

# TAHOE SCIENCE ADVISORY COUNCIL

## AGENDA | March 2023 COUNCIL MEETING

**Date:** Friday March 24, 2023  
**Time:** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
**Location:** [Zoom](#)

**Council Members:** Sudeep Chandra (UNR), Adrian Harpold (UNR), Monica Arienzo (DRI), Tamara Wall (DRI), Geoff Schladow (UCD), Steve Sadro (UCD), Max Moritz (UCSB/DANR), John Melack (UCSB), Pat Manley (PSW), Jonathan Long (PSW), Ramon Naranjo (USGS), Joe Domagalski (USGS), Jason Kuchnicki (NDEP), Ashley Conrad-Saydah (CNRA)

Robert Larsen (CNRA), Alison Toy (UCD)

TIME	AGENDA ITEM	LEAD(S)
10:00	Welcome and Agenda Review	<b>Sudeep</b>
10:05	SNPLMA Project Selection - Update	<b>Bob/Review Teams</b>
10:20	Integrated Science to Action - Status and review	<b>Bob/All</b>
10:45	Water Quality Working Group - Update	<b>John</b>
11:00	2023 Science Conference	<b>Sudeep/Bob</b>
11:15	Strategic Planning Session	<b>Bob</b>
11:30	Sustainable Recreation Monitoring and Evaluation	<b>Derek Kauneckis</b>
12:00	UCD Microplastics study	<b>Katie Senft</b>
12:30	Round Robin	<b>All</b>
1:00	<b>Adjourn</b>	

### SNPLMA Project Selection

The review teams reviewed submitted proposals and numerically scored them based on (1) how the project met management needs (problem statement, justification, objectives, hypotheses); (2) the project approach (tasks, schedule); (3) how the project findings will be communicated and the project's commitment to management coordination; and (4) the budget and potential scaling options. The teams then met to discuss the submitted material and selected projects to be funded:

1. Tahoe Environmental Observation Network Pilot Implementation (Upland, PSW)
2. Automated Spatio-Temporal Tracking of Priority Overstory Hardwood Stands in the Tahoe Basin (Upland, UCD)

3. Characteristics, Composition, and Relative Sources of Very Fine Particles Affecting Water Clarity in Lake Tahoe (Aquatic, DRI)
4. Zooplankton Ecology of Lake Tahoe: Composition, Migration, and Influence on Plankton Particle Size (Aquatic, UNR)

The review groups had questions for some project to refine and guide work plan development. The review groups will have the opportunity to review and comment on project work plans before they are executed.

### **Integrated Science to Action**

The project team has completed an initial Integrated S2A Plan draft. As discussed previously, the document is structured around three science program needs: (1) Data collection; (2) System understanding (models and research); and (3) Science delivery. The team will distribute the draft after additional review and editing. We will discuss next steps for review, editing, and finalizing the plan.

### **Water Quality Working Group**

The Council's Water Quality Working Group meets twice a month, as needed, to coordinate on ongoing issues. Group members participated in SNPLMA proposal review and supported TRPA in developing an RFP for algal monitoring, among other topics. The group met March 13 to discuss the 2022 clarity values and UC Davis's initial interpretation of last year's conditions.

### **2023 Science Conference**

There is a small group guiding conference planning. The event will tentatively be October 2-4, 2023 at the Lake Tahoe Community College. It has also been suggested to adjust the dates to October 4-6. The first day/evening will be a keynote speaker and reception at the Duke Theatre (200-person capacity). The following two days will be a combination of panels/conversations in the Theater and smaller group engagement in the adjacent Lisa Maloff University Center (two rooms, 50 people each, along with a foyer and patio). We'll take this time to discuss the intended audience and possible program details.

### **Council strategic planning session**

The planning session will be May 12, 2023 at the Tahoe Environmental Research Center. Caelan McGee with Zephyr Collaborations has initiated individual interviews in advance. We are hoping everyone can attend in person.

### **Sustainable Recreation Monitoring and Evaluation**

The Desert Research Institute and the Pacific Southwest Research Station are leading work to (1) understand recreation and visitation changes, (2) develop a conceptual model of tourism and relevant factors impacting its sustainability, (3) produce a "Recreational Quality and Public Access Best Practices" report, and (4) recommend indicators that can help guide management in the Lake Tahoe Basin. Derek Kauneckis will share a presentation on the project.

**UCD Microplastics study**

UC Davis and its partners examined and documented the status of microplastic pollution within Lake Tahoe. The team quantified, identified, and characterized plastics, conducted a preliminary investigation of microplastic fate, and evaluated municipal water samples for the presence of microplastic particles. Katie Senft with UC Davis will present.

**Round Robin**

Each member will be asked to briefly (1-2 minute) share highlights from their current work, Tahoe-related or otherwise.