

California Tahoe Conservancy
Agenda Item 9d
December 12, 2013

**EXCHANGE AND TRANSFER OF LAND WITH
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

In September 2012 the Board authorized the transfer of 1,285 acres of Conservancy land in El Dorado County and Placer County to California Department of Parks and Recreation (Parks) in exchange for 9.3 acres of Parks land in El Dorado County. The majority of the Conservancy lands to be transferred are encompassed in three areas, outlined below.

At the request of Parks, the Conservancy successfully acquired the 940-acre Dollar Property in 1989 with the intent of transferring ownership to Parks for integration into the adjacent Burton Creek State Park. The subsequent Burton Creek State Park General Plan anticipated this transfer and incorporated this area into the plan. Transfer of the Dollar Property thus facilitates Parks' implementation of the Burton Creek State Park General Plan.

Transfer of the Conservancy's Cascade Property offers increased efficiencies in resource management expanding the acreage of Emerald Bay State Park and enabling Parks to complete a lakeside trail extending south from the Eagle Point Campground, thereby increasing access to the Lake and surrounding recreational resources.

Transfer of the Conservancy's properties adjacent to Washoe Meadows State Park and Lake Valley State Recreation Area provides for the assemblage of properties immediately adjacent to the two existing Parks units, facilitates efficient resource management activities and provides an alternative means of administrative access to specified areas.

In return for the properties mentioned above, Parks will transfer 19 parcels consisting of 9.3 acres of environmentally sensitive land in the Rubicon area. These parcels are small, steep, environmentally sensitive residential lots. The Conservancy has an active urban lot management program capable of conducting the necessary management activities on these parcels. Further, the Conservancy, under a past agreement with Parks, managed these parcels in addition to 50 other lots previously transferred from Parks to the Conservancy within this subdivision area.

Parks will also seek to transfer 183 acres adjacent to Ward Creek to the U.S. Forest Service.

The remainder of the exchange concerns the Conservancy's Van Sickle Bi-State Park and Park's Kings Beach State Recreation Area.

In 2001, the Conservancy purchased the 156 acres that would become the California portion of Van Sickle Bi-State Park at the request of Parks. Van Sickle Bi-State Park represents the fulfillment of a long held vision and partnership between the states of California and Nevada, and is now a regionally significant recreational destination. The Van Sickle family donated 542 acres to Nevada Division of State Parks (NDSP) in 1989 to create the Nevada portion of the park.

The Kings Beach State Recreation Area (KBSRA) is currently managed by the North Tahoe Public Utility District (NTPUD). Pursuant to direction from the Legislature in the Budget Act, the Conservancy and Parks have been directed to develop a strategy for the coordinated management of this facility. The Conservancy owns property adjacent to KBSRA known as the Kings Beach Plaza.

In the case of both Van Sickle Bi-State Park and KBSRA, Parks and the Conservancy are actively developing protocols for the eventual exchange of long term management. With respect to Van Sickle Bi-State Park, the transfer to Parks is contingent upon a successful long-term operation and maintenance strategy between Parks and NDSP. KBSRA would require a similar strategy between the Conservancy, Parks and potentially NTPUD.

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