

**Appendix I-2  
TAHOE PROJECT PROPOSAL**

**Project Name: Urban Lot Management – Timber Stand and Watershed Improvement**      **EIP #: 10183.104**

<b>Lead Agency: USDA-Forest Service Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit Threshold: Vegetation Threshold Standard:</b>	<b>Contact: Brian Garrett Phone Number: (530) 543-2617 Email Address: bdgarrett@fs.fed.us Total Project Cost: \$450,000</b>
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**Project Description:**

Timber Stand Improvement:

This project includes hazard tree abatement; stewardship/forest product permits for small tree thinning and dead trees, forest health thinning, and removal of active insect and disease activity on urban parcels.

Watershed Restoration:

This project includes minor erosion control/restoration projects, refuse removal, monitoring of parcel conditions, and noxious weed abatement.

**Describe the purpose and need for the project:**

The Forest Service has acquired over 3,200 urban parcels under authority of the Santini-Burton Act of December 23, 1980. The Santini-Burton Act authorized the Forest Service to acquire environmentally sensitive lands within the Lake Tahoe Basin to protect these lands from development. These acquired lands are to be managed by the Forest Service for their watershed and other environmental values. These parcels are randomly interspersed with privately developed urban parcels and parcels acquired by the states of California and Nevada. The parcels vary in size from a fraction of an acre to several hundred acres.

When the Urban Lot Environmental Assessment was prepared in 1995, the vegetative condition of most urban parcels could be characterized as poor. High tree mortality was causing a high risk to human life and property because of increased fire danger and hazardous trees. Many parcels contained refuse causing a visual nuisance, and in some cases pollution to soils and watersheds. Many parcels had areas of existing erosion, compacted/disturbed soils and unstable stream banks contributing to water quality degradation and loss of soil productivity. Very few parcels had been surveyed and needed property boundary identification and posting. There were numerous trespass cases of unauthorized use and occupancy on the parcels.

The Urban Lot Environmental Assessment considered three alternatives: 1 – no action, 2 – Fuels and Hazard Tree Reduction, 3 – Integrated Resource Management. On May 5, 1995, Forest Supervisor Robert Harris issued a Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact for implementation of alternative 3 – Integrated Resource Management. This decision called for the following actions:

Natural Resource Actions

Hazard Tree Removal, Stand Improvement through vegetation manipulation, Insect and Disease Management, Watershed and Soil Restoration, Improvement of Defensible Space – Compliance with State and Local ordinances, Fuels Management, and Wildlife Enhancement Projects

Real Estate Actions

Compliance with local ordinances and CC&R's, Landline Identification, Land Exchange and Transfer (subject to future analysis)

Law Enforcement Actions

Prevention and Resolution of Trespass, Reduction of Potential for Tort Claims, Refuse Disposal

**Describe the goals and objective of the project (For Science & Research Projects describe Key Management Questions being addressed):**

Maintain healthy forest vegetation through hazard tree and insect/disease management  
Control and monitor known invasive species populations (noxious weeds)  
Restoration of disturbed areas, establish vegetation, control erosion, remove refuge and debris  
Identify and inventory unhealthy forest conditions, invasive species populations (noxious weeds), disturbed soils/erosion control needs through parcel condition monitoring inspections

**Describe the anticipated project accomplishments:**

Watershed restoration on 25 urban parcels, monitor forest and watershed conditions on 800 urban parcels, control noxious weeds on 75 urban parcels, abate hazard trees on 50 urban parcels, treat new insect and disease infestations on 25 urban parcels.

These projects are in addition to current Earmark funded projects for FY 2004. Implementation of these projects could begin as soon as October 2004.

**Describe the “readiness” of this project to move forward (Environmental documentation, etc.)**

NEPA is completed for vegetation treatments and minor restoration projects.

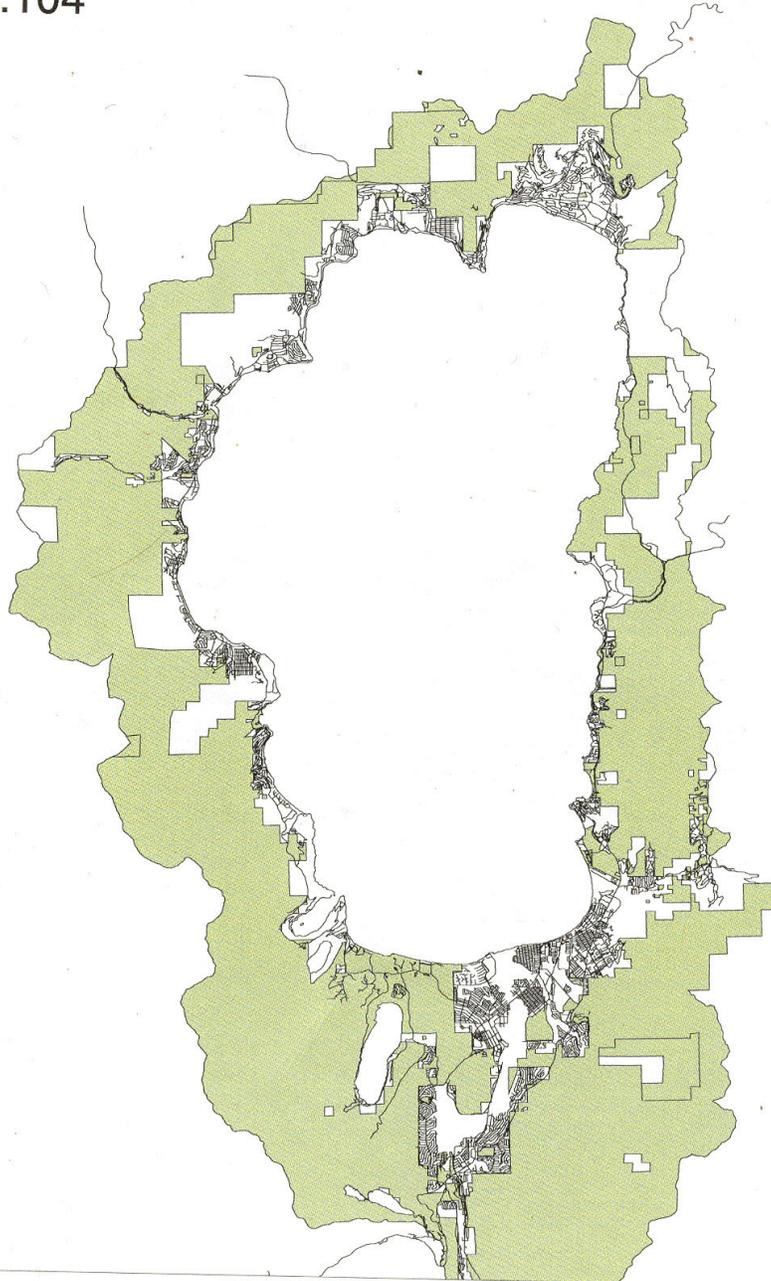
**Describe partnerships for this project. (Include documentation)**

GBI- Nevada Conservation Corps

**For Science & Research Projects describe how this project will guide future management activities:**

**Include an 8 ½ X 11 map depicting the project, or research/study area.**

# Urban Lot Management Timber Stand and Watershed Improvement EIP #10183.104



Planned treatments:  
Watershed restoration - 25 urban parcels  
Evaluate forest/watershed conditions on 800 urban parcels  
Control NX weeds on 75 urban parcels  
Abate hazard trees on 50 urban parcels  
Insect/disease treatments on 25 urban parcels  
Treatments areas are scattered throughout the basin