

DOCENT MANUAL

Table of Contents

I. Docent Program Information

• Docent Program Description	1
• Important Contact Information	2
• Docent Roles and Service Excellence	3-9
• Docent Task List – Incline Village	10
• Docent Task List – Tahoe City	11
• Docent Pledge	12
• Visitor Tracking Form	13
• Docent Hours Tracking Form	14

II. Exhibits of the Tahoe Science Center

• Tour Cheat Sheet	1-2
• Introduction and Exhibit Messages	3-7
• Welcome Tour Groups and Individuals	8-9
• Lake Tahoe Basin Watershed Map	10-12
• Key Physical Features of the Tahoe Basin	13-15
• Turning on the Science Center	
○ Front Desk Computer	16
○ Lake Tahoe in Depth Screens	16
○ Small Touch Screen Near Buoy	17
○ “Shaping Watersheds” Augmented Reality (AR) Sandbox	18
○ Aquarium Lights	18
○ Microscope	19-20
○ Large TV Monitor Next to Elevator	20-21
• Operating the Video Exhibits	22-25
• Troubleshooting the Exhibits	26-30
• Video Exhibit Script, Talking Points, Questions/Discussion	
○ Virtual Research Vessel – Chapter 1	31-34
○ Virtual Research Vessel – Chapter 2	35-41
○ Virtual Research Vessel – Chapter 3	42-48
○ Virtual Laboratory – Chapter 1	49-55
○ Virtual Laboratory – Chapter 2	56-59
○ Virtual Laboratory – Chapter 3	60-64
• Research in Action Photo Wall	65-67
• 3-D Visualization Lab	
○ Operating the 3D Visualization Lab	68-69
○ Troubleshooting the 3D Visualization Lab	70-71
• Self-Guided Exhibits for Science Center Tour Extensions	
○ Take Care Tahoe Exhibit	72
○ Green Building Exhibits	72
○ Forest Health and Fire Exhibit	73
○ Tree Identification Exhibit	73
○ Lake Tahoe In Depth Touchscreen Exhibits	74-85
• Green Building Tours	
○ Green Tour Introduction	86

○ Green Building Information	87-94
○ Green Building Tour Talking Points	95-109
○ Green Building Systems	110-123

III. Eriksson Education Center

• Tahoe City Field Station General Information	1
• Introduction to the Eriksson Education Center	2
• Daily Docent Duties	3-4
• Tour Guidelines/Cheat Sheet	5-6
• Background Information	7-8
• Interior Exhibit Panels	9
• Timeline (History of the Hatchery and Introduced Species)	10-12
• Interactive Exhibits on the Touchscreen Monitor	13-14
• Microscope Use	15-16
• Outdoor Interpretive Panels	17-19
• Best Management Practices	20-21
• Plant Identification Signs	22-23
• Historic Food Web Poster Talking Points	24
• Current Food Web Poster Talking Points	25-28
• Citizen Science (Phenology and Water Quality)	29-39
○ Sample Stream Monitoring Data Sheet	40-41
○ Sample Phenology Form (Bigleaf Lupine)	42-43
• Frequently Asked Questions	44

IV. Science and Research at Lake Tahoe

• Environmental Problems Facing Lake Tahoe	1-4
• TERC Research at Lake Tahoe	5-15
• Lake Tahoe Facts	16-20
• Protecting Lake Tahoe	21-23
• Four Decades of Change – by Dr. Charles Goldman	24-27

V. Additional Resources

• Important Acronyms	1
• Lake Tahoe Vocabulary	2-4
• Limnology	
○ The Secchi Disk	5-6
○ Research Vessel John LeConte	7-8
○ Research Buoys on Lake Tahoe	9
○ Wetlands 101	10-12
• Biology	
○ Species of Lake Tahoe's Aquatic Food Web	13
○ Lake Tahoe Species Introduction Timeline	14
○ Changes in the Aquatic Food Web	15-19
○ Fishes of the Lake Tahoe Basin	20-26
○ Lahontan Cutthroat Trout	27-30
• Geology	
○ Structure of the Earth	31-32

○ Earthquakes	33-40
○ Tahoe Geology	41-55
○ Tahoe Basin Geologic Timeline	56
○ Geologic Time Scale of the Sierra Nevada	57
○ Tsunami in Lake Tahoe	58-59
● Lake Tahoe Report Articles	
○ What Do Watersheds Matter?	60-61
○ How the Lake Interacts with its Watershed and Ecosystem	62
○ How Erosion Hurts Water Quality	63-64
○ Why Measure Water Quality at Lake Tahoe?	65-66
○ Can Lake Tahoe Be Saved?	67-68
○ Where Does Tahoe Water Pollution Come From?	69-70
○ Best Management Practices (BMPs)	71-72
○ Under the Water – Phytoplankton	73-74
○ Under the Water – Periphyton	75-76
○ Tahoe’s Natural History	77-78
● Maps	
○ Watersheds in the Lake Tahoe Basin	79
○ Lake Tahoe Bathymetry	80
○ Lake Tahoe Geologic Map	81
● State of the Lake Report Flyer	82-83
● Citizen Science App Flyer	84-85