



FOREST FUTURES

A Regenerative Solution

THE CAMPAIGN FOR SUSTAINABLE
FORESTS & COMMUNITIES

TAHOE TRUCKEE
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

OUR FORESTS

WE ARE STEWARDS OF A UNIQUE AND FRAGILE RESOURCE

The Sierra Nevada is critical infrastructure for communities in our region as well as those across the state, country, and planet. The Sierra Nevada is home to:

- > One of the world's most diverse watersheds, providing nearly 60 percent of California's water supply and
- > Some of the most massive, ancient, and important trees on the planet, storing as much or more carbon per acre as rainforests do

The forests of Tahoe are not in good health and are in grave danger. They are choked with undergrowth, and impacted by drought and bark beetles. They are tinderboxes waiting to explode.

These forests are vulnerable. We are vulnerable.



THE TIME IS NOW

WE HAVE AN URGENT RESPONSIBILITY TO ACT

In 2021, over 2.5 million acres of land burned in California.

The impact of these megafires is felt statewide—in water quality and quantity, biodiversity, carbon and climate outcomes, human health, economic devastation, community and ecological resilience, and much more.

When the Tahoe forests burn, the impact to our community and climate will be devastating—and will be felt far beyond our region.

We have a responsibility to join together to implement progressive solutions to ensure forest health for generations to come.

Forest Futures identifies, builds, accelerates and scales the solutions we need—setting in motion a series of projects, initiatives and funding mechanisms to achieve these essential goals.

We need to stop these fires before they start.

The fires of 2020 emitted, in a period of 2 months, as much carbon dioxide as **24.2 MILLION PASSENGER CARS DRIVING FOR AN ENTIRE YEAR**, undermining California's leadership and progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

COMMUNITY LEVEL
CLIMATE ACTION

WE CAN ACCELERATE SOLUTIONS THROUGH FOREST ACTION

Communities around the globe will face their own unique climate impacts. For Tahoe and for California, wildfire and drought are the dire impacts we face.

We see it directly in the years with minimal snowfall.
We see it when catastrophic wildfires flank our communities.

Creating healthy forests gives us the opportunity to protect California's air quality, access to water and ensure wildlife habitat. Our unique role as stewards of the Tahoe forests give us a front row seat and an important role to play.



FOREST FUTURES — A FAR-REACHING INITIATIVE

THE DIFFERENCE WE WILL MAKE

We face a systemic challenge and it requires a systemic solution.

Healthy forests in our community can stimulate the local economy, ensure a safer and more secure future for our region and create an actionable path forward to healthy forests everywhere.

The model we are building is a holistic approach that others can learn from and replicate. Our success will demonstrate that a locally driven approach to climate action can be scaled in communities across the state and the country. We are building a nimble, flexible capital fund for three guiding principles:

COLLABORATE Pave the pathway for swifter, larger restoration of our lands through education and collaboration with the community.

INNOVATE Rise above the roadblocks; unlock discrete logjams through grants and investments designed to keep restoration workers working.

REGENERATE Invest in climate and economic resilience, building a marketplace for the effective, sustainable use of forest biomass.



W H Y U S ?

WE ARE READY TO MEET THIS CHALLENGE

Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation has nearly 25 years of success tackling complex community issues. Our track record in this region is substantial, sophisticated and systemic.

We have invested deeply in understanding this problem.

Over 4 years, 97 multi-disciplinary experts and advisers joined us to form our strategy and action plan.

And, we have been putting our expertise, resources and capital into the problem as we learn.

NATURE FUND Over \$1 million allocated to regional organizations to:

- > understand the problem;
- > build deep and trusted relationships; and
- > improve forest health.

COLLABORATIVE GRANTS Fund collaborations to speed hazardous forest biomass removal.

ENGAGEMENT Community, regional and statewide leadership join together to devise concrete solutions for forest biomass use.





AREAS OF IMPACT

● **PROTECT COMMUNITIES**

Increase wildfire resilience in our forests.

● **BUILD FOREST ECONOMY**

Strengthen rural economic resilience by funding the workforce, infrastructure and industry that utilize hazardous forest waste.

● **ACCELERATE MARKET SOLUTIONS**

Demonstrate that local, collaborative climate action can scale and speed sustainable forest management—creating a model which can be replicated in other global mountain communities.

PROTECT COMMUNITIES

ENSURE THE FOREST REMAINS A PART OF OUR FUTURE

Protecting our communities is possible—but it requires immediate collaborative action to mandate forest management best practices.

Incentivize neighborhood and community projects. Forest Futures will create incentives for neighborhoods in local communities to protect the wildland-urban interface in their backyards. **The cost of tree thinning and defensible space work in neighborhoods is often prohibitive.**

Enable sustainable forest treatments. Forest Futures will catalyze large scale fuel reduction projects in the forests surrounding our communities, and assist long-term planning and prioritization goals on federal, state and locally managed landscapes. **With limited evacuation routes, it is critical that we reduce fuel loads alongside major roads.**

Promote the understanding and necessity of fuel reduction and forest treatment practices. Forest Futures will educate, coordinate and convene to enable our community to become willing, proactive advocates for sustainable restoration. **Lack of community education is a significant roadblock to scaled, sustainable forest management in the wildland-urban interface.**



BUILD FOREST ECONOMY

LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR A STRONGER, MORE SECURE LOCAL ECONOMY

Diversifying our regional economy through innovative workforce and infrastructure development will both improve our regional economic resilience and drive restoration of our forest lands.

Fund new infrastructure to enable the removal of hazardous biomass from overcrowded forests. Forest Futures will invest in the infrastructure required to remove this material from the forest, providing regional economic opportunity in the process. **Today, hundreds of thousands of piles of biomass sit on forest floors without the ability to remove, transport or process them.**

Implement local green waste collaboratives. Forest Futures will support regional partnerships for collaborative remediation and use of green waste in our communities, neighborhoods and districts. **The infrastructure and structured partnerships necessary to effectively aggregate green waste across communities doesn't exist.**

Foster a biomass-centered strategy. Forest Futures will advocate to prioritize and incentivize alternative and higher uses for the material coming out of our forests. **The threat to communities and the environment requires coordinated leadership, infrastructure and strategy.**



ACCELERATE MARKET SOLUTIONS

ENABLE NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND BIOMASS UTILIZATION OPPORTUNITIES

Encouraging new technology and incentivizing alternative and higher uses for woody material.

Seek new market solutions to speed and scale forest restoration. Forest Futures will fund new technologies and biomass utilization opportunities. [Hazardous woody materials from our forests can be used to create a sustainable, carbon-neutral building and energy economy.](#)

Attract and leverage funders and investors with community-level impact investment. Forest Futures will provide this critical financing to uplift marketable product creation from local woody biomass supply. [Businesses which rely on the use of forest biomass from fuel reduction projects face insurmountable financing gaps: They need long-term, patient debt and investment capital to start-up and succeed.](#)

Provide working capital for projects. Forest Futures will provide flexible financial capital to increase the pace and scale of forest restoration. [Projects are frequently stymied due to delays in federal or state funding.](#)



FUNDING STRATEGY

FULL SPECTRUM CAPITAL

\$15.5M

\$7M

\$7.5M



COLLABORATE

Convenings, advocacy and education campaigns to spur and sustain effective collaboration.

HOLISTIC SYSTEMS CHANGE

Rising above roadblocks to restoration at scale requires investment in community education, stakeholder network building and advocacy—with and for the people of our region.

Educate on Issues
Engage in On-the-ground Solutions

Community Engagement

Powerful Network

COLLABORATE

Advocacy

Advance Policy Changes
Ensure CA Budget Allocations

Foresters
Environmentalists
Scientists
Policy Makers
Funders
Entrepreneurs
Innovators

INNOVATE

Flexible, nimble and responsive community-based grants and investments which swiftly unlock innovation supporting sustainable forest restoration.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

Innovation in technology, infrastructure, workforce development and public-private partnerships is needed to quickly enable restoration of our forest lands. This requires funds with the flexibility to be responsive to opportunities and solutions as they arise.

Start-up Challenges
Access to Financing
Curated Conversations

Support
Entrepreneurial
Ecosystem

Seed Stage Grants for
Business Infrastructure
Working Capital
Risk Capital for Research
and Development

Nurture New
Ideas

INNOVATE

Crowd-sourced
Solutions

Public/Private
Partnerships

Forest Challenges
Community
Engagement
Broad Stakeholder
Network

Regional
Collaborations
Matching Funds
Nonprofit Agency
Challenges

REGENERATE

We will grow raised capital to \$100 million through investing in larger-scale forest ventures.

TRANSFORMATIONAL FINANCE

This will serve our goal of accelerating projects to completion, meeting climate goals, and putting sustainable solutions on the ground.

Debt Capital to assist in start-up and scaling opportunities

Recoverable
Grants and
Program
Related
Investments

Impact
Investments

Equity Capital to ensure our future success is tied to a new economy for the region

REGENERATE

Evergreen
Funds

Quasi Endowment with value aligned investment strategy creating annual grant cycle for 30 years and beyond

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Join us in acting on behalf of Tahoe's forests and all those who depend on them. Join us to build a new kind of ecosystem—an ecosystem of people, ideas, solutions and investment—that will give us the means to protect and restore the most valuable ecosystem of all: our forests.

C O N N E C T • A D V O C A T E • D O N A T E

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OUR MISSION

The mission of the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation (TTCF) is to connect people and opportunities, generating resources to build a more caring, creative and effective community.

OUR VISION

The Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation established the Forest Futures campaign to ensure healthy forests today, tomorrow, and for generations to come. Forest Futures will unlock the innovation and resources needed to speed and scale sustainable forest management in our region and throughout mountain and forested communities globally.

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