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NEWS RELEASE

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For Release Immediately September 5, 2008

TRPA SEEKING "BEST IN THE BASIN" NOMINEES

Lake Tahoe, Stateline, NV – The nomination period has opened for the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency's 2008 Best in the Basin competition, which annually recognizes the best designed, planned and implemented projects in the Tahoe Basin that also stand out as environmentally compatible.

Whether they are new homes, home modifications, commercial rebuilds, shorezone projects, erosion control projects or defensible space efforts, the work showcased by the Best in the Basin program exemplifies the creativity and collaboration required for development to co-exist with a recovering lake.

For 18 years, the TRPA has used the Best in the Basin program to hold up those property owners, contractors, architects and planners who rise to the occasion as examples for others to follow.

This year, two new categories have been added to the competition. They are best mixed-use development and best green remodel.

"Because we are moving toward an emphasis on mixed-use projects and redevelopment in Tahoe and because energy efficiency and climate change must increasingly be taken into consideration, we are changing this year's program to reflect the times," said Dennis Oliver, Best in the Basin coordinator. "This program is really about showcasing what is appropriate for and good enough for Tahoe."

The nomination period ends Friday, September 19. Other categories are: new residential, residential modification, rebuild projects, new commercial, commercial modification, commercial rebuild, shorezone, green building, public service, erosion control, restoration, BMP retrofit and defensible space. To qualify, projects must be complete or near completion.

For an entry form and information about last year's winners, go to www.trpa.org . Winners will be selected by a panel of area professionals in the fields of architecture, landscaping, planning, engineering, and resource management. Those selected to receive awards will be publicly honored by the TRPA Governing Board. Photographs

and summaries of the projects will be displayed in the public meeting area of the TRPA administration building at Stateline until the following year's winners are chosen.

The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency cooperatively leads the effort to preserve, restore, and enhance the unique natural and human environment of the Lake Tahoe Region now and in the future. For additional information, call Dennis Oliver, 775-589-5235 or email doliver@trpa.org.

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