

Forest Health Update: 2023 Progress and Priorities

TRPA Governing Board

July 26, 2023

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Overview

Background, History, Context

Priorities and Projects

- Fire Adapted Communities
- Restoring and Maintaining Landscapes
- Response to Wildfire

Capacity and Funding

Evacuation Planning

Questions and Discussion

Mount Tallac: 1914 and 1994



Forest Health in the Tahoe Basin

What is Forest Health in the Tahoe Basin?

- Less Dense
- Vertical Diversity
- Horizontal Diversity

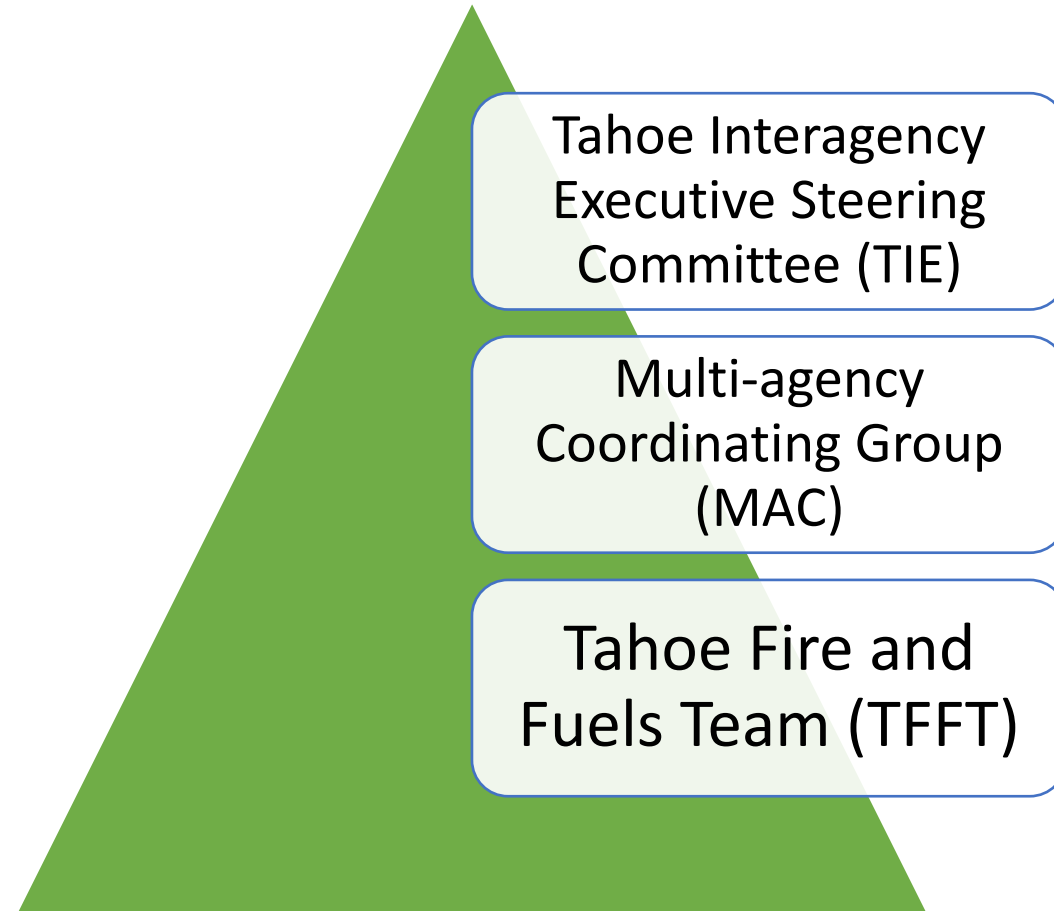
Treatments for Forest Health can include:

- Mechanical or hand thinning
- Mastication, lop and scatter, or chipping
- Replanting of native species
- Prescribed burning- broadcast and pile burning

Why do we treat our forests:

- Insects and disease
- Drought
- Reduction of fire risk
- Reduction of competition
- Habitat improvements or restoration

Environmental Improvement Program and Forest Health



The National Cohesive Strategy

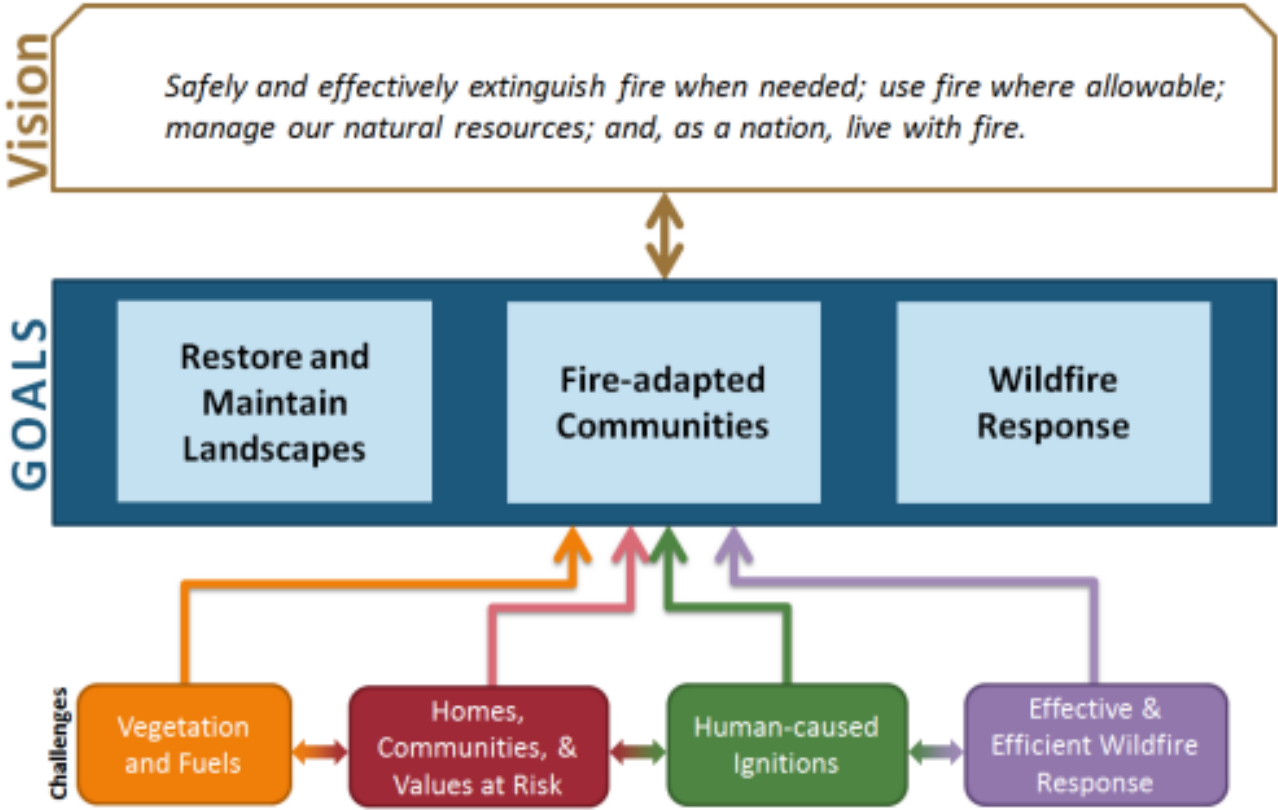


Figure 1.1. Vision, national goals, and national challenges

The National Strategy

The Final Phase in the Development of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy

April 2014



Fire Adapted Communities

Fire won't wait, plan your escape



FIREFEST

LAKE TAHOE BASIN

Interagency Extravaganza

SAT. OCTOBER 1, 2022

10AM - 2PM @ HARD ROCK CASINO

SMOKE ESCAPE TRAILER • BURN HOUSE SPRINKLER DEMO
APPEARANCES BY SMOKEY BEAR, CAPTAIN CAL, SPARKY THE DOG
VEHICLE EXTRACTION • EMBER HOUSE TOSS • BOUNCE HOUSE
HELICOPTERS . . . AND MUCH MORE!



Events and Communication

Protect our Home
Prepare for **WILDFIRE**



TahoeLivingWithFire.com

Funding provided by the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998 in cooperation with Tahoe RCD & University of Nevada, Reno Extension. An EEO/AA institution.

COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS WORKSHOP



A COMMUNITY WORKSHOP TO EDUCATE, INSPIRE AND BUILD FIRE ADAPTED COMMUNITIES AND FIREWISE NEIGHBORHOODS IN THE NORTH TAHOE REGION. LEARN HOW TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



MAY 23RD, 2023
9:00AM - 12:30PM
NORTH LAKE TAHOE EVENT CENTER
8318 N LAKE BLVD.
KINGS BEACH, CA

TO REGISTER, VISIT THE FOLLOWING LINK OR SCAN THE QR CODE:
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/WILDFIREWORKSHOP](https://tinyurl.com/wildfireworkshop)



THIS PROJECT WAS FUNDED DUE TO THE SOUTHERN NEVADA PUBLIC LANDS MANAGEMENT ACT, WHICH AUTHORIZED THE SALE OF BLM-ADMINISTERED FEDERAL LANDS WITHIN A DESIGNATED BOUNDARY IN LAS VEGAS AND REQUIRED PROCEEDS TO BE USED ON PROJECTS TO FUND FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL PROJECTS THAT BENEFIT COMMUNITIES AND PUBLIC LANDS.



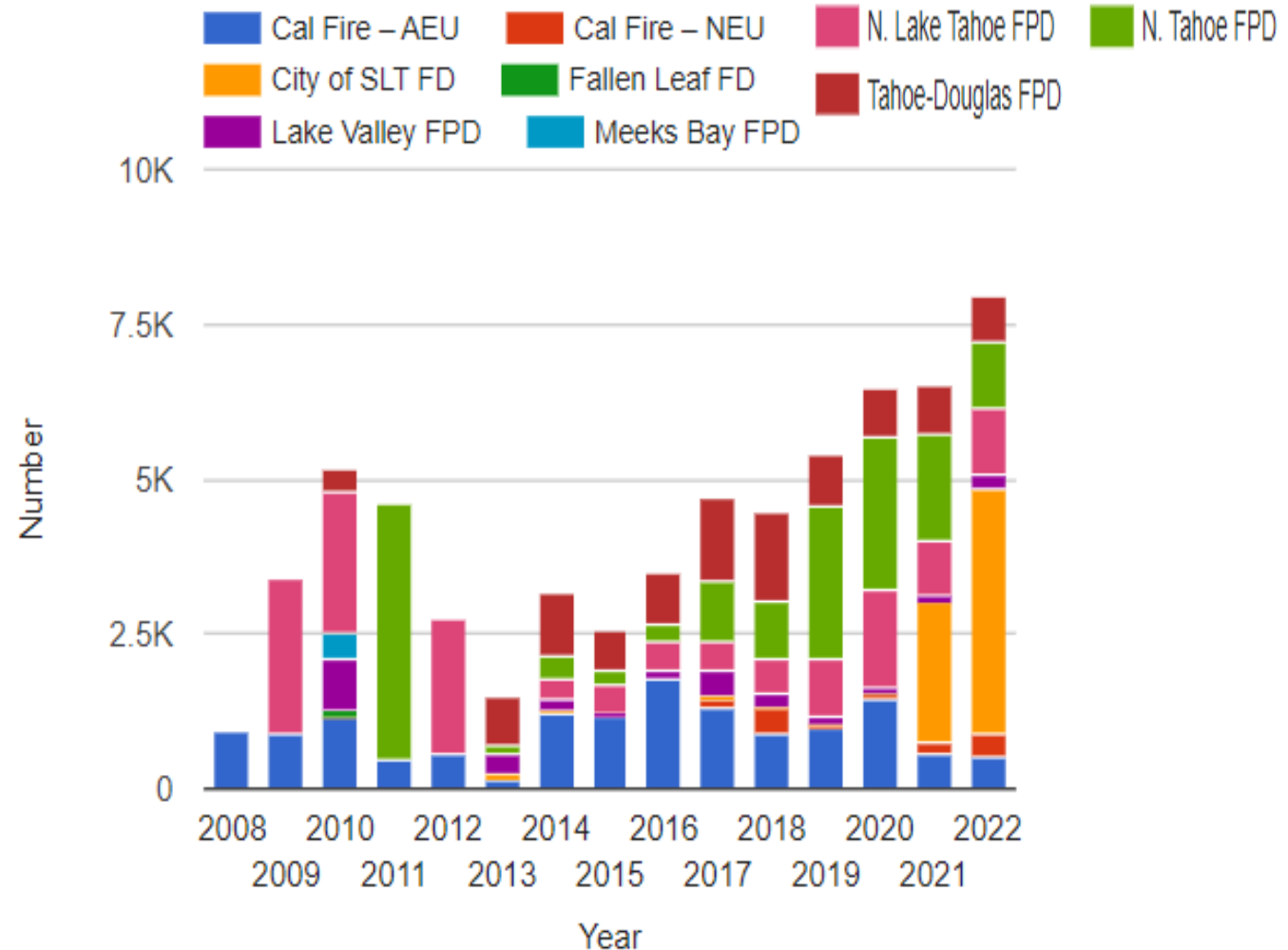
Fire Adapted Communities Program

- 25 Firewise USA recognized neighborhoods/sites
- 67 Neighborhood Leaders
- 7,962 Defensible Space Inspections
- 1234 Tree Removal Permits issued

Parcels Inspected for Defensible Space

By: Parcel Fire District or Department

Options 





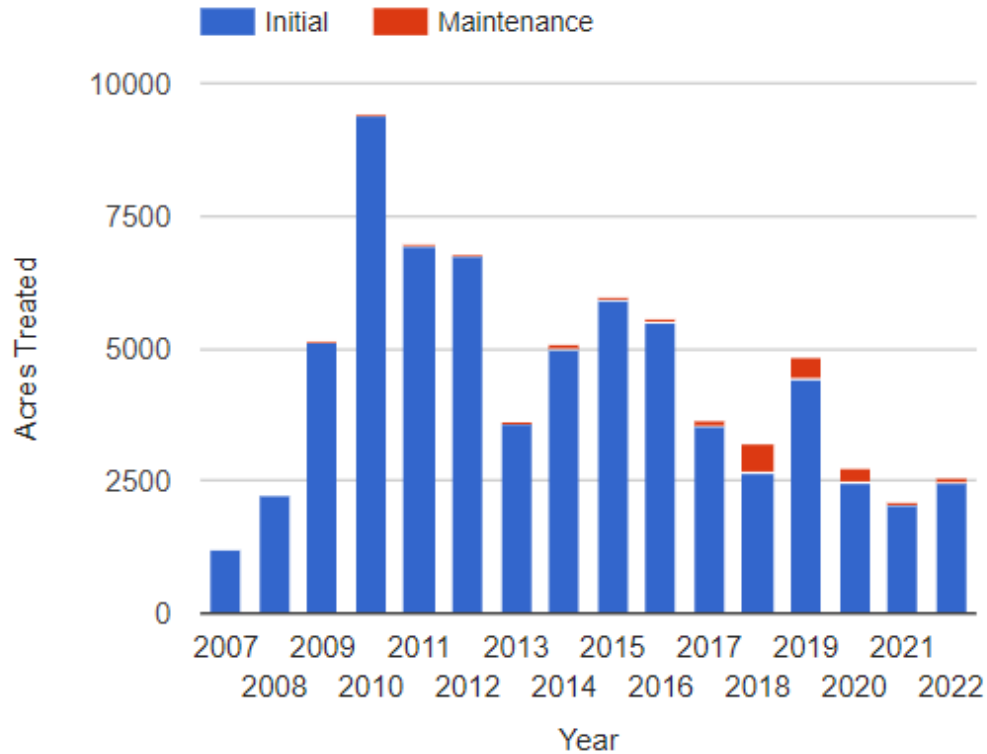
Restoring and Maintaining Landscapes

Basin-wide Overview

Acres of Forest Fuels Reduction Treatment

By:

Initial or Maintenance Treatment

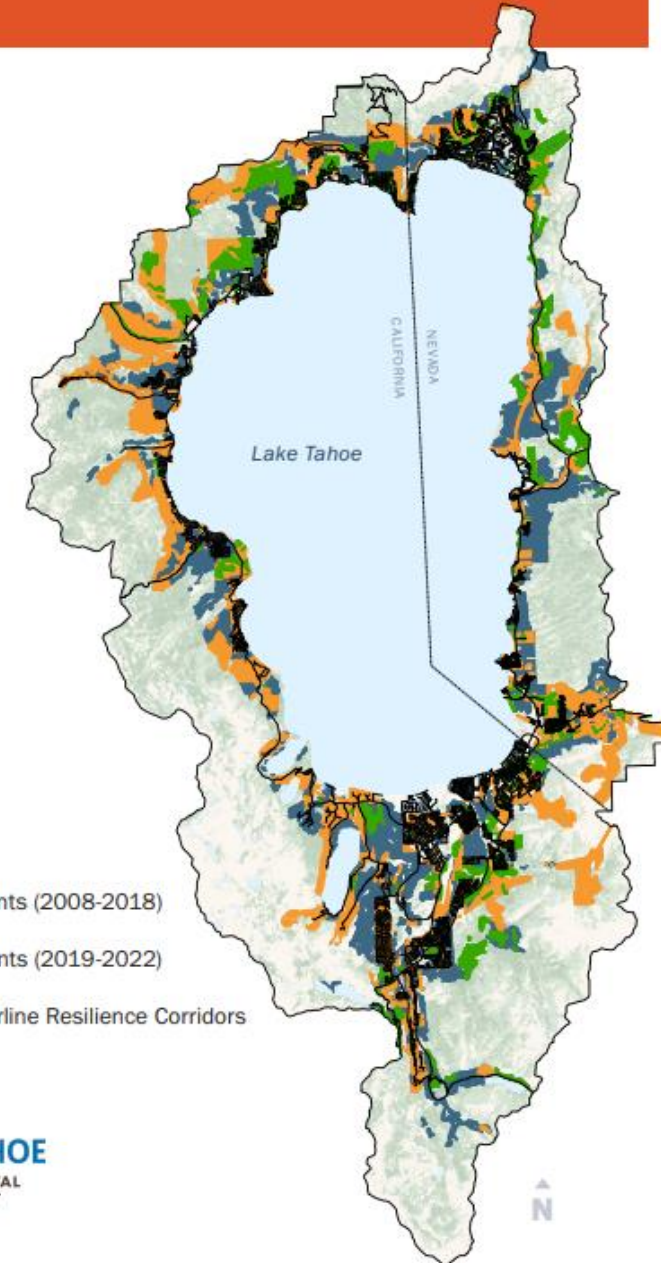


The Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team (TFFT) has made progress toward the goals of the 2019 Lake Tahoe Basin Forest Action Plan. The Forest Action Plan charts a path for collaboration across property boundaries to accelerate landscape restoration and reduce wildfire risk to Tahoe communities.

WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE TREATMENTS

TFFT partners continue to plan and prioritize fuels treatments in the wildland-urban interface (WUI), where neighborhoods meet forests. TFFT partners are more than halfway to their goal of completing 22,000 acres of initial treatments in the WUI by 2025. After finishing all priority WUI treatments identified in the Forest Action Plan, partners will transition to ongoing maintenance.

- 57,000 Acres of Completed Treatments (2008-2018)
- 12,700 Acres of Completed Treatments (2019-2022)
- Planned Treatments, including Powerline Resilience Corridors



Prescribed Burning



Nevada Tahoe Resource Team

- Bon Pland Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project
- Nevada Urban Lots Fuels Reduction
- Spooner Front Country Hazardous Fuels Reduction
- Marlette Summit Hazardous Fuels Reduction



Example Lake Tahoe Neighborhood ▶
(Upper Truckee, Meyers, CA)

- State Open-Space Parcels
- Federal Open-Space Parcels
- Private Undeveloped Parcels
- Developed Parcels



California Tahoe Conservancy

- Community Forestry and Fire Protection
- Capacity building grants:
 - 3.3 million dollars to Lake Valley FPD and City of South Lake Tahoe Fire.
 - 1.3 million dollars to Tahoe RCD.
 - 300,000 dollars to Washoe Tribe.



NV and CA Resilience Corridors



- Partnerships with LTBMU, local fire districts, and basin agencies.
- Liberty Resilience Corridor- 300 acres of hand thinning and 500 acres of mechanical thinning laid out.
- NV Energy Resilience Corridor- 570 acres treated thus far between state, private, and federal lands.

Lake Tahoe West

- National Forest System lands are being planned by the Forest Service.
- Non-federal lands planned under the PTEIR or other CEQA authorities.
- Utilization of CEQA authorities for treatments on NFS lands.
 - SB-901- forest health and fuels reduction
 - SB-155- watershed restoration
- Work in the landscape occurring:
 - Meeks Meadow Restoration
 - West Shore WUI



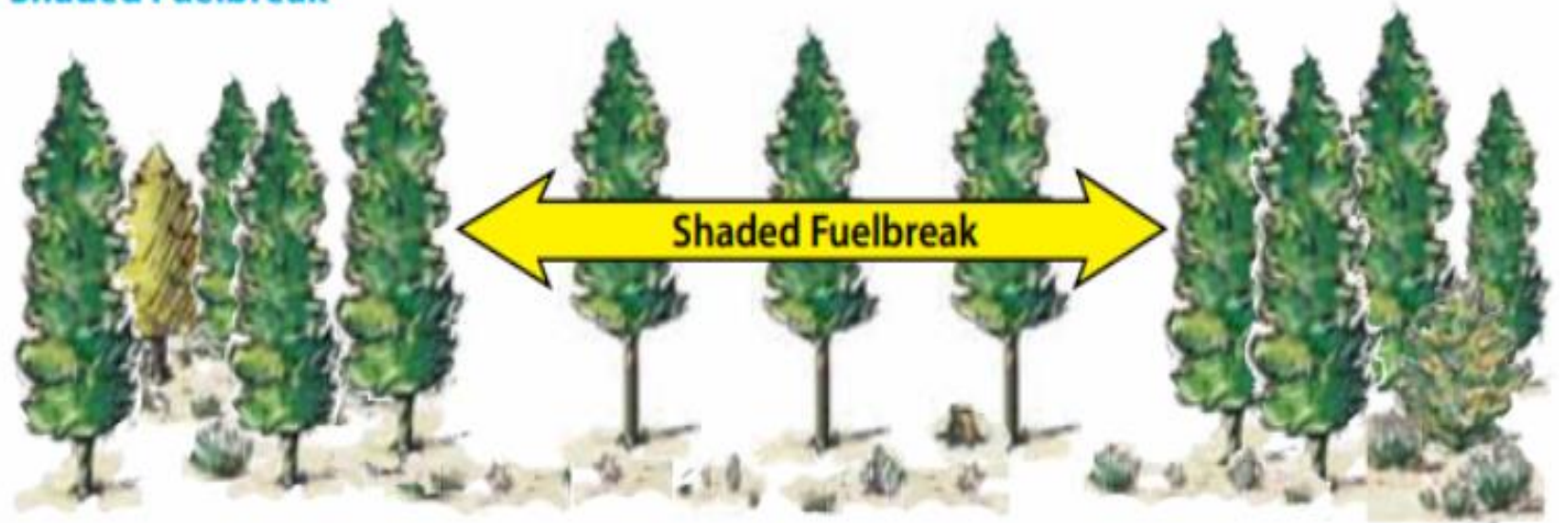


Response to Wildfire





Shaded Fuelbreak



Fire Protection Districts- Shaded Fuel Breaks



Capacity Building



Lake Tahoe Community College: Forestry Program

Biomass Utilization





Funding and Prioritization

Funding and Prioritization

- Record levels of funding for forest health and fuels reduction in the Tahoe Basin.
 - Federal
 - Private & Non-profit
 - State
 - Local
- TRPA/USFS LTRA Agreement.
- Continued future investment critical to implement and maintain treatments.





Evacuation Planning

Roles and Responsibilities

- Planning for and conducting evacuation involves many critical players.
- Local Fire Service evaluating and monitoring incidents and fire risk to communities.
- Local Law Enforcement authorized to call and conduct an evacuation order.
- TRPA's role is to support our local law enforcement, fire service, and emergency response services as needed or requested.

ALL HAZARD COMMUNITY EVACUATION PLAN



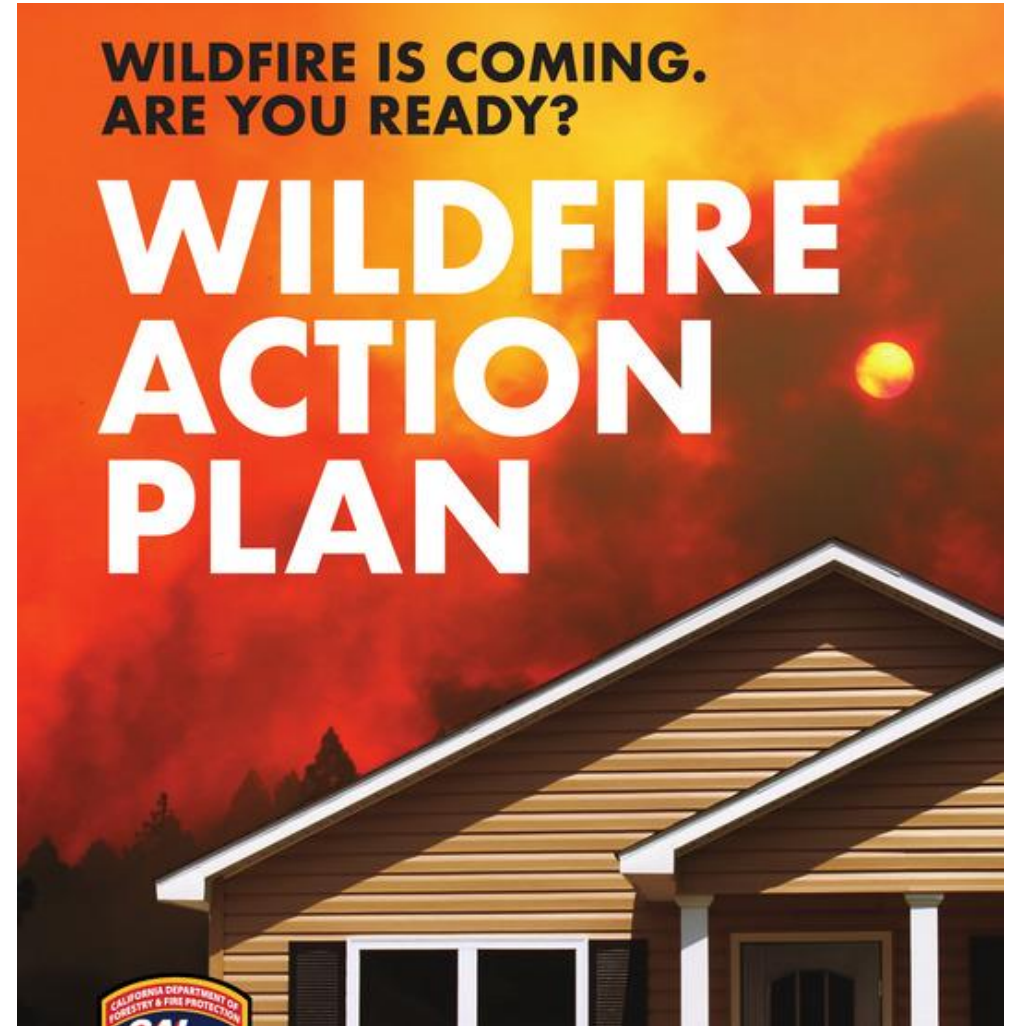
Prepared By:
El Dorado County Sheriff, Office of Emergency Services

In Cooperation with:



Evacuation Planning in the Tahoe Basin

- Key themes from Conversations:
 - Dynamic nature of evacuation
 - Regional coordination, communication, and relationships
 - Pre-attack plans and unified command trainings and exercises
 - Defensible space around critical infrastructure
 - Importance of education and outreach- Ready, Set, Go





Incline Village Evacuation Exercise

NLTFFPD & WASHOE COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



August 16, 2023 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

What is an Evacuation Exercise?

Washoe County Emergency Management, our first responding partners, and our community partners will be working together to test the Regional Evacuation, Shelter, and Mass Care Plan.

We will use a simulation tool to PRETEND there is a fire on the mountains west of the Second Creek neighborhood. North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District will respond their resources. Washoe County Sheriff's Office and the CERT will knock on doors in the affected neighborhood to alert residents. Emergency Management will send an emergency alert to the neighborhood informing them of the exercise and the evacuation location, etc. Residents and the public will simulate evacuating to the Incline Village Recreation Center, where they can check in and attend a preparedness fair.



What Can I Expect?

- You may receive an alert on your cell phone. If you are not registered to receive emergency alerts visit the [Alerting Platform](#) for notifications in Washoe County.
- You may see first responders and signs in the community.
- Everyone is invited to the preparedness fair at Incline Village Recreation Center, 980 Incline Way, Incline Village, NV 89451.
- Follow www.perimetermap.com for live evacuation drill updates during the exercise.



Preparedness Fair

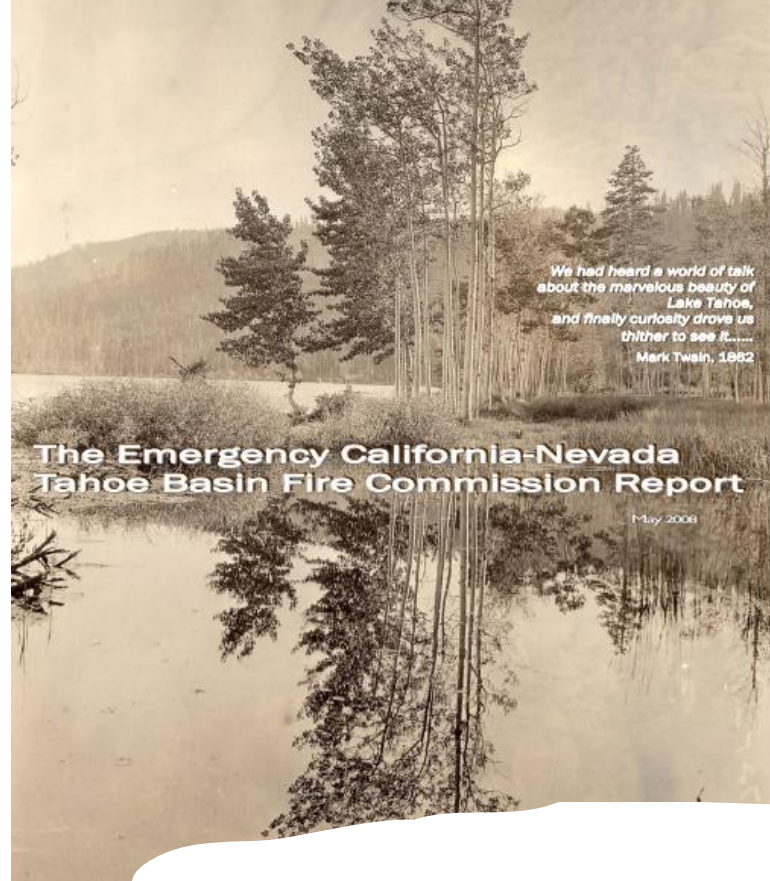
- Located at the Incline Village Recreation Center, 980 Incline Way, Incline Village, NV 89451.
- Vendors from Nevada & California will be present. Including the Red Cross, CERT, Team Rubicon, WCRAS, Sierra Avalanche Center, Belfor, and others.
- Red Cross will check people in and provide wristbands.
- Washoe County Regional Animal Services will be offering animal micro-chipping services.
- There will be information on how to best prepare yourself and your family for an evacuation event.

For more info visit www.emergencywashoe.com/get-prepared/evacuation-drill or scan QR code with your mobile device.



Evacuation Planning

- Tahoe Basin Critical Incident and Fire Preparedness training exercise- Olympic Valley
- Incline Village Evacuation Exercise- August 16
- South Shore PIO Joint Incident Command Training and Practice



Lessons Learned and Implemented



Discussion & Questions
