

**OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
STAFF REPORT**

MEETING DATE: July 15, 2013

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 3E

STAFF: Juan F. Guzman, Open Space Manager
Ann Bollinger, Natural Resource Specialist

JFG
AB

REQUEST: Discussion only regarding activities and projects in the Carson River area – Andersen/Lloyd’s Diversion, Ducks Unlimited, Carson River Work Day, and NRCS grant for Silver Saddle Ranch irrigation and pasture.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Andersen/Lloyd’s Diversion:

Paul Pugsley with the Carson Valley Conservation District continues to work on the water rights issue, specifically the transfer of diversion from the rock structure back to the Mexican Ditch. There will be a filing fee and charges of approximately \$3,600 for this work. Pending extension of the funding agreement with the Carson Water Subconservancy District, Mr. Pugsley anticipates starting the project at the end of July 2013.

Ducks Unlimited:

In late spring, we were notified that the grant application has received second-round approval. The nomination scored so high that the grantor doesn’t anticipate another site visit. Chairman Scott has requested a review of the work plans as staff moves forward from conceptual design to engineering design and field work.

Carson River Work Day:

Save the Date – September 21, 2013. The annual Carson River Work Day with the Kiwanis Club will be held on September 21. Committee Member Welborn volunteered to act as liaison and will be available to report on any updates. Staff would like to invite and encourage participation by all of the committee members.

NRCS grant for Silver Saddle Ranch irrigation and pasture:

Staff met with Michael Andersen, the pasture lessee/contractor at Silver Saddle Ranch, to discuss the funding assistance from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). One common goal identified throughout the years, in many public meetings and planning documents and including the current contract, has been to keep green, productive pastures. Therefore, the funding priority will be towards improvements to the irrigation ditches and distribution boxes. Secondary, and with minor cost-share from the Open Space Program, select fencing will be replaced.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discussion only. No action may be taken.