

Monitoring Water Quality and Watershed Processes Activities associated with the Angora Fire, South Lake Tahoe

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The 3,100 acre Angora Fire burned from June 24 to July 2, 2007



Monitoring efforts after the fire include stream sampling and ash and soil sampling.

Post Angora Fire Water Quality Monitoring



Stream Sampling

New USGS sampling site/streamflow gaging station: Angora Creek near mouth

Collection includes nutrient and suspended sediment samples and instantaneous discharge under the existing LTIMP program and costs will be covered under LTIMP program with funding by USFS.



Angora Creek at Washoe Meadows

Angora Creek gage near mouth

Samples at 3 Upper Truckee River LTIMP Sampling sites.

Angora Creek gage near mouth

Collection of samples is occurring at 3 Upper Truckee River sites: above and below the mouth of Angora Creek and one reference site. Continuous and real-time streamflow gaging stations and normal LTIMP sampling will continue to be operated at all sites.









Tahoe Science Consortium Addressing Science Needs in the Lake Tahoe Basin



Ash and Soil Sampling

On 7/30/07, researchers from the USGS California and Nevada Water Science Centers hiked in and collected ash and associated burned soil samples from 20 sites under various land uses and fire intensities.



Samples were collected for the USGS National Research Program for an Open-File Report on leachate geochemical data. The leaching studies are part of a larger interdisciplinary study whose goal is to identify geochemical characteristics and properties of the ash that may adversely affect human health, water quality, air quality, animal habitat, endangered species, debris flows, and flooding hazards. The leaching study helps characterize and understand the interactions that occur when the ash comes in contact with rain or snowmelt, and helps identify the constituents that may be mobilized as run-off from these materials. Similar leaching studies were conducted on ash and burned soils from the October 2007 southern California wildfires.



