

Pope Marsh Aquatic Invasive Plant Control Project

Project Number	01.03.01.0050		
Action Priority	Prevent, Control, or Eradicate Aquatic Invasive Species		
Implementers	Tahoe Resource Conservation District		
Supporting Agencies	Tahoe Fund, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, U.S. Forest Service - Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit		
Primary Contact	Mollie Hurt (mhurt@tahoercd.org)		
Stage	Implementation	Duration	2025 - 2029
Total Project Cost	\$800,000	Funding Request	\$100,000

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

The purpose of the project is to remove aquatic invasive plants (AIP) in Pope Marsh, and exclude plant fragments growing in Lake Tallac from flowing into and infesting the marsh and subsequently, Lake Tahoe. Pope Marsh is identified in the Lake Tahoe Region Aquatic Invasive Species Action Agenda 2021-2030 as a priority project. A survey conducted in July 2023 by Tahoe RCD's contracted divers detected Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) growing at various densities within a 1.8-acre area. In 2025, survey and hand removal of AIP was conducted by contracted divers and a metal screen was installed on top of the weir separating Pope Marsh from Lake Tallac to prevent further infestation.

Targeted Performance Measures

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

Threshold Categories

• Fisheries	• Recreation
• Scenic Resources	• Water Quality

Location



Surveyors from Tahoe Resource Conservation District and Marine Taxonomic Services identifying aquatic invasive plants in Pope Marsh, South Lake Tahoe, CA, July 2025.

Targeted Funding

- Secured Funding: Lake Tahoe Restoration Act (TRPA), \$272,000
- Secured Funding: Lake Tahoe Restoratio... (USFS - LTBMU), \$200,000
- Secured Funding: Tahoe Fund (Tahoe Fund), \$3,500
- Targeted Funding: SB630 Funds (CTC), \$100,000
- No Funding Source Identified

Photos

Before



Marine Taxonomic Services staff removing Eurasian watermilfoil from Pope Marsh, South Lake Tahoe, CA, August 2024.

During



Metal mesh screen secured to weir separates Lake Tallac (Tahoe Keys) from Pope Marsh to prevent aquatic invasive plants from entering Pope Marsh and Lake Tahoe, South Lake Tahoe, CA, December 2025.

Project Fact Sheet Data as of 02/16/2026