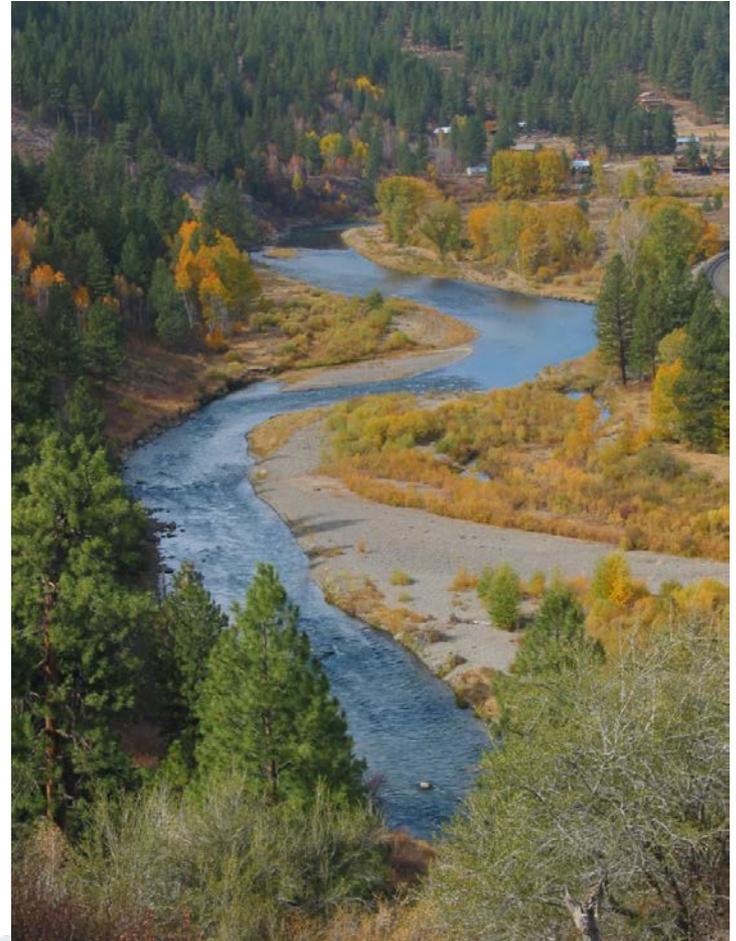


Truckee River Watershed Council

Mission - Protect and Restore

Our Values:

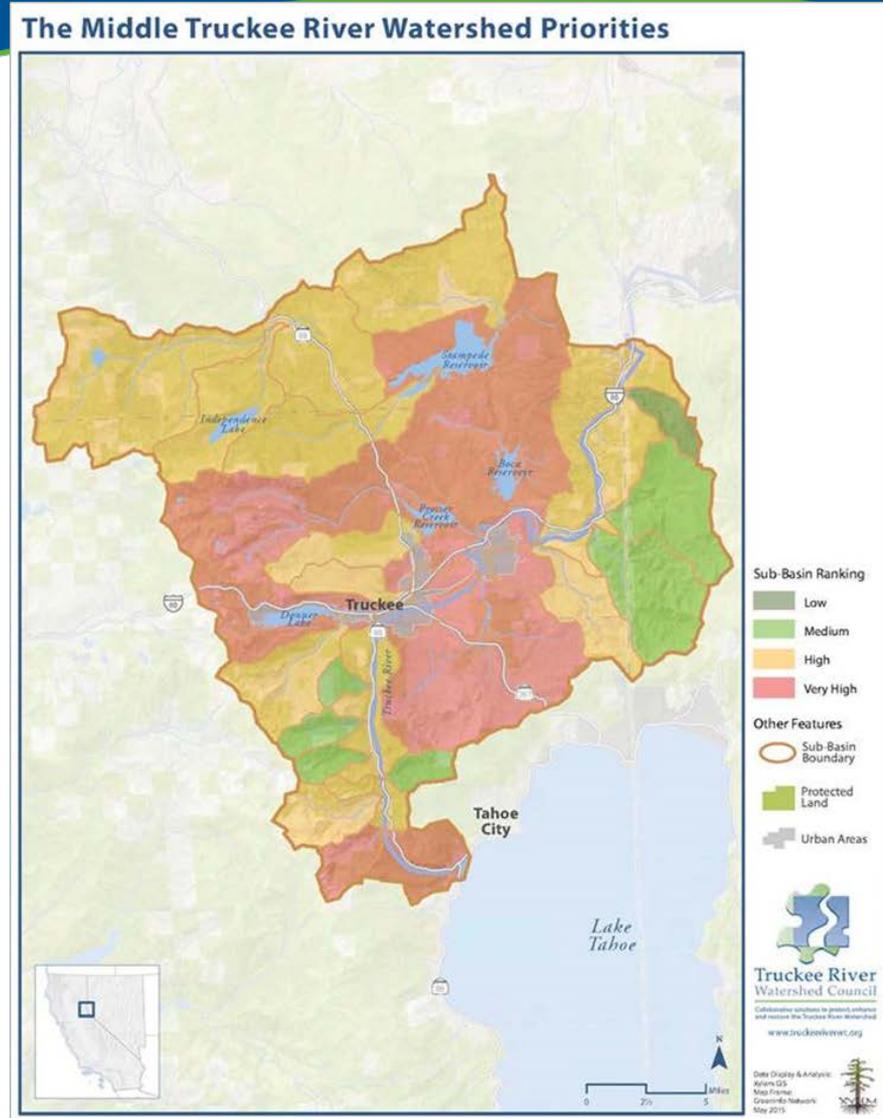
- Ecologically Sound
- Partnerships
- Economics





Truckee - Pristine? No

- 7 dams
- 6 listed waters
- 1 railroad
- 1 Interstate
- Logging
- Gravel mining
- Grazing



Specific concerns

- Truckee River Operating Agreement
- Truckee Sediment TMDL
- Urban land use
- Dirt roads



Monitoring program focus



- Address impairment in watershed
- Excess sediment
- Nutrients an emerging concern



Monitoring program history

- Bioassessment started 1999
- Ambient monitoring - 1 day/year 2001 - 2006
- Ambient expanded in 2007



Monitoring program today

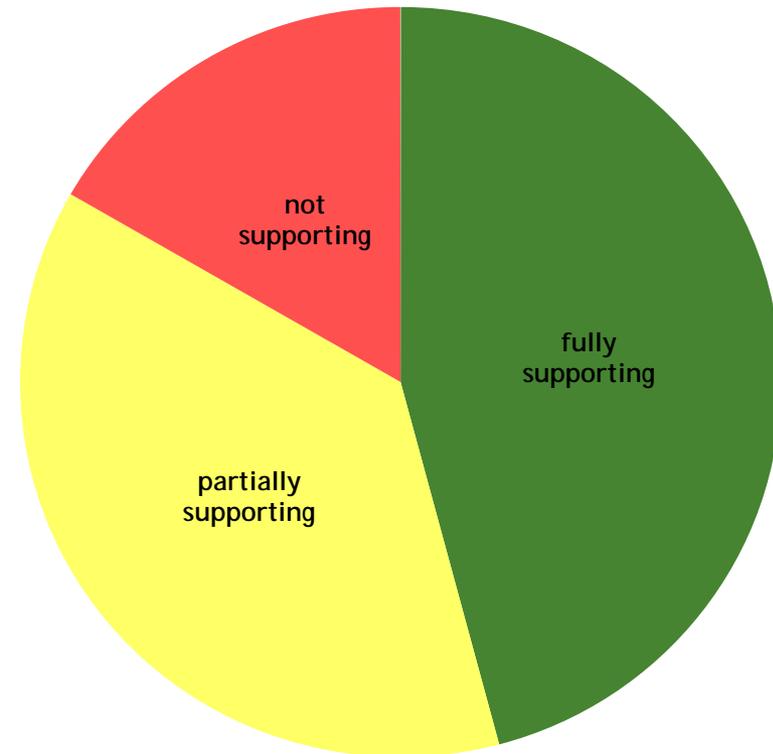
- Bioassessment
 - 5 streams annually
- Ambient water quality
 - ~20 sites, 4 x per year
 - Temp, pH, EC, DO, turbidity
 - Nutrient grab samples 1 - 2 per year



What have we learned?

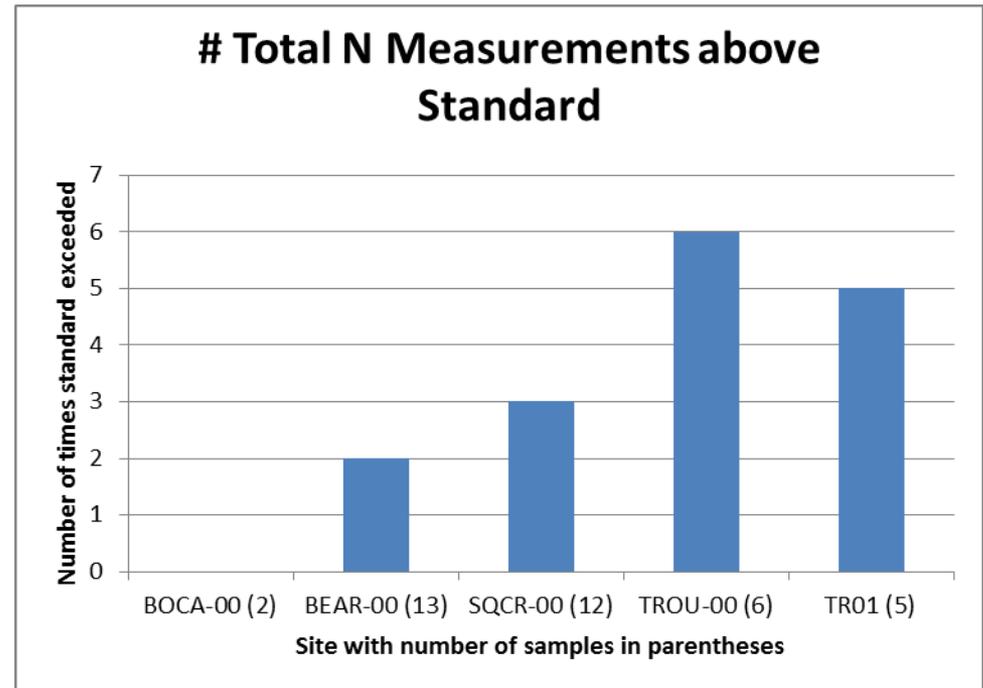
- Bioassessment
- Analysis = Eastern Sierra IBI
- Over half of streams monitored do not fully support beneficial uses

IBI scores - Truckee River Streams



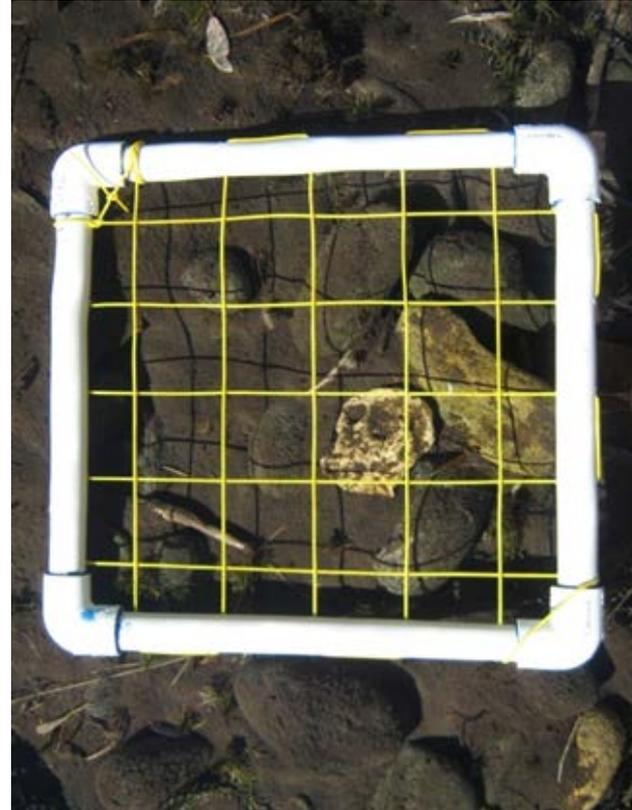
Nutrients

- Not commonly monitored in watershed
- Standards for few streams
- Many other streams show high nutrients



Next steps for TRWC

- Deposited sediment
 - Contracted study
 - Tight linkage to impaired biota
 - Key to maintaining Truckee River 303(d) listing
- Increase monitoring around TROA
 - Bioassessment - increase efforts below dams



Lessons learned - planning

- Define purpose of program
 - Specific pollutant
 - Land use
 - Education
- Identify specific questions
- Seasonality - are you monitoring at the right time?



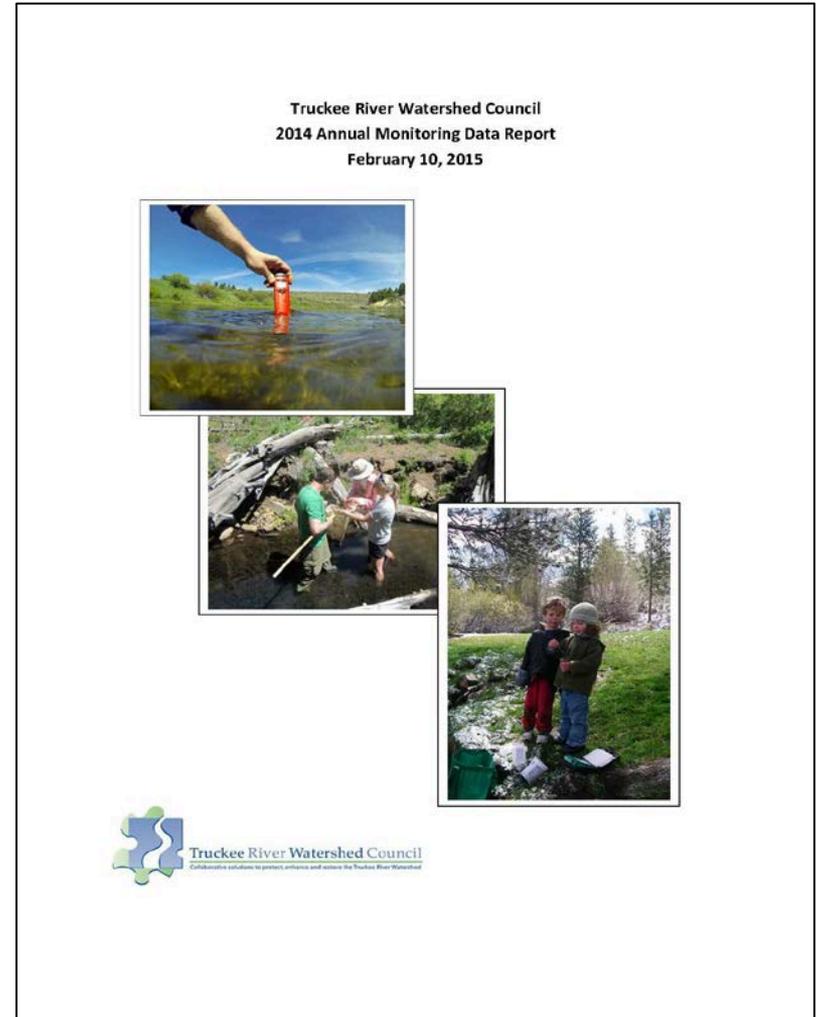
Putting data to use

- Follow accepted procedures (i.e. SWAMP protocols)
- Submit data to state via CEDEN
 - Can't be used in Integrated Report otherwise
 - Provides decision makers with QA confidence
 - Required by state funding sources



Disseminating data to public

- A challenge - Ideas welcome!
- Annual monitoring report
- Provide as requested
 - Locally - usually development proposal



Contact info

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