

September 1, 2023

Dear Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association Board and Members:

The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) and the League to Save Lake Tahoe (League) value the partnership we have built with the Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association (TKPOA) over many years to control the aquatic weed infestation within the Tahoe Keys. The Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinating Committee identifies the Tahoe Keys as the number one priority area as it is the largest aquatic weed infestation in Lake Tahoe and the primary source for new infestations around the lake. Working together, our three groups have taken thoughtful and effective steps in service to our common interest of protecting the Tahoe Keys, the lake, and Tahoe's \$5 billion economy.

Like you, TRPA and the League have invested significant time and financial resources to develop and implement the Tahoe Keys Control Methods Test (CMT), which is wrapping up year two of the innovative, comprehensive, three-year test program.

The initial results of the CMT are encouraging. The targeted herbicide and ultraviolet light applications completed last year substantially knocked back the invasive weeds in test areas and were safely utilized, with no herbicide reaching the lake proper. In 2023 and 2024, TKPOA is testing non-chemical methods only to determine if the knockback of weeds achieved in the first year can be maintained.

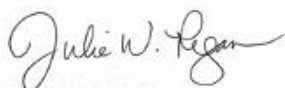
TRPA continues to work at the federal level seeking special sources of funds and has contributed more than \$9 million to the project. Those dollars from the federal Lake Tahoe Restoration Act, via the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, have and will continue to fund planning, monitoring, and UV implementation of this test project. This funding complements the \$4 million contributed by Tahoe Keys homeowners.

Since 2013, the League has used its voice in the community to build the public's understanding of the challenge in the Keys and win their acceptance of the CMT. Working closely with the TKPOA and TRPA, the League provided funding and implemented numerous control methods, including bubble curtains, the boat backup station, and laminar flow aeration. In addition, this year the League is leading an initiative in the Tahoe Keys Marina using innovative, robotic technologies to keep aquatic weeds from spreading into the lake proper. Many Keys homeowners have also participated in the League's invasive plant education and identification program, Eyes on the Lake.

Finding solutions to control and prevent aquatic weeds in the Tahoe Keys lagoons is exceedingly challenging. The success of implementing innovative solutions in Tahoe is based on public-private partnerships like this one we've created.

Everyone's continued investments in this project are essential to see it through to completion, and to achieve our ultimate objective – finding a sustainable, practical, long-term method for containing and controlling invasive weeds. We look forward to continuing our critical work together through every step of this journey.

Your committed partner in battling aquatic weeds,



Julie Regan, Executive Director
Tahoe Regional Planning Agency



Jesse Patterson, Chief Strategy Officer
League to Save Lake Tahoe