



PROJECT PORTFOLIO

FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026



Photo by Bradley Smith

DEAR FRIENDS

During our fiscal year, which came to a close on March 31, 2026, we celebrated 15 exciting years of the Tahoe Fund. What started as a small group of leaders coming together back in 2010 has grown into a robust organization powered by the philanthropic support of thousands of donors.

Last year, we awarded over \$2.3 million to 66 projects—more than ever before—and helped leverage nearly \$24 million in public funds.

It's the unwavering commitment of our Stewardship Circle members and support of our donors that makes this possible. Together, we are improving the Lake Tahoe environment for all to enjoy while driving transformational change in Tahoe—for our forests, our Lake, and our community.

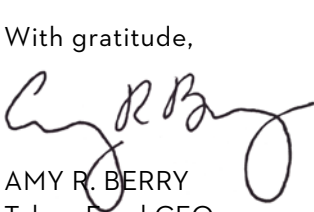
We kicked off the fiscal year by introducing the Fire Smart Community Pilots, working with the fire districts and our partners to use innovative technology, data-modeling, and BurnBot's remotely-operated machinery to reduce fuels safely and seamlessly in Tahoe neighborhoods.

We cheered as the California Tahoe Conservancy demolished the former Motel 6 building, restaurant, and parking lot from the Upper Truckee Marsh in South Lake Tahoe, thanks to major support from Tahoe Fund donors. Now, we continue to raise private funds to help secure the public funds needed to restore this sensitive wetland and transform this area back into a healthy filtration system for Lake Tahoe.

We started on the extension of the East Shore Trail, beginning with new and expanded parking lots on State Route 28 to provide a safer alternative to parking along the highway. Over the next few years, we will work with our partners to help design, fund and build the next few miles of path to Secret Harbor en route to Spooner Summit.

These are just some of the transformational projects that are powered by your philanthropy. Within this project portfolio, you'll discover how your support is changing Lake Tahoe for the better.

With gratitude,



AMY R. BERRY
Tahoe Fund CEO



VERDI DISESA
Tahoe Fund Board Chair,
FY 25-26

THE FOREST

REDUCE THE RISK OF CATASTROPHIC WILDFIRE



*Fire Smart Community Pilots.
Photo by Jeff Freeman*

TRANSFORMATIONAL PROJECT

Fire Smart Community Pilots

This innovative new pilot program is creating more fire-ready communities in Tahoe. By bringing together new technologies—such as BurnBot, Fire Aside, Vibrant Planet and Xyloplan—as well as local fire districts, homeowners associations and wildfire researchers, these pilots are helping to identify, prioritize and implement the mitigations that matter most for reducing wildfire risk.

■ Blackwood Canyon ALERTWildfire Camera

An ALERTWildfire camera on US Forest Service lands in Blackwood Canyon to close a major wildfire detection gap on the West Shore and across the lake in Incline Village.

■ BurnBot Investment

Investment in BurnBot's innovative technology and machinery that is speeding up forest health treatments in Lake Tahoe.

■ Caldor Forest Restoration

Reforestation of approximately 100 acres within the Caldor Fire burn scar by the Sugar Pine Foundation, planting 10,000 native conifer trees along heavily used mountain biking and hiking corridors near South Lake Tahoe.

■ Forest Service Mobile Ranger Stations

Trailers converted into mobile ranger stations used by the US Forest Service Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) at community events to help educate the public about forest health and the risk of wildfire.

*Right: BurnBot's remote operated masticator.
Photo by Jeff Freeman*

■ Forest Strategies & Innovations Conference

Sponsorship of leading California forum hosted by Cal Forests for forestry professionals, policymakers, researchers and partners working toward resilient and sustainable forest management.

■ Home Hardening & Defensible Space Training

The University of Nevada Reno Living With Fire program hosted hands-on workshops for local contractors to train them in home hardening and defensible space best practices to help people make their homes more wildfire resilient.



■ Lake Tahoe Community College (LTCC) Forestry & Fire Academy Programs

Scholarships for students in LTCC's Forestry and Fire Academy programs, plus a grant to support an administrator to ensure student success.

■ Northstar Community Services District Biomass-to-Heat Plant

A biomass plant that will provide heat to the Village at Northstar using wood waste from nearby forest health treatments. This plant will replace six natural-gas-fired boilers, reducing emissions and furthering our goal of preventing catastrophic wildfire.

■ TCSI Annual Convening

Support of an annual convening at which forest health leaders develop strategies to reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfire across the 2.4-million acre Tahoe Central Sierra.

■ Whitebark Pine Research

An applied research effort with the University of Nevada, Reno to understand the rapid Whitebark Pine mortality in the Basin, and equip land managers with up-to-date data so they can tailor forest health treatments accordingly.

THE LAKE

IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF THE LAKE



*Upper Truckee River Restoration.
Photo by California Tahoe Conservancy.*

TRANSFORMATIONAL PROJECT

Upper Truckee River Restoration

The most important lake clarity project in the Tahoe Basin in decades is underway. Demolition is complete and the former Motel 6 building, restaurant, and parking lot have been removed from the Upper Truckee Marsh in South Lake Tahoe. We are now helping the California Tahoe Conservancy restore this sensitive wetland and transform the area back into a healthy filtration system for Lake Tahoe.

■ Clean, Drain, Dry (CD3) Machines

Three new "Clean, Drain, and Dry" roadside units, purchased by the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, to make it easier for people to clean their paddle boards, kayaks, and gear and help to prevent the spread of invasive species.

■ Golden Mussel Billboards

A multi-agency effort to spread awareness about the threat of golden mussels, especially on kayaks and paddle boards, and prevent this aquatic invasive species from entering Lake Tahoe.

THE EXPERIENCE

MAKE IT EASIER TO GET AROUND,
ENJOY, AND TAKE CARE OF LAKE TAHOE

TRANSFORMATIONAL PROJECT

East Shore Trail Extension

One of the most iconic trails in Tahoe is expanding. Plans are underway to extend the Tahoe East Shore Trail to Spooner Summit, starting with two miles of path from Sand Harbor to Secret Harbor. Funds raised from engraved trout plaques and names on the donor wall are already supporting this next phase. Scenic vista points will be available soon.



East Shore Trail Extension. Photo by Michael Okimoto



Achieve Tahoe Adaptive Summer Program

■ Achieve Tahoe Summer Programs

This program offers summer activities, such as archery, climbing, hiking, paddling, and sailing, for people with disabilities and their families.

■ Adaptive Outrigger Canoe

A new six-person outrigger canoe for adaptive paddling programs offered by Tahoe Waterman Foundation for athletes, veterans, youth, and caregivers.

■ Adventure Risk Challenge Community Leadership Program

A year-long program empowering underserved high school students through outdoor education and leadership development.

■ Alpenglow Winter Speaker Series Grants

Grants to five local nonprofits highlighted by the Winter Speaker Series that are expanding stewardship and access to the outdoors: Truckee Dirt Union, Truckee Roundhouse, Tahoe Waterman Foundation, Headwaters Science Institute, and Tahoe Cross Country Ski Education Association.

■ Bear Aware Training Conference

Funding for nine members of the Tahoe Interagency Bear Team (TIBT) to attend the 7th Annual International Human Bear Conflict Workshop to learn about effective outreach strategies, tools and tactics for responding to human-bear conflict in Tahoe.

■ Boys & Girls Club Summer Adventure Program

Rock climbing and camping adventures for Club kids in South Lake Tahoe.

■ California State Parks Rescue Watercraft

A new jet ski with rescue equipment that will help significantly reduce lifeguard response times for water rescues, medical aids, and offshore emergencies on Lake Tahoe.

■ Tahoe Rim Trail Kiosks

16 new durable, bi-lingual trailhead kiosks will be installed by the Tahoe Rim Trail Association at Tahoe Rim Trail access points to improve safety, accessibility, and the overall visitor experience for an estimated 700,000 annual users.



Tahoe Rim Trail Kiosks

■ Camp RennerVation

Scholarships for 30 campers to attend a week-long summer camp geared towards foster and at-risk youth. Campers learn about stewardship practices and explore outdoor career pathways such as forestry.

■ Cascade Kitchens Bike Racks

Bike racks at Cascade Kitchens in South Lake Tahoe to encourage biking instead of driving to this new gathering space.

■ Ebb & Flow Sailing Sessions

Nature-therapy sailing sessions for first responders, women cancer survivors, and underserved youth.

■ Emerald Bay Shuttle

A pilot program—in partnership with Keep Tahoe Blue, CalTrans, El Dorado County, Tahoe Transportation District, TRPA, and others—to offer an easier way to visit Emerald Bay during the busy summer months and discourage unsafe parking along the highway.

■ Generation Green Summer Internship

An eight-week work-study program with the U.S. Forest Service for local high school students that provides career experience while fostering a love of the outdoors.



Left: Boys & Girls Club Summer Adventure Program



Girls on the Run Sierras

■ Girls On the Run Sierras

Scholarships for participants in Girls On the Run's after school programming, which focuses on running, training and leadership development.

■ Incline Flume Trail Enhancements

Work by trail crews from Tahoe Area Mountain Biking Association to improve areas along the popular Incline Flume Trail.

■ Lake Tahoe Destination Stewardship Council

Fiscal sponsor of the Council, which is made up of over a dozen partners working to better manage tourism and outdoor recreation, and balance the needs of the environment, businesses, visitors, and local communities.

■ McConkey EcoChallenge

A student competition run by the Shane McConkey Foundation that is designed to inspire and engage the next generation to help solve the region's environmental challenges.

■ Plants of the Tahoe Basin

A new edition of the Lake Tahoe Basin's premier plant guide, featuring a comprehensive record of native plants, invasive species, and the ecological roles plants play in sustaining the health of Lake Tahoe's environment.

■ Rubicon Peak Year-Round Trailhead

Improvements to create year-round access to Rubicon Peak by the Tahoe Backcountry Alliance (TBA), including paving the parking lot, managing snow removal, and creating a sustainably-built trail.

■ SOS Outreach Mentorship Program

A youth mentorship program that brings outdoor recreation opportunities to underserved youth in North and South Lake Tahoe.

■ Tahoe Backcountry Alliance

Matching campaign to bring new members to TBA and unlock a \$10,000 gift to help TBA achieve their goal of increasing human-powered public land access for everyone.

■ Tahoe City Utility Art Box Program

The Tahoe City Downtown Association is transforming graffiti-prone utility boxes into vibrant public art, reducing vandalism while enhancing walkability, community pride, and the visitor experience.

■ Tahoe In-Depth

An environmental newspaper published by the TRPA.



SOS Outreach Mentorship Program

■ Tahoe Meadows Access Ramp

A new accessibility ramp to ensure that everyone—regardless of ability level—has the opportunity to experience the boardwalk trails in Tahoe Meadows off Mt. Rose Highway.

■ Tahoe Meadows Parking & Pedestrian Safety Improvements

A feasibility study by the Nevada Tahoe Conservation District to explore additional parking and pedestrian safety improvements on Mt. Rose Highway, especially for winter recreation access.

■ Tahoe Nature for All

Free nature experiences from the Tahoe Institute for Natural Sciences for underserved communities, including young people struggling with mental health issues, survivors of domestic abuse, and low-income families.

■ Tahoe Trail Crews

Support for TAMBA's professional trail building crew to help take care of our trails.

■ Tahoe XC Trailhead Relocation

Relocating Tahoe XC's popular trailhead to provide easier access for outdoor adventures. The new trailhead will feature state-of-the-art facilities and EV chargers, and will help reduce overflow parking in nearby neighborhoods.



TAMBA Trail Crew

■ Take Care Tahoe

Regionwide stewardship messages that encourage people to take care of Tahoe.

■ TAMBA Trails Training Program

20 days of hands-on training to develop staff, volunteer leaders, and crew capacity needed to construct, maintain, and restore more than 100 miles of trails across the Tahoe Basin.

■ Teens 4 Tahoe Giving Circle

A ten-week course run by the Tahoe Fund where teens learn about philanthropy and award grants to organizations of their choosing from our project portfolio. This year's awardees included: Clean Up the Lake, Sugar Pine Foundation, Camp Wamp, Adventure Risk Challenge, Courage Project, Achieve Tahoe, and Tahoe Nordic Search and Rescue.

■ Van for LTCC Wilderness Education Program

Support for a van to transport students to and from course locations for LTCC's Wilderness Education and Outdoor Leadership program, including backpacking, hiking, and avalanche safety courses.

Left: Tahoe Nature for All

