



STEVE SISOLAK
Governor

State of Nevada

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

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June 3, 2022

Washoe County Park Commissioners
1001 E. 9th Street
Reno, NV 89512

Re: Carcione and Canepa Recreation Access Plan

Dear Washoe County Park Commissioners,

The Nevada Department of Wildlife (Department) appreciates this opportunity to provide support for the Carcione and Canepa Recreation Access Plan (Plan) as proposed by Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space. The Department is supportive of managing public lands for open space and public access to improve recreational opportunities. Washoe County has been receptive to the Department's recommendations, some of which included protection and minimization measures for the benefit of wildlife, as well as developing vegetation management plans within the two project areas. The Plan would improve or establish trail systems for hiking, wildlife viewing, and backcountry access; provide access to the Truckee River for fishing and non-motorized boating opportunities; and provide infrastructure including picnic areas, parking, restrooms, as well as map kiosks and interpretive signs for educational purposes.

The Carcione and Canepa properties are located within identified crucial winter habitat and a migration corridor for mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*), a species identified in the State of Nevada Wildlife Action Plan as a Species of Greatest Conservation Need (formerly a Species of Conservation Priority). The Department appreciates Washoe County's proposal to maintain a non-motorized status and to require dogs be on leash on all public lands during the winter season from December 1 – March 30 to limit disturbance to wintering mule deer. In addition, the Department appreciates incorporation of invasive and noxious weed management, vegetation inventories, and restoration plans to address identified weed, erosion, and other habitat degradation concerns.

The Department supports this Plan as it creates opportunities for increased public recreation, wildlife viewing, and angler and boating opportunities, while protecting and managing wildlife resources and promoting habitat management. We look forward to continued collaboration on this project. Please do not hesitate to let me know if there is anything else I can provide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Katie Andrie".

Katie Andrie
Western Region Supervising Habitat Biologist
Nevada Department of Wildlife
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kmandrie@ndow.org