# 50% containment of Placer County fire

**By KCRA-TV**

FORESTHILL – Firefighters hit the halfway mark in containing the wildfire burning in remote Placer County, crews said Tuesday morning.

The numbers now stand at 2,650 acres burned, with 50 percent containment. About 170 homes remain threatened.

CalFire crews made significant progress Monday on the Robbers Fire, which ignited last Wednesday in a rugged canyon between the communities of Colfax and Foresthill.

Firefighters were helped by relatively high humidity and mild temperatures.

Winds, however, picked up Monday afternoon, with the line of the blaze most active in the north and northeastern flanks.

**Read the whole story**

---

# Campfire blamed for small blaze in Truckee

A man accused of allowing a campfire to grow into a small vegetation fire has been arrested in Truckee.

Truckee police have not released the name of the man arrested July 15 after the 3pm blaze broke out.

The fire was behind the Old Gateway business complex on Donner Pass Road. The fire burned about a 20 foot by 100 foot area of forested land.

*– Lake Tahoe News staff report*

---

# Opinion: Public lands being neglected

**To the community,**

All ecological conflicts are over space. Whose is it? What can or will be done with space? In the Tahoe basin we have creatures great and small. There are bears and mountain cottontails (three reside in my yard). And of course there's man who wants the basin's space to use for this and that and other things.

And there is the Forest Service ad the CTC. Government agencies that own land in the basin. They own many lots in the city of South Lake Tahoe. What do the agencies do with the land? Nothing except let the grass and weeds grow. And now is the season for fire. And the agencies will not make their property safe from fire. Especially the Forest Service.



Bill Crawford

Why the neglect? Why allow the overgrown space be a threat to life great and small? There has been a house fire across the street from my house and trees on a CTC lot next to the house fire caught fire. The city fire department (three engines) put the fire out.

We were lucky then. But the next time, who knows?

**Bill Crawford, South Lake Tahoe**

---

# Yosemite's Tenaya Lake area being renovated

**By Julie Cart, Los Angeles Times**

Yosemite National Park's favorite beach is getting a face lift.

Tenaya Lake, the sparkling alpine oasis along the park's busy Tioga Road, is being upgraded this summer with new parking and picnicking facilities. The trail system is being rerouted to avoid harm to the shore's delicate wetlands.

The renovations are intended to undo decades of neglect to basic services, repairing parking lots and restrooms, and also to ease damage done by the free-range trampling by families trekking to the lake to swim and paddle in the summer and ice skate in the winter.

A portion of the new East Beach trail will include a boardwalk that guides hikers over the wetlands rather than through them and for the first time will provide easy access to the beach

for visitors in wheelchairs and families with strollers.

The $1.7-million project is underwritten by the Yosemite Conservancy and expected to be completed by the end of summer.

Conservancy President Mike Tollefson, a former Yosemite superintendent, said the renovations have been much needed, especially because they add to the handful of sites in the 1,200 square-mile park that are handicapped accessible.

**Read the whole story**

---

# Wooden Classic Boat show comes to Tahoe Keys Marina

The South Tahoe Wooden Boat Classic: A Vintage Boat Show for Charity takes place at the Tahoe Keys Marina on July 27 from noon to 5pm and on July 28 from 9am to 5pm.

In addition to over 20 different boat manufacturers, there will be several 1960s drag boats to see on land as well as in the water.  Kris Diehl and his Dixieland band are performing and there will be tastings of Korbel California Champagnes & Pacifico beer, a BBQ lunch and the Honey Bee Ice Cream truck.

A two-day pass is $15 and are available at Raley’s or Bel Air stores. Tickets will be $20 at the gate. Kids under 12 are free.

---

# Advocates lobby for second boat wash at Fallen Leaf Lake, agencies in basin cry poor

**By Jessie Marchesseau**

Fallen Leaf Lake is clean. That is, it is still free of aquatic invasive species.

The Fallen Leaf Protection Association would like to keep it that way. Members of the Lake Tahoe Aquatic Invasive Species Program, made up of dozens of organizations including the TRPA, TRCD and USFS, would also like to keep it that way. However, coming to an agreement on the best way to go about it has proven to be a daunting task.

Aquatic invasive species, including Eurasian watermilfoil and Asian clams, have already been identified in Lake Tahoe and Donner Lake. Spooner, Martis, Bucks and Lilly Lake have also fallen victim to the watermilfoil. But other area lakes including Echo, Boca, Stampede, Prosser and Fallen Leaf have all managed to keep their free and clean status.



Some people would like it mandatory for non-motorized watercraft to be inspected before entering Fallen Leaf Lake. Photos/Jessie Marchesseau

Once infected, these species are nearly impossible to eradicate and are costly to control. The communities surrounding Lake Mead spend more than $20 million a year in an effort to control one of the worst AIS infestations in the U.S. These invasive creatures can affect water clarity, native plant and animal life, clog water intake pipes and, if the infestation is bad enough, even affect water potability.

In 2011, the roving non-motorized watercraft inspector at Fallen Leaf Lake logged 428 inspections. Of those, 18 were not clean, drained and dry (the most effective method for preventing transport of AIS). However, more than half came from infested waters or waters whose AIS status was unknown. Each one of these watercraft poses a threat to the waters of Fallen Leaf Lake. For this reason, members of the FLPA do not believe the current system of prevention is good enough.

Under the present plan, boat inspections are mandatory for motorized boats entering Lake Tahoe, Echo Lake and Fallen Leaf. Fallen Leaf also has a mandatory boat wash at its marina where every watercraft, motorized or not, is thoroughly washed with hot water by trained personnel.

“Everyone is real cooperative,” Jerry Giese, weekend harbor master at the Fallen Leaf Lake Marina, told *Lake Tahoe News*. “Nobody wants to be the one to put something in the lake.”

In addition to the boat wash at the south end of the lake, USFS personnel screen everyone entering the campground at the north end of the lake with any type of watercraft. They ask how long it’s been since it was in the water, how long it has been dry and what water it has been in within the last month. The personnel write all this down, along with the license plate of the vehicle and check their list of infected waters. If the boat came from infected water, they call the AIS hotline set up by Tahoe Resource Conservation District and send the guest to the boat inspection station in Meyers.

The TRCD and Fallen Leaf Lake Community Services District also share the cost of a full-time roving non-motorized watercraft inspector. She roams the campground, boat launches, and other areas inspecting watercraft and educating paddlers about AIS and the measures necessary to prevent infestation.

The FLPA has been pushing for years to install a second boat wash at the north end of the lake specifically for non-motorized watercraft. It is already mandatory for all motorized boats to be washed; they want to extend that mandate to non-motorized.

The U.S. Forest Service, which owns the campground, and other members of the non-motorized watercraft working group have been reluctant to approve the group’s proposal and have denied it a number of times, including this spring.

“No one in the working group was dead set against the idea or

thought it was a bad idea," said Ted Thayer, aquatic invasive species program manager for the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency.

However, Thayer and other members of the working group stated that as a whole they believe adding the additional wash would not be the most effective use of limited public funds. They decided sticking with the current plan of education and outreach is a more effective strategy.

Mike Kraft said the community members had originally offered to foot the bill for the wash as well as provide personnel to run it when they first proposed the idea years ago. The money has since been put to other uses. But some members of the working group thought it might be just what they need to get their plan passed at this point.



Fallen Leaf Lake's boat wash is at the marina.

"It would be a great reason to revisit it, if the Protection District could provide funds, so there would be no burden to the group," said Patrick Stone, invasive species control project manager at the TRPA.

For now, paddlers will have to clean, drain and dry their own boats before heading to Fallen Leaf or drive to the south end of the lake where marina personnel are more than happy to do

it for free.

To learn more about preventing the spread of AIS and become a registered self-inspector, go online.

---

# Beer cocktail – an old drink is new again

**By Troy Patterson, Slate**

The big wet story of this incandescent summer concerns your ice-cold beer, America. Ask yourself: Has that pint in your hand been sugared or spiced or juiced up? Repurposed as a mixer? Elevated with a jigger of liquor?



All the papers are onto you. News flows from all corners about happy marriages of stout and bourbon and about elderflower liqueurs fragrantly flirting with pale ales. Last May, Frank Bruni reported on "the advance of beer cocktails" (called such "whether or not the drinks include hard liquor"); this May brought notice of the book Beer Cocktails: 50 Superbly Crafted Cocktails that Liven Up Your Lagers and Ales (including the Maru—a fruity booze-up inside your Sapporo). The mass-market gateway to the new frontier stands in St. Louis, where Anheuser-Busch HQ has launched Shock Top Lemon Shandy, a wheat beer "perfectly complemented by spices and natural lemonade flavor." And meanwhile the kids on happening Hillhurst Avenue in Los Angeles are infusing gin with hops, mixing it to make "Gin & Chronic," and telling LA Weekly that it evokes a

cottonmouthed hint of pilsner.

America, you drink 20 gallons of beer per head per year, and you’re definitely adulterating some of it. Yet, despite the efforts of cunning commerce and supple craft, the beer cocktail has never taken off as a respectable beverage. This is uncharted territory, exciting and dangerous. I sense your keen thirst for helpful hints, pro tips, and historical context.

Read the whole story

---

# Placer County Library surveying public to design services

As part of a strategic planning process, the Placer County Library is implementing a system-wide community survey to obtain feedback from its users and non-users.

The survey will gather information about wants and needs of the Placer County community. Library services will then be designed around these priorities.

The survey is posted on the library website and will be available in paper form in all the libraries.

To access the survey online, go to the library website and then click on the Community Survey link.

# Sierra Nevada College hosts student advising days

Sierra Nevada College is hosting Transfer Student Advising Days on July 18 and Aug. 1 for students to have their transcripts evaluated by a faculty adviser and determine an estimated timeline for graduation.

Requirements to transfer in two years are 60 total transferable credits, 12 credits that meet core requirements, 18 credits that meet major requirements and major declaration when registering for initial term.

Students who wish to apply for Fall 2012 can still do so for free in person or online. Applications completed at the advising day will be reviewed by the Office of Admissions and an acceptance decision will be made that same day.

Contact Senior Admissions Counselor Paul Thibodeau at pault@sierranevada.edu or (866) 412.4636 to sign up. The Office of Admissions can also conduct advising appointments by phone or in person by appointment.

---

# Truckee-Tahoe Humane Society extends fundraiser for new

# shelter

The Humane Society of Truckee-Tahoe has re-launched its Heroes Now & Forever campaign to raise another $1 million dollars to build its new shelter.

The Truckee Town Council recently voted to contribute $3.5 million to the project; additionally the town has donated land for the building site. The non-profit has raised $2.4 million so far.

Built to house eight dogs and 30 cats, the current shelter cannot accommodate the growing population HSTT cares for, which can number 25 dogs and up to 70 cats at any given time.

For more information or to contribute, go online or call (530) 587.5948.