

OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: April 18, 2016

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 4B

STAFF: Richard Wilkinson, Senior Natural Resource Specialist

REQUEST: Activities, projects, and grants throughout other areas of the Open Space Division

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Ash Canyon

- In 2012, the Open Space Division received the first 319(h) grant specific to Nonpoint Source Storm water planning from the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection. Two years later, the Ash Canyon Maintenance and Erosion Control Plan was finalized. With the grant, the City committed to preparing and implementing the plan as funding allows with the project objective to reduce erosion from Ash Canyon Road and thus sediment in Ash Canyon Creek, a municipal water source for Carson City. With another grant award for \$10,000 in 2015, two non-sustainable roads will be closed and rehabilitated this fall. The annual Ash Canyon Road maintenance will provide cash match for the project. The annual road maintenance will occur before Memorial Day and just in time for the Epic Rides mountain bike event June 17-19. Staff would like to coordinate a volunteer workday to help plant the areas using containerized plants from the Nevada Division of Forestry Nursery in Washoe Valley.

Fuels Management

- Fuels management on acquired lands, as well as natural parks and the wildland-urban interface, is a top priority for the Open Space Division. Borda Land and Sheep delivered 800 Sheep and 1100 Lambs on April 7, 2016 behind the Greenhouse Garden Center. The sheep will be moving from south to the north and working the lower areas before moving to higher grounds.

Muscled Power Trash Mob

- In a unique opportunity, Muscle Powered's Trash Mob will help remove invasive weeds with the Open Space Division and Carson City Weed Coalition. This weed dig will be occurring on Saturday, July May 16, 2016 from approximately 8 a.m. until noon at Horsecreek Ranch. Bull thistle will be the targeted weed of the day. If members of the Committee would like to join, please coordinate with staff since limited vehicle access and transportation will be available.

Quill Canyon Education Outreach

- Staff is continuing our efforts to work with Carson High School students on the Quill Canyon monitoring project. This year staff will help students monitor the effectiveness of an herbicide treatment on Russian Knapweed and the re-seeding efforts over the past three years. Students will be taught line transect monitoring methods and plant identification techniques during this project. The project is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: This agenda item is for informational purposes only. No formal action can be taken at this time.