

**Summary of Consultant Activities - February 2023**  
**Sustainable Community Advocates**  
**Steve Teshara, Principal**

- Continue to attend/participate in meetings of the Lake Tahoe Partnership federal advocacy team in preparation for meetings in Washington, D.C. with members/ staff of the Tahoe Congressional Delegation and “Friends of Tahoe” members to advocate for 1) reintroduction of legislation to extend the existing Lake Tahoe Restoration Act (LTRA) for 10 years (through federal fiscal year 2034); 2) Lake Tahoe’s priority LTRA funding requests for federal fiscal year 2024; Also, to meet with USDA Forest Service Associate Chief Angela Coleman.
- Advocacy trip to Washington, D.C. February 27-March 1 for the following meetings:
  - with Nevada Senator Rosen staff (Kelly Riddle and McKenna LeVitt)
  - with Congressman Steven Horsford (D, 4th District, Nevada) (Kevin Herzik)
  - with Congresswoman Susie Lee (D, 3rd District, Nevada) (Mark Coombs)
  - with USDA Forest Service Associate Chief Angela Coleman
  - Attend California Water (AQWA) Congressional Reception
  - Attend “Battle Born Breakfast” hosted by Nevada US Senators Catherine Cortez Masto and Jacky Rosen
  - with Congressman Mark Amodei (R, 2nd District, Nevada)
  - with Congressman Kevin Kiley (R, 3rd District, CA) staff members
  - with Congressman John Garamendi (D, 8th District, CA) and staff
  - with California US Senator Alex Padilla and staff members
  - with California US Senator Dianne Feinstein staff (Alexis Segal)
  - with Nevada US Senator Catherine Cortez Masto and staff

**Note:** During this trip, legislation to extend the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act (LTRA) for an additional ten years was introduced in both the Senate (lead: Cortez Masto) and House (lead: Congressman Amodei).

- Continued conversations with stakeholders working to explore an additional source of federal revenue to support Lake Tahoe EIP projects, including water infrastructure projects to support fire suppression.
- Continue to track the following activities related to Tahoe Hazardous Fuels Projects under the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA): Review of Round 18 Fuels Project approvals; Review of Round 19 Hazardous Fuels Project Ranking Criteria and Fuels Subgroup Operating Guidelines; SNPLMA Executive Committee Final Recommendations; and the current adopted SNPLMA Strategic Plan.

**Note:** As a review, with regard to the SNPLMA Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildfire Prevention Category, the Strategic Plan states: The Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildfire Prevention Category is for development and implementation of comprehensive, cost-effective, multi-jurisdictional hazardous fuels reduction and wildfire prevention plans for the Lake Tahoe

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Basin, Carson Range in Douglas and Washoe counties and Carson City, and the Spring Mountains in Southern Nevada, Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildfire Prevention projects may include project level planning, fuels reduction treatment activities, biomass utilization, and biofuels energy development and production activities. The Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildfire Prevention category projects will accomplish the objectives of the multi-jurisdictional fuels plans and landscape restoration over time within two priority project types: Fuel Management Plans and Landscape Restoration.

- Fuels Management Plans projects will address the threat of fire within and/or adjacent to communities.
- Landscape Restoration projects shall protect and enhance the vegetation, soils, habitat, and watershed processes that provided ecosystem services for human and ecological communities.

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- March 1 - final day of Tahoe advocacy meetings on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.
- Prepare and provide Basin Fire Chiefs with March 28 memorandum entitled “Washington, D.C. Updates” summarizing follow-up information and SCA Activities subsequent to Tahoe Legislative Advocacy Trip February 27-March 1.
- Attend (virtually) March 2 meeting of the Tahoe Interagency Executives Steering Committee (TIE-SC). Agenda items included: Presentations and development of final Lake Tahoe Restoration Act (LTRA) FY 2024 Priority List:
  - Forest Health: Kat McIntyre and Milan Yeates
  - Water Infrastructure: Shelly Thomsen
  - Watershed Restoration: Shay Navarro
  - Water Quality: Andrea Buxton
  - Aquatic Invasive Species: Dennis Zabaglo and Mollie Hurt
- TIE-SC Strategic Planning Update and Subcommittee Structure
  - Report out from the 2023 TIE-SC Strategic Planning Session
  - Proposal to create a Communications and Sustainable Funding Committee\*
  - Discussion/Next Steps
  - Proposed TIE-SC Topics for April-June 2023

*\*Steve Teshara (SCA) named a member of this new Committee representing the Tahoe Basin Fire Chiefs.*

- Continued conversations with stakeholders working to explore an additional source of federal funding to support Lake Tahoe projects, including water infrastructure projects to support fire suppression.