

Stakeholder Alternatives Matrix Form

Vegetation

TRPA Staff Proposed Goal	Suggested Goal Language	TRPA Staff Proposed Policy *	Suggested Policy Language **	TRPA Staff Proposed Implementation Measure	Suggested Implementation Measure
VG- 1: Healthy forests and vegetation - a full range of native species, development stages, habitats, and ecological processes occur.	Healthy forests and vegetation - a full range of native species, development stages, habitats, and ecological processes shall occur.	NEW POLICY VG-1.1 Forest vegetation - diversity, distribution, and structure: Promote restoration of historic fire regimes, diverse forest development stages and forest types, and natural ecological processes using appropriate forest management practices, which also protect water quality and enhance wildlife habitats.	Forest vegetation-diversity, distribution, and structure: promote restoration of historic fire regimes, diverse forest <b>late-seral</b> development stages and forest types, and natural ecological processes using <b>ecologically sensitive</b> forest management practices, which also protect water quality <b>and soils from degradation</b> , and enhance wildlife habitats.	VG.IMP-1 Allow tree removal to accelerate development of old growth characteristics to improve structural diversity of forest stands.  Changed in Factsheet (Appendix, 16): <i>Allow tree removal, and understory burning where necessary to mimic natural processes, to accelerate development of old growth characteristics to improve structural diversity of forest stands.</i>	<i>VG.IMP-1 Allow tree removal, and understory burning where necessary to mimic natural processes, to accelerate development of old growth characteristics to improve structural diversity of forest stands.</i>
			Manage forests for long term resilience against climate change and disease in order to maintain their full range of ecological functions.		
					<b>NEW IMP:</b> Encourage and support scientific studies of new road anti- and de-icing materials and/or techniques which reduce the amount of salt introduced in roadway operations while maintaining public health and safety needs.
VG- 1: Healthy forests and vegetation - a full range of native species, development stages, habitats, and ecological processes occur.		New Policy VG-1.2 non-forested vegetation – diversity, distribution, and structure: promote nonforested vegetation structure and distribution based on natural disturbance regimes to maintain biological integrity and native species diversity within the region.	Promote non-forested vegetation structure and distribution ( <b>i.e. riparian, wetland, and meadow distribution</b> ) based on natural, pre-urbanization, disturbance regimes. to maintain biological integrity and native species diversity within the region.		
VG- 1: Healthy forests and vegetation - a full range of native species, development stages, habitats, and ecological processes occur.		New VG-1.9 nonnative invasive weed management: eradicate where feasible, prevent spread of existing infestations, and work to prevent new infestations of non-native invasive species.	New VG-1.9 nonnative invasive weed management: eradicate where <del>feasible</del> <b>practicable</b> , prevent spread of existing infestations, and <del>work to</del> prevent new infestations of non-native invasive species.	VG.IMP-2 Require projects to implement measures, such as noxious-weed risk assessments and weed prevention BMPs, to prevent the spread of noxious and invasive weeds during project activities.  VG.IMP-3 Maintain and make available to the public a list of invasive, noxious, and nuisance species along with appropriate methods to prevent the introduction	VG.IMP-2 Require projects to implement measures, such as noxious-weed risk assessments and weed prevention BMPs, to prevent the <b>introduction and</b> spread of noxious and invasive weeds during project activities.

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				<p>and slow the spread of these species.</p> <p><b>To note: per fact sheet, IMP-13 was relocated to Alt. 4;</b>                      "VG.IMP-13: "Require landscapers, public agencies, developers and plant vendors to use or sell only non-invasive vegetation and plants appropriate for each site."</p>	
<p>VG- 1: Healthy forests and vegetation - a full range of native species, development stages, habitats, and ecological processes occur.</p>		<p>NEW VG-1.10                      Native vegetation: use and maintain native vegetation to the maximum extent practicable throughout the region.</p>		<p>Changed in Factsheet (Appendix, p.10  <b>NEW:</b> (per 8/23 summary from TRPA p. 22, row 132):                      "Require property owners to eliminate, where feasible, or control noxious weeds identified on the Lake Tahoe Basin Weeds Coordinating Group (LTBWCG) Priority Weeds List from their property."</p>	<p><b>KEEP amended plus:</b>                      Require property owners to eliminate, where practicable feasible, or <b>where elimination is not possible</b>, control noxious weeds identified on the Lake Tahoe Basin Weeds Coordinating Group (LTBWCG) Priority Weeds List from their property.</p>
<p>VG- 5                      Urban vegetation - vegetation in the urban zones is predominantly native, water efficient, and non-invasive. Urban vegetation contributes to defensible space, water quality protection, and scenic and local community values.</p>		<p>AMENDED VG-5.2                      Alteration of natural vegetation                      During development activity: contain permanent disturbance or Unnecessary alteration of natural                      Vegetation associated with development activities to the Approved disturbance boundaries, or that which is necessary to reduce the risk of fire or erosion.</p>	<p>Permanent disturbance or alteration of natural vegetation associated with development activities shall be restricted to the approved coverage footprint of a structure or facility. All disturbances outside the approved coverage footprint shall be restored to maintain a native vegetation cover that is consistent with the requirements to reduce soil erosion and risk of fire.</p>	<p>see measure under VG-5.2 below</p>	
<p>VG- 5                      Urban vegetation - vegetation in the urban zones is predominantly native, water efficient, and non-invasive. Urban vegetation contributes to defensible space, water quality protection, and scenic and local community values.</p>		<p>AMENDED VG-5.1                      Urban vegetation and landscapes: preserve vegetation in urban areas to the maximum extent feasible and to avoid sharp contrasts between urban and nonurban areas and allow for the perpetuation of the natural appearing landscape.</p>	<p>AMENDED VG-5.1                      Urban vegetation and landscapes: preserve vegetation in urban areas to the maximum extent feasible and to avoid sharp contrasts between urban and nonurban areas and <del>allow for</del> <b>promote</b> the perpetuation of the natural appearing landscape.</p>		

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<p>VG- 5 Urban vegetation - vegetation in the urban zones is predominantly native, water efficient, and non-invasive. Urban vegetation contributes to defensible space, water quality protection, and scenic and local community values.</p>		<p>AMENDED VG-5.3 Forest litter and defensible space: maintain forest litter for its erosion control and nutrient cycling functions in naturally vegetated areas except to the extent it poses a fire hazard.</p>			
<p>VG- 5 Urban vegetation - vegetation in the urban zones is predominantly native, water efficient, and non-invasive. Urban vegetation contributes to defensible space, water quality protection, and scenic and local community values.</p>		<p>NEW VG-5.4 Landscaping with native vegetation: promote the use of native, water efficient, nutrient efficient, fire resistant, and non-invasive vegetation in urban landscapes.</p>		<p>VG.IMP-14 Develop a numerical measurement system to evaluate vegetation on a per parcel basis. The system would need to consider defensible space, watershed protection, privacy screening, deviation from natural vegetation condition, etc. Establish a numerical level below which a parcel's vegetation is considered out of compliance and is required to be restored to acceptable levels.</p> <p><del>VG.IMP-15 Restrict use of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers by homeowners. (Deleted in Factsheet, page 11).</del></p> <p><del>VG.IMP-16 Require landscapers, public agencies, developers, and plant vendors to use or sell only locally sourced native vegetation and plants appropriate for each site. (Deleted in Factsheet, page 14).</del></p>	<p>VG.IMP-15 Restrict use of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers by homeowners.</p>
				<p>Added to TRPA Alt. 4 in Factsheet, page 11: VG.IMP-12: Establish a maximum area for lawns as a percentage of the non-covered area of a parcel.</p>	

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<p>VG- 1: Healthy forests and vegetation - a full range of native species, development stages, habitats, and ecological processes occur.</p>		<p>AMENDED VG-1.11 Revegetation with approved species: revegetate disturbed sites consistent with species guidelines approved by the agency designed to promote use of native, water efficient, nutrient efficient, fire resistant, and non-invasive vegetation.</p>	<p>Revegetation with approved species: revegetate disturbed sites consistent with species guidelines <b>that are ecologically appropriate to a site</b> approved by the agency designed to promote use of native, water-efficient, nutrient-efficient, fire-resistant, and non-invasive vegetation. The use of <b>non-native non-invasive vegetation is only appropriate in the urban residential/commercial areas of the Tahoe Basin.</b></p>	<p>VG.IMP-4 Amend revegetation guidelines to require that whenever possible all seed and propagates used in revegetation projects originate from sources within the Lake Tahoe Basin or within 50 miles of the Lake Tahoe Basin and within 1000 vertical feet of the project elevation.  VG.IMP-5 Require projects to salvage and reuse native topsoil.</p>	
<p>VG- 1: Healthy forests and vegetation - a full range of native species, development stages, habitats, and ecological processes occur.</p>		<p>AMENDED VG-1.12 Project review and evaluation: where relevant for proposed projects, evaluate the cumulative impact of vegetation removal with respect to: departure from desired structure, diversity and abundance; wildlife movement, habitat suitability and connectivity; soil productivity and stability; scenic value; and water quality and quantity.  Changed in Factsheet, (Appendix, 15): <i>Project review and evaluation: Evaluate the cumulative impact of vegetation removal with respect to: departure from desired structure, diversity and abundance; wildlife movement; habitat suitability and connectivity; soil productivity and stability; scenic value; and water quality and quantity.</i></p>		<p>VG.IMP-5 Require projects to salvage and reuse native topsoil.</p>	

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				Relocated from Alt 3 to Alt 4 in Factsheet, page 14: VG.IMP-10: <i>Require property owners to eliminate noxious weeds identified on the Lake Tahoe Basin Weeds Coordinating Group (LTBWCG) Priority Weeds List from their property.</i>	
VG- 1: Healthy forests and vegetation - a full range of native species, development stages, habitats, and ecological processes occur.		NEW VG-1.13 Use appropriate Vegetation management practices to prevent degrading native vegetation.  Changed in Factsheet, page 14: <i>Use appropriate vegetation management practices to prevent degrading native vegetation and water quality.</i>	Use <b>scientifically demonstrated and proven</b> vegetation management practices to prevent degrading native vegetation and water quality.	VG.IMP-6 Maintain and make available to the public a list of plant species appropriate for use on backshore sites.  VG.IMP-7 Prohibit lawn in the backshore or on natural sandy beaches/dunes located landward of the backshore.  VG.IMP-7 changed in Factsheet, page 14: <i>Prohibit new lawns in the backshore or on natural sandy beaches/dunes located landward of the backshore.</i>	
VG-2 Plant communities of concern - the natural conditions and functions of plant communities of concern are sustained.		AMENDED VG-2.2 Wetland management: manage riparian and other wetland plant communities for the beneficial uses of passive recreation, groundwater recharge and nutrient catchment, and as wildlife habitat	Wetland management: manage riparian and other wetland plant communities for the beneficial uses of <del>passive recreation</del> , groundwater recharge, <del>and</del> <b>particle and nutrient catchment, and as-wildlife habitat, and for passive recreation where it does not negatively impact the other beneficial uses.</b>		
VG-2 Plant communities of concern - the natural conditions and functions of plant communities of concern are sustained.		AMENDED VG-2.3 Restoration and expansion of wetlands: restore or expand riparian and other wetland plant communities.  Changed in Factsheet (Appendix, 17): <i>Restore and expand riparian and other wetland plant communities.</i>			

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VG-2 Plant communities of concern - the natural conditions and functions of plant communities of concern are sustained.		AMENDED VG-2.1 Protect plant communities of concern: identify, restore, and protect plant communities of concern.			
VG-3 Special status species - populations of, and environmental conditions and Processes important to, native threatened, endangered, rare, special interest, or sensitive species are maintained at a sustainable level.		AMENDED VG-3.1 Protection of special status plants: identify, restore where practicable, and preserve populations and habitat of all special status plant species in the region.			
VG-3 Special status species - populations of, and environmental conditions and Processes important to, native threatened, endangered, rare, special interest, or sensitive species are maintained at a sustainable level.		AMENDED VG-3.2 Tahoe yellow cress: manage Tahoe yellow cress in the Region according to its Conservation strategy.  Changed in Factsheet (Appendix, 17): <i>Manage Tahoe Yellow Cress in the Region according to the Tahoe Yellow Cress Conservation Strategy.</i>			
VG- 1: Healthy forests and vegetation - a full range of native species, development stages, habitats, and ecological processes occur.		AMENDED VG-1.5 Management for late stages of Stand development – healthy stands: manage stands Exhibiting characteristics of later stages of stand development, including old growth to promote conditions representative of healthy stands in later structural stages of stand development.	Management for late stages of Stand development – healthy stands: manage stands exhibiting characteristics of later stages of stand development, including old growth to promote conditions representative of healthy stands in later structural stages of stand development <b>to attain and maintain the vegetation threshold.</b>		

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<p>VG- 1: Healthy forests and vegetation - a full range of native species, development stages, habitats, and ecological processes occur.</p>		<p>AMENDED VG-1.6 Management for late stages of Stand development – accelerate old growth: promote forest practices to accelerate development of old growth Characteristics in appropriate stands.</p>	<p>Management for late stages of Stand development – accelerate old growth: promote forest practices to accelerate development of old growth characteristics in appropriate stands <b>to attain and maintain the vegetation threshold.</b></p>		
<p>VG- 1: Healthy forests and vegetation - a full range of native species, development stages, habitats, and ecological processes occur.</p>		<p>AMENDED VG-1.7 Management for late stages of Stand development – large trees: retain large trees as a principal component of stands in later stages of stand development, including old growth.</p>	<p>Reduce exceptions for cutting old/large trees (e.g. Recreation projects should not cut large trees). Require design alternatives be evaluated. Determination of what is 'feasible' must not rely solely on cost</p>	<p>The following IMP measure was added during the stakeholder process: "Amend Code Subparagraph 71.2.A to allow for the removal of large trees for Environmental Improvement Program projects when no feasible alternative exists to retain the tree(s)."</p>	<p><b>ADD NEW Imp Msr:</b> TRPA will work with independent qualified forestry experts to inventory the existing percent of late seral and old growth habitat, by acres, in the Lake Tahoe Basin, and develop a plan outlining how TRPA will attain and maintain the vegetation threshold standards over time. Any future removal of large trees must conform to this plan.</p> <p>"Amend Code Subparagraph 71.2.A as follows: <del>(6) In ski areas with existing TRPA-approved master plans, trees larger than 30 inches dbh in the westside forest types and 24 inches dbh in eastside forest types may be removed for facilities that are consistent with that master plan. For activities that are consistent with a TRPA-approved master plan, trees larger than 30 inches dbh in the westside forest types and 24 inches dbh in eastside forest types may be removed when it is demonstrated that the removal is necessary for the activity.</del> (8) Large trees may be removed for large public utilities projects if TRPA finds there is no other <del>reasonable</del> <b>practicable</b> alternative <b>and the removal is consistent with the Plan developed to attain and maintain the vegetation threshold.</b> (9) Tree Removal During Emergency Fire Suppression Activities: Trees may be removed when an emergency fire suppression need exists <b>and the large tree(s) removed pose an actual fire threat</b> as determined by the local, state or federal fire suppression agency involved in a fire suppression activity.</p>
<p>VG- 1: Healthy forests and vegetation - a full range of native species, development stages, habitats, and ecological processes occur.</p>		<p>AMENDED VG-1.8 management for late stages of stand development – structural and species diversity: when managing stands to promote characteristics of later stages of stand development retain trees of medium and small size sufficient to provide for large tree recruitment over time, and to provide structural diversity.</p>			

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		preferably, these trees will be the most vigorous in the stand using one of the standard tree classifications. In addition, make species composition a key consideration in tree retention.			
VG- 1: Healthy forests and vegetation - a full range of native species, development stages, habitats, and ecological processes occur.		SAME VG-1.3 Coarse woody debris – snags: allow for a sufficient number and an appropriate distribution of snags throughout the region’s forests to provide and maintain habitat for species dependent on such features.			
VG- 1: Healthy forests and vegetation - a full range of native species, development stages, habitats, and ecological processes occur.		SAME VG-1.4 Coarse woody debris – down and dead wood: allow for an appropriate amount, level and distribution of coarse woody debris (downed woody material) throughout the region’s forests to maintain biological integrity, to stabilize soil, and to afford a reasonable level of fire safety.			
VG-4 hazardous fuels - fuel conditions pose low wildfire risk to communities.		NEW VG-4.1 Hazardous fuels reduction practices: promote hazardous fuels reduction and the prevention of fire, using approved forest management practices consistent with acceptable strategies.  Changed in the Factsheet, page 10:  <i>VG-4.1 Hazardous fuels reduction practices: Promote hazardous fuels reduction and the reduction and prevention of catastrophic wildfire, using appropriate</i>	VG-4.1 Hazardous fuels reduction practices: Promote hazardous fuels reduction and the reduction and prevention of catastrophic wildfire, using appropriate forest management practices appropriate for the Lake Tahoe Basin.	VG.IMP-8 Modify the provisions which protect native vegetation to allow creation of defensible space and reduce fire hazards.	

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		<i>forest management practices for the Lake Tahoe region.</i>			
VG-4 hazardous fuels - fuel conditions pose low wildfire risk to communities.		NEW VG-4.2 Defensible space consistent with state codes: promote creation of defensible space using forest management practices that are consistent throughout the region and with state defensible space codes.		VG.IMP-8 Modify the provisions which protect native vegetation to allow creation of defensible space and reduce fire hazards.	
VG-4 hazardous fuels - fuel conditions pose low wildfire risk to communities.		NEW VG-4.3 Create defensible space consistent with community wildfire protection plans: promote creation of defensible space consistent with community wildfire protection plans using approved forest management practices.		VG.IMP-8 Modify the provisions which protect native vegetation to allow creation of defensible space and reduce fire hazards.	
VG-4 hazardous fuels - fuel conditions pose low wildfire risk to communities.		NEW VG-4.4 Prioritize and schedule hazardous fuels reduction treatments: through fire protection districts, identify hazardous fuels treatment priorities and associated attainment schedules.		VG.IMP-8 Modify the provisions which protect native vegetation to allow creation of defensible space and reduce fire hazards.	
VG- 5 Urban vegetation - vegetation in the urban zones is predominantly native, water efficient, and non-invasive. Urban vegetation contributes to defensible space, water quality protection, and		AMENDED VG-5.1 Urban vegetation and landscapes: preserve vegetation in urban areas to the maximum extent feasible and to avoid sharp contrasts between urban and non-urban areas and allow for the perpetuation of the natural appearing landscape.	AMENDED VG-5.1 Urban vegetation and landscapes: preserve vegetation in urban areas to the maximum extent feasible and to avoid sharp contrasts between urban and non-urban areas and <del>allow for</del> promote the perpetuation of the natural appearing landscape		

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scenic and local community values.					
<p>VG- 5 Urban vegetation - vegetation in the urban zones is predominantly native, water efficient, and non-invasive. Urban vegetation contributes to defensible space, water quality protection, and scenic and local community values.</p>		<p>AMENDED VG-5.2 Alteration of natural vegetation during development activity: contain permanent disturbance or Unnecessary alteration of natural Vegetation associated with development activities to the Approved disturbance boundaries, or that which is necessary to reduce the risk of fire or erosion.</p> <p>Changed in Factsheet (Appendix, 17): <i>Contain permanent disturbance or alteration of natural vegetation associated with development activities to the approved disturbance boundaries, or that which is necessary to reduce the risk of fire or erosion.</i></p>		<p>VG.IMP-9 Extend protection for trees retained in a project footprint from the dripline to the critical root zone.</p>	
<p>VG- 5 Urban vegetation - vegetation in the urban zones is predominantly native, water efficient, and non-invasive. Urban vegetation contributes to defensible space, water quality protection, and scenic and local community values.</p>		<p>AMENDED VG-5.3 forest litter and defensible space: maintain forest litter for its erosion control and nutrient cycling functions in naturally vegetated areas except to the extent it poses a fire hazard.</p> <p>Changed in Factsheet (Appendix,17): <i>Maintain forest litter for its erosion control and nutrient cycling functions in naturally vegetated areas, except to the extent it poses a fire hazard or as necessary to maintain a fire-adapted plant and forest community.</i></p>			

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			Manage terrestrial invasive species and protect the Tahoe Basin from new terrestrial invasive species.		<p>Include management and prevention of spread of cheat grass in BMP/defensible space/native vegetation guidelines.</p> <p>Collaborate with local fire districts to prevent further invasion and spread of cheat grass</p> <p>Conduct outreach and education about cheat grass.</p>
			Establish a tree cutting mitigation fund.		For every tree removed, a payment is made into the old growth mitigation fund. These funds will be spent on restoring and protecting forest health conditions that lead to old growth trees.
			Collaborate with fire districts to establish defensible space practices that can both preserve old growth trees and provide the protection of defensible space.		Limbing old growth trees should be considered before complete removal during defensible space work.

\*Alternative 4 policy statements were prepared with the best publically available information from the TRPA and some of the information may be out-of-date. Additionally, according to TRPA staff, some details are lacking in Alternative 4 that may have been fully developed in Alternative 2.

\*\*Similar to any RPU alternative, the Conservation Alternative needs to be subjected to the same rigorous environmental analysis to determine if its policies and implementation measures are sufficient for ETCC achievement and maintenance.

*Italics identify policy or implementation that were revised as part of the Milestone process – it is unclear from the documents provided if the changes are in reference to Alt 2 or both Alt 2 and Alt 4.*

The Conservation Alternative Policies and Implementation Measures and related code amendments must strengthen and implement restriction without variance procedures, exemptions, exceptions and will require enforcement in a timely manner.