

Final
Environmental Impact Report/
Environmental Impact Statement/
Environmental Impact Statement
Upper Truckee River Restoration and
Golf Course Reconfiguration Project



Volume V

Lead Agencies:



California State Parks



Lake Tahoe
Environmental
Improvement Program



Bureau of Reclamation

FINAL
Environmental Impact Report/
Environmental Impact Statement/
Environmental Impact Statement
Upper Truckee River Restoration and
Golf Course Reconfiguration Project



Volume V

Lead Agencies:



California State Parks

P.O. Box 16
Tahoe City, CA 96145

Attn: Cyndie Walck
CEQA Coordinator
(530) 581-0925



Lake Tahoe Environmental
Improvement Program

P.O. Box 5310
Stateline, NV 89449

Attn: Brian Judge
TRPA Project Manager
(775) 589-5262



Bureau of Reclamation

2800 Cottage Way, Room E-2606
Sacramento, CA 95825

Attn: Myrmie Mayville
Lake Tahoe Program Manager
(775) 589-5240

Upper Truckee River Restoration & Golf Course Reconfiguration Project

I101

Dan Jensen [djensen2@charter.net]

Sent: Thursday, November 11, 2010 10:17 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

Sirs,

I am a local golfer and use the Country Club Golf Course more than any other individual golf course. I would like to see golf course changed as little as possible and lower the sediment entering the lake in a manner that effectively incorporates funding, environmental protection, and preserves economical viability of the area.

My **1st Choice** would be **Alternative 4: Engineered Stabilization (18-Hole)**

- This proposal would most likely render the least down time for the golf course, minimum loss of revenue
- Jobs associated with the golf course would be least affected.
- Maintain Washoe Park as intended, open space used by the general public, possibly avoiding law suits that might delay project.

My **2nd Choice** would be **Alternative 2: River Restoration & Reconfiguration of Golf Course (18-Holes)**

- This would keep an 18-hole golf course, maintaining the revenue and associated jobs, I don't think a 9-Hole course is viable economically.
- End project would most likely resemble and function as the historical meadow.
- If this project is successful, it might encourage acceptance of other restoration projects in the area.

I101-1

Daniel Jensen
890 Roger Ave.
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

I101-1

The commenter's primary support for Alternative 4 followed by support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

I102

FW: Lake Tahoe Golf Course

McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Sent: Tuesday, September 07, 2010 11:38 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

From: Walck, Cyndi

Sent: Thursday, August 26, 2010 10:40 AM

To: 'Seana Doherty'; kathy strain; 'Tracy Owen Chapman'; McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Subject: FW: Lake Tahoe Golf Course

From: Curtis John [mailto:curtis@hsrei.biz]

Sent: Thursday, August 26, 2010 7:31 AM

To: Walck, Cyndi

Subject: RE: Lake Tahoe Golf Course

Regarding the changes to the Lake Tahoe Golf Course:

I believe the California State Parks should adopt Alternative 2.

This would restore the Upper Truckee River, enhance the surrounding wetlands/animal habitat and reduce silt flowing into Lake Tahoe while keeping our 18 hole golf course by moving 9 holes to a currently available area outside the river flood plain.

I102-1

I102-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

**Upper Truckee River Restoration & Golf Course Reconfiguration Project EIS
Comment**

I103

Curtis John [curtis@hsrei.biz]

Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2010 12:28 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

To: Cyndie Walck, Sierra State Parks

I am a resident of Lake Tahoe and I believe the California State Parks should adopt Alternative 2 as outlined in the draft EIS/EIR/EIR document because it is good for the lake and the local economy/community.

From my perspective, a few of the reasons to adopt Alternative 2 are:

- 1) It restores the Upper Truckee River, enhances the surrounding wetlands and animal habitat and reduces silt flowing into Lake Tahoe.
- 2) It keeps the 18-hole golf course open by moving 9 holes to a currently available area outside the river flood plain.
- 3) This alternative would keep the only affordable, regulation size, 18-hole golf course in Lake Tahoe.
- 4) The proposed new area (outside the flood plain) for the new 9 holes is currently a blighted area that would be positively affected by development of the new 9 hole tract.
- 5) Reducing this golf course to 9 holes or removing the course entirely will deprive the area of a major recreation opportunity currently provided by our California State Parks (speak nothing of reducing State Park revenue – removal of LTGC is likely to result in reductions in other areas, even elimination of other State Parks). Removal of the golf course, or reducing it to 9 holes will most certainly deter golfers from other regions from visiting South Lake Tahoe, and thus reduce number of hotel room-nights, number of restaurant visits, and other tourist activities, which will result in job loss and reduced revenue to the community.
- 6) In addition to the beautiful surroundings, South Lake Tahoe is attractive golf destination because it has an affordable 18 hole championship course. (Edgewood IS NOT AN ALTERNATIVE AS IT COSTS MORE THAN \$200.00 PER PLAYER PER ROUND.) Without Lake Tahoe Golf Course, people will choose alternate golf destinations.
- 7) The local golf course is critical to our local economy. The impact to our already fragile local economy would be negatively impacted by as much as \$6 million dollars each year if the golf course were removed.

We need to vote for Alternative 2. **It is a good compromise for our community AND the lake.**

Thank you,
Curtis R. John
1392 June Way
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

I103-1

I103-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its recreation, economic, and environmental value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

I104

FW: Lake Tahoe Golf Course

McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Sent: Tuesday, September 07, 2010 11:38 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

From: Walck, Cyndi

Sent: Thursday, August 26, 2010 10:39 AM

To: 'Seana Doherty'; 'Tracy Owen Chapman'; kathy strain; McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Subject: FW: Lake Tahoe Golf Course

From: Georgene John [mailto:georgene@hsrei.biz]

Sent: Thursday, August 26, 2010 7:32 AM

To: Walck, Cyndi

Subject: Re: Lake Tahoe Golf Course

Regarding the changes to the Lake Tahoe Golf Course:

I believe the California State Parks should adopt Alternative 2.

This would restore the Upper Truckee River, enhance the surrounding wetlands/animal habitat and reduce silt flowing into Lake Tahoe while keeping our 18 hole golf course by moving 9 holes to a currently available area outside the river flood plain.

I104-1

I104-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Lake Tahoe Golf Course

B Johnson [btahoe@att.net]

Sent: Monday, October 18, 2010 5:58 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



Hello,

After attending 3 state park meeting held throughout our community and at my business referral group, I support Alternative #2 which helps the state parks continue to generate revenue for other state parks and helping out our economy.

| 1105-1

Thank you,
Brian

Letter
I105
Response

Brian Johnson
October 18, 2010

I105-1

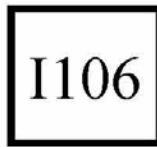
The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Lake Tahoe Golf Course Proposed Relocation

mike@tahoelawyer.com [mike@tahoelawyer.com]

Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2010 12:26 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



To Whom it May Concern:

I have reviewed all 5 proposals relative to the erosion issues created by the Upper Truckee's current location relative to the Lake Tahoe Golf Course. It is apparent to me that only Alternative #2 provides a "win-win" solution to the problem, and provides the greatest net benefit to all involved.

1106-1

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Michael K. Johnson, Esq.
Rollston, Henderson, Crabb & Johnson, Ltd.
Licensed in Nevada and California
(530) 544-1785

Letter
I106
Response

Michael K. Johnson
October 26, 2010

I106-1

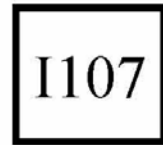
The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Re: (no subject)

katzino6@aol.com [katzino6@aol.com]

Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2010 9:58 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



Alternative # 2 is the best choice

| 1107-1

Letter
I107
Response

katzino6
October 19, 2010

I107-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project Comment

I108

ROBERT KAY [rkreveg@hotmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, September 01, 2010 11:42 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

Cyndie,

Water quality to preserve the beauty of Lake Tahoe is my first concern. All mankind needs to there part whether large or small to keep the attraction and charm of Tahoe eternal. Furthermore, I would like to keep an affordable 18 hole golf course available to all. Therefore, the solution that works best is number 2.

I believe the California State Parks should adopt Alternative 2.

This would restore the Upper Truckee River, enhance the surrounding wetlands/animal habitat and reduce silt flowing into Lake Tahoe while keeping our 18 hole golf course by moving 9 holes to a currently available area outside the river flood plain.

1. This alternative would keep an affordable, tournament level, 18 hole golf course. Affordable because it would not be the \$200- \$250 fees charged by Edgewood, and Tournament level vs the playable but "reduced level" of Tahoe Paradise executive type course.

2. The proposed new area (outside the flood plain) for the new 9 holes looks like a blight area today and our Lake Tahoe environment and ambience would be enhanced and improved with the movement of the new holes to this area.

3. Reducing our golf course to 9 holes or removing the course entirely will deprive us of a major recreation opportunity currently provided by our California State Parks. This is extremely biased against the many local golfers that live in the South Tahoe area.

4. Visiting golfers and Tournaments will not come to a golf destination vacation area for a 9 hole golf course.

The impact to our already fragile local economy would be negatively impacted by as much as \$6 - \$9 million dollars each year.

25,000 rounds a year - Between late April and early October

60% of these rounds from visitors at 1 round per visitor

15,000 visitors at 2 nights motel stay (\$150) = 2.25 million dollars

15,000 visitors at 5 meals (\$40) = 3.0 million dollars

I108-1

Add 25 % for those who bring their families: 1.2 million dollars

Revenues Potentially Lost to our local economy: 6.5 million
This does not include revenues to the golf course or California State
Parks
and Income to the 50-75 local people employed by the course

1108-1
cont.

Sincerely,
Robert Kay

I108-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its recreation, economic, and environmental value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Upper Truckee Project Alternatives

Michelle Keck [MichelleK@realtordeb.com]

Sent: Friday, October 29, 2010 8:20 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

Dear Upper Truckee Project Decision Makers,

As a local real estate agent and business owner, I wanted to share my views regarding the proposed plans for the Upper Truckee River Alternatives. While there is an environmental need to stabilize eroding river banks on the Upper Truckee River, the Lake Tahoe Golf Course is a large part of our local economy, as well as a big selling point for 2nd home buyers looking to move to South Lake Tahoe for its recreation amenities, and should be preserved. Removing the golf course entirely, which is proposed in alternative #5 of UTRRP, would negatively impact our already struggling local economy. It would also put even more people out of work, making the dream of homeownership in South Lake Tahoe out of reach for more of our locals at a time when many homes are at their most affordable.

Simply reducing the golf course to 9-holes would still take away the main attraction of the course. Many tourists and locals enjoy being able to play at a full regulation 18-hole course at an affordable price point. By taking this option away from them, they would most likely drive down to the Carson Valley, taking more spending out of our local economy.

I have reviewed all 5 alternatives, and it is my opinion that alternatives #2 and #4 would be best for the community, and have the least negative impact on our real estate market.

Alternative #2 is the most "eco-tourism" friendly with the addition of pedestrian trails along the river and relocation of 9 holes of the golf course away from the river into less sensitive land. This would also allow for the restoration of a natural meandering pattern for the river, reducing the flow of fine sediment into the lake. The holes would be moved to areas which are already disturbed by previous logging and quarrying, and also contain several dirt roads and burrow pits. The portions of land considered sensitive will be protected. With this plan, the golf course is retained, while erosion would be reduced by the equivalent of an average of 16 dump trucks of sediment into the lake each year. The funds to do this work have been made available on a one-time basis and will not be available in the future. The Chamber (SSLTCC) advises that Cal State Parks does not have the money to convert the Upper Truckee River into a park as has been suggested by some. They report that LTGC is in fact one of Cal State Parks top 5 revenue sources, and without this income their current fiscal challenges will be heightened and additional parks closures could be considered in the future.

I109-1

I also view alternative #4 as the least expensive that still allows for the river banks to be stabilized to reduce sediment run-off and help increase lake clarity, and retains the Lake Tahoe Golf Course.

Statistics show that the LTGC generates approximately 33,000 rounds of golf per year, as well as provides approximately 168 jobs, equating to more than \$6 million dollars flowing into the South Shore economy each year. It also translates to some \$880,000 in annual revenue for California State Parks. These funds are invested back into the management, operation, and maintenance of State Parks in our area. I hope that you will consider these points and the effects on our local economy, but still be able to address environmental issues, when choosing a plan to adopt.

Warm regards,

Michelle Keck
Realtor CA/NV, CRS
Deb Howard and Company
(530) 542-2912 ext 233 Office
(530) 416-1955 Mobile
michelle@LTahoeRealEstate.com
www.LTahoeRealEstate.com

Letter
1109
Response

Michelle Keck
October 29, 2010

I109-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its recreation, economic, and environmental value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

please protect washoe meadows

jkennedy312@aol.com [jkennedy312@aol.com]

Sent: Saturday, November 06, 2010 12:16 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



Dear Cynthia Walck,

I have been walking, biking and skiing in Washoe Meadows State Park for 23 years. I grew up exploring the park. I absolutely love it. It is sacred to me. I have seen the forest and river ecosystem deteriorate over the years. The Upper Truckee River really needs to be restored but not at the expense of the surrounding forest.

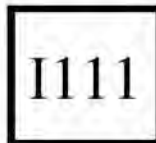
We have a lot of golf courses in the Lake Tahoe area but only one Washoe Meadows State Park and Upper Truckee River. Please don't do alternative 2, which would expand the golf course into Washoe Meadows State Park. I wish the wetlands could be restored as in alternative 5. The clarity of Lake Tahoe is at stake and is more important to the local economy than one golf course. Thank You.

Local Lover of Washoe Meadows State Park,
Greg Kennedy

I110-1

I110-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 5 and opposition to Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS. See Master Response Section 3.3, "Biological Resources," for a discussion of habitat and tree removal under Alternative 2.



November 15, 2010

Cyndie Walck
California State Parks and Recreation
Sierra District
P.O. Box 16
Tahoe City, CA 96145
utproject@parks.ca.gov

Subject: Comments regarding the draft EIR/EIS/EIS for the Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project (State Clearinghouse #200608215)

Dear Ms. Walck:

I have read subject draft EIR and appreciate the opportunity to comment on this important project. However, I was disappointed in the quality of the analysis and supporting documentation. It was clear that there has been undue bias favoring alternative 2 in public process, in the preparation of the evaluations, and in misuse of data to support this alternative. I support the goals of this project to restore the river, but I strongly oppose alternative 2. It is unfortunate that the draft EIR has mixed the restoration of the river with a tradeoff of golf course construction and relocation. My specific comments follow.

1111-1

Environmental Rank

An EIR typically has a statement of which alternative is the best *environmentally*. This EIR did not contain that statement, but the figures and Analysis contained in the EIR supports the following conclusion. The best alternative for the environment is alternative 5 followed by alternative 3.

The environmental ranking should be added to the EIR executive overview so that the public is not misled about the alternatives.

Preferred Alternative

An EIR also typically contains a preferred alternative. This EIR does not contain a preferred alternative, but the preferential text and detail of the analysis prevalent for alternative 2 in the EIR clearly favors alternative 2. The State Parks department, the sponsoring organization for this EIR, has stated that their preferred alternative is #2 since 2006. This has been documented in the initial notice of preparation, a reference letter from the State Parks Department (attachment 1) buried in Vol. 3 of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, subsequent bias demonstrated in public meetings, and in public relation meetings held with groups after the Draft EIR/EIS/EIS was issued. The lack of specifying alternative 2 in the draft EIR as the preferred alternative is irregular and at best misleading to the public and appears as if it is being used as a way to

1111-2

Page 1 of 5

temper the public response to the draft EIR/EIS/EIS. If the State Parks Department has no intention of moving forward with the project unless Alternative 2 was selected, this needs to be clearly stated in the EIR.

The State Parks department is creating the appearance of due public process, but clearly seems fixed solely on approval of Alternative 2. This is evidenced by several unusual actions where the State Parks department has not only ignored, but hindered obtaining empirical input from constituents willing to help the evaluation process. Several examples follow.

- a. The State Parks department refusal to meet with Members of the Washoe Meadow Community during the preparation of the EIR – as evidenced in emails from the District Superintendent, Sierra District starting March 12, 2010 to Washoe Meadows Community members.
- b. The State Parks department (District Superintendent, Sierra District) ordering her subordinates not to *talk* to members of the Washoe Meadow community who were willing and able to supply empirical information relative to the project.
- c. Statements by the State Parks department that "if alternative 2 is not selected the river will not be restored" being made in numerous public meetings and then being used to influence organizations and agencies supplying input to the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- d. Lengthy delays in obtaining information via Public Records Act requests
- e. Apparent attempt to characterize private special invitation meetings held by the State Parks for golfers on the web site as "public" meetings by placing them on the RestoreUpperTruckee web site. These meetings were not posted until weeks *after* the meetings were actually held (see attachment 3). It is highly irregular to characterize these meeting as public.
- f. The meeting in February of 2007 sanctioned by the State Parks department that is attempting to be used as a "public meeting" to meet CEQA rules.

This last item d. warrants additional discussion, since it is reflective of the systemic undermining of public process and undue bias for this project.

The stated goal of the meeting was "To gather information about existing public access and use patterns in Washoe Meadow SP and Lake Valley Recreation Area and provide an opportunity for the public to help identify public access and resource protection features of this project". However, the workshop was specifically structured to get ideas only on the location of the golf course defined by alternative 2. For example, at the breakout session I attended, members of the environmental group EDAW "facilitated" the breakout session. However, the facilitator, not public constituents in the group, placed marks and notes on a map of Washoe Meadow State Park indicating desired locations for the golf course. Not one person in my break out group accepted this, and we made it clear we did not approve of this input, and in fact noted on the map that the facilitator alone wrote this comment on our breakout group's map.

Then during the summary discussion where the groups presented their comments, EDAW was questioned about this and Sydney B Coatsworth VP of EDAW stated, and I quote, that "It was our job to get ideas on alternative 2".

I111-2
cont.

Page 2 of 5

You would have expected a response that their job was to get ideas on Alt 1, 2, 3, or 4 (These were the NOP alternatives), or on the stated purpose of the meeting but this was not expressed. After the meeting, the members of Washoe Meadow community became concerned how this information was to be used, so we submitted a public record act request to obtain all the notes and charts from the meeting. The official response was that this information was "not available" and the data was not supplied to us. Because the workshop information was withheld from the public, this meeting could not possibly have been considered a "public meeting" and therefore did not meet CEQA criteria for public input. This same input (that the public did not have access to) was then used as the basis to create a public document that misrepresented input that the "public" was in favor of alternative 2 as described in the Summary of Recreation Planning Workshops p 22. (See attachment 2) obtained from;

I111-2
cont.

<http://www.restoreuppertruckee.net/UTRGC%20Rec%20Workshop%20Summary%20FINAL%2011-1-07.pdf>

Why is this significant? Misleading input appears to have been used extensively for input to the EIR. For example, in the justification for a Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board for the funding of the draft EIR, it was stated that there were no negative public comments. State Parks, of course knew of issues, since the number of letters submitted for the initial notice of preparation ran 87 to 6 against alternative 2. These are just a few examples of the undue bias that alternative 2 has received in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS. We have also heard in public meetings and with meetings with other involved agencies that the State Parks department will not restore the river unless the golf course is expanded into Washoe Meadow State Park. However, these statements of intentions were not included in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS. The EIR requires full disclosure of the developer's intentions and this has not been provided, violating the transparency and due process of the EIR. This needs to be corrected in the final EIR.

I111-3

I agree that the river restoration is a necessary project, but strongly oppose alternative 2 that has been propped up by misrepresented facts and improper public process. This further supports my assertion that the alternatives were not considered equally and public input was manipulated. The EIR Process requires that all feasible alternatives be considered.

Preeminent Laws

The EIR has also has ignored the preeminent laws that govern this project namely;

- a. California Legislative Statute 1984 CH. 1470 SEC. 3
- b. General Plan for the Washoe Meadow SRA which states that the river must be restored, and that the golf course area should be reduced.
- c. Conflicts with existing land use criteria, namely the TPRA and State Parks which specifically exclude development in a sensitive river area.

I111-4

There is no method or reasoning described in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS that indicated why these preeminent laws do not apply to this project. A discussion of why these laws and policies do not apply needs to be added to the EIR. Alternative 3 or 5 does not conflict with these laws which should also be noted in the EIR.

EIR Issues

Finally I would like to comment on specific shortcomings of the draft EIR and failure of the EIR to identify significant environmental impacts for alternative 2.

- a. For Alternative 2, the EIR failed to analyze the issues related to the fact that the proposed golf course design completely surrounds one sensitive wetland area (holes 9, 10, and 11), is directly downhill of another sensitive wetland area (Hole 12 &13), and downhill of a SEZ area (holes 7,8, and 13). The EIR does not mention the impact or mitigation procedures for this area. The wetland areas in the Park has been documented to be one of the most unusual in the state. ".....*The most unusual feature of this property, however, is the presence of a fish habitat which has never before been observed in the Tahoe Basin.....*" and needs to be protected.

I111-5

Reference: Litigation Settlement Agreement, Lake Country Estates, Inc., et al Plaintiffs vs. Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, et al., Defendants, No. CV-F-81-127-REC and Lake Country Estates, Inc., et al., Plaintiffs, vs. California Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, et al., Defendants, No. CV-F-81-132-REC, dated June 12, 1984

The impact statements must be broadened to include consideration of these areas.

- b. The EIR also failed to adequately consider the effects of global warming on the proposed project. Global warming is likely to result in lower river water flows during the summer necessitating the increased use of ground water (well) resources. The effect of this additional water use was not evaluated for the impact to FENs and surrounding environment. This makes alternative 3 and 5 more environmentally practical. In fact, the State Parks department has already drilled an additional well, which was described in a public meeting by the State Parks project manager as needed for the additional water required for the golf course on the west side of the river. This well was drilled in advance of finalization of this project EIR and without undergoing environmental review, and the cost of this was not factored into the Economic Analysis evaluation. A copy of the contract obtained through a protracted public records request had the dollar amounts intentionally blanked out, preventing appropriate evaluation. (Attachment 4). This information needs to be supplied and added to the economic evaluation.

I111-6

- c. The State Parks has repeatedly referred to this park as "disturbed land" However the Park Department has already implemented a project to restore the main meadow (SEZ area) by recreating meandering streamlets through this meadow. This meadow directly uphill of proposed golf holes (holes 7, 8 and 13). The location of these holes have been mischaracterized as dry meadow, but is actually wet meadow as seen from visual investigation. The State Parks also restored the sensitive land of the quarry / gravel pit with dredging from the Tahoe Keys, along with tree planting and runoff prevention channels. If this restored land has already used tax dollars for restoration, why would an alternative be defined to disturb this area again? This was not adequately considered in the EIR evaluation process.

I111-7

- d. In 2005, a flood resulted in a large diesel spill from the winter concession which required remediation. The risks and costs of this remediation and in continuing this concession

I111-8

were not considered in the EIR economic analysis or in the environmental impact review and needs to be added to the analysis and corrected.

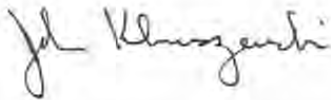
I111-8
cont

- e. The Draft EIR table 2-3 of Vol. I states that the number of feet adjacent to the river for alternative 2 is 850 feet. However the maps show that the new holes approximately double the amount of the golf course adjacent to the river, adding about 5,000 feet "adjacent" to the river. The definition of adjacent needs to be added to the EIR and this table corrected to prevent misleading the agencies, organizations, and individuals reviewing this EIR.

I111-9

I have other comments, but they have been addressed in the comments provided by the Washoe Meadow Community. I respectfully request that these factors be properly evaluated and factored into the final EIR and that the bias demonstrated for alternative 2 be eliminated.

I111-10



John Klimaszewski, PE, State of Wisconsin
6331 Contessa Ct
San Jose, CA 95123
Johnski3000@netwiz.net

Attachment 1

State Parks letter documenting bias toward Alternative 2



State of California • The Resources Agency

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Ruth Coleman, Director

Sierra District
PO Box 266
Tahoma, CA 96142

October 4, 2006

Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
Advisory Planning Commission and Governing Board
PO Box 5310
Stateline, NV 89449-5310

To the TRPA Advisory Planning Commission and Governing Board Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to present the **Upper Truckee River Restoration Project** to you on September 13 and 27 respectively. At the APC meeting we received great scoping comments, both from the APC and the public at large. The comments received will definitely help us strengthen our draft environmental documents to be written over the coming winter. At the TRPA Governing Board meeting we again received valuable input and questions regarding golf course revenue, river restoration concepts, and golf course design.

At both meetings it was suggested we get rid of the golf course altogether or at least include a "no golf course" alternative in the draft environmental documents. Restoring the entire area would maximize environmental benefits along the Upper Truckee River. However, it would not match the goals and objectives the Department has for this project. Our vision is to restore the river, continue to provide golfing opportunity at the Lake Valley State Recreation Area, and maintain the revenue generated by the facility. This vision is shared by the Sierra District Staff and the Department's Executive Staff, including Director Ruth Coleman.

Providing and maintaining affordable golfing in the Tahoe Basin is important to the Department. We offer the least expensive (around \$65.00) 18-hole regulation golf in the Tahoe Basin. This is a rate the average golfer can generally afford, especially considering the going rates of \$125.00 to \$250.00 at some of the other courses in the basin.

The revenue generated from the golf course is not simply a luxury to our department. Currently, 60 % of the Department's operating budget is derived from revenue generated from a variety of sources. The Lake Tahoe Golf Course represents one of the largest revenue sources from concession operations anywhere in our system of over 270 units. **Over the last 7 years the average revenue returned to State Parks from the operation of the golf course has been \$674,000 a year.** (I incorrectly reported at the Governing Board meeting it was around \$400,000). A decrease in this revenue will mean we have less money to operate the other State Park units in the Lake Tahoe Basin. This may translate into park campgrounds being closed longer, less tours

Page 1 of 2

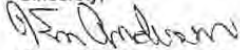
Attachment 1

of Vikingsholm and Pine Lodge, and less servicing of restrooms, campgrounds, and day use areas.

Therefore, the proposed project is to restore the river while maintaining golfing and revenue. Our mission of protecting resources and providing recreation requires this strategy. The draft environmental documents will be written to clearly present these goals and objectives. It is likely A "No Golf Course" alternative will be analyzed and discussed early on in the documents but may not receive the full evaluation afforded the more feasible alternatives that more closely match the Department's vision for the project. As correctly surmised at the Governing Board meeting, it is unlikely the Department will move forward with the project at all if the goals and objectives for the project can not met.

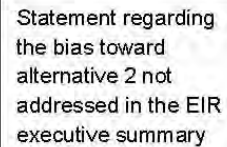
Thank you for your input and questions to date for this very important restoration project. If you have any other comments or questions please don't hesitate to contact me at (530) 525-9535, kande@parks.ca.gov, or Cyndi Walck at (530) 581-0925, cwalck@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Ken Anderson
Senior Environmental Scientist
Sierra District

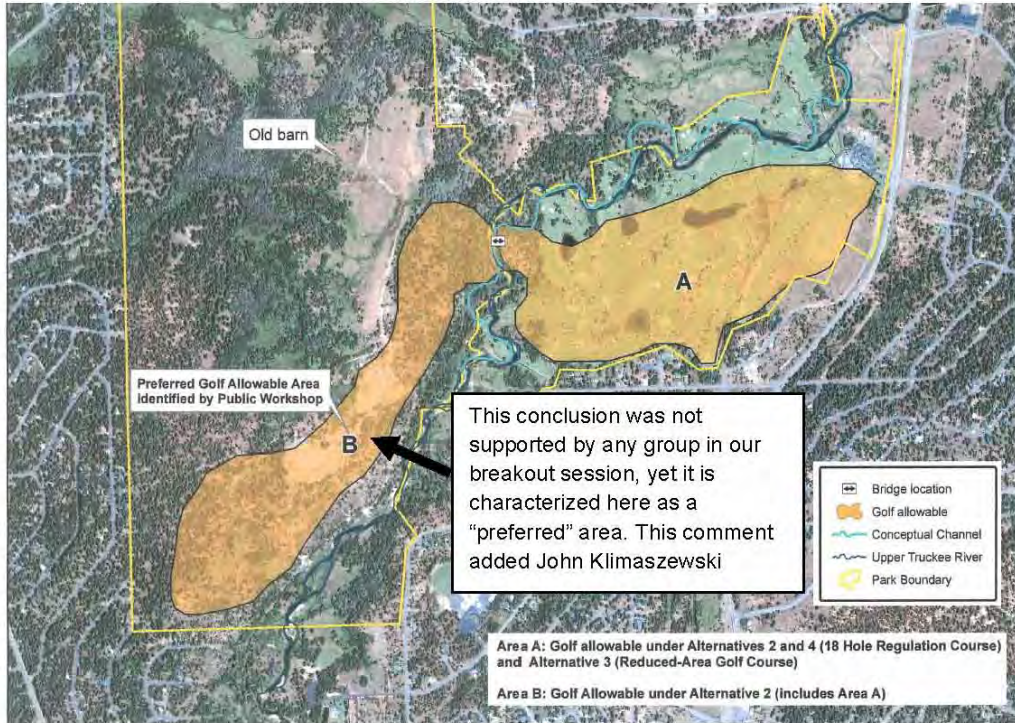
Cc
Hayden Sohm, District Superintendent, Sierra District
Susan Grove, Sector Superintendent, Lake Sector
Cyndi Walck, Engineering Geologist, Sierra District



Statement regarding
the bias toward
alternative 2 not
addressed in the EIR
executive summary

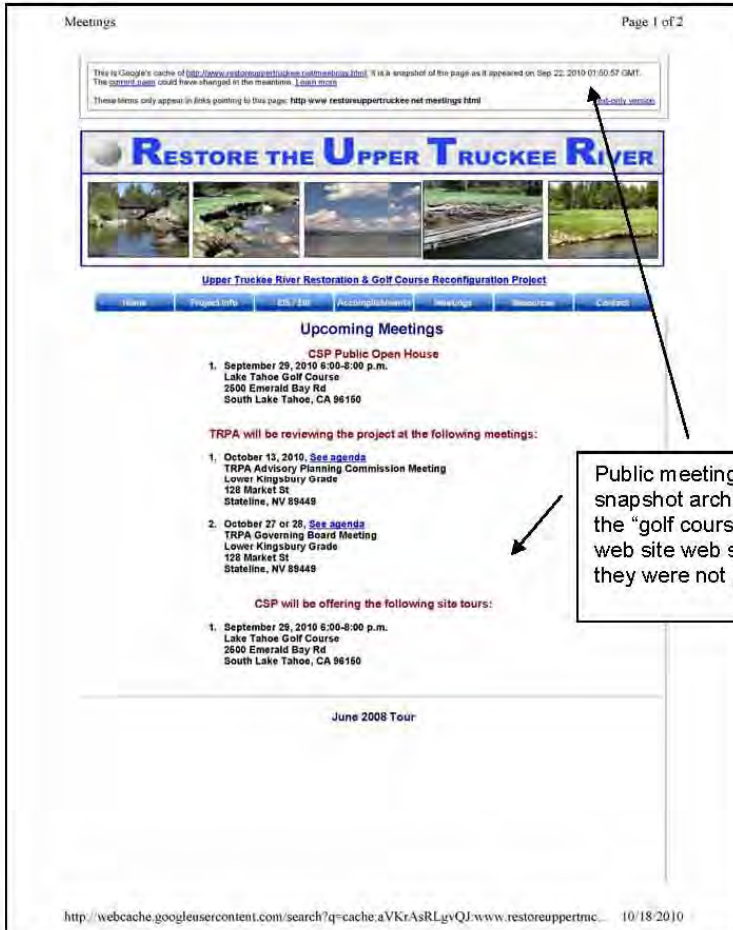
Attachment 2

Misleading Map from page 22 of the Summary of Recreation Planning Workshop document dated Nov 2007



Attachment 3

Screen Shot of the web site on September 22, 2010 that does not show the golf club mixers held on August 24 th (the date the EIR was released) and Sept 9 , 2010



Public meetings as defined on a Sept 22 snapshot archive of the web site, note that the "golf course mixers" on the current web site web site are not noted since they were not public meetings

Attachment 3

Meetings

Page 1 of 2



Upper Truckee River Restoration & Golf Course Reconfiguration Project

- Home
- Project Info
- EIS/EIS
- Accomplishments
- Meetings
- Recreation
- Contact

Upcoming Meetings

Past Meetings

- CSP Public Open House
1. September 29, 2010 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Lake Tahoe Golf Course
2500 Emerald Bay Rd
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

TRPA will be reviewing the project at the following

1. October 13, 2010, [See agenda](#)
TRPA Advisory Planning Commission Meeting
Lower Kingsbury Grade
128 Market St
Stateline, NV 89449
2. October 27, 2010 [See agenda](#)
9:45 AM
TRPA Governing Board Meeting
Lower Kingsbury Grade
128 Market St
Stateline, NV 89449

CSP will be offering the following site to

1. September 29, 2010 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Lake Tahoe Golf Course
2500 Emerald Bay Rd
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
2. Meyers Round Table
(contact them for agenda)
September 22 2010, 530 pm
3. September 8, 2010: 2-4pm and
Sept 22, 2010: 4:30-6:30pm
Lake Tahoe Golf Course
2500 Emerald Bay Rd
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
4. Learn about the project at Golf Course Mixers
August 24th 2010, 430-630pm
Sept 9th 2010, 430-630 pm
Lake Tahoe Golf Course
2500 Emerald Bay Rd
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Meetings as defined on the current web site (11/13/10)

These Golf course mixers and Meyers Round table were added sometime after Sept 22
Why would these non public / non State Parks meetings be added weeks after they were held and characterized as public meetings? This is highly irregular.

June 2008 Tour

<http://www.restoreuppertruckee.net/meetings.html>

11/13/2010

Page 2 of 2

Attachment 4

Copy of the contract for the well drilled for additional water with dollar amounts blacked out, not allowing economic or engineering evaluation of the contract.

Aug 04 2008 11:18AM Bruce MacKay Pump & Well 775-851-1602

p. 2

Bruce MacKay Pump & Well Service, Inc.

"Your complete water system professional"
NV Lic. #22095 & #22096 CA Lic. #992616

1600 Mt. Rose Hwy.
Reno, NV 89511

Well Drilling Estimate For 10 5/8" Well Office: (775) 851-1600
Date 05-15-08 Fax: (775) 851-1602

For: Lake Tahoe Golf Course / Attn. John Stanowski
Address: P.O. Box 10406, South Lake Tahoe, CA.
Ph: 530-577-0801 Cell: 530-632-6682 John
Property Location: 2500 Hwy. 50, South Lake Tahoe, CA

Fax: 530-577-5131
A.J.N.

1. Well Drilling Permit El Dorado County Customer Provides
 2. Well Drilling -Mud for 10 5/8" well- Estm. depth- 270 Ft. with 17.5" bore hole @ \$140.00/ft including blank casing. [Redacted]
(If Mud drilling is ever required, the entire drilling cost is at the Contractors)
Portable mud pit SET UP (Required for MUD Drilling) [Redacted]
(We will furnish 5 sacks of mud per hundred feet. Additional fluid or lost circulation materials or additives are at invoice cost + 20%)
 3. If drilling rate slows to 20' an hour or less due to formation conditions or lost circulation, the hourly rate for services will apply at \$375/hour during drilling operations or establishing circulation plus any footage charges. If formation requires cementing, then cement + 20% + hourly rate (\$375/hr) standby will apply.
 4. Well will be gravel packed with up to two yards per 100 feet - included. Additional gravel if required at \$85.00 per yard.
 5. Perforated well casing (Factory perforated with centralizers) 20 feet - Included
Additional perforated casing, if desired or recommended, is billed in 20' increments @ \$69.10/ft. [Redacted]
 6. Well developing & surging- up to 3 hours Included
Additional developing if required is at the hourly rate of [Redacted] hour
 7. Sanitary Seal-100' cement grout [Redacted]
If 100' sanitary seal required-(within 1/4 mile of stream, ditch or standing water)
 8. Equipment ingress and egress, and area cleanup, containment, and removal of drilling fluids and drilling cuttings are Property Owners Responsibility.
 9. Contractor makes no guaranty or warranty with respect to the supply or quality of water, if any, from said well.
 10. Customer or agent agrees to be available in person during the construction of this well. If the customer is not available during the construction, customer agrees to all decisions made by the driller including changes of scope of work not mentioned above.
- Total estimated cash price (final price depends upon actual depth and conditions) [Redacted]
\$3,500.00 deposit required
- I (We) agree to the above Estimate: [Signature] Date: 3/4/08 Purchaser
- Submitted by: R. Bruce MacKay Date: 5-7-08 Contractor
R. Bruce MacKay

Prices are good for 30 days from dated Estimate. Terms-Payment due upon completion. Upon buyer's failure to pay in full within 10 days, buyer agrees to pay a FINANCE CHARGE OF 2% PER MONTH, 24% PER ANNUM, PLUS any other collection costs incurred including attorney fees. Due to possible changes in scope of work and unknown conditions, all work is done on a time and material or footage basis except where minimum amounts are shown.

I111-1

The commenter's opposition to Alternative 2 and belief that it was given undue bias is noted. The commenter does not agree with evaluating golf course reconfiguration with river restoration.

A comparison of relative environmental effects of all alternatives was included in Section 4.5, "Environmentally Superior Alternative/Environmentally Preferred Alternative," of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS. As discussed in Section 4.5, the action alternatives present trade-offs related to overall environmental advantages. Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 include geomorphic restoration of the river, which would create benefits related to long-term water quality, the amount and quality of aquatic and riparian habitat, and restoration of SEZ. Alternative 4 would stabilize the river in place; this alternative would result in some benefits to water quality and habitat, although less than Alternatives 2, 3, and 5. Implementing the No Project/No Action Alternative (Alternative 1) would avoid the adverse impacts generated by construction activity and golf course reconfiguration under the action alternatives; however, the water quality and river restoration benefits of those alternatives would not occur. Consequently, the No Project/No Action Alternative is not environmentally superior or environmentally preferred. Of the action alternatives, Alternative 5 (River Ecosystem Restoration with Decommissioned Golf Course), is the environmentally superior alternative because it would:

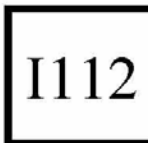
- ▶ reduce the largest amount of land coverage of any of the alternatives, which would reduce soils, hydrologic, and biological resources impacts;
- ▶ restore the largest area of SEZ; and
- ▶ provide the long-term water quality and habitat benefits of geomorphic river restoration.

Although Alternative 5 would be environmentally superior, it includes nonenvironmental trade-offs. Removing the golf course would eliminate the existing public golf recreation opportunity, revenue stream received by State Parks, a small number of existing local jobs, and the contribution of golfing activity to the local economy. Furthermore, State Parks would embark on a separate planning process to evaluate alternative uses of both Lake Valley SRA and Washoe Meadows SP.

I111-2

The commenter's views on the approach to the recreation workshops and communication are noted. See Appendix O for a summary of the recreation planning workshop. The workshop solicited input for a variety of alternatives. See response to comment AOB8-1 for discussions of the selection of a proposed Preferred Alternative and of the public participation process; see also response to comment I13-12 for public records requests. State Parks' Project Manager, Cyndie Walck received and responded to numerous e-mails and phone calls from the Washoe Community Group and led an additional field trip specifically requested by that group to further facilitate community input.

- I111-3 For clarification, the Lahontan RWQCB has not funded the project. No discussion of this topic appeared in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, nor was there any statement that there were “no negative” comments. See response to comment AOB8-1 for discussions of the selection of a proposed Preferred Alternative and of the public participation process.
- I111-4 The commenter believes that State Parks has ignored preminent laws including Section 3, Chapter 1470 of the California Statutes of 1984; the Lake Valley SRA General Plan; and TRPA and State Parks land use criteria. See Master Response Section 3.2, “Land Use.”
- I111-5 The commenter has concerns about impacts on fens and wetlands, including hydrologic effects. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for a discussion of impacts on fens and SEZ. See Master Response Section 3.4, “Hydrology, Flooding, Geomorphology, and Water Quality,” for a discussion of hydrologic impacts on fens. The fen and fish habitat mentioned are outside the project area.
- I111-6 The commenter has concerns about impacts on fens, wetlands, and the river related to water use and global climate change. See Master Response Section 3.4, “Hydrology, Flooding, Geomorphology, and Water Quality,” for a discussion of water use and climate change. The proposed project will not increase water demand over existing conditions. For clarification, the well was drilled to support existing water use and therefore would not be included in any economic analysis related to the project. A categorical exemption was completed and approved in 2008 for well installation. See Master Response Section 3.7, “Economics,” for a discussion of CEQA requirements related to economics.
- I111-7 The commenter has concerns about areas referred to as “disturbed land” and refers to meadow areas that were restored as “meadow (SEZ area) by recreating meandering streamlets through this meadow. This meadow is directly uphill of proposed golf holes (holes 7, 8 and 13).” For clarification, this area has not been restored as stated. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” and Chapter 5, “Corrections and Revisions to the Draft EIR/EIS/EIS,” for updated information about existing vegetation that was obtained after the draft EIR/EIS/EIS was released. See response to comment AOB8-6 for a discussion of the quarry area. See Master Response Section 3.7, “Economics,” for a discussion of CEQA requirements for an economic analysis.
- I111-8 The commenter has concerns that remediation costs from a 2005 diesel spill were not evaluated in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS. For clarification, the diesel spill was not related to a flood, but to a puncture in the snowcat. The existing uses by the winter concessionaire would not change under Alternative 1, 2, 3, or 4. See Master Response Section 3.7, “Economics,” for a discussion of CEQA requirements for an economic analysis.
- I111-9 The commenter incorrectly states that approximately 5,000 feet of golf course is adjacent to the Upper Truckee River. See response to comment AOB8-7 for a discussion of the river buffer. “Adjacent” means abutting the river.
- I111-10 The commenter states that other comments were provided by the Washoe Community Group and that the analysis was biased. The comment is noted. See response to comment AOB8-1 for discussions of the selection of a proposed Preferred Alternative and of the public participation process.



FW: Golf Course

McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Sent: Tuesday, September 07, 2010 11:37 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

From: Walck, Cyndi

Sent: Thursday, August 26, 2010 11:10 AM

To: 'Seana Doherty'; 'Tracy Owen Chapman'; kathy strain; McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Subject: FW: Golf Course

From: mklover@pacbell.net [mailto:mklover@pacbell.net]

Sent: Wednesday, August 25, 2010 12:01 PM

To: Walck, Cyndi

Subject: Golf Course

My vote is to retain afordable 18 hole golf. If the course is moved away from the river hopefully all benefit from the changes

| 1112-1

Kindest Regards, Mark Klover

I am required by IRS Circular 230 to advise you that unless otherwise expressly indicated, any Federal tax advice contained in this communication, including attachments and enclosures, is not intended or written to be used, and may not be used, for the purpose of (i) avoiding tax-related penalties under the Internal Revenue Code, or (ii) promoting, marketing or recommending to another party any tax-related matters addressed herein. Mark D. Klover, CPA

Letter
I112
Response

Mike Klover
August 25, 2010

I112-1

The commenter's support for maintaining an affordable 18-hole golf course is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Public Comment - UT Project

mklover@pacbell.net [mklover@pacbell.net]

Sent: Wednesday, October 27, 2010 2:56 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I113

Dear Ca Parks,

I am a long time local resident of South Lake Tahoe. I listened to an explanation of the 5 Alternatives regarding the restoration of the Upper Truckee River at our Rotary club lunch today. I came away with a much more informed opinion than I previously had, learned about the need to have the river flood every couple of years and move slowly through its channel. The choice of doing a land swap and extending the course into the current Washoe park makes the most sense to me, that part of the park is under used currently. The first win is for the river and lake any compromise that dosen't fix the long term health of the river and lake is not worth doing. The second win is us locals can continue to play 18 hole golf at a reasonable rate. The third win is jobs and revenues for the state. I feel strongly that a 9 hole course will not be utilized, any potential revenue from that would be lost as time goes forward and people loose interest in playing a 9 hole course. Hopefully financing can be found to create a beautiful course that accommodates the river restoration and retains our local golf resource and local jobs.

I113-1

Sincerely,

Mark Klover
539 Cochise Cir
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Letter
I113
Response

Mike Klover
October 27, 2010

I113-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic, recreation, and environmental value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

I114

I am neighbor that lives within close proximity of Washoe Meadows State Park/Lake Valley State Recreation Area, including the golf course

I have worked as an environmental planner in various capacities in the Lake Tahoe Basin and am aware of geomorphologic issues with the UTR and the constraints put on the river and that some restoration needs to be done. I'm more a realist that the golf course most likely will not go away. I see the value in it as a recreational asset, job provider and economic engine for the Meyers community.

I understand the full functionality of the river would be better off without the golf course, but understand that you need to balance environment with community and economic considerations. With all that considered, I support Alternative 2.

Specifically regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Report:

- The upland area where the redesigned golf course would go, and with proper BMP's in place and context sensitive design can achieve common goals for the residents and the CA State Parks;
- The upland area needs rehabilitation in itself. Its current state is not pristine and could use some rehabilitation. Alternative 2 could actually enhance this piece of land;
- The proposed use of the higher upland area for some of the holes is very compatible with the current property and indeed will improve the state of that property;
- Finally, I would say that I support the goal of the project that states that you need long term monitoring of the water quality and geomorphology. I sincerely hope that happens and can be quantified through project effectiveness monitoring. American Golf should be required to develop a robust fertilizer management plan and associated monitoring plan in coordination with the State Parks project effectiveness monitoring to ensure maximum project benefit.

Thank you,



Alfred Knotts

1055 View Circle

South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

I114-1

- I114-1 The commenter’s support for Alternative 2 and its economic, recreation, and environmental value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS. The project would include long-term monitoring of the project’s effectiveness with regard to water quality and geomorphic conditions. A monitoring plan will be developed, using the “Riparian Ecosystem Restoration Effectiveness Framework” as a guide and concentrating on the geomorphic and vegetation attributes. The monitoring will include surveys of stream profiles and cross sections, measurements of channel flow and capacity, assessment of floodplain inundation, measurements of groundwater levels, vegetation surveys, small-mammal surveys, and photo monitoring points. See response to comment AOB11-4 for a discussion of updating the golf course’s chemical application and management plan.

lake tahoe golf course

mark koffman [markkoffman@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Friday, October 01, 2010 10:07 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I115

Don't change anything!

I am sure in this day of technology you can come up with a way to remove sediment without redirecting a stream.

Settling ponds or low barriers in the stream.

The golf course brings in lots of money to the city and provides many jobs to locals.

If you need a project, go after the mill foil in the Tahoe Keys lagoons.

Mark Koffman, permanent resident

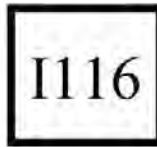
I115-1

I115-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 1 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS. The commenter suggests using settling ponds or low barriers in the stream. The suggestion is noted. See response to comment AOB8-1 for a discussion of alternatives considered but eliminated from further consideration.

FW: LTGC - Please Be Heard - State Park Alternatives for our Golf Course

McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth



From: Walck, Cyndi
Sent: Friday, August 27, 2010 4:23 PM
To: 'Seana Doherty'; kathy strain; 'Tracy Owen Chapman'; McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth
Subject: FW: LTGC - Please Be Heard - State Park Alternatives for our Golf Course

From: Norm Kosco [mailto:ngkosco@charter.net]
Sent: Friday, August 27, 2010 12:46 PM
To: Walck, Cyndi
Subject: Fw: LTGC - Please Be Heard - State Park Alternatives for our Golf Course

I agree!
Norm Kosco ngkosco@charter.net

| 1116-1

Subject: LTGC - Please Be Heard - State Park Alternatives for our Golf Course

Lets be heard !!!!!!!!

I would ask each of you that receive this e-mail to take one of two actions:

If you agree with it - Forward it to CWalck@parks.ca.gov with an "I agree" comment.

If you have different opinions or/and can take the time to express your individual thoughts on **what** you would like to see happen and **why**, then send your own individual e-mail to Ms. Walk

But we do have to be counted - there are groups other than golfers that are actively lobbying the State Parks organization to take action that will do away with our course or reduce it to 9 holes.

I believe the California State Parks should adopt Alternative 2.

This would restore the Upper Truckee River, enhance the surrounding wetlands/animal habitat and reduce silt flowing into Lake Tahoe while keeping our 18 hole golf course by moving 9 holes to a currently available area outside the river flood plain.

1. This alternative would keep an affordable, tournament level, 18 hole golf course. Affordable because it would not be the \$200- \$250 fees charged by Edgewood, and Tournament level vs the playable but "reduced level" of Tahoe Paradise executive type course.
2. The proposed new area (outside the flood plain) for the new 9 holes looks like a blight area today and our Lake Tahoe environment and ambience would be enhanced and improved with the movement of the new holes to this area.
3. Reducing our golf course to 9 holes or removing the course entirely will deprive us of a major recreation opportunity currently provided by our California State Parks. This is extremely biased against the many local golfers that live in the South Tahoe area.
4. Visiting golfers and Tournaments will not come to a golf destination vacation area for a 9 hole golf course.

The impact to our already fragile local economy would be negatively impacted by as much as \$6 - \$9 million dollars each year.

25,000 rounds a year - Between late April and early October
60% of these rounds from visitors at 1 round per visitor
15,000 visitors at 2 nights motel stay (\$150) = 2.25 million dollars
15,000 visitors at 5 meals (\$40) = 3.0 million dollars
Add 25 % for those who bring their families: 1.2 million dollars

Revenues Potentially Lost to our local economy: 6.5 million
This does not include revenues to the golf course or California State Parks

5. Remember, our opinion (vote) is very important - The thousands of our visitors are removed from the issues and in most cases don't know what the current plans for the course could be.

**6. If you are aware of visiting golfers, please forward this email to them.
and Income to the 50-75 local people employed by the course
Please take the time to be heard - If not Us then who?**

I116-1

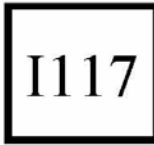
The commenter states that he agrees but does not provide information on what he agrees with. The comment is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Upper Truckee River restoration project

Greg Kuntz [gkuntz@ltusd.org]

Sent: Thursday, November 04, 2010 11:33 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



Cyndie Walck, Sierra State Parks,

Hello, my name is Greg Kuntz and I am both a teacher and coach in the Lake Tahoe Unified School District. I have followed the debate over the options presented to restore the Upper Truckee River, its meadows and streambanks, to a functional state. It appears that Alternative 2 would accomplish the goals set for both the Truckee River and Lake Tahoe without damaging the financial and leisure opportunities presented by having an 18 hole championship golf course in South Lake Tahoe. Admittedly, my interest as the girls' golf coach at South Tahoe High School centers on maintaining the ability for the high school team to practice and host a tournament each season in the local community. Additionally, as an avid recreational golfer, with no disrespect to either Bijou or Tahoe Paradise, the 9 and 18 hole executive courses in SLT, losing an 18 hole championship course would be a death sentence to golf in South Lake Tahoe. Golf vacations are not built around executive courses, and while Edgewood may be an option for visiting "high rollers," not many golfers are going to plan a golf trip with multiple rounds at a course that runs over \$200. Lake Tahoe Golf Course has been a pleasing and affordable experience for golfers for a long time. Eliminating nine holes would remove it from consideration for the vast majority of vacation golfers, resulting in a loss of revenue that seems unnecessary when Alternative 2 is available. I urge you to support Alternative 2 so that the habitat can be restored, while maintaining a championship golf course that is both a revenue producer and a home for the thousands of golfers who support it each year.

1117-1

Sincerely,

Greg Kuntz
Girls' Varsity Golf Coach
South Tahoe High School

Letter
I117
Response

Greg Kuntz
November 4, 2010

I117-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic, recreation, and environmental value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Alternative 2

Michelle Lam [sakibomb44@gmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, October 21, 2010 2:32 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



Hi,

I recently attended a Soroptimist meeting and learned about the plans for restoring the upper truckee river. I think alternative 2 sounds fabulous and seems like it would be a win-win situation for all involved. I am wondering, however, if alt 2 is carried through, what the impact of having increased traffic and tourists would have on the restored river and wildlife? I am sure this was probably thought out ahead of time.

| 1118-1

Michelle Lam

I118-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. The commenter inquires as to whether increased traffic and larger numbers of tourists would affect the restored river and wildlife. As stated in Impact 3.10-4, "Operational Impacts on the Local and Regional Circulation System," in Section 3.10, "Transportation, Parking, and Circulation," of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, golf course operations under Alternative 2 would require approximately four additional employees compared to current course operations. Up to three or four additional trips would likely be required during the morning and afternoon peak hours each day. The level of golf play would continue along current trends and would not change substantially, which is reasonable because the course's length would be similar to the length of the current golf course.

FW: LTGC - Please Be Heard - State Park Alternatives for our Golf Course



McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Sent: Tuesday, September 07, 2010 11:26 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

-----Original Message-----

From: Walck, Cyndi

Sent: Friday, August 27, 2010 4:22 PM

To: 'Seana Doherty'; Kathy Strain; 'Tracy Owen Chapman'; McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Subject: FW: LTGC - Please Be Heard - State Park Alternatives for our Golf Course

-----Original Message-----

From: klatta59@aol.com [mailto:klatta59@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, August 27, 2010 2:23 PM

To: Walck, Cyndi

Subject: Fwd: LTGC - Please Be Heard - State Park Alternatives for our Golf Course

I AGREE with alternative # 2 Keith Latta Lake Tahoe Nevada

| 1119-1

CWalck@parks.ca.gov

From: RonCReTtus@aol.com [mailto:RonCReTtus@aol.com]

Lets be heard !!!!!!!!

I would ask each of you that receive this e-mail to take one of two actions:

If you agree with it - Forward it to CWalck@parks.ca.gov with an "I agree" comment.

If you have different opinions or/and can take the time to express your individual thoughts on what you would like to see happen and why, then send your own individual e-mail to Ms. Walk

But we do have to be counted - there are groups other than golfers that are actively lobbying the State Parks organization to take action that will do away with our course or reduce it to 9 holes.

I believe the California State Parks should adopt Alternative 2.

This would restore the Upper Truckee River, enhance the surrounding wetlands/animal habitat and reduce silt flowing into Lake Tahoe while keeping our 18 hole golf course by moving 9 holes to a currently available area outside the river flood plain.

1. This alternative would keep an affordable, tournament level, 18 hole golf course. Affordable because it would not be the \$200- \$250 fees charged by Edgewood, and Tournament level vs the playable but "reduced level" of Tahoe Paradise executive type course.

2. The proposed new area (outside the flood plain) for the new 9 holes looks like a blight area today and our Lake Tahoe environment and ambience would be enhanced and improved with the movement of the new holes to this area.

3. Reducing our golf course to 9 holes or removing the course entirely will deprive us of a major recreation opportunity currently provided by our California State Parks. This is extremely biased against the many local golfers that live in the South Tahoe area.

4. Visiting golfers and Tournaments will not come to a golf destination vacation area for a 9 hole golf course.

The impact to our already fragile local economy would be negatively impacted by as much as \$6 - \$9 million dollars each year.

25,000 rounds a year - Between late April and early October
60% of these rounds from visitors at 1 round per visitor
15,000 visitors at 2 nights motel stay (\$150) = 2.25 million

dollars

15,000 visitors at 5 meals (\$40) = 3.0 million dollars
Add 25 % for those who bring their families: 1.2 million

dollars

Revenues Potentially Lost to our local economy: 6.5 million

This does not include revenues to the golf course or California State Parks and income to the 50-75 local people employed by the course

5. Remember, our opinion (vote) is very important - The thousands of our visitors are removed from the issues and in most cases don't know what the current plans for the course could be.

6. If you are aware of visiting golfers, please forward this email to them.

Please take the time to be heard - If not Us then who?

Letter
I119
Response

Keith Latta
August 27, 2010

I119-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

I120

Comment: USBR on Lake Tahoe Golf Course

LJ Laurent [ljl Laurent@att.net]

Sent: Wednesday, September 08, 2010 4:28 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I fully support the removal of the golf course because it is totally inconsistent with the natural preservation of Lake Tahoe and its environment.

Golf courses require a lot of water, which means run-off full of chemicals and materials added to the turf.

They require artificial feeding which leaches from the turf into the streams and groundwater, altering the natural balance which makes Lake Tahoe such an international gem.

Lake Tahoe belongs to future generations, and it should not have a use as foreign to the mountain environment as a golf course. I have seen birds attracted to it which simply add to the ammonia burden by their excretion on it.

If some think a golf course is the right thing, this is the WRONG place for it.

Tahoe is losing clarity and these inappropriate uses are a major reason for the denigration of the Lake.

Golf courses can be built in appropriate locations; save the Tahoe environment and waters for their purity and uniqueness.

Tahoe has been a special place for my family for generations. We have watched the deterioration of the environment and we all wish to see this golf course use removed.

LJ Laurent
1212 Forrest St.
Folsom, CA 95630

I120-1

I120-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 5 is noted. The commenter has concerns about the impacts of water and fertilizer use under Alternative 2 on surface water and groundwater. See Master Response Section 3.4, "Hydrology, Flooding, Geomorphology, and Water Quality," for a discussion of water and fertilizer use.

Upper truckee restoration

Denise LeBiavant [dlebiavant@yahoo.com]

Sent: Sunday, October 17, 2010 11:37 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



To Whom it may concern,

I vote for Alt 5 No golf course.

How many golf courses does Tahoe need anyway?

They are not eco-friendly. They use a great quantity of water. We live in a beautiful natural environment, let us preserve it for the future.

I have lived & own a house on Delaware Street for 10 years. I hike and enjoy the river.

We have seen it eroding over the years. They already cut down enough trees on the hill going down to the river as it is.

1121-1

Please consider this when you make your final decision.

Sincerely,

Denise Le Biavant

I don't mind if you use my comment for further decisions

Letter
I121
Response

Denise LeBiavant
October 17, 2010

I121-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 5 is noted. The commenter has concerns about water use under Alternative 2. See Master Response Section 3.4, "Hydrology, Flooding, Geomorphology, and Water Quality," for a discussion of water use.

Public comment on golf course reconfiguration project

Debbie A Ledbetter [dledbetter@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2010 9:42 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



To Whom it May Concern:

I oppose option 2 for the Golf Course Reconfiguration project in South Lake Tahoe. You should not move 9 holes of the golf course across the river. This will take land that has been protected and preserved and destroy wildlife habitat. With so much habitat already destroyed by building and the Angora fire, it is especially important to preserve this land. In addition, the golf course will require introduce a mono culture, use fertilizer and water which will further destroy our environment. It is unbelievable that this is even being considered.

1122-1

The golf course should remain as it is or it should be reduced to 9 holes.

I am a home owner in the Meyers area and close to the golf course. Please do not move the 9 holes across the river and destroy that area.

Thanks

Debbie Ledbetter

I122-1

The commenter's opposition to Alternative 2 and support for Alternatives 3 or 4 is noted. The commenter has concerns about impacts of fertilizer use and on wildlife habitat. See the following master responses and response to comment:

- ▶ Master Response Section 3.3, "Biological Resources," for a discussion of wildlife habitat;
- ▶ Master Response Section 3.4, "Hydrology, Flooding, Geomorphology, and Water Quality," for a discussion of fertilizer use; and
- ▶ response to comment I54-1 for a discussion of the Angora Fire.

Upper Truckee Restoration

c.lincoln [c.lincoln@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Monday, October 18, 2010 7:36 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I123

To Whom It May Concern:

I am adamantly opposed to option 2 for the Upper Truckee River Restoration. This option would harm the environment and the watershed of the Upper Truckee River. I use the Park on a regular basis for hiking, running and riding and am always amazed at the diversity of wildlife that inhabits this area.

I123-1

Charles C. Lincoln
P.O. Box 10092
1903 Mohican Dr.
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96158
530-577-5073
c.lincoln@sbcglobal.net

Letter
1123
Response

Charles Lincoln
October 18, 2010

I123-1

The commenter's opposition to Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

October 23, 2010

I124

MICHAEL & ETHENE Lipkin
1107 CLEARVIEW DRIVE
50 LAKE TAHOE, CA 96150
phone: 530/577 7114

mail: 2877 Lake Tahoe Blvd, Suite B
50 LAKE TAHOE, CA 96150

TO: Cyndie WALLER
CALIF STATE PARKS & REC, SIERRA DISTRICT

RE: SAVE WASHOE MEADOW STATE PARK

We have read the EIR/EIS/EIS documents
and support ALT. 4. WE support RIVER RESTORATION
using technologies to prevent the 1%± from
the UPPER TRUCKEE RIVER into LAKE TAHOE.

We want the Park to be preserved
for future generations as stated in the
CALIF STATE PARK Mission. GOLF is a
Six month use of the land, while Park
will be by the citizens of our State and
community for year round recreation in
the Park.

We are concerned about wildlife
habitat disruption from an expanded GOLF

I124-1

course. The relocation of Golf to Washoe Meadow State Park will be impacting the river and meadow zone within the State Park. We appreciate the low impact status of the current State Park and want it preserved for recreation year round, for wildlife habitat, and for future generations.

We urge you to consider ALTERNATIVE 4. STABILIZE THE RIVER BANKS TO KEEP TAMOE CLEAN. FIND A WAY TO RECONFIGURE THE GOLF COURSE ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE RIVER, TO REDUCE INTERACTION BETWEEN THE COURSE AND THE RIVER.

PLEASE URGE STATE PARKS, TRPA and BUREAU OF RECLAMATION TO move away from ALTERNATIVE 2 and find merit, logic, long-term, year round solution in ALTERNATIVE 4 TO STABILIZE THE RIVER

- Maintain GOLF
- KEEP WASHOE MEADOWS PARK intact

Thank you

Michael Epstein
Allene Ripken

1124-1
cont.

I124-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 4 and opposition to Alternative 2 is noted. The commenter has concerns about wildlife impacts. See Master Response Section 3.3, "Biological Resources," for a discussion of wildlife habitat.

Proposed Lake Tahoe golf course modification

Wayne Logan [wayneblogan@charter.net]

I125

Sent: Friday, August 27, 2010 1:39 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

Cc: Sigheide@aol.com

To Whomever is in charge of modifying the Lake Tahoe Golf Course:

As the assistant director of the S. Lake Tahoe SIR (Sons in Retirement) golf group I am sure that the group would not schedule a tournament on a 9-hole golf course. This policy will necessitate traveling off the hill to the Carson Valley or Reno courses for all our golf tournaments; this is due to the fact that all members of the SIR are retired and cannot afford the \$200 - \$250 green fees of Edgewood which is the only qualified golf course in the area. If I understand the proposal this means that I am voting for Alternative #2, i.e., adding the 9 additional holes to be constructed in the blighted area.

Thank You

Wayne Logan

I125-1

I125-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

uppertruckee comment

mmtahoegranny@att.net [mmtahoegranny@att.net]

Sent: Thursday, September 09, 2010 7:01 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I126

I would like to see the entire golf course removed and the area restored with wetlands, meadow and wildlife habitat. A golf course does not belong close to the truckee river because of the poisonous pollutants, pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers that create problems for the newly hatched trout - they cannot endure such poisons. I am for Alternative #5.

I126-1

Sincerely,
Mary Magana

I126-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 5 is noted. The commenter has concerns about impacts on trout related to use of fertilizer, herbicides, and pesticides. See response to comment I20-2 and Master Response Section 3.4, "Hydrology, Flooding, Geomorphology, and Water Quality."

Tom Makris
1180 Winnemucca
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project (State Clearinghouse #2006082150)

I am writing in support of Alternative 2.

Initially, I strongly believe that full river restoration is the appropriate approach. Lake clarity has been identified as a critical goal and it is best achieved with true restoration of river to a fully functioning ecosystem, rather than the band-aid approach of Alternative 4.

I have attended several of the informational sessions as well as the presentation to the TRPA. In these sessions I was heartened to see that support for the full river restoration in Alternatives 2, 3 and 5 is almost unanimous. The primary point of disagreement among the public is whether it makes sense to reconfigure the golf course in what is now Washoe Meadows State Park to maintain an 18 hole championship lay-out.

It appears to me that the opposition to Alternative 2 consists primarily of two groups: environmental groups who I believe would oppose a golf course anywhere in the basin as a matter of principle and neighbors whose opposition to the reconfiguration of the golf course is a typical NIMBY reaction. With all due respect to these groups, I think their opposition is short sighted.

The reconfigured golf course is the best option for the state park system, the environment, the residents of Tahoe and the public.

I am an avid hiker, cross country skier, dog walker and occasional runner. I have participated in all of these activities in Washoe Meadows State Park and it is a wonderful resource for these activities. The reconfiguration of the golf course in Alternative 4 will improve the ability of all of us (not just those who live on the northwest side of the river) to use the park for these activities.

The design in Alternative 2 is elegant. The new trail connection the existing bike path along highway 50 to a public bridge will significantly improve access to Washoe Meadows State Park for the enjoyment of all. In the public meetings, this has been an under emphasized aspect of the design. If there is no bridge across the river, as would be the case with Alternatives 3 & 5, access to the state park will only be from Sawmill and through the neighborhoods west of the park. This will make it much more difficult to use the park for everyone other than those neighbors. With the path from the highway 50 bike trail, the path from the end of Country Club Dr. and the bridge, (including ADA compliant trails) out of town visitors, residents of the Meyers area, people coming from Pioneer Trail and people coming from SLT can walk, bike or ski into the south end of the park from Country Club Dr., the highway 50 bike path and the parking lot at the golf

I127-1

Document3

course. Also, the new trails run along the river giving great exposure to the wetlands ecosystem.

Moreover, use of Washoe Meadows State Park will be minimally impacted. Total trail length will be about the same, with the number of feet of developed trails increased. Trails coming into the park from the west will remain. Trails coming into the park from the south will still connect with the north end of the park. The northern half of the park will be completely untouched. The total area of the park will be approximately the same. The reconfigured golf course will occupy a small foot print and there will actually be a 10% decrease of the total area under intensive management.

As noted above I am an avid hiker, cross country skier and dog walker. One of the wonderful things about living in Tahoe is that there are literally hundreds of places to enjoy these activities, not just Washoe Meadows State Park. I am also a golfer. I play one or two rounds a week at Lake Tahoe Golf Course and at least twice a year I have guests come in from other parts of CA specifically to spend a weekend playing golf at the Course.

Lake Tahoe Golf course is an absolutely unique resource for the southern part of the Lake Tahoe basin. For the average golfer it is the only option in this part of the basin. Edgewood is simply too expensive for the average person to play more than as an occasional splurge. Bijou and Tahoe Paradise are fine little courses for beginners, but are in no way a substitute for a full length 18 hole championship course. If the course closes (or if it is converted to a nine hole or executive course), I and many other local golfers will have to drive to Carson or Genoa for our one or two rounds a week.

Nor is there any realistic alternative location for an 18 hole championship course in this part of the basin. Where ever one might attempt to build a course, there will be environmental opposition and neighborhood opposition. The difference will be that we will not have the benefit of an existing footprint for the majority of the course and the opposition is likely to be correspondingly greater. Realistically, the choice of alternatives 3 or 5 would, I believe, mean permanent removal of affordable championship golf from this part of Tahoe. Complete loss of this asset would be a tragedy and far out weighs the marginal impact of Alternative 2 on the state park.

Thank you for your consideration
Tom Makris

1127-1
cont.

Document3

Letter
I127
Response

Tom and Debbie Makris
November 8, 2010

I127-1

The commenters' support for Alternative 2 and its recreation and environmental value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Comment on Draft EIS for Upper Truckee River Project

Jerry & Cathy Martin [tahoemartin@juno.com]

Sent: Wednesday, October 27, 2010 10:09 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I128

We have lived in Tahoe Paradise neighborhood adjacent to California State Park for 25 years. Our two sons grew up with the Upper Truckee River in our backyard, we have all enjoyed summer and winter activities in the area. We are aware of the erosion problems along the river banks. We are also very aware of the vital importance the Lake Tahoe Golf Course contributes to the local economy. It offers a great course at reasonable rates and a very nice venue for wedding receptions and other events.

Our son's wedding reception was held there in August, so many local and out of town guest commented on the beautiful views. It is truly a great wedding venue and an asset to our community. South Lake Tahoe does not offer many event locations with spectacular mountain settings.

It is evident that some action is necessary and needs to be taken to preserve the river and thus the lake. However our local economy must not be sacrificed in the process.

Alternative 3, downsizing to a 9 hole course, will drastically diminish the viability of the course with devastating loss of revenue. Alternative 5 is far to drastic and shows no regard for our local economy, which is our tax base.

Alternative 4 seems like the least invasive and less drastic however it does not address the concerns/corrections for repairing the meadow.

We believe that alternative 2 not only addresses the corrections needed for the health of the river/lake it also allows the Lake Tahoe Golf course to continue contributing to our local economy.

Jerry & Cathy Martin
721 Zuni St.
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

*We do wonder why the bridges need to be removed, see no explanation for removal. This is a state park so why remove access from the public using the area.

I128-1

I128-1

The commenters' support for Alternative 2 and its economic and environmental value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Golf Course EIR

materago@juno.com [materago@juno.com]

Sent: Wednesday, September 08, 2010 9:19 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



Good morning,

First I would like to say that I frequently play golf at Lake Tahoe Golf Course, and I also use Washoe Meadows State Park for biking, hiking, snowshoeing and cross country skiing.

It's quite a dilemma the way I see it. We want to restore the river, that's the number 1 goal, to protect the river and the lake. But doing so properly will be detrimental to one or both of the above areas.

If we were not so dependent on the almighty dollar the solution would be clear: restore the river and reduce the size of the golf course. But of course we are dealing with \$800,000 plus in revenue for the South Lake Tahoe area. That is alot of sheckels.

To me it is not an option to reduce the size of Washoe Meadows State Park. To remove for the most part untouched land is incomprehensible in this day and age regardless of the financial or environmental impacts. And what is the true benefit of restoring one area while at the same time destroying another natural area?

So we get back to the dilemma. The only solution in my mind is to shore up the river as best as we can and leave the golf course and Washoe Meadows State Park alone. That would be alternative #4. No it will not restore the river. But, there are other projects going forward farther down the river that will help reduce sediment in our lake. Don't destroy a beloved state park in an effort to restore the river. It makes no sense.

Richard Matera
South Lake Tahoe resident
530-544-3814

I129-1

Letter
I129
Response

Richard Matera
September 8, 2010

I129-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 4 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.



FW: golf course re-design

McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2010 12:30 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

From: Walck, Cyndi

Sent: Friday, October 01, 2010 2:46 PM

To: McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Subject: FW: golf course re-design

Please reply:

We most likely would continue on a yearly contract and keep running as usual

From: Project, Upper Truckee

Sent: Monday, September 27, 2010 9:57 AM

To: Walck, Cyndi

Subject: FW: golf course re-design

From: mat978@aol.com [mailto:mat978@aol.com]

Sent: Fri 9/24/2010 2:05 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

Subject: golf course re-design

What will happen when you approve option #2 and no one steps up to pay the 7M bill? Does the course continue on as it has in the past? Does it shut down?

| 1130-1

Thanks.

Matt

I130-1

The commenter questions what would happen if Alternative 2 were approved but no one were to step up to pay for the project. If funding for the project were to be not available, State Parks would operate the golf course on a year-to-year contract and continue to look for funding or renew the concessionaire contract.



FW: LTGC - Please Be Heard - State Park Alternatives for our Golf Course

McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Sent: Tuesday, September 07, 2010 11:25 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

From: Walck, Cyndi

Sent: Friday, August 27, 2010 4:23 PM

To: 'Seana Doherty'; kathy strain; 'Tracy Owen Chapman'; McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Subject: FW: LTGC - Please Be Heard - State Park Alternatives for our Golf Course

From: Kyle Mazzoni [mailto:kylemazzoni@yahoo.com]

Sent: Friday, August 27, 2010 11:18 AM

To: Walck, Cyndi

Subject: Fw: LTGC - Please Be Heard - State Park Alternatives for our Golf Course

I believe that **alternative 2** is the best option for the golf course. Reducing the course to a 9 hole course would be devastating to our local economy as tourists do not travel to play 9 hole courses. The course needs to stay 18 holes! Lake Tahoe Golf Course is a huge money maker and will continue to generate large revenues as long as it stays an 18 hole course.

1131-1

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Project, Upper Truckee" <UTPROJECT@parks.ca.gov>

To: RonCReTtus@aol.com; hazlettdoug@gmail.com; brucep1@yahoo.com; frodo3645@yahoo.com; robrule666@gmail.com; bajanorm@hotmail.com; laptahoe@charter.net; ktvt5893@sbcglobal.net; Katzino6@aol.com; fatjackf@aol.com; brentrichard52@sbcglobal.net; wdgstr@yahoo.com; blawrie1@hotmail.com; dancevisions@charter.net; rabarneson@hotmail.com; playmatters@live.com; d-scriptmedia@yahoo.com; michael.bolen@hotmail.com; jcopeland@kirkwood.com; paperplays.john@gmail.com; goodingt@charter.net; mapphantom@charter.net; rhaas40442@aol.com; Lheggen@gmail.com; fpiannetta@sbcglobal.com; peterilling@sbcglobal.net; rickkistler@yahoo.com; klatta59@aol.com; lkm1234@hotmail.com; boardhead7@charter.net; pattonmm@sbcglobal.net; bobcyn@sbcglobal.net; pricerite@comcast.net; bernside@hotmail.com; lucystanton@netzero.com; astrain@vailresorts.com; muliana-mabe@att.net; Super@LakeTahoeGC.com; larry.hobson25@gmail.com; gm@laketahoe.gc.com; rangelocci@earthlink.net; tahoebrown01@msn.com; Klatta59@aol.com; tmazz1@att.net; free1249@yahoo.com; blandejob99@yahoo.com; castellanos-law@sbcglobal.net; tdaniels@infostations.com; richiewoo60@yahoo.com; L_gobson@yahoo.com; staltbrecht@sbcglobal.net; banderson51@charter.net; csintahoe@aol.com; smooks3@charter.net; buxbaz@sbcglobal.net; bbbett@aol.com; yesblonski@sbcglobal.net; timmerone@aol.com; gborst427@hotmail.com; royal@royalhydraulics.com; tahoesr71@yahoo.com; userramp@aol.com; ibpost@aol.com; bd06232000@netzero.net; pappou@aol.com; dgayner@charter.net; tahojim@aol.com; anneke100@aol.com; zankiegooding@aol.com; L_hobson@yahoo.com; curtis@hsrei.biz; georgene@hsrei.biz; hjuretschke@hotmail.com; rkreveg@hotmail.com; mklover@pacbell.net; selinatap@yahoo.com; tmakris@pillsburylaw.com; dlmayer@aol.com; kylemazzoni@yahoo.com; tmaz1@att.net; ibegeo@aol.com; G.Mendel@sbcglobal.net; richtahoe@aol.com; john@mcgeemechanical.net; rnovasel@wamtahoe.com; to2299@sbcglobal.net; coachpatterson@sbcglobal.net; jerepca1@aol.com; piercetk@hotmail.com; tahoeradford@aol.com;

Ragonese@charter.net; michaelpatrickrogan@gmail.com; jps423@att.net; srplumb@etahoe.com; drshehadi@cox.net; fritztahoe@hotmail.com; ronrsi@aol.com; stacpoole@sbcglobal.net; jstahl@ortc.com; toreno3@sbcglobal.net; weisstahoe@sbcglobal.net; crtwhelan@charter.net; gwiffy4@yahoo.com; wtahoemax@aol.com; nrwolf@prodigy.net

Sent: Fri, August 27, 2010 9:57:43 AM

Subject: RE: LTGC - Please Be Heard - State Park Alternatives for our Golf Course

The correct e-mail for comments is:

utproject@parks.ca.gov

Thank you

CA State Parks

From: RonCRettus@aol.com [mailto:RonCRettus@aol.com]

Sent: Tue 8/24/2010 7:12 PM

To: RonCRettus@aol.com; hazlettdoug@gmail.com; brucep1@yahoo.com; frodo3645@yahoo.com; robrule666@gmail.com; bajanorm@hotmail.com; laptahoe@charter.net; ktvt5893@sbcglobal.net; Katzino6@aol.com; fatjackf@aol.com; brentrichard52@sbcglobal.net; wdgstr@yahoo.com; blawrie1@hotmail.com; dancevisions@charter.net; rabarneson@hotmail.com; playmatters@live.com; d-scriptmedia@yahoo.com; michael.bolen@hotmail.com; jcopeland@kirkwood.com; paperplays.john@gmail.com; goodingt@charter.net; mapphantom@charter.net; rhaas40442@aol.com; Lheggen@gmail.com; fpiannetta@sbcglobal.com; peterilling@sbcglobal.net; rickkistler@yahoo.com; klatta59@aol.com; lkm1234@hotmail.com; boardhead7@charter.net; pattonmm@sbcglobal.net; bobcyn@sbcglobal.net; pricesrite@comcast.net; bernside@hotmail.com; lucystanton@netzero.com; astrain@vailresorts.com; muliana-mabe@att.net; Super@LakeTahoeGC.com; larry.hobson25@gmail.com; gm@laketahoe.gc.com; rangelocci@earthlink.net; tahoebrown01@msn.com; Klatta59@aol.com; tmazz1@att.net; free1249@yahoo.com; blandejob99@yahoo.com; castellanos-law@sbcglobal.net; tdaniels@infostations.com; richiewoo60@yahoo.com; L_gobson@yahoo.com; sltalbrecht@sbcglobal.net; banderson51@charter.net; csintahoe@aol.com; smooks3@charter.net; buxbaz@sbcglobal.net; bbbett@aol.com; yesblonski@sbcglobal.net; timmerone@aol.com; gborst427@hotmail.com; royal@royalhydraulics.com; tahoesr71@yahoo.com; userramp@aol.com; ibpost@aol.com; bd06232000@netzero.net; pappou@aol.com; dgayner@charter.net; tahojim@aol.com; anneke100@aol.com; zankiegooding@aol.com; L_hobson@yahoo.com; curtis@hsrei.biz; georgene@hsrei.biz; hjuretschke@hotmail.com; rkreveg@hotmail.com; mklover@pacbell.net; selinatap@yahoo.com; tmakris@pillsburylaw.com; dlmayer@aol.com; kylemazzoni@yahoo.com; tmaz1@att.net; ibegeo@aol.com; G.Mendel@sbcglobal.net; richtahoe@aol.com; john@mcgeemechanical.net; rnovasel@wamtahoe.com; to2299@sbcglobal.net; coachpatterson@sbcglobal.net; jerepca1@aol.com; piercetek@hotmail.com; tahoeradford@aol.com; Ragonese@charter.net; roncretus@aol.com; michaelpatrickrogan@gmail.com; jps423@att.net; srplumb@etahoe.com; drshehadi@cox.net; fritztahoe@hotmail.com; ronrsi@aol.com; stacpoole@sbcglobal.net; jstahl@ortc.com; toreno3@sbcglobal.net; weisstahoe@sbcglobal.net; crtwhelan@charter.net; gwiffy4@yahoo.com; wtahoemax@aol.com; nrwolf@prodigy.net

Subject: LTGC - Please Be Heard - State Park Alternatives for our Golf Course



Lets be heard !!!!!!!!

I would ask each of you that receive this e-mail to take one of two actions:

If you agree with it - Forward it to CWalck@parks.ca.gov with an "I agree" comment.

If you have different opinions or/and can take the time to express your individual thoughts on what you would like to see happen and why, then send your own individual e-mail to Ms. Walk

But we do have to be counted - there are groups other than golfers that are actively lobbying the State Parks organization to take action that will do away with our course or reduce it to 9 holes.

I believe the California State Parks should adopt Alternative 2.

This would restore the Upper Truckee River, enhance the surrounding wetlands/animal habitat and reduce silt flowing into Lake Tahoe while keeping our 18 hole golf course by moving 9 holes to a currently available area outside the river flood plain.

- 1. This alternative would keep an affordable, tournament level, 18 hole golf course. Affordable because it would not be the \$200- \$250 fees charged by Edgewood, and Tournament level vs the playable but "reduced level" of Tahoe Paradise executive type course.**
- 2. The proposed new area (outside the flood plain) for the new 9 holes looks like a blight area today and our Lake Tahoe environment and ambience would be enhanced and improved with the movement of the new holes to this area.**
- 3. Reducing our golf course to 9 holes or removing the course entirely will deprive us of a major recreation opportunity currently provided by our California State Parks. This is extremely biased against the many local golfers that live in the South Tahoe area.**

4. Visiting golfers and Tournaments will not come to a golf destination vacation area for a 9 hole golf course.

The impact to our already fragile local economy would be negatively impacted by as much as \$6 - \$9 million dollars each year.

25,000 rounds a year - Between late April and early October

60% of these rounds from visitors at 1 round per visitor

15,000 visitors at 2 nights motel stay (\$150) = 2.25 million dollars

15,000 visitors at 5 meals (\$40) = 3.0 million dollars

Add 25 % for those who bring their families: 1.2 million dollars

Revenues Potentially Lost to our local economy: 6.5 million

This does not include revenues to the golf course or California State Parks and Income to the 50-75 local people employed by the course

5. Remember, our opinion (vote) is very important - The thousands of our visitors are removed from the issues and in most cases don't know what the current plans for the course could be.

6. If you are aware of visiting golfers, please forward this email to them.

Please take the time to be heard - If not Us then who?

I131-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.



FW: LTGC

McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Sent: Tuesday, September 07, 2010 11:28 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

From: Walck, Cyndi

Sent: Thursday, August 26, 2010 11:11 AM

To: 'Seana Doherty'; 'Tracy Owen Chapman'; kathy strain; McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Subject: FW: LTGC

From: tim mazzoni [mailto:tmazz1@att.net]

Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2010 8:59 PM

To: Walck, Cyndi

Subject: LTGC

I agree with alternative #2

| 1132-1

Letter
I132
Response

Tim Mazzone
August 24, 2010

I132-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

LTGC

tim mazzoni [tmazz1@att.net]

Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2010 9:18 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



I support alternative 2 as it will serve all of lake tahoe with the best intentions for all.

| 1133-1

Letter
I133
Response

Tim Mazzone
September 21, 2010

I133-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

LTGC

tim mazzoni [tmazz1@att.net]

Sent: Monday, October 18, 2010 7:27 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I134

I have the read the recent articles from "locals" who live near the golf course. I can't imagine the wildlife, rodents and their pets are going to be truly affected by moving 9 holes to the other side of the river. These people are only concerned about themselves, period. Regardless of what happens the end results will have some effect on everybody. The positives of moving the golf course effects the whole community. We need business in this community more than ever. State Parks needs more money in their coffers to permote the system as a whole. Its not all about the money. Lets make the choice that benefits the majority.

I134-1

Letter
I134
Response

Tim Mazzone
October 18, 2010

I134-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Support of Alternative 2

richard mccallan [ricmccal@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, November 08, 2010 8:02 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I135

To whom it may concern,

This is a letter in support of the proposed Alternative 2. Alternative 2 looks to be the best alternative that balances both the economic benefits of the golf course while achieving meaningful restoration of the Upper Truckee River.

While I would initially prefer the complete removal and restoration of the golf course area, I understand that the economic benefits of the golf course are important to both the community and the State Parks. I do find that Alternative 1 and 4 do nothing to restore the Upper Truckee and will continue to add to the overall decline of Lake Tahoe. This eventual decline of the lake itself can be a much more severe economic impact than the loss of the golf course if the degradation of the lake become severe enough.

I135-1

Thank you for your consideration.

Richard McCallan, P.E.
Water Resources Engineer
Tahoma, CA

I135-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic and environmental value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Washoe Meadows State Park

John McDougall [john@cascadeinvestments.com]

Sent: Saturday, November 13, 2010 4:59 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I136

Hello Cyndi

I am contacting you regarding your plans to possibly convert part of the Washoe Meadows State park into a redesigned Golf course to deal with concerns with restoring the Upper Truckee River. I am opposed to this project for 2 reasons first I have spent many an afternoon walking through this area it is a rare find to explore such a great place that is so easily accessible I do live a couple of miles away however it is worth the short drive to take a walk in such a peaceful place. I do not want us to find more reasons to develop land in the basin and let me make it clear for me this is just more development of our land and I feel it will do more harm than good Therefore I would like to leave it as it is. I appreciate what we have in that area now and as a 47 year Lake Tahoe resident I want to see this area left alone. However I am in favor of some steps being taken to stabilize the area along the golf course area. A smaller project that can be more cost affective

The second reason is a financial one this project will create a couple of concerns for me one it will create increased cost for the use of the Golf course something I really do not find acceptable as I do on occasion play a round of golf at that golf course and second and most importantly It is time for the state of California to stop spending our money on unnecessary projects. At least until it gets it's fiscal house in order projects like this can sometimes be good when we can afford them and in the current economic situation this project for me cannot pass the affordability test. To spend our tax dollars on this as the State of California is broke seems like just more poor judgement and I would think the current need is to cut expenses drastically until we can afford this type of expense. I certainly cannot spend money that I do not have. California needs to get its financial house in order before any project of this nature can be considered

In closing I would like to see steps taken to stabilize the golf course area something that can be more cost effective and with the golf course sharing in the expense just like the rest of us must do by doing our BMPs and such as they have some responsibility as they are profiting from the land use in that area.

Thank You

John McDougall
530-416-2003

I136-1

I136-1

The commenter opposes Alternative 2 and supports a smaller stabilization project. The commenter has concerns about raising golf course rates and requests that the State stop spending money on unnecessary projects and states the golf course should implement BMPs. As described in Section 2.4, “Alternative 1: No Project/No Action: Existing River and 18-Hole Regulation Golf Course,” BMPs in the parking lot include channel drains and an oil and grease separator located near the stormwater pond, adjacent to the maintenance yard. Parking lot water discharges to a stormwater treatment pond prior to entering the river. Potential impacts related to erosion are addressed in Impact 3.6-1 (Alt. 2), “Soil Erosion, Sedimentation, and Loss of Topsoil,” and Impact 3.4-6 (Alt. 2), Short-Term Risk of Surface Water or Groundwater Degradation during Construction.” Mitigation for these potential impacts during project construction and operation is provided in Mitigation Measures 3.6-1A (Alt. 2) and 3.4-6 (Alt. 2), “Prepare and Implement Effective Site Management Plans,” and Mitigation Measure 3.6-1B (Alt. 2), “Provide On-Site Storm Drainage Facilities and Accompanying Stormwater Drainage Plan to Prevent Surface Erosion from Discharging to Creek or River Channels.” These mitigation measures require implementation of design measures and BMPs with performance requirements.

The comments are noted. See response to comment AOB8-1, above, and Section 2.2.2, “Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Detailed Evaluation,” in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS for discussions of smaller stabilization projects that were considered. See Master Response Section 3.7, “Economics,” for a discussion of funding.

Tahoe Golf Course

Ibegeo@aol.com [Ibegeo@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, September 01, 2010 7:51 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



I've been golfing at Lake Tahoe Golf Course (Tahoe Country Club) since the summer of 1970 and just love the course. I golf no less than 3 times a week there, its like playing and walking in a painting. I've seen the course come from a cow pasture to one of the best courses around and its walk able. But I also love Lake Tahoe and its rare beauty. If this project needs to be done to help the lake then I'm all for it. I will truly miss the holes that are moved but we can build more golf holes , we cannot built another Lake Tahoe.

I137-1

George McKool
Stateline, Nv.

I137-1

The commenter's support for relocating 9 holes of the golf course to Washoe Meadows SP if necessary to help Lake Tahoe is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

I138

Re: response

Kenneth McNutt [kmcnutt58@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2010 1:21 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

Tx Cyndie

we met at the meeting on the 29th and you were very gracious and convincing then. I hope this Process works out well and you are satisfied. After all, you have put a lot into it, and gave the community good leadership.
sincerely,

I138-1

Ken McNutt

From: "Project, Upper Truckee" <UTPROJECT@parks.ca.gov>

To: kmcnutt58@sbcglobal.net

Sent: Tue, October 5, 2010 12:00:40 PM

Subject: FW: response

From: Project, Upper Truckee

Sent: Tue 10/5/2010 11:38 AM

To: kmnutt58@sbcglobal.net

Subject: response

Ken McNutt

Thank you for you interest in this project. The main difference is between alts 2-3-5 and alt 1 or 4. Alts 2, 3, and 5 all decrease erosion of bed and banks and reconnect the floodplain to allow for overbank flows thru a vegetated floodplain increasing deposition of fine sediment. Alt 4 only reduces erosion.

Thanks,

Cyndie Walck

Letter
I138
Response

Ken McNutt
October 5, 2010

I138-1

The commenter's support for the success of the project is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.



FW: golfers

McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Sent: Tuesday, September 07, 2010 11:37 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

From: Walck, Cyndi

Sent: Thursday, August 26, 2010 11:09 AM

To: 'Seana Doherty'; kathy strain; 'Tracy Owen Chapman'

Cc: McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Subject: FW: golfers

From: Gary Mendel [mailto:g.mendel@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Thursday, August 26, 2010 9:38 AM

To: Walck, Cyndi

Subject:

i agree with the new holes . lets get rid of american golf corporation and run this course ourselves and pay for the new course with the revenues !

| 1139-1

I139-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. The commenter suggests having someone else manage the golf course and paying for the project with the resulting revenue. See Master Response Section 3.7, "Economics," for information about project funding. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Gary Mendel [g.mendel@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Friday, August 27, 2010 11:43 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I140

the only smart solution is for the locals to run the course with a management company (troon golf) . that way we can give all the profit towards the project .

I140-1

I140-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. The commenter suggests having Troon Golf manage the golf course and paying for the project with the resulting revenue. See Master Response Section 3.7, "Economics," for information about project funding. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Gary Mendel [g.mendel@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Wednesday, September 08, 2010 9:27 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I141

#4 seems to be the only viable solution.

there is not the economy or the money to build the new 9 holes now .

If we look to where they stabilized the river in the past with boulders , hole 12 bridge , to the immediate right crossing over to thirteen , it has been holding with growth just fine .

we can afford this by hiring local contractors over the next three years , using the golf course profits as a way to pay for the project .

Locals are willing and able to run the golf course using a management co. like Troon golf to help us and there fore have enough profit to pay for the restoration with boulders.

there are a lot of golf courses in this country with rivers flowing through them with built up walls .

I141-1

I141-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 4 is noted. The commenter suggests having Troon Golf manage the golf course and paying for the project with the resulting revenue. See Master Response Section 3.7, "Economics," for information about project funding. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

attn: Cyndie Walck

Mendizabal Linda [menditahoe@yahoo.com]

Sent: Friday, October 22, 2010 12:16 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I142

We would like to express our support for Alternative 2 for this project.

Much of the development in the Tahoe Basin took place before the implications to the environment were known. Some of the impacts were known but given short shrift because of the economics of the development. Some of this development can and should be repaired. Although money is always an obstacle, we like the alternative of restoring the river to reduce sedimentation load and reconfiguring the golf course. We are not golfers, but feel this alternative should satisfy golfers and continue a popular money-making recreation alternative, while returning the river to its original configuration and thereby reducing flow rate and sedimentation. Seems like a win-win.

Linda and Bob Mendizabal

I142-1

Letter
I142
Response

Linda and Bob Mendizabal
October 22, 2010

I142-1

The commenters' support for Alternative 2 and its economic, recreation, and environmental value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Alternate 1

Terry Mitchell [terry@aysonline.net]

Sent: Monday, November 01, 2010 1:38 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



Leave the golf course as is. It is an asset to South Lake Tahoe and should be left alone. Just because you have made mistakes in the past, doesn't mean you should fix them by making a mistake now.

I143-1

Terry A. Mitchell
South Lake Tahoe Resident

I143-1

The commenter's support for leaving the golf course in its current state is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Upper Truckee River Project

Gary Moore [gsmtahoe@pacbell.net]

Sent: Wednesday, October 06, 2010 9:28 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I144

EIS Comment: Upper Truckee River Restoration & Golf Course Reconfiguration Project

Name: Gary Moore

email: gsmtahoe@pacbell.net

Re: EIS Letter of Support for Alternative 2

My name is Gary Moore and I am the former Director of the City of South Lake Park and Recreation Dept. I have lived and grown up a family in the South Lake Tahoe area for 36 years.

I am very knowledgeable about all the alternatives under consideration for the Upper Truckee River Golf Course Restoration Project. Out of all of them, I like the alternative that relocates the golf course on the other side of the property and restores the golf course— Alternative 2. That alternative seems to provide a happy medium. The others alternatives do not seem to balance the restoration work with the economic and recreational amenities of the golf course. While working at the Parks and Recreation Dept., we had constructed a lot of parks and fields in many areas in and around South Lake. I clearly understand the need to balance the needs of environment with recreation. Alternative 2 seems like a good compromise that mitigates the environmental concerns while retaining and improving a critical recreational asset. I think it's tragic to consider getting rid of the golf course—this is a much needed recreational asset that drives tourism, provides jobs and gives residents and visitors alike a beautiful setting and fun course to play on.

I recognize the need to improve lake clarity. Some of the Alternatives seem to not completely address the solutions for the river and do not help from a restoration point of view. I think we need to do serious restoration while keeping this economic asset (golf course) in place. There is no doubt in my mind that Alternative 2 is the win/win environmentally and recreationally. Additionally, with what State Parks is facing today financially, closing the golf course shouldn't even be discussed. They tremendously need the revenue stream that this course provides them. Not to mention that local employment should not be discounted in any means.

In closing I'm supportive of Alternative 2. Moving the golf course to where there is a current gravel pit and utility lines will be an improvement to this property. Adding more publicly accessible trails and improving restoration along the river will make the area much more attractive than today--not to mention the tremendous restoration and wildlife benefits it will create. This Alternative is an enhancement for all people who golf, hike the trails and like to recreate in and around this area. Again, I see it as the by far the best direction environmentally and economically.

Gary Moore

South Lake Tahoe, CA

I144-1

Letter
I144
Response

Gary Moore
October 6, 2010

I144-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic, recreation, and environmental value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Lake Tahoe Golf Course

Linda Moore [lkm1234@hotmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, October 12, 2010 1:54 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I145

I am for the option to keep Lake Tahoe Golf Course the way it is and we should prevent future erosion of the river banks (especially along holes 6-7 and 17) by using rock retaining walls (placement of boulders). I have seen the use of boulders as an effective method for erosion control at other locations so I don't know why TRPA will not allow the its use at this golf course. I am afraid that if they approve to move part of the golf course , the parks will receive its funding for the erosion control but no funds will be available for the golf redesign, leaving us with no Lake Tahoe Golf Course. It does not make financial sense to any lessor of LTGC for them to put up several million dollars to develop new holes - they will not be able to recover those costs unless they raise the green fees substantially.

Our city receives millions of dollars in revenue from the visitors who come to Tahoe to enjoy this beautiful golf course. The south shore does not have any other championship golf course, other than Edgewood Golf Course, whose price is out of reach for most of the visitors and local residents. The other golf course in south shore, Tahoe Paradise, is an executive golf course (shorter in length, not regulation length golf course) which is not an attraction for golfers visiting South Lake Tahoe. Without Lake Tahoe Golf Course, most local residents golfers as well as visitors will have to drive to Carson City or Gardnerville to golf. This also means we will be spending our dollars out of town (for meals, gas, other shopping).

The people who want to close Lake Tahoe Golf Course are afraid of loosing their hiking trails. There are hundreds of miles of hiking trails in Lake Tahoe but there are no other place to put a golf course in south shore. Please keep Lake Tahoe Golf Course as it is.

On a personal note, I have MS so I can not golf in the heat. This means that I will not be able to drive to Carson City or Gardnerville to golf during the summer months. If Lake Tahoe Golf Courses closes, I will consider moving out of South Lake Tahoe to a location that allows me to golf.

Linda Moore
1234 Jobs Peak Drive
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

I145-1

Letter
I145
Response

Linda Moore
October 12, 2010

I145-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 4 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Upper Truckee River Restoration & Golf Course Reconfiguration Project

I146

Jim Morocco [boardhead7@charter.net]

Sent: Friday, September 03, 2010 5:10 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I am a supporter of Alternative #2. I think South Lake Tahoe needs to keep the golf course as a full sized, high quality golf experience for the revenue from the course as well as the revenue to the community that those who come to golf provide.

I146-1

Thanks,
Jim Morocco

Letter
I146
Response

Jim Morocco
September 3, 2010

I146-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.



Input

larry mortensen [lmort3223@mac.com]

Sent: Wednesday, September 01, 2010 6:09 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

My wife and I are planning to relocate to South Lake Tahoe by next summer. We have always loved Tahoe for the beauty and serenity throughout the area. Now that we are retired we plan to enjoy the many outdoor activities that make Lake Tahoe special.

While my wife plans to hike, paddle and ski I intend to enjoy golf on the south shore at the Lake Tahoe Country Club. This is the only reasonably priced regulation 18 hole golf course on the south shore. As a matter of fact it is the only such course on either shore. The remaining golf courses are either private and extremely expensive, resort courses which are also very expensive or executive courses which do not provide the complete golf experience. The Lake Tahoe course not only offers a complete golf experience, it also allows for reasonably priced seasonal passes for locals who are the backbone of the area.

I fully understand the importance of addressing the clarity of the lake and keeping Tahoe the most beautiful lake in our country. We fully support this effort.

However, there has to be a way to improve upon the lake's clarity while keeping a reasonable price regulation 18 hole golf course available to the locals. I travel quite frequently on golf trips with my buddies. While I don't like paying the high fees that resorts charge (much like Edgewood) I understand that it is my choice to make the trip and therefore pay the fee. However, it is essential that all communities have affordable options for their residents. Lake Tahoe Country Club is the only such option in Tahoe. Please do not take it away from the current or future residents.

For many years I have dreamed of retiring in Tahoe and a large part of that dream was the knowledge that I would have an affordable golf option at Lake Tahoe Country Club. Now I will have to wait to hear your final decision about the future of the course. If you approve an approach which addresses concerns for the Lake while leaving the course in an 18 hole configuration I will be moving up to Tahoe to fulfill my dream. If the course is either closed or turned in to a 9 hole or executive course my retirement dream will be shattered and my wife and I will have to find a different option which will not be as great as beautiful Lake Tahoe. Please keep our dream alive.

If you have any questions or would like to contact me I can be reached at the following address and phone numbers:

Larry Mortensen
15 Siros
Laguna Niguel, Ca. 92677
949 545-7979
949 485-0669

1147-1

I147-1

The commenter's support for improving the clarity of Lake Tahoe while maintaining an affordable regulation golf course in the area is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

November 7, 2010

I148

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in opposition of Alternative 2 of the **Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration project**. When reading the NOA, I immediately interpreted that Alternative 2 was being highlighted as the best alternative specifically when it was stated that Alternative 5, true ecosystem restoration, would have the same project-related and cumulative beneficial effects. Undoubtedly this is not the case as alternative 5 restores the entire ecosystem, not just the stream and associated floodplain. I think it should be noted that ONLY alternative 5 can be called FULL GEOMORPHIC AND ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION where as all other alternatives should be considered either partial restoration or simply enhancement. It is not full ecosystem restoration when a currently undeveloped piece of land is proposed for golf course development and all the associated impacts that come with that (fertilizers, herbicides, paved roads for golf carts, and habitat for invasive species...).

I148-1

Moving "several" golf course holes to the west side of the project area as proposed in Alternative 2 would drastically reduce recreational opportunities for non-golfers, reduce property values for homes adjacent to Washoe Meadows State Park, increase user conflicts within the park boundary, increase the likelihood of golf related injury, which could lead to lawsuits, displace native wildlife, and increase nutrients and run-off from golf course. Because of these issues, I oppose moving forward with Alternative 2.

The alignment of the seven reconfigured holes, according to Exhibit 2-5, would disconnect current recreation users from park access without pending serious injury from stray golf balls. I have concern for myself and my daughter's personal safety. Stray golf balls have enough force to shatter car windows, dent cars, and break off car side mirrors. This amount of force is certainly sufficient to cause severe and even permanent injuries if a person is hit in the head. An article published in the Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery, and Psychiatry (2000;68:251-252) notes that golf balls can travel up to 130 miles per hour, and described cases of four young patients who experienced epileptic seizures hours after they were hit on the head by a stray ball. The threat of injury will prevent some people from accessing the Washoe Meadow and impairs the ability of other to fully enjoy the experience. In addition, golf courses have faced numerous lawsuits over the years from those injured from stray golf balls. In February 2009, a 67-year-old golfer sued Candia Woods Golf Course in New Hampshire after his own golf ball struck a yardage marker and ricocheted into his own eye. In January 2008, a New Jersey woman who was struck by a stray golf ball while watching her husband play golf sued Owl's Creek Golf Course for \$1 million. In 2007, a Chicago woman struck in the head by a golf ball sued a golf course and the golfer who hit the ball. This potential lawsuit, given the number of "non-golfers" that enjoy the area would substantially offset the fiscal benefits of providing an 18 hole golf course.

I148-2

Beyond opposing Alternative 2 because my daughter, friends, family, pets, and me could get seriously injured because we want to take a walk or a bike ride, I oppose Alternative 2 because it will reduce the property value of my recently purchased house just footsteps from an entrance to the park. Many of my neighbors purchased their homes or feel having the State Park adds value to our homes. With the economic crisis in the State of California, specifically tied real estate it seems inappropriate to further devalue homes by moving a seasonal recreational facility into what is now an area enjoyed by thousands. How can the fiscal importance of this recreational sport out way the fiscal importance of real estate?

1148-3

By moving seven/several holes to the west side of the river, Alternative 2 will also displace native wildlife as well as increase nutrients and herbicides into the groundwater or into the river. The ponds proposed in this alternative could provide habitat for invasive species such as bull frog. The amount of fairways bordering the river doubles in this alternative, which will increase fragmentation, increase nutrient runoff, and negatively impact the dynamic characteristic of the Upper Truckee River. Lastly, although well intended, these efforts could potentially lead to significant negative impacts to native aquatic species. Restoration efforts downstream of this proposed project that have cost tax payers millions of dollars but are denude of stream shade, under cut banks, backwater habitat for native aquatic species and still transport sediment downstream. Additionally the native pearl shell mussel, known to occur in the Upper Truckee River, could be decimated by all these cumulative good intention efforts.

1148-4

In conclusion, I oppose Alternative 2 because of user conflict/injury caused by moving golfing activities, reduced property values of homes around the project area leading to further impacts to the State of California economy, displacement of native wildlife and plants that currently reside in proposed golf relocation area, increased nutrients and herbicides into the groundwater and stream channel, as well as unsuccessful yet expensive projects downstream that have not restored water quality issue nor improved habitat for aquatic native species.

1148-5

Sincerely, a concerned home owner



Sarah Muskopf
786 Seneca

- I148-1 The commenter opposes Alternative 2 and believes that only Alternative 5 accomplishes full geomorphic and ecosystem restoration based on reading the notice of availability for the draft EIR/EIS/EIS. This commenter summarizes concerns about impacts relating to fertilizers, herbicides, paving, invasive species, property values, wildlife habitat, and recreation user conflicts. Impacts relating to Alternative 2 were addressed in detail in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS. Additional information relating to the commenter’s concerns is provided in responses to comments I148-2 through I148-4, below.
- I148-2 The commenter has concerns about trail safety and general recreation access under Alternative 2. See Master Response Section 3.5, “Recreation,” for a discussion of trail user safety and access.
- I148-3 The commenter states that the project would decrease property values, but does not offer specific facts linking the project to a demonstrable effect on property values that can be clearly attributed to the project. Absent specific facts showing a clear effect on property values, this comment contains speculation that is beyond the required and practicable scope of analysis under CEQA, NEPA, or TRPA regulations. The comment is noted.
- I148-4 The commenter is concerned about impacts on habitat, nutrient loading in the river, and spread of invasive weeds. See Master Response Section 3.4, “Hydrology, Flooding, Geomorphology, and Water Quality,” and Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources.”
- I148-5 The commenter’s opposition to Alternative 2 is noted. The commenter summarizes concerns related to Alternative 2 that were addressed above.

Truckee River Restoration Project

Paul Nanzig [paulnanzig@tahoeoutdoorliving.com]

Sent: Friday, October 29, 2010 11:14 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I149

Thank you for the e-mail notice regarding the Oct. 27, meeting on this project at TRPA. I was unable to attend because of work conflict, but I've spoken to a neighbor that attended and read the report in the Tahoe Daily Tribune. My opinion is unchanged on the direction, or misdirection of this project. It appears that the agencies and organizations pushing this project have failed to quantify either the amount of sediment reduced or the price tag or sources for funding the project. The state of California is bankrupt, the federal government is solvent only because they can print more money as necessary, where do these planners think the funds are coming from? This project should be halted immediately, all the planners and consultants laid off or moved to more relevant projects that can be justified financially and environmentally. NO TO ALL ALTERNATIVES! THANKS, Paul Nanzig

I149-1

I149-1

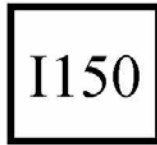
The commenter believes that sediment reduction should be quantified and sources of funding should be identified. See response to comment AOB5-8 for a discussion of sediment quantification; see Master Response Section 3.7, "Economics," for a discussion of funding.

upper truckee golf course reconfiguration

Paul Nanzig [paulnanzig@tahoeoutdoorliving.com]

Sent: Monday, October 04, 2010 10:14 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



Please consider abandonment of this project completely. Do nothing, leave every thing exactly as it is today. If an alternative selection is necessary for this survey, my preference is for Alternative 1. I have lived next to the park for almost 20 years and see no changes to the golf course or the river as necessary.

I150-1

Paul and Jenee Nanzig and Family
1373 Mountain Meadow Drive
South Lake Tahoe, CA
(530)573-0160

Letter
I150
Response

Paul and Jenee Nanzig
October 4, 2010

I150-1

The commenters' support for Alternative 1 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project

I151

Aysin Neville [aysin_neville@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, August 30, 2010 5:09 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

Cc: Bruce Neville [bruceneville@yahoo.com]

To whom it may concern,

We are residents in the Tahoe Paradise area. We wish to see the river restored and park saved instead of a golf course. Here are a few reasons why we believe a golf course is a bad idea:

1. Inappropriate to move a golf course onto environmentally sensitive land within a state park
2. Will fragment the park and destroy wildlife habitat.
3. Will nearly double the number of golf course fairways bordering the river.
4. Will transform present habitat for diverse wildlife into a mono-culture.
5. Golfing is in decline. It is also too expensive of a sport for everyone to enjoy.
6. In it's present state, Washoe Meadows State Park provides year-round, low-impact, affordable recreation.
7. Restore the river AND save the park from golf course development.

I151-1

Thank you for your consideration!

Aysin and Bruce Neville
2744 Delaware

Letter
I151
Response

Aysin and Bruce Neville
August 30, 2010

I151-1

The commenters' support for restoring the river and saving Washoe Meadows SP is noted. The commenters summarize comments addressed in response to comment letter AOB31.

I152

comment on Upper Truckee River project

Michael O. Newberger [Michael.Newberger@astonhotels.com]

Sent: Monday, November 01, 2010 1:02 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

To whom it may concern:

I have attended a couple of meetings, gone on the web-site. I have read the goals and studied the alternatives. Given the current state of the Basin, Lake and South Tahoe economics, it is clear to me that alternative 2 is by far the only opportunity for a win-win-win.

Clearly the need for the restoration of the Upper Truckee river is a given and undeniable. However, the economic realities are that in order to sustain a community and prosper, we need to foster recreational opportunities, not reduce them. The Lake Tahoe Golf Course as an 18 hole championship course does just that. Alternative 2 is the only alternative that restores the channel and floodplain to its natural condition to reduce sediment flow into Lake Tahoe, as well as protect jobs and fuel the local economy. If, as some would like, the golf course reduced to nine holes, or removed completely, then the current residents who golf there (I am one of them) have indicated they would now golf in the Carson Valley. Not only would the revenue to the golf course leave the basin, county, and state – but add to it all the additional revenues of doing regular shopping in the Carson valley rather than at the lake. It is hard enough for businesses to be successful without giving locals yet one more reason to shop "off the hill"!

I152-1

Please select alternative 2 and choose a win, win, win!

Thank you!

Michael Newberger

Director of Sales & Marketing

Aston Lakeland Village Resort

3535 Lake Tahoe Blvd.

S. Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

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Letter
I152
Response

Michael O. Newberger
November 1, 2010

I152-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic, recreation, and environmental value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

I153

November 4, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

1. The draft EIR is inadequate because it states that the impact of Alternative 2 will have a "less than significant impact" on recreation.

For park users, removing 60 acres on natural habitat to create a golf course will have a very significant and negative impact on recreation. The park will be fragmented, many trails to the river will be lost, the park will be surrounded by golf holes, and park users will actually have to cross the golf course or take trails around it to access the river.

I153-1

2. The draft EIR states that Alternative 2 will have a "less than significant impact" on wildlife habitat.

The removal of 60 acres of Lodgepole pine, Jeffrey Pine and the removal of 1,640 native trees larger than 10 inches in diameter will have a very significant and negative impact on wildlife habitats. Many upland animals will lose their habitat and be displaced. Remember the Angora fire and how wildlife activity increased in our neighborhoods? Once again, many of these animals will be displaced, wander into our neighborhoods, eventually cause property damage and be euthanized. Restore the river and protect Washoe Meadows State Park!

I153-2

Thank you for your consideration,

Robert Nichols
4324 West Lake Harriet Parkway
Minneapolis, MN 55410
Formerly of Stateline, NV and South Lake Tahoe, CA

- I153-1 The commenter believes that Alternative 2 will fragment Washoe Meadows SP and create a significant impact on recreation access. See Master Response Section 3.5, "Recreation," for a discussion of recreation access.
- I153-2 The commenter believes that Alternative 2 will fragment Washoe Meadows SP and create a significant impact on wildlife habitat. See Master Response Section 3.3, "Biological Resources," for a discussion of tree removal and wildlife habitat. See response to comment I54-1 for a discussion of the Angora Fire.

Public Comment on Washoe Meadows/ Upper Truckee River Project

I154

ROBMEIERS@aol.com [ROBMEIERS@aol.com]

Sent: Sunday, October 03, 2010 2:59 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I favor alternative 1 for the following reasons:
the biggest source of fine particulates that effect the clarity of Lake Tahoe is auto emissions. Doing anything to the Upper Truckee will not significantly clear up the Lake's waters. Auto emissions must be significantly decreased before this project goes forward. Other parts of the Upper Truckee are being restored. If completed, these projects will decrease the sediment inflow without any money being spent for this project.

I154-1

With money scarce, the least expensive alternative should be considered. If not alternative 1, then alternative 4.

Thank you for the opportunity for input,

Bob Niedermeier
1203 OMalley Dr
So Lake Tahoe CA 96150

I154-1

The commenter's primary support for Alternative 1 followed by support for Alternative 4 is noted. The commenter believes that funds should be spent on decreasing air emissions not restoration. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Comment on Draft EIS for Upper Truckee River Project

SNoll@designworkshop.com [SNoll@designworkshop.com]

Sent: Thursday, October 07, 2010 11:11 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I155

Cyndie, I have reviewed the options for the Golf Course restoration project and of the alternatives, it appears alternative 2 does the best with balancing a number of potentially conflicting aspects. I am friends with a few of the people who will be effected by the location of the course and I can understand their position. I have not reviewed all the EIR documents but if it has not been done yet, I think a better understanding about the ways the impacts are minimized would be helpful. There was some mention about an alternative that was not studies which would move the entire channel next to the residents but that could just be a rumor or maybe it was considered yet rejected early in the process. So to restate, alternative 2 seems to meet as many of the objectives as possible. Thanks.

I155-1

I155-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS. See response to comment AOB8-1 for a discussion of alternatives considered but eliminated from further evaluation.

Washoe Meadows State Park

Annaleigh Novak [annaleigh_novak@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, September 06, 2010 7:53 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I156

Hi, I'm writing to voice my opinion that the golf course not be moved to the west side of the river within the park. We live close to the park and frequent it on a daily basis. We love going to the river and chillin out with our family. I understand that the proposed move will nearly double the number of golf course fairways bordering the river. This would severely impact our enjoyment of the river obviously. Sincerely, Annaleigh Novak

I156-1

I156-1

The commenter's opposition to Alternative 2 is noted. The commenter has concerns about the number of golf course fairways bordering the river under Alternative 2. See response to comment AOB8-7 for a discussion of the river/golf course buffer.



Re: Public Comments - State Parks' Upper Truckee River Project

Fr: Lisa O'Daly (Box 7429, SLT, CA 96158 – already on mailing list)

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the environmental document for this project. Because the document is so long, I'm unclear whether the answers to my questions may be found elsewhere in its depths. However, I raise the following questions in order to address needed impact identification for the final and to assist in ensuring that all impacts are identified and that methods to mitigate them are properly considered. Specifically:

LAND USE:

- Would you please provide the process steps for the identified mitigation of the project's potential Land Use impacts that relate to park boundary modifications and General Plan amendments? It is unclear who is making what decision when, and what the State Park decision making hierarchy is.

1157-1

SCENIC:

- Does TRPA concur that paving 89 additional parking spaces, where parking occurs currently on the grass during busy periods, will not affect the scenic score of the scenic roadway unit?
- How does preparation and implementation of a Landscaping and Forest Management Plan mitigate the visual environmental effects of a project that requires "substantial grading to modify the terrain for golf holes, substantial removal of existing trees, and the construction of golf facilities on the existing forest" in Washoe Meadows State Park? The analysis indicates that the project would "result in a substantial change in views from existing trails, and potentially from limited vantage points in adjacent neighborhoods (where the intervening forest buffer isn't sufficiently dense to block views)" presumably where the forest was extensively thinned last summer to create a wildfire "defense zone."
- How does the development of a Landscape and Forest Management Plan act as a mitigation measure? What are the specifics of the mitigation elements and how it will be implemented to actually address the above-described environmental effects? It appears that a planted and irrigated vegetative ring surrounding the area of the effects is proposed to better screen views. What are the measurable performance standards by which the success of the mitigation can be determined? What is the contingent mitigation if monitoring reveals that the success standards are not satisfied? How do you both develop a visual screen within 200' of neighborhoods and at the same time meet the local requirements for defensible space? The effects section describes scenic effects from the trails, but the mitigation measure only describes a 200' buffer to the residences. Are all scenic affects corrected by this mitigation, or will visitors still see golf activities when walking through the meadow? Does the proposed plan pass the test as mitigation for the identified impacts, or should a statement of overriding considerations be recommended for adoption?

1157-2

1157-3

1157-4

RECREATION

- Does the EIR/EIS/EIS independently validate the citation that of the 22,219 rounds of golf played at Lake Valley by visitors, that 8,942 of them are made by visitors “whose specific purpose for visiting the Tahoe Basin was to play at the Lake Tahoe Golf Course”? How was this determined? 1157-5
- Is citing to a “statistically invalid” golfing survey (see Econ Report, due to its less than 1% response rate) adequate for conclusions in a CEQA document? If it is, are golfers at an 18 hole regulation course the right ones to survey about who would play a nine holes golf course? Or, are the other of the Tahoe Region’s nine hole courses the best place to survey who might use such a course at Lake Valley? Who created the golfers’ survey; what were their qualifications for the task; and was it peer reviewed before use?
- Would the conclusions of the Washoe Meadows recreation use survey potentially be different if it occurred after the 2007 Angora Fire? Has use in the area increased since the other side of the neighborhood is now burned and presents hazardous conditions for recreation on windy days?
- How does the conclusion of Less than Significant Environmental Effects for dispersed recreation use consider the affects to the Tahoe Region’s R1 Threshold, which addresses preservation and enhancement of a high-quality recreational experience including preservation of high quality undeveloped natural areas, such as Washoe Meadows State Park, which is indentified in its Resource Summary as having a natural environment surrounded by urban and suburban development: “From the center of the western portion, all one sees are lush meadows, brooks, forested slopes, and snow-capped peaks. In the spring and summer months, wildflowers carpet the meadows and forest floors, and birds are active in song.” How will the quality of this recreation experience change? Is this consistent with the R1 Threshold? Has the value of the area for dispersed recreation changed since the Angora Fire? To wildlife? 1157-6
- It appears that the conclusions drawn in the EIR/EIS/EIS equate a more developed trails experience and a developed bridge with an “improved” and “higher quality” dispersed recreation opportunity. Is that consistent with the R1 Threshold? How does the Angora Fire context of this area affect the value of this natural recreation experience for users within walking or riding distance, which is the recreation use audience served by the Washoe Meadows Unit since State Parks does not currently provide parking facilities for the State Park?
- The connectivity across the river is evaluated as “better” following Alternative 2 implementation. Would the analysis please address the effects modifications to the connectivity of the North Upper Truckee neighborhood users of Washoe Meadows to the undeveloped river, one of the primary destinations in the park? 1157-7
- What are the actual PAOT numbers referred to in the analysis and how many additional PAOTs are to be assigned from the reserved PAOT Pool for the project? The document and its analysis indicate this is necessary, but does not explain why and does not quantify the day use PAOT allocation required from the pool. 1157-8
- What are the lengths and types of boardwalk proposed through the restored floodplain? 1157-9

HYDROLOGY AND FLOODING

- Exhibit 3.3-2: The legend for the map incorrectly identifies “Golf Course Drainages” in the park, outside of the existing golf course. Please correctly identify the natural drainages that occur there. | I157-10
- Shouldn’t the potential failure of Echo Dam be identified, rather than eliminated as an item to not be discussed further? | I157-11

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

- Is there a mapping registration error between Exhibits 2.5 and 3.5-1? It appears through an informal overlay of the two maps that the sensitive cluster of biological resources near Chillicothe Street is largely outside the protective undeveloped bubble in the conceptual golf course layout. | I157-12
- I have personally sighted two juvenile goshawks flying in the lodgepole forest between Delaware Street and the river in September of this year. These are my two most recent sightings in twenty years of use of the park. | I157-13
- What are the parameters and measures to avoid potential significant adverse effects when the “likelihood and magnitude of the potential effects on the spring complex are presently unknown and Alternative 2 would result in disturbance within the SEZ and jurisdictional wetland”? How can the public adequately comment on the efficacy of the protection proposed and have enough information to conclude “that final design, operation, and management of golf course holes proposed in the park that will protect the spring complexes”? Without content that specifies the proposed implementation information, does this suffice as a mitigation measure and how can the public adequately comment? Without the specifics of the mitigation elements and how it will be implemented to actually address the above-described environmental effects, it is difficult to understand that this offers more than a “trust me” level of protection. Perhaps even the size of a needed “protective buffer” could be established in the document so that the final plan can be compared to the best science from the EIR/EIS/EIS? | I157-14
- How is the conclusion of beneficial effects to spring complexes from the long-term use and operation of the new golf holes arrived at? The analysis states without justification that there will be no effects to the fen outside the project, when previously the indirect effects were stated as “unknown.” | I157-15
- Does the spring complex in the old quarry fully overlay with the proposed wetland pond and created “natural” channel? From the maps it looks like there is a loss of spring area to golf infrastructure that isn’t captured in the analysis. | I157-16
- How does “minimizing tree removal” and development of a Tree Removal and Management Plan minimize an identified significant impact to vegetation less than significance? The effect of converting a forest to “nonforest” is still there. Will a statement of overriding considerations be prepared instead? | I157-17

- How can the possible tree replacement plan that may be prepared serve as a mitigation measure? By definition, it might also not be prepared. In any case, the golf course won't be replanted, so it is unclear how this mitigates the effects of a forest type conversion to nonforest.

I157-17
cont.

I understand from the document that the lead agencies not only didn't identify a Proposed Action from amongst the five alternatives for the project, but also that no official preferred alternative. Instead, all alternatives are being considered equally and public opinion is being sought. As a citizen, neighbor to Washoe Meadows State Park and park user for 20 years, I would like to express my personal preference that an alternative with full geomorphic river restoration be selected without the creation of any golf course infrastructure located within the boundaries of Washoe Meadows State Park. I also support temporary construction access for such restoration in Washoe Meadows, as well as river restoration activities. I do not support the permanent commitment of resources of Washoe Meadows State Park without first completing a General plan process for the park that looks at its composite whole before considering actions that could fragment its values and hinder potential future uses that are consistent with State Park purposes, such as camping.

I157-18

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Lisa O'Daly

- I157-1 The commenter requests information on the decision-making process for general plan amendments. If Alternative 2 were selected, the park's boundary lines would be adjusted by the State Parks and Recreation Commission after conducting a public meeting to consider the action. The general plan would then be amended by the commission to reflect the boundary adjustment. The decision whether to carry out the project will be made by the Director or her delegate. The commission does not have jurisdiction over restoration or development projects, but is responsible for approval and amendment of general plans (California Public Resources Code, Sections 541 and 5002.2). If a project is chosen that does not need a general plan amendment, the general plan will not be amended. If the project chosen needs a general plan amendment, a proposed general plan amendment will be submitted to the commission. State Parks will also obtain approvals from TRPA and Reclamation.
- I157-2 TRPA, as a lead agency, assisted in review and preparation of the EIR/EIS/EIS for the project. The EIR/EIS/EIS was prepared in accordance with TRPA regulations. In addition, State Parks will work with TRPA through permitting and design to ensure that the project is in compliance with TRPA regulations. As described in Section 3.7, "Scenic Resources" under Alternative 2 paving of the unpaved parking area would cause a change in views from U.S. 50. There are currently 115 parking spaces in the paved parking lot at the golf course. The grassy areas on both sides of the golf course entrance are currently used for parking, and under Alternative 2, the north unpaved area would be paved to create an additional 89 parking spaces. Changes in long-term views associated with paving of the unpaved parking area would be less than significant, because the change in appearance of the parking area would be on the ground plane and would not substantially alter the overall landscape view. Also, there is no change in the visible activity (current parking use would continue) and no substantial increase in the anticipated parking use under this alternative. Although the grassy area would change from grass to pavement, the change in views would not be intrusive, being at the ground level. In addition, no changes to the clubhouse, driving range, or maintenance buildings, which are prominent features visible from U.S. 50, are proposed. Therefore, implementing Alternative 2 or the proposed Preferred Alternative would not result in substantial changes in long-term views from U.S. 50.
- I157-3 The commenter questions the mitigation presented in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS for impacts on scenic resources. As described in Section 3.7, "Scenic Resources," implementation of a landscaping and forest management plan would reduce impacts associated with the long-term degradation of the visual character, existing visual quality, or scenic quality affecting residences adjacent to Washoe Meadows SP to a less-than-significant level because preparation and implementation of a landscaping and forest management plan would provide effective visual screening of the golf course.
- I157-4 The commenter questions the performance standards for mitigation of impacts on scenic resources, asks about contingent mitigation and monitoring, and questions how the mitigation is consistent with defensible space. The mitigation will be designed by the golf course engineer in collaboration with State Parks. The buffer and vegetative screening are

not meant to fully block views of all golf course activities, but to help screen views of the course, reduce the visibility of the course to neighbors, and retain the overall forest landscape character outside of the golf course, while allowing proper vegetation management for defensible space. Based on criteria presented in Section 3.7, Scenic Resources,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, this mitigation measure would reduce this impact to a less-than-significant level, because views would not be substantially degraded.

I157-5 The commenter questions the adequacy of the economic analysis prepared for the project and asks whether the Angora Fire was considered in the analysis. See Master Response Section 3.7, “Economics,” for a discussion of the economic analysis for the project. See response to comment I54-1 for a discussion of the Angora Fire.

I157-6 The commenter disagrees with the less-than-significant impact conclusions for project impacts on dispersed recreation. See Master Response Section 3.5, “Recreation.” The proposed project is consistent with all TRPA thresholds, as discussed in Section 4.6, “Consequences for Environmental Threshold Carrying Capacities.” See response to comment I54-1 for a discussion of the Angora Fire.

I157-7 The commenter requests an analysis of impacts on connectivity for the North Upper Truckee neighborhood. The river will be on the opposite side of the sewer access road from the golf course and the area where golf course is removed near hole 18, will be newly open and available to the public. See Master Response Section 3.5, “Recreation.”

I157-8 The commenter questions why persons at one time (PAOTs) were not quantified for the project. As described in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS in Section 3.8, “Recreation” (page 3.8-5), TRPA allocates PAOTs to PASSs, community plans, and a reserve pool where PAOTs are held in reserve for overnight and summer day-use facilities. If a proposed expansion of recreation facilities meets TRPA’s criteria, the project will be approved. The number of PAOTs necessary to accommodate the increased level of activity associated with a project, if any, will be assigned from the PAOTs allocated to the relevant PAS, community plan, or reserve pool.

The study area for this project is located in PAS 119, Country Club Meadow. Targets and limits have been identified for additional developed outdoor recreation facilities to be located within this plan area, as specified in Chapter 13, “Plan Area Statements and Plan Area Maps,” of the TRPA Code of Ordinances, Country Club Meadow #119. No additional PAOT capacity for summer-day, winter-day, or overnight uses is allocated to PAS 119; however, 6,215 summer-day-use PAOTs are available in the reserve pool described in the Code of Ordinances, and discussed in that section above. The Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project is an Environmental Improvement Program project; therefore, PAOTs could be allocated from the pool (TRPA 2007:10-9).

No PAOTS are currently assigned to the study area. It is expected that under all alternatives, even Alternative 1, PAOTs would be assigned to the study area. Because no increase in use is expected under Alternative 2, the PAOTs to be assigned under Alternative 2 are expected to be the same as under Alternative 1, which is a continuation of existing conditions. Before project approval, State Parks will work with TRPA to assess the PAOTs necessary for the project.

I157-9 The commenter requests the lengths and types of boardwalk proposed through the restored floodplain. The total length of the pedestrian path on the southeast side of the river is 5,630 linear feet, including the tie-in from the bridge to the south at Country Club

Drive and the tie-in to the Sawmill bike trail. The trail would be a combination of crowned causeway, drainage lenses, and boardwalks. Lengths and types will be developed during final design and permitting.

- I157-10 The commenter requests modification of the legend in Exhibit 3.3-2 for surface water features outside of the existing golf course. This map includes several small unnamed ditches, swales, and streams within the study area on both sides of the Upper Truckee River. The legend incorrectly labels all of these unnamed surface water features as “golf course drainages” although some of them are not within the existing golf course boundary. There are no official names for any of the features, and the locations are all correct on the map, but there is a typographical error in the legend. This comment does not raise issues regarding the completeness or accuracy of analysis in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- I157-11 The commenter states that inundation resulting from dam failure was improperly screened out as an issue not requiring further evaluation in the EIR/EIS/EIS. The draft EIR/EIS/EIS evaluates all aspects of hydrology that could indirectly or directly increase flooding risks to people or structures that could be modified by any of the alternatives: potential changes to runoff volumes or peak flows (Impacts 3.3-1 and 3.3-2), modified frequency of small-magnitude flooding from overbank flows (Impact 3.3-3), and potential increases in the 100-year flood hazard (Impact 3.3-4). No change to driving forces, vulnerable structures, or increased risks to persons from dam failure inundation would be associated with any of the alternatives. Therefore, this particular mechanism of potential flooding was appropriately screened out from detailed comparison within the draft EIR/EIS/EIS. For clarification, as shown in Chapter 5, “Corrections and Revisions to the Draft EIR/EIS/EIS,” the following modifications have been made to text on page 3.3-37 of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS:
- Failure of a Levee or Dam**—The study area is ~~not~~ within an ~~identified~~ the Echo dam-failure inundation zone ~~or~~ but not near any constructed levees. No changes to driving forces, vulnerable structures, or increase in the risk of harm to persons from the therefore, no flood hazard-related to failure of a levee or dam would occur under any alternative. Other possible changes related to flooding are fully discussed below.
- I157-12 The commenter questions whether there is a mapping registration error between Exhibits 2-5 and 3.5-1 of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS. No sensitive resources are depicted in Exhibit 2-5. If the commenter is referring to Exhibit 2-1, which shows the locations of sensitive resources, those locations shown could include biological, cultural, or other sensitive resources. The vegetation map (Exhibit 3.5-1) would not be expected to show sensitive resources other than biologically sensitive habitat types. No mapping error has occurred. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for information from vegetation mapping that was received after the draft EIR/EIS/EIS was released.
- I157-13 The commenter states that she sighted two juvenile goshawks flying in the lodgepole forest between Delaware Street and the Upper Truckee River in September 2010. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for a discussion of goshawks.
- I157-14 The commenter has concerns about potential impacts on SEZs, wetlands, and fens. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for a discussion of impacts on sensitive habitat.

- I157-15 The commenter is concerned about impacts on the fen. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources.”
- I157-16 The commenter is concerned about impacts on the spring. The spring is surrounded by a large buffer area See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources.”
- I157-17 The commenter asks whether a statement of overriding considerations will be required for tree removal. No statement of overriding consideration will be required for tree removal. While tree removal would be significant under some alternatives, the project would minimize tree removal and compensate as needed for the loss of trees through implementation of Mitigation Measure 3.5-6 (Alt. 2). This would reduce the impact of tree removal to a less-than-significant level and would not require the statement of overriding considerations.
- I157-18 The commenter’s support for an alternative with full geomorphic river restoration, without creation of any golf course infrastructure within the boundaries of Washoe Meadows SP, is noted. The commenter has concerns that a general plan has not been prepared for Washoe Meadows SP. See Master Response Section 3.2, “Land Use,” for a discussion of general plan requirements.

Restore Upper Truckee River

Rachel Odneal [rrross812@hotmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, October 10, 2010 9:47 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I158

This project has not done it's homework to the best of its ability. The state believes it will make more money by spending MILLIONS of taxpayers money that should be going to education, sidewalks, and other necessary areas around town.

Alternative 2 is a the most costly to the taxpayers, the environment and it gives to the rich and takes from the general public. It will limit the access to a natural area with lots of wildlife, beautiful views, and a quiet area to visit.

The area that Alternative 2 is going to move some of the golf course to is on an upper slope. We all know that runoff travels downhill and that would put more fertilizers and runoff into the lake reducing clarity for Lake Tahoe.

The other area for the neighboring community to walk, cross country ski, snowshoe, etc.....is a burnt woods that is heavily logged and barely looks like a woods. The trees that were left behind have been breaking in the winds and losing bark. We will lose access to the Angora woods again this winter when the state allows more logger to take more trees and leave behind their machine parts and garbage all over.

GO FOR A HIKE IN THE ANGORA/SENECA POND AREAS, THEN GO FOR A WALK IN WASHOE MEADOW STATE PARK. Which one is more peaceful, relaxing, and beautiful to you. What else will be taken away.

I158-1

I158-1

The commenter's opposition to Alternative 2 is noted. The commenter has concerns about fertilizer use under Alternative 2. See Master Response Section 3.4, "Hydrology, Flooding, Geomorphology, and Water Quality," for a discussion of fertilizer use and runoff.

I am writing this letter in response to the call for public opinion regarding the restoration of the Upper Truckee River, specifically Washoe Meadows State Park. As a regular community volunteer, State Park Pass holder, and adjacent resident to this park who attended the public meetings, I feel inclined to express my views and opinions. I am not currently employed by any of the involved agencies nor am I a member of the Washoe Community Organization.

I spend several days a week in various parts of the Washoe Meadows State Park participating in such activities as: mountain biking, bird watching, walking, running, taking photographs, and even napping. Several of my neighbors also use the park for various activities including horseback riding, dog walking, playing with their kids, reading and picnics. There have been visitors riding their mountain bikes and a whole community of golfers from various areas who use the recreation area. There is also an entire community of wildlife that inhabits and/or utilizes the area as well, and to my knowledge there are no endangered or species of special concern present. All of the aforementioned need to be considered when talking about progress, but not catered to!

The wonderful improvements upon this land from it's not so distant past as a rock quarry and dirt track motorcycle arena and distant past of almost complete collapse due to over harvesting of lumber, would go un-noticed if one did not really understand the history of the area. I have also learned that the Truckee River has been modified several times throughout its history, sometimes by man, sometimes by mother-nature and at no time previously, was there consideration given to the water quality of Lake Tahoe, the local economy, or the future. We do have that opportunity now, and it is seemingly being wasted with argument, misinformation, and a NIMBY (not in my back yard) attitude. I have yet to see a letter with reasonable suggestion and a positive tone, which lets me know there is a lot of emotion wrapped up in this decision making process. I encourage all of my fellow Tahoe residents, agency employees, and visitors to exude a personal and professional demeanor that can equate to the natural beauty that surrounds us.

Of all alternatives presented, I am conditionally supporting #2. This alternative seemingly does the best job of incorporating all interested parties while maintaining a focus on water quality. There are however some concerns on my part and some suggestions for dealing them.

I believe "the powers that be" could do a better job of selecting of a golf course designer and therefore a new layout rather than the one proposed. The current layout looks to put 9-10 holes of golf onto the opposite side of river currently being used for golf. There are plans for one pedestrian bridge to be used by golfers, bike riders, hikers, kids, and any wildlife looking for an easy route. There are also plans to incorporate a bike path throughout the riparian corridor between golfing and the river.

This layout forces everyone in the park to cross paths at some point. In addition to the expected encounters with bikes and hikers sharing limited trails, locals, tourists, golf carts, golfers, poorly hit golf balls, and wildlife, all potentially converging at one water crossing seems to be poor planning and design! Several riverside pedestrian/bike paths

I159-1

have been closed in Washington and Alaska due to bear attacks and the inability of the bears to access the water freely. The new golf holes will take up more space along the river providing less safe access for people and wildlife. I am also concerned about the amount of nutrient run off directly into the river since the new holes are all on a higher elevation slope that feeds into the river. Current placement and elevations of the holes along the river allow for water runoff to go away from the river not towards it. The meadow can be expected to filter some impurities but forcing it to do so at a level most golf courses operate does not seem to be environmentally friendly.

We currently have the opportunity to create a World Class golf course, while incorporating the environmental protections the rest of the country waits for California to create and implement. Imagine receiving awards from the Golf Environmental Organization, or being certified a “Green” golf course. (Justin Timberlake’s golf course is!) I do not profess to have “all” the ideas, but I will profess that the designer chosen for this project presented a design that does not bode well in my neighborhood. Perhaps he addressed the values of his own community when designing this course, as it’s obvious from the public outcry, little value was placed into Tahoe community ethos.

Around this country there are currently a variety of Golf Course projects similar to ours, and if we can spend a little more time to investigate other designs, designers, and management companies who focus more on environmental and cultural impacts, I am sure this community can come to an agreement on what is best for everyone and create the type of paradise we all strive to live in and others vacation in.

Zachary Ormsby
726 Tehama Dr.
South Lake Tahoe, CA. 96150
(858) 736-6909
zacormsby@gmail.com
Monday, November 15, 2010

1159-1
cont.

I159-1

The commenter's conditional support for Alternative 2 is noted. The commenter has concerns about recreation access and safety. See response to comment I98-1 for information about the golf course designer. See Master Response Section 3.5, "Recreation," for a discussion of recreation access and safety.

September 21, 2010

I160

Ms. Cyndie Walck
CA State Parks and Rec, Sierra District
PO Box 16,
Tahoe City, CA 96145

Re: River-Golf Course EIR/EIS/EIS

Dear Ms. Walck:

We are writing in opposition to the relocation of nine holes at the Lake Tahoe Golf Course to the upland region on the west side of the Upper Truckee River. We are residents on Delaware Street and would be adversely affected by this proposed plan, as would our neighbors. In fact, one of our neighbors intends to move if the proposed hole relocation plan goes through because the natural setting they love so dearly will be destroyed. We find it incomprehensible that an environmentally conscious restoration plan to help improve lake clarity has morphed into a construction project that does not meet the mission statement of the California State Parks.

Our Mission

To provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.

Since when is a golf course a valued natural resource providing inspiration and education that promotes biological diversity? If you are a golfer the course could be considered "high-quality outdoor recreation," but hikers, runners, mountain bikers, equestrians, bird-watchers and cross-country skiers who will no longer have access would disagree. The golf course will fragment the use of public land and make Washoe State Park only available for limited use. Considering that the golf course is one of the top five revenue generators in the California State Park system, this project is no longer about saving the lake, but instead about saving an economic cash cow!

Although we are in favor of reducing the river's sediment discharge into Lake Tahoe, it is an inappropriate use of environmentally sensitive land with diverse wildlife habitat to BUILD half a golf course. How do fairways on one side of the river pose a threat to lake clarity, yet putting additional fairways on the other side of the same river are readily acceptable?

The assumption appears that what was profitable in the past will continue to produce revenue. According to a recent article in "USA Today" the number of rounds played at California public and private courses is down 5.3%. Celebrities such as Tiger Woods no longer command the same influence. If the popularity of golf continues to decline, so will the profits and the area will be underutilized.

Golf's current state is a disquieting fall from the early 1990s, when Baby Boomers in their 20s and 30s took up the game... When the economy and the real estate market cratered, it hastened the downturn of an industry already faltering... Many teens and twentysomethings also prefer doodling on an iPhone, iPad, Wii or Facebook over playing golf six to seven hours. "In this era of instant gratification, that's too long," Wizeman says... What's more, participation in tennis, yoga, pilates and weightlifting over the past few years is up — reflecting the popularity of physical exercise that is less expensive and time consuming, according to national organizations representing those activities.

P.O. Box 550382 • South Lake Tahoe, CA 96155 • (530) 577-4044 • rose.ottman@atl.net • jeff.ottman@atl.net

1160-1

I160-1

The commenters' opposition to Alternative 2 is noted. The commenters believe that Alternative 2 is inconsistent with State Parks' mission statement and that Alternative 2 will not continue to produce revenue. The commenters also have concerns about upland erosion traveling to Lake Tahoe and noise impacts caused by the golf course's proposed location near the commenters' property. See Master Response Section 3.2, "Land Use," for a discussion of consistency with State Parks' mission statement.

As discussed in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS (page 3.12-23), under Alternative 2 noise sources associated with the relocated holes would be from lawn mowers, golf carts, people talking, and other noises associated with playing golf (e.g., golf ball strikes). Noise emanating from lawn mowers would be the loudest source. During noise monitoring on the existing golf course, lawn mower noise was measured at 74.0 A-weighted decibels (dBA) energy-equivalent noise level (L_{eq}) at 6 feet. Lawn mowers would operate at the proposed hole (hole 10) nearest to sensitive receptors (Chilicothe Street residences) a maximum of approximately 2 hours per day. Based on a noise level of 74 dBA L_{eq} (a typical noise-attenuation rate of 6 dBA per doubling of distance) and no intervening shielding or topographic interference, noise levels from the lawn mowers would be less than 50 dBA L_{eq} (the most stringent applicable standard for residential areas) at 90 feet. Lawn mowers would not operate within 90 feet of sensitive receptors, and all other noise sources associated with the relocated golf holes would be quieter than lawn mowers; therefore, no noise standards would be violated for residential areas under Alternative 2.

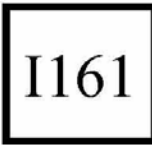
Regarding PAS standards, measurements taken during the noise survey conducted for this project show that existing noise levels in the meadow are 36.6 dBA L_{eq} near Seneca Drive (Table 3.12-10). This equates to 43.3 dBA community noise equivalent level (CNEL). Adding noise from lawn mowers for 2 hours per day increases this noise level to 44.4 dBA CNEL, an increase of 1.1 dBA CNEL from existing conditions. Noise from people talking, golf carts, and other golfing-related activities would be lower in magnitude than noise from lawn mowers, but would occur throughout daytime hours when the golf course is open for the season (approximately April 15 to November 1 from dawn until dusk). Typical human conversation is approximately 60 dBA L_{eq} at 3 feet. Assuming four people in a golf group and, during peak season, a continuous stream of golfers playing on a weekend day, worst-case noise levels (including noise from lawn mowing and noise during nongolfing hours) would be approximately 44.6 dBA CNEL, an increase of approximately 1.3 dBA CNEL above baseline conditions. This level, which would include noise related to the golf course area in Washoe Meadows SP, where the golf hole would be relocated, would be well below the most stringent noise standards for land uses nearby (i.e., 50 dBA CNEL). The addition of the golf course-related noise west of the river would not result in significant noise impacts.

Proposed destruction of washoe meadows

julieparker2@sbcglobal.net [julieparker2@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Monday, November 08, 2010 9:31 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



Subject: proposed destruction of washoe meadows

To whom it may concern;

Your proposed Alternative 2 is wrong. How can you even think of moving a golf course into the wild lands when there is a completely viable alternative that is consistent with the planning that State Parks prepared with full public involvement after they obtained the land. The fuel reduction policies that contributed to the destruction from the Angora Fire were shortsighted and ignorant and then we've watched the wholesale destruction of the remaining old growth trees that survived. Now the government wants to destroy are only remaining viable local alternative for secluded hiking and biking and ruin it for a couple months of revenue. This decision is based on greed and not with the principals set forth in good land stewardship. The government seems to be betraying us yet again.

I161-1

Sincerely,
Julie Parker

I161-1

The commenter's opposition to Alternative 2 is noted. The commenter has concerns about impacts on habitat and consistency with State Parks' policies. See Master Response Section 3.2, "Land Use," for a discussion of consistency with State Parks' policies; see Master Response Section 3.3, "Biological Resources," for a discussion of wildlife habitat.



Upper Truckee restoration

Vern & Mary Parker [vern-mary@parkerlimited.com]

Sent: Sunday, September 05, 2010 10:00 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

Attachments: "Certification" (222 B)

I will not be able to attend. Here's my input:

- Project 1. Assume there is no problem by burying head in sand.
- Project 2. Accept there may be a problem and reach a logical and reasonable compromise.
- Project 3. Accept there may be a problem and piss off the environmentalists, NIMBYs and golfers.
- Project 4. Accept there may be a problem while assuming the new erosion methods may be better than the old?? AND piss off the environmentalists and NIMBYs.
- Project 5. Accept there **ABSOLUTELY IS** a problem and ban ALL human activity. Don't care if we piss off NIMBYs golfers and stick it to the taxpayers.

Definitions:

The hard core Environmentalists would prefer full restoration and ban all human use.

NIMBYs want the other side of the river just for their use.

Golfers are you know, golfers.

Vern & Mary Parker
"Step into the Blue"
Lake Tahoe

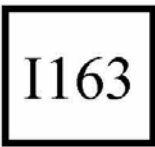
I162-1

Letter
I162
Response

Vern and Mary Parker
September 5, 2010

I162-1

The commenters' opinion of all five alternatives is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.



FW: Lake Tahoe Golf Course

McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Sent: Tuesday, September 07, 2010 11:28 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

From: Walck, Cyndi

Sent: Thursday, August 26, 2010 11:12 AM

To: McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth; 'Seana Doherty'; 'Tracy Owen Chapman'; kathy strain

Subject: FW: Lake Tahoe Golf Course

From: Mike Patterson [mailto:coachpatterson@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2010 7:40 PM

To: Walck, Cyndi

Subject: Lake Tahoe Golf Course

I believe the California State Parks should adopt Alternative 2.

This would restore the Upper Truckee River, enhance the surrounding wetlands/animal habitat and reduce silt flowing into Lake Tahoe while keeping our 18 hole golf course by moving 9 holes to a currently available area outside the river flood plain.

- 1. This alternative would keep an affordable, tournament level, 18 hole golf course. Affordable because it would not be the \$200- \$250 fees charged by Edgewood, and Tournament level vs the playable but "reduced level" of Tahoe Paradise executive type course.**
- 2. The proposed new area (outside the flood plain) for the new 9 holes looks like a blight area today and our Lake Tahoe environment and ambience would be enhanced and improved with the movement of the new holes to this area.**
- 3. Reducing our golf course to 9 holes or removing the course entirely will deprive us of a major recreation opportunity currently provided by our California State Parks. This is extremely biased against the many local golfers that live in the South Tahoe area.**
- 4. Visiting golfers and Tournaments will not come to a golf destination vacation area for a 9 hole golf course.**

The impact to our already fragile local economy would be negatively impacted by as much as \$6 - \$9 million dollars each year.

25,000 rounds a year - Between late April and early October

60% of these rounds from visitors at 1 round per visitor

15,000 visitors at 2 nights motel stay (\$150) = 2.25 million dollars

1163-1

15,000 visitors at 5 meals (\$40) = 3.0 million dollars
Add 25 % for those who bring their families: 1.2 million dollars

Revenues Potentially Lost to our local economy: 6.5 million
This does not include revenues to the golf course or California State Parks
and Income to the 50-75 local people employed by the course

1163-1
cont.

Mike Patteson
2174 Lindenwood Drive
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
coachpatterson@sbcglobal.net
(530) 573-1132

Letter
I163
Response

Mike Patterson
August 24, 2010

I163-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its recreation, economic, and environmental value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Lake Tahoe GC

Mike Patterson [coachpatterson@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2010 2:25 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



Hello,

We must maintain a 18 hole championship golf course. Lake Tahoe GC is the only option at the South Shore for locals and visitors.

Please keep Lake Tahoe GC open and 18 holes of regulation golf.

Thank you,

Mike Patterson
2174 Lindenwood Drive
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
coachpatterson@sbcglobal.net
(530) 573-1132

| 1164-1

Letter
I164
Response

Mike Patterson
October 13, 2010

I164-1

The commenter's support for maintaining an 18-hole regulation golf course is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.



6331 Contessa Ct.
San Jose, CA 95123

November 15, 2010

Cyndie Walck
California State Parks and Recreation
Sierra District
P.O. Box 16
Tahoe City, CA 96145
utproject@parks.ca.gov

Re: Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project
EIR/EIS/EIS, SCH# 2006082150

Dear Ms. Walck,

I have reviewed the draft EIR/EIS/EIS and have a number of concerns.

Grading

In the description of the proposed Alternative 2 on Page 2-52, it indicates that "Grading would be minimized using the natural contour to the extent possible. Modifications to the natural contour would be made where necessary to create playable slopes for golf, positive drainage, and to properly elevate greens and tees." The description continues with an outline of a massive earth moving project. The EIR doesn't explain how this complies with land use plans, policies, or regulations intended to protect the environment. It doesn't explain why this isn't listed as a significant effect. An on-site examination of the proposed golf course area in Washoe Meadows State Park indicates many acres of wetland that would have to be elevated to keep from being under water much of the golfing season. The on-site review also indicates many areas of steep hillside where grading would be needed to accommodate golf cart paths, greens, tees, and fairways.

1165-1

Golf Course in SEZ

In the description of the proposed Alternative 2 on Page 2-52, it states that part of the justification for having golf playing holes on the river is to "create an opportunity to bring focus to the interpretation for the river restoration." This sounds good on paper but there is little confidence that this interpretation plan would be implemented. There were many plans for interpretation specified in the Lake Valley State Recreation Area General Plan dated January 1988. These plans were apparently not implemented. A Public Records Act request for a document or audit summarizing which actions in the General Plan were completed indicated that there was no such document. With no evidence that the Parks Department has followed through on their promised actions, the above justification for having golf playing holes in a SEZ is not warranted and should be removed from the EIR description.

1165-2

Another reason given to have the holes next to the river is to “reduce long green-to-tee distances and to keep play moving at an acceptable pace” (Page 2-52). Alternative 3 would avoid this issue.

1165-2
cont.

Having the golf course holes in the SEZ does not meet the requirements of the TRPA Water Quality Threshold as discussed in the Water Quality Appendix of the TRPA Threshold Evaluation Report.

Cultural Resources

For Impact 3.9-2 the EIR indicates a potentially significant effect for damage to or destruction of as-yet undiscovered cultural resources. The mitigation measure proposed for this impact is inadequate for Alternative 2 because it doesn't adequately protect such possible discoveries. With the extensive site excavations that Alternative 2 entails, it is left up to construction project staff to alert a qualified professional archaeologist and the Washoe Tribe if there is a discovery.

The Lake Valley State Recreation Area (LVSRA) General Plan already acknowledges that “The general lack of both Native American sites and historic sites of the Euro-American occupation, generally attributed to ground disturbance caused by golf course construction, leaves little opportunity for site-specific cultural interpretation” (page 48). The LVSRA General Plan mentions that Washoe Meadows State Park “has excellent potential for recreational and interpretive use....” (page 47). A construction project in the park for the proposed golf course relocation would negatively impact these potential uses. It would have the potential to damage cultural sites or make them inaccessible.

After the original golf course destroyed so many cultural sites, is it necessary for the golf course to expand and destroy many more? These cultural sites which could be destroyed could involve cultural sites from both Washoe and later park users.

1165-3

These sites are important not just to the Washoe tribe, but also to all who appreciate the historical practices of the Washoe tribe who had intimate knowledge of their environment and utilized natural resources without depleting them. These cultural sites are also important for everyone who appreciates history.

In the environmental impact section of the LVSRA General Plan, it again indicates that “No cultural resources were identified at the unit. Landscape modification, such as earth moving and grading for the construction of the golf course, could have buried Native American and Euroamerican resources” (page 103). The Impacts section states that “Possible future modifications of the golf course could expose or damage underground cultural sites and artifacts.” The proposed mitigations section states that “Any major landscape modifications to the golf course will require monitoring by an archeologist.” Why isn't this, as a minimum, proposed in the EIR for the Alternative 2 plan?

The EIR has not adequately addressed these cultural resources issues.

Recreation

For Impact 3.8-2 the EIR indicates a less than significant impact. TRPA Goals and Policies include goals for the recreation element. Goal #1 is to “Encourage opportunities for dispersed recreation when consistent with environmental values and protection of the natural resources.” The discussion of this goal indicates that “Dispersed recreation involves such activities as hiking, jogging, primitive camping, nature study, fishing, cross country skiing, rafting/kayaking, and swimming.” It further states that “All of these activities require a quality resource base and some degree of solitude.” Adding a golf course into Washoe Meadows State Park in the proposed location described in Alternative 2 will not provide the necessary degree of solitude for many acres of park in the main meadow, next to the river and in the upland forest. The meadows, forests and Upper Truckee River are central features in the many attractions of Washoe Meadows State Park. The golf course expansion into the park will have an impact far beyond its footprint.

1165-4

With Alternative 2, the intent of the TRPA thresholds for dispersed recreation will not be met. This potential deterioration of the quality of outdoor recreational experience is not adequately addressed in the EIR.

Other Concerns


I have many additional concerns with Alternative 2 (including damage to biological resources, loss of wildlife habitat and scenic beauty, inadequacies in the economic analysis, failure of State Parks to have an open and accountable public process, and inadequacies in the development of alternatives) but they have been included in the comments submitted by the Washoe Meadows Community, of which I am a member.

1165-5

Conclusion

I support river restoration as well as preservation of the integrity of Washoe Meadows State Park. I am opposed to Alternative 2 and in favor of Alternative 3 or a new alternative that combines river restoration with golf at another location, other than in the park.

Regards,



Lynne Paulson
Email LCPaulson@comcast.net

- I165-1 The commenter has concerns about grading associated with Alternative 2 and consistency with land use policies. See Master Response Section 3.2, “Land Use,” for a discussion of consistency with State Parks’ policies. See Table 3.2-1 in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS for a discussion of consistency with TRPA goals and policies. For clarification, Alternative 2 would not involve filling “acres” of wetlands. Furthermore, as described in Section 3.6, “Earth Resources,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, Mitigation Measure 3.6-1A (Alt. 2), “Prepare and Implement Effective Site Management Plans,” requires preparing and implementing site management plans. These plans include a grading and erosion control plan, a dewatering and channel seasoning plan, a winterization plan, and a monitoring and oversight plan. BMPs, salvage, design, and monitoring measures have been included with these plans to reduce potential impacts related to erosion and loss of topsoil from grading to a less-than-significant level. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for a discussion of impacts on biological resources, including wetlands.
- I165-2 The commenter feels that golf course holes located within the SEZ under Alternative 2 should be removed from the project and states that these holes do not meet the requirements of the TRPA Water Quality Threshold. As described in Section 4.6, “Consequences for Environmental Threshold Carrying Capacities,” all project alternatives would not negatively affect TRPA thresholds; however, each action alternative would help attain thresholds to varying degrees. TRPA does not value one threshold over another and the effect on each threshold is evaluated equally. Short-term impacts on water quality are expected under all action alternatives; those impacts are not expected to affect thresholds because thresholds are evaluated for the long term, and long-term improvements to water quality are expected to be beneficial compared to existing conditions.
- I165-3 The commenter has concerns about impacts on cultural resources. See Master Response Section 3.6, “Cultural Resources.”
- I165-4 The commenter has concerns about dispersed recreation and meeting thresholds for dispersed recreation. See response to comment PM2-48 and Master Response Section 3.5, “Recreation.”
- I165-5 The commenter summarizes comments submitted by the Washoe Community Group. See response to comment letter AOB31. The commenter’s opposition to Alternative 2 is noted.

Upper Truckee/Golf Course

Gordon Perry [gperry@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2010 9:49 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I166

Hello Cynthia,

We would like to weigh in on your proposal. We like the golf course the way it is, however we would be in favor of putting in additional erosion control (4). Moving the golf course would just be moving problems someplace else.

This is such a beautiful valley, golf course and river and they are in harmony with one another. Shoring up the banks of the river would insure this area is preserved. We love the meandering stream, it also slows the waters before they reach the lake.

Thank you for your efforts to preserve our area.

Gordon and Pamela Perry
1540 Arapahoe
South Lake Tahoe, CA

Cell 510-407-1105

I166-1

I166-1

The commenters' support for Alternative 4 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

letter alternative #4

Barbra and Glenn [glenbra1@charter.net]

Sent: Sunday, November 14, 2010 12:36 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



we are homeowners since 1977 at 1048 sandiego st., just a few hundreds yards from the 6th hole tee off. our back yard borders on the green belt of the parks & rec land. we have known this river for 30yrs. It is historic along with the land it runs through. We invested in this property due to this beautiful location and feel it will diminish the value of our property and home with any drastic changes. We support the alternative #4 as the most sensible and economical re: the restoration of the river, espically with the depressed economy. If we are going to have a tax increase we would rather it be for our schools, law enforcement, firemen and the good of the businesses, in the community. Appreciate your consideration for #4 alternative. Glenn & Barbara Pershing, residents over 40yrs in Meyers, Ca.

1167-1

I167-1

The commenters' support for Alternative 4 and its economic value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Upper Truckee Project

Peterson, Rob (San Ramon) [Rob.Peterson@right.com]

Sent: Friday, October 29, 2010 10:55 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



Cynthia,

I have a home in Tahoe off of Meadow Vale. I have often golfed at the Tahoe Community course and have entertained friends and business associates there.

I strongly support Alternative 1 on this proposed project. You risk the loss of many local jobs, and the disruption of revenue from the golf course. Enough is enough. It is time to leave local businesses alone and stop trying to "fix" past "mistakes".

1168-1

Rob Peterson
530-577-7015
1651 Gallo Rd
South Lake Tahoe, CA

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Letter
I168
Response

Rob Peterson
October 29, 2010

I168-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 1 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Golf Course Project

bevpev@aol.com [bevpev@aol.com]

Sent: Tuesday, November 02, 2010 12:33 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I have attended several of the meetings regarding this project and I have several major concerns about the proposal and end result of this part of the project. I am certainly in favor of improving the clarity of Lake Tahoe for future generations but I am not sure that the proposed "improvements" will have the desired results particularly given the estimated costs and potential additional funds that will be required for situations arising out of the project.

1. Cyndie Walck admitted that the photograph displayed in the literature about the plume feeding into Lake Tahoe was taken in 1997, a hundred year flood year. Moreover, the original photos which can be seen online indicate that the photo shown in brochure has been highlighted to include the natural underground area as part of the plume.

2. Cyndie Walck also admitted that, if the area around the Golf Course's sixth hole were "restored" as proposed, she isn't sure what the result would be in the area upriver and may, in fact, create additional dilemmas that would need to be addressed.

3. Rivers typically change course over time with or without man's intervention. If the course of the Upper Truckee River had not been changed 50-60 years ago, it may well have changed anyway.

4. There are currently remedies in place along that section of the River in question that seem to have prevented erosion. Specifically, large boulders were used on some sections of the river instead of the trees that were used in the area near the Sixth hole.

5. Laws forbid the redirection of waterways; the State of California is proposing to do just that. Why?

6. History is full of proof that intervention by man to "improve" a situation often results in creating one or more negative conditions that require more costly resolutions. See: <http://www.projectkiwi.org.nz/index.asp?s1=Ecosystem&s2=Predators> <http://messybeast.com/auspredicament.htm>

7. Obviously, the presence of people and houses near the River will cause an impact on the River as well as Lake Tahoe but it would be impossible to eliminate all the homes and people in the area. Some of the recommended alternatives allow for additional access to individuals by providing recreational paths. To me, this means even more people, not to mention their dogs, giving further opportunities to create damaging debris into the River and the Lake.

In conclusion, creating a large one-to-two year flood zone in the area of the sixth hole thus endangering existing homes, cutting down trees and disturbing the existing habitat to install alternative holes for the golf course, and creating untold number of complications, seems to

I169-1

be the ultimate in intrusion on the environment and an unnecessary expenditure of unknown amounts of public monies. Furthermore, eliminating the golf course or reducing the size to a 9-hole course would impact the economy, not only of South Lake Tahoe, but of the State of California, by eliminating jobs and visitor expenditures and removing one of the largest annual sources of income to the California State Parks System. Finally, there must be a way to efficiently and economically provide protection for Lake Tahoe by stabilizing the Upper Truckee River and it should be done now, not dragging this out for several more years spending money to create imaginary holes for the golf course, producing reports, and having meetings. The project should be completed and some of the proposed funding can be used for more effective protection for Lake Tahoe.

1169-1
cont.

Beverly Pevarnick, Resident
PO Box 551029
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96155-0019
530-577-5990

I169-1 The commenter questions golf course rates after the project is completed. See Master Response Section 3.7, "Economics."

Dennis Pevarnick
PO Box 551029
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96155-0019

I170

October 21, 2010

Cyndie Walck
CA State Parks and Rec,
Sierra District
P.O. Box 16
Tahoe City, CA 96145

Re: Upper Truckee River Restoration

Dear Cyndie:

My vote is for absolutely leaving the existing golf course unchanged together with additional river stabilization.

Eliminating or reducing the size of the golf course is an insane idea considering the loss of jobs, tax revenues, and either the complete loss or enormous reduction of income the state now receives and uses to support the park system. A nine hole golf course is very unpopular choice for golfers and will absolutely cause both the casual and serious golfers to play elsewhere. The North Shore courses and Carson City would benefit greatly at the expense of our local economy. This would be a major blow in any economic climate especially the current one.

1170-1

Creating a new golf course configuration is 100% unnecessary. Why in the world have tractors tear up five acres of land at a huge cost which will ultimately be passed back to the golfers in green fees charged. I can't help but believe that moving five acres of dirt and destroying untold numbers of trees will be a greater detriment to the lakes clarity even with precautionary measures taken.

1170-2

I also think one of the proposals should have included leaving the 18 hole golf course in place and possibly routing the river through the proposed expansion area. This would have allowed for creating river overflow in an area populated by only natural habitat and not a threat to nearby homes.

Lastly, I believe raising the bed of the river two feet higher (by the fifth and six holes) is a big mistake. This may have been a great idea in 1940 when some of your photographs were taken, but many of the homes in the area were not built at that time. I happen to be in the home located closest to this proposal and I can tell you the home was built in the mid 1970s. I firmly believe that creating a one to two year floodplain in this area will ultimately cause unnecessary

1170-3

home and property damage. I would hereby like to put the State on notice that if in fact this idea is implemented and any subsequent property damage should occur as a direct result I will have no choice but to use all legal remedy to protect my rights as a property owner.

1170-3
cont.

Thank you for your considering my ideas.

Sincerely


Dennis Pevarnick

- I170-1 The commenter is opposed to eliminating or reducing the golf course because of the course's economic effect. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- I170-2 The commenter is opposed to Alternative 2 because of costs and grading. See response to comment I165-1 for a discussion of grading impacts. See Master Response Section 3.7, "Economics," for a discussion of potential funding sources.
- I170-3 The commenter suggests an alternative approach to the restoration design. See response to comment AOB8-1 for a discussion of alternatives considered but eliminated from further evaluation.

Upper Truckee River restoration and Golf course reconfiguration project

I171

mapielaet@aol.com [mapielaet@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2010 1:21 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

Hi,
I support Alternative 2. This alternative maintains the economic bonuses from the area while improving the environmental impact on the lake. It also opens the area up for better utilization of the recreational opportunities: very exciting!
Again, I support Alternative 2.
Thanks,
Maria A. Pielae MD
South Lake Tahoe resident for 21 years.

I171-1

Letter
I171
Response

Maria A. Pielaet, M.D.
October 20, 2010

I171-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic and recreation value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Golf course

benjaminpignatelli@gmail.com [benjaminpignatelli@gmail.com]

Sent: Friday, September 03, 2010 5:40 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I172

Ciao-

The golf course should be 18 holes with full river restoration.

This might take a public bond to build the new golf holes. The golf course revenues are there to justify the cost of relocating all hole necessary, but if this project goes forward solely as a restoration project and not coupled with a redevelopment project an injustice will have been committed.

Please be in touch if you need a financial analysis on the redevelopment part, and I will be happy to volunteer my time to plan and attract investment for the new golf holes. Heck, I'd take that investment myself if I had the money.

Thanks,
Benjamin Pignatelli
Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

I172-1

Letter
I172
Response

Benjamin Pignatelli
September 3, 2010

I172-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.



additional comments

Benjamin Pignatelli [benjaminpignatelli@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2010 7:20 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

Attachments: golf course final_BP.doc (2 MB)

I have already submitted a comment, but would like the attached (and pasted below) to be added to the record as well.

Thanks,
Ben
--

Restoration and Redevelopment by Qualified Professionals
Enhanced Golfing Experience Slated at Lake Tahoe Golf Course
By Ben Pignatelli

On Wednesday, July 21st I went to hit some golf balls and practiced putting at the Lake Tahoe Golf Course in the Lake Valley State Recreation Area. In the end, I ended up playing through about 6 foursomes on an interpretive tour of one of the proposed Upper Truckee River Restoration projects. A few of the golfers were into the project - wondering what the course would be like with a fully restored reach of river.

I was fortunate to tag along with 17 professionals from the California State Parks, CTC, TRPA, LTBMU, TRCD, EPA from fields including geography, hydrology, riparian vegetation, project review, restoration planning and implementation, and wildlife.

I learned of plans to raise the bed of the river and the water table to promote sediment deposition and decomposition as opposed to allowing the dreaded suspended sediment to be carried off of state lands downstream towards the Lake. The concept is to move some of the golf course to previously disturbed upland areas in the adjacent Washoe Meadows State Park and out of one the most sensitive areas in the Basin. (Less than 5% of the Tahoe Basin is functioning stream environment which are bastions of biodiversity and important sediment traps.)

Cyndie Walck, fluvial geomorphologist with CA State Parks, introduced the project by offering a bit of history. Since the 1940's, the marsh and meadow has been beat up in all sorts of ways - pushing and straightening the finicky river - damaging it. From quarries, to grazing, to the golf course, to fill dumping - this part of state owned land is indeed beat up. It is in need of restoration...anyone can see that it does, especially from the aerial photos of today compared with those of the 1940's. The water in the river has picked up speed over the years of abuse, and it is cut banking the turns that are present and incising the riverbed around the existing undersized bridges of the golf course, making it difficult for the state to say they are being stewards of the land.

An undersized bridge on Hole 6 - the par 3. The logs placed horizontally are band-aids aimed at stopping the severe cut-bank erosion just downstream from the bridge. Just upstream from the bridge has been incised by the narrowing of the river.

I173-1

The goal of the restoration project is the same with most of the damaged and beat up creeks, wetlands, and meadows in Tahoe - make room for meanders, flooding, and a sediment deposition/decomposition buffer. By building a new stream channel in certain places and repairing other places the river can be slowed and pushed to overflow its banks in the springtime, said Walck. This project aims to emulate and build off of the highly successful and neighboring Angora Creek restoration projects of 1997 and 2002 that restored over 2,000 feet of stream at a cost of about \$500k. The Trout Creek Restoration Project was about \$2.5 million, but was a much longer reach than Angora, according to Joe Pepi, watershed / stream environment zone (SEZ) restoration specialist with the California Tahoe Conservancy. This project on the Upper Truckee River has the potential to be much more expensive than those, but the benefits seemingly will result in a more developed and profitable golf course with increased access to the state park. (There are a few other restoration projects being developed in-step with this one: the Elks Club, Airport, and Tahoe Keys. The Upper Truckee River is the largest watershed draining into Tahoe and currently delivers the most suspended sediment of all the Lake's 63 tributaries.)

I173-1
cont.

Of the 5 project proposals required under environmental regulations the most feasible and the proposed alternative calls for moving 8 golf holes. The other alternatives are: to take no action; geomorphic restoration with reduced golf area (9 holes); stabilization around the existing golf course; and removal of the golf course. Certainly, a fair and well differentiated set of alternatives that is refreshing to see in projects in the Basin.

The new golf course layout under Alternative 2 - the preferred alternative would have more trees between tees and greens - unlike many of the holes currently in play where you can see and hear other golfers while teeing off or putting. Some of the fairways would be narrower making the mostly wide open course a little more reigned in. That being said, employees at the course say that some of the holes slated for relocation are some great golf holes. These employees had concerns on whether the new holes would be properly designed and built, but they did say that the architect involved in this project is that of the successful Genoa Lakes Course in Nevada - John Harbottle. Increased elevation changes, albeit small, would add character, depth, and challenge to an already acceptable course. Views of Stevens Peak to the south, which still had snow on it in July, would be garnered from a few new holes, and increased views to the north and Twin Peaks would add to an already scenic course.

I173-2

No buffer. The golf course comes right up to the river on Hole 12. Recreation is a huge part of this restoration project - "as big as anywhere else," said Mike Elam, planning professional with the TRPA. Indeed, with the golf course and the myriad of mixed uses in all seasons this piece of property holds significant recreational value. This state park is in one of the top 5 revenue generators in the entire California state parks system (bringing in \$880k annually to State Parks), and the golf course is currently being leased year-to-year to American Golf Corporation. Money from this state park helps keep others that don't make money, open.

Neighbors have initially reacting negatively to the proposed plan citing loss of access to the state park and development in the state park. Walck says, though, that the public would actually have enhanced access with the new golf course layout - linking the Country Club

neighborhood to the Sawmill Bike Path - passing along a fully restored river reach corridor. But indeed from the maps it does look like that one of the access paths through the golf course from the Country Club neighborhood would be longer...what looked like ¼ to a ½ mile longer. I used to live in the neighborhood on San Diego and can see reason for concern, but a broader plan is at work in the Tahoe Basin - restoration and redevelopment trying to be balanced accordingly. The place slated for the new holes is not a pristine wilderness, but a site where 3 quarries once were dug and the forest is third growth - not in an SEZ where the golf course is currently. It is obvious that a lot of research and tactful thinking was applied across many different resource management guises to result in a preferred alternative. I remember attending a public meeting over 2 years ago.

I'd suggest that the neighbors look at the Angora creek restoration projects just down the river. Yes, these Angora projects were finished and functioning well before the Angora Fire. It's nice to know that a well executed restoration project has played a big role in mitigating the effects of the fire. What about the effects of 70 years of abuse and from a profitable golf course? It should be comforting that the same restoration specialist team that successfully implemented the Angora projects have brought this restoration project to fruition, as well - a wise use of taxpayer money in the Basin.

A small portion of the Angora Creek restoration project. The site proposed to move the 8 golf holes has been home to 3 quarries which help build the City of South Lake Tahoe and a 2 lane road used to haul over 83,000 cubic yards of fill from the West Cove restoration project at the Keys. This site - obvious to the eye - has been impacted by decades of rough use. There are also sewer and water infrastructure and other industrial piles of things throughout most of the area. A few big Jefferies would just have to be kept and some smaller lodgepoles, mostly third growth, would be cut.

A question left hanging, and likely will be an important issue going forward if the preferred alternative is selected, is who's gonna pay to move the golf holes? The money for the restoration project is committed already. American Golf Corporation has leased the course for 19 years and has made money throughout with minimal restoration commitment. There was even talk about how golf courses actually increase the value of homes near them; of making it more efficient to operate the new golf course after reconfiguration with installing more efficient watering infrastructure; and even starting a non-profit organization to administer golfing in the State Park, keeping more money in the hands of the state, if American Golf is not interested or retained.

The 60-day public comment period on the restoration project's environmental impact statement should be out sometime in August.

<http://www.restoreuppertruckee.net/>
<http://ice.ucdavis.edu/education/esp179/?q=node/387>
<http://www.washoemeadowscommunity.org/>

--
Benjamin Fignatelli
(530) 721-0680

1173-2
cont.

1173-3

**Restoration and Redevelopment by Qualified Professionals
Enhanced Golfing Experience Slated at Lake Tahoe Golf Course**

By Ben Pignatelli

On Wednesday, July 21st I went to hit some golf balls and practiced putting at the Lake Tahoe Golf Course in the Lake Valley State Recreation Area. In the end, I ended up playing through about 6 foursomes on an interpretive tour of one of the proposed Upper Truckee River Restoration projects. A few of the golfers were into the project – wondering what the course would be like with a fully restored reach of river.

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the holes slated for relocation are some great golf holes. These employees had concerns on whether the new holes would be properly designed and built, but they did say that the architect involved in this project is that of the successful Genoa Lakes Course in Nevada - John Harbottle. Increased elevation changes, albeit small, would add character, depth, and challenge to an already acceptable course. Views of Stevens Peak to the south, which still had snow on it in July, would be garnered from a few new holes, and increased views to the north and Twin Peaks would add to an already scenic course.



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Neighbors have initially reacting negatively to the proposed plan citing loss of access to the state park and development in the state park. Walck says, though, that the public would actually have enhanced access with the new golf course layout - linking the Country Club neighborhood to the Sawmill Bike Path – passing along a fully restored river reach corridor. But indeed from the maps it does look like that one of the access paths through the golf course from the Country Club neighborhood would be longer... what looked like ¼ to a ½ mile longer. I used to live in the neighborhood on San Diego and can see reason for concern, but a broader plan is at work in the Tahoe Basin – restoration and redevelopment trying to be balanced accordingly. The place slated for the new holes is not a pristine wilderness, but a site where 3 quarries once were dug and the forest is third growth - not in an SEZ where the golf course is currently. It is obvious that a lot of research and tactful thinking was applied across many different resource management guises to result in a preferred alternative. I remember attending a public meeting over 2 years ago.

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<http://www.restoreuppertruckee.net/>

<http://ice.ucdavis.edu/education/esp179/?q=node/387>

<http://www.washoemeadowscommunity.org/>

- I173-1 The commenter’s support for Alternative 2 and its environmental, economic, and recreation value is noted. The commenter provides a good summary of the project under Alternative 2. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- I173-2 The commenter questions how the project would be funded. See Master Response Section 3.7, “Economics,” for a discussion of funding.

October 6, 2010

Regarding: River-Golf Course

Washoe Meadows State Park

I, along with most full-time residents of Lake Tahoe, am against this proposed idea of restructuring the Golf Course using land that should not be touched for any reason.

Golf is a relatively expensive activity available for a few months. Please leave the Washoe Meadows State Park alone and untouched; it should be there to be enjoyed year around with low impact by the real Tahoeians; not the investors and the few people trying to dominate what should be done with no regard of preminent laws that govern this project, including the 1984 litigation settlement, the 1984 California legislative statute, and the General Plan for the Washoe Meadow SRA

I174-1

When I think of trying to save the Park, I think about New York City and how Central Park was able to be protected from the city developer and the good for the community prevailed.

I hope, in the end, it will be decided to do the right thing by preserving the meadow untouched.

Thank you.

Barbara Randolph
2333 California Ave
So Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

I174-1

The commenter's support for leaving Washoe Meadows SP to be used for low-impact recreation is noted. The commenter believes that the project is inconsistent with the settlement agreement from the 1984 litigation, the 1984 California legislative statute, and the general plan for the Washoe Meadows SP. See Master Response Section 3.2, "Land Use," for a discussion of consistency.

Upper Truckee River Restoration & Golf Course Reconfiguration Project comments

I175

David Reichel [davidreichel@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, November 10, 2010 9:50 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

Howdy,

I live in Meyers and wish to comment on the Upper Truckee River Restoration & Golf Course Reconfiguration Project.

Reducing fine sediment reaching Lake Tahoe is very important. I find the cloudy water where the Upper Truckee meets Lake Tahoe to be compelling evidence that we are not properly managing these precious resources. Too much of the historical floodplain and marsh has been lost due to poorly designed development. The Upper Truckee is such a large tributary to Lake Tahoe and is likely responsible for so much fine sediment entering Lake Tahoe, that restoring it is critically important.

I am not convinced that is prudent to move golf into Washoe Meadows state park.

I support Alternative 5 because much more meadow and river will be restored under this Alternative than under the others.

I would have been more willing to support Alternative 3 if the amount of SEZ to be restored was closer the the amount under Alternative 5.

Sincerely,

David Reichel
1330 Ottawa Dr.
S. Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

I175-1

I175-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 5 and its environmental value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

I176

Financial Impact

RonCReTTus@aol.com [RonCReTTus@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, August 20, 2010 12:15 PM

To: Ragonese@charter.net; Project, Upper Truckee; GM@LakeTahoeGC.com; Super@LakeTahoeGC.com

As requested - This is financial impact from my point of view.,

Ron Rettus' (Guesstimate) Estimate on financial impact of golf course from Visitors- I feel this is a low estimate, most players I talk to (Saturday Morning Tee Box Greetings) stay in the Tahoe area for 2 nights.

If the course went to 9 holes or was lost completely, we would no longer become a viable golf destination.

25,000 rounds (from May thru Sep 5 months)

70% of rounds played by Visitors 17,500 rounds
Each player, plays 1 round per visit

17, 500 times average of 1 night lodging and 3 meals

17, 500	\$85 per round of golf	1,487,500
17, 500	\$75 nights lodging	1,312,500
17, 500	\$100 meals	1,750,000

4.5 Million total revenue from Visitors
1.5 Million to American Golf/Cal State Park
3.0 Million to the local economy

I176-1

I176-1

The commenter believes the financial impact of removing the golf course or reducing it to a 9-hole course would be higher than previously estimated, and provides another estimate of financial losses. The economic analysis was based on estimates made at the time the analysis was prepared and took a conservative approach to analyzing economic impacts related to golf course modifications. See Master Response Section 3.7, “Economics,” for additional information about the adequacy of the economic report.

LTGC - Please Be Heard - State Park Alternatives for our Golf Course

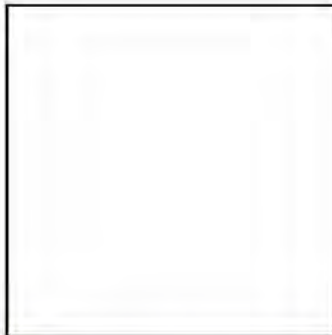
1177

RonCRettus@aol.com [RonCRettus@aol.com]

Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2010 7:12 PM

To: RonCRettus@aol.com; hazlettdoug@gmail.com; brucep1@yahoo.com; frodo3645@yahoo.com; robrule666@gmail.com; bajaranorm@hotmail.com; laptahoe@charter.net; ktvt5893@sbcglobal.net; Katzino6@aol.com; fatjackf@aol.com; brentrichard52@sbcglobal.net; wdgmr@yahoo.com; blawrie1@hotmail.com; dancevisions@charter.net; rabarneson@hotmail.com; playmatters@live.com; d-scriptmedia@yahoo.com; michael.bolen@hotmail.com; jcopeland@kirkwood.com; paperplays.john@gmail.com; goodingt@charter.net; mapphantom@charter.net; rhaas40442@aol.com; Lheggen@gmail.com; fpiannetta@sbcglobal.com; peterilling@sbcglobal.net; rickkistler@yahoo.com; klatta59@aol.com; lkm1234@hotmail.com; boardhead7@charter.net; pattonmm@sbcglobal.net; bobcyn@sbcglobal.net; pricesrite@comcast.net; bernside@hotmail.com; lucystanton@netzero.com; astrain@vailresorts.com; muliana-mabe@att.net; Super@LakeTahoeGC.com; larry.hobson25@gmail.com; gm@laketahoe.gc.com; rangelocci@earthlink.net; tahoebrown01@msn.com; Klatta59@aol.com; tmazz1@att.net; free1249@yahoo.com; blandejob99@yahoo.com; castellanos-law@sbcglobal.net; tdaniels@infostations.com; richiewoo60@yahoo.com; l_ghobson@yahoo.com; sltalbrecht@sbcglobal.net; banderson51@charter.net; csintahoe@aol.com; smooks3@charter.net; buxbaz@sbcglobal.net; bbbett@aol.com; yesblonski@sbcglobal.net; timmerone@aol.com; gborst427@hotmail.com; royal@royalhydraulics.com; tahoes71@yahoo.com; userramp@aol.com; ibpost@aol.com; bd06232000@netzero.net; pappou@aol.com; dgayner@charter.net; tahojim@aol.com; aneke100@aol.com; zankiegooding@aol.com; L_hobson@yahoo.com; curtis@hsrei.biz; georgene@hsrei.biz; hjuretschke@hotmail.com; rkrevog@hotmail.com; mklover@pacbell.net; selinatap@yahoo.com; tmakris@pillsburylaw.com; dlmayer@aol.com; kylemazzoni@yahoo.com; tmaz1@att.net; ibegeo@aol.com; G.Mendel@sbcglobal.net; richtahoe@aol.com; john@mcgeemechanical.net; movasel@wamtahoe.com; to2299@sbcglobal.net; coachpatterson@sbcglobal.net; jerepca1@aol.com; piercetk@hotmail.com; tahoeeradford@aol.com; Ragonese@charter.net; roncretus@aol.com; michaelpatrickrogan@gmail.com; jps423@att.net; srplumb@etahoe.com; drshehadi@cox.net; fritztahoe@hotmail.com; ronrsi@aol.com; stacpoole@sbcglobal.net; jstahl@ortc.com; toreno3@sbcglobal.net; weisstahoe@sbcglobal.net; crtwhelan@charter.net; gwilly4@yahoo.com; wtahoemax@aol.com; nrwolf@prodigy.net

Lets be heard !!!!!!!!!!!



I would ask each of you that receive this e-mail to take one of two actions:

If you agree with it - Forward it to CWalck@parks.ca.gov with an "I agree" comment.

If you have different opinions or/and can take the time to express your individual thoughts on what you would like to see happen and why, then send your own individual e-mail to Ms. Walk

But we do have to be counted - there are groups other than golfers that

are actively lobbying the State Parks organization to take action that will do away with our course or reduce it to 9 holes.

I believe the California State Parks should adopt Alternative 2.

This would restore the Upper Truckee River, enhance the surrounding wetlands/animal habitat and reduce silt flowing into Lake Tahoe while keeping our 18 hole golf course by moving 9 holes to a currently available area outside the river flood plain.

1. This alternative would keep an affordable, tournament level, 18 hole golf course. Affordable because it would not be the \$200- \$250 fees charged by Edgewood, and Tournament level vs the playable but "reduced level" of Tahoe Paradise executive type course.

2. The proposed new area (outside the flood plain) for the new 9 holes looks like a blight area today and our Lake Tahoe environment and ambience would be enhanced and improved with the movement of the new holes to this area.

3. Reducing our golf course to 9 holes or removing the course entirely will deprive us of a major recreation opportunity currently provided by our California State Parks. This is extremely biased against the many local golfers that live in the South Tahoe area.

4. Visiting golfers and Tournaments will not come to a golf destination vacation area for a 9 hole golf course.

The impact to our already fragile local economy would be negatively impacted by as much as \$6 - \$9 million dollars each year.

25,000 rounds a year - Between late April and early October

60% of these rounds from visitors at 1 round per visitor

15,000 visitors at 2 nights motel stay (\$150) = 2.25 million dollars

15,000 visitors at 5 meals (\$40) = 3.0 million dollars

Add 25 % for those who bring their families: 1.2 million dollars

Revenues Potentially Lost to our local economy: 6.5 million

This does not include revenues to the golf course or California State Parks and Income to the 50-75 local people employed by the course

5. Remember, our opinion (vote) is very important - The thousands of our visitors are removed from the issues and in most cases don't know what the current plans for the course could be.

6. If you are aware of visiting golfers, please forward this email to them.

Please take the time to be heard - If not Us then who?

I177-1

The commenter expresses support for Alternative 2 because of the benefits to golfers and visitors who use the golf course, improvements to habitat and water quality of the Upper Truckee River, and revenue generated in the community. The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

alternatives

Tahoe Riciolis [tahoericiolis@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Monday, September 06, 2010 11:49 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I178

Alternative #4 will keep everyone happy. It keeps erosion to a minimum, keeps the golf course the way the golfers like it, keeps the jobs, and doesn't mess with the park and saves the state \$\$\$. Nature will change the course of the river on its own. What makes you think you can improve on nature

1178-1

Steve Ricioli
1039 cheyenne dr.
SLT

Letter
1178
Response

Steve Ricioli
September 9, 2010

I178-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 4 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

These comments are taken from the EIR.

LAND USE

Purpose of state parks shall be to preserve outstanding natural, scenic, and cultural values, indigenous aquatic and terrestrial fauna and flora.

Each state park shall be managed as a composite whole in order to restore, protect, and maintain its native environmental complexes to the extent compatible with the primary purpose for which the park was established.

Improvements undertaken within state parks shall be for the purpose of making the areas available for public enjoyment and education in a manner consistent with the preservation of natural, scenic, cultural, and ecological values for present and future generations.

Improvements may be undertaken to provide for recreational activities including, but not limited to camping, picnicking, sightseeing, nature study, hiking, and horseback riding, so long as those improvements involve no major modifications of lands, forests, or waters.

Improvements that do not directly enhance the public's enjoyment of the natural, scenic, cultural, or ecological values of the resource, which are attractions in themselves, or which are otherwise available to the public within a reasonable distance outside the park, shall not be undertaken within state parks.

TRPA

Areas of significant resource value or ecological importance within the Plan Area should be designated as natural areas, and they should be buffered from intensive uses.

I179-1

Washoe Meadows State Park includes a variety of resources: wet meadow, Jeffrey pine, lodgepole pine, Native American occupancy sites, and remnants of a historic dairy.

Relocation of the golf course holes would not be consistent with the purpose of WMSP.

ALT 3 would reduce the size of the golf course footprint and increase the area of restored riparian area. The boundary of WMSP would be adjusted (expanded) to encompass all of the restored river and riparian corridor.

ALT 2 There would be a slight increase in total revenue.

ALT 3 Any decrease in revenue would not be sufficient to alter the balance between economic health and the environment.

ALT 3 would decrease golf landscape adjacent to the river and decrease irrigation and fertilizer use.

ALT 3 would establish a more geomorphically functioning channel that allows for improved groundwater recharge, nutrient catchment, and wildlife habitats.

ALT 2 Relocating golf course holes would remove and fragment upland habitat and slightly increase disturbance levels west of the Upper Truckee River.

ALT 3 Increase the area of WMSP available for low-density use.

HUMAN HEALTH AND RISK OF UPSET

ALT 2 The increase in human presence during the fire season could result in an increased risk of fire.

ALT 2 would increase the golf course footprint.

ALT 3 would reduce the size of the golf course footprint reducing human presence in the area, thus reducing fire risk.

EARTH RESOURCES

Alternative 2 would involve modifications where shallow groundwater occurs and where tree removal would be extensive. Tree removal could cause instability in soils.

Under Alternative 2, 150,659 sf of coverage is proposed in LCD 5, including cart paths, designated trails, the restroom facility, some of the parking improvements, as well as other existing coverage that would not be modified. This is an increase in coverage by 10,730 sf.

Under Alternative 3, 351,094 sf of coverage is proposed in LCD 1b, including cart paths, designated trails, as well as other existing coverage that would not be modified. This is a decrease of 65,259 sf from existing coverage within LCD 1b.

Coverage allowed within LCD 5 in the study area is 1,528,676 sf. Under Alternative 3, 121,231 sf of coverage is proposed in LCD 5, including cart paths as well as other existing coverage that would not be modified. This is decrease in coverage by 18,698 sf.

Grading would be in excess of 5 feet in some locations within the project area.

RECREATION

Facility use data show a trend of declining number of rounds played over the 4-year period.

A total of 322 complete surveys were collected during the 2-year period. The surveys represent responses from less than 1 percent of the total golfer population.

The footprint of the golf course in Alternative 2 would be 156 acres versus the existing 133-acre footprint. Alternative 2 would affect all or large portions of Recreation Use Zones 1A, 1B, 4, 5, 6, 7A, and 7B (Exhibit 3.8- 1). Combined, these zones accommodate approximately 71 percent of all recreation use that currently occurs in Washoe Meadows SP. More specifically, these zones accommodate 82 percent of hiking/walking, 63 percent of biking, 76 percent of jogging, and 51 percent of equestrian use that occurs in Washoe Meadows SP.

1179-1
cont.

The economic feasibility analysis indicated that the survey respondents were likely to have been biased regarding proposed changes to be made to the golf course; a reduced-play golf course would likely appeal to a different group of golfers.

Alt 3 A designated and maintained pedestrian trail would be established along the northern edge of the proposed reduced-play golf course. This designated trail would run from U.S. 50 just north of the golf course entrance to Country Club Drive, with a tie-in to the Sawmill Bike Trail and would create approximately 1 mile of new trail.

By providing trail access along the Upper Truckee River, in areas which were formerly occupied by golf course fishing access would be improved by Alternative 3.

Golfers at the scoping workshops asked to have a return 9 golf course. The new course would not be a return 9. If the restaurant loses business because of this, will the concessionaire be allowed to build a building for snacks on the west side of the river?

HIGHLIGHTS

ALT 2

Fragment upland habitat.

Increase fire danger due to increased human presence.

Increase golf footprint. Increased coverage of 10,730 sf in LCD5. 156 acres, 23 more than current acreage.

Extensive tree removal could cause instability of soils.

Green fees may increase if deemed necessary by concessionaire.

Facility use data shows a trend of decline in number of rounds played over 4 year survey.

Survey of golfers represents only 1 percent of golfing population.

Results of golfer survey were likely biased because of proposed changes to golf course.

Reduced golf course will appeal to a different group of golfers.

LTGC is within 60 minute drive of 8 other competitive golf courses.

Moving golf course to west side will affect 71 percent of current recreational activities in WMSP.

Moving golf to west side will result in substantial scenic changes especially to WMSP.

97 acres of floodplain and meadow restored. 37 acres of SEZ restored.

Sensitive plant areas would likely be affected.

1640 trees would be removed.

ALT 3

Decrease golf landscape adjacent to the river, and decrease irrigation and fertilizer use.

Increase area for low-density use.

Decrease of coverage of 62,259 sf in LCD16. Decrease in coverage of 18,698 sf in LCD5.

A new 1 mile trail with tie-in to Sawmill Bike Trail.

Fishing access would increase.

Minor changes to scenic views on east side.

112 acres of floodplain and meadows restored. 43 acres of SEZ restored.

Sensitive plant areas would not be disturbed.

Animal habitat in the upland area would not be disturbed.

1179-1
cont.

COMMENTS

Economics

In the LAKE TAHOE GOLF COURSE ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY ANALYSIS tables A-1 to A-4 show a mostly declining gross revenue for the golf course since the year 2000. This corresponds with the decline of interest in golf nationally.

http://www.nytimes.com/2008/02/21/nyregion/21golf.html?pagewanted=2&_r=1&ei=5087&em&en=7cd9bca9ea006609&ex=1204347600

Tables D-2, D-3, and D-8 regarding estimated spending by visitors and golfers are based on North Lake Tahoe figures, two very different economies.

<http://www.restoreuppertruckee.net/full-econ-rpt8-8-08.pdf>

Since 1989, the Lake Tahoe Golf Course has been operated by American Golf Corporation under a concessionaire contract with State Parks. This represents the fifth largest source of concession revenue in the State Parks system. (Not the fifth largest source of revenue, as has been stated on several occasions).

Alternative 2 would therefore have an overall minor, but beneficial economic effect on the community of South Lake Tahoe.

Implementing Alternative 3 is not expected to result in significant impacts on population, employment, or housing on either a localized or a regional basis. The impact would be less than significant.

Real estate prices in the area of the study have gone down since the NOP was declared (3-5% on top of the decline in prices from the real estate downturn according to our real estate broker of 30 years. This is because people want to buy property that backs to forest, not a golf course in this area). As soon as construction starts they will probably drop more. This erodes the county's tax base. Also, as more residents leave and houses are purchased by second home owners, there will be fewer patients, clients, and customers for doctors, dentists, Barton Memorial Hospital, lawyers, accountants, restaurants and retail stores. This also means less sales tax collected in the city and for the state.

1179-2

The Lake Tahoe Golf Course averages 76 full- and part-time employees, the majority of whom are employed in food and beverage service jobs. (EIR – Socioeconomics 3.15-7)

Golfers are estimated to generate 168 full- and part-time jobs associated with employment to service visitor needs. Of these jobs, 76 are at the Lake Tahoe Golf Course and 92 are elsewhere in the South Lake Tahoe area. (EIR-Socioeconomics 3.15-9)

People employed in the seasonal service industry and retail workforce generally worked in lower wage jobs. (EIR – Socioeconomics 3.15-13)

Alternative 3 - It is estimated that 29–55 jobs (11–16 of which are at the Lake Tahoe Golf Course) would be removed from the local economy. (EIR – Socioeconomics 3.15-16)

Implementing Alternative 3 is not expected to result in significant impacts on population, employment, or housing on either a localized or a regional basis. The impact would be less than significant. (EIR – Socioeconomics 3.15-17)

Chapter 5 TRPA2001 Threshold evaluation: "The two primary results of the large amount of public ownership within the Region are that forestland is managed for noneconomic goals, and uncommon plant communities and sensitive plants are afforded greater protection."

REGIONAL PLAN FOR THE LAKE TAHOE BASIN – MEYERS COMMUNITY PLAN

2. California Park Service. The Park Service is expected to continue as a partner in developing the permanent Meyers Visitors Center. They intend to prepare a general plan for the Washoe Meadows State Park. The plan will recommend developing a trail connection from their boundary near U.S. 50 and the Upper Truckee River into the park. It may investigate the potential to add an undercrossing of U.S. 50 to reach the Visitors Center.

CHAPTER 5 – RECREATION ELEMENT 5-3

If a visitor center/museum was developed, it could provide an educational element connected to the park. A fee could be charged for the museum, along with sales for books, clothing, maps, etc. Information about the history of the area, natural resources, explanation about how a river is restored, and information about fens could be included. Signs within the park would reinforce the information provided at the center. Discounts could also be provided to the restaurant at the golf course to bring more people into the restaurant.

1179-3

Opinion –

A golf course will not save the economy of South Lake Tahoe. Only creating jobs that bring back professional, middle class families will make this a vibrant community again.

American Golf Corporation owns several 9 hole and executive 18 hole courses which seem to be profitable.

<http://www.americangolf.com/>

If the event center and restaurant were expanded and promoted perhaps no jobs would be lost at the golf course with Alternative 3.

Displacement of housing or people – No alternative would involve actions that would displace people or housing or otherwise alter the location, distribution, or density of the planned human population. (EIR – Socioeconomics – 3.15-12)

1179-4

Challenge-

Although the golf course will not physically displace housing, it will displace the residents who do not wish to be neighbors of a golf course.

Biological Resources

The adopted TRPA thresholds for vegetation, wildlife, and fisheries are listed below, and Table 3.5-1 summarizes the 2006 attainment status for these thresholds (TRPA 2007).

Vegetation vs. Recreation Thresholds

Broader protections for *Special-*

Status Plant Species and uncommon plant communities (*Plant Communities of Concern*) could result in more limited recreation access in certain areas, impeding ability to meet recreational development standards. Most recreational uses are not limited to a specific location and can be constructed or relocated or operated differently without reducing recreational capacity substantially. Therefore, this impact is not significant. Environmental Assessment for Threshold Updates (7-63)

1179-5

Alternative 2 proposes to avoid direct effects on spring complexes by designing the layout of the golf course around or away from these areas and by including a protective buffer. Because the design of the golf course holes is conceptual and not finalized, potential for the final design, construction, and operation of these holes to inadvertently degrade this sensitive biological resource exists without more specific design parameters and measures to avoid direct or indirect effects on the spring complexes. (EIR- Biological resources 3.5-70)

Because the likelihood and magnitude of the potential effects on the spring complex hydrology are presently unknown and Alternative 2 would result in disturbance within SEZ and jurisdictional wetland, this impact is considered significant. (EIR – Biological Resources 3.5-71)

The quarry restoration would require some disturbance to the existing wetlands, including hydrologic changes and vegetation disturbance. The existing disturbed wetland on the pit floor, which would be restored under Alternative 2, is hydrologically connected to and receives drainage from the large fen to the west via a small rivulet as well as being fed by groundwater. Although Alternative 2 proposes to avoid the fen, wetland restoration and drainage reconfiguration in the quarry could inadvertently alter the groundwater or surface water hydrology and availability for the fen upslope. A risk would exist that drainage from the fen could potentially increase and cause the fen to become drier if landscape alteration downslope of the fen modifies groundwater flow. Because the proposed restoration in the quarry is conceptual, the specific potential for and magnitude of this effect cannot presently be known. (EIR – Biological Resources 3.5-70)

Because the design of the golf course holes is conceptual and not finalized, potential for the final design, construction, and operation of these holes to inadvertently degrade this sensitive biological resource exists without more specific design parameters and measures to avoid direct or indirect effects on the spring complexes. (EIR – Biological Resources 3.5-70)

The fairways, tees and greens are the mostly intensely managed and highly manicured golf landscape comprised of non-native vegetation such as bluegrass and bentgrass. These areas are irrigated, fertilized, and mowed to a short length. The rough, driving range, and lawn areas are irrigated and mowed, although not mowed as closely as the other areas, and not fertilized regularly. (EIR – Project Alternatives 2-23)

"Fens, are peat-forming wetlands that receive nutrients from sources other than precipitation: usually from upslope sources through drainage from surrounding mineral soils and from groundwater movement. Fens differ from bogs because they are less acidic and have higher nutrient levels. They are therefore able to support a much more diverse plant and animal community. These systems are often covered by grasses, sedges, rushes, and wildflowers. Some fens are characterized by parallel ridges of vegetation separated by less productive hollows. The ridges of these patterned fens form perpendicular to the downslope direction of water movement. Over time, peat may build up and separate the fen from its groundwater supply. When this happens, the fen receives fewer nutrients and may become a bog.

Functions & Values Fens, like bogs, provide important benefits in a watershed, including preventing or reducing the risk of floods, improving water quality, and providing habitat for unique plant and animal communities.

1179-6

Because of the large historical loss of this ecosystem type, remaining fens are that much more rare, and it is crucial to protect them. It is important to recognize that while mining and draining these ecosystems provide resources for people, up to 10,000 years are required to form a fen naturally."

<http://water.epa.gov/type/wetlands/fen.cfm>

"Fens also are threatened by current and past resource use affecting watersheds in the Sierra Nevada such as grazing and trampling, timber harvest, road building, water pumping, and water pollution. Any condition or activity that disturbs the hydrology or temperature of a fen, causing drying or warming, is a threat to the function of that fen. The semi-arid landscape of California makes these systems especially vulnerable to regional climatic warming and drying. The SNFPA (USFS, 2001) identified five major threats to the Bog and Fen Guild, including hydrologic alteration, mechanical treatments, stock trampling, roads, and off-road vehicles."

http://gis.fs.fed.us/psw/partnerships/tahoescience/documents/p059_Evens_OK_redact.pdf

Due to the massive cutting of trees, does anyone know what effect the lack of shade will have on the fens and spring complexes?

Three rare plants found in WMSP.

1. *Eriophorum gracile*
[More information: Jenson Online Interchange](#)
2. *Utricularia minor*
3. *Carex limosa*

Please cite data retrieved from this page: Data provided by the participants of the Consortium of California Herbaria (ucjeps.berkeley.edu/consortium/).



UC Davis

"The Tahoe Basin is particularly vulnerable to the loss of biotic diversity because of its topography and geography. Lake Tahoe sits in an isolated montane basin with a broad elevational range; as such, it supports narrow bands of three distinct life zones nested within a relatively small geographic area. Development is most prevalent near the lake, therefore species restricted to the lower montane zone adjacent to the lake (under 7,500 feet) are particularly vulnerable to the direct and cumulative impacts of urbanization.

Urbanization can alter the biodiversity of native forest habitat at both site and landscape scales, such as decreasing the richness of native species, losing vulnerable species (such as habitat specialists, dietary specialists and large-bodied species), and increasing generalist and exotic species ([Hansen et al. 2005](#)).

1179-6
cont.

1179-7

1179-8

Birds showed the strongest response to development. Species that frequently cohabit with humans such as the house finch and Steller's jay, responded well to development while less-abundant species like the pileated woodpecker declined. (I have seen a pair of pileated woodpeckers in WMSP).

Most of the bird species that showed a strong negative response to development were associated with older forests and/or forest understories, suggesting that vertical complexity and understory conditions are important factors that determine the diversity of land bird communities; human disturbance and increased predation may also be contributing factors.

Our observations suggest that the effects of development on biotic diversity may not be linear, but rather that certain significant shifts in species composition and abundances occur at lower levels of development. Accordingly, this may be an opportune time to evaluate the risks, opportunities and consequences of various land-use planning options to the conservation of biotic diversity in the Lake Tahoe Basin.”

<http://californiaagriculture.ucanr.org/landingpage.cfm?article=ca.v060n02p59&fulltext=yes>

Alternatives 1, 3, and 5 would improve wildlife habitat by establishing a more geomorphically functioning channel and improve riparian corridor. By taking most golf course uses away from the river will also allow for improved access to the river. (EIR – Land use 3.2-32)

Washoe Meadows SP composes a large block of open space, positioned between Angora Ridge and the south Upper Truckee River watershed. The mix of forest, meadow, and riparian habitat in this block of open space, within the context of the larger complex of open space or low-density development to the north and south of the study area, provides a habitat link within the Upper Truckee watershed and the Tahoe Basin. (EIR – Biological Resources 3.5-55) My husband and I have seen bears, coyotes, raccoons, porcupines, hares, and deer travel through this area. We have also observed many bird species, including osprey.

Alt 2 All trees would be removed from proposed tees, greens, and fairways; approximately 80 percent of trees located in the proposed rough would be removed. Approximately 45 acres mapped as Jeffrey pine and lodgepole pine would be removed to develop the relocated golf holes.

Under Alternative 2, an estimated total of 1,640 trees greater than 10 inches DBH would be removed, including 1,395 trees for golf course relocation, 120 trees for geomorphic restoration, and 125 trees for access road construction. This estimate includes three trees greater than 30 inches DBH, with at least one tree greater than 30 inches DBH within the proposed golf course footprint and two trees greater than 30 inches DBH that would be removed for geomorphic restoration.

The magnitude of estimated tree removal (1,640 native trees greater than 10 inches DBH) under Alternative 2 would be substantial as defined by TRPA, and approximately three trees greater than 30 inches DBH would be removed. This impact would be significant. (EIR – Biological Resources 3.5-75-3.5-76)

The relocated golf holes on the west side of the Upper Truckee River could provide a new source of nonnative plant and invasive weed populations in Washoe Meadows SP that could colonize native vegetation nearby. (EIR – Biological Resources 3.5-79)

1179-8
cont.

1179-9

The weed management plan implemented by the golf course as part of its routine maintenance would prevent the spread of weeds from areas within the existing golf course that would remain golf course under Alternative 2. (EIR – Biological Resources 3.5-80) What is the weed management plan? Does it include the use of herbicides which could harm sensitive plants in the area?

Several common resident and migratory wildlife species (described in Section 3.5.1, “Affected Environment”) use habitats in the proposed golf course relocation area for foraging, shelter, and breeding. Regionally and locally common wildlife species would be subject to the loss of habitat and increased localized habitat fragmentation. Habitat loss and fragmentation could result in the reduction of population sizes and diminished use of the study area by some local wildlife populations.

Regionally and locally common wildlife species would also be disturbed by operation of the golf course through increased and regular human intrusion in the area between the Upper Truckee River and the neighborhoods to the south and west. Increased recreational use of this area would further reduce the habitat value for wildlife.

(EIR – Biological Resources 3.5-87)

Under Alternative 3, incompatible land uses associated with the golf course would be removed from areas adjacent to the Upper Truckee River and Angora Creek, and adjoining riparian vegetation communities would be restored.

Approximately 112 acres of floodplain and meadow would be restored. The golf course’s footprint would be reduced to 86 acres, reducing the amount of SEZ occupied by the golf course by 43 acres. A net total of 43 acres of SEZ would be restored.

No construction disturbance related to golf course reconfiguration, quarry restoration, or trail development would occur on the west side of the Upper Truckee River under this alternative; therefore, spring complexes (including fens) and other sensitive habitats west of the Upper Truckee River riparian corridor and floodplain would not be affected. (EIR – Biological Resources 3.5-93)

Noise

Due to the loss of 1640 trees noise from Highway 50, Meyers Elementary School, and Tahoe Paradise Park will increase. Since the last two thinning projects this noise has already increased considerably. Also, noise from the golf course would include groups of people talking, balls being hit, golf carts driving by, and the sounds of sprinklers, lawn mowers and other landscaping equipment.

Lawn mowing typically occurs from early morning until mid to late afternoon, and occasionally into the evening.

Irrigation occurs between the hours of 6:00 p.m. to as late as 10:00 a.m. depending on water needs. Actual quantity of water pumped for irrigation purposes from the Upper Truckee River has not been officially recorded. (EIR – Project Alternatives 2-34)

Trees create a sound barrier. Living close to persistent noise can make you sick. In addition to the possibility of hearing loss, noise has been shown to cause stress, tension and anxiety. If your home is close to a noise source, such as a highway or an industrial complex, planting a “noise buffer” consisting of trees and shrubs can reduce noise by 5 to 10 decibels, effectively reducing the sound by up to 50% to the human ear.

Evergreen trees provide better year-round noise reduction.

<http://www.landsteward.com/page.cfm/42692>

Exchange of land

1179-9
cont.

1179-10

The holes that would be relocated under Alternative 2 would be reconstructed on the west side of the Upper Truckee River within lands currently designated as Washoe Meadows SP. State Recreation Areas and State Parks have different purposes, as defined under Public Resources Code Section 5019, and golf course recreation is better suited to State Recreation Areas rather than State Park designation.

Relocation of the golf course holes would not be consistent with the purpose of Washoe Meadows SP. Alternative 2 would include revising the park unit boundaries, essentially trading land between Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley SRA, and realigning the boundaries between the two park units (EIR – Land Use 3.2-15)

LVRSA general plan:

Although pleasant natural areas surround Lake Valley SRA, negative esthetic features disrupt these qualities. The Lake Tahoe Airport lies within one mile northeast of the unit, and airplanes frequently pass overhead. From most portions of the unit, residential areas and/or Highway 50 are visible or heard.

Esthetic Resources – p. 32

(a) State recreation areas, consisting of areas selected and developed to provide multiple recreational opportunities to meet other than purely local needs. The areas shall be selected for their having terrain capable of withstanding extensive human impact and for their proximity to large population centers, major routes of travel, or proven recreational resources such as manmade or natural bodies of water. Areas containing ecological, geological, scenic, or cultural resources of significant value shall be preserved within state wildernesses, state reserves, state parks, or natural or cultural preserves.

Resource Policy Formulation – Classification – p. 33

The relatively greater suitability of Washoe Meadows for natural interpretation, nature study, hiking, and similar uses, as well as its relative distance from the golf course and highway, are considered in planning for Lake Valley State Recreation Area.

Interpretive Element – 2. p. 47

6. Golf course:

The golf course is the most important human impact to be considered. Occupying most of the unit, its construction has changed the topography, vegetation patterns, and animal life, and may have destroyed historical and prehistorical materials. Because of the danger of misdirected golf balls, and the need to keep the course open and free of wandering visitors, golf course activity severely limits alternate uses such as picnicking, birdwatching, nature walks, painting, and photography.

Interpretive Element – 6. p.48

To give their approval to Alternative 2, TRPA will be sending the message to current users of the park that it is okay to get in your car and recreate somewhere else.

SCENIC RESOURCES -EIR

Under Alternative 2, golf course holes would be relocated to the west side of the river within Washoe Meadows SP, requiring substantial grading and tree removal. These activities would result in visual changes to both the eastern and western portions of the study area. (p.2.7-28)

1179-10
cont.

1179-11

The most substantial changes in views under Alternative 2 would occur within Washoe Meadows SP in the western portion of the study area. Within the western portion of the study area, existing views from around and within the study area are primarily of forest, with stands of lodgepole and Jeffrey pine trees. Partial views of the relocated golf course holes may exist through the forested buffers in areas where existing trees are less dense or where existing open areas in the forest are located. Residences that may experience a change in views are located in the North Upper Truckee neighborhood, primarily on Chilicothe Street, Normuk Street, and Delaware Street. (p.3.7-29)

In addition, under Alternative 2, there would be a substantial change in views from existing trails within Washoe Meadows SP. These views would also change from dense forest to more open views and golf course tees, fairways, greens, bunkers, and cart paths in some areas. (p.3.7-29)

Although visual quality is a key design goal for the golf course, this alternative would require substantial grading to modify the terrain for the golf holes, substantial removal of existing trees, and construction of golf facilities in the existing forest. This would result in a substantial change in views from existing trails, and potentially from limited vantage points in adjacent neighborhoods (where the intervening forest buffer is not sufficiently dense to block views). This impact would be significant. (p.3.7-30)

In Washoe Meadows SP much of this area was previously disturbed by a historical quarry, roads, and trails. (EIR 3.2-21)

Other restoration efforts on the west side of the river would involve reconfiguring a portion of the old quarry pit floor that was cut into the hillside and intercepts groundwater. (EIR 3.3-53)

Most of the Lake Tahoe basin has been previously disturbed. To use this as an excuse to tear up more of the land is shameful. Actions have been taken to make the park seem more disturbed than it was. A large pile of dirt from the Angora fire area was dumped in the park right after the fire. It has been there for a majority of the time without any type of cover to protect it from wind and water erosion. This is an offence that would have an ordinary citizen paying a heavy fine.

Why does the quarry need further restoration? Why wasn't it restored properly the first time?

Also, piles of wood chips have been dumped in an area of the park.

I have seen trucks back up to the edge of the river to turn around.

And someone was allowed to cut firewood in one of the fens.

All of this has added to a degradation of the appearance of the park.

Finally, I would like to object to the way this project has been presented to the public. From the first introductory meeting my husband and I were told that the CSP would not restore the river unless they got the approval of Alternative 2. I've heard other people say that this was the way it was presented to them, also. At presentations made to various groups around town, Alternative 2 has also been pushed without giving a fair view of the other alternatives. I also think the EIR/EIS/EIS has been slanted to favor Alternative 2. In fairness, I must say that they did include information that shows other alternatives would be better. However, you really have to peruse the document to find them. Most people don't have the time to do that, and accept information given to them, even if it is faulty or biased.

1179-11
cont

1179-12

I support Alternative 3 because it restores the river with the least amount of damage to the environment, and still allows golf. It does not disrupt and bisect a community of people, animals, and plants. It leaves the park to the purpose for which it was intended, the public's enjoyment of the natural, scenic, cultural, or ecological values of the resource. And it still allows golfers a place to enjoy their form of recreation without sacrificing the low-impact recreation of others. This also allows CSP to continue receiving revenue from the golf course.

1179-12
cont.

"When it comes to the preservation of natural open space, it isn't just the bad ideas a community must protect itself from, it's the seemingly good or innocuous ones, too."

<http://www.nytimes.com/1997/03/23/nyregion/l-preserving-land-from-golf-courses-216119.html?scp=3&sq=golf&st=nyt>

JoAnn Robbins

- I179-1 The commenter compares effects of Alternatives 2 and 3 on earth resources, recreation, and wildfire as described in Section 3.6, “Earth Resources”; Section 3.8, “Recreation”; and Section 3.14, “Human Health and Risk of Upset,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS. See Master Response Section 3.2, “Land Use,” for a discussion of the project’s consistency with plans, policies, and regulations applicable to land use.
- I179-2 The commenter states that the project would decrease property values, but does not offer specific facts linking the project to a demonstrable effect on property values that can be clearly attributed to the project. Absent specific facts showing a clear effect on property values, this comment contains speculation that is beyond the required and practicable scope of analysis under CEQA, NEPA, or TRPA regulations. See Master Response Section 3.7, “Economics,” for a discussion of the economic analysis prepared for the project.
- I179-3 The commenter’s suggestion that constructing a Meyers visitors center/museum could provide an educational element connected to the park and be a source of revenue is noted. The commenter’s suggestion that revenue losses under Alternative 3 could be reduced with expansion of an event center and restaurant is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- I179-4 The commenter states that the project would displace residents who do not want to live near the golf course; however, she does not offer specific facts that can be clearly attributed to the project linking proximity of golf courses to demonstrable effects related to residential displacement. Absent specific facts showing a clear correlation between the location of golf courses and displacement of residents, this comment contains speculation that is beyond the required and practicable scope of analysis under CEQA, NEPA, or TRPA regulations.
- I179-5 The commenter provides text regarding special-status species and recreation from the *Environmental Assessment for Threshold Updates for Regional Plan Update for the Lake Tahoe Region* (published April 9, 2007). This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- I179-6 The commenter asks about potential impacts of tree removal on fens and avoidance of biological resources during final design. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources.”
- I179-7 The commenter lists rare plants found in the study area. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources.”
- I179-8 The commenter discusses potential impacts on habitat for bird species and habitat connectivity. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources.”
- I179-9 As described in Section 3.5, “Biological Resources,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS under Mitigation Measure 3.5-7A, “Implement Weed Management Practices during Project

Construction,” control measures may include herbicide application, hand removal, or other means of mechanical control. Noise impacts associated with the project are described in Section 3.12, “Noise.” See response to comment I6-3 for a discussion of neighborhood screening. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for a discussion of impacts on biological resources.

I179-10

The comment reiterates sections of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS and various planning documents. See Master Response Section 3.2, “Land Use.”

I179-11

The commenter reiterates visual impacts and project components of Alternative 2 as described in Section 3.7, “Scenic Resources,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS. See the following responses to comments and master response:

- ▶ response to comment AOB8-6 for a discussion of the quarry;
- ▶ response to comment I6-3 for a discussion of neighborhood screening; and
- ▶ Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” and 3.4, “Hydrology, Flooding, Geomorphology, and Water Quality,” for a discussion of the fens.

I179-12

The commenter expresses support for Alternative 3. The commenter’s opposition to Alternative 2 and belief that it was given undue bias is noted. See response to comment AOB8-1 for discussions about the selection of a proposed Preferred Alternative and about the public involvement process.

Upper Truckee comments

Michael Robinson [MRobinson@kleinfelder.com]

Sent: Wednesday, November 03, 2010 8:28 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I180

Greetings:

While I have not had the opportunity to delve into the options very deeply, I would like to comment that restoring a "natural" and healthy river should be the priority. If golf can be accommodated simultaneously that is fine, but both the physical impacts such as encroachment, restricted floodplain, and erosion as well as the other impact such as fertilizer and herbicide runoff need to be eliminated. Option 5 appears to address those concerns, but perhaps one of the others could as well.

With all the talk about the beauty of Lake Tahoe, it must be remembered that the true goal needs to be a healthy lake and surrounding ecosystem, not just one that looks nice but is sterile and artificial.

Thank you.

Mike Robinson
Minden, NV

I180-1

I180-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 5 is noted. The commenter states that if physical impacts from the golf course could be avoided, then a golf course would be okay. Physical impacts are discussed throughout the draft EIR/EIS/EIS and summarized in Executive Summary Table ES-1. Most impacts have been mitigated to a less-than-significant level. Only short-term water quality impacts would be significant and unavoidable under Alternatives 2–5, with or without a golf course. As discussed in Section 3.4, "Geomorphology and Water Quality," of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, a significant and unavoidable impact would result under CEQA, NEPA, and TRPA regulations if the narrative turbidity standard (<10% above background) would be violated. Although this is considered a significant impact for the CEQA, NEPA, and TRPA analysis, exceeding this standard would not necessarily correspond to an adverse effect on beneficial uses.

Golf course/ river project

aprod132@sbcglobal.net [aprod132@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Thursday, October 07, 2010 10:12 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



Hello, My vote is to leave the golf course in it's present location. Do not move it into the Washoe meadows area. Thank you, Art Rodriguez

| 1181-1

I181-1

The commenter's support for keeping the golf course at its current location is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

LTCC

Michael Rogan [michaelpatrickrogan@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2010 9:11 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I182

There is a rumor that there is a good chance that the LTGC might be closed for good. That is a crazy idea! I support keeping the course open at all costs. It would be stupid to lose the recreation opportunity that the golf course provide locals and visitors alike.
Michael Rogan

182-1

I182-1

The commenter's support for keeping the golf course open is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Upper Truckee River Project

Patrick Ronan [ronan@tahoelakeshorelodge.com]

Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2010 9:50 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



Alternative 2 is the right approach to solving the problem. I hope that one is chosen to take care of the issue and to allow the area to continue to be such a good area for public recreation.
Thank you,

| 1183-1

Patrick Ronan

I183-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Upper Truckee Project

Cookie Rork [cookierork@hotmail.com]

Sent: Friday, October 15, 2010 11:21 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



I have reviewed all the proposed alternatives to restore the portion of the UTR within the golf course boundaries. I believe Alternative 2 is the only reasonable compromise. It seems to address all concerns - economic, ecological, etc. My support is definitely with Alternative 2.

1184-1

Thank you,

Cookie Rork

Physical address: 314 Uplands Way, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

I184-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic and ecological value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Upper Truckee River Restoration

SouthTahoeRealty@aol.com [SouthTahoeRealty@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, October 29, 2010 10:29 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I185

Please do not eliminate 33,000 rounds of golf per year, 168 jobs and \$6 million dollars flowing into the South Shore economy each year. The state will also lose approximately \$880,000 per year in revenue if the golf course is eliminated.

Alternatives #2 and #4 would provide for the needed environmental work, and preserve an important recreational opportunity at South Shore which is *vital* to our economic survival, without employing the most draconian and unnecessary of the alternatives... #5. Please discard alternative #5 from consideration; this town simply cannot afford the lost jobs, lost income and outstanding recreational benefits for locals and visitors alike.

I185-1

Thank you. Please acknowledge receipt of this email

Doug Rosner

California Corporate Broker

Chase International South Tahoe Realty

CA Lic 00710564

989 Tahoe Keys Blvd. (Corner of Highway 50)

South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

(530) 544-2121 office

(877) 601-3030 toll-free

(530) 548-7400 fax

(530) 314-9221 cell

SouthTahoeHomes.com

SouthTahoeRealty@aol.com

drosner@chaseinternational.com



I185-1

The commenter's support for Alternatives 2 and 4 and opposition to Alternative 5 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.



Golf Course Relocation

Douglas Ross [dross50@att.net]

Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2010 9:45 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

Cc: Doug Ross [dross50@att.net]

Dear Cindy,

My family and I oppose the considered plan to relocate 9 holes of the golf course. Alternative 2 specifically becomes undesirable. We favor stabilizing the banks of the Truckee but would prefer no infringement into Washoe Meadows State Park.

| 1186-1

Regards,

Doug Ross and family

I186-1

The commenter's opposition to Alternative 2 because of infringement of Washoe Meadows SP is noted. See Master Response Section 3.2, "Land Use," for a discussion of lands being traded under Alternative 2.

I187

Golf course/River realignment

Douglas Ross [dross50@att.net]

Sent: Thursday, November 04, 2010 9:31 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

Cc: Doug Ross [dross50@att.net]

Dear Park Service,

I'm sure that you have heard all of the pros and cons of the Washoe Meadows/Golf Course project, so I will not bore you with my list of specifics. Please note that my family and I are opposed to Alternative 2 as your preferred choice.

I187-1

Regards,
Doug Ross and Family

Letter
I187
Response

Doug Ross
November 4, 2010

I187-1

The commenter's opposition to Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Nov 2, 2010

Dear Cyndie,

I have lived in the Washoe State park area for 30 years, and have utilized the park for recreation and serenity. When the park dept took over that area, the grant deed stated that the park would stay natural - NO Development - What happened?! There has not even been a water quality study done to determine the negative - Yes negative effects of placing nine holes of the golf course on the other side of the river. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to see that the effects will be huge. Also, there are major sewer mains - 15" and 8" that run right through the proposed area. STPUD crews must do regular maintenance on those mains - After they are under water holes, sand traps and obstacles, how can those lines be maintained? Manholes will be buried - What if there is a major sewer spill? This project should not occur. The river can be restored without hampering the existing course. Leave it be -

I188-1

I188-2

I188-3

Heather Ross

1126 San Diego St

South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

(530) 577-6430

- I188-1 The commenter questions land use proposed under Alternative 2 and refers to the settlement agreement from the 1984 litigation. See Master Response Section 3.2, “Land Use,” for a discussion of consistency with the settlement agreement and statute.
- I188-2 The commenter states that a water quality study to evaluate impacts of relocating nine holes into Washoe Meadows SP has not been completed. See Master Response Section 3.4, “Hydrology, Flooding, Geomorphology, and Water Quality,” for a discussion of fertilizer use and runoff.
- I188-3 The commenter has concerns about impacts on STPUD sewer lines. As discussed in Section 3.4, “Geomorphology and Water Quality,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, Mitigation Measures 3.4-2A, 3.4-2B, and 3.4-2C have been added to the project to protect vulnerable portions of the sewer pipeline from as great as a 100-year flood event. In coordination with STPUD, State Parks will design and implement measures to protect the buried sewer pipeline north and west of the proposed reconnected meanders next to pipelines; or State Parks will work with STPUD to relocate the vulnerable section of pipeline. Final design will prevent channel adjustments from as great as a 100-year peak event in areas where sewer pipelines could be exposed or undermined. The design will include specific measures to stabilize the streambeds and protect the streambank in the lower reaches of Angora Creek and the unnamed creek. The measures would protect against increased erosion from as great as a 20-year peak event or worse, as needed to protect the sewer pipeline crossings. Final design schematics will be reviewed and approved by the STPUD Engineering Department.
- Before the project would be implemented, State Parks would verify utility locations, coordinate with utility providers, prepare and implement a response plan, and conduct worker training concerning accidental utility damage. Buried utility lines would be clearly marked within the construction area before any earthmoving activities begin. Before construction starts, a response plan would be prepared to address how workers should respond if a utility line is damaged. The plan would identify chain-of-command rules for notifying authorities and appropriate actions and responsibilities to ensure the safety of the public and workers. Worker training for how to respond to such situations would be conducted by the contractor. The response plan would be implemented by State Parks and its contractors during construction activities.
- The potential increased risk of damaging sewer pipelines and degrading water quality would be less than significant because vulnerable portions of the sewer pipeline would be protected from as great as a 100-year flood event; utility locations would be verified, utility providers would be consulted, a response plan would be prepared and implemented, and worker training concerning accidental utility damage would be conducted; and bed and bank stability in the lower reaches of the two tributary creeks would be ensured.

Upper Truckee River restoration

Ron Rumble [r_rumble@yahoo.com]

Sent: Thursday, November 04, 2010 5:44 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



November 4,2010

Re: Upper Truckee River Restoration Project

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a thirty seven year Tahoe resident and retired business person. I am writing to indicate to you my desire to see Alternative #2 chosen. This solution appears to be a compromise that satisfies the majority of stakeholders. Without going into detail regarding my decision, I would be pleased to see this outcome.

| 1189-1

Sincerely,

Ronald Rumble

Letter
I189
Response

Ronald Rumble
November 4, 2010

I189-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

I190

November 10, 2010

To whom it may Concern,

The golf course is a bad choice to put in the Washoe Meadows State Park. You will get a lot of complaints because there will be lots of bears and coyotes coming into our neighborhoods for food because they will have no home down in the meadow anymore. Also, there will be less space for kids like me to play and ride our bikes. When my friends and my parent's friends come over there will be one less choice of where to go on a walk. If you were to stand out there, there are many, many users of the meadow with many different activities such as biking, walking, snow shoeing, skiing, etc.

My grandpa works at a golf course in Southern California and I like to golf but the golf course is fine how it is with enough golf holes. If the golf course does expand you won't get any more business than you already have. You are just wasting precious and well used land that gets more use than the golf course. Think of the environment and the wetlands that are being used up all over the USA. If you let the golf course go through there will be one less really needed wetland and activity spot gone. If the golf course goes through my neighbors and I will have one less place to have fun.

I190-1

Sincerely,

Caleb Russell

Caleb Russell
Age 13
773 Little Bear Lane
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

I190-1

The commenter has concerns about recreation access under Alternative 2. The commenter feels that coyote and bear activity will increase in surrounding neighborhoods with implementation of Alternative 2. The commenter also has concerns about impacts on wetlands. See Master Response Section 3.3, "Biological Resources," for a discussion of impacts on wetlands and common wildlife.



Cyndie Walck
CA State Parks and Rec., Sierra District
P.O. Box 16
Tahoe City, CA 96145

Re: River-Golf Course EIR/EIS/EIS

Dear Ms. Walck,

I support river restoration but I oppose Alternative 2. I enjoy playing golf but Lake Tahoe Golf Course should stay where it is. Moving the golf course is a waste of resources and not worth the environmental damage that will be caused by eliminating 60 acres of wildlife habitat and cutting 1,640 native trees 10 inches in diameter or more. (This is in addition to the habitat loss that occurred during the "Dead Tree Removal" projects in the park in the fall of 2009 and also the smaller trees that will be cut under Alternative 2 and aren't even being counted in the "10 inches or more" category). Such a massive logging campaign will cause sedimentation into the Truckee River which will devalue the river restoration plan. Putting a golf course in an area that had native trees will degrade and eliminate habitat and create erosion because tree roots will no longer hold the soil in place.

1191-1

Alternative 2 is being pushed as the most economically feasible alternative but with golf holes 6, 7, and 13 located in and near wet meadows and with golf holes 9, 10, 11 surrounding a spring complex these parts of the golf course will be under water and will not be playable much of the year. How will a flooded golf course that can't be played make any money?

1191-2

According to a February 21, 2008 article in the New York Times titled *More Americans Are Giving Up Golf*, "The industry now counts its core players as those who golf eight or more times a year." Golf is obviously in decline, is only enjoyed part of the year in Tahoe, and only enjoyed by people who can afford to pay green fees. In contrast, lower impact recreation is increasing as is referenced in an October 6, 2006 New York Times article entitled *Vacation Homes: Seeking Birds, Not Birdies*, "Many buyers these days want amenities to include outdoor pursuits..." Washoe Meadows State Park currently offers year-round, affordable, low impact recreation to everyone. The state park is accessible to all citizens, all year long, regardless of their economic situation. Let's keep it that way.

1191-3

It was a mistake in the first place to build a golf course so close to the river. Why repeat the same mistake by relocating the golf course onto sensitive land in Washoe Meadows State Park? Please choose alternative three and leave the state park in its present state.

1191-4

Sincerely,

Glenn Russell
773 Little Bear Lane
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

- I191-1 The commenter has concerns about impacts on wildlife habitat under Alternative 2. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for a discussion of wildlife impacts and tree removal.
- I191-2 The commenter has concerns about impacts on wetlands and fens under Alternative 2. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for a discussion of impacts on wetlands and fens.
- I191-3 The commenter is opposed to reconfiguring the golf course and wants dispersed recreation. Under Alternative 2, the new portion of the reconfigured golf course would remove 23 acres of Washoe Meadows SP from other recreational uses; however, Washoe Meadows SP totals 620 acres (including areas outside of the study area) and dispersed recreation would continue throughout the remaining 527 acres of the State Park. In addition, portions of Lake Valley SRA that were previously occupied by golf course would become available to trail users and water recreationists (approximately 39 acres). The area outside of the driving range would also continue to be available during winter months, and access to this area would be improved because the bridge would no longer be gated. See Master Response Section 3.5, “Recreation,” for additional discussion of recreation access.
- I191-4 The commenter’s support for Alternative 3 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

November 9, 2010

TRPA Advisory Planning Commission
Lower Kingsbury Grade
128 Market Street
Stateline, NV 89449

Re: Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project

I have read the executive summary of the EIR and Volume I of the EIR/EIS/EIS. Although I support river restoration I strongly oppose Alternative 2 which is a betrayal of CSP's promise to protect and preserve the land for the 7th generation, ignores laws that were meant to protect the park, and has negative, irreversible impacts on the environment and on park users. Washoe Meadows State Park is an intact wildlife corridor that supports diverse plant and animal communities and deserves the protection that was promised in the 1984 litigation settlement and the 1984 Legislative Statute.

The 1984 Litigation Settlement states, "The subject property contains unique and irreplaceable resources in the Lake Tahoe Basin, and is extremely valuable to the maintenance of the water quality of Lake Tahoe itself....." Also, "The presence of the Upper Truckee River and Angora Creek on the property result in a merger of two natural wildlife movement corridors. Waterfowl such as Canada geese and mallard ducks have been observed on the property with regularity, suggesting that this land is valuable habitat for birds along the Pacific Flyway. The diversity of plant communities, the presence of small pond areas and the two creeks all create exceptional conditions for wildlife on the property....."

I192-1

According to the 1984 California Legislative Statute, "The unique subject property is scientifically valuable, environmentally sensitive, vital to the maintenance of riparian habitat and to the maintenance of water quality in Lake Tahoe, and is, therefore, highly suitable for public acquisition in order to preserve and maintain these natural resource values..."

Now, 26 years later, CSP is showing contempt for these laws through its proposal to move golf course fairways into the park under Alternative 2.

The draft EIR has several inadequacies and shortfalls. Bias towards Alternative 2 has been evident from the beginning and is characteristic of the entire document.

I192-2

This bias was demonstrated in the original title of the project, when the NOP was first released in 2006, "Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Restoration Project". This bias was demonstrated when the NOP stated that the preferred alternative was Alternative 2. This bias was demonstrated in the public meeting held in February of 2006, when citizens were asked to look at a map of the park and identify locations in the park for golf course fairways. This bias has been demonstrated in CSP's slick PR campaign around town, at the Meyers Round Table meeting, LTUSD school board meeting, Soroptomist meeting, and local television interview where the message has been repeated that Alternative 2 is the only economically feasible alternative. This bias is evident in CSP's mantra that the golf course will be relocated to "previously disturbed land", when in fact, the disturbed area is actually a very small part of the proposed golf course area and many of the disturbances such as the dirt pile, wood chip piles, rock pile, and gravel road, were caused by CSP itself. This bias is demonstrated in the vegetation map which mischaracterizes wet meadow as dry meadow, near proposed golf holes 6, 7, and 13.

1192-2
cont.

Amazingly, in spring of 2010, the title of the project was changed to "Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project" and the preferred alternative was dropped which is confusing, misleading, and shows a lack of transparency to the public.

The draft EIR fails to adequately consider the impact of Alternative 2 on park users. The executive summary states that "Implementing Alternative 2 would assist in the long-term productivity of the Lake Tahoe Golf Course..." and "The golf course would support seasonal tourism in the South Lake Tahoe area..." but the executive summary does not mention any effects on park users. The EIR analysis in Alternative 2 minimizes the negative impacts on park users and focuses instead on the beneficial effects on golfers.

According to Table ES-1, 3.8-2, "Reduction in Recreation Opportunities, Uses, and Experiences Related to Spring/Summer /Fall Outdoor Recreation", there is "less than significant impact" after mitigation. In fact, implementation of Alternative 2 will have a long term, irreversible, and significant impact on park users, as golf holes 6, 7, 8, 12 and 13, will all block existing trails to the river. Alternative 2 will diminish the park experience for park users because 2.6 miles of trails will be lost, river access will be limited, and the 1.4 miles of new designated trail will border the golf course or cross through the golf course instead of meandering through quiet, open spaces suitable for wildlife viewing.

1192-3

The EIR fails to adequately consider that the proposed exchange of land between state recreation area and state park is not an exchange of land of equivalent value because the part to be re-designated state park would be closer to the airport and border Highway 50

1192-4

and Sawmill Pond Road. This is even indicated in the *General Plan* document for Lake Valley SRA: pg. 47 "The relatively greater suitability of Washoe Meadows for natural interpretation, nature study, hiking and similar uses, as well as its relative distance from the golf course and highway, are considered in planning for Lake Valley State Recreation Area." p. 48 "Modern development adjacent to unit boundaries: Highway 50 and the Lake Tahoe airport generate noise and visual intrusions affecting almost all areas potentially useful for interpretation...." Indeed, the proposed land swap would not provide the quality outdoor experience that Washoe Meadows State Park now offers to park users and would greatly diminish the park experience. Alternative 2 is in defiance of the *General Plan* for Lake Valley SRA.

1192-4
cont.

The EIR fails to adequately consider the negative impact on wildlife within the park. According to table ES-1, 3.5 - 10, "Effects on Potential Wildlife Movement Corridors", implementing Alternative 2 will remove/fragment 60 acres of habitat. Also, 3.5-9 "Long term Effects on Special Status and Common Wildlife Species and Habitats", under Alternative 2, 60 acres of Lodge pole pine forest, Jeffrey Pine forest, sage brush and other vegetation types would be removed. Additionally, 3.5-6, "Tree Removal and Forest Land Conversion", Alternative 2 will result in the removal of 1,640 native trees. These actions are all deemed "less than significant". Wildlife corridors are not just along streams and rivers. There is upland habitat as well. But the EIR/EIS/EIS places more value on SEZ than on upland habitats and fails to consider these interrelated and interconnected ecosystems within the park..

The EIR is inadequate because the analysis in Alternative 2 minimizes the negative impacts on upland, forest and meadow animal habitats. Removal of 60 acres of upland habitat is irreversible and extremely significant, especially since "The vegetation present in this unusual setting consists of an attractive mosaic of Lodge pole pine, Jeffrey pine and sedge and grass meadows with an understory of white fir. The meadows which inter-finger with the forest canopy create an "edge effect." This forest-meadow edge is recognized as most valuable to wildlife because it provides meadow areas for feeding and grazing by day, and forest protection by night."(Litigation Settlement Agreement, Lake Country Estates, Inc., et al Plaintiffs vs. Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, et al., Defendants, No. CV-F-81-127-REC and Lake Country Estates, Inc., et al., Plaintiffs, vs. California Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, et al., Defendants, No. CV-F-81-132-REC, dated June 12, 1984)

1192-5

The draft EIR fails to consider the negative impact of Alternative 2 on neighborhoods that surround the park. Eliminating animal habitats within the park will lead to even more wildlife activity in our neighborhoods, which is of special concern, especially in light of the recent habitat destruction caused by the Angora fire.

The draft EIR fails to adequately analyze the impact of surrounding a protected fen/spring complex with a manicured golf course with fertilizers, herbicides, insecticides,

1192-6

and pesticides. Of special concern are proposed golf holes 10 and 11, which are located on a steep hill above the spring complex. Fens and spring complexes are unique ecosystems that facilitate wildlife movement. The draft EIR does not adequately analyze these important wildlife corridors.

1192-6
cont.

I support river restoration, but urge you to choose an alternative such as Alternative 3 that still allows 18 holes of golf on the east side of the river but also protects and preserves Washoe Meadows State Park as was mandated in the 1984 litigation settlement and the 1984 California legislative statute.

1192-7

Sincerely,

Krissi Russell
773 Little Bear Lane
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
530-577-4335



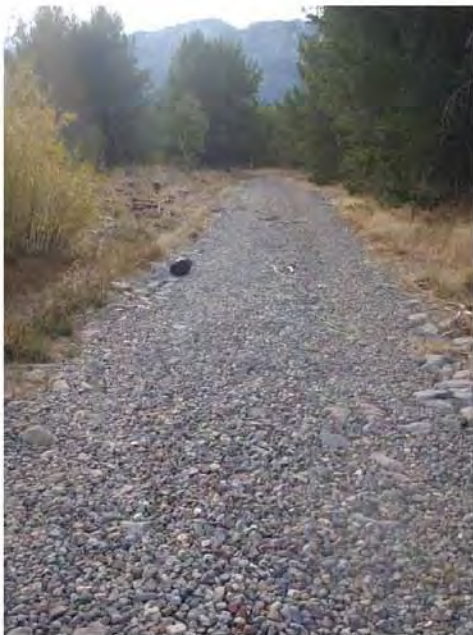
Bear that we startled on the trail near proposed golf fairway #12. August, 2010



Mother bear in the fen area above proposed golf fairway #12. Oct, 2010



Disturbed Areas created by CSP



Area is characterized as dry meadow near golf holes 6, 7, and 13



- I192-1 The commenter has concerns about impacts on wildlife and consistency with the 1984 legislative statute and settlement agreement from the 1984 litigation. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for a discussion of impacts on wildlife; see Master Response Section 3.2, “Land Use,” for a discussion of consistency with the 1984 legislative statute and settlement agreement from the 1984 litigation.
- I192-2 The commenter believes that the draft EIR/EIS/EIS is biased toward Alternative 2 and that the draft EIR/EIS/EIS mischaracterizes previously disturbed land and dry meadow areas. See the following responses to comments and master response:
- ▶ response to comment AOB8-1 for a discussion of the scoping process and public participation;
 - ▶ response to comment AOB8-6 for a discussion of the quarry area; and
 - ▶ Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for a discussion of vegetation mapping of the study area.
- I192-3 The commenter has concerns about recreation impacts on park users under Alternative 2. Existing trail use was considered, including connectivity with the neighborhood as well as regional bike path. See Master Response Section 3.5, “Recreation,” for a discussion of trail access and other recreation impacts.
- I192-4 The commenter has concerns about the land trade proposed under Alternative 2 and consistency with the Lake Valley SRA General Plan. See Master Response Section 3.2, “Land Use,” for a discussion of land trade and consistency with State Parks plans and policies.
- I192-5 The commenter states that the analysis of impacts on wildlife movement corridors is insufficient and fails to address the interconnection of upland areas and the SEZ. See Exhibit 3-1 and Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for a discussion of wildlife corridors and SEZ; see Master Response Section 3.2, “Land Use,” for a discussion of the habitat values of the lands proposed to be exchanged.
- I192-6 The commenter has concerns about impacts related to pesticides and fertilizer use surrounding fens. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for a discussion of fens; see Master Response Section 3.4, “Hydrology, Flooding, Geomorphology, and Water Quality,” for a discussion of fertilizer use, runoff, and fens.
- I192-7 The commenter’s support for Alternative 3 is noted.

Upper Truckee River Project

derek rust [rustayy@yahoo.com]

Sent: Tuesday, October 12, 2010 12:17 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



I am writing to you today to vote in favor of alternative #2 in the Upper Truckee River restoration project. It is a long over due issue and I would love to see this get the attention that it deserves. Thanks! | 1193-1
Derek Rust

Letter
I193
Response

Derek Rust
October 12, 2010

I193-1

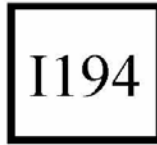
The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Upper Truckee Restoration Project

Jim Ryan [jryan@comcast.net]

Sent: Monday, October 18, 2010 4:48 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



Gentlemen,

I have reviewed the subject plan and I support Alternative 2 as being the most productive and accomplishing the goals of the plan. As a long time fisherman on the Truckee I think this action is vital to the well being of the river.

| 1194-1

James L Ryan
39 Martha Rd Orinda, Ca. 94563
925 254 6889

Letter
I194
Response

James L. Ryan
October 18, 2010

I194-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

WASHOE MEADOWS STATE PARK

Dorothy Salant [dorosa@comcast.net]

Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2010 7:50 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



HOW DARE ANYONE USE OUR PUBLIC LAND FOR A GOLF COURSE..... THE HEAD OF
YOUR PUBLIC PARK SHOULD BE FIRED IMMEDIATELY...NOOOOOOOOOOOO GOOD.
I AM TOTALLY AGAINST THIS.... ALL OF YOU MAKE A LOUD NOISE AND STOP IT.

| 1195-1

DOROTHY SALANT
500 SUMMIT AVE
MILL VALLEY CA 94941

Letter
I195
Response

Dorothy Salant
September 19, 2010

I195-1

The commenter's opposition to Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

River-Golf Course EIR/EIS/EIS

Dorothy Salant [dorosa@comcast.net]

Sent: Wednesday, November 03, 2010 4:35 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I196

TO WHOMIT MAY CONCERN.

THIS IS A VOTE AGAINST THE GOLF COURSE IN FAVOR OF KEEPING WASHOE MEADOWS STATE PARK JUST AS IT IS NOW. THIS IS PUBLIC PROPERTY..... PRIVATE PROPERTY CAN NOT IMPINGE ON IT...

The draft EIR is inadequate because it states that the impact of Alternative 2 will have a "less than significant impact" on recreation. For park users, removing 60 acres on natural habitat to create a golf course will have a very significant and negative impact on recreation. The park will be fragmented, many trails to the river will be lost, the park will be surrounded by golf holes, and park users will actually have to cross the golf course or take trails around it to access the river.

I196-1

IF THIS E MAIL IS NOT DRAFTED IN A WAY THAT WILL GET INTO THE PUBLIC INPUT ON THIS ISSUE, PLEASE REPLY AND LET ME KNOW HOW THAT CAN BE DONE.

THANK YOU

DOROTHY SALANT
500 SUMMIT AVE
MILL VALLEY CA 94931

Letter
I196
Response

Dorothy Salant
November 3, 2010

I196-1

The commenter has concerns about recreation access under Alternative 2. See Master Response Section 3.5, "Recreation."

golf course

Sanfelicejw@aol.com [Sanfelicejw@aol.com]

Sent: Saturday, September 11, 2010 2:44 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I197

BIENG AS THIS GOLF COURSE IS SUCH A BIG POLUTER OF LAKE TAHOE, ITS TIME TO CORRECT THIS MISTAKE. MOVE THE GOLF COURSE ALTOGETHER. GET IT FAR AWAY FROM THE CREEK AND THE LAKE. THEN WE CAN RESTORE THE CREEK AND WET LANDS, AND HELP TO RESTORE THE CLARITY OF THE LAKE. LAKE TAHOE IS MUCH GREATER AS A RECREATION ENITY THAN A GOLF COURSE. ITS EASIER TO MOVE THE GOLF COURSE, THAN IT WOULD BE TO MOVE THE LAKE

I197-1

JIM SANFELICE

Letter
I197
Response

Jim Sanfelice
November 10, 2010

I197-1

The commenter believes that the golf course should be removed and has concerns about water quality. See Master Response Section 3.4, "Hydrology, Flooding, Geomorphology, and Water Quality," for a discussion of fertilizer use and runoff.

Opposition to Expand golf course

Andi Sannazzaro [adsanfam@yahoo.com]

Sent: Thursday, November 11, 2010 9:34 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I198

As 30+ year residents of the North Upper Truckee area we strongly oppose the expansion of the golf course across the UT river. Decades of restoring sensitive meadows, revegetating the quarry bowls, thinning trees at tax payer expense will be wasted to expand a golf course. Golf is a dying industry. 9 holes are plenty. Alternative 3 is the correct choice.
Sincerely, David and Andi Sannazzaro

I198-1

I198-1

The commenters' support for Alternative 3 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

LTGC river restor & reconfig project

John Sattler [jps423@att.net]

Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2010 8:40 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



To: Cyndie Walck

As Tahoe resident, I believe the LTGC is a vital part of our economy and should remain an 18 hole facility . In the recent Economic Impact Study it was estimated the local economy would be negatively impacted by as much as \$6 million if the course were closed. This number does not include the numerous charity golf tournaments held, raising thousands of dollars for both local organizations & individuals.

If the course is reduced to a nine-hole facility or removed completely this would have a detrimental effect on all California State Parks as it is one of the few positive revenue producing parks in the State & the only park making money in the Basin.

After attending the informational meeting at the golf course, I am still not convinced the new holes are the only alternative (shoring up the banks of the river may be a cheaper and more widely accepted alternative), but I do know we need to keep an 18 hole golf course for the recreational and economic health of our community.

Thank you,
John Sattler

I199-1

I199-1

The commenter's support for maintaining an 18-hole golf course and its economic value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.



Alternative 2

Natasha Kidman Schue [natashakidman@gmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, October 21, 2010 12:29 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

To Whom it May Concern,

As a Meyer's Resident (I live on the loop behind Bakersfield), I am in strong support of Alternative 2. I enjoy living close by to the meadows and river, as well as the golf course and I love having access to the land right in front of my home. Currently, I do believe the golf course layout is obtrusive and not user-friendly for those residents who want to walk and hike around the area. I love the boardwalk that was built along HWY 50 and the golf course, but it does not lead pedestrians anywhere and therefore is not utilized as much as it could be. I love the idea of having more trails and boardwalks available to pedestrians in the area, so that we may all enjoy the surroundings. I think it would be a great addition to the recreation in the area (think Sun River, Oregon) and would be attractive to both residents and visitors alike.

I am also in favor of keeping the golf course at 18 holes and redeveloping the area where the new part of the golf course would be developed. That area is not currently assessable and quite frankly, it's not very pretty either. It would be wonderful to create a new course which would attract new players and visitors to the area. Additionally, I like the idea of redeveloping the current topography so that it would have a more natural look all throughout the golf course. And most importantly, I am very happy to hear that this alternative would allow for the river to be restored back to its original state so that we can decrease the sediment being fed into the lake and redevelop the natural plants and environment along the river.

This alternative seems like a win-win for both the environment and the economy, not to mention it will add a lot of interest to the area.

Thank you,

Natasha Kidman Schue
South Lake Tahoe Resident

I200-1

I200-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its recreation, environmental, and economic value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Washoe Meadows project

karenina.schuller [highsierramtdogs@att.net]

Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2010 7:15 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I201

I have lived in Tahoe for 36 yrs. and am a homeowner. I have ridden horses back there and run my dogs and snowshoe. This is a **very** sensitive area and have noticed underground streams in Spring right where golf cart paving would be! The meadow is full of wildflowers in the spring and is so beautiful! Please fix the stream and re-plant the area where the quarry was as it's a definite eyesore.

There are many types of wildlife there...porcupines, bears, raptors & even some mt. lions have been seen back there! We were told by the Amacker's NOT to go in there (the bog in the middle) as it has quick-mud that they had to get horses out of with backhoes! There's a lawsuit waiting to happen!

It's even MORE sensitive back there than where the golf course currently is!! I am already getting the town to back this response and we are so tired of Tahoe getting paved over, over-recreated in some parts of the forest. You will come up against a force to be reckoned with...have already contacted Sierra Club. The only thing I see is that golfers want some new holes to golf. HOW RIDICULOUS! I do not want golf balls flying at me as well!

Thanks for reading and I hope someone has some sense there. Call me 530.577.0263

Sincerely,

Karenina Schuller

1772 Pioneer Trail

So. Lake Tahoe, Ca 96150

I201-1

I201-1

The commenter has concerns about impacts on wildlife, fens, and springs under Alternative 2. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for a discussion of impacts on vegetation, wildlife, springs and fens. See Master Response Section 3.4, “Hydrology, Flooding, Geomorphology, and Water Quality,” for additional discussion of springs and fens.

Comment on Draft EIS for Upper Truckee River Project

Monica Sciuto [mosciuto@yahoo.com]

Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2010 3:10 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I202

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in regards to the Draft EIS for the Upper Truckee River Project. As a neighbor of the golf course, someone who works in the South Lake Tahoe and is concerned about the economy, I wanted to express my support of Alternative #2.

I live in the Elks Club area. I love using the parklands in the area and love running by the Truckee River. I believe that the Truckee River should be preserved and that we should keep erosion to a minimum.

At the same time, I believe the golf course is a beautiful gateway to our community. It shows the beauty of our area as well as the recreation opportunities that we offer. It would be a shame to remove, move (the entire course) or make smaller this great asset. I also believe that the golf courses in our community sustain a great economy for our area. Without this golf course at the full 18 hole capacity, I feel that we will be hurting jobs, tax dollars and potential off-shoot revenue for other businesses in town.

I feel that Alternative #2 keeps the golf course, it's beauty and it's revenue, while preserving the Truckee River and decreasing the erosion to the lake. The option of switching some of the holes around seems like a positive environmental option.

Thank you in advance for considering Alternative #2 for the Upper Truckee River Project.

Monica Sciuto

1594 Pebble Beach Dr.

PO Box 19683

South Lake Tahoe, CA 96151

I202-1

I202-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Upper Truckee River Restoration

Michael and Janet Domas [domsisle@etahoe.com]

Sent: Thursday, September 02, 2010 2:45 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I203

I am avid user of Washoe Meadows State Park, year-round. I understand that the golf course is a good moneymaker for the state parks, however, it also is pollutes the stream environment with use of fertilizer. Moving the golf course into the existing state park will detract from the "natural" meadow as it exists today. There are many park users who do not golf but enjoy walking, biking and skiing without having to avoid golf balls.

I am in support of ALTERNATIVE 4 as a way to improve the watershed, while maintaining use of both the state park and the of the golf course.

I203-1

Please consider implementation of ALTERNATIVE 4.

Thank you.

Janet Seidman-Domas

I203-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 4 is noted. The commenter has concerns about recreation access and fertilizer impacts associated with the golf course. See Master Response Section 3.4, "Hydrology, Flooding, Geomorphology, and Water Quality," for a discussion of fertilizer impacts. See Master Response Section 3.5, "Recreation," for a discussion of recreation access.

Lake Tahoe Golf Course/State Park River Restoration Project

CShade@DesignWorkshop.com [CShade@DesignWorkshop.com]

Sent: Wednesday, October 06, 2010 12:25 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I204

To Whom this may concern,

My name is Coleen Shade and I have lived in South Lake for over 21 years. I am currently employed by Design Workshop Tahoe office, a landscape architecture and land use firm. My firm has no involvement with the Lake Tahoe Golf Course project.

It is both my personal and professional opinion that Alternative 2 should be selected as the preferred alternative and implemented.

My experience with the project area has many facets;

I was an environmental planner with the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency from 1989 to 2007 (including time as the Fisheries and Wildlife Threshold Program Manager and then the supervisor of the resource threshold programs). I had a number of opportunities to observe and evaluate the functioning of this reach of the Upper Truckee in addition to other tributaries in the Basin as a part of my work responsibilities.

I lived for 11 years at 710 Cayuga, just a short walk from the Upper Truckee River on the west bank. I hiked, jogged, snowshoed and cross-county skied through the area where Alternative 2 would relocate the golf course. Yes, a very nice amenity to have out your backdoor for the Upper Truckee neighborhoods. With that said, there is no way one can call this area an undisturbed pristine forest.

There are hardpacked volunteer trails laced throughout the area, an STPUD dirt road to service the sewer line that runs through the area, lands used for soil and earth materials stock during the construction of the Upper Truckee/Tahoe Paradise subdivision, the project is adjacent to the old Tahoe Paradise race track, there are "dog-hair" thickets of lodgepole pines that are over-due for forest health management....

I now live off of Washoan Blvd on the East side of the Upper Truckee River. Over the 5 years of recreational use of the River in this reach (the airport reach) I have noticed a significant increase of paraphyton on the rocks in the River each summer. Despite the current efforts to implement BMPs on all commercial and residential properties we are still observing an increase in algae growth in a number of our tributaries including the Upper Truckee. The River also needs Best Management Practices to return it to a state of dynamic equilibrium, this can not be done by just armoring its banks with rubble.

I have golfed (if you want to call what I can do golfing) at the golf course for 20 years. I have watched as the River continues to erode its banks despite efforts to armor those banks. The wetland improvements that have been implemented at the golf course are admirable, however, these "features" are still in the middle of a groomed golf course. Alternative 2 proposes to restore the front holes, some of the most sensitive areas within the project area in exchange for moving these front holes across the river and to higher capability lands.

What is gained;

I204-1

- 1) quantifiable SEZ restoration (Soils/SEZ threshold),
- 2) water fowl habitat restoration, improved osprey foraging (Wildlife Threshold, special interest species)
- 3) river restoration that moves the golf course reach toward properly functioning conditions and aids other reaches in achieving the same (does not exasperate conditions on other reaches through headcutting and other geomorphological mechanics), improved function improves fish habitat (Fisheries Threshold, moving this reach from poor quality habitat to excellent, measured by length of reach improved),
- 4) water quality improvements with the reduction of on-site nutrient contributions to the Upper Truckee River (Water Quality Threshold),
- 5) improved upland vegetation management (forest health) and restoration of wetland and wet meadow native plants (Vegetation Threshold, common forest and plant communities of interest),
- 6) the TRPA has identified the Lake Tahoe Golf Course as a scenic resource along Highway 50. As a visual resource it has a rating of moderate (2) scenic quality. The conversion and restoration of the front holes to more natural looking conditions could only assist to improve visual resources from the scenic travel route and possibly be enough to increase the rating to excellent (3). (Scenic Quality Threshold, improve the visual resource rating and the travel route rating),
- 7) Tahoe has many recreation opportunities, as recreation user surveys have pointed out over the years. Where Tahoe falls short in the eye of those surveyed (and this has remained constant over the years) is the lack of developed recreation facilities and the quality of those facilities. Maintaining this 18 hole golf course is an important piece in maintaining developed recreation in the Basin and developing the replacement holes in a manner that is both environmentally appropriate and improves the quality of play is important to the quality of recreation experience available in the Basin (Recreation Threshold, provide quality experiences and maintain and expand recreational capacity).

I204-2

If we were just looking at this project from a strict environmental point of view, removing the entire golf course is no doubt the best alternative. However, both CA State Parks and TRPA have recreation objectives in their missions as well as the need to look at a balanced approach that helps to continue to serve their missions. A balanced approach requires one to evaluate this project on the environmental pros and cons, the economic viability, and the communities needs (which includes residents as well as our visitors throughout the State of California). Alternative 2 does all three.

Coleen Shade, AICP, LEED AP
Land Use and Environmental Planner/Associate

PO Box 5666
DESIGNWORKSHOP
STATESIDE, NV 89449
775 588-5929 (main)
<http://www.designworkshop.com>

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- I204-1 The commenter’s support for Alternative 2 is noted. The commenter summarizes current conditions of the study area. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- I204-2 The commenter summarizes benefits under Alternative 2. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

LAKE TAHOE GOLF COURSE

drshehadi@cox.net [drshehadi@cox.net]

Sent: Tuesday, October 12, 2010 2:59 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I205

PLEASE keep the lake tahoe golf course open as a 18 hole course. the economy of lake tahoe need more recreation not less and the state need the income . i have lived in tahoe since 1969 a i have seen a steady decline in visitors and business. please do not take away one of the best value for the visitors and the residents. thanks D SHEHADI

I205-1

I205-1

The commenter's support for maintaining an 18-hole golf course and its economic value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.



FW: Forwarded for D Shehdi

Walck, Cyndi

Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2010 4:45 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

From: RonCRettus@aol.com [mailto:RonCRettus@aol.com]

Sent: Sunday, September 05, 2010 9:43 AM

To: Walck, Cyndi

Cc: drshehadi@cox.net

Subject: Forwarded for D Shehdi

Sent for D Shehadi

September 3, 2010

Dick and Wendy Shehadi

2669 Divot Court

South Lake Tahoe, Ca. 96150

Upper Truckee River Restoration

California Parks

This letter is in support of alternatives 2 or 4 in the project area of the Upper Truckee River Restoration project. We live on the tee box of hole 5 at the Lake Tahoe Golf Course and have been here since 1976.

We have just completed (for the 10th consecutive year) hosting 30 golfers from the Painted Desert Men's Club in Las Vegas here in South Lake Tahoe. They play golf at Lake Tahoe Golf Course for two days and at Genoa Lakes another. They stayed at Harvey's and Embassy Suites, and the trickle down effect is obvious. The women non golfers went on a boat cruise, ate meals at local restaurants, and shopping is always a part of their stay.

This 3 day tournament would not occur if the Lake Tahoe Golf Course was not a fully developed 18 hole championship course. There are plenty of other places where they could play to get out of the Vegas heat during August, but they love this little basin that the Lake Tahoe Golf Course is in, with its fresh air and beautiful sunshine and pine smell.

We strongly support the control of erosion and the change of design necessary to do so, but also strongly support either alternative 2 or 4 with preference of #2. We in this economy need to keep this golf course a full 18 holes. The number of people enjoying this recreation of golf as opposed to the number of people hiking and horse back riding in the proposed area of relocation of the nine holes far outpaces the latter, and the ripple effect on the economy should be reason enough. The bang for the buck in this state park is also compelling, which should

I206-1

be an obligation to this project.

The area is also used in the winter time by walkers and some bike riders in the fall after the golf course is closed for the season, and in the winter by cross country skiers, further enhancing the public use.

I hope you will give serious consideration to our support for the alternatives 2 or 4 and make all efforts to get the funding to fully complete the restoration as quickly as possible.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Dick and Wendy Shehadi

1206-1
cont.

I206-1

The commenters' support for Alternatives 2 and 4 and the economic value of keeping an 18-hole golf course is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Lynda Shoshone
838-A Wa-She-Shu Way
Gardnerville, Nevada 89460

I207

November 15, 2010

Ms. Cyndie Walck
California State Parks and Recreation Department
Sierra District
PO Box 16
Tahoe City, CA 96145

My name is Lynda Shoshone, I am a Washoe Tribal member. I am submitting these comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)/Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project. In my comments I will explain to you why I feel that Washoe Meadows State Park should remain in its natural state and I urge you not to encourage or allow multiple holes of the Lake Tahoe Golf Course to be moved into the Park. I support Alternative 3 or 5 in the EIS and I oppose Alternative 2.

I207-1

It has been documented scientifically that the Wa-She-Shu have lived our aboriginal lands for over 10,000 years (or forever in Washoe time), the wild land of the Park has been a place we the Washoe used for subsistence for our people. We gathered here, processed foods and participated in the rhythms of the seasons.

I have personal knowledge of the cultural resources within the footprint of Washoe meadows Park. I was involved in the survey that catalogued the cultural resources and the mitigation of the cultural sites, to find what was there for future protection. This is a rich cultural habitat; the resources are widely dispersed, not only localized. I am trained in observation and can recognize a unique and irreplaceable locale.

I207-2

My personal life in the park extends in my family through recent times through my son's grandfather. He shared with us the experiences of many decades when his family would come, decades before the Park was created, to gather and fish for subsistence. The abundance allowed fish to be caught in the skirts of our elders and tossed to the children waiting on the river banks. Washoe tribe members existed without scraping the land, but instead relying on the native plants, living in summer shelters of willows. Seeds and grains were processed without impact in vons with native stone grinding tools, evidence of this is still there, you can see all of the lams that are still within Washoe Meadows State Park.

There is no Plan for this park even in the context created by Anglo governance. It is not legal or ethical to "claim" the resources of this wild place for one "re-creation" purpose—golf—at the expense of other important values and purposes.

I207-3

Ms. Cyndie Walck
November 15, 2010
Page Two

In my vision, if the Park is left in its natural state, it can meet many values and purposes. This vision would include development of interpretive trails and signs to educate those interested on both ancient and post European settlement histories. I can foresee the Washoe language program being relied upon to help participants in the natural environment at look at the place and its history through a Washoe perspective. In addition, we will bring youth and elders here to share our histories and teach how it is possible to live lightly on the land.

1207-4

Through modern day development pursued relentlessly on private lands, more and more this history is lost daily, without mitigation or documentation of culture. The park is one place, a public place already legally set aside for permanent protection (**a unique and irreplaceable watershed**), where the state has the responsibility to act to continue preservation. There is no legal allowance and no moral latitude to do otherwise.

Therefore I urge that alternative 3 or 5 be implemented. A vibrant golf function and economy can be maintained in the State Recreation Area, consistent with protection of cultural resources and creative new activities in the State Park. Only after a planning process is conducted and a general plan agreed upon can the potential of this historically significant land be evaluated and addressed.

1207-5

As a member of the Washoe Tribe I oppose Alternative 2. Careful review of the EIR, as noted in comments of others, indicates that Alternative 2 is superior to Alternative 3 in many aspects for which the parks and the TRPA have responsibility.

Sincerely,

Lynda Shoshone
Washo Tribal Member

- I207-1 The commenter’s support for Alternatives 3 and 5 and opposition to Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- I207-2 The commenter discusses knowledge of historical use of Washoe Meadows SP. See Section 3.9, “Cultural Resources,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS for additional information about historical use of the area. See Master Response Section 3.6, “Cultural Resources,” for additional discussions related to the cultural impact analysis.
- I207-3 The commenter has concerns about land use. See Master Response Section 3.2, “Land Use,” for a discussion of land exchange.
- I207-4 The commenter would like to see interpretive trails and signs developed to educate those interested in both ancient and post-European settlement histories. The commenter suggests that the Washoe language program could help participants in the natural environment look at the place and its history through a Washoe perspective. State Parks is working with the Washoe Tribe to develop interpretive signs.
- I207-5 The commenter’s support for Alternative 3 or Alternative 5 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

I208

Lake Tahoe Golf Course

Fritz Siegenthaler [fritztahoe@hotmail.com]

Sent: Monday, November 08, 2010 12:09 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

Ruth Coleman
Director of
California Parks and Recreation Department
1416 9th Street
Sacramento CA. 94296

Regarding the Restoration Project of the Upper Truckee River.

I have attended to many meetings about this Project. There is only one Option making sense Economically, Environmentally, Habitat and to the Neighborhood it is Alternative 4. It does not matter what you do with the Golf Course the River will always be there and Erosion depends on runoff from snow melt and rain. By Moving the Golf Course, you still need to fix the erosion from the River not only on the Golf Course but all the way as the river runs. To move some holes behind the river will be too costly and increase the green fees not affordable for the players anymore, so even more golfers drive over the hill polluting the air for better deals in the Valley.

Many Golfers from out of town I have played with express there pleasure and beauty of this Golf Course. After explaining the plans, reasons and options to them as the California Parks and Recreation Department has, their are in disbelieve, but agree to leave this course unchanged and stabilizing the riverbanks makes sense.

Create a Filter Base between the airport and Highway 50 in Barton's Meadow. The river there is split in two all ready by nature so you can close and clean the streams one on the time in the fall by low runoffs. There will be no building in that meadow anyway and the Bartons may receive a tax break ?

I208-1

Sincerely,

Fritz Siegenthaler
2248 California Str. 100
Carson City NV. 89701

CC.
utprject@parks.ca.gov

City Consuls Office
South Lake Tahoe

I208-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 4 and its economic and environmental value is noted. The commenter suggests other options for treating water quality on properties not owned by the State. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.



River-Golf Course EIR/EIS/EIS

Lisa Sinizer [sinizer@printroom.com]

Sent: Sunday, November 14, 2010 11:26 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

Attachments: EIR.docx (15 KB) ; EIR.doc (33 KB)

Also sent as an attachment in docx and previous Word versions:

November 14, 2010

I am not a religious person and like most people, my day is spent in the day-to day activities that keeps my house and family together and hopefully makes us a contributing part of the community. However I am lucky in that there have been a few moments in my life that have touched on the sacred in a transcendent way. Since I moved to the Washoe Meadows area, I have been thrilled to discover a place in my life where I can always attain that feeling of fulfilled peace and quiet joy. It is when I walk in the meadow area to the Upper Truckee River. Each time I note the small and big changes since I was last there- are there new flowers or perhaps the flow of the water has changed as the summer deepens. Maybe today I will be lucky enough to watch the coyote hunting in the grass. Often I will sit on a stump and watch as a snow storm comes in over the mountains or the pass and enjoy the changes around me. I am happy knowing that my teenage daughter finds the same beauty there and I am confident that this love of nature will be passed down to yet another generation when it is her time to introduce nature to her children. The entrance to the park from my neighborhood is in the lot next to my home and as I work in my office, I watch my neighbors on a daily basis throughout the day as they too begin the walk down to the meadow to enjoy the serenity and beauty that can be found there. Sometimes they go alone and other times in a group, but the intent is always the same, to go to the meadow to enjoy what it has to offer while they exercise.

It was with great shock that I discovered that there was a plan to take the beauty of this meadow and ruin it in order to hand it to a private developer so that he can change it for the use of a small (and with shrinking demographics) group that will make it impossible for any in the community that presently uses the park to enjoy nature. It is even more disturbing when one realizes that this is being done in the name of revenue, when in fact the state will not realize a dime for at least 10 to 15 years until the owner of American Golf has recouped his outlay. I have no issues and in fact am encouraged with the goal of restoring the river and lessening any impact sedimentation has on the lake. However, Alternative 2 has an impact that cannot be underestimated in the negative and cannot be feasibly mitigated.

There are many areas of the EIR/EIS/EIS which I find disturbing, but I will focus on just a few. Since discovering this potential plan, I have been paying close attention to who uses the park and what they are doing while I am there. I often go to the river near one of the golf bridges that currently exists. On one recent beautiful sunny Fall day on a three day weekend, I noticed several bikers, equestrians and hikers, but in all the time that I was near the golf bridge, not one cart passed me. This is not uncommon. While the course is obviously used, it would be VERY interesting as a valid part of data needed to make future use plans, to see if the course has had a declining revenue as most courses in the country have had for the last several years (even prior to the present economic downturn). I suspect that this course has indeed had declining revenues unlike other Tahoe sports such as skiing; I find it incomprehensible that the State Parks would take away a park from everyday citizens to hand it to a shrinking minority for the benefit of a privately owned corporation. Alternative 2 would indeed take this park away from California citizens.

In reading the EIR/EIS/EIS regarding recreational use and impact, I can only say that the EIR/EIS/EIS is inadequate at best and inept at worst. The very beauty of the meadow is because it is just that, an

1209-1

1209-2

amazing meadow which is surrounded by stands of trees. Even though it sees quite a bit of use, the view and silence there is majestically special and unlike anything I have experienced, even in other State Parks. If Alternative 2 were to go into effect, it would make recreation there impossible as it is enjoyed today. Those who presently use the park do so precisely because there are no motorized vehicles allowed. The EIR/EIS/EIS (wrongfully) contends that there would be recreation on both sides of the river. However present use shows that the hikers, bikers and especially the equestrians avoid any motorized vehicles for both esthetic and more importantly safety reasons. The impact as stated in section 3.8-2 as "Less than Significant" effect is in fact just the opposite because it will so alter our ability to use this park as to make it nearly unusable. We would no longer have access to the same areas, such as much of the forest, meadow and fen areas. The fens would be completely surrounded by the golf course and unavailable for enjoyment by park users. It is my contention and the contention of the Washoe Community that this is a significant unavoidable impact as no feasible mitigation exists.

I209-2
cont.

The EIRE/EIS.EIS states that there is much illegal snowmobiling in the meadow and on the golf course. Again, to show the inadequacy of the EIR, this statement can only be made by combining the supposed illegal use of the meadow in the winter with the illegal use of the golf course by snowmobilers. On most days, I walk from the small middle meadow to the river at the far end of the large meadow. The course I take generally runs from 2-3 miles roundtrip and during all of last winter, I only saw snowmobile tracks once or twice. If there is a major problem with snowmobiling in the golf course area, I don't understand why the park would want to expand the problem to an area greater than where it is today. There is a significant amount of trail for snowmobiling near to the meadow in the Sawmill area which can be used for that recreational purpose.

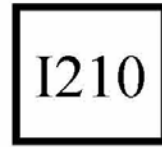
I209-3

Again, I appreciate the goal of restoring the river and lessening the runoff of sedimentation to the lake. However, it is impossible to see Alternative 2 as anything other than a shameful grab of a State Park to the loss of the majority of the users. As a member of the community, I can only hope that my legacy will be that in 50 years my grandchildren and great grandchildren will look at Washoe State Park and say, "Boy am I glad they had the foresight to save this special place for us" rather than having them look at pictures in an historical book of the beauty that used to be and wonder how we let it go.

Thank you for your time.

Lisa Sinizer
1657 Grizzly Mountain Drive
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96157

- I209-1 The commenter expresses personal enjoyment of Washoe Meadows SP. The commenter has concerns about relocating the golf course considering the declining golf revenue. The commenter is also concerned about recreation access to Washoe Meadows SP and impact on the fen. As described in Appendix E, “Lake Tahoe Golf Course Economic Feasibility Analysis,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, Lake Tahoe Golf Course has experienced declining gross revenues since 1997. See the following master responses:
- ▶ Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” and Master Response Section 3.4, “Hydrology, Flooding, Geomorphology, and Water Quality,” for a discussion of potential impacts on the fen;
 - ▶ Master Response Section 3.5, “Recreation,” for a discussion of recreation access; and
 - ▶ Master Response Section 3.7, “Economics,” for a discussion of golf revenue.
- I209-2 The commenter has concerns about the discussion in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS about recreation impacts and recreation access. Under Alternative 2, the new portion of the reconfigured golf course would remove 23 acres of Washoe Meadows SP from other recreational uses; however, Washoe Meadows SP totals 620 acres (including areas outside of the study area), and dispersed recreation would continue throughout the remaining 527 acres of the State Park. In addition, portions of the Lake Valley SRA that were previously occupied by the golf course (approximately 39 acres) would become available to trail users and water recreationists. The area outside of the driving range would also continue to be available during winter months, and access to this area would be improved because the bridge would no longer be gated. See Master Response Section 3.5, “Recreation,” for additional discussion of recreation access proposed under Alternative 2.
- I209-3 As described in Section 3.8, “Recreation,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, none of the alternatives are expected to result in an increase in illegal or legal use of snowmobiles within the study area.



Alternative 2

Carole Songey-Watson [songeystuff@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, October 04, 2010 8:25 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I strongly support Alternative 2 for the restoration and health of the Upper Truckee River System and Lake Tahoe in general. Thank you

| 1210-1

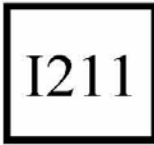
Carole Songey-Watson
Property owner in South Lake Tahoe

Letter
I210
Response

Carole Songey-Watson
October 4, 2010

I210-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.



FW: Golf Course

McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Sent: Tuesday, September 07, 2010 11:28 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

From: Walck, Cyndi

Sent: Thursday, August 26, 2010 11:10 AM

To: 'Seana Doherty'; kathy strain; 'Tracy Owen Chapman'; McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Subject: FW: Golf Course

From: RonRSI@aol.com [mailto:RonRSI@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, August 25, 2010 10:44 AM

To: Walck, Cyndi

Subject: Golf Course

As a local resident and golfer please keep our golf course 18 holes by using alternative #2 if making changes to the course.

I211-1

Thank You

**Ron Spurrell
2064 Aloha Dr, SLT. 96150**

Letter
I211
Response

Ron Spurrell
August 25, 2010

I211-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and keeping an 18-hole golf course is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Upper Truckee Project Comment

Jim Stamates [jim@stamates.com]

Sent: Tuesday, November 09, 2010 11:31 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I212

Cyndie Walck
CA State Parks and Recreation,

Dear Cyndie,

As a 40 year resident of Lake Tahoe, a home owner in Meyers, and a local business owner, I want to add my concerns and opinions for the proposed changes to Washoe Meadows State Park, Lake Valley Recreation Area and Lake Tahoe Golf Course.

After reading the five alternatives I am convinced that Alternative No. 3 is most likely the best solution to keep all parties satisfied.

My position, in an ideal world, would be No. 5 which would decommission the golf course and return the Upper Truckee River and Washoe meadows closely to its natural state. This is really the best for the future of the clarity of Lake Tahoe and our environment. Of course I understand alternative 5 would not make golfers happy, and may cost California State Parks the reduction of a much needed income source as well as a hit on our local economy. However, if a new site can be acquired for a golf course in a less sensitive area than Alternative 5 is the best solution.

Alternatives 1 and 4 are unacceptable. They do nothing to correct or address the challenges.

Alternative 2 does not address the added usage of fertilizer, chemicals, and pesticides that will enter the SEZ and eventually our ground water and Lake Tahoe.

Expanding ground cover defeats the whole purpose of our challenge to return clarity to Lake Tahoe.

The only balanced alternative is no. 3. Not the ideal solution for the environment or golf enthusiasts but a good solution that balances both sides.

Thank you for taking my comments into consideration.

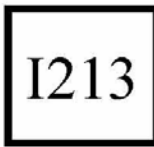
Jim Stamates

P.O.Box 550550
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96155
530-577-4101

I212-1

I212-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 3 or Alternative 5 is noted. The commenter has concerns about fertilizer and pesticide impacts under Alternative 2. See Master Response Section 3.4, "Hydrology, Flooding, Geomorphology, and Water Quality," for a discussion of water quality impacts.



To Whom it may concern, Nov. 3, 2010

I want the park to remain the way it is. People, local people and wildlife enjoy this space. Please do not wreck it for the sake of commerce and profit with at golf course. | I213-1

Thank you
Kim Stephenson
1668 Semat St.
So Lk. Tahoe, CA.
96150

I213-1

The commenter's support for keeping Washoe Meadows SP as it is now is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.



Option 4 - My 2 cents

ROBERT STILES [captrim99@hotmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, October 28, 2010 7:23 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I'm for you to do option 4. Fix the banks of the river for now. Too costly to move all 9 holes in my opinion. I'm not a golfer but if you want to take more money out of our local economy it would not be a good idea to get rid of the golf course either. Stupidest thing I've heard of besides tearing out two lanes of Lake Tahoe Blvd out past the Y.

I214-1

Regards,

Robert Stiles

ROBERT STILES
Broker Lic. 01279125 CA
Tahoe Real Estate Services
2122 Lake Tahoe Blvd.
S. Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
877-617-2498 Office
530-314-0352 Cell
530-542-1849 Fax
www.BobStiles.com
robert@bobstiles.com



Letter
I214
Response

Robert Stiles
October 28, 2010

I214-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 4 and its economic value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.



Lake Tahoe Golf Course River REstoration

Keri L. Strategier [keristrat@hotmail.com]

Sent: Saturday, October 30, 2010 2:44 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I support Option #2.

| 1215-1

Thank you. Keri Strategier

I215-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Washoe Meadows State Park Development

Martha Sullivan [mharsul@att.net]

Sent: Saturday, September 04, 2010 10:28 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I216

Please hear my voice as I join the legions of Tahoe resident who are vehemently opposed to any and all aspects of the proposed development of Washoe Meadows State Park that reconfigure or expand Lake Tahoe Golf Course. That the proposal is even being considered is a travesty and is in direct violation of the original purpose and function of Washoe Meadows State Park, which was originally conceived in 1984 to protect "an environmentally sensitive parcel." That parcel comprises wetlands, meadows and wildlife habitats. It protects "a unique and irreplaceable watershed through which the Upper Truckee River supplies approximately 40 percent of the water flowing into Lake Tahoe." Water, which, if the golf course reconfiguration is approved, will be more contaminated through pesticides and fertilizers that penetrate into the groundwater that seeps into the river and is airborne to alight in the river. Nothing has changed since 1984 to warrant the original objectives for the Park now to be overridden.

It is unfathomable to me that anyone, especially an official public body entrusted with the preservation and care of invaluable open space and natural resources, could even conceive of expanding the existing golf course and at the same time purport to act in the best interests of the community and the Tahoe region as a whole. As a resident of the area immediately adjacent to the west side of the Park, I see bears, coyotes, innumerable small mammals, amphibians, reptiles, varieties of raptors and birds too numerous to identify, and waterfowl of all kinds on a daily basis. I see the fish that live and spawn in the river and sustain the non-aquatic wildlife. I see hundreds of visitors and residents alike strolling the Park's paths and standing in its meadows, agog at the vistas there to behold, and fishing and swimming in the river. In the spring and summer, there are wildflowers too beautiful to describe that stand tall and delicately carpet the meadow and floors.

Sadly, due to failure of state officials to enforce the rules of the park, I also hear the snowmobiles and other motorized vehicles that invade the sanctity of the park and destroy the fragile forest and meadow trails. Must we now endure more failure of the state to regard its own objectives for the Park and compromise one of the basic reasons why we live in South Lake Tahoe and why the vast majority of visitors to the region choose this area as their place to worship the wonders of nature through passive recreation?

If the golf course is expanded across the river, not only will more wildlife habitat be eroded, but the State also risks forcing the large mammals into neighborhoods that now, for the most part, peacefully co-exist with us. There is no rational explanation why the State would knowingly encourage human-to-bear encounters. We read weekly of such experiences in other, more densely populated areas of the Tahoe region that usually result in the destruction of the offending bears. Such encounters in the residential areas surrounding the Park are very few and far between, largely because there is sufficient habitat. The more humans encroach on their habitat, the greater the likelihood that the bears will suffer. In what universe is that justifiable, simply for the sake of human recreation that is not integral to or compatible with the natural environs?

In considering the various proposals for the Park land, golfing is not a recreational activity that, in and of itself, attracts visitors to the Tahoe region. It is but a sidelight to the main attractions of open space, natural grandeur and passive outdoor recreational activities. The revenue generated for the state through golf course patronage is but a pittance in the overall financial scheme, and, in fact, patronage at Lake Tahoe Golf Course has declined steadily in recent years. The course already is a losing proposition:

- Fees at the course are high, and locals cannot afford to golf there, so its survival is primarily dependent upon tourists, whose use of the course is but incidental to other area recreation.
- We personally witness the rebuilding of its existing greens, fairways, ponds and irrigation wells each year, because golf courses are not compatible with the natural topography and require repetitive and environmentally damaging reconstruction.
- If the course is reconfigured to abut more fairways along the river's banks, the river will experience even greater contamination than it is now exposed to, simply in order to continue

I216-1

I216-2

I216-3

the futile cycle of maintenance and reconstruction that is the norm for this golf course.

- The more maintenance that is required, the higher the fees that will need to be charged to golfers, and – ultimately – the less the course will be patronized.

I agree that it makes environmental sense to allow the Upper Truckee River to again flow its natural course and to rebuild its banks that have been eroded since its route was reconfigured some years ago. It makes absolutely *no sense in any respect*, however, to destroy and waste natural resources in favor of nonessential recreation in this area. As a fulltime resident whose property is immediately adjacent to Park land and whose taxes support responsible government, any aspect of the river restoration project that includes reconfiguration of the golf course to encroach on the Park land should be dismissed without further consideration.

1216-3
cont.

Respectfully,

Martha Sullivan
817 Kiowa Drive
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
530-573-1899

- I216-1 The commenter’s opposition to any development at Washoe Meadows SP that would reconfigure or expand the golf course is noted. The commenter believes that Alternative 2 is inconsistent with the settlement agreement from the 1984 litigation and the 1984 statute and that Alternative 2 would have impacts on water quality, recreation, and wildlife. See the following master responses:
- ▶ Master Response Section 3.2, “Land Use,” for a discussion of the 1984 agreement and statute;
 - ▶ Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for a discussion of wildlife impacts;
 - ▶ Master Response Section 3.4, “Hydrology, Flooding, Geomorphology, and Water Quality,” for a discussion of water quality impacts; and
 - ▶ Master Response Section 3.5, “Recreation,” for a discussion of recreation impacts.
- I216-2 The commenter has concerns about impacts on wildlife habitat. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for a discussion of wildlife.
- I216-3 The commenter states opinions about golf recreation, economics, and upkeep of the golf course and opposes Alternative 2. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

The debate swirling around the Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project is not a debate about river restoration. All participants support this end. It's not even a debate between golfers and environmentalists. Few, if any, deny the right of the golfers to play on the current Lake Tahoe Country Club. This debate is rapidly becoming a confrontation between three state and local agencies, and concerned locals and neighborhood groups like the Washoe Meadows Community. The involved agencies are showing an undo bias toward Alternative 2, advocating golf course expansion. They appear ready to do this by ignoring preeminent laws protecting sensitive land, historical and cultural sites, diminishing animal and plant habitat, and quiet and peaceful local neighborhoods.

Aside from the obvious indifference to their own environmental standards, misleading the public about their intentions, and ignoring input from their own constituents, this is being pushed at a time of decreasing popularity in golf. The Environmental Impact Report or EIR clearly details the declining revenues of the current State Recreation Area's activities. And unless Global Warming overwhelms us sooner than expected, Tahoe's fragile golf season is not going to get any longer.

It's quite clear the State Parks, TRPA, and Bureau of Reclamation, are stretching their powers here by ignoring their own history of written intentions and guidelines. The land in question, is bordered roughly by Hwy 50, North Upper Truckee Rd., Sawmill Rd, and Tahoe Paradise. It was purchased by the state in 1984. The 1984 California Legislative Statute appealed for the purchase using taxpayer dollars. They called it an act of urgency; "in order to acquire as state lands an environmentally sensitive parcel of approximately 777 acres of land comprising wetlands, meadows, and wildlife habitat for the purpose of protecting a unique and irreplaceable watershed". The parcel contained an existing golf course to the East, and a fragile and diverse piece of land to the West. Separating the two, was the main tributary of Lake Tahoe, the Upper Truckee River. The side containing the golf course was designated a State Recreational Area, and the land across the river, bordering numerous neighborhoods along North Upper Truckee, was designated as a state park, originally named Washoe Meadows Wildlife Refuge.

Here, in the words of the agencies most zealous for expansion, are the reasons Alternative 2 displays a contemptuous disregard of their own standards of stewardship. According to the States' own Unit Purpose Statement adopted in 2000 "the purpose of the Washoe Meadows State Park is to preserve and protect a wet meadow area associated with Angora Creek and the Upper Truckee River at the southwest side of the Tahoe Basin. The unit's associated forest sustains Jeffrey ...and Lodgepole pine. The unit contains 14 Native American occupancy sites and remnants of a historic dairy, and is contiguous to other public lands important for their open space values and recreational uses." Consider this statement comes before the Angora fire. It should be apparent how much more important these forests and wetland areas become as a habitat for indigenous wildlife and plants.

The Plan Area Statement of the TRPA Code of Ordinances says this about "PAS 119" (Country Club Meadow), "the following special policies ...apply to the study area:

I217-1

- Areas of significant resource value or ecological importance within this Plan Area should be designated as natural areas, and they should be buffered from intensive uses.
- Creation of waterfowl habitats in association with restoration efforts of disturbed areas should be encouraged.
- Intensive uses in this Plan Area that require development of impervious coverage should be discouraged.

The agencies now argue some of these areas have been “previously disturbed”, thus implying it is acceptable to disturb them again. That’s like saying since a bank has been robbed it’s acceptable to rob it again.

What these agencies must remember is that the land in question is theirs to protect, not abuse. While they have been designated guardians of this sensitive and precious parcel of PUBLIC land, it is not theirs. The land belongs to all of us! We must let them know how we feel. Ways to comment are available at www.washoemeadowscommunity.org.

Steve Szekely
(530)577-7207
dixiemtn@sbcglobal.net

I217-1
cont.

I217-1

The commenter's opinion that an undue bias has been given to Alternative 2 is noted. The commenter believes Alternative 2 is inconsistent with the settlement agreement from the 1984 litigation and the 1984 statute. See Master Response Section 3.2, "Land Use," for a discussion of the 1984 litigation and statute. See response to comment AOB8-1 for discussions of the selection of a proposed Preferred Alternative and of the public participation process.

I218

comment

Shirley Taylor [thecelioranch@gbis.com]

Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2010 6:34 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

In your description of all the things that have led to the problems with lake clarity, you forgot to mention the "BEAVER".

The lake was in very good condition before all the development occurred. Don't blame all the problems on the "history" of this area.

I218-1

Shirley Taylor

I218-1

The commenter believes that beavers are a factor in the decline of lake clarity. American beaver has not been identified as a major factor contributing to the decline of lake clarity. Development, as noted in the comment, is certainly a major contributor to alterations in streamflow and sediment transport, leading to declines in clarity.

Washoe Meadows State Park

Anne Thomas [athomas@mcn.org]

Sent: Monday, November 15, 2010 10:13 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



To Whom It May Concern:

My husband and I lived in the Tahoe area for many years. In recent decades, we have seen some wonderful restoration projects and good plans coming out of public agencies. We urge you to continue on this path by choosing Alternative 3 for restoration of the Upper Truckee. While golf may be the pastime of the rich, its popularity is decreasing, and there is a greater public awareness of the incompatibility of developed golf courses and natural wildlands. Please save the Park from the incursion of the golf course, and simply act to reduce the existing golf course to a more ecologically sustainable size. This action would have a far more beneficial effect on the Park, Lake Tahoe, and the enjoyment of the majority of people who live in and come to the area for its natural beauty.

I219-1

Sincerely,

Anne Thomas
Former Lake Tahoe resident and teacher

I219-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 3 because of the decline in the popularity of golf is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

new golf course

kthompson [kthompson@tahofire.com]

Sent: Wednesday, September 01, 2010 8:46 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



In response to the e-mail I recieved, I don't wish to have the golf course changed. But I also don't want to lose it either. The golf course is very important to community, and losing it along with everything that Tahoe has lost would be tragic. I also thought that this is a California State Park and it is for all Californians and other visitor to used. I've also heard that it is helping the state with the funds that it generates. I saw picture of the reconfiguration and it looked very well constructed. To be honest I'm one of the few people that use the golf course and walk my dog in the park on regular basis. Losing the golf course I feel would be a lose, lose situation for the town and all our visitor that our community so desparately needs!

1220-1

Thanks for all your help. I know it's been hard.

Kirk Thompson

I220-1

The commenter's support for maintaining the golf course is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.



time is coming!

kthompson [kthompson@tahofire.com]

Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2010 5:38 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

Dear decision makers,

I'm am writting again to express my feeling one more time. I' have seen a lot of letters in tahoe papers to the bad effects he golf course will have if it's moved back behind the river. I don't feel it fair to that you are asking people of the neighborhood that are non-golfer there feeling about the park. Of course they would say get rid of the golf course, especially if they done own a business in town that benifits from all the extra income the golf course bring to So. Lake Tahoe. (Been getting less more and more) Most of the people that are complaining will probably not be here 10, 15 and 20 years down the road. But the 10 of thousands of people that would get the enjoyment out of the recreation of golf, the out door weddings and the family and friend that meet at the golf course on a regular basis for decades to come.

I personally don't owe a business in town, I am retiring from the Fire Dept., weve lived down the street from the park and golf course (92) with 31 years in Tahoe. We are probably of a minority group that uses the golf course and the park on a regular basis (dogs and x-country skiing) we rarely see anyone out on our trips to the back country, but the golf course is always full with people using the facility 6mo. out of the year. During our retirement we had plans to still use both facilities.

I know that the neiborhood groups have been fighting this hard and long cause I live around them, but who get to speak for the people that have vacationed in Tahoe for generation thoughs people need a voice too! I have never once had someone stop me ask me where the park is so they could hike back there, that because no one knows it's there except for the neighborhood and thats the they want to keep it. I always try to remember that it's a California State park, for all Californians and vacationers. Not a neiborhood state park that only for the very few that know about it can use. We love the recreation that Tahoe has, and golf is a huge part of our families and thousands of other families that don't even know that this is going on!

Hopefully we can come to a win, win decision!

Thanks Kirk Thompson.

1221-1

I221-1

The commenter's support for maintaining the golf course and the recreation value to all Californians is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

restoration project

maddelyn thran [maddelynthran@yahoo.com]

Sent: Thursday, September 02, 2010 4:57 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



Hello,

My name is Maddelyn Thran. I was born and raised in South Lake Tahoe. In particular I was raised on north upper truckee and spent most of my childhood in the meadow and at the river. We found many golfballs in the river as kids. As a child I thought that was great fun to have a golfcourse so close to the river and be able to find balls at the bottom of the riverbed. However, it has become clear to me now that it is much more important to help our animals by keeping their habitat in homeostasis. Our animals need to be able to stay in their natural habitat so they don't migrate towards the residential area surrounding the meadow. This project would not only destroy their habitats but much of the beauty we love about our wonderful Tahoe meadow.

Thanks for your time,

-Maddelyn Thran

1222-1

I222-1 The commenter has concerns about impacts on wildlife. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources.”

Upper Truckee River

Jane [jane345@att.net]

Sent: Saturday, October 30, 2010 10:19 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



Please support Alternative 2, which provides a solution that balances both recreation and conservation in the area.

| 1223-1

Thank you,
Jane Turney

Letter
I223
Response

Jane Turney
October 30, 2010

I223-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

October 29, 2010
To: Cyndie Walck, California State Parks
From: John Upton
Subject: Comments on Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course
Reconfiguration Project Draft EIR/EIS.

1. I support Alternative #2 as the best balance for recreation, the economy, and much-needed environmental improvements.

The current Lake Tahoe Golf Course (LTGC) fills a unique niche in golfing recreation in the South Lake Tahoe area: It is an affordable, quality 18-hole course. The other 18-hole course in South Lake Tahoe is Edgewood, which is not an affordable option for users of LTGC. If the 18-hole LTGC is not there, its local users (10,000 rounds per year) will go to the affordable courses in Minden or Carson City. The tourism users (20,000 rounds per year) will do the same, or not vacation in the area at all.

2. The above facts lead to why Alternative 3 (reduction of LTGC to 9 holes) is economically infeasible, and worse than it may appear: That is, a 50% reduction in holes will result in a lot more than a 50% reduction in course revenue.

Two 9-hole low cost golf courses already exist nearby – Tahoe Paradise (2 miles away) and Bijou Municipal (7 miles away.) The needs of 9-hole golfers are already met by them, so that the effect of Alternative #3 would be to divide existing business among three courses instead of two. The current positive economic impact and direct/indirect job creation from the 18-hole LTGC course would essentially be entirely lost.

There is unlikely to be enough revenue to properly maintain the remnant facility from Alternative #3, much less provide surplus funds to the State. It is likely that inadequate maintenance will include inadequate maintenance of the new EIP (Environmental Improvement Program) river restoration facilities, which will also have negative environmental impacts.

It is my understanding that the existing operator has informed the State that it would not be interested in bidding on a 9-hole course. As they have operated the course for over 20 years, and know their customer base, this fact should confirm that Alternative #3 makes no economic sense.

3. One suggestion for Alternative #2, if possible, would be to direct that net revenues from the facility to the State be used for maintenance of State EIP facilities in the Tahoe Basin.
4. Please select and construct Alternative #2!

Thank you for considering these thoughts.

John Upton
954 Edgewood Circle
South Lake Tahoe, Ca. 96150

I224-1

I224-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic, environmental, and recreation value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.



FW: LTGC - Please Be Heard - State Park Alternatives for our Golf Course

McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Sent: Tuesday, September 07, 2010 11:25 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

Attachments: LTGC - Please Be Heard - Stat... (14 KB)

From: Walck, Cyndi

Sent: Friday, August 27, 2010 5:00 PM

To: 'Seana Doherty'; McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth; 'Tracy Owen Chapman'; kathy strain

Subject: FW: LTGC - Please Be Heard - State Park Alternatives for our Golf Course

From: USERRAMP [mailto:userramp@aol.com]

Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2010 8:15 PM

To: Walck, Cyndi

Subject: Fwd: LTGC - Please Be Heard - State Park Alternatives for our Golf Course

I agree with number 2.

| 1225-1

Letter
I225
Response

userramp
August 24, 2010

I225-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Upper Truckee River Restoration

scott valentine [valentinescott@hotmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, October 17, 2010 11:02 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I226

Thank you for contacting me about the comment period for the Draft EIR/EIS. I would like to start by saying that I am a supporter of Upper Truckee River Restoration. I have worked on various river restoration projects with the US Forest Service in the past and I have a hydrology degree so I fully understand the importance of restoration in this instance. I feel that there will be an observable and measurable improvement in water quality, riparian habitat, and ecosystem connectivity if this river segment is restored. I also understand that the land use shift associated with this restoration will have significant social impacts as well, which is why I am a supporter of Alternative #2.

Even though I live within City limits I regularly recreate in Washoe Meadows Sate Park. I do not play golf but I understand the importance of this type of recreation and I realize its social and economic significance for Lake Tahoe and for State Parks. I feel that the land swap associated with Alternative #2 (moving the golf course out of the Stream Environment Zone and relocating it to the upland forest west of the river) is justified. The ecologic importance of the stream corridor and adjacent meadow vastly outweighs that of the upland parcel in question (which in my professional opinion is poor quality habitat already degraded by the fact that it was historically disturbed and has never fully recovered).

I226-1

I support Alternative #2 but I would like to make a few comments regarding Alternative #2 during this comment period. Firstly, I appreciate that the new bridge crossing is designated as a pedestrian safe zone but to be fully safe (from cart traffic, miss aimed balls, etc.) I would like to suggest a second bridge, built within the restoration project area a few hundred feet downstream of the proposed bridge crossing. The second bridge would fully separate pedestrian and bicycle traffic from all other associated golf course use. This improves safety but it also serves to inhance the "outdoor feel" for those visitors wishing to wishing to experience the State Park without having to navigate through the golf course environment. Trails would then have to be realigned to separate golf traffic from pedestrian traffic.

I226-2

If two bridges are not possible it might be worth considering moving the river crossing to the border of the golf course and the proposed restoration area downstream of Hole 14 (this would be in reference to the configuration illustrated in the Alternative #2 map found in the Draft EIR/EIS). The trail would then follow the border between the golf course and the newly restored stream zone. This compromise could improve safety, but it would mainly minimize the trail visitor's (walkers and bikers) exposure to golf course activities and also enhance their recreational experience.

Secondly, State Parks should assume that recreational boat use along this reach will increase. This is not adequately addressed in Impact 3.8-4 (in 3.8-25 of the Draft document). "Build it, and they will come" is a standard phrase used among restoration hydrologists and ecologists. While this generally refers to the biological components of restoration it should also be applied to humans and their desire to recreate. The park might see increased visitation due to restoration and some of that may come in the form of river recreation. Many floaters launch their crafts downstream of the project site at Elk's Club, but with restoration the upstream reach (Hwy 50 bridge to Elk's Club) will likely see increased boat traffic. State Parks may want to consider how

I226-3

river recreationalists are going to assess the river (legal or illegal). In the future State Parks may also want to address issues related to river safety (i.e. identifying existing hazards such as log jams or more importantly by preemptively analyzing the hazards that would be created for restoration purposes such as grade control or debris structures). The Draft EIR states that informal water-related recreation will be allowed to continue under all the alternatives but it doesn't necessarily address increased usage caused by restoration. Build it...and they will come... legally or illegally... and State parks should think about their next step if restoration becomes a viable option.

1226-3
cont.

I hope to see this project evolve over time. I hope informed decisions make river restoration a reality. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me,

Scott Valentine
Earth Science Department Chair
Lake Tahoe Community College
(530) 541-4660 ext 313

- I226-1 The commenter’s support for Alternative 2 and its water quality, riparian habitat, ecosystem, and economic value is noted.
- I226-2 The commenter suggests options for a separate recreation bridge under Alternative 2. See Master Response Section 3.5, “Recreation,” for a discussion of recreation access.
- I226-3 The commenter believes that with project implementation, boating will increase along the segment of the Upper Truckee River where adjacent portions of the golf course are removed. State Parks acknowledges that boating could increase along some areas of the Upper Truckee River because of improved access to the river related to relocation of golf course features and construction of a new trail within the study area that would improve overall public access. However, the potential increase in boating is not expected to be substantial because the river is currently navigable by small craft (e.g., rafts, canoes, and kayaks) through the study area, and no substantial changes would be made to enhance boating access to this portion of the river (e.g., boat ramps). The minor improvements are expected to have a beneficial effect on recreation because there would be improved access for boating. As stated in Section 21002.1(e) of the State CEQA Guidelines, lead agencies shall, in accordance with Section 21100, focus the discussion in the EIR on those potential effects on the environment of a project that the lead agency has determined are or may be significant. Lead agencies may limit discussion on other effects to a brief explanation as to why those effects are not potentially significant. In addition, NEPA states that agencies shall focus on significant environmental issues and alternatives (40 CFR 1502.1). Because the increase in boating is not expected to be significant and improved access to the river would be a beneficial effect on recreation, the discussion provided in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS was limited. State Parks will continue to manage recreation along the portion of the river within its jurisdiction; if the project were implemented, State Parks would implement measures as needed to ensure recreation safety. The proposed Preferred Alternative would remove existing temporary stabilization features that currently pose hazard risks to boaters (i.e. rebar). However, downed logs and other woody debris would remain a part of the natural system. See Master Response Section 3.5, “Recreation.”

**Upper Truckee River Restoration & Golf Course Reconfiguration Project
EIS Comment**

I227

cindy van arnum [cva2tahoe@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Friday, October 08, 2010 2:06 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

Hi Cyndie Walck,

My name is Cindy Van Arnum and I have lived in Tahoe for the past 35 years.

I have heard about the Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project and know from the executive summary of the environmental documents that some of the goals of the project are to:

- Restore the river to a functional state
- Restore the streamside and meadow habitat
- Reduce the amount of nutrients and sediment entering Lake Tahoe
- Create a continuous wildlife corridor along the river
- Preserve all sensitive plant and archaeological sites
- Maintain quality golf recreation opportunities

I believe **Alternative 2** is the best alternative for our community and the environment because of the following reasons:

- It provides a complete restoration of the river and surrounding meadow habitat
- It will improve lake clarity by reducing nutrients and sediment flowing into Lake Tahoe
- It keeps the only affordable, regulation size, 18-hole golf course in Lake Tahoe open by moving 9 holes to a currently available area outside the river flood plain
- The area where the holes will be moved is not pristine and the land swap will give Washoe Meadows State Park a better piece of land along the Upper Truckee River
- The local golf course is critical to our local economy. It provides jobs, needed revenue for California State Parks and adds \$6 million dollars to our local economy each year
- Lake Tahoe Golf Course is used by many locals, including our high school golf teams, and by visitors to Lake Tahoe

We need to vote for alternative 2 as it is the only alternative in which every side wins....the environment, the local economy, and outdoor recreation.

Thank you for your consideration,
Cindy

I227-1

Letter
I227
Response

Cindy Van Arnum
October 8, 2010

I227-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic, environmental, and recreation value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.



FW: cost

McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2010 12:31 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

From: Walck, Cyndi
Sent: Friday, September 24, 2010 9:09 AM
To: McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth
Subject: FW: cost

Please send this response

River and floodplain restore prob about 5 million—grants
Golf course relocate prob about 500,000 per hole, golf course concession contract
Estimates only

From: Project, Upper Truckee
Sent: Wed 9/8/2010 11:18 AM
To: Walck, Cyndi
Subject: FW: cost

From: whassett@bergencapital.com [mailto:whassett@bergencapital.com]
Sent: Wed 9/8/2010 10:46 AM
To: Project, Upper Truckee
Subject: cost

If you went with alternative #2 what is the cost, and how do you raise it.? WALTER

| 1228-1

This message is intended only for the addressee. Bergen Capital is a division of Scott & Stringfellow, LLC (member NYSE/SIPC), a w

Letter
I228
Response

Walter
September 8, 2010

I228-1 The commenter questions how Alternative 2 would be funded. See Master Response Section 3.7, "Economics."

FW: LTGC - Please Be Heard - State Park Alternatives for our Golf Course



McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

Sent: Tuesday, September 07, 2010 11:37 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

From: Walck, Cyndi
Sent: Thursday, August 26, 2010 10:41 AM
To: kathy strain; McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth; 'Seana Doherty'; 'Tracy Owen Chapman'
Subject: FW: LTGC - Please Be Heard - State Park Alternatives for our Golf Course

From: Kim Jean Weiss [mailto:weisstahoe@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Thursday, August 26, 2010 7:12 AM
To: Walck, Cyndi
Subject: Fw: LTGC - Please Be Heard - State Park Alternatives for our Golf Course

I agree alt. 2 is the best.

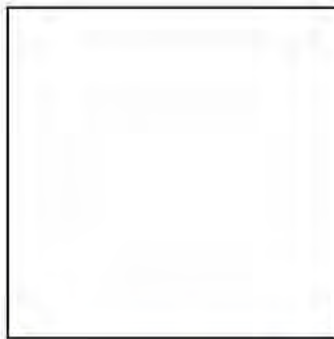
| 1229-1

Steve Weiss

--- On Tue, 8/24/10, RonCRettus@aol.com <RonCRettus@aol.com> wrote:

From: RonCRettus@aol.com <RonCRettus@aol.com>
Subject: LTGC - Please Be Heard - State Park Alternatives for our Golf Course
To: RonCRettus@aol.com, hazlettdoug@gmail.com, brucep1@yahoo.com, frodo3645@yahoo.com, robrule666@gmail.com, bajaranorm@hotmail.com, laptahoe@charter.net, ktvt5893@sbcglobal.net, Katzino6@aol.com, fatjackf@aol.com, brentrichard52@sbcglobal.net, wdgstr@yahoo.com, blawrie1@hotmail.com, dancevisions@charter.net, rabarneson@hotmail.com, playmatters@live.com, d-scriptmedia@yahoo.com, michael.bolen@hotmail.com, jcopeland@kirkwood.com, paperplays.john@gmail.com, goodingt@charter.net, mapphantom@charter.net, rhaas40442@aol.com, Lheggen@gmail.com, fpiannetta@sbcglobal.com, peterilling@sbcglobal.net, rickkistler@yahoo.com, klatta59@aol.com, lkm1234@hotmail.com, boardhead7@charter.net, pattonmm@sbcglobal.net, bobcyn@sbcglobal.net, pricesrite@comcast.net, bernside@hotmail.com, lucystanton@netzero.com, astrain@vailresorts.com, muliana-mabe@att.net, Super@LakeTahoeGC.com, larry.hobson25@gmail.com, gm@laketahoege.com, rangelocci@earthlink.net, tahobrown01@msn.com, Klatta59@aol.com, tmazz1@att.net, free1249@yahoo.com, blandejob99@yahoo.com, castellanos-law@sbcglobal.net, tdaniels@infostations.com, richiewoo60@yahoo.com, l_ghobson@yahoo.com, sltalbrecht@sbcglobal.net, banderson51@charter.net, csintahoe@aol.com, smooks3@charter.net, buxbaz@sbcglobal.net, bbbett@aol.com, yesblonski@sbcglobal.net, timmerone@aol.com, gborst427@hotmail.com, royal@royalhydraulics.com, tahoesr71@yahoo.com, userramp@aol.com, ibpost@aol.com, bd06232000@netzero.net, pappou@aol.com, dgayner@charter.net, tahojim@aol.com,

anneke100@aol.com, zankiegooding@aol.com, L_hobson@yahoo.com, curtis@hsrei.biz, georgene@hsrei.biz, hjuretschke@hotmail.com, rkreveg@hotmail.com, mklover@pachbell.net, selinatap@yahoo.com, tmakris@pillsburylaw.com, dlmayer@aol.com, kylemazzone@yahoo.com, tmaz1@att.net, ibegeo@aol.com, G.Mendel@sbcglobal.net, richtahoe@aol.com, john@mcgeemechanical.net, movasel@wamtahoe.com, to2299@sbcglobal.net, coachpatterson@sbcglobal.net, jerepcal@aol.com, piercctk@hotmail.com, tahoeradford@aol.com, Ragonese@charter.net, roncrettus@aol.com, michaelpatrickrogan@gmail.com, jps423@att.net, srplumb@etahoe.com, drshehadi@cox.net, fritztahoe@hotmail.com, ronrsi@aol.com, stacpoole@sbcglobal.net, jstahl@orte.com, toreno3@sbcglobal.net, weisstahoe@sbcglobal.net, crtwhelan@charter.net, gwiffy4@yahoo.com, wtahoemax@aol.com, nrwolf@prodigy.net
Date: Tuesday, August 24, 2010, 7:12 PM



Lets be heard !!!!!!!!!

I would ask each of you that receive this e-mail to take one of two actions:

If you agree with it - Forward it to CWalck@parks.ca.gov with an "I agree" comment.

If you have different opinions or/and can take the time to express your individual thoughts on what you would like to see happen and why, then send your own individual e-mail to Ms. Walk

But we do have to be counted - there are groups other than golfers that are actively lobbying the State Parks organization to take action that will do away with our course or reduce it to 9 holes.

I believe the California State Parks should adopt Alternative 2.

This would restore the Upper Truckee River, enhance the surrounding wetlands/animal habitat and reduce silt flowing into Lake Tahoe while keeping our 18 hole golf course by moving 9 holes to a currently available area outside the river flood plain.

1. This alternative would keep an affordable, tournament level, 18 hole golf

course. Affordable because it would not be the \$200- \$250 fees charged by Edgewood, and Tournament level vs the playable but "reduced level" of Tahoe Paradise executive type course.

2. The proposed new area (outside the flood plain) for the new 9 holes looks like a blight area today and our Lake Tahoe environment and ambience would be enhanced and improved with the movement of the new holes to this area.

3. Reducing our golf course to 9 holes or removing the course entirely will deprive us of a major recreation opportunity currently provided by our California State Parks. This is extremely biased against the many local golfers that live in the South Tahoe area.

4. Visiting golfers and Tournaments will not come to a golf destination vacation area for a 9 hole golf course.

The impact to our already fragile local economy would be negatively impacted by as much as \$6 - \$9 million dollars each year.

25,000 rounds a year - Between late April and early October

60% of these rounds from visitors at 1 round per visitor

15,000 visitors at 2 nights motel stay (\$150) = 2.25 million dollars

15,000 visitors at 5 meals (\$40) = 3.0 million dollars

Add 25 % for those who bring their families: 1.2 million dollars

Revenues Potentially Lost to our local economy: 6.5 million

This does not include revenues to the golf course or California State Parks and Income to the 50-75 local people employed by the course

5. Remember, our opinion (vote) is very important - The thousands of our visitors are removed from the issues and in most cases don't know what the current plans for the course could be.

6. If you are aware of visiting golfers, please forward this email to them.

Please take the time to be heard - If not Us then who?

Letter
I229
Response

Steve Weiss
August 26, 2010

I229-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic, environmental, and recreation value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

I230

Upper Truckee River Restoration & Golf

Kim Jean Weiss [weisstahoe@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Monday, September 27, 2010 8:23 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

To: Cyndie Walck, Sierra State Parks
RE: Upper Truckee River Restoration & Golf Course
Reconfiguration Project EIS Comment

I am a golfer and a resident of Lake Tahoe and I believe the California State Parks should adopt Alternative 2 as outlined in the draft EIS/EIR/EIR document because it is good for the river, the local community and yes, golfing as well.

The reasons why Alternative 2 is the best alternative:

- 1) It restores the Upper Truckee River, enhances the surrounding wetlands and animal habitat and reduces silt flowing into Lake Tahoe.
- 2) It keeps our 18-hole golf course open by moving 9 holes to a currently available area outside the river flood plain.
- 3) This alternative would keep the only affordable, regulation size, 18-hole golf course in Lake Tahoe.
- 4) The proposed new area (outside the flood plain) for the new 9 holes is currently a blighted area and putting 9 holes over there is a major improvement.
- 5) Reducing our golf course to 9 holes or removing the course entirely will deprive us of a major recreation opportunity currently provided by our California State Parks. This is extremely biased against the many local golfers that live in the South Tahoe area.
- 6) Visiting golfers and tournaments will not come to a golf destination vacation area for a 9-hole golf course.
- 7) The local golf course is critical to our local economy. The impact to our already fragile local economy would be negatively impacted by as much as \$6 million dollars each year if the golf course were removed.

We need to vote for Alternative 2. It is good for our community, our golfing and the river.

Thank you,

Steve Weiss
Retired Parks and Recreation Manager

I230-1

Letter
I230
Response

Steve Weiss
September 27, 2010

I230-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic, environmental, and recreation value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.



Washoe meadows

John Williamson [FlyFisher@JohnSWilliamson.com]

Sent: Monday, November 15, 2010 4:00 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

Cyndie Walck,
California State Parks and Recreation
Sierra District

Dear Cyndie,

This is to submit my comment in regard to the alternatives offered on the Washoe Meadows Project. After review of information available I would like to support Alternative three. Although alternatives 2,3, and 5 all have an element of stream restoration, alternative three supports the economic position of the golf course.

Thank you for accepting my comment.
John Williamson

| 1231-1

John S. Williamson
Realtor®, Broker, ABR®
River Pines Properties, Inc.
California License #00762852
530-836-0112 – Home Office
530-836-0313 – Office
530-836-1556 – Fax

Many go fishing all their lives without knowing it is not the fish they are after..... Henry David Thoreau



For real estate information in Plumas and Sierra Counties:
www.JohnSWilliamson.com

Letter
I231
Response

John S. Williamson
November 15, 2010

I231-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 3 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Upper Truckee River Restoration & Golf Course Reconfiguration Project EIS Comment

I232

Amber Wilson [a.wilson@new-life-nutrition.com]

Sent: Friday, October 08, 2010 1:57 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

Hi Cyndie Walck,

My name is Amber (Van Arnum) Wilson and I own a local nutrition counseling company. I grew up in South Lake Tahoe and my husband and I recently moved back to Tahoe. We were lucky enough to be married at the Lake Tahoe Golf Course last year.

I have heard about the Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project and know from the executive summary of the environmental documents that some of the goals of the project are to:

- Restore the river to a functional state
- Restore the streamside and meadow habitat
- Reduce the amount of nutrients and sediment entering Lake Tahoe
- Create a continuous wildlife corridor along the river
- Preserve all sensitive plant and archaeological sites
- Maintain quality golf recreation opportunities

I believe **Alternative 2** is the best alternative for our community and the environment because of the following reasons:

- It provides a complete restoration of the river and surrounding meadow habitat
- It will improve lake clarity by reducing nutrients and sediment flowing into Lake Tahoe
- It keeps the only affordable, regulation size, 18-hole golf course in Lake Tahoe open by moving 9 holes to a currently available area outside the river flood plain
- The area where the holes will be moved is not pristine and the land swap will give Washoe Meadows State Park a better piece of land along the Upper Truckee River
- The local golf course is critical to our local economy. It provides jobs, needed revenue for California State Parks and adds \$6 million dollars to our local economy each year
- Lake Tahoe Golf Course is used by many locals, including our high school golf teams, and by visitors to Lake Tahoe
- The wedding industry at the golf course also brings in revenue to the local economy

We need to vote for alternative 2 as it is the only alternative in which every side wins....the environment, the local economy, and outdoor recreation.

Thank you for your consideration,
Amber

Amber Wilson, M.S., R.D.

Nutrition Counselor, Consultant, Writer and Speaker

NewLife Nutrition, LLC

Encouraging healthful, tasty food one kitchen at a time

South Lake Tahoe, CA

P: (530) 600-0657

www.new-life-nutrition.com

I232-1

Letter
I232
Response

Amber Wilson, M.S., R.D.
October 8, 2010

I232-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic, environmental, and recreation value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

thoughts on the Upper Truckee River Restoration & Golf Course Recon project

Matthew Wilson [Matthew.Wilson@cision.com]

Sent: Thursday, October 07, 2010 4:52 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I233

To Whom it May Concern:

I am a resident of South Lake Tahoe that is closely following the Upper Truckee River Restoration & Golf Course Reconfiguration project. I have taken great interest and concern in this situation as I am both an avid golfer and was married at the Lake Tahoe Golf Course. With this said, I have read through the five proposals with an open mind and want to comment on factors that I can intelligently speak to.

While I don't consider myself a hard-core environmentalist, I have great respect for the environment and admire people who are concerned about it. I hope that those weighing in on this matter from a passionate environmental angle can remain open-minded on other critical factors such as the local economy, just as I remain compassionate to the environmental element of this.

After reviewing the five proposed ideas, I believe options #2 or #4 are reasonable solution that provide the most benefits with the least amount of challenges. I believe doing nothing would not bode well for the long-term stability of the environment, and options #3 and #5 will either immediately or eventually result in the golf course closing.

As a golfer of twenty years, I can confidently tell you that a golf course of the quality of the LTGC would not last as a nine-hole course. A nine-hole course attracts a certain demographic- one that is typically less interested in golf and/or lower income. The significant majority of golfers seeking a golf course of moderate to high quality like the LTGC look to play 18 holes. Though I have no statistics to support this, I can tell you through twenty years of observation and contributions to the golf industry that this theory is nothing less than accurate.

Second, the LTGC brings in millions of dollars to the local and state economy. Given the severe economic conditions of California, removing a revenue generator at this time would be a horrible decision. Jobs and money would be lost. This is not a very popular notion right now, and though this story would never become national news I'd be embarrassed to tell people that a revenue-generating golf course was shut down due to environmental concerns that could have been fixed while maintaining the existence of the golf course.

To close, I wouldn't feel right not sharing the sadness my wife and I would personally feel with the closing of the LTGC. We were married on the 10th tee on August 29, 2009. Not only do I have the memory of marrying my beautiful wife that day, but I had the opportunity to play golf with my father, brother and best friends that morning. Though no one can take that day away from me, we'd certainly be heartbroken if the LTGC closed its doors for business.

Matt Wilson
South Lake Tahoe

I233-1

Letter
I233
Response

Matt Wilson
October 7, 2010

I233-1

The commenter's support for Alternatives 2 and 4 and their economic value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

I234

Alternatives 2 & 4

Judy [Judy@realtordeb.com]

Sent: Sunday, October 31, 2010 11:32 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee



I feel that the best options for the South Shore community are within alternatives 2 & 4. Judy Witte

I234-1



(530) 542-2912 Office Direct
(866) 542-2912 Toll Free
(530) 542-8657 Fax
Judy@realtordeb.com

3599 Lake Tahoe Blvd., Suite A, So. Lake Tahoe, Ca. 96150

Letter
I234
Response

Judy Witte
October 31, 2010

I234-1

The commenter's support for Alternatives 2 and 4 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

I235

From: RHIGHEAGLE@aol.com [mailto:RHIGHEAGLE@aol.com]
Sent: Thu 9/9/2010 9:06 AM
To: Project, Upper Truckee
Subject: Golf balls and river safety

I hope that someone can stop the golf balls from leaving the golf course.

The balls can be found all the way to the lake and are piling up at the end of the river. They shouldn't be anywhere but on the property. The beavers are gone, but the golf balls are O.K.?

I'm also a river paddler who's been down the upper part of the Truckee many times, and feel it's a hazard to paddlers, with all the downed trees, "habitat", etc. Can anything be done to make sure that there is a safe path, at all water levels, through the river areas involved?

Thanks. Russell Wright

South Lake Tahoe

I235-1

Letter
I235
Response

Russell Wright
September 9, 2010

I235-1

The commenter also states that downed trees and habitat along the Upper Truckee River present a hazard to paddlers. See response to comment I226-3 for a discussion of boating safety issues.

UPPER TRUCKEE RIVER RESTORATION PROJECT

Natalie [natalie@realtordeb.com]

Sent: Friday, October 29, 2010 1:21 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I236



I am writing to support Alternative #2 for the Upper Truckee River Restoration Project. Do not get rid of the golf course! It generates revenue which is crucial for our town and the state. I am in support of restoration, but want a happy medium where we can help increase lake clarity and promote responsible recreation.

I236-1

Thanks,
Natalie Yanish
Buyer Specialist, TRC
Deb Howard & Company
(cell) 775.843.7142
(fax) 530.542.8657
natalie@realtor.com
License #NVS.0169621
License #CA 01886781

I236-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

Upper Truckee Restoration Project

Steve Yonker [steveyonker@gmail.com]

Sent: Saturday, October 02, 2010 12:06 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I237

To:

Cyndie Walck
California State Parks and Recreation
Sierra District

From:

Steve Yonker
Box 9149
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Dear Cyndie:

I have been a Lake Tahoe resident and active community participant for more than 40 years. I am currently chairman of the El Dorado County Recreation Commission representing the South Lake Tahoe area, having served on the commission for over 20 years. I have also served as chairman of the Tahoe Basin Firesafe Council and am currently a board member of the Alpine Firesafe Council. I am a member of the South Tahoe Optimist Club, life member of the Tallac Association and 2 time president of our local Chambers of Commerce.

I take advantage of the many recreational opportunities afforded by our beautiful area, hiking, bicycling, skiing, golfing and others.

I have followed the restoration proposals for some time and know the area in question quite well, having used the area and, for a period of time, lived on Mountain Meadow St. adjacent to the park area.

The river has been unnaturally constrained and some of the land has been used and abused making rehabilitation and restoration a worthy goal.

However, in my experience, wise stewardship of our natural resources and their recreational use need not be mutually exclusive and that, where appropriate, public lands should provide the greatest good for the widest range of users.

I believe that restoration of the river and meadow can be achieved hand-in-hand with a fully functioning golf course, providing improved streamside habitat, wildlife corridor, additional protection for Lake Tahoe as well as recreational opportunities.

We are fortunate in having extensive and open public lands in our beautiful area. In neighboring Alpine County, 96 percent of the land is in public ownership. But along with these wild and undeveloped areas, I believe that it is appropriate to use some portions of our public land for developed and organized recreation.

It seems to me that Alternative 2 best serves a balance of these uses. It makes little sense to me to remove a current developed recreational use that can co-exist with our environmental

I237-1

improvements. The golf course is well-used by locals and visitors alike, providing jobs and revenue for the local economy as well as much needed funds for California State Parks.

| I237-1
cont.

Thank you for your kind attention to my comments.

Steve Yonker
530-318-4757

I237-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its recreation, economic, and environmental value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.



November 15, 2010

Cyndie Walck
CA State Parks and Rec, Sierra District
PO Box 16,
Tahoe City, CA 96145

PUBLIC COMMENT: Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course
Reconfiguration Project

Dear Cyndie Walck:

I support Alternative 5.

1. I am appalled that the State of California would combine a river restoration and a golf course redevelopment project together in the name of Lake Tahoe water quality. These two projects shall be mutually exclusive of one another. I support river restoration and do not support golf course remodeling. | 1238-1

2. The State of California's and federal monetary sources shall be made more apparent and transparent in the Restore Upper Truckee River project. The federal and state governments should not be using tax dollars to support a golf course improvement in the name of river restoration. | 1238-2

3. Regarding Alternative 2, the information listed under impacts to the wildlife, cultural, recreation, etc. are really vague. There are comments such as, "observation is needed" and "mitigation is required". There should be more detailed information on what your "mitigation" is. I don't see how you'll mitigate cutting 43 acres of habitat, forcing wildlife to residential neighborhoods, bisecting habitat and potentially increasing vehicular traffic on Highway 89. How does one compensate for these outright losses and impacts? | 1238-3

4. There is much emphasis put on the fact that "volunteer trails will be removed." There is no discussion as to what measures will be taken to ensure that social trails do not get reestablished, as is the case in most projects where no reasonable alternatives are given to the social trail elimination. The reason why social trails are created is that this is the route that people want to take because it gets them from Point A to Point B. What study has been undertaken to question trail users of their desired pedestrian paths? If these paths are removed, will users abandon the social trails or recreate them? | 1238-4

5. I find it inexcusable to remove and fragment 43 acres of wildlife habitat in Lake Tahoe, as proposed in Alternative 2. The Lake Tahoe watershed has a road built all around the lake which prevents animals from safely navigating to an annual water source. The Upper Truckee River habitat has been compromised with many roads and development that have erased habitat and that prevents animals from safely navigating to an annual water source. The project area of the Upper Truckee River is a critical habitat | 1238-5

- and further bisecting this habitat is not acceptable to the migratory birds, resident birds, bear, mule deer, marten, fox, raccoon, coyote, skunk, etc. | 1238-5 cont
6. Does California State Parks recognize hiking, mountain biking snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing as recreation activities within the park? If so, they are not discussed in 3.8-3. | 1238-6
7. In discussion of 3.16-23, if the State is proposing to attract more golfers as the premise of Alternative 2, then impacts to local and regional circulation systems need to be thoroughly evaluated. An evacuation plan shall address a situation on a busy holiday weekend where traffic on Highway 89 is at a standstill. | 1238-7
8. Public transportation to and from the golf course shall be discussed. | 1238-8
9. I do take issue with where some numbers are derived from. 3.10-1 cites that Alternative 2 will have 5,758 truck trips and Alternative 4 shall have 6,868 truck trips. How is this possible? Where did this number come from? Do these numbers include logging truck trips to log the 43 acres, truck trips involved in removing social trails, realigning the golf course, parking lot paving, adding bridges, etc. or just a portion of this work. Please make a more detailed comparison in the Construction Schedule. | 1238-9
10. If the true purpose of this project is to “improve geomorphic processes, ecological functions, and habitat values of the Upper Truckee River,” then Alternative 5 shall be the preferred alternative. Alternative 2 degrades ecological functions and habitat values by bisecting habitat with biocide ridden lawn, (lawn is not a native habitat to any animal on this planet) the obliteration of 43 acres of forest, pushing wildlife into the urban interface zone, and the disregard for hiking, mountain biking, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing recreation opportunities. | 1238-10
11. I found Table 2-3 in Volume I unreadable since some columns had two answers, some columns were left blank, and some columns had numbers such as “6,382 8”. It would be nice to redo **Table 2-3: Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Relocation Alternatives Comparison Table** and redistribute to the public. | 1238-11

Sincerely,



Nicole Zaborsky
Landscape Architect
584 Kiowa Drive
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

- I238-1 The commenter opposes combining golf course reconfiguration and river restoration as parts of the same project. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- I238-2 The commenter questions funding under Alternative 2. See Master Response Section 3.7, “Economics,” for a discussion of funding.
- I238-3 The commenter believes that the impact discussions should be more detailed and questions mitigation for impacts on wildlife habitat, traffic, cultural resources, and recreation, but does not offer any specific facts related to inadequacies in the proposed mitigation measures. See the following master responses:
- ▶ Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for a discussion of wildlife impacts;
 - ▶ Master Response Section 3.5, “Recreation,” for a discussion of recreation impacts; and
 - ▶ Master Response Section 3.6, “Cultural Resources,” for a discussion of impacts on cultural resources.
- Section 3.5, “Biological Resources”; Section 3.8, “Recreation”; Section 3.9, “Cultural Resources”; and Section 3.10, “Transportation and Circulation,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS all include detailed mitigation measures describing how impacts on each respective resource area would be mitigated. For clarification, Alternative 2 would not increase traffic on U.S. 50, reconfiguring the golf course is not expected to increase course use, and only four additional staff members are expected to be required under Alternative 2.
- The State CEQA Guidelines require that an EIR describe any feasible measures that could minimize significant adverse impacts, and the measures are to be fully enforceable through permit conditions, agreements, or other legally binding instruments (State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15126.4[a]). Mitigation measures are not required for impacts that are found to be less than significant. NEPA requires that an EIS identify relevant, reasonable mitigation measures that are not already included in the project alternatives that could avoid, minimize, rectify, reduce, eliminate or compensate for the project’s adverse environmental effects (40 CFR 1502.14, 1502.16, 1508.8). Mitigation provided in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS is consistent with these requirements.
- I238-4 The commenter requests information about how volunteer trails will be managed. As described in Chapter 2, “Project Alternatives,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, trail management that occurs under existing conditions would continue under all alternatives. Materials are available on-site to enable trail improvements as needed, and trails that cause water quality and/or vegetation impacts would be removed. As discussed in Section 3.8, “Recreation,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, State Parks evaluated existing recreation use of the study area through recreation surveys. See Master Response Section 3.5, “Recreation,” for additional discussion of recreation access.

- I238-5 The commenter has concerns about wildlife habitat and movement corridors. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for a discussion of wildlife.
- I238-6 The commenter questions the recreation activities addressed in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS. As described in Section 3.8, “Recreation” (page 3.8-11), of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, data collected from the observation-based surveys also indicate that primary recreation uses of the trails within Washoe Meadows SP are walking and hiking (39%), and bicycling (36%). Jogging and horseback riding are also common uses. No data were collected during periods of snow; however, cross-country ski and snowshoe tracks are also commonly visible in the study area, as is illegal snowmobile activity (i.e., outside of the concessionaire-operated track on the driving range).
- I238-7 The commuter states that impacts on the local and regional circulation systems need to be addressed if State Parks expects an increase in golf use. As discussed on page 3.10-16 of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, the traffic generated by golf course facilities created or remaining under each alternative would be approximately the same as or less than current traffic. For alternatives that would continue operation of an 18-hole, regulation-length course, the number of golfers would also remain approximately the same as under existing conditions. This conclusion is confirmed by the economic study conducted for the EIR/EIS/EIS (Appendix E). Traffic from golf course employees would increase slightly under Alternatives 2 and 4 and decrease under Alternatives 3 and 5. However, the increase under Alternative 2 or Alternative 4 (i.e., up to four additional employees) would generate fewer trips (i.e., eight daily trip ends) than the 100-trip minimum threshold employed by TRPA. Based on the results of the economic study (Appendix E), regular site traffic would be less than existing traffic under the alternatives that would eliminate the golf course or provide a golf course with shorter or fewer holes. In each case, the net traffic increase under regular conditions would be well below the minimum level employed by TRPA to determine the need for a traffic impact analysis (i.e., less than 100 daily trips). Although a quantitative analysis of traffic related to golf course operations is not presented, a qualitative comparison is discussed.
- I238-8 The commenter states that public transportation needs to be addressed. As discussed in Section 3.10, “Transportation, Parking, and Circulation,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS (page 3.10-10), existing transit service in the Tahoe Basin is provided by four publicly operated transit systems, various tourist-oriented trolley services, and several privately operated shuttle systems and taxi services. On the South Shore, the South Tahoe Area Transit Authority operates the BlueGo Coordinated Transit System in portions of El Dorado County (Meyers and South Lake Tahoe) and in western Douglas County, Nevada. BlueGo Route 40 runs along U.S. 50, North Upper Truckee Road, and Lake Tahoe Boulevard from the transit center at the South Y (Emerald Bay Boulevard/Lake Tahoe Boulevard) and continues along Lake Tahoe Boulevard to Stateline, Nevada. In addition to this fixed-route service, the BlueGo system provides demand-responsive service within Meyers and South Lake Tahoe. Because the project would not increase land use and would have a very minor increase in employee trips (described in response to comment I238-7), public transportation would not be affected. Additional text has been inserted into Section 3.10, “Transportation, Parking, Circulation,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS and is presented in Chapter 5, “Corrections and Revisions to the Draft EIR/EIS/EIS.”
- I238-9 The commenter questions the truck numbers used in Section 3.10, “Transportation, Parking, and Circulation,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS. As discussed in the “Methods and Assumptions” section, trucks would travel to and from the study area throughout the construction phase. The amount of truck activity has been estimated based on a review of

preliminary construction quantities for each element of the project alternatives. The number of truckloads needed to accommodate identified quantities was estimated over the construction season and spread throughout the typical construction day to forecast hourly truck traffic.

From the standpoint of traffic impacts, large trucks have a disproportionate impact on operating LOS and on impacts on roadway structure. The length and acceleration/deceleration characteristics of large trucks exceed those of regular passenger vehicles. Standard engineering practice is to convert each truck to a number of passenger car equivalents (PCEs) and to use that adjusted volume in LOS calculations. PCE factors range from 2.0 to 4.0; for this analysis, a PCE of 4.0 was assumed for each truck.

Tables and text listed in the “Preliminary Quantities” section under each alternative of Chapter 2, “Project Alternatives,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS list the number of trucks estimated for each alternative. To ensure that the magnitude of traffic impacts was not underestimated, the analysis assumes the maximum probable concurrent employment on the site and maximum concurrent truck activity as the construction traffic level.

- I238-10 The commenter has concerns about impacts on recreation and habitat. See Master Response Section 3.5, “Recreation,” for a discussion of impacts on dispersed recreation; see Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for additional discussion of wildlife impacts.
- I238-11 The commenter requests an updated version of Table 2-3. This table was accurate, no columns were blank, and the number referred to by the commenter as being shown as “6,382 8” did not have an 8 and was shown correctly as 6,382.

Upper Truckee River restoration and golf course

Liana Zambresky [lzambresky@att.net]

Sent: Monday, September 06, 2010 3:18 PM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I239

Dear Cynthia Walck

I have considered the 5 options regarding the Upper Truckee River Restoration and golf course.

I am very much opposed to Alternative 2. Restoration of a few acres along the river would be offset by a much greater impact of the golf course on the other side of the river in the environmentally sensitive land of the state park. It will destroy the current wildlife corridor on the north or west side of the river. The proximity of the new golf holes to what remains of the lovely, natural meadow of the former Amacker Ranch will have a negative impact on native animals and plant life by the nearness of people, golf carts and other machinery. This alternative greatly increases the areal influence of the golf course from what it is now.

I am most in favor of Alternative 4. People enjoy coming to Tahoe to play golf and it's a pleasant golf course the way it is. The banks of the Upper Truckee river could be easily stabilized in its present configuration.

I live on View Circle. My house borders on the meadow of the Angora Creek Restoration project. \$10 million dollars was spent to restore Angora Creek and the meadow to more natural states. Alternative 2 will destroy many acres of Washoe Meadows State Park for the sake of a golf course. The lack of consistency within the Tahoe Basin regarding meadow management is bewildering.

By the way, I am a golfer. I grew up playing golf courses at Pebble Beach. I played in 3 US Open golf tournaments. Until rather recently, I had a 0 handicap. Please note, I am a golfer who is opposed to Alternative 4!

Liana Zambresky
1151 View Circle
South Lake Tahoe
(530) 577-4001

I239-1

Letter
I239
Response

Liana Zambresky
September 6, 2010

I239-1

The commenter has concerns about impacts on wildlife under Alternative 2. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources.”

UT restoration project

Liana Zambresky [lzambresky@att.net]

Sent: Monday, October 04, 2010 9:07 AM

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I240

This is to let you know I am thoroughly opposed to alternative 2 of the Upper Truckee River restoration project. This alternative will benefit the river at a great loss of open space in Washoe Meadows. The benefit to the river is not as great as the loss of open space, which would allow a much larger footprint of the golf course and a greater impact of people and machines to the area. The wildlife corridor there would be entirely disturbed.

I am in favor of restoring Washoe Meadow which has been historically damaged for one reason or another. I am in favor of alternative 4 for the golf course.

I am a golfer. I grew up on the Monterey Peninsula, playing Pebble Beach golf courses. I played in 3 US Women's Open golf championships. I favor restoration of Washoe Meadows over the expansion and new development of the golf course.

Liana Zambresky
1151 View Circle
South Lake Tahoe

I240-1

Letter
I240
Response

Liana Zambresky
October 4, 2010

I240-1

The commenter has concerns about impacts on wildlife under Alternative 2. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources.”

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SECTION C

Form Letters

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I Support Alternative 2 for the Upper Truckee

To: Project, Upper Truckee

I strongly urge that the Department of Parks and Recreation choose Alternative 2 for the Upper Truckee River Restoration & Golf Course Reconfiguration Project.

The continued deterioration of the Upper Truckee cannot continue. Its health is vital to habitat, fish and Lake Tahoe.

By moving part of the golf course away from the river, Alternative 2 will arrest this deterioration. Its a lasting solution that will benefit the river, its fish and fishing, while preserving the 18-hole golf course for all to enjoy.

F1-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its recreation, economic, and environmental value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

September 20, 2010

To: Cyndie Walck

Re: Upper Truckee River Restoration & Golf Course Reconfiguration Project

I would like to voice my support for Alternative 2 of this project. It is the ONLY alternative that actually meets the project's stated objectives of reducing erosion and maintaining recreational and Economic benefit.

While it is important to do what we can to reduce the flow of sediment into Lake Tahoe, it is equally important to do what's best for the residents of South Lake Tahoe and the State of California. The community can not afford to lose 168 jobs and the \$6 Million in revenue that the golf course generates annually; nor can the State of California afford to lose nearly \$900K in revenue used to support our state parks and recreation areas.

As a resident of South Lake Tahoe, and user of State Parks such as D.L.Bliss and Pope Beach, the revenue generated by the golf course is very important to me.

Lake Tahoe is a worldwide tourist destination based not only on its natural beauty, but also for its variety of activities, golf among them. Any reduction in choices available has a negative impact on our economy.

I would like to see Alternative 2 implemented for its positive impact on our environment as well as its economic benefit. With this in mind, I would also suggest that the new holes be built and ready for play, prior to restoration of the existing holes.

F2-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its recreation and environmental value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

September 22, 2010

To: Cyndie Walck

Re: Upper Truckee River Restoration & Golf Course Reconfiguration Project

As a resident of California, I would like to voice my support for Alternative 2 of this project. It is the ONLY alternative that actually meets the project's stated objectives of reducing erosion and maintaining recreational and economic benefit.

While it is important to do what we can to reduce the flow of sediment into Lake Tahoe, it is equally important to do what's best for the residents of California. The state can not afford to lose any more jobs nor can we afford to lose nearly \$900K in revenue used to support our state parks and recreation areas.

As a tax paying resident of California and user of State Parks, the revenue generated by the golf course is very important to me.

Lake Tahoe is a worldwide tourist destination based not only on its natural beauty, but also for its variety of activities, golf among them. Any reduction in choices available has a negative impact on our state economy.

I would like to see Alternative 2 implemented for its positive impact on our environment as well as its economic benefit. With this in mind, I would also suggest that the new holes be built and ready for play, prior to restoration of the existing holes.

F3-1

The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its recreation, economic, and environmental value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

SECTION D

Public Meetings

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Verbatim Transcript of
Advisory Planning Commission (APC)
October 13, 2010 Meeting
Agenda Item V: Committee and Public Comments

Transcribed by
Transcription by Trifox
a department of Trifox

**Advisory Planning Commission (APC)
October 13, 2010 Meeting Transcript
Agenda Item V: Committee and Public Comments**

(Note: If a portion of the recording could not be transcribed due to the quality of the recording or if the words could not be distinguished, this has been indicated as follows: "(Incomprehensible)".)

DONOHUE: What I'd like to do now is see if any APC members have any, say, clarifying questions, and then I'd like to open it up to public comment and then comment back from APC members. So are there any questions that you might have for State Parks or Danielle or TRPA on this presentation and the draft EIS? Yes, Mike.

GREENE: Where did you say the copies of the EIS are?

HUGHES: They're available on all these websites right here (Incomprehensible)...

GREENE: Oh, I didn't see that. Okay.

HUGHES: They're also available for you at the library...

GREENE: No, I just wanted the one for the TRPA. I didn't look at that slide, sorry.

DONOHUE: a CD.

GREENE: Yeah, I probably should.

DONOHUE: I think you have one already.

GREENE: Do I?

DONOHUE: It came in your APC packet, it should have. Okay, yes.

GARCIA: Yeah, it's my, I thought I heard somewhere that at one point Alternative Two was the preferred alternative, and at some point that has changed and I was just wondering the thought process that went into that.

PM1-1

WALCK: I can try to address that. It might be a better EDAW question. During the NOP/NOI process, we were asked by the public to not have a preferred alternative as well as to add Alternative Five, and so that was during that process.

GREENE: So, what are the recreational and economic differences between 2 and 3 'cause I gather in, in Alternative 2 you've got, you're, you're kind of rebuilding the golf course and you're going to have a full 18 hole golf course. In three, you kind of intimated that there might be an 18 hole, but sounded

PM1-2

like you only had room for a 9 hole. Um, and so there, there's some, so there's some obvious recreational differences between these two alternatives and there's some economic differences for the state parks obviously. So, what's the basic difference there because it looks like Alternative 3 environmentally does a lot more for what you want to accomplish environmentally?

PM1-2
cont.

WALCK: I'll take that one too. So, Alternative 3 removes the, when we looked, when you think back to that 1940's photo I showed and we tried to point out the meander belt, Alternative 3 identified the portion, um, that's outside the meander belt. So that part of the golf course was identified as a portion that could stay there. Um, but, it only leaves about fifty acres which leaves room for either a 9 hole regulation course or a Par 3, very compact 18 hole course, which is basically what we have across the street at Tahoe Paradise. So you wouldn't be able to actually have an 18 hole regulation, regulation course. Um, also, during the, the EIR process, um, based on public comments and requests to know what, what is the difference between these alternatives economically, we went back to EDAW, amended their contract, and asked them to hire an economist to look at these various alternatives and give us an idea of what the difference would be. Um, during that process, and that, um, is on your CD in one of the appendices, during that process, Alternative 3 came out to be virtually non-viable. Is that a fair way to state it? Basically, um, to pay for the taxes, to pay for running the property, it would operate at, either at a loss, unless you assumed the best possible conditions. So when they came back with the draft, they said 9 holes is completely unviable, and I said, "Well wait, is it really?". And so I said, "What if you assumed that you have a person starting every five minutes, or however often you can get a person on the golf course and you charge more than anything else in the region, can you combine that with, can you give me a high/high, medium/medium?". So medium/medium was like right now they're assuming, you know, this is the average number of golfers that play at a 9 hole golf course in a day and this is the average amount they charge in the region. And that came out non-viable. So I said, "Can you give me medium with the most amount of players you could have, can you give me medium with most amount you could possibly charge and can you give me high/high?". And the only one of those that came out is, as potentially viable, was the high/high. So, unless, which is not really a realistic assumption, so Alternative 3 we really wouldn't be able to get someone to run that as a concession.

GREENE: So, Alternative 3 will only work if it's Alternative 5?

PM1-3

WALCK: Yes. Alternative 3 really, and we didn't know this going into it, it was a full, fully viable alternative, but during the IR process, as requested to do the economic study, it really came out to be non-viable. So if you go to Alternative 3, you may be going to Alternative 5, or you may be going to, we're just not going to do anything.

GREENE:	And, so where does California State Parks sit in this? I mean they've got an economic, um, interest in this obviously, because they make money on this, right?	PM1-4
WALCK:	Well, it's, it's only one of a number of our concerns. So it, I mean I...	
GREENE:	Well, no, no, I'm just, I'm only talking about that particular part of the... I mean there's a, there are a variety of concerns here obviously. There's recreational concerns, there's environmental concerns, there's community concerns. So I'm just talking about this, you know, is California State Parks prepared to lose this? Is that what I'm, I guess, is maybe is what I'm asking.	PM1-5
WALCK:	That won't be my decision, so I'll have to start there, but it, it does average \$800,000 to \$900,000 annually in income to state parks. Um, it does offset our expensive running the D. L. Bliss and Emerald Bay at a loss. Um, but, it's really, it's, it's part of our mission, but it's also, what, what was interesting to me coming out of the economic study, because I know that from Parks' point of view, but also I hadn't really realized what it meant to the local economy. So, that's also a part of the picture.	
GREENE:	Yeah, and that's the, and then the next question I have is, you've got 33,000 rounds of golf there, where are those 33,000 rounds going to go if, if that pa, that's closed?	PM1-6
WALCK:	Don't know that either, but I will say one thing, in our contract, our concession contract, we specify, I used to be a geomorphologist, I just want you guys all to know that. We specify the maximum amount they can charge. Um, so it's part of our mission to keep that golf course affordable. We don't want it to be Edgewood, that a local person or, you know, a normal person coming up can, can't go and so I don't know where they'll go. They'll probably go to North Tahoe. They'll go to Gardnerville because we don't have something comparable to that in this region.	
HUGHES:	Yeah, that's what, that's what we came with, up with is that they'd just disperse the route and probably more down, down the hill because of the costs for Edgewood.	
DONOHUE:	Yes, Bob.	
JEPSEN:	Question on the upland vegetation. Why is Alternative 2's so bad compared to the others?	PM1-7
HUGHES:	Well, I, I'd ...Alternative 2 actually, um, there is extensive tree removal with that alternative. So, um, you know, we are limiting the, the larger trees that we'll be removing, but there, there is some extensive tree removal with that.	

There will be, um, trees planted around the buffer area to protect from the, for scenic impacts, um, to the surrounding neighborhood, but there are, there is some tree removal with that.

DONOHUE: Mary.

HUGGINS: Real ques, quick question. The revenue from the golf course, does that come back to the Sierra District in its entirety or does that go to other areas of the state park system?

PM1-8

WALCK: It's a complicated process, but basically, and again I'm not a manager, but, um, I know they, that Sacramento sets a revenue goal and our, our budget is based on, on that revenue and that, so yes, basically, it directly impacts how much we have as a budget in this district. But, it does, it goes, goes there and then comes back, so it doesn't just stay.

DONOHUE: Yes, okay.

GARCIA: Have any other business plans been looked at for this, for the state parks, I mean, mountain biking or something like that to bring in other forms of revenue as opposed to moving the golf course?

PM1-9

HUGHES: So that would be, kind of, under Alternative 5, and that's where we, they would actually go through a separate planning process. So, at this point, no, it would, you know, there's so many options. We've had the recreation planning workshops in the past and, you know, other, people have went from, you know, campgrounds to cabins to, you know, motor-cross, you know, all over the place. So, you know, it really, it would be a, a separate study.

WALCK: However, talking to our concessions people, there is nothing that would generate this level of revenue. I mean, our campgrounds all operate at a loss. Um, so, they, they, they, really, the biggest money makers in the state parks system are this, this unit, Moro Bay with the golf course, Asilomar with the conference center and Hearst Castle.

DONOHUE: Other comments or questions from APC members? I have, I have a question, um, glad you're on this slide still. Short term water quality in, um, almost all the alternatives, it has a significant adverse affect. I'm assuming, is that prior to mitigation?

PM1-10

HUGHES: You know, we actually have a significant unavoidable with those, and there will, there will be mitigation put in place to limit those. But, they're really based on the turbidity standard in the basin which is a, a difficult standard to meet during construction. So, um, we wanted to just acknowledge that there, there is, it's going to exceed that standard. Um, however, you know, it, there will be mitigation put in place.

WALCK: And you have to keep in mind that, that we're trying to be honest here because this turbidity standard being at 10 to 20 times background level, which is like a quarter of an NTU, you can put your finger in the water and make that much turbidity, and so we will mitigate, we'll get it down to, you know, 10 or 20 NTU, but most projects are going to violate that. Um, we use this as our evaluation criteria, which is not normally used, but to use it in the strictest sense. So we tried to actually interpret, interperatate, interpret, yeah.

HUGHES: I'll add to that too. So, you know, what we do plan to do is not affect the beneficial uses of the river, so we will mitigate that level, so.

DONOHUE: Your honesty is refreshing. Rick.

ANGELOCCI: To address some of the things Chuck was bringing up, um, the loss of the golf course would not only impact revenue to the state, but the local economy in terms of about \$6 million per year, is that correct?

PM1-11

HUGHES: Yes, that's correct.

ANGELOCCI: Um, I'm wondering if, you know, with 33,000 rounds of golf, which would be disbursed without the golf course, is there any evaluation or thought about VMT impacts? You know, it's a 45 minute drive to Genoa, for example, from the South Shore, and those rounds would be, have to go somewhere.

PM1-12

HUGHES: Um, I have to look into that again to see if there's really that much detail on the, in the traffic analysis, but you know, I would say the, the one thing with those being disbursed is that in general, golf, um, golf course recreation has, is on a, a decreasing trend, so that's one component of it. A lot of those people do come from outside of the area as well, so it's not necessarily that those people are going to be disbursed from this location to those places.

WALCK: I believe 60% of, um, the, we, we surveyed for a couple of years just looking at the zip codes of everybody that came, came to play golf, and 60 to 68 percent, something like that, were out-of- town users.

ANGELOCCI: I would agree with that, but the way you characterize it is they drove from outside the area to play golf at the country club. I think it's more, they were in Tahoe, and they went to the golf course to play golf. Their primary destination was not the golf course.

PM1-13

WALCK: I believe, and I'd have to look back at the economic study, she looked at the, that 60% and then took a percentage of those being, so not saying that entire 60% is coming here, a certain percentage of those, and we have talked to people at the golf course who say I come here because there's an affordable golf course, it's part of my vacation. That is obviously not the entire 60%, and

the analysis was not based in it being the entire 60%, but I can't tell you what percentage it was.

DONOHUE: Okay, if there are no other questions or comments right now from APC members, I'd like to open this up to the public for comment. What I'd like to do is provide you with three minutes unless you represent an organization. So, if you represent an organization, please state the name of the organization and I will adjust the timer from 3 to 5 minutes. And, so if there are any members of the public, and I would encourage you, I was at a meeting yesterday. This is, this is your opportunity to make comments in the draft EIS so that they can be responsive prior to the final EIS. The, the commission isn't making, taking any action on this item today. We're just here to have comment on this document. So are there members of the public wishing to speak? Please step forward. State your name.

PAULSON: My name is Lynne Paulson from the Washoe Meadows Community. We're an organization of people from throughout the state that want to preserve the integrity of Washoe Meadows State Park which faces devastation if the parks department moves a golf course into the park. The proposal to move the golf course is in conflict with California's legislative statute and legal settlement agreement of 1984 under which Washoe Meadows State Park was formed in order to preserve the land and protect it from development. The land was acquired by the state for the purpose of protecting an irreplaceable watershed as well as wetlands, meadows, and wildlife habitat. A reading of these entire documents clearly expresses the significance of the park's valuable natural resources and sensitive ecology. When the state first acquired the land, the records show that there was a debate about whether to retain the golf course. It was finally decided to allow to, it to continue on land that was classified as state recreation area, which is an important distinction from the classification from the park. However, now the golf course interests are being maximized at the expense of Washoe Meadows in open defiance of legislative protections afforded to the park. It is our contention that Alternative 2 will result in significant, unavoidable impacts to wildlife species and sensitive biotic habitats, thins in spring complexes. To aesthetics, users of the park will now be confronted with the golf course, and to continued non-consumptive recreational activity in the park such as hiking, bird-watching, botanizing, snowshoeing, horseback riding and cross-country skiing. Some areas of deficiency in the draft DIR/EIS include failure to address significant impacts in proposed Alternative 2 such as the severe impact on recreational park users when the park is fragmented and so many acres of the park will be within close distance of the golf course. Also, the impact on wildlife habitat from replacement of many acres of forest, meadow and wetlands with golf course, the unequal quality of the land that is proposed for exchange as confirmed in the Parks Department's own general plan for Lake Valley Recreation Area and consequences of allowing the complicated turf management practices of a golf course with all their herbicides, pesticides, fungicides, and fertilizers to

PM1-14

be applied on sensitive land. It is, um, many of our members are golfers, and we do not object to continuing with golf on the east side of the river. We do support river restoration, but we don't think it should be combined with moving the golf course into the park and onto an additional stretch along the river as outlined in Alternative 2. The golf course should remain in, within the boundaries of the State Recreation Area with a reconfigured 9 or 18 hole golf course as mentioned in the description of Alternative 3. The economic analysis has many unsubstantiated assumptions that will be pointed out in our written comments. Significantly, it doesn't address the reality of the current and predicted continuing decline of golf as a recreational activity and it's replacement with lower impact and family friendly sports such as hiking, river-rafting, bird-watching, and enjoyment of nature. We ask that you continue to review information related to the draft DIR/EIS because we will have more detailed comments by the end of the comment period. The document is very lengthy, and it takes us a while to document all of our comments. And we've also been, our review of Alternative 2 has also been impacted by a lengthy delay in the receipt of the detailed information on the proposed golf course layout. Are you sure you set that right, because I, I'm speaking for an organization and I've timed myself? As commissioners, the people of California and Nevada rely on your wisdom and judgment and guidance to fulfill TRPA's mission to protect Lake Tahoe environment in a way that benefits not just our current population, but also future generations. You will, you will expect to receive most of our members' comments in, in writing because they have work and other responsibilities that do not allow them to come to a meeting such as this. And I have a copy of my statement and some pictures of the park and a letter written by one of our members that I would like the commission to have. Am I supposed to give it to a secretary? Okay. Thank you.

PM1-14
cont.

DONOHUE: Thank you for your comments. Are there other members of the public who would like to speak on this item? Alright, seeing none, I'd like to bring it back to the commission. Are there other members of the commission have any other comments related to this item? Yes, Bob.

JEPSEN: Yeah, just a question. Are you talking about the golf course, you interviewed the people playing, did you ask them how many would come in if they went to the short course or the nine hole course?

PM1-15

WALCK: That was part of the questionnaire, and again this is a small sampling, I'm not going to say it's a (Incomprehensible)... thank you. Basically, we were out there for about 10 days per season over a couple of seasons, and basically, all of them said that they would not play a shortened or a reduced area course. I won't say all. I would say probably 3% responded that they would play a reduced area course.

DONOHUE: Yes, Chuck.

GREENE: I'm having a problem seeing how this is going to work. Um, I mean, you've got an Alternative 3, which you've said the golf course won't work. You've got an Alternative 2, which is where you keep the golf course, um, but it has a lot of concerns as just demonstrated. And, I don't see an alternative that's going to solve that. I guess that's my only comment.

PM1-16

DONOHUE: Comment or a question?

ANGELOCCI: Just comment.

DONOHUE: Yes, Rick.

ANGELOCCI: You say that with, anyway, ah, reservation, um, I know that all of us received, um, a letter from the League, Nicole Gurins, and I had a question for these folks based on what I read in the letter. Um, it appears at least in 3 or 4 places, the letter claims that Alternative 2 would be turning raw, undeveloped, forested, you know, they, they characterize it almost as pristine land, and it's my understanding that the Alternative 2 relocation of the 9 holes is going into an area which was formally logged, was a quarry, ah, and is a disturbed area. I happen to know the area and be out there, and I'm just, I'm just, am I correct in that?

PM1-17

WALCK: Um, so, you can see, two deeper quarry pits here. There's a third down in here. There's an asphalt brick dump down in here. Um, so pristine would not be the word I would describe. I can say that to people that live there, it's probably a very attractive backyard. It's a good place to live and recreate, um, but it is a highly formerly disturbed. Amacker Ranch sits here. Um, I've seen pictures of the drag races in the meadow. We've done some restoration of this meadow. Um, this was a large haul road coming in and out. There's a sewer line that was put in actually anticipating the development of this property, and, um, several generations of logging have occurred. And, we've been working also, through the years, on removing a lot of the old rog, logging roads, um, and recovering from second and third growth thickets of trees. We've been doing a lot of thinning, but, um, it is a disturbed landscape. And one other thing I would point out is, talking with wildlife biologists, if you look at the greater Angora watershed, what really fragments that watershed is the presence of the neighborhood much more so than the golf course. And, one of the things we've really tried to do, looking at the relocation area, you can kind of see the darker signature of this horseshoe in the bottom and that is upland area. So that's kind of this area here coming up along this side. So you're going uphill as you go away from the river. Um, you're leaving (Incomprehensible). You're going onto forested land, and so we've really taken care with consideration and what the study area is to avoid sensitive wildlife areas, sensitive cultural areas, and stay out of the zone of the river and use to the maximum extent some of those disturbed lands.

ANGELOCCI: Thank you.

DONOHUE: Cindy, one of the things, um, we talked about a little bit yesterday when I was out on the site is in reference to the League's letter and I think it references close to 2,000 trees will be removed. Would be, if Parks were to go in there and actually do forest restoration activities, what would be, you know, kind of the offset in terms of how many trees might be removed in that activity versus the relocation activity and also really, what, I mean there are a lot of dog hair thickets out there, um, they're not saying that, the stands aren't in the best shape, I'm just wondering if, I didn't really see that thoroughly addressed in the EIS. So, I'd, I'd like to see some comment back, um, regarding that.

PM1-18

WALCK: Um, I know that a certain percentage of those would be removed for our forestry practices anyway, but I, I can't answer you, the percentage at this time. But, we, we do recognize that the forest is, has a lot of thickets and that includes, um, I think that number includes six inch DBH trees. And also, we tried to estimate, um, what I will call conservatively, meaning that we tried to over-estimate to make sure that, yeah.

HUGHES: There, in the Bio section, I think it is Section 3.5, the biological resources, there's a tree removal impact discussion for each alternative.

DONOHUE: Alright, yes.

SPEAKER: (Incomprehensible) Yes, I am.

GARCIA: Well this is an important issue to the Washoe Tribe, because, you know, we haven't, it, it's not something we talk about publicly because they're sensitive sites, but there are cultural sites located on the property. And, Alternative 2 would result in impacts that can't be mitigated, you know. I understand that with archaeology, the common way to do is to encapsulate the sites so that they aren't destroyed, but what you're destroying is the Washoe Tribes ability to access those sites when you do that. And, um, you're taking away their ability to take their children and their nieces and their nephews up there and tell them, "Look around. This is where your grandmothers came". You know, that's something that just can't be mitigated. And, so, um, we dispute the finding that, you know, that with the encapsulation, those effects can be reduced to a less than substantial, or less than significant, and, um, you know, I just encourage a lot of dialog with the tribe. I haven't had a chance to talk the res, Cultural Resources Committee about what would happen should Alternative 2 be chosen. Obviously we're not in favor of that at this point. So, ah, I just had to put that on the record.

PM1-19

DONOHUE: Thanks for those comments. Mr. Kuchnicki.

KUCHNICKI: Thank you Mr. Chair. Um, I take it that you've consulted your state legal Attorney General's office that this is actually legally feasible to transfer the land from the state park.

PM1-20

WALCK: Yes, we've had extensive meetings with our legal staff and our Parks Planning and Policy Commission that this can be done as this transfer of land. Um, one of the things that comes up is that we have a general plan for Lake Valley State Recreation area. We do not have one for Washoe Meadows State Park. When we built the clubhouse facility, um, we had to adopt that because that's a large permanent structure. When we build trails, do vegetation changes, those are not considered a permanent impact, or, or, you know, something that cannot be reversed. Um, if under any of the alternatives we actually have to do a general plan amendment, um, the general plan calls for having an 18 hole gol, regulation golf course. The general plan calls for restoring the river. Kind of the same boat we're in with all of this. Um, and so, how do we resolve that? If we do Alternative 1 and do nothing, we don't restore the river, we need to amend the plan and say that we're going to let it go. If we do Alternative 2, we would redefine the boundaries between the two units. The area that's restored along the river, the 40 some odd acres of riparian habitat that's restored along the 6000 feet of river would become, um, state park. That area would get a trail through it, would be open to public fishing and boating which it is not now. And the area that is transferred into golf course would become part of the SRA, the State Recreation Area. So, basically, those boundaries for us recre, represent the management policies for those units, um, but they're a continuous set of units that are both in our ownership.

KUCHNICKI: Okay, thanks, yeah, I just, you know, obviously that's an important thing to resolve so that you don't end up with a lawsuit right after you move forward with the preferred alternative. Another, I had two more comments. The other comment I had was related to the climate change impacts. And, I saw in there that you guys addressed the emissions, um, which relates to climate change. However, I would encourage looking at perhaps some more comprehensive analysis of the climate change because you know, in the future, predictions are that there's going to be less water. So it seems like, you know, the different alternatives relate to that when you're talking about irrigating the golf course. So, um, definitely those, the options or Alternatives 3 and 5 would have, ah, you know, benefits in the future by drawing less water. Um, and then, the other comment that I have relates to, ah, we discussed the deep water, ah, water quality problem for (Incomprehensible) particles, but I would encourage also a discussion of near shore water quality and, which, for which nutrients are more critical. Um, and, you know, it seems like the management practices that are involved on the golf course would have a big affect on that and, as well, the geomorphology 'cause when you restore the function to the river, you're raising the ground water, there might, you might actually increase nutrient load into the stream and to the lake. So I would encourage the analysis to take a look at that as well.

PM1-21

DONOHUE: Thank you Jason. Okay, seeing no other comments from APC members, I'd like to close this item and, ah, let's pleasure the commission. Do you want to take a 5 minute break or move on to...? Okay, I'd like to take a 5 minute break. Let's keep it to five minutes and then move into the Plaster County item. Put the timer on.

END OF AGENDA ITEM V

- PM1-1 The commenter requests a discussion of the process for determining the preferred alternative. See response to comment AOB8-1 for discussions of the selection of a proposed Preferred Alternative and of the public participation process.
- PM1-2 The commenter asks about the recreational and economic differences between Alternative 2 and Alternative 3. Recreation facilities under Alternative 2 would include an 18-hole regulation golf course, a new public bridge across the golf course, 1.4 miles of new designated trails, a new trail on the southeast side of the river, and dispersed recreation within 527 acres of Washoe Meadows SP. Total annual revenue under Alternative 2 is expected to be \$2,809,000. Recreation facilities under Alternative 3 would include either a 9-hole regulation or an 18-hole executive golf course, no public bridges across the golf course, no new trails, and dispersed recreation within the entire 620 acres of Washoe Meadows SP. Total annual revenue under Alternative 3 is expected to be between \$1,027,000 (low number of assumed rounds and low fees) and \$1,698,000 (high number of assumed rounds and high fees) (HEC 2008:4 [Appendix E]).
- PM1-3 The commenter asks whether Alternative 3 is feasible. See response to comment AOB8-1.
- PM1-4 The commenter asks about State Parks' economic interest in implementing Alternative 5. As described in Section 3.15, "Population and Housing, Socioeconomics, and Environmental Justice," in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, decommissioning and removing the Lake Tahoe Golf Course under Alternative 5 could result in an annual loss of income to State Parks of \$881,000 (HEC 2008:3 [Appendix E]). Fiscal impacts on State Parks under Alternative 5 would be adverse. Therefore, Alternative 5 is not State Parks' proposed Preferred Alternative.
- PM1-5 The commenter asks about the feasibility of implementing Alternative 5. See responses to comments PM1-4 and AOB8-1.
- PM1-6 The commenter asks where golfers are expected to golf under Alternative 5. Although the exact change in distribution of golfing under Alternative 5 is not known, it is expected that the displaced golfers would visit various other golf courses in the area, and others may choose to golf outside of the Lake Tahoe area. As described in Section 3.8, "Recreation," of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, approximately two-thirds of the golfers at the Lake Tahoe Golf Course are visitors from outside the area, so it is expected that many of these golfers would use other golf courses closer to home. Local golfers would likely use multiple other golf courses in the South Lake Tahoe area. Therefore, the increased use of any one golf course would be dispersed among other available golf courses.
- PM1-7 The commenter asks about upland impacts of Alternative 2. As described in Section 3.5, "Biological Resources," of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, impacts on upland vegetation would be greater under Alternative 2 than under Alternative 1 or Alternatives 3–5. Impacts on upland vegetation under Alternative 2 are associated primarily with tree removal. See Master Response Section 3.3, "Biological Resources," for a discussion of upland impacts.

- PM1-8 The commenter asks whether revenue from the golf course is distributed to the Sierra District. See Master Response Section 3.7, “Economics.”
- PM1-9 The commenter asks whether other plans for revenue have been considered by State Parks. Other potential sources of revenue were not analyzed as part of the project. As described in Chapter 2, “Project Alternatives,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, State Parks would be able to embark on a new planning effort for the entire area at any time in the future when it wishes to consider developing permanent facilities. This effort could involve planning for the Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley SRA together or separately. It could involve reclassifying land and considering a variety of actions related to outdoor recreation and resource management (e.g., day use, picnicking, development of multiuse trails, overnight tent and RV camping, group camping, cabins).
- PM1-10 The commenter requests clarification of whether the potential short-term adverse effects on water quality would be significant for all alternatives before mitigation. As described in Section 3.4, “Geomorphology and Water Quality,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, only Alternative 1 has a less-than-significant short-term risk of water quality degradation. All of the action alternatives (Alternatives 2, 3, 4, and 5) have potentially significant adverse water quality impacts (Impacts 3.4-6 and 3.4-7). Mitigation measures are identified for both impacts under all action alternatives, but the impacts would be significant and unavoidable after mitigation because of the strict water quality standard used in the analysis.
- PM1-11 The commenter correctly states that loss of the golf course would reduce revenue to the State by \$6 million per year. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM1-12 The commenter asks whether impacts related to vehicle miles traveled by golfers driving farther to other golf courses were analyzed for Alternative 3 or Alternative 5. As described in Section 3.8, “Recreation,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, approximately two-thirds of the golfers at the Lake Tahoe Golf Course are visitors from outside the area, so it is expected that many of these golfers would use other golf courses closer to home. Local golfers would likely use multiple other golf courses in the Lake Tahoe and Carson City/Reno area. Therefore, the increased use of any one golf course would be dispersed among other available golf courses. A specific analysis of changes to vehicle miles traveled under Alternative 5 was not completed because the changes would be dispersed and the specific destinations would be speculative.
- PM1-13 The commenter’s characterization of golfers who choose Lake Tahoe Golf Course is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM1-14 The commenter states that Alternative 2 would be legally infeasible because it would be in conflict with State Parks’ plans, policies, and regulations. The commenter is concerned about impacts on biological resources, water quality, aesthetics, recreation access, and the scope of the economic analysis. The commenter’s opposition for Alternative 2 is noted. See the following master responses:
- ▶ Master Response Section 3.2, “Land Use,” for a discussion of applicable plans, policies, and regulations;
 - ▶ Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for a discussion of impacts on biological resources; and

- ▶ Master Response Section 3.4, “Hydrology, Flooding, Geomorphology, and Water Quality,” for a discussion of water quality impacts.

Section 3.7, “Scenic Resources,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS and response to comment I6-3 discuss potential impacts on aesthetics in the study area. See also Master Response Section 3.5, “Recreation,” for a discussion of recreation access; and Master Response Section 3.7, “Economics,” for a discussion of the economic analysis. Appendix E, “Lake Tahoe Golf Course Economic Feasibility Analysis,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS acknowledges that the Lake Tahoe Golf Course has experienced declining gross revenues since 1997.

- PM1-15 The commenter asks whether the golfers interviewed were asked about playing at a 9-hole golf course. As part of the golf course surveys conducted by State Parks in 2007 and 2008, golfers were asked about playing on a 9-hole golf course. Eighty percent of the respondents said that they would not play a 9-hole course.
- PM1-16 The commenter’s opinions about Alternatives 2 and 3 are noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM1-17 The commenter asks about the condition of the land where golf course holes would be relocated under Alternative 2. The commenter correctly states that the portion of the golf course would be relocated in an area that has been previously logged and disturbed. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM1-18 The commenter asks for clarification on the condition and number of trees that would be removed under Alternative 2. The draft EIR/EIS/EIS addresses tree removal impacts as they are defined by TRPA regulations. Mitigation measures for the respective alternatives would reduce these impacts to a less-than-significant level under TRPA regulations, and were developed in accordance with Chapter 71, Section 71.3.B and Chapters 30 and 77 of the TRPA Code of Ordinances. The mitigation measures require preparation of a tree removal and management plan and tree replacement plan by a qualified environmental professional. The significance of this potential impact with and without mitigation proposed was determined based on regulatory significance criteria described in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for additional information.
- PM1-19 The commenter expresses concern about potential impacts on cultural resources sites under Alternative 2. See Master Response Section 3.6, “Cultural Resources.”
- PM1-20 The commenter asks whether the Attorney General’s office has been consulted about the legality of a land trade. State Parks’ legal counsel has been involved throughout the planning process. See Master Response Section 3.2, “Land Use,” for a discussion of consistency with plan and policies.
- PM1-21 The commenter is concerned that climate change was addressed only in terms of emissions and not in relation to water demand. The commenter is also concerned about water quality impacts on the lake, particularly nutrients from the golf course and raised groundwater (because of stream restoration under Alternatives 2 and 3) that would increase nutrient loads to the stream. See response to comment AOB20-2. See Master Response Section 3.4, “Hydrology, Flooding, Geomorphology, and Water Quality,” for a discussion of water quality impacts.



**Verbatim Transcript of
TRPA Governing Board
October 23, 2010 Meeting
Agenda Item VII A**

VIIA. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Public Hearing for Comments on the Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Statement (DEIR/DEIS/DEIS), Lake Valley State Recreation Area and Washoe Meadows State Park, Meyers, California**

**Transcribed by
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a department of Trifox**

**TRPA Governing Board
October 23, 2010 Meeting Transcript
Agenda Item VII A**

(Note: If a portion of the recording could not be transcribed due to the quality of the recording or if the words could not be distinguished, this has been indicated as follows: "(Incomprehensible)".)

VIIA. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Public Hearing for Comments on the Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Statement (DEIR/DEIS/DEIS), Lake Valley State Recreation Area and Washoe Meadows State Park, Meyers, California

BIAGGI: What I'd like to do is open this up to the Board, but at this time I would really ask the Board to limit your questions and I'll open this up again after we hear public comment because we have a lot of folks here today. We have some students who would like to get back, I'm sure, to school just as quickly as they possibly can. And, ah, we've got a fairly long list and you know, people are taking time out of their day. So, I'd ask that the Board, you know, throw out some, some really critical questions that you have and then hopefully we can get back to this at some point after public comment. So, John, why don't you go ahead and start.

BRETERNITZ: I just want to make sure I understand the process. After the environmental work is done, does it go back to California Parks for them to select an alternative that's proposed to the TRPA or how does that work?

PM2-1

RAY: (Incomprehensible)

BIAGGI: If you could turn your mic on and could you also identify yourself again Dan, even though I just did.

RAY: I, I'm Dan Ray. I'm the Chief of Planning for State Parks. At least, I think, since we're the property owner, and would be the ones who would need to initiate the project, I think, at the state side. We would certainly play the lead role in certifying the EIR. And, most if not all of the alternatives that are under consideration would require us to amend the general plan for the Lake Valley State Recreation Area. So, our Commission would need to approve that amendment. And, if we were to alter the boundaries between the recreation area and the state park at Washoe Meadows, they would need to be involved in that process as well. Now, the Bureau, of course, would need to take its own action. We would be coordinating with them, I'm sure, and with your staff. Clearly, we couldn't go ahead without a permit from you. But, the typical sequence would be we'd make a selection and then come to seek your

approval. But, we would obviously be in coordination with your staff in that process.

BRETERNITZ: The last sentence clarified it for me.

RAY: Thank you.

BIAGGI: Shelly.

ALDEAN: Dan, don't go away. Um, will, will the anal, will an analysis be done to determine the financial feasibility of undertaking this restoration work if the golf course is either reduced or decommissioned given the fact that it produces, what, \$600,000 in revenue to the state parks?

PM2-2

RAY: I think what would, there would be probably two steps to that. Um, one would be a judgment initially by our director about whether, you know, she is willing to forgo that revenue at this time. I mean, a no project alternative is always a possibility, and just let the current conditions remain until there's some reason to have to change. Um, I think the other possibility would be that we could open a wider exploration of other uses of the recreation area for golf courses and something that's, that people in the community want to see going ahead, but they want to see the restoration. Um, we have a lot of demand for camping and other outdoor recreation opportunities in the Basin. Our camping sites fill early, you know, and they're very difficult to get, and so I think we would be looking for ways we could meet that demand with properties we own in the Basin. Of course, we've already got an approved campground for the Burton Creek Site in our general plan for that area, so that's another piece that we put in the mix, but we certainly see the need for additional recreation facilities here in the Tahoe Basin.

ALDEAN: I guess my question, maybe I didn't, I framed it in artfully, um, is, are, do you have an identified source of funding for the restoration work, or would you be relying on the current income that the golf course generates to state parks to finance that?

PM2-3

RAY: I think Cindy has been working with others in terms of restoration funding opportunities.

WALCK: Shelly right. Cindy Walck speaking again. Um, currently we have funding once we select an alternative to go through the planning and permitting process. We would then look for funding to do the restoration work. Um, because of the priorities in the Basin, restoration funding has been fairly easy to obtain. I've got a good track record of actually achieving other restoration projects. I'm confident we could fund restoration. I do not think we could come up with the same type of grant funding to do stabilization. That does not meet SEZ restoration goals, which are goals in most of these restoration

grants. The funding for golf course relocation would be part of our, um, our, as I said, our lease is up with American Golf. We're waiting to go to a new lease negotiation until we determine what alternative, we can't negotiate a 20 year lease and go, "Oops, sorry, you have a 9 hole golf course" or "We're closing the golf course". So, we're waiting for the outcome of this, but that would be part of the negotiations is funding for this. And, one of the questions I've been asked is, in this current economy, what if we can't get them to finance it? What I think we would do at that point is stay on a year-to-year contract and wait until the economy shifts to a point where we could negotiate for, um, funding of relocation.

BIAGGI: Okay, once again, we're trying to just do the critical questions here, so let's go with Byron, Norma and Jennifer.

SHER: Well, at one time in a previous life, I was Chair of the California Senate Budget Committee that had jurisdiction over the California State Parks. We used to review your budget annually, and I don't remember any discussion about golf courses and the reliance of the Parks and Recreation on the revenues from golf courses. So will you just remind, I think you said, is it, how many golf courses does our, exist on, in the state parks?

PM2-4

RAY: We have two courses now. We have Moro Bay and this one.

SHER: Yeah, yeah, and do the revenues generated at the one here at Tahoe, are those monies used just within that, to maintain that park or are those monies shifted to support other activities of the state park?

RAY: Well, all the revenue we earn goes in our state park revolving fund, and it, together with the...

PM2-5

SHER: So, so, but there, would you say there's a net profit from that, that, used for other purposes?

RAY: Well, I think if you really looked at the situation of parks here in Lake Tahoe, and also in the Sierra Basin, what really is happening is earned, revenue that's being earned in other parts of the state parks system, primarily probably at Southern California beaches, is being shifted here because statewide we earn about 40% of our revenue from fees. We've got Southern California districts that actually turn a surplus. Here we're only generating 30% of our local, of operating costs from revenue, and so there must be making up that difference by having funds shifted in from elsewhere to help carry out operations and maintenance here. If we earned less revenue here, it would actually pull other money, more money away from other parts of the state or else it would require us to reduce maintenance and services here even further.

SHER: If the current proposition that the voters will be acting on next week passes, you'll be swimming in money, won't you?

RAY:	Well, you know, there's a lot of people have different points of view on that. That would certainly meet our operating needs and it would provide additional resources. It would be able for us to help address, what is a \$1.2 billion dollar backlog in deferred maintenance. So, while we would have revenue we need to meet current needs, we still would, you know, need to be paying attention to what we can earn because we've got a very substantial backlog of deferred maintenance, natural culture resource protection, facility modernization, water and waste water systems, that is going to be well in excess of what they would, the initiative would generate.	
SHER:	One final question, the, the presentation shows they currently generate \$800,000 annually from the golf course.	PM2-6
RAY:	That's what I understand.	
SHER:	And, have you done a calculation on if it were reduced to a nine hole golf course, what the projected revenues would be, taking into account what other kinds of revenues you might generate from camping and so forth if you actually do the restoration alternatives?	PM2-7
RAY:	Well, Cindy looked at that, 'cause it really, it would partly depend on what a concessionaire would be willing to bid on a 9 hole course. So, we can't completely estimate it, but they had done some evaluation of a 9 hole course.	
WALCK:	So, during the course of the EIR, we were asked to do an economic study. We hired an independent, economic, economonist, economist, economist to actually look at that. Um, during that study, it turned out that a 9 hole golf course is marginally, if at all feasible. Basically, in order to run that golf co, to run a 9 hole golf course, um, would operate in any but the rosiest scenario at a loss. (Incomprehensible) So we really couldn't get anyone to, to bid on that. When we went into this, we thought that would be an economically feasible alternative. But, basically, I actually asked the consultant to go back and look at rosier assumptions because they came back and said it's unfeasible. So we asked them to look at what if you had a higher price than anyone in the region charges for 9 holes, and you had someone starting every 3 to 5 minutes or whatever that a full golf course would be. And, only under those assumptions did it even begin to turn a profit. So, marginal on that.	
SHER:	Gotcha.	
BIAGGI:	Norma.	
SANTIAGO:	My questions are for Danielle. If you could please put up the slide that showed Alternative 3. During the course of your discussion, you mentioned some, um, accessib, I want to talk about accessibility to recreation, how Alternative 3 impacts accessibility to recreation, and also environmental	PM2-8

	improvements that are being evaluated in the EIS/EIR, EI whatever, EIO. I'm sorry, but, um, as far as, there are areas that you had said that are disturbed where the quarry is, and you said that there were not going to be any environmental improvements done in those areas.	PM2-8 cont.
HUGHES:	Yeah, under this alternative there's really no changes to Washoe Meadow State Park. Um, I mean, they, they have done some minor fill with, when was that, back in 2000?	
WALCK:	We worked on one of the quarry pits. We did the fill from the lower west side project to put 80,000 yards back in that, but there's still the adjacent quarry pits and roads. And, we've been working on pieces of Washoe Meadows State Park as we acquire funding, but they would not be part of this project under Alternative 3.	
SANTIAGO:	So when you look at the flood plain, and what we're trying to do with the flood plain, if I'm understanding this correctly, do we see on that lower reach some sort of impact because we have a quarry that's disturbed land, that as the waters rise in that area, there might be some issues with that sediment coming off of the quarry? I don't know if that's the right ques, I know what I'm trying to ask, but...	PM2-9
HUGHES:	Do you want to answer that (Incomprehensible)?	
WALCK:	Norma, let me, let me try and take this up for Danielle. One of the things you see as you go towards the southwest corner is the valley itself is narrowing and the flood plain is much narrower through there. So the quarry is on, what I would call, old glacial outwash sediments, on a high, much higher terrace. So, so the connectivity that you're seeing as far as erosion would be just upslope erosion and, and delivery to, to the, the river, but you're really not flooding that quarry area. It's, it's, you're going, again, uphill as you go away from the river. So, we do have a, problems with erosion on old roads, old logging roads, hill slopes, the quarry area, but they're not really in the flood plain.	
SANTIAGO:	Okay, so, okay then I'm going to relate that to a question with Alternative 2. Um, I better do that because, um, I'll forget it. So when you go to Alternative 2 and you're looking at, and I was trying to find that in the, in the Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures, in your table, and I couldn't quite get it. When you look at putting a golf course in that area, in terms of the environmental impacts of that golf course, given that you're saying that erosion goes uphill is it?	PM2-10
WALCK:	Downhill.	
SANTIAGO:	Downhill, well, you said it's, it's kind of on a higher elevation. So I want to understand the environmental impacts of that additional, you know, segment	

	of the golf course as your moving that versus what you're seeing in Alternative 3, where there's no development at all in that particular one. I was kind of hard, it's kind of hard to read me, to see it through the matrix that I was looking at.	PM2-10 cont.
HUGHES:	We've actually identified that as a benefit for upland erosion, so it's, it's actually not impact, because you're, for one we're putting in a drainage plan, you're, you have additional vegetation in that area, so it's actually a benefit to that area.	
SANTIAGO:	So the actual additional of the golf course is a benefit to that area in terms of what we're talking about, water quality and erosion control?	PM2-11
HUGHES:	Erosion control, specifically, is what we, we call it out in. But yes, the drainage plan will help with the water quality as well.	
SANTIAGO:	Okay and, okay, so we have three of the major things that we're trying to achieve as a result of that golf course being there. And then on the other side, because we're removing, um, which is also true in Alternative 3, we're getting away from the SEZ, what's where we have a major environmental benefit, is that correct?	PM2-12
WALCK:	(Incomprehensible) Sorry, I just want to get back to the map I had up. So just looking at this, um, the area where the relocation would be, again, is kind of outside that golden brown color, and the SEZ zone narrows as you go towards the south, southwest because the valley itself narrows. And, so yes, what that does is it takes golf course out of SEZ, out of the meander belt, out of flood plain and puts it on a little bit higher elevation and higher capability land.	
SANTIAGO:	Okay, and then again, if we can go back to Alt, and I appreciate your patience with me Board, if we can go back to Alternative 3, and so I want to talk about the threshold with regards to recreation and I believe that its also covered in the environmental document, An Accessibility to Recreation. Danielle, during the time that you spoke, you said that accessibility to other parts of the park as a result of this configuration were going to be limited, or...?	PM2-13
HUGHES:	No, what I said is there's no recreation changes within Washoe Meadows State Park under this alternative. The golf course bridges will be removed under this alternative. However, those are not available to the public currently. They actually require, it's only for golf course use. There's safety concerns because of the design of the golf course currently and, so they won't need them under this alternative, so they'll just remove them.	
SANTIAGO:	So in terms of access to recreation, um, through the golf course, you know, I'm not a golfer, God help me, God help the world if I ever become one, but, if I'm looking at Alternative 3, I'm doing a day of golfing, okay, and I now want to go out to the park, what would be the best way for me to get to the	PM2-14

	park? Would I then have to get into my car and move elsewhere, or, I'm talking about accessibility in terms of the bigger scope of this availability to recreation?	PM2-14 cont.
WALCK:	Guess I'm back on. Um, so, under Alternative 3, because all of the bridges are undersized, they'd be removed. So, you would not have a bridge to cross over. You'd have to go down, um, and access through the neighborhood, which is the current access for Washoe right now, so the southern end through, off the end of Chilcothe, the northern end off of Lake Tahoe Boulevard, which is actually off the top of the map, or through the neighborhood trails that border the west side of the park. So, um, but you wouldn't have a bridge under this alternative.	
SANTIAGO:	Okay, and then the bridges that were going to be removed, you'd have some bridges there, but on Alternative 2 are all those bridges, you said removal of six bridges, right? But I think that they, alternative, so you still have some bridges right? Am I seeing that in the photograph?	PM2-15
WALCK:	No, there's five bridges currently on the river now. Under Alternative 2, 3 and 5, all five of those bridges go away because, again, they're all undersized. Only under Alternative 2 is a new bridge constructed. Bridges now are about 60 feet long I believe. The new bridge would be about 150 feet long. It would be designed actually to span the entire flood plain so you didn't restrict flow. But, it could be designed such that the trails come around the northern side or on the southern side, skirt the edge of the golf course. The trails, public trails as well as golf course trails could use that bridge and then immediately the public trails would diverge on either side as they enter that golden zone, the golden zone, the golden SEZ zone on either side, and then tie into Country Club Corner or into the Salt Mill Bike Path. And you'd have those same trails on the south side of the river only under Alternative 3.	
SANTIAGO:	And if I understand correctly from the, from the document, by removal of those bridges, you're just further protecting those banks, or helping that flood plain, flood plain as the banks overflow, right? Because right now you have bridges that are undersized and they're further eroding the banks, right?	PM2-16
HUGHES:	Yes. There, so on this one too, you see some other bridges right here, those are existing bridges on a, it's a very small, unnamed drainage. They're not the same size of bridges that are on the upper Truckee River. Those are going to remain, so those won't be touched at all.	
SANTIAGO:	Okay, thank you.	
BIAGGI:	Jennifer.	
MONTGOMERY:	Thank you. Byron actually asked a couple of my questions, so you're off the hook on some of those. Um, you indicated that it, it's your belief that Alternative 2 actually has environmental benefits in terms of erosion and	PM2-17

	water quality over environment, Alternative 3. Have you quantified that amount?	
HUGHES:	No, it has not been quantified, and we're talking about upland erosion, specifically to this area that's previously disturbed.	PM2-17 cont.
MONTGOMERY:	Okay, so we don't really then know how many pounds would be changed under each scenario?	
HUGHES:	No.	
MONTGOMERY:	Okay. Um, Norma brought up the question of access if Alternative 3 were to be adopted. Um, my understanding now, however, is that the public can't go through the golf course to access the left hand side property. Sorry, I didn't get the names correct on that. So, the status quo really wouldn't change for the public. They would have the exact same access under Alternative 3 as they currently have, unless you're a golfer?	PM2-18
WALCK:	Yes, that's correct under, under... oh, go ahead.	
HUGHES:	Actually, there is a little bit of trail improvement occur..., with Alternative 3. You can see this trail, right here, that's running adjacent to the upper Truckee River and that actually will connect to the Saw Mill Bike Trail up here and Country Club Drive as well, so there is some.	
WALCK:	But no bridge access.	
MONTGOMERY:	Okay, but, but the general public then would actually have better access under Alternative 3 than currently exists today or under Alternative 2?	PM2-19
SPEAKER:	Yes.	
WALCK:	No, they would have better access compared to today under Alternative 3 because there would be a trail that parallels the river on the south side of the river. They would not have, however, the connectivity of a bridge which they do not have currently, nor would they have under Alternative 3. So only under Alternative 2 could we design a new long bridge that connects the two sides.	
MONTGOMERY:	And that new bridge would be available both to golfers and the public, or just to the golfers?	PM2-20
WALCK:	No, and that's part of...	
RAY:	Both to golfers and to the public, and that's one of the advantages in terms of providing broader recreation on the site under Alternative 2. We know, when you look at people's recreation patterns in terms of hiking, they're looking for short two, three mile loops they can do in about an hour, hour-and-a-half, and	

so that's one of the advantages of putting the bridge in is that it opens more of our property in this area up to that kind of loop trail.

WALCK: So, so, just to look at the map. We can tie around this northern tip of the golf course. You can come behind the tees because people hopefully aren't shooting backwards, although, I guess if I tried to hit something I could hit someone behind me. Um, you can loop behind the tees and actually design so that the trails avoid safety issues. You can, um, fence off the bridge itself, and then as soon as you cross, that public trail would diverge, come through here, tie in here, diverge, tie in here and in here, it crosses through the golf course again through a gap that would be designed into the golf course so that people coming from Chilcothe following the river along the sewer line access road that, the sewer easement that comes through the park here, would be able to cross through the golf course or tie into the other side of the river.

MONTGOMERY: Okay, so just so I'm clear, under Alternative 2, both golfers and the public would be allowed to use the bridge, which they are not today. Under Alternative 3, there would not be a bridge, but the public would be allowed to use a new trail which does not exist today?

PM2-21

WALCK: Both are correct.

MONTGOMERY: Okay, great! Thank you, two other just very quick questions. Um, I know that you looked at reducing it to 9 holes, did we look at, I know the old course at St. Andrews has 9 holes, but it's an out and back so it's 18. Did we look at that, did we analyze that sort of a use at the golf course?

PM2-22

HUGHES: Yes, we did, was actually, the reduced play, there's an 18 hole option or, and that would be re-circulating that basically.

MONTGOMERY: I, sorry, I didn't understand, but you mean playing the 9 holes twice?

HUGHES: Yes.

WALCK: Yes, that's part of the analysis, yes.

MONTGOMERY: Yeah, and, and actually, at the, at the old course at St. Andrews, I'm not a golfer, I don't even know why I know this, they actually have 18 holes, it's not the same 9 holes, but it's the same land. You share the land coming and going with other golfers, which may require, you know, a level of golfing skill, but, I certainly don't have it.

PM2-23

WALCK: Yeah, and I, I'm not quite sure how that works, but I can say that the reduction in area to make room for the river leaves room only for 9 holes however you want to play them, or it would leave room, hol, room for an 18 hole executive course or a Par 3 course like is right across the street at, um, Tahoe Paradise.

MONTGOMERY: Okay, and then, my last question was, the term “resource preservation” came up as part of the state parks mission. When you say “resource preservation”, is that specific to natural resource preservation or what, what do you mean by “resource preservation”?

RAY: Well, in a unit like this, you know, natural resource preservation is the primary opportunity. Obviously think about the other Tahoe units, you know, our role in maintaining some of the old mansions that are in Emerald Bay and at Sugar Pine Point. The old mines that we maintain, other historic sites, Sutter’s Fort, you know, old missions, we do a variety of historic sites around the state as well as archeologically significant areas.

PM2-24

MONTGOMERY: So natural resource and infrastructure resource?

RAY: Natural resources, I think of that as being natural resources and historic and other cultural resources, archaeological sites, other areas.

MONTGOMERY: Okay, thank you.

BIAGGI: Thank you Board. I’d like to move into public comment now, and two items before we start. It’s very helpful if you can address your comments into the context of the draft EIS. That’s why we’re here today. Let us know what your, if you have issues with the draft EIS as it’s prepared. How it can be, um, made better in order to address the alternatives. So, that would be very helpful both to the Board and for those who prepared the cont..., the draft EIS. And then secondly, I’d just like to thank all of you for your penmanship. I, I am actually able to read the list today and I don’t think I’m going to embarrass myself too badly as I have in the past. So, with that I’d like to start with Kathy Strain, and again we’re going to be using the timing system that we have previous and this is 3 minutes for individuals, 5 minutes for organizations and groups.

STRAIN: Hello, thank you and good morning. My name is Kathy Strain. I’m a Senior Science Specialist at Lake Tahoe Community College where I teach a variety of biology classes and also environmental science. Um, I’d like to start by saying that I whole heartedly and enthusiastically support Alternative No. 2. I think it epitomizes exactly what environmental projects should be about, working towards what’s best for the environment while also keeping as many people engaged and involved in the process as possible so they’ll be willing to participate again and work together in future environmental processes and projects. I think Alternative 2 is a win/win alternative. It’s a win for Washoe Meadows State Parks because they’re going to be training a very disturbed, common section of upland for a beautifully restored, rare piece of river habitat. It’s a win for the wildlife because it’s a creation of a continuous, healthy, riparian habitat corridor along the upper Truckee River. It’s a win for water clarity with a slow down sinuous, curvy, functioning river that over-

PM2-25

banks every few years to put clarity reducing sediments and nutrients that come from, not only their stream banks, but also from those upland areas, urban areas on to the meadow flood plain instead of Lake Tahoe. It's a win for the community of South Lake Tahoe with the preservation of local jobs and tourist dollars. Twenty thousand of those participants that come in to play golf are from out-of-town. Um, and it's also a win for outdoor recreation with the continuance of an affordable regulation size 18 hole golf course, and also those new hiking and biking trails along the restored upper Truckee River. And, it's also a win for the California State Parks system and for the many patrons of the California State Parks. I'd also like to say that I excited about the opportunity that Alternative 2 gives to improving Lake Tahoe Golf Course itself. The proposed new holes will be of a link style design where more native stands of trees and shrubs along within the course fairways will be offering greater wildlife corridors. There's also a plan to go back and rework those original 9 holes that can stay to make them also more of a links design. The idea of improving Lake Tahoe Golf Course is especially appealing to me. I've been working with the golf course since 2002 to improve their environmental practices. I began to work with them as part of my graduate work at the University of Nevada Reno and as a result of our efforts, the course became certified as an Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary through Audubon International in 2003. In order to be certified, we had to show improvements, environmental improvements with projects in a variety of different areas including water quality, water conservation, wildlife habitat management, chemical use reduction and safety and outreach in education. We continue to make improvements and we get re-certified every 2 years. Golf courses have dramatically changed in recent years. They're much more environmentally oriented than they used to be. With Alternative 2 and with more environmental projects, with our re-certifications, it could become a model for how golf courses can be integrated with environmental restoration projects. Um, I'd also like to just make a quick little comment. There was an article about the use of rodenticides at Lake Tahoe Golf Course. And, I just want to say that Lake Tahoe Golf Course does not use rodenticides, and, in fact, they have a long standing arrangement with Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care that any trapped rodents are actually delivered to them and used to feed their rehabilitated animals. And then, that's about it for me. Thank you very much. But, I'd also like to introduce some of these students. So, we have the next few speakers are students from 7th and 8th grade Civics and English class. Ms. Kanell's class at Saint Theresa's. Saint Theresa's has an annual fundraiser event at Lake Tahoe Golf Course every year, and their comments are part of a class assignment to voice their opinions on this project. Thank you.

PM2-25
cont.

BIAGGI: Great, thank you. With that, we'll move to Mikayla Heffner.

HEFFNER: For the Upper Truckee Restoration Project, I support Option #2. The following is why I support this option. First, Option #2 states the golf course will remain an 18 hole course. This would be good for the local economy by

PM2-26

bringing in nearly \$6 million dollars. Next, if the golf course remains as it is, it will retain 168 local jobs. Last, Option 2 will reduce fine sediment that is input in our lake. If this sediment continues to go into Lake Tahoe, our lake's clarity will go down. As the daughter of a small business owner in Meyers, I know how many tourists the golf course brings to Tahoe. I also realize how important this golf course is for other businesses in Lake Tahoe. Thank you for your attention and time on this important matter.

PM2-26
cont.

BIAGGI: Well done. And just for the record, that was Mikayla Heffner. Cambria Kesler, and Cambria if you could just identify yourself when you start to talk, that would be great.

KESLER: Hi, I'm Cambria Kesler and I am an 8th grade student at Saint Theresa's school. When I say that Option 2 is the best option out of the 5 provided, I speak not only for myself, but for the majority of my class as well. I think this option is, I like this option the most because it is great compromise between both golfers and all the people who want to restore the river and ultimately help save our lake. With this plan, there will be no loss of any local jobs and the annual revenue of \$6 million dollars will stay intact. As an addition to this, the local property value will improve. This way, the regulation 18 hole golf course can stay and we can help, and we can save our lake and restore the Truckee all at once. It is very important to keep the golf course because just the golf course alone provides 168 local jobs, either part time or full time, and \$800,000 to help keep parks open. These are just some of the obvious reasons why Option 2 is the way to go. Thank you so much for your time.

PM2-27

BIAGGI: Well done Cambria, thank you. Zack Fiston.

FISTON: Hello, I also support Number 2. It is my belief that a solution to the fine sediment problem is in Number 2. First, the Lake Tahoe Golf Course annually creates almost \$6 million dollars for our local economy. It would be a major economic blow if we lost its revenue. Option 2 will allow the 18 hole course to remain and possibly make it better. Second, Lake Tahoe's clarity is rapidly declining. It is imperative we do something to decrease the river's speed and stabilize its banks. This way less fine sediment will flow into the lake. Option 2 will stabilize and restore over 37 acres of stream zone. Last, Option 2 will create many new recreational opportunities including a new foot path and a bridge connecting the southeast and west sides of the river. Thank you.

PM2-28

BIAGGI: Thank you, Zack, and just for the record Judy, that's Zack Fiston. John Garofalos. John, I take it, you're not part of the Civics class here.

GAROFALOS: That is, that is correct.

BIAGGI: Assuming that we're done with the Civics class, I'd really like to thank all of you for taking the time to be here today and for your analysis and you did a great job talking today.

GAROFALOS: Okay, my name is John Garofalos and I am supporting Alternative 2. Um, the reason for that is basically we have recreation and we also have restoration. You currently have an 18 hole golf course which is making money for the state parks, which is a desirable event for the state parks. You have in the summer time in addition to golf, you have hiking, mountain biking, and mountain bike riding and people go out there and take photographs. In the winter time, there are people who go snowmobiling, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. Um, what I would like to do now is specifically focus on the bridge 'cause I noticed it's come up a couple of times and I think we should focus on it a little bit more. Currently, there is a bridge that crosses the Truckee river that is used illegally by certain people who will remain anonymous for obvious legal reasons. Um, but this bridge is used summer, winter, spring and fall, and the golf course itself has taken to cutting off these bridges by putting in a barrier in the winter time. With opportunity that we have with Alternative 2 is we will have a access year around, so we will actually increase your recreational activities because people now in the winter time will be able to ski over these bridges. I don't know if they're allowed to snowmobile or not, but they will be able to go snowshoeing and hiking and you'll have a lot of activities that will be generated that are not generated now in the winter time. People cross those bridges that exist now illegally, and that is a very common activity. So I heard you refer to the public doesn't have access, well, technically no, but they're out there and they do it. So removing those bridges sited in Option 3 and Option 5 would be extremely unpopular for the loss of those recreational activities. Okay, that's all. Thank you.

PM2-29

BIAGGI: Okay John. Wendy Shedadi.

SHEDADI: Good morning. My name's Wendy Shedadi. I currently, and have since 1976, live on the 5th tee at Lake Tahoe Golf Course, and I commend the golf course because we have been good neighbors all of that time. I'm here today to encourage you to accept and help develop, if you can, Alternative 2. I do feel that it is the best option for all of our neighborhood, as well as our community. I just wanted to say one little thing that I included in the letter to the Upper Truckee River Restoration System and the parks. Um, my husband is a golfer. I'm not, but we currently host a 3-day golf tournament annually. It's the tenth year this past summer of the golf tournament. It's just a little 3-dayer for, um, where we invite 30 golfers to come and play and most of them are from the Painted Desert Men's Club in Las Vegas. And, um, they come and bring their wives and play a couple of days at Lake Tahoe Golf Course. They have a barbeque at our house on one evening, but eat in local restaurants. The wives who don't golf, and some do, shop in the community. Um, it has been a fun thing for us to do and a way to bring some folks to the

PM2-30

community that perhaps wouldn't come otherwise. They love that beautiful little basin and can't wait to come back every year. And so, um, that's just one of the small ways that the golf course is used. We, we strongly support the control of erosion and the change of design necessary for Alternative 2. We would go, of course, and support 4 if we can't find the money for 2, but encourage #2. Um, the number of people enjoying this recreation of golf as opposed to the number of people that are hiking and horseback riding in the proposed area of relocation of the 9 holes far out paces the latter, and the ripple effect on the economy should be reason enough. The bang for the buck in this state park is also compelling, and that should be an obligation it seems to us to this project. The area is also used in the winter time by walkers and some bike riders in the fall after the golf course is closed for the season and in the winter by cross-country skiers, which further enhances the public use. I hope you'll give serious consideration to our support for Alternatives 2 or 4 and make all the efforts that you can to get the funding to fully complete it as quickly as possible. Thanks for your attention.

PM2-30
cont.

BIAGGI: Thank you Wendy. Carl Fair. And after Carl will be Roger Pratt.

FAIR: Good morning. My name is Carl Fair. I have reviewed the draft of the environmental impact study, as well as other information put out by the project staff over the past few years on the proposed California State Parks project on the Upper Truckee River near the Lake Tahoe Golf Course. I urge you to listen to the quiet majority, of which I am one. Many of us support the project alternative that is going to be best for the river, the lake, and preserving local jobs, which I believe is Option #2. I am a Tahoe Paradise resident and business owner, and I'm also an avid golfer. I think Alternative 2 is the best way to improve Lake Tahoe Golf Course. I really like what Alternative 2 proposes, moving 9 holes across the river. Although we lose 9 flat river holes, we will have the opportunity to enjoy 9 new interesting link style holes with elevation in the pines. We get to keep 18 holes of golf, the river gets an opportunity to return to its natural state, and this means trout and wildlife will have a healthier place to live. Clearly, Alternative 2 is a way to us to fix the erosion going into the river and the lake, improve the golf course and keep jobs, a pretty logical decision for me. Thanks.

PM2-31

BIAGGI: Thank you. Roger Pratt and then B. Gorman.

PRATT: I'm Roger Pratt. I'm an avid golfer. I'm also a local businessman, and I'm an environmentalist. Um, I lived in North Upper Truckee between 1999 and 2005. I've probably walked that meadow at least a thousand times with my dogs. Yesterday, I decided to go back and visit it again. And, leaving from the community, up above the meadow, I climbed the old trails that I had in the past that are severely eroded in the last five years. Most of these are stupid access to their sewer lines, but they're very eroded. They're flowing into the

PM2-32

meadow. I went to the quarry where there was a restoration project done. There's still plenty of building material there and there's erosion of a large pile of sand. So, things have not gotten much better in the last five years. If you go 200 yards above the golf course up the river, there's still increasing degradation of the river with banks falling in, so things haven't changed. Um, if you move across an Alternative B and put the golf course in there, the existing problems that are there will be mitigated. If you don't, they'll continue to be a problem for you. As an avid golfer, Alternative 1 is not satisfactory to me because the course is old and needs to be rebuilt anyway. It's kind of antiquated. There's golf holes like green #6, 16, and 17 that are way overdue to be over-built and they're right on the river, so you're gonna have some work to do there to keep it as a golf course. Alternatives 3, 4 and 5, obviously, as an avid golfer, I would even want to play the course. So, your revenue's gonna diminish. Alternative 2, after walking through the meadow again yesterday, would make an attractive addition to golfers and you'll probably increase golfing revenue because of the aesthetic benefits of the improvement. So, I really believe Alternative 2 is a win/win situation, not only for the environmentalists to protect the river, access to the community, and also golfers would have a better round of golf. So, thank you very much.

PM2-32
cont.

BIAGGI: Thank you. B. and then Scott Valentine.

GORMAN: Good morning Governing Board, Chair and Members. B. Gorman, President and CEO of TahoeChamber.org representing over 750 businesses. We have submitted a letter, which I will not bore you by reading. I'll forego that, you have it in the record. Just start by saying, it is in support of Alternative #2. Um, I wanted to just kind of share a thought that I've had recently. I attended a Sustainable Tourism Conference, and had the opportunity to hear Jim Moriarty speak. And, for those of you who don't know, Jim is the founder and the Executive Director of the Surf Rider Foundation. And, he spoke about two kinds of environmentalists, and I think that it, it touched me because it's so relevant to what we deal with here in the Basin all the time. He talked about the big "E" environmentalist, and his assessment was that those are the environmentalists who are professionals and that we should leave that level of dialog to the professionals. And, I think we've heard from those professionals this morning and they've done an admirable job of laying out the facts for us. And, therefore, I don't think it's appropriate for myself to comment on that. But then Jim spoke about the little "e" environmentalists and I love this term, and he called that a lifestyle environmentalist. And, I would propose that most of us in this room and in this Basin are probably the little "e" type of environmentalist. We're a lifestyle environmentalist. We do the right thing, we take our grocery bags to the grocery store, we recycle, we try to ride our bikes when we can, and we support whatever we can that protects this Basin. Um, and, I think that it's relevant because the Surf Rider Foundation says they want to use and protect the coastline. So, they're not trying to protect it so it never has any recreational use, but rather they're

PM2-33

surfers. They're protecting the coastline so that people can come and enjoy that environment, and clearly, I believe that's what we're trying to do here in the Tahoe Basin. Um, I don't think that there's a member represented by our Chamber or a business in this Basin who's not a member of our Chamber who would advocate that we don't want to protect our environment. We all want to protect this lake, that's just a given, and I think we have to accept that and honor that. But we also all understand as business people, that in order to have a sustainable environment, we have to have a sustainable economy. The two are linked and we can't do one without the other. We've tried. We've seen where it's gotten us to. So towards that end, we are urging both California State Parks and the Governing Board to support Alternative 2. We believe this is the best Alternative because first and foremost it achieves the environmental improvements identified as a high priority in the EIP adopted by this Board. Um, we've already seen and heard the reasons from many this morning why this is a great Alternative. And secondly, and more logically, what you would have expected me to put as first would be that this is a win/win for the economy as well. I think each and every one of us knows we have about 40% of our population living at or below poverty level. If you take under-employed and unemployed, together, we're not at 17%, we're probably closer to 30%. We cannot afford to lose 168 jobs out of this community. Nor can we afford to lose \$6 million dollars of income. If we want the jurisdictions to implement TMDL practices, they have to have a tax base to do that from and this would further erode that tax base. It's a cost we can't afford, and I would say I don't believe the TRPA Governing Board can afford, if we're serious about getting the threshold attainment that we want. I also would be remiss if I didn't mention the \$880,000 revenue to CalState Parks. For those of us who live on the California side, we're all too familiar with what almost happened last year to our state parks. Many of us fought very, very hard to protect those state parks and keep them open. Clearly \$880,000 is an important revenue stream to the institution. We heard that from Dan Ray this morning, we've heard it over here. Um, we need to preserve that funding, but I also want to mention that Washoe Meadows was one of the parks that was on the list slated to be closed. I don't think we want to risk that, and I know we don't want to risk the closure of other state parks that are important to our tourism economy here. Not only do we lose the tourists, but we also risk the, um, protection of those assets and perhaps further environmental degradation of parks if they have to pull back their funding. So, I think there's a ripple effect here that we haven't necessarily talked about this morning. So, with that, I will, um, thank you for your time this morning and we look forward to hearing positive decision on Alternative 2.

PM2-33
cont.

BIAGGI: Thank you B. Scott Valentine and then Bob Anderson.

VALENTINE: Hello, my name is Scott Valentine, I'm the head of the Earth Science Department at the Lake Tahoe Community College, and I like to start out by saying that I'm not here to complain. I've been to enough public meetings to

PM2-34

understand that most of these are comprised of complaints because people don't like or simply don't understand the benefit of change in their community. The number of complaints at public meetings typically outweighs the amount of support, which is misleading in a way in that it does not accurately represent the community voice. So I make it a point to show up to public meetings for projects that I support, as well as those that I don't. I have a degree in hydrology and I've worked on various river restoration projects with the US Forest Service in the past, and I fully understand the importance of river restoration and, um, what it means for Lake Tahoe. I've read and commented on the draft EIR and I feel that there is, or there will be, an observable and measurable improvement in water quality, riparian habitat and ecosystem connectivity if this river segment is restored. Given this, it would make sense for me as a restoration hydrologist and a non-golfer, to support the full restoration of the river corridor associated with Alternative 5. However, I also understand the social and economic significance the golf course has for Lake Tahoe and for state parks which is why I'm here in support of Alternative 2. Even though I live within the city limits, I regularly recreate within Washoe Meadows State Park. I do not play golf, but I understand the importance of this type of recreation. I feel that land swap associated with Alternative 2, that is moving the golf course out of the stream environment zone, and relocating it into the upland forest west of the river, is justified. The ecologic importance of the stream corridor and the adjacent meadow vastly outweighs that of the upland parcel in question, which is, in my professional opinion, is of poor quality, a poor quality habitat already degraded by the fact that it was historically disturbed and it has never fully recovered. Um, Cindy Walck, I think, pretty much shot down Alternative 3 saying that it was economically not very viable, and Alternative 4, accepting Alternative 4 would be absolutely ludicrous. This is an entirely too expensive option with little or no social or environmental benefit. There's an exorbitant amount of literature out there that shows that these type of band-aid methods as far as river restoration is concerned simply do not work. The TRPA is here to show us that people can live and find balance in their environment. Balancing social and economic and environmental goals is challenging, but it needs to be a priority. Project Alternative 2 is the only alternative that adequately does this, and it should be the only logical choice for the TRPA and for the community of South Lake Tahoe. Don't short change our future by settling for less desirable alternatives. Let's do something right the first time, rather than throw band-aids at our mistakes in the future. Please consider Alternative 2. Thank you.

PM2-34
cont.

BIAGGI: Thank you, Scott. Bob Anderson and then Lynne Paulson.

ANDERSON: I have some written copies of my statement so the Board can sing along. Good morning, I'm Bob Anderson. I'm here to represent the Tahoe Area Sierra Club today. First of all, we thank and compliment State Parks and its partner agencies for confronting a serious problem and for providing an

PM2-35

environmental document that has a wealth of information. Such a wealth of information that it is very hard to absorb and get through it. This project really has two elements: there's river restoration and there's golf. And, we think that first of all the river should be restored, period. Doing so would have many benefits. It would be good for the river in its own right. It would be good for the state park, and it would be good for the clarity of Lake Tahoe. So we stand firmly in favor of river restoration, but golf is another matter. River restoration will require some changes to golf, as you well know, because golf encroaches on the river right now. Right now, Washoe Meadows State Park does not have a general plan, but Lake Valley State Recreation area, the golf course does. It also has a River Management Plan, and we like these plans. These Plans call for restoration of the river and reduction of the golf course area. These are Plans that are in place today, and we think that those Plans should be implemented. Then we come to golf. But, first let me talk about the absence of a state plan for Washoe Meadows State Park. Under state regulations, it's impermissible to permanently commit the resources of a state park unit without a general plan. Well, building a golf course and a bridge would do exactly that, permanently commit resources of the park. A general plan for the park must be completed before any proposal to build a golf course or any other use of the park. In other words, proceeding with Alternative 2 will only delay restoration of the river. On the other hand, Alternative 3 can be pursued, and that will provide for the most expeditious way not only to restore the river but also to pursue many of TRPA's thresholds. Now after a general planning process for Washoe Meadows State Park, if the results embrace expanded golf, then it could be legally pursued at that time. Now TRPA's responsibilities are about thresholds, a broad range of thresholds, and those nine were put up on the screen today and you're very familiar with them. TRPA's responsibility is not golf. It's not the economics or the politics of golf, and it's not the budget of state parks. TRPA should rank and consider the alternatives according to their environmental impacts. In other words, their pursuit of TRPA's thresholds. As described in the environmental document, Alternative 5, full river restoration with golf course removal, is the best environmental alternative. The next best environmental alternative is Alternative 3, full river restoration of golf reduced on the east side of the river. Alternative 2, we believe, is legally infeasible because: it does not comport with a mission of state parks; the settlement agreement and the statutes, state statutes leading to the acquisition of Washoe Meadow State Park; the adopted and published purpose of Washoe Meadow State Park; and, regulations that preclude the permanent commitment of park resources in the absence of a general plan. On the merits, Alternative 3 is superior to Alternative 2. In my statement, I've listed ten of these reasons, many of which relate to TRPA's thresholds. I'm not gonna go through each of these ten, but I'm gonna mention one of them. It's number six on my list. And this is about opportunity costs. There's been much said about how Alternative 2 would improve the situation on the west side of the river because part of it is a disturbed area. Well, that's comparing the wrong things. That disturbed zone ought to be

PM2-35
cont.

rehabilitated and restored and its erosion reduced in the absence of a golf course. It doesn't take Alternative 2 to fix whatever is wrong on the disturbed part of the park on the west side of the river.

BIAGGI: Bob, your time is up, is up. Can you wrap it up, please?

ANDERSON: Is this, do I have five minutes. This is an organization.

BIAGGI: Yes, you did.

ANDERSON: Alright, let me just wrap up. In conclusion, the Tahoe Area Sierra Club supportly, strongly opposes Alternative 2, supports Alternatives 3 and 5. We urge TRPA to find the EIS inadequate because Alternative 2 is legally infeasible. Only Alternatives 3 and 5 can lead to the expeditious restoration of the river. Alternative 5 is the best environmentally, but we think Alternative 3 is the best balance of all the interests. Thank you.

BIAGGI: Thank you, Bob. Lynne Paulson, and then Carol Daum after that.

PAULSON: My name is Lynne Paulson. I support river restoration, as well as preservation of the integrity of Washoe Meadows State Park, which faces devastation if Alternative 2 is chosen. Like the League to Save Lake Tahoe, I support Alternative 3 or a new alternative that combines river restoration with golf at another location other than the park. According to the Sacramento Bee on Sunday, October 17th, among the ten largest State Park Systems, only California and Massachusetts lack a dedicated funding source. The State Park System budget issues are at a huge scale beyond anything involving Washoe Meadows State Park and Lake Valley State Recreation area. Washoe Meadow State Park should not be held responsible for fixing much larger budget issues. The California State Park System's statistical report for 2008 and 2009, which is available on their website online, indicates that revenue from Lake Valley State Recreation Area was not in the top 5 or 10, but was 46th among California State Park System properties. The disconnect in ranking from what you heard previously is because that ranking of 5 only referred to concession revenue and parks actually get revenue from many other sources. So in that same statistical report, the revenue from state, Lake Valley State Recreation Area represents about a half of a percent of the \$80 million dollar annual field revenue as reported in the actual column in the governor's budget. We really should not sacrifice Washoe Meadow State Park for such a trivial increase in revenues in the State Parks System. The economic analysis that is part of the draft EIR has many accounting illusions and inadequacies that are part of a pattern of biased analysis that narrows the scope and choices so that only Alternate 2 appears feasible. Significantly, the economic analysis doesn't address the reality of the current and predicted decline in golf as a recreational activity, and the continuing increase in lower impact and family friendly sports such as hiking, river rafting, bird-watching and enjoyment of nature. Some assumptions in economic analysis for estimates of Lake Tahoe Golf

PM2-35
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PM2-36

Course generated visitors are unsupportable. Even if the estimates are true, the supposed \$6 million dollars per year of additional revenue would represent a miniscule amount of the \$1.2 billion income owned by residents of Lake Tahoe region directly attributable to tourist expenditures. The California State Parks Foundation recently sent out a membership renewal notice. The envelope is stamped, "Our parks are not for sale." Please do not support the short-sited and self-serving project Alternative 2 that would in effect sell off Washoe Meadow State Park which is part of Tahoe's natural heritage and our children's legacy. As Governing Board members, the people of California and Nevada rely on your wisdom, judgment, and guidance to fulfill TRPA's mission to protect the Lake Tahoe environment in a way that benefits future generations of Tahoe visitors and residents. Thank you, and I have, like a copy of my statement passed out.

PM2-36
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BIAGGI: That's fine, thank you, Carol, and after that Patricia Handal. While Carol is coming up, I'd just like to remind everyone that the comment period is open until November 8th, and you're welcome to submit written comments as well that will be considered.

DAUM: Good morning. My name is Carol Daum. I was born here in South Lake Tahoe, and we are raising our children here. We love the lake. It was refreshing to attend a few of the EIP/950 CalParks presentations, realizing that they did their homework and see the big picture for Tahoe. It was, I was most impressed with the proactive approach in exposing the problem of dumping 16 dump truck loads of sediment into the lake annually, and finding solutions, including money. Alternative 2 is the most efficient solution to help the entire Basin, positively impacting our environment, our parks, recreation and the economy in a positive way, a quad triple bottom line. Please choose to be proactive, responsible and efficient and support Option 2. While we have the one time partial money available which would not support Alternative 3 or 5, if I understand it correctly, and it won't get the river restoration done in a more timely manner. Please restore the river and the golf course, both for Lake Tahoe. Thank you.

PM2-37

BIAGGI: Thank you Patricia Handal and then Harold Anino.

HANDAL: Good day. My name is Patricia Handal, and I have a house on Mountain Meadow Drive which borders on Washoe Meadows State Park. Golfing is on the decline. To me the question should not be how to make the golf course better or attract more members, but what should we be doing with the property in the future for up and coming generations. In 2006 there was a community opposition to this project. Many good suggestions and alternatives were offered by community members. They were all discounted and ignored, but my scope is not to talk about or rehash these valid issues. I want to focus on the wildlife. First, a large area of the park was designated a wildlife refuge in 1984. Many species of animals call this their home. The park is surrounded by

PM2-38

the area that was devastated by the Angora fire in 2007. Since that time, many animals were displaced, have now created their habitats in the park and they do call it home. I've lived in my house for coming upon 20 years, and I've observed many changes with the wildlife populations due to various factors. But, the most significant changes have occurred since the fire. Where bear visits were once every 2 to 3 weeks, the past 2 summers they have been 4 to 5 times a week. Um, in addition, there's been a resurgence of raccoons, deer, rabbits, and many types of birds that I've never seen before. If Alternative 2 is instituted, the wildlife habitats will be fragmented and disrupted. The animals that currently live in the park will be forced into the residential areas, possibly becoming threats, which ultimately could lead to their destruction. Eventually, as the Angora fire area recovers, many animals will again migrate back into that territory, but there will always be a population that calls Washoe Meadows State Park their home. My block has 10 houses on it. This year is the first time a house was sold since I've lived there, and we now have a new neighbor. We're a very close-knit, tight community. We watch out for each other. We watch out collectively for the forest and for the wildlife. If you've recently driven down Mountain Meadow Drive, Dixie Mountain or Little Bear, you will see signs like this posted on every single property as well as at the trailheads: "We oppose Alternative 2. We support restoration of the river, with another alternative". We started a petition campaign recently and I will not have all the petitions back until prior to November 8th, but here, this is just what I've collected, several hundred petitions. There's between 15 or 8 on each of these pages. So we've got several hundred right here in opposition to Alternative 2. I am speaking on behalf of myself and every resident on my block, which I have been authorized to do, and many others in the community.

PM2-38
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BIAGGI: Patricia your time is up...

HANDAL: I will summarize.

BIAGGI: ...could you wrap it up please.

HANDAL; We are 100% supposed, opposed to Alternative 2. Reconfiguration by definition means to change the shape or restructure, so by definition, Alternative 2 cannot even be considered because it involves enlarging the size of the golf course footprint. And, we who live adjacent to the park, we live in harmony with our surroundings, we are best qualified to be the stewards of the land and the animals and to speak on behalf of them. Alternative 2 is just plain wrong, and needs to be thrown out. Perhaps focusing on how to promote the wildlife refuge should be considered. In closing, if Alternative 2, there will be unattended, unintended consequences that cannot be undone. Please consider this information carefully and consider alternatives that do not increase the footprint of the golf course. And I do thank you for your time.

PM2-39

BIAGGI: Thank you. Harold Anino and then Rick Hopkins after that.

HANDAL: Can I just hand out some of the posters that we have around town?

BIAGGI: Sure, you bet.

HANDAL: So, however you want to do it. (Incomprehensible) And the pictures of the bears were taken (Incomprehensible).

BIAGGI: Ma'am, okay, we, we're into another person now, so, thank you.

ANINO: Hi, I'm Harold Anino. I'm a local resident here, part of the community and I'm here to voice my opinion and in support of Alternative 2. I believe it is not only good for the lake, but for the river. It's good for the wildlife, um, and it also provides a great outlet for recreation. Probably one of several hundred golfers in the community, one of several thousand in our state, and to me, I play 80 to 100 rounds of golf each year, and the vast majority are on this golf course. It's a great recreation outlet. It's a great social outlet. It is important as is wildlife. The golf course is an integral part of our community. They raise, they raise funds for the local high school golf team. They support local businesses who host their tournaments there, and they provide jobs. I don't know if we're ever gonna have a convention center in this town, but if we do, one of the things that's gonna be critical to supporting that convention center is a golf course. I've spent 25 years in business, attended several meetings and every single one of them include a varied list of activities for participants in the meetings, but every single meeting included golf as one of the activities. Alternative 2 keeps the 18 hole golf course, provides hiking and biking opportunities, and it does help wildlife. The wildlife that migrated from the burn area can also migrate into the restored meadow area. So, um, I don't see that, that changing the golf course around would impact wildlife in any negative form. I think it would be a positive. As far as I'm concerned, Alternative 2 is kind of a win/win and it's been stated here, but I believe the impact of the golf course is a positive on our community. Thank you.

PM2-40

BIAGGI: Thank you. Rick Hopkins and then Bill Yeats.

HOPKINS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Board, thank you for the ability to speak. I am Dr. Rick Hopkins, Principal and Senior Conservation Biologist for Live Oak Associates, Inc., an ecological consulting company with offices in San Jose, Oakhurst, and Bakersfield. I also own a home bordering the west boundary of Warsaw Meadow State Park, where I regularly hike, mountain bike and snowshoe. I also support full river restoration. While I've many concerns regarding the environmental document you are reviewing, I will provide those in written form. I wish to speak on only two issues today, that being the adverse effect that Alternative 2 will have on the fen or spring complexes on the west side of the river, and on the regional movement of various wildlife species along the west side of the river. Effects I might add are peculiar only to Alternative 2. As Alternative 3, 4 and 5 have no effects on

PM2-41

the fen. And, Alternatives 3 and 5, and to a lesser extent 4, optimize wildlife movement along the restored river corridor and improve upland habitat, and the important upland habitat to the west of the river. While the EIR/EIS does note that Alternative 2 proposes to avoid direct effects on the spring complexes, it goes on further to say because there is no design to the golf course at this point, it cannot readily conclude that there will be no effect from design operation and maintenance to the golf course. The challenge for the fen by surrounding them as proposed may result in no feasible, feasible way to mitigate long term direct or indirect effects. Encircling a sensitive resource such as a fen, which is identified in TRPA's considerations, with human dominated landscapes almost never work, and at the very least degrades them from the baseline condition. The environmental document defers mitigation and suggests the golf course design accommodate the sensitivity of the fen habitat through design and avoidance measures, but the document provides no real understanding if this is even feasible. The golf course in the end might have to avoid constructing these four holes surrounding the fen to ensure that they do not result in long term significant, unavoidable impact, something not anticipated by this document. Over the years, I've specialized in conducting connectivity of movement studies, particularly over very large landscapes, up to 40,000 square kilometers using theoretically grounded and statistically robust spatial tools. It is naïve and overt, overly simplistic to suggest that riparian areas are the only place that wildlife movement occurs. Alternative 2, while it restores the river and increases the functioning of the riparian corridor, including facilitating regional movement of some wildlife species, it also constrains wildlife movement by expanding significant elements of golf play on both sides of the river, something Alternative 2 and 3, 2,3 and 5 do not do. The riparian areas provide important movement areas for the speci, for various species, but many wildlife species move in areas other than riparian areas. They, they actually prefer more open habitats or they prefer the mosaic of habitats that occur in the upland species, or the upland habitats.

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- BIAGGI: Rick, your time is up, can I ask you to wrap it up please.
- HOPKINS: Yes, in summary, Alternative 2 has a much greater effect on important conservation values than does Alternative 3, 4, and 5, and, as such, I urge the TRPA to recognize that this Alternative is not consistent with their stewardship mission. Thank you.
- BIAGGI: Bill. Bill, are you representing a group, um, the Tah, the Washoe Meadows community or are you here as an individual?
- YEATS: Yes, I'm, I'm here, my name is Bill Yeats. I'm here with the law firm of Kennia Yeats ...
- BIAGGI: Okay.

YEATS: ...and I'm here on behalf of the Washoe Meadows community.

BIAGGI: We'll give you five then, thank you.

YEATS: Thank you very much. Um, I guess I'd be remiss if I didn't encourage all California residents here, if they haven't already voted by mail, to certainly support Proposition 21 to help state parks. I think it's a very reasonable and feasible way to support um, um, the legacy that was established some 100 years ago almost to restore these unique areas in California. Now, in regards to the EIR/EIS/EIS and the unique kind of three-headed hydria you have here, because of the different laws involved and the unique position that TRPA sits in and its role and its enforcement of its environmental thresholds, you know, I'm having problems with what the document says and what you were, what you were presented with. Essentially you have five Alternatives, three of which they've, State Parks has said are infeasible which raises the question under the California Environmental Quality Act, well wait a minute, you're supposed to put forward, you know, a reasonable range of feasible alternatives. So if, in fact, Alternative 3 is not feasible because you really cannot find anyone to operate a 9 hole golf course, then you decision makers and we the public have wasted our time reviewing this matter because it's not feasible. Also, Alternative 4, because it really doesn't do what you want it to do, which is to restore the natural, morphology of the whole thing, then, then you won't get the necessary grant fund support for this project, so therefore it's not economically feasible. Alternative 5 for the reasons that it doesn't provide a golf course, even though it does all the things that your threshold and your policies and your plan encourage, which is the restoration of the Upper Truckee River, it's not feasible. So you're left with Alternative 1, which is the status quo base line conditions, and State Parks' proposal, which reminds me of my days when I used to be the lobbyist for the California Coastal Commission, about three decades ago when Dan Ray and I also worked for the Coastal Commission. Dan was in the north coast region and I was the state Commission's lobbyist. And, one of the problems we had immediately after the passage of the '76 Coastal Act was dealing with State Parks who historically placed most of their development on the seaward side of Highway 1. And, we had policies in the Coastal Act that simply discouraged development on the seaward side of Highway 1. And, I sat in many meetings of the State Director telling me how implementation of the State Coastal Zone policies would not work for State Parks. They had to have their parking, they had to have their camping, they had to have all the stuff on the seaward side because the public wouldn't take advantage of their state park if all that stuff was on the landward side of the road. Now our policies didn't give our Commission that much flexibility. They said "No, you're gonna have to adjust your development plans to deal with that". We were told it was infeasible. Yet, if you go to Salt Point in Sonoma County you'll find, if you can find a campsite through the reservation system, a very well operated facility that doesn't put all the development on the seaward side of Highway

PM2-42

1. For the same reason, don't accept the project the project proponents' standpoint that you can't have a smaller golf course and have river restoration without adding additional development in Washoe State Park. And then, if you look, remember, look at that picture again of Alternative 2, that donut hole on one of their proposals, and then look back at the sensitive habitats, that uncommon plant communities that is also a threshold that you're supposed to protect. Those fens, well they wrap a golf course around it, and they don't describe well what's there, gonna be the consequence of that? There isn't a whole lot of information about the fens in this environmental document. The reason why is that even though they put this stuff on their map, they don't have anything other than a conceptual idea of where that golf course is gonna go. The details of where those holes are gonna go will be dealt with later. The environmental consequences of those uncommon plant communities will be addressed after you make your decision on which Alternative. To me, the best alternative that addresses your threshold capacities, addresses your plan for improving the natural morphology of the stream is Alternative 3 under your compact, under your regional plan in carrying out your threshold capacities. Please don't do (Incomprehensible) work for them. Do your job, protect Lake Tahoe. Thank you very much.

PM2-42
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BIAGGI: Thank you Bill. Terry Daniels and then Casey Blann.

DANIELS: Good afternoon Mr. Chairman, Governing Board. My name is Terry Daniels and we do want to see the baseball game, so I will be very brief. I've, I've listened to this presentation twice now, I did have an opportunity to attend one of the outreach sessions, and I, I, I'm very impressed with the work that State Parks has done, I think Cindy has done a really amazing job on this. And, I also had an opportunity after listening to the presentation, to go for a walk in this area that we're talking about where the nine holes would be moved to. And, and I've lived here thirty some odd years, and I've done a lot of recreating in the Washoe Parks area and before it was State Park owned. Um, and, it's an old rock quarry, and it seems to me that rock quarries and dumps and, um, you know, old reclaimed lands like that are perfect places to put golf courses and it makes a lot of sense to me to restore the river. I think that, you know, we've spent millions and millions of dollars at East Cove. We've done a, a tremendous amount of work behind the airport, and these are all towards the mission of returning the river to it's natural state. It makes a lot of sense to me to, to continue down that path. Alternative 2, it just makes a lot of common sense to me that that's, that's the direction we should be looking at. It seems right for the economy. We don't want to loose this money. We don't want to loose these jobs. It's certainly right for the environment, and I think it's right for the quality of life that you've heard a lot of golfers here speak of. I'm a golfer. I use that area substantially. And, and, it's a wonderful golf course. Um, and I think moving it and following up with Alternative 2 makes a lot of sense to me. And, and I did just want to, um, offer my humble opinion on Alternative 3. You know, Alternative 3, moving this to a 9 hole golf

PM2-43

course, we won't use it. You know, these, these golfers here, um, that's not a championship level golf course. It's not something that we would be interested in. We'll take, ah, we'll take our business to Genoa or Carson City or elsewhere. They will have a significant impact, and I, I think that they're very accurate in that it will not be feasible, Alternative 3 won't work. So, that's my opinion anyway. Thank you very much.

PM2-43
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BIAGGI: Thank you. Casey, and then Andrew Strain.

BLANN: Good afternoon Board. It is afternoon now I realize. My name's Casey Blann, I'm a 29 year resident of Lake Tahoe, South Lake Tahoe and I'm here today to encourage you to support Alternative 2. Now, we all feel it's critical to support the environmental protection of this lake, and doing so through any of these projects makes great sense to me. So, totally in support of doing the right thing environmentally. I just want to speak to Alternative 2 is the only Alternative which provides a long term, sustainable solution, excuse me, for quality golf recreation. Lake Tahoe Golf Course currently fulfills a very unique niche in terms of golf recreation here. It sits between the Edgewood and Incline high ends, and the backyard or more city run courses in there and around the lake, which is an important fact. It is a diversified recreation use which does fulfill a very good point. We heard earlier that golf visits are down, and I just want to speak to something that the same was said of skiing many years ago. And, I just want to point out, I have firsthand knowledge that last year, skiing had it's second best season ever. So these are mainly cyclical things that do ebb and flow. In, finally, in supporting Alternative 2, it would be supportive, diversified recreational opportunities for the long term benefit of locals as well as tourists to the area. Thank you.

PM2-44

BIAGGI: Thank you. Andrew and then Joanne Robbins.

STRAIN: Good afternoon Mr. Chairman, members of the Board. Thank you, I'm Andrew Strain from Heavenly Mountain Resort and fellow recreation provider. I'm glad that Supervisor Montgomery brought up the example of Saint Andrews and the link style course. I've been there a couple of times and I can't wait to go back, But, it does have actually shared greens on 14 of the 18 holes. They're double greens and they're about 2-3 acres in size, and they have separate fairways so that there is room for, you know, duffers like me that spray the ball and not sort of hit a Scotsman, which I'd rather not do. But the point is, it real, it was a good analogy, too, because the link style that's proposed for the new nine, link style designs tend to tread lightly on the landscape for many reasons. And, this is a great opportunity for us to be more like that under Alternative 2. The project itself represents a real opportunity for all of us. The title of the project, and I think it's properly named, is the Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project. It's not "or", it's "and". The type of benefits that this project offers are multiple, and there are multiple, as you've heard, threshold benefits including

PM2-45

that. I believe that Alternative 2 is a well thought out design solution to a pretty complex design problem that we've got to deal with right now, and it will significantly improve it's environmental performance, similar to those links courses that Supervisor Montgomery mentioned. There's not an infinite amount of money to invest right now, we know that. Capital is scarce. This is a cost effective solution. I would also tell you from my experience here in helping to assemble the EIP in the '90's, this is exactly the type of project that the EIP had hoped will come along. The original name of the EIP was the IEIP, Integrated Environmental Improvement Program, and that's what this is. You've heard today about water quality benefits, stream zone benefits, wildlife benefits, recreation benefits, and also economic and community benefits. You have a willing project proponent. You've got willing partners, and you've got a regional EIP that places a high priority on this very specific project. We support Alternative 2. We hope that you will too. It will accomplish the greatest amount of good on the ground. Thank you.

PM2-45
cont.

BIAGGI: Thank you. Joanne and after that Dave Probert or Probeet.

ROBBINS: Good afternoon. My name is Joanne Robbins and I am a proud little "e". I have owned a home in South Lake Tahoe for thirty years and have been a permanent resident for twenty-six years. My husband and I left our careers to live where the air is pine-scented, the trees are majestic and the water is clear. We have lived in the neighborhood that will be most affected by Alternative 2 for seventeen years. My husband and I are in the state park most days of the year. We hike, ski, snowshoe and observe and photograph nature. If the golf course is relocated to the state park, it will bisect the park, and make it difficult for humans and animals to reach the river. According to the EIR, this area is where 71% of the low impact recreation in the park now occurs. On our nature walks, my husband and I have observed many species of birds and plants. We also have a family of bears that come to our yard from the park regularly. My husband even saw a mule deer there recently. These animals will all be affected by increased human activity. Relocation of the golf course will forever change the character of the neighborhoods. The noise from Highway 50 and Tahoe Paradise Park has increased after the last two tree thinning projects. If more than 2000 trees are removed, along with substantial grading of the hill, the noise will increase immensely. Instead of listening to bird songs, we'll hear the sound of balls being hit, golf carts whizzing by, groups of people talking and sprinklers going on during the night. Our view will also change from a beautiful forest to monoculture grass covering a hill once covered with lupine and other wild flowers. The natural springs that occur all over the park will also disappear. I can't express the joy that is found in discovering each wild flower as it appears in the spring or seeing a bird returning from its journey south. To me, this is quality recreation. If a golf course is put in this precious place, it means hundreds of people will need to get in their cars to go recreate in some other place. To say that this is an equal exchange of land is absurd. The Park Department's own document on Lake

PM2-46

Valley State Recreations says that the recreation area is affected by noise and visual intrusions from Highway 50 and Lake Tahoe airport, and affects almost all areas potentially used for, useful for interpretation. It also states that Washoe Meadow State Park land is suitable for natural interpretation, nature study, hiking and similar uses. These activities are better suited for the park because of its relative distance from the golf course. The general plan also states that because of misdirected balls, golf course activities severely limits these types of activities. I'm also afraid some of these balls will make their way to fragile protected, "protected areas" of the park. For these reasons, I believe that Alternative 3 is a much better choice. It restores the river, preserves the precious resources in the park and still allows for golf on the east side of the river. This is the real win/win. Thank you.

PM2-46
cont.

BIAGGI: Thank you. Dave Probert or Probeet and John Gooding. And just as a status update, we've got about 17 others that wish to speak today, so, Dave. Is Dave around? Alright, John.

GOODING: Good afternoon Board. Thank you for letting me speak. My name is John Gooding. I've been a resident of Lake Tahoe since, well for 36 years, since 1974. I played my first round of golf out at the course in 1971 and since then I've played hundreds of rounds there. The point I'd like to make though and my feelings are out of the five Alternatives that have been put up for discussion, I believe that Alternative 1, no action, no project, would be the best choice. It sounds, probably ridiculous, you know, just don't do anything and everything will be okay, but in reviewing these other Alternatives, 2, 3 and 5 idealistically and through noble and valiant efforts of many that want to restore things as they once were 80 years ago or 100 years ago, I don't see that the golf course has had any affect on this. The river, is it a golf course issue or a river issue? If it's, the golf course is just there, the land was there before, if it's a river issue, the meanderings and the straightening and the carrying on of debris and silt, let's say you're going to move it, divert the river back to the way it was. You're gonna disturb the river all over again, causing tons more of silt and debris to enter into the lake. And, how are you gonna change it? I mean, even if you make it this way, it already is this way, so you're just making it this way somewhere else that way. I don't see the benefit of moving the river, of accomplishing the desired results. The flood plain going from the course down through the airport all the way to the lake, there it is, your riparian habitat has not been disturbed there too much, other than the airport, I guess. But, you have flooding that could occur there and, and the flood plain there and that would help with the silt and all the other debris. I want to make a point that I believe the river is a dynamic, and I know Cindy believes this too, I believe. The hydrologists all believe this. A river has a dynamic, um, character of it's own. It, it, it has energy, it travels. It is naturally going to erode banks, river beds no matter who, who, who tries to change the flow of it, how, whatever we do, it's still going to happen naturally. So these sediments and other debris that falls from the sky, drops in, whatever is gonna

PM2-47

be carried no matter what, no matter what man's disturbances are to make it perfect. I don't believe that can occur. I would, ah, so I'm against 2, 3, and 5. I don't see a need for it. The river's already, just let the river do what it does right now, naturally, and if it takes out part of the golf course, the superintendent of the golf course or something will change the golf course. And the bridges, the five bridges, they don't impact the flow of the river at all, they're on top, they're over it. Whether they're shorter or longer, I don't see that, I've played hundreds of rounds there, I don't see what affect it has on the river at all. I would, um,

BIAGGI: John, your, your time is up so...

GOODING: Could I just finish with one...

BIAGGI: You bet, sure.

GOODING: Two alternative, there could be many others. One alternative is, if you're worried about the clarity of the lake, build a plant closer down at the end of the river's run to filtrate the water. My other alternative is do nothing other than, no, change the course of the river, restore it, but leave the golf course as it is and just move it around wherever you think that around would help. Thank you.

BIAGGI: Thank you. Colleen Shade and then Greg Brown.

SHADE: Good afternoon. How are ya'll doing? Is this a shore zone hearing, no. I just have a couple, a couple of words because I don't want to be too redundant with what has already been stated. Vision for Lake Tahoe is a big picture, and that big picture is made up by all of these mosaic tiles. And, it's the detail of those tiles that, that help you to bring it back to that vision. And the vision for TRPA is guided by your threshold goals, and water quality is certainly one of those, those details that you need to pay attention to. And, people have talked about how restoring the river will provide the water quality benefits. You also have fishery benefits and wildlife benefits with the project, and I think even those that have been up here saying that you shouldn't move the golf course agree that there are those benefits. One of the things that has not been really talked about is another section of tiles and that's recreation. Recreation is identified as a threshold. It is identified as an important piece of that balance in the compact for the Lake Tahoe region. And it's not stated that it's recreation that is provided by just our open forest. That is part of the mosaic, but it's not the whole picture. Our recreation threshold talks about two things, one of it has to do with the recreation experience, quality recreation experience. My quality of recreation experience may be hiking to Upper Truckee Falls with nobody around, but somebody else's may be hanging out on Zepher Cove Beach on 4th of July. That is their quality experience, and the TRPA threshold does not distinguish between the two. It says that the plan will provide for quality recreational experiences. The second piece of the

PM2-47
cont.

PM2-48

recreation threshold has to do with reserving capacity for recreation. And, the state parks, when they came into the Basin and had the opportunity to acquire lands, they were creating the opportunity in the future to provide for recreation. At that time it was not prescribed the type of recreation that was going to be provided. Alternative 2 goes, gives you the opportunity to address all of your thresholds including recreation and also providing the local economy with another, not all, but another piece to that picture, to that mosaic of sustaining these communities around Lake Tahoe, both environmentally, economically, socially and aesthetically. Thanks.

PM2-48
cont.

BIAGGI: Thank you Colleen. Greg Brown; and after Greg, Laurie Brazil.

BROWN: Good afternoon. My name is Greg Brown, local resident, I'm a scientist, little "e" environmentalist and a very indifferent golfer. Lived in Tahoe about 4 years. Shortly after moving here, I was kayaking, came across the sediment plume of the Upper Truckee and was quite appalled actually. It was very distinct, very noticeable and my first thought was, "Where is the TRPA when you need them"? Because, by that time, I had heard many horror stories about what they did or didn't do and thought here's a perfect example of what they should be trying to take care of. Anyway, the economic situation of Tahoe is an extremely important consideration in evaluating the different Alternatives for several different reasons, mostly, because a financially strong community has the time, energy and money for future environmental projects. An economically strong community is undeniably desirable for a lot of other reasons: crime, drugs, prosperity, etc. But, with a financially prosperous town, we can afford to do progressively, environmentally good projects. That's one reason why I think keeping the golf course in this area is really important. It really affects the economics of the area. Meyers is a nice place, but driving through it, it does not look real prosperous. I think that moving the golf course there would be very detrimental to that whole area. I am very much in favor of, of Alternative 2, I think it has a mix of environmentally sound activities, restoring the river, reducing the sediment but also at the same time, helping to keep our community economically strong. There's been a lot of really good comments today. I've actually been very, um, surprised by the presentation by the staff today and by the community comments. I'll keep my comments, I'll stop my comments now so we know, I'll get out of here sooner. Thank you very much.

PM2-49

BIAGGI: Thank you. Laurie and then Nicole Gergans.

BRAZIL: I guess it's good afternoon now, my name is Laurie Brazil and I've lived, worked and played at Lake Tahoe for 28 plus years besides visiting and camping here in my childhood. Recently I retired with 30 plus years in education as a reading specialist from Douglas County Schools. I know you're saying, "That can't be, she's way too young." and you would be correct, but I digress. As well as having been an employee of the California State Parks at Folsom Lake, Emerald Bay and D. L. Bliss and additionally, I had the

PM2-50

privilege to live several seasons in Vikings home. Having been a member of the California State Parks Foundation, I was able to work on the Council with Dr. Helen Henry Smith and the recently passed Bill Lane, a devoted advocate for Lake Tahoe and the Founder of Sunset Magazine. I have deep roots and commitment to our environment and our lake, little “e” environmentalist. My involvement in Soroptimist International, Boys and Girls Club, our schools and several local charity fundraisers are testament to my dedication. My attendance at outreach meetings has assured me that the proposal that allows the holes to be moved to an area that will give Washoe Meadows State Park a better piece of land will, in addition restore the river’s meanders and flood plain, provide a buffer zone for the river which will eliminate the impact from fertilizer run off and thereby significantly improve the stream, wildlife and meadow habitat, I feel that the best Alternative to the Upper Truckee River project would be the proposed Alternative No. 2 in which the existing course would be reconfigured to accommodate the Upper Truckee River and yet keep one of the Cal Parks highest revenue generating parks to co-exist with upgrades for Washoe Meadows. Not only are there direct jobs involved, but this course affects quite a number of people, importantly the children of this community. This course is the only affordable 18 hole championship one available to our students, and it’s their home course for high school events as well as the site for Lake Tahoe Community College courses. As we continue to promote healthy lifestyles and support for our youth, it is imperative to keep this course in existence. Another major factor, of course, is that \$6 million dollars is generated in supplementary income to our surrounding community from the visitors who play and stay locally. And, a renovation only adds additional interest to entice even more of the golfing community and a more sophisticated one probably as well. I come from an environmental background and having worked for the Cal Parks for several years, so my personal bent and professional one combined to make the only balanced decision and that dove tails with your mission would be a win, is the public, for the public is Prop. #2. Alternative #2, the best choice for our community, our economy, our environment, and most importantly our children. Thanks a lot.

PM2-50
cont.

BIAGGI: Thank you. Nicole and then Jenny Hatch after that. Good morning Nicole.

GERGANS: Good morning. (Incomprehensible) For the record, Nicole Gergans on behalf of the League to Save Lake Tahoe. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments regarding the Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project. The efforts by California State Parks to restore a very important section of the Upper Truckee River are very commendable. The League is a major advocate for the restoration of stream environment zones and rivers as these ecosystems, when healthy, provide important water quality benefits, wildlife and sensitive species habitat and proper flood plain and hydrologic, hydrologic function. In addition to supporting the restoration of stream environment zones, the League is also a strong advocate for the

PM2-51

conservation of upland park land which provides important wildlife habitat, low impact recreational opportunities, scenic values and proper soil function. Therefore the League is in strong support of Alternative 3, River Ecosystem Restoration With Reduced Golf Play. This is clearly the preferred environmental Alternative because it restores reaches of the Upper Truckee River without further degrading additional acres of park land. Alternative 3 remains environmentally superior to Alternative 2 because, while Alternative 2 does restore the river and SEZ, it will impact a significant amount of forested and sensitive land by relocating 9 holes into Washoe Meadows State Park. Alternative 2 actually increases the golf cart, course footprint by 23 acres from its current footprint, while Alternative 3 significantly reduces the golf course footprint. The size of the golf course footprint is important in relation to the water quality threshold as well as other thresholds. In Alternative 3, the flood plain will be more fully restored than Alternative 2 and the amount of SEZ land restored will be greater in Alternative 3. Alternative 3 does not require new wells, water storage or drainage ponds. In comparison, a 1.6 acre man-made pond will be created in Alternative 2 for irrigation, and a smaller amount of SEZ land will be restored in Alternative 2. Furthermore, Alternative 2 proposes activity adjacent to a large undisturbed fen, thereby creating disturbance in a sensitive habitat. Alternative 3 is also preferred because it does not reduce access from the neighboring communities to Washoe Meadows State Park as is the case with Alternative 2. In Alternative 2, the combination of reduced access along with a decrease in forested land will cause an impact to recreation uses. This is clearly a very well used area for low impact activity such as walking and wildlife viewing. The League is in full support of Alternative 3, which clearly stands out as the preferred environmental alternative by restoring reaches of the Upper Truckee River while conserving park land. Thank you.

PM2-51
cont.

BIAGGI: Thank you, and Nicole, I realize I mispronounced your name once again, and some day I'll learn.

GERGANS: You got two more chances I believe.

BIAGGI: I believe so. Jenny, welcome.

HATCH: Thank you. Good morning, my name is Jenny Hatch and I'm the Northern Sierra Regional Director for California Trout. We are a statewide non-profit, and I'm here representing our 7,000 members across the state. Our mission is to protect and restore wild trout, salmon, steelhead and their waters throughout California, and we've had an office here in Lake Tahoe for about a year-and-a-half. And, during that time, we have been really avid in joining the Upper Truckee River Working Advisory Group, we have taken on the Upper Truckee River Stewardship Group, we posted the Great Sierra River Cleanup on sites along the Upper Truckee and we have also been conducting citizen stream monitoring on a monthly basis for the last 2 years from May to

PM2-52

September. In addition to that, we've been avidly protecting the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout that occupy the upper reaches of the river in Mice Meadows with the Forest Service in (Incomprehensible). So, just to cut to the chase, I'd like to tell you that we support Alternative 3, 5 and 2 officially, although there has been some debate about that in the community lately. We support Alternative 3 and 5, but if those are not found to be economically feasible, we also support Alternative 2 because we are supporting all Alternatives that basically support riparian and river restoration, full restoration. And we don't want to oppose an Alternative like 2 that would provide that. So, that's really cutting it to the chase, but I really wanted to mention as far as moving from the draft environmental docs to the final environmental docs, the one thing we would like to see considered or for alteration, is really, there's some comments and language in the report existing that basically calls out that they aren't expecting Lahontan Cutthroat Trout to occupy the stream reach. And, the recovery/implementation team that is looking at Lahontan Cutthroat Trout recovery in the Tahoe Basin right now is evaluating different sites for reintroduction, and one of those is the lower watershed of the Upper Truckee River. So, we would really like to see the project evaluated for the consideration of Lahontan Cutthroat Trout and native forest fish, and actually we've been actively working with State Parks to do that through a matrix that we're developing with UNR and UC Davis currently. So, um, and that's really basically what I wanted to say. Thank you very much.

PM2-52
cont.

BIAGGI: Okay, thank you. Gary Casteel and after Gary we'll do Donald Mayer.

CASTEEL: Good afternoon, Gary Casteel with Trans-Sierra Investments. I will be short because there's been so many other speakers that well articulated their view. Our company is in support and recommendation for adoption of Alternative 2 as well. We're a resort recreational destination market and economy. We are also competing with other resort markets across the country. Lake Tahoe, and South Shore in particular, has only about 3, just a few only, approximately 3 golf courses. Um, providing golf is an important part of being a recreation resort, and Alternative 2 facilitates the environmental needs while maintaining recreation and our economy. And, we appreciate your support in considering that. Thank you.

PM2-53

BIAGGI: Thank you. Donald and then Carlos Leycum or Leyca.

MAYER: Good afternoon, my name is Donald Mayer. I'm on the Board of Directors of Lake Tahoe Golf Club with operates at the golf course and have been on the Board of Directors since the late 1980's. The Chair when we started these questions, this question, period out asked for information as it related to the document. Be honest, the document is some no, geologist or hydrologist and there's so many pages with that document that would be incredibly difficult for me to get through. The couple areas that I do believe might be deficient, although they could be buried in there somewhere, deal with the real cost, the

PM2-54

economic cost of some of these Alternatives. For example, if we do build nine new golf holes, how much is that going to cost? Obviously the cost is going to be spread out over, perhaps, a new 20 year contract with a new concessionaire, but that cost has to be then probably put back to higher golf fees. But, there's a cost inherent with that. There's obviously a cost to Alternative 4 if we do a stabilization that is as comprehensive as Cindy is suggesting, but I'm not sure what that cost is. And, while she indicates that the funding for that may not be available, I wonder if there really has been a pursuit as to what potential funding might be available for that particular Alternative. Lake Tahoe Golf Course is the only 18 hole regulation golf course at the South Shore that's affordable. The only other 18 hole course is Edgewood, and that's really not a very affordable alternative for most of us. Being able to play 18 holes of regulation golf is important. There are other golfing alternatives in the South Shore such as Bijoux, which is a little 9 hole course with most holes being fairly short, and Tahoe Paradise which is an 18 hole course, a very nice one, but most are Par 3's and very short Par 4's. Having regulation golf I do believe is important, and while there are information in the document that talks about the benefits to the community of that particular golfing option at the South Shore, I'd probably like a little bit more information to just how much economic impact that truly does have. The only other thing I would like to say is that the 18 holes at Lake Tahoe Golf Course are beautiful golf holes. Unfortunately, the greatest or some of the best golf holes at that course, are the ones that are likely to be eliminated if we go through with the elimination. Not all golf holes are created equal, and it is a shame that we'd be losing such a treasure of such great golf holes that are there now. Thank you.

PM2-54
cont.

BIAGGI: Thank you. Carlos and then Frank Piney or Peney. Carlos with South Lake Tahoe Golf Course or Lake Tahoe Golf Course. Oh, there you are.

LEYUA: Good morning. I think a lot of what I would, I had planned on saying today has already been spoken, probably several times, but I am Carlos Leyua, the General Manager at Lake Tahoe Golf Course representative for American Golf. Um, you know, we have been the concessionaire for Cal State Parks for over 20 years now, since 1989, and, you know, my purpose here is mostly threefold. You know, addressing the environmental aspects of the, the project here coming up, you know, community impacts as well as the business and economic impacts regarding both the company and the, and the, ah, community. Obviously, American Golf supports everything that State Parks does, um, to enhance the golf course as well as the project that's impending. I'm trying to find common ground between both the golfing community as well as environmental efforts. You know, we have been Audubon compliant as Kathy indicated earlier today, for quite some time and plan to do so into the future. We're also compliant with State Parks Regulations, no projectiles, no rodenticides, and again plan to do so moving forward as, as certainly those are, those are options that are available to other golf courses. And then you

PM2-55

know, we also work closely with the Lahontan Water Quality Board and, you know, we've done things in the past also to help satisfy them to reduce some sediment into the, into the river including sediment basins along our golf course. Um, you know, as far as the community is concerned, you've heard the stats before already today, you know, over 30,000 rounds are played at Lake Tahoe Golf Course on an annual basis, over 4,000 of those rounds are tournament rounds which are typically tourist folks coming from San Francisco or San Jose, Sacramento that are coming up here, staying in the hotels, staying in the campgrounds, eating at our restaurants, using our gas stations. There's certainly economic impacts there. But we see, you know, for the community, both, um, you know, the tourist community as well as the, the, the, um, golfing community here, that an 18 hole championship golf course is necessary. First and foremost, full length golf courses is almost expected by the golfer. Something shorter than an executive or 9 hole option is really not, not, ah, attractive to the majority of the golfing population, and that will remain true into the future. Finally, business, obviously that's, that's what we are, we are a business. We're here for profit. Um, moving to a smaller golf course would affect our rounds as well as our revenue that we accumulate every year. Again that's gonna impact employment, both at our golf courses and the trickle down effect throughout the community. That, that, the smaller, the smaller golf would, of course, affect the revenues with the rest of the community also as far as folks looking for alternatives to play golf elsewhere, whether that be North Shore or, heck, somewhere else. Um, um, South Lake Tahoe would be affected by a small golf course. I guess in closing, on a purely business standpoint, Alternatives 1, 2, and 4 would probably satisfy American Golf as far as, you know, the financial aspect, but being in a partnership with Cal State Parks and understanding that there are environmental impacts with everything that we do, the only, only Alternative that really makes sense is Alternative 2.

PM2-55
cont.

BIAGGI: Thank you. Frank and then Correy Couch. Frank P-i-n-n-e-y, Pinney? Okay, Correy.

COUCH: Good afternoon, I'd like to thank the Board for allowing me to speak and all the presenters today, I think it was a great opportunity. By training, I'd call myself a biologist, by education at least, I'm a little "e" environmentalist. By interest, and I have taken a beginner golf course at the junior college here out at this golf course. I think everybody's pretty much touched on the areas that I have concern with. I'm strongly in support of Alternative No. 2, and I think that it's an integrated, cooperative approach to a, to a problem here. We have to do something about the river, and I think that that negates Alternatives 1 and 4. We have to do something comprehensive. I think in a community that finally came to grips with the airport situation, we saw the cooperation that came forward there, and the solution that's now a model for the rest of the United States, the FAA holds it up, AOPA holds that up as being a model that other airports could follow, I think we can take that same thing. This Board

PM2-56

could look, go forward, reprimand, recommend #2 as the Alternative of choice because it meets everybody's needs. Everybody has to compromise slightly. And those bullets of your need to support recreation in the Tahoe Basin, I think it's, it's very important that we maintain that golf course. And, I have gone out and I've walked over that State Park and I've walked over the golf course, and I think that development on the west side of the river, if you've flown in and out of Tahoe, it's not very attractive from the air, you know those old quarries and things. It's hardly an environmentally sensitive area that we want to preserve. And although this is an unnatural restoration of that area, I think putting 9 holes of the golf course over there certainly can be done in a very environmentally sensitive manner. The designs that are appropriate nowadays, water, water quality considerations and certainly TRPA would put a certain design criteria onto that as they develop those holes. So, I want to go down as supporting strongly that Alternative #2 meets the needs of the community and the needs of Lake Tahoe and the needs of TRPA. It's a cooperative, integrated approach in a time where we see diversity and polarization in our society. I think it's time that this community comes together and, and follows something that serves us all very well and we have to preserve the lake. Thank you.

PM2-56
cont.

BIAGGI: Thank you. Kat Shumitsu and I apologize if I mispronounced a name here. Kat? Okay, I've got a couple of people who have signed up twice so I just want to double check to make sure that there's not an error here. Harold Anino I believe already talked. Joanne Robbins I believe already spoke. Bill Yeats I believe has already spoken. Is there any uh, am I mistaken there? Okay. Then, Lynne Paulson?

MONTGOMERY: She's spoken.

BIAGGI: She's spoken, as well? Alright. Patricia Handal, you've already spoken. Rick Hopkins or Hodgkins? Okay, already spoke. Claire Fortner.

FORTIER: Hi, I'm Claire Fortier, seventeen-year resident of South Lake Tahoe and I'm not a little e or a big E. I'm a double e, which is to say that I am an advocate of Alternative 2. At the Lake Tahoe forum for the first time in thirteen years, Senators Feinstein, Reed and Ensign all agreed that the economy was critically important for environmental restoration. I hope the TRPA Board sees it the same way and realizes this project not only is a great environmental fix, but preserves a critical aspect of our recreation economy. Thank you.

PM2-57

BIAGGI: Thank you and I apologize for mispronouncing your name. Tom Makris. How bad did I do on that one, Tom?

MAKRIS: You did real well.

BIAGGI: Excellent, thank you.

MAKRIS: Thank you very much, pleasure to be with you this afternoon. I'm not going to talk very long because most of what I had to say has been said. I'm a South Lake Tahoe resident. I'm an avid cross country skier, hiker, dog walker. I use the Washoe Meadow as well as the many other areas around South Lake that are available for those activities, also a golfer and one of the points that has been mentioned, but I think really needs to be driven home is that Lake Tahoe Golf Course is an absolutely unique resource currently in the South Tahoe area that has, there's simply nothing else that exists that can take its place. If the golf course ceases to be an affordable eighteen-hole regulation length golf course that will be an asset that the area simply loses. This has, in a way, been a wonderful meeting because there has been virtually no opposition to the concept that we need to do something to restore the river, that's great. The conflict is between two Alternatives. One allows us to preserve the eighteen-hole golf course and the other realistically does away with golf there, at minimum, does away with a regulation eighteen-hole golf course. If that happens, I don't believe that anybody is going to come forward with another proposal for an eighteen-hole regulation golf course that's affordable in a South Lake Tahoe area that will not have many more environmental and political and social problems and opposition than what we're looking at now, so we have here probably the only chance we're going to have to maintain what is a unique resource in this area. Again, four golf courses, two are little, tiny golf courses that don't attract serious golfers. One is absolutely unaffordable. And, then we've got Lake Tahoe Golf Course that occupies a unique niche. You can probably tell I'm for Alternative 2. The other thing I'd like to emphasize again and this was discussed earlier, Alternative 2 is the only Alternative that really focuses on improving access for the hikers, bikers, skiers by maintaining a bridge across the river, a bridge that's designed for non-golfer use so that the people that live on the Highway 50 side of the river and the people who come to the area from that side still have access and now legal access to the Washoe State Park area. So, for all those reasons, I urge support of Alternative 2. Thank you.

PM2-58

BIAGGI: Thank you. Doug Hazlett.

HAZLETT: Good afternoon. My comments are different than anybody's...

BIAGGI: Doug, could you just identify yourself for the record, please?

HAZLETT: Oh, I'm Doug Hazlett, local resident, local golfer, skier, outdoors person. I'm going to speak in support of number 4 and I'm gonna do that, not because nobody else did, but because I believe in it. But I can also tell you, as a golfer, and my connection with the golf course is also as an ambassador. Just about everybody I talk to likes number 4 and I'm gonna tell you why. Maybe I do need my glasses. There are some things that number 2 doesn't do. Number 4 keeps the Washoe State Park area across, you know, where the new nine holes

PM2-59

would be, in fact and I believe that number 4 would do what we want it to do environmentally in the holes number 6 and 7 and it still allows the horseback riders, the cross country skiers, the dog walkers, the hikers the ability to do that. Number 2 only has one bridge access and I'm also concerned about that in that now we've got recreational people other than golfers also sharing that area with the golfers and maybe somebody gets hit with a golf ball, you know, that's not a real good idea either, so my feeling is this is cost effective, wouldn't spend near as much money as we would on number 2, by rip-wrapping holes number 6 and 7 where the major problem is, we help the Lake and we also keep the meadow the way it is now. Thank you.	PM2-59 cont.	
BIAGGI:	Thank you. I've exhausted my sign-in sheet, but is there anyone else who wished to speak? Alright.	
WALLER:	Good afternoon. Ellie Waller, Tahoe Vista resident. I didn't come here to make a comment today, but I do have a couple questions. Why wasn't a bridge or bridges considered in Alternative 3 and camping was mentioned early on as a potential for the meadow. None of the alternatives studied in-depth a camping alternative to go with the existing golf course. Thank you.	PM2-60
BIAGGI:	Thank you Ellie. Yes ma'am?	
ENENEZ:	Carla Enenez. Much has been said today about the \$800,000 that would come into the state coffers, but once American Golf constructs the nine holes, they will diminish payments to the state for ten years or more. Golf fees would go up. Please elaborate on revenues, on how revenues would be reduced as tax payers in fact pay for the new nine holes. Thank you.	PM2-61
BIAGGI:	Thank you.	
GARCIA:	Hi, good afternoon. Susanne Garcia representing the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California. I just wanted to bring up something that I brought up at the APC meeting. There's been a lot of talk about Alternative 2 being a win/win situation, but in fact, it would be a loss for the Tribe because there are cultural resources that would be affected, there's been mitigation measures that have been proposed and the draft EIS talks about those mitigation measures reducing the impact to less than significant, but in fact, those mitigation measures would destroy the Tribe's access to those sites. Now, I can't go into more detail about those sites because, unfortunately, when you do that on the record people go and loot the sites, so, but they're there and, you know, I think what the tribe would like is that in the EIS as it is right now, you know, call it what it is. It's a significant impact. It can't be mitigated and we hope that there would be a way to better protect those resources and better protect the Tribe's access to those resources. Thank you.	PM2-62

BIAGGI: Thank you. Further public comment? Seeing none, I'll close public comment and I'll bring this back to the Board as I said I would. Are there any additional Board comments that someone would like to bring up at this time?

SANTIAGO: Just very quickly. Just some of the things that I noticed in the, and it's just kind of a follow-up on what Jennifer was talking about. When you talk about upland erosion and you're talking about how one alternative addresses the upland erosion better than the other, quantifiable data is important to support that statement. I think it should be included in the EIR. Again, you told me, what I heard, I was told and my understanding is that when you're looking at what is going to be developed where the quarry site is, that that is better environmentally than to leave it the way it is, so to know the specifics as to why that is better in terms of habitat particularly because I've heard contrary testimony as far as restoration of habitat. Yes, it is good for habitat. No, it's not good for habitat, so those habitat values I think need to be, again, there's a lot more work I need to do personally to delve into these environmental documents, but those are the things that are apparently are not bubbling up enough in terms of information as I look, I mean we're talking about this environmental document and the need to really further define those values. Oh and then, finally, I don't know, and maybe Nicole can help me with this. This letter that we received from the Sierra Club and it says that Alternative 2 is legally infeasible because it doesn't comport with the mission of the State Parks, the settlement agreement, and the statute leading to the acquisition of Washoe Meadow State Park, the adopted purposes of the park and the regulations that preclude the permanent commitment of the park's resources in the absence of a general plan. I don't know within the legal, within the environmental document if there is a legal threshold that has to be met with regards to these alternatives. I don't know what the question is, you know. Based upon what was said here, if it says it's legally infeasible, we need to address that, if that, you know, what that actually means.

PM2-63

RINKE: The grounds for legal infeasibility that are alleged in the letter go to State Parks and State Parks mission and State Parks requirements for the property, not to TRPA's threshold requirements, so any allegation, if true that it was somehow inconsistent with State Park's mandate, would be a State Parks issue and it is a joint document, so that would be evaluated through State Parks. I have looked at some of the items that are sited like the settlement agreement. I don't, in my opinion, believe that Alternative 2 or, is inconsistent with the settlement agreement, so I have looked at that. TRPA was a party to that settlement agreement, so I did consider that.

SANTIAGO: (Incomprehensible)

BIAGGI: Jennifer?

MONTGOMERY: Thank you Norma for bringing that up because that was going to be my first concern that I think needs to be addressed in the Final EIR is a quantitative

PM2-64

analysis of not just what's going to happen if we go in and we put nine holes in the quarry area, but the comparison between 2 and 3. How many pounds of sediment and run off are we going to present, excuse me, prevent from going into the Lake under the number, Alternative 2 scenario versus the Alternative 3 scenario? I understand that, you know, those numbers are somewhat speculative, but we should be able to quantify them to a certain extent, that would be a really critical piece for me to know and understand in order to evaluate. Is it really a better environmental decision to go with relocating the nine holes or is it better to say: "No. We're gonna only keep nine holes." Another analysis that I really think needs to be done and I think Ellie touched on this is we need to do that financial analysis that says: "Okay, if we're going to loose nine holes of golf, this is what we're going to loose economically." Now, if we're replacing it with a camp ground or something else, what are the revenues we're gonna get off of that? I think we need to, again, be able to understand what are the different economic results if we go to a different model of recreation and I'm not pre-supposing that there's one answer or another on top of that, but I think we need that in order to really make a valid decision. I do have some concerns about the issue that's been raised today by a couple of people that the conceptual plan for relocating the nine holes is just that. It's a conceptual plan. We don't really know where those nine holes are going to go. My concern is specific to the Fen. We have a Fen in the area where I live. They are unbelievably rare and unique vegetative and water...I'm not quite even sure how to describe them, resources, assets. I would be very uncomfortable even wrapping a golf course around a Fen. They are such complex ecosystems that it would really concern me to be anywhere near a Fen in terms of this and so I really want to see some detailed analysis of that when this comes back to us in the final plan, so I would say please make sure to cover that in the final and those were my only three questions. Thank you, or comments, I should say.

PM2-64
cont.

BIAGGI: Shelly?

ALDEAN: Correct me if I'm wrong, but looking at these alternatives, I think that certainly an Alternative 3 and Alternative 4 and possibly Alternative 5 that nothing is planned for Washoe Meadows in terms of passive or active recreation. Is that correct? I mean, I, it states that there's a future planning effort maybe undertaken to allow for recreational development in Washoe Meadows, but...

PM2-65

HUGHES: Yes, that's, that is correct.

ALDEAN: That is correct? So, when we're talking about potential revenue generation, there is nothing on the planning boards currently that would, that would basically translate an increase revenues because you're not proposing to actively develop that except under Alternative 2.

PM2-66

WALCK: But there is consideration, I think under all of the alternatives except Alternative 1, correct me if I'm wrong, Danielle, and Alternative 5 actually because Alternative 5 sends us back to the drawing board to look at what do we do with both units, you know, whether it's camping, cabins, a lodge. Again, we're going to be looking at really what are the higher capability lands, what are the lands away from the river, really the same footprint that's being considered was originally considered under Alternative 2 that identify, you know when we look back at that constraints map, that identifies the usable land within the State Park area, but we are talking about under all the alternatives...okay, sorry, under Alternatives 2, 3 and 4 trying to do some kind of inner management plan for Washoe Meadow State Park to address some of the trails, maybe develop some trailheads, some signage in there, but not going through the full general plan process for that whether it's the reconfigured golf course or whether it's just the, the, the Washoe Meadow's as it is now.

ALDEAN: But I, I, my assumption, Cindy, is that we're not talking, we're talking about purely passive recreation, nothing that's gonna generate revenue per se, right?

PM2-67

WALCK: Yes, yes, that would only be basically improving some of the trails in the park under those scenarios.

ALDEAN: Okay, okay, thank you.

BIAGGI: Further comments from the Board? Seeing none, I want to thank everyone for their very good comments today and remind you that the record will remain open until November 8th and you can still submit written comments until that time and they will be considered.

END OF AGENDA ITEM

- PM2-1 The commenter asks about the next steps in the approval process. If Alternative 2 were selected, the park's boundary lines would be adjusted by the State Parks and Recreation Commission after conducting a public meeting to consider the action. The general plan would then be amended by the commission to reflect the boundary adjustment. The decision whether to carry out the project will be made by the Director or her delegate. The commission does not have jurisdiction over restoration or development projects, but is responsible for approval and amendment of general plans (California Public Resources Code, Sections 541 and 5002.2). If a project is chosen that does not need a general plan amendment, the general plan will not be amended. If the project chosen needs a general plan amendment, a proposed general plan amendment will be submitted to the commission. State Parks will also obtain approvals from TRPA and Reclamation.
- PM2-2 The commenter asks whether an economic analysis will be done to determine the feasibility of implementing only the restoration. Additional economic analyses are not being proposed at this time. The cost of river and floodplain restoration would be approximately \$6–8 million. See Master Response Section 3.7, "Economics" for additional detail regarding potential costs and funding associated with the proposed project.
- PM2-3 The commenter asks about the source of funding for restoration. Grant funding for river and SEZ restoration may be acquired through a variety of sources, such as the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Lahontan RWQCB. See Master Response Section 3.7, "Economics," for more detail on costs of restoration and potential funding sources.
- PM2-4 The commenter asks how many golf courses are under the jurisdiction of State Parks. Two golf courses are under State Parks' jurisdiction: the Lake Tahoe Golf Course and the Morro Bay SP Golf Course.
- PM2-5 The commenter asks how revenue from the Lake Tahoe Golf Course is distributed by State Parks. Funds generated by the Lake Tahoe Golf Course contribute to the State Parks Revolving Fund. The budget for the Sierra District is determined based on contributions to the revolving fund and, therefore, are affected by revenue generated by the Lake Tahoe Golf Course. Revenue generated by the Sierra District covers only approximately 30% of the local operating costs; therefore, State funds are shifted from elsewhere in the State Parks budget to cover a portion of the operating costs in the district. See Master Response Section 3.7, "Economics," for more detail on revenue generated by the Lake Tahoe Golf Course.
- PM2-6 The commenter correctly states that the Lake Tahoe Golf Course currently generates \$800,000 annually. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-7 The commenter asks about considering a 9-hole course in addition to other potential revenue sources (e.g., camping). A 9-hole golf course was considered under Alternative 3. Although other potential sources of revenue were not analyzed as part of the project, as

described in Chapter 2, “Project Alternatives,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, State Parks would be able to embark on a new planning effort for the entire area at any time in the future when it wishes to consider developing permanent facilities. This effort could involve planning for the Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley SRA together or separately. It could involve reclassifying land and considering a variety of actions related to outdoor recreation and resource management (e.g., day use, picnicking, development of multiuse trails, overnight tent and RV camping, group camping, cabins).

- PM2-8 The commenter asks about recreation access under Alternative 3 and potential environmental improvement to the quarry area of Washoe Meadows SP. See Master Response Section, 3.4 “Recreation.” Access within Washoe Meadows SP under Alternative 3 would remain similar to existing conditions. Several golf course bridges would be removed under this alternative, but these bridges do not currently provide public access. The new trails within Washoe Meadows SP described under Alternative 2 would not be created under Alternative 3; however, a designated and maintained pedestrian trail would be established along the northern edge of the proposed reduced-play golf course. In addition, accessibility for water-related recreation would increase slightly under Alternative 3 in areas where the golf course would be removed. No modifications would occur in the quarry area under Alternative 3.
- PM2-9 This commenter is concerned that the disturbed quarry could be affected by high water in that area (under stream restoration), resulting in increased erosion or sediment production. The quarry is on a higher elevation surface than the main floodplain, even under stream restoration (Alternative 2, 3, or 5), and would not have direct connectivity during floods. Also see Master Response 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for more detail on potential impacts in the vicinity of the quarry.
- PM2-10 The commenter requests clarification about the direction (uphill or downhill) of possible soil erosion under Alternative 2 west of the Upper Truckee River and any potential differences in upland erosion between Alternative 2 and the alternatives that do not place a portion of the golf course west of the river (i.e., Alternatives 3 and 5). The area west of the river drains primarily toward the river. The erosion control benefits described under Alternative 2 would not occur if Alternatives 3 or 5 were implemented. The benefit under Alternative 2 is limited in extent due to the distance of this area from the river; however, it is a benefit when compared to existing conditions where the area is currently disturbed and unstable. For additional clarification, the draft EIR/EIS/EIS did include quantitative and relative comparisons of the water quality benefits of the alternatives. These comparisons addressed both reductions in pollutant sources from channel erosion and sedimentation (see Impact 3.4-1 for all alternatives and Table 3.4-11) and improvements in retention of fine sediment and nutrients within the study area (see Impact 3.4-4 for all alternatives).
- PM2-11 The commenter requests clarification about whether a benefit to water quality and erosion control would occur in the area west of the river. See response to comment PM2-10.
- PM2-12 The commenter notes the SEZ benefits of Alternatives 2 and 3. For additional clarification, all of the stream restoration alternatives (Alternatives 2, 3, and 5) would provide benefits by reducing SEZ footprints, although the extent (area) and location of the specific benefit differ by alternative.
- PM2-13 The commenter asks about recreation access being limited under Alternative 3. Access within Washoe Meadows SP under Alternative 3 would remain similar to existing

conditions. Several golf course bridges would be removed under this alternative, but these bridges do not currently provide public access. The new trails within Washoe Meadows SP described under Alternative 2 would not be created under Alternative 3; however, a designated and maintained pedestrian trail would be established along the northern edge of the proposed reduced-play golf course. In addition, accessibility for water-related recreation would increase slightly under Alternative 3 in areas where the golf course would be removed. No modifications would occur in the quarry area under Alternative 3.

- PM2-14 The commenter asks how golfers would access Washoe Meadows SP under Alternative 3. Under Alternative 3, access to Washoe Meadows SP would be the same as under existing conditions. Informal access to Washoe Meadows SP would be provided via Chilicothe Street and Lake Tahoe Boulevard. The new bridge proposed under Alternative 2 would not be constructed under Alternative 3.
- PM2-15 The commenter asks for clarification of the bridges to be removed and constructed under Alternatives 2 and 3. Under Alternatives 2, 3, and 5, all five of the existing bridges would be removed. Alternative 2 is the only alternative that would include a new bridge to provide public access through the reconfigured golf course. Alternative 4 would provide only golfer access over bridges and bridge at holes 6 and 7 would be replaced by one longer bridge.
- PM2-16 The commenter correctly states that removal of the existing golf course bridges is needed to allow the floodplain to function and reduce bank erosion. As discussed in Chapter 2, “Project Alternatives” in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS the existing bridges constrict the flow of the river through the study area, producing a high-velocity scour effect under the bridges and a low-velocity backwater and sedimentation effect upstream of the bridges.
- PM2-17 The commenter asks whether the erosion control and water quality benefits of Alternative 2 versus Alternative 3 have been quantified. See response to comment PM2-10.
- PM2-18 The commenter asks about recreation access under Alternative 3. Access within Washoe Meadows SP under Alternative 3 would remain similar to existing conditions. Several golf course bridges would be removed under this alternative, but these bridges do not currently provide public access. The new trails within Washoe Meadows SP described under Alternative 2 would not be created under Alternative 3; however, a designated and maintained pedestrian trail would be established along the northern edge of the proposed reduced-play golf course. In addition, accessibility for water-related recreation would increase slightly under Alternative 3 in areas where the golf course would be removed. No modifications would occur in the quarry area under Alternative 3.
- PM2-19 The commenter asks about recreation access under Alternative 3 compared to existing conditions. Legal access would not change because no bridges would be included under Alternative 3, but trail improvements along the Upper Truckee River would be completed. See response to comment PM2-18.
- PM2-20 The commenter asks whether the new bridge under Alternative 2 would be accessible to golfers and the public. The new bridge proposed by Alternative 2 would provide access to both golfers and the public.
- PM2-21 The commenter correctly states that the new bridge proposed under Alternative 2 would provide access to both golfers and the public, and that a new trail is proposed under Alternative 3, but no new bridge would be constructed.

- PM2-22 The commenter asks whether an executive golf course was considered. As described in Chapter 2, “Project Alternatives,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, Alternative 3 considered reconfiguring the golf course to either a 9-hole course or an executive course.
- PM2-23 The commenter asks whether an 18-hole golf course similar to the St. Andrews Golf Course was considered. Removing the portion of golf course adjacent to the river under Alternative 3 would leave room for only 9 holes or an executive 18-hole golf course.
- PM2-24 The commenter asks for clarification of “resource preservation” as described in State Parks’ mission statement. Resource preservation includes preservation of natural, cultural, and historic resources.
- PM2-25 The commenter’s support for Alternative 2 and its environmental, economic, and recreation value is noted. The commenter clarifies that rodenticides are not used at the Lake Tahoe Golf Course. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-26 The commenter’s support for Alternative 2 and its environmental, economic, and recreation value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-27 The commenter’s support for Alternative 2 and its environmental, economic, and recreation value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-28 The commenter’s support for Alternative 2 and its environmental, economic, and recreation value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-29 The commenter’s support for Alternative 2 and opposition to Alternatives 3 and 5 because of the resulting loss in recreation is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-30 The commenter’s primary support for Alternative 2, followed by support for Alternative 4 if Alternative 2 cannot be funded, is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-31 The commenter’s support for Alternative 2 and its environmental, economic, and recreation value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-32 The commenter’s support for Alternative 2 and opposition to Alternatives 1, 3, 4, and 5 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-33 The commenter’s support for Alternative 2 and its environmental, economic, and recreation value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-34 The commenter’s support for Alternative 2 and its recreation and environmental value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

- PM2-35 The commenter’s support for river restoration and Alternatives 3 and 5 is noted. The commenter states that Alternative 2 would be legally infeasible because it would be in conflict with State Parks’ plans, policies, and regulations and TRPA’s thresholds. See Master Response Section 3.2, “Land Use.”
- PM2-36 The commenter’s support for Alternatives 3 and 5 and opposition to Alternative 2 are noted. The commenter correctly states that Lake Valley SRA is the 46th highest source of revenue among California State Park System properties, but it is also the fifth largest source of *concession revenue* for State Parks. The commenter states that the scope of the economic analysis is not adequate and should address the decline in golfing. See Master Response Section 3.7, “Economics.” Appendix E, “Lake Tahoe Golf Course Economic Feasibility Analysis,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS acknowledges that the Lake Tahoe Golf Course has experienced declining gross revenues since 1997.
- PM2-37 The commenter’s support for Alternative 2 and its environmental, economic, and recreation value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-38 The commenter states that suggestions made by community members were ignored. The commenter is concerned about potential impacts on wildlife. See response to comment AOB8-1 for a discussion of the public participation process. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for a discussion of impacts on biological resources.
- PM2-39 The commenter’s opposition to Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-40 The commenter’s support for Alternative 2 and its recreation, economic, and environmental value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-41 The commenter expresses concern about potential impacts on the fen/spring complex and movement of wildlife. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources.”
- PM2-42 The commenter states that the EIR/EIS/EIS is required to present feasible alternatives and that Alternatives 3, 4, and 5 are not feasible. The commenter is concerned about potential impacts on fens within Washoe Meadows SP. See response to comment AOB8-1 for discussions of the alternatives analysis provided in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS and of the public participation process. Although the other alternatives are feasible, they do not meet as many objectives. See Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” for a discussion of impacts on biological resources.
- PM2-43 The commenter’s support for Alternative 2 and opposition to Alternative 3 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-44 The commenter’s support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-45 The commenter’s support for Alternative 2 and its economic, environmental, and recreation value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

- PM2-46 The commenter's support for Alternative 3 and opposition to Alternative 2 is noted. The commenter is concerned about increases in noise levels associated with Alternative 2. Potential impacts on noise levels are discussed in Section 3.12, "Noise," of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS. See response to comment I160-1 for a discussion of noise impacts.
- PM2-47 The commenter's support for Alternative 1 and opposition to Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-48 The commenter notes that TRPA thresholds do not distinguish between types of recreation, but provide for a quality recreation experience. The commenter notes that TRPA has thresholds for various resources areas (e.g., water quality, recreation, wildlife) that all need to be balanced. The commenter's support for Alternative 2 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-49 The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic, environmental, and recreation value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-50 The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic, environmental, and recreation value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-51 The commenter's support for Alternative 3 and the belief that Alternative 3 is environmentally superior to Alternative 2 is noted. See responses to comment letters AOB12 through AOB14.
- PM2-52 The commenter's support for Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 and any alternative that supports riparian and full river restoration is noted. See response to comment letter AOB2 for a discussion of Lahontan cutthroat trout. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-53 The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic, environmental, and recreation value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-54 The commenter asks about the cost of constructing the alternatives. See Master Response Section 3.7, "Economics," for a discussion of funding.
- PM2-55 The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic, environmental, and recreation value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-56 The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and opposition to Alternatives 1 and 4 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-57 The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its environmental and recreation value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

- PM2-58 The commenter’s support for Alternative 2 and its economic, environmental, and recreation value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-59 The commenter’s support for Alternative 4 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.
- PM2-60 The commenter asks why a bridge was not considered as part of Alternative 3 and why camping was not considered as part of any of the alternatives. Alternative 3 does not propose to locate any golf course holes across the river within Washoe Meadows SP; therefore, a bridge to allow access across the golf course would not be needed. Camping was not proposed as part of the project; however, it is one of a number of activities that would be considered through future planning efforts under Alternative 5.
- PM2-61 The commenter asks for information on revenues and the cost to taxpayers. See Master Response Section 3.7, “Economics.”
- PM2-62 The commenter is concerned about impacts on cultural resources. See Master Response Section 3.6, “Cultural Resources.”
- PM2-63 The commenter requests that quantitative data related to upland erosion (under Alternative 2) be included in the final EIR/EIS/EIS. The commenter also asks whether Alternative 2 would be consistent with State Parks mission and other State Parks documents. See response to comment AOB5-8 for quantitative data included in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, and see Master Response Section 3.2, “Land Use,” for a discussion of the consistency of the proposed project with plans, policies, and regulations applicable to land use.
- PM2-64 The commenter requests quantitative data on sediment reductions under Alternatives 2 and 3 and additional economic analysis for Alternative 3. See response to comment AOB5-8 for quantitative data included in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS. The commenter has concerns about impacts on the fen within Washoe Meadows SP. See the following master responses:
- ▶ Master Response Section 3.7, “Economics,” for a discussion of the economic analysis; and
 - ▶ Master Response Section 3.3, “Biological Resources,” and Master Response Section 3.4, “Hydrology, Flooding, Geomorphology, and Water Quality,” for a discussion of impacts on the fen.
- PM2-65 The commenter correctly states that Alternatives 3 and 4 do not include plans for additional recreation development within Washoe Meadows SP. As described in Chapter 2, “Project Alternatives,” of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, if Alternative 5 were selected, State Parks would be able to embark on a new planning effort for the entire area at any time in the future when it wishes to consider developing permanent facilities. This effort could involve planning for the Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley SRA together or separately. It could involve reclassifying land and considering a variety of actions related to outdoor recreation and resource management (e.g., day use, picnicking, development of multiuse trails, overnight tent and RV camping, group camping, cabins). This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

PM2-66

The commenter asks whether other plans for revenue have been considered by State Parks. Although other potential sources of revenue were not analyzed as part of the project, as described in Chapter 2, "Project Alternatives," of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, State Parks would be able to embark on a new planning effort for the entire area at any time in the future when it wishes to consider developing permanent facilities. This effort could involve planning for the Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley SRA together or separately. It could involve reclassifying land and considering a variety of actions related to outdoor recreation and resource management (e.g., day use, picnicking, development of multiuse trails, overnight tent and RV camping, group camping, cabins).

PM2-67

The commenter asks about considering other revenue sources. Although other potential sources of revenue were not analyzed as part of the project, as described in Chapter 2, "Project Alternatives," of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, State Parks would be able to embark on a new planning effort for the entire area at any time in the future when it wishes to consider developing permanent facilities. This effort could involve planning for the Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley SRA together or separately. It could involve reclassifying land and considering a variety of actions related to outdoor recreation and resource management (e.g., day use, picnicking, development of multiuse trails, overnight tent and RV camping, group camping, cabins).

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5 REVISIONS TO THE DRAFT EIR/EIS/EIS

This chapter includes revisions to the text to the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS subsequent to publication and public review. The revisions have been made for one or more of the following reasons: in response to a comment on the draft EIR/EIS/EIS, for correction of an error, and/or in relation to a change initiated by State Parks staff as further clarification or explanation of the analysis. The changes are presented in the order in which they appear in the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS and are identified by page number in the respective documents. Revisions are shown as excerpts from the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS text, with strikethrough (~~strikethrough~~) text for deletions and underlined (underlined) text for additions. Because Chapter 2, “Project Alternatives” changes from the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS are addressed in Chapter 2, “Project Description” in the final EIR/EIS/EIS, therefore, these changes are not presented below.

5.1 REVISIONS TO “EXECUTIVE SUMMARY”

PAGES ES-8 THROUGH ES-29

To correct an error in the footnotes listed in Table ES-1, “Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures,” on pages ES-8 through ES-29 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS, the table is hereby revised as follows:

Table ES-1 Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures						
Resource Topic/Impact	Alt ¹	Impact Duration ²	Quantification/Relative Magnitude of Impact ³	LOS before Mitigation ^{3,4}	Mitigation Measure	LOS after Mitigation ⁵

Notes: 1 – Alt = Alternative

2 – NA = not applicable, ST (short-term) = construction-related or otherwise persisting from one to several years, LT (long-term) = persisting for years to decades

3 – LOS = level of significance, NI = No Impact, LTS = Less than significant, PS = Potentially Significant, S = Significant, B= Beneficial, TSMSC = Too Speculative for a Meaningful Significance Conclusion,

4—SU = Significant Unavoidable

5.2 REVISIONS TO CHAPTER 1, “INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE AND NEED”

PAGE 1-14

Section 1.7.5, “Regulatory Requirements, Permits, and Approvals,” on page 1-14 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

- ▶ **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:** Department of the Army permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for discharges of dredge or fill material into waters of the United States (~~Regional General Permit 16 and/or individual permit~~).

PAGE 1-18

Section 1.10.1, “Standard Terminology,” on page 1-18 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

- **Study Area** refers to all of the Lake Valley SRA, ~~and~~ the southern portion of the Washoe Meadows SP, and small adjacent parcels located within USFS and Conservancy lands within which all alternatives of the Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration are located.

5.3 REVISIONS TO CHAPTER 2, “PROJECT ALTERNATIVES”

Table 2-3, “Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Relocation Alternatives Comparison Table,” on pages 2-25 and 2-26 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

Table 2-3 Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Relocation Alternatives Comparison Table					
	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4	Alternative 5
RIVER CHARACTERISTICS					
River treatment	None	Restore	Restore	Stabilize	Restore
Channel length total (feet)	11,840	13,430	13,430	11,840	13,430
Active (5yr) floodplain (acres)	36	77	77	36	77
Inset floodplain (acres)	0	1.7	1.7	0.4	1.7
Restored SEZ (acres)	0	3237	43	0	125123 ²
¹ Restored 100-year floodplain (acres)	0	2039	46	0	54 ²
Restored floodplain/meadow (acres)	0	97	112	0	132131.5 ²
Anchored High Gradient Riffle	NA	US and DS ends of project reach			
Boulder Steps	NA	1 (water intake)		13-15	0
Armored Riffles	NA	15-25	15-25	Optional	15-25
Reconnected Historic Meander	NA	2,490	2,490	0	2,490
Constructed New Channel	NA	1,700	1,700	0	1,700
Modified Existing Channel	NA	5,000	5,000	NA	5,000
Backfilled Existing Channel	NA	2,600	2,600	0	2,600
Rock Armor Bank Protection	NA	200	200	7,500 (Outside Bends)	200
Biotechnical Bank Treatment	NA	2,400	2,400	7,400 (Inside bends)	2,400
GOLF CHARACTERISTICS					
Golf Course Type	18 hole Regulation	18 hole Regulation	9 hole Regulation or 18 hole Executive	18 hole Regulation	None
Golf Course footprint (acres)	134133	155 156	86	133	2.5
Golf course within SEZ (acres)	128123	96	85	128123	30
Golf course within 100-year floodplain (acres)	56	3640	10	56	30
Golf Course adjacent to the Upper Truckee River (linear feet)	6,382	850	0	6,382	0

**Table 2-3
Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Relocation Alternatives Comparison Table**

	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4	Alternative 5
Intensively managed <u>turf</u> landscape (acres)	<u>98103</u>	<u>8592</u>	<u>4551</u>	<u>95102</u>	0
<u>Intensively managed facilities landscape (acres)</u> ⁴	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>2.5</u>
Minimally managed landscape (acres)	23	44	24	24	0
Naturalized landscape (acres)	7	20	11	7	0
Bridges over Upper Truckee River	5	1	0	4	0
Bridges over Angora Creek	4	0	0	4	0
Bridges over unnamed creek	4	4	4	4	0
Additional Restroom	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Paving of unpaved parking area	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES					
Total Number of Jobs	76	80	60 to 65	80	32
Change in Number of Jobs from Existing Conditions	0	+4	-11 to -16	+4	-44
OTHER RESTORATION					
Quarry Wetland Enhancement	No	Yes	No	No	No
RECREATION CHARACTERISTICS					
Upper Truckee Bridges Open to Public Access	No	One ¹	NA ³	No	NA ³
Trail along east side of river with Sawmill Bike Trail connection	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Trail to corner of Country Club Drive	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Improve/reroute trails on west side of river	No	Yes	No	No	No
Add minor access enhancement at public right(s)-of-way into Washoe Meadows SP (small parking area)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
GENERAL PLAN CHARACTERISTICS					
<u>Lake Valley SRA acreage</u>	<u>173</u>	<u>211</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>173</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Washoe Meadows SP acreage</u>	<u>608</u>	<u>570</u>	<u>661</u>	<u>608</u>	<u>781</u>

¹ Represents restored floodplain that was formerly golf course, but does not include increase in SEZ or floodplain due to restoration of improved function. Increase in total floodplain area discussed in Chapter 3, Section 3.3. "Hydrology and Flooding."

² Acreage proposed for full restoration but future planning efforts may allow for other compatible land uses.

³ All bridges removed

⁴ Intensively managed facilities include buildings, parking lots, and cart paths.

Source: Compiled by EDAW (now AECOM) and State Parks 2009

The revised acreages are also reflected in Table 2-1, Chapter 2, “Project Description,” of this final EIR/EIS/EIS. The changes in acreages do not change the significance conclusions presented in the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

5.4 REVISIONS TO SECTION 3.3, “HYDROLOGY AND FLOODING”

PAGES 3.3-34 AND 3.3-35

The portion of the “Water Supply and Use” section on pages 3.3-34 and 3.3-35 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

Water supply for the clubhouse, maintenance facilities, and all other potable uses in the study area is provided for fee by the South Tahoe Public Utility District. Only nonpotable uses are supplied from local surface water and groundwater sources (Stanowski, pers. comm., 2008).

Historically, a riparian surface water diversion (DWR #S015849) located near RS 2200 has been the primary source of golf course irrigation water. Only the first nine holes were irrigated during the first 5 years after construction; however, the entire 18-hole course has been irrigated for the past 43 years (Stanowski, pers. comm., 2008). The existing golf course has a total irrigated area of 119 acres, including ~~96~~ 98 acres of intensively managed turf and 6 acres of intensively managed facilities landscape areas (Table 3.3-4) and 23 acres of minimally managed landscape that receives irrigation more regularly than under the ideal definition due to the existing system conditions.

Landscape Area*	Total (acres)
Intensively Managed*	96 <u>98</u>
Minimally Managed [‡]	23
Naturalized [‡]	7
TOTAL	134 <u>126</u>

Note:
 * Intensively Managed areas include 98 acres of tees, greens, fairways, driving range, lawn, and rough; and 6 acres of facilities. Minimally managed and naturalized areas are inadvertently over irrigated compared to their ideal management (as defined in Chapter 2) because of the existing irrigation system equipment.
 Source: Data provided by State Parks in ~~2009~~2011.

Channel conditions and shallow flow depths in the river have rendered surface water diversion difficult. During drought and/or some dry-season situations, a submersible pump is used to pull water from the Upper Truckee River during the day for temporary storage in the largest golf course pond (hole 9 pond) for irrigation distribution overnight (Stanowski, pers. comm., 2008). Non-potable water use, and therefore the quantity diverted from the Upper Truckee River, has ~~not~~ been documented historically in recent years and provided to the State Water Resources Control Board (LTGC 2003, 2009). The maximum capacity of the existing submersible pump rate is 1,000 gallons per minute (gpm). Recent irrigation practices range from as early as 6 p.m. to as late as 10 a.m. (16 hours per day), which would equate to a maximum daily irrigation use of 960,000 gallons per day (approximately 2.95 acre-feet per day). Typical operations during high season (June/July) are reported (Stanowski, pers. comm., 2011) to be about 550,000 gallons per day, decreasing to half in August, further dropping to 30% of that by the end of September and to less than 20% of high season in October. The reported “typical” irrigation pattern represents a total annual water use of 194.0 acre-feet. The annual and monthly estimates (Stanowski, pers. comm.,

2011) are consistent with surface water diversions reported for operations during 2002, 2006, 2007, and 2008 to the State Water Resources Control Board (Table 3.3-5).

Table 3.3-5				
Surface Water Diversion (Acre-Feet) at Lake Tahoe Golf Course				
<u>Month</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
<u>January</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>
<u>February</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>
<u>March</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>
<u>April</u>	<u>2.5</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>
<u>May</u>	<u>18.0</u>	<u>9.1</u>	<u>5.7</u>	<u>5.3</u>
<u>June</u>	<u>60.0</u>	<u>29.4</u>	<u>10.0</u>	<u>10.2</u>
<u>July</u>	<u>34.0</u>	<u>45.1</u>	<u>55.3</u>	<u>57.6</u>
<u>August</u>	<u>39.0</u>	<u>52.8</u>	<u>46.0</u>	<u>47.8</u>
<u>September</u>	<u>29.0</u>	<u>32.4</u>	<u>48.0</u>	<u>46.0</u>
<u>October</u>	<u>13.0</u>	<u>18.6</u>	<u>1.8</u>	<u>1.6</u>
<u>November</u>	<u>0.5</u>	<u>3.4</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>
<u>December</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>
<u>Annual</u>	<u>196.0</u>	<u>190.8</u>	<u>166.8</u>	<u>168.5</u>

Sources: Lake Tahoe Golf Course "Statement of Water Diversion and Use" (April 14, 2003) and "Supplemental Statement of Water Diversion and Use (May 18, 2009) submitted to the California State Water Resources Control Board.
 NA = Not Applicable

The irrigation system on the existing course is a combination of old pipes and lines that have been patched, repaired, and replaced as needed over the years (Stanowski, pers. comm., 2008). Irrigation lines within the front-nine greens have been repaired and replaced during the past decade; however, the remaining areas still have older lines with lower effectiveness and efficiency. Irrigation heads spray water a full 360 degrees with 90 foot throw distance, making it difficult to target water application (Walck, pers. comm., 2009). Despite some of the system deficiencies, modern irrigation control and soil moisture monitoring are performed to help conserve water on the course (Lake Tahoe Golf Course and Restaurant 2000).

American Golf Corporation is ~~developing~~ has developed an alternative irrigation supply using a deep on-site well. ~~The intent would be to well was planned to~~ increase flexibility and maximum capacity while reducing the need to draw from the river under low-flow conditions. As of October 2008, the groundwater supply ~~has been~~ was tested, and the well began operation during the 2009 irrigation season. Test yields of approximately 400 gpm have been typical, with a maximum of 600 gpm. The desired yield would be in the range of 450–500 gpm (Stanowski, pers. comm., 2008). The irrigation supply well was completed to a depth of 295 feet below ground surface, and is only slotted from 195 feet below ground surface to the base of the well (State of California Well Completion Report No. 769329 filed 9/15/2008). The well log indicates that alluvial sand and gravel extends from the surface to a depth of 40 feet. These coarse materials comprise the shallow aquifer, and are underlain by about 150 feet of gray silt above the slotted interval of the well.

5.5 REVISIONS TO SECTION 3.4, “GEOMORPHOLOGY AND WATER QUALITY”

PAGES 3.4-1 AND 3.4-2

The portion of the “Regulatory Setting” section on pages 3.4-1 and 3.4-2 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

Federal

Clean Water Act

The Clean Water Act (CWA) (33 United States Code [USC] 1251 et seq.) provides the primary basis for Federal regulations affecting geomorphology and water quality. CWA Section 402 establishes the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program to regulate discharges of pollutants into waters of the United States. A NPDES permit sets specific discharge limits for point sources discharging pollutants into waters of the United States and establishes monitoring and reporting requirements, as well as special conditions. Discharges of stormwater to surface waters associated with construction activity including clearing, grading, and excavation activities must also obtain an NPDES permit and implement measures to reduce or eliminate stormwater pollution. The Federal government delegates water pollution control authority under Section 402 of the CWA to the states and the states oversee compliance.

Under Section 303(d) of the CWA, water quality limited segments are identified, and Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) of pollutants to a water body listed as impaired pursuant to that section is required. Lake Tahoe is listed as impaired and the TMDL ~~is being~~ developed by California and Nevada to address pollutant loadings from all sources to achieve existing water quality objectives for deep water clarity and transparency (namely loadings of nitrogen, phosphorus, and fine sediment) has been adopted (~~California Water Boards and NDEP 2009~~Lahontan RWQCB 2011).

Section 404 of the CWA requires projects to receive authorization from the Secretary of the Army, acting through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), to discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands, whether the discharge is temporary or permanent. Waters of the United States are generally defined as “...waters which are currently used, or were used in the past, or may be susceptible to use in interstate or foreign commerce, including all waters which are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide; territorial seas and tributaries to such waters.” Section 404 is generally applicable to projects in which fill material would be placed within or below the ordinary high-water mark of a stream. USACE Regional General Permit 16, authorizes activities with minimal individual and cumulative impacts on waters of the United States, including wetlands, in the Tahoe Basin, (USACE 2005). ~~This regional General Permit will expire~~ September 30, 2010, ~~but it is expected that~~ The USACE will either extend the expiration date and/or did not issue a replacement regional permit, so coverage via an appropriate Nationwide Permit (e.g., NWP 27 for aquatic habitat restoration, establishment, and enhancement activities) or an Individual Permit would be required ~~effective as of that date.~~ In conjunction with USACE’s CWA Section 404 permits, CWA Section 401 requires that water quality certifications or waivers be issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the states, or both (see below).

Before approval of detailed design used for project construction, a delineation of waters of the United States (including wetlands) that would be affected by project implementation would be conducted by a qualified biologist through the formal Section 404 wetland delineation process. The delineation would be submitted to and verified by the Sacramento District of USACE. Authorization for fill or reconstruction of jurisdictional waters of the United States, including wetlands, would be secured from the Sacramento District of USACE through the Section 404 permitting process. Section 404 permitting through either a nationwide or individual permit will likely require the following terms:

- ▶ determination of the volume and types of material to be placed into waters of the United States;
- ▶ determination of the total area of waters of the United States to be directly and indirectly affected;
- ▶ wetland delineation in accordance with the 1987 *Wetland Delineation Manual* and the *Western Mountain Regional Supplement* (USACE 1987, 2008) when wetlands are proposed for impacts;
- ▶ description of habitat, including plant communities, located in the study area;
- ▶ description of any environmental impacts that are expected to occur, including methods to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse impacts on water quality or aquatic functions at the project site;
- ▶ other information pertinent to the wetland, stream, or water body involved;
- ▶ for projects involving the restoration of greater than 3 acres of wetlands, evidence that USFWS has been provided with a courtesy copy of the project notification; and
- ▶ a copy of the Section 401 water quality certification or waiver issued for the project.

State Parks will coordinate with the Sacramento District of USACE to ascertain the appropriate CWA Section 404 permit for the project, develop and submit all application materials, and comply with permit requirements affecting final design, implementation, and/or monitoring and reporting. USACE would use this EIS as the basis for NEPA compliance related to approval of a Section 404 permit.

State

The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (California Water Code Section 13000 et seq.) requires establishment of water quality objectives and standards to protect water quality for beneficial uses. This act is implemented by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and nine regional water quality control boards (RWQCBs), which are responsible for preserving California's water quality. The SWRCB protects water quality by setting Statewide policy, coordinating and supporting RWQCB efforts, and reviewing petitions that contest RWQCB actions. The RWQCBs issue waste discharge permits, take enforcement action against violators, and monitor water quality for the protection of waters in their specified regions. The SWRCB and the RWQCBs jointly administer Federal and State laws related to water quality in coordination with EPA and USACE.

The study area is under the jurisdiction of the Lahontan RWQCB. The Lahontan RWQCB administers CWA Section 401 water quality certifications in conjunction with USACE's CWA Section 404 permit. In addition, the Lahontan RWQCB regulates discharge of stormwater from construction projects (as well as municipal and industrial stormwater) under the CWA Section 402 NPDES permit program. Because the project would disturb more than 1 acre of land, State Parks would need to obtain and comply with the Lahontan RWQCB's NPDES General Permit Number CAG616002 for discharge of stormwater runoff associated with construction activity. The SWRCB adopted a new statewide NPDES Construction General Permit Order 2009-0009-DWQ on September 2, 2009 that becomes effective July 1, 2010 (SWRCB 2010). This General Permit imposes more minimum BMPs and establishes three levels of risk-based requirements based on both sediment risk and receiving water risk. All dischargers are subject to narrative effluent limitations. Risk level 2 dischargers are subject to technology-based numeric action levels (NALs) for pH and turbidity. Risk level 3 dischargers are subject to NALs and numeric effluent limitations (NELs). Certain sites must develop and implement a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and Rain Event Action Plan (REAP) and all projects must perform effluent monitoring and reporting, along with receiving water monitoring and reporting for some Risk level 3 sites. Key personnel (e.g., SWPPP preparers, inspectors, etc.) must have certifications to ensure their qualifications to design and evaluate project specifications that will meet the requirements. For projects commencing on or after July 1, 2010, the applicant must electronically submit Permit Registration Documents (PRDs) prior to commencement of construction activities including the Notice of Intent, Risk Assessment, Post-Construction Calculations, a Site

Map, the SWPPP, a signed certification statement by the Legally Responsible Person (LRP), and the first annual fee. The Lahontan RWQCB is responsible for enforcing the new statewide General Permit in its region and ~~is updating its adopted a new regional General Permit for construction stormwater discharges within the Lake Tahoe hydrologic unit effective April 14, 2011 to be as least as stringent as the statewide permit (LRWQCB 2011 Amorfini, pers. comm., 2010).~~

PAGE 3.4-10

The portion of the “Regulatory Setting” section on page 3.4-10 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

El Dorado County

The study area is located entirely in El Dorado County; therefore, the El Dorado County Grading Ordinance (Chapter 15.14) and the Tahoe Basin Special Conditions Section of the El Dorado County Grading Design Manual (El Dorado County 2007) are applicable, although State-owned land is not subject to local government ordinances. The project’s required compliance with USACE, Lahontan RWCQB, and TRPA requirements related to water quality protection also would address the goals and objectives of the El Dorado County General Plan (El Dorado County 2004:44) and Grading Ordinance previously mentioned.

PAGE 3.4-30

Fertilizer use at the Lake Tahoe Golf Course is minimal, and typically occurs between twice per year in May and October November. ~~The applications start after the soil temperature reaches 55°F. They continue through the irrigation season (on greens and tees, to a lesser degree the fairways).~~ Most fertilizers used are slow release but some are not. Use of slow-release fertilizer minimizes the amount of fertilizer free in the soil that could be leached. Fertilizers used on-site that are not slow release either are applied as spoon fed on greens only (on approximately 2 acres) or are applied in a manner which approximates a slow-release feeding in that they are applied in such small quantities (per acre) that they do not overwhelm the soil’s ability to hold and then release them to the plant to match growth rates. Nitrates and soil are both negatively charged, which prevents the soil from holding on to excess nitrate. Whatever nitrate is not used by the plants could be lost to the groundwater; therefore, nitrates applied at the golf course are minimal and only included where they are secondary ingredient of other products (for example, calcium products). ~~No nitrates are applied, nitrates are negatively charged, as is the soil, have no holding ability in the soil therefore whatever the plant doesn’t uptake or attach to its roots would be lost to the groundwater below.~~ Fertilizer use is focused on fairways, tees, and greens, and not within the rough or ‘minimally managed’ areas. Buffer zones are located along some fairways adjacent to creeks and ponds. However, some fairways located adjacent to the river currently have no buffer. Buffer zones are located along some fairways adjacent to creeks and ponds. However, some fairways located adjacent to the river currently have no buffer. Herbicides are used only in spot treatments and pesticide use is also very minimal.

5.6 REVISIONS TO SECTION 3.5, “BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES, VEGETATION, AND WILDLIFE)”

PAGES 3.5-11 AND 3.5-12

The portion of the “Environmental Setting” section on pages 3.5-11 and 3.5-12 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

Vegetation

The study area is characterized by a continuum of plant associations and developed land cover types, ranging from golf course, meadow, and riparian areas along the Upper Truckee River to predominantly conifer forest at the highest elevations. Vegetation types in the study area were mapped and described by River Run Consulting in the *Riparian Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Report* (2006). The vegetation map was verified by botanists during reconnaissance-level field surveys conducted on July 18 and 19, 2006. Additional vegetation surveys and mapping were conducted during 2008 and 2010, by botanists from Ecosynthesis, State Parks, California Native Plant Society, and the Tahoe Environmental Research Center.

The vegetation types, originally described by River Run Consulting (2006) and updated with information from 2010 surveys, are summarized below and illustrated in Exhibit 3.5-1. ~~The vegetation names are those used by River Run Consulting.~~

Vegetation in the study area is managed by State Parks for a variety of fuels management, forest health, and riparian/hardwood management goals. For example, as part of the Lake Sector Wildfire Management Plan, State Parks has treated much of the study area for fuels reduction. Additional treatments may be implemented in the future to further reduce fuels in some areas (Walck, pers. comm., 2010). Also, State Parks is currently implementing a Riparian Hardwood Restoration Project funded through a grant from the Reclamation on State Park land, including Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley SRA. The Riparian Hardwood Restoration Project involves removal of lodgepole pines along the maintenance road and adjacent to the Upper Truckee River; it should be completed within the study area prior to implementation of the proposed project.

Lodgepole Pine–Dry Type Forest and Lodgepole Pine–Mesic Type Forest

Lodgepole pine forest occupies approximately 185 acres of the study area. This vegetation type is dominated by lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta* ssp. *murrayana*) with occasional white fir (*Abies concolor*) and Jeffrey pine (*P. jeffreyi*). The forest canopy structure ranges from open to dense. Where the canopy is more open, scattered shrubs are present. The cover and species composition of the herbaceous layer are highly variable. The distinction between lodgepole pine–dry type forest and lodgepole pine–mesic type forest is based on the shrub and herbaceous layers. The shrub layer of lodgepole pine–dry type forest usually is sparse and consists of upland species such as wax currant (*Ribes cereum*), mountain whitethorn (*Ceanothus cordulatus*), and mountain sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata* ssp. *vaseyana*). In lodgepole pine–mesic type forest, the shrub layer may not be present and is limited to riparian species such as willow (*Salix* spp.) that persist along small, abandoned channels. The herbaceous layer of lodgepole pine–dry type forest is dominated by upland grasses such as blue wildrye (*Elymus glaucus*), Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*), mountain brome (*Bromus carinatus*), squirreltail (*Elymus elymoides*), and/or needlegrass (*Achnatherum* spp.). Nongrasses, such as Torrey’s monkeyflower (*Mimulus torreyi*), Torrey’s popcornflower (*Plagiobothrys torreyi* var. *diffusa*), and whiskerbrush (*Linanthus ciliatus*), also are present. The lodgepole pine–mesic type forest has an herbaceous layer dominated by nongrasses, such as fireweed (*Epilobium angustifolium*), cow parsnip (*Heracleum lanatum*), false Solomon’s seal (*Smilacina stellata*), meadow-rue (*Thalictrum fendleri*), and corn lily (*Veratrum californicum*).

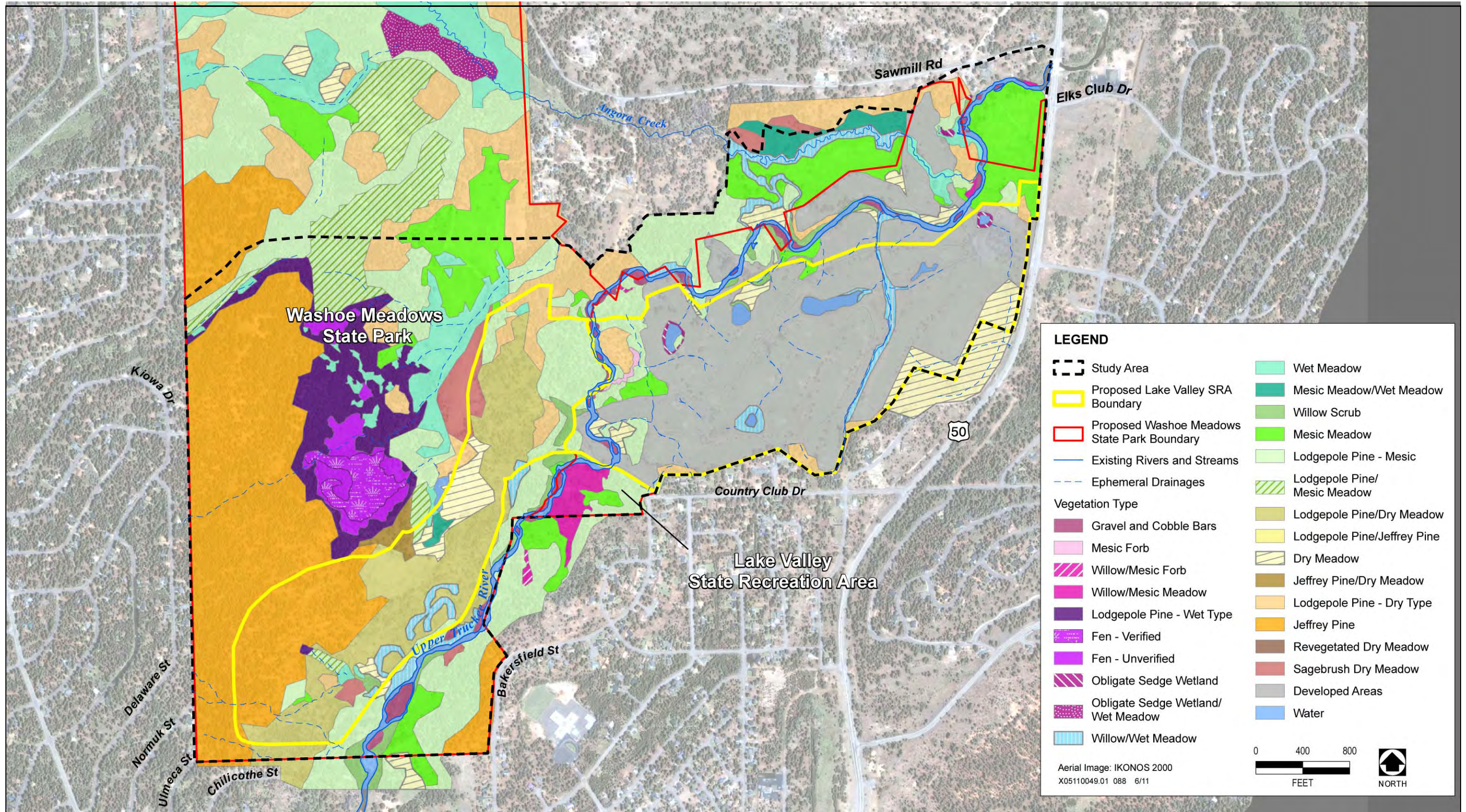
Jeffrey Pine Forest

Jeffrey pine forest occupies approximately ~~95~~99 acres of the study area. This vegetation type is present primarily in the western portion of the study area, away from the immediate vicinity of the Upper Truckee River. The forest canopy has variable-age pine trees, some exceeding 30 inches DBH. The majority of the canopy trees are Jeffrey pine; a small portion of the canopy is lodgepole pine and white fir. The boundary between the lodgepole pine–dry type forest (described above) and the Jeffrey pine forest is indistinct. Along the eastern edge of the area mapped as Jeffrey pine forest, the forest has a more significant lodgepole pine component. The subcanopy and understory of Jeffrey pine forest lacks the solid shrub layer that is seen in some other mixed coniferous forest communities in the Tahoe Basin. The Jeffrey pine forest herb layer also is sparse. Species composition of the shrub and

herbaceous understory layers is similar to that of the lodgepole pine–dry type forest (described above) and dry meadow (described below).

PAGE 3.5-13

Exhibit 3.5-1, “Vegetation Types in the Study Area,” on page 3.5-13 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as shown on page 5-9.



Source: California State Parks 2011

Vegetation Types in the Study Area

Exhibit 3.5-1

PAGES 3.5-16 AND 3.5-17

The portion of the “Environmental Setting” section on pages 3.5-16 and 3.5-17 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

Wet Meadow

Wet meadow occupies approximately 2.7 acres and is found in small patches throughout the study area. Wet meadow has higher vegetative cover than mesic meadow (95–100 percent). Consequently, this community has the highest erosion resistance of all herbaceous-dominated vegetation types in the study area. Wet meadow that is located away from the river channel is dominated by Nebraska sedge, Baltic rush, checkerbloom, tufted hairgrass (*Deschampsia caespitosa*), and meadow beardtongue. Wet meadow that is adjacent to the river channel is dominated by fowl bluegrass (*Poa palustris*) and Sierra rush (*Juncus nevadensis*). Most wet meadow also includes some proportion of one or more upland species, such as meadow foxtail (*Alopecurus pratensis*), Kentucky bluegrass, yarrow, dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*), or Lemmon’s yampah (*Perideridia lemmonii*).

The wet meadows include a spring and associated wetland vegetation at the south end of Washoe Meadows SP within the study area. This spring, which at one time had been improved by the placement of a wooden barrel (to provide a human or livestock water source), has a large swath of dead lodgepole pines downslope. These trees appear to have been killed by an increase in soil saturation, which may be the result of a fluctuating spring flow rate. The elevation and/or duration of soil saturation is too high for the survival of lodgepole pine. Future changes in flow rates in the springs can reasonably be anticipated to result in occasional and significant lateral and downslope enlargement of areas that are subject to long-duration surface water or near-surface saturation.

Obligate Sedge Wetland

Obligate sedge wetland occupies approximately 0.8 acre and is found in small patches throughout the study area. Obligate sedge wetland occurs primarily in depressions on floodplains or in areas where springs supply perennial surface saturation. Structurally almost identical to wet meadow, this vegetation type features a dense rhizome and root turf; it is distinguished from wet meadow by its much lower species diversity, typically dominated by beaked sedge (*Carex utriculata*), Nebraska sedge, water sedge (*C. aquatilis*), and/or blister sedge (*C. vesicaria*).

Gravel/Cobble Bar

Gravel and cobble bar vegetation is present on recently deposited sediment bars within the study area. The surface of the deposited sediment bar is covered by either cobble-sized particles or sand and gravel. Vegetation on the bars is variable. Species that may be present include Lemmon’s and Geyer’s willows, sedges, fowl bluegrass, Sierra rush, goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*), dwarf lupine, and common pepperweed (*Lepidium densiflorum*).

Spring Complexes (Including Fens)

~~Four areas located in the southwest portion of the study area have been mapped as spring complexes. These complexes include: (1) a large undisturbed fen area within Washoe Meadows SP; (2) a groundwater-supported wetland mosaic in the old quarry (located on the quarry high wall and part of the pit floor on the west side of the quarry), adjacent to and east of the large fen; (3) a smaller fen located approximately 1,000 feet north of the large fen; and (4) a spring and associated wetland vegetation at the south end of the park within the study area. The wetland mosaic in the old quarry receives drainage from the large fen and groundwater to the west. This wetland mosaic apparently was created by an old borrow pit cut into the hillside intercepting the water table, which drains into the old pit floor. The wetlands that comprise this complex are distributed on both the quarry high wall and the disturbed pit floor. The disturbed wetlands on the pit floor also receive surface runoff directly from the large fen~~

to the west via a small rivulet. The vegetation type in this mosaic is a stable matrix of obligate sedge wetland, mesic forb, and lodgepole pine vegetation.

Areas mapped as spring complex are composed of wetlands that are supported by groundwater, where the groundwater is sufficiently significant to support distinctive vegetation communities. These areas are of particular biological importance for species diversity because they support a number of plant species that are not found in other wetland types within the study area, including some that are considered special status species (see discussion of special status species that follows).

Verified Fen

A large sloping fen occupies approximately 5.5 acres in the southwest portion of the study area and upslope of the project site. Sloping fens are the most common type of fen in the Sierra Nevada and are usually underlain by springs, or a complex of ground water discharge points (Weixelman and Cooper 2008). Fens support a diverse suite of vegetation including vascular plants and bryophytes capable of survival and reproduction in saturated organic soils, and which produce biomass that can be stored below ground to form peat (Cooper and Wolf 2006). Compared to other habitats, fens support a disproportionately large number of rare vascular and nonvascular plant species in the Sierra Nevada underscoring the importance of these habitats for regional biological diversity (Weixelman and Cooper 2008). Some of the plant species identified at the verified fen area include sundew (*Drosera* sp.), little leaf mountain laurel (*Kalmia microphylla*), western Labrador tea (*Ledum glandulosum*), blueberry (*Vaccinium uliginosum*), sedge species (including but not limited to *Carex capitata*, *C. limosa*, and *C. nebrascensis*, *C. utriculata*), juncus species, and moss species (including three-ranked hump moss, *Meesia traquetra*, and a rare moss in California called *Tomentypnum nitens*).

Unverified Fen

Approximately 7.5 acres of unverified fen also occur in the southwest portion of the study area and upslope of the project site. Probe measurements taken at these sites suggest peat, and vegetation types expected in a fen are present. Further surveys are needed to determine if the unverified fen locations have the 40 cm (or greater) of organic soils in the upper 80 cm of the soil profile, which is a necessary criterion to be considered verified fen(s).

Wetlands, such as the verified fen and unverified fen community types, are supported by groundwater and are, therefore, sufficiently important to support distinctive vegetation communities. These areas are of particular biological importance for species diversity because they support a number of plant species that are not found in other wetland types within the study area, including some that are considered special-status species (see discussion of special-status species that follows).

Lodgepole Pine-Wet Type Forest

A lodgepole pine-wet community type of approximately 20 acres surrounds the verified fen, unverified fen, and some of the wet meadows located in the southwest portion of the study area. The lodgepole pine wet community type is wetter than the lodgepole pine-dry type forest and lodgepole pine-mesic type forest. Lodgepole pine-wet is superficially similar to lodgepole pine-mesic, but distinguished by the presence of certain distinctive hydrophytes species that are indicative of longer duration near-surface saturation. Vegetation is dominated by lodgepole pine, but with unique associated species, one notable example being big-leaved avens (*Geum macrophyllum*), that are almost never found in riparian lodgepole pine-mesic type vegetation, but are common to scattered in the moist lodgepole pine vegetation within the lodgepole pine-wet community type.

Water Bodies

River

The area noted as river includes the bed of the low flow channel of the Upper Truckee River.

Golf Course Ponds

There are several human-made ponds, one of which acts as a sediment basin, located within the Lake Tahoe Golf Course. The total area of the ponds is approximately 2 acres, or about 1% of Lake Valley SRA. The substrate of the ponds is coarse granite sand, covered with a fine organic muck. The water is fairly clear in most of the ponds, but because they catch irrigation water, possibly containing herbicides, pesticides, and fertilizers from the golf course, the quality of the water is questionable (California Department of Parks and Recreation 1988, cited in Washoe State Parks Fen Information, 2010 [Appendix C]). The elevation of the water in the ponds is artificially maintained by the golf course concessionaire through a combination of pumping and filling. The shallower ponds probably freeze completely during the winter (California Department of Parks and Recreation 1988, cited in Washoe State Parks Fen Information, 2010[Appendix M]).

Ephemeral Water Body

An ephemeral water body, approximately 0.5 acre in size, is located at the base of the east lobe of the old quarry that receives drainage from the verified fen and groundwater to the west. This water body, and the surrounding wetland vegetation, was apparently created by an old borrow pit cut into the hillside. The borrow pit intercepted the water table, which now drains into the old pit floor and concentrates in lower areas. The wetlands that comprise this complex are distributed on both the quarry high wall and the disturbed pit floor. The disturbed wetland on the pit floor also receives surface runoff directly from the verified fen to the west via a small rivulet.

PAGES 3.5-33 AND 3.5-34

Table 3.5-4, “Special-Status Plant Species Evaluated for the Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Relocation Project,” on pages 3.5-33 and 3.5-34 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

Table 3.5-4 Special-Status Plant Species Evaluated for the Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Relocation Project					
Common and Scientific Name	Regulatory Status ¹			Habitat and Flowering Period	Potential for Occurrence
	Federal	State	Local/CNPS		
Galena Creek rockcress <i>Arabis rigidissima</i> var. <i>demota</i>	FSS	–	TRPA CNPS List 1B	Fir–pine–quaking aspen associations, and meadow edges, usually on north-facing slopes and rocky outcrops; 7,021–10,020 ft. Blooms August.	Not expected to occur. No suitable forest habitat present in the study area. Closest occurrences are along the north shore of Lake Tahoe.
Upswept moonwort <i>Botrychium ascendens</i>	FSS	–	CNPS List 2	Grassy fields and lower montane coniferous forest near springs and creeks; 4,921–7,497 ft. Fertile in August.	Could occur. Suitable mesic habitats occur in the study area.
Scalloped moonwort <i>Botrychium crenulatum</i>	FSS	–		Bogs and fens, lower montane coniferous forest, meadows and seeps, freshwater marshes and swamps; 4,921–10,761 ft. Fertile July–August.	Not expected to occur. No suitable forest habitat in the study area, and elevations of known occurrences exceed those elevations in the study area.
Slender moonwort <i>Botrychium lineare</i>	FSS	–	–	Upper montane coniferous forest, often in disturbed areas; 8,530 ft. Fertile period not known.	Not expected to occur. No suitable forest habitat in the study area, and elevations of known occurrences exceed those elevations in the study area.

**Table 3.5-4
Special-Status Plant Species Evaluated for the
Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Relocation Project**

Common and Scientific Name	Regulatory Status ¹			Habitat and Flowering Period	Potential for Occurrence
	Federal	State	Local/CNPS		
Bolander's candle moss <i>Bruchia bolanderi</i>	FSS	–	–	Lower montane coniferous forest in mesic soils; 5,597–8,999 ft. Fertile period not specified.	Could occur. Suitable mesic habitats occur in the study area.
Shore sedge <i>Carex limosa</i>	–	–	CNPS List 2	Upper montane coniferous forest, lower montane coniferous forest, bogs and fens, meadows and seeps, marshes and swamps (in floating bogs and soggy meadows, often at edges of lakes); 3,697–9,104 ft. Blooms June–August.	Observed in Study Area. Observed within the large undisturbed fen area <u>verified fen</u> in Washoe Meadows SP in 2003 and 2006.
Tahoe draba <i>Draba asterophora</i> var. <i>asterophora</i>	FSS	–	TRPA CNPS List 1B	Alpine boulder and rock fell fields, subalpine coniferous forest, on open talus slopes or decomposed granite, outcrops; 8,202–11,499 ft. Blooms July–September.	Not expected to occur. No suitable subalpine habitat in the study area, and elevations of known occurrences exceed those elevations in the study area.
Cup Lake draba <i>Draba asterophora</i> var. <i>macrocarpa</i>	FSS	–	TRPA CNPS List 1B	Subalpine coniferous forest, usually in relatively deep soil in the shade of granitic rocks; 8,202–9,235 ft. Blooms July–August.	Not expected to occur. No suitable subalpine habitat in the study area, and elevations of known occurrences exceed those elevations in the study area.
Subalpine fireweed <i>Epilobium howellii</i>	FSS	–	–	Subalpine coniferous forest, meadows and seeps; 6,562–8,858 ft. Blooms July–August.	Not expected to occur. No occurrences known from the southern side of the Tahoe Basin.
Oregon fireweed <i>Epilobium oreganum</i>	–	–	CNPS List 1B	Upper montane coniferous forest, lower montane coniferous forest, in or near streams, bogs, or fens; 1,640–7,349 ft. Blooms June–September.	Could occur. Suitable mesic habitats occur in the study area. Only known from the northern end of Lake Tahoe.
Marsh willowherb <i>Epilobium palustre</i>	–	–	CNPS List 2	Bogs and fens, meadows, and seeps; 7,218 ft. Blooms July–August.	Not expected to occur. In California, known only in the Grass Lake area.
Starved daisy <i>Erigeron miser</i>	FSS	–	–	Upper montane coniferous forest in rocky soils; 6,036–8,596 ft. Blooms June–October.	Not expected to occur. No suitable coniferous forest habitat present in the study area, and no occurrences known from the southern side of the Tahoe Basin.
Donner Pass buckwheat <i>Eriogonum umbellatum</i> var. <i>torreyanum</i>	FSS	–	–	Rocky, volcanic substrate in meadows and upper montane coniferous forest. 6,086–8,596 ft. Blooms July–September.	Not expected to occur. No volcanic substrate and suitable forest habitat present in the study area.

**Table 3.5-4
Special-Status Plant Species Evaluated for the
Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Relocation Project**

Common and Scientific Name	Regulatory Status ¹			Habitat and Flowering Period	Potential for Occurrence
	Federal	State	Local/CNPS		
Short-leaved hulsea <i>Hulsea brevifolia</i>	FSS	–	CNPS List 1B	Lower and upper montane coniferous forest often on slate; 4,921–10,499 ft. Blooms May–August.	Not expected to occur. No suitable coniferous forest and substrate habitat present in the study area.
Long-petaled lewisia <i>Lewisia longipetala</i>	FSS	–	TRPA CNPS List 1B	Alpine boulder and rock field, subalpine coniferous forest; 8,202–9,596 ft. Blooms July–August.	Not expected to occur. No suitable subalpine habitat present in the study area, and elevations of known occurrences exceed those elevations in the study area.
Three-ranked hump moss <i>Meesia triquetra</i>	FSS	–	CNPS List 2	Bogs and fens, meadows and seeps, upper montane coniferous forest on mesic soil; 4,265–8,202 ft. Fertile period not specified.	Observed in Study Area. Observed in the large undisturbed <u>verified</u> fen in Washoe Meadows SP in 2002 and 2003.
Broad-nerved hump moss <i>Meesia uliginosa</i>	FSS	–	CNPS List 2	Bogs and fens, meadows and seeps, upper montane coniferous forest on mesic soil; 4,265–8,202 ft. Fertile period not specified.	Could occur. Suitable mesic habitats occur in the study area.

PAGE 3.5-36

The portion of the “Special-Status Plants” section on page 3.5-36 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

Bolander’s candle moss (*Bruchia bolanderi*), three-ranked hump-moss (*Meesia triquetra*), and broad-nerved hump-moss (*M. uliginosa*) are three mosses on the USFS Regional Forester’s list of sensitive species. Bolander’s candle moss is found on mesic soils in coniferous forests, and three-ranked hump-moss and broad-nerved hump-moss are found in bogs, fens, and wet meadows. Three-ranked hump-moss has been observed at Washoe Meadows SP in 2002 in the ~~verified fen-undisturbed spring-fen complex area~~.

Shore sedge (*Carex limosa*) is a CNPS List 2 species. This perennial herbaceous member of the sedge family (*Cyperaceae*) blooms from June to August and can be found in bogs, fens, meadows, seeps, and other saturated settings. This species has been observed in Washoe Meadows SP in the ~~large undisturbed spring-fen complex area~~ verified fen.

PAGE 3.5-60

Impact 3.5-3 (Alt.1), “Short-Term, Construction-Related Disturbance or Loss of Sensitive Habitats (Jurisdictional Wetlands, Riparian Vegetation, Fens, and SEZ),” on page 3.5-60 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

IMPACT 3.5-3 (Alt. 1) **Short-Term, Construction-Related Disturbance or Loss of Sensitive Habitats (Jurisdictional Wetlands, Riparian Vegetation, Fens, and SEZ).** *Under Alternative 1, the river restoration and golf course reconfiguration would not be implemented and would not affect sensitive habitats. Eroding banks along the Upper Truckee River would continue to be periodically treated and maintained as necessary; some of these treatments could be implemented within or adjacent to sensitive habitats. However, the potential for and frequency of implementing these treatments would be the same as under current conditions. Any potential effects of ongoing maintenance of riverbanks on sensitive habitats would be **less than significant**.*

Sensitive habitats in the study area include riparian vegetation along the Upper Truckee River, Angora Creek, and the unnamed creek; jurisdictional wetlands; SEZ; and ~~spring complexes (including fens)~~ the verified and unverified fens west of the river. Under Alternative 1, no construction for river restoration or golf course reconfiguration would be implemented. It is anticipated that treatments may be applied to eroding banks periodically to prevent the loss of areas managed as golf course and to maintain the stability of structures (e.g., bridges), or bridges may be replaced, as needed. Repairs to existing bank stabilization, infrastructure, and additional spot stabilization would continue to occur in response to erosion, damage, or failure, as it does presently. These periodic treatments would also serve to retain vegetation within the riparian corridor and floodplain. Some of these treatments could be implemented within or adjacent to sensitive habitats along the Upper Truckee River. However, the potential for and general frequency of implementing these treatments would be the same as under current conditions; and the specific nature and extent of these potential activities are unknown and would not be a direct result of implementing Alternative 1. Therefore, any potential effects of ongoing treatment and maintenance of riverbanks on sensitive habitats under Alternative 1 would be less than significant. Riparian areas subject to continued treatment and maintenance activities under Alternative 1 are not in the vicinity of the verified and unverified fens ~~spring complexes (including fens)~~ west of the Upper Truckee River; these areas would not be affected.

PAGE 3.5-61

Impact 3.5-5 (Alt.1), “Long-Term Effects on Sensitive Habitats (Jurisdictional Wetlands, Riparian Vegetation, Fens and SEZ) and Special-Status Plant Species,” on page 3.5-61 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

IMPACT 3.5-5 (Alt. 1) **Long-Term Effects on Sensitive Habitats (Jurisdictional Wetlands, Riparian Vegetation, Fens and SEZ) and Special-Status Plant Species.** *Under Alternative 1, the river restoration and golf course reconfiguration would not be implemented, and sensitive habitats and habitat for special-status plants would remain the same as under existing conditions. Streambanks within the study area are expected to continually erode, resulting in long-term degradation of riparian vegetation. Also, the 18-hole golf course would remain as it currently exists, much of which is adjacent to the Upper Truckee River. Although the adverse condition of riparian habitat degradation would continue, it would not be a change caused by the alternative; therefore, this impact would be **less than significant**.*

Under Alternative 1, project-generated changes would not occur and the banks of the Upper Truckee River would continue to respond to past land uses through channel widening. Treatments may be applied to eroding banks periodically to prevent the loss of areas managed as golf course and to maintain the stability of structures (e.g., bridges), or bridges may be replaced, as needed. Repairs to existing bank stabilization, infrastructure, and additional spot stabilization would occur in response to erosion, damage, or failure, as it does presently. These periodic treatments would also serve to retain vegetation within the riparian corridor and floodplain; however, erosion of the unstable streambanks would continue degrading sensitive habitats within the riparian corridor and floodplain, including adjacent woody riparian vegetation along the riverbanks. This is an existing adverse condition that would continue unchanged under the alternative. Under Alternative 1, golf course use would continue adjacent to the Upper Truckee River, Angora Creek, and the unnamed creek and would occupy ~~123~~ 128

acres of SEZ, limiting available riparian function and habitat. Effects on sensitive habitats would be similar to existing and ongoing conditions.

Ongoing operational uses of the study area are not expected to result in substantial adverse impacts to special-status plant species because areas presently used for golf course activities are not considered suitable habitat for these species. Riparian zones in the study area (along the Upper Truckee River, Angora Creek, and the unnamed creek) provide suitable habitat for special-status plants, including marsh skullcap, Oregon fireweed, and Bolander's candle moss. As previously discussed, the quality of riparian habitat in the study area for these species could gradually become degraded in the long term with the continuation of streambank erosion; also, emergency or as-needed repair of riverbanks could result in some disturbance or loss of riparian vegetation. Disturbances associated with golf course use and operations (e.g., trampling of vegetation) would continue to limit riparian habitat functions along the Upper Truckee River, Angora Creek, and the unnamed creek.

The verified fen, unverified fen, and ephemeral water body would not be affected by Alternative 1. The four spring complexes would not be affected by Alternative 1, including the previously disturbed wetland within the old quarry.

Although the adverse condition of riparian and special-status plant habitat degradation would continue, it would not be a change caused by Alternative 1. These effects are expected to be similar to existing and ongoing conditions. Therefore, this impact would be less than significant.

PAGES 3.5-69 THROUGH 3.5-72

Impact 3.5-3 (Alt. 2), "Short-Term, Construction-Related Disturbance or Loss of Sensitive Habitats (Jurisdictional Wetlands, Riparian Vegetation, Fens, and SEZ)," and Mitigation Measures 3.5-3A and 3.5-3C on pages 3.5-69 through 3.5-72 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS are hereby revised as follows:

IMPACT 3.5-3 (Alt. 2) **Short-Term, Construction-Related Disturbance or Loss of Sensitive Habitats (Jurisdictional Wetlands, Riparian Vegetation, Fens, and SEZ).** *Implementing Alternative 2 would result in the removal of riparian and meadow vegetation along the Upper Truckee River and placement of fill into the active channel for geomorphic restoration of the river. Alternative 2 also includes golf course construction and wetland restoration in the vicinity of a spring complexes in Washoe Meadows SP and including wetland restoration in the old quarry adjacent to the large verified fen, and could potentially directly or indirectly affect these complexes either directly or by changing local hydrology. The locations of these spring complexes features are well-documented and Alternative 2 proposes to avoid these areas. However, because of the close proximity of the current conceptual design of golf course reconfiguration and quarry restoration these complexes features could be directly or indirectly affected by final project design, construction, and operation without more specific design parameters and measures to avoid direct or indirect effects on these sensitive resources. Because the likelihood and potential magnitude of these effects are presently unknown and Alternative 2 would result in disturbance within SEZ and jurisdictional wetlands this impact is considered significant.*

The stream channel's size, configuration, and floodplain connection would be directly modified throughout the study area under Alternative 2 by increasing channel length (adding 1,590 feet), elevating the streambed 2–4 feet in many locations, and reducing channel capacity in a majority of reaches. Modifications would also involve placing fill in approximately 2,600 feet of existing channel. Restoration would involve removing some existing riparian vegetation, but the riparian vegetation to be removed would be salvaged and used elsewhere to the extent feasible. Salvaged vegetation would consist of transplanted sod and shrubs, native sod revetments and native sod blankets, and woody debris brush boxes. Sod and shrub materials would be obtained from within the footprint of the new channels and salvaged from the bottom of reconnected meanders or from adjacent meadows (aside from

landscaped areas with nonnative sod). As part of project design, in all near-bank areas that would experience construction disturbance, protecting the existing bank vegetation would be emphasized.

Other improvements proposed under Alternative 2 include the area where the old quarry pit cut into the hillside intercepting subsurface water, which drains to the base of the slope and forms a small wetland on the disturbed topography of the old quarry floor. This small wetland is part of the mapped unverified fen on the wall and pit floor of the old quarry, located adjacent to and east of the large verified fen in Washoe Meadows SP. The drainage would be reconfigured to a more naturalized channel, and a wetland pond covering about 0.5 acre would be constructed to form a more natural habitat. This wetland pond would be outside of but adjacent to the golf course footprint. Drainage out of the pond would cross the golf course, requiring a small cart path bridge. The quarry restoration would require some disturbance to the existing wetlands, including hydrologic changes and vegetation disturbance. The existing disturbed wetland on the pit floor, which would be restored under Alternative 2, is hydrologically connected to and receives drainage from the large verified fen to the west via a small rivulet as well as being fed by groundwater. Although Alternative 2 proposes to avoid the fen, wetland restoration and drainage reconfiguration in the quarry could inadvertently alter the groundwater or surface water hydrology and availability for the fen upslope. A risk would exist that drainage from the fen could potentially increase and cause the fen to become drier if landscape alteration downslope of the fen modifies groundwater flow. Because the proposed restoration in the quarry is conceptual, the specific potential for and magnitude of this effect cannot presently be known.

The verified and unverified fen are located upslope and away from potential golf course features, and would not be hydrologically connected to any portion of the relocated golf course. These areas would not be affected directly or indirectly through altered hydrology or changes in water quality due to golf course reconfiguration; however, restoration of the quarry wetland could directly or indirectly affect hydrology. One spring (mapped as lodgepole pine wet type and wet meadow) and associated wetland vegetation at the south end of the park is ~~Two areas mapped as spring complexes are~~ relocated adjacent to (and is surrounded by) the location of the reconfigured golf course holes and fairways proposed under Alternative 2: (1) the groundwater-supported wetland mosaic in the old quarry (located on the quarry high wall and part of the pit floor on the west side of the quarry), adjacent to and east of the large fen; and (2) the spring and associated wetland vegetation at the south end of the park. The wetland mosaic in the old quarry (which includes the small wetland that would be restored under Alternative 2, as previously discussed) is located adjacent to the proposed tee box, fairway, and green for hole 12. This spring and associated wetland vegetation at the south end of the park is adjacent to the proposed golf course holes 9, 10, and 11. Alternative 2 proposes to avoid direct effects on this spring ~~complexes~~ by designing the layout of the golf course around this area, and through mitigation of potential indirect effects by avoiding surface or groundwater interaction between the golf course and the natural habitat as required in Mitigation Measure 3.4-8 (Alt. 2). This mitigation measure would require the tees and green located upslope of this spring to be hydrologically independent from the spring through barriers or other design features, and would prevent indirect effects such as water quality alterations from golf course management or increased surface or groundwater flow from irrigation. this area, and through mitigation of potential indirect effects by avoiding surface or groundwater interaction between the golf course and the natural habitat as required in Mitigation Measure 3.4-8 (Alt.2). This mitigation measure would require the tees and green located upslope of this spring to be hydrologically independent from the spring through barriers or other design features, and would prevent indirect effects such as water quality alterations from golf course management or increased surface or groundwater flow from irrigation. Wetland habitat has been adequately identified for purposes of the EIR/EIS/EIS using vegetation as the primary indicator and hydrology, where it is apparent. While this approach would encompass all wetland areas ultimately confirmed to be protected under the CWA, a formal delineation of jurisdictional wetlands subject to USACE jurisdiction under Section 404 of the CWA (i.e., using vegetation, hydrology, and soils as indicators) would not be conducted until the permitting phase after selection of a preferred alternative. The Upper Truckee River is considered a water of the United States. As mentioned in the “Methods and Assumptions” section of this impact analysis, habitat types associated with the riparian corridor of the Upper Truckee River, Angora Creek, the other unnamed creek drainages within the study area, and potentially the quarry ponds are assumed to be considered jurisdictional wetlands, subject to USACE jurisdiction under CWA Section 404. These habitat types are also considered

habitats of special significance by TRPA. Deciduous riparian vegetation (willow scrub) and montane meadow vegetation are two of TRPA's threshold common vegetation types. Implementation of Alternative 2 would involve removing riparian vegetation and working within areas that would qualify as jurisdictional wetlands and other waters of the United States and SEZ. The project would require a CWA Section 404 permit from USACE (i.e., ~~Regional General Permit 16~~), a CWA section 401 permit from the RWQCB, and streambed alteration agreement from CDFG for work on the streambed and banks of the Upper Truckee River, Angora Creek, and the other unnamed creek drainages within the study area. Geomorphic restoration under Alternative 2 would include placement of fill in the Upper Truckee River and removal of some adjacent woody riparian and meadow vegetation. This would result in the temporary disturbance of sensitive habitat types, including SEZ, and the placement of fill material into jurisdictional waters of the United States, including wetlands subject to USACE jurisdiction under CWA Section 404.

Because the likelihood and magnitude of the potential effects on the spring complex hydrology are presently unknown and Alternative 2 would result in disturbance within SEZ and jurisdictional wetland, this impact is considered significant.

Mitigation Measure 3.5-3A (Alt. 2): Conduct Delineation of Waters of the United States and Obtain Authorization for Fill and Required Permits.

Before approval of detailed design used for project construction, a delineation of waters of the United States, including wetlands that would be affected by project implementation, will be conducted by a qualified biologist through the formal Section 404 wetland delineation process. The delineation will be submitted to and verified by the Sacramento District of USACE. Authorization for fill or reconstruction of jurisdictional waters of the United States, including wetlands, will be secured from the Sacramento District of USACE through the Section 404 permitting process. Section 404 permitting through either a nationwide or individual permit that will likely require the following terms: ~~Because the project involves wetland and stream restoration activities in the Tahoe Basin, it is anticipated that the project would be authorized under Regional General Permit 16. This permit requires the following general permit terms:~~

- ▶ a determination of the volume and types of material to be placed into waters of the United States;
- ▶ a determination of the total area of waters of the United States to be directly and indirectly affected;
- ▶ a wetland delineation in accordance with the 1987 *Wetland Delineation Manual* and the *Western Mountain Regional Supplement* (USACE 2008) when wetlands are proposed for impacts;
- ▶ a description of habitat, including plant communities, located in the study area;
- ▶ a description of any environmental impacts that are expected to occur, including methods to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse impacts on water quality or aquatic functions at the study area;
- ▶ any other information pertinent to the wetland, stream or water body involved;
- ▶ for projects involving the restoration of greater than 3 acres of wetlands, evidence that USFWS has been provided with a courtesy copy of the project notification; and
- ▶ a copy of the 401 water quality certification or waiver issued for the project.

State Parks will coordinate with USACE as appropriate and obtain coverage under Regional General Permit 16 for the construction of all aspects of the project. All general terms required for permit compliance will be implemented.

In addition, implementation of Alternative 2 would require a streambed alteration agreement from CDFG for work on the bed and banks of the Upper Truckee River. State Parks will obtain the streambed alteration agreement from CDFG and implement all terms required for permit compliance.

Mitigation Measure 3.5-3C (Alt. 2): Avoid Effects on the ~~Spring Complexes (Including Fens)~~ Verified Fen, Unverified Fen, Lodgepole Pine Wet, and Wet Meadow through Final Project Design and Implement Protection Measures During Project Construction.

To avoid potential adverse effects of golf course relocation and operation on the spring (mapped as lodgepole pine wet type and wet meadow, ~~complexes~~ west of the Upper Truckee River, and potential effects of quarry restoration on the large fen adjacent to and west of the quarry, the following mitigation measures will be implemented.

- (1) State Parks will develop and implement specific parameters and measures in accordance with Mitigation Measure 3.4-8 (Alt. 2) to ensure that the final design, operation, and management of golf course holes 9, 10, 11, and 12 avoids potential direct and indirect impacts to the spring ~~complexes~~ in Washoe Meadows SP.
- (2) Before construction, a qualified biologist will clearly identify the boundaries of the relevant spring in the field with flagging, and protective fencing will be placed around the features to protect them from project-related effects. No construction-related activities will be allowed within areas fenced for avoidance, and construction personnel will be briefed about the presence of this sensitive resource and the need to avoid impacts to it.
- (3) The edges of the spring ~~complexes~~ will be further protected from indirect effects of the managed turf by the “naturalized landscape” and “minimally managed landscape” buffer areas that are part of the project design. The latter, which will function as the ultimate buffer between the golf course and the adjacent native vegetation, will be areas of native vegetation within the golf course that are generally not mowed, irrigated, or fertilized. Vegetation height and structure may be managed (trim, thin, etc.) to enhance course playability, but in general these areas will serve to buffer the spring ~~complexes~~ from indirect effects of the golf course management.
- (4) Proposed restoration of the quarry will be further designed to avoid potential direct or indirect effects on the verified fen west of the quarry. The plans and specifications will ensure that the groundwater and surface water hydrology that support the fen will not be adversely affected by the project.

With the measures described above, the locations of sensitive habitats would be identified, and the project would minimize effects of project construction and compensate for loss of sensitive habitats (jurisdictional wetlands, riparian vegetation, and SEZ); potential impacts to the spring ~~complexes~~ as a result of golf course relocation and operation would be avoided through final project design of the golf course holes, installation of protective fencing, and training of construction crews; and potential effects of quarry restoration on the large fen west of the quarry would be avoided through final restoration design that avoids potential hydrologic impacts to the fen.. Therefore, with implementation of Mitigation Measures 3.5-3A (Alt. 2), 3.5-3B (Alt. 2), and 3.5-3C (Alt. 2), Impact 3.5-3 (Alt. 2) would be less than significant.

Note: Under the proposed Preferred Alternative quarry restoration will not occur. See Chapter 2, “Project Description” for additional information on the Preferred Alternative.

PAGES 3.5-72 THROUGH 3.5-74

Impact 3.5-4 (Alt. 2), “Short-Term, Construction-Related Disturbance or Removal of Special-Status Plants,” and Mitigation Measure 3.5-4 on pages 3.5-72 and 3.5-74 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS are hereby revised as follows:

IMPACT 3.5-4 (Alt. 2) **Short-Term, Construction-Related Disturbance or Removal of Special-Status Plants.** *Alternative 2 would involve temporary disturbance and removal of plant communities that provide suitable habitat for several special-status plant species known to occur in the vicinity of the study area. While surveys to date have not detected these species in proposed construction areas, pre-construction, focused surveys would be conducted to confirm absence during the permitting phase. Because suitable habitat exists where ground disturbance is planned, if special-status plant species are found in follow-up, pre-construction surveys, then implementing Alternative 2 could result in their removal or disturbance. This impact would be **potentially significant**.*

Several special-status plant species are known to occur in and adjacent to the study area or have potential to occur in the study area. Suitable habitat for these species within the study area exists in mesic conditions along the Upper Truckee River and in the springs complexes west of the river. Some of these species, specifically shore sedge and three-ranked hump-moss, are known to occur in the ~~large~~ verified fen in Washoe Meadows SP. Shore sedge and three-ranked hump-moss could also occur in other springs complexes in the study area, including the small wetland in the old quarry that would be restored under Alternative 2. Two special-status vascular plant species, marsh skullcap and Oregon fireweed, and one special-status moss species, Bolander's candle moss, could occur in moist riparian habitats that are suitable for the species along the Upper Truckee River, Angora Creek, and the unnamed creek within the existing golf course, and in the springs complexes west of the river. Marsh skullcap has been documented just outside the study area in Washoe Meadows SP, where it is found along a creek channel in an open meadow growing with sedges and mint. Similar conditions and associated plant species occur along the Upper Truckee River and other drainages in the study area. Oregon fireweed and Bolander's candle moss have not been documented in the vicinity of the study area, but are known to occur under similar conditions elsewhere in the Tahoe Basin. Although special-status plant species have been documented or could occur in the study area, none have been identified during any vegetation monitoring or rare-plant surveys, or otherwise documented, within proposed construction areas to date. However, pre-construction, focused surveys would be conducted to confirm absence prior to implementation. Because suitable habitat exists in locations where ground-disturbing activities would be implemented, marsh skullcap, Oregon fireweed, Bolander's candle moss, shore sedge, three-ranked hump-moss could be found in proposed construction areas during follow-up, pre-construction surveys and adversely affected by implementation of Alternative 2.

Alternative 2 involves restoring a 13,430-foot stretch of the Upper Truckee River and adjoining floodplain, including the removal of the five existing bridges and the construction of one new, longer bridge. Activities associated with the geomorphic restoration would entail local, temporary disturbances to the existing vegetation to restore natural geomorphic processes. Also, the quarry wetland restoration and pond construction would require some vegetation disturbance and hydrologic changes to the existing wetlands (see Impact 3.5-3 [Alt.2] for further discussion), which provide suitable habitat for special-status plants. Under this alternative, 97 acres of floodplain and meadow would be restored, including 39 acres of the 100-year floodplain and 37 acres of SEZ, all of which could provide suitable habitat for marsh skullcap, Oregon fireweed, and Bolander's candle moss in the future. Where marsh skullcap occurs in Washoe Meadows SP, it has responded favorably to stream restoration along Angora Creek with an increase in growth after restoration; therefore, long-term effects of the project could be beneficial. However, if populations of these special-status species exist in portions of the Upper Truckee River riparian corridor or the quarry wetlands that would be disturbed during implementation of Alternative 2, construction activities could have a substantial short-term adverse effect on special-status species. This impact would be potentially significant.

Implementing Alternative 2 also involves reconfiguring the Lake Tahoe Golf Course by fully relocating seven golf course holes and partially relocating two holes to the west side of the Upper Truckee River. Vegetation within the conceptual golf course footprint is mapped primarily as lodgepole pine forest with a dry understory, Jeffrey pine forest, dry meadow, and sagebrush dry meadow. These habitat types are not considered suitable habitat for special-status plant species with potential to occur in the study area. In addition, the native vegetation in this portion of the relocated footprint has been disturbed and degraded by historic quarry mining activities. The ephemeral drainages in the southwest corner of the study area that would fall within the footprint of the

reconfigured golf course holes are also not considered habitat for these species because they do not convey perennial water and lack established riparian vegetation. Because these species are not expected to inhabit this portion of the study area, relocating the golf course holes is not expected to affect special-status plant species.

PAGE 3.5-92

Impact 3.5-3 (Alt. 3), “Short-Term, Construction-Related Disturbance or Loss of Sensitive Habitats (Jurisdictional Wetlands, Riparian Vegetation, Fens, and SEZ),” on page 3.5-92 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

IMPACT 3.5-3 (Alt. 3) Short-Term, Construction-Related Disturbance or Loss of Sensitive Habitats (Jurisdictional Wetlands, Riparian Vegetation, Fens, and SEZ). *Implementing Alternative 3 would result in the removal of riparian and meadow vegetation along the Upper Truckee River, and placement of fill into the active channel for geomorphic restoration of the river. This impact would be **significant**.*

Treatment for the Upper Truckee River under Alternative 3 would be the same as the river treatment under Alternative 2 except that Alternative 3 would not include any bridges over the river. Alternatives 2 and 3 would treat the lower portion of Angora Creek, the mouth of the unnamed creek, and restoration of adjoining floodplain and meadow similarly. Effects on sensitive habitats (jurisdictional wetlands, riparian vegetation, and SEZ) would be similar to those described in Impact 3.5-3 (Alt. 2) because these sensitive habitats occur primarily along the Upper Truckee River, Angora Creek, and the unnamed drainage in the golf course. Please refer to Impact 3.5-3 (Alt. 2) for a detailed description of the potential impact. Because the golf course would not be relocated west of the river and the quarry wetlands would not be restored under Alternative 3, the ~~spring complexes (including fens)~~ verified fen, unverified fen, lodgepole pine wet, and wet meadow and other sensitive habitats west of the Upper Truckee River riparian corridor and floodplain would not be affected. Under this alternative, sensitive habitat types, including SEZ, would be temporarily disturbed and fill material would be placed into jurisdictional waters of the United States, including wetlands subject to USACE jurisdiction under CWA Section 404. Therefore, this impact would be significant.

PAGE 3.5-93

Impact 3.5-5 (Alt. 3), “Long-Term Effects on Sensitive Habitats (Jurisdictional Wetlands, Riparian Vegetation, Fens and SEZ) and Special-Status Plant Species,” on page 3.5-93 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

IMPACT 3.5-5 (Alt. 3) Long-Term Effects on Sensitive Habitats (Jurisdictional Wetlands, Riparian Vegetation, Fens and SEZ) and Special-Status Plant Species. *The long-term goal of the project under Alternative 3 is to minimize the footprint of the golf course within the SEZ, and increase floodplain meadow vegetation as well as wetland area and functions. Implementing Alternative 3 would restore approximately 112 acres of floodplain meadow vegetation and 43 acres of SEZ. This effect would be **beneficial**.*

Under Alternative 3, incompatible land uses associated with the golf course would be removed from areas adjacent to the Upper Truckee River and Angora Creek, and adjoining riparian vegetation communities would be restored. All five existing bridges over the Upper Truckee River and four cart path/pedestrian bridges over Angora Creek would be removed. Approximately 112 acres of floodplain and meadow would be restored. The golf course’s footprint would be reduced to 86 acres, reducing the amount of SEZ occupied by the golf course by 43 acres. A net total of 43 acres of SEZ would be restored. In addition, as part of floodplain restoration, the 0.75-acre storm drainage pond by existing holes 14 and 15 would be reconfigured, designed as a wetland or oxbow feature, and revegetated. The approach to restoration is designed to reverse the negative trends of erosion caused by past channelization, existing infrastructure, and associated land uses. The increased area and improved ecosystem functions of SEZ, floodplain, and wetland communities would be beneficial because they would result

in a long-term net increase in the acreage of sensitive habitats. No construction disturbance related to golf course reconfiguration, quarry restoration, or trail development would occur on the west side of the Upper Truckee River under this alternative; therefore, the ~~spring complexes (including fens)~~ verified fen, unverified fen, lodgepole pine wet, and wet meadow and other sensitive habitats west of the Upper Truckee River riparian corridor and floodplain would not be affected.

In addition, areas of restored SEZ and floodplain would increase the area of suitable habitat for special-status plant species that have potential to occur within the area. Marsh skullcap, Oregon fireweed, and Bolander's candle moss, discussed under Impact 3.5-4 (Alt. 2), have potential to occur in moist riparian habitats and would benefit from the long term increase in this habitat type. A nearby population of marsh skullcap in Washoe Meadows SP responded favorably to a restoration project along Angora Creek and grows vigorously along the newly created banks of that creek. The increased size of SEZ, floodplain meadow vegetation, and wetland communities could provide additional habitat for these species. This effect would be beneficial.

PAGE 3.5-100

Impact 3.5-3 (Alt. 4), "Short-Term, Construction-Related Effects on Sensitive Habitats (Jurisdictional Wetlands, Riparian Vegetation, Fens, and SEZ)," on page 3.5-100 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

IMPACT 3.5-3 (Alt. 4) Short-Term, Construction-Related Effects on Sensitive Habitats (Jurisdictional Wetlands, Riparian Vegetation, Fens, and SEZ). *Implementing Alternative 4 would result in the removal of riparian and meadow vegetation along the Upper Truckee River and placement of fill into the active channel for stabilization of the river. This impact would be **potentially significant**.*

Under Alternative 4, streambank erosion throughout the treatment reach would be reduced by installing protection measures, generally featuring rock armor on outside bends and biotechnical measures on inside bends. Effects on sensitive habitats (jurisdictional wetlands, riparian vegetation, and SEZ) would be similar in type to those described under Impact 3.5-3 (Alt. 2) for Alternative 2, but would be less in extent because a smaller area would be affected by the activities. No changes are proposed on the west side of the Upper Truckee River outside of the historic meander belt, including no changes to the quarry ponds. Please refer to Impact 3.5-3 (Alt. 2) for a detailed description of potential effects.

Under Alternative 4, riverbank stabilization would be implemented along approximately 7,400 feet of stream channel, and the two golf course bridges at holes 6 and 7 would be removed and replaced by a single bridge as under Alternative 2. Because the golf course would not be relocated west of the river and the quarry wetlands would not be restored under Alternative 4, the ~~spring complexes (including fens)~~ verified fen, unverified fen, lodgepole pine wet, and wet meadow and other sensitive habitats west of the Upper Truckee River riparian corridor and floodplain would not be affected. Under this alternative, sensitive habitat types, including SEZ, would be temporarily disturbed and fill material would be placed into jurisdictional waters of the United States, including wetlands subject to USACE jurisdiction under CWA Section 404. This impact would be potentially significant. No project-related activities would occur west of the Upper Truckee River historic meander belt under Alternative 4, including areas near the ~~spring complexes (including fens)~~ verified fen, unverified fen, lodgepole pine wet, and wet meadow.

PAGE 3.5-101

Impact 3.5-5 (Alt. 4), "Long-Term Effects on Sensitive Habitats (Jurisdictional Wetlands, Riparian Vegetation, Fens and SEZ) and Special-Status Plant Species," on page 3.5-101 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

IMPACT 3.5-5 (Alt. 4) Long-Term Effects on Sensitive Habitats (Jurisdictional Wetlands, Riparian Vegetation, Fens, and SEZ) and Special-Status Plant Species. *Streambank stabilization and biotechnical treatments along 7,400 feet of channel are expected to reduce erosion of banks along the Upper Truckee River, which could allow for an eventual increase of riparian vegetation. Creating a small inset floodplain would also increase cover of riparian vegetation. This effect would be beneficial.*

Proposed river stabilization activities associated with Alternative 4 would not increase the length of the channel or the width of the riparian corridor, and would not restore natural geomorphic processes within the study area. However, the biotechnical measures would contribute to a small increase in riparian vegetation. The relatively small area of inset floodplain creation (0.4 acre) would result in an increase in the acreage of sensitive habitats. Although the magnitude of the increase would be relatively small, this would be a beneficial effect. No construction disturbance related to golf course reconfiguration, quarry restoration, or trail development would occur on the west side of the Upper Truckee River under this alternative; therefore, ~~spring complexes (including fens)~~ the verified fen, unverified fen, lodgepole pine wet, and wet meadow and other sensitive habitats west of the Upper Truckee River riparian corridor and floodplain would not be affected. The biotechnically treated areas and the small area of inset floodplain created has the potential to become suitable habitat for special-status plant species that have potential to occur within the area. Marsh skullcap, Oregon fireweed, and Bolander’s candle moss, discussed under Impact 3.5-4 (Alt. 2), have potential to occur in moist riparian habitats and would benefit from the long-term increase in this habitat type. Although the effects would be considerably smaller than effects under Alternative 2, 3, or 5, this effect would be beneficial.

PAGE 3.5-108

Impact 3.5-3 (Alt. 5), “Short-Term, Construction-Related Effects on Sensitive Habitats (Jurisdictional Wetlands, Riparian Vegetation, Fens, and SEZ),” on page 3.5-108 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

IMPACT 3.5-3 (Alt. 5) Short-Term, Construction-Related Disturbance or Loss of Sensitive Habitats (Jurisdictional Wetlands, Riparian Vegetation, Fens, and SEZ). *Implementing Alternative 5 would result in the removal of riparian and meadow vegetation along the Upper Truckee River and placement of fill into the active channel. This impact would be significant.*

Alternative 5 would involve the same geomorphic restoration treatments as those described in Alternatives 2 and 3. Therefore, effects on sensitive habitats (jurisdictional wetlands, riparian vegetation, and SEZ) would be similar to those described in Impact 3.5-3 (Alt. 2) and Impact 3.5-3 (Alt. 3). Please refer to Impact 3.5-3 (Alt. 2) for a detailed description of potential effects. Alternative 5 would result in restoration of a larger area of SEZ. No construction disturbance related to golf course relocation, quarry restoration, or trail development would occur on the west side of the Upper Truckee River under this alternative; therefore, ~~spring complexes (including fens)~~ the verified fen, unverified fen, lodgepole pine wet, and wet meadow and other sensitive habitats west of the Upper Truckee River riparian corridor and floodplain would not be affected. Under this alternative, sensitive habitat types, including SEZ, would be temporarily disturbed and fill material would be placed into jurisdictional waters of the United States, including wetlands subject to USACE jurisdiction under CWA Section 404. This impact would be significant.

PAGE 3.5-109

Impact 3.5-5 (Alt.5), “Long-Term Effects on Sensitive Habitats (Jurisdictional Wetlands, Riparian Vegetation, Fens and SEZ) and Special-Status Plant Species,” on page 3.5-109 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

IMPACT 3.5-5 (Alt. 5) Long-Term Effects on Sensitive Habitats (Jurisdictional Wetlands, Riparian Vegetation, Fens and SEZ) and Special-Status Plant Species. *The long-term goal of the project under Alternative 5 is to achieve a net increase of SEZ, floodplain meadow vegetation, and wetland area and functions. Alternative 5 would restore approximately 1324.5 acres of floodplain meadow vegetation and 1253 acres of SEZ. This effect would be beneficial.*

Under Alternative 5, the existing golf course would be decommissioned and ecosystem processes along the Upper Truckee River would be restored in a manner similar to Alternatives 2 and 3. Approximately 131.5 acres of floodplain/meadow and 123 acres of SEZ would be restored. If economically feasible, a 9-hole golf course may remain in use while State Parks evaluates alternative uses of the SRA. If keeping the temporary 9-hole course in place during the additional planning process were found to be infeasible, the entire golf course would be removed and meadow and riparian habitat reestablished. Areas within the active floodplain that are currently disturbed by golf course infrastructure and associated use would be restored to riparian habitat, using the same approach as under Alternatives 2 and 3. The net increase of 1253 acres of restored SEZ and 1324.5 acres of restored floodplain and meadow vegetation would be greater than under Alternatives 2, 3, and 4. The increased size and improved ecosystem functions of SEZ, floodplain, and wetland communities would be beneficial because they would result in a long-term net increase of sensitive habitats (jurisdictional wetlands, riparian vegetation, and SEZ). No construction disturbance related to golf course relocation, quarry restoration, or trail development would occur on the west side of the Upper Truckee River under this alternative; therefore, ~~spring complexes (including fens) the~~ verified fen, unverified fen, lodgepole pine wet, and wet meadow and other sensitive habitats west of the Upper Truckee River riparian corridor and floodplain would not be affected. In addition, areas of restored SEZ and floodplain meadow vegetation would increase the area of suitable habitat for special-status plant species that have potential to occur within the area. Marsh skullcap, Oregon fireweed, and Bolander’s candle moss, discussed under Impact 3.5-4 (Alt. 2), have potential to occur in moist riparian habitats and would benefit from the long term increase in this habitat type. A nearby population of marsh skullcap in Washoe Meadows SP responded favorably to a restoration project along Angora Creek and grows vigorously along the newly created banks of that creek. The increased size of SEZ, floodplain, and wetland communities could provide additional habitat for these species. This effect would be beneficial.

5.7 REVISIONS TO SECTION 3.6, “EARTH RESOURCES”

PAGE 3.6-15

The exhibit title for Exhibit 3.6-1 on page 3.6-15 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

Geologic Units in the Study Area

Exhibit 3.6-1

PAGE 3.6-19

Second paragraph of section, “Land Capability and Coverage within the Study Area,” and Table 3.6-4 on page 3.6-19 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

The TRPA developed a system for allowable coverage based on the Bailey system, which considers vegetation, soils, hydrology and slope to determine a “land capability class” for lands within the Tahoe Basin. These land capability classes have a percentage allowable coverage associated with them. State Parks worked with TRPA staff to verify the land capability within both park units and map the areas of coverage, including those that existed prior to 1972 (pre-Bailey system) that still exist or that have been removed and restored, as well as any coverage that has been added after 1972. The restored pre-1972 areas were banked for later use, after deducting any post 1972 coverage that had been added. Coverage within the Lake Tahoe Golf Course consists of the golf cart paths, the parking lot, unpaved parking area, service roads, and associated club house and maintenance

building as well as a small pump house and the golf course bridges. While the golf course landscaping is considered disturbance it is not considered coverage. Coverage within Washoe Meadows SP includes several trails, gravel and dirt service roads, and a barn. Most of tThe coverage in both units existed prior to acquisition by State Parks. A program has been implemented by State Parks to restore some of the disturbed areas of coverage both in Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley SRA and the restored pre-1972 coverage has been banked as mitigation. Tables 3.6-4 and 3.6-5 contain the distribution of land coverage per land class for both Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley SRA within the study area. An additional 3,312 square feet of pre-1972 coverage is located within the study area adjacent to Lake Valley SRA on Conservancy property.

**Table 3.6-4
Existing Land Area, Land Capability, and Land Coverage Calculations for Portions of Washoe Meadows State Park within the Study Area (square feet)**

Land Class	Gross Area	TRPA Allowable Base Coverage (%)	Base Coverage Allowed per the Bailey System	Existing Pre-1972 Coverage	Restored Pre-1972 Coverage	Total Pre-1972 Coverage	Coverage Added after 1972	Banked Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Existing TRPA Verified Existing Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Total Coverage Allowable
1a	–	1	–	–	–	=	=	–	–	=
1b	5,039,839	1	50,398	126,648	35,983	<u>162,632</u>	<u>3,484</u>	30,757	130,133	<u>160,889</u>
1c	539,184	1	5,392	141,582	174,132	<u>315,714</u>	=	174,132	141,582	<u>315,714</u>
2	–	1	–	–	–	=	=	–	–	=
3	2,180,496	5	109,025	53,781	21,766	<u>75,547</u>	<u>2,584</u>	19,182	56,365	<u>109,025</u>
4	–	20	–	–	–	=	=	–	–	=
5	5,246,359	25	1,311,590	124,493	108,848	<u>233,342</u>	<u>1,851</u>	106,997	126,344	<u>1,311,590</u>
6	–	30	–	–	–	=	=	–	–	=
7	–	30	–	–	–	=	=	–	–	=
Totals	13,005,878	–	1,476,405	446,504	340,729	<u>787,235</u>	<u>7,919</u>	331,068	454,424	<u>1,897,218</u>

Notes: 3,312 sf of 1b pre-1972 hard coverage that is on Conservancy land is not included in the calculations above.
 Although existing coverage in LCD 1b and 1c is above coverage allowed under the Bailey system, the coverage predates the TRPA and is thus "grandfathered" and considered legal.
 Restored pre-1972 coverage in 1b and 1c has been banked, and some of that banked coverage has been used to offset coverage added post 1973.
 TRPA verified legally existing coverage and banked coverage in 2010.
 Source: Data provided by State Parks ~~2010~~ 2011

PAGE 3.6-21

Table 3.6-5 on page 3.6-21 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

Table 3.6-5 Existing Land Area, Land Capability, and Land Coverage Calculations for Portions of Lake Valley State Recreation Area <u>within the Study Area</u> (square feet)										
Land Class	Gross Area	TRPA Allowable Base Coverage (%)	Base Coverage Allowed per the Bailey System	Existing Pre-1972 Coverage	Restored Pre-1972 Coverage	Total Pre-1972 Coverage	Coverage Added after 1972	Banked Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Existing TRPA Verified Existing Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Total Coverage Allowable
1a	–	1	–	–	–	=	=	–	–	=
1b	8,396,269	1	83,963	251,536	85,436	<u>336,972</u>	<u>34,683</u>	33,412	286,219	<u>319,631</u>
1c	–	1	–	–	–	=	=	–	–	=
2	–	1	–	–	–	=	=	–	–	=
3	–	5	–	–	–	=	=	–	–	=
4	–	20	–	–	–	=	=	–	–	=
5	868,343	25	217,086	12,747	5,964	<u>18,711</u>	<u>838</u>	5,126	13,585	<u>217,086</u>
6	75,197	30	22,559	–	–	=	=	–	–	<u>22,559</u>
7	–	30	–	–	–	=	=	–	–	=
Totals	9,339,809	–	323,608	264,283	91,400	<u>355,683</u>	<u>35,521</u>	38,538	299,804	<u>559,276</u>

Notes: 3,312 sf of 1b pre-1972 hard coverage that is on Conservancy land is not included in the calculations above.
 Although existing coverage in LCD 1b and 1c is above coverage allowed under the Bailey system, the coverage predates the TRPA and is thus “grandfathered” and considered legal.
 Restored pre-1972 coverage in 1b and 1c has been banked, and some of that banked coverage has been used to offset coverage added post 1973.
 TRPA verified legally existing coverage and banked coverage in 2010.
 Allowable coverage is either that allowed by the Bailey system or total pre-1972 verified coverage (minus reductions previously used on-site), whichever is greater.
 Source: Data provided by State Parks ~~2010~~ 2011

PAGE 3.6-23

The second paragraph of the “Methods and Assumptions” section on page 3.6-23 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

The verified TRPA coverage information and the TRPA Land Classification System (Tables 3.65-2 through 3.65-5) and coverage requirements were used to analyze potential impacts on sensitive slope, soils, and drainage conditions. Although coverage is presented separately for Washoe Meadows SP (parklands within the study area) and Lake Valley SRA to show relative changes between these areas, the coverage impacts are addressed as one contiguous area, as requested by TRPA. Allowable coverage for the project is either that allowed by the Bailey system or total pre-1972 verified coverage (minus reductions previously used onsite), whichever is greater. This method is described in Section 20.5 of the Code of Ordinances where the amount of land coverage existing prior

to the project in the project area exceeds the base land coverage for the project area prior to 1972 coverage is “grandfathered” in. Section 20.5.C discusses relocation of existing land coverage where relocation from one portion of a SEZ to another portion is allowed due to a net environmental benefit to the SEZ. Net environmental benefit to a SEZ is defined as an improvement in the functioning of the SEZ and includes, but is not limited to: (a) relocation of coverage from a less disturbed area to a more disturbed area or to an area further away from the stream channel; (b) retirement of land coverage in the affected SEZ in the amount of 1.5:1 of the amount of land coverage being relocated within a SEZ; or (c) for projects involving the relocation of more than 1000 square feet of land coverage within a SEZ, a finding, based on a report prepared by a qualified professional, that the relocation will improve the functioning of the SEZ and will not negatively affect the quality of existing habitats. Under the latter criterion, land coverage relocation in the affected SEZ can be at a 1:1 ratio (Gustafson, pers. comm., 2010). Relocation of the coverage farther away from the river that allows for a geomorphic restoration of the SEZ currently occupied by the golf course will improve the function of the SEZ and not negatively affect existing habitat.

PAGE 3.6-25

Tables 3.6-6 and 3.6-7 on page 3.6-25 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

Table 3.6-6 Alternative 1 Coverage Impacts Summary for Portions of Washoe Meadows State Park within the Study Area (square feet)										
Land Class	Gross Area ¹	Hard/Soft Coverage Proposed	Soft Coverage Proposed	Base Coverage Allowed per the Bailey System	Existing Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Banked Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Total Coverage Allowed ²	Excess Coverage Available ³	LCD Coverage Mitigation	Impact on Land Coverage
1a	-	-	=	-	=	-	=	=	-	-
1b	5,039,839	1,122 129,011	<u>129,011</u>	50,398	<u>130,133</u>	30,757	<u>160,889</u>	<u>30,757</u>	NR	NI
1c	539,184	0/141,582	<u>141,582</u>	5,392	<u>141,582</u>	174,132	<u>315,714</u>	<u>174,132</u>	-	NI
2	-	-	=	-	=	-	=	=	-	-
3	2,180,496	0/56,365	<u>56,365</u>	109,025	<u>56,365</u>	19,182	<u>109,025</u>	<u>52,660</u>	-	NI
4	-	-	=	-	=	-	=	=	-	-
5	5,246,359	0/108,844	<u>126,344</u>	1,311,590	<u>126,344</u>	106,997	<u>1,311,590</u>	<u>1,185,246</u>	NR	NI
6	-	-	=	-	=	-	=	=	-	-
7	-	-	=	-	=	-	=	=	-	-
Total	13,005,878	0/435,802 1,122	<u>453,302</u>	1,476,405	<u>454,424</u>	331,068	<u>1,897,218</u>	<u>1,442,795</u>	NR	NI

¹ Gross area is defined as gross area of existing boundaries for Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley SRA located within the study area. NR = none required. NI = no impact.

² Total coverage allowed is the amount allowable under either Bailey system or pre-1972 grandfathered, whichever is greater.

³ Excess coverage available is either that allowed by LCD or that allowed by grandfathered pre-1972 coverage, whichever is greater, and is coverage credit available for future use.

Source: Data provided by State Parks 2010 2011

**Table 3.6-7
Alternative 1 Coverage Impacts Summary for portions of Lake Valley State Recreation Area
within the Study Area (square feet)**

Land Class	Gross Area ¹	Hard/Soft Coverage Proposed	Soft Coverage Proposed	Base Coverage Allowed per the Bailey System	Existing Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Banked Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Total Coverage Allowed ²	Banked Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Excess Coverage Available ³	LCD Coverage Mitigation	Impact on Land Coverage
1a	—	—	=	—	=	—	=	—	=	—	—
1b	8,396,269	269,866 46,354	<u>16,354</u>	83,963	<u>286,219</u>	33,412	<u>319,631</u>	33,412	<u>33,412</u>	NR	NI
1c ²	—	—	=	—	=	—	=	—	=	—	—
2	—	—	=	—	=	—	=	—	=	—	—
3	—	—	=	—	=	—	=	—	=	—	—
4	—	—	=	—	=	—	=	—	=	—	—
5	868,343	10,143 3,443	<u>3,443</u>	217,086	<u>13,585</u>	5,126	<u>217,086</u>	5,126	<u>203,500</u>	NR	NI
6	75,197	—	=	22,559	=	—	<u>22,559</u>	—	<u>22,559</u>	—	—
7	—	—	=	—	=	—	—	—	=	—	—
Total	9,339,809	280,009 49,797	<u>19,797</u>	323,608	<u>299,804</u>	38,538	<u>559,276</u>	38,538	<u>259,471</u>	NR	NI

¹ Gross area is defined as gross area of existing boundaries for Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley SRA within the study area.
NR = none required.
NI = no impact.

² Coverage estimate does not include 3,312 sf of existing pre-1972 golf course related coverage located on Conservancy property. Total coverage allowed is the amount allowable under either Bailey system or pre-1972 grandfathered, whichever is greater.

³ Excess coverage available is either that allowed by LCD or that allowed by grandfathered pre-1972 coverage, whichever is greater, and is coverage credit available for future use.

Source: Data provided by State Parks 2010-2011

PAGES 3.6-30 AND 3.6-31

Second and third paragraphs of Impact 3.6-3 (Alt. 2) and Tables 3.6-8 and 3.6-9 on pages 3.6-30 and 3.6-31 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

Coverage allowed is based on TRPA allowable base coverage or the pre-1972 “grandfathered” coverage (includes existing and banked pre-1972 coverage), whichever is greater. Coverage allowed within 1b in the study area (both units) is ~~480,521~~ 480,520 sf. Under Alternative 2, ~~378,499~~ 355,150 sf of coverage is proposed in LCD 1b, including cart paths, bridges, designated trails, parking area improvements, as well as other existing coverage that would not be modified. This is a decrease of ~~37,853~~ 61,202 sf from existing coverage (416, 352 sf) within LCD 1b. Coverage allowed within LCD 1c in the study area is 315,714 sf. Under Alternative 2, ~~55,020~~ 61,482 sf of coverage is proposed in LCD 1c, including cart paths, small bridges, designated trails, as well as other existing coverage that would not be modified. This is a decrease of ~~86,562~~ 60,999 sf from existing coverage (141,582 sf) within LCD 1c.

Coverage allowed within LCD 3 in the study area is 109,025 sf. ~~No new coverage is proposed however~~ 56,365 sf of existing access roads and trail coverage would continue to be used in LCD 3 and 5,633 sf of hard coverage is proposed. Coverage proposed within LCD 3 does not exceed that allowed by TRPA. Coverage allowed within LCD 5 in the study area is 1,528,676 sf. Under Alternative 2, ~~150,659~~ 196,744 sf of coverage is proposed in LCD 5, including cart paths, designated trails, the restroom facility, some of the parking improvements, as well as other existing coverage that would not be modified. This is an increase in coverage by ~~40,730~~ 56,815 sf, however LCD 5 is higher capability land than lands previously discussed where coverage is being relocated from. Furthermore, coverage proposed within LCD 5 does not exceed that allowed by TRPA. Coverage allowed within LCD 6 in the study area is 22,559 sf. No coverage is proposed under Alternative 2 within LCD 6. There are no areas within the study area classified as LCD 1a or 7.

**Table 3.6-8
Alternative 2 Coverage Impacts Summary for Portions of Washoe Meadows State Park
within the Study Area (square feet)**

Land Class	Gross Area ¹	Hard/Soft Coverage Proposed	Soft Coverage Proposed	Base Coverage Allowed per the Bailey System	Existing TRPA Verified Existing Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Banked Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Total Coverage Allowed ²	Excess Coverage Available ³	LCD Coverage Mitigation	Impact on Land Coverage
1a	-	-	=	-	-	-	=	=	-	-
1b	5,039,839	7,913 <u>11,754</u> /126,401	126,401 <u>97,711</u>	50,398	130,133	30,757	<u>160,889</u>	<u>51,424</u>	NR	Beneficial
1c	539,184	13,237 <u>16,600</u> /41,783	41,783 <u>44,882</u>	5,392	141,582	174,132	<u>315,714</u>	<u>254,732</u>	NR	Beneficial
2	-	-	=	-	-	-	=	=	-	-
3	2,180,496	0/55,810 <u>55,810</u> <u>56,365</u>	<u>55,810</u> <u>56,365</u>	109,025	56,365	19,182	<u>109,025</u>	<u>52,660</u>	NR	NI
4	-	-	=	-	-	-	=	=	-	-
5	5,246,359	35,282 <u>47,800/40</u> <u>0,042</u>	100,042 <u>97,094</u>	1,311,590	126,344	106,997	<u>1,311,590</u>	<u>1,166,696</u>	NR	NI
6	-	-	=	-	-	-	=	=	-	-
7	-	-	=	-	-	-	=	=	-	-
Total	13,005,878	<u>76,154</u> <u>/324,036</u>	<u>296,052</u> <u>324,036</u>	1,476,405	454,424	331,068	<u>1,897,218</u>	<u>1,525,512</u>	NR	Beneficial

¹ Gross area is defined as gross area of existing boundaries for Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley SRA located within the study area.
NR = none required.
NI = no impact.
² Total coverage allowed is the amount allowable under either Bailey system or pre-1972 grand-fathered, whichever is greater.
³ Excess coverage available is either that allowed by LCD or that allowed by grandfathered pre-1972 coverage, whichever is greater, and is coverage credit available for future use.
Source: Data provided by State Parks ~~2010~~ 2011

**Table 3.6-9
Alternative 2 Coverage Impacts Summary for Portions of Lake Valley State Recreation Area
within the Study Area (square feet)**

Land Class	Gross Area ¹	Hard/Soft Coverage Proposed	Soft Coverage Proposed	Base Coverage Allowed per Bailey System	Existing TRPA Verified Existing Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Banked Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Total Coverage Allowed ²	Excess Coverage Available ³	LCD Coverage Mitigation	Impact on Land Coverage
1a	—	—	=	—	—	—	=	=	—	—
1b	8,396,269	229,631 231,131	14,554	83,963	286,219	33,412	319,631	73,946	NR	Beneficial
1c ²	—	—	=	—	—	—	=	=	—	—
2	—	—	=	—	—	—	=	=	—	—
3	—	—	=	—	—	—	=	=	—	—
4	—	—	=	—	—	—	=	=	—	—
5	868,343	12,742 49,287	2,593	217,086	13,585	5,126	217,086	165,206	NR	NI
6	75,197	—	=	22,559	—	—	22,559	22,559	NR	NI
7	—	—	=	—	—	—	=	=	—	—
Total	9,339,809	280,418 242,373	17,147	323,608	299,804	38,538	559,276	261,711	NR	Beneficial

¹ Gross area is defined as gross area of existing boundaries for Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley SRA within the study area.

² Coverage estimate does not include 3,312 sf of existing pre-1972 golf course related coverage located on Conservancy property.

NR = none required.

NI = no impact.

² Total coverage allowed is the amount allowable under either Bailey system or pre-1972 grand-fathered, whichever is greater.

³ Excess coverage available is either that allowed by LCD or that allowed by grandfathered pre-1972 coverage, whichever is greater, and is coverage credit available for future use.

Source: Data provided by State Parks 2010 2011

PAGE 3.6-32

The second paragraph after Table 3.6-9 on page 3.6-32 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

Alternative 2 decreases coverage in LCDs 1b and 1c. Coverage within LCD 3 will stay the same increase and no coverage will be located in LCD 6, similar to existing conditions. Existing coverage within LCD 1b will be relocated to higher capability land (LCD 5) to allow for restoration of the river, floodplain and SEZ. Coverage relocated on-site is expected to occur at a 1:1 ratio as allowed for an EIP project per the Code of Ordinances (discussed in the Regulatory section above). Additional coverage not used for relocation would be banked by State Parks for potential use within the study area or on other State Parks land as appropriately allowed by TRPA. Overall, the proposed coverage reduction within LCD 1b, SEZ lands, the relocated coverage in higher capability (LCD 5) and previously disturbed lands, and restoration of floodplain currently occupied by golf course

landscaping and infrastructure adjacent to the Upper Truckee River would provide a net environmental benefit. For this reason, this would be a beneficial effect.

PAGE 3.6-34

The second paragraph of Impact 3.6-3 (Alt. 3) on page 3.6-34 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

Coverage allowed is based on TRPA allowable base coverage or the pre-1972 “grandfathered” coverage (includes existing and banked pre-1972 coverage), whichever is greater. Coverage allowed within 1b in the study area is ~~480,521~~ 480,520 sf. Under Alternative 3, 351,094 sf of coverage is proposed in LCD 1b, including cart paths, designated trails, as well as other existing coverage that would not be modified. This is a decrease of ~~65,259~~ 65,258 sf from existing coverage within LCD 1b. Coverage allowed within LCD 1c is 315,714 sf and within LCD 3 is 109,025 sf. While no new coverage is proposed, 141,582 sf of existing coverage within LCD 1c and 56,365 sf within LCD 3, including trails and access roads, will continue to be used under Alternative 3. Coverage allowed within LCD 5 in the study area is 1,528,676 sf. Under Alternative 3, 121,231 sf of coverage is proposed in LCD 5, including cart paths as well as other existing coverage that would not be modified. This is decrease in coverage by 18,698 sf. Coverage allowed within LCD 6 in the study area is 22,559 sf, no coverage is proposed under Alternative 3 within LCD 6. There are no areas within the study area classified as LCD 1a or 7.

PAGE 3.6-35

Tables 3.6-10 and 3.6-11 on page 3.6-35 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS are hereby revised as follows:

Land Class	Gross Area ¹	Hard/Soft Coverage Proposed	Soft Coverage Proposed	Base Coverage Allowed per the Bailey System	Existing TRPA Verified Existing Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Banked Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Total Coverage Allowed ²	Excess Coverage Available ³	LCD Coverage Mitigation	Impact on Land Coverage
1a	–	–	=	–	–	–	=	=	–	–
1b	5,039,839	1,122 129,011	<u>129,011</u>	50,398	130,133	30,757	<u>160,889</u>	<u>30,757</u>	NR	NI
1c	539,184	0/141,582	<u>141,582</u>	5,392	141,582	174,132	<u>315,714</u>	<u>174,132</u>	NR	NI
2	–	–	=	–	–	–	=	=	–	–
3	2,180,496	0/56,365	<u>56,365</u>	109,025	56,365	19,182	<u>109,025</u>	<u>52,660</u>	NR	NI
4	–	–	=	–	–	–	=	=	–	–
5	5,246,359	0/108,844	<u>108,844</u> <u>126,344</u>	1,311,590	126,344	106,997	<u>1,311,590</u>	<u>1,185,246</u>	NR	NI
6	–	–	=	–	–	–	=	=	–	–
7	–	–	=	–	–	–	=	=	–	–
Total	13,005,878	1,122 129,011	<u>435,802</u> <u>453,302</u>	1,476,405	454,424	331,068	<u>1,897,218</u>	<u>1,442,795</u>	NR	NI

**Table 3.6-10
Alternative 3 Coverage Impacts Summary for Portions of Washoe Meadows State Park
within the Study Area (square feet)**

Land Class	Gross Area ¹	Hard/Soft Coverage Proposed	Soft Coverage Proposed	Base Coverage Allowed per the Bailey System	Existing TRPA Verified Existing Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Banked Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Total Coverage Allowed ²	Excess Coverage Available ³	LCD Coverage Mitigation	Impact on Land Coverage
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¹ Gross area is defined as gross area within existing boundaries for Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley SRA located in the study area.
 NR = none required.
 NI = no impact.
² Total coverage allowed is the amount allowable under either Bailey system or pre-1972 grand-fathered, whichever is greater.
³ Excess coverage available is either that allowed by LCD or that allowed by grandfathered pre-1972 coverage, whichever is greater, and is coverage credit available for future use.
 Source: Data provided by State Parks ~~2010~~ 2011

**Table 3.6-11
Alternative 3 Coverage Impacts Summary for Portions of Lake Valley State Recreation Area
within the Study Area (square feet)**

Land Class	Gross Area ¹	Hard/Soft Coverage Proposed	Soft Coverage Proposed	Base Coverage Allowed per the Bailey System	Existing TRPA Verified Existing Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Banked Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Total Coverage Allowed ²	Excess Coverage Available ³	LCD Coverage Mitigation	Impact on Land Coverage
1a	-	-	=	-	-	-	=	=	-	-
1b	8,396,269	206,356 14,605	<u>14,605</u>	83,963	286,219	33,412	<u>319,631</u>	<u>98,672</u>	NR	Beneficial
1c ²	-	-	=	-	-	-	=	=	-	-
2	-	-	=	-	-	-	=	=	-	-
3	-	-	=	-	-	-	=	=	-	-
4	-	-	=	-	-	-	=	=	-	-
5	868,343	9,793 2,594	<u>2,594</u>	217,086	13,585	5,126	<u>217,086</u>	<u>204,701</u>	NR	Beneficial
6	75,197	-	=	22,559	-	-	<u>22,559</u>	<u>22,559</u>	NR	NI
7	-	-	=	-	-	-	=	=	-	-
Total	9,339,809	216,149 17,199	<u>17,199</u>	323,608	299,804	38,538	<u>559,276</u>	<u>325,932</u>	NR	Beneficial

**Table 3.6-11
Alternative 3 Coverage Impacts Summary for Portions of Lake Valley State Recreation Area
within the Study Area (square feet)**

Land Class	Gross Area ¹	Hard/Soft Coverage Proposed	Soft Coverage Proposed	Base Coverage Allowed per the Bailey System	Existing TRPA Verified Existing Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Banked Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Total Coverage Allowed ²	Excess Coverage Available ³	LCD Coverage Mitigation	Impact on Land Coverage
¹ Gross area is defined as gross area of existing boundaries for Washoe Meadow SP and Lake Valley SRA within the study area and not proposed boundary changes. ² Coverage estimate does not include 3,312 sf of existing pre-1972 golf course related coverage located on Conservancy property. NR = none required. NI = no impact. ² Total coverage allowed is the amount allowable under either Bailey system or pre-1972 grandfathered, whichever is greater for an alternative plus the excess coverage. ³ Excess coverage available is either that allowed by LCD or that allowed by grandfathered pre-1972 coverage, whichever is greater, and is coverage credit available for future use. Source: Data provided by State Parks 2010 2011										

PAGES 3.6-38 AND 3.6-39

Table 3.6-12 on page 3.6-38 and the following paragraph and Table 3.6-13 on page 3.6-39 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS are hereby revised as follows:

**Table 3.6-12
Alternative 4 Coverage Impacts Summary for Portions of Washoe Meadows State Park
within the Study Area (square feet)**

Land Class	Gross Area ¹	Hard/Soft Coverage Proposed	Soft Coverage Proposed	Base Coverage Allowed per the Bailey System	Existing TRPA Verified Existing Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Banked Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Total Coverage Allowed	Excess Coverage Available ³	LCD Coverage Mitigation	Impact on Land Coverage
1a	-	-	=	-	-	-	=	=	-	-
1b	5,039,839	1,122 129,011	<u>129,011</u>	50,398	130,133	30,757	<u>160,889</u>	<u>30,757</u>	NR	LTS
1c	539,184	0/141,582	<u>141,582</u>	5,392	141,582	174,132	<u>315,714</u>	<u>174,132</u>	NR	NI
2	-	-	=	-	-	-	=	=	-	-
3	2,180,496	0/56,365	<u>56,365</u>	109,025	56,365	19,182	<u>109,025</u>	<u>52,660</u>	NR	NI
4	-	-	=	-	-	-	=	=	-	-
5	5,246,359	0/108,844	<u>126,344</u>	1,311,590	126,344	106,997	<u>1,311,590</u>	<u>1,185,246</u>	NR	LTS
6	-	-	=	-	-	-	=	=	-	-
7	-	-	=	-	-	-	=	=	-	-
Total	13,005,878	1,122 435,802	<u>453,302</u>	1,476,405	454,424	331,068	<u>1,897,218</u>	<u>1,442,795</u>	NR	LTS

**Table 3.6-12
Alternative 4 Coverage Impacts Summary for Portions of Washoe Meadows State Park
within the Study Area (square feet)**

Land Class	Gross Area ¹	Hard/Soft Coverage Proposed	Soft Coverage Proposed	Base Coverage Allowed per the Bailey System	Existing TRPA Verified Existing Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Banked Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Total Coverage Allowed	Excess Coverage Available ³	LCD Coverage Mitigation	Impact on Land Coverage
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¹ Gross area is defined as gross area of existing boundaries for Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley SRA located within the study area.
 NR = none required.
 LTS = less than significant.
 NI = no impact.
² Total coverage allowed is that the amount allowable under either Bailey system or pre-1972 grand-fathered, whichever is greater.
³ Excess coverage available is either that allowed by LCD or that allowed by grandfathered pre-1972 coverage, whichever is greater, and is coverage credit available for future use.
 Source: Data provided by State Parks 2010 2011

Coverage allowed within 1b in the study area is 480,521 sf. Under Alternative 4, 423,768 sf of coverage is proposed in LCD 1b, including primarily existing infrastructure with some modified cart paths and removal of two bridges with one replacement bridge, a new restroom as well as other existing coverage that would not be modified. This is an increase of 7,416 sf from existing coverage within LCD 1b; however, it is still within coverage allowed by TRPA. Coverage proposed in 1c includes some cart path and parking modifications as well as existing coverage that would not be modified. Coverage allowed within LCD 1c is 315,714 sf and within LCD 3 is 109,025 sf. Under Alternative 4, 141,582 sf of existing coverage is in LCD 1c and 56,365 sf of existing coverage in LCD 3, trails and access roads, will continue to be used. Coverage allowed within LCD 5 in the study area is 1,528,676 sf. Under Alternative 4, 156,174 sf of coverage is proposed in LCD 5, including cart paths and parking area improvements, as well as other existing coverage that would not be modified. This is an increase in coverage by 16,245 sf, however LCD 5 is high capability land and coverage proposed is still within that allowed by TRPA within LCD 5. Coverage allowed within LCD 6 in the study area is 22,559 sf; no coverage is proposed under Alternative 4. There are no areas within the study area classified as LCD 1a or 7.

**Table 3.6-13
Alternative 4 Coverage Impacts Summary for Portions of Lake Valley State Recreation Area within the
Study Area (square feet)**

Land Class	Gross Area (sq. ft.) ¹	Hard/Soft Coverage Proposed	Soft Coverage Proposed	Base Coverage Allowed per the Bailey System	Existing TRPA Verified Existing Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Banked Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Total Coverage Allowed ²	Excess Coverage Available ³	LCD Coverage Mitigation	Impact on Land Coverage
1a	—	—	=	—	—	—	=	=	—	—
1b	8,396,269	277,281 46,354	16,354	83,963	286,219	33,412	319,631	25,996	NR	LTS
1c ²	—	—	=	—	—	—	=	=	—	—
2	—	—	=	—	—	—	=	=	—	—
3	—	—	=	—	—	—	=	=	—	—
4	—	—	=	—	—	—	=	=	—	—

Land Class	Gross Area (sq. ft.) ¹	Hard/Soft Coverage Proposed	Soft Coverage Proposed	Base Coverage Allowed per the Bailey System	Existing TRPA Verified Existing Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Banked Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Total Coverage Allowed ²	Excess Coverage Available ³	LCD Coverage Mitigation	Impact on Land Coverage
5	868,343	43,887 3,443	<u>3,443</u>	217,086	13,585	5,126	<u>217,086</u>	<u>169,756</u>	NR	LTS
6	75,197	–	=	22,559	–	–	<u>22,559</u>	<u>22,559</u>	NR	NI
7	–	–	=	–	–	–	=	=	–	–
Totals	9,339,809	321,168 19,797	<u>19,797</u>	323,608	299,804	38,538	<u>559,276</u>	<u>218,311</u>	NR	LTS

¹ Gross area is defined as gross area of existing boundaries for Washoe Meadow SP and Lake Valley SRA and not proposed boundary changes.

² Coverage estimate does not include 3,312 sf of existing pre-1972 golf course related coverage located on Conservancy property. NR = none required. LTS = less than significant. NI = no impact.

² Total coverage allowed is the amount allowable under either Bailey system or pre-1972 grand-fathered, whichever is greater.

³ Excess coverage available is either that allowed by LCD or that allowed by grandfathered pre-1972 coverage, whichever is greater and is coverage credit available for future use.

Source: Data provided by State Parks 2010 2011

PAGE 3.6-42

Table 3.6-14 and the following paragraph on page 3.6-42 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS are hereby revised as follows:

Land Class	Gross Area ¹	Hard/Soft Coverage Proposed	Soft Coverage Proposed	Base Coverage Allowed per the Bailey System	Existing TRPA Verified Existing Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Banked Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Total Coverage Allowed ²	Excess Coverage Available ³	LCD Coverage Mitigation	Impact on Land Coverage
1a	–	–	=	–	–	–	=	=	–	–
1b	5,039,839	1,122 129,011	<u>129,011</u>	50,398	130,133	30,757	<u>160,889</u>	<u>30,757</u>	NR	NI
1c	539,184	0 141,582	<u>141,582</u>	5,392	141,582	174,132	<u>315,714</u>	<u>174,132</u>	NR	NI
2	–	–	=	–	–	–	=	=	–	–
3	2,180,496	0 56,365	<u>56,365</u>	109,025	56,365	19,182	<u>109,025</u>	<u>52,660</u>	NR	NI
4	–	–	=	–	–	–	=	=	–	–
5	5,246,359	0 108,844	<u>126,344</u>	1,311,590	126,344	106,997	<u>1,311,590</u>	<u>1,185,246</u>	NR	NI

**Table 3.6-14
Alternative 5 Coverage Impacts Summary for Portions of Washoe Meadows State Park within the study area (square feet)**

Land Class	Gross Area ¹	Hard/Soft Coverage Proposed	Soft Coverage Proposed	Base Coverage Allowed per the Bailey System	Existing TRPA Verified Existing Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Banked Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Total Coverage Allowed ²	Excess Coverage Available ³	LCD Coverage Mitigation	Impact on Land Coverage
6	-	-	=	-	-	-	=	=	-	-
7	-	-	=	-	-	-	=	=	-	-
Total	13,005,878	1,122 1,335,802	453,302	1,476,405	454,424	331,068	1,897,218	1,442,795	NR	NI

¹ Gross area is defined as gross area of existing boundaries for Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley SRA located within the study area.
NR = none required.
NI = no impact.

² Total coverage allowed is the amount allowable under either Bailey system or pre-1972 grand-fathered, whichever is greater.

³ Excess coverage available is either that allowed by LCD or that allowed by grandfathered pre-1972 coverage, whichever is greater, and is coverage credit available for future use.

Source: Data provided by State Parks ~~2010~~ 2011

Coverage changes presented here are based on the end result of removing golf course infrastructure and landscaping while leaving the clubhouse, maintenance yard and parking area in place until alternative uses have been evaluated as part of a separate planning process. Coverage allowed within 1b in the study area is 480,521 sf. Under Alternative 5, ~~241,354~~ 241,352 sf of coverage is proposed in LCD 1b, including the pump station, clubhouse and other existing coverage that would not be modified. This is a decrease of ~~174,999~~ 175,000 sf from existing coverage within LCD 1b. Coverage allowed within LCD 1c is 315,714 sf and within LCD 3 is 109,025 sf. While no new coverage is proposed in LCDs 1c or 3, 141,582 sf within LCD 1c and 56,365 sf within LCD 3 of existing coverage, including trails and access roads, will continue to be used under Alternative 5. Coverage allowed within LCD 5 in the study area is 1,528,676 sf. Under Alternative 5, ~~421,431~~ 121,429 sf of existing trails and access roads will continue to be used. Coverage within LCD 5 that is associated with cart paths will be removed. This will decrease coverage by ~~18,498~~ 18,500 sf. Coverage allowed within LCD 6 in the study area is 22,559 sf no coverage is proposed under Alternative 5 within LCD 6. There are no areas within the study area classified as LCD 1a or 7. No interim management plan would be prepared under Alternative 5, therefore no associated parking or trail improvements would be expected. All coverage removed under alternative 5 will be banked and can be used for future development.

PAGE 3.6-43

Table 3.6-15 on page 3.6-43 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

Table 3.6-15 Alternative 5 Coverage Impacts Summary for <u>Portions of Lake Valley State Recreation Area within the study area</u> (square feet)										
Land Class	Gross Area ¹	Hard/Soft Coverage Proposed	Soft Coverage Proposed	Base Coverage Allowed per the Bailey System	Existing TRPA Verified Existing Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Banked Coverage (TRPA Verified)	Total Coverage Allowed ²	Excess Coverage Available ³	LCD Coverage Mitigation	Impact on Land Coverage
1a	—	—	=	—	—	—	=	=	—	—
1b	8,396,269	102,866 8,355	<u>8,355</u>	83,963	286,219	33,412	<u>319,631</u>	<u>208,412</u>	NR	NI
1c ²	—	—	=	—	—	—	=	=	—	—
2	—	—	=	—	—	—	=	=	—	—
3	—	—	=	—	—	—	=	=	—	—
4	—	—	=	—	—	—	=	=	—	—
5	868,343	10,143 2,444	<u>2,444</u>	217,086	13,585	5,126	<u>217,086</u>	<u>204,501</u>	NR	NI
6	75,197	—	=	22,559	—	—	<u>22,559</u>	<u>22,559</u>	NR	NI
7	—	—	=	—	—	—	=	=	—	—
Total	9,339,809	113,009 10,799	<u>10,799</u>	323,608	299,804	38,538	<u>559,276</u>	<u>435,472</u>	NR	NI

¹ Gross area is defined as gross area of existing boundaries for Washoe Meadow SP and Lake Valley SRA within the study area and not proposed boundary changes.

² Coverage estimate does not include 3,312 sf of existing pre-1972 golf course related coverage located on Conservancy property.

NR = none required.
NI = no impact.

² Total coverage allowed is the amount allowable under either Bailey system or pre-1972 grand-fathered, whichever is greater.

³ Excess coverage available is either that allowed by LCD or that allowed by grandfathered pre-1972 coverage, whichever is greater, and is coverage credit available for future use.

Source: Data provided by State Parks 2010 2011

5.8 REVISIONS TO SECTION 3.10, “TRANSPORTATION, PARKING, AND CIRCULATION”

PAGE 3.10-15

Section 3.10.2, “Impacts Found to Be Less than Significant and Not Discussed Further,” on pages 3.10-15 of the 2010 draft EIR/EIS/EIS is hereby revised as follows:

Waterborne, rail, transit, or air traffic—No alternative would result in increasing or creating waterborne, rail, transit, or air traffic because none of the alternatives would change the level of use at the golf course such that there would be an increase in demand that would alter service levels for any of these methods of transportation.

Therefore, the proposed project alternatives would have no impact on such traffic, and these issues are not discussed further in the EIR/EIS/EIS.

5.9 REVISIONS TO CHAPTER 8, “REFERENCES CITED”

PAGE 8-4 AND 8-5

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SWRCB. *See* State Water Resources Control Board.

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8 EIR/EIS/EIS DISTRIBUTION LIST

Elected Officials and Representatives

U.S. House of Representatives

U.S. Government Departments and Agencies

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources
Conservation Service
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 9

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services
U.S. Forest Service – Lake Tahoe Basin
Management Unit
U.S. Geological Survey
U.S. Coast Guard

State Government Agencies

Assembly California Legislature
California Department of Fish and Game
California Department of Pesticide Regulation
California State Lands Commission
Department of Boating & Waterways
Department of General Services, Office of Real
Estate Services Division
Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

Office of the Attorney General
Caltrans, District 3 – Tahoe
California Tahoe Conservancy
State of Nevada, Department of Environmental
Protection
Sierra Nevada Conservancy
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection

Local Government & Agencies

City of South Lake Tahoe
South Tahoe Chamber of Commerce
El Dorado County
Board of Supervisors, District 5
Department of Transportation
Parks and Recreation Department
Public Works

South Tahoe Public Utility District
Lake Tahoe Unified School District
Lake Valley Fire Protection District
Tahoe Resource Conservation District

Organizations, Businesses, and Individuals

All organizations, businesses, and individuals that have contacted State Parks about or commented on the project have been notified of the availability of the final EIR/EIS/EIS. See Chapter 4, Table 4-1 for the list of commenters on the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

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APPENDIX K

Revisions to Lake Valley State Recreation Area General Plan

APPENDIX K

LAKE VALLEY STATE RECREATION AREA GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT AND CLASSIFICATION ADJUSTMENT AND WASHOE MEADOWS STATE PARK CLASSIFICATION ADJUSTMENT

For California State Parks (State Parks) to implement the proposed Preferred Alternative for the Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project (Project), two actions by the California Park and Recreation Commission (Commission) are necessary:

1. Adjust the classification of certain land areas at Washoe Meadows State Park (SP) and Lake Valley State Recreation Area (SRA) by modifying the boundary of the two units and,
2. Amend the General Plan for Lake Valley SRA.
3. Certify the Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project environmental document (EIR)

The Project's Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS/EIS) contains a comprehensive evaluation of a reasonable range of alternatives, including a No-Project/No-Action Alternative and four action alternatives. A refined version of Alternative 2 is proposed by State Parks as the Preferred Alternative, hereafter referred to as the Preferred Alternative, because it best meets the project's basic objectives from the evaluated alternatives. The Final EIR/EIS/EIS contains a complete description of the Preferred Alternative.

The summary descriptions of the relevant components of the Preferred Alternative, the amendment of the Lake Valley SRA General Plan, and the classification adjustments for certain lands within both Lake Valley SRA and Washoe Meadows SP that are required as part of the Project's implementation are presented below.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF RELEVANT COMPONENTS OF THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

The Preferred Alternative includes a reconfiguration of the existing Lake Tahoe Golf Course at LVSRA to remove several existing golf course holes located within the active floodplain-stream environment zone (SEZ), and the historic meander belt of the river and relocate them to less environmentally sensitive land on the west side of the river. Removing the golf course holes from the river corridor will allow room for the river restoration actions and create a buffer between the river and the golf course. This reach of the river has been identified as one of the largest stream sediment producers contributing to degradation of Lake Tahoe water clarity, and has been identified as a restoration priority in the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) Environmental Improvement Program (EIP). The Preferred Alternative will result in the river regaining important natural geomorphic processes, such as occupying a wider meander belt, reconnecting with the adjacent floodplain, and overbanking into the active floodplain more frequently. This will, in turn, enhance critical riparian habitat and improve water quality of both the river and Lake Tahoe. While the overall footprint of the golf course will increase slightly to allow for optimal use of existing topography, most of the areas relocated will be within higher capability lands (mostly away from the river and outside of SEZ) and the area of non-native golf course turf will decrease, while turf management will be improved irrigation upgrades and more naturalized areas. The Preferred Alternative will allow the continuation of an 18-hole regulation golf course called for in the Lake Valley SRA General Plan: it

calls for a reconfigured course similar to the existing golf course. The existing course is a 6740 yard par 71 course, with and the proposed golf course is a 6820 yard par 72 course. The Preferred Alternative is consistent with the purpose for which Lake Valley SRA was established (i.e., to make available to the people for their enjoyment and inspiration the 18-hole golf course, and the scenic Upper Truckee River and its environs). It will meet geomorphic, ecological, recreational, operational, and revenue criteria, and continue to provide dispersed recreation in addition to golf recreation.

The Preferred Alternative also has economic benefits. It maintains the economic benefits to the local and regional economy, including the maintenance of golf course jobs and the beneficial multiplier effect of spending by golfers (e.g., food, lodging) which benefits businesses and provides jobs in the community. Lake Tahoe Golf Course provides an affordable golf experience in the area, with prices limited by CSP. The availability of affordable golf contributes to Tahoe's competitiveness as a vacation destination, complementing its other recreation attractions. It also maintains the revenue the state receives from the golf course concession at similar to the existing level.

The Preferred Alternative exemplifies a project that is consistent with State Parks' Mission: to provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation. Restoring the Upper Truckee River helps preserve biological diversity and protect natural resources. The reconfigured golf course retains and improves high-quality, reasonably priced, golf recreation opportunities within the state recreation area. Cultural resources are protected in the design of the Preferred Alternative.

Reconfiguration of the golf course away from the river allows room for river restoration, including increasing channel length of the river, expansion of functioning floodplain, increase in riparian habitat and corridor connectivity, and other river ecosystem restoration actions. The current 11,840 foot long reach of the Upper Truckee River will be restored to 13,430 feet with at least 20 acres of additional functional floodplain area. Several golf course holes will be relocated to an area on the west side of the river that contains less sensitive land and is further distance from the river. This will also reduce the amount of SEZ occupied by the golf course (see Exhibit 2-1 and Exhibit 2-3 in the Final EIR/EIS/EIS). All five existing bridges will be removed from the Upper Truckee River and one new, longer bridge will be constructed. Four bridges will also be removed from Angora Creek. New trails will be constructed on both sides of the river. The new river bridge will be designed to accommodate both golf and other recreation use, and the new trails will tie into the Sawmill bike path, creating greater recreation connectivity.

Based on the conceptual design of the Preferred Alternative, the amount of golf course adjacent to (i.e., within 50 feet of) the Upper Truckee River will decrease from 6,382 linear feet to 850 linear feet, and the majority of the golf course will have a natural vegetated buffer width of greater than 150 feet. While an additional length of golf course will run parallel to the Upper Truckee River, it will generally be outside the active floodplain, reduce the golf course area in SEZ, and be more distant from the river. Adjoining riparian vegetation communities will be restored improving habitat connectivity as well as increasing the extent of the vegetative buffer which provides treatment areas for protection of water quality from golf course and urban land use. Treatments are also planned along the lower portion of Angora Creek and the unnamed creek to enhance those channels and adjust the confluence with the Upper Truckee River.

The conceptual 18-hole regulation golf course layout for the Preferred Alternative reconfigures Lake Tahoe Golf Course by relocating up to seven entire and two partial golf course holes to the western side of the Upper Truckee River on land currently included within Washoe Meadows SP. The reconfigured golf course will have an overall footprint of up to 155 acres (increased from the existing 134 acres), 64 acres of which will be native vegetation (minimally managed and naturalized landscape). The area of intensively managed landscape will decrease from 104 to 91 acres of (nonnative) vegetation or coverage (facilities). The overall footprint is larger to allow for optimal use of existing topography (i.e., to minimize grading) and allow for buffer areas. The area of non-native turf, however, would be decreased because a portion of existing intensively managed areas will be modified to develop new out-of-play areas of natural landscape, composed of native vegetation (scrub and grasses) that

Revised Draft – For Deliberation and Approval to Release

surround tees and greens. The area of golf course in SEZ will be reduced from 128 to 96 acres, and the golf course area in the 100-year floodplain will be reduced from 56 acres to 34 acres.

Approximately 850 linear feet of golf course will be adjacent to the river at the replacement bridge to allow for playability; however, the golf course design will include safety measures for trail users. An new trail is proposed where golf course is removed along the south side of the river which will tie into the new golf course bridge and into the county bike path along highway 50, providing improved connectivity. The overall plan is conceptual and final design and acreages may be modified in order to satisfy parties involved in the final decision making process. These modifications will not substantially increase the intensity or severity of an impact or create a new significant impact.

CLASSIFICATION ADJUSTMENT

The purpose statement for Lake Valley SRA is as follows:

The purpose of Lake Valley State Recreation Area is to make available to the people for their enjoyment and inspiration the 18-hole golf course, and the scenic Upper Truckee River and its environs.

The department shall balance the objectives of providing optimum recreational opportunities and maintaining the highest standards of environmental protection. In so doing, the department shall define and execute a program of management within the unit that shall perpetuate the unit's declared values, providing for golfing along with other compatible summer and winter recreation opportunities while restoring the natural character and ecological values of the upper Truckee River, protecting its water quality, and protecting and interpreting significant natural, cultural, and scientific values.

The current boundary of Lake Valley SRA was originally drawn to encompass the then-existing golf course. The remainder of the state land was placed in Washoe Meadows SP. The proposed classification adjustment will continue this approach of containing the reconfigured golf course in the state recreation area and implementing the purpose of that unit.

The classification of lands at the project site will be adjusted so that Lake Valley SRA will encompass the reconfigured golf course, including the golf holes relocated to the west side of the river, and Washoe Meadows SP will contain most of restored river corridor, except adjacent to the new bridge. The southern portion of an existing South Tahoe Public Utility District (STPUD) sewer access road also becomes part of the SRA.

The classification adjustment results in an exchange of land between the two units. The net change in acreage of the units after the classification adjustments is 40 acres, as shown in Table A-1 and exhibits 2 and 3.

Table A-1 Summary of Acreage Changes with Classification Adjustments			
Park Unit	Existing	Preferred Alternative	Net Change
Lake Valley SRA	155	195	+ 40
Washoe Meadows SP	628	588	- 40

With the adjustments to encompass the reconfigured golf course and the STPUD access road, 92.5 acres of mainly upland area are transferred from Washoe Meadows SP to Lake Valley SRA, and approximately 52.5 acres are transferred from the SRA to the SP along the river corridor. The total acreage included within the combination of Lake Valley SRA and Washoe Meadows SP does not change.

GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT

The General Plan recognizes the importance of both the golf course as a recreational opportunity and the need to restore the Upper Truckee River and its environs. As noted on page 34 of the General Plan, it is uncommon for a golf course to be the primary feature within a unit of the State Park System. However, its classification as a state recreation area recognizes the significance of perpetuating the quality public golfing opportunity in the Tahoe Basin. The Declaration of Purpose is as follows: “The purpose of the Lake Valley SRA is to make available to the people for their enjoyment and inspiration the 18-hole golf course, and the scenic Upper Truckee River and it’s environs”

On pages 35 – 38 of the General Plan, the natural values of the river are discussed with recognition of the need to restore a balance in its natural geomorphic processes, including restoration of a natural channel configuration and riparian habitat. On pages 59 – 60 of the General Plan, it is recommended that the existing golf course (18 hole, 6700 yard) and winter recreational opportunities be continued. Amending the General Plan to reflect the proposed classification adjustment and boundary modification will be consistent with maintaining the significance of golf recreation opportunity and appropriate management of the river’s natural resources. The amendment is a necessary action for implementing the Preferred Alternative for the Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project, which is most consistent (among the other considered project alternatives) with both the river management and golf recreation opportunity provisions of the General Plan.

The Lake Valley SRA General Plan is amended to reflect the adjusted classification of land within the unit as implemented through a boundary modification. Otherwise, the purpose of the unit, objectives of the plan, and plan elements (Resource, Interpretive, Concession, Operations, Land Use, and Facilities) are not substantively modified. The classification adjustment is consistent with the unit’s purpose and objectives.

An updated General Plan vicinity map is provided in Exhibit A-1. The existing park unit boundaries are presented in Exhibit A-2. The adjusted classifications of the land in the park units are shown in Exhibits A-3, essentially “exchanging” land between Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley SRA, and realigning the boundaries between the two park units.

The adjusted classification boundary of Lake Valley SRA contains the reconfigured golf course and the existing STPUD sewer access road to encompass land uses of the Preferred Alternative layout that are consistent with the purpose and objectives of the Lake Valley SRA. They also contain the new, shared golf and dispersed recreation trail bridge across the Upper Truckee River and immediately adjacent land. The section of river remaining in the Lake Valley SRA in the vicinity of the new bridge allows room for defining the precise bridge alignment during the final design.

The adjusted classification of Washoe Meadows SP boundary contains most of the restored river corridor, except in the vicinity of the new Upper Truckee River Bridge. The area north of the river near Angora Creek and the adjacent area are changed from Lake Valley SRA to Washoe Meadows SP, as is much of the area adjacent to the river on the south. These areas that are currently golf course turf will be restored to native meadow vegetation. The northern section of Washoe Meadows SP which contains the rest of the wet meadow area associated with Angora creek as well as the fen area will continue to be part of Washoe Meadows SP.

The General Plan Amendment applies to the adjusted classification of land comprising Lake Valley SRA and its new boundaries, but does not include any plan elements for Washoe Meadows SP. The General Plan Amendment will allow for continuation of an 18 hole championship (regulation) golf course to continue within the SRA, while allowing room for the river restoration and improvements also called for in the General Plan. It will also allow for continuation of the winter recreation (snowmobile concession) on the driving range. Because no development is anticipated for Washoe Meadows SP, State Parks has not prepared a general plan for this unit. However the relocation of much of the river from the SRA into the SP will allow for greater recreational access to the river will provide space for a regionally connected trail along the river. The implementation of the Preferred Alternative

Revised Draft – For Deliberation and Approval to Release

will not include development of permanent facilities within the adjusted boundaries of Washoe Meadows SP, but dispersed activities such as hiking and cross-country skiing will continue.

ATTACHMENTS

Exhibit A-1 Vicinity Map

Exhibit A-2 Existing Unit Boundaries

Exhibit A-3 Adjusted Unit Boundaries

Exhibit A-1 Vicinity Map

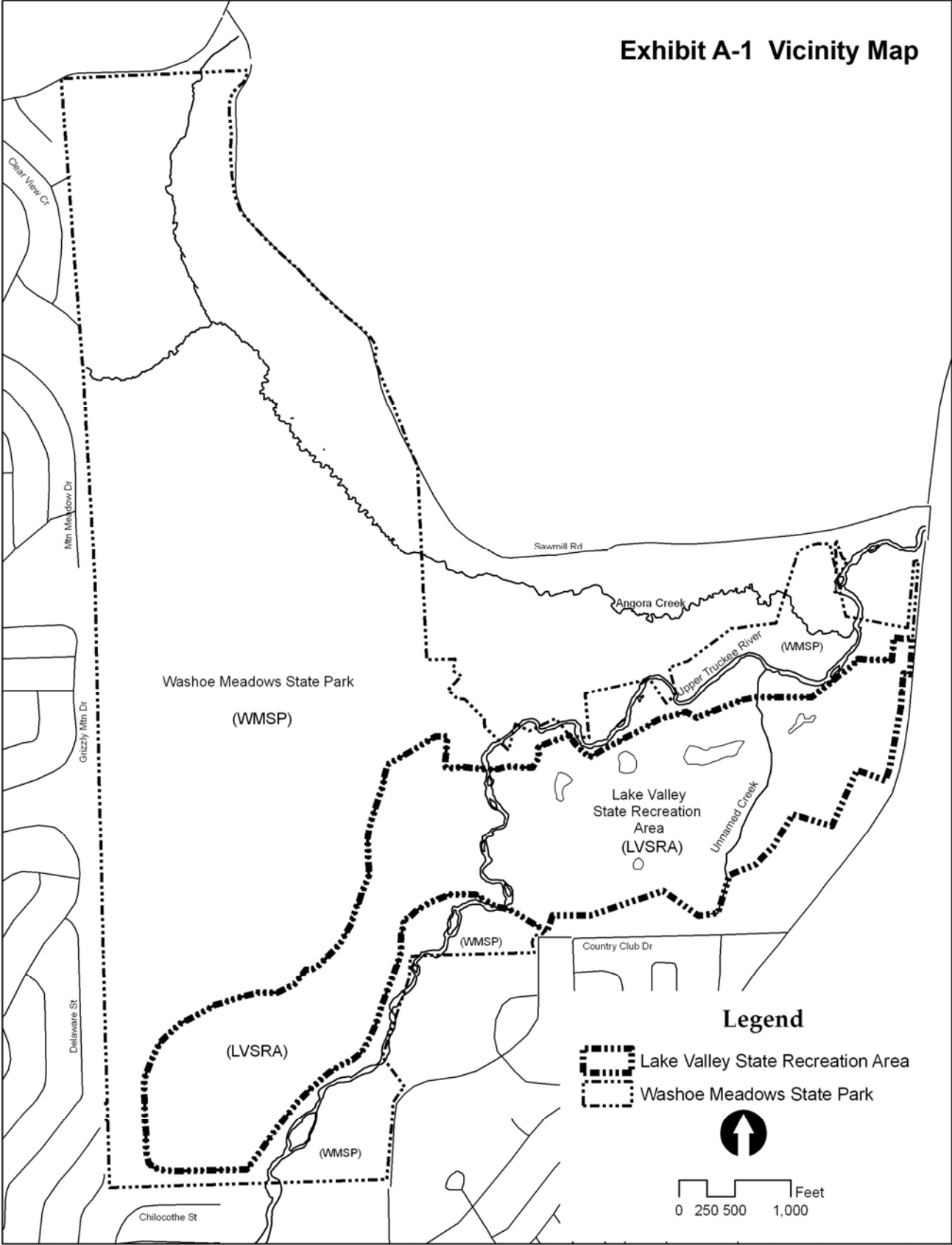


Exhibit A-1 Vicinity Map

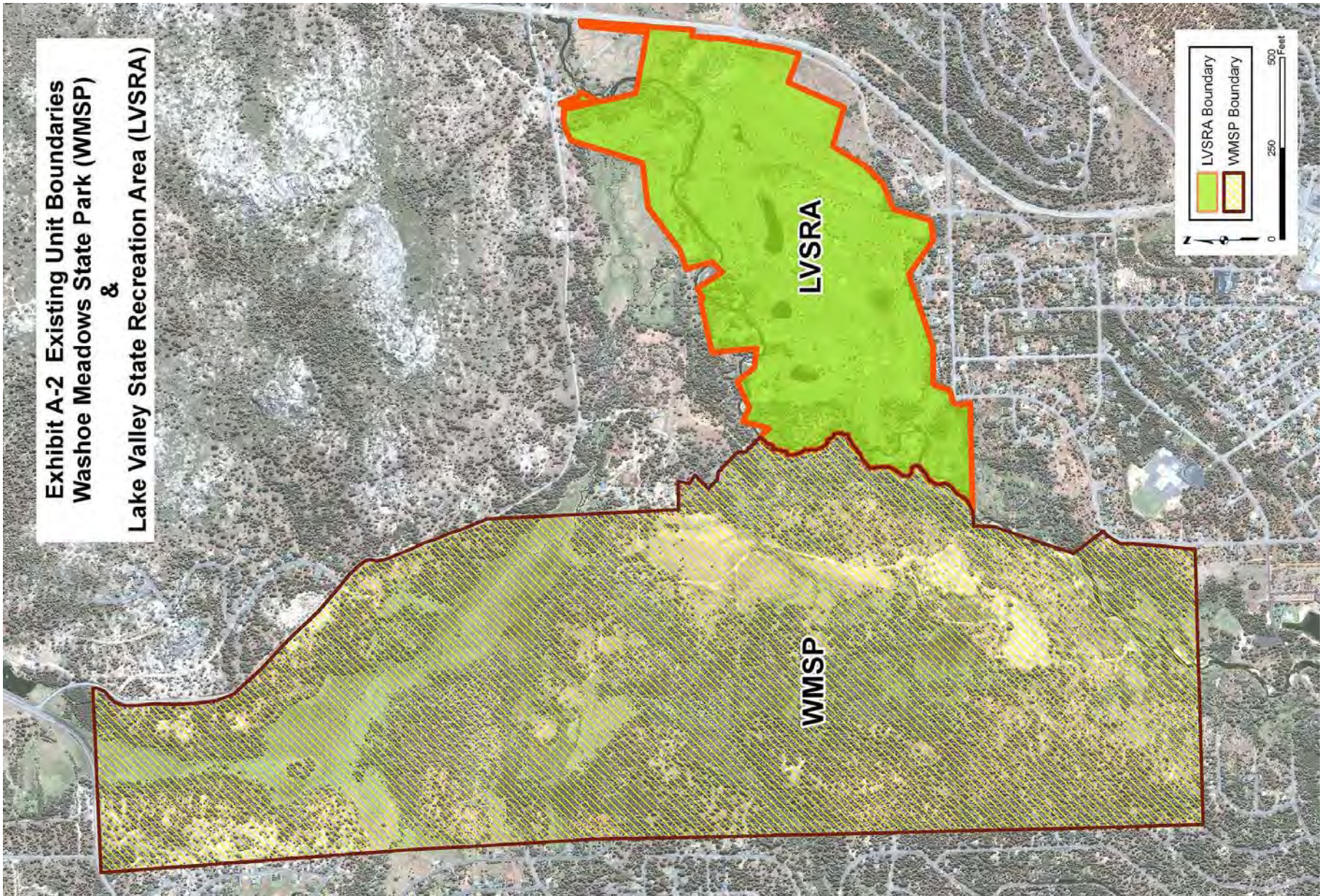


Exhibit A-2 Existing Unit Boundaries

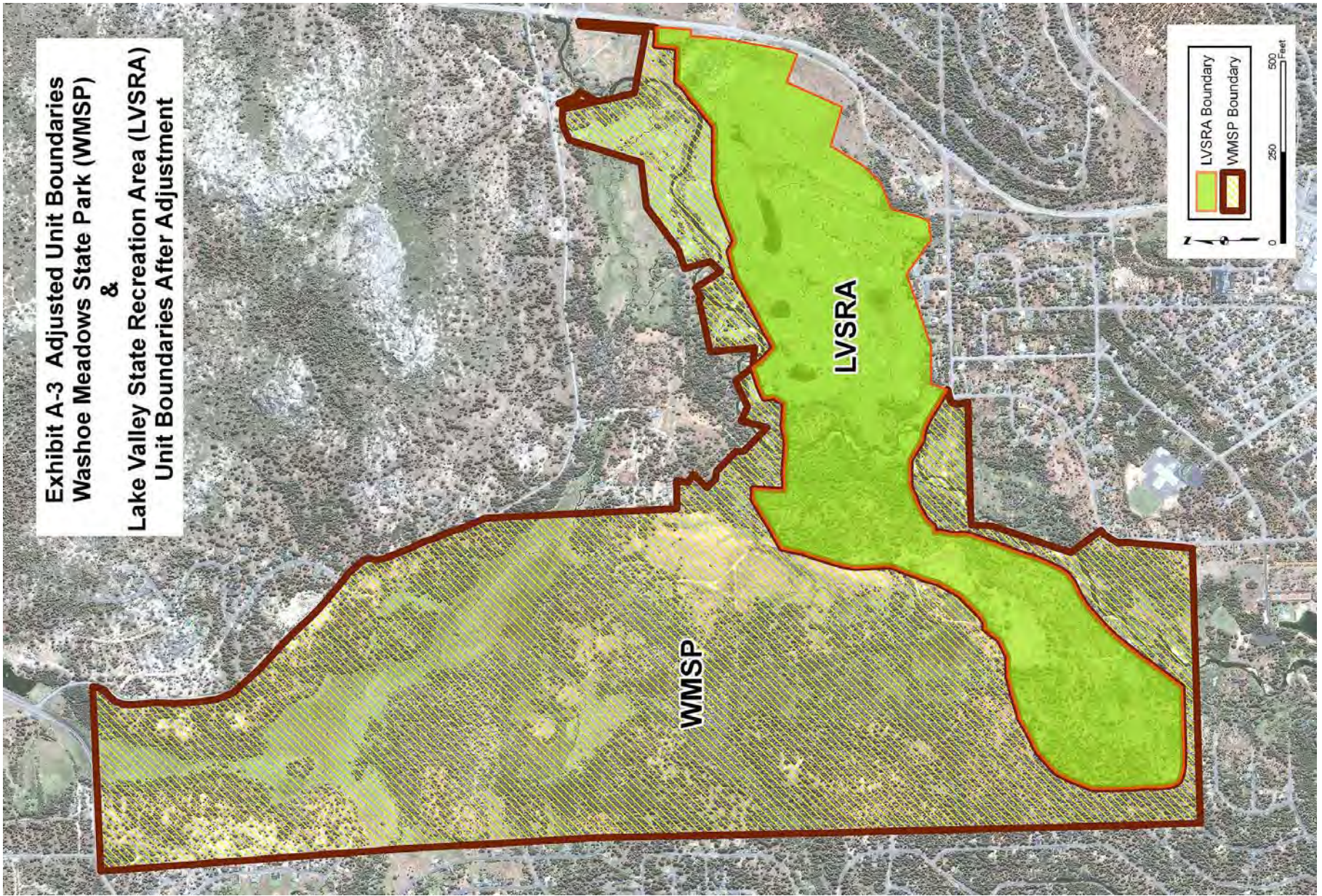


Exhibit A-3 Adjusted Unit Boundaries

APPENDIX L

State Historic Preservation Officer Concurrence Letter

**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
SACRAMENTO, CA 95816-7100
(916) 445-7000 Fax: (916) 445-7053
calshpo@parks.ca.gov
www.ohp.parks.ca.gov

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION OFFICIAL FILE COPY RECEIVED		
SEP 09 2010		
CODE	ACTION	SURNAME & DATE
153	✓	9/12/16 Nickels

September 7, 2010

In Reply Refer To: BUR100716A

Michael A. Chotkowski
Regional Environmental Officer
United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Regional Office
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825-1898

Re: Upper Truckee River Restoration Project, Tahoe Paradise Golf Course, Washoe Meadows State Park, El Dorado County, California (Project No. 08-LBAQ-194)

Classification	08-LBAQ-194
Project	SNV 300
Control No.	29
Folder I.D.	10067163
Date Input	11/13/10

Dear Mr. Chotkowski:

Thank you for seeking my consultation regarding the proposed Upper Truckee River Restoration Project, Tahoe Paradise Golf Course, at Washoe Meadows State Park in El Dorado County, California. Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800 (as amended 8-05-04) regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the Bureau of Reclamation (BUR) is seeking my comments regarding the effects that this project will have on historic properties. The proposed project will be implemented using funding assistance from the BUR through the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act to the California State Parks. The BUR has determined that the use of federal funds for this project constitutes an undertaking pursuant to Section 106 regulations.

The undertaking is designed to restore the ecosystem function of the segment of the Truckee River located in the Tahoe Paradise Golf Course area. The BUR has determined that the Area of Potential Effects (APE) consists of the maximum project footprint, which incorporates all areas to be affected under five alternatives. This consultation has been conducted with the assumption that Alternative 2, the preferred alternative, will be implemented. If Alternatives 1, 3, 4, or 5 are implemented, it will result, as determined by the BUR, in a finding of No historic properties affected. In addition to your letter of July 14, 2010, you have submitted the following reports as supporting documentation:

- *Finding of No Adverse Effect for the Upper Truckee River Restoration Project – Washoe Meadows, California State Parks* (Denise Jaffke, California Department of Parks and Recreation, Sierra District: November 2009).
- *Cultural Resources Survey, Inventory, and Site Evaluations Washoe Meadows State Park, El Dorado County, California* (Lisa A. Shapiro, Robert J. Jackson, and Trish Fernandez; Pacific Legacy, Inc.: November 2004).
- *Phase II Archaeological Field Testing Report & Evaluation for Four Prehistoric Sites CA-ELD-2152, CA-ELD-2157, CA-ELD-2158, CA-ELD-2160, Washoe Meadows State*

Park, El Dorado County, California: Upper Truckee River Restoration Project (Denise Jaffke, California Department of Parks and Recreation, Sierra District: March 2006),

• *Archaeological Field Testing & Evaluation for Two Prehistoric Sites CA-ELD-2156 & CA-ELD-2159, Washoe Meadows State Park, El Dorado County, California: Upper Truckee River Restoration Project Cultural Resources Addendum Report* (Denise Jaffke & William W. Bloomer, California Department of Parks and Recreation Sierra District: December 2007).

After reviewing your letter and supporting documentation, I have the following comments:

- 1) I concur that your determination of an Area of Potential Effects (APE) is appropriate pursuant to 36 CFR Parts 800.4(a)(1) and 800.16(c) and I concur that your efforts to identify and evaluate historic properties in the APE represent a reasonable and good faith effort in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.4(b)(1).
- 2) I further concur that archaeological sites CA-ELD-2158, CA-ELD-2160, and CA-ELD-2156 are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under criterion D.
- 3) I further concur that archaeological sites CA-ELD-2152, CA-ELD-2157, and CA-ELD-59 are not eligible for the NRHP under any criteria.
- 4) I acknowledge that, for the purposes of this undertaking, the BUR is treating archaeological site CA-ELD-555 as eligible for the NRHP (criterion D) and will ensure its protection from effects through the establishment and monitoring of an Environmental Sensitive Area (ESA).
- 5) I further concur that your proposed finding of effect, that of No Adverse Effect, is appropriate pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.5(b). My concurrence with this finding of effect is predicated on the following, as stated in your letter of July 14, 2010 and in Jaffke (2009: 14-16): the establishment and monitoring of an ESA with exclusionary fencing around CA-ELD-555; the installation of protective caps (permeable fabric covered by six inches of sterile fill and topped by six feet of fill material from the golf course redesign) on the deposits of CA-ELD-2158, CA-ELD-2160, and CA-ELD-2156; and the periodic monitoring (annually) of the effectiveness of these measures.

Be advised that under certain circumstances, such as unanticipated discovery or a change in project description, the BUR may have additional future responsibilities for this undertaking under 36 CFR Part 800. Thank you for seeking my comments and for considering historic properties in planning your project. If you require further information, please contact William Soule, Associate State Archeologist, at phone 916-445-7022 or email wsoule@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Susan A Stratton for

Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
State Historic Preservation Officer

APPENDIX M

Washoe Meadows State Park Fen Information

Washoe Meadows State Park Fen Information
CA Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)
Compiled by Silver Hartman
March 2011

Background:

In 2008 the vegetation at Washoe Meadows State Park (SP) was surveyed by Adrian Juncosa, a private consultant from Eco Synthesis. Along with other vegetation communities, Juncosa identified a large area as Fen Complex, in which he lumped a number of hydrophilic vegetation types. This area is roughly 40 acres in size, located in the center of the southern half of Washoe Meadows SP (see Map 1). He described the Fen Complex as a mosaic of communities, with a central fen surrounded or entirely comprised of wetlands and hydrophyllic plant communities that are primarily groundwater (“spring”) supported. He went on to say:

Fen Complex communities vary from small areas of open water (ponds) through sedge-dominated meadows to areas which generally resemble Lodgepole Pine – Mesic Type forest in structure, but are distinguished by the presence of certain distinctive species that are indicative of longer duration near-surface saturation (one notable example being big-leaved avens (*Geum macrophyllum*), and/or by their proximity to wetter spring-supported vegetation. Thus, nearly the entire range of community structure is present (no vegetation, herbaceous – graminoid, herbaceous - forb, shrub, and tree-dominated).

Adrian also lumped into the fen complex description a small spring complex area in the southwestern part of the park. This area is a small spring flowing out of a barrel that forms a wet meadow and wet lodgepole area just down slope and that spreads out on the hillside. Although this is a wet area, it does not have the soils or vegetation associated with fens and this area is now not mapped as fen.

In 2010, Kendra Sikes, a Vegetation Ecologist from the California Native Plant Society, (and others) spent 4 weeks assessing fens in the Lake Tahoe Basin. This included sites at Ed Z’berg Sugar Pine Point SP and Washoe Meadows SP. At Washoe Meadows SP they surveyed a large fen located at the southern edge of the Fen Complex (see Map 2), now designated a “Verified Fen”. They GPSed the boundary of this fen, and collected plant specimens and soil samples to confirm the organic matter content at the fen. This included digging a soil pit, checking the level of the water table, and taking soil samples and probe measurements to confirm the amount of peat/organic carbon. It is worthy to note that they made two collections of a moss that is rare in California; *Tomentypnum nitens*. They found that it was a dominant moss in at least one of the sample plots. The moss specimens were deposited with the California Academy of Sciences. Photographs were also taken (see attached photos). At this same time, Jonathan Long, from the Tahoe Environmental Research Center, conducted a very rapid (~1/2day) scouting expedition to determine if more locations within the park should be formally surveyed for fens. Walking north from the verified fen, he scouted out 2 additional potential fen locations (see Map 2). He took probe measurements that suggested deep peat, and identified vegetation types that you would expect in a fen. In addition, meadow delineation conducted by Sikes suggests that the large verified fen may have an even greater perimeter. Therefore, Sikes and Long identified additional locations where fens have the potential to occur—these are shown on the map as “unverified fen”. DPR staff is currently awaiting the final report from Sikes that will outline the methodology and results of these fen surveys.

DPR staff has also located an underground creek located within the Fen Complex (see Map 2). This stream is partially covered by natural forest debris and tree roots with some windows where water can be seen. This small stream flows to the northeast out of the verified fen and then dissipates into the edge of dry meadow south of the barn. In 1984, when the DPR acquired Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley State Recreation Area (LVSRA), this underground creek was described in the Litigation Settlement Agreement as:

“The most unusual feature of this property, however, is the presence of a fish habitat which has never before been observed in the Tahoe Basin. The western portion of the property is characterized by a series of wetland and bog plant communities recognized as unique in the High Sierra. These bogs and wetlands contain streams which flow through the forest areas and into holes of 2’ to 3’ depth. These holes are connected by subsurface stream flows and within these holes, resident Eastern Brook Trout have been observed. The trout are able to live year round in these deep holes because the water is below the freezing level and is supplied by the subsurface flows.”

It is worthy to note the difference between bogs and fens. Bogs are fed almost entirely by atmospheric precipitation, are formed by rain (ombrogenous) and fed by rain (Cooper and Wolf 0006). Fens are fed by groundwater, although they receive precipitation as well (Cooper and Wolf 2006). “In the Sierra Nevada the dry summer climate makes it impossible for ombrogenous bogs to occur...however, fens, which are ground water fed peatlands, are widespread and extremely varied” (Cooper and Wolf 2006). Therefore the “bog” habitat type referred to above is, for all intents and purposes, a fen.

In March of 2011 DPR staff created an updated vegetation GIS layer for Washoe Meadows SP. This includes the division of Juncosa’s “Fen Complex” polygon into more specific vegetation classifications based on information provided by Sikes and analysis of satellite imagery. The Fen Complex (FC) category was divided into: Verified Fen (VF), Unverified Fen (UF), Wet Meadow (WM), and Lodgepole Pine Wet (LPW) (see Map 3). The forested and meadow areas (within the FC) that were clearly distinguishable on the GIS imagery were labeled either Lodgepole Pine Wet (LPW) or Wet Meadow (WM). The large known sloping fen at the southern end of the Fen Complex polygon was labeled as Verified Fen. Meadows delineated by Sikes and Long as potential fen locations were reclassified as Unverified Fen.

Fen Classification:

A fen is an ecosystem with organic soils that form where the long-term rate of organic matter production by plants exceeds the rate of decomposition due to water logging (Weixelman and Cooper 2008). They are areas where there is at least 40 cm of organic soils in the upper 80 cm of the soil profile (Weixelman et. al. 2007). They are widespread and extremely varied in their hydrologic, geomorphic, geochemical and ecological characteristics (Cooper and Wolf 2006). Fens are ground water fed peat-accumulating ecosystems that have perennially saturated soils, and whose hydrologic regime, geochemistry, and potential ecological characteristics are produced by the landscape that supplies its groundwater, as well as long-term issues of the site history, and the land and water management (Cooper and Wolf 2006).

Although the verified fen at Washoe Meadows SP encompasses some qualities similar to a Basin fen, it is more characteristic of a Sloping fen (also called soligenous peatland). Sloping fens occur in valley bottoms where alluvial groundwater supports peat formation or at the base of slopes where groundwater discharges to the surface due to either (1) a break in the topography, or (2) a change in geology (Weixelanm and Cooper 2008). This fen type is the most common type of fen in the Sierra Nevada and is usually underlain by springs, or a complex of ground water discharge points (Weixelanm and Cooper 2008).

Potential Impacts:

The potential golf course relocation site is located outside of and completely down slope of the fen area, (see Map 3). Choosing a golf course relocation site that is downslope of the Fen Complex will avoid degradation to these fen sites. Degradation to fens can occur when there is a change in the water or

sediments being supplied to a fen or wetland area. Examples of this would include upslope road ditches and cross drainage structures installed in a manner that concentrates overland flows or groundwater inflows away from the fen or wetland area, causing desiccation of the fen or wetland area (Weixelanm and Cooper 2008). In addition excessive erosion of roads, trails and sites of bare mineral soil located upslope from a fen can cause the input of mineral sediment and other erosion that can bury peat bodies, leading to a change in vegetation (Cooper and Wolf 2006).

The fens at Washoe are predominately surrounded by lodgepole pine trees (*Pinus contorta* ssp. *Murrayana*). Encroachment by conifers into fens can be due to changes in hydrology. Lowering of water tables from drainage can allow for tree and shrub encroachment into (fens) and the eventual succession to a closed canopy peatland (Weixelanm and Cooper 2008). Increased tree growth following lowering of the water table is especially prevalent in species such as lodgepole pines in California. Lowered water tables can also dramatically reduce the microscale heterogeneity that characterized peatlands by eliminating the fine-scale gradients in pH, moisture, and nutrient availability associated with hummocks¹ and hollows (Weixelanm and Cooper 2008). Meadow areas also see encroachment of lodgepole due to lack of fire, and this may also be true of fens.

Recommendations:

Although the proposed golf course is down slope of the fen area and development of this area will not cause impacts, the area merits further scientific study for research and vegetation management purposes. It is recommended that DPR conduct additional surveys to identify fens at Washoe Meadows SP. Focus should be within the areas identified as the Unverified Fen and adjacent Wet Meadow areas outlined in the text above as well as in the attached maps. Any newly identified fen(s) should be assessed, photographed, and mapped. The geomorphic setting of the identified fen(s) should be identified as Sloping, Basin, Mound and/or Lava Bedrock. The pH and chemistry of the source waters shall be defined as either: 1) poor fen, 2) moderate-rich fen, or 3) extreme rich fen. Fen vegetation should be surveyed for the presence of rare and exotic species. It should be determined if conifer encroachment is occurring and is linked to hydrological changes within or around the fen. If conifer encroachment is an issue resource management actions will need to be identified.

¹ A wooded area that lies above the level of an adjacent marsh.

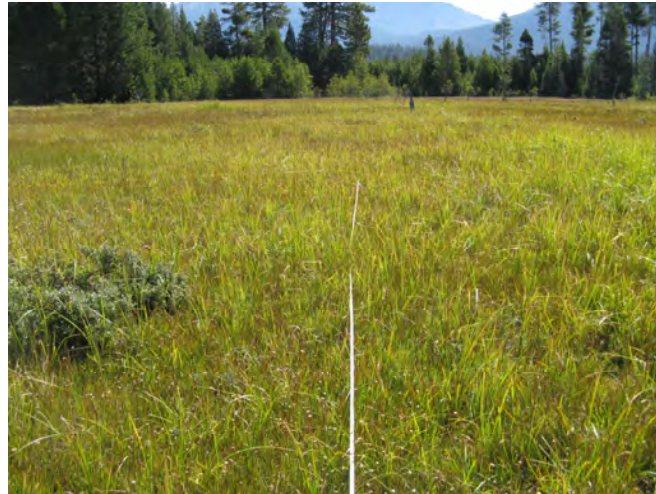
References

Cooper, D.J., Wolf, E.C. (2006) Fens of the Sierra Nevada, California. Department of Forest, Rangeland and Watershed Stewardship. Colorado State University. Fort Collins. CO.

Weixelman, D., Cooper, D., (2008, June). DRAFT - A User Guide to Assessing Proper Functioning Condition for Fen Areas in the Sierra Nevada and Southern Cascade Ranges, CA. pages 1-43.

Weixelman, D., Weis, S., Fletcher, L., Swartz, H. (2007, January). DRAFT - Condition Checklist for Fens in the Montane and Subalpine Zones of the Sierra Nevada and Southern Cascade Ranges, CA. pages 1-26.

Photos Courtesy of:
Kendra Sikes of the California Native Plant Society and
Jonathan Long of the Tahoe Environmental Research Center






These 4 photos are examples of the types of photos taken at the fen surveys conducted by Sikes and Long in 2010.

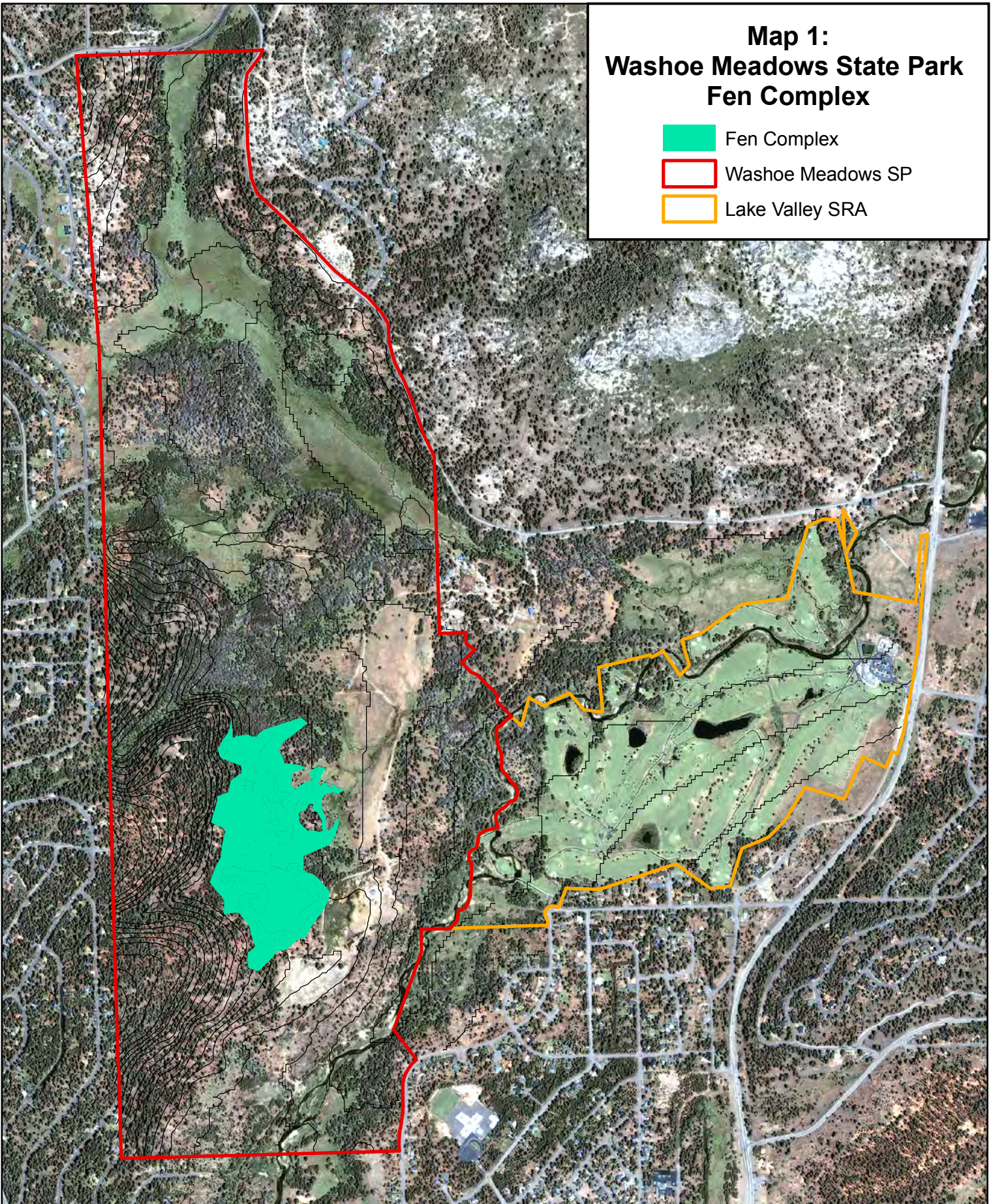




This image shows the approximate locations of the photos taken by Sikes and Long. More specific information will be outlined in the report DPR has yet to receive.

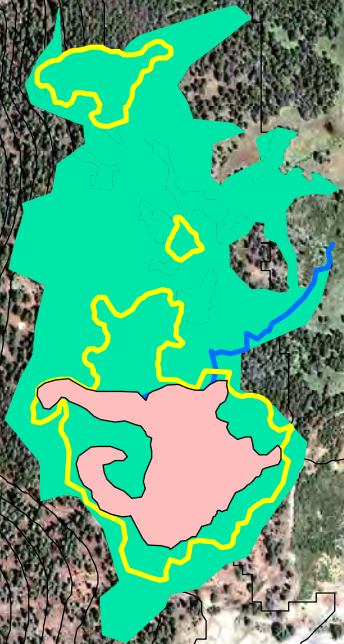
Map 1: Washoe Meadows State Park Fen Complex

-  Fen Complex
-  Washoe Meadows SP
-  Lake Valley SRA

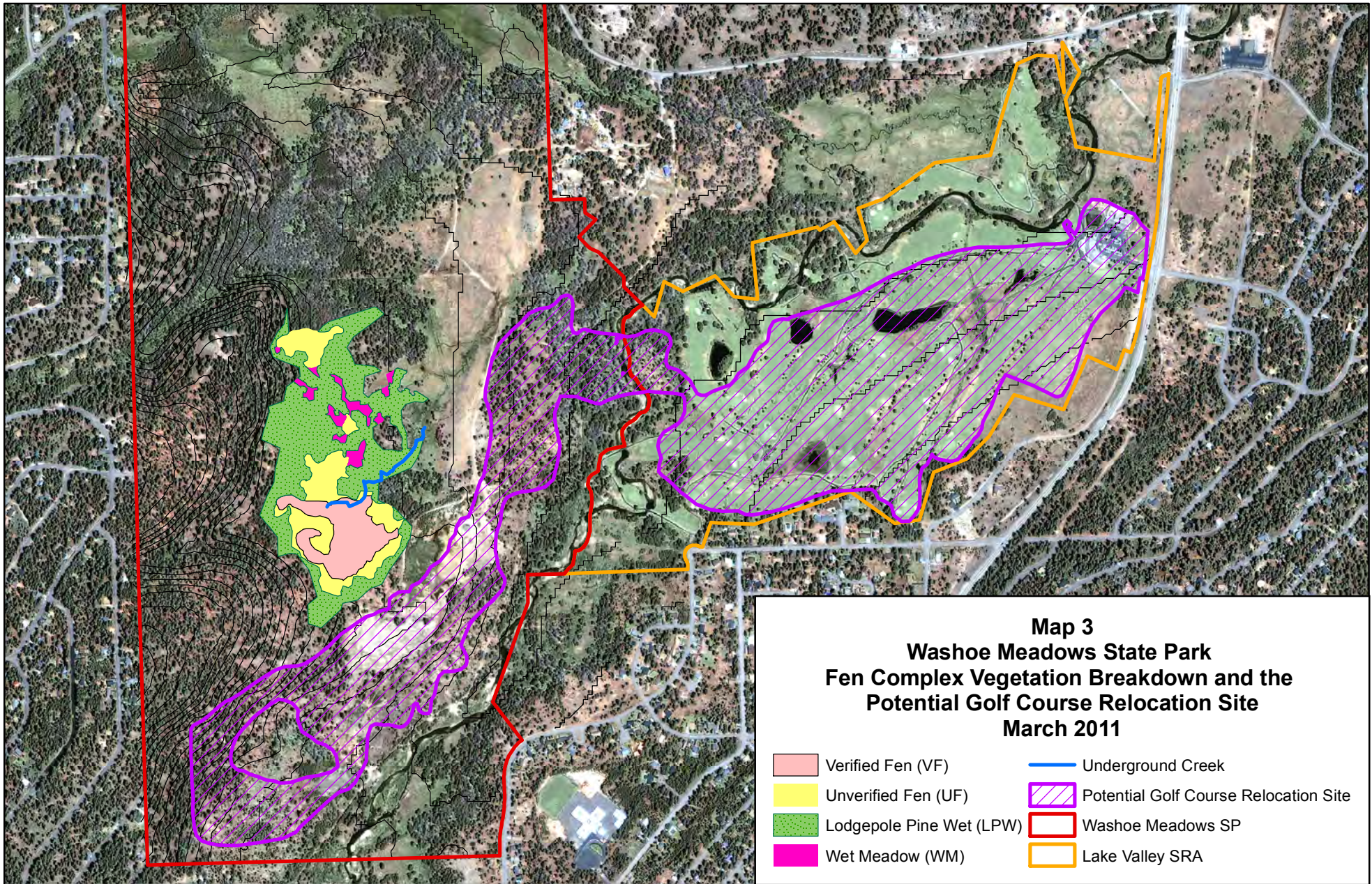


Map 2: Washoe Meadows State Park Fen Information March 2011

- Verified Fen (VF)
- Unverified Fen (UF)
- Fen Complex
- Underground Creek
- Washoe Meadows SP
- Lake Valley SRA



0.25 0.125 0 0.25 0.5 Miles



Plant species list from fen surveys at Washoe Meadows SP, Courtesy of CA Native Plant Society April 2011

Scientific Name
Aconitum columbianum
Agrostis idahoensis
Aulacomnium palustre
Calamagrostis sp.
Carex capitata
Carex echinata
Carex limosa
Carex nebrascensis
Carex simulata
Carex utriculata
Deschampsia danthonioides
Dodecatheon alpinum
Drepanocladus aduncus
Drepanocladus sordidus
Drosera rotundifolia
Eleocharis quinqueflora
Epilobium ciliatum
Equisetum arvense
Eriophorum criniger
Fragaria virginiana
Juncus dubius
Juncus nevadensis
Juncus oxymyris
Juniperus occidentalis
Kalmia microphylla
Ledum glandulosum
Lemna sp.

Scientific Name
Lilium parvum
Lonicera conjugialis
Lotus sp.
Lupinus polyphyllus
Meesia triquetra
Mimulus guttatus
Mimulus primuloides
Muhlenbergia filiformis
Oreostemma alpigenum var. andersonii
Oxypolis occidentalis
Pedicularis attollens
Perideridia lemmonii
Perideridia sp.
Pinus contorta ssp. murrayana
Platanthera dilatata var. leucostachys
Poaceae
Polygonum bistortoides
Ptychostomum pseudotriquetrum
Ptychostomum weigellii
Salix eastwoodiae
Saxifraga oregana
Spiranthes porrifolia
Tomentypnum nitens
Triantha occidentalis ssp. occidentalis
Vaccinium uliginosum
Veratrum californicum

APPENDIX N

Water Budget Information for Upper Truckee River Restoration and
Golf Course Reconfiguration Project

APPENDIX D WATER BUDGET INFORMATION

Table D-1 Available Water Capacity (AWC) for Soil Series present in the Study Area						
Soil Series	Horizon Depth (in/in)	Thickness inches	AWC in/in	Profile AWC* inches	Profile AWC mm	AWC Rating**
Cassenai gravelly loamy coarse sand, 5 to 15%	0-1	1	0.50	0.50		
	1-6	5	0.08	0.40		
	6-43	37	0.07	2.59		
	43-79	36	0.06	1.08		
Total	79	79		4.57	116.08	Low
Celio loamy coarse sand, 0 to 5%	0-8	8	0.08	0.64		
	8-16	8	0.06	0.44		
	16-23	7	0.05	0.35		
	23-45	22	0.02	0.33		
	45-56	11	-	-		
	56-80	24	-	-		
Total	80	80		1.76	44.70	Very Low
Marla loamy coarse sand, 0 to 5%	0-3	3	0.60	1.80		
	3-14	11	0.08	0.88		
	14-47	33	0.07	2.31		
	47-59	12	0.14	1.62		
	59-68	9	0.13	0.25		
Total	68	68		6.86	174.24	Moderate
Meeks, stony	0-2	2	0.60	1.20		
	2-13	11	0.03	0.33		
	13-63	50	0.03	1.44		
	63-73	10	-	-		
Total	73	73	-	2.97	75.44	Low
Oneidas coarse sandy loam, 0 to 5%	0-1	1	0.60	0.60		
	1-9	8	0.05	0.40		
	9-12	3	0.08	0.23		
	12-65	53	0.08	3.60		
	65-79	14	0.11		122.56	
Total	79	79		4.825		Low
Tahoe Gravelly	0-10	10	0.23	2.30	-	
Tahoe Gravelly (wet)	10-27	17	0.17	2.89		
	27-32	5	0.06	0.30		
	32-46	14	-	-		
Total	46	46		5.49		Moderate
Tahoe silt loam	0-3	3	-	-	139.45	
	3-11	8	0.22	1.72		
	11-15	4	0.20	0.80		
	15-20	5	0.03	0.15		
	20-30	10	0.21	2.10		
	30-49	19	0.17	3.23		
	49-59	10	0.09	0.90		
Total	59	59		8.9		High
Watah peat, 0 to 2%	0-3	3	0.60	1.80	226.06	
	3-8	5	0.50	2.50		
	8-15	7	0.10	0.70		
	15-63	48	0.25	11.50		
Total	63	63		16.5	419.10	Very High

SOURCE: U.S.D.A. NRCS Soil Survey of the Tahoe Basin Area, CA and NV 2007.

* AWC is totaled for the top 60 inches of the profile, per NRCS standards.

**AWC Rating by NRCS: Very low=0 to 2.5 in; Low= 2.5 to 5.0 in; Moderate= 5.0 to 7.5 in; High= 7.5 to 10in ; Very High= >10 in.

Appendix D-2 Available Water Capacity (mm) for each Soil Mapping Unit in the Study Area							
Map Unit		7042		7431		7482	
		Tahoe Complex, 0 To 5 Percent Slopes, Gravelly		Celio Loamy Coarse Sand, 0 To 5 Percent Slopes		Meeks Gravelly Loamy Coarse Sand, 5 To 15 Percent Slopes	
Soil Series	Profile AWC*	Portion of Area	Area Weighted AWC*	Portion of Area	Area Weighted AWC*	Portion of Area	Area Weighted AWC*
Cassenai gravelly loamy coarse sand, 5 to 15%	116.1	0%	-	0%	-	10%	11.6
Celio loamy coarse sand, 0 to 5%	44.7	0%	-	80%	35.8	3%	1.3
Marla loamy coarse sand, 0 to 5%	174.2	5%	8.7	5%	8.7	0%	-
Meeks, stony	75.4	0%	-	5%	3.8	80%	60.4
Oneidas coarse sandy loam, 0 to 5%	122.6	0%	-	0%	-	7%	8.6
Riverwash	-	5%		0%		0%	
Tahoe Gravelly	139.5	55%	76.7	5%	7.0	0%	-
Tahoe Gravelly, wet	139.5	25%	34.9	0%	-	0%	-
Tahoe silt loam	226.1	5%	11.3	0%	-	0%	-
Watah peat, 0 to 2%	419.1	5%	21.0	5%	21.0	0%	-
Total for each Map Unit			152.5		76.2		81.9

* AWC is totaled for the top 60 inches of the profile, per NRCS standards.
Source: U.S.D.A. NRCS Soil Survey of the Tahoe Basin Area, CA and NV 2007.

Appendix D-3										
Calculated Typical Monthly and Annual Water Balance* for the Study Area										
	TEMP	Adjusted PE	Rain (PPT)	Snowmelt	Snow Storage	Soil Storage	Difference	Actual E	Unmet Demand (deficit)	Surplus
Lat Long: 39.0N, 120W			Elevation: 1,756 m / 5,761 ft				AWC: 150 mm / 5.9 in			
Jan	-0.1	0	84	0	0	150	84	0	0	62
Feb	1.8	7	59	0	0	150	52	7	0	52
Mar	3.6	17	54	0	0	150	37	17	0	37
Apr	7.1	37	24	0	0	137	-13	37	0	0
May	11.1	66	21	0	0	93	-45	65	1	0
Jun	15.2	93	13	0	0	43	-80	63	30	0
Jul	19.3	121	8	0	0	15	-113	37	84	0
Aug	18.6	108	9	0	0	6	-99	18	90	0
Sep	15.5	78	12	0	0	3	-66	14	64	0
Oct	10	46	27	0	0	3	-19	27	19	0
Nov	4	15	59	0	0	46	44	15	0	0
Dec	0	3	84	0	0	128	81	3	0	0
Annual		591	454	0				303	288	151
Lat Long: 39.0N, 120W			Elevation: 1,756 m / 5,761 ft				AWC: 100 mm / 3.9 in			
Jan	-0.1	0	84	0	0	100	84	0	0	84
Feb	1.8	7	59	0	0	100	52	7	0	52
Mar	3.6	17	54	0	0	100	37	17	0	37
Apr	7.1	37	24	0	0	87	-13	37	0	0
May	11.1	66	21	0	0	47	-45	61	5	0
Jun	15.2	93	13	0	0	15	-80	45	48	0
Jul	19.3	121	8	0	0	3	-113	20	101	0
Aug	18.6	108	9	0	0	1	-99	11	97	0
Sep	15.5	78	12	0	0	0	-66	12	66	0
Oct	10	46	27	0	0	1	-19	26	20	0
Nov	4	15	59	0	0	44	44	15	0	0
Dec	0	3	84	0	0	100	81	3	0	25
Annual		591	454	0				254	337	198
Lat Long: 39.0N, 120W			Elevation: 1,756 m / 5,761 ft				AWC: 75 mm / 2.9 in			
Jan	-0.1	0	84	0	0	75	84	0	0	84
Feb	1.8	7	59	0	0	75	52	7	0	52
Mar	3.6	17	54	0	0	75	37	17	0	37
Apr	7.1	37	24	0	0	62	-13	37	0	0
May	11.1	66	21	0	0	27	-45	56	10	0
Jun	15.2	93	13	0	0	6	-80	34	59	0
Jul	19.3	121	8	0	0	1	-113	13	108	0
Aug	18.6	108	9	0	0	0	-99	9	99	0
Sep	15.5	78	12	0	0	0	-66	12	66	0
Oct	10	46	27	0	0	1	-19	26	20	0
Nov	4	15	59	0	0	44	44	15	0	0
Dec	0	3	84	0	0	75	81	3	0	50
Annual		591	454	0				229	362	223
Lat Long: 38.5N, 120W			Elevation: 2,429 m / 7,969 ft				AWC: 150 mm / 5.9 in			
Jan	-1.8	0	149	0	21	150	149	0	0	0
Feb	-0.5	0	129	39	196	150	168	0	0	146
Mar	1.1	8	118	184	12	150	294	8	0	294

**Appendix D-3
Calculated Typical Monthly and Annual Water Balance* for the Study Area**

	TEMP	Adjusted PE	Rain (PPT)	Snowmelt	Snow Storage	Soil Storage	Difference	Actual E	Unmet Demand (deficit)	Surplus
Apr	4.1	27	72	12	0	150	57	27	0	57
May	8.1	56	36	0	0	129	-20	56	0	1
Jun	12.2	82	18	0	0	72	-64	75	7	0
Jul	16.3	108	7	0	0	27	-101	52	56	0
Aug	16	99	6	0	0	11	-93	22	77	0
Sep	13.4	74	15	0	0	6	-59	20	54	0
Oct	8.4	45	42	0	0	13	-3	34	11	0
Nov	2.5	13	105	0	0	103	92	13	0	0
Dec	-0.9	0	132	0	64	150	132	0	0	21
Annual		512	829	235				307	205	519
Lat Long: 38.5N, 120W		Elevation: 2,429 m / 7,969 ft				AWC: 100 mm / 3.9 in				
Jan	-1.8	0	149	0	21	100	149	0	0	0
Feb	-0.5	0	129	39	196	100	168	0	0	146
Mar	1.1	8	118	184	12	100	294	8	0	294
Apr	4.1	27	72	12	0	100	57	27	0	57
May	8.1	56	36	0	0	79	-20	56	0	1
Jun	12.2	82	18	0	0	32	-64	65	17	0
Jul	16.3	108	7	0	0	7	-101	32	76	0
Aug	16	99	6	0	0	2	-93	11	88	0
Sep	13.4	74	15	0	0	1	-59	16	58	0
Oct	8.4	45	42	0	0	8	-3	34	11	0
Nov	2.5	13	105	0	0	98	92	13	0	0
Dec	-0.9	0	132	0	64	100	132	0	0	66
Annual		512	829	235				262	250	564
Lat Long: 38.5N, 120W		Elevation: 2,429 m / 7,969 ft				AWC: 75 mm / 2.9 in				
Jan	-1.8	0	149	0	21	75	149	0	0	0
Feb	-0.5	0	129	39	196	75	168	0	0	146
Mar	1.1	8	118	184	12	75	294	8	0	294
Apr	4.1	27	72	12	0	75	57	27	0	57
May	8.1	56	36	0	0	54	-20	56	0	1
Jun	12.2	82	18	0	0	16	-64	57	25	0
Jul	16.3	108	7	0	0	2	-101	21	87	0
Aug	16	99	6	0	0	0	-93	8	91	0
Sep	13.4	74	15	0	0	0	-59	15	59	0
Oct	8.4	45	42	0	0	7	-3	34	11	0
Nov	2.5	13	105	0	0	75	92	13	0	24
Dec	-0.9	0	132	0	64	75	132	0	0	68
Annual		512	829	235				239	273	590

*Water balance calculated using WebWIMP version 1.02 by K. Matsura, C. Willmott, and D. Legates accessed at <http://climate.geog.udel.edu/~wimp/index.html>.

Appendix D-4			
Monthly Water Deficits (inches) by Map Units for Study Area			
	Low Elevation*	High Elevation	Average
Map Unit: 7042 Area weighted AWC (in): 6.0			
January	-	-	-
February	-	-	-
March	-	-	-
April	-	-	-
May	0.0	-	0.0
June	1.2	0.3	0.7
July	3.3	2.2	2.8
August	3.5	3.0	3.3
September	2.5	2.1	2.3
October	0.7	0.4	0.6
November	-	-	-
December	-	-	-
Annual	11.3	8.1	9.7
Map Unit: 7431 Area weighted AWC (in): 3.0			
January	-	-	-
February	-	-	-
March	-	-	-
April	-	-	-
May	0.4	-	0.2
June	2.3	1.0	1.7
July	4.3	3.4	3.8
August	3.9	3.6	3.7
September	2.6	2.3	2.5
October	0.8	0.4	0.6
November	-	-	-
December	-	-	-
Annual	14.3	10.7	12.5
Map Unit: 7482 Area weighted AWC (in): 3.2			
January	-	-	-
February	-	-	-
March	-	-	-
April	-	-	-
May	0.3	-	0.1
June	2.1	0.8	1.5
July	4.1	3.2	3.7
August	3.9	3.5	3.7
September	2.6	2.3	2.5
October	0.8	0.4	0.6
November	-	-	-
December	-	-	-
Annual	13.8	10.3	12.0
* Low Elevation water balance represents worst-case for water demand			

Appendix D-5

Irrigated Areas by Soil Map Unit and Alternative					
Soil Map Unit	Alternative				
	1	2	3	4	5
	acres	acres	acres	acres	acres
7042	0	22.5	0	0	0
7431	98	40	45	96	0
7482	0	22.5	0	0	0
Total	98	85	45	96	0

Appendix D-6 Estimated Monthly and Annual Water Deficit, Demand, and Applied Water Need by Alternative						
ALTERNATIVE 1				98 irrigated acres		
AWC (mm)		3.0		All in map unit 7431		
Map Unit 7431	Deficit (inches)			Demand (acre-ft)		
	Low Ele	High Ele	Average	Low Ele	High Ele	Average
Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feb	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mar	-	-	-	-	-	-
Apr	-	-	-	-	-	-
May	0.4	-	0.2	3.2	-	1.6
Jun	2.3	1.0	1.7	19.0	8.0	13.5
Jul	4.3	3.4	3.8	34.7	28.0	31.3
Aug	3.9	3.6	3.7	31.8	29.3	30.5
Sep	2.6	2.3	2.5	21.2	19.0	20.1
Oct	0.8	0.4	0.6	6.4	3.5	5.0
Nov	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-
Annual	14.3	10.7	12.5	116.4	87.8	102.1
Applied Water need (at 80% efficiency)				145.5	109.7	127.6
Applied water need (at 60% efficiency)				194.0	146.3	170.1

ALTERNATIVE 4				96 irrigated acres		
AWC (mm)		3.0		All in map unit 7431		
Map Unit 7431	Deficit (inches)			Demand (acre-ft)		
	Low Ele	High Ele	Average	Low Ele	High Ele	Average
Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feb	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mar	-	-	-	-	-	-
Apr	-	-	-	-	-	-
May	0.4	-	0.2	3.1	-	1.6
Jun	2.3	1.0	1.7	18.6	7.9	13.2
Jul	4.3	3.4	3.8	34.0	27.4	30.7
Aug	3.9	3.6	3.7	31.2	28.7	29.9
Sep	2.6	2.3	2.5	20.8	18.6	19.7
Oct	0.8	0.4	0.6	6.3	3.5	4.9
Nov	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-
Annual	14.3	10.7	12.5	114.0	86.0	100.0
Applied Water need (at 80% efficiency)				142.5	107.5	125.0
Applied water need (at 60% efficiency)				190.0	143.3	166.7

ALTERNATIVE 3				45 irrigated acres		
AWC (mm)		3.0		All in map unit 7431		
Map Unit 7431	Deficit (inches)			Demand (acre-ft)		
	Low Ele	High Ele	Average	Low Ele	High Ele	Average
Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feb	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mar	-	-	-	-	-	-
Apr	-	-	-	-	-	-
May	0.4	-	0.2	1.5	-	0.7
Jun	2.3	1.0	1.7	8.7	3.7	6.2
Jul	4.3	3.4	3.8	15.9	12.8	14.4
Aug	3.9	3.6	3.7	14.6	13.4	14.0
Sep	2.6	2.3	2.5	9.7	8.7	9.2
Oct	0.8	0.4	0.6	3.0	1.6	2.3
Nov	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-
Annual	14.3	10.7	12.5	53.4	40.3	46.9
Applied Water need (at 80% efficiency)				66.8	50.4	58.6
Applied water need (at 60% efficiency)				89.1	67.2	78.1

ALTERNATIVE 2		85 irrigated acres		
COMBINED-weighted by irrigated area per map unit		total		
		Demand (acre-ft)		
		Low Ele	High Ele	Average
Jan		-	-	-
Feb		-	-	-
Mar		-	-	-
Apr		-	-	-
May		1.9	-	1.0
Jun		13.9	5.3	9.6
Jul		28.1	21.6	24.8
Aug		26.9	24.2	25.6
Sep		18.3	16.0	17.2
Oct		5.5	3.1	4.3
Nov		-	-	-
Dec		-	-	-
Annual		94.6	70.3	82.4
Applied Water need (at 80% efficiency)		118.2	87.8	103.0
Applied water need (at 60% efficiency)		157.6	117.1	137.4

ALTERNATIVE 2 (portion)		22.5 irrigated acres				
AWC (mm) 6.0		in map unit 7042				
Map Unit 7042	Deficit (inches)			Demand (acre-ft)		
	Low Ele	High Ele	Average	Low Ele	High Ele	Average
Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feb	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mar	-	-	-	-	-	-
Apr	-	-	-	-	-	-
May	0.0	-	0.0	0.1	-	0.0
Jun	1.2	0.3	0.7	2.2	0.5	1.4
Jul	3.3	2.2	2.8	6.2	4.1	5.2
Aug	3.5	3.0	3.3	6.6	5.7	6.2
Sep	2.5	2.1	2.3	4.7	4.0	4.4
Oct	0.7	0.4	0.6	1.4	0.8	1.1
Nov	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-
Annual	11.3	8.1	9.7	21.3	15.1	18.2

ALTERNATIVE 2 (portion)		22.5 irrigated acres				
AWC (mm) 3.2		All in map unit 7482				
Map Unit 7482	Deficit (inches)			Demand (acre-ft)		
	Low Ele	High Ele	Average	Low Ele	High Ele	Average
Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feb	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mar	-	-	-	-	-	-
Apr	-	-	-	-	-	-
May	0.3	-	0.1	0.6	-	0.3
Jun	2.1	0.8	1.5	3.9	1.6	2.7
Jul	4.1	3.2	3.7	7.7	6.0	6.9
Aug	3.9	3.5	3.7	7.2	6.6	6.9
Sep	2.6	2.3	2.5	4.9	4.3	4.6
Oct	0.8	0.4	0.6	1.5	0.8	1.1
Nov	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-
Annual	13.8	10.3	12.0	25.8	19.3	22.6

ALTERNATIVE 2 (portion)		40 irrigated acres				
AWC (mm) 3.0		All in map unit 7431				
Map Unit 7431	Deficit (inches)			Demand (acre-ft)		
	Low Ele	High Ele	Average	Low Ele	High Ele	Average
Jan	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feb	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mar	-	-	-	-	-	-
Apr	-	-	-	-	-	-
May	0.4	-	0.2	1.3	-	0.7
Jun	2.3	1.0	1.7	7.7	3.3	5.5
Jul	4.3	3.4	3.8	14.2	11.4	12.8
Aug	3.9	3.6	3.7	13.0	11.9	12.5
Sep	2.6	2.3	2.5	8.7	7.7	8.2
Oct	0.8	0.4	0.6	2.6	1.4	2.0
Nov	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-
Annual	14.3	10.7	12.5	47.5	35.8	41.7

APPENDIX O

Upper Truckee River Restoration and
Golf Course Reconfiguration Project
Summary of Recreation Planning Workshops

Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project Summary of Recreation Planning Workshops



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UPPER TRUCKEE RIVER RESTORATION AND GOLF COURSE RECONFIGURATION PROJECT

SUMMARY OF RECREATION PLANNING WORKSHOP

FEBRUARY 8 AND 9, 2007

In fall 2006, public scoping was conducted for the Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS/EIS) being prepared by California State Parks (State Parks), Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA), and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), which are, collectively, the lead agencies¹. In response to the level of public interest expressed during scoping regarding the existing recreational use of Washoe Meadows State Park (SP), the proposal under one alternative to reconfigure the golf course by placing some golf holes on the west side of the river, and related environmental impact issues of the proposed alternative; the lead agencies conducted two public recreation planning workshops to address potential approaches to resolve these issues.

PURPOSE OF WORKSHOPS

The two public recreation planning workshops with identical agendas were held on the evenings of February 8 and 9, 2007 at the Lake Tahoe Golf Course (LTGC) Clubhouse, in South Lake Tahoe, CA. The purpose of the public workshops was to gather information about existing public access and use patterns in Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley State Recreation Area (SRA) and provide an opportunity for the public to help identify public access and resource protection features of this project to help address public concerns raised during scoping. The workshops involved a short presentation about known important natural resources and public use of the Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley SRA, followed by an interactive planning exercise in which all interested attendees participated. The exercises took place in small groups and included the opportunity to place information on a map of the State Parks properties and record responses to specific questions.

Information gathered during these workshops is summarized below. This information will be considered during refinement of the EIR/EIS/EIS alternatives and preparation of the environmental analysis.

AGENDA FOR WORKSHOPS

The agenda for both public workshops was the same. The workshops were conducted on two nights to provide opportunities for the public to participate on either a weekday (Thursday) or weekend (Friday) evening. The agenda was as follows:

- ▶ Participant Sign-in and Pre-Meeting Review of Maps
- ▶ Welcome and Purpose of Meeting
- ▶ Project Background/Summary of Alternatives
- ▶ Group Planning Activities (Small Break-Out Groups)
- ▶ Presentation of Group Planning Results
- ▶ Next Steps: Integrating Workshop Input into the EIR/EIS/EIS

¹ The public comment time period of the scoping process was held from the release of the NOP release on September 5, 2006 through October 20, 2006.

PUBLIC NOTICING AND RELATED MEDIA

Notices for the public workshops were posted at various locations in the South Lake Tahoe/Meyers area, including trail entrance points to Washoe Meadows SP located at Bakersfield Street, Chilcothe Street, Normuk Street, Delaware Street, and Mountain Meadow Street, along with Lira's Supermarket and the LTGC Clubhouse.

State Parks released the first *Upper Truckee River Restoration & Golf Course Reconfiguration Project Newsletter* in January 2007. This newsletter included information about the recreation planning workshops, as well as information about the project's history and background, project objectives, the proposed project and alternatives, the environmental review process, contact information, and future opportunities for public participation. Copies of the newsletter were mailed or e-mailed to State Parks' project mailing list on January 19, 2007. This list included homeowners within 300 feet of the project site's boundary and other interested parties. The newsletter and workshop announcement were also posted on the project website²³.

TRPA issued a news release to local media on February 1, 2007 to further inform the public about the upcoming workshops, and a related story appeared in the Tahoe Daily Tribune on February 6, 2007.

SUMMARY OF GROUP ACTIVITIES

Attendees were asked to sign-in upon arrival to the workshops. A combined total of 83 participants recorded their attendance on the sign-in sheets for both meetings. However, some attendees chose not to sign-in and attendance is estimated to have been notably greater. Generally, a majority of the attendees were from the surrounding neighborhoods, including golfers and other recreationists, agency representatives, and members of other organizations. Each attendee was provided with a numbered nametag, identifying which of 5 activity groups each person would join later in the evening.

Each group was provided with a description of the group activities and a set of maps for three of the four recreation planning activities (described in more detail below) for identifying resources and activity and access locations. Each set of maps included one black-and-white copy for use as a draft 'working' copy and a color copy to create a final map. Each group was also provided with an easel and oversized notepads on which to record additional comments and notes. Each of the working groups was guided through the activities by a group facilitator. Maps for each group activity are included in Appendix A.

GROUP PLANNING ACTIVITY 1 (EXISTING CONDITIONS)

The goal of the first planning activity was to map locations of current access points, recreational areas used, and key natural and cultural resources within Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley SRA that warrant protection. Using markers, highlighters, and the maps provided, groups were asked to:

- ▶ Identify existing public access points and trail routes that they currently use.
- ▶ Identify current recreational activities and areas used for these activities.
- ▶ Identify key natural or cultural resource value areas that warrant protection.
- ▶ Note why they choose to recreate at one or both of these parks.

² <http://www.restoreuppertruckee.net/>

³ The vast majority of attendees provided mailing or street addresses in the South Lake Tahoe vicinity.

GROUP PLANNING ACTIVITY 2 (ALTERNATIVE 2, GEOMORPHIC RESTORATION WITH 18-HOLE GOLF COURSE)

The goal of the second planning activity was to map locations of public access points (to maintain or establish), trails, recreational use areas, and protection areas for natural and cultural resources within Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley SRA that should be implemented in the context of a golf course configuration on both sides of the river (to provide enough area for an 18-hole regulation course). During this activity, groups were asked to:

- ▶ Indicate on the map where within Washoe Meadows SP, if Alternative 2 were implemented, they would prefer to see the reconfigured golf course relocated.
- ▶ Consider golf course area configuration changes on the east and west sides of the river, such as size, shape, buffers, setbacks, and golf course crossing locations for trails (if needed).
- ▶ Identify key public access points and recreational use areas to maintain or establish.
- ▶ Consider bridge locations for trail crossings of the river.
- ▶ Align/indicate important trail routes used for recreation or to access recreation areas in the park.
- ▶ Designate recreation activity areas to maintain or establish.
- ▶ Define key resource protection areas to maintain or establish.

GROUP PLANNING ACTIVITY 3 (ALTERNATIVE 3, GEOMORPHIC RESTORATION WITH REDUCED-AREA GOLF COURSE)

The goal of this group planning activity was to map locations of public access points, trails, recreational use areas, and protection areas for natural and cultural resources in Washoe Meadows SP or Lake Valley SRA that should be implemented in the context of a reduced-area golf course only on the east side of the river only (to provide for an 18-hole short course or 9-hole course). During this activity, groups were asked to:

- ▶ Address the points listed above for Planning Activity 2, except golf course area would only be on the east side of the river.
- ▶ Discuss the need for and importance of a bridge crossing the river. With the golf course located only on the east side of the river, the need for a golf bridge to the west side would be eliminated, which may complicate funding for a construction of a bridge.
- ▶ Discuss preference for golf course type (i.e., 9-hole course vs. 18-hole short course).

GROUP PLANNING ACTIVITY 4 (ALTERNATIVE 5, FULL RESTORATION/NO GOLF COURSE)

For the fourth group planning activity, the groups were asked to provide bullet points about key features that they would like considered under a full restoration/no golf course alternative. No maps were provided for this activity, because the characteristics of restoration of the site for this alternative were not yet determined.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC INPUT

Following is a summary of the input presented on the group activity maps and easel notes. The information was transcribed from the maps and easel sheets with the goal of maintaining the intended meaning of the input.

GROUP PLANNING ACTIVITY 1: EXISTING CONDITIONS

CURRENT RECREATIONAL USES

The following existing recreation uses were identified by the activity groups.

WASHOE MEADOWS STATE PARK

Most Commonly Identified Activities

- ▶ biking
- ▶ cross country skiing
- ▶ dog walking
- ▶ hiking
- ▶ horseback riding
- ▶ running

Other Identified Activities

- ▶ bird-watching
- ▶ bringing kids outside
- ▶ disc golf
- ▶ football
- ▶ kite flying
- ▶ napping
- ▶ paintball
- ▶ photography
- ▶ showing guests Tahoe beauty
- ▶ sledding
- ▶ snowmobiling
- ▶ snowshoeing
- ▶ weddings/special events
- ▶ wildflower viewing
- ▶ wildlife viewing
- ▶ volleyball

LAKE VALLEY STATE RECREATION AREA

- ▶ golfing
- ▶ snowmobiling
- ▶ weddings/special events
- ▶ bird watching
- ▶ dog walking
- ▶ cross country skiing
- ▶ snowshoeing

UPPER TRUCKEE RIVER (WATER-BASED ACTIVITIES)

- ▶ fishing
- ▶ floating
- ▶ kayaking
- ▶ rafting
- ▶ swimming

ACCESS POINTS AND TRAIL USE

The following points were summarized from group input.

- ▶ Most groups identified all trails in Washoe Meadows SP that were shown on the activity maps for current biking, hiking, walking and/or equestrian use. Numerous current-use access points were identified, but once inside the park some common routes identified include the main sewer road, the road through dry meadow, and the trail from dry meadow out to mountain meadow (Appendix B).
- ▶ Numerous current-use access points for Washoe Meadows SP identified include the Lake Tahoe Golf Course clubhouse entrance, multiple locations located on streets along the western edge of Washoe Meadows SP within the North Upper Truckee neighborhood (e.g., Kiowa Street, Grizzly Mountain Boulevard, Normuk Street, Delaware Street, and Mountain Trout Drive), as well as access points located along:
 - Sawmill Road
 - San Bernadino Drive
 - Country Club Drive, and
 - Lake Tahoe Boulevard.
- ▶ Some participants indicated that they board their horses at Amacker Ranch and access Washoe Meadows SP directly from the ranch along that portion of the northeastern park boundary.
- ▶ Golfers accessed the golf course in Lake Valley SRA through the parking lot at the clubhouse.

BRIDGES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Many groups indicated that they use the bridges located on the golf course to move from one side of the river to the other. This is currently not an allowed use other than for golf play due to safety considerations. Some groups expressed interest in bridges at locations where popular trails intersect the river and across areas of Washoe Meadows SP that are very wet. Several groups expressed an interest in a bridge or some type of crossing at the Tahoe Mountain Drive access point (near Angora Creek).

Working groups placed an emphasis on the importance of maintaining car-free access to Washoe Meadows SP (i.e., not allowing motor vehicles into the park).

CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL RESOURCES

Existing potential cultural and historic resources identified for protection by the groups were as follows.

- ▶ Old Barn in Washoe Meadows SP
- ▶ Archeological artifacts near Hole 6⁴

⁴ Note that this was a comment submitted by a group participant and has not been substantiated by documentation or analysis.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Existing biological resources identified for protection by the groups were as follows.

- ▶ Bear dens in Washoe Meadows SP
- ▶ Bog in Washoe Meadows SP
- ▶ Wildflowers, particularly in the meadow areas

GROUP PLANNING ACTIVITY 2: ALTERNATIVE 2, GEOMORPHIC RESTORATION WITH 18-HOLE GOLF COURSE

GOLF COURSE RECONFIGURATION

Seven of the groups expressed a preference for the southeast area of Washoe Meadows SP, if a portion of the golf course were to be relocated to the west side of the river. (See Appendix C. Preferred Partial Golf Course Relocation Area Identified by Working Groups⁵.) This area contained fewer environmental constraints and was more distant from the existing North Upper Truckee neighborhood. The importance of maintaining a buffer area between the river and this portion of the golf course was emphasized. It was also suggested that there should be a contiguous (connected) relationship between the portion of the existing golf course that remained on the east side of the river and the relocated part of the golf course on the west side. One of these seven groups indicated that they identified a preferred location only because their facilitator pressed them to identify the least constrained area for golf use on the west side of the river, despite the objections of most members of the group to locating any golf use on that side of the river. Three groups chose not to identify any potential options for a golf course site in Washoe Meadows SP on the west side of the river, saying that they refused to consider any option that would relocate any portion of the golf course and/or golf activities to the other side of the river. Two of these groups indicated a preference for relocating a portion of the golf course to another alternative location instead.

Alternative locations identified included sites on the southeast side of U. S. Highway 50 (US 50) or on the north side of Sawmill Road. One group suggested that in lieu of relocating a portion of the golf course to Washoe Meadows SP that a monorail or gondola be constructed to connect the remaining post-restoration portion of the golf course on the east side of the river to the existing Tahoe Paradise Golf Course (approximately 1 mile to the southwest).

Some groups included golfers that currently use LTGC. Generally, golfers indicated they wanted to continue to play an 18-hole regulation course and identified Alternative 2 as their preferred alternative. Some identified Alternative 4 (Engineered Stabilization [In Place]) as their preferred alternative since Alternative 4 would likely result in the least modification to the existing course. The general consensus by golfers was that anything other than an 18-hole regulation course would be less desirable for use.

ACCESS POINTS, TRAIL USE AND OTHER RECREATION ACTIVITIES

Input on what access points, trails, and other activities to establish or maintain included the following points.

- ▶ Maintain access to trails that originate along the boundary of the North Upper Truckee neighborhood and Washoe Meadows SP.
- ▶ Include an access corridor/trail along the river for non-golf recreation.
- ▶ Ensure non-golf recreation activities are still allowed on the portion of the golf course where golfing would be discontinued.

⁵ Note that this graphic depicts the golf allowable area this is being studied in the EIR/EIS/EIS. It does not represent the footprint of the proposed golf course.

- ▶ Develop a hiking trail along the proposed river restoration area.
- ▶ Encourage multiple uses of the golf course area. Consider the inclusion of signage for golfers and other recreationists designating area as multi-use.
- ▶ Do not eliminate snowshoeing in Washoe Meadows SP.
- ▶ Concern that the proposed area for golf course relocation is a high use area for residents and other recreationists for various types of recreation.
- ▶ Provide non-golfers a route to safely pass through the golf course.
- ▶ Restore river as features of the existing course. Add restoration sinuosity to enhance playability and to reduce impacts.
- ▶ Re-route existing trails around the golf course.
- ▶ Maintain equestrian access points near Amacker Ranch.
- ▶ Establish access to river in restoration area from Country Club Drive area.
- ▶ Do not allow snowmobiles on west side of river.
- ▶ Do not have a large gap between golf holes on the different sides of the river.

BRIDGES AND RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE

Suggestions for bridge crossings of the river were as follows.

- ▶ Consideration of at least one bridge that would provide access for non-golf recreationists from Washoe Meadows SP to other side of the river. A common bridge location identified on maps was at or near the existing Hole 6 bridge.
- ▶ Maintain all existing bridges.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Suggestions for protecting biological resources were made as follows.

- ▶ Avoid cutting trees in “upland habitat” (in the western portion of the potential golf course study area).
- ▶ Consider an environmentally designed golf course that incorporates native vegetation.
- ▶ General concern about potential impacts to wildlife.

GENERAL CONCERNS

- ▶ Increased noise near residences from golf use and maintenance activity (e.g., mowing).
- ▶ Concern about golf course grounds maintenance activities resulting in environmental impacts (i.e., water use, fertilizers and pesticides affecting water quality).
- ▶ Drainage and erosion issues associated with construction of a portion of the golf course on the western slope of the Washoe Meadows SP.

ADDITIONAL INPUT ON ALTERNATIVE 2

- ▶ The majority of participants were supportive of restoration of the Upper Truckee River.
- ▶ Include a buffer between the relocated portion of the golf course and residences in the North Upper Truckee neighborhood.
- ▶ Include a buffer between the relocated portion of the golf course and the river.
- ▶ One group recommended a less than 1:1 ratio of golf course relocation (do not take up as much space in Washoe Meadows SP as is restored on existing golf course).
- ▶ One group indicated that Alternative 2 is their preferred alternative.

GROUP PLANNING ACTIVITY 3: ALTERNATIVE 3, GEOMORPHIC RESTORATION WITH REDUCED-AREA GOLF COURSE

REDUCED-AREA GOLF COURSE DESIGN

Concern was expressed that a reduced-area golf course of any design (i.e., 9-hole, 18-short hole, or executive 18-hole course) would not provide the same type and quality of golf recreational experience and would not generate the same level of interest or revenue. The opinion was expressed that “destination” golfers – those traveling to the Meyers/South Lake Tahoe area specifically to golf at LTGC’s championship-level, 18-hole course – would not likely choose to travel to that location to play a 9-hole or other reduced-area golf course. Some golfers who participated stated they would go elsewhere to play if this were no longer an 18-hole regulation course.

Several groups highlighted either the area on the southeast side of US 50 or on the north side of Sawmill Road as potential areas for the relocation of the golf course holes removed from the river restoration area.

One suggestion was to construct a 9-hole championship-length course (3,000 plus yards) and incorporate more natural vegetation between holes.

ACCESS POINTS, TRAIL USE AND OTHER RECREATION ACTIVITIES

Suggestions for establishing or maintaining public access points, trails, and other recreation activities were made as follows.

- ▶ Establish hiking trails where holes are removed.
- ▶ Keep all existing trails as they are.
- ▶ Consider consolidating some trails in Washoe Meadows SP.
- ▶ Eliminate snowmobiling on the west side of the river (which occurs now, but is an unauthorized activity).

BRIDGES AND RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE

Because the purpose of existing bridges is to facilitate golf play and bridges are generally exacerbating river instability in this reach, State Parks would likely remove all existing bridges if Alternative 3 were implemented. Suggestions for establishing or maintaining bridge crossings of the river were made as follows.

- ▶ Nearly complete consensus among all groups for at least one bridge providing access for non-golfers from Washoe Meadows SP to the other side of the river. Common areas highlighted for potential bridge crossings were near Hole 6, and upriver near East San Bernardino Street, and at the eastern park boundary. Two groups suggested a bridge crossing in the area of the river proposed to be restored.

- ▶ Recommendations to minimize the environmental impacts associated with the construction of any new bridge.
- ▶ Consider uses/users in bridge design. Would bridge be accessible by pedestrians and bicycles only? Would bridge accommodate equestrians?
- ▶ Suggestion to provide community access across the river using community resources and acquiring matching funds⁶.

GENERAL CONCERNS

- ▶ Concern that a reduced-area golf course would not generate the same level of revenue for State Parks.
- ▶ Concern that a reduced-area golf course could not accommodate the current volume of golfers.
- ▶ A smaller course, such as the one being proposed under Alternative 3, would be good for beginners, but not for experienced golfers.
- ▶ Golfers would likely choose to golf outside of the basin, which could have negative effects on the local economy.
- ▶ One group indicated that State Parks should not bother with partial removal and that they might as well remove the whole course (due the expected decrease in interest in playing on a reduced-area golf course).

REVENUE REPLACEMENT IDEAS

The following ideas were offered by the groups to help increase revenues to offset the potential loss of golf revenues.

- ▶ Increase the use of the club house facilities for special events.
- ▶ Remove the driving range to increase golf course area.
- ▶ Add an indoor driving range to generate revenue in the off-season.
- ▶ Designate the golf course and Washoe Meadows SP as a joint recreation area. Rent kayaks, bicycles, snowshoes, cross-country skis, etc. from the clubhouse. Provide trail maps for Washoe Meadows SP and surrounding areas, as well as wilderness interpretive information.
- ▶ Move the Tahoe Visitors Center to the clubhouse or create a new visitor center.
- ▶ Offer dual leisure packages (i.e., golf and ride bikes, or golf and kayak).

ADDITIONAL INPUT ON ALTERNATIVE 3

- ▶ One group indicated that Alternative 3 was their preferred alternative.
- ▶ Include restoration of the quarry area.
- ▶ One group indicated interest in river restoration as proposed, but wanted the existing location of the 18-hole course maintained, with only minor adjustments made to accommodate the restoration.

⁶ This comment was based on recognition that the existing bridges are for the purpose of provided golfer access to both sides of the river and a perception that State Parks would not replace the bridge without the golf use need.

- ▶ One group indicated that their preferred alternative would be to attempt restoration via engineered stabilization, maintaining the golf course in its existing location as an 18-hole course.

GROUP PLANNING ACTIVITY 4: ALTERNATIVE 5, FULL RESTORATION/NO GOLF COURSE

ALTERNATIVE USES WITHIN LAKE VALLEY SRA

The following ideas were identified as potential uses to be included with elimination of golfing activity and full restoration of the river and golf course area.

- ▶ Recreational use trails, including along the river.
- ▶ Nature and/or interpretive trails, including boardwalks in the meadow that are ADA-accessible.
- ▶ Complete restoration (no existing or new structural facilities).
- ▶ Expand floodplain as far as necessary.
- ▶ Maintain or increase quality of the view from US 50 across meadow toward Mt. Tallac.
- ▶ Biological research to learn how the river area restores itself, possibly including community college courses.
- ▶ Consider land banking.
- ▶ Wildlife preserve: viewing, interpretation, education.
- ▶ Horse and/or dog racing track.
- ▶ Car or bordercross track.
- ▶ BMX racing course.
- ▶ Snowshoeing and cross-country skiing.
- ▶ Horseback riding.
- ▶ Rafting/kayaking launch point.
- ▶ Enhance fishery.

ALTERNATIVE USES FOR EXISTING CLUBHOUSE

Suggestions for alternative uses of the clubhouse facilities were made as follows.

- ▶ Environmental center, offering natural history/educational information.
- ▶ Multi-use recreation/visitors center (“Gateway to Tahoe”).
- ▶ Wildlife education/care center (possibly relocate the Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care Center).
- ▶ Conference/event center.
- ▶ Nordic center, including skating and skiing opportunities, and groomed trails.
- ▶ Biking (non-motorized) headquarters.
- ▶ Arts center.
- ▶ Transit center.
- ▶ Motorist reststop.
- ▶ Campground, camping, small cabins or other overnight facilities.
- ▶ Indoor rock climbing facility.
- ▶ Use for community college courses.

ADDITIONAL INPUT FOR LAKE VALLEY SRA

- ▶ Establish planned parking outside of the US 50 viewshed.
- ▶ This is a gateway to the Tahoe Basin. Value the scenic importance of US 50 entrance.
- ▶ No motorized trails.
- ▶ Maintain a bridge for river crossing (for east to west transit across river).

- ▶ Trails ought to be located with consideration given to the land capability.
- ▶ Increase revenue by raising fees for weddings held at clubhouse and by promoting use of the clubhouse for other events.

GENERAL CONCERNS

- ▶ Country Club Drive homeowners would see a loss of value associated with removal of the golf course.
- ▶ Building a golf course within a state park could set an unwanted precedent for State Parks (i.e., construction of new golf facilities in a state park). Removing the golf course would avoid this precedent.

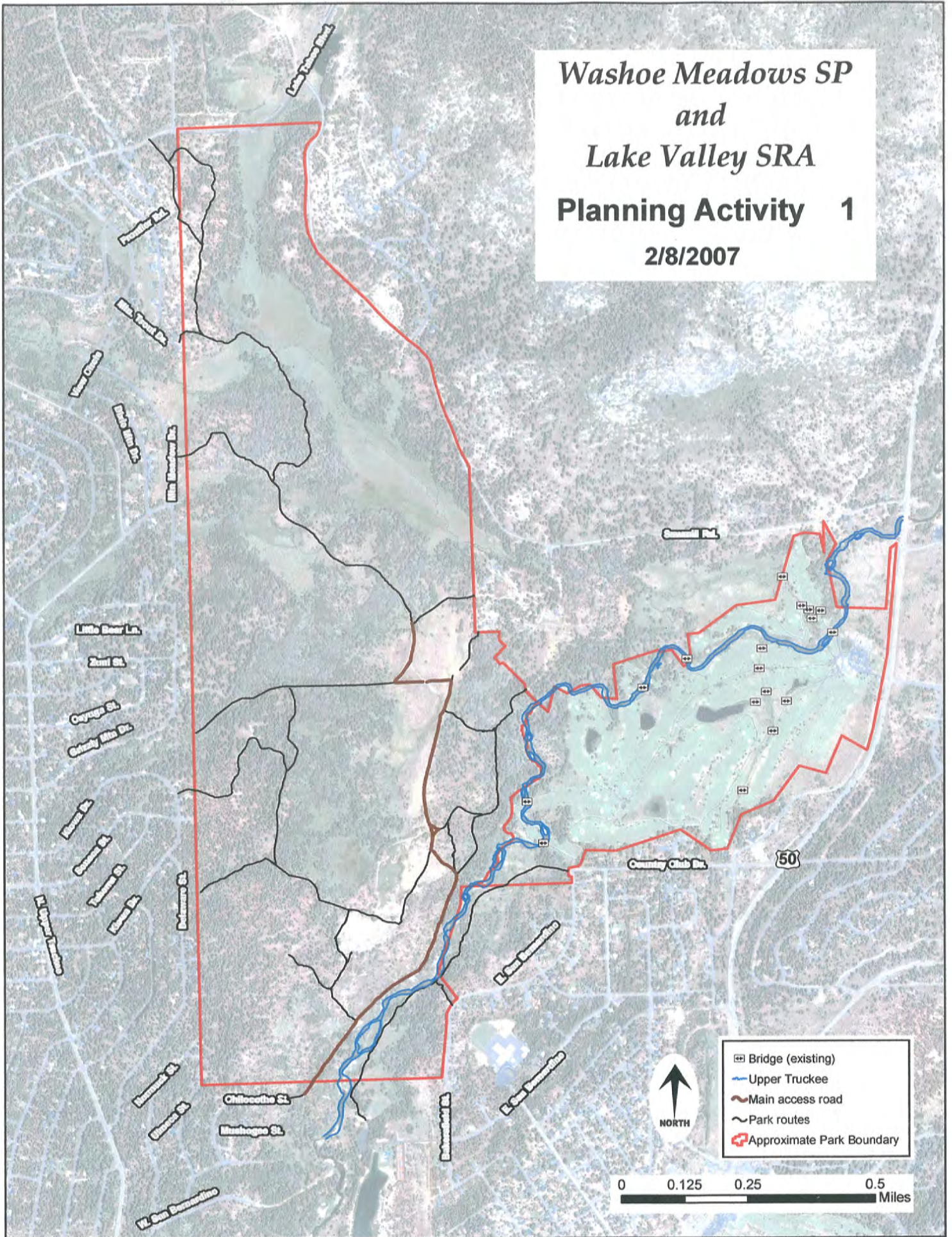
APPENDIX A

Group Activity Maps

*Washoe Meadows SP
and
Lake Valley SRA*

Planning Activity 1

2/8/2007

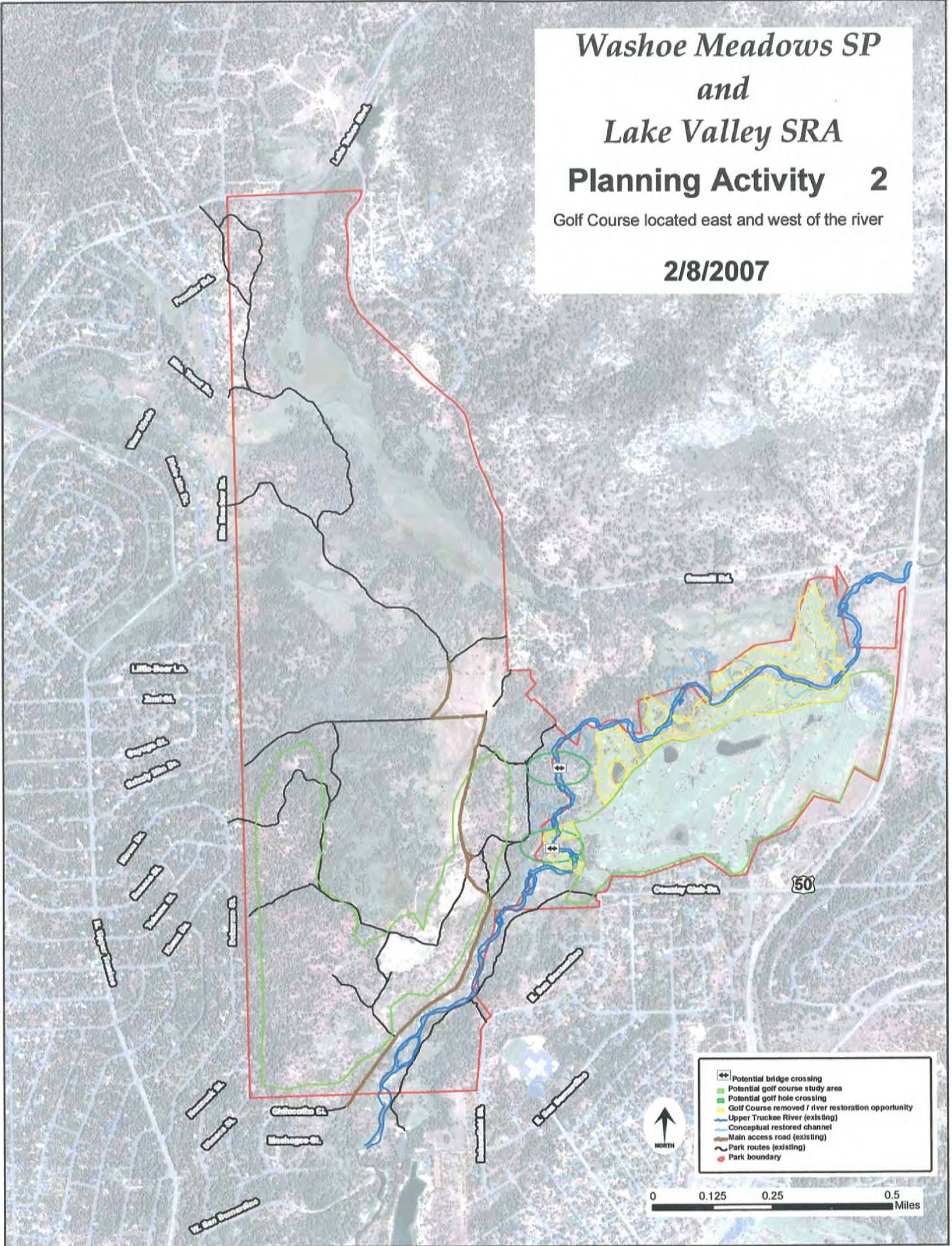


Washoe Meadows SP and Lake Valley SRA

Planning Activity 2

Golf Course located east and west of the river

2/8/2007

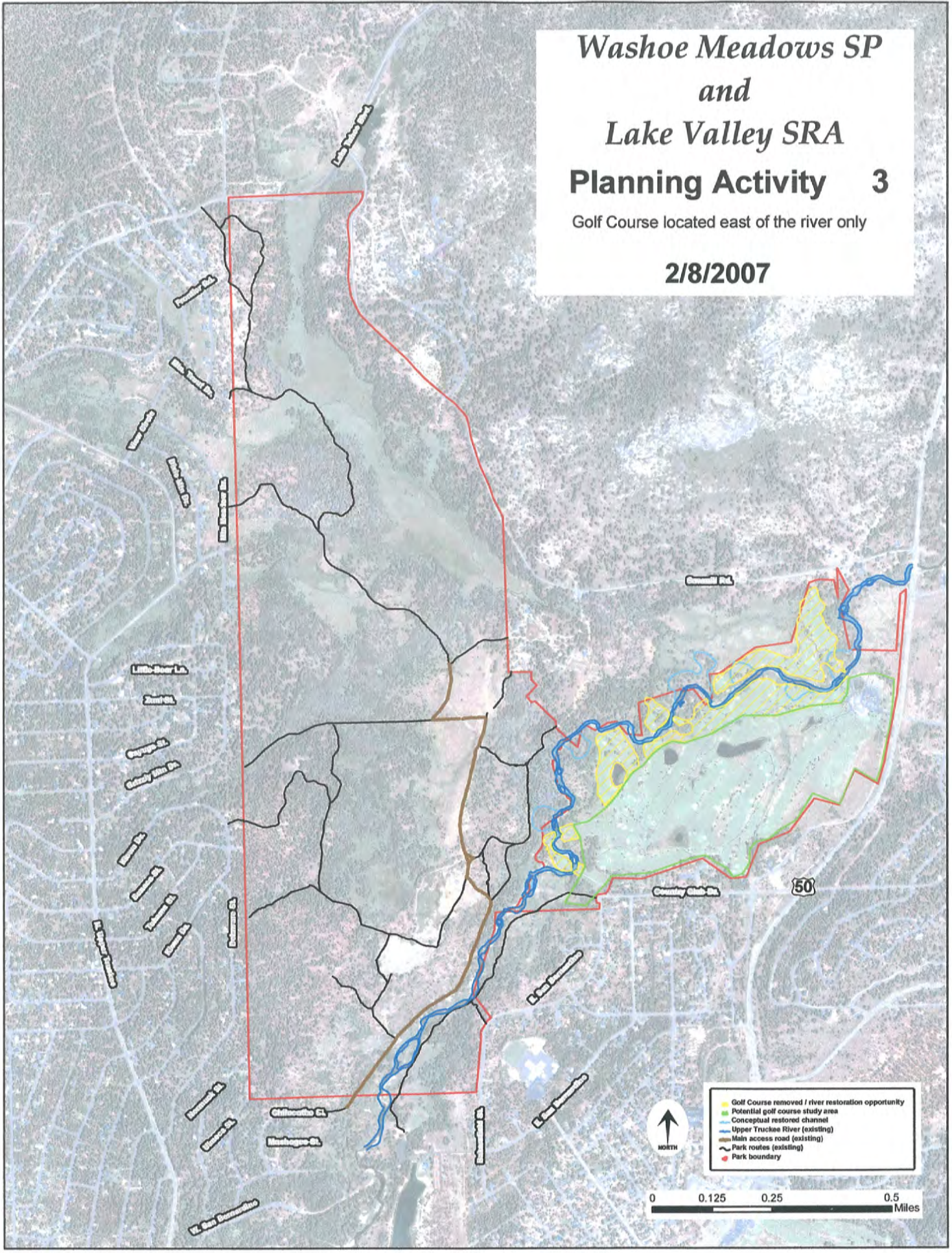


*Washoe Meadows SP
and
Lake Valley SRA*

Planning Activity 3

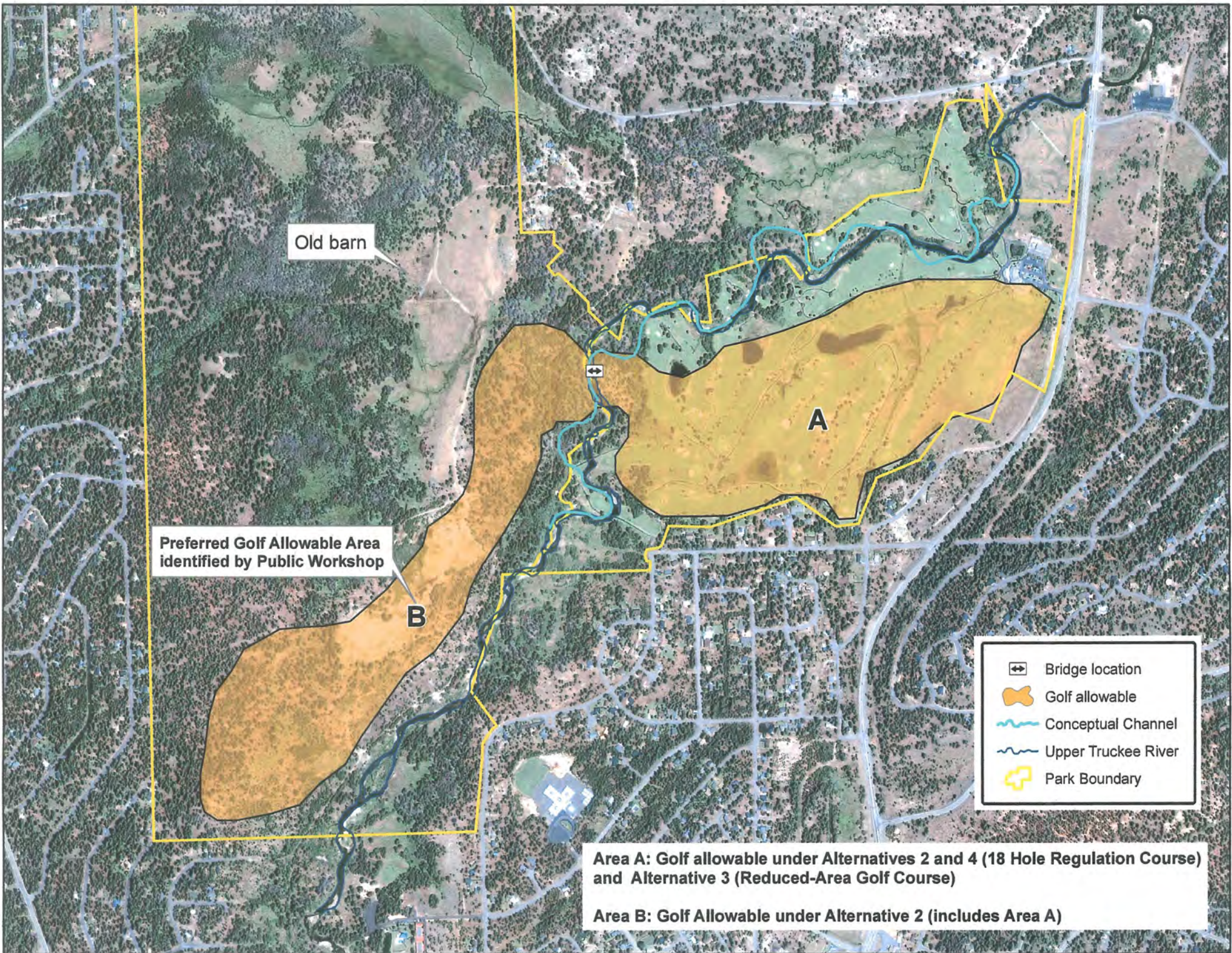
Golf Course located east of the river only

2/8/2007



APPENDIX B

Preferred Partial Golf Course Relocation Area
Identified by Working Groups



Old barn

Preferred Golf Allowable Area identified by Public Workshop

B

A

- Bridge location
- Golf allowable
- Conceptual Channel
- Upper Truckee River
- Park Boundary

Area A: Golf allowable under Alternatives 2 and 4 (18 Hole Regulation Course) and Alternative 3 (Reduced-Area Golf Course)

Area B: Golf Allowable under Alternative 2 (includes Area A)