

2014 QUARTERLY REPORT

TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY
May – June 2014

|| *Lake Tahoe*



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ACCELERATE THRESHOLD ATTAINMENT

Implement the 2012 Regional Plan – Focus on regional issues such as adapting to climate change.

The Planning Division implements an ongoing regional planning process that fulfills the Bi-State Compact requirement for a Regional Plan and related ordinances, rules and regulations that will achieve and maintain environmental threshold carrying capacities. Implementation of the 2012 Regional Plan is currently the primary focus of TRPA's Planning Divisions: Long Range Planning, Current Planning, and Transportation Planning.

LONG RANGE PLANNING DIVISION

Long range planning typically includes annual priority-setting by the Governing Board, resulting Plan and Code amendments, and a 4-year Regional Plan and Code of Ordinances updates based on evaluation of progress toward achieving and maintaining the environmental threshold carrying capacities.

At its February 2013 and April 2014 strategic planning retreats, the Governing Board set a number of priorities for Long Range Planning on which we are making progress.

Area Plans

Eight area plans are under development by local jurisdictions. Area plans are the 2012 Regional Plan's approach to meet each local community's unique character and needs for integrating environmental improvements with community revitalization. Once the area plan is found to conform with TRPA's regional environmental goals, TRPA can delegate additional projects to local jurisdictions for review to streamline the permitting process with one-stop shop permitting and inspections for most projects.

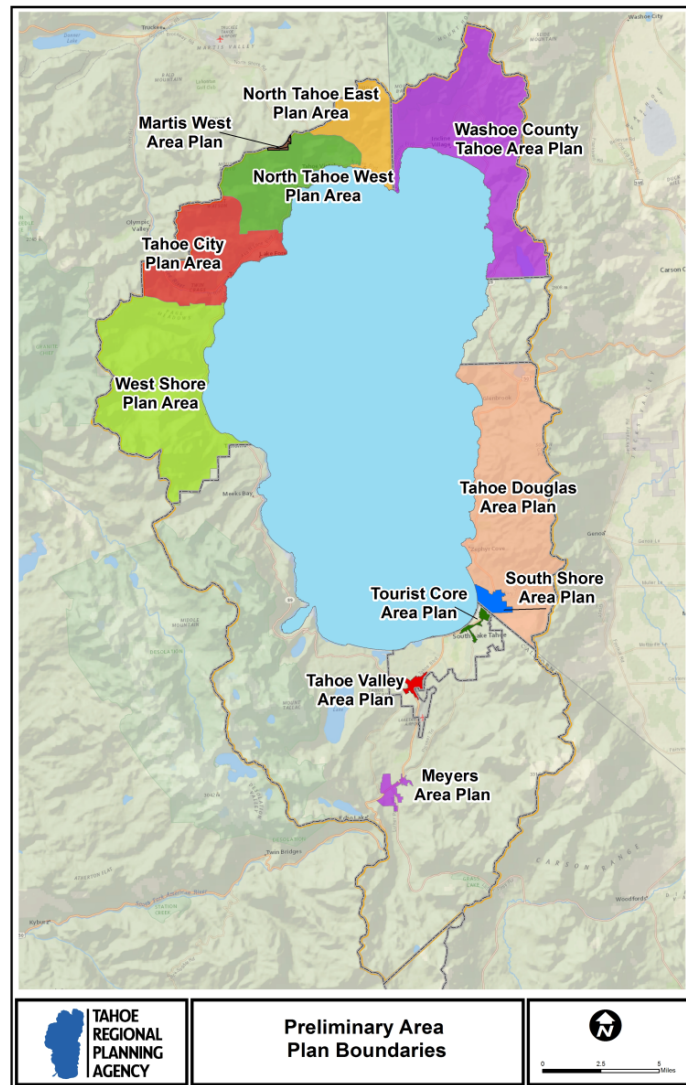
- **City of South Lake Tahoe's Tahoe Valley Area Plan** –A draft of the Tahoe Valley Area Plan was released for public review in June and is available at www.cityofslt.us. The Tahoe Valley Area Plan includes the mixed use areas around the South "Y" in South Lake Tahoe. Highlights of the Tahoe Valley Area Plan include enhanced strategies to transfer existing development out of sensitive lands and create a walkable green space that also filters stormwater runoff.

- **El Dorado County, Meyers Area Plan** – The County released a revised third draft of the Meyers Area Plan in June. This proposed plan includes the Meyers Town Center and surrounding mixed-use, recreation and conservation lands. Highlights of the Meyers Area Plan include highway corridor improvements, new bicycle trail connections, and design and development standards intended to improve scenic quality and reflect Meyers’ rural character. The Draft Area Plan is available for review at:

www.edcgov.us/meyers/.

- **Placer County, Martis West Area Plan** – A draft of the Martis West Area Plan was also released for public review in June and public comments are due by August 1st. This unique area plan is part of a larger land conservation agreement that has the potential to preserve 6,376 acres of private land adjacent to the Lake Tahoe Basin, creating almost 50,000 acres of contiguous conserved land, reducing development potential, and creating a large habitat linkage. The Martis West Area Plan covers slightly over 112 acres within the Tahoe Region of privately-owned conservation and recreation lands near the Northstar ski resort. The area plan proposes re-designation of the 112 acres as resort recreation land use under the 2012 Tahoe Regional Plan. The Draft Area Plan is available at:

www.placer.ca.gov/departments/communitydevelopment/planning/martisvalleywestparcelproject.



TRPA Governing Board Tour of Area Plans and EIP Projects

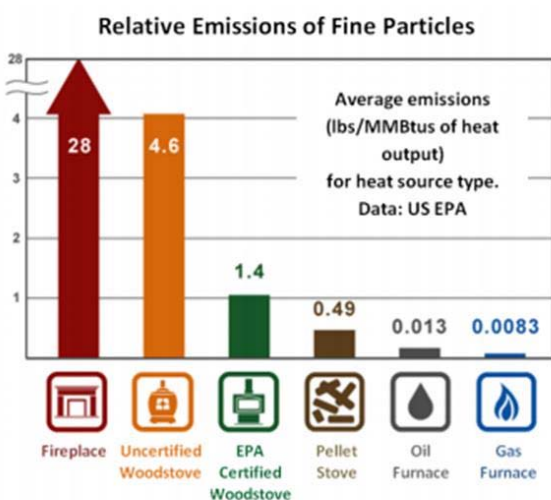
During the June 2014 Governing Board meeting, TRPA staff and Governing Board toured the sites of upcoming local government Area Plans as well as Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) projects located on the South Shore of Lake Tahoe. Planning and implementing agency staff gave field overviews of both area plans under development and various EIP projects. Board members were able to see missing links in bike trail networks being constructed (Rabe Meadow Trail, Sawmill Trail, and Lake Tahoe Blvd. Trail), upcoming area plan areas (Tahoe Valley and Meyers) as well as area-wide stormwater management projects (Bijou and Harrison Avenue). Seeing completed and proposed project areas in the field makes review and understanding of the issues more meaningful to Board members and staff.



Woodstove Replacement Rebates

Among the varied strategies used to continue to improve the Region's air quality, in November 2013, the Governing Board authorized the expenditure of \$95,000 from the TRPA general fund to provide rebates needed to accelerate the replacement of older polluting woodstoves in the Tahoe Region, in coordination with local jurisdiction rebate programs. During the last quarter, TRPA finalized funding agreements with local and state agencies, and enhanced rebate programs are now in place throughout the Region. Rebates of \$400 to \$1,400 are available to replace older woodstoves and open fireplaces with newer EPA-certified woodstoves or other devices that emit

substantially less particulate matter, greenhouse gases, and toxic air contaminants. The funding provided by TRPA is being matched by local funding, which will result in the replacement of a projected 219 woodstoves. This program is expected to reduce over 5 tons of particulate matter annually.



To find out if you are eligible for a woodstove or fireplace rebate program in your area, contact your local air quality office prior to any purchase or installation. Contact information for each jurisdiction is provided below:

- **El Dorado County and the City of South Lake Tahoe residents located in the Tahoe Region:** Contact Adam Baughman, El Dorado County Air Quality Management District, 530-621-7571 or adam.baughman@edcgov.us. To find out more about the Chimney Smoke Reduction Incentive Program please visit:

[https://www.edcgov.us/Government/AirQualityManagement/Grants and Incentive Refunds.aspx?terms=wood%20stove](https://www.edcgov.us/Government/AirQualityManagement/Grants%20and%20Incentive%20Refunds.aspx?terms=wood%20stove).
- **Placer County residents located in the Tahoe Region (program is expected to be launched in fall of 2014):** www.placer.ca.gov and click on the link for “Wood Burning Appliances & Info” for updates, notifications and information on the Air District’s Burn Bright Burn Right Wood Stove Replacement Program.
- **Nevada residents located in the Tahoe Region:** Contact John Handzo at the Business Environmental Program at University of Nevada, Reno; (775) 834-3674, jhandzo@unr.edu or visit: <http://www.unrbep.org/>.

CURRENT PLANNING DIVISION

The Current Planning Division serves the public by providing timely and consistent review of applications to achieve environmental improvement and economic investment consistent with the TRPA Regional Plan and Code of Ordinances. The Division supports local government and other public and quasi-public entities to implement the Regional Plan and works to facilitate removal of development and development rights from sensitive and remote lands through a system of transferring and retiring development commodities.

Having consistent and predictable review times substantially benefits applicant expectations and project implementation needed to deliver environmental improvements, and Current Planning staff is substantially meeting its targets.

Measure	2012/2013 Actuals	2013/2014 Target	YTD
Number of applications	592	800	639
Percent of applications deemed complete/not complete within 30 days	100%	720 (90%)	99%
Percent of applications requiring Hearing Officer review completed within 45 days of application being deemed complete	20 (71%)	30 (90%)	14 (78%)
Number (percent) of applications requiring Governing Board review (excluding those requiring an environmental impact statement) completed within 60 days of application being deemed complete.	45 (90%)	5 (90%)	3 (100%)

Measure	2012/2013 Actuals	2013/2014 Target	YTD
Number (percent) of applications requiring Governing Board review with an environmental impact statement completed within 120 days of application being deemed complete.	2 (100%)	0 (0%) ¹	0 (0%)
Percent of all applications reviewed within 120 days of application being deemed complete	100%	100%	98%
Percent of customers rating their overall experience with the Customer Service Counter as good or exceptional (i.e., 4 or 5 on a scale of 1 to 5)	86%	80%	100%

Note:

1. There were no applications requiring Governing Board review with an Environmental Impact Statement in 2013/2014.

Launch of Heavenly Mountain Resort's Summer Activities

National Forest and other public lands in the Region are managed in part to enhance and achieve TRPA's recreation threshold. On June 12, 2014, TRPA Executive Director, Joanne Marchetta took part in a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Heavenly Mountain Resort where Heavenly unveiled a variety of new summer recreation activities available to the public at the top of the gondola centered



around the new LEED certified Tamarack Lodge. These new activities, permitted under Heavenly's Master Plan, include three new ropes challenge courses, a 3,300-foot-long zip line, and an environmental interpretive program aimed at youth and families.

Acknowledging the reality of shorter winters and less snow, federal legislation recently authorized these new summer activities on U.S. Forest Service lands in the western states to offer visitors more outdoor

recreation activity options which will enhance TRPA's recreation threshold. Heavenly will soon release a companion proposal to extend its summer operations to include activities such as mountain biking and canopy tours at other locations on the mountain.

Also participating in the ribbon cutting ceremony were Nevada Lieutenant Governor Brian Krolicki and representatives from the U.S. Forest Service and Heavenly.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING DIVISION

The Transportation Planning Division executes an ongoing regional transportation planning program that implements the Bi-State Compact requirement for an integrated transportation plan including parkways, highways, transportation facilities, transit routes, waterways, navigational facilities, public transportation facilities, bicycle facilities, and appurtenant terminals and facilities for the movement of people and goods within the Region. The TRPA Governing Board, with the addition of a member representing the U.S. Forest Service, is the designated metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Lake Tahoe Region and the Transportation Division serves as the MPO staff. The Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization (TMPO) maintains and implements a continuing, comprehensive, and coordinated regional transportation planning process that includes a Regional Transportation Plan, the Federal Transportation Program, and an Overall Work Program.

More Bike Trails Keep Rolling Out!

Implementation of the TRPA Regional Transportation Plan and Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan continues to roll ahead. At the June 2014 dedication ceremony for the recently completed South Demonstration Project - Phase 1C of America's Most Beautiful Bikeway, the wide array of planning, funding and implementation partners gathered to mark the Tahoe Transportation District's (TTD) latest project completion. The now nearly completed 4.3 mile South Demonstration segment of America's Most Beautiful Bikeway represents a critical non-auto connection between the South Stateline lodging properties and Nevada Beach and Round Hill Pines Resort. Trail implementation has been accelerated by years and millions of dollars using the TTD's efficient project delivery techniques with the name "Construction Manager at Risk" (CMAR).



The allocation of just over \$12 million from the Nevada Department of Transportation to the TTD for the North Demonstration segment between Incline Village and Sand Harbor is also looking promising. If the funding is secured the project will seek environmental and permit clearance in 2014, with construction commencing in 2015. Visit www.tahoetransportation.org for more information.

Develop and Implement New Funding Strategies for the Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) – The Region is confronted with constrained state funding sources and the decline of multiple federal grants that support restoration, science, and monitoring programs.

The Environmental Improvement Division leads the implementation of the Tahoe ecosystem restoration initiative (the Environmental Improvement Program). The Division provides leadership within the EIP partnership to develop new financing strategies for future projects and programs to set EIP program/project priorities so that the ever more limited funding for EIP projects is being used on those projects that will achieve maximum threshold gain. The Division also identifies and builds new associations beyond the Lake Tahoe Region to strategically leverage new and innovative funding sources.

NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES BASED ON CARBON REDUCTIONS

As the State of California's next step in implementing the atmospheric carbon reduction policies of AB 32 and SB 375, the California Governor recently signed a budget that includes a landmark investment plan for proceeds from the first cap and trade auction held by the state. The program is aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the state and provides potential funding for many Lake Tahoe projects and programs. The total amount of funding authorized to be distributed is \$872 million dollars, and is assigned to various programs (High Speed Rail, Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities, Transit, Energy Efficiency, and Natural Resources). Multiple agencies in Lake Tahoe are engaged in seeking funding for transportation, forest health, and other eligible programs. TRPA is participating in discussions regarding the distribution processes now being developed through state departments responsible for project selection and funding allocations.

2014-15 Cap and Trade Appropriations \$ in Millions	
High Speed Rail	\$250
Clean Vehicle Program	\$200
Housing/Sustainable Communities	\$130
Transit	\$ 50
Other programs	\$242
TOTAL	\$872

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The goal of the Stormwater Management Program is to reduce pollutants flowing into Lake Tahoe. Roadway infrastructure projects and installation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) on private parcels are the main focus areas of the program. We are positioning the Stormwater Management Program to adapt to the California, Nevada, and U.S. EPA approval of the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) approach to water quality improvement and to substantial reductions in grants and other public funds to partner agencies and TRPA for implementation and enforcement.

New TRPA Stormwater Management Program Manager

The fiscal cliff hit the TRPA Stormwater Management Program with a vengeance in 2014. TRPA has nonetheless repositioned staff and redirected general funds to keep the program up and running while we engage the Governing Board, partners, and the public in strategic planning for more efficient and targeted implementation and financing mechanisms. During the second quarter of 2014, TRPA moved Shay Navarro into a new role as TRPA Stormwater Program Manager. Shay has been with TRPA since 2007 and brings her experience on the Stormwater Management Team and also on the Regional Plan Update team where she led the update of the 208 Water Quality Management Plan. In her new role as Stormwater Program Manager, Shay is currently managing the BMP Compliance Options Working Group and working with other water quality agencies and BMP implementers to update the BMP Strategic Plan.

Contract with the Tahoe Resource Conservation District for Single Family Residential BMPs

With the benefit of recently awarded additional state grant monies for water quality, TRPA contracted with the Tahoe Resource Conservation District (Tahoe RCD) to pass through funds to facilitate continued California single family residential BMP installation and development of BMP installation and maintenance educational materials. The funds are from the California Proposition 50 Supplemental grant and were awarded to TRPA to facilitate installation and maintenance of BMPs on the California-side of the Lake where private parcel compliance rates are lowest. The Tahoe RCD is the lead implementer of single family residential BMPs on the California side of the Region and these funds will allow them to continue to provide services. It is anticipated that these funds will help facilitate implementation of BMPs on 179 single family residential properties whose owners received or will soon receive notice of failure letters to install BMPs on their property.

Lake-Friendly Business Program

Education, outreach, and building community support have proven to be successful tactics in the array of strategies needed to improve and protect the Lake's water quality. In 2005, TRPA created a "Lake-Friendly Business" (LFB) Program as an incentive for business owners to install BMPs. The goal was to create better public awareness of the program and generate a perception of program value among business owners. At that time, the program consisted of an annual advertisement in local newspapers and the issuance of a program-specific window decal upon receipt of the business' BMP certificate.



In 2013, the focus of the program shifted to include an emphasis on BMP maintenance. Existing and newly BMP certified businesses are invited to join the program and are educated on the importance of ongoing BMP maintenance. Business owners are encouraged to create an inspection and maintenance protocol so that already installed BMPs remain functional. In turn, these participating businesses are issued a year-specific window decal (shown above) and are

**OUR THANKS TO ALPINE ANIMAL HOSPITAL
FOR BEING A LAKE-FRIENDLY BUSINESS!**



Alpine Animal Hospital provides a number of services including low-cost vaccine clinics, dental care, surgery, and chiropractic services. While owners Dr. Kay Willett and Dr. Laura Doring enjoy practicing general medicine, Laura has a special interest in surgery and advanced dental procedures, and Kevin has an interest in endoscopy/bronchoscopy. Kevin also donates his talents to Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care, Inc. where he recently treated the injured bear cub rescued from Heavenly.

For more information, call 530-540-4040; visit AlpineAnimalHospital.net or see what's the latest on Facebook - Alpine Animal Hospital.

Alpine Animal Hospital in South Lake Tahoe became a Lake-Friendly Business by completing and maintaining their BMP.

Science indicates that 72 percent of the fine sediment polluting Lake Tahoe comes from our old built infrastructure like buildings and roads. Installing and maintaining BMPs is an important way property owners can help protect our beautiful Lake.

Alpine Animal Hospital has been helping locals, visitors, and their pets for over 25 years by improving the quality of life of their patients, and providing pets and their owners an awarded rewarding bond. Now the Alpine Animal Hospital is helping Lake Tahoe by installing and maintaining their Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs).



Next time you visit a local business, check to see if they have a "Lake-Friendly Business" sticker in their window. If they do, you can be assured that this business property has installed its BMPs and is doing its part to help protect Lake Tahoe.

To find out how to become a Lake-Friendly Business visit tahoebmp.org or trpa.org.



publically recognized throughout the year by way of advertising in Lake Tahoe Region newspapers and the TRPA/BMP website.

As of June 2014, there were 15 new 2014 LFB members. The type of businesses included range from corporate members such as Bank of the West, to local businesses such as Alpine Animal Hospital. A meeting in June 2014 with the League to Save Lake Tahoe further strengthened support for the program. While communicating with their Blue Business members, the League will encourage business owners to participate in the program by installing/maintaining their BMPs. During the remainder of 2014 and into 2015, TRPA will be collaborating with a number of partners, including the League to Save Lake Tahoe, to encourage consumers to shop at Lake Friendly Businesses.

FOREST AND VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The goal of the Forest and Vegetation Management Program is to restore and maintain healthy and fire-safe forests, and to provide leadership in fuel reduction/forest management activities which in turn promotes ecosystem resiliency. The program is needed to achieve and maintain TRPA's vegetation thresholds.

TRPA Recognizes the Angora Fire's 6th Anniversary with a Look Back

On May 28, 2014, Mike Vollmer, TRPA's Forest Management Program Manager, presented to the Governing Board a historical overview and update of catastrophic wildfire prevention efforts in the Tahoe Region over the past two decades. The presentation put into context all the planning, fuels reduction investments, and forest health work that has been done by a multitude of TRPA and forest management partners since the 1990s. Progress has always been spurred by a major fire event, like the 2007 Angora Fire that consumed 254 homes and scarred thousands of acres. The take-home message: fire will occur, but we can choose our fire by the forest treatments we are able to fund. Do nothing, and the ecosystem damage may be catastrophic. Secure new funding for continued forest health and fuels treatment and the fire's negative effects can be controlled.

Also at that meeting the TRPA Governing Board adopted special proclamations honoring the service of two fire chiefs who retired this year. Chief John Pang of Meeks Bay Fire Protection District and Chief Norb Sczurek of the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District accepted accolades from the Governing Board for their years of service and for their instrumental roles in the Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team (TFFT), the multi-agency coordinating committee for forest, fuels, and fire planning and management.

Tahoe Yellow Cress Conservation Strategy Update

Sensitive plants and species are protected throughout the Lake Tahoe Region based on numerous TRPA, federal, and state standards. Tahoe Yellow Cress (TYC) is a plant that grows on the beaches



of Lake Tahoe. TYC is a Tahoe “endemic”, meaning it only grows in the Lake Tahoe Basin. This unique-to-Tahoe plant, has been studied and conserved through a multi-agency effort. In 2002, a multi-sector coalition of organizations created a TYC Conservation Strategy (with funding provided through TRPA) and the TYC Adaptive Management Working Group has been implementing this Conservation Strategy as its guiding document. TYC has been a “candidate species” for federal listing under the endangered species act for many years and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is now required to make a

decision on whether to list the species under the Endangered Species Act by December 2014. A TYC Conservation Strategy Update is underway and TRPA staff is playing an important role in its development.

AQUATIC RESOURCES PROGRAM

Guided by the Lake Tahoe Basin Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan, TRPA leads the Lake Tahoe Region partnership to prevent the introduction of new Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) into the Region and to eradicate or control the spread of existing AIS.

Lake Tahoe AIS Management Plan Update

The updated Lake Tahoe AIS Management Plan received conditional approval from the federal Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Task Force in the second quarter of 2014. The updated plan makes Tahoe eligible for certain federal funding and also brings credibility and accountability to the program. Anecdotally, members of the ANS Task Force relayed to staff that the Lake Tahoe Region’s updated plan should be a model for all AIS management plans across the country. Final approval is expected in the next quarter.

AIS Inspections Stations Opened

The Tahoe AIS inspection stations re-opened in May for this year’s active boating season. Four stations are operating this year at Northstar, Alpine Meadows, Meyers, and Spooner Summit. Inspection numbers are up 3 percent from previous years most likely due to drought conditions resulting in low water levels in other lakes and reservoirs throughout the western states. Staff at the inspection stations intercepted 25 fouled boats so far this season, 9 with mussels, which shows the critical need for these inspections.

Tahoe Fund AIS Corporate Sponsorship Program



TRPA is actively pursuing long-term stable sources of funding to continue the AIS prevention program beyond this year when Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act funding sunsets. One new funding tactic looks to the private sector for support. The AIS Prevention Program partnered with the Tahoe Fund to develop a Lake Tahoe Aquatic Invasive Species Corporate Sponsorship Program. Corporations can sponsor one of the four inspection stations for the season and sponsorship rates range from \$11,000 to \$34,000. The funds go directly to operation of the station and benefits to the sponsor include signage at the station and opportunity for boaters to sample products or receive marketing or educational literature, just to name a few. The Ritz-Carlton has already signed on to sponsor the Northstar station and the Tahoe Fund is actively seeking sponsors for the remaining stations.

AIS Public Forum

Education and outreach has been an important component in the success so far of the AIS prevention and control work. Staff and partners held the AIS Public Forum at the Tahoe Environmental Research Center (TERC) in Incline Village on May 22, 2014. The forum highlighted the past, present, and future of aquatic invasive species control and prevention efforts in Lake Tahoe. Approximately 75 people attended information and education presentations from AIS partners including TRPA, Tahoe Resource Conservation District, Trout Unlimited, California State Parks, Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association, and the League to Save Lake Tahoe.

Additional AIS Public Outreach

The annual AIS outreach campaign kicked off in early May with the advent of the Tahoe boating season. As part of the watercraft inspection and non-motorized campaigns, TRPA staff led a multi-agency partnership and placed print ads in local and regional media outlets including Adventure Sports Journal, the Tahoe Daily Tribune, Moonshine Ink, Tahoe Mountain News monthly and mountain guide, the North Lake Tahoe Resort Association Visitor Guide, and online ads in Moonshine Ink and LakeTahoeNews.net. Staff also had a strong presence at various community events such as Earth Day, public concerts in Truckee and Lakeview Commons, among dozens of other outreach activities.



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Tahoe In Depth

On June 15th, the 4th bi-annual issue of Tahoe In Depth dropped in all Basin homeowner's mailboxes. This issue of the publication has already netted more than \$1,000 in subscriber fees and all feedback has been extremely positive. TRPA staff produced the paper in partnership with several agencies and organizations which also contributed and supported the project financially.



Approximately 34,000 newspapers were direct mailed with 5,000 additional copies distributed to visitor centers, various tourist hubs around the Basin, and to all partner organizations.

EIP Project Signage

TRPA staff members add value to EIP project implementing agencies by designing program outreach materials including signage to educate the public about this mission-critical restoration initiative. More than a dozen EIP signs can be viewed Lake-wide, all in effort to raise awareness about the program and build long-term support for the public-private partnerships needed to sustain it.



ESTABLISH TRPA AS A LEADER IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS

Establish New Cutting-Edge, Nationally Recognized Environmental and Sustainability Approaches and Programs – The agency operates on a world stage and the time is ripe for growing TRPA’s reputation nationally and internationally as a leader in environmental restoration and sustainability approaches. We will use best practices and form new strategic alliances.

TRPA recognizes that true ecosystem sustainability is larger than TRPA alone, encompassing multi-sector public and private partners to succeed. TRPA is doing its part and spurring others to theirs by providing leadership in the face of difficult challenges such as adapting to climate change effects and the sustainability of Lake Tahoe’s communities. The Sustainable Communities Strategy adopted by TRPA achieves California greenhouse gas reduction targets for transportation related emissions, and the recently completed Sustainability Action Plan is an even broader blueprint for both public and private sector participants to address greenhouse gas reduction and the effects of climate change.

SUSTAINABILITY COLLABORATIVE TWO-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

The Sustainability Collaborative was launched in May 2012 in response to a need for a citizen-based, non-regulatory and non-governmental community group to align environmental, community and economic health for the Tahoe-Truckee region. The Collaborative model provides an opportunity for individual stakeholders from multiple sectors to participate in planning, designing, and accelerating the implementation of sustainability initiatives. The Sustainability Collaborative received seed funding from TRPA/TMPO through the Strategic Growth Council’s Sustainable Communities Planning Grant. The Collaborative is helping to implement policies in the Regional Plan, Regional Transportation Plan, and Sustainability Action Plan.

The Sustainability Collaborative celebrated their second anniversary this spring. Key accomplishments include:



- \$166,000 secured in grants to fund Safe Routes to School planning in South Lake Tahoe.
- Worked with Caltrans, the City of South Lake Tahoe, El Dorado County, Douglas County, and Nevada Department of Transportation to (1) add/paint bike lanes, (2) add bike routes, (3) repaint arrows, and (4) widen bike lanes along area roadways.

- Co-sponsored the first two regional Community Job Fairs along with multiple other Tahoe Region partners in March 2014. A total of 1,100 attendees and 43 employers participated.



- Secured funding to develop community garden projects at three elementary schools in the South Shore – a greenhouse at Tahoe Valley Elementary (\$3,000 grant and donated labor), a 'permaculture' project at the Family Resource Center site adjacent to Bijou Elementary (\$20,000 grant), and a 'grow dome' at Sierra House Elementary (multiple grants and donors).

For more information about the Sustainability Collaborative and their current projects, visit: www.sustainabilitycollaborative.org.

"SUSTAINABILITY IN ACTION IN THE SIERRA" WORKSHOP

On June 4, 2014, the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency co-hosted a workshop with the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR). OPR is sponsoring development of the California Governor's Environmental Goals and Policy Report, which will set out the key environmental agendas for the state. The workshop goals invited (1) Sierra stakeholders to provide input on the Governor's Draft Environmental Goals and Policy Report and (2) the Governor's Office of Planning and Research to learn more about challenges, opportunities and issues in the Sierra regarding sustainability and climate change. Presentations from Sierra stakeholders (Sierra Business Council, Sierra Nevada Conservancy, Lake Tahoe Sustainability Collaborative, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, California Tahoe Conservancy) covered a breadth of current and anticipated future challenges confronting the Lake Tahoe Region and the greater Sierra region.



AGENDA Sustainability in Action in the Sierra Public Workshop on the Discussion Draft of the Governor's Environmental Goals and Policy Report

Wednesday, June 4th, 2014 from 10am-1pm
Lake Tahoe Community College
Augsen Room
1 College Way
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

- I. Welcome and Introductions (10:00-10:10)
- II. A State Perspective: The Governor's Environmental Goals and Policy Report (10:10-10:30)
Louise Bedworth, Deputy Director, Governor's Office of Planning and Research
- III. A Sierra Perspective: Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainability in the Sierra (10:30-10:55)
Greg Jones, Vice President of Operations, Sierra Business Council
- IV. A Tahoe Perspective: The Lake Tahoe Sustainability Collaborative Program (10:55-11:10)
Karin Edwards, Senior Policy Analyst, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
- V. Sustainability in Action in the Sierra (11:10 to 12:10)
Creating Livable, Healthy Communities in Lake Tahoe
Tahoe's Regional Land Development Commodities Program
John Heine, Chief Operating Officer, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
Patricia Wright, Executive Director, California Tahoe Conservancy

Key sustainability issues that were discussed in the workshop included, but were not limited to:

- Funding – the fiscal cliff and the need for a Water Bond or new sources of restoration funding.
- Transportation – improvements for transit and non-auto modes as key to sustainability.
- Forest-to-Faucet connection – the need to protect headwater sources from catastrophic fire.
- Economic Development – harmonizing the environmental policy agenda to the State's economic development policies.
- CEQA streamlining for rural communities.



June 24, 2014: Nick Haven shows CA OPR staff how we implement Sustainable Communities Strategies required by SB 375. The Heavenly Gondola Project has substantially reduced vehicle miles traveled in the Stateline area.

Following the workshop, TRPA sponsored a tour for OPR staff to visit some key EIP projects in the City of South Lake Tahoe highlighting how EIP partners have been implementing many of the goals outlined in the Report. TRPA staff will continue to build the partnership with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research and play a role in developing statewide policies around climate change and sustainability.

PROPEL THE DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF BEST INFORMATION, DATA, AND SCIENCE FOR DECISION-MAKING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Provide Excellent Information for Policy Decisions, Accountability, and Operations – TRPA is committed to continuing strong relations with the science community and improving measurement and reporting for programmatic and fiscal accountability.

TRPA is charged with monitoring and measuring many hundreds of threshold standards, performance measures, and management actions for progress and effectiveness at a regional cost of many millions. The Region's monitoring and reporting programs are achieved through multi-sector partnerships and shared funding.

RESEARCH & ANALYSIS DIVISION

This past quarter TRPA reorganized its existing resources to form a new division within the agency to head up efforts to continue our relationship with the science community and to provide excellent information for policy decisions, accountability, and operations. The new Research and Analysis (R&A) Division incorporates personnel and roles previously spread throughout the agency into a single unit integrating data systems with information collection and analysis.

The R&A Division supports TRPA planning and implementation efforts by managing organizational data, providing key information and reports, engaging with the scientific community, and providing efficient and timely analysis to support TRPA staff and Governing Board decision-making. Division staff members coordinate with partner agencies and the scientific community on monitoring and applied research, conducting status and trend monitoring related to the TRPA Threshold Carrying Capacities, and support of partner agency data needs.

This quarter's work included implementing bioassessment monitoring of stream conditions in support of the 2016 Threshold Evaluation, providing the data systems support to initiate the online tree permitting process, and building the systems analysis foundations for future reporting products. R&A staff also supported the City of South Lake Tahoe's planning staff by conducting a detailed transportation analysis of the estimated vehicle miles traveled across four alternative planning scenarios of the Tahoe Valley Area Plan.

ONLINE TREE REMOVAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS

The screenshot shows the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency's website with the header "A Voice for Lake Tahoe". The user is logged in as Linda Allen. The navigation bar includes "Home" and "Building". The main content area is titled "Tree Removal" and shows a progress bar with six steps: 1. Address/Owner Info, 2. Contact Info, 3. Application Details, 4. Review, 5. Pay Fees, and 6. The current step is "Step 1: Address/Owner Info > Address/Owner Info". The form includes fields for "Address", "Street No.", "Street Name", "Street Type", "City", "State", and "Zip". A note indicates that only the street number and street name are required. Below the address fields are "Search" and "Clear" buttons. The "Parcel" section includes fields for "Parcel Number", "Lot", "Block", "Subdivision", "Book", and "Page". The "Tract" section includes a "Legal Description" field. At the bottom, there are fields for "Parcel Area", "Land Value", "Improved Value", and "Exemption Value".

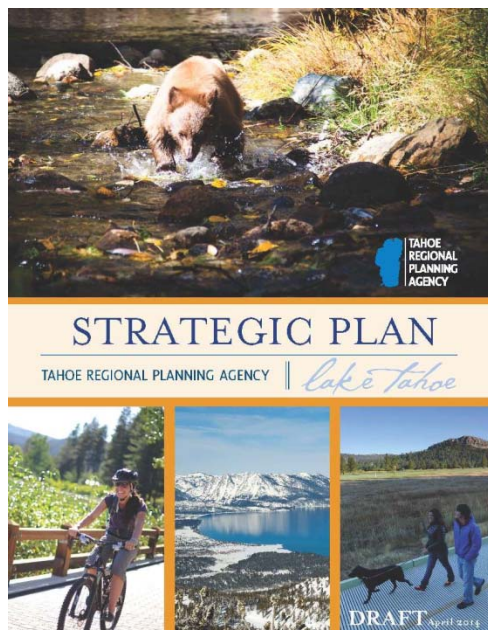
In June, TRPA began implementation of a new online tree removal permit application and credit card payment system that can be accessed through the TRPA website. This new online service is more customer-friendly and improves operational efficiency while providing a high-level of customer service. Customers that previously needed to download a tree removal permit from TRPA's website and then submit the documentation either via U.S. Mail or in person can now save a trip to the post office or the TRPA offices. Applicants now submit their tree removal permit application and pay the fee with a credit card online, and a TRPA Forester will contact them to schedule an evaluation. In June, 14 online applications have been received and these numbers are expected to pick up as people learn of the new method. Tree removal for defensible space is still accessible through local fire protection districts and departments.

OPERATE AS A HIGH PERFORMANCE ORGANIZATION

Create an Enduring Organizational Culture of High Performance and Continuous Improvement – The agency will improve its performance management system to ensure each individual is in alignment with, evaluated against, and rewarded for achieving performance targets.

BOARD UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTS NEW 2014 TRPA STRATEGIC PLAN

On June 25, TRPA's Board unanimously adopted an update to the TRPA Strategic Plan. In 2010, the agency set itself on a course to address decades of pent up frustration that TRPA was an obstacle to be avoided. Rather than being the agency to lock the status quo in place we set our minds to the task of becoming the very best across the Region at building partnerships to protect and restore Tahoe's environment. We focused on strengthening our external relationships for the benefit of the Lake and threshold attainment, and the proof of our success was in unprecedented partnership and support for the 2012 Regional Plan adoption.



Now it is time to turn inward and pay close attention to further building core competencies, training, and growing TRPA staff. TRPA is implementing a strengthened staff performance management system to align the new 2014 Strategic Plan goals to the annual work program priorities set by the Board and cascade those goals into specific objectives and performance measures for each Division and each individual staff member. Greater clarity in expected performance is the foundation needed as we transition to a pay for performance compensation system.

2014 TAHOE BIKE CHALLENGE

The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, the Lake Tahoe Bicycle Coalition and a small band of supporting businesses and organizations, including the Sierra Nevada Alliance, Heavenly, and the Lake Tahoe Sustainability Collaborative joined forces to produce the ninth annual Region-wide Tahoe Bike Challenge during the month of June. TRPA spearheaded the first challenge nearly a decade ago and takes pride in the incredible growth of this important Basin-wide event. This year, more than 200 new participants signed up to take part in the event and ride their bikes to and from work, school, or play activities. Over the course of the two-week event, Lake Tahoe participants collectively rode their bikes over 17,000 miles, keeping over 18,000 pounds of carbon dioxide out of the air, burning over 700,000 calories, and saving nearly \$4,000 in gasoline by not driving their cars.

Maintaining a strong team spirit within TRPA and among staff is at the core of high performance and the willingness to set new bars and accomplish what is difficult. With thirty-five employer-based teams and 321 individual riders logging into the website each day to report trips, some friendly competition arose. The Lake Tahoe Community College came out swinging early in the Challenge, provoking TRPA team riders to step up their game. No longer a shoo-in for “Most Overall Trips,” TRPA came panting to the finish line a mere 39 trips short of Lake Tahoe Community College’s glorious 500 overall trips. A close third was South Tahoe Refuse and Recycling with 422 overall trips. In the main competition category “Most Trips per Employee,” Sierra Nevada Alliance defended their title for the fifth year in a row, with 24.8 trips per employee (this includes all employees – those riding in the Challenge and those not participating and comes out to be about 2.5 trips per employee per day). Close on their heels was Tahoe Mountain Sports with 23 trips per employee and the League to Save Lake Tahoe with 15 trips per employee. TRPA’s own Amy Fish was the rider with the most overall trips in the Challenge – 65 trips. More information on the Challenge and its sponsors and supporters can be found at www.TahoeBikeChallenge.org.



External Affairs team members coordinate TRPA’s Environmental Scholarship program every May, which awards funds generated through Bike Challenge donations to local high school seniors pursuing degrees in the environmental field. Since the scholarship’s inception in 2004, TRPA staff, Board, and APC members have donated more than \$10,000 to this fund which has benefitted dozens of local students. This year, three local seniors received a total of \$1,000 in scholarship assistance.

TRPA CAR-FREE DAY



What started as a way to get more staff members of TRPA to participate in the Tahoe Bike Challenge has become a hallmark event for staff at TRPA. This was the fourth year that TRPA made an environmental improvement by essentially closing its parking lot to motorized staff vehicles for a car-free day on June 20. Over 60 staff members and adjoining offices biked, walked, used transit, or a combination of these to get to work.