

**OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
STAFF REPORT**

MEETING DATE: October 16, 2017

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 3D

STAFF: Ann Bollinger, Open Space Administrator
Lyndsey Boyer, Senior Natural Resource Specialist

REQUEST: **For Discussion Only:** Staff update on activities, projects and grants located on Open Space properties within the Carson River area.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

The following provides a summary of activities throughout the Carson River area.

Buzzy's Ranch

In the fall/winter of 2016-2017, Ducks Unlimited did not have an opportunity to complete the revegetation/seeding component of the wetlands enhancement project prior to the onset of the excessively wet winter season. The revegetation/seeding is expected to be completed in October.

Carson River Canyon Open Space

No updates from the previous report.

September 18, 2017: A field review of Carson River Canyon road was conducted on 7/31/17 with Robb Fellows from Carson City Public Works. The goal was to identify a repair strategy for the road washout located approximately three miles from Deer Run Road. During this site visit, Robb suggested filling in the washout with boulders and material found on-site. He also suggested installing a culvert to mitigate future erosion issues. We are currently working with a consultant to aid in the design of the washout repair plan. Once the repair design is finalized, we can begin obtaining contractor quotes for the project.

East Silver Saddle Ranch

In August, a field review of East Silver Saddle Ranch was conducted to complete an inventory of all the roads within this property and evaluate motorized river access points. With this information, the Open Space team developed a draft scope of work outlining improvements to this site. It is anticipated that a consultant will be hired within the next month or so to assist in developing a site development/master plan. The future improvements to this site for access, safety, and protection of the natural resources will be complementary to the road re-construction of Sierra Vista Lane in spring/summer 2018.

Golden Eagle Lane Erosion Control Project

Construction was completed on the Golden Eagle Lane Erosion Control project on 9/5/17. As a result of project improvements, two existing dirt “roads” now terminated into the project area. In order to prevent trespass and damage to the project, access to these roads was closed on 9/14/17 using wooden fence post barriers. It should be noted that this closure did not prevent travel throughout the area and three other routes remained open. Educational signage was posted with the closure (“Revegetation Area – Please Stay on Existing Trails”). Within one week of installation, the posts were vandalized and removed from the ground. The barriers have since been replaced and we will continue to monitor the road closures moving forward. Additionally, interpretive signage will be added near the detention basin to illustrate the importance of this project to protect the Carson River.



Golden Eagle Lane / Prison Hill Recreation Area – Road Closure

Moffat Open Space

- During the recent flood events, there was significant damage to the paved path between Hells Bells Road and Lepire Drive at Eagle Valley Creek. The project was successfully bid, an on-site pre-construction meeting was held on 10/5/2017, and the path repair/re-construction will begin in the week of 10/9/2017.
- As identified on the Annual Work Plan, one of the items that staff participates in is the review of development plans. Several months ago, staff reviewed plans for a small residential development on the south side of the Moffat Open Space. Staff supported an application for abandonment of public right-of-way along the property corner and submitted comments regarding access and drainage impacts. Staff has maintained contact with the developer to ensure there is no unauthorized use or damage to Moffat Open Space.



Moffat Open Space – path damage



Moffat Open Space – adjacent residential development

Prison Hill Recreation Area

Staff has continued fence repairs separating motorized and non-motorized use in the Prison Hill Recreation Area. Recently, two sections were repaired near the Clearview Drive area. Due to the rocky soils (equipment is needed to dig holes) and length (½ mile), fence repair will take a fairly significant amount of time. The focus is to repair completely damaged sections of fence first.



Prison Hill Recreation Area

Prison Hill Recreation Area, 5th Street Trailhead

Per the request of the Committee and to complete the trailhead improvements next year, staff is gathering information from Public Works about the process and requirements to contract with consultants for the design, bidding and construction management of the project.

Silver Saddle Ranch

On September 20th, strong wind gusts at Silver Saddle Ranch toppled one of the cottonwood treetops near the red house. Fortunately, the treetop fell to the south and missed the house; however, there was still approximately \$2,500 in property damage to the picket fence, electric lines and broken powerpole. A claim has been submitted to the City's insurance fund. Staff has been working the Parks Division, Facilities Division, Public Works Streets Division (arborist), and contractor to complete the cleanup and repairs.



Silver Saddle Ranch, September 20, 2017

Upcoming events:

- October 9 – Friends of Silver Saddle Ranch monthly board meeting
- October 21-23 – American Trail Trial Horsemen's Trail Ride (equestrian event)
- November 13 – Friends of Silver Saddle Ranch monthly board meeting
- December 2 – Friends of Silver Saddle Ranch Holiday Open House

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