

MONITORING PROGRAM



Water Quality and Stream Flow



Habitat Assessment



Photo Monitoring

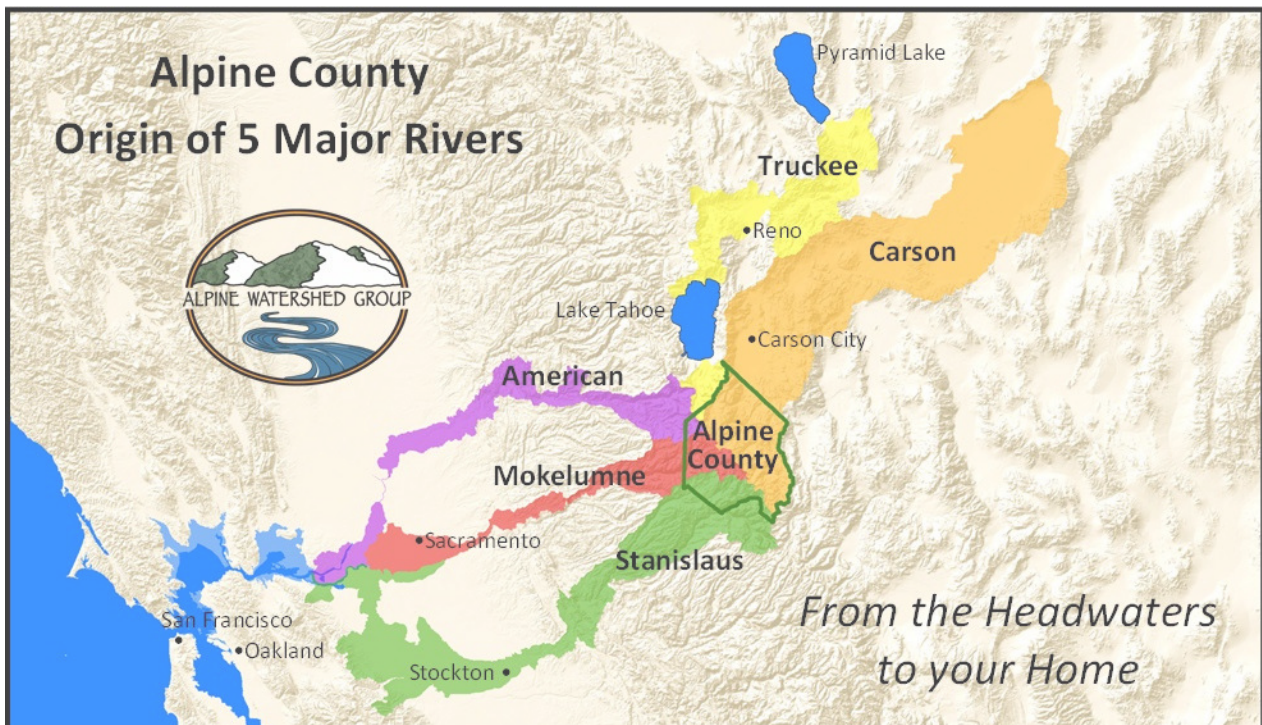


Citizen Science

Why monitoring matters:

AWG maintains a volunteer-supported monitoring program that has been measuring and recording water quality and watershed health in Alpine County since 2004. Volunteer monitoring helps establish a baseline dataset and measure restoration progress which assists AWG and land managers in better understanding the health of our local watersheds.

Alpine County is home to the headwaters of five major watersheds (the Carson, American, Truckee, Mokelumne, and Stanislaus Rivers) supplying clean drinking water to 5.3 million people in Western Nevada, California's Central Valley, and the San Francisco Bay Area; including the capitals of California and Nevada.



LEARN MORE: ALPINEWATERSHEDGROUP.ORG/MONITORING

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WATER QUALITY & STREAM FLOW



Ambient monitoring - Four times a year, volunteers conduct water quality monitoring for parameters that indicates vital signs of stream health. These parameters include water temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, total dissolved solids and turbidity. This data is analyzed by AWG staff and made available to the public on California Environmental Database Exchange Network (CEDEN) and Water Quality Exchange (WQX).

Stream level & flow - Twice a year, volunteers and staff install automatic data loggers at one or more stream sites. These devices measure water depth every 15 minutes. Volunteers also use flow gauges to measure the stream depth and velocity. This data helps evaluate restoration effects and short- and long- term weather and climate patterns.



HABITAT ASSESSMENT

Stream Walks, Physical Habitat Assessments and Bioassessment Field Surveys include visually assessing riparian health and collecting aquatic insects (called macroinvertebrates) on a numeric scale. These assessments gauge trends in aquatic habitat health.



PHOTO MONITORING

Photo point monitoring consists of repeat photography of an area of interest from the same exact point over a period of time. Visual comparisons of a restoration project help support and explain other types of restoration monitoring.



CITIZEN SCIENCE

AWG provides an initial training as well as ongoing learning opportunities. As a Volunteer Water Monitor, you will go out into the field with a partner or team on a regular basis to one of our monitoring sites. By being a part of the AWG volunteer team, you learn new skills, make friends, and contribute to the health of our watershed.



**JOIN US FOR OUR FIRST OF FOUR 2018 MONITORING EVENTS:
MARCH 10TH, JUNE 10TH, AUGUST 11TH, SEPTEMBER 15TH**

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