

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2025-01  
OF THE TRUCKEE TAHOE AIRPORT DISTRICT

OPPOSING THE LOCAL IMPACTS TO FOREST HEALTH AND WILDFIRE MITIGATION THAT WILL  
RESULT FROM FEDERAL FUNDING AND STAFFING CUTS TO OUR PUBLIC LANDS

**WHEREAS,** Nevada County is a rural county of 100,000 residents located in the foothills and High Sierra regions of Sierra Nevada in California;

**WHEREAS,** Wildfires in California have grown in size, duration, and destructiveness because increasing impacts of periods of extreme rain and extreme droughts have caused accumulation of fuels in our forests, the majority of which are owned and managed by the federal government. Several of the costliest fires have occurred in areas that, like Nevada County's population centers, are located in the wildland urban interface;

**WHEREAS,** Proactively maintaining the health of our National Forests through fuel reduction projects is essential to mitigate the risk of catastrophic fire in our adjacent communities;

**WHEREAS,** Recent actions to reduce federal staffing levels will have a catastrophic impact on our federally owned public lands and adjacent communities. An estimated 10% or more of staff positions in Tahoe National Forest have been eliminated and contracts between the US Forest Service and third-party contractors to complete fire mitigation projects have also been cancelled or paused, significantly reducing fire mitigation efforts on US Forest Service lands. These layoffs and frozen positions include emergency response teams and wildfire mitigation—both of which are vital to keeping people safe on our public lands and in our adjacent communities;

**WHEREAS,** Nevada County's communities have collectively invested millions of local funding into wildfire mitigation projects over the past four years including:

- \$2 million in funding from Truckee Tahoe Airport District to treat 739 acres in our region
- \$770,000 invested by the Town of Truckee in roadway vegetation management to improve defensible space throughout Truckee
- \$13 million invested by Truckee Fire Protection District in wildfire prevention and mitigation in the past five years. Additionally, \$3.6 million per year in local special tax revenue has been approved by local voters and dedicated to Truckee Fire Protection District wildfire prevention efforts through 2030
- Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation has raised \$16 million and invested in over 50 projects to support forest health and regenerative solutions

**WHEREAS,** We have approached these investments as a partnership, recognizing that local fuel reduction efforts and fuel reduction on adjacent federal lands work in tandem to protect both our communities and public lands. Without continued, broad landscape-scale mitigation on federal lands, our local investments will not provide effective mitigation;

**WHEREAS,** A reduction in funding for public lands will result in:

- Fewer personnel to monitor for wildfires;
- Fewer personnel trained and ready to respond to wildfires;
- Fewer personnel to ensure campground fires are appropriately extinguished;
- Fewer personnel to gather the on-the-ground data that informs wildfire modeling;
- Fewer personnel to mount a prompt response to a wildfire that breaks out;
- Fewer resources to complete fuels reduction projects on public lands

**WHEREAS,** FEMA review and approval of Hazard Mitigation Plans has been paused due to federal staffing cuts, indefinitely delaying the approval of Nevada County's recently-completed Hazard Mitigation Plan. Until FEMA completes its review and approval, our local jurisdictions are not eligible to use previously-awarded grant funding or to apply for any federal hazard mitigation grant programs.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** The Truckee Tahoe Airport District opposes the significant, catastrophic impacts to forest health and wildfire mitigation that will result from federal funding and staffing cuts to the United States Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and Army Corps of Engineers. We implore our Federal representatives to support the restoration of Federal funding and staffing to these agencies.

AYES:

NOES: none

ABSTENTIONS: none

TRUCKEE TAHOE AIRPORT DISTRICT

---

David Diamond, President of the Board

CERTIFICATION

I, Robb Etnyre, Secretary of the Board of Directors of the TRUCKEE TAHOE AIRPORT DISTRICT, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of Resolution No. 2025-01 adopted at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the TRUCKEE TAHOE AIRPORT DISTRICT this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2025.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto set my hand and impressed the official seal of the TRUCKEE TAHOE AIRPORT DISTRICT this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2025.

---

Robb Etnyre, Secretary of the Board