

4.0 SOUTH LAKE TAHOE/STATELINE NUTRIENT LOADING

4.1 Description of Study Area

The aquifer that encompasses South Lake Tahoe, California and Stateline Nevada is, by far, the largest aquifer in the Lake Tahoe Basin. This is also where a majority of the development is located. It is bounded on the east by Emerald Bay and extends just north and west of Stateline Nevada. The watersheds from east to west in this area include Eagle Creek, Cascade Creek, Tallac Creek, Taylor Creek, Camp Richardson, Upper Truckee River, Trout Creek, Bijou Creek, Bijou Park, Edgewood Creek and Burke Creek. The area from Fallen Leaf Lake to the California/Nevada border was numerically modeled because of the extensive data available for this region. During the modeling process, this area was divided into four sub-regions (Fenske 2003). See Figure 4-1 for the delineation of the subregions.

Land development is extensive and consists of a wide variety of land uses. There are single family and multi-family residential neighborhoods intermixed with commercial complexes. Recreational sites such as golf courses, swimming beaches, and parks also abound, as tourism is the main attraction to this area.