UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

February 18, 2014

Colonel William J. Leady, District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Sacramento District
1325 J Street
Sacramento, California 95814-2922

Attention: Tyler Stalker

Subject: Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Truckee Meadows Flood Control Project, General Reevaluation Report (CEQ # 20140011)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is providing comments on the subject Final Environmental Impact Statement. Our comments are provided pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and our NEPA review authority under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

EPA reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Truckee Meadows Project and provided comments in our July 8, 2013 letter. We rated the document EC-2, Environmental Concerns – Insufficient Information, based on our concerns regarding water resources, including restoration, and air quality

We remain concerned by the uncertainty of future restoration of the Truckee River. We understand that the high cost of the wildlife enhancement plan selected in the General Reevaluation Report -- preliminarily estimated at $47 million -- may be too costly for local stakeholders to support with matching funds. In responding to our comment, the FEIS states that the Corps will participate with federal agencies and local interests to seek restoration opportunities. EPA strongly supports restoration; therefore, we encourage the Corps and its partners to be diligent and creative in arriving at affordable and sustainable solutions.

In response to our comment on air quality, the FEIS states that an updated estimate of annual project emissions will be prepared for the preconstruction engineering and design phase of the project. Construction specifications for the project will include measures to further reduce potential emissions from construction equipment and vehicles. We ask that these commitments be incorporated into the Army Corps' Record of Decision as mitigation measures.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this FEIS. When the Record of Decision has been signed, please send one copy to the address above (mail code: ENF-4-2), If you have any questions about our letter, please contact Tom Kelly, the lead reviewer for this project, at kelly.thomasp@epa.gov or (415) 972-3856, or call me at (415) 972-3521.

Sincerely,

Ann McPherson for

Kathleen Martyn Goforth, Manager
Environmental Review Section (ENF-4-2)

cc (via email): Caryn Huntt DeCarlo, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Beverly Harry, Pyramid Lake Piute Tribe
Danielle Henderson, Truckee River Flood Management Project