

Sustainable Recreation Working Group

Advisory Planning Commission July 2019

The logo for the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, featuring a stylized white tree icon to the left of the text.

TAHOE
REGIONAL
PLANNING
AGENCY

Highway snow play creating unsafe conditions on I80 as well as US50

Submitted by paula on Mon, 12/31/2018 - 8:55pm



Cars lining the onramp to I80 provided by Caltrans.

Inside: New cell tower to bring signal to Meyers.

FREE

TAHOE MOUNTAIN NEWS

Serving Lake Tahoe's South Shore Since 1994 Vol. 23, No. 7 • January 2019



Highway 50 in Meyers during the infamous back-up on Sunday, January 6. Photo by Jeffrey Spencer

"Overtourism"

In this month's Cover Story, editor Heather Gould explores the recent phenomena of "overtourism," its impact on Tahoe, and what experts are doing to control it.

HIKING

With outdoor recreation tourism booming, towns pick up the tab for squeezed US Forest Service

By Sophie Quinton, *The Associated Press* · Oct 19, 2018, 4:50 pm

463 SHARES

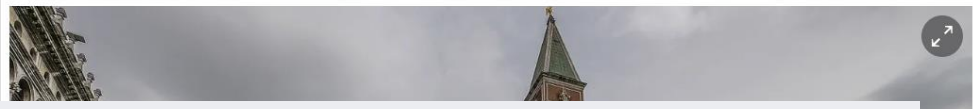


The Observer
Italy

The death of Venice? City's battles with tourism and flooding reach crisis level

Angela Giuffrida

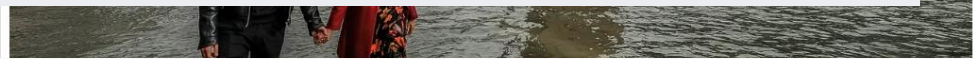
Sun 6 Jan 2019 04:00 EST



Unnatural Disaster: Will America's Most Iconic Wild Ecosystem Be Lost To A Tidal Wave Of People?

WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR GREATER YELLOWSTONE IF BOZEMAN BECOMES MINNEAPOLIS-SIZED AND JACKSON HOLE BECOMES AN ANCHOR FOR SALT LAKE CITY-LIKE SPRAWL?

by **Todd Wilkinson**



Overtourism: Can this problem be solved?



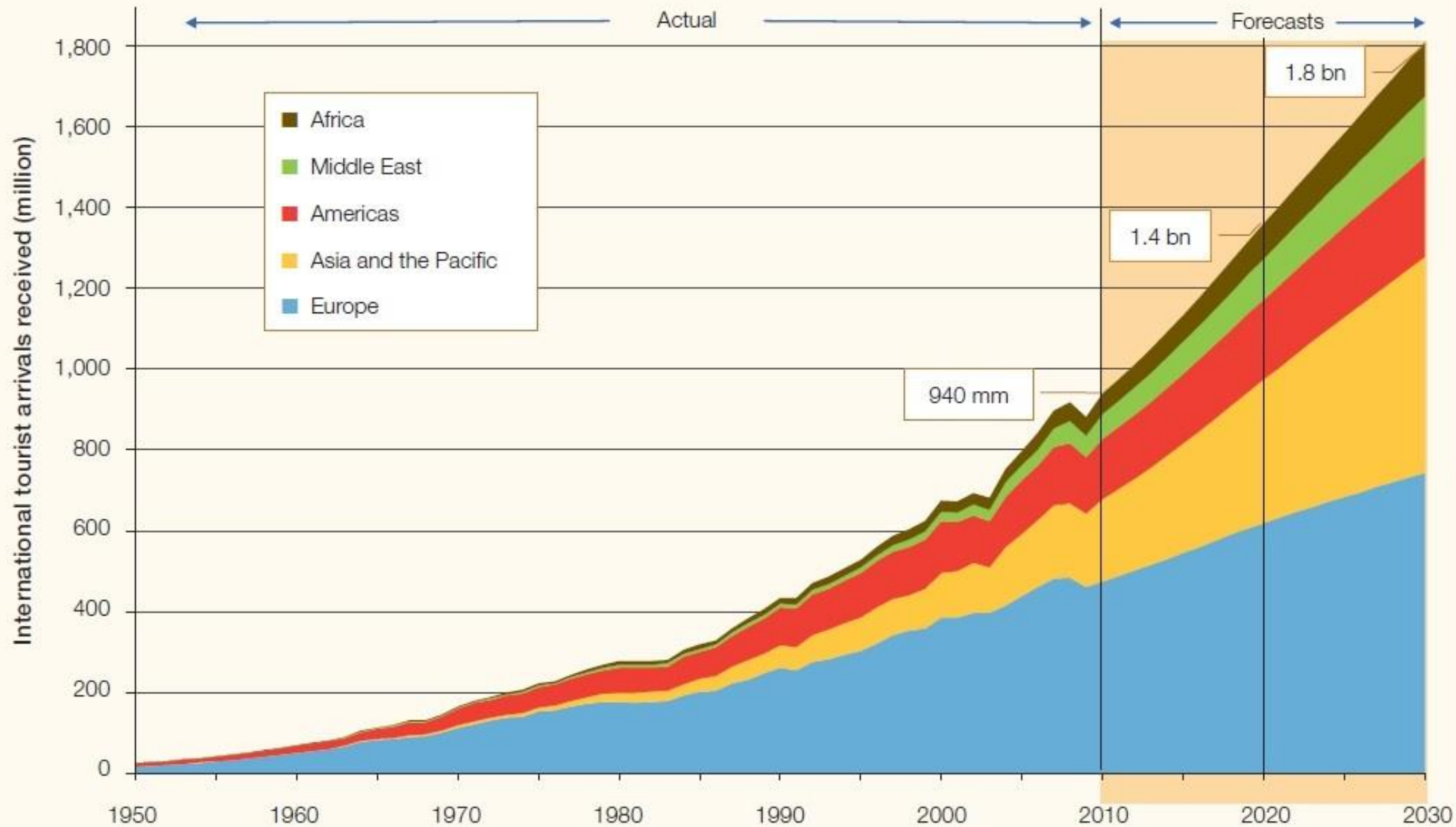
Katherine Martinko

feistyredhair

January 16, 2019



UNWTO Tourism Towards 2030: Actual trend and forecast 1950-2030





ECONOMIC

	Total Economy	Visitor Servicing	Environmental	Health
	\$5.1 billion	\$3.2 billion	\$1.1 billion	\$600 million

IN CALIFORNIA OUTDOOR RECREATION GENERATES:

\$92.0 BILLION
IN CONSUMER SPENDING ANNUALLY

691,000
DIRECT JOBS



\$30.4 BILLION
IN WAGES AND SALARIES

\$6.2 BILLION
IN STATE AND LOCAL TAX REVENUE



IN NEVADA OUTDOOR RECREATION GENERATES:

\$12.6 BILLION
IN CONSUMER SPENDING ANNUALLY

87,000
DIRECT JOBS

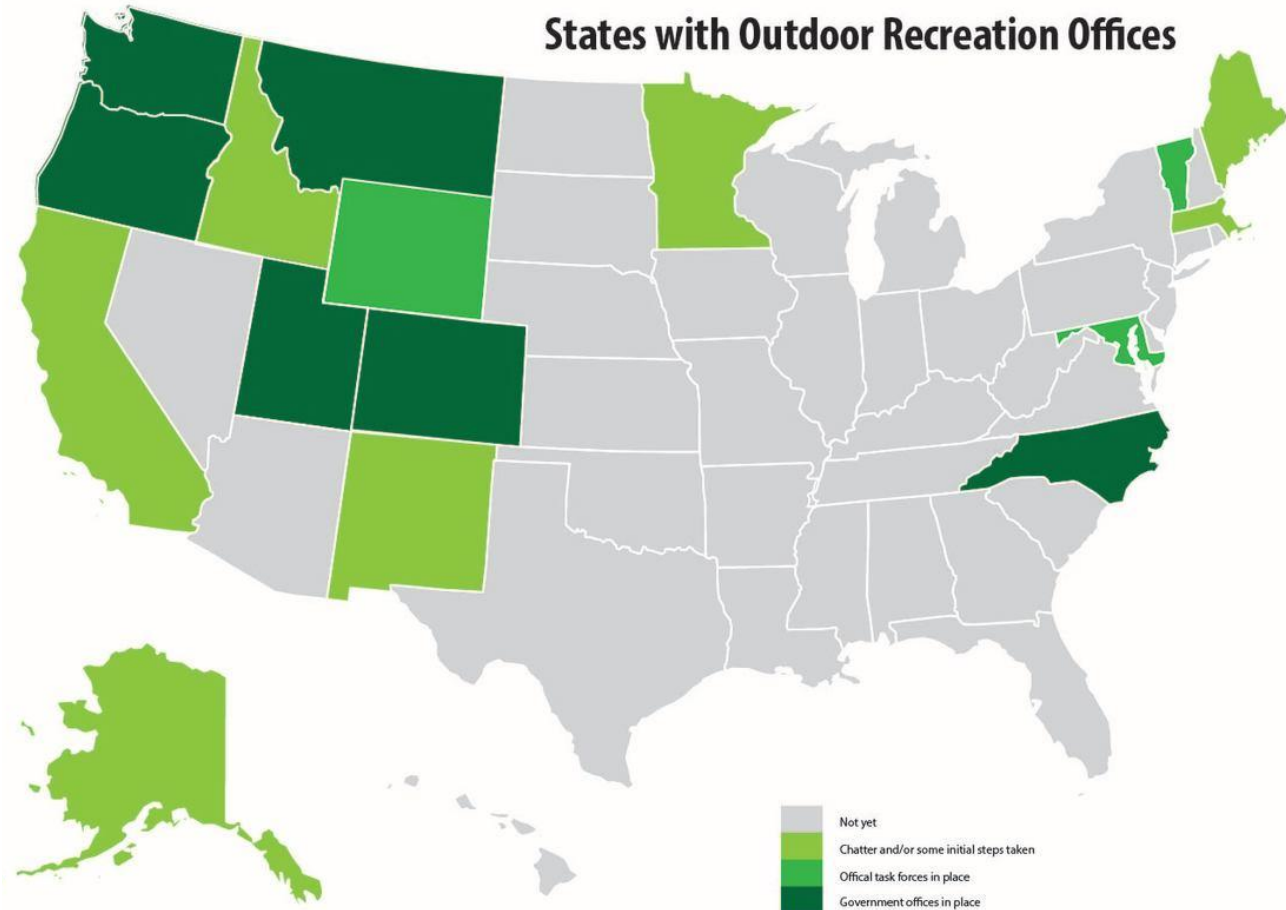


\$4.0 BILLION
IN WAGES AND SALARIES

\$1.1 BILLION
IN STATE AND LOCAL TAX REVENUE



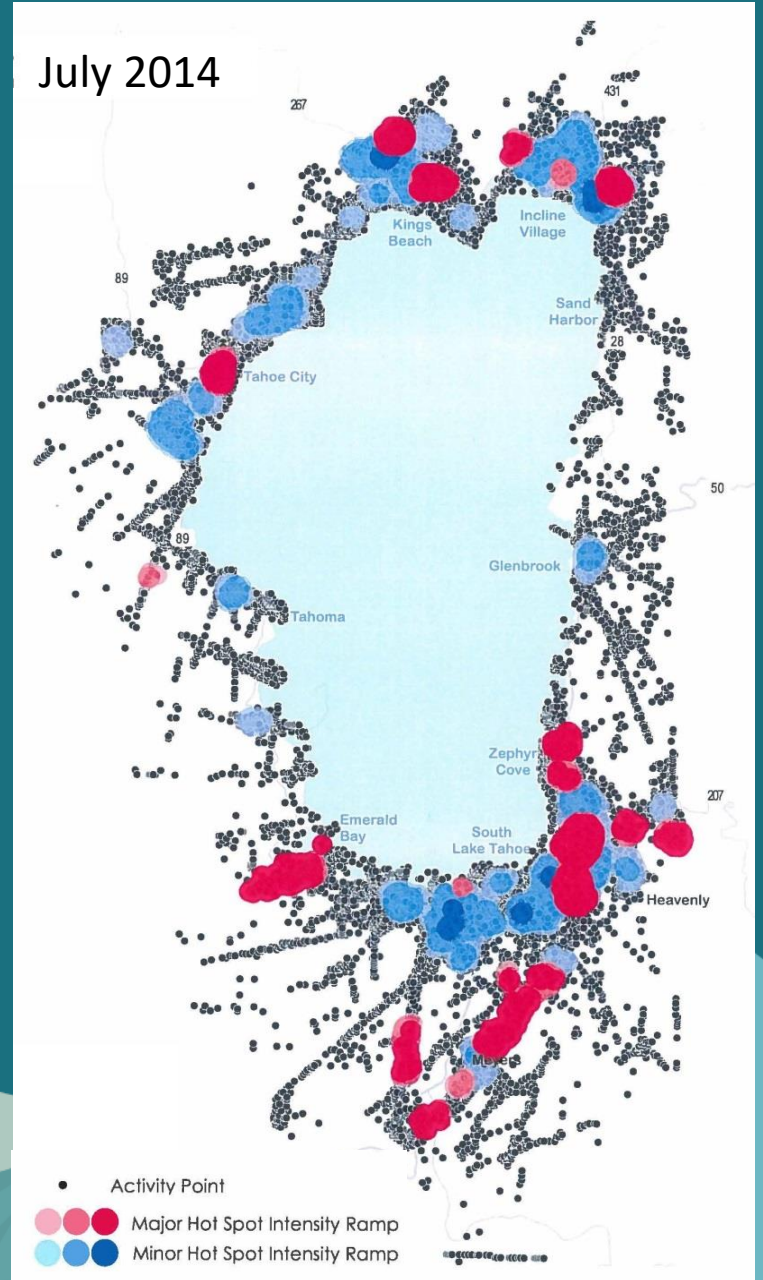
States with Outdoor Recreation Offices



Not yet
 Chatter and/or some initial steps taken
 Official task forces in place
 Government offices in place



Photo: Aurora Novis





What is the problem?

1. Increasing recreation demand; static or declining **funding**.
2. Peak **visitation levels** exceed capacity of infrastructure.
3. Insufficient **coordination** among agencies, recreation partners, and user communities.

Sustainable Recreation Working Group

Co-Chairs (USFS / TRPA)

Working Group

- CA State Parks
- NV State Parks
- USFS
- TRPA
- Tahoe City PUD
- Tahoe Fund
- League to Save Lake Tahoe
- Sierra Nevada Conservancy
- LTVA / Tahoe Chamber
- North Lake Tahoe Resort Association

Key Stakeholders

- Recreation Providers
- Concessionaires (CLM)
- Washoe Tribe
- Ski resorts
- Outfitter / Guides
- B.C. Alliance / Snowlands
- Wilderness Society
- Lake Tahoe Water Trail
- Motorized community
- TAMBA
- Climbers
- Rim Trail
- Anglers / Trout Unlimited
-and more

Vision

Connect people to Lake Tahoe.

Mission

Provide high-quality outdoor recreation experiences, while preserving and restoring the outstanding natural and cultural resources of the Lake Tahoe Basin.



Objectives

1. Increase **coordination** among recreation managers, non-profits, private sector
2. Identify, prioritize, and address **ongoing sustainable recreation topics**
3. Integrate **recreation management** into planning and implementation
4. Establish **basin-wide recreation indicators**, thresholds, and monitoring protocols
5. Develop Basin-wide **sustainable recreation strategy**

“WHAT VALUES WILL GUIDE OUR APPROACH TO SUSTAINABLE RECREATION IN THE LAKE TAHOE WATERSHED?”

1. SHARED LEADERSHIP	2. ACCESS	3. QUALITY EXPERIENCE	4. RESPECT COMMUNITIES	5. HEALTH & WELL-BEING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Share Experience and Knowledge For Everyone <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seamless And Accessible Recreation Experience <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consistent Unified Messaging <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation Messaging <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Involvement And Stewardship <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ethos Of Stewardship <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainability Education – Respect, Responsibility, Stewardship <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation And Preservation Of Resources <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protect Environment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thoughtful Land Stewardship <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Understand Recreation Impacts To Foster Stewardship <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Respect For Land And People <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informed Problem Solving – Science Based <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Innovation – Open To New Ideas And Technology <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cooperate, Collaborate, And 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equal Access <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inclusion and diversity (opportunities and cultural) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equity and equal access <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multi-user, low/no cost <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diverse public access <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diversity of experience/users <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provide and promote alternative transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Access and community connectivity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accessible, connected, active transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Convenient and improved access to public lands <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safe and fun <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reduce economic barrier to access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic ROI <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economy – Tourism, Funding Source <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Business Support <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Creates Memorable Experiences To Inspire Return Visits <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maintain Diversity Of Recreation Experiences <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provide High Quality Experience <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Opportunities For Quality Experiences <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Passion and Celebration Of Place <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Experiential Diversity Basin-Wide <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptance For Recreational Diversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Experience <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quality Of Life And Economic Driver <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation Of Community Identity And Character <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tahoe Culture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preserves Economic Opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Create restorative well-being benefits through recreation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inspiration from the beauty of nature <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fun and Adventure

EIP Program Update

- Sustainable Recreation priority area

State Route 89 Corridor Plan

- Integrate recreation considerations
- Case study for Basin-wide strategies

Science

- Socio-economic impacts of recreation
- Developing conceptual frameworks

Recreation Strategy

- Basin-wide strategy to achieve recreation vision
- Guiding document with strategies, tactics, and tools



Riders make their way down the Angora Ridge Trail. TAMBA (left). Ben Fish hikes above Emerald Bay. Amy Fish (right).

Primary Threshold Categories Improved by Program Objectives

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Water Quality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Recreation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Air Quality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Fisheries and Wildlife |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Soil Conservation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Noise |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Scenic Quality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Vegetation |



Anticipation

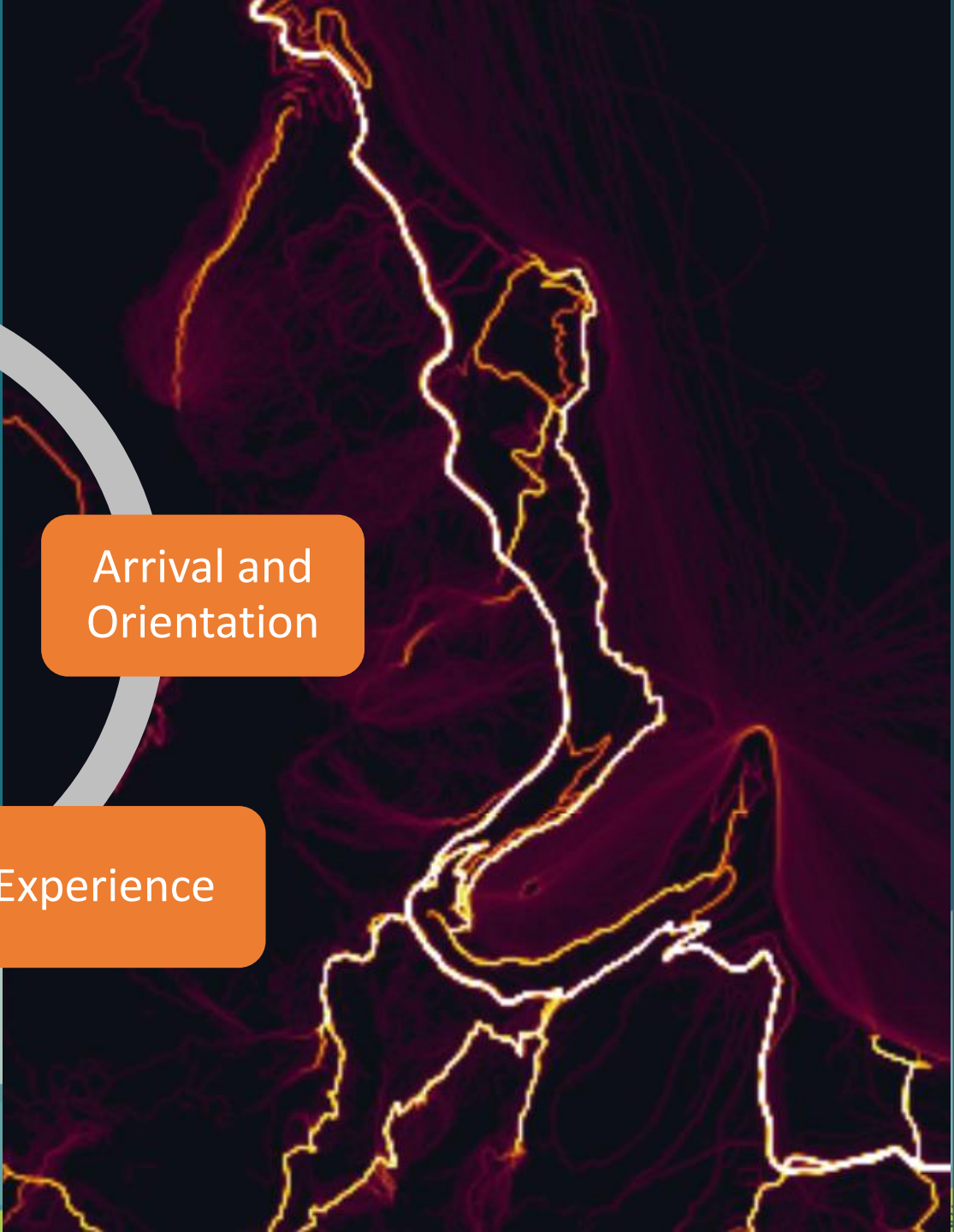
Savor

visitor experience cycle

Arrival and Orientation

Departure

Experience



Key Takeaways

Opportunities

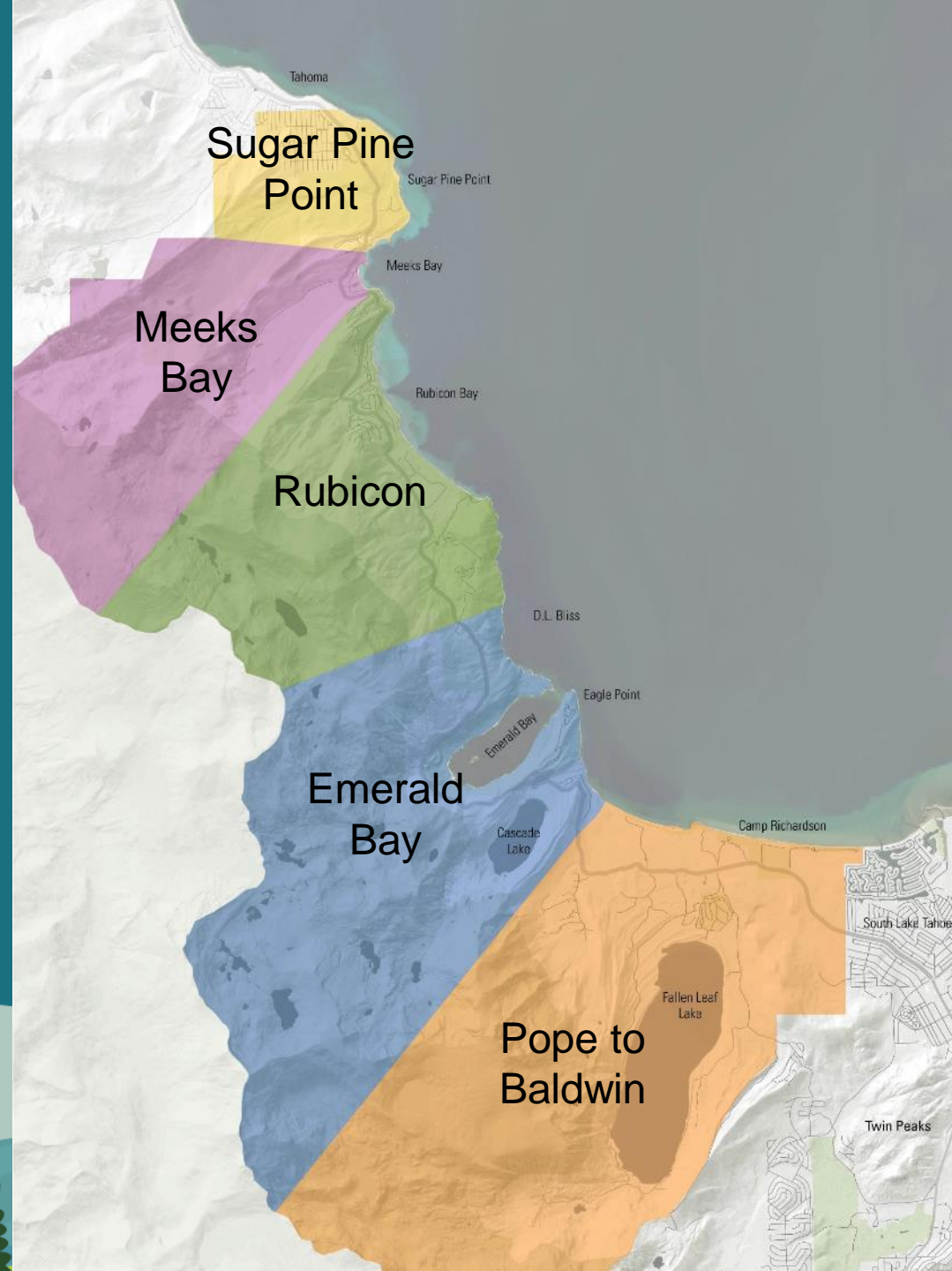
- Protect and enhance science beauty of Emerald Bay
- Desire to “do things differently”
- Better manage visitor use
- Year-round access and safety
- Support for relocating roadside parking
- Support for parking management strategies

Constraints

- Funding
- Road design limitations
- Volume of visitors/congestion
- Enforcement
- Technology
- Terrain/topographic and environmental constraints
- Avalanche control

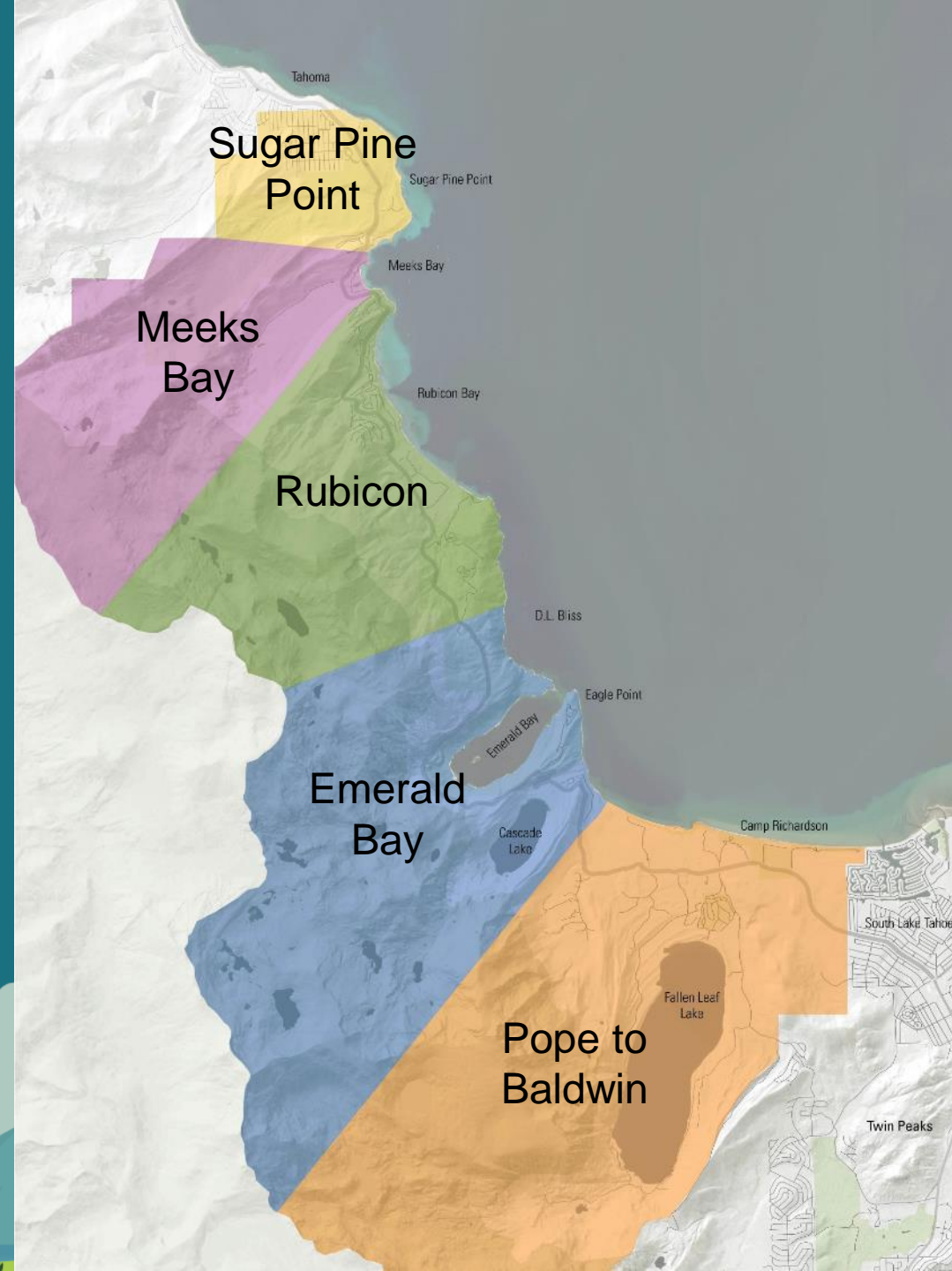
Data by Corridor Sub - Area

- Parking
- Traffic
- Active Transportation
- Recreation Activities
- Experience
- Who are our Users
- Length of Stay
- Reason for Visit



Strategies

- Visitor Use Management
- Parking Management
- Transit
- Path Improvements
- Enforcement and Safety Services
- Technology
- Year Round Access



Sustainable Recreation Framework

- Resource Management
- Visitor Experience and Visitation Levels
- Tahoe Trail
- Recreation Access: Transit & Parking Management
- Safety & Year-Round Access
- Highway Operations & Technology



Recreation Associated Impacts in the

Recreational Impacts on Basin Resources

Activities (A-Z)	Resource Areas										
	Wildlife Terrestrial	Aquatic Biota	Biodiversity	Vegetation	Wildfire Risk	Scenic	Water Quality	Air Quality	Soils	Soundscapes	Lightscaapes
Beach Going	Negligible	Localized impacts possible	Negligible	Yes, along access trails	Low potential	N/A	Possible impacts	N/A	Compaction/Erosion along access	Negligible	N/A
Camping	Yes, at campsites and proximate	Yes, proximate to campgrounds	Yes proximate to campgrounds	Yes, proximate to campgrounds	Yes, occurrence low at campgrounds	Negligible	Possible impacts	Yes, from campfires	Yes at campgrounds	Potential impacts	Potential impacts
Facilities Expansion	Wildlife displaced from footprint	Minor short term possible	Cumulatively important	Normally minor	During construction	Potential impacts	Potential impacts	Short term potential	Loss of productive soils	Potentially, depends on use	Potentially, depends on use
Fishing	N/A	Yes, to target species	Historically yes, currently low	N/A	Negligible	N/A	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible, except bank fishing	N/A	N/A
Hiking/Trail Running	Localized impacts, from people and dogs	N/A	Little information	Restricted to tread surface	Negligible	Negligible	Small on maintained trails	N/A	Compaction on trails surface, erosion risk	Negligible	Negligible
Horseback Riding	Small localized disturbance	N/A	Little information	Usually minor	Negligible	Negligible	Minor when managed	Negligible	Compaction and erosion risk on trails	Negligible	N/A
Motorized Summer uses	Displacement from trails	Yes, if WQ affected	Normally minor	Yes, on trails	Yes, but low occurrence of issues	Potential impacts, trails limited	Potential impacts	Potential impacts, relatively low	Erosion risk	Potential impacts	Potential, but night use low
Motorized Watercraft	Potential shoreline impacts	Yes, exotic species, disturbance of habitat	Yes, exotic species introduction	Negligible, low potential shore line impacts	Negligible	Yes, depending on use	Yes, depending on use	Yes, depending on use	N/A except at facilities	Yes, depends on use	Low potential
Mountain Biking	Small localized disturbance	N/A	Little information	Localized threat from unauthorized trails	Negligible	Negligible	Small on maintained trails	N/A	Compaction on trails surface, erosion risk	Negligible	Negligible, night riding no data
Nature Photography	Flushing response possible	Little information	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Motorized boating	Near-shore disturbance possible	Negligible	Negligible	N/A	N/A	Negligible	Low potential	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Picnicking	Yes, at designated sites	Negligible	Negligible	Yes, at Designated sites	Yes, from campfires	Negligible	N/A	Yes, from campfires	Compaction/Erosion at designated sites	Negligible	Negligible
Rock Climbing	Rare plants and animals affected	N/A	Inconclusive	Local effects	Negligible	Negligible	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sightseeing	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Low potential	N/A	Low potential	Low to moderate potential	Low potential	Negligible	Negligible
Skiing Backcountry	Potential impacts, frequency and extent	Negligible	Rare examples	Negligible	N/A	Negligible	Negligible	N/A	N/A	N/A	Negligible
Skiing Resorts	Yes, at facilities	Yes, at facilities	Potential impacts at high elevations	Yes, to high elevation species	Potential during summer use	Yes, significant impacts	Moderate potential, especially initially	Yes, little data	Yes, at facilities	Potential, depends on use	Yes, from night skiing
Snowmobiling	Potentially, risk appears low	N/A	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible in Tahoe Basin	Negligible	Negligible, with current technology	Negligible, with adequate snow	Yes, depends on frequency and extent	Low potential

Prepared by Christopher Knopp, Desert Research Institute, Reno, Nevada. <https://www.tahoesciencecouncil.org>

N/A means "not applicable", for example, nonmotorized boating does not impact terrestrial vegetation.

Negligible means impacts are theoretically possible but unlikely.



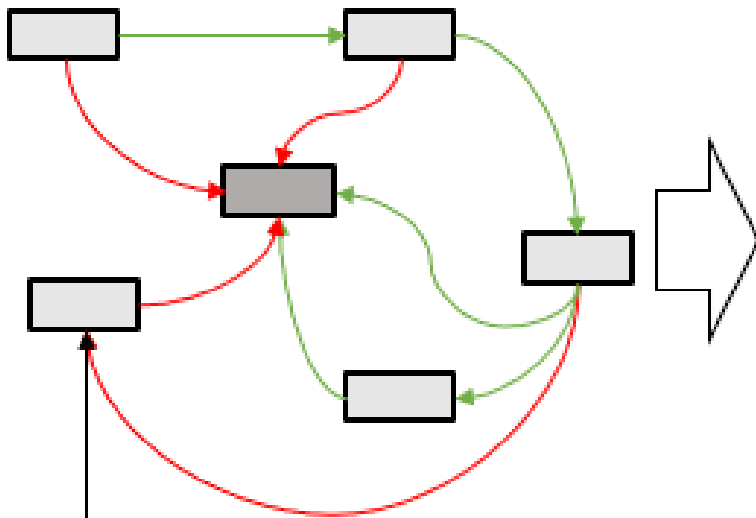
Desert Research Institute
Reno, Nevada



Science-Based Adaptive Management Structure

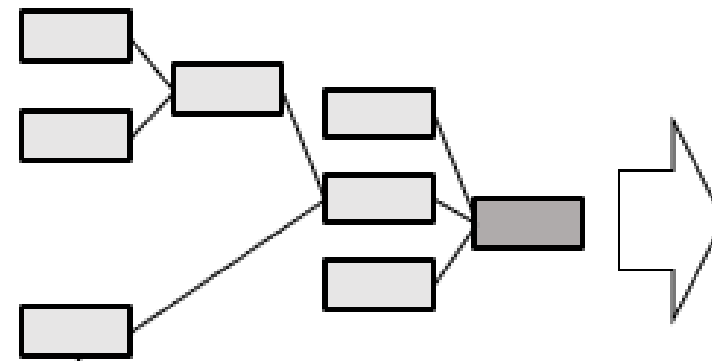
Conceptual Model

Scientific understanding of the processes and drivers that influence the state of the system (Science Groups)



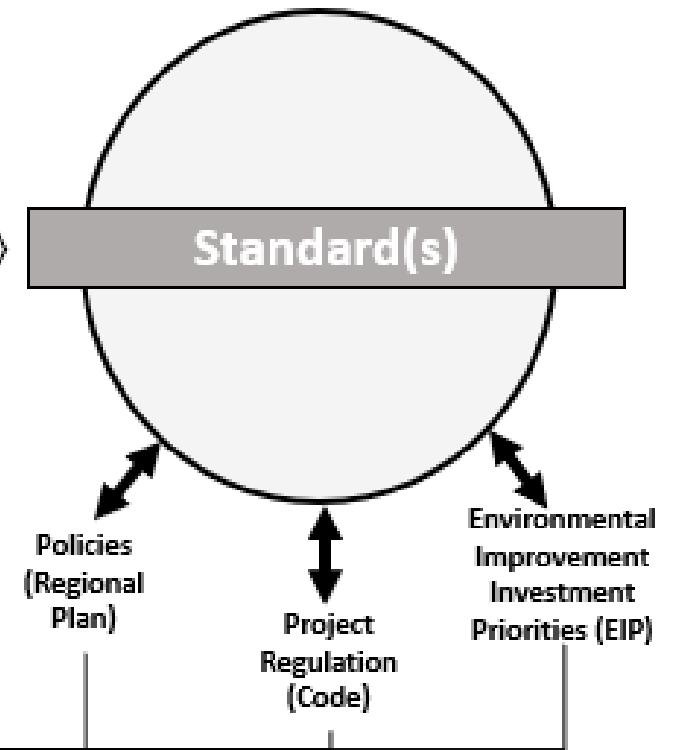
Results Framework

Explanation of management actions and their expected influence on the processes and drivers of the system, and ultimately the desired outcome (Policy Groups)



Standards System

Management of system to achieve desired outcomes through standards expressed in policy, regulations, and investment priorities (Public Input)



Monitoring and Feedback



Sustainable Recreation Strategy

Strategies

- What to you need to think about, why, and how?

Tools

- How will the strategies be implemented?



Isolated Impact



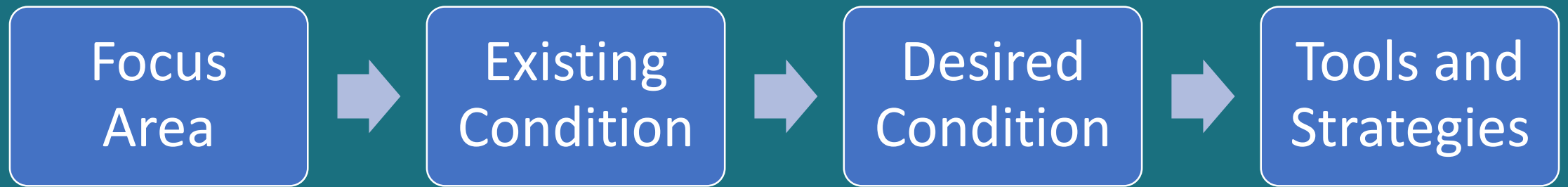
Collaboration / Coalitions



Collective Impact



Sustainable Recreation Strategy



Sustainable Recreation Strategy

