

## TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY

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# NEWS RELEASE

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For Release Immediately

May 23, 2006

**Lake Tahoe - May 23, 2006** – National Bike to Work week, May 15 -19, proved to be highly successful here at Lake Tahoe. Eleven basin-wide agencies and businesses participated in the Lake Lapper Challenge – a weeklong event encouraging employees to ride their bicycles to work in an effort to reduce vehicle emissions and improve Lake Tahoe's air quality. With 95 riding participants, competitors completed a combined total of 2,439 miles, or 33 laps around Lake Tahoe.

“Challenging our fellow agencies has raised awareness of the importance of improving bike and pedestrian access and safety at the lake. It also recruited a few new bicycle commuters,” said Angela Moniot, TRPA Communications Representative. “One north shore rider reported she hadn't been on her bike in over 13 years but after riding all week, she enjoyed it so much, she plans to ride two days a week.”

Participating agencies this year included the: California Tahoe Conservancy (CTC), City of South Lake Tahoe, El Dorado County Department of Transportation Tahoe Engineering Division, Gary Davis Group, Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID), Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Tahoe Public Utility District, South Tahoe Public Utility District, South Tahoe Refuse, USFS Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU), and the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA).

The following is a list of the Lake Lapper Challenge results:

**MOST TOTAL MILES:**

TRPA: 361

CTC: 352

Lahontan: 339.1

LTBMU: 333.75

**HARDEST RIDE:**

IVGID: 9,900 vertical feet of climbing

**MOST AVERAGE MILES PER RIDER:**

South Tahoe Refuse: 45 average miles per rider

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## **2-2-BIKE**

### **MOST MILES PER EMPLOYEE:**

El Dorado County: 15.13 miles per employee

### **HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF EMPLOYEES RIDING:**

El Dorado County: 6 out of 12 employees

### **MOST TOTAL RIDERS:**

Lahontan: 16 riders, or 32 percent of staff

### **HONORABLE MENTIONS FOR MOST INDIVIDUAL MILES:**

Jeremy Rutherford, South Tahoe Public Utility District: 90 miles

Michael LeFrancois, Gary Davis Group: 88 miles

Stewart McMorrow, California Tahoe Conservancy: 86 miles

Vivian Ridley, US Forest Service: 83.25 miles

In addition to the friendly agency competition, the TRPA utilized the challenge to raise money for the agency's Environmental Scholarship Fund – a fund that has supported six scholarships over the past two years for graduating seniors pursuing careers in the environmental field. With support from the agency's Governing Board, Advisory Planning Commission, and fellow employees, the TRPA is collecting monetary donations to help support next year's scholarship fund. Donations are being accepted through May 31.

The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency cooperatively leads the effort to preserve, restore, and enhance the unique natural and human environment of the Lake Tahoe Region now and in the future. For additional information and complete results, visit [www.trpa.org](http://www.trpa.org) or contact Angela Moniot at 775-588-4547, x 235.

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