

CLEAN UP THE LAKE

625 HIGHWAY 50 SUITE # 201
ZEPHYR COVE, NV 89448

Cover Page

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Document Objective:	CUTL & Town of Truckee - FY22 Donner Lake Monitoring Project Scope of Work

CUTL & Town of Truckee FY22 Donner Lake Monitoring Project

Scope of Work

Background: As you may remember in 2020 our non profit organization got out into Donner Lake and did it's first ever circumnavigated SCUBA clean up of the lake; pulling out 5,151.5 pounds of submerged litter. The project also helped us streamline protocols and operations for our non profit and dive teams.

FY22 Donner Lake Monitoring - Primary Scope of Work: After two years, we have decided to come back to do a monitoring project which consists of:

1) Scuba cleaning & monitoring the entirety of the same 0-25 foot zone cleaned in 2020, across the 8 mile circumference. This goal here is of course to remove any litter we see, but more importantly to gather and compare the data from two years ago to understand how it has changed and see if we need more trash cans, signage, etc or if everyones doing better. Also to better GPS mark hot spots for litter, heavy lift items for future removal, or any 'unknown' and possible historical finds to report to the town & state SHPO. Sadly, since the beginning of the monitoring project in the last couple of weeks we have pulled another 1,700 pounds of litter in about one mile of the shoreline.

2) Sampling hot spots at greater depth: we want to see how deep this litter issue goes, often wind, shoreline visitors and locals recreating, buoy fields etc tend to cause litter to be near shore. However there is plenty of reason and argument the issue could be the same at greater depths and we are planning a minimum of 3 hot spot dives at depths of both 75-100 feet and also 45-65 feet.

3) Expansion into Data Collection on Invasive Species & Algal Blooms: Our organization is using our resources to expand into other environmental impact areas including invasive species and algal blooms data collection. Across the 0-25 foot zone of the entire 8 mile circumference of Donner Lake our professional divers will be gathering photographic, video & GPS data on the presence of invasive species. Documenting any and all invasive seen and the distribution of algal blooms in these zones. We have been in discussions with Truckee River Watershed and the League to Save Lake Tahoe (*keep tahoe blue*) to understand any current work and knowledge of invasive to train our teams, including collaborating with the League to do their 'eyes on

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the lake training' for our divers while also doing further research of our own for other possible invasive issues.

4) Data Collection, Comparison & Analysis: Our team will be working with our Data Management Coordinator and PhD Environmental Scientist in order to analyze any and all data we have found to better understand how the submerged litter issue has changed since 2020 and identify any specific problem areas or the highest contributors to underwater-waste. This data will be used to help drive further monitoring and preventative efforts in 2023 and beyond.