

ROUND 12 CAPITAL PROJECT NOMINATION FORM
LAKE TAHOE FEDERAL SHARE EIP CAPITAL PROJECTS
APPENDIX K

Project Name:	Basin Wide Trail Access and Travel Management Plan (ATM) Phase IV	EIP Number: <i>(Required)</i>	965.06
Federal Agency Sponsor: <i>(Required)</i>	Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit	Contact:	Garrett Villanueva
Threshold:	Water Quality	Phone Number:	530-543-2762
Threshold Standard:	WQ-5	Email:	gvillanueva@fs.fed.us
FUNDING REQUESTED IN THIS ROUND:		\$ 1,130,000	

Federal Share EIP Consideration

Select "yes" or "no" for each question. If you have a "yes" response, briefly describe. *Projects must meet one or more of these 5 items.*

1. Does the project involve federal land? Yes No
 If yes, is the federal land involved important to successful implementation of the project?

The National Forest System lands in the South Shore Recreation Area.

2. Is this project identified in the EIP? If yes, please ensure the EIP number is identified in the above project information box. If no, provide a description of the project's contribution to the EIP program. Yes No

3. Does the project involve the conservation of a federal or regional threatened, rare, endangered, or special interest species? If yes, identify. Yes No

The proposal will reroute existing trails away from established Protective Activity Centers for both Northern Goshawk and California Spotted Owl. The overall length of trail within PACs in the project area would reduce as a result of this project.

4. Does the project involve an identified federal interest such as the detection and eradication of non-native invasive species (aquatic or terrestrial)? If yes, identify. Yes No

5. Does the project develop knowledge and/or information to develop future capital projects in the EIP? (such projects that fulfill this function would include technical assistance, data management, and/or resource inventories) Yes No

Resource inventories from this project may be applicable to other projects in the area.

Check all Capital Focus Area(s) that apply (as defined in the Federal Vision):

- 1. **Watershed and Habitat Improvement**
- 2. **Forest Health**
- 3. **Air Quality and Transportation**
- 4. **Recreation and Scenic**

Check all that apply (must meet a minimum of one category):

- 1. **Continued emphasis on forest ecosystem health/fuels reduction projects considering the LTBMU Stewardship Fireshed Assessment and Lake Tahoe Basin Multi-Jurisdictional Fuels Reduction and Wildfire Prevention Strategy.**
- 2. **Continued implementation and/or completion of projects approved in Rounds 5 through 11 which implement the EIP. Project proposal should clearly describe the phase/product being produced along with the consequence of not completing the project phase proposed for Round 12.**

List Previously Approved Rounds and funding(provide project titles):

The following SNPLMA projects have been completed under the SNPLMA Basin Wide Trail ATM Projects:

Round 8 Basin Wide Trail ATM Phase 1 F118 \$500,000
Round 9 Basin Wide Trail ATM Phase 2 F128 \$1,100,000
Round 10 Basin Wide Trail ATM Construction, BMP Upgrades and Decommissioning (Phase 3) F147 \$553,000

- 3. **Project is consistent with and contributes toward TMDL pollutant reductions within the four source categories (atmospheric, urban & groundwater, forested uplands, and stream channel). *NOTE: If “yes”, then please respond to questions in the Accomplishments section of the nomination proposal.***
- 4. **Control of aquatic invasive species and prevention and/or detection of new aquatic invasive species.**

Project Nomination Proposal Outline

Project Summary (a brief summary which clearly describes the proposed project –maximum 200 words)

- Summarize ONLY the Round 12 project (also summarize scaling of funding to be described in more detail in the “Project Description” section below).

The Trail Access and Travel Management plans are methodically moving around Lake Tahoe to analyze the current trail system and make changes to establish a sustainable trail system that is protective of ecological and historical resources while providing access to National Forest. The goal is to establish a trail system that is economically, socially and environmentally sustainable. Investment in trail systems has been shown to provide substantial economic benefit to adjacent communities through increased tourism resulting in higher levels of lodging, service and retail demand. The Basin Wide Trail ATM Phase IV would prioritize and address remaining trail issues.

Project Description

Introduction

- Provide project background which explains the situation and state the problem and how it will be addressed.

Note: Focus needs to be the project in Round 12 not a history of an ongoing project or program.

The focus areas would be the Star Lake Trail and the Monument Pass Trails within the High Meadows ATM area, stone or wood stairways beach stairways in the East Shore Beaches ATM (beyond what was previously identified in Phase I or II), reroute of the top 1 mile of the Mt. Tallac Trail, and reroute of the Kingsbury Stinger OHV trail. The projects are listed in order of priority and this project is scalable depending upon the amount of funding received. The Trail Access and Travel Management plans are methodically moving around Lake Tahoe to analyze the current trail system and make changes to establish a sustainable trail system that is protective of ecological and historical resources while providing access to National Forest. The goal is to establish a trail system that is economically, socially and environmentally sustainable. The above mentioned trails are currently not sustainable. These trails provide excellent opportunities for the public to access National Forest System lands and they receive moderate to high use. Fixing these trails now will not only correct environmental impacts but they will benefit forest visitors and local business.

- Describe what Round 12 is specifically funding; list the number of years the requested funding will cover; briefly describe how this project links into previous projects/rounds (identify and describe other round projects and funding received). Show scaling of project (reduced funding request and associated reduction in accomplishments).

NOTE: Focus should be on finishing current/phased projects. If project is new in Round 12, clearly identify if the project is for planning or implementation and how it will be completed with Round 12 funds. Identify if other funds will be needed to complete the project. Please identify total non-SNPLMA funds that are being contributed/dedicated to the proposed Round 12 project and the source of those funds.

The Trail Access and Travel Management plans are methodically moving around Lake Tahoe to analyze the current trail system and make changes to establish a sustainable trail system that is protective of ecological and historical resources while providing access and recreation opportunities. After the initial GPS inventory of the trails in 2000, the LTBMU recognized that approximately 160 miles of the 350 miles of trails at Lake Tahoe were unauthorized and unmanaged trails. The ATM process has adopted approximately 70 miles of trail to date and decommissioned approximately 40 miles of trail to date, leaving a balance of 50 miles of

unauthorized trails to be addressed.

The following work is proposed as part of Round 12, Phase IV and will continue work that has been analyzed and in some cases partially complete by other phases. Projects are listed in priority.

Star Lake Trail and Monument Pass Trails:

The Star Lake and Monument Pass trails are a continuation of the Cold Creek trail which was completed as part of Phase II F128 SNPLMA funding. The existing trails are causing excessive erosion and contributing to sedimentation of surface water. In addition, The Star Lake trail will be located out of an existing Northern Goshawk protective activity center. Both trails would be constructed using hand tools and trail sized equipment. Work would be completed during the FY12, FY13 and FY14 field seasons.

East Shore Beaches Trail ATM: The primary East Shore Beaches Trail ATM was completed using both Phase I F118 and Phase II F128 funding. The remaining work to be completed with Round 12 funds will focus on formalizing and stabilizing short access paths to the individual beaches. Currently several exist, and the existing pathways are eroding slopes above beaches and contributing fine sediment directly to Lake Tahoe. As a result of this, there is a need for stairway construction. The pathways were adopted during the NEPA process and work would be complete using either native stone or imported wood and would be dependent upon availability of native materials. Stairs would be constructed during the FY12 and FY13 field seasons.

Tallac Trail Reroute:

The lower Tallac trail was reconstructed in 2009 and 2010 and the remaining work is the top reroute. This trail is a very popular trail to the top of the iconic Mount Tallac. The trail is located within the Desolation Wilderness. The new trail would allow the trail to be maintained at 2' wide and to protect the character of the wilderness and soil and water resources. The existing trail is up to 10' wide and braided in many areas. The trail surface is sloughing and covered in snow well into the summer season. The new location would move the trail to a location that is free of snow much earlier in the year than the existing location which will reduce trail braiding and trail widening. This project would be constructed during the FY12 and FY 13 field seasons.

Kingsbury Stinger OHV Trail:

Currently approximately .75 miles of existing trail are located within the stream environment zone and is over steepened, which is contributing sediment directly to a tributary of Burke Creek. The trail would be rerouted away from the creek and into high capability areas under the Annual Maintenance CE for NEPA approval. The trail would be designed for OHV and mountain bike use and also open to equestrians and hikers. This project would be constructed during the FY12, FY13 and FY14 field seasons.

The round 12 Basin Wide Trail ATM projects accomplishments include:

Star Lake Trail: \$250,000

Monument Pass Trail: \$350,000

East Shore Beaches Beach Access Trails: \$80,000

Tallac Trail Reroute: \$250,000

Kingsbury Stinger OHV Trail: \$200,000

The following projects have been accomplished under the Trail ATM program with Basin Wide Trail ATM SNPLMA funding:

Round 8 Basin Wide Trail ATM Phase 1 F118

East Shore Beaches Trail ATM

New Construction: 2 miles

Close and Restore: 1.5 miles

Reconstruct and install BMPs: 9 miles

Note that the work in the East Shore Beaches Trail ATM was complex and required many rock or wood stairway structures which created a very high cost per mile. In addition, the actual award was \$500,000 and not the requested \$1,150,000 and accomplishments reflect the awarded amount.

Round 9 Basin Wide Trail ATM Phase 2 F128

High Meadows Road and Trail ATM

New Construction: 1 mile

Close and Restore: .6 miles

Reconstruct and install BMPs: 12 miles

Construct Stream Crossings: 4

East Shore Beaches Trail ATM (F128)

Reconstruct and Install BMPs: 6 miles

Note: Approximately 20% of the funding is remaining for Phase 2.

Round 10 Basin Wide Trail ATM Construction, BMP Upgrades and Decommissioning (Phase III) F147

This work is planned for accomplishment during the FY11 and FY12 field season.

Angora Burn Area Trail ATM

New Construction: 3 miles

Close and Restore: 9.5 miles

Reconstruction and install BMPs: 3.9 miles

Construct Stream Crossings: 2

Other area specific projects have contributed to accomplishment of the trail ATM, however, only 2 phases of the Basin Wide Trail ATM have been previously awarded.

- Describe the “readiness” of this project to move forward (urgency, capacity, capability, environmental documentation, interagency agreements, etc).

NEPA is complete for the following projects:

Star Lake Trail – High Meadows EA – SNPLMA Round 5 F019

Monument Pass Trail – High Meadows EA – SNPLMA Round 5 F019

East Shore Beaches Trail – East Shore Beaches EA – SNPLMA Round 6 F059

NEPA will be completed by a Categorical Exclusion by February 2011 for the following projects: Tallac Trail and Kingsbury Stinger OHV

NEPA is underway for the Fallen Leaf Bike Path ATM and estimated to be complete in May

2011. The LTBMU has the staff and is prepared to implement the above projects within the required timeframe.

- Describe partnerships for this project. (if applicable, project should identify and describe committed/secured partner funding and/or other partner contributions and how it is integrated into the project).

Each project has the potential for partnerships with youth conservation corps. In all past trail projects the LTBMU has partnered with youth conservation corps such as the American Conservation Experience, the Nevada Conservation Corps, the California Conservation Corps, the Student Conservation Association and the Americorps. Conservation corps partnerships leverage SNPLMA funding with other grant funding. The LTBMU will seek additional opportunities to partnership with permittees and other transportation agencies within the Fallen Leaf Bike Path ATM area. Permittees and other transportation agencies may provide additional funding for additional trail and trailhead projects.

Note: The form requests information about project goals, objectives, accomplishments, and questions the program is designed to answer across several different sections. These issues are closely linked and your individual responses should provide a cohesive description.

Goal – Purpose and Need (“larger” statement of future expected outcome – usually not measurable)

The purpose and need for this project is to establish long term sustainable access to National Forest System Lands. This project would reduce existing impacts to ecological and historic resources, reduce maintenance costs, and improve access to National Forests.

Objectives (specific measurable statements of action – Round 12 only - which when completed will move towards achieving the goal)

Note: Objectives will form the basis for the milestones/deliverables to be identified in Appendix B-8

- Describe how fulfilling objectives will contribute to the achievement of one or more environmental thresholds (air quality, water quality, soil conservation, vegetation, fisheries, wildlife, scenic, noise, recreation). Provide measures if applicable. For example: acres treated, miles of stream restored for each objective.

Fulfilling the objectives of the trail ATM will contribute to multiple environmental goals such as air quality, water quality, soil conservation, vegetation preservation, fisheries protection, wildlife habitat protection, and recreation benefit. These will be accomplished by establishment of a trail system that is planned and managed for multiple resource objectives. Planned trail systems reduce the amount of user created trails and located the managed trail system for ecologic protection. Managed and signed trails allow access while preventing damage to sensitive areas. Signs also inform users of proper etiquette and how to be low impact users.

Water quality – Trails will receive BMP upgrades to reduce hydrologic connectivity of the trail to surface water and riparian zones.

Soil Conservation – Installation of BMP upgrades will reduce soil loss substantially.

Currently, the trails identified in this project are unstable and continuously eroding.

Upgrades will stabilize the trail.

Fisheries – Reduction of sedimentation will benefit fisheries.
Wildlife – Reroutes out of California Spotted Owl and Northern Goshawk PACs will improve wildlife habitat.

- Describe the estimated environmental risks from unintended consequences of the proposed project (if applicable).

Short term impacts from construction of these projects will result, however the use of temporary best management practices to protect against erosion and sedimentation are intended to minimize short term adverse affects.

Accomplishments

- Describe the anticipated project accomplishments (i.e. products or identifiable environmental benefits being produced or implemented under this project), and how the project results/accomplishments will be communicated and made available to the public.

Note: Differentiate between direct and/or primary project effects and secondary and/or overall watershed effects.

Star Lake Trail:

New Construction: 2.5 miles
Close and Restore: 2 miles
Cost: \$250,000

Monument Pass Trail:

New Construction: 2.5 miles
Close and Restore: 1.5 miles (road closure)
Cost: \$350,000

East Shore Beaches Trail ATM:

Stairways would be constructed using either native stone or imported wood and would be dependent upon availability of native materials.
Stairway Construction: 8 stairways
Cost: 80,000

Tallac Trail Reroute:

New Construction: 1 mile
Close and Restore: .75 mile
Cost: \$250,000

Kingsbury Stinger Trail:

New Construction: 2.5 miles
Close and Restore: 2 miles
Cost: \$200,000

The projects will be communicated to the public through the LTBMU website and project signing.

- If you checked “yes” for the project being consistent with and contributing to TMDL pollutant reductions, please consider and integrate the following in the project description:

a) Describe whether, and how, the project demonstrates advanced, alternative, or innovative practices.

The project will use innovate trail layout methods and incorporate the latest designs for drainage structures. By using these methods the future maintenance of the trail will be substantially less than the existing trails.

b) If project includes project level monitoring, describe ability of proposed monitoring strategy to contribute to the state of TMDL knowledge. Also describe if purpose of the capital project is to conduct data collection and/or analysis related to Lake Tahoe clarity.

Project level monitoring would occur by personnel overseeing contractors and conservation corps. In addition, an erosion control plan will be developed and used during the project. At the end of the project a summary report will be prepared summarizing changes to the erosion control plan and effective temporary best management practices.

c) Describe treatment approach for reducing pollutants and/or measures to address connectivity between pollutant sources and Lake Tahoe or its tributaries. Identify target pollutants, and, to the degree feasible, provide quantitative estimates of project effectiveness at reducing pollutant loads (and/or a commitment to provide post-project estimates).

The project will increase the frequency of drainage structures along a trail to prevent hillslope hydrology from becoming captured on the trail system which will result in decreased erosion and sedimentation. In addition, in riparian zones drainage structures will be located to disconnect the trail from the riparian zone. Lastly, stream crossings will be improved with hardened structures or bridges which will protect water quality from sedimentation.

d) If appropriate, describe whether, and how, the project can be combined or coordinated with other TMDL implementation projects.

Monitoring

- Describe the project monitoring that will be implemented as part of this project including:

- List the questions the monitoring program is designed to answer.

The LTBMU will conduct inventories of trails to determine upgrade needs. Temporary BMPs will be monitored and evaluated through the use of an erosion control plan to determine effectiveness and needed changes.

- Describe any coordination with, or input from, the science community on monitoring and adaptive management that has occurred on the development of this nomination and what changes (if any) to the project were made as a result of this input.

- Describe the methods and strategies (i.e. monitoring, research, or both) that will be used to verify whether the project goals and objectives have been met? (*Note: A detailed monitoring plan and/or research plan is not required, however, enough detail must be provided to allow someone that is unfamiliar with the project to understand and evaluate the proposed methods and strategies.*)

Projects will use erosion control plans that are updated daily and submit a final report at the end of the season to determine the effectiveness of the temporary BMPs.

- Describe whether the monitoring or research associated with this project fits into or is part of a larger monitoring or research program.

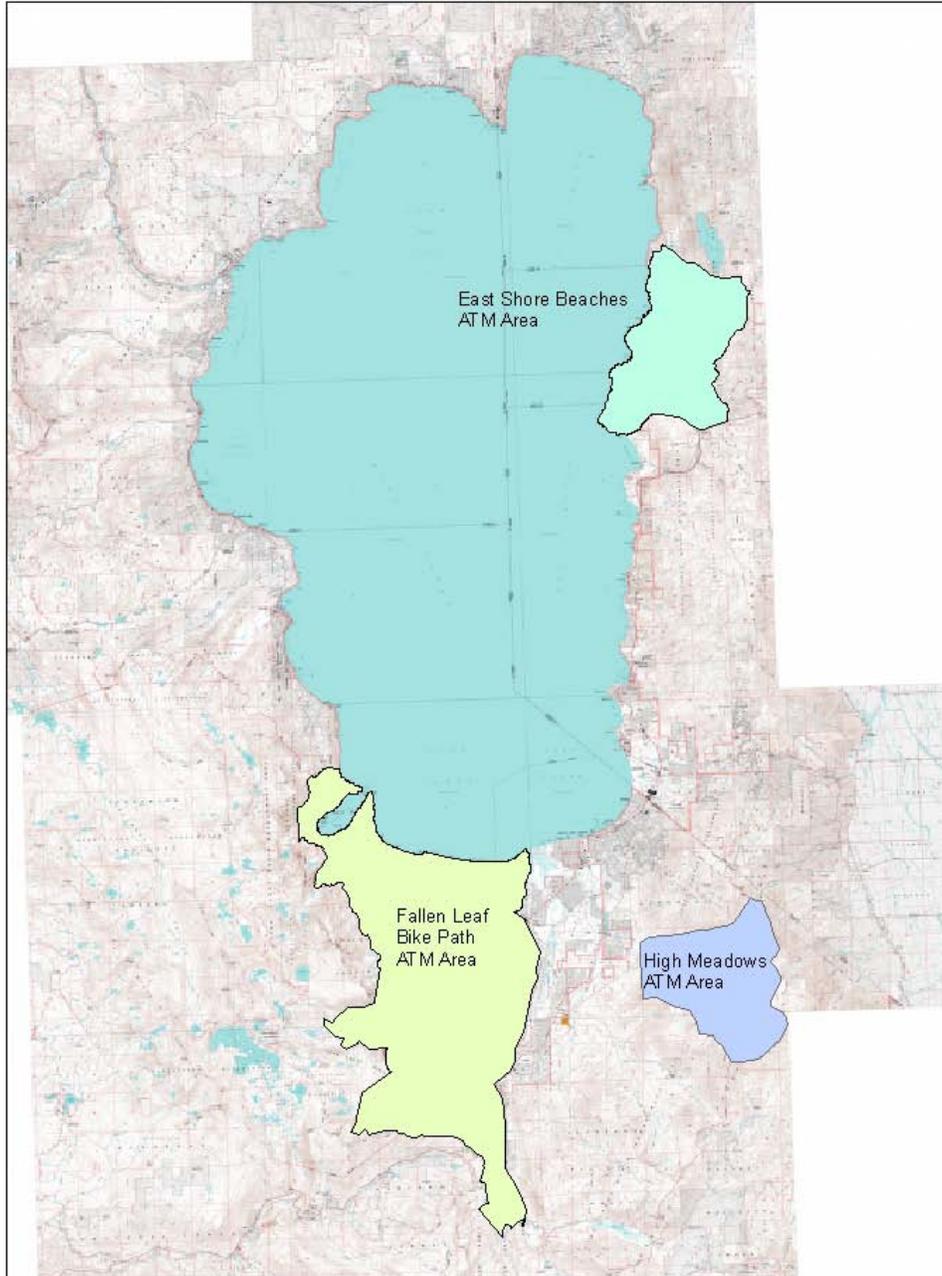
- Describe how information from the monitoring and/or research will be used to improve the continued performance of the proposed project or future similar projects.

The Erosion Control Plan and the final report will be used to evaluate and update BMPs to improve implementation and design.

Attachments

- If applicable, include 8 ½ X 11 map depicting the project

Basinwide Trail ATM Phase II



12/12/2007

Appendix B-8

**LAKE TAHOE RESTORATION PROJECTS
ESTIMATED NECESSARY EXPENSES & KEY MILESTONE DATES**

Project Name:	Basin Wide Trail ATM Phase III	Agency:	US Forest Service, LTBMU
Prepared by:	Garrett Villanueva	Phone:	530-543-2762
SNPLMA Project #:		EIP #:	965.06

Identify estimated costs of eligible reimbursement expenses:

1. Planning, Environmental Assessment and Research Costs (specialist surveys, reports, monitoring, data collection, analysis, NEPA, etc.)	\$ _____	_____ %
2. FWS Consultation – Endangered Species Act	\$ _____	_____ %
3. Direct Labor (Payroll) to Perform the Project	\$ 452,000	40 %
4. Project Equipment (tools, software, specialized equipment, etc.)	\$ _____	_____ %
5. Travel (including per diem where official travel status required to carry out project, such as serve as COR, experts to review reports, etc.)	\$ _____	_____ %
6. Official Vehicle Use (pro rata cost for use of Official Vehicles when required to carry out project)	\$ 28,250	2.5 %
7. Cost of Contracts, Grants and/or Agreements to Perform the Project	\$ 452,000	40 %
8. Other Direct and Contracted Labor: Agency payroll for the Contracting Officer to do project procurement, COR, Project Inspector, Sec. 106 Consultation if required, NEPA Lead, Project Manager, Project Supervisor, and subject experts to review contracted surveys, designs/drawings, plans, reports, etc.; Also covered is the cost to contract for a Project Manager and/or Project Supervisor if contracted separately from other project contract(s)	\$ 62,150	5.5 %
9. Other Necessary Expenses (see Appendix B-11): Indirect costs associated with implementing a project, such as support services, budget tracking etc.	\$ 135,600	12 %
TOTAL:	\$ 1,130,000	100 %

Estimated Key Milestone Dates:

Milestones/Deliverables:	Date:
Complete project planning and design	12/31/2013
Complete project implementation	11/30/2016
Complete project closeout	6/1/2017
Final Completion Date: 6/1/2017	

COMMENTS:

