



**Napa County Regional Park
and Open Space District**

Harold Kelly—Vice President
Director Ward One

Tony Norris
Director Ward Two

Guy Kay
Director Ward Three

Dave Finigan—President
Director Ward Four

Myrna Abramowicz
Director Ward Five

AGENDA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING

Monday February 9, 2009 2:00 P.M.
1195 Third Street, Third Floor, Napa, CA 94559

GENERAL INFORMATION

Agenda items will generally be considered in the order indicated below, except for Set Matters, which will be considered at the time indicated. Agenda items may from time to time be taken out of order at the discretion of the President.

The meeting room is wheelchair accessible. Assistive listening devices and interpreters are available through the District Secretary. Requests for disability related modifications or accommodations, aids, or services may be made to the Secretary's office no less than than 48 hours prior to the meeting date by contacting (707) 259-8603.

Any member of the audience desiring to address the District on a matter on the Agenda, please proceed to the rostrum and, after receiving recognition from the President, give your name, address, and your comments or questions. In order that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak, please be brief and limit you comments to the specific subject under discussion. Time limitations shall be at the discretion of the President.

State law requires agency officers (Directors and Officers) to disclose, and then be disqualified from participation in, any proceeding involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use, if the officer has received from any participant in the proceeding an amount exceeding \$250 within the prior 12 month period. State law also requires any participant in a proceeding to disclose on the record any such contributions to an agency officer.

All materials relating to an agenda item for an open session of a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors which are provided to a majority or all of the members of the Board by Board members, staff or the public within 72 hours of but prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection, on and after at the time of such distribution, in the Conservation, Development and Planning Department Office at 1195 Third Street, Suite 210, Napa, California 94559, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., except for County holidays. Materials distributed to a majority or all of the members of the Board at the meeting will be available for public inspection at the public meeting if prepared by the members of the Board or County staff and after the public meeting if prepared by some other person. Availability of materials related to agenda items for public inspection does not include materials which are exempt from public disclosure under Government Code sections 6253.5, 6254, 6254.3, 6254.7, 6254.15, 6254.16, or 6254.22.

1. Call to Order

2. Public Comment

In this time period, anyone may address the Board of Directors regarding any subject over which the Board has jurisdiction but which is not on today's posted agenda. In order to provide all interested parties an opportunity to speak, time limitations shall be at the discretion of the President. As required by Government Code, no action or discussion will be undertaken on any item raised during this Public Comment period.

3. Set Matters

4. Administrative Items

- A. Consideration of and potential approval of Minutes of Board of Directors meeting of January 11, 2009.
- B. Receipt of the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District Master Plan 2008-2013 and direction to staff regarding next steps.
- C. Consideration of and potential approval of Resolution approving application to the Bureau of Land Management under the federal Recreation and Public Purposes Act, and authorization to execute Certificate of Acceptance and other documents related to accepting 480 acres of land adjacent to Lake Berryessa Estates (APN 016-120-013 and APN 016-140-003).
- D. Consideration of and potential authorization to execute a Certificate of Acceptance and other documents related to accepting the donation of a 0.21 acre parcel (APN 016-221-001) in the Lake Berryessa Estates subdivision.
- E. Consideration of and potential approval of Resolution approving application to the Bureau of Land Management under the federal Recreation and Public Purposes Act, and authorization to execute Certificate of Acceptance and other documents related to accepting a 40 acre parcel on the Oat Hill Mine Trail (APN 018-030-035).
- F. Consideration of and direction to staff regarding an offer to donate to the District a 0.9 acre parcel at the corner of Darms Lane and Solano Avenue (APN 034-210-024)
- G. Receipt of report on expenditures, encumbrances and donations approved by the General Manager, and approval of ongoing utility expenses for District facilities.
- H. Receipt of Second Quarter Financial Statement, and consideration of and potential approval of adjustments to the budget for FY 2008-9.
- I. Review of Projects Status Report.

5. Announcements by Board and Staff

In this time period, members of the Board of Directors and staff will announce meetings, events and other matters of interest. No action will be taken by the Board on any announcements.

6. Agenda Planning

In this time period, members of the Board of Directors and staff will discuss matters for possible consideration at future meetings. No action will be taken by the Board other than whether and when to agendize such matters, unless specifically noted otherwise.

7. Adjournment



**Napa County Regional Park
and Open Space District**

Harold Kelly—Vice President
Director Ward One

Tony Norris
Director Ward Two

Guy Kay
Director Ward Three

Dave Finigan—President
Director Ward Four

Myrna Abramowicz
Director Ward Five

MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING

Monday January 12, 2009 2:00 P.M.
1195 Third Street, Third Floor, Napa, CA 94559

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order 2:00 p.m.
All Directors present.

2. Public Comment

Barry Christian reported that the Boy Scouts of American Canyon completed a trail sign at the Newell Preserve.

3. Set Matters

4. Administrative Items

A. Consideration of and potential approval of Minutes of Board of Directors meeting of December 8, 2008.
Minutes were approved as presented.

B. Election of Officers
Directors voted to nominate Dave Finigan as Board President.
HK-GK-MA-TN-DF
A
Directors voted to nominate Myrna Abramowicz as Vice Preseident.
TN-HK-GK-DF-MA
A

C. Appointment of Tracy Schulze as District Auditor
Directors voted to appoint Tracy Schulze as District Auditor
GK-HK-TN-MA-DF

- D. Continued discussion and potential adoption of a Master Plan for the District, and adoption of a Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.
Directors voted to adopt the proposed Negative Declaration pursuant to CEQA, and to adopt the Master Plan for the District, subject to the revisions recommended by staff.
TN-MA-GK-HK-DF
- E. Extension of Agreement No. 08-03 with Questa Engineering.
Directors voted to approve a new Agreement.
MA-GK-HK-TN-DF
- F. Receipt of report on expenditures, encumbrances and donations approved by the General Manager.
John Woodbury gave the report.
- G. Discussion of and potential action regarding proposal to the City of Napa for recreational use of Lake Hennessey and Milliken Reservoir properties
The Directors received an oral report from President Finigan on a recent meeting with City staff, and concurred without formal action with the course of action outlined by President Finigan, including the parameters for a presentation to the City Council of the City of Napa.
- H. Review of Projects Status Report.
John Woodbury gave the report with discussions on Napa River Bay Trail, Napa Ecological Reserve, Oat Hill Mine Trail, River to Ridge Trail and Skyline Park.

5. Announcements by Board and Staff

- John Woodbury announced that he was contacted by a property owner who was interested in donating his Darms Lane property to the District. The information will be discussed at the February 9, 2009 meeting.
- Director Guy Kay noted that the Bay Area Open Space Council website lists priority conservation areas which includes 10 areas in Napa County, and that the website refers readers to the District for more information.
- Director Tony Norris acknowledged and congratulated the Napa Solano Audubon Society on receiving a Green Grant from Toyota for aiding in discovering new ways for habitat building in farm lands.
- Director Norris acknowledged that the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council is celebrating its 20th Anniversary is in 2009

6. Agenda Planning

- John Woodbury noted he will bring back the final version of the Master Plan to the Board for their acceptance at the next meeting.
- The Darms Lane property donation offer will be brought to the next Board meeting for consideration.
- Director Kelly asked for a discussion of public outreach at a future meeting.
- Director Kelly asked that there be renewed consideration of forming a foundation to support District fundraising.

7. Adjournment

Recess to 5:30 pm at the Hatt Building for the second year celebration.

DAVE FINIGAN, Board President

ATTEST:

MELISSA GRAY
District Secretary

Key

Vote: HK = Harold Kelly; TN = Tony Norris; GK = Guy Kay; DF = David Finigan; MA = Myrna Abramowicz

The maker of the motion and second are reflected respectively in the order of the recorded vote.

Notations under vote: N = No; A = Abstain; X = Excused



Napa County Regional Park
and Open Space District

STAFF REPORT

Date: February 9, 2009
 Agenda Item: 4.B
 Subject: Receipt of the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District Master Plan 2008-2013 and direction to staff regarding next steps

Recommendation

- (1) Receive the final Master Plan.
- (2) Authorize forwarding of the Master Plan to the Napa County Board of Supervisors with a request that they accept the Plan as meeting the Action Objective in the Napa County General Plan for the development of a County Park and Recreation Plan.
- (3) Adopt an annual review schedule for assessing the District's progress toward implementation of the Master Plan, including monthly project updates and a comprehensive review of all projects in the Master Plan each February.

Background

The Board of Directors at its January 12, 2009 meeting approved the 2008-2012 Master Plan subject to a variety of amendments to reflect public comments and direction provided by the Board. The Master Plan as revised was distributed to the Board as part of the agenda packet for this meeting, and has been posted on the District web site.

The Napa County Board of Supervisors approved an update to the County General Plan in 2008. One of the action items in the Recreation and Open Space Element of the General Plan (Action Item ROS 2.1) called for the County to work with the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District in the development of a new countywide park and recreation plan. The District Master Plan builds on the policies and goals of the County General Plan, and was drafted to satisfy this County General Plan objective. Now that the District Board of Directors has adopted its Master Plan, the next step is to send the Master Plan to the County Board of Supervisors with a request that they accept the Plan as meeting Action Item ROS 2.1 of the County General Plan.

It is important that the Board periodically review the District's progress in implementing the Master Plan to assure that the Plan remains a living document that strategically guides the District's work. Staff recommends, in addition to the monthly update of projects which is already part of the Board's regular meeting agenda, that every regular February Board meeting include a review of all of the projects in the Master Plan. A review at this time will provide timely input to staff for the preparation of the budget for the subsequent fiscal year.



Napa County Regional Park
and Open Space District

STAFF REPORT

Date: February 9, 2009
Agenda Item: 4.C
Subject: Consideration of and potential approval of Resolution approving application to the Bureau of Land Management under the federal Recreation and Public Purposes Act, and authorization to execute Certificate of Acceptance and other documents related to accepting 480 acres of land adjacent to Lake Berryessa Estates (APN 016-120-013 and APN 016-140-003).

Recommendation

- (1) Approve Resolution 09-01 authorizing application to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for the transfer of 480 acres of land adjacent to Lake Berryessa Estates (APN 016-120-013 and APN 016-140-003).
- (2) Authorize the Board President to sign a Certificate of Acceptance to accept fee title ownership of the above-referenced parcels, and for the Board President and/or the General Manager to execute other documents as needed to complete the transfer of these parcels from BLM to the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District.

Background

The federal Recreation and Public Purpose Act provides a procedure whereby the Bureau of Land Management can transfer at no fee surplus BLM land to local public agencies for public recreation and other public purposes. If the local agency does not use the land for the approved public purposes, title reverts to the federal government.

The two parcels covered by this agenda item were identified by BLM as surplus and thus available for either sale to a private entity or for transfer to a public agency or non-profit organization. If the District does not pursue this transfer, the property would be offered for sale to the highest bidder. Transfer of the property under the Act is estimated to take 18 to 24 months to complete.

The recommended actions are the first step in implementing Project A-13 and B-2 in the District's Master Plan. Acceptance of these parcels from BLM will allow the District to preserve 480 acres of open space and construct two short trails that primarily serve the Lake Berryessa Estates subdivision. More significantly for the District, the recommended actions would lay the groundwork for a potential future regional trail that would connect from Lake Berryessa Estates to Pope Canyon Road. Acceptance of the parcels will also help protect the habitat and watershed values of these open space lands. The parcels are a mixture of chaparral and gray pine and oak woodland.

The recommended actions would also make it possible for the District to make approximately one acre of the 480 acre area available to CalFire for their construction and operation of a volunteer fire substation. While fire protection is not an explicit purpose of the District, it is appropriate for the

District to do what it can to appropriately manage wild land fires, both to protect natural ecosystems and minimize risk to people. The Lake Berryessa Estates subdivision is extremely vulnerable to the threat posed by wild land fires—a threat which is exacerbated by the fact that at present the closest fire station is approximately 12 miles away in Pope Valley.

Acceptance of these parcels is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Categorical Exemption 15316—Transfer of Ownership of Land in Order to Create Parks). However, prior to accepting the property, the District will need to notify the County of its intent to acquire the property pursuant to Section 65402 of the Government Code. Further, prior to opening the area for public recreation, the District will need to apply for and obtain a Use Permit from the County of Napa, and as a part of that process will need to comply with CEQA.



Napa County Regional Park
and Open Space District

Putah Creek/ Lake Berryessa Estates Recreational Trails and Volunteer Fire Station

DEVELOPMENT PLAN

1. **Project Description and Location:**

The Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District (the District) seeks to acquire land currently owned by BLM pursuant to the Recreation and Public Purposes Act. This application encompasses two adjacent BLM parcels: APN 016-120-013, which is 360 acres (Parcel One), and APN 016-140-003, which is 120 acres (Parcel Two). Once acquired by the District, the intended use of the subject property is for public recreational trail activities and potentially for a volunteer fire station. Currently, the District does not own any other land in the vicinity, however, if a few key privately-owned parcels can be acquired the property has the potential to connect to over 1,500 of acres of other land owned by BLM that run along the western edge of Putah Creek and Lake Berryessa and become part of a regional trail system.

The subject property consists of 480 acres within Putah Creek watershed which drains into Lake Berryessa and is a water source for Solano County and the City of American Canyon. Maintaining this land in a primarily undeveloped state will contribute to the protection of this important watershed. The vegetation on the property consists of Oak woodlands, gray pine, chaparral, and rock outcroppings. The soil is mostly Hambright, rock outcrop complex with slopes of 30-75%. The ridgeline, along which the proposed trail would run, provides scenic views of Napa, Lake, and Yolo Counties.

In conjunction with this acquisition project of 480 acres from BLM, the District is in negotiations with a landowner to accept fee title ownership to a small 0.21 acre parcel along Harness Drive, APN 016-221-001 (Parcel Three), in the Lake Berryessa Estates subdivision, which will provide direct access to the 360 acre BLM parcel from a public roadway. The second access point to the property is from the southern end of Harness Drive in the Lake Berryessa Estates subdivision, which dead ends at the 120 acre BLM parcel.

Location:

Section 23	S1/2NW1/4SW1/4W1/2SE1/4	fee title
Section 26	N1/2NE1/4SENE	fee title

2. **Statement of Need**

The property is located in a remote area of Napa County adjacent to the community of Lake Berryessa Estates. On the whole, there are relatively few public recreational trails located in Napa County. The closest public recreational trail for use by residents of Lake Berryessa Estates and Northeast Napa County is the Oat Hill Mine Trail trailhead in Aetna Springs which is approximately 12 miles away from the subject property.

Residents of Lake Berryessa Estates and CalFire are in agreement that the creation of a volunteer fire station on the subject property to service the region is greatly needed and would serve an important public purpose. Fire is a significant risk in this region due to the often very dry conditions, highly flammable vegetation, and lack of nearby fire fighting equipment. The nearest fire station to the property is located in Pope Valley, which is 10 miles away.

3. **Recreational Activities and Public Purpose**

Base Project

Two trails with a combined total length of approximately 1.34 miles will be constructed for non-motorized use, including hiking, bicycling, and horseback riding.

The 1.1 mile Western Ridge Trail will begin at the southern terminus of Harness Drive in the Lake Berryessa Estates subdivision, and traverse the generally level, gently rounded ridgeline which begins at the southeastern edge of Parcel One and angles in a north-northwesterly direction to near the northern end of Parcel One. This trail will provide good views to the west, north and east. Because of the terrain, this trail will be easy to construct, with virtually no need to move soil. Brush along this trail will be removed to approximately a 10 foot width to provide a partial fire break and facilitate emergency access by fire crews. This trail will meet ADA standards for trail grades, smoothness and width, and the gravelly soils will naturally pack down to provide an all-weather surface.

The second trail which is part of the base project is the 0.24 mile Overlook Trail. As with the Western Ridge Trail, the Overlook Trail will begin at the southern terminus of Harness Drive, but will head slightly south and then east to the highest point on the ridge south of Lake Berryessa Estates. The Overlook Trail will provide sweeping views of the extensive undeveloped open space lands to the south, east and southwest, including Blue Ridge on the distant eastern horizon which separates Napa and Yolo Counties.

Potential Future Projects

In addition to the two trails which comprise the Base Project, three other trails and a volunteer fire department substation are potential future projects. They are described in this application to indicate future improvements and uses to which the property may be used, but since their construction and operation are contingent on additional funding, the District is not as part of this application committing to their construction.

The potential future trails include the 1.5 mile Northern Loop Trail and 1.2 mile Middle Loop Trail, which together with the Western Ridge Trail would create a 3.8 mile loop trail, and provide access to the property through the privately-owned Parcel Three which the District is in the process of acquiring for the current owner.

The third potential future trail is the Southern Trail, which heads south from the southern terminus of Harness Drive to the southeastern border of Parcel Two. Its purpose would be to provide public access to other BLM parcels located to the south of the subject parcels. It will not be constructed until such time as a right-of-way can be obtained across the privately-owned property between Parcel Two and these other BLM parcels.

In addition to these trails, the other potential future project is the construction and operation by CalFire of a volunteer fire department substation. The substation would consist of a simple structure to house a fire engine, and potentially also a meeting room. It would be located on approximately one acre of land on the northeastern corner of Parcel One. Access to this area would be across a small, 0.21 acre parcel currently in private ownership that is being donated to the District. This small parcel, plus about one acre of Parcel One, will be made available to CalFire to construct a volunteer fire department substation at such time as CalFire obtains the funding to construct and operate the substation.

TIMETABLE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND ASSOCIATED COSTS

Construction of the trails will be by a combination of volunteers and paid labor through CalFire or one of the Conservation Corps. The District employs a part-time Outreach Coordinator who would be responsible for organizing and overseeing construction of the trails. The timing of the improvements will depend on when BLM completes the transfer of the property to the District. Therefore, timing is indicated in terms of “year one, year two”, etc, rather than specific dates.

<u>Year One</u>	<u>Planning and Permits (Base Project plus Potential Future Projects)</u>	
	Complete California Environmental Quality Act review	\$1,500
	Obtain Use Permit from County of Napa	<u>\$1,500</u>
	Subtotal	\$3,000
<u>Year Two</u>	<u>Construction of Base Project</u>	
	Construct western ridge trail as fire break (1.1 miles)	\$8,000
	Construct Overlook Trail (0.24 miles)	\$2,000
	Install entryway gate to control motorized access	\$2,000
	Install signage	\$500
	Subtotal:	\$12,500
	TOTAL BASE PROJECT	\$15,500
<u>Year TBD</u>	<u>Potential Future Construction</u>	
	Construct Northern Loop Trail (1.5 miles)	\$30,000
	Construct Middle Loop Trail (1.2 miles)	\$20,000
	Construct Southern Trail (0.9 miles)	<u>\$18,000</u>
	Subtotal:	\$68,000
	TOTAL POTENTIAL FUTURE PROJECTS	\$59,500

Management Plan and Maintenance

Management Objectives and Approach

The property will be managed for non-motorized nature-based recreational use, including hiking, mountain bicycling, horseback riding and dog walking. Most users are expected to be from the immediately adjacent Lake Berryessa Estates subdivision. The property will be kept primarily in its current state as undisturbed open space to protect habitat and the scenic beauty of the area.

In keeping with these objectives, improvements will be kept to the minimum. Users of the trails will be instructed to carry out their own trash. Restrooms will not be provided. Other than entry kiosks with information, directional signage at trail junctions, a few benches at selected vista points, and potentially some picnic tables associated with the volunteer fire substation, no amenities or other improvements will be provided.

Staffing

The Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District is a political subdivision of the State of California, established under Public Resources Code Section 5500 et seq. The District has its own Board of Directors. The management of the District is administered by County of Napa staff whose services are contracted to the District. Additional staffing is provided by contracts with other independent contractors.

The District will be responsible for all construction, management and maintenance associated with the recreational trails. CalFire, which contracts with the County of Napa to provide fire protection services in the area, will be responsible for all construction, management and maintenance associated with the volunteer fire substation.

The District will establish a “Friends of” group consisting primarily of residents of the Lake Berryessa Estates subdivision to assist with monitoring of trail use, litter cleanup, pruning of brush and trail repairs. Because of the remoteness of the Lake Berryessa Estates subdivision, most of the use of the property will come from residents of the subdivision, and local residents will be in the best position to serve as the “eyes and ears” for the property. The District will establish direct lines of communication between the District staff, the County Sheriff, and the “Friends of” group so that any operational problems can be quickly identified and addressed.

The District will establish regulations for use of the property, and will be responsible for educating the public about these regulations. If voluntary compliance with established regulations is inadequate, the District will exercise its legal authority to adopt ordinances regulating use; with these ordinances comes the ability to impose fines for violations, consistent with the levels authorized in state law. For criminal or other serious violations the District will rely on the County Sheriff for enforcement.

General Maintenance/Monitoring Schedule and Costs (Base Project)

<u>Task</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Annual Staff Costs</u> <u>(\$50/hr)</u>	<u>Value of In-Kind</u> <u>Services (\$20/hr)</u>
Organize volunteer day to trim brush back from trails and repair	Annually	\$500	\$3,200

trail damage as needed.

Monitoring of staging areas and trails by District staff, with repair of signs and removal of garbage as needed.	Monthly	\$3,000	
Organize monitoring of staging areas and trails by the District-organized "Friends of" volunteers, including litter pickup as needed.	Weekly or more frequent	\$1,000	\$4,160
Total Annual Cost		\$4,500	\$7,360

Source of Funds for Development and Management

The District's primary source of revenue includes a share of the County of Napa's transient occupancy tax. The adopted budget for FY 2008-9 is \$646,992 of which 332,635 is for routine operations and maintenance, with the remainder for special projects.

A portion (approximately \$50,000 in FY 2008-9) of the District's operating funding is used to maintain a volunteer outreach program which is focused on developing and supporting "Friends of" groups for each of the District's parks and trails. The District's experience with its first major trail, the 8.25 mile Oat Hill Mine Trail, indicates that the District's investment in the program can yield as much as five times as much value in the form of volunteer labor and donated materials. The costs provided above assume a much more conservative "return on investment".

The District also intends to work with the California Conservation Corps and to utilize CalFire inmate crews to assist in the construction and maintenance of trails. This is an efficient way to accomplish the hard physical labor of clearing brush and smoothing trails; it also supports job training and character building programs important to the community as a whole.

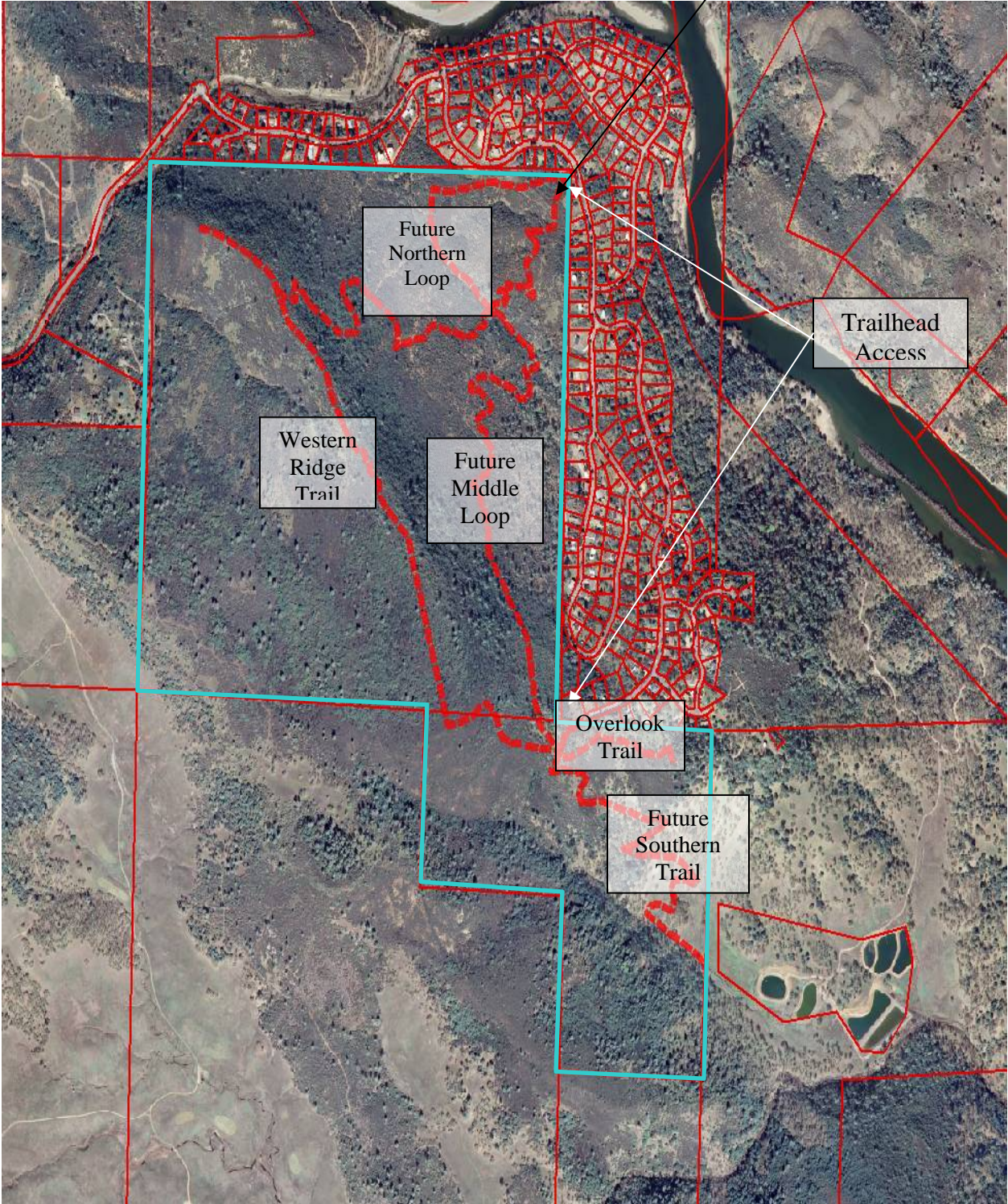
The development and operation of the volunteer fire station is CalFire's responsibility. The District will provide the approximately one acre of land to CalFire at no charge through a long-term lease or agreement.

Maps

- Map 1. Trail map, access points, and potential fire station
- Map 2. Napa County zoning and land use map

Putah Creek/Lake Berryessa Estates Recreational Trails and Volunteer Fire Station

Potential Fire Substation Location



**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
NAPA COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR, AND ACQUISITION OF, LAND
FROM THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT NEAR PUTAH CREEK**

WHEREAS, The Bureau of Land Management, hereinafter referred to as "BLM", administers the *Recreation and Public Purposes Act of 1954* which authorizes the no-fee transfer of public lands for recreation or public purposes to state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District, hereinafter referred to as "District", desires to obtain public lands to create a regional, multi-use trail system and potentially a volunteer fire station in the Putah Creek area of Lake Berryessa next to Lake Berryessa Estates; and

WHEREAS, certain parcels located in Napa County, APN 016-120-013 and APN 016-140-003 (the "Property") were declared as surplus land or identified for disposal by BLM's Resource Management Plan for the Ukiah District, dated September 25, 2006.

WHEREAS, the District is required to submit an application to BLM to acquire the Property, and

WHEREAS, said application requires that the District comply with certain conditions;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Directors of the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District hereby:

1. Approves the filing of the application for the acquisition of the Property from BLM (the application is attached hereto and incorporated herein); and
2. Certifies that said District understands the obligations and commitments in the application form; and
3. Hereby authorizes the Board President and/or the General Manager to sign all necessary applications and documents for the purpose of obtaining the Property to create a regional, multi-use trail system and/or a volunteer fire station in the Putah Creek area of Lake Berryessa.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District, State of California, at a regular meeting of the Board held on the _____ day of _____, 2009, by the following vote:

AYES: DIRECTOR(s) _____

NOES: DIRECTOR(s) _____

ABSENT: DIRECTOR(s) _____

Signed: _____
President, Board of Directors

Attest _____
Melissa Gray, District Secretary

Date: _____

<p>APPROVED AS TO FORM Office of District Counsel</p> <p>By: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p>
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Napa County Regional Park
and Open Space District

STAFF REPORT

Date: February 9, 2009
Agenda Item: 4.D
Subject: Consideration of and potential authorization to execute a Certificate of Acceptance and other documents related to accepting the donation of a 0.21 acre parcel (APN 016-221-001) in the Lake Berryessa Estates subdivision.

Recommendation

Authorize the Board President to sign a Certificate of Acceptance to accept fee title ownership of APN 016-221-001, and for the Board President and/or the General Manager to execute other documents as needed to complete the transfer of this parcel to the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District.

Background

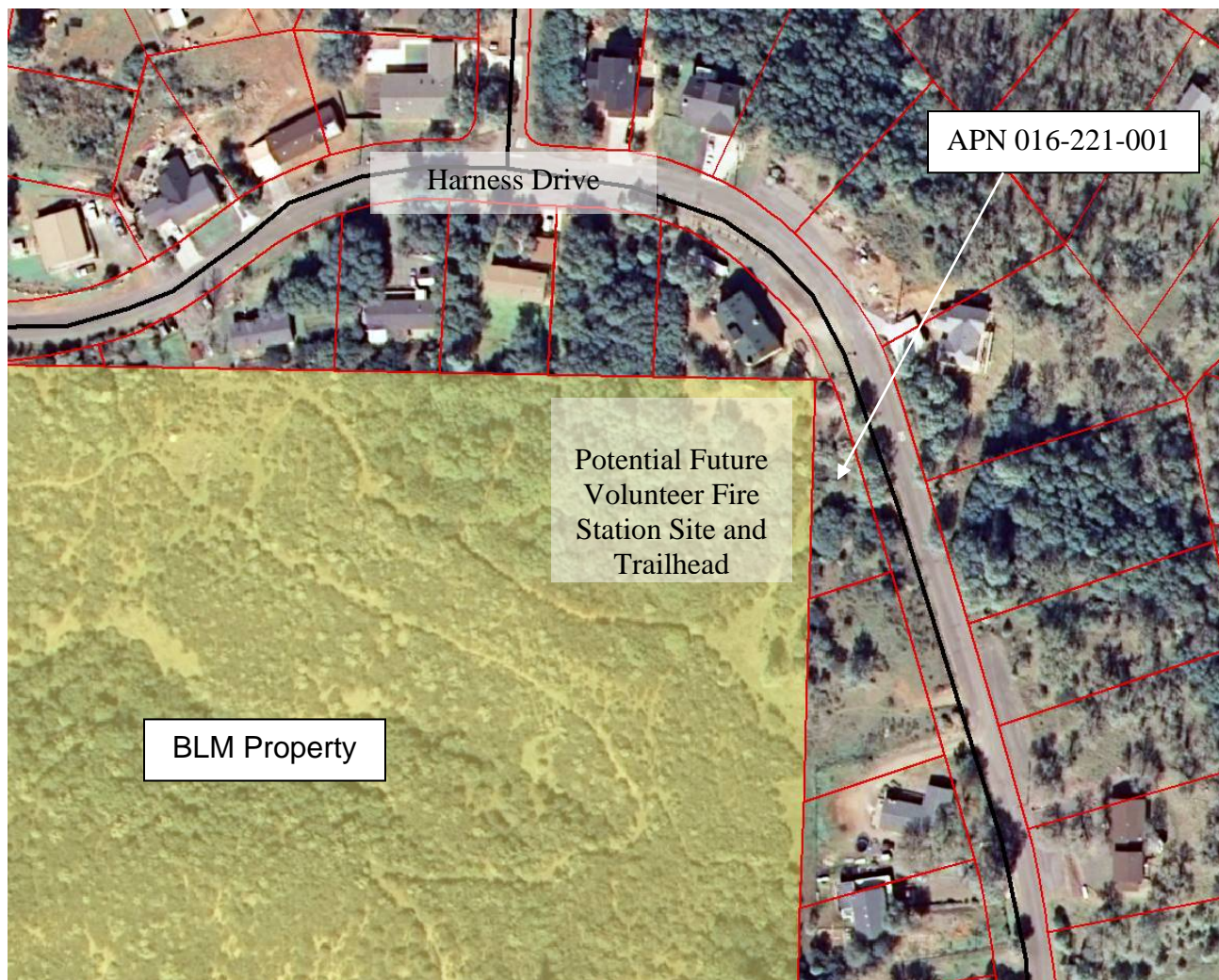
The owner of the above-referenced parcel is interested in donating fee-title ownership of the property to the District at no cost to the District. Due to its small size, the parcel is considered unbuildable.

The value of the property to the District is that it provides access from Harness Road in the central portion of the Lake Berryessa Estates subdivision to the northeastern corner of the 360 acre parcel of land owned by the Bureau of Land Management (APN 016-120-013) which is the subject of Agenda Item 4.C. This would provide a valuable second access point to the property (the other being at the extreme southeastern corner of the parcel). Ownership of this parcel would also make it possible for CalFire to construct and operate a volunteer fire substation, as discussed in Agenda Item 4.C.

There is a slight risk in accepting the donation at this time in that if for some reason the transfer of the adjacent BLM parcel to the District does not occur, the District would end up owning a small piece of land for which it had no use. Nonetheless, staff recommends accepting the parcel both because BLM is very motivated to complete the transfer of the property to the District, and the current owner of the property is not willing to wait for the 18 to 24 months that it will take to complete the BLM transfer. The property owner is anxious to complete the donation because starting last year she has had to pay significant taxes that are now being imposed by the Lake Berryessa Estates Resort Improvement District to address water and sewer infrastructure deficiencies in the subdivision. (These taxes are not a problem for the District, because it is not subject to these taxes.) If the District does not proceed with accepting the property, the current owner would most likely attempt to give the land to one of the adjacent landowners, which could preclude the District obtaining access to the BLM property in the future.

Acceptance of this parcel is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Categorical Exemption 15316—Transfer of Ownership of Land in Order to Create Parks). However, prior to accepting the property, the District will need to notify the County of its intent to acquire the property pursuant to Section 65402 of the Government Code. Further, prior to opening the area for public recreation, the District will need to apply for and obtain a Use Permit from the County of Napa, and as a part of that process will need to comply with CEQA. Separately, CalFire would be responsible for required environmental review and any other permits that may be required.

Location of Subject Property Within the Lake Berryessa Estates Subdivision





Napa County Regional Park
and Open Space District

STAFF REPORT

Date: February 9, 2009

Agenda Item: 4.E

Subject: Consideration of and potential approval of Resolution approving application to the Bureau of Land Management under the federal Recreation and Public Purposes Act, and authorization to execute Certificate of Acceptance and other documents related to accepting a 40 acre parcel on the Oat Hill Mine Trail (APN 018-030-035).

Recommendation

Authorize the Board President to sign a Certificate of Acceptance to accept fee title ownership parcel APN 018-030-035, and for the Board President and/or the General Manager to execute other documents as needed to complete the transfer of these parcels from BLM to the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District

Background

BLM owns a 40 acre parcel through which the Oat Hill Mine Trail passes. The parcel is about one-half mile north of the junction of the Oat Hill Mine Trail and the Palisades Trail. Maple Springs, a small year-round spring, is located on the property.

The no-fee transfer of this parcel from BLM to the District makes sense because the District already manages the Oat Hill Mine Trail (project A-1 in the Master Plan), and ownership of the parcel will mean there is one less agency to coordinate with in terms of managing the trail.

Acceptance of this parcel is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Categorical Exemption 15316—Transfer of Ownership of Land in Order to Create Parks). However, prior to accepting the property, the District will need to notify the County of its intent to acquire the property pursuant to Section 65402 of the Government Code. Since the Oat Hill Mine Trail already exists, acquisition of this parcel will not result in any change of use; therefore, the District will not need to obtain a Use Permit from the County or take any further action pursuant to CEQA.



Napa County Regional Park
and Open Space District

Oat Hill Mine Trail Maple Springs Section

DEVELOPMENT PLAN

1. **Project Description and Location:**

The Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District (the District) seeks to acquire land currently owned by BLM pursuant to the Recreation and Public Purposes Act. This application is for forty acres along the Oat Hill Mine Trail (OHMT or Trail). The OHMT is a historic mining road trail that is managed by the District and was officially opened to the public in 2008 for non-motorized recreation. The BLM parcel is located in the midst of privately owned, state and nonprofit conservation land traversed by the Trail. Because of the District's existing presence along the Trail, the District is in a good position to manage this difficult to access parcel.

The subject property is within the Swartz Creek watershed which drains into Putah Creek and eventually into Lake Berryessa. Maple Springs, a naturally occurring spring, is located on the property. Maintaining this land in its current state—undeveloped except for the recreational trail—will contribute to the protection of this important watershed. The vegetation on the property consists of grassland, Manzanita, California Bay, Douglas Fir, Live Oak, chaparral, and rock outcroppings. The soil is mostly rock outcrop-Kidd complex with slopes of 50-75%. The portion of the OHMT that crosses the property provides stunning views down Swartz Canyon and of Browns Hill.

Location:

Section 17 SWNE fee title

APN: 018-030-0035

2. **Statement of Need**

The property is ideally located in the middle of the 8.25 mile OHMT. It is the only location along the trail with a year-round spring. Since the District already manages the OHMT, it makes sense for the District rather than BLM to own the subject parcel; BLM does not have the staffing to monitor public use of this property. No further improvements are needed in order for the parcel to provide a public recreational purpose.

3. **Recreational Activities and Public Purpose**

The OHMT has always been a popular trail among hiking enthusiasts, even when it was not officially a public trail. This is due to the general lack of public non-motorized recreational trails in Napa County, as well as the spectacular scenery of the area. In 2008, the District officially opened the trail between Calistoga and Aetna Springs Road to the public.

Although the District does not keep track of the number of Trail users per year, based on a survey of trail users done by volunteers in the 1990's, and the number of trail maps now being taken at the trailhead, it is clear that over 5,000 people begin at the Calistoga end of the trail. Many additional trail users begin at the Aetna Springs trail head which now provides parking put in by the District.

Management Plan and Maintenance

Management Objectives and Approach

The DISTRICT already manages the OHMT as a multi-use recreational trail. The acquisition of this parcel will create no additional maintenance or management burden. The DISTRICT has already budgeted for staff costs for managing the entire OHMT. (see below).

The OHMT is currently managed for non-motorized nature-based recreational use, including hiking, mountain bicycling, horseback riding and dog walking. Other than the trail, the property will be kept primarily in its current state as undisturbed open space to protect habitat and the scenic beauty of the area.

In keeping with these objectives, improvements will be kept to the minimum. Informational kiosks are already installed at both the Calistoga and Aetna Springs Trailheads, and directional and informational signage has been installed at trail junctions and at locations where the trail crosses different underlying property ownerships. Users of the trails will be instructed to carry out their own trash. Restrooms are not provided. Other than a few benches at selected vista points, no additional amenities or other improvements are proposed.

Staffing

The Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District is a political subdivision of the State of California, established under Public Resources Code Section 5500 et seq. The District has its own Board of Directors. The management of the District is administered by County of Napa staff whose services are contracted to the District. Additional staffing is provided by contracts with other independent contractors.

General Maintenance/Monitoring Schedule and Costs

<u>Task</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Annual Staff Costs (\$50/hr)</u>	<u>Value of In-Kind Services (\$20/hr)</u>
Organize volunteer day to trim brush back from trails and repair trail damage as needed.	Every Six Months	\$1,000	\$3,200
Support volunteer trail patrol which monitors trail, provides information to trail users, and picks up litter	Ongoing	\$1,000	\$4,100
Monitoring of staging areas and trails by District staff, with repair of signs and removal of garbage as needed.	Monthly	\$2,400	
Total Annual Cost		\$4,400	\$7,300

Source of Funds for Management

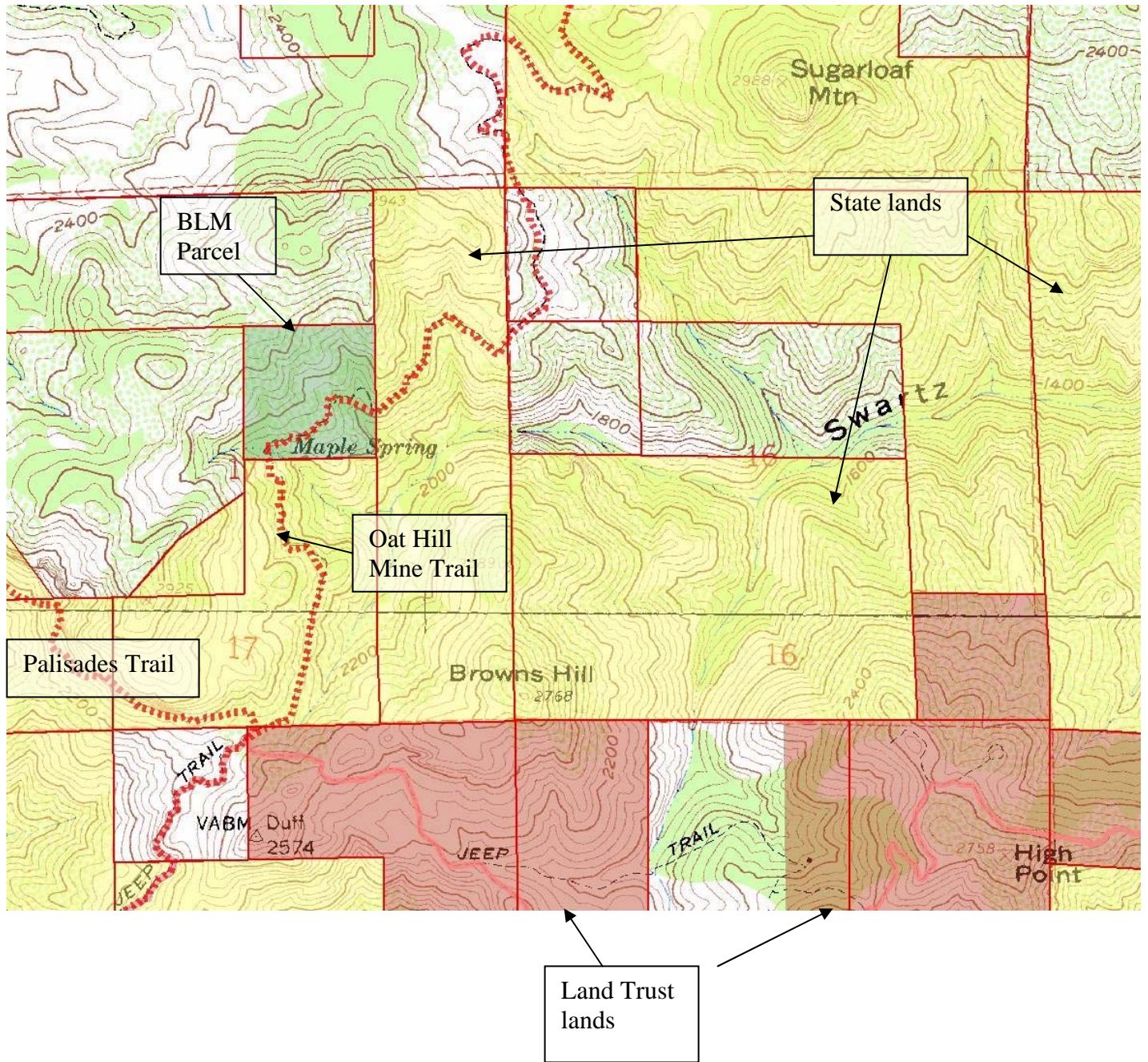
The District's primary source of revenue includes a share of the County of Napa's transient occupancy tax. The adopted budget for FY 2008-9 is \$646,992 of which \$332,635 is for routine operations and maintenance, with the remainder for special projects.

A portion (approximately \$50,000 in FY 2008-9) of the District's operating funding is used to maintain a volunteer outreach program which is focused on developing and supporting "Friends of" groups for each of the District's parks and trails. The District's experience with the first year of managing the Oat Hill Mine Trail, indicates that the District's investment in the volunteer program can yield as much as five times as much value in the form of donated labor and materials. The estimate of volunteer time indicated in the budget above is very conservative; in the first year of managing the Trail, nearly \$50,000 in good and services was donated to fix up the trail and open it to the public.

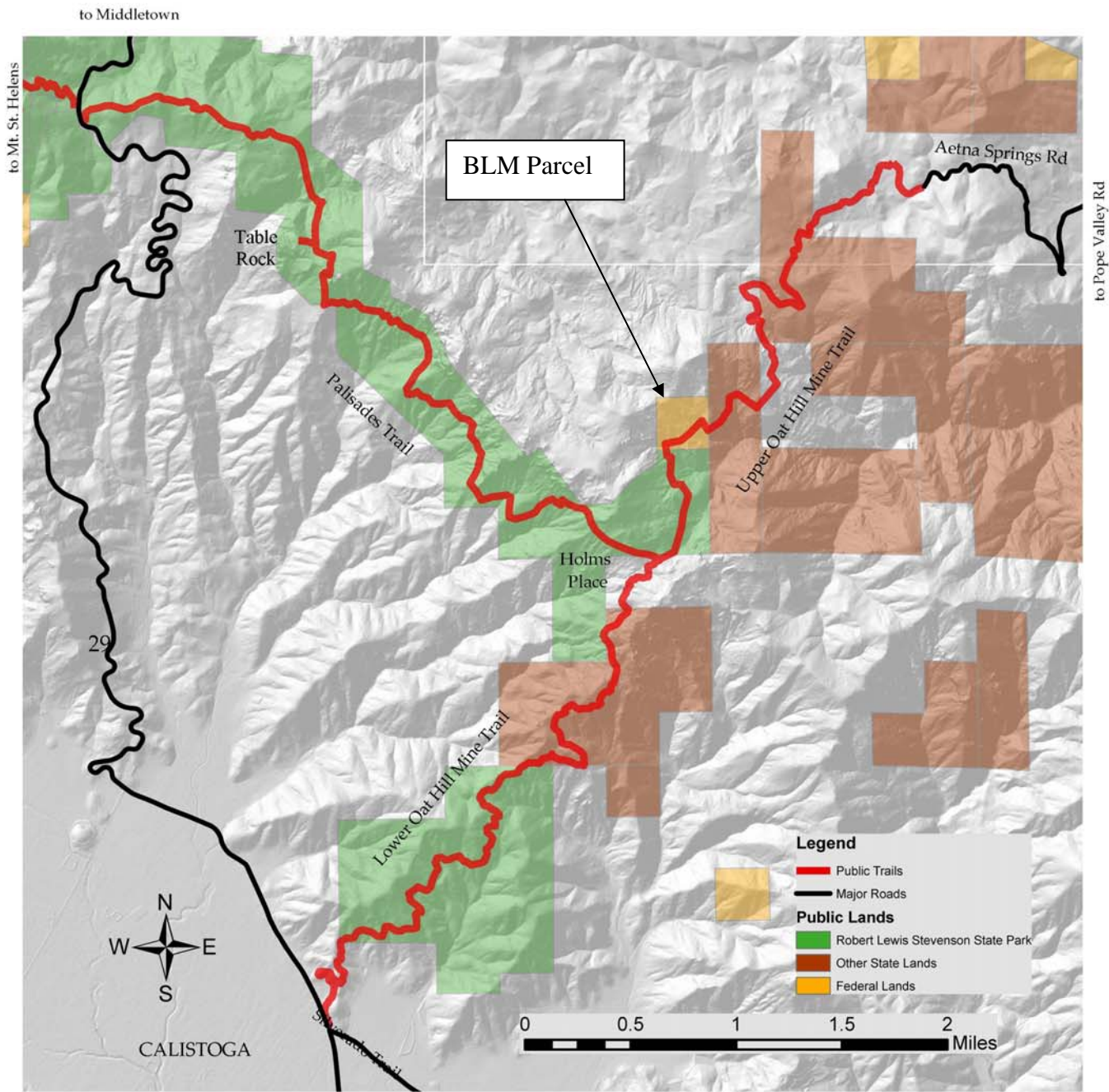
Maps

- Map 1. Topographical Map
- Map 2. Oat Hill Mine Trail Map

Topographical Map of Oat Hill Mine Trail Vicinity



Oat Hill Mine Trail



to Santa Rosa, St. Helena & Napa



Napa County Regional Park
and Open Space District

STAFF REPORT

Date: February 9, 2009

Agenda Item: 4.F

Subject: Consideration of and direction to staff regarding an offer to donate to the District a 0.9 acre parcel at the corner of Darms Lane and Solano Avenue (APN 034-210-024)

Recommendation

Staff will make a recommendation at the meeting.

Background

The Darms family at one time owned a considerable amount of land west of Solano Avenue in the vicinity of Darms Lane, but now only one small parcel in the area at the southwest corner of Darms Lane and Solano Avenue is still owned by a member of the family. The owner no longer lives in Napa County, and is advancing in years. The parcel is not considered buildable because Dry Creek runs through the center of the property, the portion of the property to the south of Dry Creek is subject to flooding, and the remaining land to the north of the Creek is too narrow to accommodate a house. The owner is offering to donate the property to the District, subject only to the condition that a small monument to the Darms family be allowed to remain.

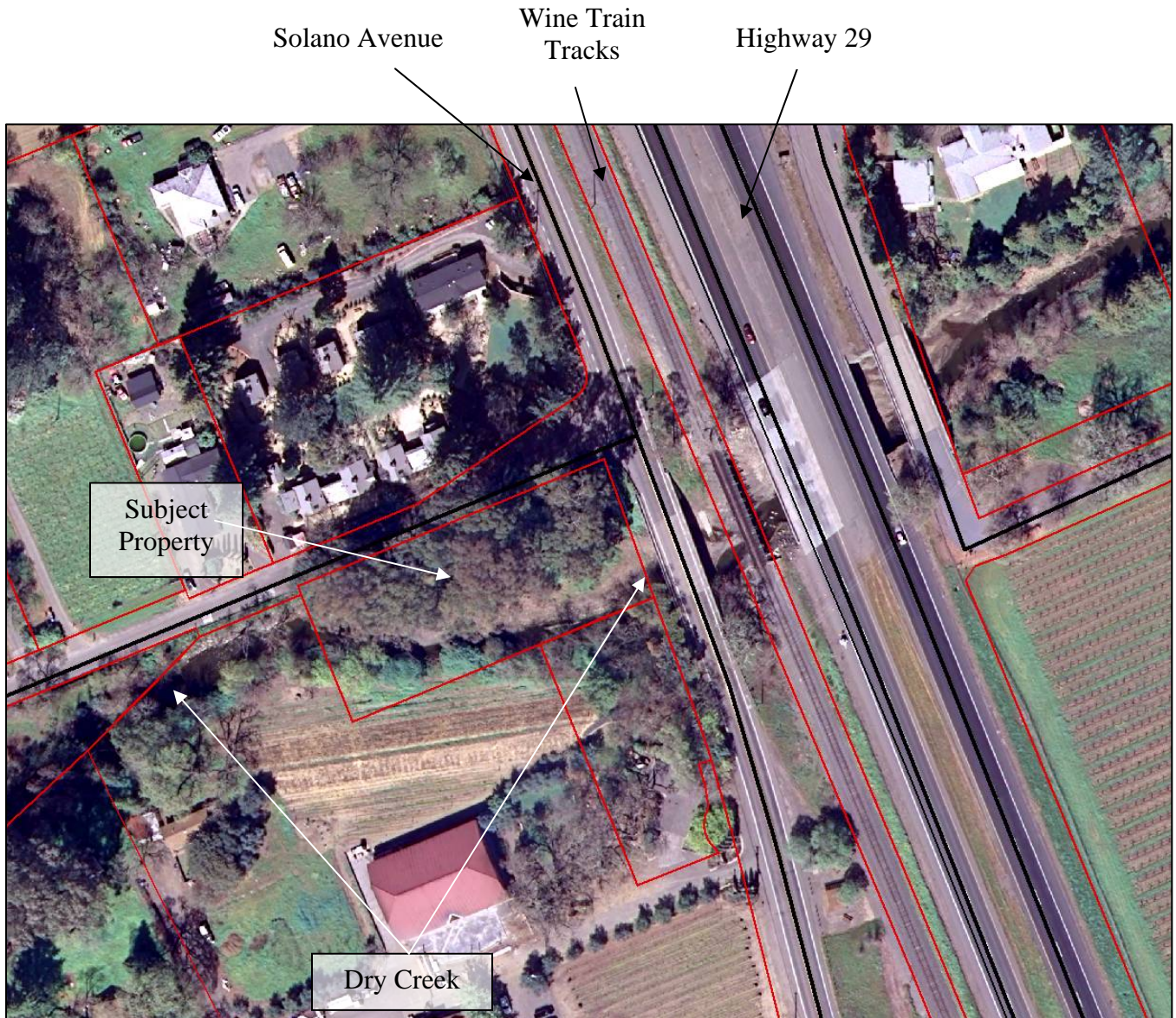
If the Napa Valley Vine Trail proposal (Master Plan project A.24) moves forward, and an alignment generally following the Wine Train/Highway 29 is adopted, the property would make a nice rest stop for bicyclists, due to the shading provided by trees on the property and the presence of Dry Creek. The existing Solano Bike Rest is located just a few hundred feet to the south of Darms Lane; while nicely designed, it is in a very exposed location which can be extremely hot in the summer. The Darms Lane property could offer a more appealing rest stop, and if the Vine Trail proposal proceeds, the additional bicycle travel could justify relocating the rest stop.

However, it is not clear at this time whether the Vine Trail proposal will succeed, because it requires both significant funding and changes to the County Zoning Ordinance. The Darms Lane property is particularly problematic because it is zoned as Agriculture Preserve, which under the current Zoning Ordinance does not allow recreational uses. Unless the Zoning Ordinance were amended, the District would have no legally-allowed use for the Darms Lane property other than preservation of open space, and the parcel is too small to provide much open space value. Although the Vine Trail Coalition, the Farm Bureau, the Vintners Association and others have begun discussions among themselves regarding whether and how the Zoning Ordinance might be changed to accommodate the Vine Trail, these discussions are in their infancy, and it is very premature to make any assumptions regarding whether any community consensus will emerge.

Thus, the best option for the District would be to wait until the issues related to the Vine Trail project are better sorted out. However, the owner of the property is advancing in years, and would like to resolve disposition of the property as soon as possible. It would be unfortunate if the Vine Trail project were to prove successful, yet the opportunity to obtain this parcel for a rest stop were lost.

Staff will be looking at the site with the Land Trust of Napa County prior to the Board meeting, to see if there is any possibility that the Land Trust would take ownership of the property. Staff will report at the meeting on the results of its discussions with the Land Trust, and provide a recommendation at that time.

Darms Lane Property





Napa County Regional Park
and Open Space District

STAFF REPORT

Date: February 9, 2009
 Agenda Item: 4.G
 Subject: Receipt of report on expenditures, encumbrances and donations approved by the General Manager, and approval of ongoing utility expenses for District facilities

Recommendation

- (1) Receive this report on expenditures and encumbrances approved by the General Manager.
- (2) Authorize General Manager to pay ongoing utility expenses at District facilities.

Background

Section III.A (7) authorizes the General Manager to bind the district for supplies, materials, labor and other valuable consideration, in accordance with board policy and the adopted District budget, up to \$10,000 for non-construction purposes and up to \$25,000 for construction purposes, provided that all such expenditures are subsequently reported to the Board of Directors. Section III.A(8) of the By-Laws authorizes the General Manager to apply for grants and receive donations, subject to reporting such actions to the Board of Directors.

Pursuant to this authorization, the following information is provided to the Board.

Date	Purpose	Recipient	Amount
1/20/2009	PG&E-Moore Creek	PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC CO	\$104.00

The second recommended action is to authorize the General Manager to pay ongoing utility expenses at District facilities without the need to report these to the Board each month, provided the funds to pay these expenses is in the approved budget. This authorization already exists for the payment of trash and portable toilet services provided at the Napa River Ecological Reserve.



Napa County Regional Park
and Open Space District

STAFF REPORT

Date: February 9, 2009

Agenda Item: 4.H

Subject: Receipt of Second Quarter Financial Statement, and consideration of and potential approval of adjustments to the budget for FY 2008-9.

Recommendation

1. Receive the Second Quarter Financial Statement
2. Approved the recommended revised budget for FY 2008-9.

Background

The second quarter financial statement is attached as Exhibit A. Recommended revisions to the budget for fiscal year 2008-9 are shown in Exhibit B. The recommended budget revisions are contingent on County approval of changes to the County's grants to the District.

Overall, the recommended revised budget is lower than the adopted budget. Major factors affecting the recommended changes are (1) the state freeze on state-bond funded projects, (2) slower than expected progress on a few projects due to delays in obtaining approvals from other agencies, and (3) increases in the cost of county-contracted services that occurred subsequent to the preparation of the budget. These are described in more detail in the notes accompanying Exhibit B.

NAPA COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

Financial Statements

For the Six Months Ended 12/31/08 *

	Adopted Budget	Budget Adjustments	Revised Budget	Y-T-D Actuals	Remaining Budget	Accruals or Encumbrances	Percent of Budget w/Accruals	(Percent Target = 50%) Explanation of Major Variances
Revenues								
Interest	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 562	\$ 562	\$ -		
St: Coastal Conservancy	70,000	-	70,000	-	70,000	-	0.00%	awaiting DFG agreement
County of Napa	446,992	13,750	460,742	144,890	315,852	-	31.45%	
Elections Services	130,000	-	130,000	-	130,000	-	0.00%	awaiting invoice from Elections office
Donations	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Contributions & Grants		283,312	283,312	283,312	-	-	100.00%	
Total Revenues	\$ 646,992	\$ 297,062	\$ 944,054	\$ 428,764	\$ 516,415	\$ -	45.42%	
Expenditures								
Insurance	2,060	-	2,060	1,464	596	-	71.09%	annual premium to be paid in 2nd quarter
Mnapa River & Bay Trail	50,000	-	50,000	-	50,000	-	0.00%	work expected to start in spring 2009
Oat Hill Mine Trail	41,192	-	41,192	1,768	39,424	-	4.29%	work postponed pending resolution of litigation
Camp Berryessa	77,700	-	77,700	12,386	65,314	37,604	64.34%	feasibility and design contract encumbered; work starts in 2nd quarter
Napa River Ecological Preserve	70,000	-	70,000	-	70,000	-	0.00%	awaiting DFG agreement
Memberships	1,600	-	1,600	100	1,500	-	6.25%	awaiting annual membership invoices
Office Expense	1,750	-	1,750	453	1,297	-	25.90%	PSS:Administration overhead charge covers most office expense
PSS: Legal Expense	8,240	-	8,240	6,509	1,731	-	79.00%	extra legal advice needed for Moore Creek Acquisition
PSS: Audit and Accounting Services	5,150	-	5,150	5,316	(166)		103.23%	
PSS: Elections Services	130,000	-	130,000	-	130,000	-	0.00%	awaiting invoice--will be far below budget
PSS: Other	51,800	-	51,800	19,480	32,320	30,551	96.59%	full-year of contracted outreach/field services encumbered
PSS: Administration	170,000	-	170,000	105,162	64,838	-	61.86%	higher due to unbudgeted salary adjustments+ accrued vacation
SDE: Other	35,500	-	35,500	6,690	28,810	3,500	28.70%	
SDE: Ecology Preserve	-	13,750	13,750	6,457	7,293	6,592	94.90%	full year expense already encumbered
Transportation & Travel	1,000	-	1,000	752	248	-	75.16%	one-time expenses for Moore Creek grant application
Training	1,000	-	1,000	125	875	-	12.50%	
Land		283,312	283,312	265,000	18,312	-	93.54%	
Total Expenditures	\$ 646,992	\$ 297,062	\$ 944,054	\$ 431,663	\$ 512,391	\$ 78,247	54.01%	greater than revenues because of encumbrances
	Adopted Budget		Revised Budget	YTD				
Beginning Fund Balance as of 7/1/08	\$ 25,656		\$ 25,656	\$ 25,656				
Less: Designations	(25,656)		(25,656)	(25,656)				fund balance designated for SDE: Other (for contingencies)
Less: Surplus/(Deficit)	-		-	(2,899)				
Projected Ending Fund Balance 6/30/09	\$ -		\$ -	\$ (2,899)				
Cash Balance as of December 31, 2008	\$ 60,656.27							

* Note: This includes all expenses and revenues incurred (on an accrual basis) during the six months ending 12/21/08 even though they were paid and received in January 2009.

RECOMMENDED REVISED BUDGET FOR FY 2008-9

REVENUES

		Adopted	Recommended
	Description	6/16/08	2/9/09
1	Operating Grant from Napa County	278,100	337,635
2	Elections Cost Grant from Napa County	130,000	30,000
3	Special Projects Grant from Napa County	168,892	141,192
4	State Coastal Conservancy Grant	70,000	25,000
5	Donations	0	0
6	Program: Moore Creek		52,832
7	Total Revenue	\$646,992	\$586,659

EXPENDITURES

	Description	Adopted	Recommended
		2009	2/9/09
8	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FROM COUNTY	170,000	215,000
9	VOLUNTEER, OUTREACH, STEWARDSHIP AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT SERVICES	51,800	79,000
10	LEGAL EXPENSE	8,240	10,000
11	INSURANCE:LIABILITY	2,060	2,000
12	MEMBERSHIPS	1,600	1,500
13	OFFICE EXPENSE	1,750	1,500
14	AUDIT	5,150	5,600
15	ELECTION SERVICES	130,000	30,000
16	CONTINGENCIES/ SPECIAL PROJECTS	35,500	10,000
17	TRANSPORTATION & TRAV	1,000	1,000
18	TRAINING	1,000	250
19	Project: NAPA RIVER&BAY TRAIL	50,000	50,000
20	Project: OAT HILL MINE TRAIL	41,192	41,192
21	Project: CAMP BERRYESSA	77,700	50,000
22	Project: NAPA R ECOLOGICAL RESERVE	70,000	38,750
23	Project: BV		35
24	Program: Moore Creek		52,832
25	Total Expenditure	\$646,992	\$586,659

Notes to Recommended Revised Budget for FY 2008-9

February 9, 2009

1. The increase includes \$13,750 added to the budget by prior action to cover the transfer of responsibility for the Napa River Ecological Reserve from the County to the District. The remainder of the increase is due to changes in County employee compensation and benefit rates which were not known at the time the budget was adopted, plus slightly higher than expected costs for county legal services.
2. Actual election costs have not been determined and so may change further. However, the original estimate of \$130,000 assumed there would be elections if all five District wards. Since only one ward had a contested election, it seems safe that the actual bill will be under \$30,000.
3. A slower rate of expenditure is projected for one of the multi-year funded projects (see note 21).
4. The freeze in state bond-funded grants is delaying implementation of this project. The \$25,000 figure is the most that is likely to be spent this fiscal year.
6. Revenues include \$4,800 in rental income, \$18,312 in acquisition costs paid by Proposition 40 funds which the County had originally expected to pay for using County general funds, and a \$29,712 refund in the escrow deposit (the \$35,000 option payment less escrow closing costs).
8. Increase is due to job reclassifications, changes in compensation and cost of benefits which were not known at the time the budget was adopted.
9. Increase is the result of contracting for a part-time project manager.
10. Legal fees have been higher than expected, primarily due to extra research associated with the purchase of Moore Creek.
15. See note 2.
16. The reduction in this category is to offset the cost of contracting for a part-time project manager.
21. The pace of this project has been slowed due to a determination by the Bureau of Reclamation that they needed to complete a archaeological and cultural resources survey prior to soil testing by the consultant.
22. See note 4.
23. This is the cost of the flood assessment for the Berryessa Vista project. Note that staffing costs associating with monitoring and planning work at Berryessa Vista are subsumed under expense lines 8 and 9.
24. See note 6. This amount represents the total of what is available this fiscal year for improvements at Moore Creek. Any unexpended funds in this line item will be rolled over into next year's budget.

Plan of Projects

Status Report for February 9, 2009

<u>Name of Project</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Status</u>
Bay/River Trail -- American Canyon to Napa	An 8+ mile recreational trail between the cities of American Canyon and Napa generally following the Napa River and interior levees of associated wetlands.	Feasibility study completed. Environmental review has been completed, and a Use Permit obtained, for the first phase of the project (American Canyon to Green Island Road. The District has been awarded a \$1,032,300 grant from the California River Parkway Grant Program; this grant was frozen in December 2008 pending resolution of the State budget crisis. The City of American Canyon has obtained an easement from the Department of Fish and Game for a spur trail that will provide a direct connection to the Napa River, and the City and District are close to an agreement with the Napa-Vallejo Waste Management Authority for another spur trail that would loop around the landfill. The County Board of Supervisors has approved \$50,000 for the District to complete CEQA for the remainder of the trail. The District has prepared a draft MOU with DFG for the phase one trail, which is now under review by DFG.
Berryessa Estates	Acquire 160 acres next to Berryessa Estates from BLM at no fee through their Recreation and Public Purpose Act procedure. Would serve as a wilderness park for local residents eventually be the northern trailhead for a trail between Berryess Estates and Pope Canyon.	Draft trail plan prepared. CDF has indicated its crews will be available to clear brush for a combined firebreak and trail. <u>The draft R&PP application to BLM has been prepared, and a community meeting is scheduled for March 10 2009 at the Pope Valley Farm Center to get input from and determine level of support in the community.</u>
Berryessa Vista	Planning and stewardship of this 224 acre wilderness park.	Volunteers working with the District have completed detail GIS mapping showing all existing roads, creek crossings, vista points and potential campsites. Continuing damage by off-road vehicles trespassing on the property was noted. A letter introducing the District and the park adjacent and nearby landowners is in preparation, and planning for signage and gate(s) is underway. A key adjacent property is expected to be on the market in the coming year.
Blue Ridge/Berryess Peak Trail	Obtain right of way and construct trail to provide public access to extensive federal lands on Blue Ridge and to Berryessa Peak	Obtained donated trail easement from the Ahmann family to close gaps between existing public lands on Blue Ridge. Undertook a reconnaissance of the trail route in December 2008. <u>Based on this reconnaissance, a revised easement description has been drafted and provided to the landowner for their review.</u>
Camp Berryessa	Redevelopment of former Boy Scout Camp into a group/environmental education camp.	MOU with Bureau of Reclamation has been approved by BOR and by the District granting District an 18 month period to develop a plan for the camp. Questa Engineering has begun the market analysis and prepared some initial design concepts; soil testing for wastewater disposal design is on hold while the BOR completes a cultural survey for the site.

<p>Lake Hennessey North Shore Trails Would open up several miles of existing dirt access road, and construct approximately 1 mile of new single track trail, into a loop trail system on the north side of Lake Hennessey, and connecting to the planned Moore Creek Open Space Park trail system.</p>	<p>This project is being combined with the Milliken Ridge Trail project for purposes of seeking City of Napa approvals to construct and operate trails on their property. <u>A presentation to the Napa City Council is tentatively scheduled for March 2009.</u></p>
<p>Master Plan Development</p>	<p><u>The revised draft Master Plan was approved in January 2009, and the final plan with revisions incorporated is now complete.</u></p>
<p>Milliken Reservoir Trails and Picnic Area Would construct approximately 3 miles of Bay Area Ridge Trail plus additional feeder and loop trails, along with a staging and picnic area</p>	<p>The feasibility study has been completed, and accepted by the Board of Directors. After review by City of Napa staff, the proposal has been modified, and a presentation on the modified plan is tentatively scheduled for City Council review in March.</p>
<p>Moore Creek Open Space Park Development Development of open space park on 673 acres acquired by the District adjacent to City of Napa watershed lands at Lake Hennessey to protect habitat, provide recreational trails, and overnight camping facilities.</p>	<p><u>Escrow closed on December 24, 2008. An initial planning charette with community experts is scheduled for February 28 or March 7, 2009. Improvements to the rental house on the property are in process. A joint VO-CAL volunteer weekend is scheduled for May 15-17 to reroute a section of the existing road/trail to remove it from the streambed. The County Road Crew has offered to provide excess gravelly soil to fill low spots in the existing access road.</u></p>
<p>Napa River Ecological Reserve Restoration Remove invasive plants and restore native vegetaion in the entryway meadow, replace damaged signage and information panels, restorate the interior trail and interpretive elements, and if feasible install a seasonal bridge.</p>	<p>The State Coastal Conservancy has approved a \$100,000 grant for habitat restoration, environmental education and improved signage; this grant was frozen in December 2008 pending resolution of the State budget crisis. A Notice of Exemption under CEQA has been filed on this project. The grant contract has been signed and the District's partners on the project have met to review approaches and roles. The District is continuing to work with the Resource Conservation District and the Department of Fish and Game and the Conservancy on grant contract documents. One of the District's proposed partners, Acorn Soupe, closed its doors due to financial difficulties; the RCD will assume the student environmental education responsibilities which Acorn Soupe had been slated to provide. The District has assumed the County's role in managing the preserve under the joint management agreement with DFG. The deteriorated information kiosk, which had become a serious eyesore, was removed in November 2008.</p>
<p>Napa River Ecological Reserve Maintenance Routine maintenace to remove litter and grafitti</p>	<p>RFP issued seeking a non-profit contractor to provide the maintenance issued in October 2008. <u>The maintenance contract with Options3 started January 1, 2009.</u></p>
<p>Newell Preserve Improvements Provide on-site water supply for group campground and so cattle can be restricted from access to riparian areas.</p>	<p>As part of the arrangement with the land trust on the District's purchase of Berryessa Vista, the land trust is willing to use some of the proceeds from the transaction to fund a well pump and distribution system at the Preserve. However, the first well drilled by the City of American Canyon came up dry. The City has said it will make a second attempt at developing a viable well, but a contract for this work has not yet been approved.</p>

Oat Hill Mine Trail	Grand opening to the Oat Hill Mine Trail with weekend of signage installation, brush removal and erosion control	A major volunteer work party weekend took place May 16-18, 2008, and the trail was then formally opened. A second group of 18 volunteers in November 2008 spent a day doing additional erosion control work. The judge hearing the legal challenge to the trail in December 2008 denied the substance of all of the issues raised by the plaintiff; the County is now waiting to see whether the plaintiff will drop the challenge or appeal the ruling.
Rector Ridge/Stags Leap Ridge Trail	Construction of staging area and 6+ miles of Ridge Trail climbing east from Silverado Trail near Rector Creek.	CEQA on this project was completed several years ago--though this may require minor updating. The project concept has been approved by the District Board. Staff has met with the Pathway Home Project leadership at the Veterans Home, who are supportive of the trail as an amenity which will benefit their program. District staff with assistance from the Ridge Trail Council is preparing a draft agreement for consideration by the Veterans Home.
River to Ridge Trail	Lot line adjustment to legalize River to Ridge Trail as constructed (it currently encroaches on private property in two locations), and improvements to the Highway 221 entrance to the trail.	Lot line adjustment approved by Syar Properties. The California Department of General Services has decided it cannot do a lot line adjustment without legislative authorization; sponsoring legislation to accomplish this has been added to the County's legislative agenda for 2009. In November five Valley Oak trees were planted at the Highway 221 entrance to the trail with the assistance of a volunteer from CNPS. A new information kiosk was installed at the entrance in December 2008 as part of a Boy Scout project.
Skyline Park Protection	Permanent Protection for Skyline Park	Legislation by Senator Wiggins to authorize sale to the County was vetoed by the Governor. <u>The County is again pursuing legislation to authorize the County to purchase the property.</u> Separately, the County is pursuing development of a park overlay zone to protect public lands such as Skyline Park. New language has been included in the new draft General Plan to allow development of a park overlay zone. Staff is now preparing an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to accomplish this. Chandler and Chandler was retained in November 2008 to assist with the preparation of a Master
Skyline Park Improvements	Partner-sponsored improvement include a second greenhouse and a covered equestrian arena.	The proposals for a second greenhouse and a covered arena improvements were approved by the Department of General Services and by the County Board of Supervisors. The sponsors of these projects are now raising funds for implementation.
South Napa Wetlands Habitat Area	Transfer to the District those wetlands owned by the Napa County flood control district between the Napa River, Highway 29 and Newport Drive for use as habitat and nature-based recreation.	Transfer approved in concept by the flood control district advisory committee and Board of Directors. Staff has determined, with City assistance, that there is a legal public pedestrian access easement through the Yacht Club that leads to the property, although the Club has posted a No Trespassing sign at the entrance to the Club which implies the public access does not exist. Staff led a tour of the property on May 22, 2008 in conjunction with the Napa County Watershed Symposium to discuss options and constraints at the site related to public use and environmental education. The District sponsored a workshop with high school science teachers in October to discuss ways to use the site for educational purposes. Park District staff has prepared the first draft of a transfer agreement, which is now under review by the flood district. <u>Flood District and Park District staff are scheduled to meet with members of the Yacht Club at the end of February to discuss access issues and future possible uses for the property.</u>

Vallejo Lakes	Possible purchase of 1100 acres of surplus Vallejo Water District lands, of which 200 acres are located in Napa County	Staff-level discussions between the District, the Land Trust of Napa County, the County of Solano and the Solano Land Trust indicate a common desire to work together to purchase this property adjacent to Skyline Park. The City Council of the City of Vallejo has officially authorized staff to pursue surplusing of the property. District staff and our partners are continuing to research issues related to the property, including potential public access locations, potential trail alignments, and easements and other encumbrances which affect the property. The State Coastal Conservancy has indicated an interest in assisting with the funding necessary to purchase the property.
Wild Lake Ranch	Possible joint management of trails, camping and picnic areas through agreement between the Land Trust, the District and State Parks	The District is participating in the development of a strategic plan for the property, together with other public lands in the area, that is being led by the Land Trust of Napa County. The advisory committee has met once, and completed a field trip to inspect the property. <u>The planning process has been put on hold due to the freeze in state bond funded grants.</u>
<u>Completed Projects</u>		
Berryessa Vista Acquisition	Purchase of 224 acres from the Land Trust of Napa County for use as a public park.	The purchase is complete. Invoice to the State to obtain Prop 12 reimbursement of the purchase has been submitted.
Connolly Ranch	Construction of patio, restrooms and cooking facilities	The project is complete, and the State has approved Prop 12 reimbursement for project costs.
Linda Falls	Accept conservation easement from Land Trust of Napa County to provide additional protection for this 39 acre property, which is owned by the land trust	Easement acquired in spring of 2008.
Moore Creek Open Space Park Acquisition	Acquisition of 673 acres in the Moore Creek Watershed	Escrow closed on December 24, 2009.
Napa River Ecological Reserve	Trash enclosure and removal of graffiti	Project completed.
Napa River Ecological Reserve	Paving the parking area, and control vehicle access through placement of rock barriers	The project is complete, and the State Prop 12 reimbursement has been received.
Napa River Flood Control Easement	Conservation easement held by District to facilitate Flood District project and grant funding	Easement completed.
River to Ridge Trail Enhancements	Installation of animal silhouettes along the entryway fence illustrating the types of birds and mammals that can be found in the area.	Installation completed through an Eagle Scout candidate project.
Skyline Park Improvements Phase I	Prop 12 funding for erosion control work on Lake Marie Road, and paving of campground loop road.	Project is complete, and Prop 12 reimbursement has been received.