

Tracy Campbell

From: Julie Soules <jkrinaldo@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 3:33 PM
To: Marja Ambler
Cc: jmarchetta@trpa.gpv; Jeff Cowen; editor@sierrasun.com; arielmy@theunion.com; ssullivan@theunion.com; editors@moonshineink.com; news@kcra.com; kcrainvestigates@kcra.com; stanton.tang@kolotv.com; news@kolotv.com; producers@ktvn.com; jesse@keoptahoeblue.org
Subject: TRPA Governing Board Public Comment Opposing Herbicides

Dear TRPA Governing Board,

I am writing to you today because it's a travesty that the use of aquatic herbicides is still even a topic of discussion and that it was unanimously passed by the Lahontan Water Board. The weeds are absolutely, 100% a problem that needs to be addressed, but the proposed test methods are a mockery of actually trying to find and implement a solution.

Everyone knows that herbicides are effective at killing weeds, so there's no real point in testing them. But even if there was a point, what we need to do is stop talking about killing weeds because killing them is only a **SMALL** piece of the solution to the puzzle. Instead of focusing on how to kill the weeds, the focus should be on how to make the extremely nutrient rich and weed friendly environment of the Keys non-hospitable for weeds moving forward.

Once a plan is in place to effectively stop the spread of the weeds from the Keys into the Greater Lake Tahoe body of water **AND** there is a plan to address the elements that make the Keys so plant friendly, then **and only then** should we start talking about how to kill the weeds. And then, and only then, can someone say with any sincerity that using herbicides would in fact be a one-time application, if such a step was still deemed necessary.

If you want to make the Keys nutrient deficient for plant life instead of nutrient rich, in my opinion, you have to address three main factors: nutrients flowing into the Keys from storm drains and landscaping; eradication of the current muck level; and a system to move the water so it's not a stagnant breeding ground.

However, these are not the only things that can be done. UV light systems could be expanded so that every XX* number of channels has their own boat and we could even explore an under pier light system. Air mats and hand-pulling could be utilized more aggressively. Boat inspections could be more rigorous. There are numerous other avenues that have yet to be adequately explored and need to be more thoroughly vetted before we take the drastic step of approving the use of herbicides.

The bottom line is that unless someone actually starts to propose and develop a TRUE solution to the problem, allowing this travesty to move forward is like slapping lipstick on a pig. Only unlike the dressed up pig, the potential repercussions to successful testing of herbicides is the subsequent application of herbicides and all it takes is 5 minutes of research to figure out that the herbicide application cycle is just that. It's a cycle that will never end and will lead to mutated stronger weeds and potentially catastrophic health issues for the people who live, play and work on and in Lake Tahoe.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Julie K Soules

*XX - I don't know what the appropriate number would be, 1 boat for every 10 channels, 1 boat for every 20? That would have to be determined the "XX" is just being used as a placeholder.

Tracy Campbell

From: Ron Grassi <ronsallygrassi@mac.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 3:53 PM
To: Marja Ambler
Subject: Please do not use herbicides in Lake Tahoe and at the Keyes

This proposed use of exposing the Lake to poisonous chemicals is crossing the line. I believe the Keyes developers and the permitting agency in 1959-1960 knew this project would create a Petri dish for invasive weeds to thrive, and thrive they did. The answer is not to resort to chemicals. I wish I could say you are surprised at the opposition to this approach, but I know you're not. You're opting for the quick solution. What's next? Chemicals to kill quagga and zebra mussels if they're found in the Lake? TRPA has thus far rejected this approach if these invasive species enter the Lake due to the collateral damage. Almost the same issue.

Ron Grassi

Tracy Campbell

From: B Luke <benitalouise@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 4:35 PM
To: Marja Ambler
Subject: Fwd: Weeds

Begin forwarded message:

From: B Luke <benitalouise@yahoo.com>
Subject: Weeds
Date: January 25, 2022 at 4:22:29 PM PST
To: mambler@trpa.gov

I have sent a response to the aquatic herbicides but sent it to tahoekeysweeds@trpa.org. Is that going to be OK?

I am deeply concerned about the situation with the TRPA possibly supporting the testing off Aquatic Herbicides in the Tahoe Keys when other non-chemical methods have not been fully tested. This is appalling that the herbicides are even being considered. I know that from my experience that this method only causes even greater devastating damage in the long run. I have not heard of any place in this country where this has proved to be effective. Remember, this is our drinking water, recreation, and wildlife sanctuary. PLEASE do not allow this to happen!

Tracy Campbell

From: Terry Murphy <terry.murphy@articaenergy.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 5:07 PM
To: Marja Ambler
Cc: Jeff Cowen; Joanne Marchetta
Subject: TRPA Governing Board Public Comment Opposing Herbicides

The TRPA should not be supporting testing Aquatic Herbicides in Lake Tahoe.

This would be the first time that aquatic herbicides were approved for testing in a Tier 3 lake, highest quality outstanding natural resource used for drinking water.

This will set a precedent, not just for Lake Tahoe and it's other marinas, but also for other pristine lakes around the world.

Big Bear Lake in Southern California and the lakes in Minnesota have proven that Aquatic herbicides cause the weeds to mutate and get stronger.

The non-chemical methods need to be tested in combinations for longer periods of time and consistently in larger areas. Each non-chemical method has its strength and when used in combination in the appropriate places can manage the weed issues in the Keys

The reality is that the Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association has barely begun to reduce the sources of nutrients, test, maintain and combine the non-chemical methods for eliminating the weeds. Fertilizers are still coming from the Tahoe Keys lawns and much of Southlake Tahoe either directly or through runoff from lawns to street drains that go to 169 drain pipes that drain into the Keys and have not yet had filters put on them. Fertilizer also go straight down into the ground water that goes into Tahoe. The Keys did a ban on phosphorus only 5 years ago and it has not been regulated. TRPA has not banned phosphorus fertilizers throughout the basin which was recommended in 2012 and yet they are supporting the use of aquatic herbicides in the lake.

Please stop this reckless action, keep Tahoe Blue.

Respectfully,

Terry Murphy

P.O. Box 4627

Incline Village, NV 89450

Tracy Campbell

From: Dan Hedigan <dhedigan1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 5:43 PM
To: Marja Ambler
Cc: Jeff Cowen
Subject: Aquatic Herbicides Use at Tahoe Keys

I am writing to oppose the use of Aquatic Herbicides at Tahoe Keys community. The non-herbicide options that are part of the comprehensive proposed aquatic weed management package should exclusively be implemented and given a chance to control the aquatic weeds before any thought is given to injecting herbicides into the beautiful waters of Lake Tahoe. Experience in similar lakes over the last 30 years has shown Aquatic Herbicides cause the weeds to mutate and get stronger.

Tahoe Keys has a problem, but they need to own the issue, and the TRPA should be holding the Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association accountable and not be supporting testing Aquatic Herbicides when the Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association has barely begun to reduce the sources of nutrients and to test, maintain and combine the non-chemical methods for eliminating the weeds. The non-chemical methods need to be tested in combinations for longer periods of time and consistently in larger areas. Each non-chemical method has its strength and when used in combination in the appropriate places can manage the weed issues in the Keys.

In addition, the Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association needs to be required to consistently maintain and operate the bubble curtain and monitor the boat back up station to stop fragments from leaving the Keys and spreading into the lake.

Finally, if Aquatic Herbicides are approved for testing in our Tier 3 lake, (highest quality outstanding national resource used for drinking water) this will set a precedent, not just for Lake Tahoe and its marinas, but also for pristine lakes around the world.

As a property owner in the Lake Tahoe basin, I would urge you to not set this terrible precedent by allowing the use of Aquatic Herbicides in Lake Tahoe. Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Dan Hedigan

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

Tracy Campbell

From: Maureen Lamerdin <sierraacupuncture@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 7:50 PM
To: Marja Ambler; jmarchette@trpa.gov; Jeff Cowen
Subject: Stop the use of herbicides in the Keys!!!!

To Whom it may concern,

Please STOP this atrocity of our beautiful lake! I can't believe you would even consider approving this.

The TRPA should not be supporting testing Aquatic Herbicides when the Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association has barely begun to reduce the sources of nutrients, test, maintain and combine the non-chemical methods for eliminating the weeds. The non-chemical methods need to be tested in combinations for longer periods of time and consistently in larger areas. Each non-chemical method has its strength and when used in combination in the appropriate places can manage the weed issues in the Keys.

In addition, the maintenance and operation of the bubble curtain plus monitoring of the boat back up station to stop fragments from leaving the Keys and spreading into the lake needs to be regulated daily.

Experience in similar lakes over the last 30 years has shown Aquatic Herbicides cause the weeds to mutate and get stronger. Finally, if Aquatic Herbicides are approved for testing in our Tier 3 lake, (highest quality outstanding national resource used for drinking water) this will set a precedent, not just for Lake Tahoe and its marinas, but also for pristine lakes around the world.

Maureen Lamerdin, O.M.D.
Sierra Acupuncture & Healing Arts, Inc.
512 N. Division St. Carson City, NV 89703
889 Alder Ave. Ste. 302 Incline Village, NV
(775) 841-3336
www.sierraacupuncturearts.com

"Be the change you wish to see in the world" Mahatma Gandhi

Tracy Campbell

From: john crawford <jrchome2004@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 8:14 PM
To: Marja Ambler
Subject: Herbicides in Lake Tahoe

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

The TRPA should not be supporting testing Aquatic Herbicides when the Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association has barely begun to reduce the sources of nutrients, test, maintain and combine the non-chemical methods for eliminating the weeds. The non-chemical methods need to be tested in combinations for longer periods of time and consistently in larger areas. Each non-chemical method has its strength and when used in combination in the appropriate places can manage the weed issues in the Keys.

In addition, the maintenance and operation of the bubble curtain plus monitoring of the boat back up station to stop fragments from leaving the Keys and spreading into the lake needs to be regulated daily.

Experience in similar lakes over the last 30 years has shown Aquatic Herbicides cause the weeds to mutate and get stronger. Finally, if Aquatic Herbicides are approved for testing in our Tier 3 lake, (highest quality outstanding national resource used for drinking water) this will set a precedent, not just for Lake Tahoe and its marinas, but also for pristine lakes around the world.

John Crawford
775.434.5628

Sent from my iPhone

Tracy Campbell

From: Parme, Joseph J <Joseph.Parme@charter.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 3:06 PM
To: Marja Ambler
Subject: TRPA NOT Approving Testing Aquatic Herbicides

Hi.

The TRPA should not be supporting testing aquatic herbicides when the Tahoe Keys homeowners association have barely begun to:

Reduce the source of nutrients

Fertilizers are still coming from the Tahoe Keys lawns and much of Southlake Tahoe either directly or through runoff from lawns to street drains that go to 169 drain pipes that drain into the Keys and have not yet had filters put on them. Fertilizers also go straight down into the groundwater that goes into Tahoe. The Keys did a ban on phosphorus only 5 years ago and it has not been regulated. TRPA has not banned phosphorus fertilizers throughout the basin which was recommended in 2012 and yet they are supporting the use of aquatic herbicides in the lake.

Test and properly maintain the Non-chemical methods...

for a long enough time and in large enough areas.

There are an array of non-chemical methods available, however, the primary non chemical methods that are being put in this test are aeration and UV light. These two methods have not been tried in combination with other methods such as mats and diver assisted section. UV light can also be hung down from all the piers in the Keys to stop the weeds from growing. In addition, the aeration system motors were not running at the beginning of the season when the weeds first started growing last year. The use of natural and artificial wetlands in the Keys has also not been considered in this test.

Their justification for approving aquatic herbicide testing is that the weeds are spreading into the lake. Yet last year, the motor for the bubble curtain that catches fragments was not running for the first half of the summer. Also, the boat back up station for getting the weed fragments off of the boat motors before they enter the lake was only monitored for 20 hours of the summer.

This would be the first time that aquatic herbicides were approved for testing in a Tier 3 lake, highest quality outstanding natural resource used for drinking water. This will set a precedent, not just for Lake Tahoe and it's other marinas, but also for other pristine lakes around the world.

Also, Big bear lake and the lakes in Minnesota have proven that Aquatic herbicides cause the weeds to mutate and get stronger.

Thank you,

Joe parme
861 Southwood Blvd Unit 36
IV NV 89450

The contents of this e-mail message and any attachments are intended solely for the addressee(s) and may contain confidential and/or legally privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient of this message

Tracy Campbell

From: Joyce Delucchi <joycedelucchiefa@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 3:19 PM
To: Marja Ambler; Jeff Cowen; Joanne Marchetta
Subject: TRPA Governing Board Public Comment Opposing Herbicides

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

The TRPA should not be supporting testing Aquatic Herbicides when the Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association has barely begun to reduce the sources of nutrients, test, maintain and combine the non-chemical methods for eliminating the weeds. The non-chemical methods need to be tested in combinations for longer periods of time and consistently in larger areas. Each non-chemical method has its strength and when used in combination in the appropriate places can manage the weed issues in the Keys.

In addition, the maintenance and operation of the bubble curtain plus monitoring of the boat back up station to stop fragments from leaving the Keys and spreading into the lake needs to be regulated daily.

Experience in similar lakes over the last 30 years has shown Aquatic Herbicides cause the weeds to mutate and get stronger. Finally, if Aquatic Herbicides are approved for testing in our Tier 3 lake, (highest quality outstanding national resource used for drinking water) this will set a precedent, not just for Lake Tahoe and its marinas, but also for pristine lakes around the world

Thank you!
Joyce M Delucchi
Associate @ Elise Fett & Associates, Ltd
Architecture and Engineering
P.O. Box 5989
Incline Village, NV. 89450
775-833-3388 office

Tracy Campbell

From: Tracy Campbell
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 8:06 PM
To: Tracy Campbell
Subject: FW: Quick question on CQUA indemnification

From: Diane Heirshberg <dbheirshberg@gmail.com>
Date: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at 3:42 PM
To: John Marshall <jmarshall@trpa.gov>
Cc: Jeff Cowen <jcowen@trpa.gov>
Subject: Re: Quick question on CQUA indemnification

Thank you John for the quick reply.

Could you convey a request from me as a resident, to the Board that the indemnity given to TRPA that Special Condition 27 be expanded to also indemnify IVGID. The experts hired by Permittee contend this is safe and we are all relying on this, but what if the experts are incorrect or something unexpected occurs, and IVGID is required to incur costs to change the way it processes our drinking water.

I would appreciate it if this could be considered.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Diane Becker
805-290-2779

Tracy Campbell

From: Jeff Cowen
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 3:50 PM
To: Tracy Campbell; Katherine Hangeland
Subject: FW: TRPA Governing Board Public Comment Opposing Herbicides

Jeff Cowen (he/his)
Public Information Officer
775.589.5278

From: robert lober <rlober59@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 3:30 PM
To: Marja Ambler <mambler@trpa.gov>; jmarchetta@trpa.gpv; Jeff Cowen <jcowen@trpa.gov>
Subject: TRPA Governing Board Public Comment Opposing Herbicides

Dear TRPA,

I am writing to let you know that I am vehemently opposed to the use of aquatic herbicides in Lake Tahoe - our drinking water source. As an agency that is mandated to protect the environment of the Lake Tahoe basin it is inconceivable to me that TRPA would allow the use of herbicides in the lake without first exhausting all other possibilities. There are numerous non-chemical options that have not been fully vetted (UV light, aeration, mats, etc).

Please reconsider your decision to use herbicides in our beautiful lake.

Robert Lober
775-843-7908

Tracy Campbell

From: Jeff Cowen
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 4:33 PM
To: Katherine Hangeland; Tracy Campbell
Subject: FW: TRPA Governing Board Public Comment Opposing Herbicides

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Jeff Cowen (he/his)
Public Information Officer
775.589.5278

From: Tim Ferrell <ferrell@ftcivil.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 4:20 PM
To: Marja Ambler <mambler@trpa.gov>
Cc: Elise Fett <elise@elisefett.com>; Joanne Marchetta <jMarchetta@trpa.gov>; Jeff Cowen <jcowen@trpa.gov>
Subject: TRPA Governing Board Public Comment Opposing Herbicides

Dear Marja,

I am writing to express my disappointment with the TRPA for not having the strength to stop this threat of invasive species into Lake Tahoe from the Tahoe Keys. Now you are trying to save the Keys Home Owner a little bit of money by letting them to use chemicals to eradicate the weeds via complete removal. This puts not only Lake Tahoe at risk but now every water purveyor using Lake Tahoe has to worry about chemicals.

The TRPA mission is to save Lake Tahoe. I know this is going to sound extensive but the only way to fix this problem is to dam the entrance to Lake Tahoe from the Keys marina. Allow the marina to dry. Then remove the silt and invasive species without threat to Lake Tahoe. After the keys are safe you can then allow access to the lake again.

Yes this would mean they lose a boating season or two but I think the best solution to this problem. It is the only real solution.

Please ask yourself if saving Lake Tahoe is worth inconveniencing a few homeowners.

Tim Ferrell, P.E.

P.O.Box 361
Tahoe Vista, CA 96148
(530) 546-2752

Tracy Campbell

From: Jeff Cowen
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 4:57 PM
To: Tracy Campbell; Katherine Hangeland
Subject: FW: Aquatic Herbicides at the Tahoe Keys

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Jeff Cowen (he/his)
Public Information Officer
775.589.5278

From: Sara Lafrance <saralafrance1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 4:52 PM
To: Marja Ambler <mambler@trpa.gov>
Cc: Jeff Cowen <jcowen@trpa.gov>
Subject: Aquatic Herbicides at the Tahoe Keys

The TRPA should not be supporting testing Aquatic Herbicides when the Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association has barely begun to reduce the sources of nutrients, test, maintain and combine the non-chemical methods for eliminating the weeds. The non-chemical methods need to be tested in combinations for longer periods of time and consistently in larger areas. Each non-chemical method has its strength and when used in combination in the appropriate places can manage the weed issues in the Keys.

In addition, the maintenance and operation of the bubble curtain plus monitoring of the boat back up station to stop fragments from leaving the Keys and spreading into the lake needs to be regulated daily.

Experience in similar lakes over the last 30 years has shown Aquatic Herbicides cause the weeds to mutate and get stronger. Finally, if Aquatic Herbicides are approved for testing in our Tier 3 lake, (highest quality outstanding national resource used for drinking water) this will set a precedent, not just for Lake Tahoe and its marinas, but also for pristine lakes around the world.

I implore you to reconsider your decision.

Sincerely,
Sara Lafrance
saralafrance1@gmail.com
775 772 2637

Tracy Campbell

From: kathy mosby <kathymosby@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 5:54 PM
To: Tracy Campbell
Cc: Katherine Hangeland
Subject: Fwd: TRPA Governing Board Public Comment Opposing Herbicides

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: kathy mosby <kathymosby@hotmail.com>
Date: January 25, 2022 at 5:48:33 PM PST
To: mambler@trpa.gov, jcowen@trpa.gov
Cc: jmarchetta@trpa.gov
Subject: TRPA Governing Board Public Comment Opposing Herbicides

Dear TRPA Governing Board:

I've been watching in horror and disbelief as the powers that be have been debating the use of herbicides in our sacred Lake Tahoe.

In my heart, I truly believed that those in authority would never even consider doing ANYTHING that might have the slightest chance of harming our beautiful lake. I believed that anyone who has been on this Earth for a fair amount of time would realize that this is a monumental decision that we cannot afford to get wrong! You can't play around and experiment with something of this magnitude!

With all of the contaminated, poisoned, unusable bodies of water on our planet, how in God's name could anyone ever even entertain the option of using herbicides in Lake Tahoe?

When will we ever learn?!

Adding ANYTHING to Lake Tahoe is a very bad idea and if you do this, you can never, ever take it back!! EVER!! Please think about that very seriously.

Future generations could suffer the consequences of your decision until the end of time. I wish I was exaggerating, but I'm not. This is the gravity of the decision you're about to make.

Tread lightly....you're playing with fire.

Sincerely,

Kathy L. Mosby

Tracy Campbell

From: Marin AOC <aocmarin@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 7:33 PM
To: Tracy Campbell; Katherine Hangeland
Subject: Fw: Don't Issue the Herbicide Permit to the Tahoe Keys! TRPA Governing Board Public Comment

Hi, please accept this email as a TRPA governing board public comment...thank you!

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Marin AOC <aocmarin@yahoo.com>
To: "mambler@trpa.gov" <mambler@trpa.gov>
Cc: "jmarchetta@trpa.org" <jmarchetta@trpa.org>; "jcowen@trpa.gov" <jcowen@trpa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022, 03:40:57 PM PST
Subject: Fw: Don't Issue the Herbicide Permit to the Tahoe Keys! TRPA Governing Board Public Comment

To the Governing Board of TRPA and Officers and Staff,

Please do not issue the Tahoe Keys an herbicide permit so that they can dump toxic chemicals into their lagoons to kill their invasive weeds. The Keys have not done enough research on the interactions between the proposed herbicides and the existing cyanobacteria blooms as well as what effect they will have on all of the fish and other creatures that live there. The assumption that the one application of the herbicides will solve all of the issues is false. If you issue this permit you will be opening the door to perpetual poisoning of the lake. You actions and those of the Lahontan Regional Waterboard are violating the public trust doctrine. It is your responsibility to protect the lake from harm and if you issue the permit you will be allowing a group of homeowners who have been irresponsible in taking care of their property for the last 60 years to further harm the lake. Their continued use of lawn fertilizer has created massive monster invasive weeds in their lagoons and have caused cyanobacteria blooms to grow in what was once pristine marshland. The truth is that the solution to this horrendous environmental disaster is in a complete restructuring of the layout and design of the Tahoe Keys. Since no one wants to go down that path, you will be left with serial herbicide permits which will further pollute Lake Tahoe. The Tahoe Keys have not put genuine efforts into solving their weed and cyanobacteria issues holistically so they have no choice but to take the route of least resistance and apply herbicides. And once you herbicide, you always herbicide. This is a terrible fate for the crown jewel of the Sierras so I hope that you all come to your senses and vote no on the herbicide application from the Tahoe Keys.

Thank you!

Trish Friedman

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Marin AOC <aocmarin@yahoo.com>
To: "mambler@trpa.gov" <mambler@trpa.gov>
Cc: "jmarchetta@trpa.org" <jmarchetta@trpa.org>; "jcowen@trpa.gov" <jcowen@trpa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022, 03:24:01 PM PST
Subject: Don

Mr. Chairman and Board Members,

Hi, I'm Trish and I appreciate the opportunity to speak before you today. Over the last seven years, I have been trying to educate the various agencies on the dangers of mixing herbicides with cyanobacteria in the Tahoe Keys lagoons. In addition, I have brought to their attention the number of people in our community who have died from the airborne toxins secreted by these cyanobacteria, one of whom was my boyfriend who grew up next to the Keys and the other, my professor, who taught at Sierra Nevada College.

Many of you already know that I have been vehemently opposed to an herbicide permit for the Tahoe Keys. It is not the route that we should go on to fight the weeds and cyanobacteria blooms. Turning to toxic methods will not address the bigger problem of bad layout and design, a topic which everyone has managed to avoid for 60 years.

It's a slippery and dangerous slope to invite herbicides to be a part of this pristine and amazing place since it will not be a onetime application, despite assurances otherwise. In retrospect, the Tahoe Keys could have done a better job by banning all fertilizer use by homeowners. They could have investigated the lethality of their toxic cyanobacteria blooms as they relate to community illness and death from the BMAA neurotoxin, it's crucial test purposely left out when they submitted data in their draft EIR. The Keys should have continuously run the water pumps which circulate the lagoon water, mandated when they were first built but no, they couldn't do that either.

When you review decades of these issues and failed efforts, it makes perfect sense that they would look for the cheapest and quickest solution out there, the magic toxic silver herbicide bullet to do the job that they should have been doing all along, which was protecting Lake Tahoe. This type of thinking is their greatest failure. And that failure also squarely belongs upon the shoulders of all the agencies at the lake for not forcing them to comply with the Clean Water Act all along.

Unfortunately, all efforts have been directed microscopically. That path has proven to be a complete failure. No matter how much time, money and energy has been spent chopping down the weeds, lining the lagoons with bottom mats, etc., it has not stopped the onslaught. The weeds are more monstrous, the lake more infected, and the cyanobacteria blooms are a constant and deadly threat.

The answer to this nightmare is obvious: redesign the Keys from the water up. No more band aiding and piece mealing this mess. A complete overhaul is necessary. One solution is to remove the lagoons and land fingers, restore the marsh and create a large open water body surrounding homes which are raised on stilts and pillars, making it a true boating community. I may be simplifying it, but the idea begs exploration and inquiry.

An engineer who specializes in marsh restoration and two architectural firms who specialize in over water homes have agreed that it is completely possible to redesign the Keys. This approach will solve the weed and cyanobacteria issues. With that said, I invite you to reach out. Let's discuss how to save Lake Tahoe by helping the Keys get a much-needed makeover. I can be reached at: 775.301.7567. Thank You!

Tracy Campbell

From: Pamela Tsigdinos <ptsigdinos@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 4:20 PM
To: Marja Ambler
Cc: Alexis Hill
Subject: TRPA Public Comment: Oppose Herbicides in Lake Tahoe

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I am a full-time resident of Incline Village, NV, writing to ask TRPA to oppose a proposal by the Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association seeking an exemption for the Lahontan water board to test and to measure an herbicide's efficacy to destroy weeds in the Tahoe Keys. There is far too great a risk to resident health and safety of many other Lake communities by experimenting with powerful chemicals that can pollute and do damage to the purity of the Lake.

As you know, Lake Tahoe communities such as Incline Village, Crystal Bay and others rely on the Lake for drinking water, cooking, bathing and related personal use. Please prioritize resident health and safety rather than opt for an inexpensive and expedient way to address poor land use and development. Please maintain the rule that prohibits herbicides in Lake Tahoe

I stand with opponents like the Sierra Club, which calls the herbicides [a "Band-Aid" solution](#) that can have much worse consequences.

Thank you, Pamela

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Pamela Mahoney Tsigdinos

Incline Village, NV resident

**Please read my San Francisco Chronicle op-ed:**  
[How to Stop Tahoe from turning into the Disneyland of wildfire country](#)