



**File Code:** 1580  
**Date:** June 6, 2022

Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space Commission  
1001 E. 9th Street  
Reno, Nevada 89512

Dear Washoe County Park Commissioners:

On behalf of the United States Forest Service (Forest Service), we are writing to offer our strong support for the Carcione and Canepa Ranch Recreation Access Plan (Recreation Plan). In 2009, the Forest Service purchased lands that were part of the former Canepa Ranch under the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act. While lands owned by the Forest Service were beyond the scope of this planning process, it is understood that the proposed Recreation Plan improvements would impact and connect with these Forest Service properties. The Recreation Plan is consistent with the original intent behind the Forest Service's adjacent land acquisition. Additionally, representatives from the Forest Service have participated in the plan development process and our comments have been incorporated.

The Recreation Plan outlines a vision based on public input for the future development of two open space properties in Mogul. These properties provide a unique opportunity to improve access to public lands and the Truckee River. The main components of the Recreation Plan are parking and access, including ADA-accessibility, trailhead amenities (such as restrooms, wayfinding signage, interpretive signage, and dog-waste stations), frontcountry trails, backcountry access to Forest Service lands, cultural resource protection, Truckee River access, and vegetation and wildlife management.

The Washoe County community continues to grow and with that growth comes increasing demands and pressure on recreational amenities and natural resources. Implementation of the Recreation Plan will help to distribute visitor use from other Truckee River access points, provide additional recreation opportunities, and allow for the management of visitor use to protect natural, cultural and historical resources. Consistent with input from the Forest Service, the plan identifies a preferred bridge location that would connect County property with Forest Service property. The Plan also proposes decommissioning certain social trails to consolidate public access as well as trails to connect to the future Belli Front Trail System.

We respectfully request that the Washoe County Park Commission adopt the Carcione and Canepa Ranch Recreation Access Plan.

Sincerely,

MATTHEW D. ZUMSTEIN  
District Ranger

