From: Susan Covey <sucoveynow@gmail.com>
Sent: 7/22/2026 8:56:22 AM
To: Public Comment <PublicComment@trpa.gov>
Subject: Please Stop Glyphosate Use in Caldor Fire Scar
Attachments: 8BC60471-DA1F-422B-87AB-4CCDE4CD9B3C.jpeg

I am a frequent visitor to the Desolation Wilderness Area and Lake Tahoe. I have observed the regeneration of the forest in the Caldor burn scar and have been delighted by the robust growth of young trees, wildflowers and shrubs. On my most recent hike, in July 2026, the area was loaded with butterflies, birds and other wildlife. The use of Glyphosate across this lively regrowth is not needed, is dangerous and poses threats worse than a few extra shrubs “competing” with conifers. Forests are ecosystems, not agriculture. Our current administration is pushing to monetize public lands by creating timber, rather than stewarding forests.

The WHO classifies Glyphosate as a probable human carcinogen linked to non-Hodgkin lymphoma — Bayer has paid over $18 billion settling cancer lawsuits.

Glyphosate devastates aquatic life: studies show mortality in frogs and trout at sub-agricultural concentrations, threatening Tahoe's already-declining water clarity.

Glyphosate destroys the mycorrhizal fungi that tree seedlings need to establish roots — literally poisoning the soil you're trying to reforest.

The loss of pioneer plants and shrubs destabilizes the soil and leads to greater runoff and less water retention.

Instead of poisoning the area just to replant, deploy hand crews for manual thinning, use prescribed goat grazing on steep terrain, and apply wood-chip mulch to suppress competing vegetation naturally.

Sincerely,

Susan Covey

Sacramento, CA

From: Cindy Apaka <cindyapaka@gmail.com>
Sent: 7/22/2026 7:53:40 AM
To: Public Comment <PublicComment@trpa.gov>
Subject: Public comment - glyphosate spraying Caldor fire scar & basin

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Hello,

I have heard about the potential for spraying in the Caldor burn scar. This is of great concern. Let the forest regenerate naturally as it would have before herbicides were created. I am concerned about killing off what nature is doing on its own to regenerate after five years. Herbicides will kill naturally growing vegetation that is protecting the soil and providing food and habitat. Herbicides will also cause harm to the humans and animals as it moves through the air and down the mountain slope. Have we not learned anything from Rachel Carson or from the indigenous peoples who live here and have stewarded these lands for thousands of years.

Thank you

Cindy - California Naturalist, Tahoe visitor and down stream resident on the American River.
Sent from my iPad

From: Benjamin I <bni267@gmail.com>
Sent: 7/21/2026 11:22:00 PM
To: Public Comment <PublicComment@trpa.gov>
Subject: Spraying the caldor burn area

Please update your Code of Ordinances to ban all synthetic herbicides in the Tahoe Basin.
In the Caldor burn area, please allow hand-crew thinning only.
Please require an application and review process for the USFS herbicide plan, because what the USFS describes in its plan does not meet any TRPA review exemptions.

From: Benjamin I <bni267@gmail.com>
Sent: 7/21/2026 11:20:29 PM
To: Public Comment <PublicComment@trpa.gov>
Subject: Spraying in the national forests

I have been a local to lake tahoe for 13 years, Eldorado County for 20. The effects of spraying toxic chemicals over our national forests is alarming. I do not support this action in any way. It is inexcusable to think otherwise. Glyphosate should be banned from all uses. It is a lazy way of dealing with a non existent problem. It is a forever chemical that attributes to many adverse side affects including all types of cancers. It is shameful that the TRPA would cosider this as an option. Think of your children or grand children swimming in the American River. Think of the eco systems you'll be disrupting. This should be a non negotiable matter and should be abandoned from talks immediately.

Truly sincerely,

Benjamin Israel

From: Amanda Kinley <amanda_kinley@yahoo.com>
Sent: 7/21/2026 4:43:58 PM
To: Public Comment <PublicComment@trpa.gov>
Subject: Public Comment: Opposition to Glyphosate Use in the Lake Tahoe Basin

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On the safety claim: EPA's interim registration review decision for glyphosate, the document that underpinned the "no risk to human health" position, was challenged in court and vacated by the Ninth Circuit in 2022. EPA withdrew it. There is no current, standing federal safety determination to point to. Any proposal that leans on "EPA says it's safe" is leaning on a document that no longer exists. IARC still classifies glyphosate as probably carcinogenic to humans, and California lists it under Prop 65. That should be the end of the conversation for a spray program in a drinking water basin.

On the ground: the whitethorn is not the problem it's being made out to be. I walk that burn area. Conifer seedlings are already coming up through the ceanothus, and the brush is shading them while they establish. That's the shrub doing what it does after fire, holding soil on slopes, fixing nitrogen, and nursing the next stand of trees. Killing it with herbicide removes the cover, exposes bare ground above the lake, and trades a functioning natural recovery for a chemical shortcut.

The forest is regenerating. It doesn't need to be poisoned to do it.

I'm asking TRPA to reject glyphosate application in the Basin and to require hand-crew thinning as the method in the Caldor burn area.

Respectfully,
Amanda Pruyn
Crystal Air Drive, South Lake Tahoe, CA