

**Environmental Assessment
Riverbend Trailhead and River Access Path Project
Reno, Nevada**

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Lead Agency

National Park Service
State and Local Assistance Programs
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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
APN	Assessor Parcel Number
BLA	boundary line adjustment
BMP	Best Management Practice
CAB	Citizen Advisory Board
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
cfs	cubic feet per second
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
EA	Environmental Assessment
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
LWCF	Land and Water Conservation Fund
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAB	Neighborhood Advisory Board
NDEP	Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
NDOT	Nevada Department of Transportation
NDOW	Nevada Department of Wildlife
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NPS	National Park Service
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NRS	Nevada Revised Statute
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NWI	National Wetland Inventory
PM	Particulate Matter
PUD	Planned Unit Development
RDC	Reno Development Code
SPPC	Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure
SUP	Special Use Permit
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
TMWA	Truckee Meadows Water Authority
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USC	United States Code
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency

SUMMARY

The National Park Service (NPS) has prepared this Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental consequences of approving a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant for the Riverbend Trailhead and River Access Path Project (Project) next to the Truckee River in West Reno, Washoe County, Nevada. The land is owned by Washoe County. Nevada State Parks is the LWCF grant applicant and Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space (Washoe County Parks) is the subgrantee responsible for construction of the Project.

The Project is subject to environmental review pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 United States Code (USC) 4321 et seq.). This EA, in conjunction with the overall administrative record, serves as the record of NEPA compliance for the Project.

Findings of the EA include:

- Minor adverse impacts have been identified for soils and farmlands: floodplains and wetlands; land use and ownership patterns; and invasive plants. Short-term temporary effects to soils are foreseeable during construction. To ensure impacts are minor the Project includes measures to reduce adverse effects.
- Beneficial consequences have been identified for recreation resources.
- There are no significant environmental effects in any resource area.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and Overview of the Proposed Action

The Riverbend Trailhead and River Access Path Project (Project) would create a new public trailhead and river access point along the Truckee River in West Reno, Nevada (Figure 1). The Project Area is 8.3 acres located on the south side of Old Highway 40 (US 40), ± 0.8 miles west of the traffic circle at Somerset Ridge Parkway, and entirely within Section 9, Township 19 North and Range 18 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian. The Project Area is bound by US 40 and the River Bend Mobile Home Park and Storage facility to the north; vacant land to the north and west; and the Truckee River to the south and east (Figure 2).

1.2 Purpose of the Document and Decisions to Be Made

If awarded, the Project would receive federal funds from the LWCF administered by NPS. Therefore, the Project is subject to environmental review pursuant to NEPA (42 USC 4321 et seq.). NPS has prepared this EA in compliance with NEPA; Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1500-1508); related CEQ guidance; Department of the Interior Department Manual 516 DM1-15; NPS' NEPA Handbook; and NPS' LWCF State Assistance Program Manual.

This EA will be submitted as part of the Nevada Division of State Parks' LWCF grant application to NPS. The EA discloses the potential environmental consequences of the Project to the public and identifies feasible ways to avoid and minimize adverse effects to the environment. The EA will assist NPS in determining whether impacts are significant to warrant preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement or a Finding of No Significant Impact for less than significant impacts.

The decision to be made by NPS includes the consideration of whether the Project is consistent with the agency's LWCF State Assistance Program Manual and the Grant Award's Terms and Conditions. The LWCF grant award would provide matching funds for up to fifty percent (50%) of the total project-related allowable costs for the acquisition of land and the development of public outdoor recreation facilities, and for fulfilling the program's planning requirements.

1.3 Organization of this Document

Following this introduction, Chapter 2 presents background information and discusses the purpose and need for the Proposed Action. Chapter 3 provides descriptions of the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative. Chapter 4 describes the Project Area with photographs; rationale for dismissal of certain environmental resources; the baseline condition of affected resources; and the intensity of the Project's effects. Chapter 5 provides a summary of consultation and coordination activities; and identifies persons responsible for preparing this document. Chapter 6 lists cited references. Figures are provided at the end of the document before the Appendices. Appendices contain a map showing the property boundary line adjustment; responses from resource agency coordination; and the public involvement mailing list.

2 PURPOSE AND NEED

2.1 Background

The LWCF program is administered by the NPS to conserve and protect natural areas, water resources and cultural heritage; and to provide recreation opportunities to the public. It includes a State and Local Assistance Grant program that provides matching grants to States and through States to local governmental jurisdictions for the acquisition and development of public parks and public outdoor recreation sites. Consistent with the LWCF, this project is intended to secure public access, improve recreational opportunities, and conserve natural resource benefits of the Truckee River corridor for the local community.

Nevada State Parks is responsible for the administration and success of each grant and Washoe County Parks is the subgrantee responsible for the construction of the Project under the LWCF State Assistance Program. Washoe County Parks would be responsible for the subsequent operations and maintenance of the trailhead facility.

2.2 Purpose and Need for Action

The Project (Proposed Action) would provide a new public access point to the Truckee River increasing recreational opportunities for activities such as fishing, swimming, rafting, kayaking, tubing, hiking, biking, wildlife viewing, and dog walking. The Project would tie into the planned Truckee Meadows Water Authority's Washoe/Highland Diversion Dam portage and provide a new put-in/take-out opportunity for river users.

Presently, public river access in the area is not available, and privately owned land restricts access. River users park along US 40 or on private land and informally access the river. After a boundary line adjustment is finalized and construction is finished, the public would have a maintained parking area and path to easily access the banks of the Truckee River along the new Washoe County parcel.

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1508.9) and the Department of Interior Department Manual (516 DM 3.4) require that an EA include a discussion of a range of reasonable alternatives if there are unresolved conflicts over the use of resources. The range of alternatives is appropriately limited to the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative as explained in Section 3.3.

3.1 Proposed Action

This Project would create a new trailhead and river access point that would be used by hikers, wildlife viewers, dog walkers, fisherman, and recreational river users. The Project Area is 8.3 acres and would include a 10-stall parking lot, access path, tie-in to a future portage area, two pedestrian bridges, and signage (Figure 3). The parking lot would be paved with asphaltic concrete and meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. In total, the developed area would be approximately one acre. Washoe County Parks would provide a trash bin, monofilament collection post (for fishing line), and a pet waste station near the trailhead. A new monument and informational sign would also be installed at this location.

Between the parking lot to the parcel owned by Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA), the river access path would be 10 feet-wide and approximately 575 linear feet and include pedestrian bridges to cross two unnamed intermittent streams. From the TMWA parcel to the western terminus of the property, the river access path would be 4 feet-wide and approximately 1,600 linear feet. The western terminus ties into vacant land that would provide a buffer between the Project and private property. The path would be made from a natural surface material to stay with the character of the site. The surface may be comprised of crusher fines or road base applied with a stabilizer such as soil-tac. The purpose of the stabilizer is to stabilize and reduce erosion of the newly applied surface material and minimize maintenance needs.

Compacted areas associated with the River Bend Mobile Home Park and Storage facility, that are a part of the newly configured Washoe County parcel would be revegetated with native species. Native species may also be planted in other disturbance areas throughout the Project Area following the control of noxious weeds.

The Project is contingent upon completion of a property BLA between Washoe County property (currently identified as Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 038-100-34) and the adjacent properties (currently identified as APNs 038-112-12, 038-112-04, 038-112-03, and 038-112-02). Appendix 1 contains maps and an acreage tally of the BLA.

3.2 No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, Washoe County Parks would not construct the Project. The No Action Alternative is essentially the equivalent to continuing existing conditions and activities in the area. The No Action Alternative provides a baseline against which the benefits and adverse effects of the Proposed Action can be compared.

3.3 Consideration of Alternatives

The Proposed Action lacks major impacts and did not warrant the development of alternative site locations, configurations, or construction methods to provide meaningful reductions in potential environmental consequences. No issues or comments emerged from public scoping or tribal consultation that suggested consideration of additional alternatives. Thus, the alternatives analyzed in this EA consist of the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative.

4 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

4.1 Site Description

Upon completion of the property BLA, the Project Area would be a 125- to 250-foot wide corridor fronting approximately 2,375 linear feet of the Truckee River (inclusive of the river frontage owned by TMWA) (Figure 3). The western side of the Project Area has been cleared and graded, but sufficient time has elapsed to give the site a naturalized appearance (Photo 1). Uplands support a rubber rabbitbrush (*Ericameria nauseosa*) community with a cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*) understory. There is an existing sewer easement that includes a graveled access road on top of the riverbank. The bank is steep and has the appearance that it was probably constructed for flood protection or to repair flood damage. The bank supports only a narrow fringe of riparian vegetation, primarily chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*) and coyote willow (*Salix exigua*) (Photo 2).



Photo 1. West side of Project Area: View of naturalized vegetation and access road

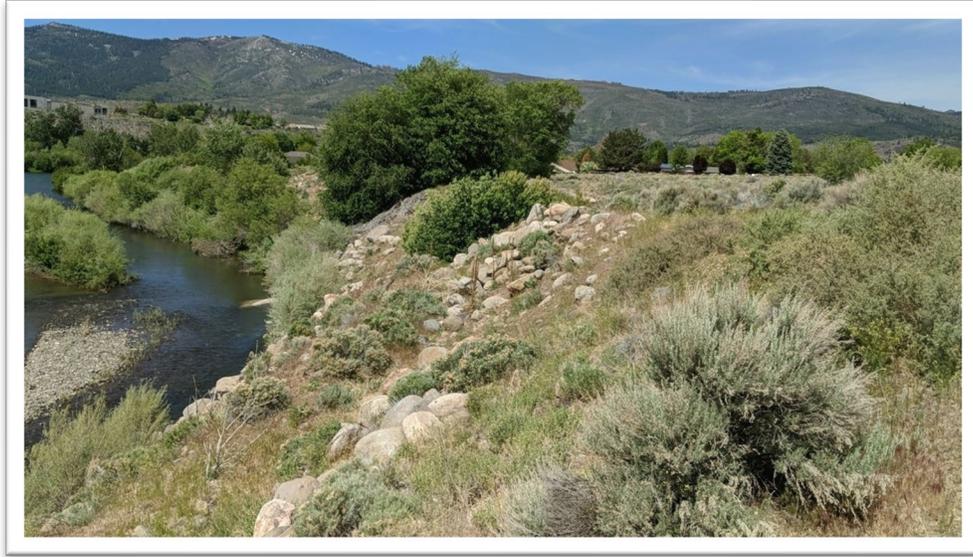


Photo 2. West side of Project Area: View of bank

The eastern side of the Project Area is dominated by riparian forest. Hydrology from the Truckee River and unnamed intermittent streams provide favorable growing conditions for native and non-native trees and shrubs. Some of the tree and shrubs are landscape plantings associated with the River Bend Mobile Home Park and Storage facility. The Project Area is highly disturbed and includes a graded area adjacent to US 40 (Photo 3); man-made clearings in the vegetation; and developed area of the mobile home park acquired from the BLA. Dominant trees are Siberian elm (*Ulmus pumila*) and Fremont cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*). Notable native species include black cottonwood (*Populus trichocarpa*), alder (*Alnus incana ssp. tenuifolia*) and willow trees (either *Salix laevigata* or *S. lasiolepis*), coyote willow, Woods rose (*Rosa woodsii*), and creeping wildrye (*Leymus triticoides*) (Photo 4).



Photo 3. East side of Project Area: View of graded area adjacent to US 40



Photo 4. East side of Project Area: View of major drainageway

4.2 Environmental Resources Summary

Table 1 presents the environmental resources considered and notes whether the resource was not present; present but not affected (or negligibly affected); or present and affected.

Table 1. Environmental Resources Considered

Environmental Resource	Not Applicable Resource is Not Present	No / Negligible Impact¹ Resource is Present	Affected Resource is Present
Geological resources: soils, bedrock, slopes, streambeds, landforms, etc.			x
Air quality		x	
Sound (noise impacts)		x	
Water quality/quantity		x	
Stream flow characteristics	x		
Marine/estuarine	x		
Floodplains/wetlands			x
Land use/ownership patterns; property values; community livability			x
Circulation, transportation		x	
Plant/animal/fish species of special concern and habitat; state/federal listed or proposed for listing		x	
Introduce or promote invasive species (plant or animal)			x
Unique ecosystems	x		
Unique or important wildlife/ wildlife habitat	x		
Unique or important fish/habitat	x		

Environmental Resource	Not Applicable Resource is Not Present	No / Negligible Impact¹ Resource is Present	Affected Resource is Present
Recreation resources, land, parks, open space, conservation areas, recreation trails, facilities, services, opportunities, public access, etc.			x
Accessibility for populations with disabilities		x	
Overall aesthetics, special characteristics/ features		x	
Historical/cultural resources, including landscapes, ethnographic, archeological, structures, etc.		x	
Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure		x	
Minority and low-income populations		x	
Energy resources (geothermal, fossil fuels, etc.)	x		
Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies	x		
Land/structures with history of contamination/hazardous materials even if remediated	x		
Other important environmental resources to address	x		

¹ Negligible impact mean effects are not measurable or noticeable

4.3 Environmental Resource Areas Not Considered in Detail

As listed in Table 1, these resources were dismissed from further analysis because they are not present within or adjacent to the Project Area.

- Stream flow characteristics
- Marine/estuarine
- Unique ecosystems
- Unique or important wildlife/ wildlife habitat
- Unique or important fish/habitat
- Energy resources (geothermal, fossil fuels, etc.)
- Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies
- Land/structures with history of contamination/hazardous materials even if remediated
- Other important environmental resources to address

For resources that are present but not/negligibly affected, rationale is provided in the following subsections.

4.3.1 Air Quality

The Clean Air Act established the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for seven criteria pollutants: carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, particulate matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}), and sulfur dioxide. Pursuant to the Clean Air Act, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) developed a designation system to rate the air quality in a given area based on emission levels for these criteria pollutants. Areas classified as “in attainment” have air quality that do not exceed the NAAQS. The “non-attainment” classification represents an area in which a monitored pollutant has exceeded the

NAAQS. Air quality in Washoe County is considered good because the region is in attainment for all criteria pollutants (USEPA 2020a).

Engine exhaust from vehicle trips generated by recreational users of the Project would generate emissions of criteria pollutants, primarily carbon monoxide. However, the Project Area is relatively small and has the maximum parking capacity for only 10 vehicles. Based on the maximum parking capacity of the Project, the number of vehicles generating new trips is not expected to exceed 10 vehicles at any given time. The increase in emissions would be negligible.

During construction, engine exhaust from construction vehicles and equipment would generate emissions. However, the Proposed Action involves minimal construction (i.e., no buildings) over a small area. Emissions would have negligible impacts to ambient air quality because the construction period would be temporary (i.e., less than 3 months), and few construction vehicles/pieces of equipment would be operating at one time.

During construction, site grading would create sources for dust emissions (i.e., PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}). The operation of equipment over loose, bare soil have the potential to generate fugitive dust. To address dust emissions, construction would require compliance with a Dust Control Permit administered by Washoe County Air Quality Management Division and implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to control dust. Typical BMPs include use of a water truck to continually water bare surfaces and the covering soil stockpiles. Additionally, upon completion of construction, bare areas would be seeded to reestablish vegetation cover. Implementation of an effective dust control plan during construction would ensure negligible impacts on air quality.

4.3.2 Sound (Noise Impacts)

The primary source of noise in the analysis area is traffic on US 40. Recreation opportunities generated by the Proposed Action would not increase noise over existing levels. However, audible noise would be generated during construction that may be heard by nearby residents. Approximately five homes on Sagebrook Drive in the River Oaks residential community are approximately 100 feet from the Project's western terminus. The River Bend Mobile Home Park and Storage facility on the eastern side of the Project Area may have a few residents.

The City of Reno has noise standards in its development code. Temporary construction activities are exempt from meeting the noise standards if construction takes place between 6:00 am and 7:00 pm (Reno Development Code (RDC) 18.04.1308). Noise impacts would be minimized because construction of the Project would only be scheduled during exempt periods when construction noise is permissible, and construction equipment would be equipped with the standard noise-reducing devices. The Project's Special Use Permit (SUP) approved by the City of Reno is more restrictive than the RDC, requiring that construction hours on Saturday be limited to 8:00 am to 7:00 pm and on Sunday, no construction is permissible (Reno 2020a).

Sound impacts would be negligible because the construction period would be temporary (i.e., less than 3 months); construction would not occur during sensitive periods; and few construction vehicles/equipment would be operating at one time.

4.3.3 Water Quality/Quantity

The Project Area is situated along the Stateline to Idlewild reach of the Truckee River. The beneficial uses of this reach are livestock irrigation, recreation, municipal or domestic supply, industrial supply, aquatic life benefit, and propagation of wildlife (Nevada Administrative Code 445A.1684). According to the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), the water quality in this reach has improved in recent years and is no longer listed on the Clean Water Act 303(d) List of impaired water bodies (NDEP 2020). Water quality in the Project reach is considered good because it meets the state water quality standards that have been set for each beneficial use.

Construction grading creates the potential for degradation of water quality from sediment-laden stormwater runoff. To minimize the potential for impacts, a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) would be implemented during construction in compliance with NDEP's temporary waste discharge requirements for construction projects. The development of a SWPPP is also required by the City of Reno before a construction permit can be issued (RDC 18.04.203). The SWPPP describes BMPs that would be employed to avoid and minimize erosion and prevent sediment-laden runoff from entering the Truckee River during storm events. Typical erosion control BMPs include the use of fiber rolls and silt fencing to capture or filter runoff and revegetation of disturbed ground.

The potential for degradation of water quality from the accidental release of harmful substances such as fuels and lubricants is also addressed by the SWPPP. The SWPPP includes a Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan that describes safe handling and storage of hazardous materials to prevent spills and provides cleanup procedures in the event of a spill.

4.3.4 Circulation and Transportation

Access to the Project Area is from US 40, which is also known as State Route 425 and Business 80. The road is owned by the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) and is classified as an urban minor arterial. The anticipated number of vehicle trips generated by the Proposed Action is unknown, however is expected to be low because the Project Area is small and the maximum parking capacity is 10 vehicles. The incremental increase in vehicle trips would not have a noticeable effect on the level of service on US 40.

During construction, which is not expected to exceed three months, construction would generate vehicle trips on US 40. Trips would include mobilization/demobilization of construction equipment and daily trips of work vehicles and personal vehicles used by construction workers. Based on the small size of the construction area and small work force, relatively few vehicle trips would be generated. The temporary increase in vehicular traffic on US 40 would not cause a noticeable disruption in traffic flow or traffic patterns on US 40.

NDOT and Washoe County Regional Transportation Commission provided comments to the City of Reno Planning Department during the review process for a SUP (Reno 2020a). To further ensure that effects to traffic circulation and transportation are negligible, applicable comments provided by these agencies have been incorporated as conditions of the SUP.

4.3.5 Special Status Plant/Animal/Fish Species

Requests were made to Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW), Nevada Natural Heritage Program and United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for information on plant, animal, and fish species of concern and state and federally listed species. Responses are provided in Appendix 2 and summarized below.

- While mule deer occur within a 4-mile radius of the Project Area, they do not occur within the Project Area. No known occupied bighorn sheep, elk, or pronghorn antelope distributions exist in the vicinity of the Project Area (NDOW 2020).
- Greater sage-grouse habitat does not exist (NDOW 2020).
- Lahontan cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarkii henshawi*) occur in the Truckee River (NDOW 2020; NNHP 2020).
- Raptors have been directly observed in the vicinity of the Project, but none are known to nest in the Project Area (NDOW 2020).
- There are no other at risk taxa recorded in the Project Area, but habitat may be available for taxa considered sensitive by Bureau of Land Management and United States Forest Service (NNHP 2020).
- Federally-listed species that may occur are Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog (*Rana sierrae*) (endangered); Cui-ui sucker (*Chasmistes cujus*) (endangered); Lahontan cutthroat trout (threatened); and Webber ivesia (*Ivesia webberi*) (threatened).

Prior to field survey, a desktop habitat assessment (Table 2) was performed and found that Lahontan cutthroat trout was the only species with potential to occur in the Project’s analysis area.

Table 2. Habitat Assessment for Federally-listed Species

Species	Preferred Habitat	Potential to Occur on Project Area
Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog	Endemic to California in the Sierra Nevada and historically occurred in a small portion of Nevada adjacent to and within the Lake Tahoe Basin. At lower elevations, breeds in low gradient perennial streams that have adjacent wet meadow habitats; higher elevations in large waterbodies (those that do not freeze to the bottom in winter). (CDFW 2011; Federal Register 2014a).	No potential to occur; outside known range and Project Area lack low gradient stream required by species. (Site visit confirmed the Project Area does contain a stream with adjacent wet meadow habitat).
Cui-ui	Endemic to Pyramid Lake. Historically, cui-ui used the lower Truckee River upstream from Reno as a spawning area. Distribution has been reduced due to river barriers. Currently, species is only found in Pyramid Lake and the lower	No potential to occur. Project reach is outside of current range of the species.

Species	Preferred Habitat	Potential to Occur on Project Area
	Truckee River below Numana Dam (USFWS 1992).	
Lahontan cutthroat trout (LCT)	Historically found in a wide variety of cold-water habitats. LCT historically migrated from Pyramid and Winnemucca Lakes to spawning areas upstream of Reno and into the Tahoe Basin (USFWS 1995). Hatchery raised LCT occur in the Truckee River in Reno. (NDOW 2020)	Potential to occur in the Project reach. LCT are known to be present in Dog Creek, a tributary of the Truckee River west of the Project.
Webber ivesia	Restricted to shallow, clayey soils with a rocky pavement generally at 4,000 to 5,950 feet elevation in Washoe County. Occupied sites are sparsely vegetated dominated by low sage (Federal Register 2014b). NNHP records document populations in the mountain and hills north, east, and west of Reno.	No Potential to occur. Project Area lacks specialized soils and edaphic conditions required by species.

A biological survey conducted on May 25, 2020, confirmed that the Project Area does not contain potential habitat for Sierra yellow-legged frog and Webber ivesia.

Recreational use generated by the Proposed Action would not affect Lahontan cutthroat trout or its habitat. Because the Project Area is adjacent to the Truckee River, it is possible that construction could temporarily affect Lahontan cutthroat trout through contamination from accidental spills of hazardous or harmful materials; sedimentation causing turbidity from sediment-laden stormwater runoff. The potential for contamination from accidental spills would be eliminated or reduced to a negligible level of impact through implementation of an effective SPPC Plan. The potential for sedimentation would be eliminated or reduced through implementation of an effective SWPPP. See Section 4.3.3 for descriptions of a SWPPP and SPPC Plan.

4.3.6 Accessibility for Populations with Disabilities

The ADA prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life, including jobs, schools, transportation, and all public and private places that are open to the general public. The law ensures that people with disabilities have the same rights and opportunities as everyone else (ADANN 2020). The Proposed Action is designed to be ADA-compliant. The design would meet technical requirements for accessibility and ensure the parking lot and river access trail provide unobstructed access for individuals with disabilities.

4.3.7 Overall Aesthetics, Special Characteristics/Features

Overall aesthetics include the visual and scenic character of a landscape. A place with a high visual and scenic quality is typically an area where views are rare, unique, or notable, such as a pristine natural environment. The *Washoe County Regional Open Space and Natural Resource Management Plan* provides the framework, goals, and policies for the management of natural resources and open spaces in southern

Washoe County (Washoe County 2008). The plan recognizes that the riparian corridor along the Truckee River contributes to unique visual and scenic character of the region.

Although the Project Area is part of the Truckee River riparian corridor, the visual or scenic quality has been diminished by the man-made disturbances to the riparian forest community. Additionally, there is limited public access, making a vista of the Truckee River riparian corridor unknown and unavailable.

Implementation of the Proposed Action would change the visual environment. During construction, site grading, presence of construction equipment, and construction activities would temporarily diminish the scenic character of the Project Area. However, after completion, the Proposed Action is intended to improve visual quality by providing access to vantage points to view the Truckee River riparian corridor. The view would allow an experience of nature in an urban environment. Reseeding areas disturbed by construction and controlling invasive and noxious weeds would also improve aesthetics at the Project Area.

4.3.8 Historical and Cultural Resources

The National Historic Preservation Act is the primary law that requires federal agencies to protect and manage cultural resources. A federal agency permitting an undertaking must “take into account” the effect of the undertaking on any district, site, building, structure, or object that is included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). To be eligible for the NRHP (36 CFR 60.4), properties must be 50 years old (unless they are exceptionally important) and have national, state, or local significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, or culture.

A cultural resource inventory was conducted on February 20, 2020 and found a segment of a historic utility line. However, the line did not meet the eligibility criteria for the NRHP (Kautz Environmental Consultants 2020). The inventory confirmed that cultural resources, including landscapes, ethnographic, archeological, and structures are not present within the Project Area.

4.3.9 Socioeconomics

The Project would be constructed, operated, and maintained by Washoe County Parks or its contractors. Thus, the Proposed Action would provide an incremental contribution to employment for the Washoe County workforce and generate employment and additional revenue for contractors. There would be negligible impacts on socioeconomics.

4.3.10 Minority and Low-income Populations

Executive Order 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations* requires that federal agencies analyze their programs to assure that they do not disproportionately affect minority or low-income populations. Within a 1-mile radius of the Project Area, the 2010 census counts 3,035 residents, of which, 8 percent are minority and 8 percent are low-income (USEPA 2020b). Using analysis methods developed by USEPA (1998), there are no minority or low-income populations present within 1-mile of the Project Area. A minority or low-income population would be considered present if the minority or low-income population percentage within the affected area is meaningfully greater than percentages of the general population. The state and national averages for minority populations are 50 percent and 35 percent, respectively. The state and national averages for low-income populations are 39 percent and 33 percent, respectively. Minority and low-income populations in

the analysis area fall well below these averages. There are no minority populations or low-income populations present, and therefore, the Proposed Action would not have disproportionate impacts.

4.4 Environmental Resources Analyzed in Detail

4.4.1 Geological Resources, including Soils

4.4.1.1 Affected Environment

Table 3 lists the soils mapped by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) within the Project Area. The predominant soil type is Holbrook cobbly loamy sand complex, a soil derived from mixed alluvium that is formed on alluvial fans. The soil is rated as prime farmland of statewide importance. None of the soils are formed on a floodplain landform or are hydric soils.

Table 3. Soils in the Project Area

Map Unit Symbol and Unit Name	Dominant Landform	Percent of Project Area	Severe Erosion Hazard?	Prime Farmland?
462 Holbrook cobbly loamy sand complex, 0 to 15 percent slopes	Alluvial Fan	93.5%	No	State-wide importance
1610 Water	Lake Plains	7.1%	No Rating	No
311 Risley-Rock outcrop complex, 15 to 30 percent slopes	Hills and Peaks	1.9%	No	No

Source: NRCS 2020

4.4.1.2 Environmental Consequences

The potential direct and indirect effects on soil resources were analyzed using the impact indicators listed below.

- Disturbance to soils rated as severe erosion hazard.
- Disturbance to soils rated as Prime Farmland.

No Action

The No Action Alternative would not affect bedrock, slopes, streambeds, and landforms. Additionally, no earthwork or construction would occur that would disturb soils or farmland. Therefore, there would be no disturbances to geologic resources.

Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would not affect bedrock, slopes, streambeds, and landforms. However, earthwork to construct the Proposed Action would affect soils. Impacts to soils would be minor because soils on the Project Area are not highly erodible or prone to severe erosion (NRCS 2020). Additionally, construction includes measures to minimize soil erosion. The limits of grading are set back from the Truckee River, and there would be no removal of the riparian forest community along the riverbank. To further avoid and minimize soil erosion, a SWPPP would be implemented during construction. See Section 4.3.3 for a description of the SWPPP.

Most of the Project Area occurs on soil that is designated as Prime Farmland of Statewide Importance (NRCS 2020). This is a designation used under the Farmland Protection Policy Act, which discourages federal activities that convert farmland to nonagricultural purposes. Although the Proposed Action would cause the loss of Prime Farmland, impacts would be minor. The topsoil over most of the Project Area has been removed or substantially disturbed. For example, the proposed parking lot area has already been cleared and the river access path would generally follow the alignment of an existing graveled roadway. The Project Area is located in an area where the local economy is not based on farming and ranching, and the Project Area has not been used for agriculture grazing or crop production in over 30 years (based on a review of historical aerial imagery).

4.4.2 Floodplains and Wetlands

4.4.2.1 Affected Environment

Within floodplains, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) delineates special flood hazard areas on flood insurance rate maps. Regulations (44 CFR 59.1) define “special flood hazard areas” as areas of land within a floodplain that are subject to a one percent or greater chance of inundation from a flood in any given year (i.e., a 100-year flood). FEMA flood insurance rate map panel 32031C3014G shows the following features on the Project Area:

- Floodzone A occurs adjacent the Truckee River and covers the majority of the Project Area. The access path would be constructed in Floodzone A. Floodzone A is the 100-year floodplain.
- Floodzone X occurs adjacent to US 40 and covers a small portion of the Project Area. The parking area would be constructed in Floodzone X. Zone X is outside (higher) the 100-year floodplain.

The National Wetland Inventory (NWI) maps wetlands and streams and provides information on the degree of wetness and seasonality of flows. The NWI map generated for the Project Area shows the following features (USFWS 2020b):

- The Truckee River is classified as a “R3UB, Riverine, Upper Perennial” which means a high gradient perennial stream.
- Two unnamed streams classified as “Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland” which means a stream that is dominated by riparian trees and shrubs. The streams cross the northeastern portion of the Project Area and converge before flowing into the Truckee River as a single channel. The streams

originate on the slopes of Peavine Mountain and pass through the West Meadows Estates residential development on the north side of US 40.

Rivers, streams, and wetlands that meet the criteria of waters of the United States are subject to permitting requirements under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act administered by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The USACE requires that impacts to aquatic resources be reduced as much as possible, and any unavoidable impacts be mitigated to ensure no net loss of acres and functions.

The unnamed streams are classified by the City of Reno as major drainageways (Reno 2008). A major drainageway drains an area of 100 acres or more, and development projects in major drainageways require a SUP. It is the City's policy to preserve and improve major drainageways as open and recreational space, and when practicable, require facilities and improvements to address stormwater discharge and floodplain management (Reno 2008). The City of Reno's policy on wetlands and stream environments is to offer maximum protection and strive to achieve no net loss of both acreage and value (Reno 2008).

A survey conducted on May 24, 2020, confirmed that the unnamed streams are major drainageways and waters of the U.S. The unnamed streams have a channel bottom that is approximately 5 feet-wide and support riparian trees and shrub wetland community consistent with the NWI map. The site visit also confirmed that the Truckee River through the Project reach does not support adjacent wetlands that would be regulated by the USACE. To be considered a jurisdictional wetland, the wetland must meet the USACE's wetland technical criteria for wetland vegetation, hydric soils, and wetland hydrology (USACE 1987; USACE 2008).

4.4.2.2 Environmental Consequences

The potential direct and indirect effects on floodplains and wetland resources were analyzed using the impact indicators listed below.

- Development within Floodzone A
- Loss of acres and function of a wetland or stream
- Loss of acres and values of a major drainageway

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, no construction would occur. There would be no effect to floodplains and wetlands.

Proposed Action

Impacts to floodplains are minor because construction of the Proposed Action would not change the existing grade. Ground disturbance adjacent to the Truckee River would be above the water surface elevation of the 14,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) flow. (For reference, peak flows in the Truckee River have not exceeded 14,000 cfs since New Year's flood in 1997 (USGS 2020).) These measures minimize the risk of flood damage/loss and ensure a no-rise condition in the water surface elevation during seasonal high flows.

Impact to the unnamed stream/major drainageways would be minor because the pedestrian bridges are designed to span the stream channel and wetlands. The spans are approximately 30 feet- and 40 feet-

wide to avoid constricting flows and impacts to wetlands. The extra-wide span would ensure the bridges can accommodate increased runoff in the future from development buildout of the watershed. The bridge crossings have been placed at existing openings in the riparian vegetation. The major drainageways would be maintained in their natural state allowing an opportunity for restoration in the future. The Proposed Action preserves the drainageways' functions and values consistent with City of Reno's major drainageway policy.

4.4.3 Land Use/Ownership Patterns

4.4.3.1 Affected Environment

Washoe County agreed to a BLA with adjacent private landowners to acquire more riverfront acreage and provide better public access to the Truckee River. The land exchange to create the Project Area configuration is in progress and affects six parcels. Appendix 1 provides maps and an acreage tally depicting the before and after BLA configurations. Zoned land uses of the affected parcels include community commercial, single family residential, suburban mixed use, and unincorporated transition.

Adjacent land uses include the West Meadows Estates residential development to the north; the Truckee River to the east and south, a TMWA facility to the south, and vacant land to the west. The vacant land provides a buffer between the Project's western terminus and the River Oak residential development.

The Project Area is within the jurisdiction of the City of Reno where development applications must comply with the City of Reno's Master Plan. Projects are approved by SUP if the following general findings from the Reno Municipal Code (RMC) 18.08.201 can be met, as applicable.

- The proposed use is compatible with existing surrounding land uses and development.
- The project is in substantial conformance with the master plan.
- There are or will be adequate services and infrastructure to support the proposed development.
- The proposal adequately mitigates traffic impacts of the project and provides a safe pedestrian environment.
- The proposed site location and scale, intensity, density, height, layout, setbacks, and architectural and overall design of the development and the uses proposed, is appropriate to the area in which it is located.
- The project does not create adverse environmental impacts such as smoke, noise, glare, dust, vibrations, fumes, pollution, or odor which would be detrimental to, or constitute a nuisance to area properties.
- Project signage is in character with project architecture and is compatible with or complementary to surrounding uses.
- The structure has been designed such that the window placement and height do not adversely affect the privacy of existing residential uses.

Washoe County Parks applied to the City of Reno for a SUP to for the development of a parking lot adjacent to residentially zoned property and a variance to eliminate parking lot lighting and landscaping (Reno 2020a). On April 15, 2020, the Planning Commission Board approved the project based on compliance with the applicable findings above (Reno 2020b).

4.4.3.2 Environmental Consequences

The potential direct and indirect effects on land use were analyzed using the impact indicators listed below.

- Consistency with land use plans
- Compatibility with adjacent private land

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, the land exchange would still occur, but the property would not be developed. Existing conditions would continue. There would be no effects to land use/ownership patterns and private property.

Proposed Action

The Proposed Action impacts land use, but effects are no more than minor. During the SUP review process, City of Reno Planning staff made a finding that the project was in substantial conformance with the City of Reno Master Plan (Reno 2020a). The Proposed Action was found to be compatible with existing surrounding land uses and development. Additionally, it was concluded that the Proposed Action would have little effect on private property values because the Proposed Action is a low intensity use that does not affect community livability of the surrounding single-family home neighborhoods. Community livability may be enhanced because a developed public access point on the river may be considered a desirable recreational amenity. To ensure that impacts are minor, the Project minimizes potential disturbance to private land by providing a buffer between the western terminus of the Project Area and the residential parcels in the River Oak residential development.

4.4.4 Introduce or Promote Invasive Species (Plant or Animal)

4.4.4.1 Affected Environment

Executive Order 13754 (2016) recognizes that it is the policy of the United States to prevent the introduction, establishment, and spread of invasive species, and directs federal agencies to take steps to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive plant and animal species. Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 555 et seq. states that the control of noxious weeds is the responsibility of the landowner or occupant. Specifically, NRS 555.150 states that every landowner or occupier, whether private, city, county, or federal shall cut, destroy, or eradicate all noxious weeds.

A biological survey on May 25, 2020, found the Project Area contains invasive plants, including those designated by the State of Nevada as noxious weeds. Invasive species included cheat grass (*Bromus tectorum*) in the open spaces within the rabbitbrush community and ripgut brome (*B. diandrus*) on the edges of the riparian communities. Siberian elm was so common that it was a dominant tree within the riparian forest community across the Project Area. State-listed noxious weeds included Scotch thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*), musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*), poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*), hoary cress (*Cardaria draba*), and tall whitetop (*Lepidium latifolium*). Heavy infestations of Scotch thistle occur on the edges of the riparian communities and disturbed areas in the rabbitbrush community. Musk thistle

was found alongside Scotch thistle but is not as prevalent. Poison hemlock, hoary cress, and tall whitetop were limited to isolated patches.

4.4.4.2 Environmental Consequences

The potential for the Proposed Action to introduce or promote invasive species was analyzed using the impact indicator listed below.

- Extent of new ground disturbance as a measure of the potential to spread

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, existing infestations of invasive and noxious weeds would be left unchecked. Due to the lack of ground disturbance to create bare areas for weeds to colonize, the spread of invasive weeds may be slow. In contrast, noxious weeds have the potential to increase exponentially with or without disturbance.

Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would have the potential to introduce or promote invasive and noxious weeds species. The parking area would be a transmission vector for weed seeds where tires and vehicle undercarriages can transport seeds from offsite sources. Additionally, stormwater runoff to the parking area borders would provide incidental hydration favorable for weed establishment. During construction, grading would create bare substrate for weeds to colonize. The Proposed Action would initially promote the introduction and establishment of weeds; however, impacts would be minor because weed control would be a part of the ongoing operation and maintenance of the trailhead. Washoe County Parks would monitor the Project Area annually and treat noxious weed infestations, as necessary.

4.4.5 Recreation Resources

4.4.5.1 Affected Environment

Both Washoe County and City of Reno recognize the Truckee River as the most significant natural and scenic resource in its Plan Area that also provides an important recreational element (Washoe County 2010; Reno 2007; Reno 2018). The *One Truckee River Management Plan* (One Truckee River Partnership 2016), *Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space Master Plan* (Washoe County 2019), and the *Washoe County Regional Open Space and Natural Resource Management Plan* (Washoe County 2008) direct Washoe County Parks to look for new opportunities to provide safe public access to the Truckee River while preserving open space and natural resources.

4.4.5.2 Environmental Consequences

The potential direct and indirect effects on recreation resources were analyzed using the impact indicator listed below.

- Consistency with recreation elements in existing management plans

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, a recreation facility would not be constructed and a developed access to the future TMWA portage would not be provided. The Project Area would continue as an informal access point to the river.

Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would provide benefit to recreation resources as there are no developed recreational facilities in the Project vicinity. The Proposed Action was designed to provide improved public access to the Truckee River, improved fishing access, and ties into TMWA's raft portage. At the same time, the Proposed Action balances recreation development with the need to preserve of the character of the Project Area; protect water quality; and retain ecological resources such as floodplain, riparian vegetation, open space, and habitat. Implementation of the Proposed Action would draw visitors to the area and allow for increased low-intensity recreation opportunities including non-motorized watercraft, fishing, wildlife observations, and outdoor relaxation.

The Proposed Action is consistent with the *One Truckee River Management Plan* goals, objectives, and strategies for recreation and the Truckee River (One Truckee River Partnership 2016). Goals of the plan focus on the health of the river, connecting people and places, creating an engaged community, and addressing the long term and sustainable management of the river. Specifically, the Proposed Action meets the following objectives:

- Objective 2.1.e: Enhance Truckee River visitor safety, access, public facilities (bathrooms) and education.
- Objective 2.1.f: Work with local jurisdictions to coordinate efforts and identify parcels along the river with potential for public/private partnerships that can increase access to the river.
- Objective 2.3.b: Identify and designate safe public access sites that connect directly to the Truckee River.
- Objective 2.3.g: Connect existing and new trail systems to the Truckee River trail system through public/private partnerships that grant public access along the river.

The Proposed Action is consistent with the *Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space Master Plan* Objective 1.C: Encourage a multi-purpose regional trail system to connect residents to regional parks, neighborhood parks, special use facilities, and open space (Washoe County 2019). The plan implementation section directs Washoe County Parks to continue efforts to acquire lands along the Truckee River and its watershed that protect or enhance the river corridor for recreation, wildlife, and water quality.

The Proposed Action is consistent with *Washoe County Regional Open Space and Natural Resource Management Plan* (Washoe County 2008). The Proposed Action meets the following goals for recreation resources:

- Goal 3.1: Acquire, develop, and maintain a system of regional parks that provide for both active and passive recreational opportunities.

- Goal 4.2: Provide for a water-based trail system through the Truckee River corridor that provides access for fishers, rafters, and other recreational users, and for cultural uses of waterways and wetlands.
- The Recreational Resources Map 10 identifies a proposed trailhead on the Truckee River near the Riverbend Open Space parcel.

4.5 Cumulative Effects

NEPA requires that federal agencies consider the cumulative effects of a proposed action to ensure that federal decision-making considers the full range of consequences. Cumulative effects are those effects that result from incremental impacts of a proposed action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of which agency or person undertakes such actions. Cumulative effects can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions that take place over a period of time (40 CFR 1508.7).

4.5.1 Affected Environment

Cumulative actions considered in this analysis are limited to actions that affect the same resources as the Proposed Action (i.e., actions that affect floodplains, major drainageways, land use, weeds, and recreation). The area of analysis was confined to the area affected by the Proposed Action (i.e., the area on the north side of the Truckee River within a one-mile radius of the Project Area.)

Known present actions in the cumulative effects analysis area are:

- Existing residential and commercial development
- Recreation use of the Truckee River
- The West Meadows Estates Planned Unit Development (PUD)

The West Meadows Estates PUD is a 200-acre residential development with open space and neighborhood commercial development across US 40 from the Project Area (KLS 2014). It is mostly residential development and includes 324 residential lots, 3.8 acres of neighborhood commercial development, a 2.6-acre park, and 88.2 acres of open space/common area. The development is not fully built-out.

Reasonably foreseeable future actions in the cumulative effects analysis area are:

- Continuation of present actions listed above
- Portage facility at the TMWA's Washoe/Highland Diversion Dam
- Full build-out of the West Meadows Estates PUD
- Development of the River Bend Garden Nursery

River Bend Garden Nursery is a proposed nursery on 1.2 acres site adjacent and west and northwest of the Project Area. Its SUP has been approved and 1-year time extension was issued in March 2020.

The Stan Lucas Mortensen Ranch Development is an approximately 955-acre project area abutting the northeastern boundary of the West Meadows Estates PUD and western boundary of the Somerset Development. As presented to the City of Reno Planning Commission, it would include residential

development and 700 acres of open space (Summit 2019). Although a SUP application has been filed with enough detail to allow for analysis, approval for the project was denied by the Planning Commission, making the timing of the project and the size and location of project elements subject to change. For this reason, this project was considered speculative and not considered reasonably foreseeable.

4.5.2 Environmental Consequences

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no contribution of effects to the affected environment. There would be no cumulative effects.

Proposed Action

Soils and Farmland

Past development projects have changed the cumulative effects area from a low-density pastoral community to a suburban residential community. Soil resources and farmland would continue to be lost from implementation of the Proposed Action in concert with present and reasonably foreseeable future actions. However, the effects would be incrementally small compared to the losses that have already occurred. To avoid and minimize soil loss from erosion, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions are required by state and local permitting agencies to implement a SWPPP during construction.

Floodplain and Wetlands

Past development projects next to the Truckee River have left a relatively narrow riparian corridor within the cumulative effects area. In most areas, the river is confined and does not have a functioning wetland floodplain. Past development projects have channelized and rerouted major drainageways in order to maximize developable area. The cumulative effects of the Proposed Action in combination with other cumulative actions, including those that are reasonably foreseeable, are minor. Cumulative actions are not likely to further impair the Truckee River or cause further losses of wetlands and major drainageways. Federal, state, and local codes, regulations, and policies ensure no net loss of these resources, and for any unavoidable losses, mitigation measures are required.

Land Use

Past development projects in the cumulative effects area are allowable uses that meet zoning district requirements. The cumulative effects of the Proposed Action along with other cumulative actions, including those that are reasonably foreseeable, would be minor because Reno Code requires substantial conformance to existing "land use plans, policy, reports, etc." The type of land uses that are allowed and where they may occur would be in accordance with the City of Reno's Master Plan (Reno 2018).

Weeds

Past actions and development projects within the cumulative effects area have caused localized weed infestations, but not landscape level alterations in the ecosystem. The cumulative effects of the Proposed Action with other present and reasonably foreseeable cumulative actions, would be minor because weed control is a part of the ongoing operations and maintenance of public facilities and private developments.

Recreation Resources

Past actions and projects within the cumulative effects area did not provide public recreational opportunities. The cumulative effects of the Proposed Action in combination with other cumulative actions, including those that are reasonably foreseeable, would increase public open space areas and public recreational opportunities.

5 CONSULTATION, COORDINATION, AND PREPARERS

5.1 Agency Coordination

NDOW, NNHP, and USFWS were contacted for information regarding biological resources for the development of the Affected Environment sections of the EA.

Although not specifically contacted through the EA process, other agencies were notified of the Project by City of Reno Planning staff during the SUP application review process. The following agencies provided comments to the project: Washoe County Community Services Department, Washoe County Regional Transportation Commission, NDOT, and the City of Reno Police Department. Additionally, Washoe County Parks contacted the USACE regarding permitting requirements for the pedestrian bridge structures.

5.2 Public Involvement

Scoping, as defined by NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1501.7) is an early and open process for determining the scope of the issues to be addressed and for identifying significant issues related to the Proposed Action. The EA scoping period coincided with the SUP approval of the Proposed Action by the City of Reno Planning Commission. As a result, public comments generated from the SUP application also served as scoping comments for the EA. The following issues were raised (Reno 2020b):

- Water quality impacts to the Truckee River
- Loss of natural areas
- Impacts to major drainageways and loss of flood control functions
- Traffic impacts considering the West Meadows Estates and Stan Lucas Mortensen Ranch developments
- Impacts to the privacy and security of private property at River Oak Subdivision from trespass

Additionally, one commenter expressed concern that the Proposed Action should have gone to the joint Neighborhood Advisory Board (NAB)/Citizen Advisory Board (CAB). The City of Reno noted that the Project was an agenda item scheduled for the March NAB/CAB meeting. This meeting was cancelled due to the state of emergency (Reno 2020b). Although the physical meeting of the NAB/CAB was cancelled, information about the Proposed Action was e-mailed to the NAB/CAB members on March 26, 2020, providing an opportunity to comment. Additionally, a project description was posted on City of Reno's NAB Ward 5 under "Development Projects in your Ward". No comments were received. The NAB/CAB members are included on the mailing list for the EA.

5.3 Tribal Involvement

As a part of the scoping process, the Tribal Historic Preservation Offices from the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Washoe Tribe of California and Nevada, and the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony were contacted. Letters dated May 8, 2020, were sent by e-mail that provided a map of the Project Area and a request for input on environmental issues that should be analyzed in the EA. No responses were received.

5.4 Distribution of the Draft EA

This Draft EA is being made available to the public and agencies for a 30-day comment period. A notice was sent to the Nevada State Clearinghouse and to a mailing list of interested parties (individuals, organizations, agencies) compiled for this Project (Appendix 3). The notice announced the availability of the Draft EA for download and comment at the following online address:

<http://www.WashoeCountyParks.com>

5.5 List of Preparers

Washoe County Parks had primary oversight responsibility for the document on behalf of Nevada Parks and NPS. Redhorse Corporation was retained by Washoe County Parks to assist with the preparation of the EA (Table 4).

Table 4. List of Preparers

Name and Title	Agency/Company	Role
Joanne Lowden, Natural Resource Planner	Washoe County Parks	Project Manager
Nancy Kang, Senior Scientist	Redhorse Corporation	Project Manager EA Author
Colleen Lavery, Senior NEPA Specialist	Redhorse Corporation	Quality Assurance/Quality Control Review

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FIGURES

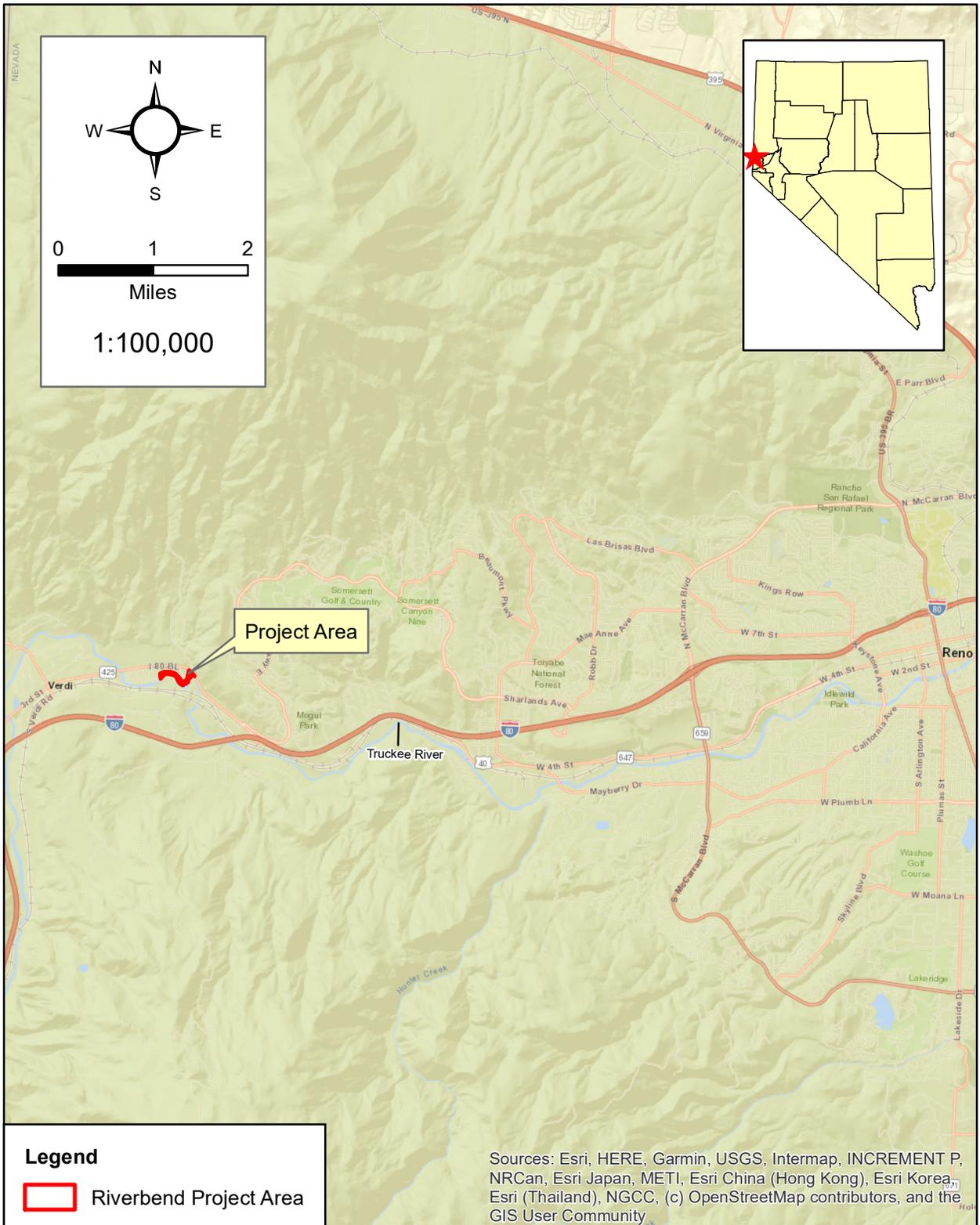


Figure 1 - Project Vicinity Map

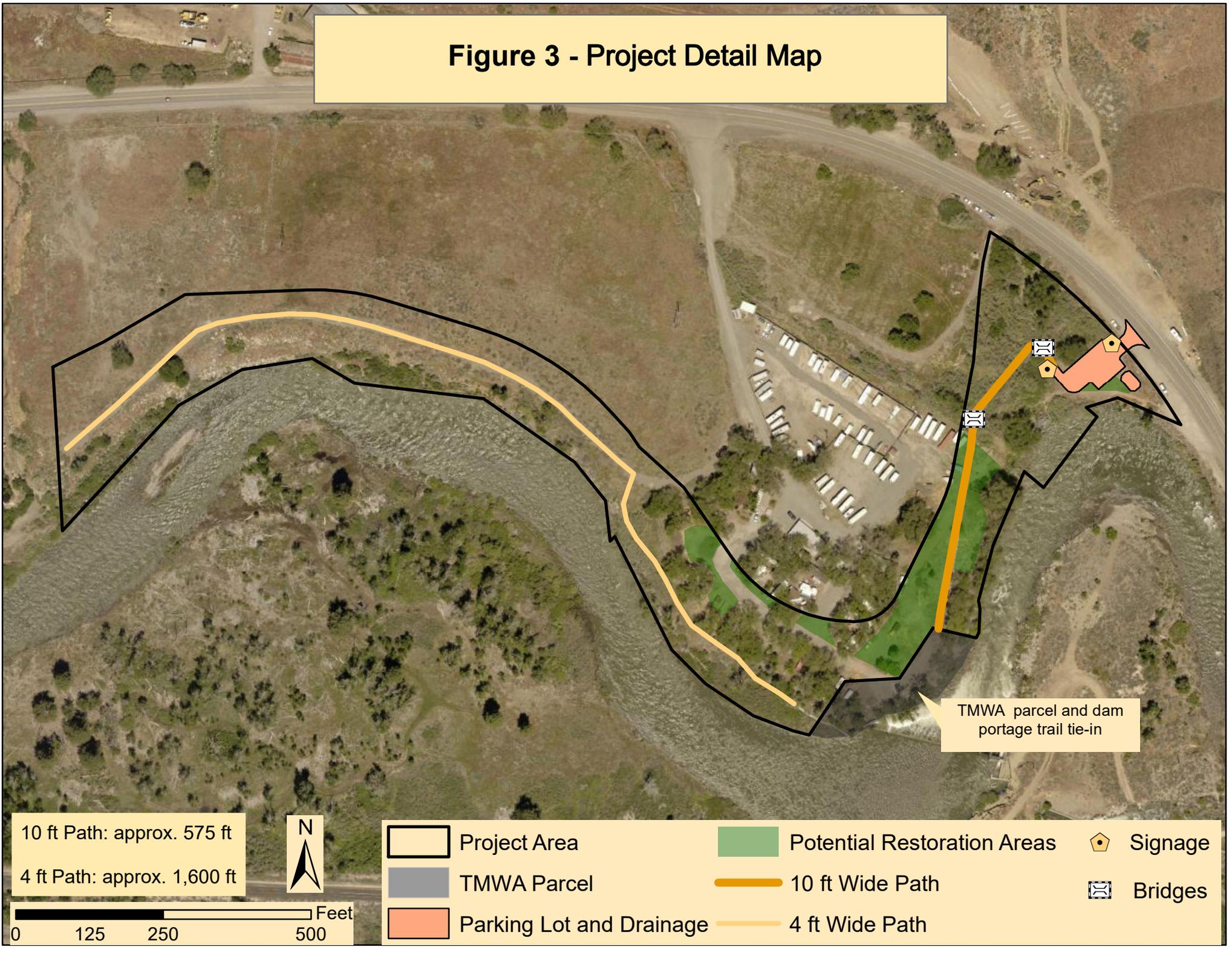
Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space
 Riverbend Trailhead and Access Path Project



Figure 2 - Project Area Map

Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space
Riverbend Trailhead and Access Path Project

Figure 3 - Project Detail Map



10 ft Path: approx. 575 ft
4 ft Path: approx. 1,600 ft



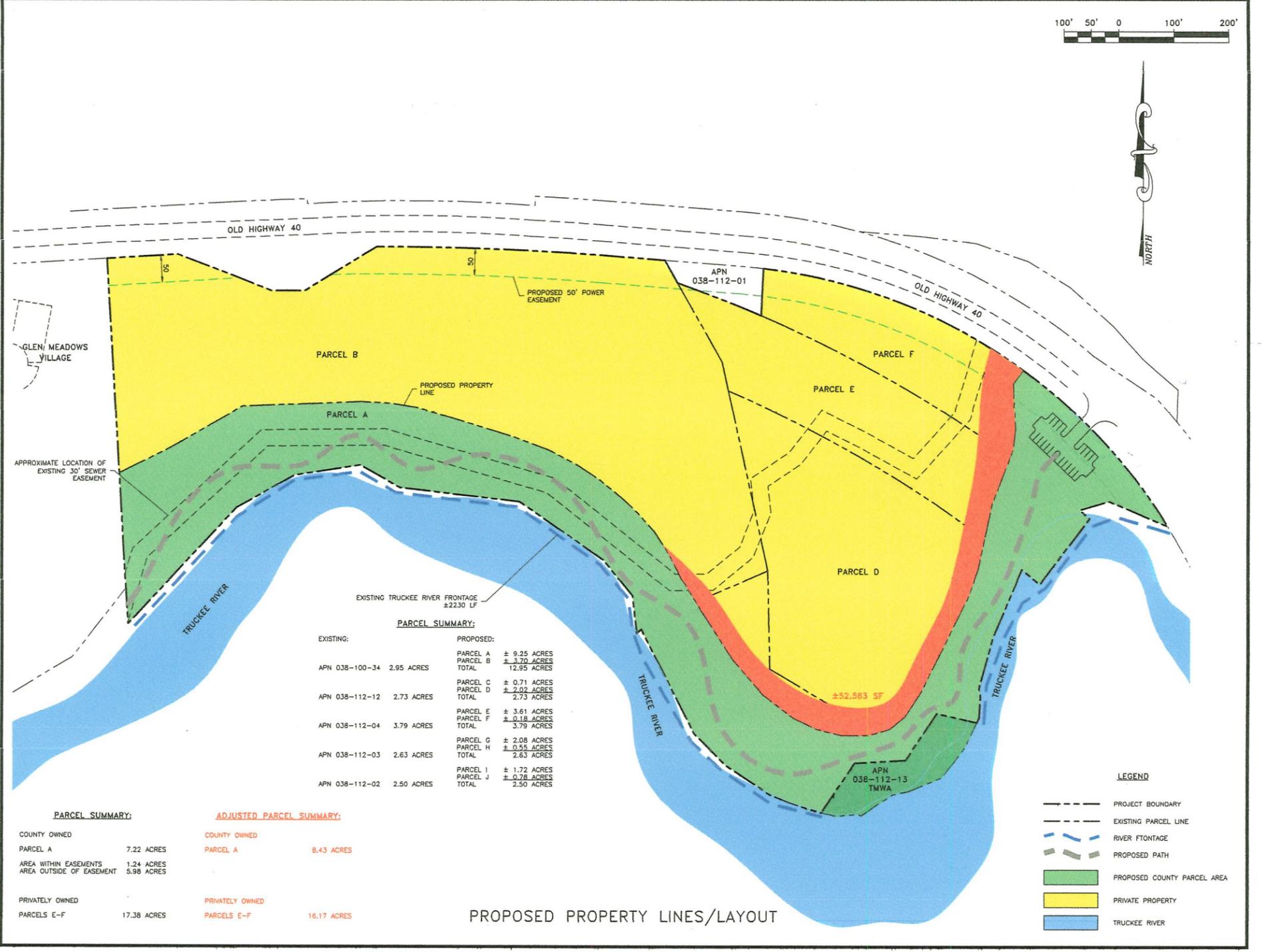
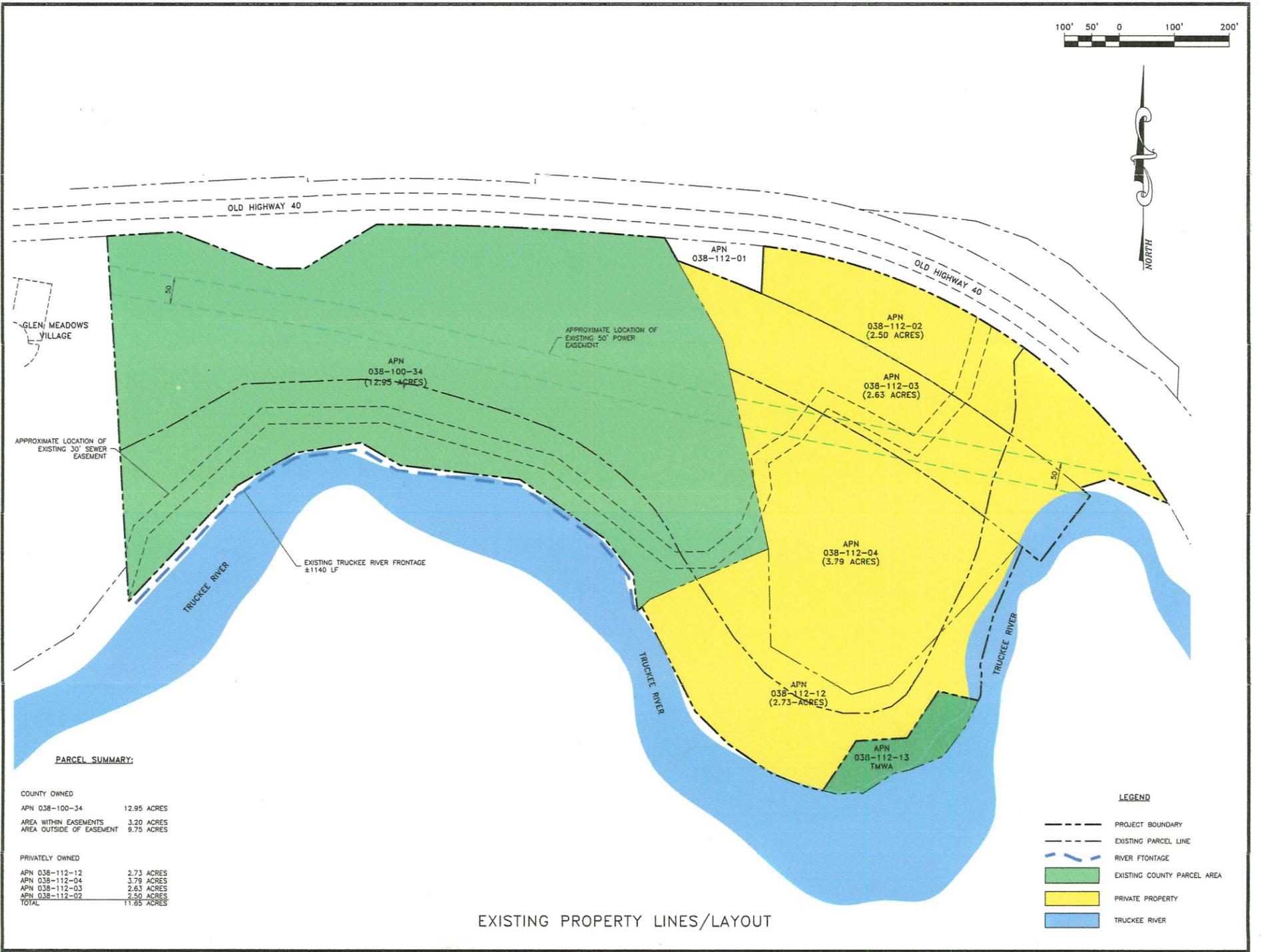
0 125 250 500 Feet

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| Project Area | Potential Restoration Areas | Signage |
| TMWA Parcel | 10 ft Wide Path | Bridges |
| Parking Lot and Drainage | 4 ft Wide Path | |

TMWA parcel and dam portage trail tie-in

APPENDIX 1

Property Boundary Line Adjustment



APPENDIX 2

Agency Correspondence



Steve Sisolak
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Suite 120

Reno, Nevada 89511

Phone (775) 688-1500 • Fax (775) 688-1495

TONY WASLEY
Director

LIZ O'BRIEN
Deputy Director

JACK ROBB
Deputy Director

Nancy Kang
Senior Scientist
Redhorse Corporation
5250 Neil Road
Reno, Nevada 89502

May 13, 2020

Re: Riverbend Trail and Access Path Project

Dear Nancy Kang:

I am responding to your request for information from the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) on the known or potential occurrence of wildlife resources in the vicinity of the Riverbend Trail and Access Path Project located in Washoe County, Nevada. In order to fulfill your request, an analysis was performed using the best available data from the NDOW's wildlife occurrences, raptor nest sites and ranges, greater sage-grouse leks and habitat, and big game distributions databases. No warranty is made by the NDOW as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of the data for individual use or aggregate use with other data. These data should be considered **sensitive** and may contain information regarding the location of sensitive wildlife species or resources. All appropriate measures should be taken to ensure that the use of this data is strictly limited to serve the needs of the project described on your GIS Data Request Form. Abuse of this information has the potential to adversely affect the existing ecological status of Nevada's wildlife resources and could be cause for the denial of future data requests.

To adequately provide wildlife resource information in the vicinity of the proposed project the NDOW delineated an area of interest that included a four-mile buffer around the project area provided by you on Thursday, May 7, 2020. Wildlife resource data was queried from the NDOW databases based on this area of interest. The results of this analysis are summarized below.

Big Game - Occupied mule deer distribution exists outside of the project area within portions of the four-mile buffer area. No known occupied bighorn sheep, elk, or pronghorn antelope distributions exist in the vicinity of the project area. Please refer to the attached maps for details regarding big game distributions relative to the proposed project area.

Greater Sage-Grouse - There is no known greater sage-grouse habitat in the vicinity of the project area.

Lahontan Cutthroat Trout - are known to exist in the vicinity of the project area in the City of Reno-Truckee River watershed.

Raptors - Various species of raptors, which use diverse habitat types, may reside in the vicinity of the project area. American kestrel, bald eagle, barn owl, burrowing owl, Cooper's hawk, ferruginous hawk, flammulated owl, golden eagle, great horned owl, long-eared owl, merlin, northern goshawk, northern harrier, northern pygmy owl, northern saw-whet owl, osprey, peregrine falcon, red-tailed hawk, rough-legged hawk, sharp-shinned hawk, short-eared owl, Swainson's hawk, turkey vulture, and western screech owl have distribution ranges that include the project area and four-mile buffer area. Furthermore, the following raptor species have been directly observed in the vicinity of the project area:

bald eagle
barn owl

northern goshawk
northern pygmy-owl

red-tailed hawk
sharp-shinned hawk

Cooper's hawk	northern saw-whet owl	Swainson's hawk
golden eagle	osprey	western screech-owl
great horned owl		

Raptor species are protected by State and Federal laws. In addition, bald eagle, burrowing owl, California spotted owl, ferruginous hawk, flammulated owl, golden eagle, northern goshawk, peregrine falcon, prairie falcon, and short-eared owl are NDOW species of special concern and are target species for conservation as outlined by the Nevada Wildlife Action Plan. Per the *Interim Golden Eagle Technical Guidance: Inventory and Monitoring Protocols; and Other Recommendations in Support of Golden Eagle Management and Permit Issuance* (United States Fish and Wildlife Service 2010) we have queried our raptor nest database to include raptor nest sites within ten miles of the proposed project area. There are two known raptor nest sites within ten miles of the project area:

Probable Use	Last Check	Last Active	Township/Range/Section
Eagle	6/22/2012		21 0190N 0180E 029
Northern Goshawk	1/1/1980	1/1/1980	21 0200N 0180E 019

Other Wildlife Resources

There are no water developments in the vicinity of the project area. Additional species have also been observed in the vicinity of the project area. Please refer to the appendix for details regarding these species.

The proposed project area may also be in the vicinity of abandoned mine workings, which often provide habitat for state and federally protected wildlife, especially bat species, many of which are protected under NAC 503.030. To request data regarding known abandoned mine workings in the vicinity of the project area please contact the Nevada Division of Minerals (<http://minerals.state.nv.us/>).

The above information is based on data stored at our Reno Headquarters Office and does not necessarily incorporate the most up to date wildlife resource information collected in the field. Please contact the Habitat Division Supervising Biologist at our Western Region Reno Office (775.688.1500) to discuss the current environmental conditions for your project area and the interpretation of our analysis. Furthermore, it should be noted that the information detailed above is preliminary in nature and not necessarily an identification of every wildlife resource concern associated with the proposed project. Consultation with the Supervising Habitat biologist will facilitate the development of appropriate survey protocols and avoidance or mitigation measures that may be required to address potential impacts to wildlife resources.

Mark Freese - Western Region Supervising Habitat Biologist (775.688.1145)

Federally listed Threatened and Endangered species are also under the jurisdiction of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Please contact them for more information regarding these species.

If you have any questions regarding the results or methodology of this analysis, please do not hesitate to contact Jinna Larkin at (775) 688-1580.

Appendix: Other Wildlife Species Table

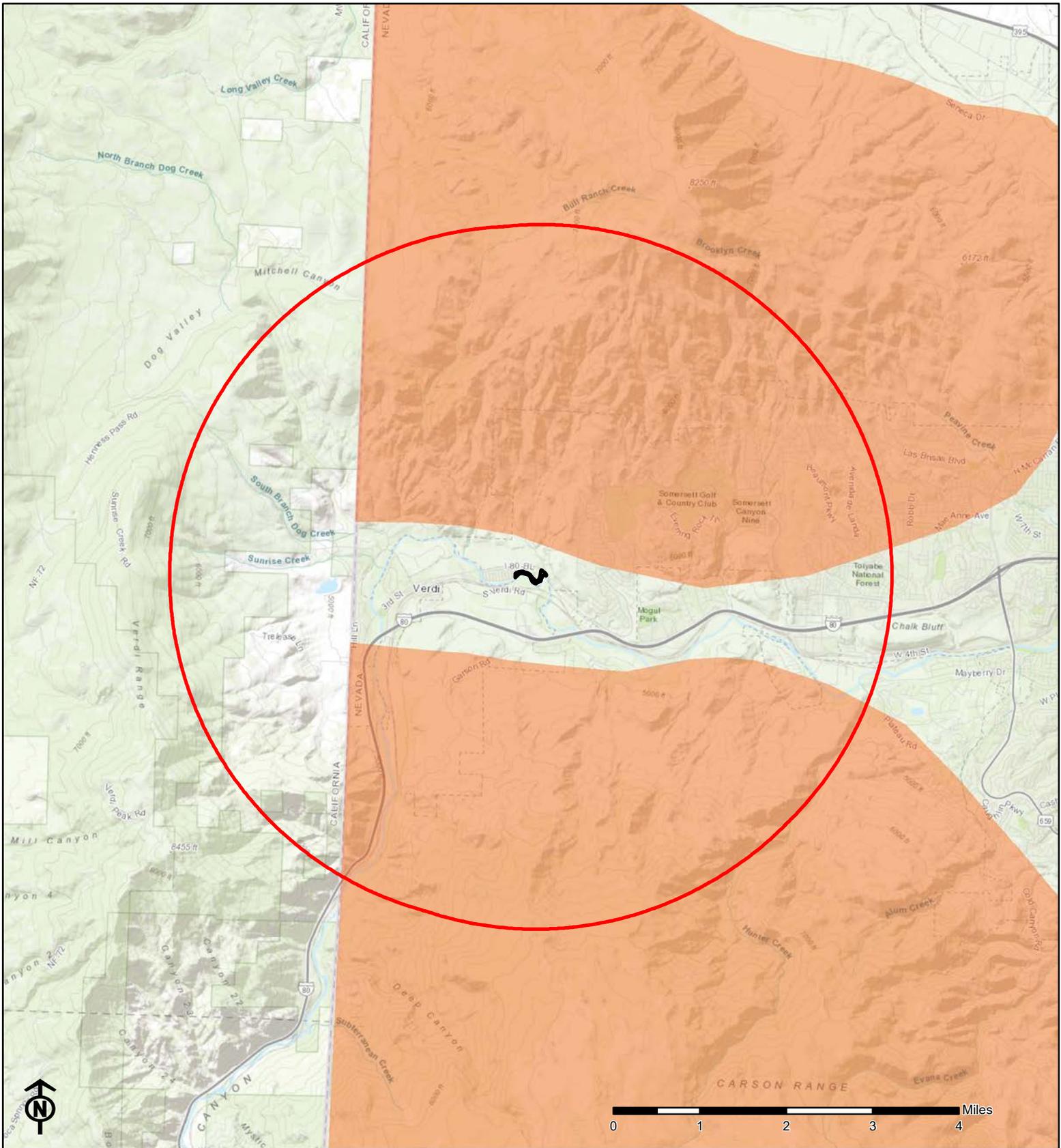
Common Name	ESA	State	SWAP SoCP
American black bear			
American mink		Furbearer	
American robin		Protected	
Bewick's wren		Protected	
black-headed grosbeak		Protected	
brook trout			
brown trout			
California ground squirrel			
California quail			
Canada goose			
Cassin's finch		Protected	Yes
cedar waxwing		Protected	
common carp			
coyote		Unprotected	
cutbow trout			
deermouse			
dusky flycatcher		Protected	
fathead minnow			
fox sparrow		Protected	
golden-crowned kinglet		Protected	
gray-headed junco		Protected	
Great Basin fence lizard			
Great Basin rattlesnake			
hairy woodpecker		Protected	
house wren		Protected	
Lahontan cutthroat trout	Threatened		Yes
Lahontan redband			
Lewis's woodpecker		Protected	Yes
lodgepole chipmunk			
long-eared chipmunk			
mountain chickadee		Protected	
mountain lion			
mountain quail			Yes
mountain sucker			
mountain whitefish			Yes
mourning dove			
North American river otter		Furbearer	Yes
northern flicker		Protected	
northern rubber boa			Yes
Oregon junco		Protected	
Paiute sculpin			
pine siskin		Protected	
pygmy rabbit			Yes
raccoon			
rainbow trout			
red-breasted nuthatch		Protected	

sculpin (unknown)		
speckled dace		
spotted towhee	Protected	
striped skunk	Unprotected	
sucker (unknown)		
Tahoe sucker		
trout (unknown)		
western bluebird	Protected	
western gray squirrel	Protected	
western scrub-jay		
western small-footed myotis		Yes
western tanager	Protected	
western wood-pewee		
white-breasted nuthatch	Protected	
white-headed woodpecker	Protected	Yes
yellow-bellied marmot		
yellow-pine chipmunk		
yellow-rumped warbler	Protected	

ESA: Endangered Species Act Status

State: State of Nevada Special Status

SWAP SoCP: Nevada State Wildlife Action Plan (2012) Species of Conservation Priority



-  Project Area
-  Four Mile Buffer Area Boundary
-  Mule Deer Distribution

Riverbend Trail and Access Path Project Mule Deer Distribution

May 13, 2020

Projection: UTM Zone 11 North, NAD83

No warranty is made by the Nevada Department of Wildlife as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of the data for individual use or aggregate use with other data.





STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Nevada Division of Natural Heritage

Steve Sisolak
Governor

Bradley Crowell
Director

Kristin Szabo
Administrator

11 May 2020

Nancy Kang
Redhorse Corporation
5250 Neil Road, Suite 208
Reno, NV 89502

RE: Data request received 07 May 2020

Dear Ms. Kang:

We are pleased to provide the information you requested on endangered, threatened, candidate, and/or At Risk plant and animal taxa recorded within or near the Riverbend Trailhead and Access Path (in Verdi) Project area in Washoe County. We searched our database and maps for the following, a 2 kilometer radius around project map provided, including:

Township 19N Range 18E Section 09

There are no at risk taxa recorded within the given area. However, habitat may be available for: the northern leopard frog, *Lithobates pipiens*, a Nevada Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Sensitive Species; the Trowbridge's shrew, *Sorex trowbridgii*, a Taxon determined to be Imperiled by the Nevada Division of Natural Heritage; the Yuma myotis, *Myotis yumanensis*, a Nevada BLM Sensitive Species. The Lahontan cutthroat trout, *Oncorhynchus clarkii henshawi*, a Federally Threatened Taxon and the California floater, *Anodonta californiensis*, a Nevada Bureau of Land Management and a United States Forest Service (Region 5) Sensitive Species, occur in the Truckee River and should be considered if disturbances are anticipated in the area. The Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) manages, protects, and restores Nevada's wildlife resources and associated habitat. Please contact Jinna Larkin, NDOW GIS Coordinator (775) 688-1580 to obtain further information regarding wildlife resources within and near your area of interest. Removal or destruction of state protected flora species requires a special permit from Nevada Division of Forestry (NRS 527.270).

Please note that our data are dependent on the research and observations of many individuals and organizations and in most cases are not the result of comprehensive or site-specific field surveys. Natural Heritage reports should never be regarded as final statements on the taxa or areas being considered, nor should they be substituted for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments.

Thank you for checking with our program. Please contact us for additional information or further assistance.

Sincerely,

Eric S. Miskow
Biologist/Data Manager

IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

Location

Washoe County, Nevada



Local office

Reno Fish And Wildlife Office

☎ (775) 861-6300

📠 (775) 861-6301

1340 Financial Boulevard, Suite 234
Reno, NV 89502-7147

<http://www.fws.gov/nevada/>

Endangered species

This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population, even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
3. Log in (if directed to do so).
4. Provide a name and description for your project.
5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species¹ and their critical habitats are managed by the [Ecological Services Program](#) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries²).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact [NOAA Fisheries](#) for [species under their jurisdiction](#).

1. Species listed under the [Endangered Species Act](#) are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the [listing status page](#) for more information.
2. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

Amphibians

NAME

STATUS

Sierra Nevada Yellow-legged Frog *Rana sierrae* Endangered
There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat.
<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9529>

Fishes

NAME	STATUS
Cui-ui <i>Chasmistes cujus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/456	Endangered
Lahontan Cutthroat Trout <i>Oncorhynchus clarkii henshawi</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3964	Threatened

Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
Webber's Ivesia <i>Ivesia webberi</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4682	Threatened

Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS AT THIS LOCATION.

Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act¹ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act².

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described [below](#).

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/managed-species/birds-of-conservation-concern.php>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/project-assessment-tools-and-guidance/conservation-measures.php>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/pdf/management/nationwidestandardconservationmeasures.pdf>

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the [USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ [below](#). This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the [E-bird data mapping tool](#) (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found [below](#).

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME

BREEDING SEASON (IF A BREEDING SEASON IS INDICATED FOR A BIRD ON YOUR LIST, THE BIRD MAY BREED IN YOUR PROJECT AREA SOMETIME WITHIN THE TIMEFRAME SPECIFIED, WHICH IS A VERY LIBERAL ESTIMATE OF THE DATES INSIDE WHICH THE BIRD BREEDS ACROSS ITS ENTIRE RANGE. "BREEDS ELSEWHERE" INDICATES THAT THE BIRD DOES NOT LIKELY BREED IN YOUR PROJECT AREA.)

Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*

Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31

This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626>

<p>Cassin's Finch <i>Carpodacus cassinii</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9462</p>	<p>Breeds May 15 to Jul 15</p>
<p>Golden Eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680</p>	<p>Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31</p>
<p>Lewis's Woodpecker <i>Melanerpes lewis</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9408</p>	<p>Breeds Apr 20 to Sep 30</p>
<p>Olive-sided Flycatcher <i>Contopus cooperi</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3914</p>	<p>Breeds May 20 to Aug 31</p>
<p>Rufous Hummingbird <i>selasphorus rufus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8002</p>	<p>Breeds elsewhere</p>
<p>Williamson's Sapsucker <i>Sphyrapicus thyroideus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8832</p>	<p>Breeds May 1 to Jul 31</p>
<p>Willow Flycatcher <i>Empidonax traillii</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3482</p>	<p>Breeds May 20 to Aug 31</p>

Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is $0.25/0.25 = 1$; at week 20 it is $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$.
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

Breeding Season (■)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

No Data (—)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

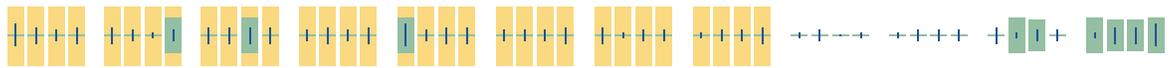
Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.

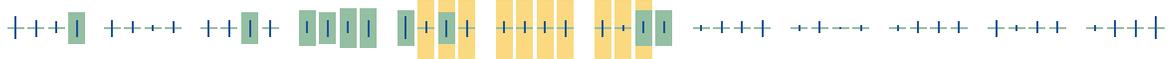
■ probability of presence ■ breeding season | survey effort — no data

SPECIES JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC

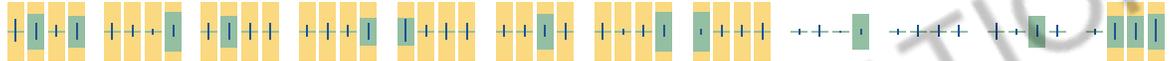
Bald Eagle
 Non-BCC Vulnerable
 (This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.)



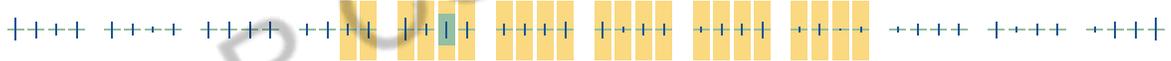
Cassin's Finch
 BCC Rangewide (CON) (This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.)



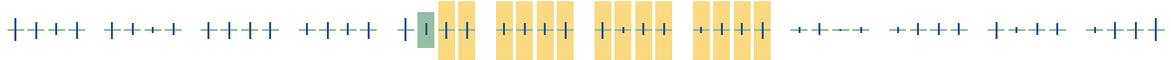
Golden Eagle
 Non-BCC Vulnerable
 (This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.)



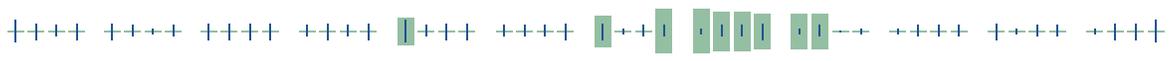
Lewis's Woodpecker
 BCC Rangewide (CON) (This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.)



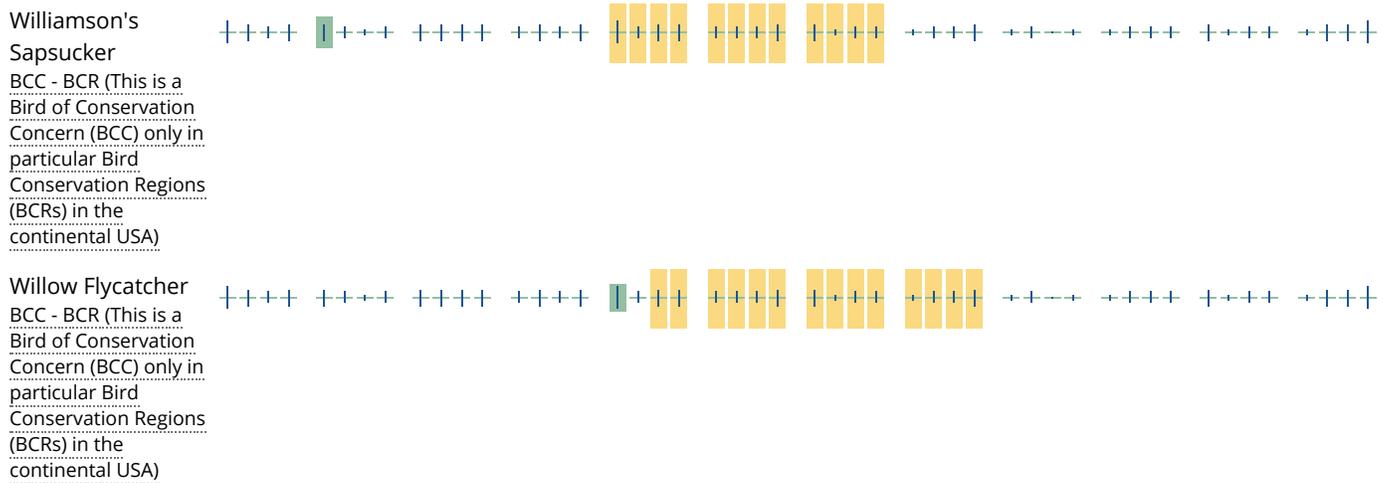
Olive-sided Flycatcher
 BCC Rangewide (CON) (This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.)



Rufous Hummingbird
 BCC Rangewide (CON) (This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.)



NOT FOR CONSULTATION



Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

[Nationwide Conservation Measures](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. [Additional measures](#) and/or [permits](#) may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [AKN Phenology Tool](#).

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering, migrating or present year-round in my project area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may refer to the following resources: [The Cornell Lab of Ornithology All About Birds Bird Guide](#), or (if you are unsuccessful in locating the bird of interest there), the [Cornell Lab of Ornithology Neotropical Birds guide](#). If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the [Eagle Act](#) requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the [NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf](#) project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact [Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to [obtain a permit](#) to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to

confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

Facilities

National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS AT THIS LOCATION.

Fish hatcheries

THERE ARE NO FISH HATCHERIES AT THIS LOCATION.

Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

This location overlaps the following wetlands:

FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND

[PFOC](#)

RIVERINE

[R3UBH](#)

[R4SBA](#)

A full description for each wetland code can be found at the [National Wetlands Inventory website](#)

Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tubercid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

Data precautions

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.

APPENDIX 3

Mailing List

First Name	Last Name	Organization	E-mail	Mailing #1	City	State	Zip
Resource Agency							
Jennifer C.	Thomason	USACE	Jennifer.C.Thomason@usace.army.mil	Clifton Young Federal Bldg, 300 Booth St. #3050	Reno	NV	89509
Dennis	Workeman	NRCS	dennis.workeman@nrcs.gov				
Jonnie	Eyler	NRCS	jonnie.eyler@nrcs.gov				
Lee	Carranza	USFWS	lee_carranza@fws.gov	1340 Financial Blvd. Ste 234	Reno	NV	89502
Ryan	Fahey	NDEP	rfahey@ndep.nv.gov	901 S Stewart St. Ste 4001	Carson City	NV	89701
Riley	Dunavent	NDEP	rdunavent@ndep.nv.gov	901 S Stewart St. Ste 4001	Carson City	NV	89701
John	Christopherson	NDF	jchrist@forest.nv.gov	2478 Fairview Dr.	Carson City	NV	89701
Richard	Oujevolk	NDOT	roujevolk@dot.state.nv.gov	310 Galletti Way	Sparks	NV	89431
Mark	Freese	NDOW	markfreese@ndow.org	110 Valley Road	Reno	NV	89512
Jim	Shaffer	Washoe Storey Conservation District	shafferjam51@gmail.com	1365 Corporate Blvd.	Reno	NV	89502
Bret	Tyler	Washoe Storey Conservation District	glassact@moondog.net	1365 Corporate Blvd.	Reno	NV	89502
Scott	Carey	NDSL Nevada State Clearinghouse	nevadaclearinghouse@lands.nv.gov	901 S. Stewart St. Ste 5003	Carson City	NV	89701
Property Owners Within 500 Feet							
JAMES A & JENNIFER D	ARTHUR			PO BOX 116	VERDI	NV	89439
SANDI K	BROWN			170 STONECREST DR	VERDI	NV	89439
	RICHEAL FAMILY TRUST			140 TAMARACK PL	BLAIRSDEN	CA	96103
MICHAEL	TRACEY			PO BOX 1555	VERDI	NV	89439
RONALD J JR	WARREN TRUST			PO BOX 417	VERDI	NV	89439
TODD S & DENISE H	HAKALA			18535 COUCH MARKET RD	BEND	OR	97701
ARTEM	BOCHAROV			307 LOCH LOMOND DR	VERDI	NV	89439
	D R HORTON INC			5588 LONGLEY LN	RENO	NV	89511
CAROLYN	GEIGER LIVING TRUST			PO BOX 1054	VERDI	NV	89439
	TOLY TRUST			PO BOX 1071	VERDI	NV	89439
	TRUCKEE MEADOWS WATER AUTHORITY			PO BOX 30013	RENO	NV	89520
	RIVER BEND MOBILE HOME PARK & STORAGE LLC			PO BOX 8070	RENO	NV	89507
TAMMERA	THOMPSON			PO BOX 154	VERDI	NV	89439
JULIE M	TAYLOR			5968 PALOMAR CIR	CAMARILLO	CA	93012
WILLIAM A & LAURA L	ALBRIGHT			PO BOX 795	VERDI	NV	89439
GARY W & JULIE C	GLANDER FAMILY TRUST			PO BOX 6544	TAHOE CITY	CA	96145
STAN	LUCAS			2850 TEMPLE AVE	LONG BEACH	CA	90806
KENNETH N & CATHY S	GOTT LIVING TRUST			PO BOX 1269	VERDI	NV	89439
JENNIFER J	GILBERT et al			8290 FENHOLLOW DR	VERDI	NV	89439
	WAGNER TRUST			PO BOX 1133	VERDI	NV	89439
JAMES M	HURLEY et al			165 STONECREST DR	VERDI	NV	89439
CATHERINE BROWN	KING			PO BOX 473	VERDI	NV	89439
PATRICK & AUBRI	HARRIGAN FAMILY TRUST			225 RIVER BEND DR	RENO	NV	89523

First Name	Last Name	Organization	E-mail	Mailing #1	City	State	Zip
Property Owners Within 500 Feet							
	JJESP BATCHA TRUST			PO BOX 916	VERDI	NV	89439
GABRIEL & KELLY M	CARLSON			PO BOX 1482	VERDI	NV	89439
BARRY & JANET	LAZOW			8286 FENHOLLOW DR	VERDI	NV	89439
RICHARD & SANDY	RIVERA			9240 FREMONT WAY	RENO	NV	89506
ANTHONY G	BARDO et al			PO BOX 2987	TRUCKEE	CA	96160
JOSEPH	SCHICKLER			PO BOX 87	VERDI	NV	89439
STEVEN D	REITZEL			302 LOCH LOMOND DR	VERDI	NV	89439
	KIM WU FAMILY TRUST			716 ROSEWOOD DR	WALNUT CREEK	CA	94596
MALLORY K	POINTER et al			8143 DORNOCH DR	VERDI	NV	89439
	WAGNER TRUST			PO BOX 1133	VERDI	NV	89439
JAMES M & JOAN L	ORR			PO BOX 1191	VERDI	NV	89439
MARY	ELLIOTT			PO BOX 361	VERDI	NV	89439
DANIEL G	MCLAUGHLIN LIVING TRUST			PO BOX 1193	VERDI	NV	89439
DON & JEAN	COSTON			PO BOX 331	VERDI	NV	89439
SARAH J & STANLEY M	WISE			PO BOX 1041	VERDI	NV	89439
JOSEPH A & BEVERLY	GRAY			PO BOX 465	VERDI	NV	89439
KAREN M	BURBACK			2355 CALERO CT	MORGAN HILL	CA	95037
MARIA	HERRERA-MARTINEZ et al			PO BOX 627	TRUCKEE	CA	96160
LEVI E & MICHELE J	WELCH			PO BOX 872	VERDI	NV	89439
GEORGE M JR	WHITE			20 WILLOWS QUEST CT	VERDI	NV	89439
JESSICA J & BRANDON E	NATALI			206 BALCORTA DR	VERDI	NV	89439
SARAH	STEELE			1525 BROADWAY # 2	ALAMEDA	CA	94501
JAMES JR	WILSON et al			PO BOX 912	VERDI	NV	89439
WILLIAM C & JENNIFER L	MARSHMAN			8283 FENHOLLOW DR	VERDI	NV	89439
SCOTT C & ALICIA L	LITTLE			301 LOCH LOMOND DR	VERDI	NV	89439
DUSTIN	DEBARD et al			100 BALCORTA CT	VERDI	NV	89439
J & J	GILMORE TRUST			PO BOX 2325	TRUCKEE	CA	96160
JOSHUA M	CLARKE			PO BOX 161	VERDI	NV	89439
BRUCE J	FORD 2014 TRUST			3003 WHISPER CREEK LN	PETALUMA	CA	94954
KRISTIE M	GRIFFITHS			PO BOX 1454	VERDI	NV	89439
JENNIFER	JORDAN			PO BOX 193	VERDI	NV	89439
IAN	CHAMBERLAIN			PO BOX 1625	VERDI	NV	89439
BEVERLY J	DUMMITT TRUST			PO BOX 271	VERDI	NV	89439
EMORY E III	SIMONS			30 WILLOWS QUEST CT	VERDI	NV	89439
NATHAN J & KAREN	THOMPSON			40 WILLOWS QUEST CT	VERDI	NV	89439
KAREN & BRANDON M	VACCA et al			8147 DORNOCH DR	VERDI	NV	89439
BRYAN C	GANT et al			120 BALCORTA CT	VERDI	NV	89439
NICHOLAS R & CATHERINE	SNELSON			8140 DORNOCH DR	VERDI	NV	89439
ROBERT F	KOLVET et al			308 LOCH LOMOND DR	VERDI	NV	89439
MORGAN M G & IAN K	BRAUNSCHNEIDER			110 BALCORTA CT	VERDI	NV	89439
YVONNE J	CHESTER LIVING TRUST			PO BOX 1269	VERDI	NV	89439

First Name	Last Name	Organization	E-mail	Mailing #1	City	State	Zip
Property Owners Within 500 Feet							
		F HEISE LAND & LIVESTOCK CO		50 W LIBERTY ST STE 600	RENO	NV	89501
MILAN D		SALVA		PO BOX 1254	VERDI	NV	89439
		BAKER FAMILY TRUST		145 SAGEBROOK DR	VERDI	NV	89439
ALFONSO & MARTINA		DIAZ		PO BOX 983	VERDI	NV	89439
BEVERLY & JOSEPH A		GRAY		PO BOX 465	VERDI	NV	89439
		UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY		1400 DOUGLAS ST STOP 1640	OMAHA	NE	68179
		BUBBLE WASH LLC		3320 MARKRIDGE DR	RENO	NV	89509
MICHELLE K & ANTHONY I		HORNE		8139 DORNOCH DR	VERDI	NV	89439
Washoe County West Truckee Meadows/Verdi Township Citizen Advisory Board							
Dale	Lazzarone		dale@thelazzaronegroup.com	4165 Caughlin Pkwy	Reno	NV	89519
Joseph	Giddings		joseph.giddings@sbcglobal.net	990 La Rue Avenue	Reno	NV	89509
Matthew R.	Buehler		mattsuebuehler@hotmail.com	180 Southridge Drive	Reno	NV	89509
Daniel	Lazzarescho		dlazzareschi@gmail.com				
Carly	Borchard		ccborchard@gmail.com	P.O. Box 281	Verdi	NV	89439
Anthony	DoMoe		Anthony@domoe.com	PO Box 81	Verdi	NV	89439
Alice	House		kabubehouse@gmail.com	450 Leventina Canyon Rd.	Reno	NV	89523
Matt	Viriden		viridenmb@gmail.com				
City of Reno Ward #5 Neighborhood Advisory Board							
Heather	Goulding		heather.goulding@gmail.com				
Mac	Rossi		macinreno@att.net				
			scoggin1962@gmail.com				
			sharphay@att.net				
			fady_mehanna@hotmail.com				
			renoplanningcommission@reno.gov				
			pmcneil49@aol.com				
			lead.sanders14@gmail.com				
Tribal Historic Preservation Offices							
Michon R.	Eben	Reno-Sparks Indian Colony	meben@rsic.org	1995 E. Second Street	Reno	NV	89502
Darrel	Cruz	Washoe Tribe of NV and CA	darrel.cruz@washoetribe.us	919 Hwy 395 South	Gardnerville	NV	89410
Betty	Aleck	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	thpo@plpt.nsn.us	P.O. Box 256	Nixon	NV	89424
River Recreation Groups							
		Tributary Whitewater Tours, LLC		P.O. Box 1160	Lotus	CA	95651
Michael K.	Miltner	Tahoe Whitewater Tours		P.O. Box 7466	Tahoe City	CA	96145
James	Bell	Sierra Adventures		P.O. Box 3782	Reno	NV	89505
		Irie Rafting Co.		11253 Brock Way Rd. #103B	Truckee	CA	96161

First Name	Last Name	Organization	E-mail	Mailing #1	City	State	Zip
Other Interested Parties							
Julee	Conway		juleec@live.com		Reno	NV	
Dawn	Prater	President of River Oak HOA (Glen Meadows)	praterde@gmail.com				
Steve	Lehr	Secretary of River Oak HOA (Glen Meadows)	lehers89439@gmail.com				
Chance	Reading	Member of Verdi Community Council	chancereading@gmail.com				
Adrian	Argyris	Member of Verdi Community Council	dawgiewalks54@yahoo.com				
Pam	McNeil	Member of Verdi Community Council	pmcneil@gmail.com				