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LTEEC Steering Committee Charts Ambitious Course

By John Cobourn

2002 and 2003 Work Plan

At our January 2002 meeting of the LTEEC Steering Committee, 24 individuals gathered to chart our course for 2002 and 2003. We first asked ourselves what benefits and positive results we want to produce in the next couple of years. Mindful of our long-term goal of ensuring that all citizens know how to protect our environment, we prioritized a list of 31 activities to pursue in our collective working plans this year and next. At our annual meeting on March 20, we will encourage our subgroups to create detailed action plans for implementing these priority educational activities. Though current plans are still preliminary, please refer to *page 3* for excerpts from the 2002 and 2003 LTEEC work plan.

Interestingly, the highest priority of the Steering Committee was to create a funding plan to support our LTEEC Environmental Education Coordinator position for the long term, and to raise (or support partner

agency efforts to raise) additional funds for the subgroups' educational events. The number two priority was to produce a media campaign to include weekly television spots on how to protect the Tahoe environment. Our LTEEC Coordinator, Heather Segale, has some terrific leads on this idea, but here again we need to obtain funding to make it happen.

Other high priorities included increasing the circulation of the quarterly newsletter and reminding all agencies to inform the LTEEC Coordinator as soon as they begin planning environmental education events. The Steering Committee agrees that the more visible and complete we can make the LTEEC events calendar, the more valuable it will be in reaching all citizens and increasing participation in public events. Both the web site (www.lteec.org) and the LTEEC newsletter will promote the events calendar. In addition, Heather is eager to receive articles from LTEEC members and web site content from each subgroup leader.

(Continued on page 2)

Visit the LTEEC Web Site at
<http://www.lteec.org>

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LTEEC Steering Committee Charts Ambitious Course (continued)

Another idea that surfaced as a priority was to form a new subgroup specifically to educate the general public about the Lake Tahoe Environmental Improvement Program (EIP).

How LTEEC is Organized

The Lake Tahoe Environmental Education Coalition functions through a decentralized structure of eight subgroups (see page 9) that plan events for specific purposes and audiences.

These semiautonomous subgroups need leaders who can help folks from various schools and agencies work together to present collaborative environmental education events. The leaders of the subgroups are all members of the LTEEC Steering Committee. By meeting on an as-needed basis (usually quarterly) the Steering Committee seeks to create comprehensive, coordinated methods of educating residents and visitors about how to protect the Lake Tahoe environment.

Why Collaborate?

Getting our 24 member organizations working together is not easy. We call our collaboration a "bold experiment" because most of us are more used to competing with other organizations than cooperating with them. It's often easier to plan public events "in-house," and many organizations produce excellent educational events each year.

What many Steering Committee members have realized, however, is that without a comprehensive plan and strong interagency communication, efforts often fall short. Lack of coordination can lead to pitfalls such as concurrently scheduled events, insufficient publicity, and low attendance. Citizens in the past have never had a single source for learning about all environmental education opportunities at Tahoe.

LTEEC's primary objective is to help groups with similar education priorities cooperate rather than planning public events in a vacuum. In some cases, it will make sense for organizations to combine energy to produce one major event rather than separately producing smaller ones.

Thanks

We want to thank LTEEC's subgroup leaders and other Steering Committee members for making LTEEC a priority this year. We realize that many of you are contributing energy to the coalition without getting paid for your time as part of your job. If we can continue our bold experiment of joining forces and supporting each other in our environmental education efforts, we think each member organization will benefit. Together, we can help protect Tahoe's clear, blue magnificence for future generations.

Meet an LTEEC Partner: Who Are the Conservation Districts?

The Nevada Tahoe Conservation District (NTCD) and Tahoe Resource Conservation Districts (TRCD) are subdivisions of state government whose main mission is to provide conservation assistance to private landowners/managers.

Current projects include:

Cooperative Program (Bi-State)

Backyard Conservation Program: As part of LTEEC's Partners in Conservation subgroup, the Districts provide technical assistance and education on conservation issues for homeowners. We also offer Best Management Practice (BMP) site evaluations at no cost, free labor to homeowners for Best Management Practice installations, materials at cost, and free wildflower seeds.

Tahoe Resource Conservation District Programs (State of California)

Phone: (530) 573-2759

Upper Truckee Watershed Program: Education program for the public about the Upper Truckee River Watershed activities and projects. Visit our website at www.geocities.com/utrcrmp.

Conservation Education: Classroom presentations are provided within the Lake Tahoe Unified School District. Hands on presentations to all grade levels will demonstrate the concepts of erosion as it affects lake clarity.

Nevada Tahoe Conservation District Programs (State of Nevada)

Phone: (530) 573-2755

Sanitary Survey: Data and information gathered from local water purveyors is

aimed at maintaining the quality of local drinking water.

Bio-Fuels/Forest Health: Lake Tahoe Basin Forests are currently identified as high fire risks. The District is currently heading up a project that will look at the feasibility of using excess Lake Tahoe basin biomass to produce energy, fuel, or wood products

Capital Improvements/Tahoe Bond Act: The District oversees large-scale capital improvement projects to improve storm-water runoff quality.

Erosion Control Best Management Practice Monitoring: The District is overseeing the monitoring of a capital improvement project aimed at reducing water pollutants (primarily Nitrogen and Phosphorous).

LTEEC's Work Plan (2002 and 2003)

General Lake Tahoe Environmental Education Coalition (LTEEC) Activities:

1. Develop funding plan to: a) raise funds to support the LTEEC Coordinator position, and b) assist LTEEC subgroups in obtaining funds for environmental education programming.
2. Produce media campaign to include weekly television programs on specific environmental education topics and the EIP.
3. Continue existing programs including storm drain stenciling, Americorps volunteer training, and Home Landscaping Guide distribution.
4. Increase newsletter circulation and gather support from agencies around the Basin including submission of events and articles.
5. Improve website content, functionality, and increase web address awareness. Promote www.lteec.org as the source for environmental information and events.
6. Expand environmental education calendar of events.
7. Publicize new initiatives and agency information/projects (e.g. TRPA Threshold Review).
8. Increase the effectiveness of the Earth Day Festival by reaching a

larger audience. Include alternative energy and transportation solutions.

9. Form task groups when necessary. Recruit and train new group leaders and members.
10. Host annual meeting of all environmental educators in Basin.

Subgroup Activities:

11. Form an Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) education and outreach subgroup. Create forums, articles, and other means to provide information to the public regarding specific EIP projects and its overall goals of achieving environmental thresholds in the Tahoe Basin. (*EIP Outreach*)
12. Continue annual Erosion Control and Restoration Workshop for agency staff and conservation corps crew members including hands-on restoration work. (*Citizen Restoration*)
13. Develop contractor training program on proper design and installation of Best Management Practices (BMP's) for residential landscapes to recruit private sector support for the BMP Retrofit program. (*Partners in Conservation*)
14. Educate realtors and promote

support for the BMP Retrofit goals through seller disclosure process. (*Partners in Conservation*)

15. Provide training on Best Management Practices for planners and commissioners. (*Partners in Conservation*)
16. Host citizen monitoring annual event (Snapshot Day) including team leader trainings, calibration event, and annual report. (*Citizen Monitoring*)
17. Expand annual Children's Environmental Science Day to include children from around the lake. (*K-12 Watershed Education*)
18. Support Adopt-a-Watershed Regional Coordinator efforts to expand watershed education in four school districts. (*K-12 Watershed Education*)
19. Promote guest speakers in local classrooms (Community Leaders in Classrooms). Train resource professionals in presenting to various grade levels of school children. (*K-12 Watershed Education*)
20. Sponsor Tahoe Research Symposium scheduled for May 13-14, 2002 and quarterly Tahoe Science Seminar Series scheduled for January, April, July and October. (*Higher Education and Research*)

LTEEC Objectives:

To enable the many education providers to coordinate planning for environmental and experiential education.

To encourage groups with similar educational priorities to cooperate and collaborate rather than trying to plan educational programs in a vacuum. This will provide consistent and accurate messages and minimize overlap and duplication of efforts.

To provide local residents and tourists a

highly visible source for all kinds of information about environmental issues at Lake Tahoe.

To achieve buy-in and support from local organizations to ensure that subgroups have responsible leadership, membership, and are able to complete activities within their annual work plans.

To expand local environmental education offerings in public schools.

To stimulate public support for and knowledge about the Environmental Improvement Program (EIP).

To reach various target audiences including local students, teachers, homeowners, businesses, researchers and visitors.

To foster clear awareness of, and concern about, economic, social, political and ecological interdependence in the Tahoe Basin.

To provide every person with opportunities to acquire the knowledge, values, attitudes, commitment and skills needed to protect and improve the environment in the Tahoe Basin.

To create new patterns of behavior of individuals, groups and society as a whole to achieve TRPA's Environmental Thresholds.

Improper Snow Removal Can Be Damaging to Lake Tahoe

Did you know that improper snow storage and removal practices can damage water quality? Snow can contain trash, nutrients, sediment, salt, abrasives such as sand or cinders, pollutants from vehicles such as petroleum hydrocarbons, antifreeze, oil, metals and materials from road and tire wear.

When snow storage space is limited, some businesses and residences plow snow into Stream Environment Zones (SEZs) or into shorezone areas because it is convenient, out of the way, and low-lying. When snow melts, pollutants and nutrients can directly enter streams and Lake Tahoe. Plowing snow into SEZs can damage the stream channel by altering stream paths, causing streambank erosion and undercutting. In addition, the plowed snow can cause backflow and flooding by blocking the stream's natural course. Plowing snow into SEZs and onto shorezone areas in the Lake Tahoe Basin is prohibited by the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) and the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA).

Other improper areas for snow storage are stormwater treatment facilities (including basins) and unstable soil. Try to avoid blocking drainage facilities such as drop inlets in commercial parking lots, vegetated swales, and rock-lined channels. Pushing snow into these areas can create flooding, damage surrounding areas, and affect drainage improvement projects. Plowing snow into stormwater basins reduces their capacity to treat and hold stormwater during rainstorms or snowmelt. Storing and plowing snow onto bare soil and dirt roads that are unstable or steep is not recommended, because the ability to permeate through compacted soil is very low,

Snow removal from dirt roads is also subject to TRPA regulations.

Another snow removal practice that can be damaging to water quality is blading. Blading occurs when plows lower their blades below the normal ground surface level and plow the upper layers of soil and vegetation in addition to the overlying snow. This disturbance of the soil damages vegetation and creates unstable soil conditions, causing the soil to erode.

What You Can Do To Help?

Landowners are responsible for the snow removal practices that are conducted on their property. Develop a snow removal and storage plan for your property that is environmentally friendly. Put markers up around your property that will warn your plowing service of planters, mounds of soil, and unstable areas, and delineate areas to store the snow. Communicate with your plowing service before the snow



Improper snow storage in Stream Environment Zone can be damaging to Lake Tahoe.

season begins and find an area with rapid permeability or one that is paved to store the snow from your property. If no such area exists on your property, explore other alternatives such as hauling.

Contact the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) or the Lahontan RWQCB (California only) if you see any problems with snow removal or storage.

EPA Region 9 Presents 2001 Environmental Award to LTEEC Subgroup

The LTEEC Partners in Conservation Working Group was recently awarded the EPA Region 9 Environmental Award "Recognizing Environmental Leaders in the Pacific Southwest" on November 28, 2001 in San Francisco. Members of the Partners in Conservation group were there to receive the award.

The Partners in Conservation Working Group (or Lake Tahoe Best Management Practices Working Group) is dedicated to non-point source pollution prevention and resource protection. The group promotes innovative

management practice techniques and designs to inform stakeholders about their role in improving the Lake Tahoe Basin watershed. The group has been getting its message out through a variety of mechanisms including training sessions for realtors, contractors, homeowners associations and chambers of commerce; the development of a handbook, the [Home Landscaping Guide for Lake Tahoe and Vicinity](#), and aggressive media outreach. The group's work will ultimately result in reduced stormwater pollution entering tributaries and the lake.

Environmental Education Calendar of Events

January

January 25-26: "A Conversation About the Forest" Conference, Nevada City. The conference is intended to build understanding of the ecological foundation and history of Sierran forests and the concept of sustainability on both a local and global scale. Speakers include Gary Snyder, Tom Bonnickson, George Gruell, Michael Barbour, Don Erman, Jo Ann Fites, Fred Swanson, Jim Bowyer, Bill Libby, and John Helms. Contact Steve Eubanks, Forest Supervisor, Tahoe National Forest, (530) 478-6200, for more information.

January 28 (9:30 a.m.): Tahoe Science Seminar - The first quarterly Tahoe Science Seminar Series will focus on *The Use of Modeling in Understanding Watershed Dynamics*. This seminar will be held at the City of South Lake Tahoe's City Council Chambers (1900 Lake Tahoe Boulevard in South Lake Tahoe, California). Speakers include John Reuter, Vern Finney, Lev Kevvas, John Tracy and Bob Coats. Contact Heather Segale, (775) 832-4150, Ext. 101, for more information.

Note: Additional Tahoe Science Seminars are tentatively scheduled for April, July and October.



Clean Water Team Volunteer Appreciation Party at the Thunderbird Lodge

February

February 1 (8:30 - 11:30 a.m.): Clean Water Team Meeting - Citizen monitoring working group will meet to plan annual Snapshot Day event and associated volunteer training. Contact Heather Segale, (775) 832-4150, Ext. 101, for more information.

February 12 & 14: Weed Warrior Training in Reno. Must pre-register with Sue Donaldson, (775) 784-4848.

February 16 (8:30 - 3:30 p.m.): "Place Based Learning and Using the Environment as an Integrating Context" Workshop for Educators. The Sierra Watershed Education Partnerships, Adopt-a-Watershed, and the Tahoe Truckee Unified School District are offering a professional development workshop for teachers at the North Tahoe Middle School. This all-day workshop meets professional development or continuing education credits for most school districts. The registration fee is \$10 for teachers outside the Tahoe-Truckee Unified School District (payable the day of the workshop). Contact Sue Rae Irelan, (530) 525-1505 or email srirelan@earthlink.net to make a reservation.

February 21 (7:00 - 9:00 p.m.): Tahoe Area Sierra Club Meeting. Contact Michael Donahoe, (775) 588-5466, for more information.

March

March (date to be determined): Community Leaders in Classrooms Training for Resource Professionals - We are currently developing a speaker's bureau database (Community Leaders in the Classrooms) for Tahoe area teachers and will provide training for local resource professionals on giving pres-

Submit environmental education events for inclusion in the calendar of events. Updates are available at <http://www.lteec.org>

entations to students of various grade levels. Topics will include: importance of reaching out into classrooms, motivating and inspiring kids, creative approaches, learning styles, child development, education standards, and school/career connections. Contact Heather Segale, (775) 832-4150, Ext. 101, for more information.

March 20: Lake Tahoe Environmental Education Coalition (LTEEC) Annual Meeting - This annual meeting of all LTEEC members will highlight past successes, future plans, and will provide an opportunity for everyone to get involved and find out what is happening in the Tahoe Basin related to environmental education. Contact Heather Segale, (775) 832-4150, Ext. 101, for more information.

March 21 (7:00 - 9:00 p.m.): Tahoe Area Sierra Club Meeting. Contact Michael Donahoe, (775) 588-5466, for more information.

March 28: Eighth Annual Ecological Forum - This year's theme is "The Ecology And Management Of Species At-Risk: Stewardship Implications For The Lake Tahoe Region." Contact Shane Romsos at (775) 588-4547 for more information.

March 28: Telluride Mountain Film Festival. Contact Bob Kingman, California Tahoe Conservancy at (530) 542-5580, Ext. 129 for more information.

Environmental Education Calendar of Events, continued

Mark Your Calendars for Future 2002 Events

For a full calendar, please visit our website at www.lteec.org and click on the Calendar.

April 4: Contractor Workshop on Best Management Practices

April 19: Environmental Film Festival, Sierra Nevada College

April 20: Earth Day 2002 (North Shore and South Shore locations)

May 4: Citizen Monitoring Snapshot Day Volunteer Event

May 13-14: Lake Tahoe Research and Outreach Symposium

June 16-22, July 14-20 and July 28-August 3: Forestry Institute for Teachers (FIT)

October 7-10: Sierra Nevada Science Symposium

October 24-28: Society for Ecological Restoration Chapter Conference

Ongoing Events

League to Save Lake Tahoe Environmental Education Events - The League's educational events will be held monthly, alternating between the North Shore and the South Shore. Upcoming events in 2002 will include a wild-flower hike, an historical hike on the Flume Trail, a "Snowmelt Festival," storm drain stenciling, forest health restoration, and more. Please call Catherine at the League for details, (530) 584-1660.

Job Announcements

Tahoe-Baikal Institute is looking for a full-time **Program Coordinator**. Contact Silke Rover, 530-542-5599.

Sierra Watershed Education Partnerships is looking for a three-quarter to full-time **Program Manager**. Contact Sue Rae Irelan, 530-525-1505.

Adopt-a-Watershed will be seeking a **Regional Coordinator** for K-12 environmental education in the Lake Tahoe and Truckee Watersheds. Contact Heather Segale, 775-832-4150, ext. 101.

Community Cares About Water Quality

North Lake Tahoe residents consider projects that reduce pollution of Lake Tahoe most important, according to a recent attitudinal survey conducted by RRC & Associates for the North Lake Tahoe Chamber of Commerce.

"This survey provides us with important guidance from the community," said Russ Baruh, president of the North Lake Tahoe Resort Association Board of Directors.

In addition to supporting the Tahoe

Regional Planning Agency Environmental Improvement Program (EIP), the survey showed that 80 percent of residents surveyed supported renewal of the two percent lodging tax, monies which come back to local communities in North Lake Tahoe specifically for infrastructure projects. What people most liked about the tax is that it can be used to secure additional state and federal dollars by acting as matching funds.

Bicycle Advocacy Comes to Lake Tahoe

The Tahoe Region Advocates for Cycling (TRAC) celebrated its one year anniversary in January 2002. The mission of TRAC is to promote and enhance all aspects of cycling in the Tahoe Region, and to foster community support and involvement in cycling as a viable and environmentally friendly transportation alternative. The group has been steadily growing, with a cur-

rent membership of more than 50 people. TRAC's first year has been filled with organizational tasks, advocating for completion of the Round Hill Bike Path in Douglas County, hosting public meetings to gather input for a regional bicycle and pedestrian master plan, and reviewing current project plans to ensure high quality trail standards are being met. If you

support the creation of a transportation infrastructure that doesn't rely on automobiles and fossil fuels, then please join this group and its efforts to help make Lake Tahoe a safer, cleaner, friendlier place to live, work and play. For more information, visit TRAC's website at www.tahoetrac.org.

Resources For Teachers

Coming Soon: Community Leaders in Classrooms Resource Guide For Teachers

Contact Heather Segale, (775) 832-4150, Ext. 101, if you are a teacher looking for a guest speaker or a natural resource professional interested in being included on this list. The resource guide provides local teachers with the information they need to find guest speakers to discuss environmental topics in the classroom. Area professionals will also have the opportunity to develop their skills with an upcoming workshop on presenting and motivating students of various ages (see page 5).

Project Learning Tree (PLT) Gets Fired Up in Nevada

(Teacher Workshops Coming Soon)

by John Jones

A new spark has been added to Project Learning Tree workshops in Nevada. A partnership between the Bureau of Land Management, Project Learning Tree and Nevada Natural Resource Education Council (NNREC) has received grant funding to sponsor teacher workshops that combine PLT and wildland fire education. The keystone of the PLT Fire project is an interactive educational CD-ROM titled "Burning Issues", developed by Florida State University. Teachers can use this software to teach about firefighting techniques, prescribed fire, defensible space planning, and wildlife habitat. The program also has great resources on careers, wildlife, plants and other topics.

The Nevada Division of Forestry is coordinating Project Learning Tree workshops and targeting a spring

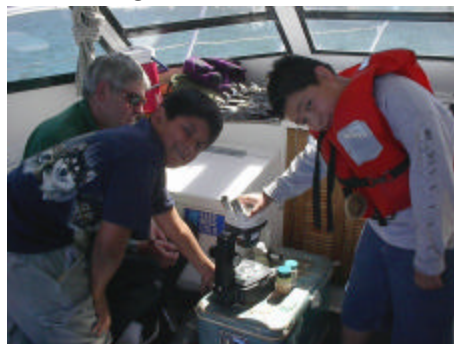
workshop in the Tahoe Basin. To get involved as a participant, or as a facilitator, contact Rich Harvey in Carson City, (775) 684-2507.

Lake Lessons for Kids

Hundreds of children will learn about Lake Tahoe this spring during seven four-day programs with Great Basin Outdoor School. Fifth- and sixth-grade classes will stay in cabins at Camp Galilee on the east shore to study water quality, geology, astronomy, and forest and wildlife ecology.

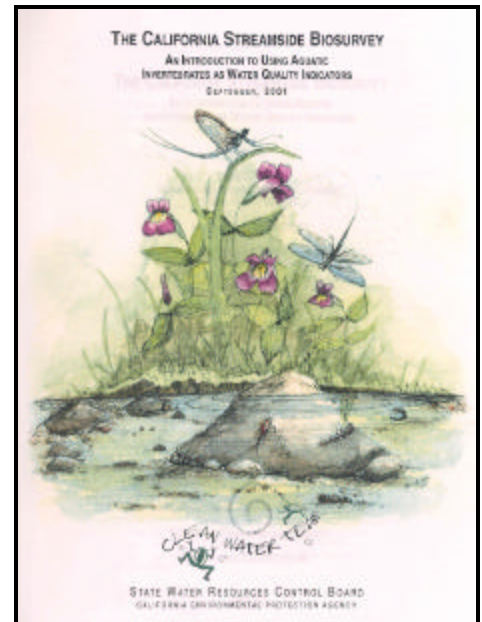
A trip aboard the *Prophet* with Marine Research and Education to learn about threats to Tahoe's clarity is a highlight of the program. Spooner Lake is the site of other field studies for the classes.

Working in small study groups, the children experiment with scientific instruments such as water test kits, increment borers, and thermometers. Songs, skits, stories, and stargazing fill the evening hours.



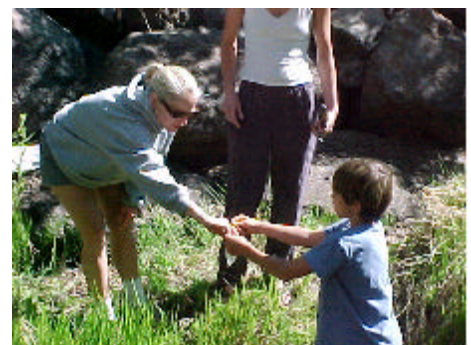
Students conduct scientific experiments

Contact Sue Jacox at Great Basin Outdoor Schools, suejacox@nvgbell.org or (775) 849-1890, for more information or to schedule your class for this exciting program.



Streamside Biosurvey Available For Teachers

Biosurveys use aquatic invertebrates as water quality indicators. The simplified approach presented in this workbook is an introduction to stream bioassessment. It may be useful to volunteer groups conducting monitoring projects or as an educational curriculum guide for school groups. To get a copy of the Streamside Biosurvey visit the California State Water Resources Control Board web site at www.swrcb.ca.gov/nps/volunteer.html or contact Heather Segale, (775) 832-4150, Ext. 101.



Citizen monitors investigate local streams

New Emphasis on Science Forums in 2002

Don't miss these science-related seminars, forums and symposia that are scheduled in the Tahoe Basin in 2002:

Quarterly Tahoe Science Seminar Series

— The Lake Tahoe Environmental Education Coalition (LTEEC) Higher Education & Research subgroup will host quarterly (January, April, July and October) science seminars. These informal gatherings will allow researchers, managers and stakeholders to learn more about a specific science-related topic, hear informal presentations including new research, and engage in an open forum for discussion. The first quarterly Tahoe Science Seminar will be held on January 28 at the City of South Lake Tahoe Council Chambers and will focus on "The Use of Modeling in Understanding Watershed Dynamics." Contact Heather Segale, (775) 832-4150, Ext. 101, for more information.

8th Annual Ecological Forum

— The purpose of this forum is to draw together research ecologists, natural resource managers, and other interested parties to share knowledge, encourage new ideas, and develop professional relationships. The theme of the 2002 forum will be "The Ecology and Management of Species At-Risk: Stewardship Implication for the Lake Tahoe Region." The forum is scheduled for March 28 and will be held at the Lake Tahoe Community College. Contact Shane Romsos, (775) 588-4547, Ext. 216, for more information.

Tahoe Research Symposium

— The Lake Tahoe Environmental Education Coalition (LTEEC) Higher Education & Research subgroup will convene a two-day symposium at which research, agency, consulting and Extension scientists and staff will make brief presentations describing

their research work in the Tahoe Basin. The purpose of the symposium is to annually bring together the diverse group of scientists working in the Basin for cross-fertilization of ideas and to collect summaries of ongoing research in the Basin for dissemination to interested parties. The Symposium will take place at the North Tahoe Conference Center in Kings Beach, May 13-14. An additional forum in collaboration with Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board on the Lake Tahoe TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) including recent water quality research and the TMDL process may be scheduled for May 15. Contact Heather Segale, (775) 832-4150, Ext. 101, for more information.

Sierra Nevada Science

Symposium — Policies that guide use and management of lands in the Sierra Nevada Ecoregion are dependent on objective scientific information. This symposium will promote the dissemination of scientific evidence to managers, policy-makers, other scientists and the public, and, in turn, inform policy decisions. Studies such as the Sierra Nevada Ecosystem Project (SNEP) illustrate the great effort that is devoted to collecting and using scientific information in this region. The Symposium is scheduled for October 7-10, at the North Tahoe Conference Center in Kings Beach, California. Contact Joni Rippee, Wildland Resources Center, University of California, Berkeley, (510) 642-0095, for more information.

Tahoe-Baikal Institute Recruits Participants and Projects for 2002

The main focus of the Tahoe-Baikal program is to provide participants with a broad understanding of environmental issues and how they are being handled at two of the world's unique lakes — Lake Baikal, in Russia, and Lake Tahoe. The 10-week program, which takes place both at Lake Tahoe and Lake Baikal, brings together an international team of university-level students and young professionals and provides a cultural and scientific forum where future environmental leaders can gain insight into the management of regional and global ecological problems.

Participants: The program is open to upper-division undergraduate students, graduate students, recent graduates, young professionals, and

California Conservation Corps members. Application deadline is February 15. For an application, contact Silke Rover, Program Coordinator at (530) 542-5599.

Projects: TBI is accepting ideas for two-week small-group projects to give TBI participants hands-on experience on a project that is of importance in the Tahoe region. They seek to put students to work on real-life environmental issues. Projects should be located in or near the Lake Tahoe watershed and should be geared toward including two to six TBI program participants. If you are interested in learning more about leading a TBI summer project, please contact Silke Rover, Program Coordinator at (530) 542-5599.

About the Lake Tahoe Environmental Education Coalition (LTEEC)

LTEEC is sponsored by the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension and the University of California Cooperative Extension.

Our mission is to provide support and leadership to improve the overall effectiveness of environmental education at Lake Tahoe by facilitating groups working together to educate and motivate the public about how to protect the Lake Tahoe environment.



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Participating Partners

- California Conservation Corps
- California Native Plant Society
- California State Parks
- California State Water Resources Control Board
- California Tahoe Conservancy
- Desert Research Institute
- Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Lahontan Audubon Society
- League to Save Lake Tahoe
- Nevada Conservation Corps
- Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
- Nevada State Parks
- Nevada Tahoe Conservation District
- Parasol Foundation
- Sierra Watershed Education Partnerships
- Tahoe Americorps Group
- Tahoe Area Sierra Club
- Tahoe-Baikal Institute
- Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
- Tahoe Resource Conservation District
- U.S. Forest Service
- U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service
- University of California, Davis, Tahoe Research Group
- University of Nevada, Reno
- Waste Not, Incline Village General Improvement District

There are eight distinct working groups or subgroups. Each group is led by one or two individuals with a passion for the group's mission, as summarized below. Please call us if you would like to join our efforts!

Partners in Conservation

Assist homeowners in controlling erosion and runoff from landscapes.

Volunteer Center

Engage citizens in volunteer conservation and environmental education efforts.

Citizens' Restoration

Educate and involve citizens in actual environmental restoration projects.

K-12 Watershed Education

Help teachers and schools integrate environmental education into the classroom.

Higher Education and Research

Work with scientists to disseminate information about the research projects conducted within the Lake Tahoe Region.

Business and Tourism

Educate visitors and engage businesses in solutions to Lake Tahoe's unique environmental problems.

Citizens' Monitoring: The Clean Water Team

Engage citizens in watershed stewardship and monitoring of environmental indicators.

Forest Health and Fire Prevention

Work with fire prevention agencies to ensure dissemination of consistent defensible space messages in the community.

Produced quarterly by the Lake Tahoe Environmental Education Coalition (LTEEC). Send event listings, letters or comments to:

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