

**Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
Regarding the CA Tahoe Alliance
February 23, 2015**

1. Purpose of MOU

The signatories of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) recognize the value of forming a CA Tahoe Alliance (Alliance) to support efforts to identify, coordinate, and advocate for state funding opportunities as they become available. The Region defined by this Alliance includes the Lake Tahoe Basin which is contained within portions of El Dorado and Placer Counties, and within the City of South Lake Tahoe in California and within Douglas, Washoe, and Carson City Counties in Nevada.

This MOU is in reference to the intent of the Alliance to encourage coordinated strategies for guidance on state funding legislation and to provide a mechanism to apply for funding that supports a broad range of environmental, restoration, and water quality and supply projects, while also supporting coordinated implementation of the Environmental Improvement Program (EIP). Collectively, these projects and programs are designed to achieve and maintain environmental improvements that protect Tahoe's unique and valued resources.

2. Goals of the CA Tahoe Alliance

Goals include but are not limited to:

- Achieve policy objectives to meet the natural resource funding needs of the Lake Tahoe Basin in current and future California Legislative Sessions
- Maximize Alliance efforts by aligning with and supporting concurrent activities related to funding allocations at the state level
- Utilize existing groups to share information and broaden communication amongst Basin partners. These groups could include but are not limited to the Tahoe Interagency Executives, Lake Tahoe Partnership, Prosperity Center, and Chamber of Commerce.
- Form a Steering Committee to effectively and efficiently organize Alliance efforts to meet the goals

The Alliance agrees to work cooperatively to pursue common funding objectives and seeks to represent each signatory equally and appropriately. The Alliance will collectively prioritize consultant services to achieve funding and policy goals for the Lake Tahoe Basin. It is expected the signatories of this MOU will apply for funding available through these efforts independently or collectively as appropriate.

3. Mutual Understandings

This MOU does not abridge any decision-making authorities of any signatory.

The CA Tahoe Alliance and strategies developed under this MOU will not conflict with any legal obligation of any signatory, including those under contracts, licenses, permits, regulations and statutes.

This MOU is not an obligation of funds, and does not control or limit pursuit of other funding sources for any future project of any signatory.

It is expected that signatories to this MOU will contribute staff time necessary to meet the goals of this MOU.

4. Withdrawal from the MOU

Any party to the MOU may end its participation by providing written notice to the Alliance Coordinator at their normal business address

5. Signatories to the MOU

MOU Signatories: The signatories to this MOU represent a spectrum of public agencies, special districts, and non-profit organizations throughout the California side of the Tahoe Basin.

The signatories of this MOU will:

- Foster a collaborative funding acquisition environment;
- Promote the funding of projects to improve water supply, water quality and environmental protection of the Lake Tahoe Watershed;
- Recommend priorities for statewide funding allocations;
- Cooperatively advocate to apply for and obtain funding for implementation projects;
- Revise and update consultant scope of services as needed;
- Communicate the best available information to decision makers and stakeholders

Future signatories to this agreement are welcome, and signatories to this MOU are active until written notice to end the participation of the agency has been received by the Alliance Coordinator.

This MOU may be executed by submittal of individual signature pages that when combined, shall constitute a single instrument. The signatories to this MOU represent that they have the authority to bind their respective agency to this MOU.

1. CA Tahoe Alliance

Memorandum of Understanding

Signatory Page

Agency: _____

Responsible Party/Title for Signature

Signed: _____

Date Signed: _____