

Lake Tahoe East Shore Asian Clam and Metaphyton Delineation and Control

Project Number	04.01.01.0171		
Action Priority	Conduct Applied Scientific Research		
Implementers	UC Davis Tahoe Environmental Research Center		
Supporting Agencies	Nevada Tahoe Resource Team – Nevada Division of State Lands, UC Davis Tahoe Environmental Research Center		
Primary Contact	Katie Senft (kjsenft@ucdavis.edu)		
Stage Total Project Cost	Post-Implementation \$101,790	Duration Funding Request	2022 - 2024 \$0

Science Program > Conduct Applied Scientific Research

The expanse of non-native Asian clam populations with the concurrent appearance of metaphyton (unattached algae) along Lake Tahoe's east shore beaches has become an increasing concern. Due to the high nutrient concentrations from clam excretions and their stimulatory effect on algal growth, nuisance algae is starting to accumulate underwater and on beaches having negative aesthetic impacts. Five beaches were surveyed in summer 2023, using SCUBA and UAV imagery, to delineate the extent and density of Asian clams and any associated metaphyton growth. A metaphyton removal pilot study to determine the effectiveness of removing metaphyton algae before contaminating beaches was conducted.

Targeted Performance Measures

• Acres of Invasive Species Inventoried

Threshold Categories

• Recreation

• Water Quality



Diver using an underwater suction device to remove metaphyton off plants bed near Lakeside Beach and Marina.

Targeted Funding



Location



Photos

During



UC Davis research diver removes metaphyton from Tahoe's lake bed using surface supported suction removal device.

Project Fact Sheet Data as of 06/26/2024