



Park Districts Report – December 2014

Open Space and Regional Park Commission Meeting

January 6, 2015

SOUTH REGION HIGHLIGHTS

- Bartley Ranch Park is a drop-off/chipping location for Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful's Christmas Tree Recycling Program. Trees will be accepted daily from December 26-January 11 from 9am to 4:30pm.
- Washoe County Community Services Department teamed up with Nevada Division of Forestry, Nevada National Guard, to cut down trees that are part of an overall thinning project at Galena Creek Regional Park and provide Christmas Trees for foster families. Washoe County Park Rangers and Roads staff harvested and transported trees to Rancho San Rafael Park that were distributed to foster families in need.
- Park Ranger staff along with Park Planner Cheryl Surface are working to seed several portions of the western slope of Bartley Ranch Park in December. This is still an on-going effort to reduce the number of noxious weeds and establish native vegetation to the rocky slopes after the 2011 Caughlin Fire.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- "Come in from the Cold" Winter Family Series will begin on Saturday, January 10th at 7pm. Northern Nevada Bluegrass will kick off the series with an evening of bluegrass music. The programs will continue each Saturday evening through March 14th. The series is free, with a suggested donation of \$3/person to pay the presenter and help with the costs of future park programs.

NORTH REGION HIGHLIGHTS

- Rancho San Rafael Park is a drop-off/chipping location for Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful's Christmas Tree Recycling Program. Trees will be accepted daily from December 26-January 11 from 9am to 4:30pm.
- Staff is actively working with Reno Disc Golf Association at Sun Valley Regional Park to enhance course design and make adjustments to the course in an effort to mitigate potential resource degradation.
- Staff is finishing using Recreation Trails Program grant funds to purchase materials to repair and enhance trails in the North Region.
- Staff contacted the company that wrapped the North Valleys Splash Park and had them repair some tears on the wrap.
- Ranger staff provided a community Christmas tree which was located in the lobby at the County Administration Complex. The tree contained ornaments highlighting the areas historical significance. A sign was made explaining the thinning at Galena Creek and also the program that provides trees for foster and National Guard families.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Continue working on partnerships at Sun Valley Regional Park and the Regional Archery Facility.
- Winter repairs and preparation for the new year!

Volunteer Report

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December 2014 Highlights

- The staff at Bartley Ranch Regional Park was able to over seed 13 acres of property which is still undergoing fire restoration with the help of the Jr. Navigators volunteer group. Jr. Navigators, Chapter 81, had expressed interest in helping at the park and quickly made themselves available once an opportunity arose. Their group is comprised of about ten 6-11 year old boys and girls, with three families helping out for a total of 20 hours spend on this project. They will also be volunteering for Christmas Tree Recycling at Bartley Ranch this month.
- Rancho San Rafael Regional Park's adopting fraternity, Theta Chi, came out in force to help with two events this December: Christmas Trees for Special Families and the Gingerbread Festival. Having a group that can be called upon to lend a hand with set up/takedown and event assistance has been an invaluable asset. Theta Chi is now going on three years of helping Rancho San Rafael at this capacity.

Year End Review

- 2014 was a great year for volunteerism at Washoe County Parks! There were a total of 28,531 volunteer hours in 2014, 5,666 more than in 2013. Volunteer hours in 2014 equated to a value of \$631,676. The volunteer program which started in 2009 has seen a steady increase each year. Hopefully the trend will continue in 2015 with more repeat volunteer groups, an increase in park adopters, an expanded relationship with agencies such as Children's Cabinet and Job Corp, and a stronger volunteer force of individuals throughout the parks and May Arboretum.

December Volunteer Hours/Value:

Intern hours are down due to an absence of a Job Corp intern at the Arboretum and less intern hours at the May Museum (varies by semester). Volunteer hours were pretty flat to last year with the exception of a drop in volunteer hours at the Galena Visitor's Center which will vary due to programming.

	December 2014	December 2013	% Increase	Fiscal YTD 2014/2015	Fiscal YTD 2013/2014	% Increase
# of Volunteer Hrs	732.00	951.25	-23.1%	16,232.25	9,165.25	77.1%
# of Intern Hrs	19.75	116	-83.0%	1,119.75	1,806.25	-38.0%
Total Dollar Value*	\$16,951.96	\$23,628.92	-28.3%	\$391,287.60	\$242,909.01	61.1%

**The hourly rate of \$22.14 used for calculating the dollar value is based on the estimated national value of volunteer time as reported by www.independentsector.org.*



Park Planning and Development

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PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Park Planner Vacancy

- Applications will be accepted until January 15
- Interested applicants can apply on line at <http://www.washoecounty.us/humanresources>

Ballardini Ranch Trailhead Project

- Funded by 2000 WC-1 Bond and SNPLMA.
- Trailhead is open and being utilized.
- Grand Opening will occur in the spring.

Greenhouse at Rancho San Rafael Park

- Funded by Washoe County Special Project Funds (\$150,000); Donations (\$30,000)
- Capital Projects staff is preparing a bid package with hopes of completion by April 2015
- Project will be a cooperative effort with various community partners and will assist with plant propagation to support the County's park system.

North Valleys Playground Rehabilitation (south playground)

- \$126,000 (50% Park Tax match) for the North Valleys Regional Park (south playground)
- New rubberized surfacing to improve aesthetics and reduce maintenance costs associated with the existing surfacing and provide safety improvements to existing equipment
- Design is underway by LA Studio at 50%. Anticipate bidding in spring of 2015.

Land and Water Conservation Fund- Outdoor Recreation Legacy Program

- Washoe County and City of Reno submitted a joint application for further improvements to North Valleys Regional Park.
- Grant request of \$500k for a restroom/concession facility, outdoor gym/fitness components and an outdoor sport court (basketball/pickle ball) in conjunction with Phase V (athletic fields, parking)
- Cash match from WC is \$250,00 from Sierra Sage Water Rights proceeds and \$250,000 from City of Reno is from Park District 1 Residential Construction Tax
- This is a nationally competitive program and the North Valleys project is the only application from Nevada. 49 applications were received nationwide requesting over \$19 million in projects, with \$3 million available. Results of application have not been announced.

North Trails Maintenance

- Includes purchase of hydraulic dump trailer and auger
- 11.5 miles of trail, 47 directional/educational signs, 5 kiosks at various County Parks
- Funded by Recreation Trails Program Grant
- Project complete.

On Our Way Grants

- \$53,500 Grant received to complete a signage master plan and produce two logo designs for the SR-28 National Scenic Corridor and the Stateline-to-Stateline –Shared-Use Path. Design Workshop selected to complete Corridor Management Plans for both Mt. Rose and Washoe Valley Scenic Byways.
- \$10,000 Grant received to hire a consulting firm to survey residents living in Washoe County to ascertain their willingness to pay to park for the day and what their preferred price point would be. Contractor hired. SURVEY COMPLETED November 10-12, 2014. Draft final report received for comment 12.23.14
- \$42,500 Grant to supplement the SR 431 Mount Rose Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan. Request for Qualifications out for contractor response. To be combined with Washoe Valley Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan. Design Workshop was the successful firm selected for both projects. Anticipate an agreement going to BCC January 27th and project will begin shortly after.

Sky Ranch Park Reconveyance

- Restated and amended agreement regarding Parcel 1 approved by BCC.
- Purchase and Sale agreement for Parcel 2 for economic development purposes approved by BCC.
- Pyramid Urban Achievers (buyer) submitted a Master Plan Amendment and rezoning request was approved by Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners
- Per terms of the agreement, Pyramid Urban Achievers is currently reimbursing Washoe County for maintenance of the park on a monthly basis, until the property closes escrow. Escrow is scheduled to close May, 2016.

South Trails Maintenance

- Purchase of hydraulic dump trailer
- 17 trails in 13 parks, signage and trail maintenance
- Funded by Recreational Trails Program
- Project is complete

Stateline to Stateline Bikeway

- The Tahoe Transportation District and the Federal Highway Administration's Central Federal Lands Division have completed the Federal Land Access Program (FLAP) grant Project Agreement approved by the WC Board of County Commissioner's November 12th. This agreement establishes the partnership between the agencies and the federal funding for the Bikeway project.
- Construction for the North Demonstration Project is set to begin Spring 2015.
- The Tahoe Fund has raised nearly 1 million dollars from the community in match for the Stateline Bikeway.

State Question One Truckee River Bond

- Washoe County serves as fiscal agent for the program. Bond was originally \$10 million and has a few remaining projects to be completed. MOU with State of Nevada extending to 2019- to BCC 8.12
- Staff in final stages of due diligence for acquisition of two parcels on the Truckee River owned by the Carcione Family Trust and location of the Avansino Mogul Ranch. This would be a continuation of the Truckee River Greenbelt for passive recreation, natural resource management, and access to and from the river.
- Schiappacasse Path (Truckee River path) project completed in November, 2015.



Golf Report - December 2014

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D Washoe Golf Course:
E
C
E
M
B
E
R

Rounds of Play	DEC 2014
	1,445
Rounds of Play	Fiscal YTD 13/14
	20,465

DEC 2013	% Change
138	947%
Fiscal YTD 12/13	% Change
18,615	10%

5-Yr Dec Average	% Change
744	94%
5-Yr YTD Average	% Change
19,772	4%

D Sierra Sage Golf Course:
E
C
E
M
B
E
R

Rounds of Play	DEC 2014
	904
Rounds of Play	Fiscal YTD 13/14
	18,105

DEC 2013	% Change
128	606%
Fiscal YTD 12/13	% Change
19,319	-6%

5-Yr Dec Average	% Change
632	43%
5-Yr YTD Average	% Change
17,201	5%

Note: All rounds are 18-hole equivalents. YTD is a fiscal year. 5-year average is FY '08-'09 through '12-'13.

Washoe Golf was closed 4 days due to weather in December 2014

Sierra Sage was closed 3 days due to weather in December 2014

NOTE: The courses were closed most of December 2013 due to snow and cold temps.