



TAHOE  
REGIONAL  
PLANNING  
AGENCY

## CHAPTER 1

# Introduction



# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Location and Regional Context

The Kings Beach State Recreation Area (KBSRA) is located on the north shore of Lake Tahoe in the heart of the Sierra Nevada (Exhibit I.1-1). It includes approximately 1,000 feet of Lake Tahoe's shoreline and approximately 13.9 acres of beach and upland area in the center of the unincorporated community of Kings Beach. KBSRA is surrounded by a mix of urban uses to the west, north, and east, and by Lake Tahoe to the south. Lake Tahoe is the centerpiece of the region and KBSRA is uniquely situated to serve the lake-based recreation needs of residents and visitors to Kings Beach and the north shore of Lake Tahoe.

The region served by KBSRA includes Lake Tahoe and the surrounding watershed – the Lake Tahoe Basin – which straddles the state line between California and Nevada. The region also includes parts of Placer County, California and Washoe County, Nevada outside the Tahoe Basin to the north, extending to Truckee, a gateway community in Nevada County, California. KBSRA also serves the recreation needs of visitors from Carson City, Reno, Sacramento, and beyond.

Visitors to the area are attracted to the region's recreation opportunities, as well as its scenic and natural beauty, including the famous clarity of Lake Tahoe. Open space and recreation lands comprise most of the land in the region, including undeveloped forest lands managed by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS).

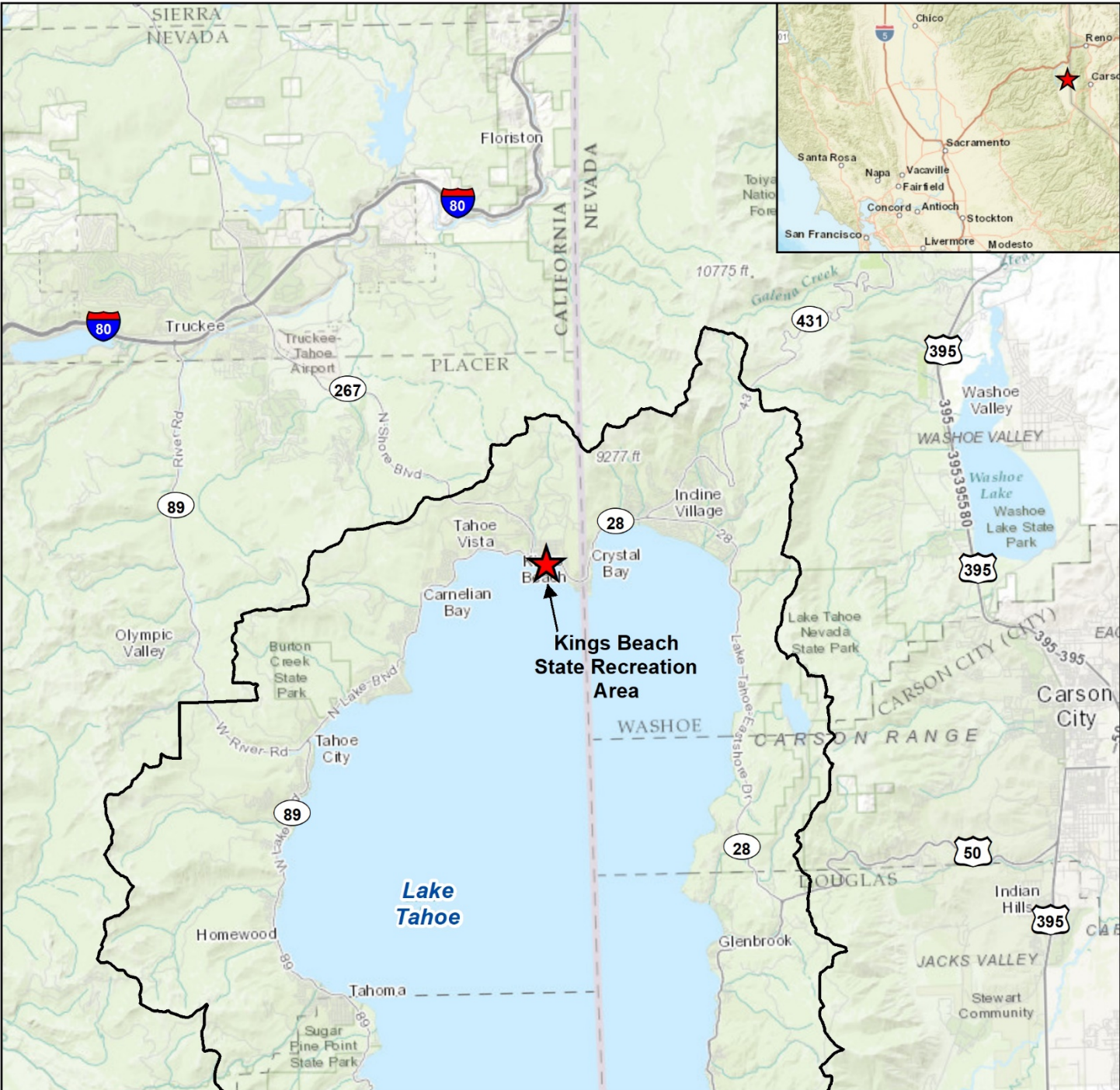
Approximately 70,000 permanent residents live in the region defined above. Of these, approximately 50,000 permanent residents live within the Tahoe Basin in communities concentrated around the edge of the lake in six jurisdictions: Placer and El Dorado counties and the City of South Lake Tahoe in California; and Washoe and Douglas counties and Carson City Rural Area in Nevada.

Commercial development and tourist accommodations are generally located along key travel routes around the lake, and serve some 3 million visitors to the Tahoe Basin annually (Placer County 2013).





*Source: Ascent Environmental*

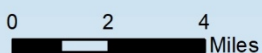
*Hikers at D.L. Bliss State Park on Tahoe's west shore. Visitors are attracted to the Tahoe region for the recreational opportunities and natural beauty.*



**Kings Beach State Recreation Area General Plan**

**Legend**

-  Kings Beach State Recreation Area
-  TRPA Boundary



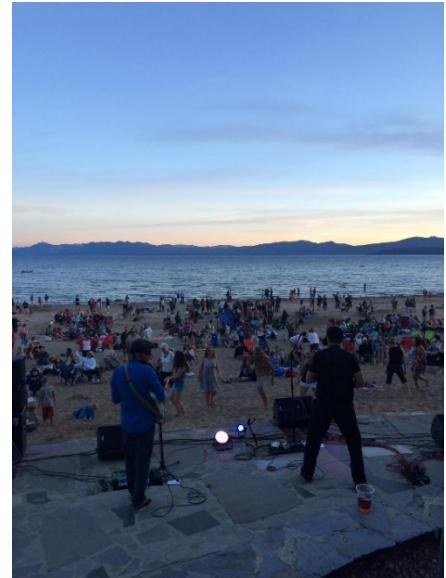
Source: Adapted by Ascent Environmental in 2017  
 Basemap: ESRI 2017 G13010017 04 029

## 1.2 Site Characteristics Overview

The KBSRA plan area consists of 13.9 acres including 12.55 acres owned by California State Parks (CSP), and a 1.36-acre area owned by the California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) (Exhibit 1.2-1). KBSRA is located adjacent to SR 28 and 0.3 mile from SR 267, which provides access into the Tahoe Basin. Access to Lake Tahoe is a defining feature of KBSRA, and it includes a beach and gathering places that are popular with residents as well as visitors from throughout California and beyond.

KBSRA is a day-use area with a variety of developed facilities. These include a plaza for public gathering and special events, including music events; a half basketball court; picnic sites with barbeque pits; a playground; two restroom buildings; a boat ramp; 177 parking spaces; and a 207-foot-long pier that extends to the approximate natural lake water level of 6,223 feet above mean sea level. Neither the pier nor the boat ramp reach Lake Tahoe during periods of low lake levels. A concession is housed in a small building at the base of the pier and offers watercraft rental during the summer months. The North Tahoe Event Center is adjacent to KBSRA to the west; the North Tahoe Public Utility District (NTPUD) operates the event center and has a shared-parking agreement with CSP for parking in the park. A comprehensive summary of existing site characteristics is included in Chapter 2, Existing Conditions.

Visitors to KBSRA tend to be a blend of local residents who use KBSRA as a community park, and visitors from elsewhere in California, Nevada and beyond. Park visitation has varied widely in the last 5 years (2002-2016). An average of about 85,000 persons visited the park annually and an average of 32,000 people visited the park in the peak month (July) over this period (see Table 2.4-1 in Chapter 2, Existing Conditions, for additional visitation details). Visitation is much higher throughout the summer months than during winter months.



*Source: North Tahoe Business Association*

*Music on the Beach, a free concert series, is held every Friday evening during the summer months at KBSRA.*

## 1.3 Park History and Purpose Acquired

***“The primary objective in acquiring the Kings Beach State Recreation Area was to provide public ownership of, and access to, the beautiful Lake Tahoe shoreline, so people could make use of the recreational opportunities afforded by the facility.”***

- Declaration of Purpose,  
1980 General Development  
Plan

CSP initially acquired 6.82 acres of park and beach lands in 1974 for \$682,000 from the Joseph King Estate. CSP turned over operations and maintenance of the park to NTPUD shortly thereafter. CSP designated this area as the Kings Beach State Recreation Area on July 1, 1977. The previous KBSRA General Development Plan (GDP) was approved in 1980 and addressed the original 6.82 acres of park and beach lands. The purpose of the acquisition, as described in the 1980 GDP, was to provide public ownership of, and access to, the beautiful Lake Tahoe shoreline, so people could make use of the recreational opportunities afforded by the site.

The Conservancy acquired 10 parcels totaling 1.4 acres for its Kings Beach Recreation Enhancement Project adjacent to the original 6.82-acre KBSRA (Placer County Assessor’s Parcel Numbers 090-080-025, 090-135-030, 090-135-031, 090-135-032, 090-135-033, 090-135-034, 090-135-042, 090-135-035, 090-135-036, and 090-135-043). This 1995 project cost \$4,200,000 for land acquisitions, site planning, and construction. In addition to acquisitions that opened lake views by demolishing structures that physically separated the Kings Beach community from KBSRA, the purpose of the resulting project was to accommodate year-round recreational use; to link the adjacent, heavily utilized recreational facilities; to provide land and streetscape improvements; and to form a cornerstone of the Kings Beach Community Plan.

A 2014 Agreement between CSP and the Conservancy for KBSRA and certain-Conservancy-owned parcels in Placer County includes a clause that CSP “shall seek to amend the KBSRA General Plan...to adjust the boundaries of KBSRA to include other State-owned properties operated and managed by State Parks.” Incorporation of the Conservancy properties into the boundary of KBSRA allows for the inclusion of adjacent State-owned lands in a comprehensive plan for the entire area.

While both state agencies recognize the importance of providing for public access and recreation while protecting the natural environment and have agreed to deliver well-coordinated management of state lands through cooperative operation of their respective lands, there may be a future interest in transferring the Conservancy’s properties to CSP as part of implementation of the General Plan. Improvements proposed under the General Plan do not differentiate between state land ownerships and seamlessly integrate all state lands within the General Plan boundary in site designs.

# Kings Beach State Recreation Area General Plan

- Legend**
- Project Site
  - California Tahoe Conservancy Owned Parcels
  - Kings Beach SRA General Plan Boundary
  - 1-foot Contour
  - Basketball Court
  - Boat Ramp
  - Crosswalk
  - Dog Use Area
  - Kiosk
  - Parking
  - Picnic Area
  - Playground
  - Restroom
  - Stormwater Outfall Area
  - Volleyball Area



Note: The proposed rebuilt pier would extend beyond the General Plan boundary shown here.

Source: Adapted by Ascent in 2017  
2015 GoogleEarth Imagery  
G13010017 04 006



Exhibit I.2-1 Plan Area – Existing Conditions





The area to the east of the original 6.82 acres, which includes a boat ramp and related amenities, was owned by the California Department of Boating and Waterways (DBW) when the GDP was approved in 1980. In 2013 DBW became a division of CSP, adding the boat ramp parcel to the land owned by CSP and the operating boundary of KBSRA.

Prior to the merger of DBW with CSP, nine parcels totaling 4.81 acres including the boat ramp, boarding dock, restroom and parking lot at the corner of Coon Street and Brockway Vista Avenue were owned by DBW. Three of the nine parcels were portions of road rights-of-way that were abandoned by Placer County and transferred to DBW in July of 1996. Another 2.6-acre parcel was quitclaimed by Placer County to DBW in March 1972.

The remaining five parcels were privately owned and acquired by DBW between December 1970 and December 1972. Effective July 1, 2013 the owning agency for these nine parcels changed from DBW to CSP and officially became part of KBSRA.

In May 2014, operation and maintenance of KBSRA and the boat launch facility was officially transferred from NTPUD to CSP. In October 2014, CSP and the Conservancy entered into an Operating Agreement (CSP and Conservancy 2014) that allows KBSRA and the adjoining Conservancy-owned lands to be managed and operated by CSP as a single unit.

In 2001, the Conservancy conducted an initial feasibility study that evaluated a rebuilt pier that would extend into deeper water. A subsequent design study concluding in 2003 defined the primary features of the pier in a preferred location. In 2015, the Conservancy initiated an updated feasibility study that confirmed basic design features and analyzed the reconstruction and expansion of the pier at a new location within the park. The pier alternatives evaluated in this most recent feasibility study were incorporated into the General Plan revision alternatives.

The Kings Beach Center, adjacent to KBSRA, was built in 1958 by Joseph King for the sole purpose of replacing the Knudson family's Jimboy's Taco truck with a more permanent home.

Over time, a large portion of the center became a furniture store before conversion into a bowling alley. In the summer of 1967, the Kings Beach Bowl opened in the same building. The bowling alley had been gutted and the owners let their teenage kids, who had a band called The Creators, begin performing there. A professional booking agent was soon hired who invited top-tier rock 'n' roll artists to the North Shore, many from San Francisco's Fillmore music scene.



*Source: Design Workshop*

*KBSRA is located in the heart of Kings Beach, adjacent to restaurants, shops, and other local businesses.*



Source: Design Workshop

The North Tahoe Event Center is widely used for conferences and events. It is owned by NTPUD.

**...the Lake burst upon us -- a noble sheet of blue water lifted six thousand three hundred feet above the level of the sea, and walled in by a rim of snow-clad mountain peaks that towered aloft full three thousand feet higher still! It was a vast oval, and one would have to use up eighty or a hundred good miles in traveling around it. As it lay there with the shadows of the mountains brilliantly photographed upon its still surface I thought it must surely be the fairest picture the whole earth affords.**

- Mark Twain, *Roughing It*

The music venue closed down at the end of 1968, and 20 years later the building was renovated with Placer County Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) funds and the North Tahoe Event Center was established. NTPUD has owned the event center since that time.

## 1.4 Sense of Place

Identifying KBSRA’s “sense of place” is an important step in establishing the park’s purpose and vision. The sense of place refers to the distinctive characteristics that draw visitors to the park and the special qualities of the park that should be emphasized, protected, and enhanced. KBSRA provides a direct connection to Lake Tahoe in the heart of a mountain town. It is a place for active play, relaxation, social gatherings, and inspiration.

- ◆ KBSRA serves as the gateway between Lake Tahoe and the community of Kings Beach. Visitors from near and far come to the park to interact with the Lake. In summer, the park is full of visitors who swim, paddle, sunbathe, picnic, and play on the land and water. It also serves as a gateway to the land from the Lake. Boaters on Lake Tahoe can access the park, community of Kings Beach, and greater north shore area through KBSRA. During cooler periods of the year, the park provides an opportunity for visitors to quietly interact with the Lake and absorb the enormity of the lake and surrounding peaks.
- ◆ In many ways, the park serves as the heart of the community of Kings Beach. While the park is distinct, visitors seamlessly move between the park and the surrounding town. KBSRA blends the natural environment with its more urban setting, which provides convenient access to nature for visitors of all abilities. Residents and visitors from afar interact and enjoy the lake, beach, and town as part of an integrated experience.

## 1.5 Purpose of the General Plan Revision and Pier Rebuild Proposal

General plans are broad-based policy documents that provide management guidelines for a park unit. These guidelines define a unique framework, focused on this particular unit, for implementing CSP's mission of resource stewardship, visitor use, interpretation, recreation and visitor services.

The general plan defines the purpose, vision, and long-term goals and guidelines for park management and facility enhancement for the next 20 years or more. Typically, a general plan provides guidelines for future land management and for the facilities required to accommodate expected visitation.

Because a general plan is likely to be in effect for so long, it must be flexible enough to accommodate expected future changes while clearly guiding decision-making consistent with the adopted park vision. Thus, the general plan provides broad guidelines for future operation of the park, but does not prescribe specific operational strategies (such as locations for dog use, establishment of parking and special event fees, and closure of the pier in inclement weather) that may need to be adjusted over time.

The purpose statement for KSBRSRA, included in Section 4.1.1 of Chapter 4, The Plan, describes the unique role the park plays in meeting the CSP mission.

Because of the small size of KSBRSRA, this general plan includes a site design for specific facility improvements at a greater level of detail than is typical in general plans.

### 1.5.1 Combined General Plan/Project-Level EIR

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that state agencies analyze and disclose the potential environmental effects of a proposed discretionary action. An Environmental Impact Report (EIR), as prepared by state and local governments, is usually a stand-alone document intended to meet the requirements of CEQA. However, CEQA also encourages options to avoid redundancy. To that end, this general plan includes an integrated EIR. By combining the General Plan and EIR in one document, CSP can reduce duplicative analyses and provide the public with easily accessible information on both the plan and environmental review. When the lead agency combines a plan and an EIR, all CEQA requirements must be addressed and the document must identify where these requirements are met.



*Source: Design Workshop*

*KBSRA as viewed from Lake Tahoe. The general plan defines the purpose, vision, and long-term goals and guidelines for park management.*

Please refer to Chapter 5 and the Table of Contents for the location of EIR-required elements (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15120 – 15130) within this document.



*Source: Ascent Environmental*

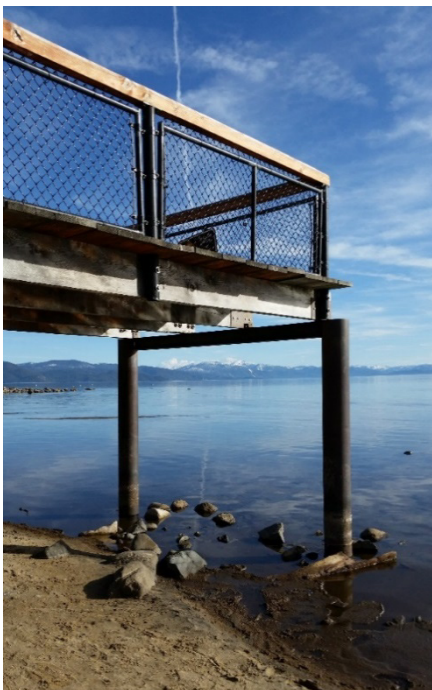
Visitors enjoy the beach at KBSRA near patches of dune vegetation. The EIR evaluates the environmental effects of the operation, use, and development of KBSRA as guided by this General Plan.

Future actions that may result from the adoption and implementation of this general plan have been anticipated and potential impacts resulting from these actions analyzed. Measures have been incorporated as goals and guidelines and standard and special project requirements, where feasible, to avoid significant environmental impacts from implementation of planned actions. The site design included in this general plan provides project-level detail of specific facility improvements and other physical changes that could result from implementation of this plan. Therefore, the CEQA analysis detailed in this document is intended to be sufficient to address the impacts of many future actions provided they are consistent with the plan's goals, guidelines, and site design. If future actions deviate from the plan and site design, those actions may require additional CEQA analysis. Information contained in this document may be used to determine how much, if any, additional CEQA documentation is necessary based on State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15162-15164.

## 1.5.2 Pier Rebuild and Project-Level EIR/EIS

The Tahoe Regional Planning Compact (Public Law 96-551), Lake Tahoe Regional Plan, and Rules of Procedure require the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) to undertake environmental review for certain projects within the Lake Tahoe Region, and to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) prior to approving any project that could have a significant effect on the environment. Because KBSRA is within the Tahoe Region, all site improvements undertaken to implement this general plan are subject to TRPA environmental review requirements (in addition to CEQA), as described in Chapter 3 of the TRPA Code of Ordinances.

The rebuilt Kings Beach Pier is a near-term project consistent with this general plan. It has been designed to a greater level of detail than other projects allowed by the plan and a TRPA permit application for the pier has been prepared. Because the level of design is sufficient to permit detailed environmental analysis, TRPA has prepared a project-level EIS for the pier rebuild project. As with the EIR, the project-level EIS for the pier rebuild project is included in this document to reduce duplicative analysis and provide the public with easily accessible information on the plan, pier rebuild project, and environmental review. Please refer to Chapter 5 and the Table of Contents for the location of EIS elements within this document.



*Source: California Tahoe Conservancy*

The existing pier at KBSRA does not reach the water when the lake level is low. The rebuilt pier would provide access under a wider range of conditions.

The objectives of the Kings Beach Pier Rebuild Project are as follows:

- ◆ meet current industry standards for pier structures associated with large inland waterbodies;
- ◆ enhance recreation access to KBSRA (and the community of Kings Beach) from the lake by motorized and non-motorized watercraft;
- ◆ enhance recreation access to the lake from KBSRA beachgoers, including general recreation and motorized and non-motorized craft users;
- ◆ improve lake access for persons with disabilities;
- ◆ improve functional access to the pier for a range of recreational boating types over a wider range of lake levels;
- ◆ be compatible with applicable land use plans and other recreation uses in KBSRA, on land and on the water;
- ◆ provide opportunities for publicly accessible scenic vistas, interpretation, education, as well as for watercraft access;
- ◆ minimize environmental impacts; and
- ◆ promote public health and safety, including a safe access point to Lake Tahoe and a safe location for temporary mooring for boaters along the North Shore.



*Source: Ascent Environmental*

*Motorized and non-motorized watercraft navigate the waters at KBSRA. The pier rebuild must consider these different uses.*

## 1.6 Organization of the General Plan and EIR/EIS

This general plan and EIR/EIS is organized into the following sections:

- ◆ **Executive Summary:** The executive summary provides a brief discussion of the most essential information in the general plan. It provides an overview of the purpose of the general plan; the planning process; and the most essential information related to the General Plan revision, pier rebuild project, and environmental analysis.
- ◆ **Chapter I, Introduction:** The introduction provides a brief overview of KBSRA. It describes the purpose of the general plan, pier rebuild project, and EIR/EIS, and summarizes the planning process and subsequent steps.



*Source: Ascent Environmental*

*KBSRA is a popular access point to Lake Tahoe for kayakers and other recreationists.*

- ◆ **Chapter 2, Existing Conditions:** Chapter 2 describes the existing land uses, facilities, resource values, visitor experiences, operations, and interpretation at KBSRA. It also describes the partnerships and planning influences that affect the general plan. It serves as the baseline against which the general plan and pier rebuild project are evaluated.
- ◆ **Chapter 3, Issues and Analysis:** Chapter 3 explains the planning assumptions that inform the general plan. It also identifies the key issues, opportunities, and constraints that are addressed by the general plan.
- ◆ **Chapter 4, The Plan:** Chapter 4 presents the purpose and vision for KBSRA. It includes the site design, and the goals and guidelines that direct management of the park. Chapter 4 also includes a list of CSP standard and special project requirements that are mandatory measures that are part of the General Plan revision and would be required for any future project implemented under the General Plan revision, including the pier rebuild project.
- ◆ **Chapter 5, Environmental Analysis:** Chapter 5 describes the proposed project and alternatives to the proposed General Plan revision and pier rebuild project, which are evaluated in the environmental analysis, and those that were dismissed from further evaluation. It also includes an analysis of environmental effects of implementing the goals, guidelines, and site design contained in the general plan, pursuant to CEQA, and of the Kings Beach Pier Rebuild Project, pursuant to CEQA and the Tahoe Regional Planning Compact and Regional Plan.
- ◆ **Chapter 6, References:** Chapter 6 lists the written sources and individuals cited in the general plan and EIR/EIS.
- ◆ **Chapter 7, Glossary:** Chapter 7 provides a glossary of terms included in the general plan and EIR/EIS.
- ◆ **Chapter 8, Report Preparers:** Chapter 8 lists the contributors to the general plan and EIR/EIS.

## 1.7 Planning Process and Subsequent Planning and Permitting

State park unit planning occurs under a planning hierarchy that begins with the department's mission statement. First and foremost, a state park unit (unit) serves statewide interests, best described in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CSP 2015). The unit is studied to document its resources, classified based on the physical attributes, and subject to management guidelines provided in Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5019.50-5019.80. A general plan is then prepared based on PRC Section 5002.2. When circumstances change, the general plan may need to be amended or revised to best serve the park unit and statewide interests.

This general plan calls for the preparation of a subsequent Urban Forest Management Plan and Interpretive Master Plan. The site design also identifies a number of site improvements including new and reconstructed facilities. These site improvements will require a subsequent project development and permitting process.

The following list of agencies would be expected to use the EIR/EIS in decision-making:

- ◆ California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) – Trustee Agency for projects that may affect fish, wildlife, or their habitat;
- ◆ California State Lands Commission (CSLC) – Trustee Agency with regard to state-owned "sovereign" lands, such as the beds of navigable waters;
- ◆ CSP – Lead Agency and Trustee Agency with regard to units of the State Park System;
- ◆ Conservancy – CEQA Responsible Agency;
- ◆ Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Lahontan RWQCB) – Responsible Agency;
- ◆ TRPA – Lead Agency;
- ◆ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) – Responsible Agency; and
- ◆ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) – Trustee Agency for projects that may affect fish, wildlife, or their habitat.

***The Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is an inclusive plan for the nearly 1,000 park and open space management agencies in California.***

The following list of approvals or permits would be required to implement projects identified within this plan:

- ◆ EIP permit for the pier from TRPA;
- ◆ TRPA permit (e.g., EIP permit) for individual projects subsequent to the General Plan revision;
- ◆ CSLC controls activity on lands lakeward of Lake Tahoe's legal high-water limit (i.e., 6229.1 Lake Tahoe Datum) and must grant a lease for construction and operation of the pier;
- ◆ Section 401 water quality certification from Lahontan RWQCB;
- ◆ Section 404 permit from USACE;
- ◆ California Fish and Game Code Section 1602 lake and streambed alteration agreement with CDFW; and
- ◆ Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation with USFWS.

Following completion of the environmental review process, the California State Park and Recreation Commission certified the EIR and approved the General Plan revision and pier rebuild project on October 9, 2018. Next, TRPA took the EIS for the pier rebuild project to the TRPA Advisory Planning Commission on November 7, 2018 for a recommendation on EIS certification, and then to the TRPA Governing Board on November 14, 2018, where the EIS was certified and the project approved. The Conservancy may use the document for land transfer decisions, funding decisions, and any decisions requiring future Board authorization.

## 1.8 Interagency and Stakeholder Involvement



*Source: Ascent Environmental*

*CSP staff engaged with stakeholders and members of the public to field questions and receive input at meetings and workshops.*

The planning team used a combination of staff input, agency and stakeholder workshops, questionnaires, a dedicated project webpage, an online engagement tool, and personal contacts to obtain stakeholder input and comment on the general plan process.

The planning team engaged with CSP and Conservancy technical specialists to review key information; provide input to the park purpose and vision, management zones, and intent; develop concept alternatives; and recommend a preferred alternative. Planning team and staff meetings were held after each of the first two public workshops to review input and develop the alternatives and preferred alternative.



The planning team held three meetings with outside agencies and additional meetings with stakeholders that have an interest in the General Plan revision and pier rebuild project:

- ◆ September 1, 2016 – The purpose of the meeting was to present the conceptual alternatives for the KBSRA General Plan Revision and Kings Beach Pier Rebuild Project, and seek agency input on the features or components that should be included in a preferred alternative. Agencies in attendance included TRPA, CSLC, North Tahoe Public Utility District, Placer County, California Department of Transportation, Conservancy, and CSP.
- ◆ February 2, 2017 – The purpose of the meeting was to present information and obtain feedback on the preferred alternative for the KBSRA General Plan Revision and Kings Beach Pier Rebuild Project. Agencies in attendance included Placer County, TRPA, North Lake Tahoe Resort Association, CSLC, Conservancy, and CSP.
- ◆ February 16, 2017 – The purpose of the meeting was to present information and obtain feedback on the preferred alternative for the KBSRA General Plan Revision and Kings Beach Pier Rebuild Project from members of the Shoreline Review Committee, an agency committee established to review shoreline projects in the Tahoe Basin. Agencies and stakeholders in attendance included the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Tahoe Resource Conservation District, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, TRPA, CSLC, Placer County, Conservancy, and CSP. Agency representatives were asked to identify regulatory considerations or agency plans, programs, or projects that could affect features of the preferred alternative.

Other meetings and outreach related to the General Plan revision and pier rebuild project included:

- ◆ September 7, 2016 – CSP and the Conservancy met with the Latino Leadership Committee to present information in Spanish for non-English speakers and obtain feedback on the conceptual alternatives for the KBSRA General Plan Revision and Kings Beach Pier Rebuild Project.
- ◆ September 20, 2016 – CSP and the Conservancy met with California Department of Fish and Wildlife to discuss any permitting challenges for the pier and boat ramp.
- ◆ February 3, 2016 – CSP and the Conservancy met with the Latino Leadership Committee to present information in Spanish for non-English speakers and obtain feedback on the



*Source: Ascent Environmental*

*Community members and agency staff listen to a presentation about the General Plan revision and pier rebuild project alternatives.*

preferred alternative for the KBSRA General Plan Revision and Kings Beach Pier Rebuild Project.

- ◆ April 4, 2017 – CSP and the Conservancy attended the North Lake Tahoe Resort Association Breakfast Club to present the preferred alternative for the KBSRA General Plan Revision and Kings Beach Pier Rebuild Project, answer questions, and solicit feedback.
- ◆ April 13, 2017 – CSP and the Conservancy presented the preferred alternative to the North Tahoe Regional Advisory Council and solicited public and advisory council feedback.
- ◆ June 20, 2017 – CSP and the Conservancy shared information on the preferred alternative at a public meeting on upcoming projects in Kings Beach, hosted by Placer County.
- ◆ October 18, 2018 – the California State Park and Recreation Commission conducted a public site tour at KBSRA.
- ◆ October 19, 2018 – the California State Park and Recreation Commission certified the EIR and approved the General Plan revision and pier rebuild project.
- ◆ November 7, 2018 – the TRPA Advisory Planning Commission took action to recommend that the TRPA Governing Board certify the EIS for the pier rebuild project.
- ◆ November 14, 2018 – the TRPA Governing Board certified the EIS and approved the pier rebuild project.

## 1.9 Public Involvement

### 1.9.1 Environmental Scoping

**Summaries of comments from the public workshops are available online at the KBSRA General Plan website:  
[www.parks.ca.gov/plankbsra](http://www.parks.ca.gov/plankbsra)**

The Notice of Preparation for the KBSRA General Plan Revision and EIR, and Kings Beach Pier Rebuild Project EIR/EIS was released on December 22, 2015. The public had several opportunities to provide comments during the NOP public review period: at a public workshop on January 12, 2016; at the TRPA Advisory Planning Commission meeting on April 13, 2016; and via mail, email, and the KBSRA webpage through April 15, 2016.

Key topics identified in comments provided by the public addressed, among others, the following:

- ◆ purpose and vision for KBSRA,
- ◆ pier location,

- ◆ connections with adjacent properties,
- ◆ recreational opportunities and facilities,
- ◆ parking, and
- ◆ a range of environmental effects, such as those related to scenic resources, fish habitat, and circulation.

The planning team conducted three public workshops during the planning process at which members of the public received current information on the planning process and provided input.

## 1.9.2 Public Workshops

The planning team conducted three public workshops during the planning process at which members of the public received current information on the planning process and provided input.

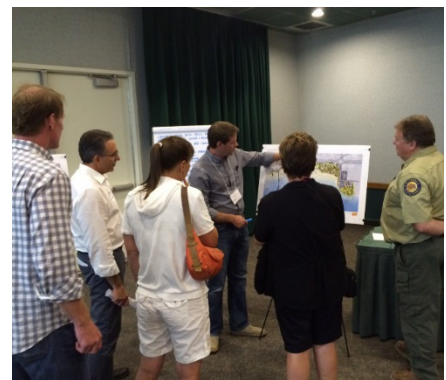
The first public workshop was held January 12, 2016. The planning team presented an overview of the General Plan Revision, the Pier Rebuild Project, the environmental review process, and a summary of the Pier Feasibility Study findings. During the workshop, the public was asked to provide input on existing conditions, the draft park purpose and vision, and recreation facilities and use desires. During the workshop, scoping comments relative to the impending environmental analysis were also solicited.

The second workshop was held on September 1, 2016. The purpose of the workshop was to present information on the conceptual alternatives that had been developed through the planning process, and facilitate public input on the features and components that should be included in a preferred alternative.

The third workshop was held on February 2, 2017. The purpose of the workshop was to present the preferred alternative for the General Plan revision and pier rebuild project. Presenters provided a brief summary of the planning process and next steps and key features of the preferred alternative. Attendees split into small groups at different stations to learn more about the preferred alternative, ask questions, and provide feedback. Staff were available to answer questions and explain rationale for features and facility locations in the preferred alternative.

## 1.9.3 Interactive Webpage

The planning team created a CSP webpage ([www.parks.ca.gov/PlanKBSRA](http://www.parks.ca.gov/PlanKBSRA)) dedicated to the KBSRA General Plan Revision and Pier Rebuild Project and environmental review process. The webpage is continually updated with information about public



*Source: Ascent Environmental*

*Attendees discuss design alternatives at the public workshop on September 1, 2016.*

workshops, scoping meetings, and project-related documents, such as the Issues, Opportunities, and Constraints Report. Interested parties can sign up for email notices and view planning documents, public workshop information, and newsletters to help them participate in the planning process. The webpage also provides an opportunity for online comment submittal. Contact cards were developed for field staff to distribute the webpage address to park users, stakeholders, and other interested parties.

During the planning process, the public had two opportunities for public input using an online engagement tool, which was facilitated through a software program called Open Town Hall. A link to Open Town Hall was provided on the KBSRA General Plan webpage and included specific questions for the public and allowed commenters to tag the location of a comment on an online map.

### 1.9.4 Circulation of the Draft EIR/EIS and Final EIR/EIS

On May 1, 2018, CSP and TRPA released the Draft EIR/EIS for public review and comment for a 60-day period ending June 29, 2018. The Draft EIR/EIS was submitted to the California and Nevada State Clearinghouses for distribution to reviewing agencies; posted on the KBSRA General Plan website ([www.parks.ca.gov/plankbsra](http://www.parks.ca.gov/plankbsra)); and was made available at the CSP Sierra District and TRPA offices, Kings Beach Library, North Tahoe Event Center, North Tahoe Public Utility District offices, and Donner Memorial State Park. A notice of availability of the Draft EIR/EIS was published in the Truckee Sun on May 4, 2018 and distributed by CSP to a project-specific mailing list.

Public hearings were held on June 13, 2018 and June 27, 2018, during the TRPA Advisory Planning Commission and Governing Board meetings, respectively, to receive input from agencies and the public on the Draft EIR/EIS. The hearings were recorded and a summary of comments was prepared.

A Final EIR/EIS was released on September 27, 2018. The Final EIR/EIS consisted of the Draft EIR/EIS; comments received from agencies, organizations, and the public on the Draft EIR/EIS (including those recorded at public hearings); responses to those comments; and revisions to the Draft EIR/EIS. Appendix D of this document reproduces the comments and responses to the comments from the Final EIR/EIS.

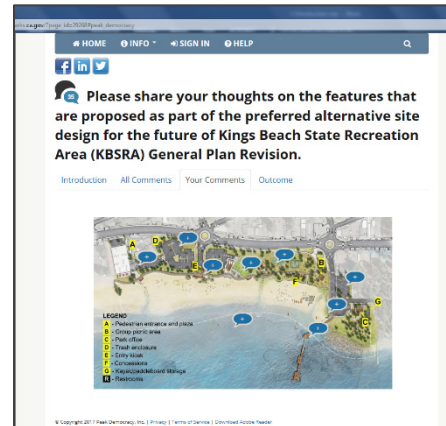
## 1.9.5 Newsletters and Mailings

At meaningful points throughout the planning and environmental review process, the planning team prepared and distributed a postcard, newsletters, and e-blasts to update the public and interested stakeholders on important planning process developments. Newsletters were posted on the KBSRA General Plan webpage, distributed to identified stakeholders and community members, and sent to media contacts with press releases. Notices were sent to the project email list.

Throughout the process, the planning team invited people to stay apprised of project progress. Interested parties were invited to provide their contact information on sign-in sheets at the public workshops or could provide it via email to the planning team at [plan.general@parks.ca.gov](mailto:plan.general@parks.ca.gov).

Newsletters and email blasts were sent at the following times:

- ◆ December 2015 – a postcard was mailed to the initial contact list a few weeks prior to the first public workshop/scoping meeting held on January 12, 2016 and scoping meeting at the TRPA Advisory Planning Commission held on January 13, 2016. The postcards notified contacts (1) that electronic communication would be the predominant method of communication, (2) that the GP Revision process and Pier Rebuild Project was being initiated, (3) of the date and location of the scoping workshop, and (4) where to find information online.
- ◆ August 2016 – the first newsletter included information on project alternatives, an invitation to attend the second workshop, and information about the online engagement tool.
- ◆ January 2017 – the second newsletter provided information about the preferred alternative and directions for giving input.
- ◆ E-blasts – e-blasts were sent to the contact list approximately two weeks before each workshop and at release of the Kings Beach SRA Preliminary General Plan Revision and Pier Rebuild Project Draft EIR/EIS and Final EIR/EIS for public review.



Source: [www.parks.ca.gov/plankbsra](http://www.parks.ca.gov/plankbsra)

*An interactive webpage provided a convenient way for the public to learn about and provide input into the planning and design of KBSRA.*

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