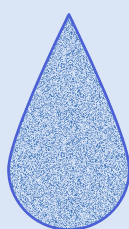


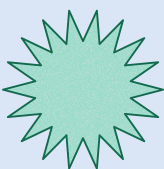
# THE LOWDOWN ON LAKE TAHOE

Lake Tahoe has been a place of beauty, spirituality, and fun for over 10,000 years!



## WASHOE TRIBE

It's unclear exactly when descendants of the Washoe Tribe first came to Tahoe, but as its first residents, they likely arrived over 10,000 years ago.



## 1920's

### GEORGE WHITTEL JR

George Whittel Jr. was called the Great Gatsby of Lake Tahoe. As the heir to the PG&E corporation, Whittel had a mansion on the lake, and was known for his eccentric parties and exotic pets. He was often seen driving to Reno with his favorite pet lion, making a name for himself for decades to come. You can still see his home, Thunderbird Lodge, on the east side of the lake, where his yacht is still housed and used today.

## LATER SETTLERS

John C. Fremont came to Tahoe in 1844, and it quickly became a hot spot for gold and silver miners. After the building of the transcontinental railroad, the lake was home to some of the wealthiest California residents, and was the site of one of the first casinos in the area.

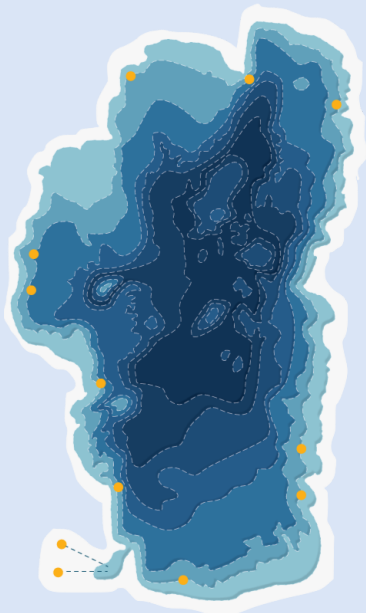
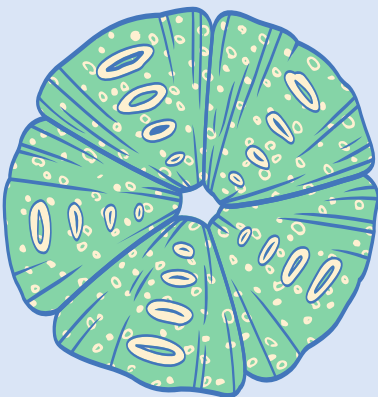


## WHY IS TAHOE SO BLUE?

We always hear "Keep Tahoe Blue", but what causes this beautiful color to occur? Back in the 1950's, large development caused the lake to become polluted and lose clarity. Since then, the League to Save Lake Tahoe has worked through the Clean Water Act to mitigate this damage and return the lake to its former glory. Because of their efforts to clean the lake, clarity has been restored up to 67 ft. Since the water is so deep and clear, red light is not absorbed, causing the beautiful blue color we see today!

## LAKE TAHOE AQUATIC LIFE

Due to a lack of algae in the lake, it is home to very few species. While it's a fisher's paradise, not much else lurks in these depths! There are at least 8 species of native fish, 15 species of introduced fish, as well as the mysid shrimp, Asian clam, and North American beavers!



## INFORMATION SOURCE

Environmental Protection Agency;  
About Lake Tahoe

Keep Tahoe Blue; Fun Facts and History

Wikipedia; Lake Tahoe