

Tahoe Basin Water Blueprint: Workshop 2

Time: June 25, 2026; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Location: South Tahoe Public Utility District

Background on Tahoe Basin Water Blueprint

An initiative by El Dorado Water Agency (Water Agency)

- A prioritized action of the **Water Security Program** per Water Agency's 2026-2030 Strategic Plan (SP30+)
- An equivalent initiative will come soon for the West Slope

A regional water plan for the Tahoe Basin in EDC (El Dorado Tahoe Basin)

- Tiering from the Water Resources Development and Management Plan, as amended in 2024 (WRDMP24)
- Proactive and collaborative process to create shared regional water future with your help as the advisory group
- Focusing on cohesive regional approaches to improve water resilience and complementary and streamlined actions to plans of individual agencies and entities
- Scheduled to complete by June 2027

Agenda

Our goal for today – agree on a list of measures for further development.

Time	Item
10:00	Convening and Setting Intention
10:15	Blueprint Tahoe – Development Process and Review of Vulnerability List
10:30	Blueprint Tahoe – Initial List of Measures for Consideration
11:30	Example - Water for fire suppression & Wildfire Impacts on Water Quality
12:00	Lunch and Connections
12:30	Blueprint Tahoe - Marketplace of Ideas
1:45	Closing and Next Steps
2:00	Workshop adjourn. Thank you for joining us!

Our Work Together – Contribution

- ✓ Share technical knowledge, data, and organizational perspectives
- ✓ Develop collective thinking and opportunities coordination
- ✓ Focus on identifying and discussing potential projects, actions, or strategies in response to identified needs and opportunities
- ✓ Support the development of prioritized project portfolios

This working group is NOT a formal decision-making body; implementation decisions and actions ultimately rest with individual agencies and organizations.



Planning Framework and Development Strategy

Yung-Hsin Sun, Sunzi Consulting

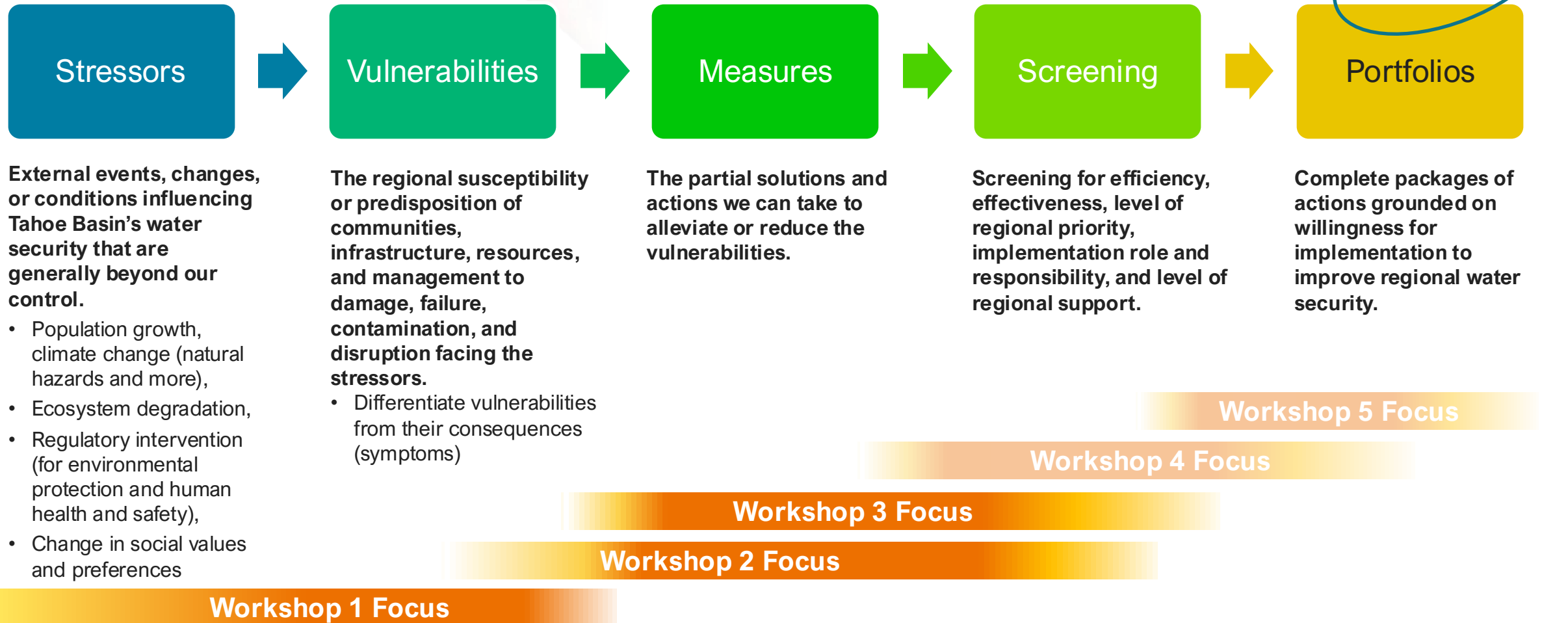
Blueprint as a Regional Refinement of WRDMP

- Connection to the WRDMP24, SP30+, CDRP, and other regional plans (e.g., TRPA, County, others) with:
 - Input from 10/2025 scoping meeting and workshops
 - Improved scientific and issue understanding
 - Experience in compliance with existing regulatory framework and perspectives of future changes
- Focus on **water security** with four areas of attention to reinforce integrated water management:
 - Water Supply
 - Water Quality
 - Public Safety
 - Cross Cutting Issues [added in Workshop 1]

What We Want from the Blueprint Tahoe

- Improved community resilience
- Stronger coordination
- Increased local capacity
- Policy or infrastructure improvement
- Public awareness and regional support

Blueprint Tahoe Planning Framework



Working Group and Workshops

- Working group (i.e., Y'all) is essential.
 - Blueprint does not interfere district-level operations, financial, and activities - respecting the role and responsibility of each district/agency.
 - Blueprint seeks opportunities for streamlining and complementary regional approaches and actions that are “MULTI-SOLVE.”
 - Districts/agencies may modify their plans accordingly if warranted to incorporate the support of regional actions.
- Workshops are the main tool for input with as-needed individual or topic-specific follow-ups.
 - Workshop design is to work together on issues/challenges, not review/advise.
 - Blueprint will not include actions or recommendations that no lead/passionate party for implementation (although acknowledged).

Use of Briefs

- Briefs are tactical writeups to support workshop discussion.
 - Mutual references and building on previous briefs are common due to their interconnectedness and the intent to avoid duplication.
 - Draft documents with information for intended discussion, including:
 - Clarification of issues for its scope, validity, and relevancy to Blueprint (water security emphasis)
 - Assessment levels of concerns based on available information and high-level data and tools
 - Potential measures/partial solutions or other recommendations
 - Collectively, information in these briefs contributes to final roadmap development but the briefs themselves will be archived for future reference.



Workshop 2 Plan

Orit Kalman, Facilitator

Workshop 2

- Updated Vulnerability Table – Mostly for reference because of in-depth discussion in Workshop 1
- Vulnerabilities and their measures/partial solutions (not a 1-to-1 mapping as the subjects are often interrelated)

Water Supply	Water Quality	Public Safety	Cross Cutting
Most topics Surface water use and potential drill down topics (e.g., water use efficiency) in Workshop 3	Most topics Potential drill-down topics (TBD) in Workshop 3	Water and fire resilience topics Flood resilience and potential drill-down topics (TBD) in Workshop 3	All topics Potential drill-down topics (TBD) in Workshop 3

Subject to refinement through workshop discussion

Regional Vulnerabilities (Water Security Focus)

Revised based on Workshop 1 discussion and subsequent research and assessment

- Feedback from Workshop 1 suggested that the vulnerabilities were well identified and described, with additional input from Working Group discussion → No additional time is allocated for further discussion
- A track-change version of the vulnerability list is available in the Public Folder.

Investigation Briefs were developed for the identified vulnerabilities (addressed in Workshops 2 and 3)

- Links to Briefs are available in the Public Folder (see next slide).
- Workshop handouts include new documents.

Available Briefs

➔ New briefs for Workshop 2

- A. 20260622 Blueprint Tahoe_Sewer Line in Environmentally Sensitive Areas
- B. 20260622 Blueprint Tahoe_Private Sewer Laterals
- C. 20260622 Blueprint Tahoe_Drinking Water System Consolidation
- D. 20260622 Blueprint Tahoe_Sustainable Groundwater Management
- E. 20260622 Blueprint Tahoe_Water 4 Fire Suppression_Rural Areas
- F. 20260622 Blueprint Tahoe_Workforce and Loss of Inst Knowledge
- G. 20260622 Blueprint Tahoe_Unintended Consequences Beaver Dams and Meadow Restorations
- H. 20260622 Blueprint Tahoe_Public Outreach and Education
- I. 20260622 Blueprint Tahoe_Regional Comm and Advocacy
- J. 20260622 Blueprint Tahoe_Wildfire Impact on Water Quality
- K. 20260622 Blueprint Tahoe_DACs and Vulnerable Populations
- L. 20260622 Blueprint Tahoe_SB 552 Imp Streamlining

From Workshop 1

- 20260410 Blueprint Tahoe_South Y Area PCE Contamination
- 20260413 Blueprint Tahoe_Dam Breach Inundation
- 20260414 Blueprint Tahoe_Small Water Systems
- 20260414 Blueprint Tahoe_Fire Protection 4 Structures
- 20260413 Blueprint Tahoe_Water Supply-Demand Imbalance
- 20260412 Blueprint Tahoe_Flood Risks

All Blueprint Workshop Information Packages are available at this [Public Folder](#).



Marketplace Discussion

Sewer System and
Environment (A, G)
Private Laterals (B)



Workforce (F)
Public Awareness
and Education (H)



Example Discussion

Fire Resilience (E, J)

SB 552 Implementation
(C, L, K)

Sustainable Groundwater
Management (D)

Regional Comm and
Advocacy (I)

- A. 20260622 Blueprint Tahoe_Sewer Line in Environmentally Sensitive Areas
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- L. 20260622 Blueprint Tahoe_SB 552 Imp Streamlining

Marketplace Discussion – Get Ready

- **Elevator pitch** of draft measures/partial solutions
 - Focus and coverage of the relevant briefs
 - Draft measures/partial solutions for discussion (Some are more complex than others)
- **Orientation** - Use of an example (fire suppression in rural areas)
- **Your feedback** via MS Forms*
 - Is this measure/partial solution appropriate for Blueprint Tahoe?
 - Opinions on cafeteria options of each major element of this measure/partial solution?
 - If implemented, how effective would this measure/partial solution be?
 - Other great ideas for regional implementation?
- **Time allotment** - We would like you input on all topics.

*Team used primarily multiple choices, rating, and optional short answers to make it easier for your input.



Marketplace Discussion: Measures/Partial Solutions Introduction

Stephanie Ard, Water Systems Consulting

Tom McCarthy, Santiago Water Strategies

Orit Kalman, Facilitator

Yung-Hsin Sun, Sunzi Consulting

Private Sewer Laterals



Critical Issue

Laterals = Hidden & Unmanaged Risk

- Laterals are privately owned and rarely inspected.
- Failures can leak sewage to groundwater, streams, and Lake Tahoe.

Real Incidents

- **2025:** Leaking private sewer lateral near Camp Richardson prompted beach closures.
- **2018:** Private sewer lateral leak near Kokanee neighborhood.
- **2005:** Broken private sewer lateral allowed sewage to flow into Angora Creek

Direction Forward: Shift from reactive to proactive

1. **Proposed Policy:** Develop a regional lateral compliance testing and certificate program.
2. **Data Management and Sharing:** Maintain a parcel-level databases using assessor parcel data, utility records, building code permit systems, etc.
3. **Public Education:** Expand educational information about the responsibility and care of private laterals.

Sewer Lines in Environmentally Sensitive Areas



Critical Issue

Critical infrastructure in high-risk locations pose direct water quality and public health risks.

Key Risks

- Many pipelines are 50-60+ years old and in SEZs, floodplains, and tributaries.
- Flooding and climate-driven high flows increase failure potential.
- Avoidance is often not feasible due to terrain and gravity constraints.

Direction Forward: Shift from reactive to proactive

1. **Proposed Policy:** Develop policy to require EIP to coordinate with wastewater utilities to assess potential impacts of future projects.
2. **Public Awareness:** Develop education material for the importance in coordinating with regional wastewater utilities when pursuing environmental restoration projects.
3. **Regional Coordination:** STPUD and TCPUD work with environmental restoration parties to facilitate co-benefit projects.

Sustainable Groundwater Management



The Critical Issue

Coordinated intent to downgrade the TVS Subbasin priority under SGMA.

Regional Considerations

- Groundwater demand decreasing and storage increasing
- Subbasin sustainably managed for over 20 years
- Contamination in the South Y area has shown to no impacts on regional water security
- No SGMA triggers or undesirable impacts

Direction Forward: Coordinate and seek relief

1. **Proposed Policy:** Continue to co-manage the TVS Subbasin for SGMA compliance and pursue TVS Subbasin priority downgrade to seek relief.
2. **Public Awareness:** The Water Agency will engage Blueprint Tahoe parties in the TVS Subbasin annual public meeting and information dissemination.
3. **Regional Coordination:** Water Agency and EMD will collaborate on ordinance development to formalize the requirements for GSA consultation management and acquisition of well data.

Regional Communication and Advocacy



The Critical Issue

Vulnerabilities are exacerbated when regulatory changes occur; resources and subject matter expertise become constraining factors for many groups to monitor and manage the change effectively.

Regional Considerations

- A collective approach is a known and implemented strategy in El Dorado Tahoe Basin for different circles and issues.
- A similar approach to promote measures requiring urgent attention, with support for outreach and messaging should be considered.

Direction Forward: Shift from reactive to proactive

Regional Coordination: Water Agency organize annual public meetings/partner workshops for Blueprint implementation, serving as the regional forum for water and cover various public needs, e.g., SGMA, Drought & Water Shortage Task Force, Blueprint Implementation progress, as well as public awareness needs for of changes and pending changes of vulnerabilities.

Subject to the concurrence of existing partnerships, coalitions, or collaborative groups, expand active participation for efficiency and coverage: fire suppression, wastewater, etc.

Public Outreach and Education



Critical Issues

Insufficient and uneven public awareness and understanding about water management challenges and issues

Regional Considerations

There is significant outreach and public education in the Tahoe Region with a focus on environmental stewardship — these efforts build public understanding of the link between environmental conditions and water resources.

→ There is lack of outreach/education related to water supply systems and infrastructure.

Direction Forward: Leverage existing outreach and education

Regional Coordination: Water agencies and small water systems can leverage and coordinate with existing outreach initiatives and build on educational opportunities in the Tahoe Region. Activities* may include:

- Creating fact sheets and publishing articles
- Developing public-facing maps and visual materials
- Providing educational tours
- Participating in community events and job fairs

* The marketplace booth will have a detailed table with information on suggested activities to support outreach and education on specific topics and opportunities for collaboration.

Workforce and Loss of Institutional Knowledge



Critical Issues

Workforce shortages and retirements are creating staffing gaps and eroding critical expertise.

Regional Considerations

There is no dedicated, coordinated water operator workforce development initiative specific to the Tahoe region.

There are, however, examples for regional workforce development models –

- BAYWORK Regional Collaborative Internship Program
- Imperial Empire IEWorks

Direction Forward: Convene a regional Coalition

Regional Collaboration: Establish a regional workforce development coalition in the Tahoe Region, similar to the BAYWORK model, to support a water operators workforce development that focuses on outreach, regional internships and apprenticeship, and regional reciprocity agreements.

Drinking Water System Consolidation



Critical Issues

SB 552 and HR2W

- Incomplete state's assessment of opportunities and inference
- Small water system's sustainability

Regional Considerations

- County and the Water Agency's facilitation role and significant education and outreach required for awareness and incubation of interest.
- Region's less competitive for state grants in the context of social vulnerability and hazard levels (not a bad thing!)

Direction Forward: Knowledge and Advocacy

1. **Proposed Policy:**

- Explore opportunities of system consolidation other than physical ones for continued education and support collaborative interest.
- Formulate regional-appropriate aggregated cost and supporting information for advocacy for suitable implementation and needed assistance.

2. **Tool and Data Development:** Refine State's opportunity assessment tool and basis of cost estimate; if possible, in collaboration with DWR and/or SWB.

Streamlining SB 552 Implementation



Critical Issues

- Significant difference between the Tahoe Basin and West Slope in the context of drought and water shortage
- Proportionally, more water systems with recreation and individual business setting

Regional Considerations

- Continued regulatory compliance with allowable and practical customization
- County's and the Water Agency's judicial responsibility of their public funding use
- Support the Tahoe Basin's recreation-focused economy

Direction Forward: Efficiency and Effectiveness

Proposed Policies:

- Separate move-forward planning and implementation for the Tahoe Basin and for the West Slope.
- Integrate SB 552 implementation with Blueprint integration to cover all systems
- Focus on SB 552 implementation more on systems with year-long residents and nontransient workers
- Establish Tahoe Basin Subcommittee in the standing County Task Force



Marketplace Discussion: Example – Water for Fire Suppression in Rural Areas

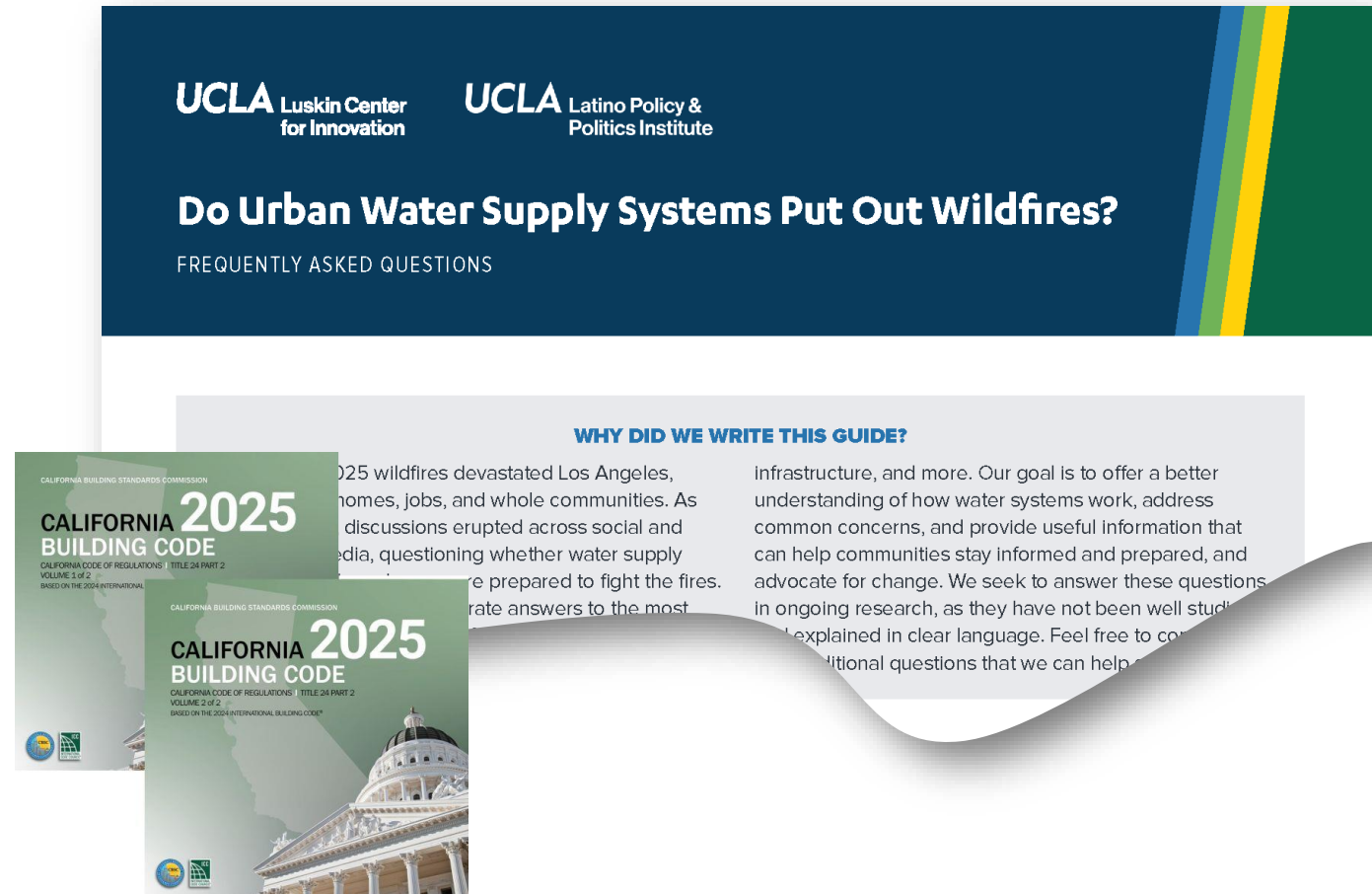
Yung-Hsin Sun, Sunzi Consulting

Water for Fire Suppression in Rural Areas

Critical Issues

- Water system's responsibility and liability in firefighting, especially in wildfire events
- Options in rural areas without a municipal-like water system*

*Very important phrase in this context.

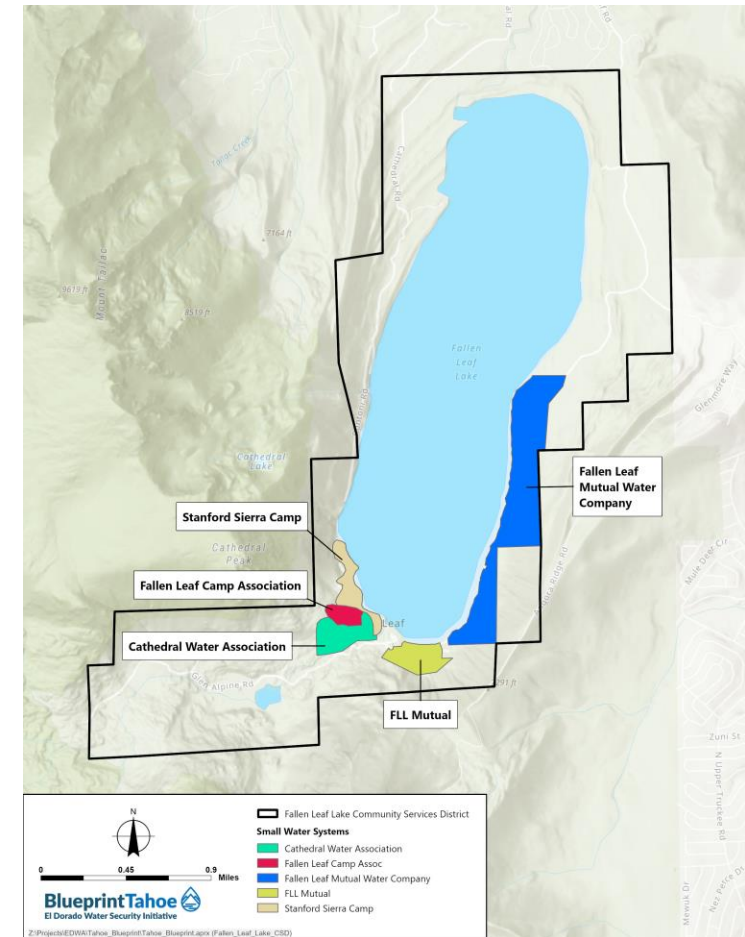


Water for Fire Suppression in Rural Areas

Considerations for Areas without a municipal-like water system

- Existing law and regulations in California Building Codes have very limited effects on communities with little or no growth perspectives
- Unaffordable approach from water system improvement direction* (Water Agency's 2023 Study)
- Long-term sustainability of local Fire Protection Agency (FPA) and questions about responsibility in the Federal Responsible Area (El Dorado LAFCO's 2022 MSRs)
- Pressure from insurance industry

*SB 552 includes expectation for fire flow implementation in small water systems, subject to funding availability. The identified affordability issue is not to comply with fire flow requirements but for implementing measures consistent with NFPA 1142.



Water for Fire Suppression in Rural Areas

Moving Forward

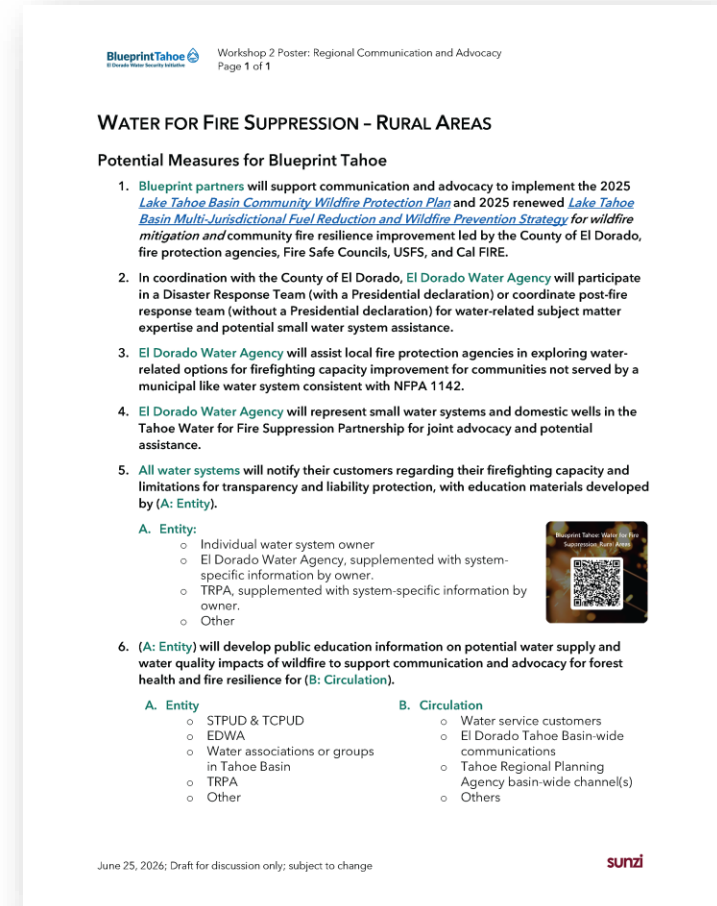
- Policy: Promote community-based fire resilience approach for rural areas without a municipal-like water system
 - Support the existing Lake Tahoe Regional fire resilience plans and implementation
 - The Water Agency's potential collaboration and support:
 - Participate in the Disaster Response Team organized by FEMA/CalOES*
 - Assist local FPAs in exploring options consistent with NFPA 1142
 - Participate in Tahoe Water for Fire Suppression Partnership representing rural areas without a municipal-like water systems
- Education: All water systems to clarify their corresponding capacity and limitations for firefighting for transparency and liability protection.

*The Water Agency's role in 2021 Caldor Fire Disaster Response Team to provide communication and support to water systems as needed.

Water for Fire Suppression in Rural Areas

Your Input Counts

- Setting up
 - Wall display on draft measures and key supporting information*
 - MS Form online for your input



*This example is a simple one.



Lunch Break



Marketplace of Ideas

Marketplace of Ideas

GOAL

Solicit input on draft measures/partial solutions for Blueprint Tahoe to address identified vulnerabilities.

YOUR MISSION

Visit stations around the room. **Provide feedback** directly to corresponding MS Form. Provide bonus suggestions to the station host.

FEEDBACK NEEDED — consider these at each station

1 Are these the appropriate measures? What other measures should be considered?

2 What opportunities or challenges might affect how we refine this idea?

3 Are these measures implementable? Effective?

4 Are you able to support or participate in this idea's implementation?

Thank You for Your Input on ALL Topics

- Get your stamp from your booth host after your input.
- Collect all 8 for a chance of winning a beverage at a local award-winning coffee house (3 counts).*



*Not affiliate with the Water Agency to win

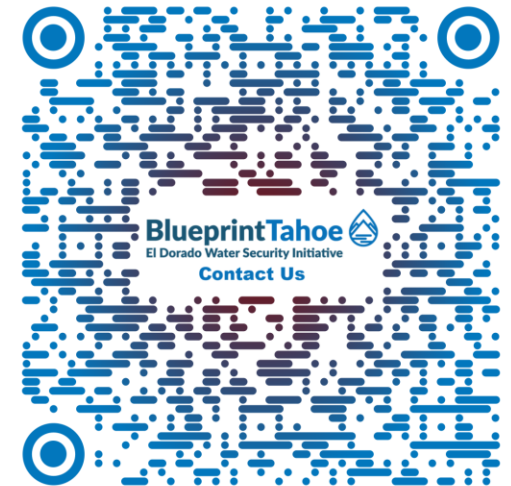


Next Steps

Yung-Hsin Sun, Sunzi Consulting

Next Step

- Consider input for measure improvement and subsequent portfolio packaging and roadmap development
- Develop content and draft measures/partial solutions for remaining identified vulnerabilities or topic drill down for Workshop 3
- Additional input:
 - Project email address: [Blueprint Tahoe Team*](#) (or QR code)
 - Contact Hannah Romero (Hannah.Romero@edcgov.us) and/or Yung-Hsin Sun (sun.yunghsin@sunziconsulting.com)
- Future Workshops:
 - Workshop 3: September 15, 2026 @ STPUD; 10 am to 2 pm



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Closing

Hannah Romero, El Dorado Water Agency