

2021 QUARTERLY REPORT

TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY

Second Quarter: April – June 2021



TAHOE
REGIONAL
PLANNING
AGENCY



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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 Inventory

TRPA completed the updated regional greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory update. This report provides an updated accounting of the Tahoe Basin's greenhouse gas emissions by major source and jurisdiction, looks at the potential for reducing emissions by changing or removing buildings located in sensitive areas like stream environment zones, provides an assessment of carbon stored in natural ecosystems that can help offset emissions from the built environment, and highlights actions that have already been forging progress toward GHG emission reduction goals. From 2005 to 2018, the Tahoe Region's emissions have declined significantly by 38.7 percent.

The 2014 Sustainability Action Plan set a GHG reduction target of 15 percent by 2020, 49 percent by 2035, and net-zero by 2045. The 2020 reduction goal has been met in the region. Additional GHG reduction actions are needed to meet the 2035 and 2045 goals.

KEEP TAHOE MOVING: TRANSPORTATION & SUSTAINABLE RECREATION STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

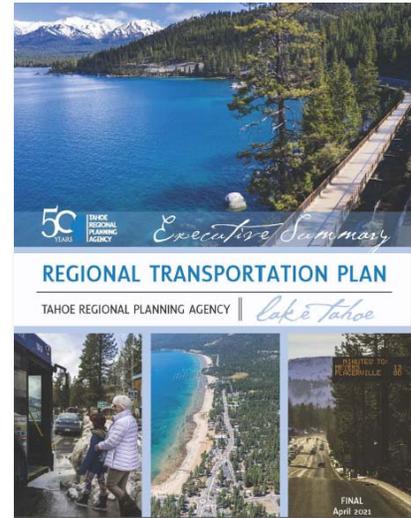
This initiative includes an update of the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, which encompasses GHG reduction, the Bi-State Consultation on Transportation Action Plan, sustainable recreation planning, and ongoing transportation corridor planning.

Regional Transportation Plan Adopted

At its April meeting, the TRPA Governing Board unanimously approved a new Regional Transportation Plan which will do more to reduce reliance on the automobile and get more projects on the ground than any previous plan. The Regional Transportation Plan is broadly supported by Lake Tahoe transportation organizations and was developed with input from more than 8,500 people through an inclusive information gathering process with some elements provided in English and in Spanish.

Tahoe’s Regional Transportation Plan, the blueprint for connecting land uses to transportation services both regionally and inter-regionally, emphasizes improvements to transit, technology, and equity of access to further reduce GHG emissions and reliance on the auto. Reducing reliance on the automobile has been a fundamental goal of the agency since it was created more than 50 years ago. Elements of the new transportation plan include:

- A sustainable funding plan to get projects completed.
- A full trail system including completion of the Tahoe Trail encircling the lake.
- Maintaining free transit and increasing frequency of service.
- On-demand rideshare, bikeshare, and micro shuttle services.
- Shuttles to and from communities outside the basin.
- 17 new mobility hubs throughout the region.
- Employer and employee transportation programs.
- Technology improvements such as smartphone apps.
- Parking management and variable parking pricing.



Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Threshold Standard Update

The TRPA Compact's success is measured by a system of adopted environmental standards (threshold standards) the vast majority of which are 40 years old, with some needing to be updated with the most current science, circumstances, or conservation strategies. Also in April, the TRPA Governing Board updated the 40-year-old nitrate-based vehicle miles traveled threshold standard. The update aligned the standard with the region’s transportation and land-use goals and the vision for a more walkable, bikeable, transit-oriented, sustainable Tahoe as laid out in the Regional Plan and Regional Transportation Plan. The update codified as a threshold standard the Compact’s directive 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 adaptive management framework for the updated standard establishes a series of milestones to measure progress towards attainment, and links directly to the funding necessary to achieve that vision.

Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Workshop

TRPA, in partnership with the USDA Forest Service, continued to facilitate weekly calls to coordinate messaging and identify tactical actions to mitigate litter and other recreation site management concerns. Summer 2021 priority actions have been launched including on-site ambassador programs with more than 80 trained staff members, securing over \$400,000 in funding for the Clean Tahoe litter abatement expansion to North Lake Tahoe, formation of a data working group, and creation of a multi-stakeholder summer recreation playbook. The partnership also released a request for proposals to begin development of a regional vision, mission, and roadmap for the future of recreation and tourism.



Tahoe Regional Trails Plan

This winter, TRPA and a steering committee of land managers and trail stewards, began work on a regional Tahoe Trails Plan that will create a shared vision for a world-class trail network in Tahoe. The plan will link Tahoe's backcountry, front country, and urban trail systems. This will be the first time regional partners have come together to consider a full-scale, comprehensive trail network.

To help develop the plan, the steering committee released a public survey in early June and is encouraging residents, visitors, trail users, and non-trail users to provide their input. As of mid-July, TRPA had received over 800 survey responses. Additionally, TRPA staff are doing intercept surveys at popular trails and trailheads to gain further input on the user's trail experience. The plan is anticipated to be complete by next summer.

Commute Tahoe

TRPA staff continued work with Placer County and the North and South Shore transportation management associations to kick off employer recruitment for the Commute Tahoe program this quarter. Partners developed outreach materials to advertise the program and encourage employers to take part in the pilot phase through August 2021. Eleven employers of various sizes attended Commute Tahoe orientations and committed to participating in the pilot phase. TRPA will work with partners over the summer to continue recruiting employers for the pilot phase. Starting in September, employers and key stakeholders will be invited to participate in a working group to begin updating the employer-trip reduction ordinance. Commute Tahoe is a priority trip reduction program identified in the new Regional Transportation Plan.

A vertical graphic with a green background. At the top, it says 'WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!' in white. Below that is a photograph of a dirt trail winding through a lush green landscape with mountains in the background. Underneath the photo, it says 'Help create a shared vision for a world-class trail network in the Tahoe Basin.' followed by a horizontal line. Below the line, it says 'To get involved, scan the QR code and fill out the survey:'. At the bottom is a large QR code and the website 'tahoetrailsplan.org' in white text.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Help create a shared vision for a world-class trail network in the Tahoe Basin.

To get involved, scan the QR code and fill out the survey:

tahoetrailsplan.org

Tahoe Bike Challenge

The June 2021 Tahoe Bike Challenge was a huge success with 300 participants riding nearly 40,000 miles. TRPA and the Tahoe Bike Coalition partner every year to manage the Tahoe Bike Challenge and promote alternative modes of transportation. Over the last two years, 813 people kept approximately 23,000 pounds of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere during the challenge.

State Route 89 Trail Feasibility Study Started

Implementation of the State Route 89 Corridor Plan moved forward this quarter. TRPA and partners have started background research, field visits, and stakeholder engagement for a key element of the plan, the multi-use West Shore Tahoe Trail. The work will identify issues and opportunities for the development of segments, trail elements and amenities, and alignment evaluation criteria to seek public input in early Fall.

US 50 East Shore Corridor Management Plan Launched

TRPA staff supported the Nevada Department of Transportation in launching the US 50 East Shore Corridor Management Plan. The plan will develop alternative designs to improve roadway safety, transit, trails, and innovative mobility options between Spooner Summit and Stateline on the South Shore. Partners will develop plan alternatives over the next 18 months.

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.

Washoe County Housing Action Plan

TRPA participated in the launch of the Washoe-Tahoe Housing Partnership Needs Assessment and Action Plan, led by the Tahoe Prosperity Center. This is a public-private partnership to understand and identify strategies to address the housing needs of residents and employees in the Washoe County portion of Lake Tahoe. The objective is to assemble data to understand the housing needed by residents and employees under current market conditions and within the context of this area. The outcome will identify actions to address needs locally and through regional partnerships and involvement. The needs assessment and action plan are anticipated to be complete in the Fall.

Tahoe Living Working Group

The Tahoe Living Working Group recommended moving forward with Phase 1 of regional housing updates. The set of recommendations includes code changes related to:

1. More flexibility and incentives to allow accessory dwelling units (ADUs) for residents and workers.
2. Modifying the bonus unit boundary to fully capture town centers and walkable neighborhoods.

3. Allowing non-conforming tourist density to be used onsite for residential projects.

TRPA held informational hearings in June and will begin moving the recommendations forward for approval in July. Proposed changes will further reduce barriers to developing affordable workforce housing in the Tahoe Region.

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 overly 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 right here in the Tahoe Basin. 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 goal of the partnership 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 refine the project description/proposed action for environmental review and analysis. TRPA staff facilitated multi-agency working groups to refine the project description including adding details about roads and watershed improvements. The partnership has engaged the environmental consultant in developing an analysis workplan to effectively coordinate the environmental analysis and subsequent document preparation. The team continues to work on the Lake Tahoe West Monitoring Plan and identifying appropriate indicators.

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.

In May, staff and partner agencies presented to the TRPA Governing Board on forest health updates including upcoming priority projects and work accomplished, fire prevention outreach and messaging within the basin, and grants and funding opportunities.

In July, staff will present to the Governing Board the analysis associated with the use of mechanical equipment on steeper slopes. The University of Idaho and USDA Forest Service Pacific Southwest Research Station will present their initial modeling results regarding a variety of treatments on a range of slopes under varying conditions.

Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team

The Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team (TFFT) finalized their 2021 Incident Action Plan that outlines priority work across the Tahoe Basin for the 2021 field season. Additionally, TFFT submitted a comprehensive portfolio of projects for Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) consideration and funding. The SNPLMA steering committee recommended funding for roughly \$45 million across the majority of submitted projects with some projects recommended for partial funding.

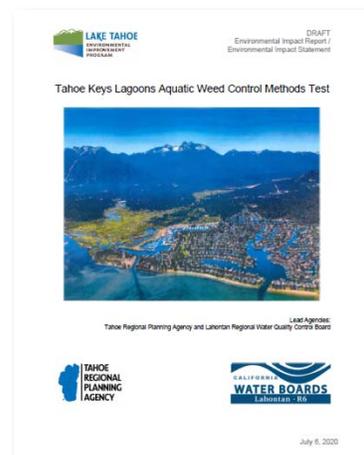
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program Federal Advisory Committee:

The Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP) began in 2009 and is a federally funded restoration program on USDA Forest Service lands that prioritizes large-landscape restoration on lands greater than 50,000 acres. The program provides multi-year funding for implementation and monitoring on projects that are collaboratively designed, implemented, and monitored. There have been two rounds of CFLRP projects (2010 and 2012) with an additional recent round of project nominations and awardees in 2020. TRPA is participating in the 2021 CFLRP Federal Advisory Committee, reviewing 2012 Project Extension Requests and determining proposals that should be recommended for additional federal funding.

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 continue to work with environmental consultants responding to comments received on the Draft Environmental Impact Report/Statement and preparing for the release of the final environmental document later in 2021. A comprehensive monitoring plan has been developed by TKPOA and has been submitted to the Tahoe Science Advisory Council who will oversee a peer review of the critical components of the plan.



Plans, contracts, and funding to increase testing ultraviolet light treatments in the Tahoe Keys lagoons were finalized and work is expected to begin in the next quarter. This work will cover 5 acres in the Tahoe Keys west lagoon.

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.

Through GIS analysis, TRPA staff identified 31 site constrained multi-family residential properties without BMPs within the project area’s Bijou Park Creek catchment. TRPA prioritized these properties to receive materials on TRPA’s BMP requirements and source control BMPs.

Tahoe Keys Green Infrastructure Project

TRPA 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.

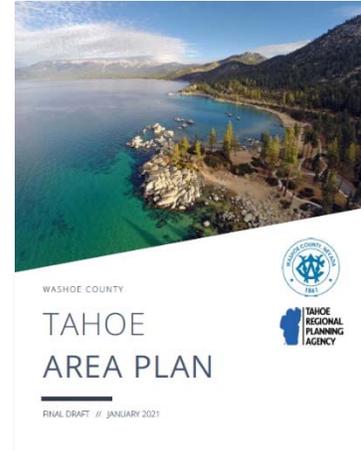
In April, the Tahoe Keys Water Company announced a major water shortage for its customers and issued a prohibition on all landscape irrigation. TRPA facilitated a collaborative discussion between key stakeholders and a coordinated response to the outdoor water use restrictions. Meetings on May 21 and June 24, 2021, helped leverage available resources from different agencies and included discussion of the opportunities that now exist to reduce turf as the dominate landscape choice in the Tahoe Keys.

ONGOING INITIATIVES AND ANNUAL ACTIVITIES

LONG RANGE & TRANSPORTATION PLANNING DIVISION

Washoe County Tahoe Area Plan Approved

The TRPA Governing Board unanimously approved the Washoe County Tahoe Area Plan on May 26, 2021. This marks the sixth area plan approved since the 2012 Regional Plan Update. The area plan covers all of Washoe County's territory within the Tahoe Basin and harmonizes Washoe County zoning with TRPA regulations. It also incorporates incentives to help catalyze redevelopment in town centers, such as additional height, density, and transferred coverage. The Tahoe Area Plan replaces 23 former plan area statements and four former community plans.



Meeks Bay Restoration Project

This past quarter, the consultant team completed a cultural resources survey, invasive plant assessment, aquatic resources assessment, and geomorphology study for the environmental analysis. This information will help define site constraints, the development footprint, and inform restoration design.

Public engagement continued with a new interactive web tool. This tool provides an opportunity for the public to weigh in on design features of the various project alternatives. Participants can provide input on the configuration of campgrounds, trails, paddle craft launches, piers, parking, and other features being considered. This information will help the agencies select a preferred project alternative.

To reach a broader audience, TRPA published an article in the summer edition of Tahoe In Depth. The article focused not only on the Meeks Bay project, but also highlighted the cultural significance of Meeks Bay and Meeks Meadow to the Washoe Tribe. Information can be found at <http://meeksbayproject.org/>.

CURRENT PLANNING DIVISION

Permit Application Review

The number of permit applications submitted this quarter was 315, up 35 percent compared to a year ago. Online application submittals continue at a high rate with 79 percent of applications during the second quarter submitted electronically, up from 67 percent electronically submitted during the second quarter of 2020.

Summary of TRPA Project Applications Received Quarter 2 2020 through Quarter 2 2021					
	Q2 CY2020	Q3 CY2020	Q4 CY2020	Q1 CY2021	Q2 CY2021
Applications Received¹	234	270	201	251	315
Residential Projects ²	64	71	41	71	74
Commercial Projects ²	0	5	0	4	4
Recreation/Public Service Projects ²	4	7	9	8	16
Environmental Improvement Construction Projects	1	3	1	5	4
Shorezone/Lakezone Projects ²	10	15	6	12	13
Grading Projects	11	15	3	7	13
Verifications and Banking ³	64	102	95	67	111
Moorings	48	20	19	16	19
Transfers of Development	7	10	3	24	18
Other ⁴	25	22	24	37	43
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

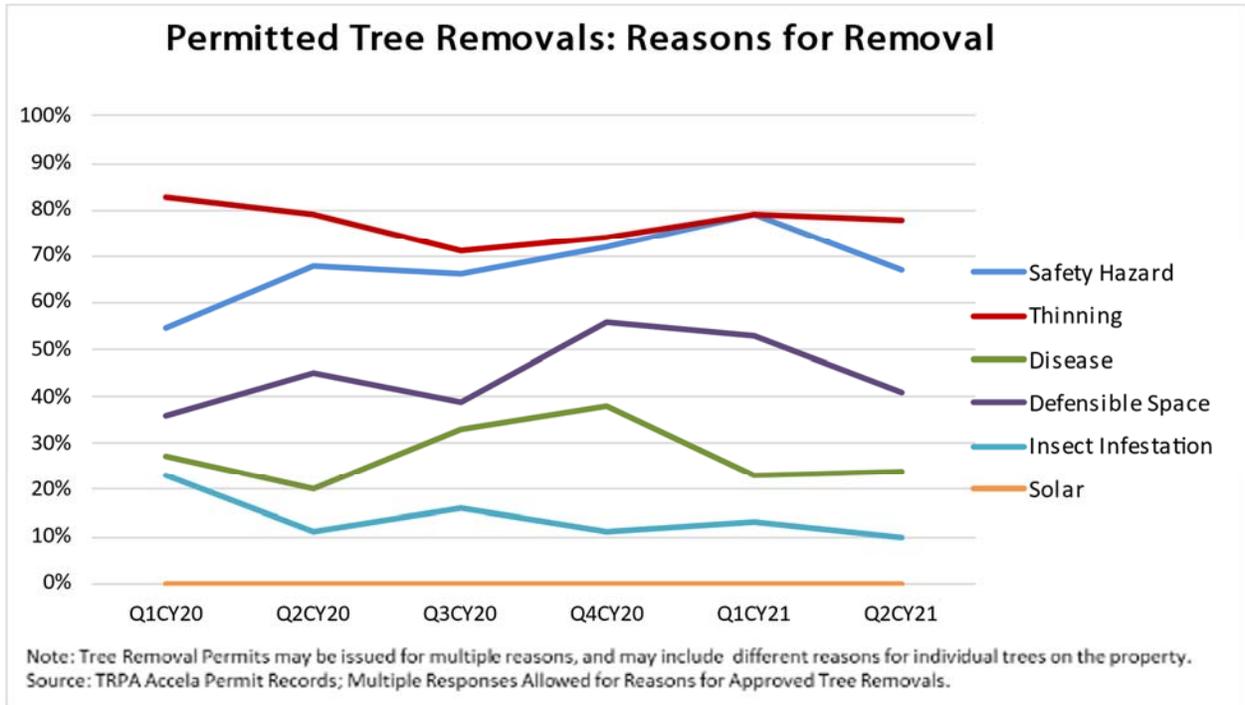
The Hearings Officer approved six project applications this quarter, including:

- A commercial boating operation to remove crayfish, an aquatic invasive species, from the Nevada portion of Lake Tahoe.
- A new single parcel pier as a result of the pier lottery, near Carnelian Bay, CA.
- Construction of a shoreline protective structure to stabilize the shoreline for a lakefront parcel in Incline Village, NV.
- Demolition and rebuild of a historic single-family residence located at Zephyr Cove, NV.
- Two 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 second quarter of 2021, TRPA processed 532 tree removal applications. TRPA permitted the removal of 2,181 individual trees during the second quarter with thinning and safety hazard being the primary reasons for removal.

Summary of TRPA Tree Removal Applications & Permitting Activity Quarter 2 2020 through Quarter 2 2021					
	Q2 CY2020	Q3 CY2020	Q4 CY2020	Q1 CY2021	Q2 CY2021
Tree Removal Applications Received	485	557	238	200	532
Number of Trees Permitted for Removal	2,018	2,390	1,022	887	2,181
Percent Applications Submitted Online	94%	92%	90%	92%	95%
Source : TRPA Accela Permit Records					



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM DIVISION

Air Quality Mitigation Funds Released

This quarter, the TRPA Governing Board approved the release of air quality mitigation funds to Placer County (\$86,375), and to El Dorado County (\$50,000), for their woodstove replacement programs. These funds will be used to help low-income households replace their old, high particulate matter producing woodstoves and fireplaces, with new, cleaner burning, EPA certified appliances.

To date, over 273 non-compliant stoves have been replaced across the Tahoe Region through these programs. According to EPA estimates, that is equivalent to the emission reductions of taking 1,365 diesel buses off the road, and a reduction of 11 tons in fine particulates per year. The approved funding will support continuity of the programs in Placer and El Dorado Counties, and will provide air quality benefits for the Tahoe Region.

Stormwater Management Program

Best Management Practices (BMP) Certificates Issued: TRPA, in partnership with the states and federal government, establishes 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. The agency currently concentrates its BMP compliance resources on commercial and large multi-family (six units or more) properties. Compliance in that type of development has been shown to reduce more pollutant load than other property types.

This quarter, TRPA issued 50 BMP certificates: 41 for single-family residential parcels, three for multi-family residential parcels, and six for commercial parcels. Of the total, 10 were source control certificates and two were 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 June 30 2021					
	Land Use	Total Certificates Issued Year to Date	Certificates Issued Through Permitted Projects	Certificates Issued Through Voluntary Compliance	Certificates Issued Through Enforced Compliance
California	Single-Family Residential	40	29	11	0
	Multi-Family Residential	2	2	0	0
	Commercial	11	2	9	0
	California Total	53	33	20	0
Nevada	Single-Family Residential	11	3	6	2
	Multi-Family Residential	2	0	1	1
	Commercial	1	0	1	0
	Nevada Total	14	3	8	3
	Total Certificates Issued	67	36	28	3

Reissued Certificates: During this quarter, TRPA reissued 11 BMP certificates following verification of BMP maintenance and effectiveness. Ten of these were for single-family residential parcels and one for a multi-family residence.

Education and Outreach:

- **Contractors BMP Webinar:** On April 8, TRPA held its annual BMP webinar training for Tahoe contractors and BMP installers. Thirty-eight participants attended the webinar presentation, which was recorded and the video posted to the Tahoe BMP website along with presentation materials (<https://www.tahoebmp.org/bmpresources.aspx>). Following the training TRPA updated the list of BMP Resource Professionals available to the public at the same link.
- **Online BMP Retrofit Application:** As part of TRPA's Digital First initiative to streamline processes, TRPA stormwater program staff developed an electronic version of the BMP Retrofit Permit Application and are in the process of posting and activating it online.

Aquatic Invasive Species Program

Prevention: Boat inspection stations opened on May 1 and included the ability to make an appointment for an inspection. Over 2,400 inspections have occurred this season with 59 percent of those being done through an appointment. Many more boaters are choosing to come mid-week because of appointment availability, which significantly reduces wait times on the weekend and creates more stability for staffing.

This quarter, boat inspectors intercepted 56 boats with AIS detected, 13 of which had mussels present. These boats were decontaminated in coordination with state wildlife officials.

An educational gazebo was installed at the Meyers inspection station that includes helpful information on AIS and Lake Tahoe and provides a shady respite for boaters and families waiting for their thorough inspection. A grant from the Tahoe Fund supported this project.



Educational gazebo at the Meyers AIS inspection station.

Control: As project manager for the Taylor Tallac AIS control project, TRPA has been coordinating with Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board and US Army Corps of Engineers partners to finalize necessary permits for implementation. Work to control the over 17-acre infestation is expected to begin in August. TRPA along with the USDA Forest Service coordinated an executive field trip to the site to show the importance of the project and to ensure the partnership understands the cooperation necessary to implement a successful project. Continuing TRPA's successful fostering of public-private

partnerships, the project has been conditionally awarded \$100,000 from the Tahoe Fund, which will complement federal funds received through both TRPA and the USDA Forest Service.

Ultraviolet light treatment began at Lakeside Marina and Beach in June 2021 and continued this quarter. Approximately 2 acres are being monitored and treated with this season's work expected to be sufficient to conclude the project. Ongoing monitoring will occur to ensure treatments are successful.

Contractors installed bubble curtains to prevent the movement of invasive aquatic plant fragments at three locations this quarter: the Tahoe Keys East channel, the entrance to the Elk Point Homeowners Marina, and the entrance to Lakeside Marina. The Elk Point and Lakeside bubble curtains are intended to prevent fragments from entering these previously treated marinas. The Tahoe Keys East channel curtain was installed to prevent fragments from leaving as the Tahoe Keys lagoons are highly infested. Funds from TRPA, the League to Save Lake Tahoe, the Tahoe Fund, Elk Point Homeowners Association, Lakeside Homeowners Association, and the Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association contributed to the installation of these innovative systems.

AIS control work resumed in the lake outside of the Tahoe Keys this quarter, continuing work that began last fall. Divers are focusing on areas with dense plant populations lakeward of the Tahoe Keys east channel.

RESEARCH & ANALYSIS DIVISION

2019 Threshold Evaluation Issued

Every four years, TRPA leads the development of a report of the agency's environmental threshold standards. It is a point-in-time snapshot that assesses conditions relative to the goals of the adopted standards. The final 2019 Threshold Evaluation was issued this quarter after being unanimously endorsed by both the Advisory Planning Commission and the Governing Board. The 2019 evaluation marks a major milestone for the Tahoe Region as it was the first evaluation presented primarily as an online, interactive dashboard at <https://thresholds.laketahoeinfo.org>.

Parcel Tracker Updates

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 and provides development histories upon which property owners and realtors have come to rely. TRPA staff reviewed and updated information on 460 parcels in the tracker during the quarter. TRPA responded to 169 unique requests from property owners, real estate agents, and local government partners for updated permitting information on parcels, up more than 40 percent from the same



quarter last year. The number of help requests submitted and the number of parcels updated are on the rise as knowledge of the site's usefulness becomes more widespread.

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:

- **GIS training and outreach**
 - Provided an intensive, free two-week web GIS training session for TRPA staff and community members. The curriculum covered creating web maps, online data, story maps, and dashboards.
 - Provided an overview of TRPA's GIS systems to South Lake Tahoe High School environmental science students (<https://bit.ly/3yAdFmY>).
- Supported the **Tahoe Regional Trails Plan Mapping** project by creating a Trails Conflict web map for collection of trail user conflicts (<https://gis.trpa.org/trailconflicts/>) and created online, offline, and Spanish versions of the Tahoe Regional Trails Plan survey to gather public input.
- Released version 2.1 of the **Tahoe Boating App** to the iOS (Apple) and Android app stores. Deployed behind-the-scenes modifications to bring the app up to date.
- **GIS Mapping and Maintenance**
 - Improved the web map service publishing workflow to utilize ArcGIS Pro, fully migrating away from the outdated ArcMap publishing workflows.
 - Created a collector map for calcium samples to be collected at 80 sites around Lake Tahoe.
 - Partnered with California State Parks to create an offline survey to collect 2021 data on osprey nest locations.
 - Created static maps for the Tahoe Douglas Area Plan to show land use, districts, and property ownership in Douglas County.
 - Created a boater visitor map for the Meyers watercraft inspection station gazebo .
 - Reviewed and organized all data deliverables, created web layers and web maps in support of the GHG Inventory Update. Began investigating other uses of the data and analysis results that will help inform goals for reducing GHG in the built environment and sequestering more carbon in meadows and stream environment zones.
- **Lake Tahoe Info Support:** In support of the final version of the Threshold Dashboard, GIS staff restructured the version control system for uploading maps and charts. Participated in the development of a plan that aims to better integrate Lake Tahoe Info with TRPA's other information systems. The plan's main goals are to document current data integrations between systems, further develop agency web services to better support the threshold update process, and identify connections between raw monitoring data, monitoring programs, and threshold indicators. Implementation has started on some of the recommendations outlined in the plan and will be wrapping up this work in the upcoming quarter.

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:

- Assisted US Senator Alex Padilla's (D, Calif.) office with early preparations for the Tahoe Summit, scheduled for August 19.
- Testified at numerous Nevada Legislative hearings during the 2021 session to support critical policy and Environmental Improvement Program initiatives including transportation, east shore corridor implementation, and the Tahoe Science Advisory Council.
- Hosted a briefing in May for members and staffers of the entire congressional delegation and "friends of Tahoe" members in the US Congress to share updates on the approved Regional Transportation Plan and associated federal funding needs.
- Supported the advocacy work of the California Tahoe Alliance to create a new Tahoe Caucus in the California Legislature.

Education, Outreach, and Engagement

- Received a Bronze Spike Award from the Sierra Nevada Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America for the Tahoe Commemorative Coin program.
- Launched Virtual 2021 Earth Week Celebrations in partnership with the South Tahoe Environmental Education Coalition. The Earth Day celebration became a week-long campaign of socially distanced challenges that were shared online through local news outlets and with Lake Tahoe Unified School District teachers and families.
- Led the charge to make Earth Day materials bilingual.
- Educated over 40 seventh grade students about aquatic invasive species (AIS) at the Meyers watercraft inspection station, in partnership with the League to Save Lake Tahoe.
- Awarded two local high school seniors with TRPA Environmental Scholarships. Brandon Salas of Incline High School and Koson Verkler of North Tahoe High School each received \$500 scholarships and are featured in the latest edition of Tahoe In Depth. Staff and board member donations support the annual scholarship, which has awarded nearly \$12,000 since 2004.



Bronze Spike Award from the Sierra Nevada Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America.

- Partnered with the Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership team to invite a local second grade class to the opening day of the Reading Forest art installation at Taylor and Tallac Creek. TRPA led the environmental education segment of the day and facilitated a Q&A session with the artists for the students.



Community Engagement Manager Victoria Ortiz with a second-grade class at the Reading Trees art installation.

- Assisted GIS Team presentations to South Tahoe High School's environmental engineering class on how TRPA and basin partners use data to make sound environmental decisions. The presentation also showed students a possible career path in local environmental work.
- Joined the Sugar Pine Foundation to plant trees in Van Sickle Bi-State Park.
- Helped communicate with Spanish speakers at a COVID-19 vaccination clinic.
- Produced the 19th issue of Tahoe In Depth (<https://trpa.gov/tahoe-in-depth/>) printing 43,000 copies of the award-winning newspaper.
- Increased the urgency and volume of watercraft inspection program messages in response to a high number of intercepts, especially among newly purchased vessels coming from infested areas. In partnership with the Tahoe Resource Conservation District, communications staff hosted a media event, conducted media interviews, broadcast live on Facebook, published online articles, and used social media channels to help reduce the number of boaters arriving unprepared to their inspection.
- Continued to educate boaters and paddlers on the Clean, Drain, and Dry and No Wake Zone principles of the watercraft inspection and shoreline programs by using billboards, rack cards, print and online advertising, social media, and targeted e-newsletters.



- Supported the Tahoe Keys AIS control project with website support, e-newsletters, media relations, and other outreach materials.
- Kicked off the Tahoe Bike Challenge with production of bi-lingual promotional video (<https://vimeo.com/558739030>) and social media promotion. Formed three teams within TRPA to encourage staff to use alternative transportation and to represent the agency among regional challenge participants.
- Supported outreach and messaging for the Meeks Bay Restoration Project and Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership.
- Organized a “TRPA 102” webinar (<https://vimeo.com/553024519>) to engage Lake Tahoe realtors and consultants on land coverage, development rights, and more. Over 200 people attended the webinar and TRPA staff fielded more than 75 questions.
- Continued to host weekly Sustainable Recreation land managers working group and public information team calls coordinating and sharing communications strategies throughout the region. The coordination has strengthened the partnership among regional communications staff, non-profits, and visitors’ authorities in influencing behavior among outdoor recreators and visitors.

FINANCE, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, & FACILITIES

Finance Update

Finance staff carried a heavy load this quarter as it marked the end of the fiscal year and the beginning of new budgets.

- Worked with both states to finalize their contributions to the agency for the coming fiscal year.
- Supported the Long Range and Transportation Planning Division in submitting and receiving US Federal Highways Administration approval for their overall work program.
- Assembled a complete budget for fiscal year 2021/2022 and secured Governing Board approval in June.

The Finance Team collaborated with two agency divisions to expand public services.

- Worked with the AIS prevention program to provide a credit card solution to enable the new watercraft inspection appointment system.
- Collaborated with the Current Planning Division to offer permitting customers an additional payment method to submit application filing fees which advances the Digital First Initiative by expanding on-line permitting activities.

The team also submitted an indirect cost proposal to the California Department of Transportation and are awaiting approval. The approval of the indirect cost rate allows TRPA to recover indirect costs on certain grant funds, which is a cost savings to the agency and allows greater use of the general fund.

Facilities/IT Update

TRPA continues to provide most services online. The agency is planning for the future and incorporating the lessons learned and significant achievements from more than a year of remote work. Paradigms about how to serve the public are changing, and the agency intends to lead in delivering services in a more effective way by replacing outmoded, less efficient processes. These include:

- Planning for a new hybrid work model that captures the benefits of both in-person collaboration and remote work.
- Continuing to expand online permitting to reduce the need for applicants to travel to the TRPA offices for business. This will be a major advantage for North Shore and West Shore residents and those property owners and part-time residents.

The Facilities Team is moving forward on deferred maintenance and necessary building repairs with funds from the refinancing of TRPA's long-term debt conducted last year. A request for proposals for the most significant project, replacing the leaky roof, has been issued with a goal of having a contract in place later this year.

HUMAN RESOURCES

This quarter, TRPA welcomed back several seasoned boat crew members for the 2021 boating season. Kris Morehead, Ted Truscott, Cory Talbot, and Jeff Miller were rehired and joined by a new team member, Will Renfort. In addition to providing on-the-water education of the 600-foot No Wake Zone, this season the crew will be taking on field monitoring responsibilities to assist the Research and Analysis and Long Range and Transportation Planning divisions.

Current Planning completed recruitment for a new, entry-level planner position with a July start date. The position has a duration of two years and will provide critical assistance to permit applicants and staff who are experiencing record workloads.

The Long Range and Transportation Planning team had the pleasure of promoting two planners to Senior Planner: Alyssa Bettinger (Long Range Planning) and Kira Smith (Transportation Planning).

As part of the ongoing "Manager/Leader Foundations" workshops, held six times a year, John Hester designed and facilitated a multi-part workshop on "Systems Thinking." Managers have attended two of these sessions and are now forming teams to identify and work on specific projects.

The agency has entered a post-pandemic phase of hybrid work, with more staff members returning to in-office work this quarter. Meeting cameras have been added to some conference rooms to allow team and external meetings to be conducted as hybrid in-person/remote meetings.

All of #TeamTRPA was invited to a parking-lot barbeque in late June to recognize the hard work that has kept the agency functioning successfully and producing outstanding work through the pandemic.