

TRUCKEE RIVER FUND

Enhancing and protecting our water resources

TRUCKEE RIVER FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Friday, July 8, 2022, 8:30 a.m.

Meeting Via Teleconference ONLY

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA THE WEB LINK, OR
TELEPHONICALLY BY CALLING THE NUMBER, LISTED BELOW.
NO PHYSICAL LOCATION IS BEING PROVIDED FOR THIS MEETING
(Be sure to keep your phones on mute, and do not place the call on hold)

Please click the link below to join the meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8785686516?pwd=UVBmSmF4Tkx2cGJvcWdjSm15L1JqUT09>

Zoom Meeting ID: 878 568 6516

Password: CFNN

NOTES:

1. The announcement of this meeting has been posted in compliance with NRS 241.020(3) at: Truckee Meadows Water Authority (1355 Capital Blvd., Reno), at <https://truckeerriverfund.org/meetings/>, and NRS 232.2175 at State of Nevada Public Notice Website, <https://notice.nv.gov/>.
2. In accordance with NRS 241.020, this agenda closes three working days prior to the meeting. We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for persons who are disabled and wish to attend meetings. If you require special arrangements for the meeting, please call (775) 834-8002 at least 24 hours before the meeting date.
3. Staff reports and supporting material for the meeting are available on the Truckee River Fund website at <https://truckeerriverfund.org/meetings/> or you can contact Sonia Folsom at (775) 834-8002 or sfolsom@tmwa.com. Supporting material is made available to the general public in accordance with NRS 241.020(6).
4. The Committee may elect to combine agenda items, consider agenda items out of order, remove agenda items, or delay discussion on agenda items. Arrive at the meeting at the posted time to hear item(s) of interest.
5. Asterisks (*) denote non-action items.
6. Public comment is limited to three minutes and is allowed during the public comment periods. **To request to speak, please use the "raise hand" feature or press *9 to "raise your hand" and *6 to unmute/mute your microphone.** Pursuant to Directive 006, public comment, whether on action items or general public comment, may be provided without being physically present at the meeting by submitting written comments online by email sent to lrenda@nevadafund.org prior to the Committee opening the public comment period during the meeting. In addition, public comments may be provided by leaving a voicemail at (775)834-0255 prior to 4:00 p.m. on August 19th. Voicemail messages received will either be broadcast on the telephone call during the meeting or transcribed for entry into the record. Public comment is limited to three minutes and is allowed during the public comment periods. The Committee may elect to receive public comment only during the two public comment periods rather than each action item. Due to constraints of the videoconference system, public comment must be provided by voicemail, email, or online comment as indicated above.

1. Roll Call*
2. Public comment (limited to no more than three minutes per speaker)*
3. Approval of the agenda (**for possible action**)
4. Approve the May 20, 2022 summary meeting minutes (**for possible action**)
5. Review grant proposal for a special grant cycle to Truckee River Fund and consideration of whether to recommend for funding (**for possible action**)
6. Committee and staff comments*
7. Next meeting: August 18, 2022 at 8:30am (**for possible action**)
8. Public comment (limited to no more than three minutes per speaker)*
9. Adjournment (**for possible action**)

MEETING MINUTES (TRANSCRIPT SUMMARY)

TRUCKEE RIVER FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF MAY 20, 2022

(Meeting via Zoom and teleconference)

The following meeting minutes is a summary of the certified transcript for the Truckee River Fund Advisory Committee meeting held at 8:30 a.m., Friday, May 20, 2022, via Zoom and teleconference.

Those Present: Committee Members: Brian Bonnenfant, Vice Chair; Michael Cameron; Mike Brisbin; Don Mahin; Jim Smitherman. Also: Lauren Renda, Community Foundation of Western Nevada; John Enloe, TMWA; Members of the Public: none.

* Committee member arrived after roll call

** Committee member left meeting before adjournment

Agenda Item #1: Roll Call: Roll call was taken. A quorum was noted.

Agenda Item #2: Public comment: There was no public comment at this time.

Agenda Item #3: Approval of the agenda (for possible action): The agenda was unanimously approved.

Agenda Item #4: Approve the February summary meeting minutes (for possible action): The Meeting Minutes (Transcript Summary) for February 18, 2022 was unanimously approved.

Agenda Item #5: Review completed projects:

- a. **#251 Sierra Nevada Journeys:** Watershed Education Initiative, \$30,055 (Michael):

Michael Cameron stated that with this grant they appeared to have been able to get back out into the field for their instruction. This was after they'd had several grants where they had started to do all of their programming online, which was successful and where they were able to actually reach more people online, but with the obvious loss of the experience of being in the field. But in this most recent grant, they met all

their objectives, and the good news was they were able to get back out into the field.

- b. **#221 Nevada Land Trust for OTR:** River Restroom Project lead by One Truckee River, \$124,976 (Jim):

Jim Smitherman stated that they completed their project, which had to do with their lead in the installation of the Portland Loo and, also, outreach to the community around Brodhead Park. Their stated goals for this project were to extend project concept to gain more support to provide outreach and communication to nearby neighborhoods around the restroom and then to grow One Truckee River to increase engagement with residents along the river. They met all their goals and exceeded many of their goals. He added that they did a good job, and they're continuing on in a lot of the efforts that are encompassed under this grant. He gave kudos to Iris, that she's taken that organization and just made it an exemplary type of not for profit that's getting a whole lot done with not a whole lot of resources.

- c. **#222 Great Basin Institute:** Galena Creek Ecological Restoration & Demonstration Project, \$35,054 (Terri):

Lauren Renda presented Terri's project evaluation in her absence. They partially completed the activities specified in the proposal. The pandemic limited their ability for direct student engagement. Educators elected to pursue online courses for teaching credits. They met their expectations. GBI staff were able to modify their educational curriculum, provide more remote opportunities. They were able to pivot and make the best of a tough situation. They met their stated goals. They were able to modify their outreach approach, still provide valuable education interaction to the public. The established restoration sites will provide ongoing benefits.

Agenda Item #6: Update on filling Candice Elder's upcoming vacancy on TRF

Advisory Committee: Lauren stated that she thought that Janet had an update on that, that she had someone in mind. And so, without Janet here, this item will be moved to the next meeting agenda.

Agenda Item #7: Discuss feedback about overhead funding related to projects (for possible action): Lauren stated that after the last meeting, when this group did not fund overhead-specific items on budgets, there was some feedback from grantees who had applied multiple cycles and were confused because they had received funding to cover overhead as long as it did not exceed 25 percent in the past, but they weren't sure why it wasn't being funded last cycle. After discussion by the group, a motion was passed unanimously to not change our current program, to keep it at 25% and continue with that policy. A second motion was passed unanimously to authorize Lauren to adjust the RFP to clarify that the

Truckee River Fund itself is willing to fund up to 25% of indirect costs and/or overhead and to give Lauren the latitude to decide how to make that adjustment. A third motion was passed unanimously to authorize Lauren to make another adjustment to the RFP that signals to the applicant that they may be asked at the meeting or even perhaps ahead of time to make adjustments to their budget and to give Lauren the latitude to make that change to the RFP.

Agenda Item #8: Committee and staff comments:

Michael requested that Janet be given a recap of the conversation regarding Agenda Item #7. Brian said he'll send her an email and explain what we voted on today and where we're at. Lauren will send a revised RFP with these items adjusted to Janet and Brian, or the Executive Committee, earlier than we would for our agenda setting meeting, just to have a chance to look them over.

John commented that TMWA directly funded \$50,000 with the National Forest Foundation for that ambassador program above the Whites Creek Mount Rose water treatment plant, which was part of the impetus for all of the gyrations we went through at the last meeting trying to find funding for that. But we did fund that directly. He'll email their CFO and ask him what that final amount is. Lauren said it is really helpful to put that in the RFP announcement, so that grantees know what the full funding that they are applying to is.

John commented that Steph Morris and Kara Steeland have been working with a bunch of stakeholders, primarily in California, regarding a forest management project called the Ladybug Project, which is thinning and restoration work up around Stampede Reservoir, and TMWA's Board approved \$500,000 towards that project and were totally supportive of that effort. It's a positive step forward.

Agenda Item #9: Next meeting: August 19, 2022 at 8:30am; consideration for in-person meeting (for possible action): The next meeting is set for August 19, 2022 at 8:30am. No action was taken.

Agenda Item #10: Public comment (limited to no more than three minutes per speaker): There was no public comment.

Agenda Item #11: Adjournment (for possible action): The meeting was adjourned at 9:22am. No action was taken.



Cover Sheet

Date: June 27, 2022

Organization Name:	The Nature Conservancy (TNC)																														
Type:	501(c)(3) EIN# 53-0242652	Governmental entity? N																													
Address:	One East First Street, Suite 1007, Reno, NV 89501																														
Project Name:	Developing Forest Resilience to Fire – Independence Lake																														
Amount requested: \$100,450	Website: www.nature.org/nevada																														
This funding will be used to (complete this sentence with a max of 2 sentences):	Mechanically thin very dense stands of lodgepole pine along both sides of the outflow channel from Independence Lake (part of the water supply for Reno/Sparks) and install needed erosion control improvements on the road along the North side of Independence Lake to reduce sedimentation to the lake.																														
Key People:	Director:	Mauricia Baca, Nevada State Director																													
	Board Chair:	Joel Laub																													
	Project Contact:	Name:	Chris Fichtel																												
		Position:	Independence Lake Project Director																												
		Phone:	775-313-8646																												
		Fax:	N/A																												
		Email:	cfichtel@tnc.org																												
Organization Mission:	The mission of The Nature Conservancy is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends.																														
Has your organization received other grants from the Truckee River Fund? Yes X No (use additional page if necessary)	If yes, <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Date awarded:</td> <td>October 1, 2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Project title:</td> <td>Truckee River Watershed Forest Restoration and Community Outreach - Phase 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amount of Award:</td> <td>\$264,600.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date awarded:</td> <td>October 4, 2018</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Project title:</td> <td>Truckee River Watershed Forest Restoration</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amount of Award:</td> <td>\$57,826.09</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date awarded:</td> <td>March 16, 2017</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Project title:</td> <td>Landscape Conservation Forecasting for the Truckee River Watershed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amount of Award:</td> <td>\$60,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date awarded:</td> <td>September 5, 2014</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Project title:</td> <td>Optimizing Restoration Investments in the Truckee River Watershed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amount of Award:</td> <td>\$50,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date awarded:</td> <td>March 21, 2013</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Project title:</td> <td>Truckee River Watershed Restoration – Forest Thinning at Independence Lake</td> </tr> </table>			Date awarded:	October 1, 2019	Project title:	Truckee River Watershed Forest Restoration and Community Outreach - Phase 2	Amount of Award:	\$264,600.00	Date awarded:	October 4, 2018	Project title:	Truckee River Watershed Forest Restoration	Amount of Award:	\$57,826.09	Date awarded:	March 16, 2017	Project title:	Landscape Conservation Forecasting for the Truckee River Watershed	Amount of Award:	\$60,000.00	Date awarded:	September 5, 2014	Project title:	Optimizing Restoration Investments in the Truckee River Watershed	Amount of Award:	\$50,000.00	Date awarded:	March 21, 2013	Project title:	Truckee River Watershed Restoration – Forest Thinning at Independence Lake
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	Amount of Award:	\$41,300
	Date awarded:	September 19, 2012
	Project title:	Independence Lake Woody Fuels Reduction for Fire Resilience – Year 3 Supplemental Funding
	Amount of Award:	\$30,000
	Date awarded:	October 20, 2011
	Project title:	Preventing Aquatic Invasive Species at Independence Lake
	Amount of Award:	\$28,290
	Date awarded:	October 25, 2010
	Project title:	Independence Lake Woody Fuels Reduction for Fire Resilience – Year 3
	Amount of Award:	\$60,000
	Date awarded:	July 27, 2010
	Project title:	Independence Lake Woody Fuels Reduction for Fire Resilience
	Amount of Award:	\$50,000
	Date awarded:	December 29, 2008
	Project title:	Independence Lake – Forest and Wildfire Management
	Amount of Award:	\$237,110

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT UNDER CONSIDERATION

Indicate the description that best fits the project you are proposing. Mark no more than three categories:

- ☒ A. Projects that improve bank or channel stabilization and decrease erosion.
- ☐ B. Structural controls or Low Impact Development (LID) projects on tributaries and drainages to the Truckee River where data supports evidence of pollution and/or sediments entering the Truckee River.
- ☐ C. Projects that remove pollution from the Truckee River.
- ☐ D. Projects that remove or control invasive aquatic species or terrestrial invasive plant species that are adverse to water supply.¹
- ☒ E. Other projects that meet the evaluation criteria.

NARRATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Provide answers for all 11 sections below; use the numbers and topics (in **bold**) to label each section in your response. Your application is limited to 5 narrative pages, including the cover sheet. Your budget is page 6. **All projects are required to have measurable outcomes:**

1. **Specific project goals and measurable outcomes and how you will measure and report them.**

The project goals and measurable outcomes for developing forest resilience to wildfire and reducing erosion potential due to wildfire and forest management around Independence Lake include the following:

- 1) Reduce the likelihood of wildfire-induced debris blockage of the lake's outflow channel below the dam by reducing the density of standing trees near and along the edge of the channel, especially those trees that are diseased, dead or drought-stressed. Measurable outcome will be significantly reduced tree density.
- 2) Improve resiliency of the forest adjacent to Independence Lake to wildfire and sediment transport by mechanically thinning to reduce fuel loads in these forests. Measurable outcome will be significantly reduced tree density.
- 3) Reduce the risk of soil erosion to the lake by installing soil erosion

¹ For proposals related to weed control/eradication, contact Lauren Renda at the Community Foundation of Western Nevada for additional criteria. lrenda@nevadafund.org; 775-333-5499.



improvements on the north road along the lake shore. Measurable outcome will be correction of points of soil erosion impact.

2. **Project location.** Independence Lake Preserve is in Sierra and Nevada Counties in CA at the headwaters of Independence Creek, a tributary to the Little Truckee River and a part of the water supply for Reno/Sparks.

Project description. Include site map and aerial photos if applicable/possible. Maps and photos must fit on 8-1/2" x 11" paper. Cite any studies that support your project. **See Figures, 1, 2 and 3.**

TNC received a \$2 million grant from Cal Fire, \$400,000 of which is for forest thinning this year at the Independence Lake Preserve. A grant from TRF will provide funding to assist with implementation of forest thinning, both along the outlet channel from the dam and along the north road along the lake. The Cal Fire funding will cover thinning of up to 205 acres in other units on the Preserve.

Along both sides of the outflow channel of Independence Lake is an area of approximately 20 acres encompassing very dense stands of lodgepole pine. The trees along the channel are growing on spoils from the construction of the channel in the late 1930s. The density of lodgepole pines is concerning because if wildfire burns in these stands, the trees are likely to topple into the channels and create a severe debris blockage. Adjacent to this acreage, dead and dying pines and white fir may result in increased wildfire danger to the trees along the outflow channel. We will contract with a licensed timber operator to mechanically thin and/or hand-thin dead, diseased, and otherwise stressed pines. The harvested trees will be disposed of in earthen pits on the property within already established log landings. During winter when there is snow cover, we will either burn the woody material in the pits or fully bury the material. This method of disposal is being selected because local wood mills and biomass plants are at capacity for harvested materials from many sources. All of this forest work is authorized under a Timber Harvest Plan approved by Cal Fire in 2021 (Figure 2).

Under an approved Timber Harvest Plan, TNC will also contract with a Licensed Timber Operator to mechanically thin 225 acres of dense mixed conifer forest on the Independence Lake Preserve in 2022. Likelihood of wildfire is moderate to high in the forests surrounding Independence Lake as depicted on the attached map of burn probability (Figure 1). The burn probability analysis was conducted by Edward Smith, TNC Senior Forest Ecologist and Charlotte Stanley, TNC Spatial Data Analyst. TNC has contracted with a Registered Professional Forester used by TNC in the past to implement similar thinning projects on the Preserve, some with past funding from TRF. Since 2009, we have mechanically thinned a total of 532 acres. Funding for the majority of the thinning work will be provided by a grant from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) providing leverage for the thinning that may be supported by the Truckee River Fund.

The units to be thinned include portions of T-2, T-2a, T-2b, T-3, T-4 and A. Refer to Figures 1 and 2 for locations of these units.

In order to proceed with lake shore thinning along the lake's north shore road, Cal Fire has required TNC to make improvements along the road to prevent soil erosion which could impact the lake. Culvert pipes will be cleaned out, rolling dips created along the road, and a mix of gravel and rock will be used to cover the pipes and dips and stabilize soil in and along the road. Unit A includes the north road along the lake. The eastern half of that unit is where most of the erosion improvements are needed.

3. **Grant priorities.** Explain how the proposed project advances the TRF's grant priorities (page 2 of the cover sheet); refer to the priorities by number in your narrative.

Grant Priority II. One objective of the project is to reduce soil erosion along the north shore road by installing erosion control measures at existing sites along the road where culverts have failed or road washout has occurred. This work is necessary in preparation for lake shore tree thinning and hauling with mechanized equipment.



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Grant Priority IV. The project will improve resiliency of the forest to wildfire and reduce the risk of woody debris blockage to TMWA's outflow channel below the Independence Lake dam, and reduce the risk of fire and sediment deposition along the north and south shores of the lake.

4. **Permitting.** Provide a permitting schedule for your project along with your plan for getting the required permits. Be sure to include the cost of permitting as a line item in your budget.

The thinning along the outflow channel will require a Dying & Diseased Exemption from Cal Fire – no cost. Controlled burning adjacent to the thinning already has a Notice of Exemption from Cal Fire, issued in 2019. The remainder of the thinning operation is permitted under a Timber Harvest Plan approved by Cal Fire in 2021.

5. **Future land use.** List any known or foreseeable zoning, land use, or development plans that may affect your proposed project. **None**
6. **If future phases of the project will be needed,** identify anticipated sources of funding. **Cal Fire, Sierra Nevada Conservancy**
7. **Principals involved** in leading or coordinating the project or activity. **Principals for TNC include Chris Fichtel, Independence Lake Project Director, Edward Smith, Senior Forest Ecologist, and Kevin Whitlock, a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) under contract to TNC. TNC support staff involved in the project include a Grants & Contract Specialist and Senior Attorney.**
8. **Number of staff positions involved in project:** Fulltime Part-time **2** ("Fulltime" means 100% of their staff position will be dedicated to this project; "part-time" means only a portion of their staff position will be dedicated to this project)
9. **Number of volunteers involved** in project and an estimated number of volunteer hours. **0**
10. **Time Line of Project.** List key dates and include project milestones. *Note:* Be realistic in your estimate of dates and milestones. List any factors that may cause a delay in implementing and/or completing the project. **Timing for this project is limited. The work cannot begin until September 1, 2022 and must be completed no later than November 15, 2022, weather permitting.**
11. **Success.** Tell the committee how we will know you succeeded in what you proposed to do. **You will know of our success if the following have occurred: 1) TNC thins at least 20 acres along the TMWA outlet, 2) TNC thins up to a total of 225 acres on the Independence Lake Preserve (not part of this funding request), and 3) TNC installs erosion control structures on several sites where Cal Fire has required such improvements to be made.**
12. **Collaboration.** List partnerships or collaborations with other entities in relation to your proposal, if any. **TMWA controls the dam and water levels on Independence Lake as it is part of the drinking water supply for Reno. Cal Fire is the partner that will oversee the thinning operation.**
13. **Grant match.** All applicants must provide a match of at least 25 percent for dollars requested. The match may be with funding and/or in-kind services. For larger grant requests, priority will be given to projects that significantly leverage the grant with funding from other sources. Complete the Grant Match section. **50% match will be provided through a grant from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire).**
14. **Project budget** (see Sample Budget Template on page 5 of this RFP). Provide detail on line-item expenditures and show which costs are to be paid for by the Truckee River Fund grant, which expenses will be paid for by other sources, and which will be paid for with in-kind services. Other sources of funding should be provided.



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- *Note 1:* Project budget must be a stand-alone, one-page attachment.
- *Note 2:* Indirect/overhead expenses cannot exceed 25 percent.

Grants from the Truckee River Fund are paid on a reimbursable basis for actual expenditures only. Craft your budget in such a way that requests for reimbursement correspond to the original budget.



Grant Match

Match amount to be provided:		\$54,666
Match details:	Please provide the form of your matching funds. If match is made up of both cash and in-kind, fill in both sections.	
	Match is:	
	Cash	\$54,666
	In-kind	\$0
		Note: Volunteer and in-kind hours may be calculated at a maximum rate of \$20/hour per individual. Indirect cost may not be counted as match.
		For the cash portion of your match, is the funding already being held by the applicant for this project? Yes ___ No X
Description of matching funds/in-kind donations:	Matching funds are from a grant approved by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire). That grant ends in 2023.	

ATTACHMENTS

You may be asked to submit the following attachments via email. If you are asked to submit the attachments, clearly label each file with your organization's name. If you do not have the ability to email them, place each of the items listed below on a separate page and submit just one copy.

Nonprofits submit:

- ☐ Last audited financial statements if your organization has been audited
- ☐ List of Board of Directors
- ☐ Copy of agency's IRS 501(c)(3) Tax Determination Letter
- ☐ Copy of the agency's most recent IRS Form 990

Governmental entities submit:

- ☐ Departmental budget in lieu of audited financial statements



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SAMPLE BUDGET TEMPLATE

ORIGINAL PROJECT BUDGET

Budget Item Description*	TRF \$	Other Funding Name**	Match \$	Total
Contracting- thinning	\$52,000	\$400,000	-	\$52,000
Contracting - thinning		California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire)	\$54,666	\$54,666
North road improvement	\$30,000			\$30,000
Overhead (22.5%)	\$18,450			\$27,333
TOTAL	\$100,450			\$163,999



Figure 1. Burn Probability for Lands around Independence Lake.

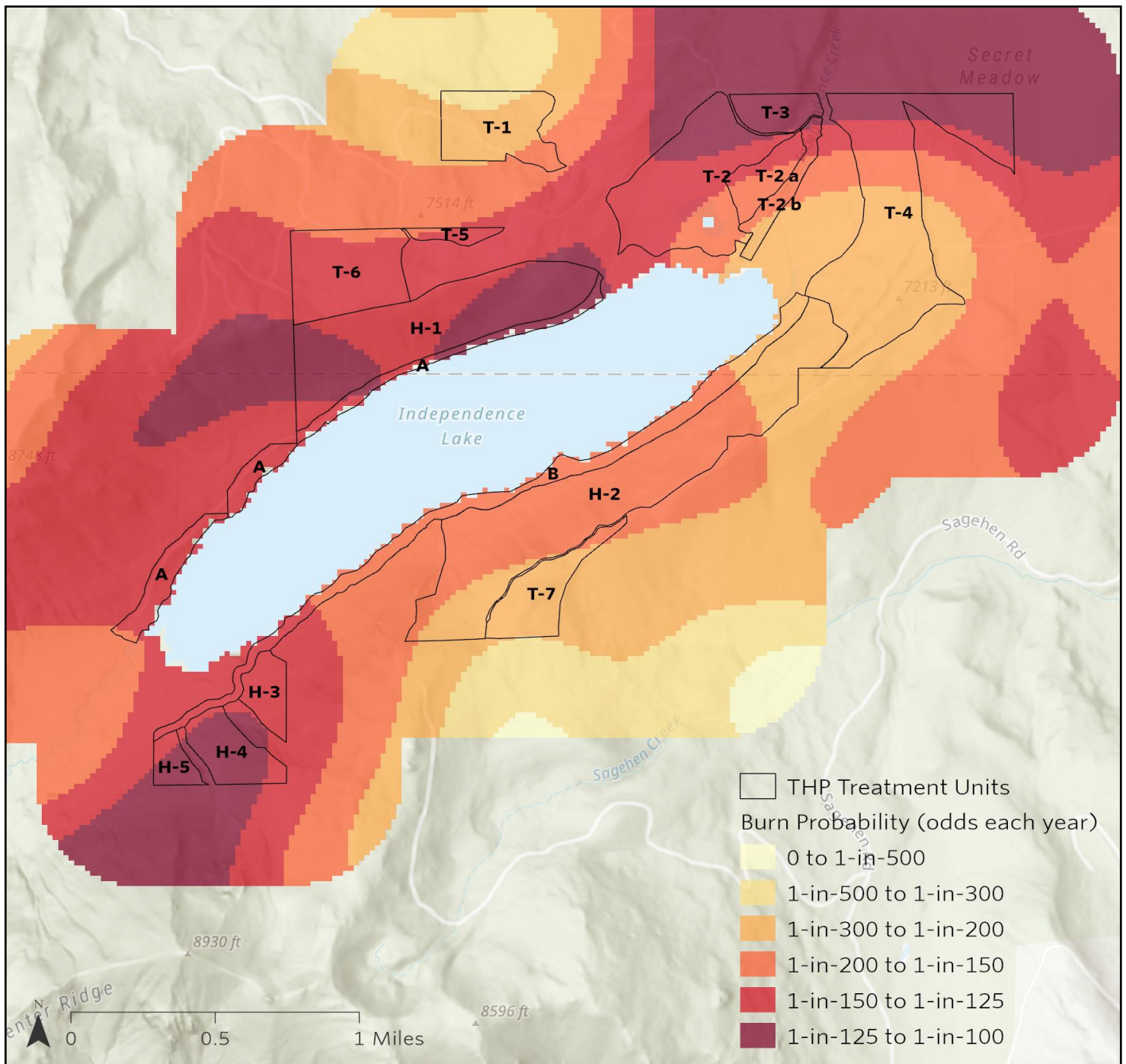




Figure 2. Approved Timber Harvest Plan 2021 for Independence Lake Preserve.

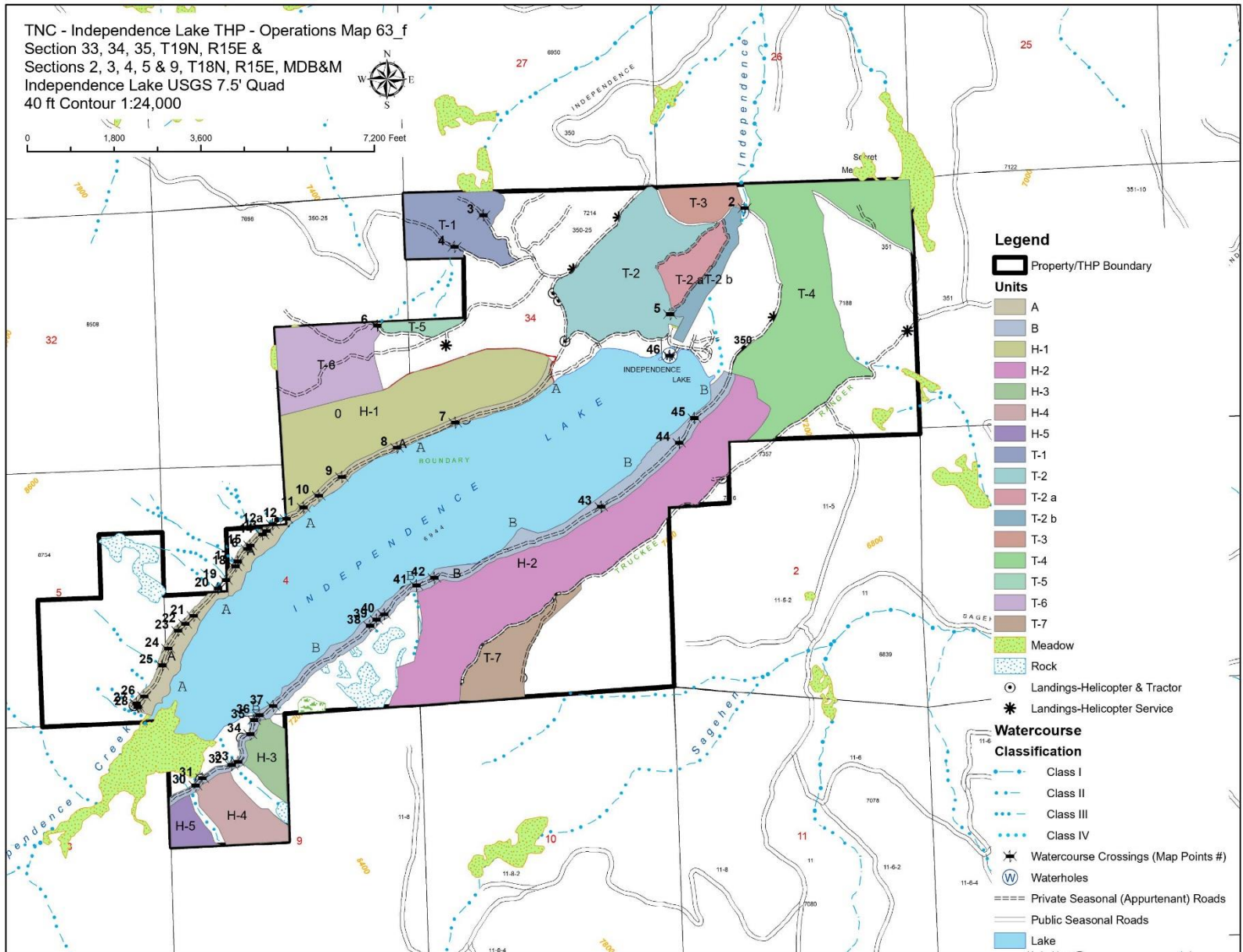




Figure 3. Dense Lodgepole Pine Stands along Outlet Channel at Independence Lake.

