

Final  
Environmental Impact Report/  
Environmental Impact Statement/  
Environmental Impact Statement

# Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project



## Volume V

Lead Agencies:



California State Parks



Lake Tahoe  
Environmental  
Improvement Program



Bureau of Reclamation

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



Volume V

Lead Agencies:



California State Parks

P.O. Box 16  
Tahoe City, CA 96145

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



Lake Tahoe Environmental  
Improvement Program

P.O. Box 5310  
Stateline, NV 89449

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



Bureau of Reclamation

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

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

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section	Page
<b>1 INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND NEED.....</b>	<b>1-1</b>
1.1 Agency Roles and Responsibilities .....	1-2
1.2 Background .....	1-4
1.3 Project History and Planning Context .....	1-8
1.4 Purpose and Need, and Project Objectives.....	1-8
1.5 CEQA and NEPA Requirements for Responding to Comments.....	1-9
1.6 Requirements for document Certification and Future Steps in Project Approval.....	1-10
1.7 Organization and Format of the Final EIR/EIS/EIS.....	1-12
1.8 Standard Terminology, Acronyms, and Other Abbreviations .....	1-13
<b>2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION.....</b>	<b>2-1</b>
2.1 Selecting a Proposed Preferred Alternative.....	2-1
2.2 Proposed Preferred Alternative: River Ecosystem Restoration with Reconfigured 18-hole Regulation Golf Course (Alternative 2 Slightly modified) .....	2-9
<b>3 MASTER RESPONSES.....</b>	<b>3-1</b>
3.1 Master Response Categories .....	3-1
3.2 Land Use .....	3-1
3.3 Biological Resources .....	3-16
3.4 Hydrology, Flooding, Geomorphology, and Water Quality.....	3-20
3.5 Recreation.....	3-28
3.6 Cultural Resources .....	3-30
3.7 Economics .....	3-32
<b>4 COMMENTS AND INDIVIDUAL RESPONSES.....</b>	<b>4-1</b>
4.1 Introduction .....	4-1
4.2 Format of Comments and Responses .....	4-1
4.3 Lists of Commenters .....	4-1
4.4 Comments and Responses on the 2010 Draft EIR/EIS/EIS .....	4-24
<b>5 REVISIONS TO THE DRAFT EIR/EIS/EIS.....</b>	<b>5-1</b>
5.1 Revisions to “Executive Summary” .....	5-1
5.2 Revisions to Chapter 1, “Introduction and Purpose and Need” .....	5-1
5.3 Revisions to Chapter 2, “Project Alternatives” .....	5-2
5.4 Revisions to Section 3.3, “Hydrology and Flooding” .....	5-4
5.5 Revisions to Section 3.4, “Geomorphology and Water Quality” .....	5-6
5.6 Revisions to Section 3.5, “Biological Resources (Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Vegetation, and Wildlife)”.....	5-8
5.7 Revisions to Section 3.6, “Earth Resources”.....	5-27
5.8 Revisions to Section 3.10, “Transportation, Parking, and Circulation” .....	5-40
5.9 Revisions to Chapter 8, “References Cited”.....	5-41
<b>6 REFERENCES.....</b>	<b>6-1</b>
<b>7 LIST OF PREPARERS .....</b>	<b>7-1</b>
<b>8 FINAL EIR/EIS/EIS DISTRIBUTION LIST.....</b>	<b>8-1</b>

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section	Page
<b>Appendices</b>	
A	Revisions to Lake Valley State Recreation Area General Plan (forthcoming)
B	State Historic Preservation Officer Concurrence Letter
C	Washoe Meadows State Park Fen Information
D	Water Budget Information
<b>Exhibits</b>	
1-1	Regional Location ..... 1-5
1-2	Study Area/Property Boundaries ..... 1-7
2-1	Proposed Preferred Alternative: River Ecosystem Restoration ..... 2-11
2-2	Proposed Preferred Alternative Upper Truckee River Profiles ..... 2-16
2-3	Proposed Preferred Alternative: Reconfigured 18-Hole Regulation Golf Course ..... 2-25
2-4	Proposed Preferred Alternative: Recreation ..... 2-35
2-5	Proposed Preferred Alternative: Staging and Access Map ..... 2-41
3-1	California Wildlife Habitat Relationship (CWHR) types within Upper Truckee River and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project Area and Vicinity ..... 3-6
4-1	Alternative 1 and 4 River Buffers ..... 4-121
4-2	Proposed Preferred Alternative River Buffers ..... 4-123
<b>Tables</b>	
1-1	Acronyms and Other Abbreviations ..... 1-14
2-1	Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Alternatives Comparison Table ..... 2-5
2-2	Land Management Descriptions ..... 2-28
2-3	Coverage Impacts Summary for Lake Valley State Recreation Area (square feet) ..... 2-31
2-4	Coverage Impacts Summary for Lake Valley State Recreation Area (square feet) ..... 2-32
2-5	Proposed Preferred Alternative Construction Phasing, Equipment, and Workers ..... 2-38
2-6	Preliminary Quantities (Cubic Yards) for the Proposed Preferred Alternative ..... 2-40
3-1	Habitat Types within the 1.5-Mile Buffer of Washoe Meadows State Park and Lake Valley State Recreation Area ..... 3-7
3-2	Habitat Types in Washoe Meadows State Park and Lake Valley State Recreation Area (including Areas outside of the Study Area) ..... 3-8
3-3	Existing Habitat Types in the Proposed Preferred Alternative Golf Course Footprint ..... 3-8
3.3-4	Existing Irrigated Areas at Lake Tahoe Golf Course ..... 3-22
3.3-5	Surface Water Diversion (Acre-Feet) at Lake Tahoe Golf Course ..... 3-23
3-4	Alternative 1 Water Demand (Acre-Feet) for 98 Acres of Intensively Managed/ Irrigated Golf Course ..... 3-24
3-5	Proposed Preferred Alternative Water Demand (Acre-Feet) for 85 Acres of Intensively Managed/Irrigated Golf Course ..... 3-25
3-6	Alternative 3 Water Demand (Acre-Feet) for 45 Acres of Intensively Managed/Irrigated Golf Course ..... 3-26
4-1	List of Commenters on the 2010 Draft EIR/EIS/EIS ..... 4-1

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

**I101**

Dan Jensen [djensen2@charter.net]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

Sirs,

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

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

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

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

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

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

I101-1

I101-1

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

I102

**FW: Lake Tahoe Golf Course**

McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

---

**From:** Walck, Cyndi

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

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

**Subject:** FW: Lake Tahoe Golf Course

---

**From:** Curtis John [mailto:curtis@hsrel.biz]

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

**To:** Walck, Cyndi

**Subject:** RE: Lake Tahoe Golf Course

**Regarding the changes to the Lake Tahoe Golf Course:**

**I believe the California State Parks should adopt Alternative 2.**

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

I102-1

I102-1

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



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

I103

Curtis John [curtis@hsrei.biz]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

---

To: Cyndie Walck, Sierra State Parks

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

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

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

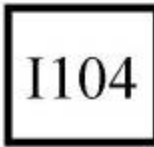
We need to vote for Alternative 2. **It is a good compromise for our community AND the lake.**

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

I103-1

I103-1

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



**FW: Lake Tahoe Golf Course**

McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

---

**From:** Walck, Cyndi

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

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

**Subject:** FW: Lake Tahoe Golf Course

---

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

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

**To:** Walck, Cyndi

**Subject:** Re: Lake Tahoe Golf Course

**Regarding the changes to the Lake Tahoe Golf Course:**

**I believe the California State Parks should adopt Alternative 2.**

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

1104-1

I104-1

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

**Lake Tahoe Golf Course**

B Johnson [btahoe@att.net]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee



---

Hello,

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

1105-1

Thank you,  
Brian

Letter  
I105  
Response

Brian Johnson  
October 18, 2010

---

I105-1

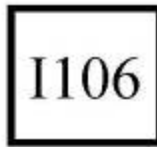
The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its economic value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

## Lake Tahoe Golf Course Proposed Relocation

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

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee



---

To Whom it May Concern:

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

1106-1

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

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

Letter  
I106  
Response

Michael K. Johnson  
October 26, 2010

---

I106-1

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



**Re: (no subject)**

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

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

I107

---

Alternative # 2 is the best choice

I 1107-1

Letter  
I107  
Response

katzino6  
October 19, 2010

---

I107-1

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

**Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration  
Project Comment**

I108

ROBERT KAY [rkreveg@hotmail.com]

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

To: Project, Upper Truckee

Cyndie,

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

**I believe the California State Parks should adopt Alternative 2.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

I108-1

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

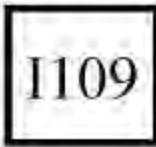
**Revenues Potentially Lost to our local economy: 6.5 million**  
**This does not include revenues to the golf course or California State**  
**Parks**  
**and Income to the 50-75 local people employed by the course**

1100-1  
cont.

Sincerely,  
Robert Kay

I108-1

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



**Upper Truckee Project Alternatives**

Michelle Keck [MichelleK@realtordeb.com]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

Dear Upper Truckee Project Decision Makers,

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

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

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

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

(109-1)

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

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

Warm regards,

Michelle Keck  
Realtor CA/NV, CRS  
Deb Howard and Company  
(530) 542-2912 ext 233 Office  
(530) 416-1855 Mobile  
michelle@LTahoeRealEstate.com  
www.LTahoeRealEstate.com

Letter  
1109  
Response

Michelle Keck  
October 29, 2010

---

I109-1

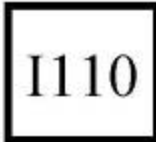
The commenter's support for Alternative 2 and its recreation, economic, and environmental value is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

**please protect washoe meadows**

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

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee



---

Dear Cynthia Walck,

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

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

Local Lover of Washoe Meadows State Park,  
Greg Kennedy

I110-1

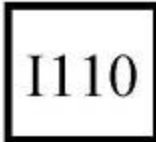


**please protect washoe meadows**

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

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee



---

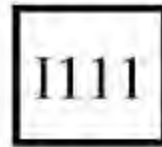
Dear Cynthia Walck,

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

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

Local Lover of Washoe Meadows State Park,  
Greg Kennedy

I110-1



November 15, 2010

Cyndie Walck  
California State Parks and Recreation  
Sierra District  
P.O. Box 16  
Tahoe City, CA 96145  
[utorject@parks.ca.gov](mailto:utorject@parks.ca.gov)

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

Dear Ms. Walck:

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

1111-1

Environmental Rank

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

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

Preferred Alternative

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

1111-2

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

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

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

I111-2  
cont.

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

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

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

Page 2 of 5

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

1111-2  
cont.

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

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

1111-3

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

#### Preeminent Laws

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

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

1111-4

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

EIR Issues

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

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

I111-5

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

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

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

I111-6

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

I111-7

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

I111-8

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

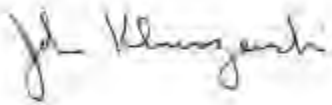
1111-8  
cont

- e. The Draft EIR table 2-3 of Vol. 1 states that the number of feet adjacent to the river for alternative 2 is 850 feet. However the maps show that the new holes approximately double the amount of the golf course adjacent to the river, adding about 5,000 feet "adjacent" to the river. The definition of adjacent needs to be added to the EIR and this table corrected to prevent misleading the agencies, organizations, and individuals reviewing this EIR.

1111-9

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

1111-10



John Klimaszewski, PE, State of Wisconsin  
6331 Contessa Ct  
San Jose, CA 95123  
[Johnski3000@netwiz.net](mailto:Johnski3000@netwiz.net)

# Attachment 1

## State Parks letter documenting bias toward Alternative 2



State of California - The Resources Agency

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Ruth Coleman, Director

Sierra District  
PO Box 286  
Tahoma, CA 96142

October 4, 2006

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

To the TRPA Advisory Planning Commission and Governing Board Members,

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

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

Providing and maintaining affordable golfing in the Tahoe Basin is important to the Department. We offer the least expensive (around \$85.00) 18-hole regulation golf in the Tahoe Basin. This is a rate the average golfer can generally afford, especially considering the going rates of \$125.00 to \$250.00 at some of the other courses in the basin.

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

Page 1 of 2

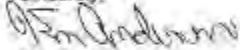
## Attachment 1

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

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

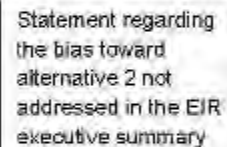
Thank you for your input and questions to date for this very important restoration project. If you have any other comments or questions please don't hesitate to contact me at (530) 526-9535, kande@parks.ca.gov, or Cyndi Walck at (530) 581-0925, cwalck@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Ken Anderson  
Senior Environmental Scientist  
Sierra District

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

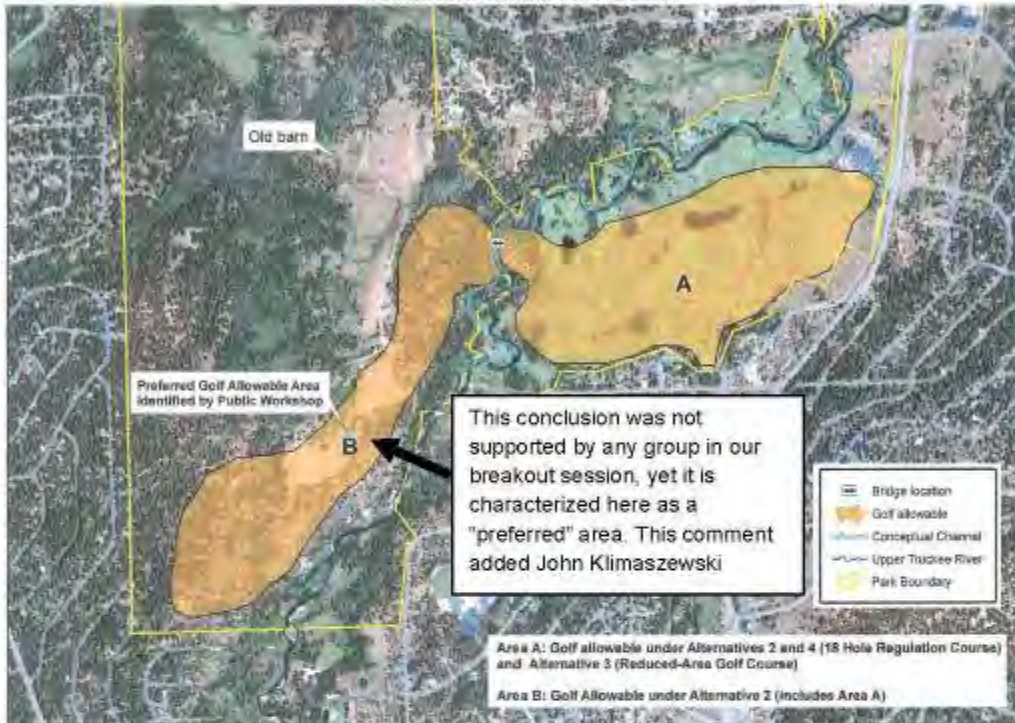


Statement regarding  
the bias toward  
alternative 2 not  
addressed in the EIR  
executive summary



## Attachment 2

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



### Attachment 3

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



# Attachment 3



Upper Truckee River Restoration & Golf Course Reconfiguration Project



### Upcoming Meetings

### Past Meetings

- 1. September 23, 2010 8:00-9:00 p.m.  
Lake Tahoe Golf Course  
2500 Emerald Bay Rd  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
- 2. TRPA will be reviewing the project at the following:
  - 1. October 13, 2010. See agenda  
TRPA Advisory Planning Commission Meeting  
Lower Kingsbury Grade  
128 Market St  
Stateline, NV 89449
  - 2. October 27, 2010 See agenda  
9:45 AM  
TRPA Governing Board Meeting  
Lower Kingsbury Grade  
128 Market St  
Stateline, NV 89449
- 3. CSP will be offering the following site to:
  - 1. September 23, 2010 8:00-9:00 p.m.  
Lake Tahoe Golf Course  
2500 Emerald Bay Rd  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
  - 2. Meyers Round Table  
(contact them for agenda)  
September 22 2010, 6:00 pm
  - 3. September 8, 2010: 2:4pm and  
Sept 22, 2010: 4:30-6:30pm  
Lake Tahoe Golf Course  
2500 Emerald Bay Rd  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
  - 4. Learn about the project at Golf Course Mixers  
August 24th 2010, 4:10-6:10pm  
Sept 2th 2010, 4:10-6:10 pm  
Lake Tahoe Golf Course  
2500 Emerald Bay Rd  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

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

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

June 2008 Take

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

11/13/2010

Attachment 4

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

Rug DA 2008 11:18AM Bruce MacKay Pump & Well 775-851-1602 p. 2

**Bruce MacKay Pump & Well Service, Inc.**

"Your complete water system professional"

NV Lic. #73025 & #22061 CO. Lic. #208114

1600 Mt. Rose Hwy. Reno, NV 89511 **Well Drilling Estimate For 10 5/8" Well** Office: (775) 851-1600 Fax: (775) 851-1602  
Date 05-15-08

For: Lake Tahoe Golf Course / Attn. John Staszewski  
Address: P.O. Box 10406, South Lake Tahoe, CA  
Ph: 530-577-0801 Cell: 530-632-6852 John Fax: 530-577-5131  
Property Location: 2300 Hwy. 50, South Lake Tahoe, CA A.J.N.

- 1. Well Drilling Permit El Dorado County Customer Provide
- 2. Well Drilling - Mud for 10 5/8" well- Estm. depth- 279 Ft. with 17.5" bore hole @ \$140.00/ft including block casing. [blacked out]  
(If Mud drilling is ever required, the entire drilling cost is at the Contractors)  
Perforated metal pit SET UP (Required for MUD Drilling) [blacked out]  
(We will furnish 5-runs of mud per finished foot. Additional fluid or lost circulation materials or additives see at invoice cost.) [blacked out]
- 3. If drilling rate slows to 20' an hour or less due to formation conditions or lost circulation, the hourly rate for services will apply at \$375/hour during drilling operations or establishing circulation plus any foreign charges. If formation requires cementing, then cement + 20% hourly rate (\$375/hr) standby will apply.
- 4. Well will be gravel packed with up to two yards per 100 feet - included. Additional gravel if required at \$85.00 per yard.
- 5. Perforated well casing (Factory perforated with centralizers) 20 feet - Included  
Additional perforated casing, if desired or recommended, is billed at 20' increments @ \$60.10/ft. [blacked out]
- 6. Well developing & surging- up to 3 hours Included  
Additional developing if required is at the hourly rate of [blacked out]
- 7. Sealing 3in-100' ceramic grout [blacked out]  
If 100' sanitary seal required-(within 1/2 mile of stream, ditch or standing water)
- 8. Equipment (pumps and egrets) and area cleanup, containment, and removal of drilling fluids and drilling cuttings are Contractors Responsibility.
- 9. Contractor makes no guarantee or warranty with respect to the supply or quality of water, if any, from said well.
- 10. Contractor or agent agrees to be available in person during the construction of this well. If the contractor is not available during the construction, customer agrees to all decisions made by the owner following change of scope of work as outlined above.

Total estimated well price (final price depends upon actual depth and conditions) [blacked out]  
\$3,900.00 deposit required.  
I (We) agree to the above Estimate. [Signature] Date: 5/14/08 Purchase  
Submitted by: R. Bruce MacKay Date: 5-19-08 Contractor  
R. Bruce MacKay

Prices are good for 30 days from stated Estimate. Terms-Payment due upon completion. Upon buyer's failure to pay in full within 10 days, buyer agrees to pay a FINANCIAL CHANGE OF 2% PER MONTH, 34% PER ANNUM. PECS may other verification could necessary including attorney fees. One at possible change in scope of work and unforeseen conditions. All work is done on a time and material or fixed fee basis unless otherwise indicated. Payment due upon completion.

I111-1

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

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

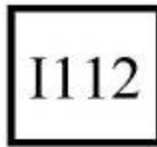
- ▶ reduce the largest amount of land coverage of any of the alternatives, which would reduce soils, hydrologic, and biological resources impacts;
- ▶ restore the largest area of SEZ; and
- ▶ provide the long-term water quality and habitat benefits of geomorphic river restoration.

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

I111-2

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

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



**FW: Golf Course**

McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

---

**From:** Walck, Cyndi

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

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

**Subject:** FW: Golf Course

---

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

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

**To:** Walck, Cyndi

**Subject:** Golf Course

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

1112-1

Kindest Regards, Mark Klover

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

Letter  
I112  
Response

Mike Klover  
August 25, 2010

---

I112-1

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

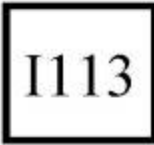


**Public Comment - UT Project**

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

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee



---

Dear Ca Parks,

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

I113-1

Sincerely,

Mark Klover  
539 Cochise Cir  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Letter  
I113  
Response

Mike Klover  
October 27, 2010

---

I113-1

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

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

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

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

Specifically regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Report:

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

1114-1

Thank you,



Alfred Knotts

1055 View Circle

South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

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

**lake tahoe golf course**

mark koffman [markkoffman@sbcglobal.net]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee



---

Don't change anything!

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

Settling ponds or low barriers in the stream.

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

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

Mark Koffman, permanent resident

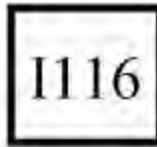
1115-1

I115-1

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

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

McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth



---

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

---

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

I agree!  
Norm Kosco [ngkosco@charter.net](mailto:ngkosco@charter.net)

| 1116 |

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

Lets be heard !!!!!!!!

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

If you agree with it - Forward it to [CWalck@parks.ca.gov](mailto:CWalck@parks.ca.gov) with an "I agree" comment.

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

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

I believe the California State Parks should adopt Alternative 2.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Revenues Potentially Lost to our local economy: 6.5 million

This does not include revenues to the golf course or California State Parks



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

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

I116-1

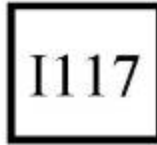
The commenter states that he agrees but does not provide information on what he agrees with. The comment is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

## Upper Truckee River restoration project

Greg Kuntz [gkuntz@ltusd.org]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee



---

Cyndie Walck, Sierra State Parks,

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

1117-1

Sincerely,

Greg Kuntz  
Girls' Varsity Golf Coach  
South Tahoe High School

I117-1

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

**Alternative 2**

Michelle Lam [sakibomb44@gmail.com]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee



---

Hi,

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

1118-1

Michelle Lam

I118-1

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

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



McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

---

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

From: Walck, Cyndi

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

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

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

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

From: kiatta59@aol.com (mailto:kiatta59@aol.com)

Sent: Friday, August 27, 2010 3:22 PM

To: Walck, Cyndi

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

I AGREE with alternative # 3 Reith Latta Lake Tahoe Nevada

| 1119-1

©Walck@parks.ca.gov

---

From: RonCRettus@aol.com (mailto:RonCRettus@aol.com)

Lets be heard.!!!!!!!

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

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

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

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

I believe the California State Parks should adopt Alternative 2.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Revenues Potentially Lost to our local economy: 6.5  
million

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

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

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

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



Letter  
I119  
Response

Keith Latta  
August 27, 2010

---

I119-1

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

**Comment: USBR on Lake Tahoe Golf Course**

LJ Laurent [ljl Laurent@att.net]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

I120

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LJ Laurent  
1212 Forrest St.  
Folsom, CA 95630

I120-1

I120-1

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

## Upper truckee restoration

Denise LeBiavant [dlebiavant@yahoo.com]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee



---

To Whom it may concern,

**I vote for Alt 5 No golf course.**

How many golf courses does Tahoe need anyway?

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

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

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

1121-1

Please consider this when you make your final decision.

Sincerely,

Denise Le Biavant

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

Letter  
I121  
Response

Denise LeBiavant  
October 17, 2010

---

I121-1

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

**Public comment on golf course reconfiguration project**

Debbie A Ledbetter [dledbetter@sbcglobal.net]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee



---

To Whom it May Concern:

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

1122-1

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

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

Thanks

Debbie Ledbetter

I122-1

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

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

**Upper Truckee Restoration**

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

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

I123

---

To Whom It May Concern:

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

I123-1

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



Letter  
1123  
Response

Charles Lincoln  
October 18, 2010

---

I123-1

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

October 23, 2010

I124

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

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

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

RE: SAVE WASHOE MEADOW STATE PARK

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

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

We are concerned about wildlife  
habitat disruption from an expanded GOLF

I124-1

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

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

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

- Maintain GOLF
- KEEP WASHOE MEADOWS PARK intact

Thank you

Michael Ripkin  
Allene Ripkin

1124-1  
cont.

I124-1

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

**Proposed Lake Tahoe golf course modification**

Wayne Logan [wayneblogan@charter.net]

I125

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

**Cc:** Sigheide@aol.com

---

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

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

Thank You

Wayne Logan

I125-1

I125-1

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

**uppertruckee comment**

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

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

I126

---

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

I126-1

Sincerely,  
Mary Magana

I126-1

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



Tom Makris  
1180 Winnemucca  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

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

I am writing in support of Alternative 2.

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

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

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

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

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

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

I127-1

Document3

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

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

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

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

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

Thank you for your consideration  
Tom Makris

1127-1  
cont.

Document3

Letter  
I127  
Response

Tom and Debbie Makris  
November 8, 2010

---

I127-1

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

## Comment on Draft EIS for Upper Truckee River Project

Jerry & Cathy Martin [tahoemartin@juno.com]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

I128

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

I128-1

I128-1

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

**Golf Course EIR**

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

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee



---

Good morning,

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

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

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

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

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

Richard Matera  
South Lake Tahoe resident  
530-544-3814

1129-1

Letter  
I129  
Response

Richard Matera  
September 8, 2010

---

I129-1

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



**FW: golf course re-design**

McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

---

**From:** Walck, Cyndi

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

**To:** McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

**Subject:** FW: golf course re-design

Please reply:

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

---

**From:** Project, Upper Truckee

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

**To:** Walck, Cyndi

**Subject:** FW: golf course re-design

---

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

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

**Subject:** golf course re-design

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

| 1130-1

Thanks.

Matt



I130-1

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



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

McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

**From:** Walck, Cyndi

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

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

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

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

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

**To:** Walck, Cyndi

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

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

1131-1

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

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

**To:** RonCReTtus@aol.com; hazlettdoug@gmail.com; brucep1@yahoo.com; frodo3645@yahoo.com; robrule666@gmail.com; bajanorm@hotmail.com; laptahoe@charter.net; ktvt5893@sbcglobal.net; Katzino6@aol.com; fatjackf@aol.com; brenrichard52@sbcglobal.net; wdgmr@yahoo.com; blawrie1@hotmail.com; dancevisions@charter.net; rabarneson@hotmail.com; playmatters@live.com; d-scriptmedia@yahoo.com; michael.bolen@hotmail.com; jcopeland@kirkwood.com; paperplays.john@gmail.com; goodingt@charter.net; mapphantom@charter.net; rhaas40442@aol.com; Lheggen@gmail.com; fpiannetta@sbcglobal.com; peterilling@sbcglobal.net; rickkistler@yahoo.com; klatta59@aol.com; lkm1234@hotmail.com; boardhead7@charter.net; pattonmm@sbcglobal.net; bobcyn@sbcglobal.net; pricerite@comcast.net; bernside@hotmail.com; lucystanton@netzero.com; astrain@vailresorts.com; muliana-mabe@att.net; Super@LakeTahoeGC.com; larry.hobson25@gmail.com; gm@laketahoeGC.com; rangelocci@earthlink.net; tahoebrown01@msn.com; Klatta59@aol.com; tmazz1@att.net; free1249@yahoo.com; blandejob99@yahoo.com; castellanos-law@sbcglobal.net; tdaniels@infostations.com; richiewoo60@yahoo.com; l\_gobson@yahoo.com; sltalbrecht@sbcglobal.net; banderson51@charter.net; csintahoe@aol.com; smooks3@charter.net; buxbaz@sbcglobal.net; bbbett@aol.com; yesblonski@sbcglobal.net; timmerone@aol.com; gborst427@hotmail.com; royal@royalhydraulics.com; tahoesr71@yahoo.com; userramp@aol.com; ibpost@aol.com; bd06232000@netzero.net; pappou@aol.com; dgayner@charter.net; tahojim@aol.com; anneke100@aol.com; zankiegooding@aol.com; L\_hobson@yahoo.com; curtis@hsrei.biz; georgene@hsrei.biz; hjureschke@hotmail.com; rkreveg@hotmail.com; mklover@pacbell.net; selinatap@yahoo.com; tmakris@pillsburylaw.com; dlmayer@aol.com; kylemazzoni@yahoo.com; tmaz1@att.net; ibegeo@aol.com; G.Mendel@sbcglobal.net; richtahoe@aol.com; john@mcgeemechanical.net; movasel@wamtahoe.com; to2299@sbcglobal.net; coachpatterson@sbcglobal.net; jerepca1@aol.com; piercetk@hotmail.com; tahoeadford@aol.com;

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

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

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

The correct e-mail for comments is:

[utproject@parks.ca.gov](mailto:utproject@parks.ca.gov)

Thank you

CA State Parks

---

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

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

**To:** RonCRettus@aol.com; hazlettdoug@gmail.com; brucep1@yahoo.com; frodo3645@yahoo.com;  
robrule666@gmail.com; bajanorm@hotmail.com; laptahoe@charter.net; kvt5893@sbcglobal.net;  
Katzino6@aol.com; fatjackf@aol.com; brentrichard52@sbcglobal.net; wdgmr@yahoo.com;  
blawrie1@hotmail.com; dancevisions@charter.net; rabarneson@hotmail.com; playmatters@live.com; d-  
scriptmedia@yahoo.com; michael.bolen@hotmail.com; jcopeland@kirkwood.com;  
paperplays.john@gmail.com; goodingt@charter.net; mapphantom@charter.net; rhaas40442@aol.com;  
Lheggen@gmail.com; fpiannetta@sbcglobal.com; peterilling@sbcglobal.net; rickkistler@yahoo.com;  
klatta59@aol.com; lkm1234@hotmail.com; boardhead7@charter.net; pattonmm@sbcglobal.net;  
bobcyn@sbcglobal.net; pricesrite@comcast.net; bernside@hotmail.com; lucystanton@netzero.com;  
astraln@vailresorts.com; mullana-mabe@att.net; Super@LakeTahoeGC.com; larry.hobson25@gmail.com;  
gm@laketahoe.gc.com; rangelocci@earthlink.net; tahoebrown01@msn.com; Klatta59@aol.com;  
tmazz1@att.net; free1249@yahoo.com; blandejob99@yahoo.com; castellanos-law@sbcglobal.net;  
tdaniels@infostations.com; richiewoo60@yahoo.com; L\_hobson@yahoo.com; sitalbrecht@sbcglobal.net;  
banderson51@charter.net; csintahoe@aol.com; smooks3@charter.net; buxbaz@sbcglobal.net;  
bbbett@aol.com; yesblonski@sbcglobal.net; ilimmerone@aol.com; gborst427@hotmail.com;  
royal@royalhydraulics.com; tahoes71@yahoo.com; userramp@aol.com; ibpost@aol.com;  
bd06232000@netzero.net; pappou@aol.com; dgayner@charter.net; tahojim@aol.com;  
anneke100@aol.com; zankiegooding@aol.com; L\_hobson@yahoo.com; curtis@hsrei.biz;  
georgene@hsrei.biz; hjuretschke@hotmail.com; rkreveg@hotmail.com; mklover@pacbell.net;  
sellnatap@yahoo.com; tmakris@pillsburylaw.com; dlmayer@aol.com; kylemazzone@yahoo.com;  
tmaz1@att.net; ibegeo@aol.com; G.Mendel@sbcglobal.net; richtahoe@aol.com;  
john@mcgeemechanical.net; movasel@wamtahoe.com; to2299@sbcglobal.net;  
coachpatterson@sbcglobal.net; jerepca1@aol.com; piercetk@hotmail.com; tahoeradford@aol.com;  
Ragonese@charter.net; roncretus@aol.com; michaelpatrickrogan@gmail.com; jps423@att.net;  
srplumb@etahoe.com; drshehadi@cox.net; fritztahoe@hotmail.com; ronrsi@aol.com;  
stacpoole@sbcglobal.net; jstahl@ortc.com; toreno3@sbcglobal.net; weisstahoe@sbcglobal.net;  
crtwhelan@charter.net; gwiffy4@yahoo.com; wtahoemax@aol.com; nrwolf@prodigy.net

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



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

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

**If you agree with it - Forward it to [CWalck@parks.ca.gov](mailto:CWalck@parks.ca.gov) with an "I agree" comment.**

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

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

**I believe the California State Parks should adopt Alternative 2.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Revenues Potentially Lost to our local economy: 6.5 million**

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

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

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

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

I131-1

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



**FW: LTGC**

McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

---

**From:** Walck, Cyndi

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

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

**Subject:** FW: LTGC

---

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

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

**To:** Walck, Cyndi

**Subject:** LTGC

I agree with alternative #2

| 1132-1

Letter  
I132  
Response

Tim Mazzone  
August 24, 2010

---

I132-1

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



**LTGC**

tim mazzoni [tmazz1@att.net]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee



---

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

| 1133-1

Letter  
I133  
Response

Tim Mazzone  
September 21, 2010

---

I133-1

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

**LTGC**

tim mazzoni [tmazz1@att.net]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

I134

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

I134-1

Letter  
I134  
Response

Tim Mazzone  
October 18, 2010

---

I134-1

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

## Support of Alternative 2

richard mccallan [ricmccal@gmail.com]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

I135

---

To whom it may concern,

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

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

I135-1

Thank you for your consideration.

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

I135-1

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

## Washoe Meadows State Park

John McDougall [john@cascadeinvestments.com]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

I136

---

Hello Cyndi

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

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

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

Thank You

**John McDougall**  
**530-416-2003**

I136-1

I136-1

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

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



**Tahoe Golf Course**

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

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee



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

I137-1

George McKool  
Stateline, Nv.

I137-1

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

I138

**Re: response**

Kenneth McNutt [kmcnutt58@sbcglobal.net]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

---

Tx Cyndie

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

I138-1

*Ken McNutt*

---

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

**To:** kmcnutt58@sbcglobal.net

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

**Subject:** FW: response

---

**From:** Project, Upper Truckee

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

**To:** kmnutt58@sbcglobal.net

**Subject:** response

Ken McNutt

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

Thanks,

Cyndie Walck

Letter  
I138  
Response

Ken McNutt  
October 5, 2010

---

I138-1

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



**FW: golfers**

McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

---

**From:** Walck, Cyndi

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

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

**Cc:** McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

**Subject:** FW: golfers

---

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

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

**To:** Walck, Cyndi

**Subject:**

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

| 1139-1

I139-1

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

Gary Mendel [g.mendel@sbcglobal.net]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

I140

---

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

I140-1

I140-1

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



Gary Mendel [g.mendel@sbcglobal.net]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

I141

---

#4 seems to be the only viable solution.

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

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

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

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

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

I141-1

I141-1

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

**attn: Cyndie Walck**

Mendizabal Linda [menditahoe@yahoo.com]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

I142

---

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

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

Linda and Bob Mendizabal

I142-1

Letter  
I142  
Response

Linda and Bob Mendizabal  
October 22, 2010

---

I142-1

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



**Alternate 1**

Terry Mitchell [terry@aysonline.net]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

---

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

I143-1

Terry A. Mitchell  
South Lake Tahoe Resident

I143-1

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



**Upper Truckee River Project**

Gary Moore [gsmtahoe@pacbell.net]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

---

EIS Comment: Upper Truckee River Restoration & Golf Course Reconfiguration Project  
Name: Gary Moore  
email: [gsmtahoe@pacbell.net](mailto:gsmtahoe@pacbell.net)

Re: EIS Letter of Support for Alternative 2

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

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

1144-1

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

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

Gary Moore

South Lake Tahoe, CA

Letter  
I144  
Response

Gary Moore  
October 6, 2010

---

I144-1

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



**Lake Tahoe Golf Course**

Linda Moore [lkm1234@hotmail.com]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

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

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

I145-1

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

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

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

Letter  
I145  
Response

Linda Moore  
October 12, 2010

---

I145-1

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

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

I146

Jim Morocco [boardhead7@charter.net]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

---

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

I146-1

Thanks,  
Jim Morocco

Letter  
I146  
Response

Jim Morocco  
September 3, 2010

---

I146-1

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



## Input

Larry mortensen [lmort3223@mac.com]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

---

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1147-1

I147-1

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

November 7, 2010

I148

To whom it may concern:

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

I148-1

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

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

I148-2

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

1148-3

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

1148-4

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

1148-5

Sincerely, a concerned home owner



Sarah Muskopf  
786 Seneca



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

## Truckee River Restoration Project

Paul Nanzig [paulnanzig@tahoeoutdoorliving.com]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

I149

---

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

I149-1

I149-1

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

**upper truckee golf course reconfiguration**

Paul Nanzig [paulnanzig@tahoeoutdoorliving.com]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee



---

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

1150-1

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

I150-1

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

**Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project**

I151

Aysin Neville [aysin\_neville@yahoo.com]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

**Cc:** Bruce Neville [bruceneville@yahoo.com]

---

To whom it may concern,

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

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

I151-1

Thank you for your consideration!

Aysin and Bruce Neville  
2744 Delaware

Letter  
I151  
Response

Aysin and Bruce Neville  
August 30, 2010

---

I151-1

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

I152

**comment on Upper Truckee River project**

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

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

---

To whom it may concern:

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

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

1152.1

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

Thank you!

**Michael Newberger**

Director of Sales & Marketing

Aston Lakeland Village Resort

3635 Lake Tahoe Blvd

S. Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

530.544.1686, 758.800.822.5969, Fax 530.544.7796

[michael.newberger@astonhotels.com](mailto:michael.newberger@astonhotels.com)

[www.lakeland-village.com](http://www.lakeland-village.com)



The information contained in this e-mail message is intended only for the personal and confidential use of the recipient(s) named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you have received this document in error and that any review, dissemination, distribution or copying of this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by e-mail and delete the original message. Thank you.



Letter  
I152  
Response

Michael O. Newberger  
November 1, 2010

---

I152-1

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

November 4, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

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

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

I153-1

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

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

I153-2

Thank you for your consideration,

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

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

**Public Comment on Washoe Meadows/ Upper Truckee River Project**

**I154**

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

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

---

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

I154-1

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

Thank you for the opportunity for input,

Bob Niedermeier  
1203 OMalley Dr  
So Lake Tahoe CA 96150

I154-1

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

## Comment on Draft EIS for Upper Truckee River Project

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

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee



---

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

1155-1

I155-1

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

**Washoe Meadows State Park**

Annaleigh Novak [annaleigh\_novak@yahoo.com]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee



---

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

1156-1



I156-1

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



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

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

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

LAND USE:

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

1157-1

SCENIC:

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

1157-2

1157-3

1157-4

RECREATION

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

1157-5

1157-6

1157-7

1157-8

1157-9

#### HYDROLOGY AND FLOODING

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

#### BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

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

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

1157-17  
cont.

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

1157-18

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

*Lisa O'Daly*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

## Restore Upper Truckee River

Rachel Odneal [rrross812@hotmail.com]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

I158

---

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

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

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

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

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

I158-1

I158-1

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

I159-1

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

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

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

1159-1  
cont.

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

I159-1

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

September 21, 2010

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

**Re: River-Golf Course EIR/EIS/EIS**

Dear Ms. Walck:

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

**Our Mission**

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

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

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

I160-1

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

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

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

I160-1

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

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

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

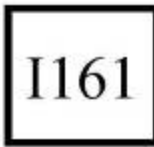


**Proposed destruction of washoe meadows**

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

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee



---

**Subject: proposed destruction of washoe meadows**

To whom it may concern;

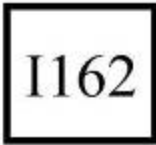
Your proposed Alternative 2 is wrong. How can you even think of moving a golf course into the wild lands when there is a completely viable alternative that is consistent with the planning that State Parks prepared with full public involvement after they obtained the land. The fuel reduction policies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

1161-1

Sincerely,  
Julie Parker

I161-1

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



## Upper Truckee restoration

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

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

**Attachments:** "Certification" (222 B)

---

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

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

Definitions:

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

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

Golfers are you know, golfers.

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

I162-1

Letter  
I162  
Response

Vern and Mary Parker  
September 5, 2010

---

I162-1

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



**FW: Lake Tahoe Golf Course**

McMillan-Hanly, Elizabeth

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

---

**From:** Walck, Cyndi

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

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

**Subject:** FW: Lake Tahoe Golf Course

---

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

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

**To:** Walck, Cyndi

**Subject:** Lake Tahoe Golf Course

**I believe the California State Parks should adopt Alternative 2.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

I163-1

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

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

1163-1  
cont.

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

Letter  
I163  
Response

Mike Patterson  
August 24, 2010

---

I163-1

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

**Lake Tahoe GC**

Mike Patterson [coachpatterson@sbcglobal.net]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee



---

Hello,

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

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

Thank you,

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

| 1164-1



Letter  
I164  
Response

Mike Patterson  
October 13, 2010

---

I164-1

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



6331 Contessa Ct.  
San Jose, CA 95123

November 15, 2010

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

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

Dear Ms. Walck,

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

Grading

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

1165-1

Golf Course in SEZ

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

1165-2

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

1165-2  
cont.

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

#### Cultural Resources

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

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

1165-3

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

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

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

The EIR has not adequately addressed these cultural resources issues.

Recreation

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

1185-4

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

Other Concerns

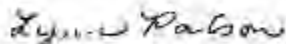
I have many additional concerns with Alternative 2 (including damage to biological resources, loss of wildlife habitat and scenic beauty, inadequacies in the economic analysis, failure of State Parks to have an open and accountable public process, and inadequacies in the development of alternatives)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

1185-5

Conclusion

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

Regards,



Lynne Paulson  
Email [LCPaulson@comcast.net](mailto:LCPaulson@comcast.net)

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

**Upper Truckee/Golf Course**

Gordon Perry [gperry@sbcglobal.net]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

I166

---

Hello Cynthia,

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

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

Thank you for your efforts to preserve our area.

Gordon and Pamela Perry  
1540 Arapahoe  
South Lake Tahoe, CA

Cell 510-407-1105

I166-1

I166-1

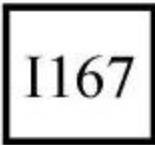
The commenters' support for Alternative 4 is noted. This comment does not raise issues regarding the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

**letter alternative #4**

Barbra and Glenn [glenbra1@charter.net]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee



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

1167-1



I167-1

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



**Upper Truckee Project**

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

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

---

Cynthia,

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

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

1168-1

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

---

This e-mail and its attachments may contain Right Management Inc. proprietary information, which is PRIVILEGED, CONFIDENTIAL, or subject to COPYRIGHT belonging to Right Management Inc. This e-mail is intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient of this e-mail, or the employee or agent responsible for delivering this e-mail to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, copying, or action taken in relation to the contents of and attachments to this e-mail is STRICTLY PROHIBITED and may be UNLAWFUL. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately and permanently delete the original and any copy of this e-mail and any printout. Right Management is a registered trademark of Right Management Inc. Thank You.

Letter  
I168  
Response

Rob Peterson  
October 29, 2010

---

I168-1

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

**Golf Course Project**

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

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

---

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1169-1

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

1169-1  
cont.

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

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

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

I170

October 21, 2010

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

Re: Upper Truckee River Restoration

Dear Cyndie:

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

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

170-1

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

170-2

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

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

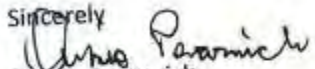
170-3

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

1170-3  
cont

Thank you for your considering my ideas.

Sincerely

  
Dennis Pevarnick



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

**Upper Truckee River restoration and Golf course reconfiguration project**

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

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee



---

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

| 1171-1

Letter  
I171  
Response

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

---

I171-1

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

**Golf course**

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

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

I172

---

Ciao-

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

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

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

Thanks,  
Benjamin Pignatelli  
Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

I172-1

Letter  
I172  
Response

Benjamin Pignatelli  
September 3, 2010

---

I172-1

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



**additional comments**

Benjamin Pignatelli [benjaminpignatelli@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 05, 2010 7:20 AM  
**To:** Project, Upper Truckee  
**Attachments:** golf course final\_BP.doc (2 MB)

---

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

Thanks,  
Ben  
--

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

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

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

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

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

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

1173-1

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

1173-1  
cont.

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

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

1173-2

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

<http://www.restoreuppertruckee.net/>  
<http://ice.ucdavis.edu/education/espl79/foenocoe/387>  
<http://www.washoemeadowscommunity.org/>

--  
Benjamin Pignatelli  
(530) 721-0680

1173-2  
cont.

1173-3



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

By Ben Pignatelli

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

The new golf course layout under Alternative 2 – the preferred alternative would have more trees between tees and greens – unlike many of the holes currently in play where you can see and hear other golfers while teeing off or putting. Some of the fairways would be narrower making the mostly wide open course a little more reigned in. That being said, employees at the course say that some of

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



No buffer. The golf course comes right up to the river on Hole 12.

Recreation is a huge part of this restoration project – “as big as anywhere else,” said Mike Elam, planning professional with the TRPA. Indeed, with the golf course and the myriad of mixed uses in all seasons this piece of property holds significant recreational value. This state park is in one of the top 5 revenue generators in the entire California state parks system (bringing in \$880k annually to State Parks), and the golf course is currently being leased year-to-year to American Golf Corporation. Money from this state park helps keep others that don’t make money, open.

Neighbors have initially reacting negatively to the proposed plan citing loss of access to the state park and development in the state park. Walck says, though, that the public would actually have enhanced access with the new golf course layout - linking the Country Club neighborhood to the Sawmill Bike Path – passing along a fully restored river reach corridor. But indeed from the maps it does look like that one of the access paths through the golf course from the Country Club neighborhood would be longer... what looked like  $\frac{1}{4}$  to a  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile longer. I used to live in the neighborhood on San Diego and can see reason for concern, but a broader plan is at work in the Tahoe Basin – restoration and redevelopment trying to be balanced accordingly. The place slated for the new holes is not a pristine wilderness, but a site where 3 quarries once were dug and the forest is third growth - not in an SEZ where the golf course is currently. It is obvious that a lot of research and tactful thinking was applied across many different resource management guises to result in a preferred alternative. I remember attending a public meeting over 2 years ago.

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



*A small portion of the Angora Creek restoration project.*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

October 6, 2010

Regarding: River-Golf Course

Washoe Meadows State Park

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

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

I174-1

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

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

Thank you.

Barbara Randolph  
2333 California Ave  
So Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

I174-1

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

**Upper Truckee River Restoration & Golf Course Reconfiguration Project comments**

I175

David Reichel [davidreichel@gmail.com]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

---

Howdy,

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

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

I175-1

I175-1

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



I176

**Financial Impact**

RonCReTtus@aol.com [RonCReTtus@aol.com]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

I176-1

I176-1

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

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

**1177**

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

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

**To:** RonCRettus@aol.com; hazlettoug@gmail.com; brucep1@yahoo.com; frodo2645@yahoo.com; robrule666@gmail.com; bajaranm@hotmail.com; laptahoe@charter.net; ktyt5893@sbcglobal.net; Katzmo6@aol.com; fatjackf@aol.com; brentrichard52@sbcglobal.net; wdgmr@yahoo.com; blawrie1@hotmail.com; dancevisions@charter.net; tabameson@hotmail.com; playmatters@live.com; d-scriptmedia@yahoo.com; michael.bolen@hotmail.com; jcopeland@kirkwood.com; paperplays.john@gmail.com; goodingt@charter.net; mapphantom@charter.net; rhas90442@aol.com; Lheggen@gmail.com; fpiannetta@sbcglobal.com; peterilling@sbcglobal.net; rckkistler@yahoo.com; klatta59@aol.com; lkm1234@hotmail.com; boardhead7@charter.net; pattomim@sbcglobal.net; bobcyn@sbcglobal.net; pricesrite@comcast.net; bernside@hotmail.com; lucystanton@netzero.com; astrain@vailresorts.com; muliana-mabe@att.net; Super@LakeTahoeGC.com; larry.hobson25@gmail.com; gm@laketahoe.gc.com; rangeloco@earthlink.net; tahoebrown01@msn.com; Klatta59@aol.com; tmaz1@att.net; free1249@yahoo.com; blandejob99@yahoo.com; castellanos-law@sbcglobal.net; tdaniels@infostations.com; richlewo60@yahoo.com; Lghobson@yahoo.com; sitalbrecht@sbcglobal.net; banderson51@charter.net; csintahoe@aol.com; smook33@charter.net; buxbaz@sbcglobal.net; bbbett@aol.com; yesblonski@sbcglobal.net; timmerons@aol.com; gborst427@hotmail.com; royal@royalhydraulics.com; tahoes71@yahoo.com; userramp@aol.com; ibpost@aol.com; bd06232000@netzero.net; pappou@aol.com; dgayner@charter.net; tahojim@aol.com; anneke100@aol.com; zankiegooding@aol.com; Lghobson@yahoo.com; curtis@hse.biz; georgene@hse.biz; hjuretschka@hotmail.com; rkreyeg@hotmail.com; mklover@pacbell.net; selinatap@yahoo.com; tmakns@pillsburylaw.com; dlmayer@aol.com; kylemazzoni@yahoo.com; tmaz1@att.net; ibegeo@aol.com; G.Mendel@sbcglobal.net; richtahoe@aol.com; john@mcgeemechanical.net; movasel@wamtahoe.com; to2299@sbcglobal.net; coachpatterson@sbcglobal.net; jerepca1@aol.com; piercetk@hotmail.com; tahoeadford@aol.com; Ragonese@charter.net; roncretus@aol.com; michaelpatrickrogan@gmail.com; jps423@att.net; srplumb@etahoe.com; drshehadi@cox.net; fritztahoe@hotmail.com; ronrsi@aol.com; stacpoole@sbcglobal.net; jstahi@ortc.com; toreno3@sbcglobal.net; weisstahoe@sbcglobal.net; crtwhehan@charter.net; gwiffy4@yahoo.com; wtaoemax@aol.com; nrwolf@prodigy.net



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

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

**If you agree with it - Forward it to [CWalck@parks.ca.gov](mailto:CWalck@parks.ca.gov) with an "I agree" comment.**

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

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

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

I believe the California State Parks should adopt Alternative 2.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Revenues Potentially Lost to our local economy: 6.5 million**

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

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

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

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

I177-1

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

**alternatives**

Tahoe Riciolis [tahoericiolis@sbcglobal.net]

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

**To:** Project, Upper Truckee

I178

---

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

I178-1

**Steve Ricioli  
1039 cheyenne dr.  
SLT**

Letter  
1178  
Response

Steve Ricioli  
September 9, 2010

---

I178-1

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