MEETING OF THE
CALIFORNIA TAHOE CONSERVANCY BOARD

Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

California Secretary of State
1500 11th Street, Multipurpose Room
Sacramento, CA 95814

1. Roll Call

2. Consent Items

   a. Approval of Minutes (action) (Resolution 20-03-01)

   b. Approval of Board Agenda (action) (Resolution 20-03-02)

   c. USDA Forest Service Meyers Landfill Monitoring Well Long-Term License Agreement (action): Consideration and possible authorization of a long-term license agreement allowing the USDA Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit to access, use, and maintain an existing groundwater monitoring well on Conservancy property, located at El Dorado County Assessment Number (AN) 033-641-002, as part of the former Meyers Landfill Remediation Project.

      California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) consideration: categorical exemption

      (Resolution 20-03-03)

   d. Environmentally Sensitive Lands Acquisitions (action): Consideration and possible authorization of two parcel acquisitions located at El Dorado County AN 036-501-004 and Placer County AN 083-130-020 for up to a total of $3,000.

      CEQA consideration: categorical exemption

      (Resolution 20-03-04)

3. Chair’s Report
4. Executive Director’s Report
   • Lake Tahoe Basin and State Priorities
   • Budget and Bond Update
   • Asset Lands Update

5. Welcoming Remarks from Wade Crowfoot, Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency

6. Climate Change Items

   a. Climate Change Action Update (discussion only): The Board will hear a presentation on the Conservancy’s climate adaptation work, including the forthcoming action portfolio, and progress on challenges identified by panelists in 2019. The panelists will discuss how to accelerate adaptation in the Lake Tahoe Basin through aligning state planning, innovation, and investments.

       Presenter: Dorian Fougères, Chief of Natural Resources, California Tahoe Conservancy

       Panelists:
       • Jordan Diamond, Executive Director, Center for Law, Energy, and the Environment, University of California, Berkeley School of Law
       • Kate Gordon, Director, Governor’s Office of Planning and Research
       • Amanda Hansen, Deputy Secretary for Climate and Energy, California Natural Resources Agency
       • Lauren Sanchez, Deputy Secretary for Climate Policy and Intergovernmental Relations, California Environmental Protection Agency

   b. Proposition 68 Climate Grants (action): Consideration and possible authorization of: 1) a grant to the University of California, Davis, Tahoe Environmental Research Center, for up to $186,836 for Identifying Adaptive Traits for Climate Resilience in Sugar Pine Trees; 2) a grant to the South Tahoe Public Utility District for up to $250,000 for Water and Sewer Infrastructure Assessment, Planning, and Design; and 3) a grant to the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency for up to $100,000 for a Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Update.

       CEQA consideration:
       • Categorical exemption:
         o Resolution 20-03-05.1 Identifying Adaptive Traits for Climate Resilience in Sugar Pine Trees
• Statutory exemptions:
  o **Resolution 20-03-05.2** Water and Sewer Infrastructure Assessment
  o **Resolution 20-03-05.3** Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Update

7. Sustainable Communities Update (discussion only): The Board will hear a presentation on the Conservancy’s sustainable communities efforts, and progress towards a state interagency memorandum of understanding. The panelists will discuss key challenges in implementing Executive Order N-06-19, how to further align funding and technical assistance, and how affordable housing projects can reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve quality of life.

**Presenter:** Kevin Prior, Chief Administrative Officer, California Tahoe Conservancy

**Panelists:**
- Louise Bedsworth, Executive Director, Strategic Growth Council
- Jason Kenney, Deputy Director, Real Estate Services Division, Department of General Services
- Zack Olmstead, Deputy Director of Housing Policy Development, California Department of Housing and Community Development

8. Landscape and Community Forestry Action Update (discussion only): The Board will hear a presentation on implementation of the Lake Tahoe Basin Forest Action Plan, including two signature landscape restoration initiatives—Lake Tahoe West and Tahoe-Central Sierra Initiative, and progress on challenges identified by panelists in 2019. The panelists will discuss how to strengthen state-federal partnerships through efficient planning, environmental review, implementation, and management technologies.

**Presenters:**
- Jason Vasques, Landscape Forestry Supervisor, California Tahoe Conservancy

**Panelists:**
- Angela Avery, Executive Officer, Sierra Nevada Conservancy
- Helge Eng, Deputy Director, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
- Jessica Morse, Deputy Secretary of Forest Resources Management, California Natural Resources Agency
- Tony Scardina, Deputy Regional Forester, USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region
- Jay Ziegler, Director of External Affairs and Policy, The Nature Conservancy
9. Tahoe Valley Stormwater and Greenbelt Improvement Project Grant and License Agreement (action): Consideration and possible authorization of a grant to the City of South Lake Tahoe (City) for up to $375,000 and a long-term license agreement with the City on 20 Conservancy parcels for the Tahoe Valley Stormwater and Greenbelt Improvement Project.

CEQA consideration: review and consider mitigated negative declaration adopted by the City and possible adoption of mitigation monitoring plan

(Resolution 20-03-06)

10. Upper Truckee River and Marsh Restoration Project (action): Consideration and possible authorization to expend up to an additional $2,460,000 to implement the project.

CEQA consideration: previously analyzed

(Resolution 20-03-07)

11. Board Member Comment

a. Potential Agenda Items for the June 25 Board Meeting (discussion only):
Discuss potential agenda items for the June 25 Board meeting.

12. Board Committee Update

• Committee Structure
• Legislative Committee Update

13. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

14. 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 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*
December 12, 2019 (9:30 a.m.) Board Meeting

Staff prepared the minutes from the same-day audio recording and transcription by Foothill Transcription Company, which were certified on December 22, 2019.

Agenda Item 1. Roll Call

Chair Laine called the meeting to order with a 9:37 a.m. roll call at the Lake Tahoe Community College.

Members Present:

Brooke Laine, Chair, City of South Lake Tahoe  
Lynn Suter, Vice Chair, Public Member  
Elizabeth Williamson, California Natural Resources Agency  
Adam Acosta, Public Member  
Sue Novasel, El Dorado County  
Cindy Gustafson, Placer County  
Karen Finn, California Department of Finance

Members Absent:

Jeff Marsolais, USDA Forest Service (ex officio)

Others Present:

Patrick Wright, Executive Director  
Jane Freeman, Deputy Director  
Mike Steeves, Chief Counsel
Agenda Item 2. Consent Items

   a. Approval of Minutes (action)

   The Board considered the minutes from the October 10, 2019 meeting.

   b. Approval of Board Agenda (action)

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

   c. Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act Round 16 California Regional
   Hazardous Fuel Reduction Projects (action)

   The Board considered authorization of three hazardous fuel reduction projects.

Ms. Novasel moved to approve the three consent items and Vice Chair Suter seconded
the motion. Resolutions 19-12-01, 19-12-02, 19-12-03.1, 19-12-03.2, and 19-12-03.3
passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 3. Executive Director’s Report

Mr. Wright noted the California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) recently secured all
necessary funding for the first phase of the Upper Truckee River and Marsh Restoration
Project after almost a decade of efforts. Mr. Wright thanked Conservancy staff Sue
Ewbank and Scott Carroll for their efforts, including for helping to secure grants.
Mr. Wright also explained that staff plans to provide the Board with more in-depth
updates through the Board meetings and one-on-one briefing sessions in order to
improve the Board’s ability to track various Conservancy efforts in advance of actual
decision points.

Mr. Wright then showed a short video on the Conservancy’s Tahoe Pines Restoration
and Public Access Project.

Agenda Item 4. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

Chair Laine invited public comment on items not on the agenda.

Norma Santiago, with the Sierra State Parks Foundation, stated that a contract had been
awarded for the analysis and design for the Lake Tahoe Golf Course. Ms. Santiago
expressed excitement for restoration opportunities along the Upper Truckee River,
which runs through the golf course property. There were no further public comments.
Agenda Item 5. Lake Tahoe Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Action Agenda Update (discussion only)

Mr. Robert Larsen, Water Quality Program Manager with the Conservancy, and Dennis Zabaglo, Aquatic Resources Program Manager with the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA), presented Item 5.

Following the presentation, Vice Chair Suter asked to receive a couple copies of the eight-page “glossy” materials, and Mr. Zabaglo stated that would be possible. Vice Chair Suter also asked about the introduction of non-native frogs and Mr. Zabaglo stated that he wasn’t sure precisely when or how they were introduced.

Ms. Finn asked about the information conveyed on map, which Mr. Zabaglo answered.

Ms. Novasel noted invasive frogs are also a problem in Lake Baron, in Meyers, California, and asked about the possibility of studying that location. Mr. Zabaglo said he and Ms. Novasel should follow up with USDA Forest Service staff on that issue.

Chair Laine asked whether the TRPA is the lead agency with regard to AIS. Mr. Zabaglo responded that the TRPA and the Tahoe Resource Conservation District (Tahoe RCD) co-lead the program. Chair Laine also asked about how residents in the Tahoe Keys participate in efforts to resolve AIS problems. Mr. Zabaglo explained that Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association is working more proactively to deal with the issue.

Chair Laine invited the public to comment. Laurel Ames, on behalf of the Sierra Club, stated that she is very interested in the efforts to combat AIS. She also commented about historical practices and ideas regarding AIS at the Tahoe Keys, including an idea to isolate the Tahoe Keys marina from Lake Tahoe that would prevent mixing between lake and marina water.

Edward Moser from South Lake Tahoe echoed Ms. Ames’ comments. There were no further comments from the public.

Agenda Item 6. Lake Tahoe Aquatic Invasive Species Control Program Support Grant (action)

Mr. Larsen presented Item 6.

Chair Laine invited the Board to comment.

Vice Chair Suter asked about how the marinas and boaters contribute to addressing the AIS problem. Mr. Larsen explained how pier and buoy fees contribute to the Lake Tahoe
Science and Improvement Account, which can help fund AIS reduction efforts.

Ms. Gustafson asked a clarifying question about the term of the grant, which Mr. Larsen answered.

Chair Laine invited public comment. Ms. Ames commented that AIS reduction efforts should focus on barriers. Mr. Moser stated that efforts should not rely on herbicides, and pointed to physical weed pulling measures as a better approach. There were no further public comments.

Next, Ms. Novasel asked whether the funding mechanism for this grant would be automatically renewed. Mr. Larsen stated that the funding is an annual appropriation, of which the grant represents a portion.

Ms. Williamson asked about the TRPA Shoreline Code upgrades. Mr. Larsen explained the AIS grant would build on the TRPA’s efforts to apply new requirements through the Shoreline Code.

Vice Chair Suter asked for more information about the barriers Ms. Ames discussed. Mr. Larsen stressed the grant does not support any particular project or control activity, but rather would support Tahoe RCD’s AIS program. Mr. Larsen then discussed barriers, as well as walling off the Tahoe Keys marina, as among the different ideas for addressing AIS (neither of which were proposed nor included as part of the Board’s authorization).

Ms. Williamson moved to adopt the resolution and Ms. Finn seconded the motion. Resolution 19-12-04 passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 7. Climate Action Acceleration Grant (action)

Mr. Dorian Fougères, Chief of Natural Resources, presented Item 7.

Chair Laine invited the Board to comment.

Ms. Finn wondered if the proposed action is “overthinking” given that other jurisdictions are pursuing their own climate adaptation analyses. Mr. Fougères responded that the effort before the Board is intended to address data gaps and to translate policy and program objectives into a format more easily used by practitioners (e.g., a forester in the field).

Ms. Gustafson asked whether the grant recipient has any prior experience working in the Lake Tahoe Basin (Basin). Mr. Fougères responded that some of the individuals making up that organization have worked on Basin matters.
Ms. Novasel expressed support for the proposal. There were no further comments from the Board.

Chair Laine invited the public to comment. There were no public comments.

**Ms. Gustafson moved to approve the resolution and Ms. Novasel seconded the motion. Resolution 19-12-05 passed unanimously.**

**Agenda Item 8. Country Club Heights Erosion Control Project – Phase 3 Update (discussion only)**

Ms. Jen Greenberg, Associate Environmental Planner with the Conservancy, and Mr. Dan Kikkert with the El Dorado County Department of Transportation, presented Item 8.

Chair Laine invited the Board to comment. Ms. Novasel expressed support for the project.

Chair Laine invited the public to comment. Ms. Santiago also expressed support for the project.

Mr. Wright then asked whether there are specific design features for the project made in anticipation of increased flooding predicted to result from climate change. Mr. Kikkert responded that the location of the bathroom is based on such considerations. He also noted that the elevation of the parking lot should be the same as the elevation of Elks Club Road, suggesting that any significant flooding will affect the larger area beyond just the project location.

Ms. Ames expressed support for the project and asked for quantification of the fill that would be removed. Mr. Kikkert responded that he didn't have volumetric numbers available, but explained where fill is expected to be removed from the area and also how El Dorado County intends to avoid negative impacts to the South Tahoe Public Utility District’s existing infrastructure in the area.

Ms. Williamson asked a clarifying question about the project schedule, which Mr. Kikkert answered. He also noted El Dorado County would likely apply for funding from the Conservancy in the future to move the project forward. Ms. Greenberg added that Conservancy staff would also likely seek future Board authorization to enter into a license agreement with El Dorado County.

There were no further public comments.
Agenda Item 9. Conservancy Tahoe Livable Communities Program Update (discussion only)

Chair Laine began by stating that Aimee Rutledge, with the Conservancy’s Tahoe Liveable Communities Program, did a great job facilitating a public meeting the previous evening regarding the Conservancy’s asset lands at the “Y” area of South Lake Tahoe.

Ms. Rutledge presented Item 9.

Chair Laine invited the Board to comment.

Ms. Novasel thanked Ms. Rutledge and Conservancy staff for their work on these matters and for leading the public meeting the previous evening. Ms. Novasel noted that she attended the public meeting and reflected on the community input.

Vice Chair Suter noted a drainage issue near one of the asset lands at issue and suggested that addressing the problem could help boost public support for the plans.

Ms. Gustafson then asked about the timing and status of the Conservancy’s efforts on asset lands located in Kings Beach. Ms. Rutledge suggested that Ms. Gustafson may be able to assist Placer County staff in setting up a meeting for further discussion.

Mr. Acosta asked about the number of affordable housing units the Conservancy might build in the next few years. Ms. Rutledge and Mr. Wright explained how economic analyses and site restrictions affect the number of units that can be built on a particular site. Mr. Acosta then asked whether the Conservancy has “identified what exactly is our responsibility as an agency in terms of a hard number of units.” Mr. Wright responded in the negative, but explained his intent to develop more collaborative working relationships with other state agencies and the Governor’s office to support housing solutions in the Basin. Mr. Wright also explained his view that the Conservancy is not the appropriate agency to develop housing targets, and rather views the Conservancy as facilitating the targets set by other agencies.

Ms. Williamson commented that we should not forget the Conservancy is part of the “State,” so be careful when referring to Conservancy “partnerships” with “the State” as that is not exactly accurate phrasing.

Chair Laine invited public comment.

Mr. Moser suggested the Conservancy consider “swapping” land to make more land available for affordable housing in the Stateline area because there is a greater need for affordable housing in that area.
Next, Mr. Andrew Ryan, representing the Brockway North Project in Kings Beach, introduced himself and expressed excitement about the opportunity for Conservancy asset lands to facilitate a redevelopment project in Kings Beach.

Ms. Ames asked the Conservancy to carefully consider open space and viewshed impacts of any development at the Conservancy’s asset lands in Meyers. She also said the Conservancy should have a map of what is going to be open space under the Conservancy’s plans.

Mr. Steve Teshara with the Lake Tahoe South Shore Chamber of Commerce encouraged the Conservancy to move forward with plans for the asset lands, particularly with respect to affordable housing. He also encouraged the Board to read the recently published South Shore Housing Needs Assessment Report.

There were no further public comments.

Agenda Item 10. 2019 Conservancy Highlights and Accomplishments (discussion only)

Mr. Shawn Butler (Land Management Supervisor), Mr. Stuart Roll (Watershed Supervisor), Mr. Forest Schafer (Community Forestry Supervisor), Mr. Jason Vasques (Landscape Forestry Supervisor), Ms. Amy Cecchettini (Tahoe Livable Communities Program), and Mr. Wright presented Item 10.

Chair Laine invited comments from the Board.

Ms. Gustafson provided additional context on one highlight (Polaris Creek) and thanked Tahoe RCD for their contributions as well.

Mr. Acosta thanked Conservancy staff for all their hard work and applauded the Conservancy’s highlights and accomplishments.

Ms. Novasel asked a question about a letter to the Board from fire chiefs in the Basin. Mr. Schafer responded that Conservancy staff plan to work over the winter on the issues raised in the letter surrounding defensible space.

Ms. Finn applauded the Conservancy’s efforts to respond to citizen reports.

Chair Laine invited public comments.

Nicole Cartwright, Executive Director of Tahoe RCD, thanked Conservancy staff for the partnership between the Conservancy and Tahoe RCD.
There were no further public comments.

**Agenda Item 11. Chair’s Report**

There was no Chair’s Report.

**Agenda Item 12. Board Member Comment**

Ms. Novasel once again expressed support for the Climate Action Acceleration Grant (Item 7).

Vice Chair Suter thanked Mr. Wright and Ms. Freeman for inviting her to the Conservancy’s all-staff meeting.

Ms. Williamson thanked Mr. Wright and Ms. Freeman for bringing her up to speed on Basin and Conservancy issues during this, her first year at the California Natural Resources Agency.

**a. Potential Agenda Items for the March 12 Board Meeting**

Ms. Freeman summarized the potential agenda items for the March 12 Board meeting in Sacramento. Ms. Freeman added that Board members are always welcome to attend any of the monthly all-staff meetings that occur at the Conservancy office on the first Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m.

**Agenda Item 13. Conservancy Chair and Vice Chair Election**

The Board members discussed the election of a new Chair and Vice Chair.

**Ms. Williamson motioned for Ms. Novasel to be elected Chair, and for Ms. Gustafson to be elected Vice Chair. Ms. Finn seconded the motion. Ms. Novasel was elected Chair, and Ms. Gustafson Vice Chair, by unanimous vote.**

**Agenda Item 14. Conservancy Board Committee Selection**

Ms. Novasel thanked Ms. Laine for her service as the Board Chair.

The Board then discussed committee assignments. The Board assigned the Chair and Vice Chair to comprise the Operations Committee. The Board assigned the representatives from Placer County and the City of South Lake Tahoe to comprise the Local Government Committee. The Board assigned the representative from the California Natural Resources Agency and the Senate public member to comprise the Legislative Committee.
Agenda Item 15. Adjourn

Chair Novasel adjourned the meeting at 1:10 p.m.
California Tahoe Conservancy
Resolution 20-03-01
Adopted: March 12, 2020

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the
December 12, 2019 meeting of the California Tahoe Conservancy adopted on
March 12, 2020.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of March 12, 2020.

________________________
Patrick Wright
Executive Director
APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA

I hereby approve the March 12, 2020 Board agenda of the California Tahoe Conservancy adopted on March 12, 2020.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of March, 2020.

________________________________________
Patrick Wright
Executive Director
USDA FOREST SERVICE MEYERS LANDFILL MONITORING WELL LONG-TERM LICENSE AGREEMENT

**Recommended Action:** Adopt Resolution 20-03-03 (Attachment 1) authorizing staff to enter into a long-term license agreement allowing the USDA Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) to access, use, and maintain an existing groundwater monitoring well on Conservancy property as part of the former Meyers Landfill (Landfill) Remediation Project.

**Executive Summary:** The recommended action will allow the LTBMU to continue to monitor groundwater around the Landfill, which is located on LTBMU lands, for ten years, using an existing groundwater well on a nearby Conservancy parcel (El Dorado County Assessment Number (AN) 033-641-002). The Conservancy purchased this parcel in 1989 with Lake Tahoe Acquisition Bond Act funds to protect environmentally sensitive lands. The monitoring involves access to the existing well by foot only, and is not expected to further impact the Conservancy parcel in any way. The monitoring originated as part of an interagency effort to contain groundwater contamination from the Landfill first detected in 1996. In 2010, the Conservancy Board approved a three-year license for the LTBMU to install and maintain the well, which provides valuable monitoring data due to its proximity to the contamination plume. The recommended action is consistent with Goal 2 of the Conservancy’s Strategic Plan, which aims to protect watersheds and water quality, and will support the Lake Tahoe Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) project 01.02.01.0019 (Meyers Landfill Remediation). If approved, Conservancy staff will execute a license shortly thereafter.

**Location:** The monitoring well is located on 1537 Pioneer Trail, between Meyers and South Lake Tahoe, in El Dorado County (AN 033-641-002) (Attachment 2).

**Fiscal Summary:** No funding is required.
Overview

History
The Conservancy purchased the parcel at 1537 Pioneer Trail (AN 033-641-002) in 1989, using Lake Tahoe Acquisition Bond Act funds, for the purpose of protecting environmentally sensitive lands. Several years later the parcel gained unexpected value because of its proximity to the nearby Landfill.

For more than 20 years, public agencies have worked together to remediate groundwater contamination coming from the Landfill. Originally, El Dorado County and private parties operated the Landfill, located on LTBMU land, as a municipal facility from 1947 to 1971, under a series of LTBMU special use permits. In 1996, the LTBMU detected volatile organic compounds and vinyl chloride in groundwater under and also downgradient of the former Landfill, including in Saxon Creek, a tributary of Lake Tahoe. The LTBMU initiated a response under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA, also known as the Superfund law), to determine the extent and impacts of the contamination. In 1997, the LTBMU installed additional groundwater monitoring wells, and began further investigating the extent of the waste and contamination. In 2002, the LTBMU initiated a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RIFS), including a preferred alternative approach to addressing the contamination—creating a cap over the waste to prevent the further migration of pollutants. In 2007, the LTBMU completed a Record of Decision for the remedy; in 2012 El Dorado County constructed the cap.

CERCLA requires responsible parties to monitor a ring of “clean” wells outside of contaminated areas to ensure that a remedy is effective. For this reason, in 2010, the Conservancy provided a three-year license to the LTBMU to install and maintain a well on the nearby Conservancy parcel. The well provides valuable information due to its proximity to the contamination plume. After installation, the license restricted access to foot traffic to minimize any potential impacts to the parcel. This license expired in 2013.

Today, regular groundwater monitoring continues as part of implementing the RIFS. In 2021, the LTBMU will complete an evaluation of the cap’s effectiveness, and recommend any additional remedial actions (e.g., pump the water out and treat it, use wells to inject water that changes the speed and direction of groundwater flow, let the plume attenuate naturally, etc.). The LTMBU will use a public process to determine if the remedial action(s) are adequate, and subsequently pursue funding. Once LTBMU takes action, groundwater monitoring will likely continue for several years to determine effectiveness.

Detailed Description of Recommended Action
1. Major Elements and/or Steps of the Recommended Action
If authorized, staff will execute a ten-year license for the access, use, and maintenance of the existing monitoring well. The LTBMU requested a ten-year license given the high likelihood that monitoring will need to continue for several years after 2021. Issuing one such license, rather than three or more shorter licenses, will reduce total staff work for both agencies. If the LTBMU no longer needs the well prior to expiration of the license, the Conservancy and LTBMU will terminate the license.

In lieu of a license fee, LTBMU has agreed that once monitoring is complete, it will remove the well and restore the area before terminating the license. This restoration work will only involve minor alterations to the land.

2. Overall Context and Benefits
Monitoring and remediating the groundwater contamination from the Landfill is a priority for the LTMBU, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, El Dorado County, and other Lake Tahoe Basin partners. The recommended action also advances Goal 2 of the Conservancy’s Strategic Plan, which aims to protect watersheds and water quality, and state and federal goals for water quality protection. It also will support the EIP project 01.02.01.0019 (Meyers Landfill Remediation).

3. Schedule for the Recommended Action
Staff anticipates fully executing the license in spring 2020.

Financing
No funding is required for this action. The license process requires incidental staff cost.

Authority

Consistency with the Conservancy’s Enabling Legislation
The recommended license is consistent with the Conservancy’s enabling legislation. Specifically, Government Code section 66907.8 authorizes the Conservancy to lease or otherwise transfer any real property interest to fulfill the purposes of its enabling legislation and to promote the State’s planning priorities. Under Government Code section 66907.9, the Conservancy is authorized to initiate, negotiate, and participate in agreements for the management of land under its ownership or control with federal agencies.

Consistency with the Conservancy’s Strategic Plan
The recommended action is consistent with Strategic Plan Goal 2, Strategy B: to advance multiple-benefit projects that creatively combine restoring and building the resilience of forests and watersheds with water quality protection, green infrastructure, recreation, and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Consistency with the Conservancy’s Program Guidelines
The recommended action is consistent with the Conservancy’s Special Use Guidelines because the license meets the following evaluation criteria: it is consistent with the Land Management program objectives and existing uses of Conservancy land.

**Consistency with External Authorities**

The recommended action is consistent with the EIP because it supports EIP project 01.02.01.0019 (Meyers Landfill Remediation).

**Compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act**

Pursuant to the 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(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 CEQA Guidelines, sections 15301 (Existing Facilities) and 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land), as well as the Conservancy’s CEQA regulations, sections 12102.1 and 12102.4. 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 CEQA Guidelines, section 15062.

**List of Attachments**

Attachment 1 – Resolution 20-03-03
Attachment 2 – Long-Term License Agreement Location Map
Attachment 3 – Notice of Exemption

**Conservancy Staff Contact**

Nick Meyer, Associate Environmental Planner nick.meyer@tahoe.ca.gov
ATTACHMENT 1

California Tahoe Conservancy
Resolution
20-03-03
Adopted: March 12, 2020

USDA FOREST SERVICE MEYERS LANDFILL MONITORING WELL LONG-TERM LICENSE AGREEMENT

Staff recommends that the California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) adopt the following resolution pursuant to Government Code sections 66907.8 and 66907.9:

“The Conservancy hereby authorizes staff to enter into a long-term license agreement allowing the USDA Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit to access, use, and maintain an existing groundwater monitoring well on Conservancy property (El Dorado Assessment Number 033-641-002) as part of the former Meyers Landfill Remediation Project, and to take 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 12th day of March, 2020.

In WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of March, 2020.

____________________________
Patrick Wright
Executive Director
ATTACHMENT 2
USDA Forest Service Meyers Landfill Monitoring Well Long-Term License Agreement Location

Monitoring Well Location
- USDA Forest Service
- California Tahoe Conservancy

Former Meyers Landfill Site

Sources: TRPA, CTC, ESRI

March 2020
*Map for reference purposes only.

033-641-002
1537 Pioneer Trail

Lake Tahoe Airport

Sources:
- TRPA, CTC, ESRI

March 2020
*Map for reference purposes only.
ATTACHMENT 3
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 -10th Street, Room 121
Sacramento, California 95814

From: California Tahoe Conservancy
1061 Third Street
South Lake Tahoe, California 96150

Project Title:
USDA Forest Service Meyers Landfill Monitoring Well Long-Term License Agreement

Project Location – Specific:
1537 Pioneer Trail (El Dorado County Assessment Number 033-641-002) (Exhibit A).

Project Location – City:
Unincorporated

Project Location – County:
El Dorado County

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:
Execution of a ten-year license agreement with the USDA Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU), to access, use, and maintain an existing groundwater monitoring well on Conservancy property to monitor contaminants originating from the former Meyers Landfill.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project:
California Tahoe Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:
LTBMU

Exempt Status:
☐ Ministerial (§ 15268)
☐ Declared Emergency (§ 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (§ 15269(b)(c))
☒ Categorical Exemption – Class 1 (Existing Facilities) and Class 4 (Minor Alterations to Land), Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 15301 and 15304 (see also Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 12102.1 and 12102.4)

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:
This project involves licensing for LTBMU’s temporary use of an existing groundwater monitoring well, which will not involve any expansion of use. As part of this project, LTBMU will also remove the well and restore the area once monitoring is complete, which will involve minor alterations to the land.

Contact Person:
Nick Meyer

Telephone Number:
(530) 543-6073

Date Received for Filing:

Patrick Wright
Executive Director
ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LANDS ACQUISITIONS

**Recommended Action:** Adopt Resolution 20-03-04 (Attachment 1) authorizing the acquisition of El Dorado County Assessment Number (AN) 036-501-004 and Placer County AN 083-130-020 for up to a total of $3,000.

**Executive Summary:** The California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) proposes to acquire two parcels to preserve open space and wildlife habitat. The first acquisition provides public access to the Upper Truckee River. It supports the Conservancy’s Strategic Plan Goal 3, providing riverfront property for multiple benefits including open space, wildlife habitat, recreation, and restoration. The second acquisition will almost complete Conservancy ownership in the roadless Mark Twain Subdivision. It supports Strategic Plan Goal 4 to prevent future development by acquiring remaining private properties in Lake Tahoe’s undeveloped subdivisions. The acquisition also provides public access to open space for recreation. Conservancy staff will perform the necessary due diligence activities to acquire these parcels, including clear title.

**Location:** The properties are located at 3628 Grass Lake Road, Meyers in El Dorado County (AN 036-501-004); and an unnumbered parcel near Bow Road in the Mark Twain Subdivision south of Tahoe City, in Placer County (AN 083-130-020) (Attachment 2).

**Fiscal Summary:** The recommended action includes the total purchase price of up to $1,500 for El Dorado County AN 036-501-004 (Proposition 68) and up to $1,500 for Placer County AN 083-130-020 (Proposition 68). Staff time, escrow fees, title insurance, and other related closing costs are covered under the June 2019 Board Planning Authorization.

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**Overview**

**History**

**Upper Truckee River Parcel**

The Upper Truckee River flows through the westerly portion of El Dorado County AN 036-501-004. This parcel is 1.15 acres and contains several riparian plant species including sedges and cottonwoods. The parcel is surrounded by USDA Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit land. If acquired, public land managers could better manage and protect this portion of the river corridor (Attachment 3a).
Mark Twain Parcel
The Conservancy began acquiring land in the roadless Mark Twain Subdivision from willing sellers in the early 1990s. Acquiring Placer County AN 083-130-020 will almost complete the Conservancy's ownership of this roadless subdivision (Attachment 3b).

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

Upper Truckee River Parcel
The Conservancy proposes to acquire El Dorado County AN 036-501-004 to complete public ownership consisting of a block of parcels accessing the Upper Truckee River. This 1.15-acre property is environmentally sensitive and non-buildable.

This parcel has no title or management issues that would preclude acquisition. The property contains four surveyed property corners. It contains no previously identified cultural sites or occurrences of historical special status wildlife species. The parcel is deed restricted and retired to permanent open space. The parcel has no associated residential building allocation or potential land coverage rights. The parcel still contains one Potential Residential Unit of Use. These deed restrictions present no issues for the Conservancy, but greatly affect the property value. The seller and Conservancy agreed to acquire this parcel via a bargain-sale purchase for up to $1,500. A bargain-sale purchase involves the acquisition of the parcel for a nominal amount along with any remaining development rights. If applicable, the seller must pay any encumbrances, such as taxes, judgements, liens, or deeds of trust prior to escrow closure. The Conservancy pays for escrow fees, title insurance, and other related closing costs.

Mark Twain Parcel
The Conservancy proposes to acquire Placer County AN 083-130-020. If acquired, the Conservancy will own the entire Mark Twain roadless subdivision, except one privately-owned vacant parcel to the northeast, and one privately owned single family home to the southeast.

The 0.16-acre property is environmentally sensitive and poorly suited for development. This parcel has no title or management issues that would preclude acquisition. The property has been surveyed and is marked with four property corners. There are no previously identified cultural sites or occurrences of historical special status wildlife species. There are no deed restrictions for any development right or land coverage transfers. The seller wishes to provide this parcel to the Conservancy via a bargain-sale purchase for up to $1,500. If applicable, the seller must pay any encumbrances such as taxes, judgements, liens, or deeds of trust prior to escrow closure. The Conservancy pays for escrow fees, title insurance, and other related closing costs.
2. Overall Context and Benefits

**Upper Truckee River Parcel**
This acquisition supports the Conservancy's Strategic Plan Goal 3 providing riverfront land for multiple benefits, including open space, wildlife habitat, recreation, and river restoration.

**Mark Twain Parcel**
Acquisition supports the Conservancy’s Strategic Plan Goal 4 to prevent future development by acquiring remaining private properties in Lake Tahoe’s roadless subdivisions. Acquisition provides public recreation access to existing trails in the subdivision.

3. Schedule for the Recommended Action
Both acquisitions should close escrow during by fall 2020.

**Financing**
Subject to Board approval, the Conservancy will expend up to $3,000 of Proposition 68 funds, which includes due diligence activities, such as title reports, phase I environmental assessments (if necessary), and closing costs to acquire two environmentally sensitive parcels.

**Authority**

**Consistency with the Conservancy’s Enabling Legislation**
Implementation of these acquisitions is consistent with the Conservancy’s enabling legislation. Specifically, Government Code section 66907 authorizes the Conservancy to select and acquire real property for the purposes of protecting the natural environment, providing public access or public recreational facilities, preserving wildlife habitat areas, or providing access to or management of acquired lands.

**Consistency with the Conservancy’s Strategic Plan**
These acquisitions are consistent with the Conservancy’s Strategic Plan Goal 3 (Provide Public Access and Outdoor Recreation for All Communities) and Goal 4 (Foster Basinwide Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Communities).

**Consistency with the Conservancy’s Program Guidelines**
The recommended action is consistent with the Conservancy’s Land Acquisition Program Guidelines. The landowners indicated a willingness to sell. One parcel is located in a stream environment zone, and the other is substandard because it is located in a subdivision lacking roads and utilities. Acquisition of both parcels would provide public access and protect the natural environment.
Consistency with External Authorities
The recommended action is consistent with the Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) because it completes the implementation of EIP project #01.02.04.0001.

Compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act

Pursuant to the 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(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. These acquisitions qualify for a categorical exemption under State CEQA Guidelines, section 15325, Transfers of Ownership in Land to Preserve Existing Natural Conditions and Historical Resources, and the Conservancy’s CEQA regulations, section 12102.25. Two notices of exemption (NOEs) has been prepared for the acquisitions (Attachments 4a and 4b). If the Board approves the acquisitions, staff will file the NOEs with the State Clearinghouse pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines, section 15062.

List of Attachments

Attachment 1 – Resolution 20-03-04
Attachment 2 – Environmentally Sensitive Lands Acquisitions Location Map
Attachment 3a – Upper Truckee River Parcel Map
Attachment 3b – Mark Twain Parcel Map
Attachment 4a – Notice of Exemption for Upper Truckee River Parcel
Attachment 4b – Notice of Exemption for Mark Twain Parcel

Conservancy Staff Contact

Amy Cecchettini, Public Land Management Specialist III  amy.cecchettini@tahoe.ca.gov
ATTACHMENT 1

California Tahoe Conservancy
Resolution
20-03-04
Adopted: March 12, 2020

ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LANDS ACQUISITIONS

Staff recommends that the California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) adopt the following resolution pursuant to Government Code section 66907:

“The Conservancy hereby authorizes staff to expend up to $3,000 to acquire two parcels (El Dorado County Assessment Number 036-501-004 and Placer County Assessment Number 083-130-020), and to take 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 12th day of March, 2020.

In WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of March, 2020.

____________________________

Patrick Wright
Executive Director
ATTACHMENT 2
Location Map for Subject Parcels

Mark Twain Subdivision parcel
AN 083-130-020

Upper Truckee River parcel
AN 036-501-004

Sources:
TRPA, CTC, ESRI

*Map for reference purposes only.

March 2020
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:  
Acquisition of one environmentally sensitive land parcel located along the Upper Truckee River.

Project Location – Specific:  
El Dorado County Assessment Number 036-501-004, located at 3628 Grass Lake Road, along the Upper Truckee River (Exhibit A).

Project Location – City:  
Unincorporated

Project Location – County:  
El Dorado County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:  
Purchase one environmentally sensitive parcel as part of the California Tahoe Conservancy’s acquisition program.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project:  
California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy meeting of 3/12/2020) (Agenda Item 2d)

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:  
California Tahoe Conservancy

Exempt Status:  
☒ Categorical Exemption § 15325, Class 25 (see also Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 12102.25).

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:  
Action involves land acquisition in the Lake Tahoe Basin by the California Tahoe Conservancy for access to public lands and waters, and to preserve land in its natural condition.

Contact Person:  
Amy Cecchettini

Telephone Number:  
(530) 543-6033

Date Received for Filing:  
____________________________

Patrick Wright  
Executive Director
EXHIBIT A
Upper Truckee River Parcel

Sources: TRPA, CTC, ESRI

March 2020
*Map for reference purposes only.
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:
Acquisition of one environmentally sensitive land parcel located in the Mark Twain Subdivision.

Project Location – Specific:
Placer County Assessment Number 083-130-020, located on an unpaved road near Bow and Holly Roads, south of Tahoe City (Exhibit A).

Project Location – City: Unincorporated
Project Location – County: Placer County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:
Purchase one environmentally sensitive parcel as part of the California Tahoe Conservancy’s acquisition program.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project:
California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy meeting of 3/12/2020) (Agenda Item 2d)

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 § 15325, Class 25 (see also Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 12102.25).

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:
Action involves land acquisition in the Lake Tahoe Basin by the California Tahoe Conservancy for access to public lands, and to preserve land in its natural condition.

Contact Person: Amy Cecchettini
Telephone Number: (530) 543-6033

Date Received for Filing:

Patrick Wright
Executive Director
Executive Director’s Report

Budget and Accounting
Fiscal Year 2020/21

On January 10, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom released the proposed budget for the 2020/21 fiscal year.

The California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) proposed 2020/21 fiscal year appropriations include the following:

$1,472,000 for capital outlay to fund various programmatic priorities and support the Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) for the Lake Tahoe Basin (Basin), including:

- $622,000 for conceptual feasibility and planning of projects; and
- $850,000 for minor capital outlay projects under the Land Management and Forestry Programs.

$11,811,000 for ongoing Conservancy operations and local assistance grants to other entities, including:

- $1,504,000 in bond funds from Propositions 1, 12, 40, 50, and 68;
- $6,365,000 from special revenue funds (Environmental License Plate Fund, Habitat Conservation Fund, Lake Tahoe License Plate proceeds, and Tahoe Conservancy Fund);
- $3,942,000 in reimbursement authority for federal and state grants to the Conservancy.

The Governor’s budget has been incorporated into Assembly Bill 190 and Senate Bill 73 for consideration by the State Legislature during the spring budget hearings.

Program Areas

This document includes a table that summarizes State agency investments in the Basin, including projects and grants, from calendar years 2014 through 2018 (Attachment 1). The table also covers select accomplishments during this period, and priorities for the next one-to-two years. The table was prepared for the 2019 Lake Tahoe Summit.
1. Land Management

- Renewed Van Sickle Bi-State Park site host agreement.
- Closed Van Sickle Bi-State Park for the winter.
- Began project planning and seasonal staff arrangements for the 2020 field season.

Strategic Initiatives

Sustainable Land Stewardship

The Conservancy granted a short-term (six months) license to Alric Lam and Amanda Price to provide for use and occupation of the Van Sickle Bi-State Park (Park) host site. As an in-lieu license fee, the hosts provide daily inspections of the adjacent historic structure area.

The Park closed to vehicles for the winter on November 12, 2019. The Park will reopen on May 1, 2020, depending on conditions.

Land Management Projects and Grants

Griff Creek Bridge Replacement

Project Status:

Planning  Implementation  Monitoring

The USDA Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) is preparing a California Off-Highway Vehicle Commission grant application to fund the replacement of a dilapidated bridge over Griff Creek, located on Conservancy land. The new bridge would reestablish a critical crossing and avoid future resource damage. The grant application is due March 6, 2020, with a potential award in August 2020.
2. Community Forestry

- Coordinating forestry treatments with the Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team (TFFT).

Strategic Initiatives

Program Timberland Environmental Impact Report (PTEIR)

The Conservancy continues to lead and work with the TFFT to align community forestry treatments across land ownerships. Staff is currently working with TFFT partners to develop the PTEIR, which will analyze forest fuel reduction on Conservancy, local government, and private lands in the wildland-urban interface (WUI) on the California side of the Basin. The goal of the PTEIR is to more efficiently and comprehensively evaluate the effects of forest management within the WUI, and streamline the project approval and delivery process for fuel reduction activities.
Community Forestry Projects and Grants

Staff continues work on the following forestry projects:

Forestry Projects in the Planning Phase:

A. Ski Run/Bijou Open Space Fuel Hazard Reduction Project • 65 acres • Funded by a Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) grant
B. South Tahoe Public Utility District Treatment Plant Fuel Hazard Reduction Project • 104 acres • Conservancy grant with SNPLMA funding
C. Phase 2 of the California State Parks Fuel Hazard Reduction and Understory Burning Project • Conservancy grant with SNPLMA funding
D. Dollar Creek Forest Restoration Project • 260 acres • Funded by a California Climate Investments (CCI) grant
E. Miscellaneous forest health and fuels reduction projects (multiple locations) • 26 acres • Deferred maintenance funding

Forestry Projects in the Implementation Phase:

F. Phase 2 of the Van Sickle Bi-State Park Fuel Hazard Reduction Project • 108 acres • Funded by a SNPLMA grant
G. Montgomery Estates Urban Fuel Hazard Reduction Project • 32 acres • Funded by a SNPLMA grant
H. Burton Creek State Park Forest Restoration Project • 132 acres • Conservancy grant with CCI funds
I. Tahoma Unit Fuel Hazard Reduction Project • 9 acres • Funded by a SNPLMA grant
J. North Tahoe Fire Hazardous Fuel Reduction and Defensible Space Project • 220 acres of Conservancy land • Funded by a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and managed by North Tahoe Fire Protection District
Forestry Projects in the Monitoring Phase:

K. Dollar Creek Forest Health Project • 151 acres • Funded by CCI and SNPLMA grants • 569 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions reduced
L. Phase 1 of the California State Parks Fuel Hazard Reduction and Understory Burning Project • 150 acres • Conservancy grant with SNPLMA funding

3. Forest Health
- Lake Tahoe West Restoration Strategy completed by staff and partners.
- Awarded a contract for Lake Tahoe West environmental review.

Strategic Initiatives

Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership (LTW)

Project Status:

Planning  Implementation  Monitoring

LTW agencies and stakeholders recently completed a restoration strategy for the entire 60,000-acre landscape. Additionally, the Conservancy awarded a contract to complete environmental review to meet the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), National Environmental Policy Act, and Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA).
The TCSI is accelerating forest and watershed restoration through innovative planning, coordinated investment, and workforce development. The 2.4-million acre landscape includes LTW and seven other collaborative groups. The Conservancy has used a Proposition 68 grant from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to hire a full-time project lead to coordinate the initiative. The Conservancy and partners have completed five forest health projects and are currently implementing 23 more, all funded through Climate Change Investment grants (CCI).

4. Watershed Health

- The Upper Truckee River and Marsh Restoration Project construction starts in May 2020.
- Recently secured additional federal and state grant funds for the Upper Truckee River and Marsh Restoration Project.
Strategic Initiatives

Greater Upper Truckee River Watershed Partnership (UTP)

Project Status:

The Conservancy with a partner committee is working on the UTP Synthesis that identifies current programs and projects, future opportunities, and information needs. As part of this effort, the committee will also develop a vision for a resilient landscape and climate adaptation on the south side of the Basin. Staff is incorporating feedback and input from the committee, and will confirm the information with EIP working groups. In the coming months, staff will hold meetings with the public and partner agencies to review the draft UTP Synthesis.

Watershed Health Projects and Grants

Upper Truckee River and Marsh Restoration Project

Project Status:
The Conservancy will begin river and marsh restoration later this spring to improve water quality and wildlife habitat in the largest wetland in the Basin. The Conservancy recently secured additional federal and state grant funding to support construction, including $450,000 from the LTBMU, $2.98 million from the California Wildlife Conservation Board, and $2.6 million from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Staff has acquired all necessary final permits and approvals to begin construction. The Department of General Services (DGS) is reviewing bids to hire a contractor to construct the project.

**Tahoe Pines Campground Restoration and Public Access Project**

Project Status:
At this Conservancy land along the Upper Truckee River, the Conservancy will remove fill materials, stabilize riverbanks, replace a bridge, and install a fully accessible parking lot and trail. DGS recently executed the construction contract. Construction starts in August 2020, and will be completed in October 2020. Staff will monitor the site for several years after construction to ensure that improvements persist.

**Country Club Heights Erosion Control Project – Phase 3**

Project Status:

![Planning - Implementation - Monitoring](image)

El Dorado County is pursuing comprehensive water quality and restoration improvements in the Country Club Heights subdivision. Phase 3 of the Country Club Heights Erosion Control Project includes storm water treatment, wetland restoration, and public access elements on County right-of-way, one County parcel, and the Conservancy’s two Elks Club parcels. On April 7, the County Board of Supervisors plans to adopt a CEQA Mitigated Negative Declaration. The Conservancy intends to enter into a short-term license agreement with El Dorado County in 2020 to provide the necessary rights to work on Conservancy lands. El Dorado County plans to construct the project in 2021, and is seeking funding.

**Polaris Creek Wetland Restoration Project**

Project Status:

![Planning - Implementation - Monitoring](image)

The Tahoe Resource Conservation District (Tahoe RCD) is planning the Polaris Creek and Wetlands Restoration Project. The project will relocate baseball fields and a campground from Pomin Park, and restore historical wetlands. Tahoe RCD has completed initial feasibility studies, developed restoration and relocation alternatives, and conducted a public meeting. Tahoe RCD will complete a Feasibility Report in the spring of 2020.

5. Water Quality and Storm Water

- Work on the recently released Aquatic Invasive Species Action Agenda moves ahead.
Strategic Initiatives

Stormwater Resources Performance Measures

Staff has been working with Tahoe RCD to improve existing water quality performance measures. Rather than just reporting on whether storm water projects are implemented, the new measures report on how well projects improve water quality. This new approach could serve as a model for EIP partners, who plan to update the EIP performance measures next year. The new approach will also inform future Conservancy projects. The report will be complete in March 2020.

Aquatic Invasive Species Action Agenda

The AISCC, led by Tahoe RCD and the TRPA, is developing a work plan to guide program activities and prioritize available funds for projects to control AIS. Partners are basing the work plan on the recently competed Action Agenda to improve how partners weigh alternatives and assess the likely benefits of potential projects.
Water Quality Projects and Grants

There are no updates to report.

6. Recreation and Public Access

- South Tahoe Greenway Shared Use Trail (Greenway) Phases 1b and 2 construction starts in May.
- The Conolley Beach Public Access Project planning is underway.

Strategic Initiatives

There are no updates to report.

Recreation and Public Access Projects

South Tahoe Greenway Shared Use Trail (Greenway) Phases 1b and 2

Project Status:

El Dorado County will construct the Greenway Phases 1b and 2 in 2020. Funding for the project comes from the Conservancy, federal sources, and the Lake Tahoe Community College (LTCC). The Greenway provides the backbone of non-motorized travel in the south shore area. Phases 1b and 2 will connect several neighborhoods and the LTCC.
El Dorado County executed a construction contract for this project in early 2020 and plans to start construction in May 2020.

**Alta Mira Lakefront Stabilization and Public Access**

Project Status:

![Diagram of Alta Mira Lakefront Stabilization and Public Access](image)

In 2019, staff worked with Tahoe RCD, California Conservation Corps crews, DGS, and a construction contractor to protect the failing slope at the Conservancy’s Alta Mira shoreline property. This interim work stabilized the site and prepared it for future permanent improvements. Staff and DGS have started designing alternatives for expanded public access and recreation opportunities, permanent slope stabilization, parking, and storm water treatment.

**Conolley Beach Public Access Project**

Project Status:

![Diagram of Conolley Beach Public Access Project](image)
This project will improve public beach access in the heart of South Lake Tahoe, just down from the Alta Mira site. Staff is working with private landowners to address concerns about privacy and noise. Staff is incorporating these concerns in engineering designs and preparing for construction in 2021.

7. Climate Change Adaptation

- Work progresses the Lake Tahoe Climate Adaptation Action Portfolio (CAAP)

Strategic Initiatives

Climate Adaptation Action Portfolio

The Conservancy is collaboratively leading an assessment of the Basin’s vulnerability to climate change, and the development of a corresponding action plan. Staff hosted a stakeholder workshop in December to develop draft actions with partners. Staff also drafted actions for Conservancy programs. Staff is completing the vulnerability assessment, and has started writing the CAAP. Staff will review a draft with partners this spring, and expects to complete the CAAP this summer.

Climate Change Adaptation Projects and Grants

Climate Action Acceleration Grant

The University of California, Berkeley is researching how to use new climate science and technology to improve natural resource and recreation management. The goal is to protect water resources, reduce wildfire risk, improve forest health, maintain biodiversity, sequester carbon, enhance community resilience, and sustain the Basin’s recreation economy.
8. Tahoe Livable Communities

- Made progress on potential mixed-use, affordable housing projects on four Conservancy parcels in South Lake Tahoe and one in Placer County.
- Working continues on pending requests for land bank rights for proposed affordable housing, town center, and other infill projects.

Strategic Initiatives

The Conservancy is a Strategy Group Member for the Tahoe Prosperity Center’s (TPC) South Shore Housing Needs Assessment and Action Plan. The TPC released the Assessment in October 2019 and released a draft five-year housing action plan in February. The plan provides housing strategies, policies, and programs.

Tahoe Livable Communities Projects

City of South Lake Tahoe Asset Lands

Project Status:

1860 Lake Tahoe Boulevard (Assessment Number (AN) 032-291-028) and 1029 Tata Lane (AN 032-291-031)  
DGS, with the Conservancy and Housing and Community Development (HCD), distributed a Request For Qualifications in January 2020 to select a short list of developers to respond to a Request for Proposals this spring. Developers will be
presenting proposals for mixed-use development, including affordable housing on the site.

833 Emerald Bay Road (AN 023-171-009)
The Conservancy remains in discussions with Dinsmore Sierra regarding potential development of housing on this site. Conservancy staff and Dinsmore Sierra continue to meet with the City to discuss site design and permitting fees.

2070 Lake Tahoe Boulevard (ANs 023-381-001 and 023-231-003)
The Conservancy executed an updated exclusive negotiating agreement (ENA) in December 2019 with Sutter Capital Group (SCG) and Alpine Corporation, an affordable housing developer, for mixed-use development and housing the site. In January 2020, SCG sold The Crossings to South Bay Holding Tahoe, LLC, including SCG’s position in the ENA. Next steps include pre-application meetings with the City and TRPA about the revised site plan.

Placer County Asset Lands
Project Status:

8602 North Lake Boulevard (AN 090-134-056): Staff coordinated with Placer County and the Sierra State Parks Foundation in early 2020 to discuss the possible uses for this property and project requirements for the site (Attachment 2). Staff is pursuing an ENA with the adjacent landowner as the means to get the maximum public benefit on the site. The adjacent landowner proposes a mixed-use project ("Brockway North") with a combination of commercial, condominium, and hotel space.
Conservancy Land Bank Projects

The Conservancy continues to bank and transfer development rights to promote housing and sustainable communities projects in town centers. Staff is working on pending requests for land bank rights for proposed affordable housing, town center, and other infill projects in the City and Placer County.

Conservancy staff is coordinating a land bank transaction for an affordable housing project in Placer County. The project’s developer needs additional land coverage to make their proposed affordable housing project viable. A Conservancy parcel abuts the project site. The Conservancy will transfer coverage associated with the Conservancy parcel to the proposed project. The Conservancy will also allow the developer to include the Conservancy parcel in the proposed project area on paper, which, along with the development rights the Conservancy transfers, will increase the allowed number of affordable housing units from 14 to 22. The Conservancy will retain ownership of its parcel and keep it permanently undeveloped.
Projects and Grants in Placer County

1. Dollar Creek Forest Restoration Project (2019)
2. Dollar Creek Forest Restoration Project (2020)
3. North Tahoe Fire Hazardous Fuel Reduction and Defensible Space Project (881 Conservancy parcels)
4. Burton Creek State Park Forest Restoration Project
5. Polaris Creek Wetland Restoration Project
6. Griff Creek Bridge Replacement
7. Deferred Maintenance Projects
8. 8602 North Lake Blvd (Asset Land)
9. Kings Beach
10. 28
11. Tahoe City
12. Tahoma Unit Fuel Hazard Reduction Project
13. Placer County
14. El Dorado County
15. Nevada
16. California
Projects and Grants in El Dorado County

- California State Parks Fuel Hazard Reduction and Understory Burning Project, Phase 2
- Tahoe Pines Campground Restoration and Public Access Project
- Country Club Heights Erosion Control Project Phase 3
- Montgomery Estates Urban Fuel Hazard Reduction Project
- South Tahoe Greenway Shared Use Trail Phases 1b and 2
- Van Sickle Bi-State Park Fuel Hazard Reduction Project Phase 2
- South Lake Tahoe Greenway Shared Use Trail Phases 1b and 2
- Deferred Maintenance Projects
- Tahoma 50
- South Lake Tahoe 50
- Meyers 50
- Nevada California
- Placer County El Dorado County
- Lake Tahoe
Projects and Grants in the City of South Lake Tahoe

- Ski Run/Bijou
- Open Space
- Fuel Hazard Reduction Project
- South Tahoe Public Utility District Treatment Plant Fuel Hazard Reduction Project
- 1860 Lake Tahoe Blvd & 1029 Tata Lane (Asset Lands)
- 833 Emerald Bay Road (Asset Land)
- 2070 Lake Tahoe Boulevard (Asset Land)
- Upper Truckee River and Marsh Restoration Project
- Alta Mira Lakefront Stabilization and Public Access
- Conolley Beach Public Access Project
- Bijou Park Creek Watershed Priority Acquisitions
- South Tahoe Greenway Shared Use Trail Phases 1b and 2
- South Tahoe Public Utility District Treatment Plant Fuel Hazard Reduction Project
- Pioneer Trail
- Nevada
- California
- City of South Lake Tahoe
- El Dorado County
- Lake Tahoe
- Al Tahoe Blvd
- Ski Run Blvd
- 50
- 89
State Investments and Priorities in the Lake Tahoe Basin
August 13, 2019

Since 1997 the State of California has invested $839 million in the Lake Tahoe Basin’s Environmental Improvement Program. This table summarizes State investments, including projects and grants, from calendar years 2014 through 2018. It also covers select accomplishments during this period, and priorities for the next 1-2 years.

| Total State Investment, 2014 through 2018 | $669,702,745 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Investments</th>
<th>Select Accomplishments</th>
<th>Near-Term Priorities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
|            | $561,784,000 | • Completed eight major Water Quality Improvement projects – Lakeside, Tahoma, Meeks Bay, Emerald Bay, Route 50 to Cascade, Trout Creek to Ski Run, Airport to “Y”, and Gateway to Tahoe Basin  
• Increased resiliency of emergency repairs  
• Reduced the use of road traction material while increasing the use of brine to minimize road sweeping in between storms  
• Completed the removal of loose rocks along Highway 50 between Echo Summit and Meyers  
• Grant for Climate Adaptation Planning to California Tahoe Conservancy and Tahoe Transportation District | • Complete construction of Echo Summit Sidehill Viaduct  
• Complete South Tahoe “Y” to Trout Creek Phase 2 Water Quality Improvements  
• Complete construction of Meyers Intersection Improvements  
• Replace avalanche control cannon at Echo Summit  
• Complete Asphalt Concrete Overlay along Highway 89 near Camp Richardson  
• Continue reducing traction material, improving road surfaces, upgrading or repairing guardrails, draining and cleaning culverts, and post-storm sweeping |
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<th>Department</th>
<th>Investments</th>
<th>Select Accomplishments</th>
<th>Near-Term Priorities</th>
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| $57,605,476 | • Completed final plan to restore the Basin’s most significant wetland – the Upper Truckee Marsh  
• Invested in transforming the extremely popular Kings Beach State Recreation Area  
• Collaboratively launched the Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership and Tahoe-Central Sierra Initiative to accelerate forest restoration  
• Launched the Tahoe Livable Communities program to refocus land acquisitions to support the Basin’s Environmental Improvement Program | • Complete Basinwide Climate Adaptation Action Plan, implement Conservancy commitments, and provide technical assistance to partners  
• Use U.S Forest Service Good Neighbor Authority to increase the pace, scale, and efficiency of fuel reduction and forest health treatments  
• Complete planning to restore 60,000 forested acres through Lake Tahoe West  
• Complete first phase of Upper Truckee Marsh Restoration Project  
• Launch planning for signature recreation and disadvantaged community access projects in the City of South Lake Tahoe and Kings Beach  
• Use non-sensitive “asset lands” to help meet Governor’s Executive Order N-06-19 on housing | |
| $8,282,033 | • Funded more than $2 million for water quality monitoring and scientific research  
• Credited local municipalities for preventing 400 tons of fine sediment from reaching the Lake  
• Issued cleanup order for groundwater impacted by PCE solvent spill, and over 200 investigation orders to other potentially responsible parties  
• Permitted over 22,000 acres of fuels and forest health treatments, including over 15,000 through streamlined Regional General Timber Waiver | • Continue requiring local municipalities to meet annual sediment and nutrient pollutant load reductions  
• Continue using streamlined timber waiver  
• Manage nearshore research and monitoring  
• Use $4.6 million State Board grant to further investigate and characterize PCE pollution  
• Work on joint environmental document to assess potential impacts of proposed herbicide use to control aquatic weeds in the Tahoe Keys lagoons | |
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</table>
| California Department of Fish and Wildlife | $5,700,066 | - Acquired 206-acre Johnson Meadow property connecting over 1,000 acres of Upper Truckee River floodplain and some of most significant wet meadow habitat in the entire Sierra Nevada  
- Signed MOU with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to enhance recreational fisheries with Lahontan cutthroat trout, and assisted U.S. Forest Service with recovery project  
- Experimented with re-establishing populations of endangered Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frogs  
- Formed Interagency Bear Working Group to improve communication and coordination around bear incidents and management | - Complete Upper Truckee River and Marsh Restoration Project and restoring over 500 acres of floodplain – including native fish and bird habitat – by partnering with Conservancy, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
- Further assess Lahontan cutthroat trout recovery opportunities and expand hatchery capacity  
- Expand tools for native fish conservation  
- Initiate DNA population analysis of bear density in the Basin |
| CALFIRE | $4,207,645 | - Provided $28 million for 2.4 million-acre Tahoe-Central Sierra Initiative landscape fuels reduction and forest health project centered on the Basin  
- Provided $630,000 grant for fuels reduction, community preparedness and outreach  
- Completed Emergency Wildfire Pre-Attack Plans covering all State Responsibility Areas  
- Conducted over 11,000 defensible space inspections  
- Extinguished 2016 Emerald Fire through rapid unified response with U.S. Forest Service and Lake Valley Fire Protection District  
- Completed pilot prescribed fire monitoring at Sugar Pine Point and D.L. Bliss State Parks in collaboration with California Air Resources Board | - Complete and implement Tahoe Program Timberland Environmental Impact Report to streamline fuels treatment in Basin  
- Expand Department’s use of Good Neighbor Authority agreement with U.S. Forest Service  
- Develop Community Evacuation Plans and Wildfire Pre-Attack Plans for the City of South Lake Tahoe and Heavenly Resort  
- Expand capacity to monitor prescribed fires and fuels treatments on State Parks land, and implement monitoring as part of the Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership  
- Prioritize prescribed fire monitoring in the Tahoe-Central Sierra landscape  
- Present monitoring results from Basin and Tahoe-Central Sierra landscape at 2020 International Smoke Symposium (Davis CA) |
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<tr>
<td>California Department of Parks and Recreation</td>
<td>$2,771,779</td>
<td>• Managed 70% of California’s shoreline public lands including 900,000 annual visitors&lt;br&gt;• Operated Kings Beach State Recreation Area including 76% visitor increase in past decade&lt;br&gt;• Cleared iconic Emerald Bay of aquatic weeds&lt;br&gt;• Completed extensive fuel reduction and prescribed fire projects</td>
<td>• Cooperate with CAL FIRE to establish a new fire station in the Basin&lt;br&gt;• Construct new pier and park improvements at Kings Beach SRA&lt;br&gt;• Provide premier shoreline public access including unparalleled camping and recreation&lt;br&gt;• Protect natural and cultural resources in nine park units and underwater parks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Department of Water Resources</td>
<td>$2,396,136</td>
<td>• Grants for six IRWM, Sustainable Groundwater Planning, and Disadvantaged Community Involvement projects&lt;br&gt;• Implemented the State’s responsibilities under PL 101-618 and the Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA) with CDFW and State Board&lt;br&gt;• Coordinated with Western Regional Climate Center on CA Climate Tracker Web Tool</td>
<td>• Continue to implement the TROA&lt;br&gt;• Provide TROA Habitat Grant funding to improve riparian and fish habitat in Truckee River Basin&lt;br&gt;• Coordinate with Conservancy on climate change studies including possible use of decision-scaling method to improve water resources planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Conservation Corps</td>
<td>$2,083,920</td>
<td>• Completed over 108,000 hours of fuels reduction work for four sponsoring agencies&lt;br&gt;• Contributed to rehabilitation and reforestation work for the 2007 Angora Fire&lt;br&gt;• Completed over 676,000 hours of workforce development training</td>
<td>• Add fifth crew of Corp members to address Basin needs through new Forestry Corps&lt;br&gt;• Complete 60,000 hours of additional fuels reduction work&lt;br&gt;• Provide workforce development opportunities for an additional 180 Corp members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of California Wildlife Conservation Board</td>
<td>$1,631,000</td>
<td>• Grants for West Shore Wildland Urban Interface Forest Restoration and Truckee River Flow Enhancement&lt;br&gt;• Coordinated with state agencies on partnerships to advance regional priorities</td>
<td>• Fund the acquisition, reforestation, and post-fire recover of aspen stands, montane meadows, and streams&lt;br&gt;• Invest strategically in the Sierra Nevada Watershed Improvement Program&lt;br&gt;• Participate in the Greater Upper Truckee River Watershed Partnership</td>
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| UC Davis   | $4,254,420  | - Discovered deviations in summer and winter clarity including role of invasive shrimp  
- Developed the Basin’s *Nearshore Water Quality Network*, downscaled climate modeling, and citizen science app  
- Served as the leading provider of science education for children and the public | - Develop three-dimensional Lake model to accelerate climate change adaptation  
- Develop real-time monitoring system for the Lake  
- Research and educate about microplastic and inorganic contaminant impacts to the Lake |
| California State Lands Commission | $750,000    | - Established *Lake Tahoe Science and Lake Improvement Account* to prevent aquatic invasive species (AIS), improve public access, and improve near-shore water quality monitoring  
- Purchased *Alta Mira* lakefront parcel to improve shoreline park and trail system in South Lake  
- Established two MOUs with the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency to integrate public trust in permitting and coordinate enforcement | - Complete *Lake Tahoe Rent Methodology Study* and update berth and buoy benchmark rates  
- Implement two MOUs to reduce unauthorized buoys, vessels, and appurtenances |
ATTACHMENT 2

8602 NORTH LAKE TAHOE BOULEVARD PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

8602 North Lake Tahoe Boulevard, Assessment Number (AN) 090-134-056
(Previously 8608 North Lake Tahoe Boulevard, AN 090-134-001)
The California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) acquired this 0.25-acre parcel for $410,000 (Proposition 99 and 8g funds) in 1991 under the Conservancy's Recreation and Access Program. When acquired, the parcel contained a dress shop and residential units. The Conservancy leased to businesses on the site until 2002 when the condition of the structures necessitated demolition. The parcel is located directly adjacent to the entrance to Kings Beach State Recreation Area (KBSRA), the main access to Lake Tahoe in downtown Kings Beach. The parcel is designated Class 5 land capability and can support compact development consistent with Placer County’s Tahoe Basin Area Plan (Area Plan). The Area Plan designates this area of Kings Beach as “Town Center Mixed Use,” which allows for various types of commercial and residential uses, with an overlay of “recreation.” Upon the Conservancy's acquisition of the parcel, the staff report to the Board indicated the parcel “could help fund the long-term operation and maintenance of the Conservancy’s ownership at Kings Beach” and “could facilitate optimal use of the Conservancy's adjacent Coon Street block by providing a contiguous parcel for support and management needs.”

Conservancy staff developed this document to communicate the Conservancy's list of project elements, requirements, and development options consistent with the Area and Regional Plans. The Conservancy received input from the California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA), Placer County, the North Tahoe Business Association (NTBA) and other community members.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Project Elements</th>
<th>Project Requirements</th>
<th>Development Options</th>
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| Requirement 1: Project Area | • Development that supports the goals of the Area Plan, surrounding development, KBSRA, and in accordance with the Conservancy’s acquisition purposes stated above. | • Shared or “drop-off” parking to support KBSRA  
• Public gathering space(s) to support existing downtown development and KBSRA |
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<td></td>
<td>Include the Conservancy, DPR, Placer County, NTBA, public agencies, and community in project design and planning process</td>
<td>Development that promotes non-vehicular circulation within the Kings Beach community</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Pedestrian and bike transit hub</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Public waterborne transit ticket office</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Non-motorized watercraft storage or rental</td>
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<td>Connection from commercial to residential uses with plaza spaces and natural open space as buffers</td>
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<td>Uses that promote revenue for or help with management of KBSRA, including visitor-welcoming information about KBSRA (kiosk or other similar method)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirement 2:</td>
<td>Affordable or workforce and market rate housing</td>
<td>Residential housing of various price points, including deed-restricted workforce and affordable housing units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed Use</td>
<td>Commercial, office, or industrial uses</td>
<td>Residential housing provided through workforce housing agreements with local employer(s)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Community uses and public gathering spaces</td>
<td>Off-site affordable housing that meets Placer County’s mitigation ordinance</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Uses supporting KBSRA (Requirements 1 and 4)</td>
<td>Mixed uses, including retail and commercial and/or tourist accommodation</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>See above Development Options under 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Requirement 3:</td>
<td>Coverage below 70 percent and preferably below 50 percent</td>
<td>Public gathering space</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimize Coverage</td>
<td></td>
<td>Maintain viewsheds</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stream Environment Zone (SEZ) preservation and restoration</td>
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<td>Project Elements</td>
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| Requirement 4: Grant of Easement         | • Permanent easement granted to Conservancy over parcel areas required for water quality, trail projects, SEZ, public plaza, and open space amenities  
• Permanent access by the Conservancy, DPR, or other public manager for event staging, emergency vehicle access, or other uses at KBSRA.                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Requirement 5: Trail Construction and Maintenance | • Trails and sidewalks built and maintained on parcel as part of the project                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | • Linkages built connecting existing trails, transit, or community amenities  
• Planned bike trails or lanes installed  
• Pedestrian access (current user trails) from neighborhoods and project area to businesses, transit, and KBSRA  
• Area-wide Best Management Practices built to accept storm water runoff of other parcels and streets  
• Sidewalks and road improvements (complete streets)                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Requirement 6: Open Space Enhancements  | • Public plaza gathering space for community uses, including access by the Conservancy and DPR for events staging and other uses at the KBSRA  
• Built and maintained public amenities connecting trails, transit, and mixed uses on parcel                                                                                                                                                                                               | • Public plaza and gathering space amenities  
• Maintain viewsheds, especially to Lake Tahoe  
• Public art  
• Playgrounds  
• Outdoor seating  
• Food truck accomodations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| Requirement 7: Connectivity of Project Area and Surrounding Uses | • Provide non-motorized trail connection(s) between the parcels and surrounding uses  
• Provide pedestrian, bicycle, and transit amenities | • Connections to surrounding uses  
• Pedestrian, bike, and transit amenities including potential hub for transportation methods that help reduce parking needs for KBSRA and downtown Kings Beach |
| Requirement 8: SEZ Restoration and Tree Preservation | • Preserve and restore SEZ, according to SEZ mapping in the Area Plan, with a perpetual easement recorded in favor of the Conservancy, if SEZ present on site  
• Save and provide way for all possible trees to thrive, especially in SEZ and public plaza gathering spaces and open space buffers (follow TRPA Code 33.6) |  |
| Requirement 9: Architecture                 | • Meet the design standards in the Area Plan                                         |  |
| Requirement 10: Building Energy Efficiency and Environmental Design | • Meet the requirements in State of California building code and the building energy efficiency and environmental recommendations in the Area Plan | • Achieve the equivalent of the highest, feasible Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design rating (highest feasible level, official certification not required)  
• Energy Star Label on appliances and fixtures |
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<tr>
<td>Requirement 11: Performance Bond</td>
<td>• Developer and contractor guarantee construction of project and meet all development requirements in project area</td>
<td>• Performance bond to ensure construction permit, California Environmental Quality Act, development agreement, and all other lead permitting agency requirements met</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Requirement 12: Regional Transportation Plan | • Incorporate into the development elements of transit, trail, and technology goals of the plan | • Trails to nearest transit stop from project area  
• Connectivity to surrounding uses via bike and pedestrian trails  
• WiFi updates on transit routes  
• Transit-oriented development that provides for pedestrian, bike and transit hub, etc. |
| Requirement 13: Regional Plan Compliance | • Comply with the Lake Tahoe Regional Plan and all related plans  
• Comply with statewide planning goals referenced in the Conservancy’s enabling statute, and the KBSRA General Plan |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
In the past year, the California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) has led the development of a vulnerability assessment and Climate Adaptation Action Portfolio (CAAP) for the Lake Tahoe Basin (Basin). This update reviews the latest findings from these efforts; the issues identified by panelists at last year’s Conservancy Board meeting in Sacramento; the Conservancy’s ongoing response and preparations; and emerging challenges, opportunities, and questions.

Projected Climate Change Impacts in Tahoe by 2100

Climate change is expected to transform every aspect of the Basin’s environment and economy. According to the Basin’s integrated vulnerability assessment that addresses natural resources, infrastructure, and communities:

- Average annual temperatures will increase by 4 to 9 degrees Fahrenheit, making August in Tahoe as hot as San Jose is today. Precipitation will shift from snow to rain. Peak runoff will occur five months earlier in the year.
- Extreme precipitation events will increase erosion and the transportation of pollutants; damage water supply, wastewater and recreation infrastructure; and threaten the Lake’s famed clarity and aquatic biodiversity. Housing prices could decrease between one and six percent for every three feet of lost clarity, while annual road damages could exceed $75 million. The value of the benefits of adapting to these changes now would be more than three times greater than the costs.
- The surface level of the Lake will frequently be above the maximum legal limit and outside the operable range of the dam at Tahoe City.
- The elevation at which snow accumulates will rise. Low snowpack will shorten the length of the winter recreation season by half. Annual alpine skiing revenues will decrease by $268 million.
- Longer droughts and reduced moisture in the soil will kill large numbers of trees, reduce meadows, increase the risk of wildfire, and threaten native plants, mammals, and birds.
- The total area burned by wildfires will be 61 percent greater. In addition to threatening life and property (valued today at more than $12 billion), large high severity fires will kill culturally important resources, damage and limit access to archaeological artifacts and cultural sites, and reduce food security. The value of the benefits of adapting to these changes now would be more than ten times greater than the costs.
• Traffic will increase as visitors from the surrounding region seek cooler temperatures. Meanwhile, wildfire could knock out high-voltage power lines, natural gas transmission lines, highways, and recreation facilities.
• Extreme heat events and wildfire smoke from inside and outside the Basin will jeopardize public health and summer recreation. By mid-century, the annual health-related damages of a large fire could exceed $20 million.

Key Takeaways from the 2019 Climate Adaptation Panel

The 2019 panel discussion at the Conservancy’s Board meeting in Sacramento included representatives from the California Natural Resources Agency, Office of Planning and Research (OPR), California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and California Environmental Protection Agency. The discussion focused on two questions:
• How can the Conservancy help the State in testing innovative, landscape-based approaches that advance state climate priorities?
• How can the State better assist the Basin and other regions in adapting to climate change?

Key takeaways from the discussion included:
• The Basin partners’ integrated approach to addressing the environmental, social, and economic impacts of climate change can serve as a statewide model.
• The Basin partners’ approach is also consistent with the administration’s effort to empower regions and help them build resilience.
• The Conservancy should continue to work with the Strategic Growth Council (SGC) and others to align state agency climate adaptation efforts in the Basin.
• Maintaining a strong partnership with the State of Nevada and federal, local, and tribal governments is also essential.

Key Conservancy Accomplishments

Since last year’s meeting, the Conservancy has:
• Completed assessing the impacts of climate change on each of its programs, and has developed corresponding adaptation actions. For example, the Conservancy plans to:
  o Manage Conservancy lands and beaches to accommodate longer summer seasons;
  o Increase property inspections during droughts to identify early the areas where insects are killing trees;
  o Update the forestry program guidelines to anticipate higher annual temperatures and greater wildfire risk; and
  o Manage Conservancy wetlands to anticipate and mitigate extreme floods.
• Completed an integrated vulnerability assessment of the Basin’s natural resources, infrastructure, and communities. The process involved a team of
scientists and consultants from ten institutions, and a 24-member agency and stakeholder advisory committee, with roughly half from Nevada and half from California.

- Led the development of an integrated, Basinwide Climate Adaptation Action Portfolio (CAAP). The final portfolio will be available for the annual Lake Tahoe Summit in August.
- Partnered with the USDA Forest Service and others to plan and implement signature, landscape-scale resilience and adaptation initiatives that are grounded in climate science, such as the Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership that covers 60,000 acres of forests.
- Prepared and awarded climate adaptation grants to Basin partners. This includes a grant to the University of California, Berkeley, to explore the feasibility of a new climate adaptation institute that could be located at Lake Tahoe, and three additional climate grants for Board consideration as part of today's agenda:
  - A grant to the Tahoe Environmental Research Center, University of California, Davis, for exploring the genetics of sugar pine trees that are more resilient to drought;
  - A grant to South Tahoe Public Utility District to assess the vulnerability of critical water infrastructure for firefighting and sewer systems, and prepare initial designs for improvements; and
  - A grant to the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency to update the Basin’s greenhouse gas emissions inventory as part of the Sustainable Communities Act requirements.

Presenters and Organizing Questions for Panel Discussion

During the Board presentation, Dorian Fougères, the Conservancy’s Chief of Natural Resources, will provide an overview of the key challenges facing the Conservancy and its partners in developing and implementing climate adaptation programs and projects in the Basin. Each panelist will then be asked to address the following questions:

- How can we better integrate the Basin’s efforts into existing state programs and priorities, including OPR’s Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resilience Program, the State’s Water Resilience Portfolio, and others?
- How can state agencies better align their respective funding and technical assistance programs to support climate adaptation efforts in the Basin? Should we partner with SGC in developing a California Tahoe Climate Team to serve as model for integrating state agency activities at the regional level?
- What are the best opportunities for strengthening our partnerships with other state agencies to address the administration’s priorities? These might include partnering with:
  - OPR and SGC in developing resilience metrics that help the State prioritize investments and measure progress in rural areas;
o SGC and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) to establish new fire stations and community resilience centers in both the north and south shore;
o California State Parks and the State Lands Commission to assess the carrying capacity of shoreline parks and beaches, given anticipated summertime visitor increases and more extreme lake levels;
o Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board and Caltrans to upgrade highway and storm water infrastructure subject to future flooding and erosion during high lake levels; and
o California Department of Fish and Wildlife and CAL FIRE to improve the biodiversity and resilience of the Basin’s forests and watersheds through landscape scale programs.

List of Attachments

Attachment 1 – Informational brochure for the CAAP
Attachment 2 – Panelist biographies

Conservancy Staff Contact

Dorian Fougères, Chief of Natural Resources  dorian.fougeres@tahoe.ca.gov
State and Regional Planning Context

Tahoe Basin Programs
- Regional Plan and Regional Transportation Plan
- Sustainable Communities Strategy
- Sustainability Action Plan
- Total Maximum Daily Load and Stormwater Plan
- Shoreline Plan
- Environmental Improvement Program
- Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit Forest Plan
- Multi-Jurisdictional Fuel Reduction Strategy

State Mandates
- Safeguarding California (Climate Adaptation Strategy)
- Global Warming Solutions Act
- Sustainable Communities Act
- California Water Action Plan
- State Wildlife Action Plan
- Forest Carbon Plan
- Executive Orders B-30-15, B-52-18, B-54-18, and B-55-18
- Human Right to Water
- Bioenergy Action Plan
- Proposition 68: Outdoor Access for All

Climate Adaptation Action Plan
- Downscaled, common climate projections
- Integrated social-ecological vulnerability assessment including resources, transportation, recreation, public health, and economics
- Interagency action plan that builds from and feeds back into existing plans and projects

Plan Partners
Science & Engineering Team
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, Davis
- University of Nevada, Reno
- U.S. Geological Survey, USDA
- Forest Service (USFS) Pacific Southwest Research Station, Desert Research Institute, Economists, Industrial Economics Inc.

Conservancy Project Lead
Whitney Brennan, Ph.D.
Whitney.brennan@tahoe.ca.gov
(530) 543-6054

Process Overview

Step 1
Assess Vulnerabilities
Project future conditions and assess the potential effects of climate change on the Basin’s key socio-ecological resources and ecosystem services.

Deliverables:
- Downscaled Climate Change Projections for the Basin, Vulnerability Assessment

Step 2
Improve Basin’s Collective Ability to Adapt
Identify areas in local plans and programs where adaptive capacity can be integrated into decision-making and planning. Implement actions and recommendations derived from the CAAP.

Deliverables:
- Plan/Policy/Program Gap Analysis
- Climate Adaptation Action Plan

Step 3
Develop Common Performance Measures for Adaptation
Design monitoring protocols to gauge plan progress and the condition of vulnerable systems and ecosystem services, and practice adaptive management to meet unforeseen challenges.

Deliverable:
- Performance Metrics

Enhancing the Lake Tahoe Basin’s Ability to Adapt to Climate Change

Along with other public agencies, nonprofit, and business partners, the California Tahoe Conservancy is collaboratively developing an interagency Climate Adaptation Action Plan (CAAP) for the Lake Tahoe Basin.

The CAAP has three concurrent goals:

1. Inform and increase the awareness of public agencies, stakeholders, and Basin communities regarding the impacts and implications of climate change, and the actions that partners are taking to adapt to these.

2. Enhance the basin’s resilience to climate change—the ability of its communities, resources, assets, and landscape to withstand and adapt to climate-amplified disturbances and extreme events, while still providing desired values and services.

3. Align public and private efforts to take climate change into account in planning and investment decisions.

Climate change poses a major threat to the Lake Tahoe Basin. The CAAP will identify actions that the Basin agencies are now taking and will be taking in the next two to three years. This will help further integrate climate resilience and adaptation into Basin planning and investments.

Guiding Principles

Seek Alignment Across Jurisdictions
The CAAP has developed a common set of more precise, reliable climate projections to inform future updates of regional planning documents and decision-making processes, and to help guide future public and private investments.

Protect Vulnerable Resources, Assets, and Communities
Drawing from a dedicated team of scientists and engineers, the CAAP has identified the natural resources, economic assets, and local communities most at risk from a changing climate, and will make recommendations to improve their resiliency and safeguard our future.

Provide Multiple Benefits
The CAAP will identify actions that will both build climate preparedness and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and that will provide environmental, economic, and social benefits to the Lake Tahoe basin.
Warming temperatures and changes in precipitation lead to loss of habitat and decline or extirpation of native species.

Catastrophic wildfire threatens human life while smoke exposure and heat waves have severe health effects for sensitive populations.

Decreased snowpack undercuts the winter tourism economy, while extreme lake level fluctuations and wildfire smoke threaten summer visitorship.

Warmer lake temperatures and diminished deep-water mixing reduce the Lake's famed clarity and cause algal blooms along the shoreline.

Avalanches, flooding, and landslides disrupt highways, travel, and emergency access.

Forests
Drought stress and insect outbreaks cause increased tree mortality and wildfire.

Public Health and Safety
Catastrophic wildfire threatens human life while smoke exposure and heat waves have severe health effects for sensitive populations.

Recreation and Tourism
Decreased snowpack undercuts the winter tourism economy, while extreme lake level fluctuations and wildfire smoke threaten summer visitorship.

Streams
Reduced snowpack, flooding, and earlier peak stream runoff degrade water quality, alter stream ecology, and damage infrastructure.

Native Species
Warming temperatures and changes in precipitation lead to loss of habitat and decline or extirpation of native species.

Transportation
Avalanches, flooding, and landslides disrupt highways, travel, and emergency access.

Lake Tahoe
Warmer lake temperatures and diminished deep-water mixing reduce the Lake's famed clarity and cause algal blooms along the shoreline.
ATTACHMENT 2

BIOGRAPHIES OF CLIMATE PANELISTS

JORDAN DIAMOND | Center for Law, Energy & the Environment, UC Berkeley
Jordan Diamond is the Executive Director of Center for Law, Energy & the Environment, where she manages the Center’s strategic portfolio and leads the Center’s ocean law and policy initiatives. Governor Jerry Brown appointed her to the California Ocean Protection Council on June 28, 2018. Prior to joining the University of California, Berkeley, Jordan was an attorney with and the co-director of the Ocean Program at the Washington D.C.-based think tank the Environmental Law Institute. Jordan holds a juris doctor and certificate in environmental law from Berkeley Law and a bachelor’s degree in earth and environmental sciences from Wesleyan University, where she received the Sease Prize for outstanding work in environmental science. In 2019, Jordan received the Environmental Law Institute’s Environmental Futures award; in 2013, she received the American Bar Association Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources Distinguished Environmental Advocates: The Next Generation award.

KATE GORDON | Governor’s Office of Planning and Research
Kate Gordon is a nationally recognized expert on the intersection of climate change, energy, and economic development. Gordon was appointed Director of the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research by Governor Gavin Newsom on January 7, 2019. Prior to being appointed Director, Gordon was a Senior Advisor at the Paulson Institute, where she oversaw the “Risky Business Project,” focused on quantifying the economic impacts of climate change to the U.S. economy, and also provided strategic support to the Institute’s U.S.-China CEO Council for Sustainable Urbanization. She was also a nonresident Fellow at the Center on Global Energy Policy at Columbia University, and an advisor to Duke University’s Center for Energy, Development, and the Global Environment.

Earlier in her career, Gordon served as Vice President for Climate and Energy at the Center for the Next Generation, Vice President of Energy and Environment at the Washington D.C.-based Center for American Progress, and Co-Executive Director at the national Apollo Alliance (now part of the Blue Green Alliance). Gordon earned a law degree and a master’s degree in city planning from the University of California, Berkeley, and an undergraduate degree from Wesleyan University.

AMANDA HANSEN | California Natural Resources Agency
Appointed Deputy Secretary for Climate and Energy at the California Natural Resources Agency in 2019 by Governor Newsom, Hansen is originally from El Dorado Hills. Hansen was a director of the Community Reconstruction Program in Governor Andrew Cuomo’s Office of Storm Recovery from 2013 to 2017. She was deputy associate director for policy outreach for the White House Council on Environmental Policy in 2012 and chief of staff to the chairman of the 2010-2011 round of United Nations climate change
negotiations. She was special assistant to the Special Envoy for Climate Change at the U.S. Department of State in 2009 and a foreign affairs officer at the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs from 2005 to 2009. Hansen earned a Master of Public Policy degree in environmental policy from the University of Maryland.

LAUREN SANCHEZ | California Environmental Protection Agency
Lauren Sanchez was appointed by Governor Newsom in October 2019 to serve as Deputy Secretary for Climate Policy and Intergovernmental Relations at the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA). Prior to her appointment, she served for two years at the California Air Resources Board as International Policy Director. Prior to coming to CalEPA, she was at the U.S. Department of State, where she served as a climate negotiator on the Paris Agreement negotiating team under former President Barack Obama. In her earlier positions, she was an advisor for the United Nations, a research project leader at Yale University, and a Moran Fellow at the Natural Resources Defense Council. Lauren received her master’s degree from Yale University and bachelor’s degree from Middlebury College. She is a Fulbright Scholar. Lauren currently resides in Oakland with her husband and spends most weekends exploring the wilderness of California.
PROPOSITION 68 CLIMATE GRANTS

**Recommended Action:** Adopt Resolutions 20-03-05.1, 20-03-05.2, 20-03-05.3 authorizing the following grants:

1. Resolution 20-03-05.1 (Attachment 1) authorizing a grant to the University of California, Davis (UC Davis), Tahoe Environmental Research Center (TERC), for up to $186,836 for Identifying Adaptive Traits for Climate Resilience in Sugar Pine Trees (Sugar Pine Adaptive Traits Grant);
2. Resolution 20-03-05.2 (Attachment 2) authorizing a grant to the South Tahoe Public Utility District (STPUD) for up to $250,000 for Water and Sewer Infrastructure Assessment, Planning, and Design (Water Infrastructure Grant); and
3. Resolution 20-03-05.3 (Attachment 3) authorizing a grant to the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) for up to $100,000 for Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Inventory Update (GHG Grant).

**Executive Summary:** The three grants will increase climate change resilience and adaptive capacity in the Lake Tahoe Basin (Basin). A changing climate threatens water supplies, public health and safety, homes and buildings, natural resources, and the economy in California and Nevada. Both states now have mandates to inventory and reduce GHG emissions (the focus of the third grant), and desire to accelerate cutting-edge climate change mitigation and adaptation solutions. The first two grants address major impacts (drought and wildfire) identified in the Climate Adaptation Action Portfolio prepared by California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) staff and partners. The recommended action advances the Conservancy’s Strategic Plan Goals 2 (Restore the Resilience of Basin Forests and Watersheds), and 4 (Foster Basinwide Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Communities), as well as the Lake Tahoe Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) and Lake Tahoe Regional Plan.

**Location:** Activity funded by the Sugar Pine Adaptive Traits Grant will take place in a greenhouse and at various locations on the north shore in Placer County, from Tahoe City to Kings Beach, where TERC has planted sugar pine seedlings (Attachment 4). The Water Infrastructure Grant covers public and private water providers and fire districts throughout the Basin. The GHG Grant is also Basinwide.
Fiscal Summary: The recommended action will result in the expenditure of up to $536,836 through the Conservancy’s Proposition 68 (Parks, Environment, and Water Bond) grant program.

### Table 1: Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant</th>
<th>Proposed Grant Amount</th>
<th>Cost Share</th>
<th>Total Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sugar Pine Adaptive Traits Grant</td>
<td>$186,836</td>
<td>$71,566</td>
<td>$258,402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Infrastructure Grant</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
<td>$68,840</td>
<td>$318,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GHG Grant</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$35,000</td>
<td>$135,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total for All Grants</strong></td>
<td><strong>$536,836</strong></td>
<td><strong>$175,406</strong></td>
<td><strong>$712,242</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### Overview

The following sections provide an overview of each grant.

**Grant 1. Sugar Pine Adaptive Traits Grant**

1. **History**
   Between 2012 and 2016, five years of drought led to the death of large numbers of trees throughout California and western Nevada. In the Basin, sugar pine tree mortality doubled from 35,000 in 2015 to 72,000 in 2016. Mountain pine beetles were responsible for much of the drought-related sugar pine mortality on the north shore. In 2017, the Tahoe Fund and the Conservancy funded TERC to collect and rear seeds from 100 surviving sugar pines. TERC staff subsequently used these seedlings to reforest state and federal lands that had suffered the greatest mortality. While TERC and partners know that these seedlings were the progeny of surviving trees, they do not know their genetic traits.

   This work will improve understanding of the potential of the surviving sugar pine progeny to adapt to changes in climate and resist various stressors, including heat and drought. In contrast to research projects that examine how species will adapt by moving to more northerly latitudes, this work looks at how they can adapt in a specific location through genetic fitness. Knowing the genetic traits that confer resistance to such stressors will help forest managers select sugar pine seed stocks that are best suited for restoration projects in the Basin.

2. **Detailed Description**
   The Sugar Pine Adaptive Traits Grant will evaluate and identify various traits best suited for adaptation to climate change. TERC staff will collect genetic samples from
seedlings raised in a greenhouse at the UC Davis Tahoe City Field Station and planted at various locations on the north shore of Lake Tahoe (Attachment 4). The seed sources for the samples are 100 local adult sugar pines that survived drought, bark beetle attack, and disease. TERC staff will quantitatively analyze their genetics to identify desirable traits and correlate this information with the parental stock. The combination of genetic and seed source information will provide insights into where to draw seeds from that are more likely to persist in a changing climate. This will benefit future reforestation projects.

Additionally, TERC staff will create a comprehensive database that integrates long-term monitoring data and correlates adaptive traits with seedling survival. The geographic information systems (GIS) database will include the location of individuals, their varying traits, and associated environmental conditions. TERC is also applying for a grant from the Tahoe Fund to conduct the same type of work on the Nevada side of the Basin.

3. Major Elements and/or Steps

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Completion Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Process and analyze samples for isotope analysis</td>
<td>Spring 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data collection: measure observable traits in response to environmental conditions, evaluate the traits of 1,500 seedlings in the lath house, and 4,500 seedlings in the field</td>
<td>Fall 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data entry and database management</td>
<td>Winter 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submit findings for publication and present at local and regional meetings</td>
<td>Spring 2023</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Overall Context and Benefits

Restoration strategies that include reforestation must consider the effects of climate change on the potential for tree survival. Rather than mitigating for climate change by simply planting more trees of unknown origin, the most likely path for improving survivorship is to select seeds from sources that display the greatest adaptive potential within particular site characteristics (e.g., elevation, presence of bark beetle outbreaks). The results of this work will provide valuable information for developing criteria to select which trees are most likely to persist at a given site. This will aid future projects of the Conservancy and other land managers in the Basin.

Grant 2. Water Infrastructure Grant

1. History

Water and sewer infrastructure planning and design are critical for resilience to wildfire and climate change. In the wake of California’s recent megafires, engineers have discovered new problems with water system contamination created by wildfires. In Santa Rosa, for example, one subdivision discovered that fire had caused benzene to contaminate its water system at a level 500 times greater than the acceptable limit. The
The purpose of the Water Infrastructure Grant is to mitigate such wildfire-driven emergencies.

The Tahoe Basin Water for Fire Suppression Partnership (Partnership) is an association of public and private water purveyors. The Partnership recognizes the need to assess the vulnerability of the Basin’s water and sewer systems to wildfire. STPUD, the largest public water and sewer district in the Basin, agreed to apply for and manage a grant for this purpose. The Water Infrastructure Grant will result in prioritized projects that will position the Partnership for future implementation grants.

2. Detailed Description
STPUD staff will develop (1) a Basinwide climate change vulnerability assessment specifically for water infrastructure, and, on the California side of the Basin, (2) a prioritized set of planned and designed water and sewer infrastructure hardening projects. STPUD will issue a contract for an assessment of the vulnerability of water and sewer systems to the probable increase in wildfire frequency and severity expected under climate change. The vulnerability assessment will synthesize lessons learned from water providers in California that have recently experienced significant damage to their systems from wildfire. Finally, the vulnerability assessment will inform the design and prioritization of water and sewer infrastructure hardening projects.

The vulnerability assessment includes water purveyors from both California and Nevada, and addresses water and sewer systems on both sides of the Basin. The project planning and design work, however, will only cover the California side of the Basin. The Partnership intends that Nevada agencies will use the vulnerability assessment to seek funding for project planning and design in their jurisdictions.

3. Major Elements and/or Steps

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Completion Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contract for the vulnerability assessment and a lessons-learned synthesis</td>
<td>Summer 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completed vulnerability assessment and lessons-learned report</td>
<td>Spring 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning and design for the highest priority projects identified in the vulnerability assessment</td>
<td>Spring 2022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Overall Context and Benefits
As wildfires grow more intense, California water managers must rethink how they prepare for and respond to emergencies to avoid the contamination or shutdown of critical services. The Water Infrastructure Grant will provide direction to Basin water and sewer purveyors on how to reduce risk to essential infrastructure from wildfire. Subsequent improving and hardening of the Basin’s water and sewer infrastructure will ensure operability of emergency services in times of critical need, and help safeguard people and natural resources.
Grant 3. GHG Grant

1. History
Several state, regional, and local mandates require the inventory and reduction of GHG emissions to mitigate the impacts of climate change. California aims to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045, and Nevada aims to reduce GHG emissions by 45 percent below 2005 levels by 2030. TRPA completed a GHG inventory in 2013 to inform the Basin’s GHG-reduction targets required by California’s Sustainable Communities Act. This inventory calculated GHG emissions for 2005 and 2010, established a baseline for regional GHG emissions, and developed projections for 2020 and 2035. The Lake Tahoe Regional Transportation Plan includes these emissions-reduction goals, and aims for an 8.8 percent reduction from 2005 levels by 2020, and five percent reduction by 2035. The City of South Lake Tahoe (City) has committed to reduce emissions by 50 percent by 2030, and 80 percent by 2040.

2. Detailed Description
TRPA will update and expand the existing inventory to identify emissions from 2015 and 2018, and develop emissions projections for 2025, 2035, and 2045. The update will analyze the emissions from major sectors, including hotels, casinos, recreation (e.g., ski resorts and marinas), retail, utilities, health care, government, and school districts. TRPA will use data already collected for the same years by the City in its GHG inventory. The update will also assess emissions for specific buildings, and the potential reductions from redeveloping the associated properties, particularly in stream environment zones and town centers.

The TRPA, as part of the GHG Grant, will also develop a carbon sequestration budget for the Basin’s natural lands. In January 2019, California released a draft of the 2030 Natural and Working Lands Climate Change Implementation Plan (Plan) to expand the use of these lands for sequestering carbon. This part of the work will quantify current carbon sequestration in the Basin’s natural environment and estimate the carbon sequestration potential of a resilient landscape (for example, one that contains fewer trees and is more resilient to fire), and TRPA will discuss this information with land managers the implications and potential next steps to implement the Plan.

3. Major Elements and/or Steps

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Completion Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Update regional emission baseline including data collection and calculations of past emissions, future emission projections, sector-level analysis, and aging infrastructure inventory</td>
<td>Fall 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data collection and calculation of carbon sequestration using relevant models, and engagement with relevant land managers to understand needs and implications of carbon sequestration</td>
<td>Fall 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stakeholder engagement for buy-in and alignment around the inventory results</td>
<td>Winter 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Overall Context and Benefits
This grant helps address California and Nevada mandates regarding the reduction of GHG emissions. Updating the inventory will help Basin partners understand the progress they have made since 2013. It will help identify future emission reduction strategies, and will help partners prioritize actions that will address the largest sources of GHG emissions. This grant will also promote sustainable redevelopment and the removal of aging buildings from environmentally sensitive lands. Better understanding and quantifying the potential carbon sequestration benefits from the Basin’s natural lands will help guide future forest restoration projects and increase access to state funding.

Authority

Consistency with the Conservancy’s Enabling Legislation
These grants are 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, and nonprofit organizations for purposes consistent with its mission.

Consistency with the Conservancy’s Strategic Plan
The recommended actions advance the Conservancy’s Strategic Plan Goals 2 (Restore the Resilience of Basin Forests and Watersheds), and 4 (Foster Basinwide Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Communities).

Consistency with the Conservancy’s Program Guidelines
The recommended action for the Sugar Pine Adaptive Traits Grant is consistent with the Conservancy’s Forest Improvement Program Guidelines. No other program guidelines apply.

Consistency with External Authorities
The recommended actions are consistent with the environmental goals of the EIP, California Forest Carbon Plan, and the Lake Tahoe Basin Forest Action Plan.

Compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act

Sugar Pine Adaptive Traits Grant: Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15000 et seq.), certain classes of activities are categorically 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 the Sugar Pine Adaptive Traits Grant, and has found it to be exempt under CEQA. The Sugar Pine Adaptive Traits Grant qualifies for a categorical exemption under State CEQA Guidelines section 15306, Information
A notice of exemption (NOE) has been prepared for the grant (Attachment 5). If the Board approves the grant, staff will file the NOE with the State Clearinghouse pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, section 15062.

**Water Infrastructure Grant and GHG Grant:** Pursuant to 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(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 the Water Infrastructure Grant and GHG Grant, and found them to be exempt under CEQA. These grants qualify for statutory exemptions under CEQA Guidelines section 15262, Feasibility and Planning Studies. NOEs have been prepared for each of these grants (Attachments 6 and 7). If the Board approves the grants, staff will file the NOEs with the State Clearinghouse pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, section 15062.

**List of Attachments**

Attachment 1 – Resolution 20-03-05.1 Sugar Pine Adaptive Traits Grant  
Attachment 2 – Resolution 20-03-05.2 Water Infrastructure Grant  
Attachment 3 – Resolution 20-03-05.3 GHG Grant  
Attachment 4 – Sugar Pine Adaptive Traits Grant Map  
Attachment 5 – Sugar Pine Adaptive Traits Grant Notice of Exemption  
Attachment 6 – Water Infrastructure Grant Notice of Exemption  
Attachment 7 – GHG Grant Notice of Exemption

**Conservancy Staff Contacts**

Sugar Pine Adaptive Traits Grant  
Christine Aralia, Senior Environmental Scientist [christine.aralia@tahoe.ca.gov](mailto:christine.aralia@tahoe.ca.gov)

Water Infrastructure Grant  
Milan Yeates, Senior Environmental Scientist [milan.yeates@tahoe.ca.gov](mailto:milan.yeates@tahoe.ca.gov)

GHG Grant  
Whitney Brennan, Senior Environmental Scientist [whitney.brennan@tahoe.ca.gov](mailto:whitney.brennan@tahoe.ca.gov)
ATTACHMENT 1
California Tahoe Conservancy
Resolution
20-03-05.1
Adopted: March 12, 2020

IDENTIFYING ADAPTIVE TRAITS
FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE IN SUGAR PINE TREES GRANT

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 the University of California, Davis, Tahoe Environmental Research Center, for up to $186,836 for Identifying Adaptive Traits for Climate Resilience in Sugar Pine Trees, and authorizes staff to take 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 12th day of March, 2020.

In WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of March, 2020.

_____________________________
Patrick Wright
Executive Director
ATTACHMENT 2

California Tahoe Conservancy Resolution 20-03-05.2
Adopted: March 12, 2020

WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE ASSESSMENT, PLANNING, AND DESIGN GRANT

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 the South Tahoe Public Utility District for up to $250,000 for Water and Sewer Infrastructure Assessment, Planning, and Design, and authorizes staff to take 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 12th day of March, 2020.

In WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of March, 2020.

________________________

Patrick Wright
Executive Director
ATTACHMENT 3

California Tahoe Conservancy
Resolution
20-03-05.3
Adopted: March 12, 2020

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS INVENTORY UPDATE GRANT

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 the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency for up to $100,000 for Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Update and authorizes staff to take 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 12th day of March, 2020.

In WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of March, 2020.

__________________________
Patrick Wright
Executive Director
Identifying Adaptive Traits for Climate Resilience in Sugar Pine Trees

Established Sugar Pine Seedlings
- California Tahoe Conservancy
- California State Parks
- USDA Forest Service

Sources:
TRPA, CTC

February 2020

*Map for reference purposes only.
ATTACHMENT 5

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

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

---

**Project Title:** Identifying Adaptive Traits for Climate Resilience in Sugar Pine Trees

**Project Location – Specific:**  
The portion of Placer County in the Lake Tahoe Basin between Tahoe City and Kings Beach (Exhibit A).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Location – City:</th>
<th>Project Location – County:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Placer County</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:**  
This grant will provide the University of California, Davis, Tahoe Environmental Research Center with funding to collect data on native sugar pine seedlings in a greenhouse and on seedlings planted in areas that were heavily impacted by mortality during California’s six-year drought.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:**  
California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy meeting of 3/12/2020) (Agenda Item 6b)

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:**  
University of California, Davis, Tahoe Environmental Research Center

**Exempt Status:**  
- [ ] Ministerial (Sec. 15073)  
- [ ] Declared Emergency (Sec. 15071 (a))  
- [ ] Emergency Project (Sec. 15071 (b) and (c))  
- [x] Categorical Exemption, Class 6, § 15306 “Information Collection”

**Reasons Why Project is Exempt:**  
The project involves data collection activities to evaluate genetic traits of sugar pine seedlings best suited to persist with increased stressors resulting from climate change in the future. The project will have no changes or impacts on the land and will not result in a change in land use or intensity of use.

**Contact Person**  
Christine Aralia

**Telephone**  
530-543-6017

**Date Received for Filing:**  
________________________________________

Patrick Wright  
Executive Director
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: Water and Sewer Infrastructure Assessment, Planning, and Design

Project Location – Specific:
Entire Lake Tahoe Basin (Basin)

Project Location – City: N/A
Project Location – County: El Dorado County and Placer County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:
The project will result in a vulnerability assessment of Basin water and sewer infrastructure as it relates to risk associated with increased wildfire intensity and severity due to climate change.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project:
California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy meeting of 3/12/2020) (Agenda Item 6b)

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:
South Tahoe Public Utility District

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

Contact Person: Milan Yeates
Telephone Number: (530) 543-6058

Date Received for Filing:

Patrick Wright
Executive Director
ATTACHMENT 7
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
FROM: California Tahoe Conservancy
1400 10th Street, Room 121
1061 Third Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Project Title: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Update

Project Location – Specific:
Entire Lake Tahoe Basin (Basin)

Project Location – City: N/A
Project Location – County: N/A

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:
The project will update and expand on the 2013 greenhouse gas emissions inventory to provide a current snapshot of emissions, provide projections of future emissions, include a sector level analysis, and quantify carbon sequestration on natural lands in the Basin.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project:
California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy meeting of 3/12/2020) (Agenda Item 6b)

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:
Tahoe Regional Planning Agency

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

Contact Person: Telephone Number:
Whitney Brennan (530) 543-6054

Date Received for Filing:

________________________________________
Patrick Wright
Executive Director
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES UPDATE

In the past year, the California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) has accelerated its efforts to develop housing and other sustainable communities projects in the Lake Tahoe Basin (Basin) through its Tahoe Livable Communities (TLC) Program. This update briefly summarizes our major accomplishments, work underway, and the key issues surrounding the development of a strong state agency partnership to move these efforts forward.

Key Takeaways from the 2019 Sustainable Communities Panel Discussion
The panel discussion at the Conservancy’s April 2019 Board meeting in Sacramento included representatives from the Department of General Services (DGS), Strategic Growth Council (SGC), and Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA). The discussion focused on two questions:

- How can the Conservancy make better use of its undeveloped urban lands, development rights, and land acquisitions to advance workforce housing and sustainable communities projects?
- How can state agencies better align their programs to support the development of housing and sustainable communities projects in the Basin?

Key TLC Program Accomplishments
Since last year’s Conservancy Board meeting in Sacramento, the Conservancy has:

- Established a new position that works closely with SGC to help with capacity building and technical assistance, and to align state agency housing and sustainable development efforts in the Basin.
- Partnered with DGS and HCD in selecting two Conservancy-owned parcels in the City of South Lake Tahoe (City) for a potential affordable housing development, hosted a community workshop, and issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for potential developers. (These efforts advance Governor Gavin Newsom’s Executive Order N-06-19 on housing.),
- Pursued negotiation agreements for sustainable communities projects on two other Conservancy-owned parcels in the City and one in Kings Beach.
- Provided funding and technical assistance to support the South Shore Region Housing Needs Assessment and Action Plan.
- Pursued multiple sensitive property and development rights acquisitions.
TLC Interagency Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

To better align and coordinate these efforts, the Conservancy is also leading the development of a TLC Interagency MOU with DGS, HCD, and SGC. The MOU will likely address how the participating agencies can work together to:

- Partner with regional and local agencies to develop housing and sustainable development projects on state-owned parcels in the Basin;
- Identify and develop strategies to facilitate conversion of the Basin’s large inventory of aging motels into safe and affordable housing;
- Identify barriers and opportunities to align state agency funding and technical assistance programs to support state and regional housing and sustainable development goals;
- Develop a community engagement strategy to solicit public input and enhance support for housing projects; and
- Develop a TLC Action Plan by the 2020 Lake Tahoe Summit.

Presenters and Organizing Questions for Panel Discussion

During the Board presentation, Conservancy staff will provide a brief overview of the key housing and sustainable communities opportunities and challenges in the Basin. Each panelist (Attachment 1) will be asked to address the following questions before the general discussion begins:

- What are the key challenges state agencies face in seeking to implement Executive Order N-06-19?
- How can state agencies better align their respective funding and technical assistance programs to support the development of affordable and workforce housing projects in the Basin?
- How can State agencies use the development of housing projects to support a broader range of sustainable development efforts, including local parks, storm water and flood control projects, and transit hubs?

List of Attachments

Attachment 1 – Biographies of Sustainable Communities Panelists

Conservancy Staff Contact

Kevin Prior, Chief Administrative Officer kevin.prior@tahoe.ca.gov
ATTACHMENT 1

BIOGRAPHIES OF SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PANELISTS

LOUISE BEDSWORTH | Strategic Growth Council
Louise Bedsworth is the Executive Director of the Strategic Growth Council (SGC), a state agency that brings together multiple agencies and departments to support sustainable communities emphasizing strong economies, social equity, and environmental stewardship. Prior to joining SGC, Louise was the Deputy Director of the Office of Planning and Research (OPR) in Governor Jerry Brown’s office. At OPR, she led work on a number of collaborative research initiatives and climate change adaptation and resilience, including development of the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program and implementation of the State’s $70 million grant awarded under the National Disaster Resilience Competition. Before joining OPR in 2011, Louise was a research fellow at the Public Policy Institute of California, where her work focused on climate change adaptation, local government action on climate change, and transportation. She has also held positions at the Union of Concerned Scientists, Redefining Progress, and the International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis.

Louise received a bachelor’s degree in Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and an master’s degree in Environmental Engineering and a doctorate in Energy and Resources, both from the University of California, Berkeley.

JASON KENNEY | Department of General Services, Real Estate Services
Jason Kenney was appointed Deputy Director of the Department of General Services (DGS) Real Estate Services Division (RESD) in August 2018. Kenney most recently served as acting deputy director and assistant deputy director for RESD, while also managing the Project Management and Development Branch for RESD. He was originally hired as DGS’ deputy director for the Office of Strategic Planning, Policy, and Research. Prior to DGS, Kenney served as branch chief over the Department of State Hospital’s purchasing, contracting, asset management, fleet, SB/DVBE advocacy, Capital Outlay, and Cal-Card functions from June 2013 to December 2015. He also served as the Asset Management manager for the Department of Motor Vehicles and served in the Office of Personnel Services at the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.
Kenney has a wide range of experience overseeing and improving operational programs in the state, particularly in the field of design/construction and administration. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from California State University, Sacramento.

**ZACK OLMSTEAD | Housing and Community Development**

Zack Olmstead was appointed Deputy Director of Housing Policy Development at the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) on September 1, 2017, and previously served as Assistant Deputy Director of Homeless and Housing Policy since 2016. Prior to joining HCD, Olmstead was the lead advisor on housing, homelessness, and land use policy to Speaker Emeritus of the California State Assembly Toni G. Atkins, also fulfilling that role during her tenure as Speaker of the Assembly from May 2014 through March 2016. He was the director for homeless policy at Housing California from 2006 to 2013. Olmstead completed his undergraduate studies at the University of San Diego and holds a Master of Public Policy and Administration degree from California State University, Sacramento.
LANDSCAPE AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY UPDATE

In the past year, the California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) and its partners completed a Lake Tahoe Basin (Basin) Forest Action Plan (FAP), which will guide the next decade of work and investment, and a 60,000-acre landscape restoration strategy for the west shore of Lake Tahoe. This update reviews the goals of the FAP; the issues identified by panelists at last year’s Conservancy Board meeting in Sacramento; key accomplishments from the Conservancy’s forestry work; and emerging challenges, opportunities, and questions.

Key Takeaways from the 2019 Forestry Panel
The panel discussion at the Conservancy’s April 2019 Board meeting in Sacramento included representatives from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC), California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, California Forest Management Task Force, Sierra Forest Legacy, and USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region (Region 5). The discussion focused on two questions:

• How can the Conservancy, the USDA Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU), and their partners’ efforts serve as a model for addressing state forest health and fire prevention priorities?
• How can the State better assist the Basin and other regions?

Key takeaways from the discussion included:

• The approach of Basin partners to landscape-scale fuel reduction and forest health can serve as a statewide model. Basin partners integrate treatments in communities, the wildland urban interface, and general forest, and work efficiently across federal, state, local, and private lands.
• The Tahoe-Central Sierra Initiative (TCSI) represents an even greater regional approach to landscape restoration. It includes eight collaborative groups and covers 2.4 million acres. It provides a foundation for the Sierra Nevada Strategic Investment Plan.
• These approaches are consistent with the administration’s effort to empower regions and help them build resilience. The State could facilitate the work of Basin partners by providing dedicated funding and considering legislative revisions to the environmental review process.
• State or market incentives are also necessary to incentivize large-scale restoration. These could involve hiring private prescribed fire crews, payments for ecosystem services, and industries based on high-value restoration byproducts.
Lake Tahoe Basin Forest Action Plan

In summer 2019, the Conservancy worked with Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team (TFFT) partners to produce the FAP. The FAP provides a framework for the Basin’s fuels and forest health work. The TFFT consists of 21 federal, tribal, state, and local fire districts and public agencies whose mission is to protect lives, property, and the environment from wildfire. The FAP has three priorities:

1. **Match the scale of the solutions to the scale of the threats.** This includes landscape-scale initiatives, streamlining planning and permitting, and creating powerline resilience corridors.

2. **Build capacity for all phases of the forest landscape management cycle.** This includes expanding the workforce, increasing organizational efficiency, strategically using prescribed fire, and increasing the use of restoration byproducts (e.g., small-diameter trees).

3. **Leverage technology for rapid, larger, more efficient implementation.** This includes launching a management innovation sprint, better managing data for decision-making, and using wildfire cameras to enable more rapid response to ignitions.

Other Key Conservancy Accomplishments

Since last year’s Board meeting, the Conservancy has:

- Helped complete the Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership (LTW) landscape restoration strategy, designed to restore the resilience of the entire west shore—60,000 acres—to fire, drought, insects, and other disturbances amplified by climate change (Attachment 1).
- Implemented seven high priority forest health projects totaling 327 acres.
- Began implementing $32 million of high priority restoration and fuels treatment projects with TCSI partners.
- Completed a resilience framework and assessment for the entire TCSI landscape with TCSI partners. This includes forest structure, fire dynamics, biodiversity, water reliability, carbon sequestration, air quality, fire-adapted communities, and economic diversity and social wellbeing. The framework applies to the entire 20 million acre Sierra Nevada Range.
- Began funding a TCSI Management Innovation Sprint that puts cutting-edge technologies in the hands of land managers to streamline resource surveys, automate forestry operations, and quantify management scenario tradeoffs.
- Completed scoping for a Program Timberland Environmental Impact Report (PTEIR) with local fire protection districts (Attachment 2). The draft document covers multiple land ownerships in the WUI, and will streamline the environmental review of comprehensive fuel reduction projects. The final is expected in August.
- Partnered with Liberty Utilities and the LTBMU to implement a powerline resilience corridors strategy that simultaneously removes hazard trees near utility lines; reduces fuels, ignition risks, and tree mortality; and improves surrounding forest health and fire suppression (Attachment 3). The Conservancy
was unsuccessful in securing a California Climate Investments grant for this work and is still seeking funding.

- Entered into one of California’s first supplemental project agreements with LTBMU under federal Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) to lay the framework for Conservancy-led neighborhood fuels treatment projects on State and federal lands, beginning with project planning and environmental review.

**Presenters and Organizing Questions for Panel Discussion**

During the Board presentation, Conservancy staff will provide an overview of the key challenges facing the Conservancy and its partners in increasing the pace and scale of forest restoration. Each panelist (Attachment 4) will then be asked to address the following questions:

1. How can state and federal partners increase the use of federal-state shared stewardship agreements, long-term stewardship contracts, and GNA agreements? For example:
   a. Prioritize completing a shared stewardship agreement to provide an overall partnership framework.
   b. Consider using TCSI to develop a pipeline of forest restoration projects that provide the stable supply of wood products necessary to support private industry.
   c. Consider shared state and federal commitments to multiple-year funding.

2. How can the LTW and TCSI resilience frameworks and strategies be replicated in other regions of the Sierra? For example:
   a. Support SNC's efforts to develop a Resiliency Dashboard and a planning and implementation framework for other regions in the Sierra.
   c. Partner with Region 5 to fund a training on how to apply the resilience framework in each region of the Sierra.

3. How can the TCSI Management Innovation Sprint serve as a model for turning technological innovation into action? For example:
   a. Document how technologies are integrated in and improve decision-making.
   b. Use technologies to inform restoration priorities and grants.
   c. Explore how the deployment of technology for public benefit can simultaneously generate revenue and further investment.

4. How can the State partner with and support regional efforts to build the capacity necessary to increase the pace and scale of forest management?

5. What’s the right balance between funding shovel-ready, high-priority projects and providing sustainable funding for regional programs?
List of Attachments

Attachment 1 – LTW Landscape Restoration Strategy Summary
Attachment 2 – PTEIR Summary
Attachment 3 – Powerline Resilience Corridors Summary
Attachment 4 – Biographies of the Forest Health Panelists

Conservancy Staff Contact

Jason Vasques, Landscape Forestry Supervisor    jason.vasques@tahoe.ca.gov
Forest Schafer, Community Forestry Supervisor    forest.schafer@tahoe.ca.gov
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 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. laketahoewest.org
**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.”

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

- Planning Area (entirely within Lake Tahoe Basin)
- USDA Forest Service, Other National Forests
- USDA Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit
- California Tahoe Conservancy
- California State Parks
- Local
- Private
- Wilderness
As part of the State’s response to the wildfire crisis, California public agencies are pursuing strategies to increase the pace and scale of fire fuel treatment activities. On a statewide scale, the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) and California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) are preparing the California Vegetation Treatment Program EIR (CalVTP PEIR). At a regional scale, CAL FIRE and a group of Lake Tahoe Basin public agencies are preparing the Tahoe Program Timberland EIR (Tahoe PTEIR). Because the Tahoe PTEIR includes a variety of land ownerships, it will allow fire agencies in Tahoe to develop comprehensive fuel reduction projects across the complex mix of land ownership in the WUI near Lake Tahoe. Both EIRs will provide a programmatic evaluation of certain vegetation treatment activities, to support streamlining of project-level environmental review as a means to help increase in the pace and scale of projects.

There are important differences between them because of their varying needs, as summarized in Table 1.

### Table 1 Key Distinguishing Features of the CalVTP PEIR and Tahoe PTEIR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>CalVTP</th>
<th>Tahoe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Covers State Responsibility Areas</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covers Local Responsibility Areas</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covers select Federal Responsibility Areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addresses mechanical and manual treatments and prescribed burning</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addresses herbicide application and prescribed herbivory</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allows for commercial use of select timber or biomass materials consistent with the California Forest Practice Act</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allows for the use of Program EIR “within the scope” findings for qualifying projects and focuses the scope of analysis, if additional CEQA is needed</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allows for use of Forest Practice Act streamlining through Program Timber Harvest Plans for qualifying commercial activities</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulatory streamlining by providing information for CEQA responsible agency approvals, e.g., CDFW, RWQCB, air districts, CCC</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulatory streamlining by providing information to support approvals by the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and U.S. Forest Service, when needed</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Three primary areas of difference between the two EIRs are related to 1) treatment activities and covered lands, 2) commercial use of removed biomass, and 3) scale and specificity for regulatory compliance.

Treatment activities and covered lands: The CalVTP PEIR addresses fuel treatment activities within the treatable landscapes of the State Responsibility Area (SRA) and does not include Local...
Responsibility Areas (LRA) or Federal lands. Regarding vegetation treatment activities, it includes manual and mechanical removal, prescribed burning, prescribed herbivory and targeted herbicide treatment. In contrast, the covered lands of the Tahoe PTEIR consist of lands within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) and Tahoe Basin Community Wildfire Protection Plan areas, which are within primarily the Local and State Responsibility Areas. They also include some Federal lands authorized for transfer to the State by the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act. The Tahoe PTEIR excludes herbicide applications, prescribed herbivory, and some treatment situations that may threaten water quality, because of the unique regulatory emphasis on clarity of Lake Tahoe and protection of Tahoe Basin resources.

Commercial use of removed biomass: The CalVTP PEIR is being prepared pursuant to CEQA and evaluates a range of non-commercial approaches for the disposal of biomass generated during wildfire fuel reduction projects. It does not evaluate “commercial” operations, as defined by PRC § 4527(a), which are treatment activities that include the sale, barter, exchange, or trade of forest materials, commercial operations are regulated by the Forest Practice Act. The Tahoe PTEIR is being prepared pursuant to both CEQA and the California Forest Practice Act.

The Tahoe PTEIR will provide a streamlined approach for the implementation of wildfire fuel reduction projects that can include the commercial sale of removed biomass as an element of the strategy to help fund treatment activities.

Scale and specificity for regulatory compliance: The CalVTP PEIR is a statewide program intended to accelerate treatment of about 250,000 acres per year within approximately 20.3 million acres of treatable landscape within the SRA. It includes standard project requirements and mitigation measures to protect the environment that are performance standard-based and tailored to ecoregions to be applicable to the broad geography covered by the CalVTP. A project-specific analysis (PSA) is used to apply the requirements of the EIR to treatments that are consistent with the CalVTP to achieve environmental review streamlining.

The Tahoe PTEIR includes approximately 17,500 acres entirely within the California side of the Lake Tahoe Basin. It evaluates wildfire fuel reduction in the context of the unique regulatory environment in the Lake Tahoe Basin, which includes specialized requirements to protect and restore the clarity of the lake and other extraordinarily sensitive characteristics of Tahoe Basin natural resources. At a regional scale, the Tahoe PTEIR is also able to provide more detailed environmental information, including modeling of the Tahoe Basin ecosystem, and more site-specific mitigation measures tailored to the environmental conditions in the Lake Tahoe region, in addition to performance standard-based measures.

We hope this memo helps clarify the comparison of the two environmental review documents. Please do not hesitate to contact any of us, if you need further information (Curtis Alling, 916.930.3181; Adam Lewandowski, 702.596.5957; Heather Blair, 916.732.3337).
Lake Tahoe Powerline Resilience Corridor Strategy

Protecting High Risk Communities While Improving Forest Health

Powerlines are a vital part of the Lake Tahoe Basin's (Basin) infrastructure, but are also a major potential source of wildfire ignitions. Through the Powerline Resilience Corridor Strategy, utility companies will protect high risk communities in the Basin by removing hazards near utility lines, while state and federal land managers reduce fuels and improve the health of the surrounding forest.

Benefits of the Powerline Resilience Corridor Strategy:

• Reducing potential tree strikes on powerlines, lowering the risk of ignitions,
• Reducing fuels on a 2,000-foot wide swath of land along powerlines, making potential nearby fires easier to suppress
• Restoring adjacent forests, lowering tree mortality and reducing wildfire risk.
• Creating new efficiencies by having crews treat public lands at the same time as they treat utility corridors.

ZONE 1

Remove all vegetation with the potential to grow into utility infrastructure, including any trees with structural defects.

Zone 1 30 ft

ZONE 2
Remove trees with structural defects; reduce fuels for increased forest resilience; thin to desired conditions for forest health. Utilize biomass.

Zone 2 ~175 ft

ZONE 3
Thin forest to increase the diversity of tree size and spacing, restoring resilience and reducing wildfire risk. Utilize biomass.

Zone 3 ~1000 ft

ZONE 3

Thin forest to increase the diversity of tree size and spacing, restoring resilience and reducing wildfire risk. Utilize biomass.

Zone 3 ~2000 ft total
Resilience corridors are forested areas around powerlines where ignition hazards are managed in conjunction with fuels reduction and forest health improvement treatments. This map shows the highest priority areas on the California side of the Lake Tahoe Basin. Corridor planning in Nevada is underway with NV Energy.
ANTICIPATED

ATTACHMENT 4

BIOGRAPHIES OF FOREST HEALTH PANELISTS

ANGELA AVERY | Sierra Nevada Conservancy
Angela leads the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) by providing strategic direction and oversight to the Agency’s Region-wide staff. As Executive Officer, she is committed to restoring the health and resilience of the Sierra Nevada Region. She believes that by working with SNC’s partners to implement the Sierra Nevada Watershed Improvement Plan, we can ensure that the Region thrives for future generations and continues to provide California with clean air, clean water, recreational opportunities, and spiritual respite.

Angela joined the SNC in 2007 and became the Policy and Outreach Division Chief in 2015 where she focused on the development of sound, science-based policy and the necessary outreach programs and strategic partnerships that support the Sierra Nevada Region. Previously, Angela worked as a parks, recreation, and conservation planning consultant and managed forested land on the north coast of California.

HELGE ENG | California Department of Forest and Fire Protection
Helge is the Deputy Director, Resource Management for California Department of Forest and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE). He has over 25 years of forestry experience, including working in other countries as a forestry consultant. In 1992 Helge started his CAL FIRE career as a timber supply analyst at the Fire and Resources Assessment Program. He was promoted in 1995 to Forester I then Forester II in 2002. From 2002 to 2005 he was responsible for forest inventories and harvest scheduling on the State Forests. In 2005, he was promoted to Deputy Chief to become State Forest Program Manager. His most recent position was Assistant Deputy Director, Resource Protection and Improvement.

Helge has a Bachelor of Science in Forestry from the University of British Columbia, a Master's Degree in Forest Measurements, a master's degree in Statistics, and a doctorate in Forest Operations Research from Oregon State University.

JESSICA MORSE | California Natural Resources Agency
Jessica was appointed Deputy Secretary of Forest Resources Management at the California Natural Resources Agency in 2019. Prior to that, Morse was a candidate for California’s 4th Congressional District in 2018. She was a budget analyst with the U.S. Agency for International Development from 2012 to 2015 and a strategic policy advisor with the U.S. Pacific Command from 2010 to 2012. She served as Iraq country coordinator for the U.S. Department of State from 2007 to 2008 and national capacity development coordinator for the U.S. Agency for International Development from 2005 to 2006. Morse earned a Master of Public Administration degree in national security and nuclear non-proliferation from Princeton University. Jessica grew up hiking, fishing, and
hunting with her family throughout Northern California. An avid backpacker, Jessica has hiked the entire length of California’s 4th district—500 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail from north of Tahoe to Mt. Whitney.

TONY SCARDINA | USDA Forest Service, Region 5
Anthony (Tony) Scardina, is 1 of 3 Deputy Regional Foresters for the Pacific Southwest Region of the USDA Forest Service. In this role, he oversees Fire and Aviation Management, State and Private Forestry, Acquisition Management and Safety programs for the Region.

Tony began his career with the Forest Service in 2004 as a Presidential Management Fellow and budget analyst in Strategic Planning and Budget Accountability, Washington Office. He has served in several leadership roles in the USDA Forest Service, including Forest Supervisor on the Wayne National Forest in Ohio, Forest Supervisor on the Ottawa National Forest in Michigan, District Ranger on the Allegheny National Forest in Pennsylvania, and Deputy District Ranger and Travel Management Team Leader on the Eldorado National Forest in California. He has served in several acting roles including Acting Chief of Staff for the Deputy Chief of the National Forest System in the Washington Office; Acting Director of Renewable Resources in Region 1; and Acting Deputy Regional Forester in Region 9.

Tony holds Bachelor of Science degrees in Forest Resource Management, Wildlife Sciences, and Fisheries Sciences from West Virginia University. He earned a Master of Science in Forestry and a Master of Public Administration from Virginia Tech.

JAY ZIEGLER | The Nature Conservancy
Jay Ziegler is the director of external affairs and policy at The Nature Conservancy (TNC). He oversees the California chapter’s engagements at the federal, state, and regional levels. In this capacity, he directs TNC strategies on public policy and funding issues, legislation, partnership efforts, and campaigns. Prior to joining TNC, he was founder and principal of Ziegler Associates, a multi-disciplinary public affairs firm focused on environmental and land use issues. He has also served in communications, policy, and advocacy roles in government—including with then-U.S. Department of the Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt—with a focus on endangered species, public lands, water, and natural resource management issues across the west. In addition to serving on the Public Policy Institute of California’s Water Policy Center Advisory Council, he serves on the boards of several no-profit conservation organizations. He holds a bachelor’s degree in political science-public service from the University of California, Davis.
TAHOE VALLEY STORMWATER AND GREENBELT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
GRANT AND LICENSE AGREEMENT

Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution 20-03-06 (Attachment 1) containing the appropriate California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) determinations and authorizing:

1. a grant to the City of South Lake Tahoe (City) for up to $375,000 and
2. a long-term license agreement with the City on 20 California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) parcels for the Tahoe Valley Stormwater and Greenbelt Improvement Project (Project).

Executive Summary: The City seeks a grant from the Conservancy to complete the final design for the Project. The Project is the centerpiece of the City’s efforts to revitalize the Tahoe Valley area. The Project will provide a walkable, bikeable, and scenic connection from a dense commercial area to adjacent neighborhoods, while treating storm water runoff that drains into the Upper Truckee River and Lake Tahoe. The City also seeks funds to conduct appraisals and other activities necessary to acquire several key property rights along the Tahoe Valley Greenbelt, and a license agreement on 20 Conservancy-owned parcels to construct and maintain storm water detention basins, bike and pedestrian paths, meadow restoration, and other key elements of the Project. The City plans to complete all design work, construction documents, and pre-acquisition activities by the end of 2020. The Project supports the Lake Tahoe Environmental Improvement Program (EIP), Lake Tahoe Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), Lake Tahoe Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), and the Conservancy’s Strategic Plan Goals 2, 3, and 4 (restore watershed resilience, provide public access for all, and foster sustainable communities).

Location: The Project area is 320 acres and is located in the southwest portion of the City, partially within the Tahoe Valley Area Plan (Area Plan) footprint (Attachment 2). U.S. Highway 50 bisects the Project area, which extends from approximately Julie Lane to Tahoe Keys Boulevard.

Fiscal Summary: Staff is requesting authorization to award up to $375,000 in Proposition 68 funding to support the Project. The proposed license agreement does not involve receipt of funds by the Conservancy, and will result in incidental staff costs related to the preparation and processing of the agreement.
History
The Tahoe Valley area has poor water quality and a trail network that floods. Existing trails do not connect the town center, neighborhoods, and the natural environment. The City adopted the Area Plan in 2015 to foster a more sustainable community. The Area Plan calls for creating smaller, safer, pedestrian-friendly commerce districts, while improving water quality, wildlife habitats, and recreation trails.

Shortly thereafter, the City started planning the Project, which is the centerpiece of the Area Plan. Conservancy staff worked closely with the City to ensure consistency with the Conservancy’s asset lands program and other regional priorities. In 2019, the City Planning Commission adopted a mitigated negative declaration (MND) and mitigation monitoring plan (MMP) for the Project. The Project will provide a walkable, bikeable community and scenic connection from a dense commercial area to adjacent neighborhoods. Project improvements will treat storm water runoff that drains into the Upper Truckee River and Lake Tahoe, using natural stream environment zone (SEZ) treatment where possible. The trail connections prioritize disadvantaged community access and link to public transportation.

The Project includes three distinct areas, as shown in the Project map (Attachment 2):

- **The West Project area (west of U.S. Highway 50, between B Street to F Street):** improvements are primarily storm water basins and infrastructure to convey water in a way that reduces the amount of pollutants in runoff.
- **The Central Greenbelt (open space east of The Crossing at Tahoe Valley retail center, from B Street to Lake Tahoe Boulevard):** improvements include storm water basins, all-weather crossing of seasonally flooded areas, a public gathering space, passive recreation, and signage.
- **The North Project area (north of Lake Tahoe Boulevard to Tahoe Keys Boulevard):** improvements include storm water basins, expansion of SEZ and floodplain, and protection of existing informal trails.

The City is now beginning to design the Project, explore associated acquisitions, and pursue funding for final design and implementation. The California State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) awarded the City a $381,920 grant for design work, but the City needs additional funding to complete construction documents necessary for implementation. The City plans to apply for implementation funding from the State Water Board or other State sources in 2020 and, pending availability of funding, start construction in 2021.

**Detailed Description of Recommended Action**

1. **Major Elements and/or Steps of the Recommended Action**
   Conservancy staff recommends the Board authorize a grant of up to $375,000 for project design and engineering, and pre-acquisition work on several priority parcels. The City will contract for the design and engineering of final construction documents. For
pre-acquisition activities related to three parcels, the City will work with consultants to obtain title reports, appraisals, legal descriptions, and to negotiate with property owners.

Second, the City requests a 20-year license agreement on 20 Conservancy parcels to construct and maintain Project improvements. These include storm water basins, infiltration pipes, vegetated channels, meadow restoration, public paths, and education exhibits. The Project map (Attachment 2) and the list of El Dorado County Assessment Numbers (ANs) (Attachment 3) identify these parcels.

If authorized, staff will execute a grant agreement with the City. Staff will also prepare and execute the license agreement in fall 2020 or early 2021.

2. Overall Context and Benefits
The grant and license agreement will help the City move this high priority project quickly towards implementation. Conservancy funding should also help the City secure implementation funding from other state or federal sources.

The Project will result in water quality, ecosystem, recreation, and community sustainability benefits, and increased resilience to climate change impacts. The Project will treat runoff that has large amounts of pollutants that reduce the clarity of Lake Tahoe, and simultaneously help the City meet its TMDL objectives. Expanded SEZ areas and higher groundwater tables will benefit native vegetation and wildlife. Bike and pedestrian trails will have all-weather crossings over seasonally flooded areas, thereby improving community access to open space and encouraging the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by automobiles. These trails will also connect with the South Tahoe Greenway Shared Use Trail and others within the regional Class 1 trail network.

The Project supports the Conservancy’s Strategic Plan Goals 2, 3, and 4 (restore watershed resilience, provide public access for all, and foster sustainable communities), and several other plans. These include the EIP, TMDL, SCS, Area Plan, Regional Transportation Plan, City General Plan, Upper Truckee River Restoration Strategy, and Tahoe-Sierra Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.

3. Schedule for the Recommended Action
Conservancy staff intends to execute the grant agreement quickly so that the City can start design work in spring 2020. City staff wishes to complete substantial design activities by summer 2020 to support their application for an implementation grant from the State Water Board. The City aims to complete all design work and construction documents by the end of 2020. They will also complete the pre-acquisition work in 2020 so that the engineers can incorporate improvements on these parcels. Conservancy and City staff will execute the license agreement in late 2020 or early 2021, prior to Project implementation.
Financing
The proposed funding source for the grant is Proposition 68. Staff recommends the
grant budget shown below. Staff may adjust the budget between line items, but total
expenditures will not exceed $375,000.

| Design and Engineering | $340,000 |
| Pre-acquisition Activities | $35,000 |
| **Total** | **$375,000** |

The City has secured $381,920 in Proposition 1 funding from the State Water Board to
fund a portion of Project design activities, and the City is providing $42,435 in local
matching funds. Conservancy funding will augment these resources and help the City
complete all design and construction documents. The City intends to apply to the State
Water Board or other state and federal sources for Project implementation 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 local public agencies for purposes consistent with its mission. Government
Code section 66907.8 authorizes the Conservancy to lease or otherwise transfer any
real property interest to fulfill the purposes of its enabling legislation and to promote the
State’s planning priorities. 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 local public agencies.

Consistency with the Conservancy’s Strategic Plan
The Conservancy intends to advance Goal 2, Strategy B, by advancing multiple-benefit
improvements that creatively combine water quality and recreation improvements; Goal
3, Strategy A by providing signature opportunities on Conservancy lands for all people to
experience and enjoy Lake Tahoe; and Goal 4, Strategy A, by integrating climate change
resilience and adaptation planning and investment decision-making.

Consistency with the Conservancy’s Program Guidelines
The recommended action is consistent with the Conservancy’s Grant Program
Guidelines.

Consistency with External Authorities
The recommended action is consistent with the EIP because it advances implementing EIP Project #01.01.01.0012. The recommended action also supports several important state mandates, such as the Sustainable Communities Act and Safeguarding California (the State’s Climate Adaptation Strategy). The recommended grant is also consistent with the Outdoor Access for All provisions of Proposition 68.

Compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act

The City, acting as the lead agency, prepared an initial study (IS)/MND, including an MMP, for the Project to comply with CEQA. The City adopted the MND on May 9, 2019 and filed a notice of determination (NOD) on May 13, 2019. The MMP for the Project is on pages 191–195 of the MND.

A copy of the City’s IS/MND, MMP, and NOD (Attachment 4) have been provided to the Board and are available for public review at the Conservancy office, 1061 Third Street, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150.

Staff has reviewed the MND and believes that the Project is adequately analyzed in this document. Staff determined that the Project, as mitigated, would not cause a significant effect on the environment.

Staff recommends the Board review and consider the MND adopted by the City as lead agency, together with any comments received during review by the public; certify that it has independently considered and reached its own conclusions regarding the potential environmental effects of the Project; make the findings as set forth in the attached resolution; adopt the MMP; and authorize the Project. If the Board considers and concurs with the MND as well as authorizes the grant and license agreement, staff will file an NOD with the State Clearinghouse pursuant to CEQA guidelines, section 15096 (Attachment 5).

List of Attachments

Attachment 1 – Resolution 20-03-06
Attachment 2 – Project Map
Attachment 3 – List of El Dorado County ANs for License Agreement
Attachment 4 – City’s IS/MND, MMP, and NOD
Attachment 5 – Conservancy’s ND

Conservancy Staff Contact

Stuart Roll, Watershed Program Supervisor stuart.roll@tahoe.ca.gov
ATTACHMENT 1

California Tahoe Conservancy
Resolution
20-03-06
Adopted: March 12, 2020

TAHOE VALLEY STORMWATER AND GREENBELT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT GRANT
AND LICENSE AGREEMENT

Staff recommends that the California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) make the following findings based on the accompanying staff recommendation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq.:

“The Conservancy, in its role as a responsible agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has reviewed and considered the Tahoe Valley Stormwater and Greenbelt Improvement Project (Project) Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) adopted by the City of South Lake Tahoe (City) on May 9, 2019. The Conservancy certifies that it has independently considered and reached its own conclusions regarding the environmental effects of the proposed Project and finds, on the basis of the whole record before it, that there is no substantial evidence that the Project will have a significant effect on the environment.

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15097(d), the Conservancy adopts a mitigation monitoring plan (MMP) (Exhibit A), which ensures that required mitigation is implemented for the Project. The Conservancy incorporates the mitigation measures described in the MMP as a condition for approval of the Project.”

Staff further recommends that the Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Government Code sections 66907.7, 66907.8, and 66907.9:

“The Conservancy hereby authorizes 1) the award of a grant to the City for up to $375,000, 2) the execution of a long-term license agreement with the City on 20 Conservancy parcels for the Project, and 3) staff to take 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 12th day of March, 2020.
In WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of March, 2020.

__________________________
Patrick Wright
Executive Director

Exhibits:
• Exhibit A – City of South Lake Tahoe MMP
Exhibit A
Mitigation Monitoring Plan
Tahoe Valley Water Quality and Greenbelt Improvement Project (Project)

AESTHETICS (CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)) AND SCENIC RESOURCES/COMMUNITY DESIGN AND LIGHT AND GLARE (TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY (TRPA))
There are no potentially significant impacts related to aesthetics and scenic resources.

AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY
There are no potentially significant impacts related to agriculture.
- **Mitigation Number:** AGR-1
- **Mitigation Measure:** AGR-1. Public Agency Right-of-Way Exemption with CAL FIRE. A Timberland Conversion Permit shall not be required for noncommercial removal of solid wood products from non-Timberland Production Zone land and a waiver shall be applied for prior to construction. The Project Applicant shall file for a Public Agency Right-of-Way exemption with CAL FIRE to comply with requirements for conversion of Timberland for installation of public service projects. Tree removal shall occur along the Greenbelt corridor and in association with expansion of existing and construction of new trail and storm water infrastructure improvements. Tree removal operations shall be completed within one year of filing by a Licensed Timber Operator. The Project shall implement noncommercial removal, which means that the products are neither sold nor exchanged for other goods or services. Noncommercial disposal includes the owner’s personal use of the products, disposal by piling and burning, and hauling away and dumping without processing. These operations are not timber operations under the Forest Practice Act definition.

AIR QUALITY
Potentially significant impacts related to air quality will be avoided, reduced, or minimized through implementation of the air quality resource protection measure detailed in Section 1.10.2 of the Project description, available on the City’s website at https://www.cityofslt.us/827/Tahoe-Valley-Stormwater-Improvement-Proj.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (STREAM ENVIRONMENT ZONE (SEZ), WETLANDS, VEGETATION & WILDLIFE)
Potentially significant impacts related to wildlife and native plant species will be avoided, reduced, or minimized through implementation of the biological resource protection measure detailed in Section 1.10.7 of the Project description.
- **Mitigation Number:** BIO-1
- **Mitigation Measure:** Mitigation Measure BIO-1. Prior to completion of final design of the Project, a qualified biologist retained by the City would perform a
wetland delineation for the Project Area. The delineation would conform to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Wetlands Delineation Manual and Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region (Version 2.0). If the delineation identifies jurisdictional wetlands within the Project Area that would be impacted by the Project design and/or location will be modified to avoid impacts to the delineated wetland or the City will be required to comply with the permitting regulations of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act to minimize and mitigate for the loss of jurisdictional wetlands.

- **Timing/Schedule:** Prior to construction
- **Implementation Responsibility:** Contractor and City of South Lake Tahoe

**CULTURAL & TRIBAL RESOURCES (CEQA) AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL RESOURCES (TRPA)**
Potentially significant impacts related to cultural and tribal cultural resource will be avoided through implementation of the cultural resource protection measures detailed in Section 1.10.8 of the Project description. There are no potentially significant impacts related to tribal cultural resources.

**GEOLOGY & SOILS (CEQA) AND LAND (TRPA)**
Potentially significant impacts related to geology and soils will be avoided through implementation of the soil and water resource protection measure detailed in Section 1.10.3 of the Project description.

**GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS**
There are no potentially significant impacts related greenhouse gas emissions.

**HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS (CEQA) AND RISK OF UPSET AND HUMAN HEALTH (TRPA)**
Potentially significant impacts related to hazards and hazardous materials will be avoided through implementation of the resource protection measure detailed in Section 1.10.5 of the Project description.

**HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY**
Potentially significant impacts related to hydrology, water quality, and groundwater will be avoided through implementation of the soil and water resource protection measure detailed in Section 1.10.3 of the Project description.

**LAND USE AND PLANNING**
There are no potentially significant impacts related to land use and planning.

**MINERAL RESOURCES (CEQA) AND NATURAL RESOURCES (TRPA)**
There are no potentially significant impacts related to mineral resources.
NOISE
Potentially significant impacts related to noise will be avoided through implementation of the noise and vibration protection measures detailed in Section 1.10.9 of the Project description.

POPULATION & HOUSING
There are no potentially significant impacts related to population and housing.

PUBLIC SERVICES
There are no potentially significant impacts related to public services.

RECREATION
Potentially significant impacts related to recreation uses will be avoided through implementation of the recreational resource protection measure detailed in Section 1.10.10 of the Project description.

TRANSPORTATION & TRAFFIC (CEQA) AND TRAFFIC & CIRCULATION (TRPA)
Potentially significant impacts related to traffic will be avoided through implementation of the traffic protection measures detailed in Section 1.10.4 of the Project description.

UTILITIES & SERVICE SYSTEMS (CEQA) AND ENERGY & UTILITIES (TRPA)
There are no potentially significant impacts related to utilities and service systems.
## List of El Dorado County Assessment Numbers for License Agreement

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<thead>
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<th></th>
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<td>10</td>
<td>023-681-001</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>032-278-024</td>
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ATTACHMENT 4

TAHOE VALLEY STORMWATER AND GREENBELT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT GRANT AND LICENSE AGREEMENT

City of South Lake Tahoe’s (City) Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration
City’s Mitigation Monitoring Plan
City’s Notice of Determination

On attached compact disc or available on the City’s website at https://www.cityofslt.us/827/Tahoe-Valley-Stormwater-Improvement-Proj.
NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

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

Subject:  

Project Title:  
Tahoe Valley Stormwater and Greenbelt Improvement Project

State Clearinghouse Number: 20190292152  
Contact Person: Joe Pepi  
Telephone Number: (530) 543-6066

Project Location:  
The project is located in the southwest portion of the City of South Lake Tahoe (City) within the Lake Tahoe Basin. U.S. Highway 50 and State Route 89 bisect the project area. The long-term license agreement includes 20 California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) parcels within the project area (El Dorado County Assessor Numbers 023-211-010, 023-211-044, 023-231-003, 023-231-010, 023-231-012, 023-241-023, 023-381-001, 023-381-010, 023-430-040, 023-681-001, 032-141-002, 032-141-003, 032-152-020, 032-277-003, 032-277-004, 032-277-005, 032-278-021, 032-278-022, 032-278-023, and 032-278-024 (Exhibit A)).

Project Description:  
The Conservancy will provide funding and long-term license agreements to the City to implement the project. The purpose of the Project is to improve and expand existing storm water infrastructure and to develop recreational amenities by increasing pedestrian and bicycle connectivity. The project includes stream environment zone restoration, storm water conveyance and infiltration facilities, multiple-use Class I trails, interpretive signage, play areas, and potential public art installations.

This is to advise that the Conservancy, acting as a responsible agency, has approved the above described project on March 12, 2020 (Agenda Item 9) and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

1. The project will not have a significant effect on the environment.
2. The City prepared a mitigated negative declaration (MND) for the project and approved it on May 9, 2019. The City filed an NOD on May 13, 2019.
3. Mitigation measures are a condition of the approval of the project by the City and the Conservancy.
4. A mitigation monitoring plan was adopted for this project.

A copy of the MND and record of the project approval is available to the public on the City’s website at https://www.cityofslt.us/827/Tahoe-Valley-Stormwater-Improvement-Proj, at City of South Lake Tahoe 1052 Tata Lane, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150, and the Conservancy’s office at 1061 Third Street, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150.

Fish and Wildlife Fees: The lead agency paid the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Environmental Filing Fee for this project. This notice includes a copy of the receipt.

Date Received for Filing:

________________________________________
Patrick Wright
Executive Director
UPPER TRUCKEE RIVER AND MARSH RESTORATION PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

**Recommended Action:** Adopt Resolution 20-03-07 (Attachment 1) authorizing staff to expend up to an additional $2,460,000 to implement the Upper Truckee River and Marsh Restoration Project (Project).

**Executive Summary:** California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) staff requests $2,460,000 of additional authority to implement the Project. Project costs have increased because bids have come in over the engineer’s estimate, and because supplementary monitoring funding is necessary to fulfill grant requirements. The Project is the largest river and wetland restoration project in the Lake Tahoe Basin and has statewide significance due to its scale, contributions to lake clarity improvements, and unique habitats. The Conservancy will restore the Upper Truckee Marsh (Marsh) by routing a portion of Upper Truckee River (UTR) flows back into the historical channel alignment in the center of the Marsh, and by reclaiming wetland areas impacted by past development. The Conservancy will start Project construction in May 2020; Project work will extend into 2022 with monitoring and adaptive management continuing thereafter. The Project supports the Lake Tahoe Environmental Improvement Program (EIP), Lake Tahoe Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), and state plans and mandates such as the State Wildlife Action Plan, California Water Action Plan, and Safeguarding California Plan. The Project advances the Conservancy’s Strategic Plan Goals 1, 2, and 3 by stewarding Conservancy lands, restoring the resilience of watersheds, and providing public access to all communities.

**Location:** South shore of Lake Tahoe, bounded by U.S. Highway 50 and the Highland Woods, Al Tahoe, Tahoe Island/Sky Meadows, and Tahoe Keys neighborhoods (Attachment 2).

**Fiscal Summary:** Staff is requesting authorization to expend up to an additional $2,460,000 to implement the Project. This funding is contingent on the Department of Finance (DOF) and/or State Legislature approval. The funding would come from a combination of state and federal grants and the Conservancy’s allocation of Proposition 68 funds.
History
The Marsh is the largest remaining wetland in the Lake Tahoe Basin. Historically, the Marsh occupied a much larger area along the south shore of Lake Tahoe, encompassing approximately 1,600 acres. Development in the late 1950s through the 1970s drastically altered the Marsh, most notably by creating the Tahoe Keys neighborhood, marina, and lagoons. This disturbed approximately 600 acres in the center of the original Marsh, resulting in a large loss of wetland habitat. As a result, the Marsh no longer serves as highly functional wetland habitat, and most of the river’s sediment flows directly into the Lake, which impacts lake clarity.

There is an extensive history of Board authorizations, acquisitions, and previous restoration work at the Marsh. Most recently, Conservancy staff and partners have completed numerous steps to move the Project towards implementation. From 2005 to 2014, Conservancy staff conducted resource surveys, planning, environmental review, and extensive public involvement. In 2015, the Board certified the environmental document, approved the Project, and authorized $12,360,000 in funding. Since 2015, staff has worked closely with the Department of General Services (DGS), consultants, partner agencies, and an independent science review panel, to develop preliminary plans, working drawings, and final plans and specifications. Staff has also secured all necessary permits and approvals, and approximately $7 million in grant funds. Currently, the DGS has solicited bids from contractors to construct the Project and all bids were above the engineer’s estimate. Staff is seeking additional funding authority to move the Project forward into the construction phase.

The Project includes a number of features:
- a network of pilot channels to redirect a portion of stream flows to the center of the Marsh into a system of relict channels and Lower Trout Creek;
- a new wetland area next to the Lower West Side project. The Conservancy will create this new wetland by restoring a portion of open water marina (“Sailing Lagoon”) on State property, and an area by Cove East Beach that the Tahoe Keys developers filled for a residential development but never constructed; and
- a universally accessible pedestrian trail to Lake Tahoe.

Detailed Description of Recommended Action
1. Major Elements and/or Steps of the Recommended Action
Conservancy staff recommends the Board authorize up to an additional $2,460,000 to implement the Project. This augmentation is necessary because the construction bids have come in over the engineer’s estimate, and adequate funding is critical for the DGS to award the construction contract and start Project construction in 2020. The Project schedule is based on meeting various grant agreement commitments. If staff cannot move forward with the Project in the near future, there is a risk of significant cost increases and complications to grant timelines and funding.
The cost of monitoring for environmental compliance, project effectiveness, and adaptive management is higher than the original DGS estimate due to the complex and sensitive nature of restoration work within the Marsh. In addition, the Conservancy received a grant from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, which provides implementation funding but requires greenhouse gas sequestration monitoring that was not part of the original project budget.

The DGS will continue to manage the Project on behalf of the Conservancy. DGS staff will work closely with Conservancy staff and the DOF to augment the legislative authority for the Project. The Project augmentation will allow the DGS to award the construction contract this April and keep the Project on schedule. The construction contractor could start restoration work as early as May. The contractor will conduct construction activities from 2020 until 2022, with monitoring and adaptive management continuing for at least two years thereafter.

2. Overall Context and Benefits
The Project includes over 250 acres of wetland enhancement, 11 acres of wetland creation, aquatic invasive species eradication, and public access improvements. The Project will result in extensive benefits to water quality and wildlife habitat, and it will make the Marsh more resilient to the effects of climate change.

The scope and scale of the Project is unique and the Project will result in regionally significant benefits. Approximately 30 percent of the land area in the Lake Tahoe Basin drains through the Marsh, and the Marsh is therefore a critical filter to remove pollutants that affect lake clarity. The habitat in the Marsh is especially significant because the Marsh is a stopover on the Pacific flyway for migratory bird species. In addition, the Project is the cornerstone of the Upper Truckee Partnership, an interagency effort to restore the entire watershed.

3. Schedule for the Recommended Action
Conservancy staff will work with the DGS and DOF this spring to augment the Project authority and award and execute the construction contract. The recommended action will allow the Project to remain on schedule. The DGS will manage the construction contractor to implement the Project from 2020 to 2022. Conservancy staff, consultants, and partners will monitor the Project until at least 2024, and will adaptively manage the Project as necessary.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Milestones</th>
<th>Milestone Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Award and execute construction contract</td>
<td>Spring 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Begin construction</td>
<td>Spring/Summer 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete construction</td>
<td>Fall 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitor and adaptively manage</td>
<td>2023 and 2024</td>
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</table>

Financing
In 2015, the Board authorized $12,360,000 for Project planning, acquisitions, working drawings (final plans), construction, and monitoring. Staff has expended $2,265,000 to complete all planning and design work, leaving a balance of $10,095,000 for construction.

The following DGS budget includes estimates for current costs to complete Project construction and monitoring. The total estimate for the construction phase is $12,555,000, which requires an augmentation of $2,460,000 to the existing Project authority. Costs per task may change, but the total amount for all tasks is not anticipated to exceed $12,555,000 (and any further augmentation would require subsequent Board approval).

<table>
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<td>Physical construction</td>
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<td>Regulatory compliance and engineering support</td>
<td>900,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>DGS management and inspection</td>
<td>797,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post-project monitoring</td>
<td>400,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contingency 5%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$12,555,000</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Previously authorized</strong></td>
<td><strong>$10,095,000</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Recommended augmentation</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,460,000</strong></td>
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The proposed budget includes funding from multiple sources, as shown in the table below. Conservancy staff has secured more than $7 million in grant funding, and the Conservancy will provide approximately $5.6 million from a combination of the Habitat Conservation Fund and Propositions 12, 40, 50, 84, and 68. The grant funding is time sensitive in that Project delays could jeopardize certain funding allocations.

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<tr>
<td>CA Department of Fish and Wildlife - Wetlands for Greenhouse Gas Reduction Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>USDA Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers</td>
<td>$450,000</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$12,555,000</strong></td>
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</table>
Authority

Consistency with the Conservancy’s Enabling Legislation
Implementation of the Project is consistent with the Conservancy’s enabling legislation. Specifically, Government Code section 66907.10 authorizes the Conservancy to improve and develop lands for a variety of purposes, including protection of the natural environment. Under Government Code section 66906.8, the Conservancy is authorized to select and hire private consultants or contractors to achieve these purposes.

Consistency with the Conservancy’s Strategic Plan
The Conservancy intends to advance Goal 1, Strategies B and C by increasing the Conservancy’s presence on its lands, communicating the value of Conservancy lands, and educating younger generations; Goal 2, Strategy B by implementing a multi-benefit project that creatively combines restoring and building resilience of watersheds, water quality protection, green infrastructure, recreation, and climate change mitigation and adaptation; and Goal 3, Strategy A by providing signature opportunities on Conservancy lands for all people to experience Lake Tahoe’s beaches, rivers, and wildlife.

Consistency with the Conservancy’s Program Guidelines
The Project meets the criteria and objectives of the Conservancy’s Wildlife Habitat Enhancement, Stream Environmental Zone Restoration, and Public Access and Recreation programs. The Project will provide significant benefits to wildlife habitat and water quality, and build upon the cumulative benefits of nearby restoration projects.

Consistency with External Authorities
The recommended action is consistent with the EIP because it completes the implementation of EIP project #01.02.01.0007. The recommended action also supports several important state priorities and mandates, such as the California Water Action Plan, State Wildlife Action Plan, and Safeguarding California (the State’s Climate Adaptation Strategy). The Project is also consistent with the Outdoor Access for All provisions of Proposition 68.

Compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act
On December 18, 2015, the Board certified the Upper Truckee River and Marsh Restoration Project Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act. All potential environmental effects of the current recommended action were previously analyzed in the EIR. Since certification of the EIR, no new information of substantial importance has become available, no substantial changes to the Project have been proposed, and no substantial changes in the surrounding circumstances have occurred which would require major revisions of the EIR.
List of Attachments

Attachment 1 – Resolution 20-03-07
Attachment 2 – Location Map
Attachment 3 – Project Map

Conservancy Staff Contact

Stuart Roll, Watershed Program Supervisor stuart.roll@tahoe.ca.gov
UPPER TRUCKEE RIVER AND MARSH RESTORATION PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

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

“The Conservancy hereby authorizes staff to expend up to an additional $2,460,000 to implement the Upper Truckee River and Marsh Restoration Project, and take 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 12th day of March, 2020.

In WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of March, 2020.

__________________________________________
Patrick Wright
Executive Director
ATTACHMENT 2

Upper Truckee River and Marsh Restoration Project Location

Watersheds
Project Location

Sources:
TRPA, CTC, ESRI

March 2020
*Map for reference purposes only.
ATTACHMENT 3
Upper Truckee River and Marsh Restoration Project

Restoration Features
- Wetland Creation Area
- Reactivated Relict Channels
- Pilot Channels
- Existing Channels
- Flow Dispersion Features

Recreation Features
- Kiosk
- Observation Area
- ADA Accessible
- Pedestrian Trail

Sources: TRPA, CTC, ESRI

March 2020
*Map for reference purposes only.
POTENTIAL AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE JUNE 25 BOARD MEETING

Staff seeks input from the Board regarding the agenda items for the June 25, 2020 Board meeting.

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

- Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Annual Program Budget Authorization (action)
- California Climate Investments Biomass Utilization Grant (action)
- Kings Beach State Recreation Area Pier Rebuild Project Grant (action)
- 56-acres Project Planning Grant (action)
- Tahoe Livable Communities Update (discussion only)
- Tahoe Resource Conservation District and Conservancy Crew Update (discussion only)
- Closed Session – Executive Director Performance Evaluation

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