



Five Year Summary Report for Implementation of the River Management Plan 2007-2011

Background

The River Management Plan (RMP) was developed to manage use of the South Fork of the American River that flows within the boundaries of the County of El Dorado and adjacent land. The plan was designed to monitor and evaluate use within and along the river in order to minimize impacts to the environment and private land owners. The plan was approved by the Board of Supervisors in 2001 and its continued implementation has been approved by the Planning Commission on an annual basis.

The RMP specifies that the annual reports be compiled every 5th year for submission to the Planning Director (now the Community Development Agency, Development Services Division Director), and the County General Services Director (now the County's Chief Administrative Officer). The purpose of the annual reports is to summarize the progress or implementation of the Program Elements that are detailed in Section 6 of the RMP.

The following is a summary of implementation of the Program Elements for the 5 year period from 2007 to 2011. Sections that are quoted from the RMP, (Section 6, Program Elements) are shown in italics. Subsections when referenced are shown in parentheses. The summary was developed by the Community Development Agency, Environmental Management Division with input from the Sheriff's Department and the Community Development Agency, Development Services Division.

Element 1 - Educational Programs

Element 1 details how educational programs will be developed and utilized to provide river users and landowners with information that can be used to improve safety and social conditions, including river use, requirements and rights of boaters and landowners. Sections 1.4 through 1.10 are discussed in the "Five Year Summary Report for Implementation of the River Management Plan – 2002 – 2006" as no further updates or changes occurred to these Elements during the 2007 through 2011 reporting period.

"1.1 The County will continue to publish a Quarterly Newsletter to provide landowners/residents" with the following information."

The Quarterly Newsletter has been published intermittently since 2001. The newsletter includes an annual summary of landowner and boater rights, limitations and trespass issues (1.1.1); a directory of services and contact information (1.1.2); information on River Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) meetings and participation (1.1.3) and a calendar of river related events (1.1.4).

On average, there have been two newsletters printed each year for mailing to landowners within the area affected by the RMP and river use. Copies were also made available to other interested parties upon request. Due to the trend of using the internet and social media to transmit information to the public, it is recommended that the newsletter be published electronically via the county website or by email, with hard copies available upon request. Because of the seasonal nature of the River Program, it is also recommended to reduce the number of newsletters to twice a year (spring and fall) rather than quarterly.

“1.2 Signs will be developed under the supervision of the County Department of General Services in collaboration with the RMAC, El Dorado County Sheriff’s Department (Sheriff’s Department), the River Safety Committee (RSC), the Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park (SHP), and the American River Conservancy.”

The design guidelines for signs developed for this Element have been utilized in all river-related signage. The cost of design guidelines, sign text, manufacture, placement, and maintenance has been funded by River Trust Funds.

Signs have been installed as specified within Element 1.2 (sub-Elements 1.2.1 through 1.2.3), but further coordination with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is needed for new signage for the new BLM takeout below Highway Rapid warning unprepared boaters of downstream dangers past Greenwood Creek.

Element 1.2.3.2 states that signage informing boaters of dangers associated with the Middle Run (Coloma to Greenwood Creek) will be installed in the event that a Special Use Permit (SUP) modification near Highway Rapid results in private boaters utilizing this area. No such modification has occurred to trigger installation.

“1.3 Standardized informational kiosks, using the sign design guidelines developed above, will be placed at Chili Bar, Henningsen Lotus Park, Camp Lotus, Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park, and Salmon Falls/Skunk Hollow.”

As specified in Element 1.3, kiosks were designed and constructed by the General Services Department (now the Chief Administrative Officer [CAO]) (1.3.2) using a standardized color palate and similar materials where appropriate. The following actions are recommended to fulfill Element 1.3:

- Information in the existing kiosks needs to be updated to reflect changes in land status.
- Some of the existing kiosks need to be repaired or replaced due to structural dilapidation.
- The River Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) recommends placement of a youth life jacket loaner station at Henningsen Lotus Park and Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park. The two public parks have high concentrations of shoreline river recreationists. Having life jackets available may offset future demands to County resources for rescues or body recoveries from park users. The liability of having these stations needs to be vetted through County Counsel. Grant funds may be available to cover costs to install and maintain the stations and the State Parks may also have funding for stations located within their boundaries.

Element 1.3 requires that kiosks are placed on public lands along the river. However, there are

many river users who put-in at private campgrounds which have no boating or river information provided. It is recommended that this Element be updated to include that County staff work with the owners of these facilities to install informational kiosk at put-ins on their respective properties.

“1.11 The County, in coordination with Marshall Gold Discovery SHP and American River Conservancy representatives, will lead cultural resources and natural resources workshops at Henningsen Lotus Park and on-river.”

A day long workshop, put on by the Headwater Guide Institute with coordination from the American River Conservancy, River Program, and California Marshall Gold State Historic Park, was conducted annually prior to 2009. The workshop was open to the public and outfitters. Challenges with funding for guest speakers and other expenses have limited this workshop in recent years. River Program staff recommends expenses for educational instructors/materials and food for participants be allocated from the River Trust Fund (RTF) or other funds available. Having the flexibility to use RTF funds to provide food or specialized instruction for workshops would help the ongoing fulfillment of this Element.

Element 2 – Safety Programs

Element 2 discusses the importance of safety and defines the responsible agencies for implementing safety programs as they pertain to the RMP. Sections 2.3, 2.5 and 2.6 are discussed in the “Five Year Summary Report for Implementation of the River Management Plan – 2002-2006” as no further updates or changes occurred to these Elements during the 2007 through 2011 reporting period.

“2.1 River Safety Committee (RSC)”

Section 2.1.1 states that the RSC will be “coordinated by, and provided training under the direction of, the Sheriff’s Department”. There was no activity of the River Safety Committee from 2007 through 2011.

Section 2.1.3 states that the RSC “will form a volunteer River Search and Rescue Team, consisting of government agency personnel and qualified local paddlers”. Interagency trainings have occurred sporadically between 2007 and 2011.

The River Safety Committee objective needs review. The goals of the RSC are being met by the Sheriff’s Boating Unit and Dive team, Search and Rescue, El Dorado County Fire, and the County’s River Program. The goal of having a RSC or the goals and structure of the RSC should be updated.

“2.2 Agency Safety and Rescue Training. Agencies currently cooperating with El Dorado County river management activities have varying degrees of river safety and swiftwater rescue capabilities. To unify, upgrade, and update safety and rescue activities, representatives of the RSC, under the direction of the Sheriff’s Department, will be authorized to conduct training sessions for agency personnel.”

Section 2.2.1 states that annual agency safety and rescue training session will be conducted to train individuals for emergency response and rescue. Section 2.2.2 states that RSC instructors will be paid a reasonable fee for executing training activities.

Training activities, as specified within this Program Element, have not occurred, although the Sheriff’s Department units do conduct training activities within their department. RMAC has recommended the hiring a Swiftwater Rescue Instructor, as defined in Program Element 2.2.2, to offer Swiftwater Rescue Technician (SRT) training in the spring and fall.

“2.4 County Park Staff Activities”

Section 2.4.4 states that County Parks (now the River Program) will coordinate with the RSC on safety-oriented programs, such as swiftwater rescue courses for the public. Because the RSC is inactive, courses for the public have not been conducted. Staff has recommended, and RMAC concurs, that this Program Element could be fulfilled by contracting a River Rescue Instruction company that can offer free or reduced-cost courses for Outfitters and the public.

“2.7 The County will use boater density carrying-capacity thresholds and additional management actions as described in Element 7 to address safety issues associated with high boater density and use levels.”

For the report period, this Element was not triggered because boater density was not high enough to require additional safety measures.

Element 3 – Transportation Programs

Element 3 requires traffic studies and adherence to performance standards to ensure that traffic patterns are not affected by river use. The Element advocates for a reduction in traffic and illegal parking through the use of shuttles. Sections 3.2 and 3.4 are discussed in the “Five Year Summary Report for Implementation of the River Management Plan – 2002-2006” as no further updates or changes occurred to these Elements during the 2007 through 2011 reporting period.

“3.1 The County will encourage the private sector to implement a river shuttle service.”

The River Store, Inc. received an El Dorado County Air Quality Management District grant to start up a boater and community shuttle service in 2008. The River Store, Inc. received \$22,000 from the County River Trust Fund as matching funds in 2008/2009 and \$22,000 in 2009/2010. The shuttle service ran May through October in 2011 and provided river users an opportunity to reduce the number of personal vehicles for river trips.

“3.3 The County will undertake the following actions to respond to illegal parking”

Sections 3.3.1 and 3.3.2 require that illegal parking areas that are identified by complaints from the public and merchants be designated as double-fine zones and have signs that notify motorists of those zones. A double-fine zone ordinance has not yet been adopted by the County. The Community Development Agency, Transportation Division’s Traffic Advisory Committee should be asked to review the possibility or necessity of establishing double fine zones through a County ordinance to fulfill Program Element 3.3.2.

“3.5 The County will conduct detailed traffic studies and adhere to performance standards”

The County Department of Transportation, or DOT, (now the Community Development Agency, Transportation Division) continued its annual monitoring of the traffic volumes on RMP area roads during the summers of 2007 through 2011. Daily traffic volumes were monitored at the same locations that were analyzed in the plan’s Environmental Impact Report. Table 1, and Figures 1 and 2 show the traffic trends on these segments of roads. The following summarizes the results of the DOT traffic studies:

- Traffic counts at each location are over a one week period and as such can be influenced by unpredictable events (special events/construction/etc.).
- There have been 13 houses built within the Bassi Rd. Area of Benefit between 1995 and

2009.

- Traffic volumes at the monitored locations remain within the Level of Service standards described in the EIR.
- The 2011 traffic counts support the 2010 traffic counts: both counts indicate an increase in midweek traffic levels on all road segments in the project area since the 1997 EIR analysis.
- On weekends, several road segments have had lower traffic volumes than in 1997 and others higher. Lower number of boaters on weekends in 2011 than in 1997 could have contributed to lower traffic volumes, but further investigation is needed to evaluate the cause for lower volumes.

Table 1. Daily traffic volumes on County roads in the project area

Segment	1997* summer weekday average	2010 summer weekday average	2011 summer weekday average	1997 summer weekend traffic volumes	2010 summer weekend traffic volumes (avg. Sat + Sun)	2011 summer weekend traffic volumes (avg. Sat + Sun)	Traffic count dates
Bassi Road	800	1090	1542	1800	1514	2292	Aug. 2-8 2011 Aug. 4-8 2010
Cold Springs South of Gold Hill Rd	3000	3117	2968	2500	3000	2167	July 6-12 2011 July 9-15 2010
Lotus Rd, South of Thompson Hill	4800	5103	5224	4800	5375	5716	Aug 2-8 2011 Aug 4-10 2010
Marshall Rd near Hwy 49	3100	3495	3365	2900	2759	2841	Aug 2-8 2011 Aug 2-8 2010
Salmon Falls Rd, North of river	1300	1673	No Count	1700	1883	No Count	Aug 2-8 2011 Aug 10-16 2010
Salmon Falls Rd, South of river	1800	2707	2362	1900	No Count	2213	Aug 2-8 2011 Aug 10-16 2010

*Traffic volumes reported in the RMP's EIR (1997 column) rounded data to the nearest 100 vehicles.

Figure 1. El Dorado County DOT Weekday Traffic Counts on Road Segments within the Project Area

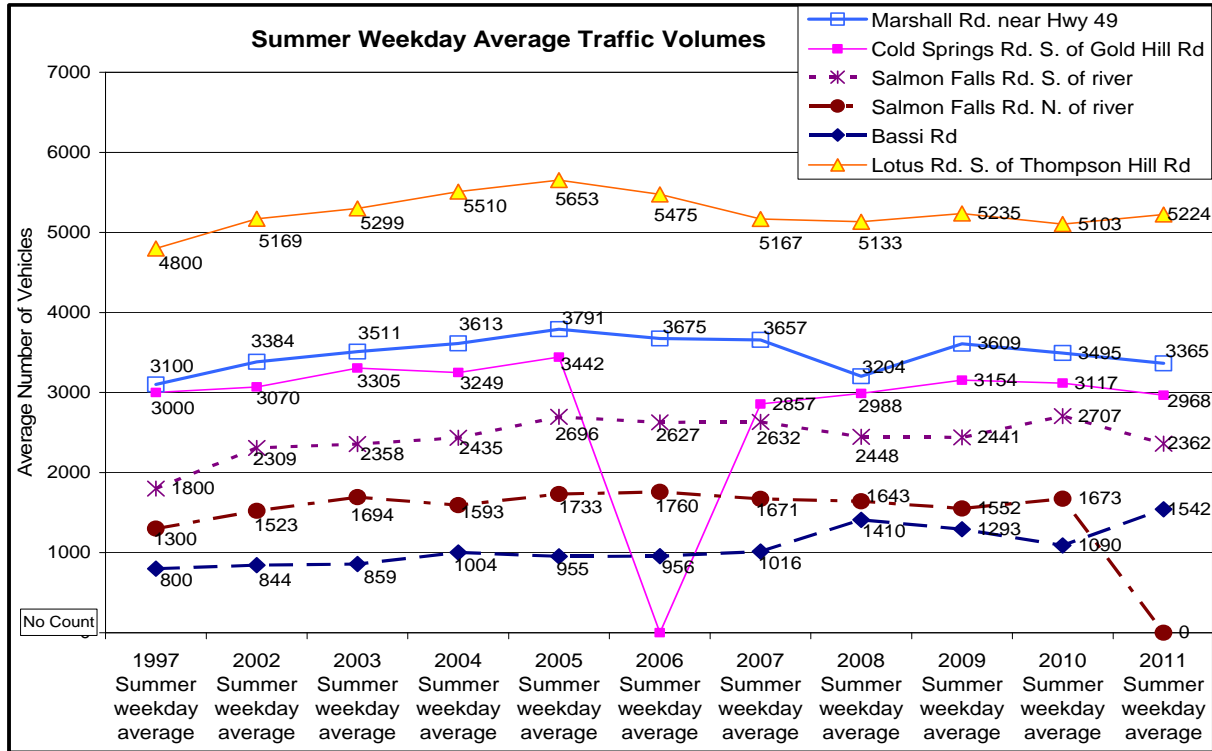
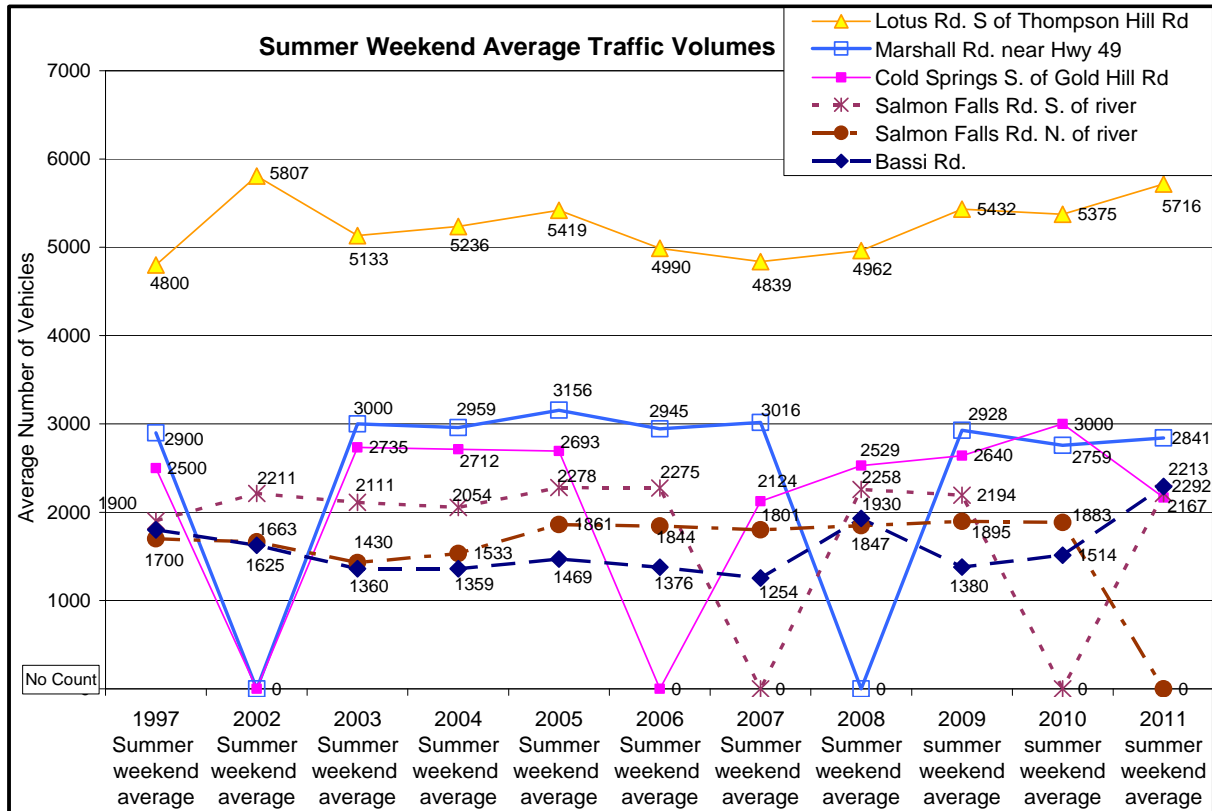


Figure 2. El Dorado County DOT Weekend Traffic Counts on Road Segments within the Project Area



Element 4 – Monitoring and Reporting Programs

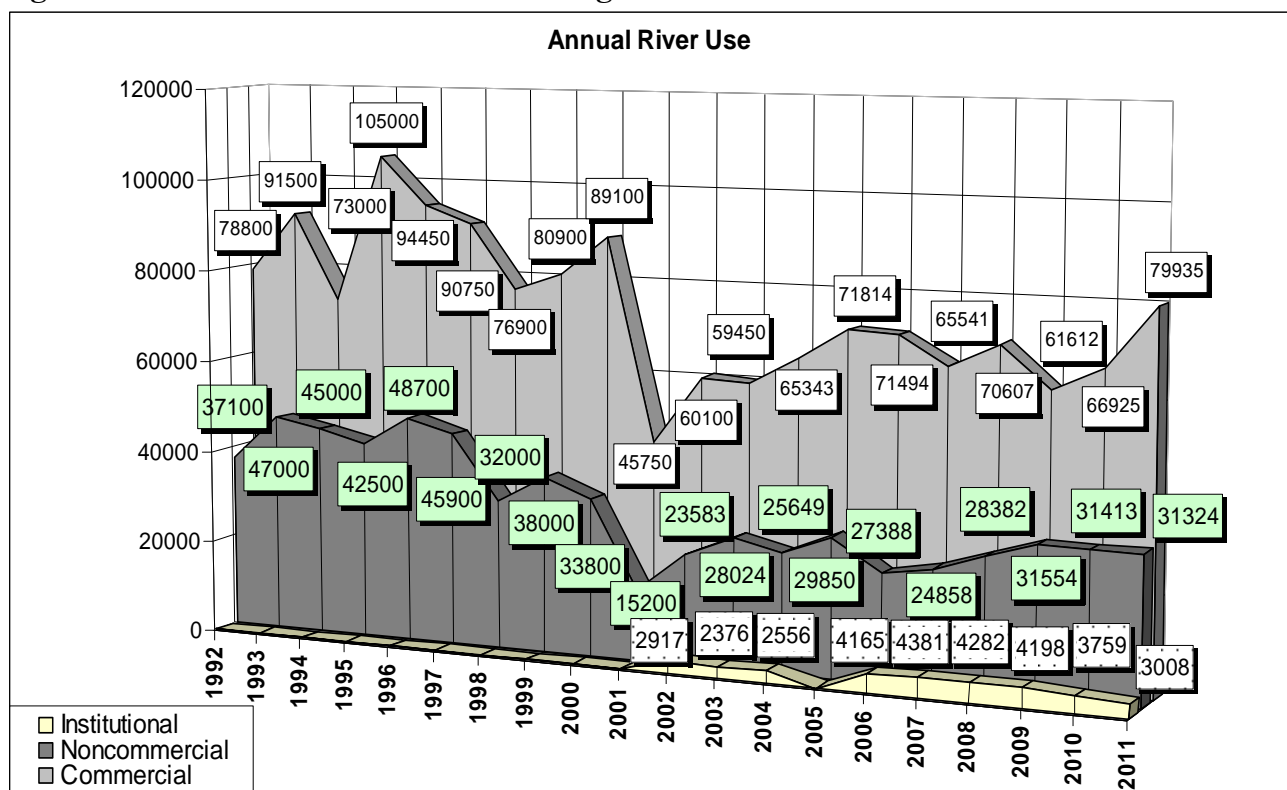
This Program Element “identifies methods and protocols for the County to collect information regarding river use, community satisfaction, water quality, and other environmental conditions within the river corridor”. Sections 4.1 through 4.9, and 4.11 are discussed in the “Five Year Summary Report for Implementation of the River Management Plan – 2002-2006” as no further updates or changes occurred to these Elements during the 2007 through 2011 reporting period.

“4.10 The County will hire sufficient seasonal summer staff to enforce and investigate river use characteristics, land use, and other management actions.”

In 2007, 2008, and 2010, the River Program consisted of one River Recreation Supervisor and three seasonal River Instructors. In 2009, the River Program consisted of one River Recreation Supervisor and three seasonal River Instructors and one River Aide. In 2011, the River Program consisted of one River Recreation Supervisor and two seasonal River Instructors. With densities of river use reported from 2007 through 2011, this number of staff was sufficient to implement this Element. However, having three seasonal River Instructors is safer for staff and the public, and allows greater flexibility for patrolling and scheduling.

The chart below (Figure 3) displays information on the annual number of commercial and non-commercial boaters from 1992 through 2011. Records on annual boater use peaked in the summer of 1995 and data indicate that the number of commercial boaters in 2011 was the largest recorded on the river since 2000.

Figure 3. Annual River Use from 1992 through 2011



Element 5 – Agency and Community Coordination Programs

Element 5 defines protocols for the sharing of information and recommendations through pre- and

post-season annual meetings, coordination of community involvement activities including meeting participation and volunteer opportunities, and coordination with federal and state agencies concerning river management issues. The RMAC serves an important role in many of these functions. The RMAC advises the Planning Commission and Board on RMP amendments, Special Use Permit applications, and use of the River Trust Fund. Monthly public meetings are held as a community forum. RMAC membership, role, and conduct are established by Resolution 120-2001. Sections 5.1, 5.3 through 5.5 are discussed in “Five Year Summary Report for Implementation of the River Management Plan – 2002-2006”.

“5.2 The County Department of General Services will coordinate with utilities (i.e., PG&E, SMUD, and EID) to ensure their participation in a pre-season outfitter meeting to receive flow information and outlooks. The goal of this Element is to improve communication with utilities.”

With the recent implementation of the Sacramento Municipal Utility District’s (SMUD) pending Upper American River Project (UARP) relicensing agreement with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), which mandates the regular scheduling of releases, regular communication with the utilities is not necessary. It is recommended that Element 5.2 be deleted from the RMP as it is no longer needed.

“5.6 Litter Control”

Section 5.6.1 and 5.6.2 state that collection of river trash will be performed using staff, seasonal aides, non-profit organizations, and other volunteers. Over the past five years, river clean-ups occurred once during the summer months on both the upper sections (Chili Bar to Coloma) and also on the lower sections (Coloma to Salmon Falls) of the river. Low flow river clean ups were also performed on the Coloma to Greenwood Creek section once each summer for a total of three river clean ups per year. River clean-ups are conducted with volunteers from commercial rafting companies and the public. On average, there were 18 volunteers and 3 yards of trash collected per river clean-up. Boaters were educated by the River Program staff on the litter container requirements that must be followed when boating on the river. River Program staff also pick up trash on the river and on shore.

Section 5.6.1 states that the County will expand its efforts to collect river trash on a monthly basis. However, organized monthly river clean-ups are not feasible because most of the river use, which facilitates river clean ups, occurs in the summer months. Water levels can also be unpredictable in the fall and spring which can render hazardous conditions for river clean-ups. Therefore, River Program staff recommend changing the goal of monthly river clean ups to one river clean-up on the upper section, one on the lower section, and one low flow (water) clean-up a year. If available, River Trust Funds can be used to facilitate river clean-ups, specifically for transportation and food for volunteers.

Clean-up days have been organized by the County with the assistance of private and commercial boaters. Other conservation organizations within El Dorado County, such as the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, also conduct river clean-up events. To date, these efforts have been separate from the County River Program events. In the future, working with other conservation groups to coordinate cleanup efforts will be encouraged.

“5.7 Agency Coordination”

This Element requires interagency coordination to identify conflicts between the administration of the RMP and other non-whitewater uses (Section 5.7.1). Section 5.7.2 states that the County will

request annual reports from other agencies regarding environmental quality impacts. To implement this coordination, Section 5.7.3 requires a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with other agencies that have jurisdiction over the river that delineates physical and functional areas of responsibility and coordination.

No formal MOU has been executed between the County, State Parks, and BLM, but there continues to be a high level of coordination between these agencies. When the BLM's South Fork American River plan is completed and the UARP license agreement has been approved by the FERC, the BLM is interested in a formal MOU for coordination activities. State Parks is also interested in formalizing an MOU. Meetings are scheduled in 2013 to begin the process of developing these MOUs. Current applicable laws, land status, and legal jurisdiction dictate most of the physical and functional responsibilities by each agency.

Element 6 – Permits and Requirements

Element 6 specifies requirements for Temporary and Special Use Permits associated with activities by Commercial Outfitters and non-commercial boating. These requirements are separate from the regulatory requirements which are specified by County ordinance. Sections 6.1 and 6.5 are discussed in the “Five Year Summary Report for Implementation of the River Management Plan – 2002-2006” as no further updates or changes occurred to these Elements during the 2007 through 2011 reporting period.

“6.2 Commercial Outfitter Requirements”

Commercial Outfitter Requirements detailed in this section include permitting, safety, and conduct for the Commercial Outfitters specifically required for them to maintain their permit to operate. Commercial Guide Requirements; and Section 6.2.10, Violations, Penalties, and Appeals, may require updating based on River Program staff experiences and discussion by RMAC and the Commercial Outfitters. River Program staff recommends making any violation of Element 6.2, which is not currently listed as a Class II violation, subject to a Class I violation. This would expand the current list of violations in the RMP to include all commercial permit requirements, in addition the ones already specified in the RMP.

6.2.10 Violations, Penalties, and Appeals

County Ordinance Code 5.48.140 states that a violation of the swiftwater training requirements shall be a misdemeanor and must be prosecuted through the District Attorney's office. Because filing cases for prosecution is an expensive and time consuming process, the River Program staff recommends changing the ordinance to have this violation be considered a violation of the Commercial Outfitter permit conditions specified in the RMP. Commercial Outfitters that violate permit conditions can be fined by the implementing agency (currently the Community Development Agency, Environmental Management Division). The violation under the RMP would be considered a Class I Violation and added into Section 6.2.10.1.2 of the RMP Elements.

“6.3 Non-Commercial Boater Requirements”

This Element details the requirements for non-commercial boaters based on the designation of the South Fork of the American River as a special use area under the State Harbor and Navigation Code Section 660. This designation requires non-commercial boaters that float in the designated area be aware of basic whitewater boating safety and pollution control. The subsections within this Element detail specifics pertaining to registration, safety, waste, and group sizes including Institutional Groups, Large Groups, and Private Boaters. The River Program distributes private boater tags

(permits) which are required for navigation by non-commercial boaters.

6.3.6 Institutional Group Requirements

The RMP states that Institutional Groups are subject to the same requirements specified for non-commercial boaters (Elements 6.3.1 through 6.3.5). Additionally, Institutional Groups must register with the County River Program, provide proof of liability insurance, have designated trip leaders and provide post-season reports on river usage. RMAC has been working on updating this Element so that Institutional Group requirements are similar to the Commercial River Use Permit requirements. RMAC also recommends limiting the number of Institutional Groups to seven (7) per year, which is the current number of institutional groups that register with the County annually.

“6.4 Temporary Use Permit (TUP) Requirements”

The Community Development Agency, Development Services Division issues TUPs for events on the river and on public property for river-related events. Prior to final approval, applications are reviewed by the Sheriff's Department and the Chief Administrative Office. There were 24 TUPs issued by the Planning Department (now the Community Development Agency, Development Services Division) during the 2007 through 2011 reporting period.

Element 7 – Carrying Capacity Exceedance Actions and Implementation

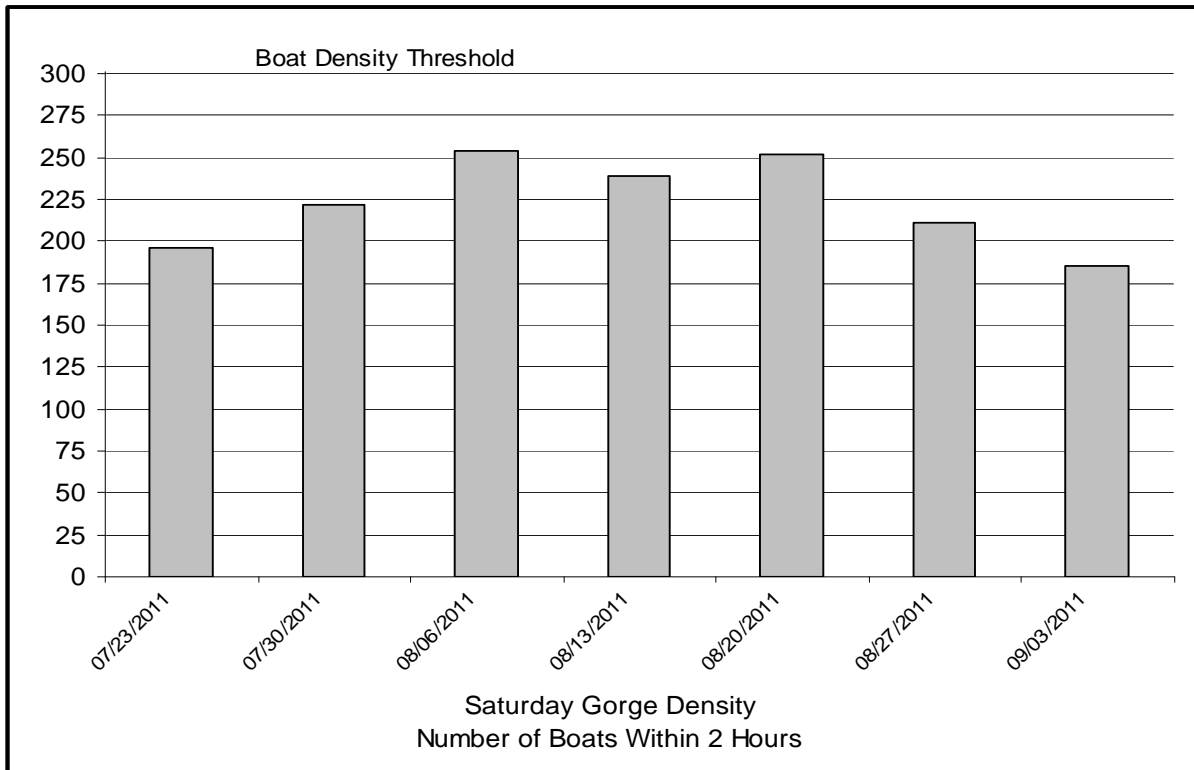
Element 7 explains how data collected on boater density and totals will be used to determine river management changes. Changes specified in this section would only be implemented if the boater carrying capacity thresholds, provided in Appendix D of the RMP, are exceeded. This Element specifies the methods that would be implemented to reduce use and density to levels that ensure boater safety and protection of resources. Section 7.3 outlines the steps that will be implemented if density thresholds are exceeded and Section 7.4 outlines the steps that will be implemented if Daily Boater Totals are exceeded. Sections 7.1 and 7.2 are discussed in the “Five Year Summary Report for Implementation of the River Management Plan – 2002-2006” as no further updates or changes occurred to these Elements during the 2007 through 2011 reporting period.

“7.3 In the event that boat counts exceed a “density threshold” (as defined in Appendix D), the County will implement management actions to address density and associated safety issues on the South Fork as specified in this Element.”

The density threshold provided in Appendix D of the RMP is 300 boats in 2 hours (based on ¼-hour increments and a rolling 2-hour period) at Troublemaker, Barking Dog, or Satan's Cesspool rapids (encompasses the “Gorge Run”, also called the “lower section”) on two days during any one season. The Peak Boat Density graph that follows (Figure 4), displays the results of density monitoring on the Gorge Run, after scheduled releases were started in July 2006. Based on the data, Peak Boat Densities are below threshold values.

Chili Bar boat densities are not represented on Figure 4; however, on Sundays, boat densities on the Chili Bar run were below the 300 boat threshold. The largest number of boats observed within two hours on the Chili Bar run was 130 on Sunday, August 14, 2011.

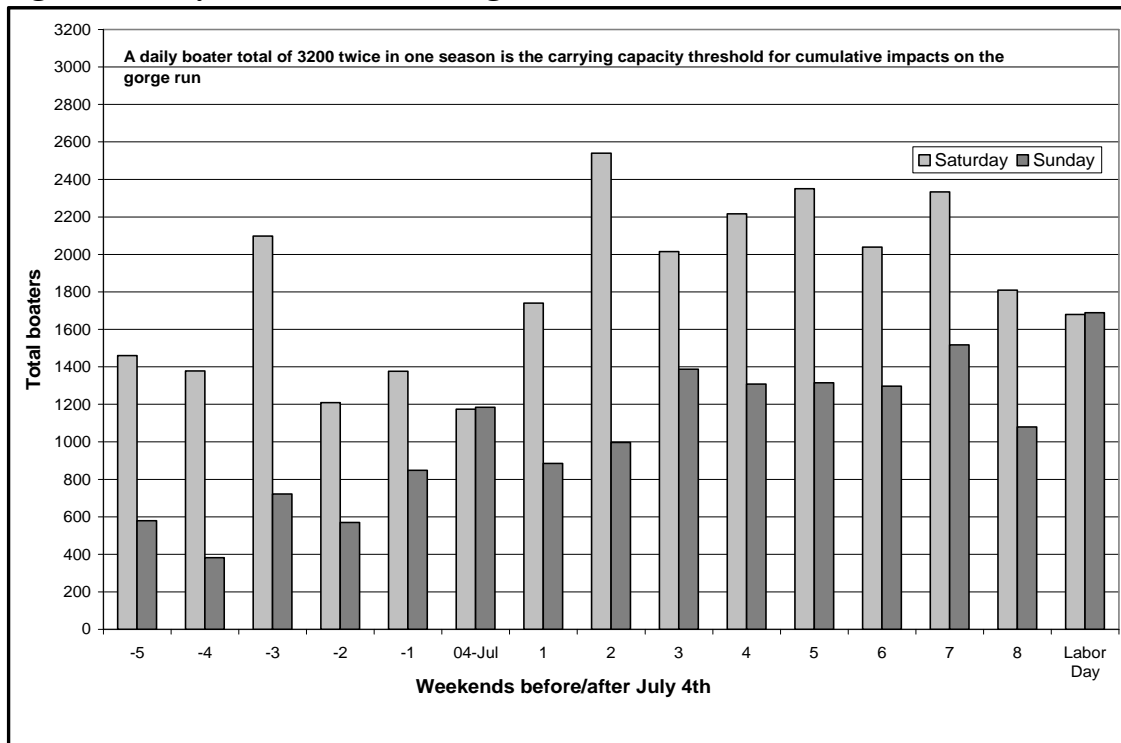
Figure 1. Boat Density Gorge Run in 2011



“7.4 In the event that data collected in a single year indicate exceedance of a “daily boater total” threshold (as defined in Appendix D), the County will implement management actions to reduce total daily boater use levels and allocate use to address potential environmental and other impacts associated with high levels of river use as specified in this Element.”

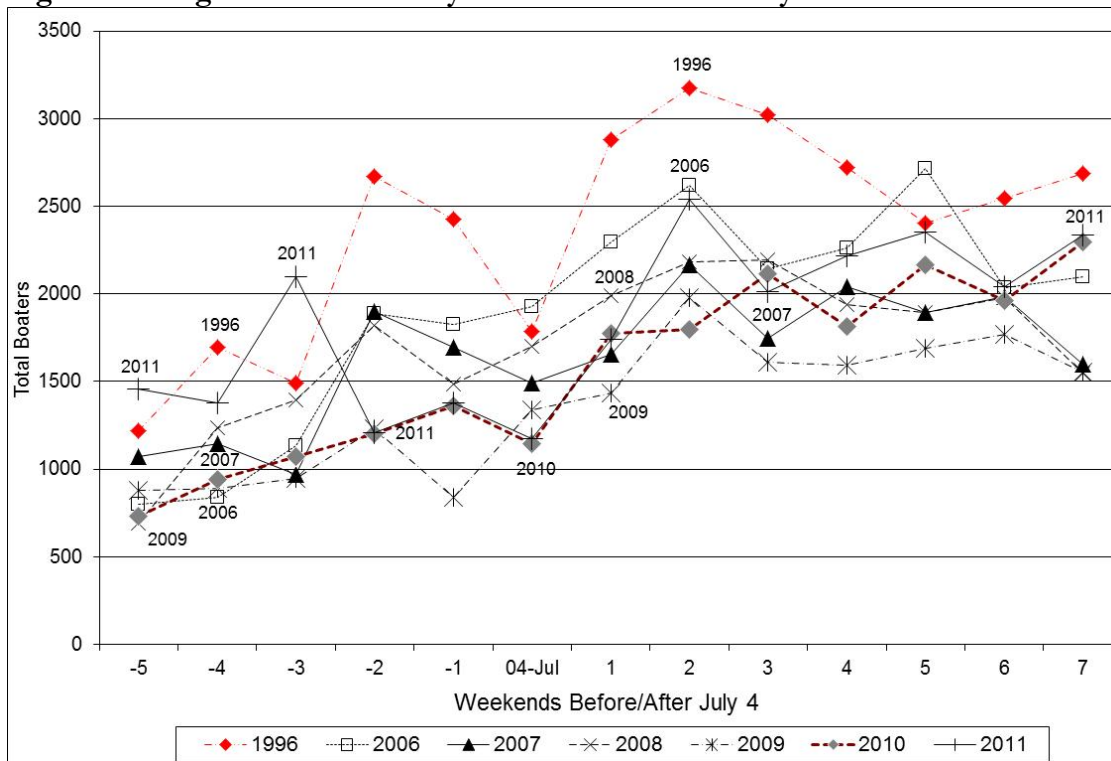
The Daily Total Boater threshold, provided in Appendix D of the RMP, is 2,100 boaters on two days during any one season on the upper reach (Chili Bar to Marshall Gold State Park), and 3,200 boaters on two days during any one season on the lower reach (Gorge Run). Figure 5 reflects the weekend boater totals on the Gorge in 2011. Data indicates that 2011 had the highest total number of boaters since 2000 (Figure 3). Figure 5 shows that even during the busiest year in over 10 years, the Daily Total Boater threshold was not exceeded.

Figure 5. Daily Boater Totals – Gorge run –2011



Figures 6 and 7 compare the current numbers of total daily boaters with river use in 1996. Record high numbers of total daily boaters were recorded in 1996, and those records were used to establish the thresholds for the carrying capacity indicator. The top values on the y-axis in figures 6 and 7 are set at the threshold for total daily boaters on the Gorge and Chili Bar Runs.

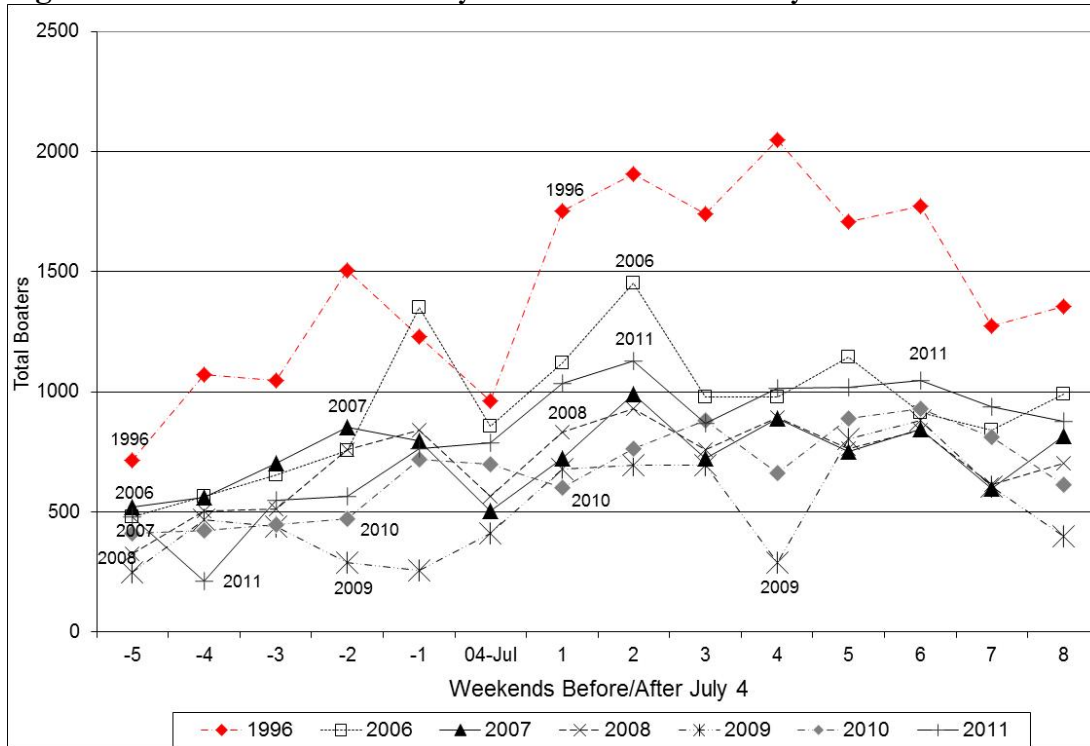
Figure 6. Gorge Run on Saturdays - Trends in Total Daily Boaters



Saturdays - Gorge Run:

- In 2011, the average number of boaters on the Gorge run was 20% lower than in 1996.
- In 2010, the average number of boaters on the Gorge run was 33% lower than in 1996.
- In 2009, the average number of boaters on the Gorge run was 40% lower than in 1996.
- In 2008, the average number of boaters on the Gorge run was 28% lower than in 1996.
- In 2007, the average number of boaters on the Gorge run was 30% lower than in 1996
- In 2006, the average number of boaters on the Gorge run was 19% lower than in 1996
- The daily boater total of 3,175 in 1996 is the historic peak number of boaters for the Gorge run.

Figure 7. Chili Bar Run on Sundays - Trends in Total Daily Boaters



Sundays- Chili Bar run:

- In 2011, the average number of boaters on the Chili Bar run was 44% lower than in 1996.
- In 2010, the average number of boaters on the Chili Bar run was 52% lower than in 1996.
- In 2009, the average number of boaters on the Chili Bar run was 66% lower than in 1996.
- In 2008, the average number of boaters on the Chili Bar run was 52% lower than in 1996.
- In 2007, the average number of boaters on the Chili Bar run was 49% lower than in 1996
- In 2006, the average number of boaters on the Chili Bar run was 35% lower than in 1996
- The daily boater total of 2,049 in 1996 is the historic peak number of boaters for the Gorge run.

Element 8 - Regulations and Ordinances

This Element discusses regulations and ordinances as they pertain to river use. Appendix C of the RMP has copies of key county ordinance codes as reference. Section 8.3 is discussed in the “Five Year Summary Report for Implementation of the River Management Plan – 2002-2006 as no further updates or changes occurred to these Elements during the 2007 through 2011 reporting period.

“8.1 Pirate Boater Ordinance Enforcement”

Under the California State Business and Professions Codes, the County can pursue Pirate Boaters (Commercial Outfitters operating without a River Use Permit) civilly and impose penalties on pirate boating operations. Penalties are divided between the County agency that initiates the action and the District Attorney's Office.

The El Dorado County Sheriff's Boating Unit made a recommendation in their "El Dorado County Sheriff's Office Boating Safety Unit 2011 Summary" for the El Dorado County Council to revise Chapter 5.48 of the County Ordinance's definition of a "Commercial Outfitter" to assist the Sheriff's Department in reducing the number of persons running commercial rafting trips without the proper permits. This recommendation was based on an investigation of a rafting group that was advertised online. The group was promoting themselves as a "cost-sharing" rafting organizer, which appeared to circumvent County ordinance pertaining to the definition of "Commercial Outfitter". Sheriff investigators found that the County Ordinance's definition of "Commercial Outfitters" was too vague making it unlikely to prove a case of pirate boating.

"8.2 The County will amend Quiet Zone regulations and enforcement mechanisms to enable the issuance of citations to private rafters violating Quiet Zone requirements."

County Ordinance 5.50.080 was approved March 19, 2002, that allows private boaters to be cited for violations within the Quiet Zone. No private rafter Quiet Zone violations were issued for the period of this summary.

8.4 Motorboats Prohibited by Ordinance Code 12.64.040

No violations have been issued by the Sheriff's Department in violation of Ordinance Code 12.64.040

Element 9 – Facilities and Lands Management

This Element requires that the County maintain existing facilities and consider opportunities for additional "river-related" facilities. The County is also required by this Element to coordinate with landowners and other agencies for facilities and land use management. Sections 9.3, 9.4, 9.5, and 9.7 are discussed in the "Five Year Summary Report for Implementation of the River Management Plan – 2002-2006".

"9.1 The County Department of General Services will obtain a memorandum of understanding with put-in owners in the Chili Bar area, allowing County staff (i.e., County Department of General Services and Sheriff's Department), the El Dorado County Fire Protection District, and RSC staff, formally recognized access to the put-in site to implement the updated RMP."

The County of El Dorado purchased the Chili Bar property in 2007. Therefore, a Memorandum of Understanding is no longer needed.

"9.2 The County Department of General Services will work with California State Parks, Folsom Lake Division, and adjacent landowners in order to identify opportunities to increase parking in the vicinity of Salmon Falls."

Increased opportunities for additional parking have been explored with State Parks, but no additional space for parking is available.

"9.6 The County may allow, on a willing permittee basis, SUP modifications to enable private boaters to use the Highway Rapid area for put-ins and takeouts. Any such modification to a SUP is subject to all SUP issuance and modification requirements specified in this RMP."

There was an application received by the County for an SUP modification for private boater access near Highway Rapid in 2011, but the application was withdrawn. With the BLM development of the Greenwood Creek river access, the goal of providing a public river put-in and take out has been met.

“9.8 Prior to and during construction of new facilities or modifications to existing facilities, the County will adhere to Mitigation Measures 5-1, 6-1, 8-1, 10-1, 10-2, 11-1, 12-1, 15-2, and 16-3 as described in Appendix B, Mitigation Monitoring Plan.”

The County did not construct any new facilities in the project area between 2007 and 2011.

“9.9 No net loss of riparian habitat (including wetlands) will occur as a result of development of RMP-related facilities.”

No loss of riparian habitat has occurred due to the development of RMP related facilities.

Element 10 – Funding

Element 10 discusses how permit and river use fees support the River Trust Fund. The River Trust Fund is the main source of funding for the County’s River Program and related activities. River activities conducted by the Sheriff’s Department have been funded by the California Department of Boating and Waterways. Sections 10.1 and 10.2 are discussed in the “Five Year Summary Report for Implementation of the River Management Plan – 2002-2006”.

“10.3 The County will ensure that adequate funds are available or funding is secured prior to the implementation of the Elements of this RMP that may require increased County expenditures or Elements that could result in decreased revenue to levels below that necessary to conduct the management activities identified in this RMP.”

Due to increasing costs of goods and services, the RTF has been depleted, requiring some reduction in staff hours and decreased expenditures for the implementation of the RMP. Beginning with the 2011 season, River Program staff was reduced from three to two seasonal River Instructors to make sure that staffing costs remain within budgeted amounts. The RTF balances for the reporting period are:

RTF Balance as of July 1, 2007	\$263,066	
RTF Balance as of July 1, 2008	\$208,902	FY 07/08 - \$67,000 went toward the purchase of Chili Bar
RTF Balance as of July 1, 2009	\$212,214	FY 08/09 - \$44,000 used to fund shuttle grant
RTF Balance as of July 1, 2010	\$158,732	
RTF Balance as of July 1, 2011	\$177,324	

Element 11 – River Data Availability

Element 11 discusses how data collected for water quality, river flow information, boater density, meeting notices and minutes will be collated and presented for public review. River Program data has been made available on the County Website at: <http://www.edcgov.us/Rivers/>. Information on river requirements and flow conditions are also available to the public at the information kiosks. This information is regularly updated as conditions change.

Summary of Recommendations for Modification to the River Management Plan

The RMP revision process is discussed in detail in Section 7 (7.2.2 Periodic Review) which specifies that the five-year summary of the annual reports is submitted to the County General Services Director (now the Chief Administrative Officer [CAO]) and the Planning Director (now the Community Development Agency, Development Services Division Director). Based on their review of the 5-year summary, the CAO and the Planning Director (now the Community Development Agency, Development Services Division Director) evaluate the adequacy of the RMP, as implemented. The evaluation considers:

- Responsiveness to County goals and policies;
- Completeness of impact mitigation measures; and
- Efficiency and economy of RMP implementations.

The findings of the evaluation are presented to the Planning Commission with recommendations to either continue implementation as prescribed; continue implementation with minor modifications, or update the RMP. In addition, the recommendations provided in the Five Year Summary Report for Implementation of the River Management Plan: 2002-2006, should also be evaluated with the following.

The recommendations for updates, changes or deletions provided within this report are summarized as follows:

Element 1.1 requires that a quarterly newsletter is published for landowners and residents along the river. It is recommended that this Element be updated such that the newsletter is produced twice a year (spring and fall) rather than quarterly and that the newsletter is published electronically with hard copies issued only to those who specifically request a hard copy.

Element 1.3 requires that information kiosks are placed at various locations along the river on public lands. Because of the number of boaters that utilize private campgrounds and resorts along the river, it is recommended that this Element be updated to include that County staff will work with the owners of these facilities to install informational kiosk at put-ins on their respective properties.

Element 2.4.4 requires that County Parks (now the River Program) coordinate with the RSC on programs including swiftwater rescue courses for the public. Because the RSC's role is currently fulfilled by the Sheriff's Department (and other agencies), courses for the public have not been conducted. Staff has recommended, and RMAC concurs, that this Program Element could be updated by adding that contracting a River Rescue Instruction company, which could offer free or reduced-cost courses for outfitters and the public, would fulfill this Program Element.

Element 3.3 requires that the County respond to illegal parking areas identified by complaints by

designated these areas as double-fine zones. The Department of Transportation's (now the Community Development Agency, Transportation Division) Traffic Advisory Committee should be asked to review the possibility or necessity of establishing double-fine zones through a County ordinance to fulfill Program Element 3.3.2.

Element 5.2 requires the County General Services Department (now Chief Administration Office) to coordinate with utilities that use the river resources to determine changes in flow. SMUD has a pending relicensing agreement with FERC and has already implemented a published schedule of releases that affect flow eliminating the needs to coordinate with the utilities. It is recommended that Element 5.2 be deleted.

Element 5.6.1 states that the County will make an effort to expand river trash clean-ups to a monthly basis. Monthly cleanups are neither necessary, because use on the river is heaviest during the summer months, nor feasible, due to changes in water levels during the winter months. It is recommended that the monthly clean-up goal change to two per year; one clean-up on the upper section (Chili Bar Run) and one clean-up on the lower section (Gorge Run).

Element 6.2 details the requirements for Commercial Outfitters. River Program staff recommend making violations of any of the requirements specified in Element 6.2, (that are not already listed as Class I or II violations), as Class I violations, expanding the current list of violations listed in the RMP.

Element 6.2.10 discusses the violations and associated penalties. County Ordinance identifies violations of the swiftwater training requirements as a misdemeanor that can be prosecuted by the District Attorney's Office. However, due to the expense and time it takes to build cases for swiftwater training violations, prosecution of violators has not been feasible. It is recommended that the ordinance be changed to make these violations of the swiftwater training requirements considered violations of the Commercial Outfitter permit requirement on which fines can be levied by the implementing agency (currently the Community Development Agency, Environmental Management Division). If implemented, the violation should be considered as a "Class I" violation and added to Program Element 6.2.10.1.2.

Element 6.3.6 states that Institutional Groups are subject to the same requirements specified for non-commercial boaters (Sections 6.3.1 through 6.3.5). RMAC recommends limiting the number of Institutional Groups to seven (7) per year, which is the current number of institutional groups that register with the County annually.

Element 8.1 discusses Pirate Boater Ordinance Enforcement. The Sheriff's Department Boating Unit recommends that the definition of "Commercial Outfitter" be revised in County Ordinance Chapter 5.58 to make it possible to prosecute for-profit rafters that advertise "cost-sharing".

Element 9.1 discusses the need for an MOU with private property owners in the Chili Bar area. Because the County purchased this property in 2007, an MOU is no longer needed and the Element can be deleted.

Element 9.6 discusses SUP modifications to allow private boaters to use the Highway Rapid area for river access. BLM has developed access at nearby Greenwood Creek fulfilling this Element. Therefore, it can be removed from the RMP.