

2021 QUARTERLY REPORT

TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY

First Quarter: January – March 2021



TAHOE
REGIONAL
PLANNING
AGENCY



TABLE OF CONTENTS

TRPA STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

<i>Building Resiliency:</i> Climate Change Strategic Initiative	2
<i>Keep Tahoe Moving:</i> Transportation & Sustainable Recreation Strategic Initiative	2
<i>Tahoe Living:</i> Housing & Community Revitalization Strategic Initiative	4
<i>Restoration Blueprint:</i> Environmental Improvement Program	6

ONGOING INITIATIVES AND ANNUAL ACTIVITIES

Long Range & Transportation Planning Division	8
Current Planning Division	8
Environmental Improvement Program Division	10
Research & Analysis Division	12
External Affairs	14
Finance, Information Technology, & Facilities	15
Human Resources	16

TRPA STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

TRPA is moving forward with strategic initiatives the Governing Board identified as major priorities for the agency. These initiatives align directly with the objectives in the agency's Strategic Plan.

BUILDING RESILIENCY: CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

Every TRPA initiative includes strategies to strengthen the resilience of Tahoe's environment, communities, and economy to the emerging stresses of climate change and to improve the region's sustainability. TRPA's Climate Change Strategic Initiative is harmonizing the goals of both states and local governments in the Tahoe Region while maintaining the region's reputation as a global leader in sustainability.

Basin-Wide Greenhouse Gas Emission (GHG) Inventory

This quarter, TRPA hosted a webinar to share draft results from the basin-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory update. The webinar was attended by 89 people and provided an opportunity for stakeholders and the public to provide feedback on the inventory. Key takeaways include the finding that GHG emissions decreased substantially from 2005 to 2018 and that Tahoe's forests and meadows sequester about 300,000 equivalent megatons of carbon dioxide every year, offsetting about 37 percent of the basin's annual emissions. The updated inventory will track progress toward reducing regional emissions and, for the first time, provide an inventory of the carbon sequestration potential of Tahoe's natural environment. The inventory will be completed in April and serve as the next step in updating the 2014 Lake Tahoe Sustainability Action Plan.

KEEP TAHOE MOVING: TRANSPORTATION & SUSTAINABLE RECREATION STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

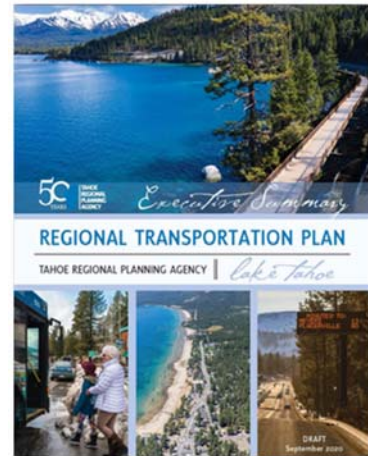
This initiative includes an update of the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, which encompasses GHG reduction, the Bi-State Consultation on Transportation Action Plan, sustainable recreation planning, and ongoing transportation corridor planning.

U.S. 50 East Shore Corridor Management Plan

Nevada Department of Transportation and the consultant team, Wood Rodgers, kicked off the U.S. 50 Lake Tahoe Corridor Management Plan this quarter with an Executive Steering Committee meeting in February followed by a Project Development Team meeting in March. The year-long planning process will identify a mobility vision, objectives, performance measurements, and improvement strategies based on existing regional plans, stakeholder input, and analysis for U.S. 50 in Nevada from Stateline to Spooner Summit. Over the next five months, the project team will analyze existing conditions and future potential scenarios to inform development of corridor alternatives to address the parking, neighborhood and trail access, safety, emergency response and evacuation, and multimodal transportation needs of the corridor.

Regional Transportation Plan Update

Tahoe's Regional Transportation Plan, the blueprint for connecting land uses to transportation services both regionally and inter-regionally, is being updated to emphasize improvements to transit, technology, and equity of access to further reduce GHG emissions and reliance on the auto. The final draft of the 2020 Regional Transportation Plan document was released to the public in March. The final draft plan contains a funding plan and other meaningful updates in response to input from stakeholders and the public. The draft plan will be presented for adoption through various boards and commissions and the TRPA Governing Board next quarter.



Project Impact Assessment and Air Quality Mitigation Fee Update

The project level transportation impact assessment and mitigation fee updates will provide a streamlined, transparent, and predictable process for projects that modify, change, or expand an existing or previous use resulting in additional vehicle miles traveled (VMT). Once approved, a new project impact assessment tool can be used by applicants to transparently determine significant impacts and mitigations; provide a streamlined review for less complex projects; and provide detailed analysis of potential impacts and mitigation recommendations on more complex projects. TRPA staff brought the recommended update as an information item to the Advisory Planning Commission in February and the Governing Board's Regional Plan Implementation Committee in March.

Goals of the modernized program include:

- Incentivizing development in low VMT areas
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- Promoting mobility
- Reducing reliance on the personal automobile

Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Threshold Standard Update

The Compact's success is measured by a system of adopted environmental standards (threshold standards) the vast majority of which are 40 years old, with many only remotely grounded in the most current science, circumstances, or policy. The current VMT standard, is one such example. It was adopted nearly 40 years ago out of concerns around oxides of nitrogen (NOx) loading and algal growth impacting lake clarity and was never set as a standard to measure the success of Tahoe's transportation system.

The proposed update to the threshold standard will for the first time ever, align the VMT threshold standard with the vision for a more walkable, bikeable, transit-oriented, sustainable Tahoe, laid out in the Regional Plan and Regional Transportation Plan. The proposed adaptive management framework for the threshold standard establishes a series of milestones to work towards, and links directly to the funding necessary to achieve that vision.

The proposed update to be considered by the TRPA Governing Board in April 2021, brings Tahoe's transportation system into the twenty-first century with updates to its outdated 40-year-old transportation regulatory, planning, and implementation structure. Fifty years ago, the Compact established a goal to "reduce dependency on the automobile by making more effective use of existing transportation modes and of public transit to move people and goods within the region." The proposed update formally establishes that goal as a threshold standard.

TAHOE LIVING: HOUSING & COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

This initiative addresses strategies for implementing affordable and achievable workforce housing as a key component of the region's communities, the Regional Plan, the housing needs identified in the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, and the Regional Housing Needs Allocation.

Tahoe Living: Working Group Gets to Work

In January, the Governing Board and Local Government and Housing Committee approved the Tahoe Living Working Group's priority housing actions for implementation over the next three to 12 months. Priorities include making it easier to use accessory dwelling units (ADUs) and to examine TRPA's density requirements to better incentivize walkable communities and workforce housing close to town centers. Approved priorities and timing are:

Land Use Action	Policy Action	Timeframe
ADUs/Small Homes	Density	Near Term
Mixed Use Residential	Permitting	Medium Term
Tourist/Commercial Conversion to Residential Land Donations	Coverage Fees	Long Term

Tahoe Living Working Group's priority housing actions for implementation over the next three to 12 months.

Local Jurisdictions and Partners Make Progress on the Ground

During this quarter, local government partners and TRPA amended two area plans to facilitate the construction of affordable housing.

- **Placer County Tahoe Basin Area Plan Housing Amendments:** Placer County brought forward major housing amendments to its Tahoe Basin Area Plan this quarter to encourage a greater variety of workforce housing types, including increasing options for constructing ADUs, allowing multi-family, multi-person, and employee housing types in more districts close to transit and town centers, and increasing

multi-person housing densities to allow the flexibility needed for dorms, senior housing, or other shared-living housing types. Since approval of these amendments in January, TRPA has received three applications for deed restricted ADUs in Placer County.

- **Sugar Pine Village Affordable Housing and City of South Lake Tahoe Tahoe Valley Area Plan Amendments:** As part of the Sugar Pine Village Affordable Housing Project collaborative planning work, TRPA brought forward an amendment to the Tahoe Valley Area Plan that improves coverage and parking incentives for mixed-use, residential/public service projects. These amendments support the Sugar Pine Village Affordable Housing Project itself, which the Governing Board approved in January. The 248-unit Sugar Pine Village project is a success story of multiple partners coming together to accelerate funding and approvals of critical workforce and affordable housing in a town center, the South Tahoe “Y.” The project, which was made possible through a ground lease on two parcels owned by the California Tahoe Conservancy, will provide residents with new, high quality sustainable housing that supports active transportation, biking and walking, access to transit, and connects residents, workers, and their families to nearby trails.



The Sugar Pine Village Affordable Housing Project is a successful partnership between Related Development, Saint Joseph Community Land Trust, the California Tahoe Conservancy, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, the City of South Lake Tahoe, El Dorado County, and the California Department of General Services, and received key support from other local partners such as the Tahoe Prosperity Center, the Chamber of Commerce, League to Save Lake Tahoe, Barton Health, El Dorado Early Child Care and Education Planning Council and other key stakeholders and community members.

Housing Workshops:

- **Missing Middle:** The Local Government and Housing Committee hosted a workshop in early January on “Missing Middle” housing. In total, 111 people attended the webinar. The guest speaker, Tony Perez from Opticos Design, illustrated how the layering of prescriptive density, parking, setback, and other zoning regulations over time has led to a smaller and smaller area in which to provide housing, limiting options for the diversity of housing types needed to support walkable communities.



Illustration of a neighborhood with a mix of housing types that support “missing middle” households.

- **Accessory Dwelling Units:** As a follow-up, TRPA hosted a public webinar at the end of March discussing how ADUs can help address affordable and achievable housing needs. Over 95 people participated in the webinar.

RESTORATION BLUEPRINT: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

This initiative includes implementing transportation and community revitalization projects of regional significance, seeking additional funding sources for the Environmental Improvement Program (EIP), creating forest health implementation tools based on the results from the Lake Tahoe West landscape-scale restoration project, implementing the Aquatic Invasive Species Control Action Plan Agenda, and focusing on areawide stormwater management projects with multiple benefits. EIP restoration programs will be responsive to climate adaptation and resilience measures as they are developed under the Climate Change Strategic Initiative.

Lake Tahoe West Forest and Watershed Health Restoration Partnership

The West Shore landscape, more than 60,000 acres of over dense, second growth forest, is highly vulnerable to severe wildfire, drought, insect and disease outbreaks, and the growing impacts of climate change. The Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership is a landscape-scale forest resilience project forging the future of collaborative forest management practices at Lake Tahoe. With vital support from TRPA staff, the partnership will achieve multiple benefits through forest thinning, prescribed fire, reforestation, and restoration of forests, meadows, streams, and wildlife habitat. The ultimate goal is to make communities safer while improving the resilience of Tahoe’s landscape to future disturbances.

This quarter, the Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership continued to develop and refine a project description/proposed action for environmental review and analysis. The facilitation team convened an integration team of lead agency representatives to identify the most efficient path forward for the Lake Tahoe West environmental document.

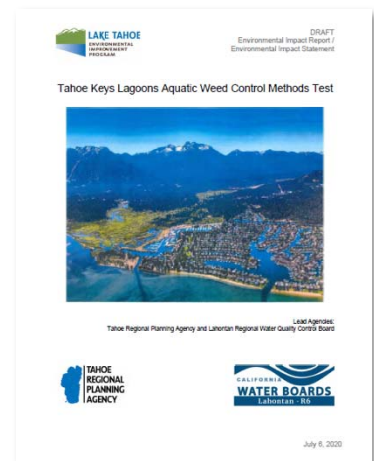
Code of Ordinance Changes in Support of Vegetation Protection and Management Provisions

With the severity of fires growing season over season, forest management and fire agencies at every level of government have been looking hard at the efficiency of forest management practices. TRPA has been streamlining, removing redundancy, and adding best practices to vegetation provisions of the Regional Plan as well.

Staff began drafting a white paper on mobile biomass utilization and emergent technologies in the Tahoe Region to understand barriers and constraints, benefits, and partner agency recommendations. Mobile biomass utilization technologies could require an update to TRPA air quality ordinances. This white paper will assess partner recommendations, available technologies, and whether Regional Plan amendments are required to further streamline forest management practices .

Tahoe Keys Weed Management Environmental Documentation

Aquatic weeds in the Tahoe Keys lagoons are the highest priority aquatic invasive species control threat in the Tahoe Region. In response to the need to control and prevent the spread of the abundant growth of non-native and nuisance aquatic weeds, the Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association (TKPOA) worked with agencies and key stakeholders to develop a permit application for the Tahoe Keys Lagoons Aquatic Weeds Control Methods Test. The proposed control methods test will evaluate a range of aquatic weed control methods independently and in combination in the Tahoe Keys lagoons.



TRPA and the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Lahontan) continue to work with the environmental consultants responding to comments received on the Draft Environmental Impact Report/Statement. Responses to comments will be available when the Final EIR/EIS is released later in 2021. Lahontan continues to work on the anti-degradation analysis and working with TKPOA to develop monitoring and mitigation plans for peer review. More information can be found at www.tahoekeysw weeds.org.

Ski Run “Mountain to Marina” Green Infrastructure Project

Area wide projects like this one that elevate the role of natural infiltration strategies are a centerpiece of meeting water quality standards as well as multiple-benefit adaptations to climate change. During this quarter, work continued collecting stakeholder input on opportunities and constraints for multiple-benefit green infrastructure in the watersheds draining to Ski Run Marina, including drafting an online public survey. The project will identify green infrastructure opportunities for regional stormwater treatment, parking, bike and pedestrian connectivity, enhanced recreation access, and enhancements for wildlife.

Tahoe Keys Green Infrastructure Project

Staff continues to pursue funding opportunities for the Tahoe Keys Green Infrastructure Project. This project involves implementation of innovative regional stormwater technologies in the Tahoe Keys subdivision such as modular floating treatment wetlands. This regional treatment approach with public and private partnerships will help improve water quality and enhance wildlife habitat and help protect investments in aquatic invasive species control within the Tahoe Keys lagoons.

ONGOING INITIATIVES AND ANNUAL ACTIVITIES

LONG RANGE & TRANSPORTATION PLANNING DIVISION

Meeks Bay Restoration Project

The planning team for the Meeks Bay Restoration Project have prepared a range of environmental alternatives as required by NEPA, CEQA, and TRPA. The alternatives represent varying levels of recreation and infrastructure improvements, with stream restoration, including potential removal of the marina, as the element central to each of the action alternatives. The alternatives reflect input received over nearly a year of public engagement as well as a site constraints analysis. The planning team presented the alternatives at a public workshop in January with 95 attendees and to the Regional Plan Implementation Committee. The planning team will continue to solicit feedback on the project design through an interactive online tool, the stakeholder forum, and the project website. Later this year, the lead agencies (USDA Forest Service, TRPA, and Lahontan) will propose a preferred project alternative based on public feedback and findings from the draft environmental analyses. More information can be found at the project website www.meeksbayproject.org.

Washoe County Area Plan Adopted by Washoe County

Following years of determined collaboration, the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners adopted the Washoe County Area Plan in January. The area plan will streamline permitting and encourage environmental redevelopment for the community of Incline Village. The plan will be reviewed by the Regional Plan Implementation Committee in April and is expected to be before the Governing Board soon after. This area plan would be the first in the Washoe County portion of the basin and helps advance threshold attainment and Regional Plan goals and policies.

CURRENT PLANNING DIVISION

Permit Application Review

The number of permit applications submitted this quarter was in line with the number submitted during the same period a year ago. Compared to the first quarter of 2020, residential project applications increased by 25 percent in the first quarter of 2021. COVID-19 closures accelerated the development and availability of online application submittals

and 72 percent of applications during the first quarter were submitted electronically, up from only 25 percent electronically submitted during the first quarter of 2020.

Summary of TRPA Project Applications Received All Quarters 2020 through Quarter 1 2021					
	Q1 CY2020	Q2 CY2020	Q3 CY2020	Q4 CY2020	Q1 CY2021
Applications Received¹	244	234	270	201	251
Residential Projects ²	41	64	71	41	71
Commercial Projects ²	4	0	5	0	4
Recreation/Public Service Projects ²	9	4	7	9	8
Environmental Improvement Construction Projects	1	1	3	1	5
Shorezone/Lakezone Projects ²	17	10	15	6	12
Grading Projects	8	11	15	3	7
Verifications and Banking ³	95	64	102	95	67
Buoys	38	48	20	19	16
Transfers of Development	9	7	10	3	24
Other ⁴	22	25	22	24	37
Notes: (Data is sourced from TRPA Accela Permit Records)					
1 Does not include Exempt projects, Qualified Exempt declarations, Tree Removal applications, or Administrative applications					
2 Includes New Development and Additions/Modification					
3 Includes Soils/Hydrology Verifications, IPES, Land Capability Verifications, Land Capability Challenges, Verifications of Coverage, Verifications of Uses, Site Assessments and standalone Banking Applications					
4 Includes Historic Determinations, Lot Line Adjustments, Temporary projects, Scenic, Underground Tank Removal, Subdivision of Existing Uses, Signs, Allocation Assignments, and other miscellaneous project types					

Hearings Officer Meetings

The Hearings Officer approved 12 project applications this quarter, including:

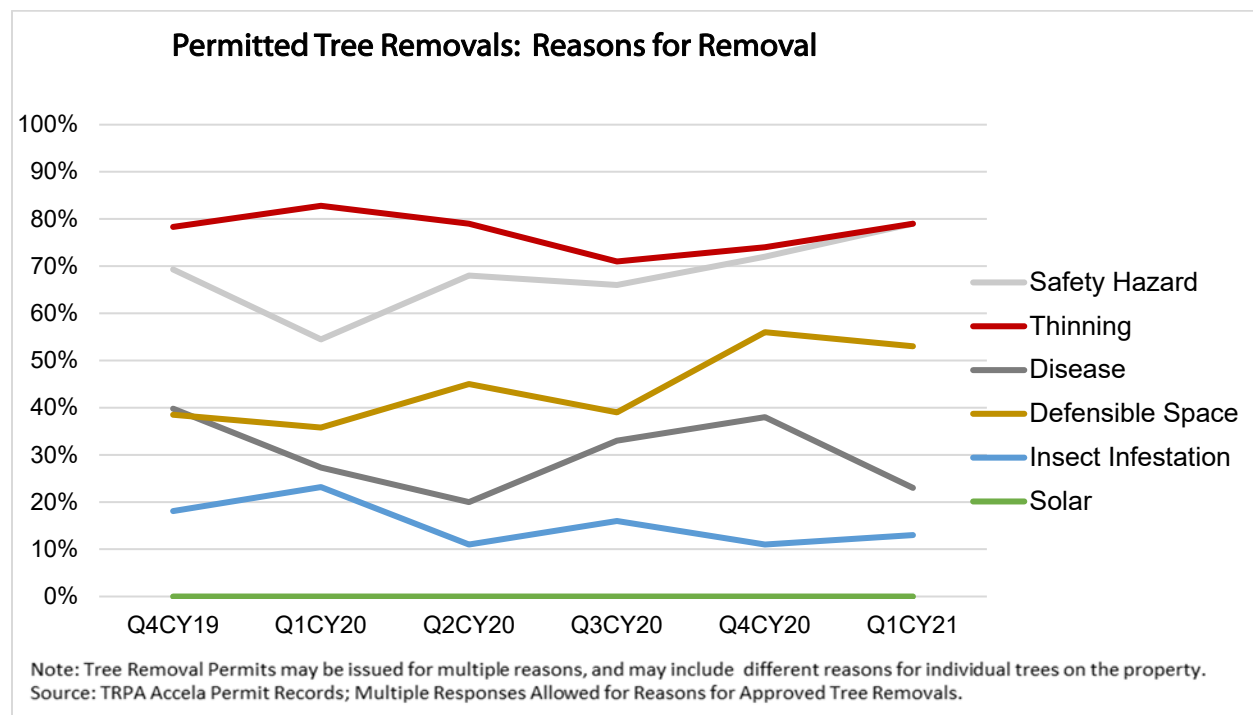
- Approval of a lake-wide aquatic invasive species control project to control existing infestations in Lake Tahoe, its tributaries, marshes and wetlands and the Truckee River but not within the lagoons of the Tahoe Keys, which is being considered under a separate permit application.
- Approval of a monopine cellular communications tower near the top of Tahoe Mountain in El Dorado County to provide wireless, hi-speed broadband internet to the surrounding community, cellular service to nearby residences, and to nearby public roadways.
- Additions to two historic residences
- Eight land capability challenge applications.

Urban Forestry/Tree Removal Permits on Private Property

TRPA forester Bruce Barr is part of a network of forestry and fire professionals in the Tahoe Basin who help private landowners keep their property safe and defensible from wildfire. He provides expertise in tree risk assessment and serves property owners with thorough

tree evaluations. In the first quarter of 2021, TRPA received 200 tree removal applications, almost double the number submitted in the first quarter of 2020. TRPA permitted the removal of 887 individual trees during the first quarter with thinning and safety hazard being the primary reasons for removal.

Summary of TRPA Tree Removal Applications & Permitting Activity Quarter 1 2020 through Quarter 1 2021					
	Q1 CY2020	Q2 CY2020	Q3 CY2020	Q4 CY2020	Q1 CY2021
Tree Removal Applications Received	103	485	557	238	200
Number of Trees Permitted for Removal	466	2,018	2,390	1,022	887
Percent Applications Submitted Online	82%	94%	92%	90%	92%
Source : TRPA Accela Permit Records					



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM DIVISION

Stormwater Management Program

Best Management Practices (BMP) Certificates Issued: TRPA, in partnership with the states and federal government, establishes the water quality programs for the region and looks to implementers in every sector to carry out those programs. The Stormwater Management Program at TRPA targets priority properties for BMP compliance in coordination with local jurisdictions to achieve required pollutant load reductions to improve Lake Tahoe's impaired water quality. TRPA itself issues BMP certificates to private property owners to recognize a parcel's compliance with stormwater management requirements in TRPA's Code of Ordinances. Concentrating BMP

compliance on commercial and large multi-family (six units or more) properties reduces more pollutant load compared to single-family residential properties.

This quarter, TRPA issued 17 BMP certificates: 10 for single-family residential parcels, one for multi-family residential parcels, and six for commercial parcels. Of the total, four are source control certificates and one was the result of accelerated enforcement. Cumulative year-to-date BMP certificates issued for 2021 are shown in the table below:

BMP Certificates issued from January 1 through March 30, 2021					
California	Land Use	Total Certificates Issued Year to Date	Certificates Issued Through Permitted Projects	Certificates Issued Through Voluntary Compliance	Certificates Issued Through Enforced Compliance
	Single-Family Residential	7	5	2	0
	Multi-Family Residential	1	1	0	0
	Commercial	5	0	5	0
	California Total	13	6	7	0
Nevada	Single-Family Residential	3	1	1	1
	Multi-Family Residential	0	0	0	0
	Commercial	1	0	1	0
	Nevada Total	4	1	2	1
	Total Certificates Issued	17	7	9	1

Reissued Certificates: During this quarter, TRPA reissued eight BMP certificates following verification of BMP maintenance and effectiveness. Five of these were for single-family residential parcels, one for a multi-family residence, and two for commercial parcels.

Shoreline BMP Handbook Update: Stormwater Management staff completed review this quarter of prescriptive BMP factsheets for shoreline parcels doing exempt and qualified exempt activities.

Aquatic Invasive Species Program

Prevention: AIS Program staff have developed a new online appointment system for boat inspections for the upcoming season. The system will launch on April 1 for boat inspections this summer.

TRPA staff held annual marina trainings on seal inspection and data collection protocols. Boat inspector job openings have been posted in preparation of the upcoming boating season.

Control: TRPA continues to work with the USDA Forest Service and its contractor to prepare for AIS control work at Taylor and Tallac creeks and marshes. Fencing to urge recreators from entering the project work areas has been installed along with signs educating the public on the upcoming work. The bottom barriers for this control work will be installed next quarter.

TRPA and Tahoe Resource Conservation District are working with the owner of Ski Run Marina to begin work to complement the Laminar Flow Aeration pilot that is in place in the marina. Control work is planned on an existing infestation in the channel, lakeward of the marina, and is one of the highest priority locations for control work in the lake.

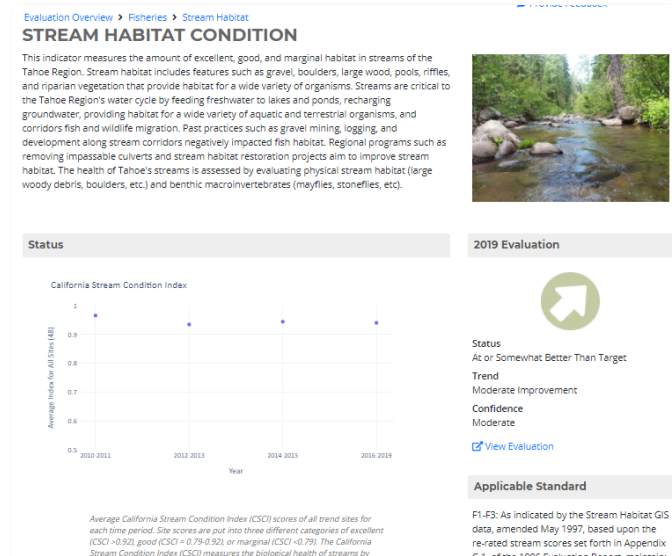
Piloting new UV light treatment technology is being ramped up this year. Treatments are planned at three locations covering eight acres, including at least four acres in the Tahoe Keys lagoons. These treatments are expected to start next quarter and represent a 400 percent increase in UV light treatment work done over previous seasons.

RESEARCH & ANALYSIS DIVISION

2019 Threshold Evaluation Dashboard Released

Every four years, TRPA leads the development of a threshold evaluation report. It is a point-in-time snapshot that assesses conditions relative to the goals of the adopted threshold standards. The 2019 Threshold Evaluation was released for review in March and is the seventh comprehensive evaluation since the Regional Plan was adopted in 1987. The 2019 Threshold Evaluation marks a major milestone for the Tahoe Region and is the first evaluation presented primarily as an online, interactive dashboard at <https://thresholds.laketahoeinfo.org>.

The dashboard's format is modeled on best practices for presenting dynamic, complex information to the public, decisionmakers, and stakeholders. The format makes layers of information far more transparent and readily accessible, better links regional actions to outcomes, and allows for real-time updates without waiting for the four-year reporting cycle. A final 2019 Threshold Evaluation will be back before the Governing Board for acceptance in the next quarter.



Example of a threshold indicator page on the new, interactive 2019 Threshold Evaluation dashboard.

Parcel Tracker Updates & File Requests

The Lake Tahoe Info Parcel Tracker (<https://parcels.laketahoeinfo.org/>) is the best source of detailed public information about the land use characteristics of properties in the Lake Tahoe Region. TRPA staff reviewed and updated information on 482 parcels in the tracker during the quarter. TRPA responded to 172 unique requests from property owners, real estate agents, and local government partners for updated permitting information on parcels, up more than 30 percent from the same quarter last year. The number of help requests submitted and the number of parcels updated are up due to awareness of the site's usefulness becoming more widespread.



While the front counter remains closed, public requests to review files continue to be satisfied electronically. During this quarter, staff received 144 individual requests to view files with most requesting to view multiple files. With each request, TRPA staff converts a paper file to electronic format to increase the number of scanned files. Research & Analysis team members converted 268 complete files this quarter.

Geographic Information Systems Updates

TRPA's operating goal is to be the region's best source of GIS information and services. During this quarter, staff made several updates to the agency's geographic information systems. Specifically:

- **Upgraded GIS SQL databases** to the latest ArcGIS release to take advantage of new functionality.
- Supported Long Range Planning Division's foundation for a **region-wide Trails Master Plan**.
 - Gathered and modified data from multiple sources to create a comprehensive spatial layer of recreation trails in the Tahoe Region.
 - Created a web map application that allows stakeholders to provide further input and improvements to recreation trail data (<http://gis.trpa.org/trails/>).
- Updated all GIS dataset and website links to the **new TRPA website**.
- Created an **interactive dashboard for the Code Compliance Team** to display all active construction projects in the region (<https://trpa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/5655e1cb85134bba8b97d3f55ada3d31>).
- **Improved Tahoe Open Data** to include PDFs of commonly downloaded maps. Also added a 'Featured Apps' section to highlight the most used web mapping sites.
- Created a **Fire District Map** to allow property owners to lookup which fire district they are in (<https://gis.trpa.org/firedistrict/>).
- Updated all parcel-based systems with parcel genealogy.
- Created 194 different interactive maps and data visualizations for the **2019 Threshold Evaluation** that can be viewed on the Threshold Dashboard on Lake Tahoe Info (<https://thresholds.laketahoeinfo.org/>).

- **Overhauled the scenic threshold data model.** Created new features, viewpoints, and related records which allows for new ways to display the scenic data and associated photos on Lake Tahoe Info and web maps.
- Created an **EIP Economic Report Map**.
- Create a **parcel-level analysis for the Stormwater Management Team** on potential site constraints.
- **Updated the Permit Review app** with new data and requested functionality. The app brings all the data layers necessary for review of a project into one place to streamline permit review.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

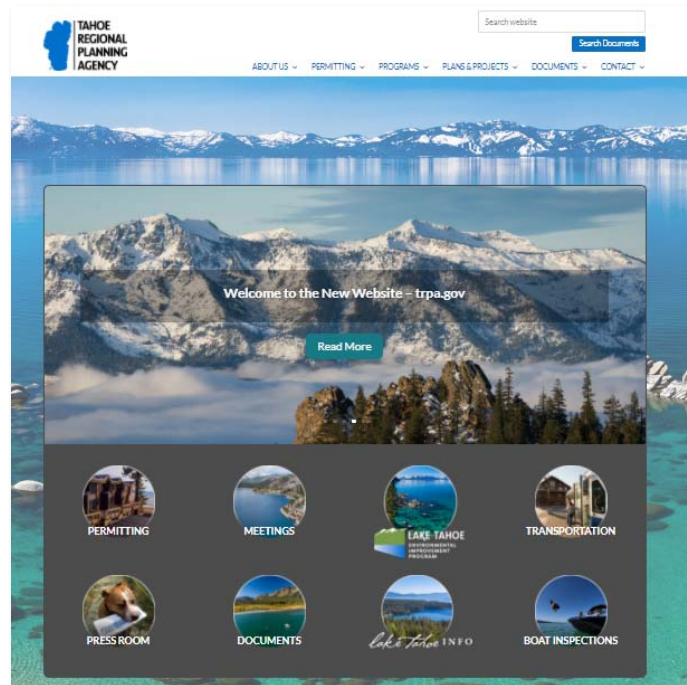
TRPA supports a culture committed to public education, outreach, and community engagement to implement the Regional Plan. The External Affairs team leads public engagement initiatives in collaboration with a variety of agency and nonprofit stakeholders. This quarter, the team provided multi-faceted communications support for each of the Strategic Initiatives approved by the TRPA Governing Board.

Legislative Affairs:

- Continued supporting the Bi-State Consultation on Transportation where work on long-term transportation funding solutions is underway.
- Supported completion and submission of the bi-state agency budget requests.
- Participated in a federal transportation roundtable hosted by U.S. Senator Cortez Masto (D, Nev.) and highlighted Lake Tahoe's urgent transportation needs.
- Assisted crafting annual budget reports to Nevada and California legislative representatives.

Education, Outreach, and Engagement

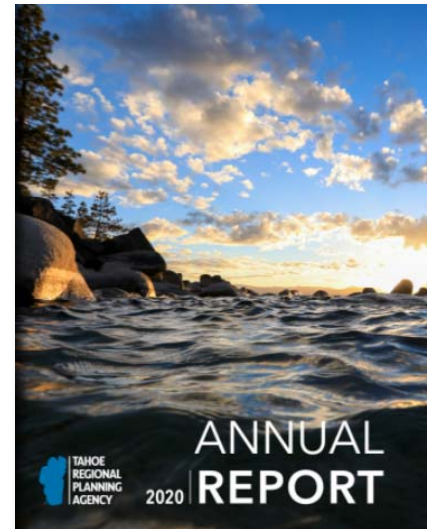
- Culminated the year-long project to **replace the aging agency website** with the launch of <https://www.trpa.gov/> and held staff trainings.
- Continued to host weekly **Sustainable Recreation land managers working group** and public information team calls. Assisted the organization and execution of the first post-COVID-19 interagency Sustainable Recreation workshop in partnership with



Screenshot of the home page of <https://www.trpa.gov/>

the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit and the Tahoe Fund.

- Produced the **2020 Annual Report**. The 20-page report highlights key 2020 accomplishments and future focuses by program area as well as project spotlights. The report can be found on the TRPA website at https://www.trpa.gov/wp-content/uploads/documents/annual_reports/Annual_Report_2020_Final/index-h5.html?page=1.
- Provided design and editing for public-facing documents including the **Lake Tahoe Restoration Act Priority List**, **2020 Regional Transportation Plan Executive Summary**, **Sustainable Recreation Workshop report**, and a transportation funding fact sheet.
- Continued the #TeamTRPA series of staff biographies on social media.
- Drafted the **Lahontan Cutthroat Trout communications plan** under the new recovery team Coordinating Committee structure.
- Provided **regular television interviews** on Lake Tahoe Television and special broadcast interviews for national audiences during Operation Sierra Storm and the National Hockey League Outdoor Classic.
- Supported aquatic invasive species watercraft inspections and Tahoe Keys AIS control team with website support, e-newsletters, media relations, and other outreach.



FINANCE, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, & FACILITIES

Finance Update

TRPA completed three quarters of fiscal year 2020/21 and is working with both states to establish budgets for fiscal year 2022. Those budgets are processing through the normal legislative process and will be finalized before the end of the fiscal year. TRPA continues to execute on fiscal year 2021 budgets that were reduced due to the impacts of COVID-19. Despite the reductions, programmatic requirements are being met. Planning revenues remain strong as project applications are running at high levels possibly because the pandemic has reportedly increased real estate activity in the Tahoe Region. Planning and aquatic invasive species fees for the upcoming year have been approved and incorporated into billing systems.

Facilities/IT Update

TRPA has completed a full year of working remotely. The agency is now planning for the future, incorporating the lessons learned and achievements of the past 12 months and seeing how they will apply to future operations. Paradigms about how to serve the public are changing, and TRPA intends to lead in delivering services in a more effective way by discarding outdated, less efficient processes. For example, the agency has significantly

increased online permitting and pivoted to electronic communications and workflows. This replaces the need for applicants to travel to the TRPA offices for business. This is a major advantage for North or West shore residents and those property owners who are not permanent residents in the region.

TRPA refinanced its long-term debt last year. The refinancing included \$500,000 to complete long-deferred maintenance and necessary building repairs. Planning and contracting for those repairs is underway.

HUMAN RESOURCES

A Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Team formed with representation across TRPA. This group has identified a mission and vision and is working on action plans. The Agency is reviewing processes such as recruiting to ensure equity and delivered a virtual training on “Implicit and Unconscious Bias.” Participants will follow up on this learning experience to identify relevant actions on an individual and organization-wide basis. Human Resources facilitated an ongoing “Manager and Leader Foundations” workshop, which focused on follow up to an earlier workplace engagement survey.

The Legal Team continued a series of edifying “Lunch and Learn” webinars for staff. The first webinar titled “Open Meeting Law & Public Records Request Training” was attended by 26 members of staff and challenged attendees on their knowledge and interpretation of open meeting law and Freedom of Information Act and their application. This was followed in February by additional sessions focused on Article V and VI of the TRPA Compact.

TRPA welcomed a new staff member in early March. Georgina Balkwell joined the Current Planning Team as a Senior Management Assistant, replacing Kacey Davy who was promoted to Senior Accountant in the Finance Team. Georgina’s previous role was as the Librarian and District Textbook Coordinator with Lake Tahoe Unified Schools. We are excited to have Georgina on the TRPA Team.