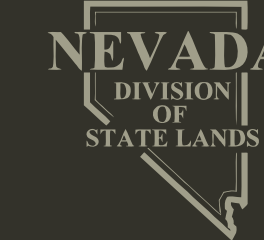


# BURKE CREEK

## *through the years*

During Lake Tahoe's history, people have modified many of its rivers and creeks for activities including logging, livestock grazing, and gravel mining. These changes have impaired some streams' natural functions. Through restoration projects, public and private entities are working to restore ecological benefits to Lake Tahoe's rivers and creeks and reduce the amount of pollutants reaching Lake Tahoe.



1940

The meadow around Burke Creek, owned by the Rabe family, was used for cattle ranching and was heavily grazed. Burke Creek was relocated and the western portion of the meadow was filled to develop the first airport in the Tahoe Basin, the Sky Harbor Airport.



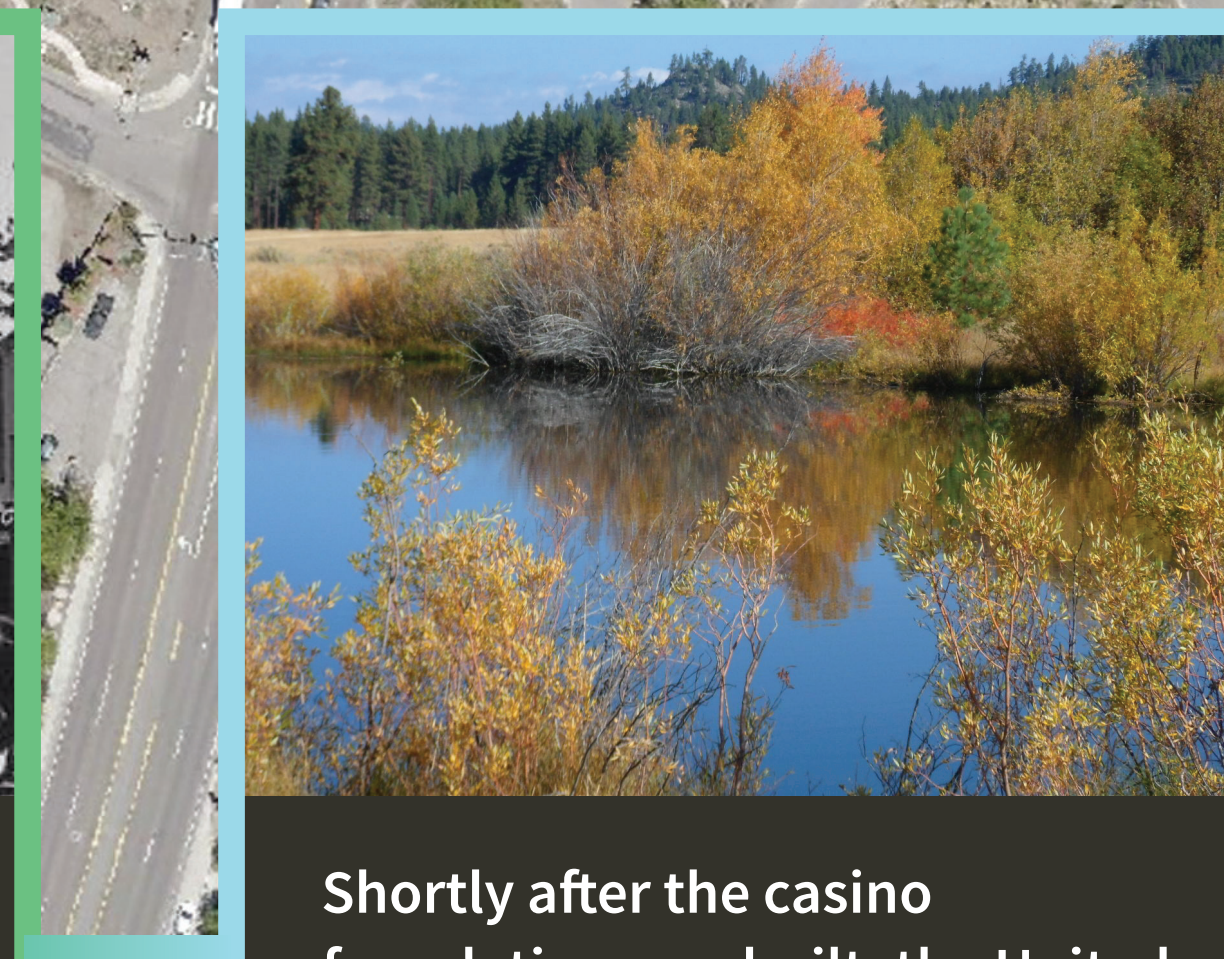
1969

The Sky Harbor Airport was poorly engineered, and was shut down before 1950 leaving Lake Tahoe without an airport until 1958. The abandoned airstrip along Burke Creek was developed as a residential neighborhood in 1969.



1978

The Rabe family sold their land in 1978 to a casino developer. Work began on the "Ted Jennings Palace" and the building foundation was laid.



1980

Shortly after the casino foundation was built, the United States Forest Service bought the property in 1980. The Forest Service immediately began restoration efforts, removing the casino foundation and reversing some of the damage done to the meadow and stream.



2016

Approximately 200 feet of Burke Creek just past this sign was realigned in 2016. Prior to this project, the creek flowed perched on a slope just above a parking lot and then through a 300 foot long pipe to Rabe Meadow. The project removed the parking lot, built a new channel and floodplain, and replaced a deteriorating culvert under U.S. Hwy 50.