

2013 ANNUAL REPORT

TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY

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TAHOE
REGIONAL
PLANNING
AGENCY

February 2014



Tahoe Regional Planning Agency 2013 Annual Report

*To Our Governing Board and the Community
February 26, 2014*

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Restoring Lake Tahoe & Supporting Communities



To the Governing Board and the Lake Tahoe Community:

The adoption of the 2012 Regional Plan brought with it a renewed sense of accomplishment and optimism across the Tahoe Basin, with the California-Nevada bi-state partnership reaffirmed and a common vision emerging for Lake Tahoe's future. While the planning process proved long and arduous, the hard work over the long term is now imagining the partnerships and securing funding to assure its implementation.

History has shown that success is only possible when stakeholders and the Governing Board are informed and confident of the direction and results. To this end, across all sectors of government, a clarion call is driving new performance measures, accountability, and transparency. Few are aware that TRPA currently tracks hundreds of performance measures for the Agency and the Basin. And in the search for continuous improvement, we see we can build greater confidence and momentum by stepping up to the call for greater accountability with more frequent and transparent reporting of what we track and measure.

This inaugural annual report is presented with these goals in mind. Every year, during the first calendar quarter, we are committed to delivering a snapshot of accomplishments and the status of progress across all major Regional Plan programs and work priorities.

To that end, this TRPA Annual Report provides key information related to the ongoing activities of the organization:

- *A Look Back* – The status of 2013 Agency Work Program priorities established by the Governing Board.
- *Thresholds* – The thresholds set to maintain the Lake including status of select thresholds.
- *Regional Plan* – The plan designed to attain and maintain thresholds including Regional Plan performance measures.
- *Implementation* – The private (e.g., redevelopment projects) and public actions (e.g., Environmental Improvement Program projects) that implement the Regional Plan.
- *Sustainability* – The range of formal (e.g., Regional Plan) and informal (e.g., citizen initiatives) actions that go beyond Compact mandates to create a sustainable future for the Lake Tahoe Region and surrounding areas.
- *Research and Analysis* – The activities that provide high quality information necessary to support informed public and private decision-making.
- *Accountability* – Overview of budget information reflecting how the TRPA operates.

The first TRPA Annual Report is a milestone to inform the Board and public annually of regional progress. With the precedent now set, I look forward to continually improving our approach to report meaningful information on the Agency's priority plans, programs, and projects in the years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Joanne S. Marchetta", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joanne S. Marchetta
Executive Director, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency

Charting Progress: What We Do



TRPA strives to improve the environment while revitalizing and enhancing our communities and quality of life at Lake Tahoe.

The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) – created in 1969 by a Compact between the states of Nevada and California, then ratified by the U.S. Congress – protects and restores the environment of Lake Tahoe. The bi-state agency is charged with establishing thresholds, regional planning, development and redevelopment oversight, regulatory enforcement, and implementation of environmental protection and restoration programs for the Region necessary to achieve and maintain adopted regional standards.

To answer its mandate, TRPA adopts environmental threshold carrying capacities' (thresholds) for the Region, which were first set in 1982. In nine resource protection categories, TRPA has adopted and currently relies on more than 150 threshold standards to address environmental performance and progress. The Compact directs TRPA to establish measures that meet and maintain the thresholds, and authorizes it to accomplish regional goals using many different strategies including: land-use regulations, growth management, and capital improvement programs, education and outreach, and scientific inquiry. TRPA comprehensively updated the Lake Tahoe Regional Plan in 2012 to emphasize moving harmful development out of sensitive and outlying lands and into town center redevelopment areas to improve walkability, reduce vehicle use, and promote water quality benefits. TRPA leads the partnership to implement the Regional Plan: we assist local governments in creating Area Plans that guide environmental improvement at the local level and streamline permitting processes; encourage upgrades and reinvestment by the private sector to address the impacts of older, outdated development on private property that is harming Lake Tahoe; and lead the multi-sector partnership of the EIP to implement hundreds of projects needed to achieve and maintain the Compact's threshold mandate.

The Lake and its surrounding communities are interdependent. It takes the partnership of residents, visitors, and many public agencies to restore and sustain Lake Tahoe's pristine environment. Improving the environment enhances the economy and our wellbeing. Likewise, investments in environmental restoration come more readily from a stable community and resilient economy. Our goal is to create a healthy, sustainable region that will be enjoyed for generations to come. The Compact goals can be achieved without sacrificing economic health and quality of life for the people who live and visit here. TRPA has made a commitment to improving public service and relying on the latest scientific information to guide policy decisions.

LOOKING BACK 2013 Governing Board Priorities

Every year, at an annual strategic planning retreat, the TRPA Governing Board establishes the agency's work program priorities. The following summarizes 2013 accomplishments.

2013 WORK PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ completed
 - in progress
- ✓ **2012 REGIONAL PLAN MITIGATION MEASURES**

With certification of the Final 2012 Lake Tahoe Regional Plan Environmental Impact Statement (RPU EIS) and adoption of the Regional Plan, TRPA committed to implementing seven programmatic mitigation measures by December 2013.
All mitigation measures were approved by the Board before December 2013.
For more information about the mitigation measures, turn to page 9.
- ✓ **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA PLANS**

The 2012 Regional Plan Update established a Basin-wide planning and permitting framework where multiple requirements – TRPA, local, state, and federal – may be comprehensively addressed in Area Plans.
In 2013, the Governing Board targeted two Area Plans for completion. Both the Douglas County South Shore Area Plan and the City of South Lake Tahoe's Tourist Core Area Plan were adopted. Nine more are in progress.
For more information about Area Plans, turn to page 12.
- ✓ **2012 REGIONAL PLAN UPDATE PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

In May of 2013, the TRPA Governing Board approved 14 key performance measures for the 2012 Regional Plan.
The suite of 14 performance measures cover regional land use patterns, travel behavior, environmental restoration, effective plan implementation, and economic vitality. The measures will document the anticipated implementation activities resulting from 2012 policy modifications, as outlined in the Environmental Impact Statement and other supporting information for the 2012 Regional Plan Update.
For more information about Regional Plan Performance Measures, turn to page 10.
- ✓ **SHOREZONE UPDATE**

The Board directed staff to initiate a public consultation process to update the shorezone ordinances in 2013. TRPA staff achieved this goal. Consultations with stakeholders to identify key topics for change began in Fall 2013. The shorezone update will include revising shorezone ordinances and completing an environmental review with a goal of having revised shorezone ordinances in place in 2015.
- **COVERAGE TRANSFERS & BMP COMPLIANCE**

These two 2013-14 Governing Board priority projects address policy changes to transferring coverage across Hydrologically Related Resource Areas and options for improving compliance with BMP requirements. Both of these priorities were recommendations from the bi-state consultation that concluded the 2012 Regional Plan Update. Work on these two projects was initiated in early 2014 when the Regional Plan Implementation Committee approved the collaborative stakeholder process and appointed technical working group members.

ATTAIN AND MAINTAIN THRESHOLDS

TRPA measures approximately 130 Threshold Standards, another 20 applicable state and federal air and water quality standards, 34 Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) performance measures, more than 200 Regional Plan “compliance measures,” along with performance measures related to the agency’s sustainability program, regional plan, and the Tahoe Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). The complexity of the threshold and performance management system is significant.

Monitoring thresholds, at a current annual cost of approximately \$1.2 million, is accomplished only through the cooperation and shared resources of cross-government partners. Extensive monitoring data inform updates to the Regional Plan.

Best available science is at the Regional Plan’s foundation, and new Plan policies benefited from the \$30 million Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) investment in basic and applied scientific research for Tahoe over the last decade. The 2011 Threshold Evaluation – with highlights below – used the most current scientific findings from SNPLMA and other available science and was prepared with the direct advice and consultation of the many scientists who conducted the original studies.

The 2012 Regional Plan incorporated five new or updated Threshold Standards:

- Adopted new **nearshore** management standards to prevent and control aquatic invasive species and to support efforts to reduce attached algae in Lake Tahoe’s nearshore.
- Aligned TRPA’s **deep water clarity** standard with the TMDL target (annual average Secchi depth replaced the winter average Secchi depth standard).
- Revised the TRPA standard for **carbon monoxide** to be consistent with state standards.
- Replaced unmeasurable wood stove and suspended soil standards with state standards for **particulate matter**.
- Clarified habitat protection standards for **northern goshawk**.

STATUS OF THRESHOLDS

Lake Tahoe’s clarity has historically been the bellwether indicator for the health of the ecosystem. Overall, the Tahoe Region, with TRPA in a regional leadership role, is making progress achieving Threshold Standards.

THRESHOLD CATEGORIES

Water Quality: Reduce nutrient and sediment loads from surface runoff, groundwater and atmospheric sources to meet 1967 to 1971 levels of algae and water transparency measured in Lake Tahoe. Improve nearshore water quality and reduce impacts from Aquatic Invasive Species.

Air Quality: Improve and maintain air quality to protect human health, scenic values and environmental quality, and reduce vehicle traffic volume.

Soil Conservation: Preserve and restore stream environment zones and limit impervious land cover.

Vegetation Preservation: Maintain native vegetation community richness and diversity, protect uncommon plant communities and rare plants, and increase the extent of old conifer forests.

Wildlife: Maintain and protect special interest species and enhance the suitability and extent of riparian habitats for wildlife.

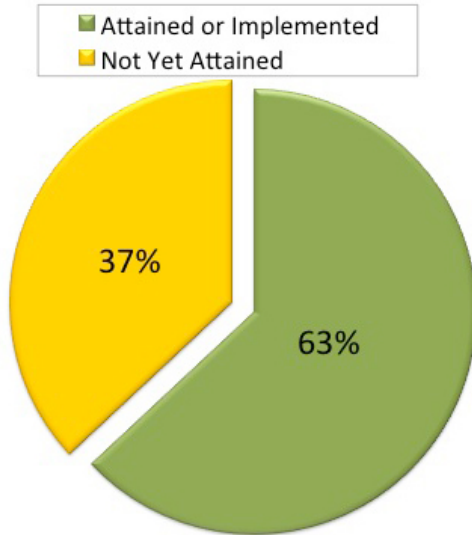
Fisheries: Improve and maintain lake and stream fish habitats, and reintroduce Lahontan Cutthroat Trout to the Region.

Noise: Minimize single event noise and ambient noise levels consistent with the needs of wildlife and values held by regional residents and visitors.

Recreation: Improve and maintain a high quality outdoor recreation experience and ensure a fair share distribution of recreation opportunities across recreation providers.

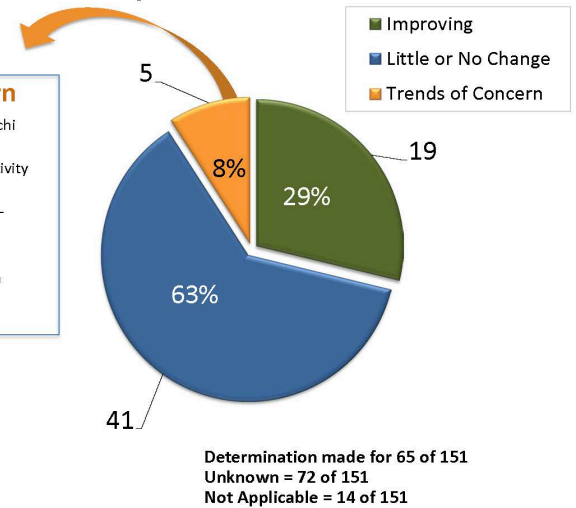
Scenic Resources: Improve and maintain the natural scenic quality of the Region along roadways, Lake Tahoe’s shoreline, at recreational sites and at other scenic vistas.

Threshold Status At-a-Glance



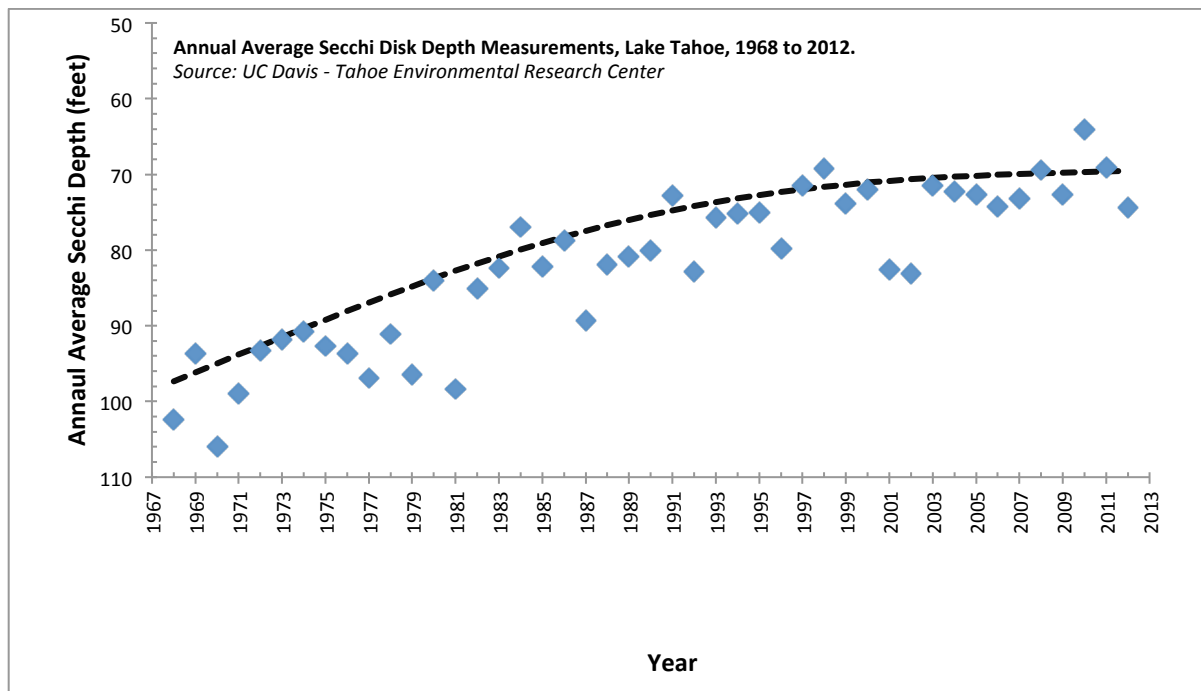
- Trends of Concern**
- Long-Term Annual Average Secchi Depth (and summer clarity)
 - Phytoplankton Primary Productivity (and nearshore attached algae)
 - Uncommon Plant Communities-Osgood Swamp (qualitative)
 - Single Noise Events - aircraft
 - Cumulative Noise Events-Urban Outdoor Recreation Sites

Summary of Trends



WATER QUALITY THRESHOLD STANDARDS

- The rate of the Lake's **annual clarity** decline has slowed over the last decade. Reduced precipitation levels and investments in stormwater treatment facilities are the most likely contributors. Clarity in 2012 was the best in 10 years.



- At deep water monitoring sites in Lake Tahoe, **phosphorus concentrations** indicate an improving trend, while there has been no statistically significant change in **nitrate (nitrogen) concentrations** since 1980. Both nutrients feed free-floating algae.

- Lake Tahoe continues to maintain its “ultraoligotrophic” state as measured by the **Carlson’s Trophic State Index** – indicating the lake is maintaining its near sterile, desired nutrient-poor condition.
- Trends in **stream water quality** indicate that **pollutant loads** (sediment, nitrogen and phosphorus) to Lake Tahoe from this source have not worsened over time.
- **Summer lake clarity** and **nearshore** conditions are in decline and are of increasing concern and attention.

OTHER KEY THRESHOLD FACTS

Air: Since the 1970s, **ozone** concentrations have gradually declined indicating improved air quality conditions. Measures of **oxides of nitrogen** indicate that the Region is meeting state and federal standards for this pollutant – a precursor gas responsible for elevated ozone concentrations. As of 2012, the Region continues to attain the vehicle miles traveled threshold

Refreshing clean air is another hallmark of the Lake Tahoe Region. Primary factors known to influence the Basin’s air quality are motor vehicle emissions, vehicle entrainment of road dust, wildfire, residential wood smoke, topography, meteorology, and pollutants transported from sources outside the Region.

standard. Wildfire smoke transported into the Region from the Yosemite area Rim Fire was attributed to **particulate matter** standard exceedances recorded in the summer of 2013.

Soil & Vegetation: Overall, **less than 4 percent** of the Lake Tahoe watershed is covered by **impervious surfaces**. New remote sensing mapping data indicate there are more than 17 million **trees** within the Basin’s boundaries.

Scenic: The Tahoe Basin made gains in **scenic quality** between 2006 and 2011. Overall, compliance with scenic quality standards is at 93 percent with an improving trend in scenic quality for the built environment due to investments in redevelopment. However, developed areas along roadways and Lake Tahoe’s shoreline continue to be where scenic improvements are most needed.

Fish & Wildlife: Indicators of **stream biological health** suggest that the majority of sampled stream sites are in ‘good’ to ‘excellent condition’ (75 percent) although improvements to road crossings over streams are recommended to improve in-stream fish passage.

Noise: The *2011 Threshold Evaluation* recommended that **noise standards** should be comprehensively re-evaluated to better reflect noise evaluation practices commonly used elsewhere and to include only standards for noise sources that the agency has authority to effectively manage.

FUTURE FOCUS

The California legislature, TRPA, and scientists have recommended **a comprehensive review of Thresholds Standards**, to update, prioritize, and streamline the hundreds of existing standards to those that can be supported scientifically, are most meaningful to understanding ecosystem conditions, and are capable of being monitored within funding constraints. Newly authorized funds from California’s SB 630 may be a source of scientific funding to support this need. Historic shortfalls in monitoring funding continue to be a challenge.

PLAN FOR ATTAINMENT *The Regional Plan*

The 2012 Regional Plan, a blueprint for Lake Tahoe's sustainable future, contains the bi-state regulatory framework to accelerate environmental gains while supporting the health of our communities. New policies pair longstanding regulations with new incentives for property owners to accelerate ecosystem restoration.

KEY 2013 REGIONAL PLAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

MITIGATION MEASURES

Upon the new Plan's adoption, seven programmatic mitigation measures needed to be completed by December 2013. The added mitigation measures, adopted ahead of schedule in November 2013, will implement new policies addressing:

- Construction best practices for air quality and noise
- Region-wide traffic noise reduction
- Noise policy for mixed-use development
- Greenhouse gas emissions reduction

The new measures are both implementable and enforceable:

- **Code Amendments** require additional greenhouse gas reductions through local Area Plans, remove barriers to sustainable design, revise idling limits, and strengthen roadway noise reduction requirements.
- **Initial Environmental Checklist** additions ensure that every project is evaluated for potential impacts from incompatible noise levels or ground vibration.
- **Standard Conditions of Approval** revisions require additional best practices that reduce the air pollution and noise generated by construction projects.
- **Direct TRPA Actions** including reducing air pollution and greenhouse gases by offering rebates for the replacement of old woodstoves, and focusing noise reduction where most needed by conducting a targeted noise study.

The 2012 Regional Plan merited three prestigious awards:

- *Outstanding Environmental Plan* from the Nevada Chapter of the American Planning Association
- *Gerber Award for Environmental Planning* from Western Planning Resources
- *Award of Honor* from the Nevada Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

REGIONAL PLAN BY THE NUMBERS

While maintaining the strict growth control system in effect since 1987, the Plan makes reinvestment in our communities more feasible and promotes strengthening Lake Tahoe's economy and communities.

When fully implemented, the 2012 Regional Plan projects these results:

- **55%** reduction in the maximum rate of new residential building allocations
- **0** new tourist accommodation units
- **10,000** miles of vehicle miles traveled expected to be eliminated from the Basin annually by transferring development from outlying areas to community centers
- **1,200** additional parcels anticipated to be protected or restored
- **27,000** developed properties targeted by incentives to complete and certify stormwater infiltration BMPs
- **24** acres of land coverage projected to be removed from sensitive lands through privately-funded development transfers

REGIONAL PLAN PERFORMANCE MEASURES

While it has long been TRPA's high priority to measure and report the success of the Regional Plan, having up-to-date and relevant performance measures has had increased scrutiny. In May 2013, the Board added 14 strategically targeted performance measures to monitor the rate and success of implementation for the new Regional Plan incentives, adopted to accelerate threshold gains.

With new measures comes the responsibility to create tracking systems needed for regular and accurate reporting. In 2013, TRPA built new tracking systems and partner relationships to begin reporting on the 14 new Regional Plan performance measures. The system went on-line in late December 2013. Where available, performance measures are reported in their relevant program areas. In future Annual Reports, we will provide a snapshot of Regional Plan performance measure results. Many performance measures are related to long-term changes in the Lake Tahoe Region and consequently it may take a number of years to see any significant change.

REGIONAL PLAN PERFORMANCE MEASURES AT-A-GLANCE

For a complete list of Regional Plan performance measures, visit: www.trpa.org.

Regional Land-Use Patterns

Measures modifications to the distribution of development, transfers of development from sensitive lands to town centers, rate of retirement for non-residential units, and housing availability.

Travel Behavior

Measures changes in non-automobile modes of travel, vehicle miles traveled, and construction of pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

Environmental Restoration

Measures coverage removal from stream environment zones (SEZs) and other sensitive lands, installation of BMPs, implementation of the TMDL, and scenic improvements.

Effective Plan Implementation

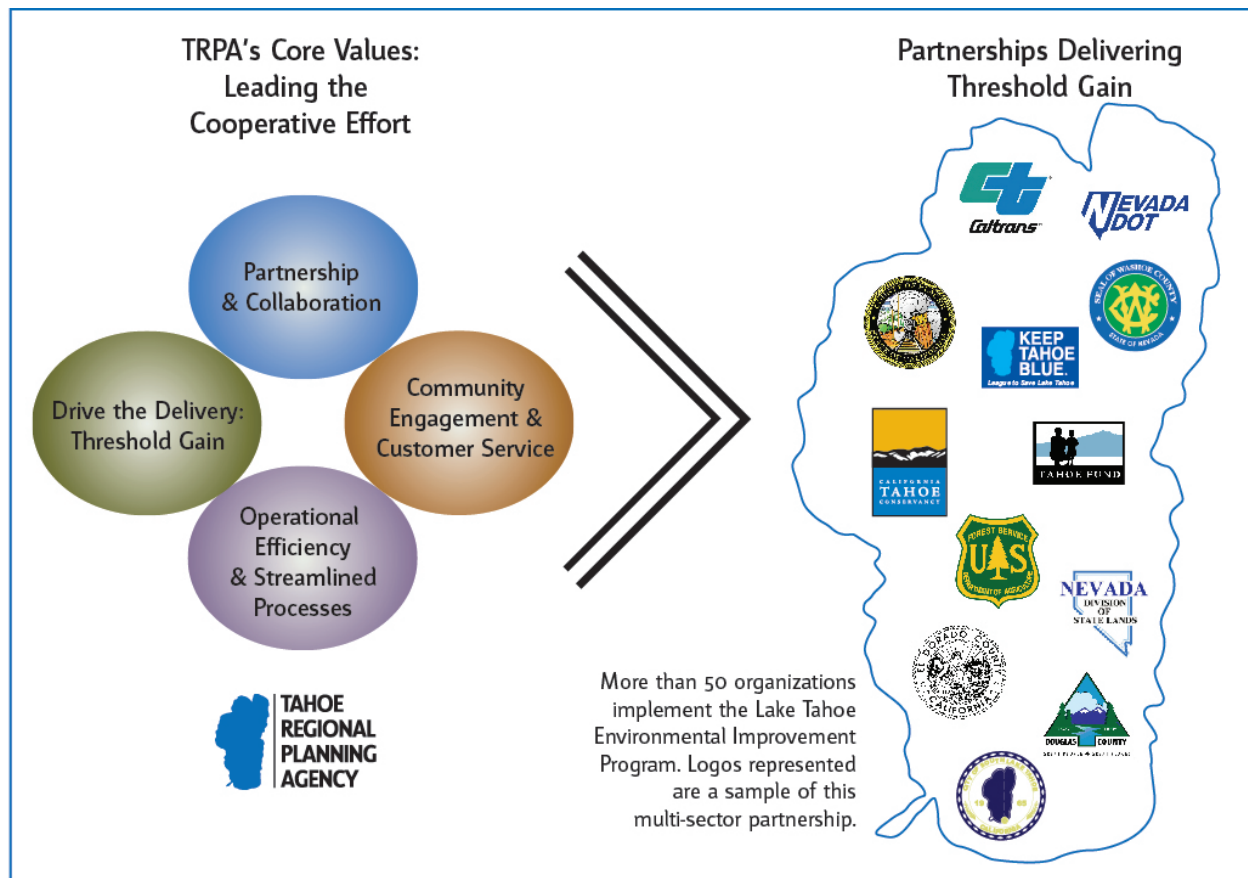
Measures area plan conformance and completion of mitigation measures.

Economic Vitality

Measures the rate of redevelopment.

IMPLEMENT THE PLAN

As years of experience have revealed, TRPA cannot implement the Regional Plan alone. Strong partnerships across all sectors are essential to achieving and maintaining the environmental threshold goals and requirements of the Compact. From public agencies and non-governmental organizations to private businesses and residents, TRPA has over 50 partner organizations working together to further the goals of the Regional Plan and the mandates of the Bi-State Compact.



AREA PLANS

The 2012 Regional Plan established a basin-wide framework for planning and permitting where multiple requirements – TRPA, local, state, and federal – may be comprehensively addressed in Area Plans. Local governments have long had delegated authority to implement parts of the Regional Plan; area planning gives local governments the option to recognize the unique character and needs of each area to accept broader delegation and more local control, once area plans are deemed conforming to TRPA’s regional rules. TRPA is then left to focus on regional environmental and community goals and in most cases, to consolidate multiple layers of overlapping or inconsistent permit requirements. An appeals process exists to assure adequate protections are in place for this new framework.

KEY 2013 AREA PLAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

COMPLETED AREA PLANS

➤ South Shore Area Plan



The South Shore Area Plan was the first area plan to be approved. The Area Plan encompasses the High Density Tourist District (“casino core”), Kingsbury Town Center, Edgewood Mountain Parcels, and Edgewood Golf Course. Douglas County developed the South Shore Area Plan through a collaborative public stakeholder working group over two years. The South Shore Area Plan is achieving the goals set for area plans: attaining TRPA’s environmental threshold standards; increasing public collaboration at the local level to influence desired local community character; encouraging the environmental redevelopment of the existing built environment; promoting economic vitality through the expansion of recreation opportunities; fostering sustainability; and improving connectivity through the construction of new pedestrian and bike paths.

➤ Tourist Core Area Plan



The Tourist Core Area Plan implements the South Shore Vision Plan on the California side of the state line, to just west of Ski Run Blvd and includes the highest concentration of commercial and tourist uses in the City of South Lake Tahoe. The Tourist Core is a central destination with full services to visitors and permanent residents alike and access to diverse recreation facilities and opportunities. Its key goals are to: achieve property reinvestment and environmental redevelopment needed to enhance the built environment and advance environmental improvements, and bicycle and pedestrian connectivity.

FUTURE FOCUS

The following Area Plans are in progress:

- Tahoe Douglas Area Plan
- City of South Lake Tahoe, Tahoe Valley Area Plan
- Meyers Area Plan
- North Tahoe East Area Plan
- North Tahoe West Area Plan
- Tahoe City Area Plan
- West Shore Area Plan
- Martis West Area Plan
- Washoe County Area Plan

For more on Area Plans, visit www.trpa.org.

TRANSPORTATION

The Region's transportation program may be the single most effective tool we have for making significant gains toward environmental threshold attainment:

- In water quality – with roadway projects that reduce sediment runoff
- In air quality – by reducing NOx, ozone, particulates, as well as GHG emissions by improving bike and pedestrian facilities
- In soil conservation – by reducing coverage with improved parking designs and transit management in combination with land use strategies
- In noise – by choice of roadway surface materials
- In scenic attainment – by combining roadway improvement projects with streetscape plans and sidewalks

TRPA, in its role as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), serves multiple functions:

- Developed and now maintains a Sustainable Communities Strategy, funded in part by California Strategic Growth Council grants.
- Had the Sustainable Communities Strategy (within the Regional Transportation Plan) certified by the Air Resources Board and was among the first MPOs in California to do so.
- Collaborates on national transportation policy through its role on the Policy Committee of the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations.
- Delivers transportation projects and works collaboratively with stakeholders to help secure millions in funding in partnership with the Tahoe Transportation District.

KEY 2013 TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

➤ **Stateline-to-Stateline Bike Trail**

The first two phases of the Stateline to Stateline Bike Trail were completed in 2013. This important trail links the major bed base of the Stateline area to public recreation amenities.

➤ **Highway 50 Project**



Caltrans completed the \$45 million Highway 50 project from Ski Run Blvd. to Trout Creek in 2013 (pictured left). Roadway improvements include installing erosion control measures, bike lanes, landscaping, lighting, and other safety features.



➤ On Our Way Grant Program



The purpose of the program is to help Lake Tahoe communities fund neighborhood-level transportation and community improvements to meet Region-wide sustainability goals of:

- creating walkable, mixed use centers
- encouraging biking, walking, and transit use
- supporting economic vitality
- reducing impacts to the environment.

Local jurisdictions, non-profit organizations, educational institutions, other formalized community groups, and government agencies are eligible to receive grant funding. The products of the On Our Way program will inform the Regional Transportation Plan Update, the Regional Plan, Area Plans, and other local and regional plans or codes, and are intended to lead to construction of capital improvements or approval of new policies or programs.

FUTURE FOCUS

The Tahoe transportation system is fixed and is not managed for growth, only for improved mode choice.

- Reauthorization of MAP-21 federal transportation legislation.
- Visitor Transit Management Strategies – working with TTD, champion improved transit (ex: ferry and water taxi) as a connectivity spine to change the use of the roadway system.
- Corridor approach to transportation implementation.

COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT

Plans only work if carried out correctly. Permitting and compliance programs ensure that development and redevelopment projects meet Code and environmental standards. These efforts are carried out by TRPA, or, if a memorandum of understanding (MOU) is approved, by local governments and other public entities.

PERMITTING

Most people want to do their part for Tahoe's environment. We are making the process more efficient and easier to understand to bolster Plan and Code compliance:

- Improving the efficiency of processing permit applications
- Updating MOUs to delegate more routine project applications to partner agencies

Local government and other public and quasi-public entities play a key role in implementing the Regional Plan. TRPA oversees over 40 MOUs with organizations such as utilities, fire districts, and local governments carrying out the Regional Plan and Code. TRPA annually audits a sampling of these implementation agreements, or MOUs.

- More than 800 permits issued by TRPA staff in 2013
- 99% of applications are screened for completeness within 30 days
- 99% of all applications are reviewed within 120 days
- 93% of customers rated their satisfaction with the Customer Service Counter as 'good' or 'excellent'

KEY 2013 PERMITTING ACCOMPLISHMENTS

➤ Customer Service Satisfaction Rating

The performance standard is clear: serve applicants with the highest possible level of customer service through timely and consistent application review. 2013 feedback surveys report 93% customer satisfaction rating.

➤ Paperless Permitting

In 2007, TRPA stepped into 21st century technology with the startup of Accela, an automated permit tracking and processing system. This year, several changes were made taking advantage of Accela, resulting in improved permitting, inspection efficiency, better customer service, a reduction in the amount of paper, and savings on supplies and file storage costs.

➤ Predictable Permitting

Standardized over-the-counter permits are efficient and consistent. They are now being issued, generally with a one-day turnaround, for underground tank removal, driveway paving, grading, and small residential projects, making our process more streamlined, efficient, and customer-friendly.

PLAN COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT

A robust Regional Plan compliance and enforcement program has long been in place at TRPA. This program includes code enforcement, physical inspection of TRPA permitted projects, and MOU monitoring.

Code Enforcement

- TRPA performs more than 700 compliance inspections every year: pre-grade, intermediate, final, MOU audits, and code case inspections.
 - About 75 to 100 inspections turn into potential code enforcement cases that are fully investigated by TRPA Code Compliance staff.
 - Since 2007, an average of 21 code cases per year are pursued with a penalty assessed as part of its resolution (settlement or double filing fee).
 - The remaining cases are resolved through voluntary correction with no penalty, referred to an MOU partner, dropped due to the absence of any violation, or recorded in the TRPA permitting database to be dealt with through permit requirements in the future.
- In 2013, TRPA performed a total of 714 compliance inspections
 - 76 inspections resulted in a TRPA code enforcement case
 - The investigation of the 76 code enforcement cases resulted in:
 - 43 cases resolved, referred, or recorded
 - 26 staff-level penalty assessments
 - 7 Governing Board approved settlements

Inspection of TRPA Permitted Projects

- TRPA tracks permit compliance for all projects following pre-grade inspections. For permitted projects started in 2007-2013, the **compliance rate** following pre-grade inspections is currently **98 percent**.
- For 2013-initiated projects where TRPA holds performance securities, **100% or all 135 projects were in compliance**.
- TRPA staff perform compliance inspections promptly, because many potential compliance matters are resolved after physical site inspection through advice and consultation with the property owner or contractor performing the project work. Positive communication with permittees has proven to be a valuable tool to increase good environmental performance and permit compliance.
- In 2013, staff completed **99 percent** of final inspections within 15 days.

MOU Monitoring

- TRPA annually audits or reviews performance of delegated MOUs in October of each year. In 2013, TRPA staff completed **86 MOU audit inspections**.
- At least 10 percent of active projects were selected at random and inspected for conformance with winterization guidelines. Additionally, at least 10 percent of projects, where TRPA holds a financial security, were randomly chosen and inspected for compliance with the conditions of the security release.
- For 2013, all jurisdictions scored in both categories between **90-98 percent**. Where needed, corrective action is agreed upon and monitored to completion.

FUTURE FOCUS

In the spirit of continuous improvement, the Planning Department will continue making customer service a top priority while also ensuring regional plan compliance in the field -- all in the pursuit of threshold gain. The Code Compliance team is planning initiatives to strengthen compliance tools, return abandoned security deposits on projects, and enhance MOU monitoring.

INNOVATIVE PLAN STRATEGIES

The constant search for best practices, improved approaches, and new innovative strategies will move the Lake Tahoe Basin towards threshold attainment. The following strategies are worth highlighting because of significant milestones achieved in 2013:

TRANSFER OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS EXCHANGE AND TRACKING SYSTEM

To better achieve transfers of development for threshold gain, public knowledge of available opportunities is paramount. In 2013, TRPA launched an online marketplace and tracking system for property owners, realtors and land banks to use to increase the environmental improvements that come from transferring commonly traded development rights in the Lake Tahoe Region.

Transfer of Development Rights Exchange

The new online **Transfer of Development Rights Exchange** allows buyers and sellers to create postings, explains transfer incentives and eligibility requirements, and makes it all viewable on an interactive map. Individual landowners, developers, and the two designated Lake Tahoe land banks—the California Tahoe Conservancy and Nevada Division of State Lands—have always been able to participate in the Transfer of Development Rights marketplace. However, better connecting buyers and sellers with a single point of entry and a public database is expected to increase participation. The exchange will facilitate and track the movement of transferable rights throughout the Basin, which will help Lake Tahoe communities meet greenhouse gas reduction targets, attain environmental thresholds, and enhance the livability of area communities.

Transfer of Development Rights Tracking System

In addition to the exchange, TRPA also developed a **Transfer of Development Rights Tracking System**. The tracking system, a reporting/recording tool by which lead agencies report transaction information to TRPA, is comprised of a reporting form, a digital connection to the Accela permitting system, and reports for lead agencies and TRPA. The lead agency reporting form is intended as a supplement to existing means of communication between lead agencies and TRPA, with the potential to serve as a foundation for developing future process efficiencies such as digital approval of applications between agencies. The reporting form will be made available to MOU partners in spring of 2014.

FUTURE FOCUS

- Working with the Tahoe Prosperity Center and other partners on the Regional Land Development Commodities Project – strategies to finance and make more feasible the retirement, repurposing, and relocation of tourist accommodation units and other development commodities.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Agency supports an internal culture committed to community engagement to implement the Regional Plan. The Governing Board established public education and outreach as a priority many years ago and programs have evolved over time. The External Affairs team leads community engagement initiatives in collaboration with a wide variety of agency and non-profit stakeholders.

KEY 2013 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Web site:** Launched a comprehensive re-design of the TRPA site to improve public service.
- **Community awards programs:** Revamped Lake Spirit Awards, created in 2011 to recognize individual environmental stewardship, along with the 23rd annual Best in Basin awards to recognize the best designed, planned, and implemented projects in the Tahoe Basin that stand out as environmentally compatible.
- **Educational speaker series:** Conducted outreach to the general public, schools, universities, realtor organizations, planning organizations, and myriad other groups resulting in thousands of contacts and educational opportunities for the community.

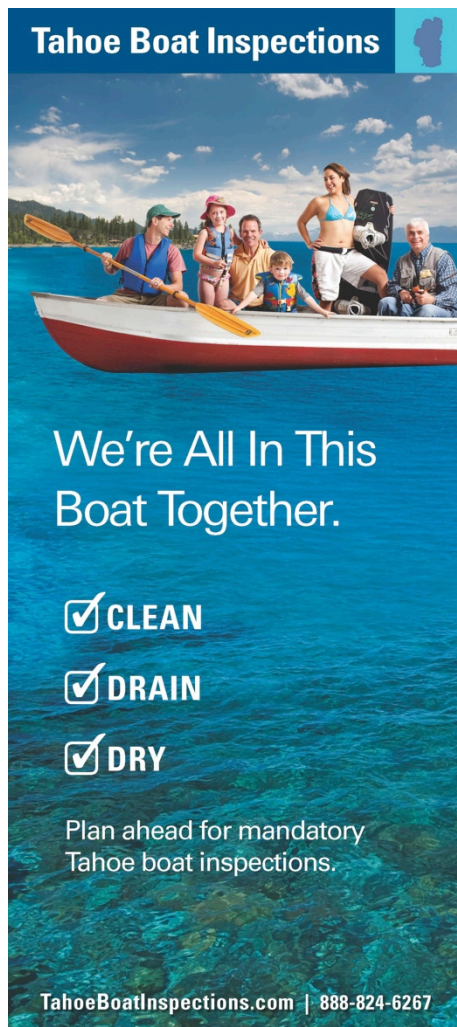


- **Media:** Represented the Agency with international, national, regional, and local press outlets to bolster public understanding of environmental and TRPA issues.
- **Aquatic invasive species outreach:** Won the Silver Anvil award from the Public Relations Society of America for the multi-partner aquatic invasive species outreach program. The national award represents the highest honor for communications campaigns.
- **International delegations:** Hosted groups from the around the globe to further TRPA's reputation as a leading environmental organization with global reach.

FUTURE FOCUS

The Lake Tahoe Region is poised for positive progress and revitalization that will lead to environmental threshold attainment and a sustainable future. This progress is inextricably linked to the public's understanding of key environmental policies and TRPA initiatives. Community engagement will continue to be a priority in these areas:

- Transitioning to area plans to streamline permitting and focus TRPA on emergent, regional issues such as Aquatic Invasive Species and forest fuel reduction;
- Encouraging environmental redevelopment and restoration of sensitive lands with regulatory incentives and new tracking tools;
- Helping create more bike-friendly, walkable communities as projects move from planning to completion;
- Building partnerships that lead the Basin toward sustainability, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and adapting the Region to the effects of climate change; and
- Continuing to reach local residents, part-time property owners, and visitors through high quality communications outlets such as Tahoe In Depth, the TRPA web site, and other vehicles.



The Silver-Anvil winning "We're All in This Boat Together" campaign rack card.



2013 Lake Spirit Award and honorable mention winners with TRPA Board Chair, Shelly Aldean and Executive Director, Joanne Marchetta.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

15 Years of Restoration Gains

In 2013, the EIP celebrated 15 years of on-the-ground improvements at Lake Tahoe.

The Environmental Improvement Program (EIP), a program created to protect and restore the natural and recreational resources of the Lake Tahoe Basin, was launched in 1997 after the Lake Tahoe Presidential Forum attended by President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore. The EIP is the capital investment program within the TRPA Regional Plan and is designed to attain and maintain environmental Threshold Standards through an integrated approach. Since the EIP's inception in 1997, TRPA staff have contributed to the delivery of projects that have increased public access to the Lake, added hundreds of miles of bike trails, reduced urban and roadway pollution, restored creeks, reduced fire-threatening fuels on tens of thousands of forested acres, and improved transportation around the Lake, all of which have pushed the Tahoe Region closer to threshold attainment. Both the public and private sectors have played a role in the success of the EIP – more than 50 partners have invested nearly \$1.7 billion since 1997.

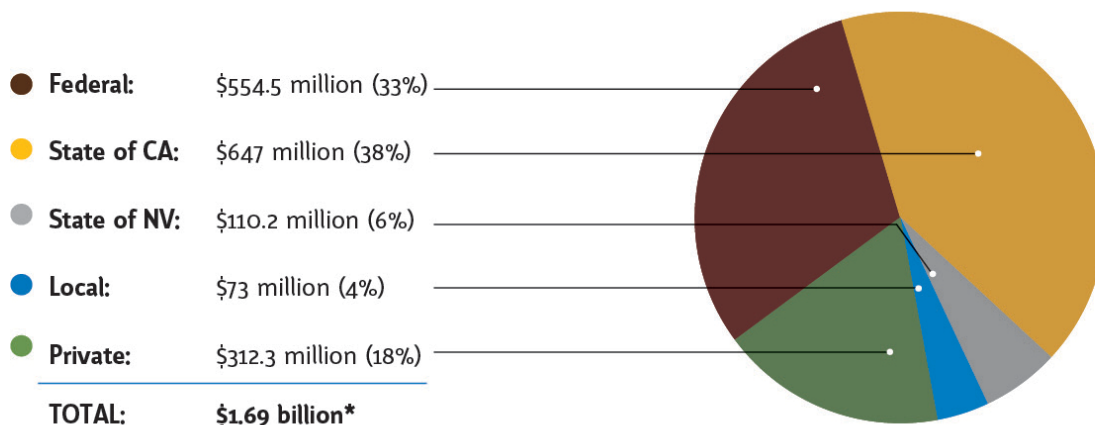
EIP BY THE NUMBERS

The EIP has just over 30 EIP performance measures that demonstrate the return on funds invested. These measures enable project implementers to report EIP accomplishments clearly and consistently and track actions taken through EIP projects to improve the environment.

EIP Project Delivery: From 1997-2012, nearly 414 projects have been completed, and 194 are currently underway, including:

- Improving erosion control measures on 628 miles of roadways
- Treating 54,248 acres of hazardous fuels
- Restoring 15,896 acres of wildlife habitat
- Adding 2,579 linear feet of shoreline for public access
- Creating 136 miles of bike and pedestrian trails

EIP Capital Investment by Funding Sector: 1997-2012



Funds reflected in this graph represent projects completed or in progress.

KEY 2013 EIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS (BY PROGRAM)

The EIP is organized into different focus areas and programs. Specific activities of TRPA related to those programs, and 2013 highlights of the accomplishments of the larger partnership follow.



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The Stormwater Management Program is focused on the reduction of urban stormwater runoff as well as pollutant loads of fine sediment, nitrogen, phosphorus, oil, and grease entering Lake Tahoe from roadways and public/private facilities. TRPA staff contributes to delivering these important projects through coordination, participation in project design, and permitting. Stormwater BMP retrofit projects on privately owned parcels represent the largest portion of private sector contributions to the EIP as each private parcel landowner bears the cost of installation.

The largest source of stormwater entering Lake Tahoe is from developed areas and roadways. The Stormwater Management Program relies on three primary implementation strategies:

- **Roadway treatments** – publicly funded infrastructure projects. Retrofitting and maintaining these roadways through street sweeping and implementation of erosion control and stormwater BMP projects like the Caltrans US Highway 50 Trout Creek to Ski Run Water Quality Improvement Project in 2013 is a high priority. Since 1997, project implementers have installed erosion control measures on more than **600 miles of roadways** in the Tahoe Basin.
- **Area-wide BMP (best management practices) projects** - funded through **public-private partnerships**. These projects are now prioritized in the Stormwater Program. Complementing the 2012 Regional Plan and Code, which require installation of private parcel-scale BMPs, are additional options now available under the Total Maximum Daily Load. These strategies involve area-wide BMP treatments that result in the same or greater improvements to water quality. Examples of area-wide projects planned include the Harrison Avenue Streetscape and Water Quality Improvement Project and Cave Rock Estates General Improvement District (GID) Water Quality Improvement Project.



➤ **The Bijou Erosion Control Area-Wide Project**, pictured left, is an \$11 million stormwater public-private initiative in the City of South Lake Tahoe. The project represents the Region's first **pump and treat system** and infiltrates polluted stormwater from a heavily developed area.

- **Residential and commercial parcel BMP retrofit** – privately funded projects. Retrofitting residential and commercial projects with BMPs is jointly executed by TRPA and partners. TRPA implemented a comprehensive outreach campaign to educate property owners resulting in high levels of awareness of the program. Recognizing that parcel-by-parcel BMP installation is a **long-term strategy**, and that cost is the primary barrier affecting compliance, the BMP Retrofit Program initiated an accelerated implementation program in 2007. This strategy targeted properties with the

greatest pollutant load reduction opportunities as well as parcels in the vicinity of public infrastructure EIP projects, such as the Bijou Erosion Control Project.

- **Other BMP retrofit highlights:**

- FY 2012: 1205 residential and commercial certificates issued
- FY 2013: 612 residential and commercial certificates issued (decline in certificates reflects shift in strategy targeting heavier polluting areas of the Basin for accelerated implementation).

- **Targeted Commercial BMP Retrofits**

TRPA launched a new “Lake-Friendly Business” program in 2013 to provide positive reinforcement to commercial property owners who install BMPs. Businesses are now being recognized for installing curbs and gutters, runoff drains, infiltration basins, and other BMP measures to prevent erosion.



WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The Watershed Management Program of the EIP represents an integrated approach to improve Lake clarity primarily by restoring critical stream environment zones (SEZ) for progress on the SEZ, vegetation, soils, wildlife, and fisheries environmental threshold standards. TRPA staff contributes to the implementation of these projects through participation in technical advisory groups, emphasizing multiple threshold benefits.

Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Species Program

The Lake Tahoe Basin is home to many special status plant and animal species. Through participation in groups such as the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Recovery Implementation Team and the Tahoe Yellow Cress Adaptive Management Working Group, TRPA staff assists in the coordination of efforts to maintain and restore special status species.

Aquatic Invasive Species Program

TRPA serves as co-lead of the Lake Tahoe Aquatic Invasive Species Program, along with the US Fish & Wildlife Service, administering the federally approved Tahoe Regional Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan. TRPA’s leadership in this program has gained national recognition. Prevention is the highest priority focus of the program. TRPA contracts with the Tahoe Resource Conservation District for the watercraft inspection prevention program. In 2013, they performed 8,105 inspections and 4,273 decontaminations.

MILFOIL IN EMERALD BAY BEFORE AND AFTER TREATMENT



The photo on the left of the pre-treatment condition in Emerald Bay (2010) shows a carpet of Eurasian watermilfoil.

The photo on the right is the same location after treatment (2012-13) using diver-assisted suction and bottom barriers.



Approximately 14,000 boats are on Lake Tahoe annually with approximately half being “Tahoe Only” boats.

At Left: AIS control project, Emerald Bay.

FOREST MANAGEMENT

Projects to address over-stocked second growth forests are guided by the Lake Tahoe Basin Multi-Jurisdictional Fuel Reduction and Wildfire Prevention 10-Year Strategy. TRPA staff participates in implementing the 10-Year Strategy by acting as the Chief of Planning for the Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team and as a member of the Multi-Agency Coordinating Group. TRPA staff works closely with project implementers to address environmental regulations through a streamlined permitting process, technical assistance, and outreach to homeowners, businesses, ski resorts and partner agencies on forest health, urban forestry issues, defensible space and tree risk assessment. As a result of the extraordinary Basin partnership around the reduction of hazardous fuels, including TRPA's leadership in the program, since 1997 more than 54,000 acres of fuels treatments have been completed.

AIR QUALITY & TRANSPORTATION

TRPA staff work with public and private partners to address harmful emissions from wood heaters, to reduce residents' and visitors' dependence on the private automobile, and to remove fine sediment particles from roadway surfaces before they enter Lake Tahoe.



STATELINE TO STATELINE BIKE TRAIL:

- TRPA works actively with partner agencies and the public to implement new bike trail segments and to connect missing links in the network. This EIP program addresses air and water quality while at the same time enhances recreational opportunities for locals and visitors.

RECREATION & SCENIC RESOURCES

TRPA EIP planners work with our implementing partners to get well-planned, designed, and coordinated recreational facilities on the ground to provide high-quality visitor experiences while protecting Tahoe's unique natural resources. Additionally, the scenic quality along Tahoe's highways and shoreline area are critical elements of the resident and visitor experience.

APPLIED SCIENCE PROGRAM

Sound scientific and technical study is essential to good environmental policy-making and resource management. With the sunset of SNPLMA science funding by 2015/16, a mechanism to meet the continuing need for targeted scientific research to inform key management questions is an important objective. The two states are exploring the concept of a Science Advisory Council to help continue to deliver the EIP's Applied Science Program.

EIP PROGRAM SUPPORT

In addition to public outreach and technical assistance specific to each focus area and sub-program, TRPA and its partner agencies are developing public outreach, as well as management and reporting programs to further support the development and ongoing implementation of the EIP. These support programs are essential to ensure that EIP capital projects are cost effective and provide lasting benefits, are broadly supported by the public and key stakeholders, and are highly visible to the public, funding entities, and decision-makers.

Public Outreach

While there are many examples of program-specific outreach as part of the EIP, in 2013, TRPA hit its annual goals for consistent project signage and outreach to part-time homeowners with a new publication, Tahoe In Depth.

- **Tahoe In Depth:** Tahoe In Depth is spearheaded by TRPA with financial and content support by EIP partners and aims to inspire environmental stewardship at Lake Tahoe. TRPA published two 24-page issues of the newspaper in 2013.



TAHOE IN DEPTH STATS:

- Reach: 38,000 Tahoe Basin homeowners, 5,000 visitors. With pass-along readership, total reach exceeds 100,000.
- Nearly \$5,000 in subscriber contributions with approximately 100 registered subscribers.

- **Phosphorus Free Fertilizer Campaign:** TRPA launched the Phosphorus Free Fertilizer Campaign in the summer of 2013. This campaign, which supports multiple EIP programs and the Lake Tahoe TMDL, is education-based and includes print advertising, educational brochures to be displayed at retail fertilizer suppliers, and outreach to commercial fertilizer users.

EIP Management & Project Delivery

The coordination and implementation of the EIP is overseen by the Tahoe Interagency Executive Steering Committee (TIE-SC). This multiagency body is chaired by the Executive Director of TRPA. TRPA staff also provides other important ongoing roles in the management of the EIP, including the build out and management of the EIP framework, disbursement of mitigation fees to be used to fund EIP projects, project permitting and other key EIP support roles. Accomplishments in 2013:

- In May of 2013, the TRPA Governing Board established a Board Committee to focus on policy and funding issues related to the administration, funding, and implementation of the EIP.
- Before & after EIP project documentation: TRPA Implementation Department staff has improved photo documentation of projects for reporting purposes.

EIP Reporting

Every year, TRPA staff work with implementing partners to report EIP accomplishments and produce a summary in advance of the annual Tahoe Summit. In recognition of the 15th anniversary of the EIP partnership commitment, staff produced a timeline display of key EIP projects (*see graphic on following page*).

EIP Legislative Advocacy

The Tahoe Partnership, a coalition of public and private-sector organizations, leads legislative advocacy initiatives for the EIP. The Partnership is a diverse set of stakeholders representing environmental non-profits, government agencies, businesses, and other members of the private sector that advocate for the EIP. TRPA co-chairs this group, participates in the development of EIP messaging, and coordinates state and congressional outreach.

FUTURE FOCUS

Strong partnerships and cooperation between public agencies and the private sector continue to drive the EIP forward, despite challenging fiscal conditions. While most programs within the EIP receive funding from multiple sectors, the largest source for several years has been federal funding from the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act. Replacing this sun-setting source of federal funding is a priority for all EIP programs. Concerted work is going toward the reauthorization of the **Lake Tahoe Restoration Act**, which is currently pending in Congress and would authorize an additional \$415 million over 10 years to implement the EIP.

- **TMDL Implementation:** How to drive improvements in mid-Lake clarity has been the predominating focus of water quality research for three decades. More recently, nearshore conditions are in visible decline with increased algal growth. In 2011, the adoption of the Lake Tahoe Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) shifted the water quality program paradigm adding to the historic parcel-scale controls a scientifically established overlay of pollutant load reduction standards on an area-wide basis. The **TMDL's addition of an area-wide approach** is expected over time to accelerate attainment of water quality Threshold Standards.
- **Fuels Strategy Update:** In 2014, the **Lake Tahoe Basin Multi-Jurisdictional Fuel Reduction and Wildfire Prevention 10-Year Strategy** is being updated to serve as the guiding strategy for forest management under the EIP.
- **Science Program:** Like other funding for EIP, monies for independent scientific inquiry are waning and SNPLMA sources are anticipated to run out by 2015. The states of California and Nevada are exploring **mechanisms to continue independent scientific input into management decision-making**. Science funding is proposed in the federal Lake Tahoe Restoration Act, currently pending in the US Congress.



STRIVE FOR SUSTAINABILITY

A Culture of Sustainability

The Lake Tahoe Region has a long history of balancing the natural and human systems to protect the landscape for future generations. To that end, TRPA has been building a framework for sustainability since before it became a common catchphrase. Now TRPA and its partners are taking sustainability to the next level. All sectors of government are embracing sustainability from developing adaptive strategies that respond to climate change, to California's adoption of greenhouse gas emission reduction targets for each region covered by a metropolitan planning organization (MPO). Specifically, the adoption of the updated Regional Plan as the Region's Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) has set Tahoe on a course to exceed California's greenhouse gas reduction (GHG) reduction targets. Throughout 2013, TRPA's focus has been to move full steam ahead on implementing the adopted SCS. At the local level, local governments are integrating sustainability principles into their local plans. Sustainability principles include compact, mixed-use town centers; walkable and bike-friendly communities; and TDR incentives to encourage removing development from remote areas to the town centers.

The Impacts of Climate Change to Lake Tahoe

Climate change effects have arrived in the Lake Tahoe Region and are projected to continue well into the foreseeable future. Current and projected climate changes include increased air and lake temperatures, reduced winter snowpack, altered precipitation patterns, and more frequent storm events. These changes have the potential for a wide variety of impacts, such as altered forest productivity, wildfire risk, water supply, public health, public safety, ecosystem function, and economic stability.

The Lake Tahoe Sustainable Communities Program

TRPA's 2012 Regional Plan was not the end of the work to make the Tahoe Region a sustainability leader. Since 2010, a broad set of partners collaborated to develop the *Lake Tahoe Sustainable Communities Program (LTSCP)*. The mission of the LTSCP is to unify and coordinate complementary federal, state, local, public, and private efforts within a common sustainability framework for partners in every sector in order to efficiently address climate change and related challenges facing the Lake Tahoe Region.

- **Electricity consumption, natural gas and woodstove combustion, and transportation activities** contribute approximately **90%** of GHG emissions in the Region.
- **The Lake Tahoe Sustainability Action Plan** calls for a **15%** regional reduction in GHG Emissions by 2020.

KEY 2013 SUSTAINABILITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2010 and again in 2012, the California Strategic Growth Council (SGC) awarded TRPA, as the MPO, grants for sustainable community planning and natural resource conservation. The following are highlighted products completed in 2013 that were funded through the grant:

- **Area Plans:** Development of the framework for Area Plans and initiation of those Area Plans.
- **Sustainability Action Plan:** Recognizes the many sustainability efforts already underway in the Lake Tahoe Region, and identifies additional actions to further improve regional sustainability and resilience.
The Sustainability Action Plan is intended to serve as a toolkit that regional agencies and

local jurisdictions can use to develop their own sustainability actions under a consistent Regional Sustainability Framework. It also serves as a resource for residents, visitors, businesses, and any community members who want to take action and get involved in positive change.

- **Sustainability Indicators Project:** Development of a suite of 28 indicators that measure the economic, environmental and community health of the Lake Tahoe Region.
- **Lake Tahoe Sustainability Strategic Plan:** Provides the strategy for the Lake Tahoe Sustainability Collaborative to continue, on an ongoing basis, to act as an independent, grassroots organization that champions sustainability in the Lake Tahoe Region.
- **Transfer of Development Rights Exchange and Tracking System:** Offers improved transparency in an effort to restore environmentally sensitive lots.

In 2014, the sustainability program anticipates completing an Economic Development Strategy and a Sustainability Dashboard & Portal. For more information on the accomplishments of the LTSCP, visit:
www.laketahoesustainablecommunitiesprogram.org.

FUTURE FOCUS

The 2013 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory identified mobile sources and energy consumption as accounting for approximately 90 percent of the Region's emissions. While the 2012 Regional Plan Update and Sustainable Communities Strategy tackle emission reduction through land-use and transportation policies, the Sustainability Action Plan ventures to, for the first time, address energy consumption and climate change adaptation. TRPA will continue its leadership role in the sustainability program by seeking additional grant funds from California's Strategic Growth Council.

MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS *Monitoring and Reporting*

TRPA is uniquely positioned to evaluate environmental and socioeconomic trade-offs as few agencies or governing bodies can. The Agency governs at an ideal scale—a Region mostly contained by watershed boundaries—to evaluate the big picture of land use practices and their implications on environmental quality and socioeconomic outcomes.

TRPA is using existing available resources to build a renewed focus on measurement, research, and analysis in the spirit of continuous improvement and adaptive management.

In recognition of this unique role in the Tahoe Region, coupled with an ever-increasing need for transparency and accountability, TRPA pivoted to a renewed focus on measurement, research, and analysis in 2013. With the vision of new reporting protocols highlighting quarterly, annual, and four-year reports, the agency is in the process of restructuring internal operations to support this focus. Using existing resources, the agency's senior management team is building a new department called Research and Analysis to be the internal clearinghouse for information systems, monitoring, and data synthesis. Staff began a review of national best practices in this arena in 2013 and visited other regional organizations including Portland Metro, the Adirondack Park Agency, and the Puget Sound Regional Council to gather facts to shape this new internal department.

THRESHOLD MONITORING ONGOING

Over the last six years, in response to TRPA monitoring mandates, the findings of the Pathway planning process, and anticipated Lake Tahoe Restoration Act reauthorization, TRPA has been updating the monitoring program to create an improved Lake Tahoe Status and Trend Monitoring and Evaluation Program in collaboration with scientists and partner agencies. Although TRPA and partners have made progress in building out many program elements, more investment is needed for priority monitoring needs.

2013 MONITORING HIGHLIGHTS

Water Quality

- Nearshore Evaluation and Monitoring Framework Report completed.
- Urban stormwater monitoring initiated in support of the Lake Tahoe TMDL in partnership with Lahontan, Tahoe Resource Conservation District, research institutions and consultants.

Air Quality

- 1 new air quality monitoring site at the Lake Tahoe Community College in South Lake Tahoe.

Soils & Vegetation

- California Wetland and Riparian Area Monitoring Program (WRAMP) completed.

Fisheries & Wildlife

- 48 samples collected by TRPA staff following the California's standard operating bioassessment procedures.

FUTURE FOCUS

TRPA is committed to operationalizing the Research and Analysis Department in the 2013-14 fiscal year. The goal of the department is to provide high quality data for operations, policy decisions, and to enhance transparency and accountability. The new reporting cycle will include quarterly and annual reports that will inform TRPA's four-year Threshold Evaluation Report.

The fundamental functions of the department will include:

- Dashboard Website & Reporting Portal
- Geographic Information System (GIS)
- Permit Tracking
- Commodity tracking and exchange
- Information Products
- Quarterly Executive Director's Report
- Annual Report
- State of the Basin Report (i.e., Threshold Evaluation)

The states of California and Nevada are collaborating on the formation of a Science Advisory Council, pursuant to California's SB 630 legislation passed in 2013. The Research and Analysis Department will serve as a staff liaison to the council once it is also operational. The department will also prioritize the review of TRPA's existing 100-plus environmental standards to align monitoring programs with the best available science and reduced funding levels.

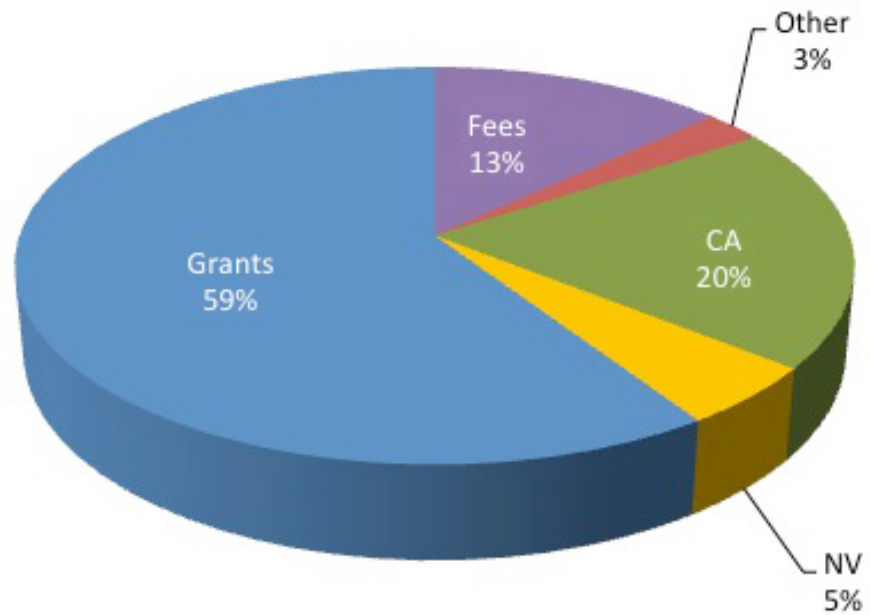
OPERATE WITH ACCOUNTABILITY

TRPA is organized to reflect the three core functions it performs: Planning, Implementation, and Research and Analysis in a “Plan, Do, Check” framework. Funding for these three functions comes from a variety of sources including the State of California, State of Nevada, fees for services, and other funding sources such as local government funding, and competitive grants. The Agency is currently staffed with 64 full-time equivalent positions.

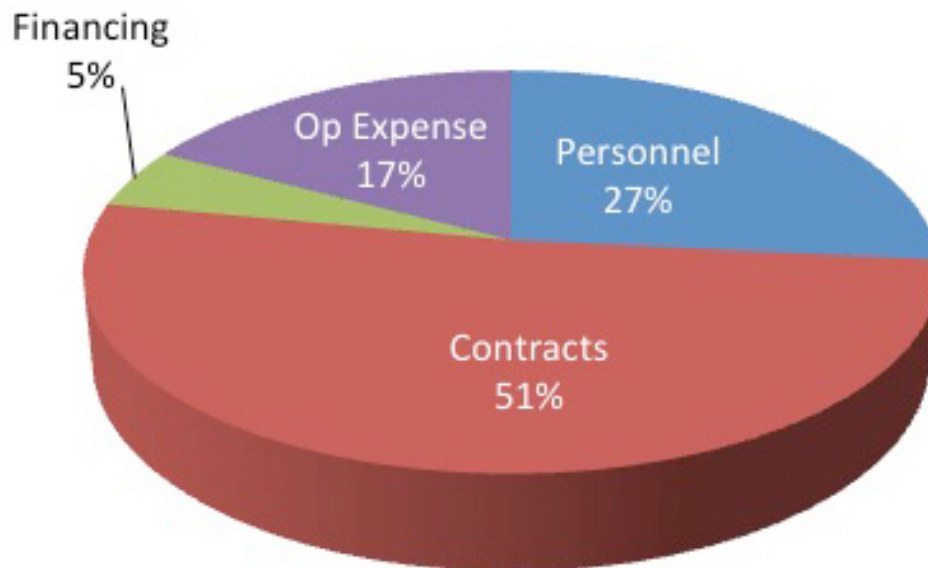
Tahoe Regional Planning Agency						
<i>Uses of Funds by Program Activity - Fiscal Year 2012-13 (\$K)</i>						
	CA	NV	Fees	Grants	Other	Total Revenue
Planning						
Planning, Permitting & Enforcement	\$ 2,593	\$ 649	\$ 2,729		\$ 337	\$ 6,308
MPO (Transportation)				\$ 7,358		\$ 7,358
Total Planning	\$ 2,593	\$ 649	\$ 2,729	\$ 7,358	\$ 337	\$ 13,666
Implementation						
Shorezone	\$ 149	\$ 37		-	\$ 19	\$ 206
Administer EIP Program	\$ 598	\$ 150		\$ 313	\$ 78	\$ 1,139
Stormwater BMPs	\$ 98	\$ 24		\$ 905	\$ 13	\$ 1,040
Aquatic Invasive Species	\$ 390	\$ 98		\$ 3,456	\$ 51	\$ 3,994
Total Implementation	\$ 1,236	\$ 309	-	\$ 4,674	\$ 161	\$ 6,379
Measurement & Reporting						
Air Quality Measurement				\$ 257		\$ 257
Threshold Monitoring	\$ 293	\$ 73			\$ 38	\$ 404
Total Measurement	\$ 293	\$ 73	-	\$ 257	\$ 38	\$ 661
Totals	\$ 4,122	\$ 1,031	\$ 2,729	\$ 12,289	\$ 536	\$ 20,706

Current 2013-14 Budget

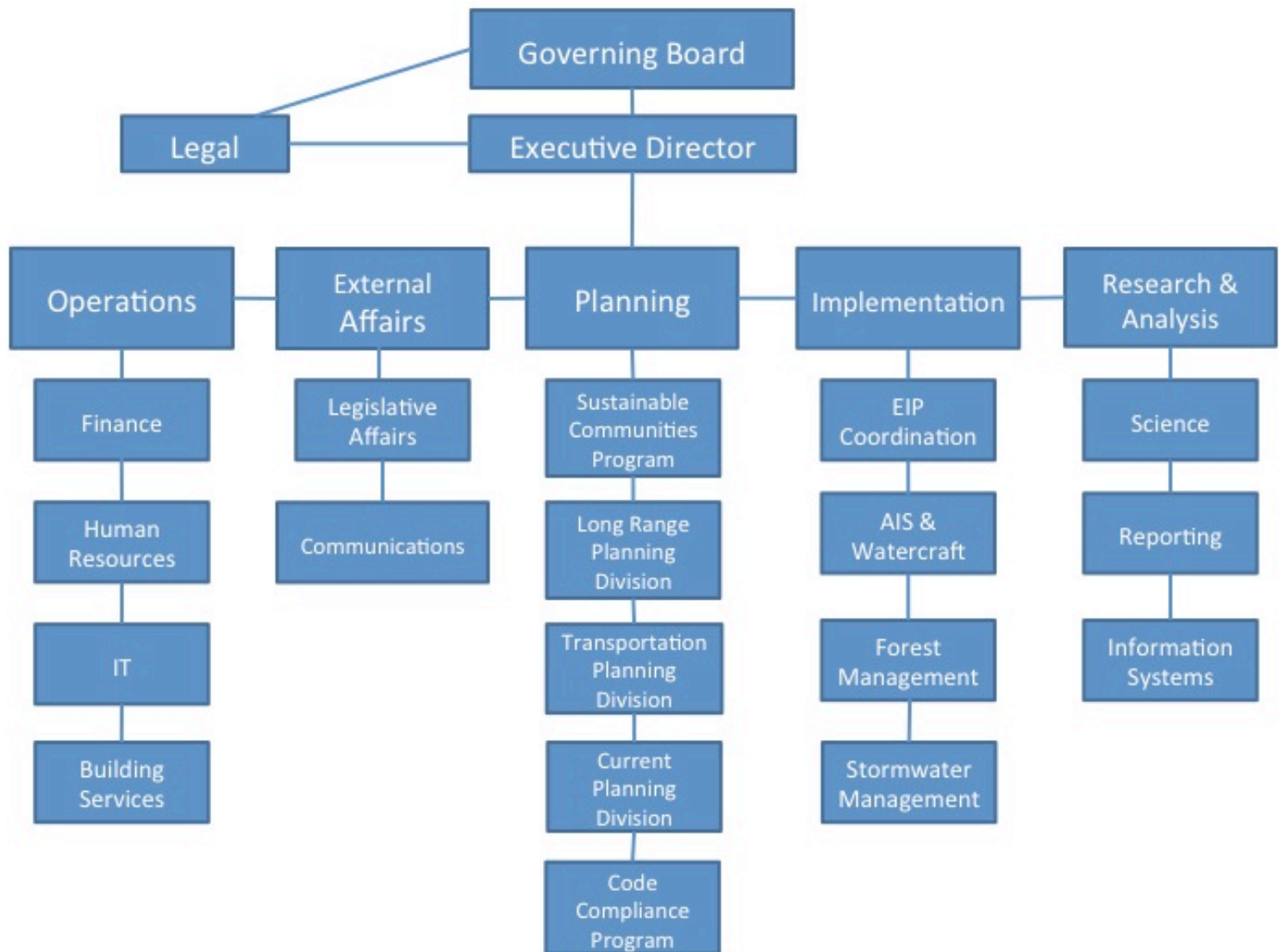
TRPA Revenue



TRPA Expenses



TRPA 2013-14 Organizational Structure



The 2013 Annual Report documents accomplishments and future focus areas for departments that fall within the “Plan, Do, Check” adaptive management organizational framework. Importantly, none of the accomplishments would be possible without several support teams that provide foundational operational infrastructure.

- The Information Technology team provides high quality, mission critical data and information infrastructure.
- The Finance team ensures obligations are met for funders, staff, the public, vendors, and other key stakeholders.
- Facilities, Human Resources, and Legal also provide crucial functions necessary to carry out the Agency’s mission.