

Land Stewardship Proposal  
For  
North Fork Mokelumne River Area Planning Unit  
By  
Amador County

## **PART 1 - ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION**

### **Contact Information**

a) Primary SOQ contact	b) Secondary SOQ contact	c) Executive director
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### **Executive Summary**

2. The Mokelumne River parcels provide many and diverse opportunities. The Calaveras Dome parcels provides relief opportunities for over-utilized adjacent campgrounds. The Panther Creek parcels provide opportunities to improve fish habitat and restore its once renown fishing status. The Tiger Creek Regulator parcels likewise have the opportunity to produce native trout. It also has the opportunity for youth camps, family camps and youth education camps. The Tiger Creek Reservoir is a local fishing favorite and has similar opportunities for natural trout regeneration and family or youth camps. There is an unprecedented opportunity to create a recreational trail from Lake Tabeaud through the Standard Canal parcels to the West Point parcels if concerns of adjacent landowners can be resolved. There is also interest in establishing a youth science camp at Lake Tabeaud. The Ponderosa and Electra parcels have the opportunity to enhance river recreation. Most of the parcels include productive forest lands that collectively grow nearly a million board feet each year. The Amador Water Agency is consider emergency diversion facilities and gravity-fed water conveyance that may utilize some of the donated lands. Goat or cattle grazing could be extended to several parcels and many likely have valuable cultural resources.

Amador County proposes a community effort to manage these parcels for the beneficial public values. Conservation partners will be invited to serve as a management committee. Plans will be developed and concerns resolved in public forums. Amador County will coordinate closely with the federal agencies to prevent duplication of work and provide consistent management results. We will coordinate biological surveys, adopting surveys that have already been completed. Amador County, through the Amador County Recreation Agency and in coordination with the federal agencies, will develop a recreational management plan for all the parcels, carefully preserving to the greatest degree practical, historic uses. We will further develop partnerships with appropriate community organizations such as recreation groups, the Boy Scouts of America and the Foothill Conservancy to fully implement the plan. As cultural sites or opportunities are identified, we will partner with local Native American tribes to preserve and enhance historic values.

Amador County proposes a coordinated approach to forest management with the adjacent lands managed by the US Forest Service, BLM or private. We will partner with the Amador County Resource Conservation District and coordinate with the adjacent landowners to develop suitable timber management and wildlife plans. We foresee transparent management boundaries and

anticipate permitting adjacent managers to cross ownership boundaries where it makes economic and ecological sense to do so.

We visualize a management program that provides multiple benefits for the citizens and visitors of Amador County. We visualize a land base where community service organizations and special interest clubs can serve together pursuing their interests toward a common community goal.

Reliance on any organizational budget funding will result in forgone services that otherwise would have been provided. Amador County will prioritize resources towards economically self-sustaining management activities and seek grant funding for initial developments. All property-generated revenues will be reserved for property enhancement and obligations. Revenues will be prioritized for start-up costs such as initial surveys, planning, and tax neutrality payments. Short-term priorities will include:

- Coordinated surveys and assessments
- Develop a Community wildfire protection plan (CWPP)
- Coordinated management plans
- Solidify conservation partnerships

Transfer of ownership of these parcels to Amador County will ensure the public has an active voice in the management of these parcels for the enhancement of all the beneficial public values in perpetuity. Amador County will manage these lands for the people, with the people.

### ***Organizational Information***

3. Amador County is a local governmental entity
4. Not Applicable
5. Legal Name: Amador County, California
6. Common name: Amador County
7. Chairman's letter approving the submittal of the LSP serves as a cover letter.

### ***Rationale for Applying***

8. Amador County recognizes a unique opportunity to provide additional services to the residents and visitors of Amador County that may not otherwise be provided. We desire a realization of the full uses for the available lands within the North Fork Mokelumne River Planning Unit and believe the full range of potential services will not be realized without county ownership. Residents and visitors have a diversified interest in land use. The identified beneficial public values will meet the interest of all users only if all beneficial public values are equally emphasized.

Few organizations have the ability or the desire to manage for and enhance all the beneficial public values. Amador County is uniquely qualified to ensure realization of the full uses in at least three ways: 1) The array of departments and community partnerships of Amador County enable it to ensuring all beneficial public values are maintained and enhanced on an equal basis, and 2) Amador County can partner with community organizations and apply for grant funding to provide services without shifting funds from other needed services and 3) Amador County reports to the public weekly in an open public forum.

We believe it will be necessary to pool all the community resources to fully realize the opportunities afforded from these lands. We believe ownership by other organizations may make their good objectives more difficult. For example, the San Joaquin Office of Education desires to develop a youth science camp at Lake Tabeaud on 20 acres. To be in compliance with the Subdivision Map Act, they must acquire at least 40 acres. Amador County can assist by acquiring all the donated land and partnering with San Joaquin County Office of Education to develop the science camp on the desired 20 acres. In the case of federal agencies, grants and outside funding are not as readily available, which will require them to use already stretched budget funds. Amador County can assist by partnering with the state and federal agencies to receive grant funds on County-owned lands that will enable the accomplishment of their desired enhancements. Special legislation may be needed to retain all revenues for exclusive use on these properties if owned by the State or federal government. Ownership by Amador County can ensure the revenues will be reserved for reinvestment in these lands in perpetuity.

Amador County is responsible to the public and fulfills that responsibility with weekly public meetings. During these public meetings, studies, management plans and budgets for the management and enhancement of these lands will be presented, discussed and finalized. Additionally, time is allotted for any member of the public to address the Board on any subject. Concerns with inequality or appropriate management activities can be addressed at anytime throughout the year, ensuring that these lands are indeed managed in behalf of the public at all times.

Amador County has been organized since 1854 and will continue at least as long as California is a State. County fee title of the lands provides stability in at least four important ways: 1) stability in ownership, 2) stability in management, 3) stability in opportunities for frequent public participation and 4) stability in perpetuity. Amador County has a proven track record of managing for the people, with the people.

### ***Organization's Mission***

9. The Mission of Amador County is to provide leadership, accountability and fiscal integrity to maintain a high quality of life for all our citizens. Elected officials and staff of Amador County are to maintain and protect the quality of life for our residents. Our review of potential projects strives to ensure the safety of Amador County residents; maintain the quality of life of Amador County residents by protecting our infrastructure, environment, agriculture, historical integrity, and open space areas; and ensure the cost effective operation of County services without undue and unfair financial burdens on County residents.

The quality of life for most citizens and visitors are closely linked to Amador County's natural habitat for fish, wildlife and plant species. Preservation of our open space in natural habitat insures the rural atmosphere of Amador County and unique outdoor recreational experiences. It must also be remembered that what we frequently refer to as natural habitat has in reality been a managed habitat by Native Americans for centuries. Therefore, maintaining that natural habitat will require sustainable forestry and agricultural uses which also correspond to the historical values of Amador County.

Enhancing these public values is the mission of the departments and agencies of Amador County. Providing balance results from interdisciplinary coordination and from regular public meetings. For example, inter-departmental coordination in combination with public involvement

can provide enhancement to public access while maintaining privacy on adjoining lands such that the quality of life for all are benefited.

### ***Geographic Focus***

10. Amador County has administered the natural resources of the Mokelumne River Watershed for over 150 years. Its timber, water, minerals, rangeland, wildlife and recreational provisions have always been the heart of Amador County. Overseeing the management of these resources, through issuance of zoning rules, activity permits and coordinating federal resources is the heritage and responsibility of County officials. They have developed expertise for dispute resolution, ordinance promulgation and coordination among users. The Amador County Board consists of one member who lives within and represents the interests of the geographic location of these lands. The other four members of the Board represent the interests of those who live nearby or visit the area. In this way, resident and visitor always have a representative on the Board. Further, Amador County, being the center of the Mokelumne River Watershed, has been able to see the influence of managers and users of the total watershed, resulting in a coordinating relationship with outside counties, agencies and business entities. Amador has been and will continue to be a leader in maintaining the public values of the Mokelumne River Watershed for all people in perpetuity.

The Board and its departments regularly work with community organizations in conducting the County business. Frequently, these organizations meet with department leaders and attend the weekly Board meetings to participate in decisions of interest to them.

### ***Organizational Experience and Capacity***

11. Amador County will utilize several of its departments and agencies, public entities, and coordinate with the federal agencies to assure the beneficial public values are obtained throughout the watershed. More importantly, it will utilize partnerships with local organizations to design, construct and maintain land enhancements. Some likely departments, agencies and public entities include:

Planning Department – The mission of the planning department is to *"Lead the development of Amador County by advocating a long-term, comprehensive approach to planning which balances the diverse needs of its citizens."*

Amador County Recreation Agency (ACRA) – The mission of the Amador County Recreation Agency is to *"to maximize recreation opportunities for all the people in all the areas of Amador County by working collaboratively and thinking regionally."* ACRA provides many youth programs, including week long summer youth camps for ages 6 – 12, at various locations throughout the county. Locations could be extended to these Cole Creek lands under ACRA's leadership.

Amador County Resource Conservation District (ACRCD) – Organized in 1950 by the Amador Board of Supervisors, the ACRCD works in Amador, Alpine and Calaveras Counties to: 1) give technical assistance to individual landowners regarding conservation practices, and 2) to initiate and implement community-wide conservation programs. The ACRCD receives and administers grants for the enhancement and innovation of the wise use of natural resources. Past projects and

grants include fuel reduction, watershed protection, habitat restoration and water management evaluations.

Amador Fire Protection Authority – In 2003, the County, cities and fire districts of Amador County joined together to form the Amador Fire Protection Authority (AFPA). AFPA includes in its membership every local government agency that provides Fire / EMS in Amador County with the exception of Kirkwood. Additionally, Amador County is in the process of updating its Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) which will include the subject lands in the Mokelumne River Watershed. The CWPP will help ensure sustainable forestry and fire risk reduction measures will be enacted on these and surrounding lands.

Amador Fire Safe Council - The Amador Fire Safe Council was initially formed by funding supplied by Amador County. Today it receives a minor amount of its funding from Amador County. It develops, monitors and coordinates progress on the Community Wildfire Protection Plan. The Council has been effective in bringing in grants to expand services and benefits of the CWPP, such as reverse 911 calling, mapping of emergency water supplies, wildfire video monitoring, community chipping programs, and senior citizen fuel reduction programs.

Amador Agriculture Department – "The Amador County Agricultural Commissioner shall provide for the local administration of statewide agricultural enforcement programs that protect the agricultural industry and environment of Amador County and protect the public health, safety, and welfare of its citizens." In 2008, 17,000 head of cattle ranged in Amador County, all under the enforcement arm of the Amador Agriculture Department.

Amador County staff has the experience and expertise to oversee the management of the lands within the Mokelumne River Watershed. Some regular activities include:

Intra and Inter-county coordination – Amador County works cooperatively with its neighboring counties. It serves on the Board of Directors for the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority. It will follow its practice to work cooperatively and in coordination with neighboring land owners, managers and interested public early in the planning process and frequently during implementation of planned activities to ensure activities are in harmony with the terms and conditions of the conservation easement and providing public benefits. It would be the goal of Amador County to identify and resolve conflicts before resource commitments are made.

Amador County currently owns approximately 129 properties, totaling 700 acres including vacant lots, lands managed for industrial parks, landfills, administration buildings and sites, an airport, and museums. The properties vary in use for business, recreation, grazing and historic purposes. Historical sites include the Chew Kee Store Museum in Fiddletown, the Museum in Jackson, and the old Abe monument in Volcano.

12. The County was established in 1854 and currently manages its properties in a variety's of ways. The majority of properties are managed by the Director of General Services. Some unique properties like the Airport have direct staff that manage daily operations. Some historic sites are managed by private non-profits through agreements with the County and even obtain grant funding for improvement projects. For our recreational sites, Pioneer Park and Fiddle

Town Park, the property is maintained by Amador County Recreation Agency (ACRA). Other properties such as the Sheriff Office and Jail are managed in a collaborative effort between the Sheriff and the Director. Overall negotiations and projects are directly managed by the Director of General Services.

### ***Organizational Finances***

13. Attached are the approved operating budgets for the current year and copies of financial statements for Amador County's three most recent fiscal years.

14. Not Applicable

15. Through the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act, Amador County receives a little less than \$100,000 each year through at least 2012 for forest related projects. Title II of the Act is specifically for watershed projects on Federal or non-federal lands that benefit national forest lands and Title III funding can be used develop community wildfire protection plans. Title II funds in other counties have been used for projects such as habitat improvements, trailhead development, restrooms and campgrounds. Funds are distributed via a Resource Advisory Committee composed of diverse community interest groups and individuals. Currently, \$90,000 are available in the Title II account.

Title III funds have been distributed to the Sheriff's Department for search and rescue and to the Amador Fire Safe Council for development of Community Wildfire Protection Plans. There is approximately \$40,000 in the Title III account.

Amador County receives about \$6000 annually from the State Parks OHV Division for OHV management and has an OHV trust fund of \$26,000. Additionally, grant funding is available for enhancement of OHV activities. This year the sheriffs department received almost \$18,000 in OHV grants.

The County also receives grants from Prop 12 (Resource protection and enhancement activities for Parks and Water projects), Prop 40 (Recreation projects), FAA Grant funds (Airport infrastructure projects), and ARRA American Recovery Reinvestment Act (infrastructure energy projects).

Amador County will work quickly to identify and develop competitive project proposals.

16. Fee title will be held in the General Services department for the County, but will be in the name of Amador County. All revenues received from these properties, and any funds provided by the Stewardship Council will be used exclusively to complete financial obligations in relation to these properties and any other PG&E properties Amador County acquires through the Stewardship Council. Financial obligations may include, but not limited to, property taxes, timber yield taxes, studies, planning, baseline management and enhancement projects.

### ***Key Personnel/Staff***

17. Through the General Services Director, Amador County has creating a base of approximately 150 volunteers used primarily for Animal Control, Archives and Libraries. The

General Services Director is also the lead for obtaining and working with inmates and persons placed on our work furlough programs.

Jon Hopkins, General Services Administration Director - Jon oversees the management of 129 properties owned by Amador County, including parks and recreation, property management, grounds and facility and grounds maintenance. Jon provides direction to three departments including purchasing for the County.

Tracey Towner-Yep, Executive Director for the Amador County Recreation Agency (ACRA) – graduated from Sac State with a Bachelors of Science in Recreation Administration in 1993, and obtained Master's of Science Degree in 1994.

While completing her degrees, she single-handedly administered the first recreation needs survey for Amador County in 1984 or 85. She was employed for 3 years by the Calif. Dept. of Parks and Recreation, where she was responsible for the determination of the economic impacts of state parks on local communities.

In 1995 she began coaching volleyball at Amador High and substitute teaching. By 2,000, she had obtained a teaching credential for special education and taught for the Amador County Office of Education until 2003 when the Board of Supervisors created the Amador County Recreation Agency and hired Tracey as the Executive Director.

John Hofmann serves as a consultant to the County for natural resources issues.

John holds a Bachelors of Science degree in forest products, with a specialization in science and engineering. He served 15 years as forest engineer for American Forest Products, a former major landowner in the Mokelumne River Watershed subsequently purchased by Sierra Pacific Industries. John also served as Vice President of the California Forestry Association and Director of Natural Resources for the Regional Council of Rural Counties as a legislative advocate. He also served as staff to the California Fire Alliance and the California Biodiversity Council. John has extensive experience analyzing, assessing, collaborating and proposing legislation and regulations for the protection and enhancement of natural resources.

### ***Community Engagement and Collaboration***

18. The Forest Service has been engaged in development of a Regional Forest Management plan for the Sierra Nevada for many years. Most recently, as a result of lawsuits, it is developing a revised management plan. Amador County has participated throughout the process and offered to cooperate in a Government to Government relationship to resolve pending issues. On a national scale, Amador County is participating in a national effort to develop a new forest planning rule. Periodically, the Forest Service solicits comments on individual forest projects which Amador County reviews and provides comments. Our participation is on behalf of the County citizens, therefore our comments are reviewed and modified at public Board meetings where the public is always invited to comment.

Last year, East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) drafted a management plan for its water supply needs, which includes water sources and wildlife habitat in Amador County. Two management options were to raise the Bear River and Pardee Dams. The County Board of

Supervisors invited District representatives to Board meetings, analyzed the plan, held public meetings and provided collaborative suggestions to improve their management plan.

Federal agencies have long proposed the North Fork of the Mokelumne River as a Wild and Scenic River. Last year, the County Board of Supervisors organized a special forum for agency and concerned organizations to discuss the implications of a designation. The public was invited to ask forum leaders questions. The Board continues to consider the benefits and detriments of a wild and scenic designation.

19. Amador County reviews and approves project proposals before the full Board in public meetings where its citizens are provided opportunities to participate and comment on the project development. It alerts concerned citizens at least one week in advance of the meeting, but provides opportunity weekly for citizen comment.

### ***Legal Compliance and Best Practices***

20. Authorization for projects begins and ends with Board review, including review by legal council and public involvement. Departments and agencies regularly return to report to the Board and public on progress and to update direction. Thereafter, members of the public are provided weekly opportunities to provide information regarding the effectiveness of the projects. Legal council is always present to ensure legal compliance at every stage.

Amador County's written conflict of interest policy is attached.

21. Not Applicable

22. Not Applicable

23. Not Applicable

24. Amador County is not preclude by law or policy from accepting a conservation easement on lands.

### ***Conflict of Interest Disclosure***

25. There are no conflicts of interest between the Amador Board of Supervisors or its staff and the Stewardship Council.

### ***Land Interests Sought***

26. Amador County is interested in receiving the all the parcels or portions thereof that are available for donation within the Lower Mokelumne River and that are also within Amador County, specifically: Calaveras Dome #959, Bruce's Crossing #960, 961, Panther Creek #974, 975, Doaks Ridge/Tiger Creek Regulator #962, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, Tiger Creek Reservoir #983, 984, West Point Powerhouse #988, 989, 990, Standard Canal #963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 972, 991, 995, 1009, Lake Tabaud #969, 970, 971, 996, 997, 1006, and Electra Powerhouse #1005, 1007.

27. Conveyance of the land to Amador County would not require a lot line adjustment, boundary survey, or parcel split. We propose invisible management boundaries through boundary management that is consistent with and in coordination with adjacent federal lands and FERC licensing, including allowing federal and PG&E managers to cross ownership boundaries for economic and ecological reasons. Where property management differs, we will maintain boundary buffers which transition from one management to the next.

28. The Amador Board of Supervisors must pass a resolution to acquire the property, then sign a Letter of Acceptance. Documents are typically prepared by the General Services Director with the assistance of County Counsel and pertinent departments, such as Planning, Environmental Health, and Surveying. The resolution and letter of acceptance is delivered to the County Recorder to complete the transaction.

### ***Baseline and Enhanced Land Management***

29. Management Vision – We visualize a management program that provides multiple benefits for the citizens and visitors of Amador County in perpetuity. We visualize a land base where community service organizations and special interest clubs can serve together pursuing their interests toward a common community goal. Management boundaries will be invisible through total cooperation and coordination with land management projects on adjacent lands, permitting management to cross ownership boundaries where it makes economic and ecological sense to do so. If a boundary survey is later required, it will be done in conjunction with the project that requires the boundary survey. Amador County will prioritize towards economically self-sustaining management activities and seek grant funding only for initial developments.

### ***Baseline Management Activities***

Amador County will seek cooperative agreements with adjacent landowners to coordinate basic public services such as public safety, and waste disposal. We will seek cooperative agreements with community organizations for regular clean-up and low-level maintenance services. We expect baseline management activities to be somewhat inversely proportional to enhanced management activities, expecting enhanced management activities to discourage illegal uses and provide clean-up of the area used. Maintenance of enhanced areas will be included in the enhanced project proposal and approval will be conditioned on the ability to maintain the enhancement.

### ***Enhanced Management Activities***

All enhanced management activities will be publicly reviewed before the Board of Supervisors prior to authorization. In anticipation of public approval, we propose to protect and enhance the Beneficial Public Values as follows:

### **1. Beneficial Public Value: Protection of the Natural Habitat of Fish, Wildlife, and Plants**

**Objective:** Preserve and enhance habitat in order to protect special biological resources and wilderness values

**Stewardship Council Proposed Potential Measures:**

- Within the first five years we hope to complete surveys of the lands to identify biological resources and enable their protection.
- Within the first five years we hope to develop a wildlife and habitat management plan for the planning unit. Amador County will develop the plan in coordination with adjacent landowners and with the State Fish and Game and Federal Fish and Wildlife Service.
- Within the first five years we hope to develop a noxious weed management plan. Amador County will develop the plan in coordination with adjacent national forest weed management plans.
- We will assess OHV use in Tiger Creek and other properties, and either formalize or close unauthorized OHV trails to protect biological resources. Following a biological evaluation, we will partner with local OHV organizations and the California State Parks OHV Division to formalize or close OHV usage.
- We will support the Mokelumne Ecological Resource Committee and the Eldorado National Forest to continue to enhance aquatic habitat in East and West Panther Creeks.
- We will continue our support for future Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority efforts to preserve water quality and identify protection and improvement projects that are most critical. We currently and will continue to participate in the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority activities.

### **2. Beneficial Public Value: Preservation of Open Space**

**Objective:** Preserve open space in order to protect natural and cultural resources, viewsheds, and the recreation setting.

**Stewardship Council Proposed Potential Measures:**

- We will apply permanent conservation easements to ensure a higher level of open space protection. We would not expect the terms of the conservation easement to affect current public and economic uses.

### **3. Beneficial Public Value: Outdoor Recreation by the General Public**

**Objective:** Enhance recreational facilities in order to provide additional public access, and education and recreation opportunities.

**Stewardship Council Proposed Potential Measures:**

- As part of our management plans, we will identify and disclose all current uses and develop strategies to formalize and enhance current uses. Where uses are not in harmony with the other beneficial public values, we will eliminate such uses.

- The existing day use facility is on PG&E retained lands, so any enhancement will be the responsibility of PG&E. However, Amador County will be a willing partner in coordinating enhancement facilities.
- Amador County will work with partners, such as Amador and PG&E historians to create interpretive signage at a strategic location, perhaps near the West Point Bridge, Tiger Creek and Calaveras Dome.
- The Tiger Creek whitewater put-in is on PG&E retained lands, therefore the County proposal does not include construction of a restroom. However the County will be a willing partner in enhancements on PG&E lands.
- Amador County will support future efforts to restore the historic standard canal trail. Amador County will work to mitigate unacceptable impacts on private lands.
- There is an existing trail around Lake Tabeaud which is on PG&E retained lands. Amador County will be a willing partner should PG&E decide to enhance the trail.
- Our understanding is the Coast to Crest Trail is unlikely to cross the donated lands, but if it does, Amador County will support future efforts to re-establish the trail in a manner that does not adversely impact adjacent landowners.
- Again, fishing access will be via PG&E retained lands, however, Amador County will support PG&E efforts to improve fishing access at Tiger Creek Reservoir.
- We will assess the potential for youth program opportunities and seek partnerships with youth organizations.

#### **4. Beneficial Public Value: Sustainable Forestry**

**Objective:** Develop and implement forestry practices in order to contribute to a sustainable forest, preserve and enhance habitat, enhance surrounding wilderness values, as well as to ensure appropriate fuel load and fire management.

##### **Stewardship Council Proposed Potential Measures:**

- Within the first five years we will evaluate existing timber inventory data and supplement as appropriate. We will establish a conservation partnership with the Amador County Resource Conservation District to assist in the evaluation.
- Following the completion of the biological surveys, habitat management plans and the noxious weeds management plan, but within the first eight years, we will develop a forest management plan for the planning unit which includes plantations, emphasizing restoration forest development and structural and physical diversity in forests for long-term ecological, economic, social, and cultural benefits. We will coordinate the development of the plan with adjacent landowners.
- Within the first five years we will develop a fuels management plan to ensure long-term forest health and reduce fuel loading and fire hazard throughout the planning unit. We will establish a conservation partnership with the Amador Fire Safe Council to develop a Community Wildfire Protection Plan in conjunction with adjacent forest lands. The plan will be updated as enhancement activities warrant changes.
- Within the first five years we will assess the potential to develop a demonstration forest for sustainable forestry research and management. If a demonstration forest is prudent, we will seek a partnership with Cal Fire.

##### **Additional Amador County Proposed Potential Measures**

- Land Use Zoning – Amador County will maintain its classification as timber production zone (TPZ) and establish timber productivity as a priority but in complement to other uses. We will maintain the multiple-use management prescriptions.

## **5. Beneficial Public Value: Agricultural Uses**

**Objective:** Identify potential grazing opportunities in order to enhance agricultural resources and related economic benefits.

### **Stewardship Council Proposed Potential Measures:**

- In conjunction with the biological report, we intend to develop a baseline conditions report.
- We will evaluate the potential for grazing opportunities within the planning unit and coordinate with federal and private grazing allotments.
- Where there is potential for grazing, we will develop a rangeland management plan.

## **6. Beneficial Public Value: Preservation of Historic Values**

**Objective:** Identify and manage cultural resources in order to ensure their protection.

### **Stewardship Council Proposed Potential Measures:**

- Within the first five years we hope to conduct surveys to identify cultural resources and enable their protection.
- Within the first five years we hope to develop a cultural resources management plan for areas, coordinated with adjacent federal cultural resource plans.
- We will coordinate with Native American entities when conducting cultural resource measures.
- We will manage adjacent parcels to complement USFS Mokelumne Archeological District management.

### **Additional Amador County Proposed Potential Measures**

- Cultural Sites – We will seek a conservation partnership with Native American tribes to protect, manage and enhance cultural sites wherever cultural sites are identified.
- Cultural Resources – We will seek a conservation partnership with Native American tribes to develop cultural resources and enhance cultural awareness.
- Fire Risk Management – We will seek a conservation partnership with the Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions (CHIPS) to contract with their Native American fuels management crew for fuel reduction and resource management around cultural sites.

## **Site Specific Amador County Proposed Potential Measures**

In addition to general measures listed above, the County will pursue the following identified site specific measures.

### **Calaveras Dome (parcel # 959)**

Outdoor Recreation: This parcel contains 15 acres that are relatively flat next to the Salt Springs Road and across from an existing informal camping area on Forest Service lands, with easy access to the Mokelumne River. We would seek to partner with the Forest Service to develop a joint recreation management plan, in partnership with the Amador County Recreation Agency that would add and improve camping facilities and recreational opportunities. This area might have extensive cultural sites that may preclude campsites, but through a partnership with the local Native American tribe, be suitable for cultural recreation and education. It might, however,

provide a location for handicap accessible fishing. This area might also be an excellent location for educational signage.

Sustainable Forestry: PG&E timber inventory data lists 34 acres of site II commercial timberland with an average 10 MBF per acre. Assuming a conservative growth rate of 400 BF per acre, timber harvests of up to 130 MBF per decade could be removed once the land is in a fire protected condition. With extensive camping and other recreational uses in the area, management for fire risk would be the primary treatment. We plan to partner with the Amador Fire Safe Council to develop a community wildfire protection plan in conjunction with the adjacent national forestlands. If cultural values are found, treatments will be accomplished through the Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions (CHIPS) crew.

Agriculture: The only current use of the land is pass-through grazing. Amador County will assess the potential for grazing in coordination with the adjacent Forest Service grazing allotment and if feasible, formalize the grazing within the Forest Service grazing allotment.

Preservation of Historic Values: The area is within the USFS Mokelumne Archeological District. We suspect the area may provide opportunities for archeological related activities. We will consult and seek a conservation partnership with Native American tribes for archeological related opportunities, especially education related opportunities.

#### **Bruce's Crossing (Parcel's 960 and 961)**

Outdoor Recreation: These parcels each straddle the Mokelumne River on the Amador and Calaveras side and are near the beginning of the Devils Nose whitewater run. The only potential recreational use of the property is likely in connection with the whitewater run. Amador County would partner with the Foothill Conservancy if any enhancements would benefit the run.

Sustainable Forestry: PG&E timber inventory lists 106 acres of commercial site I and II timberland with an average of 7 MBF per acre. About 2.5 MMBF was harvested using helicopters in the recent past. Assuming a conservative growth rate of 300 BF per acre, timber harvests of up to 300 MBF per decade could be potentially realized. Amador County would be interested in partnering with Cal Fire to include these parcels as part of a demonstration forest with a management compatible with whitewater river rafting. If the cultural resource survey reveals historic sites, we will also seek a partnership with the CHIPS crew for forest management.

#### **Panther Creek (Parcel's 974 and 975)**

Protection of Natural Habitat for Fish, Wildlife and Plants: Panther Creek was once known for its fine fishing. Perhaps this was in-part due to fish stocking which we understand no longer occurs. However, one of the diversion dams was removed to allow fish passage, therefore it is assumed that fish habitat is an important element of this area. It may also be important for yellow-legged frog habitat. Amador County will develop a partnership with the Foothill Conservancy to enhance fish and riparian habitat based upon the results of surveys and management plans and support removal of the East Panther dam.

Sustainable Forestry: Timber production appears to be the primary current use. These parcels consist of prime timberland, some of the best of all the PG&E parcels. The parcels consist of 204 acres of commercial timber land, all of which is in site class IA and I, mostly growing Douglas fir. Timber was harvested in 1983 and then again in 2000 but the volume is not known because it was combined with volume in other areas. We estimate the parcels grow approximately 1.8 MMBF in a decade. However, PG&E manages the Panther Creek parcels under a multiple-use prescription indicating other uses may be equally important. Amador County will also consider equally other BPVs and manage to enhance all values. Amador County will retain the multiple-use prescription unless and until no other use appears feasible. Cal Fire is interested in joining these and other lands into a demonstration forest. Amador County will seek a conservation partnership with Cal Fire to establish a demonstration forest which is consistent with the timber management prescription. We will also partner with the Amador Fire Safe Council to develop a community wildfire protection plan and projects that reduce fire risk. If cultural historic sites are found, we will also partner with CHIPS crews for forest management.

Preservation of Historic Values: The area is within the USFS Mokelumne Archeological District Management. In addition to coordinating with the US Forest Service, we will consult and seek a conservation partnership with Native American tribes for archeological related opportunities, especially education related opportunities.

**Doaks Ridge/Tiger Creek Regulator (parcels 962, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981 & 982)**

Protection of Natural Habitat for Fish, Wildlife and Plants: Water quality is an obvious priority for these parcels. We understand the Regulator has excellent fishing and Amador County would manage the parcel to enhance natural trout regeneration, along with applicable special status species according to the wildlife management plan.

Outdoor Recreation: These parcels may have tremendous potential for outdoor recreation and education. The Regulator reservoir has great fishing. The terrain varies from flat ridge tops to steep valleys but is accessible via the Salt Springs Road and other private roads. The Golden Empire Council for the Boy Scouts of America is interested in assessing this area for a mid-elevation camp. We believe it also has the potential for an elementary school science camp. We would be pleased to partner with either the Boy Scouts of America or the San Joaquin County Office of Education to assess and potentially develop the area for youth. It may also be suitable for family camping, an assessment for which we will partner with the Amador County Recreation Agency.

Sustainable Forestry: Timber harvesting appears the primary current use. Next to Panther Creek, the area has the best site class with 888 acres of timberland in Site Class IA and I. Over 23 MMBF have been removed since 1981 with an additional 4.5 MMBF to be removed by the end of this year. Conservatively, the area grows an estimated 7 MMBF every decade. With a housing community nearby, Amador County would place immediate emphasis on the development and implementation of a community wildfire protection plan in partnership with the Amador Fire Safe Council. We would continue management under a Multiple-Use prescription and ensure timber management is complementary of other Beneficial Public Values. We would also seek a partnership with Cal Fire to include these lands as part of a demonstration forest.

Agriculture: Pass-through grazing is currently permitted on these lands. Amador County will assess the potential for grazing in coordination with the adjacent Forest Service and private grazing allotments and if feasible, formalize grazing within the grazing allotments.

Preservation of Historic Values: The area is within the USFS Mokelumne Archeological District Management. In addition to coordinating with the US Forest Service, we will consult and seek a conservation partnership with Native American tribes for archeological related opportunities, especially education related opportunities.

### **Tiger Creek Reservoir (parcels 983 and 984)**

Protection of Natural Habitat for Fish, Wildlife and Plants: Water quality is an obvious priority for these parcels as well. The Reservoir is a local favorite for fishing and Amador County would manage the parcel to enhance natural trout regeneration, along with applicable special status species according to the wildlife management plan.

Outdoor Recreation: Day use is the primary outdoor recreation, with fishing and swimming favored. We will work with PG&E to enhance fishing access to the degree fishing access can be improved from donated lands. One potential is handicap accessibility. In partnership with the Amador County Recreation Agency, Amador County will assess the potential to improve other day uses. Additionally, we will assess OHV use and either develop a suitable management plan or restrict usage as recommended by the Stewardship Council.

Sustainable Forestry: These parcels have 28 acres of site class II growing an estimated 300 MBF per decade. However, PG&E reports this land is encumbered with many hydroelectric facilities and would not be harvested under normal circumstances. Amador County would develop a forest management plan in partnership with the Amador Resource Conservation District and a community wildfire protection plan in partnership with the Amador Fire Safe Council, but we would expect the results to be that timber harvest would play only a supporting role in other amenity values and reduce small diameter fuels for fire risk reduction. In partnership with Cal-Fire, these parcels may become control points for a demonstration forest.

Preservation of Historic Values: The area is outside the USFS Mokelumne Archeological District Management, but it may still have culture related sites. In addition to coordinating with the US Forest Service and BLM, we will consult and seek a conservation partnership with Native American tribes for archeological related opportunities, especially education related opportunities.

### **West Point Powerhouse (parcels 988, 989 and 990)**

Outdoor Recreation: The Stewardship Council recommends installation of interpretive signage, however the signage would not be on these parcels, but along the nearby Red Coral-West Point road. The old Standard Canal ends at these parcels. Amador County would work with adjacent landowners to resolve concerns with reopening the canal as perhaps a mountain bike or equestrian trail.

Sustainable Forestry: Only minor commercial timber is present on these parcels. Amador County would partner with the Amador Fire Safe Council to develop a community wildfire protection plan in coordination with the BLM to manage the land for fire risk reduction.

**Standard Canal (parcels 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 972, 991, 995 and 1009)**

Outdoor Recreation: As the name implies, the Standard Canal runs through these parcels. Amador County would partner with the Amador County Recreation Agency, Foothill Cycling Group and local recreational organizations to resolve concerns of adjacent landowners regarding reopening the canal as a trail, perhaps utilizing the trail for mountain bikes and/or equestrian. The Standard Canal runs from Lake Tabeaud to the West Point Powerhouse, passing near the community of Pine Acres. Some of the property is also utilized by Roaring Camp, a recreational gold mining camp. Amador County would partner with Roaring Camp owner Elton Rodman to provide recreational access and appropriately reduce fire risk.

Sustainable Forestry: PG&E reports there is no commercial timberland or merchantable timber associated with these parcels, but fire risk is a major concern with its proximity to the Pine Grove residential areas. Amador County would partner with the Amador Fire Safe Council to extend the Pine Grove Community Wildfire Protection Plan to include these parcels and perhaps developing the Standard Canal as a firebreak along with a recreational trail.

Agriculture: Amador County would explore the potential for grazing goats to reduce the risk of wildfire.

**Lake Tabeaud (parcels 969, 970, 971, 996, 997, and 1006)**

Outdoor Recreation: The abandoned Standard Canal begins with these parcels. Amador County would partner with the Amador County Recreation Agency, Foothill Cycling Group and local recreational organizations to resolve concerns of adjacent landowners regarding reopening the canal as a trail, perhaps utilizing the trail for mountain bikes and/or equestrian. Amador County would also partner with the San Joaquin County Office of Education to develop a youth science camp. We would also explore the potential for family or youth camping. Additionally, Amador County would partner with PG&E to improve the trail around Lake Tabeaud on retained lands.

Sustainable Forestry: These parcels contain 73 acre of Site Class II timberlands with a growth of about 140 MBF per decade. Two salvage harvests, in 1993 and 1995 yielded less than 50 MBF. Amador County would develop a forest management plan in partnership with the Amador County Resource Conservation District but expect to continue with salvage harvest as the principle harvest prescription. However, fire risk is a major concern. Amador County would partner with the Amador Fire Safe Council to develop and implement a community wildfire protection plan in coordination with adjacent landowners.

Agriculture: The goat grazing license is due to expire in 2013. Amador County will evaluate the beneficial value of the goat grazing, but would expect to renew the license.

**Ponderosa (parcel 1007)**

Outdoor Recreation: This parcel is a narrow stretch along both sides of the river between the Ponderosa Bridge and Electra Powerhouse. The current and likely only use is associated with

the Ponderosa Whitewater run. Amador County would partner with the Foothill Conservancy to consider any enhancements that would benefit the run.

### **Electra Powerhouse (parcel 1005)**

Outdoor Recreation: 20 acres of this parcel are available for donation, most of which is in Calaveras County. The Electra Whitewater run begins at the western edge of the parcel. Day river use and fishing are the current activities. The area is accessible by the Electra Road. Amador County would partner with the Amador County Recreational Agency to develop and implement a recreation management plan.

### ***Physical Enhancements/Capital Improvements***

30. The follow physical enhancements and capital improvements will be considered following the completion of the recreational management plan, which we anticipate will be complete within the first eight years.

Access Road Improvement – There is a potential to improve, construct or decommission road access to some parcels, depending upon the management plans.

Standard Canal Trail – Partnering with the Amador County Recreation Agency, Foothill Cycling Group and recreation organizations, we would seek to resolve adjacent landowner concerns to reopen, realign and enhance the Standard Canal Trail for hiking, biking and/or equestrian.

Campgrounds – In partnership with the Amador County Recreation Agency and consistent with a recreation management plan and cultural/biological surveys, we propose to construct family campgrounds on the Calaveras Dome, and potentially Doaks Ridge/Tiger Creek Regulator and the Tiger Creek Powerhouse parcels. We would seek opportunities to partner with Native American tribes to develop cultural education camping, such as development of a traditional Native American village visitors could camp in and be taught the lifestyle of early Native Americans.

Hiking Trails – In partnership with the Amador County Recreation Agency, Amador County will explore and construct where feasible, hiking trails, particularly around the Tiger Creek Regulator.

Interpretive Signage – In partnership with the County and PG&E historians, we would develop possibly two interpretive signs, one at the West Point bridge and the other at the Calaveras dome parcel. If the Standard Canal Trail is constructed, a third sign could be installed near Lake Tabeaud.

Youth/Family Camps – In partnership with the Golden Empire Council of the Boy Scouts of America, we will potentially develop a scout/youth camp near the Tiger Creek Regulator. We will also partner with the San Joaquin County Office of Education to locating a youth science camp facility either near Lake Tabeaud or the Tiger Creek Regulator. We will encourage these camps to be available for family camping when not in use for their primary purpose.

### ***Land Conservation Partners and Youth Opportunities***

31. Amador County has invited the following organizations to be conservation partners in assessing and potentially utilizing the donated lands for the citizens and visitors of Amador County. Amador County will invite conservation partners to serve on a management committee to guide the development and management of these lands.

Amador County Recreational Agency (ACRA) – ACRA will assist the County in developing a recreational management plan. They will also help establish other conservation partners and seek grant funding for appropriate recreational development projects. ACRA is a joint powers authority agency between the county, cities of Amador City, Ione, Jackson, Plymouth, Sutter Creek and the Amador Unified School District. Last year they applied for \$12 million of Prop 40 grants.

Amador County Resource Conservation District (RCD) – The RCD will assist Amador County in preparing a suitable forest management plans and THP. The RCD provides advice to non-federal landowners and helps them obtain grant funding. Amador County may develop a demonstration forest either through the RCD or through the State Cal Fire.

Amador Fire Safe Council – The Amador Fire Safe Council will use its funding sources to develop a community wildfire protection plan (CWPP) for the area. They will design and seek funding for fuel reduction projects consistent with the CWPP. The Fire Safe Council has been successful in receiving grants funds from State and Federal agencies, Prop 40, Sierra Nevada Conservancy and Title III of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act.

Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions (CHIPS) – CHIPS is a new group trained by native Americans to reduce fuel loads around cultural sites. CHIPS will assist in designing and carrying-out fuel reduction projects near cultural sites.

Foothill Conservancy – will assist the county in identifying and designing the land studies, obtaining project and study partners, and utilizing existing data where data currently exists. They will also partner in recreational planning and ensuring future management is ecologically sound and avoids conflicts with adjoining lands.

Foothill Cycling Group – will partner with Amador County to assess the potential for mountain bike trails within the Mokelumne River Planning Unit and participate in trail development if the assessment indicates potential.

Golden Empire Council for the Boy Scouts of America – The Golden Empire Council will propose the design and activities for a high adventure camp. They will provide funding as needed. They will also work with scouts to develop Eagle Scout service projects on the property.

Roaring Camp – Amador County will partner with Elton Rodman and his family to provide recreational access to the Standard Canal lands in connection with Roaring Camp, an 1850's gold mining camp on the Mokelumne River. Roaring Camp has existing trails that extend into these parcels under existing agreements with BLM and PG&E.

State Parks OHMVR Division – The State Parks OHMVR Division will assist with the assessment for OHV opportunities and if found suitable, will partner its expertise in planning, trail design, maintenance, resource monitoring, ecological restoration, and law enforcement to provide sustainable OHV recreational opportunities while protecting the culture and natural resources. The State Parks OHMVR Division provides OHV related grants annually which Amador County has received in the past and will continue to apply for in the future.

Additional Potential Partners – Amador County would also be willing to consider as conservation partners, entities that have applied to receive donated lands. For example, the San Joaquin Office of Education has expressed interest in a portion of the Lake Tabeaud lands for the purpose of developing a youth science camp. Amador County would support a local youth science camp. Developing the science camp through Amador County might allow the achievement of more beneficial values because compliance with the Subdivision Map Act would require San Joaquin County to received at least 40 acres, where only 20 acres is desired for the science camp. San Joaquin County could partner with Amador County on the desired 20 acres and Amador County could continue the management for other beneficial values on the remaining lands. Similarly, Amador County could partner with the State Cal Fire for a demonstration forest, saving the uncertainty of special legislation that would be required if Cal Fire owned the land, while managing for other beneficial public values that might be overlooked by the single focus of Cal Fire. We would welcome the opportunity to review all the land proposals and invite the solicitors to be conservation partners in maximizing the beneficial public values.

32. Amador County has worked with the following proposed partnership organizations. We will also seek additional partnerships as the work progresses.

Amador Fire Safe Council – Amador County helped fund the start-up of the Amador Fire Safe Council, attends their monthly meetings and has provided yearly project funding to assist with the measures to reduce wildfire risk. With County support, the Amador Fire Safe Council collaborated with community members and agencies to developed a county-wide community wildfire protection plan which was approved by the Board of Supervisors, Cal Fire, and the local Fire Departments.

The Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions (CHIPS) is a new organization trained by Native Americans to provide sensitive management to cultural sites. We are excited to develop this partnership that will provide multiple benefits to the county, such as local employment, reduced fire risk and cultural restoration on these and other lands within the county. We participate monthly with CHIPS in an Amador Calaveras Consensus Group meeting.

Amador County Resource Conservation District – Amador County provides minor funding to the Amador County Resource Conservation District. The RCD has assisted the County in bringing expertise and funding to private landowners throughout the county and utilizing state and federal programs.

The Amador County Recreational Agency – The Amador County Recreation Agency was formed in 2003 under a joint powers authority and has worked closely with the County to acquire, develop and manage recreational property and programs throughout the County. Three

current projects are the Molly Joyce Park in Pioneer, the Pine Grove Community Park and the River Pines Park Renovation.

Foothill Conservancy – is a long established local non-profit conservation organization with a history of working with the County on issues relating to the Mokelumne River watershed. They are involved with the Mokelumne River Watershed Authority, water monitoring and cultural sites among many other interests.

Roaring Camp – Roaring Camp has been a major recreation attraction in the county for decades. The owners, Eldon Rodman and his family have been involved in many County activities throughout the years.

33. Letters we have received from the proposed partnership organizations are attached.

### ***Public Input***

34. Nine respondents provided formal comment on the Mokelumne River lands. Three private landowners were concerned about trespassing and vandalism with recreational enhancements such as the Standard Canal Trail. Amador County will work to mitigate their concerns before proceeding with opening the Standard Canal Trail.

Two supported a trail around Lake Tabeaud. Although the trail would be on retained lands, Amador County will partner with PG&E to construct or improve the trail.

Two respondents supported the Coast to Crest Trail. We understand the Coast to Crest Trail will be constructed on the Calaveras side.

Three respondents were concerned about the threat of wildfire. Three respondents were also concerned about water quality, water supply and the ability to generate power. A high priority for Amador County will be the development and implementation of a community wildfire protection plan to protect the water system from catastrophic wildfire.

Two supported grazing and Amador County will seek to renew the grazing allotment at Lake Tabeaud and assess the potential to expand grazing to other parcels.

Two respondents supported the use of the parcels for Roaring Camp. Amador County will develop a partnership with Roaring Camp.

OHV use on the Tiger Creek parcels received mixed reviews. Therefore Amador County will develop an OHV assessment to consider OHV management or closure.

We believe our proposed enhancements directly respond to the public concerns for continuation of historic and additional recreational use, wildfire risk reduction, grazing practices and open space.



July 27, 2010

Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council  
15 North Ellsworth Avenue, Suite 100  
San Mateo, CA 94401

At a public Board meeting held on July 27, 2010, the Board of Supervisors for Amador County voted unanimously to submit for your consideration, the following Land Stewardship Proposal for the North Fork Mokelumne River Planning Unit. It is the desire, hope and effort of Amador County that the benefits of these lands be maximized for all citizens and visitors.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide this proposal and look forward to working with the Stewardship Council to protect and enhance the donated lands. If you have any questions regarding this proposal, please do not hesitate to contact those listed at the front of this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Brian Oneto". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Brian Oneto

Chairman.

Amador County Board of Supervisors



## ***Amador Resource Conservation District***

12200-B Airport Road., Jackson, CA 95642 (209) 223-6543 [arcd@volcano.net](mailto:arcd@volcano.net)

*Directors*

*Lola Blevins, Steve Cannon, Bob Long, Carole Marz, Dan Port*

15 July 2010

Board of Supervisors  
County of Amador  
810 Court Street  
Jackson, CA 95642

Honorable Board Members,

The Amador Resource Conservation District has been keeping abreast of the Pacific Gas & Electric lands disbursal program for some time now and we continue our interest in assuring that the eventual donee/title holder should continue managing the lands for their historic uses.

By way of a unanimous vote at our July meeting today, we would like to offer our support as a Conservation Partner for the County of Amador, should the county be successful in acquiring the Bear River and Lower Mokelumne Planning Units.

Please advise us of any help we might give you in the management of these lands.

Sincerely,

/s/ *Steve Q. Cannon*

Steve Q. Cannon  
Director, President of the ARCD Board

# Amador Fire Safe Council

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*Public and Private Partners Working Together to Create a "Fire Safe Amador County"*

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July 1, 2010

Stewardship Council  
1107 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 501  
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: County of Amador Stewardship Council Land North Fork Mokelumne River Parcels Proposal, Amador County

The mission of the Amador Fire Safe Council is to protect the people of Amador County and their property from the catastrophic effects of wildfire through education, cooperation, innovation and action. Our goals are to promote a healthy forest, improve air and water quality, reduce the potential for fire loss damage, reduce dangerous fuel loads, and educate the public.

We are writing to express our strong support for the County of Amador/Stewardship Council North Fork Mokelumne River Land Proposal.

In support of this endeavor, the Amador Fire Safe Council (AFSC) will serve as a land conservation partner. Recognizing Amador County has a high fire danger, particularly in the upcountry, we can offer the following services:

1. As funding becomes available, assist Amador County in developing a community wildfire protection plan (CWPP) for the North Fork Mokelumne River area.
2. As funding becomes available, AFSC will conduct hazard fuel reduction projects on these parcels.

AFSC is looks forward to continuing our current partnership with Amador County in the fulfillment of our wildfire prevention mission.

Please contact me if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

Cathy M. Koos Breazeal  
Executive Director

Amador County Board of Supervisors  
810 Court Street  
Jackson, CA 95642

Re: County of Amador NF Mokelumne Proposal

July 15, 2010

Dear Members of the Council:

Foothill Conservancy is a nonprofit membership organization based in Amador and Calaveras counties, with a long history of activity and involvement in the Mokelumne River watershed. We are interested in partnering with future fee title owners and easement holders of Stewardship Council lands in the Upper Mokelumne River watershed, including Amador County.

Our partnership involvement could include some or all of the following:

- Identifying needed studies and helping with study design
- Identifying project and study partners and funding sources
- Biological and cultural resource studies, surveys and protection
- Recreation surveys and planning
- Coordination with the activities, studies and work of the Project 137 Ecological Resources Committee
- Ensuring that future management avoids conflict with adjoining lands and land uses
- Ensuring that land management is ecologically sound
- Ensuring that lands now open to the public remain open for their benefit

While we have not filed to be a fee title or easement holder for these lands, we are very concerned about their future management and wish to maintain our active involvement.

Very Truly Yours,

Chris Wright  
Executive Director

# Roaring Camp Mining Company

P. O. BOX 278  
PINE GROVE, CALIFORNIA 95665  
PHONE (209) 296-4100

July 28, 2010

Jon Hofmann  
Amador County

Jon;

We would be interested in becoming a conservation partner with Amador County on the PG&E land in and around Roaring Camp on the Mokelumne River area.

We would be interested in assessing the recreational opportunities as it may fit our Roaring Camp Resort as we have in our past with PG&E.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Elton Rodman', written in a cursive style.

Elton Rodman  
Roaring Camp



**GOLDEN EMPIRE COUNCIL**  
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

July 7, 2010

John Hofmann  
14630 Sandar Road  
Pine Grove, CA 95665

Scot M. Crocker  
*Chairman of the Board*

Jeffrey C. Setzer  
*Immediate Past Chairman*

Rebecca D. Mesker  
*Council President*

Jay L. Bowden  
*Council Commissioner*

Robert C. Adams  
*Treasurer*

James R. Martin  
*Scout Executive / CEO*  
*Board of Directors*

Kamal S. Amer  
Thomas E. Ballard  
William S. Beeman  
Michael J. Boggs  
Larry R. Booth  
James A. Craig  
Jorge A. Delgado  
Amin A. Elmallah  
William J. Evans, Jr.  
David A. Fleming  
Thomas M. Gilbert  
Scott A. Hamilton  
Paul A. Helman  
R. Paul Heuser  
Christine Ishikawa  
David Ishikawa  
Robert D. Kittredge  
Alan W. Koppes  
Ronald M. Kurtz  
Scott J. Perryman  
Robert C. Quincy  
Jeffrey Reed  
Charles E. Richmond  
Thomas Rotelli  
Anthony G. Scotch  
Jan Scully  
Donald E. Sronce  
Lillie M. Tonkin  
J. B. Wagner  
Jack R. Williams  
Richard C. Ziman

GEC-BSA.org

Re: County of Amador Tiger Creek Proposal

The Golden Empire Council of the Boy Scouts of America is interested in exploring the potential to develop a mid-elevation BSA/youth camp along the Mokelumne River. The properties around the Tiger Creek Reservoir may be particularly appropriate. A mid-elevation camp would allow us to expand youth services beyond the summer months. If, upon further investigation, Amador County and the Golden Empire Council agree to utilize the land for a Scout/youth camp, the Golden Empire Council would be pleased to join Amador County as a conservation partner in the development of the camp.

As a conservation partner, the Golden Empire Council can assist in a program design suitable for the land and development of a fundraising strategy. Additionally, some land enhancements may be suitable for scout service projects. The Boy Scouts of America is interested in designing camps that are suitable not only for traditional Boy Scout programs, but also camps that may be utilized by both boys and girls. The BSA Venturing program includes young men and women ages 14 to 21. Additionally, the BSA is interested in expanding the use of their camps to youth not associated with the Boy Scouts of America.

While identification of financial responsibilities is premature, we do commit our interest and enthusiasm to explore the potential this land may offer youth. We look forward to joining Amador County as a conservation partner in the assessment and development of this land for youth programs.

Sincerely,

James R. Martin  
Scout Executive / CEO

Anthony Scotch  
Vice President Properties

words to live by

TRUSTWORTHY  
LOYAL  
HELPFUL  
FRIENDLY  
COURTEOUS  
KIND  
OBEDIENT  
CHEERFUL  
THRIFTY  
BRAVE  
CLEAN  
REVERENT

**Sacramento Headquarters**  
251 Commerce Circle, 95815  
P.O. Box 13558

**Chico Field Office**  
561 E. Lindo Ave., Suite 5  
Chico, CA 95926-2266

**Redding Field Office**  
3302 Bechelli Lane  
Redding, CA 96002-2003

**Yuba City Field Office**  
562 Clark Avenue  
Yuba City, CA 95991-4802



# FOOTHILL CYCLING GROUP

August 4, 2010

Dear John,

Thank you for contacting Foothill Cycling Group ("FCG") regarding the potential use of donated PG&E lands for mountain bike and multi-use trails. As a local cycling advocacy organization, we have great interest in partnering with Amador County in assessing the potential for mountain bike trails in these areas and participating in further development if the opportunity comes to fruition.

After discussing this with several members of FCG, we are very interested in working with you in scoping out the possibilities for using the Standard Canals in the Mokelumne River Canyon for mountain biking and multi-use trails, and in helping develop these trails. Many of our members are already familiar with large sections around that area, and we think the route has great potential for a multi-use trail. A trail spanning from the West Point Power House to Lake Tabeaud would create a fabulous local recreation resource and would no doubt draw users from all over Northern California. In our group, we've talked about potential trails in this area but have been at a loss as to where and how to begin the process.

Foothill Cycling Group is a cycling organization centered in Amador County, currently representing 45 – 50 active members. Our mission is to promote and facilitate cycling activities and resources in our community, both on the road as well as trail - many of our members active in both types of cycling. Our website at <http://www.FoothillCycling.com> has more information about our activities.

I look forward to working with you in this venture.

Best Regards,

Cris Flint  
President and Founder, Foothill Cycling Group  
Ph. 209.223.2314  
Email [cf@foothillcycling.com](mailto:cf@foothillcycling.com)



## Amador County Recreation Agency

10877 Conductor Blvd., Suite 100

Sutter Creek, CA 95685

[www.goacra.org](http://www.goacra.org)

Phone (209) 223-6349 • Fax (209) 257-1409 • [ACRA@amadorgov.org](mailto:ACRA@amadorgov.org)

Date: July 9, 2010

### ACRA Board of Directors

#### **Chairwoman**

Debbie Dunn

Upcountry Recreation

Amador Water Agency

#### **Vice Chair**

John Plasse

Supervisor, District One

#### **Clerk**

Wayne Garibaldi

City of Jackson

#### **Members at Large**

Richard Forster

Supervisor, District Two

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City of Plymouth

Linda Rianda

City of Sutter Creek

Karl Knobelauch

Amador County Unified  
School District

Tom Sheppard

CSA #3 Camanche

Michael Vasquez

City of Amador City

Lee Ard

City of Ione

Tracey Towner-Yep

Executive Director

To: Stewardship Council  
via: John Hofman

RE: North Fork Mokelumne River Planning Area FERC Land

Dear Stewardship Council,

The Amador County Recreation Agency is interested in partnering with Amador County to develop a recreational management plan for the Mokelumne River Planning Area (FERC) donated lands. It will be an honor for the Amador County Recreation Agency, a separate JPA, to partner with Amador County in the evaluation and development of these lands and to help guarantee public access to this open space to Amador County citizens.

As the only Recreation Agency in Amador County, our mission statement is as follows: "ACRA shall have as a specific purpose the planning, financing, and operation of recreation programs and facilities in Amador County benefiting the Members and all areas of Amador County. The goal is to maximize recreation opportunities for all the people in all areas of Amador County." Since our inception we have been dedicated to exactly those purposes.

ACRA is a strong recreation presence in Amador County, and will be able to assist as necessary, in the planning and development of these lands, seek development funding and encourage and pursue other recreational partners.

Thank you for your consideration, the Amador County Recreation Agency Board of Directors and I look forward to working with you and the County on this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Tracey Towner-Yep



(916) 324-5801

July 15, 2010

Amador County Board of Supervisors  
810 Court Street  
Jackson, CA 95642

Re: County of Amador, North Fork Mokelumne River Area Planning Unit Proposal

Dear Board of Supervisors,

California State Parks, Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division is interested in partnering with Amador County in their efforts to enhance and preserve parcels in the North Fork Mokelumne River Area Planning Unit. If areas of the planning unit are suitable for off-highway vehicle (OHV) use, the OHMVR Division would welcome the opportunity to join Amador County as a conservation partner in the design and development of appropriate OHV recreation.

The Mission of the OHMVR Division is to provide leadership statewide in the area of OHV recreation. Fulfilling this Mission is complementary to a number of the beneficial public values identified by the Stewardship Council Land Conservation Plan, such as protecting natural habitat, preserving cultural and historic resources and enhancing outdoor recreation. Through direct action and monetary assistance to partners statewide, the OHMVR Division strives to ensure quality OHV recreational opportunities remain available.

The OHMVR Division possesses a unique range of expertise relative to off-highway vehicle recreation that could benefit Amador County and the project. This includes but is not limited to the following areas: planning, trail design, maintenance, resource monitoring, ecological restoration, and law enforcement.

The OHMVR Division looks forward to joining Amador County to provide responsible management of lands within the North Fork Mokelumne River Area Planning Unit in order to conserve and protect the important natural and cultural resources in the area, and provide sustainable OHV recreational opportunities for future generations.

Sincerely,

Daphne Greene  
Deputy Director, OHMVR Division

Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council  
Land Stewardship Proposal Budget and Funding Plan  
North Fork Mokelumne River Planning Unit

**PROJECT BUDGET - TRANSACTION COSTS**

**A. Document Preparation Costs**

Task	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	Total Cost	Funding Request	Comments
Title Report						Included in PG&E contract with Placer Title Company
Input Activity						
Input Activity						
Input Activity						
Input Activity						
To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again ->select insert copied cells						
<b>A. Total Document Preparation Costs</b>				-	-	

**B. Closing Costs**

Task	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	Total Cost	Funding Request	Comments
Title Insurance						Based upon value assigned by PG&E
Escrow				-	-	No Escrow fees if no funds exchanged
Recordation				-		0 No County costs
Input Activity						
Input Activity						
To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again ->select insert copied cells						
<b>B. Total Closing Costs</b>				-	-	

**C. Other**

Task	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	Total Cost	Funding Request	Comments
Input Activity						
Input Activity						
Input Activity						
Input Activity						
Input Activity						
To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again ->select insert copied cells						
<b>C. Total Other</b>				-	-	

<b>TOTAL TRANSACTION COSTS</b>				-	-	
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Additional Notes:

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**PROJECT BUDGET - BASELINE LAND OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES (SEE NOTE 1)**

**PROJECT REVENUES**

Source	Description	Non- SC Sources of Funding		Comments
		One-Time Grants	Ongoing Funding	
<b>Committed Funds (cash received or award made)</b>				
Grant Awards				
Fundraising				
Matching Funds				
Lease Revenues	Goats, Lake Tabeaud		1,800	
Timber Revenues				
General Fund/Reserves				
Other (Describe)				
<b>Total Committed Funds</b>		-	<b>1,800</b>	
<b>Pending Funds (no award made to date)</b>				
Grant Awards				
Fundraising			9,600	
Matching Funds				
General Fund/Reserves				
Lease Revenues	100 acres Goat		600	
Timber Revenues	Reserved on a decade basis			
OHV license fees	OHV program/yr		500	
Other (Describe)				
<b>Total Pending or Potential Funds</b>		-	<b>10,700</b>	
<i>To add a row: right click on the row above -&gt; select copy -&gt; right click again -&gt;select insert copied cells</i>				
<b>TOTAL PROJECT REVENUES</b>		-	<b>12,500</b>	

**PROJECT EXPENSES**

**A. Baseline Management Activities**

Task	Description	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	SC Funding Request		Comments
							One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	
Land Manager	General services	hr	50	50		2,500			
Maintenance		day	10	1,000		10,000			Land use damages
Input Activity									
Input Activity									
Input Activity									
Input Activity									
Input Activity									
Input Activity									
Input Activity									
<i>To add a row: right click on the row above -&gt; select copy -&gt; right click again -&gt;select insert copied cells</i>									
<b>A. Total Baseline Management Activities</b>					-	<b>12,500</b>	-	-	

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**B. Baseline Land Ownership Costs**

Task	Description	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	SC Funding Request				Comments
					One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	
Property Taxes		\$/AC	2,505	4		10,480		10,480	Covered under County insurance policy
Insurance									
Input Activity									
Input Activity									
Input Activity									
Input Activity									
Input Activity									
Input Activity									
Input Activity									
To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again ->select insert copied cells									
B. Total Baseline Land Ownership Costs					-	10,480	-	10,480	

**C. Other**

C. Other							SC Funding Request		Comments
Task	Description	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	
Input Activity									
Input Activity									
Input Activity									
Input Activity									
Input Activity									
Input Activity									
Input Activity									
To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again ->select insert copied cells									
C. Total Other					-	-	-	-	

<b>TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSES</b>					-	<b>22,980</b>	-	<b>10,480</b>	
<b>NET REVENUE/(EXPENSE) - BASELINE LAND OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES</b>					-	<b>(22,980)</b>	-	<b>22,980</b>	

**Additional Notes:**

Parcels are growing an estimated 1MMBF/yr but much will likely be retained in preservation of larger trees. With the current harvest on Doaks Ridge, it will likely be the next decade before the harvest estimate is achieved. We estimate a maximum potential net timber revenue of \$200,000 each decade which will be reserved for annual baseline and enhancement activities.

**Note 1:** According to the Stewardship Council's Land Conservation Program Funding Policy, the Stewardship Council will require future land owners to demonstrate that they have the funding and other capacity to maintain that property interest so as to preserve and/or enhance the beneficial values on the Watershed Lands. Exceptions to this guideline will be rare and considered only in circumstances where,

- 1) The funding of baseline land ownership and management activities will clearly lead to enhancement of the beneficial public values on the lands; and/or,
- 2) The funding of baseline land ownership and management activities is only temporary (\$5 years).

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**PROJECT BUDGET - ENHANCEMENTS TO BENEFICIAL PUBLIC VALUES**

**PROJECT REVENUES**

Source	Description	Non- SC Sources of Funding		Comments
		One-Time Grants	Ongoing Funding	
Committed Funds (cash received or award made)				
Grant Awards		10,000	County OHV fund has \$26,000. We estimate we can use 10,000.	
Fundraising				
Matching Funds				
Lease Revenues				
Timber Revenues				
OHV License Fees	County OHV Trust fund			
General Fund/Reserves				
Other (Describe)				
Total Committed Funds		10,000	-	
Pending Funds (no award made to date)				
Grant Awards		900,000	60,000	
Fundraising		18,000	12,500	
Matching Funds				
Lease Revenues				
Timber Revenues				
OHV License Fee			2,000	
General Fund/Reserves				
Title II Secure Rural Schools		20,000		
Title III Secure Rural Schools		10,000		
Other (Describe)				
Total Pending or Potential Funds		948,000	74,500	
To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again ->select insert copied cells				
TOTAL PROJECT REVENUES		958,000	74,500	

**PROJECT EXPENSES**

**A. Enhanced Land Management Activities**

Task	Description	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	SC Funding Request		Comments
							One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	
Biological Resource Survey		ac	2,250	2	4,500		4,500		
Cultural Resource Survey		ac	2,250	4	9,000		9,000		
Community Wildfire Protection Plan		Ea	2	5,000	10,000				
Wildlife management Plan			2	5,000	10,000		10,000		
Forest Management Plan			2	5,000	10,000				
Recreation Management Plan			1	25,000	25,000				
Grazing Assessment			3	3,000	9,000				
OHV Assessment	State Parks OHV Partnership	ea	1	6,000	6,000				
Campground mgr	6 mo mgr & vehicle	ea	3	20,000	60,000	60,000			
Input Activity									
<i>To add a row: right click on the row above -&gt; select copy -&gt; right click again -&gt;select insert copied cells</i>									
<b>A. Total Enhanced Land Management Activities</b>					<b>143,500</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>23,500</b>	<b>-</b>	

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**B. Capital Improvements**

Task	Description	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	SC Funding Request		Comments
							One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	
Signage	Two locations	Ea	2	5,000	10,000				
Standard Canal Trail	Equestrian/hiking/bike	mi	12	5,000	60,000				
Campground	Primitive - developed	ea	3	250,000	750,000				Costs are for fully developed, rec plan may specify less
OHV area	Pending assessment					2,000			
Trails		mi	3	6,000	18,000				
Input Activity									
To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again -> select insert copied cells									
<b>B. Total Capital Improvements</b>					<b>838,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>	-	-	

**C. Other**

Task	Description	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	SC Funding Request		Comments
							One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	
Standard Canal Trail	Resolve public concerns								
Science Camp	San Joaquin Partnership								
Youth Camp	BSA partnership								
Coordinator		hr	250	50		12,500			
Input Activity									
To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again -> select insert copied cells									
<b>C. Total Other</b>					-	<b>12,500</b>	-	-	

<b>TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSES</b>					<b>981,500</b>	<b>74,500</b>	<b>23,500</b>	-	
<b>NET REVENUE/(EXPENSE) - ENHANCEMENT OF BENEFICIAL PUBLIC VALUES</b>					<b>(981,500)</b>	<b>(74,500)</b>	<b>981,500</b>	<b>74,500</b>	

Additional Notes:

1. Campground costs are based on fully developed, formalized campsites with fire pits, toilets, etc. Recreation plan likely will dictate less formal camp sites.
2. Parcels are growing an estimated 1MMBF/yr but much will likely be retained in preservation of larger trees. With the current harvest on Doaks Ridge, it will likely be the next decade before the harvest estimate is achieved. We estimate a maximum potential net timber revenue of \$200,000 each decade which will be reserved for annual baseline and enhancement activities.