

# Carson City

## Updates Related to Public Land Management



Carson River Canyon Open Space

Ann Bollinger, Open Space Administrator  
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Parks, Recreation and Open Space Department

AGENDA ITEM IV B - LANDS  
Document consists of 14 pages.  
Entire exhibit provided.  
Meeting Date: 08-19-16

Legislative Committee on Public Lands – August 19, 2016

# Carson City

## Updates Related to Public Land Management

### Highlights

- Carson City Quality of Life Initiative
- Federal Lands Bill
- Ash to Kings Trail
- Targeted Grazing Project
- Stateline-to-Stateline Bikeway

# Quality of Life Initiative

## – 20th Anniversary –

1996 “Quality of Life” ballot initiative

### Dedicated funding

- Construction and maintenance of new parks and recreation facilities
- Acquisition and management of open space

### Revenue

- ¼ of .01¢ sales tax
- Approximately \$2.5 million/year



# Quality of Life Initiative

## – Open Space –

### Objective of the Open Space Program

- ... to promote quality of life for citizens of Carson City through the preservation and protection of the quality of the natural environment.



Horsecreek Ranch  
Conservation Easement

# Quality of Life Initiative

## – Open Space –

### Priority Open Space Areas

- Carson River corridor
- Scenic vistas and visible hillsides
- Working agricultural areas in or near the City
- Linkages for trails, trailheads and connection of open space properties



Mexican Ditch Trail

# Quality of Life Initiative

## – Open Space –

### Acquisitions

|                         |             |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| ■ Fee title purchase    | 2,027 acres |
| ■ Donation              | 142 acres   |
| ■ Conservation easement | 175 acres   |
| ■ Land exchange         | 4,550 acres |

Quality of Life Sales Tax has been leveraged to acquire additional funds for acquisitions and improvements.

# Federal Lands Bill

Also known as the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2009

## 2011

- USFS lands to Carson City 962 acres
- Carson City lands to USFS 2,260 acres

## 2015

- BLM lands to Carson City
  - Open Space 3,590 acres
  - Parks and Public Purpose 1,750 acres



Silver Saddle Ranch



Speech by Ralph Thomas, BLM



Prison Hill Recreation Area

# Ash to Kings Trail

## Annual Achievement Award 2016

- From: The Coalition for Recreational Trails
- Category: Community Linkage



"Ribbon-cutting"  
August 2015



Award Recipients, Washington D.C.  
June 2016

# Ash to Kings Trail

## Epic Rides

- 2016 - Inaugural
- “Carson City Off-Road”



# Targeted Grazing Project

- Reduce fire hazard by reducing biomass production and altering fuel structure
- Use sheep as a tool to remove herbaceous biomass
- Grazing treatments focused within 1,300' behind homes
- Season of use
  - Permitted: March 1 – June 30
  - Approximately 45 days
- Estimated fuel removed (consumed) = 14 tons per week



# Targeted Grazing Project



## Sheep to protect city from wildfires

BY DAVE FRANK

Appeal Staff Writer

4-15-08

Two flocks of about 150 sheep each will graze in the city for the next few weeks.

like equipment could, he said, and didn't raise concerns like herbicides do.

## Firefighting sheep to start arriving Sunday

BY TERRI HARBEE  
Appeal Staff Writer

Sheep will be brought into Carson City's western hills starting this weekend to help make the area less prone to wildfire.

Two flocks of sheep, approximately 1,600 total, will eliminate cheatgrass, perennial grasses and forbs — a herbaceous plant that's not a grass.

The first flock is expected to arrive Sunday morning by truck, and be released behind Greenhouse Garden Center on South Curry Street to eat along C Hill. The second will be walked in from Washoe County early Wednesday, and focus on the Timberline-Lakeview area.

"Sheep are nomadic, they have to move," said Ann Bollinger, the city's open space assistant.

The sheep are expected to graze up to 2,500 acres on the west side during the

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Call the Carson City Parks and Recreation Department, 887-2115, to schedule a group visit with the sheep or learn more about the project.

## Sheep thrills



Lisa A. Telle/Courtesy Times

A Great Pyrenees guard dog, right, watches over his flock with other dogs and sheepherder Rafael Ruiz. Two flocks of about 800 sheep are allowed to eat the highly flammable cheatgrass that grows along C Hill and the area between Silver Oak Golf Course and the Lakeview subdivision in an effort to remove fuel for potential wildfires.

Carson-Times  
4-6-08

## Grazing helps prevent cheatgrass growth

# Stateline-to-Stateline Bikeway

- Also known as the State Route 28 Shared-Use Path
- “North Demonstration Project” construction will be managed by NDOT
- Ground-breaking – August 19, 2016



# Thank You



Golden Eagle Open Space



Backside of C-Hill,  
photo by Jay Aldrich

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