



Nevada Tahoe Conservation District



NTCD ANNUAL WORKPLAN FY 2013

Prepared: April 17, 2012

INTRODUCTION

The Nevada Tahoe Conservation District (NTCD) is part of approximately 3,000 Conservation Districts functioning in all 50 States and U.S. Territories. Conservation Districts are sub-divisions of State government and are unique locally led conservation agencies with our roots dating back to the dust bowl era. Districts provide natural resource and conservation practices management and technical assistance to land occupiers (owners, renters, and producers) as well as work cooperatively with Federal, State, and Local governments in the delivery of conservation programs.

The Nevada Tahoe Conservation District is one of 28 Conservation Districts functioning under the auspices of Nevada Revised Statute, Chapter 548. The District is a Governmental Subdivision of the State of Nevada and a public body corporate created in 1976. The District encompasses all of the land in the Lake Tahoe Basin residing in the State of Nevada including portions of Douglas and Washoe Counties and the Carson City Rural Area. In addition, the District has a formal partnering relationship with our California counterpart, the Tahoe Resource Conservation District.

The Nevada Tahoe Conservation District (NTCD) is Nevada Lake Tahoe's local conservation agency and source for technical assistance. The District is a non-regulatory and grant funded agency that works closely with its Federal, State, and Local partners to deliver conservation programs to the Nevada Lake Tahoe Community. The District is guided by a Board of Supervisors made up of elected and appointed community leaders. The Board of Supervisors provides direction to the District's full time staff in carrying out the District's mission statement, vision, and guiding principals. As described in our mission statement, the District seeks to provide its constituents with superior technical assistance, educational resources, and conservation leadership with the goal of protecting Lake Tahoe's natural resources.

(cover photo - Incline Village Hybrid Right of Way BMP Project)

NTCD OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

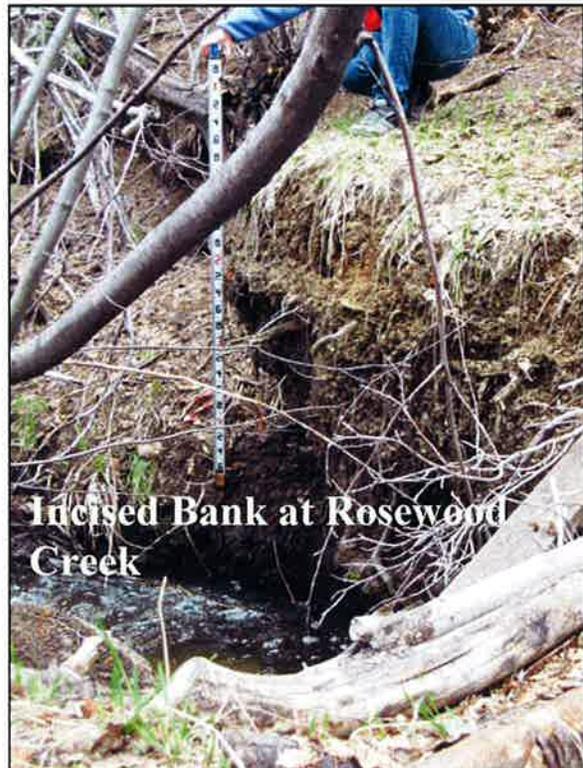
1. Continue community, state and government awareness of NTCD and its programs by continually updating the NTCD Website and giving public presentations within the community.
2. Continuing review and update of comprehensive District policies and procedures adopted by NTCD Board of Supervisors.
3. Continue a training program with funding to support technical, professional, and human resource training for all District staff.
4. Continue to revise and adapt job descriptions for all current and future positions for the District.
5. Continue to review and implement new administrative procedures that:
 - a. Improve reporting formats
 - b. Payroll interface
 - c. Increase efficiency
 - d. Decrease costs while maintaining or enhancing benefits
6. Development of a comprehensive finance/funding plan for FY 2013 for review and approval by the NTCD Board of Supervisors.
7. Maintain an operational budget of 12 months and operational reserve one month or more in advance.
8. Update the records retention and rotate out files and information no longer viable.
9. Coordinate budget responsibilities between the District Manager to the Administrator.
10. Participate in the Lake Tahoe Federal Advisory Committee
11. Participate in the Lake Tahoe Forum
12. Coordinate the Annual Audit in compliance with State and Federal statutes.

PROGRAMS

NTPD is actively involved in several conservation programs and projects with our partners in the Lake Tahoe Basin. Several of our programs continue efforts that have been ongoing for many years, while, others are just beginning. The following information outlines the program objectives for NTPD during the upcoming work year.

WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM

1. Support the NDSL technical advisory group regarding Water Quality and Erosion Control program on stormwater and SEZ restoration projects as they are selected by NDSL. Please note there is a change this year in the process, removing NTPD from the review process as NTPD is to now apply for grants under the EC program of NDSL. Last year funding was approved for Glenbrook for approx. \$600,000 which triggered NDSL to move NTPD from being a reviewer of projects to a project proponent.
2. Provide technical oversight for the design and construction of water quality and stream restoration projects funded by the NDSL Water Quality and Erosion Control program.
3. Continue with the development of a stormwater infrastructure inventory and performance tracking architecture in Nevada-Tahoe.
4. Finish Design and begin construction of a restoration of Middle Rosewood Creek (Area A).
5. Work closely with the Regional Stormwater Monitoring Programs to finish the establishment a robust data inventory and collection/analysis protocol for stormwater quality in the Tahoe basin.
6. Continue to monitor a hybrid BMP system in Incline Village, NV. The hybrid system will augment the existing high-flow treatment system with distributed off-line infiltration swales.
7. Monitor the water quality before and after the restoration of Area A of Rosewood Creek.



8. Continue to provide assistance to Washoe and Douglas Counties to implement various aspects of the TMDL tracking program.
9. Commence development of the Stormwater Loading Reduction Program that assesses Fine Sediment Particle Loading at Key Stormwater outlets in the Nevada Tahoe Basin. This Work will take 3 years to complete 3 phases which culminates in engineering cost estimates of projects to implement to meet the Nevada TMDL requirements.
10. Continue work on a master planning process for the Burke Creek/Rabe Meadow complex with NDOT, Douglas County and private parties looking at opportunities in the areas of stormwater and stream enhancements.

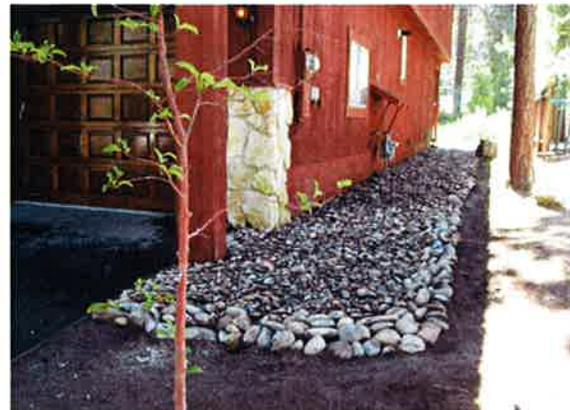
WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM - MONITORING

1. Develop proposals to answer Nevada TMDL quality questions and inform future EIP water quality/erosion control projects for Nevada implementers and funders. Submit to appropriate funders including NDEP, NDSL, BOR, and USFS.
2. Continue the sampling water quality for the Stateline Stormwater Project.
3. Monitor the water quality associated with the Rosewood Creek Area A restoration.

BACKYARD CONSERVATION PROGRAM (CONSERVATION PLANNING GROUP)



1. Update and Implement the FY-13 NTCD-BCP Annual Work Plan.
2. Continue to assist with development and maintenance needs at the North Lake Tahoe Demonstration Garden.
3. Continue to train all BCP staff in defensible space techniques in collaboration with the fire protection districts of Nevada Tahoe.
4. Provide ongoing training for all BCP staff in native and adapted plants.
5. Provide property owners with water quality technical assistance through Best Management Practices (BMPs) site evaluations and facilitation of BMP implementations.



6. Develop partnership with EPA to commence new watershed approach project to provide watershed conservation technical assistance including:
 - a. Stormwater Management
 - b. Public/private joint activities
 - c. Water Conservation
 - d. Noxious Weed Abatement
 - e. Defensible Space
 - f. Nutrient Management, etc.
7. Participate in outreach and education opportunities to present BMP retrofit and the Backyard Conservation Program.

8. Coordinate with the TRPA to utilize the enforcement process to facilitate the implementation of BMPs.
9. Distribute defensible space educational materials and handouts and encourage installations of fire safe BMPs (see below).



10. Construct native plant demonstration garden at the NTCD office location to highlight using native plants with in landscapes. NDF funding (this project was postponed from last year to this year).
11. Complete tasks associated with the “Educational Outreach Video on TMDL Implementation, BMPs and Defensible Space.” This includes setting up locations to show the video, outreach, viewings and marketing of the video. Funding is provided by Nevada Division of Environmental Protection.
12. Continue 2nd year of deliverables for Invasive Weed treatments under Nevada Division of State Lands Invasive Weed grant.



13. Seek out and secure funding to continue invasive weed abatement efforts and outreach for the 2013 field season and beyond.

14. Provide water conservation components while providing technical assistance in relation to BMPs.
15. Work with TRPA to maintain a positive working relationship with TRPA and other EIP #16 partners.
16. Ongoing training for all BCP staff in noxious weed identification and control methods.



17. Continue to seek out and secure funding for the future. NDEP funds and NRCS funds are decreasing and the BCP/CPG will need to be ready to shift and take on other roles as needed. During this Fiscal Year, future funding for the BCP will likely be coming from EPA.
18. Complete deliverables for forest health outreach during the 2012 field season. NDF funding.



19. Complete work on Tahoe Yellow Cress (TYC) outreach and conservation planning to assist lakefront homeowners with the conservation of habitat and protection of TYC populations

BIOMASS, FOREST HEALTH AND VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

1. Continue support to the Nevada Pinyon Juniper Partnership which focuses on overlaying utilization in a manner that support resource needs with a science oversight component.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

Public Outreach is extremely important to the District's ability to engage and inform our outreach stakeholder constituency in Nevada Lake Tahoe consisting of Regulators, Funders, Implementers, property owners, General Improvement Districts (GIDs) and Homeowner Associations (HOAs). All of our staff and programs are responsible for outreach, including the four main functions: Advocacy, Outreach, and Environmental Policy.

Funders and Partners

FEDERAL

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
USDA Forest Service
USDOI Bureau of Reclamation
US Army Corps of Engineers
US EPA

STATE

Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
Nevada Department of Transportation
Nevada Division of State Lands
Nevada Division of Conservation Districts
Nevada Division of Forestry
Nevada Association of Conservation Districts
Nevada Conservation Commission
University of Nevada, Cooperative Extension

Local

Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
Tahoe Resource Conservation District, California
Washoe County
Douglas County
Carson City
Placer County, California
Cave Rock Estates GID
Zephyr GID
Skyland GID
Oliver Park GID
Logan Creek GID
Lakeridge GID
Incline Village GID
Kingsbury GID
Roundhill GID
Glenbrook Homeowners Association
Hidden Woods Homeowners Association

Private

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Nevada Tahoe Stateline Stormwater Association
National Forest Foundation
Nevada Pinyon & Juniper Partnership