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EL DORADO

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 22, 2008 Agenda of: February 28, 2008

TO: Planning Commission Item #: 8.a

FROM: Monique Wilber, Senior Planner

SUBJECT: Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) Status Update

General Plan Policy 7.4.2.8 establishes that the County shall develop and implement an INRMP that identifies important habitat in the County and establishes a program for effective habitat preservation and management.

On July 10, 2007, the Board of Supervisors directed Planning staff to work with the consultant to define the scope of work for the INRMP to consist of four basic steps – 1) inventory, 2) prioritize, 3) acquire, and 4) protect. The Board also directed staff to work with the consultant to reduce public outreach, reduce the number of meetings to be held, reduce the level of CEQA by utilizing the existing analysis of data, and to keep costs to $500,000 for the INRMP.

Planning staff reviewed the consultant's reworked administrative draft scope of work in Fall 2007, and requested changes to reflect the Board's direction. After another review and draft, the consultant provided the requested changes in the scope of work in January 2008. Staff is working to conform the scope of work further to the Board's direction.

Staff met with the Planning Commission subcommittee on January 17, 2008. The discussion centered on what the inventory map would include. The habitat inventory will map the following important habitats in El Dorado County: 1) Habitats that support special status species; 2) Aquatic environments including streams, rivers, and lakes; 3) Wetland and riparian habitat; 4) Important habitat for migratory deer herds; and 5) Large expanses of native vegetation.

Next steps include completing the scope of work review; identifying a stakeholder scope of work review group; consulting the stakeholder group to evaluate the approach, design and scope of the proposed INRMP; and bringing the results of the consultation back to the Planning Commission and Board for review, recommendations, and direction to staff.