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# NEWS RELEASE

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## TRPA ANNOUNCES 2008 BEST IN BASIN AWARD WINNERS

**Lake Tahoe, Stateline, NV** – The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) will recognize recipients of the 2008 Best in the Basin Awards at its Governing Board meeting on Wednesday, January 28, at The Chateau in Incline Village, NV.

This is the 19<sup>th</sup> year TRPA's Best in the Basin award program has recognized projects demonstrating exceptional planning, design, and compatibility with the Lake Tahoe environment. Local professionals in the fields of architecture, landscaping, planning, engineering, and resource management served as judges.

"These are the property owners and professionals whose investment and work are a critical part of the restoration effort in Lake Tahoe," said Dennis Oliver, Best in the Basin program coordinator. "We recognize their extraordinary accomplishments as an example of the collaboration that is needed to take the restoration to the next level."

The 2008 Best in the Basin award winners are:

- **Best Mixed Use Project:** TRPA added the category this year in consideration of the increased emphasis being placed on transit-oriented development and smart growth in the Tahoe Basin and in the emerging Tahoe Regional Plan update. The winner is the Curtzwiler Building at 1089 Magua Street in Meyers, owned by Ken Curtzwiler. Work by contractor Chris Yazbuck, architect David Hand, engineer Jim Haen, excavator Dale Rise Construction. Landscaping by Tahoe Outdoor Living, parking lot by D&L Paving, cabinetry by Mountain High Cabinets, plumbing by Ed Senior, and roofing by K&K Services. All materials for the project were purchased locally at Meeks Lumber. All labor also was local.
- **Best Green Building Project:** Hackett residence, 1348 Dick Lake Road, South Lake Tahoe, Bret and Rosie Hackett owners. This home is expected to be certified in coming weeks as the first LEED Gold home in the Tahoe Basin. LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, spells out a global rating criteria taken into consideration for certifying green buildings. Work by contractor Christian Hurst, designer Healthy Home Consultants of South Lake Tahoe (Bret Hackett, [www.healthyhomeconsultants.net](http://www.healthyhomeconsultants.net)), and engineer William Pretcher.

- **Public Service:** Sky Forest Acres, 714 Emerald Bay Road, South Lake Tahoe, owner South Lake Tahoe Supportive Housing, Inc. This unique project provides independent living quarters for 18 special-needs residents and is the result of extensive collaboration and cooperation among many partners. Work by developer Accessible Space Inc. of Saint Paul, Minnesota; general contractor Broward Brothers Inc. of Woodland, CA; and architect Lewis Reedly of Lemur Designs of Sacramento. Special recognition goes to David Kelly of the Tahoe Area Coordinating Council for the Disabled.
- **Best Area-Wide Defensible Space Work:** Chinquapin Homeowners Association, at 3600 North Lake Tahoe Boulevard, Tahoe City. The Chinquapin complex is a 98-acre property with 172 condominiums and town homes on the Placer County shoreline. The defensible space and forest fuels treatments have been ongoing since 2005. Last year, Chinquapin was recognized as the Best in the Basin winner for best BMPs. Work by North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District hand crews, California Department of Forestry hand crews, CTL Forestry Management of Placerville, registered professional forester Bruce Seabold, and WMC Inc. Special recognition goes to Tahoe Regional Planning Agency forester Brian Hirt and the Nevada Fire Safe Council.
- **Best Residential Defensible Space Work:** Pretzer residence, 355 Snowflake Ave., Tahoe Vista, owner Carolyn Pretzer. Work by contractor Rockwood Inc. of Kings Beach. Special recognition goes to the Nevada Fire Safe Council.
- **Best Commercial Rebuild:** Tahoe Maritime Museum, 5205 West Lake Blvd., Tahoe City. Work by architects Cox and Kromydas, engineers Tieslau Civil Engineering, and contractor Devon Construction Company.
- **Best Restoration of a Historic Structure:** Tahoe Fish Hatchery, 2394 North Lake Boulevard, Tahoe City, owner University of California, Davis. Work by architects Collaborative Design Studio, Reno; civil engineers Gary Davis Group, Tahoe City; landscape architect, Design Workshop of Stateline, NV; general contractor Geney/Gassiot, Truckee; and historic architect Siegal & Strain, Emeryville, CA.
- **Best Erosion Control Project,** Crystal Bay Phase I Water Quality Improvement Project, Somers Loop Road, Washoe County. This area-wide erosion control / water quality project incorporates several cutting-edge techniques for stormwater management, including vegetated pavers, pervious concrete and large underground infiltration galleries. Work by engineers Nichols Consulting, landscape designers Integrated Environmental Restoration Services, and contractor Aspen Developer's Corporation. Funding by the Nevada Tahoe Bond Act and USDA Forest Service. Special recognition goes to the Nevada Tahoe Conservation District.
- **Best Management Practices (BMP) Retrofit:** The Crosswhite residence, 4676 North Lake Blvd., Carnelian Bay, Gary and Lynn Crosswhite owners. Work by owner/builder Gary Crosswhite, landscape architect L&P Design Works. Planning by Kaufman Planning.
- **Best Shoreland Project:** The Lane residence, 181 Paradise Flat Lane, South Lake Tahoe, Julie Lane Gay, owner. This home and guest home renovation project consisted of residential additions and interior and exterior remodels along

with a pier reconstruction. Work by architect/engineers Shelton and Bacon, and contractor GC Construction.

Each project owner will be presented with a certificate of appreciation during a ceremony at the beginning of the Governing Board meeting, which starts at 9:30 a.m. Information about the projects will also be displayed at the TRPA administration building in Stateline, NV. For additional details and photographs of these projects, please contact Dennis Oliver of the TRPA at 775-589-5235.

The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency cooperatively leads the effort to preserve, restore, and enhance the unique natural and human environment of the Lake Tahoe Region now and in the future.

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