



LAKE TAHOE WEST RESTORATION PARTNERSHIP

THE FORESTS, lakes and alpine peaks of Lake Tahoe's west shore make it one of America's iconic landscapes. The region as a whole is home to 65,000 residents and attracts over 6.4 million annual visitors. Yet persistent drought, climate change, overstocked forests, and a potential bark beetle epidemic threaten its ecology, economy, and culture.

The goal of the Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership (Lake Tahoe West) is to restore the resiliency of the west shore's forests, watersheds, recreational opportunities, and communities to such threats. The landscape includes 73,773 acres of federal, state, local, and private lands, from Emerald Bay to Squaw Valley.

Four public agencies—the California Tahoe Conservancy, the U.S. Forest Service's Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit and Pacific Southwest Research Station, California State Parks, and the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency—are joining with the National Forest Foundation to lead the Partnership.

The combination of eight critical elements make Lake Tahoe West unique among efforts to increase the pace and scale of restoration in the Sierra Nevada.

Lake Tahoe West will:

1. Collaboratively develop and implement a landscape-scale strategy and corresponding series of restoration projects, with major steps including:
2. Convene a Science Team and diverse group of stakeholders to inform the effort;
3. Assess the landscape and identify highest priority areas for forest health and watershed restoration treatments under multiple future scenarios;
4. Model the outcomes, risks, and tradeoffs of potential management actions on key topics of concern (such as air quality, recreation, wildlife, carbon sequestration, and biomass utilization);
5. Align and accelerate agency planning, permitting, and implementation schedules;
6. Establish a performance-based framework for multi-party monitoring, evaluation, and improvement of results;
7. Leverage multiple funding sources; and
8. Build public awareness and support for Lake Tahoe West's efforts.

Lake Tahoe West looks forward to testing new ideas and approaches that can readily be replicated throughout the Sierra Nevada.

