

South Fork Newsletter

El Dorado County Parks
Whitewater Recreation Program

November 2008

≧Public Notice:≦

Annual review of the El Dorado County River Management Plan

Held by the River Management Advisory Committee

Location: Marshall Gold State Historic Park Museum building
310 Back Street, Coloma, CA
Date: Wednesday, November 12, 2008
Time: 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Please come ready to discuss issues related to river use on the South Fork that have arisen in 2008. Only through the understanding of area residents' perceptions of whitewater recreation can the County take measures to address your concerns in the future.

Public comments from this meeting and any River Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) recommendations formed as a result of your comments will be presented to the County Planning Commission within the Annual Report.



Scotty B. Catch'n and Release'n on the Chili Bar Section

The River Management Advisory Committee

The River Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) provides a forum for the discussion of river use issues, ideas and conflicts. RMAC is a formal advisory body which makes recommendations to both the County Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors on matters related to whitewater recreation and campground development along the South Fork American River. The County established RMAC to be representative of a broad base of interests concerning the river. There are seven members:

- a permitted commercial outfitter
- a non-commercial boater
- a local business representative
- a local resident
- two members-at-large
- a California State Parks representative

RMAC usually meets the second Wednesday or Thursday night of each month, January through November. This is usually at the Lotus Fire Station. Currently all RMAC positions are filled. The public is invited to attend and participate at these monthly meetings. If you would like to receive the minutes and agendas via email please email Noah.Rucker-Triplett@edcgov.us. Monthly minutes can also be viewed on the web at www.co.el-dorado.ca.us/Rivers/river_advisory_com.html. The 2008 RMAC meeting schedule is posted on the web site listed above.

Winter Flow Schedule

There are reliable flows on the South Fork American River below Chili Bar on weekends through February. The current flow and release schedule can be found at <http://dreamflows.com/> or the [County River's web page](#).

Boater and Community Shuttle

The River Store Inc. South Fork American River and local community shuttle service is up and running. This was funded with \$22,000 from the River Trust Fund and a \$76,727 grant from EDCAQMD. The shuttle operated on weekends through October and will start up again in the spring (March?). The schedule and more information can be found at <http://rivershuttleat.theriverstore.com>. Schedules, routes, fees and passes can also be found at The River Store and local vendors. Brochures, information and pass purchase/pick-up will be available at The River Store (1032 Lotus Rd., Lotus 530-626-3435).

The objectives of the shuttle are:

- Service river recreationists and visitors to the area, as well as local communities between Salmon Falls and Chili Bar/Placerville.
- Reduce traffic, emissions and parking issues within that same geographic range
- Have the potential to expand into other local communities such as Georgetown and Cool while creating a connection to the existing El Dorado County Transit system in Placerville

The initial plan includes numerous stops at and between Salmon Falls, Coloma and Chili Bar/Placerville. We do welcome suggestions on stops - Dan@Kayaking.com. The River Store would like to thank all of the many folks who have contributed to the possibility of making this shuttle service a reality. These include (but are not limited to) RMAC, El Dorado County Parks, EDCAQMD, El Dorado Transit and community friends and supporters.

Sincerely,

Dan Crandall, President- The River Store Inc.
Martin Harris, RMAC Local Landowner representative

Safety and Crime Reporting

When going out on the river or hiking for the day please remember to not leave valuables in your vehicle to deter break-ins. It is best to recreate on the river with a partner, dress appropriately, have a first aid kit and rescue gear. Training and having a plan if something goes wrong can greatly increase your chances of survival or rescue. If you see suspicious activity, observe a crime or are a victim of a crime please call the El Dorado County Sheriff's Dept at 530-621-6600 and the appropriate land managing agency. Their contact information is listed at the end of this newsletter.

River Cleanup's in 2008

The County led three river clean ups on the S. Fork in 2008. One cleanup on the upper, one cleanup on the lower and one low water river cleanup on the State Park to Greenwood Creek section. River cleanup's are coordinated by El Dorado County Parks, CA State Parks, Bureau of Land Management and the American River Conservancy. If you are interested in participating in a river cleanup in 2009 or any other volunteer projects please contact El Dorado County Parks or the American River Conservancy at 530-621-1224. El Dorado County River Patrol in no particular order would like to thank the following for their contribution's to these efforts:

W.E.T. River Trips	Adventure Connections
All Outdoors Inc.	Sierra Disposal
American River Conservancy	Marco's Cafe
Sierra Nevada House	Café Mahjaic
Tributary WW Tours	Peak Adventures
American WW Expeditions	Whitewater Connections
CA State Parks	Placerville Industries
O.A.R.S.	Kokatat
Bureau Of Land Management	Patagonia
River and Rock Adventures	Watershed Drybags
Coloma Resort	Chaco Sandals
Camp Lotus	Teva
American River Resort	The River Store
Sierra Rizing Bakery	Pacific River Supply
The Coloma Club	Northwest River Supply
River Shack Pub and Deli	Immersion Research
Jack Russell Brewery	Gold Hill Winery
Yosum's Pizza	North Face
Raley's	Snap Dragon
Beyond Limits Adventures	El Dorado County RCD
River and Rock Adv.	Inner City Outings
Gold Country Paddlers	El Dorado NF
River Rat Raft and Bike	El Dorado Irrigation Dist.
Whitewater Voyages, Inc.	Travis OAP
California Canoe and Kayak	Beale OAP
American River Recreation	Gringos Restaurant
Friends of the River	ARTA
Project Great Outdoors	Mariah Wilderness Exp.
Env. Traveling Companions	Action WW Adventures
UCD Outdoor Adv.	Mother Lode River Trips
River Runners, Inc.	SMUD
PG&E	Gold Rush Outfitters

What can riparian land owners do to prevent the amount of trash getting into waterways?

To help reduce the amount of debris that washes into the river during minor flood events or winter high water, you can do the following:

- 1) Locate the periodic high-water mark (2006 flood elevation) and put a stake where that is so that you or the next tenant knows that elevation. If you would like help locating the high water mark ask your neighbor or call County River Patrol for assistance.
- 2) Between the months of November to May do not leave manufactured items unattended below the high water mark of January 1, 2006. Examples of manufactured items would be canoes, BBQ's, lawn furniture, shade tents, picnic tables, RV's, etc.

Stormwater Tip of the Season

Stormwater runoff from construction activities can have a significant impact on water quality. As stormwater flows over a construction site, it picks up pollutants like sediment, debris, and chemicals. Sedimentation can destroy aquatic habitat and high volumes of runoff can cause stream bank erosion.

Polluted stormwater runoff can also have many adverse effects on plants, fish, animals, and people. Sediment can cloud the water and make it difficult or impossible for aquatic plants to grow. Sediment also can destroy aquatic habitats. Excess nutrients can cause algae blooms. When algae die, they sink to the bottom and decompose in a process that removes oxygen from the water called eutrophication. Many fish and other aquatic organisms can't exist in water with low dissolved oxygen levels. Bacteria and other pathogens can wash into swimming areas and create health hazards, often making beach closures necessary.

Debris—plastic bags, six-pack rings, bottles, and cigarette butts—washed into waterbodies can choke, suffocate, or disable aquatic wildlife like fish, turtles, and birds. Debris can also clog waterways and potentially reach the ocean where they can kill marine wildlife and impact habitat.

Household hazardous wastes like insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, used motor oil, and other auto fluids can poison aquatic life. Land animals and people can become sick or die from eating diseased fish and shellfish or ingesting polluted water.

Polluted stormwater often affects drinking water sources. This, in turn, can affect human health and increase drinking water treatment costs.

If you see any areas where there are potential erosion, sediment control and/or pollution issues, please call the Storm Water Coordinator at 916 358-3565.

Sincerely,
Patricia

For more information on Storm Water issues, please visit our Storm Water website at <http://www.co.el-dorado.ca.us/emd/solidwaste/storm.html>



Another Happy Paddle on the South Fork American River

What is the River Trust Fund?

The River Trust Fund (RTF) is a County Special Revenue Fund which sole purpose is to fund the implementation of the County's [River Management Plan](#). Over 99% of funds to the RTF come from Commercial Outfitter fees. The other 1% comes from put-in and take-out fees at Henningsen Lotus Park (HLP). Parking fees go into a HLP trust fund. The County River Patrol and the River Recreation Supervisor positions are also funded out of the RTF.

Agency Contact Information

Bureau of Land Management
63 Natoma Street
Folsom, Ca 95603
916-985-4474

Auburn State Recreation Area
501 El Dorado Street
Auburn, CA 95604-3266
530-885-4527
Dispatch for On Duty Ranger (916) 358-1300

Folsom Lake State Recreation Area
7806 Folsom-Auburn Road
Folsom, CA 95630-1797
916-988-0205
Dispatch for On Duty Ranger (916) 358-1300

Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park
PO Box 265
Coloma, CA 95613
530-622-3470

Note: You can also find this newsletter on the El Dorado County Parks/Rivers web page, www.co.el-dorado.ca.us/Rivers/index.html . If you want to continue to receive a paper copy of this newsletter please contact the El Dorado County Parks office. We would prefer to send an electronic version to you in the future. Please email Noah.Rucker-Triplett@edcgov.us so we can achieve this goal.

El Dorado County Parks
3000 Fairlane Ct., Suite 1
Placerville, Ca 95667
530-621-6052

Winter Events at Marshall Gold Discover State Park:

December 13th and 14th: Christmas in Coloma, 10-4pm
Winter celebration festival with vendors, kid's crafts, wreath making and maybe a big snow pile!!!

January 24th: Celebration of the discovery of gold in California, 10-4pm