

OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: August 19, 2013

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 3B

STAFF: Ann Bollinger, Natural Resource Specialist

A13

REQUEST: To solicit public nominations for the naming of open space properties within the vicinity of the Carson River

GENERAL DISCUSSION: On May 2, 2013 the Board of Supervisors approved and adopted the resolution for the naming of open space properties. Most properties are / have been referred to by the owners' names. With the drafting of the management plan for the river properties, staff has identified these areas as the first priority.

For the first effort, a small packet has been developed for each of two acquisitions, both located near the south end of the Prison Hill Recreation Area. The purpose is to provide helpful information to our residents and encourage participation.

Pending recommendations and changes from the committee, a press release will be issued to the Nevada Appeal and a message will be posted on the Parks and Recreation Department Facebook page to invite the public to submit nominations. The public will be directed to our website to review the materials and obtain the application (also attached). We anticipate the submittal period to be open for 30 days.

The Open Space Advisory Committee will review the nominations at the next regularly scheduled meeting on October 21, 2013 and provide a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: I move to solicit public nominations for the naming of open space properties within the vicinity of the Carson River.



Carson City Parks and Recreation Department
Open Space Division



Open Space Naming Application

Date: _____

Submitted By: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Open Space Property / Location: _____

Name Classification (Landscape, Geographic or Topographic Feature, Indigenous Plants or Wildlife, Cultural or Historical Heritage, Individual or Family Name): _____

Proposed Name: _____

Supportive Information for Proposed Name: _____

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-R-19

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE NAMING OF OPEN SPACE PROPERTIES WITHIN CARSON CITY

WHEREAS, the Open Space Program was created through a voter-approved ballot initiative in 1996, often referred to as Question 18; and

WHEREAS, Carson City Charter Provision 2.230 empowers the Board of Supervisors to regulate public parks, buildings, grounds and rights-of-way within the City; and

WHEREAS, Carson City Charter Provision 8A.030 defines open space as real property that is undeveloped or partially developed natural landscape, including, but not limited to, ridges, stream corridors, natural shorelines, scenic areas, watershed areas, viewsheds, agricultural or other land devoted exclusively to open-space use, conservation easements and easements devoted or connecting to open-space use; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors desires to establish policies and procedures for the naming of the open space properties within Carson City;

NOW, THEREFORE, this Board hereby resolves to adopt the following:

POLICIES

1. Names should provide some form of individual identity to the property or specific part of any owned property.
2. If possible, names should be related to the unique natural landscape, geographic or topographic features, indigenous plants or wildlife, cultural or historical heritage.
3. The naming for individuals and/or families should be reserved as an incentive towards significant donations of land and/or endowments. It is encouraged that any recommended name be designated posthumously.
4. Individuals and organizations should be encouraged to submit nominations to the Parks and Recreation Department.
5. Due to their familiarity with the individual properties, committee members and staff may submit nominations.

PROCEDURES

1. After the City has acquired title to the property, the Parks and Recreation Department is responsible to solicit nominations.
2. The Parks and Recreation Department will publicize the open period including the deadline for nominations.
3. A formal nomination and justification must be submitted, in writing, to the Parks and Recreation Department.
4. The Parks and Recreation Department staff will review and research the nomination(s). Staff will prepare a written summary for the Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC).
5. The Open Space Advisory Committee will review the nomination(s) for consideration at a regularly scheduled meeting. Upon OSAC recommendation, Parks and Recreation Department staff will forward to the Board of Supervisors for approval.
6. Upon Board of Supervisors' approval, the name shall be identified on open space signage and materials.

Upon motion by Supervisor John McKenna, seconded by Supervisor Brad Bonkowski, the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted this 2nd day of May, 2013, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor John McKenna
 Supervisor Brad Bonkowski
 Supervisor Karen Abowd
 Supervisor Jim Shirk
 Mayor Robert Crowell

NAYS: None.

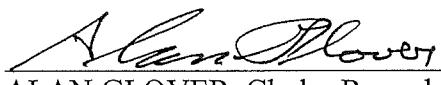
ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: None.



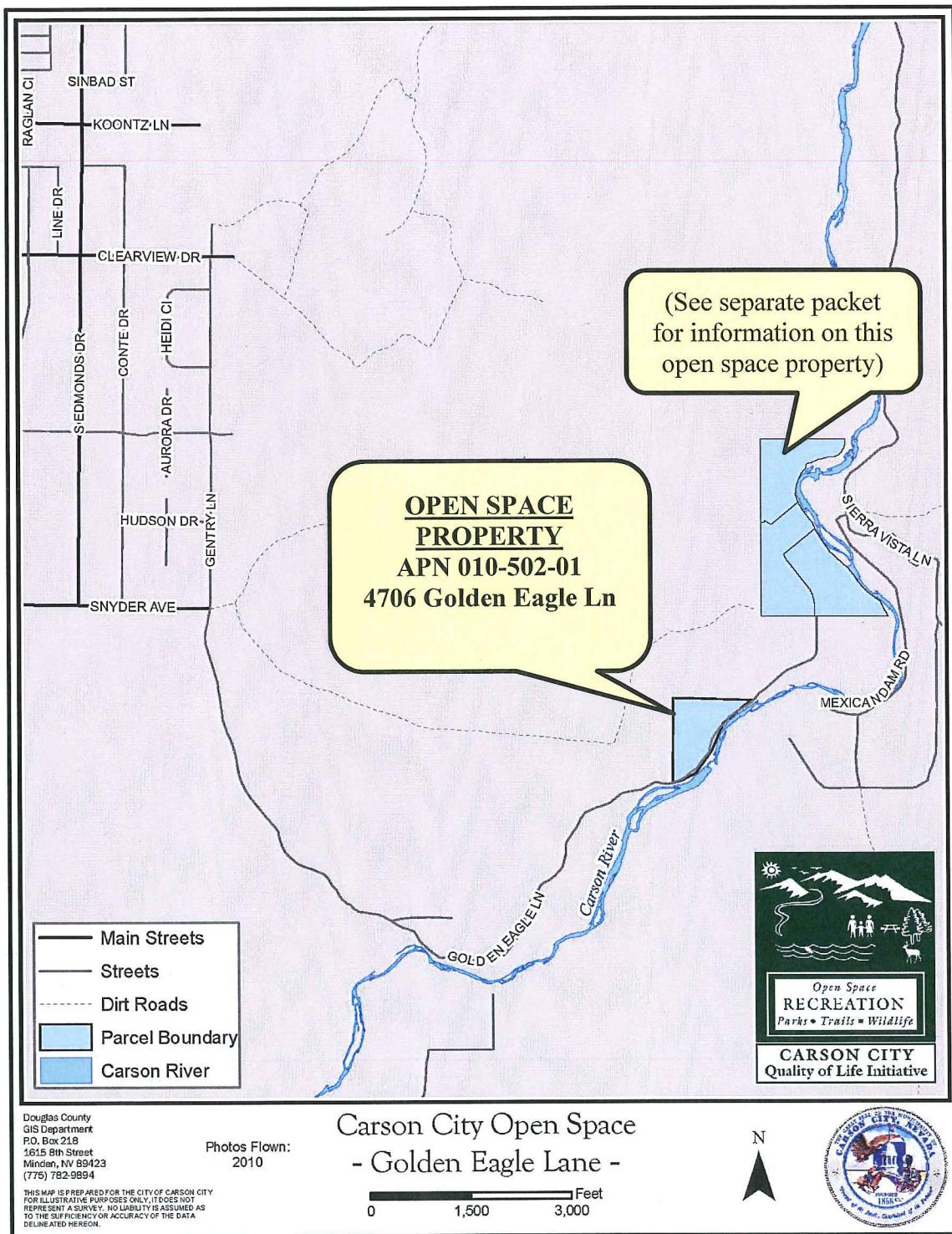
ROBERT L. CROWELL, Mayor

ATTEST:

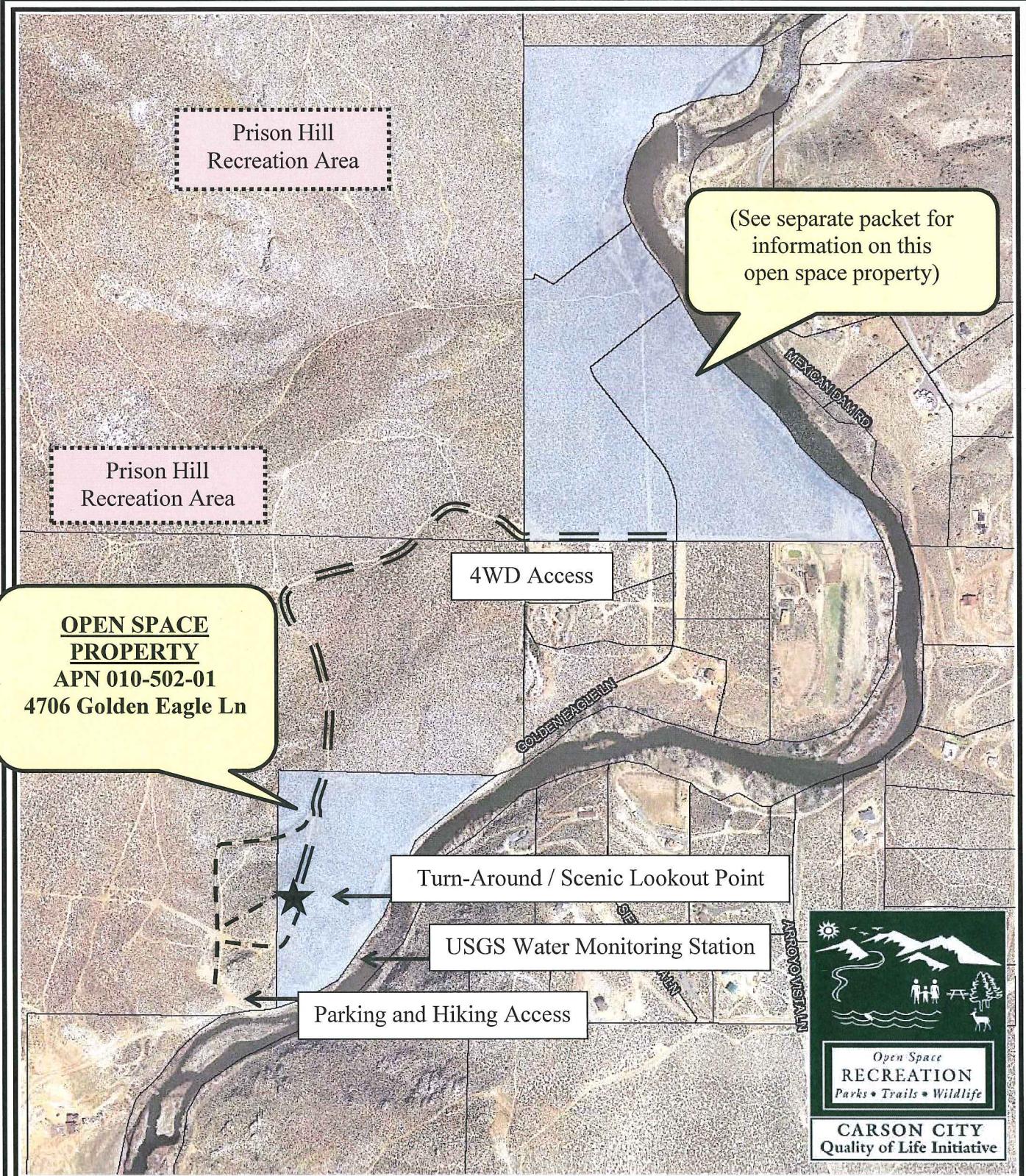


ALAN GLOVER, Clerk - Recorder

**Carson City Open Space
APN 010-502-01, 4706 Golden Eagle Lane
19.28 acres**



*Carson City Open Space
APN 010-502-01, 4706 Golden Eagle Lane*



Douglas County
GIS Department
P.O. Box 218
1815 8th Street
Minden, NV 89423
(775) 782-9894

Photos Flown:
2010

THIS MAP IS PREPARED FOR THE CITY OF CARSON CITY
FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY. IT DOES NOT
REPRESENT A SURVEY. NO LIABILITY IS ASSUMED AS
TO THE SUFFICIENCY OR ACCURACY OF THE DATA
DELINEATED HEREIN.

Carson City Open Space - Golden Eagle Lane -

0 600 1,200 Feet



Location

4706 Golden Eagle Lane, in the southeast area of Carson City. The property is bordered to the west and north by the Prison Hill Recreation Area; to the northeast by a residential parcel; and the south and southeast by the Carson River.

Access

From the Snyder Avenue and Gentry Lane intersection, travel south on Golden Eagle Lane for approximately 2.2 miles. The road surface changes from asphalt to a graded dirt road. The property begins near the t-post on the left (north) side of the road and continues approximately 0.4 miles just past the vertical rock cliff adjacent to the road. The property is primarily located uphill from the road but it also includes the riparian area between the road and the river.

Parking and hiking access can be accommodated in a small pull-out area on BLM land just to the west of the property and t-post marker. In this area, the trail surface is very loose decomposed granite. The trails are primarily used by small motorized vehicles (ATVs or dirt bikes) travelling in a downhill direction. From this point, it is a short (< ½ mile), steep uphill hike to the level, unsigned turn-around / scenic lookout point.

Alternatively, drivers with four-wheel drive vehicles can access the property from the east entrance of the Prison Hill Recreation Area. From the north end of Golden Eagle Lane, turn left to enter the OHV area. Travel uphill to the west for ¼ mile, turn left and continue directly south along the ridgeline for ½ mile to the unsigned turn-around / scenic lookout point. Vehicle access is also available from the west but directions are difficult due to the unsigned network of trails in the area.

PLEASE NOTE: Starting at this property, the local residents have posted private property signs. Please respect private property. Carson City is working to resolve any issues associated with public use of the road.

Background

Purchase Date: February 2007
Purchased From: William L. and Patricia L. Desormier Family Trust
Funding Source: Carson City Open Space, Quality of Life Sales and Use Tax Funds
Nevada Division of State Lands, Question 1 Program

Characteristics

Historic / Cultural: No historic or cultural resources are known or apparent. The old McTarnahan Bridge was located to the southwest and the Mexican Dam is located to the northeast.

Landform / scenic quality: The property contains hills, rocky slopes and outcrops, steep cliffs and plateaus. The elevations range from 4,625' to 4,970'. From the turn-around / scenic lookout point, there are expansive views to the south into the Carson Valley.

Plant communities: The uplands are shrub-dominated with sparse occurrences of herbaceous plants and pinion pine. The mature, diverse shrub species include sagebrush, bitterbrush, ephedra (Mormon Tea), desert peach, rabbitbrush, and others. Along the river corridor, mature cottonwoods, willows, and other riparian vegetation are present.

Water Resources: The Carson River is adjacent to the property along the south-southeast boundary. The land along the river bed is naturally identified as a floodway. The majority of the property lies outside of the 100- and 500-year floodplain.

Wildlife: The Carson River and diverse plant communities provide habitat for many species of wildlife. Two avian species are common in the area - barn owls in the eroded hillsides and golden eagles and their nests on the rocky cliffs across the river. The Carson River Master Plan, dated 1996, identifies fish, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and birds throughout the river corridor, though not specific to this property.

Consideration

Prior to receiving nominations, staff recommends consideration towards naming the property “Golden Eagle Open Space.” The proposed name reflects the property’s physical location (street address) as well as the observed year-round wildlife.

Photo 1: On Golden Eagle Lane, the t-post marker on the left (north) side of the road defines the western boundary of the property.

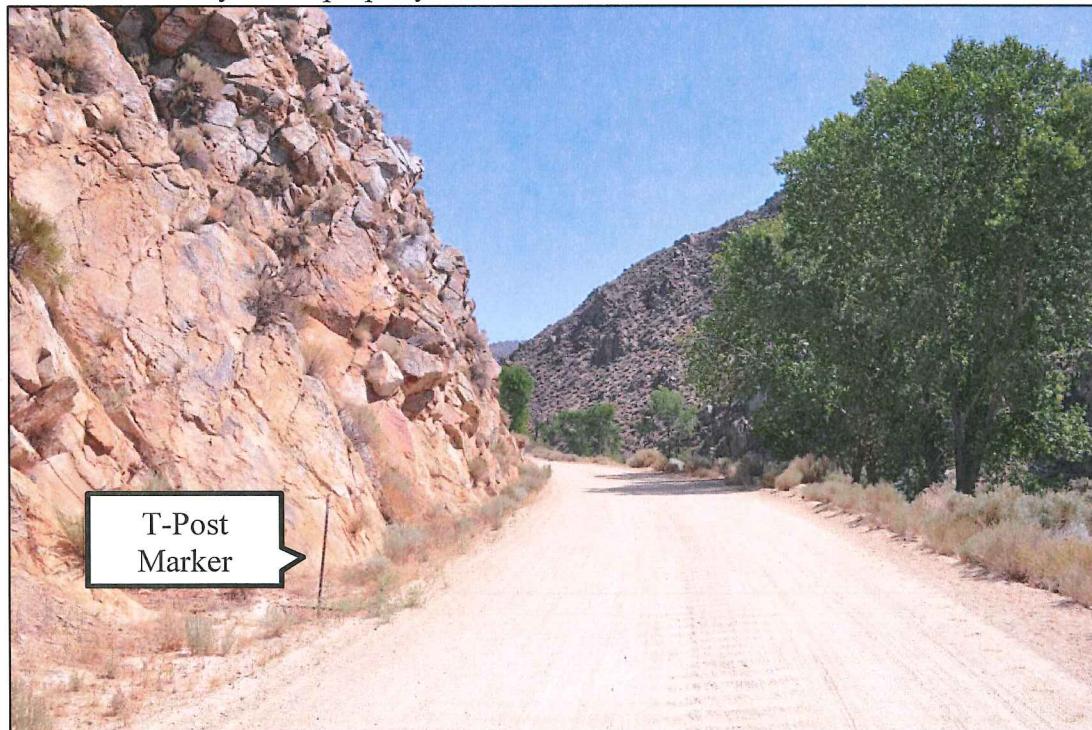


Photo 2: On Golden Eagle Lane, the U.S. Geological Survey has a water monitoring station located on the right (south) side of the road, about one-third of the way down from the entrance.

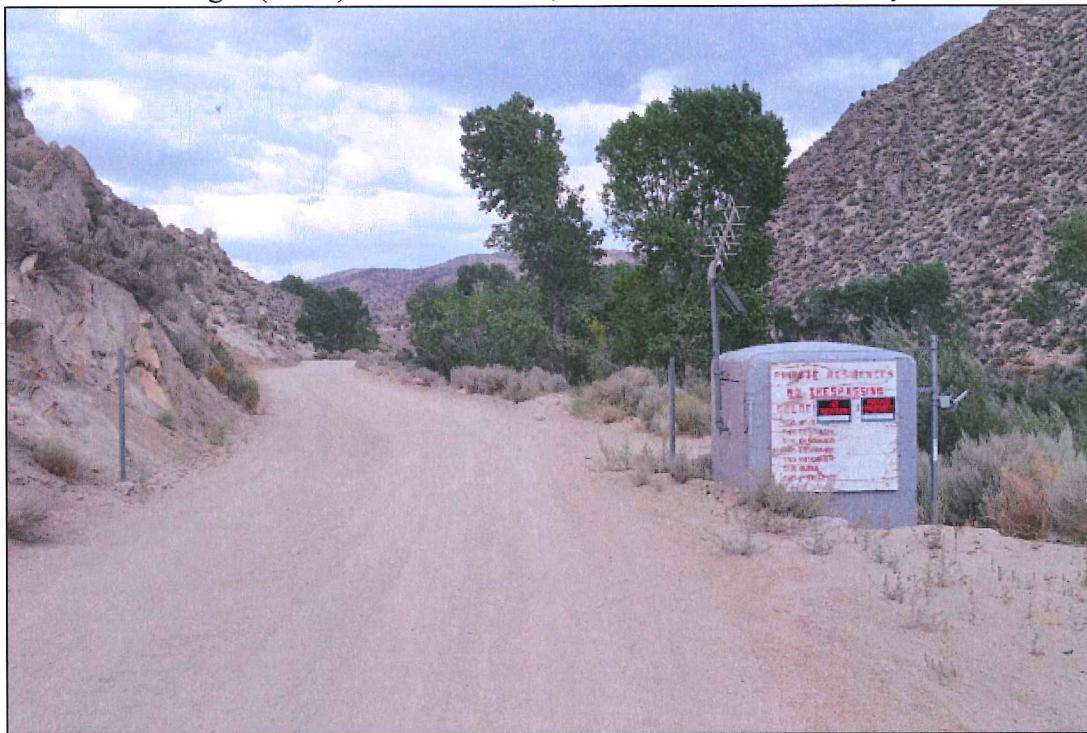


Photo 3: On Golden Eagle Lane, the vertical rock cliff in the background on the left (north) side of the road defines the northeast corner of the property.

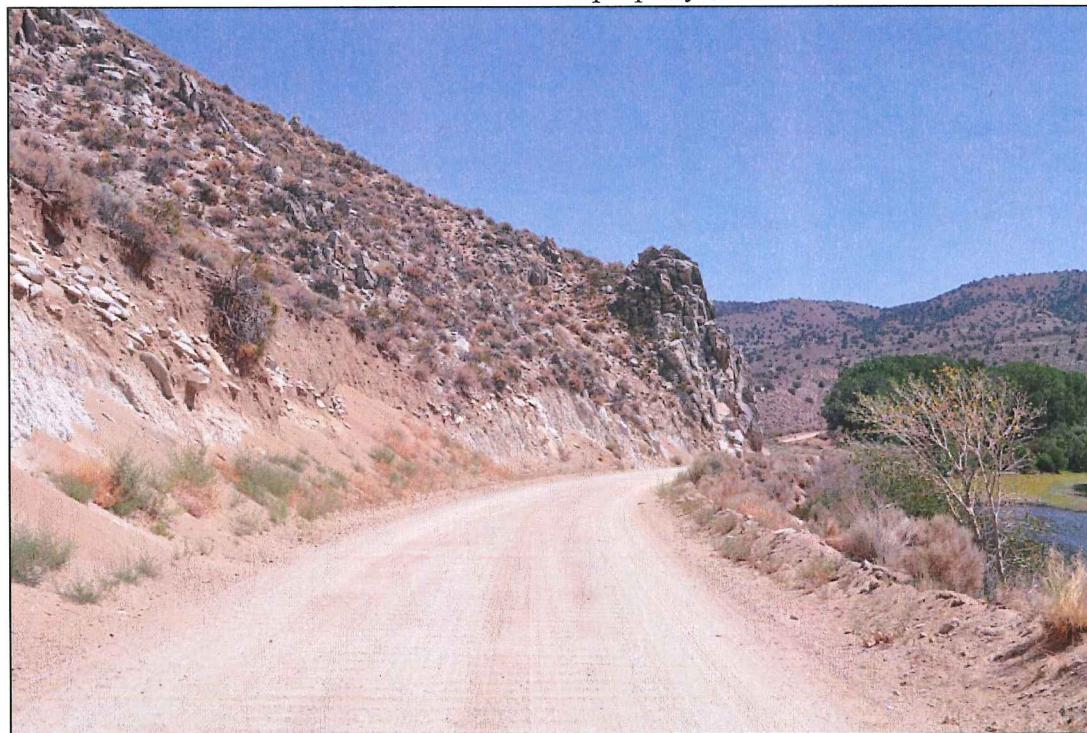


Photo 4: View from the top at the turn-around / scenic lookout point, looking south towards the Carson Valley.



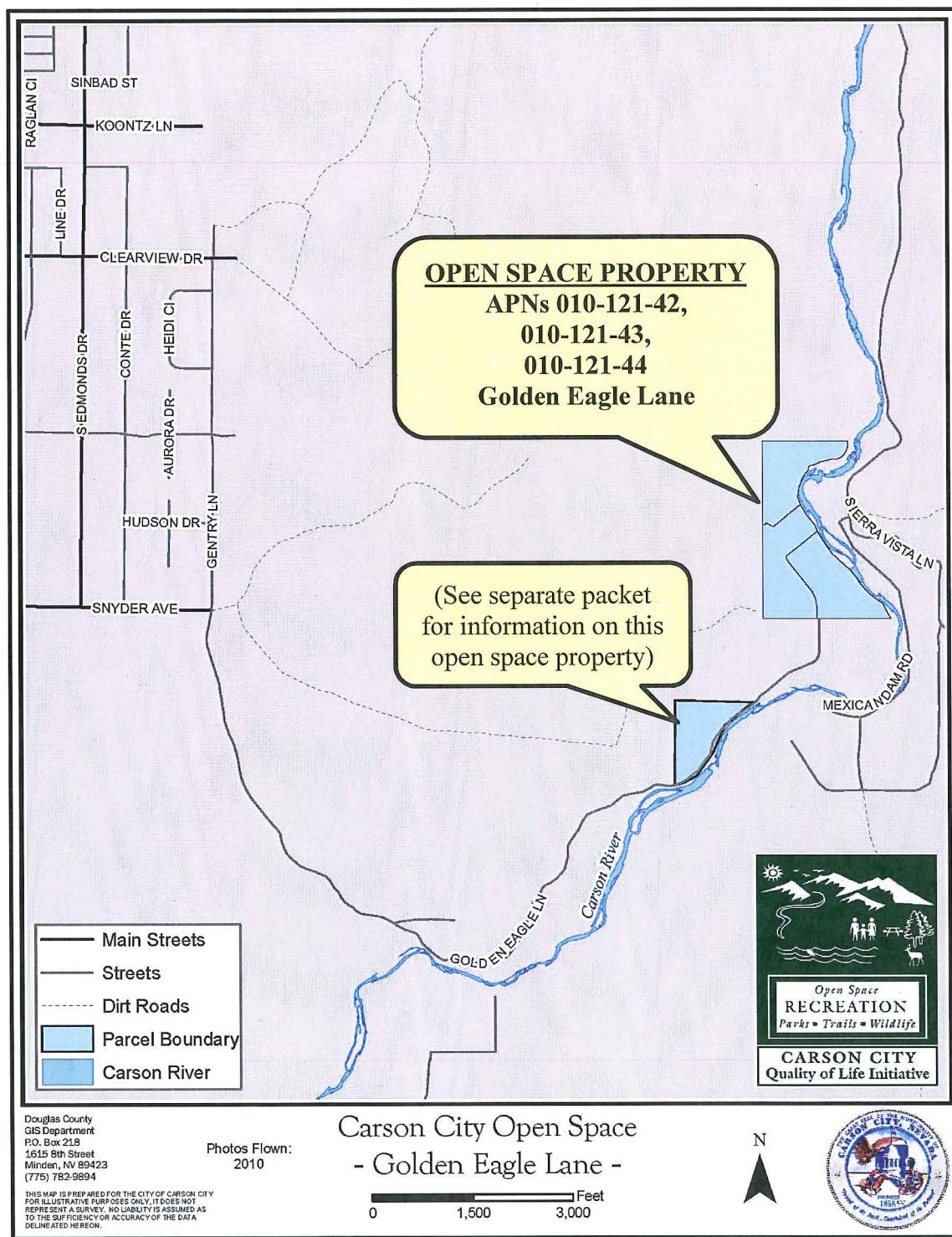
Photo 5: View from the top at the turn-around / scenic lookout point, looking towards the north boundary.

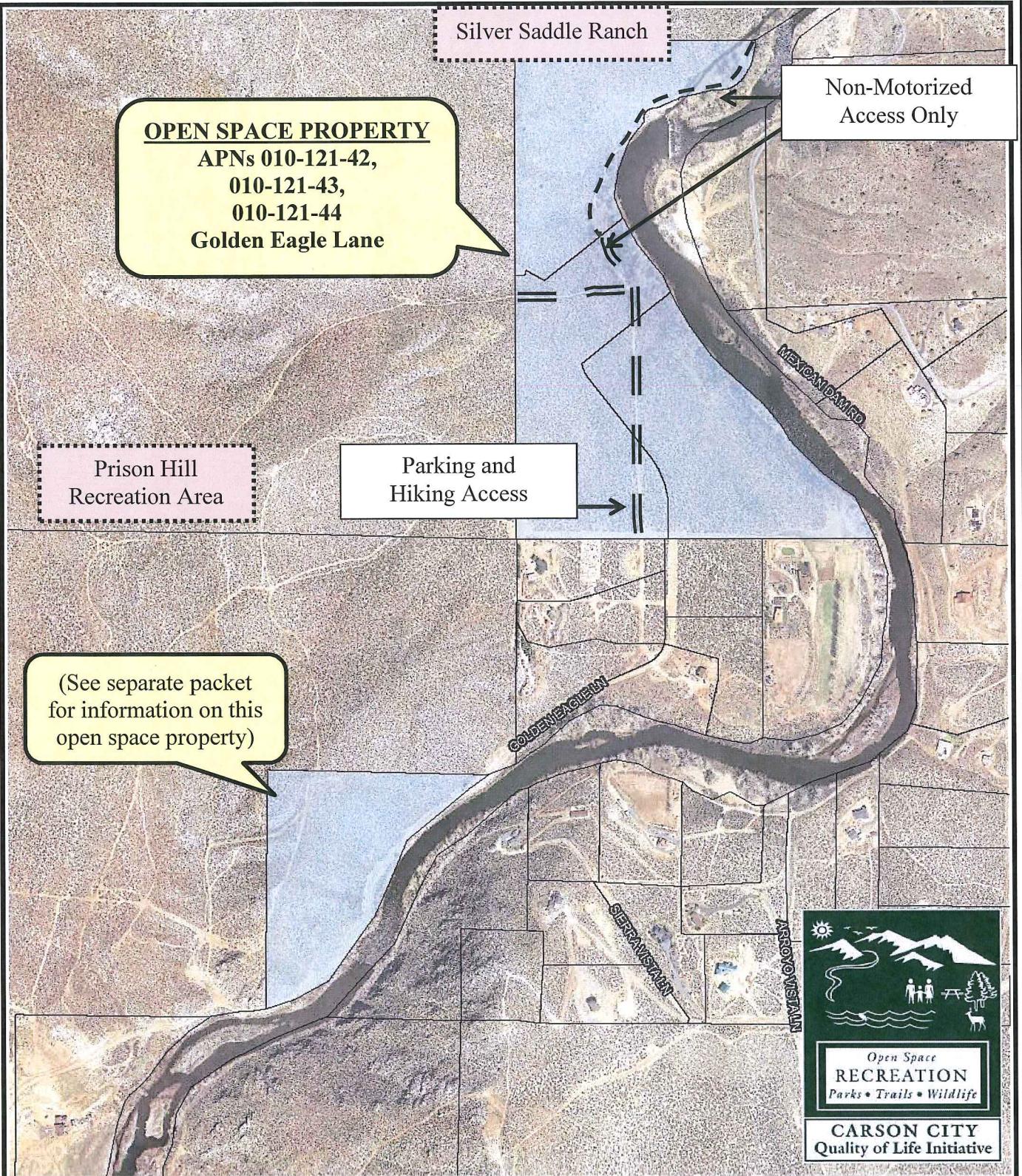


Carson City Open Space

APNs 010-121-42, 010-121-43, 010-121-44; Golden Eagle Lane

64.31 acres (total)





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Carson City Open Space - Golden Eagle Lane -



Location:

The northern terminus of Golden Eagle Lane, in the southeast area of Carson City. The property is bordered to the west and north by public lands, Prison Hill Recreation Area and Silver Saddle Ranch respectively, to the east by the Carson River and the south by residential parcels.

Access:

From the Snyder Avenue and Gentry Lane intersection, travel south and around on Golden Eagle Lane for approximately 3.0 miles to the terminus. The road surface changes from asphalt to a graded dirt road. Turn left and then turn an immediate right onto a two-track trail / road between two t-posts and the sagebrush.

The southern property boundary begins at the right turn near the t-posts. The two-track trail / road ends in approximately 1/3 mile with limited area to turn around. The trail continues through the property, traveling north and becoming a narrow scramble beside a rock outcrop and the Mexican Dam. The northern boundary lies just north of the dam. The eastern boundary is the Carson River and the western boundary can be found by following an east-west trail for $550\pm'$ to an old, vandalized plywood boundary sign.

Parking can be accommodated at the southern end of the property, from Golden Eagle Lane. Alternatively, hikers and other non-motorized users may park at Silver Saddle Ranch or Carson River Park and travel south for 1.5 miles to the property.

Two unpaved trails exist on the property. The trail between Golden Eagle Lane and the Mexican Dam generally has level terrain, with an exception of the narrow scramble beside the rock outcrop and Mexican Dam. An east-west trail travels $550\pm'$ uphill to the property boundary then continues uphill to the Prison Hill Recreation Area, motorized use section. Currently, the two-track trails are open to all users whereas the narrow scramble and trail north of the Mexican Dam (Mexican Ditch Trail) are only open to non-motorized use.

PLEASE NOTE: On Golden Eagle Lane, the local residents have posted private property signs. Please respect private property. Carson City is working to resolve any issues associated with public use of the road.

Background

Purchase Date: March 2008
Purchased From: River Ranch Holdings, LTD; Alpenglow Development, LLC; and Mexican Dam, LLC
Funding Source: Carson City Open Space, Quality of Life Sales and Use Tax Funds

Characteristics

Historic/Cultural: The Mexican Ditch begins on the northernmost parcel. The Mexican Ditch receives a regulated water flow from the Carson River and provides a water source for several properties including Silver Saddle Ranch, Open Space ranch lands along Carson River Road, Riverview Park, and private properties along Hells Bells Road. The ditch is a historic resource relative to the history of water distribution and water rights in the state. The Mexican Dam lies adjacent to the ditch and helps to retain and divert water from the Carson River. Both facilities were constructed in the late 1800s.

Landform/scenic quality: Approximately 70% of the property is comprised of mildly sloping lands with the remaining 30% (to the north) encompassing steeper terrain and rock outcrops. The elevations range from approximately 4,640' along the river to 5,040' at the northwest corner.

Plant communities: The uplands are shrub-dominated with sparse occurrences of herbaceous plants and pinion pine. The mature, diverse shrub species include sagebrush, bitterbrush, ephedra, desert peach, rabbitbrush, and others. Along the river corridor, mature cottonwoods, willows, Wood's rose, and other riparian vegetation are present.

Water Resources: The Carson River is adjacent to the property along the eastern boundary, and about 20-30% of the property falls within the boundaries of the 100-year floodplain.

Wildlife: The river and various plant communities provide habitat for many species of wildlife. The Carson River Master Plan, dated 1996, identifies fish, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and birds throughout the river corridor, but not specific to this property.

Considerations

The Open Space Program purchased the three parcels under one transaction. Due to their contiguous location and similar characteristics, staff recommends that the three parcels be considered as one property.

Prior to receiving nominations, staff recommends consideration towards naming the property "Mexican Dam Open Space." The proposed name reflects the historic structure located adjacent to the property and provides a scenic destination.

Photo 1: Overview of the property. Taken from the east side of the Carson River, the photo illustrates the various landscape characteristics.

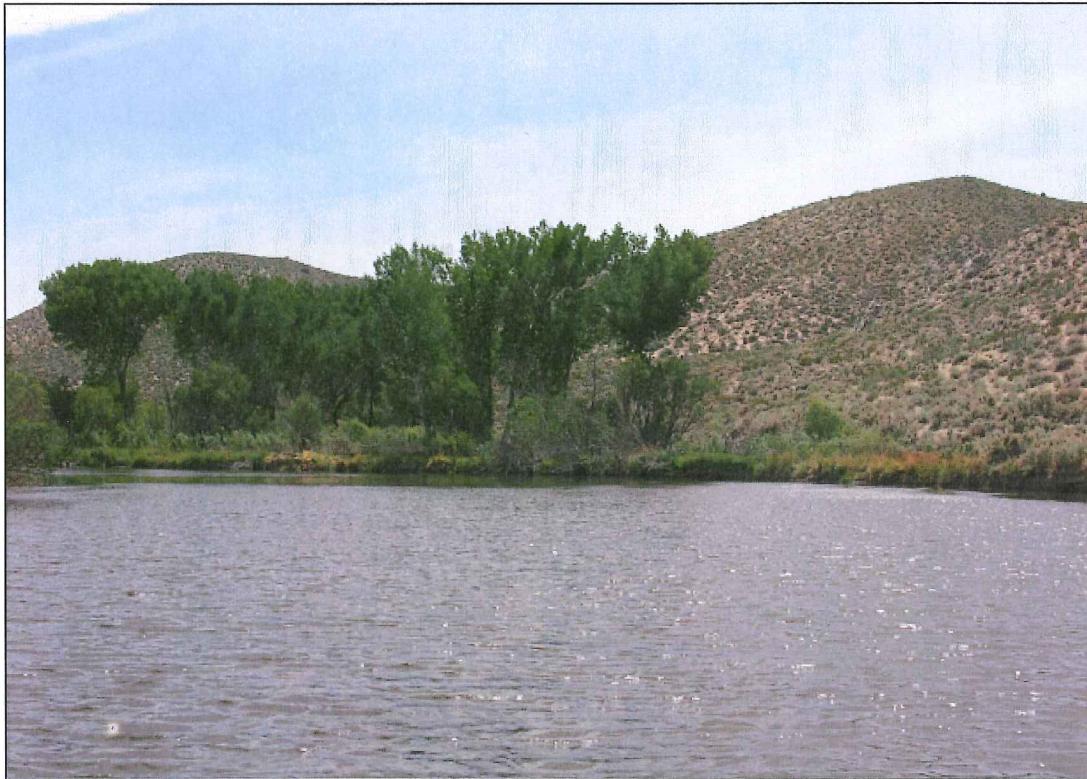


Photo 2: View to the north. After turning from Golden Eagle Lane, the t-post marker helps define the southern boundary of the property.



Photo 3: View to the north. As the trail approaches the Mexican Dam, it becomes a narrow single-track trail.

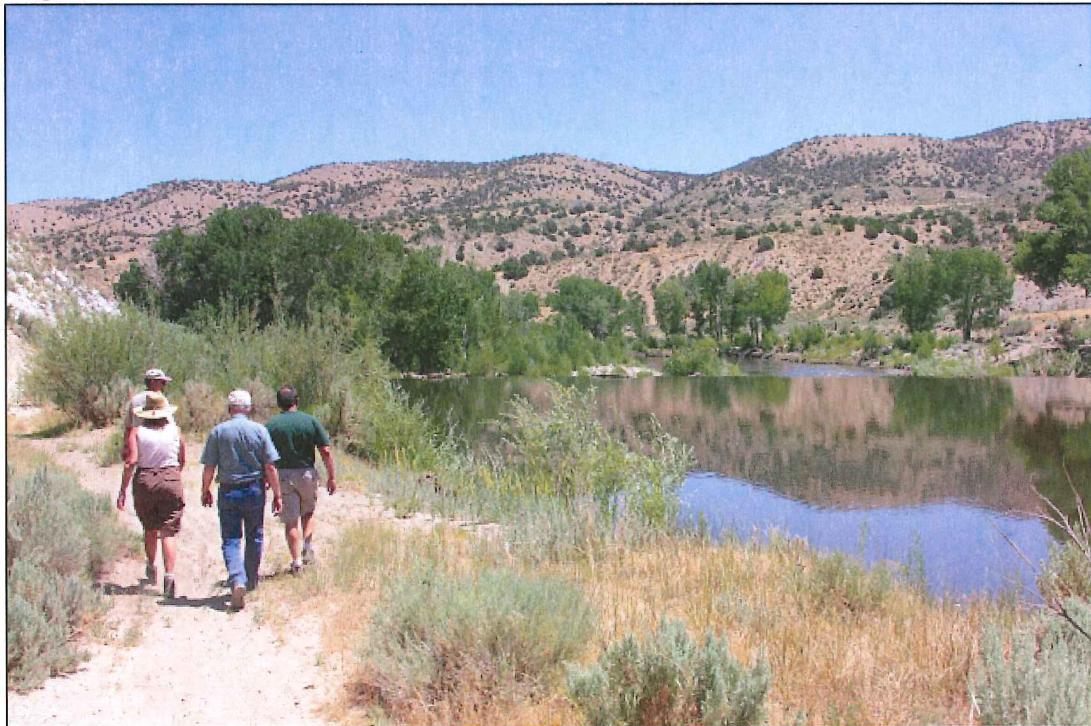


Photo 4: View to the south, towards the Mexican Dam.

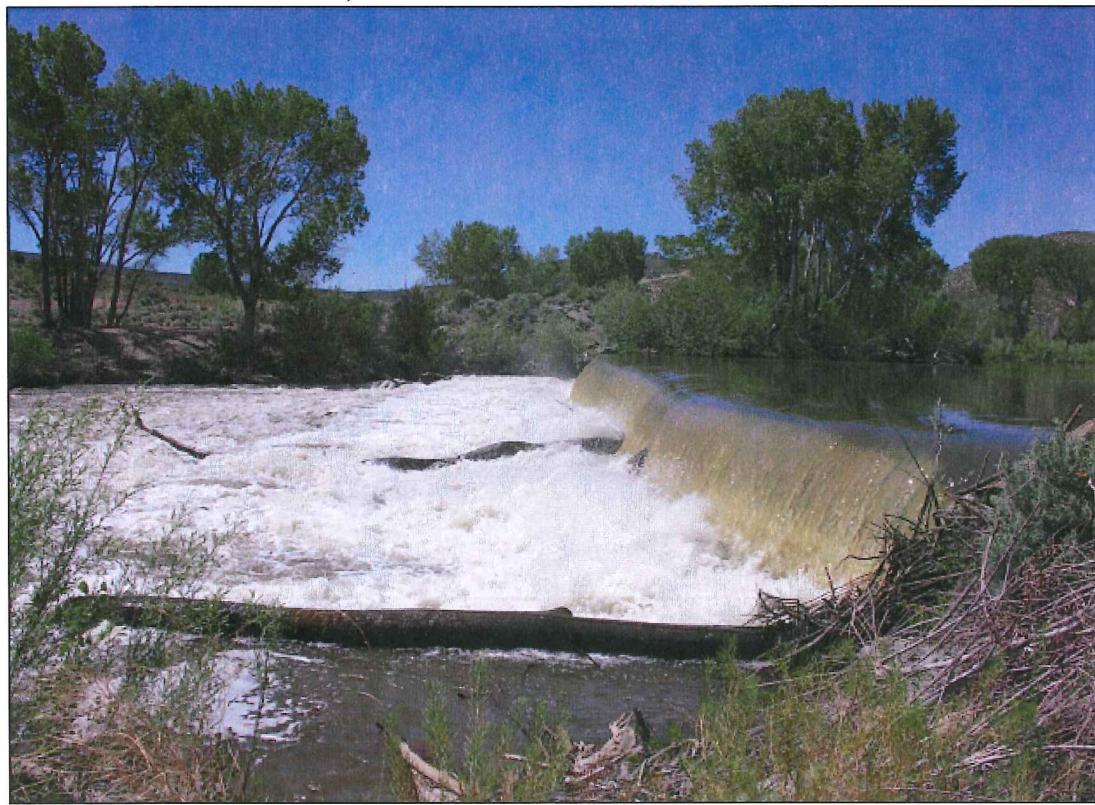


Photo 5: View to the west and the property boundary.

