

## TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY

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# NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Julie Regan, Communications Director

For Release Immediately

April 8, 2005

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR WATER QUALITY MONITORING AT ANNUAL SNAPSHOT DAY SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2005**

**(Lake Tahoe)** – Snapshot Day returns to the shores of Lake Tahoe and the Truckee River, Saturday, May 21, 2005 from 9am – 12pm where volunteers will gather information vital to the future of the region. Volunteers will be taking water samples and photos along the Truckee River and Lake Tahoe to help assess water quality and the overall health of watersheds. Experts will be comparing the information gathered to previous years and make recommendations to aid in preserving water quality, valuable recreation areas and wildlife habitat.

The Snapshot Day committee is currently seeking volunteers for the event. With nearly 250 volunteers participating last year's Snapshot Day, individuals with an interest in the future of Lake Tahoe are being asked to participate. Volunteer teams will visit various monitoring sites to perform a stream walk, collect field data, obtain water samples and take photos. Streams will be tested for dissolved oxygen, conductivity, pH and temperature. Water samples will then be measured for sediment turbidity, nutrients and fecal coliform bacteria. Plus, with current snowfall averages well above 143 percent for the 2004-05 season, peak spring runoff will provide volunteers with an excellent representation of the status of watersheds and water quality not seen since the spring of 1999.

For those interested in volunteering for Snapshot Day no previous water quality monitoring experience is necessary. However, individuals desiring to be a team leader are required to attend a mandatory one-day training session. Team leader training sessions will be held on the following dates at these locations:

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**Snapshot Day**

Monday, May 9 at 4:00pm - Rancho San Rafael Park, Reno, NV

Tuesday, May 10 at 4:00pm - Sagehen Field Station, approximately 10 miles north of Truckee, CA

Wednesday, May 11 at 4:00pm - Lake Tahoe Community College, South Lake Tahoe, CA

Thursday, May 12 at 4:00pm – Sierra Nevada College, Incline Village, NV

Event sponsors include the Tahoe-Truckee Clean Water Team, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, University of California Cooperative Extension, and many other agencies and volunteers.

For additional information on Snapshot Day, contact the following individuals: North Shore contact, Shannon Horgan, 775-588-4547, ext. 202; South Shore contact, Jenny Leach, 775-588-4547, ext. 307; Middle Truckee River contact, Beth Christman, 530-550-8760; and Lower Truckee River contact, Mary Kay Riedl at 775-687-9454. Information may also be obtained by visiting [www.trpa.org](http://www.trpa.org).

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