



TAKING THE
**ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPROVEMENT
PROGRAM**

TO THE NEXT LEVEL

THE LAKE TAHOE
BASIN IS
A NATIONAL TREASURE.

CONTINUING THE COMMITMENT

Lake Tahoe

The Lake itself is one of the largest and deepest in the world and the startling clarity of the water has drawn people to its shores for centuries. Our enjoyment of this special place has caused changes to the environment over time. The Lake's clarity hit an all-time low in 1997, but over the last several years, an encouraging trend has emerged that shows clarity loss is slowing.

More than 50 public and private organizations joined together 12 years ago to restore and protect Lake Tahoe. Now we're taking the restoration effort to the next level. Here's a summary of the outlook for the Environmental Improvement Program for the next decade.



LAKE TAHOE'S TURNING POINT: THE EIP



THE 1997 LAKE TAHOE PRESIDENTIAL FORUM was a turning point in Tahoe's history. The event inspired renewed commitment to restore the Lake's ecosystem and spurred the creation of the Environmental Improvement Program (EIP). Over the last 10 years, more than \$1 billion has been invested by the US Congress, the California and Nevada legislatures, local governments, and the private sector to implement the EIP and nearly 50 partners are collaborating in an unprecedented manner. This partnership is key to leveraging scarce resources and delivering greater returns on funds invested in Lake Tahoe's conservation. Progress to date proves that public-private partnerships work at Lake Tahoe.

The next 10-year phase of the EIP is estimated to require \$2.45 billion in funding to continue critical restoration projects. Approximately \$700 million is already in the pipeline from commitments made by EIP partners, leaving a funding gap of \$1.8 billion for capital projects, science, monitoring, technical assistance, program administration, public education, and operations and maintenance.

LOOKING BACK: EIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS OVER THE LAST DECADE

A Conservation Plan for Lake Tahoe: The Environmental Improvement Program

- The EIP is a public-private partnership that rivals some of the largest collaborative restoration initiatives in the United States in its scope
- Approximately 300 EIP capital projects have been completed and hundreds more are in the planning stages
- The next phase of the EIP spans 10 years.

EIP Research/Monitoring & Technical Assistance

- Funded \$48 million in research/monitoring
- Established the Tahoe Science Consortium to better inform agency decision making
- Federal agencies have provided nearly \$15.5 million in technical assistance to EIP partners.

Watersheds, Habitat, & Water Quality

- Acquired 3,092 acres of sensitive land
- Improved over 13,927 acres for wildlife habitat

- Restored 739 acres of wetlands including 108 acres within the urban boundary
- Treated stormwater runoff from 26 miles of state highways, 323 miles of city/county roads, and 80 miles of USFS lands
- Revegetated or removed 55 miles of dirt road in forests
- Completed and planned 25 projects to help restore the Upper Truckee River watershed which delivers more sediment into Lake Tahoe than any other tributary.

Forest Management

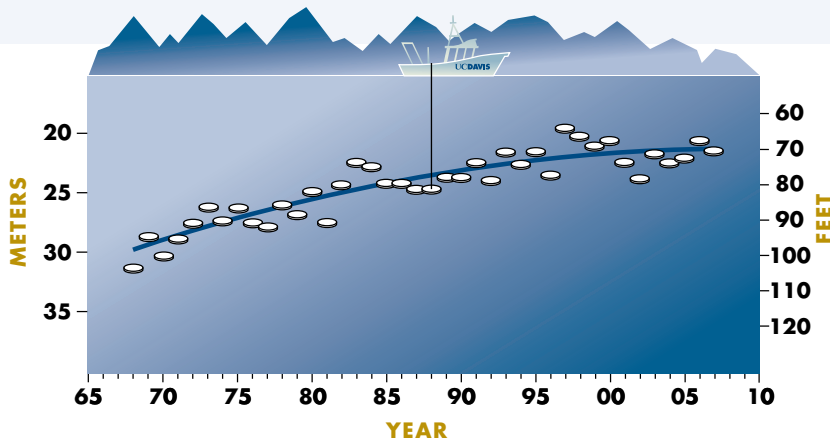
- 33,549 acres have been treated to achieve ecosystem restoration and/or forest fuel reduction goals
- Revegetated 374 acres
- Completed the Lake Tahoe Basin 10-Year Multi-Jurisdictional Fuel Reduction and Wildfire Prevention Strategy which qualifies Lake Tahoe to receive federal funding.

Air Quality & Transportation

- Achieved a 20 percent reduction in vehicle traffic near Stateline, Nevada since 2001 because of transit-oriented redevelopment
- Constructed or rehabilitated 20 transit facilities and increased transit ridership to 1.5 million passengers annually
- Replaced 18 vehicles in the public transit fleet with clean-burning vehicles
- Constructed or planned 127 miles of new multi-purposed trails.

Recreation & Scenic Resources

- Constructed or rehabilitated 82 public facilities to increase accessibility and the quality of the recreational experience
- Relocated more than 7 miles of overhead utility lines underground along highway corridors
- Acquired 2,388 linear feet of Lake shoreline for public access.

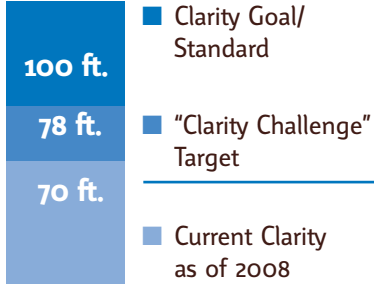


"Since 2001, we have had seven years in which Lake clarity has consistently been better than the long term trend would have predicted. This is unprecedented."

- Geoffrey Schladow, Director of the Tahoe Environmental Research Center, UC Davis.

LOOKING FORWARD: EIP GOALS AT-A-GLANCE

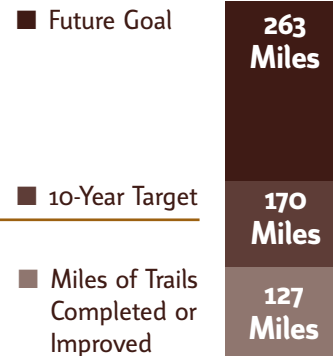
LAKE TAHOE CLARITY GOAL



WATERSHEDS, HABITAT, AND WATER QUALITY

- Cut fine sediment and nutrient loading as part of the "Clarity Challenge" target of 78 feet of clarity by 2028
- Enhance or restore stream environment zones (wetlands) in priority watersheds
- 400 terrestrial and aquatic invasive species sites to be treated annually
- 300 miles of roadways to be retrofitted with water quality improvements to reduce fine sediment loading
- 346 acres of wildlife habitat to be improved/protected
- Continue to acquire and restore priority environmentally sensitive lands to protect and conserve the natural environment
- Restore and recover a self-sustaining lake form of Lahontan Cutthroat Trout in Lake Tahoe and Fallen Leaf Lake.

BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN TRAILS



48%
of Goal Achieved

AIR QUALITY AND TRANSPORTATION

- 43 miles of bike and pedestrian trails to be constructed to help reduce dependency on the private automobile as directed by the Bi-State Compact
- Increase transit ridership from 1.5 million passengers per year to more than 3 million
- Reduce road sanding
- Replace 10 street sweepers with innovative machines to reduce fine sediment loading from roadways into Lake Tahoe
- Initiate waterborne transit system.

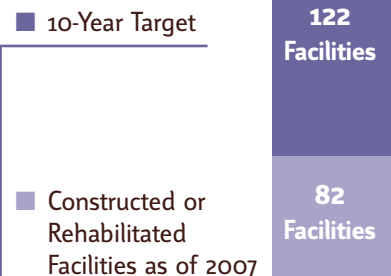
FOREST MANAGEMENT GOAL



FOREST MANAGEMENT

- 68,000 acres to be treated for forest fuel reduction and ecosystem restoration, as identified in the 10-Year Multi-Jurisdictional Fuel Reduction and Wildfire Prevention Strategy
- Reduce open pile burning by encouraging the use of up to 125,000 tons of biomass
- Up to 1,500 acres of SEZ aspen communities to be improved.

RECREATION PROJECTS



67%
of Goal Achieved

RECREATION AND SCENIC RESOURCES

- 40 recreation rehabilitation or construction projects
- 6 miles of overhead utilities to be under-grounded
- 500 projects to meet scenic quality standards along shoreline and scenic highways.



FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

THE NEXT PHASE OF THE EIP will be science-based and will use an adaptive management approach in order to reflect evolving environmental conditions such as climate change. The programmatic approach to the EIP update will allow resources to shift when necessary to address emerging threats and challenges.

The future looks bright for Lake Tahoe. Recent science indicates that Lake clarity can be achieved with sustained investment and the ability to prioritize projects for the greatest environmental good with the resources

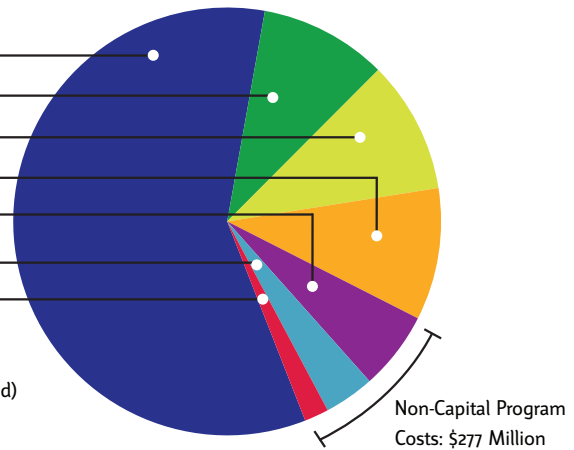
available. New findings released by scientists show an unprecedented slowing in the decline of Lake clarity, which means our efforts are paying off for Lake Tahoe.

The Environmental Improvement Program has a proven track record of getting environmental restoration projects on the ground. Keeping the program moving forward is the key to reaching our goals to conserve and restore this spectacular place for future generations.

TOTAL EIP COSTS THROUGH 2018

● Watersheds, Habitat, Water Quality	\$1.47 Billion (60%)
● Forest Management	\$231 Million (9%)
● Air Quality & Transportation	\$240 Million (10%)
● Recreation & Scenic	\$239 Million (9%)
● Operations & Maintenance	\$142 Million (6%)
● Applied Science	\$91 Million (4%)
● Program Support	\$44 Million (2%)

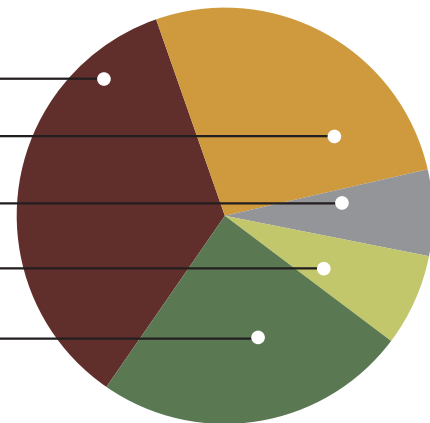
\$2.45 Billion in Program Costs (Includes \$700 Million Already Committed)



EIP CAPITAL UNFUNDED NEEDS BY SECTOR THROUGH 2018

● Federal	\$523 Million (35%)
● California	\$415 Million (27%)
● Nevada	\$100 Million (7%)
● Local	\$107 Million (7%)
● Private	\$364 Million (24%)

Total **Capital** Funding Need: **\$1.5 Billion**



Partnerships make the EIP possible. From the federal government to the states of California and Nevada, to local governments and the private sector, it takes all of us doing our part to conserve Lake Tahoe.

TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY
 P.O. BOX 5310 • Stateline, Nevada 89449-5310
 775.588.4547 phone • 775.588.4527 fax
 www.trpa.org • trpa@trpa.org



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