

California Tahoe Conservancy  
Agenda Item 11  
September 19, 2013

**TAHOE PINES CAMPGROUND  
RESTORATION AND ACCESS PROJECT**

Acquired by the Conservancy in December 2007 to support the Environmental Improvement Program, the Tahoe Pines Campground was purchased with funding assistance from the Sierra Cascade Proposition 50 grant program for \$4.18 million. The campground infrastructure was removed by the previous owners with the exception of a parking area, driveway, and a well. These improvements were retained to assist future improvement efforts.

Tahoe Pines Campground operated between 1932 and 2007, most recently providing 59 RV and campsites over its 8.1 acres. The property includes 915 linear feet of frontage along the Upper Truckee River and is traversed by three branches of Echo Creek. Campsite development, use, and management resulted in several resource impacts on the site. The Upper Truckee River bank was extensively rip-rapped, and campsites adjacent to the river were backfilled with sand and gravel to create a level surface. The adjacent floodplain and upland were graded and compacted, resulting in a loss of floodplain function and habitat quality, as well as localized areas of erosion.

The Tahoe Pines Campground Restoration and Access Project proposes resource restoration activities along with passive recreation amenities for site and river access. Habitat improvements, via vegetation re-establishment, will occur on the banks of the Upper Truckee River, select locations along the three branches of Echo Creek, and throughout the site in areas compacted and disturbed by the historic camping use. Riprap and debris will be removed from the river banks and replaced with wood and riparian vegetation. Floodplain grading will be implemented to raise groundwater elevations and reconnect the floodplain to the river. A pedestrian bridge, walking trails, and an improved parking area are proposed to assist public access.

Conservancy staff foresees returning to the Board in the near future for three anticipated actions necessary for project implementation:

1. Certification of the environmental document
2. Authorization of project funding
3. Acceptance of approximately 0.46 acres of U.S. Highway 50 right-of-way via a Transfer of Jurisdiction

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