



CALIFORNIA
TAHOE
CONSERVANCY

Board Packet
October 10, 2019



MEETING OF THE CALIFORNIA TAHOE CONSERVANCY BOARD

Thursday, October 10, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.

Van Sickle Bi-State Park
3828 Montreal Road
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Thursday, October 10, 2019, resuming between approximately 12:30-
1:00 p.m.

Hotel Azure Tahoe
3300 Lake Tahoe Boulevard
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

BOARD MEMBERS

NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY
Wade Crowfoot, Secretary
Elizabeth Williamson, Designee

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
Keely Bosler, Director
Gayle Miller, Designee

SENATE PUBLIC MEMBER
Lynn Suter, Vice Chair

ASSEMBLY PUBLIC MEMBER
Adam Acosta

CITY OF SOUTH LAKE TAHOE
Brooke Laine, Chair

EL DORADO COUNTY
Sue Novasel

PLACER COUNTY
Cindy Gustafson

U.S. FOREST SERVICE (ex-officio)
Jeff Marsolais

PATRICK WRIGHT
Executive Director

Directions to Van Sickle Bi-State Park:

From South Lake Tahoe "Y" at U.S. Highway 50 and State Route 89: On U.S. Highway 50 eastbound, travel approximately 5 miles. Turn right on Heavenly Village Way. The Park entrance is under the Heavenly Gondola where Montreal Road and Heavenly Village Way meet. The tour will begin in the day-use parking area adjacent to the historical Van Sickle barn.

From CA/NV Stateline: On U.S. Highway 50 westbound, travel approximately 0.5 mile. Turn left on Heavenly Village Way. The Park entrance is under the Heavenly Gondola where Montreal Road and Heavenly Village Way meet. The tour will begin in the day-use parking area adjacent to the historical Van Sickle barn.

Directions to the Hotel Azure Tahoe:

From CA/NV Stateline: On U.S. Highway 50 westbound, travel approximately 2.65 miles. Hotel Azure Tahoe is on the left just past Fremont Avenue.

From South Lake Tahoe "Y" at U.S. Highway 50 and State Route 89: On U.S. Highway 50 eastbound, travel approximately 2.8 miles to Hotel Azure Tahoe located on the corner of Lake Tahoe Boulevard and Rufus Allen Boulevard. Turn right into the first driveway past Rufus Allen Boulevard.

1. Roll Call

The roll will be called at Van Sickle Bi-State Park – California Day Use Area.

2. Van Sickle Bi-State Park Board Tour

The tour will commence at Van Sickle Bi-State Park – California Day Use Area at approximately 9:30 a.m. The tour will highlight Conservancy and Nevada Division of State Parks cooperative management efforts and conceptual recreation improvements as well as a key hazardous fuels reduction project. A Board tour map and directions are attached (Attachment 1). The tour will end at approximately 11:00 a.m.

No Board action will be taken during the tour. Members of the public are invited to attend the tour but must provide their own transportation.

The Board meeting will continue at Hotel Azure Tahoe, resuming between approximately 12:30 and 1:00 p.m.

3. Consent Items

a. Approval of Minutes (action) (Resolution 19-10-01)

b. Approval of Board Agenda (action) (Resolution 19-10-02)

4. Executive Director's Report

- Land Management Video
- Upper Truckee Marsh Video

5. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

6. Dollar Creek Forest Restoration Project (action): Consideration and possible authorization of the Dollar Creek Forest Restoration Project, including the expenditure of up to \$1,055,859 and the execution of agreements as necessary to implement the Project on the Conservancy's Dollar Creek property.

CEQA consideration: categorical exemption

(Resolution 19-10-03)

7. Connelley Beach Public Access Project (action): Consideration and possible authorization of the Connelley Beach Public Access Project, including the expenditure of up to \$420,000 and the execution of easements and other agreements as necessary to implement the Project.

CEQA consideration: categorical exemption

(Resolution 19-10-04)

8. Grant for Climate Action Organizational Analysis (action): Consideration and possible authorization to award a grant to Ecotrust for up to \$50,000 to assess the conditions and make recommendations for an organizational structure that would accelerate climate change adaptation in the Lake Tahoe Basin by developing and deploying practical, science-based management tools and technology applications.

CEQA consideration: statutory exemption

(Resolution 19-10-05)

9. Conservancy Grant Guidelines (action): Consideration and possible authorization of the Conservancy's Grant Guidelines, which identify considerations the Conservancy will use in evaluating grant applications, and provide basic information regarding Conservancy grants and grant submittals.

CEQA consideration: not applicable

(Resolution 19-10-06)

10. Landscape Level Initiatives Update: Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership and Tahoe-Central Sierra Initiative (discussion only): Discuss the Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership and Tahoe-Central Sierra Initiative, which are two complementary landscape-scale multijurisdictional efforts to protect communities and restore forest and watershed health.

11. Conservancy Tahoe Livable Communities Program Update (discussion only): Discuss the status of the Conservancy Tahoe Livable Communities Program, including property acquisitions, land bank transactions, and the 17 Conservancy asset lands in the City of South Lake Tahoe, Meyers, and Kings Beach.

12. Chair's Report

- 2020 Board Meeting Schedule

13. Operations Committee

- Report on California Department of Human Resources' Employee Engagement Survey and Conservancy Survey Results

14. Board Member Comment

- a. Potential Agenda Items for the December 12 Board Meeting (discussion only):** Discuss potential agenda items for the December 12 Board meeting.

15. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

16. Adjourn

Schedule/General Meeting Information: Agenda items may be taken out of sequence at the discretion of the Conservancy Board Chair. Items are numbered for identification purposes and will not necessarily be considered in this order. Members of the public intending to comment on agenda and non-agenda items may be asked to use the meeting sign-in sheet before the start of the meeting. The Board Chair may limit the amount of time allocated for public comment on particular issues and for each individual speaker. All Board materials, such as Board books and Board packets, exhibits, PowerPoint presentations, and agenda materials, are hereby made a part of the record for the appropriate item.

Discussion Items: Discussion items or tours involve staff presentations and updates; no Board action will be taken. (Gov. Code, § 11122.)

Consent Items: Consent items are expected to be routine and non-controversial. Recommendations will ordinarily be acted on without discussion. If any Board member, staff member, or other interested party or member of the public requests discussion of a consent item, it may be removed from consent and taken up in the regular agenda order, or in an order determined by the Board Chair.

Staff Reports: Staff reports on individual agenda items requiring Board action may be obtained on [the Conservancy's website](https://www.tahoe.ca.gov) at <https://www.tahoe.ca.gov> or at the Conservancy's office. Staff reports will also be available at the Board meeting.

Meeting Information: Please contact Lori Uriz by e-mail at lori.uriz@tahoe.ca.gov, by phone at (530) 542-5580 or (530) 543-6069, or regular mail correspondence to 1061 Third Street, South Lake Tahoe, California 96150.

Accessibility: In accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, reasonable accommodations are available. Requests for reasonable accommodations should be made at least five working days in advance of the meeting date. To request reasonable accommodations, including documents in alternative formats, please call (530) 542-5580 [California Relay Service (866) 735-0373 or 711].

Use of Electronic Devices: Board members accessing their laptops, phones, or other electronic devices may use the equipment during the meeting to view the meeting materials which are provided in electronic format. Any use of these devices for direct communication employed by a majority of the members of a

State body to develop a collective concurrence as to action to be taken on an item is prohibited.

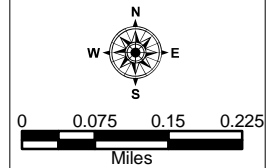
Cover photo taken by Conservancy staff

ATTACHMENT 1
 Van Sickle Bi-State Park Board Tour



- Stops**
- ① 3828 Montreal Rd - Van Sickle Bi-State Park - California Day Use Area
 - ② Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

 Van Sickle Bi-State Park Boundary



Sources:
 TRPA, CTC, ESRI



October 2019
 *Map for reference purposes only.

California Tahoe Conservancy
Agenda Item 3a
October 10, 2019

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 21, 2019

August 21, 2019 (9:00 a.m.) Board Meeting

Staff prepared the minutes from the same-day audio recording and transcription by Foothill Transcription Company, which were certified on August 27, 2019.

Agenda Item 1. Roll Call

Chair Laine called the meeting to order with a 9:05 a.m. roll call at the California Conservation Corps – Tahoe Center.

Members Present:

Brooke Laine, Chair, City of South Lake Tahoe
Lynn Suter, Vice Chair, Public Member
Elizabeth Williamson, California Natural Resources Agency
Cindy Gustafson, Placer County
Gayle Miller, California Department of Finance
Jeff Marsolais, USDA Forest Service (ex officio)

Members Absent:

Adam Acosta, Public Member
Sue Novasel, El Dorado County

Others Present:

Patrick Wright, Executive Director
Jane Freeman, Deputy Director
Mike Steeves, Chief Counsel
Danae Aitchison, Deputy Attorney General

Agenda Item 2. Meyers Asset Lands Board Tour

Chair Laine announced that staff would lead a tour featuring nine asset lands, upon

which the Board would consider authorizing staff to conduct due diligence activities later in the meeting. The asset lands are located in Meyers at El Dorado County Assessment Numbers: 034-331-015 (3131 U.S. Highway 50), 034-331-023 (3121 U.S. Highway 50), 035-261-004 (no address), 035-261-005 (961 Pomo Street), 035-261-006 (945 Pomo Street), 034-300-025 (no address), 034-300-026 (no address), 034-300-027 (no address), and 034-300-028 (no address). Chair Laine said the tour will end at approximately 11:00 a.m. and the meeting will continue at the California Conservation Corps.

Agenda Item 3. Consent Items

a. Approval of Minutes (action)

The Board considered the minutes from the June meeting.

b. Approval of Board Agenda (action)

The Board considered the agenda for the day's meeting.

Vice Chair Suter moved to approve the two consent items and Ms. Gustafson seconded the motion. Resolutions 19-08-01 and 19-08-02 passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 4. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Wright welcomed Ms. Miller with the California Department of Finance (DOF) to the Board and presented a plaque for Ms. Karen Finn, a previous Board member with DOF. Mr. Wright then introduced new employees with the Conservancy: Kyla Wintter, Graduate Legal Assistant; Emma DiClementi, Forestry Aide; and Collin Cabral, Forestry Aide. Mr. Wright mentioned that the Conservancy announced two new positions: a Staff Attorney and a Tahoe Strategic Growth Program Manager, who will collaborate with the Strategic Growth Council on the Conservancy's Tahoe Livable Communities (TLC) Program.

Mr. Wright said staff is making progress on the possible sale of the 2070 Lake Tahoe Boulevard asset land and there is a new site plan that Sutter Capital Group and Alpine Corporation have developed. Mr. Wright said staff will likely return to the Board with an update on the TLC Program at the next meeting.

Mr. Wright also discussed the Annual Lake Tahoe Summit (Summit), which was the previous day. Mr. Wright said the California Natural Resources Agency Secretary Wade Crowfoot and Governor Gavin Newsom attended the Summit. Mr. Wright thanked Ms. Williamson for helping the Conservancy prepare and rallying the State team and Mr. Marsolais for his work on the Forest Action Plan (Plan) and other federal efforts.

Mr. Wright said it paid off to demonstrate the team's effort to accelerate the pace and scale of forestry work in the Lake Tahoe Basin (Basin). Mr. Wright thanked staff for developing the Summit materials.

Mr. Wright then recognized a few individuals in attendance at the Board meeting, including Mr. Bill Yeates, Chair, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA); Nicole Cartwright, Executive Director, Tahoe Resource Conservation District; and Julie Regan, External Affairs Chief, TRPA.

Agenda Item 5. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

Chair Laine invited the public to comment.

Ms. Norma Santiago, Sierra State Parks Foundation, discussed the Vikingsholm Mansion, which the California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) owns, turns 90 this year. Ms. Santiago said there is a need for operational and maintenance funding for Vikingsholm. Ms. Santiago said the Vikingsholm Forever Endowment has been established to raise funding. Ms. Santiago directed the Board to visit the [Sierra State Parks Foundation website](http://www.sierrastateparks.org) at www.sierrastateparks.org for additional information.

Ms. Mary McCall, member of the public, commented about the Conservancy's proposed work at its Alta Mira property and said she appreciated its diligent efforts in protecting the land. Ms. McCall requested that the Conservancy continue to be diligent and committed to meeting project timelines.

A member of the public asked if staff could provide her with maps showing which parcels the USDA Forest Service purchased with Santini-Burton Act funds. Mr. Wright said staff would follow up with her after the meeting.

Ms. Tara Dobbins, member of the public, commented about her encounters with the residents on Lily Avenue regarding the issue of the Lily Avenue gate. Ms. Dobbins said the residents asked if she would sign a petition to have the gate permanently locked and be for the sole use of the homeowners. Ms. Dobbins said other individuals told her that those same residents had stated that the beach was private and they were not permitted to access the beach. Ms. Dobbins expressed the need to maintain public access to the beach at the end of Lily Avenue.

Ms. Lisa Cali, member of the public, commented about a rumor that all three public access points to the Upper Truckee Marsh could be closed to the public. Ms. Cali discussed complaints about trash and vehicles blocking the access points; however, she largely disagreed with the complaints. Ms. Cali said she and her neighbors object to individuals wanting to privatize the meadow and to the vacation homeowners marketing the houses as having access to a private meadow.

Ms. Peggy Borland, member of the public, discussed the issue of the public being able to access Conservancy land without the threatening harassment of adjacent property owners. Ms. Borland said adjacent property owners at the end of Lily Avenue are waging an aggressive campaign to deter public access with the goal of completely closing access to the meadow. Ms. Borland said one tactic they have used is to place official-looking street signs advising the public that there is no parking nor stopping; however, the City Manager confirmed the signs were not the City's and removed them. Ms. Borland said the Conservancy should not allow one property owner to obstruct access to its land. Ms. Borland voiced appreciation for the Conservancy's efforts to protect public access to its land.

Agenda Item 6. Authorization to Conduct Due Diligence Activities on Conservancy Asset Lands Located in Meyers (action)

Ms. Aimee Rutledge, Tahoe Livable Communities Specialist, presented Item 6.

Chair Laine invited the public to comment.

A member of the public discussed the Meyers asset lands and new facilities that will be associated with any potential development, such as parking and restrooms. He mentioned the Meyers Visitors Center and Highway Patrol Station and how there are already existing facilities at these sites. He offered that the community should think about utilizing what it has, instead of creating additional development.

A member of the public commented about the poor acoustics at the meeting location. He discussed his family's house, which is adjacent to one of the Meyers asset lands (Assessment Number [AN] 035-261-004). He mentioned there is no access from that parcel to U.S. Highway 50, nor Pomo Street and said his family would not allow access through its property. He requested the Board consider removing three asset lands in Meyers (ANs 035-261-004, 035-261-005, and 035-261-006) from consideration.

Ms. Lynn Paulson, member of the public, discussed the Conservancy's statutory authority and quoted the specific provision allowing it to select and acquire real property to protect the natural environment, provide public access or public recreational facilities, preserve wildlife habitat, or provide access to or for the management of acquired lands. Ms. Paulson said, however, staff is discussing the possible development of the Conservancy's land. Ms. Paulson said staff should consider maintaining open space in those areas.

Mr. George Mason, member of the public, discussed how he lives directly behind two of the Meyers asset lands (ANs 034-331-023 and 034-331-015). Mr. Mason said he does not want to see affordable housing on those parcels because it will add to the traffic issues in Meyers by bringing more people to the area, cause light and noise pollution,

and cause housing prices to drop. Mr. Mason also raised issues around cutting down native trees and how wet those parcels are during certain times of the year. Mr. Mason commented on how it would not be appropriate to build a transit station there as well because there is already an appropriate location for it at the Meyers Visitors Center.

A member of the public commented about how she opposed a bus station because it will bring crime to the neighborhood. She discussed how the bus station at the "Y" in South Lake Tahoe has had a lot of crime. She said it would be better to place bus stops at existing businesses in Meyers.

Chair Laine invited the Board to comment.

Ms. Gustafson asked when the public can participate in the decision making process. Ms. Rutledge said there are multiple ways the public can participate, including submitting written comments or attending Board meetings and providing verbal comments. Ms. Rutledge said the Conservancy is interested in hearing public feedback and would like to emphasize community outreach during the process.

Ms. Gustafson said she heard during the tour and at the meeting that there was already a predisposition to certain types of development. Ms. Gustafson said, according to staff, that is not the case. Ms. Gustafson explained staff is starting the process without any predisposition to housing, bus stops, or other specific types of development. Ms. Rutledge agreed.

Chair Laine brought the written public comments on this item to the Board's attention. Chair Laine emphasized she would like the Conservancy to work with the local jurisdictions first on a potential partnership regarding the Meyers asset lands.

Ms. Miller moved to approve the resolution and Vice Chair Suter seconded the motion. Resolution 19-08-03 passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 7. Burton Creek State Park Forest Restoration Project (action)

Mr. Joseph Harvey, Forest Operations Specialist, presented Item 7.

Chair Laine invited the Board to comment.

Ms. Gustafson asked if the California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) had treated the area around the North Tahoe High School. Mr. Harvey said he did not know but would follow up with the State Parks' Forester. Ms. Gustafson expressed that she would like State Parks to prioritize the areas around that vulnerable facility.

Mr. Marsolais asked when State Parks plans to implement the Project given the

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's (CAL FIRE) limited grant timelines. Mr. Harvey said State Parks is planning to implement the first prescribed burn this fall. Mr. Harvey said State Parks is aware of the March 2022 grant deadline and staff plans to work with State Parks to ensure it meets the grant deadline.

Chair Laine asked if the timeline includes the removal of slash piles. Mr. Harvey answered affirmatively.

Chair Laine invited the public to comment.

Ms. Santiago commented that the Sierra State Parks Foundation will be watching State Parks' progress and ensuring it meets the CAL FIRE grant timelines.

There were no additional public comments.

Ms. Gustafson moved to approve the resolution and Ms. Miller seconded the motion. Resolution 19-08-04 passed unanimously.

Mr. Wright commented that CAL FIRE's short grant timeline is an issue for the Conservancy and USDA Forest Service. Mr. Wright said, on the one hand, CAL FIRE wants its partners to move toward large landscape scale projects; on the other hand, agencies have a limited window to complete the projects. Mr. Wright said it is a balance between getting projects completed quickly and submitting large landscape scale projects.

Ms. Miller said there is a \$2 billion State budget this year for fire projects. Ms. Miller said there is a commitment to helping address these issues, especially in response to climate change. Ms. Miller said DOF is committed to working on addressing the budget timeline issue.

Agenda Item 8. Lake Tahoe Basin Forest Action Plan (discussion only)

Mr. Forest Schafer, Community Forestry Supervisor, presented Item 8.

Chair Laine invited the Board to comment.

Mr. Marsolais thanked Mr. Schafer and the entire Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team (TFFT) for their efforts on the Plan. Mr. Marsolais commented on the disconnect between the planning dollars and implementation cycles, which is a misunderstood component of forest management. Mr. Marsolais said, prior to the Angora Fire, USDA Forest Service projects were about 300-400 acres in size with a big year between 1,000-2,000 acres. Mr. Marsolais said, after the Angora Fire and with TFFT on board, projects are now at about 3,000-4,000 acres. Mr. Marsolais said, however, the pace of implementation will

increase with the streamlining of environmental review.

Vice Chair Suter congratulated Conservancy staff and the USDA Forest Service on the Plan. Vice Chair Suter said it is a valuable tool because it describes what the partnerships are doing, the goals of Governor Newsom, and how it brings 20 organizations together with a common goal.

Chair Laine invited the public to comment.

Mr. Bill Yeates, TRPA, commented about how the Plan demonstrates the collaborative nature of what partners in the Basin are attempting to do with fuels management. Mr. Yeates said it would be great if Conservancy staff could give this presentation to TRPA's Forest Health and Wildfire Committee because TRPA is likely going to need to change some of its rules to expedite the necessary work.

Ms. Santiago, American River Collaborative, commented that the South Fork of the American River is trying to build a relationship with the efforts in the Basin. Ms. Santiago asked what efforts partners in the Basin are going to make with the whitethorn that is growing at the Angora Fire site and what strategies there might be for where fire has already occurred.

Chair Laine invited the Board to comment.

Mr. Marsolais commented that no one piece of ground is more important to treat than any other, and yet the partner agencies still have to prioritize, direct funds, and choose the right treatment types. Mr. Marsolais, in response to Ms. Santiago, said she was referring to work within the national forest and that the USDA Forest Service has been discussing how to approach it; although, it must be in light of where there is fire risk. Mr. Marsolais said USDA Forest Service has been looking at some mastication equipment as well as the use of herbicides, but that is controversial in the Basin. Mr. Marsolais commented that the Plan articulates how the partners are going to balance all of these needs.

Mr. Wright thanked Mr. Marsolais and Mr. Schafer for their work on the Plan, a major Summit deliverable. Mr. Wright said there are few places in the West where land managers, fire districts, and regulatory agencies are working together on a plan that addresses work being done with respect to the general forest, powerlines, technology, and more. Mr. Wright said the Plan will likely be a model for collaboration on forest health issues. Mr. Wright said Secretary Crowfoot was impressed with not only the scope and layout of the Plan, but how easy it is to understand.

Ms. Miller thanked staff for their work on the Plan and reminded the Conservancy that the funding indicated in the Plan must go through the regular budget process.

There were no additional comments.

Agenda Item 9. Draft Conservancy Grant Guidelines (discussion only)

Mr. Dorian Fougères, Chief of Natural Resources, presented Item 9.

Chair Laine invited the Board to comment.

Mr. Marsolais commented how it may be good to emphasize adequacy and efficiency around environmental planning in the Grant Guidelines. Mr. Marsolais asked what staff meant by monitoring. Mr. Marsolais asked if it is monitoring the effectiveness of the project or monitoring at large to gather more data.

Mr. Fougères said the efficiency and adequacy of planning are addressed under the funding considerations section and, more specifically, under numbers three and six. Mr. Fougères said staff would take his feedback and perhaps revise the language in the Grant Guidelines accordingly. Mr. Fougères then addressed Mr. Marsolais's second point by discussing how staff incorporated the Environmental Improvement Program, Lake Tahoe Integrated Monitoring Program, and other Basinwide components in the Grant Guidelines. Mr. Fougères thanked Mr. Marsolais for his feedback and said staff would emphasize and/or revise those areas in the Grant Guidelines.

Ms. Gustafson commended staff on the Grant Guidelines. Ms. Gustafson said the Conservancy's leadership helps drive good projects and assists local governments in expanding their scope and thoughtfulness when it comes to projects.

Vice Chair Suter asked if the Conservancy is encouraging potential applicants to interact with staff prior to approval. Mr. Fougères answered affirmatively.

Chair Laine said it is important that local jurisdictions have access to these funding opportunities because they do not see new revenue. Chair Laine discussed the need for residents to remove trees for defensible space purposes, which is costly. Chair Laine said that could potentially be a funding opportunity for the Conservancy.

Chair Laine then discussed the balance between first come, first served and underfunding good quality projects. Chair Laine urged staff to strike that balance. Mr. Fougères said staff hoped to have that conversation with the Board.

Chair Laine invited the Public to comment.

Mr. Joe Cardinale, Tahoe Paradise Park, asked when the Board would finalize the Grant Guidelines and when the due date is for grant applications. Mr. Fougères said there is no set timeline and the Grant Guidelines are subject to Board approval. Mr. Fougères

explained that there is no set deadline for grant application submittals.

There were no additional public comments.

Agenda Item 10. Chair's Report

Chair Laine discussed the California Department of Human Resources (CalHR) Employee Engagement Survey. Chair Laine said the Operations Committee is in the process of setting up a meeting with CalHR to discuss the survey results.

Agenda Item 11. Board Member Comment

a. Potential Agenda Items for the October 10 Board Meeting

Ms. Freeman summarized the potential agenda items for the October 10 Board meeting, including a tour in conjunction with the All Conservancies Meeting, Conservancy Grant Guidelines, Dollar Creek Forest Restoration Project, an update on Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership and the Tahoe-Central Sierra Initiative, and an update on the Tahoe Pines Campground Restoration Project.

Agenda Item 12. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

Chair Laine invited public comment on items not on the agenda and there were no public comments.

Agenda Item 13. Closed Session

The Board convened in closed session to conduct the Executive Director's performance evaluation. There was no reportable action from the closed session.

Agenda Item 14. Adjourn

Chair Laine adjourned the meeting at 1:18 p.m.

California Tahoe Conservancy
Resolution 19-10-01
Adopted: October 10, 2019

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the August 21, 2019 meeting of the California Tahoe Conservancy adopted on October 10, 2019.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of October, 2019.

Patrick Wright
Executive Director

California Tahoe Conservancy
Agenda Item 3b
Resolution 19-10-02
Adopted: October 10, 2019

APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA

I hereby approve the October 10, 2019 Board agenda of the California Tahoe Conservancy adopted on October 10, 2019.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of October, 2019.

Patrick Wright
Executive Director

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Budget and Accounting

1. Budget

Fiscal Year 2019/20

The California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) 2019/20 fiscal year appropriations include the following:

- \$26,112,000 for capital outlay and local assistance to fund various programmatic priorities and support the Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) for the Lake Tahoe Basin (Basin), including:
 - \$17,309,000 in bond funds from Propositions 12, 40, 50, 68, and 84;
 - \$2,054,000 from special funds dedicated to the Conservancy (Habitat Conservation Fund, Lake Tahoe License Plate proceeds, Tahoe Conservancy Fund, and Senate Bill 630); and
 - \$6,749,000 in reimbursement authority (i.e., for State and federal grant funding).
- \$12,403,000 for ongoing Conservancy operations including:
 - \$2,825,000 in bond funds from Propositions 12, 40, 50, 68, and 84;
 - \$6,187,000 from special funds dedicated to the Conservancy (Habitat Conservation Fund, Lake Tahoe License Plate proceeds, and Tahoe Conservancy Fund);
 - \$2,891,000 in federal and State reimbursement grants; and
 - \$500,000 in General Funds to address deferred maintenance needs.

B. Cross-Cutting Programs and Projects

1. Forest Restoration

The Conservancy is collaboratively leading several forest restoration projects. The projects and initiatives described below will help build forest and community resilience to disturbances such as wildfire, insects, and disease, while increasing the pace and scale of restoration. They are key components of the Conservancy's Strategic Plan and are highlighted in the recently released Lake Tahoe Basin Forest Action Plan (FAP), which was presented to the Board in August.

Good Neighbor Authority

At its August 2018 meeting, the Board authorized staff to execute a Good Neighbor Authority Supplemental Project Agreement (SPA) with the USDA Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU), and to accept and expend federal funds for community forestry and fire protection planning activities. In June 2019, the Board authorized staff to accept and expend up to \$1,350,000 in federal funds to plan additional forest and watershed restoration activities for future implementation under the SPA. In July 2019, the Conservancy and LTBMU signed and executed the SPA. Staff has initiated environmental review activities with LTBMU, and are working with the Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team (TFFT) to align community forestry treatments across land ownerships. Staff expects pilot project implementation to begin next year (pending future Board authorization).

Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership (LTW)

The Conservancy and five key partners (LTBMU, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency [TRPA], California Department of Parks and Recreation [DPR], TFFT, and the National Forest Foundation [NFF]) form the LTW team. The team will complete a restoration strategy for the entire 60,000-acre landscape by November 2019. The team has been working through multiple rounds of stakeholder comments to complete the document. NFF recently contracted with Consensus Building Institute to augment the facilitation team and provide strategic leadership moving into the project planning and environmental review phase of LTW.

Tahoe-Central Sierra Initiative (TCSI)

The 2.4 million-acre TCSI aims to accelerate eight forest landscape restoration projects (including LTW), and develop biomass utilization infrastructure, throughout the Central Sierra. The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) awarded the Conservancy a \$1.95 million Proposition 68 grant to support the TCSI. The Conservancy Board authorized staff to accept and expend this grant at its April 2019 meeting. The Conservancy is currently recruiting a project lead under the grant. The TCSI science team will complete a landscape resilience assessment and wood supply analysis later this fall.

Hazardous Fuel Reduction, Forest Health, and Biomass Projects

At its December 2016 meeting, the Board authorized planning and preparing fuels reduction treatments on State and locally-owned parcels funded through a Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act Round 16 grant to the Conservancy. The first round of treatments began in September 2017, and subsequent rounds will continue through the 2022 field season. Crews from Tahoe-Douglas Fire Protection District and the California Conservation Corps (CCC) are currently conducting field operations at Van Sickle Bi-State Park and Montgomery Estates in El Dorado County. Staff intends to prepare 300 additional acres for treatment in 2020. Staff will return to the Board for authorization to implement this work in December 2019.

In August 2017, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) awarded SNC a Forest Health grant that includes six individual projects within the TCSI geographic area. SNC administers the grant, including a sub-grant to the Conservancy for one of the projects. At its June 2018 meeting, the Board approved the Dollar Creek Forest Health Project and authorized staff to enter into an agreement with SNC to begin implementation. Project implementation began in September 2019 on the Conservancy's Dollar Creek property on the north shore. A private contractor will mechanically thin 151 acres through the fall.

In July 2018, CAL FIRE awarded the Conservancy a \$2.3 million Forest Health grant. At its October 2018 meeting, the Board authorized staff to accept the grant and begin planning. The grant consists of three components: fuels reduction and prescribed burning at Burton Creek State Park, further fuels reduction at the Conservancy's Dollar Creek property (which is in front of the Board as Item 6), and removal and utilization of biomass on the California side of the Basin. The Board authorized funds to DPR at its August 2019 meeting for fuel reduction and prescribed understory burning on 132 acres at Burton Creek State Park. The first prescribed burn is scheduled for fall 2019.

Eagle Rock Peregrine Falcons

Eagle Rock is a popular rock climbing location and access point for lake views from the top of the cliff. Earlier this year, a pair of Peregrine falcons started nesting on the cliff face. To ensure protection of the nesting pair, staff posted a seasonal climbing closure during the nesting period. The chicks have fledged and although the falcons may still be seen on or near the cliff, they are no longer sensitive to disturbance. Staff has reopened the cliff to climbing.

2. Climate Adaptation

The Conservancy is leading a collaborative effort to develop a Climate Adaptation Action Plan (CAAP), which identifies specific projects and programs that state agencies in California and Nevada are implementing to adapt to climate change in the Basin. CAAP stakeholders contributed to a draft analysis of all plans, programs, and projects that address climate vulnerabilities in the Basin to determine if there are any gaps that need to be addressed. Conservancy staff hosted a stakeholder workshop on September 24, 2019 to review the draft and discuss the development of actions. Staff, working with the graphic design firm Studio Percolate, has developed several infographics that will be included in the CAAP and social media campaigns. The CAAP is expected to be released by March 2020.

3. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

Conservancy staff and Basin partners are working with the consulting firm Creative Resource Strategies (CRS) to identify the actions and costs associated with comprehensive AIS control in the Lake Tahoe region. Once complete, the

project will establish a common set of AIS management performance measures, provide a systematic approach to AIS control, and develop an investment plan to optimize program spending. CRS has worked closely with the Lake Tahoe AIS Coordinating Committee and several smaller working groups during the project. CRS developed the draft action plan in July 2019 and finalized the document in September 2019. The AIS Action Plan working group is developing the corresponding investment plan, which will be completed by the end of October 2019. The investment plan will complement the AIS Action Plan, together forming a comprehensive road map for AIS control.

4. Greater Upper Truckee River Watershed Partnership (UTP)

The Conservancy has launched the UTP, a new collaborative initiative that will support the variety of existing resource protection and restoration, recreation, and transportation projects within the south side of the Basin. The initial UTP product will be a Synthesis that presents an inventory of existing programs and projects, identifies future opportunities and information needs, and provides a vision for a resilient landscape.

The Conservancy invited agencies, stakeholders, and the public to participate in meetings during the Synthesis development. Staff received valuable feedback from this first round of engagement, as the public and partners both conveyed that public communication and understanding is an important gap that the Synthesis can help fill. Meeting attendees also found value in various maps that show the breadth of efforts in the greater watershed. They also suggested that an online interactive mapping tool may be the best way to enhance coordination between the various partners, projects, and programs in the geographic area.

Staff is now working on next steps to advance the Synthesis, which include engaging with EIP Working Groups, developing a coordinating committee with key partners, and drafting the Synthesis document.

5. Public Art at Tahoe

In August, the Conservancy executed a contract with the University of California, Davis Tahoe Environmental Research Center (TERC) to develop a plan for installing educational environmental art on Conservancy lands. TERC will be working with Tahoe Public Art (TPA), which is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization founded in 2016, whose mission is to enhance the cultural landscape of the Lake Tahoe region by providing dynamic art experiences inspired by the Basin's natural beauty and heritage, thus creating momentum towards local environmental preservation efforts. TPA has worked with Placer County, DPR, Nevada Division of State Parks (NDSP), and other entities to pioneer such work. The art will advance themes aligned with the Conservancy's mission and Strategic Plan. TERC and TPA will complete the plan in the spring of 2020, and work with staff to determine appropriate next steps.

C. Land Management Program

1. Special Use Requests

Under delegated authority, the Conservancy granted a short-term (under three years) license to TRPA on September 3, 2019 to access an existing groundwater well on the Conservancy's Cove East property to take water samples.

The Conservancy granted a short-term license to Nevada Interscholastic Cycling League to host two mountain biking events on the Conservancy's Dollar Creek property.

The Conservancy granted a short-term license to the City of South Lake Tahoe (City) to perform topographic surveys and geotechnical site investigation on Conservancy parcels to support project planning and design efforts for the Tahoe Valley Greenbelt Project, which is located near the "Y" intersection of U.S. Highway 50 and State Route 89 in the City.

2. Van Sickle Bi-State Park (Park)

The NDSP retained Design Workshop to draft the Van Sickle Bi-State Park Vision Plan (Vision Plan) in response to changing trends since the Park's inception. Design Workshop, NDSP, and Conservancy staff collected public survey data, engaged in several design sessions, reviewed an overnight accommodations market analysis, and conducted GIS spatial analysis in developing the Vision Plan. The final Vision Plan proposes several conceptual Park elements, including expanded opportunities for day use and special events, visitor services and overnight accommodations, improved trail networks and pedestrian circulation, public transit connections, redesigned parking, and maintenance facilities and employee housing. If the Conservancy chooses to move forward with any of the conceptual elements, staff will engage with the Board and public and provide an opportunity to comment.

3. Upper Truckee Marsh (UTM)

California Highway Patrol (CHP) continues to provide law enforcement presence and public outreach regarding inappropriate activities in the UTM. While visitation over the Labor Day weekend remained high, staff and CHP reported minimal management issues in the UTM. [CHP recently developed a video](https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=419070112075094) at <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=419070112075094> highlighting the UTM in coordination with the Conservancy and Tahoe Resource Conservation District (Tahoe RCD) staff. Designed as a public outreach tool, the video describes the environmental sensitivity of the UTM, and various activities to avoid while visiting the area.

D. Major Conservancy Projects Recently Completed or In Progress, El Dorado County

1. Tahoe Pines Restoration

In September and October of this year, Conservancy contractors conducted site preparation work and initial restoration activities at the Conservancy's Tahoe Pines property. Contractors removed infrastructure associated with the defunct campground, including a well, retaining walls, water distribution facilities, and fragments of concrete and asphalt. They also removed debris along the banks of the Upper Truckee River (UTR), stabilized the banks of Echo Creek with rock, and planted vegetation to enhance aquatic habitat. CCC crews also removed dead and dying trees on the property to improve forest health.

In September 2019, the California Department of General Services (DGS) advertised for construction bids for additional restoration and recreation improvements at Tahoe Pines. This includes restoring the floodplain and constructing a universally accessible parking area and trail to the UTR. DGS will award a construction contract for this future work in December, and the DGS contractor will complete the work by November 2020.

E. Major Conservancy Projects Recently Completed or In Progress, City of South Lake Tahoe

1. Upper Truckee Marsh Restoration

The Conservancy is actively planning restoration activities at the UTM, which will improve water quality and wildlife habitat in the largest wetland in the Basin. Staff is currently pursuing project approvals while working closely with State and federal partners to secure the final pieces of project funding; the LTBMU and the Conservancy recently executed a Wyden Agreement that will provide up to \$1 million in federal funding for the project. Conservancy Staff recently prepared and submitted a grant application to the Wildlife Conservation Board, and are preparing another application for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Wetlands Restoration for Greenhouse Gas Reductions Program.

DGS will advertise for construction bids this winter, with restoration activities starting in spring and summer 2020.

2. Alta Mira

Extended periods of high lake levels and wave erosion impacted several Conservancy lakefront sites in 2018 and 2019, including Alta Mira and Fremont Overlook. In summer 2019, staff worked with the Tahoe RCD and CCC crews to complete an interim slope protection project that limits additional erosion of the slope. DGS is currently managing a construction contract for additional slope stabilization work that includes rock-toe protection and slope grading. This work

will stabilize the site until the Conservancy and its partners construct permanent improvements in the future.

Concurrently, staff and DGS are developing a consultant contract to advance conceptual designs and environmental documentation for expanded public access and recreation opportunities, permanent slope stabilization, and storm water treatment in this area. Staff is coordinating closely with the California State Lands Commission, the City, and the Basin's Shoreline Working Group, which includes relevant federal and state regulatory agencies.

3. South Tahoe Greenway Shared Use Trail

El Dorado County is on schedule to construct the South Tahoe Greenway (Greenway) Phases 1b and 2 in 2020, which will provide critical trail connections in the City and El Dorado County. El Dorado County has completed the engineering and secured most of the permits for construction. They plan to advertise the project for construction bids in November 2019, and plan to complete construction in 2020.

DOLLAR CREEK FOREST RESTORATION PROJECT

Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution 19-10-03 (Attachment 1) authorizing the Dollar Creek Forest Restoration Project (Project), including the expenditure of up to \$1,055,859 and the execution of agreements necessary to implement the Project on California Tahoe Conservancy's (Conservancy) Dollar Creek property.

Executive Summary: The Project is the second that the Conservancy is undertaking as part of a Forest Health Program grant from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) using Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds (GGRF). The overarching purpose is to proactively restore forest health to reduce greenhouse gases, promote the long-term storage of carbon in forest trees and soils, and minimize the loss of forest carbon from large, intense wildfires. Implementation of the grant will reduce Lake Tahoe Basin (Basin) greenhouse gas emissions by 147,994 metric tons.

The Project is expected to result in improved forest health on a portion of the Conservancy's Dollar Creek property through manual thinning and pile burning on up to 260 of 457 total acres in the wildland-urban interface (WUI), within a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. Conservancy staff will execute agreements necessary to complete the Project. The Project advances the Conservancy's Strategic Plan Goal 1 (Steward Conservancy Lands and Protect Basin Communities from Wildfire) and Goal 2 (Restore the Resilience of Basin Forests and Watersheds).

Location: The Project will take place on the Conservancy Dollar Creek property in Placer County (Attachment 2).

Fiscal Summary: The Conservancy will expend up to \$502,857 from a CAL FIRE GGRF grant and \$553,002 from a Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) Round 16 grant. Funds are reimbursable, resulting in no fiscal impact to the State.

Overview

History

The Project is funded by two different grants. The Conservancy will expend a combination of up to \$502,857 of the CAL FIRE GGRF grant funding and \$553,002 of

matching funds from a complementary SNPLMA Round 16 grant to implement the Project.

In July 2018, CAL FIRE awarded a GGRF Forest Health Program grant to the Conservancy. In October 2018, the Board approved the acceptance of grant funds and authorized the expenditure of up to \$775,906 for project planning, with the understanding that staff will return to the Board for authorization to implement specific projects under the grant. The grant from CAL FIRE provides funding for forest thinning, prescribed fire, and utilizing biomass generated by other projects that would otherwise remain on the ground.

Conservancy staff identified two projects to accomplish the forest health goals of the GGRF grant: the Burton Creek Forest Restoration Project, which the Board authorized in August 2019, and this Project, presented in this recommended action. Staff anticipates returning to the Board next spring for authorization to implement the biomass component of the GGRF grant.

In December 2016, the Board authorized acceptance of a \$6,814,500 SNPLMA Round 16 Hazardous Fuels and Wildfire Prevention grant from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The Board also approved expenditures of up to \$1,969,500 for activities associated with planning, monitoring, and assessment, and related direct and indirect costs, with the understanding that staff will return to the Board for authorization to fund specific implementation projects from the remaining grant funds not previously authorized.

The grant from BLM provides funding for fuels reduction and forest health projects on 1,200-1,800 acres within the WUI over a six-year term. The grant covers lands owned and managed by the State of California, local jurisdictions, and large private landowners on the California side of the Basin. Staff finalized the grant agreement with BLM in March 2017, and works closely with the Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team (TFFT) to prioritize, plan, and monitor the funded projects.

Detailed Description of Recommended Action

Staff recommends that the Board authorize the expenditure of up to \$1,055,859 to treat up to 260 of 457 total acres through manual thinning and pile burning on the northeast half of the Conservancy's 990-acre Dollar Creek property. Hand crews will manually thin the overly dense understory trees and shrubs to improve forest health and habitat while decreasing the potential for catastrophic fire that destroys entire stands of trees. Conservancy staff will take necessary steps to avoid sensitive resources, including stream environment zones, cultural or archeological sites, and wildlife.

1. Overall Context and Benefits

The Conservancy is proactively restoring forest health to reduce greenhouse gases, promoting the long-term storage of carbon in forest trees and soils, and minimizing the

loss of forest carbon from large, intense wildfires. The Project lies within the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone and is included in the Lake Tahoe Basin Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) as a priority for fuel hazard reduction. The Project complements other forestry-related efforts on federal and non-federal lands in the area decreasing the potential for high-intensity wildfires and better protecting at-risk communities. An estimated 147,994 metric tons of carbon dioxide-equivalent emissions will be eliminated when the full complement of projects implemented under the CAL FIRE grant is complete.

2. Schedule for the Recommended Action

Task	Expected Implementation
Forest Thinning	Fall 2020 and fall 2021
Pile Burning	Fall/winter/spring, 2020-2023

Financing

Subject to Board approval, the Conservancy will expend up to \$1,055,859 to carry out work during the 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23 fiscal years.

Authority

Consistency with the Conservancy’s Enabling Legislation

Implementation of this Project is consistent with the Conservancy’s enabling legislation. Specifically, Government Code section 66907.10 authorizes the Conservancy to improve and develop acquired lands for the purpose of protecting the natural environment. Additionally, Government Code section 66907.9 authorizes the Conservancy to initiate, negotiate, and participate in agreements for the management of land under its ownership or control with public agencies and other entities.

Consistency with the Conservancy’s Strategic Plan

The recommended action advances Conservancy Strategic Plan Goal 1 (Steward Conservancy Lands and Protect Basin Communities from Wildfire) and Goal 2 (Restore the Resilience of Basin Forests and Watersheds).

Consistency with the Conservancy’s Program Guidelines

The recommended action is consistent with the Conservancy’s Forest Improvement Program Guidelines because it will reduce the risk of property and forest loss from catastrophic wildfire and increase the health and vigor of the retained trees. Healthy forests are better equipped to deal with the effects of climate change, sequester carbon, increase visual appeal, and provide improved wildlife habitat.

Consistency with External Authorities

The recommended action is consistent with the Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) because it facilitates the implementation of EIP projects in the Forest Ecosystem

Health and Hazardous Fuels Reduction Program. This action is also consistent with both the Lake Tahoe Basin Multi-Jurisdictional Fuel Reduction and Wildfire Prevention Strategy, as amended, and the CWPP.

Compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act

Pursuant to the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15000 et seq.), certain classes of activities are statutorily exempt from CEQA or are exempt because they have been determined by the Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency to have no significant effect on the environment. Staff has evaluated this Project, and has found it to be exempt under CEQA. This Project qualifies for a categorical exemption under State CEQA Guidelines section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land). A notice of exemption (NOE) has been prepared for the Project (Attachment 3). If the Board approves the Project, staff will file the NOE with the State Clearinghouse pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines, section 15062.

List of Attachments

Attachment 1 – Resolution 19-10-03
Attachment 2 – Dollar Creek Forest Restoration Project Map
Attachment 3 – Notice of Exemption

Conservancy Staff Contact

Joseph Harvey, Forest Operations Specialist

joseph.harvey@tahoe.ca.gov

ATTACHMENT 1

California Tahoe Conservancy
Resolution
19-10-03
Adopted: October 10, 2019

DOLLAR CREEK FOREST RESTORATION PROJECT

Staff recommends that the California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) adopt the following resolution pursuant to Government Code sections 66907.9 and 66907.10.

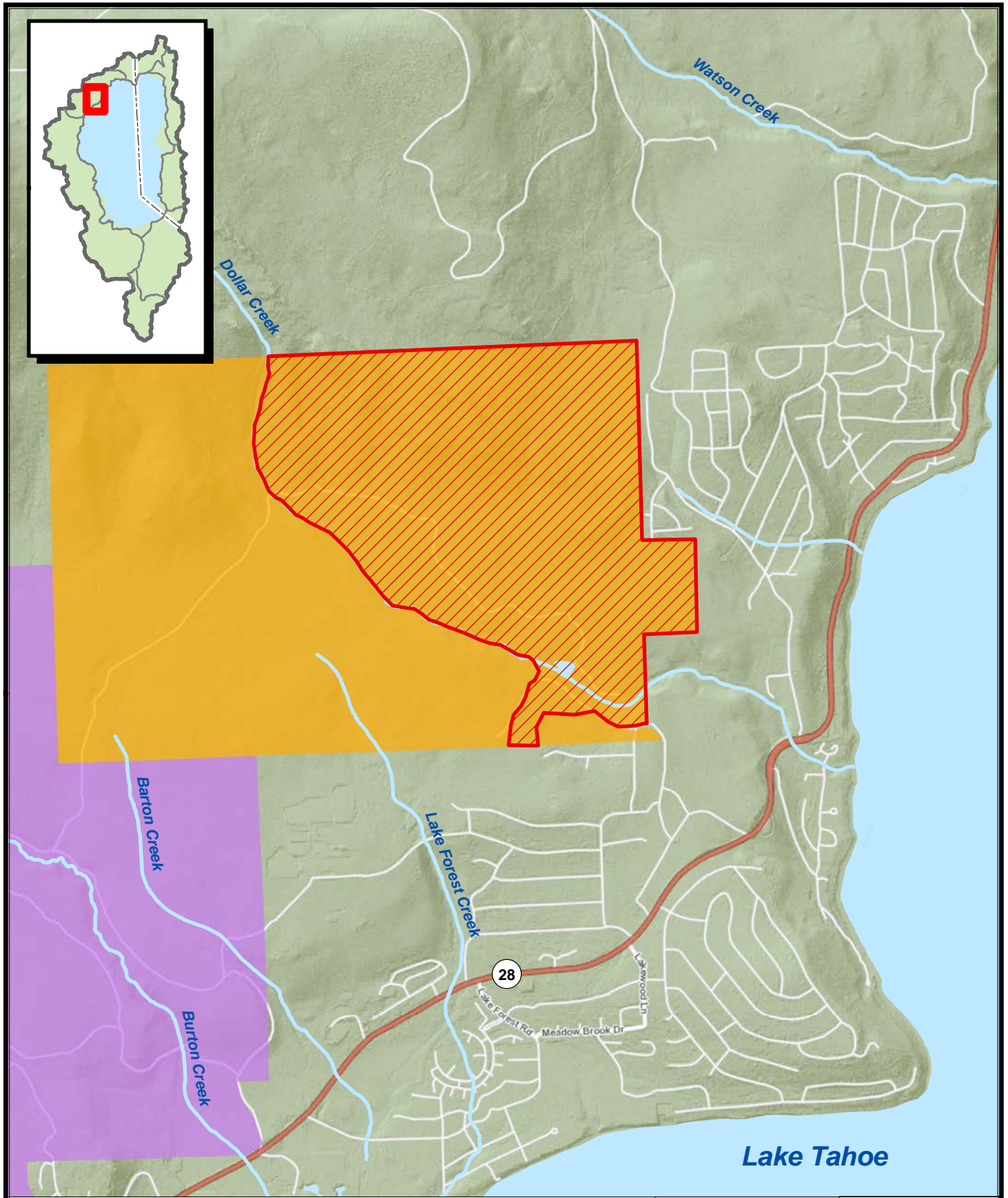
“The Conservancy hereby authorizes the Dollar Creek Forest Restoration Project (Project), including the expenditure of up to \$1,055,859, the execution of agreements necessary to implement the Project on the Conservancy’s Dollar Creek property, and all other necessary steps consistent with the accompanying staff recommendation.”




I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution duly and regularly adopted by the Conservancy at a meeting thereof held on the 10th day of October, 2019.

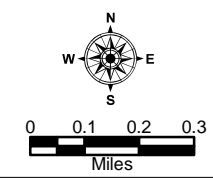
In WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of October, 2019.

Patrick Wright
Executive Director

ATTACHMENT 2
Dollar Creek Forest Restoration Project



-  Project Area
-  Dollar Creek Property- California Tahoe Conservancy
-  California Department of Parks and Recreation



Sources:
CTC, TRPA, ESRI

California
Tahoe Conservancy



October 2019

*Map for reference purposes only.

ATTACHMENT 3

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 10th Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: California Tahoe Conservancy
1061 Third Street
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Project Title:

Dollar Creek Forest Restoration Project (Project)

Project Location – Specific:

The Project will take place on the Conservancy Dollar Creek property in Placer County (Exhibit A).

Project Location – City:

Tahoe City

Project Location – County:

Placer County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Project will result in the treatment of 260 acres of forest fuel reduction through manual thinning and pile burning on the Conservancy Dollar Creek property. The goal of the Project is to improve forest health and habitat while decreasing the potential for catastrophic stand replacement fire.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project:

California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy meeting of 10/10/2019) (Agenda Item 6)

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:

California Tahoe Conservancy.

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial (§ 15268)
 - Declared Emergency (§ 15269(a))
 - Emergency Project (§ 15269(b)(c))
 - Categorical Exemption – Class 4, § 15304. (See also Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 12102.4)
-

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

The Project involves the minor alteration to vegetation, reducing the overly dense understory trees and shrubs, and will not result in a significant change in land use or intensity of use. The Project will be conducted by hand crews with no use of heavy machinery. Conservancy staff will take necessary steps to avoid sensitive resources. Staff will flag stream environment zones where no material will be piled or burned. A CAL FIRE certified archeological surveyor will locate and flag any cultural sites and determine the level of protection required, such as complete

avoidance or no pile burning. Surveys will be conducted to identify and protect migratory bird and raptor nests prior to implementation, or the contractor will implement thinning work after the nesting season ends (August 15). A qualified burn boss will develop a pile burn plan to ensure public safety and minimize smoke impacts to the surrounding community.

Contact Person:

Joseph Harvey

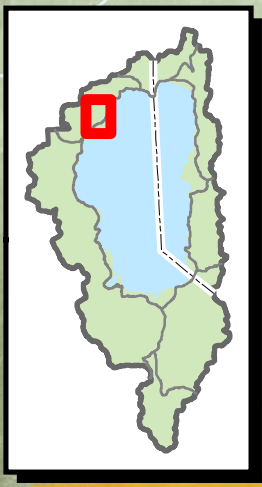
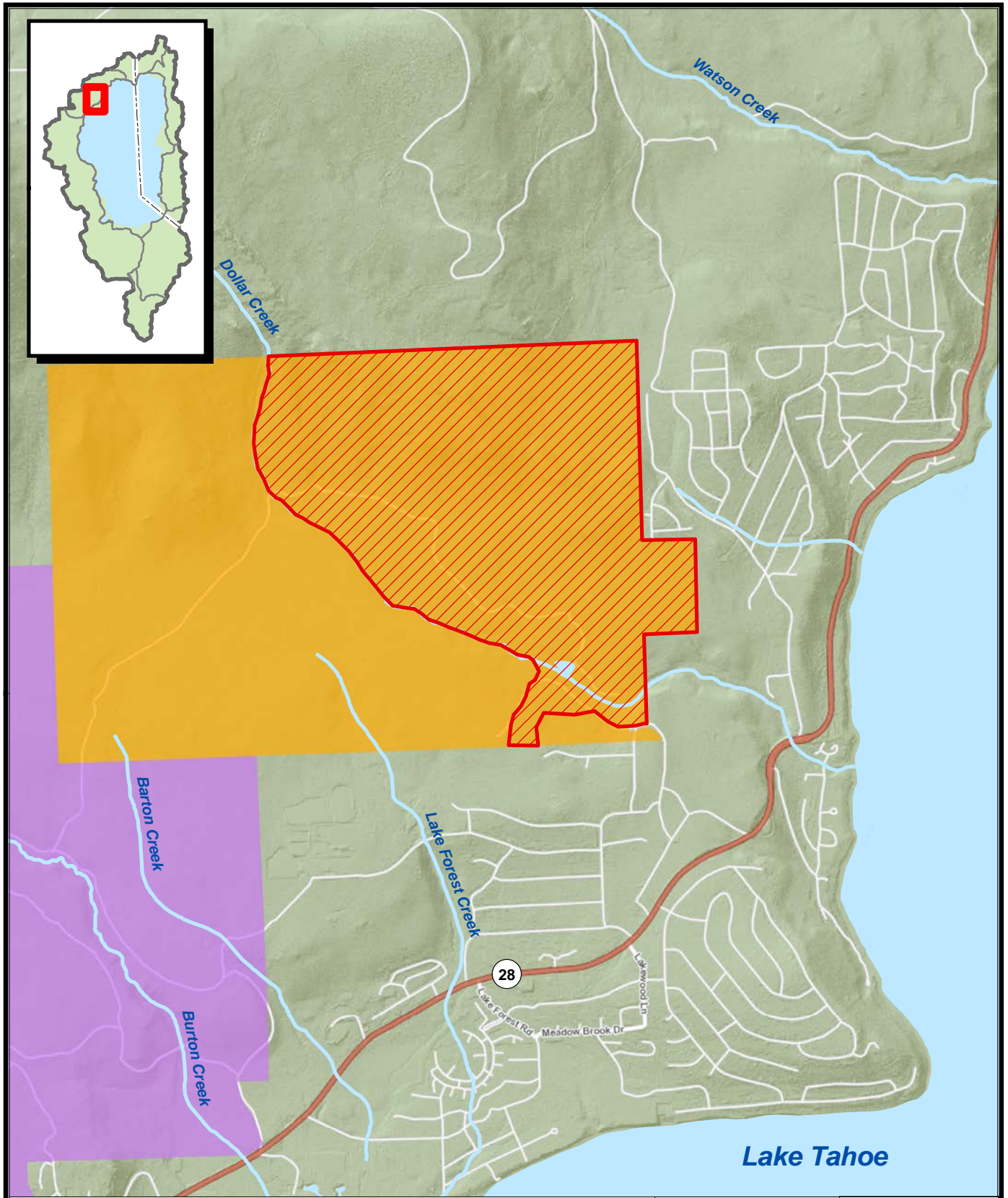
Telephone Number:




(530) 543-6008

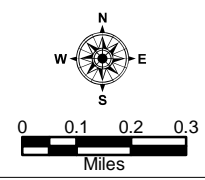
Date Received for Filing:

Patrick Wright
Executive Director

Exhibit A
Dollar Creek Forest Restoration Project




-  Project Area
-  Dollar Creek Property- California Tahoe Conservancy
-  California Department of Parks and Recreation



Sources:
CTC, TRPA, ESRI

California
Tahoe Conservancy



October 2019

*Map for reference purposes only.

CONNELLEY BEACH PUBLIC ACCESS PROJECT

Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution 19-10-04 (Attachment 1) authorizing the Connelley Beach Public Access Project (Project), including the expenditure of up to \$420,000 and the execution of easements and agreements as necessary to implement the Project.

Executive Summary: Implementation of this Project will improve public access to Lake Tahoe through the construction of a trail, stairs, seating areas, and shoreline stabilization features on California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) property at Connelley Beach. The Project is in the heart of the City of South Lake Tahoe (City), where there is high demand for recreation and access to Lake Tahoe. There are limited opportunities near the Project site for public access. Additional lake access on the south shore connects all communities to the outstanding beaches and experiences that Lake Tahoe offers. The Project advances the Conservancy's Strategic Plan Goal 2 (Restore the Resilience of Basin Forests and Watersheds), Goal 3 (Provide Public Access and Outdoor Recreation for All Communities), and Goal 4 (Foster Basin-wide Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Communities). In addition, the Project supports the Lake Tahoe Environmental Improvement Program (EIP).

Location: The Project is located on El Dorado County Assessment Number (AN) 027-010-029 (Conservancy-owned "Chimney Parcel") and AN 027-090-025 (privately-owned "Beach Retreat Parcel"). These parcels front Connelley Beach in the City near the intersection of Takela Drive and U.S. Highway 50 (Attachment 2).

Fiscal Summary: Staff is requesting authorization to expend up to \$420,000 in Proposition 84 funding to support Project implementation. The State Legislature authorized this funding as part of the Conservancy's Minor Capital Outlay item in the 2019 Budget Act.

Overview

History

The Conservancy has been working to improve public access at Connelley Beach for many years. On December 5, 2003, the Board authorized staff to execute the "Public Lake Access Land Exchange" with Sierra Shores (formerly Lake Trout Development,

LLC), for the purpose of providing public access to Connelley Beach via what became known as the Conservancy's Chimney Parcel. Conservancy staff completed this land exchange, and has been managing the Chimney Parcel ever since as part of its Land Management Program. Currently, the Chimney Parcel is unimproved with user-created trails, and its slope to Lake Tahoe is steep and eroding. The Chimney Parcel does not currently provide adequate public access to Connelley Beach.

The Conservancy has invested significantly in public access, recreation, and environmental improvement projects near Connelley Beach. Conservancy expenditures at Regan, El Dorado, and Connelley Beaches, and adjacent areas total more than \$13 million dollars. Signature projects include the City's boat ramp and lake-front amphitheater at Lakeview Commons, the City's El Dorado to Ski Run Bike Trail, and the Conservancy's Alta Mira and Fremont Overlook acquisitions.

Staff has already concluded preparatory work for the Project. In 2018, staff collaborated with the California Department of General Services (DGS) to complete advanced conceptual designs for the Project. Staff initiated negotiations with the former owner of Beach Retreat—the adjacent property owner—but had to postpone further work in late 2018 when ownership of Beach Retreat changed. At this time, the new owner of Beach Retreat has indicated it would like to reinstate work with the Conservancy to facilitate the Project. Upon Board approval, DGS and staff can immediately begin work with the new owner of Beach Retreat and move the Project through engineering and construction. The Project at Connelley Beach will complement the comprehensive project planning activities the Board authorized in June 2019 for a larger area involving the Conservancy's Alta Mira site and adjacent areas, including Connelley Beach.

Detailed Description of Recommended Action

1. Major Elements and/or Steps of the Recommended Action

Conservancy staff requests authorization of the Project, including the expenditure of up to \$420,000 for implementation of the Project and the execution of easements and agreements as necessary to allow public access to Connelley Beach and implement the Project. The Project includes the construction of a limited number of small, new facilities on the Chimney Parcel, such as a trail, seating areas, stairs, and boulders. The boulders will stabilize the slope to reduce erosion and water quality impacts, and the trail and stairs will provide safe public access to Connelley Beach. DGS and Conservancy staff will restrict the Project footprint to existing disturbed areas while ensuring that Project designs and construction methods protect natural resources.

Staff will work with DGS to complete engineering and prepare for construction. DGS will manage the contracts for Project engineering and construction. Concurrently, staff will negotiate with the owners of Beach Retreat to secure a public access easement across the Beach Retreat Parcel to Connelley Beach and Lake Tahoe from the Chimney Parcel. Staff will also negotiate with the owners of Beach Retreat to allow temporary access

across the Beach Retreat Parcel to enable Project construction activities. Conservancy staff will develop and manage other Project agreements as needed.

2. Overall Context and Benefits

The Project will provide improved public access to Lake Tahoe in a disadvantaged community. The public will be able to walk or bike along the new trail, safely use the stairs to access the beach, and enjoy the vistas from new sitting areas. In addition, boulders will protect the steep slope, thereby reducing shoreline erosion, improving water quality, and making the slope more stable during extreme droughts and flood events. The Project will also leverage existing adjacent recreation and transportation infrastructure, such as Lakeview Commons and the El Dorado to Ski Run Bike Trail, by connecting these public amenities to new public access opportunities along the lake shoreline. These benefits will assist the Conservancy and its partners in achieving shared goals under the EIP.

3. Schedule for the Recommended Action

Project Milestone	Milestone Date
Record easements	Winter 2019
Complete construction drawings	Winter 2020
Solicit construction bids	Spring 2020
Award construction contract	Summer 2020
Start construction	Spring 2021
Complete construction	Summer 2021

Financing

The proposed Project funding source is Proposition 84. Staff recommends the budget as shown below. The final budget amounts may vary between individual items from those shown, but expenditures will not exceed \$420,000.

Item	Amount
Engineering and Acquisitions	\$100,000
Construction	\$260,000
DGS Project Management	\$30,000
Contingency (7 percent)	\$30,000
TOTAL	\$420,000

Authority

Consistency with the Conservancy’s Enabling Legislation

The recommended action is consistent with the Conservancy’s enabling legislation. Specifically, Government Code section 66906.8 authorizes the Conservancy to select and hire consultants or contractors to provide services necessary for purposes

consistent with its mission. Government Code section 66907 authorizes the Conservancy to acquire real property or interests therein to provide public access or public recreational facilities. Government Code section 66907.10 authorizes the Conservancy to improve and develop acquired lands for a variety of purposes, including providing recreational opportunities.

Consistency with the Conservancy's Strategic Plan

The Project advances the Conservancy's Strategic Plan Goal 2 (Restore the Resilience of Basin Forests and Watersheds), Goal 3 (Provide Public Access and Outdoor Recreation for All Communities), and Goal 4 (Foster Basin-wide Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Communities).

Consistency with the Conservancy's Program Guidelines

The recommended action is consistent with the Conservancy's Public Access and Recreation Program Guidelines (2009). The proposed improvements will increase regionally-significant public access and recreational opportunities by creating new lake access points that are connected to existing recreation facilities.

Consistency with External Authorities

The recommended action is consistent with the EIP because it advances the implementation of EIP Project #04.01.01.0010. The recommended action also supports the State of California's Sustainable Communities Act.

Compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act

Pursuant to the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15000 et seq.), certain classes of activities are statutorily exempt from CEQA or are exempt because they have been determined by the Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency to have no significant effect on the environment. Pursuant to Public Resources Code sections 21001, subdivision (f), and 21082, the Conservancy has also adopted regulations to implement, interpret, and make specific the provisions of CEQA. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 12100 et seq.) Staff has evaluated this Project, and has found it to be exempt under CEQA. This Project qualifies for a categorical exemption under State CEQA Guidelines sections 15303, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures, and 15304, Minor Alterations to the Land. A notice of exemption (NOE) has been prepared for the Project (Attachment 3). If the Board approves the Project, staff will file the NOE with the State Clearinghouse pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines, section 15062.

List of Attachments

Attachment 1 – Resolution 19-10-04

Attachment 2 – Project Map
Attachment 3 – Notice of Exemption

Conservancy Staff Contact

Scott Cecchi, Associate Environmental Planner scott.cecchi@tahoe.ca.gov

ATTACHMENT 1

California Tahoe Conservancy
Resolution
19-10-04
Adopted: October 10, 2019

CONNELLEY BEACH PUBLIC ACCESS PROJECT

Staff recommends that the California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) adopt the following resolution pursuant to Government Code sections 66906.8, 66907, and 66907.10:

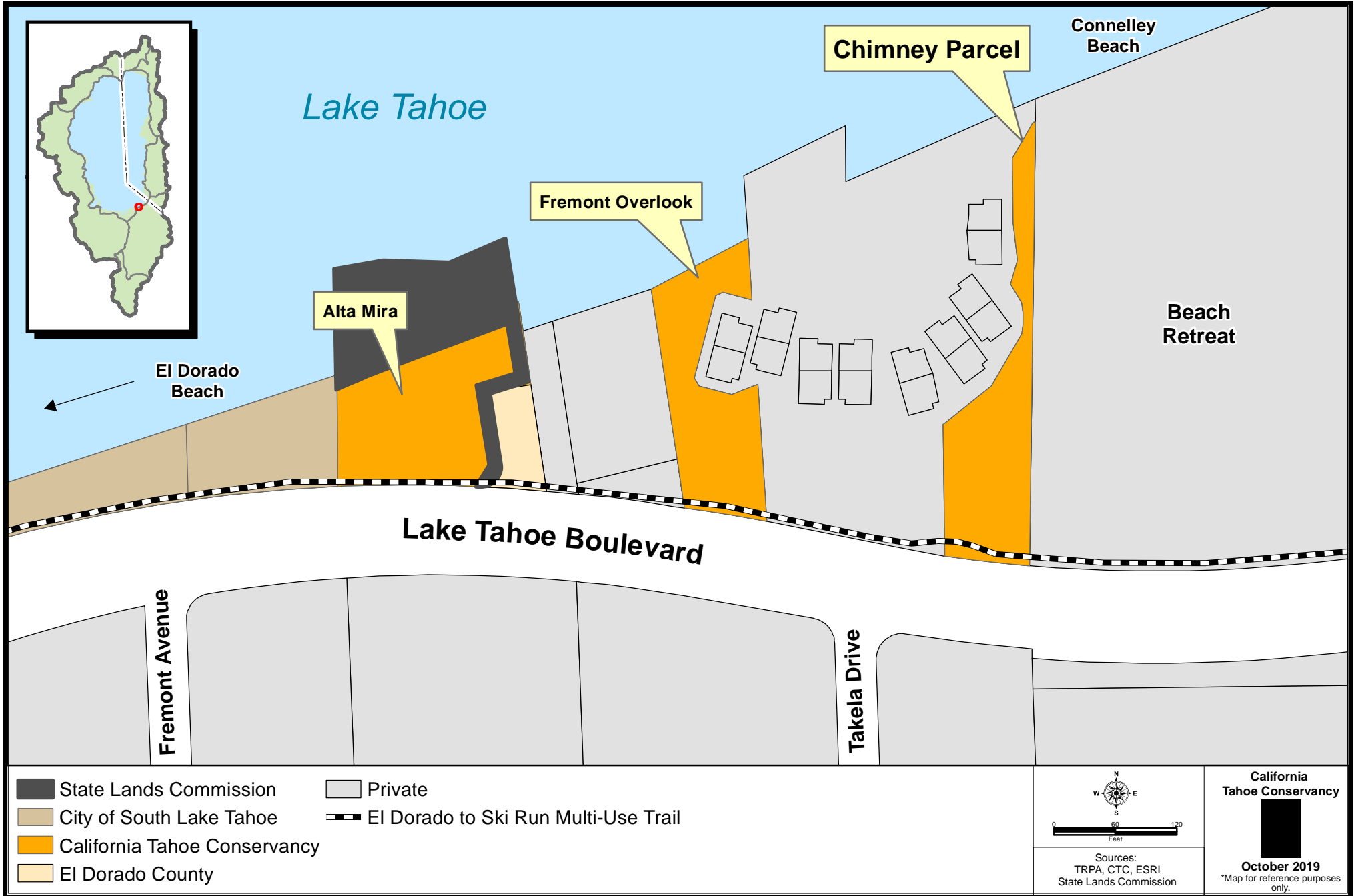
“The Conservancy hereby authorizes the Connelley Beach Public Access Project (Project), including the expenditure of up to \$420,000, the execution of easements and other agreements, and all other necessary steps consistent with the accompanying staff recommendation to implement the Project.”

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution duly and regularly adopted by the Conservancy at a meeting thereof held on the 10th day of October, 2019.

In WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of October, 2019.

Patrick Wright
Executive Director

ATTACHMENT 2
 Connelley Beach Public Access Project



State Lands Commission

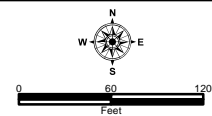
Private

City of South Lake Tahoe

El Dorado to Ski Run Multi-Use Trail

California Tahoe Conservancy

El Dorado County



Sources:
 TRPA, CTC, ESRI
 State Lands Commission

California
 Tahoe Conservancy



October 2019
 *Map for reference purposes only.

ATTACHMENT 3

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 10th Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: California Tahoe Conservancy
1061 Third Street
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Project Title:

Connelley Beach Public Access Project (Project)

Project Location – Specific:

The Project is located on El Dorado County Assessment Number (AN) 027-010-029 (Conservancy-owned “Chimney Parcel”) and AN 027-090-025 (privately-owned “Beach Retreat Parcel”). These parcels front Connelley Beach in the City near the intersection of Takela Drive and U.S. Highway 50 (Exhibit A).

Project Location – City:

City of South Lake Tahoe

Project Location – County:

El Dorado County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Project will create a new public access point to Connelley Beach. Project improvements include pathways, stairs, and slope stabilization features, constructed on AN 027-010-029. Project implementation includes the acquisition of easements (or similar authorization) allowing access on AN 027-090-025.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project:

California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy meeting of 10/10/2019) (Agenda Item 7)

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:

California Tahoe Conservancy

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial (§ 15268)
 - Declared Emergency (§ 15269(a))
 - Emergency Project (§ 15269(b)(c))
 - Categorical Exemption – Classes 3 & 4, §§ 15303 and 15304. (See also Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 12102.3 and 12102.4.)
-

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

The project involves the construction of a limited number of small, new facilities, such as a trail, seating areas, stairs, and boulders. These features will blend into the natural environment as they will be near the existing grade of the site and will be of color and appearance that matches the existing setting. The staircase will be a prefabricated metal structure that minimizes constructed-related disturbance of the slope. The trail will be on the flat portion of the property and will only require slight grading activities for proper construction. The boulders will stabilize

the slope to reduce erosion and improve water quality. The Conservancy will restrict the project footprint to existing disturbed areas while ensuring that construction methods protect natural resources. The Conservancy will not remove any mature scenic trees or other significant vegetation. The Conservancy will install various best management practices during construction, such as silt fence, to protect water quality and other resources. The work will not take place in Lake Tahoe as all construction activities occur on dry land.

Contact Person:

Scott Cecchi

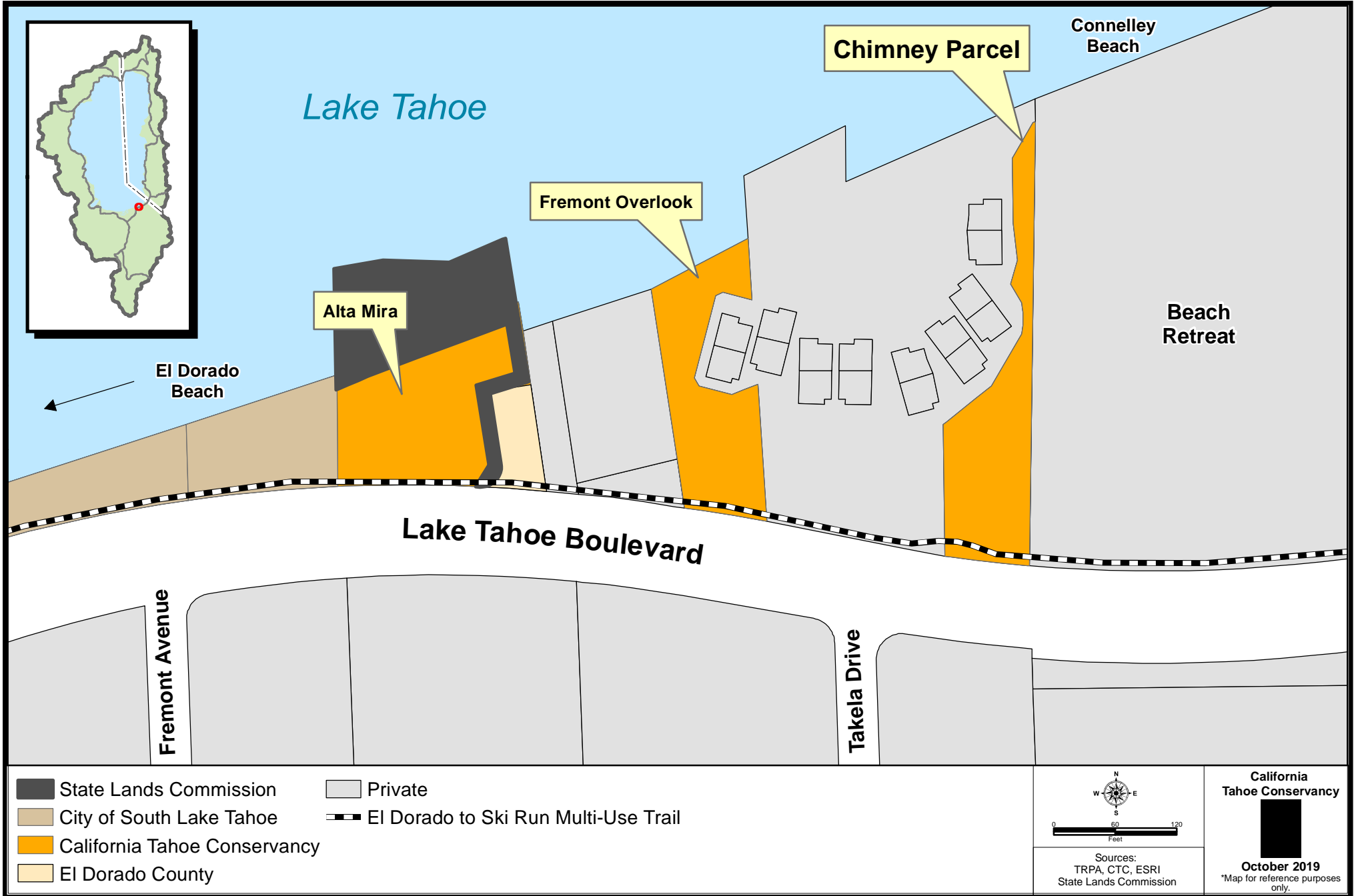
Telephone Number:

(530) 543-6015

Date Received for Filing:

Patrick Wright
Executive Director

EXHIBIT A
 Connelley Beach Public Access Project



GRANT FOR CLIMATE ACTION ORGANIZATIONAL ANALYSIS

Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution 19-10-05 (Attachment 1) authorizing the award of a grant to Ecotrust for up to \$50,000 to assess the conditions and make recommendations for an organizational structure that would accelerate climate change adaptation in the Lake Tahoe Basin (Basin) by developing and deploying practical, science-based management tools and technology applications.

Executive Summary: California and Nevada both recognize the need to turn climate change planning into action. The Lake Tahoe Basin Climate Adaptation Action Plan (CAAP) demonstrates that major needs exist for turning climate science into practical management tools and technology applications, and thereby accelerate climate change adaptation. However, it remains unclear how to best develop and deploy such tools and applications. With Conservancy grant funding, Ecotrust, a nonprofit, will provide a neutral assessment and recommendations on what organizational structure could most effectively meet these needs. Key topics include how to create the highest value contributions to adaptation in the Basin, the strengths and weaknesses of different organizational configurations including complementary relationships with existing institutions, and sustainable financing. Ultimately, an appropriately-designed organization would address State of California and Nevada mandates, help protect Basin communities, support the forthcoming Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) update, help achieve the goals of Proposition 68, and advance the Conservancy's mission and Goal 4 of its Strategic Plan (Foster Basinwide Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Communities). If authorized by the Conservancy Board, staff will execute a grant agreement with Ecotrust to begin work as early as November 2019. Ecotrust will then present assessment findings and recommendations to the Board in the spring of 2020.

Location: The California and Nevada sides of the Basin.

Fiscal Summary: The grant is for up to \$50,000 from Proposition 68 technical assistance funding.

Overview

History

Climate change has moved to the center stage of Conservancy work because it affects so many aspects of land management, forest and watershed restoration, recreation and public access, and livable communities. The Conservancy identified the primacy of climate change adaptation in both its 2012-2017 and 2018-2023 Strategic Plans. In parallel, the 2012 Lake Tahoe Basin Regional Plan also identified climate change as a priority, and prior to this, the Basin's EIP 2008 Update did the same. In late 2017, the Conservancy launched a CAAP process to update Basinwide scientific information and identify agency and stakeholder commitments to action, including both existing and anticipated work. The first CAAP deliverable, which is expected to be completed by mid-October, consists of a vulnerability assessment that identifies climate impacts to the Basin and implications for lake and forest resources as well as communities. Action planning to develop the second deliverable is underway, with a final action plan expected early in 2020.

To date, partners in the CAAP process have identified several weaknesses in the Basin's capacity to adapt. This includes scientific, engineering, and economic data gaps, such as projections of flooding in the Basin's diverse watersheds, from the steep and narrow Ward Creek to the meandering and broad Upper Truckee River. Partners also commented repeatedly that, even where data is good, they still lack technical guidance to help them redesign infrastructure or restoration projects that anticipate climate impacts. Partners emphasized that their resource managers need practical management tools and technology applications to help them in the field, such as using remote sensing to adjust tree thinning densities or to measure pavement degradation during extreme flood events. Finally, numerous questions remain regarding what kind of organizational entity could best help partners fill these gaps.

Detailed Description of Recommended Action

1. Major Elements and/or Steps of the Recommended Action

Ecotrust will provide a neutral assessment and make recommendations for what organizational structure could best accelerate Basin climate adaptation through management tools, technology applications, and climate science. The work will explore three main topics.

- A. The practical contributions that would create the greatest value for Basin partners, the Basin's vulnerable and disadvantaged communities, and the greater Sierra Nevada region. For example, contributions could include tools for fieldwork, computer applications, assessment methods, technical guidance manuals, professional assistance, and direct research. At the same time, specific climate adaptation needs—whether focused on ecology, hydrology, infrastructure, or quality of life—vary in their urgency, scope, cost and potential funding, and relevance to a broad range of partners. The work would include prioritizing climate science information that is essential to advance tools and applications. The overarching aim would be to better anticipate and adapt to impacts that

climate change is having on the Lake, the Basin's forests, and the health and safety of Basin communities.

- B. The organizational configuration that would most effectively accelerate the development and deployment of practical tools and applications for managers. Basin partners vary in whether they manage land, conduct scientific research, and develop and market applied technologies. Ecotrust will investigate the organizational structure that could best build on and support—rather than duplicate or compete with—the work of partners such as the USDA Forest Service (USFS) (which both manages land and conducts science), the South Lake Tahoe and Incline Village chapters of the Entrepreneurs Assembly, the Tahoe Environmental Research Center (TERC), and the Tahoe Science Advisory Council (TSAC). This will include whether and to what degree an organization dedicated to accelerating climate adaptation could function as part of one of these existing agencies and science institutions. Nonprofits, businesses, universities, and government each have different strengths and weaknesses, and the most effective configuration might need to combine different elements from each of these.
- C. The financial model that would make an organization sustainable. Ecotrust will assess what combination of philanthropy, grant-seeking, loans, endowments, product and application sales, and in-kind contributions would provide durable footing for an organization that accelerates climate adaptation. Ecotrust will also assess how the work and services of such an organization should be communicated and marketed. While profit is not a primary motive, the sale of management tools and technology applications can help to recoup a portion of the research, development, and administrative costs; generate additional investment dollars that complement public funding; and help make an organization self-sustaining.

Critical information would come from interviews with local partners, such as Placer County, El Dorado County, the City of South Lake Tahoe, public utility districts, and water suppliers; federal and state partners, such as the USFS Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, and the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board; and research institutions such as TERC, the Desert Research Institute, and TSAC.

If authorized by the Board, staff will execute a grant agreement with Ecotrust to begin work as early as November 2019. Following research, interviews, and other analyses, Ecotrust will prepare a draft and final report, and present their assessment findings and recommendations to the Board in the spring of 2020. This may include the proposal of a corresponding implementation grant.

2. Overall Context and Benefits

The CAAP indicates that critical gaps exist in the climate science and corresponding management and technology applications necessary to accelerate Basin adaptation.

Determining what organizational structure could best address these needs would be the first step toward improving the way that Basin partners plan and implement projects, manage land and resources, provide services, and respond to crises.

More specifically, Ecotrust will investigate what kind of organizational structure could most effectively create management tools and technology applications that maximize the following benefits:

1. Address State of California mandates, such as the Global Warming Solutions Act, Safeguarding California, the Forest Carbon Plan, Natural and Working Lands Implementation Plan, and executive orders on adaptation (B-30-15), biodiversity (B-54-18), and carbon neutrality (B-55-18); as well as State of Nevada mandates, such as the renewable portfolio standard and solar project investments.
2. Safeguard Basin’s communities, including those that are vulnerable or disadvantaged, by addressing the impacts of climate change on public health and safety, particularly wildfires, smoke, and flooding.
3. Support the EIP’s renewed emphasis on integrating climate change throughout environmental protection and restoration projects in the Basin, and developing corresponding performance measures.
4. Achieve the drought, water, wildlife, and climate preparedness goals of Proposition 68, the funding source for the technical assistance grant.
5. Advance the Conservancy’s mission and Goal 4 of its Strategic Plan (Foster Basinwide Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Communities).

3. Schedule for the Recommended Action

If authorized by the Board, staff anticipates the following approximate schedule.

Task or Deliverable	Date
Execute grant agreement	October-November 2019
Prepare for interviews, begin research and analyses	November 2019
Draft report covering assessment findings and recommendations	March 2020
Final report	May 2020
Board presentation	June 2020

Financing

The grant is for up to \$50,000 from Proposition 68 technical assistance funding.

Authority

Consistency with the Conservancy’s Enabling Legislation

The recommended action is consistent with the Conservancy’s enabling legislation. Specifically, Government Code section 66907.7 authorizes the Conservancy to award grants to nonprofit organizations for purposes consistent with its mission.

Consistency with the Conservancy's Strategic Plan

The recommended action supports the Conservancy's Strategic Plan Goal 4 (Foster Basinwide Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Communities).

Consistency with the Conservancy's Program Guidelines

There are no Conservancy program guidelines for climate change adaptation.

Compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act

Pursuant to the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15000 et seq.), certain classes of activities are statutorily exempt from CEQA or are exempt because they have been determined by the Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency to have no significant effect on the environment. Staff has evaluated this Project, and has found it to be exempt under CEQA. This Project qualifies for a statutory exemption under State CEQA Guidelines section 15262, Feasibility and Planning Studies. A notice of exemption (NOE) has been prepared for the Project (Attachment 2). If the Board approves the Project, staff will file the NOE with the State Clearinghouse pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines, section 15062.

List of Attachments

Attachment 1 – Resolution 19-10-05

Attachment 2 – Notice of Exemption

Conservancy Staff Contact

Dorian Fougères, Chief of Natural Resources

dorian.fougeres@tahoe.ca.gov

ATTACHMENT 1

California Tahoe Conservancy
Resolution
19-10-05
Adopted: October 10, 2019

GRANT FOR CLIMATE ACTION ORGANIZATIONAL ANALYSIS

Staff recommends that the California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) adopt the following resolution pursuant to Government Code section 66907.7:

“The Conservancy hereby authorizes the award of a grant to Ecotrust for up to \$50,000 to assess the conditions and make recommendations for an organizational structure that would accelerate climate change adaptation in the Lake Tahoe Basin by developing and deploying practical, science-based management tools and technology applications.”

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution duly and regularly adopted by the Conservancy at a meeting thereof held on the 10th day of October, 2019.

In WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of October, 2019.

Patrick Wright
Executive Director

ATTACHMENT 2

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 10th Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: California Tahoe Conservancy
1061 Third Street
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Project Title:

Grant for Climate Action Organizational Analysis

Project Location – Specific:

California and Nevada sides of the Lake Tahoe Basin (Exhibit A)

Project Location – City:

N/A

Project Location – County:

El Dorado County and Placer County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

Assess the conditions and make recommendations for an organizational structure that would accelerate climate change adaptation in the Lake Tahoe Basin by developing and deploying practical, science-based management tools and technology applications.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project:

California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy meeting of 10/10/2019) (Agenda Item 8)

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:

Ecotrust

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial (§ 15268)
 - Declared Emergency (§ 15269(a))
 - Emergency Project (§ 15269(b)(c))
 - Statutory Exemption (§ 15262, Feasibility and Planning Studies)
-

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

The project consists of planning and feasibility studies for possible future actions.

Contact Person:

Dorian Fougères

Telephone Number:

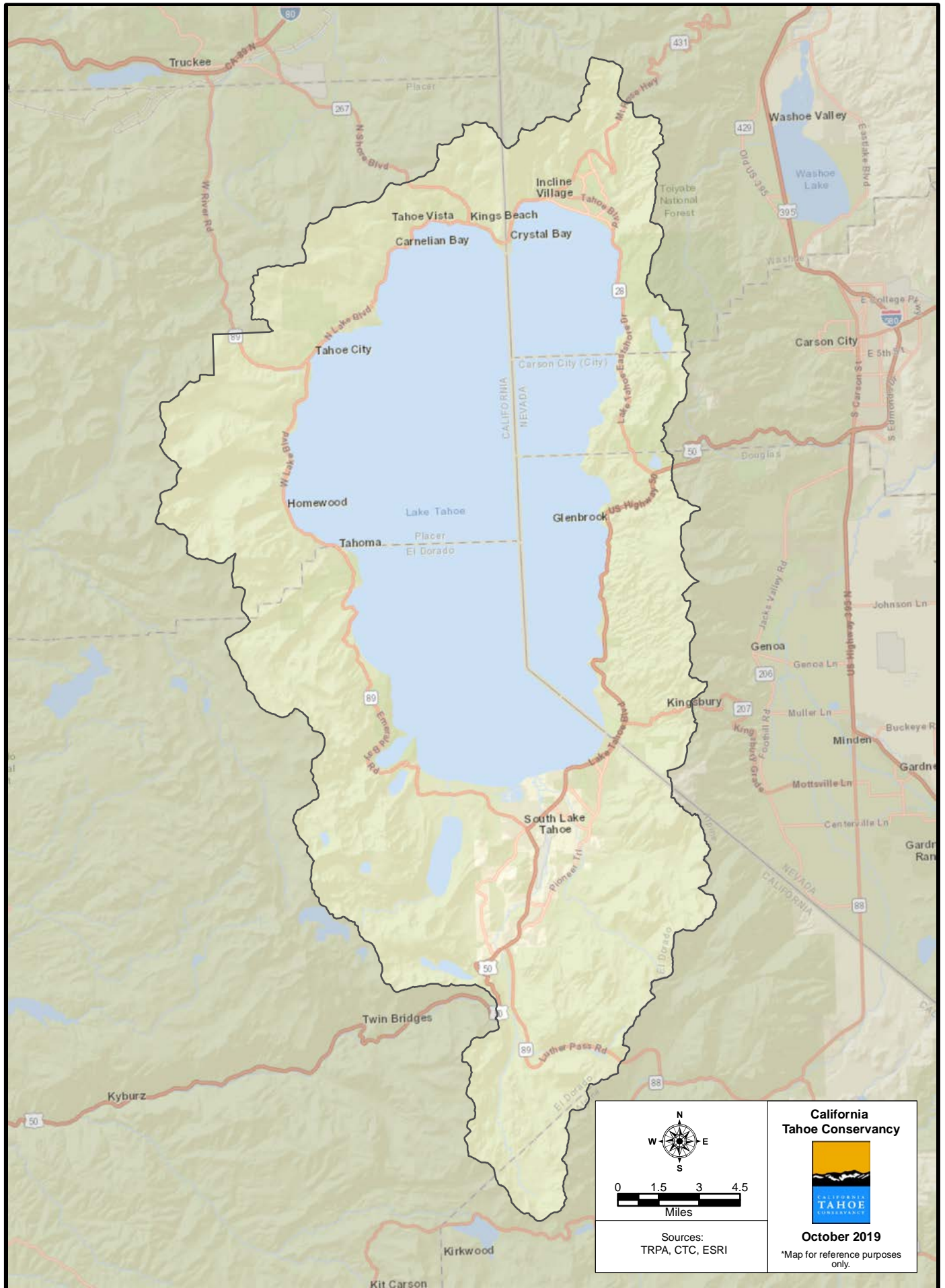
(530) 543-6013

Date Received for Filing:

Patrick Wright
Executive Director

EXHIBIT A

Grant for Climate Action Organizational Analysis



CONSERVANCY GRANT GUIDELINES

Recommended Action: Approve Resolution 19-10-06 (Attachment 1) adopting the California Tahoe Conservancy's (Conservancy) Grant Guidelines (Guidelines) (Attachment 2).

Executive Summary: The Conservancy provides grants for a wide variety of projects throughout the Lake Tahoe Basin (Basin), including those identified in the Environmental Improvement Program (EIP). Such grants are a primary mechanism by which the Conservancy achieves its mission and Strategic Plan. The Conservancy developed the Guidelines to provide foundational information and accountability to partners and the citizens of California. The Guidelines identify funding priorities and the considerations used to evaluate proposals, as well as basic information regarding all grants and submittals. The Guidelines apply generally to all Conservancy grants, including those funded with Proposition 68 and other funding sources. The Guidelines support Goals 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the Conservancy's Strategic Plan. Staff presented draft Guidelines to the Board on August 21, 2019, and then made revisions to address Board comments. The attached Guidelines are the final draft.

Location: The California side of the Basin.

Fiscal Summary: Authorizing the Guidelines will not have any fiscal impacts. However, staff will analyze the potential fiscal impacts of individual grant proposals to support the Board in its deliberation and awarding of grants.

Overview

History

Since its establishment in 1985, the Conservancy has invested more than half a billion dollars in conservation and recreation programs and projects on the California side of the Basin. Grants are a primary mechanism for the Conservancy to achieve its mission and Strategic Plan. In the 2000s, the Conservancy invested \$20-30 million annually in State and local EIP projects through a combination of grants and direct projects. Propositions 12 (2000), 40 (2002), 50 (2002), 84 (2006) and 1 (2014) made this possible. Most recently, Proposition 68 (2018) provided the Conservancy with \$27 million for purposes consistent with its mission.

Several steps led up to this recommended action. Conservancy staff presented draft Guidelines to the Board on August 21, 2019. Staff revised the Guidelines to address Board comments regarding the importance of providing sufficient funding and staff for the timely and high-quality completion of tasks and deliverables, focusing monitoring on specific management questions, and creating planning, permitting, operational, financial, or other efficiencies. Staff also addressed a public comment seeking clarification that grants can help fulfill regulatory compliance requirements, so long as that is not their sole purpose. Finally, staff clarified that grants may help fulfill legal mitigation requirements, depending on the funding source, though Proposition 68 funding expressly excludes this purpose.

Detailed Description of Recommended Action

1. Major Elements and/or Steps of the Recommended Action

Staff recommends the Board adopt the Conservancy's Guidelines. If adopted, staff will finalize and post the Guidelines to the Conservancy website.

2. Overall Context and Benefits

The Guidelines provide the formal structure under which the Conservancy will award grants, and also provide accountability to Basin partners and the citizens of California. The Guidelines identify funding priorities and the considerations used to evaluate proposals, as well as basic information regarding all grants and submittals. The Guidelines apply generally to all Conservancy grants, including those funded with Proposition 68 and other funding sources. Individual funding sources may require additional guidance per statute.

Generally, the Conservancy solicits grant applications after extensive discussion with individual partners or interagency EIP work groups, which play a critical role in identifying high priority projects. (Work groups typically develop and maintain priority project lists.) The Conservancy grants funding to Basin partners to acquire land; plan, implement, and monitor projects; and conduct technical analyses. The Conservancy seeks to fund a range of projects throughout the Basin, involving a variety of partners. Altogether, the grants will support Goals 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the Conservancy's Strategic Plan, including stewarding Conservancy lands, protecting communities from wildfire, restoring forests and watersheds, providing public access and outdoor recreation, and fostering climate change adaptation and sustainable communities.

Financing

Authorizing the Guidelines will not have any fiscal impacts. However, staff will analyze the potential fiscal impacts of individual grant proposals to support the Board in its deliberation and awarding of grants.

Authority

Consistency with the Conservancy's Enabling Legislation

The recommended action is consistent with the Conservancy's enabling legislation. Specifically, Government Code section 66907.7 authorizes the Conservancy to award grants to local public agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, federally recognized Indian tribes, the Tahoe Transportation District, and nonprofit organizations for purposes consistent with its mission.

Consistency with the Conservancy's Strategic Plan

The Guidelines support the Conservancy's Strategic Plan Goals 1 (Steward Conservancy Lands and Protect Basin Communities from Wildfire), 2 (Restore the Resilience of Basin Forests and Watersheds), 3 (Provide Public Access and Outdoor Recreation for All Communities), and 4 (Foster Basinwide Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Communities).

Compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act

The Guidelines do not commit the Conservancy 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 the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Prior to presentation to the Board for consideration, staff will evaluate each grant proposal to determine the appropriate level of CEQA review.

List of Attachments

Attachment 1 – Resolution 19-10-06

Attachment 2 – Conservancy Grant Guidelines

Conservancy Staff Contact

Dorian Fougères, Chief of Natural Resources

dorian.fougeres@tahoe.ca.gov

ATTACHMENT 1

California Tahoe Conservancy
Resolution
19-10-06
Adopted: October 10, 2019

CONSERVANCY GRANT GUIDELINES

Staff recommends that the California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) adopt the following resolution pursuant to Government Code section 66907.7:

“The Conservancy hereby adopts the Conservancy Grant Guidelines, as described in the accompanying staff recommendation and presented in Attachment 2.”

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution duly and regularly adopted by the Conservancy at a meeting thereof held on the 10th day of October, 2019.

In WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of October, 2019.

Patrick Wright
Executive Director

ATTACHMENT 2

Grant Guidelines
California Tahoe Conservancy
October 10, 2019

Contents

I. Background and Purpose 2

II. Funding Priorities 3

III. Funding Considerations..... 6

IV. Grant Information 8

V. Funding-Specific Guidance..... 15

I. Background and Purpose

1. California Tahoe Conservancy

The California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) is a State agency that leads California's efforts to restore and enhance the extraordinary natural and recreational resources of the Lake Tahoe Basin (Basin). As the only State agency focused entirely on the Basin, the Conservancy works collaboratively with its federal, tribal, state, local, and private partners to achieve this mission. Since its establishment in 1985, the Conservancy has invested more than half a billion dollars in conservation and recreation programs and projects on the California side of the Basin. This includes substantial investment in the Lake Tahoe Environmental Improvement Program (EIP), a partnership established in 1997 to coordinate the funding and implementation of high priority restoration and protection projects. The Conservancy will continue to advance the EIP, which aligns closely with the Conservancy's recently updated Strategic Plan.

The Conservancy's Strategic Plan is available on [its website](https://tahoe.ca.gov) at <https://tahoe.ca.gov>. This document establishes five strategic goals that will advance statewide, Basinwide, and Sierra Nevada regional mandates and initiatives. The goals include:

1. Steward Conservancy Lands and Protect Basin Communities from Wildfire
2. Restore the Resilience of Basin Forests and Watersheds
3. Provide Public Access and Outdoor Recreation for All Communities
4. Foster Basinwide Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Communities
5. Strive for Organizational Learning and Excellence

The Strategic Plan provides a valuable source of information for understanding the programs, projects, and initiatives that the Conservancy will advance over the next five years.

2. Scope of these Guidelines

The Conservancy uses available funding to accomplish its mission and Strategic Plan through grants for land acquisition, planning, implementation, monitoring, and technical assistance.

These Grant Guidelines (Guidelines) provide foundational information as well as accountability to partners and the citizens of California. The Guidelines identify the Conservancy's grant funding priorities, and the considerations the Conservancy will use to evaluate whether to fund specific activities. Individual funding sources may require

additional guidance per statute. The Guidelines also provide basic information regarding all Conservancy grants and grant submittals.

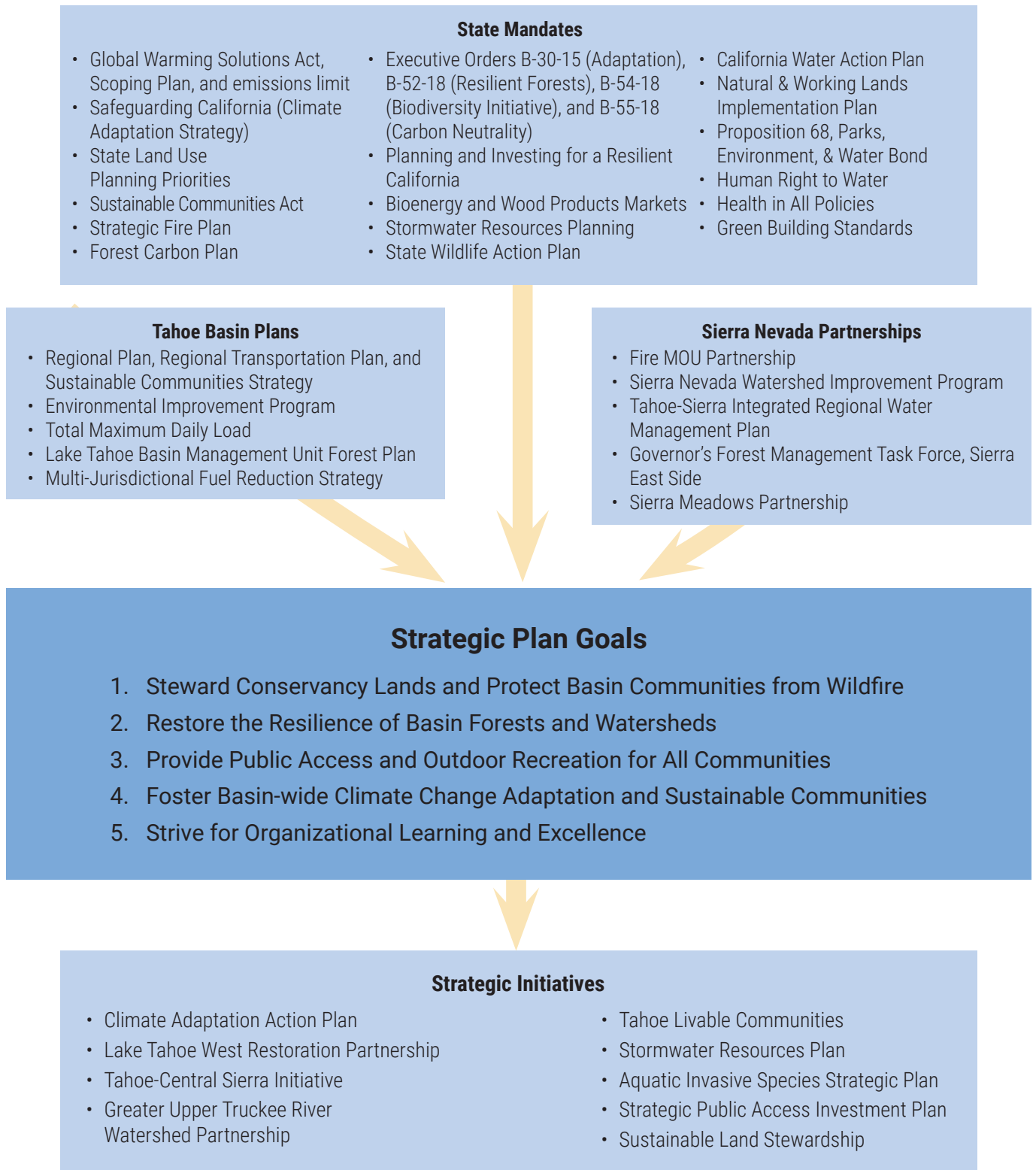
II. Funding Priorities

The Conservancy uses its funding to accomplish its mission and Strategic Plan, including projects the Conservancy undertakes directly. The Strategic Plan goals advance State priorities as set forth in legislation, executive orders, and guidance; and Basin priorities as set forth in the EIP and topic-specific plans, such as the Multi-jurisdictional Fuel Reduction and Wildfire Prevention Strategy (MJFS). (See Figure 1.)

As applicable, the Conservancy also advances directives tied to specific funding sources, such as Proposition 68 directives on diversity and inclusion. (See Funding-Specific Guidance.)

Any activities consistent with the Conservancy's mission and Strategic Plan are eligible for funding (subject to constraints specific to a given funding source).

Figure 1. Strategic Plan Context



Goal 1. Steward Conservancy Lands and Protect Basin Communities from Wildfire

The Conservancy has a primary responsibility to steward its lands, including environmentally-sensitive lands and open space, and to help protect Basin communities from wildfire.

Goal 2. Restore the Resilience of Basin Forests and Watersheds

The Conservancy is working with partners to restore the health and resilience of Basin forests and watersheds, both at the landscape scale and through high-priority, site-specific projects. As an integral part of this work, the Conservancy continues to promote lake clarity and native species through storm water, erosion control, aquatic invasive species, and nearshore protection projects.

Goal 3. Provide Public Access and Outdoor Recreation for All Communities

Providing equitable public access to open space and recreational facilities is a central part of the Conservancy's mission. This goal also has strong connections to Proposition 68 directives on diversity and inclusion, including serving the disadvantaged communities of South Lake Tahoe and Kings Beach.

Goal 4. Foster Basinwide Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Communities

Climate change has already impacted Conservancy lands, facilities, and restoration projects, and will continue to shape how the Conservancy implements its mission far into the future. In the past 15 years, the State has also issued directives on climate change associated with resilience, adaptation, wildfire, biodiversity, forest carbon, carbon neutrality, water supply, land use, and transportation.

In addition to adaptation, the Tahoe Livable Communities (TLC) program serves as the Conservancy's primary mechanism for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, while simultaneously restoring sensitive lands and revitalizing town centers.

For more background and details on each of the goals, see the [Conservancy's Strategic Plan online](https://tahoe.ca.gov/about-us/strategic-plan/) at <https://tahoe.ca.gov/about-us/strategic-plan/>.

III. Funding Considerations

Generally, the Conservancy considers the following topics when evaluating whether to make a grant. The Conservancy may identify additional items based on the funding source or other factors. Applicants should consider the following in their applications:

1. Multiple benefit creation

Maximizing the use of State funding by generating multiple benefits for Conservancy and/or Basin lands and resources.

2. Cost-sharing

Leveraging other financial contributions, whether public or private, to multiply the value of the Conservancy's investment, and expand the total resources available.

3. High-quality project design

- Providing compelling rationale, clear goals, a rigorous methodology, and explicit deliverables accompanied by a detailed work plan, timeline, and budget.
- Providing sufficient funding and staff for the high-quality and timely completion of tasks and deliverables.
- Designing monitoring to answer management questions, and be consistent with and complement existing Basin monitoring programs.

4. Consistency with existing plans and guidance

Consistency with relevant existing plans and guidance from State and Basin agencies. State documents include, but are not limited to, the Safeguarding California Plan, Adaptation Planning Guide, Planning and Investing for a Resilient California, and Defining Vulnerable Communities in the Context of Climate Adaptation. Basin documents include, but are not limited to, the Lake Tahoe Regional Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy, area plans, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit Forest Plan, Lake Tahoe Basin Total Maximum Daily Load, and other conservation strategies and management plans, and MJFS.

5. Accounting for climate change in planning and investment

Applying the principles of Executive Order B-30-15, which directed State agencies to account for climate change in planning and investment. The State's guidebook,

Planning and Investing for a Resilient California, provides several principles to implement this mandate, including (1) prioritizing actions that build climate preparedness as well as reduce emissions; (2) prioritizing natural infrastructure solutions; (3) managing uncertainty by using flexible and adaptive approaches; and (4) protecting the State's most vulnerable populations.

6. Innovation and transformative change

- Pioneering new approaches to planning and implementation, including creating planning, permitting, operational, financial, or other efficiencies. This may involve, for example, revising analytical approaches, using emerging technologies, engaging communities in novel ways, or experimenting with new authorities.
- Promoting transformative change (i.e., change that manifests at a large geographic, ecological, financial, and/or demographic scale).

7. Use of California Conservations Corps services

Using California Conservation Corps (CCC) services when possible. Founded in 1976, the CCC provides young men and women ages 18 to 25 with a year of paid service to the State, during which they implement environmental projects and respond to disasters as part of their career development. Community conservations corps serve as locally-organized analogs to the CCC. The CCC's Tahoe Center provides a major contribution to the Basin's workforce, and partners with the Conservancy to implement forest fuels treatments on State lands.

8. Long-term sustainability

Planning for and describing how they will fund long-term operations, maintenance, and monitoring to ensure the long-term benefits intended by general obligation bonds, as applicable.

9. Professional qualifications and past performance

Demonstrating that they possess the requisite skills and expertise necessary to manage risks and successfully complete the work, and possess a track record of similar, high-quality work or equivalent experience.

10. Community, stakeholder, and/or political support

Demonstrating broad-based support because this increases the likelihood that the activities will create significant public benefit. Supporters may include, but are not limited to, community groups or homeowner associations; advocates, professionals, businesspersons, or investors that work on similar issues; and elected officials and public agency or tribal government leaders.

IV. Grant Information

This section provides basic information that applies to all Conservancy grants.

1. Grant Categories

The Conservancy awards grants in five categories:

Acquisition Grants for the purchase of land and interests in land. Acquisitions must be from willing sellers and at fair market value, as typically confirmed by a Department of General Services (DGS)-approved appraisal.

Planning Grants for planning that will lead to successful project implementation. Planning may involve project-specific activities such as preliminary design and environmental review, as well as supporting activities such as scientific studies, stakeholder processes, and program development and guidance. Planning grants are intended to support projects that are likely to qualify for future implementation funding.

Implementation Grants for the final design and implementation of projects. They support projects that have advanced to the stage where planning, land tenure, and engineering are largely completed.

Monitoring Grants to document, analyze, and assess the condition, changes, or use of natural resources, the built environment, and/or social and economic conditions. Monitoring should be consistent with and complement existing Basin monitoring programs, such as the EIP, Regional Stormwater Monitoring Program, or Lake Tahoe Interagency Monitoring Program.

Technical Assistance Grants to help partners conduct technical analyses that advance projects. This may include scientific, engineering, economic, or other

studies; grant application writing and facilitation as well as grant administration training.

2. Eligible Applicants

Unless the funding source specifies otherwise, eligible applicants include:

- Local public agencies including cities, counties, special districts, and joint powers authorities; state agencies; federal agencies; and the Tahoe Transportation District.
- Federally-recognized Native American tribes.
- Nonprofit organizations registered to do business in California and identified in section 66905.9 of the Government Code as “any private, nonprofit organization which qualifies for exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and has among its principal charitable purposes the preservation of land for scientific, historic, educational, recreational, scenic, or open-space opportunities, or protection of the natural environment or preservation or enhancement of wildlife.”

3. Ineligible Projects

Projects funded by bonds must be spent consistent with the General Obligation Bond Law, Government Code, section 16720 et seq. Additional factors may make some projects ineligible, including:

- Projects dictated by a legal settlement or mandated to address a violation of, or an order to comply with, a law or regulation.
- Projects that fund acquisitions of land by eminent domain.
- Projects that include acquisition of property that cannot be purchased at fair market value.
- Projects that will not be completed in the allotted timelines.
- Operations and maintenance of existing structures, including roads.
- Projects that are intended to correct problems caused by inadequate maintenance.
- Projects that are solely for the purpose of regulatory compliance.

4. Grant Proposal Submittals

Generally, the Conservancy solicits grant applications after extensive discussion with individual partners or interagency EIP work groups, which play a critical role in identifying high priority projects. (Work groups typically develop and maintain priority project lists.) In addition to the funding considerations mentioned above, the Conservancy carefully evaluates its funding to ensure an equitable distribution over time with regard to geography, local jurisdictions, and priorities.

Proposals should provide the following information:

- A. Project description and justification, including relevant background and goals, and alignment with the Conservancy's Strategic Plan.
- B. Work plan, including a list of tasks, corresponding descriptions and deliverables, schedule, and location. This also includes necessary project graphics, including maps and design plans.
- C. Budget and justification, including (if applicable) indirect/administrative costs, and/or contingencies.
 - o The budget should include a line item for each task identified in the work plan, including total cost, amount requested from the Conservancy, and the amount that will be provided by other funding sources.
 - o Please show any State of California matching funds separately from other matching funds. In-kind contributions of staff time and/or bargain sales may be included.
 - o For other matching funds, please include the total amount by source. If other grants are expected, please indicate the expected date of award.
- D. Operations and maintenance plan including funding source, (if applicable) a schedule for monitoring of effectiveness of associated infrastructure, and reporting thereof.
- E. Monitoring plan, including performance measures, and reporting thereof.
- F. Organizational capacity and staffing.
- G. Community, stakeholder, and/or public support.

Proposals subject to Conservancy Board approval must meet Assembly Bill (AB) 434 State web accessibility requirements. For more information see the [California Department of Rehabilitation website](https://www.dor.ca.gov/Home/AB434) at <https://www.dor.ca.gov/Home/AB434>.

5. California Environmental Quality Act Compliance

Grantees are responsible for complying with all laws and regulations applicable to their projects, including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). If the grant is subject to CEQA, the Conservancy Board must consider the environmental document prior to approval of the grant. Applicants should consult with Conservancy staff as early as possible because CEQA compliance will vary significantly depending upon the proposed project activities and potential environmental impacts.

AB 52 promotes involvement of California Native American Tribes in the CEQA environmental review and decision-making process. AB 52 requires consideration of a project's potential to significantly impact a tribal cultural resource and requires early notice of projects and, if requested by a Tribe, consultation with the requesting Tribe to inform the CEQA process. Applicants must meet all AB 52 requirements.

Applicants should visit the [California Natural Resources Agency website](http://resources.ca.gov/ceqa/) at <http://resources.ca.gov/ceqa/> for information on CEQA compliance and the [Native American Heritage Commission website](http://nahc.ca.gov/2015/06/implementation-of-ab-52-ceqa-tribal-consultation-information/) at <http://nahc.ca.gov/2015/06/implementation-of-ab-52-ceqa-tribal-consultation-information/> for information on AB 52.

6. Land Acquisition Instructions

With regard to acquisition grants, applications must typically meet the following requirements.

Estimated fair market value of land and improvements: DGS must approve the appraised fair market value of the proposed acquisition. State funding is limited to the value approved by DGS.

Willing seller: Applicants must provide evidence that the landowner is a willing participant in any proposed real property transaction.

Relocation costs: Applicants must provide a parcel-by-parcel analysis of the extent of any relocation assistance required by the State Relocation Act Requirements (Government Code, § 7260 et seq.).

Land tenure: Applicants must certify that they have adequate control of, and tenure to, properties to be improved. Adequate control includes, but is not limited to, ownership,

lease, easement, joint-powers agreement, or other long-term interest in the property, or have a satisfactory agreement with the legal owner/administering agency. The Conservancy recognizes that specific activities may change over time; however, the property must remain available for compatible public use. Generally, the grantee and/or landowner will be expected to:

1. Maintain and operate the property funded for a period of at least 20 years (from the completion of construction, as applicable).
2. Use the property in perpetuity only for the purpose for which the grant was made, and make no other use or sale or disposition of the property. With Conservancy approval, the grantee or grantee's successor may transfer the responsibility to maintain and operate the property in accordance with the grant agreement. A lease or other short-term agreement cannot be revocable at will by the lessor.

7. Eligible and Ineligible Costs

For costs to be eligible for reimbursement, the costs must be within the scope of the project, supported by appropriate documentation, and completed by the required deadline as identified in the grant agreement. Costs related to project-specific performance measures and project reporting are eligible, and if requested, must be included in the project budget.

Eligible project costs may include but are not limited to the following:

1. Preliminary costs incurred after an agreement has been fully executed. For example, costs associated with CEQA/National Environmental Policy Act compliance, construction plans, permits/appraisals, and acquisition documents.
2. Personnel or employee services. For example, wages and benefits, or work performed by another section/department in the organization.
3. Consultant services.
4. Construction activities and management. For example, site preparation, oversight, and inspections.
5. Construction equipment, including rented, leased, or purchased.
6. Fixed equipment. For example, bollards or benches.
7. Construction tools, supplies, and materials.
8. Relocation costs (Government Code, § 7260 et seq.).
9. Acquisition costs. For example, appraisals/purchase price, title/escrow fees, or surveying.
10. Reasonable administrative indirect/overhead costs.

11. Restoration/rehabilitation costs. For example, removal of invasive species, soil improvements, or vegetation removal.
12. Best management practices. For example, erosion control measures.
13. Education infrastructure. For example, signs, interpretive aids, or kiosks.
14. Communications expenses.

In the event of an audit, projects with budgets that include administrative costs must be able to document the appropriateness of these expenses through formal accounting plans that calculate and document the method for recovering overhead costs.

Ineligible project costs typically include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Operations and maintenance costs.
2. Publicity and marketing expenses.
3. Food and beverages.
4. Ineligible travel.
5. Lobbying or fundraising.
6. Eminent domain actions.
7. Property acquisition costs in excess of fair market value.

Questions associated with eligible or ineligible costs should be directed to the Conservancy staff prior to submittal of an application or budget.

8. Funding, Legal, Administrative, and Accounting Requirements

Following Conservancy Board authorization of a grant, Conservancy staff will prepare a detailed grant agreement, including funding, legal, administrative, and accounting requirements. The Board may impose additional requirements. All grant activities shall be implemented in accordance with the requirements of the Board authorization and staff recommendation, and the terms and conditions of the grant agreement.

Funding is typically available for two to five years. However, in some cases the Conservancy requires grantee commitment to operations and maintenance for the useful life of the project. The term of an implementation grant agreement may therefore extend from the completion of construction through the useful life period.

9. Withholding

Conservancy grants are distributed on a reimbursement basis, with a standard five percent withheld from each payment for grants to nonprofit organizations. Large construction grants and contracts may have up to 10 percent withheld. The full withholding is released upon satisfactory completion of the grant project.

10. Audit

Projects are subject to audit by the State for three years following the most recent payment including the final payment of grant funds. The purpose of the audit is to verify that project expenditures were made in accordance with the respective bond act(s) and grant agreement, and were properly documented. Grantees should maintain an accounting system that provides standard information necessary for audits.

If a project is selected for audit, the grantee will be contacted at least 30 days in advance. The audit will include all books, papers, accounts, documents, or other records of the grantee, as related to the project for which Conservancy funds were granted. The grantee must make the project records, including the source documents and cancelled warrants, readily available to the State. The grantee must also provide an employee having knowledge of the project and the accounting procedure or system to assist the State's auditor. All project records must be retained for at least five years following an audit or final disputed audit findings.

11. Project Monitoring and Reporting

Typically, implementation grant applications must include a monitoring and reporting component that explains how the implementation and effectiveness of the project will be measured and reported. The Conservancy can help grantees to develop appropriate monitoring and reporting templates and procedures following an award.

Monitoring should be consistent with existing Basin monitoring programs, such as the EIP, Regional Stormwater Monitoring Program, or Lake Tahoe Interagency Monitoring Program. Detailed information on EIP performance measures can be found [on the EIP website](https://eip.laketahoeinfo.org/EIPPerformanceMeasure/Index) at <https://eip.laketahoeinfo.org/EIPPerformanceMeasure/Index>.

Generally, grantees are required to submit regular progress reports on an active project per the schedule specified in the grant agreement.

12. Insurance

Grantees are required to maintain insurance against claims for injuries to persons and damage to property that may arise from or in connection with project-related activities of the grantees or its agents. The grantee shall maintain all required insurance from the effective date through the completion date.

Insurance requirements vary according to a project's purpose and needs. Typically, the grantee shall maintain coverage limits no less than:

- A. General liability (including operations, products, and completed operations, as applicable): \$2,000,000 per occurrence for bodily injury, personal injury, and property damage. If commercial general liability insurance or other form with a general aggregate limit is used, either the general aggregate limit shall apply separately to the activities under this agreement, or the general aggregate limit shall be twice the required occurrence limit.
- B. Automobile liability: \$1,000,000 per accident for bodily injury and property damage.
- C. Course of construction: Completed value of the project with no coinsurance penalty provisions.
- D. Property insurance: 90 percent of full replacement cost of the facilities or structures.

13. Acknowledgment and Signage

All grantees are required to acknowledge Conservancy support, typically through a sign and social media. Grant agreements provide general signage and acknowledgement requirements, and logo use information. Costs to implement the acknowledgment plan can be included in the grant budget.

V. Funding-Specific Guidance

In addition to the Conservancy's Strategic Plan, several documents provide additional guidance for Conservancy funding. These include, but are not limited to, relevant statutes and regulations, the State Administrative Manual, the State Contracting Manual, the EIP, and requirements specific to a funding source.

1. Proposition 68 Directives

California voters approved Proposition 68, the Parks, Environment, and Water Bond, on June 5, 2018. The measure authorizes \$4 billion in general obligation bonds to finance a drought, water, parks, climate, coastal protection, and outdoor access for all program. Per Public Resources Code section 80110, subdivision (b), the bond allocates \$27 million to the Conservancy for the purposes set forth in the Conservancy's governing statutes.

The Conservancy adheres to the various funding source directives. In particular, Proposition 68 encourages conservancies to partner with cities, counties, nonprofit organizations, joint-powers authorities, and nongovernmental organizations to acquire open space and create urban greenway corridors. Additionally, public agencies that receive funds must consider a range of project actions that, to the extent possible, increase the diversity and inclusion of communities that benefit from the bond funding. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. Conducting active outreach to diverse populations, particularly minority, low-income, and disabled populations and tribal communities, to increase awareness within those communities and the public generally about specific programs and opportunities.
- B. Mentoring new environmental, outdoor recreation, and conservation leaders to increase diverse representation across these areas.
- C. Creating new partnerships with state, local, tribal, private, and nonprofit organizations to expand access for diverse populations.
- D. Identifying and implementing improvements to existing programs to increase visitation and access by diverse populations, particularly minority, low-income, and disabled populations and tribal communities.
- E. Expanding the use of multilingual and culturally appropriate materials in public communications and educational strategies, including through social media strategies, as appropriate, that target diverse populations.
- F. Developing or expanding coordinated efforts to promote youth engagement and empowerment, including fostering new partnerships with diversity-serving and youth-serving organizations, urban areas, and programs.
- G. Identifying possible staff liaisons to diverse populations.

Finally, applicants that receive funding will, to the extent possible, provide workforce education and training, contractor, and job opportunities for disadvantaged communities.

The services of the CCC or local conservation corps certified by the CCC shall be used whenever feasible (Public Resources Code, § 80016.). With regard to grant-making, Proposition 68 requires giving preference to projects that involve the CCC or community conservation corps services. Applicants should consult with representatives of either the CCC or community conservation corps prior to application submission to determine the feasibility of their participation.

Projects that would be used to fulfill mitigation requirements imposed by law are not eligible for Proposition 68 funding. (Public Resources Code, § 80020.).

2. Proposition 1 Grant Guidelines

The Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1) authorizes \$7.545 billion in general obligation bonds to fund ecosystems and watershed protection and restoration, water supply infrastructure projects, including surface and groundwater storage, and drinking water protection.

The Conservancy prepared grant guidelines specific to Proposition 1. The guidelines are available [on the Conservancy website](https://tahoe.ca.gov/conservancys-proposition-1-grant-program/) at <https://tahoe.ca.gov/conservancys-proposition-1-grant-program/>.

**LANDSCAPE LEVEL INITIATIVES UPDATE:
LAKE TAHOE WEST RESTORATION PARTNERSHIP AND
TAHOE-CENTRAL SIERRA INITIATIVE**

The Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership (LTW) and the Tahoe-Central Sierra Initiative (TCSI) are initiatives that take a science-based approach to restoring landscape resilience to disturbances such as fire, drought, flood, and climate change. These landscape-scale efforts address recent Executive Orders such as B-52-18 and N-05-19 that are aimed at increasing the pace and scale of forest restoration and protecting communities from catastrophic wildfire. As such, LTW and TCSI are key initiatives in the California Tahoe Conservancy's (Conservancy) 2018-2023 Strategic Plan and the Lake Tahoe Basin Forest Action Plan.

Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership

LTW is a landscape-level restoration project that will restore and maintain the resilience of the forests, watersheds, recreational opportunities, and communities across 60,000 acres of Lake Tahoe's west shore (Attachment 1). LTW takes a cross-jurisdictional, all-lands approach and is led by the Conservancy, the USDA Forest Service (USFS), Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, California Department of Parks and Recreation, the National Forest Foundation (NFF), and Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA), along with the Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, and stakeholders.

In September 2017, staff presented the Landscape Resilience Assessment to the Board. Since then, LTW partners and stakeholders have been developing a follow-on Landscape Restoration Strategy (LRS) for the entire 60,000-acre landscape (Attachment 2). The LRS will be completed in November. Rather than the traditional project approach of focusing on one or two project benefits, the LRS addresses all of the factors that make forests and watersheds resilient and healthy. The LRS lays out the following six restoration goals:

- 1) forests recover from fire, drought, and insects;
- 2) fires burn at primarily low to moderate severities and provide ecological benefits;

- 3) terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems support native species;
- 4) healthy creeks and floodplains provide clean water, complex habitat, and buffering from floods and droughts;
- 5) people live safely with fire and enjoy and steward the landscape; and
- 6) restoration is efficient, collaborative, and supports a strong economy.

To achieve its goals, the LRS accounts for ongoing work in the landscape, and provides guidance for operating on slopes between 30 to 50 percent, and within areas designed to protect the California spotted owl. It also provides quantitative restoration targets for the forest and water resources, and guidelines to inform project planning and implementation priorities.

The LTW partner agencies and stakeholders are developing a proposed action for environmental review, and plan to complete it in December. Scoping for an environmental document that meets National Environmental Policy Act, California Environmental Quality Act, and TRPA requirements will begin in the first quarter of 2020. Environmental review is scheduled to be complete by spring of 2021, with project implementation in 2022.

Tahoe-Central Sierra Initiative

The TCSI aims to protect communities and restore forest and watershed health to 2.4 million acres of the Sierra Nevada, including the Lake Tahoe Basin (Attachment 3). The Conservancy, Sierra Nevada Conservancy, USFS, University of California, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), NFF, and California Forestry Association jointly lead this effort. TCSI links eight landscape-level initiatives to establish a regional model for resilience and forest restoration.

TCSI partners secured over \$32 million in California Climate Investments grant funds to implement high-priority forest health projects that sequester carbon and reduce the risk of wildfires. Projects are currently thinning 20,000 acres, removing 164,000 tons of biomass, and implementing 8,000 acres of prescribed fire across ownerships and jurisdictions. The Conservancy's contribution to these projects includes forest health and fuel reduction treatments at its Dollar Creek property.

TCSI is developing a science-based framework for restoring resilience across the landscape. In June 2018, TCSI partners and regional experts reached consensus on six resilient landscape conditions common to all 2.4 million acres, allowing for a clear and common vision and direction. A landscape assessment, including a fire hazard and risk

assessment, will be completed by the end of October 2019. Partners will also complete a wood supply and economic analysis for transporting biomass to regional facilities this fall, and complete a strategy for restoration by the summer of 2020.

TCSI intends to provide a model for landscape-scale restoration and creating planning, permitting, operational, financial, and industrial efficiencies from which similar efforts can benefit. The TCSI steering committee met in August with Jennifer Montgomery, the Chair of the Governor’s Forest Management Task Force, and Jessica Morse, Deputy Secretary for Forest Resource Management with the California Natural Resources Agency, to discuss the role of TCSI in statewide efforts. This discussion focused on TCSI’s innovation, including the development of a technology innovation sprint. The innovation sprint will:

- Streamline resources surveys, such as by reducing survey protocol for the California spotted owl from two years to one year;
- Improve planning and operations, such as by providing high resolution forest structure maps, and digital layout and marking;
- Quantify benefits and tradeoffs, such as smoke impacts from varying management approaches.

Through the technology innovation sprint, scientists and managers are partnering with the private sector to push the boundaries of using artificial intelligence and remote sensing for landscape restoration. The TCSI steering committee has been asked to present TCSI’s innovations and progress to the Forest Management Task Force.

List of Attachments

Attachment 1 – Lake Tahoe West Map

Attachment 2 – Lake Tahoe West Landscape Restoration Strategy

Attachment 3 – Tahoe-Central Sierra Initiative Map

Conservancy Staff Contacts

Jason Vasques, Landscape Forestry Supervisor

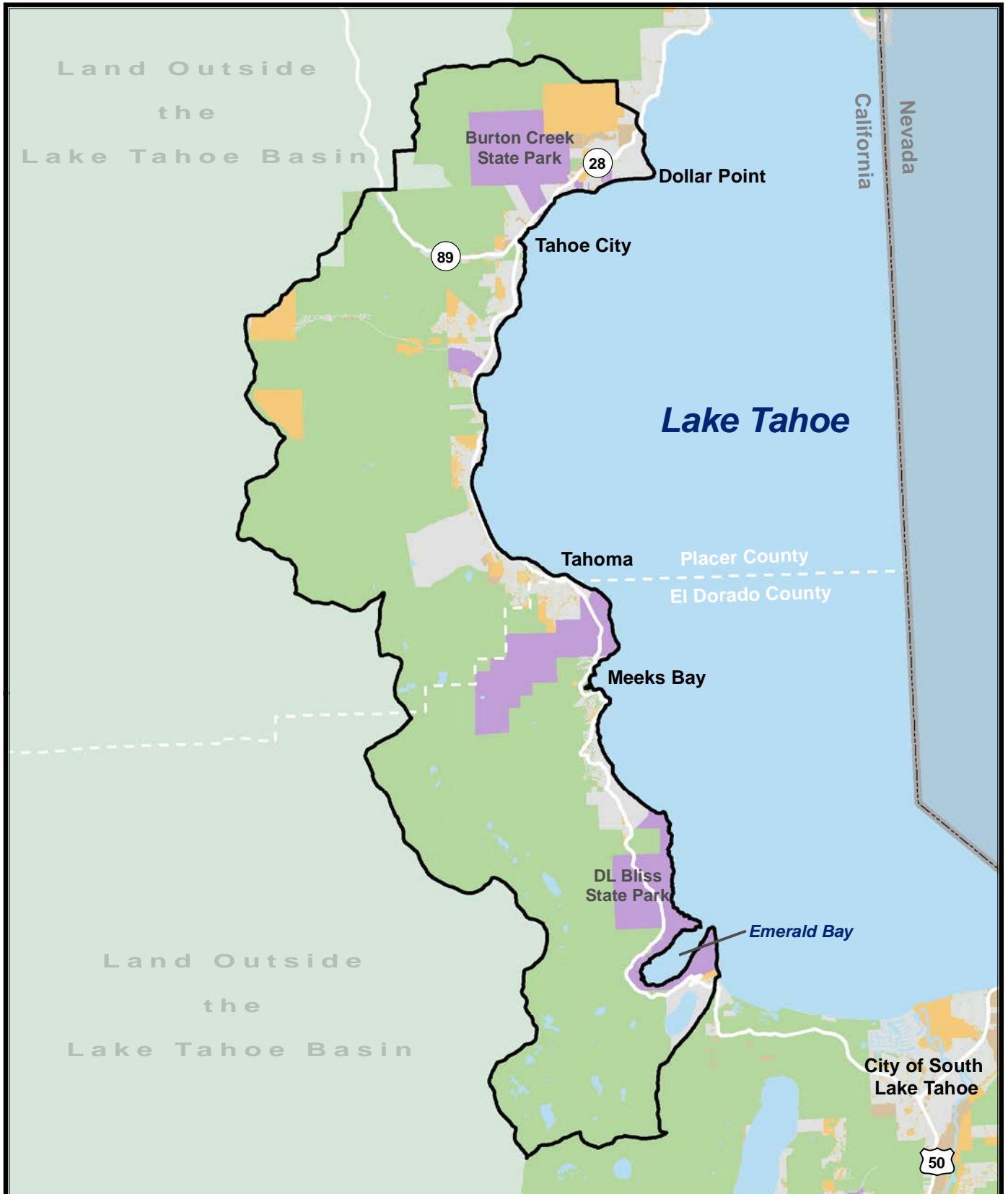
jason.vasques@tahoe.ca.gov

Christine Aralia, Landscape Conservation Coordinator

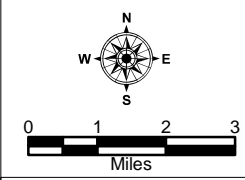
christine.aralia@tahoe.ca.gov

ATTACHMENT 1

Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership



- Lake Tahoe West Project Area
- Local
- California Tahoe Conservancy
- California Department of Parks and Recreation
- Private
- USDA Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit



Sources:
TRPA, CTC, ESRI

California
Tahoe Conservancy

October 2019
*Map for reference purposes only.

LAKE TAHOE WEST

LANDSCAPE RESTORATION STRATEGY

AUGUST 2019

LAKE TAHOE'S WEST SHORE is one of America's treasured landscapes, with towering forests, clear blue lakes, and snow-covered alpine peaks. Yet wildfire, drought, insect outbreaks, and flooding—all amplified by climate change—threaten this 60,000-acre landscape. The Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership (Lake Tahoe West) is changing this. By pooling resources and collaborating across jurisdictions, Lake Tahoe West is taking an all lands approach to restoring the resilience of the west shore to disturbance. This includes the forests, communities, recreational opportunities, and watersheds that stretch from the shoreline all the way to the ridgetops, from Emerald Bay north to Tahoe City.

As described in the Lake Tahoe West Landscape Resilience Assessment (2017), west shore forests are overly dense, uniform, and susceptible to high severity fire, especially in lower elevations and canyons. Trees and plants are dense near the ground, creating ladder fuels that could carry flames into the tree tops. These unhealthy conditions also leave large areas of forest at high risk to insects and disease. Eighty percent of streams on the west shore have barriers that may block fish from passing upstream.

With so many acres to treat, land managers are relying on cutting-edge science and technology to inform management in a changing climate. Scientists modeled how forests could change over time under several future restoration scenarios to reduce management uncertainties and improve planning. The resulting Landscape Restoration Strategy will guide how to prioritize, integrate, and sequence restoration treatments with work already underway. This approach will allow agencies to treat more acres at lower cost.

Lake Tahoe West will:

1. Plan restoration actions based on landscape-specific scientific analysis and modeling.
2. Coordinate restoration at the landscape scale, across land ownerships.
3. Restore the resilience of forests, watersheds, and communities in the face of climate change.
4. Explore new methods for treatments in areas that are challenging to manage, such as steep slopes and streams.
5. Proactively manage habitat to protect sensitive and threatened species, such as the California spotted owl and northern goshawk.
6. Increase the use of fire as a restoration tool.



Lake Tahoe West Timeline



Lake Tahoe West will also safeguard wildlife, water quality, and communities. The Strategy, with its six goals to guide treatment, will provide a 20-year framework to increase the pace and scale of restoration across all ownerships.

Six Goals to Guide Restoration

1. Forests recover from fire, drought, and insect outbreaks.
2. Fires burn at primarily low to moderate severities and provide ecological benefits.
3. Terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems support native species.
4. Healthy creeks and floodplains provide clean water, complex habitat, and buffering from floods and droughts.
5. People live safely with fire and enjoy and steward the landscape.
6. Restoration is efficient, collaborative, and supports a strong economy.

Key Strategies for Implementation

- Increase pace and scale of forest thinning and prescribed fire to reduce wildfire risks to communities and to wildlife habitat.
- Restore meadows, manage invasive species, increase habitat connectivity, and support native plants and wildlife threatened by climate change.

- Restore streams to reduce erosion, improve native species habitat, and increase watershed resilience to flooding and drought conditions.
- Support and build resilience into the local economy.
- Enhance engagement with the Washoe Tribe.
- Work collaboratively with land managers to meet objectives across land ownership boundaries.
- Increase smoke forecasting, agency coordination, and public outreach to minimize smoke impacts from prescribed and managed wildfire.
- Manage roads and trails for long-term stability and watershed protection.

Next Steps for Lake Tahoe West

Crews have begun surveying the landscape for plants and wildlife. Lake Tahoe West will prepare a Proposed Action in 2019. The public will be able to review plans and provide comments in 2020. Agencies will complete decisions and permitting by 2021. Implementation begins in 2022, with an estimated average annual cost of \$13 million. This includes restoring forests, meadows, and streams; repairing roads and trails; managing invasive species; and reducing wildfire risk.

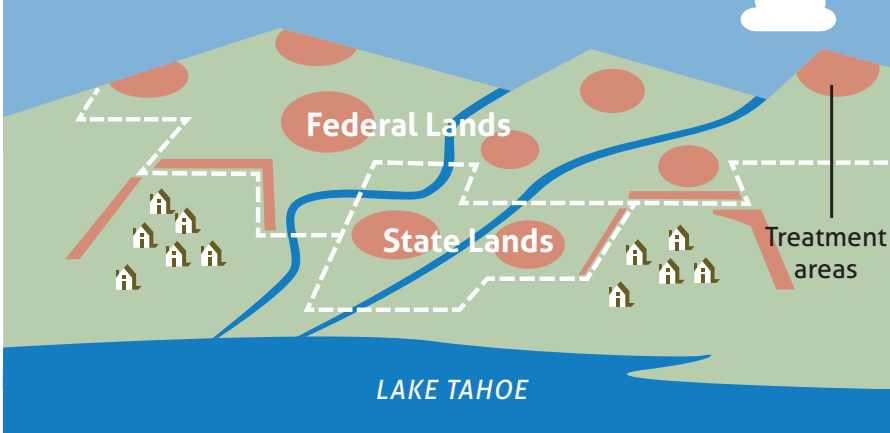
In sum, the Strategy lays the groundwork for restoring the entire west shore, and can also inform other restoration efforts in the Sierra Nevada.

About the Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership

The goal of the Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership is to restore the resilience of the west shore's forests, watersheds, recreational opportunities, and communities. The planning area includes 60,000 acres of federal, state, local, and private lands, from Emerald Bay to Tahoe City.

Partners include the U.S.D.A. Forest Service (USFS), Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit; the USFS Pacific Southwest Research Station; the California Tahoe Conservancy; California State Parks; the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency; the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board; the National Forest Foundation; and the Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team; along with two dozen stakeholders and the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California. laketahoe.org

Current: Focused, but fragmented, restoration



Vision: Coordinated, contiguous restoration



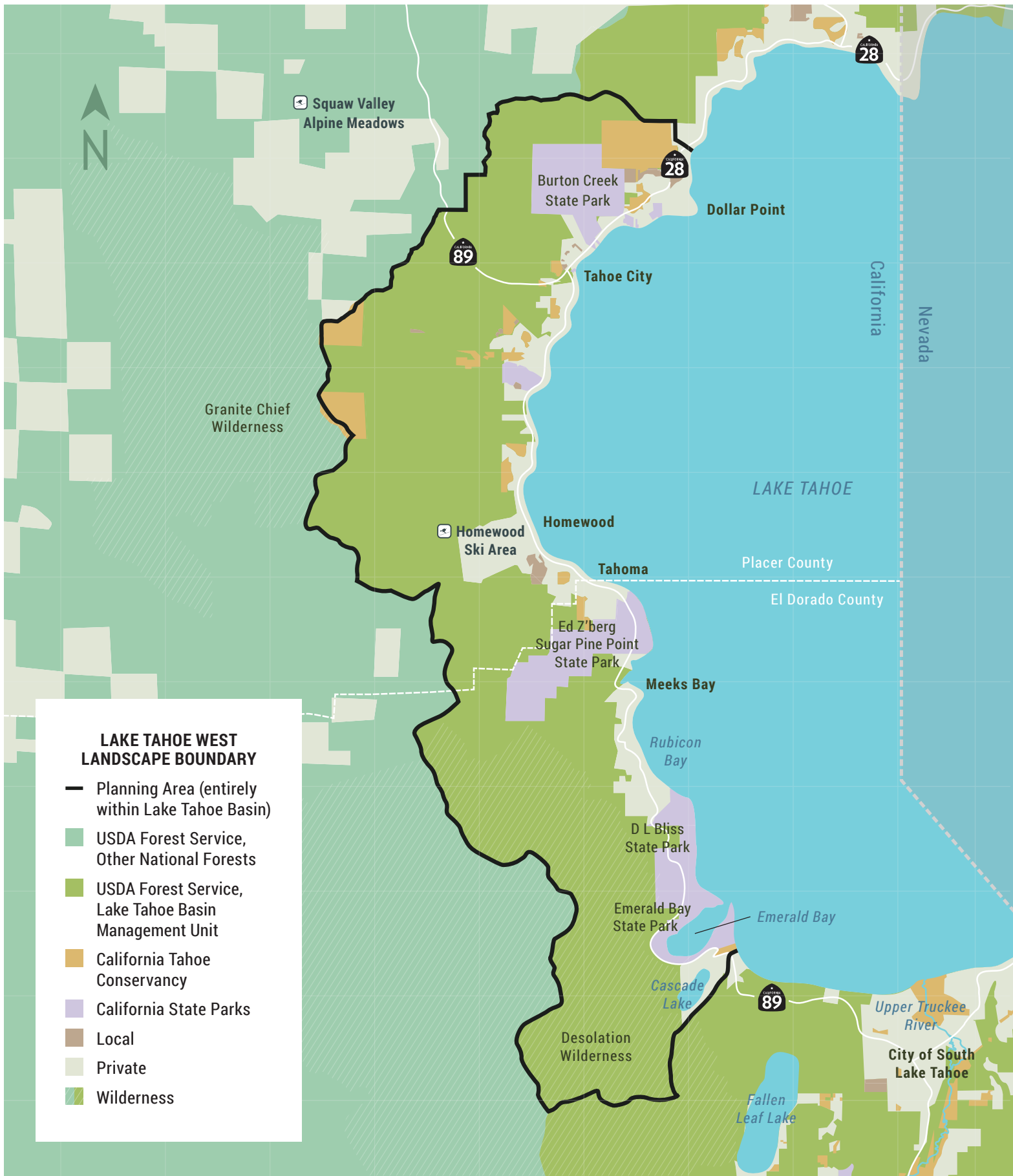
Coordinated Landscape-Scale Management is Needed to Improve Forest and Watershed Health

Forest and watershed health projects are already advancing within the Lake Tahoe West landscape. For example, the West Shore Wildland Urban Interface Healthy Forest and Fuels Reduction Project is currently addressing forest health and fuel reduction needs on 4,947 acres of National Forest System lands.

Despite important ongoing efforts, a project-by-project approach cannot match the scale of the threat to west shore forests and watersheds. Lake Tahoe West will build on these ongoing efforts to restore resilience to the full 60,000-acre landscape.

Graphic adapted from Washington State Department of Natural Resources' "20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan."

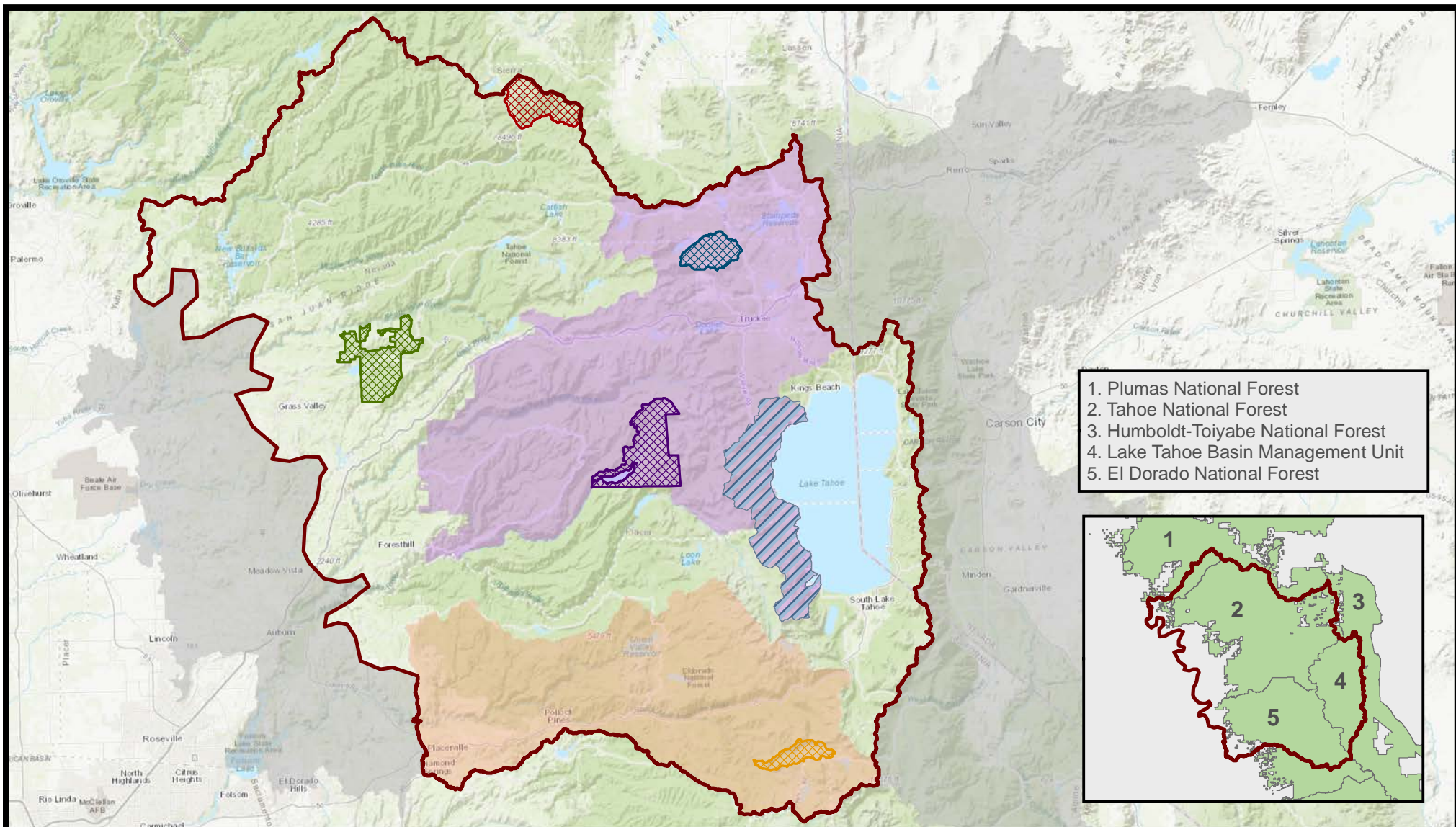
Conventional Forest Management Approach	Lake Tahoe West's Resilience-Based Approach
Projects are led by a single agency.	Partnership is collaboratively led.
Projects focus on a few goals.	Restoration strategy promotes multiple integrated benefits for ecosystems and communities.
Projects tend to avoid or limit treatment in stream zones, steep slopes, and sensitive species habitat.	Restoration strategy addresses the entire landscape to improve health of sensitive areas and species.
Monitoring addresses implementation and effectiveness of individual projects.	Monitoring and adaptive management will address the whole landscape.
Engages scientists in review of individual projects, typically after they are planned.	Engages scientists collaboratively and proactively to develop a restoration strategy based on landscape-specific scientific analysis and modeling.
Agencies plan projects without a formal or collaboratively developed landscape restoration strategy.	Agencies develop the restoration strategy and on-the-ground projects with ongoing engagement of stakeholders, scientists, and managers.



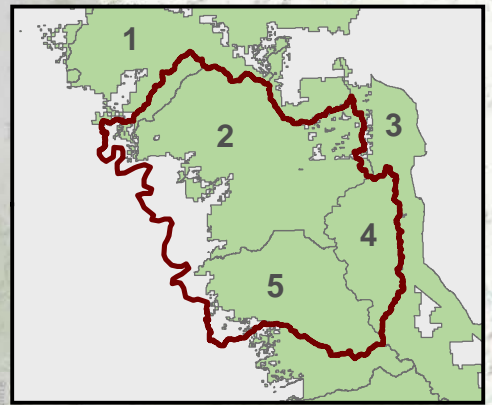
TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY



ATTACHMENT 3 Tahoe-Central Sierra Initiative



1. Plumas National Forest
2. Tahoe National Forest
3. Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
4. Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit
5. El Dorado National Forest



- | | |
|--|--|
| Tahoe-Central Sierra Initiative | Sagehen Experimental Forest Project |
| Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership | Caples Ecological Restoration Project |
| North Yuba Forest Resilience Project | South Fork American River Cohesive Strategy |
| Western Nevada County Defensible Space Project | National Forest Foundation Treasured Landscape |
| French Meadows Project | Area of Interest |

Sources:
TRPA, CTC, ESRI, USDA

**California
Tahoe Conservancy**

October 2019
*Map for reference purposes only.

CONSERVANCY TAHOE LIVABLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM UPDATE

The purpose of this update is to provide background and status of the California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) Tahoe Livable Communities (TLC) Program. To accelerate implementation of the goals of State Senate Bill 375, the Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008, and the Lake Tahoe Basin Regional Plan (Regional Plan), the Conservancy launched the TLC program in 2014. The goals of the TLC program are to:

1. acquire and restore aging developed properties on environmentally-sensitive lands and retire or transfer the development rights to town centers;
2. sell, lease, or exchange vacant Conservancy land in town centers; and
3. acquire the remaining private properties in several of Lake Tahoe's roadless subdivisions to remove the threat of development.

To accomplish the goals of the TLC program, in the last five years the Conservancy has acquired ten developed or roadless subdivision properties, restored the environmentally sensitive portions of the properties, and banked the development rights for housing and other infill projects in town centers. Conservancy staff sold banked development rights for several sustainable communities projects, including a remodel of an aging, shuttered lodge to a new housing development in Kings Beach. Additionally, the Board designated 17 of the Conservancy's parcels in town centers as "Asset Lands" to support housing and sustainable compact development consistent with local area or town center plans.

Tahoe Livable Communities Program Status

Over the past year, Conservancy staff has initiated and coordinated the following items for the TLC Program. With these ongoing efforts and accomplishments, the Conservancy is well positioned to deliver on Strategic Plan Goal 4 (Foster Basinwide Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Communities).

Tahoe Strategic Growth Program Manager: In August 2019, the Conservancy announced the recruitment of a Tahoe Strategic Growth Program Manager. The position is new within the Conservancy and is in coordination with the Strategic Growth Council. The position will supervise and direct the work of staff under the TLC Program. Additionally, the position will help coordinate and integrate State agency investments in the Lake Tahoe Basin (Basin) to meet Conservancy and statewide, regional, and area

plan goals, with a particular focus on sustainable communities and climate change adaptation.

1. Conservancy Acquisitions and Land Bank

- **Property Acquisitions:** The Conservancy has budgeted \$6.9 million over the next five years to acquire environmentally-sensitive lands and developed properties to prevent further degradation of water quality and promote the transfer of development from outlying areas to town centers. The Conservancy is in negotiations and has initiated due diligence activities for several parcels. Next steps for the acquisitions include Board authorization for acquisition once staff negotiations and due diligence activities are complete.
- **Conservancy Land Bank:** The Conservancy continues to reserve land bank development rights to promote housing and sustainable communities projects in town centers. In August 2019, Conservancy staff completed the sale of development rights to the Tahoe City Lodge. This type of transaction accelerates environmental restoration by transferring aging development from sensitive areas to a town center and is a central focus of the Regional Plan.

2. Conservancy Asset Lands and Related Statewide and Local Initiatives

- **Governor Gavin Newsom Executive Order 06-19 (N-06-19):** In September 2019, the Department of General Services (DGS) selected two Conservancy asset land parcels for housing projects under the direction of N-06-19. This executive order requires DGS and the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to identify and prioritize excess state-owned property and aggressively pursue sustainable, innovative, cost-effective housing projects. The Conservancy partnership with DGS and HCD will provide access to contracted economic and architectural services, and expertise regarding alternative land transfer approaches such as a long-term ground lease.
- **South Shore Housing Needs Assessment and Action Plan:** The Conservancy is a Strategy Group Member for the Tahoe Prosperity Center (TPC) South Shore Housing Needs Assessment and Action Plan. The TPC is leading the effort to produce a well-documented and comprehensive housing needs assessment for the south shore. The report will document the current and future housing needs for residents and employees across the full range of housing (extremely low income through market rate). Additionally, the process is designed to produce an implementable five-year housing action plan detailing specific housing strategies, policies, and programs.

Conservancy Asset Lands Status: In March 2014, the Conservancy Board identified 17 asset lands in three urbanized areas (City of South Lake Tahoe [City], Kings Beach, and Meyers) that could support sustainable compact development consistent with local area or town center plans. Asset lands are generally parcels that were acquired by the Conservancy to obtain land coverage, facilitate Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) projects that are no longer planned, or as part of a “bulk acquisition” of both sensitive and non-sensitive developable parcels from a single seller. Over the next year, Conservancy staff may seek Board authorization to identify additional Conservancy parcels eligible to include in the asset lands program.

The Conservancy Board authorized staff to conduct due diligence activities for six asset lands in the City in March 2014 and September 2016, two asset lands in Kings Beach in June 2019, and nine asset lands in Meyers in August 2019.

Conservancy staff has initiated and coordinated the following items on Conservancy asset lands:

Asset Lands in the City (Attachment 1)

- 833 Emerald Bay Road, Assessment Number (AN) 023-171-009
In November 2018, the Conservancy released a request for proposals for the purchase and development of the Conservancy’s asset land at 833 Emerald Bay Road. The Conservancy received a proposal in March 2019. The Conservancy is in discussions to enter into an exclusive negotiating agreement (ENA) with Dinsmore Sierra. Additionally, Conservancy staff and Dinsmore Sierra have met with the City and South Tahoe Public Utility District to discuss site design and permitting fees.
- 2070 Lake Tahoe Boulevard, ANs 023-381-001 and 023-231-003
In June 2018, the Conservancy entered into an ENA with the adjacent landowner, Sutter Capital Group (SCG). The Conservancy attended pre-application meetings at both the City and Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) with SCG in fall 2018.

SCG has now entered into a joint venture with Alpine Corporation, an affordable housing developer. In July 2019, the joint venture submitted a revised site plan to the Conservancy. The site plan includes workforce housing eligible for TRPA deed-restricted residential bonus units, a commercial building on U.S. Highway 50, and a portion of the City’s planned Greenbelt trail and storm water project. Additionally, the site plan contains public plaza areas, bike and pedestrian paths, and a transit stop connecting the property to plazas on SCG’s adjacent property, known as “The Crossing.” Next steps may include entering into an updated ENA with the joint venture and preparing documents required for a project application

submittal to the City and TRPA in winter 2019. All project approvals and environmental review must be completed prior to any future Conservancy Board action.

- 1860 Lake Tahoe Boulevard (AN 032-291-028) and 1029 Tata Lane (AN 032-291-031)

The Conservancy continues to coordinate with DGS and HCD on both economic consultant expertise and real estate documents to implement a master plan and eventual project on both parcels. On September 6, 2019, Conservancy staff participated in a coordination meeting with the DGS and HCD consultant team working on the affordable housing executive order N-06-19. The purpose of the meeting was to notify Conservancy staff that these two parcels were selected to help advance the implementation of N-06-19. The consultant team is currently reviewing work to date and developing strategies for parcel master planning, community engagement, and housing development. Next steps may include issuance of a request for proposals for master planning and community engagement services on both parcels.

Asset Lands in the Kings Beach Area Plan (Attachment 2)

- 8602 North Lake Boulevard (AN 090-134-056) and 8644 Speckled Avenue (AN 090-094-022)

In June 2019, the Board authorized staff to conduct due diligence activities on the Kings Beach asset lands. Conservancy staff has received separate requests from Sierra State Parks Foundation and a private developer for the Conservancy to enter into exclusive negotiations on the transfer and development of 8602 North Lake Boulevard. Staff is having initial discussions with Placer County and California Department of Parks and Recreation to determine best approaches and uses for the two parcels.

Asset Lands in the Meyers Area Plan (Attachment 3)

- ANs: 034-331-015 (3131 U.S. Highway 50), 034-311-023 (3121 U.S. Highway 50), 034-300-025 (no address), 034-300-026 (no address), 034-300-027 (no address), 034-300-028 (no address), 035-261-004 (no address), 035-261-005 (961 Pomo Street), and 035-261-006 (945 Pomo Street)

In August 2019, the Board authorized staff to conduct due diligence activities on the Meyers asset lands. Conservancy staff has received inquiries from local and State government agencies concerning possible uses of various asset lands in Meyers. Staff is having initial discussions with El Dorado County to determine best approaches and uses for the parcels.

The asset lands are an important tool to revitalize the Basin's town centers, protect sensitive lands, and meet the goals of the Regional Plan and local area plans.

3. Conservancy Roadless Subdivision Acquisitions

Conservancy staff is working on the acquisition of three roadless subdivision parcels. Two parcels, located in El Dorado County, are pending DGS appraisal review and approval. The third parcel, located in Placer County, is pending a boundary survey. Conservancy staff anticipates completion of the appraisal review and boundary survey by early spring 2020. Next steps for the acquisitions will include Board authorization for acquisition once staff negotiations and due diligence activities are complete.

List of Attachments

Attachment 1 – City of South Lake Tahoe Asset Lands Map

Attachment 2 – Kings Beach Asset Lands Map

Attachment 3 – Meyers Asset Lands Map

Conservancy Staff Contacts

Aimee Rutledge, Tahoe Livable Communities

Kevin Prior, Chief Administrative Officer

aimee.rutledge@tahoe.ca.gov

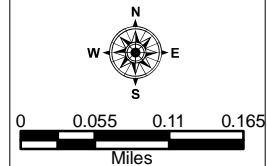
kevin.prior@tahoe.ca.gov

City of South Lake Tahoe Asset Lands Map



Ownership

- California Tahoe Conservancy
- CA Dept of Parks & Recreation
- USDA Forest Service
- Asset Lands



Sources:
TRPA, CTC, ESRI

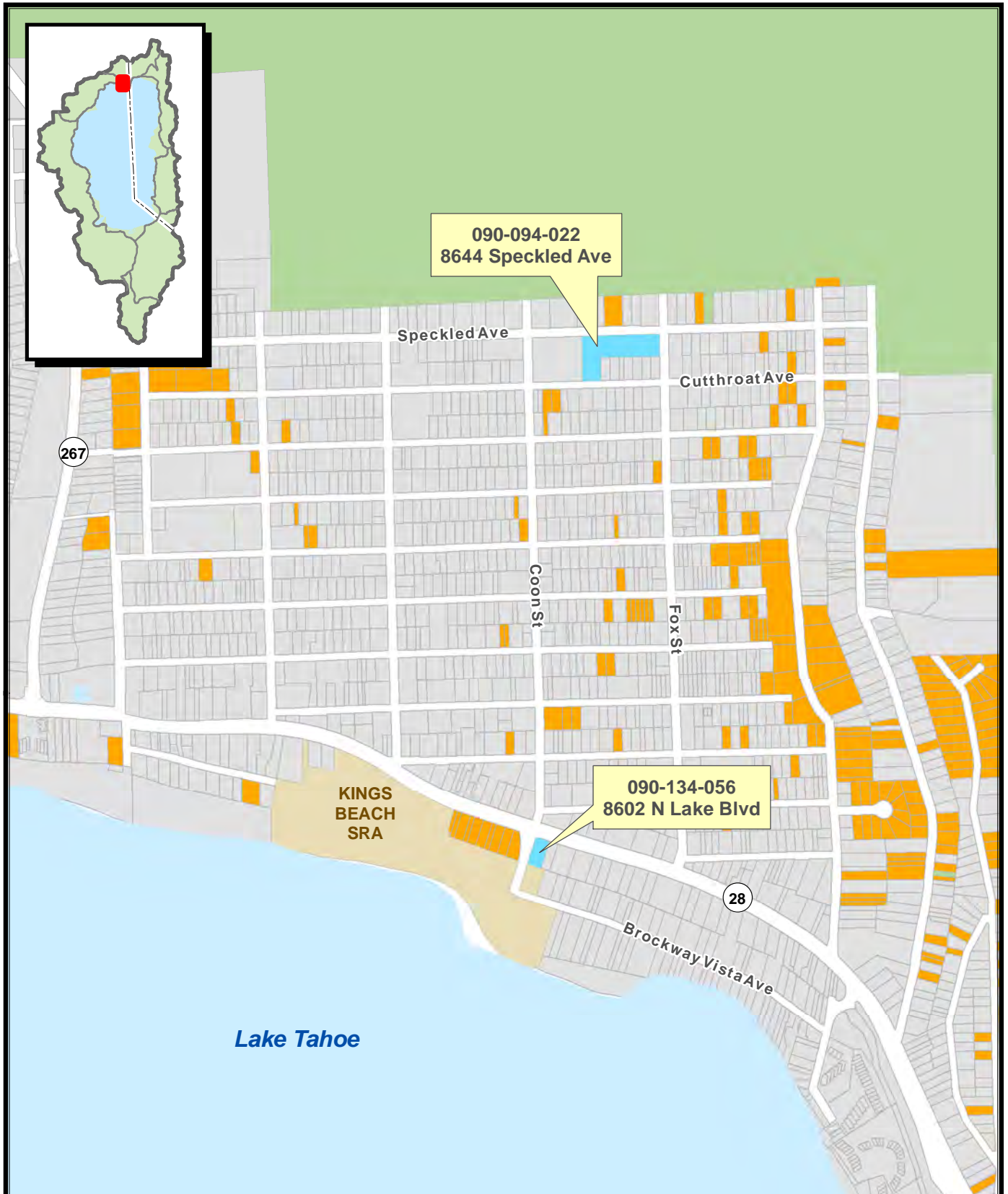
California
Tahoe Conservancy



September 2019

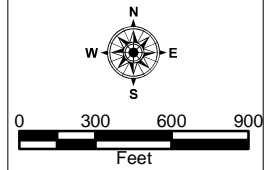
*Map for reference purposes only.

ATTACHMENT 2
Kings Beach Asset Lands Map



Ownership

- California Tahoe Conservancy
- CA Dept of Parks & Recreation
- USDA Forest Service
- Asset Lands



Sources:
TRPA, CTC, ESRI

California
Tahoe Conservancy



October 2019

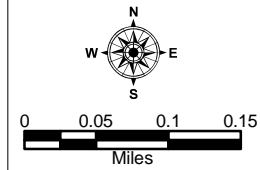
*Map for reference purposes only.

ATTACHMENT 3
Meyers Asset Lands Map



Ownership

- California Tahoe Conservancy
- CA Dept of Parks & Recreation
- USDA Forest Service
- Asset Lands



Sources:
TRPA, CTC, ESRI

California Tahoe Conservancy



July 2019

*Map for reference purposes only.

California Tahoe Conservancy
Agenda Item 13
October 10, 2019

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE: CONSERVANCY EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

On September 9, 2019, the Operations Committee (Chair Brooke Laine and Vice Chair Lynn Suter) met with Felicia Borges, Planning and Organizational Development/Statewide Employee Engagement Program Manager at the California Department of Human Resources (CalHR), along with Patrick Wright, Executive Director, and Jane Freeman, Deputy Director, to discuss current California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) participation in the CalHR Statewide Employee Engagement Program and Survey. The Conservancy participated in this Program and Survey to determine levels of the Conservancy's employee engagement, areas of satisfaction, and areas needing improvement and further actions.

The Conservancy conducted the Survey in May 2019. Mr. Wright and Ms. Freeman shared the Survey results with Conservancy staff at the August All Hands Meeting for purposes of developing an Action Plan to address Survey outcomes.

Ms. Borges described the Program background, overview, methodology, and early statewide findings. She described specific Survey results for the Conservancy, including response rate, overall engagement level, highest and lowest scoring questions, organizational performance, and a context for action planning. CalHR compared the Survey results with those of other State agencies and departments participating in the Program and Survey. The Survey results are being used as a basis for a Conservancy Action Plan that will be developed by Conservancy managers and staff.

Ms. Borges's comments were followed by Ms. Freeman's review of lower scoring issues, a draft Action Plan to address them, and next steps. Mr. Wright, Ms. Freeman, and the Operations Committee then discussed next steps and action items.

In general, the Conservancy scored significantly higher than State benchmarks in employee engagement in the Conservancy's mission and motivation based upon satisfaction with supervisors, teamwork, and identification with the organization. Conservancy staff scored between 82 and 94 percent positive on these questions compared with other State agency scores, which were between one and 30 percent lower on given questions. The huge difference indicates a high

level of employee engagement in the Conservancy's mission-oriented organization.

Lowest scoring questions were still significantly higher than emphatically lower scores throughout the State. Findings indicating further Conservancy action include:

- Significant staff workload management issues;
- Need for better balance between staff work life and private life;
- Keeping staff better informed; and
- Management focus on areas most helpful to promotion, furthering career goals, possible training opportunities, and coping with changing Conservancy and State roles and goals.

The following are the next steps in the Program, which were identified by Ms. Freeman and Mr. Wright:

- Address survey results through the Action Plan, including discussions with supervisors and staff to finalize Fiscal Year 2019/20 actions to address low-scoring issues, while maintaining high scoring items;
- Utilization of 2020 survey responses to measure results from actions taken to address 2019 items; and
- Continue informing the Operations Committee on the status of actions so the Committee can report out to the Board.

The Operations Committee will continue to monitor the progress of the Program and report back to the Board. In the meantime, if there are questions or a need for further information, these can be addressed at future Conservancy Board meetings.

California Tahoe Conservancy
Agenda Item 14a
October 10, 2019

POTENTIAL AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE DECEMBER 12 BOARD MEETING

Staff seeks input from the Board regarding the agenda items for the December 12, 2019 Board meeting.

A tentative list of agenda items beyond the normal standing items includes:

- Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act Round 16 Forestry Project(s) (action)
- 2019 Highlights and Accomplishments (discussion only)
- Country Club Heights Erosion Control Project – Phase 3 Update (discussion only)
- Upper Truckee River Watershed Synthesis Update (discussion only)

Conservancy Staff Contacts

Patrick Wright, Executive Director
Jane Freeman, Deputy Director

patrick.wright@tahoe.ca.gov
jane.freeman@tahoe.ca.gov