TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY

TRPA
PO Box 5310
128 Market Street
Stateline, NV 89449

STAFF REPORT

Date: March 18, 2026

To: TRPA Governing Board

From: TRPA Staff

Subject: Release of $40,000 in Washoe County Stream Environment Zone (SEZ) Mitigation Funds towards the Lower Rosewood Creek Aquatic Organism Passage Project (EIP No. 01.02.01.0093)

Summary and Staff Recommendation:
Staff recommends that the Governing Board approve Washoe County's request for the release of Washoe County Stream Environment Zone (SEZ) Mitigation Funds ($40,000) towards the Lower Rosewood Creek Aquatic Organism Passage Project. The request is consistent with the Environmental Improvement Program objectives, and the Governing Board's policy guidelines for the release of mitigation funds.

Required Motions:
To approve the requested release, the Board must make the following motion:

1) A motion to approve the release of Washoe County Stream Environment Zone Mitigation Funds subject to the conditions contained in this staff report.

In order for the motion to pass, an affirmative vote of at least eight Board members is required.

Project Description/Background:
The Lower Rosewood Creek Aquatic Organism Passage Project is located along Rosewood Creek in Incline Village, Nevada. The project proposes to remove two culvert crossings with upstream metal standpipes installed in 2003 and replace them with fish-passable box culverts. The first replacement will occur at Incline Way, and the second approximately 0.15 miles upstream at an existing multi-use path.

The new culverts will provide suitable passage conditions for native fish and expand access to approximately 1.5 miles of upstream habitat. The project will also restore natural streamflow downstream of each crossing. Additional channel improvements will reduce channel incision, enhance floodplain connectivity, and support expansion of riparian habitat.

In 2003, Rosewood Creek was a significant contributor of sediment to Third Creek and Lake Tahoe. To address this, a new channel was constructed along Lower Rosewood Creek between State Route 28 and Lakeshore Boulevard, creating a functioning Stream Environment Zone (SEZ) and installing standpipes to promote sediment deposition. Since then, multiple upstream restoration projects have significantly

reduced sediment and nutrient inputs, and the standpipes are no longer needed. This project will remove the standpipes and replace them with fish-friendly passage structures.

The project is scheduled to begin in spring 2026, with construction expected to be completed by the end of 2027. The requested funds will complete a funding package that includes $1,025,000 (Lake Tahoe Restoration Act (LTRA) funds), $50,000 (Tahoe Fund), $194,506 (Nevada Division of State Lands), and $32,031 (Nevada Department of Wildlife).

As of September 30, 2025, the unencumbered balance for Washoe County Stream Environment Zone Mitigation Funds was $128,097.77, which is sufficient to cover this request.

Staff recommends approving the release of these funds subject to the following conditions of approval:

Conditions:

1. Washoe County shall only use the funds for the project cited above and as approved by TRPA.

2. TRPA reserves the right to withhold funds to ensure project priorities, goals, and objectives are consistent with those of the Environmental Improvement Program and TRPA's Regional Plan.

3. Washoe County agrees to follow all laws, codes, and regulations adopted by federal, state, and local authorities/agencies.

4. Washoe County agrees to maintain a report detailing the use and expenditure of all funds used on the project. These records shall be made available for review and audit by TRPA within thirty (30) calendar days upon written request.

5. All mitigation funds not used as described above shall be returned to TRPA. Upon written approval from TRPA, these funds may be re-allocated to another project.

6. Washoe County agrees to request from TRPA a final inspection no later than 30 days after completion of the project.

7. TRPA approved EIP signage shall be used on all projects to identify TRPA as a funding source and shall include the EIP logo.

8. Washoe County agrees to report the applicable EIP Performance Measures achieved by this project in the EIP Tracker.

Contact Information:
For questions regarding this agenda item, please contact Tracy Campbell at (775) 589-5267 or tcampbell@trpa.gov

To submit a written public comment, email publiccomment@trpa.gov with the appropriate agenda item in the subject line. Written comments received by 4 p.m. the day before a scheduled public meeting will be distributed and posted to the TRPA website before the meeting begins. TRPA does not guarantee written comments received after 4 p.m. the day before a meeting will be distributed and posted in time for the meeting.

Attachments:

A. EIP Project Fact Sheet

Attachment A

EIP Project Fact Sheet

Lake Tahoe
ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Lower Rosewood Creek Aquatic Organism Passage Project

Project Number	01.02.01.0093
Action Priority	Restore Priority Meadows, Wetlands, and Lake Tahoe Tributaries
Implementers	Nevada Tahoe Conservation District
Primary Contact	Meghan Kelly (mkelly@ntcd.org)
Stage	Planning/Design
Duration	2023 - 2026

Watershed Restoration Program > Restore Priority Meadows, Wetlands, and Lake Tahoe Tributaries

This project proposes to remove two standpipe/metal culvert crossings installed in 2003 at Incline Way and upstream near an existing multi-use path and replace them with structures that allow for the passage of native salmonids, along with improving the floodplain connectivity in one location between the two culvert crossings.

standpipe blocks fish passage near bike path upstream from Incline W

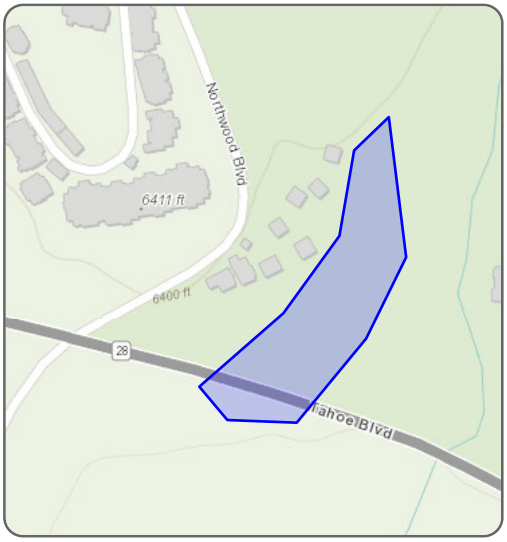
Key Accomplishments

Accomplishments to be provided upon completion of project

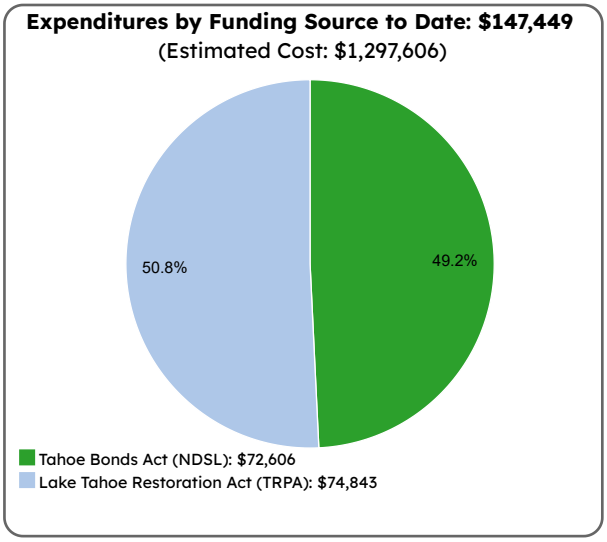
Threshold Categories

- Fisheries

Location



Expenditures



Photos

Before

standpipe blocks fish passage nupstream from Incline Way

downstream of Incline Way, biologists often find tagged trout that cannot swim farther upstream

Learn more at restoretahoe.org

Project Fact Sheet Data as of 03/15/