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## **Chapter 6 – Population Forecast and Projections of Water Demand, Peak Day Requirements and Wastewater Flow**

### ***Purpose and Scope***

This chapter uses the *Washoe County Consensus Population Forecast* (Washoe County, 2010) as the basis for estimating the future needs of the Planning Area with respect to water demands including peak day requirements, wastewater flows and treatment capacity, effluent disposal and reclaimed water capacity. The chapter relies on data presented in preceding chapters and develops a water budget showing present and future water supplies available to public purveyors, wastewater flows by service provider in addition to capacities to dispose of effluent and use reclaimed water.

### ***Summary and Findings***

On April 9, 2010, the Western Regional Water Commission (“WRWC”) determined and made a finding that the draft Washoe County Consensus Population Forecast for 2030 (“Consensus Forecast”) is less than the estimated population that can be supported by the sustainable water resources identified in the *Regional Water Plan*. The finding was transmitted to the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency (“TMRPA”), Reno, Sparks and Washoe County in May 2010.

The Washoe County Consensus Forecast is adequate for 20-year, county-wide population projections, but it is not adequate for facility planning as performed by public purveyors and other water-related utilities or for disaggregation to utility service areas.

A Regional Water Balance Flow Diagram has been developed covering five planning areas (Figure 6-1), which is a graphical representation of the existing conditions (Figure 6-2) and the projected 2030 future conditions (Figure 6-3) for the water supply, wastewater treatment, reclaimed water and wastewater disposal requirements. The following conclusions can be drawn from this evaluation:

### ***Water Resources***

Overall, the region has available water resources to meet the projected 2030 increase in demand. These water resources include the *Truckee River Operating Agreement* (“TROA”) water supplies, the Fish Springs Water Importation Project, local basin groundwater supplies, and local tributary creeks including Galena, Thomas, Whites, Brown’s and Steamboat Creeks. In addition to these water resources, the region has reclaimed water resources available for multiple uses from the Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (“TMWRF”), South Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (“STMWRF”), Reno Stead Water Reclamation Facility (“RSWRF”) and Cold Springs Water Reclamation Facility (“CSWRF”).

In several planning areas, however, there are water supply imbalances that will need to be addressed over the long term. In particular, the demands from domestic wells and permitted municipal groundwater pumping in Cold Springs Valley, Lemmon Valley and Spanish Springs Valley exceed the respective State Engineer estimates of perennial yield of each basin. This is an issue that affects both existing and future water users, and exists under both current and projected 2030 conditions.

The Truckee Meadows, Sparks and South Truckee Meadows planning areas do not have water supply imbalances.

There will continue to be local area impacts within portions of these planning areas where mitigation of groundwater level declines and impacts to shallow domestic wells will continue to be necessary. The Mt. Rose fan area is an example of this situation.

### ***Wastewater***

Long term disposal and reuse of treated effluent will be a challenge throughout the different planning areas. Cold Springs and Lemmon Valley generally have sufficient disposal capacity to meet the projected needs until 2030. However, future disposal options will need to be identified to accommodate planned development beyond the 2030 time horizon.

In the Central Truckee Meadows, Sparks and Spanish Springs planning areas, discharge to the Truckee River through TMWRF may be limited in the future by several constraints. Roughly 7,700 acre feet (“af”) of additional disposal capacity will be required.

In the South Truckee Meadows planning area, 100 percent of the reclaimed water is used for irrigation. Based on the 2030 flow projections, approximately 5,700 af of additional water reclamation or disposal capacity will be required.

### ***Introduction***

This chapter presents a summary of the process that was followed to determine whether the forecasted population for the year 2030 can be supported by the sustainable water resources available within Washoe County. Furthermore, more detailed projections of future water demands, including peak day capacity requirements and wastewater treatment plant capacity needs have been compiled for the primary service areas within the region.

An analysis as to whether the forecasted population can be supported by the sustainable water resources was done in response to *Truckee Meadows Regional Plan* (“Regional Plan”) (Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency, 2002) amendments adopted by the Regional Planning Governing Board (“RPGB”) in January 2010. The amendments provide for a comparison between the draft Consensus Forecast and the estimated population that can be supported by the sustainable water resources as identified in this Plan. As discussed in more detail in Section 2.2.1.1, amendments to the RPGB’s Regulations on Procedure designate the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (“NNWPC”) and the WRWC as the entities to perform the comparison, and the WRWC as the body to make a determination and finding as to the results of the comparison.

For the *Regional Water Plan*, an estimate of future water demands and wastewater flows at the treatment plants consistent with the Consensus Forecast population projection has been compiled for the primary service areas within the planning area. The service areas are consistent with the planning areas established for the *City of Reno and Washoe County TMSA/FSA Water Wastewater and Flood Management Facility Plan* (ECO:LOGIC, 2007) and the *City of Sparks TMSA/FSA Conceptual Facility Master Plan* (Stantec, 2008), which are based primarily on wastewater service areas and political boundaries. The planning areas are identified as Cold Springs, Stead/Lemmon Valley, the Washoe County portion of Spanish Springs, Sparks, Sun Valley General Improvement District (“SVGID”), Truckee Meadows and South Truckee Meadows. A Regional Water Balance Flow Diagram has also been developed,

which is a graphical representation of existing and future conditions for the water supply, wastewater treatment, reclaimed water and wastewater disposal requirements. The Regional Water Balance Flow Diagram is useful to answer the following questions:

- How much potable water is used today, and in what locations?
- From which sources does the potable water originate, and once used, where does it go for wastewater treatment?
- Following treatment, how much of the water is reused, and where is the balance disposed?
- Are there future imbalances in water supply, wastewater disposal or reclaimed water usage, and if so, in which planning areas?
- Are there planning areas with adequate capacity to address imbalances?

## **6.1 Comparison of the Consensus Population Forecast and the Estimated Population that can be Supported by the Sustainable Water Resources in the Planning Area**

As described in Section 2.2.1.1, the RPGB designated the NNWPC and the WRWC as the entities to perform a comparison of the draft Consensus Forecast with the estimated population that can be supported by the sustainable water resources as set forth in this Plan prior to the adoption of the Consensus Forecast.

### **6.1.1 Consensus Population Forecast**

The Washoe County Department of Community Development provided the draft Consensus Forecast in February 2010. The population was compiled using data from Truckee Meadows Water Authority ("TMWA"), Global Insight, Woods and Poole, and the State Demographer. The draft Consensus Forecast population for 2030 is approximately 590,500, which is 29,823 less than the 2008 Consensus Forecast population for 2030.

### **6.1.2 Water Resources**

Table 2-1, Water Resources Baseline, provides long-range planning-level estimates for sustainable water resources using the best available information. The table identifies selected hydrographic basins within the region and quantifies surface water and groundwater in two ways. Appropriations (water rights), including decreed rights and rights permitted or certificated by the State Engineer for municipal and industrial ("M&I") use and those that may be converted to M&I use, are quantified separately from those that cannot be converted to M&I use.

The Water Resources Baseline Table (Table 2-1) acknowledges *TROA*'s effect on the availability and sustainability of Truckee River water. *TROA* is designed to provide long-term sustainable water operations for the multiple stakeholders on the Truckee River system through the continued use of water rights converted from irrigation to M&I use. The Truckee Meadows is fortunate in having significant capacity for storage in upstream reservoirs, including Lake Tahoe, to integrate with other resources to maximize the yield of the Truckee River. *TROA* further enhances the ability to maximize storage for drought supplies.

TMWA has over 142,900 af of decreed, groundwater, storage, and irrigation rights sufficient to generate water to serve approximately 101,000 af of commitments as of June 2009. As shown in Table 3 of TMWA's *2030 Water Resource Plan*, over 50,000 af of Truckee River mainstem



rights are potentially available for dedication to TMWA or Washoe County Department of Water Resources (“WCDWR”) to support future will-serve commitments. It should be noted, however, that Truckee River mainstem irrigation water rights available for conversion to M&I use over the long term continues to decrease, and “availability” is not necessarily an indication of the willingness of a party to sell.

The Water Resources Baseline Table also shows the quantity of groundwater in each basin consistent with the State Engineer’s estimates of perennial yield. In basins where appropriations for M&I use (or those that may be converted to M&I use), are less than the perennial yield estimate, only those water rights actually appropriated are considered to be sustainable. The table includes basins that may provide M&I water supplies within a 20-year planning timeframe.

### **6.1.3 Water Demand and Population Projections**

TMWA has developed a three-step process to produce a long-range water demand projection for all of Washoe County. The first step was to develop a population projection model based on fitting a logistic curve model to past population, and then create a projection of that population to the year 2050. The second step was to develop a countywide inventory of buildings, and then create a projection of new residential dwelling units and commercial buildings as a function of population. The third step was to estimate water demand as a function of building inventories and historic water use coefficients.

The results of steps one and two show that the models fit the historic data well and that the projected values follow a reasonable trend. The projected trend for persons per dwelling unit and persons per developed acre show that the projection will meet the land and building needs of the projected population. TMWA’s methodology is published in its *2030 Water Resource Plan, Appendix I*.

TMWA assisted the NNWPC and the WRWC by re-running its model using the draft Consensus Forecast population and producing a building inventory and water demand projection. The building inventory and water demand projection estimates the increase in both single family and multi family dwelling units, including residential units served by domestic wells, and commercial buildings. A projection of metered irrigation usage is also presented.

### **6.1.4 Conclusions**

The model projects a water demand of approximately 142,000 af to support a population of approximately 590,500 as projected for the year 2030 by the draft Consensus Forecast. Therefore, the estimated sustainable water resources of approximately 183,200 af per year as shown in the Water Resources Baseline Table are more than adequate to serve the draft Consensus Forecast population for 2030. On April 9, 2010, the WRWC approved a finding that the forecasted population can be supported by the sustainable water resources as set forth in this Plan.

The model was also used to project beyond the 2030 population estimate using the same planning assumptions, purely as a planning exercise, to estimate the maximum population that could be supported by the sustainable water resources. That exercise calculated a population of approximately 741,000. It is imperative to understand that this population calculation is the result of a mathematical model and has no basis in, or correlation to, the Consensus Forecast or any other population forecast.

## **6.2 Projections of Water Demand, Peak Day Requirements and Wastewater Flow for Service Areas**

The preceding sections present a summary of the process that was followed to determine whether the forecasted population can be supported by the sustainable water resources available within Washoe County. Given that sustainable water resources are available to meet future growth through 2030, more detailed projections of future water demands, including peak day capacity requirements and wastewater treatment plant capacity needs are required to estimate future infrastructure requirements and costs.

Estimates of future water demands and wastewater flows consistent with the Consensus Forecast population projection have been disaggregated for seven primary planning areas within the region. The intent of this projection is to more closely approximate water and wastewater infrastructure needs by service provider; it is not intended in any way to supplant or be in conflict with the Regional Planning Commission's adoption of the Consensus Forecast or the provisions of the Regional Plan.

### **6.2.1 Projections by Planning Area**

The seven planning areas are consistent with the planning areas established for the *City of Reno and Washoe County TMSA/FSA Water Wastewater and Flood Management Facility Plan* (ECO:LOGIC, 2007) and the *City of Sparks TMSA/FSA Conceptual Facility Master Plan* (Stantec, 2008). The planning areas are based primarily on wastewater service areas and political boundaries, and are identified as Cold Springs, Stead/Lemmon Valley, the Washoe County portion of Spanish Springs, Sparks, SVGID, Truckee Meadows and South Truckee Meadows.

#### **6.2.1.1 Calibrated Consensus Forecast**

The water demand model developed by TMWA for its *2030 Water Resource Plan* was used to disaggregate projected water demands. To apply the model to this Plan, the following adaptations were made:

- Population data includes 2009 population estimates.
- Consensus Forecast is calibrated to 2009 population estimate.
- Planning area boundaries are changes to hydrographic basins and wastewater service areas.
- A new building model was re-estimated using 2009 property data.

A full description of the model is published in *TMWA's 2030 Water Resource Plan, Chapter 4, Appendix H, and Appendix I*.

The water demand model depends on four components; a population projection, building inventories, water service counts and annual water use per service. The historic population is used with the annual building inventories to estimate the relationship between population, new homes, new multi-family units, and commercial buildings. The statistical relationship between the historic population and building growth is used to project the growth of new buildings as a function of the projected population.

The Consensus Forecast was used for this water demand projection. To satisfy model requirements, the Consensus Forecast is calibrated to 2009. The annual building inventory is estimated from the County Assessor's parcel and building tables. Using the construction year for each building on each parcel, a tabulation of building by type and year is created. This annual inventory is used to compute the statistical relationship between population and buildings. This model is used with the population projections to project the following classes of buildings and water services:

- Single family homes on wells
- Single family homes on municipal water
- Multi-family dwelling units
- Commercial buildings using general metered water service
- Metered irrigation water services

Total projected water service counts are converted to water demand using the following annual water use per service factors:

- Single family homes on wells: 325,851 gallons
- Single family homes on municipal: 166,610 gallons
- Multi-family service: 435,009 gallons or 42,522 gallons per dwelling unit
- Commercial water service: 707,220 gallons
- Metered irrigation service: 1,018,000 gallons

To disaggregate the total demand into the smaller planning areas, the historic percentage of each class of buildings is projected for each area and building type. The total number of water services and water demand in each planning area is summed and forced to equal the county total in all years.

### **6.2.2 Water Demand Projections**

Following this methodology, projected 2010 and 2030 average day water demands for each of the planning areas were developed, which are presented in Table 6-1. The 2030 total potable water demand projection of 116,400 af is less than TMWA's *2030 Water Resource Plan* projection of 142,000 af. This Plan considers the area where municipal services are to be provided within the Truckee Meadows Services Area, which is a subset of the larger area of Washoe County evaluated in TMWA's *2030 Water Resource Plan*.

**Table 6-1 Water Demand Summary**

	2010 Water Demand (AFA)	2030 Water Demand (AFA)
Planning Area	Total Potable Water Demand <sup>1</sup>	Total Potable Water Demand <sup>1</sup>
Stead / Lemmon Valley	4,300	6,200
Cold Springs	1,400	2,400
Spanish Springs	2,800	4,200
Sparks	19,200	28,000
South Truckee Meadows	8,500	15,900
Sun Valley	1,500	2,000
Truckee Meadows	43,500	57,700
<b>Total</b>	<b>81,200</b>	<b>116,400</b>

<sup>1</sup> Demand numbers include an estimated 6 percent water loss factor.

#### 6.2.2.1 Peak Day Requirements

The projection of future water facility requirements that may be needed by 2030, as presented in Chapter 9, is based largely upon the following estimate of the peak day water demand developed for each planning area. Peaking factors, the ratio between average day demands and maximum day demands, were obtained from the most current water facility plans from TMWA and WCDWR. The 2010 and 2030 average day and maximum day water demands are presented in Tables 6-2 and 6-3.

**Table 6-2 2010 Average & Maximum Day Potable Water Consumption**

Planning Area	Water Demand (GPD)		
	Total Potable Water Demand <sup>1</sup>	Maximum Day Demand (MDD) / Average Day Demand (ADD) Ratio	MDD Demand
Stead / Lemmon Valley	3,814,000	2.40	9,154,000 <sup>2</sup>
Cold Springs	1,286,000	2.40	3,086,000 <sup>3</sup>
Spanish Springs	2,470,000	2.75	6,793,000 <sup>2</sup>
Sparks	17,114,000	1.90	32,517,000 <sup>4</sup>
South Truckee Meadows	7,572,000	2.20	16,658,000 <sup>2</sup>
Sun Valley	1,330,000	2.10	2,793,000 <sup>4</sup>
Truckee Meadows	38,854,000	2.00	77,708,000 <sup>5</sup>
<b>Total</b>	<b>72,440,000</b>		<b>148,709,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> Demand numbers include an estimated 6 percent water loss factor.

Ratio Sources are as follows:

<sup>2</sup> WCDWR 2009-2028 Draft Water Facility Plan for Lemmon Valley and Spanish Springs Valley

<sup>3</sup> Estimated to be equal to Stead/Lemmon Valley

<sup>4</sup> TMWA 2005-2025 Water Facility Plan Appendix B

<sup>5</sup> TMWA 2005-2025 Water Facility Plan

**Table 6-3 2030 Average & Maximum Day Potable Water Consumption**

Planning Area	Water Demand (GPD)		
	Total Potable Water Demand <sup>1</sup>	Maximum Day Demand (MDD) / Average Day Demand (ADD) Ratio	MDD Demand
Stead / Lemmon Valley	5,558,000	2.40	13,339,000 <sup>2</sup>
Cold Springs	2,133,000	2.40	5,119,000 <sup>3</sup>
Spanish Springs	3,726,000	2.60	9,688,000 <sup>2</sup>
Sparks	24,961,000	1.90	47,426,000 <sup>4</sup>
South Truckee Meadows	14,236,000	2.12	30,180,000 <sup>2</sup>
Sun Valley	1,814,000	2.10	3,809,000 <sup>4</sup>
Truckee Meadows	51,538,000	2.00	103,076,000 <sup>5</sup>
<b>Total</b>	<b>103,966,000</b>		<b>212,637,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> Demand numbers include an estimated 6 percent water loss factor.

Ratio Sources are as follows:

<sup>2</sup> WCDWR 2009-2028 Draft Water Facility Plan for Lemmon Valley and Spanish Springs Valley

<sup>3</sup> Estimated to be equal to Stead/Lemmon Valley

<sup>4</sup> TMWA 2005-2025 Water Facility Plan Appendix B

<sup>5</sup> TMWA 2005-2025 Water Facility Plan

### **6.2.3 Wastewater Flow Projections**

Similar to the previous section, a projection of future wastewater flows for each planning area was developed to estimate the wastewater treatment capacity that may be needed by 2030. The wastewater flow estimates are based on generally accepted equivalent dwelling unit (“EDU”) flow factors for each area, and an estimate of commercial/industrial flows per service account.

The commercial/industrial flow per service account is estimated to be 1,500 gallons per day (“gpd”). This estimate is based on an analysis of winter water usage for 178 active commercial / industrial accounts within seven sample areas throughout Reno and Sparks. WCDWR also performed a similar analysis for their service area in South Truckee Meadows. The 2010 and 2030 wastewater flow projections are presented in Tables 6-4 and 6-5.

**Table 6-4 2010 Projected Water Demand and Wastewater Generation Summary**

Planning Area	Water Demand & Wastewater Flow (GPD)			Estimated Flow to Each Wastewater Treatment Facility (MGD)			
	Potable Water Demand <sup>1</sup>	Wastewater Generation	Ratio	Cold Springs	Stead / Lemmon Valley	STMWRF	TMWRF
Stead / Lemmon Valley	3,814,000	1,702,000	0.45		1.70		
Cold Springs	1,286,000	586,000	0.46	0.59			
Spanish Springs	2,470,000	1,165,000	0.47				1.17
Sparks	17,114,000	7,610,000	0.44				7.61
South Truckee Meadows	7,572,000	3,618,000	0.48			3.62	
Sun Valley	1,330,000	533,000	0.40				0.53
Truckee Meadows	38,854,000	19,755,000	0.51				19.76
<b>Total</b>	<b>72,440,000</b>	<b>34,969,000</b>	<b>0.48</b>	<b>0.59</b>	<b>1.70</b>	<b>3.62</b>	<b>29.07</b>

<sup>1</sup> Demand numbers include an estimated 6 percent water loss factor.

**Table 6-5 2030 Projected Water Demand and Wastewater Generation Summary**

Planning Area	Water Demand & Wastewater Flow (GPD)			Estimated Flow to Each Wastewater Treatment Facility (MGD)			
	Potable Water Demand <sup>1</sup>	Wastewater Generation	Ratio	Cold Springs	Stead / Lemmon Valley	STMWRF	TMWRF
Stead / Lemmon Valley	5,558,000	2,472,000	0.44		2.47		
Cold Springs	2,133,000	984,000	0.46	0.98			
Spanish Springs	3,726,000	1,788,000	0.48				1.79
Sparks	24,961,000	10,963,000	0.44				10.96
South Truckee Meadows	14,236,000	6,700,000	0.47			6.70	
Sun Valley	1,814,000	728,000	0.40				0.73
Truckee Meadows	51,538,000	25,386,000	0.49				25.39
<b>Total</b>	<b>103,966,000</b>	<b>49,021,000</b>	<b>0.47</b>	<b>0.98</b>	<b>2.47</b>	<b>6.70</b>	<b>38.87</b>

<sup>1</sup> Demand numbers include an estimated 6 percent water loss factor.



This methodology of using accepted EDU flow factors for new residential development and 1,500 gpd per new commercial /industrial account moderately over-estimates the 2010 wastewater flow to each treatment plant compared to 2009 historical flow records. This over-estimation of 2010 flows is reasonable given that the methodology does not account for the current local economic conditions, the “flat” construction trend and the observed reduction in residential and commercial building occupancy. These factors have led to both a decrease in potable water demand and wastewater flow throughout the region.

The 2030 wastewater flow projections are reasonable for the intended purpose of projecting future flows at each of the four regional wastewater reclamation facilities. The ratio of projected wastewater flow to water demand varies from 0.40 to 0.51, which approximates historical trends and supports this conclusion.

The 2030 wastewater flow projections represent the “average annual daily flow” that can be expected at the four regional wastewater reclamation facilities. Some variability should be anticipated in the actual capacity and process improvements that will be necessary in the future at each individual facility, as wastewater treatment is a complex combination of physical, biological and hydraulic processes. This is in addition to the inherent uncertainty of when and where future development will occur over the next 20 years.

Design of each process must take into account not only significant variations in flow, but variability in loading, or strength, of numerous constituents such as biological oxygen demand (“BOD”), suspended solids, dissolved solids and nutrients. When future improvements are required at the regional wastewater reclamation facilities, a detailed facility plan or engineering design report will be prepared that defines the specific process improvements and capacity requirements. This detailed information will take precedence over the “planning level” flow and capacity projections presented in this Plan.

### **6.3     *Water Balance Model***

A Regional Water Balance Flow Diagram has been developed, which is a graphical representation of the existing conditions and the projected 2030 future conditions for the water supply, wastewater treatment, reclaimed water and wastewater disposal requirements. The Regional Water Balance Flow Diagram is useful to answer the following questions:

- How much potable water is used today, and in what locations?
- From which sources does the potable water originate, and once used, where does it go for wastewater treatment?
- Following treatment, how much of the water is reused, and where is the balance disposed?
- Are there future imbalances in water supply, wastewater disposal or reclaimed water usage, and if so, in which planning areas?
- Are there planning areas with adequate capacity to address imbalances?

The existing condition Regional Water Balance relies on the historical water demands and wastewater flows from the *City of Reno and Washoe County TMSA/FSA Water Wastewater and Flood Management Facility Plan* (ECO:LOGIC, 2007) and the *City of Sparks TMSA/FSA Conceptual Facility Master Plan* (Stantec, 2008), and were used to reconcile the water balance

calculations. The future conditions Water Balance is based on the 2030 projections presented in Sections 6.1 and 6.2. Following is a general overview of the data presented in the Water Balance:

- All numbers are shown in acre feet annually (“afa”).
- The planning areas are consistent with the *City of Reno and Washoe County TMSA/FSA Water Wastewater and Flood Management Facility Plan* (ECO:LOGIC, 2007) and the *City of Sparks TMSA/FSA Conceptual Facility Master Plan* (Stantec, 2008) planning area boundaries as shown in Figure 6-1 (page 6-20). These areas are representative of the sewer service boundaries of the regional wastewater treatment facilities.
- The potential conversion of domestic wells to the municipal water system is shown as a water demand.
- The potential conversion of individual septic systems to the municipal sewer is shown as a wastewater flow.
- Local groundwater supplies are shown equal to the perennial yield of the respective basin, consistent with the Water Baseline Table presented in Chapter 2.
- Water supplies, wastewater treatment capacity and disposal constraints are identified for each planning area.
- Current groundwater recharge quantities are shown as a demand on the municipal water system.
- Undetermined Water Supply is called out if there are insufficient water resources identified in the planning area to meet the projected 2030 water demands.
- Undetermined Disposal is called out if there is insufficient disposal capacity, i.e. discharge to the Truckee River, rapid infiltration basins, and/or reclaimed water irrigation demands to meet the projected 2030 wastewater flows.
- Future reclaimed water demands are shown based on 2009 flow records. If new reclaimed water facilities and customers are added, this will decrease the quantity shown in Undetermined Disposal.

The Existing Regional Water Balance and the 2030 Regional Water Balance are presented in Figures 6-2 and 6-3, (pages 6-21 and 6-22) respectively. Table 6-6 presents the conclusions drawn from this evaluation.

**Table 6-6 Regional Water Balance Key Findings**

<b>Planning Area</b>	<b>Water Balance</b>	<b>Wastewater Balance</b>
<b>Cold Springs</b>	Existing municipal groundwater pumping (Utilities Inc.) of 1,417 af, 500 af identified perennial yield	Future septic tank conversion potential of 310 af
	Future domestic well conversion potential of 247 af	Future undetermined disposal capacity of 70 af
	Future 2030 water supply deficit of 2,147 af	
<b>Reno Stead/Lemmon Valley</b>	Existing municipal groundwater pumping of 2,028 af, 1,300 af identified perennial yield	Future septic tank conversion 560 af
	Existing 379 af well recharge	Future undetermined disposal capacity of 103 af, using maximum permitted disposal capacity to Swan Lake
	Future domestic well conversion potential of 2,177 af	
	8,000 af Fish Springs water supply available	
	Future 2030 surplus of 4,559 af, but 2,905 af of 8,000 is needed to meet deficit from perennial yield and domestic well conversion	
<b>Sparks/Spanish Springs</b>	Existing municipal groundwater pumping of 2,435 af, 1,000 af identified perennial yield	Future septic tank conversion 440 af
	Existing 229 af well recharge	Share of future undetermined TMWRF disposal capacity of 7,698 af
	Future domestic well conversion potential of 24 af	
	Future 2030 estimated <i>TROA</i> water supply surplus of 7,189 af, but 1,459 af is needed to meet deficit from perennial yield and domestic well conversion	

<b>Central Truckee Meadows</b>	Existing 1,308 af well recharge	Future septic tank conversion 960 af
	Future domestic well conversion potential of 1,634 af	Share of future undetermined TMWRF disposal capacity of 7,698 af
	Future 2030 estimated <i>TROA</i> water supply surplus of 12,905 af	
	Support creek exchange water supply to South Truckee Meadows	
<b>South Truckee Meadows</b>	No groundwater recharge at present, managed municipal groundwater pumping of 6,795 af	Future septic tank conversion 850 af
	Future domestic well conversion potential of 1,598 af	Future undetermined STMWRF disposal capacity of 5,690 af
	Future 2030 estimated water supply surplus of 346 af, based on use of local groundwater, creek exchange and Truckee Meadows wholesale supplies	
	Receives 5,958 af of creek exchange water supply from Central Truckee Meadows	

### **6.3.1 Water Supplies**

Overall, the region has available water resources to meet the projected increase in demand. These water resources include the TROA water supplies, the Fish Springs Water Importation Project, local basin groundwater supplies, and local tributary creeks including Galena, Thomas, Whites, Brown's and Steamboat Creeks. In addition to these water resources, the region also has reclaimed water resources that are available for multiple uses from the TMWRF, STMWRF, RSWRF and CSWRF.

In several planning areas, however, there are water supply imbalances that will need to be addressed over the long term. In particular, the combined demand from domestic wells and permitted municipal groundwater pumping exceeds the perennial yield of the basins in Cold Springs, Lemmon Valley and Spanish Springs Valley. This is an issue that affects both existing and future water users, and exists under both current and projected 2030 conditions.

Water resource management options are available to help mitigate the potential negative impacts due to this imbalance. For instance, in Cold Springs, a portion of the supply from the Fish Springs Water Importation Project could be used to augment the available water resources. Other management options include conversion of domestic wells to the municipal water system, (municipal water systems are able to utilize and manage the groundwater resources more efficiently) and expanded groundwater recharge utilizing available water resources from basins with surplus water.

The Truckee Meadows, Sparks and South Truckee Meadows planning areas do not have a water supply imbalance. Water resource management practices by TMWA and WCDWR limit groundwater pumping and surface water resource utilization to sustainable levels. It should be noted that there will continue to be local area impacts within portions of these planning areas where mitigation of groundwater level declines and impacts to shallow domestic wells will continue to be necessary. The Mt. Rose fan area is an example of this situation. The available groundwater resource is not over-utilized; however, relatively shallow domestic wells that penetrate only the upper portion of the aquifer will continue to be affected by regional water level declines as a result of the combined pumping of both municipal and domestic wells.

The long term water supply imbalances that exist in the different planning areas are not a water resource availability issue, but rather an issue of how best to efficiently mitigate impacts resulting from use of the resource, and who shares in the cost of mitigation.

### **6.3.2 Wastewater Treatment and Disposal**

Long-term disposal and reuse of treated effluent will be a challenge throughout the different planning areas. Cold Springs and Lemmon Valley generally have sufficient disposal capacity to meet the projected needs until 2030. However, future disposal options will need to be identified to accommodate planned development beyond the 2030 time horizon. Several options are available, such as disposal of a portion of the treated effluent to White Lake. This could create a wetland amenity similar to the Swan Lake Nature Study Area in Lemmon Valley. Other options include expanded use of reclaimed water for irrigation, and/or high level treatment of a portion of the effluent to help recharge the local groundwater basins.

In the Central Truckee Meadows, Sparks and Spanish Springs planning areas, discharge to the Truckee River through TMWRF may be limited in the future by several constraints, such as the total maximum daily load ("TMDL") wasteload allocations ("WLA") for nitrogen, phosphorus and

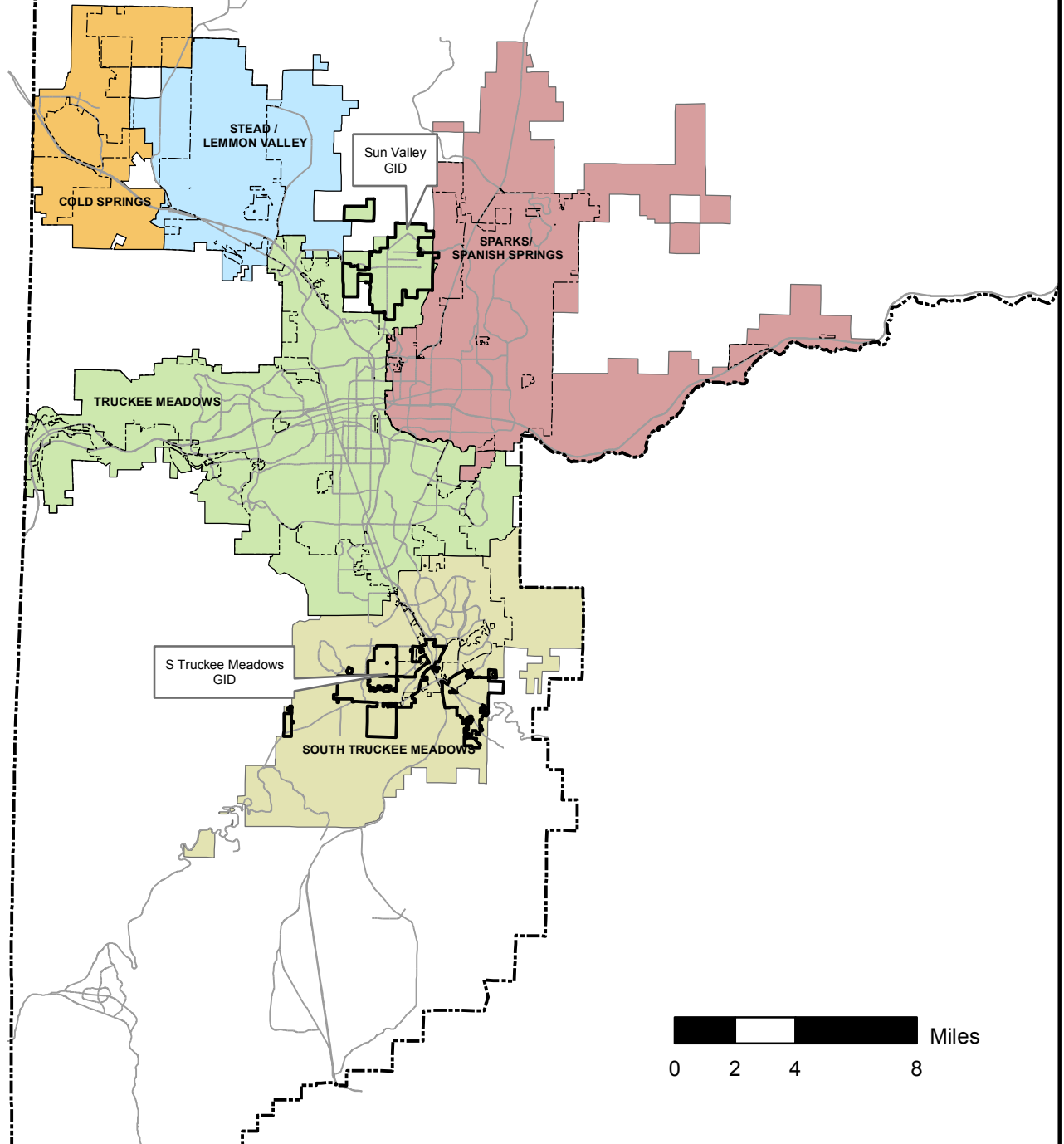
total dissolved solids (“TDS”) as presented in Chapter 4. Based on the 2030 flow projections, with approximately 33,600 af discharged annually to the river and 4,000 af of reclaimed water use for irrigation, roughly 7,700 af of additional disposal capacity will be required.

Management options to address the need for additional disposal capacity include:

- Work with state and federal regulatory authorities, in coordination with the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe (“PLPT”)’s water quality and quantity goals, to demonstrate that additional discharge to the Truckee River is an environmentally sound practice
- Connect additional reclaimed water users to the existing systems in Sparks and Reno. Reclaimed water irrigation use reduces the amount of water discharged to the Truckee River. However, this is a seasonal use and other options may be needed during limited irrigation periods, particularly during the months of May and October.
- Investigate the merits of supplying reclaimed water for year round industrial uses, such as the proposed Patrick technology park. Year-round use of reclaimed water improves TMWRF’s ability to meet the Total Nitrogen discharge limits to the Truckee River. As presented in Chapter 4, the Patrick project proponent is considering delivery of a minimum of 4,000 afa of TMWRF reclaimed water via a new pipeline to be developed to the project site.
- Continue to investigate the feasibility and public acceptance issues associated with implementing a groundwater recharge program using high quality reclaimed water. Groundwater recharge can provide an efficient and productive use of the reclaimed water resources, and can be one component to help mitigate the identified water supply imbalances in several planning areas.

In the South Truckee Meadows planning area, 100 percent of the reclaimed water is used for irrigation. Based on the 2030 flow projections, approximately 5,700 af of additional disposal capacity will be required. This represents an increase of over two times the current level of reclaimed water use. Management options available to Washoe County to address the need for additional disposal capacity are similar to TMWRF, with the exception of discharging to the Truckee River. WCDWR has ongoing efforts to continue to expand the reclaimed water system for irrigation; to pilot test the feasibility of using up to 1,000 af of reclaimed water annually for cooling Ormat’s Steamboat geothermal power plant; and to investigate the feasibility and public acceptance issues associated with implementing a groundwater recharge program using high quality reclaimed water.

# REGIONAL WATER BALANCE PLANNING AREAS




## PLANNING AREAS

- COLD SPRINGS
- SPARKS/SPANISH SPRINGS
- STEAD / LEMMON VALLEY
- SOUTH TRUCKEE MEADOWS
- TRUCKEE MEADOWS

- Washoe County
- City of Reno
- City of Sparks


**Figure 6.1 REGIONAL WATER BALANCE PLANNING AREAS**



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August 2010



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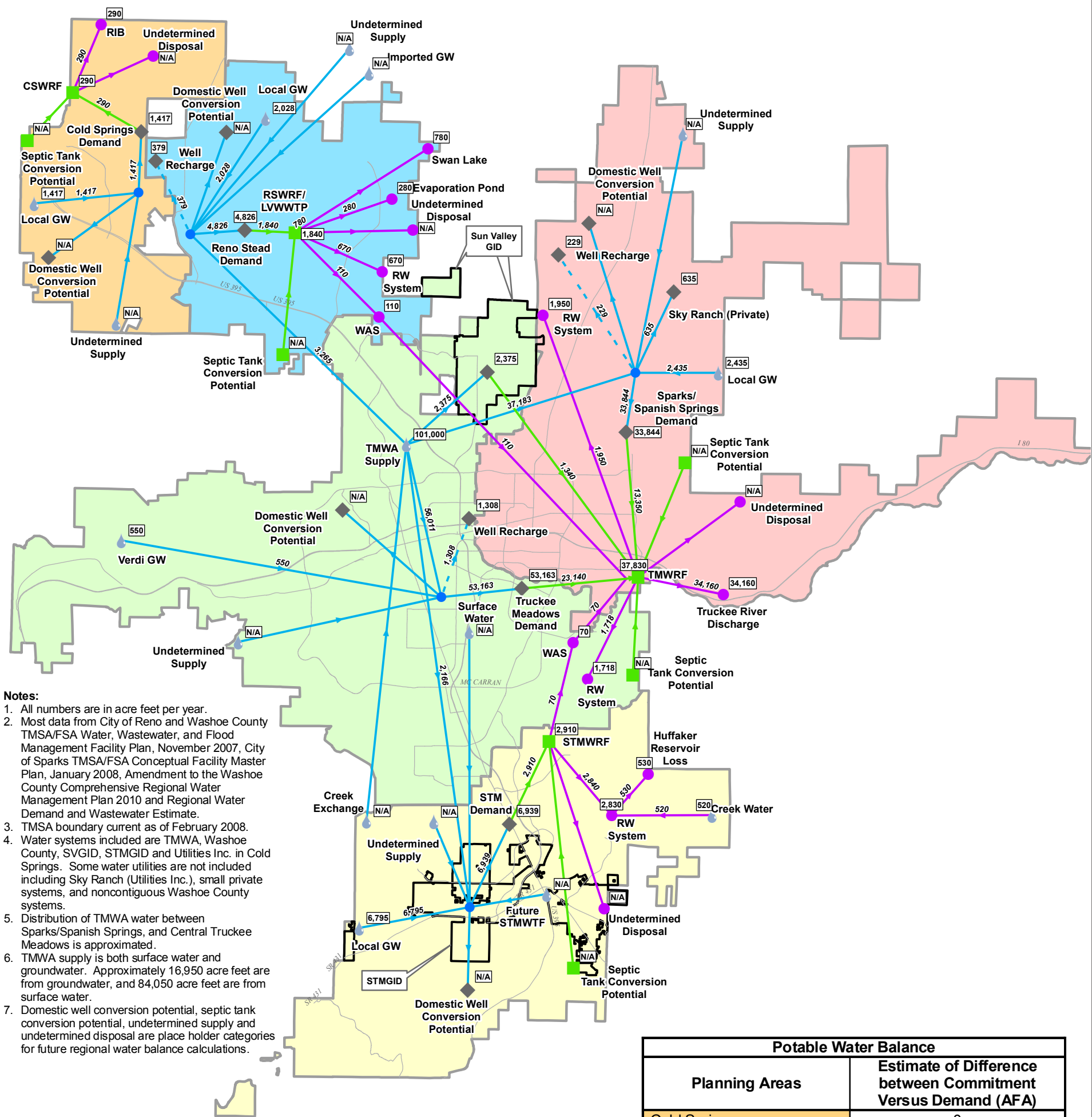


Figure 6-2 Existing Regional Water Balance

















- Notes:**
1. All numbers are in acre feet per year.
  2. Most data from City of Reno and Washoe County TMSA/FSA Water, Wastewater, and Flood Management Facility Plan, November 2007, City of Sparks TMSA/FSA Conceptual Facility Master Plan, January 2008, Amendment to the Washoe County Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan 2010 and Regional Water Demand and Wastewater Estimate.
  3. TMSA boundary current as of February 2008.
  4. Water systems included are TMWA, Washoe County, SVGID, STMGID and Utilities Inc. in Cold Springs. Some water utilities are not included including Sky Ranch (Utilities Inc.), small private systems, and noncontiguous Washoe County systems.
  5. Distribution of TMWA water between Sparks/Spanish Springs, and Central Truckee Meadows is approximated.
  6. TMWA supply is both surface water and groundwater. Approximately 16,950 acre feet are from groundwater, and 84,050 acre feet are from surface water.
  7. Domestic well conversion potential, septic tank conversion potential, undetermined supply and undetermined disposal are place holder categories for future regional water balance calculations.

Potable Water Balance	
Planning Areas	Estimate of Difference between Commitment Versus Demand (AFA)
Cold Springs	0
Reno Stead/Lemmon Valley	88
Sparks/Spanish Springs	5,545
Central Truckee Meadows	4,465
South Truckee Meadows	2,022
Wastewater Balance	
Wastewater Service Areas	Available Disposal Capacity (AFA)
CSWRF	1,050
RSWRF/LVWWTP	1,460
TMWRF (RENO)	2,470
TMWRF (SPARKS)	
STMWRF	520

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FIGURE 6.2  
EXISTING REGIONAL WATER BALANCE  
COUNTY OF WASHOE, NEVADA

LEGEND:

-  SUPPLY
-  DEMAND
-  FLOW
-  DISPOSAL
-  GW RECHARGE
-  RECLAIMED
-  WASTEWATER
-  WATER
-  COLD SPRINGS
-  SPARKS/SPANISH SPRINGS
-  RENO STEAD LEMMON VALLEY
-  SOUTH TRUCKEE MEADOWS
-  CENTRAL TRUCKEE MEADOWS
-  TMSA BOUNDARY



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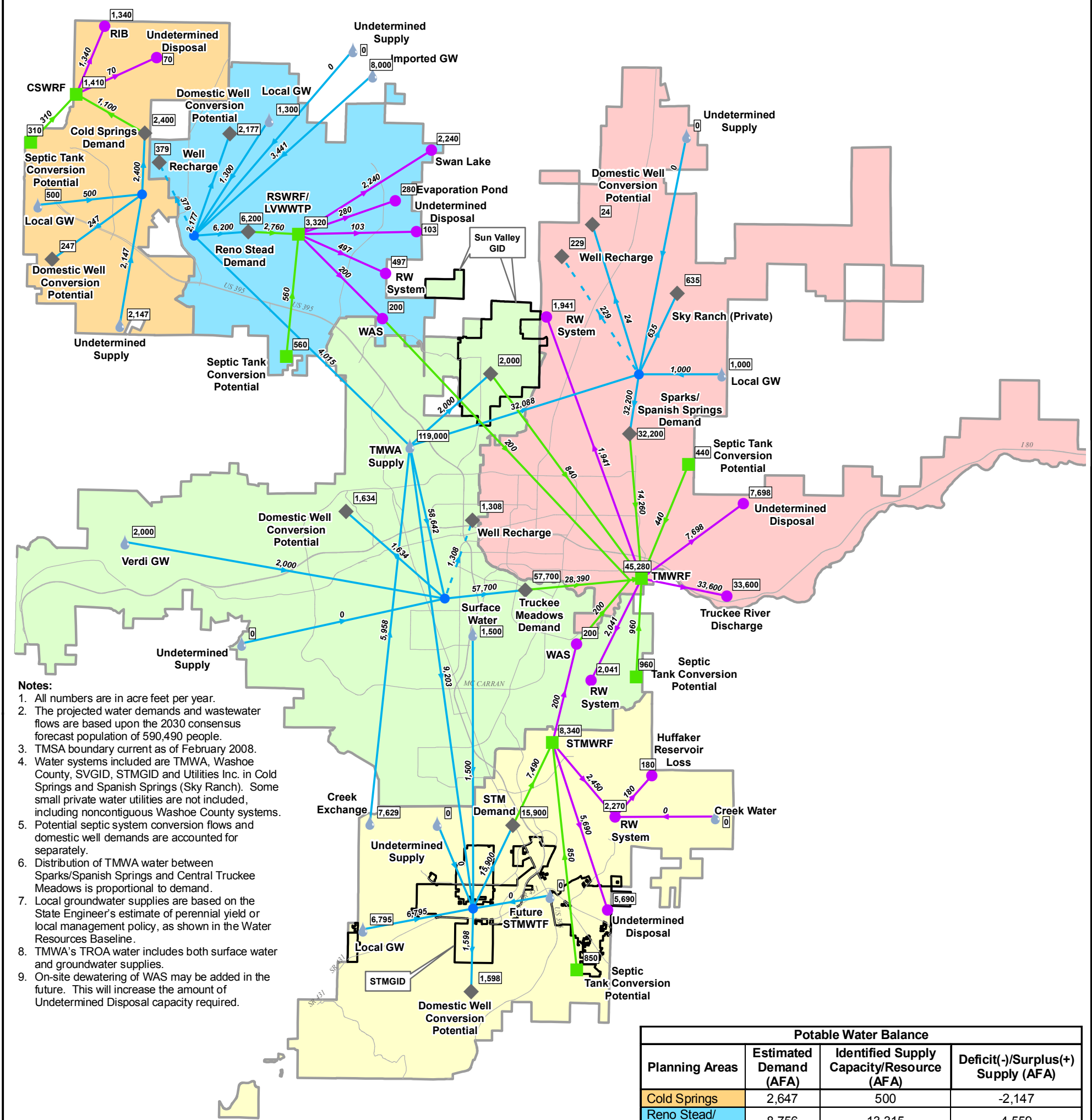
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Figure 6-3 2030 Regional Water Balance



- Notes:**
1. All numbers are in acre feet per year.
  2. The projected water demands and wastewater flows are based upon the 2030 consensus forecast population of 590,490 people.
  3. TMSA boundary current as of February 2008.
  4. Water systems included are TMWA, Washoe County, SVGID, STMGID and Utilities Inc. in Cold Springs and Spanish Springs (Sky Ranch). Some small private water utilities are not included, including noncontiguous Washoe County systems.
  5. Potential septic system conversion flows and domestic well demands are accounted for separately.
  6. Distribution of TMWA water between Sparks/Spanish Springs and Central Truckee Meadows is proportional to demand.
  7. Local groundwater supplies are based on the State Engineer's estimate of perennial yield or local management policy, as shown in the Water Resources Baseline.
  8. TMWA's TROA water includes both surface water and groundwater supplies.
  9. On-site dewatering of WAS may be added in the future. This will increase the amount of Undetermined Disposal capacity required.

Potable Water Balance			
Planning Areas	Estimated Demand (AFA)	Identified Supply Capacity/Resource (AFA)	Deficit(-)/Surplus(+) Supply (AFA)
Cold Springs	2,647	500	-2,147
Reno Stead/ Lemmon Valley	8,756	13,315	4,559
Sparks/ Spanish Springs	33,088	40,277	7,189
Central Truckee Meadows	62,642	75,547	12,905
South Truckee Meadows	17,498	17,844	346

Wastewater Balance			
Wastewater Service Areas	Estimated Flow (AFA)	Identified Disposal Capacity (AFA)	Additional Disposal Capacity Required (AFA)
CSWRF	1,410	1,340	70
RSWRF/LVWWTP	3,320	3,217	103
TMWRF (RENO) TMWRF (SPARKS)	45,280	37,580	7,700
STMWRF	8,340	2,650	5,690

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FIGURE 6.3  
2030 REGIONAL WATER BALANCE  
COUNTY OF WASHOE, NEVADA

SUPPLY

FLOW

GW RECHARGE

COLD SPRINGS

DEMAND

DISPOSAL

RECLAIMED

SPARKS/SPANISH SPRINGS

WASTEWATER

RENO STEAD LEMMON VALLEY

WATER

SOUTH TRUCKEE MEADOWS

TMSA BOUNDARY

CENTRAL TRUCKEE MEADOWS

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