



**NTCD ANNUAL WORKPLAN  
FY 2016**

Prepared: April 11, 2015



## 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 - NTCD Project Engineer performing stormwater asset inventory work)

## **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. Development of a comprehensive finance/funding plan for FY 2016 for review and approval by the NTCD Board of Supervisors.
6. Maintain an operational budget of 12 months and operational reserve one month or more in advance.
7. Update the records retention and rotate out files and information no longer viable.
8. Coordinate budget responsibilities between the District Manager to the Administrator.
9. Participate in the Lake Tahoe Federal Advisory Committee
10. Participate in the Lake Tahoe Forum
11. Coordinate the Annual Audit in compliance with State and Federal statutes.

## PROJECT WORK FOCUS

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

### WATER RESOURCE FOCUS PROJECTS

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. In addition, NTCD competes for and receives NDSL administered Erosion Control funds for specific projects.
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. Continue monitoring the restoration of Middle Rosewood Creek (Area A) and implement abandonment of old creek channel and commission use of new creek bed.



Photo: Rosewood Creek new channel and vegetation

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. Same as #4
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.
11. Begin work to implement the Burke Creek/Rabe Meadow complex. Work will be focused on section east of Highway 50.

#### WATER RESOURCES MONITORING FOCUS

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.
4. Begin work with basin efforts to monitor sites throughout out the Lake Tahoe Basin. This is through an inter local agreement with Tahoe Resource Conservation District (TRCD) Also see #5 above.
5. Assist local jurisdictions with Road RAM (Rapid Assessment Methodologies) in order to comply with regulations and requirements of their TMDL needs.

## BACKYARD CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE FOCUS



1. Update and Implement the FY-16 NTCD-BCP Annual Work Plan.
2. Continue to assist with new development and maintenance needs at the North Lake Tahoe Demonstration Garden.
3. Continue to train staff in defensible space techniques in collaboration with the fire protection districts of Nevada Tahoe.
4. Provide ongoing training opportunities for all staff in native and adapted plants.
5. Provide property owners with water quality technical assistance through Best Management Practices (BMPs) technical assistance, BMP site evaluations and facilitation of BMP implementations.



6. Continue partnership with EPA to commence the Community Watershed Planning Project to provide watershed conservation and TMDL technical assistance to two selected areas. Focus topics including:
  - a. Stormwater Management
  - b. Public/private joint activities
  - c. Public outreach
  - d. BMP implementation
  - e. BMP Maintenance outreach and program development.
  - f. Other conservation elements including: Water Conservation, Noxious Weed Abatement, Defensible Space, Nutrient Management, etc.

7. Participate in outreach and education opportunities to present BMP retrofit.
8. Distribute defensible space educational materials and handouts and encourage installations of fire safe BMPs (see below).



9. Obtain funding and begin work on Invasive Weed ROW treatments through Nevada Division of State Lands License Plate Grants.



Invasive Weeds: Bull Thistle and Oxeye Daisy

10. Seek out and secure funding to continue invasive weed abatement efforts and outreach for the 2016 field season and beyond. Focus will be to assist private property owners.
11. Provide water conservation components while providing technical assistance in relation to BMPs.
12. Work with TRPA to maintain a positive working relationship with TRPA and other EIP #16 partners including Douglas and Washoe Counties. Continue to assist with the creation of the "Parcel Level BMP Charter."

13. Ongoing training for all staff in noxious weed identification and control methods.



14. Continue to seek out and secure funding for the future. NDEP funds are decreasing and the NTCD will need to be ready to shift and take on other roles as needed. During this Fiscal Year, funding for the BMP assistance will only be coming from TRPA as a pass through from NDEP.



15. Continue work on Tahoe Yellow Cress (TYC) outreach and conservation planning to assist lakefront homeowners with the conservation of habitat and protection of TYC populations. As funding allows.



## BIOMASS, FOREST HEALTH AND VEGETATION MANAGEMENT FOCUS

1. Work on possible funding to allow NTCD to focus on forest health outreach for 2016-2017.
2. Work on possible funding to allow NTCD to focus on water conservation and vegetation selection outreach for 2016-2017.

## PUBLIC OUTREACH FOCUS

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  
Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation