

From: ladieshaven1@everyactioncustom.com <ladieshaven1@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: 8/25/2026 2:59:25 PM
To: Public Comment <PublicComment@trpa.gov>
Subject: Comment Regarding Herbicide Use Associated with the Caldor Fire Restoration Project

Dear Tahoe Regional Planning Agency,

Thank you for the opportunity to weigh in on Caldor Fire restoration efforts.

I understand these efforts could result in the spraying of toxic herbicides on up to 3,200 acres of sensitive public lands in the Lake Tahoe watershed, including in riparian habitat next to streams and wetlands. I urge TRPA to encourage the Forest Service to exercise exceptional caution with the application of herbicides in Lake Tahoe's sensitive watersheds.

Places like the Trout Creek and upper Truckee River watersheds, which drain directly into Lake Tahoe are particularly concerning. Polluted run-off from the herbicide spraying could flow not only through public lands but also through private lands in Lake Tahoe neighborhoods.

Hand crews using non-chemical vegetation management should be used wherever feasible. Areas known for traditional plant gathering by Native Americans and popular trails and other recreation sites should be avoided. Most importantly, herbicide spraying in Stream Environment Zones along creeks and wetlands should be prohibited to protect riparian habitat and polluted run-off. Non-chemical methods should be used to manually reduce brush and competing vegetation in the Stream Environment Zones.

Native vegetation is part of Tahoe's recovery. When restoration is needed, Tahoe deserves an approach that puts humans and wildlife over herbicides and long-term ecological health over chemical shortcuts.

Sincerely,
Karen Hibbard
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