

Tahoe Regional Trails Strategy

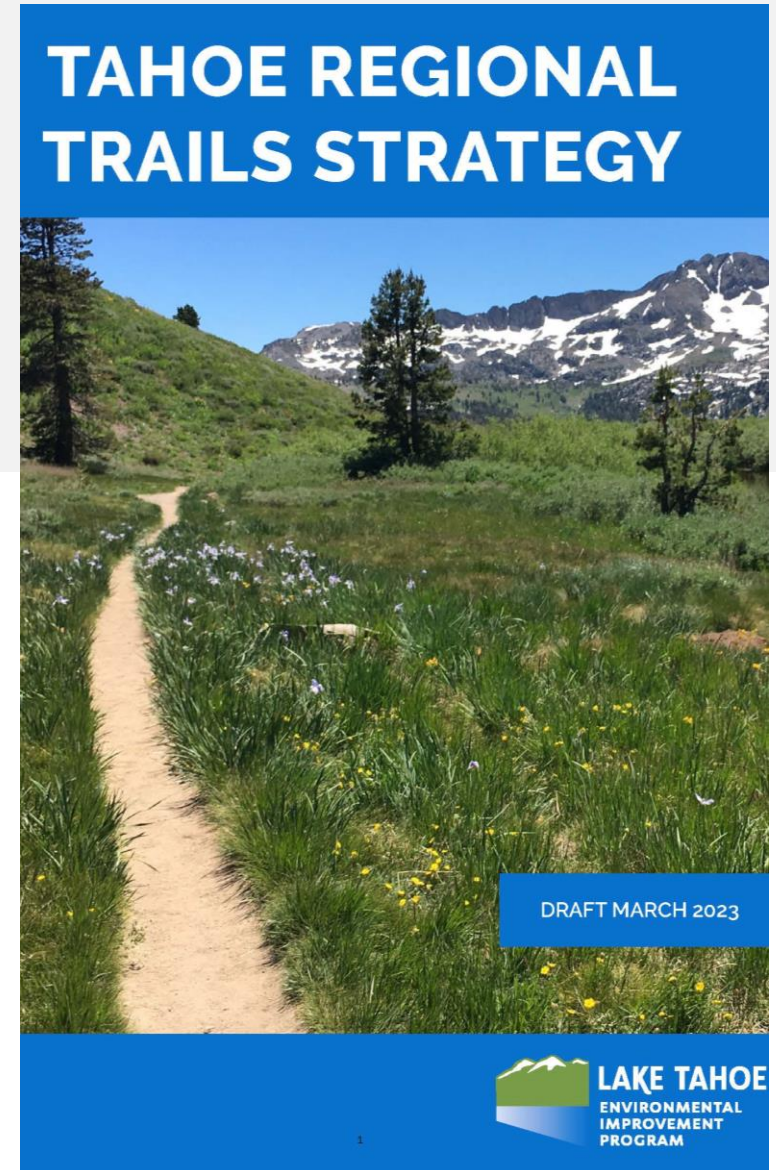
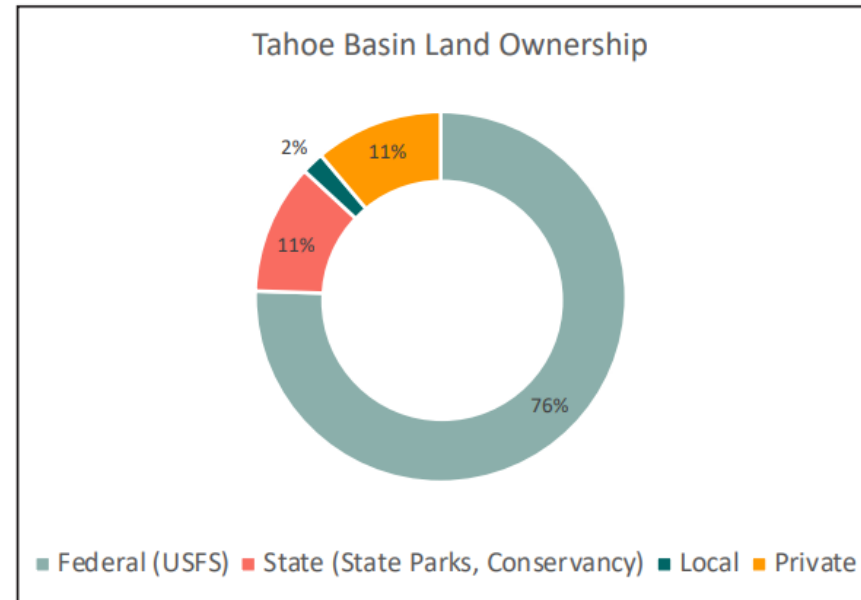
Governing Board

5/24/23



Why a Regional Trails Strategy?

- Shared long-term vision for trail network among all agencies
- Regional perspective to trail planning, building, & funding
- Build coordination between agencies to enhance implementation of priorities



Regional Trails Strategy Partners





The strategy includes:

- Fifteen-year vision for a connected, high-quality, and accessible regional trails network for Tahoe
- A list of environmental improvement projects that improve existing trails and trailheads, create new trail connectors, new trailheads, and decommission existing unsustainable trails
- A mapped inventory of trails and trailheads
- Funding options and strategies to implement the priority project list
- Recommendations for consistent signage between land managers



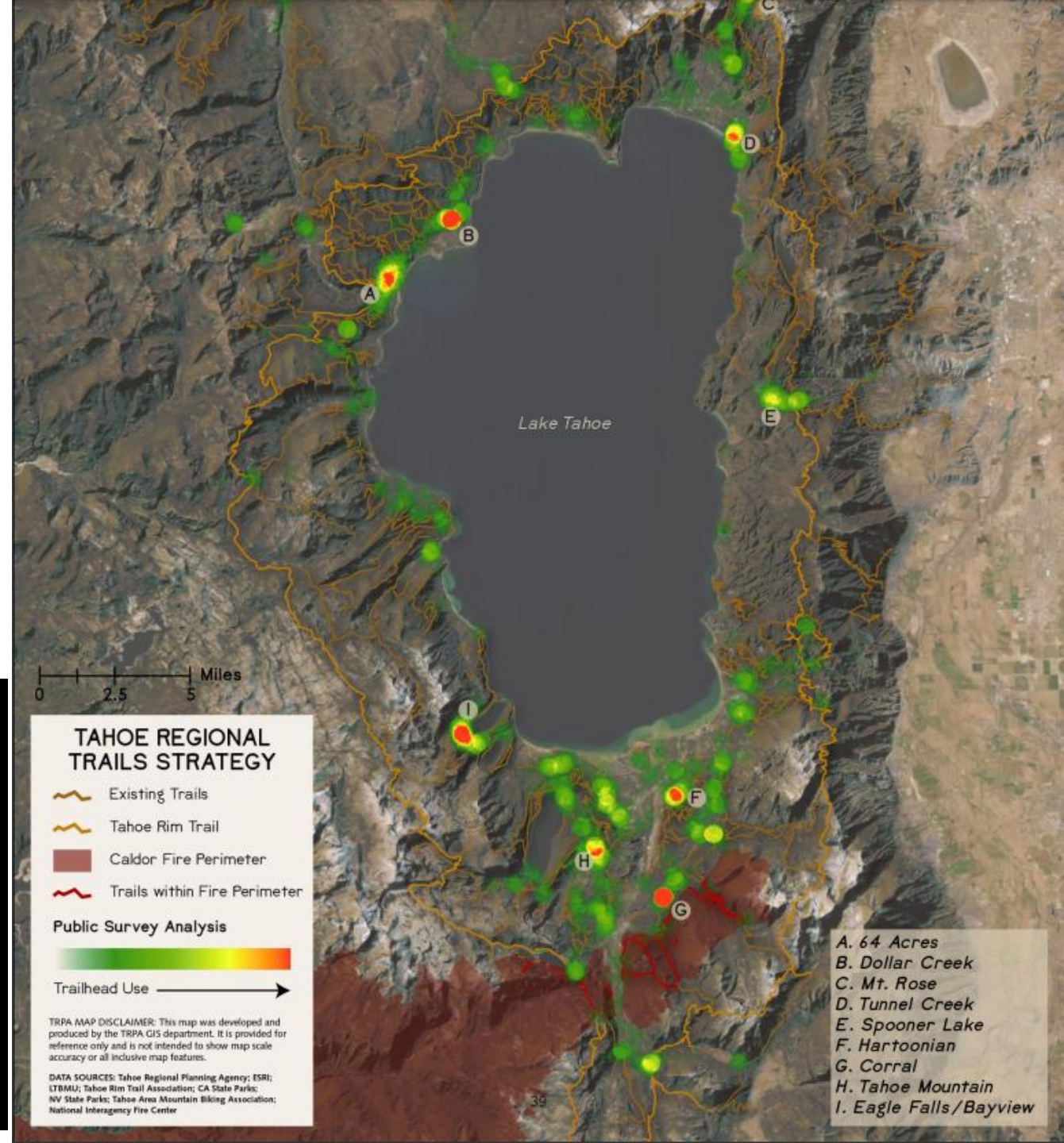
Environmental Review & Permitting

- Projects subject to standard environmental review
- Environmental review requirements dependent on state and jurisdiction

Data Collection & Public Outreach

- Mapped inventory of Tahoe's existing trails
- Stakeholders helped determine scope of strategy
- Public helped determine where improvements should be focused

Barriers to Accessing Trails (stakeholder assessment):



Goals of the Regional Trails Strategy



ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE



CONNECTED



EQUITABLE



ENJOYABLE



FEASIBLE

Project Evaluation

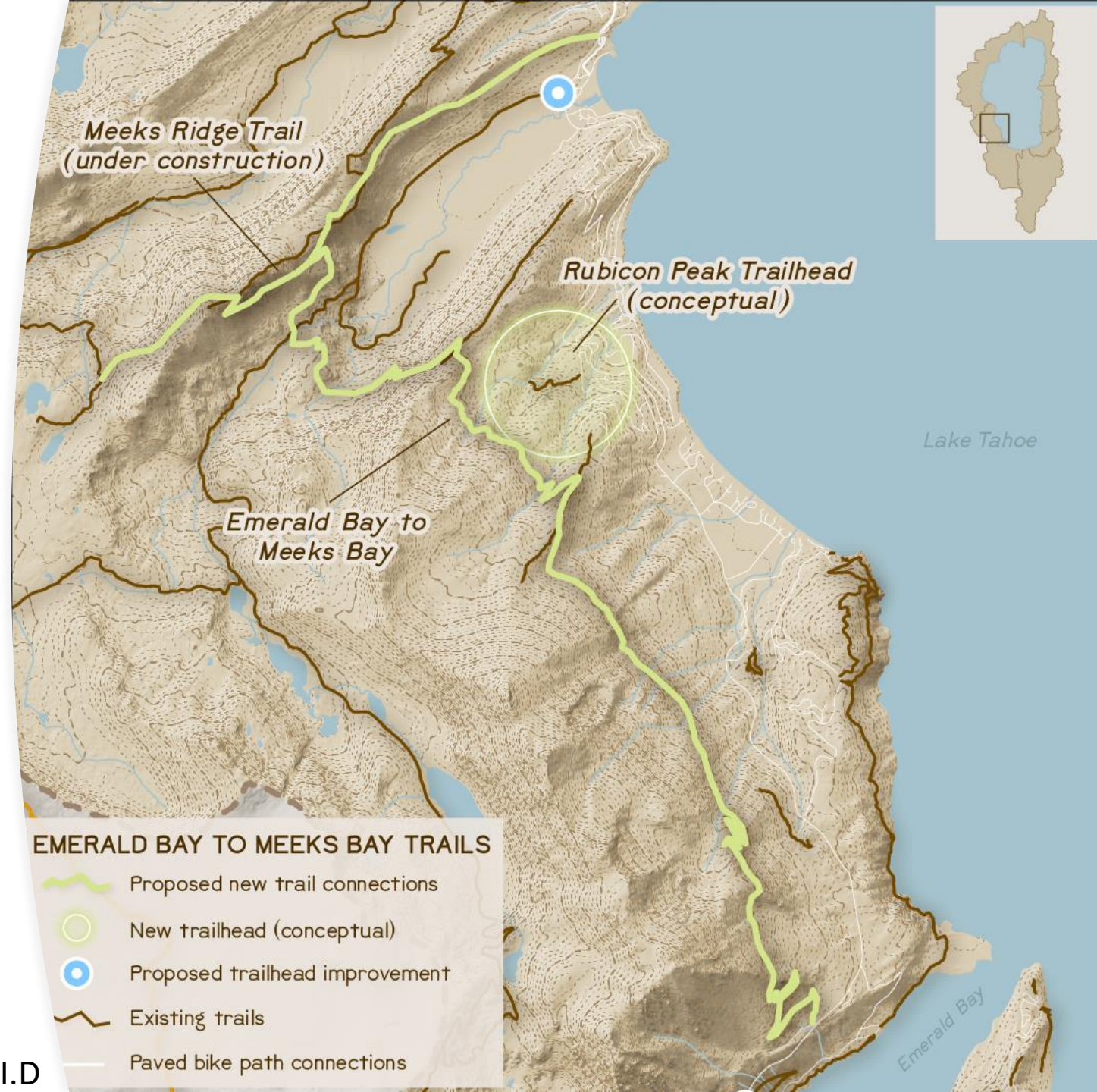
Projects were evaluated against strategy goals to determine which would provide the most benefit and be prioritized.

Goal	Score (1-3)
Environment	2
Equity	1
Connectivity	3
User Experience	3
Feasibility	2



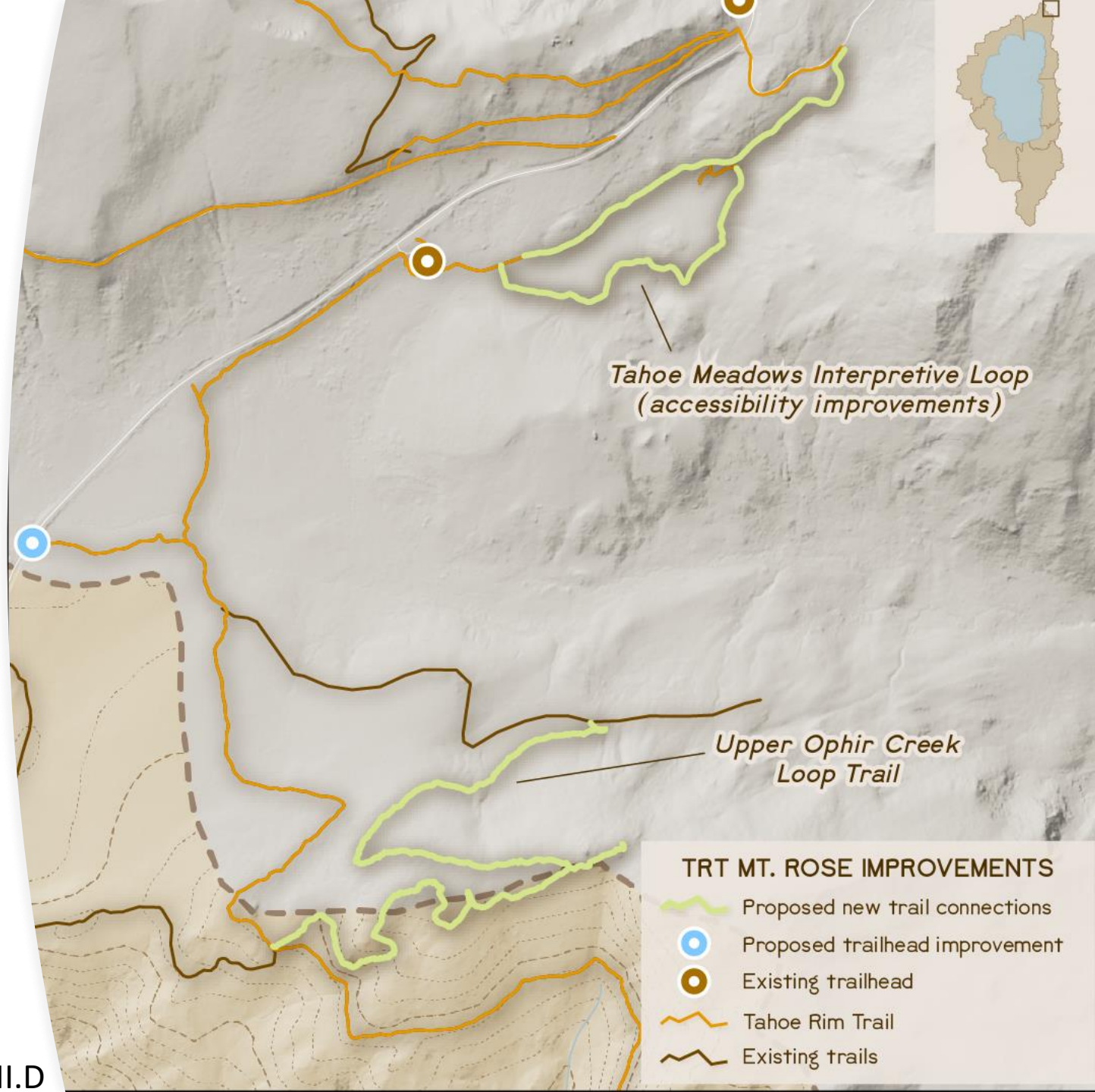
Project Spotlight: Emerald Bay to Meeks Bay

Cornerstone section of the Lake Trail, a legal single-track bike route around Lake Tahoe



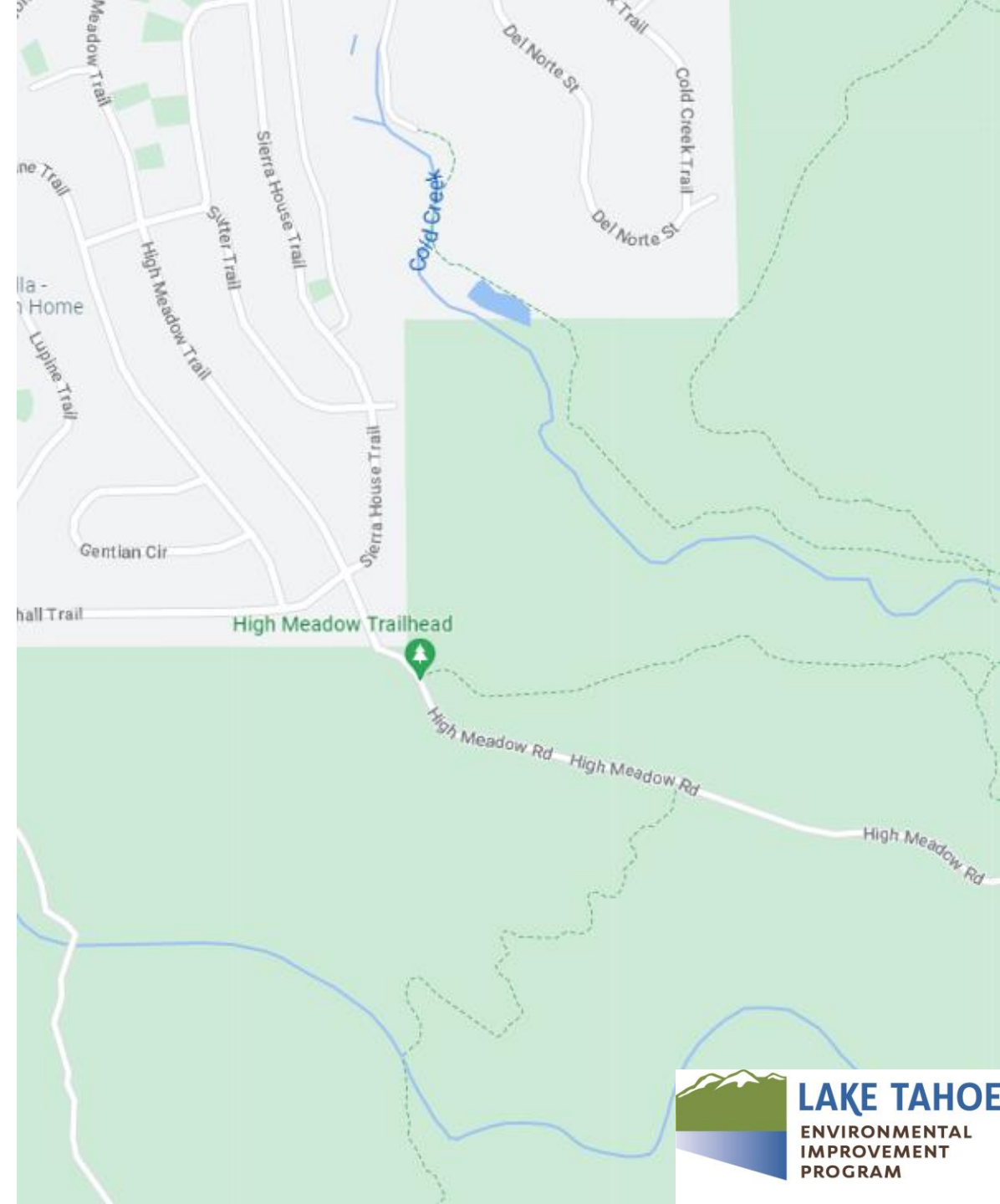
Project Spotlight: Tahoe Meadows Interpretive Loop

Adds a fully accessible loop trail within the Tahoe Rim Trail System that meets ADA trail standards.



Project Spotlight: High Meadow Trailhead

- Create small parking lot to reduce parking in the neighborhood
- Agency partnership could create opportunity for improved summer and winter recreation access





Implementation

- Projects implemented in two buckets:
 - 0-5 years
 - 5-15 years
- Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) project list



Trail Recommendations

- Resources should be used to better maintain what exists, before building new trails and trailheads
- Communicate with proprietary trail websites (All Trails, Trailforks, etc.) to maintain accurate info
- Where feasible, the first mile of new trails should be accessible to further expand trail offerings for people with disabilities
- Provide dedicated parking spaces for people with disabilities and remove barriers to wheelchair access (gates, bollards, boulders, etc.)

photography



Trail Recommendations

- Implement paid parking & reservation systems at high visitation locations
- Provide or expand transit access to major trailheads
- Provide priority access to trails for Indigenous peoples
- Prioritize safe crossing infrastructure when trails cross highways
- Improve wayfinding and signage for trailheads that are accessible from highways or in neighborhoods

Future Strategy Updates: Examine winter trail access; Decommission unsafe and unsustainable trails





Questions

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