

Emerald Bay Aquatic Invasive Plant Control

Project Number	01.03.01.0041		
Action Priority	Prevent, Control, or Eradicate Aquatic Invasive Species		
Implementers	Tahoe Resource Conservation District		
Supporting Agencies	Tahoe Fund, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency		
Primary Contact	Mollie Hurt (mhurt@tahoercd.org)		
Stage	Implementation	Duration	2022 - 2026
Total Project Cost	\$300,000	Funding Request	\$0

Aquatic Invasive Species Program > Prevent, Control, or Eradicate Aquatic Invasive Species

Emerald Bay is one of the most successful aquatic invasive plant (AIP) control treatments completed to date by the Lake Tahoe AIS program. Zero to few aquatic invasive plants had been detected since 2014, until recent surveillance monitoring in 2022 revealed AIP that required a higher level of work that was no longer considered a rapid response action. Dedicated treatment includes diver-assisted suction removal and hand-pulling. To ensure the long-term effectiveness of this work, routine surveillance monitoring is occurring, and training of California Department of State Parks divers to conduct annual monitoring and removal of any emerging aquatic invasive plants.

Targeted Performance Measures

- Acres of Invasive Species Inventoried
- Acres Treated for Invasive Species

Threshold Categories

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| • Fisheries | • Recreation |
| • Scenic Resources | • Water Quality |

Location



Figure 2. Topside crew removes AIP material from metal grate into bins on boat during diver-assisted suction removal, September 2023, Emerald Bay, Lake Tahoe, El Dorado County, CA.

Targeted Funding

- Secured Funding: Tahoe Fund (Tahoe Fund), \$50,000
- Secured Funding: Tahoe Regional Planning Agenc... (TRPA), \$250,000

Photos

During



Figure 1. Marine Taxonomic Services boat, safety equipment, and turbidity curtain during diver-assisted suction, September 2023, Emerald Bay, Lake Tahoe, El Dorado County, CA.



Figure 3. Diver conducts diver-assisted suction removal of Eurasian watermilfoil, September 2023, Emerald Bay, Lake Tahoe, El Dorado County, CA.



Figure 5. Diver conducting surveillance monitoring and aquatic invasive plant removal at Emerald Bay, July 2025.



Figure 4. Divers conducting site assessment at Emerald Bay, May 2025.