

California Tahoe Conservancy
Agenda Item 9.c.
June 15, 2017

ANNUAL LAND MANAGEMENT AUTHORIZATION

Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution 17-06-08 (Attachment 1) authorizing the expenditure of up to \$977,178 for direct property management, hazard abatement, restoration, and forest health activities on California Tahoe Conservancy land during Fiscal Year 2017/18.

Location: Throughout the California side of the Lake Tahoe Basin.

Fiscal Summary: Source of Funds:

Conservancy Support Funds	\$502,178
(Tahoe Conservancy Fund)	
Capital Outlay Funds	\$475,000
(Proposed Minor Capital Outlay Line Item Appropriation, Budget Act of 2017 - Proposition 84 Bond and Tahoe Conservancy Funds)	
Total Recommended Authorization:	\$977,178

Overview

Description of Recommended Action

Staff recommends the Board authorize the expenditure of up to \$977,178, including \$502,178 in support funds and \$475,000 in capital outlay funds, to implement the California Tahoe Conservancy's (Conservancy) land management, forest health, hazard abatement, and restoration activities during Fiscal Year (FY) 2017/18.

The purposes of the Conservancy's Land Management Program (Program) are to:

- Inspect all Conservancy-owned parcels on a biennial basis to identify hazardous conditions, incompatible uses (often involving shared boundary lines with adjoining landowners), and resource restoration needs;
- Maintain and preserve parcels as necessary;
- Respond to citizens' questions and concerns;
- Develop and implement forest health projects;
- Address incompatible uses such as trespass or encroachments;
- Remove hazardous or potentially hazardous trees;
- Develop restoration plans and contracts for seasonal restoration crews and independent contractors to implement restoration projects;
- Assist with restoration project activities implemented through other Conservancy programs;
- Manage the Upper Truckee Marsh (UTM) Land Steward(s) provided by Tahoe Resource Conservation District, as well as volunteers at Van Sickle Bi-State Park (site hosts), and interact with local (City of South Lake Tahoe and county) and California Highway Patrol law enforcement to protect resources on all Conservancy property and specifically the management intensive UTM and Van Sickle Bi-state Park properties;
- Maintain the Conservancy's lakefront and public access facilities through various interagency memoranda of understanding and agreements with other State departments, such as California Department of Parks and Recreation, and local agencies, such as the City, as well as private leases and concession agreements for significant ownerships, improvements, and operations such as the South Tahoe Greenway Shared Use Trail, the Kings Beach Plaza, and Carnelian Bay lake-front recreation areas;
- Contract for snow removal services to meet City code requirements and other Conservancy facility needs; and
- Enter into agreements for a variety of public health and safety and compatible private activities consistent with the Conservancy Special Use Guidelines.

History

This is the thirty first annual proposed authorization for land management. The Conservancy has made significant progress in restoring, improving, and maintaining its inventory of nearly 4,700 parcels on 6,500 acres.

Additional information on the Program, including accomplishments and Program priorities, is presented in the FY 2017/18 Work Program discussion.

Financing

FY 2017/18 Land Management Budget

Land Management and Public Safety (Support Funds)

Land Management Crew	\$105,000
Property Inspection and Cleanup	53,000
Program Planning	55,000
Property Surveys	30,000
Security Services and Contracts	115,000
Facilities Maintenance	74,178
Equipment, Materials, and Supplies	<u>70,000</u>

Land Management and Public Safety Sub-Total: **\$502,178**

Resource Restoration and Enhancement (Capital Outlay Funds)

Restoration and Forestry Crew	\$100,000
Program Planning	55,000
Property Surveys	53,000
Project Implementation	230,000
Restoration Equipment, Materials, Supplies, Permits	<u>37,000</u>

Resource Restoration and Enhancement Sub-Total: **\$475,000**

Total: **\$977,178**

Capital outlay funding will come from the Conservancy's new minor capital outlay line item upon enactment of the Budget Act of 2017, as proposed.

The above line item amounts are estimates and reflect potential expenditures within these categories based on prior experience. Actual expenditures will depend upon the Budget Act of 2017, need, and management priorities for the fiscal year, but will not exceed the total funds requested.

Authority

Consistency with the Conservancy's Enabling Legislation

The recommended management activities are consistent with the Conservancy's enabling legislation. Specifically, Government Code section 66907.10 authorizes the Conservancy to improve and develop acquired lands for a variety of purposes, including protection of the natural environment; protection of public access and recreational facilities; preservation of wildlife habitat areas; and facilitation of access to and management of Conservancy-owned lands. Section 66907.9 authorizes the Conservancy to initiate, negotiate, and participate in agreements for the management of land under its ownership and control with local public agencies, State agencies, federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, individuals, corporate entities, or partnerships. Section 66906.8 authorizes the Conservancy to select and hire private consultants or contractors to achieve these purposes. Section 66907.8 authorizes the Conservancy to lease, rent, or otherwise transfer, including through license agreements, any real property interest to fulfill the purposes of its enabling legislation and to promote the State's planning priorities.

Consistency with the Conservancy's Strategic Plan

The recommended management activities are consistent with the Strategic Plan focusing on efficient management of Conservancy-owned lands (Strategy III. A.), facilitating land exchanges to increase management efficiencies (Strategy III. B.), increasing public awareness of the value of Conservancy lands (Strategy III. D.), and strengthening Conservancy operations and administrative capabilities (Strategy IV).

Consistency with the Conservancy's Program Guidelines

The recommended action is consistent with the Board's existing policy direction including Special Use Guidelines and Forestry Guidelines, and furthers the Conservancy's overall agency policy and purposes.

Consistency with External Authorities

Land management is consistent with the Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) because it implements EIP project # 06.01.03.0002 - California Tahoe Conservancy Land Management Program, and facilitates the implementation of other individual EIP projects related to forestry and restoration.

Compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act

The Annual Land Management Authorization does not involve any commitment to any specific activity which has the potential to result in either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, and is therefore not a “project” within the meaning of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Staff will evaluate individual land management projects, however, prior to implementation to determine the appropriate level of CEQA review.

List of Attachments:

Attachment 1 – Resolution 17-06-08

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