



**TAHOE
REGIONAL
PLANNING
AGENCY**

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March 27, 2015

David Hoskins – ANS Task Force Co-chair
Assistant Director for Fish and Aquatic Conservation
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: FAC
Falls Church, VA 22041

Margaret M. Brady – ANS Task Force Acting Co-Chair
DOC/NOAA Liaison to the National Invasive Species Council & ANS Task Force
NOAA
1315 East West Highway, SSMC3, Rm. 14552
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. Hoskins and Ms. Brady,

Please accept this letter of request from the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) to become an ex-officio member of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (Task Force). TRPA leads the cooperative effort to preserve, restore, and enhance the unique natural and human environment of the Lake Tahoe Region, which includes a comprehensive Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Program. One of TRPA's top priorities is to lead the implementation of the federally approved Lake Tahoe Region AIS Management Plan and coordinate with others across the country to develop best practices. Our prevention and control programs for AIS in Lake Tahoe are leading edge defense strategies to combat major threats to ecosystem health and severe impacts to the regional economy and unique natural setting of the Lake Tahoe Basin.

The goals and mission of the ANS Task Force align with the work TRPA is doing on AIS and TRPA's participation will be beneficial for both the Task Force as well as the Tahoe Region's AIS Program. We want to thank the Task Force for its recent approval of revisions to TRPA's interstate management plan. As an interstate agency, TRPA's regional approach to AIS prevention and control can provide lessons and insights we believe will serve the Task Force well. In addition, TRPA is committed to fostering regional partnerships throughout the west and encourages building consensus with other programs to further Task Force. TRPA's membership as an added western entity would achieve a broader national representation.

imagine. plan. achieve.

In short, we believe TRPA's participation on the ANS Task Force can add value to the trends in AIS programs nationally, build beneficial relationships with other AIS programs, and share knowledge regarding AIS programs across the country. Accordingly, I would like to recommend the following two TRPA participants for the Task Force:

Primary

Dennis Zabaglo
Aquatic Resources Program Manager
Principal Environmental Specialist
(775) 589-5255
dzabaglo@trpa.org

Alternate

Kimberly Caringer
Environmental Improvement Division Manager
Phone: (775) 589-5263
Email: kcaringer@trpa.org

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to continuing our work in this new role with the Task Force membership.

Sincerely,



Joanne S. Marchetta
Executive Director
Tahoe Regional Planning Agency