

U.S. Coast Guard
2500 Lake Forest Road
Tahoe City, CA 96145
Phone: (530) 583-4433
www.uscg.mil

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board
2501 Lake Tahoe Boulevard
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
Phone: (530) 542-5400
www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/

Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
P.O. Box 5310
128 Market Street
Stateline, NV 89449
Phone: (775) 588-4547
www.trpa.org

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT/INITIAL STUDY/
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR UNITED STATES COAST GUARD STATION LAKE
TAHOE YEAR-ROUND MOORING PROJECT**

January 10, 2020

TO: California State Clearinghouse
Nevada State Clearinghouse
California Responsible and Trustee Agencies
Other Interested Public Agencies
Interested Parties and Organizations
Affected Property Owners (within 300 feet of the
project boundaries)

FROM: United States Coast Guard
Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board
Tahoe Regional Planning Agency

RE: United States Coast Guard Station Lake Tahoe Year-Round Mooring Project

PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY: The U.S. Coast Guard (CG), Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (LRWQCB), and the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) have directed the preparation of a joint environmental document for the CG Station Lake Tahoe (Station) Year-Round Mooring Project. The document is an environmental assessment (EA) for the CG prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act; an initial study (IS) for the LRWQCB pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act; and an EA for TRPA pursuant to the Tahoe Regional Planning Compact, Code of Ordinances, and Rules of Procedure.

The project involves implementing modifications at the Station's existing private single-use pier (which was originally constructed in 1967 and upgraded in 2001) to provide consistent long-term, year-round mooring capabilities. The Station's existing pier is located at 2500 Lake Forest Road in Tahoe City, California. The existing pier is 312 feet long and 8 feet wide, and extends beyond the pierhead line to a lake-bottom elevation of approximately 6,220 feet, Lake Tahoe Datum (LTD). The pier is meant to provide access to the Station's two rapid response boats, and to ancillary equipment (including a fueling station and boat lift) that supports the operations of the response boats. The CG needs year-round, 24-hour, immediate access to the Station's rapid response boats to provide essential emergency search and rescue, law enforcement, commercial and recreational boating safety, and environmental protection services to the boating public and the agencies that use Lake Tahoe. Under current conditions, when water levels are low (generally October through January, and year-round during drought conditions), rapid response boats must be moored at alternate sites, increasing response times and creating safety and security issues.

The EA/IS/EA evaluates three alternatives at an equal level of detail. Under Alternative 1 (the Proposed Action), a barge-mounted excavator and a conveyor system would be temporarily connected to the station parking lot and used to dredge a channel adjacent to the existing pier to an elevation of 6,215 feet, LTD. The proposed dredging footprint would be approximately 410 feet long, would range from 50 to 90 feet wide, and would cover an area of approximately 27,816 to 29,749 square feet. The dredged material would be loaded into lined trucks that would be staged in the Station parking lot, and then transported to the Eastern Regional Material Recovery Facility near the

junction of State Route 89 and Cabin Creek Road in Truckee, or to another licensed, TRPA-approved upland disposal facility. Dredging would occur over an approximately 8-week period. Maintenance dredging would be required approximately once every 10 to 15 years to remove accumulated sediments and to maintain an elevation at the pier head of 6,215 feet, LTD. The Proposed Action also includes removing the pier's existing 8,000-pound capacity boat lift from the eastern side of the pier head, replacing it with an 18,000-pound lift, and installing a 35-foot by 8-foot floating dock. The location of some existing pier-head structures (e.g., existing lighting, ladders, railing, meteorology station, and fueling station) may also need to be reconfigured.

Under Alternative 2, dredging would not occur; instead, the Station's existing 312-foot pier would be extended by an additional 350 feet in a dog-leg formation, as follows: (1) a 5-foot-wide connecting span would extend the existing pier 250 feet south into Lake Tahoe; and (2) a new 100-foot-long and 8-foot-wide pier head would be installed and would angle west at an approximate 45-degree angle from the connecting span. Support for the new pier extension would be provided by 22 new piles installed in the lake bottom. Facilities on the pier head would include an 18,000-pound capacity boat lift (which would replace the pier's existing 8,000-pound lift); a 70-foot by 8-foot floating dock; a reconfiguration/relocation of the existing fueling station; and an extension of existing utility lines that run underneath the pier. Construction would occur over an approximately 7-week period.

Under Alternative 3, dredging also would not occur. The Station's existing 312-foot pier would be extended by an additional 450 feet in a straight formation, as follows: (1) a 5-foot-wide connecting span would extend the existing pier 350 feet south into Lake Tahoe; and (2) a new 100-foot-long and 8-foot-wide pier head would be installed and would extend straight to the south from the connecting span. Support for the new pier extension would be provided by 26 new piles installed in the lake bottom. Facilities on the pier head would include an 18,000-pound capacity boat lift (which would replace the pier's existing 8,000-pound lift); a 70-foot by 8-foot floating dock; a reconfiguration/relocation of the existing fueling station; and an extension of existing utility lines that run underneath the pier. Construction would occur over an approximately 8-week period.

PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT: Public review of the Draft EA/IS/EA will begin on January 10, 2020 and will run for 30 days, until February 10, 2020. The Draft EA/IS/EA is available for review at the following locations: the LRWQCB office at 2501 Lake Tahoe Boulevard in South Lake Tahoe, California; the TRPA office at 128 Market Street in Stateline, Nevada; the Tahoe City Library (740 North Lake Boulevard, Tahoe City, California); the Kings Beach Library (301 Secline Drive, Kings Beach, California); and the Truckee Library (10031 Levon Avenue, Truckee, California).

Comments on the Draft EA/IS/EA should be sent to:

Kelly Bayer
AECOM
300 Lakeside Drive, Suite 400
Oakland, California 94612
Email: kelly.bayer@aecom.com
Phone: (510) 893-3600