



TRUCKEE RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL

By **DIANE CAMPBELL**, Tahoe Donner Giving Fund Committee Member

SCHOLAR UPDATE

January's edition of *Tahoe Donner News* featured Daphne, one of our Impact Scholars. At that time, Daphne was awaiting news about her application to the UCLA Law Fellows Program, which provides related experiences and mentors students as they apply to law school. We just received the exciting news that Daphne was accepted to this program and now works as a Field Representative with Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez. Hooray for Daphne!

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What is a watershed? It is an area or region drained by a river system. The watershed process is an intricate balance of factors: filtration and storage, erosion and flood control, and habitat preservation. Unfortunately, over many years, the Truckee River watershed has been threatened by erosion, sedimentation and contamination. Sadly, by 1991, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency had declared it polluted despite its beautifully stunning appearance.

Sue Drake, Director of Development for the Truckee River Watershed Council, thanks the Tahoe Donner Giving Fund for its recent grant and provides three examples of what our donors' gifts are helping to accomplish!

Forest Health – "We are facilitating a collaboration between public and private landowners to implement large-scale restoration efforts on 50,000 acres of forests over the next 10-15 years across the headwaters of the Truckee River watershed."

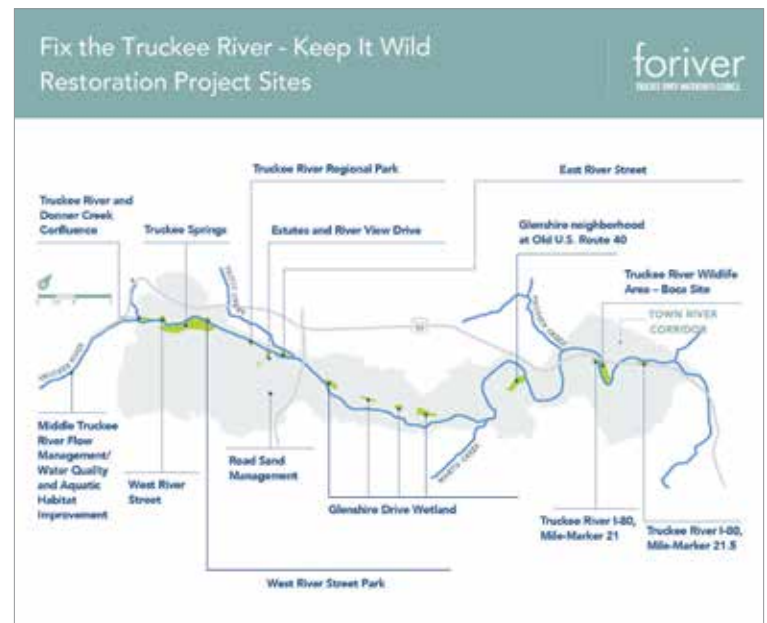
Large-Scale Restoration Projects – "We have over 50 projects to implement and limited time to build more resilient natural infrastructure. In 2023, we will complete six restoration projects totaling over 150 acres of meadow and forest and two miles of stream."

Keep the Truckee River Wild Initiative (map to right) – "Working with all the public agencies, we completed an assessment of the

Truckee River and identified 15 sites needing restoration along the main stem through the Town of Truckee. Restoration of these sites will enhance fish and wildlife habitats, protect the wild nature of the river, reduce erosion, improve water quality and help to provide sustainable recreation access. We plan to move an additional five sites along the Truckee River into the design phase to be implemented in the next five years."

These projects represent a small fraction of the work of the Truckee River Watershed Council. Sue Drake reiterates her gratitude for the TDGF grant that "will help our watershed be resilient for future generations, where humans and nature can thrive together."

To read more about this fabulous organization, visit its website at truckeeriverwc.org, and please save the date of Sunday, Oct. 15, 2023, for the 28th annual Truckee River Day and Fair.



WHY I GIVE

"I give to the Tahoe Donner Giving Fund (in addition to volunteering my time) because I want to show the Truckee community that Tahoe Donner is made up of caring individuals who want to have a positive impact on the region that we love so much. If every TD homeowner donated \$100 per year, we could send an additional 12 deserving local students with limited resources to college each year! I urge everyone to add the Tahoe Donner Giving Fund to their annual charitable plans."

- Ashley Miller Savageau,
Tahoe Donner homeowner and TDGF Committee member

The Tahoe Donner Giving Fund is chartered by the TD Board of Directors. All contributions are voluntary tax-deductible gifts from TD members and friends. The Giving Fund is administered through the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation. For more information on the Giving Fund or to make a contribution, visit our webpage at tahoedonner.com/giving-fund. Contact tdgf@tahoedonner.com with questions or to volunteer for the committee. We thank and are grateful for our founding partner, Elements Mountain Company, for their continuing support.

