

## USDA Forest Service-Eldorado National Forest

July 2017

Issue #7



# 42 Route Update

## Planning Corner Route Repairs Funded!!

*"We are pleased to announce the approval of our State OHV Ground Operations Grant Application.*

*Approximately \$500,000 of the grant funds are going to be used on repairing and opening five more routes this year and the remainder in 2018."*

*Laurence Crabtree  
Forest Supervisor*

In July 2017 the OHV Division of the California Department of Parks and Recreation posted their notice of Ground Operations final grant award results at the full request level to the Eldorado National Forest. This will allow the 42 routes team to begin the implementation of the proposed fixes on 5 of the remaining routes starting as soon as October 2017 and continuing through September 2018. Three other closed routes are scheduled for corrective actions late summer 2017 with Forest Service funding.

### **California State Parks Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Program Operation and Maintenance—Ground Operations (Final Awards)**

Web Link: <http://ohv.parks.ca.gov/pages/1140/files/2016-17GroundOperations-FINAL.pdf>

### **Amador High Country Routes Project Environmental Assessment (EA)**

Description: Route repairs along the Carson Emigrant National Recreation Trail (17E24), Forest System Trail 16E26, and the Long Valley Trail (17E28). Change the vehicle use designation on the northern end of the Long Valley Trail at Mud Lake. Final EA and Decision Notice issued January 2017.

Web Link: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=47470>

### **Strawberry 4WD Trail Decision Memo**

Description: Route maintenance of 17E23. Decision Memo signed December 2016. Web Link: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=49172>

### **Deer Valley 4WD Trail and Blue Lakes/Meadow Lake Road Maintenance EA**

Description: Route work on the Deer Valley 4WD Trail (19E01) will include a trail reroute, hardening the crossing at Clover Valley Road 9N83-2 and stream bank restoration. The Blue Lakes Road (9N01) would have a gate west of Twin Lakes and road maintenance. Both routes would have a new seasonal closure in the spring to limit impacts to the Yosemite Toad. Final EA and Decision Notice issued December 2016.

Web Link: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=45439>

### **Foster Firs Forest Health EA**

Description: EA included route repair to Cosumnes Head Road (9N95) of one cross drain, two inlet risers, ditch reconstruction, and an outlet rip rap. Final EA and Decision Notice issued February 2016.

Web Link: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=41240>

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/eldorado>

- Watch for project updates on the Eldorado National Forest website under the heading "All Things Travel Management"; "Subpart B—42 Route Project Page"



## *2017 Storm Damage*

This winter a series of strong storms hit California, causing extensive damage to roads, trails, infrastructure and ecosystems on California's national forests. The impacts of the damage are having far-reaching effects on forest programs, services and public access. Damage assessments are still in progress and will continue as the snow melts. For more information and an interactive map visit: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/enf/stormdamage>.



## *Remaining Routes Implementation Plan*

The summer and fall of 2017, several trail/road repair projects are planned for completion:

- Clover Valley Road/Deer Valley Trail (19E01/09N83)
- Blue Lakes/Meadow Lake Road (09N01)
- Consumes Head (09N95)
- Strawberry 4WD Trail (17E73/10N13)
- Little Round Top (17E16)



The summer of 2018, the remaining high country routes are planned for completion:

- Forest System Trail 16E26
- Carson Emigrant Trail (17E24)
- Long Valley Trail (17E28)
- Allen Camp MC Trail (17E19) - Pending Proposal

## *Monitoring Update*

Two types of monitoring are addressed in the Monitoring Plan for the 42 Routes Project: Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation of Other Aquatic Features.

### **Implementation Monitoring - Placerville & Amador Districts**

Eleven sites were monitored in September and October of 2016 where corrective measures were implemented in order to meet Standard and Guideline (S&G) #100 of the 2004 Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment.

- ◆ All 11 sites were rated as being in compliance with S&G #100. The sites are: 10N01-1, 10N13-11, 10N14-1, 10N21-1, 10N21-4, 10N98-1, 10N98-2, 10NY04-2, 11N23F-1, 11NY32-1, and 17E24-3.
- ◆ Additional work was completed at site 10N13-11 during the summer of 2016 as a result of monitoring done in the spring of 2016.
- ◆ Additional work is recommended at three sites in order to prevent or reduce resource damage. The sites are 10N21-4, 10NY04-2, and 10N01-1.

#### **Meadow 10N13-11.** (*Amador Ranger District*)

The base of four rolling dips was lined with rock on the uphill side of the rolling dips. This is expected to prevent erosion of the trail at the base of the rolling dips, which in turn should reduce the amount of trail-generated sediment reaching Schneider Camp Meadow. Schneider Camp Meadow is located approximately 0.3 miles to the southwest of the rolling dips on trail 10N13.



## Monitoring Update

### Implementation Monitoring - Pacific Ranger District

Meadow locations were monitored during the fall of 2016 where corrective actions were implemented on both the Barrett Lake 4WD Trail (16E21) and Richardson Lake Road (14N39). All sites visited were found to be in compliance with S&G 100 from the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment, although work is recommended at some locations to reduce potential for future resource damage.

#### Richardson Lake Trail (14N39)

##### *Meadow 1*

All improvements at Meadow 1 were functioning appropriately. The sediment basin effectively trapped sediment from the road traveling towards the meadow. However, evidence that a vehicle traveled illegally off the trail and into the meadow was observed. Forest Service personnel immediately repaired the damage, and a "no off road travel" sign was placed at the area where the vehicle illegally left the trail. Pictures and a description were posted on the Eldorado National Forest Facebook page to educate the public of the damage that can occur when vehicles travel illegally off of designated trails.



#### Barrett Lake 4WD Trail (16E21)

##### *Meadow 1*

All improvements at Meadow 1 were functioning appropriately. Based upon early summer monitoring, work was recommended to strengthen the culvert outlet at Meadow 1. Water at the culvert outlet was eroding the sidewall and flowing down the trail, but was not yet impacting the meadow. Over the summer, volunteers from the Hi-Landers Jeep Club strengthened the culvert outlet using concrete and rebar. The outlet ditch was also extended and deepened to improve drainage.

##### *Meadow 5*

All improvements at Meadow 5 were functioning appropriately. No erosion was observed on the reroute. Restoration of the meadow has also been successful, and vegetation along the decommissioned section of the trail is becoming further established. No improvements are necessary.

##### *Meadow 6*

All improvements at Meadow 6 were functioning appropriately.

## *Monitoring Update*

### Evaluation of Other Aquatic Features

The second type of monitoring being conducted under the monitoring plan is the evaluation of aquatic features other than meadows on the 24 routes that were reopened under the 2013 Travel Management SEIS. This evaluation would determine if there are other aquatic features on these routes that are not meeting Standard and Guideline #100. If problems are found, then necessary corrective actions will be identified and implemented.

In September 2016, the Eldorado National Forest completed the evaluation of the remaining seven routes:

District	Route Number	Route Name
Amador	17E79	Pardoe 4wd
Amador	10N03	Devil's Gate Summer Home
Pacific	11N70	McManus
Pacific	12NY15	West Robbs Peak
Placerville	09N54	Leoni Meadows
Placerville	10N32	South Beanville Creek
Placerville	10NY05	Rocky Road

All seven were found to be meeting S&G 100 with regard to all aquatic features. The monitoring was completed by hydrologist Eric Moser from Forest Service Above and Beyond Enterprise Team. As a result of monitoring Eric conducted in 2015, Middle Long Canyon (10NY04) and Upper Long Canyon (10NY06) were repaired in October 2015.

Corrective actions on Bunker Meadow Road (14N27) have been identified. A series of rolling dips will be constructed to divert water running down the road, and a culvert that was partially crushed by a falling tree will be reshaped with a pneumatic jack. The work is scheduled to occur in September, 2017.



Corrective actions on Bucks Pasture Trail (17E17) have been identified. Trail maintenance on approximately 250 ft. of trail will re-establish drainage features and be done by a trail crew with hand tools. The work is scheduled to occur in September, 2017.

The monitoring of Horse Canyon Trail (17E21) was rated as inconclusive, requiring further evaluation to determine appropriate actions.

## *Detailed Corrective Action Plan (Updated 7/1/2017)*

<b>Tier 1</b>						
<b>Tier 1 Projects:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relatively low complexity (nature of repair needed, resource issues and logistics)</li> <li>• High demand for public motor vehicle use and/high level of public interest in the route</li> <li>• Associated values (access to developed facilities or private lands, previous investment in the route)</li> </ul>						
Route	Project Type	Preliminary Assessment / Design Status	NEPA Planning Funding	Anticipated NEPA Dates Start / End	Anticipated Project Start	Funding for Implementation
<b>Amador Ranger District</b>			<b>Rick Hopson, District Ranger</b>			
<b>09N08 Stockton Camp Road</b>	Road Maintenance (access to Stockton Camp)	Initial visit 11/13; Engineer/ Hydrologist/ C&M to visit 6/14	OHV Planning Grant	September 2014	Route reopened 9/18/2014	Forest Service Funding
<b>Pacific Ranger District</b>			<b>Richard Thornburgh, District Ranger</b>			
<b>16E21 Barrett Lake 4WD Trail</b>	Trail Reconstruction	Completed 10/13	OHV Ground Operations Grant and Forest Service Funding	Started 2013; Completed June, 2014 Decision Notice signed 6/16/14	Meadows 5 & 6 completed 10/8/14; Meadow 1 completed July, 2015  Route reopened July 2, 2015	OHV Ground Operations Grant; RAC Grant; Forest Service Funding; Volunteers
<b>14N39 Richardson Lake</b>	Road Maintenance (first part)	Initial visits 2013; Engineer/ Hydrologist/ C&M to visit 6/14	OHV Planning Grant	Road Maintenance CE	Work was completed July 2014; Route reopened to PCT 7/14/14	Forest Service Funding and volunteers
<b>Placerville Ranger District</b>			<b>Richard Thornburgh, District Ranger</b>			
<b>11NY32 47 Milestone</b>	Road Maintenance  Some work completed, additional work needed	April-August 2014	OHV Planning Grant	CE completed 2014	Work was completed October 2014; Route reopened 11/19/14	Forest Service Funding
<b>10N98 Jim Quinn Spur</b>	Road Maintenance	June-August 2014	OHV Planning Grant	CE completed 2014	Work was completed in September, 2015  Route reopened 9/30/15	Forest Service Funding

## *Detailed Corrective Action Plan - continued*

<b>Tier 2</b>						
<b>Tier 2 Projects:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relatively high complexity (nature of repair needed, resource issues and logistics)</li> <li>• High demand for public motor vehicle use and/high level of public interest in the route</li> <li>• Associated values (access to developed facilities or private lands, previous investment in the route)</li> </ul>						
Route	Project Type	Preliminary Assessment / Design Status	NEPA Planning Funding	Anticipated NEPA Dates Start / End	Anticipated Project Start	Funding for Implementation
<b>Amador Ranger District</b>			<b>Rick Hopson, District Ranger</b>			
<b>10N01B Woods Lake Spur</b>	Road Maintenance	November 2013 – September 2014	SNC Grant/ OHV Planning Grant	CE completed October 2014	Completed June 2015; route reopened July 6, 2015	Forest Service Funding (Cornerstone)
<b>10N13 Schneider Camp Road</b>	Road Maintenance	November 2013 – August 2014	SNC Grant/ OHV Planning Grant	CE completed October 2014	Completed October 2014; Route reopened to new parking area 11/3/14	Forest Service Funding (Cornerstone)
<b>19E01 (09N83) Clover Valley/ Deer Valley Trail</b>	Trail Maintenance	6/14 - 9/14	OHV Planning Grant	EA completed December 2016	Late Summer 2017	Forest Service Funding
<b>Forest Route 16E26</b>	Trail Maintenance	6/14 - 9/14	OHV Planning Grant	Amador High Country Routes EA completed January 2017	Summer 2018	State OHV Ground Operations Grant
<b>17E24 Carson Emigrant Trail</b>	Trail Maintenance	Initial visit hydro (Moser) 11/13; follow up 6/14 - 9/14	OHV Planning Grant	CE for Mud Lake completed June 2015; Amador High Country Routes EA completed January 2017	Mud Lake Section reopened 6/2015 Work on remainder anticipated Summer 2018	State OHV Ground Operations Grant
<b>09N01 Blue Lakes/ Meadow Lake Road</b>	Road Maintenance	6/14 - 9/14	OHV Planning Grant	EA completed December 2016	Late Summer 2017	Forest Service Funding
<b>17E28 Long Valley Trail</b>	Trail Maintenance	6/14 - 9/14	OHV Planning Grant	Amador High Country Routes EA completed January 2017	Summer 2018	State OHV Ground Operations Grant
<b>Pacific Ranger District</b>			<b>Richard Thornburgh, District Ranger</b>			
<b>14N39 Richardson Lake 4WD Trail (upper part)</b>	Road Repair/ possible reroute	Initial visits 2013; Engineer/ Hydrologist visit 6/14; Appellant Visit 7/16/14	OHV Ground Operations Grant	CE Completed August 2014	Work completed 2015 Route reopened 8/21/15	State OHV Ground Operations Grant and Forest Service Funding

## *Detailed Corrective Action Plan - continued*

Tier 2 Continued						
Route	Project Type	Preliminary Assessment / Design Status	NEPA Planning Funding	Anticipated NEPA Dates Start / End	Anticipated Project Start	Funding for Implementation
<b>Placerville Ranger District</b>			<b>Richard Thornburgh, District Ranger</b>			
<b>17E73 (10N13) Strawberry 4WD Trail</b>	Trail Maintenance	Planned for 6/14 - 9/14;	OHV Planning Grant for Strawberry Trail	CE completed December 2016	Fall 2017	State OHV Ground Operations Grant
<b>16E27 (10N21) Long Canyon 4WD Trail</b>	Trail Repair	Initial visit hydro 11/13; follow up 6/14 - 9/14	OHV Planning Grant	June 2015 - Fall 2015	Completed Sept. 2015 <b>Route reopened 9/30/2015</b>	Forest Service Funding
<b>16E33 (11N23F) North Shanty Spur</b>	Trail Repair	Initial visit hydro 11/13; follow up 6/14 - 9/14	Forest Service Funding	CE completed 2014	Completed Nov, 2014 <b>Route reopened 11/19/14</b>	Forest Service Funding
<b>10N14 Mule Canyon</b>	Road Maintenance	Engineer/ Hydrologist/ C&M visit 6/14	OHV Ground Operations Grant	CE completed 2014	Completed Nov, 2014 <b>Route reopened 11/19/14</b>	Forest Service Funding

Tier 3						
<p><b>Tier 3 Projects:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May have relatively high complexity (nature of repair needed, resource issues and logistics)</li> <li>• Relatively lower demand for public motor vehicle use and/lower level of public interest in the route</li> <li>• Few associated values (access to developed facilities or private lands, previous investment in the route)</li> </ul>						
Route	Project Type	Preliminary Assessment / Design Status	NEPA Planning Funding	Anticipated NEPA Dates Start / End	Anticipated Project Start	Funding for Implementation
<b>Amador Ranger District</b>			<b>Rick Hopson, District Ranger</b>			
<b>17E19 Allen Camp MC Trail</b>	Trail Maintenance	Initial visit hydro (Moser) 11/13; follow up 6/14 - 9/14	Forest Service Funding	CE Fall 2017 - Jennifer DeWoody	2018 or 2019	TBD
<b>09N95 Consumes Head</b>	Maintenance; (part of Foster Firs project)	Hydrologist, Botanist and Engineer have provided input as part of Foster Firs project	Forest Service Funding	Foster Firs EA completed February 2016.	Late Summer 2017	Forest Service Funding
<b>Placerville Ranger District</b>			<b>Richard Thornburgh, District Ranger</b>			
<b>17E16 Little Round Top</b>	Trail Maintenance	Recreation staff visited 2013; Engineer/ Hydro to visit 5/14	Forest Service Funding	CE completed April 2017	Fall 2017	State OHV Ground Operations Grant