

May 23, 2024 – Admin Draft

# Community Source Water Protection Plan

– for –

**Public Water Systems in Storey County, Nevada**



**Prepared by:**

**The Storey County Source Water Protection  
Local Planning Team:**

Canyon General Improvement District  
EP Minerals LLC Clark  
Mars Petcare US Inc.  
Storey County Emergency Management  
Storey County Planning Department  
Storey County Water District  
Tahoe Reno Industrial General Improvement District  
Resource Concepts, Inc., ISWPP Contractor



---

## Executive Summary

This Community Source Water Protection Plan for the Public Water Systems in Storey County is a community-led effort which aims to identify and manage potential risks to source water (groundwater, lakes, rivers, streams, or springs). The local planning team, comprised of representatives from public water systems, local stakeholders, and local government, established non-regulatory source water protection areas (Appendix A) which aim to protect and preserve the quality of drinking water in Storey County. Within source water protection area boundaries, education, monitoring, and collaboration play vital roles in local water quality management to achieve one collective vision:

### **Ensure safe and sustainable drinking water for all residents and businesses.**

The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), Bureau of Safe Drinking Water administers the Integrated Source Water Protection Program (ISWPP), a voluntary program aimed at preventing the contamination of public drinking water supplies. In 2023, the Storey County Board of Commissioners and the General Improvement District Boards within Storey County authorized participation in the program (Appendix B) and public water systems within the county collaborated to complete this community driven plan in 2024.

In Storey County, two public water systems supply drinking water to the communities of Virginia City and Lockwood, where drinking water is supplied from surface and groundwater, respectively. One public water system provides drinking water to residents in the Tahoe-Reno Industrial Center (TRI-Center), and three privately owned public water systems provide drinking water for their facilities adjacent to the TRI-Center.

Individual source water protection plans were developed for each community to address their specific objectives. The jurisdictional and county-wide approach is reflected in the Action Plans (Appendix B) and the Education Plan (Appendix C) to achieve the vision set forth by the communities of Storey County. These voluntary plans can be implemented as technical and financial resources are available and as opportunities present themselves.

Individual community source water protection plans, organized by water system, are provided as Appendix E through Appendix G. County-wide strategies for accomplishing source water protection throughout Storey County include:

- Interagency Collaboration,
- Planning and Coordination,
- Spill Response and Cleanup,
- Physical Improvements,
- Water Quality Best Management Practices,
- Education and Outreach, and
- Emerging Contaminants.

To ensure its effectiveness, it is recommended this Plan be reviewed approximately every two years or more frequently to address changing conditions. This document serves as a valuable tool to foster collaboration between water purveyors, local and regional partners, and community members, all contributing to the protection of water quality for sources of public drinking water throughout Storey County.

# Table of Contents

<b>Executive Summary .....</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>Revision History .....</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>1.0 Introduction.....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Source Water Protection Vision .....	1
1.2 Nevada’s Integrated Source Water Protection Program.....	1
1.3 Community Source Water Protection Plan Goals .....	2
1.4 Structure of the County-Wide Plan .....	2
1.5 Local Planning Team Formation.....	2
<b>2.0 Description of Plan Area and Source Water.....</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1 Location.....	4
2.2 Hydrographic Setting .....	4
2.3 Public Water Systems.....	5
2.4 Public Water Source Inventory.....	5
2.5 Existing Plans and Studies .....	7
<b>3.0 Plan Development.....</b>	<b>9</b>
3.1 Source Water Protection Areas.....	9
3.2 Potential Contaminant Source Inventory.....	9
3.3 Source Water Protection Management Strategies.....	10
3.4 Contingency Planning.....	10
<b>4.0 Action Plan .....</b>	<b>12</b>
4.1 Source Water Protection Plan Implementation .....	12
4.2 Community Source Water Protection Plan Updates.....	12
<b>5.0 Public Participation.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>6.0 References .....</b>	<b>14</b>

## Tables

Table 1. Storey County Local Planning Team .....3  
 Table 2. Storey County Public Water Systems..... 6  
 Table 3. Management Strategies .....11

## Figures

Figure 1. Storey County Community Source Water Protection Plan Outline.....2  
 Figure 2. Storey County, Nevada ..... 4  
 Figure 3. Tracy Segment..... 4  
 Figure 4. Marlette Lake Water System .....5  
 Figure 5. Potential Sources of Contamination ..... 10

## Appendices *(Provided as Separate PDF Files)*

Appendix A Source Water Protection Area Maps  
 Appendix B Action Plan  
 Appendix C Education Plan  
 Appendix D Meeting Notes  
 Appendix E Storey County Water District Source Water Protection Plan  
 Appendix F Canyon General Improvement District Source Water Protection Plan  
 Appendix G TRI General Improvement District Source Water Protection Plan

*Contact the local public water system or the Storey County Planning Department for review.*

## Acronyms

Acronym	Definition
GID	General Improvement District
GIS	Geographic Information System
ISWPP	Integrated Source Water Protection Program
Team	Storey County Local Planning Team
NDEP	Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
NRS	Nevada Revised Statutes
TRI	Tahoe Reno Industrial Center
U.S.	United States

## Revision History

Revision Date	Description

# 1.0 Introduction

## 1.1 Source Water Protection Vision

This County-Wide Community Source Water Protection Plan (County-Wide Plan) unites Storey County’s water purveyors, stakeholders, and the public in protecting and preserving the County’s public drinking water supplies. It serves as a planning tool to mitigate impacts from potential sources of contamination, ensuring the sustainability of public drinking water supplies. This County-Wide Plan was created for the public water systems and residents of Storey County to ensure safe and sustainable drinking water for all residents and businesses.



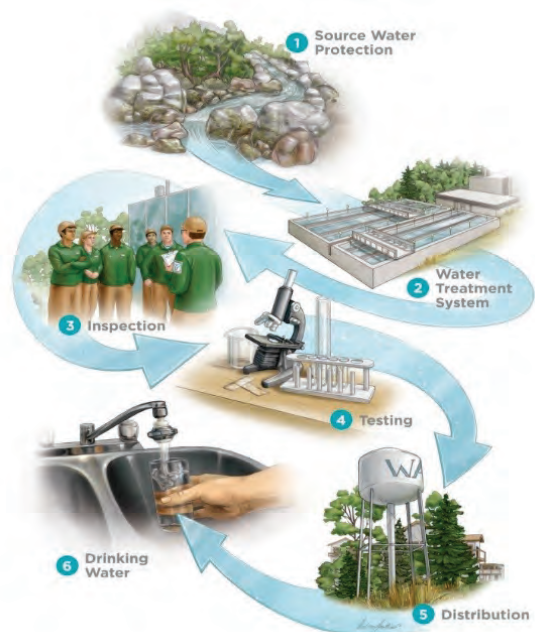
What is source water protection??

Source water protection can be considered Storey County’s first line of defense to protect and preserve drinking water sources, with the goal of preventing potential contaminants from reaching water resources. Non-regulatory County-wide goals and community-driven strategies were created by the Storey County Local Planning Team (Team) to help implement source water protection throughout the County.

The Team delineated Source Water Protection Areas to establish precautionary boundaries around Storey County’s drinking water sources. Source water protection areas are distinct management areas which help the County’s water purveyors, stakeholders, and residents minimize the risk of potential contamination near drinking water sources. The source water protection areas in Storey County are discussed in Section 3.1 and are presented as maps in Appendix A.

## 1.2 Nevada’s Integrated Source Water Protection Program

Source water protection in Nevada is a voluntary program aimed at building local partnerships to safeguard community drinking water sources. The Nevada Integrated Source Water Protection Program (ISWPP), established by the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), provides the framework for local plan development and outlines criteria for state endorsement. By obtaining state endorsement, Storey County and its public water systems may receive additional technical assistance to implement actions and county-wide education and outreach, detailed in Appendices B and C of this County-Wide Plan, respectively. This Community Source Water Protection Plan for the Public Water Systems in Storey County was developed to meet NDEP endorsement criteria.



### 1.3 Community Source Water Protection Plan Goals

This County-Wide Plan fosters collaboration among the water purveyors, agencies, industries, community leaders, and citizens in Storey County and represents a coordinated effort to guard source water protection areas and key local watersheds from undue degradation. The Team has established four goals to guide the development and implementation of this community-specific Plan. The goals are:

- Goal 1.** Protect the quality of present and future drinking water sources.
- Goal 2.** Preserve the quality and quantity of water resources for existing and proposed development.
- Goal 3.** Consider risks to drinking water sources in emergency planning.
- Goal 4.** Engage water users, stakeholders, and businesses about source water protection and participation.

### 1.4 Structure of the County-Wide Plan

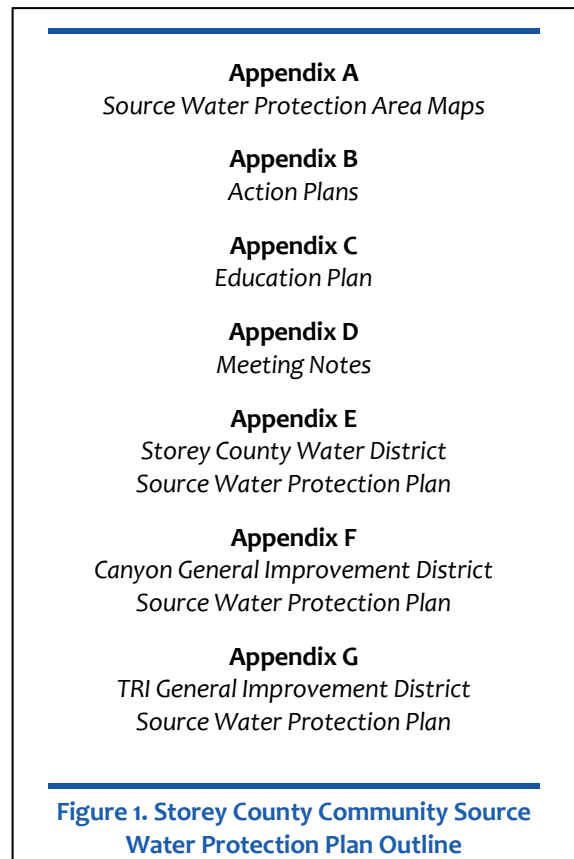
The structure of this County-Wide Plan highlights the unique characteristics and diverse water system jurisdictions within Storey County. Individual source water protection plans were developed for each water system to address their specific water source and management objectives within the broader planning framework. Subsequently, a county-wide approach was used to compile an Action Plan (Appendix B) and an Education Plan (Appendix C) to achieve the goals set forth by the Team ensure coherence in county-wide planning efforts to protect and preserve water quality.

Individual community source water protection plans, organized by water system, are provided as Appendix E through Appendix G of this County-Wide Plan (Figure 1).

### 1.5 Local Planning Team Formation

Forming a collaborative Team knowledgeable about community needs and priorities ensures community support and adoption of source water protection and this County-Wide Plan. Organized Team meetings were held to develop a plan that supports county-wide source water protection, while respecting the autonomy of each water system’s jurisdiction. Regular meetings were held both virtually and in person, and agendas and materials were generally distributed at least one week ahead of time. Documentation from these meetings can be found in Appendix D of this County-Wide Plan.

The Storey County Team (Table 1) was comprised of a committed group of local representatives who worked diligently to develop a locally-driven, achievable County-Wide Plan that protects the quality of present and future drinking water sources.



**Table 1. Storey County Local Planning Team**

Team Member	Jurisdiction/Title	Roles
Mitch Andreini	General Manager, Canyon GID	Canyon GID operations and administration.
Kathy Canfield	Planning Manager, Storey County	Source water protection planning, land use planning, and development review.
Ozward Henke	Technical Services Manager, TRI-GID	TRI-GID operations and administration.
Ethan Mason	ISWPP Coordinator, NDEP, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water	Plan development guidance.
Scott Peterson	Health, Safety, and Environmental Manager, Mars Pet Nutrition	Source water protection development and implementation for private water systems.
Connor Welsh	Regional Environmental Manager, US Silica	Source water protection development and implementation for private water systems.
Shari Whalen	General Manager, TRI-GID	TRI-GID water system design, operations, and source water protection implementation.
Jason Wierzbicki	Public Works Director, Storey County	Public works, wastewater treatment, stormwater, and development.
Adam Wilson	Emergency Management Director, Storey County	Emergency spill response and hazardous waste contingency plan.
Resource Concepts, Inc.	Integrated Source Water Protection Technical Assistance Contractor	Plan coordination and technical assistance.

## 2.0 Description of Plan Area and Source Water

### 2.1 Location

Storey County was founded in 1861, following the 1859 discovery of the most significant silver deposit ever found, which propelled Storey County to become a leader in technology and economic development (Storey County, 2023). Today, Storey County encompasses approximately 624 square miles of land and is bordered by Lyon County to the east, Carson City to the south, and Washoe County to the west and north (Figure 2). Storey County has a population of approximately 4,104 (U.S. Census, 2022), and Virginia City, one of two economic centers, serves as the County seat with a population of 1,000 residents (U.S. Census, 2022).

### 2.2 Hydrographic Setting

In Nevada, source water is untreated water originating from rivers, lakes, streams, springs, or underground aquifers, serving both public drinking water systems and private wells. Public drinking water sources in Storey County come from both surface and ground water. Public water systems that rely on groundwater in Storey County draw water from the fractured rock aquifer located in the Tracy Segment within Nevada Division of Water Resources Hydrographic Basin 6-083 (Figure 3). The Storey County Water District (serving Virginia City, Gold Hill, and Silver City in Lyon County) utilizes surface water that has been transmitted from west to east – from Marlette Lake to Hobart Dam in the Sierra Nevada mountains, then to Lakeview Summit in Carson City, continuing through Five-Mile reservoir in Washoe County before reaching the water treatment plant in Virginia City (Figure 4).

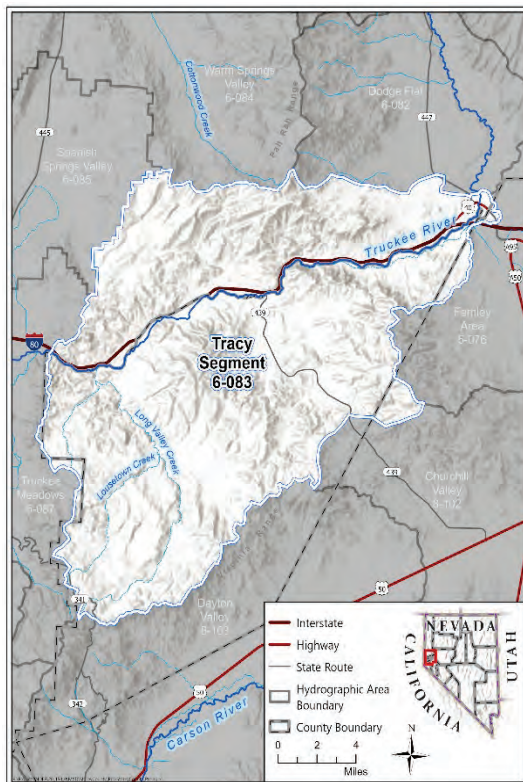


Figure 3. Tracy Segment

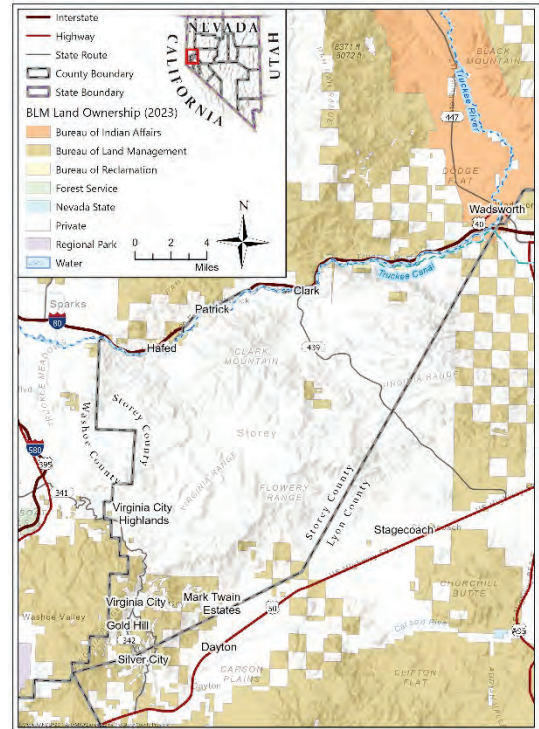
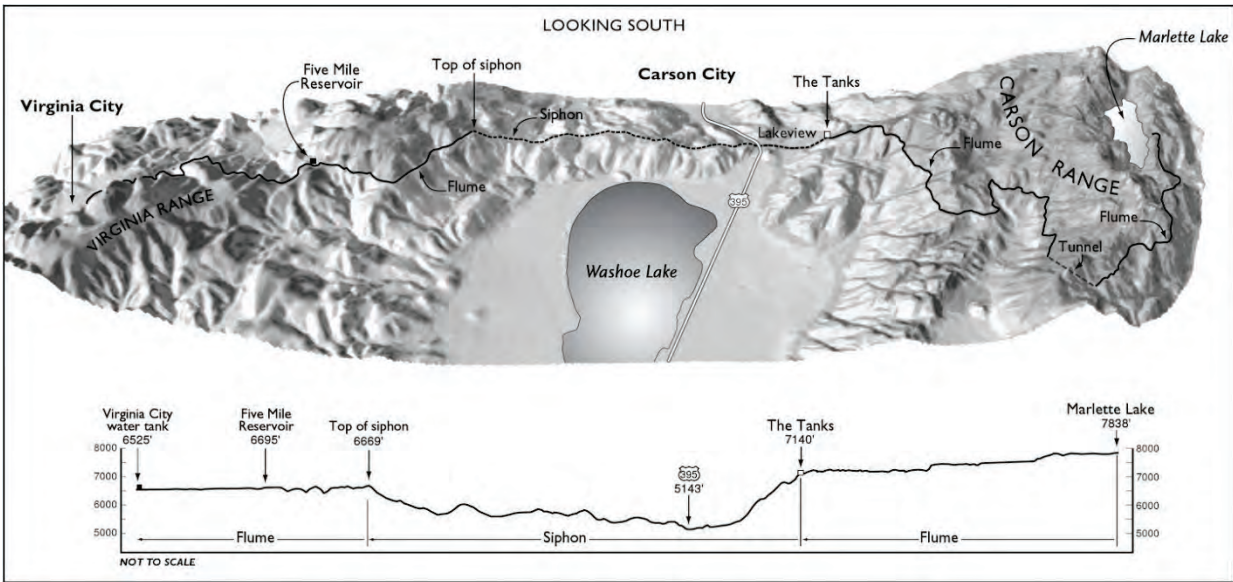


Figure 2. Storey County, Nevada

The residential and other private well owners in Storey County utilize groundwater from the Tracy Segment and the neighboring Dayton Valley within the Nevada Division of Water Resources Hydrographic Basin 8-103. This County-Wide Plan was developed for the public water systems in Storey County and does not include residential well owners. Nevertheless, the Team advocates for county-wide source water protection education and outreach for all residents, which can be found in Appendix C of this County-Wide Plan. Should new public water systems be formed, this County-Wide Plan will be revisited and could be updated to incorporate all new public water systems.

Figure 4. Marlette Lake Water System



[Geologic and Natural History Tours in the Reno Area](#),  
by Joseph V. Tingley, Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology, 2005, Page 73

## 2.3 Public Water Systems

Nevada defines a public water system as, “a system, regardless of ownership, that provides the public with water for human consumption through pipes or other constructed conveyances...” (NRS 445A.235). During the development of this County-Wide Plan, Storey County had:

- Two (2) Community Water Systems: Has at least 15 service connections used by year-round residents or regularly serves at least 25 year-round residents... (NRS 445A.808).
  - Story County Water District and Canyon General Improvement District (Canyon GID).
- Four (4) Non-Transient Water Systems: A non-community water system that regularly serves at least 25 of the same persons for more than six months per year (NRS 445A.829).
  - TRI General Improvement District (TRI-GID), EP Minerals LLC. Clark, Mars Petcare US Inc., and Asia Union Electronic Chemicals Reno.

## 2.4 Public Water Source Inventory

The public water source inventory for this County-Wide Plan encompasses both active and potential future water sources. Descriptions of the public water suppliers include:

- Storey County Water District supplies potable water from Marlette Lake and wastewater treatment services to Virginia City, Gold Hill, and Silver City in Lyon County.
- Canyon GID supplies potable water and wastewater treatment services to the Lockwood community, which sits along the Truckee River and the Interstate 80 corridor.
- The Tahoe-Reno Industrial Center (TRI-Center) is a pre-zoned industrial park encompassing approximately 70,000 acres of existing development and land use designation with a total land

ownership of 107,000 acres (Storey County, 2023). TRI-GID provides potable water, reclaimed water, and wastewater services exclusively to its commercial and industrial customers in the TRI-Center (TRI GID, 2023).

- One of the Non-Transient Non-Community water systems is located in the TRI-GID service area and the other two border the TRI-GID service area.

Details regarding the well networks and water source jurisdictions are outlined in Table 2. Further well network and water system specifics are available in the individual public water system community source water protection plans provided as Appendix E through Appendix G of this County-Wide Plan.

**Table 2. Storey County Public Water Systems**

Water System Name and Number	Water Source	Type	Population Served	Communities Served
Storey County Water District: NV0000240	Five-Mile Reservoir via Marlette Lake	Community	1,420	Virginia City, Gold Hill, and Silver City
Canyon GID: NV0005056	2 Wells	Community	1,310	Lockwood
Tri-GID: NV0000913	9 Wells 2 Drill Pads	Non-Transient Non-Community	13,361	Tahoe Reno Industrial Center
Asia Union Electronic Chemicals Reno: NV0000879	1 Well	Non-Transient Non-Community	25	Asia Union Electronic Chemicals Reno
EP Minerals LLC Clark: NV0003075	1 Well	Non-Transient Non-Community	50	EP Minerals, Clark Plant
Mars Petcare US Inc.: NV0000878	1 Well	Non-Transient Non-Community	140	Mars Petcare, Waltham Way



## 2.5 Existing Plans and Studies

In arid Nevada, strategic water planning is vital, and numerous studies and planning initiatives already support source water protection in Storey County. The Team was thoughtful to make certain that the Community Source Water Protection Plan Goals directly align with county-wide goals, objectives, and policies to ensure safe and sustainable drinking water for all residents and businesses. The Storey County plans that support source water protection are highlighted below:

### Storey County Hazard Mitigation Plan (2015)

**Goal 4:** Reduce the possibility of damage and losses due to flood and flash flood.

**Goal 6:** Reduce the threat to life, new and existing property and infrastructure, and natural resources due to catastrophic wildfires.

### Storey County Master Plan (2016)

**Chapter 3, Goal 2:** Create and maintain livable and sustainable communities.

*Objective 5: To ensure safe and sustainable water resources for each community and natural ecosystem in the county.*

**Chapter 4, Policy 15-3:** Support a coordinated effort to protect wellhead protection areas and municipal watersheds from undue degradation through proactive zoning and development controls, pursuant to Storey County ordinances.

**Chapter 4, Policy 18-3:** Encourage and support the development of policy and regulation that will: *Prevent the environmental degradation of public lands, air, water, wildlife, and vegetation.*

**Chapter 9, Goal 1:** Protect public health by complying with all state and federal water regulations.

*Policy 2: By requiring new planned unit developments and land subdivisions to connect into municipal water systems or have densities which cause no adverse impact on area underground water resources.*

### Water Resource Plan Storey County (2023)

#### **Resource Management Strategies**

*Conveyance – Regional/Local: Improvement and maintenance of water conveyance system reliability, protect water quality, increase available water supplies, and provide operational flexibility.*

### Water Resource Plan Storey County (2023)

*Section 3.3 Contamination:  
“focuses on protection of source  
water quality, which is also of  
importance to private well  
owners, and ensuring that  
negative impacts to water quality  
from anthropogenic and natural  
sources are minimized to the  
greatest extent possible.”*

### Storey County Master Plan (2016)

**Chapter 10, Goal 5:** Ensure that present and future county residents have an adequate water supply meeting safe drinking water standards.

**Chapter 10, Goal 6:** Protect the quality of present and future water resources.

*Objective 1: Refuse special use permitting of industries which cannot guarantee the quality of effluent produced by their activity. Require users of toxic or hazardous materials to provide monitoring capabilities to assure protection from surface and groundwater contamination.*

### 3.0 Plan Development

The development of this County-Wide Plan was a collaborative and iterative process. Plan development focused on potential risks to water sources and the creation of actionable strategies within source water protection areas to craft a meaningful and implementable plan tailored for Storey County and its residents. The County-Wide Plan differentiates its approach based on varying demographics, jurisdictions, and source water types—groundwater vs. surface water—and tailors plan implementation accordingly (Appendix B and Appendix C of this County-Wide Plan, respectively).

Individual Plans are provided as Appendix E through Appendix H of this County-Wide Plan, and the following sections provide a general outline of Plan components.



#### 3.1 Source Water Protection Areas



Source water protection involves managing human activities to prevent contaminants from entering drinking water sources. Source water protection areas are designated boundaries established by communities to safeguard the quality of their drinking water sources. Within source water protection areas, education, monitoring, and land use planning play vital roles in comprehensive water resource management.

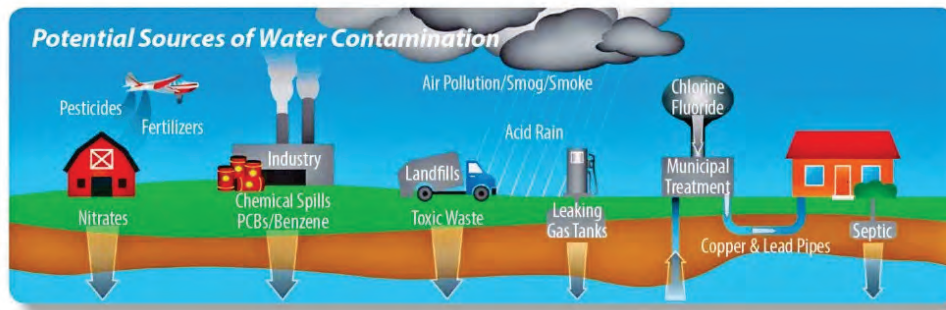
The delineation of source water protection areas in this County-Wide Plan was informed by hydrogeological information, time-of-travel capture zones, watershed boundaries, potential contaminant source inventories, and Team input. Through mapping exercises, the Team identified suitable source water protection areas that align with the goals established in Section 1.3.

The final source water protection area maps for each water system are provided as Appendix A of this County-Wide Plan. They serve as a planning tool to help protect the quality of present and future drinking water sources. Delineation methods are detailed in the jurisdictional Source Water Protection Plans as Appendices E through G of this County-Wide Plan.

#### 3.2 Potential Contaminant Source Inventory

Human activities that lead to the contamination of drinking water sources typically originate from urban, industrial, and agricultural endeavors (see Figure 5). Potential sources of contaminants encompass both current and prospective activities with the capacity to discharge pollutants into the environment. Should these activities release contaminants that seep into ground or surface water, they could jeopardize a community's drinking water source.

Figure 5. Potential Sources of Contamination



Each water system identified potential sources of drinking water pollution in their jurisdiction by cataloging activities near drinking water sources. Methods for collecting data included publicly available digital databases and mapping, field verified windshield surveys, and interviews with water system operators. Using a Geographic Information System (GIS) based inventory, activities within each community that potentially pose a risk to source water quality were organized, analyzed, and presented to the Team for review. Potential contaminant source inventories and evaluations specific to each water system are included in Appendices E through G of this County-Wide Plan.

### 3.3 Source Water Protection Management Strategies

The source water protection management strategies detailed within this County-Wide Plan consider the source water protection area delineations, the inventory and evaluation of potential sources of contamination, and the adaptation to community change and future growth. Crafted for straightforward implementation, the management strategies, described in Table 3, were prioritized by the Team to mitigate the risk of contamination to drinking water sources in Storey County. The management strategies are comprehensive in scope and will be enacted through Action Plan implementation (Appendix B of this County-Wide Plan).

### 3.4 Contingency Planning

A contingency plan is essential for equipping a community to handle potential long-term contamination events or disruptions in the quality or quantity of its source water. The primary aim of such a plan is to safeguard the community's public water supply system both immediately and over time. This involves the pre-identification of critical personnel, testing apparatus, procedures, and materials essential for addressing or mitigating environmental incidents that pose an emergency to the water supply. Within Storey County, there are numerous existing plans providing protocols for rapid response, notification processes, and containment strategies for incidents with the potential to affect the source water supply directly.

#### Existing Plans

- Emergency Response Plans
- Capital Improvement Plans
- Water Resource Plans
- Cross Connection Control Plans

Moreover, the Nevada Administrative Code mandates the formulation of both short- and long-term contingency plans to manage impacts on water quality and quantity effectively. The strategies outlined in these plans are intended to offer interim relief to public water systems facing emergencies, bridging the gap until long-term solutions are put in place. Details of local and regional contingency plans are specific to each water system and are included in Appendices E through G of this County-Wide Plan.

**Table 3. Management Strategies**

<p>Interagency Collaboration</p>	<p>The cornerstone of effective source water protection and supports comprehensive management of source water. Can lead to the development of a unified approach to water resource management throughout the region that will work to protect the quality of present and future drinking water supplies.</p>
<p>Planning and Coordination</p>	<p>Supports consistency in county-wide policies that consider future growth and potential new threats to water quality to preserve the quality and quantity of water sources for existing and proposed development.</p>
<p>Spill Response and Cleanup</p>	<p>Essential for maintaining protection measures and works to ensure that emergency actions are well-coordinated and that resources are mobilized promptly to protect water quality and public health.</p>
<p>Physical Improvements</p>	<p>Directly enhances the safety and quality of water resources through infrastructure improvements that can work to improve stormwater runoff, erosion and sediment control, and aquifer recharge.</p>
<p>Water Quality Best Management Practices</p>	<p>Proactive protection of source water, which includes practical and effective methods to prevent ground and surface water contamination.</p>
<p>Education and Outreach</p>	<p>Source water protection can only thrive when the community embraces the mission. Empowerment through knowledge gives the residents of Storey County the tools they need to advocate for and implement the innovative local solutions and community-driven actions that protect their most important resource, their drinking water.</p>
<p>Emerging Contaminants</p>	<p>Emerging contaminants represent a significant concern for source water due to the potential impacts on human health and the environment. Storey County is ready to support its water systems as they implement solutions to address emerging contaminants and protect public health to ensure safe and sustainable drinking water for all residents and businesses.</p>

## 4.0 Action Plan

### 4.1 Source Water Protection Plan Implementation

The formulation and implementation of an Action Plan is a critical component to outline the steps needed to achieve the goals. As outlined in Appendix B, the actions were identified by each public water system and categorized according to management strategy. These projects were selected through careful evaluation of various factors, including potential contaminant sources, regional cooperation, education and outreach considerations, and hazard mitigation efforts. Each project has a description, prioritization, designated lead, type of required support, and projected timeline for execution.

*Coordinate with the Storey County Planning and Building Departments about future development projects' compatibility with Canyon GID's identified source water protection areas.*

*Canyon GID, 2024 Action Plan*

*Consider adding source water protection signage around Five Mile Reservoir and the Store County Water Treatment Plant. For example, post source water protection signage on fences surrounding the water sources.*

*Storey County Water District, 2024 Action Plan*

The realization of each Action Plan is contingent upon the availability of resources, prioritization of projects, and access to necessary funding. Projects will progress as financial and temporal resources permit. To achieve these ends, the Team anticipates leveraging technical and financial support through diverse grant opportunities and partnerships. This strategic approach not only facilitates the successful implementation of each Action Plan but also enhances community engagement and resource optimization in source water protection efforts. Information regarding potential funding avenues to support these initiatives is listed in Appendix B of this County-Wide Plan.

*Continue to support Storey County Emergency Management by attending the Local Emergency Planning Committee meetings. Consider discussing source water protection education as it pertains to the TRI-Center.*

*TRI-GID, 2024 Action Plan*

### 4.2 Community Source Water Protection Plan Updates

This County-Wide Plan was crafted with flexibility and community engagement at its core, inviting stakeholders to actively participate in safeguarding their water sources. The inspiration behind creating the Community Source Water Protection Plan for Public Water Systems in Storey County stems from a deep-seated desire to unite the community around a vision to *ensure safe and sustainable drinking water for all residents and businesses*. This County-Wide Plan establishes achievable goals and strategies that seamlessly blend source water protection into local and county-wide planning efforts. Regular updates to the County-Wide Plan are vital to keep the Team's vision relevant and actionable for decision-makers, and will be tracked in the Revision History Table on Page iv. These updates are a testament to Storey County's commitment to a sustainable water future.

## 5.0 Public Participation

In keeping with the intention that source water protection is a community effort, this County-Wide Plan was developed to engage water users, stakeholders, and businesses about source water protection. In August, November, and December 2023, and April 2024, an overview of Nevada’s Integrated Source Water Protection Program was introduced to the TRI-GID Board, the Canyon GID Board, Storey County Board of County Commissioners, and the Storey County Planning Commission. Each Board submitted a letter to NDEP requesting participation in the program and committed to providing a liaison to facilitate coordination and active involvement.

The Team, made up of dedicated individuals who care deeply about the welfare of Storey County’s communities, has been instrumental in outlining how they might bring the Vision to life. The spirit of cooperation and mutual learning was especially evident as the Team developed their Education Plan (Appendix C of this County-Wide Plan).

The Education Plan contains the steps to achieve a broad public education strategy. Its goal is not only to foster widespread support for source water protection but also to empower every community member with the knowledge and tools to contribute to safeguarding their most valuable resource: their drinking water. County-wide source water protection outreach efforts ensure that everyone, from water providers to stakeholders, to water users and businesses, understands the vital role they play in protecting the quality of present and future drinking water sources.

***Why is it important for us to protect drinking water at the source?***

Both surface and groundwater can be polluted by various human activities and natural occurrences. Once the source of drinking water becomes polluted, it becomes extremely costly and difficult to clean. You have the power to support your water system operators as they implement strategic safeguards to avoid or control contamination threats and incidents that may pollute your drinking water.

***How can industrial businesses participate in Source Water Protection?***

By actively participating in source water protection efforts, industrial businesses can demonstrate environmental stewardship, enhance corporate social responsibility, and contribute to the long-term sustainability of water resources for present and future generations.

***What can I do to protect my drinking water?***

Protecting your drinking water from contamination is a huge challenge. Safeguarding your drinking water sources begins with awareness and education. We can take everything we’ve learned home with us, educate our friends and families, and change our behaviors to minimize our impact on our water resources.

## 6.0 References

- Drinking Water Source Protection. Mattagami Region Source Protection Area.  
<https://www.dwsp.ca/about/dwspsigns/>
- Filippi, Daniel. <https://wiki.sustainabletechnologies.ca/wiki/File:Multi-barrier-safe-drinking-water-co.jpg>.
- Nevada Division of Water Resources (NDWR). Accessed 2024. Appendix A-1--Nevada Hydrographic Regions (Basins), Area, and Sub-Areas.
- Nevada Revised Statute. Accessed 2024. Web. <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/nrs/>.
- OpenLear Create. Accessed 2024. Web. Figure Credit: Andrews, 2015.  
<https://www.open.edu/openlearncreate/mod/oucontent/view.php?id=80588&section=6>.
- Safe Drinking Water Information System. State of Nevada, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water. 2023.
- State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection. 2010. Nevada Integrated Source Water Protection Program Draft Update. March 2010.
- State of Nevada Division of Water Resources. Well Log Search. <http://water.nv.gov/welllogquery.aspx>.
- Storey County Hazard Mitigation Plan. 2015.
- Storey County Master Plan. 2016. Web. Accessed December 2023.  
[https://www.storeycounty.org/government/departments/planning/master\\_plan.php](https://www.storeycounty.org/government/departments/planning/master_plan.php)
- Storey County, Nevada. *Resident Information*. Web. Access December 2023.  
[https://www.storeycounty.org/resident\\_information/index.php](https://www.storeycounty.org/resident_information/index.php).
- Tingley, Joseph V. 2005. Geologic and Natural History Tours in the Reno Area. Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology, 2005. Special Publication 19.
- TRI General Improvement District. Web. Access December 2023. <https://www.tri-gid.org/>.
- United States Census Bureau. *Storey County, Nevada*. 2020 Decennial Census. Web. Access December 2023. [https://data.census.gov/profile/Storey\\_County,\\_Nevada?g=050XX00US32029](https://data.census.gov/profile/Storey_County,_Nevada?g=050XX00US32029).
- Water Resource Plan Storey County. January 2023. Farr West Engineering.

# Appendices

*(Provided as Separate PDF Files)*

- Appendix A. Source Water Protection Area Maps
- Appendix B. Action Plan
- Appendix C. Education Plan
- Appendix D. Meeting Materials
- Appendix E. Storey County Water District Source Water Protection Plan
- Appendix F. Canyon General Improvement District Source Water Protection Plan
- Appendix G. TRI-General Improvement District Source Water Protection Plan