TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY
Lake Tahoe ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

TRPA
PO Box 5310
128 Market Street
Stateline, NV 89449

STAFF REPORT

Date: July 15, 2026

To: TRPA Governing Board

From: TRPA Staff

Subject: Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) Projects

Summary and Staff Recommendation:

Created in 1997, the Lake Tahoe Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) is a collaborative capital investment program to accelerate the attainment of Lake Tahoe's environmental threshold standards. More than 80 partners from local, state, and federal government agencies, private entities, scientists, and the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California are working together to restore the environmental health of Lake Tahoe. This network of partners collaborates across jurisdictions to establish priorities, leverage funding, and implement projects. Together, the partnership is implementing projects that not only improve the environment but also enhance recreation opportunities and revitalize communities.

The EIP has four focus areas: 1) Forest Health, 2) Watersheds and Water Quality, 3) Sustainable Recreation and Transportation, and 4) Science, Stewardship, and Accountability. TRPA staff will present priority plans and projects within each EIP focus area scheduled for 2026. Staff will also provide an update on projects the Governing Board has approved in recent years.

The projects highlighted in the presentation are a snapshot of regionally significant projects across the Lake Tahoe Basin and do not include every project being implemented in 2026. Staff will provide a high-level overview of projects within each focus area.

Forest Health projects restore forests to reduce the risk of wildfires and improve habitat. Projects to be highlighted include:

- Glenbrook Underground
- Burton Forest Restoration
- South Shore Fuels Treatment Project
- Van Sickle Hazardous Fuels Reduction
- NV Energy Resilience Corridors Project
- Liberty Utilities Resilience Corridors

Watershed and Water Quality projects treat stormwater runoff, stabilize slopes, restore floodplains, and improve wildlife habitat. Projects to be highlighted include:

- Tahoe Valley Stormwater and Greenbelt
- Upper Third and Rosewood Creeks Water Quality Improvement Project
- Upper Bijou Park Creek Restoration Project
- Third Creek Fish Management Structure
- Non-motorized Aquatic Invasive Species Cleaning Stations
- Tahoe Keys Fragmentation Containment

Sustainable Recreation projects improve access to the outdoors while protecting natural resources. Transportation projects are not included as they were covered in the May 2026 Governing Board meeting. Projects to be highlighted include:

- Dianne Feinstein West Shore Trail Rehabilitation
- Heavenly Multi-Use Trails
- North Tahoe Regional Park Community Gathering Space
- Tunnel Creek Alternative Trail
- Spooner Mobility Hub and Permanent Aquatic Invasive Species Inspection Station

Science, Stewardship, and Accountability projects ensure EIP investments are guided by science and engage local communities in stewardship of the region. Projects to be highlighted include:

- Tahoe Blue Crew
- Tahoe Eyes on the Lake Program
- Tahoe yellow cress volunteer planting
- TRPA Biodiversity and Recreation Threshold Update
- Augmented Water Quality Monitoring for Lake Tahoe

This item is for informational purposes only, and no action is required.

Contact Information:
For questions regarding this agenda item, please contact Shannon Friedman at 775-589-5205 or sfriedman@trpa.gov.

Public Comment:

- Written: Please submit comments by 3 p.m. the day before the meeting.
- Email: You may email comments to publiccomment@trpa.gov. Include meeting details and agenda item in the subject line or write "General Comment" for non-agenda items.
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