

DRAFT as of 11.9.11

Upper Truckee River Restoration and Golf Course Reconfiguration Project Myths vs. Facts

Size/Scale

Myth: The golf course is being expanded

Fact: The golf course would remain an 18-hole regulation golf course with approximately the same par and yardage but area turf, however, will decrease by 10% to 15% (from 98 acres to approximately 84 acres).

Myth: Project is not about river; it's just about expanding the golf course

Fact: Restoration of the river requires more room for both restored meanders and increased floodplain area. Golf course holes in this zone need to be removed to allow for restoration. The Project's primary purpose is to restore natural geomorphic and ecological processes along this reach of river, improve riparian habitat, and to reduce the river's suspended sediment discharge to Lake Tahoe.

Habitat

Myth: The wildlife corridor will be degraded

Fact: The completed project will enhance wildlife corridor. The purpose of this project is to restore the river, which means this project will be creating a riparian corridor in an area where it is currently fragmented due to the existing golf course alignment. This is the only travel corridor for wildlife that does not require crossing human development as the entire park is surrounded by roads and housing developments.

Myth: The golf course will block bear routes to the river

Fact: Bears have a very large range (up to 30 square miles) and readily cross a variety of terrain including urbanized areas and golf courses (**photo of bear on GC**). A 2011 study used GPS collar to track a bear from Tahoe's west shore to the other side of the crest of the Sierra Nevada.



Myth: project has nothing to do with Lake Tahoe

Fact: This is a High Priority EIP project. It is identified as a significant producer of clarity reducing sediment

Historic + Cultural

Myth: The golf course will impact the historic Celio Barn currently located in Washoe Meadows State Park.

Fact: The barn is not in the project area.

Myth: California State Parks (CSP) has not been working with the Washoe Tribe.

Fact: CSP and the tribe have been meeting since 2003 and continued to meet throughout the process and are currently working to find a solution that works for tribe.

Water Quality + Resource Protection

Myth: The proposed project is worse for the environment than current conditions

Fact: Project would restore 32 acres of SEZ containing critical riparian habitat, reconnect river to its floodplain, decrease fine sediment loads, raise the water table, and provide wildlife corridor connectivity along Upper Truckee River. It has been identified in the Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) evaluation as a critical area for environmental improvement in the Lake Tahoe Basin.

Myth: Other reaches should be restored instead of the golf course reach

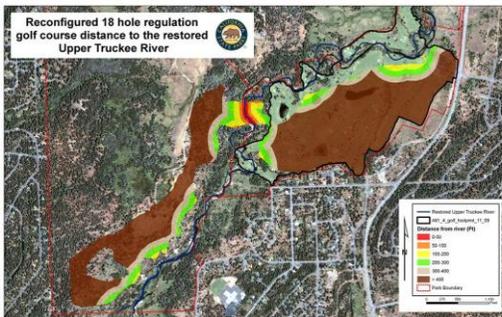
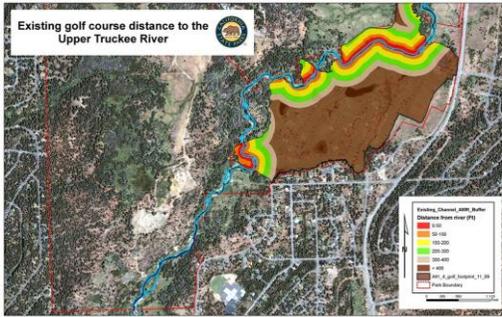
Fact: This project is part of a multi-agency, multi-reach effort to treat the river from Christmas Valley to Lake Tahoe. It is being planned in cooperation with the Upper Truckee River Watershed Assessment Group and is part of a regional effort to restore the river in order to protect lake clarity at Lake Tahoe.

Myth: There is nothing wrong with the river

Fact: The Upper Truckee River has had a long history of disturbance leading to poor habitat and water quality. The river is unnaturally straight and disconnected from its floodplain. This increases erosion and sediment and degrades riparian and stream zone habitat.

Myth: The golf course is increasing along the river

Fact: The golf course is being moved away from the river to less sensitive land. Golf course within 100 feet of the river will decrease from 6382 to just 850 linear feet (Over 5,532 linear feet of the golf course is being removed from the river edge).



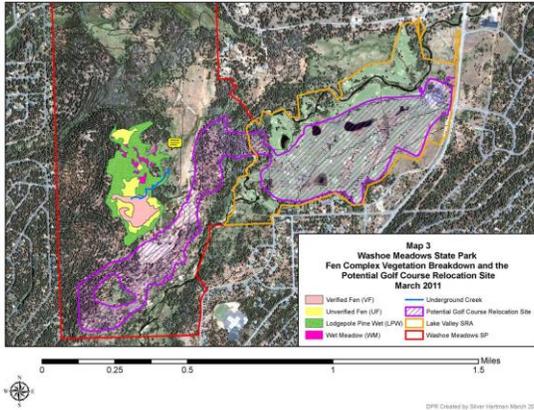
Myth: Relocation of golf course will adversely impact the stream environment zone (SEZ)

Fact: Golf course in SEZ will decrease from current 128 acres to approximately 96 acres, restoring 32 acres of SEZ. The active floodplain area will increase by 40 acres.

Myth: The relocated golf course will impact the fen (A fen is a type of wetland fed by mineral-rich surface water or groundwater)

Fact: The fen is upslope of and outside of the golf course area, and no grading will occur to disrupt drainage. CSP is working with the California Native Plant Society to study the fen areas to ensure the golf course does not impact them.

DRAFT as of 11.9.11



(Light pink are is the fen)

Recreation + Public Access

Myth: Public access to the river will be blocked

Fact: An additional mile (approximately) of the river will be available to the public. The additional, restored public access river area (due to golf course holes being moved) will include: a new trail, fishing, bird watching, and other river access for the public.

Myth: Recreation access will be decreased

Fact: There will be much greater recreational access available to a broader community. Parking will be available at a trailhead by the clubhouse. The trail will connect to the sawmill regional bike path and cross the new bridge to the west side of the park. The new segment of the trail will be designed to be ADA-compliant. A mile of restored river area will be open to access such as fishing, bird watching (ecotourism), canoeing and picnicking. Parking will be provided near the clubhouse. State Parks will also consider future access for snowshoeing and cross-country skiing.



Myth: Snowmobiles will be allowed on the west side of the river

Fact: Snowmobiles would continue to be allowed ONLY in the driving range area operated by the winter concession.

Myth: There will be a decrease in hiking trails

Fact: There will be approximately a mile of additional trails with greater regional connectivity. A trail would be constructed through the restored area along the river connecting to the new bridge (see map) and the sawmill bike path and Country Club corner. This would provide connectivity between the eastern and western parts of WMSP and to regional bike trails.

Myth: The project isn't good for fishing

Fact: The restored river will have better habitat for fish and better access for fishermen. Approximately a one-mile reach of river that is currently closed will be open to fishing with access from the clubhouse parking lot along the new trail to the river

Myth: I can use the existing bridges to cross the river

Fact: All of the golf course bridges are closed to non-golf use due to safety hazard

Golfing/Golf Course

DRAFT as of 11.9.11

Myth: I won't be able to play 18-hole regulation golf

Fact: The golf course would remain an 18-hole regulation golf course with similar par and yardage as the existing course

Myth: Prices for a round of golf would rise significantly

Fact: Fees are and will be capped by California State Parks. CSP may allow the operator to charge about a \$5 surcharge for the new course.

Myth: The golf course will close for a few years during construction

Fact: The golf course would remain open throughout construction. The new western holes would be built first, keeping the existing course open. CSP would strive to keep an 18-hole course open the entire time but some periods may have shortened or modified holes.

Myth 9-hole golf course is economically feasible

Fact: The 2008 Hansford economic study showed that a 9-hole golf course is not economically feasible. CSP would be unable to find a concession willing to run the golf course at little profit or a loss, thus the 9-hole option is actually a no golf course option.

Myth golf is declining so course not needed

Fact: The demand for “alternative golf courses” (9-hole, pitch and putt, executive style courses) has been declining as evidenced by the number of closures of these types of courses; however, 18-hole golf courses continue to open nationally (source: National Golf Foundation “NGF”). NGF estimates that the total number of golfers and total number of golf facilities is about the same now as in 2000, although the total number of rounds may be less. As the economy strengthens it is likely that the leisure / recreation industries will also strengthen although most likely spending on leisure will lag behind spending in other economic activities.

Economics

Myth: golf course construction would be funded by grants

Comment [cynthia 1]: A7l7t7h7
o7u7g7h7 7t7h7e7s7e7
7f7i7g7u7r7e7s7 7a7r7e7
7u7s7e7f7u7l7 7i7n7
7g7a7u7g7i7n7g7
7n7a7t7i7o7n7a7l7 7g7o7l7f7
7t7r7e7n7d7s7,7 7t7h7e7
7d7e7m7a7n7d7 7f7o7r7
7g7o7l7f7 7i7n7 7T7a7h7o7e7
7w7i7l7l7 7n7o7t7
7n7e7c7e7s7s7a7r7i7l7y7
7f7o7l7l7o7w7 7t7h7e7
7n7a7t7i7o7n7a7l7
7t7r7e7n7d7.7 7 7A7s7
7d7e7s7c7r7i7b7e7d7
7m7o7r7e7 7f7u7l7l7y7 7i7n7
7t7h7e7 727070787
7e7c7o7n7o7m7i7c7
7r7e7p7o7r7t7,7 7g7o7l7f7
7a7c7t7i7v7i7t7y7 7i7n7
7T7a7h7o7e7 7i7s7
7l7i7n7k7e7d7
7p7r7i7m7a7r7i7l7y7 7t7o7
7n7a7t7i7o7n7a7l7
7l7e7i7s7u7r7e7 7t7r7e7n7d7s7
7a7n7d7 7t7h7e7
7n7a7t7i7o7n7a7l7 7a7n7d7
7r7e7g7i7o7n7a7l7
7e7c7o7n7o7m7y7.7 7 7T7h7e7
7d7e7c7l7i7n7e7 7i7n7
7g7o7l7f7 7a7c7

Fact: CSP anticipates receiving grant funding to complete the river and meadow restoration work. The construction of relocated golf holes is anticipated to be paid for through the lease agreement.

Myth golf course isn't important to local economy

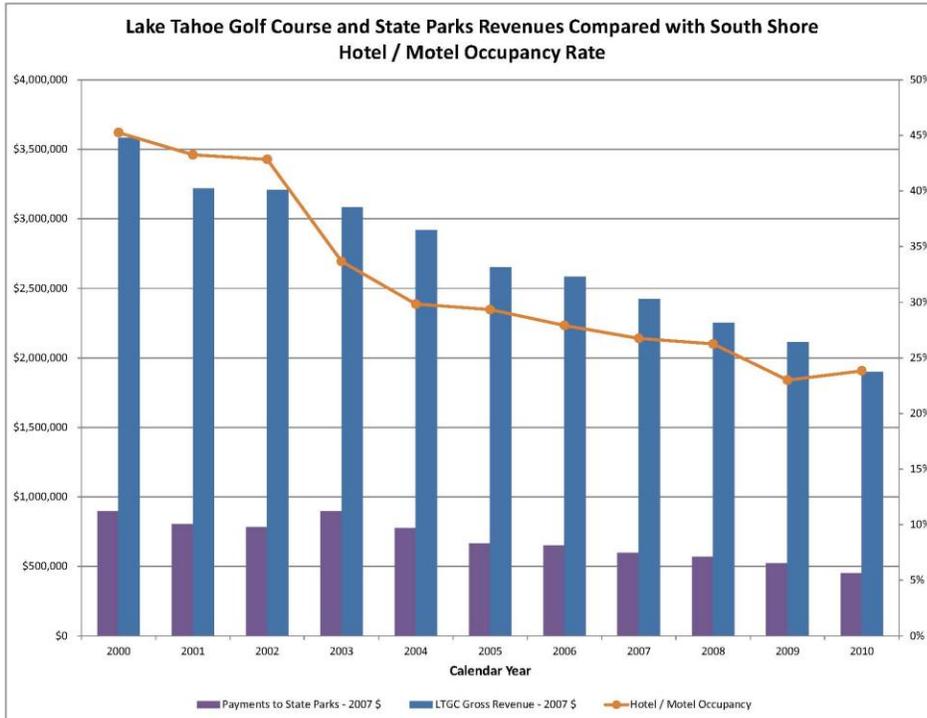
Fact: The 2008 economic feasibility study showed the LTGC contributed approximately 90 jobs and 6 million dollars to the local economy not including jobs at the golf course itself. The economy has declined since that time; however the golf course still is an important source of tourism revenue and jobs.

Myth: Golf revenue to CSP is declining and thus not important

Fact: The golf course is lagging with the poor economy; the decline over the past few years is not indicative of willingness to pay and play golf at LTGC. The revenues vary annually and have decreased in recent years, but the decrease follows the general economic trend (graph).

In the economic study completed in 2008, CSP revenue averaged \$685,000 between 2003 and 2006 (not including Capital Improvement Program). Between 2007 and 2010 CSP revenue averaged \$557,000 per year. Golf revenue to CSP has declined in tandem with the decline in visitor spending in South Lake Tahoe; as such it is anticipated to be temporary and to increase again as the economy gets stronger.

DRAFT as of 11.9.11



Washoe Meadow State Park (WMSP) Topics

Myth: WMSP is pristine area

Fact: WMSP had a long history of disturbance prior to acquisition by CSP, including logging, quarry borrow pits, drag races in the meadow, channel straightening, grazing, trash dumps, sewer lines for surrounding neighborhoods through the meadows, and many old, degraded dirt roads.

Myth: CSP has ignored WMSP

Fact: Although no infrastructure has been developed on WMSP, there has been extensive natural resource work in the park, including: restoration of 2 miles of Angora Creek, forest health and fuel reduction efforts, re contouring of legacy logging and mining roads, and filling and revegetation of one of the quarry pits.

Myth: Land exchange between LVSRA and WMSP is of unequal value

Fact: Approximately 92 acres of mostly common upland habitat in WMSP will become part of Lake Valley State Recreation Area (LVSRA) and 52 acres of sensitive habitat in LVSRA along the river will become WMSP. Although the State Recreation Area will increase in size by 40 acres, WMSP will gain acreage along the restored river and decrease in size will be less than 7%.

Myth: project will greatly diminish neighborhood access to WMSP and the river

Fact: Washoe meadows state park will slightly reduce in size from 608 to 568 acres, but that will remain open to the public, including a mile long stretch of river that is currently closed to fishing, hiking etc. Thus the majority of WMSP remains unchanged with the added benefit of additional river access. Currently the only access to WMSP is from the surrounding neighborhood, and access will be increase by the new bike trail.

Myth: Areas being exchanged are not of equal value (sacrificing higher habitat value areas)

Fact: Project will result in an increase in sensitive habitat such as riparian and a decrease in common, shrub environment.

Myth: land exchange does not fit with original purpose of the units

Fact: The purpose of Washoe Meadows State Park is to preserve and protect a wet meadow area associated with the Angora Creek and the upper Truckee River at the southwestern side of the Lake Tahoe basin. The reconfigured boundaries better include these meadow areas.

The purpose of Lake Valley State Recreation Area is to make available to the people for their enjoyment and inspiration the 18-hole golf course, and the scenic Upper Truckee River and its environs.... to balance the objectives of providing optimum recreational opportunities and maintaining the highest standards of environmental protection.

Decision-making/Approval Process

Myth: The is not enough science /studies to approve the project

Fact: Many years of studies on geomorphology, hydrology, wildlife, vegetation, fens and wetlands, cultural resources, as well as recreation patterns and economics have been

DRAFT as of 11.9.11

completed. CSP has good scientific data on sensitive natural and cultural resources so that impacts to these areas can be avoided or minimized.

Myth: TRPA Governing Board meeting is final project approval

Fact: More detailed designs and construction plans will be developed and will have a lengthy review and approval process. The Parks and Recreation Commission unanimously approved the general plan amendment in October 2011 allowing a boundary change between the 2 units. The TRPA Governing Board December hearing is only to approve the EIR EIS document, not to issue permits for the project. Permits to regulate construction will be required from TRPA, Lahontan WQCB, CA DFG, and US Army COE