Appendix C
Archeological Survey

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY FOR THE CALIFORNIA TAHOE CONSERVANCY SOUTH TAHOE GREENWAY BIKE PATH

EL DORADO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

NCIC File No.: ELD-15-79

USGS 7.5 Quadrangle:
South Lake Tahoe 1994 (photorevised)

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Cultural Resources Survey; County of El Dorado

January 4, 2016

Archaeological and other heritage resources can be damaged or destroyed through uncontrolled public disclosure of information regarding their location. This document contains sensitive information regarding the nature and location of archaeological sites that should not be disclosed to the general public or unauthorized persons.

Information regarding the location, character, or ownership of a cultural resource is exempt from the California Public Record Act under Government Code Section 6254.10.

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INTRODUCTION

Parus Consulting, Inc. (PCI) was retained by the California Tahoe Conservancy to perform a cultural resources survey for portions of the Greenway trail project. The current project entails investigation of a proposed bike path alignment within the City of South Lake Tahoe, California. The inventory by PCI includes a cultural resources literature search, a Sacred Lands File search, and an intensive-level pedestrian survey of the project area.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The 3.86-mile Greenway trail will create the backbone of the non-motorized bicycle and pedestrian network, connecting neighborhoods, schools, and recreation areas on a direct and safe path located separate from the street system.

The Greenway project area lies in El Dorado County, California, largely within the boundaries of the City of South Lake Tahoe (City), extending from Sierra Boulevard in the Sierra Tract neighborhood to the south, to the Van Sickle Bi-State Park at the Nevada/California state line to the north.

A Supplement to the approved Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) is being prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Project modifications evaluated in this Supplement extend between Sierra Boulevard and Glenwood Way (Phases 1b and 2) and include:

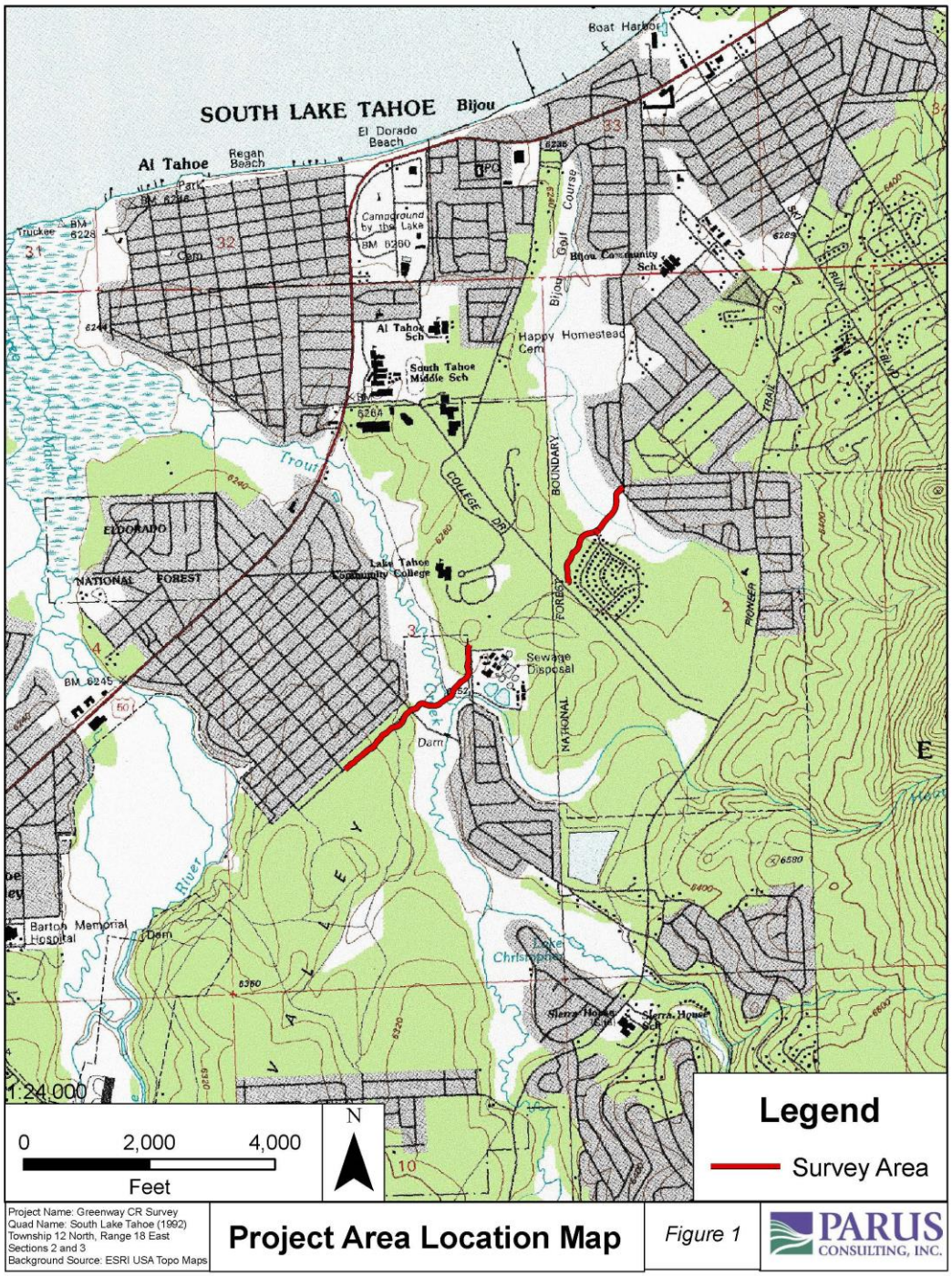
- Trail realignment across Trout Creek between Lake Tahoe Community College and the Martin Avenue/Barbara Avenue intersection, reducing total trail length by 655 linear feet (lf);
- Trail realignment in the vicinity of Barbara Avenue to avoid conflict with Caltrans' snow storage needs nearby, reducing total trail length by 167 lf;
- Modification in the design detail for crossing Bijou Meadow, increasing use of causeway and decreasing use of boardwalk by 487 lf;
- Acquisition of easements to support implementation of the modified trail alignment; and
- A different public ownership pattern between three public entities (the Conservancy, the City, and Lake Tahoe Community College) in the Trout Creek and Bijou Meadow areas needed to improve management efficiency and facilitate Greenway project implementation.

Project Location

The project area evaluated in this report follows the proposed alignment of the Greenway Bike Path which trends northeast-southwest and located within South Lake Tahoe, California (Figure 1). On the northeast, the project area terminates at the intersection of Becka Drive and Glenwood

Way. The southwestern end of the project terminates at the intersection of Sierra Boulevard and Barbara Avenue.

The survey corridor is split into two sections, divided by approximately 1 mile of currently existing bikepath. The southwestern survey area extends approximately 0.5 miles and has start and stop points of 11S 241771mE / 4311934mN at the southwestern terminus and 11S 242409mE / 4312492mN at the northeastern terminus. The northeastern survey area extends approximately 0.35 miles and has start and stop points of 11S 242906mE / 4312764mN at the southwestern terminus and 11S 243202mE / 4313206mN at the northeastern terminus. The project area is situated within the limits of the City of South Lake Tahoe. The project area is located in Section 2 and 3 within Township 12 North, Range 18 East on the South Lake Tahoe (1992) United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute quadrangle map (Mount Diablo Base and Meridian). Elevation within the project area ranges from 6,300 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) at the southwestern terminus to 6,267 feet AMSL at the northeastern terminus.


SOUTH LAKE TAHOE
Bijou
Al Tahoe
Boat Harbor
El Dorado Beach
Regan Beach
Park
Truckee
Cem
Campground by the Lake
Bijou Golf Course
Bijou Community Sch
Al Tahoe Sch
Happy Homestead Cem
South Tahoe Middle Sch
Trout
COLLEGE DR
BOUNDARY
FOREST
NATIONAL
PIONEER
TRAIL
RUN
ELDORADO
NATIONAL FOREST
Lake Tahoe Community College
Sewage Disposal
Dam
River
Barton Memorial Hospital
Lake Christopher
Sierra House
1:24,000
0
2,000
4,000
Feet
N
Legend
Survey Area
Project Name: Greenway CR Survey
Quad Name: South Lake Tahoe (1992)
Township 12 North, Range 18 East
Sections 2 and 3
Background Source: ESRI USA Topo Maps
Project Area Location Map
Figure 1
PARUS CONSULTING, INC.

Regulatory Setting

The current study was completed under the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 14 Section 15064.5, and Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21083.2. The following is a review of the applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards governing cultural resources to be complied with prior to, and during, the proposed CTC bike path construction project.

State Regulations

CEQA requires a lead agency to determine whether a project may have a significant effect on historical resources. If it can be demonstrated that a project will cause damage to a unique archaeological resource, the lead agency may require reasonable efforts to be made to permit any or all of these resources to be preserved in place or left in an undisturbed state. To the extent that they cannot be left undisturbed, mitigation measures are required (Sections 21083.2[a], [b], and [c]). Section 21083.2(g) describes a *unique archaeological resource* as an archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that, without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that the site meets any of the following criteria:

- It contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions, about which there is a demonstrable public interest;
- It has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type; or
- It is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

A *historical resource* is a resource listed in, or determined to be eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) (Section 21084.1), a resource included in a local register of historical resources (Section 15064.5[a][2]), or any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript that a lead agency determines to be historically significant (Section 15064.5[a][3]).

Section 5024.1 of the PRC, Section 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines, and Sections 21083.2 and 21084.1 of the Statutes of CEQA were used as the basic guidelines for this cultural resources study. PRC Section 5024.1 requires evaluation of historical resources to determine their eligibility for listing on the CRHR. The purpose of the register is to maintain listings of the State's historical resources and to indicate which properties are to be protected from substantial adverse change. The criteria for listing resources on the CRHR were expressly developed to be in accordance with previously established federal criteria.

According to PRC Section 5024.1(c)(1–4), as well as Section 15064.5(a)(3)(A–D) of the revised CEQA Guidelines, a resource is considered historically *significant* if it meets at least one of the following four criteria:

1. It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;

2. It is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
3. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of installation, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or
4. It has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Impacts to *significant* cultural resources from a proposed project are considered significant if the project physically destroys or damages all or part of a resource, changes the character of the use of the resource or physical feature within the setting of the resource which contribute to its significance, or introduces visual, atmospheric, or audible elements that diminish the integrity of significant features of the resource. Under CEQA, if an archaeological site is not a historical resource but meets the definition of a "unique archaeological resource" as defined in PRC Section 21083.2, then it should be treated in accordance with the provisions of that section.

REPORT PREPARATION

Archaeological Staff Qualifications

Alexander P. Walton, B.S. authored this report, performed the pedestrian survey, and record search for this project. Andrew Miller, M.A. performed senior review and oversight. Mr. Miller meets or exceeds all requirements of the Secretary of Interior's *Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation* (National Park Service 1983).

Report Format

The format of this report follows the *Archaeological Resource Management Reports: Recommended Contents and Format* (Office of Historic Preservation 1990).

PROJECT SETTING

NATURAL SETTING

The project area is characterized by dry summers with warm days and cool nights, and moist, cold winters. The winter preciptitation primarily falls as snow within this climatic region. High winter temperatures are approximately 45 degrees Fahrenheit, and summer temperature highs are approximately 90 degrees Fahrenheit. The current snowy highland climate is dryer and warmer than the earliest recorded conditions and is continuing that trend (Coats 2010).

Current land uses near the project area include residential developments, community parks, and fishing. Historically, the region was characterized by vegetation communities that included mixed conifer and oak forest, montane riparian communities, and wet meadowlands (Mayer and Laudenslayer 1988). The warm season in this ecological community would have been well-suited for its prehistoric occupants subsistence strategies; including hunting of small and large game, fishing, and gathering edible plant species.

CULTURAL SETTING

Prehistoric Overview

California prehistory is divided into three broad temporal periods that reflect similar cultural characteristics throughout the state: the Paleoindian Period (ca. 9000–6000 B.C.), the Archaic Period (6000 B.C.–A.D. 500), and the Emergent Period (A.D. 500–Historic Contact) (Fredrickson 1973, 1974, 1994a). The Archaic is divided further into Lower (6000–3000 B.C.), Middle (3000–1000 B.C.), and Upper (1000 B.C.–A.D. 500) periods, generally governed by climatic and environmental variables, such as the drying of pluvial lakes at the transition from the Paleoindian to the Lower Archaic.

The Greenway Cultural Resources Survey project lies in the Lake Tahoe vicinity of the Northern Sierra subregion of the Sierra Nevada Archaeological Region, which is one of eight organizational divisions of the state (Moratto 1984). The subregion includes Sierra, Nevada, Placer, El Dorado, Alpine, and Amador counties.

Occupation of the Sierra Nevada likely started as early as the late Pleistocene or early Holocene (~6,000-10,000 BP). Although the current chronology for the region inadequately represents pre-6,000 BP occupation of the region (Waechter and Bloomer, 2009), it is used here because there is no feasible alternative at this time. The prehistory of the Lake Tahoe region is split into seven phases corresponding to a series of investigated sites throughout the Northern Sierra in Placer County, Sierra County, Nevada County, and Nevada: Tahoe Reach (6000 B.C.), Spooner (5000-2000 B.C.), Early Martis (2000-1500 B.C), Middle Martis (1500 B.C.- c. A.D. 500), Late Martis (c. 500 B.C. - c. A.D. 500), Early Kings Beach (A.D. 500-1200), and Washo-Late Kings Beach (A.D. 1200- Historic Contact). These divisions are based upon lithic typologies corresponding to radiocarbon dates and periods of climate change. The northern Sierras experience alternating warm, dry intervals which result in low lake levels and drying of riparian environments, cycled with wetter, cooler periods. The earliest sites in the Tahoe Basin such as those from the Tahoe Reach and Spooner periods may have been buried by later alluvial deposition or currently beneath Lake Tahoe's waters (Lindstrom 1990:140).

Tahoe Reach (6000 B.C and earlier)

The earliest human occupation within the northern Sierras began in the early Holocene/Late Pleistocene (Bloomer and Jaffke 2008). They consisted of sparse, mobile groups moving seasonally depending on resource availability. Primarily hunters of megafauna, they left behind assemblages that include large stemmed dart points, large bifaces, large heavy core tools, and flaked crescents of unknown purpose (Elston 1982; Waechter 2009).

Spooner (5,000-2,-000 B.C)

As the climate grew warmer and dryer during the early and middle Holocene, more sedentary groups based near perennial water sources and likely structured around large households appear in the region (Lindstrom 2009). An emphasis on seed processing and reduced big game hunting develops. Site artifact assemblages from this period begin to include groundstone such as millingstones and handstones, and bifacial tools (Elston 1982).

Martis Complex (2000 B.C.-500 A.D.)

The Martis Complex is distinguished by prolific use of basalt for flaked tools when compared to obsidian, and an emphasis on hunting of small game and subsistence based plant use. Martis sites have been recorded in the Martis Valley, Eldorado County, Plumas County, Sierra County, Nevada County, and in Nevada. At Martis site CA-SIE-28 a distinct circular stone enclosure measuring 23 meters in diameter was recorded that may have served as a corral for hunting pronghorn (Payen and Olson 1969). Large winter villages and diversified resource use characterize this period. Assemblages include bedrock grinding features, millingstones and associated groundstone, and a wide variety of lithic tools (Elston 1982). Diagnostic projectile points similar to temporally variable Great Basin and Central Valley types and other reasons have led researchers to debate whether Martis sites are all part of a related complex, or represent larger cultural networks interacting in the same region (Lindstrom 1978; Elston et al 1977; Elsasser and Gortner 1992).

King Beach Complex (500 A.D.-1870 A.D.)

The King Beach Complex ranges between about 2000 BP and 500 BP during the Late Holocene. The complex is characterized by seasonal campsites with assemblages of flaked obsidian and silicate tools, small projectile points, occasional scrapers, and bed rock mortars. Distinguished by subsistence strategies of even greater intensity and diversity than previous periods and emphasized fishing, pine nut harvesting, seed gathering, and hunting using the bow and arrow (Moratto, 1984: 294-295; Elston 1982).

Ethnographic Overview

The project is in an area traditionally occupied by the Washoe. Archaeological sites linked to the Washoe have been recorded around Lake Tahoe (d'Azevedo 1986; Freed 1966). The traditional territory of the Washoe Tribe includes the entire area surrounding Lake Tahoe. They also occupied areas stretching from the Pine Nut Mountains, the Virginia Range, and the Pah Rah Range in the east; to the crest of the Sierra Nevada Mountains in the west (Caltrans 2008:3.6-1). Their seasonal range extended into a much larger peripheral area, as ethnographic Washoe traveled to collect a wide variety of resources. Although there was conflict between the Washoe and neighboring tribes over resources in the periphery of Washoe territory, intergroup relations were largely cooperative and it is unlikely the Washoe defended those areas (Price 1962 and 1980; Pritzker 2000).

The geographic variety in Washoe territory allowed them to use a wide variety of subsistence resources and as a result, be more sedentary than their neighbors (d'Azevedo 1986). There were several permanent settlement sites throughout Washoe territory, and many temporary and specific use sites used to support the larger settlements (Freed 1960). During summer months, Washoe gathered in Lake Tahoe where many individuals and groups would spend the warm season fishing, hunting, and gathering plant resources (Freed 1966:76). In the fall, groups would move to the western foothills of the Sierra Nevada, and to the Pine Nut Hills to harvest acorns and pine nuts (Nevers 1976). It is possible that some groups of Washoe stayed year round on the shores of Lake Tahoe, surviving through ice fishing and cached plant resources (Freed 1966, Price 1962: 40, Downs 1966).

The Washoe conducted their lives largely without interruption from Euro-American settlers until the discovery of the Comstock Lode in 1858. Drawn by silver and gold mining, agricultural, and ranging opportunities, settlers streamed into the region by the thousands. The most productive Washoe gathering

lands were devastated by the aforementioned activities (Downs 1966). Washoe were increasingly displaced throughout the 19th century, yet were able to maintain their lifeways through use of the varied ecological zones in their territory and by avoiding conflict with Euro-Americans in the region (Downs 1966 and 1963, d'Azevedo 1986).

Historic Overview

Post-contact history for the State of California generally is divided into three specific periods: the Spanish Period (1769–1822), the Mexican Period (1822–1848), and the American Period (1848–present). Although there were brief visits by Spanish, Russian, and British explorers from 1529–1769, the beginning of Spanish settlement in California occurred in 1769 with a settlement at San Diego. Twenty-one missions were established from 1769–1823. The Mexican Period, following the 1822 revolt, is marked by an extensive era of land grants. most of which were in the interior of the state, as well as exploration by American fur trappers west of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The American Period was initiated in 1848 with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which ended the Mexican–American War, as well as with the discovery of gold that same year.

Spanish Period (1769–1822)

Despite being situated within the territory claimed by Spain, exploration between 1529 and 1769 of Alta (upper) California was limited. During this nearly 250-year span, there were only brief visits by Spanish, Russian, and British explorers. The beginning of Spanish settlement in California, which marked the devastating disruption of the culture of indigenous Californians, occurred in the spring of 1769.

In 1769, Gaspar de Portolá established the first Spanish settlement in Alta California at San Diego, and with Father Junipero Serra founded the first of 21 missions (*Mission San Diego de Alcalá*) that would be built by the Spanish and the Franciscan Order between 1769 and 1823. Portolá continued north, reaching San Francisco Bay on October 31, 1769. Later expeditions to Alta California in 1772 by Pedro Fages, who was seeking a site for a mission, and in 1776 by Juan Bautista De Anza, who was seeking a site for a presidio and mission, explored the land east of San Francisco Bay and into the vast plains to the east (Gunsky 1989).

In 1808, Spanish Lieutenant Gabriel Moraga led the first expedition into the Sacramento Valley and traveled northward along the Sacramento River. The expedition was scouting for new mission locations and searching for runaway Indian neophytes from the coastal missions. They also traveled south as far as the Merced River and explored parts of the American, Calaveras, Cosumnes, Feather, Mokelumne, and Stanislaus rivers. In 1813 Lieutenant Gabriel Moraga led an expedition in the lower portion of California's Central Valley, giving the name San Joaquin to the large river that flows northward through the county (Hoover et al. 2002). Later immigrants were attracted by the abundance of wildlife within or along the banks of the rivers, including waterfowl, fish, and fur-bearing animals. In 1817, the final Spanish expedition into the interior of Alta California was led by Luis Arguello (Beck and Haase 1974; Gunsky 1989). That expedition traveled up the Sacramento River, past the future site of the city of Sacramento to the mouth of the Feather River, before returning to the coast.

Mexican Period (1822–1848)

After the end of the Mexican Revolution (1810–1821) against the Spanish crown, all Spanish holdings in North America (including Alta and Baja California) became part of the new Mexican Republic. With the onset of the Mexican Period, an era of extensive land grants began, in contrast to the Spanish colonization through missions and presidios. To increase the population away from the more settled coastal areas where the Spanish had concentrated their settlements, most of the land grants to Mexican citizens in California (*Californios*) were in the interior.

With the opening by Mexico of California to North Americans after the revolution, the fur trappers, also known as "mountain men," began exploring west of the Sierra Nevada Range. Jedediah Smith was the first trapper to enter California; his small party trapped and explored along the Sierra Nevada in 1826. In 1827, they entered the Sacramento Valley, traveling along the Cosumnes and American rivers, and camping near Wilton and the Rosemont section of modern-day Sacramento. Jedediah Smith also traveled through the San Joaquin Valley in 1827. Other trappers soon followed, including employees of the Hudson's Bay Company in 1832 (Hoover et al. 2002).

American Period (1848–Present)

Under the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo of 1848, victory in the Mexican-American War (1846–1848) resulted in Mexico releasing its northern territories (now the states of California, Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and part of Utah) to the United States. The same year California became a territory of the United States, gold was discovered at Sutter's Mill on the American River in Coloma. The discovery was followed by a vast influx of immigrants and an economic boom, which had a devastating impact on the lives of indigenous Californians in the Central Valley and all along the Sierra Nevada foothills (Chartkoff and Chartkoff 1984:296). The mass introduction and concentration of diseases, the loss of land and territory (including traditional hunting and gathering locales), violence, malnutrition, and starvation accompanied the tens of thousands of gold seekers (Gunsky 1989).

In 1849, one year after the discovery of gold, nearly 90,000 people had journeyed to the gold fields of California, and a portion of Sutter's Mexican land grant became the bustling Gold Rush boomtown of Sacramento. California became the 31st state in 1850, largely as a result of the Gold Rush. By 1853, the population of the state exceeded 300,000 and in 1854, Sacramento became the state capital.

Local History

El Dorado County

El Dorado County was one of the original 27 counties of California, created in 1850 at the time of statehood (Hoover et al. 2002). James Marshall discovered gold in El Dorado County in 1848, possibly the most influential event in California's history. The county occupies a large portion of the western and northern Sierra Nevada Mountain range, and spans the flat, former marshland of the Central Valley, and ascends to the sub-alpine heights of Lake Tahoe.

City of South Lake Tahoe

The city was founded in 1965 with the incorporation of several communities existing along the south shore of Lake Tahoe. Its primary industry today is gambling, and there is a strong reliance on tourism to support the local economy. Historically, the area has been occupied since the 1840s and the creation of what is now know as the California Emigrant Trail. The discovery of gold in 1848 led to the mass migration of Euro-Americans to the area, which was only sparsely populated. This was followed by another migration to the area with the discovery of the Comstock Lode near present day Virginia City. Historically speaking, ranching, logging, and mining have been the primary forces which drew people to the shores of Lake Tahoe (Landauer 1996).

PRE-FIELD RESEARCH

LITERATURE SEARCH

To determine if prehistoric or historic cultural resources were previously recorded within the project areas, a cultural resources literature search was performed for PCI by the North Central Information Center (NCIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System at California State University, Sacramento on December 16, 2015. The records search included a one-half-mile radius around the project area. The records search was conducted to determine the extent to which the project areas had been previously surveyed, and the number and type of cultural resources in the area or within the project limits. The archival search consisted of an archaeological and historical records and literature review. The results of the record searches are included as Appendix A.

California Historical Resources Information System Search Findings

The archival record search (NCIC File No.: ELD-15-79) showed that 27 comprehensive, professional archaeological surveys, assessments, and inventories had been completed within 0.5 miles of the project area (see Table 1).

Table 1. Prior Cultural Resources Studies In or Near Project Area

NCIC Report No.	Study	Author(s)	Year	Proximity to Project Area
000027	Archeological Investigation within the City of South Lake Tahoe	Donald Storm and Gloria Caddell	1975	Within 0.5 miles
000189	South Lake Tahoe Public Utility District Wastewater Disposal, El Dorado and Alpine Counties, California	Peak, Ann S. and Associates	1978	Within 1000 feet
000189B	Cultural Resources Assessment of the Proposed South Lake Tahoe Public Utilities District wastewater Treatment Facilities – Phase II	Peak, Ann S. and Associates	1978	Within 1000 feet
00189C	Cultural Resources Assessment for the Tahoe Regional Environmental Evaluation Study.	Chavez, David and Cindy Desgrandchamp	-	Within 0.5 miles
000272	Cultural Resource Assessment of the Bijou Community Park, South Lake Tahoe, California.	Stearns, Steven M. and Jeffery S. Seldomridge	1986	In and adjacent to

NCIC Report No.	Study	Author(s)	Year	Proximity to Project Area
000624	Cultural Resource Assessment of the South Lake Tahoe Public Utility District College Well Project, El Dorado County, California.	Peak, Ann S. and Associates	1980	Within 2000 feet
002205	A Cultural Resources Evaluation of the South Tahoe Public Utilities District Emergency Retention Basin Project, A Surface Survey of Five Acres Near South Lake Tahoe, California	Lindstrom, Susan	1991	Adjacent
002574	Confidential Archaeological Addendum for Timber Operations for Lake Tahoe Community College	Hoefer, Jonathon	2000	Within 1000 feet
002858	Summary Form: Archaeological Reconnaissance Report: Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit ARR# 05-19-175	Hardy, Kathy	1983	Within 0.5 miles
002865	Martin Ave. Culvert Replacement Project: Historic Property Survey Report – Negative Findings	Bartholomew, Harland	1995	Within 500 feet
002866	Summary Form: Archaeological Reconnaissance Report: Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit ARR# 05-19-145	Hardy. Kathy	1986	Within 0.5 miles
002869	An Archaeological Reconnaissance of the Lake Tahoe Community College, El Dorado Co., CA	Foster, Daniel G.	1982	Within 1000 feet
007031	South Lake Tahoe Juvenile Hall Cultural Resources Survey	Ludwig, Brian	2002	Within 0.5 miles
007055	Heritage Resource Inventory Sierra Tract Project Erosion Control Project	Lindstrom, Susan	2004	Within 0.5 miles
007058	Lake Tahoe Community College Cultural Resources Study	Mary Pyle Peters and Melinda Peak	1984	Within 1000 feet
007088	A Cultural Resource Inventory of Golden Bear Park (303 Acres) South Lake Tahoe, El Dorado County, California U.S. Forest Service CRR #05-19-218	Lindstrom, Susa	1993	Within 0.5 miles
007134	Confidential Archaeological Addendum for Timber Operations in non-federal lands in California. Project Name: El Dorado County Community Play Fields	Hoefer, Jonathan F.	2002	Within 0.5 miles
007143	Cultural Resource Investigations of the Proposed American Baptist Homes of the West Project 3.16 Acre Property, Herbert Avenue and Pioneer Trail, South Lake Tahoe, El Dorado County, California	Napton, L. Kyle	2003	Within 0.5 miles
009219	Upper Truckee River Middle Reach Preliminary Restoration Alternative, South Lake Tahoe, El Dorado County, California	Judith Marvin	2007	Within 0.5 miles
009377	S.T.P.U.D. Timber Harvest Plan	Mike Vroman	1994	Within 0.5 miles
009382	Cultural Resource Inventory Report for Trout Creek Restoration along Trout Creek	Jerry Reioux	1998	Within and adjacent to
009384	Bijou/Al Tahoe Community Plan EIR/EIS Cultural Resources Component	Susan Lindstrom	1993	Within and adjacent to
009388	Heritage Resource Inventory South Tahoe Public Utilities District A-Line Export Pipeline Relocation Project	Susan Lindstrom	1994	Within 0.5 miles
009395	Archaeological Survey Addendum Report For Lake Tahoe Community College	Herschel Davis	1990	Within 2000 feet

NCIC Report No.	Study	Author(s)	Year	Proximity to Project Area
010733	An Archaeological Survey Report for the City of South Lake Tahoe "Lake Christopher" Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project, El Dorado County, California	Banchio, Danielle	2010	Within 0.5 miles
010734	An Archaeological Survey Report for the City of South Lake Tahoe "Homestead" Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project El Dorado County, California	Banchio, Danielle	2010	Within 0.5 miles
010954	An Archaeological Survey Report for the City of South Lake Tahoe "Lake Christopher II" Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project, El Dorado County, California	Danielle E. Branchio	2011	Within 0.5 miles

Table 2. Prior Cultural Resources In or Near Project Area

Primary No.	Brief Description	Recorded by	Year	NRHP/CRHR Eligibility Status	Proximity to Project Area
09-000615	Bedrock mortar feature and associated midden	Dan Foster	1982	Eligible	~0.5 miles to the north
09-000616	Bedrock mortar feature an associated lithics	Dan Foster	1982	Unkniown	~0.5 miles to the north
09-000617	Lithic scatter with obisidan, baslt, chalcedony, and chert	Dan Foster	1982	Unknown	~0.5 miles to the north
09-001917	Historic Railroad System: Lake Valley Railroad mainline	Various	Multiple times between 1975-2008	Unknown	In between two survey areas
09-003448	Isolated chert flake	Susan Lindstrom	2004	Not Eligible	~1.5 miles west
09-003450	Isolated chert flake	Susan Lindstrom	2004	Not Eligible	~1000 feet north
09-003457	Remains of Chinese habitation associated with Comstock logging activies	Susan Lindstrom et al	1992	Unknown	~0.5 miles south
09-003485	Historic can scatter, 8 cans	L. K. Napton	2003	Not eligible	~1 miles to the northeast
09-004505	Bedrock milling feature	Unknown	2002	Unknown	~500 feet north

Primary No.	Brief Description	Recorded by	Year	NRHP/CRHR Eligibility Status	Proximity to Project Area
09-004523	Historic high-cut stumps, wagon parts, historic and modern trash, historic horse corral	Susan Lindstrom	1994	Unknown	Nearest element: ~1000 feet southwest
09-004529	2 mile length of road bed	Mike Drews	1999	Unkown	~0.5 miles southwest
09-004537	Historic road bed	Mike Drews	1999	Unknown	~0.5 miles west-southwest
09-004560	Possibly historic leveled area, and jasper fragment	Herschel Davis	1990	Unknown	~0.5 miles north

Record search results reveal one historic railroad grade from the Lake Valley Railroad Mainline (09-001917) system associated with Comstock logging activities that runs north-south between the two seperate survey areas. Further, prehistoric features and midden have been recorded on South Lake Tahoe Community College property approximately ~1000 feet north of the project area, adjacent to Trout Creek (09-000615, 09-000616, 09-000617, 09-003448, 09-003450).

SACRED LANDS FILE SEARCH FINDINGS

PCI contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on December 5, 2015 requesting a search of their Sacred Lands File for traditional cultural resources for the project area. The reply from the NAHC, dated December 28, 2015, states that the search failed to indicate the presence of Native American sacred lands or traditional cultural properties in the immediate vicinity of the project areas.

FIELD METHODS

Intensive-level pedestrian survey of the project area was conducted on November 21, 2015, by PCI archaeologist, Alexander Walton. Survey transects were spaced at intervals no greater than 15 feet. The entire length of the projected bike path alignment and 25-feet outward to both sides perpendicularly from the center line was carefully examined for cultural resources.

All undeveloped ground surface within the project limits was examined for artifacts (e.g., flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, stone milling tools, or fire-affected rock), soil discoloration that might indicate the presence of a cultural midden, soil depressions and features indicative of the former presence of structures or buildings (e.g., postholes, foundations), or historic-era debris (e.g., metal, glass, ceramics). Ground disturbances (e.g., unpaved roads, agricultural disturbances, disked areas, animal burrows, etc.) were visually inspected.

Photographs of the project area, including ground surface visibility and items of interest, were taken with a digital camera. The surveyed acreage was recorded with a handheld Trimble GeoXT global positioning system (GPS) unit with sub-foot accuracy.

FINDINGS

No cultural resources were identified during pedestrian survey of the projected bike path alignment and surrounding area. No previously recorded cultural resources within the project area were identified during CHRIS record search or NAHC Sacred Lands file search.

RECOMMENDATIONS

RESOURCE SIGNIFICANCE

There were no cultural resources observed within the project area during survey. The record search returned 13 sites within the record search area. The Sacred Lands file search returned zero sites within the project area. No significant impact to cultural resources is predicted.

UNANTICIPATED DISCOVERIES

Construction Monitoring and Notification Procedures

Due to the low level of cultural resources sensitivity in the project area, construction monitoring is not recommended. There is, however, always the potential for the existence of buried archaeological materials within the project areas. Should cultural resources be encountered during construction or ground-disturbing activities connected with this project, work in the area must be halted and a qualified archaeologist who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for archaeologists (National Park Service 1983) shall be notified immediately to evaluate the resource(s) encountered.

Within this area, prehistoric and ethnohistoric materials might include flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, stone milling tools, fire-affected rock, basketry, culturally modified animal bone, fishing implements, or soil darkened by cultural activities (midden). Historic-era materials might include building remains, metal, glass, cans, ceramic artifacts or other debris.

Human Remains

Should human remains be uncovered, the statutes of State of California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 must be followed. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately, and no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to PRC Section 5097.98. If the human remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the NAHC, which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendent. The Most Likely Descendent shall complete the inspection of the site within 24 hours of notification, and may recommend scientific removal and nondestructive analysis of human remains and items associated with Native American burials.

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APPENDIX A:
Record Search Results

APPENDIX B:
Sacred Lands File Search

APPENDIX C:
Resource Record Forms