



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Restoring the Lakes Depths Foundation Celebrates Earth Day 2024 with Major Lake Tahoe Cleanup Projects

Zephyr Cove, NV – April 22, 2024 — In celebration of Earth Day, the Restoring the Lakes Depths Foundation (RLDF) proudly announces the kick-off of its summer season with multiple intensive cleanup projects focused on removing microplastics and trash from the shores and depths of Lake Tahoe. These projects aim to extract over five tons of debris, building upon last year's incredible success and reinforcing the Foundation's unwavering commitment to protecting our planet's precious freshwater resources.

Our Story: A Quest to Restore Lake Tahoe

The Restoring the Lakes Depths Foundation was born from a simple yet powerful moment – the loss of a beloved hat to the winds over Lake Tahoe. This event sparked a realization: countless items vanish beneath the waves, transforming accidental losses into harmful litter. These submerged items, from sunglasses to toys, clutter our cherished lake and threaten its pristine clarity.

Advanced Technology for a Cleaner Lake

To achieve our ambitious goal, we utilize the advanced BlueROV2, an underwater robot equipped with a gripper designed to remove trash and conduct underwater surveys. This cutting-edge technology allows us to explore and clean areas from the shallows at 25 feet to the deepest recesses at 1,640 feet.

Scott Fontecchio, Director of Operations at RLDF, underscored the impact of ROV technology in the cleanup efforts:

"I'm thrilled with the progress our ROV team has made in cleaning the lakebed over the past two years," Fontecchio said. "We've covered over 10 square miles, removed more than five tons of debris, including 2,160 pounds, with our ROV, and carefully mapped our work for future expansion. Our advanced technology enables us to reach areas previously inaccessible, ensuring a more comprehensive cleanup."



Lindsay Kopf, the foundation's Founder and Executive Director, highlighted the strategic vision moving forward:

"2023 was a groundbreaking year for our team, demonstrating the incredible potential of our approach to tackling pollution," Kopf remarked. "We're proud to have cleaned multiple waterways, removing over five tons of debris. Our success with our ROV in Lake Tahoe is just the beginning. This summer is an exciting new era as we form strategic partnerships to expand our impact. Our commitment is unwavering: we will continue developing innovative solutions to reduce microplastic pollution, ensuring the long-term health of the Sierra Lakes and beyond."

Media Contact:

Let's get you out on the lake with our team!

Coop | Director of Communications & Public Relations

Restoring the Lakes Depths Foundation

C: (530) 307-9264 | **E:** Coop@icloud.com | **W:** Restoremylake.org

Be Part of Our Mission:

Join the Restoring the Lakes Depths Foundation — a community of passionate individuals dedicated to protecting Nevada and California's freshwater lakes. We begin with Lake Tahoe, employing state-of-the-art remote underwater vehicles to cleanse the lake beds of microplastics and debris, extending from shallow waters to the deepest points.

Support Our Efforts to [Keep Lake Tahoe Blue](#):

As we strive to preserve the clarity and beauty of Lake Tahoe, we rely on the generous support of volunteers and donors like you. Here's how you can help:

Volunteer: Come to our next cleanup event and see firsthand the difference you can make. We welcome individuals of all skill levels to participate in our efforts to restore Lake Tahoe.

Donate: Your donations are vital to sustaining our cleanup operations and expanding our reach. Every contribution helps us maintain and upgrade our equipment, ensuring the effectiveness of our projects.

Visit our website at [Restoremylake.org](https://restoremylake.org) to sign up to volunteer or make a donation. Together, we can achieve a cleaner, healthier Lake Tahoe.

About Earth Day

Earth Day is a global movement that aims to mobilize individuals and organizations toward positive environmental action. Since its inception in 1970, Earth Day has been instrumental in driving progress on critical issues such as climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss. To learn more, visit [Earth Day's official website](#).