

Appendices

Appendix A. Authority	
Appendix B. The Planning Process	
Appendix C. Planning Meetings	
Appendix D. Visitor Capacity	
Appendix E. Glossary of Terms, Bureau of Land Mgmt. Background	
Appendix F. Planning Action Summaries	
Appendix G. Planning Maps;	
South Fork American River Planning Project Area	Map 1
Planning Area Air-photo Map	Map 1a
Miner's Cabin Planning Unit	Map 2
Parcel C & Ponderosa Planning Unit	Map 3
Dave Moore Planning Unit	Map 4
Greenwood Creek Planning Unit	Map 5
Norton Ravine Planning Unit	Map 6
Pine Hill Preserve Planning Unit	Map 7
Pine Hill Preserve	Map 8

AUTHORITY

(The Founding Fathers deliberately set up a system by which the government is restrained from doing anything without properly obtained authority. If a proposal is not authorized by an Act of Congress, or an executive action based on an Act of Congress, it probably won't get done. For the BLM, proper authority is contained within the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, signed into law in October of that year by President Ford.)

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), Section 102 (a) states:
"The Congress declares that it is the policy of the United States that --

(1) the public lands be retained in Federal ownership...

(2) the national interest will be best realized if the public lands and their resources are periodically and systematically inventoried and their present and future use is projected through a land use planning process coordinated with other federal and State planning efforts;

(7) goals and objectives be established by law as guidelines for public land use planning, and that management be on the basis of multiple use and sustained yield unless otherwise specified by law;

(8) the public lands be managed in a manner that will protect the quality of scientific, scenic, historical, ecological, environmental, air and atmospheric, water resource, and archaeological values; that where appropriate, will preserve and protect certain public lands in their natural condition; that will provide food and habitat for fish and wildlife and domestic animals; and that will provide for outdoor recreation and human occupancy and use;..."

(12) the public lands be managed in a manner which recognizes the Nation's need for domestic sources of minerals, food, timber, and fiber from the public lands..."

Further, FLPMA, Section 202 states:

"(a) The Secretary shall, with public involvement and consistent with the terms and conditions of this Act, develop, maintain, and, when appropriate, revise land use plans which provide by tracts or areas for the use of public lands.

(c) In the development and revision of land use plans, the Secretary shall:

(1) use and observe the principles of multiple use and sustained yield set forth in this and other applicable law:

(2) use a systematic interdisciplinary approach to achieve integrated consideration of physical, biological, economic, and other sciences;

(4) rely, to the extent it is available, on the inventory of the public lands, their resources, and other values;

- (5) consider present and potential uses of the public lands;
- (6) consider the relative scarcity of the values involved and the availability of alternative means (including recycling) and sites for realization of those values;
- (7) weigh long-term benefits to the public against short-term benefits;
- (8) provide for compliance with applicable pollution control laws, including State and Federal air, water, noise, or other pollution standards or implementation plans, and;
- (9) to the extent consistent with the laws governing the administration of the public lands, coordinate the land use inventory, planning, and management activities of or for such lands with the land use and management programs of other Federal Departments and agencies and of the States and local governments within which the lands are located..."

(f) The Secretary shall allow an opportunity for public involvement and by regulation shall establish procedures, including public hearings where appropriate, to give Federal, State, and local governments and the public, adequate notice and opportunity to comment upon and participate in the formulation of plans and programs relating to the management of the public lands."

In Section 103 (c), FLPMA provides the following definition:

"The term 'multiple use' means the management of the public lands and their various resource values so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the American people; making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions; the use of some land for less than all the resources; a combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that takes into account the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources, including, but not limited to, recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific and historical values; and harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources without permanent impairment of the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment with consideration being given to the relative values of the resources and not necessarily to the combination of uses that will give the greatest economic return or the greatest unit output."

The Planning Process

The South Fork American River Management Plan was prepared through the Community-Based planning process. For about the past thirteen years, the Folsom Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has been experimenting with this unusual form of land use planning and management.

Conventional Federal Land-Use Planning

By law, all Bureau lands must be covered by a land use plan. Plans are periodically updated to accommodate changing conditions.

Conventional land use planning under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and the National Environmental Quality Act of 1969 is a complex process. It consists of first holding public scoping meetings to define the issues. Next, resource inventories are conducted by Bureau specialists. The inventory includes geology, vegetation, wildlife, cultural values, and land use history. Then, in the office, Bureau planners develop a series of management alternatives. One of the alternatives is selected as the preferred action, and a draft management plan and environmental assessment are written. These are sent out for formal public comment. The public comments are used to formulate the final plan. Often, the final plan will be a modification of the preferred alternative.

This process has been the focus of a great deal of public dissatisfaction that has often resulted in administrative appeals to management plans and more than a few lawsuits. One of the major sources of dissatisfaction seems to be the wide-spread perception that local citizens do not have a significant voice in either the development of the plan or in the decision-making. In its simplest form, people feel as if the Federal Government is dictating to them how their lives will be lived, regardless of how or what they think about it. In recent years, there has been much public acrimony over land use planning, not only between citizens and the agencies, but also between the citizens themselves. In their attempts to satisfy all points of view, the agencies seem to have managed only to intensify the conflicts.

Reasons for an Unconventional Approach

The conventional land use planning process was designed with large, uninhabited tracts of Federal wildlands in mind. This does not work well in general, and seems especially inappropriate in the urban-wildlands interface zone of the Sierra Nevada. Part of the problem for the BLM's Folsom Field Office is the small size and scattered nature of the Federal parcels. Another part is the very close proximity of neighbors. To them, the BLM-administered parcels are an integral part of their residential neighborhood, not an abstraction off in the distance.

The scattered nature and limited acreage of the public lands has also made the BLM much more dependent on close working relationships with local and state agencies than in more conventional situations. Early on, it became apparent that other planning processes needed to be explored. It seemed beneficial that plans reflect the unique character of each local community.

Since BLM land use plans can effect the economic, ecological and cultural character of communities, the communities should be substantially involved throughout the entire process. Also, land use debates are better conducted in the community arena than in formal public hearings with individuals pitted against agencies.

With all this in mind, we envisioned a procedure that included direct public involvement throughout the entire process, including goal setting, inventory, alternative development, plan writing, decision making and plan implementation, with a focus on local communities as the primary public involvement element.

A fundamental question on all of this has to do with the appropriateness of local communities being given special standing in the planning process when the public resources belong to all citizens of the United States. Two comments on that; first, no one is deliberately excluded from the process. Individuals living outside the planning area will have ample opportunity to participate; the process required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 guarantees that. Secondly, care is being taken to ensure the plan is consistent with all appropriate Federal laws and policies, thus ensuring the interests of all American citizens are respected.

The Bureau of Land Management will remain responsible for the Public Lands of the United States, and will retain all its management authority. Management actions, such as prescribed burns or trail construction, will not be turned over to private citizens, but will be conducted by the BLM in close coordination with adjacent property owners. All contract work must be placed out for bid with no special breaks for the local community. There is no legal authority for the local manager to delegate responsibility for public land management.

If community customs, culture, economic and ecological concerns are to be considered in public land management, then changes must be made in the way plans and decisions are made. This is one attempt at such change. At the heart of this change is allowing local community values to be the underlying factor in the planning process, within the bounds of the constraints provided by Federal law and policy.

South Fork American Planning

Beginning in the Summer of 2000, the BLM has met regularly with a group of interested and concerned citizens in the Coloma area to produce a draft plan. This citizen's group was largely self-selected, with participation being an individual decision. As hoped, the group was made up of local residents, property owners, river recreationists, gold miners, and others with a special interest in the river. There were 41 meetings before the process ended in mid-December, 2001.

As explained in the Introduction, the consensus method was used in the public meetings to arrive at the decisions contained in this plan.

**South Fork American River
Planning Meetings**

August 31, 2000	Gold Hill School	34 Attendees signed in
September 11, 2000	Gold Hill School	42
September 25, 2000	Gold Hill School	35
October 10, 2000	Gold Hill School	25
October 24, 2000	Gold Hill School	15
November 16, 2000	Gold Hill School	11
December 5, 2000	Gold Hill School	11
December 14, 2000	Gold Hill School	13
January 9, 2001	Gold Hill School	13
January 23, 2001	Gold Hill School	12
February 10, 2001	Lotus Fire Station	12
February 12, 2001	Gold Hill School	13
February 26, 2001	Gold Hill School	15
March 3, 2001	Miner's Cabin Field Trip	14
March 6, 2001	Gold Hill School	20
March 27, 2001	Gold Hill School	30
March 31, 2001	Henningsen-Lotus Park	10
April 5, 2001	Gold Hill School	18
April 17, 2001	Gold Hill School	22
May 8, 2001	Gold Hill School	34
May 19, 2001	Dave Moore Field Trip	
May 22, 2001	Gold Hill School	33
June 7, 2001	Gold Hill School	55
June 16, 2001	Dave Moore Nature Area	17
June 21, 2001	Gold Hill School	21
July 5, 2001	Odd Fellows Hall	43
July 17, 2001	Odd Fellows Hall	27
July 28, 2001	Dave Moore Nature Area	11
July 31, 2001	Odd Fellows Hall	17
August 7, 2001	Odd Fellows Hall	44
August 18, 2001	Greenwood Creek Field Trip	
August 21, 2001	Odd Fellows Hall	38
September 6, 2001	Odd Fellows Hall	22
September 11, 2001	Odd Fellows Hall	50
September 20, 2001	Odd Fellows Hall	31
September 29, 2001	Odd Fellows Hall	24
October 10, 2001	Odd Fellows Hall	75
October 13, 2001	Norton Ravine Field Trip	
October 18, 2001	Odd Fellows Hall	37
October 23, 2001	Odd Fellows Hall	60
November 1, 2001	Odd Fellows Hall	40
November 7, 2001	Odd Fellows Hall	24
November 15, 2001	Odd Fellows Hall	44
November 27, 2001	Odd Fellows Hall	80
December 6, 2001	Odd Fellows Hall	92
December 11, 2001	Odd Fellows Hall	37
June 20, 2002	Folsom BLM Office	9

Visitor Capacity South Fork American River

An Introduction to the Concept

Everyone who has lived in California for any length of time is very aware of the way the State's population is increasing. According to the Census Bureau, California's population jumped from 29.8 million in 1990 to 33.9 million in 2000, an increase of 13.8%. There is no sign of this growth slowing down. The increasing number of people is putting an ever-increasing strain on the entire infrastructure. Both public agencies and many private businesses are feeling the pinch of doing an adequate job providing goods and services.

Outdoor recreation is no exception. Parks, campgrounds, and other outdoor areas are feeling the effects of more and more people.

The American public expects the Federal land management agencies, including the BLM, to provide as wide a range of high-quality outdoor recreational opportunities as possible, for as great a range of users as possible, while maintaining the health of the land consistent with legal mandates and land-use designations.

Two thoughts must be kept in mind on the subject of outdoor recreation. The first is that the American public puts a very high value on outdoor recreation in general, and believes it has a right to expect the opportunity for high-quality recreational experiences on public lands. The second is that public land managers have a responsibility to maintain the public lands in a way that meets and sustains public expectations.

Essentially, this is multiple use on a sustained yield basis.

One of the more valuable tools available to land managers, public or private, in dealing with increased use is the concept of carrying, or visitor capacity.

The concept of Visitor Capacity is intended to help land management agencies sustain recreation opportunities while maintaining environmental, social, and managerial conditions in an acceptable fashion. It is a complicated system, involving judgments on the relative acceptability of recreational impacts on a case-by-case, site-specific basis.

The Basic Idea

Visitor capacity is currently defined as a prescribed number and type of visitors that will be accommodated in an area. Two general factors enter into this: First, the land itself, and second, the quality of the recreation experience.

The land, of course, is the setting for outdoor recreation activity. There is a direct correlation between the quality of the outdoor environment and the quality of an outdoor recreation experience. All recreation activities, over time, will have some degree of impact on the

condition of the land. In some instances, these impacts are acceptable, but in others, they are not. It depends on the nature of the activity, and on the location and type of natural habitat where the activity takes place. Environmental factors which can be impacted by recreation include water quality, soils, plants, and wildlife among others. Most of these can be accurately measured and evaluated.

Recreation facilities such as parking lots, picnic tables, restrooms, or trails are also a part of the outdoor setting, and can be impacted by continuous use. Like the environmental factors, the condition and use of facilities can be accurately measured and evaluated.

Recreation satisfaction is harder to measure than the physical aspects of the environmental setting. The quality of the recreation experience – personal satisfaction and associated benefits -- is essentially a perception by an individual human being and, as such, is more difficult, but not impossible, to measure. One way is to simply go into a recreation area and systematically ask people how they are doing. Observation is another way – are there lines to use the restrooms? Or do people seem inhibited from fully enjoying themselves? Do new arrivals take one look and go somewhere else? Much of the perceived quality of a recreation experience has to do with the number of other people at a recreation site.

Since the general population and the demand for outdoor recreation are increasing, this means that to sustain outdoor recreation opportunities over time, the number of people using a recreation site will have to be monitored closely, along with the impacts on the physical environment.

To make a decision on Visitor Capacity, scientific information provides the starting point of discussion on what is or isn't acceptable. Judgments on the acceptability of impacts will vary widely, depending on the physical and biological characteristics of a given site, the sort of activities people want to do at that site.

Follow-Up – Adaptive Management

Once the acceptable limits of impacts are decided, the managing agency has something to work with. Thresholds can be established that will indicate if a site is beginning to exceed its prescribed Visitor Capacity. If that is the case, the agency can then take the actions necessary to correct the situation. Typically, this will be some sort of restriction on visitor behavior, or perhaps an expansion of recreation facilities. The policy of the BLM is to first utilize the least restrictive management actions required to resolve the problem, then, if necessary, progress to more restrictive rules. Organized group and commercial permittees will be restricted before casual users.

Visitor Capacity on the South Fork American River

During the planning process for the South Fork American River, the BLM, working with the River Planning Group, set a number of Visitor Capacity levels for several planning units, and in some cases, for a particular site within a planning unit. Later, as promised, the BLM established a series of easily-measured thresholds that would indicate when Visitor Capacity was being exceeded.

These thresholds serve **as a trigger or signal to managers** that different management strategies, facilities, or programs may be needed to sustain the area's resources, visitor experiences, and

management effectiveness.

At this time, Visitor Capacity levels have been established for three BLM parcels along the South Fork American River. These are Miner's Cabin, The Dave Moore Nature Area, and Greenwood Creek. All three have a history of heavy visitor use.

Miner's Cabin

Miner's Cabin Site

The Miner's Cabin site itself has the potential of suffering degradation of both the environment and the quality of the recreational experience through overuse. The heaviest recorded use of the site was 465 people on August 11, 1996. The restroom facility was not designed to accommodate such numbers in a short space of time. There is limited room for boats along the shore

Currently, BLM has not placed a total limit on the number passengers that a commercial permittee can have on the site at any one time. In the past, this has not caused any problems because use has been fairly distributed between outfitters having numerous choices for lunch spots on the upper and lower runs. All organized permittees cannot exceed 25 people on their trips.

Gold Dredges

Dredging for gold also carries the potential for overuse. There is public concern over engine noise and sediment drift, as well as the number of small dredges that may be used.

Camping

The visitor who wishes to camp in this area must first obtain a camping permit/dredging permit from the Folsom Field Office. There are a total of six sites available for overnight camping, three of which are reserved for dredging permittees and three are reserved for other users. Each site has an assigned capacity based on its size and location. These sites are available on first come first serve basis. BLM will monitor each site through out the summer to insure that the conditions are staying within an acceptable range of impacts.

Table 1

Visitor Capacity, Miner’s Cabin Planning Unit

INDICATORS	MANAGEMENT ACTION LEVEL-1	MANAGEMENT ACTION LEVEL-2	MANAGEMENT ACTION LEVEL-3
1. Number of people at Miner’s Cabin site greater than 200 at one time. Occurs three or more times during the year.	Set a time schedule for all permittees	Set a maximum visitor use limit for all permittees and/or restrict number of permittees and days of use	Open up another site for lunching for permittees
2. More than a 10 minute wait to use the Miner’s Cabin restroom facilities. Occurs more than three times during the season	Set a maximum visitor use limit for all permittees and/or restrict number of permittees and days of use	Set a time schedule for all permittees	Require permittees to carry a portable toilet system
3. More than five small dredges at one time	Monitor for user conflicts and environmental impacts	Restrict number of small dredges	No day-use permits for small dredges
4. Significant Vegetation Loss Associated with erosion	Restrict Visitor Movements on Site	Restrict Number of People on Site through the permit process	Restrict Human use of site until vegetation recovers
5. More than 200 feet of Sedimentation Drift from Gold Dredges	Smaller Size Dredge, Move Location and/or Fewer # of Dredges. Longer Spacing	Smaller Size. Fewer Number of Dredges and Longer Spacing	Limit Number of Permits At One Time
6. Excessive Noise from Gold Dredges	Require better mufflers or smaller engines	Require Smaller Dredges. Issue fewer Permits.	No Dredging permits issued.

Ponderosa Parcel

At this time, conditions and uses of the Ponderosa Parcel do not require the establishment of Visitor Capacities. The parcel will be continuously monitored to determine is Visitor Capacity levels need to be set and enforced.

Parcel C

At this time, conditions and uses of Parcel C do not require the establishment of Visitor Capacities. The parcel will be continuously and systematically monitored to determine if Visitor Capacities need to be set and enforced. The county has set camping standards for private campgrounds, such as the one under lease on this parcel.

Dave Moore

Parking Lot

Visitor Capacity at the Dave Moore Nature Area is controlled by the availability of parking spaces. Currently, 60 parking spaces are designed for the parking lot.

Trail Use

Use of the Dave Moore Trail shall be limited to foot and wheelchair traffic. Mountain bikes and equestrian use will not be authorized. Potential trail problems include improper sanitary practices, trash, trail proliferation, accelerated erosion, vegetation reduction, and conflicts between disabled users and other visitors.

Visitor Capacity levels will be established at a later date, based on results of the monitoring program.

Table 2
Visitor Capacity, Dave Moore Nature Area

MONITORING STANDARDS	MANAGEMENT ACTION LEVEL-1	MANAGEMENT ACTION LEVEL-2	MANAGEMENT ACTION LEVEL-3
1. Parking Area full more than three times during heavy use season	Require a permit for large groups	Charge Entrance Fee	Restrict size of permitted groups
2. More than a five minute wait to use the restroom facilities. Occurs more than 3 times during the season.	Install Portable toilets	Reduce Number of Parking Spaces	Charge Entrance Fee
3. Cleanliness - On-site trash fills a 30-gallon bag.	Empty trash containers more often.	Increase number of trash containers. Post signs to encourage proper trash disposal	Impose Entrance Fee
4. Significant Vegetation loss associated with erosion	Delineate trails	Place Barriers to block access to problem area.	Exclude Problem Area from areas used by groups under permit.
5. Evidence of erosion on trail	Monitor closely to determine cause of erosion	Harden eroded areas of trail	Reduce number of trail users through the permit system
6. Trail Use Conflicts	Increase Patrols, Enforce Restrictions on types of Trail Users	Construct "turn-outs" on narrow portions of trail so people can get out of each other's way	Require trail use permits
7. Sanitation – Improper Human Waste Disposal by the River.	Monitor to Determine problem parameters.	Install Portable Toilet near River	

Greenwood Creek

Greenwood Creek Complex

The Greenwood Creek parking area, the trail to the river along Greenwood Creek itself, and the put-in/take-out area at the confluence of Greenwood Creek and the river is a sensitive zone with

significant natural and cultural resources. This complex is susceptible to damage from overuse. The put-in and take-out site will be limited to casual recreationists.

Visitor Capacity levels will be set at a later date, based on results of the monitoring program.

Beach Area, Restroom, Camping Area

This popular area is used by commercial operators as a lunch and rest stop, as well as an overnight camping site.

Dredging Sites

Dredging for gold carries the potential for overuse. There are public concerns for engine noise, sediment drift, and the number of dredges on the site.

Capacity levels have been set for the three dredge use areas.

Vineyard Parking Lot, Trail System

Visitor Capacity will be controlled by the 100-vehicle parking lot. Trail systems will be built to accommodate multiple use activities, but use will be limited to non-motorized modes of travel. Restroom facilities, trash receptacles, a kiosk, trailer parking, water troughs, and a turn around area will be necessary. There will be no developed campground. The current system of commercial camping permits will be continued.

Capacity levels will be set at a later date, based on results of the monitoring program.

Table 3

Visitor Capacity, Greenwood Creek Planning Unit

MONITORING STANDARDS	MANAGEMENT ACTION LEVEL-1	MANAGEMENT ACTION LEVEL-2	MANAGEMENT ACTION LEVEL-3
1. Number of people at Beach Day Use Area greater than 230 at one time. Occurs three or more times during the year.	Set a time schedule for all permittees	Set a maximum visitor use limit for all permittees	Assign Lunch sites to permittees
2. More than a 10 minute wait to use the Beach Day Use Area restroom facilities. Occurs more than three times during the season.	Set a maximum visitor use limit for all permittees..	Set a time schedule for all permittees	Require permittees to carry a portable toilet system.
3. Greenwood Creek Parking Lot full for more than three consecutive hours on more than three days during a season.	Monitor to determine types of users	Require a permit to put-in or take-out.	Charge a parking fee
4. Greenwood Creek Trail and put-in/take-out area showing signs of significant vegetation reduction, erosion, new trails	Restrict user movements through the use of signs, barriers	Require a permit to put-in or take out	Close area to boating use
5. Cleanliness – In Beach area, trash fills a 30-gallon bag	Increase number of trash containers. Post signs to encourage proper trash disposal.	Issue warning and/or citation to permit holder	Revoke permit.
6. Cleanliness – In Greenwood Creek area, trash fills a 30-gallon bag.	Empty trash containers more often	Increase number of trash containers. Post signs to encourage proper disposal of trash.	Charge a parking fee
7. More than 200 feet of Sediment Drift from Gold Dredges	Smaller size Dredge; Move Location and/or fewer number of dredges. Longer spacing	Smaller size, fewer number of dredges and longer spacing.	Limit number of permits at one time.
8. Noise from Gold Dredges exceeds County standards	Require better Mufflers or smaller engines	Require Smaller Dredges. Issue fewer permits	No dredging permits issued.

Norton Ravine

To date, problems associated with overuse have not been observed in the Norton’s Ravine

Planning Unit. The Planning Unit will be monitored with particular attention given to the BLM restroom, gold dredging areas, and Equestrian Way access.

Pine Hill

Visitor Capacities for the Pine Hill Planning Area will be established by the interagency Management Team.

Glossary of Terms

People often complain about the use of acronyms in government documents, sometimes justifiably so. An effort was made to avoid the use of acronyms in this plan, but a few were used. All of these are defined in the text of the plan the first time they were used. For the reader's convenience, the following is a list of acronyms.

BLM	Bureau of Land Management
ETC	Environmental Traveling Companion
MFP	Management Framework Plan
ORV	Off-Road Vehicle
PG&E	Pacific Gas and Electric (Company)
SFA	South Fork American (River)
SMUD	Sacramento Municipal Utilities District
SUP	Special Use Permit
VRM	Visual Resources Management
WCB	Wildlife Conservation Board

The Bureau of Land Management

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is an agency within the United States Department of the Interior, the nation's principal conservation agency. The BLM manages 272 million acres of public lands and resources in 12 western states, including Alaska, to serve the needs of the American people. Resources are managed under the principles of multiple use and sustainable yield, taking into account the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and non-renewable resources, fish and wildlife, wilderness and scenic, scientific and cultural values. It is the policy of the BLM to establish partnerships to foster cooperation, discover new ideas and management opportunities and to more effectively manage the public lands.

The Folsom Resource Area office of the Bureau of Land Management is directly responsible for managing approximately 230,000 acres of Federal public land, scattered throughout California's historical Mother Lode country from Nevada County in the north to Mariposa County in the south. These lands, the remnants of the old public domain, are designated mostly as multiple-use lands, which means that they are managed for several purposes, including forestry, mining, grazing, outdoor recreation, wildlife, cultural resources, watershed values, and similar items.

SOUTH FORK AMERICAN - PLANNING ACTION SUMMARIES

ACTIONS OF THE PROPOSED ACTION ALTERNATIVE

<u>Proposed Action</u>	<u>EA Page</u>
<i>Action 1) Decision was made to designate lands within the South Fork American Planning Area as a “<u>Special Management Area</u>”.</i>	20
<i>Action 2) No new grazing leases will be issued.</i>	21
<i>Action 3) Rights of Ways will continue to be issued in the planning area on a case by case basis, provided they are consistent with management objectives/prescription, management goals and Visual Resource Management (VRM) class guidelines of the each planning unit.</i>	22
<i>Action 4) A decision was made to implement a management goal/objective of maintaining and restoring all lands within the planning area (except Clark Mt. - VRM I) to a VRM Class II rating. The VRM Class II pertains to “Changes in any of the basic elements (form, line, color and texture) caused by management activity should not be evident in the characteristic landscape. Contrast are seen, but must not attract attention”.</i>	22
<i>Action 5) The decision was made to withdraw all public domain lands from mineral entry under the General Mining Law of 1872 as amended for a period of 50 years.</i>	24
<i>Action 6) The decision was made to close all planning units to target shooting.</i>	25
<i>Action 7) Hunting Closures. (PC, PP, DM Units)</i>	26
<i>Action 8) Decision was to limit Off Road Vehicle (ORV) and other vehicle use to designated roads, trails, access points, parking lots and trailheads. These planning areas would not be open to cross country motorized travel. (MC, PP, and DM Units)</i>	26
<i>Action 9) Permit system for authorizing casual overnight camping. Camping use in these areas will be regulated by permits. (MC, DM, and NR Units)</i>	27
<i>Action 10) Recreation use of the Ponderosa Planning Area will be limited to day use only and recreational use on the Miners Cabin, Greenwood Creek, Dave Moore, and Norton Ravine Planning Units will be “emphasized” for day use activities.</i>	28
<i>Action 11) Area closures to campfire use without an authorization permit. (DM & NR Units)</i>	29
<i>Action 12) Day-use dredging of three inch or less size dredges. Use requires registering at a BLM permit registration point. Use would be subject to standards developed by a recreational mining planning committee. (MC, NR and PHP Units)</i>	29
<i>Action 13) Manage Fuels Buildup. Decision was for BLM to actively manage the buildup of fuels with the intent of protecting private homes and property and natural resources. (MC, PC, DM, GC, and NR Units)</i>	34

Action 14) <i>Implement noxious weed management efforts. (MC, DM, GC, NR Units)</i>	34
Action 15) <i>Decisions relating to the management of commercial uses on public lands. (MC, PP, PC, GC, and NR Units)</i>	35
Action 16) <i>Decisions relating to acquiring additional public access to the Miner’s Cabin and Norton Ravine Planning Units.</i>	36
Action 17) <i>Decision to retain in public ownership all planning parcels except the two ten acre parcels north of Highway 49 in the Dave Moore Planning Unit</i>	40
Action 18) <i>Decision to classify the southern half of the Greenwood Creek Planning Unit, known as Clark Mountain as a Visual Resource Management Class I Area.</i>	40
Action 19) <i>Recreational Dredging Permit Program. (MC, GC, NR, and PHP Units) Recreation Dredging Decisions. Several decisions were made addressing implementing recreational dredging opportunities. The planning units involved are Miners Cabin, Greenwood Creek, and Norton Ravine, recommendations were also make for the Pine Hill Preserve.</i>	43
Action 20) <i>The decision is for the BLM to work with an interested party on the evaluation of commercial tent site construction for commercial use within Parcel C.</i>	52
Action 21) <i>Maintain Wilkinson Road (ditch maintenance road, Coloma Ditch Road) as an emergency access road and public access trail.</i>	53
Action 22) <i>If feasible, the BLM shall build a hiking trail on the Coloma/Lotus Ditch.</i>	53
Action 23) <i>BLM will designate six camping sites along the river in the Miner’s Cabin Planning Unit</i>	24
Action 24) <i>BLM will provide trialhead parking at Chili Bar (if possible), and in the Red Shack area where Wilkinson Road terminates at Highway 49.</i>	25
Action 25) <i>The BLM shall provide sanitary facilities along the river for both trail users and overnight users in a strategic location out of the flood plain, if possible. Sanitary facilities will also be placed in the Red Shack area, the old ditch trail, and the Maya Rapids area.</i>	55
Action 26) <i>The BLM shall construct a trail from Highway 49 in the vicinity of the Red Shack, down the old ditch road to the river</i>	56
Action 27) <i>BLM will construct information signing and day use dredging use permit registration points at appropriate areas</i>	57
Action 28) <i>Develop a loop trail to the river that is a barrier-free nature trail for use by schools , the physically-challenged, and the general public.</i>	57
Action 29) <i>BLM shall study the feasibility of providing a toilet and portable boardwalk at the beach area for the use by disabled visitors.</i>	58
Action 30) <i>BLM shall harden the Dave Moore Trail surface for better year-round accessibility of Visitors.</i>	59
Action 31) <i>The amphitheater, used by educational groups, will be relocated and rebuilt in a new location.</i>	60

Action 32) It is a high priority to provide an access road, parking lots, a trailhead parking area, and toilet facility on public land near Greenwood Creek, consistent with the protection of natural and cultural values. Use of these facilities would be subject to fees.	61
Action 33) An educational kiosk, with an emphasis on boater safety, will be installed.	62
Action 34) Multiple use trails will be constructed as appropriate.....	63
Action 35) Cultural sites will be protected. (MC, GC, and NR Units)	64
Action 36) Allow recreational mining activities (gold panning, sluicing) to continue. (MC, PC, DM, and NR Units).....	64
Action 37) To place no restriction or conditions on camping use. (PC and GC Units)	64
Action 38) Non-restricted use of camping, warming, and cooking fires. (Parcel "C")	64

ACTIONS OF THE MODIFIED PROPOSED ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Action 39) Close entire planning area to unregulated Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) use. This would result in a OHV "Limited Use" designation for the entire planning area.....	68
Action 40) All future acquired land which becomes part of the South Fork American River Planning Area will be withdrawn from mineral entry for a period of 50 years.	70
Action 41) Acquired future lands administration: Newly acquired lands within the general South Fork planning area will become part of the South Fork American Special Management Area and subject to management guidelines and planning decisions associated to the most nearest /or most similar special area parcel of public land which ever is most appropriate.....	70
Action 42) All lands within the planning area will be retained in public ownership, including the two ten acre parcels in the Dave Moore Planning Unit.	71
Action 43) Allow for commercial uses which are consistent with vision statement, goals and decisions of each planning unit and planning area as a whole. Now only 5 of 6 units address commercial use of planning units, the Dave Moore Planning Unit lacks a decision concerning commercial use. This action would make this decision apply planning area wide instead of only to 5 units.	71
Action 44) This action would modify and clarify Action 12 concerning day use dredging of three inch or less size dredges. This decision would require these "day use" dredgers to be under the same use conditions, restrictions, and requirement as dredgers working under a permit, except for a fee waiver. (MC and NR Units)	71
Action 45) Both casual and permitted dredging will not be allowed within 300 feet upstream and 300 feet downstream of private/BLM boundaries. This decision will not apply in areas where the BLM/private property boundaries meet in the center of the river. A 300 foot dredge activity buffer also applies to, BLM toilet locations, commercial raft put-ins, lunch sites, or within 300' of dwellings located on private property. This decision is proposed to reduce potential dredge noise impacts to other public land users and adjacent home and property owners.....	72
Action 46) Greenwood Creek Planning Unit - Camping: Confine camping to designated camping zones within the Greenwood Creek Planning Unit to mitigate potential conflicts between recreation users,	

adjacent home owners, control overnight use to reduce potential resource impacts, wildfire ignition, ease in the collection of use fees, and aid in the registration of campers and dredge users. This action alters Action 37, of the Proposed Action. 72

Action 47) *Greenwood Creek Planning Unit - Dredging: Within dredge Area No. 2, institute the use of one dredge, up to 6" in size, initially and evaluate use, impacts and potential conflicts before expanding use, in this small area, to two dredges. Before issuing a dredging permit for Area 2, dredging use in Area 3 must first be fully utilized. Greenwood Creek and Norton Ravine Planning Units: - Dredge use in this planning area, where public land boundaries only extend to a mid point in the river, will be limited to mooring/or placement of the dredge no further than 25 ft. from the public land side of the rivers edge. ... 73*

Action 48) *This action would require the use of fire pans by individuals building camp fires within the Parcel C Planning Unit. This action alters Action 38 of the Proposed Action Alternative. 73*

Action 49) *This action would close both Hastings and Greenwood Creeks, in the Greenwood Creek Planning Unit, to all forms of recreational mining, such as panning and the use of sluice boxes. This action would have no effect on prior existing mining claims rights to conduct mining activities. Would also require the use of, self provided, portable toilets when camping more than a 1/4 miles from BLM provided toilet facilities. This action would modify Action No. 36 74*

Action 50) *Under this action casual campers (those outside campgrounds or designated campsites) would be required to obtain a camping permit within the Parcel C and Greenwood Creek Planning Units. This action would make the camping permit requirement universal to all planning units within the South Fork American River Planning Area and assist with management consistency. This action would modify Action 37. 74*

Action 51) *Confine camping to an area to the confluence area of South Fork American River and Norton Ravine. Camping would be restricted to areas within a 1/4 mile of the BLM toilet Facilities. 75*

Action 52) *Campfires with the Norton Ravine Planning Unit must be constructed in some sort of fire pan or in a BLM supplied fire ring. Campfire permits already required, in Action 11. 75*

Action 53) *Greenwood Creek Planning Unit would be closed to campfire use. This would include all fuel wood open fires including warming and cooking fires. This action would modify Action 37..... 76*

Action 54) *Is to incorporate a small segment, 61.11 ± acres, of the Norton Ravine Planning Unit into the Pine Hill Preserve for more specialized management and protection of the Gabbro soils habitat and the associated sensitive plant species found within it. Recommendations already made for this planning segment would be forwarded to the Pine Hill Planning Team for consideration. 69*

Appendix G

South Fork American Planning Area - Project	Map 1
South Fork Planning Area Air-Photo	Map 1a
Miner's Cabin Planning Unit	Map 2
Parcel C & Ponderosa Planning Unit	Map 3
Dave Moore Planning Unit	Map 4
Greenwood Creek Planning Unit	Map 5
Norton Ravine Planning Unit	Map 6
Pine Hill Preserve Planning Unit	Map 7
Pine Hill Preserve	Map 8