



Photo credit: Luxuri Media

Lake Tahoe

LAKE TAHOE RESTORATION ACT
PRIORITY LIST
Environmental Improvement Program
Federal Fiscal Year 2024



LAKE TAHOE
ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPROVEMENT
PROGRAM

March 2023

The Lake Tahoe Environmental Improvement Program

THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (EIP) is an unparalleled partnership working to restore and protect the Lake Tahoe Region. Local, state, and federal government agencies, private entities, scientists, and the Washoe Tribe are all collaborating across jurisdictions to implement projects with countless benefits.

The collective impact of 80-plus organizations working together over the last 25 years has improved forest and ecosystem health, made progress on lake clarity, enhanced fish and wildlife habitat, and provided more sustainable recreation opportunities for the public.

This year's request is \$75,250,000 to advance our highest priority projects to protect Lake Tahoe from extreme weather, upgrade deteriorating infrastructure, and make our forests and ecosystems more resilient to climate change. Continued commitment to the EIP is vital to protecting our investment and preserving this treasured region for future generations.

Lake Tahoe Restoration Act

The Lake Tahoe Restoration Act of 2016 authorized up to \$415 million over 7 years for the Environmental Improvement Program. These federal funds serve as an anchor for the state, local, and private match necessary to fund EIP programs. A total of \$104.7 million has been appropriated for the current Lake Tahoe Restoration Act as of Fiscal Year 2023, which is about 27 percent of the total \$415 million authorization. Major progress has been made, however Fiscal Year 2024 is the last year of the current authorization.

In March 2023, Senator Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.) introduced bipartisan, bicameral legislation to extend the authorization of the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act to 2034. This legislation is supported by Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), Senator Jacky Rosen (D-Nev.), Senator Alex Padilla (D-Calif.), and Representatives Mark Amodei (R-Nev.), John Garamendi (D-Calif.), Dina Titus (D-Nev.), Susie Lee (D-Nev.), and Steven Horsford (D-Nev.).

Priority List Summary

Federal Fiscal Year 2024

Forest Health	\$9,350,000
Water Infrastructure	\$14,261,000
Aquatic Invasive Species	\$7,000,000
Watershed Restoration	\$34,919,000
Lahontan Cutthroat Trout	\$7,720,000
Accountability	\$2,000,000
TOTAL	\$75,250,000

The EIP Project Tracker reflects the commitment to transparency about project information:

eip.laketahoeinfo.org





Photo credit: California Tahoe Conservancy

FOREST HEALTH AND FIRE PROTECTION

\$23,611,000

Increase the pace and scale of forest fuels treatments, restore areas burned by the Caldor Fire, and upgrade aging water infrastructure to protect communities.

- Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Forest Restoration	\$9,350,000
- Regional Water Infrastructure Upgrades to Protect Communities	\$14,261,000
Total Request:	\$23,611,000

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

\$7,000,000

Protect Lake Tahoe from harmful invasive species such as the quagga and zebra mussel. Reduce and control the spread of invasive weeds that disrupt Lake Tahoe's water quality and clarity.

- Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention and Control	\$7,000,000
Total Request:	\$7,000,000

WATERSHED RESTORATION & WATER QUALITY

\$39,919,000

Reduce stormwater pollution and recreation impacts to high priority watersheds. Restore streams and meadows to increase biodiversity and resilience to climate change.

- River and Meadow Restoration	\$17,600,000
- Water Quality, Stormwater, and Recreation Corridors	\$17,319,000
Total Request:	\$34,919,000



Photo credit: Drone Promotions

LAHONTAN CUTTHROAT TROUT \$7,720,000

Continue to build a sustainable population of Lahontan cutthroat trout in the basin through habitat restoration.

- Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Recovery	\$7,720,000
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Total Request	\$7,720,000

ACCOUNTABILITY \$2,000,000

Upgrade and maintain the online user-friendly [EIP Tracker](#) to provide real-time information to the public on project funding and accomplishments. Connect online platforms with monitoring data to drive adaptive management and decision-making.

- LT INFO System: EIP Project Tracker	\$1,000,000
- EIP Effectiveness Monitoring & Innovative Technology	\$1,000,000
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Total Request:	\$2,000,000

In 1997, Executive Order 13057 established the Tahoe Federal Interagency Partnership including the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Transportation, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Secretary of the Army. Representation has been delegated to nine federal agencies: USDA Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Geological Survey, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Federal Highway Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

