

2018 QUARTERLY REPORT

TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY

First Quarter: January – March 2018



TAHOE
REGIONAL
PLANNING
AGENCY



Photo by Tom Lotshaw

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TRPA STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Thresholds Update Strategic Initiative.....	2
Shoreline Plan Initiative	3
Development Rights Strategic Initiative	3
Transportation Strategic Initiative.....	4
Forest Health Strategic Initiative	6
Aquatic Invasive Species Strategic Initiative	8

ONGOING INITIATIVES AND ANNUAL ACTIVITIES

Long Range & Transportation Planning Division	9
Current Planning Division	10
Environmental Improvement Program Division	11
Research & Analysis Division.....	13
External Affairs	16
Finance, Information Technology, & Facilities	18
Human Resources	19

TRPA STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) is moving forward with strategic initiatives the Governing Board identified in 2015 as priorities over the next five years. These initiatives align directly with the four objectives in the agency's Strategic Plan.

THRESHOLDS UPDATE STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

Most of the threshold standards TRPA adopted in 1982 are based on science that is now over 30 years old. The cost of fully monitoring and measuring the existing threshold system has also proved unsustainable. A broad bi-state consensus supports considering updates to the thresholds and monitoring systems. TRPA is working with the new Bi-State Tahoe Science Advisory Council and science community to create a sustainable, prioritized, and relevant monitoring plan, and to review and consider modifying the threshold standards to reflect the latest science and the significant values in the Lake Tahoe Region.

***Strategic Initiative Desired Outcomes:** Relevant and scientifically rigorous threshold standards and a cost-efficient, feasible, and informative, comprehensive monitoring and evaluation plan.*

Reorganization and Technical Corrections of the Threshold Standards

In May TRPA will bring a proposed reorganization and set of technical corrections to the TRPA Advisory Planning Commission (APC) and Governing Board. The proposal provides a more coherent structure and numbers each standard to clarify system intent while maintaining the current protections. The proposal is the result of collaborative work with the Tahoe Science Advisory Council who developed a framework to assess and address overlap in the threshold standard system. TRPA applied the framework and identified 51 standards that overlap another standard in the system, and more than 350 instances of standards overlapping one another. The council and TRPA presented the findings of the overlap assessment and a proposal to address some of the issues identified to the Threshold Update Initiative Stakeholders Working Group in March. Following a second meeting of the working group in April, the group recommended bringing the proposal to the APC and Governing Board in May.

SEZ Monitoring and Restoration Project to Inform Future Threshold Updates

TRPA began work on a stream environment zone (SEZ) monitoring and restoration planning project funded through a \$200,000 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Healthy Watersheds grant. The outcomes of this project are threefold:

1. A basin-wide SEZ monitoring program building on TRPA's trial SEZ monitoring program that began in 2016;
2. A basin-wide SEZ restoration plan to inform SEZ restoration priorities going forward; and
3. Performance metrics for SEZ restoration projects that measure restoration success.

This project is being implemented through a group process with all partners involved with SEZ restoration in the basin. Final monitoring and restoration plans are expected to be completed in 2019 and 2020 and will inform future threshold updates for SEZs.

SHORELINE PLAN INITIATIVE



TRPA launched the shoreline initiative to enhance the recreational experience along Lake Tahoe's shores while protecting the environment and responsibly planning for potential future development in the shorezone. TRPA and partner agencies initiated planning by engaging the Consensus Building Institute (CBI), a third-party mediation firm, to convene stakeholders and complete a stakeholder issue assessment. The assessment aided the development of a planning process and work program accepted by the TRPA Governing Board in April 2016.

The scope of work focuses on the extent of allowed development of shoreline structures (marinas, piers, buoys, slips, and boat ramps) to support water-dependent recreation and effective resource management to ensure threshold attainment. The scope of work is detailed in the scope memo on www.shorelineplan.org.

***Strategic Initiative Desired Outcomes:** The shoreline plan initiative will result in updated goals and policies in TRPA's Regional Plan and new regulations in the TRPA Code of Ordinances (Chapters 80 to 86) aimed at enhancing recreation and protecting the 72 miles of Lake Tahoe's shoreline.*

Administrative Draft Environmental Document Completed

By February, Ascent Environmental completed an administrative draft environmental impact statement (EIS) analyzing the four alternatives put forth last fall by the Shoreline Steering Committee and endorsed by the Regional Plan Implementation Committee (RPIC). The draft analysis identifies potential environmental impacts and mitigation measures designed to reduce those impacts to a less than significant level.

Using these findings, TRPA is working with the Shoreline Steering Committee and partner agencies to ensure that the mitigation measures proposed can be implemented and that program elements are funded and feasible. TRPA staff is laying the groundwork for implementation of the buoy permitting and enforcement program, no-wake zone and non-motorized watercraft protection, and fee programs related to mitigation.

Concurrent with preparing the EIS, TRPA convened a Shoreline Code Working Group and contracted with The Watershed Company to draft accompanying amendments to the TRPA Code of Ordinances based on the Shoreline Steering Committee policy recommendations. TRPA will present the recommended code amendments to RPIC before the public release of the draft EIS anticipated in May 2018.

DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

Private investment in environmentally beneficial redevelopment is vital to implementing the Regional Plan. The development rights strategic initiative is evaluating the effectiveness of the transferable development rights system in accomplishing Regional Plan goals. The initiative is considering potential changes to the system to better manage growth, support environmentally beneficial and economically feasible redevelopment, and improve its effectiveness and predictability. This initiative is evaluating commercial, tourist accommodation, and residential

development units; the timing of development rights allocations; and related codes and policies. It will also examine alternative systems to implement Regional Plan policies while considering existing development rights. Affordable housing and vacation home rentals are being addressed primarily by local governments and in this TRPA initiative will be addressed only in terms of the quantity and type of development rights and allocations available.



***Strategic Initiative Desired Outcomes:** Facilitate greater understanding of Tahoe's growth management system. Assess and update the commodities growth management system with the goal of encouraging environmentally beneficial redevelopment of legacy properties and removal of development from sensitive lands. Involve relevant stakeholders with the goal of mutual and inclusive engagement.*

This quarter, working groups have honed policy recommendations, which are now being advanced for further development or implementation. Development rights policy recommendations developed by the Mountain Housing Council for Placer and Nevada County were presented to the Governing Board in January and to the Development Rights Working Group in February. The Mountain Housing Council has been looking at housing cost and affordability issues on the North Shore and looked at extending the use of bonus units to moderate and middle-income housing units.

The Development Rights Working Group recommended moving forward on policy, code, and procedural amendments for the following components of the recommended alternative:

1. Conversion exchange rates;
2. Eliminating the local jurisdictional transfer approval; and
3. Eliminating the requirement to have a project approved before the transfer of development rights.

Environmental review of the Development Rights Working Group's recommended alternative was initiated this quarter. A technical code team of subject matter experts has been appointed to draft code and policy changes for the Development Rights Working Group's recommended alternative. The working group, acknowledging the basin's workforce housing shortage, also directed staff to evaluate planning and policy recommendations for expanding eligibility of the bonus unit allocations to housing for a wider range of income level, termed "local achievable" housing.

More information about the development rights strategic initiative is available online at <http://www.trpa.org/about-trpa/how-we-operate/strategic-plan/development-rights/>.

TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

TRPA's transportation initiative will enhance Lake Tahoe's transportation system with improved trails, transit, and technology. The approval of the 2017 Regional Transportation Plan, Linking Tahoe, was the first essential step. The most significant issue the initiative aims to address is heavy visitor traffic that causes congestion in community centers, at recreation areas, and at regional entry and exit points.

Strategic Initiative Desired Outcomes: Accelerate threshold attainment by implementing the Regional Transportation Plan, reducing air pollution, improving water quality, enhancing recreational opportunities and mobility, and shifting people to biking, walking, and transit use.

Transportation Corridor Planning:

The Tahoe Transportation District completed the first transportation corridor plan for the Region in connection with the Incline to Sand Harbor multi-use trail project. Applying lessons learned from that recreation corridor, partners are now kicking off the next transportation corridor plan for the State Route 89 (Emerald Bay) Recreation Corridor Management Plan. This plan will prioritize improved integration of recreation visitor management into transportation corridor planning and project implementation. The corridor plan steering committee, which includes staff from TRPA, Tahoe Transportation District, and the U.S. Forest Service Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, awarded a contract for a consultant to begin developing the corridor management plan. The committee invited stakeholders to join the project team that will guide the corridor planning process.

The State Route 89 Recreation Corridor Management Plan will include data collection and analysis, and best practice research and recommendations for transportation, visitor use management, and visitor experience. Final plan development will focus on both transportation and visitor management strategies, to address the impacts of chaotic traffic congestion and visitor demand during the peak summer recreation season.

Lake Tahoe Bi-State Transportation Consultation Working Group

The Lake Tahoe Bi-State Transportation Consultation Working Group, formed in April 2017, aims to provide leadership and alignment for transportation implementation at Lake Tahoe and build transportation system connections with Northern California and Nevada. Co-chaired by California Secretary of Natural Resources John Laird and Director of the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Bradley Crowell, the working group includes regional, local, and private sector representatives. The group organized into four subcommittees - recreation travel, corridor planning, public-private partnerships, and maximizing technology, to identify and solve obstacles to implementing Tahoe's regional transportation plan.

Transportation Safety Performance Measure Targets

With the onset of TRPA's role as a large metropolitan planning organization comes new requirements for the basin to meet. Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act requires added safety standards. TRPA staff coordinate with the states of California and Nevada on safety performance measure targets with the goal of decreasing crashes. TRPA and partners continue to work on the Lake Tahoe Safety Plan and drafted three memorandums outlining recommendations for appropriate design methods for projects, crash statistics and related countermeasure tools, and crash reporting and data collection improvements. The safety performance measures will be utilized to prioritize project funding and inform safe project design.

Active Transportation Plan Implementation

TRPA supported implementation of actions in the 2016 Active Transportation Plan this quarter. Staff located all existing bicycle parking in the basin and identified proposed bicycle parking sites by using technologies that incorporated public involvement. The data collected supports the Lake Tahoe Bicycle Coalition's grant requests to create and implement a bicycle parking program. An

active transportation checklist in development will require all project proponents to identify if they are providing active transportation facilities and how they plan to maintain the facilities.

Travel Management

After a successful travel management workshop, TRPA staff, supported by the Federal Highway Administration, produced a summary of workshop accomplishments and next steps. One important step was filling a new travel management coordinator position at the agency. The coordinator will work with businesses, employers, tourism authorities, and other partners on strategies to reduce use of the private automobile. The new coordinator is starting to develop an awareness campaign for visitors to learn more about transit and trail travel options at Lake Tahoe.

FOREST HEALTH STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

TRPA's forest health strategic initiative includes two objectives consistent with the Lake Tahoe Basin Multi-Jurisdictional Fuel Reduction and Wildfire Prevention Strategy: Completing fuels reduction treatments in the wildland-urban interface and extending forest management actions into the general forest to accomplish large, landscape-scale, multi-benefit restoration through a collaborative multi-agency process. Other objectives include building a shared vision for forest management in the Tahoe Region, making Tahoe a good investment for the public and private sector for forest/watershed restoration, and identifying and addressing current and future threats to Tahoe's forest and watersheds.

***Strategic Initiative Desired Outcomes:** Reduce the threat of fire in the wildland-urban interface and implement forest restoration at a large-landscape scale.*

Lake Tahoe West Partnership

The Lake Tahoe West initiative has moved into its second phase, development of the large landscape restoration strategy. The Lake Tahoe West Interagency Design Team has been working with the Lake Tahoe West Science Team to develop four management scenarios that will be used in a modeling exercise to help the Tahoe West team decide on the best landscape restoration strategy. The management scenarios aim to "pin the corners" by demonstrating starkly different management options that could be used in the West Shore forests, including prescribed burning, mechanical and hand thinning, and fire suppression. The strategy will integrate the best treatment options to attain resilience to fire, climate change, and drought in the West Shore's forests. The landscape restoration strategy is expected to be completed by October 2018.

The Lake Tahoe West Core Team has been working on strengthening public outreach and education for Lake Tahoe West. A video production company is developing a short movie to communicate the mission and work that Tahoe West plans to achieve. This video will be debuted at the Lake Tahoe Summit in August.

Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team Retreat

TRPA staff Christina Restaino, Bruce Barr, and Tom Lotshaw participated in the Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team (TFFT) retreat in March. The objectives of the retreat were to strengthen the public outreach and engagement component of the TFFT strategy and identify barriers and opportunities for project implementation. At each year's retreat, the partnership reviews the field programs and fuels treatment projects to be implemented this season. In addition, Christina Restaino gave a presentation to the team about the vegetation threshold update and held an open discussion with the group on what values and considerations the threshold update should include.

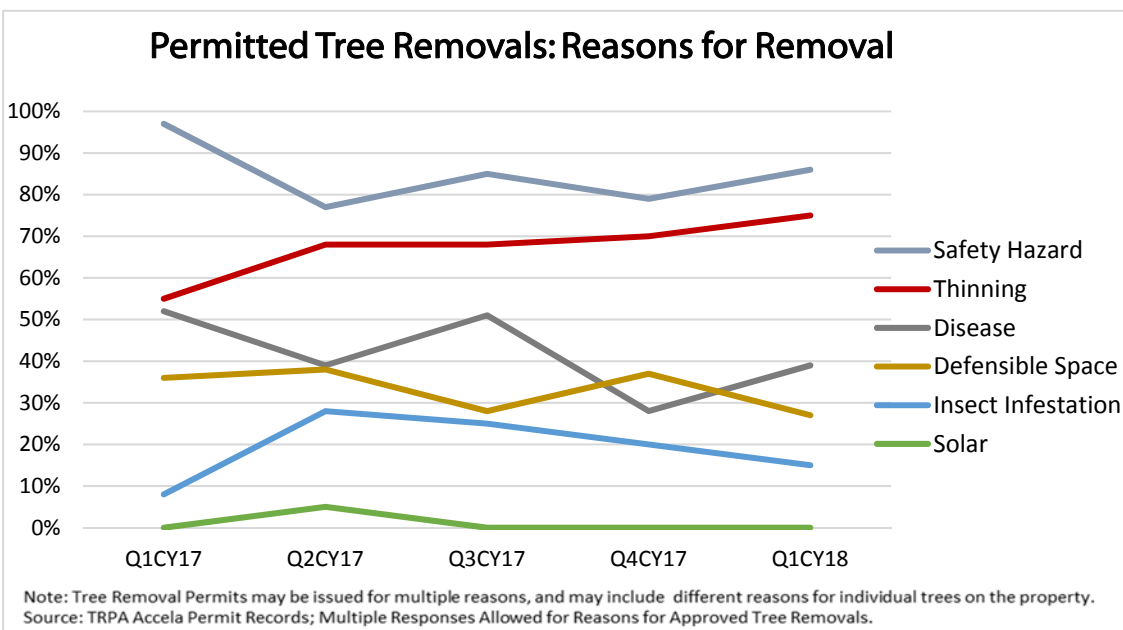
Forest Health and Fuels Reduction Project Funding

Thirteen high priority forest health and fire protection projects were included in the fiscal year 2019 Lake Tahoe Restoration Act Priority list for potential federal appropriations. This included five water infrastructure projects to improve the basin's capacity to fight a catastrophic wildfire. TFFT members worked closely with the basin's water purveyors to identify these priority water infrastructure projects.

Urban Forestry/Tree Removal Permits on Private Property

TRPA foresters are part of the network of forestry and fire professionals who help private landowners keep their property safe and defensible from wildfire. TRPA's staff forester provides expertise in tree risk assessment and serves private property owners in the Tahoe Basin with thorough tree evaluations. The table below summarizes tree removal applications by quarter since the beginning of 2017. In the first quarter of 2018, TRPA received 90 removal applications, up when compared to the first quarter last year. Trees removed due to safety hazard continue to be the primary reason for marking trees for removal.

Summary of TRPA Tree Removal Application and Permitting Activity Quarter 1 2017 through Quarter 1 2018					
	Q1 CY2017	Q2 CY2017	Q3 CY2017	Q4 CY2017	Q1 CY2018
Tree Removal Applications Received	47	270	338	153	90
Number of Trees Permitted for Removal	166	1141	1,296	520	339
Percent Applications Submitted Online	49%	62%	60%	67%	68%
Source: TRPA Accela Permit Records					



AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

Control of existing aquatic invasive species (AIS) is one of three core AIS programs, complementing the well-known prevention program as well as early detection/rapid response. Boat inspection fees and funding from California and Nevada combine to fund the boat inspection program. The primary need going forward is to secure AIS control program funding to implement Tahoe's science-based AIS Control Implementation Plan and prioritize effective projects to push back existing populations of AIS.

***Strategic Initiative Desired Outcomes:** Secure funding for the AIS control program, implement the prioritized implementation plan, and align control projects to reduce existing AIS. Control is important to enhance and restore Tahoe's unique ecosystem impacted by the introduction of invasive weeds, clams, and fish. In addition to environmental protection, the program protects Tahoe's recreation and tourist-based economy.*

AIS Program Funding

In the first quarter of 2018, TRPA received \$1 million in funding from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that can be directed to all aspects of the AIS program, with a significant portion highlighted for control. Additional funding was awarded to TRPA from the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (SB630 Nearshore funds) and the Nevada Division of State Lands (Lake Tahoe License Plate funds) to develop an aquatic plant monitoring plan and to complete a lake-wide survey of aquatic plants. Surveillance monitoring has been a critical missing component that will allow managers to better plan future control projects. Another \$47,000 was awarded to the Tahoe Resource Conservation District to do AIS control at Elk Point Marina. This project will include a private contribution from the Elk Point Homeowners Association to pay for approximately 25 percent of the project's cost.

AIS Prevention

Throughout the winter, public boating access to the lake is limited to only a few ramp locations, the Cave Rock boat ramp on the south shore and the Tahoe City Public Utility District boat ramp in Lake Forest on the north shore. Watercraft inspections continued during the first quarter of 2018 at both locations. Ninety inspections were completed this quarter with no decontaminations needed.

ONGOING INITIATIVES AND ANNUAL ACTIVITIES

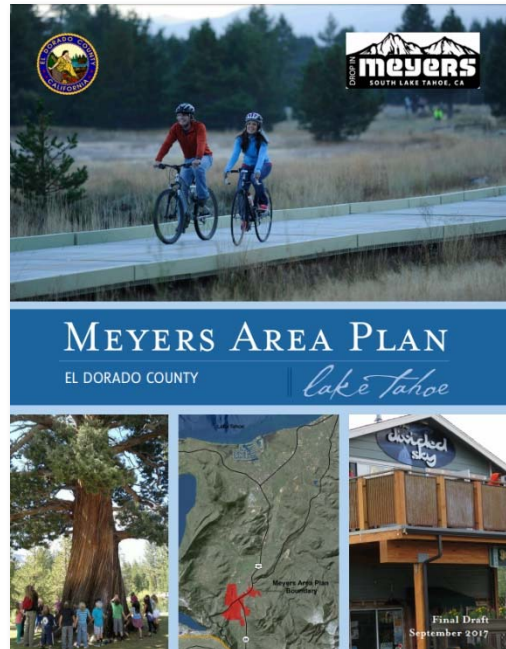
LONG RANGE & TRANSPORTATION PLANNING DIVISION

Long range planning priorities are established by TRPA's Governing Board annually and reviewed based on evaluations of progress toward achieving and maintaining environmental threshold standards every four years.

Meyers Area Plan Approved

This quarter saw another milestone met in the ongoing implementation of the 2012 Regional Plan. The TRPA Governing Board unanimously approved El Dorado County's Meyers Area Plan, the fifth local area plan approved at Lake Tahoe. The El Dorado County Board of Supervisors adopted the Meyers Area Plan in December 2017 after five years of community meetings and workshops. The area plan covers approximately 669 acres of the Meyers community, centered around the intersection of U.S. Highway 50 and State Route 89.

The Meyers Area Plan updates land uses, zoning, and building and sign design standards for the Meyers community. It also identifies proposed projects to improve recreation opportunities, transportation, community vitality, and the environment in Meyers. The plan includes new protections for landmark trees in Meyers, adds 348 acres of conservation-zoned land and 137 acres of recreation-zoned land to the area plan boundary, offers new incentives for buildings that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and outlines proposals for new trails, bike lanes, and shared-use paths to better link neighborhoods, schools, shopping areas, and recreation sites. The plan also creates a Meyers Advisory Council comprised of community residents who will help advise El Dorado County's Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors on projects and issues in Meyers.



Sustainable Recreation

The Tahoe Interagency Executives Steering Committee (TIE-SC), the multi-sector steering committee for the Environmental Improvement Program, two years ago prioritized the need to better integrate recreation management considerations into transportation corridor planning and project implementation. In response, transportation plans for two recreation corridors, State Route 28 from Incline Village to Sand Harbor, and State Route 89 at Emerald Bay, are planning for visitor management together with transportation right-of-way considerations. The Sustainable Recreation Working Group finalized and presented its charter and 2018 work plan to the TIE-SC this quarter and is beginning to address recreation management issues with the project team for the State Route 89 transportation corridor plan.

Electric Vehicle Readiness

In partnership with the Tahoe Fund and Tesla, TRPA plans to distribute electric vehicle charging infrastructure at recreation sites across the Region. In total, 21 recreation sites have been identified

as charging locations, with up to 55 individual stations planned for installation. Increasing the availability of electric vehicle charging stations at recreation sites is a key component toward electrifying Tahoe's transportation system.

Renewable Energy

TRPA was asked to participate in the 2018 California State Energy Efficiency Collaborative greenhouse gas inventory process. This program will provide technical assistance and build staff knowledge around greenhouse gas inventories and result in an updated regional greenhouse gas inventory for the Tahoe Basin. The last basin inventory was completed in 2012.

CURRENT PLANNING DIVISION

TRPA achieves environmental threshold benefits through project implementation by the public and private sectors. The Current Planning Division reviews applications in a timely and consistent manner to serve the public and help facilitate environmental improvement and economic investment in Lake Tahoe communities.

Washoe County Permitting Process Changes

In December 2017, the project review delegation memorandum of understanding (MOU) between TRPA and Washoe County was put on hold at the request of Washoe County. Washoe County is no longer accepting and reviewing permit applications on behalf of TRPA. To better serve the public in Washoe County, TRPA assigned a planner to be available to the public one day a week at Washoe County's Incline Community Center to accept and review applications.

Hearings Officer Meetings

The Hearings Officer approved 15 project applications this quarter:

- Ten land capability challenges;
- Two permits for modifications to historic structures;
- A rebuild of a shoreline protective structure;
- An addition to a commercial building in Incline Village;
- And a permit for Nevada Energy to rebuild its underground electric distribution system in areas of Incline Village that are consistently subject to power outages due to failing equipment.

Permit Application Review

The number of permit applications received this quarter is up 40 percent compared to the same quarter last year including a 47 percent increase in residential projects. The increase could be partially attributable to Washoe County applications coming to TRPA following the County's suspension of its delegation MOU. Verification and banking applications are also up from last year (44 percent increase) which tend to be precursor activity to future project applications.

Summary of TRPA Application and Permitting Activity Quarter 1 2017 through Quarter 1 2018

	Q1 CY2017	Q2 CY 2017	Q3 CY2017	Q4 CY2017	Q1 CY2018
Applications Recieved¹	152	234	243	199	213
Residential Projects ²	34	42	44	25	50
Commercial Projects ²	3	4	5	4	4
Recreation/Public Service Projects ²	10	9	9	11	16
Environmental Improvement Construction Projects	6	5	1	0	5
Shorezone/Lakezone Projects ²	9	7	7	5	4
Grading Projects	3	10	16	7	5
Verifications and Banking ³	63	132	124	123	91
Transfers of Development	10	10	5	7	13
Other ⁴	14	15	32	17	25

Notes:

1 Does not include Exempt projects, Qualified Exempt declarations, Tree Removal applications, or Administrative applications.

2 Includes New Development and Additions/Modification

3 Includes Soils/Hydrology Verifications, IPES, Land Capability Verifications, Land Capability Challenges, Verifications of Coverage, Verifications of Uses, Site Assessments and Standalone Banking Applications

4 'Other' includes Historic determinations, Lot Line Adjustments, Temporary projects, Scenic, Underground Tank Removal, Subdivision of Existing Uses, Sign, Allocation Assignments, and other miscellaneous project types

Source: TRPA Accela Permit Records

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM DIVISION

TRPA's Environmental Improvement Division leads the Lake Tahoe Environmental Improvement Program (EIP), a collaborative public and private, multi-jurisdictional capital investment program to conserve and restore Lake Tahoe's environment and enhance public recreation opportunities. The division leads the development of new financing strategies for future projects and programs, sets priorities so limited funding achieves maximum threshold gain, and builds new associations beyond the Tahoe Region to improve implementation and leverage new funding sources.

EIP Priority Project List for Potential Lake Tahoe Restoration Act Appropriations

The Lake Tahoe Partnership continues its work to secure federal appropriations under the 2016 Lake Tahoe Restoration Act's authorization. Per the Act's requirements, EIP partners collaboratively developed a "Year 2" project priority list for potential 2018/2019 Lake Tahoe Restoration Act (LTRA) appropriations. The new list is an update to the list submitted last year, increasing the total project number from 22 to 43 high priority projects in the EIP focus areas of forest health and water infrastructure; aquatic invasive species; stormwater management and watershed restoration; and program performance and accountability. On behalf of the partnership, the U.S. Forest Service submitted the revised list to the Lake Tahoe congressional delegation on March 15. The following week the Lake Tahoe Partnership followed up with meetings in Washington, D.C. to discuss with our elected officials the priority projects and the federal share of the EIP. With passage of the recent

federal 2018 omnibus budget bill, Congress appropriated \$3.1 million to the AIS category, and EIP partners are continuing to work together to seek additional LTRA appropriations for fiscal year 2019.

EIP Reporting

The EIP Project Tracker is proving its value in consolidating accomplishment information in one platform for all sectors of the EIP. The 2017 EIP reporting season concluded January 15, with all EIP partners submitting project information, expenditures, and accomplishments for the previous year to the Lake Tahoe Info EIP Project Tracker. EIP Division staff review and approve all project updates for accuracy so this data can be relied upon for reports and the annual federal summit. This year showed the highest engagement in the tracker's use with 42 organizations reporting information and 253 projects updated.

BMP Certificates Issued

TRPA issues best management practices (BMP) certificates to recognize a parcel's compliance with BMP requirements in TRPA's Code of Ordinances. The Stormwater Management Program targets priority properties for BMP compliance in coordination with local jurisdictions to achieve required pollutant load reductions. This includes concentrating on commercial and large multi-family (six units or more) properties that the Total Maximum Daily Load Program shows generate more pollutant load compared to single-family residential properties. This quarter, TRPA issued 20 BMP certificates: 15 for single family residential parcels, two for multi-family residential parcels, and three for commercial parcels.

BMP Certificates issued from January 1 to March 31, 2018					
California	Land Use	Total Certificates Issued Year to Date	Certificates Issued Through Permitted Projects	Certificates Issued Through Voluntary Compliance	Certificates Issued Through Enforced Compliance
	Single Family Residential	13	10	3	0
	Multi-Family Residential	0	0	0	0
	Commercial	3	0	1	2
	California Total	16	0	0	0
Nevada	Single Family Residential	2	1	1	0
	Multi-Family Residential	2	0	1	1
	Commercial	0	0	0	0
	Nevada Total	4	0	0	0
	Total Certificates Issued	20	11	6	3

Lake-Friendly Business Program

At the end of March, 81 businesses were members of the Lake-Friendly Business Program, up from 74 businesses at the same time last year. The program recognizes local businesses that install and maintain their BMPs by publicly acknowledging them as good stewards of the lake through print advertisements and social media campaigns. Stormwater Management Program staff attended the 2018 Lake Tahoe Business Expo in March and networked with existing and potential Lake-Friendly Business members.

RESEARCH & ANALYSIS DIVISION

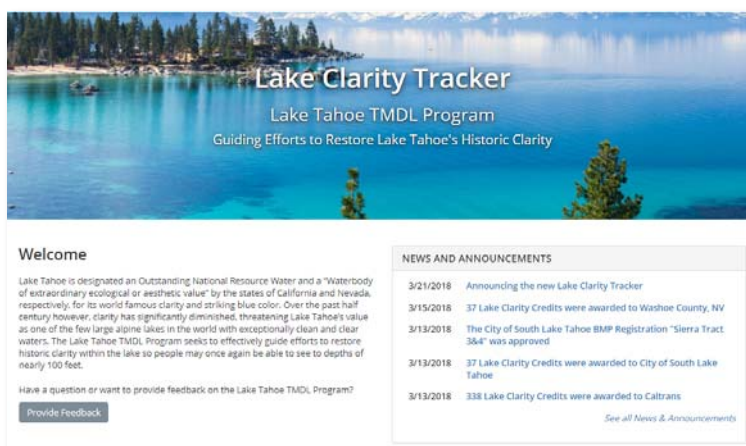
TRPA monitors hundreds of environmental threshold standards, performance measures, and management actions for progress and effectiveness. The agency formed a Research and Analysis Division to strengthen its relationship with the science community and provide the best possible information for policy decisions, operations, and accountability. The division builds data platforms, monitors, and maintains current data, and analyzes information needed for policy development and decision making.

LakeTahoeInfo.org Development

TRPA continued to develop the <https://laketahoeinfo.org> website this quarter with enhancements to make it more accessible, user-friendly, and valuable to the user. Highlights and new features include:



- The Individual Parcel Evaluation System (IPES) database was integrated into the Parcel Tracker (<https://parcels.laketahoeinfo.org/>). People can now download IPES score summary sheets directly from the parcel detail page and no longer need to contact TRPA to have these printed for them.
- BMP information is now displayed in the Parcel Tracker and certificates can be viewed and printed directly from the website.
- Information about 675 parcels was updated in the Parcel Tracker this quarter. During this same time, TRPA responded to 31 help requests directly through the Parcel Tracker. These requests were from property owners, real estate agents, and MOU partners requesting updated permitting information on a parcel.
- The Monitoring Dashboard (<https://monitoring.laketahoeinfo.org/>) was enhanced this quarter to show more featured monitoring programs. Bicycle and pedestrian count data and transit data was added. Additional monitoring programs are continuing to be built on this dashboard allowing users to see more of Tahoe's monitoring data.
- A new Lake Clarity Tracker was unveiled in March. The tracker (<https://clarity.laketahoeinfo.org/>) replaces the TMDL Online Interface, providing a source for both technical users and the public to see the Lake Tahoe Region's response to TMDL compliance requirements. The Lake Clarity Tracker shares reported results with EIP performance measures. This allows users to enter data once and have it meet multiple reporting requirements, ensuring higher data integrity and greater user efficiency.



Lake Tahoe Basin Stream & SEZ Restoration Opportunities.

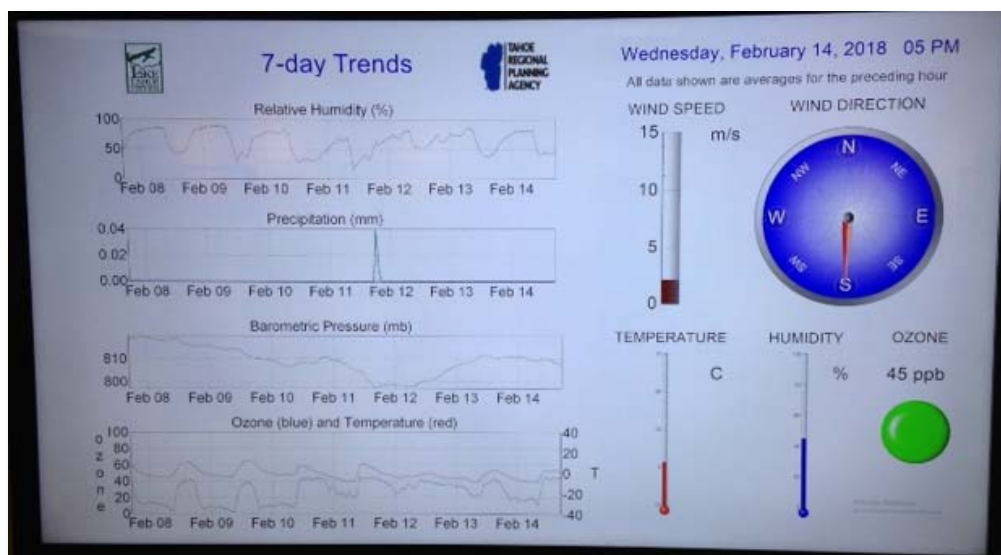
This quarter, TRPA prepared a document summarizing degraded streams and stream environment zones (SEZ) in the Tahoe Basin and shared this report with partners involved with SEZ restoration such as California Tahoe Conservancy and Nevada Tahoe Conservation District. These degraded streams and SEZ have been identified through TRPA's monitoring programs. The document will be updated annually based on monitoring data and will help project implementers identify stream and SEZ restoration opportunities going forward. It is a good example of TRPA's work to better integrate threshold monitoring data into EIP project planning and prioritization.

New Air Quality Monitoring at the Lake Tahoe Community College



In January, Lake Tahoe Community College and TRPA partnered to install a real-time display of air quality and weather data in the college's Science Commons. The display shows real-time levels of ozone taken from TRPA's air quality monitoring station located on the campus since 2014. Ground-level ozone is the main ingredient in smog and is an important indicator of air quality. This real-time display will be used by students in the Earth Sciences Department to understand better the real-world applications of lessons learned in their courses.

*New screen in the Lake Tahoe Community College Science Commons displaying real-time air quality and weather data.
Photo by Sean Tevlin.*



*Detail of the data displayed on a new screen at Lake Tahoe Community College.
Photo by Sean Tevlin.*

Nearshore Agency Working Group Update

Collaborative work continues to better understand the dynamics of the nearshore and explain the variable conditions from one location to another around the lake. The nearshore agency working group, which includes representatives from the Lahontan Water Board, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, TRPA, Tahoe Resource Conservation District, and U.S. EPA, identified four areas of focus in 2018:

1. Implementation of a lake-wide aquatic invasive plants monitoring program
2. Localized study of groundwater nutrient sources
3. Ecological drivers of attached algae
4. Cyanobacteria survey

The Lahontan Water Board solicited letters of interest from partner agencies and academic institutions interested in leading research to better understand nearshore algae conditions and potential control measures. Seven submissions were received, and the nearshore working group is in the final stages of reviewing the letters and in April will select a contractor to lead the work. TRPA solicited a request for proposals for piloting a lake-wide monitoring program for aquatic invasive plants in February. Five proposals were received, and a contractor will be selected in April.

The Nearshore Resource Allocation Program website is being integrated into the Lake Tahoe Info website at <https://laketahoeinfo.org/Initiative/NRAP> to support the sharing of data and information related to the nearshore and to promote a collaborative and transparent solution-oriented environment.

Nearshore Resource Allocation Program

Lake Tahoe's nearshore is the portion of the lake that people interact with when viewing the lake from the shore, wading, swimming, enjoying paddle sports, and boating. In recent years, visitors and residents alike have perceived changes in the nearshore environment, with increased algae and general water quality decline being the most common concerns.


The Nearshore Resource Allocation Program (NRAP) directs nearshore science and monitoring investment through a systematic framework to better understand nearshore conditions and processes, and reduce uncertainty about management actions. The NRAP is structured around a series of environmental focus areas, each with unique conditions and challenges. Each focus area page provides a brief state-of-the-knowledge summary, descriptions of recent research findings, and links to applicable monitoring programs.

For more information regarding nearshore conditions at Lake Tahoe, please contact Robert Larsen with the Lahontan Water Board or Dan Segan at TRPA.

Focus Areas

ALGAE


Description: Anecdotal reports suggest the distribution and abundance of algae in Lake Tahoe's nearshore environment has changed over the last fifty years. Perceived increases in both...



[View More Details](#)

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES


Description: Aquatic invasive species such as thick growths of invasive aquatic weeds, clams, snails, and even warm water fish threaten waterways in a number of ways. Consequences...



[View More Details](#)

COMMUNITY STRUCTURE


Description: Community structure reflects the ecological conditions that affect diversity, distribution, and the interactions among producers and consumers able to survive in...



[View More Details](#)

NEARSHORE CLARITY


Description: Nearshore clarity refers to the transparency or clearness of water in the nearshore. Both California and Nevada recognize the unique ecological and aesthetic values of the...



[View More Details](#)

PUBLIC HEALTH


Description: Human interactions with nearshore waters are primarily associated with recreational activities and with consumption of treated and untreated waters drawn from the lake. The...



[View More Details](#)

TRASH

Description: While working to remove aquatic weeds, Marine Taxonomic Services Environmental Consulting collected underwater litter from September 21 - October 20, 2016. In 23 days, th...



[View More Details](#)

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

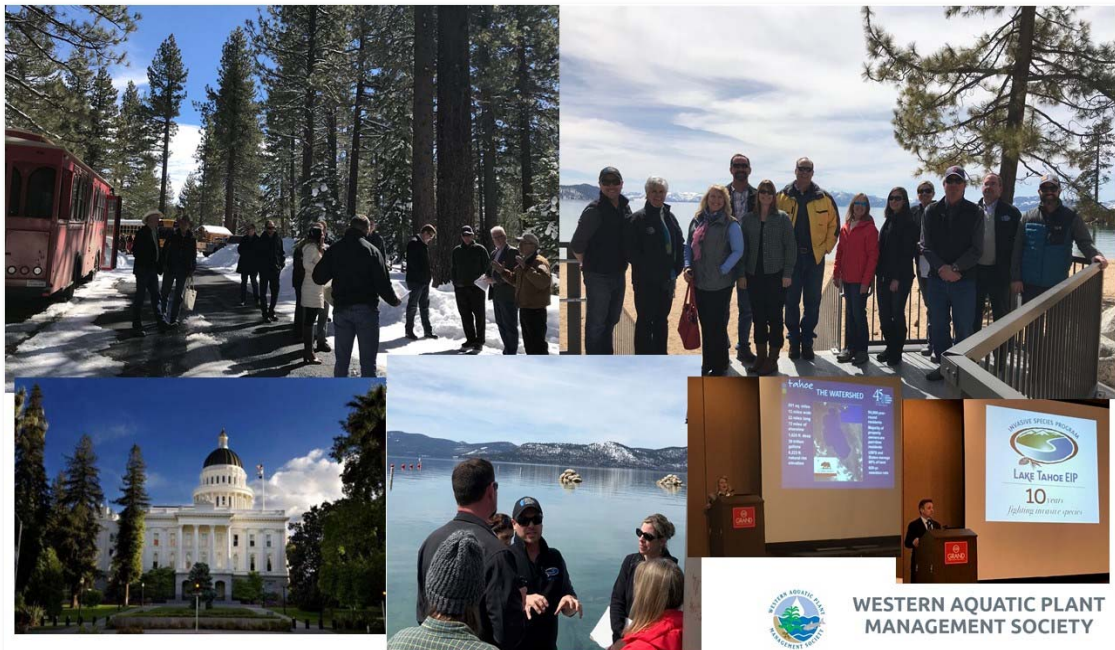
TRPA supports a culture committed to public education, outreach, and community engagement to implement the 2012 Regional Plan. The external affairs team leads public engagement initiatives in collaboration with a wide variety of agency and nonprofit stakeholders. This quarter, TRPA continued ongoing education and outreach in the Lake Tahoe Region to raise public awareness about issues at Lake Tahoe and improve public understanding about the role of TRPA.

Legislative Affairs:

During the first quarter, TRPA organized several field tours for staff and members of key legislative offices, administration officials in both states, and federal representatives. Numerous visits to both state capitals and congressional offices in Washington D.C. kept Lake Tahoe front and center for important elected officials and decision makers. Priority policies discussed included TRPA's annual budget, strategic initiatives, and funding the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act.



Representatives from the Lake Tahoe Partnership, including TRPA's Kim Caringer and Julie Regan, pictured with US Senator Dean Heller.



From top left, then clockwise: TRPA team members on field tours with the Nevada Legislative Oversight Committee, Nevada budget officials; Julie Regan and Dennis Zabaglo speaking before the Western Aquatic Plant Management Society meeting in Reno; TRPA and Nevada State Lands staff at Sand Harbor on a field tour; The California State Capitol: in February, Joanne Marchetta, Julie Regan, and Bill Yeates held various policy briefings.

Education and Outreach:

TRPA's external affairs team coordinated the EpicPromise Winter Adventure Program again in 2018. Now in its third year, the program takes more than 300 fifth grade students from Lake Tahoe Unified School District to Heavenly Mountain Resort to snowshoe and learn about winter wildlife survival, the science of snowmaking, and avalanche safety. The program is a partnership between South Tahoe Environmental Education Coalition and Vail Resorts.

External affairs represented TRPA with a booth at the 2018 Business Expo in Stateline. More than 1,000 attendees participated in this important local event and TRPA connected with hundreds of community members on BMPs, upcoming plans and projects, and how people can help protect Lake Tahoe's environment.

The team collaborated with partners in the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) program to launch a campaign celebrating 10 years of fighting invasive species at Lake Tahoe. A multi-media program is being executed throughout the summer to raise awareness of AIS and recognize this important milestone.



TRPA representatives are frequent guests on local television programs including this broadcast of Douglas County's "Regional Report" with host Steve Teshara.

FINANCE, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, & FACILITIES

Finance Update

TRPA submitted the fiscal year 2018/19 budget to California, and the agency's requests have been incorporated into the Governor's recommended budget. Work has begun on fiscal years 2019/21 biennial budget for the State of Nevada. Additional special programs (grant) funds were received from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers and the Nevada Division of State Lands for aquatic invasive species work. Funding has also been added by the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Board to finance nearshore monitoring. TRPA's Finance Department completed all fiscal year quarter two invoices and status reports for grantors this quarter.

Comparing the third quarter of the current fiscal year (2018) versus last fiscal year, revenues are approximately the same. Fees for service increased in the quarter, making up for lower fees in the first two quarters of the current fiscal year. Other revenues are down due to timing of receipts from the local jurisdictions. Total receipts in that category are the same on a year-to-date basis.

Compensation is up due to salary adjustments made in the second quarter. Contract expenditures are also higher than last year. The current year has a different mix of contracts, and the timing of spending on shoreline collaboration support is the main driver. We also continue to build out the LT Info web site.

Current assets decreased by \$2.6 million during the quarter. Of that, \$2.1 million is due to spending. TRPA disbursed \$0.5 million of mitigation funds to local partners. Long term assets reflect the net book value of TRPA's office building.

Current liabilities decreased by \$0.5 million due primarily to disbursement of mitigation funds to local jurisdictions. These are agency funds, meaning the monies are held in trust and not available for TRPA operations. The substantial deferred revenue balance is largely comprised of Proposition 1B transportation funding which is received in advance of expenditures.

Tahoe Regional Planning Agency Third Quarter Revenue vs. Expenses			
	FY 2018	FY 2017	Change
Revenues			
State Funding	11,553	0	11,553
Grants	547,494	508,158	39,336
Fees for Service	546,402	417,434	128,968
Other	287,718	438,485	(150,767)
Total	1,393,166	1,364,076	29,090
Expenses			
Compensation	1,533,288	1,359,134	174,154
Contracts	1,478,936	802,016	676,920
Financing	341	503	(162)
Other	382,206	347,357	34,850
Total	3,394,771	2,509,010	885,761
Net Fund Balance	(2,001,605)	(1,144,933)	(856,671)

Tahoe Regional Planning Agency Third Quarter Change in Net Assets			
	Beginning	End	Change
Assets			
Current Assets	27,672,095	25,051,673	(2,620,422)
Long Term Assets	9,594,629	9,594,629	0
Total	37,266,724	34,646,302	(2,620,422)
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities	546,085	484,597	(61,488)
Deferred Revenue	2,155,042	2,116,648	(38,394)
Deposits	442,457	462,457	20,000
Long Term Debt	8,445,000	8,445,000	0
Mitigation Funds	10,520,208	10,091,175	(429,033)
Securities	5,011,162	4,977,564	(33,598)
	27,119,953	26,577,440	(542,513)
Net Fund Balance	10,146,771	8,068,862	(2,077,909)

Facilities & Information Technology Update

TRPA recently renewed leases with several tenants, including Design Workshop and Belfor Restoration, and is in the process of renewing a lease with the General Services Administration. At this point, the building is fully leased.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Project Management Training

In January, TRPA hosted the second “Project Management Essentials” training through the University of Nevada, Reno Extended Studies. TRPA planning staff as well as a few participants from the City of South Lake Tahoe. Some of these participants will join other past training participants to implement key skills, processes, and tools across the agency.

New TRPA Staff



Tracy Campbell, Environmental Improvement Program Division

Tracy Campbell joined TRPA in November as an executive assistant with the Environmental Improvement Program. Tracy provides support for the EIP division manager and administration for the stormwater, AIS and forest health programs. Tracy has a bachelor's degree in management from Glasgow University in Scotland and most recently worked as a marketing and public relations consultant in new home construction.

Alex Eidam, Current Planning Division

Alex Eidam started with TRPA in January as an assistant planner in the Current Planning Department. Alex grew up in South Lake Tahoe and has a bachelor's degree in environmental studies with an emphasis in natural resource management and conservation from San Francisco State University. Most recently, Alex worked as an assistant planner for Wells Barnett Associates, an environmental consulting firm in the Tahoe Basin.





Rich Looney, Long Range and Transportation Planning

Rich Looney joined TRPA in March as the travel management coordinator. He will lead the Safe Routes to School Program and the Lake Tahoe Bike Challenge and spearhead TRPA's new Travel Management Program. Rich has been a life-long bicycle and pedestrian advocate. Over the last 20 years, he has developed and implemented several programs in Nevada County that focus on healthy activities, developing self-esteem, and creating a positive environment for personal growth. Rich has been a school teacher for the past 10 years, a safe routes to school coordinator, and has served on several active transportation boards. Before earning his teaching credential, he owned and operated a bicycle shop in Nevada County.

Christina Restaino, Environmental Improvement Program Division

Christina Restaino joined TRPA in January as the new forest ecosystem health program manager. Christina has a master's degree in forest resources and a Ph.D. in environmental and forest science from the University of Washington. Before coming to TRPA, Christina was doing postdoctoral work at UC Davis on the impacts of drought, fire, and climate change on forest ecosystems. In addition to academic work, Christina worked as the coordinator for the Sierra Nevada Region of the California Science Consortium, promoting collaboration between land managers and scientists.



Emily Ulrich, Research and Analysis Division

Emily Ulrich began as a GIS intern at TRPA last August and transitioned to a one-year contract position this quarter. Originally from Dayton, NV, Emily has an extensive background in GIS and environmental science. She holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) and a master's degree from South Dakota State University. Emily came to TRPA from the Nevada Land Trust where she worked as a watershed educator. Before that she was a research assistant for UNR working on controlling aquatic invasive species in the Tahoe Keys. Emily will be working on maintaining, organizing, and analyzing GIS data for TRPA.