

Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) Governing Board unanimously approves the TKPOA Application for the Control Methods Test (CMT)

On January 26th, 2022, the TRPA Governing Board unanimously approved the Certification of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and approved the Tahoe Keys Lagoons Aquatic Weed Control Methods Test Project, [TRPA Project File# EIPC201-001] as submitted by the Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association (TKPOA). This approval is the culmination of more than a decade of work by the Water Quality Department, Environmental Consultants, and the countless volunteer hours dedicated by TKPOA Property Owners on Water Quality Committee (WQC), and Board of Directors.

The approval of the CMT permit does trigger the “Third Payment” of the Water Quality Special Assessment for “The Authorization to Pursue Regulatory Approvals for the Use of Aquatic Herbicides to Control Aquatic Invasive Weeds in the Tahoe Keys Lagoons” [RESOLUTION TKPOA #2017-0001] voted on in 2017 and re-voted on in 2020 [RESOLUTION TKPOA #2019-0087]. The Third Assessment is \$600 per property and is planned to be processed by mid-February.

This TRPA Governing Board approval is the second approval required for this project to move forward. On January 13th, 2022, the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (LRWQCB) also unanimously approved the Issuance of Tahoe Keys Lagoons Aquatic Weed Control Methods Test - National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permit, the Certification of Final Environmental Impact Report and Adoption of Resolution Granting an Exemption to the Aquatic Pesticide Discharge Prohibition, and Adoption of Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.

These approvals are timely, as the TKPOA and Water Quality Team have transitioned from planning to implementation during the fourth quarter of 2021.

There are a couple important gates remaining before we can begin the CMT this spring.

- The scientists on the CMT Monitoring Work Group will make an assessment of projected water levels and flows in mid-February
- The TKPOA Board of Directors will review the proposed budget, the project permit, and assess our overall readiness to proceed for this spring on or before the February 16th, 2022 Regular Board Meeting at 5PM.

The TKPOA Water Quality team is doing everything possible to keep the CMT on track for this spring. The window of application for the herbicides is dependent on water temperature and hydrology but must fall between May 1st and June 15th.

Assuming we can proceed with the CMT as planned, there will be a significant impact on boating in the West Lagoon from as early as May 1st to as late as mid-July. A WQC - Town Hall Forum is scheduled February 24th, 2022 from 6PM-8PM to provide an update on the CMT project and an outline of the boating restrictions. Zoom Meeting instructions to attend this meeting are available on TKPOA Website at www.tkpoa.com

Questions or Request for Additional Information

Please check the project website: www.keysweedsmanagement.org, outreach materials and additional information. Also contact the TKPOA Front Desk at 530-542-6444 Monday through Friday 8:30AM - 4:30PM, Saturday and Sunday 10:00AM - 2:00PM and additional information can be located on the TKPOA website at www.tkpoa.com.