

## **OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE STAFF REPORT**

**MEETING DATE:** October 17, 2016

**AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:** 4D

**STAFF:** Ann Bollinger, Open Space Administrator  
Richard Wilkinson, Senior Natural Resource Specialist

**REQUEST:** Staff update on activities, projects and grants throughout other areas managed by the Open Space Division.

### **GENERAL DISCUSSION:**

The following provides a summary on the activities throughout other areas of Carson City.

#### **Eastern Sierra Trails Coalition**

Save the Date: The annual Trail Summit will be held on November 4<sup>th</sup> in Reno. No further information is available at this time. If anyone is interested in more information, please contact Ann Bollinger.

#### **Old Woods Ranch and Schulz Investments**

Staff has been working with the various family members, Nevada Land Trust, and the Nevada Division of Forestry towards a grant nomination to the Forest Legacy Program. One of the most useful tools in the process was a questionnaire provided to the family to inquire about personal goals and plans for the ranch. There was a general consensus about protecting the ranch for future generations. The biggest disagreement relates to the development of a “camp” area. Due to the differences in opinion and further fact-finding research, all parties have agreed to delay the submittal of the grant nomination until next year. This project, especially the “camp” area, will be discussed in further detail at a future meeting of the Committee.

#### **Ash Canyon**

Staff has been working with Jake Kordonowy on the current phase of erosion control work in Ash Canyon. Jake is a local Scout attempting to earn his status as an Eagle Scout by completing a volunteer project for Carson City. The project funding is through a grant from the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), 319 Nonpoint Source Grant Program. It is part of an ongoing effort to meet objectives identified in the Erosion Control Plan established by Carson City in 2014. This year the planting project will take place on Saturday, October 22, 2016, from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. Carson City is working with a local contractor to place logs to block access to these planting areas, scarify soils and help dig holes for the plants. Nevada Division of Forestry has donated seed, pine logs and staff to assist with the planting project. Carson City dedicates \$10,000 annually to maintain Ash Canyon Road, which will fulfill a cash match requirement for the next NDEP 319 grant. Horizon Construction, who worked from mile marker .05 up to mile marker 2.5, performed this year’s Ash Canyon Road maintenance. The work included cleaning out ruts, removing excess sediment, and repairing existing water bars. Lynn Zonge, Fluvial

Geomorphologist with Resource Concepts Inc., assisted staff with a grant application and PowerPoint presentation to the finance committee on Tuesday, October 4, 2016. Our goals for the next phase of NDEP 319 funding will be to stabilize a road cut which is sloughing off sediment and affecting Ash Creek.



Ash Canyon Road

### **Carson City Weed Coalition**

This year the Carson City Weed Coalition (CCWC) has been assisting city staff with educational outreach and invasive weed treatments. Daniel Anderson, Coordinator for the CCWC is assisting with the Quill Canyon Russian knapweed treatment and monitoring project. The Quill Canyon project will be on October 26 and 27 this year and involves Julie Koop's Honors Biology class from Carson High School. The work in Quill Canyon will include an herbicide treatment, re-seeding, a wildlife inventory and the final monitoring of each line transect. This is the final year of the project because the grant monies through the Nevada Dream Tag fund will be expended. The CCWC will continue efforts this fall with invasive weed treatments, looking into additional funding sources and working on multiple educational workdays with Carson City High School, Fritch Elementary, and Empire Elementary. The Coalition is working with the United States Forest Service (USFS) to do a volunteer bull thistle pull in Kings Canyon in the spring of 2017. One of the main goals is to build and organize a seasonal crew to help with weed treatments. The Coalition is also building their own GIS database to be available to the public for tracking and monitoring noxious weeds. This summer the CCWC worked in partnership with Crop Production Services performed a trial herbicide treatment at Silver Oak Golf Course. The main species targeted were hoary cress, Russian knapweed, and bull thistle.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** This agenda item is for informational purposes only. No formal action can be taken at this time.