

# **Agenda Item 4**

## **2024 Watercraft Inspection Fees**

Thomas Boos  
AIS Prevention Coordinator  
February 28, 2024

# Purpose

TRPA Code states the Governing Board shall approve the fee schedule annually.

Recommend the Governing Board approve the proposed watercraft inspection fee schedule.



**LAKE TAHOE**  
INVASIVE SPECIES  
PROGRAM

# Inspection Program Basics



**TAHOE  
REGIONAL  
PLANNING  
AGENCY**



Watercraft are  
inspected at one  
of **THREE**  
Watercraft  
Inspection  
Stations



Watercraft are  
decontaminated  
if not Clean,  
Drain, Dry



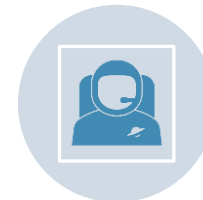
Stickers are sold



Seals are installed



Data Entered



Proceed to  
launch facility



Seal Removal



Seal Application

# Prevention Program Background

- AIS program requires inspection and purchase of a sticker to launch - prevent the introduction of AIS
- Fees for services- inspection and decontamination
- One of the most critical EIP programs to protect Lake Tahoe

<b>SINGLE INSPECTION</b>
Lake Tahoe Fallen Leaf Lake Echo Lake <b>2024</b>
ramp sealing expires: _____
boat reg #: _____
issued by: _____
issue date: _____

<b>24</b> Lake Tahoe Fallen Leaf Lake Echo Lake	<b>Tahoe In<sup>AND</sup>Out</b>
<b>24</b> Lake Tahoe Fallen Leaf Lake Echo Lake	<b>Tahoe Only</b>



**LAKE TAHOE**  
INVASIVE SPECIES  
PROGRAM

# Why we inspect

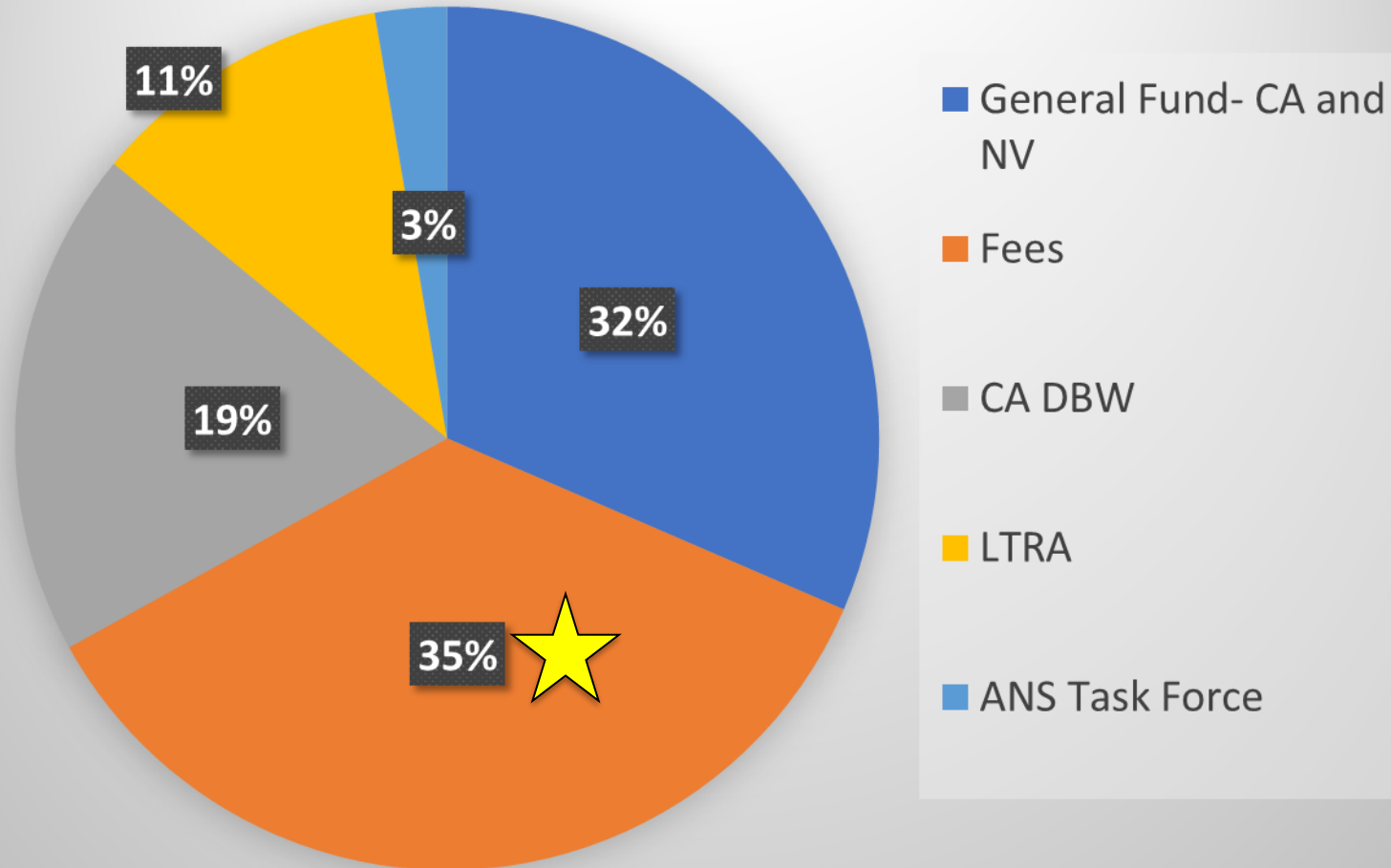


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# Annual Funding Sources (CY23) and Budget

Annual Funding Sources



Overall Prevention Budget

\$2,414,714

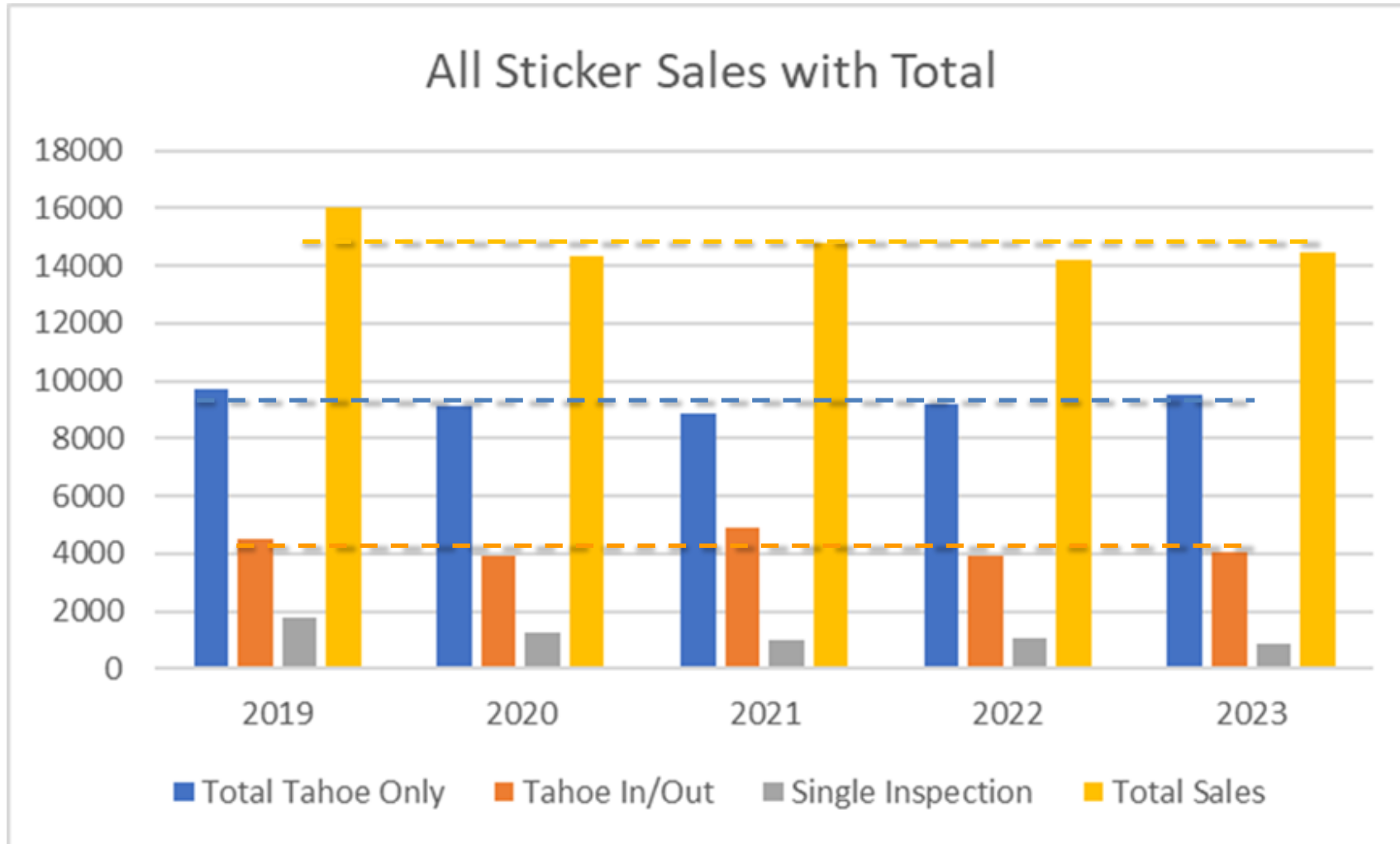
Tahoe Resource  
Conservation District  
Contract

\$1,569,722

Follows EIP model of  
funding



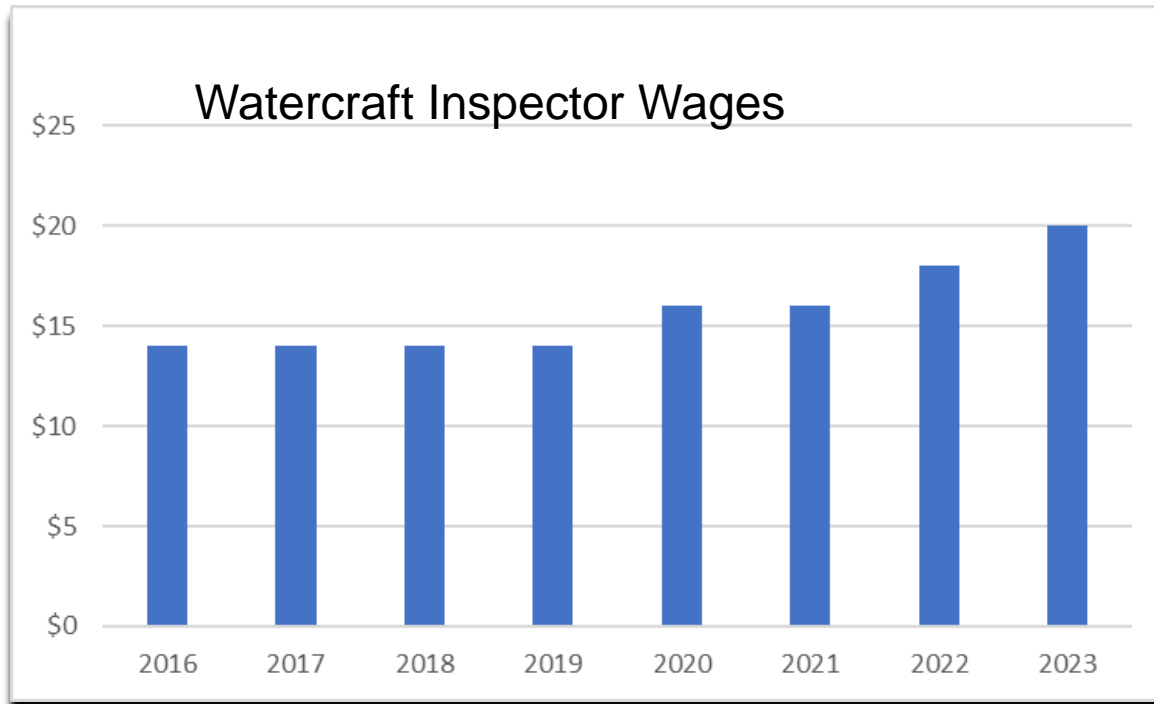
# Total Sticker Sales



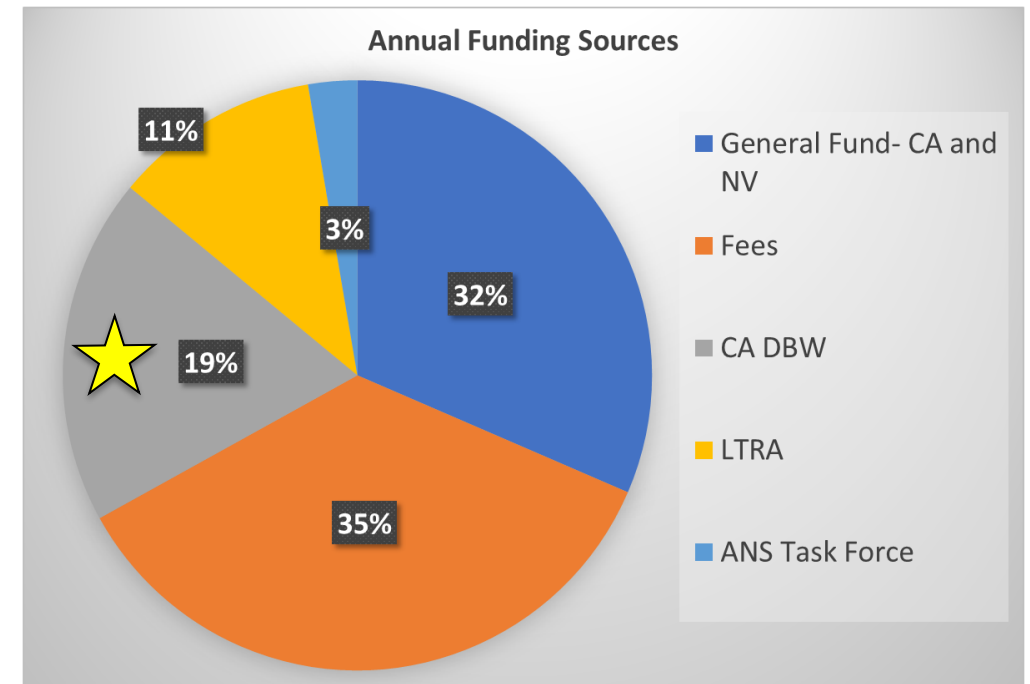
# State of the Program

## Recent Budget Impacts

### *1. Cost of labor*



### *2. Loss of grant funds*



### *3. General cost to operate the program*



# New Zealand Mudsnail Response

## New Operating Costs

- Roving Inspectors
  - Non-motorized users
  - Education/outreach-Tahoe Keepers
- Quality control across the lake





# Inspection Fees- Proposed Increases

Inspection Fees	2023	2024 Proposal	Amount of increase
Tahoe Only	\$45	\$50	\$5
In/Out: PWC & up to 17	\$60	\$70	\$10
In/Out: 17 and up	\$100	\$115	\$15
Single: PWC & up to 17	\$55	\$65	\$10
Single: 17 and up	\$80	\$95	\$15

Fees should reflect amount of work to inspect



# Decontamination Fees- Proposed Increases

Decontamination Fees	2023	2024 Proposal	Amount of increase
Decontamination (single system, jet ski)	\$25	\$30	\$5
Decontamination (2-3 systems)	\$50	\$60	\$10
Complex Decontamination (4 or more systems)		\$110	\$110
<b>Ballast Boats (in addition)</b>			
Drained Ballasts	\$25	\$30	\$5
Undrained Ballasts	\$50	\$60	\$10
<b>Attached Mussels</b>	\$250	\$350	\$100



# Recent Fee Increases

**2015-2018-** No changes

**2019-2023-** Targeted fee increases to reflect the work required to implement the program

- **2019-** Tahoe Only stickers **\$3**
- **2021-** Tahoe In/Out and Single Inspection pass **\$5**
  - Multiple system decontaminations increased **\$10**
  - Attached mussel fee increased **\$50**.
- **2022-** Single system decontaminations **\$5**
  - Created new decontamination category for ballast tanks

# Moving Forward

- Continue to apply for grants
- Continue to seek federal and state sources such as LTRA
- Continue to assess need for smaller, graduated fee increases
- Continue to review operations to find efficiencies- upgrades
- Permanent inspection stations at Spooner and Meyers in planning stage





# Requested Board Action

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Motion: Recommend the Governing Board adopt the Resolution containing the 2024 watercraft inspection fee schedule.

*Thank you*