

# 2019 QUARTERLY REPORT

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TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY  
Third Quarter: July – September 2019



TAHOE  
REGIONAL  
PLANNING  
AGENCY



*Photo by Sarah Underhill*

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## TRPA STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

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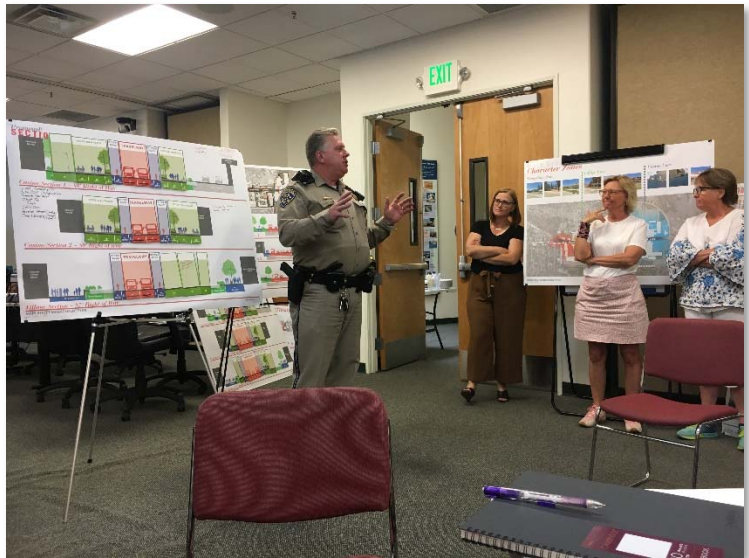
The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) is moving forward with strategic initiatives the Governing Board identified as major priorities for the agency. These initiatives align directly with the four objectives in the agency's Strategic Plan.

### TRANSPORTATION

#### U.S. 50 South Shore Community Revitalization Project

The U.S. 50 South Shore Community Revitalization Project is a transformational and regionally significant project identified as a top Regional Plan implementation priority for Lake Tahoe. The project will catalyze improvements to the south shore's housing, transit, parking management, recreation access, and business development by realigning approximately one mile of U.S. Highway 50 behind Heavenly Village and the casino core. The redevelopment will create a pedestrian-friendly and transit-oriented local main street corridor that extends throughout the project area in Stateline and South Lake Tahoe.

***Main Street Management Plan:*** In August, TRPA staff and consultants held the third stakeholder working group meeting for the Main Street Management Plan. The meeting included a presentation of best practices and draft streetscape options for bike and pedestrian infrastructure, transit, parking, green space, and more. Using a design charrette format, the stakeholder working group developed three alternatives for the design of the Main Street corridor. Each alternative varied in specific layout but included one travel lane in each direction, bike and pedestrian facilities, green space, and flexible open space for events.



*Presentations during the Main Street Management Plan stakeholder working group meeting in August 2019.*

Following the working group meeting, TRPA staff held the second public open house for the plan to present and gain input on each alternative developed by the stakeholder working group. Input from the community will be incorporated into the alternatives analysis and presented to the stakeholder working group at the next meeting scheduled for November. In the upcoming months, the alternatives will be analyzed for safety, traffic flow, cost, and maintenance, among other criteria, and will include the feasibility of closing portions of the street for events.

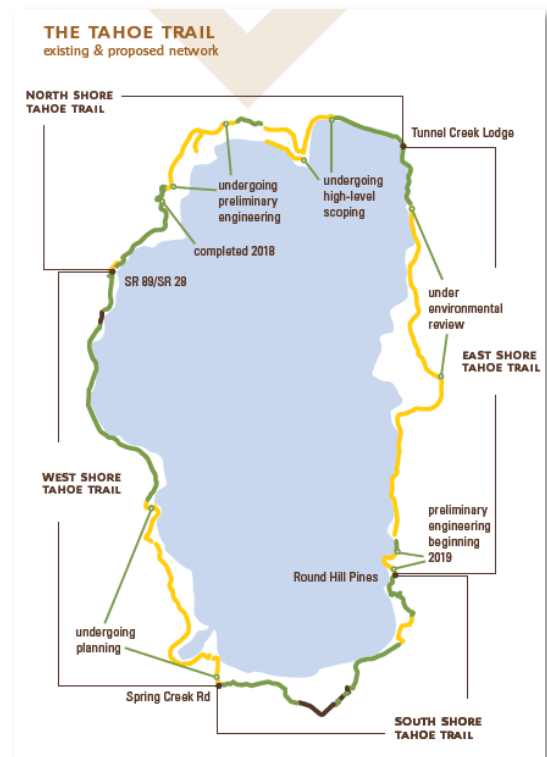
**Replacement Housing:** The Tahoe Transportation District released a request for qualifications seeking development partners for 109 units of affordable housing required by the project permit. After consideration, the district entered into two memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with the City of South Lake Tahoe and two developers. The MOUs represent the first step in the planning process and signify each party's intent to work cooperatively. The MOUs were approved by the City of South Lake Tahoe City Council on August 20 and the Tahoe Transportation District Board on September 13. A development agreement detailing formal decisions on project sites, scopes, and designs, is expected to be in place with both developers by November.

### Tahoe Trail West Shore

Staff completed an agreement with the U.S. Forest Service to complete a feasibility study for the remaining section of the Tahoe Trail bike path along the west shore. This section would connect from Spring Creek Road in the south through Emerald Bay to Meeks Bay in the north. The feasibility study will identify and refine possible trail routes based on factors such as slope, grade, soil, rideability, and more. The feasibility study is expected to begin in early 2020 and will lead to an environmental analysis of feasible alternatives before trail construction can begin.

### State Route 89 Corridor Management Plan

TRPA, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and Tahoe Transportation District, continued development of the State Route 89 Recreation Corridor Management Plan. The corridor plan will address the transportation and recreation needs along Tahoe's West Shore, including Emerald Bay. Solutions identified in the plan will include transit, parking management, expanded trails, infrastructure improvements, and more. In the third quarter of 2019, three mode share alternatives for the corridor were developed that will analyze the feasibility of shifting visitation from personal vehicles to transit and trails.



Map of the Tahoe Trail bike path.

## THRESHOLDS AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT



### Threshold System Structure

Staff is working with the Tahoe Science Advisory Council (Science Council) to apply the recently adopted adaptive management structure to the water quality thresholds. The work complements the work the Science Council is currently engaged in at the direction of California and Nevada to examine water quality measures. In its broader review of the threshold standards the

Science Council identified the water quality threshold category as the category with the greatest opportunity for clean-up because of the significant amount of overlap between standards. Staff and the Science Council plan to bring recommendations for implementing the system structure in the water quality threshold category to the Threshold Update Initiative Stakeholder Working Group in December.

### **Air Quality Vehicle Miles Traveled Threshold Standard**

At its August meeting, the Regional Plan Implementation Committee approved a work plan to address mobility and mobile source greenhouse gas (GHG) related concerns in the Region. The work plan includes three elements. First, ensuring that the right measure and target are in place for both mobility and GHG emissions. Second, that the monitoring and evaluation system in place provide decisionmakers with information on where the Region stands today relative to its goals, and how future projects or programs may affect target attainment. The last element of the workplan focuses on implementation, specifically the update of the air quality mitigation program, to ensure that the appropriate mechanisms are in place to support attainment of the goals.

### **Soil Conservation: Stream Environment Zone (SEZ) Restoration Standard**

With a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, TRPA is improving SEZ management in the Region and developing a new target for SEZ restoration. A technical advisory committee of regional partners oversees the grant. At the May 2019 meeting of the technical advisory committee, the group endorsed collection and compilation of data to establish the condition of SEZ basin wide. TRPA staff led data collection this summer to complete the first comprehensive basin wide assessment of SEZ condition, filling important gaps in knowledge. Staff has also worked with researchers from the Desert Research Institute to develop methods to remotely evaluate status and trend of SEZ in the Region. The preliminary findings and the framework for establishing a new SEZ restoration target will be presented at the Threshold Update Initiative Stakeholder Working Group in December.

## **FOREST ECOSYSTEM HEALTH**

### **Forest Action Plan**

The partner organizations of the Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team released a new Forest Action Plan in August. It describes a five-year program to minimize growing forest risks, including wildfire, a potential beetle epidemic, and drought. The Forest Action Plan's three strategies support completing and maintaining all wildland urban interface treatments, as well as implementing large landscape-scale restoration. First, match the scale of the solution to the scale of the threat. Second, build capacity for all phases of the forest landscape management cycle. And lastly, leverage



technology for rapid, large-scale, efficient implementation. The plan aligns with state and federal plans that seek to increase the pace and scale of forest restoration. A full copy of the plan can be found at:

<https://tahoe.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/257/2019/08/Lake-Tahoe-Basin-Forest-Action-Plan.pdf>

### **Code of Ordinance Changes in Support of Prescribed Burning Provisions**

At the September TRPA Governing Board meeting, the Forest Health and Wildfire Committee reviewed and supported code changes to the prescribed fire section of Chapter 61, Vegetation and Forest Health. The changes will align the code with the more stringent regulations set forth by both California and Nevada agencies. These code changes will streamline the permitting process for prescribed burning while maintaining the necessary regulatory oversight. The new draft code will be presented to the Committee at a subsequent meeting this fall. The committee also endorsed a work plan for accomplishing a full update to Chapter 61 by the spring of 2020 ahead of the next field season.

## **TAHOE KEYS WEED MANAGEMENT**

### **Stakeholder Process**

One of the most serious and controllable threats to the Lake's water quality may be the infestation of invasive species, and the Tahoe Keys is "ground zero" for invasive weeds and their potential spread. The public comment period for the Notice of Preparation for environmental study of the Tahoe Keys Lagoons aquatic weed control methods test ended in August. TRPA and Lahontan received over 300 comments on the project's notice of preparation. A scoping report summarizing issues and concerns will be completed in the next quarter along, with a revised project description and set of alternatives. A draft environmental document evaluating different treatment approaches is expected in the summer of 2020.

TRPA Governing Board members participated in a tour of the Tahoe Keys in July to experience firsthand the scale of the problem. The tour offered the opportunity to see the nature and extent of the invasive weeds problem in the Tahoe Keys Lagoons and to observe current control work.

## **LIVABLE AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES**

### **Shoreline Plan Implementation**

Implementation of the shoreline program the Governing Board approved last October continued this quarter. Highlights of this work include the first year of mooring registration, processing of new pier applications, and the roll out of education and implementation of the no wake zone boater safety program:

- Buoy registration continued this quarter using the new online registration system at <https://parcels.laketahoeinfo.org/MooringRegistration/Welcome>. As of September 30, TRPA had received 1,152 mooring submittals, which accounts for almost 95 percent of the Shoreline Plan's inventoried buoys. Staff are working on completing



these registrations and are identifying registrations that need additional review and potentially a permit to be fully registered.

- Between June 1 and June 30, TRPA accepted preliminary proposals for new single-parcel and multiple-parcel piers. Among 117 proposals, 34 were for a multiple-use pier and 84 for a single-use pier. TRPA held the pier lottery on July 17 and awarded allocations for seven new multiple-parcel piers and five single-parcel piers.
- The shoreline boating app launched earlier this year is currently being used by over 1,200 users. The app shows boaters where they are in relation to the 600 foot no wake zone to minimize the danger to swimmers and paddlers who generally recreate closer to shore.

## ONGOING INITIATIVES AND ANNUAL ACTIVITIES

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### LONG RANGE & TRANSPORTATION PLANNING DIVISION

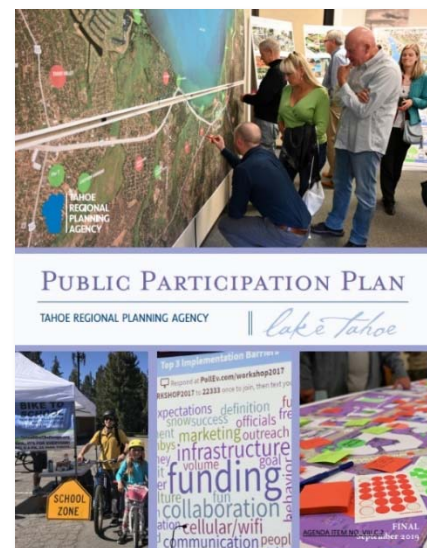
#### Washoe County Area Plan

In mid-August, Washoe County staff provided TRPA with a draft of the proposed Washoe County Tahoe Area Plan. The area plan will consolidate and update the current zoning in Washoe County to better align with the 2012 Regional Plan Update. The regional plan update encourages environmental redevelopment in the three proposed town centers; including incentives for increased building heights, land coverage, and residential density. A small number of changes in permissible uses are proposed in the Incline Village Commercial, Ponderosa Ranch, and Fairway areas.

Since receiving the draft, TRPA staff has been working with Washoe County staff to add policies and implementation measures to ensure that the area plan is consistent with TRPA's Regional Plan. A revised version of the plan is anticipated to be published in October, with an informational session at the Regional Plan Implementation Committee.

#### Transportation Public Participation Plan Adopted

TRPA, in its capacity as the Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization, updated the transportation Public Participation Plan, ensuring that strong public involvement and engagement are the foundation of the transportation planning process. The plan outlines strategies seeking input on all transportation modes and provides a forum for public input on how transportation options influence and support social and economic vitality. Adoption of the Public Participation Plan formally kickstarts development of the next update to the Regional Transportation Plan, expected in August 2020. The Public Participation Plan can be accessed at: <http://www.trpa.org/transportation/>.



## Sustainable Recreation

TRPA completed the annual recreation user online survey this quarter with a total of 519 responses, providing valuable data on recreation use and experience in the Tahoe Basin. The Sustainable Recreation Working Group will use the survey's results to evaluate recreation threshold standards in the 2019 Threshold Evaluation Report.

## TahoeLand Podcast

Sacramento's Capital Public Radio released the TahoeLand Podcast this quarter. The podcast explores the many challenges facing Lake Tahoe in the face of climate change. The episodes, eight in total, cover a wide range of topics including snow, lake clarity, aquatic invasive species, wildfire, and more. The podcast has been downloaded over 350,000 times and within the Capital Public Radio broadcast area has over 1.4 million impressions. TRPA staff originally pitched the TahoeLand podcast idea to Capital Public Radio and worked with the news outlet's podcast team during the development of the series.



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## CURRENT PLANNING DIVISION

### Permit Application Review

Summary of TRPA Project Applications Received Quarter 3 2018 through Quarter 3 2019					
	Q3 CY2018	Q4 CY2018	Q1 CY2019	Q2 CY2019	Q3 CY2019
<b>Applications Received<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>293</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>269</b>
Residential Projects <sup>2</sup>	63	33	57	57	68
Commercial Projects <sup>2</sup>	7	2	5	6	4
Recreation/Public Service Projects <sup>2</sup>	9	5	10	12	6
Environmental Improvement Construction Projects	2	2	2	4	3
Shorezone/Lakezone Projects <sup>2</sup>	4	2	6	9	10
Grading Projects	14	6	3	10	11
Verifications and Banking <sup>3</sup>	45	96	52	99	121
Transfers of Development	14	9	6	10	6
Other <sup>4</sup>	35	19	20	23	40
<b>Notes:</b> (Data is sourced from TRPA Accela Permit Records)					
1 Does not include Exempt projects, Qualified Exempt declarations, Tree Removal applications, or Administrative applications.					
2 Includes New Development and Additions/Modification					
3 Includes Soils/Hydrology Verifications, IPES, Land Capability Verifications, Land Capability Challenges, Verifications of Coverage, Verifications of Uses, Site Assessments and Standalone Banking Applications					
4 'Other' includes Historic determinations, Lot Line Adjustments, Temporary projects, Scenic, Underground Tank Removal, Subdivision of Existing Uses, Sign, Allocation Assignments, and other miscellaneous project types					



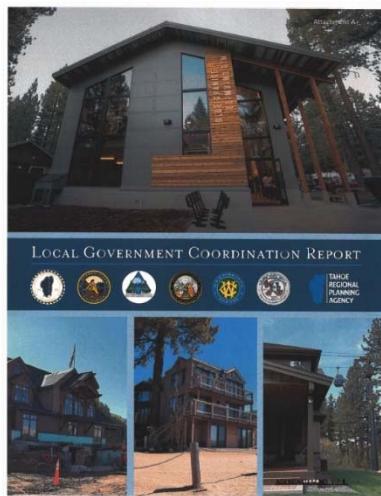
## Hearings Officer Meetings

The Hearings Officer approved 11 project applications this quarter:

- The replacement of an existing NV Energy distribution line that spans Third Creek in Incline Village, Nevada.
- Construction of a new Verizon cellular communications monopine tower in the City of South Lake Tahoe to fill in coverage gaps in the neighboring area including the nearby Lake Tahoe Community College.
- A shoreline protective structure to stabilize the shoreline in front of a lakefront residence to prevent further erosion near Dollar Point, California.
- Modifications to a historic house in Glenbrook, Nevada.
- Shoreline stabilization to the California Tahoe Conservancy's Alta Mira site in the City of South Lake Tahoe, California.
- Six land capability challenges.

## Local Government Coordination

Area Plan compliance and implementation is reviewed annually by TRPA. In September, TRPA released the Local Government Coordination Report to the Governing Board setting out recent findings. The report outlines progress being made toward the development, adoption, and implementation of area plans in the Tahoe Region.



The report also provides the Governing Board a recommendation to certify, certify with conditions, or revoke all or part of a permit delegation memorandum of understanding (MOU) associated with area plans based on audit results. The City of South Lake Tahoe was the only jurisdiction to have a permit delegation MOU associated with an area plan in effect for 2018. The Governing Board recertified the City of South Lake Tahoe's MOU.

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM DIVISION

### Tahoe Interagency Executives Steering Committee & EIP Coordination

TRPA, with the assistance of the EIP Coordinating Committee, released the 2018 EIP Accomplishments report ahead of the Tahoe Summit in August. The report showcases the newly updated EIP logo. The accomplishments report is reproduced in Attachment 1 to this quarterly report.



## Mitigation Fund Releases

The TRPA Governing Board, upon recommendation from the TRPA Operations & Governance Committee, approved one mitigation fund release this past quarter. The committee approved releasing \$50,000 in air quality mitigation funds to the City of South Lake Tahoe to reduce traffic congestion and emissions in connection with the U.S. Highway 50 & Sierra Boulevard intersection project.

## Stormwater Management Program

### *Best Management Practices (BMP) Certificates Issued*

TRPA issues best management practices (BMP) certificates to recognize a parcel's compliance with stormwater management requirements in TRPA's Code of Ordinances. The Stormwater Management Program at TRPA targets priority properties for BMP compliance in coordination with local jurisdictions to achieve required pollutant load reductions for the benefit of water quality. Concentrating BMP compliance on commercial and large multi-family (six units or more) properties reduces more pollutant load compared to single-family residential properties. This quarter, TRPA issued 145 BMP certificates: 117 for single family residential parcels, 25 for multi-family parcels, and three for commercial parcels. Of the total, 30 were source control certificates and one was within an area-wide treatment zone.

BMP Certificates issued from January 1 to September 30, 2019					
California	Land Use	Total Certificates Issued Year to Date	Certificates Issued Through Permitted Projects	Certificates Issued Through Voluntary Compliance	Certificates Issued Through Enforced Compliance
	Single Family Residential	108	75	33	0
	Multi-Family Residential	9	8	1	0
	Commercial	7	7	0	0
	<b>California Total</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>0</b>
Nevada	Single Family Residential	35	16	18	1
	Multi-Family Residential	19	15	4	0
	Commercial	4	1	2	1
	<b>Nevada Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>Total Certificates Issued</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>2</b>

***Accelerated Best Management Practices Implementation and Maintenance:*** During the third quarter of 2019, Stormwater Management Program staff issued a notice of failure to install or maintain BMPs to one non-compliant commercial parcel.

***Education and Outreach:*** During this quarter, TRPA staff presented BMP requirements at several public events including:

- The Tahoe Lakefront Owners Association shoreline meeting in Kings Beach.
- The International Green Stormwater Infrastructure Leadership Exchange maintenance working group meeting. The leadership exchange is a practitioner network that supports communities seeking to adopt and grow green stormwater infrastructure programs by accelerating peer learning, innovation, and implementation.
- The Tahoe Valley South Basin Groundwater Management Plan stakeholders advisory group meeting.
- The Deb Howard Real Estate Group presentation on BMPs and area-wide treatment.
- The University of Nevada Reno lecture and field trip for a geography class on western water resources and management.

***Highlighted BMP Installation:*** This quarter, the Douglas County Kahle Community Center maintained a series of stormwater treatment basins that treat runoff from the Nevada Division of Transportation right of way in addition to runoff from the community center building and parking areas. The county cleared conveyances to the basins, repaired pavement in the parking areas, and upgraded road traction material storage to achieve BMP compliance and certification for this large developed property.



*Kahle Community Center building and parking lot which received a BMP certificate this quarter.*

## **Aquatic Invasive Species Program**

### ***Prevention:***

- Inspections continued at the four watercraft inspection stations over the summer. This boating season more than 30 vessels were found to be carrying AIS, eight of which had invasive quagga/zebra mussels. These boats came from Michigan, Arizona, Nevada, and southern California. All boats were decontaminated, but two vessels were not authorized to launch in Lake Tahoe



due to the extensive level of infestation on the boats. October 1 all watercraft inspection operations moved from roadside inspection stations to the Cave Rock and Lake Forest launch ramps for the winter season.

- Getting the message out to the boating community remains a high priority. The AIS partnership worked with the local high school art teacher to paint a “Clean, Drain, and Dry” message mural on the decontamination unit at the Meyers watercraft inspection station. Several current and former South Tahoe High School art students helped with the project. Boaters visiting the station are now greeted by a colorful and creative mural.



*“Clean, Drain, and Dry” mural painted on the side of an old shipping container used by the Meyers Watercraft Inspection station.*

- An invasive mussel leadership forum was hosted by the Western Governors Association and brought together key policy leaders at the federal state and regional levels. TRPA was invited to participate given its leadership role at the western regional and federal levels as well as significant expertise in inspections and decontaminations. Nevada Governor Sisolak gave the keynote speech and highlighted the efforts at Lake Tahoe.
- Members of the National Marine Manufacturers Association visited Lake Tahoe and TRPA AIS program staff to further the partnership with the boating industry and develop strategies to engage with legislators on enhancing prevention efforts across the country.



*TRPA Aquatic Resources Program Manager Dennis Zabaglo with Governor Sisolak at the Western Governors Association.*

### ***Control:***

- The efficacy of ultraviolet light as a control method is undergoing continued testing. The second phase of the ultra-violet light pilot project began at Lakeside Beach along with small scale testing of the technology within the Tahoe Keys

waterways. Work within Lakeside Marina will begin in October. The two Lakeside Marina locations encompass two acres; phase one of the pilot was approximately 0.45 acre.

- Weed control work at Elk Point Marina, Nevada Shoreline (SE), and the Truckee River and clam control work at Sand Harbor all continued this quarter.
- Development of an Action Agenda that furthers strategic planning for control actions of existing species has been ongoing and has received input and edits from the AIS Coordinating Committee. The TIE Steering Committee representing the Environmental Improvement Program multi-sector partnership will be reviewing the document in October. The Action Agenda sets a proactive path to address all aquatic invasive species in the Region over 10-years, sets targets and metrics for success, and outlines total costs to achieve goals. The Action Agenda will be reviewed by the TRPA Governing Board in October.

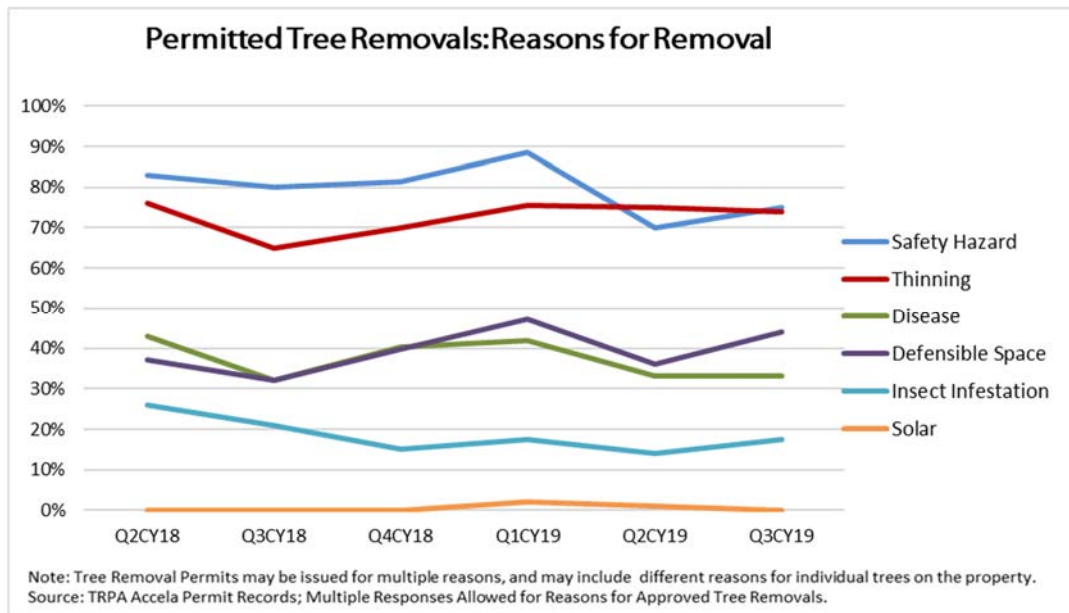
#### ***Monitoring:***

- A comprehensive survey of AIS locations around the Lake is underway. Program partners are reviewing the draft AIS survey along with a monitoring plan that will allow for continual and consistent updates to AIS survey information over time. Final versions of both are anticipated by the end of the year. This project used in-water diver transects along with cutting edge green light LiDAR and high-resolution aerial imagery to map detailed bathymetry of the nearshore and understand the scope and location of current AIS infestation.

#### **Urban Forestry/Tree Removal Permits on Private Property**

TRPA's Forester is part of the network of forestry and fire professionals who help private landowners keep their property safe and defensible from wildfire. The Forester provides expertise in tree risk assessment and serves Tahoe's private property owners with thorough tree evaluations. In the third quarter of 2019, TRPA received 439 tree removal applications, up 24 percent when compared with the same quarter in 2018. Tree thinning and safety hazards are the primary reasons for marking trees for removal.

<b>Summary of TRPA Tree Removal Applications &amp; Permitting Activity Quarter 1 2018 through Quarter 1 2019</b>					
	Q3 CY2018	Q4 CY2018	Q1 CY2019	Q2 CY2019	Q3 CY2019
Tree Removal Applications Received	<b>334</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>439</b>
Number of Trees Permitted for Removal	1,155	812	184	1,358	1,611
Percent Applications Submitted Online	73%	75%	60%	77%	80%
Source : TRPA Accela Permit Records					



## RESEARCH & ANALYSIS DIVISION

### Parcel Tracker Updates

The Lake Tahoe Info Parcel Tracker (<https://parcels.laketahoeinfo.org/>) is the best source of detailed public information about the land use characteristics of property in the Lake Tahoe Basin. Information on almost 300 parcels was brought up to

date in the tracker during the quarter. TRPA responded to 133 unique requests for help through the Parcel Tracker. Property owners, real estate agents, and local government partners requested updated permitting information on parcels. The number of help requests submitted through the Parcel Tracker is up due in large measure to knowledge of the site's property information becoming more widespread and because of increased use of the new mooring registration portal on the Parcel Tracker.



### 2019 Threshold Evaluation Report Monitoring

The next comprehensive Threshold Evaluation Report is due in 2020 and work is already underway. Monitoring for the report ramped up this summer. While some monitoring is done annually, other monitoring is done on a four-year cycle. Scenic threshold monitoring occurs every four years and the field work was completed in September by a monitoring team which reviewed the scenic quality from roadways and from Lake Tahoe looking at the shoreline. Initial results show that scenic quality is generally improving in part because of highway projects in South Lake Tahoe and Kings Beach and because of redevelopment projects on private property. The results of the scenic threshold monitoring will be fully set out in the 2019 Threshold Evaluation Report due later in 2020.



## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

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

### Legislative Affairs

**2019 Lake Tahoe Summit:** The External Affairs team played a significant role in planning this year's Lake Tahoe Summit. The Summit was hosted by U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein in August at the Tallac Historic Site. The annual event brings national media attention to Lake Tahoe, and this year's summit focused heavily on the threats the lake faces from climate change. TRPA staff reached hundreds of event attendees through the Agency's informational display and assisted with numerous briefings leading up to and following the summit. External Affairs produced the 20-page EIP update/accomplishments report for the Summit in partnership with the Environmental Improvement Division and partners (see Attachment 1 of this quarterly report). In addition, staff also designed and produced the Summit posters, signs, and program, as well as contributing to Senator Feinstein's post-Summit luncheon agenda.



*TRPA hosted a lake tour for U.S. Senator Jacky Rosen from Nevada ahead of the Tahoe Summit. Senator Rosen is the newest member of Lake Tahoe's congressional delegation.*

### Public Outreach and Education

**Fire Fest:** Staff represented TRPA at the 2019 Fire Fest event at Hard Rock Hotel and Casino September 21, engaging with hundreds of members of the public to help them learn more about wildfire risk, prevention, and community preparedness, and how TRPA and other members of the Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team are working to reduce catastrophic wildfire risk at Lake Tahoe.

**Media Coverage:** During the third quarter, External Affairs initiated media coverage on several stories that reflected positively on the agency's work in a variety of areas.

- In July, watercraft inspectors intercepted two vessels harboring aquatic invasive species. External Affairs hosted media availability at the Truckee watercraft inspection station to tell the story of how our inspection program works. The CBS and ABC affiliates in Reno covered the story extensively in their evening newscasts.
- In August, TRPA publicized the launch of TRPA's new mobile boating application. The boating app was designed and created inhouse by Amy Fish, and allows boaters an easier way to navigate Lake Tahoe's waters, as well as providing useful safety information. TRPA's boat crew took all three of Reno's network affiliates on a lake tour and provided them with a firsthand look at how the boating application works.
- In conjunction with the Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team's, Fire Public Information Team (Fire PIT), External Affairs sent out a press release to remind the public that power companies might proactively cut power to the grid during extreme fire weather conditions. Through this press release, we were able to set a story with KOLO 8 where they interviewed Fire PIT members Eric Guevin, Douglas County Fire Marshall and Ann Grant, one of our citizen advisers who serves on the committee. This story ran a number of times during KOLO 8's evening newscasts.

**Social Media Outreach:** The External Affairs team continues to grow our social media outreach, especially through engagement on Facebook. TRPA's Facebook page now has 1,400 likes and our posts reached an estimated 18,000 people. A recent time lapse video captured the creation of a mural at the boat inspection station in Meyers. This single video had more than 3,000 views, and our video engagement was up 723 percent overall for the quarter.

**Tahoe TV Appearances:**

TRPA made numerous appearances during the summer on Tahoe TV's morning and evening shows. Topics covered included the AIS Boat Inspection Program, permitting and registration for existing moorings, the U.S. Highway 50 Main Street Management Plan, and a segment on tree removal regulations and permitting within the Lake Tahoe Basin.



*TRPA hosted a lake tour in September for Nevada budget officials from the Governor's Office and the Legislative Counsel Bureau.*

***Shoreline Plan Outreach:*** External Affairs staff developed and executed strategic outreach for the shoreline plan throughout this quarter. Outreach tactics include a TRPA front counter display, updated Tahoe boating map that shows no-wake zones and outreach and education on AIS, and mooring registration direct mail to lakefront property owners, which has contributed to the near 95 percent submittal of buoy applications.

## **FINANCE, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, & FACILITIES**

### **Finance Update**

Finance and Human Resources continue implementation of new Human Resources information software. The new Kronos software will handle time and attendance, payroll, and all HR systems. Time, attendance, and payroll will go live at the beginning of October. We are training staff and finalizing the configuration.

TRPA received Nevada's contribution to the agency's Fiscal Year 2019/20 budget, and invoices have been sent for California's share. Fees for TRPA's new mooring registration program are coming in. The deadline for mooring filings is September 30 and compliance levels are high.

### **Facilities/Information Technology Update**

Tahoe Epic Curling, a tenant in the TRPA building, is under construction for the second phase of its project: constructing a small addition on to the building. The General Services Administration has finalized its lease for a portion of the second floor of the building. This will be a 10-year lease with a five-year option. All other tenants are on long-term leases and the building is fully occupied/leased at this point.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

TRPA continues to focus on attracting and retaining strong talent, and annual retention numbers continue to trend in a positive direction. In the third quarter, the agency said an appreciative goodbye to Adam Jensen, Environmental Education Specialist, who accepted an exciting new position at the University of California Merced where he could be closer to his significant other.

The Human Resources Department released the fully updated Employee Policy Manual in July and held training sessions to educate staff on key changes to employment law and related policies.

To help staff build stronger feedback skills, Combs Consulting delivered a two-part training session on "Powerful Non-Defensive Communications" to the entire Agency in the third quarter. The training will be followed by group and individual coaching sessions to support use of these skills.



## New TRPA Staff

### ***Kathleen McIntyre, Environmental Improvement Program Division***

Kat McIntyre started with TRPA in August 2019 as the Forest Ecosystem Health Program Coordinator. Kat's education and work experience has focused on environmental policy and collaborative governance in forestry. Kat went to the University of Michigan where she received her Bachelor of Science in environmental science and her Master of Science in environmental policy and planning. She recently completed her Ph.D. in Forest Sciences at Colorado State University with a focus on public lands policy and collaborative governance. Her dissertation specifically addressed collaborative forest restoration on U.S. Forest Service lands and a programmatic review of the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program. As part of the Environmental Improvement Program Division team, Kat will be an active member of the Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team and work with many of our forestry partner organizations to help facilitate large-scale forest restoration and fuels reduction work around the basin. She will also be leading an update to TRPA's vegetation code and thresholds.

### ***Melanie Sloan, Long Range and Transportation Planning Division***

Melanie Sloan joins the Transportation Planning Division team as a Senior Transportation Planner. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and a Master of Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Colorado, Denver. Her past work experience includes the City of Boulder, Colorado as a Transportation Planner and a consultant at the University of Colorado, Denver, focused on regional rail transit and tools to evaluate connectivity, housing, and economic development around transit stations. Her most recent role was as a Senior Transportation and Mobility Planner at Adams County, Colorado, in the Denver area. While at Adams County she coordinated the Federal Transportation Improvement Program and promoted transportation systems designed to minimize energy use, pollution, and negative social impacts. At TRPA, Melanie will work with the Transportation Planning Division team, initially attending to the next update the Regional Transportation Plan.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **Environmental Improvement Program Handouts from the 2019 Lake Tahoe Summit**

# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

2018 ACCOMPLISHMENTS + A LOOK AHEAD



**LAKE TAHOE**  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
IMPROVEMENT  
PROGRAM



## BY THE NUMBERS:

### EIP INVESTMENT BY SECTOR | 1997-2018

- Federal: \$730 million
- State of California: \$868 million
- State of Nevada: \$182 million
- Local Government: \$144 million
- Private: \$370 million

### EIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS | 1997-2018

- 157 miles of bike and pedestrian trail constructed or improved
- 791 miles of roadway upgraded to reduce erosion and stormwater pollution
- 80,284 boats inspected for aquatic invasive species
- 37,528 boats decontaminated
- 3,195 feet of public shoreline added
- 70 acres of treatment to remove invasive weeds and Asian dams
- 77,505 acres of forest treatments to reduce hazardous fuels
- 1,743 acres of wetlands restored or enhanced

# EIP

Lake Tahoe

THE LAKE TAHOE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (EIP) IS AN UNPARALLELED PARTNERSHIP WORKING TO ACHIEVE THE ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS OF THE REGION. LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, PRIVATE ENTITIES, SCIENTISTS, AND THE WASHOE TRIBE OF NEVADA AND CALIFORNIA HAVE COLLABORATED FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS TO RESTORE THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OF LAKE TAHOE. THE EIP IS UNDERGOING AN UPDATE TO ADDRESS EMERGING THREATS AND CHALLENGES. THIS DOCUMENT OFFERS A GLIMPSE OF RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND PREVIEWS THE UPDATE TO COME.

ON THE COVER: EMERALD BAY, CA  
ALL PHOTOS BY DRONE PROMOTIONS  
UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

LAKE TAHOE IS ONE OF THE CLEAREST, LARGEST LAKES IN THE WORLD. FEW PLACES ON EARTH CAN RIVAL ITS BREATHTAKING VIEWS. THE SNOWCAPPED MOUNTAIN PEAKS OF THE SIERRA NEVADA AND CARSON RANGES RING THE LAKE, DEFINING THE TAHOE BASIN'S BORDERS. THE LAKE'S SPECTACULARLY CRYSTALLINE WATERS ARE THE HALLMARK OF ITS BEAUTY AND A KEY INDICATOR OF ITS HEALTH.

Local, state, and national leaders came together in 1997 to declare a state of environmental emergency at Lake Tahoe. Tahoe's waters were losing their famous clarity at an average rate of nearly a foot per year. Aging urban centers with car-choked streets were pouring pollutants into the lake. The forests were overstocked, unhealthy, and ready to burn.

Then came the first Tahoe Summit and the birth of the Environmental Improvement Program (EIP). Over the last two decades, the EIP has put Lake Tahoe on the map as a global model for landscape-scale collaboration.

"Team Tahoe," as United States Senator Dianne Feinstein calls the partnership, has made progress. The lake's clarity loss has stabilized. Mountain streams are clearer. Forest thinning is underway. However, emerging threats from climate change are challenging the partnership in unprecedented ways. The risk of large, catastrophic wildfires remains high. Invasive species dangers loom large. Continued investment is necessary to build on the EIP's progress and create a more resilient landscape that can withstand future attacks on Tahoe's ecosystem.



## WATERSHEDS AND WATER QUALITY

*Lake Tahoe*

SOUTH SHORE, CA

### WATER QUALITY

In 2011, the states of California and Nevada and the US EPA committed to achieving the Clarity Challenge, which calls for hitting a clarity milestone of 78 feet by 2026. Reducing polluted stormwater runoff from urban areas and roads is the foundation of the EIP's water quality program in pursuit of the Clarity Challenge. EIP partners exceeded the first five-year clarity restoration target and the current five-year average for lake clarity is 70.3 feet.

#### HIGHLIGHTS »

- Lake Tahoe's annual clarity improved dramatically to 70.9 feet in 2018 following more normal weather and stream flows. This represents a 10.5-foot increase over the 2017 value. Winter clarity continues to improve with one reading in 2018 exceeding a record 100 feet. Summer clarity, however, continues to worsen.
- Local jurisdictions and state transportation partners continued to exceed the targets set for fine sediment reduction, preventing 443,727 pounds of fine sediment from entering the lake through water quality projects.
- The California Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board recently received a state grant for nearly \$5 million to investigate long-standing groundwater contamination in a localized area of the South Tahoe "Y".
- The Nevada Tahoe Conservation District reduced flooding and improved stormwater treatment in Douglas County along Kahle Drive.
- The California Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board approved an updated plan for the lake's nearshore in 2018. The plan guides monitoring and water quality protections along the shoreline 350 feet out into the lake.

#### PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

##### U.S. HWY 50 "Y" TO TROUT CREEK WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Caltrans completed the second phase of this multi-year project, installing innovative stormwater treatment infrastructure in the urban core of South Lake Tahoe. This multi-benefit project also added new bike lanes and sidewalks along the roadway. Construction of the final phase is underway this summer.

**Lead Agency:** Caltrans

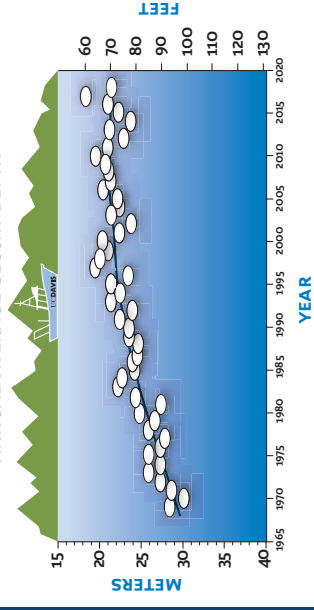
**Funded By:** Caltrans, City of South Lake Tahoe



CONSTRUCTION OF STORMWATER TREATMENT INFRASTRUCTURE AT THE UPPER TRUCKEE RIVER AND HIGHWAY 50.

LAKE TAHOE IS ONE OF VERY FEW LAKES IN THE WORLD WITH A 50-PLUS-YEAR RECORD OF CONSISTENT MEASUREMENTS OF WATER CLARITY. PIONEERING RESEARCH BY UC DAVIS, THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO, AND THE DESERT RESEARCH INSTITUTE GUIDES ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND INFORMS ALL PROGRAMS OF THE EIP. RESOURCE MANAGERS ARE WORKING WITH SCIENTISTS TO BETTER UNDERSTAND CHANGING LAKE DYNAMICS CAUSED BY WARMING TEMPERATURES, INVASIVE SPECIES, AND OTHER ECOLOGICAL FACTORS.

#### ANNUAL AVERAGE SECCHI DEPTH



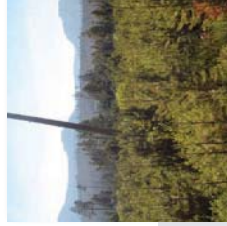
Courtesy UC Davis, Tahoe Environmental Research Center

## WATERSHED RESTORATION

Meadows and streams are critical components to a healthy Lake Tahoe. The lake owes its remarkable clarity to several factors, including its great depth, volume, and the runoff that is filtered through the surrounding watershed and wetlands. Development within flood-plains and stream environment zones has disrupted the natural flow of water into Lake Tahoe resulting in degraded watersheds. Improving these watersheds involves sensitive land acquisitions, enhancing habitat, restoring the natural flow of streams and rivers, and building resiliency to large storms, drought, fire, and invasive species.

### HIGHLIGHTS »

- USDA Forest Service thinned trees and conducted a prescribed burn in Baldwin Meadow to help restore the meadow's natural ecosystem.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service continued reintroduction of Lahontan cutthroat trout in the Fallen Leaf Lake watershed and is observing growing populations of this threatened species.



BALDWIN MEADOW BEFORE THINNING



AFTER THINNING

### PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

#### JOHNSON MEADOW ACQUISITION

Johnson Meadow, the largest privately-owned section of the Upper Truckee River, is now in public ownership. This 206-acre acquisition will protect the area from future development and will catalyze new restoration work. The purchase of the property was made possible through a strong collaboration of several organizations and the former property owners, who owned the property for nearly a century.

**Lead Agency:** Tahoe Resource Conservation District

**Funded By:** California Tahoe Conservancy, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Tahoe Fund.



JOHNSON MEADOW

## AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

Over the last decade, the nationally-recognized Watercraft Inspection Program partnership has prevented harmful invasive species from entering the lake. Led by the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and the Tahoe Resource Conservation District (Tahoe RCD), the program calls for inspection of all motorized watercraft to ensure aquatic invasive species are not introduced through a science-based management plan. EIP partners also implement projects to control and reduce populations of invasive aquatic plants, clams, and fish. If invasive populations go unchecked, they can harm water quality and the recreation opportunities that drive Lake Tahoe's economy. Resource managers are testing new technologies and actively engaging with marinas and homeowners to combat invasive weeds and restore the natural environment of the lake.

### HIGHLIGHTS »

- 8 acres of treatment in the lake reduced populations of invasive weeds and Asian clams.
- Partners kicked off the Tahoe Keys Collaborative to tackle the lake's largest weed infestation. The collaborative brings dozens of partners together to address nearly 175 acres of invasive weeds in the Tahoe Keys.
- EIP partners launched the Aquatic Invasive Species Control Action Agenda setting the bold goal of a 90 percent reduction of existing aquatic invasive species at Lake Tahoe.



### PROJECT SPOTLIGHTS

#### 10 YEARS FIGHTING INVASIVE SPECIES

Last year, the Lake Tahoe Watercraft Inspection Program celebrated 10 years of fighting aquatic invasive species, with no new invasions detected. In 2018, Tahoe RCD performed 9367 boat inspections—the highest volume of inspections in a single year to date. Inspectors intercepted 31 boats carrying invasive species, eight of them with quagga mussels, preventing an environmental catastrophe.

**Lead Agencies:** Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and Tahoe Resource Conservation District

**Funded By:** The states of California and Nevada and boater inspection fees



Photo: Novus Street

### TAHOE KEYS BUBBLE CURTAIN

The League to Save Lake Tahoe partnered with the Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association (TKPOA) to install an underwater bubble curtain in the West channel of the Keys waterways. The system produces a wall of bubbles that can stop weed fragments from escaping the keys into the lake proper. This promising technology has never been used to prevent the spread of invasive species and is being evaluated for its effectiveness.

**Lead Agencies:** TKPOA, League to Save Lake Tahoe  
**Funded By:** TKPOA, League to Save Lake Tahoe



## FOREST HEALTH

Lake Tahoe

WEST SHORE, CA



OVER 5,000 TREES WERE REMOVED FROM THE 300-ACRE PROJECT SITE AND TOWN BY HELICOPTER TO A LANDING WHERE TREES AND CHIPS WERE HAULED TO A MILL AND BIOMASS FACILITY.

## THE TAHOE FIRE AND FUELS TEAM IS THINNING OVERSTOCKED FORESTS TO REDUCE HAZARDOUS FUELS.

Photo Nevada Tahoe Resource Team - Nevada Division of Forestry

### PROJECT SPOTLIGHTS

#### SPOONER LANDSCAPE RESILIENCE PROJECT

The Nevada Tahoe Resource Team treated 300 acres of forest fuels in Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park. Trees were felled by hand crews and removed from the project area by helicopter reducing disturbance to the area. Tree limbs and tops were chipped and delivered to a biomass facility versus lying on the forest floor for burning. In addition to removing hazardous fuels, the removal of trees enhanced the aspen stand habitat surrounding Spooner Lake.

**Lead Agencies:** Nevada Tahoe Resource Team - Nevada Division of Forestry

**Funded By:** Nevada Division of State Lands, Tahoe Bonds Act

#### LAKE TAHOE WEST RESTORATION PARTNERSHIP

EIP partners are scaling up forest restoration across 60,000 acres of Tahoe's West Shore. The collaborative partnership is using new technology and scientific modeling to plan a landscape initiative that integrates stream and meadow restoration with forest health projects across many different land ownerships.

[laketahoewest.org](http://laketahoewest.org)



### HIGHLIGHTS »

- Agencies completed approximately 2,800 acres of forest treatments, including mechanical and hand thinning.
- The USDA Forest Service and the California Tahoe Conservancy kicked off a partnership with Liberty Utilities to undergo forest restoration in utility corridors to reduce the threat of wildfire.
- State and local fire agencies inspected more than 4,400 parcels for defensible space to reduce the threat of wildfire near homes and local businesses.
- USDA Forest Service and the Sugar Pine Foundation planted 15,000 new seedlings within the Emerald Fire burn area.



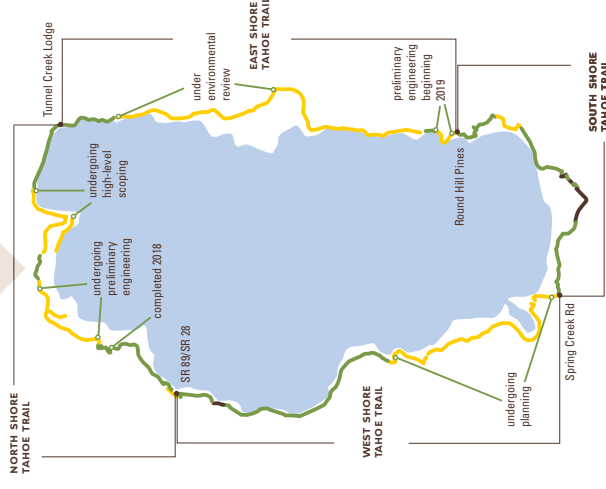
## TRANSPORTATION AND SUSTAINABLE RECREATION

*Lake Tahoe*

PHOTO: NAVIUS SELECT

STATELINE AREA, CA

## THE TAHOE TRAIL existing & proposed network



- 33 MILES EXISTING PATH
- 69 MILES CONCEPTUAL PROPOSED PATH
- 2.5 MILES EXISTING BIKE ROUTE CONNECTOR

NEARLY 33 MILES OF THE TAHOE TRAIL IS COMPLETE. NEW SEGMENTS AROUND WEEKS BAY, DOLLAR CREEK, AND THE STUNNING SAND HARBOR TO INCLINE SECTION ARE MOVING THE TAHOE BASIN CLOSER TO A TRAIL THAT CIRCLES THE ENTIRE LAKE.

### TRANSPORTATION & SUSTAINABLE RECREATION

The tourism industry is booming globally and Lake Tahoe is experiencing record visitation for its spectacular recreational opportunities. While outdoor recreation is a major driver of Lake Tahoe's \$5 billion annual economy, overcrowding in peak seasons can degrade natural areas, create heavy traffic, and lessen the visitor experience. With approximately 15 million people living within driving distance of Lake Tahoe, providing a world-class transportation system remains a priority. The EIP partnership is working on strategic investments in parking management, multi-use paths, and transit to meet visitor demand while protecting the Tahoe Basin's unique natural resources.

#### HIGHLIGHTS »

- TRPA approved the U.S. Hwy 50 Community Revitalization Project, a bi-state plan to transform the South Shore's downtown to a more walkable, bikeable, and community-oriented main street.
- Partners kicked off the collaborative State Route 89 Corridor Management Plan to explore solutions to congestion around Emerald Bay.
- Volunteers committed over 1,500 hours to assist the USDA Forest Service in repairing and enhancing the Incline Flume Trail.
- USDA Forest Service and private concessionaires completed updates to recreation facilities at Round Hill Pines Resort and Zephyr Cove Resort enhancing public access to Lake Tahoe.

#### PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

##### TAHOE EAST SHORE TRAIL

EIP partners constructed the 3-mile East Shore multi-use path in 2018 and 2019, a landmark project for the Tahoe Trail. One million dollars in philanthropic donations from the Tahoe Fund allowed the Nevada Department of Transportation and the Tahoe Transportation District to unlock \$20 million in public funding for the multi-benefit project.

**Lead Agency:** Nevada Department of Transportation

**Funded and Supported by:** Washoe County, Federal Highway Administration, Incline Village General Improvement District, Nevada Division of State Lands, Nevada State Parks, Tahoe Fund, and USDA Forest Service.



PHOTO: MIKE OLMORO

TAHOE EAST SHORE TRAIL IS NOW OPEN AND OFFERS SPECTACULAR VIEWS OF LAKE TAHOE.



## SCIENCE, STEWARDSHIP, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Lake Tahoe

SAND HARBOR, NV

## THE EIP TRACKER

WWW.EIP.LAKETAHOEINFO.ORG

## HOSTS INFORMATION ONLINE

### HIGHLIGHTS »

- The Tahoe Science Advisory Council is reviewing science and monitoring needs to better understand changing lake dynamics such as the trend of winter clarity improvements and summer clarity deterioration.
- UC Davis's Tahoe Environmental Research Center is studying how the removal of non-native mysis shrimp can help build the lake's climate resiliency by restoring species. Researchers at the University of Nevada, Reno are collaborating on the Emerald Bay pilot project.

## SCIENCE & ACCOUNTABILITY

Science underpins the EIP and informs environmental policy at Lake Tahoe. The Tahoe Science Advisory Council is a team of independent scientists formed by a memorandum of understanding between the states of California and Nevada in 2015. The Council advises EIP implementing entities on myriad resource areas including water quality, sustainable recreation, and environmental standards and metrics.

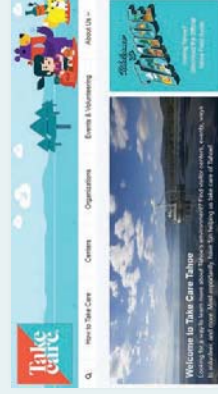
Lake Tahoe partners are committed to public transparency of the work that is completed under the EIP, including reporting the annual spending and progress on the Region's environmental goals.

### PROJECT SPOTLIGHTS

#### TAKE CARE TAHOE WEBSITE LAUNCH

The Take Care Campaign provides a consistent message basin-wide about how local individuals and visitors can help take care of Lake Tahoe. Launched in 2018, the Take Care website provides a one-stop shop for anyone interested in learning more about the lake and participating in environmental stewardship events. Beach clean-ups, nature walks, and volunteer workdays organized by over 30 organizations can all be found on this comprehensive website.

Funded By: AT&T, Tahoe Fund, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, Tahoe Resource Conservation District, and Nevada Division of Environmental Protection



WWW.TAKECARETAHOE.ORG

#### LAKE TAHOE FLYOVER: SNAPSHOT OF LAND AND WATER

LIDAR is a remote sensing technology that uses laser pulses from an airplane to assess the landscape. The data collected are used to quantify wildfire risks, assess tree mortality and stream channel conditions, and evaluate forest health treatments. The underwater lake data will be used to verify current locations of invasive species to prioritize control projects. This highly detailed assessment of current conditions is vital for every focus area of the EIP.

Lead Agencies: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), USDA Forest Service, and University of Nevada, Reno

Funded By: Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, USDA Forest Service, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Nevada Division of State Lands



AN EXAMPLE OF LIDAR SHOWING UNDERWATER CONTOURS AND CHANGES IN ELEVATION.





KINGS BEACH, CA

When the EIP launched in 1997, legacy development at Lake Tahoe was aged, blighted, and a major source of stormwater pollution. Communities were not pedestrian-friendly and the Region needed a long-term plan to guide redevelopment that would revitalize the economy and environment. The updated 2012 Lake Tahoe Regional Plan followed years of negotiations and a commitment of the states of California and Nevada to the future of Lake Tahoe. The plan is spurring redevelopment that creates walkable, bikeable communities and restores marshes, wetlands, and streams. Progress is apparent and the Tahoe Basin is undergoing a renaissance that promises a brighter future for the environment, the economy, and the community.

#### HIGHLIGHTS »

- TRPA and partners overhauled Lake Tahoe's development rights system making it easier for the private sector to invest in redevelopment projects that benefit Tahoe's environment and provide needed workforce housing.
- Placer County and partners revamped 1 mile of state Route 28 in Kings Beach and improved roads in neighborhoods adjacent to the commercial core. The project includes sidewalks and bike lanes to make the area more pedestrian friendly and roundabouts to improve traffic flow. Water quality benefits include land coverage reductions and stormwater infrastructure to improve Lake Tahoe's clarity. Public art installations in 2018 accentuate the community revitalization that's underway.
- Progress is underway on the award-winning Tahoe-Truckee Plug-in Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan. Partners constructed over 100 chargers in 45 locations across the Region.
- California Tahoe Conservancy kicked off a Climate Adaptation Action Plan to highlight the basin's vulnerabilities to climate change.

#### PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

##### SOUTH LAKE TAHOE REVITALIZATION

Improvements are underway in the South Shore's "Y" area following the adoption of the Tahoe Valley Area Plan. Public and private EIP partners redeveloped several properties, made transportation upgrades, installed water quality improvements, and protected open spaces.

Here's a snapshot of new projects:

- Barton Center for Orthopedics and Wellness in the Robert Maloff Center
- The Crossing at Tahoe Valley
- South Lake Brewing Company
- McDonald's Reconstruction
- Blue Granite Climbing Gym
- Mixed-Use Housing Projects



SOUTH LAKE BREWING COMPANY OVERHAULED A VACANT HARDWARE STORE TO CREATE A LIVELY GATHERING PLACE AT THE "Y" IN SOUTH LAKE TAHOE.



PHOTO: NOVUS SELECT  
KINGS BEACH COMMERCIAL CORE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.

## LOOKING AHEAD

Lake Tahoe

PHOTO: TREVOR BROWN

EAST SHORE, NV

## PARTNERSHIPS. INNOVATION. LEADERSHIP.

The Lake Tahoe Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) has a 20-year track record of steadfast success. The ability of EIP partners to respond to new threats while remaining at the forefront of the Region's biggest environmental challenges is key to continued progress.

Looking ahead, "Team Tahoe" will focus on protecting investments made in the EIP while addressing emerging threats. A program update is underway to prioritize five areas to support achievement of the Region's environmental standards.

Future support of the EIP is crucial to protecting the investments and accomplishments of local, state, and federal government partners along with the private sector and Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California. With climate change impacts more visible each year, continuing the commitment to Lake Tahoe is more important than ever.

### LAKE TAHOE RESTORATION ACT

In 2016 the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act authorized up to \$415 million over 7 years for the EIP. In federal fiscal years 2018 and 2019, the U.S. Congress appropriated \$20 million for forest health, watershed restoration, and aquatic invasive species projects. Partners are working with the congressional delegation to seek future appropriations across all EIP program areas.

### FUNDING PRIORITIES

- Continue to secure federal appropriations through the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act.
- Invest \$27 million from California Proposition 68 to high-priority California EIP projects.
- Invest \$8 million in bond sales approved in 2019 by the Nevada Legislature for EIP projects.
- Operate and maintain investments made in projects and infrastructure over the last 20 years.
- Incentivize private investment in the EIP by strengthening public-private partnerships.

### FUTURE EIP FOCUS AREAS

#### » WATERSHEDS AND WATER QUALITY

**Priority:** Improve the resiliency of Tahoe's landscape to adapt to climate change including extreme weather events ranging from flooding to prolonged droughts.

#### » FOREST HEALTH

**Priority:** Increase the pace and scale of forest restoration to reduce the threat from catastrophic wildfire, protect communities and the environment, and improve the health of natural resources.

#### » TRANSPORTATION AND SUSTAINABLE RECREATION

**Priority:** Connect transportation and recreation planning to address parking, multi-use paths, transit, natural resource protection, and overall visitor management in the face of increased tourism and congestion.

#### » SCIENCE, STEWARDSHIP, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

**Priority:** Rely on science and technology to guide environmental policies in the Lake Tahoe Regional Plan. Engage communities in stewardship to preserve Lake Tahoe. Operate with the highest standards of accountability with EIP public and private investments.

#### » SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

**Priority:** Create more walkable, bikeable, and community-oriented town centers that support nature, green infrastructure, workforce housing, and economic revitalization.



## FEDERAL AGENCIES



Army Corps of Engineers  
 Bureau of Land Management  
 Bureau of Reclamation  
 Federal Highway Administration  
 Federal Transit Administration  
 Natural Resources Conservation Service  
 National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)  
 USDA Forest Service  
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
 U.S. Geological Survey  
 U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

## STATES OF CALIFORNIA AND NEVADA



**CAL FIRE**  
 California Air Resources Board  
 California Conservation Corps  
 California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
 California Department of Water Resources  
 California Environmental Protection Agency  
 California Natural Resources Agency  
 California State Lands Commission  
 California State Parks  
 California Tahoe Conservancy  
 California Water Quality Control Board—  
 Lahontan Region  
 California Wildlife Conservation Board  
 Caltrans  
 UC Davis/Tahoe Environmental Research Center



Nevada Division of State Lands  
 Nevada Tahoe Resource Team  
 • Nevada Division of Forestry  
 • Nevada Division of State Parks  
 • Nevada Department of Wildlife  
 Nevada Department of Transportation  
 Nevada Division of Environmental Protection  
 Nevada Public Utilities Commission  
 University of Nevada, Reno  
 Desert Research Institute

## REGIONAL AGENCIES



# PARTNERSHIPS MAKE THE EIP POSSIBLE



## LOCAL GOVERNMENTS/ORGANIZATIONS



Carson City  
 Carson City Fire Department  
 Cave Rock Estates General Improvement District  
 City of South Lake Tahoe  
 Douglas County  
 El Dorado County  
 Fallen Leaf Fire Department  
 Incline Village General Improvement District  
 Kingsbury General Improvement District  
 Lake Tahoe South Shore Chamber of Commerce  
 Lake Valley Fire Protection District  
 Lakeridge General Improvement District  
 Meeks Bay Fire Protection District  
 Nevada Tahoe Conservation District  
 North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District  
 North Lake Tahoe Resort Association  
 North Tahoe Fire Protection District  
 North Tahoe Public Utility District  
 Placer County  
 Round Hill General Improvement District  
 South Tahoe Public Utility District  
 Sugar Pine Foundation  
 Tahoe Institute for Natural Science  
 Tahoe Rim Trail Association  
 Tahoe Science Advisory Council  
 Tahoe City Public Utility District  
 Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District  
 Tahoe Resource Conservation District  
 Town of Truckee  
 Washoe County  
 Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California

## PRIVATE ENTITIES

Edgewood Companies  
 Heavenly Mountain Resort  
 Lake Tahoe Marina Association  
 League To Save Lake Tahoe  
 Liberty Utilities  
 NV Energy  
 Tahoe Fund  
 Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association  
 Tahoe Lakefront Owners' Association  
 Tahoe Partnership

## LAKE TAHOE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM



## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

2018 ACCOMPLISHMENTS + A LOOK AHEAD

