

SUMMARY: STAKEHOLDER SCIENCE AND STAKEHOLDER COMMUNITY COMMITTEE



LAKE TAHOE WEST RESTORATION PARTNERSHIP

Tuesday, March 3, 2020, 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit Emerald Bay, 35 College Dr., South Lake Tahoe, CA

All meeting materials are publicly available on the Lake Tahoe West website

<http://nationalforests.org/laketahowest>.

For questions please contact facilitator Julia Golomb at jgolomb@cbl.org.

Meeting Synopsis

On March 3, 2020 the Lake Tahoe West (LTW) Interagency Design Team (IADT) and the Stakeholder Science and Community Committees met to seek the joint Stakeholder Committees' recommendation that the Executive Team approve the Lake Tahoe West scoping package for release in public scoping. The joint Stakeholder Committees unanimously supports public release of the Scoping Package.

Next Steps: Where possible, the IADT will incorporate Stakeholder comments received to-date on the draft scoping package. In the coming weeks, the IADT will finalize the scoping package, in preparation for public scoping. The joint Stakeholders Committee will next meet on May 5 to discuss the LTW Monitoring Plan and prepare for a LTW Lessons Learned workshop.

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Next Steps

- **The next Stakeholder meeting is scheduled for May 5.**
- Where possible, the IADT will integrate edits to the draft Scoping package suggested by stakeholders during the March Stakeholder meeting and via one-on-one phone calls held with Stakeholders the week prior.
- Members of the joint Stakeholder Committees are encouraged to participate in public scoping meetings and serve as LTW ambassadors with their respective constituencies.

Welcome from Executives

Summary: Danelle (DD) Harrison, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) and Joanne Marchetta, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) spoke to the purpose and importance of Lake Tahoe West (LTW) and thanked Stakeholders for their ongoing contributions to LTW. They affirmed their agencies' commitment to continued collaboration with Stakeholders throughout the formal environmental review process.

Updated Scoping Package

Summary: The IADT updated the draft Proposed Action based on feedback received at the February LTW joint Stakeholders Committee meeting. In advance of the March joint Stakeholder Committees meeting, Julia Golomb, CBI, Sarah Di Vittorio, National Forest Foundation, and some members of the IADT held one-on-one check-in calls with six different Stakeholders to receive feedback on the updated scoping package. During these check-in calls, Stakeholders suggested some editorial changes and expressed comfort with recommending the updated scoping package for public release. One Stakeholder clarified that while the joint Stakeholder Committees recommends the Scoping Package for public release, this is not to be conflated with Stakeholder endorsement of Lake Tahoe West actions on the landscape; this will be determined through the environmental review process. At their March meeting, the joint Stakeholders Committee unanimously recommended to the Executive Committee that the Proposed Action is adequate for public scoping. The Committees noted that this does not represent a joint Stakeholder Committee endorsement of the LTW Proposed Action. While the updated scoping package will undergo additional editorial changes before it is finalized, the substance of the scoping package is not expected to change prior to release.

Changes made to the updated Scoping Package: Sarah Di Vittorio summarized how comments received at the February joint Stakeholder Committees meeting are reflected in the updated Scoping Package.

- *Greater detail and content added to the Proposed Action.* The Proposed Action now explains why certain actions are proposed and contains greater detail about the purpose and goals of treatments and when a given treatment would be used. Most of this detail was drawn directly from the Landscape Restoration Strategy (LRS).
- *Added information about pace and scale of treatments.* Each section of the Proposed Action now contains explicit information about acreage, as well as context around existing levels of treatment on the landscape.
- *Added a section on biomass utilization and removal.*
- *Slight revisions to alternatives,* in response to feedback that the LTW planning team may want to develop an alternative around pace and scale.
- *Now sharing the full Scoping Package with Stakeholders,* including the environmental effects section (which identifies impacted resources) and the purpose and need section.
- *Clarified work happening within and outside of the wildland-urban interface (WUI).*
- *Still working on maps.* Improving scale by dividing maps into northern and southern reach (to fit on an 8.5"x10" page) and modifying what information is presented in each map. Thus, the final version of the Scoping Package will contain more legible maps.

Other comments received at February Stakeholder meeting:

- *Photos of before and after treatment.* The IADT determined that this would be more appropriate to include in the draft environmental analysis.
- *Expand on resource protection measures.* The IADT determined that will occur during environmental analysis.

Discussion

- The updated Scoping Package adequately addresses Stakeholder feedback. Stakeholders thanked the IADT for incorporating their comments and appreciated the prior week's check-in calls.
- The updated scoping package serves its purpose of helping the public to understand and be able to comment on the proposed action.
- Comment on Page 8, Stream Restoration:
 - Figure 6 is incorrectly labeled Figure 5.
 - Do you have a general idea of where you would take actions to restore flood plains lacking roughness and vegetation? It would be helpful to have a sense of miles of stream.
- What elements are not addressed in the scoping package that you would like project planners keep in mind moving forward?
 - Sue Britting would like to be more involved in developing treatments in roadless areas, particularly west of California State Parks' land. Sue would like to see an approach that addresses roadless areas and complements what State Parks has done east of that area.
 - Sue Britting is interested to view examples of existing PAC treatments that LTW aims to emulate; she would then visit example sites to assess whether they reflect an approach that she would want to see on the landscape.
 - Sue Britting would like to discuss how LTW could use LiDAR data to help target high value spotted owl nesting/roosting areas for protection or enhancement.
 - Maria Mircheva noted that spatial data is available for the location of sugar pines. She would like to be involved in protecting sugar pines in areas of LTW thinning, reforestation and prescribed fire.

Next Steps: The LTW Planning Team will commence a 30-day scoping period in early April, and will send an announcement to the joint Stakeholder Committees at that time. The lead agencies will hold two public meetings during the scoping period. Members of the joint Stakeholder Committees are encouraged to serve as LTW ambassadors with their respective constituencies and at public meetings. The joint Stakeholder Committees considered submitting scoping comments as a Committee(s), but decided against it because stakeholders would find it challenging to submit comments on behalf of their respective entity while simultaneously developing shared comments. The LTW planning team tentatively hopes to release a draft environmental document for public comment in the first quarter of 2021 (a draft will undergo internal agency review in advance of public release).

The LTW planning team is committed to ongoing stakeholder engagement, though it is not yet clear what form this will take; perhaps this will involve convening the joint Stakeholder Committees and/or holding phone calls with individual stakeholders. The joint Stakeholder

Committees will continue to engage around the LTW monitoring plan, to help prioritize monitoring indicators and questions and share general input. January 2021 is the target date to finalize the monitoring plan, with a few check-in points with the joint Stakeholder Committees throughout 2020. Additionally, the LTW Core Team is developing a LTW funding and implementation strategy, which it will share that with stakeholders at a later point.

The joint Stakeholder Committees meeting will next meet on Tuesday, May 5, to discuss LTW lessons learned and monitoring plan development.

Meeting Attendees

Organizing and Participating Agencies

CTC – California Tahoe Conservancy
FWS – Friends of the West Shore
NFF – National Forest Foundation
USFS LTBMU – U.S. Forest Service Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit
NDF – Nevada Division of Forestry
KTB – Keep Tahoe Blue/The League to Save Lake Tahoe
TRPA – Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
CBI – Consensus Building Institute
CSP – California State Parks
TF – The Tahoe Fund
EPA – US Environmental Protection Agency
CF TFFT – CalFire, Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team
TAMBA – Tahoe Area Mountain Bike Association
HW – Homewood
PCAPCD – Placer County Air Pollution Control District

Stakeholder Science Committee Members

1. Jennifer Quashnick, FOWS
2. Roland Shaw, NDF
3. Sue Britting, SFL
4. Ann Hobbs, PCAPCD

Stakeholder Community Committee Members

1. Skyler Monaghan, TF
2. Patrick Parsel, TAMBA
3. Zach Bradford, KTB
4. Jack Landy, EPA

Staff

1. Christine Aralia, CTC
2. Brian Garrett, USFS LTBMU
3. Kat McIntyre, TRPA
4. Jen Greenberg, CTC

5. Julia Golomb, CBI
6. Danelle (DD) Harrison, LTBMU
7. Silver Hartman, CSP
8. Joanne Marchetta, TRPA
9. Nadia Tase, CF TFFT
10. Shannon Friedman, TRPA
11. Eric Horntvedt, NTFPD
12. Silver Hartman, CSP
13. Sarah Di Vittorio, NFF
14. Bri Tiffany, NFF