



RECEIVED
CALIFORNIA
FISH AND GAME
COMMISSION

2018 NOV -9 P. 12:50

**COUNTY OF ALPINE
Board of Supervisors**

November 7, 2018

California Fish and Game Commission
Re: Petition to the CA Fish and Game Commission
for Regulation change.
Eric Sklar, President
1416 Ninth St, Room 1320
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

RE: Enclosed Petition to the California Fish and Game Commission for Regulation Change
Request to repeal Title 14 Section 551(w) (15) Removing Hope Valley Wildlife Area from the
Lands Pass Program.

Dear Commission Members:

Mr. Erik Sklar, President
Mr. Anthony C. Williams, Vice President
Mrs. Jacque Hostler-Carmesin, Member
Mr. Russell Burns, Member
Mr. Peter Silva, Member

Alpine County Board of Supervisors respectfully request that California Fish and Wildlife
Commission remove Hope Valley Wildlife Area from the Lands Pass Program.

Please see enclosed Petition to the California Fish and Game Commission for Regulation
Change requesting to repeal Title 14 Section 551(w) (15) Removing Hope Valley Wildlife Area
from the Lands Pass Program.

Please notify Alpine County Board of Supervisors regarding which meeting the Commission will
review this petition. Please notify us with plenty of notice so that someone may attend.

We thank you for working with Alpine County to reverse this regulatory action.

Sincerely,

Donald Jardine
Chair, Board of Supervisors
Alpine County

CC: Julie Horenstein, Ecological Reserve and Land Acquisition California Department of Fish
and Wildlife julie.horenstein@wildlife.ca.gov



Tracking Number: (2018-016)

To request a change to regulations under the authority of the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission), you are required to submit this completed form to: California Fish and Game Commission, 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1320, Sacramento, CA 95814 or via email to FGC@fgc.ca.gov. Note: This form is not intended for listing petitions for threatened or endangered species (see Section 670.1 of Title 14).

Incomplete forms will not be accepted. A petition is incomplete if it is not submitted on this form or fails to contain necessary information in each of the required categories listed on this form (Section I). A petition will be rejected if it does not pertain to issues under the Commission's authority. A petition may be denied if any petition requesting a functionally equivalent regulation change was considered within the previous 12 months and no information or data is being submitted beyond what was previously submitted. If you need help with this form, please contact Commission staff at (916) 653-4899 or FGC@fgc.ca.gov.

SECTION I: Required Information.

Please be succinct. Responses for Section I should not exceed five pages

- 1. Person or organization requesting the change (Required)**
Name of primary contact person: Alpine County Board of Supervisors
Address: PO Box 158, Markleeville, CA 96120
Telephone number: 530-694-2281
Email address: clerk@alpinecountyca.gov
- 2. Rulemaking Authority (Required)** - Reference to the statutory or constitutional authority of the Commission to take the action requested: California Fish and Game Commission for Regulation Change
- 3. Overview (Required)** - Summarize the proposed changes to regulations: Repeal Title 14 Section 551(w)(15) Removing Hope Valley Wildlife Area from the Lands Pass Program
- 4. Rationale (Required)** - Describe the problem and the reason for the proposed change: Alpine County Board of Supervisors respectfully request that the California Fish and Game Commission repeal Title 14 Section 551(w) (15) Hope Valley Wildlife Area removing Hope Valley Wildlife Area from the Lands Pass Program. Hope Valley should remain an all access area for locals and visitors to enjoy free of any charges with the exception of the required permits for hunting or fishing. Alpine County has the lowest population of all the California Counties and we are dependent on our tourism for the local economy. The Lands Pass Program permit procedures requiring all visitors 16 years and older to purchase a permit online before entering has prevented many people from enjoying this area. This is due to the requirement to purchase online and the fact that we have very limited or no cell phone service in this area. The current boundaries for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife lands are intermittent and bordering both private and United States Forest Service Lands. The areas where the Lands Pass is now required are confusing even to us, let alone, the visitors who are travelling through the area. The Hope Valley facilities are maintained by Sorensen's Resort. The trash is also collected by Sorensen's Resort. Over the years many volunteers, including but not limited to, Sorensen's Resort, Alpine Watershed Group, and "Friends of Hope Valley", have worked to improve the area and have completed many projects over the years to maintain this area for everyone to freely enjoy. There is also an ADA access point which was funded separately to allow for easy access to the West Fork of the



Carson River. The Lands Pass sign has deterred many physically impaired visitors and locals from enjoying the area and this was not the goal of this grant project. Alpine County supports keeping these lands public and therefore open for all to access and enjoy without the need to purchase a Lands Pass prior to their visit. The Hope Valley Economic and Recreation Study recommends that the Pickett's Junction area should be for day use with picnicking, parking, and snow play. Many visitors stop to enjoy Hope Valley when travelling through it to get to other destinations and do not know they are required to purchase Lands Passes until they arrive in Hope Valley, only to find that they have no cell service and therefore no way of purchasing a Lands Pass. The map of designated areas for Hope Valley is very confusing with not one specific area designated. A person could find themselves hiking, biking or skiing into the Lands Pass designated area without even knowing it. The Lands Pass Program has both economic and cultural impacts in Hope Valley Wildlife Area. Hikers are required to buy Lands Passes to cross California Department of Fish and Wildlife Areas to access Forest Service Land for recreation. Cross Country skiers and snowshoe enthusiasts also require a Lands Pass to enter and exit Forest Service Land through California Department of Fish and Wildlife Areas which will impact the local businesses who rely on these visitors in winter. Washoe Tribal Members need to purchase a Lands Pass to access religious and historical sites. It appears from the maps provided for the Lands Pass Program that cyclists are also required to buy a Lands Pass to travel through Pickett's Junction area. These areas also contain popular highway access to backcountry skiers who would need to cross over the California Department of Fish and Wildlife land to access backcountry skiing within Forest Service Lands. The County was not aware of the proposed regulatory action to include Hope Valley Wildlife Area in the Lands Pass Program and was not given an opportunity to comment on how this affects our community and visitors to Alpine County prior to the implementation. Please see attached notification list for this action provided to us by Julie Horenstein, Ecological Reserve and Land Acquisition California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The only copy sent to the County was sent to the Fish and Game Commission and not to the Board of Supervisors nor to the local Washoe Tribal Council. Therefore, Title 14 Section 551(w) (15) Hope Valley Wildlife Area must be repealed to allow all locals and visitors to enjoy this area without the cost, inconvenience and confusion of buying a Lands Pass.

SECTION II: Optional Information

5. **Date of Petition: November 6, 2018**

6. **Category of Proposed Change**

Sport Fishing

Commercial Fishing

Hunting

Other, please specify: Lands Pass Program-Hope Valley Wildlife Area

7. **The proposal is to:** *(To determine section number(s), see current year regulation booklet or <https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs>)*

Amend Title 14 Section(s): Click here to enter text.

Add New Title 14 Section(s): Click here to enter text.

Repeal Title 14 Section(s): Section 551(w)(15)Hope Valley Wildlife Area

8. **If the proposal is related to a previously submitted petition that was rejected, specify the tracking number of the previously submitted petition** Click here to enter text.

Or Not applicable.



- 9. **Effective date:** If applicable, identify the desired effective date of the regulation. If the proposed change requires immediate implementation, explain the nature of the emergency: As early as possible or by no later than December 1, 2018
- 10. **Supporting documentation:** Identify and attach to the petition any information supporting the proposal including data, reports and other documents: Supporting documents attached include: 1) Letters of support 2) Department of Fish and Wildlife Hope Valley Map showing areas designated Lands Pass areas. 3) Phillip Bellman’s letter 4) Letter from Alpine County Board of Supervisors dated January 16, 2018 with attached Lands Pass Notification List-which does not include Alpine County Board of Supervisors nor was it sent to the local Washoe Tribal Council. 5) Hope Valley Economic and Recreation Study Final Report April 1989-By Alpine group.
- 11. **Economic or Fiscal Impacts:** Identify any known impacts of the proposed regulation change on revenues to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, individuals, businesses, jobs, other state agencies, local agencies, schools, or housing: It appears that looking at the Economic and Fiscal Impact Statement that was sent to us with this petition that no consideration was given for the impact on our local, businesses and visitors and that the Statement just refers to costs for the California Fish and Game Commission. It appears that no studies were completed to analyze the impacts on our community and visitors?
- 12. **Forms:** If applicable, list any forms to be created, amended or repealed:
Click here to enter text.

SECTION 3: FGC Staff Only

Date received: Click here to enter text.

RECEIVED
CALIFORNIA
FISH AND GAME
COMMISSION

FGC staff action:

2018 NOV -9 PM 12:50

- Accept - complete
- Reject - incomplete
- Reject - outside scope of FGC authority

Tracking Number 2018-016

Date petitioner was notified of receipt of petition and pending action: December 12-13, 2018

Meeting date for FGC consideration: February 6, 2019

FGC action:

- Denied by FGC
- Denied - same as petition _____
Tracking Number
- Granted for consideration of regulation change

Attachment 1



Alpine Watershed Group

Protecting the Headwaters of the California Alps

RECEIVED

OCT 10 2018

ALPINE COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

October 3, 2018

Alpine County Board of Supervisors
PO Box 158
Markleeville, CA 96120

Attn: Donald M. Jardine, Chair

Re: Letter of Support to Remove the Hope Valley Unit from the Lands Pass Program

Dear Mr. Jardine,

On behalf of the Alpine Watershed Group's Board of Directors, we would like to request that you add this letter to your petition to the California Fish and Game Commission to request removal of Hope Valley from the Lands Pass Program. Our organization seeks to increase public use and appreciation of the public lands of the valley, and we find that the Lands Pass is a deterrent to these public goals.

A key issue is the handicapped access point which was funded separately and especially to allow wheelchair access to the West Fork of the Carson River (see photos at end of letter). Unfortunately, a warning sign at that point is a significant deterrent. It is certainly inappropriate to charge for use of this facility. Cell phone access is limited or non-existent at that location, and even if connected, the visitor cannot obtain instant permission for entry. Visitors are turned away.

A further concern is that many visitors take nothing from the land, as they are simply into hiking, painting, cross-country skiing, or photography. No warden or other state employee is needed to supervise their use. Even the trash containers are maintained by private interests, not California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW).

Land ownership in the valley is a mixture of US Forest Service, private, and CDFW. It is not possible for a visitor to know which lands are which. Such uncertainty further exacerbates public use and enjoyment of the area.

Our organization regularly leads volunteers in conducting stream flow and water quality monitoring in this reach, and we also lead stream field trips and educational workshops to involve the public in stream and watershed restoration. It would be counterproductive to ensure that all have permits or to simply avoid CDFW lands along the river.

Alpine County Board of Supervisors
Letter of Support to Remove the Hope Valley Unit from the Lands Pass Program
October 3, 2018
Page 2

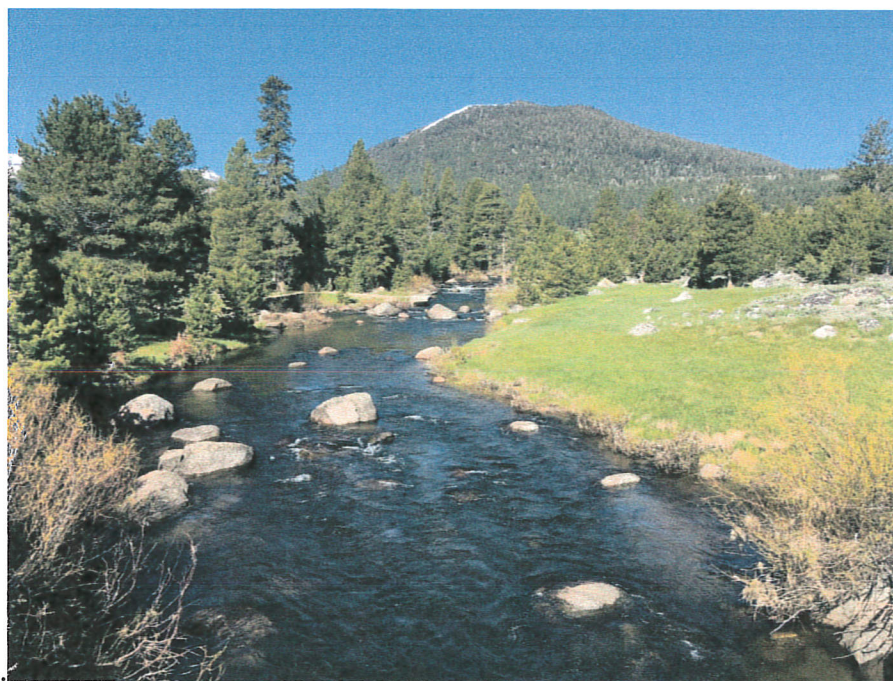
We join the Alpine County Board of Supervisors and the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce in requesting that the Hope Valley Unit be exempt from the Lands Pass requirement. We appreciate the Alpine County Board of Supervisors petitioning the California Fish and Game Commission to change the regulation given the impacts of the Lands Pass Program on our community and on our organization's mission to preserve and enhance the Carson River Watershed.

Sincerely,



Kimra D. McAfee
Executive Director

cc: Carol McElroy



Top: ADA accessible wheelchairs stream-site
Bottom: Signage for Lands Pass at entrance to ADA trail to stream-site





FRIENDS OF HOPE VALLEY
PO Box 431
Markleeville, CA 96120
www.friendsofhopevalley.com

RECEIVED

JUN 21 2018

ALPINE COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOS, CAO

To: State of California – Fish and Game Commission

Re: Lands Pass Program in Hope Valley

Friends of Hope Valley (FOHV) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the historic, recreational, and scenic values of Hope Valley and the Sierra Nevada's eastern slope in Alpine County. In the 1980's our group worked with Trust for Public Lands to help establish lands in Hope Valley to become public.

We were instrumental in the passage of California Proposition 70 in 1988, which provided funds for the purchase of the Picketts Junction area of Hope Valley as well as river bottom land along Blue Lakes Road; the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's purchase of 2,500 additional acres of Hope Valley, including the development-threatened Willow Creek area. Our vision was to have an open space so that everyone could enjoy Hope Valley, one of the last remaining undeveloped meadows in the Sierra.

We support the efforts of the Alpine County Board of Supervisors request to withdraw of the Lands Pass Program in Hope Valley. It's just not the appropriate area to be charging people to visit. Hope Valley is sacred land to the Washoe people, we can't charge "people of the land" to be there.. The rich heritage of Hope Valley is a place to share not a place to charge a fee to visit.

The All Access area is a result of years of volunteer effort for the establishment of the site, Sorensen's staff maintains the parking area and restrooms. FOHV has lead restoration projects, and willow planting along the banks for the last thirty years. FOHV repairs and paints signs, trims the tress, sweeps the platforms and general trash cleanup. Our volunteer efforts are so the public can freely enjoy the area.

The boundaries of the CDFW lands in the valley are random, surrounded by other public lands. It will be impossible for visitors to decipher where they are. There is no gateway or entrance, the few parking areas and signs don't really distinguish land boundaries or which public agency manages the land.

The economy of Alpine Country depends on tourism, Hope Valley, the jewel of the Sierra is among the reason many visitors come to the county. It's a significant destination that draws visitors to the county.

Debbi Waldear
President, Friends of Hope Valley

Judy Warren-Wickwire
Director of Alpine Historical Society



Chamber of Commerce
& Interagency Visitors Center

HOME OF THE TOUR OF THE
CALIFORNIA ALPS - DEATH RIDE®

ALPINE COUNTY
FILM COMMISSION OFFICE

CHARTER MEMBER OF THE
SCENIC BYWAY ASSOCIATION

Friday, August 3, 2018

Ms. Valerie Termini
Executive Director
California Fish and Game Commission
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

RE: Removal of the Hope Valley Wildlife Area Land
Pass Program

Dear Ms. Termini:

We would like to submit our support letter for the Alpine County Board of Supervisors' petition to the California Fish and Game Commission for a regulation change to remove Hope Valley Wildlife Area from the Lands Pass Program.

As a community that relies heavily on a strong tourism market, this program greatly impacts our local businesses, residents and our visitors that enjoy the Hope Valley area year round.

We feel strongly that these lands remain open without fees for all to access and enjoy.

Thank you for working with the Alpine County Board of Supervisors to reverse this regulatory action.

Sincerely,

Teresa Burkhauser, CMP
Executive Director on behalf of the
Alpine County Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors

cc: Alpine County Board of Supervisors

3 WEBSTER STREET
P.O. BOX 265
MARKLEEVILLE, CA 96120

(530) 694-2475

fax (530) 694-2478

www.alpinecounty.com



August 30, 2018

Valerie Termini, Executive Director
California Fish and Wildlife Commission
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94224-2090
RE: Request to remove Hope Valley Area from the Lands Pass Program

Dear Ms. Termini,

The Kirkwood Meadows Public Utility District (District) Board of Directors joins the Alpine County Board of Supervisors in support of their request that the California Fish and Wildlife Commission remove the Hope Valley Wildlife Area from the Lands Pass Program.

The enforcement area of the Lands Pass Program within the Hope Valley Wildlife Area is largely unknown, not only by the local community, but more importantly tourists, and there is a dearth of signage explaining the rules of the Lands Pass Program or delineating the boundaries of an enforcement area. This is an added expense and a deterrent to people wishing to enjoy recreation in Hope Valley, which in turn, has a direct impact on the local economy. Some of our own employees have stopped using this area for recreation due to this confusion.

Hope Valley has a rich history of land use and recreation and was ultimately preserved for public enjoyment by a group of engaged citizens, Friends of Hope Valley. The District's Board of Directors supports keeping these lands public and open for all to access and enjoy, free of charge.

We thank you for considering the impacts of the Lands Pass Program on our community and working with the Alpine County Board of Supervisors to remove the Hope Valley Wildlife Area from the Lands Pass Program.

Sincerely,

Erik M. Christeson
General Manager, Kirkwood Meadows PUD

Alpine Biomass Collaborative

305 Carson View

Markleeville, CA 96120-9630

Tel.: 530-694-2168

E-Mail: dGriffith.9@gmail.com

04 October 2018

California Fish and Wildlife Commission
Attn: Valerie Termini, Executive Director
PO Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94224-2090

Re: Request to Remove the Hope Valley Unit from the Lands Pass Program

Dear Ms. Termini,

The Alpine Biomass Collaborative (ABC) is requesting the removal of Hope Valley in Alpine County from the Lands Pass Program. The ABC's mission statement is "Unifying partners to promote forest and watershed health, and local economic development". The area is largely unfenced and has been used by the public for decades, well before its acquisition by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW).

Members of the public cross these lands to access public land in and around Hope Valley and have done so for decades prior to it being acquired by CDFW. There isn't and has not been any significant fencing nor signage to indicate that now this access is prohibited without paying a fee. Land ownership in the Hope Valley is a mixture of US Forest Service, private, and CDFW. It is not possible for a visitor to know which lands are which. Furthermore the boundaries are not adequately signed, and whether it is correct or not, the public assumes that it is public land and has used it as such for decades. The public arrives and even if they are willing to pay a fee, there is not an easy reliable way to do so as cell phone coverage is unreliable in this area.


We understand that CDFW stated at an Alpine County Board of Supervisors' meeting that statewide, CDFW expects to receive about \$53,000/year in revenue for all the recently added "fee areas" in the state. This is a trivial amount statewide and an unnecessary revenue stream for CDFW that discourages the public from experiencing the benefits of outdoor recreation.

Unifying partners to promote forest and watershed health, and local economic development.

We join the Alpine County Board of Supervisors, the Alpine County Chamber of Commerce, and the Alpine Watershed Group among others in requesting that the Hope Valley Unit be exempt from the Lands Pass requirement.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted



David Griffith
Markleeville, CA
2018.10.03 09:14:27 -07'00'

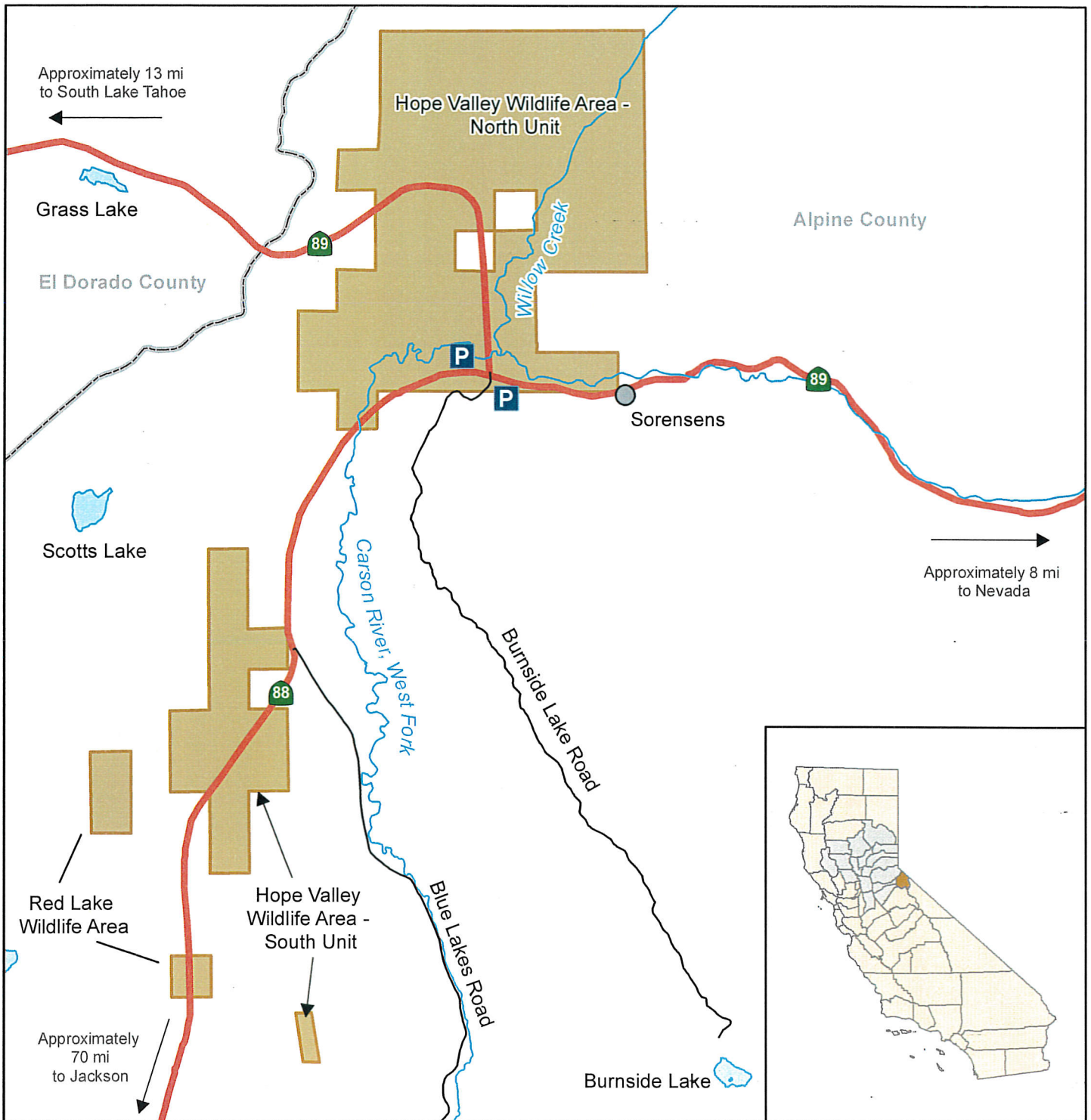
Alpine Biomass Collaborative

Per: David Griffith, Chair

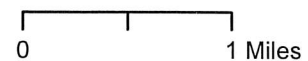
cc Alpine County Board of Supervisors

Attachment 2

California Department of Fish and Wildlife North Central Region HOPE VALLEY WILDLIFE AREA Alpine County



- Wildlife Area
- State Highway
- River / Lake
- Local Road
- County Line
- P Parking



Disclaimer: Boundaries are approximate.
Maps are intended for general purposes only.

December 2014 - WLB

Attachment 3

From: Philip Bellman
Sent: Friday, January 12, 2018 4:05 PM
To: Donald Jardine; Don Jardine
Cc: Philip Bellman
Subject: Lands Pass

Hi Don —

Thank you for addressing the Lands Pass issue and for drafting an excellent letter to Fish & Wildlife. It is clear that few people, if any, in Alpine County were aware of this plan. It makes little sense and is not likely to generate much funding. What it will do is confuse visitors to Alpine County and make it difficult to visit the Hope Valley. Especially affected are the areas around Pickett's Junction, north of the junction, and Red Lake. You can imagine the leaf peepers, photographers, cyclists, and hikers who arrive in the Hope Valley only to find they need a permit — and there is not even cell service to allow getting a daily permit. And in other parts of the valley, it may be difficult to know when one is on state land or on federal land.

It's also clear from Julie's email messages this week that the Lands Pass is the result of the department suffering losses from decreasing numbers of hunting licenses. The areas affected in Alpine County have not been used by hunters in decades — but the impact of this program will discourage many visitors from coming at all. I also really appreciate your addressing the concerns of the Washoe, who seem to have not been consulted or informed as well.

Thanks for your efforts!

Phil Bellman

Attachment 4



**COUNTY OF ALPINE
Board of Supervisors**

January 16, 2018

Valérie Termini, Executive Director
California Fish and Game Commission
PO Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

RE: Request to remove Hope Valley Wildlife Area from the Lands Pass Program

Dear Ms. Termini:

Alpine County Board of Supervisors respectfully request that California Fish and Wildlife Commission remove Hope Valley Wildlife Area from the Lands Pass Program. The County was not aware of the proposed regulatory action to include Hope Valley Wildlife Area in the Lands Pass Program and was not given an opportunity to comment on how this affects our community and visitors to Alpine County.

Please see attached notification list for this action provided to us by Julie Horenstein, Ecological Reserve and Land Acquisition California Department of Fish and Wildlife. **The only copy sent to the County was sent to the Fish and Game Commission and not to the Board of Supervisors nor to the local Washoe Tribal Council.**

The Lands Pass fee and impacts on the local community appear to have not been analyzed. In 1988-1989 the Hope Valley Economic and Recreation Study was commissioned by the Trust for Public Lands, Alpine County Board of Supervisors, Alpine County Chamber of Commerce and the Friends of Hope Valley to analyze the effect of 15,000 acres of private land within Hope Valley being purchased by the United States Forest Service and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. There had also been some discussion on development of these lands, in particular around Pickett's Junction.

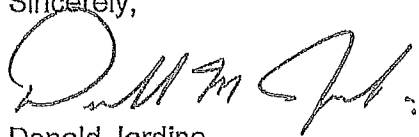
Alpine County supports keeping these lands public and therefore open for all to access and enjoy. The Hope Valley Economic and Recreation Study indicates that the Pickett's Junction area should be for day use with picnicking, parking and snow park.

The Lands Pass Program will have both economic and cultural impacts in Hope Valley Wildlife Area. Hikers would be required to buy Lands Passes to cross California Department of Fish and Wildlife Area to access Forest Service Land for recreation. Cross Country skiers would also require a Lands Pass to enter and exit Forest Service Land through California Department of Fish and Wildlife Areas which will impact local businesses which rely on cross country and snowshoe recreationers in winter. Washoe Tribal Members would need to purchase a Land Pass to access religious and historical sites. It appears from the maps provided for the Lands

Pass Program that cyclists will also be required to buy a Lands Pass to travel through Picketts Junction area. These areas also contain popular highway access to backcountry skiers who would need to cross over the California Department of Fish and Wildlife land to access backcountry skiing within Forest Service Lands.

We thank you for working with Alpine County to reverse this regulatory action which was implemented without consideration for the impacts to our local community and visitors to Alpine County.

Sincerely,



Donald Jardine
Chair, Board of Supervisors
Alpine County

CC: Julie Horenstein, Ecological Reserve and Land Acquisition California Department of Fish and Wildlife julie.horenstein@wildlife.ca.gov
Honorable Ted Gaines
Honorable Frank Bigelow
RCRC
CSAC

NOTIFICATION LIST

First Line	Second Line	Address (Third Line)	City	State	Zip	Name (First)	Number
Modoc	Fish Game & Recreation Commission	202 W 4th Street	Alturas	CA	96101		21
Kern County	Fish and Game Fine Commission	2820 M Street	Bakersfield	CA	93301	Mr. David McArthur	13
Colusa County	Fish and Game Commission	546 J Street, Suite 202	Colusa	CA	95932		5
Del Norte County	Fish and Game Commission	586 G Street	Crescent City	CA	95531		7
Sierra County	Fish and Wildlife Commission	P.O. Box 554	Downieville	CA	95936	Marilyn Tierney, Secretary	38
Alameda County	Fish and Game Commission	4935 Broder Blvd.	Dublin	CA	94568	Sheriff Herbert Waiters	1
Imperial County	Fish and Game Commission	940 W. Main Street, Ste. 208	El Centro	CA	92243		12
Solano County	Park and Recreation Commission	675 Texas Street, Ste. 6500	Fairfield	CA	94533	Mr. Steve Hermsmeyer	40
Humboldt County	Fish and Game Commission	P.O. Box 922	Ferdale	CA	95536	Ms. Johanna Rodoni	11
Fresno County	Recreation & Wildlife Commission	2220 Tulare Street, 6th Floor	Fresno	CA	93721	Mr. John Thompson	9
Madera County	Fish and Game Commission	46089 Road 208	Friant	CA	95626	Mr. Neil K. McDougal	18
Placer County	Fish and Game Commission	8459 Lakeland Dr	Grainite Bay	CA	95746		27
Kings County	Fish and Game Advisory Committee	1400 W Lacey Blvd	Hanford	CA	93230	Mr. Tim Breshears	14
San Benito County	Fish and Game Commission	481 Fourth Street	Hollister	CA	95023-3840	c/o Clerk of the Board	30
Lake County	Fish and Game Commission	883 Lakeport	Lakeport	CA	95453	Mr. Greg Giusti	15
Los Angeles County	Fish and Game Commission	500 West Temple Street,	Los Angeles	CA	90012		17
Mono County	Fisheries Commission	Room B-50	Mammoth Lakes	CA	93546	Mr. Steve Marti, Chair	22
Alpine County	Fish and Game Commission	PO Box 2415	Mammoth Lakes	CA	93546		2
		P.O. Box 266	Marbleville	CA	96120		
Contra Costa County	Fish and Wildlife Committee	30 Muir Rd	Martinez	CA	94553		6
Stanislaus County	Fish and Wildlife Committee	3800 Comucopia Way, Suite C	Modesto	CA	95358		42
San Luis Obispo County	Fish and Game Commission	P.O. Box 406	Morro Bay	CA	93443	Mr. Norm Martignoni	33
Napa County	Wildlife Conservation Commission	1195 Third Street, Ste. 210	Napa	CA	94559-3092	Mr. Stephen Omdorf	24
Nevada County	Fish and Wildlife Commission	950 Maidu Avenue, Suite 170	Nevada City	CA	95959		25
Marin County	Wildlife and Fisheries Advisory Commission	1682 Novato Blvd. Site. 150 B	Novato	CA	94947-7021	Mr. Ed Schultz	19
Butte County	Fish and Game Commission	25 County Center Dr., Suite 200	Oroville	CA	95965		3
Ventura County	Fish and Game Commission	3900 Pelican Way	Oxnard	CA	93035		47
El Dorado County	Fish and Game Commission	330 Fair Lane	Placerville	CA	95667	Mr. Karl Weiland	8
Tehama County	Fish and Game Commission	15565 China Rapids Drive	Red Bluff	CA	96080		44
Shasta County	Fish and Game Commission	1855 Placer Street	Redding	CA	96001	Eric Wedemeyer	37
Riverside County	Fish and Game Commission	4600 Crestmore Road	Riverside	CA	92509-6858	Mr. Jim Real	28
Sacramento County	Recreation and Park Commission	4040 Bradshaw Road	Sacramento	CA	95827	Mr. Dan Gonzales, Chair	29
Monterey County	Fish and Game Commission	P.O. Box 5249	Saltinas	CA	93915	Mr. John Akeman	23
San Bernardino County	Regional Parks Department	777 East Rialto Avenue	San Bernardino	CA	92415-0763		31
San Diego County	Fish and Wildlife Advisory Commission	9325 Hazard Way, Suite 100	San Diego	CA	92123-1217		32

JOE
305

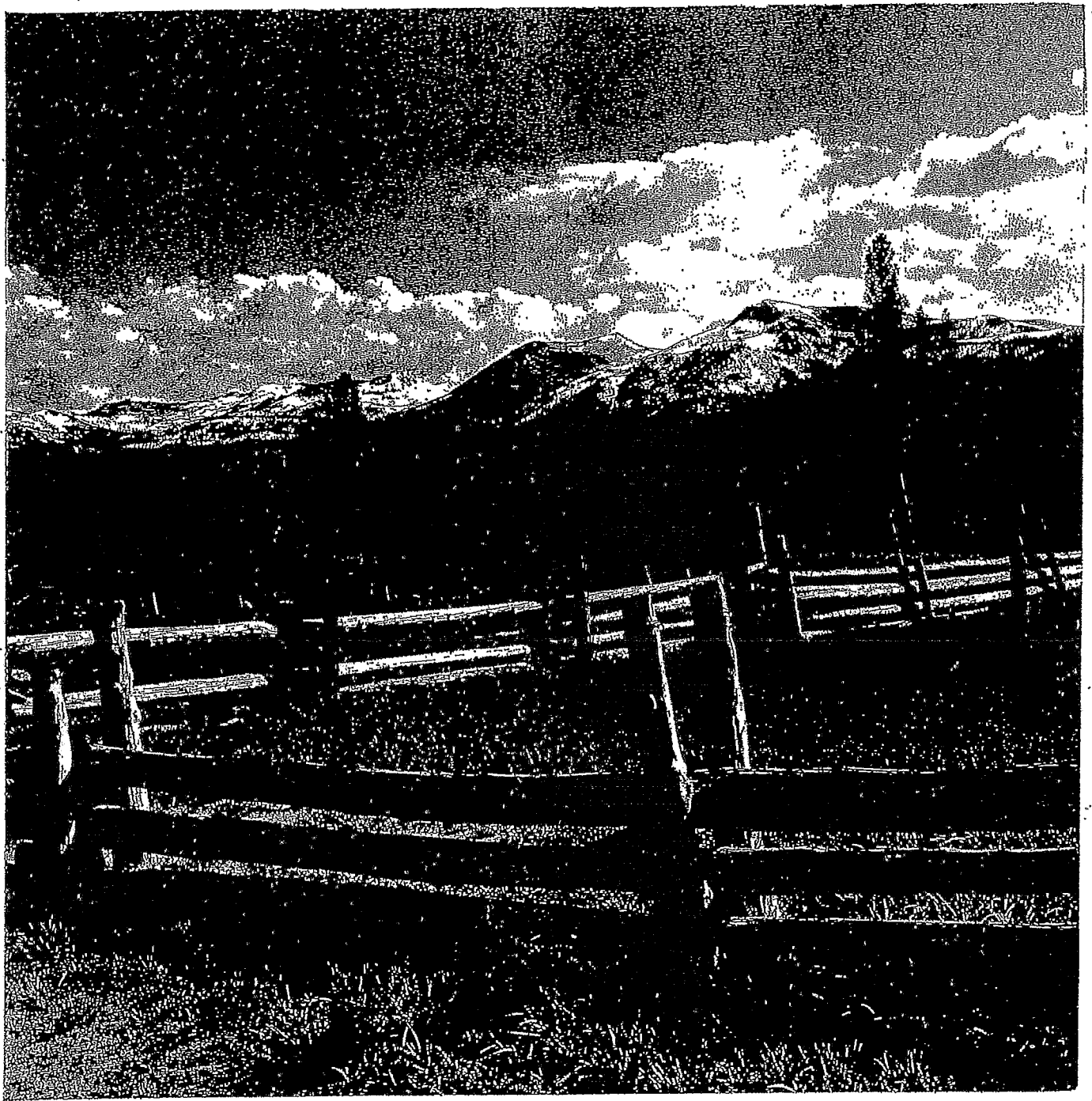
Santa Clara County	Fish and Game Commission	70 West Hedding Street, 10th Floor, East Wing	San Jose	CA	95110	35
Orange County	Fish and Game Commission	PO Box 4048	Santa Ana	CA	92702-4048	26
Santa Barbara County	Fish and Game Commission	c/o Santa Barbara City Planning & Development	Santa Barbara	CA	93101	34
Santa Cruz County	Fish and Game Commission	123 E Anapamu Street	Santa Cruz	CA	95060	36
Sonoma County	Fish and Wildlife Commission	701 Ocean Street, Rm. 312	Santa Rosa	CA	95403	41
Calaveras County	Fish & Game Commission Clerk	133 Aviation Blvd., Ste. 110	Sheep Ranch	CA	95246	4
Tuolumne County	Fish and Game Commission	15807 Waidear's Path	Sonoma	CA	95370	46
Lassen County	Fish and Game Commission	18036 Blue Bell East	Susanville	CA	96130	16
Mendocino County	Fish and Game Commission	707 Nevada Street	Ukiah	CA	95482	20
Trinity County	Fish and Game Commission	501 Low Gap Rd	Weaverville	CA	96093	45
Glenn County	Fish and Game Commission	PO Box 1917	Willows	CA	95988	10
Yolo County	Fish and Game Commission	c/o Yolo County Parks and Resources Dept.	Woodland	CA	95695	48
Siskiyou County	Fish and Game Commission	120 West Main Street, Suite C	Yreka	CA	96097	39
Sutter County	Fish and Game Commission	1119 South Oregon Street 146 Garden Hwy	Yuba City	CA	95991	43

Attachment 5

Needs to be Viewed

Economic and Recreation Study

Final ▲ April 1989



Alpengroup *
©1989

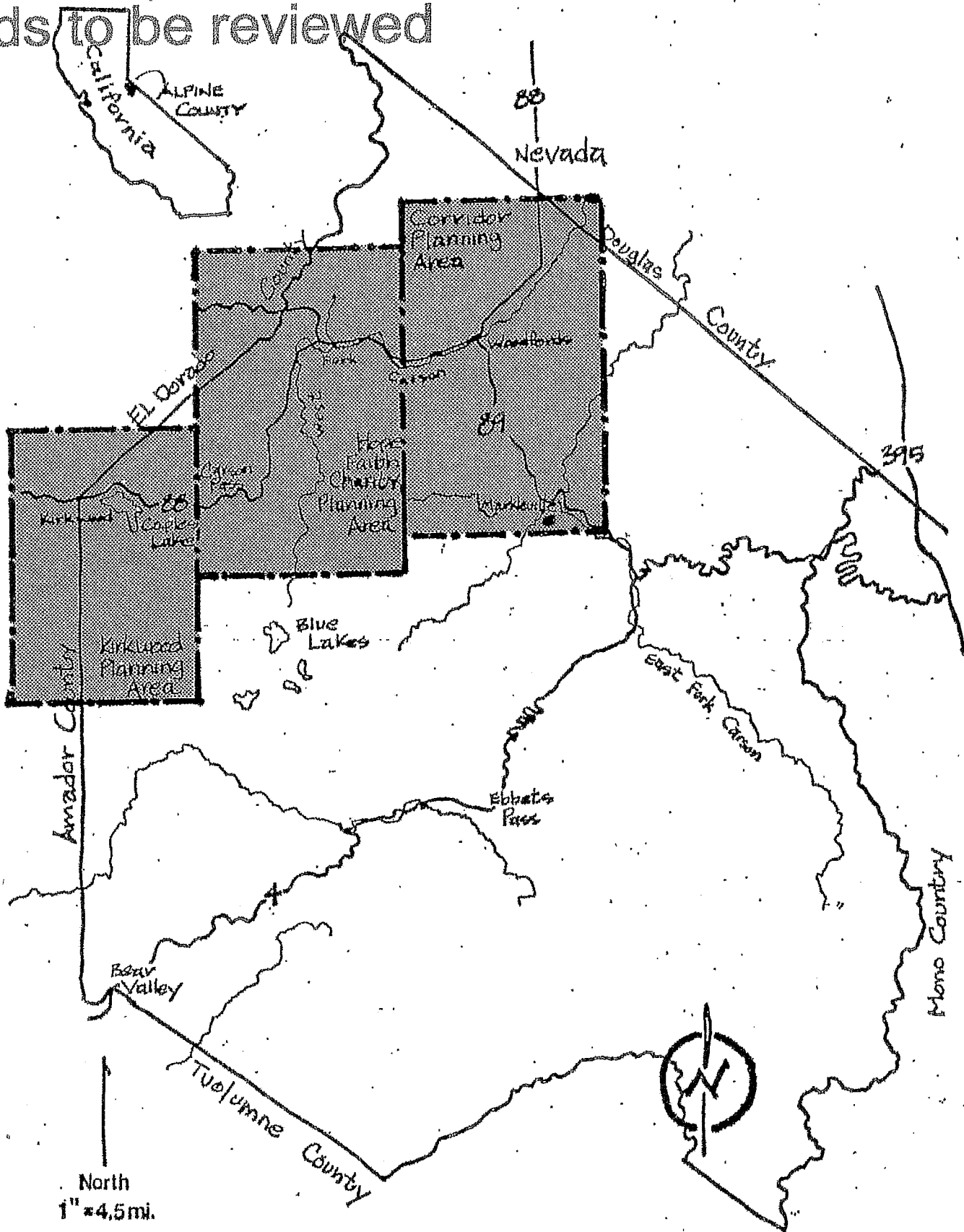
Needs to be reviewed

Hope Valley
Economic and Recreation Study

Final ▼ April 1989

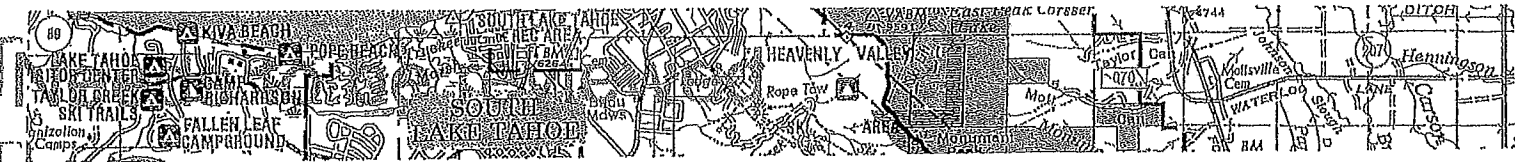
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Hope Valley Economic and Recreation Study

Alpengroup *



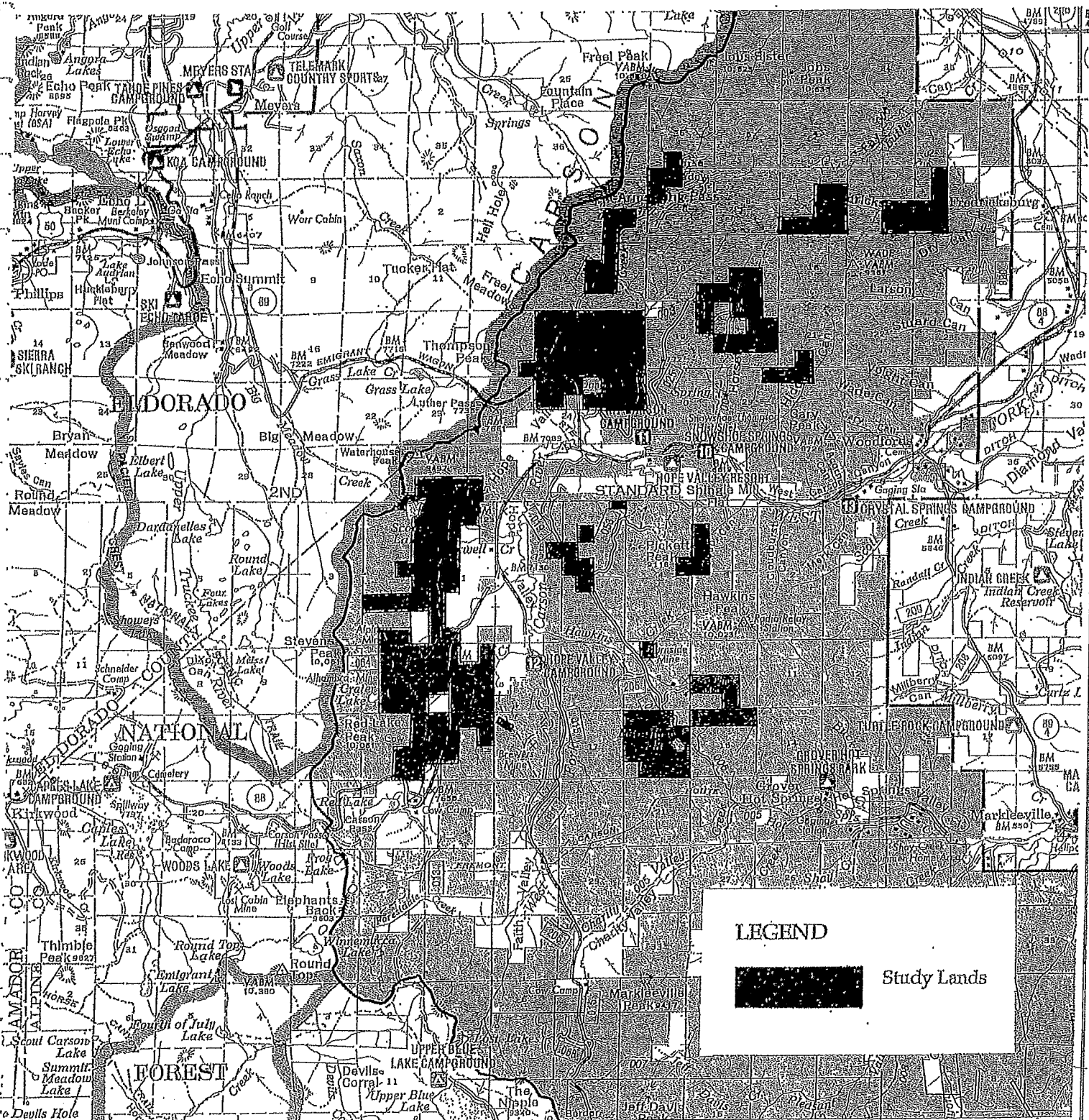
HOPE VALLEY STUDY LANDS

Hope Valley
Economic and Recreation Study

Alpengroup

1988

Lake Tahoe, Nevada



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Hope Valley
Economic and Recreation Study
Final ▲ April 1989

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▲ Purpose and
Setting

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1

Purpose ▼

The purpose of this report is to determine the Economic and Recreation impacts of the proposed purchase of nearly 15,000 acres of private land in the Hope Valley area of Alpine County.

This study was commissioned by the Trust for Public Lands, Alpine County Board of Supervisors, Alpine County Chamber of Commerce, and the Friends of Hope Valley.

The scope of work for this study included a literature review of existing reports, research, and field reviews. Alpengroup has prepared the sections of this report that will pertain to biophysical, cultural, economic and recreation issues of the proposed purchase, with the information that is available at the present time.

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▲ Biophysical

Settings
Climate
Forest Description
Resource Elements
Wild & Scenic Rivers
Timber

This section describes the existing situation of resources and activities of the project area.

Biophysical Settings

The project area is surrounded by National Forest lands of the Toiyabe National Forest, with the exception of those Toiyabe National Forest lands lying within the Lake Tahoe Basin. In 1973, by Presidential proclamation, a portion of the Toiyabe National Forest in the Lake Tahoe Basin became part of a special management area, the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU), along with portions of the Tahoe and El Dorado National Forests. This was established to provide special protection for the unique feature of Lake Tahoe and its watershed. Although the project area is adjacent to the LTBMU, the planning constraints of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency do not apply to the proposed project area.

The Toiyabe consists of three distinct divisions. The three divisions are: Sierra Nevada (Carson and Bridgeport Ranger Districts), Central Nevada (Austin and Tonopah Ranger Districts) and Mt. Charleston (Las Vegas Ranger District). The proposed project area falls within the Sierra Nevada division. The Toiyabe is a scattered Forest encompassing parts of western, central, and southern Nevada and eastern California.



Climate

The Sierra Nevada is heavily influenced by its close proximity to the Pacific Ocean. Annual variation in snowfall is great because of the Pacific influence. Precipitation falls mainly in the winter as snow and may total as much as 70 inches per year at the highest elevation. At the base of the Sierra Front, precipitation seldom exceeds 15 inches.

Forest Description

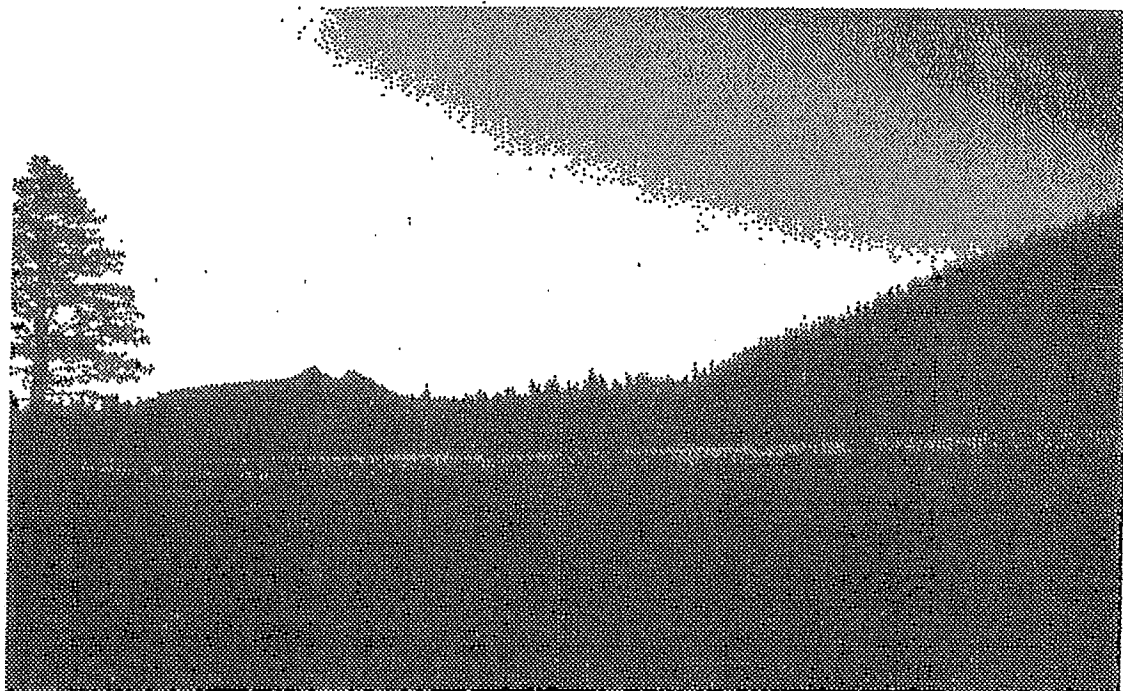
The area supports a variety of tree species, including Jeffrey pine, white fir, California red fir, western white pine, and lodgepole pine. Lesser amounts of sugar pine, incense cedar and mountain hemlock exist. Aspen is extensive throughout the valley and there are stands of pinyon-juniper at the lower elevations. The area produces water for western Nevada and includes the sources of the Carson River systems. Lakes are plentiful, visual quality is outstanding and recreational use of the area is extremely high.

Fire plays a very important role in almost all of the ecosystems found in the Eastern Sierra. It effects vegetative community development through its influence on succession. Studies show that the fire cycle has been 10 to 40 years with stands replacing fire every 200 to 400 years. Fire exclusion through successful fire protection has altered this natural process. Reintroduction of fire by a natural ignition process in wilderness would allow development of natural ecosystems.

Resource Elements

In the National Forest System, the Toiyabe has held an average ranking of 19th in the Nation in outdoor recreation over the last decade. It has consistently held second place in Region 4 (Intermountain Region).

The Toiyabe is the largest Forest in acres in the contiguous 48 states, and is widely scattered through central, western and southern Nevada and eastern California. Portions of the Forest are located close to Nevada's two major population centers, Reno-Sparks - Carson City, and Las Vegas. The Tahoe El Dorado, Stanislaus, and Inyo National Forests, which lie between the Toiyabe National Forest and the large California population centers, all contribute a recreation user spillover to the Toiyabe. The proximity of Lake Tahoe and Yosemite National Park also greatly affects recreation use on the Toiyabe National Forest.



There are also a number of resorts based on private lands, which significantly impact the recreation resource of the National Forest. Foremost is Mono Village, which offers a store, restaurant, boating and fishing facilities, large campground and parking to the public for access to the Hoover Wilderness beyond.

It seems likely there will continue to be applications for new kinds of recreational special uses, such as river running. Over the last 10 years, special use permits for floating the East Carson River have been in great demand. Helicopter skiing also has become popular. This recent general increase in applications for recreation special use permits and the growing interest in additional wilderness classification, can be expected to continue.

Dispersed Recreation

Dispersed recreation use includes activities such as hunting, fishing, hiking, driving for pleasure, camping and other activities outside of developed sites.

Several areas of the Forest experience unusually high levels of dispersed recreation use. Such an area is the upper East Carson River drainage, which is the Toiyabe portion of the Carson-Iceberg Wilderness. Such areas are responsible for the Toiyabe's frequent number-one ranking in dispersed recreation in the Intermountain Region.

Wild and Scenic Rivers

Rivers that have designation potential for Wild, Scenic and/or recreation classification were inventoried by the Former USDI Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service for possible inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System under Section 2, PL 90-542. The Eastfork of the Carson River, from last diversion dam; approximately one (1) mile above Lahontan Fish Hatchery, to the source, was inventoried. The Toiyabe NF has completed eligibility studies on the East fork of the Carson River.

Wilderness

Existing Wilderness

The Carson-Iceberg Wilderness and the Mokelumne Wilderness are near the project area. A national Roadless Area Review and Evaluation (RARE II) was completed in January 1979. As a result of RARE II, a number of areas on the Toiyabe National Forest were recommended for wilderness and further study.

The RARE II decision was challenged by the State of California. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the decision that the RARE II Environmental Statement is inadequate. After evaluating the court decision, the US Department of Agriculture determined that all roadless areas would be re-evaluated for wilderness through the Forest Planning Process.

Prior to the California Wilderness Act of 1984, the Forest planning process had developed an inventory of lands that are essentially unroaded and undeveloped, meeting the minimum definition of wilderness, and qualified for wilderness evaluation per NFMA Regulation 219.17. The inventory contained 65 roadless areas, totalling 2,187 thousand acres forest-wide.

California Wilderness Act of 1984 (CWA) in September, 1984, the California Wilderness Act (CWA) was signed by the President. The legislation included the following on the Toiyabe National Forest:

Wilderness (CWA)

Carson Iceberg 77,000 acres (approximate acreage) - Excludes an area around Noble Canyon. (An additional 83,000 acres is on the Stanislaus National Forest)

Mokelumne addition 19,000 acres (approximate acreage) - Includes the Raymond Peak Core area and Tragedy Elephants Back area. (An additional 36,000 acres are on the Stanislaus and El Dorado National Forests)

Congressional Study Areas (CWA) These areas require a report to the congress within three years of the date of the CWA.

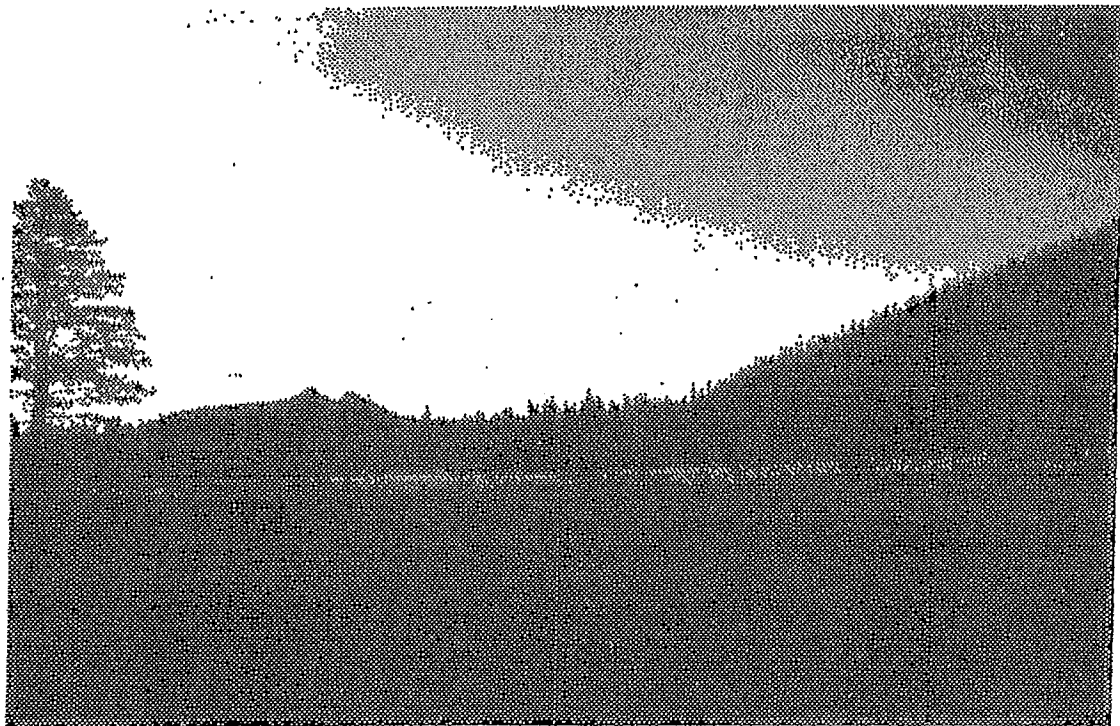
Carson-Iceberg Planning Area - 9,700 acres (approximate acreage) - Area around Noble Canyon.

Hoover West Planning Area 49,200 acres (approximate acreage) - Area around West Walker River.

Timber

Existing Situation

The Sierra Nevada range supports commercial stands of Jeffrey pine, the true firs, and lodgepole pine, with lesser stands of white pine and mountain hemlock. Logging has been conducted in the Sierra since the 1800's. Pinyon-juniper stands



are found throughout Toiyabe National Forest, with the majority in central Nevada. These woodlands have historically provided firewood, charcoal, and fencing materials.

The Toiyabe has been selling 6,000,000 board feet of timber annually, primarily in sawlog size material from the Alpine County and Dog Valley areas. Timber management activities and annual sale are the result of a timber management plan approved April 3, 1970. This plan was amended October 31, 1973, and extended through September 30, 1980. The plan was again amended April 14, 1980, to place areas recommended for wilderness by the January, 1979, RARE II Final Environmental Statement from "commercial forest land" to "productive deferred." This amendment also adjusted the volume, inventory, growth, mortality, and potential yield figures. It also extended the management plan until preparation and approval of a new plan based on reinventory of the Forest's timber resources or development of the Forest Land Management Plan.

Dwarf mistletoe and bark beetles are affecting timber stands on the Forest. These localized areas require treatment to prevent spread of the insects or disease. It is expected that loss of growth and mortality from disease and insects will continue but not increase, provided good growth rates are maintained in the timber stands and localized infection areas receive control treatments.

The primary silvicultural system used in recent years has been shelterwood. Removal cuts have been made in stands with good existing understories of saplings and poles. These understories have been thinned by removal of sawlogs and fuelwood operations. The continuing high demand for fuelwood enables good utilization of material produced from normal precommercial thinning. Emphasis has been placed on thinning overstocked immature stands. In mixed conifer stands, especially those where red fir is the major species, various stages of shelterwood cuts have been implemented with the objective of obtaining reproduction and eventual conversion to a young growth managed stand.

Timber harvest on the Toiyabe National Forest prior to 1970 had been higher as old growth timber was harvested. The need for timber produced from Toiyabe National Forest is not believed to be increasing. The Gardnerville mill could obtain a larger percentage of their needs from private and/or adjacent National Forests. The Gardnerville mill is approximately 45 percent dependent on the Toiyabe National Forest.

Future Condition Under Current Management

Over a 200 year period, the National Forest's timber stands are described as follows:

Jeffrey pine - Within recommended wilderness, the pine continues toward older age classes. Within nonwilderness areas, age class distribution improves, although there remains an excess acreage of small sawtimber 70-90 years of age.

Mixed conifer - Within recommended wilderness, the mixed conifer continues toward older age classes. Within nonwilderness areas, age class distribution improves, except there is a shortage of small sawtimber 70-90 years of age.

Lodgepole pine - As there is no regulated harvest, the lodgepole pine working group moves toward over-maturity and age class distribution becomes greatly unbalanced after 200 years.



Needs to be reviewed

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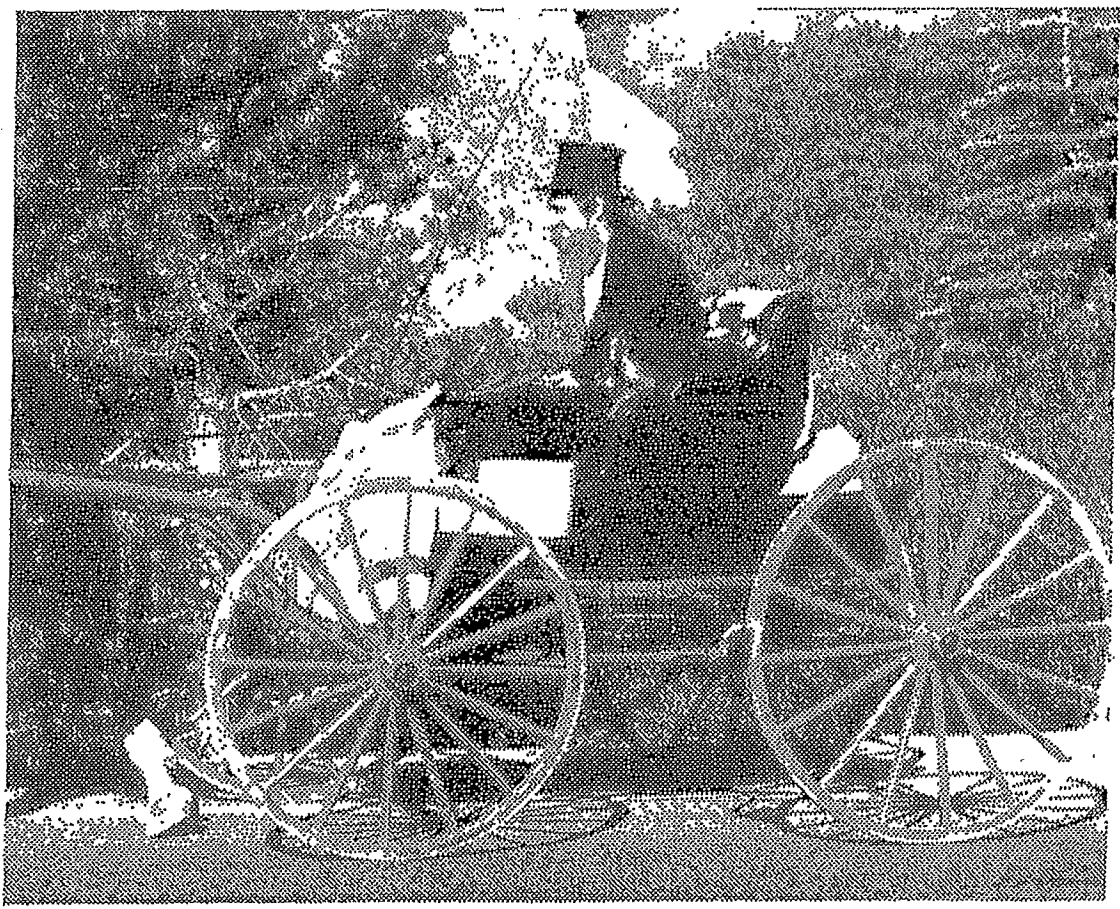
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▲ Cultural

Prehistory
Ethnography
History
Early Exploration
Early Settlement
Transportation
Communication
Mining
Logging
Agriculture & Grazing

PREHISTORY

The general regional prehistoric cultural sequence of the north-central Sierra Nevada is unclear. Some of the oldest finds reported for this region suggest occupation by about 8,000 years ago (Tahoe Reach Phase) in the Truckee River Canyon near Squaw Valley (Elston et al. 1977:151), at around 7,000 years ago (Spoooner Phase) near Spooner Lake (Elston 1971:87), and by about 6,000 years ago in the Truckee Basin (Keesling and Johnson 1978; Rondeau 1982). The most intensive period of occupation in the region may have occurred at varying intervals between 4,000 years ago and 1,500 years ago (Marta Phase) (Heizer and Elsasser 1953). The protohistoric ancestors of the Washoe may date roughly from 1,500 years ago to the time of historic contact (Kings Beach Phase), (Heizer and Elsasser 1953; Elston 1976). Numerous archaeological studies in the Lake Tahoe Basin and at Carson Pass (Bennyhoff et al. 1982) generally support this prehistoric cultural sequence.



ETHNOGRAPHY

The project area lies within the territory of the Southern Washoe (Naneletti, Price 1962). The Washoe are a Great Basin group within the Hokan Linguistic stock. They embody a blend of the Great Basin and California in their geographical position and cultural attributes. Lake Tahoe is central to their territory and they had no settlements west of the Sierra crest. They may have enjoyed land use privileges, hunting on the North and Middle Forks of the Stanislaus as well as the Calaveras, Consumnes, or American Rivers (Kroeber 1925:570).

The Washoe are a relatively informal and flexible political collectivity. The ethnographic record suggests that the general area was inhabited at various times of the year by small groups who made seasonal movements in order to procure economic resources as they became available. The Washoe have a tradition of making long treks across the Sierra passes for the purpose of hunting, trading, and for the gathering of acorns. The Washoe had trade relations and communications with other mountaineers and lowland groups.

Anthropologist A. L. Kroeber (1925) estimated that the Washoe population in 1770 was approximately 1500. Records indicate dramatic decreases in the Washoe population prior to the 1840s due to epidemics of disease. By the 1850s, Euroamericans had permanently occupied the Washoe territory and changed traditional life. Mining, lumbering, farming, grazing, commercial fishing, tourism, and the growth of settlements disrupted traditional Indian relationships to the land. As hunting and gathering wild foods were no longer possible, the Washoe were forced into dependency upon the "white" settlers.

The Washoe continued to live in the Woodfords and Markleeville vicinity. The Washoe, under the leadership of Captain Jim, ranged through Truckee Meadows, the Washoe Lake area, Markleeville, and south to Double Springs (Long n.d.:55). According to Harry Hawkins (1967:55, 71), an early settler in Woodfords ... *"The Indians used to have their wickiups here near my home at Woodfords. They just had big wickiups right over there (south of Woodfords) in the flats. Down on the flat below the old Indian camps were. Their mills were there, too—plenty of them. They had mills all around on this place. Most of them got that deep granite all around. We used to go down there to the flat there before my father plowed it up. We'd pick up all kinds of arrowheads, spearpoints, mortars, all that kind of—thought nothing about it. Now, you can't find a chunk, a piece, the size of a dime, hardly."*

A Washoe Cemetery is located within the project area. Hawkins (1965:56, 71) refers to it as *"the graveyard of the forgotten ones ... I don't know how many's in that cemetery."*

That's a big one. You can just spot out the places, and who knows who's buried there ... There's some buried right down in the gulch that the sand has covered all over now. No signs of them at all." Goldy Bryan (personal communication 10/3/1984), a Washoe elder born in Dresslerville and now living in Woodfords, notes that the practice of concentrated burials within a cemetery was imposed by the whites. Traditionally the dead were buried almost anywhere. Once the body was interred, the spot was not usually revisited, as is the Euroamerican custom.

The presence of a Washoe roundhouse somewhere near the project area (Hawkins 1967; Bryan personal communication 10/3/1984), the likelihood of Washoe burials occurring outside the designated "Washoe Cemetery", and the existence of both temporary and permanent encampments make the project vicinity highly sensitive to contain prehistoric remains.

HISTORY

Basically 6 sets of integrated activities or industries are associated with the Euroamerican utilization of the general project area: (1) early exploration; (2) settlement; (3) transportation and communication; (4) livestock grazing; (5) mining; and (6) logging.

Early Exploration

The earliest known Euroamerican traveler in the region was Jedediah Strong Smith in 1827. Joseph Walker led a group of trappers up the Truckee River in 1833. In 1841, John Bidwell came through the Sonora Pass. Three years later, John C. Fremont and his guide, Kit Carson, crossed Carson Pass and Fremont made the first recorded mention of Lake Tahoe (Farquhar 1965:56; Scott 1957). The Mormon Battalion crossed into the Carson Valley in 1848, constructing a wagon road which became known as the Carson Pass Route.

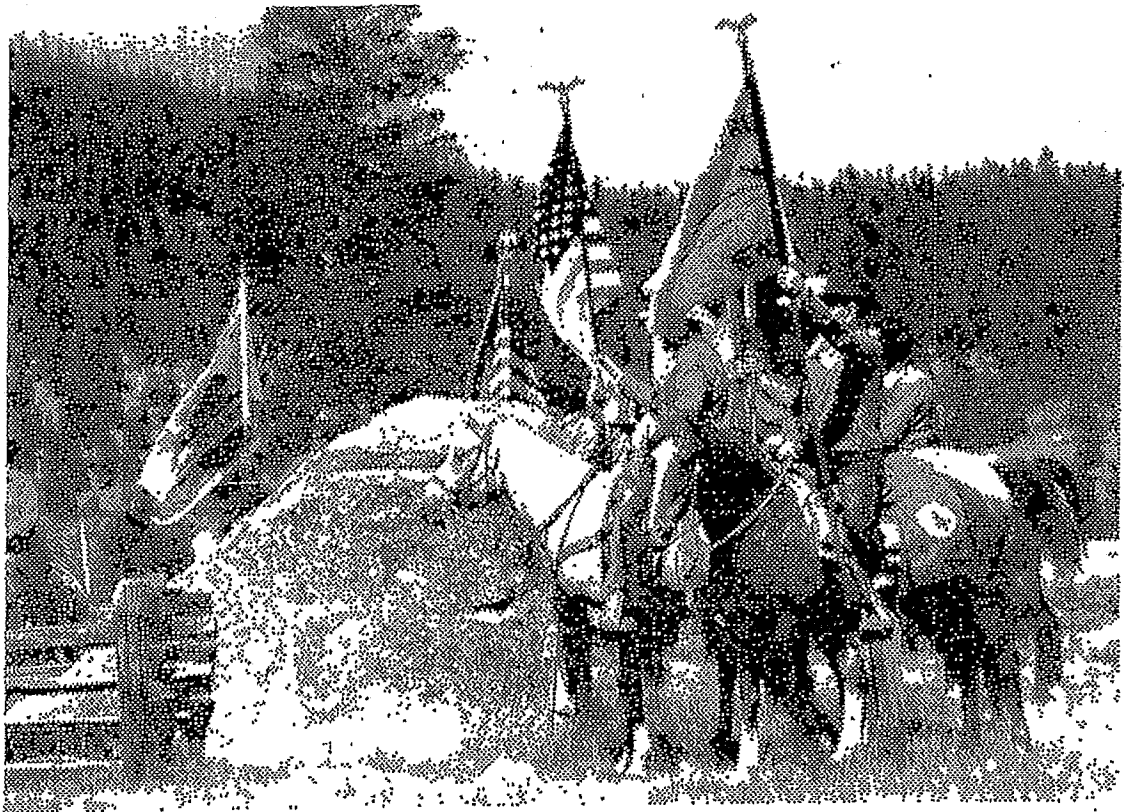
Alpine County was created on March 16, 1864 as the 46th county in the state. It was formed from parts of Amador, Tuolumne, El Dorado, Calaveras, and Mono counties. A series of land surveys by the Surveyor General of California were prompted by the importance of determining the boundary between California and Nevada (then the Territory of Utah). The eastern boundary of Alpine County was not established until a third survey in 1893, which restored county lines to their present borders.

Early Settlement in Alpine County

The names given to the valleys of Hope, Faith, and Charity are expressive of the emigrants' feelings for this long-hoped-for land of promise. With the hardships of the desert behind them and with the mighty Sierra summit ahead, they found respite in these valleys.

In 1861 Jacob Marklee first staked out land at the site of Markleeville. By 1863, it had a population of 2,620 and supported a post office, Wells Fargo Express Office and telegraph (Howatt 1966:13). With the decline of silver in 1875, the county seat was moved here from Silver Mountain City.

Woodfords was established as the outpost of Brannan Springs in 1847 by a Mormon named Sam Brannan. This was the first white settlement of the region. In 1848 a traveler stopping place was built. By 1849 the influx in population prompted Dan Woodford to erect a hotel, which was the town's town was referred to as Cary's Mills. Shortly a post office established the town name as Woodfords. In 1852 Cary



built a house, the Wade House, which is the oldest house on the east slope of the Sierra in this area. In 1854 W. P. Merrill opened a trading post which was used by the Wells Fargo Express. A pony express mount station was a Cary's barn (Alpine County Historic Landmark #805). The Pacific Coast Business Directory for 1867 shows the following listings for Woodfords: (Long n.d.:20) Carey's Mills; Hawkins, Mary - Hotel Proprietress; Merrill, W. P. - General Merchandise; Shelter, Otto - Hotel Proprietor; Wade, O. C. - Hotel Proprietor; Wade, William B. - Postmaster and Lumber Dealer.

Other early settlements related to mining and the associated support industries of lumber and transportation: Fredericksburg, established in 1864; Kongsberg or Silver Mountain City, founded in 1858 and the county sat until 1875; Monitor (or Loope), founded in 1862; Summit City, founded in 1864; Harmonial City, Raymond City, Centerville, Splinterville, all founded in the mid-1860s; Mount Bullion, established in 1869; and Silver King, founded in 1866. Diamond Valley, located 4 miles from Woodfords, was an early Mormon settlement and the home of John A. "Snowshoe" Thompson.

Transportation and Communication

The demand for routes of travel, caused by the sudden opening and rapid development of the mines, was imperative, both as the general routes of access and as the arteries of supplies to provision the thousands who converged on the area during the late 1840s and 1850s. By 1855, the entire Carson Pass and Luther Pass area had been thoroughly examined for potential transportation routes and many observation points had been occupied for mapmaking (Farquhar 1965:97).

Woodfords was a major transportation center in Alpine County, at the junction of Carson Canyon and the Markleeville road (Highways 88 and 89) as early as 1859 (Jackson 1964:56). All 3 major routes accessing the Carson Valley, the Tahoe Basin, and the west slope of the Sierra passed through Woodfords. One such route, the Carson Pass Road, now State Highway 88 (Alpine County Historic Landmark #315 and #661) was opened in 1848 by a remnant of the disbanded Mormon Battalion (Stewart 1962). It was shown on an 1875 GLO Plat as "Road from Placerville to Genoa" (Alpine County Assessor's Office).

Ebbetts Pass (Alpine County Historical Landmark #318), or the "Big Trees Road", State Highway 4, was named for J. A. Ebbetts, who recommended and surveyed this as a potential route for the transcontinental railroad. In 1864 it was opened as a major wagon road.

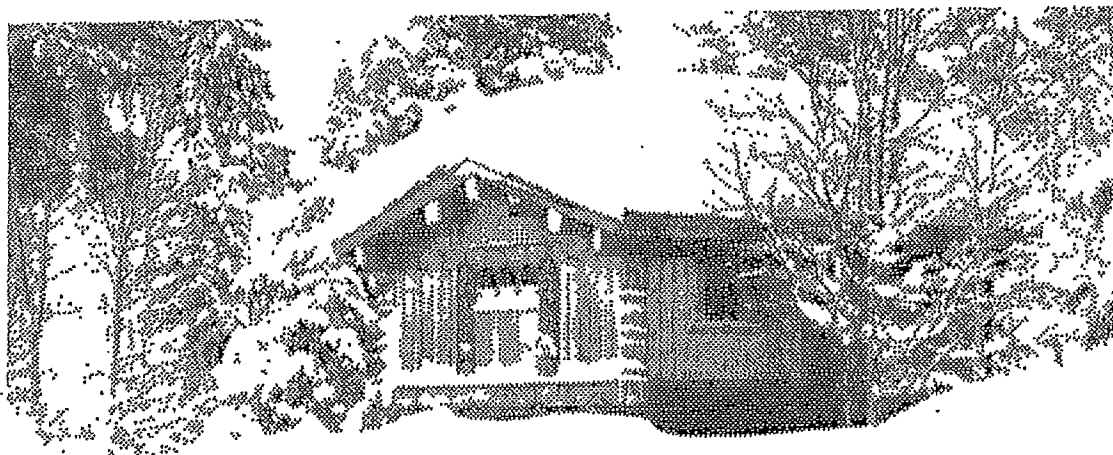
Luther Pass was known as early as 1850. It branched off at Pickett's Junction in Hope Valley and headed north to the Upper Truckee River and to the Johnson Pass Route (State Highway 50).

The route through Woodford's Canyon was used regularly as early as 1849. Also known as Horsethief Canyon, pioneers were frequently robbed of their horses as they traveled westward. Thieves fattened stolen horses in the mountains and sold them in Nevada. The same horse could be stolen and resold several times.

In response to the need for adequate communication over the Sierra, several counties and private companies financed the conversion of mountain trails into toll roads for the transport of mail and supplies by wheeled vehicles. It was customary for an individual or company to obtain a franchise to construct and maintain a road. In turn, they were permitted to charge toll and erect a toll gate or toll house. Toll gates were located at Green's (Pickett's Junction), half-way between Green's and Luther Pass, 1 mile west of Woodfords, and numerous others were operated throughout Hope Valley and beyond the passes. Toll roads throughout Hope and Charity Valleys were made public roads after 1893 (Howatt 1966:97).

The pony express flourished briefly in 1860. It ran through Woodfords for weeks and was then re-routed to follow the route over Daggett Pass (Kingsbury Grade), as free toll was offered there. This first route went from Genoa to Fairview, to Woodfords, to Green's (Hope Valley), to Caples, and onto Hangtown (Placerville).

When heavy snows hindered wheel and horse travel, the mail was carried by "Snowshoe" Thompson, who made a remarkable series of trips across the Sierra on skis from 1856 to 1876. At first he used the Placerville-Johnson-Luther Pass Route, but later he followed the Big Tree Route to Hope Valley. Both routes passed through



Hope Valley and continued down Woodfords Canyon to Genoa (Farquhar 1965:100). He cached his skis at the spring in Woodfords Canyon, where he began and ended his journey across the Sierra. "Snowshoe" Springs is now a public campground.

The discovery of silver in Nevada caused the whole character of Sierra travel to flow in the reverse pattern. Roads and way stations along the Johnson and Carson routes were overcrowded with travelers. The big bonanza in Washoe stimulated the search for silver in every direction and furthered the development of transportation routes and support facilities in the vicinity of the project area.

Mining

The area did not take part in the gold rush, but was prospected in the early 1860s with the Comstock discovery. There was a high population of American, Canadian, Irish, and Norwegians in these mines (Howatt 1966:641). The first major mining was at Silver Mountain in Scandinavian Canyon. During the 1860s mines within the Monitor, Mogul, Silver Mountain, and Silver King mining districts developed. The use of improper milling methods, along with a lack of available capital and labor resulted in repeated failures of Alpine mining enterprises. Several British investors financed Alpine County mines as early as 1865 through the late 1870s (Jackson 1964:58).

Copper, lead, and zinc are found in small amounts in Hope Valley. Substantial quantities of stone, sand and gravel have been mined in the flood plain of the West Branch of the Carson River in the southern or upper end of Hope Valley. Tungsten was mined in the 1940s-50s by the Alpine Mine and the Burnside Mine, located in the western and eastern part of Hope Valley.

Logging

The lumber industry in Alpine County was associated with the needs of the mills and mines of the Comstock. Wood was cut during the winter in areas adjoining major streams. The logs were floated down in the early spring freshets. Mills were first located along the lower portions of the East and West Branches of the Carson River. Gradually mills were moved from the foothills into the higher elevations. Cary, Woodfords, and Peabody mills were all water powered mills which serviced local needs around 1853 or 1854 (Jackson 1964:55). Transport to the rivers in the early 1860s was by mules and wagons. After 1865, logs were moved by V-flume. The lumber business declined with the demonetization of silver and the demise of the Comstock. It continued to support settlements in the Carson Valley and Alpine County.



Agriculture and Grazing

In the early 1860s many emigrants, unsuccessful in gold mining, turned to farming and were attracted by the active market for agricultural products in the mining towns. Alpine County farmers fed large numbers of workers in the Comstock and served local consumers. Most of the soils in the region are residuals and poor agriculturally. The only alluvials are in the Upper Carson, Hope, Faith, and Charity, and Diamond valleys. Accordingly, these were the seasonal centers of the dairying and stock raising industry. Also, temperate zone fruits, vegetables, potatoes, hay, barley, and oats were grown.

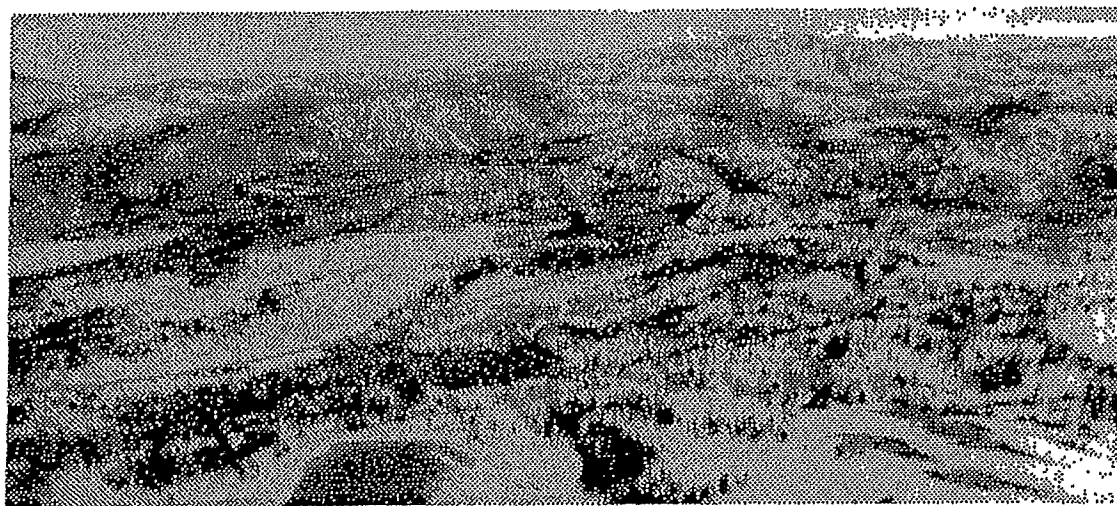
Woodfords was an important milling and product distribution center. Cary erected a water-powered flour and grist mill in 1865, the only mill of its kind in the Carson Valley (Jackson 1964:56). In January, 1874, Rickey and company established a barrel factory at Woodfords primarily to manufacture butter tubs needed by dairymen in Hope Valley.

Diamond Valley, one of the richest agricultural sections, produced barley, wheat, hay, oats, and fruit on a large scale by the 1870s. Snowshoe Thompson owned 100 acres of planted wheat and barley averaging 25 bushels per acre. He had an annual hay crop of 80 tons and owned both dairy and beef cattle, and also owned a threshing machine, reaper and mower (Howatt 1966:79). Today almost the entire valley has been converted to cattle range and planted pasture by the Heise Corporation of Gardnerville, Nev. (Alpine County Recorders Office: Deeds; Howatt 1966:79; Hawkins 1967:28).

Cattle, sheep, horses, and mules were driven up from ranches in the San Joaquin, Sacramento, and Carson Valleys. Dairy and beef cattle came from San Joaquin, Sacramento and Amador counties. Summer herds were the most numerous migrating herd. Most sheep came over the Big Trees Road from San Joaquin, Calaveras, Stanislaus, Sacramento, and Amador counties, less so from the Carson Valley. Basques were usually employed as sheepmen.

Since the late 1880s, Nevada ranchers, including such families as Dressler, Berry, Fay Wilderson, Park, Scossa, Dangberg, Settlemeyer, Neddenreip, and Heise have owned both land and water rights in Alpine County. The water rights to the Carson River, which date back to 1858, reveal the importance of the Nevada cattlemen in Alpine County. Rights to water became an object of bitter dispute between ranchers of Alpine County and the Carson Valley. In 1890 the Alpine Land and Reservoir Company was organized by some Alpine County farmers, to build storage reservoirs in Alpine County and sell the water.

The cost of construction was prohibitive and the company sold out to Carson Valley farmers who constructed dams on various sites in Alpine County, with an aim to store unused water to be used later for irrigation in the Carson Valley. According to the California Superior Court ruling of November 29, 1921, on water rights on the West Fork of the Carson river, the Alpine farmers and ranchers, then 18 in number, received a total of 39.24 cubic feet per second. Two other Nevada ranchers received 17.98 cubic feet per second for use in Douglas County, Nev. (Water Rights, November 29, 1921, Alpine County Archives). Nevada ranchers also own water rights to about 15 lakes in Alpine County (Howatt 1966:89). As of 1960 about 4,000 acres in California and 10,000 acres in Nevada are irrigated by diversions from the West Fork of the Carson River.



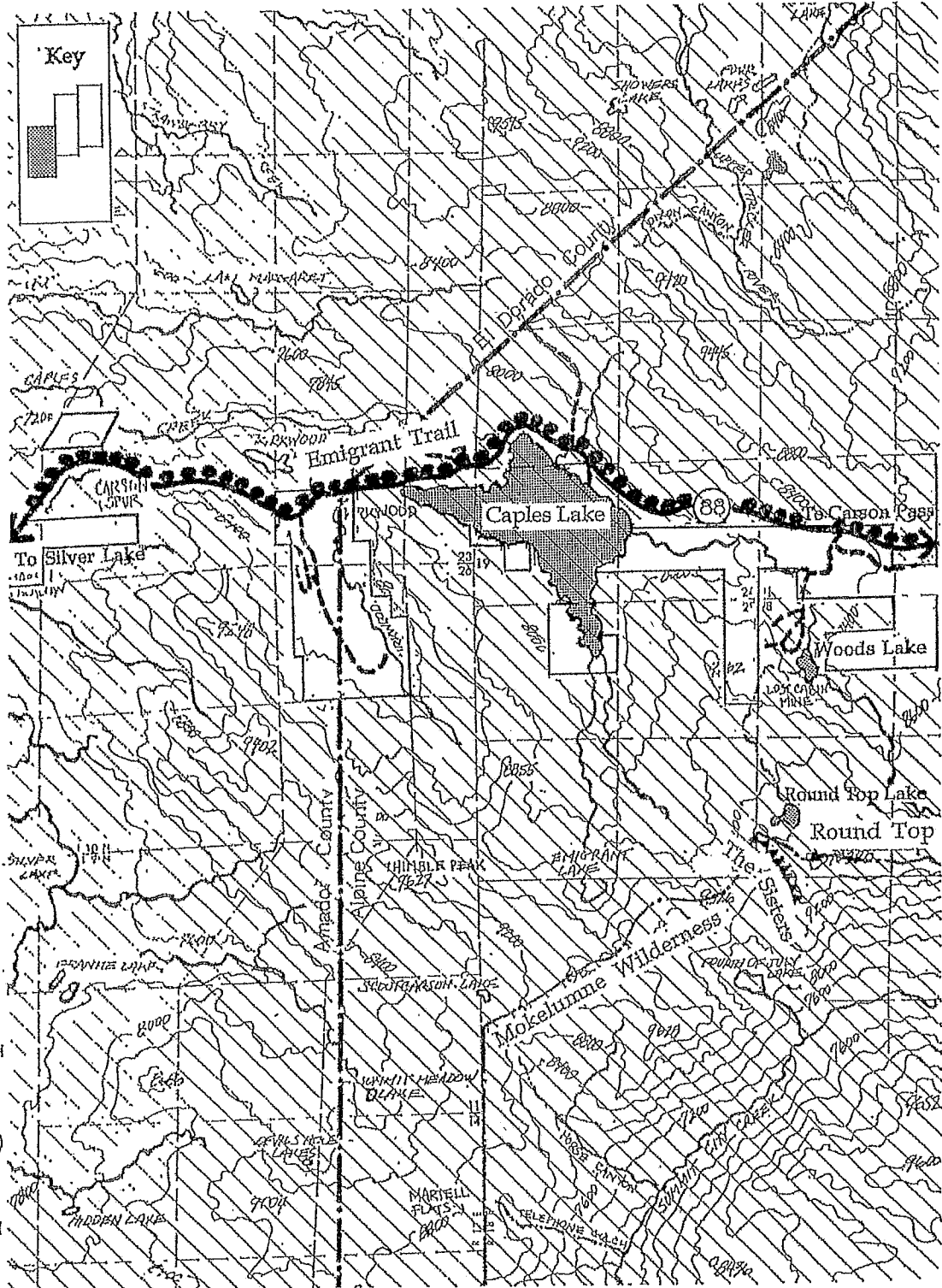
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CULTURAL/NATURAL RESOURCES

Hope Valley
Economic and Recreation Study

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Lake Tahoe, Nevada

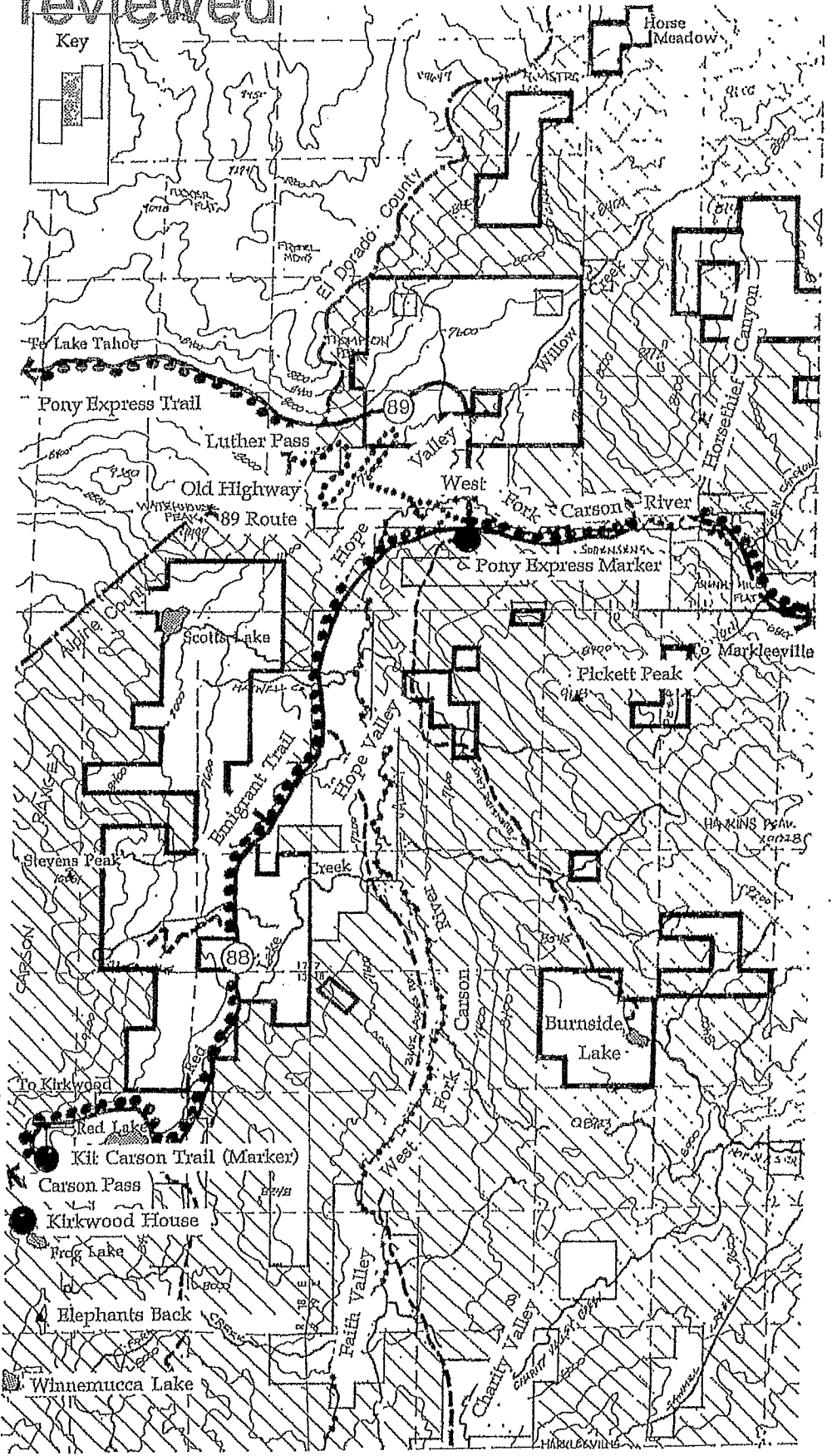


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CULTURAL/NATURAL RESOURCES

Hope Valley
Economic and Recreation Study

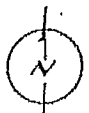
Alpengroup 1988 Lake Tahoe, Nevada



LEGEND

- Highway
- - - County Road
- ▨ USFS Land
- ▭ Study Lands
- Historical Site

NO SCALE



Needs to be reviewed

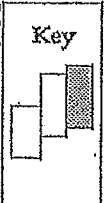
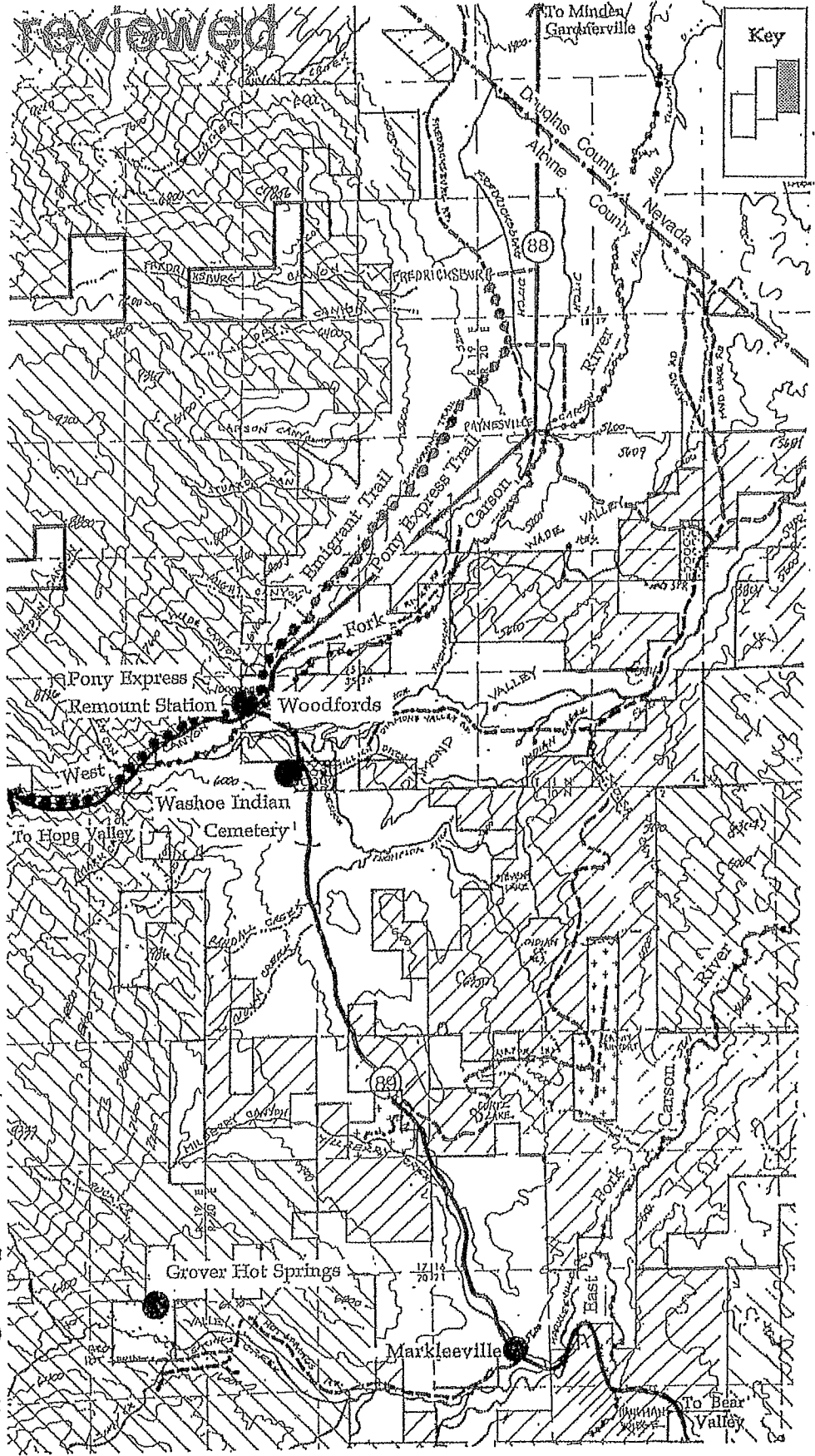
CULTURAL/NATURAL RESOURCES

Hope Valley
Economic and Recreation Study

Alpengroup

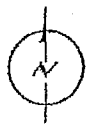
1988

Lake Tahoe, Nevada



LEGEND

- Highway
- County Road
- USFS Land
- Study Lands
- Historical Site



NO SCALE

Needs to be reviewed

Hope Valley
Economic and Recreation Study

Final ▼ April 1989

▲ Recreation

- ▼ Existing
Recreation
- ▼ Future
Recreation

Needs to be reviewed

Hope Valley Economic and Recreation Study

Final ▼ April 1989

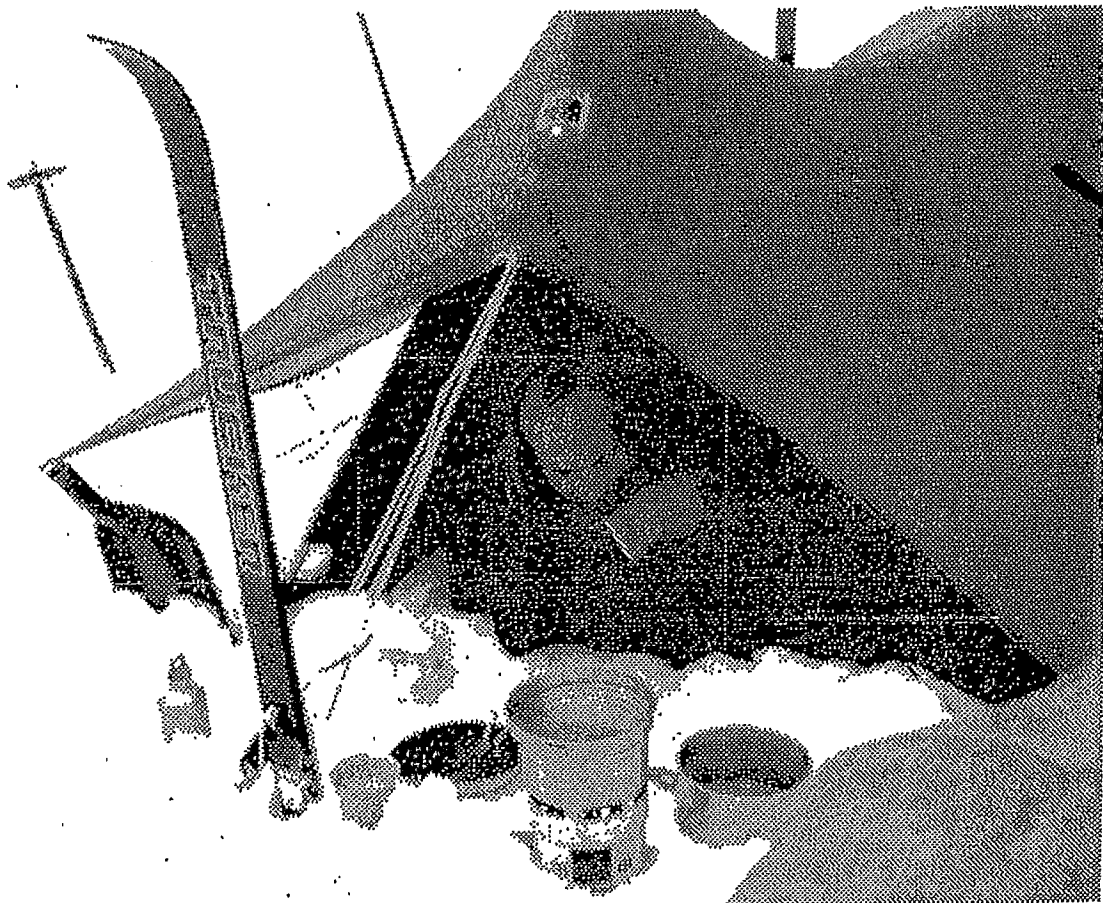
▲ Existing
Recreation

Existing Recreation
Opportunities
Recreational Providers
Users
Visitation

RECREATION ▼

Alpine County represents a great opportunity for outdoor recreation. The wealth of its natural resources includes rugged mountains, picturesque valleys, free flowing streams, varied habitats and abundant wildlife. These resources appeal to a wide variety of travelers looking for a place to get away. The study area, the corridor surrounding Hope Valley stretching from Kirkwood to Markleeville, offers all of these resources and, in addition, a stunning beauty. As a result of this combination of scenery, activities and accessibility, the area enjoys a growing reputation as a vacation spot.

This chapter will describe the existing recreational activities, typical visitors, and recreation providers and support facilities in the area, as well as describe the planned future for recreation. The last portion of the chapter will address economic impacts and benefits from increased recreation and tourism.



EXISTING RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES ▼

Recreation in Hope Valley is based on the diversity of natural resources present. Situated in the Carson Range of the Sierra Nevada, the landscape presents a seemingly endless array of mountains and narrow canyons that open into grass covered valleys. Numerous small streams feed into mountain lakes and reservoirs, as well as the West Fork of the Carson River. Recreational potential abounds in this setting. The following paragraphs describe existing recreational uses in the areas.

Summer:

Hiking. Many hiking trails exist in the area and pass through meadows, high, treeless plateaus, dense forest and riparian areas. The Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail is perhaps the best known and crosses the area at Carson Pass. Trails in the northern study area access Horsethief Canyon, Horse Meadow, Pickett Peak, and Stevens Peak. From the Carson Pass area, trails reach Meise Meadows, Red Lake Peak, Elephants Back, Round Top and The Sisters. Lakes along these trails include Meise, Frog, Winnemucca, Woods and Round Top. In addition, the Mokelumne Wilderness Area sits just south of Caples Lake and provides hiking and primitive camping opportunities.

Camping. Camping opportunities in the area include developed tent and RV campgrounds, undeveloped sites where camping is allowed, and primitive backcountry camping. The campgrounds operated by the USFS include Hope Valley Campground, Kit Carson and Snowshoe Springs campgrounds, and the Woods Lake and Caples Lake campgrounds. The State of California operates a campground at Grover Hot Springs State Park; the county campground is located at Turtle Rock County Park. Two popular undesignated camping areas are located at Picketts Junction and along the Blue Lakes Road. Backcountry camping can occur in all US Forest Lands, however, popular spots exist around most lakes in the Carson Pass area.

Fishing. The West Fork of the Carson River is a popular fishing area. However, in Hope Valley itself, overgrazing by private landowners has reduced the fisheries habitat quality in the river. Currently, Rainbow and Cutthroat Trout are found. In addition to the river, many area lakes provide fishing opportunities. Of these Caples Lake is the largest and most accessible.

OHV. Past human activities in the area such as logging, mining, and ranching left many unimproved roads. Jeep trails and 4-wheel drive trails provide vehicle access to such areas as Blue Lakes, Burnside Lake, and Scotts Lake. Motorized vehicles are not permitted off established dirt roads on any public lands.

Mountain Biking. This relatively new activity is rapidly growing in popularity throughout the West and certainly within the study area. Three years ago, mountain bikes were unknown in Hope Valley; this year all area trails have experienced mountain bike use. Currently, several trails are off-limits for this use. These include all trails within the state park, the Pacific Crest Trail, the historic Emigrant Trail, and all wilderness trails.

Equestrian. Horseback riding in Hope Valley has enjoyed a long history. The Emigrant Trail and a Pony Express Trail route both crossed through the area and ranching-related horse use continues today. Much of the existing recreational use consists of horse owners trailering in their animals for day or week long rides into the surrounding backcountry lakes. Few adequate trailhead facilities currently exist to serve these users. Guided trail rides available at the Kirkwood Stables help to diminish trail use conflicts such as equestrians and vehicles using the same trail. (See the following discussion for more information about Kirkwood Stables.)

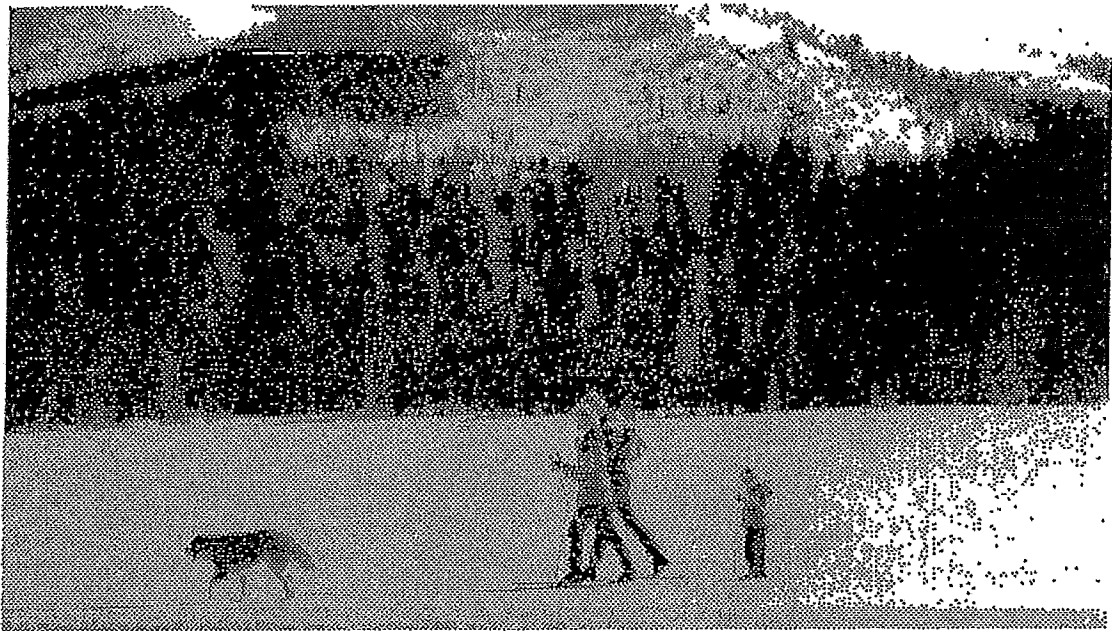
Miscellaneous. Many other outdoor activities occur during the moderate weather months within the study area. These include picnicking, hunting, mountain climbing, nature study, photography, bicycling (along paved roads), swimming and wading (in natural streams, lakes, and hot springs), and boating (at Caples Lake). In addition, area resorts offer more developed activities such as tennis, nature-oriented classes, swimming, and hot tubs. Llama pack trips and river rafting (on the East Fork of the Carson) can be experienced through special arrangements with Sorensens, Kirkwood, or the Woodfords Inn.

The study area is also used during the year for numerous training seminars and workshops for Federal, State, Regional, and Local Search and Rescue Teams.

Winter:

Alpine Skiing. At the south and west edge of the study area, Kirkwood offers a fully developed downhill ski resort. Although a portion of this resort sits outside of Alpine County, its proximity to Hope Valley adds to the activities diversity in the area. Kirkwood currently offers eleven lifts and 55 ski trails.

Nordic Skiing. The Carson Range, with its high mountains, frequent valleys and



abundant snowfall offers unlimited cross-country and mountaineering ski opportunities. In the study area, Nordic skiing has enjoyed a tremendous growth in popularity during the last ten years. Popular mountaineering destinations include Elephants Back, Round Top, Red Lake Peak and Meise Meadows. Other popular routes include Willow Creek Canyon, Red Lake Creek drainage, and the southern portion of Hope Valley. USFS marked, ungroomed cross-country trails include Winnemucca Lake and Red Lake. In addition, two resort areas mark and groom trails for skiing and (at Kirkwood) for skating. Sorensens maintains 40 km of groomed trails one of which provides access to Burnside Lake. Another 40 km are marked but ungroomed. The Kirkwood Nordic Center maintains 75 km of groomed track with skating lanes.

Snowmobiling. Snowmobiling is another popular winter sport in the area. Snowmobiles can be found on most jeep trails, though by far the heaviest use occurs along a corridor from Hope Valley to Blue Lakes, generally following the Blue Lakes Road. Tahoe Winter Sports grooms snowmobile tracks in this area.

Miscellaneous. Other winter activities in the study area include, snowshoeing, winter camping (developed camping available only at Grover Hot Springs State Park), snow play, ice fishing (at Caples Lake), and swimming (also only at Grover Hot Springs). In addition, Sorensens and Kirkwood offer their visitors special activities such as sledding and sleigh rides.

The terrain and snowpack that is indigenous to the area provides an excellent environment for snow studies, seminars for avalanche awareness, and winter Search and Rescue training.

Special Events: Special events also draw people to this area for outdoor recreation. Races, rodeos, and other celebrations are included in this category. In determining existing recreation, this study considered only annual events. They are:

Tour of the California Alps - The Death Ride: This bicycle ride that is held in July follows a rigorous route up and down the mountain passes of a Alpine County. It is considered one of the most outrageous bicycle rides staged on the West Coast.

Canine Connection: This 15 km sled dog race event in Hope Valley occurs every February. A similar race, staged in Truckee, is a large draw for the North Shore of Lake Tahoe and Truckee.

Alpine County Faire: This event is held in Markleeville and Woodfords every August.

Kirkwood Rodeo: A small, one day rodeo held at Kirkwood Stables occurs every summer.



RECREATION PROVIDERS ▼

Within the study area, four public agencies and seven major private groups provide recreational opportunities or recreational support services. This mix of public and private groups helps create the recreational diversity described in the last section. However, with so many players involved, the results sometimes are confusion, duplication of effort (particularly as regards planning and promotion), inadequate resource management, and haphazard rules enforcement. In order to fully understand the existing recreation picture, it is necessary to better understand the recreation providers.

United States Forest Service.

The USFS controls much of the land within the study area. As most of that land falls within the Toiyabe National Forest, the following discussion will assume that jurisdiction. (The El Dorado National Forest boundary crosses at Carson Pass; thus Caples Lake, and the Kirkwood area fall within that Forest. All of the lands under purchase consideration would transfer to the Toiyabe National Forest.)

Unlike other forest areas where logging or other uses predominate, the Toiyabe National Forest is ranked 19th nationally for recreation use. Within the Forest, the Alpine County facilities prove to be very popular, often operating at an occupancy rate twice that recommended to preserve the resource. In the 1986 Toiyabe Land and Resource Management Plan, the Forest Service recognizes recreation's importance and defines the development and management direction for this study area. That direction provides priority for developed and dispersed recreation, as well as wildlife habitat, aesthetics and watershed maintenance.

Within the study area, developed forest service facilities include: 135 summer campsites at the Hope Valley, Kit Carson, Snowshoe Springs, Woods Lake and Caples Lake campgrounds; hiking and jeep trails; and an information station at Carson Pass. In addition, permittees operate Alpine and Nordic ski and snowmobile trails, horse pack trails, campgrounds and the Hope Valley and Caples Lake resorts. Special use permits allow private individuals to operate commercial enterprises on federal lands. Under these permits, private groups invest the needed capital improvements and collect the profits; the USFS can control certain aspects of the operations and receive a portion of the profits as a permit fee. As federal budgets tighten, this sort of public-private partnership will become a more common way to meet the growing recreational demand.

California State Parks.

California State Parks operates the 538 acre Grover Hot Springs State Park. This facility, once a private resort, centers around the naturally occurring hot mineral water piped into a concrete pool. At all times of the year, visitors can swim or soak in the "hot" pool, at 100 F, or in the "cold" pool, at 80 F. A changing room and showers completes the pool facility. By State Park standards, the pool complex is run-down and will receive extensive remodeling when funds become available. Other facilities at this park include: 46 picnic sites (30 of these form the winter campground), 76 summer campground units, a nature hike and trailhead to Burnside Lake, and cross country skiing. (Mountain bike, equestrian and OHV use is prohibited in the park except along one existing dirt road.)

California State Parks also operates a Snow-Park permit facility at Carson Pass. From this parking lot, most of the Carson Pass cross-country ski areas are accessible.

California Fish and Game.

California Fish and Game stocks the West Fork of the Carson River. The Rainbow and Cutthroat are considered good sport and eating fish. Currently, Fish and Game provides no other use facilities.



Alpine County.

Alpine County operates Turtle Rock County Park just outside of Markleeville. The primary activity for recreationists in this park is a 28 unit campground, with eleven spots reserved for summer-long senior visitors. The facility is not available during the winter months.

Woodfords.

In the Woodfords area, Woodfords Inn and Woodfords Station both provide visitor services. Woodfords Inn offers 20 motel rooms, an outdoor hot tub and coordination with Mort's River Rafting trips along the East Carson River. Typical hotel users include hunters, fishers, hikers and vacationers exploring the scenic beauty of Alpine County. At Woodfords Station, a restaurant/deli and general store are available, as well as visitor services such as maps, souvenirs and fishing licenses.

Hope Valley Resort.

The Hope Valley Resort consists of a general store, gas station and restaurant and operates under a special use permit from the USFS. Its major clients are highway travelers and campers at the Kit Carson and Snowshoe Springs campgrounds. This business has struggled over the years under a succession of managers and is currently open only during the summer months. The projected increase in recreational use of the area may indicate a brighter future for this operation.

Sorensens Resort.

Sorensens Resort, located on private property at the edge of Hope Valley itself, is an aggressively growing year-round resort. A full description of this resort can be found in the economic case studies at the end of this chapter. Briefly, Sorensens offers lodging (including group events such as conferences and weddings), food, gift items, special activities such as nature study, hiking trails, and a complete cross-country ski package including groomed and marked trails, equipment rental and lessons. In addition, staff will coordinate such activities as equestrian rides at Kirkwood Stables and llama pack trips.

Caples Lake Resort.

This resort is the only one in the study area with direct access to a lake. As such it offers recreational opportunities unique in the area. These include lake fishing, a small boat ramp, and motor boat and canoe rental. (The 5 mph speed limit

restriction on the lake prohibits larger boats and activities such as water skiing.) In addition, the year-round resort offers lodging in 7 cabins and 6 lodge rooms, a small store, and a renowned restaurant. Typical visitors fall into two groups; those drawn to the area to experience the Sierra outdoors (primarily for fishing, hiking, skiing, and nature study), and those already staying in the area and drawn to the restaurant.

This resort, as with the Hope Valley resort operates with a special use permit from the USFS. The terms of the permit do not allow ski rental or ski lessons, although after a master plan is completed other facility expansion may be possible.

Kirkwood.

Kirkwood resort is a fully developed year-round destination resort. Many of the facilities are located in Almador County, yet this resort has such an impact on outdoor recreation, it will be discussed fully here. Also discussed will be the Kirkwood Nordic Center and the Kirkwood Stables. These groups are not technically a part of the Kirkwood organization though together they form the "Kirkwood Experience."

Kirkwood Meadows offers the full range of recreational activities and visitor support services. In the summer these include: lodging and restaurant facilities (including conference facilities), general store and gift shops, 4 tennis courts, and hiking trails. Visitors also take advantage of nearby public recreational opportunities such as boating, fishing, and swimming. Alpine skiing is the main winter attraction and the resort offers eleven lifts with 55 ski trails. Ski rental and equipment and clothing purchases are also available.

Kirkwood Nordic Center is the developed Nordic skiing operation in the Carson Pass area. Operated only during the winter, this group has the exclusive permit from the USFS to develop and maintain ski trails as well as to rent and sell equipment. The area offers 75 km of groomed track with skating lanes, warming huts, and a day lodge with equipment sale and rental, and lessons. The nearby Kirkwood Inn offers food service and lodging.

Kirkwood Stables, in operation since 1986, is a relative newcomer in the area. Located on Kirkwood property, a special use permit allows trail rides to take visitors out of the valley and into the El Dorado National Forest. Conditions of the permit allow only guided, hourly or half-day rides. A corral and small office structure are the only on-site facilities required for this operation. Kirkwood Stables has 10-12 rentable horses available, although at any one time, some of these may be rotated out to pasture.

Recreation Users ▼

Recreation Users

People that visit an area to participate in recreational activities often fall into distinct user groups. Member of these groups will share interests, recreational needs, facility development needs, and often travel and spending habits. In the Highway 88 Study, the USFS identified and described typical user groups within the Highway 88 corridor, of which Hope Valley is a part. The following section summarizes information from that study, augmenting it with more specific user information where necessary.

- (1) car campers,
- (2) those with special access needs,
- (3) day users,
- (4) youth groups, and
- (5) resort and cabin renters.

These groupings are based upon social and economic analysis of the management situation, historical and projected trends of user groups, informal interviews with Forest Service recreation management professionals and forest users, oral and written issue statements, newspaper articles, government studies and documents, land use surveys, and census data. These groups are not mutually exclusive; a person may belong to more than one group.

The current situation for each of the groups is described as a way of comparing their impacts.

A social variable is a factor that can be used to measure the social impacts of the various alternatives on different social groups. For example, people within each group may have similar lifestyles, attitudes, beliefs and values which are projected as likes, perceptions, and fears.

Other components of social organization such as community cohesion and stability are also social variables are discussed for each social group. In addition the effects on population in terms of distribution, growth and density is a social variable which is considered.

This study recognizes that characteristics identified for each group are generalizations and, as such, will not be true for everyone in the group.

1. Car Campers

Car campers are overnight visitors who camp in developed campgrounds for periods from one night to two weeks and participate in such daytime activities as relaxing in camp, camp-cooking and barbecuing, fishing, sightseeing, swimming, hiking, and generally enjoying the mountains. (Winter campers are considered in this study but their numbers are relatively few and the focus is on summer users of the study area.) They generally travel and camp with their families and possess strong feelings about family use of the outdoors and natural resource appreciation. They travel predominantly in autos and recreational vehicles and prefer relatively high standard roads for access to campgrounds and other facilities. The vehicles they use for transportation require travel routes that provide easy access.

The majority of campers come from urban Sacramento, Stockton, and San Francisco metropolitan areas. These three areas account for over 80% of the total family and group campground use in the area.

The summer season of car camper use is the school vacation and holiday weekends period. This typically covers the roughly 100-day or three-month period from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. When traveling to the recreational facilities along Highway 88 campers find scenic travel through the area to be an attractive feature of the trip.

Car campers share some common recreational life styles. These consist of a recreational goal, recreational opportunities, special group access, security, and public space for daytime activities.

Their recreational goal revolves around a central theme, which is to travel to the outdoors with family or friends, pitch a tent or level an RV, cook out, fish and hike in an unrestricted, natural forest setting. These visitors travel to the forest to enjoy an outdoor family experience in a rustic setting while taking in the great outdoors. This theme is central to the group's recreation style.

The recreational opportunities of the car camper are centered around the availability and location of campgrounds and campsites with water being a primary attractant. Because of the close proximity of the available campgrounds in the area, heavy use is experienced with crowding occurring approximately 30 to 50 percent of the time during the 100-day high use season. Crowding is indicated by turnaway and near turnaway days.

As a social group, car campers can be easily joined by special groups such as the

poor, disadvantaged, or minorities so long as transportation fees, and fuel prices permit. The special groups find little obstacle to joining the car camper social group to share its associated privileges. Compared with resort rentals, downhill skiing, and recreation residence owning, car camping requires only access to a vehicle, ability to afford some fairly inexpensive equipment, fuel, and modest campground fees.

Security is another recreational life style component for the camper. The group's sense of security can be affected by anxiety, unpredictability, and the "unknown". The primary factor associated with this study, which can influence the group's sense of security, is a lack of opportunity to participate in their form of recreation. This lack of opportunity can be created by the failure to expand the facilities necessary to meet the current and future demands for campgrounds in the area. If competition and crowding is allowed to dramatically increase, opportunities for this group to find a campsite decrease. This reduces their potential for enjoyment and causes anxiety, the unpredictability of finding a place to stay, and a fear of a wasted trip.

The final aspect of car campers recreational life style is their need for public space. It is not sufficient to merely provide this social group with campsites; they also require space for appropriate activities during the day. These activities are primarily water oriented in the Highway 88 area, encompassing such pastimes as fishing, swimming, sunbathing, and boating.

Car campers also share an appreciation for the existence of the National Forests with their varied resources. They appreciate and value the natural environment, its scenic beauty, its wildlife, and its psychological benefits for the general public and most seek to protect it by picking up litter and suppressing forest fires.

2. Special Access Needs

Those with special access needs are individuals who visit the forest and who, because of their age, physical handicap or disability, have restricted access and travel capabilities. These visitors have special requirements for travel and access if they are to share in the enjoyment of the forest. They are generally hindered by rough terrain. In addition, they may have special needs in terms of sleeping quarters, shelter, or other facilities. Not all the individuals who visit the forest are capable of "roughing it" by sleeping on the ground, cooking out, and hiking over rough topography.

Transportation is an important need for this group. The portions of the forest they

are able to visit are generally limited to those areas which they can access by auto or which have smooth flat ground. This precludes their use of the rugged portions of the Highway 88 study area. However, with proper development, much of Hope Valley could be available for these users.

This group often also has special housing needs. They frequently require structures or vehicles with beds or cots for overnight stays. Since they are often not capable of sleeping out on the ground, this social group is usually limited to staying in lodges, organization camps, cabins, or recreational vehicles (RV). If these individuals are to share in the enjoyment of the forest they will usually need developments offering the possibility for these kinds of accommodations.

The best opportunities for a recreational experience for this social group are in the lodges, resorts, and organization camps. However these opportunities are not without their restrictions also. First, there are a limited number of rooms available at the resorts in the area and they are frequently full during peak demand periods. Second, they are relatively more expensive than other forms of camping, etc.

The most accessible overnight recreational opportunity for the visiting handicapped or disabled person is in an affordable RV in one of the campgrounds in the area. These areas, although easily accessible, do not always provide all the facilities and conveniences sometimes required by the disabled. This includes wheelchair routes, dining areas, and suitable restrooms. Campgrounds which have the potential to provide access to the disabled are limited by their relatively rustic nature.

The elderly, handicapped or disabled with special access and travel requirements who visit the study area have some common values about the forest. They appreciate and value the natural environment, its visual beauty, and its psychological benefits. They feel they are equally entitled to enjoy the benefits of the forest as any other member of society. When lack of access restricts their recreational opportunities, they feel single out and ignored. They often share the view that the National Forests should be available for all members of the public. Although they may share many common attitudes and beliefs they do not appear to possess a strong sense of community cohesion.

3. Day Users

Day users are those individuals and families who travel Highway 88 and stop off for the day to swim, picnic, fish, photograph, view wildflowers and scenery, experience the fall colors or other such spring, summer and fall daytime activities. Generally their length of stay in the area is short. The areas they frequent for outdoor

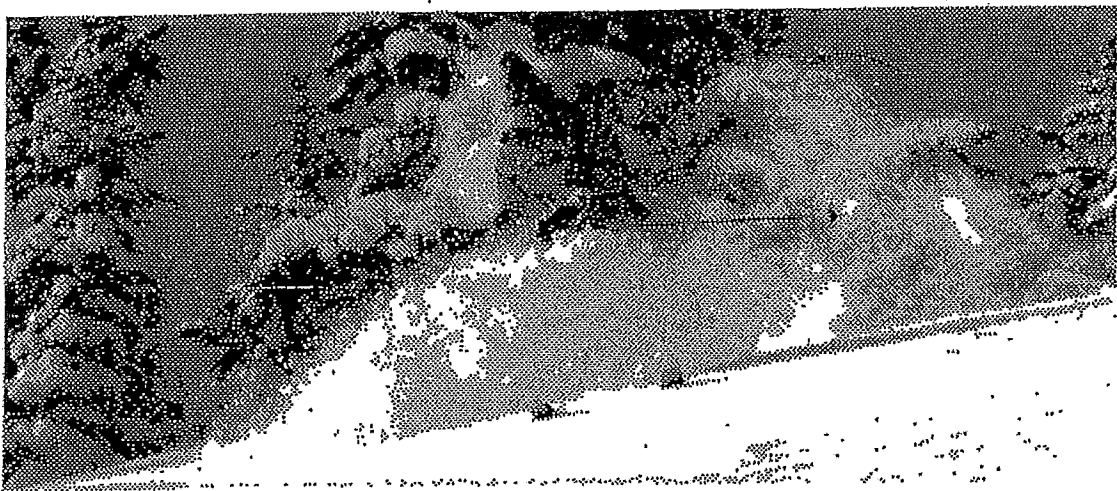
enjoyment are usually adjacent to the highway or short roads just off the highway. They are attracted by vistas and lakeshores. Much of their use is associated with the lakes, streams, and meadows in the area.

They are a diverse group coming from many different backgrounds and origins linked solely by their day use activities and their travel route on Highway 88. Day users in the Hope Valley study area come primarily from three cities or towns: Sacramento, the Tahoe area, and Minden/Gardnerville. All three areas are growing and should contribute an ever increasing number of day users in Hope Valley.

While most day users share with campers, cabin owners and disabled persons a deep respect for a desire to protect the Forest environment, day use area maintenance requirements indicate that a larger minority than in the other groups lack this ethic. Litter and vandalization are constant concerns, especially in dispersed recreation situations where social controls are least evident.

Transportation and access is the most critical need for the day use social group. Highway 88 and its associated side roads provide access for day users to the recreation sites in the area. Once at the day use sites, adequate parking and open, uninhibited access to lakeshore or other recreational areas are important for this group to enjoy the forest.

Access to and day use parking at Kirkwood, Silver Lakes and, to some extent, Caples Lake, is limited by existing recreational residence and organization camp development on National Forest land. The combination of little parking and restricted lakeshore access, both actual and perceived, is a limiting factor for this social group.



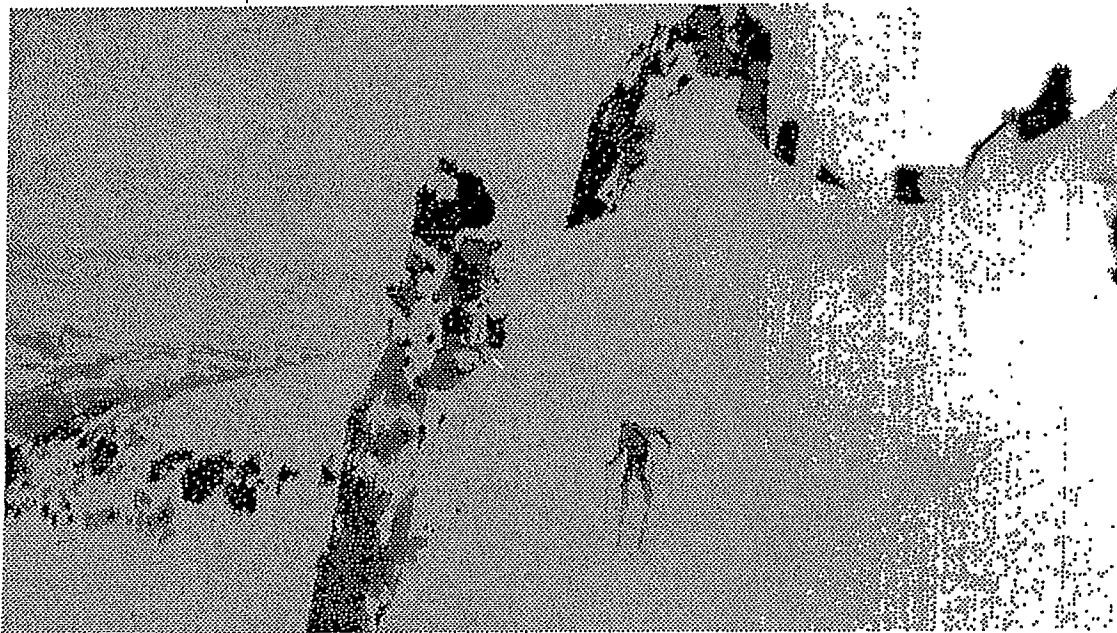
Some of the roads in the area, such as those at Silver Lake, are restrictive to day users, especially those new to the area, due to the presence of the recreational residences along both sides of the road. These roads are perceived as private because of the cabins lining both sides. As such, they are avoided by the day users who fear they are trespassing on someone's land.

In order for the day user social group to fully enjoy the recreational activities available in the study area improved day use access opportunities to the lake fronts, and other areas are needed.

The conflict of popular day use activities may soon become a limiting factor for these uses. As visitation to the area increases, incompatible uses may be forced closer and closer together. The result of this situation may be a degradation in the desirability of the area for the use in question. An example is the inherent conflict between Nordic skiers and snowmobilers. Another potential conflict includes various trail uses such as hiking, horseback riding and mountain bike riding.

4. Youth Groups

The Youth Groups are the organizations such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Campfire, Inc., churches, and others. These groups use the out-of-doors as the media whereby youth are taught character-building traits, imbued with organization ethics, and learn outdoor skills and manners. Some of the organization camps bring together



youths that are not bound together by organizationalities at home but the effort is made to develop cohesiveness and cooperation through group activities.

Many of the activities are based on natural history, woodsmanship, and other outdoor recreation activities such as fishing, hiking, overnight camping, boating, and swimming. Other games such as volleyball, and craft programs are often included as well.

Essential to these groups is a base of operations — an organization camp, or a public group camp to which the groups return year after year. Room for each camper to bed down — often in a communal area or dormitory — and a community kitchen are essentials along with extensive areas for daytime activities. In the study area, most groups have need for a waterfront area for boating and swimming activities. In the case of organization camps, these are permanently assigned. Groups using public group camps must use public launching facilities and public beaches, which are in short supply. Without waterfront activities, groups are more limited in activities which can occupy large numbers of youth. Hiking and fishing is usually less enjoyable when the groups are large.

Because the youth groups are organized under trained leaders, their outdoor ethics are usually above average. They spend considerable time "policing" their areas and respect the environment. As with any large group of youngsters there is often a noise problem and it is for this reason that organization and group camps should be located at some distance from other users.

5. Resort and Cabin Renters

The summertime resort and cabin renting social group is usually older and more affluent than the camper group. Their children often have left the nest and they can afford to spend a little more for their trip to the mountains and enjoy the luxury of a bed and prepared meals. They spend their time in the same daytime activities as the campers — boating, fishing, nature walks, sun-bathing — but without the chores of cooking, fire-building, and camp-tending.

In the study area, many of the cabin renters are former campers. They learned of the area in years past while camping; fell in love with the area and now return in "style". Others may have had former friends who were summer cabin owners but have since sold their cabin. They came to enjoy visits with their friends and now continue their trips to the mountains by staying in one of the resorts. A few are younger affluent couples who found the area by skiing at Kirkwood and return in the summer to stay for a weekend.

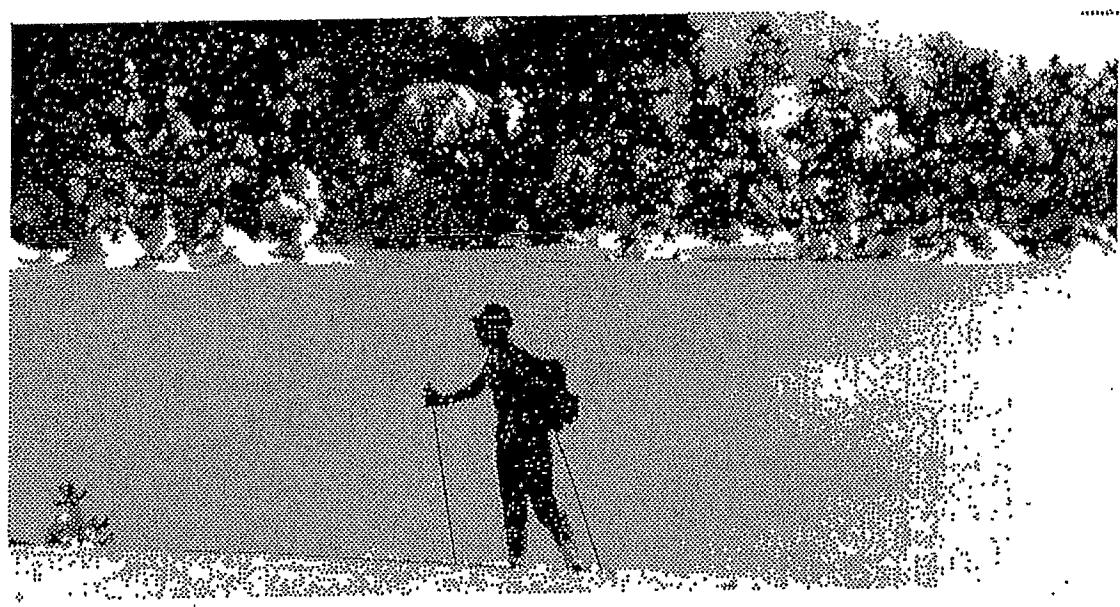
Some of this group have family and friends who never learned to enjoy "roughing it" in a tent and so, to still enjoy the environment and their friendship, come to the mountains with friends and stay in rented quarters.

The primary constraint on this social group is the limit on the number of first-rate, lake basin, rental cabins. The finer resorts are often booked a year in advance on popular weekends.

**RECREATION
VISITATION ▼**

The user groups described above combine each year to make up the total visitation. It is vital in planning for the future to understand the existing recreational use pattern. Unfortunately, very little statistically accurate data exists from which to determine visitation. For purposes of this study, all recreational and support services providers in the area were interviewed and their visitation estimates recorded. The following section provides these visitation figures. However, several important factors must be explained before these figures take on meaning.

First, recreational use in Hope Valley is very seasonal in nature. A minimum number of users will remain constant throughout the year, with large peaks during the summer months and the core winter months when the snow is plentiful. The yearly visitation figures provided here do not acknowledge this trend and should not be used to predict use at any given time.



Secondly, a typical visitor will participate in a variety of activities while in the study area. Thus, the same visitor may be counted by several groups reporting visitation. For example, an overnight guest at the Woodfords Inn may hike or fish during the day, eat a meal at Sorensens, and end the day at Grover Hot Springs. Thus, this same person may be counted by the USFS, Sorensens and the State Park. As a result of this, the following numbers cannot be simply added together to produce an area-wide visitation figure. On-site surveys, outside the scope of this study, could provide this valuable information.

Lastly, and most important, visitation statistics can be collected in a variety of ways; all of which may be accurate enough for the intended purpose, yet can all skew the data, making comparisons between groups akin to comparing apples and oranges. None of the groups in this study count each person participating in an activity. Generally, the resorts derive visitation from their room occupancy rate and restaurant receipts. The State Park system counts tickets sold for the hot springs precisely, and does not count cross country skiers at all. The USFS method provides a good illustration of the difficulty in manipulating visitation numbers.

The USFS uses a unit of measure called a Recreation Visitor Day (RVD) to count visitation. An RVD is based on an individual stay of 12 hours. Thus, the same 100 people participating in two different activities, one with an average stay of 4 hours, one with an average of 12 hours, will be counted as 25 RVD's and 100 RVD's



respectively. This method may suit USFS planning purposes, yet under counts participants in most short-time day use activities.

Whatever the inaccuracies, the following visitation figures do provide an overview of recreational use. Of the numbers reported, the USFS statistics more fairly represent an overall use figure. This is true because so much of the study area is USFS land and most visitors to the area participate in activities in the forest at some point of their stay.

USFS

1. Camping, developed	63,400 RVD's
dispersed	85,000 RVD's
2. Fishing	10,000 RVD's (includes all area streams and lakes)
3. Hunting	3,800 RVD's (none of this use occurs in Hope Valley itself)
4. Cross country skiing	3,500 RVD's
5. Snowmobiling	3,000 RVD's

*Based on the above discussion of RVD's, the above figures for camping probably better represent the number of people involved. The estimates for the other uses undercount. For example, the average stay for cross country skiers calculated in the RVD formula is 4 hours, thus the true visitation for that use may reach 8,000 people.

California Fish and Game

1. Fishing	10,800 users (includes fishing in Hope Valley portion of the West Carson River)
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California State Parks

1. Day use	75,352 visitors (includes all activities except the campground)
2. Camping	28,780
3. Snow-Park	Not available

Alpine County

1. Camping	Not available
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Woodfords

No specific visitation information was collected for the Woodfords area. However, the 1987 fire in the area will impact visitation in the future. One USFS Study (Methods for Assessing the Impact of Fire on Forest Recreation) shows preference for recreation in an area significantly declines after a major fire. Thus, the ability of the forest to regenerate will impact the contribution of the Woodfords area to overall recreation.

Hope Valley Resort

Due to frequent ownership change, no reliable visitation figures are available.

Sorensens Resort

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. Lodging | 23,000 visitors |
| 2. Store/Day Use | 7,500 |
| 3. Other Day Use
(hiking, restaurant) | 15,000 |

Caples Lake Resort

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1. Lodging | 4,500 visitors |
| 2. Store/Day Use | 13,500 |
| 3. Boat Rental | 3,100 |
| 4. Restaurant | 11,500 |

Kirkwood*

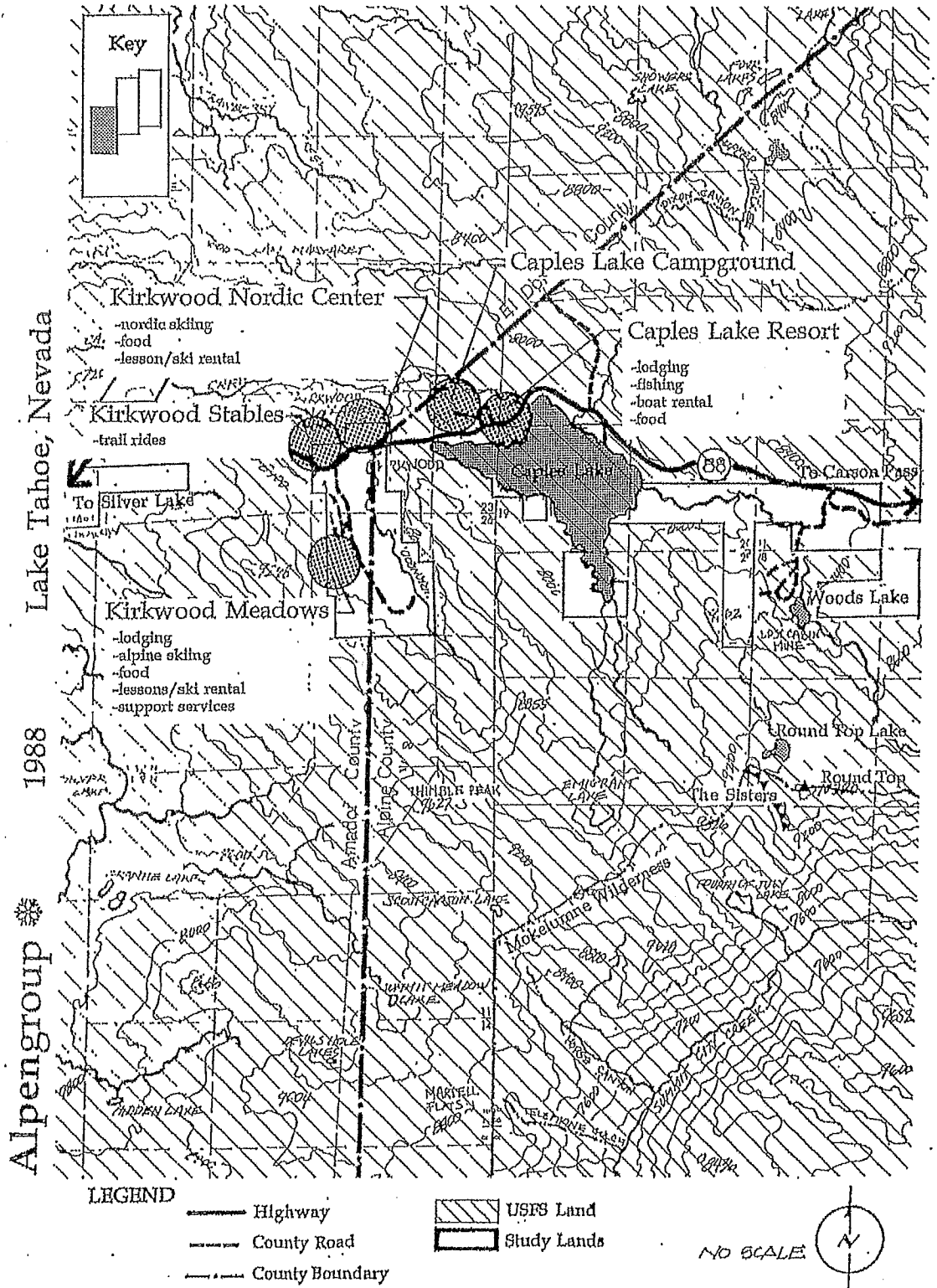
- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. All Summer Use | 10,700 guests |
| 2. Winter: Alpine Skiing | 380,000 skier visits |
| Nordic Skiing | 10,000 skier visits |

*Includes Kirkwood Meadows, Kirkwood Stables, and Kirkwood Nordic Center.

Needs to be reviewed

EXISTING RECREATION

Hope Valley Economic and Recreation Study

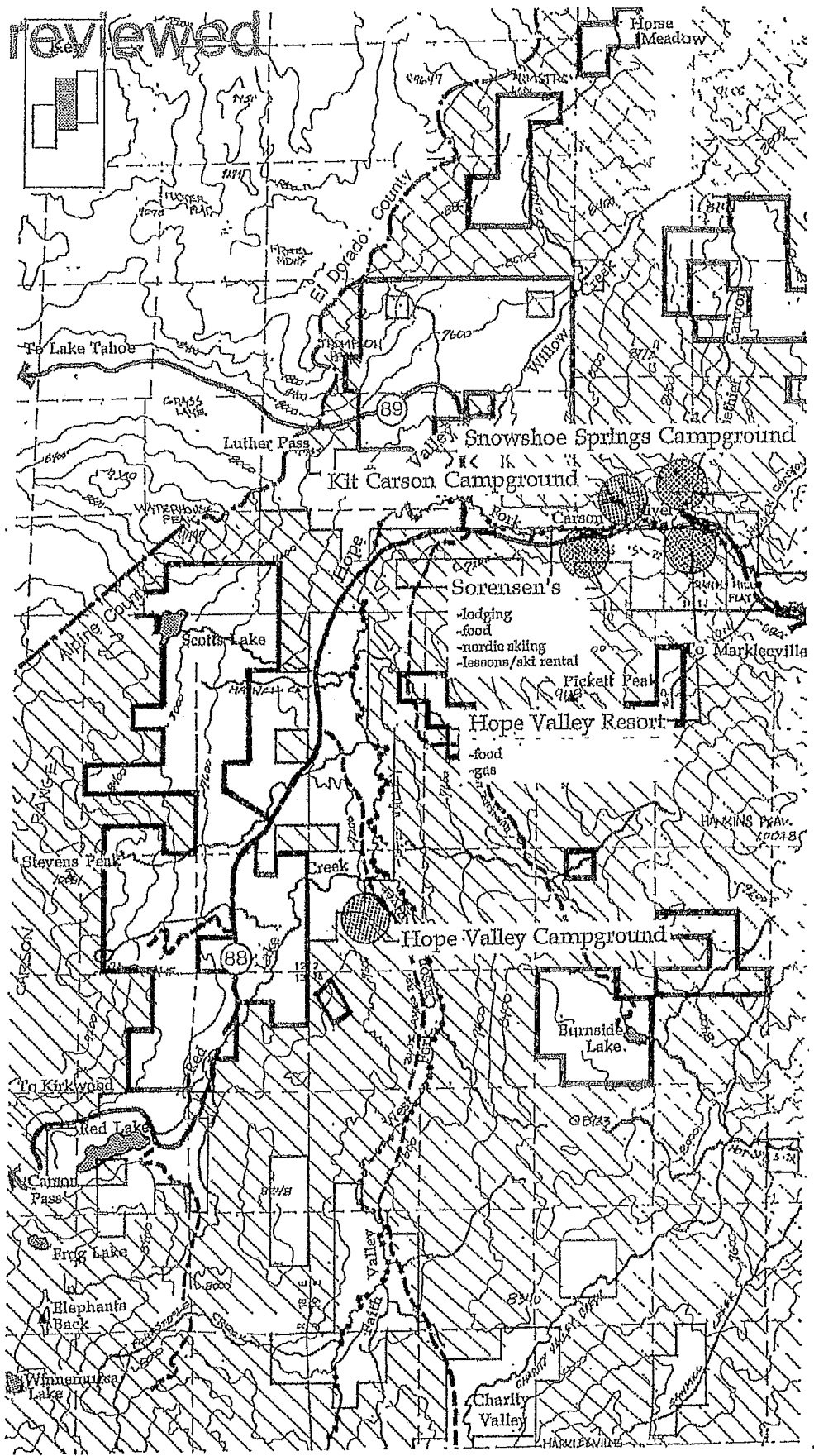


Needs to be reviewed

EXISTING RECREATION

Hope Valley
Economic and Recreation Study

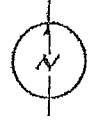
Alpengroup 1988 Lake Tahoe, Nevada



LEGEND

- Highway
- - - County Road
- - - County Boundary
- USFS Land
- Study Lands

NO SCALE

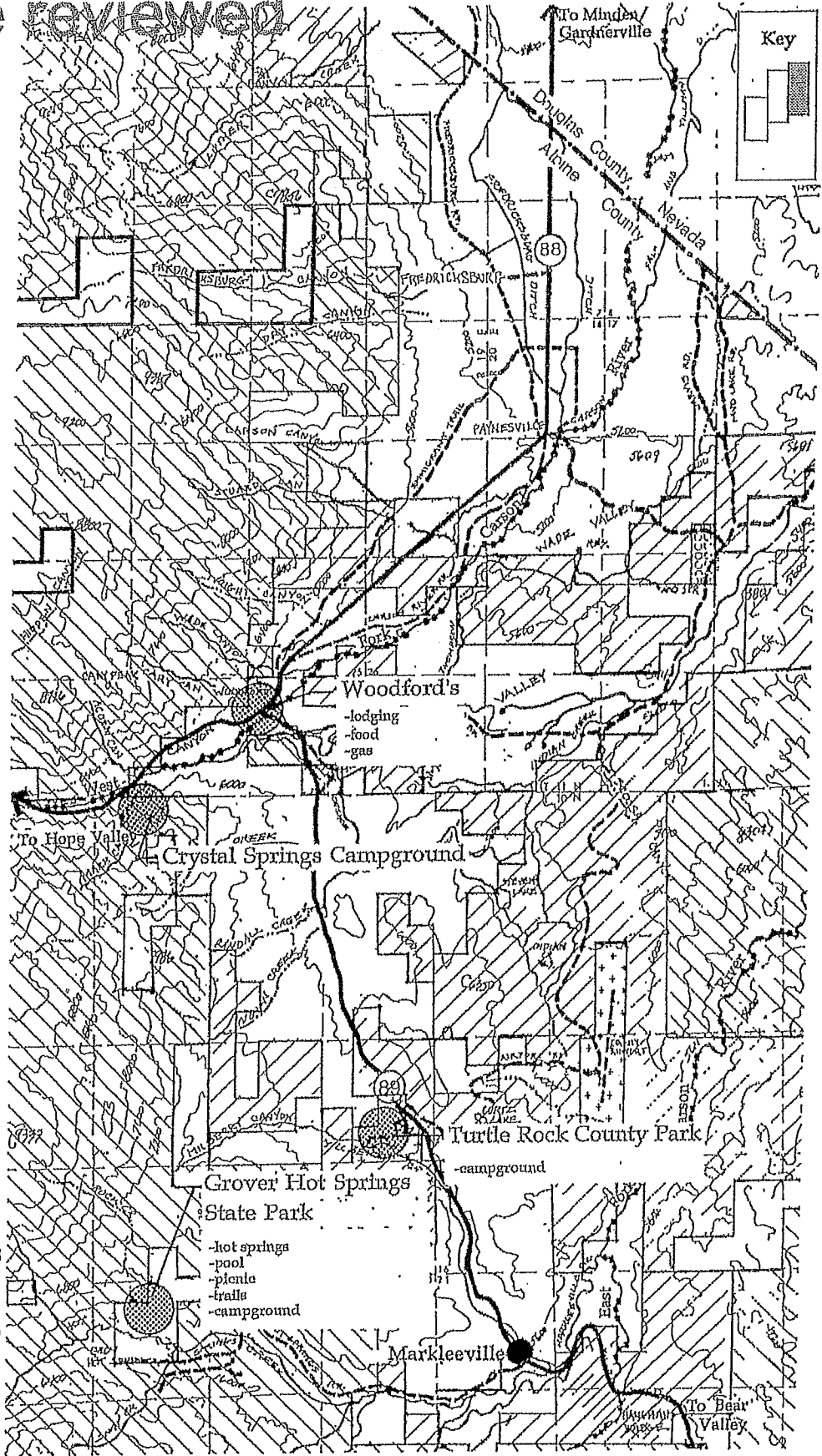


Needs to be reviewed

EXISTING RECREATION

Hope Valley
Economic and Recreation Study

Alpengroup 1988 Lake Tahoe, Nevada



- LEGEND
- Highway
 - - - County Road
 - - - County Boundary
 - USFS Land
 - Study Lands

NO SCALE

Needs to be reviewed

Hope Valley
Economic and Recreation Study

Final ▼ April 1989

▲ Future Recreation

Planned Recreation
Study Recommendations

Future Planned Recreation ▼

The future recreation in the study area shows an increase in the number of participants and in the variety of activities offered. Several sources help identify this trend. First, the 1988 Toiyabe Forest Plan states the major users of the Northern Sierra forests originate from central California, the San Francisco Bay area, Reno, and Carson City. Census data shows these areas growing in population. Smaller communities closer to the study area such as Lake Tahoe, Minden/Gardnerville and Jackson are also growing rapidly. All these communities will contribute an ever-growing number of recreationists to the Hope Valley area.

Secondly, all recreational providers interviewed for this study have witnessed a recreation growth trend. Estimates of increased use in the area in the past five years ranged from 25% to 75% for some activities. Several government studies support this trend. For example, California State Parks, in their study The Recreation and Leisure Industry's Contribution to California's Economy, identified the projected growth* of the following high-expenditure, rapid-growth recreational activities:

- Snow skiing (49% growth)
- Visiting scenic area (35%)
- Fishing (32%)
- Hiking and backpacking (32%)
- Nature appreciation (31%)

*Projected growth between 1980-2000

The USFS Highway 88 Future Recreation Use Determination study also supports the recreational growth trend in the area. This study recorded a steady growth in campground use between 1976 and 1980. By 1980, the campgrounds considered by the study were so popular, crowding became a limiting factor and use dropped off.

The increase in available recreational activities will also occur. For example, the National Outdoor Recreational Bicycle Association (NORBA) estimates the amount of mountain bike use in the Northern Sierra has doubled each of the last three years. Following this trend, several of the recreational providers interviewed intend to soon start renting mountain bikes for visitor use.

Another example is equestrian riding. Already a popular activity for those who own horses, Kirkwood Stables has seen its trail ride visitation more than double in 1988. This organization hopes to expand its operation into Hope Valley to meet the growing recreational use demand.

For a better picture of the recreation future in the study area, the following section describes each organization's development/expansion plans.

United States Forest Service

The proposed land acquisition presented in this study will most impact the USFS and the California Fish and Game's future plans. How either of these agencies may develop this land is uncertain at this time and will remain so until the land transfer and subsequent master planning effort is complete. This study presents a possible development scenario for those lands in the next section. However, the newly completed Toiyabe National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan provides policy direction and specific implementation steps for the current USFS lands.

The study area is included in the USFS Management Area #3. This area encompasses 114,600 acres of USFS land in Alpine County as well as the Mokelumne and Carson-Iceberg wildernesses. Management direction prescribes maintaining or enhancing the area's dispersed and developed recreational opportunities. In addition, visual quality, habitat and watershed protection are plan goals. Specific plan recommendations are:

1. **Camping:** Reconstruct Hope Valley Campground; build a new 120 - site campground in Faith Valley. Also, provide health and sanitation facilities along the Blue Lakes Road to enhance winter recreational opportunities.
2. **ORV:** Continually analyze ORV use to assure protection of natural values and to enhance dispersed recreational opportunities. Also, maintain road closures to resolve conflicts between snowmobilers and cross-country skiers and to protect the resource.
3. **Lands:** Promote protection of Hope Valley through local zoning or acquisition. In addition, complete the land trade with California State Parks at Grover Hot Springs.
4. **Range:** Promote continuance of private land grazing permits in Hope Valley.
5. **Planning:** Assist Alpine County in maintaining or improving its tax base through the land exchange program.

6. **Facilities:** Improve the Blue Lakes Road.

7. **Protection:** Practice an aggressive fire management program to protect watershed values and private land below Forest lands along the Woodford's face.

The El Dorado National Forest may consider a slightly different set of criteria for determining future recreation. Mountain lakes such as Caples Lake and Woods Lake provide a significant recreational feature in this Forest. These lakes and shoreline facilities are currently approaching capacity. Thus, any expansion plans must show ways to mitigate impacts on these resources.

California Fish and Game

Currently, this organization has no facilities in Hope Valley. Annually, they stock the West Fork of the Carson River. This helps enhance the fishing potential of this stream. With completion of the proposed land transfer, Fish and Game could own and manage 25-50% of the acres involved. Habitat restoration will be the prime goal for these lands, yet user facilities may also be required. Specific facility recommendations for this area are included in the following section.

California State Parks

The master plan for Grover Hot Springs State Parks dates to 1956. A major plan update required to evaluate the need for new or expanded facilities may be 5 to 10 years away. Thus, only renovation work is expected to occur before that time. Park staff recognize the need for extensive renovation of the pool complex to bring it up to state standards. Included in this may be: rebuilding the hot pool and the showers/changing room building, and restoring the landscaping.

Alpine County

No plans currently exist to change or increase the capacity at the Turtle Rock County Park campground.

Woodfords

The future of recreation in the Woodford's area is tied directly to the ability of this area to regenerate after the disastrous 1987 fire. Several studies evaluating the attractiveness of recreation areas after fire show a much higher preference rating in areas that quickly recovered. In this case, the combination of the very hot fire that burned seed cones and soil organic matter, and the on-going two-year drought may

significantly slow that regrowth period. For the existing businesses, this may mean not planning for expansion. Neither the Woodford's Inn or the Woodford's Station currently have firm expansion plans. This may also deter new businesses from getting started.

Hope Valley Resort

The current owners of this resort took over management in August, 1988. Thus, future plans are unknown at the time of this study. Also, no master plan exists for this facility.

Sorensens Resort

Sorensens expansion plans are discussed fully in the Economics of Recreation section in this chapter. Briefly, this resort intends to expand most existing aspects of the operation, and add new ones. The major expansion element includes developing a lodge complete with guest rooms, a full restaurant, gift shop, and recreational equipment rental and sale. New activities will include a mountain bike program, a hostel-style dormitory, and a spa/sauna facility.

Caples Lake Resort

Caples Lake Resort operates under a special use permit from the USFS. The management intends to develop the property into a small, top-notch resort. Although a long-range plan has not been completed, some elements crucial to this goal have been identified. These include expanding lodging facilities, and the marina, as well as offering new activities such as organized recreational programs and conference facilities. As noted above, expansion that results in increased use of the lake should present mitigation measures.

Kirkwood

Kirkwood Ski Resort plans to strengthen its positioning as a year-round resort, as well as expand its winter-time activities. The 1973 Kirkwood EIS showed the resort at buildout housing 6,500 PAOT (people at one time) in the winter, and 2,200 PAOT in the summer. (1987 data shows existing sleeping capacity is 1,684.) These figures are considered the carrying capacity for the area.

Specifically, Kirkwood plans to build additional tennis courts, a swim/recreational complex, more lodging/living units, new chair lifts that open new terrain, and a new ski base serving facilities such as food and beverage areas. In addition, the

resort plans to organize and offer family and individual recreational programs. These could include mountain bike facilities, and organized backpacking, horsepacking and tennis programs. Additional conference facilities are also planned. These plans will expand the yearly summer visitation from 10,000 to 100,000 guests and winter use from 380,000 to 450,000 skier visits.

Kirkwood Stables plans expansion in several ways. This program hopes to increase the duration, routes and types of rides it can offer. This will include longer rides that travel to a wider variety of destinations. Pack trips that deliver campers into the backcountry, and guided overnights may also be included. Kirkwood Stables could also organize special event rides such as trailing the historic Emigrant Trail. With this program, visitation could increase fourfold.

The Kirkwood Nordic Center operates with a special use permit from the USFS until the year 2002. Under that permit, ski trail and base facility expansion could occur. Summer use of the facility to offer activities such as mountain bike rental must mitigate impacts on other resources as explained above. Expansion in existing winter-time special events such as races and volksski (group ski) represents one possible expansion technique.

Study

Recommendations ▼

Hope Valley is a place of great natural beauty and recreational potential. The increasing number of visitors and the growing number of recreational and service providers combine to insure its continued popularity. Hope Valley and the area around it are also sensitive natural habitats and vulnerable to disturbance and degradation. Thus, recreational use must be carefully planned and monitored.

After completion of the land transfer process, the USFS and the California Department of Fish and Game will complete a joint management and master plan for Hope Valley. Many other groups should be involved in the planning process, helping to set plan goals, recreation policy, and program recreational facilities. These groups include Alpine County, Friends of Hope Valley, the Chamber of Commerce, and other interest groups such as National Outdoor Recreation Bike Association (NORBA) and other recreational associations.

As a result of the research necessary for this study, Alpengroup has gained insight into this issue. Through numerous interviews, document research, and a look at other groups future plans, this study can identify some features necessary to fulfill the recreation potential of the area. The following section describes Alpengroup's study recommendations beginning with a concept for the area, and including recommended use policies, facility development and phasing.

Plan Concept:

The Hope Valley area's greatest asset to its visitors is its natural beauty. It offers an important experience in our modern, hectic lifestyle: getting away from the crowds, experiencing a natural setting and taking part in vigorous, healthful activities. Future uses should encourage dispersed activities that allow appreciation of the natural environment. Where visitors must congregate, facilities should be screened or hidden from the road and major trails. Short duration, special uses should focus attention on the area's natural or historic resources.

The following uses could be developed to implement that plan concept.

Summer:

Many users interested in a variety of activities could be accommodated in the area. However, conflicts between uses and with the natural environment could develop; thus, crucial to all uses should be a developed, organized approach to interpretation. Interpretive display boards at all trailheads and parking areas should include information about natural resources and how to use the area wisely. As often as possible, trail uses should be professionally guided or managed to decrease improper use.

Camping. The area's campgrounds currently experience overcrowding, indicating a need for increased units. The natural resources could accommodate additional over-night use if properly developed and managed. This study recommends moving the undeveloped Picketts Junction camping area further up the road to Burnside Lake. This campground should remain small with the units spread into the trees. No group units should be developed here.

Along the Blue Lakes Road, more camping units should be developed. A total of 120 campsites should be available to accommodate a variety of users. The site plan could show three campground areas; one designated for traditional family camping, one for small to medium sized groups, and one to serve as an equestrian pack station/trailhead. The latter would meet the need of current users who trailer their horses to the area to ride, as well as provide a base facility for pack trips and trail rides into the back country around Hope Valley. During the winter, some or all of these units could accommodate snowmobilers, skiers, or other winter campers using the area.

This study encourages the USFS to develop this facility as a joint public-private operation. This will not only ensure more timely completion, but will help the short-staffed public agency with enforcement and interpretation duties in the area.

Hiking. Hiking trails should be developed from the campgrounds and picnic areas described. These could connect to existing, long-distance trails such as the Pacific Crest Trail. They should also provide shorter loops, preferably accessing the river with interpretive information concerning the habitat restoration process. Some should also take into account the needs of special access groups such as the handicapped or elderly.

Fishing. With habitat restoration, this activity should greatly increase in Hope Valley. Special consideration must be given to visitor access when developing the restoration program. This may require public access restrictions until the vegetation gets established, yet long-term restrictions will discourage use and may be hard to enforce. The visual character of any required fencing should also be considered; fences lining the river for any great distance would detract from the existing scenic quality of the valley.

This study proposes two primary visitor access treatments for fishermen.. The first would accommodate all overnight visitors in the valley. These would include designated pedestrian access points from campgrounds or lodges through any fences to stable stream banks. The second access type would provide off-road parking, limited picnic facilities and fish cleaning areas. Care should be given to locating such parking areas to limit their visual impact. Interpretive information about habitat restoration should be located in these areas.

Picnicking. In addition to the picnic facilities provided above, designated hike-in picnic areas should be located. These areas should be within two miles of a trailhead and provide a view of the valley. Pack-it-in, pack-it-out signs should be located at the designated trailheads.

Mountain Biking. As this sport grows in popularity, the USFS will need to develop a policy concerning trail use. This study recommends encouraging mountain bike use of existing developed dirt roads. In addition, all hiking trails should be evaluated to allow this use on those trails stable enough to accommodate it. All steep, highly erodible trails should be considered inappropriate for mountain bike use. New trails could be built to provide linkages and more challenging rides. Private groups such as Sorensen's or Kirkwood could spearhead this effort.

Equestrian. A trailhead and pack-station facility would provide access to a historic and appropriate trail use in Hope Valley. This facility is described above.

Other Uses. A developed citizen information campaign should highlight other dispersed activities in the area such as primitive camping and mountain climbing.

Winter:

Snowmobiling. Snowmobiling should continue to be encouraged along the Blue Lakes Road. The campground described above will facilitate this use.

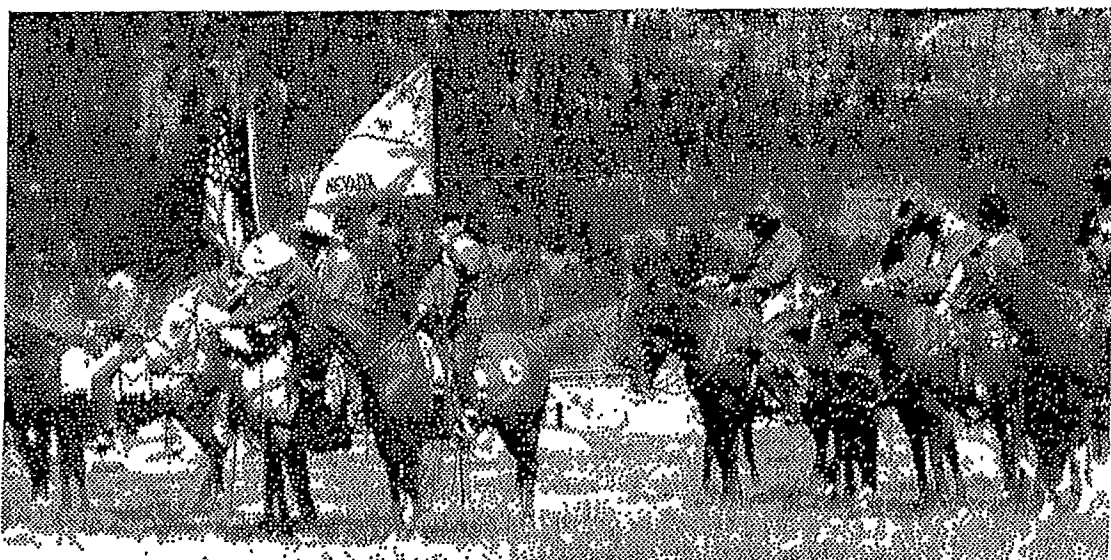
Continued education should aim towards reducing conflicts with cross-country skiers. Snowmobiles should be excluded from the north and west side of Highway 88.

Cross-Country Skiing. Hope Valley should become a destination for cross-country skiers. A trail system with groomed and marked trails should ring the Valley, with special emphasis on the north and west side of Highway 88. Cross-country skiing should be discouraged along the Blue Lakes Road to decrease conflicts with snowmobilers. Longer trail connections could be made from the Valley to Freer Peak and Grass Lake.

Snow-Park. A snow-park facility should be located in Hope Valley. This parking lot, ideally a winter-time use of a summer-time picnic area, should sit at the edge of the open space to reduce its visual impact. Snow-park users could access the ski trails described above.

Special Uses:

Special uses could occur in the Valley. Criteria should be established so that these uses would not conflict with the overall plan concept. They should be occasional, short in duration and highlight a natural or historical area feature. These could include: Pony Express or Emigrant Trail equestrian rides with overnights in the valley; a small rodeo, similar to the present Kirkwood rodeo; fishing derbies; ski races; a winter carnival built around snowplay; and sleigh rides. As with other facility location, environmental impacts of these uses must be considered so that degradation does not occur.



Needs to be reviewed

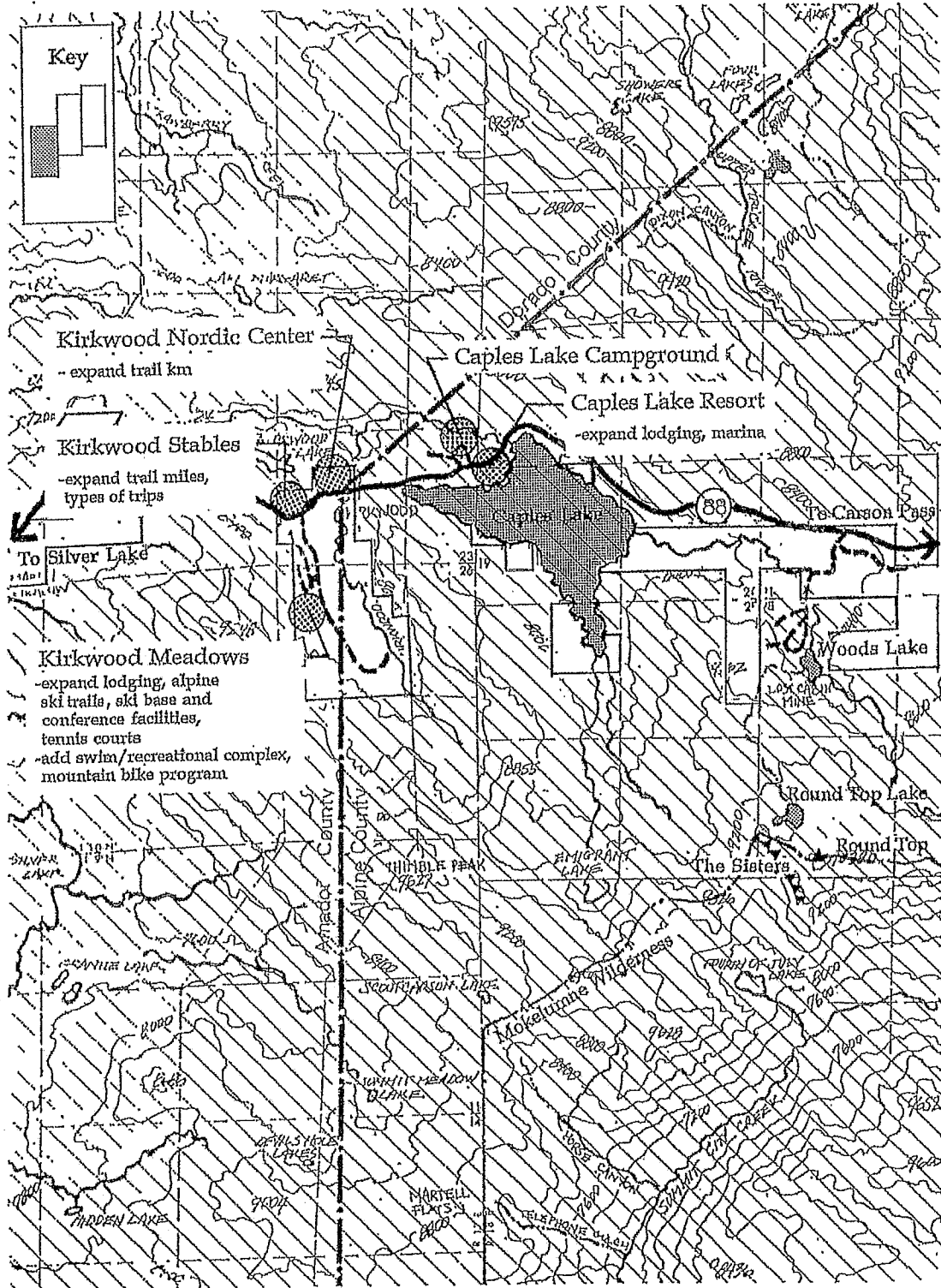
PLANNED RECREATION

Hope Valley
Economic and Recreation Study

Alpengroup

1988

Lake Tahoe, Nevada



Key

Legend for map symbols:

- USFS Land (hatched pattern)
- Study Lands (solid pattern)

- Kirkwood Nordic Center**
- expand trail km
- Kirkwood Stables**
- expand trail miles, types of trips
- To Silver Lake**
- Kirkwood Meadows**
- expand lodging, alpine ski trails, ski base and conference facilities, tennis courts
- add swim/recreational complex, mountain bike program

- Caples Lake Campground**
- Caples Lake Resort**
- expand lodging, marina

LEGEND

- Highway
- County Road
- County Boundary
- USFS Land
- Study Lands

NO SCALE



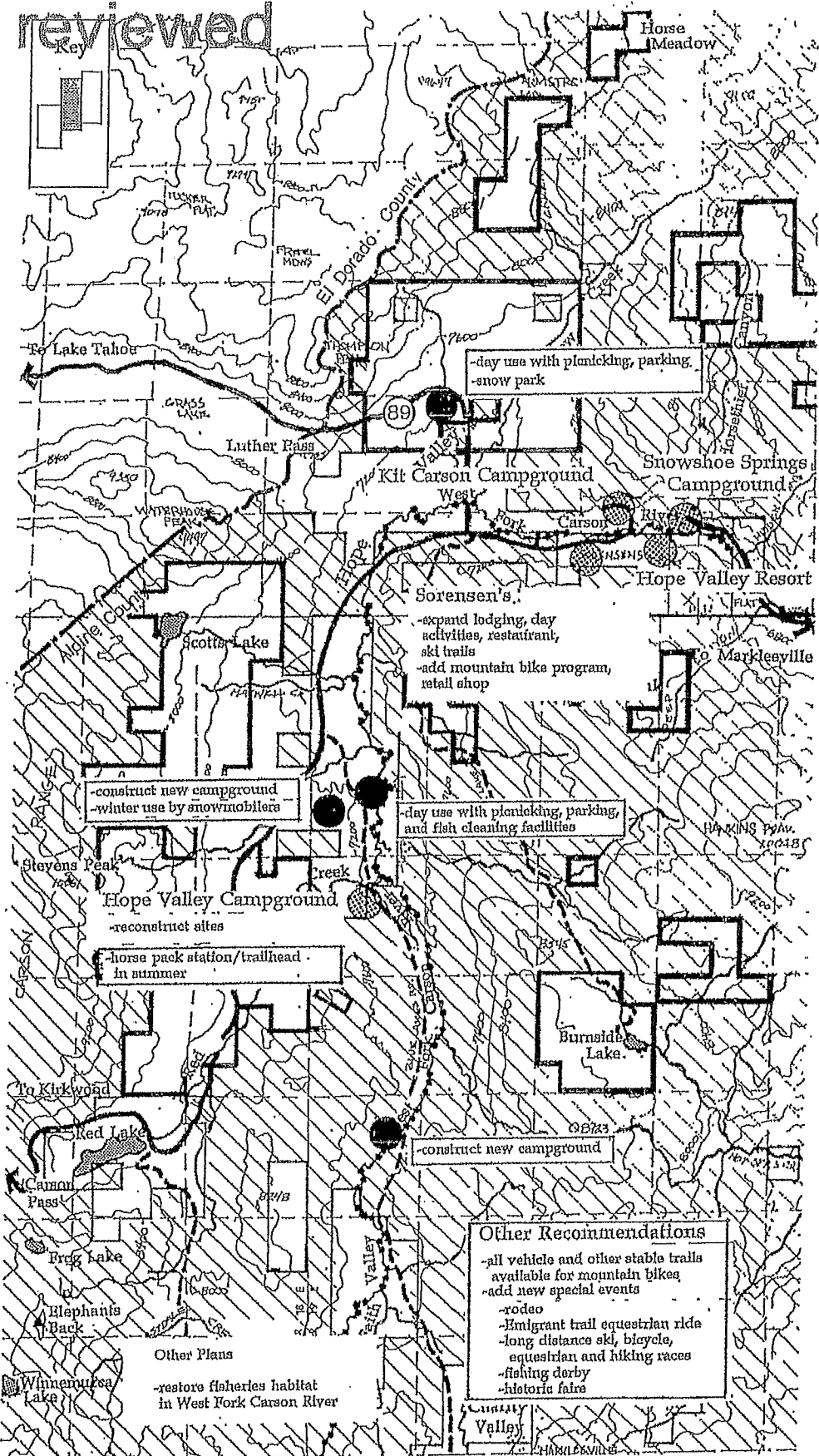
Needs to be reviewed

PLANNED RECREATION

Hope Valley
Economic and Recreation Study

Alpengroup 1988

Lake Tahoe, Nevada

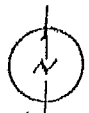


LEGEND

- Highway
- - - County Road
- County Boundary

- USFS Land
- Study Lands
- Study Recommendations

NO SCALE



Needs to be reviewed

Hope Valley
Economic and Recreation Study

Final ▼ April 1989

▲ Economics

▼ Economics of
Recreation:
Case Studies

▼ Economics
Summary

Jackson Hole Study ▼

The emergence of new, different or more powerful (in the sense of increased support) political and special interest groups is a manifestation of the increased awareness citizens have of their economic stake in publicly owned resources. In the case of fishery resources, the interest of business groups with fishery management issues is evidence that groups other than fishermen and non-consumptive users have linked their well-being to fish and fishing. The fact that interest groups, heretofore discussed only in conceptual terms, are now mobilized is an indication of the changing public perspective toward fishery management.

The increased interest comes also from the changing attitudes and preferences of fishermen, the front line users of the resource. Fishing has become more commercialized because fishermen are demanding more and better equipment, more and better services and, finally, more and better (and different) fishing opportunities. In short, we are no longer a nation—or state or county—of self-sufficient fishermen.

The more commercialized fishing becomes, the greater the economic stake becomes for those nonfishing residents regardless of whether they are associated with a fishing-related business.

If the Hope Valley area is to compete effectively with surrounding states for nonresident (and nonlocal resident) angler dollars, it needs a quality fishery. A good comparison is the current state of the fisheries in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. The surrounding states did not gain a competitive edge on Wyoming by finding or developing natural areas equal in beauty to Jackson Hole and then establish a quality fishery. Rather, quality fisheries were established in areas that were less attractive than Jackson Hole but those areas have been successful in pulling long time anglers away. The reality of the loss of long time fishermen to quality fisheries in the surrounding states is that the 11 inch average sized fish caught in the Snake River is not of sufficient size to attract and hold the nonlocal quality oriented angler.

The contribution of fishing to the Jackson Hole economy is sufficient to expect that part of the revenue collected from the recently approved room tax would be used to promote fishing. Attempts to reach the angler that would be desirable to attract through broad sweep promotion campaigns of the Jackson Hole area are likely to be ineffective. The ardent angler is a small percentage of the total tourist population. The amount of fishing detail that could be included in a broad appeal ad is so limited that it would likely get little attention from this specialized segment of the tourist population. The angler that would be worthwhile attracting probably can be reached more effectively with targeted promotional programs.

In Jackson Hole, California contributed the largest number of tourist fishermen with almost double (19.6 percent compared to 10.9 percent) the number of the second highest state, Utah. Generally, expenditures by anglers from adjacent and nearby states are proportionately less than expenditures by anglers from more distant states. Nearly 30 percent of the tourist license receipts drawn for the sample were from nearby states. Of the more distant states of origin accounting for relatively large numbers of tourist fisherman, other than California, Texas is next in line (6.4 percent) followed by Illinois (3.6 percent), Arizona (3.1 percent), New York (2.7 percent), Pennsylvania (2.3 percent) and Florida (2.2 percent).

The minimum expenditure for a fisherman staying at a dude ranch or resort, fishing without the services of a guide, runs in the \$70 to \$100 per day category. The high end runs between \$400 and \$500 per day just for accommodations and fishing services. A significant proportion of the guest ranch, resort and outfitter fishing guests purchased clothing and art objects in Jackson that amounted to more than those guests spent on fishing.

Discussion of the economic and user implications associated with different fishery management plans illustrates the problems that can arise with maximum sustained yield (MSY) management programs and reliance on fishing pressure estimates and age/size distributions to judge the effectiveness of those programs. The fishing pressure and age/size numbers could indicate the management program was a biological success whereas the community could consider the fishery to be far less than ideal. To the extent the fishing preferences of anglers deviate from the harvest objectives of a MSY management program, the fishery will produce less public benefit than it is capable of producing.

Different groups of residents derive different types of benefits from fishing. For the angler group, benefits are realized in the form of personal satisfaction. But it would be misleading to suggest that the benefits experienced by all anglers are the same. The benefit realized by catch and release fishermen may be as different from the benefit experienced by harvest oriented anglers as are their combined benefits different from the benefits that fishing-related businessmen realize.

There is a resident group that derives benefit from fishing in the form of business opportunities which, eventually, factors down to profits, salaries and wages. There is a third group of residents who neither fish nor have direct fishing-related business connections but who receive benefits from fishing in the form of secondary economic impacts from nonlocal angler expenditures. Other groups undoubtedly could be identified that have a benefit claim on the area's fishery resources. Resident fisherman have been the most active and financial supportive benefit

group of fishery management programs and, because of that support, would seem to have an additional claim on the resource.

For any particular stream segment or standing water body, only one set of use regulations can be adopted and that decision may be viewed as an either/or choice. Over the waters in a geographic area, however, use regulations tailored to different user group preferences could be implemented. The special interest anglers that prefer minimum regulations and liberal creel limits can be accommodated, as can the catch and release special interest group and the fly-fishing-only special interest group and any other special interest group who's fishing preferences would not deplete or harm the fishery.

The fishery can be allocated to accommodate or give special preference to any or all (and more) of the special interest groups named. This is not to suggest that each benefit group has an inherent right to have a portion of the fishery managed to suit their particular preferences. There will undoubtedly be special interest requests for which administrative costs would be prohibitively high. There likely will be special interest requests that can not be implemented without causing unjustifiable harm to established users. Accommodating these requests would be inconsistent with the public benefit principle. The second case is not intended to suggest that all anglers can expect to have their favorite water managed as it is presently. If fishery resources are to be managed for the benefit of the public, individuals and groups have to be precluded from gaining defacto property rights to a certain water or section of water.

The common and necessary foundation to all user groups, direct or indirect, resident or nonresident, is a healthy, viable fishery. That the fishery resource is owned in common by all citizens and held in trust for present and future generations precludes any management consideration that would deplete or harm the resource. It precludes, with limited exceptions, use regulations that would permit one or more user groups to exploit fish populations at the expense of other user groups.

How should Hope Valley's fishery resources be managed? First and foremost, in a biologically sound manner. After that baseline is satisfied, the public benefit obligation suggests that fishery management programs should key on diversity.

Needs to be reviewed

Fishing and the Economy ▼

Local Fisherman Expenditures

There is little economic consequence of a decision by a local resident to go fishing on a Saturday afternoon. The fishing spot likely is only a few miles from home, which may or may not require a fill-up of gasoline. If the outing is planned for more than a couple of hours, a convenience store stop for snacks might also occur. Depending on the type of fishing that is planned and the angler's supply of required tackle, the trip might include a stop at a tackle shop or sporting goods store. A typical Saturday afternoon outing might result in expenditures of \$2 or \$3 for gas, \$2 or \$3 for snacks and -maybe- another \$2 or \$3 for tackle. Hardly enough to fuel the fires of an economy.

Instead of using a low end example, let's consider the angler who had been saving or planning to upgrade his/her fishing equipment and spends \$200 at a local tackle shop. Suppose, for example, the \$200 was spent on one of 30 quality rods that tackle shops in Alpine County had stocked and expected to sell during the year. The purchase of one of those rods by our fisherman was part of the expected sales pattern for the community.

The tackle shop making the sale, in competition with other local shops, benefited from the angler's decision to purchase a new rod. Since the purchase was part of the historical sales pattern for fishing equipment, it would not represent an increase in net sales at the community level. If our fisherman had saved for the rod by putting off the purchase of other items that were needed or planned, then the benefit realized by the tackle shop came at the expense of sales losses by other retail outlets. In other words, the tackle shop owners gain was a loss to other store owners in Alpine County such that, for the community, there would be neither gain nor loss. About the only way the \$200 expenditure could be considered a net community benefit is if the angler had been contemplating purchase of the equipment through a sporting goods catalog or from an out of town outlet.

The point is, that fishing expenditures, equipment or related activities, by local residents produce net economic benefit in only limited and unusual instances even if local fisherman were to double or triple their fishing expenditures. The gain by tackle shop and sporting good store owners would be offset by the loss of sales among other retail stores. The exception to this statement is the case where purchases are made locally rather than at or through nonlocal outlets. If the economy was to perform other than has been described, a good argument could be made to "spend ourselves rich".

Nonlocal Angler Expenditures

When the "gone fishin'" sign is hung in the office and the site for that activity is Hope Valley, there is potential for net economic gain from fishing expenditures. Expenditures by nonlocal fishermen is new money coming into the local economy. These expenditures represent a new demand for goods and services and a new opportunity for producers and suppliers to expand.

Suppose there was a community that had been very stable with respect to population, income and the preferences of that population for goods and services. For ease of illustration, let's assume that the community was so stable that retail merchants could predict down to the last toothpick what residents would purchase and that orders were placed once a year. Suppose, next, the first ever nonlocal fisherman came into the area to fish. While there, the fisherman ate at local restaurants, purchased fishing equipment and replaced a tire that blew out while traveling to the area. In one sense, sales to the nonlocal fisherman would have disrupted the stability of the community. Part of the goods and services that had been ordered to satisfy the wants of local residents would now have been sold. The merchants would have to place a second order to replace the merchandise that was sold to the nonlocal fisherman or shortages would develop before the next annual order was placed. Residents would find that they had money to spend on goods and services they wanted, but there were no goods and services to purchase. Since most businesses look for opportunities to expand, it seems safe to assume that they would order additional goods. At the end of the year, the community would find that sales had expanded by the amount of purchases made by the nonlocal fisherman and a little more. A close accounting of sales would reveal that the expanded sales over and above the fisherman's purchases were made to local residents who had received additional income as a result of the initial increase in sales. The community economy would have expanded by the new money brought in or the increase in goods and services sold to individuals living outside the community.

Economic Impact Analysis

This economic principle applies to all communities, states, and regions. That is, the potential for residents (excluding the existence of savings and other forms of wealth) living in an area to purchase goods and services produced outside their immediate area depends on the amount of goods and services they sell to outside markets. These sales represent the means by which area residents earn income to purchase goods and services produced outside the area. Unless residents are content to exist on the goods and services produced within their area, they must produce good and services for markets outside the area to earn the income necessary to purchase or import the nonlocal products they desire.

Special Regulations ▼

The following is a Summary of Special Regulation Management Programs in Colorado, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming, and the results of the programs.

- 1: Special regulation programs were initiated to increase both number and size of fish.
- 2: Programs were based on catch and release, slot limits, minimum size limits and reduced creel limits with catch and release and slot limits the most frequently used and, apparently, the most effective regulations.
- 3: Local resistance was encountered at each water that has been designated in the three states although the success of the programs appears to be softening the resistance.
- 4: Fishing pressures drops the first and, in most instances the second year after designation and then climbs as numbers and size of fish begin to respond.
- 5: Fishing pressure has returned to predesignation levels on almost all streams and as much as 20 to 50 percent greater than predesignation levels on some streams in Idaho.
- 6: Although the contacts in the three states generally felt the local/nonlocal balance of angler use on special reg waters had shifted in favor of nonlocal fishermen (i.e., nonlocal fishermen were attracted to the designated water), little, if any, documentation exists to verify their observations. (The Idaho and Montana biologists observed that there was a developing group of anglers that looked for special reg waters in their selection of weekend or vacation fishing sites.)
- 7: When asked to indicate the long term economic impact on the local economy of managing part of a stream under special regs, the three contacts indicated that the results were generally positive but none of the three states had conducted any follow-up studies to evaluate this point. (The Colorado and Idaho contacts referred to conversations with outfitters, tackle shop owners and Chamber of Commerce directors that supported their observations while the observation by the Montana contact was based on second hand reports from department field personnel.)
- 8: Each of the three biologists, independently, emphasized the need to tailor the

regulations that govern each designated water to the aquatic and biological characteristics of that water and to avoid arbitrary designations. (The Colorado contact indicated that the agency had made some decisions in the early phases of their program that they would like to change now that they have a better data base to work with.)

Description of Special Regs on Representative Sample of rivers in Colorado, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming

Colorado

- 1: Blue River (Gold Medal section) 2.5 miles
 - a: Tackle restrictions: Artificial flies and lures
 - b: Creel limit: Two trout over 16 inches
 - c: Species regulation: none

- 2: Colorado River (Gold Medal section) 20 miles
 - a: Tackle restrictions: Artificial flies and lures, except stonefly nymphs are permitted as bait
 - b: Creel limit: One rainbow, one brown
 - c: Species regulation: None

- 3: Frying Pan River (Gold Medal section) 2 miles
 - a: Tackle restrictions: Artificial flies and lures
 - b: Creel limit: Catch and release
 - c: Species regulation: Catch and release

- 4: Gunnison River (Gold Medal and Wild Trout section) 26 miles
 - a: Tackle restrictions: Artificial flies and lures
 - b: Creel limit: Four fish but only one can be over 16 inches. All fish between 12 and 16 inches must be returned immediately.
 - c: Species regulation: None

- 5: South Platte River (Gold medal section) 19.5 miles
 - a: Tackle restrictions: Artificial flies and lures
 - b: Creel limit: Catch and release
 - c: Species regulation: Catch and release

Montana

- 6: Big Hole River 15 miles

- a: Tackle restrictions: Artificial flies and lures
 - b: Creel limit: Three fish under 13 inches, one fish over 22 inches
 - c: Species regulation: None
- 7: Madison River (Quake Lake to McAtee Bridge) approximately 20 miles.
- a: Tackle restrictions: Artificial flies and lures.
 - b: Creel limit: Catch and release.
 - c: Species regulation: Catch and release.
- 8: Madison River (McAtee Bridge to Ennis Lake) Approximately 20 miles.
- a: Tackle restrictions: Sculpins not allowed.
 - b: Creel limit: Five fish with only 1 fish over 18 inches and only 1 fish may be a rainbow and only 1 fish may be a grayling.
 - c: Species regulation: Only 1 fish may be a rainbow and only 1 fish may be a grayling.
- 9: Jefferson River (entire river)
- a: Tackle restrictions: None.
 - b: Creel limit: Five brown trout, only 1 over 18 inches.
 - c: Species regulation: Catch and release only for rainbows.
- 10: Yellowstone (Gardiner to Emigrant Bridge)
- a: Tackle restrictions: Artificial flies and lures.
 - b: Creel limit: Five fish, rainbows or browns. 4 fish under 13 inches. 1 fish over 22 inches.
 - c: Species regulation: Catch and release only for cutthroat.

Idaho

- 11: South Fork of the Snake River (Irwin to Heise) approximately 30 miles
- a: Tackle restrictions: single barbless hook
 - b: Creel limit: Six fish of which 2 may be cutthroat but all cutthroat between 10 and 16 inches must be returned immediately.
 - c: Species regulation: All cutthroat between 0 and 16 inches must be returned immediately.
- 12: Henry's Fork (Harriman State Park section) 8 to 10 miles
- a: Tackle restrictions: Fly fishing only-barbless hooks.
 - b: Creel limit: Three fish under 12 inches, 1 fish over 20 inches.
 - c: Species regulation: None.

- 13: Henry's Fork (Box Canyon section) approximately 4 miles
a: Tackle restrictions: Artificial flies and lures, single barbless hooks.
b: Creel limit: Three fish under 12 inches, 1 fish over 20 inches.

Wyoming

- 14: Snake River (1000 ft below Jackson Lake Dam to Moose) 23.9 miles
a: Tackle restrictions: Artificial flies and lures.
b: Creel limit: Four fish with only 1 fish over 15 inches, all fish between 11 and 15 inches must be returned immediately.
c: Species regulation: None.
- 15: Green River (Kendall Warm Springs downstream to National Forest boundary) 6.0 miles
a: Tackle restrictions: Artificial flies and lures.
b: Creel limit: Two fish with only 1 fish over 20 inches; all trout between 10 and 20 inches must be returned immediately.
c: Species regulation: All trout between 10 and 20 inches must be returned.
- 16: Platte River (Colo/Wyo line to Saratoga) Approximately 55 miles
a: Tackle restrictions: Artificial flies and lures.
b: Creel limit: Six fish with only 1 fish over 16 inches, all fish between 10 and 16 inches must be returned immediately.
c: Species regulation: None

Statements of Goals for Special Reg Waters and Evaluations of Results

Goals:

Colorado

"There are two objectives of catch-and-release management in Colorado. First we want to increase the density of quality size trout (14 inch) in our best streams and the maintain that density at 30 trout/12/acre. Second, we want to maintain an overall catch rate of 0.7 trout/hour throughout the entire angling season." [20]

Montana

"Through use of catch-and-release fishing and slot limits (which allow only fish of

certain sizes to be kept), we have been able to provide for the opportunity to catch, but not necessarily to keep, large trout in these areas. The bulk of our rivers and streams, however, remain open to general fishing with no special restriction on tackle and fish size, thus providing a variety of angling opportunities—from the trophy trout of the Beaverhead River to the pan-sized brookies of our mountain streams.”[21]

“The Department... established a management goal for the Madison which is to provide the opportunity to catch wild trout in the 14-18 inch range. Since this goal could not be attained with the regulations of ten fish or ten pounds and one fish, and the fact that fishermen generally were selective to larger fish, additional restrictions were imposed. A catch and release artificial lure regulation was implemented in 1977 with the objective of reducing fishing mortality as much as possible and in an attempt to increase the population of larger trout.”[22]

Idaho (South Fork of the Snake)

“Protect cutthroat...provide opportunity to catch quality fish...goal is to get fishing to point 20 percent of cutthroat that are caught will be 16 inches or better.”[23]

Wyoming (Green River)

“Maintain a post-season trout population of at least 850 trout/mile and 14.3 lbs./acre...Maintain a post-season trout population with a size structure of 20-25 percent over 10 inches (based on trout over 6 inches)...Maintain a total catch rate of at least 1.0 trout/hour...Maintain an average trout size of 9 inches in the creel...Encourage the harvest of whitefish.”[24]

Results:

Colorado

“Yes, they have been very effective. We have raised the average catch rate from 0.2 to 0.5 trout/hour under an 8 trout/day bag limit to an average of 1.1-1.8 trout/hour, far exceeding the objective of 0.7 trout/hour in virtually every case. We have been able to attain the goal of 30 quality size trout/12/acre on a sustained year to year basis in most instances.”[20]

Montana

“In March 1981, before initiation of the slot limit, [Big Hole River] an estimated 506

brown trout per mile, 13 inches and longer, were found...in a section of the Big Hole. Two years later, 13-inch and longer browns had increased by 33% to 674 per mile. The increase in 18-inch and longer browns during the same period was an astonishing 160% from 40 per mile to 104. The response of rainbow trout has been even better. Thirteen-inch and longer rainbows increased by 79% between fall 1981 and fall 1983, from 251 to 451 per mile. Fifteen-inch and larger rainbows jumped from 89 to 247 per mile, an incredible 178% in two years."

"Between 1977 and 1982 in the catch and release section, [Madison river] the number of 13-inch and larger trout increased 315%."

"Fish populations in the lower Rock Creek area (the three fish, one over 14 inches limit) have responded predictably, Rainbow trout have increased dramatically, by over 270% since the regulations were changes. The number of brown trout has remained virtually unchanged. It is an established fact that browns are not as easy to catch as rainbows; lack of an increase in brown trout numbers suggest anglers were not significantly affecting brown trout populations.:

"Trout populations in the catch and release section of Rock Creek have changed dramatically. The changes have not been exactly what DFWP biologists anticipated, however. The population of cutthroat trout in the catch and release section has increased over 700% since the regulations were initiated. Rainbow trout have not increased at all, suggesting that at least some of the increase in cutthroats came at the expense of rainbows." [25]

Idaho (South Fork of the Snake River)

"In two years since special reg designation, fish population has increased 50 percent, number of cutthroat over 16 inches has increased from 2 percent of population to 8 percent. Fishing pressure has increased 20 to 50 percent." [23]

Wyoming (Green River)

"Evaluation through 1983 indicates a rapid response in the fishery. Numbers of 6+ inch trout already exceed the highest levels seen between 1975 and 981. Catch rates are already exceeding 1.0 trout per hour also. We have not yet reached our objective for the percentage of trout exceeding 10 inches, however, percentage of larger trout should increase quickly as soon as they expanding population stabilizes. Admittedly, the good water flows during the past three winters have hastened the fishery's improvement." [24]

Justification:

Colorado

"In Colorado, public acceptance of catch-and-release and limited-kill areas is very high. In 1980, 4,460 anglers were surveyed in eight different areas on three different streams, 1,192 by mailback postcard questionnaire and 3,268 by personal interview. An astonishing 88% favored catch-and-release areas already in existence, 6.2% were opposed to them, and 5.8% had no opinion. Of the 4,460 anglers surveyed, 2,854 (64%) were fishing in an 8 trout/day angling area with terminal tackle restrictions. Thus, despite the fact that the majority of anglers were fishing in a standard regulations area when contacted, they over-whelmingly supported the concept of catch-and-release. Similarly, in 1981, of 2,403 anglers surveyed, 1,769 (73.6%) favored catch-and-release angling areas, 397 (16.5% were opposed, and 237 (9.9%) had no opinion." [20]



Lake Tahoe ▼

This section is based on the reports generated by the Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority in an effort to provide a basic overview and understanding of the tourist economy of Lake Tahoe.

Although the total economic contribution of tourist dollars is quite a bit greater in Lake Tahoe than in Hope Valley, several factors make studying this example worthwhile. First, like Lake Tahoe, Alpine County relies very heavily on tourism and outdoor recreation for its economic base. As this economy develops in Alpine County, some of the economic trends noted here will become more valid. Secondly, visitors to Hope Valley and Lake Tahoe share some important characteristics. These include place or origin (central California and northern Nevada), desire for scenic beauty, access to a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities and a high rate of return. Again, as Alpine County recreation areas develop, visitors patterns may trend towards those described in the following sections.

The reports identify the size, seasonality, market potential, and economic impact of the overnight visitor to the South Lake Tahoe area.

The reports provide a basic framework in which to understand the economy. They may be used as a planning tool by those interested in understanding this dynamic and seasonal economy.

Specifically, the following report include estimates of the number of overnight visitors by month, their economic impact, estimates of state visitor patterns, and the visitor pattern of those from California. In addition, the report provides a trendline comparison of eight South Lake Tahoe economic indicators that assist the reader by providing a context for the 1986 year.

Tourism is South Lake Tahoe's primary means of generating revenues. Thus, the health of the economy is critical to the level of services provided to the local community.

The California Visitor Impact Model provides a step by step set of procedures and guidelines for determining the size, nature and economic impact of a community's visitor trade.

Specific objectives of this report include the following:

1. To define the term "visitor" in a way that is meaningful to the community of South Lake Tahoe.

2. To implement the California Visitor Impact Model in an effort to determine the nature and economic impact of the overnight visitor trade in South Lake Tahoe.
3. To use the California Visitor Impact Model to establish a visitor data base which can be used to develop marketing strategies.

The estimates* contained in this report are based upon a generally conservative methodology and were developed using the best information available at the time of this report's preparation.

*The following estimates were produced through the use of the California Visitor Impact Model, developed by Dirk Wasenaar Ph.D., Professor of Marketing and Quantitative Studies at the School of Business, San Jose State University and prepared for the California Office of Tourism.

Defining a Visitor

There are currently several definitions available for defining a visitor. The two most frequently used definitions include the following:

"100 Miles Definition"

The "100 Miles Definition" suggests that a visitor resides at least 100 miles from South Lake Tahoe. (1)

"50 Miles Definition"

The "50 Miles Definition" suggests that a visitor resides at least 50 miles from South Lake Tahoe. (2)

Note:

(1) Current U.S. Travel Data Center/Bureau of Census definition.

(2) Recommended definition for use in the State of California—"California Visitor Impact Model."

For the purposes of this report a visitor will be defined as someone residing 50 miles or more away from South Lake Tahoe, but excluding:

- a. Persons commuting to and from work.
- b. Persons acting as members of an operating crew of a bus, truck, or plane.
- c. Students traveling between home and school.

Economic Drivers

The economic drivers of the South Lake Tahoe economy are several and change during each season. These economic drivers may be viewed as the primary reason why visitors to visit South Lake Tahoe. They, in effect, "drive" visitors to South Lake Tahoe to fulfil an unmet need. A seasonal breakdown of selected the primary reasons for visitation is as follows:

Primary Reason:

	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
Skating:	33%	50%		
"Get Away":	16%	8%	27%	26%
Rest and Relaxation:	12.5%	6.5%	24%	21%
Meetings:	3%	2.5%	4%	2%
Other:	15%		2%	4%

As is evidenced above, the economic drivers are what is perceived by the visitor to be of significant importance and a strong enough reason to visit South Lake Tahoe.

It should be noted that when these same economic drivers do not meet the expectations the visitor will begin to consider other vacation areas.

ESTIMATED SPENDING DISTRIBUTION OF OVERNIGHT VISITORS TO SOUTH LAKE TAHOE

Economic Sector:	Est. \$ Amount	Est. Pct.
Service Station (1):	\$ 27,226,312	4.5%
Accommodations:	\$122,820,921	20.3%
Shopping:	\$ 47,192,275	7.8%
Gaming:	\$197,300,013	32.6%
Entertainment:	\$ 50,217,421	8.3%
Recreation (2):	\$ 38,721,867	6.4%
Dining:	\$111,325,367	18.4%
Sight-seeing:	\$ 10,285,495	1.7%
Total:	\$605,029,172	100%

Source: Rosall, Remmen, & Cares, California Visitor Impact Model.

- (1) Calif. Dept. of Commerce Estimates
- (2) Includes skiing estimates.

Summary

1986 In Retrospect:

In retrospect, the 1986 year was less than expected for South Lake Tahoe. The combined forces of poor winter weather, changes in the National Economy, increased competition from other resort areas, the success of "Expo 86" all contributed to a less than hoped for year for the South Shore economy.

The Winter Season suffered from a disastrous February storm of rain, sleet, and snow from which South Lake Tahoe suffered from gas and electric outages. This unforeseen storm caused many businesses to reduce services and in some cases to shutdown. Thus affecting the number of visitors to the South Shore.

This survey shows the place of origin for Californias visiting South Lake. The following table describes this information.

CALIFORNIA VISITOR PATTERN

	SUMMER	SPRING	WINTER	FALL
Sacramento:	15.6%;	19.0%;	13.1%;	16.5%.
Stockton:	7.7%;	4.8%;	5.3%;	7.7%.
Bay Area:	37.0%;	43.1%;	46.3%;	42.9%.
Los Angeles:	14.2%;	11.1%;	8.3%;	12.7%.
Santa Ana/Orange:	3.6%;	3.4%;	3.6%;	2.9%.
San Diego:	4.1%;	2.9%;	3.6%;	2.9%.
Other California:	17.8%;	15.7%;	18.8%;	13.6%.

Source: Rosall, Remmen, Cares

Looking ahead at 1987:

The less than hoped for 1986 year did serve to crystallize the need for a more competitive South Lake Tahoe.

The Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority, (formed in Mid 1986) has committed to diversifying the South Lake Tahoe customer base in hopes of stimulating the South Shore economy. The LTVA is focusing its resources on the Southern California market. In a cooperative effort with the South Tahoe Gaming Alliance and the South Shore Community, the LTVA is spending an estimated one million plus dollars in

1987 in an effort to bring more overnight visitors from Southern California to South Lake Tahoe. This market diversification is viewed as a start in a long term investment in returning the economy to a more vital state.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, the overnight visitor, the mainstay of the South Shore economy, represents approximately 2 million visitors annually. These overnight visitors have a direct economic impact of approximately 640 million dollars to the South Shore economy.

The "Multiplier Effect" or trickle through is estimated by the California Visitor Impact Model to be about 1 and 1/2 to 2 and 1/2 times in support business.

With this in mind, and the fact that Tourism is the only major industry that fuels the South Shore economy it is imperative that the community as a whole continue its investment in marketing the area.

Tourist Overview ▼ by Seasons

Highlights of the Data: An Overview - Fall

Overall, about 80 percent of the visitors were from California. The Bay Area represented 35 percent of all visitors. Sacramento/Stockton represented 19 percent. Southern California, primarily Los Angeles/Orange County, represented 16 percent. Texas, Washington and Colorado are the largest out-of-state markets, although none are of dominant proportions. Rather, they may indicate areas of potential growth.

Day visitors represented 12 percent of the total, with overnight from California/Nevada at 70 percent of out-of-state overnight visitors representing 18 percent.

Day visitors tended to be older and married, traveling with their spouse, with relatively lower incomes than the average. They are drawn to South Lake Tahoe primarily for gaming and to a somewhat lesser extent casino entertainment. They are also more likely than the average to be here to "get-away." They are far more likely than any other group to travel by bus. They are far more frequent visitors than the average (with almost 70 percent having been in South Lake more than 20 times), and about 80 percent are certain they will return again during the year.

Overnight visitors from California tend to be younger and somewhat more affluent than the day visitors. California overnights have a similar high tendency to be married and to visit with their spouse and/or entire family during the Fall non skiing season. However, a far greater percentage of younger singles, many of whom are students, or professional/technical occupations, characterize this group during the ski season.

The overnight out-of-state visitors are the most affluent group and spend the most dollars per capita per day in South Lake. They have a greater tendency to stay in the casinos than the California overnights. Nevertheless, they are more inclined to indicate their primary reason for coming was the skiing with gaming "another" activity they will participate in during their stay. About 50 percent are first time visitors. A smaller proportion than typical, 22 percent, indicate they definitely will return this year, about 45 percent indicate uncertainty, with about 34 percent certain they will not return.

Gaming is not necessarily the primary reason most people indicate for visiting South Lake Tahoe (17 percent). In comparison, 33 percent state "skiing" and 29 percent state either "rest and relaxation" or to "get away." Frequent visitors mention gaming more often than other visitors as their primary activity.

It is apparent that new visitors and overnights, those who travel longest distances to come, are primarily motivated by the variety of activities and scenic beauty of the area, with gaming and casino entertainment one of those attributes.

South Lake Tahoe's greatest perceived strengths during the Fall period are:

1. Scenery/beauty.
2. Casinos and ski area.
3. Relaxing atmosphere.
4. Shows and entertainment.**
5. A fun place to be.

South Lake Tahoe's greatest perceived weaknesses are:

1. Ease of getting there.
2. Value received for dollar spent.
3. Family orientation.
4. Ease of getting around.
5. Shopping.
6. Shows and entertainment.**

7. Parking availability.
8. Friendly people.

** It is interesting to note that shows and entertainment has both its proponents and its detractors.

Specific ratings tend to reflect the strengths and weaknesses evaluation, with the highest ratings occurring for:

1. Scenery/beauty.
2. Fun place.
3. Ski areas.
4. Relaxing atmosphere.
5. Accommodations.
6. Casinos.

The lowest relative ratings occur for:

1. Shopping.
2. Family orientation.
3. Value received.
4. Ease of getting around.
5. Local visitor information.
6. Ease of getting there.
7. Parking and bus shuttle.

In response to what type of events would encourage you to come to South Lake Tahoe most frequently, entertainment was the dominant factor. Sports and recreation events were also frequently mentioned.

Highlights of the Data: An Overview - Winter

Skiing, not surprisingly, was singled out as a primary motivator by half of all Winter respondents, compared to 33 percent of the Fall. Those who mentioned gambling remained relatively unchanged (14 percent vs 17 percent in Fall), but the numbers who chose "rest and relaxation" or "get away" dropped sharply, from 29 percent combined in Fall to 14.5 percent in Winter. Casino entertainment was the third most popular choice and was particularly strong in central California.

Those who visit Tahoe in the Winter are more inclined to return in Winter, to the

exclusion of the other three seasons, in particular Fall and Spring. Fall visitors, by comparison, were more likely to have a four-season orientation.

Winter visitors gave a significantly higher rating to their overall experience than did Fall visitors, notwithstanding the poor weather conditions that characterized the February/March interview sweeps. Fifty-six percent gave their experience an Excellent rating, versus 46 percent in Fall.

Sales/buyers and secretary/office professions experienced the highest percentage gains, while students and retired showed the sharpest drops.

Winter visitors are a wealthier group than those in the Fall: 52.5 percent have incomes between \$30-75,000, versus 46 percent in Fall. Only 15 percent had incomes of less than \$20,000, against 28 percent in Fall. There was little change in age structure; the percentage of females increased.

Length of stay increased slightly, while number of people per unit went from 3.0 to 3.9. Condominiums, duplexes and cabin lodging all were up. Accommodation ratings overall were also up over Fall.

As discussed earlier, the overnight out-of-state group made up a significantly larger proportion of the overall respondent base. Texas and Washington continue to be strong outside markets, but the East Coast (Florida, New York) was well represented, and Oregon moved up. Colorado, which was the fifth strongest market behind California in the Fall, dropped out of the top ten during winter.

Out-of-state visitors are both the wealthiest and oldest of the visitor groups, typifying what many consider to be the "affluent elderly" (40-60 years of age) segment of the population, certain to draw increasing marketing and economic attention. They spend a week away from home, prefer casino lodging, have a proportionately strong interest in gambling, and give their overall South Lake Tahoe experience higher ratings than any other group.

Day visitor demographics are more similar to the overall visitor base than they were in the Fall, when they were characterized by elderly, retired gamers of limited incomes. Winter day visitors are younger, more affluent, and more inclined to ski. A large percentage originated in the East Bay, a dramatic increase over Fall figures.

Similar demographic changes occurred in the overnight California/Nevada group, although they were not as dramatic. Non-casino lodging was up, people traveled in larger groups, but they did not stay as long.

The concentration of South Lake Tahoe visitors from the Bay Area as a percentage of the total California visitor base went up, while central and southern California percentages declined.

The Bay Area was the only geographic market in which the visitor base was older and less wealthy than the Winter average. There was a dramatic increase in the representation of craft/labor/service and office/secretary occupations. Casino hotels as a share of Bay Area lodging accommodations went down, replaced by cabins and other self-contained units.

Los Angeles produced younger, wealthier visitors, while San Diego visitors were older and wealthier. Gaming as a primary motivator doubled in both markets. Sales/buyers, secretary/office, and females also increased.

Highlights of the Data: An Overview - Spring

The Spring visitor base was characterized by a lower percentage of overnight out-of-state visitors and overnights from California/Nevada than the preceding two seasons. Oregon was the strongest out-of-state market, followed by Texas and Washington.

The high percentage of day visitors reflects a high concentration of out-of-state (non-California/Nevada) tourists, 25 percent of whom came up for the day from Reno.

Spring respondents are the oldest of all to-date research, as wealthy as Winter visitors, and characterized by a high percentage of females.

Sixty-seven percent are married, compared to 56 percent in the two previous seasons. Fifty-nine percent travel with their spouse only or with family.

The Spring visitor base is made up of the highest percentage of first-time visitors of any season, as well as the highest percentage of those who express a 0-25 percent likelihood of returning over the next 12 months.

Over 50 percent visit South Lake Tahoe in the Spring to "get away" or rest and relax compared to 40 percent in Fall. Only 11 percent are motivated primarily by gambling, the lowest of all seasons. Day visitors, however, are much more like to be visiting for gaming or a show than the average.

Only 3 percent of Spring respondents were students; 10 percent were retired, and 21.5 percent were "empty nesters."

Out-of-state visitors are not as wealthy as those in Winter, particularly in the over \$75,000 range, but are significantly older. Over 75 percent are married.

Nineteen percent of out-of-state visitors traveled to South Lake Tahoe primarily to sightsee, a percentage equal to that for "get away." Only 8 percent were in the area primarily to gamble.

Sacramento/Stockton-based visitors made up over 20 percent of all those who traveled from California, continuing to represent strong shoulder season support.

Almost 40 percent of Sacramento-based visitors traveled to South Lake Tahoe for the day only. A high percentage were motivated by gaming and casino entertainment.

Bay Area visitors made up a smaller percentage of the California-based visitor base than they did in the Winter, but represent a similar contribution as those in Fall. The North Bay, however, dropped significantly as a contributor. Those who did visit from North Bay were much older than the average -24 percent were retirees.

Visitors from the East and South Bays continued to represent above average interest in rest/relaxation and "get away"; overall, they have made less visits to South Lake Tahoe than those in previous seasons, and are less likely to return in the next 12 months.

Visitors from West Bay/San Francisco were older, wealthier and more likely to be married than in any other season. They show a stronger interest in gaming and "other recreation" as primary motivators than those from other key California markets, a finding consistent with the phone research.

Rest/relaxation and "get away" continue to be very strong primary motivators for visitors who travel to South Lake Tahoe from Southern California. Like most groups in the Spring visitor base, they are older, wealthier and more likely to be married than past seasons.

As a favorite "activity," gaming continues to represent a strong year-round draw, particularly in the shoulder seasons. Rest/relaxation, shows and sightseeing are also highly favored.

Gaming is also considered one of South Lake Tahoe's greatest assets, but rates a weak second behind scenery/beauty, which is once again an overwhelming favorite.

Parking and "getting there" are rated as the area's two greatest weaknesses. Other needs expressed by respondents include a lack of unique or quality retail outlets, few activities for children, and no scenic bus tours around the Lake. Quality entertainment is considered a strong factor in drawing people more frequently to the area.

South Lake Tahoe continues to rate well against other gaming resorts, although a small percentage continue to favor the more relaxed environment of North Shore. Over 70 percent of respondents considered South Lake Tahoe only in their most recent travel plans. Out-of-state visitors most frequently considered San Francisco as an alternative destination, while Bay Area respondents considered Reno.

Forty percent of those interviewed felt that South Lake Tahoe as a place to vacation has improved over the period of time they have been visiting, while 36 percent said the number of visits they are making to the area have been increasing. The most frequently mentioned incentives for traveling more frequently were travel/accommodation packages. This was particularly true for those who traveled from out-of-state.

Out-of-state visitors continue to spend more money than any other group during their stay. Residents of Los Angeles and Sacramento/Stockton were the highest spending visitors from California, while East Bay was lowest.

Highlights of the Data: An Overview - Summer

Residents of California made up a lower percentage of the overall visitor base than in any other season (67 percent).

The typical Summer visitor is older, wealthier, and much more likely to be married than those in any other season; 54 percent brought their children with them.

The "capture ration" in Summer was almost identical to that in Spring - 47 percent. Reno and San Francisco continue to represent the most frequently mentioned "other" destinations.

The primary reasons that respondents traveled to South Lake Tahoe in the Summer were very similar to those in Spring; "get away" and rest/relaxation were the strongest, followed by gaming and casino entertainment.

Twenty-six percent of all day visitors originated in Sacramento/Stockton; 27 percent were from out-of-state.

Almost one-fourth of all overnight California/Nevada visitors were in South Lake Tahoe to visit friends or because they own their own home or condo.

Out-of-state visitors showed up in numbers similar to those in Winter; eleven different states contributed at least one percent to the total visitor base.

Gaming interest as a primary motivator and secondary activity is weakest in this group compared to the others, while sightseeing is comparatively strongest.

Summer out-of-state respondents are equally likely as those in Spring to spend a significant (over 70 percent) portion of their vacation time in areas other than South Lake Tahoe.

The Bay Area's share of the visitor base dropped significantly to its lowest level of any season; the Los Angeles/Southern California share, by comparison, was its highest.

Sacramento (15.6 percent) remained the single largest California-based metropolitan source of visitors, followed by East Bay (14.2 percent) and Los Angeles (14.2 percent).

With the exception of South Bay respondents, interest in gaming as a primary motivator was highest in Sacramento than in any other market.

Despite the relatively low participation rates in the overall visitor base, Bay Area residents represented the highest capture ratios of any other market; gaming is a weak primary motivator in this market.

Per capita spending levels in Summer fell to their lowest level yet; this was primarily the result of the high numbers of respondents who drove, camped or stayed in R.V.'s.

South Lake Tahoe's single greatest asset continues to be its scenery/beauty by the widest margin yet, while rest/relaxation and sightseeing remain the two most important activities.

The crowding problems that characterize Summer at the Lake were reflected in lower ratings for parking and getting around, which were also singled out as the area's single greatest weakness.

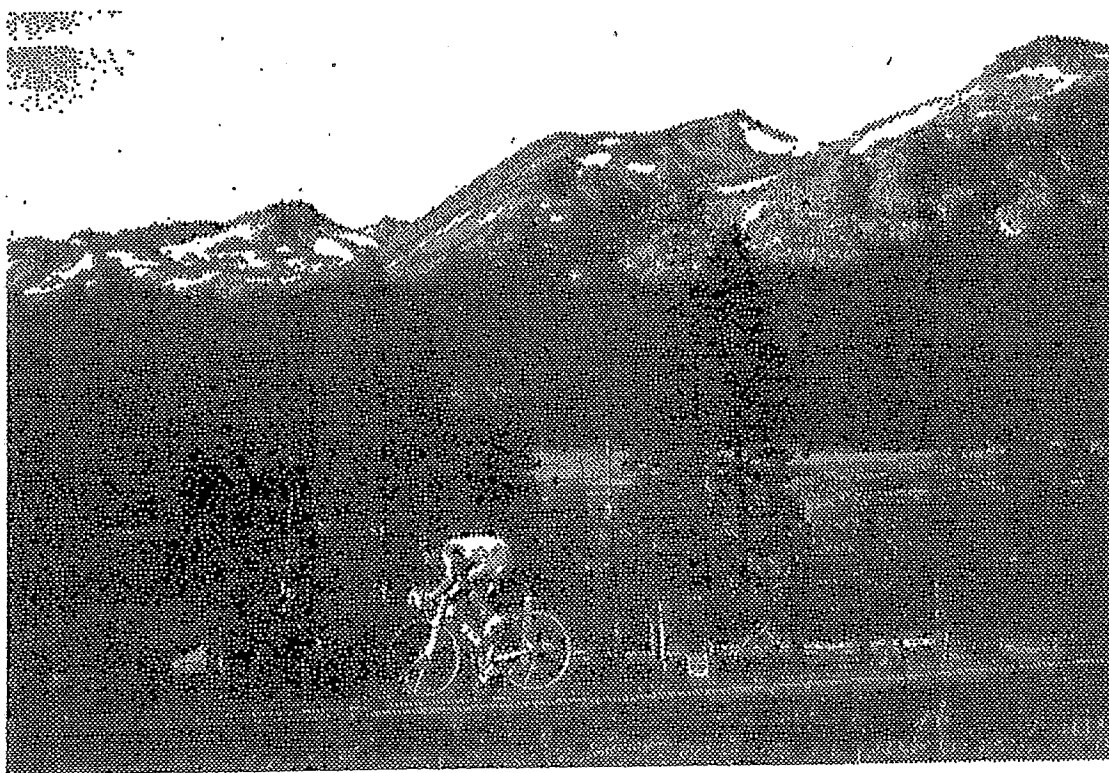
With the exception of South Bay and, less so, Los Angeles, visitors from key

California markets are much more likely to be increasing than decreasing the frequency of their visits to South Lake Tahoe.

Those who feel that the area has declined in quality as a place to vacation are more inclined to be decreasing the frequency of their visits, and vice versa. Twenty-five percent of those who have made more than 20 trips to South Lake Tahoe feel that it has declined in quality during that time.

Over half of all first time visitors were from out-of-state, representing 56 percent of all out-of-state respondents; over half of all first time visitors from California/Nevada were from Los Angeles.

Seventy-four percent of first time visitors from Los Angeles, versus 54 percent in California/Nevada and 47 percent overall, traveled to South Lake Tahoe to "get away" or rest/relax. Almost half express a 0-25 percent likelihood of return within the next 12 months.



THE RECREATION AND LEISURE INDUSTRY'S CONTRIBUTION TO CALIFORNIA'S ECONOMY ▼

Most planners recognize an importance of the leisure and recreation industry to California's economy. In 1983-84, the California Department of Parks and Recreation undertook the task of studying and quantifying that importance. This study addressed such diverse issues as: what are the high growth recreational activities; what percent contribution does recreation contribute to local economies; per-day expenditures by tourists and recreationists; and the effect of public parks and recreation areas on surrounding property values.

This study focuses on California as a whole and thus provides figures of primarily state-wide importance. This can be used by local planners, both public and private, as a comparison point or as a target for future growth.

Highlights

RECREATION AND LEISURE PURSUITS ARE A MAJOR FEATURE OF THE CALIFORNIA LIFESTYLE. MORE IMPORTANTLY, THEY ARE A VITAL ELEMENT OF CALIFORNIA'S ECONOMY.

Californians spent about \$30.2 billion on recreation and leisure pursuits in 1982. This amounted to 11.5% of total California personal consumption expenditures, making recreation and leisure third in personal spending, exceeded only by housing and food. An additional \$2 billion was spent by visitors from out of state who traveled to California for recreation, entertainment, or sightseeing.

Employment in the recreation and leisure industry accounted for one out of every 15 California jobs in 1982. Private-sector employment accounted for 769,406 jobs, while government provided 45,157. According to the 1983 Economic Report of the Governor, the greatest percentage increase in California employment during 1982 occurred in the recreation and amusements service industry.

It is estimated that state taxes generated by recreation and leisure expenditures amounted to \$1.3 billion in 1982, more than 6% of California's revenue.

Revenue to local governments from recreation and leisure expenditures in 1982 exceeded \$640 million, more than 12.6% of all local government revenue.

OUTDOOR RECREATION IS THE DOMINANT FORCE IN CALIFORNIA'S RECREATION AND LEISURE INDUSTRY.

Approximately \$19.2 billion, about 64% of all recreation and leisure expenditure by Californians, was spent in pursuit of predominantly outdoor recreation away from home.

Expenditures for outdoor recreation in California are projected to grow 25% at both government and non-government facilities, and nearly 27% at joint facilities, by the year 2000. This growth will add \$8.1 billion (in 1982 dollars) to California's economy.

GOVERNMENT LANDS AND FACILITIES ARE A CRITICAL COMPONENT OF CALIFORNIA'S RECREATION AND LEISURE INDUSTRY.

About 40% of all recreation and leisure spending, amounting to \$12 billion in 1982, was related to the use of government lands and facilities.

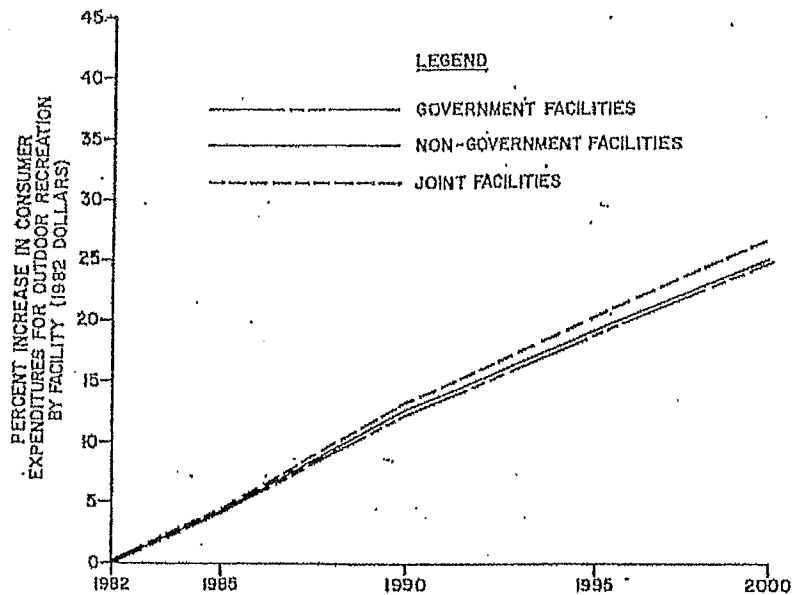
RECREATION AND LEISURE EXPENDITURES

Consumer Expenditures

Nationally, recreation and leisure expenditures have grown from \$58 billion annually in 1965 to \$244 billion in 1981, an increase in inflation-adjusted dollars of 47% (U.S. Department of Commerce). About 13% of these expenditures (\$32.2 billion in 1982) are estimated to have occurred in California, which accounts for slightly over 10% of the nation's population. This includes \$2 billion estimated by the U.S. Travel Data Center to have been spent by out-of-state visitors traveling for recreation, sightseeing, or entertainment. These expenditures, which support the recreation and leisure industry in California, amount to more than 8% of the 1982 gross state product, and account for 11.5% of total California resident consumer spending, exceeded only by housing and food.

Figure 1

Projected Increase in Consumer Spending on Outdoor Recreation by Facility (1982-2000)



Activity Expenditures

Table A provides estimates of average daily participant expenditures for California's more popular away-from-home recreation activities. Total annual expenditure estimates for each activity were determined by multiplying average daily expenditures by total annual participation days for the activity, a figure derived from the Statewide Recreation Needs Analysis study. Annual participation expenditures for these predominantly outdoor recreation activities totaled \$19.2 billion. About half of these expenditures were transportation and travel-related. Non-transportation-related expenditures for several activities were derived from data generated by this study and surveys of trade organizations and recreation establishments throughout the state.

TABLE A

ESTIMATED AWAY FROM HOME RECREATION EXPENDITURES BY CALIFORNIA IN CALIFORNIA FOR 1982

Activity	Average Activity Day Expenditure per person	Total \$ Spent
Bicycling	3.90	461,205,420
Horseback Riding	19.78	366,443,291
Tennis	6.90	323,646,709
Golf	23.89	732,654,220
Bowling	8.91	300,263,080
Pool Swimming	6.56	410,430,533
Picnicking	13.02	972,031,405
Hiking & Backpacking	13.73	733,834,862
Nature Appreciation	12.51	810,777,727
Visiting Scenic Areas	14.56	715,755,186
Crafts & Hobbies	7.89	377,949,463
Camping	29.05	1,442,771,736
OHV	45.05	1,144,666,440
Snow Skiing	49.23	369,016,019
Sports Activities	17.28	3,337,727,040
Boating	33.53	1,275,967,385
Jogging	3.03	664,335,680
Fishing	32.00	1,661,078,080
Hunting	65.00	494,310,700

Location of Activities

Away-from-home recreation and leisure activities can take place at government-owned facilities, private facilities, or those owned jointly by government and the private sector.

The data indicates that about 62% of all away-from-home recreation and leisure expenditures can be attributed to the use of government or joint government and non-government facilities. These government-facility-related expenditures (amounting to nearly \$12 billion in 1982, or about 40% of all recreation and leisure spending) illustrate the importance of public recreation lands and facilities to California's economy.

Referring again to Figure 1, the expenditure ratio of government and non-government facilities is projected to remain about the same to the year 2000, with a slight increase in joint facility expenditures. With this in mind, and considering that expenditures related to participation in recreation and leisure activity at public

facilities currently support about 40% of the recreation and leisure industry and account for 4.6% of California consumer spending, investment in public recreation lands and facilities should be an integral part of state, regional, and local economic development programs. Land acquisition and facility development to accommodate high-expenditure activities projected to grow rapidly will be particularly desirable (Table C).

TABLE C

HIGH EXPENDITURE, RAPID GROWTH RECREATION ACTIVITIES

Activity	Projected Increase in Participation, 1980-2000	Average Expenditure
Golf	53%	\$23.89
Snow Skiing	49%	49.23
Boating	38%	33.53
Visiting Scenic Areas	35%	14.56
Fishing	32%	32.00
Hiking & Backpacking	32%	13.73
Nature Appreciation	31%	12.51

RECREATION AND LEISURE-RELATED REVENUE RETURNS TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The recreation and leisure industry is an important source of state and local government revenue. State and local tax revenue generated by business firms operating within the industry, personal income tax paid by industry employees, and local property tax revenue generated by public and private recreation facilities provide the greatest contributions. However, significant revenues also accrue from a variety of non-tax sources.

State Revenues

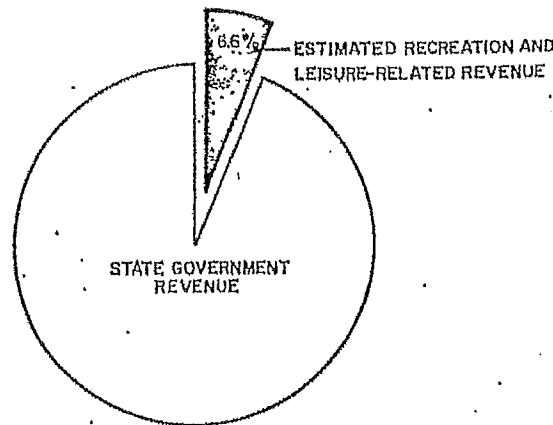
California residents and businesses paid about \$20 billion in state taxes for fiscal 1980-81. It is estimated that about \$1.3 billion of this revenue is attributable to the recreation and leisure industry.

This figure is derived as follows. The California Franchise Tax Board data indicate that about \$220 million was paid in corporate taxes by more than 49,000 recreation and leisure-related business establishments, and \$275.8 million in personal income

tax was paid by industry employees. Estimates based on State Board of Equalization data indicate that an additional \$638.9 million was collected in state sales tax on recreation and leisure-related product sales. Additionally, motor fuel tax related to recreation and leisure activity and travel amounted to about \$197.3 million (see below).

Figure 2

Recreation and Leisure-Related Returns to California State Government as a Percentage of Total State Revenue in Fiscal Year 1980-81



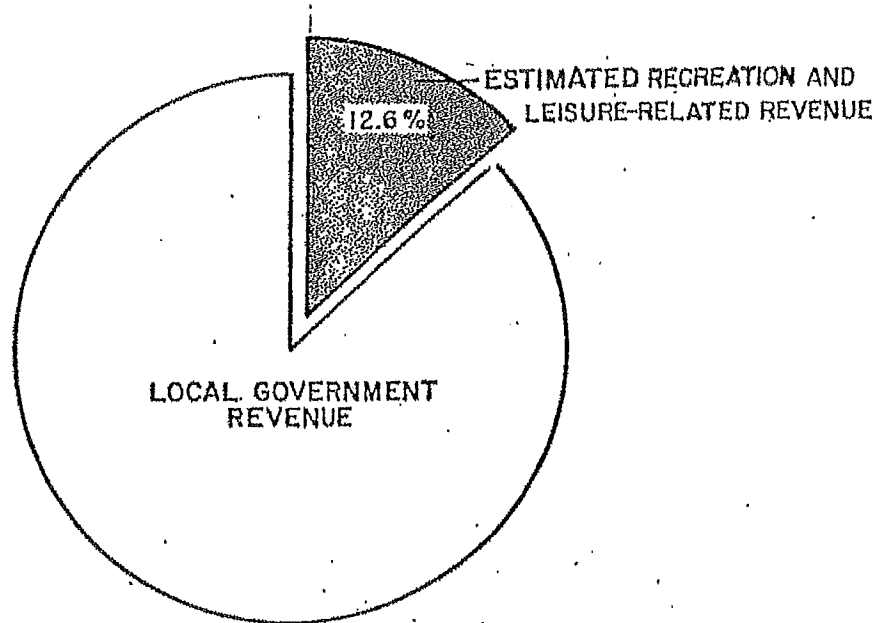
In addition to the taxes just discussed, the state derives an additional \$975.6 million in annual income from licenses and fees associated with recreation and leisure.

Local Revenues

More than \$640 million collected by California's cities, counties, and special districts in fiscal 1980-81 is estimated to have been generated by recreation-related business activity and employment, and public recreation facilities (see below). This is 12.6% of the \$5.1 billion of local revenue for that year.

Figure 3

Recreation and Leisure-Related Returns to Local Government as a Percentage of Total California Local Government Revenue in Fiscal Year 1980-81



Recreation and leisure-related property tax revenue, based on an estimation of taxes paid on privately owned recreation lands and taxes resulting from property value enhancement attributed to urban and suburban public parks, is estimated to have been \$360.3 million (56% of total recreation and leisure-related local revenue in 1982).

Local park and recreation use fees accounted for an additional \$147.5 million, or 23% of total local government recreation and leisure-related revenues.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF OUTDOOR RECREATION IN NEVADA ▼

Nevada State Parks, as part of the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, studied the question of outdoor recreation's contribution to the state's economy. Although completed in late 1980, this study continues to be used by state and local planners to help predict economic impacts. Such information is valuable to Alpine County recreation providers because many visitors originate from Western Nevada cities and towns. The following summary includes the use trends and economic impacts for those recreation activities identified.

I. INTRODUCTION

This study assesses the impact of outdoor recreation on the Nevada economy. Although indoor recreational activities (gambling and other forms of entertainment) are the more widely recognized recreational attractions in Nevada, outdoor recreation also supports a significant share of economic activity in the state.

Recreationists visit Nevada in large numbers to participate in cross-country and downhill skiing, hunting, off-highway vehicle (OHV) driving, fishing, hiking, backpacking, and other outdoor activities.

These visitors provide revenues for income and jobs in the state through purchases in restaurants and groceries, from rental and purchase of sporting equipment and through expenditures for lodging and other goods and services. Studies indicate that many who visit Nevada primarily for outdoor recreation also gamble and participate in other indoor entertainment activities (e.g. Colberg, 1978).

Nevada residents also contribute substantially to the Nevada economy from purchases for outdoor recreation-related sporting goods, recreational vehicles (RV's), sports clothing, and from purchases related to in-state recreational travel. Government expenditures for management (marinas, campgrounds, etc.), and for capital improvements (e.g. tennis courts, swimming pools) to recreational areas also fuel the state's economy, providing outdoor recreation-related jobs in the public sector, as well as income to private contractors and their employees.

A. Economic Impact and the Regional Economy

The process by which recreational activities produce jobs, income and tax revenues in a region has features somewhat different from the way in which activity in other industrial sectors impact a region's economy. In general,

Needs to be reviewed

economic activities may be divided between primary (or basic) activities and secondary activities (also called non-basic, service, or residentiary activities).

Primary industrial sectors of the economy are those that provide income and jobs to a region through exports to other regions. Typically, these activities (e.g., farming, mining, manufacturing) produce goods which are sold outside the region, earning income for employees and profits for owners of the producing firms.

Resident's purchases fuel the secondary sector of the economy, providing revenues for additional jobs, income, and taxes.

There is a fine dividing line between the primary and secondary sectors. Nearly all economic activities overlap the two sectors, producing, at times, some goods and services for export, and some for consumption within the region. To analyze a regional economy, economists usually place industries in one or the other sector, depending on whether the majority of their output is destined for export or for local consumption.

The recreation industry is typical of difficult-to-categorize sectors. Recreational activities may serve local residents as well as tourists. For example, a ski resort may sell its services to a region's residents or to tourists. Tourist skiers bring fresh income into the region, buying lift tickets, equipment, food and lodging. These purchases generate employment and income for the region's residents. The "tourist portion" of the ski resort is a primary sector activity. Resident skiers, on the other hand, recirculate the region's income in their purchase of ski goods and services. The "resident portion" of the ski resort is a secondary sector activity.

Expenditures related to outdoor recreation in Nevada arise from at least five distinct sources: (1) travel expenditures in Nevada by visitors from outside the state, (2) capital expenditures in Nevada for outdoor recreation equipment by these visitors, (3) capital expenditures by Nevada residents for outdoor recreation equipment and clothing, (4) in-state travel expenditures by Nevada residents, and (5) expenditures by federal, state, and local governments for outdoor recreational capital improvements or resource management.

Travel expenses are usually defined to include costs directly related to a specific trip, including transportation expenditures, food and liquor purchases (from groceries, liquor stores, bars, and restaurants), lodging (including camping), and entertainment. Travelers may also spend money for other retail goods, such as clothing, gifts, souvenirs, and sporting equipment.

For the outdoor recreationists, these travel and capital expenses vary widely by type of recreation activity. Campers and backpackers typically make most of their equipment purchases in the region of residence. Groceries may also be purchased at home and transported to the recreational destination. Lodging expenses are often limited to small space or user fees in parks or campgrounds. Purchases by campers or backpackers in the region of

Needs to be reviewed

destination might be limited to single gasoline purchase, a few groceries, and possibly a restaurant visit.

At the other extreme, the downhill skier makes many purchases at the recreation destination, including lift tickets, equipment rental, lodge rentals, and meals. Expenditures may also include the purchase of ski equipment and clothes. The ski lodges themselves, if owned by visitors, represent major capital investment in the region of destination.

II. ECONOMIC IMPACT OF OUTDOOR RECREATION VISITATION TO NEVADA

1. Outdoor Recreation Visitor Expenditures

The amount of money travelers spend while visiting an area is the critical bridge to determining the impact on the destination region's economy. Unfortunately, the existing data on visitor expenditures is limited. Survey data frequently cannot be generalized to other regions. Many studies do not state their assumptions or rely on faulty procedures for determining daily tourist expenditures (see Cahill and Neale, 1979, for further discussion).

Visitor expenditure studies for Nevada, like visitation studies, are generally unreliable. It has been necessary to draw from studies of outdoor recreation expenditures in other states to obtain a feel for how much outdoor recreationists spend on journeys to Nevada.

Probably the leading national survey on the topic is the U. S. Travel Data Center's annual National Travel Expenditure Study (United States Travel Data Center, 1977). The Center, a private Washington, D. C.-based firm, uses a nationwide household survey which it correlates with data from the Bureau of the Census' National Travel Survey (Bever, 1978). The study estimates that all U.S. Travelers spent an average of \$23.07 per person per day on journeys of 100 miles or more in 1976. Visitors to Nevada spent an average of \$35.98 per day, among the highest for any state (U.S. Travel Data Center, 1977). The high cost of trips to Nevada undoubtedly reflects large expenditures for gambling and related activities.

Needs to be reviewed

Table 1

Expenditures per Person per Day
by Outdoor Recreation Travelers in the
United States, 1976 (1988, adjusted for inflation)

Expenditure Category	Expenditures Per Person Per Day, 1976
Transportation	\$ 5.86 (12.25)
Lodging	4.04 (8.48)
Food	10.44 (22.18)
Entertainment	2.07 (4.32)
Incidentals	3.60 (7.42)
Total	\$ 26.01 (54.65)

Note: For travel of 200 miles or greater, round trip.

Source: U.S. Travel Data Center, 1976 National Travel Expenditure Studies, 1977.

The study calculated that outdoor recreationists traveling 100 miles or more in the U.S. spent an average of \$26.01 per person per day in 1976, a figure larger than the average for all travelers in the U.S. but smaller than the average for all visitors to Nevada. These figures are broken down by expenditure category in Table 1.

Using past surveys and updating expenditure amounts to 1979 prices, this study has estimated 1979 average expenditures per person per day for outdoor recreationists in Nevada. These estimates are displayed in Table 2, Estimated Daily Expenditures of Resident and Non-Resident Outdoor Recreationists in Nevada by Primary Outdoor Activity, 1979.

Needs to be reviewed

Table 2

Estimated Daily Expenditures of Resident and Non-Resident Outdoor Recreationists in Nevada by Primary Outdoor Activity, 1979

Primary Activity	Expenditures Per Person Per Day, 1979 (1988, adjusted for inflation)	
	Residents	Non-Residents
Camping, backpacking	\$12 (\$20)	\$16 (\$27)
Hunting	\$35 (\$58)	\$60 (\$99)
Downhill Skiing	\$25 (\$41)	\$55 (\$95)
Outdoor Recreation- Overall Average	N/A	\$40 (\$76)

Note: Figures represent average expenditures per person per day for each activity. For non-residents, some expenditures are made outside Nevada. Estimates are updated from earlier studies using the United States Consumer Price Index for retail goods and the Gasoline Price Index to estimate increases in transportation costs.

Needs to be reviewed

III. FUTURE TRENDS IN OUTDOOR RECREATION IN NEVADA

The future of outdoor recreation and its impact on the economy of Nevada may best be examined first by looking at factors affecting future nationwide trends and then at variations which are likely to affect Nevada individually.

For national trends, it may be informative to look at recent trends in factors that caused the sharp increase in outdoor recreation participation between 1965 and 1977.

(1) Increase in leisure time - leisure time for Americans should continue to increase as the work week gets shorter, allowing greater participation in outdoor recreation.

(2) Women joining the labor force - this trend should continue, giving women greater individual incomes, allowing for larger participation in outdoor recreation.

(3) Decline of baby boom offspring - the bulge in the curve of 25-35 year persons caused by the post-war baby boom is receding, reducing the number of persons in the age bracket considered to be the prime purchasing age for outdoor recreation goods and services.

Needs to be reviewed

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(4) Increased options for elderly - increase in their relative share of income should continue to increase recreational demand among the elderly.

(5) The physical fitness movement - Americans are expected to continue their interest in personal health and physical fitness through outdoor recreational activity.

For Nevada, the outdoor recreation future is probably not as bleak as one might suppose from considering the effects of gasoline prices on travel patterns of Californians, major contributors to outdoor recreation participation in Nevada. First, the population of Nevada continues to grow rapidly. This trend will have a positive effect on resident outdoor activity and purchases. Moreover, newcomers to Nevada tend to be young, and more active outdoor recreation participants. Second, although California's population is not growing at previous rates, there are a large number of persons of child-bearing age in that state. The number of babies born in California reached an all-time high in 1979, indicating that there will be a growing future demand for outdoor recreation activity near to Nevada's borders. Third, California's outdoor recreation opportunities are becoming overcrowded. Nevada is a logical choice to receive a portion of overflow demand.

Needs to be reviewed

SORENSENS ▼

Throughout this study, questions about the economic impacts of increased recreation were considered. How much could the County expect to benefit financially from such increased use? Other case studies in this section reflect research that identifies how much money tourists and recreationists spend in other areas. Based on this kind of information, it is obvious that increased visitation will result in increased revenue to the County. However, this information shows only a general trend; it cannot show specific increases.

To give a better sense of what the County can expect, this section provides a case study looking at actual and projected tax increases from an Alpine County business. Sorensens Resort was chosen for this case study for several reasons. First, Sorensens stands to gain the most directly from increased access to the lands under USFS acquisition consideration. Secondly, John and Patty Brissenden have owned and operated this resort for six years, providing a good historical tax record. And thirdly, they have completed a comprehensive master plan for the resort's future. This allows a realistic tax projection based on planned improvements.

This case study shows a marked increase in tax revenue produced by a resort completely dependent on recreation and tourism. Other businesses in the county may benefit from increased recreation in different ways, yet this example clearly shows some benefit will be felt.

In 1981, Sorensens Resort consisted of 20 cabins rented on a monthly basis and a small restaurant. The resort at that time was rundown and operated inefficiently. In 1982, John and Patty Brissenden purchased the 165 acres and began to renovate and plan for the future. In March of 1987, the Sorensens Report Expansion Master Plan and resulting EIS were completed. By that year, all the existing structures had been renovated and the resort was operating as a year-round resort offering a wide range of recreational activities.

Sorensens Resort currently includes 23 cabins, an owner's residence and a guest duplex. The small restaurant serves resort guests and others, though it is not open for all meals. Also in the restaurant, guide books, artwork, wine and other gift items are available.

The resort offers conference facilities for small groups and many organized recreational activities. These include guided nature walks, astronomy and art lessons, and cross-country ski rental and lessons. Also, the owners will arrange special events for guests. This includes weddings, llama pack trips and equestrian rides at Kirkwood Stables.

Needs to be reviewed

The future of the resort shows ambitious plans. The EIS provides a description at buildout, in approximately 15 years. It states:

It is planned that Sorensen's will be a destination resort featuring accommodations for conferences, seminars and workshops. The facilities will include bed and breakfast and timeshare lodging as well as a sauna and spa on the premises. The resort will sponsor year round outdoor activities centered on the resort as well as surrounding areas.

Specific facilities expansion includes:

Cabins. Twenty existing cabins will be renovated and remain on the lower benchlands near Highway 88, with some increase in density on the side of the creek. (All renovation is completed, 1988)

Twenty proposed housekeeping cabins will have one bedroom with kitchen and bathroom facilities with wood exteriors. They will be located behind and to the east of the existing Norway House on two smaller benches that afford some views of the meadows and will be tucked into the hillside and screened with existing vegetation.

Fifteen larger housekeeping cabins or vacation timeshare cabins will be sited around a small lake above the existing resort area. These cabins will consist of 2 or 3 bedrooms, living room, kitchen and bath facilities and the present design concept is a log or wood exterior to blend with the existing landscape.

Bed and Breakfast Lodge. The lodge will consist of 18 rooms, approximately 16 of which will be European style with a common bath at the end of the hall and the remainder will be private suites. The lower floor will consist of a restaurant facility with a small lounge area, dining area which will seat approximately 50 to 75 people and could double as a conference room for guests. The manager's quarters and gift shop will also be housed on this floor.

Other Living Units. Two hostel cabins will be located in close proximity to the lodge and will sleep 18-20 people each, dormitory style. These units will also serve as conference rooms.

Not included in this description, the resort may also offer mountain bike rentals and expand the cross-country ski operation. The latter currently provides some groomed trails, and ski rentals and lessons. The expansion could include many more km of groomed trails, and ski and clothing retail.

John and Patty Brissenden have seen not only their resort and plans grow, their tax contribution to Alpine County has grown also. The following table shows a 205% increase in property tax as they have renovated the existing structures. As more improvements are added, this could increase as much as 12,094%. Also, with the additional rooms and retail opportunities planned, their TOT and sales tax contributions rise.

Needs to be reviewed

The following record shows the actual increase in tax revenue generated by Sorensens between 1981 and 1987 as well as that projected for 2002 (planned buildout for the resort).

	Property Tax	Sales Tax	TOT (Bed Tax)
1981(1)	\$ 2,400	Unknown	\$ 1,754
1987(2)	\$ 4,932 (+205%)	\$ 624	\$ 16,790 (+957%)
1988(3)	\$ 7,432 (+150%)	\$ 1,000* (+160%)	\$ 22,330 (+132%)*
2002(4)	\$63,833*(+858%)	\$10,470*(+104%)	\$110,000 (+492%)*

Total \$ collected by Alpine County from Sorensens resort:

1981: \$ 4,154 (plus amount of sales tax generated)
1987: \$ 22,346
1988: \$ 30,762
2002: \$184,303*

- (1) The year before the Brissenden's purchase. See above for a facility description.
- (2) Facilities: All original structures restored and area operated as a resort with wide variety of recreational activities available year-round.
- (3) Facilities: Owner's house added, also three new cabins built and original owner's unit renovated as a guest duplex.
- (4) Facilities: Buildout. See above.

*Projections. All projections for this comparison should be considered conservative. No attempt was made to account for increased building costs as the resort develops, increased resort prices, inflation, or changes in the various tax rates. The latter may change in the future as Alpine County's TOT rate is several percentage points below other California counties with similar tourist-based economies.

A factor that could offset this tax contribution would involve increased need for county services. In this case, however, the 1987 EIS did not identify any public service needs that project mitigations could not address.

Needs to be reviewed

Conclusion:

This example shows the long-term economic benefits of public recreation and tourism to Alpine County. Other benefits produced by the success of businesses such as Sorensens include: the increased value of nearby private land; heightened awareness of Hope Valley as a destination recreation area; and the possibility of currently vacant land to develop and provide recreational amenities.

Needs to be reviewed

Hope Valley
Economic and Recreation Study
Final ▼ April 1989.

▲ Economic
Summary

Economics Summary ▼

This section is a summary of the employment potential, and the economics of the proposed land purchase. These figures are the best estimate that could be made at this time, as collected from the participants in this study.

Employment

As recreation is seasonal, few of the private sector groups hire anyone full-time. The figures are what the participants considered to be "year-round, full-time equivalents". For example, Caples Lake Resort employs almost 15 people at their peak season (August). This works out to be 5 full-time equivalents.

The projected employment figures are based on the owner/manager's vision of their resort. All the public groups such as the USFS refused to predict future staffing levels because that is totally dependent on legislative whim. The estimates appear to be low if the resorts develop as envisioned. With an economic slow-down or some other development inhibitory, these estimates will be high.

EMPLOYMENT

Recreation/Support Services Provider	Current	1998
USFS*	.4	.4
CA State Parks	10	10
CA Fish and Game	.5	.5
Kirkwood		
Kirkwood Stables**	1	5
Kirkwood Nordic Center***		
Sorensens	4	10
Caples Lake Resort	5	8
Tahoe Winter Sports**	.5	.5
Woodfords Inn	2 (family members)	3
Woodfords Station	2 (family members)	2
Total	25.4	39.4

* Includes only Toiyabe Forest, no information gathered for the El Dorado Forest portion of the study area.

** These businesses are seasonal only.

Land Purchase

The Hope Valley has become a major nonurbanized recreation resource adjacent to the Lake Tahoe Basin in California and Nevada. While the Lake Tahoe Basin still remains the major recreation destination in the Sierras Hope Valley has become a destination for low intensity recreation including hiking, fishing, cross country skiing, snowmobiling, and camping. In addition, there is one destination resort, Sorensons, and at opposite ends of the Valley area Kirkwood ski area, and the towns of Woodfords and Markleeville. Adjacent to Markleeville is the Grover Hot Springs a favorite day use and camping area. Hope Valley lacks significant commercial services and public utilities which has delayed its growth as an intensive recreational center. Recently, the area has become the subject of intensive debate about the potential for further development. Its proximity to the Lake Tahoe Basin has resulted in pressure to intensify development activity.

The Trust for Public Land has purchased options on larger tracts of land within the study area and has identified a number of potential options for subsequent conveyance of the optioned lands. In addition, the voters of California recently passed Proposition 70 which provides bond funds for open space acquisition, local recreation funds, historic preservation, and fisheries and state park development. Included within the \$81.3 million allotted to the California Wildlife Conservation Board is \$4 million to purchase land within the Hope Valley. Alpine County is also included as the recipient of \$100,000 in automatic grants. The Proposition includes \$11 million for historic preservation, and \$5 million for trail development for the entire State. These funds must be applied for and the County would need to compete with other counties in the State.

The Trust for Public Land has purchased options on two properties known as the Dressler and the Helm's property. The Dressler property includes approximately 4,000 acres, and the Helms property under option includes approximately 11,000 acres. Acquisition of these properties and subsequent conveyance to a public agency would result in the reduction in property tax collections by Alpine county.

The historical taxable assessed valuation of the Dressler property is \$298,000, estimated property tax proceeds are \$2,983 annually. The Helms property is currently assessed at \$3,234,710 and the estimated property tax collections are \$32,347 annually. The historical taxes received by the county were approximately \$36,000.00. The new assessment, as of 1988, of these properties is approximately \$70,000.00.

Conveyance to a public agency could result in the loss of up to \$70,000.00 to the County in property taxes annually. In 1984-85 secured and unsecured property taxes totalled \$845,000. There is a period of approximately One to Three years before the total impact of the reduction will be recovered by the

Needs to be reviewed

combination of private and public funds. The impact of this reduction can be offset by additional development of recreation opportunities within the study area or by additional development within other areas of the County. This additional development of recreation opportunities will be tied to the proposed purchase. The proposed acquisition would necessitate revisions to the current County General Plan. These revisions must incorporate measures to offset the impact of the acquisition including recreational, commercial and residential development.

The Forest Service currently returns 25% of revenues generated on properties included in acquisitions to the county. Additional revenue would accrue to the county from these lands upon use for increased recreational or resource activity. In 1987, Alpine county received \$13,470 from county lands within the Toiyabe National Forest. The current Forest Service Plan envisions reconstruction of the Hope Valley Campground, promotion of continued grazing activity, retention of natural conditions, and within 20 years construction of the 120 unit Faith Valley campground. At this time the Forest Service was unable to give a figure of revenues that would be generated by the proposed purchase.

Assessed Taxes

Helms	\$32,347.00
Dressler	2,983.00
Total	\$35,330.00 (Historical)
Total	approx. \$70,000.00 (Current)

Proposed Land Exchanges

<u>Parcel</u>	<u>Assessed Value</u>
Woodfords 80 acres	220,000.00
Shay Creek	195,000.00
Kirkwood 20 acres	140,000.00
(Buildout	4,500,000.00)

The privatizing of the Shay summerhome area which includes 35 dwellings, with an assessed value of the land is \$195,000, will bring in an undetermined tax increase as the property is reassessed since the residents own all the improvements including structures and the water system.

Needs to be reviewed

As the Economic Case Studies in the previous section showed, if the current developed recreation facilities continue to expand (i.e. Sorensens Resort) their taxes within 3 years will be approximately \$78,221.00. This amount alone will off-set the impact of the reduction to the county tax base. Assuming that the other developed recreation facilities will continue to expand at near or same rates, Alpine County will have traded a short term wind-fall with a more stable long range economic plan. Public lands are a critical component of California's recreation and leisure industry, about 40% of all recreation and leisure spending, amounting to \$12 Billion in 1982, was related to the use of public lands.

Summary of the Proposed Land Purchase

ALPINE COUNTY TAX SCHEDULE THRU 3/20/91

Produced: 3/01/89

The Helms Property	\$46,987
The Dressler Property	\$ 5,395
The Orvis Property	\$ 6,783
	\$59,165

Note: The Helms value is based on an average of 2 years of taxes at Total \$70,000 and 3 years of the historical rate of \$32,948.

<u>Project</u>	<u>Est. Close Date</u>	<u>Tax Value</u>	<u>Paymnts to Co.</u>	<u>Form of Credit</u>	<u>Net gain or Loss</u>	<u>Cum Total</u>
Horsethief Canyon Phase 1	closed	\$2,461*				
Burnside Lake	closed	\$2,694*				
Hope Villy North	closed	\$0	\$8,270	WCB in-lieu pmt		
Dangberg Camp	closed	\$12,052*	\$18,875	WCB in-lieu pmt		
Horsethief Canyon Phase 2	closed	\$398*				
W of Pickett Peak	closed	\$101				
E of Calpine Mine	closed	\$191				
Burnside Mine	closed	\$195				
NW of Pickett Peak	closed	\$31				

Needs to be reviewed

<u>Project</u>	<u>Est. Close Date</u>	<u>Tax Value</u>	<u>Paymnts to Co.</u>	<u>Form of Credit</u>	<u>Net Gain or Loss</u>	<u>Cum Total</u>
Burnside Lake	closed	\$87				
Sub-total closed projects		\$18,210	\$27,145		\$8,935	\$8,905
Orvis	3/31/89	\$3,497	\$10,710	WCB in-lieu pmt		
Fredericksburg Canyon	4/15/89	\$1,090*				
Deep Canyon	5/15/89	\$168	\$2,091	Shay Creek Exchange		
Little Indian Valley	6/30/89	\$238	\$714	Kirkwood exchange		
Vaquero Camp	6/30/89	\$1,876*				
Monitor Pass	6/30/89	\$2,089*				
Sub-total by	12/10/89	\$8,958	\$13,515		\$4,557	\$13,462
Carson Pass	12/31/89	\$3,287				
Clover Valley	1/31/90	\$422				
Big Indian Valley	1/31/90	\$377				
Armstrong Pass	6/30/90	\$2,129*				
Poison Flat	6/30/90	\$1,337*				
Bagley Villy Phase 1	6/30/90	\$1,505*	\$1,530	w/150k BLM exchange		
Bagley Villy Phase 2	6/30/90	\$6,024*				
Von Schmidt	6/30/90	\$494*				
Hope Valley	6/30/90	\$12,786*				
Sub-total by	12/10/90	\$28,361	\$1,530		(\$26,831)	(\$13,369)
Faith Valley	3/20/91	\$499				

Needs to be reviewed

<u>Project</u>	<u>Est. Close Date</u>	<u>Tax Value</u>	<u>Paymnts to Co.</u>	<u>Form of Credit</u>	<u>Net Gain or Loss</u>	<u>Cum Total</u>
Sawmill Creek	3/20/91	\$210				
Red Lake Creek	3/20/91	\$2,418				
N of Red Lake	3/20/91	\$472				
E of Crater Lake	3/20/91	\$20				
E of Alpine Mine	3/20/91	\$17				
Sub-total by	12/10/91	\$3,636	\$0		(\$3,636)	(\$17,005)
Total by	12/10/91	\$59,165				

* Helm's tax values are based on the 3/2 average and are close approximations.

Within the study area of Hope Valley the focus is on recreational opportunities development. Three public entities may become involved in management of the acquired lands depending upon the method acquisition, the United States Forest Service, California Department of Fish and Game, and the California State Parks system. If Federal funding is received as is currently being solicited, management would most likely be by the Forest Service as part of the Toiyabe National Forest. If acquisition occurs using funds from Proposition 70 through the California Wildlife Conservation Board the California Department of Fish and Game could obtain management responsibility over 25-50% of the Hope Valley purchase. The Department of Fish and Game plans on developing a cooperative recreation plan with the USFS for management of these lands. The primary concern of Fish and Game is to lessen the impact of cattle grazing upon the fishery habitat. Upon a determination of the appropriate level of grazing activity for the entire valley by both entities each entity would administer their own land separately.

In summary, plans for any of the potential management agencies interested in the Hope Valley acquisition are vague at this point. The lack of these plans will delay implementation of any increased recreational opportunities. The County will suffer the loss of tax revenues for at least 1-3 years while management alternatives are assessed. Dispersed recreation activity will most likely be the focus of management alternatives. Fees generated from these alternatives cannot be predicted due to the lack of implementation plans.

Needs to be reviewed

It is this study's recommendation that the Alpine County become actively involved in area planning with a focus on recreation as a source of revenue. And that they seek funding from Proposition 70 to help with their planning needs for these recreation areas. Absence of fee based recreational uses will result in a continuation of revenue losses by the county from acquisition. These losses can only be minimized by early attention to recreational opportunities. Proposition 70 contains funding which could be applied for by the county but long term revenues can only be guaranteed by the implementation of recreational and resource master plans.

Needs to be reviewed

Hope Valley
Economic and Recreation Study

Final ▼ April 1989

▲ Appendix

References
Interviews

Needs to be reviewed

Hope Valley Economic and Recreation Study

Final ▼ April 1989

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United States Forest Service

Jim Nelson
Neil Botts
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Milt Kauffman
Chuck Lowerie

California State Parks

Bob Macomber
Gary Howard
John Scull
Ross Henry

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Alpine County

Leonard Turnbeaugh

Alpine County Chamber of Commerce

Dodie Halverson

Needs to be reviewed

Private Sector

Woodfords:	Grace
Sorensens:	John & Patti Brissenden
	Mike Lenoy
Caples Lake Resort:	Joe Voss
Tahoe Winter Sports:	Ari Makinen
Kirkwood Stables:	Jim A. Hagen
Kirkwood Associates:	John Wagnon
Sierra Ski Touring:	Dave Beck
Husky Express:	Dotty Dennis

Alpengroup ❄

Design & Planning Related Disciplines for Alpine Environments

Project Team

For

Economic and Recreation Study
For Hope Valley

Philip Caterino - Principal Planner

Sue Irelan - Senior Planner

Susan Lindstrom - Cultural Resources

Jerald Misfelt - Biophysical

James Dana - Planner/Economics

Michael Capp - Project Analyst

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RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,
COUNTY OF ALPINE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
SUPPORTING CHANGING SHAY CREEK FROM
FEDERAL OWNERSHIP TO PRIVATE OWNERSHIP

RESOLUTION NO. 88-026

WHEREAS, Alpine County values the open space, historic, recreational and scenic beauty of Hope Valley; and

WHEREAS, the Trust for Public Land has acted in a manner to purchase lands in Hope Valley for preservation and public access; and

WHEREAS, over 90% of Alpine County is already federally or state owned and the loss of property taxes to the general fund will be significant as these lands are purchased and transferred into public ownership; and


WHEREAS, in working with the County of Alpine, Trust for Public Land has agreed to work on certain conditions and projects which will help to alleviate the tax loss by transferring Shay Creek Forest Service lands near Markleeville into private ownership to relieve the tax loss in Hope Valley by putting homes in Shay Creek on the local property tax rolls; and

WHEREAS, the United States Forest Service, Trust for Public Land, Alpine County, and the residents of Shay Creek are in unanimous agreement about the transfer; and

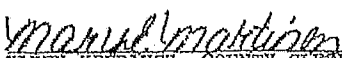
WHEREAS, all land transfers regarding the Forest Service are currently in litigation and require an Act of Congress for exemption;

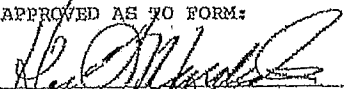
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alpine County Board of Supervisors unanimously requests an Act of Congress to exempt Shay Creek from the litigation in order to proceed with the transfer of Shay Creek into private ownership.

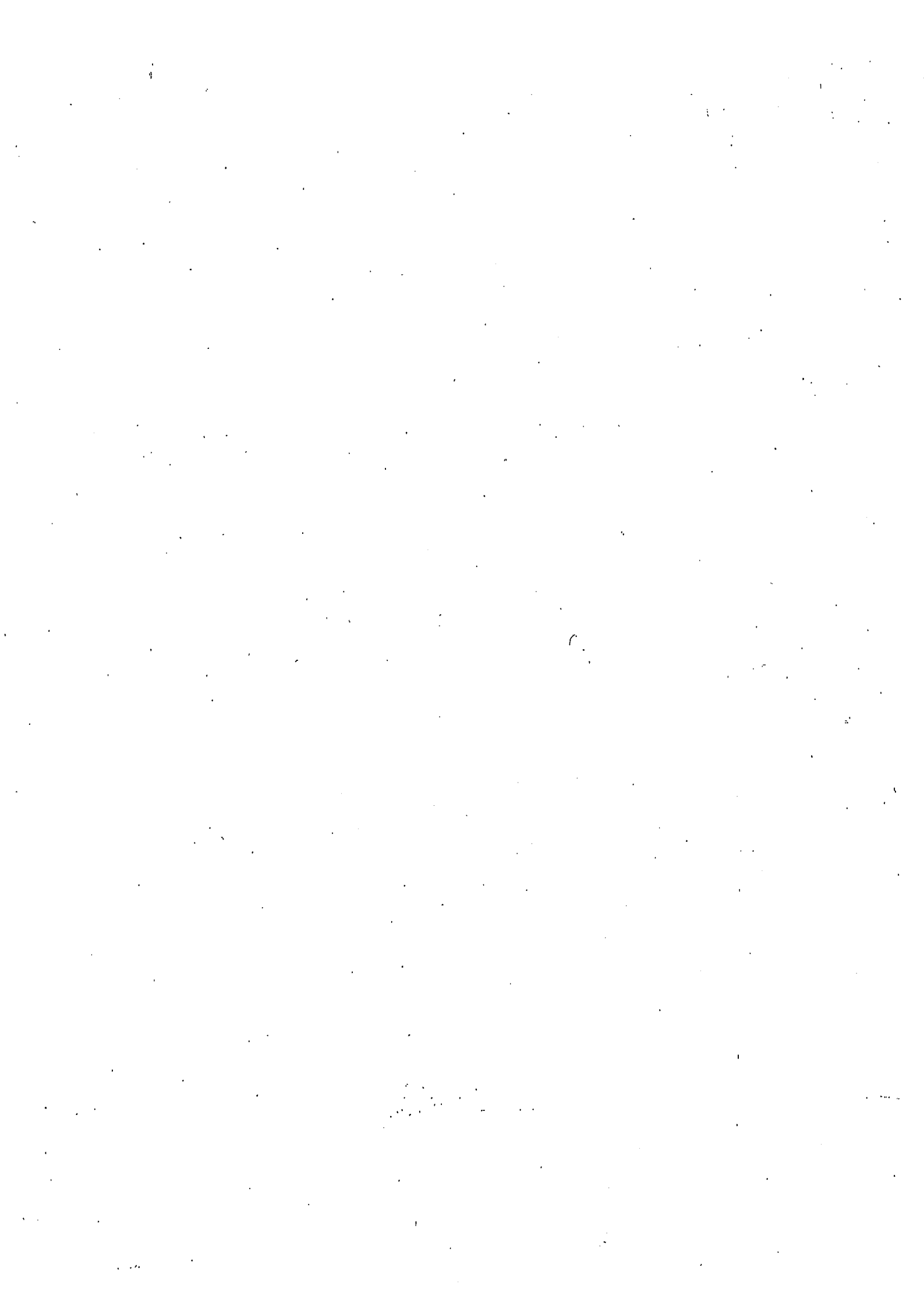
AYES : Supervisors Jardine, Freeman, Jung, Gansberg and Chairman Bennett
NOES : None
ABSENT: None


JOHN BENNETT, CHAIRMAN OF THE
ALPINE COUNTY BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ATTEST:


KAREN KEBAUGH, COUNTY CLERK
AND EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
By Mary R. Martinez, Deputy Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

HENRY G. MORDOCH, COUNTY COUNSEL



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